

23. The Fundamental Solution for a Parabolic Pseudo-Differential Operator and Parametrixes for Degenerate Operators

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Introduction. In the present paper we shall construct the fundamental solution $E(t, s)$ for a parabolic pseudo-differential equation

$$(0.1) \quad \begin{cases} Lu = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + p(t; x, D_x)u = 0 & \text{in } (0, \infty) \times R^n \\ u|_{t=0} = u_0 \end{cases}$$

where $p(t; x, D_x)$ is a pseudo-differential operator of class $\mathcal{E}_l^0(S_{\lambda, \rho, \delta}^m)$ ($0 \leq \rho \leq 1$, $-\infty < \delta < 1$, $\delta < \rho$) which satisfies the following condition:

There exist positive constants C_0 and R such that

$$(0.2) \quad \operatorname{Re} p(t; x, \xi) \geq C_0 \lambda(x, \xi)^m \quad \text{for } 0 \leq t < \infty \text{ and } |x| + |\xi| \geq R,$$

where $\lambda = \lambda(x, \xi)$ is a basic weight function defined in § 1. We note that $\lambda(x, \xi)$ varies even in x and may increase in polynomial order, and that it is important to take $\delta < 0$ in § 4.

The fundamental solution $E(t, s)$ will be constructed as a pseudo-differential operator of class $S_{\lambda, \rho, \delta}^0$ with parameter t and s . The method of construction of $E(t, s)$ is similar to that given in Tsutsumi [10]. Then the solution of the Cauchy problem (0.1) is given by $u(t) = E(t, 0)u_0$.

In § 3 we show that if $P(t)$ is a positive operator, then $\exp \{c(t - s_0)E(t, s_0)\}$ are bounded in $S_{\lambda, \rho, \delta}^{-N}$ for $t \geq t_0 > s_0 \geq 0$, where c is a positive constant and N is any number.

As an application of the above theorems, in § 4 we construct the fundamental solution $E_0(t)$ for a degenerate parabolic operator

$$(0.3) \quad L_0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + D_x^{2l} + x^{2k} D_y^{2m} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + P_0$$

and apply $E_0(t)$ to construct the parametrix for P_0 near $x=0$ in some class of pseudo-differential operator. We note that in case $l=k=m=1$ the precise symbol of the fundamental solution $E_0(t)$ is found in Hoel [4] and that the operator P_0 has been studied by Beals [1], Hörmander [3], Grushin [2], Kumano-go and Taniguchi [6] and Sjöstrand [9].

§ 1. Notations and basic calculus of pseudo-differential operators of class $S_{\lambda, \rho, \delta}^m$. We say that a C^∞ -function $\lambda(x, \xi)$ in $R_x^n \times R_\xi^n$ is a basic weight function when $\lambda(x, \xi)$ satisfies conditions (cf. [6]):