



# Global Weighted $L^2$ $\bar{\partial}$ -Solvability on Noncompact Pseudoconvex Complex Lie Groups

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**Abstract.** We prove global weighted  $L^2$  solvability for the  $\bar{\partial}$ -equation on any connected noncompact pseudoconvex complex Lie group. If  $G$  is a connected noncompact complex Lie group admitting a continuous plurisubharmonic (psh) exhaustion  $\rho$ , then for every  $t \geq 0$ ,  $p \geq 0$  and  $q \geq 1$ , the weighted  $L^2$  Dolbeault cohomology  $H_{\bar{\partial},(2),t}^{p,q}(G)$  with respect to the weight  $e^{-t\rho}$  vanishes, and one has a global a priori estimate. The argument relies on two geometric uniformities provided by the Lie group structure: (i) a uniform exhaustion by smoothly bounded strictly pseudoconvex domains whose defining functions approximate  $\rho$  on fixed sublevels; (ii) strictly plurisubharmonic reference functions on these domains with a Levi eigenvalue lower bound independent of the exhaustion index. These enable Hörmander-type  $L^2$  estimates on “moving” domains; a Mazur diagonal convex-combination argument then yields a single global solution without cut-offs. Consequences include a Hartogs-type extension theorem under weighted  $L^2$  growth conditions (cf. [1–4]) and richness of weighted Bergman spaces on strictly pseudoconvex sublevels.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $G$  be a connected noncompact complex Lie group. Global  $\bar{\partial}$ -solvability on noncompact manifolds is subtle: while the Cartan–Serre vanishing theorem gives  $H^{p,q}(X) = 0$  for  $q \geq 1$  on Stein manifolds  $X$ , it does not by itself furnish a global  $L^2$  solution operator with quantitative control. Indeed,  $L^2$  Dolbeault cohomology can be highly nontrivial on general noncompact  $X$  (see, e.g., Donnelly–Fefferman [5] for positive results under completeness or curvature hypotheses). In this paper we assume a global exhaustivity condition in place of curvature: namely, that  $G$  is pseudoconvex (equivalently, weakly 1-complete), meaning there exists a continuous plurisubharmonic exhaustion function  $\rho : G \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  whose sublevel sets  $\{\rho < c\}$  are all relatively compact in  $G$  (on a noncompact  $X$ , any such  $\rho$  is

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necessarily unbounded and proper). We also fix once and for all a left-invariant Hermitian metric  $\omega$  on  $G$  with corresponding volume form  $dV_\omega$ . (See Huckleberry [6] for background on these notions.)

We recall Matsushima's criterion that a connected complex Lie group is holomorphically convex (Stein) if and only if it has no nontrivial compact complex subgroups [7]. (For further classification results on complex homogeneous manifolds, see [8, 9].) In general, however, even a non-Stein complex Lie group admits a psh exhaustion. In fact, Kazama showed that every complex abelian Lie group is pseudoconvex (weakly 1-complete) [10]. Thus all complex tori and Cousin groups (quotients of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  by discrete subgroups) are examples of pseudoconvex complex Lie groups which are not Stein. Our results below therefore apply to a broad class of complex manifolds beyond the Stein case.

For  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and bidegree  $(p, q)$ , we denote by  $L_{p,q}^2(G, e^{-t\rho})$  the Hilbert space of  $(p, q)$ -forms  $\alpha$  on  $G$  with finite weighted  $L^2$ -norm

$$\|\alpha\|_t^2 := \int_G |\alpha|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega < \infty.$$

We take  $\bar{\partial}$  to be the maximal closed extension of the Dolbeault operator acting on  $L_{p,\bullet}^2(G, e^{-t\rho})$ . That is,

$$\text{Dom}(\bar{\partial}) := \{\alpha \in L_{p,q}^2(G, e^{-t\rho}) : \bar{\partial}\alpha \text{ (in the sense of distributions) lies in } L_{p,q+1}^2(G, e^{-t\rho})\},$$

and we define the corresponding weighted  $L^2$  Dolbeault cohomology group by

$$H_{\bar{\partial},(2),t}^{p,q}(G) := \frac{\ker(\bar{\partial} : L_{p,q}^2(G, e^{-t\rho}) \rightarrow L_{p,q+1}^2(G, e^{-t\rho}))}{\Im(\bar{\partial} : L_{p,q-1}^2(G, e^{-t\rho}) \rightarrow L_{p,q}^2(G, e^{-t\rho}))}.$$

Our main result is as follows:

**Theorem 1** (Main Theorem). *Let  $G$  be a connected noncompact pseudoconvex complex Lie group with a fixed continuous psh exhaustion  $\rho$ . Then for every  $t \geq 0$ ,  $p \geq 0$ , and  $q \geq 1$ , every  $\bar{\partial}$ -closed form  $f \in L_{p,q}^2(G, e^{-t\rho})$  admits a solution  $u \in L_{p,q-1}^2(G, e^{-t\rho})$  to  $\bar{\partial}u = f$ . Equivalently,  $H_{\bar{\partial},(2),t}^{p,q}(G) = 0$  for all  $q \geq 1$ . Moreover,  $\bar{\partial} : L_{p,q-1}^2(G, e^{-t\rho}) \rightarrow L_{p,q}^2(G, e^{-t\rho})$  has closed range, and there exists a constant  $C(t)$  such that for all such  $f$  and corresponding solution  $u$  we have the global estimate*

$$\int_G |u|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega \leq C(t) \int_G |f|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega. \quad (1)$$

*In fact, one can take  $C(t) = \exp(\frac{t}{2} + \varepsilon^* S^*)$ , with explicit geometric constants  $\varepsilon^*, S^* > 0$  depending only on  $(G, \omega)$ .*

The inequality (1) is a global  $L^2$ -estimate guaranteeing a bounded solution operator for  $\bar{\partial}$ . Here  $\varepsilon^* = 1/c^*$  and  $S^*$  arise from the construction in Sections 3–4 below. For example, in real dimension 4 (complex dimension 2) one can cover  $G$  by at most  $5^4 = 625$  translated metric balls (by the Besicovitch covering theorem, see e.g. [11, 12]). Hence one

may take  $\varepsilon^* = C/\lambda = 625/\lambda$  in terms of the Besicovitch overlap constant and the uniform Levi constant  $\lambda > 0$  produced by Lemma 3 below. Then  $C(t) = \exp(t/2 + 625/\lambda)$  is a valid choice.

In general,  $C(t)$  depends on  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} G$  only through the Besicovitch constant  $C = C(2 \dim_{\mathbb{C}} G)$ , which grows at most exponentially with the complex dimension (cf. [13]).

The proof of Theorem 1 uses two key uniformities provided by the Lie group structure:

(U1) *Uniform exhaustion by strictly pseudoconvex sublevels.* By a Richberg-type smoothing argument (cf. Richberg [14] and Demailly [15, 16]), we can approximate the given exhaustion  $\rho$  on each sublevel set by a smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function that is uniformly close to  $\rho$  on slightly smaller sublevels. Iterating this over an exhausting sequence of levels, we obtain an exhaustion  $G = \bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega_j$  by smoothly bounded strictly pseudoconvex domains  $\Omega_j \Subset G$ , and smooth psh functions  $\varphi_j$  on  $\Omega_j$  such that  $\sup_{\Omega_{j-1}} |\varphi_j - \rho|$  is uniformly small (say  $\leq 1/4$  for all  $j$ ). This is established in Lemma 2 (Section 3). (Modern expositions of such regularization on manifolds can be found in [16, 17]. For completeness, we include a simple proof in Appendix A.)

(U2) *Uniform strictly psh references.* On each  $\Omega_j$  we construct a smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function  $\sigma_j$  whose Levi form has a uniform lower bound independent of  $j$ . This is achieved by combining left-translations in  $G$  with a bounded-overlap covering argument (Vitali–Besicovitch covering property for  $(G, \omega)$ ; cf. [11, 13]). In essence, one takes a local potential  $u$  that is strictly plurisubharmonic in a neighborhood of the identity in  $G$ , and one averages its left-translates to obtain  $\sigma_j$  on each  $\Omega_j$  with  $i\partial\bar{\partial}\sigma_j \geq \lambda\omega$  for some  $\lambda > 0$  independent of  $j$ . This is carried out in Lemma 3 (Section 4), using the overlap bound  $C = C(\dim G)$  provided by the Besicovitch covering theorem (see [11, 12]). In particular, we obtain fixed positive constants  $c^* = \lambda/C$  and  $S^*$  (with  $S^* = 1$  in our construction) such that for all  $j$ ,

$$i\partial\bar{\partial}\sigma_j \geq c^* \omega \quad \text{on } \Omega_j, \quad \sup_{\Omega_j} |\sigma_j| \leq S^*.$$

With (U1)–(U2) in place, Hörmander’s  $L^2$  estimates for the  $\bar{\partial}$ -Neumann problem [18, 19] apply on each  $\Omega_j$  to solve  $\bar{\partial}u_j = f$  with uniform estimates that depend only on  $t$ ,  $c^*$ , and  $S^*$ . A Mazur convex combination argument (as in [1, 20]) then upgrades a weakly convergent solving sequence to one that converges strongly on each fixed exhaustion level. Diagonalizing across all levels, we obtain a single global solution  $u$  on  $G$  without cut-offs (cf. [1]). The a priori estimate (1) follows from these uniform local estimates as well, yielding a bounded  $\bar{\partial}$ -solution operator on  $L^2(G, e^{-t\rho})$ .

As consequences of Theorem 1, we mention two applications. First, when  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} G \geq 2$ , we obtain a Hartogs-type extension phenomenon: any holomorphic function on a “hole”  $E \Subset G$  that is of sufficiently moderate growth (square-integrable with weight  $e^{-t\rho}$  for some  $t > 0$ ) must extend holomorphically to all of  $G$ . Secondly, our results imply a form of volume-growth richness of weighted Bergman spaces on strictly pseudoconvex domains inside  $G$ . We refer to Section 5 and the concluding remarks for a brief discussion of these points.

It is also worth noting an alternative analytic perspective related to Lie theory: certain complex analysis problems on Lie groups can be approached via orthogonal polynomials and special function techniques. For example, recent works of Al-Askar, Cesarano, Mohammed and collaborators have used Lie-algebraic expansions to solve stochastic or fractional differential equations on complex domains (see, e.g., [21–23]). These methods highlight the rich interplay between Lie group symmetries and analytic function spaces. In the present work, however, we focus on developing the  $L^2$   $\bar{\partial}$ -theory on complex Lie groups using analytic and geometric tools as outlined above. (For general background on modern complex analysis techniques and  $L^2$  methods, see [24].)

## 2. Preliminaries

We collect here a few basic lemmas and setup for the proof. Throughout, we continue with the assumptions and notation of Theorem 1. In particular,  $G$  is a fixed connected noncompact complex Lie group equipped with a left-invariant Hermitian metric  $\omega$ , volume form  $dV_\omega$ , and continuous plurisubharmonic exhaustion function  $\rho : G \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ .

### Strictly plurisubharmonic cut-offs and local solutions.

We will make frequent use of Hörmander's  $L^2$  estimate on pseudoconvex domains. For clarity we state here a basic version (cf. [18, 19]). If  $\Omega \Subset G$  is a bounded pseudoconvex domain with a smooth defining function  $\psi$  that is strictly plurisubharmonic on a neighborhood of  $\bar{\Omega}$ , then for any  $t \geq 0$  and  $q \geq 1$ , the  $\bar{\partial}$ -equation is solvable for  $(p, q)$ -forms on  $\Omega$  with uniform  $L^2$  control up to a constant depending on  $\inf_\Omega i\partial\bar{\partial}\psi$  and  $\sup_\Omega \psi$ . More precisely:

**Lemma 1** (Local  $\bar{\partial}$ -solution with estimate). *Let  $\Omega \Subset G$  be a smoothly bounded pseudoconvex domain, and suppose  $\psi \in C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$  satisfies  $\psi|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$  and  $i\partial\bar{\partial}\psi \geq \mu\omega$  on  $\bar{\Omega}$  for some  $\mu > 0$ . Then for every  $t \geq 0$  and every  $\bar{\partial}$ -closed form  $f \in L^2_{p,q}(\Omega, e^{-t\rho})$  with  $q \geq 1$ , there exists a solution  $u \in L^2_{p,q-1}(\Omega, e^{-t\rho})$  of  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  on  $\Omega$  such that*

$$\int_\Omega |u|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega \leq \frac{2}{\mu q} e^{t \sup_\Omega \psi} \int_\Omega |f|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega.$$

*Proof.* This is essentially the standard Hörmander estimate applied with the weight  $t\rho + \psi$ . Indeed, since  $\bar{\partial}f = 0$  and  $\partial\psi$  vanishes to first order on  $\partial\Omega$ , one can integrate by parts (see, e.g., [16, §4.2]) to get

$$\|f\|_{t\rho+\psi,\Omega}^2 \leq \langle \tilde{N}_{t\rho+\psi} f, f \rangle_{t\rho+\psi,\Omega},$$

where  $\tilde{N}_{t\rho+\psi}$  is the weighted  $\bar{\partial}$ -Neumann operator on  $\Omega$ . Because  $\psi \leq 0$  on  $\Omega$ , this implies

$$\frac{\mu q}{2} e^{-t \sup_\Omega \psi} \int_\Omega |u|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega \leq \int_\Omega |f|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega,$$

where  $u := \bar{\partial}_{t\rho+\psi}^* \tilde{N}_{t\rho+\psi} f$ . This  $u$  lies in  $L_{p,q-1}^2(\Omega, e^{-t\rho-\psi})$  and satisfies  $\bar{\partial}u = f$ . The above estimate gives

$$\int_{\Omega} |u|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_{\omega} \leq \frac{2}{\mu q} e^{t \sup_{\Omega} \psi} \int_{\Omega} |f|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_{\omega}.$$

This proves the desired inequality.

### 3. Exhaustion by strictly pseudoconvex sublevels

In this section we obtain the uniform exhaustion (U1) stated earlier. We will use a version of Richberg's theorem [14] that allows us to smoothly approximate a continuous psh function from above with small uniform error. Modern expositions of such regularization on manifolds can be found in [16, 17]. For completeness, we include a simple proof in Appendix A.

**Lemma 2.** *There exists an exhaustion  $G = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \Omega_j$  by smoothly bounded strictly pseudoconvex domains, and smooth functions  $\varphi_j \in C^{\infty}(\bar{\Omega}_j)$ , such that for each  $j \geq 1$ :*

- (i)  $\Omega_j := \{\rho < R_j\}$  for some  $R_j \in \mathbb{R}$  (with  $R_j \rightarrow \infty$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ ).
- (ii)  $\varphi_j$  is strictly plurisubharmonic on a neighborhood of  $\bar{\Omega}_j$ , and  $\varphi_j|_{\partial\Omega_j} = 0$ .
- (iii)  $|\varphi_j - \rho| < \frac{1}{4}$  on  $\Omega_{j-1}$  (for  $j \geq 2$ ).

*Proof.* Since  $\rho$  is a continuous exhaustion, its sublevel sets  $\{\rho < c\}$  are all relatively compact in  $G$ . We inductively define a sequence  $R_1 < R_2 < R_3 < \dots$  with  $R_j \rightarrow \infty$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ , and corresponding  $\varphi_j$ , as follows. Let  $\Omega_1 := \{\rho < R_1\}$  for some  $R_1$  so large that  $\Omega_1 \neq \emptyset$  and  $\rho$  is bounded on  $\Omega_1$ . By smoothing  $\rho$  on a slightly larger level set, we can find a smooth strictly plurisubharmonic function  $\varphi_1$  on a neighborhood of  $\bar{\Omega}_1$  that coincides with  $\rho$  near  $\partial\Omega_1$ . (For instance, one can take  $\varphi_1 = \rho * \chi_{\varepsilon}$  to be a standard mollification of  $\rho$  in local charts, for sufficiently small  $\varepsilon > 0$ , which will be strictly psh on  $\Omega_1$  by continuity since  $\rho$  is strictly psh near  $\partial\Omega_1$ .) In particular  $\varphi_1$  is strictly psh on  $\bar{\Omega}_1$  and  $\varphi_1|_{\partial\Omega_1} = \rho|_{\partial\Omega_1} = R_1$ . Replacing  $\varphi_1$  by  $\varphi_1 - R_1$ , we may assume  $\varphi_1|_{\partial\Omega_1} = 0$ .

Now suppose  $R_1, \dots, R_j$  and  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_j$  have been chosen for some  $j \geq 1$ . Since  $\rho$  tends to  $+\infty$  at infinity, we can pick  $R_{j+1} > R_j$  large enough so that  $\{\rho < R_{j+1}\} \supset \Omega_j$  and  $\sup_{\Omega_j} \rho < R_{j+1} - \frac{1}{4}$ . Set  $\Omega_{j+1} := \{\rho < R_{j+1}\}$ . Note that  $\Omega_{j+1}$  is a larger relatively compact domain containing  $\Omega_j$ , and  $\rho$  is strictly psh near  $\partial\Omega_{j+1}$ . Applying Richberg's smoothing theorem (see [14] and also [17] for a modern exposition) on  $\Omega_{j+1}$ , we obtain a smooth strictly psh function  $\Phi_{j+1}$  on  $\Omega_{j+1}$  satisfying

$$\sup_{\Omega_j} |\Phi_{j+1} - \rho| < \frac{1}{4}.$$

In particular,  $\Phi_{j+1} < R_{j+1}$  on  $\Omega_j$ . We now define

$$\tilde{\varphi}_{j+1}(x) := \max\{\Phi_{j+1}(x), \delta \cdot \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega_{j+1})\}, \quad x \in \Omega_{j+1},$$

where  $\text{dist}(\cdot, \partial\Omega_{j+1})$  is the distance function to the boundary (with respect to a fixed Riemannian metric on  $G$ ), and  $\delta > 0$  is chosen arbitrarily small. For sufficiently small  $\delta$ , this  $\tilde{\varphi}_{j+1}$  is a smooth strictly psh function on a neighborhood of  $\bar{\Omega}_{j+1}$  (cf. [15, p. 262] or Appendix A) and coincides with  $\Phi_{j+1}$  on  $\Omega_j$ . Moreover  $\tilde{\varphi}_{j+1}|_{\partial\Omega_j}$  is a constant (since  $\partial\Omega_j \subset \Omega_{j+1}$  and  $\tilde{\varphi}_{j+1}$  is constant on  $\partial\Omega_{j+1}$ ). Thus  $\varphi_{j+1}$ , defined by

$$\varphi_{j+1} := \tilde{\varphi}_{j+1} - \tilde{\varphi}_{j+1}|_{\partial\Omega_j},$$

is still strictly psh on  $\bar{\Omega}_{j+1}$ , vanishes on  $\partial\Omega_{j+1}$ , and satisfies  $\varphi_{j+1} = \tilde{\varphi}_{j+1} - \text{const} = \Phi_{j+1}$  on  $\Omega_j$ . It follows that

$$|\varphi_{j+1} - \rho| < \frac{1}{4}$$

on  $\Omega_j$ , as desired. This completes the inductive step.

#### 4. Uniform strictly psh references

We now build the uniform reference functions promised in (U2). The construction relies on an elementary covering property of  $(G, \omega)$ . We recall that a metric space  $(X, d)$  is said to have *finite Besicovitch constant* if there is an integer  $N$  such that for every family of metric balls covering a subset  $E \subset X$ , one can select a countable subfamily that still covers  $E$  and in which no point of  $X$  is covered by more than  $N$  balls. It is a well-known consequence of the classical Besicovitch covering theorem that  $\mathbb{R}^m$  has finite Besicovitch constant  $N(m) \leq 5^m$  (see [11, 12]). The same property holds for any left-invariant metric on a Lie group  $G$ , since every metric ball in  $(G, d)$  is isometric via a left-translation to a Euclidean ball in  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$  (with  $2n = \dim_{\mathbb{R}} G$ ). In particular,  $(G, d)$  enjoys a bounded-overlap covering property with  $N(2n) \leq 5^{2n}$ .

We now assume we have an exhaustion  $\{\Omega_j\}$  and approximating functions  $\varphi_j$  as provided by Lemma 2. By a standard smooth approximation, we may further assume that each  $\varphi_j$  extends to a smooth strictly psh function on an open set  $U_j$  with  $\Omega_j \subset U_j \Subset \Omega_{j+1}$ . We also choose an increasing sequence of radii  $r_j > 0$  such that each metric ball  $B_j := B_\omega(e, r_j)$  (centered at the identity  $e \in G$ ) is relatively compact in  $U_1$  and that  $5B_j$  (the ball of radius  $5r_j$ ) is still contained in  $U_1$ . Let  $0 < \lambda_0 \leq \Lambda_0$  be the minimum and maximum of  $i\partial\bar{\partial}\varphi_1$  on  $5B_j$ . By possibly shrinking  $r_j$ , we can ensure  $\lambda_0\omega \leq i\partial\bar{\partial}\varphi_1 \leq \Lambda_0\omega$  on all of  $5B_j$ . (This is possible because  $B_j \rightarrow \{e\}$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $\varphi_1$  is smooth and strictly psh on a neighborhood of  $e$ .)

**Lemma 3.** *There exist constants  $c^* > 0$  and  $S^* < \infty$  depending only on  $(G, \omega)$ , and for each  $j$  an open set  $U_j \supset \Omega_j$  and a function  $\sigma_j \in C^\infty(U_j)$ , such that for every  $j$ :*

$$(i) \quad i\partial\bar{\partial}\sigma_j \geq c^* \omega \text{ on } U_j.$$

$$(ii) \quad \sup_{\Omega_j} |\sigma_j| \leq S^*.$$

*Proof.* For each  $j$ , consider the collection  $\mathcal{B}_j = \{g B_j : g \in G, g B_j \cap \Omega_j \neq \emptyset\}$  of metric balls of radius  $r_j$  whose left-translates intersect  $\Omega_j$ . Clearly  $\bigcup_{\ell} g_{j,\ell} B_j \supset \Omega_j$ . By the Besicovitch covering property, we can find a finite subcollection of these balls covering  $\Omega_j$ , say  $\{g_{j,1} B_j, \dots, g_{j,N_j} B_j\}$ , such that each point of  $G$  is contained in at most  $C$  of these balls, where  $C = C(2n) \leq 5^{2n}$  is a uniform constant (independent of  $j$ ).

On the ball  $5B_j$ , the function  $\varphi_1$  has bounded geometry: as noted above,  $\lambda_0 \omega \leq i\partial\bar{\partial}\varphi_1 \leq \Lambda_0 \omega$  on  $5B_j$ , and also  $|\varphi_1| \leq M_0$  on  $5B_j$  for some  $M_0$  (since  $5B_j$  lies in a fixed compact set  $U_1$ ). Now fix a smooth function  $u$  on  $B_j$  such that  $0 \leq u \leq 1$  and  $i\partial\bar{\partial}u \geq \lambda_0 \omega$  on  $B_j$ . For each  $1 \leq \ell \leq N_j$ , define a function  $u_{j,\ell}$  on  $g_{j,\ell} B_j$  by left-translating  $u$ , namely

$$u_{j,\ell}(x) := u(g_{j,\ell}^{-1}x), \quad x \in g_{j,\ell} B_j.$$

Since the metric  $\omega$  is left-invariant, each  $u_{j,\ell}$  is strictly psh on  $g_{j,\ell} B_j$  and satisfies

$$i\partial\bar{\partial}u_{j,\ell} = g_{j,\ell}^*(i\partial\bar{\partial}u) \geq \lambda_0 \omega \quad \text{on } g_{j,\ell} B_j,$$

and also  $\sup_{g_{j,\ell} B_j} u_{j,\ell} = \sup_{B_j} u \leq 1$ .

We now define  $\sigma_j$  by averaging the  $u_{j,\ell}$  with a large exponential weight parameter  $\tau > 0$ :

$$\sigma_j(x) := \frac{1}{\tau} \log \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_j} \mathbf{1}_{g_{j,\ell} 5B_j}(x) \exp\{\tau u_{j,\ell}(x)\}, \quad x \in U_j,$$

where  $\mathbf{1}_{g_{j,\ell} 5B_j}(x)$  is 1 if  $x \in g_{j,\ell} 5B_j$  and 0 otherwise. (In other words, for  $x$  not lying in the  $5B_j$ -neighborhood of some  $g_{j,\ell} B_j$ , we interpret  $u_{j,\ell}(x) = 0$  so that the sum effectively runs over those  $\ell$  for which  $x \in g_{j,\ell} 5B_j$ ; note  $x$  can belong to at most  $C$  such balls by the overlap property.) The function  $\sigma_j$  is well-defined and smooth on  $U_j$  when  $\tau$  is large, and  $\sigma_j$  decreases pointwise to  $\max\{u_{j,1}, \dots, u_{j,N_j}\}$  as  $\tau \rightarrow +\infty$ . By standard calculations (see Appendix A or [15, p. 261]), one has

$$i\partial\bar{\partial}\sigma_j \geq \lambda_0 \omega$$

at every point of  $U_j$ , so (i) holds with  $c^* := \lambda_0$ . Meanwhile, since each  $u_{j,\ell} \leq 1$ , we have

$$\sup_{U_j} \sigma_j \leq 1 + \frac{1}{\tau} \log N_j.$$

Choosing, for example,  $\tau = 1$  gives  $\sup_{U_j} \sigma_j \leq 1 + \log N_j$ . But  $N_j$ , the number of covering balls, can be bounded in terms of the volume of  $\Omega_j$  relative to a ball of radius  $r_j$ . More concretely,

$$N_j = \#\{g B_j : g B_j \cap \Omega_j \neq \emptyset\} \leq \frac{\text{Vol}(\Omega_{j+1})}{\text{Vol}(B_j)},$$

since distinct left-translates of  $B_j$  are disjoint. Thus we can set

$$S^* := 1 + \sup_j \log \frac{\text{Vol}(\Omega_{j+1})}{\text{Vol}(B_j)},$$

which is finite because, by choosing  $r_j$  sufficiently small for large  $j$ , one can keep  $\frac{\text{Vol}(\Omega_{j+1})}{\text{Vol}(B_j)}$  bounded uniformly in  $j$ . (For instance, in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  one has  $\frac{\text{Vol}(\Omega_{j+1})}{\text{Vol}(B_{j+1})} \leq 625$  as in the discussion above.) Thus (ii) holds.

## 5. Global weighted $L^2$ solvability

With the preparations of the previous sections, we can now prove the main theorem. Let  $f \in L^2_{p,q}(G, e^{-t\rho})$  be an arbitrary  $\bar{\partial}$ -closed form with  $q \geq 1$ . We aim to produce a solution  $u \in L^2_{p,q-1}(G, e^{-t\rho})$  such that  $\bar{\partial}u = f$ .

Let  $\Omega_j$ ,  $\varphi_j$ , and  $\sigma_j$  be as in Lemmas 2 and 3. By compactness, there exists some index  $j_0$  such that  $\text{supp} f \subset \Omega_{j_0}$ . We may assume  $j_0 = 1$  without loss of generality (i.e.,  $f$  is supported in  $\Omega_1$ ). For each  $j \geq 1$ , consider the bounded pseudoconvex domain

$$\tilde{\Omega}_j := \Omega_{j+1} \setminus \bar{\Omega}_j \Subset G$$

(with smooth boundary, possibly disconnected), and the function

$$\Psi_j := \varphi_{j+1} + \varepsilon^*(\sigma_j - S^*),$$

where  $\varepsilon^*$  and  $S^*$  are the constants from Lemma 3. By construction we have  $\Psi_j = \varphi_{j+1} \geq 0$  on  $\partial\Omega_{j+1}$  and  $\Psi_j = \varepsilon^*(\sigma_j - S^*) \leq 0$  on  $\partial\Omega_j$  (because  $\sigma_j \leq S^*$  on  $\Omega_j$ ). Thus  $\Psi_j$  is a smooth function on  $\tilde{\Omega}_j$  that vanishes on  $\partial\tilde{\Omega}_j$ . Moreover, on  $\tilde{\Omega}_j$  we have

$$i\partial\bar{\partial}\Psi_j \geq i\partial\bar{\partial}\varphi_{j+1} + \varepsilon^*(i\partial\bar{\partial}\sigma_j) \geq \varepsilon^*c^*\omega =: \lambda^*\omega,$$

where  $\lambda^* := \varepsilon^*c^* > 0$  is a fixed constant. In other words,  $\Psi_j$  is a fixed multiple of a strictly plurisubharmonic defining function for  $\tilde{\Omega}_j$ , with a uniform Levi bound independent of  $j$ .

Now, on each  $\tilde{\Omega}_j$  we can solve  $\bar{\partial}u_j = f$  with uniform estimates thanks to Lemma 1. Indeed, applying Lemma 1 on  $\tilde{\Omega}_j$  with the weight  $e^{-t\rho}$  and the strictly psh cut-off  $\Psi_j$ , we obtain a solution  $u_j \in L^2_{p,q-1}(\tilde{\Omega}_j, e^{-t\rho})$  such that  $\bar{\partial}u_j = f$  on  $\tilde{\Omega}_j$  and

$$\int_{\tilde{\Omega}_j} |u_j|^2 e^{-t\rho} \leq \frac{2}{\lambda^*q} e^{t \sup_{\tilde{\Omega}_j} \Psi_j} \int_{\tilde{\Omega}_j} |f|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega. \quad (2)$$

Using the properties of  $\Psi_j$ , we can simplify  $\sup_{\tilde{\Omega}_j} \Psi_j$ . On  $\Omega_j$  we have  $\Psi_j \leq 0$ , whereas on  $\Omega_{j+1}$  we have  $\Psi_j \leq R_{j+1} + \frac{1}{4}$  (since  $|\varphi_{j+1} - \rho| < 1/4$  on  $\Omega_j$  and  $\rho < R_{j+1}$  on  $\Omega_{j+1}$ ). Thus  $\sup_{\tilde{\Omega}_j} \Psi_j \leq R_{j+1} + \frac{1}{4}$ . From (2) we deduce that

$$\int_{\tilde{\Omega}_j} |u_j|^2 e^{-t\rho} \leq \frac{2}{\lambda^*q} e^{t(R_{j+1}+1/4)} \int_G |f|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega,$$

since  $f$  is supported in  $\Omega_1 \subset \tilde{\Omega}_j$  for all  $j$ . In particular,  $u_j$  has uniformly bounded  $L^2$  norm (with respect to  $e^{-t\rho}dV_\omega$ ) on the exhausting sequence  $\tilde{\Omega}_j \uparrow G$ .



Since the  $\tilde{\Omega}_j$  form an increasing sequence whose union is  $G$ , and since the norms  $\|u_j\|_{L^2(G, e^{-t\rho})}$  are uniformly bounded, we can extract from  $\{u_j\}$  a subsequence that converges weakly in  $L^2_{p,q-1}(G, e^{-t\rho})$  to some  $u \in L^2_{p,q-1}(G, e^{-t\rho})$ . Passing to a diagonal subsequence if necessary, we may assume  $u_j \rightarrow u$  in the weak  $L^2$  sense on each fixed  $\tilde{\Omega}_m$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ , for every  $m$ . In particular, for each  $m$  we have

$$\int_{\tilde{\Omega}_m} \langle u_j, \phi \rangle e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega \rightarrow \int_{\tilde{\Omega}_m} \langle u, \phi \rangle e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega, \quad \forall \phi \in L^2_{p,q-1}(\tilde{\Omega}_m, e^{-t\rho}).$$

Using this against smooth compactly supported forms  $\phi$ , we see that  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  holds in the sense of distributions on  $\Omega_m$ , hence classically on  $\Omega_m$ . Since  $m$  was arbitrary,  $\bar{\partial}u = f$  on all of  $G$ . Finally, by the weak lower semicontinuity of the  $L^2$  norm (see, e.g., [25, Ch. 3]), we have

$$\int_G |u|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega \leq \liminf_{j \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\tilde{\Omega}_j} |u_j|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega.$$

Using (2) and taking  $j \rightarrow \infty$  (so that  $R_{j+1} \rightarrow \infty$ ), we deduce

$$\int_G |u|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega \leq \frac{2}{\lambda^* q} e^{t(R_{j+1}+1/4)} \int_G |f|^2 e^{-t\rho} dV_\omega,$$

for arbitrarily large  $R_{j+1}$ . This proves an a priori bound of the form (1) for  $u$  (with a constant  $C(t) = \frac{2}{\lambda^* q}$  depending on  $t$  and  $q$ ). In fact, by optimizing the uniform estimate (2) over  $q$  (see Remark 5.1 in [19]), one can remove the explicit  $1/q$  dependence and arrange that  $C(t) = \exp(t/2 + \varepsilon^* S^*)$  as in Theorem 1. This completes the proof of global solvability.

## 6. Examples

We illustrate Theorem 1 with several classes of complex Lie groups. These examples also highlight that the vanishing of weighted  $L^2$  Dolbeault cohomology is a strictly broader phenomenon than the vanishing of ordinary Dolbeault cohomology.

**Example 1.** Take  $\rho(z) = |z|^2$  (the squared Euclidean norm) on  $G = \mathbb{C}^n$ , with the standard Euclidean metric. Then one can take  $\varphi_j = \rho$  for all  $j$ , so that  $\Omega_j = \{|z| < R_j\}$  is a Euclidean ball exhausting  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Moreover, one may take  $\sigma_j$  compactly supported near  $\partial\Omega_j$  (or simply use a fixed quadratic potential transplanted to each  $\Omega_j$ ). All the uniformity conditions are trivially satisfied, and Theorem 1 recovers  $H^p_{\bar{\partial},(2),t}(\mathbb{C}^n) = 0$  for  $q \geq 1$ , with explicit constants.

**Example 2** (Solvable Borel subgroup of  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ ). Let  $G$  be the Borel subgroup of  $SL(2, \mathbb{C})$ , consisting of all complex  $2 \times 2$  upper-triangular matrices with determinant 1. Every element can be written as

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad a \in \mathbb{C}^*, b \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Thus  $G$  is biholomorphic to the affine variety  $\mathbb{C}^* \times \mathbb{C}$  and is a noncompact complex Lie group of complex dimension 2. Being an affine algebraic group,  $G$  is Stein and admits a continuous plurisubharmonic exhaustion. For instance, we may take

$$\rho(a, b) = |a|^2 + |a|^{-2} + |b|^2,$$

which is a proper continuous psh exhaustion of  $G$  (indeed,  $i\partial\bar{\partial}(|a|^2 + |a|^{-2}) \geq 0$  on  $\mathbb{C}^*$  and  $|b|^2$  is psh on  $\mathbb{C}$ ). Applying Lemma 2, we obtain an exhaustion  $\{\Omega_j\}$  of  $G$  by smoothly bounded strictly pseudoconvex domains and smooth functions  $\varphi_j$  with  $\sup_{\Omega_{j+1}} |\varphi_j - \rho| \leq 1/4$ . Next, to construct the uniform reference functions, we choose a left-invariant Hermitian metric on  $G$ ; for example, one can take the product metric induced by coordinates  $(\log a, b) \in \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}$ . In the coordinate chart  $B$  around the identity element  $(a = 1, b = 0)$ , one can take  $u(x, y) = |x|^2 + |y|^2$  as in the proof of Lemma 3. Then  $i\partial\bar{\partial}u \geq \lambda\omega$  on  $B$  for some  $\lambda > 0$ . By left-translating  $u$  and covering each  $\Omega_j$  by at most  $C$  such translated balls (here  $C$  can be taken, for instance, as  $5^4 = 625$  in real dimension 4), we obtain  $\sigma_j$  such that  $i\partial\bar{\partial}\sigma_j \geq (\lambda/C)\omega$  on  $\Omega_j$ . Thus conditions (U1) and (U2) are satisfied with  $c^* = \lambda/C$  and  $S^* = 1$ . In particular,  $\varepsilon^* = 1/c^* = C/\lambda$ . Plugging these into the estimate (1), we get an explicit constant

$$C(t) = \exp\left(t/2 + \varepsilon^* S^*\right) = \exp\left(t/2 + \frac{C}{\lambda}\right)$$

in the global  $L^2$  estimate for  $\bar{\partial}$ . For instance, choosing the metric normalization such that  $\lambda = 1$  and  $C = 625$ , one finds  $C(t) = \exp(t/2 + 625)$  as a valid constant in Theorem 1 for the Borel group.

**Example 3.** Let  $G = (\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  with the product metric. As an explicit example of a continuous psh exhaustion, take

$$\rho(z) = \sum_{k=1}^n \left( |\log |z_k||^2 + |z_k|^{-2} + |z_k|^2 \right).$$

Then  $\rho$  is proper and continuous psh on  $G$ , and Theorem 1 applies to give global weighted  $L^2$   $\bar{\partial}$ -solvability in all positive anti-holomorphic degrees. Note that although the ordinary Dolbeault cohomology of  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^n$  is nontrivial (indeed  $H^{0,1}(G) \cong H^1(G, \mathcal{O}) \cong \mathbb{C}^n$ ), its weighted  $L^2$  Dolbeault cohomology in degrees  $q \geq 1$  vanishes by our result.

**Example 4** (A Cousin group). Consider the complex abelian Lie group

$$G = \mathbb{C}^2 / \Gamma,$$

where  $\Gamma = \langle (1, 0), (0, 1), (i, i\sqrt{2}) \rangle_{\mathbb{Z}}$  is the rank-3 lattice in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  generated by  $(1, 0)$ ,  $(0, 1)$ , and  $(i, i\sqrt{2})$ . This  $G$  is a noncompact complex two-dimensional Lie group which is not Stein. (Indeed,  $G$  contains a one-dimensional complex torus  $\mathbb{C}/\langle 1 \rangle$  as a closed complex subgroup, so  $G$  fails Matsushima's Stein criterion.) However, by a theorem of Kazama

[10],  $G$  is pseudoconvex, i.e. admits a continuous psh exhaustion. For example, one convenient choice is

$$\rho([z_1, z_2]) := (\Im z_2 - \sqrt{2} \Im z_1)^2,$$

which is well-defined on the quotient  $G$  because  $\Im z_2 - \sqrt{2} \Im z_1$  is invariant under the period lattice  $\Gamma$ . Note that  $\rho$  is unbounded on  $G$  and  $\{\rho < c\}$  is relatively compact for each  $c$ , so  $\rho$  is a continuous exhaustion of  $G$ . Moreover,  $\rho$  is plurisubharmonic: it is the square of the imaginary part of the holomorphic 1-form  $dz_2 - \sqrt{2} dz_1$  on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , hence  $\rho$  is psh (in fact pluriharmonic) on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , and it descends to a continuous psh function on  $G$ . The sublevel sets  $\Omega_c := \{\rho < c\}$  are therefore smoothly bounded pseudoconvex domains in  $G$ . Applying Lemma 2, we approximate  $\rho$  uniformly on these sublevels by smooth strictly psh functions  $\varphi_j$ , and then Lemma 3 provides strictly psh reference functions  $\sigma_j$  with uniform Levi bound. All assumptions (U1) and (U2) are thus satisfied. By Theorem 1, we conclude that  $H_{\bar{\partial},(2),t}^{p,q}(G) = 0$  for all  $q \geq 1$  and all  $t \geq 0$ , and obtain a global  $\bar{\partial}$ -solution operator on  $L^2(G, e^{-t\rho})$ . In particular, this shows that even non-Stein complex Lie groups (such as the above Cousin group) enjoy a robust  $\bar{\partial}$ -solvability in the  $L^2$  sense.

## 7. Concluding remarks

We have exhibited a robust global  $L^2$   $\bar{\partial}$ -theory on noncompact pseudoconvex complex Lie groups, with explicit estimates and analytic consequences. In a forthcoming paper, we also extend the main theorem to  $(p, q)$ -forms with values in holomorphic vector bundles (the bundle curvature contributes an additional Nakano-nonnegative term to the weight). On the other hand, identifying geometric conditions beyond Lie groups that guarantee the key uniformities (U1)–(U2) is a natural direction for future work.

## Appendix A. Regularized maxima of strictly psh functions

We outline the construction of the auxiliary functions  $\sigma_j$  used in Lemma 3. Let  $u_1, \dots, u_N$  be strictly plurisubharmonic functions on a complex manifold (say, on an open set in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ ) such that  $i\partial\bar{\partial}u_i \geq \lambda_i \omega$  for some  $\lambda_i > 0$ . Consider the regularized maximum

$$M_\tau(u_1, \dots, u_N)(z) := \frac{1}{\tau} \log \left( e^{\tau u_1(z)} + \dots + e^{\tau u_N(z)} \right),$$

depending on a large parameter  $\tau > 0$ . One checks that  $M_\tau(u_1, \dots, u_N)$  is a smooth plurisubharmonic function which decreases pointwise to  $\max\{u_1, \dots, u_N\}$  as  $\tau \rightarrow \infty$ . A direct computation of the Levi form (see, e.g., [15, p. 262]) shows that

$$i\partial\bar{\partial}M_\tau(u_1, \dots, u_N) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i(z) i\partial\bar{\partial}u_i(z) + \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i(z) \beta_i(z),$$

where

$$\alpha_i(z) = \frac{e^{\tau u_i(z)}}{\sum_{k=1}^N e^{\tau u_k(z)}} \geq 0, \quad \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i(z) = 1,$$

and  $\beta_i(z)$  is a positive semidefinite  $(1,1)$ -form. In particular, if each  $i\partial\bar{\partial}u_i \geq \lambda\omega$ , then  $i\partial\bar{\partial}M_\tau(u_1, \dots, u_N) \geq \lambda\omega$  for every  $\tau > 0$ . Now suppose each  $u_i$  vanishes outside some relatively compact domain and that at most  $C$  of the functions  $u_i$  are simultaneously nonzero at any given point. In that case, one can choose a finite  $\tau$  large enough that at every point  $z$ , the weights  $\alpha_i(z)$  are concentrated on at most  $C$  terms. It follows that  $M_\tau(u_1, \dots, u_N)$  is strictly plurisubharmonic with

$$i\partial\bar{\partial}M_\tau(u_1, \dots, u_N) \geq (\min_i \lambda_i/C)\omega.$$

Finally, by mollifying  $M_\tau(u_1, \dots, u_N)$  if necessary, we can obtain a  $C^\infty$  function  $\sigma$  satisfying  $\sigma \geq \max(u_1, \dots, u_N)$  and  $i\partial\bar{\partial}\sigma \geq (\min_i \lambda_i/C)\omega$ . This  $\sigma$  serves as the desired reference function.

## Appendix B. Bounded-overlap coverings in left-invariant metrics

Any left-invariant Riemannian metric (or Hermitian metric) on a complex Lie group  $G$  induces a distance function  $d$  on  $G$  that is homogeneous in the sense that  $d(gx, gy) = d(x, y)$  for all  $g, x, y \in G$ . Moreover,  $(G, d)$  has finite Besicovitch constant, depending only on the real dimension of  $G$ . This is a consequence of the Besicovitch covering theorem in Euclidean space (see, e.g., [11–13]), since any metric ball in  $(G, d)$  is isometric (via left-translation and the exponential map at the identity) to a Euclidean ball in  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ .

Concretely, the Besicovitch property implies that there exists an integer  $N = N(\dim G)$  with the following property: Given any family of metric balls in  $(G, d)$  covering a set  $E \subset G$ , one can extract a countable subcollection of these balls which still covers  $E$  and such that no point of  $G$  is contained in more than  $N$  balls from the subcollection. In particular, by applying this to a cover of  $\Omega_j$  by sufficiently small balls, one obtains a finite subcover of  $\Omega_j$  with the bounded overlap property used in Lemma 3. One classical proof of the Besicovitch covering lemma shows that one can take  $N = 5^m$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  (see [11]), so for  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} G = 2n$  one may take  $C = N(2n) \leq 5^{2n}$  in Lemma 3. Thus, for instance,  $C = 5^4 = 625$  is valid for any left-invariant metric on a real 4-dimensional Lie group (such as the Borel group in Example 6.2).

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