

## ON PROPAGATION OF SINGULARITIES FOR FUCHSIAN QUASILINEAR DIFFERENTIAL OPERATORS

BY

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### Introduction

A Meyer type flow, of a Tricomi gas for nozzle problem, is expressed in terms of solutions of the system

$$(0.1) \quad \begin{pmatrix} s \\ \theta \end{pmatrix}_\psi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ s & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} s \\ \theta \end{pmatrix}_\phi$$

where  $s$  is the speed,  $\theta$  is the inclination of the velocity,  $\psi$  is the stream function and  $\phi$  is the velocity potential (see Bers, [1]). Therefore, for sufficiently smooth solutions, one could reduce the problem to the study of solutions of the equation

$$(0.2) \quad u_{xx} - uu_{yy} - (u_y)^2 = 0.$$

A generic propagation of singularity result was proved in Guillemin–Schaeffer [3] for a linearization of (0.2), (considering Taylor expansion of  $u$  and  $u_y$ ). This result was completed for the  $n$ -dimensional case by Santos Filho [6].

Based in the theory of paradifferential operators of Bony [2], see also Meyer [5], we can prove a result which, in particular, states that for sufficiently smooth solutions of (0.2) singularities can not be isolated in the set  $\{(x, y); u(x, y) = 0, \nabla u(x, y) \neq 0\}$ . The paper is organized as follows: In §1 we state the theorem and recall the main definitions and basic theorems of Bony's theory. In §2, we prove the main result. Finally, in §3, we state a generalization of our theorem.

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**1. Statement of the theorem**

Our equation has the form

$$(1.1) \quad u_{x_1x_1} - uu_{x_2x_2} - (u_{x_2})^2 = 0.$$

where  $(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbf{R}^2$  and  $u$  is real valued.

Let  $s \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $0 < \delta < 1$  we assume

$$(H1) \quad s > 2 + 2\delta.$$

Let  $u \in H^{s-\delta}(\mathbf{R}^n)$ . We assume the following:

$$(H2) \quad H_p(x^0, \xi^0) = \theta Z(x^0, \xi^0) \quad \text{with } \theta \neq 0 \text{ and } |\xi^0| = 1,$$

where

$$H_p(x^0, \xi^0) \left( = \sum \left( \frac{\partial p}{\partial \xi_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi_i} \right) \right)$$

is the Hamiltonian vector field of

$$p(x, \xi) = \xi_1^2 - u(x)\xi_2^2$$

and  $Z(x, \xi) = \sum \xi_i \partial_{\xi_i}$  the radial vector field, at  $(x^0, \xi^0)$ .

We also assume

$$(H3) \quad u \in H^s_{(x, \xi)} \cap H^{s-\delta}(\mathbf{R}^n) \quad \text{if } (x, t\xi) \neq (x^0, \xi^0), \forall t > 0.$$

and

$$(H4) \quad \theta(s - \frac{1}{2}) + 2\partial_{x_2}u(x^0) > 0$$

Here  $H^t(\mathbf{R}^n) = H^t$  is the usual Sobolev space and  $H^t_{(x, \xi)}$  is its microlocal version (see Hörmander [4]). From Bony's main result, see [2], we can consider that  $(x^0, \xi^0) = (0, (0, 1))$  and hence we prove:

**THEOREM.** *Let  $u$  satisfy (1.1). Under the hypothesis (H1) to (H4) we have  $u \in H^s(\mathbf{R}^n)$ .*

We now recall some facts regarding the theory of Bony. Let  $\phi \in C^\infty_0(\mathbf{R}^n)$  such that is supported in the ball centered at the origin and radius 1 and which is equal to one in the ball with same center and radius 1/2. Taking  $\psi(\xi) = \phi(\xi 2^{-1}) - \phi(\xi)$ . For  $f \in S(\mathbf{R}^n)$  (the Schwartz space), consider

the Littlewood-Paley decomposition of  $f$ ,  $f = S_0(f) + \sum \Delta_k(f)$ , where  $(S_0(f))^\wedge = \phi f^\wedge$  and  $(\Delta_k(f))^\wedge = \psi(\xi 2^{-k}) f^\wedge$ ; here  $\wedge$  means Fourier transform. For  $f \in C^r$ ,  $r > 0$ , the sum converges uniformly to  $f$ . Let  $f \in H^t(\mathbf{R}^n)$ ,  $t > n/2$ . Define the paraproduct

$$\Pi(f, g) = \sum S_{k-6}(f) \Delta_k(g), \quad g \in S(\mathbf{R}^n);$$

here  $S_j(f) = S_0(f) + \sum_{l=1}^j \Delta_l(f)$ ,  $j \geq 1$ . We summarize results of Bony [2] and Meyer [5], see Theorems 2.1, 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 of [2] and Theorems 3 and 5 of [5].

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $f, g \in H^t$ ,  $t > n/2$  and  $h \in H^s$ .*

- (a)  $\Pi(f, \cdot)$  can be extended to a continuous operator from  $H^r$  into  $H^r$ .
- (b)  $E = \Pi(f, \cdot) \circ \Pi(g, \cdot) - \Pi(ab, \cdot)$  is a  $(t - n/2)$ -smoothing operator, that is, it maps continuously  $H^r$  into  $H^{r+(t-n/2)}$ .
- (c) The adjoint  $(\Pi(f, \cdot))^*$  of  $\Pi(f, \cdot)$  applies  $H^r$  into  $H^r$  and  $\Pi(f, \cdot) - (\Pi(f, \cdot))^*$  is a  $(t - n/2)$ -smoothing.
- (d) If  $s > n/2$  then

$$fh = \Pi(f, h) + \Pi(h, f) + r$$

where  $|r|_{s+t-n/2-\epsilon} \leq C|f|_t|h|_s$ .

If  $-t + n/2 < s \leq n/2$ , then

$$fg = \Pi(f, g) + r$$

where  $|r|_{s+t-t/2-\epsilon} \leq C|f|_t|h|_s$ .

**DEFINITION.** We say  $\sigma \in B_r^m$  if  $\sigma \in S_{1,1}^m$ ,

$$\|\partial_\xi^\alpha \sigma(x, \xi)\|_{C^r} \geq C_\alpha (1 + |\xi|)^{m-|\alpha|}$$

and for each  $\xi$ , the support of  $\sigma^\wedge(\cdot, \xi)$  is contained in  $\{\eta; |\eta| < |\xi|/10\}$ . Here  $S_{\rho,\delta}^m$  is Hörmander's class of symbols; see [4].

*Examples.* (1) The symbol of  $\Pi(a, \cdot)$  belongs to  $B_r^0$ , where  $r = s - n/2 > 0$ , if  $a \in H^s(\mathbf{R}^n)$ .

(2)  $\sigma(\xi) \in B_r^m$  for each  $\sigma \in S_{1,0}^m$  and  $r > 0$ .

**THEOREM 1.2.** (a) *Let  $F(x, y)$  be a  $C^\infty$  function, where  $y = (y_0, \dots, y_\alpha, \dots)$ ,  $|\alpha| \leq (m - 1)$ , such that  $F(x, 0) = 0$ . Then*

$$F(x, U(x)) = \sum_{|\beta|=0}^{m-1} \Pi((\partial_{y_\beta} F)(x, U(x)), u) + E,$$

where  $U(x) = (u(x), \dots, \partial^\beta u(x), \dots)$  with  $u \in H^t$ ,  $t - (m - 1) > n/2$  and  $E \in H^{(2t-2(m-1)-n/2)}$ .

(b) If  $\sigma \in S_{1,1}^m$  then for  $s > 0$   $\sigma(x, D)$  can be extended to a continuous operator from  $H^{s+m}$  into  $H^s$ .

(c) Let  $r > 0$ ,  $\sigma \in B_r^{m_1}$  and  $\tau \in S_{1,1}^{m_2}$  then

$$\tau(x, D) \circ \sigma(x, D) = \omega(x, D) + \rho(x, D)$$

where

$$\omega(x, \xi) = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq [r]} \frac{1}{i^{|\alpha|}} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_\xi^\alpha \tau(x, \xi) \partial_x^\alpha \sigma(x, \xi) \quad \text{and} \quad \rho(x, \xi) \in S_{1,1}^{m_1+m_2-r}.$$

*Remark.* Theorem 1.2 implies the classical Schauder’s Lemma, which says that  $H^t(\mathbf{R}^n)$ ,  $t > n/2$  is invariant under non-linear transformations.

### 2. Proof of the theorem

Consider

$$(2.1) \quad D_{x_1}^2 u - u D_{x_2}^2 u + (u_{x_2})^2 = 0.$$

Multiplying this equation by  $\chi$ , where  $\chi \in C_0^\infty$ ,  $\chi = 1$  if  $|x| \leq \varepsilon/4$ ,  $\chi = 0$  if  $|x| \geq \varepsilon$ , for  $\varepsilon > 0$  small, we obtain

$$D_{x_1}^2(\chi u) - D_{x_2}^2(\chi u) + \chi((\chi u)_{x_2})^2 = f$$

where  $f \in H^{s-1}(\mathbf{R}^2)$  from (H1) and (H3), by Schauder’s Lemma.

We write the equation above in the form

$$(2.1)' \quad P(\chi u) + Q(\chi u) = f$$

where  $P = D_{x_1}^2 - u D_{x_2}^2$  and  $Qv = \chi(\partial_{x_2}(v))^2$ . We can assume  $r = s - \delta - 1$  is a non-integer positive real number.

Let  $\mathcal{C} \subset S_{1,0}^{s-(m-1)/2-\lambda}(\mathbf{R}^{2n})$ ,  $\lambda > \frac{1}{2} + \delta$  be a bounded subset of  $S^{s-1/2}(\mathbf{R}^{2n})$ , which consists of real valued symbols. For each  $c \in \mathcal{C}$  we put  $C = c(x, D)$  and hence by (2.1)' we get

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathfrak{S}m(Cf, Cu) &= \mathfrak{S}m(C(Pu - \Pi, Cu) + \mathfrak{S}m(\Pi(Cu), Cu) \\ &\quad + \mathfrak{S}m([C, \Pi]u, Cu) + \mathfrak{S}m(C(Q(u)), Cu) \end{aligned}$$

here  $\Pi = D_{x_1}^2 - \Pi(u, \cdot) \circ D_{x_2}^2$ . For convenience, we write the right hand side of (2.2) as, I + II + III + IV, respectively.

We will analyse the terms I, II, III and IV of the right hand side of (2.2), keeping the non-absorbable terms (in a sense we will make precise along the lines of this proof). By a linear change of variables, we assume  $(x^0, \xi^0) = (0, e_n)$ ,  $e_n = (0, \dots, 0, 1)$ , and by replacing  $p$  by  $-p$  (if necessary) we assume  $\theta > 0$ .

*Step 1. Analysis of term I.* We have

$$(P - \Pi)(\chi u) = -(M_u - \Pi(u, \cdot))D_{x_2}^2(\chi u),$$

where  $M_u$  is the multiplication by  $u$ . From Theorem 1.1(d) we have

$$(-M_u + \Pi(u, \cdot))D_{x_2}^2(\chi u) \in H^{2r-1-\epsilon}, \quad \forall \epsilon > 0.$$

From this we know that there exist  $K_{1,0}$  and  $K_{1,1}$  positive constants, uniformly on  $\mathcal{C}$ , such that for all  $\mu > 0$ ,

$$(2.3) \quad |\text{I}| \leq \mu K_{1,1} \|(\text{I} - \Delta)^{1/4} C(\chi u)\|_{L_2}^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} K_{1,0}$$

where  $(\text{I} - \Delta)^{1/4}$  is the pseudo-differential operator whose symbol is  $(1 + |\xi|)^{1/4}$ .

*Step 2. Analysis of term II.* We have

$$\Pi - \Pi^* = \Pi(u, \cdot) \circ D_{x_2}^2 - D_{x_2}^2 \circ (\Pi(u, \cdot))^*,$$

and from Theorem 1.1(c),  $-\Pi(\bar{u}, \cdot) + (\Pi(u, \cdot))^* = R_{2,1}$ , where  $R_{2,1}$  is an  $r$ -smoothing; and since  $u$  is real-valued, we have  $\Pi - (\Pi)^* = [\Pi(u, \cdot), D_{x_2}^2] - D_{x_2}^2 \cdot R_{2,1}$ . In the other hand, from Theorem 1.2,

$$[\Pi(u, \cdot), D_{x_2}^2] = \omega(x, D) + R_{2,2}$$

where

$$\omega(x, \xi) = - \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq [r]} (i)^{-|\alpha|} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \alpha_\xi^\alpha \xi_2^{2\alpha} \sigma(\pi(u, \cdot))$$

and  $\sigma(R_{2,2}) \in S_{1,1}^{2-r}$ . Here  $[r]$  is the greatest integer less or equal to  $r$ .

From Theorem 1.1 and Theorem 1.2 it can be shown that  $\text{Im}(A \circ C(\chi u), C(\chi u))$  satisfies the same type of estimate in (2.3), where  $A$  is

taken to be  $D_{x_2}^2 \circ R_{2,1}$  or  $R_{2,2}$  or

$$\sum_{[r] \geq |\alpha| > 1} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_\xi^\alpha \xi_2^2 \sigma(\pi(D^\alpha u, \cdot))(x, D)$$

or

$$\left( \sum_{|\alpha|=1} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_\xi^\alpha \xi_2^2 (M_{D^\alpha u(x)} - M_{D^\alpha u(0)}) \right) (D).$$

Which finally gives this result:

There exist  $K_{2,0}$  and  $K_{2,1}$  positive constants, uniformly on  $\mathcal{C}$ , such that for all  $\mu > 0$ , we have

$$(2.4) \quad \left| \text{II} - D_{x_2} u(0)(D_{x_2} \circ C(\chi u), C(\chi u)) \right| \leq K_{2,1} \mu \left\| (I - \Delta)^{1/4} C(\chi u) \right\|_{L^2}^2 + K_{2,0} \frac{1}{\mu}.$$

*Step 3. Analysis of the term III.* By assuming  $\sigma(C) \in B_r^m$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma([C, \pi]) &= \sum_{|\alpha|=1} \left( \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_\xi^\alpha c \sigma(\pi(D^\alpha u, \cdot)) \xi_2^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{i^{|\alpha|}} \frac{1}{\alpha!} \partial_\xi^\alpha (\xi_2^2 \sigma(\pi(u, \cdot))) \partial_x^\alpha c(x, \xi) \right) + \sigma(R_{3,1}) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma(R_{3,1}) \in S^{s+1/2-\tilde{r}+1-\lambda}$ , and  $\tilde{r} = \text{Min}\{r, 2\}$ . Hence as before:

There exist  $K_{3,0}$  and  $K_{3,1}$  positive constants, uniformly on  $\mathcal{C}$ , such that for all  $\mu > 0$ , we have

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} &\left| \text{Im}([C, \pi](\chi u), C(\chi u)) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \text{Re}(H_c(\xi_1^2 - u\xi_2^2)(0, D)(\chi u), C(\chi u)) \right| \\ &\leq \mu K_{3,1} \left\| (I - \Delta)^{1/4} (Cu) \right\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} K_{3,0}. \end{aligned}$$

*Step 4. Analysis of the term IV.* Using Taylor’s formula, by Schauder’s Lemma since (H1) and (H3) hold, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \chi(\partial_{x_2}(\chi u))^2 &= \chi(\partial_{x_2} u(0))^2 \\ &\quad + \chi 2(\partial_{x_2} u(0))(\partial_{x_2}(\chi u) - (\partial_{x_2} u)(0)) + \tilde{q}(\partial_{x_2}(\chi u(x))) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{q}(\partial_{x_2}(u(0))) = 0$  and  $\nabla \tilde{q}(\partial_{x_2}(u(0))) = 0$ . Therefore, as before:

There exist  $K_{4,0}$  and  $K_{4,1}$  positive constants, uniformly on  $\mathcal{C}$ , such that for all  $\mu > 0$ , we have

$$(2.6) \quad \left| \operatorname{Im}(C(Q(\chi u)), C(\chi u)) - \operatorname{Im}\left(C(\chi 2(\partial_{x_2} u)(0) \partial x_2(\chi u)), C(\chi u)\right) \right| \leq \mu K_{4,1} \|(I - \Delta)^{1/4}(Cu)\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} K_{4,0}.$$

*Step 5. End of the proof.* Using (2.3), (2.4), (2.5) and (2.6), and since  $\operatorname{Im}(Cf, C(\chi u))$  is also absorbable (in the sense the above inequality is true for  $|\operatorname{Im}(Cf, C(\chi u))|$ ), we have:

There exist  $K_{5,0}$  and  $K_{5,1}$  positive constants, uniformly on  $\mathcal{C}$ , such that for all  $\mu > 0$ ,

$$(2.7) \quad \left| \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}\left((2\partial_{x_2} u(0) D_{x_2} + \chi 2(\partial_{x_2} u)(0) D_{x_2})C(\chi u), Cu\right) + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re} H_c(\xi_1^2 + u(x)\xi_2^2)(0, D), Cu \right| \leq \mu K_{5,1} \|(I - \Delta)^{1/4}(Cu)\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} K_{5,0}.$$

Observe that the first term of the right hand side of (2.7) can be expressed in an invariant form, namely, for the general case it is equal to  $\operatorname{Re}((\sigma_{sub}(P_L)C(\chi u), Cu))$ , where  $P_L$  is the linearization of  $P$  at  $u$ ,  $\sigma(P_L) = \Sigma \partial_{(\sigma u)}(Pu)\xi^\alpha$  and  $\sigma_{sub}(P_L)$  is the subprincipal symbol of  $P_L$  (see [4]). This will give us

$$(2.8) \quad \left| \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Re}(H_{\sigma(P)}c^2(0, D)(\chi u), \chi u) + \operatorname{Re}(\sigma_{sub}(P_L)c^2(0, D)(\chi u), \chi u) \right| \leq \mu K_1 \|(I - \Delta)^{1/4}(Cu)\|_{L^2}^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} K_0,$$

for positive constants  $K_0$  and  $K_1$  and for all  $\mu > 0$ , uniformly on  $\mathcal{C}$ . Here  $\sigma_{sub}(P_L)(0, \xi)$  is in this case equal to  $2\partial_{x_2} u(0)\xi_2$ .

At this point, we take a explicit class  $\mathcal{C}$  of symbols, which is taken in such a way we can apply the sharp Garding inequality for  $\operatorname{Re}(Su, u)$  where  $\sigma(S) = \frac{1}{2}H_{\sigma(P)}c^2 + \sigma_{sub}(P_L)c^2(0, \xi)$ . Namely we take

$$c_\gamma(x, \xi) = (\chi(x))^2 (\psi(\xi))^2 \xi_2^{s-1/2} (1 + \gamma \xi_2^2)^{-\lambda/2}$$

where  $0 < \gamma < 1$  and  $\psi \in S_{1,0}^0$ , homogeneous of degree 0 for  $|\xi| \geq \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\phi(\xi) = 1$  for  $|\xi_1| \leq \frac{1}{2}\xi_2$  and  $\psi(\xi) = 0$  for  $|\xi_2| \geq \xi_2$ . So

$$\frac{1}{2} 2H_{\sigma P}(c_\gamma^2)(0, \xi_n) \geq (s - \frac{1}{2} - \gamma\lambda)\theta \xi_2 c_\gamma^2,$$

where  $\theta$  is given in (H2). So by taking  $\gamma$  small the proof of the theorem is finished from (H4) and Garding inequality, see [4].

### 3. Remarks

A generalization of our theorem can be expressed in the following form:  
Let

$$(3.1) \quad \sum_{|\alpha|=m} A_\alpha(x, u(x), \dots, \partial^\beta u(x), \dots)_{|\beta| \leq p_\alpha} \partial^\alpha u + q(x; u(x), \dots, \partial^\beta u(x), \dots)_{|\beta| \leq p_{m-1}} = 0.$$

where  $p_{m-1}, p_\alpha \leq m - 1$  ( $p_\alpha = -\infty$  (resp.  $p_{m-1}$ ) if  $A_\alpha$  (resp.  $q$ ) depends only on  $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ ),  $A_\alpha = A_\alpha(x, y)$  and  $q = q(x, \bar{y})$  are  $C^\infty$  real-valued defined in an appropriate  $\mathbf{R}^{N+m}$  and  $u$  is a real function defined in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

Let  $s \in \mathbf{R}$  and  $0 < \delta < 1$  and assume

- (H1) (a)  $s > p_{m-1} + \frac{n}{2} + \delta$
- (b)  $s > \delta + \frac{\text{Max } p(\alpha) + m}{2} + \frac{n}{4}$
- (c)  $s > \frac{n}{2} + \text{Max } p(\alpha) + 1 + 2\delta.$

Let  $u \in H^{s-\delta}(\mathbf{R}^n)$ . We assume

$$(H2) \quad H_p(x^0, \xi^0) = \theta Z(x^0, \xi^0) \quad \text{with } \theta \neq 0 \text{ and } |\xi^0| = 1,$$

where

$$H_p(x^0, \xi^0) \left( = \sum \left( \frac{\partial p}{\partial \xi_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi_i} \right) \right)$$

is the Hamiltonian vector field of  $p(x, \xi) = \sum_{|\alpha|=m} A_\alpha(x, u(x), \dots) \xi^\alpha$  and  $Z(x, \xi) = \sum \xi_i \partial_{\xi_i}$  the radial vector field, at  $(x^0, \xi^0)$ . Observe that from (H1),  $A_\alpha(x, u(x), \dots) \in C^{1+\delta}(\mathbf{R}^n)$ , so  $H_p$  is a well defined Hölder continuous vector field.

Also we assume

$$(H3) \quad u \in H^s_{(x, \xi)} \cap H^{s-\delta}(\mathbf{R}^n) \text{ if } (x, t\xi) \neq (x^0, \xi^0), \forall t > 0.$$

and

$$(H4) \quad \theta \left( s - \frac{m-1}{2} \right) + 2\sigma_{sub}(x_0, \xi_0) > 0$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{sub}(x_0, \xi_0) = \operatorname{Re} & \left( \sum_{|\beta|=m-1} (\partial_{y_\beta} q)(x_0, u(x_0), \dots) \xi_0^\beta \right) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{|\beta|=1} (\partial_x^\beta A_\alpha)(x_0, u(x_0), \dots) (\partial_\xi^\beta \xi^\alpha)(\xi_0). \end{aligned}$$

Using the same method one can prove:

**THEOREM.** *Let  $u$  satisfy (1.1). Under the hypothesis (H1) to (H4) we have  $u \in H^s(\mathbf{R}^n)$ .*

It should be said that even for the linear case this theorem says something new. In particular, it says that the solutions with prescribed singularities in a ray constructed in [3] and [6] cannot be arbitrarily smooth. In fact, it says that the solutions constructed therein are sharp regarding the regularity aspect.

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