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# ANALYTICITY OF RELATIVE FUNDAMENTAL SOLUTIONS AND PROJECTIONS FOR LEFT INVARIANT OPERATORS ON THE HEISENBERG GROUP

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## 1. Introduction

We show that for certain classes of unsolvable, non-hypoelliptic differential operators on the Heisenberg group there exist left (respectively right) inverses modulo the orthogonal projection onto the  $L^2$  nullspace of the operator (resp. the adjoint of the operator). We also show that these relative inverses and the projections preserve analyticity locally.

Let  $G$  be the Heisenberg group and let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{2n}$  be a basis for the Lie algebra  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}_1 + \mathcal{G}_2$  of  $G$  with  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{2n}$  a basis of  $\mathcal{G}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_2$  spanned by  $(T)$  and  $[\mathcal{G}_1, \mathcal{G}_1] = \mathcal{G}_2 =$  the center of  $\mathcal{G}$ . A left invariant differential operator  $L$  on  $G$  is said to be *homogeneous of degree  $d$*  if there is a homogeneous non-commutative polynomial  $p$  such that  $L = p(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{2n})$ .  $L$  is *elliptic in the generating directions* if  $p(\partial/\partial x_1, \partial/\partial x_2, \dots, \partial/\partial x_{2n})$  is elliptic on  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ .

Our main result is the following.

(1.1) THEOREM. — *Let  $L$  be a homogeneous, left invariant differential operator on the Heisenberg group  $G$  elliptic in the generating directions. Then there are distributions  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  such that:*

$$(1.2) \quad L f \star k_1 = f - \Pi_1 f$$

$$(1.3) \quad L(f \star k_2) = f - \Pi_2 f$$

for  $f \in C_0^\infty(G)$ , where  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$  are orthogonal projections onto the  $L^2$  nullspaces of  $L$  and  $L^*$  respectively, and  $\star$  denotes group convolution. Furthermore, the operators  $f \rightarrow f \star k_i$  and  $f \rightarrow \Pi_i f$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , all preserve analyticity locally.

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COROLLARY. — If  $u, f \in C_0^\infty(G)$  and:

$$(1.4) \quad Lu = f \quad \text{in } U,$$

$U$  open, then  $u_1 = (I - \Pi_1)u$  is analytic in every open subset of  $U$  where  $f$  is, and  $u_1$  is again a solution of (1.4).

*Proof.* — If  $Kv = v * k_1$ , then:

$$(I - \Pi_1)u = Kf + K(Lu - f).$$

By Theorem 1.1, the right hand side is analytic in  $U$ .

Theorem 1.1 was proved by Greiner, Kohn and Stein [4] for the case where  $L = \square_b$ , the boundary Laplace operator. The analyticity of the projections  $\Pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$  was proved by Geller [2], who also proved the existence of distributions  $k'_1, k'_2$  satisfying (1.2) and (1.3) and preserving local smoothness. The general result was conjectured by Stein [2]. For the general case, Métivier, by the methods in [11], obtained a proof (unpublished). However, our method is a direct reduction to the hypoelliptic case.

A differential operator  $D$  is called  $C^\infty$  hypoelliptic (resp. analytic hypoelliptic) in  $U$  if  $Du = f$  in  $U$  with  $f$  smooth (resp. analytic) in any open subset  $V \subset U$  implies  $u$  is smooth in  $V$  (resp.  $u$  is analytic in  $V$  if  $u$  is smooth in  $V$ ). Tartakoff [16], [17] and Trèves [18] have shown that for homogeneous left invariant differential operators on the Heisenberg group, analytic hypoellipticity is implied by  $C^\infty$  hypoellipticity. For  $C^\infty$  hypoellipticity, necessary and sufficient conditions for operators of the above type on groups with dilations have been given by Rockland [14] and Helffer and Nourrigat [6].

## 2. The self adjoint case

One can easily reduce the proof of Theorem 1.1 to the case where  $L$  is self adjoint and of large homogeneous degree  $d$ , with  $d/2$  even. Indeed, suppose the result is known for  $(L^*L)^n = L_1$  and  $(LL^*)^n = L_2$ . Then there exists  $k'_2$  such that:

$$(2.1) \quad L_2(f * k'_2) = f - \Pi_2 f,$$

since  $\ker L_2 = \ker L^*$ . Since for any left invariant vector field  $X$  we have  $X(f * k) = f * Xk$ , from (2.1):

$$L(f * L^*(LL^*)^{n-1}k'_2) = f - \Pi_2 f,$$

so that (1.3) follows with  $k_2 = L^*(LL^*)^{n-1}k'_2$ . Furthermore, if convolution with  $k'_2$  preserves local analyticity, so does convolution with  $k_2$ . (1.2) is obtained similarly from  $L_1$ .

Theorem 1.1 is then a consequence of the following, which is partly based on an idea of Beals and Greiner [1].

(2.2) THEOREM. — Let  $L$  be a self adjoint operator satisfying the hypotheses of Theorem 1.1 and of sufficiently high degree divisible by 4. Then there is a closed contour  $\Gamma$  around 0 in  $\mathbb{C}$  such that  $L_\alpha = L - \alpha(-iT)^{d/2}$  is hypoelliptic for all  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . There exist distributions  $k_\alpha$  satisfying  $L_\alpha k_\alpha = \delta$ , with  $\alpha \rightarrow \|D^\beta(f * k_\alpha)\|_{L^\infty}$  bounded on  $\Gamma$  for all multi-indices and any  $f \in C_0^\infty(G)$ . Hence define:

$$K, S: C_0^\infty(G) \rightarrow C^\infty(G)$$

by:

$$Kf = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} \alpha^{-1} f * k_\alpha d\alpha,$$

$$Sf = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} (-iT)^{d/2} f * k_\alpha d\alpha.$$

Then:

$$(2.3) \quad LKf = K * Lf = f - Sf, \quad f \in C_0^\infty(G),$$

and  $S = \Pi$ , the orthogonal projection onto the  $L^2$  kernel of  $L$ . Furthermore,  $K$  and  $\Pi$  preserve local analyticity.

The proof of Theorem 2.2 will proceed as follows. First, one must construct the  $k_\alpha$ . For this we use the construction given by Métivier [11] for a single operator and check that the  $k_\alpha$  vary well with  $\alpha$ . The first equality in (2.3) is an immediate consequence of the self adjointness of  $L$  and  $\Pi$ , while the second is easily obtained by writing  $L = L_\alpha + \alpha(-iT)^{d/2}$ . The proof that  $S = \Pi$  will be obtained by applying the irreducible unitary representations of  $G$  to both operators and then using the Plancherel theorem for  $G$ .

Finally, to prove that  $K$  and  $S$  preserve analyticity, it suffices to obtain local estimates for derivatives of  $f * k_\alpha$  independent of  $\alpha$ . For this we use the methods of the second author [16], checking that the constants obtained in the  $L^2$  estimates can be chosen independent of  $\alpha$ .

### 3. Unitary representations and the Plancherel formula for $G$

We summarize some facts about the irreducible unitary representations of  $G$  which will be used in the construction of  $k_\alpha$  and in the proof that  $S = \Pi$ . Let  $X'_i, X''_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $T$  be a basis for  $\mathcal{G}$  with  $[X'_i, X'_j] = \delta_{ij}T$ , all other commutators zero. For every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$ , let  $\pi_\lambda$  be the irreducible unitary representation of  $G$  on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  defined by:

$$(3.1) \quad \pi_\lambda(x', x'', t) f(u) = e^{i((\operatorname{sgn} \lambda)|\lambda|^{1/2} x'', u + \lambda t + \lambda x' \cdot x''/2)} f(u - |\lambda|^{1/2} x').$$

Here  $(x', x'', t)$  are the coordinates given by:

$$(x', x'', t) \leftrightarrow \exp(x' \cdot X' + x'' \cdot X'' + tT),$$

where  $x' \cdot X' = \sum_{i=1}^n x'_i X'_i$  and  $\exp$  denotes the exponential map.

These induce the following on  $\mathcal{G}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_\lambda(T) &= i\lambda, \\ \pi_\lambda(X_j) &= |\lambda|^{1/2} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_j}, \\ \pi_\lambda(X'_j) &= i \operatorname{sgn} \lambda |\lambda|^{1/2} u_j.\end{aligned}$$

If  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(G)$ , let  $\pi_\lambda(\varphi)$  be the bounded operator on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  given by:

$$\pi_\lambda(\varphi) = \int \varphi(g) \pi_\lambda(g^{-1}) du(g),$$

where  $du(g) = dx' dx'' dt$  is a Haar measure on  $G$ . If  $L \in U(\mathcal{G})$ , the universal enveloping algebra of  $\mathcal{G}$ , then:

$$(3.2) \quad \pi_\lambda(L\varphi) = \pi_\lambda(L) \pi_\lambda(\varphi),$$

where:

$$\pi_\lambda: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \operatorname{End}(L^2(\mathbb{R}^n))$$

is the corresponding representation of  $\mathcal{G}$ .

It will be useful to know the distribution kernel  $a_{\varphi, \lambda}(u, v)$  of the operator  $\pi_\lambda(\varphi)$ . By direct calculation, for  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ :

$$\pi_\lambda(\varphi) f(u) = \int \varphi(x', x'', t) e^{-i(y_\lambda \cdot u + x_\lambda \cdot y_\lambda/2 + \lambda t)} f(u - x_\lambda) dx' dx'' dt$$

where  $x_\lambda = |\lambda|^{1/2} x'$  and  $y_\lambda = (\operatorname{sgn} \lambda) |\lambda|^{1/2} x''$ . Since  $dx' dx'' = (\operatorname{sgn} \lambda) |\lambda|^{-n} dx_\lambda dy_\lambda$ :

$$\pi_\lambda(\varphi) f(u) = |\lambda|^{-n} \int \varphi_\lambda(x_\lambda, y_\lambda, t) e^{-i(y_\lambda \cdot u - x_\lambda \cdot y_\lambda/2 + \lambda t)} f(u - x_\lambda) dx_\lambda dy_\lambda dt$$

where:

$$\varphi_\lambda(x_\lambda, y_\lambda, t) = \varphi(x', x'', t).$$

Hence a simple change of variables shows that:

$$(3.3) \quad a_{\varphi, \lambda}(u, v) = |\lambda|^{-n} \varphi_{\lambda} \hat{\phantom{a}} \left( u - v, \frac{u+v}{2}, \lambda \right),$$

where  $\hat{\phantom{a}}$  denotes the Euclidean Fourier transform of  $\varphi_{\lambda}$  in the last two sets of variables. The reader is referred to Métivier [11] for a more detailed account of the above calculation for a more general class of groups.

We shall need two versions of the Plancherel theorem for  $G$ . The first is the following equality for  $\varphi \in C_0^{\infty}(G)$ :

$$(3.4) \quad \varphi(0) = \int_{\mathbb{R}-\{0\}} \text{tr}(\pi_{\lambda}(\varphi)) d\mu(\lambda),$$

where  $d\mu(\lambda) = c|\lambda|^n d\lambda$ ,  $c$  constant, and  $\text{tr}$  denotes trace. The second version of the Plancherel theorem states that  $\pi_{\lambda}$  extends to a Hilbert space isomorphism:

$$\pi_{\lambda}: L^2(G) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}-\{0\}, H-S),$$

where  $L^2(\mathbb{R}-\{0\}, H-S)$  is the space of all functions  $F$  from  $\mathbb{R}-\{0\}$  to the space  $H-S$  of all Hilbert-Schmidt operators on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  satisfying:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}-\{0\}} \text{tr}(F(\lambda) F(\lambda)^*) d\lambda < \infty.$$

The norm is:

$$\|F(\lambda)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}-\{0\}, H-S)}^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}-\{0\}} \text{tr}(F(\lambda) F(\lambda)^*) d\mu'(\lambda),$$

where  $d\mu'(\lambda) = c'|\lambda|^n d\lambda$ , where  $c'$  is a constant. In particular, for  $f, g \in L^2(G)$ ;

$$(3.5) \quad (f, g)_{L^2} = \int_{\mathbb{R}-\{0\}} \text{tr}(\pi_{\lambda}(f) \pi_{\lambda}(g)^*) d\mu'(\lambda).$$

The reader is referred to Kirillov [8] or Pukanszky [13] for a complete account of the Plancherel theorem for nilpotent groups.

#### 4. Construction of the fundamental solutions $k_{\alpha}$ of $L_{\alpha}$

(4.1) LEMMA. — Let  $L$  be as in Theorem 2.2, and let  $L_{\alpha} = L - \alpha(-iT)^{d/2}$ . Then if  $\varepsilon > 0$  is sufficiently small,  $L_{\alpha}$  is hypoelliptic for all  $\alpha$ ,  $\varepsilon \leq |\alpha| \leq 2\varepsilon$ .

*Proof.* — By Rockland [14],  $L_\alpha$  is hypoelliptic if and only if  $\pi_1(L_\alpha)$  and  $\pi_{-1}(L_\alpha)$  are injective on the Schwartz space  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Now:

$$\pi_{\pm 1}(L_\alpha) = \pi_{\pm 1}(L) \pm \alpha.$$

By Grušin [5], the eigenvalues of  $\pi_{\pm 1}(L)$  are discrete, and so if:

$$\mu = \min_{\substack{\sigma \text{ eigenvalue of } \pi_{\pm 1}(L) \\ \sigma \neq 0}} |\sigma|,$$

then any  $\varepsilon < \mu/2$  will satisfy the lemma.

A family  $\sigma_\alpha$  of distributions on a manifold  $M$  will be called *uniformly bounded* if for every compact set  $K \subset M$  there exist  $C$  and  $M$  independent of  $\alpha$  such that:

$$|\sigma_\alpha(\varphi)| \leq C \sup_{|\beta| \leq M} |D^\beta \varphi(x)|$$

for all  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(K)$ . Our proof of analyticity requires that the  $k_\alpha$  be uniformly bounded.

(4.2) PROPOSITION. — Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be chosen as in Lemma 4.1. If  $d$  is sufficiently large and  $d/2$  even, there is a uniformly bounded family of fundamental solutions  $k_\alpha$ ,  $L_\alpha k_\alpha = \delta$ , all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\varepsilon \leq |\alpha| \leq 2\varepsilon$ , such that  $S_\alpha: C^\infty(G) \rightarrow C^\infty(G)$  defined by:

$$S_\alpha \varphi = (-iT)^{d/2} (\varphi \star k_\alpha),$$

extends to a bounded mapping of  $L^2(G)$  into itself satisfying the following:

$$(4.3) \quad \|S_\alpha \varphi\|_{L^2} \leq C \|\varphi\|_{L^2}$$

$C$  independent of  $\alpha$ , and

$$(4.4) \quad \pi_\lambda(S_\alpha \varphi) = \begin{cases} \pi_1(L_\alpha)^{-1} \pi_\lambda(\varphi), & \lambda > 0 \\ \pi_{-1}(L_\alpha)^{-1} \pi_\lambda(\varphi), & \lambda < 0 \end{cases}$$

for almost all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$ .

To prove Proposition 4.2 we shall follow a similar construction in Métivier [11] (where one of the ideas is attributed to Lion [9]), keeping track of the dependence on  $\alpha$ . We let  $B_\varepsilon = \{\alpha \in \mathbb{C}: \varepsilon \leq |\alpha| \leq 2\varepsilon\}$ .

(4.5) LEMMA. — For  $\alpha \in B_\varepsilon$ , let  $I_{\lambda, \alpha}(u, v)$  be the distribution kernel of the operator  $\pi_\lambda(L_\alpha)^{-1}: L^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Then if  $d$  is sufficiently large  $I_{\lambda, \alpha}$  is continuous and satisfies, for  $n/2 < k < d - n/2$ ;

$$(4.6) \quad |I_{\varepsilon_\lambda, \alpha}(v, u)| \leq C_\lambda (1 + |v|)^{n/2 - d + k} (1 + |u|)^{n/2 - k}$$

for some constant  $C$  independent of  $\alpha \in B_\varepsilon$ , where  $\varepsilon_\lambda = (-1)^{\text{sgn } \lambda}$ .

*Proof.* — The estimate (4.6) is given in [11] for  $\alpha$  fixed in  $B_\varepsilon$ . Let

$$H^k = \{f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n) : u^\beta D_u^\gamma f \in L^2, \quad \text{all } |\beta| + |\gamma| \leq k\}$$

with norm  $\|f\|_{H^k}^2 = \sum_{|\beta|+|\gamma| \leq k} \|u^\beta D_u^\gamma f\|_{L^2}^2$ , and let  $H^{-k}$  be the dual space. By Grushin [5], each  $\pi_{\pm 1}(L_\alpha)^{-1}$  is bounded from  $L^2$  to  $H^d$  i.e., there exists  $C'$  such that:

$$(4.7) \quad \|f\|_{H^d} \leq C' \|\pi_{\pm 1}(L_\alpha) f\|_{L^2}$$

with  $C'$  dependent on  $\alpha$ . An easy perturbation argument (see [15], for details) shows that one can choose  $C'$  independent of  $\alpha$  for  $\alpha$  varying in  $B_\varepsilon$ . From (4.7) one obtains for each  $j$

$$\|f\|_{H_j} \leq C_0 \|\pi_{\pm 1}(L_\alpha)^{-1} f\|_{H^{d+j}}$$

for all  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , as in [11], Lemma 12.

Now the proof is exactly as given in [11].

*Proof of Proposition 4.2.* — We shall follow the construction given in [11] for a more general class of groups. Put  $\check{\varphi}(g) = \varphi(g^{-1})$ ,  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(G)$ . First

$$\text{tr}(\pi_\lambda(L_\alpha)^{-1} \pi_\lambda(\check{\varphi})) = \int I_{\lambda, \alpha}(v, u) \alpha_{\check{\varphi}, \lambda}(u, v) dv du,$$

for  $\alpha \in B_\varepsilon$ , where  $\alpha_{\check{\varphi}, \lambda}(u, v)$  is the kernel of  $\pi_\lambda(\check{\varphi})$ , which by (3.3) is given by

$$(4.8) \quad \alpha_{\check{\varphi}, \lambda}(u, v) = |\lambda|^{-n} (\varphi_\lambda)^\wedge(v - u, -(u + v)/2, -\lambda).$$

Putting

$$J_{\lambda, \alpha}(u, v) = \int e^{-iv \cdot \xi} I_{\lambda, \alpha}\left(\frac{u}{2} - \xi, -\frac{u}{2} - \xi\right) d\xi$$

we obtain

$$\text{tr}(\pi_\lambda(L_\alpha)^{-1} \pi_\lambda(\check{\varphi})) = |\lambda|^{-n} \int J_{\lambda, \alpha}(u, v) \varphi_\lambda^\wedge(u, v, -\lambda) du dv,$$

where  $\varphi_\lambda^\wedge$  denotes the Fourier transform in the  $t$  variable. Finally, let  $u_\lambda = |\lambda|^{-1/2} u$ ,  $v_\lambda = (\text{sgn } \lambda) |\lambda|^{-1/2} v$ ,  $u^\lambda = |\lambda|^{1/2} u$ ,  $v^\lambda = (\text{sgn } \lambda) |\lambda|^{1/2} v$  and put

$$K_{\lambda, \alpha}(u_\lambda, v_\lambda) = J_{\lambda, \alpha}(u, v).$$

In view of (3.2) and (3.4) we want to estimate  $\text{tr}(\pi_\lambda(L_\alpha)^{-1} \pi_\lambda(\check{\varphi}))$ . By the above we have

$$\text{tr}(\pi_\lambda(L_\alpha)^{-1} \pi_\lambda(\check{\varphi})) = \int K_{\lambda, \alpha}(u_\lambda, v_\lambda) \hat{\varphi}(u_\lambda, v_\lambda, -\lambda) du_\lambda dv_\lambda$$



by the definition of  $\varphi_\lambda$ . It is easy to check that

$$K_{\lambda, \alpha}(u, v) = |\lambda|^{-d/2} K_{\varepsilon_\lambda, \alpha}(u^\lambda, v^\lambda).$$

We shall need to show

$$(4.9) \quad |K_{\varepsilon_\lambda, \alpha}(u^\lambda, v^\lambda)| \leq C,$$

all  $\alpha \in B_\varepsilon$ ,  $u, v$ . By definition

$$K_{\varepsilon_\lambda, \alpha}(u^\lambda, v^\lambda) = J_{\varepsilon_\lambda, \alpha}(u^\lambda, \pm v^\lambda) = \int e^{\mp i v^\lambda \xi} I_{\varepsilon_\lambda, \alpha}\left(\frac{u^\lambda}{2} - \xi, \frac{-u^\lambda}{2} - \xi\right) d\xi.$$

Hence by (4.6)

$$(4.10) \quad |K_{\varepsilon_\lambda, \alpha}(u^\lambda, v^\lambda)| \leq C_0 \sup(1 + |\xi|)^{n+1} \left(1 + \left|\frac{u^\lambda}{2} - \xi\right|\right)^{n/2-d+k} \left(1 + \left|-\frac{u^\lambda}{2} - \xi\right|\right)^{n/2-k}$$

for  $n/2 < k < d - n/2$ . Choose  $k$  to be the smallest integer larger than  $(3n/2) + 1$ . Then for  $d > 3n + 4$ ,  $k$  is in the range  $n/2 < k < d - n/2$ . Now for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$

$$(4.11) \quad (1 + |\xi|) \leq \sup((1 + |a - \xi|), (1 + |-a - \xi|)).$$

Then (4.11), together with (4.10), proves (4.9).

Hence, if  $\chi(u, v, \lambda) \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2n+1})$ , with  $\chi(u, v, \lambda)$  vanishing in  $\lambda$  to order at least  $d/2 - n$  at  $\lambda = 0$ , the integral

$$\int |K_{\lambda, \alpha}(u, v)| |\chi(u, v, \lambda)| du dv d\lambda$$

exists and is bounded, independent of  $\alpha \in B_\varepsilon$ .

To handle the singularity near  $\lambda = 0$  we proceed as in [11]. Let  $\psi \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  be chosen with

$$\psi(\lambda) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } |\lambda| \leq 1/2, \\ 0 & \text{for } |\lambda| \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\mathcal{X}: \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$  be defined by

$$\mathcal{X}f(\lambda) = f(\lambda) - \psi(\lambda) \sum_{k \leq (d/2) - n} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda}\right)^k f(0).$$

Then

$$\mathcal{X}f(\lambda) = f(\lambda) \quad \text{for } |\lambda| \geq 1,$$

and

$\mathcal{X}f(\lambda)$  vanishes to order  $d/2 - n$  at  $\lambda = 0$ .

Now define  $k_{\alpha,1}$  by:

$$k_{\alpha,1}(\varphi) = c \int K_{\lambda,\alpha}(u, v, \lambda) \mathcal{X}\varphi(u, v, -\lambda) |\lambda|^n du dv d\lambda,$$

with  $c$  as in (3.4). Then  $k_{\alpha,1}$  is a uniformly bounded family of distributions for  $\alpha \in B_\varepsilon$ .

We will now construct a uniformly bounded family  $k_{\alpha,2}$  of distributions such that  $k_{\alpha,1} + k_{\alpha,2}$  is a fundamental solution for  $L_\alpha$ , i. e.,

$$L_\alpha(k_{\alpha,1} + k_{\alpha,2}) = \delta.$$

For this, let  $r_\alpha$  be the distribution defined by

$$-r_\alpha = L_\alpha k_{\alpha,1} - \delta.$$

Clearly  $r_\alpha$  is a uniformly bounded family, and we must find  $k_{\alpha,2}$  satisfying

$$L_\alpha k_{\alpha,2} = r_\alpha.$$

As in [11] we note that since  $T^s r_\alpha = 0$  for  $s \geq d/2 - n$  we may write  $r_\alpha$  in the form:

$$r_\alpha = \sum_{|j| \leq d/2 - n} r_{\alpha,j}(x', x'') t^j$$

where  $r_{\alpha,j}(x', x'')$  is a uniformly bounded family of distributions on  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ . Let  $L^0$  be the constant coefficient differential operator elliptic in  $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ , corresponding to the principal symbol at 0 (in the classical sense) of  $L_\alpha$  [i. e.,  $L^0 = p(\partial/\partial x'_1, \dots, \partial/\partial x'_n, \partial/\partial x''_1, \dots, \partial/\partial x''_n)$ . See the definition of "elliptic in the generating directions" on the first page. Note that  $L^0$  is independent of  $\alpha$ , since the parameter occurs as a coefficient of a term of lower degree.] Now we may seek to find  $k_{\alpha,2}$  in the form

$$k_{\alpha,2} = \sum_{j \leq d/2 - n} W_{\alpha,j}(x', x'') t^j.$$

The  $W_{\alpha,j}$  may be found by downward recursion by writing

$$L = L^0 + \sum_{0 < j \leq d} L_{\alpha,j} \frac{\partial^j}{\partial t^j}$$

and solving recursively for  $W_{\alpha,j}$  satisfying

$$(4.12) \quad L^0 W_{\alpha,j}(x', x'') + \sum_{k > j} L_{\alpha,k} \frac{(j+k)!}{j!} W_{\alpha,j+k} = r_{\alpha,j}.$$

with the convention that  $W_{\alpha, j+k}=0$  for  $j+k > d/2-n$ . We must still show that (4.12) can be solved with  $W_{\alpha, j}$  a uniformly bounded family. For this we use the following modification of [7], Theorem 3.6.4.

(4.13) LEMMA. — Suppose that  $\{f_\alpha\}$  is a uniformly bounded family of distributions on an open set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  which is strongly convex for the constant coefficient differential operator  $P(D)$ . Then there exists a uniformly bounded family  $u_\alpha$  on  $\Omega$  such that

$$P(D) u_\alpha = f_\alpha.$$

The proof of Lemma 4.13 is an easy modification of [7], Theorem 3.6.4, where the result is proved for fixed  $\alpha$ .

Now we may complete the proof of Proposition 4.2 by verifying (4.3) and (4.4). For this, note that since  $T$  is bi-invariant,  $(-iT)^{d/2}(\varphi \star k_\alpha) = ((-iT)^{d/2} \varphi) \star k_\alpha$ . One easily sees by the definition of  $k_{\alpha, 2}$  that  $((-iT)^{d/2} \varphi) \star k_{\alpha, 2} = 0$ . Hence

$$S_\alpha \varphi = (-iT)^{d/2}(\varphi \star k_{\alpha, 1}).$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_\lambda(S_\alpha \varphi) &= \pi_\lambda((-iT)^{d/2} \varphi \star k_{\alpha, 1}) = \pi_\lambda(L_\alpha)^{-1} \pi_\lambda(-iT)^{d/2} \pi_\lambda(\varphi) \\ &= \lambda^{d/2} |\lambda|^{-d/2} \pi_{e_\lambda}(L_\alpha)^{-1} \pi_\lambda(\varphi) = \pi_{e_\lambda}(L_\alpha)^{-1} \pi_\lambda(\varphi), \quad \text{since } d/2 \text{ is even,} \end{aligned}$$

which proves (4.4).

To prove (4.3) it suffices, by (4.4) and the Plancherel Theorem (3.5), to show that

$$\|\pi_{e_\lambda}(L_\alpha)^{-1} \pi_\lambda(\varphi)\|_{H-S} \leq C' \|\pi_\lambda(\varphi)\|_{H-S},$$

where  $H-S$  denotes the Hilbert Schmidt norm. This follows immediately since  $\pi_{\pm 1}(L_\alpha)^{-1}$  is bounded on  $L^2$ . This completes the proof of Proposition 4.2.

## 5. Proof that $S = \Pi$ .

(5.1) PROPOSITION. — Let  $k_\alpha$  be defined as in Proposition 4.2. Then the operator:

$$Sf = (2\pi i)^{-1} \int_{\Gamma} (-iT)^{d/2} (f \star k_\alpha) d\alpha, \quad f \in C_0^\infty(G)$$

extends to a bounded operator on  $L^2$  and  $S = \Pi$ , the orthogonal projection onto the nullspace of  $L$ .

The proof of Proposition 5.1 requires some preliminaries.

(5.2) LEMMA. — For almost all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$ , for all  $f \in C_0^\infty(G)$ ,

$$\pi_\lambda(\Pi f) = P_{e_\lambda} \pi_\lambda(f)$$

where  $P_{e_\lambda}$  is the orthogonal projection onto the nullspace of  $\pi_{e_\lambda}(L)$ .

*Proof.* — This is very similar to Goodman [3]. First, it is clear that

$$\operatorname{Im} \pi_\lambda(\Pi f) \subset \ker \pi_\lambda(L) = \ker \pi_{\varepsilon_\lambda}(L).$$

Furthermore, if  $h \in \ker L$ , then  $\operatorname{Im} \pi_\lambda(h) \subset \ker \pi_\lambda(L)$  and hence  $\pi_\lambda(h) = P_{\varepsilon_\lambda} \pi_\lambda(h)$ . Hence it suffices to show that if  $g \perp \ker L$ , then  $\operatorname{Im} \pi_\lambda(g) \subset (\ker \pi_\lambda(L))^\perp$ .

Now if  $g \perp \ker L$ , then by the Plancherel formula (3.5),

$$(5.3) \quad \int \operatorname{tr}(\pi_\lambda(f) \pi_\lambda(g)^*) d\mu(\lambda) = 0$$

for all  $f \in \ker L$ . Let  $\{\varphi_j\}$  be an orthonormal basis of  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  such that  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_N$  is a basis of  $\ker \pi_{+1}(L)$  (which is of finite dimension by Grusin [5]), and  $\varphi_{N+1}, \varphi_{N+2}, \dots$  is a basis of  $(\ker \pi_{+1}(L))^\perp$ . Then

$$(5.4) \quad \operatorname{tr}(\pi_\lambda(f) \pi_\lambda(g)^*) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\pi_\lambda(f) \varphi_i, \pi_\lambda(g) \varphi_i)$$

for any  $f \in L^2(G)$ . Let the indices  $i$  and  $j$  be fixed with  $1 \leq j \leq N$  and let  $c(\lambda) \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^1 - \{0\}, d\mu(\lambda))$  be arbitrary with support in  $\mathbb{R}^+$ . Then by the second version of the Plancherel formula define  $h_{ij} \in L^2(G)$  by

$$\pi_\lambda(h_{ij}) \varphi_k = \begin{cases} c(\lambda) \delta_{ik} \varphi_j, & 1 \leq i \leq N, \\ 0, & i > N. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\operatorname{tr}(\pi_\lambda(h_{ij}) \pi_\lambda(g)^*) = \sum_k (\pi_\lambda(h_{ij}) \varphi_k, \pi_\lambda(g) \varphi_k) = c(\lambda) (\varphi_j, \pi_\lambda(g) \varphi_i).$$

By (5.3), since  $h_{ij} \in \ker L$

$$\int c(\lambda) (\varphi_j, \pi_\lambda(g) \varphi_i) d\mu(\lambda) = 0.$$

Since  $c(\lambda)$  is arbitrary with support in  $\mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $(\varphi_j, \pi_\lambda(g) \varphi_i) = 0$  for almost all  $\lambda > 0$ , all  $i$ . The proof for  $\lambda < 0$  is the same, obtained by using a basis adapted to the decomposition  $\ker \pi_{-1}(L) + (\ker \pi_{-1}(L))^\perp$ . Hence  $\pi_\lambda(g) \varphi_i \perp \ker \pi_\lambda(L)$  as claimed.

From now on,  $\Gamma$  will denote a fixed simple contour in  $\mathbb{C}$  lying in  $B_\varepsilon$ .

$$(5.5) \text{ LEMMA. — } \pi_\lambda \left( \int_{\Gamma} S_\alpha f d\alpha \right) = \int_{\Gamma} \pi_\lambda(S_\alpha f) d\alpha \quad \text{for almost all } \lambda \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}.$$

*Proof.* — Suppose  $g \in L^2(G)$ . Then by the Plancherel Theorem (3.5)

$$\left( \int_{\Gamma} S_\alpha f d\alpha, g \right) = \int_{\mathbb{R} - \{0\}} \operatorname{tr} \left( \pi_\lambda \left( \int_{\Gamma} S_\alpha f d\alpha \right) \pi_\lambda(g)^* \right) d\mu(\lambda).$$

Now let  $\{\varphi_j\}$  be an orthonormal basis for  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Then

$$(5.6) \quad \int \operatorname{tr} \left( \int_{\Gamma} \pi_{\lambda}(S_{\alpha} f) d\alpha \pi_{\lambda}(g)^* \right) d\mu(\lambda) = \int \sum_i \left( \int_{\Gamma} \pi_{\lambda}(S_{\alpha} f) d\alpha (\pi_{\lambda}(g))^* \varphi_i, \varphi_i \right) d\mu(\lambda).$$

Now since the infinite sum in the right hand side of (5.6) converges absolutely, by the dominated convergence theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} (5.7) \quad & \int \operatorname{tr} \left( \int_{\Gamma} \pi_{\lambda}(S_{\alpha} f) d\alpha \pi_{\lambda}(g)^* \right) d\mu(\lambda) \\ &= \iint_{\Gamma} \operatorname{tr} (\pi_{\lambda}(S_{\alpha} f) \pi_{\lambda}(g)^*) d\alpha d\mu(\lambda) \\ &= \int_{\Gamma} \int_{\mathbb{R} - \{0\}} \operatorname{tr} (\pi_{\lambda}(S_{\alpha} f) \pi_{\lambda}(g)^*) d\mu(\lambda) d\alpha = \int_{\Gamma} (S_{\alpha} f, g) d\alpha \\ &= \left( \int_{\Gamma} S_{\alpha} f d\alpha, g \right) = \int \operatorname{tr} \left( \pi_{\lambda} \left( \int_{\Gamma} S_{\alpha} f d\alpha \right) \pi_{\lambda}(g)^* \right) d\mu(\lambda). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $g$  is arbitrary, (3.5) implies

$$\int_{\Gamma} \pi_{\lambda}(S_{\alpha} f) d\alpha = \pi_{\lambda} \left( \int_{\Gamma} S_{\alpha} f d\alpha \right)$$

for almost all  $\lambda$  by the Plancherel Theorem. This proves Lemma 5.5.

We may now prove Proposition 5.1. By Lemma 5.2, it suffices to show that

$$(5.8) \quad \pi_{\lambda}(Sf) = P_{e_{\lambda}} \pi_{\lambda}(f) \quad \text{for } \varphi \in C_0^{\infty}(G).$$

By Lemma 5.5 and (4.4)

$$(5.9) \quad \pi_{\lambda}(Sf) = \int_{\Gamma} \pi_{\lambda}(S_{\alpha} f) d\alpha = \int_{\Gamma} \pi_{e_{\lambda}}(L_{\alpha})^{-1} \pi_{\lambda}(f) d\alpha.$$

Suppose  $\lambda > 0$ . Then from (5.9)

$$\pi_{\lambda}(Sf) = (2\pi i)^{-1} \int_{\Gamma} \pi_1(L_{\alpha})^{-1} \pi_{\lambda}(f) d\alpha = (2\pi i)^{-1} \int_{\Gamma} (\pi_1(L) - \alpha)^{-1} \pi_{\lambda}(f) d\alpha.$$

Since zero is an isolated point of the spectrum of  $\pi_1(L)$  by [5],

$$(2\pi i)^{-1} \int_{\Gamma} (\pi_1(L) - \alpha)^{-1} d\alpha = P_1.$$

A similar argument holds for  $\lambda < 0$ . Hence (5.8) is proved.

## 6. Analyticity

In this part we complete the proof of Theorem 1.1 by proving.

(6.1) THEOREM. — *The operators  $K$  and  $S$  constructed above preserve local analyticity.*

(6.2) LEMMA. — *Let  $u_\alpha = K_\alpha f$ ,  $f \in C_0^\infty(G)$ . Suppose that for any bounded open set  $U_0$  in which  $f$  is real analytic and any  $V_0$  with compact closure in  $U_0$  there exists a constant  $C$  such that*

$$(6.3) \quad \sup_{x \in V_0} |D^\gamma u_\alpha(x)| \leq C^{|\gamma|+1} |\gamma|!$$

*for all multi-indices  $\gamma$  and all  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$ . Then  $K$  and  $\Pi$  preserve local analyticity.*

*Proof.* — Suppose  $f$  is analytic in  $U_0$ . Then since  $L_\alpha K_\alpha f = L_\alpha(f * k_\alpha) = f$ ,

$$\sup_{x \in V_0} |D^\gamma (K_\alpha f)(x)| \leq C^{|\gamma|+1} |\gamma|!$$

and hence

$$\sup_{x \in V_0} |D^\gamma \int_\Gamma \alpha^{-1} K_\alpha f d\alpha| \leq \int_\Gamma |\alpha|^{-1} \sup_{x \in V_0} |D^\gamma (K_\alpha f)(x)| d\alpha \leq C' C^{|\gamma|+1} |\gamma|!$$

Hence  $Kf$  is analytic in  $V_0$ . The proof for  $\Pi$  is the same.

We shall now prove (6.3). For this we shall need the maximal estimate

$$(6.4) \quad \|X_{i_1} X_{i_2} \dots X_{i_d} v\|_{L^2} \leq C(\|L_\alpha v\|_{L^2} + \|v\|_{L^2})$$

for all  $v \in C_0^\infty(U_0)$ , some constant  $C$ , which may be chosen independent of  $\alpha$ ,  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$ . For each fixed  $\alpha$ ,  $|\alpha|$  small but nonzero, the estimate (6.4) follows from the hypoellipticity [6] of  $L_\alpha$  and is clearly preserved under sufficiently small changes in  $\alpha$  on the circle  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$ . Hence (6.4) follows by compactness for some  $C$  independent of  $\alpha$ .

## 7. Proof of the uniform estimates on high derivatives

To demonstrate local bounds of the form:

$$|D^\beta u_\alpha(x)| \leq C^{|\beta|+1} |\beta|! \quad \forall \beta, x \in V_0$$

it is sufficient to obtain analogous  $L^2$  bounds:

$$\|D^\beta u_\alpha\|_{L^2(V_1)} \leq C_1^{|\beta|+1} |\beta|! \quad \text{with } V_0 \subset \subset V_1$$

and, as Nelson has shown, we may use the vector fields  $X_i$  and  $T$  instead of ordinary partial derivatives. Thus we write  $X_I = X_{i_1} X_{i_2} \dots X_{i_{|I|}}$  (or  $X^{|I|}$ , abusively, for short) and shall show the bounds

$$\|X_I T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2(V_1)} \leq C_2^{|I|+b+1} (|I| + b) !$$

for all  $I$  and  $b$ , uniformly in  $\alpha$  for  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$ . Equivalently, we show:

$$(7.1) \quad \|X_I T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2(V_1)} \leq C_3^{|I|+b+1} N^{|I|+b}$$

uniformly in  $\alpha$ ,  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$ ,  $N$ ,  $I$  and  $b$  subject to  $|I| + b \leq N$ , since Stirling's formula yields

$$N^N \leq C_4^N N !$$

What follows is an extension of [16], but we feel much easier to read, to  $d \geq 2$  with attention given to the dependence of all estimates on  $\alpha$ .

Clearly [see the *a priori* estimate (6.4)], estimating  $T$  derivatives is harder than estimating  $X$  derivatives, though one cannot, it appears, do one without the other. To use (6.4) effectively, we should at each stage try to retain at least  $d$   $X$ 's in our expressions, and yet this is no limitation, since high, pure  $T$  derivatives can yield the required  $X$ 's by use of the commutation relations between the  $X$ 's ( $d/2$  times) and it is easy to see that if one has the desired bounds for  $|I| \geq d$ , one also has them (with a different constant) for all smaller  $I$ .

To localize high  $T$  derivatives is not simple, for  $[X_j, \phi T^p]$  exhibits insufficient gain in  $p$  (at most a gain of  $1/2$  power, while a whole derivative lands on the localizing function). One could repeatedly replace  $X$  derivatives consumed in this fashion, but to do so would eventually transfer the  $p$   $T$ -derivatives into derivatives of order  $2p$  on  $\phi$ , and this will not yield analyticity.

To overcome this obstacle, we introduce a rather complicated (looking) localization of  $T^p$ , i. e., a differential operator of order  $p$ , equal to  $T^p$  in any open set where  $\phi = 1$  and zero outside the support of  $\phi$ . First, however, we must pick a new basis for  $\mathcal{G}_1$ . An analytic change of coordinates allows us to pick the basis:

$$\begin{aligned} X_j &= X'_j = \partial / \partial x_j, & j \leq n, \\ X_{j+n} &= X''_j = \partial / \partial y_j + x_j \partial / \partial t, & j \leq n, \\ T &= \partial / \partial t, \end{aligned}$$

where the  $X_j$  still generate  $\mathcal{G}_1$ , and  $T$  generates  $\mathcal{G}_2$ .

(7.2) DEFINITION. — Let the  $X_j$ ,  $T$  be defined as above. Then let:

$$(T^p)_\phi = T^p_\phi = \sum_{r=|\beta+\gamma| \leq p} \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta ! \gamma !} (X'^\beta X''^\gamma \phi) X'^\gamma X''^\beta T^{p-|\beta+\gamma|}.$$

(7.3) LEMMA. — With  $T_\phi^p$  defined as above, then modulo  $C^p$  terms of the form  $\phi^{(p+1)} X^p / \beta! \gamma!$  where  $|\beta + \gamma| = p$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} [X'_j, T_\phi^p] &\equiv 0, \\ [X''_j, T_\phi^p] &\equiv (T^{p-1})_{T_\phi} X''_j. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* — From (7.2) and the obvious commutation relations  $[X'_j, X''^\beta] = \beta_j$  terms, each  $X''^{\beta-e_j} T$ , where  $e_j$  is the multi-index of length one whose only non-zero entry is a 1 in the  $j$ th position,

$$\begin{aligned} (7.4) \quad [X'_j, T_\phi^p] &= \sum_{r=|\beta+\gamma|\leq p} \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta! \gamma!} (X'_j X'^\beta X''^\gamma \phi) X'^\gamma X''^\beta T^{p-|\beta+\gamma|} \\ &\quad + \sum_{r=|\beta+\gamma|\leq p} \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta! \gamma!} \beta_j (X'^\beta X''^\gamma \phi) X'^\gamma X''^{\beta-e_j} T^{p-|\beta-e_j+\gamma|}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that in the second sum,  $r \geq 1$ , since for  $r=0$ , all  $\beta_j=0$ . But each term in the first sum, except those with  $r=p$ , is cancelled by a term in the second; a term in the first with  $\beta=\beta_0$ ,  $\gamma=\gamma_0$  is cancelled by a term in the second when  $\beta=\beta_0+e_j$ ,  $\gamma=\gamma_0$  unless  $|\beta_0+\gamma_0|=p$ . Only terms from the first sum with  $r=p$  remain, and there are fewer than  $(2n)^p$  of them.

For the second part of the Lemma, a similar cancellation takes place (with a shift of the  $\gamma$  index this time), the change of sign coming not from the power of  $-1$ , as it did with a shift of  $\beta$ , but from the observation that  $[X''_j, X'^\gamma X''^\beta]$  consists of  $\gamma_j$  terms each  $X'^{\gamma-e_j} X''^\beta [X''_j, X'_j]$  and  $[X''_j, X'_j] = -T$ . The more significant difference, however, is that in the first term in (7.4) the extra  $X'_j$  sits beside the other  $X'$  derivatives on  $\phi$ , with  $X''_j$  it will be on the extreme left, while the others will sit beside  $\phi$ . Thus what was literal cancellation for the first part of the Lemma will be a commutator here. To be precise:

$$\begin{aligned} [X''_j, T_\phi^p] &= \sum_{|\beta+\gamma|=p} \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta! \gamma!} (X''_j X'^\beta X''^\gamma \phi) X'^\gamma X''^\beta T^0 \\ &\quad + \sum_{r=|\beta+\gamma|\leq p-1} \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta! \gamma!} (X''_j X'^\beta X''^\gamma \phi) X'^\gamma X''^\beta T^{p-|\beta+\gamma|} \\ &\quad - \sum_{r=|\beta+\gamma|\leq p} \gamma_j \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta! \gamma!} (X'^\beta X''^\gamma \phi) X'^{\gamma-e_j} X''^\beta T^{p-|\beta+\gamma-e_j|} \end{aligned}$$

The last term may be rewritten, replacing  $\gamma-e_j$  by  $\gamma$ , noting that this term is missing when  $r=0$  (since then all  $\gamma_j$  are zero):

$$- \sum_{r=|\beta+\gamma|\leq p-1} \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta! \gamma!} (X'^\beta X''^\gamma \phi) X'^\gamma X''^\beta T^{p-|\beta+\gamma|}$$



so that we have:

$$[X_j'', T_\Phi] = \sum_{|\beta+\gamma|=p} \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta! \gamma!} (X_j'' X'^\beta X''^\gamma \varphi) X'^\gamma X''^\beta \\ + \sum_{r=|\beta+\gamma| \leq p-1} \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta! \gamma!} ([X_j'', X'^\beta] X''^\gamma \varphi) X'^\gamma X''^\beta T^{p-|\beta+\gamma|}$$

The first term above is the same type of error term as was discussed in proving the first part of the Lemma. The second term above may be written as:

$$- \sum_{r=|\beta+\gamma| \leq p-1} \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta! \gamma!} \beta_j (X'^{\beta-e_j} X''^\gamma T \varphi) X'^\gamma X''^{\beta-e_j} T^{p-|\gamma+\beta-e_j|-1} \circ X_j'' \\ = \sum_{r=|\beta+\gamma| \leq p-1} \frac{(-1)^{|\beta|}}{\beta! \gamma!} (X'^\beta X''^\gamma T \varphi) X'^\gamma X''^\beta T^{p-1-|\beta+\gamma|} \circ X_j''$$

(replacing  $\beta-e_j$  by  $\beta$ ). But this last is nothing but  $(T^{p-1})_{T_\Phi} \circ X_j''$ .

Let  $N$  be fixed for now. We nest  $[[\log_2 N]]$  open sets:

$$V_1 = W_0 \subset \subset W_1 \subset \subset \dots \subset \subset W_{[[\log_2 N]]} = U_0$$

(where  $[[\log_2 N]]$  denotes the integral part of  $\log_2 N$ ), and choose functions  $\psi_j$ ,  $\varphi_j$  and  $\chi_j$  in  $C_0^\infty(W_{j+1})$  with  $\psi_j=1$  near  $\bar{W}_j$ ,  $\varphi_j=1$  near  $\text{supp } \psi_j$ , and  $\chi_j=1$  near  $\text{supp } \varphi_j$  with specified bounds on their derivatives up to order  $2N_j$  where

$$N_j = N/2^j.$$

Namely, we choose the  $W_j$  in such a way that if  $d = \text{dist}(V_1, U_0^{\text{comp}})$ , then  $d_j = \text{dist}(W_j, W_{j+1}^{\text{comp}}) = d/2^{j+1}$ . Then the  $\psi_j$ ,  $\varphi_j$  and  $\chi_j$  may be chosen (cf. [16]) so that

$$|D^\gamma(\psi_j, \varphi_j, \text{ or } \chi_j)| \leq (K d_j^{-1})^{|\gamma|} N_j^{|\gamma|} \quad \text{if } |\gamma| \leq 2N_j$$

with  $K$  independent of  $N$  (but depending on  $V_1$  and  $U_0$ ). These families of cut-off functions are just dilations of those introduced by Ehrenpreis and used by Hörmander, Andersson, and others.

Since  $\psi_0=1$  in  $V_1 (=W_0)$ , for  $a+b$  less than  $N_0$  but  $a > d$ , we estimate

$$\|X^a T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2(V_1)} \quad \text{by} \quad \|X^d \psi_0 X^{a-d} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2}$$

and use the *a priori* estimate (6.4) on this. On the right there will be fewer  $X$ 's:

(7.5) PROPOSITION. — *There exists a constant  $\tilde{C}$  depending on  $f$  but independent of  $\alpha$ ,  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$  and  $N$  so that if  $a+b \leq N_0$ ,*

$$\|X^a T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2(W_0)} / N_0^{a+b} \leq \tilde{C}^{N_0} (d_0^{-1})^{N_0} (1 + \sup_{\substack{d'+b' \leq N_0 \\ d' \leq d \\ b'-b \leq (a-d')/2}} \|X^{d'} T^{b'} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(\text{supp } \psi_0)}) / N_0^{d'+b'}.$$

*Proof.* — Using (6.4) we have

$$(7.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \|X^d \psi_0 X^{a-d} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2} &\leq C(\|L_\alpha \psi_0 X^{a-d} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2} + \|\psi_0 X^{a-d} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2}) \\ &\leq C(\|\psi_0 X^{a-d} T^b L_\alpha u_\alpha\|_{L^2} + \|\psi_0 X^{a-d} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2} \\ &\quad + \sum_{|I|=d} (c'_1 + c''_1 |\alpha|) \|[X_I, \psi_0 X^{a-d}] T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2}). \end{aligned}$$

Here we have written (non-uniquely)

$$(7.7) \quad L_\alpha = \sum_{|I|=d} (c'_1 X_I + c''_1 \alpha X_I)$$

with constants  $c'_1$  and  $c''_1$ . Next

$$[X^d, \psi_0 X^{a-d}] = [X^d, \psi_0] X^{a-d} + \psi_0 [X^d, X^{a-d}]$$

consists of terms of the form  $X^i \psi'_0 X^{a-i-1}$  ( $i < d$ , one for each  $i$ ) arising from the first term on the right above and at most  $d$  times  $a-d$  terms  $\psi_0 X^{a-2} T$  from the second. To avoid constantly commuting  $X$ 's to the left, we note that for  $i < d$ :

$$\|X^i \psi_0 X^{a-i} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2} \leq \|X^d \psi_0 X^{a-d} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2} + \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} \|X^j \psi'_0 X^{a-j-1} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2}.$$

Thus we may generalize (7.6) to:

$$(7.8) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{i \leq d} \|X^i \psi_0 X^{a-i} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2} &\leq C(\|\psi_0 X^{a-d} T^b f\|_{L^2} \\ &\quad + \sum_{i < d} \|X^i \psi'_0 X^{a-i-1} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2} + C(a-d) \sum_{i \leq d} \|X^i \psi_0 X^{a-i-2} T^{b+1} u_\alpha\|_{L^2}) \end{aligned}$$

with a new constant  $C$  (depending on  $d$ , but uniform in  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$ ), and now  $X^e$  may denote any  $X_I$  with  $|I| \leq e$ .

We iterate this process (with  $a$  replaced by  $a-1$ ,  $\psi_0$  by  $\psi'_0$ , or with  $a$  by  $a-2$  and  $b$  by  $b+1$ ) on each term which still has at least  $d+1$   $X$ 's, [except the first term, of course, since once a term contains  $f(x)$ , there is no need to iterate further]. One type of term, after  $a$  iterations, will be (bounded by)

$$C^a (a-d)^k \sum_{i \leq d} \|X^i \psi_0^{(r)} X^{a-r-2k-i} T^{b+k} u_\alpha\|_{L^2}$$

for some  $k, r$  with  $a-r-2k \leq d$ , and there will be at most  $(2d+1)^a$  such terms.

The other terms will all contain  $f$ . These, again at most  $(2d)^a$  of them, will be of the form

$$C^a (a-d)^k \|\psi_0^{(r)} X^{a-r-2k-d} T^{b+k} f\|_{L^2}$$

In view of the bounds on derivatives of  $\psi_0$ , and the real analyticity of  $f$  in  $U_0$ , then, (7.8) yields:

$$(7.9) \quad \sum_{i \leq d} \|X^i \psi_0 X^{a-i} T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2} \leq C^a \sup_{0 \leq a-2k-r=d' \leq d} a^k (K d_0^{-1})^r N_0^r \|X^{d'} T^{b+k} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(\text{supp } \psi_0)} + C^a \sup_{2k+r \leq a-d} a^k (K d_0^{-1})^r N_0^r K_f^{a-r-k-d+b+1} (a-r-k-d+b)!.$$

(The value of  $C$ , it should be clear by now, will change from estimate to estimate, but remain uniform in  $\alpha$ ,  $|\alpha|=\varepsilon$  and independent of  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $N$  as well as  $f$ .) This leads quickly to (7.5) since in the first term on the right in (7.9) we may observe that  $a^k N_0^r N_0^{-(a+b)} \leq N_0^{r+k-a-b} \leq N_0^{-d'-b-k}$  if  $d'=a-r-2k$  and for the second term on the right in (7.9) we use  $a^k N_0^r (a-r-k-d+b)! N_0^{-a-b} \leq N_0^{k+r+a-r-d+b-a-b} \leq 1$ . The strings of constants that build up,  $C^a K^r$  for the first term in (7.9) and  $C^a K^r K_f^{a-r-k-d+b+1}$  for the second, are both bounded by  $C^{N_0}$  for a suitable new constant uniform in  $\alpha$ ,  $|\alpha|=\varepsilon$ ,  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $N$ .

For  $d' < d$ , further iterations of this type will be useless in proving analyticity, since effective use of (6.4) requires essentially the presence of at least  $d$   $X$ 's. Using (7.2), however, we may continue profitably. For we have:

$$(7.10) \quad \|X^{d'} T^{b'} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(\text{supp } \psi_0)} \leq \|X^{d'} (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} u\|_{L^2}$$

since  $\varphi_0 = 1$  near  $\text{supp } \psi_0$ , so  $(T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} = T^{b'}$  in  $\text{supp } \psi_0$ .

(7.11) PROPOSITION. — *There exists a constant  $\tilde{C}$  depending on  $f$  but not on  $\alpha$ ,  $|\alpha|=\varepsilon$  or  $N$  so that if  $a+b \leq N_0$ :*

$$\sup_{\substack{d' \leq d \\ b'+d' \leq N_0 \\ 0 \leq b'-b \leq (a-d')/2}} \|X^{d'} T^{b'} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(\text{supp } \psi_0)} / N_0^{b'+d'} \leq \tilde{C}^{N_0} (d_0^{-1})^{N_0} (1 + \sup_{a'' \leq b+d+(a-d')/2} \|X^{a''} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(\text{supp } \varphi_0)} / N_1^{a''})$$

*Proof.* — Since  $X_k^* = -X_k$ , integration by parts allows us to improve (6.4) by including terms with fewer  $X$  derivations on the left:

$$(6.4)' \quad \sum_{d' \leq d} \|X^{d'} v\|_{L^2} \leq C(\|L_\alpha v\|_{L^2} + \|v\|_{L^2}), \quad v \in C_0^\infty(U_0).$$

If we apply this to  $v = (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} u_\alpha$ , we obtain, uniformly in  $\alpha$ ,

$$(7.12) \quad \sum_{d' \leq d} \|X^{d'} (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} u_\alpha\|_{L^2} \leq C(\|L_\alpha (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} u_\alpha\|_{L^2} + \|(T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} u_\alpha\|_{L^2}) \leq C(\|(T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} f\|_{L^2} + \|[L_\alpha, (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0}] u_\alpha\|_{L^2} + \|(T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} u_\alpha\|_{L^2}).$$

The commutator may be expanded using Lemma (7.3) and (7.7):

$$[L_{\alpha}, (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0}] = \sum_{|I|=d} (c'_I + c''_I \alpha) [X_I, (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0}]$$

and an application of Lemma (7.3) gives:

$$\begin{aligned} [X_I, (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0}] &= [X_{i_1} X_{i_2} \dots X_{i_d}, (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0}] \\ (7.13) \quad &= \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} X_{i_1} \dots X_{i_j} [X_{i_{j+1}}, (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0}] X_{i_{j+2}} \dots X_{i_d} \\ &= -A \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} X_{i_1} \dots X_{i_j} (T^{b'-1})_{T\varphi_0} X_{i_{j+1}} \dots X_{i_d} + C^{b'} \text{ terms } \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} X^j \varphi_0^{(b'+1)} X^{d-j-1+b'} / b' ! \end{aligned}$$

where A may be 0 or 1, depending on whether  $X_{i_{j+1}}$  is an  $X'$  or an  $X''$ . We shall assume that  $A=1$  below; when it is zero, that term just doesn't appear. Now to continue to use (6.4) or (6.4)' on the right hand side above we would have to commute all  $X$ 's to the left of  $(T^{b'-1})_{T\varphi_0}$ . This would introduce more terms of the same type, with  $X$ 's on both sides. So we choose to estimate generally all divisions of the  $X$ 's; i.e., we choose to estimate  $\sum_{i \leq d' \leq d} \|X^i (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} X^{d'-i} u_{\alpha}\|_{L^2}$ . In doing so, we first attempt to bring all  $X$ 's to

the left [and then use (7.12)]—the above expansion of the bracket will yield an error which can be estimated by such a *sum* (over  $i \leq d'$ ) but with smaller  $b'$ , together with terms free of  $T$  altogether and then of course the right hand side of (7.12) followed by another use of (7.13). This gives:

$$\begin{aligned} (7.14) \quad \sum_{i \leq d' \leq d} \|X^i (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} X^{d'-i} u_{\alpha}\|_{L^2} &\leq C \left( \sum_{i \leq d' \leq d} \|X^i (T^{b'-1})_{T\varphi_0} X^{d'-i} u_{\alpha}\|_{L^2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \|(T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} f\|_{L^2} + \|(T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} u_{\alpha}\|_{L^2} + C^{b'} \sum_{j \leq d} \|X^j \varphi_0^{(b'+1)} X^{d-j-1+b'} u_{\alpha}\|_{L^2} / b' ! \right) \end{aligned}$$

We want to iterate this to reduce  $b'$  still further. But first we must handle the third term on the right. By the definition;

$$\begin{aligned} (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} &= (T^{b'-1})_{\varphi_0} T + C^{b'} \text{ terms } (\varphi_0^{(b'+1)} X^{b'} / b' !) \\ &= 2 \text{ terms } (T^{b'-1})_{\varphi_0} X^2 + C^{b'} \text{ terms } (\varphi_0^{(b'+1)} X^{b'} / b' !). \end{aligned}$$

If we (abusively) now write  $\varphi'_0$  for  $T\varphi_0$ ,  $X\varphi_0$ , or  $\varphi_0$  itself, this expansion of  $(T^{b'})_{\varphi_0}$  allows the third term in (7.14) to be absorbed by the first and fourth terms (with a new constant):

$$\begin{aligned} (7.15) \quad \sum_{i \leq d' \leq d} \|X^i (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} X^{d'-i} u_{\alpha}\|_{L^2} &\leq C \left( \sum_{i \leq d' \leq d} \|X^i (T^{b'-1})_{T\varphi_0} X^{d'-i} u_{\alpha}\|_{L^2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \|(T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} f\|_{L^2} + C^{b'} \sum_{j \leq d} \|X^j \varphi_0^{(b'+1)} X^{d-j-1+b'} u_{\alpha}\|_{L^2} / b' ! \right) \end{aligned}$$

Now we may iterate (7.15) by subjecting the first term on the right to (7.15) again, with  $b'$  reduced by one and  $\varphi_0$  replaced by  $\varphi'_0$ . After at most  $b'$  iterations, we obtain  $C^{b'}$  terms, each either

$$(7.16) \quad C^k \|(T^{b'-k})_{\varphi_0^{(k)}} f\|_{L^2} \text{ or } C^k C^{b'} \sum_{j \leq d} \|X^j \varphi_0^{(b'+1)} X^{d-j-1+b'-k} u_\alpha\|_{L^2} / (b'-k) !$$

for some  $k \leq b'$ .

For the first type [in (7.16)] we have [see Definition (7.2) where we have  $|\beta + \gamma| = r \leq p = b' - k$ ]:

$$(T^{b'-k})_{\varphi_0^{(k)}} f = C^{b'-k} \text{ terms, each } \varphi_0^{(k+r)} X^r T^{b'-k-r} f / \rho !$$

for some multi-index  $\rho$  with  $|\rho| = r$ ,  $r \leq b' - k$ . Since  $X$  derivatives of  $f$  have the same type of bounds as ordinary partial derivations,

$$|X_I T^{b_0} f| \leq K_f^{b_0 + |I| + 1} (b_0 + |I|) !$$

in a compact set (despite the coefficients in the  $X$ 's) we have:

$$C^k \|(T^{b'-k})_{\varphi_0^{(k)}} f\|_{L^2} \leq C^{b'} \sup_{k+r \leq b'} (K d_0^{-1})^{k+r+1} N_0^{k+r} K_f^{b'-k} (b'-k) ! / r ! \leq (CKK_f d_0^{-1})^{b'+1} N_0^{b'}$$

[recall that  $r+k \leq b'$  so that  $(b'-k) ! / r ! \leq C^{b'} N_0^{b'-k-r}$  for  $b' \leq N_0$ ].

Thus we obtain, from (7.16) and the above,

$$(7.17) \quad \sum_{d' \leq d} \|X^{d'} (T^{b'})_{\varphi_0} u_\alpha\|_{L^2} \leq (CKK_f d_0^{-1})^{b'+1} N_0^{b'} \\ + C^{b'} \sup_{k \leq b'} \sum_{j \leq d} \|X^j \varphi_0^{(b'+1)} X^{d-j-1+b'-k} u_\alpha\|_{L^2} / (b'-k) !$$

To bring this last term into a clearer form we commute  $\varphi_0^{(b'+1)}$  to the left and bring it out of the norm. Since  $[X^j, \varphi_0^{(b'+1)}] = C^j$  terms, each  $\varphi_0^{(b'+1+j')} X^{j-j'}$ ,  $j' \leq j$  we have:

$$C^{b'} \|X^j \varphi_0^{(b'+1)} X^{d-j-1+b'-k} u_\alpha\|_{L^2} / (b'-k) ! \\ \leq C^{d+b'} \sup_{j' \leq j} (K d_0^{-1})^{b'+1+j'} N_0^{b'+1+j'} \|X^{d-j'-1+b'-k} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(\text{supp } \varphi_0)} / (b'-k) ! \\ \leq C^{N_0} (K d_0^{-1})^{N_0} N_0^{b'+d} \|X^{d-j'-1+b'-k} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(\text{supp } \varphi_0)} / N_0^{d-j'-1+b'-k}$$

since  $N_0^{b'+1+j'} N_0^{d-j'-1+b'-k} / N_0^{b'+d} (b'-k) ! \leq e^{N_0}$  if  $b' + d \leq N_0$ .

Together with (7.10) and (7.17), this proves Proposition (7.11), since  $b' - b \leq (a - d')/2$  implies  $d + b'(-j' - 1 - k) \leq d + b + (a - d')/2$ .

Next, we once more reduce  $X$  derivatives. Actually, this could all have been done at once, as in [16], but breaking it down into three stages should render the proof more readable; this third stage is needed to reduce the total order by half. An application of (7.5) to the right hand side of (7.11) gives:

(7.18) PROPOSITION. — *There exists a constant  $\tilde{C}$  depending on  $f$  but not on  $\alpha$ ,  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$  or  $N$  so that if  $a + b \leq N_0$ :*

$$\sup_{\substack{d' \leq d \\ b' + d' \leq N_0 \\ b' - b \leq (a - d')/2}} \|X^{d'} T^{b'} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(\text{supp } \psi_0)} / N_0^{b' + d'} \leq \tilde{C}^{N_0} (d_0^{-1})^{2N_0} \left(1 + \sup_{\substack{d'' \leq d \\ b'' = (b + d + (a - 3d'')/2)/2}} \|X^{d''} T^{b''} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(\text{supp } \chi_0)} / N_1^{b'' + d''}\right)$$

Combining (7.18) with (7.5) gives, for  $a_0 + b_0 \leq 2N_0$

$$(7.19) \quad \|X^{a_0} T^{b_0} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(W_0)} / N_0^{a_0 + b_0} \leq \tilde{C}^{N_0} (d_0^{-1})^{3N_0} \left(1 + \sup_{a_1 + b_1 \leq d + (a_0 + b_0)/2} \|X^{a_1} T^{b_1} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(W_1)} / N_1^{a_1 + b_1}\right)$$

Actually, one calculates  $a_1 + b_1 \leq (2b_0 + a_0 + 3d)/4$ , but  $d + (a_0 + b_0)/2$  will suffice.

(7.20) PROPOSITION. — *There exists a constant  $\tilde{C}$ , depending on  $f$  but not on  $\alpha$ ,  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$  or  $N$  such that for  $j \leq [\log_2 N]$  and for  $a_j + b_j \leq 2N_j$ :*

$$\|X^{a_j} T^{b_j} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(W_j)} / N_j^{a_j + b_j} \leq \tilde{C}^{N_j} (d_j^{-1})^{3N_j} \left(1 + \sup_{a_{j+1} + b_{j+1} \leq d + (a_j + b_j)/2} \|X^{a_{j+1}} T^{b_{j+1}} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(W_{j+1})} / N_{j+1}^{a_{j+1} + b_{j+1}}\right).$$

*Proof.* — Exactly the same proof as the proof of (7.19) applies, everything starting with  $a_j, b_j, W_j, N_j, d_j$ , etc. instead of  $a_0, b_0, W_0, N_0, d_0$ , etc.

If we now start with  $a_0 + b_0 \leq N$  and apply (7.20) repeatedly, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{a_0 + b_0 \leq N_0} \|X^{a_0} T^{b_0} u_\alpha\|_{L^2(W_0)} / N_0^{a_0 + b_0} &\leq \tilde{C}^{N_0} (d_0^{-1})^{3N_0} \left(1 + \tilde{C}^{N_1} (d_1^{-1})^{3N_1} \left(1 + \tilde{C}^{N_2} (d_2^{-1})^{3N_2} (1 + \dots \right.\right. \\ &\quad \left.\left. + (1 + \tilde{C}^{2d} (d_{[\log_2 N]}^{-1})^{3[\log_2 N]} \sup_{a+b \leq 2d+1} \|X^a T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2(U_0)}) \dots\right)\right) \\ &\leq (2C)^{\Sigma N_j} \Pi (d_j^{-1})^{3N_j} \left(1 + \sup_{\substack{a+b \leq 2d+1 \\ |\alpha| = \varepsilon}} \|X^a T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2(U_0)}\right), \end{aligned}$$

since  $(\dots (((a_0 + b_0)/2 + d)/2 + d)/2 + d)/2 + d \leq 2d + 1$  after  $[\log_2 N_0]$  iterations.

Only in this last line does a supremum over  $\alpha$ ,  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$  enter. Now  $\Sigma N_j \leq 2N$  and we also have the bound:

$$\Pi (d_j^{-1})^{3N_j} \leq C^N$$

since  $\Pi (2^j)^{1/2^j} \leq C$ . The supremum over  $|\alpha| = \varepsilon$  and  $a + b \leq 2d$  of  $\|X^a T^b u_\alpha\|_{L^2(U_0)}$  is easily seen to be finite in view of the uniform boundedness of the  $k_\alpha$  (see the definition following Lemma 4.1), and this finishes the proof of (7.1).

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