

36. Branching of Singularities for Degenerate Hyperbolic Operators and Stokes Phenomena. II

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Recently, one of the authors revealed a closed connection between branching of singularities and Stokes phenomena for a certain class of degenerate hyperbolic operators ([2]). We generalize his result to the following type of degenerate hyperbolic linear partial differential operators P in $\mathbf{R}_t \times \mathbf{R}_x^n$:

$$P = \sum_{i=0}^m P_{m-i}(t, x, D_t, D_x),$$

$$P_m(t, x, \tau, \xi) = \prod_{i=1}^m (\tau - t^i \lambda_i(t, x, \xi)),$$

$$P_{m-i}(t, x, \tau, \xi) = \sum_{j=0}^{m-i} t^{\sigma(i,j)} P_{ij}(t, x, \xi) \tau^{m-i-j},$$

where $D_t = \frac{\partial}{\sqrt{-1}\partial t}$, $D_x = (D_{x_1}, \dots, D_{x_n}) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\sqrt{-1}\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\sqrt{-1}\partial x_n} \right)$, $\ell \in \mathbf{N}$, $\sigma(i, j) = \max(j\ell - i, 0)$, $\lambda_i(t, x, \xi) \in C^\infty(\mathbf{R}_t \times \mathbf{R}_x^n \times \mathbf{R}_\xi^n \setminus \{0\}, \mathbf{R} \setminus \{0\})$ are homogeneous of degree 1 with respect to ξ , and $P_{ij}(t, x, \xi) \in C^\infty(\mathbf{R}_t \times \mathbf{R}_x^n \times \mathbf{R}_\xi^n)$ are homogeneous polynomials of degree j with respect to ξ . Moreover, $\lambda_i(t, x, \xi)$ satisfy $|\lambda_i(t, x, \xi) - \lambda_j(t, x, \xi)| \geq C|\xi|$ ($t \in \mathbf{R}$, $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$, $\xi \in \mathbf{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$) for some $C > 0$ if $i \neq j$.

As for P , Uryu [8] established the \mathcal{E} wellposedness of the Cauchy problem and Nakamura-Uryu [4] and Shinkai [6] illustrated the construction of a backward and a forward parametrices of the Cauchy problem with initial data at $t=0$ in terms of Fourier integral operators.

In this note we show that the equation $Pu=0$ possesses a solution whose singularities branch at $t=0$. The outline of the proof is as follows. According to the construction of parametrix given by Nakamura-Uryu [4], the main parts of the amplitudes which consist the parametrix are determined by a fundamental system of solutions of the ordinary differential operator

$$L = \sum_{i=0}^m \sum_{j=0}^{m-i} t^{\sigma(i,j)} P_{ij}(0, x, \xi) D_t^{m-i-j}.$$

Its asymptotic expansions for large $|\xi|$ considered in $t > 0$ and $t < 0$ are different (namely, Stokes phenomena occurs at $t=0$). The one is different from the other by multiplying Stokes multipliers. Observing