

# **Morse inequalities for Fourier components of Kohn–Rossi cohomology of CR manifolds with** *S***1-action**

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**Abstract** Let *X* be a compact connected CR manifold of dimension  $2n - 1$ ,  $n \ge 2$  with a transversal CR *S*1-action on *X*. We study the Fourier components of the Kohn–Rossi cohomology with respect to the *S*1-action. By studying the Szegö kernel of the Fourier components we establish the Morse inequalities on *X*. Using the Morse inequalities we have established on *X* we prove that there are abundant CR functions on *X* when *X* is weakly pseudoconvex and strongly pseudoconvex at a point.

## **1 Introduction**

The problem of embedding CR manifolds is prominent in areas such as complex analysis, partial differential equations and differential geometry. Let *X* be a compact CR manifold of dimension  $2n-1$ ,  $n \geq 2$ . When *X* is strongly pseudoconvex and dimension of *X* is greater than or equal to five, a classical theorem of Boutet de Monvel [\[5\]](#page-26-0) asserts that *X* can be globally CR embedded into  $\mathbb{C}^N$ , for some  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ . For a compact strongly pseudoconvex CR manifold of dimension greater than or equal to five, the dimension of the kernel of the tangential Cauchy– Riemmann operator  $\overline{\partial}_b$  is infinite and we can find many CR functions to embed *X* into complex space. The classical example of non-embeddable three dimensional strongly pseudoconvex

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CR manifold appears implicitly in the non-fillable example of pseudoconcave manifold by Grauert [\[15\]](#page-27-0), Andreotti and Siu [\[1\]](#page-26-1) and Rossi [\[29\]](#page-27-1) and was explicited by Burns [\[6](#page-26-2)]. In [\[24\]](#page-27-2) it is shown that a compact strongly pseudoconvex three dimensional CR manifold which admits an inner *S*1-action is the boundary of a compact strongly pseudoconvex surface. By Kohn's result [\[23\]](#page-27-3), this implies that it is embeddedable in  $\mathbb{C}^N$  for some *N* (see [\[21](#page-27-4)] for another proof). Bland obtained in [\[4](#page-26-3)] that for a CR manifold which admits a free transversal  $S<sup>1</sup>$ -action will be embedded into complex space if the CR structure admits a normal form relative to this  $S<sup>1</sup>$ -action which has no negative Fourier coefficients. Epstein [\[12](#page-27-5), Theorem A16] proved that a three dimensional compact strongly pseudoconvex CR manifold *X* with a global free transversal CR  $S^1$  action can be embedded into  $\mathbb{C}^N$  by the positive Fourier components of CR functions. Since the action is globally free, Epstein considered the quotient of the CR manifold by the  $S<sup>1</sup>$ -action. The action which is CR and transversal implies that the quotient  $X/S<sup>1</sup>$  is a compact Riemann surface with a positive holomorphic line bundle. Then *X* is CR isomorphism to the circle bundle with respect to the dual bundle of the positive line bundle. Using Kodaira's embedding theorem, Epstein got the embedding theorem of the CR manifold by the space of positive Fourier components of CR functions.

Motivated by Epstein's work, we will consider a compact CR manifold *X* of dimension  $\dim X = 2n - 1, n \ge 2$  with a transversal CR  $S^1$ -action and study the Fourier components of Kohn–Rossi cohomology of ∂*b*-complex on *X*. The transversal CR *S*1-action need not to be globally free but locally free. We use *T* to denote the global vector field induced by the *S*<sup>1</sup>-action. For *m* ∈  $\mathbb{Z}$  and *m* > 0, we use  $H_{b,m}^0(X) = \{u \in C^\infty(X) : \overline{\partial}_b u = 0, Tu = imu\}$ to denote the *m*-th positive Fourier component of CR functions (see [\[12\]](#page-27-5)). The embeddability of *X* by positive Fourier components of CR functions is related to the behavior of the *S*<sup>1</sup> action on *X*. For example, if one can find  $f_1 \in H_{b,m}^0(X), \ldots, f_{d_m} \in H_{b,m}^0(X)$  and  $g_1 \in$  $H_{b,m_1}^0(X), \ldots, g_{h_{m_1}} \in H_{b,m_1}^0(X)$  such that the map

<span id="page-1-0"></span>
$$
\Phi_{m,m_1} : x \in X \to \left( f_1(x), \ldots, f_{d_m}(x), g_1(x), \ldots, g_{h_{m_1}}(x) \right) \in \mathbb{C}^{d_m + h_{m_1}}
$$

is a CR embedding. The  $S^1$ -action on *X* induces naturally a  $S^1$ -action on  $\Phi_{m,m_1}(X)$  and this  $S^1$ -action on  $\Phi_{m,m_1}(X)$  is simply given by the following:

$$
e^{i\theta}\circ(z_1,\ldots,z_{d_m},z_{d_m+1},\ldots,z_{d_m+h_{m_1}})=(e^{im\theta}z_1,\ldots,e^{im\theta}z_{d_m},e^{im_1\theta}z_{d_m+1},\ldots,e^{im_1\theta}z_{d_m+h_{m_1}}).
$$

Thus, if one can embed such CR manifold by positive Fourier components of CR functions, we can describe the  $S<sup>1</sup>$ -action explicitly. To study the embedding problem of such CR manifold by positive Fourier components of CR functions, it is crucial to be able to know

## **Question 1.1** *When*  $\dim H_{b,m}^0(X) \approx m^{n-1}$  *for m large?*

Inspired by Demailly's holomorphic Morse inequalities on complex manifolds [\[9](#page-27-6)[,10](#page-27-7)[,27](#page-27-8)] and the recent works of the first-named author and Marinescu in [\[19](#page-27-9)], Hsiao [\[17](#page-27-10),[18\]](#page-27-11) and Hsiao and Li [\[22\]](#page-27-12) on the Morse inequalities and Grauert–Riemenschneider criterion on CR manifolds, we obtain the Morse inequalities for the Fourier components of Kohn–Rossi cohomology of ∂*b*-complex. See Theorems [2.2](#page-13-0) and [2.5](#page-14-0) for the main results.

By the Morse inequalities we have obtained, we will show that a compact weakly pseudoconvex CR manifolds which admit a transversal CR locally free *S*1-action will have abundant CR functions if it has a point where the Levi-form is strongly pseudoconvex (see Theorem [2.6](#page-15-0) for the details). This gives an answer of Question [1.1.](#page-1-0)

#### **1.1 Set up and terminology**

Let  $(X, T^{1,0}X)$  be a compact connected CR manifold of dimension  $2n - 1$ ,  $n \ge 2$ , where  $T^{1,0}X$  is the given CR structure on *X*. That is,  $T^{1,0}X$  is a subbundle of the complexified tangent bundle  $\mathbb{C}TX$  of rank *n*−1, satisfying  $T^{1,0}X \cap T^{0,1}X = \{0\}$ , where  $T^{0,1}X = \overline{T^{1,0}X}$ . and  $[V, V] \subset V$ , where  $V = C^{\infty}(X, T^{1,0}X)$ .

We assume that *X* admits a  $S^1$ -action:  $S^1 \times X \to X$ ,  $(e^{i\theta}, x) \to e^{i\theta} \circ x$ . Here, we use  $e^{i\theta}$  (0  $\leq \theta$  < 2π) to denote the *S*<sup>1</sup>-action. Set  $X_{reg} = \{x \in X : \forall e^{i\theta} \in S^1, \text{ if } e^{i\theta} \circ x =$ *x*, then  $e^{i\theta}$  = id}. We call  $x \in X_{reg}$  a regular point of the  $S^1$ -action and complements of  $X_{\text{reg}}$  exceptional points. For every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , put

$$
X_k := \left\{ x \in X : e^{i\theta} \circ x \neq x, \quad \forall \theta \in \left(0, \frac{2\pi}{k}\right), e^{i\frac{2\pi}{k}} \circ x = x \right\}.
$$
 (1.1)

<span id="page-2-3"></span>Thus,  $X_{\text{reg}} = X_1$ . In this paper, we always assume that  $X_{\text{reg}} \neq \emptyset$ . By the Orbit type strati-fication (see Theorem 1.30 in [\[28](#page-27-13)]), there are only finite  $X'_k s$  denoted by  $X_1, X_{k_1}, \ldots, X_{k_p}$ which are not empty subset of *X* such that  $X = X_1 \cup X_{k_1} \cup \cdots \cup X_{k_n}$ .

Let  $T \in C^{\infty}(X, TX)$  be the global real vector field induced by the  $S^1$ -action given as follows

$$
(Tu)(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( u(e^{i\theta} \circ x) \right) \Big|_{\theta=0}, \quad u \in C^{\infty}(X). \tag{1.2}
$$

<span id="page-2-1"></span>**Definition 1.2** We say that the  $S^1$ -action  $e^{i\theta}$  ( $0 \le \theta < 2\pi$ ) is CR if

$$
[T, C^{\infty}(X, T^{1,0}X)] \subset C^{\infty}(X, T^{1,0}X), \tag{1.3}
$$

where  $\lceil$ , is the Lie bracket between the smooth vector fields on *X*. Furthermore, we say that the  $S^1$ -action is transversal if for each  $x \in X$ ,

$$
\mathbb{C}T(x) \oplus T_x^{1,0}(X) \oplus T_x^{0,1}X = \mathbb{C}T_xX. \tag{1.4}
$$

<span id="page-2-0"></span>*Remark 1.3* The  $S^1$ -action on *X* is said to be a locally free group action if  $T(x) \neq 0$  for every  $x \in X$ . By [\(1.4\)](#page-2-0),  $T(x)$  will not vanish at any point  $x \in X$ , thus the transversal CR  $S<sup>1</sup>$ -action defined in Definitio[n1.2](#page-2-1) is a locally free group action. For the knowledge of group action, we refer readers to [\[13](#page-27-14)[,28\]](#page-27-13). The classical example of compact CR manifolds with transversal CR *S*1-action is the circle bundle with respect to a Hermitian line bundle over a compact complex manifold. However, there are many examples of compact CR manifolds with transversal CR  $S<sup>1</sup>$ -action which are not circle bundle.

For example, let  $X = \{(z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{C}^2 : |z_1|^2 + |z_1^2 + z_2|^2 + |z_2|^2 = 1\}$  which is a compact CR manifold with the following transversal CR *S*1-action

$$
X \times S^1 \to X, (z_1, z_2) \to (e^{i\theta} z_1, e^{2i\theta} z_2).
$$

The *S*1-action defined above is locally free and free on a dense, open, connected open subset  $\{(z_1, z_2) \in X : z_1 \neq 0\}.$ 

In general, we have the following

<span id="page-2-2"></span>**Lemma 1.4** *Let X be a compact connected CR manifold with transversal CR locally free*  $S^1$ -action. Then  $X_{\text{res}}$  *is an open, dense subset of X. Moreover, the measure of*  $X\backslash X_{\text{res}}$  *is zero.* 

The proof of Lemma [1.4](#page-2-2) is a direct corollary of Proposition 1.24 in [\[28\]](#page-27-13) and similar results can be found in [\[11\]](#page-27-15). For the convenience of readers, we will prove Lemma [1.4](#page-2-2) in the appendix.

We assume throughout that  $(X, T^{1,0}X)$  is a compact connected CR manifold with a transversal CR locally free  $S^1$ -action and we denote by  $T$  the global vector field induced by the *S*<sup>1</sup>-action. Let  $\omega_0 \in C^\infty(X, T^*X)$  be the global real 1-form determined by  $\langle \omega_0, u \rangle = 0$ , for every  $u \in T^{1,0}X \oplus T^{0,1}X$  and  $\langle \omega_0, T \rangle = -1$ .

<span id="page-3-4"></span>**Definition 1.5** For  $x \in X$ , the Levi-form  $\mathcal{L}_x$  associated with the CR structure is the Hermitian quadratic form on  $T_x^{1,0}X$  defined as follows. For any  $U, V \in T_x^{1,0}X$ , pick  $U, V \in C^{\infty}(X, T^{1,0}X)$  such that  $U(x) = U, V(x) = V$ . Set

$$
\mathcal{L}_x(U, \overline{V}) = \frac{1}{2i} \langle [\mathcal{U}, \overline{\mathcal{V}}](x), \omega_0(x) \rangle \tag{1.5}
$$

where  $[$ ,  $]$  denotes the Lie bracket between smooth vector fields. Note that  $\mathcal{L}_x$  does not depend on the choice of *U* and *V*.

**Definition 1.6** The CR structure on *X* is called pseudoconvex at  $x \in X$  if  $\mathcal{L}_x$  is positive semidefinite. It is called strongly pseudoconvex at *x* if  $\mathcal{L}_x$  is positive definite. If the CR structure is (strongly) pseudoconvex at every point of *X*, then *X* is called a (strongly) pseudoconvex CR manifold.

Denote by  $T^{*1,0}X$  and  $T^{*0,1}X$  the dual bundles of  $T^{1,0}X$  and  $T^{0,1}X$ , respectively. Define the vector bundle of  $(0, q)$ -forms by  $T^{*0,q}X = \Lambda^q T^{*0,1}X$ . Let  $D \subset X$  be an open subset. Let  $\Omega^{0,q}(D)$  denote the space of smooth sections of  $T^{*0,q}X$  over *D* and let  $\Omega^{0,q}_0(D)$  be the subspace of  $\Omega^{0,q}(D)$  whose elements have compact support in *D*.

Fix  $\theta_0 \in [0, 2\pi)$ . Let

$$
de^{i\theta_0} : \mathbb{C}T_xX \to \mathbb{C}T_{e^{i\theta_0}x}X
$$

denote the differential map of  $e^{i\theta_0}$  :  $X \to X$ . By the property of transversal CR  $S^1$  action, we can check that

$$
de^{i\theta_0}: T_x^{1,0}X \to T_{e^{i\theta_0} \circ x}^{1,0}X,
$$
  
\n
$$
de^{i\theta_0}: T_x^{0,1}X \to T_{e^{i\theta_0} \circ x}^{0,1}X,
$$
  
\n
$$
de^{i\theta_0}(T(x)) = T(e^{i\theta_0} \circ x).
$$
\n(1.6)

<span id="page-3-0"></span>Let  $(de^{i\theta_0})^* : \Lambda^q(\mathbb{C}T^*X) \to \Lambda^q(\mathbb{C}T^*X)$  be the pull back of  $de^{i\theta_0}, q = 0, 1, ..., n - 1$ . From [\(1.6\)](#page-3-0), we can check that for every  $q = 0, 1, \ldots, n - 1$ 

$$
\left( de^{i\theta_0} \right)^* : T_{e^{i\theta_0} \circ x}^{*0,q} X \to T_x^{*0,q} X. \tag{1.7}
$$

<span id="page-3-1"></span>Let  $u \in \Omega^{0,q}(X)$ . Define *Tu* as follows. For any  $X_1, \ldots, X_q \in T^{1,0}_x X$ ,

$$
Tu(X_1, \ldots, X_q) := \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \left( de^{i\theta} \right)^* u \left( X_1, \ldots, X_q \right) \right) \Big|_{\theta = 0}.
$$
 (1.8)

<span id="page-3-2"></span>From [\(1.7\)](#page-3-1) and [\(1.8\)](#page-3-2), we have that  $Tu \in \Omega^{0,q}(X)$  for all  $u \in \Omega^{0,q}(X)$ . See the discussion before Lemma [1.19](#page-9-0) for another way to define *T u*.

<span id="page-3-3"></span>Let  $\overline{\partial}_b : \Omega^{0,q}(X) \to \Omega^{0,q+1}(X)$  be the tangential Cauchy-Riemann operator. It is straightforward from  $(1.6)$  and  $(1.8)$  to see that

$$
T\overline{\partial}_b = \overline{\partial}_b T \text{ on } \Omega^{0,q}(X) \tag{1.9}
$$

(see also [\(1.40\)](#page-9-1)). For every  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , put  $\Omega_m^{0,q}(X) := \{u \in \Omega^{0,q}(X) : Tu = imu\}$ . From [\(1.9\)](#page-3-3) we have the  $\overline{\partial}_b$ -complex for every  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ :

$$
\overline{\partial}_b : \cdots \to \Omega_m^{0,q-1}(X) \to \Omega_m^{0,q}(X) \to \Omega_m^{0,q+1}(X) \to \cdots. \tag{1.10}
$$

For every  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , the *q*-th  $\overline{\partial}_b$  cohomology (or Kohn–Rossi cohomology) is given by

$$
H_{b,m}^q(X) := \frac{\operatorname{Ker} \overline{\partial}_b : \Omega_m^{0,q}(X) \to \Omega_m^{0,q+1}(X)}{\operatorname{Im} \overline{\partial}_b : \Omega_m^{0,q-1}(X) \to \Omega_m^{0,q}(X)}.
$$
\n(1.11)

<span id="page-4-1"></span>The starting point of this paper is that without any Levi curvature assumption, for every  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and every  $q = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n - 1$  we have

$$
\dim H_{b,m}^q(X) < \infty. \tag{1.12}
$$

**Definition 1.7** We say that a function  $u \in C^{\infty}(X)$  is a Cauchy-Riemann (CR for short) function if  $\overline{\partial}_b u = 0$  or in the other word,  $\overline{Z} u = 0$  for all  $Z \in C^\infty(X, T^{1,0}X)$ .

For  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , when  $q = 0$ ,  $H_{b,m}^0(X)$  is the space of CR functions which lie in the eigenspace of *T* and we call  $H_{b,m}^0(X)$  the *m*-th Fourier component of CR functions.

#### **1.2 Hermitian CR geometry**

We need

**Definition 1.8** Let *D* be an open set and let  $V \in C^{\infty}(D, \mathbb{C}TX)$  be a vector field on *D*. We say that *V* is *T* -rigid if

$$
de^{i\theta_0}(V(x)) = V\left(e^{i\theta_0} \circ x\right) \tag{1.13}
$$

for any  $x, \theta_0 \in [0, 2\pi)$  satisfying  $x \in D$ ,  $e^{i\theta_0} \circ x \in D$ .

**Definition 1.9** Let  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  be a Hermitian metric on  $\mathbb{C}TX$ . We say that  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  is *T*-rigid if for *T* -rigid vector fields *V*, *W* on *D*, where *D* is any open set, we have

$$
\langle V(x)|W(x)\rangle = \langle \left(de^{i\theta_0}V\right)\left(e^{i\theta_0}\circ x\right) \mid \left(de^{i\theta_0}W\right)\left(e^{i\theta_0}\circ x\right)\rangle, \quad \forall x \in D, \theta_0 \in [0, 2\pi). \tag{1.14}
$$

<span id="page-4-0"></span>**Lemma 1.10** (Theorem 9.2 in [\[18\]](#page-27-11)) *Let X be a compact connected CR manifold with a transversal CR S<sup>1</sup>-action. There is always a T-rigid Hermitian metric*  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  *on* CTX such *that*  $T^{1,0}X \perp T^{0,1}X$ ,  $T \perp (T^{1,0}X \oplus T^{0,1}X)$ ,  $\langle T|T \rangle = 1$  and  $\langle u|v \rangle$  is real if u, v are real tangent *vectors.*

From now on, we fix a T-rigid Hermitian metric  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  on  $\mathbb{C}TX$  satisfying all the properties in Lemma [1.10.](#page-4-0) The Hermitian metric  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  on  $\mathbb{C}TX$  induces by duality a Hermitian metric on  $\mathbb{C}T^*X$  and also on the bundles of  $(0, q)$ -forms  $T^{*0,q}X$ ,  $q = 0, 1, \ldots, n-1$ . We shall also denote all these induced metrics by  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$ . For every  $v \in T^{*0,q}X$ , we write  $|v|^2 := \langle v | v \rangle$ . We have the pointwise orthogonal decompositions:

$$
\mathbb{C}T^*X = T^{*1,0}X \oplus T^{*0,1}X \oplus {\lambda\omega_0 : \lambda \in \mathbb{C}},
$$
  
\n
$$
\mathbb{C}TX = T^{1,0}X \oplus T^{0,1}X \oplus {\lambda T : \lambda \in \mathbb{C}}.
$$
\n(1.15)

For any  $p \in X$ , locally there is an orthonormal frame  $\{U_1, \ldots, U_{n-1}\}$  of  $T^{1,0}X$  with respect to the given *T*-rigid Hermitian metric  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  such that the Levi-form  $\mathcal{L}_p$  is diagonal in this frame,  $\mathcal{L}_p(U_i, \overline{U_i}) = \lambda_i \delta_{ij}$ , where  $\delta_{ij} = 1$  if  $i = j$ ,  $\delta_{ij} = 0$  if  $i \neq j$ . The

entries  $\{\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_{n-1}\}$  are called the eigenvalues of Levi-form at *p* with respect to the *T*-rigid Hermitian metric  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$ . Moreover, the determinant of  $\mathcal{L}_p$  is defined by det  $\mathcal{L}_p$  =  $\lambda_1(p), \ldots, \lambda_{n-1}(p).$ 

Let  $(\cdot | \cdot)$  be the  $L^2$  inner product on  $\Omega^{0,q}(X)$  induced by  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  and let  $|| \cdot ||$  denote the corresponding norm. Then for all  $u, v \in \Omega^{0,q}(X)$ 

$$
(u|v) = \int_X \langle u|v \rangle dv_X, \tag{1.16}
$$

where  $dv<sub>X</sub>$  is the volume form on *X* induced by the *T*-rigid Hermitian metric. As before, for  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we denote by

$$
\Omega_m^{0,q}(X) = \left\{ u \in \Omega^{0,q}(X) : Tu = imu \right\}
$$
 (1.17)

the eigenspace of *T*. Let  $L^2_{(0,q),m}(X)$  be the completion of  $\Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$  with respect to  $(\cdot | \cdot)$ . For  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , let

$$
Q_m^{(q)}: L^2_{(0,q)}(X) \to L^2_{(0,q),m}(X) \tag{1.18}
$$

be the orthogonal projection with respect to  $(\cdot | \cdot)$ . Then for any  $u \in \Omega^{0,q}(X)$ 

$$
Q_m^{(q)}u = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} u(e^{i\theta} \circ x)e^{-im\theta} d\theta.
$$

By using the elementary Fourier analysis, it is straightforward to see that for any  $u \in \Omega^{0,q}(X)$ ,

$$
\sum_{m=-N}^{N} Q_m^{(q)} u \to u \text{ in } C^{\infty} \text{ topology as } N \to \infty.
$$
 (1.19)

Thus for every  $u \in L^2_{(0,q)}(X)$ ,

$$
\sum_{m=-N}^{N} Q_m^{(q)} u \to u \text{ in } L^2_{(0,q)}(X, L^k) \text{ as } N \to \infty.
$$
 (1.20)

If we denote the  $\lim_{N\to\infty}\sum_{m=-N}^{N}Q_m^{(q)}u$  by  $\sum_{m\in\mathbb{Z}}Q_m^{(q)}u$ , then we write  $u=\sum_{m\in\mathbb{Z}}Q_m^{(q)}u$ . Thus, we have the following Fourier decomposition:

$$
\Omega^{0,q}(X) = \bigoplus_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} \Omega_m^{0,q}(X), L^2_{(0,q)}(X) = \bigoplus_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} L^2_{(0,q),m}(X). \tag{1.21}
$$

<span id="page-5-0"></span>By [\(1.11\)](#page-4-1) and [\(1.21\)](#page-5-0), we have the following Fourier decomposition of the *q*-th Kohn–Rossi cohomology (see  $(1.39)$  in  $[26]$  $[26]$ )

$$
H_b^q(X) \cong \bigoplus_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} H_{b,m}^q(X). \tag{1.22}
$$

<span id="page-5-3"></span>Let  $\overline{\partial}_b^* : \Omega^{0,q+1}(X) \to \Omega^{0,q}(X)$  be the formal adjoint of  $\overline{\partial}_b$  with respect to (·|·). Since the Hermitian metrics  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  are *T*-rigid, we can check that

$$
T\overline{\partial}_b^* = \overline{\partial}_b^* T \text{ on } \Omega^{0,q}(X), \quad \forall q = 1, \dots, n-1
$$
 (1.23)

<span id="page-5-2"></span><span id="page-5-1"></span>and from  $(1.23)$  we have

$$
\overline{\partial}_b^* : \Omega_m^{0,q+1}(X) \to \Omega_m^{0,q}(X), \quad \forall m \in \mathbb{Z}.
$$
 (1.24)

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Put

$$
\Box_b^{(q)} := \overline{\partial}_b \overline{\partial}_b^* + \overline{\partial}_b^* \overline{\partial}_b : \Omega^{0,q}(X) \to \Omega^{0,q}(X).
$$

<span id="page-6-0"></span>Combining  $(1.9)$ ,  $(1.23)$  and  $(1.24)$ , we have

$$
T\Box_b^{(q)} = \Box_b^{(q)}T \text{ on } \Omega^{0,q}(X), \quad \forall q = 0, 1, ..., n-1
$$
 (1.25)

and [\(1.25\)](#page-6-0) implies that

$$
\Box_b^{(q)} : \Omega_m^{0,q}(X) \to \Omega_m^{0,q}(X), \quad \forall m \in \mathbb{Z}.
$$
 (1.26)

We will write  $\Box_{b,m}^{(q)}$  to denote the restriction of  $\Box_b^{(q)}$  on  $\Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$ . For every  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we extend  $\square_{b,m}^{(q)}$  to  $L^2_{(0,q),m}(X)$  by

$$
\Box_{b,m}^{(q)} : \text{Dom}(\Box_{b,m}^{(q)}) \subset L^2_{(0,q),m}(X) \to L^2_{(0,q),m}(X),\tag{1.27}
$$

<span id="page-6-1"></span>where  $Dom(\Box_{b,m}^{(q)}) = \{u \in L^2_{(0,q),m}(X) : \Box_{b,m}^{(q)} u \in L^2_{(0,q),m}(X) \text{ in the sense of distribution}\}.$ The following result follows from Kohn's  $L^2$ -estimate (see Theorem 8.4.2 in [\[7](#page-26-4)]).

**Theorem 1.11** *For every*  $s \in \mathbb{N}_0 := \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ *, there exists a constant*  $C_s > 0$  *such that* 

$$
||u||_{s+1} \leq C_s \left( ||\Box_b^{(q)} u||_s + ||Tu||_s + ||u||_s \right), \quad \forall u \in \Omega^{0,q}(X) \tag{1.28}
$$

*where*  $\|\cdot\|_s$  *denotes the standard Sobolev norm of order s on X.* 

From Theorem [1.11,](#page-6-1) we deduce that

<span id="page-6-2"></span>**Theorem 1.12** *Fix m*  $\in \mathbb{Z}$ *, for every s*  $\in \mathbb{N}_0$ *, there is a constant*  $C_{s,m} > 0$  *such that* 

$$
||u||_{s+1} \leq C_{s,m} \left( ||\Box_{b,m}^{(q)} u||_s + ||u||_s \right), \quad \forall u \in \Omega_m^{0,q}(X). \tag{1.29}
$$

<span id="page-6-4"></span>From Theorem [1.12](#page-6-2) and some standard argument in functional analysis, we deduce the following Hodge theory for  $\square_{b,m}^{(q)}$  (see Section 3 in [\[8\]](#page-26-5))

**Theorem 1.13** *Fix m*  $\in \mathbb{Z}$ .  $\square_{b,m}^{(q)}$  :  $\text{Dom}(\square_{b,m}^{(q)}) \subset L_{(0,q),m}^2(X) \to L_{(0,q),m}^2(X)$  *is a self*adjoint operator. The spectrum of  $\Box_{b,m}^{(q)}$  denoted by  ${\rm Spec}(\Box_{b,m}^{(q)})$  is a discrete subset of  $[0,\infty)$ . *For every*  $\lambda \in \text{Spec}(\Box_{b,m}^{(q)})$  *the eigenspace with respect to*  $\lambda$ 

$$
\mathcal{H}_{b,m,\lambda}^q(X) = \left\{ u \in \text{Dom}(\Box_{b,m}^{(q)}): \Box_{b,m}^{(q)} u = \lambda u \right\}
$$
(1.30)

*is finite dimensional with*  $H_{b,m,\lambda}^q(X) \subset \Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$  *and for*  $\lambda = 0$  *we denote by*  $H_{b,m}^q(X)$  *the harmonic space*  $\mathcal{H}_{b,m,0}^q(X,L^k)$  *for brevity and then we have the Dolbeault isomorphism* 

$$
\mathcal{H}_{b,m}^q(X) \cong H_{b,m}^q(X). \tag{1.31}
$$

*In particular, from* [\(1.31\)](#page-6-3) *we have*

<span id="page-6-3"></span>
$$
\dim H_{b,m}^q(X) < \infty, \forall \, m \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad \forall \, 0 \le q \le n - 1. \tag{1.32}
$$

*Remark 1.14* We would like to mention that transversal property [\(1.4\)](#page-2-0) of the *S*1-action is a necessary condition for the finite dimension of  $\dim H_{b,m}^q(X)$ . In fact, we have the following counterexample when the  $S<sup>1</sup>$ -action is not transversal. Let

$$
X = \mathbb{S}^3 := \left\{ (z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{C}^2 : |z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2 = 1 \right\}.
$$

The *S*<sup>1</sup>-action on *X* is defined by  $e^{i\theta} \circ (z_1, z_2) = (e^{i\theta} z_1, e^{-in\theta} z_2), n \ge 1$ . Let *T* be the global induced vector field. By definition

$$
T = i \left( z_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial z_1} - \overline{z}_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}_1} - n z_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial z_2} + n \overline{z}_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}_2} \right).
$$

We can check that *T* is not transversal to  $T^{1,0}X \bigoplus T^{0,1}X$  and thus the  $S^1$ -action defined above is not transversal. Moreover, we have  $\dim H_{b,m}^0(X) = \infty$ . This is because the functions  ${u_k = z_1^{m+nk} z_2^k, k = 1, 2, 3, ...} \subset H_{b,m}^0(X)$  when restricted on *X*.

## **1.3 Canonical local coordinates**

<span id="page-7-0"></span>In this work, we need the following result due to Baouendi–Rothschild–Treves, (see Proposition I.2. in [\[2](#page-26-6)]).

**Theorem 1.15** *Let X be a compact CR manifold of dim*  $X = 2n - 1$ *,*  $n \ge 2$  *with a transversal CR*  $S^1$ - action. Let  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  be the given T-rigid Hermitian metric on X. For every point  $x_0 \in X$ , *there exists local coordinates*  $(x_1, ..., x_{2n-1}) = (z, \theta) = (z_1, ..., z_{n-1}, \theta), z_j = x_{2j-1} +$  $ix_{2i}$ ,  $j = 1, ..., n-1$ ,  $x_{2n-1} = \theta$ , defined in some small neighborhood  $D = \{(z, \theta)$ :  $|z| < \varepsilon$ ,  $|\theta| < \delta$  *of x*<sub>0</sub> *such that* 

$$
T = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}
$$
  
\n
$$
Z_j = \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} + i \frac{\partial \varphi(z)}{\partial z_j} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}, \quad j = 1, ..., n - 1
$$
\n(1.33)

<span id="page-7-2"></span>*where*  $\{Z_j(x)\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  *form a basis of*  $T_x^{1,0}X$ *, for each*  $x \in D$  *and*  $\varphi(z) \in C^\infty(D, \mathbb{R})$  *is independent of*  $\theta$ *. Moreover, on D we can take* (*z*, $\theta$ ) *and*  $\varphi$  *so that* (*z*(*x*<sub>0</sub>),  $\theta$ (*x*<sub>0</sub>)) = (0, 0)  $\alpha$ *and*  $\varphi(z) = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \lambda_j |z_j|^2 + O(|z|^3), \forall (z, \theta) \in D$ , where  $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  are the eigenvalues of *Levi-form of*  $\overline{X}$  at  $x_0$  with respect to the given T-rigid Hermitian metric on X.

*Remark 1.16* Let *D* be as in Theorem [1.15.](#page-7-0) We will always identify *D* with an open set of  $\mathbb{R}^{2n-1}$  and we call *D* canonical local patch and  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  canonical coordinates. The constants  $ε$  and δ in Theorem [1.15](#page-7-0) depend on  $x_0$ . Let  $x_0$  ∈ *D*. We say that  $(z, θ, φ)$  is trivial at  $x_0$ if  $(z(x_0), \theta(x_0)) = (0, 0)$  and  $\varphi(z) = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \lambda_j |z_j|^2 + O(|z|^3)$ , where  $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  are the eigenvalues of Levi-form of *X* at  $x_0$  with respect to the *T*-rigid Hermitian metric  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$ .

<span id="page-7-3"></span>**Lemma 1.17** *Let*  $x_0 \in X_{reg}$ *. Then we can find canonical coordinates*  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  *defined in*  $D = \{(z, \theta) : |z| < \varepsilon_0, |\theta| < \pi\}$  *such that*  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  *is trivial at x*<sub>0</sub>*.* 

<span id="page-7-1"></span>*Proof* Let  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  be any canonical coordinates defined in  $D_1 = \{(z, \theta) : |z| < \varepsilon_1, |\theta| < \delta\}$ such that  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  is trivial at  $x_0$ . We identify  $D_1$  with an open neighborhood of  $x_0$ . It is clear that

$$
e^{it} \circ (z_1, 0) \neq (z_2, 0), \quad \forall 0 < |t| < \delta, \, |z_1| < \varepsilon_1, \, |z_2| < \varepsilon_1. \tag{1.34}
$$

#### We claim that

<span id="page-8-1"></span>There is a  $0 < \varepsilon_0 < \varepsilon_1$  such that  $e^{it} \circ (z_1, 0) \neq (z_2, 0), \quad \forall \frac{\delta}{2} \leq t \leq 2\pi - \frac{\delta}{2}, |z_1| < \varepsilon_0, |z_2| < \varepsilon_0.$ (1.35) If the claim is not true, for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , we can find  $z_{1,j}, z_{2,j} \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1}$ ,  $\theta_j \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|z_{1,j}| < \frac{\varepsilon_1}{j}, |z_{2,j}| < \frac{\varepsilon_1}{j}, \frac{\delta}{2} \le \theta_j \le 2\pi - \frac{\delta}{2}$  such that

$$
e^{i\theta_j} \circ (z_{1,j}, 0) = (z_{2,j}, 0), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots
$$
 (1.36)

<span id="page-8-0"></span>From [\(1.36\)](#page-8-0), we get  $e^{i\theta_0} \circ (0, 0) = (0, 0)$ , for some  $\frac{\delta}{2} \le \theta_0 \le 2\pi - \frac{\delta}{2}$ . But  $x_0 \in X_{reg}$ , we get a contradiction. The claim follows.

Let  $0 < \varepsilon_0 < \varepsilon_1$  be as in [\(1.35\)](#page-8-1). Consider the map

$$
\Phi: \left\{ z \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} : |z| < \varepsilon_0 \right\} \times \left\{ \theta \in \mathbb{R} : |\theta| < \pi \right\} \longmapsto X, \quad (z, \theta) \longmapsto e^{i\theta} \circ (z, 0).
$$

We claim that  $\Phi$  is injective. If  $e^{i\theta_1} \circ (z_1, 0) = e^{i\theta_2} \circ (z_2, 0)$ , for some  $|z_1| < \varepsilon_0$ ,  $|z_2| < \varepsilon_0$ ,  $|\theta_1| < \pi$ ,  $|\theta_2| < \pi$ . We have  $e^{i(\theta_1 - \theta_2)} \circ (z_1, 0) = (z_2, 0)$ . We may assume that  $\theta_1 \ge \theta_2$ . From [\(1.35\)](#page-8-1), we see that  $0 \le \theta_1 - \theta_2 \le \frac{\delta}{2}$  or  $2\pi - \frac{\delta}{2} \le \theta_1 - \theta_2 < 2\pi$ . If  $2\pi - \frac{\delta}{2} \le \theta_1 - \theta_2 < 2\pi$ . Then,  $-\frac{\delta}{2} \le \theta_1 - \theta_2 - 2\pi < 0$  and  $e^{i(\theta_1 - \theta_2 - 2\pi)} \circ (z_1, 0) = (z_2, 0)$ . By [\(1.34\)](#page-7-1), we get a contradiction. We must have  $0 \le \theta_1 - \theta_2 \le \frac{\delta}{2}$ . From [\(1.35\)](#page-8-1), we deduce that  $\theta_1 = \theta_2$  and *z*<sub>1</sub> = *z*<sub>2</sub>. Thus,  $\Phi$  is injective. When  $|z| < \varepsilon_0$ , we can extend  $\theta$  to  $|\theta| < \pi$  by  $\Phi$ . The lemma follows. follows.  $\Box$ 

In the proof of Theorem [2.1,](#page-13-1) we need the following

<span id="page-8-5"></span>**Lemma 1.18** *Let*  $x_0 \in X_k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $k > 1$ . For every  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\epsilon$  small, we can find canonical *coordinates*  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  *defined in*  $D_{\epsilon} = \{(z, \theta) : |z| < \epsilon_0, |\theta| < \frac{\pi}{k} - \epsilon\}$  *such that*  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  *is trivial at x*<sub>0</sub>*.* 

*Proof* Let  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  be any canonical coordinates defined in  $D_1 = \{(z, \theta) : |z| < \varepsilon_1, |\theta| < \delta\}$ such that  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  is trivial at  $x_0$ . We identify  $D_1$  with an open neighborhood of  $x_0$ . It is clear that

 $e^{it} \circ (z_1, 0) \neq (z_2, 0), \quad \forall 0 < |t| < \delta, |z_1| < \varepsilon_1, |z_2| < \varepsilon_1.$  (1.37)

<span id="page-8-4"></span>Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\epsilon$  small. We claim that

<span id="page-8-3"></span>There is a  $0 < \varepsilon_0 < \varepsilon_1$  such that  $e^{it} \circ (z_1, 0) \neq (z_2, 0), \quad \forall \frac{\delta}{2} \leq t \leq \frac{2\pi}{k} - \frac{\epsilon}{2}, |z_1| < \varepsilon_0, |z_2| < \varepsilon_0.$ (1.38) If the claim is not true, for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , we can find  $z_{1,j}, z_{2,j} \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1}$ ,  $\theta_j \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $|z_{1,j}| < \frac{\varepsilon_1}{j}, |z_{2,j}| < \frac{\varepsilon_1}{j}, \frac{\delta}{2} \le \theta_j \le \frac{2\pi}{k} - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$  such that

$$
e^{i\theta_j} \circ (z_{1,j}, 0) = (z_{2,j}, 0), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots
$$
 (1.39)

<span id="page-8-2"></span>From [\(1.39\)](#page-8-2), we get  $e^{i\theta_0} \circ (0, 0) = (0, 0)$ , for some  $\frac{\delta}{2} \le \theta_0 \le \frac{2\pi}{k} - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . But  $x_0 \in X_k$ , we get a contradiction. The claim follows.

Let  $0 < \varepsilon_0 < \varepsilon_1$  be as in [\(1.38\)](#page-8-3). Consider the map

$$
\Phi_{\epsilon}: \{z \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1}: |z| < \varepsilon_0\} \times \{\theta \in \mathbb{R}: |\theta| < \frac{\pi}{k} - \epsilon\} \longmapsto X,
$$
\n
$$
(z, \theta) \longmapsto e^{i\theta} \circ (z, 0).
$$

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We claim that  $\Phi_{\epsilon}$  is injective. If  $e^{i\theta_1} \circ (z_1, 0) = e^{i\theta_2} \circ (z_2, 0)$ , for some  $|z_1| < \varepsilon_0$ ,  $|z_2| < \varepsilon_0$ ,  $|\theta_1| < \frac{\pi}{k} - \epsilon$ ,  $|\theta_2| < \frac{\pi}{k} - \epsilon$ . We have  $e^{i(\theta_1 - \theta_2)} \circ (z_1, 0) = (z_2, 0)$ . We may assume that  $\theta_1 \ge \theta_2$  and hence  $0 \le \theta_1 - \theta_2 < \frac{2\pi}{k} - 2\epsilon$ . From [\(1.38\)](#page-8-3), we see that  $0 \le \theta_1 - \theta_2 \le \frac{\delta}{2}$ . From [\(1.37\)](#page-8-4), we deduce that  $\theta_1 = \theta_2$  and  $z_1 = z_2$ . Thus,  $\Phi_{\epsilon}$  is injective. When  $|z| < \varepsilon_0$ , we can extend  $\theta$  to  $|\theta| < \frac{\pi}{2} - \epsilon$  by  $\Phi_{\epsilon}$ . The lemma follows. extend  $\theta$  to  $|\theta| < \frac{\pi}{k} - \epsilon$  by  $\Phi_{\epsilon}$ . The lemma follows.

By using canonical coordinates, we get another way to define  $Tu$ ,  $\forall u \in \Omega^{0,q}(X)$ . Let *D* be a canonical local patch with canonical coordinates (*z*,  $\theta$ ,  $\varphi$ ). By [\(1.33\)](#page-7-2), {*dzj*}<sup>*n*-1</sup><sub>*j*=1</sub> is the dual frame of  $\{Z_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$ . For a multi-index  $J = (j_1, ..., j_q) \in \{1, 2, ..., n\}^q$  we set  $|J| = q$ . We say that *J* is strictly increasing if  $1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \cdots < j_q \leq n$ . We put  $d\overline{z}^J = d\overline{z}_{j_1} \wedge d\overline{z}_{j_2} \wedge \cdots \wedge d\overline{z}_{j_q}$ . It is clearly that  $\{d\overline{z}^J, |J| = q, J$  strictly increasing} is a basis for  $T_x^{*0,q}X$  for every  $x \in D$ . Let  $u \in \Omega^{0,q}(X)$ . On *D*, we write  $u = \sum_{|J|=q}^{'} u_J d\overline{z}^J$ , where the notation  $\sum'$  means the summation over strictly increasing multiindices. Then on *D* we can check that

$$
Tu = \sum_{|J|=q}^{\prime} Tu_{J} d\overline{z}^{J}, \quad \overline{\partial}_{b} Tu = T \overline{\partial}_{b} u.
$$
 (1.40)

<span id="page-9-1"></span><span id="page-9-0"></span>**Lemma 1.19** *Fix*  $x_0 \in X$  *and let*  $D = \tilde{D} \times (-\delta, \delta) \subset \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{R}$  *be a canonical local patch with canonical coordinates*  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  *such that*  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  *is trivial at x*<sub>0</sub>*. We can find orthonormal frame*  $\{e^j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  *of*  $T^{*0,1}X$  with respect to the fixed  $T$  -rigid Hermitian metric such *that on*  $D = \tilde{D} \times (-\delta, \delta)$ , we have  $e^{j}(x) = e^{j}(z) = d\overline{z}_{j} + O(|z|)$ ,  $\forall x = (z, \theta) \in D$ ,  $j =$ 1,..., *n* − 1*. Moreover, if we denote by d*v*<sup>X</sup> the volume form with respect to the T -rigid Hermitian metric on*  $\mathbb{C}TX$ , then on D we have  $dv_X = \lambda(z)dv(z)d\theta$  with  $\lambda(z) \in C^\infty(\tilde{D}, \mathbb{R})$ *which does not depend on*  $\theta$  *and*  $dv(z) = 2^{n-1}dx_1, \ldots, dx_{2n-2}$ *.* 

*Proof* From the definition of the *T* -rigid Hermitian metric, we can check that the inner product  $\langle dz_k | dz_j \rangle$  does not depend on  $\theta$ . We denote by  $g^{\overline{k}j}(z) = \langle d\overline{z}_k | d\overline{z}_j \rangle$  on *D*. Taking coordinate transformation of  $z = (z_1, \ldots, z_{n-1})$  if needed such that  $g^{\overline{k}j}(x_0) = \delta_{kj}$ . By Gram-Schmidt process, we can find an orthonormal frame  $\{e^j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  of  $T^{*0,1}X$ . Write  $e^j =$  $\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} b_{jk} d\overline{z}_k$ ,  $j = 1, ..., n-1$ . Since  $g^{\overline{k}j}(z) = \langle d\overline{z}_k | d\overline{z}_j \rangle$  does not depend on  $\theta$  on *D*, we can check that coefficients  $\{b_{j\overline{k}}\}_{1\leq j,k\leq n-1}$  do not depend on  $\theta$ . Then  $e^{j}(x) = d\overline{z}_{j} + O(z)$ . Since  $-\omega_0(z,\theta) = d\theta + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (\alpha_j(z,\theta)dz_j + \overline{\alpha_j(z,\theta)}d\overline{z}_j)$  and  $\{e^1, \ldots, e^{n-1}, \omega_0\}$  is an orthonormal frame of  $\mathbb{C}TX$  over *D*, then the volume form on *D* is defined by  $dv_X = \sqrt{-1}^{n-1}e^1 \wedge e^1 \wedge \cdots \wedge e^{n-1} \wedge e^{n-1} \wedge (-\omega_0)$ . The lemma follows. □ *n*<sup>−1</sup> $\overline{e}$ <sup>1</sup> ∧  $e$ <sup>1</sup> ∧ ···∧  $\overline{e}$ <sup>*n*−1</sup> ∧  $e$ <sup>*n*−1</sup> ∧ (−ω<sub>0</sub>). The lemma follows.

<span id="page-9-2"></span>*Remark 1.20* For any  $x_0 \in X$ , let  $D = \tilde{D} \times (-\delta, \delta)$  be a canonical local patch with canonical coordinates  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  such that  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  is trivial at  $x_0$ . Here,  $\tilde{D} = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} : |z| < \varepsilon\}.$ We identify  $\tilde{D}$  with an open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^{n-1}$  with complex coordinates  $z = (z_1, \ldots, z_{n-1})$ . Since  $\{d\overline{z}_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  is a frame of  $T^{*0,1}X$  over *D*, we will treat them as the frame of  $T^{*0,1}\tilde{D}$ which is the bundle of (0, 1)-forms over the domain  $\tilde{D}$ . Let  $(g^{\overline{k}j}(z))$  be the Hermitian matrix defined in the proof of Lemma [1.19.](#page-9-0) Then we define a Hermitian metric on  $T^{*0,1}$   $\tilde{D}$  given by  $(g^{\overline{k}j}(z))_{j,k=1}^{n-1}$  with  $\langle d\overline{z}_k | d\overline{z}_j \rangle = g^{\overline{k}j}$ . We also denote by  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  the Hermitian metric on  $T^{*0,1} \tilde{D}$ . By duality, it will induces a Hermitian metric on  $T^{0,1}\tilde{D}$ . We extend the Hermitian metric to  $\vec{C}T\vec{D}$  and  $T^{*0,q}\vec{D}$  in the standard way and denote all the Hermitian metrics by  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$ . Then  ${e^{j}(z)}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  defined in Lemma [1.19](#page-9-0) is also an orthonormal frame of  $T^{*0,1}\tilde{D}$ . With respect to the given Hermitian metric on  $T^{*0,1}\tilde{D}$ , the volume form on  $\tilde{D}$  is given by  $\lambda(z)dv(z)$ . Here,  $\lambda(z) \in C^{\infty}(\tilde{D}, \mathbb{R})$  is the function defined in Lemma [1.19.](#page-9-0)

#### **1.4 The scaling technique**

In this section, we will recall the scaling technique in  $[3]$  $[3]$ , developed in  $[17, 19, 20, 22]$  $[17, 19, 20, 22]$  $[17, 19, 20, 22]$  $[17, 19, 20, 22]$  $[17, 19, 20, 22]$  $[17, 19, 20, 22]$ . Fix  $x_0 \in X$ , we take canonical local patch  $D = \tilde{D} \times (-\delta, \delta) = \{(z, \theta) : |z| < \varepsilon, |\theta| < \delta\}$  with canonical coordinates  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  such that  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  is trivial at  $x_0$ . In this section, we identify *D* with an open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^{n-1} = \mathbb{R}^{2n-2}$  with complex coordinates *z* = (*z*<sub>1</sub>,...,*z*<sub>*n*−1</sub>). Let *L*<sub>1</sub> ∈ *T*<sup>1,0</sup>*D*<sup>*D*</sup>,..., *L<sub>n−1</sub>* ∈ *T*<sup>1,0</sup>*D*</sub> be the dual frame of  $e^1$ ,...,  $e^{n-1}$  with respect to the Hermitian metric  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  defined in Remark [1.20.](#page-9-2) The Hermitian metric  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  on  $\tilde{D}$  we have chosen in Lemma [1.19](#page-9-0) and Remark [1.20](#page-9-2) implies that

$$
\left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}(0) \Big| \frac{\partial}{\partial x_t}(0) \right\rangle = 2\delta_{jt} \tag{1.41}
$$

for *j*, *t* = 1, ..., 2*n* − 2, and in the coordinates  $z = (z_1, \ldots, z_{n-1}), L_j = \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} + O(z), j =$ 1, ..., *n* − 1, where  $\frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2j-1}} - i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{2j}} \right)$ ,  $j = 1, ..., n - 1$ .

Let *M* ⊂  $\mathbb{C}^{n-1}$  be an open set. Let  $\Omega^{0,q}(M)$  be the space of smooth  $(0, q)$ -forms on *M* and let  $\Omega_0^{0,q}(M)$  be the subspace of  $\Omega^{0,q}(M)$  whose elements have compact support in *M*. Let  $(\cdot|\cdot)_{2\varphi}$  be the weighted inner product on the space  $\Omega_0^{0,q}(\tilde{D})$  defined as follows:

$$
(f|g) = \int_{\tilde{D}} \langle f|g \rangle e^{-2\varphi(z)} \lambda(z) dv(z)
$$
 (1.42)

where  $f, g \in \Omega_0^{0,q}(\tilde{D})$  and  $\lambda(z)$  is as in Lemma [1.19.](#page-9-0) We denote by  $L^2_{(0,q)}(\tilde{D}, 2\varphi)$  the completion of  $\Omega_0^{0,q}(\tilde{D})$  with respect to  $(\cdot|\cdot)_{2\varphi}$ . For  $r > 0$ , let  $\tilde{D}_r = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} : |z| < r\}.$ Here  $\{z \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} : |z| < r\}$  means that  $\{z \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} : |z_j| < r, j = 1, \ldots, n-1\}$ . For *m* ∈ N, let  $F_m$  be the scaling map  $F_m(z) = (\frac{z_1}{\sqrt{m}}, \dots, \frac{z_{n-1}}{\sqrt{m}}), z \in \tilde{D}_{\log m}$ . From now on, we assume *m* is sufficiently large such that  $F_m(\tilde{D}_{\log m}) \subseteq \tilde{D}$ . We define the scaled bundle  $F_m^*T^{*0,q}\tilde{D}$  on  $D_{\log m}$  to be the bundle whose fiber at  $z \in D_{\log m}$  is

$$
F_m^* T^{*0,q} \tilde{D}|_z = \left\{ \sum_{|J|=q}^{\prime} a_J e^J \left( \frac{z}{\sqrt{m}} \right) : a_J \in \mathbb{C}, \quad |J| = q, \ J \text{ strictly increasing} \right\}. \tag{1.43}
$$

We take the Hermitian metric  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle_{F_m^*}$  on  $F_m^* T^{*0,q} \tilde{D}$  so that at each point  $z \in \tilde{D}_{\log m}$ ,

$$
\left\{ e^J \left( \frac{z}{\sqrt{m}} \right) : |J| = q, \quad J \text{ strictly increasing} \right\}
$$
 (1.44)

is an orthonormal frame for  $F_m^* T^{*0,q} \tilde{D}$  on  $\tilde{D}_{\log m}$ .

Let  $F_m^* \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_r)$  denote the space of smooth sections of  $F_m^* T^{*0,q} \tilde{D}$  over  $\tilde{D}_r$  and let  $F_m^* \Omega_0^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_r)$  be the subspace of  $F_m^* \Omega_0^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_r)$  whose elements have compact support in  $\tilde{D}_r$ . Given  $f \in \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_r)$ . We write  $f = \sum_{|J|=q}^{'} f_J e^J$ . We define the scaled form  $F_m^* f \in$  $F_m^* \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_{\log m})$  by

$$
F_m^* f = \sum_{|J|=q}^{\prime} f_J\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}}\right) e^J\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}}\right), \quad z \in \tilde{D}_{\log m}.
$$
 (1.45)

For brevity, we denote  $F_m^* f$  by  $f(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}})$ . Let *P* be a partial differential operator of order one on  $F_m(\tilde{D}_{\log m})$  with  $C^{\infty}$  coefficients. We write  $P = \sum_{j=1}^{2n-2} a_j(z) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$ . The scaled

partial differential operator  $P_{(m)}$  on  $\tilde{D}_{\log m}$  is given by  $P_{(m)} = \sum_{j=1}^{2n-2} F_m^* a_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$ . Let  $f \in C^{\infty}(F_m(\tilde{D}_{\log m}))$ . We can check that

$$
P_{(m)}(F_m^*f) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} F_m^*(Pf). \tag{1.46}
$$

<span id="page-11-0"></span>Let  $\overline{\partial}$  :  $\Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D}) \to \Omega^{0,q+1}(\tilde{D})$  be the Cauchy–Riemmann operator and we have

$$
\overline{\partial} = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} e_j(z) \wedge \overline{L}_j + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (\overline{\partial} e_j) (z) \wedge (e_j (z) \wedge)^*
$$

where  $(e_j(z) \wedge)^*$ :  $T^{*0,q} \tilde{D} \rightarrow T^{*0,q-1} \tilde{D}$  is the adjoint of  $e_j(z) \wedge$  with respect to the Hermitian metric  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  on  $T^{*0,q} \tilde{D}$  given in Remark [1.20,](#page-9-2)  $j = 1, ..., n - 1$ . That is,

$$
\langle e_j(z) \wedge u \vert v \rangle = \langle u \vert (e_j(z) \wedge)^* v \rangle
$$

for all  $u \in T^{*0,q-1} \tilde{D}$ ,  $v \in T^{*0,q} \tilde{D}$ .

The scaled differential operator  $\overline{\partial}_{(m)}$ :  $F_m^* \Omega^{0,q} (\tilde{D}_{\log m}) \to F_m^* \Omega^{0,q+1} (\tilde{D}_{\log m})$  is given by

$$
\overline{\partial}_{(m)} = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} e_j \left( \frac{z}{\sqrt{m}} \right) \wedge \overline{L}_{j,(m)} + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} (\overline{\partial} e_j) \left( \frac{z}{\sqrt{m}} \right) \wedge \left( e_j \left( \frac{z}{\sqrt{m}} \right) \wedge \right)^*.
$$
 (1.47)

<span id="page-11-1"></span>Similarly,  $\left(e_j\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}}\right)\wedge\right)^*$ :  $F_m^*T^{*0,q}X \to F_m^*T^{*0,q-1}\tilde{D}$  is the adjoint of  $e_j\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}}\right)\wedge$  with respect to  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle_{F_m^*}, j = 1, \ldots, n - 1$ . From [\(1.46\)](#page-11-0) and [\(1.47\)](#page-11-1),  $\overline{\partial}_{(m)}$  satisfies that

$$
\overline{\partial}_{(m)} F_m^* f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} F_m^* (\overline{\partial} f), \quad \forall f \in \Omega^{0,q}(F_m(\tilde{D}_{\log m})). \tag{1.48}
$$

<span id="page-11-2"></span>Let  $(\cdot|\cdot)_{2m}F_m^*\varphi$  be the weighted inner product on the space  $F_m^*\Omega_0^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_{\log m})$  defined as follows:

$$
(f|g)_{2m}F_{m}^{*}\varphi = \int_{\tilde{D}_{\log m}} \langle f|g \rangle_{F_{m}^{*}} e^{-2mF_{m}^{*}\varphi} \lambda \left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}}\right) dv(z). \tag{1.49}
$$

Let  $\overline{\partial}_{(m)}^*$ :  $F_m^* \Omega^{0,q+1}(\tilde{D}_{\log m}) \to F_m^* \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_{\log m})$  be the formal adjoint of  $\overline{\partial}_{(m)}$  with respect to  $(\cdot | \cdot)_{2mF_{m}^{*}\varphi}$ . Let  $\overline{\partial}^{*,2m\varphi}$ :  $\Omega^{0,q+1}(\tilde{D}) \to \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D})$  be the formal adjoint of  $\overline{\partial}$  with respect to the weighted inner product  $(\cdot|\cdot)_{2m\varphi}$ . Then we also have

$$
\overline{\partial}_{(m)}^* F_m^* f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} F_m^* \left( \overline{\partial}^{*,2m\varphi} f \right), \quad \forall f \in \Omega^{0,q} \left( F_m \left( \tilde{D}_{\log m} \right) \right). \tag{1.50}
$$

<span id="page-11-3"></span>We now define the scaled complex Laplacian  $\Box_{(m)}^{(q)}$  :  $F_m^* \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_{\log m}) \to F_m^* \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_{\log m})$ which is given by  $\Box_{(m)}^{(q)} = \overline{\partial}_{(m)}^* \overline{\partial}_{(m)} + \overline{\partial}_{(m)} \overline{\partial}_{(m)}^*$ . Then [\(1.48\)](#page-11-2) and [\(1.50\)](#page-11-3) imply that

$$
\Box_{(m)}^{(q)} F_m^* f = \frac{1}{m} F_m^* \left( \Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)} f \right), \quad \forall f \in \Omega^{0,q} \left( F_m \left( \tilde{D}_{\log m} \right) \right). \tag{1.51}
$$

<span id="page-11-5"></span><span id="page-11-4"></span>Here,

$$
\Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)} = \overline{\partial} \overline{\partial}^{*,2m\varphi} + \overline{\partial}^{*,2m\varphi} \overline{\partial} : \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D}) \to \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D})
$$
(1.52)

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is the complex Laplacian with respect to the given Hermitian metric on  $T^{*0,q} \tilde{D}$  and weight function  $2m\varphi(z)$  on  $\tilde{D}$ . Since  $2m F_m^* \varphi = 2\Phi_0(z) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} O(|z|^3)$ ,  $\forall z \in \tilde{D}_{\log m}$ , where  $\Phi_0(z) =$  $\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \lambda_j |z_j|^2$ , we have

$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} \sup_{\tilde{D}_{\log m}} |\partial_x^{\alpha} (2m F_m^* \varphi - 2\Phi_0)| = 0, \quad \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^{2n-2}.
$$
\n(1.53)

<span id="page-12-0"></span>Consider  $\mathbb{C}^{n-1}$ . Let  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}}$  be the Hermitian metric on  $T^{*0,q}\mathbb{C}^{n-1}$  such that

 ${d\overline{z}^J : |J| = q}$ , *J* is strictly increasing}

is an orthonormal basis. Let  $(\cdot|\cdot)_{2\Phi_0}$  be the  $L^2$  inner product on  $\Omega_0^{0,q}(\mathbb{C}^{n-1})$  given by

$$
(f|g)_{2\Phi_0} = \int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} \langle f|g \rangle e^{-2\Phi_0(z)} dv(z), \quad f, g \in \Omega_0^{0,q}(\mathbb{C}^{n-1}). \tag{1.54}
$$

<span id="page-12-3"></span>Put

$$
\Box_{2\Phi_0}^{(q)} = \overline{\partial} \overline{\partial}^{*,2\Phi_0} + \overline{\partial}^{*,2\Phi_0} \overline{\partial} : \Omega^{0,q}(\mathbb{C}^{n-1}) \to \Omega^{0,q}(\mathbb{C}^{n-1}),
$$
\n(1.55)

where  $\overline{\partial}^{*,2\Phi_0}$  is the formal adjoint of  $\overline{\partial}$  with respect to  $(\cdot|\cdot)_{2\Phi_0}$ .

<span id="page-12-1"></span>From [\(1.53\)](#page-12-0), it is not difficult to check that

$$
\Box_{(m)}^{(q)} = \Box_{2\Phi_0}^{(q)} + \epsilon_m \mathcal{P}_m \text{ on } \tilde{D}_{\log m},
$$
\n(1.56)

where  $P_m$  is a second order partial differential operator and all the coefficients of  $P_m$  are uniformly bounded with respect to *m* in  $C^{\mu}(\tilde{D}_{\log m})$  norm for every  $\mu \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $\epsilon_m$  is a sequence tending to zero as  $m \to \infty$ . By the convergence property of [\(1.53\)](#page-12-0) and [\(1.56\)](#page-12-1), we have Garding's inequality for elliptic operator  $\square_{(m)}^{(q)}$ (*m*) .

<span id="page-12-2"></span>**Proposition 1.21** *For every r* > 0 *with*  $\tilde{D}_{2r} \subset \tilde{D}_{\text{log } m}$  *and*  $s \in \mathbb{N}_0$ *, there is a constant*  $C_{r,s} > 0$  *independent of m and the point x*<sub>0</sub> *such that* 

$$
||u||_{2mF_m^*\varphi, s+2, \tilde{D}_r}^2 \le C_{s,r} \left( ||u||_{2mF_m^*\varphi, \tilde{D}_{2r}}^2 + ||\Box_{(m)}^{(q)} u||_{2mF_m^*\varphi, s, \tilde{D}_{2r}}^2 \right)
$$
(1.57)

*for all*  $u \in F_m^* \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_{\log m})$ , where  $||u||_{2mF_m^*\varphi,s,\tilde{D}_r}$  is the weighted Sobolev norm of order s *with respect to the weight function* 2*m F*∗ *<sup>m</sup>*ϕ *which is given by*

$$
||u||_{2mF_m^*\varphi,s,\tilde{D}_r}^2 = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^{2n-2}, |\alpha| \le s, |J| = q}^{\prime} \int_{\tilde{D}_r} |\partial_x^{\alpha} u_J|^2 e^{-2mF_m^*\varphi} \lambda\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}}\right) dv(z), \quad (1.58)
$$

 $where u = \sum_{|J|=q}^{\prime} u_J e^J(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}}) \in F_m^* \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D}_{\log m}).$ 

### **2 Morse inequalities on CR manifolds**

Let  $f_1, \ldots, f_{d_m}$  be an orthonormal basis of  $H_{b,m}^q(X)$ . The Szegö kernel of  $H_{b,m}^q(X)$  is defined by

$$
\Pi_m^q(x) := \sum_{j=1}^{d_m} |f_j(x)|^2.
$$
\n(2.1)

It is easy to see that  $\prod_{m=1}^{q} (x)$  is independent of the choice of the orthonormal basis and

$$
\dim \mathcal{H}_{b,m}^q(X) = \int_X \Pi_m^q(x) \, dv_X. \tag{2.2}
$$

We denote by  $X(q)$  a subset of  $X$  such that

 $X(q) := \{x \in X : \mathcal{L}_x$  has exactly *q* negative eigenvalues and  $n - 1 - q$  positive eigenvalues}.

<span id="page-13-1"></span>Recall that for every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $X_k$  is given by [\(1.1\)](#page-2-3). The following is our first technical result.

**Theorem 2.1** *Let X be a compact connected CR manifold with a transversal CR S*1*-action. For every q* = 0, 1, 2, ..., *n* − 1*, we have* 

$$
\sup\left\{m^{-(n-1)}\Pi_m^q(x) : m \in \mathbb{N}, x \in X\right\} < \infty \tag{2.3}
$$

<span id="page-13-4"></span>*and for every*  $k$  ∈ *N with*  $X_k$   $\neq$  Ø*, we have* 

$$
\limsup_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} \Pi_m^q(x) \le \frac{k}{2\pi^n} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| \cdot 1_{X(q)}(x), \quad \forall x \in X_k,
$$
\n(2.4)

*where*  $1_{X(q)}(x)$  *denotes the characteristic function of the subset*  $X(q) \subset X$  *and*  $\mathcal{L}_x$  *is the Levi-form defined in Definition* [1.5](#page-3-4)*.*

*In particular, for every*  $q = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n-1$ *, we have* 

$$
\limsup_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} \Pi_m^q(x) \le \frac{1}{2\pi^n} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| \cdot 1_{X(q)}(x), \quad \forall x \in X_{\text{reg}}.\tag{2.5}
$$

## <span id="page-13-5"></span>**2.1 Main results**

<span id="page-13-0"></span>From Lemma [1.4](#page-2-2) and Theorem [2.1](#page-13-1) and by Fatou's lemma we obtain the weak Morse inequalities

**Theorem 2.2** (weak Morse inequalities) *Let X be a compact connected CR manifold with a transversal CR S<sup>1</sup>-action. Assume that*  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} X = 2n - 1, n > 2$ . Then for every  $q =$ 0, 1, 2,..., *n* − 1*, we have*

$$
\dim H_{b,m}^q(X) \le \frac{m^{n-1}}{2\pi^n} \int_{X(q)} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| dv_X(x) + o(m^{n-1}), \quad m \to \infty. \tag{2.6}
$$

<span id="page-13-3"></span><span id="page-13-2"></span>From Theorem [2.2](#page-13-0) we deduce Demailly's weak holomorphic Morse inequalities (see [\[9,](#page-27-6) Theorem0.1] and  $[27,$  $[27,$  Theorem 1.7.1]):

**Corollary 2.3** (Demailly's weak morse inequalities) *Let M be a compact Hermitian manifold of dimension* dim<sub>C</sub> $M = n$  and let  $(L, h^L)$  be a Hermitian line bundle over M. Then for  $q = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n$ 

$$
\dim H_{\overline{\partial}}^q(M, L^k) \le \frac{k^n}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{M(q)} |\det \mathcal{R}_x^L| dv_M(x) + o(k^n), \quad k \to \infty,
$$
 (2.7)

*where*  $H_{\overline{\partial}}^q(M, L^k)$  *denotes the q-th*  $\overline{\partial}$ *-cohomology group with values in*  $L^k$ *, dv<sub>M</sub> is the induced volume form on M,*  $\mathcal{R}^L_x$ ,  $x \in M$  *is the Chern curvature of the Hermitian line bundle*  $(L, h^L)$  *and*  $M(q)$  *is a subset of*  $M$  *where*  $\mathcal{R}^L_x$  *has exactly q negative eigenvalues and*  $n - q$ *positive eigenvalues.*

*Proof* We take *X* to be the circle bundle  $\{v \in L^* : |v|_{h^{-1}}^2 = 1\}$  over the compact complex manifold *M* where  $(L^*, h^{-1})$  is the dual line bundle of Hermitian line bundle  $(L, h)$  over *M*. Let  $(z, \lambda)$  be the local coordinates on  $L^*$ , where  $\lambda$  is the fiber coordinates. The natural  $S^1$ action on *X* is defined by  $e^{i\theta} \circ (z, \lambda) = (z, e^{i\theta} \lambda)$ . Then we can check that *X* is a compact CR manifold with a transversal CR  $S^1$ -action. On *X* we can check that  $\mathcal{L}_x|_{T^{1,0}X} = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{R}^L_z$ where  $x = (z, \lambda)$ . It is well known that (see [\[26,](#page-27-16) p.746], Theorem 1.2 in [\[8\]](#page-26-5)) for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , dim $H^q_{\overline{\partial}}(M, L^k) = \dim H^q_{b,k}(X)$ . From [\(2.6\)](#page-13-2) we have

$$
\dim H_{\frac{3}{\theta}}^{q}(M, L^{k}) = \dim H_{b,k}^{q}(X)
$$
\n
$$
\leq \frac{k^{n}}{2\pi^{n+1}} \int_{X(q)} |\det \mathcal{L}_{x}| dv_{X}(x) + o(k^{n})
$$
\n
$$
\leq \frac{k^{n}}{2\pi^{n+1}} \times \frac{2\pi}{2^{n}} \int_{M(q)} |\det \mathcal{R}^{L}| dv_{M} + o(k^{n})
$$
\n
$$
\leq \frac{k^{n}}{(2\pi)^{n}} \int_{M(q)} |\det \mathcal{R}^{L}_{x}| dv_{M}(x) + o(k^{n}).
$$
\n(2.8)

Thus, we get the conclusion of Corollary [2.3.](#page-13-3)  $\Box$ 

It should be noticed that the relation between sections of the holomorphic line bundle and function theory on the associate Grauert tube was first observed by Grauert [\[14\]](#page-27-18). The isomorphism of the subcomplex  $(\Omega_m^{0,\bullet}(X), \overline{\partial}_b)$  to the Dolbeault complex  $(\Omega^{0,\bullet}(M, L^m), \overline{\partial})$ was established by Ma-Marinescu [\[26](#page-27-16), p.746].

For  $\sigma > 0$ , we collect the eigenspace of  $\Box_{b,m}^{(q)}$  whose eigenvalue is less than or equal to  $\sigma$ (see Theorem [1.13\)](#page-6-4) and define

$$
\mathcal{H}_{b,m,\leq\sigma}^{q}(X) := \bigoplus_{\lambda \leq \sigma} \mathcal{H}_{b,m,\lambda}^{q}(X). \tag{2.9}
$$

<span id="page-14-3"></span>The Szegö kernel function of the space  $\mathcal{H}_{b,m,\leq m\sigma}^q(X)$  is defined by  $\prod_{m,\leq m\sigma}^q(x)$  =  $\sum_{j=1}^{d_m} |g_j(x)|^2$ , where  $\{g_j(x)\}_{j=1}^{d_m}$  is any orthonormal basis for the space  $\mathcal{H}_{b,m,\leq m\sigma}^q(X)$ .  $\overline{O}$ ur second main technique result is the following

<span id="page-14-2"></span>**Theorem 2.4** *For any sequence*  $v_m > 0$  *with*  $v_m \to 0$  *as m*  $\to \infty$ *, there exists a constant*  $C > 0$  *independent of m and*  $x \in X$  *such that* 

$$
m^{-(n-1)}\Pi_{m,\leq m\nu_m}^q(x) \leq C, \quad \forall m \in \mathbb{N}, \ \forall x \in X. \tag{2.10}
$$

<span id="page-14-4"></span>*Moreover, there is a sequence*  $\delta_m > 0$ ,  $\delta_m \to 0$  *as m*  $\to \infty$ *, such that for any sequence*  $v_m > 0$  *with*  $\lim_{m \to \infty}$  $\frac{\delta_m}{v_m} = 0$ *, we have* 

$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} \Pi_{m, \le m v_m}^q(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi^n} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| \cdot 1_{X(q)}, \quad \forall x \in X_{\text{reg}}.\tag{2.11}
$$

<span id="page-14-1"></span>*Since the measure of*  $X \setminus X_{\text{reg}} = 0$ *, integrating* [\(2.11\)](#page-14-1) *and by Fatou's Lemma we have* 

$$
\dim \mathcal{H}^q_{m,\leq m v_m}(X) = \frac{m^{n-1}}{2\pi^n} \int_{X(q)} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| dv_X(x) + o(m^{n-1}), \quad m \to \infty.
$$
 (2.12)

<span id="page-14-0"></span>From Theorem [2.4](#page-14-2) and the linear algebraic argument from Demailly in [\[9](#page-27-6)[,10\]](#page-27-7) and [\[25\]](#page-27-19), we obtain the strong Morse inequalities

**Theorem 2.5** (Strong Morse inequalities) *Let X be a compact connected CR manifold with a transversal CR S<sup>1</sup>-action. Assume that*  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} X = 2n - 1, n > 2$ . For every  $q = 0, 1, 2, ..., n - 1, as  $m \to \infty$ , we have$ 

$$
\sum_{j=0}^{q} (-1)^{q-j} \dim H_{b,m}^j(X) \le \frac{m^{n-1}}{2\pi^n} \sum_{j=0}^{q} (-1)^{q-j} \int_{X(j)} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| dv_X(x) + o(m^{n-1}). \tag{2.13}
$$

*In particular, when*  $q = n - 1$ *, as*  $m \to \infty$ *, we have the asymptotic Riemann-Roch theorem* 

$$
\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (-1)^j \dim H_{b,m}^j(X) = \frac{m^{n-1}}{2\pi^n} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (-1)^j \int_{X(j)} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| dv_X(x) + o(m^{n-1}). \tag{2.14}
$$

From Theorem [2.5,](#page-14-0) we can repeat the procedure in the proof of Corollary [2.3](#page-13-3) with minor change and get Demailly's strong Morse inequalities. We refer the readers to the book by Ma and Marinescu [\[27](#page-27-8)] for the heat kernel approach of Demailly's Morse inequalities.

When  $q = 1$ , from the strong Morse inequality in Theorem [2.5](#page-14-0) we have

$$
-\dim H_{b,m}^{0}(X) + \dim H_{b,m}^{1}(X)
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \frac{m^{n-1}}{2\pi^{n}} \int_{X(1)} |\det \mathcal{L}_{X}| dv_{X}(x) - \frac{m^{n-1}}{2\pi^{n}} \int_{X(0)} |\det \mathcal{L}_{X}| dv_{X}(x) + o(m^{n-1}), \quad m \to \infty.
$$
\n(2.15)

<span id="page-15-1"></span><span id="page-15-0"></span>The inequality  $(2.15)$  implies that

**Theorem 2.6** (Grauert–Riemenschneider criterion) *Let X be a compact connected CR manifold with a transversal CR S<sup>1</sup>-action. Assume that*  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} X = 2n - 1, n \geq 2$ . If X is weakly *pseudoconvex and strongly pseudoconvex at a point, then as m*  $\rightarrow \infty$ 

$$
\dim H_{b,m}^0(X) \approx m^{n-1}, \ \dim H_{b,m}^q(X) = o(m^{n-1}) \ \ \text{for } q \ge 1. \tag{2.16}
$$

<span id="page-15-2"></span>*In particular, we have*  $\dim H_b^0(X) = \infty$ *.* 

*Proof* Since *X* is a weakly pseudoconvex manifold and strongly pseudoconvex at least at a point, we have  $X(q) = \emptyset$  for every  $q \ge 1$  and  $X(0)$  contains a ball. By the weak Morse in Theorem [2.2](#page-13-0) we have dim  $H_{b,m}^q(X) = o(m^{n-1})$  for  $q \ge 1$  as  $m \to \infty$ . By the weak Morse inequalities for  $q = 0$  and [\(2.15\)](#page-15-1), we get the conclusion of [\(2.16\)](#page-15-2). Using the Fourier decomposition (1.22), we have dim  $H^0(X) = \infty$ . decomposition [\(1.22\)](#page-5-3), we have dim  $H_b^0(X) = \infty$ .

Theorem [2.6](#page-15-0) implies a new proof of Grauert–Riemenschneider conjecture (Siu's criterion) as stated and solved by Siu [\[30\]](#page-27-20), [\[31](#page-27-21), Theorem 1] and Ma and Marinescu [\[27](#page-27-8), Theorem 2.2.27 (i)].

**Corollary 2.7** (Grauert–Riemenschneider conjecture, Siu's criterion) *Let M be a compact Hermitian manifold and let* (*L*, *h<sup>L</sup>* ) *be a Hermitian line bundle over M. If L is semi-positive and positive at a point, then L is big.*

*Proof* Applying Theorem [2.6](#page-15-0) to the circle bundle of *L* we get the conclusion of the corollary.  $\Box$ 

Demailly  $[9,$  Theorem 0.8(a)] and  $[27,$  Theorem 2.2.27(ii)] proved a more general form of the Grauert–Riemenschneider conjecture, namely that if the integral of  $c_1(L, h)^n$  over the set of points for which  $c_1(L, h)$  has one or fewer negative eigenvalues is positive (i.e.  $\int_{M(\leq 1)} c_1(L, h)^n > 0$ , then *L* is big and *M* is Moishezon.

If we set  $\int_{X(\leq 1)} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| dv_X = \int_{X(0)} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| dv_X - \int_{X(1)} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| dv_X$  and assume that the Levi form of CR manifold is not always semi-positive but that the integral  $\int_{X(\leq 1)} |\text{det} \mathcal{L}_x| dv_X > 0$ , then by [\(2.15\)](#page-15-1) we still get many CR functions:

<span id="page-16-0"></span>**Theorem 2.8** *Let X be a compact connected CR manifold of dimension*  $2n - 1$  *with a transversal CR S*1*-action. Assume that*

$$
\int_{X(\leq 1)} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| dv_X > 0. \tag{2.17}
$$

*Then*  $\dim H_{b,m}^0(X) \approx m^{n-1}$  *as m*  $\rightarrow \infty$ *. In particular,*  $\dim H_b^0(X) = \infty$ *.* 

Theorem [2.8](#page-16-0) is the analogue of Demailly's criterion [\[9,](#page-27-6) Theorem 0.8(a)] and [\[27,](#page-27-8) Theorem 2.2.27(ii)], for CR manifolds with transversal CR *S*1-action and actually implies this criterion if applied to the Grauert tube. Theorem [2.8](#page-16-0) shows that one can allow the Levi form to be negative in a controlled way and still have a lot of CR functions.

#### 2.1.1 Morse inequalities for  $m \to -\infty$

In the main results above, we only consider the Morse inequalities for the positive Fourier component dim  $H_{b,m}^q(X)$  as  $m \to \infty$ . In fact, we also have the Morse inequalities for the negative Fourier component  $H_{b,m}^q(X)$  as  $m \to -\infty$ . Based on the same arguments as in the proof of the main results, the bounds for  $H_{b,m}^q(X)$  for  $m \to -\infty$  will be given in terms of integrals of the Levi form of *X* over the sets  $\ddot{X}(n-1-q)$ . More precisely, we have

<span id="page-16-1"></span>**Theorem 2.9** *Let X be a compact connected CR manifold with a transversal CR S*1*-action. Assume that* dim $\mathbb{R}X = 2n - 1, n \geq 2$ . *For every*  $q = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n - 1$ , as  $m \to -\infty$ , we *have*

$$
\dim H_{b,m}^q(X) \le \frac{|m|^{n-1}}{2\pi^n} \int_{X(n-1-q)} |\det \mathcal{L}_X| dv_X(x) + o(|m|^{n-1}),
$$
\n
$$
\sum_{j=0}^q (-1)^{q-j} \dim H_{b,m}^j(X) \le \frac{|m|^{n-1}}{2\pi^n} \sum_{j=0}^q (-1)^{q-j} \int_{X(n-1-j)} |\det \mathcal{L}_X| dv_X(x) + o(|m|^{n-1}).
$$
\n(2.18)

*In particular, when*  $q = n - 1$ *, as*  $m \to -\infty$ *, we have the asymptotic Riemann–Roch theorem* 

$$
\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (-1)^j \dim H_{b,m}^j(X) = \frac{|m|^{n-1}}{2\pi^n} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (-1)^j \int_{X(n-1-j)} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| dv_X(x) + o(|m|^{n-1}).
$$
\n(2.19)

From Theorems [2.2,](#page-13-0) [2.5](#page-14-0) and [2.9,](#page-16-1) we deduce

**Theorem 2.10** *Let X be a compact connected CR manifold of real dimension* 2*n* − 1 *with a transversal CR*  $S^1$ -action. Let  $q \in \{0, 1, \ldots, n-1\}$ . Assume that the Levi form of X has q *non-positive and n* − 1 − *q non-negative eigenvalues everywhere. Then*

$$
\dim H_{b,m}^j(X) = o(m^{n-1}), \quad \text{as } m \to \infty, \text{ for } j \neq q
$$
\n
$$
\dim H_{b,m}^j(X) = o(|m|^{n-1}), \quad \text{as } m \to -\infty, \text{ for } j \neq n-1-q.
$$
\n
$$
(2.20)
$$

*If moreover the Levi-form is non-degenerate at some point, then*

$$
\dim H_{b,m}^q(X) \approx m^{n-1}, \quad as \, m \to \infty
$$
\n
$$
\dim H_{b,m}^{n-1-q}(X) \approx |m|^{n-1}, \quad as \, m \to -\infty
$$
\n
$$
\dim H_b^q(X) = \infty, \quad \dim H_b^{n-1-q}(X) = \infty.
$$
\n(2.21)

*In particularly, if X is weakly pseudoconvex and strongly pseudoconvex at a point, then*

$$
\dim H^{n-1}_{b,m}(X) \approx |m|^{n-1} \text{ as } m \to -\infty
$$

*and in particluar* dim  $H_b^{n-1}(X) = \infty$ *. Moreover,* dim  $H_b^q(X) = o(|m|^{n-1})$  *as*  $m \to -\infty$  for  $q < n - 2$ .

#### **2.2 Proofs of Theorem [2.1](#page-13-1) and the weak Morse inequalities**

Fix  $x_0 \in X$  and choose canonical local patch *D* near  $x_0$  with canonical coordinates  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$ such that  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  is trivial at  $x_0$ . Write  $D = \tilde{D} \times (-\delta, \delta)$ ,  $\tilde{D} = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} : |z| < \varepsilon\}.$ In this section, we always treat  $\tilde{D}$  as an open subset of  $\mathbb{C}^{n-1}$  with the complex coordinates  $z = (z_1, \ldots, z_{n-1})$ . We choose the fixed Hermitian metric given on  $T^{*0,1} \tilde{D}$  defined in Remark [1.20](#page-9-2) and extend it to  $T^{*0,q}$   $\tilde{D}$ . We still use the notation  $\langle \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  to denote the Hermitian metric on  $T^{*0,q} \tilde{D}$ . Let  $u \in \Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$ . From the definition of  $\Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$  we have that  $Tu = imu$ . Then on D,  $u = \tilde{u}(z)e^{im\theta}$  with  $\tilde{u}(z) \in \Omega^{0,q}(\tilde{D})$  and  $\tilde{u}(z) = \sum'_{|J|=q} \tilde{u}_J(z)d\overline{z}^J$ . Before the proof of the weak Morse inequalities, we first need the following lemma

<span id="page-17-0"></span>**Lemma 2.11** *For all*  $u \in \Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$ *, on D we have* 

$$
\overline{\partial}_b u = e^{im\theta} e^{-m\varphi} \overline{\partial} (e^{m\varphi} e^{-im\theta} u), \quad \overline{\partial}_b^* u = e^{im\theta} e^{-m\varphi} \overline{\partial}^{*,2m\varphi} (e^{m\varphi} e^{-im\theta} u), \n\Box_{b,m}^{(q)} u = e^{im\theta} e^{-m\varphi} \Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)} (e^{m\varphi} e^{-im\theta} u).
$$
\n(2.22)

*Recall that*  $\overline{\delta}^{*,2m\varphi}$  *is as in the discussion before* [\(1.50\)](#page-11-3) *and*  $\square_{2m\varphi}^{(q)}$  *is given by* [\(1.52\)](#page-11-4).

*Proof* Let  $u = \sum_{|J|=q} u_{J} d\overline{z}^{J}$ . Then  $\overline{\partial}_{b} u = \sum_{|J|=q} \left( \frac{\partial u_{J}}{\partial \overline{z}_{j}} - i \frac{\partial \varphi(z)}{\partial \overline{z}} \frac{\partial u_{J}}{\partial \theta} \right) d\overline{z}_{j} \wedge d\overline{z}^{J}$ . By the assumption of the Lemma [2.11,](#page-17-0)  $Tu = imu$  which implies that on  $\frac{\partial u_j}{\partial \theta} = imu_j$  on *D* for every *J*. Then

$$
\overline{\partial}_b u = \sum_{|J|=q}^{\prime} \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{\partial u_J}{\partial \overline{z}_j} + m \frac{\partial \varphi(z)}{\partial \overline{z}_j} u_J \right) d\overline{z}_j \wedge d\overline{z}^J
$$
\n
$$
= e^{im\theta} \sum_{|J|=q}^{\prime} \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{\partial \widetilde{u}_J}{\partial \overline{z}_j} + m \frac{\partial \varphi(z)}{\partial \overline{z}_j} \widetilde{u}_J \right) d\overline{z}_j \wedge d\overline{z}^J,
$$
\n(2.23)

<span id="page-17-2"></span>where  $u = e^{im\theta} \tilde{u}(z)$  on  $D$ ,  $\tilde{u}(z) = \sum_{|J|=q}^{p} rime \tilde{u}_J(z) d\overline{z}^J$ . Set  $v(z) = e^{m\phi} \tilde{u}(z) = \sum_{|J|=q}^{p} rime v_J(z) d\overline{z}^J$ . Then  $\sum_{|J|=q}^{p}$  *rimev<sub>J</sub>* (*z*)*d* $\overline{z}^{J}$ . Then

$$
\frac{\partial v_J}{\partial \overline{z}_j} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}_j} (\tilde{u}_J(z)e^{m\varphi}) = e^{m\varphi} \left( \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_J}{\partial \overline{z}_j} + m \frac{\partial \varphi(z)}{\partial \overline{z}_j} \tilde{u}_J \right). \tag{2.24}
$$

<span id="page-17-1"></span>Substituting [\(2.24\)](#page-17-1) to [\(2.23\)](#page-17-2) we get the conclusion of the first identity of Lemma [2.11.](#page-17-0)

Since  $\overline{\partial}_{b}^{*}u \in \Omega_{m}^{0,q-1}(X)$ , on *D*, we write  $\overline{\partial}_{b}^{*}u = e^{im\theta} \tilde{v}(z), \tilde{v}(z) \in \Omega_{m}^{0,q-1}(\tilde{D})$ . Take  $\chi(\theta) \in C_0^{\infty}((-\delta, \delta))$  with  $\int \chi(\theta) d\theta = 1$ . Let  $g \in \Omega_0^{0,q-1}(\tilde{D})$ . We have

$$
(\overline{\partial}_b^* u | e^{-2m\varphi(z)} g(z) \chi(\theta) e^{im\theta}) = (e^{im\theta} \tilde{v}(z) | e^{-2m\varphi(z)} g(z) \chi(\theta) e^{im\theta}) = (\tilde{v}(z) | g(z))_{2m\varphi}.
$$
\n(2.25)

<span id="page-18-0"></span>On the other hand, from the proof first identity of Lemma [2.11,](#page-17-0) we have

<span id="page-18-1"></span>
$$
(\overline{\partial}_{b}^{*}u|e^{-2m\varphi(z)}g(z)\chi(\theta)e^{im\theta}) = (u|\overline{\partial}_{b}(e^{-2m\varphi(z)}g(z)\chi(\theta)e^{im\theta}))
$$
  
\n
$$
= (u|\chi(\theta)e^{im\theta}e^{-m\varphi(z)}\overline{\partial}(e^{-m\varphi(z)}g(z))) + (u|(-i)\chi'(\theta)e^{im\theta}e^{-2m\varphi(z)}\overline{\partial}\varphi \wedge g(z))
$$
  
\n
$$
= (e^{m\varphi(z)}\widetilde{u}(z)|\overline{\partial}(e^{-m\varphi(z)}g(z))_{2m\varphi} = (\overline{\partial}^{*,2m\varphi}(e^{m\varphi}\widetilde{u})|e^{-m\varphi(z)}g(z))_{2m\varphi}
$$
  
\n
$$
= (e^{-m\varphi(z)}\overline{\partial}^{*,2m\varphi}(e^{m\varphi}\widetilde{u})|g(z))_{2m\varphi}.
$$
\n(2.26)

From [\(2.25\)](#page-18-0) and [\(2.26\)](#page-18-1), we get

$$
(\tilde{v}(z)|g(z))_{2m\varphi} = (e^{-m\varphi(z)}\overline{\partial}^{*,2m\varphi}(e^{m\varphi}\tilde{u})|g(z))_{2m\varphi}, \quad \forall g \in \Omega_0^{0,q}(\tilde{D}),
$$

and hence

$$
e^{-im\theta}\overline{\partial}_b^* u = \tilde{v} = e^{-m\varphi(z)}\overline{\partial}^{*,2m\varphi}(e^{m\varphi}\tilde{u}) \text{ on } D.
$$

We get the second identity in Lemma [2.11.](#page-17-0) The third identity can be deduced directly from the other two identities.

For any  $u \in \Omega^{0,q}(X)$ ,  $u = \sum'_{|J|=q} u_J(z,\theta) e^J(z)$ . Here  $J = (j_1, \ldots, j_q)$  with  $1 \le j_1$  $\langle \cdots \langle j_q \rangle \leq n - 1, e^J = e^{j_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge e^{j_q}$  and  $\{e_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  is the orthonormal frame chosen in Lemma [1.19.](#page-9-0) Set  $S_{m,J}^q(x) = \sup_{u \in \mathcal{H}_{b,m}^q(X), ||u|| = 1} |u_J(x)|^2$  which is the extremal function along the direction  $e^J$ . We can repeat the proof of Lemma 2.1 in [\[19\]](#page-27-9) and conclude that

**Lemma 2.12** *For every local orthonormal frame*  $\{e^J : |J| = q$ , *strictly increasing of*  $T^{*0,q}X$  over an open set D, we have for  $y \in D$ 

<span id="page-18-4"></span>
$$
\Pi_m^q(y) = \sum_{|J|=q}^{\prime} S_{m,J}^q(y). \tag{2.27}
$$

Now we are going to prove Theorem [2.1](#page-13-1) and the weak Morse inequality.

*Proof* Fix  $x_0 \in X$  and choose canonical local patch  $D = \{(z, \theta) : |z| < \varepsilon, |\theta| < \delta\}$  with canonical coordinates  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  such that  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  is trivial at  $x_0$ . For any  $u \in \mathcal{H}_{b,m}^q(X)$  with  $||u|| = 1$ , on *D* we have  $u(z, \theta) = \tilde{u}(z)e^{im\theta}$ . Set  $v_m(z) = e^{m\varphi(z)}\tilde{u}(z), z \in D$ . Then from Lemma [2.11,](#page-17-0)  $\Box_{b,m}^{(q)}u(z,\theta) = 0$  and  $||u|| = 1$  we deduce that on *D*,

$$
\Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)} v_m(z) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{\tilde{D}} |v_m(z)|^2 e^{-2m\varphi(z)} \lambda(z) dv(z) \le \frac{1}{2\delta}, \tag{2.28}
$$

<span id="page-18-3"></span><span id="page-18-2"></span>where  $\Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)}$  is as in [\(1.52\)](#page-11-4). Set  $\tilde{v}_{(m)}(z) = m^{\frac{-(n-1)}{2}} e^{m\varphi(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}})} \tilde{u}(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}})$ . Then by [\(1.51\)](#page-11-5) and [\(2.28\)](#page-18-2) we have

$$
\Box_{(m)}^{(q)}\tilde{v}_{(m)}(z) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{\tilde{D}_r} |\tilde{v}_{(m)}(z)|^2 e^{-2m\varphi(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}})} \lambda\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}}\right) dv(z) \le \frac{1}{2\delta},\tag{2.29}
$$

for any  $r < \log m$  when *m* is large. From Proposition [1.21](#page-12-2) and [\(2.29\)](#page-18-3), there exists a constant  $C'_{r,s,\delta} > 0$  independent of *m* and the point  $x_0$  such that

$$
\|\tilde{v}_{(m)}\|_{2mF_m^*\varphi, s+2, \tilde{D}_r}^2 \le C'_{r,s,\delta}.
$$
\n(2.30)

<span id="page-19-0"></span>Since *X* is compact we can choose  $\delta$  which is independent of  $x_0$ . For  $s \ge 2n - 2$ , from [\(2.30\)](#page-19-0) and by Sobolev embedding theorem, there exists a constant  $C'$  which is independent of  $x_0$ , *m* such that

$$
m^{-(n-1)}|u(x_0)|^2 = m^{-(n-1)}|\tilde{u}(0)|^2 = |\tilde{v}_{(m)}(0)|^2 \le C'.
$$
 (2.31)

<span id="page-19-1"></span>From  $(2.31)$  and Lemma [2.12,](#page-18-4) we get the conclusion of the first part of Theorem [2.1.](#page-13-1)

Fix  $|J| = q$ , *J* is strictly increasing. There exists a sequence  $u_{m_k} \in H_{b,m_k}^q(X)$  with  $||u_{m_k}|| = 1$  such that

$$
\limsup_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} S_{m,J}^q(x_0) = \lim_{k \to \infty} m_k^{-(n-1)} |u_{m_k,J}(x_0)|^2.
$$
 (2.32)

<span id="page-19-9"></span> $Tu_{m_k} = im_k u_{m_k}$  implies that on *D*, we have  $u_{m_k} = \tilde{u}_{m_k}(z)e^{im_k\theta}$ . Since  $\Box_{b,n}^{(q)}$  $b_{m_k}^{(q)}(u_{m_k}) = 0,$ from Lemma [2.11](#page-17-0) we have

$$
\Box_{2m_k\varphi}^{(q)}(e^{m_k\varphi}\tilde{u}_{m_k}(z)) = 0.
$$
\n(2.33)

<span id="page-19-3"></span>Moreover,

<span id="page-19-2"></span>
$$
\int_{\tilde{D}} |e^{m_k \varphi} \tilde{u}_{m_k}(z)|^2 e^{-2m_k \varphi(z)} \lambda(z) dv(z) = \int_{\tilde{D}} |\tilde{u}_{m_k}(z)|^2 \lambda(z) dv(z)
$$
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2\delta} \int_{D} |u_{m_k}|^2 \lambda(z) dv(z) d\theta \le \frac{1}{2\delta}.
$$
\n(2.34)

Similarly, set  $\tilde{v}_{(m_k)}(z) = m_k^{-\frac{(n-1)}{2}} e^{m_k \varphi(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m_k}})} \tilde{u}_{m_k}(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m_k}})$ . Then from [\(1.51\)](#page-11-5), [\(2.33\)](#page-19-2) and [\(2.34\)](#page-19-3) we have

$$
\Box_{(m_k)}^{(q)}\tilde{\upsilon}_{(m_k)} = 0 \text{ on } \tilde{D}_{\log m_k},\tag{2.35}
$$

<span id="page-19-5"></span>and

<span id="page-19-4"></span>
$$
\int_{\tilde{D}_{\log m_k}} |\tilde{v}_{(m_k)}(z)|_{F_{m_k}^*}^2 e^{-2m_k \varphi\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m_k}}\right)} \lambda\left(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m_k}}\right) dv(z) \le \frac{1}{2\delta}.
$$
\n(2.36)

<span id="page-19-6"></span>For any  $r > 0$  with  $\tilde{D}_r \subset \tilde{D}_{\log m}$  when  $m >> 1$ , by Garding's inequality we have

$$
\|\tilde{v}_{(m_k)}\|_{2m_k F_{m_k}^* \varphi, s+2, \tilde{D}_r}^2 \leq C_{s,r} \left( \|\tilde{v}_{(m_k)}\|_{2m_k F_{m_k}^* \varphi, \tilde{D}_{2r}}^2 + \|\Box_{(m_k)}^{(q)} \tilde{v}_{(m_k)}\|_{2m_k F_{m_k}^* \varphi, s, \tilde{D}_{2r}}^2 \right),\tag{2.37}
$$

where  $C_{r,s} > 0$  is a constant independent of  $m_k$ . Combining [\(2.35\)](#page-19-4), [\(2.36\)](#page-19-5) and [\(2.37\)](#page-19-6) we have  $\|\tilde{v}_{(m_k)}\|_{2mF_m^*\varphi, s+2, \tilde{D}_r}^2 \leq C_{r,s,\delta}$ , where  $C_{r,s,\delta} > 0$  is a constant independent of  $m_k$ . We extend  $\tilde{v}_{(m_k)}$  to  $\mathbb{C}^{n-1}$  by zero outside  $\tilde{D}_{\log m_k}$  still denoted by  $\tilde{v}_{(m_k)}$ . By Sobolev compact embedding theorem, there exists a subsequence of  $\{\tilde{v}_{(m_k)}(z)\}$  which is denoted by  $\{v_{(m_k)}(z)\}$  such that

$$
\tilde{v}_{(m_{k_j})} \to v = \sum_{|J|=q}^{p} rime v_J(z) d\overline{z}^J \in \Omega^{0,q}(\mathbb{C}^{n-1}) \text{ in } C^{\infty}(K) \text{ topology}, \quad \forall K \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1}.
$$
\n(2.38)

<span id="page-19-7"></span>From [\(2.35\)](#page-19-4), [\(2.36\)](#page-19-5), [\(2.38\)](#page-19-7) and [\(1.56\)](#page-12-1), we can check that

<span id="page-19-8"></span>
$$
\Box_{2\Phi_0}^{(q)}v = 0\tag{2.39}
$$

<span id="page-20-0"></span>and

$$
\int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} |v(z)|^2 e^{-2\Phi_0(z)} dv(z) \le \frac{1}{2\delta}.
$$
 (2.40)

Recall that  $\Phi_0(z) = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \lambda_j |z_j|^2$ . Combining [\(2.39\)](#page-19-8) and [\(2.40\)](#page-20-0), we have

$$
|v_J(0)|^2 \le \frac{1}{2\delta} S^q_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1},J}(0). \tag{2.41}
$$

<span id="page-20-1"></span>Here,  $S^q_{J,\mathbb{C}^{n-1}}(0)$  is the extremal function along the direction  $d\overline{z}^J$  on the model space  $\mathbb{C}^{n-1}$ with respect to complex Laplacian  $\square_{2m\Phi_0}^{(q)}$ , that is

$$
S_{J,\mathbb{C}^{n-1}}^q(0) = \sup\{|u_J(0)|^2 : u \in \Omega^{0,q}(\mathbb{C}^{n-1}), \Box_{2\Phi_0}^{(q)} u = 0, \int |u|^2 e^{-2\Phi_0(z)} dv(z) = 1\}.
$$

<span id="page-20-2"></span>From [\(2.32\)](#page-19-9), [\(2.38\)](#page-19-7) and [\(2.41\)](#page-20-1), we have

$$
\limsup_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} S_{m,J}^q(x_0) = \lim_{j \to \infty} m_{k_j}^{-(n-1)} |u_{m_{k_j},J}(x_0)|^2
$$
  
= 
$$
\lim_{j \to \infty} |\tilde{v}_{(m_{k_j})}(0)|^2 = |v_J(0)|^2 \le \frac{1}{2\delta} S_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1},J}^q(0). \tag{2.42}
$$

From [\(2.42\)](#page-20-2) and Lemma [2.12,](#page-18-4) we deduce that

<span id="page-20-3"></span>
$$
\limsup_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} \Pi_m^q(x_0) \le \sum_{|J|=q}^p rime \limsup_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} S_{m,J}^q(x_0) \le \frac{1}{2\delta} \sum_{|J|=q}^{\prime} S_{J,\mathbb{C}^{n-1}}^q(0).
$$
\n(2.43)

<span id="page-20-4"></span>By Proposition 4.3 in [\[3](#page-26-7)], we have that

$$
\sum'_{|J|=q} S^q_{J,\mathbb{C}^{n-1}}(0) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n-1}} |2\lambda_1,\dots,2\lambda_{n-1}| \cdot 1_{X(q)}(x_0). \tag{2.44}
$$

<span id="page-20-5"></span>From  $(2.43)$  and  $(2.44)$ , we have

$$
\limsup_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} \Pi_m^q(x_0) \le \frac{1}{2\delta} \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi^{n-1}} |\det \mathcal{L}_{x_0}| \cdot 1_{X(q)}(x_0). \tag{2.45}
$$

When  $x_0 \in X_k$ , by Lemma [1.18,](#page-8-5)  $\delta$  can be chosen to equal to  $\frac{\pi}{k} - \epsilon$ , for every  $\epsilon > 0$ . From this observation and  $(2.45)$ , we deduce that

$$
\limsup_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} \Pi_m^q(x) \le \frac{k}{2\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{2\pi^{n-1}} |\det \mathcal{L}_x| \cdot 1_{X(q)}(x), \forall x \in X_k \tag{2.46}
$$

and Theorem [2.1](#page-13-1) follows then.

From Lemma [1.4,](#page-2-2) Theorem [2.1](#page-13-1) and by Fatou's lemma we obtain the weak Morse inequal-ities and get the conclusion of Theorem [2.2.](#page-13-0)  $\Box$ 

Now we are going to prove Theorem [2.4](#page-14-2) and the strong Morse inequalities.

### **2.3 Proofs of Theorem [2.4](#page-14-2) and the strong Morse inequalities**

In this section, we will establish the strong Morse inequalities on CR manifolds with transversal CR  $S<sup>1</sup>$ -action. We first recall some well known facts. From Theorem [1.13,](#page-6-4) we know that  $\square_{b,m}^{(q)}$  has discrete spectrum, each eigenvalues occurs with finite multiplicity and all the eigenforms are smooth. For  $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}$ , let  $\mathcal{H}_{b,m,\leq \sigma}^q(X)$  be defined as in [\(2.9\)](#page-14-3). Similarly, let  $\mathcal{H}_{b,m,>\sigma}^q(X)$ denote the space spanned by the eigenforms of  $\square_{b,m}^{(q)}$  whose eigenvalues are  $>\sigma$ .

Let  $Q_{b,m}$  be the Hermitian form on  $\Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$  defined for  $u, v \in \Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$  by

$$
Q_{b,m}(u,v) = (\overline{\partial}_b u | \overline{\partial}_b u) + (\overline{\partial}_b^* u | \overline{\partial}_b^* v) + (u|v) = (\Box_{b,m}^{(q)} u | v) + (u, v).
$$

Let  $\Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$  be the completion of  $\Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$  under the  $Q_{b,m}$  in  $L^2_{(0,q),m}(X)$ . For  $\lambda > 0$ , we have the orthogonal spectral decomposition with respect to  $Q_{b,m}$ 

$$
\Omega_m^{0,q}(X) = \mathcal{H}_{b,m,\leq \sigma}^q \bigoplus \overline{\mathcal{H}_{b,m,>\sigma}^q(X)},\tag{2.47}
$$

<span id="page-21-0"></span>where  $\overline{\mathcal{H}_{b,m,>\sigma}^q(X)}$  is the completion of  $\mathcal{H}_{b,m,>\sigma}^q(X)$  under  $Q_{b,m}$  in  $L^2_{(0,q),m}(X)$ . For the proof of Theorem [2.4,](#page-14-2) we need the following

**Proposition 2.13** *For any*  $p \in X(q) \cap X_{\text{reg}}$ *, there exists*  $\alpha_m \in \Omega_m^{0,q}(X)$  *such that* 

(1) 
$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} |\alpha_m(p)|^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi^n} |\det \mathcal{L}_p|.
$$
  
\n(2) 
$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} ||\alpha_m||^2 = 1.
$$
  
\n(3) 
$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} \left\| \left( m^{-1} \Box_{b,m}^{(q)} \right)^k \alpha_m \right\| = 0, \forall k \in \mathbb{N}.
$$
  
\n(4) There exists  $\delta_m$  independent of  $p, \delta_m \to 0$  such that

$$
\left(m^{-1}\Box_{b,m}^{(q)}\alpha_m|\alpha_m\right)\leq \delta_m.
$$

We now fix  $p \in X(q) \cap X_{reg}$ . Let  $D = \tilde{D} \times (-\pi, \pi)$  be a canonical local patch with canonical coordinates  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  such that  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  is trivial at *p*. We take  $D = \{(z, \theta) \in$  $\mathbb{C}^{n-1}$ :  $|z| < \varepsilon$ ,  $|\theta| < \pi$ } =  $\overline{D} \times (-\pi, \pi)$ . By Lemma [1.17,](#page-7-3) this is always possible. Until further notice, we will work with  $(z, \theta, \varphi)$  and we will use the same notations as in Section 1.4. Before the proof of Proposition [2.13,](#page-21-0) we claim that one can find  $u(z) \in \Omega^{0,q}(\mathbb{C}^{n-1})$ such that

$$
\Box_{2\Phi_0}^{(q)} u(z) = 0, \int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} |u(z)|^2 e^{-2\Phi_0(z)} dv(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi},
$$
  
and  $|u(0)|^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi^n} |\lambda_1(p), \dots, \lambda_{n-1}(p)|.$  (2.49)

<span id="page-21-2"></span>Recall that  $\Phi_{2\Phi_0}^{(q)}$  is given by [\(1.55\)](#page-12-3). Proof of the claim: We assume that the first *q* eigenvalues of the Levi-form are negative, that is,  $\lambda_1 \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_q < 0 < \lambda_{q+1} \leq \cdots \leq \lambda_{n-1}$ . Set

$$
u(w) = \left(\frac{|2\lambda_1,\ldots,2\lambda_{n-1}|}{(2\pi)^{n-1}}\cdot\frac{1}{2\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}e^{\sum_{j=1}^q \lambda_j |w_j|^2}d\overline{w}_1\wedge\cdots\wedge d\overline{w}_q.
$$
 (2.50)

<span id="page-21-1"></span>It is easy to check that the form  $u(w)$  satisfies the claim. Now we are going to prove Propo-sition [2.13.](#page-21-0)

*Proof* We choose cut-off function  $\chi$  such that  $\chi(z) \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathbb{C}^{n-1})$  with  $\chi \equiv 1$  in a neighborhood of  $\overline{D_1}$  and supp $\chi \in D_1$ . Here,  $D_r = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^{n-1} : |z_1| < r, \ldots, |z_{n-1}| < r\}$ . Choose a function  $\eta(t) \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R})$  satisfying  $0 \leq \eta(t) \leq 1$  such that  $\eta(t) \equiv 1$  when  $t \geq \pi^2$  and  $\eta(t) \equiv 0$  when  $t < \frac{\pi^2}{4}$ . Set  $\eta_m(\theta) = \eta((\pi^2 - \theta^2) \log^2 m)$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $\eta_m(\theta)$  is a family of cut-off functions with supp $\eta_m \in (-\pi, \pi)$ . Moreover, we have that  $\lim_{m\to\infty} \eta_m(\theta) =$  1,  $a.e. \theta \in (-\pi, \pi)$  and  $|\eta_m| \le 1, |\eta'_m(\theta)| = O(\log^2 m), |\eta''_m(\theta)| = O(\log^4 m)$ . Define

$$
u_m(z,\theta) = m^{\frac{n-1}{2}} u(\sqrt{m}z) e^{-m\varphi(z)} \chi\left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right) \eta_m(\theta) e^{im\theta},\tag{2.51}
$$

<span id="page-22-0"></span>where  $u(z) \in \Omega^{0,q}(\mathbb{C}^{n-1})$  is as in [\(2.50\)](#page-21-1). Then  $u_m \in \Omega^{0,q}(X)$  with supp $u_m \in D$ . Set  $\alpha_m = Q_m^{(q)} u_m$ . Then on *D* we have

$$
\alpha_m(z,\theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} u_m(z,t) e^{-imt} dt e^{im\theta}.
$$
 (2.52)

From  $(2.51)$  we have

$$
||u_m||^2 = \int_X m^{n-1} |u(\sqrt{mz})|^2 e^{-2m\varphi(z)} \chi^2 \left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right) \eta_m^2(\theta) \lambda(z) dv(z) d\theta
$$
  
\n
$$
= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \eta_m^2(\theta) d\theta \int_{D_{\frac{\log m}{\sqrt{m}}}} m^{n-1} |u(\sqrt{mz})|^2 e^{-2m\varphi(z)} \chi^2 \left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right) \lambda(z) dv(z)
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq 2\pi \int_{D_{\frac{\log m}{\sqrt{m}}}} m^{n-1} |u(\sqrt{mz})|^2 e^{-2m\varphi(z)} \chi^2 \left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right) \lambda(z) dv(z).
$$
 (2.53)

<span id="page-22-3"></span>Taking limits as  $m \to \infty$  and from the construction of  $u(z)$  in [\(2.49\)](#page-21-2), we have

$$
\limsup_{m \to \infty} \|u_m\|^2 \le 2\pi \int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} |u(z)|^2 e^{-2\Phi_0(z)} dv(z) = 2\pi \times \frac{1}{2\pi} = 1. \tag{2.54}
$$

<span id="page-22-2"></span>Since on *D*

$$
\alpha_m(z,\theta) = Q_m u_m(z,\theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} u_m(z,t)e^{-imt}dt e^{im\theta}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} m^{\frac{n-1}{2}} u(\sqrt{mz})e^{-m\varphi(z)} \chi(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m})\eta_m(t)e^{imt}e^{-imt}dt e^{im\theta}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \left(\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \eta_m(t)dt\right) m^{\frac{n-1}{2}} u(\sqrt{mz})e^{-m\varphi(z)} \chi\left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right) e^{im\theta}
$$
  
\n
$$
= c_m m^{\frac{n-1}{2}} u(\sqrt{mz})e^{-m\varphi(z)} \chi\left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right) e^{im\theta}.
$$
\n(2.55)

Here  $c_m = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \eta_m(t) dt$ . Then by Fatou's lemma, we get  $\lim_{m \to \infty} c_m = 1$ . We have

$$
m^{-(n-1)}|\alpha_m(p)|^2 = m^{-(n-1)}|\alpha_m(0,0)|^2 = c_m^2|u(0)|^2 = c_m^2 \frac{|\lambda_1(p), \dots, \lambda_{n-1}(p)|}{2\pi^n}.
$$
 (2.56)

<span id="page-22-1"></span>Taking limits in [\(2.56\)](#page-22-1) as  $m \to \infty$ , we get the conclusion of the first part of Proposition [2.13.](#page-21-0) From  $(2.55)$ , we have

$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} \int_{D} |\alpha_m(z, \theta)|^2 \lambda(z) dv(z) d\theta
$$
\n
$$
= \lim_{m \to \infty} 2\pi \int_{\tilde{D}} |c_m^2| m^{n-1} |u(\sqrt{mz})|^2 e^{-2m\varphi(z)} \chi^2 \left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right) \lambda(z) dv(z)
$$
\n
$$
= 2\pi \int_{\mathbb{C}^{n-1}} |u(z)|^2 e^{-2\Phi_0(z)} dv(z) = 2\pi \times \frac{1}{2\pi} = 1.
$$
\n(2.57)

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This implies that  $\liminf ||\alpha_m||^2 \ge 1$ . From [\(2.54\)](#page-22-3) and the definition of  $\alpha_m$  we have  $||\alpha_m||^2 \le$ *u<sub>m</sub>*  $||u_m||^2$  ≤ 1 which implies that  $\limsup_{m\to\infty} ||\alpha_m||^2$  ≤ 1. Thus we have  $\lim_{m\to\infty} ||\alpha_m||^2$  = 1. Thus we get the conclusion of the second part of Proposition [2.13.](#page-21-0) Now we postpone and state the  $||u_m||^2 \le 1$  which implies that  $\limsup ||\alpha_m||^2 \le 1$ . Thus we have  $\lim_{m \to \infty} ||\alpha_m||^2 = 1$ . Thus following lemma

## <span id="page-23-1"></span>**Lemma 2.14**

$$
\frac{1}{m}\Box_{b}^{(q)}u_{m} = \frac{1}{m}\Box_{b}^{(q)}\left[m^{\frac{n-1}{2}}u(\sqrt{mz})e^{-m\varphi(z)}\chi\left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right)e^{im\theta}\eta_{m}(\theta)\right]
$$
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{m}m^{\frac{n-1}{2}}\Box_{b}^{(q)}\left[u(\sqrt{mz})e^{-m\varphi(z)}\chi\left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right)e^{im\theta}\right]\eta_{m}(\theta) + \varepsilon_{m},\tag{2.58}
$$

*where*  $||\varepsilon_m|| \leq \delta_m$ ,  $\delta_m$  *is a sequence independent of p with*  $\delta_m \to 0$  *as m*  $\to \infty$ *.* 

*Proof* Let  $\{e^j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  be the orthonormal frame of  $T^{*0,1}X$  over *D* given in Lemma [1.19.](#page-9-0) Let  $\{\overline{U}_j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  be the dual frame of  $\{e^j\}_{j=1}^{n-1}$  with respect to the given *T* -rigid Hermitian metric on C*T X*. Then on *D*

$$
\overline{U}_j = \frac{\partial}{\partial \overline{z}_j} - i\lambda_j z_j \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + O(|z|^2) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n-1.
$$
 (2.59)

By a direct calculation(see Proposition 2.3 in [\[16\]](#page-27-22))

$$
\Box_b^{(q)} = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \overline{U}_j^* \overline{U}_j + \sum_{j,k=1}^{n-1} e^j \wedge (e^k \wedge)^* \circ [\overline{U}_j, \overline{U}_k^*] + \varepsilon(\overline{U}) + \varepsilon(\overline{U}^*) + \text{zero order terms}, (2.60)
$$

where  $U_j^*$  is the formal adjoint of  $U_j$ ,  $\varepsilon(U)$  denotes the remainder terms of the form *n*−1<br>∑ *k*=1  $a_k(z, \theta) \overline{U}_k$  with  $a_k$  smooth and similarly for  $\varepsilon(\overline{U}^*)$ . Then by a direct calculation we have

$$
\frac{1}{m}\Box_{b}^{(q)}u_{m} = \frac{1}{m}m^{\frac{n-1}{2}}\Box_{b}^{(q)}\left[u(\sqrt{mz})e^{-m\varphi(z)}\chi\left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right)e^{im\theta}\right]\eta_{m}(\theta) \n+ \frac{1}{m}\left(\varepsilon(\overline{U}^{*})u_{m}(z,\theta)\right)\eta'_{m}(\theta)O(|z|) + \frac{1}{m}\left(\varepsilon(\overline{U})u_{m}(z,\theta)\right)\eta'_{m}(\theta)O(|z|) \n+ \frac{1}{m}u_{m}(z,\theta)\left[\eta'_{m}(\theta)O(1) + \eta'_{m}(\theta)O(|z|) + \eta''_{m}(\theta)O(|z|^{2})\right].
$$
\n(2.61)  
\n
$$
= \frac{1}{m}m^{\frac{n-1}{2}}\Box_{b}^{(q)}\left[u(\sqrt{mz})e^{-m\varphi(z)}\chi\left(\frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m}\right)e^{im\theta}\right]\eta_{m}(\theta) + \varepsilon_{m}
$$

<span id="page-23-0"></span>Here, we have used  $\varepsilon_m$  to denote the remaining terms of  $(2.61)$ . Then by the construction of  $\eta_m$  we can check that  $\varepsilon_m = O(\frac{(\log m)^{\alpha}}{m^{\beta}})$  where  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  are positive constants. Thus the lemma follows.  $\Box$ 

Now we are going to prove the third part of Proposition [2.13,](#page-21-0) we only prove it when  $k = 1$ and the other cases are similar. From Lemma [2.11](#page-17-0) we have

$$
\Box_b^{(q)} \left[ u(\sqrt{mz}) \chi \left( \frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m} \right) e^{-m\varphi(z)} e^{im\theta} \right] = e^{im\theta} e^{-m\varphi} \Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)} \left[ u(\sqrt{mz}) \chi \left( \frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m} \right) \right].
$$
\n(2.62)

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From [\(1.51\)](#page-11-5), [\(1.56\)](#page-12-1) and  $\square_{2\Phi}^{(q)}$  $_{2\Phi_0}^{(q)}$   $u = 0$ , it is straightforward to check that

<span id="page-24-0"></span>
$$
\int_{X} \left| \frac{1}{m} m^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \Box_{b}^{(q)} \left[ u(\sqrt{mz}) e^{-m\varphi(z)} \chi \left( \frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m} \right) e^{im\theta} \right] \eta_{m}(\theta) \right|^{2} dv_{X}
$$
\n
$$
= \int \left| \frac{1}{m} m^{\frac{n-1}{2}} e^{im\theta} \Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)} \left[ u(\sqrt{mz}) \chi \left( \frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m} \right) \right] \eta_{m}(\theta) \right|^{2} e^{-2m\varphi(z)} \lambda(z) dv(z) d\theta
$$
\n
$$
= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\eta_{m}(\theta)|^{2} d\theta \int \left| \frac{1}{m} m^{\frac{n-1}{2}} e^{im\theta} \Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)} \left[ u(\sqrt{mz}) \chi \left( \frac{\sqrt{mz}}{\log m} \right) \right] \right|^{2} e^{-2m\varphi(z)} \lambda(z) dv(z)
$$
\n
$$
= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\eta_{m}(\theta)|^{2} d\theta \int \left| \Box_{(m)}^{(q)} \left[ u(z) \chi \left( \frac{z}{\log m} \right) \right] \right|^{2} e^{-2mF_{m}^{*}\varphi(z)} \lambda \left( \frac{z}{\sqrt{m}} \right) dv(z)
$$
\n
$$
\leq 2\pi \int \left| \Box_{(m)}^{(q)} \left[ u(z) \chi \left( \frac{z}{\log m} \right) \right] \right|^{2} e^{-2mF_{m}^{*}\varphi(z)} \lambda \left( \frac{z}{\sqrt{m}} \right) dv(z) \leq \delta_{m}, \tag{2.63}
$$

where  $\delta_m > 0$  is a sequence independent of *p* with  $\lim_{m \to \infty} \delta_m = 0$ . Combining [\(2.58\)](#page-23-1), [\(2.63\)](#page-24-0) and notice that  $\|m^{-1}\Box_b^{(q)}\alpha_m\| \leq \|m^{-1}\Box_b^{(q)}u_m\|$  we get the conclusion of the third part of this proposition. (2) in Proposition [2.13](#page-21-0) and  $(2.63)$  imply (4) in this proposition.

Now we are going to prove Theorem [2.4.](#page-14-2) The proof of  $(2.10)$  is essentially the same as the proof of [\(2.3\)](#page-13-4). Therefore we omit the detail. Let  $\alpha_m$  be the sequence we have chosen in Proposition [2.13.](#page-21-0) Then  $\alpha_m = \alpha_{m,1} + \alpha_{m,2}, \alpha_{m,1} \in \mathcal{H}_{b,m,\leq m v_m}^q(X), \alpha_{m,2} \in \overline{\mathcal{H}_{b,m,\geq m v_m}^q(X)}$ . Since

<span id="page-24-1"></span>
$$
\|\alpha_{m,2}\|^2 = (\alpha_{m,2}|\alpha_{m,2}) \le \frac{1}{mv_m} \left( \Box_{b,m}^{(q)} \alpha_{m,2} |\alpha_{m,2} \right) = \frac{1}{v_m} \left( \frac{1}{m} \Box_{b,m}^{(q)} \alpha_m |u_{m,2} \right) \le \frac{\delta_m}{v_m} \to 0. \tag{2.64}
$$

From [\(2.64\)](#page-24-1) and (2) in Proposition [2.13,](#page-21-0) we get

$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} \|\alpha_{m,1}\| = 1. \tag{2.65}
$$

<span id="page-24-6"></span>Now we claim that

$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} |\alpha_{m,2}(p)|^2 = 0.
$$
\n(2.66)

On *D*, we write  $\alpha_{m,2}(z,\theta) = \tilde{\alpha}_{m,2}(z)e^{im\theta}$ . Set  $\beta_{m,2}(z) = \tilde{\alpha}_{m,2}(z)e^{m\varphi(z)}$ . Then

$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} |\alpha_{m,2}(p)|^2 = \lim_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} |\tilde{\alpha}_{m,2}(0)|^2
$$
  
= 
$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} |\beta_{m,2}(0)|^2 = \lim_{m \to \infty} |\beta_{(m),2}(0)|^2.
$$
 (2.67)

<span id="page-24-5"></span>Here we used the notation  $|\beta_{(m),2}(z)|^2 = m^{-(n-1)} |\beta_{m,2}(\frac{z}{\sqrt{m}})|^2$ .

From Lemma [2.11](#page-17-0) we have

$$
\Box_{b,m}^{(q)}\left(\alpha_{m,2}\right) = e^{im\theta} e^{-m\varphi(z)} \Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)}\left(\tilde{\alpha}_{m,2}(z)e^{m\varphi(z)}\right) = e^{im\theta} e^{-m\varphi(z)} \Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)}(\beta_{m,2}).\tag{2.68}
$$

<span id="page-24-2"></span>From [\(2.68\)](#page-24-2) and using induction, we get on *D*

$$
(\Box_b^{(q)})^k \alpha_{m,2} = e^{im\theta} e^{-m\varphi} \left(\Box_{2m\varphi}^{(q)}\right)^k (\beta_{m,2}(z)). \tag{2.69}
$$

<span id="page-24-4"></span><span id="page-24-3"></span>By Garding's inequality (see Proposition [1.21\)](#page-12-2) and Sobolev embedding theorem, we see that

$$
|\beta_{(m),2}(0)|^2 \le C_{n,r} \left( \|\beta_{(m),2}\|_{2mF_m^*\varphi, D_r}^2 + \|\Box_{(m)}^{(q)}\beta_{(m),2}\|_{2mF_m^*\varphi, n, D_r}^2 \right) \tag{2.70}
$$

<span id="page-25-0"></span>for some  $r > 0$ . Here  $C_{n,r}$  is a constant independent of p and m. Now, we have

$$
\|\beta_{(m),2}\|_{2mF_m^*\varphi, D_r}^2 \le \|\alpha_{m,2}\|^2 \to 0. \tag{2.71}
$$

<span id="page-25-1"></span>Moreover, from Garding's inequality and using induction (see Proposition [1.21\)](#page-12-2), we have

$$
\|\Box_{(m)}^{(q)}\beta_{(m),2}\|_{2mF_{m}^{*}\varphi,n,D_{r}}^{2} \leq C' \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \left\| \left(\Box_{(m)}^{(q)}\right)^{k} \beta_{(m),2} \right\|_{2mF_{m}^{*}\varphi,D_{r'}}^{2},\tag{2.72}
$$

for some  $r' > 0$ , where  $C' > 0$  is a constant independent of *m*. From [\(2.69\)](#page-24-3) and [\(1.51\)](#page-11-5) we can check that for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$$
\left\| \left( \Box_{(m)}^{(q)} \right)^k \beta_{(m),2} \right\|_{2m F_m^* \varphi, D_{r'}}^2 \leq C_1 \left\| \frac{1}{m^k} \left( \Box_b^{(q)} \right)^k \alpha_{m,2} \right\|^2
$$
  

$$
\leq C_1 \left\| \frac{1}{m^k} \left( \Box_b^{(q)} \right)^k \alpha_m \right\|^2 \to 0,
$$
 (2.73)

<span id="page-25-2"></span>where  $C_1 > 0$  is a constant independent of *m*. Combining [\(2.70\)](#page-24-4), [\(2.71\)](#page-25-0), [\(2.72\)](#page-25-1) with [\(2.73\)](#page-25-2), we have  $\lim_{m \to \infty} |\beta_{(m),2}(0)|^2 = 0$ . From [\(2.67\)](#page-24-5) we have  $\lim_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} |\alpha_{m,2}(p)|^2 = 0$ and the claim  $(2.66)$  follows. From  $(2.66)$  and  $(1)$  in Proposition [2.13,](#page-21-0) we conclude that

$$
\lim_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} |\alpha_{m,1}(p)|^2 = \frac{|\lambda_1(p), \dots, \lambda_{n-1}(p)|}{2\pi^n}.
$$
 (2.74)

<span id="page-25-3"></span>Now,

$$
m^{-(n-1)}\Pi_{m,\leq m\nu_m}^q(0) \geq m^{-(n-1)}\frac{|\alpha_{m,1}(p)|^2}{\|\alpha_{m,1}\|^2} \to \frac{|\lambda_1(p),\ldots,\lambda_{n-1}(p)|}{2\pi^n}.\tag{2.75}
$$

<span id="page-25-4"></span>By a similar proof of  $(2.5)$ , we have

$$
\limsup_{m \to \infty} m^{-(n-1)} \Pi_{m, \le m v_m}^q(p) \le \frac{|\lambda_1(p), \dots, \lambda_{n-1}(p)|}{2\pi^n}.
$$
 (2.76)

Combining [\(2.75\)](#page-25-3) with [\(2.76\)](#page-25-4), we get the conclusion of Theorem [2.4.](#page-14-2)

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## **Appendix**

#### **Proof of Lemma [1.4](#page-2-2)**

*Proof* Set  $X_j = \{x \in X : e^{i\frac{2\pi}{j}} \circ x = x \text{ and } \forall 0 < |\theta| < \frac{2\pi}{j}, e^{i\theta}x \neq x\}$ . We call such *x* the points in *X* with period  $\frac{2\pi}{j}$ . Then  $X_{reg} = X_1$  by definition. There are only finite  $X_j$ ,  $1 \le j \le m$  such that  $X = \bigcup_{j=1}^m X_j$ . Then  $X_j \cap X_k = \emptyset$ ,  $\forall j \ne k$ . Now we are going to show that  $\bigcup_{j=2}^{m} X_j$  is a closed subset of *X*. We assume there exists a sequence  ${x_k}$  ⊂  $\bigcup_{j=2}^m X_j$  such that  $x_k \to x_0$ . W.L.O.G, we assume that the  ${x_k}$  ⊂  $X_j$  for some  $j \ge 2$ . Then we have  $e^{i\frac{2\pi}{j}} \circ x_k = x_k$ . Taking limits as  $k \to \infty$  we have  $e^{i\frac{2\pi}{j}} \circ x_0 = x_0$ . By

definition,  $x_0 \notin X_{\text{reg}}$ . Thus  $x_0 \in \bigcup_{j=2}^m X_j$ . This means that  $\bigcup_{j=2}^m X_j$  is a closed subset of *X* and the complement  $X_{\text{reg}}$  is an open subset of  $X$ .

Second, we are going to check that the measure of  $X\backslash X_{reg}$  is zero. Set  $Y_j = \{x \in X :$  $e^{i\frac{2\pi}{j}}$   $\propto$   $x = x$ ,  $2 \le j \le m$ . Obviously that *Y<sub>j</sub>* is a closed subset of *X* and  $X_j \subset Y_j$ ,  $2 \le j \le m$ . Now we will show that the measure of  $Y_i$ ,  $2 \leq j \leq m$  is zero and for convenient we only show that the measure of  $Y_2$  is zero. We use  $m(Y_i)$  to denote the measure of  $Y_i$  for  $2 \leq j \leq m$ . If  $Y_2 = \emptyset$ , we have  $m(Y_2) = 0$ . Now we assume that  $Y_2 \neq \emptyset$ . For any  $p \in Y_2$ , we have  $e^{i\pi} \circ p = p$ . With the rigid Hermitian metric on *X*, it is easy to check that the map  $e^{i\pi}$  :  $X \to X$  is an isometrically CR isomorphism. Since  $e^{i\pi} \circ p = p$  we have  $de^{i\pi}: T_p X \to T_p X$ . Here  $T_p X$  is the tangent space of X at p. There exists a small neighborhood  $U_{o_p}$  of  $o_p \in T_p X$  such that the exponential map

$$
\exp_p: U_{o_p} \to \exp_p(U_{o_p}) := V_p \subset X \tag{2.77}
$$

<span id="page-26-8"></span>is a diffeomorphism. Then for any  $q \in Y_2 \cap V_p$ , there exists a vector  $Z_q \in U_{o_p}$  such that  $\exp(Z_q) = q$ . Since  $e^{i\pi} \circ q = q$ , we have that  $e^{i\pi}(\exp_p(Z_q)) = q = \exp_p(Z_q)$ . The isometric map  $e^{i\pi}: X \to X$  implies the commutation between  $e^{i\pi}$  and the exponential map and we have that

$$
\exp_p \circ de^{i\pi}(Z_q) = e^{i\pi} \circ \exp_p(Z_q) = q = \exp_p(Z_q). \tag{2.78}
$$

<span id="page-26-9"></span>Since  $\|de^{i\pi}(Z_q)\| = \|Z_q\|$ , we have that  $de^{i\pi}(Z_q) \in U_{o_p}$ . Combining with [\(2.77\)](#page-26-8), we get  $de^{i\pi}(Z_q) = Z_q$ . This means that  $Z_q$  is a fixed point of the linear map  $de^{i\pi}: T_pX \to T_pX$ . Set  $H = \{Z \in T_p X : de^{i\pi} Z = Z\}$ . By [\(2.77\)](#page-26-8) and [\(2.78\)](#page-26-9) we have that

$$
\exp_p(U_{o_p} \cap H) = V_p \cap Y_2. \tag{2.79}
$$

<span id="page-26-10"></span>Since  $Y_2$  is a closed subset of *X*, From [\(2.79\)](#page-26-10) we have that *H* must be a proper linear subspace of  $T_pX$ . Then [\(2.79\)](#page-26-10) implies that  $m(Y_2) = 0$ . Similarly, we have  $m(Y_j) = 0, \forall 2 \le j \le m$ . From  $X_j \subset Y_j$ ,  $2 \le j \le m$ , we have that  $m(X_j) = 0$ ,  $2 \le j \le m$ . Moreover [\(2.79\)](#page-26-10) implies that *Y*<sub>2</sub> is a nowhere dense subset of *X*, similarly,  $Y_i$ ,  $2 \le j \le m$  are nowhere dense subset of *X*. Since *X*<sub>*j*</sub> ⊂ *Y*<sub>*j*</sub>, 2 ≤ *j* ≤ *m*, we have that *X*<sub>reg</sub> is a dense subset of *X*. □

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