

## LINEAR TAME EXTENSION OPERATORS FROM CLOSED SUBVARIETIES OF $\mathbb{C}^d$

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*Dedicated to Professor Walter Rudin*

**ABSTRACT.** In this note we show that a linear continuous and tame extension operator from the space of analytic functions on a closed irreducible subvariety  $V$  of  $\mathbb{C}^d$  exists if and only if  $V$  is an algebraic variety.

Let  $M$  be a Stein space. We will denote by  $\mathcal{O}(M)$  the Fréchet space of analytic functions on  $M$  equipped with the topology of uniform convergence on compacta. If  $V$  is a closed subvariety of  $M$ , the question as to whether one can find a continuous linear extension operator from  $\mathcal{O}(V)$  into  $\mathcal{O}(M)$  was studied by various authors. For example, if  $V$  is a closed subvariety of  $\mathbb{C}^d$ , a continuous linear extension operator exists iff every bounded plurisubharmonic function on  $V$  reduces to a constant (see [12]), and this in turn is equivalent to the statement that  $\mathcal{O}(V)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^k)$  are isomorphism as Fréchet spaces,  $d = \dim V$ ; see [2] (cf. [1, 7, 11]). In this note we take up the question of existence of continuous extension operators from subvarieties of  $\mathbb{C}^d$ , in the category of graded Fréchet spaces and linear tame operators.

Recall that a *graded* Fréchet space  $\{X, \|\cdot\|_k\}$  is a Fréchet space  $X$  with a fixed fundamental system of seminorms  $\{\|\cdot\|_k\}$  generating its topology. A linear operator  $T$  from a graded Fréchet space  $\{X_0, \|\cdot\|_k\}$  into a graded Fréchet space  $\{X_1, \|\cdot\|_k\}$  is called a *linear tame* operator in case there exist positive constants  $A$  and  $B$  such that

$$\forall k \exists C_k > 0 \text{ such that } |T(x)|_k \leq C_k \|x\|_{A k + B} \quad \forall x \in X_0.$$

For further information about this category and its relation to implicit function theorems in Fréchet spaces we refer the reader to [4] (cf. [10]).

In the Fréchet space  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d)$  we consider the grading

$$\|F_n\| \doteq \sup_{z \in \bar{D}_n} |F(z)| \quad \forall F \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d), n = 1, 2,$$

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where

$$D_n = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^d, \|z\| < e^n\}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Moreover, if  $V$  is a closed subvariety of  $\mathbb{C}^d$ , then we will always consider on  $\mathcal{O}(V)$  the grading

$$|f|_n \doteq \sup_{z \in K_n} |f(z)| \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{O}(V),$$

where for  $n$  sufficiently large  $K_n = \overline{D}_n \cap V$ . We begin by recalling a result of Djakov and Mitiagin on the structure of polynomial ideals (see [3]).

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $V$  be an algebraic variety in  $\mathbb{C}^d$ . Then there exist polynomials  $Q_1, \dots, Q_p$  that generate the ideal*

$$I^*(V) = \{P \in \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_d]; P|_V \equiv 0\},$$

a vector  $B = (b_1, \dots, b_d)$ , and continuous linear operators

$$R_i: \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d), \quad 0 \leq i \leq \rho,$$

such that

- (i)  $f = R_0(f) + \sum_{i=1}^{\rho} R_i(f)Q_i$  for all  $f \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d)$ .
- (ii)  $\text{Ker } R_0 = \{f \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d): f|_V = 0\}$ ,  $R_0^2 = R_0$ .
- (iii) For every  $r \geq 1$ ,

$$|R_i f|_{rB} \leq |f|_{rB}, \quad i = 0, \dots, \rho,$$

where for an entire function

$$f = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_+^d} f_\alpha Z^\alpha \quad \text{on } \mathbb{C}^d$$

and  $c = (c_1 \cdots c_d)$  we set

$$|f|_c \doteq \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_+^d} |f_\alpha| c^\alpha.$$

Now we can state the main result of this note:

**Theorem 2.** *For a closed irreducible subvariety  $V$  of  $\mathbb{C}^d$  the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $V$  is an algebraic variety.
- (ii) There exists a linear tame extension operator from  $\mathcal{O}(V)$  into  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d)$ .

*Proof.* (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) Let  $V$  be an algebraic variety in some  $\mathbb{C}^d$ . Following the notation of Theorem 1, if  $f \in \mathcal{O}(V)$ , choose by Cartan Theorem B an analytic function  $G \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d)$  such that  $G|_V = f$  and set  $\mathcal{E}(f) \doteq R_0(G)$ . In view of (ii) of Theorem 1,  $\mathcal{E}$  is a well-defined continuous linear extension operator. An important feature of the operators  $R_i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq \rho$ , of Theorem 1 above is that for any  $r > 1$  they extend to be continuous linear operators from  $\mathcal{O}(\Delta_{rB})$  into  $\mathcal{O}(\Delta_{rB})$  satisfying

- (a)  $g = R_0(g) + \sum_{i=1}^{\rho} R_i(g)Q_i$  for all  $g \in \mathcal{O}(\Delta_{rB})$ .
- (b)  $\text{Ker } R_0 = \{g \in \mathcal{O}(\Delta_{rB}): g|_{V \cap \Delta_{rB}} = 0\}$ ,

where  $\Delta_{rB}$  is the polydisc around zero with polyradii  $rB$ . (See [3, Corollary 3].)

Now for a sufficiently large, fixed  $r$ , we will examine the restriction operator from  $\mathcal{O}(\Delta_r B)$  to  $\mathcal{O}(\Delta_r B \cap V)$ . We will use as a fundamental system of norms, the norms

$$\|F\|_{\Delta_s B} \doteq \sup_{z \in \Delta_s B} |F(z)|, \quad s < r,$$

for  $\mathcal{O}(\Delta_r B)$  and

$$\|f\|_{\Delta_s B \cap V} \doteq \sup_{z \in \Delta_s B \cap V} |f(z)|, \quad s < r, \text{ for } \mathcal{O}(\Delta_r B \cap V).$$

Since this restriction operator is a surjection, in view of the open mapping theorem, we can find a  $C_0 = C_0(r)$  such that for every  $f \in \mathcal{O}(V)$  with  $\|f\|_{\Delta_r B \cap V} \leq 1$ , there exists an  $F_r \in \mathcal{O}(\Delta_r B)$  such that  $F_r|V \cap \Delta_r B = f|V \cap \Delta_r B$  and  $\|F_r\| \leq \Delta_r B/2 \leq C_0$ . Taking into account the above-mentioned feature of the operator  $R_0$ , we have  $\mathcal{E}(f)|\Delta_r B = R_0(F_r)$  on  $\Delta_r B$ . Hence for every  $r > 1$ , sufficiently large, there exists  $C_i = C_i(r) > 0$ ,  $i = 0, 1$ , such that

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{E}(f)\|_{\Delta_r B/3} &= \|R_0(F_r)\|_{\Delta_r B/3} \leq |R_0(F_r)|_{rB/3} \leq |F_r|_{rB/3} \\ &\leq C_1 \|F_r\|_{\Delta_r B/2} \leq C_0 C_1 \|f\|_{\Delta_r B \cap V} \end{aligned}$$

where we used (iii) of Theorem 1. This shows that  $\mathcal{E}$  is a linear tame extension operator from  $\mathcal{O}(V)$  into  $\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d)$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) Suppose that there exists a linear tame extension operator  $\mathcal{E} : \mathcal{O}(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d)$  satisfying  $\exists A, B$  such that for  $n$  sufficiently large,  $\exists d_n > 0$ ;

$$\|\mathcal{E}(f)\|_n \leq d_n |f|_{A_n+B}.$$

Fix a large  $m_0$  so large that  $\frac{m_0-1}{A} - \frac{B}{A} \gg 1$ , and set  $K = K_{m_0} \doteq \overline{D}_{m_0} \cap V$ . We let  $L = \{u \in \text{PSH}(\mathbb{C}^d) : \exists \alpha = \alpha(u) \text{ such that } u(z) \leq \ln(1 + \|z\|) + \alpha \text{ for } z \in \mathbb{C}^d\}$ . Now fix a  $u \in L$  such that  $u|K \leq 0$ . At this point we need a lemma which is probably well known but for which we could not find a reference.

**Lemma.** *Let  $\rho$  be a plurisubharmonic function on  $\mathbb{C}^d$ . Then there exist analytic functions  $f_n \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{C}^d)$  and positive integers  $c_n$  such that*

$$\rho(z) = \overline{\lim}_n \frac{\ln|f_n(z)|}{c_n} \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{C}^d.$$

*Proof.* First choose a sequence  $\{\rho_n\}$  of continuous plurisubharmonic functions such that  $\rho_n \downarrow \rho$  pointwise on  $\mathbb{C}^d$  (see [5, p. 48]). Let  $B_n = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^d : \|z\| \leq n\}$ , and choose a sequence of positive numbers  $\{\varepsilon_n\}_n$  decreasing to zero. For each  $n$  there exists a natural number  $\rho(n)$ , entire functions  $\{F_i^n\}_{i=1, \dots, \rho(n)}$  and  $\rho(n)$  natural numbers  $\{c_i^n\}_{i=1, \dots, \rho(n)}$  such that

$$(2) \quad \rho_n(z) - \varepsilon_n \leq \max_{1 \leq i \leq \rho(n)} \frac{\ln|F_i^n(z)|}{c_i^n} \leq \rho_n(z) + \varepsilon_n, \quad z \in B_n$$

(see [6, p. 55]). We enumerate the doubly indexed sequence  $\{F_i^n\}$  as

$$\{F'_1, \dots, F'_{\rho(1)}, F_1^2, \dots, F_{\rho(2)}^2, \dots, F_1^n, \dots, F_{\rho(n)}^n, \dots\}$$

and denote the resulting sequence by  $\{G_\alpha\}$ . We also use the same rule to enumerate  $\{c_i^n\}$  and denote the resulting sequence by  $\{c_\alpha\}$ .

Let

$$\gamma_\alpha \doteq \frac{\ln|G_\alpha(z)|}{c_\alpha}, \quad k_n \doteq \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \rho(i) + 1, \quad n > 1.$$

Now fix a point  $z \in \mathbb{C}^d$  say  $z \in B_N$ . For  $n > N$ , our construction yields

$$(3) \quad \rho(z) - \varepsilon_n \leq \rho_n(z) - \varepsilon_n \leq \sup_{\alpha \geq k_n} \gamma_\alpha(z).$$

On the other hand for  $\alpha \geq k_n$ , since  $\gamma_\alpha(z) = (\ln|F_i^s(z)|)/c_i^s$  for some  $s \geq n$  and some  $i$  between 1 and  $\rho(s)$ , we have in view of (2),

$$(4) \quad \gamma_\alpha(z) \leq \rho_s(z) + \varepsilon_s \leq \rho_n(z) + \varepsilon_n.$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be given. Choose  $M$  such that  $\varepsilon_M \leq \varepsilon$  and  $M > N$ . Then (3) and (4) for  $n > M$  imply

$$\rho(z) - \varepsilon \leq \inf_n \sup_{\alpha \geq k_n} \gamma_\alpha(z) = \overline{\lim}_n \gamma_n(z) \leq \rho(z) + \varepsilon$$

This proves the lemma.

In view of the above lemma we fix a representation of  $u$ , say

$$u(z) = \overline{\lim}_n \frac{\ln|f_n(z)|}{c_n} \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{C}^d.$$

Let  $s$  be a large integer, and let  $k_s = \lceil [As + B + 1] \rceil + 1$ . Since  $u(z) \leq \ln(1+e^{k_s}) + \alpha$  on  $D_{k_s}$ , by Hartog's lemma (see [5, p. 21]), there exists a  $C = C(s)$  such that

$$\sup_{z \in \overline{D}_{k_s-1}} |f_n(z)| \leq C e^{(\ln(1+e^{k_s}) + \alpha + 1)c_n} \quad \forall n.$$

Hence there exists a  $\widehat{C} = \widehat{C}(s)$  such that

$$(5) \quad \|\mathcal{E}(f_n)\|_s \leq \widehat{C} e^{(\ln(1+e^{k_s}) + \alpha + 1)c_n} \quad \forall n.$$

It follows that the sequence of plurisubharmonic functions  $c_n^{-1} \ln|\mathcal{E}(f_n)|$  is a locally bounded (from above) family, so the formula

$$\rho(z) = \overline{\lim}_{\xi \rightarrow z} \overline{\lim}_n \frac{\ln|\mathcal{E}(f_n)(\xi)|}{c_n}$$

defines a plurisubharmonic function  $\rho$  on  $\mathbb{C}^d$ . Moreover, in view of (4) we can find a constant  $\beta = \beta(A; B; u) > 0$  such that

$$(6) \quad \rho(z) \leq A \ln(1 + \|z\|) + \beta \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{C}^d.$$

On the other hand, since  $u \leq 0$  on  $K$ , in view of Hartog's lemma (this time on the variety  $V$ ; see [9]) we have

$$|f_n|_{m_0-1} \leq C e^{c_n} \quad \forall n \text{ for some } C = C(m) > 0.$$

Fix an  $n_0$ , with  $n_0 < (m_0 - 1)/A - B/A$ . Then for all  $n$  we have

$$\|\mathcal{E}(f_n)\|_{n_0} \leq C |f_n|_{An_0+B} \leq C e^{c_n} \quad \text{for some } C = C(m).$$

Therefore,

$$(7) \quad \rho(z) = \overline{\lim}_{\xi \rightarrow z} \overline{\lim}_n \frac{\ln|\mathcal{E}(f_n)|}{c_n} \leq 1 \quad \text{for } z \in \overline{D}_{n_0}.$$

Now (4) and (5) imply that

$$\rho(z) \leq AV^*(z, \overline{D}_{n_0}) + 1 \quad \text{for all } z \in \mathbb{C}^d$$

where  $V^*(z, S)$  for a compact set  $S \subseteq \mathbb{C}^d$  is the Siciak extremal function of  $S$  defined via

$$V^*(z; S) = \overline{\lim}_{\xi \rightarrow z} \sup \{v(\xi); v \leq 0 \text{ on } S, v \in L\}$$

which is known to be a plurisubharmonic function if  $S$  is not pluripolar (see [9]). Taking into account the fact that  $u$  is dominated by  $\rho$  on the variety  $V$  we obtain

$$\sup\{u(z); u \in L; u \leq 0 \text{ on } K\} \leq AV^*(z, D_{n_0}) + 1 \quad \forall z \in V.$$

So our assertion now follows from the following result of Sadullaev (see [9]).

**Theorem.** *A necessary and sufficient condition for an analytic set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{C}^d$  to be a piece of an algebraic set is that for some compact set  $K \subset A$  the function  $\sup\{u(z); u \in L, u \leq 0 \text{ on } K\}$  belongs to  $L^\infty_{\text{loc}}(A)$ .*

This finishes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

We remark that the proof of the necessity in the above-mentioned theorem of Sadullaev relies heavily on the geometric criterion for algebraic varieties given in [8].

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