

## GLOBAL REGULARITY OF $\bar{\partial}$ ON CERTAIN PSEUDOCONVEXITY

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**Abstract.** The global boundary regularity for the  $\bar{\partial}$ -problem on a relatively compact domain with the  $C^2$ -smooth boundary in a Kähler manifold that satisfies some “Hartogs-pseudoconvexity” condition is investigated in this paper. The applications to the  $\bar{\partial}$ -problem and the  $\bar{\partial}_b$ -problem, are thoroughly discussed.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The goal of this paper is to prove the existence and regularity of the solution to the Cauchy–Riemann equations, known also as the  $\bar{\partial}$ -problem,  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  on a relatively compact domain with the  $C^2$ -smooth boundary in a Kähler manifold that satisfies some “Hartogs-pseudoconvexity” condition.

Previously, many different approaches were employed, including a) the vanishing of the  $\bar{\partial}$ -cohomology group, which was used by Grauert–Riemenschneider [18], Abdelkader–Saber [1], and Saber [33,34], and b) the abstract  $L^2$ -theory of the  $\bar{\partial}$ -Neumann problem, which was used in two cases: 1) with exact support (see Saber [35,38,40,43]; 2) with regularity up to the boundary ([37,41,42,44] and c) the construction of rather explicit integral solution operators for  $\bar{\partial}$ , in analogy to the Cauchy transform in  $C^1$  used by Henkin [19] and Grauert–Lieb [17].

In this paper, we investigate global boundary regularity for the  $\bar{\partial}$ -problem,  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  in an  $n$ -dimensional Kähler manifold with the  $C^2$ -smooth boundary that satisfies some “Hartogs-pseudoconvexity” condition. In [26], Kohn investigated this problem on a pseudoconvexity domain without corners. In [22], Ho solved this problem in  $C^n$  for strongly  $q$ -convex domains. In  $C^n$ , Zampieri [52] introduced a new kind of  $q$ -pseudoconvex notion. He proved local boundary regularity for any degree  $q$  under this condition. Heungju [2], Baracco–Zampieri [6,7], Saber [33,34,37,39], Ahn [3], Henkin–Jordan [21], all obtained the results in this direction. In the case of an annulus domain  $\Omega = \Omega_1 \setminus \bar{\Omega}_2$ , this problem has been investigated in the following cases: 1)  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  are pseudoconvex submanifolds that satisfy property (P) [11], 2)  $\Omega_1$  is an internal  $p$ -pseudoconcave and  $\Omega_2$  is an external  $q$ -pseudoconvex in  $C^n$  [4], and 3)  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  are weakly pseudoconvex with smooth boundaries in  $C^n$  [45,49]. The problem has been studied by the first author in the following domains: a) strongly  $q$ -concave and  $q$ -convex domains of an  $n$ -dimensional Kähler manifold [33], b) annuli domain in a Stein manifold, where the outside boundary is weakly  $q$ -convex and the inside boundary is weakly  $(n - q - 1)$ -convex for complex-valued and vector-valued forms [36,39], c) annuli domain between two pseudoconvex submanifolds of a Stein manifold [35], d) annuli domain between  $p$ -pseudoconcave and  $q$ -pseudoconvex domains of a complex manifold whose boundaries satisfy property (P) ([42]).

There are many applications to the  $\bar{\partial}_b$ -problem. Kohn–Rossi [28] proposed this problem in the mid 1960s to investigate the holomorphic extension of CR functions from the boundary of a complex manifold. The following cases have looked into this issue: a) it must be purely pseudoconvex. In 1965, Kohn [24] used subelliptic estimates for  $\bar{\partial}_b$  to prove Sobolev estimates for  $\bar{\partial}_b$ . Folland–Stein [16] proved Holder and  $L^p$ -estimates for  $\bar{\partial}_b$  in 1974. Skoda [50], Henkin [20], and Romanov [31], all introduced integral kernel methods for  $\bar{\partial}_b$  weakly pseudoconvex in 1976 and 1977, respectively. Rosay [32] proved the  $C^1$ -solvability for  $\bar{\partial}_b$  in 1982. Shaw [45], Boas–Shaw [8], and Kohn [27], Shaw [48] independently proved some results on  $L^2$  and Sobolev estimates for  $\bar{\partial}_b$  in 1985 and 1986. Cao–Shaw–Wang [9] studied this problem in 2004 on pseudoconvex domains in  $\mathcal{CP}^n$  and c) finite type pseudoconvex domains.

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In 1988, Fefferman–Kohn [15] proved Hölder’s estimates for  $\bar{\partial}_b$  on the boundaries of pseudoconvex domains of finite type in  $C^2$ . Hölder and  $L^p$  estimates for  $\bar{\partial}_b$  on the boundaries of weakly pseudoconvex domains of uniform strict type in  $C^2$  were proved by Shaw [46,47]. Andreea has proved global regularity for  $\bar{\partial}_b$  on weakly pseudoconvex CR manifolds [5]. The problem has been studied by the first author on two domains: a) a pseudoconvex domain of order  $n - q$  of Kähler manifold with positive holomorphic bisectional curvature [35], and b) weakly  $q$ -convex domains in a Kähler manifold for the forms with values in a vector bundle  $E$  [38, 40].

2. PRELIMINARIES

Let  $(X, g)$  be an  $n$ -dimensional Kähler manifold and  $\pi : E \rightarrow X$  be a holomorphic vector bundle of rank  $p$ , over  $X$ . Let  $\Omega \Subset X$  be an open set and let  $\delta(z)$  be the distance from  $z \in \Omega$  to the boundary  $b\Omega$  of  $\Omega$  with respect to the metric  $\omega$ . Let  $\omega$  be the Kähler form associated to the Kähler metric  $g$ . Let  $\{U_j\}_{j=1}^N$  be a finite covering of  $X$  by a local patching. Let  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_p$  be an orthonormal basis on  $E_z = \pi^{-1}(z)$ , for every  $z \in U_j; j \in J$ . Thus every  $E$ -valued differential  $(r, s)$ -form  $u$  on  $X$  can be written locally on  $U_j$ , as  $u(z) = \sum_{a=1}^p u^a(z) e_a(z)$ , where  $u^a$  are the components of the restriction of  $u$  on  $U_j$ . Let  $C_{r,s}^\infty(X, E)$  be the complex vector space of  $E$ -valued differential forms of class  $C^\infty$  and of type  $(r, s)$  on  $X$ . For  $u, v \in C_{r,s}^\infty(X, E)$ , we define a local inner product  $(u, v)$  with respect to  $g$  and  $h$  by

$$(u, v) dV = \sum_{a=1}^p u^a \wedge \star \overline{(h v)^a},$$

where  $dV$  is the volume element with respect to  $g$ ,  $\star : C_{r,s}^\infty(X, E) \rightarrow C_{n-s, n-r}^\infty(X, E)$  is the Hodge star operator defined by  $g$ . Let  $C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, E) = \{u|_{\bar{\Omega}}; u \in C_{r,s}^\infty(X, E)\}$  be the subspace of  $C_{r,s}^\infty(\Omega, E)$  whose elements can be extended smoothly up to  $b\Omega$ . Let  $\phi$  be a locally bounded real-valued function on  $\bar{\Omega}$ . For  $u, v \in C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, E)$ , the associated global inner product  $\langle u, v \rangle_\phi$ , with respect to  $g, h$  and the weight function  $\phi$ , is defined by

$$\langle u, v \rangle_\phi = \int_{\Omega} (u, v) e^{-\phi} dV.$$

The norm  $\| \cdot \|_\Omega$  on  $C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  is defined by

$$\|u\|_\phi^2 = \langle u, u \rangle_\phi = \int_{\Omega} e^{-\phi} |u|^2 dV,$$

where  $|u|^2 = (u, u)$ . We shall consider the weighted  $L^2$ -spaces

$$L_{r,s}^2(\Omega, e^{-\phi}, E) = \{u : \|u\|_\phi < \infty\}$$

of  $E$ -valued differential forms of various degrees. The Laplace–Beltrami operator  $\square_{r,s}$  for  $E$ -valued forms is defined by

$$\square_{r,s} = \bar{\partial} \bar{\partial}^* + \bar{\partial}^* \bar{\partial} : \text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E) \rightarrow L_{r,s}^2(\Omega, E),$$

where  $\text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E) = \{u \in L_{r,s}^2(\Omega, E) : u \in \text{dom}(\bar{\partial}, E) \cap \text{dom}(\bar{\partial}^*, E); \bar{\partial}u \in \text{dom}(\bar{\partial}^*, E) \text{ and } \bar{\partial}^*u \in \text{dom}(\bar{\partial}, E)\}$ . Thus

$$\mathcal{H}_{r,s}(E) = \{u \in \text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E); \bar{\partial}u = \bar{\partial}^*u = 0\},$$

is a closed subspace of  $\text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E)$ , since  $\square_{r,s}$  is a closed operator. The  $\bar{\partial}$ -Neumann operator  $N = N_{r,s} : L_{r,s}^2(\Omega, E) \rightarrow L_{r,s}^2(\Omega, E)$  is defined as the inverse of the restriction of  $\square_{r,s}$  to  $(\mathcal{H}_{r,s}(E))^\perp$ , i.e.,

$$N_{r,s}u = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } u \in \mathcal{H}_{r,s}(E), \\ v & \text{if } u = \square_{r,s}v, \text{ and } v \perp \mathcal{H}_{r,s}(E). \end{cases}$$

In other words,  $N_{r,s}u$  is the unique solution  $v$  to the equations  $\square_{r,s}v = u - \Pi_{r,s}u$  and  $\Pi_{r,s}v = 0$ , where  $\Pi_{r,s} : L_{r,s}^2(\Omega, E) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_{r,s}(E)$  is the orthogonal projection from the space  $L_{r,s}^2(\Omega, E)$  onto the space  $\mathcal{H}_{r,s}(E)$ .

A Hermitian metric  $h$  along the fibers of  $E$  can be expressed as  $h = (h_{a\bar{b}})$ ;  $h_{a\bar{b}} = h(e_a, e_b)$ . Let  $(h^{a\bar{b}})$  be the inverse matrix of  $(h_{a\bar{b}})$ . Let  $\theta = (\theta_a^c)$ ,  $\theta_a^c = \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \sum_{b=1}^p h^{c\bar{b}} \frac{\partial h_{a\bar{b}}}{\partial z^\alpha} dz^\alpha = \sum_{\alpha=1}^n \mu_{a\alpha}^c dz^\alpha$  and  $\Theta = i\bar{\partial}\theta = i\bar{\partial}\partial \log h = \{\Theta_a^c\}$ ;  $\Theta_a^c = i \sum_{\alpha, \beta=1}^n \Theta_{a\alpha\bar{\beta}}^c dz^\alpha \wedge d\bar{z}^\beta$  be the connection and the curvature forms associated to the metric  $h$ , respectively, where  $\Theta_{a\alpha\bar{\beta}}^c = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{z}^\beta} \left( h^{c\bar{b}} \frac{\partial h_{a\bar{b}}}{\partial z^\alpha} \right)$ ,  $1 \leq a, c \leq p$ . Thus the operator

$$A_E^{r,s} = (e(\Theta)\Lambda - \Lambda e(\Theta))$$

acting on  $\wedge^{r,s}T^*X \otimes E$ . The curvature matrix  $\mathcal{H}$ , associated to the Hermitian metric  $h$ , is given by

$$\mathcal{H} = (\mathcal{H}_{\bar{b}\beta, c\alpha}) = \left( \sum_{a=1}^p h_{a\bar{b}} \Theta_{c\alpha\bar{\beta}}^a \right).$$

Denote by  $e(\omega) : C_{r,s}^\infty(X, E) \rightarrow C_{r+1, s+1}^\infty(X, E)$  the linear mapping locally defined by  $(e(\omega)u)^a = \omega \wedge u^a$  and  $\Lambda : C_{r,s}^\infty(X, E) \rightarrow C_{r-1, s-1}^\infty(X, E)$  the linear mapping locally defined by  $\Lambda = (-1)^{r+s} \star e(\omega) \star$ . Let  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{R}}(TX, \mathcal{C})$  be the complex vector space of complex-valued real linear mappings of  $TX$  to  $\mathcal{C}$ . We denote by

$$\wedge \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{R}}(TX, \mathcal{C}) = \sum_{t=0}^{2n} \sum_{r+s=t} \wedge^{r,s}T^*X,$$

the  $\mathcal{C}$ -linear exterior algebra of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{R}}(TX, \mathcal{C})$ . A linear mapping

$$L : \wedge \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{R}}(TX, \mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \wedge \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{R}}(TX, \mathcal{C})$$

is defined by  $L\phi = e(\omega)\phi = \omega \wedge \phi$ , for  $\phi \in \wedge^{r,s}T^*X$ , i.e.,  $L : \wedge^{r,s}T^*X \rightarrow \wedge^{r+1, s+1}T^*X$ . The formal adjoint operator  $\Lambda : \wedge^{r,s}T^*X \rightarrow \wedge^{r-1, s-1}T^*X$  of the operator  $L$  is defined locally by  $\Lambda\phi = (-1)^{r+s} \star L \star \phi$ . Let  $\alpha$  be a real  $(1, 1)$ -form with values in the vector bundle  $\text{Herm}(E; E) = E^* \otimes E$  satisfying  $\phi \geq_{n-s+1} 0$ . For  $\alpha \in \wedge^{n, s}T^*X \otimes E$ , we put

$$|f|_\alpha^2 = \sup_{\substack{u \in \wedge^{n, s}T^*X \otimes E, \\ u \neq 0}} \frac{|(f, u)|^2}{(\alpha \wedge \Lambda u, u)}.$$

**Lemma 1** ([13, Lemma 3.2]).

- (i) The  $(n, n)$ -form  $|f|_\alpha^2 dv$  is a decreasing function of  $\omega$ .
- (ii) For any semi-positive real number,  $c$  satisfies  $\mathcal{H} \geq_{n-s+1} C\omega \otimes Id_E$ , and for any  $f \in \wedge^{n, s}T^*X \otimes E$ , one obtains

$$|f|_\alpha^2 \leq \frac{1}{sC} |f|^2.$$

- (iii) Let  $\eta$  be a  $(0, 1)$ -form on  $X$ , then

$$|\eta \wedge f|_\alpha \leq |\eta| |f|_\alpha.$$

**Definition 1.** Let  $X$  be a complex manifold of complex dimension  $n$ . For every compact set  $K \subset X$ , the holomorphically convex hull  $\hat{K}_X$  of  $K$  is defined by

$$\hat{K}_X := \left\{ z \in X : |f(z)| \leq \sup_{\xi \in K} |f(\xi)|, \text{ for all } f \in \mathcal{O}(X) \right\}.$$

**Definition 2.** A complex manifold  $X$  is called holomorphically convex if for every compact set  $K \subset X$ ,  $\hat{K}_X$  is also compact.

**Definition 3.** A complex manifold  $X$  of complex dimension  $n$  which is countable at infinity is said to be a Stein manifold if:

- (i)  $X$  is holomorphically convex,
- (ii) for any point  $z \in X$ , one can find  $n$  functions  $f_1, \dots, f_n \in \mathcal{O}(X)$  which form holomorphic coordinates at  $z$ . That is, there exists a neighborhood  $B$  of  $z$  such that the map  $B \ni \xi \rightarrow (f_1(\xi), \dots, f_n(\xi)) \in \mathcal{C}^n$  is biholomorphic,
- (iii) if  $z$  and  $\xi$  are two points in  $X$  that are different, then there exists an  $f \in \mathcal{O}(X)$  such that  $f(z) \neq f(\xi)$ .

**Definition 4.** Let  $X$  be a complex manifold of complex dimension  $n$ . An open subset  $\Omega \Subset X$  is said to be a locally Stein domain if for any point  $z \in b\Omega$ , there exists an open neighborhood  $V$  of  $z$  such that  $V \cap \Omega$  is a Stein manifold.

**Definition 5.** A complex manifold  $X$  is said to be weakly pseudo-convex if there exists an exhaustion plurisubharmonic function  $\phi \in C^\infty(X, \mathcal{R})$ .

**Definition 6.** Let  $X$  be a complex manifold and  $\Omega$  be a relatively compact domain in  $X$ .  $\Omega$  is said to be a Hartogs pseudo-convex if there exists a Kähler metric on  $X$  for which the associated geodesic distance  $d(z)$  satisfies the following:

- (a) there exists a neighborhood  $U$  of  $b\Omega$  such that  $-\log d(z)$  is strongly plurisubharmonic on  $U$ ,
- (b) the restriction of  $-\log d(z)$  to  $U \cap \Omega$  admits a  $C^\infty$ -positive strongly plurisubharmonic extension function to  $\Omega$ .

In what follows, there is a  $C^\infty$ -positive function  $\sigma$  on  $\Omega$  and a positive constant  $c$  such that  $\sigma = d$  on  $U$  and

$$i\partial\bar{\partial}(-\log \sigma) \geq c\omega \text{ on } \Omega,$$

where  $\omega$  is the Kähler form associated to the Kähler metric for which (a) of the above definition is satisfied.

In particular, every Hartogs-pseudoconvex domain admits a strictly plurisubharmonic exhaustion function, therefore is a Stein manifold.

**Remark 1.** Every Hartogs pseudo-convex domain is a weakly pseudoconvex Kähler manifold. In the notation of Definition 6, let  $c$  be a positive constant, so that:

$$V = \{z \in \Omega : c < -\log d(z) < +\infty\} \Subset U \cap \Omega.$$

We set

$$\phi(z) = \begin{cases} -\log d(z) & \text{for } z \in V, \\ c & \text{on } z \in \Omega \setminus V. \end{cases}$$

Thus  $\phi$  is a plurisubharmonic exhaustion function on  $\Omega$ . Then, according to Definition 6,  $\Omega$  is a weakly pseudoconvex Kähler manifold.

Now we'll look at several Hartogs pseudo-convex domain examples.

**Example 1.** Let  $X$  be a complex manifold such that there exists a continuous strongly plurisubharmonic function on  $X$  and let  $\Omega \Subset X$  be a locally Stein domain. It was shown in [14] that there exists a Kähler metric on  $X$  such that  $\Omega$  is Hartogs pseudo-convex.

**Example 2.** Every locally Stein domain in a Stein manifold is Hartogs pseudo-convex.

**Example 3.** Every pseudo-convex domain in  $\mathcal{C}^n$  with a  $C^2$ -smooth boundary is a Stein manifold [14]. As a result, (2.2) is satisfied.

**Example 4.** In a Kähler manifold with positive holomorphic bisectional curvature, any relatively compact locally Stein domain satisfies (2.2) on  $U \cap \Omega$  [14] (a Kähler manifold  $X$  has positive holomorphic bisectional curvature if the tangent bundle  $TX$  of  $X$  is positive in sense of Griffiths).

**Example 5.** Every locally Stein domain in the complex projective space  $\mathcal{P}^n$  satisfies (2.2) [51].

### 3. THE $L^2$ -EXISTENCE THEOREM ON A HARTOGS PSEUDO-CONVEX DOMAIN

In this section, we prove the  $L^2$ -existence theorem on a Hartogs pseudo-convex domain on a Kähler manifold in this section.

**Lemma 2** ([12, Lemma 6.3]). *Let  $g, \gamma$  be two Hermitian metrics on  $X$  such that  $\gamma \geq g$ . For every  $u \in \wedge^{n,s} T^* X \otimes E$ ,  $s \geq 1$ , we have*

$$|u|_\gamma^2 dV_\gamma \leq |u|^2 dV, \quad ((A_{E,\gamma}^{r,s})^{-1}u, u)_\gamma dV_\gamma \leq ((A_E^{r,s})^{-1}u, u) dV, \quad (3.1)$$

where an index  $\gamma$  means that the corresponding term is computed in terms of  $\gamma$  instead of  $g$ .

**Lemma 3** ([12, Lemma 2.4]). *The properties listed below are equivalent:*

- (i)  $(X, \mathcal{G})$  is complete;
- (ii) There is a function  $\phi \in C^\infty(X, \mathcal{R})$  that is exhaustive such that  $|d\phi|_{\mathcal{G}} \leq 1$ ;
- (iii) There is an exhaustive sequence  $(K_\nu)_{\nu \in \mathcal{N}}$  of compact subsets of  $X$  and the functions  $\phi_\nu \in C^\infty(X, \mathcal{R})$  such that  $\phi_\nu = 1$  in a neighborhood of  $K_\nu$ ,  $\text{supp } \phi_\nu \subset K_{\nu+1}$ ,  $0 \leq \phi_\nu \leq 1$  and  $|d\phi_\nu|_{\mathcal{G}} \leq 2^{-\nu}$ .

**Theorem 1** ([12, Theorem 4.5]). *Let  $E$  be a holomorphic vector bundle over a complete Kähler manifold  $(X, \mathcal{G})$ . Assume that  $A_{E, \mathcal{G}}^{r,s}$  is a positive definite on  $\wedge^{r,s} T^* X \otimes E$ . Let  $u \in L_{r,s}^2(X, E)$  with  $s \geq 1$  satisfy  $\bar{\partial}u = 0$  and*

$$\int_X ((A_{E, \mathcal{G}}^{r,s})^{-1}u, u)_{\mathcal{G}} dV_{\mathcal{G}} < +\infty,$$

then there exists a solution  $\psi \in L_{r,s-1}^2(X, E)$  to the equation  $\bar{\partial}\psi = u$  such that

$$\int_X |\psi|_{\mathcal{G}}^2 dV_{\mathcal{G}} \leq \int_X ((A_{E, \mathcal{G}}^{r,s})^{-1}u, u)_{\mathcal{G}} dV_{\mathcal{G}}.$$

**Lemma 4** ([12]). *Every weakly pseudoconvex Kähler manifold  $(X, g)$  carries a complete Kähler metric  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\phi \in C^\infty(X, \mathcal{R})$  be an exhaustion function which is plurisubharmonic on  $X$ . After adding a constant to  $\phi$ , we can assume  $\phi \geq 0$ . Then  $\mathcal{G} = g + i\partial\bar{\partial}(\phi^2)$  is a Kähler metric and

$$\mathcal{G} = g + 2i\phi\partial\bar{\partial}\phi + 2i\partial\phi \wedge \bar{\partial}\phi \geq g + 2i\partial\phi \wedge \bar{\partial}\phi.$$

Since  $d\phi = \partial\phi + \bar{\partial}\phi$ , one gets  $|d\phi|_{\mathcal{G}} = \sqrt{2}|\partial\phi|_{\mathcal{G}} \leq 1$ . Lemma 3 proves that  $\mathcal{G}$  is complete.  $\square$

**Theorem 2** ([12]). *Let  $(X, g)$  be a Kähler manifold ( $g$  is not assumed to be complete). Assume that  $X$  is weakly pseudo-convex. Assume that  $E$  is a holomorphic vector bundle over  $X$ , and that a positive continuous function  $\gamma : X \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  exists such that*

$$\Theta(E) \geq \gamma\omega \otimes Id_E.$$

Then for  $u \in L_{\text{loc}}^2(X, \wedge^{n,s} T^* X \otimes E)$ ,  $s \geq 1$ , satisfying  $\bar{\partial}u = 0$  and  $\int_X \gamma^{-1}|u|_g^2 dV_g < +\infty$ , there exists a solution  $\psi \in L^2(X, \wedge^{n,s-1} T^* X \otimes E)$  to the equation  $\bar{\partial}\psi = u$  such that

$$\int_X |\psi|_g^2 dV_g \leq \int_X \gamma^{-1}|u|_g^2 dV_g.$$

*Proof.* Indeed, under the assumption on  $E$ , we have

$$((A_{E, g}^{n,s})u, u) \geq \gamma|u|_g^2,$$

hence  $((A_{E, g}^{n,s})^{-1}u, u) \leq \gamma^{-1}|u|_g^2$ . The assumption that  $u \in L_{\text{loc}}^2(X, \wedge^{n,s} T^* X \otimes E)$  instead of  $u \in L^2(X, \wedge^{n,s} T^* X \otimes E)$  is not a real problem, since we may restrict ourselves to  $X_c = \{x \in X : \varrho(x) < c\} \Subset X$ , where  $\varrho$  is a plurisubharmonic exhaustion function on  $X$ . Then  $X_c$  is itself weakly pseudoconvex (with plurisubharmonic exhaustion function  $\varrho_c = 1/(c - \varrho)$ ), hence  $X_c$  can be equipped with a complete Kähler metric

$$g_{c,\varepsilon} = g + \varepsilon i\partial\bar{\partial}(\varrho_c^2)$$

(cf. the proof of Lemma 4). From (3.1), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{X_c} ((A_{E, g_{c,\varepsilon}}^{n,s})^{-1}u, u)_{g_{c,\varepsilon}} dV_{g_{c,\varepsilon}} &\leq \int_{X_c} ((A_{E, g}^{n,s})^{-1}u, u)_g dV_g \\ &\leq \int_X \gamma^{-1}|u|_g^2 dV_g < +\infty. \end{aligned}$$

For each  $(c, \varepsilon)$ , Theorem 1 yields a solution  $\psi_{c,\varepsilon} \in L^2_{g_{c,\varepsilon}}(X_c, \wedge^{n,s-1}T^*X \otimes E)$  to the equation  $\bar{\partial}\psi_{c,\varepsilon} = u$  on  $X_c$  such that

$$\int_{X_c} |\psi_{c,\varepsilon}|^2_{g_{c,\varepsilon}} dV_{g_{c,\varepsilon}} \leq \int_{X_c} ((A_{E,g_{c,\varepsilon}}^{n,s})^{-1}u, u)_{g_{c,\varepsilon}} dV_{g_{c,\varepsilon}}.$$

Then, we obtain

$$\int_{X_c} |\psi_{c,\varepsilon}|^2_{g_{c,\varepsilon}} dV_{g_{c,\varepsilon}} \leq \int_X \gamma^{-1}|u|^2_g dV_g.$$

Thus,  $\psi_{c,\varepsilon}$  are the solutions that are uniformly bounded in the  $L^2$ -norm on every compact subset of  $X$ . Since the closed unit ball of a Hilbert space is weakly compact, we can extract a subsequence

$$\psi_{c_k, \varepsilon_k} \longrightarrow \psi \in L^2_{\text{loc}},$$

converging weakly in  $L^2$  on any compact subset  $K \subset X$ , for some  $c_k \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $\varepsilon_k \rightarrow 0$ . By the weak continuity of differentiations, we get again in the limit  $\bar{\partial}\psi = u$ . Also, for every compact set  $K \subset X$ , we get

$$\int_K |\psi|^2_g dV_g \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_K |\psi_{c_k, \varepsilon_k}|^2_{g_{c_k, \varepsilon_k}} dV_{g_{c_k, \varepsilon_k}}$$

by a weak  $L^2_{\text{loc}}$  convergence. Finally, we let  $K$  increase to  $X$  and conclude that the desired estimate holds on all of  $X$ . □

**Remark 2.** We have

$$L^2_{r,s}(X, E) = L^2_{n,s}(X, \wedge^{n-r}TX \otimes E). \tag{3.2}$$

We can see that there is a canonical duality pairing.  $\wedge^kTX \otimes \wedge^kT^*X \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ , hence an  $(r, s)$ -form with values in  $E$  may be viewed as a section of

$$\wedge^{r,s}T^*X \otimes E = \wedge^{0,s}T^*X \otimes \wedge^rT^*X \otimes E = \wedge^{n,s}T^*X \otimes \tilde{E},$$

where  $\tilde{E}$  is the holomorphic vector bundle

$$\tilde{E} = \wedge^nTX \otimes \wedge^rT^*X \otimes E = \wedge^{n-r}TX \otimes E,$$

through the contraction pairing

$$\wedge^nTX \otimes \wedge^rT^*X \simeq \wedge^{n-r}TX.$$

Thus (3.2) follows.

Let  $\Theta(\wedge^{n-r}T\Omega \otimes E)$  be the curvature form of the holomorphic vector bundle  $\wedge^{n-r}T\Omega \otimes E$ . For  $0 \leq r \leq n$ , one defines

$$m_r(\Omega; E) = \sup\{m \in \mathcal{R} \mid \Theta(\wedge^{n-r}T\Omega \otimes E) \geq m\omega \otimes \text{Id}_{\wedge^{n-r}T\Omega \otimes E}\},$$

Following Remark 1, every Hartogs pseudo-convex domain is weakly pseudo-convex manifold, then by applying Theorem 2, we obtain the following

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $(X, g)$  be a Kähler manifold of complex dimension  $n$  and  $\Omega \Subset X$  be a Hartogs pseudo-convex domain. Assume that  $E$  is a holomorphic vector bundle over  $X$  with the following properties:  $m_r(\Omega; E) > 0$ . Then, for  $\theta \in L^2_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$ ,  $s \geq 1$ , satisfying  $\bar{\partial}u = 0$ , there exists a solution  $\psi \in L^2_{r,s-1}(\Omega, E)$  to the equation  $\bar{\partial}\psi = \theta$  such that*

$$\int_{\Omega} |\psi|^2 dV \leq c \int_{\Omega} |\theta|^2 dV,$$

with  $c = 1/m$ .

*Proof.* Since  $m_r(\Omega; E) > 0$ , there exists a positive constant  $m$  such that

$$\Theta(\wedge^{n-r} T\Omega \otimes E) \geq m \omega \otimes \text{Id}_{\wedge^{n-r} T\Omega \otimes E}.$$

Thus from (3.2), by using the solution to the  $\bar{\partial}$ -equation for  $(n, s)$ -forms of Theorem 2 with values in the holomorphic vector bundle  $\wedge^{n-r} T\Omega \otimes E$ , there exists  $\psi \in L^2_{r,s-1}(\Omega, E)$  such that  $\bar{\partial}\psi = \theta$  and

$$\int_{\Omega} |\psi|^2 dV \leq c \int_{\Omega} |\theta|^2 dV.$$

Thus the proof follows.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *Under the same assumption of Theorem 3, we have*

$$\mathcal{H}_{r,s}(E) = 0. \quad (3.3)$$

*Proof.* If  $\theta \in \mathcal{H}_{r,s}(E)$ , thus  $\bar{\partial}\theta = 0$ . Then from Theorem 3, there exists  $\psi \in L^2_{r,s-1}(\Omega, E)$  such that  $\bar{\partial}\psi = \theta$ . But  $\bar{\partial}^*\theta = 0$  implies that

$$0 = \langle \bar{\partial}^*\theta, \psi \rangle_{\Omega} = \langle \bar{\partial}^*\bar{\partial}\psi, \psi \rangle_{\Omega} = \|\bar{\partial}\psi\|_{\Omega}^2 = \|\theta\|_{\Omega}^2.$$

Thus  $\theta = 0$ , i.e.,  $\mathcal{H}_{r,s}(E) = 0$ , and so, (3.3) follows.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $(X, g)$  be a Kähler manifold of complex dimension  $n$  and  $\Omega \Subset X$  be a Hartogs pseudo-convex domain. Assume that  $E$  is a holomorphic vector bundle over  $X$  with the following properties:  $m_r(\Omega; E) > 0$ . Then there exists a bounded linear operator*

$$N_{r,s} : L^2_{r,s}(\Omega, E) \longrightarrow L^2_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$$

such that

- (i)  $\text{rang}(N_{r,s}, E) \subset \text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E)$ ,  $N_{r,s}\square_{r,s} = I - \Pi_{r,s}$  on  $\text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E)$ ,
- (ii) for  $\theta \in L^2_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$ , we have  $\theta = \bar{\partial}\bar{\partial}^*N_{r,s}\theta \oplus \bar{\partial}^*\bar{\partial}N_{r,s}\theta \oplus \Pi_{r,s}\theta$ ,
- (iii)  $N_{r,s}$  commutes with  $\bar{\partial}$  and  $\bar{\partial}^*$ ,  $\Pi_{r,s}N_{r,s} = N_{r,s}\Pi_{r,s} = 0$ ,
- (iv)  $N_{r,s}(C^{\infty}_{r,s}(\bar{\Omega}, E) \subset C^{\infty}_{r,s}(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  and  $\Pi_{r,s}(C^{\infty}_{r,s}(\bar{\Omega}, E)) \subset C^{\infty}_{r,s}(\bar{\Omega}, E)$ .

*Proof.* Under the assumption on  $E$ , we have

$$((A_E^{r,s})\theta, \theta) \geq m|\theta|^2. \quad (3.4)$$

Since  $\Omega$  carries a complete Kähler metric  $\mathcal{G}$  (cf. Lemma 4), by using Nakano inequality [29], for  $\theta \in \mathfrak{D}_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$ ,

$$\|\bar{\partial}\theta\|_{\mathcal{G},\Omega}^2 + \|\bar{\partial}^*\theta\|_{\mathcal{G},\Omega}^2 \geq \langle A_E^{r,s}\theta, \theta \rangle_{\mathcal{G},\Omega}.$$

Since  $\mathcal{G}$  is complete,  $\mathfrak{D}_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$  is dense in  $\text{dom}(\bar{\partial}, E) \cap \text{dom}(\bar{\partial}^*, E)$ . Since  $\mathcal{G} \geq g$ , then, by using (3.1), we obtain

$$\|\bar{\partial}\theta\|_{\Omega}^2 + \|\bar{\partial}^*\theta\|_{\Omega}^2 \geq \|\bar{\partial}\theta\|_{\mathcal{G},\Omega}^2 + \|\bar{\partial}^*\theta\|_{\mathcal{G},\Omega}^2 \geq \langle A_E^{r,s}\theta, \theta \rangle_{\mathcal{G},\Omega} \geq \langle A_E^{r,s}\theta, \theta \rangle_{\Omega},$$

for  $\theta \in \text{dom}(\bar{\partial}, E) \cap \text{dom}(\bar{\partial}^*, E)$ . Thus from (3.4), one obtains

$$\|\theta\|_{\Omega}^2 \leq c \left( \|\bar{\partial}\theta\|_{\Omega}^2 + \|\bar{\partial}^*\theta\|_{\Omega}^2 \right) = c \langle \square_{r,s}\theta, \theta \rangle_{\Omega} \leq c \|\square_{r,s}\theta\|_{\Omega} \|\theta\|_{\Omega},$$

for  $\theta \in \text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E)$ , with  $c = 1/m$ . Hence for  $\theta \in \text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E)$ , one obtains

$$\|\theta\|_{\Omega} \leq c \|\square_{r,s}\theta\|_{\Omega}. \quad (3.5)$$

Since  $\square_{r,s}$  is a linear closed densely defined operator, from Theorem 1.1.1 in [23],  $\text{Ran}(\square_{r,s}, E)$  is closed. Then from (3.3), one obtains

$$L^2_{r,s}(\Omega, E) = \text{Ran}(\square_{r,s}, E) = \bar{\partial}\bar{\partial}^* \text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E) \oplus \bar{\partial}^*\bar{\partial} \text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E).$$

It follows that the range of  $\square_{r,s}$  is the whole space  $L^2_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$ . Since from (3.5),  $\square_{r,s} : \text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E) \longrightarrow L^2_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$  is one-to-one on  $\text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E)$ , there exists a unique bounded inverse operator  $N_{r,s} : L^2_{r,s}(\Omega, E) \longrightarrow \text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E)$  such that  $N_{r,s}\square_{r,s} = I$  on  $\text{dom}(\square_{r,s}, E)$ . Also, from the definition

of  $N$ , we obtain  $\square_{r,s}N_{r,s} = I$  on  $L^2_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$ . Therefore (i) and (ii) follows. The proof is complete as in [10].  $\square$

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $(X, g)$  be a Kähler manifold of complex dimension  $n$  and  $\Omega \Subset X$  be a Hartogs pseudo-convex domain. Assume that  $E$  is a holomorphic vector bundle over  $X$  with the following properties:  $m_r(\Omega; E) > 0$ . Therefore there is a bounded linear operator  $N_{r,0} : L^2_{r,0}(\Omega, E) \rightarrow L^2_{r,0}(\Omega, E)$  satisfying*

- (i)  $\text{Ran}(N_{r,0}, E) \subset \text{dom}(\square_{r,0}, E)$ ,  $\square_{r,0}N_{r,0} = N_{r,0}\square_{r,0} = I - \mathcal{B}_{r,0}$  on  $\text{dom}(\square_{r,0}, E)$ ,
- (ii) for  $\theta \in L^2_{r,0}(\Omega, E)$ , the decomposition  $\theta = \bar{\partial}^* \bar{\partial}N_{r,0}\theta \oplus \mathcal{B}_{r,0}\theta$ .

*Proof.* If  $\psi \in \text{dom}(\square_{r,0}, E) \cap (\ker(\square_{r,0}, E))^\perp$ , thus  $\psi \perp \ker(\bar{\partial}, E)$  and  $\psi \in \text{Ran}(\bar{\partial}, E)$ . Let  $\theta = \bar{\partial}\psi$ , then  $\theta \in L^2_{r,1}(\Omega, E)$ , because  $\psi \in \text{dom}(\square_{r,0}, E)$ . From Theorem 4,  $\psi = \bar{\partial}^* N_{r,1}\theta$  is the solution of  $\bar{\partial}\psi = \theta$  and  $\psi \perp \ker(\bar{\partial}, E)$ . Using Theorem 4,

$$\|\psi\|_\Omega^2 \leq c \|\theta\|_\Omega^2 = c \|\bar{\partial}\psi\|_\Omega^2 = c \langle \square_{r,0}\psi, \psi \rangle_\Omega \leq c \|\square_{r,0}\psi\|_\Omega \|\psi\|_\Omega,$$

i.e.,

$$\|\psi\|_\Omega \leq c \|\square_{r,0}\psi\|_\Omega. \tag{3.6}$$

Since  $\square_{r,0}$  is a linear closed densely defined operator, from Theorem 1.1.1 in [23],  $\text{Ran}(\square_{r,0}, E)$  is closed. Thus

$$L^2_{r,0}(\Omega, E) = \text{Ran}(\square_{r,0}, E) \oplus \ker(\square_{r,0}, E).$$

Following (3.6),  $\square_{r,0}$  is one-to-one. Thus there exists a unique bounded inverse operator

$$N_{r,0} : \text{Ran}(\square_{r,0}, E) \rightarrow \text{dom}(\square_{r,0}, E) \cap (\ker(\square_{r,0}, E))^\perp$$

such that  $N_{r,0}\square_{r,0}\psi = \psi$  on  $\text{dom}(\square_{r,0}, E)$ . Write  $N_{r,0}\square_{r,0} = I - \mathcal{B}_{r,0}$  on  $\text{dom}(\square_{r,0}, E) \cap (\ker(\square_{r,0}, E))^\perp$ . We extending  $N_{r,0}$  to  $L^2_{r,0}(\Omega, E)$  by setting  $N_{r,0}\mathcal{B}_{r,0} = 0$ . Following the definition of  $N$ , we have  $\square_{r,0}N_{r,0} = I - \mathcal{H}_{r,0}$  on  $L^2_{r,0}(\Omega, E)$ . Thus  $N_{r,0}$  satisfies (i) and (ii).  $\square$

#### 4. GLOBAL REGULARITY OF $\bar{\partial}$ AND ITS APPLICATIONS

By Theorem 4 (ii) and the density of  $C^\infty_{r,s}(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  in  $W^k_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$ , the following theorem is immediate.

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $(X, g)$  be a Kähler manifold of complex dimension  $n$  and  $\Omega \Subset X$  be a Hartogs pseudo-convex domain. Assume that  $E$  is a holomorphic vector bundle over  $X$  with the following properties:  $m_r(\Omega; E) > 0$ . If  $\theta \in C^\infty_{r,s}(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  with  $1 \leq s \leq n - 2$ ,  $n \geq 3$  and  $N\theta \in C^\infty_{r,s}(\bar{\Omega}, E)$ , then for any nonnegative integer  $k$ , there exist the constants  $C_k$  such that*

$$\|N\theta\|_{W^k(E)} \leq C_k \|\theta\|_{W^k(E)}. \tag{4.1}$$

*Proof.* The proof is identical to that given in [25].  $\square$

We can pass from a priori estimates (4.1) to actual estimates using the elliptic regularisation method presented in [25] and prove the following

**Theorem 7.** *Under the same assumption of Theorem 6, for every integer  $k \geq 0$ , the weighted  $\bar{\partial}$ -Neumann operator  $N$  is bounded from  $W^k_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$  into itself for  $1 \leq s \leq n - 1$ .*

By Theorem 7 and the density of  $C^\infty_{r,s}(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  in  $W^k_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$ , the following is immediate.

**Corollary 2.** *If  $\theta \in W^k_{r,s}(\Omega, E)$ ,  $k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$  satisfies  $\bar{\partial}\theta = 0$ , where  $1 \leq s \leq n - 2$ ,  $n \geq 3$ , then there exists  $u \in W^k_{r,s-1}(\Omega, E)$  so that  $\bar{\partial}u = \theta$  on  $\Omega$  with the estimate*

$$\|u\|_{W^k(E)} \leq C_k \|\theta\|_{W^k(E)}.$$

**Theorem 8.** *Let  $(X, g)$  be a Kähler manifold of complex dimension  $n$  and  $\Omega \Subset X$  be a Hartogs pseudo-convex domain. Assume that  $E$  is a holomorphic vector bundle over  $X$  with the following properties:  $m_r(\Omega; E) > 0$ . Therefore for  $\theta \in C^\infty_{r,s}(\bar{\Omega}, E)$ ,  $s \geq 1$ , with  $\bar{\partial}\theta = 0$ , we can find  $u \in C^\infty_{r,s-1}(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  satisfying  $\bar{\partial}u = \theta$ .*

*Proof.* From Corollary 2, there is  $u_k \in W_{r,s-1}^k(\Omega, E)$  satisfying  $\bar{\partial}u_k = \theta$  for each positive integer  $k$ . We shall modify  $u_k$  to generate a new sequence that converges to a smooth solution. Since  $u_k - u_{k+1}$  is in  $W_{r,s-1}^k(\Omega, E) \cap \ker \bar{\partial}$ , there exists  $v_{k+1} \in W_{r,s-1}^{k+1}(\Omega, E) \cap \ker \bar{\partial}$  such that

$$\|u_k - u_{k+1} - v_{k+1}\|_{W^k} \leq 2^{-k}, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Setting  $\tilde{u}_{k+1} = u_{k+1} + v_{k+1}$ , then  $\tilde{u}_{k+1} \in W_{r,s-1}^{k+1}(\Omega, E)$  and  $\bar{\partial}\tilde{u}_k = \theta$ . Inductively, we can choose a new sequence  $\tilde{u}_k \in W_{r,s-1}^k(\Omega, E)$  such that  $\bar{\partial}\tilde{u}_k = \theta$  and

$$\|\tilde{u}_{k+1} - \tilde{u}_k\|_{W^k} \leq 2^{-k}, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Set  $u_\infty = \tilde{u}_t + \sum_{k=t}^\infty (\tilde{u}_{k+1} - \tilde{u}_k)$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $u_\infty$  is well defined and is in  $W_{r,s-1}^k(\Omega, E)$ . Thus, by the Sobolev embedding theorem,  $u_\infty \in C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  and  $\bar{\partial}u_\infty = \theta$ . □

The global solutions of the  $\bar{\partial}$ -problem, as well as their regularity properties, are presented.

**Lemma 5.** *Let  $(X, g)$  be a Kähler manifold of complex dimension  $n$  and  $\Omega \Subset X$  be a Hartogs pseudoconvex domain. Assume that  $E$  is a holomorphic vector bundle over  $X$  with the following properties:  $m_r(\Omega; E) > 0$ . Then for  $\theta \in C_{r,s}^\infty(b\Omega, E)$ ,  $s \geq 1$ , satisfying  $\bar{\partial}_b\theta = 0$ , there exists  $\Gamma \in C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  such that  $\Gamma|_{b\Omega} = \theta$  and  $\bar{\partial}\Gamma = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\theta \in C_{r,s}^\infty(b\Omega, E)$ ,  $s \geq 1$ , with  $\bar{\partial}_b\theta = 0$ , then there exists  $\theta' \in C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  such that  $\theta'|_{b\Omega} = \theta$  and  $\bar{\partial}\theta'$  vanishes to infinite order on  $b\Omega$ . Following Theorem 3.4 in [1], there exists  $u \in C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  with  $\text{supp } u \subset \bar{\Omega}$  such that  $\bar{\partial}u = \bar{\partial}\theta'$ . Then the form  $\Gamma = \theta' - u$  such that  $\Gamma \in C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, E)$ ,  $\Gamma|_{b\Omega} = \theta$  and  $\bar{\partial}\Gamma = 0$ . □

**Theorem 9.** *Under the same assumption of Lemma 5, if  $\theta \in C_{r,s}^\infty(b\Omega, E)$ ,  $s \geq 1$ , with  $\bar{\partial}_b\theta = 0$ , there exists  $u \in C_{r,s-1}^\infty(b\Omega, E)$ , such that  $\bar{\partial}_b u = \theta$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\theta \in C_{r,s}^\infty(b\Omega, E)$ ,  $s \geq 1$ , with  $\bar{\partial}_b\theta = 0$ . Then from Lemma 5, there exists  $\Gamma \in C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  such that  $\Gamma|_{b\Omega} = \theta$  and  $\bar{\partial}\Gamma = 0$ . There exists, according to Lemma 5,  $U \in C_{r,s-1}^\infty(\bar{\Omega}, E)$  satisfying  $\bar{\partial}U = \theta$  in  $\Omega$ . Then  $u = U|_{b\Omega}$  satisfies  $\bar{\partial}_b u = \theta$ . □

**Theorem 10** ([12, (2.3) Corollary, page 417]). *Let  $X$  be an  $n$ -dimensional compact Kähler manifold and  $E$  be a holomorphic vector bundle over  $X$ . If the Hermitian operator  $A_E^{r,s}$  is positive definite on  $\wedge^{r,s}T^*X \otimes E$ , with  $s \geq 1$ , then the  $E$ -valued  $\bar{\partial}$ -cohomology groups*

$$H^{r,s}(X, E) = \frac{C_{r,s}^\infty(X, E) \cap \ker(\bar{\partial}, E)}{\bar{\partial}(C_{r,s-1}^\infty(X, E))} \equiv 0.$$

We show the following results using Theorem 10 (as in [21]).

**Theorem 11.** *Let  $(X, g)$  be a Kähler manifold of complex dimension  $n$  and  $\Omega \Subset X$  be a Hartogs pseudoconvex domain. Assume that  $E$  is a holomorphic vector bundle over  $X$  with the following properties:  $m_r(\Omega; E) > 0$  and let  $D = X \setminus \bar{\Omega}$ . Then for  $\theta \in C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{D}, E)$ ,  $\bar{\partial}\theta = 0$ ,  $s \geq 1$ , there exists  $u \in C_{r,s-1}^\infty(\bar{D}, E)$  such that  $\bar{\partial}u = \theta$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\theta \in C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{D}, E)$ , with  $\bar{\partial}\theta = 0$ , then there exists  $\theta' \in C_{r,s}^\infty(X, E)$  such that  $\theta'|_{\bar{D}} = \theta$  and  $\bar{\partial}\theta'$  vanishes to infinite order on  $b\Omega$  (see, for example, [30]; Lemma 2.4 for the existence of such an extension). Using [1]; Theorem 3.4, there exists  $u \in C_{r,s}^\infty(X, E)$  with  $\text{supp } u \subset \bar{\Omega}$  and such that  $\bar{\partial}u = \bar{\partial}\theta'$ . Define a  $(r, s)$ -form  $\Gamma$  on  $X$  by

$$\Gamma = \begin{cases} \theta' & \text{on } \bar{D}, \\ \theta' - u & \text{on } \Omega. \end{cases}$$

Then  $\Gamma$  is a  $\bar{\partial}$ -closed  $C^\infty$  extension of  $\theta$  to  $X$ . Following Theorem 10,

$$H^{r,s}(X, E) = 0.$$

When the Hodge theory is applied to compact complex manifolds, it follows that  $\bar{\partial}u = \Gamma$  for some  $u \in C_{r,s-1}^\infty(X, E)$ . Thus  $u|_{\bar{D}}$  has the desired properties.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.** *If  $H^{r,s}(X, E) = 0$ , then for  $\theta \in C_{r,s}^\infty(\bar{D}, E)$ ,  $\bar{\partial}\theta = 0$ ,  $s \geq 1$ , there exists  $u \in C_{r,s-1}^\infty(\bar{D}, E)$  such that  $\bar{\partial}u = \theta$ .*

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