

68. 2-nd Microlocalization and Conical Refraction

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§ 1. Introduction. The phenomenon of conical refraction has long been observed by physicists. It is attributed to the non-uniformity of multiplicities to Maxwell equation in the crystal and studied in the framework of Microlocal Analysis by Melrose-Uhlmann [8] and P. Laubin [5], [6].

We employ the theory of 2-microlocalization developed by M. Kashiwara and Y. Laurent (see [2], [4]) and gain a new insight about the phenomenon.

Explicitly, let P be a microdifferential operator defined in a neighborhood of $\rho_0 \in \sqrt{-1}T^*\mathbf{R}^n$, which satisfies the following conditions.

(1) P has a real principal symbol p .

Let $\Sigma_1 = \{\rho \in \sqrt{-1}T^*\mathbf{R}^n; p(\rho) = 0\}$ and $\Sigma_2 = \{\rho \in \Sigma_1; dp(\rho) = 0\}$.

(2) Σ_2 is a regular involutory submanifold in $\sqrt{-1}T^*\mathbf{R}^n$ through ρ_0 of codimension $d \geq 3$.

(3) Hess $p(\rho)$ has rank d with positivity 1 if $\rho \in \Sigma_2$.

Moreover we assume

(4) P has regular singularities along $\Sigma_2^{\mathbb{C}}$ in the sense of Kashiwara-Oshima [3], where $\Sigma_2^{\mathbb{C}}$ denotes a complexification of Σ_2 in $T^*\mathbf{C}^n$.

Our main interest is the propagation of singularities on Σ_2 for the equation $Pu = 0$, which can be transformed by a quantized contact transformation into

$$(5) \quad P_0 u = \left(D_1^2 - \sum_{i,j=2}^d A^{ij}(x, D) D_i D_j + (\text{lower}) \right) u = 0.$$

defined in a neighborhood of $\rho_1 = (0, \sqrt{-1}dx_n)$. Here A^{ij} are of order 0 with $(\sigma(A^{ij}))$ positive definite. We remark that in this case $\Sigma_2 = \{(x, \sqrt{-1}\xi); \xi_1 = \dots = \xi_d = 0\}$ and that P_0 has regular singularities along $\Sigma_2^{\mathbb{C}}$.

We study (5) 2-microlocally along Σ_2 . After transforming (5) by a quantized homogeneous bicanonical transformation, which is wider than quantized contact transformations, we give the canonical form of (5) as $D_1 u = 0$. Then we can easily obtain a theorem about the propagation of 2-microlocal singularities.

§ 2. Notation. Let X be a complex manifold and Λ be a regular involutory submanifold of T^*X . Λ is embedded naturally into $\Lambda \times \Lambda$. $\tilde{\Lambda}$ denotes the union of all bicharacteristics of $\Lambda \times \Lambda$ that pass through Λ . $\mathcal{E}_{\tilde{\Lambda}}^{2,\infty}$ is the sheaf on $T_{\tilde{\Lambda}}^*\tilde{\Lambda}$ of 2-microdifferential operators constructed by Y. Laurent [4].

Let M be a real analytic manifold whose complexification is X . Σ denotes a regular involutory submanifold of T_M^*X , whose complexification