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## $C^{\infty}$ -hypoellipticity and extension of *CR* functions

## MAURO NACINOVICH AND EGMONT PORTEN

**Abstract.** Let *M* be a *CR* submanifold of a complex manifold *X*. The main result of this article is to show that *CR*-hypoellipticity at  $p_0 \in M$  is necessary and sufficient for holomorphic extension of all germs at  $p_0$  of *CR* functions on *M* to an ambient neighborhood of  $p_0$  in *X*. As an application, we obtain that *CR*-hypoellipticity implies the existence of global generic embeddings and prove holomorphic extension for a large class of *CR* manifolds satisfying a higher order Levi pseudoconcavity condition. We also obtain results on the relationship of holomorphic wedge-extension and the  $C^{\infty}$ -wave front set for *CR* distributions.

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