

# Convexity in Complex Geometry

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ABSTRACT. These notes were written for the "Advanced Complex Analysis" course at NTNU. We shall partially follow [H1] and mainly concentrate on the notion of convexity in complex geometry.

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The study of convexity in complex geometry has found many applications in other fields of mathematics. The followings are some selected applications of one crucial result (the Ohsawa-Takegoshi extension theorem) in the convexity theory.

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**1: Suita conjecture.** Bergman kernel and Green function are crucial notions in complex analysis. For the unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$  in  $\mathbb{C}$ , we have

$$K_{\mathbb{D}}(z) = \frac{1}{\pi(1 - |z|^2)^2}, \quad G_{\mathbb{D}}(z, w) = \log \left| \frac{z - w}{1 - \bar{w}z} \right|.$$

Hence

$$\log(\pi K_{\mathbb{D}}(z)) = 2 \lim_{w \rightarrow z} \{G_{\mathbb{D}}(z, w) - \log |z - w|\}.$$

The *Suita conjecture* is the following inequality:

$$(0.1) \quad \log(\pi K_{\Omega}(z)) \geq 2 \lim_{w \rightarrow z} \{G_{\Omega}(z, w) - \log |z - w|\},$$

where  $\Omega$  is an arbitrary (smoothly bounded) domain in  $\mathbb{C}$ . This conjecture is solved and generalized by Blocki [BI] and Guan-Zhou [GZ] using the following version of the Ohsawa-Takegoshi extension theorem [OT, BL]: for every given  $z_0 \in \Omega$  there exists a holomorphic function  $f$  on  $\Omega$  with  $f(z_0) = 1$  and

$$\int_{\Omega} |f(x + iy)|^2 dx dy \leq \limsup_{t \rightarrow -\infty} e^{-t} \int_{G < t} dx dy$$

for every non-positive  $G$  on  $\Omega$  with  $G(z) - 2 \log |z - z_0|$  subharmonic on  $\Omega$ .

**Exercise 1:** show that (0.1) follows if we take  $G(z) = 2G_{\Omega}(z, z_0)$ .

**2: Strong openness conjecture.** Let  $\phi$  be a plurisubharmonic function on a neighborhood of the origin in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and  $F$  be a holomorphic function near the origin. Assume that  $|F|^2 e^{-\phi}$  is integrable near the origin then Demailly and Kollar [DK] conjecture that  $|F|^2 e^{-p\phi}$  is integrable near the origin for some  $p > 1$ . This conjecture is a well known fact in case  $n = 1$ . For general  $n$  with  $F = 1$ , it is solved by Berndtsson [B3]. The most general case is proved by Guan-Zhou [GZ0] using the Ohsawa-Takegoshi extension theorem.

**3: Corona problem.** Another application of the Ohsawa-Takegoshi extension theorem is the Skoda  $L^2$ -division theorem [D, page 58]: Let  $g := (g_1, \dots, g_r)$  be  $r$  holomorphic functions on the unit ball  $\mathbb{B}$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  with  $|g|^2 := |g_1|^2 + \dots + |g_r|^2 \geq 1$  on  $\mathbb{B}$ . Set  $m = \min\{n, r - 1\}$ . Then for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist holomorphic functions  $(h_1, \dots, h_r)$  on  $\mathbb{B}$  such that

$$(0.2) \quad g_1 h_1 + \dots + g_r h_r = 1$$

and

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} |h|^2 |g|^{-2(m+\varepsilon)} d\lambda \leq \left(1 + \frac{m}{\varepsilon}\right) \frac{\pi^n}{n!},$$

where  $d\lambda$  denotes the Lebesgue measure. In case  $n = 1$ , Carleson [C] proved that there also exist bounded holomorphic functions  $(h_1, \dots, h_r)$  on  $\mathbb{B}$  satisfying (0.2). Finding bounded holomorphic solution of (0.2) is known as the Corona problem. It is still an open problem for  $n \geq 2$ .

**4: Bernstein-Kushnirenko theorem.** The fourth application of the Ohsawa-Takegoshi extension theorem is the *Bergman kernel asymptotic formula*, which implies the following formula:

$$(0.3) \quad \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\dim H^0(X, mL)}{m^n/n!} = \#\{x \in X : f_1(x) = \dots = f_n(x) = 0\},$$

(see [B10, page 40]) where  $L$  is an ample line bundle over an  $n$ -dimensional compact complex manifold  $X$  and  $f_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , are generic holomorphic sections of  $L$ . In case  $X$  and  $L$  are defined by a Delzant polytope  $P$ , (0.3) implies the *Bernstein-Kushnirenko theorem* (which holds true for a general convex polytope  $P$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with integral vertices, see [Be, KK]):

$$(0.4) \quad n!|P| = \#\{z \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n : f_1(z) = \cdots = f_n(z) = 0\},$$

for generic  $f_1, \dots, f_n \in \{\sum_{u \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} c_u z^u : c_u \in \mathbb{C}\}$ , where  $|P|$  denotes the volume of  $P$ .

**5: Bourgain-Milman theorem.** The final application of the Ohsawa-Takegoshi extension theorem that I want to mention is the Berndtsson's subharmonicity of the Bergman kernel [B06, B09], which implies the *Bourgain-Milman theorem* [BM, B21]:

$$(0.5) \quad |K| \cdot |K^\circ| \geq (1.604)^{-n} \frac{\pi^n}{n!},$$

where  $K$  denotes the unit ball of a norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , i.e.

$$K = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|x\| \leq 1\},$$

$K^\circ$  denotes the unit ball of the dual norm, i.e.

$$K^\circ = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n : x \cdot y \leq 1, \forall x \in K\}.$$

The famous *Mahler conjecture* (still open in case  $n \geq 4$ ) says that (0.5) still holds true if we change the right hand side to  $4^n/n!$  (lecture on Tuesday, 22th August, week 34).

## 1. CONVEX ANALYSIS BACKGROUND

### 1.1. Convex set and convex function.

**Definition 1.1.** Let

$$\phi : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

be a function on a non-empty open set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . We say that  $A$  is convex if

$$tx + (1-t)y \in A, \quad \forall x, y \in A, \quad 0 < t < 1.$$

Assume that  $A$  is convex, we say that  $\phi$  is convex if

$$(1.1) \quad \phi(tx + (1-t)y) \leq t\phi(x) + (1-t)\phi(y) \quad \forall x, y \in A, \quad 0 < t < 1.$$

**Lemma 1.1.**  $\phi : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  ( $A$  is convex) is convex if and only if

$$(1.2) \quad \frac{\phi(ty + x) - \phi(x)}{t} \text{ is increasing in } t \text{ when } x, x + ty \in A \text{ and } t \neq 0.$$

*Proof.* Notice that (1.1) is equivalent to

$$\frac{\phi((1-t)(y-x) + x) - \phi(x)}{1-t} \leq \frac{\phi(y-x+x) - \phi(x)}{1}.$$

Write  $(y-x) = sz$ , the above inequality gives

$$\frac{\phi((1-t)sz + x) - \phi(x)}{(1-t)|s|} \leq \frac{\phi(sz + x) - \phi(x)}{|s|}.$$

Hence (1.1) is equivalent to (1.2) with  $t > 0$  or  $t < 0$ . But since (1.1) also gives

$$\frac{\phi(ty + x) - \phi(x)}{t} \geq \frac{\phi(-ty + x) - \phi(x)}{-t}, \quad t > 0.$$

We know that (1.1) is equivalent to (1.2).  $\square$

**Proposition 1.2.** *Assume that  $\phi$  is smooth. Then  $\phi$  is convex if and only if the Hessian matrix  $(\phi_{jk})$  is positive semi-definite.*

*Proof.* Notice that (1.2) implies that the derivative of

$$\psi(t) := \phi(ty + x)$$

is increasing. Thus if  $\phi$  is smooth and convex then

$$\psi_{tt}(0) = \sum \phi_{jk}(x) y^j y^k \geq 0.$$

On the other hand, if  $(\phi_{jk})$  is positive semi-definite then  $\psi_{tt} \geq 0$  for all  $t$  such that  $ty + x \in A$ , which implies that

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\phi(ty + x) - \phi(x)}{t} \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^1 \psi'(ts) ds = \int_0^1 \psi''(ts) s ds \geq 0,$$

hence (1.2) follows.  $\square$

**Proposition 1.3.** *Let  $\phi$  be a convex function on a non-empty open set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then  $\phi$  is locally Lipschitz continuous.*

*Proof.* We shall follow the proof of Hörmander in [H2, Theorem 2.1.22, page 55]. For every finite set  $X := \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$  in  $A$ , let us denote by  $\text{ch}(X)$  its convex hull, then using (1.1) inductively we have

$$\sup_X \phi = \sup_{\text{ch}(X)} \phi.$$

Let  $K$  be a compact subset of  $A$ . Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that

$$K_\varepsilon := \{z \in \mathbb{R}^n : |z - x| \leq \varepsilon \text{ for some } x \in K\} \subset A.$$

Since  $A$  is convex, we can find  $X$  such that  $K_\varepsilon \subset \text{ch}(X)$ . In particular

$$x + y, x - y \in \text{ch}(X), \quad \forall x \in K, |y| \leq \varepsilon,$$

which gives

$$\phi(x) - \sup_X \phi \leq \phi(x) - \phi(x - y); \quad \phi(x + y) - \phi(x) \leq \sup_X \phi - \phi(x).$$

Notice that (1.2) implies

$$\frac{\phi(-y + x) - \phi(x)}{-1} \leq \frac{\phi(ty + x) - \phi(x)}{t} \leq \frac{\phi(y + x) - \phi(x)}{1}$$

for every  $-1 < t < 1$ , hence

$$\left| \frac{\phi(ty + x) - \phi(x)}{t} \right| \leq |\phi(x) - \sup_X \phi|,$$

from which we know that  $\phi$  is locally Lipschitz continuous (in particular,  $\phi$  is continuous).  $\square$

**Remark.** *The above proof in fact implies that*

$$|\phi(x) - \phi(y)| \leq L|x - y|, \quad \forall x, y \in K.$$

where  $L := \frac{\sup_{K_\varepsilon} \phi - \inf_K \phi}{\varepsilon} < \infty$  since  $\phi$  is proved to be continuous (*lecture on 25th August*).

## 1.2. Brunn-Minkowski inequality and isoperimetric inequality.

**Theorem 1.4** (Brunn-Minkowski inequality). *Let  $A_1, A_2$  be bounded non-empty convex open sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then*

$$|A_1 + A_2|^{\frac{1}{n}} \geq |A_1|^{\frac{1}{n}} + |A_2|^{\frac{1}{n}},$$

where  $A_1 + A_2 := \{x + y : x \in A_1, y \in A_2\}$  denotes the Minkowski sum.

**Exercise 2:** Show that the Brunn-Minkowski inequality is equivalent to that for every bounded non-empty convex open sets  $A_1, A_2$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $-|tA_1 + (1-t)A_2|^{\frac{1}{n}}$  is convex in  $t \in (0, 1)$ .

**Remark:** *In case  $A_1 = A$  has smooth boundary and  $A_2 = s\mathbb{B}$ , where  $\mathbb{B}$  is the unit ball and  $s$  is a small positive number, the Brunn-Minkowski inequality gives*

$$|A + s\mathbb{B}|^{\frac{1}{n}} \geq |A|^{\frac{1}{n}} + |s\mathbb{B}|^{\frac{1}{n}} = |A|^{\frac{1}{n}} + s|\mathbb{B}|^{\frac{1}{n}},$$

which implies

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|A + s\mathbb{B}|^{\frac{1}{n}} - |A|^{\frac{1}{n}}}{s} \geq |\mathbb{B}|^{\frac{1}{n}}.$$

On the other hand, if we put  $f(s) = |A + s\mathbb{B}|$  then

$$f'(0+) = |\partial A|,$$

where  $|\partial A|$  denotes the  $(n-1)$ -dimensional volume of the boundary  $\partial A$  of  $A$ . Hence

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|A + s\mathbb{B}|^{\frac{1}{n}} - |A|^{\frac{1}{n}}}{s} = (f^{1/n})'(0+) = \frac{1}{n} f^{(1-n)/n}(0) f'(0+) = \frac{|\partial A|}{n|A|^{(n-1)/n}},$$

and we have

$$\frac{|\partial A|}{n|A|^{(n-1)/n}} \geq |\mathbb{B}|^{\frac{1}{n}}.$$

Note that  $|\partial \mathbb{B}| = n|\mathbb{B}|$ , the above inequality gives the following classical isoperimetric inequality for convex sets.

**Isoperimetric inequality.** *Let  $A$  be a smoothly bounded convex open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then*

$$\frac{|\partial A|}{|A|^{(n-1)/n}} \geq \frac{|\partial \mathbb{B}|}{|\mathbb{B}|^{(n-1)/n}}.$$

### 1.3. Legendre transform, gradient map and convex exhaustion functions.

**Definition 1.2** (Legendre transform). *Let  $\psi$  be a convex function on a bounded non-empty convex open set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . We call*

$$\psi^*(y) := \sup_{x \in A} x \cdot y - \psi(x), \quad x \cdot y := \sum_{j=1}^n x^j y^j,$$

*the Legendre transform of  $\psi$  (with respect to  $A$ ).*

**Proposition 1.5.** *Let  $\psi$  be a smooth strictly convex exhaustion function on a bounded non-empty convex open set  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  (**exhaustion** means that  $\psi$  tends to infinity at the boundary of  $A$ , more precisely, it means that for every  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , the closure of  $\{\psi < c\}$  is a bounded subset of  $A$ ; **strictly convex** means that the Hessian matrix is positive definite). Then its Legendre transform  $\psi^*$  is also smooth, strictly convex, moreover the gradient map of  $\psi^*$*

$$(1.3) \quad \nabla \psi^* : y \mapsto x = \nabla \psi^*(y) := (\partial \psi^* / \partial y^1, \dots, \partial \psi^* / \partial y^n),$$

*defines a diffeomorphism from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto  $A$ .*

*Proof.* It is enough to prove that the gradient map of  $\psi$  defines a diffeomorphism from  $A$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\psi^*$  is smooth and  $\nabla \psi^*$  is the inverse of  $\nabla \psi$ .

*Step 1:*  $\nabla \psi$  is a diffeomorphism from  $A$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Since  $\psi$  is smooth and strictly convex, we know that  $\nabla \psi$  is a local diffeomorphism.

1.  $\nabla \psi$  is injective: assume that  $\nabla \psi(x_1) = \nabla \psi(x_2) = y_0$ , consider

$$(1.4) \quad \psi^{y_0}(x) := \psi(x) - y_0 \cdot x,$$

we know that  $\psi^{y_0}$  is smooth, strictly convex and

$$(1.5) \quad \nabla \psi^{y_0}(x_1) = \nabla \psi^{y_0}(x_2) = 0.$$

Consider the restriction, say  $g$ , of  $\psi^{y_0}$  to the line determined by  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , then  $g$  is convex with critical points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ . Thus  $g$  is a constant on the line segment from  $x_1$  to  $x_2$ , moreover, strict convexity of  $g$  implies  $x_1 = x_2$ . Thus  $\nabla \psi$  is injective.

2.  $\nabla \psi(A) = \mathbb{R}^n$ : fix  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , since  $\psi^y$  tends to infinity at the boundary of  $A$ , strict convexity of  $\psi$  implies that  $\psi^y$  has a unique minimum point, say  $x \in A$ . Thus

$$0 = \nabla \psi^y(x) = \nabla \psi(x) - y.$$

*Step 2:*  $\psi^*$  is smooth. Notice that

$$(1.6) \quad \psi^*(\nabla \psi(x)) = \nabla \psi(x) \cdot x - \psi(x).$$

Thus  $\psi^* \circ \nabla \psi$  is a smooth, which implies that  $\psi^*$  is smooth on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

*Step 3:*  $\nabla \psi^*$  is the inverse of  $\nabla \psi$ . Apply the differential to (1.6), we get that

$$(1.7) \quad (\nabla \psi^* \circ \nabla \psi(x)) \cdot (\psi_{jk}) = x \cdot (\psi_{jk}), \quad \forall x \in A.$$

Since  $(\psi_{jk})$  is an invertible matrix function, the above formula gives  $\nabla \psi^* \circ \nabla \psi = Id$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 3:** (1) Let  $\phi$  be a smooth strictly convex function on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Show that  $\nabla\phi$  defines a diffeomorphism from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\nabla\phi(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,  $\phi^*$  is smooth strictly convex on  $\nabla\phi(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\nabla\phi^*$  defines a diffeomorphism from  $\nabla\phi(\mathbb{R}^n)$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

(2) Let  $A$  be a non-empty open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Use the following proposition to show that  $A$  is convex if and only if there exists a smooth convex exhaustion function on  $A$ .

**Proposition 1.6.** *Let  $A$  be a non-empty convex open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then there exists a real analytic strictly convex exhaustion function on  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Inspired by [B21, Proposition 3.2], we shall look at the following "Bergman kernel" type function (we omit the Lebesgue measure in the integral)

$$(1.8) \quad B(x) := \int_{\mathbb{R}_t^n} \frac{e^{2t \cdot x}}{\int_{y \in A} e^{2t \cdot y - |y|^2}},$$

which is always strictly convex and real analytic in  $A$ . Since

$$(1.9) \quad B(x) \geq \int_{\mathbb{R}_t^n} \frac{e^{2t \cdot x}}{\int_{\mathbb{R}_y^n} e^{2t \cdot y - |y|^2}} = \pi^n e^{|x|^2},$$

we know that  $B$  is an exhaustion function when  $A = \mathbb{R}^n$ . In case  $A \neq \mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $A$  must have a boundary point. Take  $x \in A$  such that  $d(x, \partial A) = \varepsilon$ , by a rotation, one may assume that

$$d(x, \partial A) = |x - x_0|, \quad x_0 = (|x_0|, 0, \dots, 0), \quad x = (|x_0| - \varepsilon, 0, \dots, 0), \quad A \subset \{x_1 < |x_0|\},$$

which implies

$$B(x) \geq \int_{\mathbb{R}_t^n} \frac{e^{2t_1(|x_0| - \varepsilon)}}{\int_{y_1 < |x_0|} e^{2t \cdot y - |y|^2}} = \pi^{n-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}_t} \frac{e^{2t(|x_0| - \varepsilon)}}{\int_{y < |x_0|} e^{2ty - y^2}} \geq \pi^{n-1} \int_{t > 0} \frac{e^{2t(|x_0| - \varepsilon)}}{\int_{|x_0|} e^{2ty}} = \frac{\pi^{n-1}}{2\varepsilon^2}.$$

Hence

$$B(x) \geq \pi^n \max\{e^{|x|^2}, (2\pi)^{-1} d(x, \partial A)^{-2}\},$$

from which we know that  $B$  is strictly convex, real analytic and exhaustion in  $A$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 4:** Prove (1.9).

**1.4. Mixed volume and Alexandrov-Fenchel inequality.** Let  $A$  be a bounded non-empty convex open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . By Proposition 1.6, there exists a real analytic strictly convex exhaustion function, say  $\psi$ , on  $A$ . Put  $\phi = \psi^*$ , then Proposition 1.5 implies that  $\nabla\phi$  is a diffeomorphism from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto  $A$ , thus we can write the volume  $|A|$  of  $A$  as

$$(1.10) \quad |A| = \int_A dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} MA(\phi) dx, \quad dx := dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n, \quad dy := dy^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dy^n.$$

where  $MA(\phi) := \det(\phi_{jk})$  denotes the determinant of the Hessian of  $\phi$ .

**Exercise 5:** Use the change of variable  $y = \nabla\phi(x)$  to prove (1.10).

The following proposition is a generalization of (1.10).

**Proposition 1.7.** *Let  $\phi_1, \dots, \phi_N$  be smooth strictly convex functions such that each  $\nabla\phi_j$  is a diffeomorphism from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  onto a bounded convex open set  $A_j$ . Then we have*

$$(1.11) \quad |t_1 A_1 + \dots + t_N A_N| = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} M A(t_1 \phi_1 + \dots + t_N \phi_N) dx, \quad t_j > 0, \quad \forall 1 \leq j \leq N.$$

*Proof.* By induction on  $N$ , it suffices to show that

$$(1.12) \quad \nabla(\phi_1 + \phi_2)(\mathbb{R}^n) = A_1 + A_2.$$

Obviously we have  $\nabla(\phi_1 + \phi_2)(\mathbb{R}^n) \subset A_1 + A_2$ . Thus it is enough to show that for every  $y_1 \in A_1$  and every  $y_2 \in A_2$ , there exists  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\nabla(\phi_1 + \phi_2)(x_0) = y_1 + y_2$ . Consider  $\phi_j^{y_j}$  instead of  $\phi_j$ , one may assume that  $y_1 = y_2 = 0$ . Choose  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  such that

$$(1.13) \quad \nabla\phi_1(x_1) = \nabla\phi_2(x_2) = 0.$$

Since  $\phi_j$  is convex, we know that each  $x_j$  is the minimum point of  $\phi_j$ . Thus strict convexity of  $\phi_j$  implies that

$$(1.14) \quad \phi_j(x) \rightarrow \infty, \quad \text{as } |x| \rightarrow \infty,$$

i.e. each  $\phi_j$  is proper. Thus  $\phi_1 + \phi_2$  is also proper. Hence there exists a unique minimum point, say  $x_0$ , of  $\phi_1 + \phi_2$ . Thus  $\nabla(\phi_1 + \phi_2)(x_0) = 0$ . The proof is complete.  $\square$

**Remark:** *The above proposition implies that*

$$p(t) := |t_1 A_1 + \dots + t_n A_n|,$$

*is a polynomial of degree  $n$ . We call the coefficient of  $t_1 \cdots t_n$  in the polynomial  $p(t)$ , i.e.*

$$(1.15) \quad V(A_1, \dots, A_n) := \frac{\partial^n |t_1 A_1 + \dots + t_n A_n|}{\partial t_1 \cdots \partial t_n},$$

*the mixed volume of  $A_1, \dots, A_n$ .*

**Exercise 6:** Show that (1.11) implies that  $|t_1 A_1 + \dots + t_n A_n|$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$  in  $t$  and  $V(A, \dots, A) = n!|A|$ .

**Reading task 1:** Read page 12-13 of [B14] for the related mixed discriminant of matrices.

**Theorem 1.8** (Alexandrov-Fenchel inequality). *Let  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  be bounded non-empty convex open sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Assume that  $n \geq 2$ . Then*

$$V(A_1, \dots, A_n)^2 \geq V(A_1, A_1, A_3, \dots, A_n) V(A_2, A_2, A_3, \dots, A_n).$$

(5th September, no lecture on 29th August).

## 2. AN INVITATION TO TORIC VARIETIES

For references on toric varieties, see [F, O, CLS], in particular, the readers can try to use Chapter 1-2 in [CLS] to generalize the following discussion to non-smooth toric varieties. We will only look at smooth toric varieties, they are called toric manifolds, which are special compact complex manifolds that possess  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  actions. A nice reference on compact complex manifolds is the famous book of Kodaira (see Chapter 2, especially section 2.2 in [K]). Compact complex manifolds are higher dimensional generalizations of compact Riemann surfaces.



**Definition 2.1.** A compact topological space  $X$  is called a compact Riemann surface if it possesses a finite open covering

$$X := \cup_{1 \leq j \leq N} U_j,$$

and homeomorphism  $\sigma_j$  from  $U_j$  onto a domain in  $\mathbb{C}$  such that

$$\sigma_k \circ \sigma_j^{-1} : \sigma_j(U_j \cap U_k) \rightarrow \sigma_k(U_j \cap U_k)$$

is conformal as long as  $U_j \cap U_k \neq \emptyset$ .

**Example.** The complex projective space  $\mathbb{P}^1 := (\mathbb{C}^2 \setminus \{0\})/\mathbb{C}^*$  and the elliptic curves  $\mathbb{C}/(\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}\tau)$ , where  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\text{Im } \tau > 0$ .

**Definition 2.2.** A compact topological space  $X$  is called an  $n$ -dimensional compact toric manifold if it possesses a finite open covering

$$X := \cup_{1 \leq v \leq l} U_v,$$

and homeomorphism  $\Phi_v$  from  $U_v$  onto  $\mathbb{C}^n$  such that

$$\Phi_{v_1} \circ \Phi_{v_2}^{-1} : \Phi_{v_2}(U_{v_1} \cap U_{v_2}) \rightarrow \Phi_{v_1}(U_{v_1} \cap U_{v_2})$$

are monomial isomorphisms, i.e. each  $\Phi_{v_1} \circ \Phi_{v_2}^{-1}$  is of the type

$$u \mapsto (u^{\lambda_1}, \dots, u^{\lambda_n}), \quad \lambda_j \in \mathbb{Z}^n, \quad u^{\lambda_j} = u_1^{\lambda_{j1}} \cdots u_n^{\lambda_{jn}},$$

and  $\Phi_{v_2}(U_{v_1} \cap U_{v_2}) \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is the collection of all  $u \in \mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $u_k^{\lambda_{jk}}$  are holomorphic.

**Remark.** It is clear that  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n \subset \Phi_{v_2}(U_{v_1} \cap U_{v_2}) = (\mathbb{C}^*)^k \times \mathbb{C}^{n-k}$ . The standard example is

$$\mathbb{P}^n := (\mathbb{C}^{n+1} \setminus \{0\})/\mathbb{C}^*.$$

In this section, we shall study how to construct compact toric manifolds using convex polytopes.

### 2.1. Toric variety and toric line bundle associated to a Delzant polytope.

**Definition 2.3.** Fix  $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ ,  $r_j \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq N$ , we call the associated convex set

$$P := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \alpha_j \cdot x - r_j \leq 0, 1 \leq j \leq N\}$$

a Delzant polytope if

(1)  $P$  is bounded with non-empty interior;

(2) for every vertex  $v$  of  $P$ , the associated index set

$$I_v := \{1 \leq j \leq N : \alpha_j \cdot v - r_j = 0\}$$

has precisely  $n$  elements and  $\{\alpha_j\}_{j \in I_v}$  generates  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ ;

(3)  $\{1, \dots, N\} = \cup_{v \text{ is a vertex of } P} I_v$ . (8th September)

**Exercise 7:** Show that every vertex  $v$  of a Delzant polytope  $P$  is integral, i.e.  $v \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ .

**Exercise 8 (hard):** Show that the gradient map

$$(2.1) \quad \nabla\phi : x \mapsto (\phi_{x_1}(x), \dots, \phi_{x_n}(x))$$

of the convex function

$$(2.2) \quad \phi(x) := \log \left( \sum_{u \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} e^{u \cdot x} \right)$$

on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfies

$$(2.3) \quad \nabla\phi(\mathbb{R}^n) = \text{the interior of } P.$$

**Remark:** If  $P$  is Delzant then one may recover  $\{(\alpha_j, r_j)\}_{1 \leq j \leq N}$  from  $P$ . For each vertex  $v$  of  $P$ , one may define a convex cone

$$(2.4) \quad \sigma_v := \left\{ \sum_{j \in I_v} t_j \alpha_j : t_j \geq 0, \forall j \in I_v \right\}$$

generated by  $\{\alpha_j\}_{j \in I_v}$  and its **polar**

$$(2.5) \quad \sigma_v^\circ := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \alpha \cdot x \leq 0, \forall \alpha \in \sigma_v\}.$$

Then one may prove the following

**Proposition 2.1.** The polar cone  $\sigma_v^\circ$  is generated by the corner of  $P$  around the vertex  $v$ .

**Exercise 9:** Use Definition 2.3 (2) to show that the solution  $\{\beta_k\}_{k \in I_v}$  of

$$\alpha_j \cdot \beta_k + \delta_{jk} = 0, \quad j, k \in I_v,$$

satisfies  $\beta_k \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  for all  $k \in I_v$  and defines a basis of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ ; moreover  $\sigma_v^\circ$  is generated by  $\{\beta_k\}_{k \in I_v}$ .

**Exercise 10:** Write  $I_v = \{k_1, \dots, k_n\}$ , use Exercise 9 to prove that

$$(2.6) \quad \Phi_v : z \mapsto u = \Phi_v(z) := (z^{\beta_{k_1}}, \dots, z^{\beta_{k_n}}), \quad z^t := z_1^{t_1} \dots z_n^{t_n},$$

defines a one to one mapping from  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  onto  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  (we call  $\Phi_v$  a monomial isomorphism).

Note that each isomorphism  $\Phi_v$  in (2.6) defines an embedding (called **torus embedding**)

$$(2.7) \quad \Phi_v : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n.$$

The **Delzant toric variety**  $X_P$  is defined by gluing those embeddings via (the maximal extension of)  $\Phi_{v_1} \circ \Phi_{v_2}^{-1}$ , more precisely, we have

$$(2.8) \quad X_P = (\cup_{v \text{ is a vertex of } P} \mathbb{C}^n \times \{v\}) / \sim,$$

where  $(u_1, v_1) \sim (u_2, v_2)$  if and only if

$$(2.9) \quad \Phi_{v_1} \circ \Phi_{v_2}^{-1}(u_2) = u_1.$$

One may verify that  $X_P$  is a complex manifold covered by  $l$  copies ( $l$  denotes the number of vertex of  $P$ ) of  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . From the definition, we also know that  $X_P$  is fully determined by  $\alpha_j$ . **(12th September — Exercise 8 will be discussed in 15th)**

**Exercise 11:** Show that  $X_P \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$  if  $P = [0, m]$  for some positive integer  $m$ .

**Exercise 12:** Find  $P_1, P_2$  such that  $X_{P_1} \simeq \mathbb{P}^2$ ,  $X_{P_2} \simeq \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$ .

**Remark:** Note that all  $X_P$  in the above exercises are compact. In fact, one may prove that all  $X_P$  are compact. This fact is not obvious. One proof is to use the gradient map (2.1).

**Exercise 13 (hard):** Consider  $\nabla\phi : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow P$  defined by

$$(2.10) \quad \nabla\phi(z) := \nabla\phi(\log(|z_1|^2), \dots, \log(|z_n|^2)),$$

show that  $\nabla\phi$  has a unique proper, smooth and surjective extension to  $X_P$

$$(2.11) \quad \nabla\phi : X_P \rightarrow P,$$

where "proper" means that the preimage of every compact set is compact. (15th September)

**Hint for Exercise 13:** Fix a vertex  $v$  of  $P$ , one may write

$$\phi(x) = v \cdot x + \log \left( \sum_{u \in (P-v) \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} e^{u \cdot x} \right).$$

Note that every  $u \in (P-v) \cap \mathbb{Z}^n$  can be uniquely written as

$$u = \sum_{j \in I_v} c_j^u \beta_j, \quad c_j^u \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0},$$

where  $\beta_j$  are generators of  $\sigma_v^\circ$  defined in Exercise 9. Thus we have

$$\nabla\phi(x) = v + \frac{\sum_{j \in I_v} c_j \beta_j}{\sum_{u \in (P-v) \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} e^{u \cdot x}}, \quad c_j := \sum_{u \in (P-v) \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} c_j^u e^{u \cdot x}.$$

Since  $\{\beta_j\}_{j \in I_v}$  defines a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ , one may assume that it is the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  (try!) so that  $I_v = \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,

$$x \cdot \beta_j = x_j, \quad c_j^u = u_j.$$

Moreover, after a translation of  $P$ , we can assume that  $v = 0$ . Then we have

$$\nabla\phi(z) = \frac{\sum_{u \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} u |z^u|^2}{\sum_{u \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} |z^u|^2}.$$

Write  $z' = (z_2, \dots, z_n)$ , we know  $\nabla\phi|_{z_1=0}$  can be written as

$$\nabla\phi(0, z') = \frac{\sum_{u' \in P_1 \cap \mathbb{Z}^{n-1}} u' |(z')^{u'}|^2}{\sum_{u' \in P_1 \cap \mathbb{Z}^{n-1}} |(z')^{u'}|^2},$$

where

$$(2.12) \quad P_1 := \{x' \in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} : (0, x') \in P\}.$$

We observe that  $\nabla\phi(0, z')$  is precisely the mapping associated to the face  $P_1$  of  $P$ . Hence one may do induction on  $n$  (the  $n = 1$  case is explained in the class, try!). In this way, we obtain that  $\nabla\phi(X_P) = P$ . The fact that  $0 \in P - v$  for every vertex  $v$  implies that  $\nabla\phi$  is smooth as a map from  $X_P$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Denote by  $T = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$  the one-dimensional torus. One may verify that

$\nabla\phi^{-1}(p) \simeq T^n$  for all  $p$  in the interior of  $P$  and  $\nabla\phi^{-1}(v) \simeq T^0$  for all vertices  $v$  of  $P$ . In general,  $\nabla\phi^{-1}(x) \simeq T^k$  if  $x$  lies in a  $k$  dimensional open face of  $P$ . Thus the inverse of  $\nabla\phi$  induces a homeomorphism, say

$$(2.13) \quad \nabla\phi^* : (P \times T^n) / \sim \rightarrow X_P,$$

where  $(x, [a]) \sim (x, [b])$  ( $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^n$  so that  $[a], [b] \in \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{Z}^n = T^n$ ) if and only if

$$a - b \in \sum_{j \in I_x} c_j \alpha_j, \text{ for some } c_j \in \mathbb{R},$$

where

$$I_x := \{1 \leq j \leq N : \alpha_j \cdot x - r_j = 0\}.$$

Since  $P \times T^n$  is compact, we know  $X_P$  is compact and  $\nabla\phi$  is proper. (19th September)

Another proof of the compactness of  $X_P$  is to use the following fact.

**Lemma 2.2.** *With the notation in (2.4), we have*

$$(2.14) \quad \cup_{v \text{ vertex of } P} \sigma_v = \mathbb{R}^n.$$

*Proof.* Consider the support function of  $P$  defined by

$$h_P(\alpha) := \sup_{x \in P} \alpha \cdot x, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

For a vertex  $v \in P$ , we observe that  $h_P(\alpha) = \alpha \cdot v$  if and only if

$$\alpha \cdot (x - v) \leq 0, \quad \forall x \in P.$$

Since  $P - v$  generates the polar cone  $\sigma_v^\circ$ , we obtain

$$\{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^n : h_P(\alpha) = \alpha \cdot v\} = \sigma_v.$$

Thus the lemma follows from  $h_P(\alpha) := \sup_{v \text{ vertex of } P} \alpha \cdot v$ . □

**Theorem 2.3.**  *$X_P$  is covered by  $l$  ( $l$  denotes the number of vertex of  $P$ ) closed polydiscs*

$$(2.15) \quad X_P = \cup_{v \text{ vertex of } P} C_v,$$

where each  $C_v$  is a polydisc in  $\mathbb{C}^n \times \{v\}$  defined by

$$C_v := \{(u, v) \in \mathbb{C}^n \times \{v\} : |u_j| \leq 1, 1 \leq j \leq n\}.$$

In particular  $X_P$  is compact.

*Proof.* By induction on  $n$ , it suffices to show that

$$(\mathbb{C}^*)^n = \cup_{v \text{ vertex of } P} ((\mathbb{C}^*)^n \cap C_v),$$

i.e. (with respect to the notation in (2.6))

$$(\mathbb{C}^*)^n = \cup_{v \text{ vertex of } P} \{z \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n : |z^{\beta_k}| \leq 1, k \in I_v\},$$

or equivalently (write  $x_j = \log |z_j|^2$ )

$$\mathbb{R}^n = \cup_{v \text{ vertex of } P} \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x \cdot \beta_k \leq 0, k \in I_v\}.$$

Since  $\{\beta_k\}_{k \in I_v}$  generated  $\sigma_v^\circ$ , we have

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x \cdot \beta_k \leq 0, k \in I_v\} = \sigma_v.$$

Thus our theorem follows from Lemma 2.2.  $\square$

**Remark:** In (2.12),  $(\nabla\phi)^{-1}(P_1) = X_{P_1}$  is an  $(n-1)$ -dimensional compact toric manifold defined by the Delzant polytope  $P_1$ . It is also a subset of  $X_P$ , with respect to the  $z$ -coordinate, it is defined by  $z_1 = 0$ . We call it a *divisor* of  $X_P$ . In general, if  $F$  is an  $(n-1)$ -dimensional face (also called *facet*) of  $P$  then  $(\nabla\phi)^{-1}(F)$  is an  $(n-1)$ -dimensional compact toric submanifold of  $X_P$ . In case  $F$  is given by  $\alpha_j \cdot x = r_j$ , we shall write

$$(2.16) \quad Z_{\alpha_j} := (\nabla\phi)^{-1}(F)$$

and call it the  $\alpha_j$  *divisor* of  $X_P$ .

One may similarly define the Delzant line bundle  $L_P$  over our Delzant toric variety  $X_P$ , the idea is to look at the embedding of  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n \times \mathbb{C}$

$$(2.17) \quad \Psi_v : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n \times \mathbb{C},$$

where

$$(2.18) \quad \Psi_v(z, \xi) := (\Phi_v(z), z^{-v}\xi)$$

The *Delzant line bundle*  $L_P$  is defined by gluing those embeddings via (the maximal extension of)  $\Psi_{v_1} \circ \Psi_{v_2}^{-1}$ . (22th September)

**Proposition 2.4.** Every  $u \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n$  defines a holomorphic section, say  $s_u$ , of  $L_P$  over  $X_P$ .

*Proof.* It suffices to show that the section

$$(\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \times \mathbb{C}$$

defined by  $z \mapsto (z, z^u)$  extends holomorphically over each  $\Psi_v$  embedding. Since

$$\Psi_v(z, z^u) = (\Phi_v(z), z^{u-v}),$$

we need to prove that  $z^{u-v}$  is holomorphic with respect to the  $z^{\beta_{k_1}}, \dots, z^{\beta_{k_n}}$  coordinates, i.e.  $u-v$  lies in the polar cone  $\sigma_v^\circ$  generated by the corner of  $P$  around  $v$ , which follows from

$$P - v \in \sigma_v^\circ = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \alpha_j \cdot x \leq 0, \forall j \in I_v\}.$$

$\square$

**Exercise 14:** Show that  $P - v \in \sigma_v^\circ$ .

**Exercise 15:** Assume that  $0 \in P$ , show that the divisor given by  $s_0 = 0$  can be written as

$$(2.19) \quad [s_0 = 0] = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq N} r_j Z_{\alpha_j}$$

with respect to the notation (2.16).

**2.2.  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ -action and holomorphic sections of Delzant line bundles.** In this section, we shall use the structure theorem for  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ -action to prove the following converse of Proposition 2.4.

**Theorem 2.5.** *Let  $P$  be a Delzant polytope. Then  $\{s_u\}_{u \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n}$  defines a basis of the space  $H^0(X_P, L_P)$  of holomorphic sections of  $L_P$  over  $X_P$ , i.e.*

$$(2.20) \quad H^0(X_P, L_P) = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{s_u\}_{u \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n}.$$

*Proof.* The natural  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  action on  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n \times \mathbb{C}$  defined by

$$(2.21) \quad \rho(t)(z, \xi) = (t_1 z_1, \dots, t_n z_n, \xi), \quad t \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n,$$

induces a  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  action  $\rho$  on  $H^0(X_P, L_P)$ :

$$(2.22) \quad (\rho(t)s)(\rho(t)z) = \rho(t)(s(z)), \quad u \in H^0(X_P, L_P).$$

Hence, if  $s(z) = (z, \sum_{u \in \mathbb{Z}^n} c_u z^u)$  is the laurent series expansion of  $s \in H^0(X_P, L_P)$  then

$$(2.23) \quad (\rho(t)s)(z) = \left( z, \sum_{u \in \mathbb{Z}^n} c_u t^{-u} z^u \right), \quad t \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n.$$

The eigenvectors associated to this action are precisely those monomial sections  $s_u$  defined by  $z^u$  for  $u \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n$ . Hence our theorem follows from Theorem 2.7 below.  $\square$

**Definition 2.4.** A  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  action on  $\mathbb{C}^m$  is a *holomorphic group homomorphism*

$$\rho : (\mathbb{C}^*)^n \rightarrow GL(m, \mathbb{C}),$$

where  $GL(m, \mathbb{C})$  denote the space of  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear isomorphisms on  $\mathbb{C}^m$ .

Put  $\mathbb{T} = \{t \in \mathbb{C}^* : |t| = 1\}$ , then  $\mathbb{T}^n$  is a subgroup of  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$ . Via the argument map

$$e^{2\pi i x} := (e^{2\pi i x_1}, \dots, e^{2\pi i x_n}) \mapsto ([x_1], \dots, [x_n]) \in (\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^n,$$

one may identify  $\mathbb{T}^n$  with  $(\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^n$ . Thus

$$dx := dx_1 \cdots dx_n$$

defines a [Haar probability measure](#) on  $\mathbb{T}^n$ . Since  $\rho$  is holomorphic, we know that  $\rho$  is uniquely determined by its restriction to  $\mathbb{T}^n$ .

**Definition 2.5.** A  $\mathbb{T}^n$  action on  $\mathbb{C}^m$  is a *continuous group homomorphism*

$$\rho : \mathbb{T}^n \rightarrow GL(m, \mathbb{C}).$$

We shall also call  $(\rho, \mathbb{C}^m)$  a *finite-dimensional complex representation* of  $\mathbb{T}^n$  and denote by  $\chi_\rho(t) := \text{tr } \rho(t)$  the *character* of  $\rho$ . A subspace  $V$  of  $\mathbb{C}^m$  is said to be  $\rho$ -invariant if  $\rho(\mathbb{T}^n)V = V$ .  $(\rho, \mathbb{C}^m)$  is called *irreducible* if  $\mathbb{C}^m$  has no proper non-zero  $\rho$ -invariant subspaces.

The main result that we want to prove is the following.

**Theorem 2.6.** *Let  $\rho$  be a  $\mathbb{T}^n$  action on  $\mathbb{C}^m$ , then there exists a basis  $\{e_j\}_{1 \leq j \leq m}$  of  $\mathbb{C}^m$  and  $\lambda_j \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  such that*

$$(2.24) \quad \rho(t)e_j = t^{\lambda_j} e_j, \quad 1 \leq j \leq m, \quad t \in \mathbb{T}^n,$$

where  $t^{\lambda_j} = t_1^{\lambda_j^1} \cdots t_n^{\lambda_j^n}$ .

*Proof. Step 1:*  $(\rho, \mathbb{C}^m)$  is a direct sum of irreducible representations. The idea is to use the orthogonal decomposition with respect to the following  $\rho$ -invariant inner product

$$(v, w) := \int_{\mathbb{T}^n} \rho(e^{2\pi i x})v \cdot \overline{\rho(e^{2\pi i x})w} dx, \quad v, w \in \mathbb{C}^m,$$

on  $\mathbb{C}^m$ . Let  $V$  be a non-zero  $\rho$ -invariant subspace of minimal dimension. It is clearly irreducible, and its orthogonal complement  $V^\perp$  with respect to the above  $\rho$ -invariant inner product is also  $\rho$ -invariant. Hence the result follows from the dimension induction.

*Step 2:* Check that each  $\rho(t)a := t^\lambda a$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{C}$  defines a one-dimensional irreducible representation of  $\mathbb{T}^n$ . This is not hard, we leave it to the readers. Now it suffices to show that this construction gives all irreducible representations.

*Step 3:* Show that there are no more irreducible representations. The main idea is to use

$$T_{v_1 v_2}(w) := \int_{\mathbb{T}^n} (\rho(e^{2\pi i x})w, v_1) \rho(e^{-2\pi i x})v_2 dx, \quad v_1, v_2 \in \mathbb{C}^m.$$

One may check that  $T_{v_1 v_2} : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^m$  is  $\rho$ -invariant, i.e.

$$(2.25) \quad T_{v_1 v_2}(\rho(t)w) = \rho(t)T_{v_1 v_2}(w)$$

and  $T_{v_1 v_2}$  satisfies

$$(2.26) \quad (T_{v_1 v_2}(w_1), w_2) = \int_{\mathbb{T}^n} (\rho(e^{2\pi i x})w_1, v_1) \overline{(\rho(e^{2\pi i x})w_2, v_2)} dx.$$

Now, if  $(\rho, V_1)$ ,  $(\rho, V_2)$  are two irreducible sub-representations and  $v_1 \in V_1, v_2 \in V_2$ , then by (2.25), we know that the kernel and image of

$$T_{v_1 v_2} : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$$

are all  $\rho$ -invariant. Hence if  $T_{v_1 v_2}$  is not zero, then the irreducibility of  $V_1, V_2$  gives

$$\ker T_{v_1 v_2} = 0, \quad \text{Im } T_{v_1 v_2} = V_2,$$

i.e.  $T_{v_1 v_2}$  is an isomorphism. Denote by  $\chi_j$  the character of  $(\rho, V_j)$ , one may write

$$\chi_j(e^{2\pi i x}) = \sum_k (\rho(e^{2\pi i x})e_j^k, e_j^k),$$

where each  $\{e_j^k\}$  denotes an orthonormal basis of  $V_j$ . Thus if

$$(\chi_1, \chi_2) := \int_{\mathbb{T}^n} \chi_1(e^{2\pi i x}) \overline{\chi_2(e^{2\pi i x})} dx \neq 0,$$

then by (2.26), we must have  $T_{v_1 v_2} \neq 0$  for some  $v_1, v_2$ , hence  $(\chi_1, \chi_2) \neq 0$  implies that  $(\rho, V_1)$  is isomorphic to  $(\rho, V_2)$ . Since  $\{e^{2\pi i \lambda \cdot x}\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^n}$  already defines a complete orthonormal basis of  $L^2(\mathbb{T}^n)$ , we know that there are no characters  $\chi \in C(\mathbb{T}^n)$  orthogonal to  $\{e^{2\pi i \lambda \cdot x}\}_{\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^n}$ .  $\square$

Since holomorphic functions on  $\mathbb{C}^*$  is uniquely determined by its restriction to  $\mathbb{T}$ , the above theorem implies the following result.

**Theorem 2.7.** *Let  $\rho$  be a  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  action on  $\mathbb{C}^m$ , then there exists a basis  $\{e_j\}_{1 \leq j \leq m}$  of  $\mathbb{C}^m$  and  $\lambda_j \in \mathbb{Z}^n$  such that*

$$(2.27) \quad \rho(t)e_j = t^{\lambda_j} e_j, \quad 1 \leq j \leq m, \quad t \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n,$$

where  $t^{\lambda_j} = t_1^{\lambda_{j1}} \cdots t_n^{\lambda_{jn}}$ .

For each  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ , denote by

$$W_\lambda := \{w \in \mathbb{C}^m : \rho(t)w = t^\lambda w\},$$

then the above theorem gives

$$\mathbb{C}^m = \bigoplus_{\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^n} W_\lambda.$$

(26th September, section 2.3 is optional)

**2.3. Volume of Delzant line bundles and Bernstein-Kushnirenko theorem.** For a positive integer  $k$ ,  $kP$  defines the same toric variety  $X_P$ , moreover, the transition function of  $L_{kP}$  is the  $k$ -th power of the transition function of  $L_P$ , hence we write  $L_{kP} = kL_P$  (or  $L_{kP} = L_P^{\otimes k}$ ). We call

$$|L_P| := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\dim H^0(X_P, kL_P)}{k^n/n!}$$

the **volume** of  $L_P$ . By Theorem 2.5, we have

$$(2.28) \quad |L_P| = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\#\{kP \cap \mathbb{Z}^n\}}{k^n/n!} = n!|P|,$$

which explains the Bernstein-Kushnirenko theorem (0.4).

**Exercise 16:** Prove (2.28).

Another proof of the Bernstein-Kushnirenko theorem is to use the function  $\phi$  defined in (2.2). By a change of variable  $x_j = \log |z_j|^2$ , we obtain

$$\phi_P(z) := \phi(\log |z_1|^2, \dots, \log |z_n|^2) = \log \left( \sum_{u \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^n} |z^u|^2 \right), \quad z \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n.$$

Put

$$(2.29) \quad h_P(z, \xi) := |\xi|^2 e^{-\phi_P(z)},$$

one may check (try!) that  $h_P \circ \Psi_v^{-1}$  is smooth on  $\mathbb{C}_v^n \times \mathbb{C}$  for every vertex  $v$  of  $P$ . Thus  $h_P$  extends to a smooth function on  $L_P$  and defines a Hermitian metric on each fiber of the natural mapping  $L_P \rightarrow X_P$  (we call such a function a metric on  $L_P$ ). In particular, for every section  $s \in H^0(X_P, L_P)$ ,  $h_P \circ s$  defines a smooth function on  $X_P$  that satisfies

$$(2.30) \quad \log h_P \circ s(z) = \log |s(z)|^2 - \phi_P(z), \quad z \in (\mathbb{C}^*)^n.$$

*Proof of the Bernstein-Kushnirenko theorem.* The idea is to use the Poincaré-Lelong formula, which gives

$$dd^c \log h_P \circ s = [Z_s] - dd^c \phi_P, \quad dd^c := \frac{i\partial\bar{\partial}}{2\pi},$$



where  $[Z_s]$  denotes the current of integration along the zero set  $Z_s := \{s = 0\}$  of  $s$ . Hence the Stokes' theorem gives

$$0 = \int_X (dd^c \phi_p)^{n-1} \wedge dd^c \log h_P \circ s = \int_{Z_s} (dd^c \phi_p)^{n-1} - \int_X (dd^c \phi_p)^n.$$

By induction on  $n$ , we thus obtain

$$\int_X (dd^c \phi_p)^n = \#\{x \in X : s_1(x) = \cdots = s_n(x) = 0\},$$

for generic sections  $s_j \in H^0(X_P, L_P)$ . Hence

$$\int_X (dd^c \phi_p)^n = n! \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} MA(\phi) dx = n!|P|$$

gives the Bernstein-Kushnirenko theorem.  $\square$

### 3. BRASCAMP-LIEB PROOF OF THE PREKOPA THEOREM

**3.1. Prekopa's theorem.** We shall follow Berndtsson's note [B10, section 1.3] to prove the following Prekopa's theorem (which is also known as the functional version of the Brunn-Minkowski inequality in Theorem 1.4).

**Notation:** We say that  $\phi$  is a (generalized) convex function on a convex open set  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  if  $\phi = -\infty$  identically on  $U$  or  $\phi$  is finite everywhere with

$$(3.1) \quad \phi(tx + (1-t)y) \leq t\phi(x) + (1-t)\phi(y) \quad \forall x, y \in U, 0 < t < 1.$$

**The Prekopa theorem.** Let  $\phi(t, x)$  be a convex function on  $\mathbb{R}_t^m \times \mathbb{R}_x^n$ . Define  $\tilde{\phi}(t)$  by

$$e^{-\tilde{\phi}(t)} := \int_{\mathbb{R}_x^n} e^{-\phi(t, x)},$$

where we omit the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}_x^n$  in the integral. Then  $\tilde{\phi}$  is convex on  $\mathbb{R}_t^m$ .

*Proof.* By Fubini's theorem, it suffices to prove the  $n = 1$  case. Since convexity means convexity on any line, one may further assume that  $m = 1$ . Write  $\phi$  as the decreasing limit of a family of smooth strictly convex functions and

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}_x^n} e^{-\phi(t, x)} = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{|x| < R} e^{-\phi(t, x)},$$

it suffices to prove the following theorem.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $\phi$  be a smooth strictly convex function on  $\mathbb{R}_t \times \mathbb{R}_x$ . Fix  $R > 0$ . Define  $\tilde{\phi}(t)$  by

$$e^{-\tilde{\phi}(t)} := \int_{|x| < R} e^{-\phi(t, x)}.$$

Then  $\tilde{\phi}$  is smooth strictly convex on  $\mathbb{R}_t$ .

*Proof.* By a change of variable, one may assume that  $R = 1$ . Apply the  $t$ -derivative, we get

$$-\tilde{\phi}_t e^{-\tilde{\phi}(t)} = \int_{|x|<1} -\phi_t e^{-\phi(t,x)},$$

apply the  $t$ -derivative again, we get

$$(-\tilde{\phi}_{tt} + (\tilde{\phi}_t)^2) e^{-\tilde{\phi}(t)} = \int_{|x|<1} (-\phi_{tt} + (\phi_t)^2) e^{-\phi(t,x)}.$$

Write the probability measure  $e^{-\phi(t,x)} dx / \int_{|x|<1} e^{-\phi(t,x)}$  as  $d\mu$ , we have

$$\tilde{\phi}_t = \int_{|x|<1} \phi_t d\mu, \quad \tilde{\phi}_{tt} = \int_{|x|<1} \phi_{tt} - (\phi_t)^2 d\mu + (\tilde{\phi}_t)^2.$$

Note that  $\tilde{\phi}_t$  is the  $\mu$ -average of  $\phi_t$ , we have

$$\int_{|x|<1} \tilde{\phi}_t (\phi_t - \tilde{\phi}_t) d\mu = (\tilde{\phi}_t)^2 - (\tilde{\phi}_t)^2 = 0,$$

which implies

$$\int_{|x|<1} (\phi_t - \tilde{\phi}_t)^2 d\mu = \int_{|x|<1} (\phi_t)^2 d\mu - (\tilde{\phi}_t)^2,$$

hence we get

$$\tilde{\phi}_{tt} = \int_{|x|<1} \phi_{tt} d\mu - \int_{|x|<1} (\phi_t - \tilde{\phi}_t)^2 d\mu.$$

By the lemma below, we then have

$$\tilde{\phi}_{tt} \geq \int_{|x|<1} \phi_{tt} d\mu - \int_{|x|<1} \frac{(\phi_{tx})^2}{\phi_{xx}} d\mu.$$

Since  $\phi$  is strictly convex, we have

$$\phi_{tt} > \frac{(\phi_{tx})^2}{\phi_{xx}},$$

hence the theorem follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $\psi$  be a smooth strictly convex function on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $u$  be a smooth function on  $\mathbb{R}$  with  $\int_{|x|<1} u e^{-\psi} = 0$ . Then*

$$\int_{|x|<1} u^2 e^{-\psi} \leq \int_{|x|<1} \frac{(u_x)^2}{\psi_{xx}} e^{-\psi}.$$

*Proof.* One may follow the proof of Lemma 2.7 in [B14, page 4], here we shall introduce another proof based on the Bochner identity below. For every smooth function  $\alpha$  with compact support in  $(-1, 1)$  (i.e.  $\alpha \in C_0^\infty(-1, 1)$ ), by the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and (3.5), we have

$$\left( \int_{|x|<1} u_x \alpha e^{-\psi} \right)^2 \leq \int_{|x|<1} \alpha^2 \psi_{xx} e^{-\psi} \int_{|x|<1} \frac{(u_x)^2}{\psi_{xx}} e^{-\psi} \leq \int_{|x|<1} (\delta \alpha)^2 e^{-\psi} \int_{|x|<1} \frac{(u_x)^2}{\psi_{xx}} e^{-\psi}.$$

Consider the following inner product

$$(\alpha, \beta)_\square := \int_{|x|<1} (\delta\alpha)(\delta\beta)e^{-\psi}$$

on  $C_0^\infty(-1, 1)$ , by the above inequality we know that

$$\alpha \mapsto \int_{|x|<1} u_x \alpha e^{-\psi}$$

defines a bounded  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear functional on  $(C_0^\infty(-1, 1), \|\cdot\|_\square)$ , which extends to a functional on its Hilbert completion  $H_0^1$ . Thus the Riesz representation theorem gives  $v \in H_0^1$  such that

$$(3.2) \quad \int_{|x|<1} (\delta v)(\delta\alpha)e^{-\psi} = (v, \alpha)_\square = \int_{|x|<1} u_x \alpha e^{-\psi}, \quad \forall \alpha \in C_0^\infty(-1, 1),$$

with

$$(3.3) \quad \int_{|x|<1} (\delta v)^2 e^{-\psi} = \|v\|_\square^2 \leq \int_{|x|<1} \frac{(u_x)^2}{\psi_{xx}} e^{-\psi}.$$

Think of  $\delta v$  as a distribution, we have

$$\int_{|x|<1} (\delta v)(\delta\alpha)e^{-\psi} = - \int_{|x|<1} (\delta v)_x \alpha e^{-\psi}, \quad \forall \alpha \in C_0^\infty(-1, 1),$$

hence (3.2) gives  $-(\delta v)_x = u_x$  in the sense of distribution. Since  $v \in H_0^1$ , we have

$$\int_{|x|<1} (\delta v)e^{-\psi} = 0,$$

hence  $-(\delta v) \perp \ker(\cdot)_x$  in  $L^2_{(-1,1)}(e^{-\psi})$  which implies that  $-(\delta v)$  is the  $L^2$ -minimal solution of

$$(\cdot)_x = u_x.$$

Hence we must have  $-(\delta v) = u$ , thus (3.3) gives our estimate.  $\square$

**The Bochner identity.** For every smooth function  $\alpha$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , we have

$$(3.4) \quad (\alpha^2 e^{-\psi})_{xx} = ((\delta\alpha)^2 + 2(\delta\alpha)_x \alpha + \alpha_x^2 + \psi_{xx} \alpha^2) e^{-\psi},$$

where  $\delta\alpha := \alpha_x - \psi_x \alpha$ . If  $\alpha$  has compact support we further have

$$(3.5) \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}} (\delta\alpha)^2 e^{-\psi} = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \alpha_x^2 e^{-\psi} + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{xx} \alpha^2 e^{-\psi}.$$

*Proof.* Take derivative of  $(\alpha^2 e^{-\psi})_x = (\delta\alpha)\alpha e^{-\psi} + \alpha\alpha_x e^{-\psi}$ , we get

$$(\alpha^2 e^{-\psi})_{xx} = ((\delta\alpha)^2 + (\delta\alpha)_x \alpha + \alpha_x^2 + \alpha \delta(\alpha_x)) e^{-\psi},$$

hence (3.4) follows from

$$\delta(\alpha_x) = (\delta\alpha)_x + \psi_{xx} \alpha.$$

Integrating (3.4) over  $\mathbb{R}$ , we get (3.5). (30th September, section 3.2 is for home-reading.)  $\square$

**Reading task 2:** Read page 5-8 of [B10] for the complex version of the above theory.

**3.2. Prekopa proof of the Brunn-Minkowski inequality.** We shall show that the Prekopa theorem implies the following "variational" version of the Brunn-Minkowski inequality.

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $A$  be a convex open set in  $\mathbb{R}_t^m \times \mathbb{R}_x^n$  and let  $A_t$  be the slices*

$$A_t := \{x \in \mathbb{R}_x^n : (t, x) \in A\}.$$

*Let  $|A_t|$  be the Lebesgue measure of  $A_t$ . Then  $-\log |A_t|$  is convex on  $U := \{t : A_t \neq \emptyset\}$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $A$  is the increasing limit of bounded convex open sets, one may assume that  $A$  is bounded, then  $-\log |A_t|$  is finite everywhere on  $U$ . Put

$$\phi(t, x) = \begin{cases} 0 & (t, x) \in \bar{A} \\ \infty & (t, x) \notin \bar{A}, \end{cases}$$

we have

$$|A_t| = \int_{\mathbb{R}_x^n} e^{-\phi(t, x)}.$$

Notice that  $\phi$  is the increasing limit of a family of smooth convex functions, the Prekopa theorem implies that  $-\log |A_t|$  is the increasing limit of a family of convex functions, which implies that  $-\log |A_t|$  satisfies (3.1). Since  $-\log |A_t|$  is also finite everywhere on  $U$ , we know that it is convex (see the notation at the beginning of this section).  $\square$

**Remark:** *Let us apply the above theorem to*

$$A := \{(t, x) \in \mathbb{R}_t^2 \times \mathbb{R}_x^n : t_1, t_2 > 0, x \in t_1 A_1 + t_2 A_2\},$$

*where  $A_1, A_2$  are bounded non-empty convex open sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and*

$$t_1 A_1 + t_2 A_2 := \{t_1 x_1 + t_2 x_2 : x_1 \in A_1, x_2 \in A_2\}.$$

*Then  $A$  is convex. Hence the above theorem implies that  $-\log |t_1 A_1 + t_2 A_2|$  is convex in  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$ . Lemma 3.4 below implies the following "additive" version of the Brunn-Minkowski inequality.*

**Brunn-Minkowski inequality.** *Let  $A_1, A_2$  be bounded non-empty convex open sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then*

$$|A_1 + A_2|^{\frac{1}{n}} \geq |A_1|^{\frac{1}{n}} + |A_2|^{\frac{1}{n}}.$$

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $f$  be a positive smooth function on an open convex cone, say  $\mathcal{K}$ , in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ . Assume that  $f$  is 1-homogeneous, i.e.*

$$f(tx) \equiv tf(x), \quad \forall t > 0, x \in \mathcal{K}.$$

*Then the following statements are equivalent:*

A1:  $f(x + y) \geq f(x) + f(y), \quad \forall x, y \in \mathcal{K};$

A2:  $-f$  is convex;

A3:  $-\log f$  is convex;

A4: For every  $x', y' \in \mathcal{K}$ ,  $t \mapsto -\log f(tx' + (1-t)y')$  is convex on  $(0, 1)$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f$  is 1-homogeneous, A1 implies

$$(3.6) \quad f(tx + (1-t)y) \geq tf(x) + (1-t)f(y).$$

Thus  $A1 \Rightarrow A2$ . Since

$$(3.7) \quad (-\log f)_{\xi\xi} = \frac{-f_{\xi\xi}}{f} + \frac{(f_{\xi})^2}{f^2}, \quad f_{\xi} = \sum \xi^j f_{x_j},$$

we know  $A2 \Rightarrow A3$ . Since  $A3 \Rightarrow A4$  is trivial, it is enough to show  $A4 \Rightarrow A1$ : notice that A4 implies

$$(3.8) \quad f(tx' + (1-t)y') \geq f(x')^t f(y')^{1-t}.$$

Take

$$(3.9) \quad x' = \frac{x}{f(x)}, \quad y' = \frac{y}{f(y)}, \quad t = \frac{f(x)}{f(x) + f(y)},$$

we get A1. The proof is complete.  $\square$

#### 4. A SHORT SEVERAL COMPLEX VARIABLES COURSE

We will mainly follow the Hörmander book [H1]. The aim is to prepare for the next section.

**4.1. Holomorphic function of several variables.** We will follow section 2.1-2.2 of [H1]. Let  $u$  be a complex valued function in  $C^1(\Omega)$ , where  $\Omega$  is an open set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , which we identify with  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ . We shall denote the real coordinates by  $x_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , and the complex coordinates by  $z_j = x_{2j-1} + i x_{2j}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . Using the notations

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial z_j} := \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_{2j-1}} - i \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_{2j}} \right), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial \bar{z}_j} := \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_{2j-1}} + i \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_{2j}} \right)$$

and

$$dz_j := dx_{2j-1} + i dx_{2j}, \quad d\bar{z}_j := dx_{2j-1} - i dx_{2j},$$

we can express  $du = \sum \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} dx_j$  as a linear combination of the differentials  $dz_j$  and  $d\bar{z}_j$ ,

$$(4.1) \quad du = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial u}{\partial z_j} dz_j + \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial u}{\partial \bar{z}_j} d\bar{z}_j.$$

With the notation

$$\partial u := \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial u}{\partial z_j} dz_j, \quad \bar{\partial} u := \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial u}{\partial \bar{z}_j} d\bar{z}_j,$$

one may also write

$$(4.2) \quad du = \partial u + \bar{\partial} u.$$

Differential forms which are linear combination of the differentials  $dz_j$  are said to be of type  $(1, 0)$ , and those which are linear combinations of  $d\bar{z}_j$  are said to be of type  $(0, 1)$ . Thus  $\partial u$  (resp.  $\bar{\partial} u$ ) is the component of  $du$  of type  $(1, 0)$  (resp.  $(0, 1)$ ).

**Definition 4.1.** A function  $u \in C^1(\Omega)$  is said to be holomorphic in  $\Omega$  if  $du$  is of type  $(1, 0)$ , that is, if

$$\bar{\partial}u = 0 \quad (\text{the Cauchy-Riemann equations}).$$

The set of all holomorphic functions in  $\Omega$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ .

**Reading task 3:** Read page 23-29 of [H1] for classical results on holomorphic functions.

**4.2. Subharmonic functions.** We will follow section 1.6 of [H1]. We recall that a  $C^2$  function  $h$  in an open set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$  is called harmonic if  $\Delta h = 4\partial^2 h / \partial z \partial \bar{z} = 0$  in  $\Omega$ .

**Definition 4.2.** A function  $u$  defined in an open set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$  and with values in  $[-\infty, \infty)$  is called subharmonic if

- (a)  $u$  is upper semi-continuous, that is,  $\{z \in \Omega : u(z) < s\}$  is open for every  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ ;
- (b) for each compact set  $K \subset \Omega$  and every continuous function  $h$  on  $K$  which is harmonic in the interior of  $K$  and is  $\geq u$  on  $\partial K$  we have  $u \leq h$  in  $K$ .

By our definition the function which is  $-\infty$  identically is subharmonic; sometimes this is excluded in the definition.

**Theorem 4.1.** If  $u$  is subharmonic and  $0 < c \in \mathbb{R}$ , it follows that  $cu$  is subharmonic. If  $u_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in A$ , is a family of subharmonic functions, then  $u = \sup_\alpha u_\alpha$  is subharmonic if  $u < \infty$  and  $u$  is upper semi-continuous, which is always the case if  $A$  is finite. If  $u_1, u_2, \dots$  is a decreasing of subharmonic functions, then  $u = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} u_j$  is also subharmonic.

**Remark.** An upper semi-continuous function  $u$  defined in an open set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$  is subharmonic if and only if for every closed disc  $D \subset \Omega$  and every holomorphic polynomial  $f$  with  $u \leq \operatorname{Re} f$  on  $\partial D$ , we have  $u \leq \operatorname{Re} f$  in  $D$  (see Theorem 1.6.3 (i) in [H1]). In particular, we know that  $\log |f|$  is subharmonic in  $\Omega$  for every  $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$  (see Corollary 1.6.6 in [H1]).

**Reading task 4:** Read page 17-21 of [H1] for classical results on subharmonic functions.

**4.3. Plurisubharmonic functions and pseudoconvexity.** We will follow section 2.6 of [H1].

**Definition 4.3.** A function  $u$  defined in an open set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  and with values in  $[-\infty, \infty)$  is called plurisubharmonic if

- (a)  $u$  is upper semi-continuous;
- (b) for arbitrary  $z$  and  $w \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , the function  $\tau \mapsto u(z + \tau w)$  is subharmonic in the part of  $\mathbb{C}$  where it is defined.

We shall denote the set of all such functions by  $P(\Omega)$ .

**Remark.** We know that  $\log |f| \in P(\Omega)$  for every  $f \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$ . A function  $u \in C^2(\Omega)$  is plurisubharmonic if and only if (see Theorem 2.6.2 in [H1])

$$(4.3) \quad \sum_{j,k=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 u(z)}{\partial z_j \partial \bar{z}_k} w_j \bar{w}_k \geq 0, \quad \forall z \in \Omega, w \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

We say that  $u$  is strictly plurisubharmonic if strict inequality holds true in (4.3) for every  $z \in \Omega$  and no-zero  $w$ .

**Reading task 3:** Read the proof of Theorem 2.6.2, 2.6.3, 2.6.4, 2.6.11 in [H1].

**Definition 4.4.** An open set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is called *pseudoconvex* if there exists a smooth strictly plurisubharmonic exhaustion function on  $\Omega$ .

**Exercise 17:** Let  $u$  be a smooth function on a convex open set  $A$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , show that

$$\tilde{u} : z \mapsto u(\operatorname{Re} z)$$

is plurisubharmonic in  $A \times i\mathbb{R}^n$  if and only if  $u$  is convex in  $A$ . Use this fact to prove that  $A \times i\mathbb{R}^n$  is pseudoconvex (in fact, one may use Theorem 2.6.7 in [H1] to prove that  $A \times i\mathbb{R}^n$  is pseudoconvex if and only if  $A$  is convex).

**Definition 4.5.** An open set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is called a *smoothly bounded strongly pseudoconvex* if there exists a smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function  $\rho$  in a neighborhood  $U$  of  $\bar{\Omega}$  such that

$$\Omega = \{z \in U : \rho(x) < 0\}$$

and  $d\rho \neq 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ .

**Exercise 18:** Show that smoothly bounded strongly pseudoconvex implies pseudoconvex. Hint: consider  $u = -\log(-\rho)$ . (3rd October)

## 5. SUBHARMONICITY OF BERGMAN KERNELS

This is a highly non-trivial complex generalization of the Prekopa theorem. Here we will introduce the Hörmander  $L^2$ -theory and prove results in section 4 of the Hörmander book.

**5.1.  $L^2$ -estimates for the  $\bar{\partial}$ -equation on pseudoconvex domains in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .** We shall use the Bochner methods to rewrite section 4.4 of [H1]. Similar to the real case, we have the following:

**The complex Bochner identity.** For smooth functions  $\alpha, \beta$  in a domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ , we have

$$(5.1) \quad (\alpha\bar{\beta}e^{-\psi})_{j\bar{k}} = \left( (\delta_j\alpha)(\overline{\delta_k\beta}) + (\delta_j\alpha)_{\bar{k}}\bar{\beta} + \alpha_{\bar{k}}\bar{\beta}_j + \alpha\overline{(\delta_k\beta)_j} + \psi_{j\bar{k}}\alpha\bar{\beta} \right) e^{-\psi},$$

where  $\psi$  denotes a real smooth function in  $\Omega$ ,  $\delta_j\alpha := \alpha_j - \psi_j\alpha$ . Assume further that  $\alpha$  has compact support we have

$$(5.2) \quad \int_{\Omega} (\delta_j\alpha)(\overline{\delta_k\beta})e^{-\psi} = \int_{\Omega} \alpha_{\bar{k}}\bar{\beta}_je^{-\psi} + \int_{\Omega} \psi_{j\bar{k}}\alpha\bar{\beta}e^{-\psi}.$$

*Proof.* We have

$$(\alpha\bar{\beta}e^{-\psi})_{j\bar{k}} = ((\delta_j\alpha)\bar{\beta}e^{-\psi} + \alpha\bar{\beta}_je^{-\psi})_{\bar{k}}$$

and

$$(\alpha\bar{\beta}e^{-\psi})_{j\bar{k}} = \left( (\delta_j\alpha)(\overline{\delta_k\beta}) + (\delta_j\alpha)_{\bar{k}}\bar{\beta} + \alpha_{\bar{k}}\bar{\beta}_j + \alpha\overline{\delta_k(\beta_j)} \right) e^{-\psi},$$

thus

$$\delta_k(\beta_j) = (\delta_k\beta)_j + \psi_{k\bar{j}}\beta$$

gives (5.1). Integration by parts gives (5.2).  $\square$

**Definition 5.1.** We call  $u := \sum_{p=1}^n u_{\bar{p}} d\bar{z}_p$  a smooth  $(0, 1)$ -form on  $\Omega$  if  $u_{\bar{p}}$  (NOT the derivatives of  $u$ , just an  $n$ -tuple of functions!) are smooth functions on  $\Omega$ . Fix a smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function  $\phi$  on  $\Omega$ , we define

$$(5.3) \quad \delta u := \sum_{j=1}^n \delta_j u^j, \quad u^j := \sum_{p=1}^n u_{\bar{p}} \phi^{\bar{p}j},$$

where  $(\phi^{\bar{p}j})$  denotes the inverse matrix of the complex Hessian matrix  $(\phi_{j\bar{q}})$ , i.e. it is defined such that  $(\sum_j \phi^{\bar{p}j} \phi_{j\bar{q}})_{1 \leq p, q \leq n}$  is the identity matrix.

Apply (5.2) to  $\alpha = u^j, \beta = u^k$ , we obtain

$$(5.4) \quad \int_{\Omega} |\delta u|^2 e^{-\psi} = \sum_{j,k=1}^n \int_{\Omega} (u^j)_{\bar{k}} \overline{(u^k)_j} e^{-\psi} + \sum_{j,k=1}^n \int_{\Omega} \psi_{j\bar{k}} u^j \overline{u^k} e^{-\psi}.$$

In order to solve the  $\bar{\partial}$ -equation, we need a lower bound for the left hand side of (5.4). The problem is that the sign of

$$J := \sum_{j,k=1}^n (u^j)_{\bar{k}} \overline{(u^k)_j}$$

is not clear. We need the following lemma. (6th October)

**Lemma 5.1.**  $J = |\nabla_{\phi} u|_{\phi}^2 - |\bar{\partial} u|_{\phi}^2$ , where

$$|\nabla_{\phi} u|_{\phi}^2 := \sum (u^k)_{\bar{q}} \overline{(u^l)_p} \phi^{\bar{q}p} \phi_{k\bar{l}}, \quad |\bar{\partial} u|_{\phi}^2 := \frac{1}{2} \sum ((u_{\bar{l}})_{\bar{q}} - (u_{\bar{q}})_{\bar{l}}) \overline{((u_{\bar{s}})_{\bar{p}} - (u_{\bar{p}})_{\bar{s}})} \phi^{\bar{q}p} \phi^{\bar{l}s}.$$

*Proof.* Put

$$u_{\bar{l}}^p := \sum_{k,q=1}^n (u^k)_{\bar{q}} \phi^{\bar{q}p} \phi_{k\bar{l}}.$$

A direct computation gives

$$\sum u_{\bar{l}}^p \overline{u_{\bar{p}}^l} = J, \quad \sum u_{\bar{l}}^p \overline{(u^l)_{\bar{p}}} = \sum (u^p)_{\bar{l}} \overline{u_{\bar{p}}^l} = |\nabla_{\phi} u|_{\phi}^2.$$

Hence

$$u_{\bar{l}}^p \overline{(u^l)_{\bar{p}}} + (u^p)_{\bar{l}} \overline{u_{\bar{p}}^l} - (u^p)_{\bar{l}} \overline{(u^l)_{\bar{p}}} - u_{\bar{l}}^p \overline{u_{\bar{p}}^l} = (u_{\bar{l}}^p - (u^p)_{\bar{l}}) \overline{((u^l)_{\bar{p}} - u_{\bar{p}}^l)}$$

gives

$$2|\nabla_{\phi} u|_{\phi}^2 - 2J = \sum (u_{\bar{l}}^p - (u^p)_{\bar{l}}) \overline{((u^l)_{\bar{p}} - u_{\bar{p}}^l)}.$$

Thus our lemma follows from

$$u_{\bar{l}}^p - (u^p)_{\bar{l}} = \sum_{k,q=1}^n ((u^k)_{\bar{q}} \phi_{k\bar{l}} - (u^k)_{\bar{l}} \phi_{k\bar{q}}) \phi^{\bar{q}p} = \sum_{q=1}^n ((u_{\bar{l}})_{\bar{q}} - (u_{\bar{q}})_{\bar{l}}) \phi^{\bar{q}p}.$$

(The readers should try to add the details, see section 1.4 in [B95] for the  $\phi(z) = |z|^2$  case).  $\square$



**Remark.** One may check that

$$(5.5) \quad \nabla_{\phi} u := \sum (u^k)_{\bar{q}} d\bar{z}_q \otimes \frac{\partial}{\partial z_k}, \quad \bar{\partial} u := \sum (u_{\bar{j}})_{\bar{k}} d\bar{z}_k \wedge d\bar{z}_j.$$

are independent of the choice of the coordinate  $z$ , thus the above computations can also be generalized to complex manifolds, see [B10] for a nice coordinate free computation on manifolds. Note that  $d\bar{z}_k \wedge d\bar{z}_j = -d\bar{z}_j \wedge d\bar{z}_k$ , we know that

$$\bar{\partial} u = \frac{1}{2} \sum ((u_{\bar{j}})_{\bar{k}} - (u_{\bar{k}})_{\bar{j}}) d\bar{z}_k \wedge d\bar{z}_j.$$

If you are not familiar with the wedge product, then you might think of  $\bar{\partial} u$  as a tuple of functions

$$(\bar{\partial} u)_{\bar{j}\bar{k}} = (u_{\bar{j}})_{\bar{k}} - (u_{\bar{k}})_{\bar{j}}.$$

Since  $(\bar{\partial} u)_{\bar{j}\bar{k}} = -(\bar{\partial} u)_{\bar{k}\bar{j}}$ , we call  $\bar{u}$  a  $(0, 2)$ -form.

**Definition 5.2.** A call a tuple of smooth function  $v := (v_{\bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_q})$  a smooth  $(0, q)$ -form if

$$v_{\bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_q} = \text{sgn} \sigma v_{\overline{\sigma(j_1) \dots \sigma(j_q)}}.$$

where  $\text{sgn} \sigma$  denotes the sign of the permutation  $(j_1, \dots, j_q) \mapsto (\sigma(j_1), \dots, \sigma(j_q))$  (it is defined to be zero if  $j_l = j_k$  for some  $l \neq k$ ).  $\bar{\partial} v$  is defined as a  $(0, q+1)$ -form

$$(5.6) \quad (\bar{\partial} v)_{\bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_{q+1}} := (v_{\bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_q})_{\bar{j}_{q+1}} + (-1)(v_{\bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_{q-1} \bar{j}_{q+1}})_{\bar{j}_q} + \dots + (-1)^q (v_{\bar{j}_2 \dots \bar{j}_q})_{\bar{j}_1}.$$

We say that  $u$  is  $\bar{\partial}$ -exact if  $u = \bar{\partial} v$  for some  $v$ .  $v$  is said to be  $\bar{\partial}$ -closed if  $\bar{\partial} v = 0$ . The inner product of two  $(0, q)$ -forms  $v, w$  is defined as

$$(5.7) \quad (v, w) = \frac{1}{q!} \sum \int_{\Omega} v_{\bar{j}_1 \dots \bar{j}_q} \overline{w_{\bar{k}_1 \dots \bar{k}_q}} \phi^{\bar{j}_1 \bar{k}_1} \dots \phi^{\bar{j}_q \bar{k}_q} e^{-\psi},$$

where we omit the Lebesgue measure in the integral. The adjoint operator  $\bar{\partial}^*$  is defined such that

$$(v, \bar{\partial} u) = (\bar{\partial}^* v, u),$$

where we assume that  $u$  has compact support. The Laplacian operator is defined as

$$\square := \bar{\partial} \bar{\partial}^* + \bar{\partial}^* \bar{\partial}.$$

**Exercise 19:** Show that  $\bar{\partial} \bar{\partial} v = 0$ , in particular, every  $\bar{\partial}$ -exact form is  $\bar{\partial}$ -closed.

**Exercise 20:** For smooth  $(0, 2)$ -form  $v$  and  $(0, 1)$ -form  $u$ . Show that

$$(5.8) \quad (\bar{\partial}^* v)_{\bar{m}} = - \sum \phi_{l\bar{m}} \delta_k (v_{\bar{p}\bar{q}} \phi^{\bar{p}l} \phi^{\bar{q}k}), \quad \bar{\partial}^* u = - \sum \delta_k (u_{\bar{j}} \phi^{\bar{j}k}) = -\delta u.$$

**Exercise 21:** Show that the leading order term of  $\square$  is given by

$$- \sum_{j,k=1}^n \phi^{\bar{k}j} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_j \partial \bar{z}_k}.$$

In particular,  $\square$  is always elliptic.

By Lemma 5.1, (5.4) and (5.8), we have

**Theorem 5.2.** *For every real smooth function  $\psi$  and smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function  $\phi$  on  $\Omega$ , we have*

$$(5.9) \quad (\square u, u) = \|\bar{\partial}u\|^2 + \|\bar{\partial}^*u\|^2 = \int_{\Omega} |\nabla_{\phi}u|_{\phi}^2 e^{-\psi} + \sum_{j,k=1}^n \int_{\Omega} \psi_{j\bar{k}} u^j \bar{u}^k e^{-\psi},$$

where  $u$  is an arbitrary smooth  $(0, 1)$ -form with compact support in  $\Omega$ .

Thanks to the Riesz representation theorem, the above theorem gives

**Theorem 5.3.** *With the notation above, assume further that  $\psi$  is strictly plurisubharmonic. Then for every smooth  $(0, 1)$ -form  $u$  with*

$$(5.10) \quad \|u\|_{\psi}^2 := \sum_{j,k=1}^n \int_{\Omega} \psi^{\bar{j}k} u_{\bar{j}} \bar{u}_k e^{-\psi} < \infty,$$

there exist a smooth  $(0, 1)$ -form  $v$  with  $\square v = u$  and

$$(5.11) \quad (\square v, v) = \|\bar{\partial}v\|^2 + \|\bar{\partial}^*v\|^2 \leq \|u\|_{\psi}^2.$$

*Proof.* The proof is similar to that of Lemma 3.2. We leave to the readers. Hint:

$$|(u, \alpha)|^2 \leq \|u\|_{\psi}^2 \sum_{j,k=1}^n \int_{\Omega} \psi_{j\bar{k}} \alpha^j \bar{\alpha}^k e^{-\psi} \leq \|u\|_{\psi}^2 (\square \alpha, \alpha),$$

for every smooth  $(0, 1)$ -form  $\alpha$  with compact support in  $\Omega$ . Smoothness of  $v$  follows from the standard regularity theorem for elliptic operators (see [W, Theorem 6.5])  $\square$

**Exercise 22:** Finish the proof of Theorem 5.3. (10th October)

Now we are ready to prove the following main theorem in Hörmander  $L^2$ -theory.

**Theorem 5.4.** *Let  $\psi$  be a smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function on a pseudoconvex domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ . Then for every smooth  $\bar{\partial}$ -closed  $(0, 1)$ -form  $u$  with*

$$(5.12) \quad \|u\|_{\psi}^2 := \sum_{j,k=1}^n \int_{\Omega} \psi^{\bar{j}k} u_{\bar{j}} \bar{u}_k e^{-\psi} < \infty,$$

there exists a smooth function  $f$  with  $\bar{\partial}f = u$  on  $\Omega$  and

$$(5.13) \quad \int_{\Omega} |f|^2 e^{-\psi} \leq \|u\|_{\psi}^2.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\rho > 0$  be smooth strictly plurisubharmonic exhaustion function on  $\Omega$ . Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ , apply Theorem 5.3 to  $\phi = \psi + \varepsilon\rho^2$ , we obtain  $\square_{\varepsilon}v_{\varepsilon} = u$ . Let  $f$  be the weak limit of  $\bar{\partial}^*v_{\varepsilon}$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we know that (5.11) implies (5.13). Hence it suffices to show that  $\bar{\partial}^*\bar{\partial}v_{\varepsilon} \rightarrow 0$  in the sense of distribution. Note that  $\bar{\partial}u = 0$  gives  $\bar{\partial}\bar{\partial}^*\bar{\partial}v_{\varepsilon} = 0$ , hence (here  $(\bar{\partial}a \wedge u)_{\bar{j}\bar{k}} := (a)_{\bar{k}}u_{\bar{j}} - (a)_{\bar{j}}u_{\bar{k}}$ )

$$(5.14) \quad 0 = (\chi(\varepsilon\rho)^2 \bar{\partial}\bar{\partial}^*\bar{\partial}v_{\varepsilon}, \bar{\partial}v_{\varepsilon}) = \|\chi(\varepsilon\rho)(\bar{\partial}^*\bar{\partial}v_{\varepsilon})\|^2 - \varepsilon(2\chi(\varepsilon\rho)\chi'(\varepsilon\rho)\bar{\partial}\rho \wedge (\bar{\partial}^*\bar{\partial}v_{\varepsilon}), \bar{\partial}v_{\varepsilon}),$$

where  $0 \leq \chi \leq 1$  is a smooth function on  $\mathbb{R}$  with  $|\chi'| \leq 1$  such that  $\chi = 1$  on  $(-\infty, 1)$  and  $\chi = 0$  on  $(3, \infty)$ . Note that (5.14) gives

$$(5.15) \quad \|\chi(\varepsilon\rho)(\bar{\partial}^* \bar{\partial} v_\varepsilon)\|^4 \leq 2\varepsilon \|\chi(\varepsilon\rho)(\bar{\partial}^* \bar{\partial} v_\varepsilon)\|^2 \|u\|_\psi^2,$$

which implies that  $\bar{\partial}^* \bar{\partial} v_\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  in the sense of distribution as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 23:** Prove (5.15) and think why the solution  $f$  is always smooth. (13th October)

## 5.2. Variation of Bergman projections and implicit function theorem for Banach spaces.

### 5.2.1. Variation of Bergman projections.

**Definition 5.3.** We shall denote by  $H$  the space of measurable functions on a domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^2$  with finite  $L^2$ -norm ( $\phi$  is a given real smooth function on  $\Omega$ )

$$\|u\|_\phi^2 := \int_\Omega |u|^2 e^{-\phi} < \infty, \text{ (we omit the Lebesgue measure in the integral).}$$

We call the collection, say

$$H_0 := \{u \text{ is holomorphic on } \Omega : \|u\|_\phi < \infty\},$$

of those holomorphic functions  $u$  in  $H$  the Bergman space.

Take a non-positive upper semi-continuous function

$$G : \Omega \rightarrow [-\infty, 0]$$

and a smooth function  $\chi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  that vanishes on  $(-\infty, 0]$ . For each  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , let us define

$$(5.16) \quad \|u\|_t^2 := \int_\Omega |u(z)|^2 e^{-\phi(z) - \chi(G(z) - t)}$$

for  $u \in H$  (see Definition 5.3, hence each  $\|\cdot\|_t$  is a new Hilbert norm on  $H$ ).

**Definition 5.4.** We call the orthogonal projection

$$P^t : H \rightarrow H_0 \text{ (for } H \text{ and } H_0 \text{ see Definition 5.3)}$$

with respect to the above  $\|\cdot\|_t$  norm a Bergman projection.

By using the implicit function theorem, Berndtsson proved the following smoothness theorem.

**Theorem 5.5** (Berndtsson's smoothness theorem). *The Bergman projections  $P^t$  in Definition 5.4 depend smoothly on  $t$ , more precisely*

$$\begin{aligned} P : \mathbb{R} \times H &\rightarrow H_0 \\ (t, u) &\mapsto P^t u, \end{aligned}$$

is a smooth map from  $\mathbb{R} \times (H, \|\cdot\|_\phi)$  to  $(H_0, \|\cdot\|_\phi)$ .

*Proof.* Fix  $(t_0, u_0) \in \mathbb{R} \times H$ . Notice that the following mapping

$$\begin{aligned} F : \mathbb{R} \times H \times H_0 &\rightarrow H_0 \\ (t, u, v) &\mapsto P^{t_0}(e^{\chi(G-t_0)-\chi(G-t)}(v-u)) \end{aligned}$$

is smooth, moreover  $F(t, u, v) = 0$  iff  $v = P^t u = P(t, u)$ . Since  $F_{H_0}(t_0, u_0, v) \equiv id_{H_0}$ , we know smoothness of  $P$  follows directly Theorem 5.10 in the next subsection.  $\square$

**Reading task 5:** Read the next subsection for the proof of Theorem 5.10.

**Remark:** For every bounded  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear mapping  $f : H_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , one may define its functional norm with respect to  $\|\cdot\|_t$  as

$$\|f\|_t := \sup\{|f(u)| : u \in H_0, \|u\|_t = 1\}.$$

Then Berndtsson's smoothness theorem gives the following result.

**Lemma 5.6.**  $\|f\|_t^2$  depends smoothly on  $t$ .

*Proof.* Denote by  $u_f$  the Riesz representation of  $f$  in  $(H_0, \|\cdot\|_\phi)$ , i.e.

$$f(u) = (u, u_f)_\phi.$$

Notice that  $(u, u_f)_\phi = (u, e^{\chi(G-t)}u_f)_t$ , hence

$$u_f^t := P^t(e^{\chi(G-t)}u_f)$$

is the Riesz representation of  $f$  in  $(H_0, \|\cdot\|_t)$ . Thus

$$\|f\|_t^2 = \|P^t(e^{\chi(G-t)}u_f)\|_t^2 = (P^t(e^{\chi(G-t)}u_f), e^{-\chi(G-t)}P^t(e^{\chi(G-t)}u_f))_\phi$$

depends smoothly on  $t$  by Theorem 5.5. (17th October)  $\square$

Similar to the proof of Theorem 3.1, we can continue to prove the following result.

**Theorem 5.7.** With respect to the notation in the proof of Lemma 5.6, we have

$$(5.17) \quad \frac{d^2}{dt^2} (\log \|f\|_t^2) \geq \frac{(\chi''(G-t)u_f^t, u_f^t)_t - \|\chi'(G-t)u_f^t - P^t(\chi'(G-t)u_f^t)\|_t^2}{\|u_f^t\|_t^2}.$$

*Proof.* Apply the  $t$ -derivative to  $\|f\|_t^2 = \|u_f^t\|_t^2 = \int_\Omega |u_f^t|^2 e^{-\phi-\chi(G-t)}$ , we get

$$(5.18) \quad \frac{d}{dt} (\|f\|_t^2) = \int_\Omega (\partial_t u_f^t + \chi'(G-t)u_f^t) \overline{u_f^t} e^{-\phi^t} + \int_\Omega u_f^t \overline{\partial_t u_f^t} e^{-\phi^t},$$

where

$$(5.19) \quad \phi^t(z) := \phi(t, z) := \phi(z) + \chi(G(z) - t).$$

Since for every  $u \in H_0$ , we have

$$(5.20) \quad \int_\Omega (\partial_t u_f^t + \chi'(G-t)u_f^t) \overline{u} e^{-\phi^t} = \frac{d}{dt} \int_\Omega u_f^t \overline{u} e^{-\phi^t} = \frac{d}{dt} \int_\Omega u_f \overline{u} e^{-\phi} = 0,$$

we know that (5.18) reduces to

$$(5.21) \quad \frac{d}{dt} (\|f\|_t^2) = \int_\Omega u_f^t \overline{\partial_t u_f^t} e^{-\phi^t}.$$

Take the derivative again, we get

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} (\|f\|_t^2) = \|\partial_t u_f^t\|_t^2 + \int_{\Omega} u_f^t \overline{\partial_t(\partial_t u_f^t + \chi'(G-t)u_f^t)} e^{-\phi^t} + (\chi''(G-t)u_f^t, u_f^t)_t,$$

which implies (together with (5.21))

$$(5.22) \quad \frac{d^2}{dt^2} (\log \|f\|_t^2) \geq \frac{\int_{\Omega} u_f^t \overline{\partial_t(\partial_t u_f^t + \chi'(G-t)u_f^t)} e^{-\phi^t} + (\chi''(G-t)u_f^t, u_f^t)_t}{\|u_f^t\|_t^2}.$$

Now by (5.20), we have  $\partial_t u_f^t + \chi'(G-t)u_f^t \perp H_0$ . Put

$$\partial_t u_f^t + \chi'(G-t)u_f^t := u_{H_0^\perp},$$

note that  $\partial_t u_f^t \in H_0$ , hence we must have

$$u_{H_0^\perp} = \chi'(G-t)u_f^t - P^t(\chi'(G-t)u_f^t).$$

Hence

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u_f^t \overline{u_{H_0^\perp}} e^{-\phi^t} = \|u_{H_0^\perp}\|_t^2 + \int_{\Omega} u_f^t \overline{\partial_t u_{H_0^\perp}} e^{-\phi^t}$$

gives

$$\int_{\Omega} u_f^t \overline{\partial_t(\partial_t u_f^t + \chi'(G-t)u_f^t)} e^{-\phi^t} = \int_{\Omega} u_f^t \overline{\partial_t u_{H_0^\perp}} e^{-\phi^t} = -\|u_{H_0^\perp}\|_t^2,$$

and (5.17) follows from (5.22).  $\square$

Now we can apply the complex version (see Theorem 5.4) of Lemma 3.2 to prove the following convexity theorem of Berndtsson (compare with Theorem 3.1).

**Convexity theorem of Berndtsson.** *Let  $G \leq 0$  be a function on a pseudoconvex domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $e^G$  is smooth and*

$$(5.23) \quad \phi + \lambda G \text{ is smooth and strictly plurisubharmonic}$$

*on  $\{G \neq -\infty\}$  for some constant  $\lambda > 0$ , where  $\phi$  is a given smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function on  $\Omega$ . Let  $\chi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a smooth convex increasing function that vanishes on  $(-\infty, 0]$  with  $\chi' \leq \lambda$ . Let  $f$  be a bounded  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear functional on*

$$H_0 := \left\{ u \text{ is holomorphic on } \Omega : \|u\|_\phi^2 := \int_{\Omega} |u|^2 e^{-\phi} < \infty \right\},$$

*then*

$$\log \|f\|_t^2 := \sup \left\{ \log |f(u)|^2 : u \in H_0, \int_{\Omega} |u|^2 e^{-\phi - \chi(G-t)} = 1 \right\}$$

*is convex in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

*Proof.* By our assumptions and Theorem 5.4, we have

$$(5.24) \quad \|\chi'(G-t)u_f^t - P^t(\chi'(G-t)u_f^t)\|_t^2 \leq \int_{\Omega} \chi''(G-t)|u_f^t|^2 e^{-\phi^t},$$

hence our theorem follows from (5.17). (20th October)  $\square$

**Exercise 24:** Prove (5.24).

**Remark:** Our assumptions imply that

$$(\tau, z) \mapsto \phi(z) + \chi(G(z) - \operatorname{Re} \tau)$$

is plurisubharmonic in  $(\tau, z) \in \mathbb{C} \times \Omega$ , which can be seen a complex version of the convexity assumption of  $\phi$  in Theorem 3.1. In applications, the best  $\chi$  would be

$\sup\{\chi(s) : \chi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty) \text{ is smooth convex increasing, vanishes on } (-\infty, 0] \text{ and } \chi' \leq \lambda\}$ , which  $= \lambda \max\{s, 0\}$ . Let us choose a family of  $\chi$ , satisfying the above assumptions, with limit  $\lambda \max\{s, 0\}$ , then the above theorem gives the following result.

**Theorem 5.8.** Let  $G \leq 0$  be a function on a pseudoconvex domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $e^G$  is smooth and

$$(5.25) \quad \phi + \lambda G \text{ is smooth and strictly plurisubharmonic}$$

on  $\{G \neq -\infty\}$  for some constant  $\lambda > 0$ , where  $\phi$  is a given smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function on  $\Omega$ . Let  $f$  be a bounded  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear functional on

$$H_0 := \left\{ u \text{ is holomorphic on } \Omega : \|u\|_\phi^2 := \int_\Omega |u|^2 e^{-\phi} < \infty \right\},$$

then

$$\log \|f\|_t^2 := \sup \left\{ \log |f(u)|^2 : u \in H_0, \int_\Omega |u|^2 e^{-\phi - \lambda \max\{G-t, 0\}} = 1 \right\}$$

is convex in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

5.2.2. *Implicit function theorem for Banach spaces.* In this section, we shall recall the implicit function theorem for Banach spaces by following Hörmander's book [H0].

**Definition 5.5.** Let  $H$  be a real vector space. We call

$$(5.26) \quad \|\cdot\| : H \rightarrow [0, \infty),$$

a norm on  $H$  if

$$\begin{aligned} \|cx\| &= |c| \cdot \|x\|, & \forall c \in \mathbb{R}, \\ \|x+y\| &\leq \|x\| + \|y\|, & \forall x, y \in H, \\ \|x\| &> 0, & \text{if } x \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $H$  be a real vector space with norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Then  $H$  is a metric space with distance function:

$$(5.27) \quad d(x, y) := \|x - y\|.$$

Recall that a metric space  $H$  is complete if each Cauchy sequence in  $H$  has a unique limit point in  $H$ . If  $H$  is not complete then one may consider its completion  $\tilde{H}$ , which is defined to be the space of equivalent Cauchy sequences in  $H$ .

**Definition 5.6.** Let  $H$  be a real vector space with norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . We call  $H$  a real Banach space if  $H$  is complete as a metric space.

**Remark:** Let  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  be two real Banach spaces. Then  $H_1 \times H_2$  is also a Banach space with norm

$$(5.28) \quad \|(x, y)\|^2 := \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2, \quad \forall (x, y) \in H_1 \times H_2.$$

If we denote by  $L(H_1, H_2)$  the space of bounded  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear maps from  $H_1$  to  $H_2$  then we know that  $L(H_1, H_2)$  is also a Banach space with norm

$$(5.29) \quad \|T\| := \sup\{\|Tx\| : \|x\| \leq 1, x \in H_1\}, \quad \forall T \in L(H_1, H_2).$$

Notice that if  $H_1$  is  $\mathbb{R}$  with the usual norm then  $L(H_1, H_2)$  is isomorphic to  $H_2$ . Now we can define the notion of differentiability on Banach space.

**Definition 5.7.** Let  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  be two real Banach spaces. Let  $f$  be a map from an open set  $U$  in  $H_1$  to  $H_2$ . We say  $f$  is differentiable at  $x \in U$  if there exists  $T \in L(H_1, H_2)$  such that

$$(5.30) \quad \|f(x+h) - f(x) - Th\| = o(\|h\|), \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \lim_{\|h\| \rightarrow 0, h \neq 0} \frac{\|f(x+h) - f(x) - Th\|}{\|h\|} = 0.$$

If  $f$  is differentiable at  $x$  then we shall write  $T = f'(x)$ . We call  $f$  is  $C^1$  on  $U$  if  $f$  is differentiable at all points in  $U$  and its derivative

$$(5.31) \quad f' : x \mapsto f'(x),$$

is a continuous map from  $U$  to  $L(H_1, H_2)$ .

**Remark:** Let  $f$  be a  $C^1$  map, we say  $f$  is  $C^2$  if the derivative, say  $f^{(2)}$ , of  $f'$  is  $C^1$ . Then we can inductively define the notion of a  $C^k$  map, and define  $f^{(k+1)}$  as the derivative of  $f^{(k)}$  for every  $k \geq 2$ . And we say  $f$  is  $C^\infty$  or smooth if  $f$  is  $C^k$  for every  $k$ . Now we can state the inverse function theorem for Banach spaces:

**Theorem 5.9** (Inverse function theorem). Let  $f$  be a  $C^1$  map from an open set  $U$  in a real Banach space  $H$  to  $H$ . Assume that  $f$  is  $C^1$  on  $U$ ,  $0 \in U$ ,  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f'(0) = id_H$  is the identity map on  $H$ . Then there exists an open neighborhood  $V \subset U$  of  $0$  such that  $f|_V$  is a homeomorphism onto the open set  $f(V)$  and its inverse

$$(5.32) \quad f^{-1} : f(V) \rightarrow V$$

is also  $C^1$ . Assume further that  $f$  is  $C^k$  then  $f^{-1}$  is also  $C^k$  on the same set  $f(V)$ .

Before proving it, let us show how to use it to prove the implicit function theorem:

**Theorem 5.10** (Implicit function theorem). Let  $H_1, H_2$  and  $H_3$  be three real Banach spaces. Let  $\Phi$  be a smooth map from an open neighborhood, say  $U$ , of  $(x_0, y_0) \in H_1 \times H_2$  to  $H_3$ . Assume that there exists  $A \in L(H_3, H_2)$  such that

$$(5.33) \quad A\Phi'_{H_2}(x_0, y_0) = id_{H_2}, \quad \Phi'_{H_2}(x_0, y_0)A = id_{H_3},$$

then there exists a neighborhood, say  $V$ , of  $x_0$  and a unique smooth map, say  $f$ , from  $V$  to  $H_2$  such that  $f(x_0) = y_0$  and

$$(5.34) \quad \Phi(x, f(x)) \equiv \Phi(x_0, y_0), \quad \forall x \in V.$$

*Proof.* Notice that we can assume  $x_0, y_0$  are at the origin. Put

$$(5.35) \quad \Psi(x, y) = (x, \Phi(x, y)).$$

Then

$$(5.36) \quad \|\Psi(a, b) - \Psi(0) - (a, \Phi'_{H_1}(0)a + \Phi'_{H_2}(0)b)\| = o\|(a, b)\|.$$

Thus

$$(5.37) \quad \Psi'(0)(a, b) = (a, \Phi'_{H_1}(0)a + \Phi'_{H_2}(0)b).$$

Let us consider the linear map, say  $B$ , from  $H_1 \times H_3$  to  $H_1 \times H_2$  such that

$$(5.38) \quad B(a, c) = (a, A(c - \Phi'_{H_1}(0)a)).$$

Thus

$$(5.39) \quad B\Psi'(0) = id_{H_1 \times H_2}, \quad \Psi'(0)B = id_{H_1 \times H_3}.$$

Put

$$(5.40) \quad \tilde{\Psi} := B\Psi.$$

Then  $\tilde{\Psi}'(0) = id_{H_1 \times H_2}$ . By the inverse function theorem, the inverse,  $\tilde{\Psi}^{-1}$  of  $\tilde{\Psi}$  is smooth in a neighborhood of the origin. Thus  $\tilde{\Psi}^{-1}B$  is the inverse map of  $\Psi$  near the origin. Let us denote it by  $\Psi^{-1}$  and write

$$(5.41) \quad \Psi^{-1}(x, z) = (x, g(x, z)).$$

Thus

$$(5.42) \quad \Phi(x, g(x, z)) \equiv z$$

near the origin, which implies that  $f(x) = g(x, 0)$ . □

*Proof of the inverse function theorem.* We shall use the following lemma.

**Lemma 5.11.** *Let  $f$  be a  $C^1$  map from an open set  $U$  in a Banach space  $H$  to  $H$ . Then*

$$(5.43) \quad \|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \|x - y\| \cdot \sup_{0 \leq t \leq 1} \|f'(x + t(y - x))\|, \quad \forall x, y \in H.$$

**Remark.** *Put  $g(t) = f(x + t(y - x))$ , then  $g'(t) = f'(x + t(y - x))(y - x)$  and the above estimate follows directly from the following Newton-Lebnitz formula*

$$f(y) - f(x) = g(1) - g(0) = \int_0^1 g'(t) dt = \int_0^1 f'(x + t(y - x))(y - x) dt.$$

Fix  $y$  near the origin, we want to find  $x^*$  such that  $f(x^*) = y$ . Put

$$g(x) = x - f(x) + y,$$

it suffices to find the fixed point of  $g$ . We claim that the fixed point of  $g$  exists and is given by the limit of

$$x_{k+1} := y - f(x_k) + x_k = g(x_k), \quad k \geq 0, \quad x_0 := 0. \quad (24th \text{ October})$$



In fact, since  $g'(0) = 0$  and  $g$  is  $C^1$ , there exists a small  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$(5.44) \quad \|g'(x)\| < \frac{1}{2}, \quad \forall \|x\| \leq 2\delta.$$

Applying Lemma 5.11 to  $g$ , we know that

$$(5.45) \quad \|g(x') - g(x)\| \leq \frac{1}{2}\|x' - x\|,$$

if both  $\|x\|$  and  $\|x'\|$  are  $< 2\delta$ . Note that  $x_1 = y$ ,  $x_0 = 0$ . Apply (5.45) to  $x_1, x_0$ , we get

$$\|x_2 - x_1\| = \|g(x_1) - g(x_0)\| \leq \frac{1}{2}\|x_1 - x_0\| = \frac{1}{2}\|y\|.$$

Assume that  $\|y\| < \delta$ , we obtain which gives

$$\|x_2\| \leq \|x_1\| + \frac{1}{2}\|y\| = \left(1 + \frac{1}{2}\right)\|y\| < 2\delta.$$

By induction on  $k$ , we have

$$(5.46) \quad \|x_{k+1} - x_k\| \leq \frac{1}{2}\|x_k - x_{k-1}\| \leq \cdots \leq \frac{\delta}{2^k}, \quad \forall k \geq 2$$

and

$$(5.47) \quad \|x_{k+1}\| \leq \left(1 + \cdots + \frac{1}{2^k}\right)\|y\| \leq 2\|y\| < 2\delta, \quad \forall k \geq 0,$$

thus  $\{x_k\}$  is a Cauchy sequence with limit  $x^*$  such that  $\|x^*\| \leq 2\|y\| < 2\delta$ . Now we know that  $f(x^*) = y$ . If there is another  $\hat{x}$  such that  $\|\hat{x}\| < 2\delta$  and  $f(\hat{x}) = y$  then (5.45) implies that

$$(5.48) \quad \|\hat{x} - x^*\| = \|g(\hat{x}) - g(x^*)\| \leq \frac{1}{2}\|\hat{x} - x^*\|.$$

Thus  $x^* = \hat{x}$ . Thus for every  $y$  with  $\|y\| < \delta$  there exists a unique point, say  $x^*$ , with  $\|x^*\| < 2\delta$  such that  $f(x^*) = y$ . We shall write  $x^* = f^{-1}(y)$ . Put

$$(5.49) \quad V = \{x : \|x\| < 2\delta\} \cap f^{-1}\{y : \|y\| < \delta\}.$$

Then  $V \subset U$  is an open neighborhood of the origin such that  $f|_V$  is a bijection onto

$$f(V) = \{y \in H : \|y\| < \delta\}.$$

The final step is to prove that  $f^{-1}$  is  $C^1$  on  $f(V)$ . Fix  $y_0 = f(x_0)$ ,  $x_0 \in V$ . Since  $f$  is differentiable at  $x_0$ , we have

$$(5.50) \quad \|f(x) - f(x_0) - f'(x_0)(x - x_0)\| = o\|x - x_0\|.$$

Notice that (5.44) implies that  $f'(x_0)$  is invertible. And (5.45) implies that

$$(5.51) \quad \frac{1}{2}\|x - x_0\| \leq \|y - y_0\| \leq 2\|x - x_0\|, \quad \forall x \in V, y = f(x).$$

Thus (5.50) gives

$$(5.52) \quad \|(f'(x_0))^{-1}(y - y_0) - (x - x_0)\| = o\|y - y_0\|,$$

which implies that  $f^{-1}$  is differentiable at  $y_0$  with derivative  $(f'(f^{-1}(y_0)))^{-1}$ . Thus  $f^{-1}$  is differentiable on  $f(V)$  and its derivative

$$(5.53) \quad y \mapsto (f'(f^{-1}(y)))^{-1}$$

is continuous since  $f$  is  $C^1$ . Using (5.53) inductively, we know that if  $f$  is  $C^k$  on  $V$  then  $f^{-1}$  is also  $C^k$  on  $f(V)$ . The proof is complete.  $\square$

**5.3. Convexity of Bergman kernels.** Let  $\psi$  be a plurisubharmonic function on a domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$ . Fix  $z_0 \in \Omega$ , we call

$$(5.54) \quad K_\psi(z_0) := \sup_{u \text{ holomorphic on } \Omega} \frac{|u(z_0)|^2}{\int_\Omega |u|^2 e^{-\psi}}$$

the Bergman kernel with respect to  $(\Omega, \psi, z_0)$ . Apply Theorem 5.8 to the functional

$$f : u \mapsto u(z_0),$$

we obtain the following convexity property of the Bergman kernels.

**Theorem 5.12.** *Let  $G \leq 0$  be a function on a pseudoconvex domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $e^G$  is smooth and*

$$(5.55) \quad \phi + \lambda G \text{ is smooth and strictly plurisubharmonic}$$

*on  $\{G \neq -\infty\}$  for some constant  $\lambda > 0$ , where  $\phi$  is a given smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function on  $\Omega$ . Put*

$$H_0 := \left\{ u \text{ is holomorphic on } \Omega : \|u\|_\phi^2 := \int_\Omega |u|^2 e^{-\phi} < \infty \right\}, \quad \phi^t := \phi + \lambda \max\{G - t, 0\},$$

*then  $\log K_{\phi^t}(z_0)$  is convex in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

**Exercise 25:** Replace  $\phi$  by  $\phi + \varepsilon|z|^2$  and show that the above theorem can be generalized to the following case.

**Theorem 5.13.** *Let  $G \leq 0$  be a function on a pseudoconvex domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  such that  $e^G$  is smooth and*

$$(5.56) \quad \phi + \lambda G \text{ is smooth and plurisubharmonic}$$

*on  $\{G \neq -\infty\}$  for some constant  $\lambda > 0$ , where  $\phi$  is a given smooth plurisubharmonic function on  $\Omega$ . Put*

$$H_0 := \left\{ u \text{ is holomorphic on } \Omega : \|u\|_\phi^2 := \int_\Omega |u|^2 e^{-\phi} < \infty \right\}, \quad \phi^t := \phi + \lambda \max\{G - t, 0\},$$

*then  $\log K_{\phi^t}(z_0)$  is convex in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

**5.4. Suita conjecture.** Let us apply Theorem 5.12 to the case that  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$  is smoothly bounded (in fact, we only need the Green function of  $\Omega$  exists),  $\phi = 0$  and

$$G(z) := 2G_\Omega(z, z_0).$$

Note that

$$K_{\phi^t}(z_0) \leq \sup_{u \text{ holomorphic on } \Omega} \frac{|u(z_0)|^2}{\int_{G < t} |u|^2} \leq C e^{-2t}$$

for some constant  $C$  does not depend on  $t$ , we know that the convex function  $\log K_{\phi^t}(z_0) + 2t$  is bounded near  $t = -\infty$ , thus it is increasing in  $t$ , which gives

$$K_\Omega(z_0) = K_{\phi^0}(z_0) \geq \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} e^{2t} K_{\phi^t}(z_0) \geq \frac{1}{\limsup_{t \rightarrow -\infty} e^{-2t} \int_\Omega e^{-\lambda \max\{G-t, 0\}}}$$

Put

$$A(s) := \text{the Lebesgue measure of } \{G < s\}.$$

Then for every  $t < 0$ , we have

$$\int_\Omega e^{-\lambda \max\{G-t, 0\}} = \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{-\lambda \max\{s-t, 0\}} dA(s) = e^{\lambda t} A(0) - \int_{-\infty}^0 A(s) d e^{-\lambda \max\{s-t, 0\}}.$$

Thus for  $\lambda > 2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{K_\Omega(z_0)} &\leq \limsup_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left( -e^{-2t} \int_{-\infty}^0 A(s) d e^{-\lambda \max\{s-t, 0\}} \right) \\ &= \limsup_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left( -e^{-2t} \int_t^0 A(s) d e^{-\lambda(s-t)} \right) \\ &= \limsup_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left( \lambda \int_t^0 A(s) e^{-2s} e^{-(\lambda-2)(s-t)} ds \right) \\ &= \limsup_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \left( \lambda \int_0^{-t} A(x+t) e^{-2(x+t)} e^{-(\lambda-2)x} dx \right) \\ &\leq \left( \lambda \int_0^\infty e^{-(\lambda-2)x} dx \right) \limsup_{s \rightarrow -\infty} (A(s) e^{-2s}) \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-2} \pi e^{-2\rho(z_0)}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\rho(z_0) := \lim_{z \rightarrow z_0} \{G(z) - \log|z - z_0|\}$$

denotes the Robin constant of  $\Omega$  at  $z_0$ . Letting  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ , the Suita conjecture (0.1) follows.

**Exam project:** Use the methods in section 5.2 to prove the following Berndtsson's subharmonicity property of the Bergman kernel (try to read the original paper [B06]!).

**Subharmonicity property of the Bergman kernel.** Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded pseudoconvex domain in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Let  $\phi$  be a smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function on  $\mathbb{D} \times U$ , where  $\mathbb{D} := \{t \in \mathbb{C} : |t| < 1\}$  and  $U$  is an open neighborhood of the closure of  $\Omega$ . Put

$$\phi^t(z) := \phi(t, z), \quad (t, z) \in \mathbb{D} \times \Omega.$$

Then

$$(t, z) \mapsto \log K_{\phi^t}(z)$$

is plurisubharmonic in  $(t, z) \in \mathbb{D} \times \Omega$ . In particular, for every fixed  $z_0 \in \Omega$ ,  $\log K_{\phi^t}(z_0)$  is subharmonic in  $t$  (compare with Theorem 5.13).

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