Modified Cartan’s Conjecture

A. Eremenko

April 4, 2015

Denote $D(R) = \{ z : |z| < R \}$. For a fixed integer $p \geq 3$, consider the set $V(D)$ of all vectors $f = (f_1, \ldots, f_p)$, where $f_j$ are functions, holomorphic and zero-free in a region $D$ in the complex plane, and satisfying

$$f_1 + f_2 + \ldots + f_p = 0.$$

If $S$ is an infinite sequence of such vectors, and $D_1 \subset D$, we call a subset $I \subset \{ 1, \ldots, p \}$ a $C$-class for $S$ in $D_1$, if
(a) for some $k \in I$ all sequences $(f_j/f_k)$, $f \in S$, $j \in I$ are uniformly bounded on compact subsets of $D_1$, and
(b) $\sum_{j \in I} f_j/f_k \to 0$ for $f \in S$, uniformly on compact subsets of $D_1$.

It follows from (b) that every $C$-class contains at least 2 elements.

**Conjecture.** Given an infinite sequence $S$ of vectors in $V(D(1))$, there exists an infinite subsequence $S'$ of $S$, such that the set $\{1, \ldots, p\}$ is a union of disjoint $C$-classes for $S'$ in $D(R_p)$, where $R_p > 0$ depends only on $p$.

For $p = 3$ one can take $R_3 = 1$, and the Conjecture is equivalent to Montel’s Theorem. For $p = 4$ one can also take $R_4 = 1$, and in this case the Conjecture is a consequence of the following result of H. Cartan, which is true for every $p$:

**Cartan’s Theorem** [1,3] Given an infinite sequence of vectors in $V(D(1))$, there exists a subsequence $S'$ of $S$, such that either the set $\{1, \ldots, p\}$ constitutes a $C$-class, or it contains at least two disjoint $C$-classes.

When $p = 5$ one cannot take $R = 1$ anymore, but the Conjecture is true with $R_5 = 1/64$ [2]. If the Conjecture is true, can one take $R_p > 0$
independent of $p$? What is the geometric interpretation of the Conjecture? Apparently it says something on the Kobayashi pseudometric in $p - 2$ dimensional projective space minus $p$ hyperplanes in general position.