

Domain of holomorphy

Defⁿ: Ω is called a domain of holomorphy if there does NOT exist open set $U, \hat{\Omega}$ such that

- (1) $\emptyset \neq U \subseteq \Omega \cap \hat{\Omega}$
- (2) $\hat{\Omega}$ is connected and $\hat{\Omega} \not\subseteq \Omega$
- (3) For every $f \in H(\Omega), \exists f_2 \in H(\hat{\Omega})$ s.t. $f = f_2$ in U

Roughly speaking, this means, there is no larger set $\hat{\Omega}$ such that every holomorphic function in Ω can be holomorphically extended to $\hat{\Omega}$.

E.g. Recall: Let $\Omega = B(0,1) \setminus \overline{B(0,\frac{1}{2})}$. Then Ω is NOT a domain of holomorphy, as every $f \in H(\Omega)$ can be holomorphically extended to $B(0,1)$

Defⁿ: (Natural defining domain)

Let $f \in H(\Omega)$. We say Ω is the natural defining domain of f if there does NOT exist open subsets

$U, \hat{\Omega}$ and $F \in H(\hat{\Omega})$ s.t.

- (1) $\emptyset \neq U \subseteq \Omega \cap \hat{\Omega}$
- (2) $\hat{\Omega}$ is connected and $\hat{\Omega} \not\subseteq \Omega$
- (3) $F = f$ on U .

Roughly speaking, f cannot extend holomorphically to any larger set than Ω .

Remark: Ω is the natural defining domain for some $f \in H(\Omega) \Rightarrow \Omega$ is a domain of holomorphy

E.g. Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$. Then Ω is a domain of holomorphy. If $\Omega = \mathbb{C}$, it is trivial. If not,

\neg If $\Omega = \mathbb{C}$, it is trivial. If not,
 then for any Ω_2 , let $p \in \partial\Omega \cap \Omega_2$.

Ω_2 then $f(z) := \frac{1}{z-p}$ cannot be holomorphically
 extended to Ω_2 .



It is more non-trivial to see Ω is the natural
 defining domain of some $f \in H(\Omega)$.

Proposition: Let Ω be an open set in \mathbb{C}^n . Then

Ω is geometrically convex $\Rightarrow \Omega$ is a domain of holomorphy.

Proof: Assume Ω is geometrically convex; if $\Omega = \mathbb{C}^n$,
 then the conclusion is easy to see. Now assume
 $\Omega \neq \mathbb{C}^n$. Fix $p \in \partial\Omega$. Since Ω is geometrically convex,
 there is a real hyperplane l passing through p such that
 $\Omega \subset H_l^-$.

We can find a holomorphic linear function L such
 that $l = \text{Re } L$. Let

$$L_0 = L - (\text{Im } L(p))$$

Then $\text{Re } L_0 = l$ and

$$L_0(p) = L(p) = 0$$

Define $f = \frac{1}{L_0(z)}$ Note when $z \in \Omega$

we have $\text{Re } L_0(z) = L(z) < 0 \Rightarrow f \in H(\Omega)$

But f cannot be extended holomorphically across p .

$\Rightarrow \Omega$ is a domain of holomorphy.

Cartan-Thullen Theorem:

Let $G \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ be an open set. Then TFAE (The
 following are equivalent):

(i) G is a domain of holomorphy

(ii) G is holomorphically convex

(iii) $\exists f \in H(G)$ s.t G is the natural defining
 domain of f

(iii) $\exists f \in H(G)$ s.t G is the natural defining domain of G

(iii)' $\exists f \in H(G)$ s.t f is unbounded near every boundary point of G .

To prove the Cartan-Thullen Thm, we will prove the following Thm.

Notation: Let $z, w \in \mathbb{C}^n$. Define the distance

$$d(z, w) = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} |z_j - w_j|$$

Let $A, B \subset \mathbb{C}^n$. Define distance between A, B

$$d(A, B) = \inf \{d(z, w) \mid z \in A, w \in B\}.$$

In particular,

$$d(z, A) = \text{distance between } \{z\}, A$$

Thm 1: Assume G is a domain of holomorphy.

Then $d(K, G^c) = d(\hat{K}_G, G^c)$.

Here $G^c = \mathbb{C}^n - G$.

Proof: As $K \subset \subset G \Rightarrow d(K, G^c) > 0$

Fix $0 < r < d(K, G^c)$, let

$K_r = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^n : d(z, K) \leq r\}$. Then

$$K \subset K_r \subset G.$$

Moreover, when $z \in K$, the polydisc

$$P(z, r) = \Delta(z_1, r) \times \dots \times \Delta(z_n, r) \subset K_r \subset G$$

By Cauchy's Inequality, for $\forall f \in H(G)$, we have.

$$|(\partial^\alpha f)(z)| \leq \frac{\alpha!}{r^{|\alpha|}} \sup_{\xi \in K_r} |f(\xi)|$$

for all $z \in K$

Fix any $a \in \hat{K}$. By the definition of \hat{K} and

note $\partial^\alpha f \in H(G)$ we have

For any $a \in K$, by the def. ...

note $\partial^\alpha f \in H(G)$, we have

$$|(\partial^\alpha f)(a)| \leq \frac{\alpha!}{r^{|\alpha|}} \sup_{\beta \in K_r} |f(\beta)| \quad (*)$$

As K_r is compact, $\sup_{\beta \in K_r} |f(\beta)| = M < \infty$,

Then (*) implies

$$\left| \frac{(\partial^\alpha f)(a)}{\alpha!} (z-a)^\alpha \right| \leq M \left(\frac{|z-a_1|}{r} \right)^{\alpha_1} \dots \left(\frac{|z_n-a_n|}{r} \right)^{\alpha_n}$$

Define

$$g(z) = \sum_{\alpha \geq 0} \frac{(\partial^\alpha f)(a)}{\alpha!} (z-a)^\alpha$$

Note $g(z)$ converges in $P(z, r)$ and defines a holomorphic function in $P(a, r)$ and it agrees with f near a .

Then $\Omega_z := P(a, r)$ must be contained in G , as G is a domain of holomorphy. This implies

$$d(a, G^c) \geq r. \quad (**)$$

As (**) holds for all $r < d(K, G^c)$ and $\forall a \in \hat{K}_G$

$$\Rightarrow d(\hat{K}_G, G^c) \geq d(K, G^c)$$

Note $K \subset \hat{K}_G$ implies $d(\hat{K}_G, G^c) \leq d(K, G^c)$

$$\text{we thus have } d(\hat{K}_G, G^c) = d(K, G^c).$$

Corollary: If G is a domain of holomorphy, then

G is holomorphically convex.

Proof of Cartan-Thullen Thm:

Proof of Cartan-Thullen Thm.

The above Corollary shows (i) \Rightarrow (ii)
Apparently, (iii)' \Rightarrow (iii) \Rightarrow (i). To show the equivalence, we just need to prove (ii) \Rightarrow (iii)'.
This follows from the next Thm.

Theorem 2: Assume G is holomorphically convex, then there exists $f \in H(G)$, such that f is unbounded near every boundary point of G .

Before proving the thm, we introduce the following definition.

Defn.: (exhausting compact sets)

Let G be an open set in \mathbb{C}^n . Then $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ with $K_j \subset G$ is called an exhausting sequence (of compact sets) of G if

(i) each K_j is compact

(ii) $\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} K_j = G$

(iii) $K_j \subset \overset{\circ}{K}_{j+1}$ for each $j=1, 2, \dots$.

Remark.: If $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ is an exhausting sequence (of compact sets) of G , then for $\forall K \subset\subset G$, there exists $j_0 \geq 1$ such that $K \subset K_{j_0}$.

Proof.: Exercise!

Lemma 1. Let G be an open subset in \mathbb{C}^n . Then

(1) There exists an exhausting sequence $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ of compact sets of G .

(1) There exists an exhausting sequence $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ of compact sets of G .

(2) If G is additionally holomorphically convex, then we can make $K_j = \hat{K}_j$ for each j .

Proof: We will leave (1) as an exercise!

proof of (2):

By (1), there is an exhausting sequence $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$.

Then we modify them to get a new exhaustion sequence $\{K_j^*\}$ satisfying $(\hat{K}_j^*)_G = K_j$. We will construct the K_j^* inductively.

Step 1: Let $K_1^* = (\hat{K}_1)_G$ (Recall $\hat{K}_G = \hat{K}_G$)

Step 2: Assume K_1^*, \dots, K_l^* have been constructed with $(\hat{K}_j^*)_G = K_j$, $K_j^* \subset \overset{\circ}{K}_{j+1}^*$

We will next construct K_{l+1}^* . Since K_l^* is compact, by the remark above, $K_l^* \subset \overset{\circ}{K}_{\lambda(l)}$ for some $\lambda(l) \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.

We set $K_{l+1}^* = (\hat{K}_{\lambda(l)})_G$. Then

$K_l^* \subset (\overset{\circ}{K}_{l+1}^*)$, clearly $\bigcup_{l=1}^{\infty} K_l^* = G$.

This proves (2).

Proposition: Let G be an open set in \mathbb{C}^n . Let $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ be an exhausting sequence of G with $(\hat{K}_j)_G = K_j$.

Let $\{p_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of points in G

such that $p_j \in K_{j+1} - K_j$, $\forall j \geq 1$.

Then $\exists f \in H(G)$, s.t. $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} |f(p_j)| = \infty$.

1. ... 2. ... n. ... ∞

Lemma 2: Let $G \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ be an open set, and $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ be an exhausting sequence of G . Then $\exists \{P_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty} \subset G$ and an increasing sequence $\{r_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty} \subset \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that

(i) $P_j \in K_{r_{j+1}} - K_{r_j}$

(ii) For every $z \in \partial G$ and any neighborhood $U(z)$ of z , $\{P_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ has infinitely many points in $U(z) \cap G$.

proof of Thm 2: It is easy to see Thm 2 follows from the proposition and Lemma 2. We just need to establish proposition and Lemma 2.

proof of the proposition:

We will first inductively construct a sequence of functions $\{f_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ in $H(G)$ satisfying.

(i) $\sup_{K_j} |f_j(z)| < 2^{-j}, \forall j \geq 1$

(ii) $|f_j(P_j)| > j + 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} |f_i(P_j)|$

Step 1: (Construct f_1)

Since $P_1 \notin K_1$ and $(\hat{K}_1)_G = K_1$, then $\exists g_1 \in H(\Omega)$ such that

$|g_1(P_1)| > M$, where $M = \sup_{z \in K_1} |f(z)|$.

Choose s such that

$M < s < g_1(P_1)$.

Set $\tilde{g}_1 = \frac{g_1}{s}$. Then $\tilde{g}_1(P_1) > 1$ and

$|\tilde{g}_1(z)| < 1$ on K_1

$$|\tilde{g}_1(z)| < 1 \text{ on } K_1$$

Then $f_1 = \tilde{g}_1^m$ for a large m will satisfy

$$\sup_{z \in K_1} |f_1(z)| < \frac{1}{2} \text{ and}$$

$$|f_1(p)| > 2$$

step 2: Assume we have chosen f_1, \dots, f_l satisfying (i), (ii)

We next construct f_{l+1}

Again since $(\hat{K}_{l+1})_G = K_{l+1}$, and $P_{l+1} \notin K_{l+1}$ there exists g_{l+1} such that

$$|g_{l+1}(P_{l+1})| > M_{l+1}, \text{ where } M_{l+1} := \sup_{z \in K_{l+1}} |g_{l+1}(z)|$$

Pick S_{l+1} with $M_{l+1} < S_{l+1} < |g_{l+1}(P_{l+1})|$

$$\text{Set } \tilde{g}_{l+1} = \frac{g_{l+1}}{S_{l+1}} \text{ and } f_{l+1} = \tilde{g}_{l+1}^m$$

Then a sufficiently large m will make

$$(i) \sup_{K_{l+1}} |f_{l+1}(z)| < 2^{-(l+1)}$$

$$(ii) |f_{l+1}(P_{l+1})| > (l+1) + 1 + \sum_{i=1}^l |f_i(P_{l+1})|$$

Finally, we set

$$f = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f_j(z)$$

Then it converges on every K_j and thus on every compact set $K \subset G$.

This implies $f \in H(G)$

Moreover,

$$|f(P_j)| \geq |f_j(P_j)| - \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} |f_i(P_j)| - \sum_{i=j+1}^{\infty} |f_i(P_j)|$$

By (1), (2), and $P_j \in K_i$ for $i \geq j+1$.

$$\dots - \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} 2^{-i} > 0$$

By ...

$$(*) \geq j+1 - \sum_{i=j+1}^{\infty} 2^{-i} \geq j$$

Thus $\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} |f(p_j)| = \infty$.

Proof of Lemma 2: (Sketchy)

First find a dense sequence $\{q_j\}$ in ∂G .

- (i) pick $p_1 \in K_2 - K_1$, such that $d(p_1, q_1) < 2^{-1}$.
- (ii) pick $p_2 \notin K_2$ such that $d(p_2, q_2) < 2^{-2}$.

There exists $v_3 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, such that $z_2 \in K_{v_3} - K_{v_2}$, where $v_2 :=$

- (iii) Then pick $p_3 \notin K_{v_2}$, such that $d(p_3, q_3) < 2^{-3}$.

There exists $v(3) \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, such that $z_3 \in K_{v(3)} - K_{v_2}$.

Inductively, one can find a sequence $\{p_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty} \subset G$, and $\{v_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty} \subset \mathbb{Z}^+$

such that

$$(1) \quad d(p_j, q_j) < 2^{-j}$$

$$(2) \quad p_j \in K_{v_{j+1}} - K_{v_j}.$$

It is easy to see the conclusion in the Lemma holds.