THE LELONG NUMBER OF A COMPLETE INTERSECTION

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Let A be an analytic set of pure dimension p in a neighborhood of the origin in $\mathbb{C}^n$, and assume that 0 is a point of A . The Lelong Number of A at 0 , denoted by $n(0, A)$, is defined as the limit as r goes to zero of the volume of A in a ball of radius r , center 0 , divided by the volume of a p -dimensional linear subspace in such a ball (see [5]). Suppose now that A is locally a complete intersection at 0 , that is, that there exists a neighborhood U of 0 and $q = n - p$ functions $f_1, \dots, f_q$ holomorphic on U such that

$$U \cap A = \{z \in U \mid f_i(z) = 0, i = 1, \dots, q\}.$$

Define $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^q$ by $f = (f_1, \dots, f_q)$. Then for any $z \in U$, $\text{codim}_z f^{-1}(f(z)) \leq q$, that is, $\dim_z f^{-1}(f(z)) \geq p$. On the other hand, by the upper semicontinuity of $\dim_z f^{-1}(f(z))$, [2, p. 46, Corollary 5], there exists a neighborhood $U' \subset U$ of 0 such that $\dim_z f^{-1}(f(z)) \leq \dim_0 f^{-1}(f(0)) = p$ for all $z \in U'$. Thus the map f is of pure fiber dimension p on U' , and so the multiplicity of f at 0 , denoted by $\nu(0, f)$, is well defined (see [4]).

It will be shown here that: first, $n(0, A) \leq \nu(0, f)$; and second, if the germs at 0 of $f_1, \dots, f_q$ generate the ideal of function germs at 0 zero on A , denoted by $I(0, A)$, then $n(0, A) = \nu(0, f)$. The first inequality will follow from some recent results of R. Draper in [1], and the second from the use of a generalization of Rouché's Theorem, as proven by W. Stoll in [4]. The simple example in $\mathbb{C}^2$ of $A = \mathbb{C} \times \{0\}$ and $f(z, w) = w^2$ demonstrates that equality of $\nu(0, f)$ and $n(0, A)$ is not always possible. In the case of codimension one, the above results were first proven by Stoll in [3].

THEOREM. *Let A be a pure p -dimensional analytic set in a neighborhood of the origin in $\mathbb{C}^n$, and suppose that 0 is a point of A . Let $f_1, \dots, f_q$ be $q = n - p$ functions holomorphic in a neighborhood U of 0 such that*

$$U \cap A = \{z \in U \mid f_i(z) = 0, i = 1, \dots, q\}.$$

Define $f = (f_1, \dots, f_q): U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^q$. Then $n(0, A) \leq \nu(0, f)$. Moreover, if the germs at 0 of $f_1, \dots, f_q$ generate $I(0, A)$, then $n(0, A) = \nu(0, f)$.

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PROOF. Choose a coordinate system $(z_1, \dots, z_n)$ of $\mathbf{C}^n$ such that if

$$N = \{(0, \dots, 0, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) \in \mathbf{C}^n \mid z_i \in \mathbf{C}, i = p+1, \dots, n\},$$

then $N \cap A$ and $N \cap T$ both contain 0 as an isolated point, where T is the tangent cone to A at 0. Now from Theorem 7.3 of [1], $n(0, A)$ equals the degree of A at 0 (as defined in [1]). Moreover by the choice of the coordinate system, from Theorem 6.3 of [1], it follows that the degree of A at 0 equals $i(A \cdot N, 0)$, where $i(A \cdot N, 0)$ is the intersection multiplicity of A with N at 0. Let $\pi: \mathbf{C}^p \times \mathbf{C}^q \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^p$ be the projection map. Then in this case, $i(A \cdot N, 0)$ is simply the covering number k of $\pi|_A: A \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^p$, that is, the degree of the Weierstrass polynomial associated with any regular coordinate system which has $z_1, \dots, z_p$ as its first p coordinates. Thus $n(0, A)$ equals the covering number k .

Now consider $\nu(0, f)$. By choice of N , from Theorem 7.1 of [1], it follows that $\nu(0, f) = \nu(0, f|N)$. Now Proposition 7.2 of [1] shall be applied. Let $0'$ denote the origin in $\mathbf{C}^p$ and $0''$ the origin in $\mathbf{C}^q$. Choose open sets U' and U'' such that $0' \in U' \subset \mathbf{C}^p$, $0'' \in U'' \subset \mathbf{C}^q$, and $U' \times U'' \subset U$. Define $\tilde{f}: U' \times U'' \rightarrow U' \times \mathbf{C}^q$ by

$$\tilde{f}((z_1, \dots, z_p; z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n)) = (z_1, \dots, z_p, f(z_1, \dots, z_n)).$$

Then $\tilde{f}^{-1}(\tilde{f}((0', 0''))) = (0', 0'') = 0$ as an isolated point, and so $\tilde{f}$ is light in a neighborhood of 0 by upper semicontinuity. Applying Proposition 7.2, comparing

There	M	R	N	f	q	$\tilde{f}$	a	b
Here	U''	U'	$\mathbf{C}^q$	f	0	$\tilde{f}$	$0''$	$0'$

it follows that $\nu(0'', f_{0'}) = \nu((0', 0''), \tilde{f}) = \nu(0, \tilde{f})$, where $f_{0'}: U'' \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^q$ is defined by $f_{0'}(z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) = f(0', z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n)$. But by definition, $\nu(0, f|N) = \nu(0'', f_{0'})$. Hence $\nu(0, f) = \nu(0, f|N) = \nu(0, \tilde{f})$.

Choose a neighborhood $W \subset U$ of $0 \in \mathbf{C}^n$ such that $\tilde{f}$ is light on W . Choose polydiscs P and Q , $0' \in P \subset \mathbf{C}^p$, $0'' \in Q \subset \mathbf{C}^q$, such that

- (i) $\bar{P} \times \bar{Q} \subset W$
- (ii) $(\{0'\} \times \bar{Q}) \cap A = \{0\}$
- (iii) $(\bar{P} \times (\bar{Q} - Q)) \cap A = \emptyset$

(iv) There exists a thin analytic set $D \subset P$ such that for any $a \in P - D$, there exists exactly k distinct points in $A \cap (P \times Q)$ with projection a . Moreover, these k points are simple points of A with the first p coordinates providing local coordinates. Then by definition of $\nu(0, \tilde{f})$ and $\tilde{f}$, $\nu(0, \tilde{f}) = \limsup^{a \rightarrow 0} \# \{\tilde{f}^{-1}(\tilde{f}(a)) \cap (P \times Q)\}$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \limsup_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} \# \{ (a_1, \dots, a_p, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) \in P \times Q \mid \pi(\alpha) \\
&\quad = (a_i, \dots, a_p) \text{ and } f(a_1, \dots, a_p, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) = f(\alpha) \}.
\end{aligned}$$

And

$$\begin{aligned}
n(0, A) = k &= \limsup_{\alpha \in A, \alpha \rightarrow 0} \# \{ (a_1, \dots, a_p, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) \\
&\in P \times Q \mid f(a_1, \dots, a_p, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) = 0 = f(\alpha) \}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus $n(0, A) \leq \nu(0, \bar{f}) = \nu(0, f)$.

To prove the second assertion, assume the germs of $f_1, \dots, f_q$ at 0 generate $I(0, A)$. Shrinking the above neighborhoods W, P and Q if necessary, assume that they satisfy conditions i-iv above and, moreover, that f is of pure fiber dimension p on W and that, for any $\alpha \in A \cap W$, the germs of $f_1, \dots, f_q$ at α generate $I(\alpha, A)$.

From Proposition 1.3 of [4], there exists an analytic set T in $P \times Q$, thin in $P \times Q$, such that for any $\alpha \in P \times Q - T$,

$$\begin{aligned}
\nu(0, \bar{f}) &= \# \{ (a_1, \dots, a_p, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) \\
&\in P \times Q \mid f(a_1, \dots, a_p, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) = f(\alpha) \}
\end{aligned}$$

where $\pi(\alpha) = (a_1, \dots, a_p)$.

And there exists an open set $S \subset P \times Q$ containing 0 such that $f^{-1}(f(\zeta)) \cap (\bar{P} \times (\bar{Q} - Q)) = \emptyset$ for all $\zeta \in S$. For if not, then there exists a sequence $\{\zeta_n\}$, $\zeta_n \rightarrow 0$, such that $f^{-1}(f(\zeta_n)) \cap (\bar{P} \times (\bar{Q} - Q)) \neq \emptyset$. Assume $\zeta_n \in f^{-1}(f(\zeta_n)) \cap (P \times (\bar{Q} - Q))$. Then $\{\zeta_n\}$ has a convergent subsequence, which will also be denoted by $\{\zeta_n\}$. Let $\zeta_n \rightarrow \zeta_0 \in \bar{P} \times (\bar{Q} - Q)$. But $f(\zeta_n) = f(\zeta_n) \rightarrow f(0) = 0$. Therefore $f(\zeta_0) = \text{limit of } f(\zeta_n) = 0$. Therefore $\zeta_0 \in A \cap (\bar{P} \times (\bar{Q} - Q))$, a contradiction.

Since f is of pure fiber dimension p on W , $f|_W$ is an open map [2, p. 132, Proposition 4]. Thus there exists an open ball $B \subset \mathbb{C}^q$ with center 0 such that $B \subset f(S)$. Let $R = f^{-1}(B) \cap S$, an open neighborhood of $0 \in \mathbb{C}^n$.

Take any $\alpha \in R$, $\alpha \notin \pi^{-1}(D) \cup T$. Let $\pi(\alpha) = a$. Choose Q' open in $\mathbb{C}^q$ such that $\{a\} \times \bar{Q} \subset \{a\} \times Q' \subset W$. Define $I = [0, 1]$ and $h: Q' \times I \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^q$ by $h(z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n; t) = f(a, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n)$. Define $g: I \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^q$ by $g(t) = tf(\alpha)$. Since $\bar{f}$ is light on W , the map $h_t: Q' \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^q$ defined by $h_t(z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) = h(z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n; t)$ is light. Moreover for any $t \in I$, $h_t^{-1}(g(t)) \cap (\bar{Q} - Q) = \emptyset$ since $g(t) \in B$ and so $\{f^{-1}(f(\zeta)) \mid \zeta \in S\}$

$\supset \{a\} \times \{h_t^{-1}(g(t)) \mid t \in I\}$. Thus Rouché's Theorem, Theorem 2.7 of [4], can be applied. Compare

There	I	M	N	m	f	g	G
Here	I	Q'	C^q	q	h	g	Q

The theorem states that

$$\sum \nu(z, g(t), h_t) \text{ is constant for } t \in I,$$

and in particular,

$$\sum \nu(z, f(a), h_1) = \sum \nu(z, 0, h_0),$$

(where $\nu(x, y, F) \equiv 0$ if $F(x) \neq y$ and $\nu(x, F)$ if $F(x) = y$, and where all summations are extended over all $z \in Q$).

First,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \nu(z, f(a), h_1) &\geq \#\{(z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) \in Q \mid h_1(z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) = f(a)\} \\ &= \#\{(a, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) \in P \times Q \mid f(a, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) = f(a)\} \\ &= \nu(0, \tilde{f}) = \nu(0, f). \end{aligned}$$

Second, take any $z \in Q$ such that $h_0(z) = 0$, that is, such that $f(a, z) = 0$. Then $\mathfrak{z} = (a, z)$ is a simple point of A since $a \notin D$, and moreover, the function germs at $\mathfrak{z}$ of $f_1, \dots, f_q$ generate $I(\mathfrak{z}, A)$. Therefore the rank of the Jacobian matrix of $f = (f_1, \dots, f_q)$ at $\mathfrak{z}$ must be q . Hence, from Lemma 5.2 of [4], $\nu(\mathfrak{z}, f) = 1$. Now let

$$L = \{(a, z_{p+1}, \dots, z_n) \mid z_i \in \mathbb{C}, i = p+1, \dots, n\}.$$

Then $L \cap A$ contains $\mathfrak{z}$ as an isolated point. Moreover, since the first p coordinates provide local coordinates to A at $\mathfrak{z}$, it follows that $L \cap T'$ also contains $\mathfrak{z}$ as an isolated point, where T' is the tangent cone equal to the tangent plane of A at $\mathfrak{z}$. Thus $\nu(\mathfrak{z}, f) = \nu(\mathfrak{z}, f|L)$. But $f|L = h_0$, and so $\nu(z, 0, h_0) = \nu(\mathfrak{z}, f|L) = \nu(\mathfrak{z}, f) = 1$.

Thus $\nu(z, 0, h_0) = 1$ for all $z \in Q$ such that $\nu(z, 0, h_0) \neq 0$. And there are exactly k points in $Q \cap A$ with projection a , that is, k points in Q such that $\nu(z, 0, h_0) \neq 0$. Therefore $n(0, A) = k = \sum \nu(z, 0, h_0) = \sum \nu(z, f(a), h_1) \geq \nu(0, f)$. Hence $n(0, A) = \nu(0, f)$.

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