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## Boundedness of Relative Convolutions on Nilpotent Lie Groups

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*Dedicated to memory of Professor Promarz M. Tamrazov*

We discuss some norm estimations for integrated representations. We use the covariant transform to extend Howe's method from the Heisenberg group to general nilpotent Lie groups.

**1. Introduction.** Let  $G$  be a locally compact group, a left-invariant (Haar) measure on  $G$  is denoted by  $dg$ . Let  $\rho$  be a bounded representation of the group  $G$  in a vector space  $V$ . The representation can be extended to a function  $k \in L_1(G, dg)$  through integration:

$$\rho(k) = \int_G k(g) \rho(g) dg. \quad (1)$$

It is a homomorphism of the convolution algebra  $L_1(G, dg)$  to an algebra of bounded operators on  $V$ .

There are many important classes of operators described by (1), notably pseudodifferential operators (PDO) and Toeplitz operators [3, 5, 6, 7]. Thus, it is important to have various norm estimations of  $\rho(k)$ . We already mentioned a straightforward inequality  $\|\rho(k)\| \leq C \|k\|_1$  for  $k \in L_1(G, dg)$ , however, other classes are of interest as well.

If  $G$  is the Heisenberg group and  $\rho$  is its Schrödinger representation, then  $\rho(\hat{a})$  is a PDO  $a(X, D)$  with the symbol  $a$  [3, 2, 7]. Here,  $\hat{a}$  is the

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Fourier transform of  $a$ , as usual. The Calderón–Vaillancourt theorem [8, Ch. XIII] estimates  $\|a(X, D)\|$  by  $L_\infty$ -norm of a finite number of partial derivatives of  $a$ .

In this paper we revise the method used in [3, § 3.1] to prove the Calderón–Vaillancourt estimations. It was described as “rather magical” in [2, § 2.5]. We hope, that a usage of the covariant transform dispel the mystery without undermining the power of the method.

**2. Preliminaries.** Through the paper  $G$  denotes an exponential Lie group. For a square integrable irreducible representation  $\rho$  of  $G$  in a Hilbert space  $V$  and a fixed admissible mother wavelet  $\phi \in V$ , the wavelet transform  $\mathcal{W}_\phi : V \rightarrow C_b(G)$  is [1, 6, 7]:

$$[\mathcal{W}_\phi v](g) := \langle \rho(g^{-1})v, \phi \rangle = \langle v, \rho(g)\phi \rangle, \quad g \in G, v \in V. \tag{2}$$

For an unimodular  $G$ , the left  $\Lambda(g) : f(g') \mapsto f(g^{-1}g')$  and the right  $R : f(g') \mapsto f(g'g)$  regular representations of  $G$  are unitary operators on  $L_2(G, dg)$ . The covariant transforms intertwines the left and right regular representations of  $G$  with the following actions of  $\rho$ :

$$\Lambda(g)\mathcal{W}_\phi = \mathcal{W}_\phi\rho(g) \quad \text{and} \quad R(g)\mathcal{W}_\phi = \mathcal{W}_{\rho(g)\phi} \quad \text{for all } g \in G. \tag{3}$$

For a fixed admissible vector  $\psi \in V$ , the integrated representation (1) produces the contravariant transform  $\mathcal{M}_\psi : L_1(G) \rightarrow V$ , cf. [6, 7]:

$$\mathcal{M}_\psi^\rho(k) = \rho(k)\psi, \quad \text{where } k \in L_1(G). \tag{4}$$

The contravariant transform  $\mathcal{M}_\psi^\rho$  intertwines the left regular representation  $\Lambda$  on  $L_2(G)$  and  $\rho$ :

$$\mathcal{M}_\psi^\rho \Lambda(g) = \rho(g)\mathcal{M}_\psi^\rho. \tag{5}$$

Combining with (3), we see that the composition  $\mathcal{M}_\psi^\rho \circ \mathcal{W}_\phi^\rho$  of the covariant and contravariant transform intertwines  $\rho$  with itself. For an irreducible square integrable  $\rho$  and suitably normalised admissible  $\phi$  and  $\psi$ , we use the Schur’s lemma [1, Lem. 4.3.1], [4, Thm. 8.2.1] to conclude that:

$$\mathcal{M}_\psi^\rho \circ \mathcal{W}_\phi^\rho = \langle \psi, \phi \rangle I. \tag{6}$$

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  and  $X = G/H$  be the respective homogeneous space (the space of left cosets) with a (quasi-)invariant measure  $dx$  [4,

§ 9.1]. There is the natural projection  $\mathfrak{p} : G \rightarrow X$ . We usually fix a continuous section  $\mathfrak{s} : X \rightarrow G$  [4, § 13.2], which is a right inverse to  $\mathfrak{p}$ . We also define an operator of relative convolution on  $V$  [5, 7], cf. (1):

$$\rho(k) = \int_X k(x) \rho(\mathfrak{s}(x)) dx, \quad (7)$$

with a kernel  $k$  defined on  $X = G/H$ .

**3. Norm Estimations.** We start from the following lemma, which has a transparent proof in terms of covariant transform, cf. [3, § 3.1] and [2, (2.75)]. For the rest of the paper we assume that  $\rho$  is an irreducible square integrable representation of an exponential Lie group  $G$  in  $V$  and mother wavelet  $\phi, \psi \in V$  are admissible.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $\phi \in V$  be such that, for  $\Phi = \mathcal{W}_\phi \phi$ , the reciprocal  $\Phi^{-1}$  is bounded on  $G$  or  $X = G/H$ . Then, for the integrated representation (1) or relative convolution (7), we have the inequality:*

$$\|\rho(f)\| \leq \|\Lambda \otimes R(f\Phi^{-1})\|, \quad (8)$$

where  $(\Lambda \otimes R)(g) : k(g') \mapsto k(g^{-1}g'g)$  acts on the image of  $\mathcal{W}_\phi$ .

*Proof.* We know from (6) that  $\mathcal{M}_\phi \circ \mathcal{W}_{\rho(g)\phi} = \langle \phi, \rho(g)\phi \rangle I$  on  $V$ , thus:

$$\mathcal{M}_\phi \circ \mathcal{W}_{\rho(g)\phi} \circ \rho(g) = \langle \phi, \rho(g)\phi \rangle \rho(g) = \Phi(g)\rho(g).$$

On the other hand, the intertwining properties (3) of the wavelet transform imply:

$$\mathcal{M}_\phi \circ \mathcal{W}_{\rho(g)\phi} \circ \rho(g) = \mathcal{M}_\phi \circ (\Lambda \otimes R)(g) \circ \mathcal{W}_\phi.$$

Integrating the identity  $\Phi(g)\rho(g) = \mathcal{M}_\phi \circ (\Lambda \otimes R)(g) \circ \mathcal{W}_\phi$  with the function  $f\Phi^{-1}$  and use the partial isometries  $\mathcal{W}_\phi$  and  $\mathcal{M}_\phi$  we get the inequality.  $\square$

The Lemma is most efficient if  $\Lambda \otimes R$  act in a simple way. Thus, we give the following

**Definition 2.** We say that the subgroup  $H$  has the *complemented commutator property*, if there exists a continuous section  $\mathfrak{s} : X \rightarrow G$  such that:

$$\mathfrak{p}(\mathfrak{s}(x)^{-1}g\mathfrak{s}(x)) = \mathfrak{p}(g), \quad \text{for all } x \in X = G/H, g \in G. \quad (9)$$

For a Lie group  $G$  with the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  define the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{h} = [\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}]$ . The subgroup  $H = \exp(\mathfrak{h})$  (as well as any larger subgroup) has the complemented commutator property (9). Of course,  $X = G/H$  is non-trivial if  $H \neq G$  and this happens, for example, for a nilpotent  $G$ . In particular, for the Heisenberg group, its centre has the complemented commutator property.

Note, that the complemented commutator property (9) implies:

$$\Lambda \otimes R(\mathfrak{s}(x)) : g \mapsto gh, \quad \text{for the unique } h = g^{-1}\mathfrak{s}(x)^{-1}g\mathfrak{s}(x) \in H. \quad (10)$$

For a character  $\chi$  of the subgroup  $H$ , we introduce an integral transformation  $\widehat{\cdot} : L_1(X) \rightarrow C(G)$ :

$$\widehat{k}(g) = \int_X k(x) \chi(g^{-1}\mathfrak{s}(x)^{-1}g\mathfrak{s}(x)) dx, \quad (11)$$

where  $h(x, g) = g^{-1}\mathfrak{s}(x)^{-1}g\mathfrak{s}(x)$  is in  $H$  due to the relations (9). This transformation generalises the isotropic symbol defined for the Heisenberg group in [3, § 2.1].

**Proposition 3.** *Let a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  has the complemented commutator property (9) and  $\rho_\chi$  be an irreducible representation of  $G$  induced from a character  $\chi$  of  $H$ , then*

$$\|\rho_\chi(f)\| \leq \|\widehat{f\Phi^{-1}}\|_\infty, \quad (12)$$

with the sup-norm of the function  $\widehat{f\Phi^{-1}}$  on the right.

*Proof.* For an induced representation  $\rho_\chi$  [4, § 13.2], the covariant transform  $\mathcal{W}_\phi$  maps  $V$  to a space  $L_2^X(G)$  of functions having the property  $F(gh) = \chi(h)F(g)$  [7, § 3.1]. From (10), the restriction of  $\Lambda \otimes R$  to the space  $L_2^X(G)$  is, see:

$$\Lambda \otimes R(\mathfrak{s}(x)) : \psi(g) \mapsto \psi(gh) = \chi(h(x, g))\psi(g).$$

In other words,  $\Lambda \otimes R$  acts by multiplication on  $L_2^X(G)$ . Then, integrating the representation  $\Lambda \otimes R$  over  $X$  with a function  $k$  we get an operator  $(L \otimes R)(k)$ , which reduces on the irreducible component to multiplication by the function  $\widehat{k}(g)$ . Put  $k = f\Phi^{-1}$  for  $\Phi = \mathcal{W}_\phi\phi$ . Then, from the inequality (8), the norm of operator  $\rho_\chi(f)$  can be estimated by  $\|\Lambda \otimes R(f\Phi^{-1})\| = \|\widehat{f\Phi^{-1}}\|_\infty$ . □

For a nilpotent step 2 Lie group, the transformation (11) is almost the Fourier transform, cf. the case of the Heisenberg group in [3, § 2.1]. This allows to estimate  $\|\widehat{f\Phi^{-1}}\|_\infty$  through  $\|\widehat{f}\|_\infty$ , where  $\widehat{f}$  is in the essence the symbol of the respective PDO. For other groups, the expression  $g^{-1}\mathfrak{s}(x)^{-1}g\mathfrak{s}(x)$  in (11) contains non-linear terms and its analysis is more difficult. In some circumstance the integral Fourier operators [8, Ch. VIII] may be useful for this purpose.

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