

# Traces of Convex Domains \*

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## Abstract

Diederich and Ohsawa proved that in  $\mathbb{P}^5$  there exists a locally hyperconvex, Stein open subset which is not hyperconvex. In this paper we generalize their results.

## 1 Introduction

In [1] Diederich and Ohsawa proved that if  $M$  is a complex manifold and  $N$  is a complex submanifold, then any locally hyperconvex, Stein open subset of  $N$  is the trace of a locally hyperconvex, Stein open subset of  $M$ . In [4] it was proved that if  $Y$  is a closed complex subspace of  $X$  and  $Y$  is Stein, then  $Y$  has a Stein neighborhood. Also, it has been proved in [5] that if  $Y$  is hyperconvex then  $Y$  has a hyperconvex neighborhood.

Using the methods of Demailly [2] we will set up a general framework for the above theorems and we will generalize Diederich and Ohsawa's results for reduced complex spaces.

## 2 The Results

If  $M$  is a topological space we will denote by  $\mathcal{C}(M)$  the set of continuous real functions defined on  $M$ , and by  $Open(M)$  the set of open subsets of  $M$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the class of reduced complex spaces and let  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{A}$  be such that for every  $M \in \mathcal{B}$ ,  $Open(M) \subset \mathcal{B}$ . We assume also that for every  $x \in M$ ,  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{B}$ . For each  $M \in \mathcal{B}$  we consider  $\mathcal{P}(M)$  a subset of  $\mathcal{C}(M)$  such that the following conditions are satisfied:

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- 1) For every  $M \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $U$  an open subset of  $M$ , if  $\phi \in \mathcal{P}(M)$  then  $\phi|_U \in \mathcal{P}(U)$ . Furthermore  $\mathcal{P}|_{\text{Open}(M)}$  is a subsheaf of sets of  $\mathcal{C}|_{\text{Open}(M)}$  and if  $M$  is just a point  $\mathcal{P}(M) = \mathbb{R}$ .
- 2) For every  $f, g \in \mathcal{P}(M)$ ,  $a > 0$ ,  $U$  an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  containing  $f(M)$  and  $\chi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a smooth, convex, and non-decreasing function, we have  $af + \chi \circ g \in \mathcal{P}(M)$  and  $\max\{f, g\} \in \mathcal{P}(M)$ .
- 3) For every  $N \subset M$ , a closed subspace,  $N, M \in \mathcal{B}$ , every continuous function  $\lambda : N \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ , and every  $f \in \mathcal{P}(N)$  there exists  $V \subset M$  an open neighborhood of  $N$  and  $\tilde{f} \in \mathcal{P}(V)$  such that  $|\tilde{f}|_V - f| < \lambda$ .
- 4) For every  $N \subset M$  a closed subspace,  $N, M \in \mathcal{B}$ , there exists  $V$  an open neighborhood of  $N$  and a continuous function  $f : V \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty)$  such that  $f^{-1}(-\infty) = N$  and  $f$  has the following property : for every  $x \in V$  and every  $\phi \in \mathcal{P}_x$  there exist  $k > 0$  and an open neighborhood of  $x$ ,  $U$ , contained both in  $V$  and in the domain of  $\phi$ , such that  $f + k\phi \in \mathcal{P}(U \setminus N)$ . A function with this property will be called almost  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Definition 1.** Let  $M \in \mathcal{B}$

1.  $M$  is said to be  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete if there exists  $\phi \in \mathcal{P}(M)$  such that for every  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\{x \in M : \phi(x) < c\} \subset\subset M$ .
2.  $M$  is said to be hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete if there exists  $\phi \in \mathcal{P}(M)$ ,  $\phi : M \rightarrow (-\infty, 0)$ , such that for every  $c < 0$   $\{x \in M : \phi(x) < c\} \subset\subset M$ .
3. An open subset  $D$  of  $M$  is said to be locally hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete if for every  $x \in \partial D$  there exists  $B$ , an open neighborhood of  $x$  such that  $B \cap D$  is hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete.

**Observation:** It follows from the properties of  $\mathcal{P}$  that every point of  $M \in \mathcal{B}$  has a hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete neighborhood.

We consider  $N, M \in \mathcal{B}$ ,  $N$  a closed subspace of  $M$ . The proofs of the following two propositions are similar to the proof of Theorem 1 in [2]. Only the proof of Proposition 2 will be given here.

**Proposition 1.** If  $N$  is  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete then  $N$  has a  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete neighborhood in  $M$ .

**Proposition 2.** If  $N$  is hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete then  $N$  has a hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete neighborhood in  $M$ .

*Proof.* Let  $U$  be an open neighborhood of  $N$  and  $v : U \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty)$  a continuous function such that  $v^{-1}(-\infty) = N$  and  $v$  is almost  $\mathcal{P}$  on  $U$ . Shrinking  $U$  we may suppose that there exists  $\phi \in \mathcal{P}(U)$ , such that  $\phi < 0$  and for every

$c \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\{x \in N : \phi(x) < c\} \subset\subset N$ . Let  $W$  be an open subset of  $M$  such that  $\partial W \setminus N \subset U$ ,  $N \subset W$  and for every  $c < 0$ ,  $\{x \in \overline{W} : \phi(x) \leq c\}$  is compact. Let  $\tilde{v} = v + \chi \circ \phi$  where  $\chi : (-\infty, 0) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a smooth, convex and increasing function. If  $\chi$  increases fast enough  $\tilde{v} \in \mathcal{P}(W \setminus N)$ . To see that one sets  $F_n := \phi^{-1}([\frac{-1}{n}, \frac{-1}{n+1}])$  and  $F_0 := \phi^{-1}(-\infty, -1]$ . For every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $F_j$  is compact and therefore there exists a neighborhood  $U_j$  of  $F_j$  and  $k_j > 0$  such that  $v + k_j \phi \in \mathcal{P}(U_j \setminus N)$ . We then require that  $\chi'_{[-1/n, -1/n+1]} > k_j$ . The condition  $\tilde{v} \in \mathcal{P}(W \setminus N)$  is a local condition and  $\cup F_j \supset W$ . On a neighborhood of  $F_j$ ,  $\tilde{v} = v + k_j \phi + \chi_j \circ \phi$  where  $\chi_j(t) = \chi(t) - k_j t$  is a convex and increasing function on a neighborhood of  $\phi(F_j)$ . And that implies that  $\tilde{v} \in \mathcal{P}(W \setminus N)$ . In the same way we can choose  $\chi$  such that  $\tilde{v}|_{\partial W \setminus N} > 0$ . We set  $V := \{x \in W : \tilde{v}(x) < 0\}$ . Then  $V \supset N$  and  $\psi := \max\{\phi, \tilde{v}\}$  is a negative exhaustion for  $V$ . Also since in a neighborhood of  $N$ ,  $\psi = \phi$ , we have also  $\psi \in \mathcal{P}(V)$

□

**Proposition 3.** *If  $D$  is an open,  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete, and locally hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete subset of  $N$ , then there exists  $\Omega$  an open,  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete, and locally hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete subset of  $M$  such that  $\Omega \cap N = D$ .*

*Proof.* We denote by  $\partial D$  the boundary of  $D$  in  $N$ .

For every  $x \in \partial D$  we consider  $Q_x$  an open neighborhood of  $x$  in  $N$  such that  $W_x := Q_x \cap D$  is hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete.

Let  $\{Q_j : j \in \mathbb{N}\}$  be a countable subset of  $\{Q_x : x \in \partial D\}$  such that  $\cup Q_j \supset \partial D$ . Using Proposition 2 we choose  $\widetilde{W}_j$  open hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete subsets of  $M$  such that  $\widetilde{W}_j \cap N = W_j$  and we set  $\widetilde{W} = \cup \widetilde{W}_j$ .

Let  $D_1$  be an open subset of  $D$  such that  $\overline{D_1} \subset D$  and  $(D \setminus \overline{D_1}) \subset \widetilde{W}$ .

For every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $R_j$  be an open subset of  $M$  such that  $\overline{R_j} \cap N \subset Q_j$ ,  $\cup R_j \supset \partial D$ ,  $\overline{R_j} \cap D_1 = \emptyset$  and  $\{R_j\}$  is locally finite.

For each  $z \in D \setminus D_1$  we choose  $I_z$  an open neighborhood in  $M$  such that  $I_z \cap N \subset D$  and for each  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  we have:

- if  $z \in \overline{R_j}$  then  $I_z \subset \widetilde{W}_j$
- if  $z \notin \overline{R_j}$  then  $I_z \cap \overline{R_j} = \emptyset$

This is possible because  $\{R_j\}$  is locally finite and  $\overline{R_j} \cap D \subset \widetilde{W}_j$ . Note that because  $\{R_j\}$  is locally finite  $\cup \overline{R_j}$  is closed. For  $z \in D_1$  we choose  $J_z$  an open neighborhood in  $M$  such that  $J_z \cap (\cup \overline{R_j}) = \emptyset$  and  $J_z \cap N \subset D$ .

Put

$$U := \left( \bigcup_{z \in D \setminus D_1} I_z \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{z \in D_1} J_z \right)$$

Then  $U$  is open in  $M$  and  $U \cap N = D$ . Also for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(R_j \cap U) \subset (\widetilde{W}_j \cap U)$ . Using Proposition 1 we choose  $U_1 \subset U$  a  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete open subset of  $U$  such that  $U_1 \cap N = D$  and  $\partial U_1 \setminus N \subset U$ . Let  $\phi \in \mathcal{P}(U_1)$  be an exhaustion function and  $v : U_1 \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty)$  an almost  $\mathcal{P}$  function such that  $v^{-1}(-\infty) = D$ . We can assume of course that  $\phi > 1$ . Set  $h = v + \chi \circ \phi$  where  $\chi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a smooth, convex and increasing function such that  $h \in \mathcal{P}(U_1 \setminus D)$ . We define  $\Omega := \{x \in U_1 : h(x) < 0\}$ . Then  $\Omega$  is  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete since  $\max\{\phi, (1 - e^h)^{-1}\}$  is an exhaustion.

$\Omega$  is also hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete. Indeed: if  $x \in \partial\Omega \setminus N$  it follows directly from the definition that  $\Omega$  is hyper  $\mathcal{P}$ -complete around  $x$ . If  $x \in \partial\Omega \cap N = \partial D$  we choose  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x \in R_j$  and let  $B := R_j \cup \widetilde{W}_j$ . Then  $B$  is an open neighborhood of  $x$  and  $B \cap \Omega = \widetilde{W}_j \cap \Omega$ . If  $\rho : \widetilde{W}_j \rightarrow (-\infty, 0)$  is an exhaustion function for  $\widetilde{W}_j$  and  $\rho \in \mathcal{P}(\widetilde{W}_j)$  then  $\psi := \max\{h, \rho\}$  is a bounded exhaustion function for  $B$  and  $\psi \in \mathcal{P}(U)$ .  $\square$

### Two examples

I)  $\mathcal{B}=\mathcal{A}$  and for a reduced complex space  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{P}(X)$  = the set of strictly plurisubharmonic functions. It follows from [2] that  $\mathcal{P}$  satisfies all the required properties.

In this case Proposition 1 is the Main Theorem in [4] and Proposition 2 is Theorem 4 in [5]. Proposition 3 becomes:

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $Y$  be a complex subspace of  $X$ . If  $D$  is an open, Stein, locally hyperconvex subset of  $X$ , then there exists  $\Omega$  an open, Stein, locally hyperconvex subset of  $X$  such that  $\Omega \cap Y = D$ .*

It was proved in [1] that for every  $n \geq 5$  there exists  $\Omega$  an open subset of  $\mathbb{P}^n$  which is Stein, locally hyperconvex but not hyperconvex.

If  $Y$  is a projective algebraic variety of dimension  $n \geq 4$  let  $\pi : Y \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$  be a proper, surjective and finite holomorphic map and let  $\Omega_1 := \pi^{-1}(\Omega)$ . Since  $\pi$  is finite,  $\Omega_1$  is Stein and locally hyperconvex (see in this sense [5]).

Suppose  $\Omega_1$  is hyperconvex. Let  $\phi : \Omega_1 \rightarrow (-\infty, 0)$  be a plurisubharmonic exhaustion function and let  $\pi_*\phi$  the unique continuous function that outside the branching set satisfies:  $\pi_*\phi(x') = \sum_{\pi(x)=x'} \phi(x)$ .

By Varouchas [6],  $\pi_*\phi$  is plurisubharmonic. If  $p$  is the maximal number of points in the fiber of  $\pi$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  then  $\{\pi_*\phi \leq -\epsilon\} \subset \pi(\{\phi \leq \frac{-\epsilon}{p}\})$ . Therefore  $\pi_*\phi$  is a bounded plurisubharmonic exhaustion function for  $\Omega$ . But a Stein domain that has a bounded plurisubharmonic exhaustion function is

hyperconvex and this is a contradiction. Combining this last observation and Proposition 4 we obtain:

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $X$  be a complex space. If  $X$  has a complex subspace  $Y$  which is a projective algebraic variety with  $\dim(Y) \geq 5$  then there exists  $\Omega \subset X$  open Stein subset which is locally hyperconvex but not hyperconvex.*

II) Let  $(X, \omega)$  be a Kähler manifold and set  $\mathcal{B} := \cup\{\text{Open}(Y) : Y \text{ is a closed submanifold of } X\}$ . Every  $M \in \mathcal{B}$  is a Kähler manifold with the induced metric from  $X$ . Definition 2 and Proposition 5 are due to H.Wu [7].

**Definition 2.** 1) *Let  $M$  be a Kähler manifold,  $x \in M$  and  $G$  the hermitian inner product on  $T_x M$  given by the Kähler metric. A set of  $q$  vectors  $\{Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_q\}$  is  $\epsilon$ -normal, for  $\epsilon > 0$ , if  $|G(Z_i, Z_j) - \delta_{ij}| < \epsilon$  for  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, q$*

2) *If  $f$  is a continuous function defined near  $x$  and  $L$  is a 1-dimensional complex submanifold of  $M$  passing through  $x$  we choose a coordinate system  $\{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n\}$  such that  $z_i(x) = 0$   $i = 1, \dots, n$  and such that near  $x$ ,  $L = \{z_2 = z_3 = \dots = z_n = 0$ . Furthermore, assume  $|\partial/\partial z_1|(x) = 1$ . Then we define*

$$Pf(x, L) = \liminf_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{2}{\pi r^2} \left( \int_0^{2\pi} f(re^{i\theta}, 0, \dots, 0) d\theta - 2\pi f(0) \right).$$

*If  $Z \in T_x M$ , also define  $Pf(x, Z) = |Z|^2 \inf_L Pf(x, L)$  where  $L$  runs through all the 1-dimensional complex submanifolds of  $M$  tangent to  $\text{span}_{\mathbb{R}}\{Z, JZ\}$  and defined near  $x$ .*

3) *If  $U$  is an open subset of  $M$  we define  $\Psi(q; U)$  to be those continuous functions  $f$  defined on  $U$  with the following property: for every  $x_0 \in U$  there exists a neighborhood  $W$  of  $x_0$  and positive constants  $\epsilon$ , and  $\eta$  such that if  $x \in U$  and  $\{Z_1, \dots, Z_q\}$  is an  $\epsilon$ -orthonormal set in  $T_x M$  then*

$$\sum_{j=1}^q Pf(x, Z_j) \geq \eta.$$

If  $f$  is a  $C^2$  function we denote by  $Lf$  the Levi form of  $f$ .

**Proposition 5.** *On a Kähler manifold  $M$  the class  $\Psi_q(M)$  enjoys the following properties:*

a) *A real-valued  $C^2$  function,  $f$ , belongs to  $\Psi_q(M)$  if and only if for each*

- set of vector fields  $\{Z_1, \dots, Z_q\}$  which are orthonormal with respect to  $G$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^q Lf(Z_i, Z_j) > 0$ .
- b)  $\Psi_q(M)$  is a cone in the space of continuous functions, i.e., if  $f_1, f_2$  are in  $\Psi_q(M)$  then so is any positive combination thereof.
- c)  $\Psi_q(M)$  has the maximum-closure property, i.e., if  $f_1, f_2$  are in  $\Psi_q(M)$  then so is  $\max\{f_1, f_2\}$ .
- d)  $C^\infty \cap \Psi_q(M)$  is dense in  $\Psi_q(M)$  is the  $C^0$  topology.

Then  $\mathcal{P} := \Psi_q$  satisfies properties 1), 2) and 4).  $\mathcal{P}$  satisfies also 3). This follows from the density of  $C^\infty \cap \Psi_q(M)$  in  $\Psi_q(M)$  and from the next proposition:

**Proposition 6.** *Let  $M$  be a  $m$ -dimensional Kähler manifold,  $N \subset M$  a closed  $n$ -dimensional complex submanifold, and  $\phi \in \Psi_q(N) \cap C^\infty$ . Then there exist  $V$  a neighborhood of  $N$  in  $M$  and  $\tilde{\phi} \in \Psi_q(V) \cap C^\infty$  such that  $\tilde{\phi}|_N = \phi$ .*

*Proof.* We consider  $\phi'$  an arbitrary  $C^\infty$  extension of  $\phi$  to a neighborhood of  $N$  and  $\{\Omega_\lambda, z_\lambda\}$  a locally finite covering of  $N$  with coordinate patches  $z_\lambda : \Omega_\lambda \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^m$  in which  $N \cap \Omega_\lambda$  is given by  $z'_\lambda = (z_{\lambda, n+1}, \dots, z_{\lambda, m}) = 0$ . Let  $\{\theta_\lambda\}$  be  $C^\infty$  functions with compact support in  $\Omega_\lambda$  such that  $\sum \theta_\lambda = 1$  on  $N$ . Set

$$\tilde{\phi} = \phi'(x) + \sum \theta_\lambda \log(1 + \epsilon_\lambda^{-1} |z'_\lambda|^2)$$

Then  $\tilde{\phi}|_N = \phi$  and for  $x \in N \cap \text{supp}(\theta_\mu)$ ,  $L\tilde{\phi} \geq L\phi' + \theta_\mu \epsilon_\mu^{-1} L|z'_\mu|^2$  and therefore if we choose  $\{\epsilon_\lambda\}$  to be small enough it follows that  $\tilde{\phi} \in \Psi_q(V)$  for some neighborhood  $V$  of  $N$ .  $\square$

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