

**48. On Propagation of Regularity in Space-variables  
for the Solutions of Differential Equations  
with Constant Coefficients**

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**Introduction.** Let  $P(D_t, D_x)$  be a differential operator with constant coefficients for which the plane:  $t = 0$  is characteristic. In the note [4] K. Shinkai and the author characterized this operator  $P$  through the Gevrey class  $G(\alpha)$  ( $-\infty \leq \alpha < 1$ ), with respect to space-variables, in which null solutions<sup>1)</sup> of  $Pu=0$  are able to exist.

In this note we are concerned with the converse problem: 'Is it possible to construct a null solution such that its derivative of some order has the discontinuity with respect to space-variables at some point  $(t_0, x_0)$  ( $t_0 > 0$ )?' Here we give a negative answer for this problem in the sense of Theorem 1. For example, the solutions of the wave equation  $(\partial^2/\partial t \partial x)u=0$  have the form  $u(t, x)=f(t)+g(x)$ . Hence, if a solution of  $(\partial^2/\partial t \partial x)u=0$  is analytic in  $x$  for negative  $t$ , then, necessarily, it is analytic in  $x$  for positive  $t$ . But, in order to generalize this phenomena, it is necessary to discuss the propagation of regularly, which has been studied by F. John [3], B. Malgrange [5], L. Hörmander [2], and J. Boman [1], with respect to only the space-variables. We shall use  $L^1$ -estimates according to J. Boman. The details will be published in the Funkcialaj Ekvacioj.

**§1. Notations and preliminary lemmas.** Let  $(t, x)=(t, x_1, \dots, x_\nu)$  be a point in the Euclidean  $(1+\nu)$ -space  $R^{1+\nu}$ ,  $\xi=(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_\nu)$  be a point in the dual space  $E^\nu$  of  $R^\nu$ , and  $\alpha=(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_\nu)$  be a real vector whose elements are non-negative integers. We shall use notations:

$$\begin{aligned} (D_t, D_x) &= (D_t, D_{x_1}, \dots, D_{x_\nu}) = (-i\partial/\partial t, -i\partial/\partial x_1, \dots, -i\partial/\partial x_\nu), \\ |\alpha| &= \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_\nu, \alpha! = \alpha_1! \dots \alpha_\nu!, \quad x \cdot \xi = x_1\xi_1 + \dots + x_\nu\xi_\nu, \\ D_x^\alpha &= D_{x_1}^{\alpha_1} \dots D_{x_\nu}^{\alpha_\nu}, \quad \xi^\alpha = \xi_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \xi_\nu^{\alpha_\nu}. \end{aligned}$$

For a function  $v(x) \in C_0^\infty(R^\nu)$  we define the Fourier transform  $\tilde{v}(\xi)$  by

$$\tilde{v}(\xi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi^\nu}} \int_{R^\nu} e^{-i x \cdot \xi} v(x) dx$$

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1) A  $C^\infty$ -solution  $u$  of  $Pu=0$  is called a null solution, if  $u \equiv 0$  for  $t \leq 0$  and  $u \neq 0$  for  $t > 0$ .

and for a function  $u(t, x) \in C_0(R^{1+\nu})$  define the partial Fourier transform  $\tilde{u}(t, \xi)$  by

$$\tilde{u}(t, \xi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi^\nu}} \int_{R^\nu} e^{-ix \cdot \xi} u(t, x) dx.$$

**Lemma 1.** Let  $P(\lambda, \xi)$  be a differential polynomial of the form  
 (1) 
$$P(\lambda, \xi) = Q_m(\xi)\lambda^m + Q_{m-1}(\xi)\lambda^{m-1} + \dots + Q_0(\xi)$$

$$(m \geq 1, Q_m(\xi) \neq 0).$$

Then, for any real number  $a, b$  and positive function  $\gamma(\xi)$  we have

(2) 
$$\int_{E^\nu} \gamma(\xi)^{a-bt_0} |Q_m(\xi)\tilde{u}(t_0, \xi)| d\xi$$

$$\leq T_0^{m-1} \int_0^{t_0} \int_{E^\nu} \gamma(\xi)^{a-bt} P(D_t, \xi) \tilde{u}(t, \xi) d\xi dt$$

$$(T_0 > 0, t_0 \in (0, T_0), u \in C_0^\infty \text{ in } (0, T_0) \times R^\nu).$$

**Proof.** For a function  $f(t) \in C_0^\infty$  in  $(0, T_0)$ , a complex number  $\lambda$  and real numbers  $\mu, \eta$ , we set  $g(t) = e^{\mu - i\lambda t} f(t)$ , then  $D_t g(t) = e^{\mu - i\lambda t} (D_t - \lambda) f(t)$ . Then, we have

$$e^{\mu - \eta t_0 + (\Im_m \lambda + \eta)t_0} |f(t_0)| = |g(t_0)|$$

$$\leq \text{Min} \left\{ \int_0^{t_0} |D_t g(t)| dt, \int_0^{t_0} |D_t g(t)| dt \right\}$$

$$\leq \text{Min} \left\{ \int_0^{t_0} e^{\mu - \eta t + (\Im_m \lambda + \eta)t} |(D_t - \lambda) f(t)| dt, \int_{t_0}^{x_0} e^{\mu - \eta t + (\Im_m \lambda + \eta)t} |(D_t - \lambda) f(t)| dt \right\},$$

where  $\Im_m \lambda$  denotes the imaginary part of  $\lambda$ .

Considering two cases  $(\Im_m \lambda + \eta) \geq 0$  and  $(\Im_m \lambda + \eta) < 0$ , we have

(3) 
$$e^{\mu - \eta t_0} |f(t_0)| \leq \int_0^{x_0} e^{\mu - \eta t} |(D_t - \lambda) f(t)| dt.$$

If we write

$$P(D_t, \xi) \tilde{u}(t, \xi) = Q_m(\xi) \prod_{j=1}^m (D_t - \lambda_j(\xi)) \tilde{u}(t, \xi)$$

and set  $\mu = a \log \gamma(\xi)$  and  $\eta = b \log \gamma(\xi)$ , we get (2) by the repeated application of (3).

**Lemma 2.** Let  $Q(\xi)$  be a differential polynomial (of order  $s \geq 0$ ) with the principal part  $Q^{(0)}(\xi)$ , and let  $E$  be a bounded domain in  $R^\nu$  with the diameter  $d = d(E)$ . Then we have

(4) 
$$\int_{E^\nu} |\tilde{v}(\xi)| d\xi \leq A_{Q,d} \int_{E^\nu} |Q(\xi) \tilde{v}(\xi)| d\xi, v \in C_0^\infty(E)$$

where  $A_{Q,d} = \left(\frac{4d}{\pi}\right)^s (\text{Max}_{|\xi|=1} Q^{(0)}(\xi))^{-1}$ .

**Proof.** After the orthogonal transformation we may assume

$$Q(\xi) = q_s \xi_1^s + \sum_{j=0}^{s-1} q_j(\xi) \xi_1^j$$

where  $q_s$  is a complex constant such that  $|q_s| = \text{Max}_{|\xi|=1} |Q^{(0)}(\xi)|$  and  $q_j(\xi) (0 \leq j \leq s-1)$  are polynomials in  $\tilde{\xi} = (\xi_2, \dots, \xi_\nu)$ . Let  $h(x_1)$  be a function of class  $C_0^\infty$  in  $(r, r+d)$  for some real  $r$ . Then, for any complex number  $\tau$ , we have

$$\int_{E^1} |(\xi_1 - \tau) \tilde{h}(\xi_1)| d\xi_1 \geq R \int_{E^1} |\tilde{h}(\xi_1)| d\xi_1 - R \int_{|\xi_1 - \tau| \leq R} |\tilde{h}(\xi_1)| d\xi_1$$

where

$$\tilde{h}(\xi_1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{E^1} e^{-i x_1 \xi_1} h(x_1) dx_1.$$

On the other hand

$$|\tilde{h}(\xi_1)| \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{E^1} |h(x_1)| dx_1 \leq \frac{d}{2\pi} \int_{E^1} |\tilde{h}(\xi_1)| d\xi_1.$$

Hence, setting  $R = \pi/(2d)$ , we have

$$\int_{E^1} |(\xi_1 - \tau) \tilde{h}(\xi_1)| d\xi_1 \geq \frac{\pi}{4d} \int_{E^1} |\tilde{h}(\xi_1)| d\xi_1,$$

so that we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{E^\nu} |Q(\xi) \tilde{v}(\xi)| d\xi &= \int_{E^{\nu-1}} \left\{ \int_{E^1} |q_s \prod_{j=1}^s (\xi_1 - \tau_j(\xi)) \tilde{v}(\xi_1, \xi)| d\xi_1 \right\} d\xi \\ &\geq |q_s| \left( \frac{\pi}{4d} \right)^s \int_{E^\nu} |\tilde{v}(\xi)| d\xi. \end{aligned} \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $E$  be a bounded domain in  $R^\nu$ . Then, for  $k = -(\nu + 1), \dots, 0, 1, \dots$ , we have*

$$(5) \quad \int_{E^\nu} (1 + |\xi|)^k |\tilde{v}(\xi)| d\xi \leq A_{\nu, E} 2^k \text{Max}_{|\beta| \leq k + \nu + 1} |D_x^\beta v|, \quad v \in C_0^\infty(E),$$

where  $A_{\nu, E} = 2(2/\pi)^{\nu/2} \text{meas}(E) \int_{E^\nu} (1 + |\xi|)^{-(\nu+1)} d\xi$  and  $\text{meas}(E)$  denotes the measure of  $E$ .

**Proof.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{E^\nu} (1 + |\xi|)^k |\tilde{v}(\xi)| d\xi &\leq \left( \int_{E^\nu} (1 + |\xi|)^{-(\nu+1)} d\xi \right) \sup_{\xi \in E^\nu} (1 + |\xi|)^{k + \nu + 1} |\tilde{v}(\xi)|, \\ (1 + |\xi|)^{k + \nu + 1} |\tilde{v}(\xi)| &\leq 2^{k + \nu + 1} \text{Max}_{|\beta| \leq k + \nu + 1} |\xi^\beta \tilde{v}(\xi)| \end{aligned}$$

and

$$|\xi^\beta \tilde{v}(\xi)| \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}^\nu} \int_{E^\nu} |D_x^\beta v(x)| dx.$$

Hence, we get easily (5). Q.E.D.

**§ 2. Propagation of regularity.** Let  $E$  be a bounded domain in  $R^\nu$  and set  $\Omega_{T_0} = (0, T_0) \times E$  ( $T_0 > 0$ ).

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $u(t, x)$  be a classical solution of  $P(D_t, D_x)u(t, x) = f(t, x)$  for  $f \in C(\Omega_{T_0})$ .*

*Assume that  $f$  is infinitely differentiable in  $x$  for any fixed  $t \in (0, T_0)$  and the mapping*

$$(6) \quad f: (0, T_0) \ni t \rightarrow f(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(E)$$

*is continuous,<sup>2)</sup> furthermore assume that, for some constant  $\delta > 0$ ,  $D_x^j u$  ( $j = 0, \dots, m - 1$ ) are infinitely differentiable function of  $x$  in*

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2) We call the mapping  $f: (0, T_0) \ni t \rightarrow f(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(E)$  is continuous, if, for any fixed compact set  $K$  of  $E$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $t_0 \in (0, T_0)$ ,  $D_x^\alpha f(t, x) \rightarrow D_x^\alpha f(t_0, x)$  as  $t \rightarrow t_0$  uniformly on  $K$ .

$((0, \delta) \times \mathcal{E}) \cup ((0, T_0) \times \mathcal{E}_\delta)^3$  and the mappings

$$(7) \quad D^j u: \begin{cases} (0, \delta) \ni t \rightarrow D^j u(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{E}) \\ (0, T_0) \ni t \rightarrow D^j u(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{E}_\delta) \end{cases} \quad (j=0, 1, \dots, m-1)$$

are continuous.

Then,  $D^j u(t, x)$  ( $j=0, 1, \dots, m$ ) are infinitely differentiable functions of  $x$  in  $\Omega_{T_0}$  and the mappings

$$(8) \quad D^j u: (0, T_0) \ni t \rightarrow D^j u(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{E}) \quad (j=0, 1, \dots, m)$$

are continuous.

**Proof.** We fix  $T, T', T''$ , and  $\delta'$  such that  $0 < T < T' < T'' < T_0$  and  $0 < \delta' < \delta$ . Take a function  $\Psi(t, x) \in C_0^\infty(\Omega_{T_0})$  such that  $\Psi \equiv 1$  in  $(\delta', T'') \times (\mathcal{E} - \mathcal{E}_{\delta'})$  where  $\mathcal{E} - \mathcal{E}_{\delta'} = \{x; x \in \mathcal{E}, x \notin \mathcal{E}_{\delta'}\}$ .

Set  $U = \Psi u$ , then

$$(9) \quad P(D_t, D_x)U = \Psi f + f' \equiv F,$$

where

$$f' = \sum_{j+|\alpha| \neq 0} \frac{1}{j! \alpha!} D_t^j D_x^\alpha \Psi \cdot P^{(j, \alpha)}(D_t, D_x)u \left( P^{(j, \alpha)}(\lambda, \xi) = \frac{\partial^{j+|\alpha|}}{\partial \lambda^j \partial \xi^\alpha} P(\lambda, \xi) \right).$$

Since  $f' \equiv 0$  in  $(\delta', T'') \times (\mathcal{E} - \mathcal{E}_{\delta'})$ , we see, by the assumption of Theorem 1, that  $F \in C_0(\Omega_{T_0})$  and a infinitely differentiable function of  $x$  in  $\Omega_{T''} = (0, T'') \times \mathcal{E}$ , and that, for any  $\alpha$  and  $t_0 \in (0, T'')$ ,

$$(10) \quad D_x^\alpha F(t, x) \rightarrow D_x^\alpha F(t_0, x) \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow t_0$$

uniformly in  $\mathcal{E}$ . Set  $a = (n + \nu + 1)T'' / (T' - T)$ ,  $b = (n + \nu + 1) / (T' - T)$ .

Then we have

$$(11) \quad a - bt \leq a \text{ in } (0, T_0), \geq n \text{ in } (0, T), \leq -(\nu + 1) \text{ in } (T', T_0).$$

Approximating  $U$  by  $U_n \in C_0^\infty(\Omega_{T_0})$  and applying (2) to  $U_n$  by setting  $\gamma(\xi) = (1 + |\xi|)$ , we get by (11)

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_{E^\nu} (1 + |\xi|)^\alpha |Q_m(\xi) \tilde{U}(t_0, \xi)| d\xi \\ & \leq T_0^{m-1} \left\{ \int_0^{T''} \int_{E^\nu} (1 + |\xi|)^\alpha |\tilde{F}(t, \xi)| d\xi dt \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_{T'}^{T_0} \int_{E^\nu} (1 + |\xi|)^{-(\nu+1)} |\tilde{F}(t, \xi)| d\xi dt \right\} \end{aligned}$$

for every  $t_0 \in (0, T)$ .

By Lemma 2 and 3 we have for  $|\alpha| = n$

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} |D_x^\alpha U(t_0, x)| & \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}^\nu} \int_{E^\nu} |\widehat{D}_x^\alpha U(t, \xi)| d\xi \\ & \leq T_0^{m-1} A_{Q_m, \nu, \mathcal{E}} \left\{ 2^\alpha \int_0^{T''} \text{Max}_{\substack{x \in \mathcal{E} \\ |\beta| \leq n + \nu + 1}} |D_x^\beta F(t, x)| dt + 2^{-(\nu+1)} \int_{T'}^{T_0} \text{Max}_{x \in \mathcal{E}} |F(t, x)| dt \right\} \end{aligned}$$

for  $t_0 \in (0, T)$ . Since we can take  $n$  arbitrarily large, we get, in  $(\delta', T) \times (\mathcal{E} - \mathcal{E}_{\delta'})$ ,  $u(t_0, x) = U(t_0, x)$  is a infinitely differentiable function of  $x$ . Letting  $T \rightarrow T_0$ , we get by (7) that  $u(t, x)$  is a infinitely

3)  $\mathcal{E}_\delta = \{x \in \mathcal{E}; \text{dis}(x, \partial \mathcal{E}) < \delta\}$  where  $\text{dis}(x, \partial \mathcal{E})$  means the distance from  $x$  to the boundary  $\partial \mathcal{E}$  of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

differentiable function of  $x$  in

$$\Omega_{\tau_0} = ((0, \delta) \times \mathcal{E}) \cup ((0, T_0) \times \mathcal{E}_\delta) \cup ((0, T_0) \times (\mathcal{E} - \mathcal{E}_\delta)).$$

In order to prove the continuity of the mappings (8), we use (13) by replacing  $U(t)$  by  $(U(t+h) - U(t))$ . Then  $P(U(t+h) - U(t)) = (F(t+h) - F(t))$ . By (10) we see that (13) has meaning for  $h < T'' - T'$ , so that we have

$$D_x^\alpha u(t_0 + h) \rightarrow D_x^\alpha u(t_0) \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0$$

uniformly in  $(\delta', T) \times (\mathcal{E} - \mathcal{E}_{\delta'})$  for any fixed  $\alpha$ . Hence, letting  $T \rightarrow T_0$  we get the continuity of the mapping  $u: (0, T_0) \ni t \rightarrow u(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{E})$ .

Next, setting  $u_1 = D_t u$ , we have  $P_1(D_t, D_x)u_1 \equiv \sum_{j=1}^m Q_j(D_x)D_t^{j-1}u_1 = (f - Q_0(D_x)u) \equiv f_1$ . Then  $u_1$  and  $f_1$  satisfy the conditions of Theorem 1, so that the mapping

$$D_t u = u_1: (0, T_0) \ni t \rightarrow u_1(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{E})$$

is continuous, and so on we get the continuity of the mappings

$$D_t^j u: (0, T_0) \ni t \rightarrow D_t^j u(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{E}) \quad (j=2, \dots, m-1).$$

Finally we write  $Q_m(D_x)D_t^m u = f - \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} Q_j(D_x)D_t^j u$ , and by using Lemma 2 and 3 we get the continuity of the mapping

$$D_t^m u: (0, T_0) \ni t \rightarrow D_t^m u(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{E}).$$

This completes the proof.

Q.E.D.

**Corollary.** Let  $u(t, x)$  be a classical solutions of  $P(D_t, D_x)u(t, x) = f(t, x)$  in  $\Omega_{\tau_0}$ . Assume that  $f \in C^\infty(\Omega_{\tau_0})$  and that, for some constant  $\delta > 0$ ,  $u \in C^\infty$  in  $((0, \delta) \times \mathcal{E}) \cup ((0, T_0) \times \mathcal{E}_\delta)$ . Then, we have  $u \in C^\infty(\Omega_{\tau_0})$ .

**Proof.** It is easy to see that  $f$  and  $u$  satisfy the conditions of Theorem 1, so that the mappings

$$(14) \quad D_t^j u: (0, T) \ni t \rightarrow D_t^j u(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{E}) \quad (j=0, 1, \dots, m)$$

are continuous. Setting  $u_m = D_t^m u$ , we can write  $Q_m(D_x)u_m = f - \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} Q_j(D_x)D_t^j u \equiv F$  and for any  $\beta$

$$D_x^\beta Q(D_x)(u_m(t+h) - u_m(t))/h = i \int_0^1 D_x^\beta D_t F(t + \theta h, x) d\theta.$$

Hence by Lemma 2 and 3 we get the existence of  $D_t^{m+1} D_x^\alpha u = D_x^\alpha D_t u_m$  in  $\Omega_{\tau_0}$ , and the continuity of the mapping

$$D_t^{m+1} u: (0, T_0) \ni t \rightarrow D_t^{m+1} u(t, \cdot) \in \mathcal{E}(\mathcal{E}).$$

Writing  $Q_m(D_x)D_t^{l+m} u = D_t^l f - \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} Q_j(D_x)D_t^{l+j} u$ , we get  $u \in C^\infty(\Omega_{\tau_0})$  by repeated applications of the above discussion for  $j=1, 2, \dots$ . Q.E.D.

About the propagation of analyticity, using the method of J. Boman [1] and playing the same discussion as the proof of Theorem 1, we get the following without the proof.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $u(t, x)$  be a classical solution of  $P(D_t, D_x)u(t, x) = f(t, x)$  in  $\Omega_{\tau_0}$ . Assume  $f$  and  $u$  satisfy the conditions of Theorem 1, and furthermore we assume that, for any  $T$  ( $0 < T < T_0$ ), there exist constants  $M_T$  and  $C_T$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} |D_x^\alpha f| &\leq M_T C_T^{|\alpha|} |\alpha|^{|\alpha|} \quad \text{in } \Omega_T = (0, T) \times E, \\ |D_t^j u| &\leq M_T C_T^{|\alpha|} |\alpha|^{|\alpha|} \quad \text{in } (0, T) \times E_\delta \quad (j=0, 1, \dots, m-1), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$|D_t^j u| \leq M C^{|\alpha|} |\alpha|^{|\alpha|} \quad \text{in } (0, \delta) \times E \quad (j=0, 1, \dots, m-1)$$

for some constants  $M, C$ .

Then, for any  $T$  ( $0 < T < T_0$ ), there exist constants  $M'_T$  and  $C'_T$  such that

$$|D_t^j D_x^\alpha u| \leq M'_T C'_T^{|\alpha|} |\alpha|^{|\alpha|} \quad \text{in } (0, T) \times E \quad (j=0, 1, \dots, m).$$

**Corollary.** Let  $u(t, x)$  be a classical solution of  $P(D_t, D_x)u(t, x) = f(t, x)$  in  $\Omega_{T_0}$ . Assume that  $f$  is analytic in  $\Omega_{T_0}$  and that, for some constant  $\delta > 0$ ,  $u$  is analytic in  $((0, \delta) \times E) \cup ((0, T_0) \times E_\delta)$ . Then,  $u$  is analytic in  $\Omega_{T_0}$ .

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