

Fourier and Schur idempotents

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ICMAT

Connections between commutative and noncommutative Harmonic Analysis
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—Joint with Javier Parcet and Mikael de la Salle—

Introduction

Fourier and Schur multipliers

Classical nonsmooth multipliers

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^n$ of non-zero measure, the idempotent multiplier T_{χ_Ω} is given by

$$T_{\chi_\Omega}(f)(\xi) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} \chi_\Omega(\xi) \widehat{f}(\xi) e^{2\pi i x \cdot \xi} d\xi.$$

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★ Hilbert transforms

$$H_u(f)(x) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} \chi_{\{\xi \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid \langle \xi, u \rangle \geq 0\}}(\xi) \widehat{f}(\xi) e^{2\pi i x \cdot \xi} d\xi \text{ where } u \in S^{n-1}$$

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Theorem (Fefferman, 1971)

Let $B(0,1)$ be the unit ball of \mathbf{R}^n and $n \geq 2$. Then, the Fourier multiplier

$$T_{\chi_{B(0,1)}}(f)(\xi) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} \chi_{\{\xi \in \mathbf{R}^n \mid |\xi| \leq 1\}}(\xi) \widehat{f}(\xi) e^{2\pi i x \cdot \xi} d\xi$$

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★ If Ω is a C^1 -domain and is not flat, then T_{χ_Ω} is also L^p -unbounded for $p \neq 2$.

The curvature of the unit ball is colliding with L^p -boundedness. 

Let $M : \{1, \dots, n\} \times \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ be a bounded function. The Schur multiplier associated to M is a linear operator $S_M : M_n(\mathbf{C}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbf{C})$ defined by

$$S_M(A) = \left(M(i, j)A(i, j) \right)_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$$

all $A = \left(A(i, j) \right)_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} \in M_n(\mathbf{C})$.

for

Let (X, μ) be a σ -finite measure space, we will denote

$$S_p(X) = \{x \in B(L^2(X, \mu)) \mid \|x\|_p = \text{tr}(|x|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}} < \infty\}.$$

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Recall that $S_2(X) \simeq L^2(X \times X, \mu \times \mu)$, with the identification

$$T \rightarrow (T_{x,y})_{x,y \in X}$$

where

$$T(\phi)(x) \sim \int_X T_{x,y} \phi(y) d\mu(y).$$

Let $M : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ be a bounded function, the Schur multiplier $S_M : S_2(X) \rightarrow S_2(X)$ defined by

$$S_M(T) = \left(M(x, y) T_{x, y} \right)_{x, y \in X}$$

for $T = (T_{x, y})_{x, y \in X}$.

A central problem:

Which $M : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ define a S_p -bounded Schur multipliers?

Theorem (Grothendieck-Haagerup)

If $M : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$, the following conditions are equivalent.

- 1 S_M is bounded on $B(L^2(X, \mu))$
- 2 There exist a Hilbert space \mathcal{K} and two uniformly bounded families of vectors $\{u_x\}_{x \in X}$, $\{v_y\}_{y \in X}$ such that

$$M(x, y) = \langle u_x, v_y \rangle_{\mathcal{K}} \text{ a.e. } x, y \in X$$

Remark: The complete boundedness of S_M in $B(L^2(X, \mu))$ is also equivalent.

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★ **Arazy's-Krein's-Kopilenko's conjectures** (Potapov-Sukochev, 2011): If

$$M(x, y) = \frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} \text{ for } f : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R} \text{ Lipschitz, then } S_M \text{ is } S_p\text{-bounded}$$

★ **Smooth multipliers.** (Conde, Gonzalez, Mei, Parcet, Ricard, T. 2022-2024). These results relate the S_p -boundedness of S_M with the smoothness of M .

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★ **Non-smooth symbols remain much more unexplored.**

Multipliers in group von Neumann algebras

Let (G, μ) be a unimodular group with

$$\lambda : G \rightarrow \mathcal{U}(L_2(G, \mu)) \quad \text{given by} \quad [\lambda(g)\varphi](h) = \varphi(g^{-1}h).$$

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Define its group von Neumann algebra as follows

$$\mathcal{L}G := \overline{\left\{ f = \int_G \hat{f}(g)\lambda(g) d\mu(g) : \hat{f} \in \mathcal{C}_c(G) \right\}}^{\text{SOT}} \subset \mathcal{B}(L_2(G, \mu)).$$

The Haar trace τ is then determined by

$$\tau(f) = \hat{f}(e)$$

and the noncommutative L_p -norms are defined by

$$\|f\| = \tau(|f|^p)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

Given $m : G \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$, its **Fourier multiplier** is the map

$$T_m \left(\int_G \widehat{f}(g) \lambda(g) d\mu(g) \right) = \int_G m(g) \widehat{f}(g) \lambda(g) d\mu(g).$$

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Remark: If $G = \mathbf{R}^n$, the map

$$\lambda(\eta) \rightarrow e^{2\pi i \eta \cdot} \in L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$$

extends to an isomorphism between $VN(\mathbf{R}^n)$ and $L^\infty(\mathbf{R}^n)$. Therefore, given $m : \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$, the Fourier multiplier T_m is defined by

$$T_m(f)(x) = \int_{\mathbf{R}^n} m(\xi) \widehat{f}(\xi) e^{2\pi i x \cdot \xi} d\xi.$$

In the same spirit as for Schur multipliers, we have

A central problem:

Which $m : G \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ define a L_p -bounded Fourier multiplier?

The relation between Fourier and Schur multipliers plays a key role...

Fourier-Schur transference [Neuwirth/Ricard + Caspers/de la Salle]

Let G be an amenable group and $1 \leq p \leq \infty$. Let $M : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ and $m : G \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ such that $M(g, h) = m(gh^{-1})$. Then

$$\|S_M : S_p(G) \rightarrow S_p(G)\|_{\text{cb}} = \|T_m : L_p(VN(G)) \rightarrow L_p(VN(G))\|_{\text{cb}}.$$

What are the properties of Schur and Fourier idempotents?

Nonsmooth theory for Schur multipliers

Let $\Sigma \subset X$ be a nonzero measure set, and S_Σ be the Schur multiplier with symbol $M(x, y) = \chi_\Sigma(x, y)$. When is S_Σ S_p -bounded?

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Fourier idempotents on Lie groups

Let G be a group and $1 < p \neq 2 < \infty$:

- Which smooth domains Ω give $T_{\chi_\Omega} : L_p(VN(G)) \rightarrow L_p(VN(G))$?
- Is there a geometric characterization? A group theoretic one?

This question is of particular interest in simple Lie groups.

Schur idempotents

Local geometry and analytic form

Definition (Local S_p -boundedness)

Let $\Sigma \subset X$ be a smooth domain and let $(x_0, y_0) \in \partial\Sigma$. We say that S_Σ is locally S_p -bounded at the point (x_0, y_0) , if there exist two neighbourhoods $x_0 \in U \subset X$ and $y_0 \in V \subset X$ such that

$$\|S_{\Sigma \cap (U \times V)} : S_p(X) \rightarrow S_p(X)\| < \infty$$

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- $S_{U \times V}$ is always S_p -bounded since it is just the composition of two projections.
- If Σ is compact and S_Σ is locally S_p -bounded at every $(x_0, y_0) \in \partial\Sigma$, then it is S_p -bounded.

The main result

Let $\Sigma \subset \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}^n$ be a \mathcal{C}^1 -domain.

Given $(x, y) \in \partial\Sigma$, set $\mathbf{n}(x, y) = (\mathbf{n}_1(x, y), \mathbf{n}_2(x, y)) \perp \partial\Sigma$ at (x, y) .

A point $(x, y) \in \partial\Sigma$ is called **transverse** when both $\mathbf{n}_1, \mathbf{n}_2$ are nonzero.

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Theorem A (Schur idempotents)

Given $1 < p \neq 2 < \infty$, TFAE for any transverse $(x_0, y_0) \in \partial\Sigma$:

- 1 Local S_p -boundedness.** The Schur idempotent S_Σ whose symbol equals 1 on Σ and 0 elsewhere is bounded on $S_p(L_2(U), L_2(V))$ for some pair of neighbourhoods U, V of x_0, y_0 in \mathbf{R}^n .

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- 2 Zero-curvature condition.** There are neighbourhoods U, V of the points x_0, y_0 such that the vectors $\mathbf{n}_2(x_1, y), \mathbf{n}_2(x_2, y)$ are parallel for any pair of points $(x_1, y), (x_2, y) \in \partial\Sigma \cap (U \times V)$.

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- 3 Triangular truncation representation.** There are neighbourhoods U, V of x_0, y_0 and \mathcal{C}^1 -functions $f_1 : U \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ and $f_2 : V \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, such that the domain $\Sigma \cap (U \times V) = \{(x, y) \in U \times V : f_1(x) > f_2(y)\}$.

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Let X be a smooth manifold, $\Sigma \subset X$ a smooth domain and let $1 < p \neq 2 < \infty$. TFAE

- 1 **S_p -boundedness.** S_Σ is locally S_p -bounded on (x_0, y_0) .
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- 2 **Triangular representation.** $\Sigma = \{f_1(x) > f_2(y)\}$ around (x_0, y_0) .

★ If Σ is compact the S_p -boundedness is global.

★ If Σ is not compact the local boundedness is required. There are counterexamples for global boundedness.

Theorem A holds for differentiable manifolds $M \times N$. This is quite remarkable, since Schur multipliers on general manifolds lack to admit a Fourier transform connection.

Zero-curvature for \mathcal{C}^2 -domains

Let Σ be a \mathcal{C}^2 -**domain**:

$$\Sigma \cap (U \times V) = \{(x, y) : F(x, y) > 0\} \text{ for some } F \in \mathcal{C}^2(\mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}^n).$$

Equivalent curvature condition for \mathcal{C}^2 -domains

$$\left\langle d_x d_y F(x, y), u \otimes v \right\rangle := u^\dagger \cdot \left(\partial_{x_j} \partial_{y_k} F(x, y) \right)_{j,k} \cdot v = 0$$

for all $(x, y) \in \partial\Sigma \cap (U \times V)$ & $(u, v) \in \ker d_x F(x, y) \times \ker d_y F(x, y)$.

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Vanishing forms of $d_{xx}F$ or $d_{yy}F$: Not valid since

$$\Sigma_r = \{(x, y) : x \in \Omega\} \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma_c = \{(x, y) : y \in \Omega\}$$

lead to S_p -bounded multipliers with no geometric restrictions on Ω .

Fourier idempotents

Three Hilbert transforms on Lie groups

Euclidean idempotents

Semispaces and (finite or lacunary) combinations of them.

Euclidean idempotents

Semispaces and (finite or lacunary) combinations of them.

Free groups

Bożejko-Fendler 2006: Balls in the Cayley graph – Not uniformly bded
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Crossed products

Parcet-Rogers 2016: Twisted Hilbert transforms $H_u \rtimes \text{id}$ over $\mathbf{R}^n \rtimes G$
 $H_u \rtimes \text{id}$ L_p -bounded if and only if the orbit $\{g \cdot u : g \in G\}$ is finite

Definition (Local boundedness)

Let $m : G \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ be a bounded function and let $g_0 \in G$. We say that T_m is locally L_p -bounded (respectively cb) near g_0 if there exists a constant C and neighbourhood $g_0 \in U \subset G$ such that

$$\left\| T_m \left(\int_G \hat{f}(g) \lambda(g) d\mu(g) \right) \right\|_p \leq C \left\| \int_G \hat{f}(g) \lambda(g) d\mu(g) \right\|_p$$

for all \hat{f} such that $\text{supp}(\hat{f}) \subset U$.

Remark: If a symbol $m : G \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ is compactly supported and locally L_p -bounded at every $g_0 \in G$, then it is L_p -bounded.

Theorem B1 (Fourier idempotents)

Let G be a connected Lie group. Let $\Omega \subset G$ a \mathcal{C}^1 -domain and $g_0 \in \partial\Omega$. Then, TFAE for every $1 < p \neq 2 < \infty$:

- $T_{\chi\Omega}$ is locally L_p -bounded at $g_0 \in G$.
- There exist a neighbourhood U such that of $g_0 \in G$ such that

$$\Omega \cap U = g_0 \cdot \exp(\mathfrak{h}) \cap U$$

where \mathfrak{h} is a Lie subalgebra of codimension 1.

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This unravels what is “Fourier boundary flatness” for Lie groups

Fourier idempotents – The group structure

Consider:

- i) The real line $G_1 = \mathbf{R}$ with $\Omega_1 = (0, \infty)$.
- ii) The affine group $G_2 = \text{Aff}_+(\mathbf{R})$ and $\Omega_2 = \{ax + b : b > 0\}$.
- iii) The universal covering $G_3 = \widetilde{\text{PSL}}_2(\mathbf{R})$ and $\Omega_3 = \{g : \alpha_g(0) > 0\}$.
 $\alpha : \widetilde{\text{PSL}}_2(\mathbf{R}) \curvearrowright \mathbf{R}$ by lifting standard action $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbf{R}) \curvearrowright P1(\mathbf{R})$ to universal covers.

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Theorem B2 (Fourier idempotents)

Let G be simply connected and Ω, p, g_0 as above. Then, TFAE:

- $T_{\chi\Omega}$ defines locally at g_0 a Fourier cb- L_p -multiplier.
- There exists a smooth surjective homomorphism $f : G \rightarrow G_j$, and a neighbourhood $g_0 \in U \subset G$ such that

$$\Omega \cap U = g_0 f^{-1}(\Omega_j) \cap U.$$

Fourier idempotents – The group structure

Consider:

- i) The real line $G_1 = \mathbf{R}$ with $\Omega_1 = (0, \infty)$.
- ii) The affine group $G_2 = \text{Aff}_+(\mathbf{R})$ and $\Omega_2 = \{ax + b : b > 0\}$.
- iii) The universal covering $G_3 = \widetilde{\text{PSL}}_2(\mathbf{R})$ and $\Omega_3 = \{g : \alpha_g(0) > 0\}$.
 $\alpha : \widetilde{\text{PSL}}_2(\mathbf{R}) \curvearrowright \mathbf{R}$ by lifting standard action $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbf{R}) \curvearrowright P1(\mathbf{R})$ to universal covers.

Theorem B2 (Fourier idempotents)

Let G be simply connected and Ω, p, g_0 as above. Then, TFAE:

- T_{χ_Ω} defines locally at g_0 a Fourier cb- L_p -multiplier.
- There exists a smooth surjective homomorphism $f : G \rightarrow G_j$, and a neighbourhood $g_0 \in U \subset G$ such that

$$\Omega \cap U = g_0 f^{-1}(\Omega_j) \cap U.$$

These three Hilbert transforms are globally L_p -bounded

Corollary B3 (Nilpotent and Simple Lie groups)

Fourier cb- L_p -idempotents for $1 < p \neq 2 < \infty$:

i) **Simply connected nilpotent Lie groups**

They are locally $= H \circ \varphi$ for $\varphi : G \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ smooth hom.

ii) **Simple Lie groups not locally isomorphic to $SL_2(\mathbf{R})$**

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Stratified Lie groups: The φ above projects onto first stratum

There are no L_p -bounded idempotent multipliers in $SL_n(\mathbf{R})$ for $p \neq 2$ and $n \geq 3$. No L_p -approximations by means of nonsmooth symbols.

Ingredients of the proofs

Lemma A1 (Schur amplification of Meyer's lemma)

Assume $\partial\Sigma$ transverse in $U \times V$ and $S_\Sigma \in \mathcal{B}(S_p(L_2(U), L_2(V)))$.

Given $z_j = (x_j, y) \in \partial\Sigma \cap (U \times V)$, $u_j = \mathbf{n}_2(z_j)$ and $f_j \in L_p(\mathbf{R}^n)$:

$$\left\| \left(\sum_j |H_{u_j}(f_j)|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbf{R}^n)} \lesssim \left\| \left(\sum_j |f_j|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\|_{L_p(\mathbf{R}^n)}.$$

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Lemma A2 (Local normal form of transverse hypersurfaces)

If $(x_0, y_0) \in \partial\Sigma$ is transverse, there are local diffeomorphisms st

$$\phi(x_0) = \psi(y_0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \phi \times \psi(\Sigma) = \left\{ ((s, \tilde{x}), y) : s > g(\tilde{x}, y) \right\}$$

for some $g \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbf{R}^{n-1} \times \mathbf{R}^n)$ satisfying $g(0, y) = \langle y, e_1 \rangle$ for every y .

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Lemma A3 (Measurable transformations of Schur S_p -multipliers)

Let $(X, \mu), (X', \mu')$ be atomless σ -finite and $f, g : X \rightarrow X'$ be measurable. Then, if $f_*\mu \ll \mu'$ and $m \in L_\infty(X' \times X')$, we obtain

$$\|m \circ (f \times g)\|_{MS_p(L_2(X, \mu))} = \|m\|_{MS_p(L_2(X', f_*\mu))} \leq \|m\|_{MS_p(L_2(X', \mu'))}.$$

Fourier idempotents

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Theorem C (Local Fourier-Schur transference)

Let G be a locally compact group and consider a bounded measurable function $m : G \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$. Then, TFAE for $g_0 \in G$ and every $1 < p < \infty$:

- There is a neighbourhood U of g_0 such that the restriction of T_m to the space of elements of $L_p(\mathcal{L}G)$ Fourier supported by U is cb.
- There are open sets $V, W \subset G$ with $g_0 \in VW^{-1}$ such that the function $(g, h) \in V \times W \mapsto m(gh^{-1})$ is in $M_{\text{cb}}S_p(L_2(V), L_2(W))$.

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Lie algebra analysis

Zero-curvature $\rightsquigarrow \partial\Omega = g_0 \exp(\mathfrak{h})$.

Lie's classification of codim-1 Lie subalgebras \rightsquigarrow 3 Hilbert transforms