

105. Boundedness of Singular Integral Operators of Calderón Type

By Takafumi MURAI

Department of Mathematics, College of General Education,
Nagoya University

(Communicated by Kôzaku YOSIDA, M. J. A., Oct. 12, 1983)

§ 1. Introduction. Let $K(x, y)$ be a kernel satisfying $|K(x, y)| \leq \text{Const.}/|x-y|$ for any pair (x, y) of real numbers with $x \neq y$. We say that $K(x, y)$ is of type 2 if $Kf(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\epsilon < |x-y| < 1/\epsilon} K(x, y)f(y)dy$ exists almost everywhere for any $f \in L^2$ and $\|K\|_2 = \sup \{ \|Kf\|_2 / \|f\|_2 ; f \in L^2 \} < \infty$, where L^2 denotes the space of square integrable functions $f(x)$ on the real line with norm $\|f\|_2 = \left\{ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(x)|^2 dx \right\}^{1/2}$. For the harmonic analysis on curves, A. Calderón investigated kernels $C[\phi](x, y) = 1/\{(x-y) + i(\phi(x) - \phi(y))\}$ for real-valued functions $\phi(x)$ and, in [2], he showed that $C[\phi]$ is of type 2 as long as $\|\phi'\|_\infty = \text{ess. sup}_x |\phi'(x)|$ is sufficiently small. Using this theorem he also studied kernels

$$(1) \quad C[h, \phi](x, y) = \frac{1}{x-y} h \left\{ \frac{\phi(x) - \phi(y)}{x-y} \right\}$$

for complex-valued functions $h(t)$ and real-valued functions $\phi(x)$. In [5], R. Coifman-A. McIntosh-Y. Meyer showed that $C[\phi]$ is of type 2 if $\|\phi'\|_\infty < \infty$. Using this theorem, R. Coifman-G. David-Y. Meyer showed, in [4], the following

Theorem. *If $h(t)$ is infinitely differentiable, then $C[h, \phi]$ is of type 2 as long as $\|\phi'\|_\infty < \infty$.*

The purpose of this paper is to give a new proof of this theorem. We shall deduce this theorem from Calderón's theorem and so-called "good λ inequalities". The author expresses his thanks to Prof. A. Uchiyama, through whose notebook the author learned recent Calderón's lecture on $C[\phi]$.

§ 2. Proof of Theorem. Without loss of generality we may assume that $h(t)$ has a compact support. Let $\hat{h}(\xi) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i\xi t} h(t) dt$. Then we have formally

$$(2) \quad C[h, \phi](x, y) = \text{Const.} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{h}(\xi) C[e^{i\xi \cdot}, \phi](x, y) d\xi,$$

and hence it is natural to investigate kernels $K[\psi] = C[e^{i\xi \cdot}, \psi]$ for real-valued functions $\psi(x)$. For a locally integrable function $f(x)$, we put

$K[\psi]^* f(x) = \sup \left\{ \left| \int_{\epsilon < |x-y| < \eta} K[\psi](x, y) f(y) dy \right| ; 0 < \epsilon < \eta \right\}$. We say that

$K[\psi]^*$ is of weak type 1 if there exists a constant A such that, for any integrable function $f(x)$ and $\lambda > 0$,

$$(3) \quad |\{x; K[\psi]^* f(x) > \lambda\}| \leq (A/\lambda) \|f\|_1,$$

where $|\cdot|$ denotes the 1-dimensional Lebesgue measure and $\|f\|_1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(x)| dx$. The lower bound of such A 's is denoted by $\|K[\psi]^*\|_w$.

Here are two lemmas necessary for the proof; Lemma 1 is easily deduced from good λ inequalities [3].

Lemma 1. $\|K[\psi]\|_2 \leq \text{Const.} \{1 + \|\psi'\|_{\infty} + \|K[\psi]^*\|_w\}$.

Lemma 2 (Calderón [2]). *There exists an absolute constant B such that $\|K[\psi]^*\|_w \leq B$ as long as $\|\psi'\|_{\infty} \leq 1$.*

We put $\rho(\alpha) = \sup \{\|K[\psi]^*\|_w; \|\psi'\|_{\infty} \leq \alpha\}$ ($\alpha > 0$). Using good λ inequalities [3], we shall show the following inequality:

$$(4) \quad \rho(\alpha) \leq C\rho(p\alpha) + (C\alpha + B) \quad (\alpha > 0),$$

where $p = 2/3$ and C is an absolute constant.

Once (4) is known, we have, with an absolute constant M , $\rho(\alpha) \leq \text{Const.} (1 + \alpha^M)$ ($\alpha > 0$). This inequality and Lemma 1 show that $\|K[\psi]\|_2 \leq \text{Const.} \{1 + \|\psi'\|_{\infty} + \|\psi'\|_{\infty}^M\}$. The above theorem immediately follows from this inequality.

From now we prove (4). If $0 < \alpha \leq 1$, then Lemma 2 gives the required inequality. Let $\alpha > 1$ and $\psi(x)$ satisfy $\|\psi'\|_{\infty} \leq \alpha$. Given a real-valued integrable function $f(x)$ with compact support, we put

$$(5) \quad U(\lambda) = \{x; K[\psi]^* f(x) > \lambda\}, \quad \sigma(\lambda) = |U(\lambda)| \quad (\lambda > 0).$$

We fix for a while $\lambda > 0$. Since $K[\psi]^* f(x)$ is lower semi-continuous and $\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} K[\psi]^* f(x) = 0$, $U(\lambda)$ is an open set with finite measure. Hence we can write $U(\lambda) = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} I_j$ with a sequence $\mathcal{M}(\lambda) = \{I_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ of mutually disjoint finite open intervals. Let $I = (a, b) \in \mathcal{M}(\lambda)$. Then a standard argument yields the following lemma. (See for example [3].)

Lemma 3. *There exists an absolute constant C_1 such that, for any $0 < \gamma \leq 1/C_1\alpha$,*

$$(6) \quad |x \in I; K[\psi]^* f(x) > q\lambda, f^*(x) \leq \gamma\lambda| \leq \tau_{\psi}(\lambda/100, \gamma\lambda) + |I|/100,$$

where $q = 11/10$, $f^*(x)$ denotes the maximal function [7, p. 4] of $f(x)$,

$$(7) \quad \tau_{\psi}(\lambda/100, \gamma\lambda) = |x \in I; K[\psi]^*(\chi f)(x) > \lambda/100, f^*(x) \leq \gamma\lambda|$$

and $\chi(x)$ is the characteristic function of I .

Lemma 4. *There exists a real-valued function $\theta(x)$ with $\|\theta'\|_{\infty} \leq p\alpha$ such that*

$$(8) \quad \tau_{\psi}(\lambda/100, \gamma\lambda) \leq \tau_{\theta}(\lambda/200, \gamma\lambda) + 4|I|/5$$

as long as $0 < \gamma \leq 1/C_2\alpha$, where C_2 is an absolute constant.

Proof. Given $\gamma > 0$, we may assume that $f^*(d) \leq \gamma\lambda$ for some $d \in I$. Since $K[\psi]^* f = K[\psi - \psi(a)]^* f = K[-\psi + \psi(a)]^* f$, we may assume that $\psi(a) = 0$ and $\psi(b) \geq 0$. Put $\tilde{\theta}(x) = \psi(x) + \alpha(x - a)/3$. Then $\|\tilde{\theta}'\|_{\infty} \leq 2p\alpha$,

$\tilde{\theta}(a)=0$ and $\tilde{\theta}(b)\geq\alpha|I|/3$. Since $K[\psi]^*f=K[\tilde{\theta}]^*f$, we have $\tau_\psi(\lambda/100, r\lambda)=\tau_{\tilde{\theta}}(\lambda/100, r\lambda)$. We define $\theta^*(x)$ by "the running water" of $\theta(x)$:

$$(9) \quad \theta^*(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & (x < a) \\ \inf \{ \phi(x) ; \phi \geq \tilde{\theta} \text{ and } \phi' \geq 0 \text{ on } [a, b] \} & (a \leq x \leq b) \\ \theta^*(b) & (x > b). \end{cases}$$

Then $\theta^*(x)$ is a non-decreasing continuous function satisfying $\{x \in I ; \theta^*(x) > \tilde{\theta}(x)\} \subset \{x \in I ; \theta^{*'}(x) = 0\}$. Since $\|\theta^{*'}\|_\infty \leq 2p\alpha$, $\theta^*(a) = 0$ and $\theta^*(b) \geq \alpha|I|/3$, we have $|V| \geq |I|/4$, where $V = \{x \in I ; \theta^*(x) = \tilde{\theta}(x)\}$. For any $y \in I - V$, we have $|\tilde{\theta}(y) - \theta^*(y)| \leq 2\|\tilde{\theta}'\|_\infty \text{dis}(y, V) \leq 4p\alpha \text{dis}(y, V)$, where $\text{dis}(y, V)$ denotes the distance between y and V . Hence, for any $x \in V$,

$$(10) \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |K[\tilde{\theta}](x, y) - K[\theta^*](x, y)| |(\chi f)(y)| dy \leq 4p\alpha \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \{ \text{dis}(y, V) / (x - y)^2 \} |(\chi f)(y)| dy \quad (=4p\alpha M(x), \text{ say}).$$

Now we put $\theta(x) = \theta^*(x) - p\alpha x$. Then $\|\theta'\|_\infty \leq p\alpha$ and $K[\theta]^*f = K[\theta^*]^*f$. Thus

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} \tau_\psi(\lambda/100, r\lambda) &= \tau_{\tilde{\theta}}(\lambda/100, r\lambda) \\ &\leq |x \in V ; K[\tilde{\theta}]^*(\chi f)(x) > \lambda/100, f^*(x) \leq r\lambda| + |I - V| \\ &\leq |x \in V ; K[\theta^*]^*(\chi f)(x) > \lambda/200, f^*(x) \leq r\lambda| \\ &\quad + |x \in V ; 4p\alpha M(x) > \lambda/200| + 3|I|/4 \\ &\leq \tau_{\tilde{\theta}}(\lambda/200, r\lambda) + |x \in V ; 4p\alpha M(x) > \lambda/200| + 3|I|/4. \end{aligned}$$

Let us recall $f^*(d) \leq r\lambda$. Since

$$4p\alpha \int_V M(x) dx \leq 4p\alpha \|\chi f\|_1 \leq \text{Const. } \alpha f^*(d) |I| \leq \text{Const. } \alpha r\lambda |I|,$$

there exists an absolute constant C_2 such that $|x \in V ; 4p\alpha M(x) > \lambda/200| \leq (C_2/100)\alpha r|I|$. Hence (11) gives (8) as long as $0 < r \leq 1/C_2\alpha$. Q.E.D.

By Lemmas 3 and 4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |x \in I ; K[\psi]^*f(x) > q\lambda, f^*(x) \leq r\lambda| \\ \leq \tau_\psi(\lambda/100, r\lambda) + |I|/100 \leq \tau_{\tilde{\theta}}(\lambda/200, r\lambda) + 5|I|/6 \end{aligned}$$

as long as $0 < r \leq 1/C_3\alpha$, where $C_3 = \max\{C_1, C_2\}$. If $f^*(x) > r\lambda$ for all $x \in I$, then $\tau_{\tilde{\theta}}(\lambda/200, r\lambda) = 0$. If $f^*(d) \leq r\lambda$ for some $d \in I$, then we have, with an absolute constant C_4 ,

$$\tau_{\tilde{\theta}}(\lambda/200, r\lambda) \leq \{200\rho(\|\theta'\|_\infty)/\lambda\} \|\chi f\|_1 \leq \{C_4\rho(p\alpha)/\lambda\} f^*(d) |I| \leq C_4 r\rho(p\alpha) |I|.$$

Let $r_0 = 1/\{C_3\alpha + 100C_4\rho(p\alpha)\}$. Then we have, for any $I \in \mathcal{M}(\lambda)$,

$$|x \in I ; K[\psi]^*f(x) > q\lambda, f^*(x) \leq r_0\lambda| \leq r|I|,$$

where $r = 6/7$. Taking the summation over all I in $\mathcal{M}(\lambda)$, we have

$$|x ; K[\psi]^*f(x) > q\lambda, f^*(x) \leq r_0\lambda| \leq r\sigma(\lambda).$$

Hence

$$(12) \quad \sigma(q\lambda) \leq \kappa(r_0\lambda) + r\sigma(\lambda),$$

where $\kappa(r_0\lambda) = |x ; f^*(x) > r_0\lambda|$. Note that $\kappa(r_0\lambda) \leq \{\text{Const.}/r_0\lambda\} \|f\|_1$ ([7, p. 5]). Inequality (12) is valid with λ replaced by λ/q^k ($k \geq 1$). Hence

$$\sigma(\lambda) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^n r^k \kappa(\gamma_0 \lambda / q^k) + r^{n+1} \sigma(\lambda / q^{n+1}) \right\} \leq \left\{ \text{Const.} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (rq)^k \right\} \|f\|_1 / \gamma_0 \lambda.$$

Since $\|K[\psi]^*\|_w$ is dominated by the upper bound of $2\lambda|x; K[\psi]^*f(x) > \lambda/\|f\|_1$ over all $\lambda > 0$ and all real-valued integrable functions $f(x)$ with compact support, we have, with an absolute constant C , $\|K[\psi]^*\|_w \leq \text{Const.}/\gamma_0 \leq C\rho(p\alpha) + (C\alpha + B)$. Since $\psi(x)$ is arbitrary as long as $\|\psi'\|_{\infty} \leq \alpha$, we have (4). This completes the proof.

References

- [1] A. P. Calderón: Commutators of singular integral operators. Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA, **53**, 1092–1099 (1965).
- [2] —: Cauchy integrals on Lipschitz curves and related operators. *ibid.*, **74**, 1324–1327 (1977).
- [3] R. R. Coifman and Y. Meyer: On commutators of singular integrals and bilinear singular integrals. Trans. Amer. Math. Soc., **212**, 315–331 (1975).
- [4] R. R. Coifman, G. David, and Y. Meyer: La solution des conjectures de Calderón. Adv. Math., **48**, 144–148 (1983).
- [5] R. R. Coifman, A. McIntosh, and Y. Meyer: L'intégrale de Cauchy définit un opérateur borné sur L^2 pour les courbes lipschitziennes. Ann. Math., **116**, 361–387 (1982).
- [6] —: Estimations L^2 pour les noyaux singuliers. Conference on Harmonic Analysis in Honor of Antoni Zygmund. Wadworth, California, pp. 287–294 (1982).
- [7] E. M. Stein: Singular Integrals and Differentiability Properties of Functions. Princeton Univ. Press (1970).