

## 155. On the Fundamental Solution of a Degenerate Parabolic System

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**Introduction.** In the recent paper [2], the author has shown that the method used in C. Tsutsumi [3] to construct the pseudo-differential symbol of the fundamental solution for a degenerate parabolic pseudo-differential operator is applicable to some parabolic systems. The purpose of the present paper is to show that the above method is also applicable to a parabolic system which degenerates at  $t=0$ . As an application we construct in §2 the pseudo-differential symbol of the fundamental solution of a degenerate parabolic operator of higher order which includes the operator treated by M. Miyake [1]. In the following the notation of [2] will be freely used.

**1. The fundamental solution of a degenerate system.** Let us consider the Cauchy problem for a system of pseudo-differential equations

$$(1) \quad \partial_t u(t, x) + p(t; X, D_x)u(t, x) = 0,$$

$$(2) \quad \lim_{s \searrow 0} u(t, u) = u_0(x),$$

where  $p(t; x, \xi) \in \mathcal{E}_i^0(S_{\rho, \delta}^m)$ ,  $0 \leq \delta < \rho \leq 1$ . We denote by  $z(t, s; x, \xi)$  an  $M \times M$  matrix of symbols which satisfies  $\partial_t z(t, s; x, \xi) + p(t; x, \xi)z(t, s; x, \xi) = 0$ ,  $z(s, s; x, \xi) = I$ , where  $I$  denotes the identity matrix. We denote by  $|p|$  the norm of an  $M \times M$  matrix  $p$ , i.e.,  $p = \sup \{|py|/|y|; 0 \neq y \in \mathbb{C}^M\}$ .

**Definition.** We say that a system of pseudo-differential operators  $\partial_t + p(t; X, D_x)$  satisfies the property (F), when there exists a non-negative continuous function  $\lambda(t; x, \xi)$  and following two conditions are satisfied:

i) For any  $\alpha, \beta$  there exists a constant  $C_{\alpha, \beta}$  such that

$$(3) \quad \int_s^t |p_{(\beta)}^{(\alpha)}(\sigma; x, \xi)| d\sigma \leq C_{\alpha, \beta} \langle \xi \rangle^{-\rho|\alpha| + \delta|\beta|} \left\{ \int_s^t \lambda(\sigma; x, \xi) d\sigma + 1 \right\} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T.$$

ii) There exist constants  $d > 0$  and  $C > 0$  such that

$$(4) \quad |z(t, s; x, \xi)| \leq C \exp \left[ -d \int_s^t \lambda(\sigma; x, \xi) d\sigma \right] \quad \text{for } 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T.$$

When a system  $\partial_t + p(t; X, D_x)$  is parabolic in the sense of Petrowskii, it satisfies the property (F) with  $\lambda(t; x, \xi) = \langle \xi \rangle^m$  in any finite layer  $[0, T] \times R_{x, \xi}^{2n}$ . But in the case of degenerate  $p(t; x, \xi)$ , we must choose a degenerate  $\lambda(t; x, \xi)$ . Here we give a class of systems for which the property (F) is easily verified.