A THEOREM IN THE GEOMETRY OF MATRICES

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The following theorem is of interest in that it shows a connection between a result due to Hua in the geometry of matrices with one due to Bergman in several complex variables. Let $Z = (z_{jk})$ $(j = 1, \dots, m; k = 1, \dots, n)$ be a matrix of signature (m, n) (that is, of m rows and n columns), $\overline{Z}' = (\bar{z}_{kj})$ its conjugate transposed matrix, I the identity matrix, and 0 the zero matrix. We consider the domain defined by $I - Z\overline{Z}' > 0$, consisting of all points Z with mn complex coordinates $(z_{11}, z_{12}, \dots, z_{mn})$ for which the Hermitian quadratic form,

$$\sum_{j,k=1}^m \left(\delta_{jk} - \sum_{i=1}^n z_{ji}\bar{z}_{ki}\right) x_j\bar{x}_k,$$

is positive definite in the auxiliary variables (x_1, \dots, x_n) . The domain $I - Z\overline{Z}' > 0$ lies in 2mn-dimensional Euclidean space and is a certain generalization of the unit circle in the complex z-plane.

We prove that:

THEOREM. The positive definite quadratic differential form

$$Q \equiv \sum_{j,p=1}^{m} \sum_{k,q=1}^{n} \frac{\partial^{2} \log \left[\det \left(I - Z \overline{Z}' \right) \right]^{-1}}{\partial z_{jk} \partial \bar{z}_{pq}} dz_{jk} d\bar{z}_{pq}$$

defines a metric in the domain $I-Z\overline{Z}'>0$ which is invariant with respect to the conjunctive group of signature (m, n).

The conjunctive group of signature (m, n) is the set of matrices T such that $\overline{T}FT' = F$, where

$$F = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & -I \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad T = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}.$$

PROOF OF THE THEOREM. Hua has proved that the positive definite quadratic differential form $\sigma((I-Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}dZ(I-\overline{Z}'Z)^{-1}d\overline{Z}')$, where $\sigma(Z)$ is the trace of matrix Z and dZ its differential, is invariant with respect to the conjunctive group of signature (m, n) [On the theory of automorphic functions of a matrix variable I, Amer. J. Math. vol. 66 (1944) pp. 470–488]. We prove the theorem by proving the following formula, using techniques due to Hua

(A)
$$Q = \sigma((I - Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}dZ(I - \overline{Z}'Z)^{-1}d\overline{Z}').$$

Presented to the Society, February 25, 1950; received by the editors February 23, 1950.

Now $d(\det X) = \sum_{k=1}^{n} dx_{1k}X_{1k} + \cdots + \sum_{k=1}^{n} dx_{nk}X_{nk} = \sigma(dXX^*)$, where X_{jk} is the cofactor of x_{jk} in the matrix X and X^* is the adjoint matrix. Also, for nonsingular matrices $XX^* = I$ det X or $X^* = (\det X)X^{-1}$. Hence, since $\sigma(kA) = k\sigma(A)$ for k scalar,

(1)
$$d(\det X) = \det X\sigma(dXX^{-1}),$$

and

(2)
$$d(\log \det X) = \sigma(dXX^{-1}).$$

We now form Q in two steps. Using (2), we have

(3)
$$-\sum_{p=1}^{m}\sum_{q=1}^{n}\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_{pq}}\log\det\left(I-Z\overline{Z}'\right)d\bar{z}_{pq} = -d\overline{Z}(\log\det\left(I-Z\overline{Z}'\right))$$
$$= -\sigma(d\overline{Z}(I-Z\overline{Z}')(I-Z\overline{Z}')^{-1})$$
$$= \sigma(Zd\overline{Z}'(I-Z\overline{Z}')^{-1});$$

whence

$$Q = -\sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{jk}} \left[\sum_{p=1}^{m} \sum_{q=1}^{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}_{pq}} \log \det (I - Z\overline{Z}') d\bar{z}_{pq} \right] dz_{jk}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{jk}} \sigma(Zd\overline{Z}'(I - Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}) dz_{jk}.$$

Writing $X = Zd\overline{Z}'$, $Y = (I - Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}$ and using the definition of $\sigma(A)$, we have

$$Q = \sum_{i,k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{ik}} \sigma(XY) dz_{ik}$$

$$= \sum_{j,k} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_{jk}} \left(\sum_{\alpha,\beta} x_{\alpha\beta} y_{\beta\alpha} \right) dz_{ik} (X = (x_{\alpha\beta}), Y = (y_{\alpha\beta}))$$

$$= \sum_{j,k} \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \left(\frac{\partial x_{\alpha\beta}}{\partial z_{jk}} y_{\beta\alpha} + x_{\alpha\beta} \frac{\partial y_{\beta\alpha}}{\partial z_{jk}} \right) dz_{jk}$$

$$= \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \left[\left(\sum_{i,k} \frac{\partial x_{\alpha\beta}}{\partial z_{jk}} dz_{jk} \right) y_{\beta\alpha} + x_{\alpha\beta} \left(\sum_{i,k} \frac{\partial y_{\beta\alpha}}{\partial z_{jk}} dz_{jk} \right) \right]$$

$$= \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \left(dx_{\alpha\beta} y_{\beta\alpha} + x_{\alpha\beta} dy_{\beta\alpha} \right)$$

$$= \sigma(dXY + XdY).$$

But $dX = dZd\overline{Z}'$ and $dY = -(I - Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}(-dZ)\overline{Z}'(I - Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}$ so that

$$(6) \quad \begin{aligned} Q &= \sigma (dZd\overline{Z}'(I-Z\overline{Z}')^{-1} + Zd\overline{Z}'(I-Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}dZ\overline{Z}'(I-Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}) \\ &= \sigma (dZd\overline{Z}'(I-Z\overline{Z}')^{-1} + dZ\overline{Z}'(I-Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}Zd\overline{Z}'(I-Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}), \end{aligned}$$

since $\sigma(A+B) = \sigma(A) + \sigma(B)$ and $\sigma(AB) = \sigma(BA)$, and this latter term equals

$$(dZ[I + \overline{Z}'(I - Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}Z]dZ'(I - Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}).$$

From the identity $I + \overline{Z}'(I - Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}Z = (I - \overline{Z}'Z)^{-1}$ this gives

(7)
$$Q = \sigma(dZ(I - \overline{Z}'Z)^{-1}d\overline{Z}'(I - Z\overline{Z}')^{-1})$$
$$= \sigma((I - Z\overline{Z}')^{-1}dZ(I - \overline{Z}'Z)^{-1}d\overline{Z}'),$$

which proves formula(A).

Bergman proved the following theorem. Let $K(z_1, \dots, z_{\kappa}; \bar{z}_1, \dots, \bar{z}_{\kappa})$ be the kernel function of a finite schlicht domain lying in 2κ -dimensional Euclidean space. Then the Hermitian differential form

$$\sum_{\mu,\nu=1}^{\kappa} \frac{\partial^2 \log K(z_1,\cdots,z_{\kappa};\bar{z}_1,\cdots,\bar{z}_{\kappa})dz_{\mu}d\bar{z}_{\nu}}{\partial z_{\mu}\partial\bar{z}_{\nu}}$$

defines a positive definite metric which is invariant with respect to pseudo-conformal transformations. [Sur les fonctions orthogonales de plusieurs variables complexes, Mémorial des Sciences Mathématiques, vol. 106, 1947].

A comparison of the two theorems leads us to suspect that the function $V^{-1}[\det(I-Z\overline{Z}')]^{-m-n}$, where V is the Euclidean volume of the domain $I-Z\overline{Z}'>0$, is the Bergman kernel function of the domain $I-Z\overline{Z}'>0$. We have verified this supposition in the case of matrices of signature (2,2) by the classical method of constructing a complete orthonormal system $\{\phi_p(Z)\}$ $(p=1,2,\cdots)$ of functions, analytic and Lebesgue square integrable on $I-Z\overline{Z}'>0$, and showing that the absolutely and uniformly convergent series $\sum_{p=1}^{\infty}\phi_p(Z)\overline{\phi}_p(Z)$ has the sum $(12\pi^4)^{-1}[\det(I-Z\overline{Z}')]^{-4}$ [To appear in the Proceedings of the Third Canadian Mathematical Congress, Vancouver, 1949].

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