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Eric Amar

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The raising steps method. Applications to the $\bar{\partial}$ equation in Stein manifolds.

Eric Amar

Abstract

In order to get estimates on the solutions of the equation $\bar{\partial}u = \omega$ on Stein manifold, we introduce a new method the "raising steps method", to get global results from local ones. In particular it allows us to transfer results form open sets in \mathbb{C}^n to open sets in a Stein manifold.

Using it we get $L^r - L^s$ results for solutions of equation $\bar{\partial} u = \omega$ with a gain, s > r, in strictly pseudo convex domains in Stein manifolds.

We also get $L^r - L^s$ results for domains in \mathbb{C}^n locally biholomorphic to convex domains of finite type.

1 Introduction.

In all the sequel a domain of a smooth manifold X will be a connected open set Ω of X, relatively compact and with \mathcal{C}^{∞} smooth boundary.

A strictly pseudo convex domain Ω of the complex manifold X, s.p.c. for short, is a domain defined by a smooth real valued function ρ on X such that

- ρ is strictly pseudo convex near $\bar{\Omega}$;
- $\Omega := \{ z \in X :: \rho(z) < 0 \} ;$
- $\forall z \in \partial \Omega, \ \partial \rho(z) \neq 0.$

The starting point of this work is a result of S. Krantz [13] for (0,1) forms and generalized to (0,q) forms in [2]:

Theorem 1.1 Let Ω be a s.p.c. domain in \mathbb{C}^n then for 1 < r < 2n + 2 we have

•
$$\forall \omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega), \ \bar{\partial}\omega = 0, \ \exists u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}u = \omega, \ \|u\|_{L^s(\Omega)} \lesssim \|\omega\|_{L^r(\Omega)},$$

with
$$\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$$

• For r = 2n + 2 we have

$$\exists u \in BMO_{(p,q)}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}u = \omega, \ \|u\|_{BMO(\Omega)} \lesssim \|\omega\|_{L^{2n+2}(\Omega)}.$$

If ω is a (p,1) form we have also:

$$\oint for \ r = 1,
\exists u \in L_{(p,0)}^{s,\infty}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}u = \omega, \ \|u\|_{L^{s,\infty}(\Omega)} \lesssim \|\omega\|_{L^{1}(\Omega)}
with \frac{1}{s} = 1 - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}.$$

• for
$$r > 2n + 2$$
, $\exists u \in \Gamma^{\beta}_{(p,0)}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}u = \omega, \ \|u\|_{\Gamma^{\beta}(\Omega)} \lesssim \|\omega\|_{L^{r}(\Omega)},$ where $\beta = 1 - \frac{2n+2}{r}$ and Γ^{β} is an anisotropic Lipschitz class of functions. Moreover the solution u is linear on the data ω .

These results strongly improve the $L^r - L^r$ results of N. Ovrelid [14] because they give a gain, s > r, and this is the key for the "raising steps method" to work.

This method allows to get from local results on solutions u of an equation $Du = \omega$, global ones in a smooth manifold X.

The applications will be done in the several complex variables setting so on any complex manifold X we define first the "Lebesgue measure" as in Hörmander's book [11] section 5.2, with a hermitian metric locally equivalent to the usual one on any analytic coordinates patch. Associated to this metric there is a volume form dm and we take it for the Lebesgue measure on X.

There already exist results on solutions of the $\bar{\partial}$ equation in s.p.c. domains in complex manifolds. For instance Hörmander [11] solve the $\bar{\partial}$ equation with $L^2 - L^2$ estimates for any (p,q) currents. Kerzman [12] proved a $L^r - L^r$ estimate on solution of $\bar{\partial}$ for any $r \in [1, \infty[$ and a Hölder estimate in case $r = \infty$ for (0,1) currents. In [10], chap. 4, Henkin and Leiterer built global kernels on s.p.c. domains in a Stein manifold for (0,q) forms and get precise uniform estimates. Demailly and Laurent [6], built global kernels on s.p.c. domains in a Stein manifold for (p,q) forms and get $L^r - L^r$ estimate on solution of $\bar{\partial}$ for any $r \in [1, \infty[$ in the case the Stein manifold is equipped with a hermitian metric with null curvature.

As a first application of this "raising steps" method we get the following theorems which improve all already known results.

Theorem 1.2 Let Ω be a smoothly bounded relatively compact strictly pseudo convex domain in the Stein manifold X.

There is a constant
$$C = C(p,q,r) > 0$$
 such that if $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$ if $1 \le r \le 2$, there is a $(p,q-1)$ current u such that, with $\gamma := \min(\frac{1}{2(n+1)},\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{2})$, and $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r}-\gamma$, $\bar{\partial}u = \omega$ and $u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)$, $\|u\|_{L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)} \le C\|\omega\|_{L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)}$.

Let $\mathcal{H}_p^r(\Omega)$ be the set of all (p, 0) $\bar{\partial}$ closed forms in Ω and in $L^r(\Omega)$. In the sequel we shall denote r' the conjugate exponent of r, $\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{r'} = 1$.

To deal with r > 2 we have to make the assumption that $\omega \perp \mathcal{H}_p^{r'}(\Omega)$ if q = n and that ω has a compact support for q < n, i.e. $\omega \in L_{(p,q)}^{r,c}(\Omega)$ if q < n.

Theorem 1.3 Let Ω be a smoothly bounded relatively compact spc domain in the Stein manifold X. Let $\frac{2(n+1)}{n+2} \leq r < 2(n+1)$, there is a constant $C = C_r > 0$ such that if $\omega \in L^{r,c}_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$ if $1 \leq q < n$ and $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\omega \perp \mathcal{H}^{r'}_p(\Omega)$ if q = n, then there is a (p,q-1) current u such that, with $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$, $\bar{\partial}u = \omega$ and $u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)$, $||u||_s \leq C||\omega||_r$.

In the case of (0,1) currents, these assumptions are not necessary, thanks to the results of N. Kerzman [12].

Theorem 1.4 Let Ω be a smoothly bounded relatively compact spc domain in the Stein manifold

• If $1 \le r < 2(n+1)$ there is a constant $C = C_r > 0$ such that if $\omega \in L^r_{(0,1)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$ then there is a function u such that, with $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$,

$$\bar{\partial}u = \omega \text{ and } u \in L^s(\Omega), \|u\|_{L^s(\Omega)} \leq C \|\omega\|_{L^r_{(0,1)}(\Omega)}.$$

- If r = 2(n+1) then for any $s < \infty$ there is a function u such that $\dot{\bar{\partial}}u = \omega$ and $u \in L^s(\Omega)$, $||u||_{L^s(\Omega)} \le C||\omega||_{L^r_{(0,1)}(\Omega)}$.
- if $2(n+1) < r < \infty$ there is a function u such that $u \in \Lambda^{\beta}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}u = \omega, \quad \|u\|_{\Lambda^{\beta}(\Omega)} \le C\|\omega\|_{L^{r}_{(0,1)}(\Omega)},$

where
$$\beta = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{(n+1)}{r}$$
 and Λ^{β} is the Hölder class of functions of order β .

Another way to release the compact support assumption is to have a Stein manifold equipped with a hermitian metric of null curvature in the sense of Demailly Laurent [6], because then we can use their $L^r - L^r$ estimates for any $r \in [1, \infty[$.

Theorem 1.5 Let Ω be a smoothly bounded relatively compact spc domain in the Stein manifold X equipped with a metric with null curvature.

- If $1 \le r < 2(n+1)$ and $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$. Then there is a (p,q-1) current u such that $\bar{\partial}u = \omega \text{ and } u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega), \ \|u\|_s \le C\|\omega\|_{L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)} \text{ with } \frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$
- If r = 2(n+1) and $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$. Then for any $s < \infty$ there is a (p,q-1) current $u \text{ such that } \bar{\partial}u = \omega \text{ and } u \in L^{s}_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega), \ \|u\|_{L^{s}_{(p,q-1)}} \leq C\|\omega\|_{L^{r}_{(p,q)}(\Omega)}.$

$$\bar{\partial}u = \omega \text{ and } u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega), \|u\|_{L^s_{(p,q-1)}} \leq C\|\omega\|_{L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)}$$

We notice that N. Kerzman in [12], in order to solve $\bar{\partial}$ for (0,1) forms, also use local solutions and to find a global one he used also the Hörmander L^2 solution, but his method is based on "bump" around point at the boundary and is completely different from the raising steps method introduced here.

As another application of this method we get the following theorem:

Theorem 1.6 Let Ω be a domain in \mathbb{C}^n such that locally around any point of $\partial\Omega$, Ω is biholomorphic to a convex domain of finite type at most of type m; then if $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$ if $1 \leq r \leq 2$, there is a (p,q-1) current u such that, with $\gamma := \min(\frac{1}{mn+2},\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{2})$, and $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r}-\gamma$, $\bar{\partial}u = \omega \ and \ u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega), \ \|u\|_{L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)} \leq C \|\omega\|_{L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)}$

To deal with r>2 we have again to make the assumption that $\omega\perp\mathcal{H}_p^{r'}(\Omega)$ if q=n and that ω has a compact support for q < n, i.e. $\omega \in L^{r,c}_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$ if q < n.

Theorem 1.7 Let Ω be a domain in \mathbb{C}^n such that locally around any point of $\partial\Omega$, Ω is biholomorphic to a convex domain of finite type at most of type m; Let $2 < r \le mn+2$ and $\omega \in L^{r,c}_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$ if $1 \le q < n$ and $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\omega \perp \mathcal{H}^{r'}_p(\Omega)$ if q = n; then there is a (p,q-1) current u such that, with $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{mn+2}$, $\bar{\partial}u = \omega$ and $u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)$, $||u||_s \le C||\omega||_r$.

2 The "raising steps" method.

We shall deal with the following situation: we have a \mathcal{C}^{∞} smooth manifold X admitting partitions of unity and a decreasing scale $\{B_r\}_{r\geq 1}$, $s\geq r \Rightarrow B_s \subset B_r$ of Banach spaces of functions or forms defined on open sets of X. These Banach spaces must be modules over \mathcal{D} , the space of \mathcal{C}^{∞} functions with compact support, i.e.

 $\forall \Omega \ open \ in \ X, \ \forall \chi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega), \ \exists C(\chi) > 0 :: \forall f \in B_r, \ \chi f \in B_r(\Omega) \ \text{and} \ \|\chi f\|_{B_r} \leq C(\chi) \|f\|_{B_r}.$ For instance $B_r = L^r$ the Lebesgue spaces, or $B_r = H_r^2$ the Sobolev spaces, etc...

We are interested in solution of the linear equation $Du = \omega$, where D is a linear operator, with eventually the constraint $\Delta \omega = 0$, where Δ is also a linear operator such that $\Delta^2 = 0$. In case there is no constraint we take $\Delta \equiv 0$. One aim is to apply this to the $\bar{\partial}$ equation.

We shall put the following hypotheses on D, for any domain $\Omega \subset X$:

- (i) $\forall \chi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega), \ D\chi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$;
- (ii) $\forall \chi \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega), \ \forall f \in B_r(\Omega), \ D(\chi f) = D\chi \cdot f + \chi Df \ ;$

as can be easily seen, a linear differential operator D verifies these assumptions.

Let Ω be a relatively compact domain in X. Now we shall make the following assumptions on X and Ω . There is a $r_0 > 1$ and a $\delta > 0$ such that, setting $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \delta$,

(iii) there is a covering $\{U_j\}_{j=1,\ldots,N}$ of $\bar{\Omega}$ such that, $\forall r \leq r_0$, if $\omega \in B_r(\Omega)$, $\Delta \omega = 0$, we can solve $Du_j = \omega$ in $U_j \cap \Omega$ with $B_r(\Omega) - B_s(\Omega \cap U_j)$ estimates, i.e. $\exists C_0 > 0$ such that

$$\exists u_j \in B_s(\Omega_j), \ Du_j = \omega \text{ in } \Omega_j := U_j \cap \Omega \text{ and } \|u_j\|_{B_s(\Omega_j)} \le C_0 \|\omega\|_{B_r(\Omega)}.$$

(iv) We can solve $Dw = \omega$ globally in Ω with $B_{r_0} - B_{r_0}$ estimates, i.e.

 $\exists E > 0, \ \exists w :: Dw = \omega \text{ in } \Omega \text{ and } \|w\|_{B_{r_0}(\Omega)} \le E\|\omega\|_{B_{r_0}(\Omega)} \text{ provided that } \Delta\omega = 0.$

Then we have

Theorem 2.1 (Raising steps theorem) Under the assumptions above, there is a constant C > 0, for $r \le r_0$, if $\omega \in B_r(\Omega)$, $\Delta \omega = 0$ there is a $u \in B_s(\Omega)$ with $\gamma := \min(\delta, \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{r_0})$, and $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \gamma$, such that

$$Du = \omega \text{ and } u \in B_s(\Omega), \|u\|_{B_s(\Omega)} \le C\|\omega\|_{B_r(\Omega)}.$$

Proof.

Let $r \leq r_0$ and $\omega \in B_r(\Omega)$, $\Delta \omega = 0$; we start with the covering $\{U_j\}_{j=1,\dots,N}$ and the local solution $Du_j = \omega$ with $u_j \in B_s(\Omega_j)$ given by hypothesis (iii).

Let χ_j be a \mathcal{C}^{∞} smooth partition of unity subordinate to $\{U_j\}_{j=1,\dots,N}$ and set

$$v_0 := \sum_{j=1}^N \chi_j u_j.$$

Then we have

• $v_0 \in B_{s_0}(\Omega)$ because B_s is a module over $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$ and $\|v_0\|_{B_{s_0}(\Omega)} \le C\|\omega\|_{B_r(\Omega)}$ with $\frac{1}{s_0} = \frac{1}{r} - \delta$ and $C = NC_0 \max_{j=1,\dots,N} C(\chi_j)$ by hypothesis (iii).

•
$$Dv_0 = \sum_{j=1}^N \chi_j Du_j + \sum_{j=1}^N D\chi_j \wedge u_j$$
 by hypothesis (ii) hence
$$Dv_0 = \sum_{j=1}^N \chi_j \omega + \sum_{j=1}^N D\chi_j \wedge u_j = \omega + \omega_1$$

with

$$\omega_1 := \sum_{j=1}^N D\chi_j \wedge u_j.$$

But, by hypothesis (i), $D\chi_j \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega)$ hence because B_s is a module over $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$, we have $\omega_1 \in B_{s_0}(\Omega)$, with $\frac{1}{s_0} = \frac{1}{r} - \delta$ and $\|\omega_1\|_{B_{s_0}(\Omega)} \le G\|\omega\|_{B_r(\Omega)}$ with $G = C_0 N \max_{j=1,\dots,N} C(D\chi_j)$.

Hence the regularity of ω_1 is higher of one step δ than that of ω .

Moreover $\Delta\omega_1 = \Delta^2 v_0 - \Delta\omega = 0$ because $\Delta^2 = 0$ and $\Delta\omega = 0$.

Two cases Case 1: if $\frac{1}{s_0} = \frac{1}{r} - \delta \Rightarrow s_0 \geq r_0$ we can solve a global D in $B_{r_0}(\Omega)$, by assumption (iv) i.e. $B_{r_0}(\Omega) = B_{r_0}(\Omega) = B_{r_0}$

It remains to set

$$u := v_0 - w$$

to have, by the linearity of D,

and, with
$$\frac{Du = \omega}{\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \gamma}$$
, $\gamma := \min(\delta, \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{r_0})$, and $F := EG$, $u \in B_s(\Omega)$, $||u||_{B_s(\Omega)} \leq F||\omega||_{B_r(\Omega)}$.

Case 2 : if
$$\frac{1}{s_0} = \frac{1}{r} - \delta \Rightarrow s_0 < r_0$$
 then we continue : $\exists v_1 \in B_{s_1}(\Omega), \ Dv_1 = \omega_1 + \omega_2$

with

$$||v_1||_{B_{s_1}(\Omega)} \le C||\omega_1||_{B_{s_0}(\Omega)} \le CG||\omega||_{B_{r}(\Omega)},$$

$$\omega_2 \in B_{s_1}(\Omega), ||\omega_2||_{B_{s_1}(\Omega)} \le G||\omega_1||_{B_{s_0}(\Omega)},$$

$$\frac{1}{s_1} = \frac{1}{s_0} - \delta = \frac{1}{r} - 2\delta,$$

$$\Delta\omega_2 = 0.$$

And

$$D(v_0 - v_1) = \omega + \omega_1 - Dv_1 = \omega - \omega_2.$$

Hence by induction:

$$\exists v_0, ..., v_N :: v_j \in B_{s_j}(\Omega), \ \frac{1}{s_j} = \frac{1}{r} - (j+1)\delta, \ \|v_j\|_{B_{s_j}(\Omega)} \le CG^{j-1} \|\omega\|_{B_r(\Omega)}$$

and

$$D(\sum_{j=0}^{N} (-1)^{j} v_{j}) = \omega + (-1)^{N} \omega_{N}$$

with

$$\omega_N \in B_{s_{N-1}}(\Omega), \ \|\omega_N\|_{B_{s_{N-1}}(\Omega)} \le G^N \|\omega\|_{B_r(\Omega)}, \ \frac{1}{s_{N-1}} = \frac{1}{r} - N\delta$$

Hence the regularity of ω_N raises of N steps δ from that of ω .

Now let $s_0 :: \frac{1}{s_0} = \frac{1}{r} - \delta$ and suppose that $s_0 \le r_0$ then take N such that $\frac{1}{s_{N-1}} = \frac{1}{r} - N\delta \le \frac{1}{r_0}$ then $\omega_N \in B_{s_{N-1}}(\Omega) \subset B_{r_0}(\Omega)$ and now we can solve a global D in $B_{r_0}(\Omega)$, by assumption (iv) i.e. $\exists w \in B_{r_0}(\Omega) :: Dw = \omega_N, \ \|w\|_{B_{r_0}(\Omega)} \le E\|\omega_N\|_{B_{r_0}(\Omega)} \Rightarrow \|w\|_{B_{r_0}(\Omega)} \le ECG^N\|\omega\|_{B_{r(\Omega)}}.$

It remains to set

$$u := \sum_{j=0}^{N} (-1)^{j} v_{j} + (-1)^{N} w$$

to have

and, with
$$\begin{array}{l} Du = \omega \\ \frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \delta \text{ and } F := ECG^N, \\ u \in B_s(\Omega), \ \|u\|_{B_s(\Omega)} \le F \|\omega\|_{B_r(\Omega)}. \end{array}$$

3 Applications.

We proved in [2] the following theorem for strictly pseudo convex (s.p.c.) domains in \mathbb{C}^n .

Theorem 3.1 Let Ω be a s.p.c. domain in \mathbb{C}^n then

• for 1 < r < 2n + 2 we have

$$\forall \omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega), \ \bar{\partial}\omega = 0, \ \exists u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}u = \omega, \ \|u\|_{L^s(\Omega)} \lesssim \|\omega\|_{L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)},$$

with $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$.

• For r = 2n + 2 we have

$$\exists u \in \bigcap_{r \ge 1} L^r_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial} u = \omega.$$

If ω is a (p,1) form we have also:

• for r = 1, we have

$$\exists u \in L_{(p,0)}^{s,\infty}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}u = \omega, \ \|u\|_{L^{s,\infty}(\Omega)} \lesssim \|\omega\|_{L^{1}(\Omega)}$$

$$with \frac{1}{s} = 1 - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}.$$

• for r > 2n + 2 we have

$$\exists u \in \Lambda^{\beta}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}u = \omega, \ \|u\|_{\Lambda^{\beta}(\Omega)} \lesssim \|\omega\|_{L^{r}(\Omega)},$$

where $\beta = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{(n+1)}{r}$ and Λ^{β} is the Hölder class of functions of order β .

Moreover the solution u is linear on the data ω .

In fact the theorem we have gave results on $BMO(\Omega)$ instead of $\bigcap L^r_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)$ with control of the norm and on an anisotropic Hölder class $\Gamma^{\beta}(\Omega)$ instead of the usual Hölder class. But because

we are mainly interested in classical results, it is not necessary to go further here. The aim is to have this kind of results with a Stein manifold instead of \mathbb{C}^n .

3.1 The transfer from \mathbb{C}^n to Stein manifold.

We shall apply the raising steps method to the case of $D = \bar{\partial}$, $\Delta = \bar{\partial}$, $B_r = L^r_{(p,q)}$ the space of (p,q) currents with coefficients in the Lebesgue space L^r and X a Stein manifold. Clearly (i) and (ii) are verified.

Lemma 3.2 Let Ω be a s.p.c. domain in the complex manifold X. There is a covering $\{(U_j, \varphi_j)\}_{j=1,\dots,N}$ of $\bar{\Omega}$ by coordinates patches of X such that $\Omega_j := U_j \cap \Omega$ is still relatively compact, C^{∞} smoothly bounded and strictly pseudo convex in X.

Proof.

Let $z \in \bar{\Omega}$ and (G_z, φ_z) a coordinates patch such that $z \in G_z$. Set $V_z := \varphi_z(G_z) \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ and $\zeta := \varphi_z(z)$.

We have two cases

- (i) if $z \in \Omega$ take a ball B_{ζ} centered at ζ and contained in V_z . B is spc in \mathbb{C}^n ; set $U_z := \varphi_z^{-1}(B)$ then $U_z = U_z \cap \Omega$ is still spc with smooth boundary in X, because φ_z is biholomorphic in G_z , and U_z is a neighbourhood of z.
- (ii) if $z \in \partial \Omega$ we look at $V_z \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ and we make the completion of the part of the boundary of $\varphi_z(G_z \cap \Omega)$ in V_z to get a smoothly bounded strictly pseudo convex domain Γ_z in V_z as in [1].

Now we extend Γ_z on the other side of $\varphi_z(G_z \cap \partial\Omega)$ in V_z as an open set W_z such that $W_z \cap \varphi_z(U_z \cap \Omega) = \Gamma_z$. Now we set $U_z := \varphi_z^{-1}(W_z)$, then $\Omega_z := U_z \cap \Omega = \varphi_z^{-1}(\Gamma_z)$ is strictly pseudo convex with smooth boundary in X.

Hence we have that $\{U_z\}_{z\in\bar{\Omega}}$ is a covering of the compact set $\bar{\Omega}$ and we can extract of it a finite subset $\{U_j\}_{j=1,\dots,N}$ which is still a covering of $\bar{\Omega}$ with all the required properties.

Remark 3.3 We have that the Lebesgue measure on X restricted to U_j is equivalent to the restriction of the Lebesgue measure of \mathbb{C}^n to $\varphi_j(U_j)$. This equivalence is uniform with respect to j=1,...,N of course. Moreover we have that the distance in $\Omega \cap U_j$ is also uniformly equivalent to the distance in Γ_j because φ_j is biholomorphic in U_j and there is only a finite number of U_j to deal with.

3.2 Case with use of the L^2 estimates of Hörmander.

Let Ω be s.p.c. domain in the Stein manifold X. We plan to apply the raising steps method to extend estimates from domains in \mathbb{C}^n to domains in X.

By lemma 3.2 we have a covering $\{U_j\}_{j=1,\ldots,N}$ of Ω by coordinates patches (U_j, φ_j) such that $\Omega_j = U_j \cap \Omega$ is spc in X and $\Gamma_j = \varphi_j(\Omega_j)$ is spc in \mathbb{C}^n with \mathcal{C}^{∞} smooth boundary.

Let $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, we have by remark 3.3, that Lebesgue measures on Ω_j and on Γ_j are equivalent, $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$ implies $\varphi_j^*\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Gamma_j)$.

Hence we can apply theorem 3.1 to each Γ_j to get a $u_j' \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Gamma_j)$, $\bar{\partial} u_j' = \varphi_j^* \omega$ with $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$. So we have here $\delta = \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$.

Back to X, we have a $u_j \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega_j)$, $\bar{\partial} u_j = \omega$ in $U_j \cap \Omega = \Omega_j$ with control of the norm. So assumption (iii) is fulfilled.

We get the assumption (iv) by the well known theorem of Hörmander [11], [9].

Theorem 3.4 Let Ω be a s.p.c. domain in the Stein manifold X. There is a constant C>0 such that if $\omega\in L^2_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega=0$ there is a (p,q-1) current $u\in L^2_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}u=\omega$ and $\|u\|_2\leq C\|\omega\|_2$.

So an application of the "raising steps" theorem 2.1 gives

Theorem 3.5 Let Ω be a s.p.c. domain in the Stein manifold X. There is a constant C > 0 such that if $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$, with $r \leq 2$,

$$set \ \gamma := \min(\frac{1}{2(n+1)}, \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2}) \ and \ \frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \gamma, \ then \ there \ is \ a \ (p,q-1) \ current \ u \ such \ that \\ \bar{\partial} u = \omega \ and \ u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega), \ \|u\|_{L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)} \leq C\|\omega\|_{L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)}.$$

To deal with the case r > 2 we shall proceed by duality and ask that ω has compact support, i.e. $\omega \in L^{r,c}_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$ when q < n.

Recall that $\mathcal{H}_p^r(\Omega)$ is the set of all (p, 0) $\bar{\partial}$ closed forms in Ω and in $L^r(\Omega)$. As usual let r' the conjugate exponent to r, $\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{r'} = 1$.

Theorem 3.6 Let Ω be a s.p.c. domain in the Stein manifold X. Let $\frac{2(n+1)}{n+2} \leq r \leq 2(n+1)$ and $\omega \in L^{r,c}_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$ if $1 \leq q < n$ and $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\omega \perp \mathcal{H}^{r'}_p(\Omega)$ if q = n; then there is a (p,q-1) current u such that, with $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$, $\bar{\partial}u = \omega$ and $u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)$, $||u||_s \leq C||\omega||_r$.

Proof.

We use the same technique of duality we already use in [4] inspired by the Serre duality theorem [15].

Lemma 3.7 For Ω , ω as in the theorem, consider the function $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\omega}$, defined on (n-p, n-q+1) form $\alpha \in L^{s'}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}$ closed in Ω , as follows:

 $\mathcal{L}(\alpha) := (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle$, where $\varphi \in L^{r'}(\Omega)$ is such that $\bar{\partial} \varphi = \alpha$ in Ω .

Then \mathcal{L} is well defined and linear.

Proof.

First notice that if $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$ then $\frac{1}{r'} = \frac{1}{s'} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$. Such a current φ with $\bar{\partial}\varphi = \alpha$ exists since s', the conjugate exponent of s verifies $s' \leq 2$, hence we can apply theorem 3.5, with the remark that this time $s' \leq r'$.

Suppose first that q < n.

In order for \mathcal{L} to be well defined we need

$$\forall \varphi, \psi \in L^{r'}_{(n-p,n-q)}(\Omega), \ \bar{\partial} \varphi = \bar{\partial} \psi \Rightarrow \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle = \langle \omega, \psi \rangle.$$

This is meaningful because $\omega \in L^{r,c}(\Omega), r > 1$, Supp $\omega \subseteq \Omega$.

Then we have $\bar{\partial}(\varphi - \psi) = 0$ hence $\varphi - \psi \in L^{r'}(\Omega) \subset L^{s'}(\Omega)$ so we can solve $\bar{\partial}$ in $L^{r'}(\Omega)$ because $s' \le 2$ by theorem 3.5:

 $\exists \gamma \in L_{(n-p,n-q-1)}^{r'}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}\gamma = (\varphi - \psi) \in L^{r'}(\Omega).$ So $\langle \omega, \varphi - \psi \rangle = \langle \omega, \bar{\partial}\gamma \rangle = (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \bar{\partial}\omega, \gamma \rangle = 0$ because ω being compactly supported in Ω there is no boundary term.

Hence \mathcal{L} is well defined in that case.

Suppose now that q = n.

Of course $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$ but we have that φ , ψ are (p, 0) forms hence $\bar{\partial}(\varphi - \psi) = 0$ means that $h := \varphi - \psi$ is a $\bar{\partial}$ closed (p, 0) form hence $h \in \mathcal{H}_p(\Omega)$. The hypothesis $\omega \perp \mathcal{H}_p^{r'}(\Omega)$ gives $\langle \omega, h \rangle = 0$, and \mathcal{L} is also well defined in that case. We notice that ω with compact support is not needed in that case, but in order that the scalar product be defined, we need $h \in \mathcal{H}_{p}^{r'}(\Omega)$.

It remains to see that \mathcal{L} is linear, so let $\alpha = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$, with $\alpha_j \in L^{s'}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\alpha_j = 0$, j = 1, 2; we have $\alpha = \bar{\partial}\varphi$, $\alpha_1 = \bar{\partial}\varphi_1$ and $\alpha_2 = \bar{\partial}\varphi_2$, with φ , φ_1 , φ_2 in $L^{r'}(\Omega)$ so, because $\bar{\partial}(\varphi - \varphi_1 - \varphi_2) = 0$, we have

if q < n:

$$\varphi = \varphi_1 + \varphi_2 + \bar{\partial}\psi$$
, with ψ in $L^{r'}(\Omega)$, as we did above,

SO

$$\mathcal{L}(\alpha) = (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle = (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \varphi_1 + \varphi_2 + \bar{\partial} \psi \rangle = \mathcal{L}(\alpha_1) + \mathcal{L}(\alpha_2) + (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \bar{\partial} \psi \rangle,$$

but $\langle \omega, \bar{\partial}\psi \rangle = \langle \bar{\partial}\omega, \psi \rangle = 0$, because Supp $\omega \in \Omega$ implies there is no boundary term.

Hence $\mathcal{L}(\alpha) = \mathcal{L}(\alpha_1) + \mathcal{L}(\alpha_2)$.

if q = n:

because $\bar{\partial}(\varphi - \varphi_1 - \varphi_2) = 0$, we have $h := \varphi - \varphi_1 - \varphi_2 \in \mathcal{H}_p^{r'}(\Omega)$ and the hypothesis $\omega \perp \mathcal{H}_p^{r'}(\Omega)$ gives $\langle \omega, h \rangle = 0$, so

$$\mathcal{L}(\alpha) = (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle = (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \varphi_1 + \varphi_2 + h \rangle = \mathcal{L}(\alpha_1) + \mathcal{L}(\alpha_2) + (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, h \rangle,$$

hence $\mathcal{L}(\alpha) = \mathcal{L}(\alpha_1) + \mathcal{L}(\alpha_2)$.

We notice again that ω with compact support is not needed in that case.

The same for $\alpha = \lambda \alpha_1$ and the linearity.

Lemma 3.8 Still with the same hypotheses as above there is a (p, q-1) current u such that $\forall \alpha \in L_{(n-p,n-q+1)}^{s'}(\Omega), \ \langle u, \alpha \rangle = \mathcal{L}(\alpha) = (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle,$ and

$$\sup_{\alpha \in L^{s'}(\Omega), \|\alpha\|_{L^{s'}(\Omega)} \le 1} |\langle u, \alpha \rangle| \le C \|\omega\|_{L^r(\Omega)}.$$

Proof.

By lemma 3.7 we have that \mathcal{L} is a linear form on (n-p, n-q+1) forms $\alpha \in L^{s'}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}$ closed in Ω .

We have

we have
$$\exists \varphi \in L^{r'}_{(n-p,n-q)}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}\varphi = \alpha, \ \|\varphi\|_{L^{r'}(\Omega)} \leq C_2 \|\alpha\|_{L^{s'}(\Omega)}$$
 and by its very definition

$$\mathcal{L}(\alpha) = \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle.$$

By Hölder inequalities

$$|\mathcal{L}(\alpha)| \le ||\omega||_{L^r(\Omega)} ||\varphi||_{L^{r'}(\Omega)} = ||\omega||_{L^r(\Omega)} ||\varphi||_{L^{r'}(\Omega)}.$$

But there is a constant C such that

$$\|\varphi\|_{L^{r'}(\Omega)} \le C \|\alpha\|_{L^{s'}(\Omega)}.$$

Hence

$$|\mathcal{L}(\alpha)| \le C \|\omega\|_{L^r(\Omega)} \|\alpha\|_{L^{s'}(\Omega)}.$$

So we have that the norm of \mathcal{L} is bounded on the subspace of $\bar{\partial}$ closed forms in $L^{s'}(\Omega)$ by

We apply the Hahn-Banach theorem to extend \mathcal{L} with the same norm to all (n-p, n-q+1)forms in $L^{s'}(\Omega)$. As in Serre duality theorem ([15], p. 20) this is one of the main ingredient in the proof.

This means, by the definition of currents, that there is a (p, q-1) current u which represents the extended form \mathcal{L} , i.e.

$$\forall \alpha \in L_{(n-p,n-q+1)}^{s'}(\Omega), \ \langle u, \alpha \rangle = \mathcal{L}(\alpha) = (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle,$$

and such that

$$\sup_{\alpha \in L^{s'}(\Omega), \ \|\alpha\|_{L^{s'}(\Omega)} \le 1} \ |\langle u, \alpha \rangle| \le C \|\omega\|_{L^r(\Omega)}.$$

The lemma 3.8 says that

$$\forall \alpha \in L_{(n-p,n-q+1)}^{s'}(\Omega), \ \langle u, \alpha \rangle = \mathcal{L}(\alpha) = (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle,$$

hence applied to $\varphi \in \mathcal{D}_{(n-p,n-q)}(\Omega)$ we get $\alpha = \bar{\partial}\varphi \in \mathcal{D}_{(n-p,n-q+1)} \subset L^{s'}(\Omega)$ and $\langle u, \bar{\partial}\varphi \rangle = \mathcal{L}(\bar{\partial}\varphi) = (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \underline{\varphi} \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \bar{\partial}u, \varphi \rangle = \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle$

$$\langle u, \bar{\partial}\varphi \rangle = \mathcal{L}(\bar{\partial}\varphi) = (-1)^{p+q-1} \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \bar{\partial}u, \varphi \rangle = \langle \omega, \varphi \rangle$$

because φ has compact support in Ω , hence $\partial u = \omega$ in the sense of distributions.

Moreover the fact that

$$\sup_{\alpha \in L^{s'}(\Omega), \|\alpha\|_{L^{s'}(\Omega)} \le 1} |\langle u, \alpha \rangle| \le C \|\omega\|_{L^r(\Omega)}$$

gives, by an easy duality, that

$$\|u\|_{L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)} \leq C\|\omega\|_{L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)}$$
 which completes the proof of theorem 3.6. \blacksquare

Remark 3.9 The theorem is valid up to r = 2(n+1) because there we have to take s' = 1 and we get

$$\sup_{\alpha \in L^1(\Omega), \|\alpha\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \le 1} |\langle u, \alpha \rangle| \le C \|\omega\|_{L^r(\Omega)}$$

 $\sup_{\alpha \in L^1(\Omega), \|\alpha\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \le 1} |\langle u, \alpha \rangle| \le C \|\omega\|_{L^r(\Omega)}$ which implies that $u \in L^{\infty}_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)$ with control of the norm.

Case of (0,1) forms by use of Kerzman's estimates. 3.3

In the special case of (0,1) forms ω , we apply the raising steps method with Kerzman's estimates [12] for the global solution.

Let Ω be a s.p.c. domain in the Stein manifold X. As above we have the assumption (iii) fulfilled with $\delta = \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$. We shall prove

Theorem 3.10 Let Ω be a s.p.c. domain in the Stein manifold X.

• If $1 \le r < 2(n+1)$ there is a constant $C = C_r > 0$ such that if $\omega \in L^r_{(0,1)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$ then there is a function u such that, with $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}$,

$$\bar{\partial}u = \omega \text{ and } u \in L^s(\Omega), \|u\|_{L^s(\Omega)} \leq C \|\omega\|_{L^r_{(0,1)}(\Omega)}.$$

- If r = 2(n+1) then for any $s < \infty$ there is a function u such that $\bar{\partial} u = \omega$ and $u \in L^s(\Omega), \|u\|_{L^s(\Omega)} \le C \|\omega\|_{L^r_{(0,1)}(\Omega)}$.
- if r > 2(n+1) there is a function u such that $u \in \Lambda^{\beta}_{(p,0)}(\Omega) :: \bar{\partial}u = \omega, \|u\|_{\Lambda^{\beta}(\Omega)} \lesssim \|\omega\|_{L^{r}_{(0,1)}(\Omega)},$

where $\beta = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{(n+1)}{r}$ and Λ^{β} is the Hölder class of functions of order β .

The assumption (iv) is true for any $r_0 \in [1, \infty]$ by Kerzman's estimates [12] so starting with a $r \in [1, 2(n+1)[$, we choose $r_0 = s$ with $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)} > 0$, hence an application of the raising steps theorem 2.1 gives the first point.

For the second point the proof of the raising steps theorem gives that we have $v_0 := \sum_{i=1}^{N} \chi_j u_j$ with

 $u_j \in \bigcap_{1 \le t} L^t(\Omega \cap U_j)$ hence $v_0 \in \bigcap_{1 \le t} L^t(\Omega \cap U_j)$ because the χ_j are in $\mathcal{D}(\Omega \cap U_j)$. Choose a $s < \infty$ and $r_0 = s$, then apply Kerzman's result: there is a correction $w \in L^s(\Omega)$ such that $\bar{\partial}(v_0 - w) = \omega$ and

 $v_0 - w \in L^s(\Omega)$.

For the third point the proof of the raising steps theorem gives that we have again $v_0 := \sum_{j=1}^{N} \chi_j u_j$

with $u_j \in \Lambda^{\beta}(\Omega \cap U_j)$ because the distance in \mathbb{C}^n and in $\Omega \cap U_j$ are equivalent and the φ_j are biholomorphic, as in remark 3.3, hence the φ_i send Hölder classes to the same Hölder classes.

Then we apply the Hölder part of Kerzman's result [12]:

 $\forall \varphi \in L^{\infty}_{(0,1)}(\Omega), \ \bar{\partial} \varphi = 0, \ \exists w \in L^{\infty}(\Omega) :: \ \bar{\partial} w = \omega \ \ and \ \forall \alpha < 1/2, \ w \in \Lambda^{\alpha}(\Omega), \ \|w\|_{\Lambda^{\alpha}(\Omega)} \leq \omega = 0$

i.e. we choose $r_0 = \infty$, and we have a correction $w \in \Lambda^{\alpha}$ for any $\alpha < 1/2$. Hence again $\bar{\partial}(v_0 - w) = \omega$ and $v_0 - w \in \Lambda^{\beta}$ because $\beta < 1/2$ and we choose of course $\alpha = \beta$.

Case of (p,q) forms by use of Demailly-Laurent's estimates. 3.4

We can also remove the fact that ω must have compact support when $r \geq 2$ by using a theorem of Demailly-Laurent [6], Remarque 4, page 596) but the price to paid here is that the manifold has to be equipped with a metric with null curvature, in order to avoid parasitic terms.

The proof is identical to the previous one and we get

Theorem 3.11 Let Ω be a s.p.c. domain in the Stein manifold X equipped with a metric with null curvature.

• If $1 \le r < 2(n+1)$ and $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$. Then there is a (p,q-1) current u such that $\bar{\partial} u = \omega \ and \ u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega), \ \|u\|_s \le C \|\omega\|_{L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)} \ with \ \frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2(n+1)}.$

• If r = 2(n+1) and $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$. Then for any $s < \infty$ there is a (p,q-1) current u such that

$$\bar{\partial}u = \omega \text{ and } u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega), \|u\|_s \leq C\|\omega\|_{L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)}.$$

4 On convex domains of finite type.

As another application of this method we get the following theorem:

Theorem 4.1 Let Ω be a domain in \mathbb{C}^n such that locally around any point of $\partial\Omega$, Ω is biholomorphic to a convex domain of finite type at most of type m; then if $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$ if $1 \leq r \leq 2$, there is a (p,q-1) current u such that, with $\gamma := \min(\frac{1}{mn+2}, \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{2})$, and $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \gamma$, $\bar{\partial}u = \omega$ and $u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)$, $||u||_{L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)} \leq C||\omega||_{L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)}$.

Proof.

We know that near any point ζ of the boundary of Ω we have that Ω is biholomorphic to a convex domain of finite type D_{ζ} .

In the case of convex domains of finite type, K. Diederich, B. Fischer and J-E. Fornaess [7], A. Cumenge [5] and B. Fischer [8] proved a theorem completely analogous to theorem 1.1, with the gain given by $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{mn+2}$, so applying it we can solve $\bar{\partial}$ with $L^r - L^s$ estimates with $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{mn+2}$ for n < mn+2 in D_{ζ} and the biholomorphism gives the same result near ζ in Ω . Hence if ω is a (p,q) form in $L^r(\Omega)$, there is a local solution u of $\bar{\partial} u = \omega$ in $L^s(D \cap \Omega)$ where D is biholomorphic to a convex domain of finite type. On the other hand, the domain Ω is pseudo convex, because locally biholomorphic to a pseudo convex one, and bounded, so we can use Hörmander's theorem which says that we can solve globally the $\bar{\partial}$ equation with L^2 estimates in such a domain Ω .

Hence we can apply the raising steps theorem [3] to get a global $L^r - L^s$ solution in Ω . \blacksquare To deal with $r \ge 2$ we can apply exactly the same method as for theorem 3.6 to get

Theorem 4.2 Let Ω be a domain in \mathbb{C}^n such that locally around any point of $\partial\Omega$, Ω is biholomorphic to a convex domain of finite type at most of type m; Let $2 < r \le mn+2$ and $\omega \in L^{r,c}_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\bar{\partial}\omega = 0$ if $1 \le q < n$ and $\omega \in L^r_{(p,q)}(\Omega)$, $\omega \perp \mathcal{H}^{r'}_p(\Omega)$ if q = n; then there is a (p,q-1) current u such that, with $\frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{mn+2}$, $\bar{\partial}u = \omega$ and $u \in L^s_{(p,q-1)}(\Omega)$, $||u||_s \le C||\omega||_r$.

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