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ATTI ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI  
CLASSE SCIENZE FISICHE MATEMATICHE NATURALI  
**RENDICONTI**

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**On some function-geometric aspects of holomorph  
convex spaces**

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# RENDICONTI

DELLE SEDUTE

DELLA ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI

**Classe di Scienze fisiche, matematiche e naturali**

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*Presiede il Presidente della Classe* BENIAMINO SEGRE

## SEZIONE I

(Matematica, meccanica, astronomia, geodesia e geofisica)

**Matematica.** — *On some function-geometric aspects of holomorph-convex spaces.* Nota di VO VAN TAN (\*), presentata (\*\*) dal Corrisp. G. ZAPPA.

RIASSUNTO. — In questa Nota si studia la distribuzione dei sottoinsiemi analitici compatti, di dimensione  $> 0$ , di uno spazio olomorficamente convesso  $X$  mediante la conoscenza dell'anello delle sue funzioni olomorfe globali. Le dimostrazioni complete compariranno altrove.

Unless the contrary is explicitly stated, all  $\mathbf{C}$ -analytic spaces are assumed to be paracompact, non compact, reduced, irreducible and of  $\mathbf{C}\text{-dim} = n \geq 1$ .

### § 1. THE VARIOUS TYPES OF HOLOMORPH-CONVEX SPACES

DEFINITION 1. *Let  $\pi: X \rightarrow Y$  be a holomorphic map between  $\mathbf{C}$ -analytic spaces and let*

$$\rho_x(\pi) := \dim_x X - \dim_x \pi^{-1}\pi(x) \quad \text{for } x \in X.$$

*Then the rank of  $\pi$  denoted by  $RK\pi$  is defined by*

$$RK\pi := \sup_{x \in X} \rho_x(\pi).$$

*Certainly,  $0 \leq RK\pi \leq \min(\dim X, \dim Y)$ .*

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Now, for  $Y = \mathbb{C}^k$ ,  $k \geq 1$ , we have a second notion of rank, namely

DEFINITION 2. Let  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^k$  be a holomorphic map. Let  $X'$  be the open set of regular points of  $X$ . Then the rank of  $f$ , denoted by  $rk \cdot f$ , is defined to be the supremum of the rank of the jacobian matrix of  $f$  at all points of  $X'$ .

Actually, these 2 notions coincide, namely

PROPOSITION 1 [3]. Let  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^k$  be a holomorphic map, then

$$RKf = rk \cdot f.$$

DEFINITION 3. i) Let  $f_i \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$   $1 \leq i \leq k$ . The  $f_i$  are said to be analytically independent if the Map

$$f := (f_1, \dots, f_k): X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^k \quad \text{has maximal rank, i.e. } rk \cdot f = k.$$

ii) The maximal number of analytically independent holomorphic functions on a  $\mathbb{C}$ -analytic space  $X$  (denoted for short by  $\text{Mani}(X)$ ) is the greatest integer  $p$  such that there exist  $p$  global holomorphic functions  $f_1, \dots, f_p$  on  $X$  which are analytically independent.

DEFINITION 4. A  $\mathbb{C}$ -analytic space  $X$  is said to be holomorphically convex if for any closed discrete sequence  $\{x_n\}$ , there exists a global holomorphic function  $f$  on  $X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |f(x_n)| = \infty,$$

From Definition 3, it is clear that

- i) If  $X$  is Stein then  $\text{Mani}(X) = \dim X$ .
- ii) If  $X$  is compact then  $\text{Mani}(X) = 0$ .

Our investigation will be on holomorph-convex spaces between Stein and compact spaces. First of all, let us mention the following important result, see [4] and [1].

THEOREM I (Remmert, Cartan).

Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space, with  $\dim X = n$ , then there exist

- i) a Stein space  $Y$ ;
- ii) a proper, surjective and holomorphic map  $\pi: X \rightarrow Y$  such that the fibres of  $\pi$  are connected.
- iii) and the induced mapping  $\pi_*: \Gamma(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y) \rightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is an isomorphism. From now on the pair  $(\pi, Y)$  will be called the Remmert-Stein reduction of  $X$ .

*Remarks.* i) It follows from Theorem I that  $\dim Y \leq \dim X = n$ . One of our next goals is to determine  $\dim Y$  from the function geometric data on  $X$ .

ii) In Theorem I, one noticed that, for an open set  $U \subset Y$ , so that  $\pi|_V$ , with  $V := \pi^{-1}(U)$ , is 1 to 1, then  $\pi|_V$  is biholomorph.

DEFINITION 5. - *Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space,  $\dim X = n$ , with its Remmert-Stein reduction  $(\pi, Y)$ , then*

i)  $X$  is said to be of type I, if  $\dim Y = n$ ;

ii) Otherwise  $X$  is said to be of type II.

*Examples.* i) All Stein spaces, 1-convex spaces and more generally the proper modifications of Stein spaces (see Definitions 6 and 7 below) are of type I.

ii) Let  $X = \mathbf{C}^n \times \mathbf{P}_m$  with  $m \geq 1$ , then  $X$  is of type II. From definitions 4 and 5, it is clear that

If  $X$  is of type I then  $\text{Mani}(X) = n$

If  $X$  is of type II then  $\text{Mani}(X) < n$ .

Our next step is to provide the converses for these two facts.

## § 2. CLASSIFICATIONS

The previous definitions, Proposition 1 and Theorem I give us

LEMMA 1. *Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space with  $\text{Mani}(X) = q \leq n$  (i.e. there exists a map  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^q$  with maximal rank), then there exist a Stein space  $Y$  and a proper surjective and holomorphic map  $\pi: X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $\text{RK}\pi = \text{rk} \cdot f = q$*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{C}^q \\ \downarrow & & \\ Y & & \end{array}$$

Moreover, for each  $z \in X$ , the level set

$$L_f(z) := \{x \in X \mid f(x) = f(z) \quad \text{for all } f \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)\}$$

is an analytic subvariety in  $X$  and all its connected components are compact.

From Lemma 1 we easily obtain the following

THEOREM I. *Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space with its Remmert-Stein reduction  $(\pi, Y)$ , then*

$$\dim Y = q \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{Mani}(X) = q.$$

COROLLARY 1. Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space, then

$X$  is of type I iff  $\text{Mani}(X) = n$

$X$  is of type II iff  $\text{Mani}(X) < n$ .

Before getting a clear picture of the distribution of compact analytic subvarieties in a given holomorph-convex space, we need the following two basic results, see [5].

THEOREM II (Remmert). Let  $\pi: X \longrightarrow Y$  be a holomorphic map between analytic spaces, then the set

$$R(X) := \{x \in X \mid \rho_x(\pi) < RK\pi\}$$

is an analytic subvariety in  $X$  of  $\text{codim} \geq 1$ .

Moreover if  $\pi$  is proper and surjective then  $T(X) := \pi(R(X))$  is an analytic subvariety in  $Y$ , with  $\dim T(X) \leq RK\pi - 2$ .

THEOREM III (Remmert). Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space, the set  $S(X) := \{\text{union of all compact subvarieties of positive dim in } X\}$  is an analytic subvariety in  $X$ .

From now on, we will call  $S(X)$  the *degeneracy variety* of  $X$ ,  $R(X)$  the *rank subvariety* of  $X$  and  $T(X)$  the *critical subvariety* of  $Y$ . The next result will tell us how the  $S(X)$  and  $R(X)$  are related when  $X$  is holomorphically convex, namely we have

PROPOSITION 2. Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space with its Remmert-Stein reduction  $(\pi, Y)$ , then with respect to the map  $\pi$

$$R(X) \subseteq S(X) \subseteq X.$$

Examples. i) If  $X$  is Stein then  $Y = X$  and  $R(X) = S(X) = \emptyset$ ;

ii) Let  $X$  be the blowing up of  $\mathbf{C}^n$  at the origin then  $Y = \mathbf{C}^n$  and  $R(X) = S(X) = \mathbf{P}_{n-1}$ ;

iii) If  $X = \mathbf{C}^n \times \mathbf{P}_m$ ,  $m \geq 1$  then  $Y = \mathbf{C}^n$ ,  $R(X) = \emptyset$  and  $S(X) = X$ .  
Now our Theorem I will be strengthened with the following

THEOREM 2. Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space with  $\text{Mani}(X) = q \leq n$  and let  $(\pi, Y)$  be its Remmert-Stein reduction, then

$$\dim \pi^{-1}(x) \begin{cases} \equiv n - q & \text{if } x \in Y \setminus T(X) \\ > n - q & \text{if } x \in T(X) \end{cases}$$

where  $T(X)$  is the critical subvariety in  $Y$ .

COROLLARY 2. Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space, then the following three conditions are equivalent.

- i)  $X$  is of type II;
- ii)  $R(X) \neq S(X)$ ;
- iii)  $S(X) = X$ .

*Remark.* In general, neither  $R(X)$  nor  $S(X)$  are compact. A purely sheaf-theoretic approach was taken up in [6] in order to provide a necessary and sufficient condition for  $R(X)$  to be compact. Before giving a precise description for holomorph-convex spaces of type I, we need few more definitions.

DEFINITION 6.  $X$  is called a proper modification of  $Y$ , if there exist i) a proper surjective and holomorphic map  $\pi: X \longrightarrow Y$ ;

ii) proper analytic subvarieties  $S \subset X$  and  $T \subset Y$  with  $\dim S > \dim T$ ;

iii)  $\pi$  induces by restriction, an isomorphism  $X \setminus S \xrightarrow{\sim} Y \setminus T$ .

*Example.* Let  $\mathbf{C}^m \subset \mathbf{C}^n$ , with  $m \leq n - 2$  and let  $X$  be the blowing up of  $\mathbf{C}^n$  along  $\mathbf{C}^m$ , then  $X$  is a proper modification of  $Y = \mathbf{C}^n$  with  $T = \mathbf{C}^m$  and  $S = \mathbf{C}^m \times \mathbf{P}_q$  where  $q = n - m - 1$ .

DEFINITION 7. A  $\mathbf{C}$ -analytic space  $X$  is said to be  $I$ -convex if  $X$  is a proper modification of a Stein space  $Y$  at finitely many points (i.e. in the terminology of Definition 6,  $T$  consists of finitely many points).

The example ii) after Proposition 2 provides an example of  $I$ -convex space. There  $T = \text{origin}$ .

From remark ii) after Theorem I, Theorem I and Theorem III, it follows readily

THEOREM 3. Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex, then the following conditions are equivalent:

- i)  $X$  is of type I;
- ii)  $X$  is a proper modification of a Stein space;
- iii)  $R(X) = S(X)$ ;
- iv)  $S(X) \neq X$ .

*Remark.* The equivalence of i) and ii) has been pointed out in [2] and [4].

DEFINITION 8. Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space with its Remmert-Stein reduction  $(\pi, Y)$  then  $X$  is called non-degenerate if  $\pi(S(X))$  is a discrete set in  $Y$ , with  $S(X)$  the degeneracy variety in  $X$ .

*Example.* Let  $E$  be a discrete closed set in  $\mathbf{C}^n$ , with  $n \geq 2$  and let  $X$  be the blowing up of  $\mathbf{C}^n$  along  $E$  then  $X$  is a non degenerate holomorph-convex manifold.

*Remark.* Certainly if  $X$  is non degenerate,  $X$  is of type I. The converse is not true, see the example after Definition 6. Meanwhile, from Definition 8, for a given holomorph-convex space  $X$  of type I, one has

- i)  $X$  is Stein iff  $S(X) = \emptyset$
- ii)  $X$  is  $I$ -convex iff  $S(X)$  is compact
- iii)  $X$  is non degenerate iff all the connected components of  $S(X)$  are compact.

The view point of [6] was to look for a necessary and sufficient condition for the compactness of certain subvarieties of  $S(X)$ , namely the ones which contained all compact subvarieties of  $\dim \geq q > 1$  in  $X$ . The following result tells us that in effect, the non degenerate holomorph-convex spaces are not far away from 1-convex spaces.

PROPOSITION 3 (see also [2]). *Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space  $X$  is non degenerate iff  $X = \bigcup_{i=1} X_i$  with  $X_i$  with  $X_i \subset X_{i+1}$  and the  $X_i$  are 1-convex.*

### § 3. LOWER DIMENSIONAL CASES

Let's round off this discussion by giving a complete classification for 1-dimensional analytic spaces and 2-dimensional holomorph-convex spaces.

PROPOSITION 4. *Let  $X$  be a 1-dim  $\mathbf{C}$ -analytic space.*

- i)  *$X$  is Stein iff  $\text{Mani}(X) = 1$ .*
- ii)  *$X$  is compact iff  $\text{Mani}(X) = 0$ .*

*Remark.* Proposition 4 is not true if we don't assume  $X$  to be irreducible. Clearly, there exist reducible 1-dimensional  $\mathbf{C}$ -analytic spaces which are neither compact nor Stein.

From Theorems II and 3, we obtain easily

THEOREM 4. *Let  $X$  be a holomorph-convex space, with  $\dim X = 2$ :*

- i)  *$X$  is non degenerate iff  $\text{Mani}(X) = 2$ ;*
- ii)  *$X$  is a 1-dim fibre space over a Stein curve iff  $\text{Mani}(X) = 1$ ;*
- iii)  *$X$  is compact iff  $\text{Mani}(X) = 0$ .*

*Remark.* Theorem 4, i) has been proved also in [2]. Certainly, Theorem 4 is not true in general if  $X$  is not holomorphically convex since there exist non compact  $\mathbf{C}$ -manifolds of  $\dim \geq 2$  with no non constant global holomorphic functions. In conclusion, our previous study said roughly that *generically* holomorph-convex spaces are fibres spaces over Stein spaces.

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