

## Aberrant CR structures

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### 0. Introduction. Statement of results

Throughout this work  $\Omega$  denotes a  $C^\infty$  manifold, countable at infinity, of dimension  $2n+1$  ( $n \geq 1$ ). What we call here an *abstract CR structure* (to be precise one should add "of codimension one") is the datum of a  $C^\infty$  vector subbundle  $\mathcal{C}$  of the complex tangent bundle  $CT\Omega$  (henceforth called *the CR bundle*) submitted to the following three conditions:

- (0.1)  $[\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{C}] \subset \mathcal{C}$ , i. e., the commutation bracket of any two smooth sections of  $\mathcal{C}$  over an open subset of  $\Omega$  is a section of  $\mathcal{C}$  over that same subset;
- (0.2)  $\mathcal{C} \cap \bar{\mathcal{C}} = \{0\}$  ( $\bar{\mathcal{C}}$  is "the complex conjugate" of  $\mathcal{C}$ );
- (0.3) the fibre dimension over  $\mathbb{C}$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  is equal to  $n$ .

Call  $\mathcal{C}'$  the orthogonal of  $\mathcal{C}$  in the complex cotangent bundle  $CT^*\Omega$  for the duality between tangent and cotangent vectors. Note that (0.2) is equivalent to

$$(0.4) \quad CT^*\Omega = \mathcal{C}' + \bar{\mathcal{C}}' .$$

Let  $\Omega'$  be any open subset of  $\Omega$ . A  $C^1$  function (resp., a distribution)  $f$  in  $\Omega'$  is called a CR function (resp., a CR distribution) if  $Lf=0$  whatever the smooth section  $L$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  over  $\Omega'$ . The differentials of the  $C^1$  CR functions are continuous sections of  $\mathcal{C}'$ . The CR structure  $\mathcal{C}$  is said to be *locally*

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