

# Singular Levi-flat hypersurfaces (3)

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Small review:

For a CR manifold  $M$ , a smooth function  $f: M \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a *CR function* if

$$vf = 0$$

for all vector fields  $v \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$ .

There exist smooth CR functions that are not restrictions of holomorphic functions, but we will show in just a bit that all real-analytic CR functions on a real-analytic CR submanifold are.

Then we will completely locally classify **ALL** real-analytic (nonsingular) Levi-flat hypersurfaces.

Suppose  $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is a real-analytic real hypersurface given in  $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$  as

$$\operatorname{Im} w = \varphi(z, \bar{z}, \operatorname{Re} w) \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{w - \bar{w}}{2i} = \varphi\left(z, \bar{z}, \frac{w + \bar{w}}{2}\right),$$

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We can also find a basis for the vector fields in  $T^{(0,1)}M$ :

That is, vector fields in  $T^{(0,1)}\mathbb{C}^n$  that vanish on the function  $\bar{w} - Q(z, \bar{z}, w)$ . The following will work:

$$X_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}}.$$



## Theorem (Severi)

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So  $f$  is holomorphic in both  $z$  and  $w$ . □



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- or equivalently,  $M$  is “pseudoconvex from both sides”:  $M$  divides space near  $p$  into two pieces both of which are pseudoconvex at  $p$ .

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$$\begin{aligned} [X_k, \bar{X}_\ell] &= \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \right) \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \right) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell \partial \bar{z}_k} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell \partial \bar{w}} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial w} - \left( \frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} + \frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial w} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{w}} \end{aligned}$$

$\frac{\partial \bar{Q}}{\partial z_\ell} \Big|_0 = 0$ , and Levi-flat at the origin implies  $\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \bar{z}_k \partial z_\ell} \Big|_0 = \frac{\partial^2 \bar{Q}}{\partial z_k \partial \bar{z}_\ell} \Big|_0 = 0$ .

**Proposition:** Suppose  $M$  is Levi-flat, then  $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$  is involutive.

If  $X, Y \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$ , then  $[X, Y] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M)$  and  $[\bar{X}, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(0,1)}M)$ . As  $M$  is Levi-flat,  $\pi_p([X, \bar{Y}]|_p) = 0$ , so  $[X, \bar{Y}] \in \Gamma(T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M)$ .

In fact, the Levi-form precisely measures how involutive or not  $T^{(1,0)}M \oplus T^{(0,1)}M$  is.

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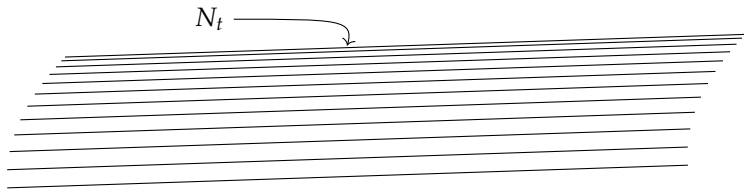
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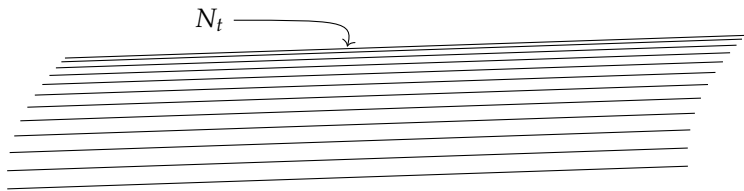


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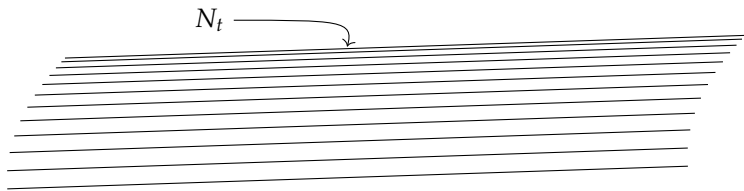
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An example:  $M = \{\text{Im } w = 0\}$ , here  $f = \text{Re } w$ .



## Theorem (Cartan)

*If  $M \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is a Levi-flat real-analytic smooth hypersurface, then near each point  $p \in M$ , there exist local holomorphic coordinates  $(z, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}$  vanishing at  $p$  such that  $M$  near  $p$  is given by*

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Change variables to make the extended  $f$  be the  $w$ . □

**Exercise:** Give the right statement and proof for higher codimension CR manifolds.

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