Harmonic Analysis techniques in Several Complex Variables

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Abstract. This talk concerns recent joint work with E. M. Stein on the extension to higher dimension of Calderón’s and Coifman-McIntosh-Meyer’s seminal results about the Cauchy integral for a Lipschitz planar curve (interpreted as the boundary of a Lipschitz domain $D \subset \mathbb{C}$).

From the point of view of complex analysis, a fundamental feature of the 1-dimensional Cauchy kernel:

$$H(w, z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \frac{dw}{w - z}$$

is that it is holomorphic (that is, analytic) in $D$ as a function of $z$. In great contrast with the one-dimensional theory, in higher dimension there is no obvious holomorphic analogue of $H(w, z)$. This is because of geometric obstructions (the Levi problem) that in dimension 1 are irrelevant.

A good candidate kernel for the higher dimensional setting was first identified by Jean Leray in the context of a $C^\infty$-smooth, convex domain $D$; while these conditions on $D$ can be relaxed a bit, if the domain is less than $C^2$-smooth (much less Lipschitz!) Leray’s construction becomes conceptually problematic.

In this talk I will present (a), the construction of the Cauchy-Leray kernel and (b), the $L^p(bD)$-boundedness of the induced singular integral operator under the weakest currently known assumptions on the domain’s regularity – in the case of a planar domain these are akin to Lipschitz boundary, but in our higher-dimensional context the assumptions we make are in fact optimal. The proofs rely in a fundamental way on a suitably adapted version of the so-called “$T(1)$-theorem technique” from real harmonic analysis.

Time permitting, I will describe applications of this work to complex function theory (specifically, to the Szegő and Bergman projections).

References
