

# Lecture<sup>1</sup> 10

## Some preliminaries

- Define translate operator  $\tau$  and the reflection of a function  $v$  respectively:

$$(\tau_x v)(y) = v(y - x) \quad \tilde{v}(y) = v(-y).$$

- We previously defined for  $v \in L_c^1$  and  $\phi \in \mathcal{D}$ :

$$\langle v * u, \phi \rangle = \langle u, \tilde{v} * \phi \rangle,$$

- By direct computation we have the relation:

$$\tilde{v}(x - y) = v(y - x) = \tau_x v(y) = \tau_y \tilde{v}(x).$$

**Theorem 1.** Let  $u \in \mathcal{D}$ . The operator  $C_u : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$  defined by

$$C_u v = v \mapsto v * u$$

is continuous. Moreover,

a)  $(v * u)(x) = \langle u, \tau_x \tilde{v} \rangle.$

b)  $\text{supp}(u * v) \subset \text{supp} v + \text{supp} u.$

c)  $\partial^\alpha(v * u) = \partial^\alpha v * u = v * \partial^\alpha u.$

*Proof.* By definition

$$\langle u * v, \phi \rangle = \langle u, \tilde{v} * \phi \rangle = \langle u, \int \tau_y \tilde{v} \cdot \phi(y) dy \rangle$$

We will show the last term on the right hand side

$$\langle u, \int \tau_y \tilde{v} \cdot \phi(y) dy \rangle = \int \underbrace{\langle u, \tau_y \tilde{v} \rangle}_{=: w(y)} \phi(y) dy$$

To show this, we use Riemann's theory of integration; that is, we will inspect their Riemann sums. This is possible since  $\int \tau_y \tilde{v} \cdot \phi(y) \in \mathcal{D}$  in the argument of the LHS, and  $\langle u, \tau_y \tilde{v} \rangle$  in the RHS is continuous;  $\tau_{y+\epsilon} \tilde{v} \rightarrow \tau_y \tilde{v}$  in  $\mathcal{D}$ . The Riemann sums of the expressions, with respect to volume segments  $\Delta\nu$  are

$$\langle u, \sum_i \tau_{y_i} \tilde{v} \cdot \phi(y_i) \Delta\nu_i \rangle = \sum_i \langle u \tau_{y_i}, \tilde{v} \rangle \phi(y_i) \Delta\nu_i$$

which is true by *linearity*. Expressions converge to the limit indicated above. Thus,

$$\langle u * v, \phi \rangle = \int \langle u, \tau_y \tilde{v} \rangle \phi(y) dy, \quad \forall \phi \in \mathcal{D}$$

hence  $(v * u)(y) = w(y) = \langle u, \tau_x \tilde{v} \rangle$  which proves a). To show  $v * u \in \mathcal{E}$ , it suffices to show  $v * u \in C^\infty$ . Consider the definition of the derivative:

$$w(y + h) - w(y) = \langle u, \tau_{y+h} \tilde{v} - \tau_y \tilde{v} \rangle = \langle u, [\tau_x v](y + h) - [\tau_x v](y) \rangle$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Notes by Ibrahim Al Balushi

$$\implies \partial^\alpha w = \langle u, \partial_y^\alpha \tau_y \tilde{v} \rangle$$

and therefore  $w \in C^\infty$ . To prove c),

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_y^\alpha \tau_y \tilde{v} &= \partial_y^\alpha v(y-x) = [\partial^\alpha v](y-x) = \tau_y \widetilde{\partial^\alpha v} \\ \implies \partial^\alpha (v * u) &= \langle u, \tau_y \widetilde{\partial^\alpha v} \rangle = (\partial^\alpha v) * u. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$[\partial^\alpha u](\tau_y \tilde{v}) = (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle u, \partial^\alpha \tau_y \tilde{v} \rangle. \quad (1)$$

The function in the RHS is explicitly,

$$\partial_x^\alpha v(y-x) = (-1)^{|\alpha|} [\partial^\alpha v](y-x) = (-1)^{|\alpha|} \tau_y \widetilde{\partial^\alpha v}(x)$$

and so carrying on from RHS of (1)

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle u, \partial^\alpha \tau_y \tilde{v} \rangle &= \langle u, \tau_y \widetilde{\partial^\alpha v} \rangle \\ \implies v * \partial^\alpha u &= [\partial^\alpha v] * u \end{aligned}$$

hence c). To show b) we have

$$w(y) = u(\tau_y \tilde{v}) = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \text{supp } u \cap \underbrace{\text{supp } \tau_y \tilde{v}}_{=v(y-x)} = \emptyset.$$

Finally to show continuity of  $C_u : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ , it suffices to show  $C_u : \mathcal{D}_K \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$  is continuous for any  $K$  compact. Let  $\|\cdot\|_{C^l(K)}$  be a seminorm on  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $v \in \mathcal{D}(K)$ . For  $y \in K'$  compact,

$$\tau_y \tilde{v} = v(y-x) \in \mathcal{D}(K' - K)$$

using the fact that  $u : \mathcal{D}(K' - K) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous,

$$\underbrace{|\langle u, \tau_y \tilde{v} \rangle|}_{=(v*u)(y)} \leq C \|\tau_y \tilde{v}\|_{C^m(K'-K)} = C \sup_{\substack{|\alpha| \leq m \\ x \in K'-K}} |\partial^\alpha v(y-x)|,$$

for some  $m$ . Noting that by a) and using the previous estimate,

$$\begin{aligned} \|v * u\|_{C^l(K')} &= \sup_{y \in K'} \{ |\langle u, \partial_y^\beta \tau_y \tilde{v} \rangle| : |\beta| \leq l \} \\ &\leq C \sup_{\substack{y \in K' \\ x \in K'-K}} \{ |\partial_y^\beta \partial_x^\alpha v(y-x)| : |\alpha| \leq m, |\beta| \leq l \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{while } y \in K', x \in K' - K &\implies y - x \in K, \\ &\leq C \|v\|_{C^{m+l}(K)}. \end{aligned}$$

□

—  
The following computation reveals another definition:

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle C_u v, \phi \rangle &= \langle u, \tilde{v} * \phi \rangle \\
&= \langle u, \widetilde{v * \tilde{\phi}} \rangle \\
&= \langle \tilde{u}, v * \tilde{\phi} \rangle \\
&= \langle C_{\tilde{u}} \phi, v \rangle,
\end{aligned}$$

thus we may define:

$$\langle \tilde{u}, \phi \rangle = \langle u, \tilde{\phi} \rangle.$$

**Definition 1.** Let  $u \in \mathcal{D}'$  and  $v \in \mathcal{E}'$ .

$$\langle v * u, \phi \rangle = \langle v, \phi * \tilde{u} \rangle = \langle v, C_{\tilde{u}} \phi \rangle, \quad \phi \in \mathcal{D}.$$

Moreover,  $v * u \in \mathcal{D}'$

**Example**

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \delta * u, \phi \rangle &= \langle \delta, C_{\tilde{u}} \phi \rangle = \langle \delta, \tilde{u}(\tau_y \tilde{\phi}) \rangle = \tilde{u}(\tilde{\phi}) = u(\phi). \\
&\implies \delta * u = u.
\end{aligned}$$

Define :  $u * v = v * u$ .

**Fact:**

$$\langle u * v, \phi \rangle = \langle u, C_{\tilde{v}} \phi \rangle, \quad v \in \mathcal{E}'$$

$$\langle \partial^\alpha (v * u), \phi \rangle = (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle v * u, \partial^\alpha \phi \rangle \tag{2}$$

$$= (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle v, \partial^\alpha \phi * \tilde{u} \rangle \tag{3}$$

$$= (-1)^{|\alpha|} \langle v, \phi * \partial^\alpha \tilde{u} \rangle \tag{4}$$

$$= \langle v, \phi * \widetilde{\partial^\alpha u} \rangle \tag{5}$$

## Constant Coefficient Operators

Consider the finite sum

$$P(\xi) = \sum_{\alpha} a_{\alpha} \xi^{\alpha}.$$

We define the linear differential operator:

$$P(\partial) = \sum_{\alpha} a_{\alpha} \partial^{\alpha}.$$

**Definition 2.**  $E \in \mathcal{D}'(\Omega)$  is called a fundamental solution of  $P(\delta)$  if

$$P(\partial)E = \delta.$$

### Examples

- Take  $P(\xi) = \xi_1^2 + \cdots + \xi_n^2$ .

$$P(\partial) = \Delta.$$

$$E(x) = \frac{1}{(2-n)|S^{n-1}||x|^{n-2}}$$

is a fundamental solution since

$$\langle \Delta E, \phi \rangle = \langle E, \Delta \phi \rangle = \phi(0).$$

- $f \in \mathcal{E}'$ .  $u = f * E$

$$P(\partial)u = P(\partial)(f * E) = f * P(\partial E) = f * \delta = f.$$

**Definition 3.**  $P(\partial)$  is **hypoelliptic** if the following property holds:

$$\mathcal{U} \subset \text{open and } P(\partial)u \in C^{\infty}(\mathcal{U}) \implies u \in C^{\infty}(\mathcal{U}).$$

$P(\partial)$  is hypoelliptic,  $P(\partial)E = \delta$  then  $E \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\})$ .

**Theorem 2** (Schwartz). *If there exists  $E \in \mathcal{D}' \cap C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\})$  such that  $P(\partial)E = \delta$ , then  $P(\delta)$  is hypoelliptic.*