# Two theorems of Hartogs

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# 1 Hartogs' theorem for subharmonic function

The first Hartogs theorem concerns the convergence of harmonic functions. It says that under certain conditions, the convergence, apriori pointwise, is actually uniform on every compacts.

**Theorem 1** (Hartogs on subharmonic functions). Let  $\Omega$  be a domain and  $u_k \in SH(\Omega)$  a sequence of subharmonic function such that

- 1. Uniformly bounded on compacts:  $u_k|_K < M_K$ .
- 2. Pointwise limit is continuous:  $\limsup_k u_k(x) = C$

Then for every  $K \subset \Omega$  compact and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N(K, \varepsilon) > 0$  such that  $u_k < C + \varepsilon$  for all  $k > N(K, \varepsilon)$ 

Proof. By covering  $\Omega$  with an increasing sequence of compact  $K_n$  that  $K_n \in Int(K_{n+1})$ , one can suppose that  $u_k < M$  on  $\Omega$ . One can also suppose that M = 0. Note that it suffices to prove that for any  $x \in \Omega$ , there exists  $N(x, \varepsilon)$  such that  $u_k < C + \varepsilon$  on a neighborhood  $U_x$  of x for all  $k > N(x, \varepsilon)$ , then the conclusion follows by compactness of K.

One has  $\lim_{k\to +\infty}\int_{B(x,R)}u_k=C|B(R)|$  by monotone convergence, so  $\int_{B(x,R)}u_k<(C+\varepsilon)|B(R)|$  for  $k>N_1(x,\varepsilon)$ . For any  $r\ll R$  and  $y\in B(x,r)$  one has  $\int_{B(y,R+r)}u_k\leq \int_{B(x,R)}u_k<(C+\varepsilon)|B(R)|$ . Therefore

$$u_k(y) \le (C + \varepsilon) \frac{|B(R)|}{|B(R+r)|} \le C + 2\varepsilon \qquad \forall r \ll R, k > N_1(x, \varepsilon)$$

which shows that  $u_k < C + 2\varepsilon$  for in a small neighborhood B(x,r) of x.  $\square$ 

**Remark 1.** The Theorem 1 above can be easily generalized by replacing the constant C by a continuous function f.

# 2 Hartogs theorem of separately holomorphicity

The second result of Hartogs that I want to present here is about the founding notion of holomorphicity for several complex variables.

**Theorem 2** (Hartogs for separate holomorphicity). A function f separately holomorphic on each variable then f is smooth and hence is completely holomorphic

The strategy is to establish the following steps:

- 1. f is locally bounded.
- 2. f is continuous.
- 3. f is smooth, hence is completely holomorphic.

The second and third steps are not difficult. In fact when one knows that f is locally bounded, one can prove that f is continuous by Schwartz lemma on each variable with appropriate scaling.

$$f(z_1,\ldots,z_i,\ldots\xi_n)-f(z_1,\ldots,\xi_i,\ldots,\xi_n)\leq |1-\overline{f(\ldots,z_i,\ldots)}f(\ldots,\xi_i,\ldots)|\left|\frac{z_i-\xi_i}{1-z_i\bar{\xi}_i}\right|\quad\forall |z_i|,|\xi|<1,|f|<1$$

When f is continuous, one may refind Cauchy integral formulae and differentiability follows by dominated convergence.

So the remaining point is to prove that f is locally bounded, which can be done using Baire theorem and the first Hartogs result, Theorem 1.

### 2.1 Application of Baire theorem.

We will prove Theorem 2 by induction on the dimension n. We can therefore suppose that with the last variable  $z_n$  fixed, the function is completely holomorphic on the n-1 first variables. Fix a closed n-polydisc  $\mathbb{D}^n \ni x = 0$ , denote

$$W_L = \{(z_1, \dots, z_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{D}^{n-1} : |f(z_1, \dots, z_n)| \le L \quad \forall z_n \in \mathbb{D}^1\}$$

then

- 1.  $\bigcup_{L\in\mathbb{N}} W_L = \mathbb{D}^n$  since for fixed  $(z_1,\ldots,z_{n-1})\in\mathbb{D}^{n-1}$ , the function f is continuous on  $z_{n-1}$ .
- 2. Each  $W_L$  is closed since for fixed  $z_n$ , the function f is continuous on n-1 first variables.

Therefore by Baire theorem, there exists L large enough such that  $W_L$  contains an open set of  $\mathbb{D}^{n-1}$ . Therefore there exists a strip  $U_{n-1} \times \mathbb{D} \subset \mathbb{D}^n$  on which the function f is holomorphic.

We will extend this strip using the following lemma

**Lemma 3.** lem:ext-strip Let f be a separately holomorphic function defined on a neighborhood of  $\mathbb{D}^n$  such that

- 1. f is continuous on a neighborhood of the strip  $\mathbb{D}_{\rho} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{D}_{\rho} \times \mathbb{D}$ ,
- 2. f is completely holomorphic on the first n-1 variables when the last one is fixed.

then f is completely holomorphic on  $\mathbb{D}^n$ 

This lemma can be proved using the series decomposition of f.

### 2.2 Analysis of series decomposition.

Since f is completely holomorphic on the first n-1 variables when  $z_n$  is fixed, one has

$$f(z_1, \dots, z_n) = \sum_{\alpha} a_{\alpha}(z_n) z^{\alpha}, \qquad a_{\alpha}(z_n) = \partial^{\alpha} f(0, z_n) / \alpha!$$
 is holomorphic in  $z_n$ 

Then the fact that for fixed  $z_n$ , the holomorphic function  $f(z', z_n)$  is well-defined on  $z' \in \mathbb{D}^{n-1}$  shows that

$$\lim_{|\alpha| \to \infty} \sup_{|\alpha| \to \infty} |a_{\alpha}(z_n)|^{1/|\alpha|} \le 1. \tag{1}$$

Moreover, Cauchy integral on  $\mathbb{D}_{\rho} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{D}_{\rho} \times \mathbb{D}$  shows that

$$|a_{\alpha}(z_n)| = |\partial^{\alpha} f(0, z_n)|/\alpha! \le \frac{1}{\rho^{|\alpha|}} M$$
 (2)

where M is an upper bound of |f| on the strip.

Let  $u_{\alpha} = \frac{1}{|\alpha|} \log |a_{\alpha}|$  be a subharmonic function of  $z_n \in \mathbb{D}$ , (1) and (2) show that  $\limsup_{|\alpha| \to \infty} u_{\alpha} \leq 0$  and  $u_{\alpha} \leq \frac{1}{|\alpha|} \log M - \log \rho$  hence uniformly bounded.

By Theorem 1, one has  $|a_{\alpha}(z_n)|^{1/|\alpha|} \leq 1+\varepsilon$  for  $|\alpha|$  sufficient large. Letting  $\varepsilon \to 0$ , one sees that the series converge normally in the interieur of  $\mathbb{D}^{n-1}$ , hence by Cauchy-Montel the limit f is holomorphic in the interieur of  $\mathbb{D}^n$ . Emacs 25.3.1 (Org mode 9.0.5)