

158. Fundamental Solution of Partial Differential Operators of Schrödinger's Type. II

The Space-Time Approach

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§ 1. Introduction. In the previous note [2] we constructed the fundamental solution of $i\nu\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + 1/2\Delta$, where Δ is the Laplace operator associated with a Riemannian metric $ds^2 = \sum_{i,j} g_{ij}(x)dx_i dx_j$ in R^n satisfying some conditions. There we made use of discussions of classical orbits in the phase space. In this note discussing in the spacetime, we shall construct the fundamental solution of $\nu i\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \Delta$, $\nu > 0$. This will be closer to the original Feynman's idea [1]. Assumptions will be found in § 2 and results will be found in § 4. In § 3 we shall construct parametrix. The outline of proof will be given in § 5. The main Lemma proof of which is too long to be presented in this short note will be proved in the subsequent paper [3].

§ 2. Assumptions. Let $|x-y|$ be the Euclidean distance from y to x and $r(x, y)$ be the geodesic distance from y to x . Our assumptions are the following ones:

(A-I) for any two points x, y in R^n , there exists unique geodesic joining x to y .

(A-II) the metric ds^2 coincides with the Euclidean metric outside compact set K .

(A-III) there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$(1) \quad |\text{grad}_x (r^2(x, y) - r^2(x, z))| \geq C |y - z|.$$

(A-IV) for any multi-indices α with $|\alpha| \geq 2$, there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$(2) \quad \left| \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^\alpha (r^2(x, y) - r^2(x, z)) \right| \leq C |y - z|.$$

§ 3. Parametrix. We make use of the parametrix of the form

$$(3) \quad E_N(t, x, y) = (\nu/4\pi t i)^{1/2n} \exp(i\nu r^2(x, y)/4t) e(t, x, y),$$

$$(4) \quad e(t, x, y) = \sum_{j=0}^N (it/\nu)^j e_j(x, y).$$

If we use geodesic polar coordinates with center at y , the function

$e_j(x, y)$ is determined in the following manner ;

$$(5) \quad r \frac{d}{dr} e_{j+1} + \left(\frac{1}{2} r \frac{d}{dr} \log \sqrt{g} + j + 1 \right) e_{j+1} = \Delta e_j,$$

$$e_{-1} = 0, \quad e_0(y, y) = 1.$$

The solution of these equations are

$$(6) \quad e_0(x, y) = (g(x)/g(y))^{1/4},$$

$$(7) \quad e_j(x, y) = e_0(x, y) r(x, y)^{-j} \int_0^{r(x, y)} \frac{r(z, y)^{j-1}}{e_0(z, y)} \Delta_z e_{j-1}(z, y) dr(z, y).$$

Integral is taken along the geodesic joining x to y . From this construction we have

$$(8) \quad \left(\nu i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \Delta \right) E_N(t, x, y)$$

$$= -(\nu/4\pi i t)^{1/2n} (it/\nu)^N \exp(i\nu r^2(x, y)/4t) \Delta e_N(x, y).$$

Since $e_0(x, y) = g(y)^{-1/4}$ if $x \notin K$ and $=g(x)^{1/4}$ if $y \notin K$, we have, for any multi-indices α, β ,

$$(9) \quad \left| \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^\alpha \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right)^\beta e_j(x, y) \right| \leq C$$

with $j=0$. Making use of (7) we see easily that (9) holds for any $j=0, 1, \dots, N$.

§ 4. Results. Let us define an integral transformation $E_N(t)$ by

$$(10) \quad E_N(t)f(x) = \int_{R^n} E_N(t, x, y) f(y) \sqrt{g(y)} dy.$$

Then our results are the following theorems.

Theorem I. $E_N(t)$ is a bounded linear transformation in $L^2(R^n, \sqrt{g}dx)$.

Theorem II (cf. Feyman [1]).

$$(11) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \| E_N(t/k) E_N(t/k) \cdots E_N(t/k) - \exp(i\nu^{-1}t\Delta) \| = 0,$$

where $\| \cdot \|$ is the operator norm in $L^2(R^n, \sqrt{g}dx)$ and $\exp(i\nu^{-1}t\Delta)$ is the one parameter group of unitary operators whose generator is $i\nu^{-1}\Delta$. (Cf. Stone [4].)

§ 5. Outline of the proof. We introduce another linear integral transformation $F(t)$ as the following ;

$$(12) \quad F(t)f(x)$$

$$= (\nu/4\pi i t)^{1/2n} (t/\nu i)^N \int_{R^n} \Delta e_N(x, y) \exp(i\nu r^2(x, y)/4t) f(y) \sqrt{g(y)} dy.$$

Our fundamental lemma is

Lemma. Let $a(x, y)$ be a function in $C^\infty(R^n \times R^n)$ which satisfies the same estimate as (9). Set

$$(13) \quad Af(x) = \int_{R^n} a(x, y) \exp(i\lambda r^2(x, y)) f(y) dy, \quad \lambda > 0.$$

Then there exists a constant $C > 0$ independent of λ and f such that we have

$$(14) \quad \|A_f\| \leq C \lambda^{-1/2n} \|f\|$$

for any f in $C_0^\infty(R^n)$. Here $\| \cdot \|$ is the norm in $L^2(R^n, \sqrt{g} dx)$.

Theorem I is an immediate consequence of Lemma. We again apply this lemma and obtain estimates of the norm of the operator $F_N(t)$, that is,

$$(15) \quad \|F_N(t)\| \leq C |t/\nu|^N.$$

We denote $U(t) = \exp(i\nu^{-1}t\Delta)$. Then the difference $R(t) = E_N(t) - U(t)$ can be written as

$$(16) \quad R(t) = \int_0^t U(t-s) F_N(s) ds.$$

The norm of it is majorized as

$$(17) \quad \|R(t)\| \leq C |t/\nu|^N |t|.$$

The k -products of $E_N(t/k)$ turns out to be

$$(18) \quad \begin{aligned} & E_N(t/k) E_N(t/k) \cdots E_N(t/k) \\ &= (U(t/k) - R(t/k)) \cdots (U(t/k) - R(t/k)). \end{aligned}$$

Since $U(t/k)$ is unitary, we obtain

$$(19) \quad \begin{aligned} \|E_N(t/k) E_N(t/k) \cdots E_N(t/k) - U(t)\| &\leq \sum_{j=1}^k \binom{k}{j} \|R(t/k)\|^j \\ &= (1 + \|R(t/k)\|)^k - 1. \end{aligned}$$

This tends to 0 as k goes to ∞ if $N \geq 1$. Our theorems have been proved up to the proof of our lemma which will be given in the subsequent note [3].

References

- [1] R. Feynman: Space-time approach to non-relativistic quantum mechanics. Review of Modern Physics, **20**, 367-384 (1948).
- [2] D. Fujiwara: Fundamental solution of partial differential operators of Schrödinger's type. I. Proc. Japan Acad., **50**, 566-569 (1974).
- [3] —: On the boundedness of integral transformations with highly oscillatory kernels (to appear).
- [4] M. H. Stone: Linear Transformations in Hilbert Space and Their Applications to Analysis. Amer. Math. Soc., New York (1932).