

§4. CALCULUS FOR COMPACTLY SUPPORTED

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SYMBOLS

Recall the standard quantization procedure

$$a(x, \xi) \quad \longmapsto \quad \text{Op}_h(a) = a(x, hD_x)$$

(symbol) (pseudodifferential operator)

We will establish basic algebraic properties of Op_h when $a \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$
smooth compactly supported

They come in the form of asymptotic expansions as $h \rightarrow 0$, defined as follows.

Definition Assume that $a_0, a_1, \dots \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$

and $a(x, \xi; h) \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$. We write

$$a(x, \xi; h) \sim \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} h^j a_j(x, \xi)$$

if $\forall N \forall$ multiindices α, β on \mathbb{R}^{2n} , $\exists C_{N, \alpha, \beta}$:
 $\forall h \in (0, 1]$, $\sup_w |w^\alpha \partial_w^\beta (a(x, \xi; h) - \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} h^j a_j(x, \xi))| \leq C_{N, \alpha, \beta} h^N$
(here we denote $w := (x, \xi) \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$)

Theorem (Borel's Theorem) Let $a_0, a_1, \dots \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$.

Then there exists $a(x, \xi; h)$ s.t. $a \sim \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} h^j a_j$.

Any two such symbols a differ by $O(h^\infty)_{\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2n})}$.

Proof See Zworski's book, Theorem 4.15

§4.1. Compositions of \mathcal{O}_h

Theorem Assume that $a, b \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$. Then

$$\mathcal{O}_h(a)\mathcal{O}_h(b) = \mathcal{O}_h(a \# b)$$

where $a \# b(x, \xi; h) \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$ uniformly in h and satisfies the expansion in $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$

$$a \# b(x, \xi; h) \underset{h \rightarrow 0}{\sim} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (-ih)^j \sum_{\alpha, |\alpha|=j} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_{\xi}^{\alpha} a(x, \xi) \partial_x^{\alpha} b(x, \xi)$$

$a \# b$ called the Moyal product of a and b

Notation: $\alpha! = \alpha_1! \cdots \alpha_n!$
for $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$

EXAMPLE: (here $a, b \notin \mathcal{S}$; will be covered in §5)

$$a = \xi_k, \quad \mathcal{O}_h(a) = hD_{x_k}, \quad b = x_k, \quad \mathcal{O}_h(b) = x_k$$

$$\mathcal{O}_h(a)\mathcal{O}_h(b) = x_k \cdot (hD_{x_k}) - ih = \mathcal{O}_h(x_k \xi_k - ih)$$

And indeed, $a \# b = x_k \xi_k - ih$ where

$x_k \xi_k$ comes from $j=0$ terms in the expansion

$-ih$ comes from $j=1$

$j \geq 2$ terms are all equal to 0

COROLLARY 1: PRODUCT RULE

$$a \# b = a \cdot b + \mathcal{O}(h) \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

Can be also written more informally as

$$\mathcal{O}_h(a)\mathcal{O}_h(b) = \mathcal{O}_h(ab) + \mathcal{O}(h)$$

Analyzing the $j=0, j=1$ terms in the expansion, we next get

COROLLARY 2: COMMUTATOR RULE

$$a \# b - b \# a = -i\hbar \{a, b\} + O(\hbar^2)_{S(\mathbb{R}^{2n})}$$

Can be written informally as

$$[Op_\hbar(a), Op_\hbar(b)] = -i\hbar Op_\hbar(\{a, b\}) + O(\hbar^2)$$

commutator: $[A, B] := AB - BA$

$$\text{Here } \{a, b\} = \sum_{j=1}^n (\partial_{\xi_j} a \cdot \partial_{x_j} b - \partial_{x_j} a \cdot \partial_{\xi_j} b)$$

is called the Poisson bracket of a and b

Proof of the Composition Theorem

1. We find $a \# b$ using oscillatory testing:
for $(x, \xi) \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ and $e_\xi: y \mapsto e^{\frac{i}{\hbar} \langle y, \xi \rangle}$, put

$$a \# b(x, \xi; \hbar) := e^{-\frac{i}{\hbar} \langle x, \xi \rangle} (Op_\hbar(a) Op_\hbar(b) e_\xi)(x)$$

Since $Op_\hbar(a) Op_\hbar(b): S'(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow S(\mathbb{R}^n)$,

once we show $a \# b \in S(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$ (which follows from the proof of the asymptotic expansion below)

we do indeed have

$$Op_\hbar(a) Op_\hbar(b) = Op_\hbar(a \# b)$$

2. It remains to show the expansion for $a \# b$. We have by oscillatory testing,

$$(Op_h(b) e_\xi)(y) = b(y, \xi) e^{\frac{i}{h} \langle y, \xi \rangle} \quad \forall y, \xi$$

Thus by the definition of $Op_h(a)$ we set

$$a \# b(x, \xi; h) = e^{-\frac{i}{h} \langle x, \xi \rangle} (Op_h(a) Op_h(b) e_\xi)(x)$$

$$= e^{-\frac{i}{h} \langle x, \xi \rangle} (2\pi h)^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}} e^{\frac{i}{h} \langle x-y, \eta \rangle} a(x, \eta) b(y, \xi) e^{\frac{i}{h} \langle y, \zeta \rangle} dy d\eta$$

$$= (2\pi h)^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}} e^{\frac{i}{h} \langle x-y, \eta-\xi \rangle} a(x, \eta) b(y, \xi) dy d\eta$$

$$\begin{cases} y = x+z \\ \eta = \xi+\zeta \end{cases}$$

$$= (2\pi h)^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}} e^{-\frac{i}{h} \langle z, \zeta \rangle} a(x, \xi+\zeta) b(x+z, \xi) dz d\zeta$$

Since $a, b \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$, we see from the above formula that $a \# b \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$ as well. Moreover, the function under the \int is compactly supported in z, ζ .

3. We now fix (x, ξ) and show the asymptotic expansion as $h \rightarrow 0$. One can differentiate under the integral sign to get an expansion in $S_{x, \xi}(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$ (exercise)

We apply quadratic stationary phase (see §2)

We write $a \# b(x, \xi; h) = (2\pi h)^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}} e^{\frac{i}{2h} \langle Qw, w \rangle} A(w) dw$,

where $w = (z, \zeta)$, $Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -I \\ -I & 0 \end{pmatrix}$,

$$A(z, \zeta) = a(x, \xi+\zeta) b(x+z, \xi)$$

We set

$Q \# b(x, \xi; h) \underset{h \rightarrow 0}{\sim} \frac{e^{\frac{i\hbar}{\hbar} \text{sgn } Q}}{|\det Q|^{1/2}} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{(i\hbar)^j}{j!} \left(\frac{\langle Q^{-1} \partial_w, \partial_w \rangle}{2} \right)^j A^{(j)}$

*as $\text{sgn } Q = 0$
 $|\det Q| = 1$*

We have $Q^{-1} = Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -I \\ -I & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $\frac{\langle Q^{-1} \partial_w, \partial_w \rangle}{2} = -\langle \partial_z, \partial_z \rangle$

Thus the j -th term is

$$\frac{(-i\hbar)^j}{j!} \left(\langle \partial_z, \partial_z \rangle^j (a(x, \xi + \zeta) b(x + z, \xi)) \right) \Big|_{\substack{z=0 \\ \zeta=0}}$$

By the multinomial theorem, this is equal to

$$(-i\hbar)^j \sum_{|\alpha|=j} \partial_{\xi}^{\alpha} a(x, \xi) \partial_x^{\alpha} b(x, \xi),$$

giving the required expansion. \square

§4.2. Adjoints of \mathcal{O}_{ph}

General fact: if $A: S'(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow S(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is

given by $Au(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} K_A(x, y) u(y) dy$

where $K_A \in S(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$ then the adjoint A^* is given by the same formula with

$$K_{A^*}(x, y) = \overline{K_A(y, x)}.$$

By adjoint we mean that $\forall u, v \in S(\mathbb{R}^n)$,

$$\langle Au, v \rangle_{L^2} = \langle u, A^*v \rangle_{L^2}, \quad \langle u, v \rangle_{L^2} := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} u \cdot \bar{v} dx$$

Theorem

Assume that $a \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$. Then

$$Op_h(a)^* = Op_h(a^*)$$

where $a^*(x, \xi; h) \in S(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$ uniformly in h satisfies the asymptotic expansion in $S(\mathbb{R}^{2n})$

$$a^*(x, \xi; h) \underset{h \rightarrow 0}{\sim} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (-ih)^j \sum_{|\alpha| = j} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_x^\alpha \partial_\xi^\alpha \overline{a(x, \xi)}$$

COROLLARY: ADJOINT RULE

$$a^* = \bar{a} + O(h)_{S(\mathbb{R}^{2n})}$$

Can be written more informally as

$$Op_h(a)^* = Op_h(\bar{a}) + O(h).$$

Proof of the theorem 1. Recalling that

$$Op_h(a)u(x) = (2\pi h)^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}} e^{\frac{i}{h}\langle x-y, \eta \rangle} a(x, \eta) u(y) dy d\eta$$

we have

$$Op_h(a)^*u(x) = (2\pi h)^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}} e^{\frac{i}{h}\langle x-y, \eta \rangle} \overline{a(y, \eta)} u(y) dy d\eta$$

We now write using oscillatory testing

$$Op_h(a)^* = Op_h(a^*) \text{ where } (e_\xi(y) = e^{\frac{i}{h}\langle y, \xi \rangle})$$

$$\begin{aligned} a^*(x, \xi; h) &= e^{-\frac{i}{h}\langle x, \xi \rangle} (Op_h(a)^* e_\xi)(x) \\ &= (2\pi h)^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}} e^{\frac{i}{h}\langle x-y, \eta - \xi \rangle} \overline{a(y, \eta)} dy d\eta \end{aligned}$$

2. We now apply quadratic stationary phase to get the expansion for any fixed x, ξ :

$$a^*(x, \xi; h) = (2\pi h)^{-n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}} e^{\frac{i}{2h} \langle Qw, w \rangle} A(w) dw$$

where $Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -I \\ -I & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $w = (z, \zeta)$,

$$A(z, \zeta) = \overline{a(x+z, \xi+\zeta)}$$

Similarly to the composition formulae we get the expansion

$$a^*(x, \xi; h) \underset{h \rightarrow 0}{\sim} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-ih)^j}{j!} \left(\langle \partial_z, \partial_\zeta \rangle^j \overline{a(x+z, \xi+\zeta)} \right) \Big|_{\substack{z=0 \\ \zeta=0}}$$

By the multinomial theorem, this is same as

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (-ih)^j \sum_{|\alpha|=j} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_x^\alpha \partial_\xi^\alpha \overline{a(x, \xi)}$$

3. It remains to deal with asymptotics as $(x, \xi) \rightarrow \infty$. Unlike Composition Theorem, a^* is not compactly supported in (x, ξ) .

Choose $R \geq 1$ such that $\text{supp } a \subset B_{\mathbb{R}^{2n}}(0, R)$.

Then it suffices to show that $\forall \alpha, \beta$

$$p^\alpha \partial_p^\beta a^*(p; h) = O(h^\alpha) \quad \text{where } p = (x, \xi) \text{ for } |p| \geq 2R$$

For the proof of the latter statement, see exercises. □