JOHN RYAN

Clifford Algebras in Analysis and Related Topics

STUDIES IN ADVANCED MATHEMATICS

Clifford Algebras in Analysis and Related Topics

Studies in Advanced Mathematics

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Contents

ر الارتباط ا

1	Ack	nowle	dgment	1
2	Cor	ferenc	e Participants	3
3	Intr	oduct	ion	
Jo	hn R	yan		7
4 H.	Pro Blai	blem 1 ne Law	Book son	17
5 an	Clif d Ha	ford A armon	lgebras, Fourier Theory, Singular Integrals, ic Functions on Lipschitz Domains	33
/10	<i>un 1</i> /1 E 1	Introd	, Instian	22
	5.9	Loctu	ro 1	- 33 - 34
	0.4	591	(A) Spectral theory of $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathbb{P}^m$	36
		5.2.1	(A) Spectral theory of $\zeta \in \mathbb{C}^m$	37
	53	Lectur	(D) b p c c a a b c c y c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c	40
	0.0	5.3.1	(C) Spectral theory of commuting matrices	40
		5.3.2	(D) Spectral theory of the Dirac operator D	43
	5.4	Lectu	re 3	50
		5.4.1	(E) Monogenic functions	50
		5.4.2	(F) Singular convolution integrals on Lipschitz surfaces	56
	5.5	Lectur	re 4	63
		5.5.1	(G) Fourier transforms	63
		5.5.2	(H) Correspondence between monogenic functions and holomorphic functions of several complex variables under Fourier transforms	67
	56	Lectur		71
	0.0	561	(I) Algebras of singular integrals on Linschitz sur-	11
		5.0.1	faces, and functional calculi of Dirac operators on these surfaces	71
		562	(K) Boundary value problems for harmonic functions	75
	5.7	Addit	ional Material	78
		5.7.1	(L) Singular integrals on the boundary of a strongly	
			Lipschitz domain	78
		5.7.2	(\mathbf{M}) More about singular convolution integrals on	
			Lipschitz surfaces	80

6 C	Clifford Algebras and H_{∞} Functiona	l Calculi of	
Con	mmuting Operators		
Chur	un Li and Alan McIntosh	89)
6.	$6.1 Introduction \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots$)
6	6.2 The H_{∞} functional calculus of a sing	gle operator $\ldots \ldots \ldots 89$	9
6	6.3 Fourier transform between holomorph	hic functions and mono-	
	genic functions		2
6	6.4 H_{∞} functional calculi of <i>n</i> -tuples of	commuting operators . 97	7

7 Hypercomplex Variable Techniques in

Harmo	onic Analysis	
Marius	Mitrea	103
7.1	Introduction	103
7.2	Clifford Algebra Rudiments	104
7.3	Elements of Clifford Analysis	106
7.4	Non-Homogeneous Dirac Operators	108
7.5	Clifford Algebra-Valued Singular Integral Operators	109
7.6	Hardy Spaces on Lipschitz Domains	112
7.7	Rellich Type Formulas for Monogenic Functions	120
7.8	A Burkholder-Gundy-Silverstein Theorem for Monogenic Fund	;-
	tions in Lipschitz Domains	121
7.9	Some Applications to the Theory of Harmonic Functions in	
	Lipschitz Domains	123

8 Some Applications of Conformal Covariance in Clifford Analysis

John Ry	Jan	129
8.1	Introduction	129
8.2	Preliminaries	131
8.3	Conformal Invariance of Cells of Harmonicity	134
8.4	V(n) and Real Clifford Analysis	137
8.5	$V(\mathbf{C}^n)$ and Complex Clifford Analysis	145
8.6	The Bergman Kernel and Harmonic Measure	149
8.7	More on Conformal Covariance in Complex Clifford Analysis	153

9	Singular Integrals with Monogenic Kernels on the
m-	Forus and their Lipschitz Perturbations

Tao Qia	an -	157
9.1	Introduction	157
9.2	Preliminary	159
9.3	Fourier Transforms	161
9.4	Singular Integral Operators and Fourier Multiplier Opera-	
	tors on Periodic Lipschitz Surfaces	167

10 Scattering Theory for Orthogonal Wavelets

Palle E.T. Jorgensen	173
10.1 Introduction	173
10.2 Preliminaries	174
10.3 Scattering Theory	177
10.4 Wavelets	181
10.5 Multiresolutions	184
10.6 The Integral Translation Group	188
10.7 The Besicovich Spaces	192

11 Acoustic Scattering, Galerkin Estimates and

Uniford Algebras		bras	$\mathbf{g}\mathbf{e}$	Al	\mathbf{prd}	iff	\mathbf{CI}
------------------	--	------	------------------------	----	----------------	-----	---------------

Björn Jawerth and Marius Mitrea	199
11.1 Introduction	199
11.2 Definitions and Preliminary Results	202
11.3 Inverting Quaternionic-Valued Boundary Operators	206
11.4 Finite Element Spaces	208
11.5 Local Galerkin Estimates	211

12 Clifford Algebras, Hardy Spaces, and

Compensated Compactness

Zhijian	Wu	217
12.1	Introduction	217
12.2	Preliminaries	219
12.3	Components of the product of two monogenic functions	222
12.4	Proof of the main theorems	229
12.5	Applications in compensated compactness	236

13 Frame Decompositions of Form-Valued Hardy Spaces

J.E. Gilbert, J.A. Hogan, and J.D. Lakey	239
13.1 Introduction \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots	239
13.2 Dilatation Frames	241
13.3 The deRham complex and Hardy spaces of forms	246
13.4 Projections on $H^p_{\rho_r}$	250
13.5 Lusin's representation for $H^p_{\rho_r}$	251
13.6 Discrete frames: the case of one-forms	255
13.7 Concluding remarks and problems	256

14 Applications of Clifford Analysis to Inverse Scattering for the Linear Hierarchy in Several Space Dimensions

Daniel B. Dix									261
$14.1 Introduction \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots$									261
14.2 Review of Some Clifford Analysis	s .			•			•		262

	14.3	Relation between Complex and Clifford Analysis in Dimen-	965
	144	Boujow of the Linear Hierarchy in One Space Dimension	200
	14.4	The Linear Hierarchy in Several Space Dimension	212
	14.0	The Linear merarchy in Several Space Dimensions	210
15	On 1	Riemann-Hilbert Problems for Nonhomogeneous	
Dir	ac I	Equations in a Half Space of $\mathbf{R}^m (m \geq 2)$	
$Zh\epsilon$	nyua	n Xu and Chiping Zhou	285
	15.1	Introduction	285
	15.2	Preliminaries	286
	15.3	Riemann-Hilbert Problems for Nonhomogeneous Dirac Equa-	
		tions	289
16	Reg	ularity and Approximation Results for the	
M	xwe	Mitrue Details II Terrer and Creat V Welland	0.0 7
ma	rius 16-1	Intereduction	291
	16.0	The vector Helmholtz equation	291
	10.2	The vector Helmholtz equation	300
	10.3	The singular integral operator M	301
	10.4	Sobolev-Besov space regularity results	302
	10.5	Some approximation results	304
17	Con	tinuity of Calderón-Zygmund Type Operators on	
Ine	efina	Alvarez	309
000	17 1	Introduction	309
	17.2	Definition of the Space $\mathbf{L}^{p,\varphi}$	310
	17.3	The Space $\mathbf{L}^{p,\varphi}$ as the Dual of the Atomic Space $\mathbf{H}^{p,\varphi}$	311
	17.4	A Notion of a Molecule in the Space $\mathbf{H}^{p,\varphi}$	312
	17.5	Continuity on the Spaces $\mathbf{H}^{p,\varphi}$ and $\mathbf{L}^{p,\varphi}$ of Calderón-Zygmund	012
	11.0	Type Operators	315
18	Neu	mann Type Problems for the Dirac Operator	
Chi	ping	Zhou	321
	18.1	Introduction	321
	18.2	Neumann Problems for Monogenic Functions	323
	18.3	Neumann Problems for Nonhomogeneous Dirac Equations .	328
19	\mathbf{The}	Hyperholomorphic Bergman Projector and	
its	Pro	perties	
E.	Ram	írez de Arellano, M. Shapiro, and N. Vasilevski	333
	19.1	Introduction	333
	19.2	Preliminaries	334

19.3	The T -operator and the singular integral operator over a	
	domain	337
19.4	Bergman hyperholomorphic spaces and Bergman hyperholo-	
	morphic projector	338
19.5	Some algebras generated by the Bergman projector	341

20	Multi	vector	Solutions	to the	Hyperholomorphic
Ma	ssive	Dirac	Equation		

William M. Pezzaglia, Jr.	345					
20.1 Introduction						
20.2 Algebraic Notation						
20.2.1 Classical Galilean Space and The Pauli Algebra	347					
20.2.2 Minkowski Spacetime and Majorana Algebra	347					
20.2.3 Automorphisms and Conservation Laws	348					
20.3 Functional Solutions of the Massive Dirac Equation	350					
20.3.1 Relativistic Quantum Wave Equations	350					
20.3.2 Meta-Monogenic Functions	351					
20.3.3 Multivectorial Hilbert Space	352					
20.4 Integral Meta-Monogenic Solutions	354					
20.4.1 The Propagating Kernel	354					
20.4.2 Green Function	356					
20.4.3 Path Integral Formulation (PIF)	357					
20.5 Summary	358					

21 Möbius Transformations, Vahlen Matrices, and their Factorization

Pertti Lounesto								
21.1 Similarities and transversions	361							
21.2 The counter-example of J. Maks	362							
21.3 Recent mistakes in factorization	363							
21.4 How to factor Vahlen matrices?	364							



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John Ryan, Arkansas, September, 1994.

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FIGURE 2.1

'CLIFFORD ALGEBRAS IN ANALYSIS' April 8–10 1993 UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, FAYETTEVILLE

Front Row (Left to Right):

Chun Li (Sydney, Australia), Xhenyun Xu (Toronto, Canada), Terrance Tao (Princeton), Garry Miller (New Brunswick, Canada), Don Small (New Brunswick, Canada), Pertti Lounesto (Helsinki, Finland), Ruediger Belch (Kent, UK), Naoki Kimura (Arkansas), Alan McIntosh (Sydney, Australia). Second Row:

Debora Gayle (San Francisco), Enrique Ramirez De Arellano (Mexico City, Mexico), Palle Jorgensen (Iowa), Don Burkhardt (Georgia), Toma Tonev (Montana), William M. Pezzaglia, Jr. (San Francisco).

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Back Row:

Serge Tabachnikov (Arkansas), Zhijian Wu (Alabama), Guy David (Paris, France), Karel Stroethoff (Montana), John Ryan (Arkansas), Nikolai Vasilevski (Mexico City, Mexico), Itrel Monroe (Arkansas), Zhongwei Shen (Indiana), Daniel Dix (South Carolina). Photographer: Matthew Enjalran (Amherst, MA)

Location: OLD POST OFFICE (Fayetteville, AR) Plaque of Senator William Fulbright on left side

Introduction

John Ryan

Clifford analysis started as an attempt to generalize one-variable complex analysis to higher dimensions using Clifford algebras generated from Euclidean space. More recently, deep and unexpected links to classical harmonic analysis, several complex variables, and representation theory have been discovered. In the early stages the subject was developed exclusively in three and four dimensions using the quaternionic division algebra, which is an example of a Clifford algebra. Later it was realized that results obtained in the quaternionic setting, particularly the generalization of Cauchy's integral formula, did not exclusively rely on the division algebra property of the quaternions, but that it is sufficient for an algebra to contain a vector subspace where all non-zero vectors are invertible in the algebra. In the Clifford algebra setting, this invertibility corresponds to the usual Kelvin inversion of vectors in Euclidean space. This fact is not too surprising, given that Clifford algebras are specifically designed to help describe the geometric properties of quadratic forms on vectors spaces, see for instance, [2]. For some time, it has been understood by most people working with Clifford analysis that most results so far obtained in quaternionic analysis more or less automatically extend to all finite dimensions using Clifford algebras.

In fact, Clifford algebras are remarkably simple algebras to set up. Loosely speaking, one would like to consider \mathbb{R}^n as a subspace of some algebra, so that under the algebra multiplication we have that $x^2 = -||x||^2$ for each vector x in \mathbb{R}^n . If no other constraints are introduced, the minimal algebra satisfying this requirement is an example of a universal Clifford algebra. When n = 1, we obtain the complex number system. When n = 2, we obtain the quaternions. For n > 2, the algebra is no longer a division algebra. However, each non-zero vector x in \mathbb{R}^n is invertible in the algebra, with multiplicative inverse $x^{-1} = \frac{-x}{||x||^2}$. This inverse corresponds, up to a sign, to the Kelvin inverse of the vector x.

Clifford algebras were introduced in the nineteenth century by mathe-

Introduction

maticians and mathematical physicists in various attempts to provide a good foundation to geometric calculus in Euclidean space. An historical account of this development and Clifford's role here is given in the introduction of [10] and some papers therein, e.g., [26]. Clifford was a student of Maxwell's. He is one of the youngest scientists ever to be elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and he was Professor of Applied Mathematics at University College, London. He died of tuberculosis at the age of thirty-three in 1879. His interest in the algebra that bears his name arose, in part, from his attempts to place Maxwell's work on electromagnetism in a more mathematically rigorous setting. His paper [11] describing these algebras appeared in the American Journal of Mathematics one year before his death.

The subject of Clifford analysis has been discovered and independently rediscovered about ten times in the last century. The earliest known work on the subject is by A.C. Dixon [16]. Alfred Cardew Dixon (1865–1936) was Professor of Mathematics at Queen's University, Belfast, from 1901 to 1930. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society, and President of the London Mathematical Society from 1931 to 1933. Later, C. Lanczos described the rudiments of quaternionic analysis in his doctoral thesis [31]. In the 1920's, Felix Klein independently rediscovered the area, [30]. In the 1930's and 1940's, the Swiss mathematician Rudolph Fueter and his students published about fifteen papers on the subject, e.g., [18]. Most of these papers appeared in the journal Commentarii Mathematici Helvetici. An excellent summary of this work is given in a paper of A. Sudbery [56], and a more detailed account is given in some lecture notes of E. Bareiss [4]. Surprisingly, many topics covered by Fueter and his collaborators have not been touched upon in more recent books on the subject, though Gursey and Tze [23] have used some of these results in their study of Yang Mills field equations.

At much the same time as Fueter's work appeared, Moisil and Theodorescu [39] worked on closely related results. This appears to have been the start of a period of research by Romanian mathematicians into aspects of Clifford analysis and related topics which spanned a period of over thirty years; see for instance, [27,41] and references therein. It was also during the 1930's that possible links to mathematical physics were first noted. In particular, the differential operator arising in the generalized Cauchy-Riemann equations, and the "conjugate" of this operator combine to give the Laplacian in Euclidean space. This is in complete analogy to the fact that in one-variable complex analysis, the operators $\frac{d}{dz}$ and $\frac{d}{dz}$ combine to give the Laplacian in two-dimensional space. Earlier, Dirac [17] had used a matrix representation of a Clifford algebra to introduce a factorization of the wave operator, or d'Alambertian, in terms of two first-order differential operators. For this reason, the differential operator arising in the generalized Cauchy-Riemann equations of Clifford analysis is often referred to as the Dirac operator. This operator corresponds to the $d + \delta$ operator acting on differential forms over \mathbb{R}^n , where d is deRham's exterior derivative and δ its adjoint. However, it should be pointed out that the alternating algebra does not possess the correct algebraic structure to admit a meaningful Cauchy integral formula, akin to the one from Clifford analysis. Essentially, the alternating algebra generated from \mathbb{R}^n does not incorporate Kelvin inversion.

It was also at this time that it was first noted that the analysis so far developed in the quaternion setting generalized to the Clifford algebra setting; see for instance, a paper of Haefeli [24]. Some further work in this direction was developed in the 1950's by Sce, [46].

In a four-year period in the late 1960's and early 1970's independent papers by Richard Delanghe [14], T.E. Littlewood and C.D. Gay [35], David Hestenes [25], and Viorel Iftimie [27] were published. Each of these papers illustrated how many aspects of one-variable complex analysis extend to Euclidean space using Clifford algebras. Here, fundamental, but implicit, use is made of Kelvin inversion to set up Cauchy's integral formula, Laurent and Taylor series, etc. In particular, in [27] If time sets up basic results on Cauchy transforms over domains in \mathbb{R}^n , and establishes Plemelj formulae for Hölder continuous functions defined over compact Liapunov surfaces in Euclidean space. Using the Plemelj formulae, he is able to show that the square of the singular Cauchy transform over such a surface is, when acting on Hölder continuous functions, the identity map. This is in complete analogy to the case in complex analysis. Consequently, the stage was set for applying Clifford analysis to study boundary value problems. More recently, these results have been extended to L^p -spaces over the boundaries of Lipschitz domains in \mathbb{R}^n ; see for instance [33,34].

Clifford analysis provides an extremely rich framework for generalizing many results from one-variable complex analysis. A review of the basic results of Clifford analysis is given in [21,Ch.4]. One subtle difference is that the generalized analytic functions, which are often called monogenic functions, are defined on domains in \mathbb{R}^n , and usually take values in the Clifford algebra generated from that space or some spinor subspace of the algebra. One apparent limitation to the theory is that the pointwise multiplication of two monogenic functions is, in general, not a monogenic function. This follows from the noncommutativity of the algebra. Though it should be pointed out that in [51], a very natural product is introduced which reduces in the two-dimensional setting to the usual product. Other basic properties of one-variable complex analysis do not hold in the Clifford analysis setting, e.g., the Riemann mapping theorem.

The term "Clifford analysis" was first coined in the late 1970's, when the editor of this volume used it as a title of a manuscript. The manuscript was referenced by Sommen in [50], and most of the main results for this

manuscript appeared in [42]. Later, the term was used by Brackx, Delanghe, and Sommen, [8], for the title of the first book in the area.

During the 1970's and 1980's, research into Clifford analysis started to become significantly less sporadic and isolated. Richard Delanghe began to build a research group at Ghent State University, Belgium, which has become the largest group currently working in the area. In particular, Frank Sommen [51] independently rediscovered a result of Littlewood and Gay [35] showing that real analytic functions defined on domains in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} have Cauchy-Kowalweski extensions to monogenic functions defined in some neighborhood in \mathbb{R}^n . Although this result is extremely simple, as are many basic results in Clifford analysis, it has a basic impact of linking problems in real analysis, in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} , to function theory over domains in one higher dimension. In particular, in [52] Sommen uses this idea to link up Clifford analysis in \mathbb{R}^n with the Fourier transform over \mathbb{R}^{n-1} . It is in this work and in his later work on plane wave decompositions, [53], that it is realized that this analysis requires both the use of complex numbers and their generalization, the real Clifford algebras. In particular, both algebras are used fundamentally to set up projection operators to describe the decomposition of special classes of functions defined on \mathbb{R}^{n-1} into classes of monogenic functions defined on upper- and lower-half-space in \mathbb{R}^n . For this reason, it becomes necessary to introduce complex Clifford algebras. For mathematicians, this effectively, and efficiently, dispenses with objections raised by some physicists to the use of complex Clifford algebras; see for instance, remarks made in [26].

The projection operators mentioned in the previous paragraph are, in fact, Fourier transforms of the Plemelj formulae/operators for upper- and lower-half-space. Moreover, the singular Cauchy transform over \mathbb{R}^{n-1} is the vector sum over \mathbb{R}^{n-1} of the Riesz transforms described by Stein and Weiss in [54,55]. So, this singular Cauchy transform can be seen as a generalization of the Hilbert transform over the line. It follows that the work of Stein and Weiss, [54,55], on H^p -spaces in \mathbb{R}^n using conjugate harmonic functions fits perfectly into the context of Clifford analysis. This point is well described in [20,Ch.2]. In fact, conjugate harmonic functions are vector-valued harmonic functions whose derivatives are symmetric, and have vanishing trace. Such a system of equations is called a Riesz system, and is a special case of the Cauchy-Riemann equations arising in Clifford analysis.

It was during the mid-1980's that R. Coifman had the idea that many hard problems in classical harmonic analysis could either be simplified or solved using Clifford analysis. This arose in the context of the Coifman-McIntosh-Meyer theorem, [13], which establishes the L^2 -boundedness of the double-layer potential operator over Lipschitz graphs in \mathbb{R}^n . This was a landmark result in classical harmonic analysis which was cited at the time in a report to the American Mathematical Society listing three recent dramatic examples of progress in theoretical mathematics. The original proof for the case n = 2 uses the complex number system, but in higher dimensions the Calderón rotation method is used. Coifman suggested that the two-dimensional proof can be mimicked in higher dimensions using Clifford algebras and Dirac operators, giving rise to a more natural proof. This was carried out for Lipschitz graphs with small Lipschitz constant by Margaret Murray, [40]. The argument was completed for all Lipschitz constants by Alan McIntosh [36]. A key idea here is that the double-layer potential operator over a sufficiently smooth surface is the real, or scalar, part of the singular Cauchy transform over the surface in \mathbb{R}^n . This idea and these results had the impact of opening up the field to a much broader spectrum of mathematical interests.

Originally, the L^2 -boundedness of the double-layer potential operator was worked out over Liapunov surfaces. So, the surface is C^1 with a Hölder continuous derivative. This added smoothness gives sufficient cancellation for one to deduce that the operator is weakly singular. It follows that the operators $\frac{1}{2}I \pm DLP$ are Fredholm, where I is the identity and DLPis the double-layer potential operator. Some more work reveals that these operators are injective, and so they are invertible. Consequently, it becomes an easy matter to use invertibility to produce solutions to the interior and exterior Dirichlet problems for such domains.

When one replaces Liapunov surfaces by Lipschitz surfaces, one no longer has the cancellation property mentioned in the previous paragraph. So the Fredholm operator theory is no longer available, and one needs to find different techniques. The first step in solving the Dirichlet problem over Lipschitz surfaces is to establish the L^2 -boundedness of the doublelayer potential over such surfaces. Several proofs of this result have now appeared, and some of them make use of Clifford analysis. One main advantage of the Clifford algebra-based proofs is that they bring to light the functional calculus of Dirac operators over Lipschitz surfaces, and unify much of the existing theory.

Also, in the 1980's, Ahlfors rediscovered results of Vahlen [58] and showed [1] that Möbius transformations in \mathbb{R}^n could be described using a group of 2×2 matrices with values in a Clifford algebra. This inspired some authors to use Vahlen matrices to find analogues of Schwarzian derivatives on \mathbb{R}^n [9,44].

The analogue of the Vahlen group over Minkowski space is the Lie group SU(2, 2). This group is used, [29], to describe the conformal covariance of the Dirac operator and its iterates over Minkowski space. This too, can be placed in the context of Clifford algebras. These ideas, together with ideas described in a paper of Imaeda's [28] and many other references given in this introduction, have inspired the editor of this volume to study intertwining operators for conformally covariant operators over Euclidean

Introduction

space and \mathbb{C}^n , and to study Clifford analysis over very general types of cells of harmonicity in \mathbb{C}^n , together with links with several complex variables, see for instance, [43,45], and references therein.

The introduction of Vahlen matrices has inspired some authors in the early 1990's to develop Clifford analysis over hyperbolic space. Also, following ideas presented in [29] and mentioned in the previous paragraph, it would seem desirable to see further work done on the links between Clifford analysis and twistor theory. Work in this direction has been initiated in the last chapter of [15]. It would also seem likely that work previously done on automorphic forms and involving the use of Lie groups such as SU(n,n), Sp(n,R), and $Sp(n, \mathbb{C})$ could also be developed using Vahlen matrices over Minkowski-type spaces. Hopefully, some new and interesting results are awaiting discovery here. In addition, it would be nice to see closer ties developed between Clifford analysis and the study of Dirac operators over general spin manifolds, and to see links with the Atiyah-Singer index theorem as developed in [5,6,20,32].

The area of Clifford analysis which has seen the most rapid growth in recent years has been the one inspired by Coifman on applications to classical harmonic analysis and the theory of singular integrals. Besides the references that we have cited so far, there is also the work of Auscher and Tchamitchian [3], Gaudry, Long, and Qian [19], and Mitrea [38], where Clifford algebra-valued Haar wavelets/martingales are used to deduce the L^2 -boundedness of the double-layer potential operator over Lipschitz surfaces in \mathbb{R}^n . This extends to Euclidean space a proof due to Coifman, Jones, and Semmes, of the same result in the complex plane using complex-valued Haar wavelets; see [12].

A very good summary of these results, together with the Clifford T(b) theorem is given in the Master's thesis of Terrance Tao [57]. Further very interesting results involving Clifford analysis within singular integral theory have been developed in recent times by Stephen Semmes [47,48,49]. Besides these recent developments on singular integrals and their applications to boundary value problems, Gürlebeck and Sprössig [22] have also considered related problems over Liapunov surfaces. Their approach also considers the use of colocation methods and other numerical techniques.

It should be pointed out that this review of the development of Clifford analysis, though intended to be fairly thorough, is by no means complete. Firstly, it is almost certain that there are still some long-forgotten papers in the area which will eventually be rediscovered. This seems inevitable, as such papers keep turning up with a fair regularity. Also, constraints of space and time prevented us from pointing out some further interesting developments and works in this area, or related areas.

This volume is based on a conference held in Fayetteville, Arkansas during the Easter weekend, April 8–10th, 1993. The conference was entitled "Clifford Algebras in Analysis", and the principal speaker was Alan McIntosh, of Macquarie University, Australia. Though there have been three other conferences on Clifford algebras and their applications in mathematical physics, [7,10,37], including one which took place one month after this one, this is the first conference, together with the proceedings, which deals almost exclusively with the impact of Clifford analysis on harmonic analysis. We were fortunate to be able to gather a highly-distinguished group of researchers in classical harmonic analysis and Clifford analysis for the meeting. It is hoped that the meeting and this volume will help set the pace for future research in this fascinating and growing area of mathematics. To this end, we have included a selection of open problems provided by many researchers with interests in this area. The idea for such a list came from a similar problem book in function theory developed by Walter Hayman and David Brannan. It is hoped that the problem book produced here will be added to with the passage of time, and will be addressed in future publications and conferences.

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Problem Book

H. Blaine Lawson (State University of New York at Stonybrook)

Is there a reproducing kernel of Cauchy type for solutions to the Dirac equation over (spin) manifolds with negative curvature?

John Ryan (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville)

Suppose M is a smooth, real, *n*-dimensional, compact manifold in \mathbb{C}^n , satisfying

- (i) $M \cap N(\underline{z}) = \{z\}$
- (ii) $TM_z \cap N(\underline{z}) = \{\underline{z}\}$

for each $\underline{z} \in M$ $(N(\underline{z}) = \{\underline{z'} \in \mathbf{C}^n : (z - z')^2 = 0\}$ —the null cone in \mathbf{C}^n).

Suppose Ω is a domain in \mathbb{C}^n with $M \subseteq \Omega$ and $h: \Omega \to \mathbb{C}$ is a complex harmonic function so that h(z) is holomorphic and

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 h}{\partial z_j^2} = 0.$$

Is it true that for each such M we have that $h|_M$ satisfies a maximum principle?

Pascal Auscher (Université de Rennes, France)

It is known that the Clifford Haar-type b-wavelets for the T(b) theorem can be defined when b(x) is not only accretive, i.e.,

$$b(x) = b_0(x)e_0 - 1\sum_{i=1}^n b_i(x)e_i, b_0(x) \ge \delta_0 > 0, \qquad A.0$$

but pseudo-accretive, i.e.,

$$\left|\frac{1}{|Q|}\int_{\phi}b(x)dx\right| \ge \delta_0 > 0 \qquad \qquad A.1$$

and even *para-accretive*: $\exists \delta_0 > 0, \ \delta_1 < 1$, for each cube Q, there exists a sub-cube R such that

$$\left| rac{1}{|R|} \int_R b(x) dx
ight| \geq \delta_0 > 0 \hspace{0.2cm} ext{and} \hspace{0.2cm} |R| > \delta_1 |Q|. \hspace{1.5cm} A.2$$

Smooth Clifford b-wavelets can be obtained under conditon (A.0) with arbitrary high regularity.

Smooth Clifford *b*-wavelets can also be obtained under condition (A.1), but the regularity seems to be related to the smallness of δ_0 : the smaller δ_0 , the smaller *r* (*r* is then the Hölder regularity of the *b*-wavelets).

Problem 1: What is the exact relation between regularity of the b-wavelets and δ_0 of condition (A.1)?

Problem 2: Construct smooth Clifford *b*-wavelets under para-accretivity condition (A.2).

T. Tao (Princeton University)

Let Ω be an open subset of \mathbf{R}^m , and let u be a scalar-valued bounded harmonic function on Ω . Does there always exist a bi-monogenic function f on Ω such that $[f]_0 = u$ (i.e., the scalar part of f is u) when

- (a) Ω is a sphere, or a rectangular box? (Answer: Yes, explicit condition possible)
- (b) Ω is a bounded star-like region?
- (c) Any generalizations (e.g., Ω with null m^{th} homotopy group)?

Also, can f always be chosen so that $Range(f) \subseteq span(e_0, e_1, \ldots, e_m)$?

(Editor's comment: When Ω is star-shaped, one can construct a left-monogenic function whose real part is u. See, for instance: A. Sudbery Quaternionic Analysis, Math. Proc. of the Cambridge Philosophical Society **86** (1979) 199–225, or J. Ryan Complexified Clifford analysis, Complex Variables **1** (1982) 151–171. Also, where Ω is a Lipschitz domain the answer is yes. See M. Mitrea 'Clifford algebras and boundary estimates for harmonic functions' Clifford Algebra and their Applications in Mathematical Physics, ed by F. Brackx, R. Delanghe and H. Serras, Kluwer, 1993.)

Palle E.T. Jorgensen (University of Iowa)

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^n$, n > 1, be open and bounded, and let $D = \sum_{1}^{n} E_j \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$ be the corresponding Dirac/Clifford operator, acting on vector functions which are C^{∞} and compactly supported in Ω . Then D is a symmetric Hilbert space operator with dense domain and corresponding adjoint D^* . Give a geometric description of the domain of D^* . In Jorgensen's talk, a selfadjoint extension, D_A , was described, $D \subset D_A \subset D^*$. Find the spectrum of D_A , and relate it directly to the geometry of Ω .

Let the operator D_A be defined as above, and associated with some $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^n$. Suppose n = 2, and Ω is one of the following:

Ex. 1.



Ex. 2.



Ex. 3.



Then answer the problems for these special cases. For Ex. 3, $\left\{\frac{1}{r-1}\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}\right\}$, j = 1, 2 (two symmetric operators in $L^2(\Omega)$), have commuting selfadjoint extension operators in the scalar space $L^2(\Omega)$. Relate the joint spectrum of these to the spectrum of D_A .

Nikolai Vasilevski and Michael Shapiro (ESFM del I.P.N., Mexico City, Mexico)

Let Ω be a domain in **H**, the quaternions. Also, let

$$(Df)(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{3} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + j \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + k \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$$
$$(D^{\psi}f)(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{3} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}i + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}j + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}k$$

for $f: \Omega \to \mathbf{H}$. Introduce the Bergman kernel function of the domain Ω

$$B(x,\xi) = \left(D_{\xi}\bar{D}_{x}g\right)(x,\xi) = D_{x}\cdot D_{\xi}g(x,\xi),$$

where $g(x,\xi)$ is the classical Green function of Ω , and the Bergman operator

$$(Bf)(x) = \int_{\Omega} B(x,\xi)f(\xi)d\xi : L_2(\Omega) \to L_2(\Omega).$$

Let $X_0(x)$ be a characteristic function at a subdomain Ω_0 of Ω .

Problem: Calculate $\Delta = sp (B - X_0(x)I)^2$.

This problem is an essential step for describing various algebras generated by Bergman operators. It is known that $\Delta \subset [0,1]$, and most probably: $\Delta = [0,1]$.

Each $f: \Omega \to \mathbf{H}$ can be represented in the "complex" form

$$f = f^{(1)} + f^{(2)}j,$$

where

$$f^{(k)}: \Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^4 = \mathbf{C}^2 \to \mathbf{C}.$$

We have

$$D = 2\left(rac{\partial}{\partial ar{z}_2} + krac{\partial}{\partial ar{z}_2}
ight),$$

and thus the set of hyperholomorphic functions contains (but does not coincide with) the set of all holomorphic (in the sense of complex analysis) mappings $f = (f^{(1)}, f^{(2)}) : \Omega \subset \mathbf{C}^2 \to \mathbf{C}$.

Problem: Find connections between the Bergman function $B(x,\xi)$ of a domain Ω and the two-dimensional complex analysis Bergman function of a domain Ω .

Zhijian Wu (University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa)

Let

$$A = \left\{ f: f(x,y) \text{ monogenic in } \mathbf{R}^{n+1}_+: \frac{1}{4} \int \int_{\mathbf{R}^{n+1}_+} |f(x,y)|^2 dx dy < \infty \right\}.$$

A is a subspace of $L^2(\mathbf{R}^{n+1}_+)$. One can find the orthonormal projection $P: L^2(\mathbf{R}^{n+1}_+) \to A$. P can be expressed as an integral operator.

Question: Can we express I - P as an integral operator?

Example: If n = 1, the answer for this question is Yes. In fact, if $\varphi \in C_0^{\infty}(\mathbf{R}^2_+)$,

$$(I-P)(\varphi)(w) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^2_+} \frac{\bar{\partial}\varphi(z)Im\,z}{(w-z)(w-\bar{z})} dx dy.$$

John Ryan (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville), and Tao Qian (University of New England, Australia)

The surfaces of star-shaped domains have global parametrizations that may allow us to solve some boundary value problems first on these domains, and then transfer the solutions to more general domains. The following question then arises: What are the domains in \mathbf{R}^n , $n \geq 3$, that are the ranges under conformal mappings of the star-shaped ones? When n = 2, simply connected domains are the ranges under conformal mappings of the star-shaped ones. In the higher-dimensional case, the only conformal mappings are the elements of the Möbius transform group, and they are not monogenic functions.

Tao Qian (University of New England, Australia)

Singular integral theory with holomorphic (monogenic) kernels has been developed on Lipschitz surfaces and Lipschitz perturbations of the *n*-torus (see the expository papers of A. McIntosh and T. Qian in this collection).

What is the analogue on n-dimensional solid balls? What is the analogue on n-dimensional complex balls?

Pertti Lounesto (Helsinki University of Technology, Finland)

The Maxwell equations can be condensed into one equation by Clifford bivectors (at least in an isotropic and homogeneous media). The Maxwell equations are also conformally covariant (as photons are massless). Furthermore, the solutions of sourceless Maxwell equations are monogenic. Under a Möbius transformation $x \to g(x) = (ax+b)/(cx+d)$, a monogenic function F(x) is transformed as follows

$$F(x) \to G(x) = \frac{cx + d}{|cx + d|^n} F(g(x)),$$

where G(x) is also monogenic. However, for a bivector field F(x), the transformed field G(x) is not, in general, a bivector. Is it possible to transform the electromagnetic bivector field F(x) under Möbius transformations so that the transformed field is also a bivector?

Klaus Gürlebeck (Technical University of Chemnitz, Germany)

It is known in complex function theory that under certain conditions a continuous function r defined on a closed curve Γ can be factorized in the following form,

$$r(t) = r_{-}(t)t^{\kappa}r_{+}(t)\forall t \in \Gamma,$$
(1)

where r_{-} allows a holomorphic extension into the exterior domain and r_{+} has a holomorphic extension into the interior domain with boundary Γ . The value κ is an integer. If r is a rational function, one can show in a constructive way that there exists a factorization (1) with rational functions r_{-} and r_{+} .

Problem: Is it possible to find a similar factorization (explicitly?), also for functions defined on the boundary Γ of a bounded domain G, in \mathbb{R}^n , with values in (real) Clifford algebras? The most interesting case for applications is the case of quaternionic-valued functions.

Wolfgang Sprößig (Bergakademie Freiberg Technische Universität, Freiberg, Germany)

Suppose ω is a closed, bounded rectangle in \mathbb{R}^2 . Then $\omega \times \mathbb{R} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ is called a channel-domain. For a channel-domain with density φ we have the electric field

$$\underline{E} = \sum_{i=1}^{3} E_i e_i,$$

the magnetic field

$$\underline{H} = \sum_{i=1}^{3} H_i e_i,$$

and the electric conductivity κ , dielectric constant ε , and permeability μ . We consider in the channel the solution of the following stationary Maxwell equations:

$$div \varepsilon \underline{E} = 0$$
 $div \mu \underline{H} = 0$ $rot \underline{E} = 0$ $rot \underline{H} = \kappa \underline{E}$.

Prove the existence, uniqueness, and regularity of the solution, if the normal components of the solution is given on the boundary of the channel; so that $\underline{s} \cdot \underline{H} = g$ for g belonging to a suitable function space.

Pertti Lounesto (Helsinki University of Technology, Finland)

Does the Clifford algebra version of the Bott periodicity theorem dictate results in Clifford analysis which vary from dimension to dimension? For instance, are there results in three dimensions which do not hold in seven dimensions, even though there might be similar results in 11 = 8 + 3 dimensions?

Marius Mitrea (University of South Carolina)

Recall the generalized Hardy spaces $\mathcal{H}^p(\Omega)$ discussed by Kenig in [Ke] for Ω a (special) Lipschitz domain in the complex plane. For 1 ,they also have a natural (and in many respects, satisfactory) extension tohigher dimensions within the Clifford algebra framework (cf., e.g., [Mi]). Inthis setting, establish a Riesz boundary behavior theory for the end-pointcase <math>p = 1.

References:

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Josefina Alvarez (New Mexico State University)

Let T be a Calderón-Zygmund operator in the sense of R. Coifman and Y. Meyer. That is to say, assume that the distribution kernel k(x, y) of T satisfies the pointwise condition

$$|k(x,y) - k(x,z)| \le C \frac{|y-z|^{\delta}}{|x-z|^{n+\delta}}$$

if 2|y-z| < |x-z|, for some $0 < \delta \le 1$. Concerning the continuity of the operator T on Hardy spaces, the following results are known.

- (i) T maps continuously H^p into L^p for $\frac{n}{n+\delta} , and this result is optimal.$
- (ii) T maps continuously $H^{\frac{n}{n+\delta}}$ into $L^{\frac{n}{n+\delta},\infty}$.
- (iii) T maps continuously $H^{p,\infty}$ into $L^{p,\infty}$, for $\frac{n}{n+\delta} .$

Problem: Is the result in (iii) optimal? If not, what continuity result can be formulated for $p = \frac{n}{n+\delta}$?

Zhenyuan Xu (Ryerson Polytechnical University, Canada)

It is well known that the index plays a very important rôle in the study of boundary value problems in complex analysis. For instance, consider the Riemann-Hilbert problem

$$rac{\partial}{\partial ar{z}}w = 0, \quad in \ \Omega,$$
 $R_e \left[\lambda \left(ar{z}\right)w(z)\right] = \gamma(z), \quad on \ \Gamma = \partial\Omega,$

where Ω is a unit disk with center at the origin. The index is defined by

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{2\pi} \Delta_{\Gamma} \arg \lambda(z).$$

Then, for $\kappa \geq 0$, the Riemann-Hilbert problem is solvable for any Hölder continuous functions $\lambda(z)$ and $\gamma(z)$. Moreover, the solution linearly depends on $2\kappa + 1$ real arbitrary constants. For $\kappa < 0$, the Riemann-Hilbert problem is not solvable, except when $\lambda(z)$ and $\gamma(z)$ satisfy $-2\kappa - 1$ consistent conditions. Is there an analogue of the index for Clifford-valued functions in \mathbb{R}^m ?

Daniel B. Dix (University of South Carolina)

I will employ the notation described in my paper.

(1) Consider a homogeneous "scalar" Dirac equation $\mathcal{D}m = T(x, v)m$, where v(k', t) is a \mathbf{C}_n -valued function of $k' \in \mathbf{R}^n$ and $t \in \mathbf{R}$. T(x, v)is a linear operator, depending parametrically on x and v, which acts on m(x, t, k), and yields a distribution on \mathbf{R}^{n+1} , parameterized by xand t, which is an appropriate right-hand side for the inhomogeneous Dirac equation. Suppose this equation has a solution with asymptotic behavior

$$m(x,t,k) \ e_0 + \sum_{h=0}^{\infty} \left[\sum_{(l) \in n^h/S_h} W_{(l)}(k) q_{h,(l)}(x,t) \right], \quad \|k\| \to \infty, |k_0| > \varepsilon.$$

The coefficients $Q_{h,(l)}(x,t)$ of this asymptotic expansion satisfy a complicated coupled system of nonlinear evolution equations. Can simple examples of the operator T(x, v) and a linear evolution of v(k', t) be found such that this infinite coupled system of evolution equations effectively reduces to a coupled system involving only finitely many of the coefficients and their partial derivatives in the x variables? If so, then this would be a truly multidimensional example of a nonlinear system of partial differential equations solvable by a Clifford inverse scattering method. In such an example, how would one define the forward scattering transform?

(2) In complex analysis, we have the notion of the sheaf of holomorphic functions on a complex manifold. In particular, we can discuss holomorphic functions defined on a neighborhood of ∞ on the Riemann

sphere. Is there some analogue of this in Clifford analysis? In particular, how would one make sense out of the "sheaf of monogenic functions" on $S^{n+1} = \mathbf{R}^{n+1} \cup \{\infty\}$? Is there a monogenic analogue of (some substantial portion of) the theory of Riemann surfaces?

Stephen Semmes (Rice University, Houston, Texas) Generalizations of Complex Analysis to Higher Codimensions

There are two particularly prominent methods for generalizing classical complex analysis in the plane to \mathbf{R}^n for n > 2. The first is to use a Cauchy-Riemann system, like the classical Riesz system (of vector fields which are curl- and divergence-free) or Clifford holomorphicity. These are firstorder linear elliptic systems of partial differential equations. The second main approach is to look at quasi-regular mappings, which are (roughly speaking) maps for which the maximal stretching of the differential at any point is bounded by a constant multiplied by the minimal stretching at that point. These two approaches are very different in style—the first is better suited for linear analysis, while the second is more geometric in focus—but they are also at opposite extremes in terms of dimensions. This point is illustrated by the following observation. Let f(x) be a Cliffordholomorphic function on some domain in \mathbb{R}^n . For each point x_0 in the domain, the differential of f at x_0 is controlled by its restriction (as a linear mapping) to any hyperplane through the origin in \mathbf{R}^n . This follows from the definition of Clifford holomorphicity, which provides a formula for the derivative in any given direction v in terms of the derivatives in the remaining n-1 directions. By contrast, if f(x) is quasi-regular, then the differential of f at x_0 is controlled by its restriction to any line through the origin, by definition of quasi-regularity.

I like to think of Clifford analysis (and other Riesz systems) as being "codimension-1 complex analysis" on \mathbb{R}^n . This is also related to the usual integration formulas in Clifford analysis (like Cauchy's theorem) which involve integrals over hypersurfaces. Similarly, quasi-regular mappings define a kind of codimension-(n-1) complex analysis.

Problem: Find interesting kinds of "codimension-d" complex analysis on \mathbf{R}^n for other choices of d.

It is not clear exactly what this means, but there are some basic principles. By definition, "complex analysis" should deal with a class of functions or mappings which are distinguished by a condition on their first derivatives. In codimension-*d* complex analysis, the differential of a "holomorphic" object should be controlled (somehow) by its restriction to any codimension-*d*-plane through the origin. One might hope for nice integral formulae, but for codimension-*d* submanifolds. There should be some interesting interplay between "holomorphic" objects on the complement of a *d*-dimensional submanifold and their boundary behavior. These principles should be viewed more as illustrative than definitive, and I am certainly not saying that there is at most one reasonable codimension-*d* complex analysis.

When d > 1, I don't believe that there is a nice codimension-d complex analysis that is based on a first-order linear system and which has roughly the same analytic features as for Riesz systems and Clifford analysis when d = 1. I envision two types of theories, one which is nonlinear, not so algebraic, and more brutally geometric, and another which is linear, has interesting integral formulae, and which probably uses differential forms more seriously and is more degenerate analytically when d > 1 than when d = 1. Of course, we see part of this dichotomy already in the contrast between Clifford analysis and quasi-regular mappings in \mathbb{R}^n when n > 2.

One reason for raising the issure of codimension-d complex analysis is that I would like to have a nice higher-codimension version of some of the results in [DS], [S1], [S2], and [S3]. In particular, in [S1] and [S2] there are some integration-by-parts computations which are used to good advantage, and I would like to have suitable extensions of these arguments to higher codimensions. In these extensions, there should be integral formulae with topological content, just as the Cauchy formula in codimension-1 contains the information of when a point lies in a given domain or its exterior. In the higher-codimension case, the analogous topological issue is the linking number of pairs of spheres (and other submanifolds). There are, of course, classical integral formulae for computing linking numbers (see [F], especially p.79ff), but I have never managed to use them to obtain interesting analytic information, as occurs in codimension-1 in [S1] and [S2].

I am not convinced that singular integral operators will have such an important role in higher-codimension (linear) complex analysis as in codimension-1. I am more optimistic about approximations to the identity and square functions estimates. In codimension-1 complex analysis, there are some interesting approximations to the identity on hypersurfaces which are built out of the Cauchy kernel and which contain interesting geometric information about the surface (see [S3], especially (1.0) on p.1010). One can imagine analogous objects in higher codimensions, using differential forms and Clifford algebras. These higher-dimensional analogues could be associated to (d-1)-spheres which link a given codimension-d submanifold (on which we are to have the approximation to the identity), just as in the codimension-1 case the approximation to the identity is defined using pairs of points which lie in different components of the complement of the hypersurface (i.e., linking 0-spheres). Unfortunately, I have not succeeded in producing anything that I can work with analytically. See [DS, Sect.8, Ch.3, Part III] for different remarks on the same general topic.

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Rodolfo H. Torres (University of Michigan at Ann Arbor) and Grant Welland (University of Missouri at Saint Louis)

Let *D* be a bounded Lipschitz domain in \mathbb{R}^3 , and let *N* be the unit outward normal to the boundary of the domain. Let *k* be a complex number, and let $\Phi(X) = -\frac{e^{ik|X|}}{4\pi|X|}$ be the fundamental solution for the Helmholtz operator $\Delta + k^2 I$.

Problem: Find the spectrum in $L^2_T(\partial D)$ (square integrable vectors fields on ∂D) of the operator M given by

$$MF(P) = p.v. \int_{\partial D} N(P) \times curl \left(\Phi(P-Q)F(Q)\right) d\sigma(Q).$$

This operator arises in the study of boundary value problems for Maxwell equations using the method of layer potentials. The knowledge of the spectrum will be important in solving some transmission problems. For transmission problems in Lipschitz domains, see, for example,

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