



The boundedness of Riesz transforms for Hermite expansions on the Hardy spaces[☆]

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ABSTRACT

Let $L = -\Delta + |x|^2$ be a Hermite operator, where Δ is the Laplacian on \mathbb{R}^d . In this paper, we first characterize the Hardy spaces $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ associated with L by a new version of area integral. Then, we use it to prove the boundedness of Riesz transforms R_j^L , $j = 1, 2, \dots$ for L on $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Moreover, we characterize the Hardy space $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ by R_j^L . This gives a negative answer to a question asked by Thangavelu.

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1. Introduction

The Hermite polynomial on the real line is defined by

$$H_k(x) = (-1)^k \frac{d^k}{dx^k} (e^{-x^2}) e^{x^2}, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Then, the Hermite function is defined by

$$h_k(x) = (\pi^{1/2} 2^k k!)^{-1/2} H_k(x) \exp(-x^2/2), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots$$

In the d -dimensional Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^d , the Hermite functions are defined as follows. For any multi-index α and $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$, we define

$$h_\alpha(x) = \prod_{j=1}^d h_{\alpha_j}(x_j),$$

where $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d)$, $\alpha_i \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$, $x = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$. The system $\{h_\alpha\}$ is a complete orthonormal basis for $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. They are eigenfunctions of the d -dimensional Hermite operator

$$L = -\Delta + |x|^2.$$

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Moreover, we have

$$Lh_\alpha = (2|\alpha| + d)h_\alpha,$$

where $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_d$. The operator L is positive and symmetric in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. For more about Hermite functions one can refer to [13].

The heat semigroup $\{T_t^L\}_{t \geq 0}$ associated to \mathcal{L} is defined by

$$T_t^L f = e^{-t\mathcal{L}} f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-t(2n+d)} \mathcal{P}_n f,$$

where $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and

$$\mathcal{P}_n f = \sum_{|\alpha|=n} \langle f, h_\alpha \rangle h_\alpha.$$

It is well known that this semigroup is a strongly continuous semigroup of contractions on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. The Poisson semigroup $\{P_t^L\}_{t \geq 0}$ associated to \mathcal{L} is defined by

$$P_t^L f = e^{-t\mathcal{L}^{1/2}} f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-t(2n+d)^{1/2}} \mathcal{P}_n f, \quad f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

The Poisson semigroup is also a strongly continuous semigroup of contractions on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. By the principle of subordination, we have

$$P_t^L f(x) = \frac{t}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \int_0^\infty s^{-3/2} \exp(-t^2/4s) T_s^L f(x) ds. \quad (1)$$

Since

$$L = -\frac{1}{2}[(\nabla + x) \cdot (\nabla - x) + (\nabla - x) \cdot (\nabla + x)],$$

we can define the following version of Riesz transforms R_j^L , $j = 1, 2, \dots, d$

$$R_j^L = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} + x_j \right) L^{-1/2}.$$

The definition was first suggested by Thangavelu in [12]. If $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, then

$$R_j^L f = \sum_{\alpha} \left(\frac{2\alpha_j}{2|\alpha| + d} \right)^{1/2} \langle f, h_\alpha \rangle h_{\alpha - e_j} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{|\alpha|=n} \left(\frac{2\alpha_j}{2|\alpha| + d} \right)^{1/2} \langle f, h_\alpha \rangle h_{\alpha - e_j}, \quad (2)$$

where e_j are the coordinate vectors in \mathbb{R}^d .

The kernel $R_j^L(x, y)$ of R_j^L is defined by

$$R_j^L(x, y) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1/2)} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} + x_j \right) \int_0^\infty G_t(x, y) t^{-1/2} dt = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1/2)} \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} + x_j \right) G_t(x, y) t^{-1/2} dt, \quad (3)$$

where

$$G_t^L(x, y) = (2\pi \sinh 2t)^{-d/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}|x - y|^2 \coth 2t - x \cdot y \tanh t\right).$$

Stempak and Torrea proved that (cf. [11])

Proposition 1. *The Riesz operators R_j^L , initially defined on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ by (2), are Calderón–Zygmund operators associated with the kernels $R_j^L(x, y)$, given by (3), which satisfy*

$$|R_j^L(x, y)| \leq \frac{C}{|x - y|^d},$$

and

$$|\nabla_x R_j^L(x, y)| + |\nabla_y R_j^L(x, y)| \leq \frac{C}{|x - y|^{d+1}}.$$

In [13], the author proves that the Riesz transforms R_j^L are bounded on $h^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, where $h^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is the local Hardy space defined by Goldberg in [7]. Thangavelu also asks whether we can characterize $h^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ by R_j^L , i.e., whether the equality

$$h^1(\mathbb{R}^d) = \{f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d): R_j^L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d), j = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

is true.

In this paper, we will consider the boundedness of R_j^L on Hardy spaces $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, $d \geq 3$, where $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is the Hardy space associated to L (cf. [4]). Moreover, we will characterize $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ by R_j^L . This gives a negative answer to the question asked by Thangavelu.

Throughout the article, we will use A and C to denote the positive constants, which are independent of main parameters and may be different at each occurrence. By $B_1 \sim B_2$, we mean that there exists a constant $C > 1$ such that $\frac{1}{C} \leq \frac{B_1}{B_2} \leq C$.

We define the Hardy space $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, $d \geq 3$, associated to L as follows

$$H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d) = \{f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d): \mathcal{M}_L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)\},$$

where $\mathcal{M}_L f(x) = \sup_{t>0} |T_t^L f(x)|$.

Let

$$\rho(x) = \frac{1}{1 + |x|}, \quad (4)$$

and $B(x, r)$ be a ball in \mathbb{R}^d with the center at x and radius r , we say a function $a(x)$ is an $H_L^{1,q}$ -atom associate to a ball $B(x_0, r)$ for the space $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, if

- (1) $\text{supp } a \subset B(x_0, r)$,
- (2) $\|a\|_{L^\infty} \leq |B(x_0, r)|^{-1}$,
- (3) if $r < \rho(x_0)$, then $\int a(x) dx = 0$.

The atomic quasi-norm in $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is defined by

$$\|f\|_{L\text{-atom}} = \inf \left\{ \sum |c_j| \right\},$$

where the infimum is taken over all decompositions $f = \sum c_j a_j$, where a_j are H_L^1 -atoms.

In [4], the authors proved the following result.

Proposition 2. *The norms $\|f\|_{H_L^1}$ and $\|f\|_{L\text{-atom}}$ are equivalent, that is, there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that*

$$C^{-1} \|f\|_{H_L^1} \leq \|f\|_{L\text{-atom}} \leq C \|f\|_{H_L^1}.$$

We define the following Lusin area integral

$$A_L f(x) = \left(\int_0^\infty \int_{|x-y|<t} |D_t^L f(y)|^2 \frac{dy dt}{t^{d+1}} \right)^{1/2},$$

where $D_t^L f(x) = t(\partial_t P_t^L f)(x)$.

Then, we can prove (cf. [8])

Proposition 3. *A function $f \in H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ if and only if its area integral $A_L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Moreover,*

$$\|f\|_{H_L^1} \sim \|A_L f\|_{L^1} + \|f\|_{L^1}.$$

In this paper, we will consider a general version of Lusin area integral

$$S_L f(x) = \left(\int_0^\infty \int_{|x-y|<t} t^2 |\nabla_L P_t^L f(y)|^2 \frac{dy dt}{t^{d+1}} \right)^{1/2},$$

where $\nabla_L = (\partial_t, \delta_1, \dots, \delta_d)$ and $\delta_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} + x_i$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, d$.

The main results of this paper are the following theorems.

Theorem 1. A function $f \in H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ if and only if its area integral $S_L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Moreover,

$$\|f\|_{H_L^1} \sim \|S_L f\|_{L^1} + \|f\|_{L^1}.$$

Theorem 2. The operators R_j^L are bounded on $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ for all $j = 1, 2, \dots, d$, i.e., there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that

$$\|R_j^L f\|_{H_L^1} \leq C \|f\|_{H_L^1}.$$

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we give some basic facts about the heat-diffusion semigroup and the Poisson semigroup associate to L . In Section 3, we prove Theorem 1. The proof of Theorem 2 will be given in Section 4.

2. Preliminaries

In this section, we give some basic facts about the heat-diffusion semigroup and the Poisson semigroup associate to L . Let $G_t^L(x, y)$ be the heat kernel of $\{T_t^L\}$. Then by the Feynman–Kac formula, we get

$$G_t^L(x, y) \leq W_t(x - y),$$

where

$$W_t(x) = (4\pi t)^{-d/2} \exp(-|x|^2/(4t))$$

is the usual Gauss–Weierstrass kernel on \mathbb{R}^d .

The proof of the following proposition can be found in [5].

Proposition 4. (a) For every N , there is a constant $C_N > 0$ such that

$$0 \leq G_t^L(x, y) \leq C_N t^{-\frac{d}{2}} e^{-(5t)^{-1}|x-y|^2} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{t}}{\rho(x)} + \frac{\sqrt{t}}{\rho(y)} \right)^{-N}. \quad (5)$$

(b) There exist $0 < \delta < 1$ and $C > 0$ such that for every $N > 0$, there is a constant $C_N > 0$ so that, for all $|h| \leq \sqrt{t}$,

$$|G_t^L(x+h, y) - G_t^L(x, y)| \leq C_N \left(\frac{|h|}{\sqrt{t}} \right)^\delta t^{-\frac{d}{2}} e^{-At^{-1}|x-y|^2} \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{t}}{\rho(x)} + \frac{\sqrt{t}}{\rho(y)} \right)^{-N}. \quad (6)$$

Remark 1. By part (a) of Proposition 4, it is easy to see that we can replace the condition $|h| \leq \sqrt{t}$ by $|h| \leq \frac{|x-y|}{2}$ in part (b) of Proposition 4.

By the subordination formula, we get

$$f(t, x) = \frac{t}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_0^\infty G_s^L(x, y) s^{-3/2} e^{-t^2/4s} ds f(y) dy = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} P_t^L(x, y) f(y) dy,$$

where

$$P_t^L(x, y) = \frac{t}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \int_0^\infty G_s^L(x, y) s^{-3/2} e^{-t^2/4s} ds$$

is the Poisson kernel associated to L .

By the subordination formula and Proposition 4, we can prove

Proposition 5. (a) For every N , there is a constant $C_N > 0$ such that

$$0 \leq P_t^L(x, y) \leq C_N \frac{t}{(t^2 + A|x - y|^2)^{(d+1)/2}} \left(1 + \frac{t}{\rho(x)} + \frac{t}{\rho(y)}\right)^{-N}. \quad (7)$$

(b) Let $0 < \delta < 1$ and $|h| < \frac{|x-y|}{2}$. Then for any $N > 0$, there exist constants $C > 0$, $C_N > 0$, such that

$$|P_t^L(x+h, y) - P_t^L(x, y)| \leq C_N \left(\frac{|h|}{\sqrt{t}}\right)^\delta \frac{t}{(t^2 + A|x - y|^2)^{(d+1)/2}} \left(1 + \frac{t}{\rho(x)} + \frac{t}{\rho(y)}\right)^{-N}. \quad (8)$$

Let $D_t^L(x, y) = t \partial_t P_t^L(x, y)$, by Proposition 5, we can prove

Proposition 6. Let $D_t^L(x, y)$ be the integral kernel of the operator D_t^L . Then there exist constants C , $0 < \delta' < \delta$, such that for every N , there is a constant C_N , so that

- (a) $|D_t^L(x, y)| \leq C_N \frac{t}{(t^2 + C|x - y|^2)^{(d+1)/2}} \left(1 + \frac{t}{\rho(x)} + \frac{t}{\rho(y)}\right)^{-N}$;
- (b) $|D_t^L(x+h, y) - D_t^L(x, y)| \leq C_N \left(\frac{|h|}{t}\right)^{\delta'} \frac{t}{(t^2 + C|x - y|^2)^{(d+1)/2}} \left(1 + \frac{t}{\rho(x)} + \frac{t}{\rho(y)}\right)^{-N}$, for all $|h| \leq t$;
- (c) $|\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} D_t^L(x, y) dy| \leq C_N \frac{(t/\rho(x))^{\delta'}}{(1+t/\rho(x))^N}$.

We have the following property about $\rho(x)$ (cf. [10, Lemma 1.4]).

Proposition 7. There exist $C, k_0 > 0$ such that

$$\frac{1}{C} \left(1 + \frac{|x - y|}{\rho(x)}\right)^{-k_0} \leq \frac{\rho(y)}{\rho(x)} \leq C \left(1 + \frac{|x - y|}{\rho(x)}\right)^{\frac{k_0}{k_0+1}}.$$

In particular, $\rho(y) \sim \rho(x)$ if $|x - y| < C\rho(x)$.

3. An area integral characterization of $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$

In this section, we give an area integral characterization of $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. We will divide it into several steps and our proof is motivated by [1].

3.1. From Hardy spaces to maximal Hardy spaces

For $f \in L_{loc}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and $|y|^{-d-1} f(y) \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, we define

$$f_L^*(x) = \sup_{\{(t,y) \in \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}^d : |x-y| < t\}} |P_t^L f(y)|.$$

If $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and $f_L^* \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. We will say $f \in H_{\max, L}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Define

$$\|f\|_{H_{\max, L}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} = \|f_L^*\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

Lemma 1. Let f be a locally integrable function on \mathbb{R}^d , then we have

$$\|f\|_{H_{\max, L}^1} \leq C \|f\|_{H_L^1}.$$

Proof. Let $f \in H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Then by Proposition 1, f can be decomposed into $H_L^{1,\infty}$ -atoms. Let $a(x)$ be an $H_L^{1,\infty}$ -atom, we will prove

$$\|a\|_{H_{\max, L}^1} \leq C, \quad (9)$$

where C is a positive constant and independent of a .

Assume $\text{supp } a \subset B(y_0, r)$. We will consider two cases.

Case 1: $r < \rho(y_0)$, $a(x)$ satisfies the moment condition. Then, we can prove (9) in a standard fashion (cf. [1] or [6]).

Case 2: $r \geq \rho(y_0)$, $a(x)$ doesn't satisfy the moment condition. We have

$$P_t^L a(x) = \int_B P_t^L(x, y) a(y) dy$$

and

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |a_L^*(x)| dx = \int_{B^*} |a_L^*(x)| dx + \int_{(B^*)^c} |a_L^*(x)| dx = I_1 + I_2,$$

where $B^* = B(y_0, 2r)$. For I_1 , we have

$$I_1 \leq |B^*|^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |M(a)(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \leq C |B|^{\frac{1}{2}} |B|^{-\frac{1}{2}} = C, \quad (10)$$

where M is the Hardy–Littlewood maximal function.

For I_2 , we will first prove that

$$a_L^*(x) \leq C |B|^{\frac{1}{d}} |x - y_0|^{-d-1} \quad (11)$$

for any x such that $|x - y_0| > 2r$. When $|x - y_0| > 2r$, $|x - y| < t$ and $|y_0 - z| < r$, we have

$$t + |y - z| \geq t + |x - y_0| - |x - y| - |y_0 - z| \geq |x - y_0| - r \geq \frac{|x - y_0|}{2}.$$

By Proposition 7, we know $\rho(z) \leq Cr$ for any $z \in B(y_0, r)$. Therefore, by Proposition 5

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_B P_t^L(y, z) a(z) dz \right| &\leq C \int_B \frac{t}{(t^2 + A|y - z|^2)^{(d+1)/2}} \left(\frac{\rho(z)}{t} \right) |a(z)| dz \\ &\leq Cr \int_B \frac{1}{(t + |y - z|)^{d+1}} |a(z)| dz \\ &\leq C |B|^{\frac{1}{d}} |x - y_0|^{-d-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Taking supremum in $\{(y, t) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times (0, \infty) : |x - y| < t\}$, we get (11). Then

$$I_2 = \int_{(B^*)^c} |a_L^*(x)| dx \leq C |B|^{\frac{1}{d}} \int_{(B^*)^c} \frac{1}{|x - y_0|^{(d+1)}} dx \leq C |B|^{\frac{1}{d}} |B|^{-\frac{1}{d}} = C.$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 1. \square

3.2. From maximal functions to area integral functions

We first prove the following version of Caccioppoli inequality associated to L , which is very important for our proof (cf. [9]).

Lemma 2. Assume $u \in L_{loc}^2(B((x_0, t_0), 4r))$ and is a weak solution of $-\Delta u + \partial_t^2 u + |x|^2 u = 0$ in the ball $B((x_0, t_0), 4r)$, then we have

$$\int_{B((x_0, t_0), r)} \left(|\partial_t u(x, t)|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^d |\delta_i u(x, t)|^2 \right) dx dt \leq \frac{C}{r^2} \int_{B((x_0, t_0), 2r)} |u(x, t)|^2 dx dt.$$

Proof. Let $\eta \in C_0^\infty(B((x_0, t_0), 2r))$ and satisfy $0 \leq \eta \leq 1$, $\eta(y, t) = 1$ for $(y, t) \in B((x_0, t_0), r)$ and $|\partial_t \eta|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^d |\partial_{x_i} \eta|^2 \leq \frac{C}{r^2}$. By

$$|\partial_t u(x, t)|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^d |\delta_i u(x, t)|^2 \leq C \left(|\partial_t u(x, t)|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^d |\delta_i u(x, t)|^2 + |x|^2 |u(x, t)|^2 \right),$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B((x_0, t_0), r)} \left(|\partial_t u(x, t)|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^d |\delta_i u(x, t)|^2 \right) dx dt &\leq C \int_{B((x_0, t_0), r)} \left(|\partial_t u(x, t)|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^d |\partial_i u(x, t)|^2 + |x|^2 |u(x, t)|^2 \right) dx dt \\ &= C \int_{B((x_0, t_0), r)} (|\bar{\nabla} u(x, t)|^2 + |x|^2 |u(x, t)|^2) dx dt, \end{aligned}$$

where $|\bar{\nabla} u(x, t)|^2 = |\nabla u(x, t)|^2 + |\partial_t u(x, t)|^2$.

In the following, we will prove

$$\int_{B((x_0, t_0), r)} (|\bar{\nabla} u|^2 + |x|^2 |u(x, t)|^2) dx dt \leq \frac{C}{r^2} \int_{B((x_0, t_0), 2r)} |u(x, t)|^2 dx dt. \quad (13)$$

For simplicity, we use $B(2r)$ to denote $B((x_0, t_0), 2r)$.

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \int_{B(2r)} \bar{\nabla} u(x, t) \cdot \bar{\nabla} (u\eta^2)(x, t) + |x|^2 u(u\eta^2)(x, t) dx dt \\ &= \int_{B(2r)} \bar{\nabla} u(x, t) \cdot (\eta^2 \bar{\nabla} u(x, t) + 2\eta u \bar{\nabla} \eta(x, t)) dx dt + \int_{B(2r)} |x|^2 |u^2 \eta^2|(x, t) dx dt \\ &= \int_{B(2r)} \eta(x, t) \bar{\nabla} u(x, t) \cdot (\eta \bar{\nabla} u(x, t) + 2u \bar{\nabla} \eta(x, t)) dx dt + \int_{B(2r)} |x|^2 |u^2 \eta^2|(x, t) dx dt \\ &= \int_{B(2r)} (\bar{\nabla} (u\eta)(x, t) - u \bar{\nabla} \eta(x, t)) \cdot (\bar{\nabla} (u\eta)(x, t) - u \bar{\nabla} \eta(x, t) + 2u \bar{\nabla} \eta(x, t)) dx dt + \int_{B(2r)} |x|^2 |u^2 \eta^2|(x, t) dx dt \\ &= \int_{B(2r)} |\bar{\nabla} (u\eta)(x, t)|^2 dx dt - \int_{B(2r)} |u(x, t)|^2 |\bar{\nabla} \eta(x, t)|^2 dx dt + \int_{B(2r)} |x|^2 |u^2 \eta^2|(x, t) dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B(r)} |\bar{\nabla} u(x, t)|^2 + |x|^2 |u(x, t)|^2 dx dt &\leq \int_{B(2r)} |\bar{\nabla} (u\eta)(x, t)|^2 + |x|^2 |u^2 \eta^2|(x, t) dx dt \\ &= \int_{B(2r)} |u(x, t)|^2 |\bar{\nabla} \eta(x, t)|^2 dx dt \leq \frac{C}{r^2} \int_{B(2r)} |u(x, t)|^2 dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

This gives the proof of (13) and then Lemma 2 is proved. \square

Let

$$S_{L, \alpha} f(x) = \left(\int_{\Gamma_\alpha(x)} t^2 |\nabla_L P_t^L f(y)|^2 \frac{dy dt}{t^{d+1}} \right)^{1/2}$$

and

$$S_{L, \alpha}^{\epsilon, R} f(x) = \left(\int_{\Gamma_\alpha^{\epsilon, R}(x)} t^2 |\nabla_L P_t^L f(y)|^2 \frac{dy dt}{t^{d+1}} \right)^{1/2},$$

where $\Gamma_\alpha(x) = \{(y, t) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+: |y - x| < \alpha t\}$ and $\Gamma_\alpha^{\epsilon, R}(x) = \{(y, t) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times (\epsilon, R): |y - x| < \alpha t\}$.

By Lemma 2, we can prove the following lemma (cf. [1]).

Lemma 3. If $\alpha < 1$, then, for $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, we have

$$S_{L, \alpha}^{\epsilon, R} f(x) \leq C_\alpha (1 + |\ln(R/\epsilon)|)^{1/2} f_L^*(x)$$

for some $C_\alpha > 0$ that is independent of f .

Let

$$\widetilde{S}_\alpha^{\epsilon,R} f(x) = \left(\int_1^2 \int_{I_{\alpha/a}^{a\epsilon,aR}(x)} t^{1-d} |\nabla_L P_t^L f(y)|^2 dy dt da \right)^{1/2}.$$

It is easy to see that

$$S_{\alpha/2}^{2\epsilon,R} f(x) \leq \widetilde{S}_\alpha^{\epsilon,R} f(x) \leq S_{2\alpha}^{\epsilon,2R} f(x). \quad (14)$$

Moreover, we have

Lemma 4. *There exists $C > 0$ such that, for all $0 < \gamma < 1$, $\lambda > 0$, $0 < \epsilon < R < \infty$ and $f \in H_{\max,L}^1 \cap L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, we have*

$$|\{x \in \mathbb{R}^d: \widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon,R} f(x) > 2\lambda, f_L^*(x) \leq \gamma\lambda\}| \leq C\gamma^2 |\{x \in \mathbb{R}^d: \widetilde{S}_{1/2}^{\epsilon,R} f(x) > \lambda\}|.$$

Proof. Let ϵ , R and λ be fixed. Then for $f \in H_{\max,L}^p \cap L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, define $O = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d: \widetilde{S}_{1/2}^{\epsilon,R} f(x) > \lambda\}$. We assume that $O \neq \mathbb{R}^d$, otherwise, there is nothing prove. Let $O = \bigcup_k Q_k$ be a Whitney decomposition of O by dyadic cubes, so that, for all k , $2Q_k \subset O \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, but $4Q_k$ intersects O^c . Since

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R}^d: \widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon,R} f(x) > 2\lambda\} \subset \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d: \widetilde{S}_{1/2}^{\epsilon,R} f(x) > \lambda\},$$

it is sufficient to prove

$$|\{x \in Q_k: \widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon,R} f(x) > 2\lambda, f_L^*(x) \leq \gamma\lambda\}| \leq C\gamma^2 |Q_k|. \quad (15)$$

Fixing k and let l be the side length of Q_k . If $x \in Q_k$, we have

$$\widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{\sup\{10l,\epsilon\},R} f(x) \leq \lambda.$$

In fact, choose $x_k \in 4Q_k$ and $x_k \notin O$. If $|x - y| < \frac{t}{20}$ and $t \geq \sup\{10l, \epsilon\}$, then we have

$$|x_k - y| < |x - y| + |x - x_k| < \frac{t}{20} + 4l < \frac{t}{2}.$$

Therefore,

$$\widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{\sup\{10l,\epsilon\},R} f(x) \leq \widetilde{S}_{1/2}^{\sup\{10l,\epsilon\},R} f(x_k) \leq \lambda.$$

If $\epsilon \geq 10l$, then $\{x \in Q_k: \widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon,R} f(x) > 2\lambda\} = \emptyset$. So (15) holds.

If $\epsilon < 10l$, then

$$\widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon,R} f(x) \leq \widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon,10l} f(x) + \widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{10l,R} f(x).$$

Therefore, we only need to prove

$$|\{x \in Q_k: \widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon,10l} f(x) > \lambda, f_L^*(x) \leq \gamma\lambda\}| \leq C\gamma^2 |Q_k|. \quad (16)$$

For simplicity, we denote

$$g(x) = \widetilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon,10l} f(x), \quad \text{and} \quad F = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d: f_L^*(x) \leq \gamma\lambda\}.$$

As $(x, t) \rightarrow u_t(x) = P_t^L f(x)$ is a continuous function, we know F is a closed subset of \mathbb{R}^d . Then, (16) follows from

$$|\{x \in Q_k: g(x) > \lambda\}| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \int_{Q_k} |g(x)|^2 dx,$$

and

$$\int_{Q_k} |g(x)|^2 dx \leq C\gamma^2 \lambda^2 |Q_k|. \quad (17)$$

If $5l \leq \epsilon$, then by Lemma 3, we obtain

$$\int_{Q_k} |g(x)|^2 dx \leq C \int_{Q_k} f_L^*(x)^2 dx \leq C \gamma^2 \lambda^2 |Q_k|.$$

If $\epsilon < 5l$, then

$$\int_{Q_k} |g(x)|^2 dx \leq C \int_1^2 \int_{\xi_a} t |\nabla_L P_t^L f(y)|^2 dy dt da,$$

where $\xi_a = \{(y, t) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times (a\epsilon, 10a\epsilon) : a\psi(y) < t\}$ and $\psi(y) = 20d(y, Q_k \cap F)$.

It is obvious that $\xi_a = \{(y, at) : (y, t) \in \xi_1\}$. Let $E = \{y : (y, t) \in \xi_1\}$. Then E is an open subset of \mathbb{R}^d . For any connected component G of E , we let $\mathcal{L}_a = \{(y, t) \in \xi_a : y \in G\}$. It is sufficient to prove that

$$\int_1^2 \int_{\mathcal{L}_a} t |\nabla_L u_t(y)|^2 dy dt da \leq c \lambda^2 \gamma^2 |G|. \quad (18)$$

In fact, if we can prove (18), by summing over all the connected components of E , then we get

$$\int_1^2 \int_{\xi_a} t |\nabla_L u_t(y)|^2 dy dt da \leq c \lambda^2 \gamma^2 |E|.$$

If $y \in E$, then there is a point $(y, t) \in \xi_1$. Therefore, there exists $x \in Q_k$ such that $|x - y| < \frac{t}{20}$. As $t < 10l$, we have $|x - y| < \frac{l}{2}$, hence $E \subset 2Q_k$, which shows that (18) holds.

In the following, we prove (18). We fix a connected component G of E , consider $a \in (1, 2)$ and note that \mathcal{L}_a is connected and has a Lipschitz boundary. By

$$-(\Delta + |x|^2)u_t(x) + \partial_t^2 u_t(x) = 0$$

in the weak sense on $\mathbb{R}^d \times (0, \infty)$, we get

$$|\nabla_L u_t(x)|^2 = \frac{1}{2} (\Delta u_t^2(x) + \partial_t^2 u_t^2(x)).$$

Therefore

$$|\nabla_L u_t(x)|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \Delta u_t^2(x) + \frac{1}{2} \partial_t^2 u_t^2(x).$$

Then by the Green formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{L}_a} t |\nabla_L u_t(y)|^2 dy dt &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathcal{L}_a} t \Delta u_t^2(y) + t \partial_t^2 u_t^2(y) dy dt \\ &= \int_{\partial \mathcal{L}_a} t u_t(y) \bar{\nabla} u_t(y) \cdot N_a(y, t) d\sigma_a(y, t) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial \mathcal{L}_a} u_t^2(y) N_a(y, t) \cdot (0, \dots, 0, 1) d\sigma_a(y, t), \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

where $N_a(y, t)$ is the unit normal vector outward \mathcal{L}_a and $d\sigma_a(y, t)$ is the surface measure over $\partial \mathcal{L}_a$.

In the following, we show that $y \in 2Q_k \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ and $(y, t) \in \xi_1$ for $(y, t) \in \overline{\mathcal{L}_a}$. In fact, by the definition of \mathcal{L}_a and note that F is a closed subset of \mathbb{R}^d , we know there exists $x \in Q_k \cap F$ such that $|x - y| \leq \frac{t}{20a}$. Since $t < 10la$, we have $|x - y| < \frac{l}{2}$, then we prove that $y \in 2Q_k$. By $|x - y| \leq \frac{t}{20a} < t$, we get $(y, t) \in \xi_1$. Therefore, $\overline{\mathcal{L}_a}$ remains far from the boundary of $\mathbb{R}^d \times (0, \infty)$, so that we do not care about the boundary values of $u_t(y)$ and $|u_t(y)| \leq \gamma \lambda$ on $\overline{\mathcal{L}_a}$.

By (19), we can obtain

$$\int_{\mathcal{L}_a} t |\bar{\nabla} u_t(y)|^2 dy dt \leq C \int_{\partial \mathcal{L}_a} t |u_t(y)| |\bar{\nabla} u_t(y)| d\sigma_a(y, t) + \int_{\partial \mathcal{L}_a} |u_t(y)|^2 d\sigma_a(y, t).$$

Since $|u_t(y)| \leq \gamma\lambda$ on $\partial\mathcal{L}_a$, we have

$$\int_1^2 \int_{\partial\mathcal{L}_a} |u_t(y)|^2 d\sigma_a(y, t) da \leq \gamma^2 \lambda^2 \int_1^2 \int_{\partial\mathcal{L}_a} d\sigma_a(y, t) da.$$

We will show that

$$\int_1^2 \int_{\partial\mathcal{L}_a} d\sigma_a(y, t) da \leq C|G|. \quad (20)$$

We have

$$\int_1^2 \int_{\partial\mathcal{L}_a} d\sigma_a(y, t) da \leq C \int_{\mathcal{G}} \frac{dz ds}{s},$$

where \mathcal{G} is the union of the sets $\partial\mathcal{L}_a$ for $1 < a < 2$, then

$$\mathcal{G} = \{(z, s): z \in G \text{ and } \epsilon < s < 2\epsilon \text{ or } \psi(z) < s < 2\psi(z) \text{ or } 10l < s < 20l\}.$$

Therefore

$$\int_1^2 \int_{\partial\mathcal{L}_a} d\sigma_a(y, t) da \leq C \int_{\mathcal{G}} \frac{dz ds}{s} \leq C|G|.$$

It remains to prove

$$\int_1^2 \int_{\partial\mathcal{L}_a} t |u_t(y)| |\bar{\nabla} u_t(y)| d\sigma_a(y, t) da \leq C\gamma^2 \lambda^2 |G|. \quad (21)$$

Let \mathcal{G} be the same set as above, then

$$\int_1^2 \int_{\partial\mathcal{L}_a} t |u_t(y)| |\bar{\nabla} u_t(y)| d\sigma_a(y, t) da \leq C\gamma\lambda \int_{\mathcal{G}} |\bar{\nabla} u_t(y)| dy dt.$$

Let $B_j = B((x_j, t_j), \frac{\epsilon t_j}{20})$ be a covering of \mathcal{G} with bounded overlap. Noting that $(x, t) \in B_j$ implies $t \sim t_j \sim r_j$, the radius of B_j . Then by Hölder's inequality and Caccioppoli's inequality, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathcal{G}} |\bar{\nabla} u_t(y)| dy dt &\leq C \sum_j \int_{B_j} |\bar{\nabla} u_t(y)| dy dt \\ &\leq C \sum_j |B_j|^{1/2} \left(\int_{B_j} |\bar{\nabla} u_t(y)|^2 dy dt \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq C \sum_j |B_j|^{1/2} r_j^{-1} \left(\int_{2B_j} |u_t(y)|^2 dy dt \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq C\gamma\lambda \sum_j |B_j| r_j^{-1} \leq C\gamma\lambda \int_{\tilde{\mathcal{G}}} \frac{dz ds}{s}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$ is a set like \mathcal{G} but slightly enlarged: it is contained in the set of points (z, s) with $z \in G$ and $\epsilon/2 < s < 4\epsilon$ or $\psi(z)/2 < s < 4\psi(z)$ or $5l < s < 40l$.

This proves that (21) holds and Lemma 4 is proved. \square

The proof of the following lemma can be found in [2].

Lemma 5. For $\alpha, \beta > 0$ and $0 < \epsilon < R < \infty$, we have

$$\|S_{\alpha}^{\epsilon, R}\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \sim \|S_{\beta}^{\epsilon, R}\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)},$$

where the implicit constants do not dependent on ϵ, R, f .

Now, we can prove

Lemma 6. Let f be a locally integrable function on \mathbb{R}^d such that $\|\tilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon, R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} < \infty$. Then we have

$$\|S_L f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|f_L^*\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

Proof. Firstly, let $f \in H_{\max, L}^1 \cap L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. By Lemma 4, we get

$$\|\tilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon, R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \gamma^{-1} \|f_L^*\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} + C \gamma^2 \|\tilde{S}_{1/2}^{\epsilon, R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}. \quad (22)$$

By Lemma 5 and (14), we know

$$\|S_1^{\epsilon, R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|S_{1/40}^{\epsilon, R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|\tilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon, R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

Then by Lemma 3,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{S}_{1/2}^{\epsilon, R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} &\leq C \|S_1^{\epsilon/2, 2R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \\ &\leq C \|S_1^{\epsilon/2, \epsilon} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} + \|S_1^{\epsilon, R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} + \|S_1^{R, 2R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \\ &\leq C \|S_1^{\epsilon, R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} + C \|f_L^*\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \\ &\leq C \|\tilde{S}_{1/20}^{\epsilon, R} f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} + C \|f_L^*\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}. \end{aligned}$$

We can choose a proper γ in (22) to get Lemma 6.

Now we relax the assumption $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. By $f_L^* \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, we get $P_s^L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ for any $s > 0$. Moreover, for any $s > 0$ and x , we have

$$|P_s^L f(x)| \leq f_L^*(y), \quad y \in B(x, s).$$

Therefore, by Proposition 5, we can get

$$P_s^L f(x) \leq \frac{1}{|B(x, s)|} \int_{B(x, s)} f_L^*(y) dy \leq \frac{c}{s^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f_L^*(y) dy.$$

This gives $P_s^L f \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ for any $s > 0$. Then, we can get $P_s^L f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ for any $s > 0$. The proof of the above gives

$$\|S_L f_s\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|(f_s)_L^*\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)},$$

where $f_s = P_s^L f$. As

$$(f_s)_L^*(x) = \sup_{|x-y|<t} |P_t^L f_s(y)| = \sup_{|x-y|<t} |P_{t+s}^L f(y)| \leq \sup_{|x-y|<t+s} |P_{t+s}^L f(y)| = f_L^*(x),$$

we have

$$\|S_L f_s\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|f_L^*\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

Let $s \rightarrow 0$, by monotone theorem, we get

$$\|S_L f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|f_L^*\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

This gives the proof of Lemma 6. \square

3.3. From area integral functions to Hardy spaces

By $\|A_L f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq \|S_L f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}$ and Proposition 3, we know

Lemma 7. If $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and $S_L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, then $f \in H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Moreover, we have

$$\|f\|_{H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|S_L f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} + \|f\|_{L^1}.$$

Proof of Theorem 1. Theorem 1 follows from Lemmas 1, 6 and 7. \square

4. Boundedness of R_j^L on $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$

In this section, we prove that the operators R_j^L , $j = 1, 2, \dots$ are bounded on $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$.

We first prove the following lemma.

Lemma 8. If $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, then

$$D_t^{L+2}(R_j^L f) = -t\delta_j e^{-tL^{1/2}} f$$

for all $j = 1, 2, \dots, d$.

Proof. By Lemma 4.2 in [11], we have

$$e^{-t(L+2)^{1/2}}(R_j^L f)(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-t(2n+d)^{1/2}} \sum_{|\alpha|=n} \left(\frac{2\alpha_j}{2|\alpha|+d} \right)^{1/2} \langle f, h_\alpha \rangle h_{\alpha-e_j}(x).$$

Therefore

$$\partial_t e^{-t(L+2)^{1/2}}(R_j^L f)(x) = - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-t(2n+d)^{1/2}} \sum_{|\alpha|=n} (2\alpha_j)^{1/2} \langle f, h_\alpha \rangle h_{\alpha-e_j}(x). \quad (23)$$

Similarly, by

$$e^{-tL^{1/2}} f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-t(2n+d)^{1/2}} \sum_{|\alpha|=n} \langle f, h_\alpha \rangle h_\alpha(x)$$

and (3), we get

$$\delta_j e^{-tL^{1/2}} f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-t(2n+d)^{1/2}} \sum_{|\alpha|=n} (2\alpha_j)^{1/2} \langle f, h_\alpha \rangle h_{\alpha-e_j}(x). \quad (24)$$

Lemma 8 follows from (23) and (24). \square

In order to get our result, we need the following lemma.

Lemma 9. If $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, then $f \in H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ if and only if $f \in H_{L+2}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$.

Proof. When $f \in H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, then $\mathcal{M}_L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Therefore, $f \in H_{L+2}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ follows from $\mathcal{M}_{L+2} f \leq \mathcal{M}_L f$.

When $f \in H_{L+2}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, by Proposition 2

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \lambda_i a_i(x),$$

where $a_i(x)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots$ are H_{L+2}^1 -atoms. It is easy to prove

$$\rho(x) \sim \rho(x, |x|^2 + 2). \quad (25)$$

Then, by Proposition 6, we can prove that there exists a constant $C > 0$ such that (cf. Lemma 6 in [3])

$$\|A_L(a_i)\| \leq C.$$

Therefore

$$\|f\|_{H_L^1} \leq \|f\|_{H_{L+2}^1}. \quad (26)$$

Then Lemma 9 is proved. \square

Now, we can prove the main result of this paper.

Proof of Theorem 2. As $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ is dense in $H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ (see [8]), we can assume $f \in H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. By Lemma 9, it is sufficient to prove $R_j^L f \in H_{L+2}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Following from Proposition 3, Theorem 1 and Lemma 8,

$$\begin{aligned} \|R_j^L f\|_{H_{L+2}^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} &\leq C \|A_{L+2} R_j^L f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \\ &= C \left\| \left(\int_0^\infty \int_{|x-y|<t} |D_t^{L+2}(R_j^L f)(y)|^2 \frac{dy dt}{t^{d+1}} \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \\ &= C \left\| \left(\int_0^\infty \int_{|x-y|<t} |t \delta_j e^{-tL^{1/2}} f(y)|^2 \frac{dy dt}{t^{d+1}} \right)^{1/2} \right\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \\ &\leq C \|S_L f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \|f\|_{H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 2. \square

By Theorem 2, we can prove

Corollary 1. For $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, $f \in H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ if and only if $R_j^L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, d$ i.e.,

$$H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d) = \{f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d): R_j^L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d), j = 1, 2, \dots, d\}.$$

Moreover, we have

$$\|f\|_{H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} \sim \|f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)} + \sum_{j=1}^d \|R_j^L f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

Proof. By Theorem 2, we know $R_j^L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, d$ for $f \in H_L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$.

For the reverse, by $R_j^L f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$ and $x_j f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, d$ (cf. Lemma 0.9 in [10]), we get $\partial_j L^{-\frac{1}{2}} f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d)$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, d$. Then Corollary 1 follows from Theorem 2 in [4]. \square

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