

The Kunze–Stein phenomenon

Alexandru D. Ionescu

The convolution inequality. If $\mathbb{G} = SL(2, \mathbb{R})$ then

$$L^2(\mathbb{G}) * L^p(\mathbb{G}) \subseteq L^2(\mathbb{G}), \quad p \in [1, 2).$$

Proved by Kunze–Stein (1960) as a consequence of the analytic continuation of the unitary principal series as uniformly bounded representations.

Consequences (duality + interpolation) :

$$\|f * g\|_{L^p} \lesssim_p \|f\|_{L^2} \|g\|_{L^2}, \quad p \in (2, \infty].$$

If $A \subseteq \mathbb{G}$ is a bounded open set then

$$|\{x \in \mathbb{G} : |xA \cap A| \geq \gamma|A|\}| \leq C_\gamma,$$

and

$$|A|^{2-\varepsilon} \lesssim_\varepsilon |A \cdot A|, \quad \varepsilon \in (0, 1].$$

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Iwasawa decomposition

We define $\mathbb{G} = SO(d, 1) = SO_e(d, 1)$ as the connected Lie group of $(d + 1) \times (d + 1)$ matrices that leave invariant the form

$$[x, y] = x^0 y^0 - x^1 y^1 - \dots - x^d y^d.$$

Clearly, $X \in SO(d, 1)$ if and only if

$${}^{tr} X \cdot I_{d,1} \cdot X = I_{d,1}, \quad \det X = 1, \quad X_{00} > 0,$$

where $I_{d,1}$ is the diagonal matrix $\text{diag}[-1, 1, \dots, 1]$.

Let

$$\mathbb{K} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & k \end{bmatrix} : k \in SO(d) \right\}.$$

Let

$$\mathbb{M} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m \end{bmatrix} : m \in SO(d-1) \right\}.$$

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$$\mathbb{A} = \left\{ a_s = \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{ch} s & \operatorname{sh} s & 0 \\ \operatorname{sh} s & \operatorname{ch} s & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_{d-1} \end{bmatrix} : t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

Let

$$\mathbb{N} = \left\{ n_v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 + |v|^2/2 & -|v|^2/2 & \operatorname{tr} v \\ |v|^2/2 & 1 - |v|^2/2 & \operatorname{tr} v \\ v & -v & I_{d-1} \end{bmatrix} : v \in \mathbb{R}^{d-1} \right\}.$$

Iwasawa decomposition :

$$\mathbb{G} = \mathbb{KAN}, \quad dg = e^{2\rho t} dk dt dv, \quad \rho = (d-1)/2.$$

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Herz majorizing principle (Herz 1970)

Assume $p \in [1, 2]$, $\mathbb{G} = SO(d, 1)$, $K : \mathbb{G} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \| * K \|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p} &= \sup_{\|a\|_{L^p} = \|b\|_{L^{p'}} = 1} \int_{\mathbb{G}} \int_{\mathbb{G}} a(g) K(g' g^{-1}) b(g') dg dg' \\ &= \sup_{\|a\|_{L^p} = \|b\|_{L^{p'}} = 1} \int_{\mathbb{K} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}} \int_{\mathbb{K} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}} e^{2\rho t} e^{2\rho t'} \\ &\quad a(ka_t n) K(k' a_{t'} n' n^{-1} a_{-t} k^{-1}) b(k' a_{t'} n') dk dk' dt dt' dndn'. \end{aligned}$$

We use

$$ma_t = a_t m, \quad mn_v = n_v m, \quad a_t n_v a_{-t} = n_e t_v,$$

for $m \in \mathbb{M}$, $a_t \in \mathbb{A}$, $n_v \in \mathbb{N}$.

It follows that

$$\| * K \|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p} \lesssim \sup_{\|A\|_{L^p(\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{M})} = \|B\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{M})} = 1} \int_{\mathbb{K} \times \mathbb{K}} A(k) B(k') \left[\int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}} K(k' a_t n k^{-1}) e^{2\rho t/p} dt dn \right] dk dk'.$$

If $p = 2$ and K is \mathbb{K} -biinvariant ($K(kgk') = K(g)$ for any $k, k' \in \mathbb{K}$ and $g \in \mathbb{G}$) it follows that

$$\| * K \|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \lesssim \int_{\mathbb{G}} K(g) \Phi_0(g) dg.$$

This implies the Kunze–Stein convolution inequality

$$\| * K \|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \lesssim_q \|K\|_{L^q(\mathbb{G})}, \quad q \in [1, 2)$$

in this case, since $\|\Phi_0\|_{L^r(\mathbb{G})} \lesssim_r 1$, $r \in (2, \infty]$.

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Returning to the general case and setting $\rho = 2$, we need to prove that

$$\int_{\mathbb{K} \times \mathbb{K}} A(k)B(k') \left[\int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}} K(k' a_t n k^{-1}) e^{\rho t} dt dn \right] dk dk' \lesssim_q \|K\|_{L^q}$$

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where

$$h = k(h)a_{H(h)}n(h)$$

is the decomposition of h in Iwasawa coordinates.

For $\lambda \in \mathcal{T} := \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\Im(\lambda)| < \rho\}$ set

$$I(\lambda) = \int_{\mathbb{G}} K(g) \left[\int_{\mathbb{K}} A_\lambda(k)B_\lambda(k(gk)) e^{(-\rho+i\lambda)H(gk)} dk \right] dg,$$

$$A_\lambda(x) = A(x)|A(x)|^{i\lambda/\rho}, \quad B_\lambda(x) = B(x)|B(x)|^{-i\lambda/\rho}.$$

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$$\|A_\lambda\|_{L^q} + \|B_\lambda\|_{L^{q'}} \leq 2, \quad q = 2\rho/(\rho + \Re(i\lambda)),$$

we have

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \mathcal{T}} |I(\lambda)| \lesssim \|K\|_{L^1(\mathbb{G})}.$$

- Plancherel theorem (Harish-Chandra)

$$\left[\int_{\mathbb{R}} \lambda^2 e^{-\lambda^2} \|\pi_\lambda(F)\|_{\text{HS}}^2 d\lambda \right]^{1/2} \lesssim \|F\|_{L^2(\mathbb{G})},$$

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Lemma : If $F : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is an analytic function and

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \mathcal{T}} |F(\lambda)| \leq N, \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}} |F(\lambda)| \lambda^2 e^{-\lambda^2} d\lambda \leq 1$$

then

$$|F(0)| \lesssim (\log(2 + N))^3.$$

It follows that $I(0) \lesssim N^{1/2}(\log N)^{3/2}$ if K is the characteristic function of a set of measure $N \geq 2$.

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 - Lipsman (1969) : on $SO(d, 1)$;
 - Eymard–Lohoué (1975) : on all connected semisimple Lie groups \mathbb{G} with finite center, K -invariant kernels ;
 - Cowling (1978) : on all connected semisimple Lie groups \mathbb{G} with finite center.
- Cowling-Meda-Setti (1997), following earlier work of Lohoué-Rychener : on connected simple Lie groups \mathbb{G} of real rank 1 with finite center

$$L^{p,a} * L^{p,b} \subseteq L^{p,c} \quad \text{if } p \in (1, 2) \text{ and } 1/a + 1/b \geq 1 + 1/c.$$

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Weak Riesz rearrangement inequalities :

$$\int_{\mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G}} u(g)v(g'g^{-1})w(g') dgdg' \leq C_{\mathbb{G}} \int_{\mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G}} \tilde{u}(g)\tilde{v}(g'g^{-1})\tilde{w}(g') dgdg',$$

where $\tilde{u}, \tilde{v}, \tilde{w}$ are “symmetric rearrangements” of u, v, w .

This holds on :

- Euclidean spaces with $C_{\mathbb{R}^d} = 1$;
- Nilpotent Lie groups : if u, v, w are characteristic functions of sets U, V, W then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G}} u(g)v(g'g^{-1})w(g') dgdg' &\leq \min(|U||V|, |U||W|, |V||W|) \\ &\leq C_{\mathbb{G}} \int_{\mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G}} \tilde{u}(g)\tilde{v}(g'g^{-1})\tilde{w}(g') dgdg'. \end{aligned}$$

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holds on connected simple Lie groups \mathbb{G} of real rank 1 with finite center.

This is equivalent to the endpoint estimate

$$L^{2,1}(\mathbb{G}) * L^{2,1}(\mathbb{G}) \subseteq L^{2,\infty}(\mathbb{G}).$$

Open problem : does the weak Riesz rearrangement inequality hold on higher rank connected simple Lie groups \mathbb{G} with finite center ?

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Fourier analysis on symmetric spaces. The hyperbolic space \mathbb{H}^d is defined as

$$\mathbb{H}^d = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1} : [x, x] = (x^0)^2 - (x^1)^2 - \dots - (x^d)^2 = 1 \text{ and } x^0 > 0\},$$

with Riemannian metric induced by the Minkowski metric on \mathbb{R}^{d+1} . The hyperbolic space \mathbb{H}^d can be identified with the homogeneous space $SO(d, 1)/SO(d) = \mathbb{G}/\mathbb{K}$, and the group $SO(d, 1)$ acts transitively on \mathbb{H}^d . Moreover, for any $g \in SO(d, 1)$ the mapping $L_g : \mathbb{H}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^d$, $L_g(x) = g \cdot x$, defines an isometry of \mathbb{H}^d .

The Cartan decomposition $\mathbb{G} = \mathbb{K}\mathbb{A}_+\mathbb{K}$: if $f \in C_0(\mathbb{H}^d)$ then

$$\int_{\mathbb{H}^d} f(x) d\mu = C \int_{\mathbb{K}} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+} f(ka_s \cdot \mathbf{0}) (\operatorname{sh} s)^{d-1} dk ds,$$

where C is a suitable constant.

The Fourier–Helgason transform takes suitable functions defined on \mathbb{H}^d to functions defined on $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$. For $\omega \in \mathbb{S}^{d-1}$ (in the general setting of noncompact symmetric spaces, $\omega \in \mathbb{K}/\mathbb{M}$ where \mathbb{M}) and $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ (in general $\lambda \in \mathfrak{a}_{\mathbb{C}}^*$), let $b(\omega) = (1, \omega) \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1}$ and

$$h_{\lambda, \omega} : \mathbb{H}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad h_{\lambda, \omega}(x) = [x, b(\omega)]^{i\lambda - \rho},$$

where $\rho = (d - 1)/2$. It is known that

$$\Delta h_{\lambda, \omega} = -(\lambda^2 + \rho^2)h_{\lambda, \omega},$$

where Δ is the Laplace-Beltrami operator on \mathbb{H}^d . The Fourier transform of $f \in C_0(\mathbb{H}^d)$ is defined by the formula

$$\tilde{f}(\lambda, \omega) = \int_{\mathbb{H}^d} f(x)h_{\lambda, \omega}(x) d\mu = \int_{\mathbb{H}^d} f(x)[x, b(\omega)]^{i\lambda - \rho} d\mu.$$

Fourier inversion formula : if $f \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{H}^d)$ then

$$f(x) = \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} \tilde{f}(\lambda, \omega) [x, b(\omega)]^{-i\lambda - \rho} |\mathbf{c}(\lambda)|^{-2} d\lambda d\omega,$$

where, for a suitable constant C ,

$$\mathbf{c}(\lambda) = C \frac{\Gamma(i\lambda)}{\Gamma(\rho + i\lambda)}$$

is the Harish-Chandra \mathbf{c} -function on \mathbb{H}^d , and the invariant measure of \mathbb{S}^{d-1} is normalized to 1.

Plancherel theorem : the Fourier transform $f \rightarrow \tilde{f}$ extends to an isometry of $L^2(\mathbb{H}^d)$ onto $L^2(\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}^{d-1}, |\mathbf{c}(\lambda)|^{-2} d\lambda d\omega)$; moreover

$$\int_{\mathbb{H}^d} f_1(x) \overline{f_2(x)} d\mu = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{S}^{d-1}} \tilde{f}_1(\lambda, \omega) \overline{\tilde{f}_2(\lambda, \omega)} |\mathbf{c}(\lambda)|^{-2} d\lambda d\omega,$$

for any $f_1, f_2 \in L^2(\mathbb{H}^d)$.

As a consequence, any bounded multiplier $m : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ defines a bounded operator T_m on $L^2(\mathbb{H}^d)$ by the formula

$$\widetilde{T_m(f)}(\lambda, \omega) = m(\lambda) \cdot \widetilde{f}(\lambda, \omega).$$

Theorem : A necessary condition for boundedness on $L^p(\mathbb{H}^d)$ of the operator T_m is that the multiplier m extend to an even analytic function in the interior of the tube $\mathcal{T}_p = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\Im \lambda| < |2/p - 1|\rho\}$.

Clerc–Stein (1974) in the setting of complex symmetric spaces.

Theorem : If $p \in (1, 2)$ and m is an even analytic function in the tube $\mathcal{T}_p = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\Im \lambda| < |2/p - 1|\rho\}$ that satisfies

$$\sup_{\lambda \in \mathcal{T}_p} (1 + |\lambda|)^j |\nabla^j m(\lambda)| \lesssim_j 1, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots,$$

then T_m defines a bounded operator on $L^p(\mathbb{H}^d)$.

- Clerc–Stein (1974) : complex symmetric spaces.
- Stanton–Tomas (1978) : symmetric spaces of real rank one.
- Anker–Lohoué (1986) : \mathbb{G} is a normal real form.
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Idea of proof : the kernel of the operator T_m is

$$K(x) = c \int_{\mathbb{R}} m(\lambda) \Phi_{\lambda}(x) |\mathbf{c}(\lambda)|^{-2} d\lambda = K^0(x) + K^{\infty}(x),$$

where Φ_{λ} are the elementary spherical functions.

To bound the contribution of K^{∞} we use the Herz majorizing principle :

$$\begin{aligned} \| * K^{\infty} \|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p} &\lesssim \sup_{\|A\|_{L^p(\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{M})} = \|B\|_{L^{p'}(\mathbb{K}/\mathbb{M})} = 1} \int_{\mathbb{K} \times \mathbb{K}} A(k) B(k') \\ &\left[\int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}} |K^{\infty}(k' a_t n k^{-1})| e^{2\rho t/p} dt dn \right] dk dk' \\ &\lesssim_p \int_{\mathbb{R}_+} |K^{\infty}(a_t)| e^{-2\rho t/p'} (\text{sh } t)^{d-1} dt. \end{aligned}$$

In special settings one can get good oscillatory bounds on $\Phi_{\lambda}(x)$, which give pointwise bounds on $|K^{\infty}|$. In the general setting, one can get L^2 bounds on K^{∞} using the Abel transform (Taylor, Anker).

Singular integrals on symmetric spaces.

Theorem : I. (2002) Assume $p \in (1, 2)$, $\rho_p = |2/p - 1|\rho$, and m is an even analytic function in the tube $\mathcal{T}_\rho = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\Im \lambda| < \rho_p\}$ that satisfies the Hörmander–Michlin differential inequalities

$$|\nabla^j m(\lambda)| \lesssim_j (|\lambda - i\rho_p|^{-j} + |\lambda + i\rho_p|^{-j}), \quad \lambda \in \mathcal{T}_\rho, j = 0, 1, \dots$$

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Main Proposition : Assume $p \in (1, 2)$ and $\phi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is an even Calderon–Zygmund kernel, i.e.

$$(1+r)|\phi(r)| + (1+r^2)|\phi'(r)| \leq 1, \quad r \in \mathbb{R},$$

$$\left| \int_0^N \phi(r) dr \right| \leq 1, \quad N \in [0, \infty),$$

Let

$$K_p(k_1 a_t k_2) = e^{-2\rho t/p} \phi(t), \quad k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{K}, t \in [0, \infty).$$

Then

$$\| * K_p \|_{L^p(\mathbb{H}^d) \rightarrow L^p(\mathbb{H}^d)} \lesssim_p 1.$$

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$$K_p(k_1 a_t k_2) = e^{-2\rho t/p} \phi(t), \quad k_1, k_2 \in \mathbb{K}, t \in [0, \infty).$$

Then

$$\| * K_p \|_{L^p(\mathbb{H}^d) \rightarrow L^p(\mathbb{H}^d)} \lesssim_p 1.$$

This type of singular integrals were extended to general symmetric spaces of the noncompact type, I. (2003) and Meda-Vallarino (2010).

Extensions to $L^p \rightarrow L^q$ estimates of operators defined by Fourier multipliers on noncompact symmetric spaces :

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Open problem : Assume $\sigma_t = m_{\mathbb{K}} * \delta_{a_t} * m_{\mathbb{K}}$ and $\mathbb{G} = SO(2, 1)$ acts measurably and ergodically on a probability space X . Then

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