

Pointwise Fatou theorem and its converse for solutions of the heat equation on a stratified

Lie group

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- By a measure μ we will always mean a complex or a signed Borel measure such that $|\mu|(K) < \infty$ for all compact sets K .
- If $\mu(E) \geq 0$, for all measurable sets E then μ will be called a positive measure.

Our motivation is a classical theorem of Fatou regarding boundary behavior of Poisson integrals of measures defined in the unit disc of \mathbb{C} . However, we prefer to present the results for the upper half space:

$$\mathbb{R}_+^{n+1} = \{(x, y) | x \in \mathbb{R}^n, y > 0\}.$$

Fatou proved his result for $n = 1$.

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Poisson kernel

The Poisson kernel of \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1} :

$$P(x, y) = y^{-n}P(x/y, 1) = c_n \frac{y}{(y^2 + \|x\|^2)^{\frac{n+1}{2}}}, \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1}.$$

The Poisson integral $P[\mu]$ of μ :

$$P[\mu](x, y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} P(x - \xi, y) d\mu(\xi),$$

whenever the integral above converges absolutely for $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1}$.

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Fatou's theorem

Theorem (Fatou, 1906)

Suppose that μ is a measure on \mathbb{R} with distribution function F . If $F'(x_0) = L$, then $P[\mu]$ has nontangential limit L at x_0 , that is,

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,0) \\ \|x-x_0\| < \alpha y}} P[\mu](x,y) = L,$$

for all $\alpha > 0$.

Result of Loomis

- As shown by Loomis [Loo43], **converse of the theorem above fails in general** but it holds **true if μ is positive**.
- If u is a positive harmonic function in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1} , then \exists unique $C \geq 0, \mu \geq 0$ such that

$$u(x, y) = Cy + P[\mu](x, y), \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1},$$

Theorem (Loomis)

If u is a positive harmonic function in \mathbb{R}_+^2 , then

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,0) \\ \|x-x_0\| < \alpha y}} u(x, y) = L, \text{ for all } \alpha > 0 \implies F'(x_0) = L.$$

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Result of Ramey-Ullrich

- Higher dimensional interpretation of F' is a issue here. Ramey and Ullrich interpreted F' as the strong derivative of μ .
- The measure μ on \mathbb{R}^n has strong derivative $L \in \mathbb{C}$, at $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, if

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu(x_0 + rB)}{m(rB)} = L = D\mu(x_0),$$

holds for every open ball B , where $rB = \{rx \mid x \in B\}$, $r > 0$.

Theorem (Ramey-Ullrich[RU88])

Suppose that u is positive and harmonic in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1} with boundary measure μ . Then

$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,0) \\ \|x-x_0\| < \alpha y}} u(x,y) = L, \text{ for all } \alpha > 0 \iff D\mu(x_0) = L.$$

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Heat equation in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1}

- The heat equation in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1} :

$$\Delta u(x, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(x, t), \quad (x, t) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1}.$$

- The heat kernel (aka the Gauss-Weierstrass kernel):

$$W(x, t) = w_{\sqrt{t}}(x) = (4\pi t)^{-\frac{n}{2}} e^{-\frac{\|x\|^2}{4t}}, \quad (x, t) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1}, \text{ where } w(x) = W(x, 1).$$

- The Gauss-Weierstrass integral of a measure μ on \mathbb{R}^n :

$$W[\mu](x, t) = \mu * w_{\sqrt{t}}(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} W(x - y, t) d\mu(y),$$

whenever the integral exists.

- If $W[|\mu|](x_0, t_0) < \infty$, then $W[\mu](x, t)$ exists in the strip $\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, t_0)$ and solves the heat equation there.

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Result of Gehring

- As $W(x, t) = w_{\sqrt{t}}(x)$, it is natural to investigate the boundary behavior of solutions of the heat equation in the **parabolic region**:
 $P(x_0, \alpha) = \{(x, t) \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1} \mid \|x - x_0\|^2 < \alpha t\}$.

Theorem (Gehring[Geh60], 1960)

Suppose μ is a measure on \mathbb{R} with distribution function F such that $W[\mu]$ is well-defined in $\mathbb{R} \times (0, t_0)$.

- If $F'(x_0) = L$, then $W[\mu]$ has parabolic limit L at x_0 , that is
$$\lim_{\substack{(x,y) \rightarrow (x_0,0) \\ (x,t) \in P(x_0,\alpha)}} W[\mu](x, t) = L, \text{ for all } \alpha > 0.$$
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Parabolic convergence of solution of the heat equation in \mathbb{R}_+^{n+1}

- If u is a positive solution then $u = W[\mu]$, for some $\mu \geq 0$ on \mathbb{R}^n .

Theorem

Suppose μ is as above. Then u has parabolic limit L at x_0 , that is $\lim_{\substack{(x,t) \rightarrow (x_0,0) \\ (x,t) \in P(x_0,\alpha)}} u(x,t) = L$, for all $\alpha > 0$, if and only if $D\mu(x_0) = L$.

- In fact, Brossard and Chevalier[BC90] proved the above theorem for measures μ satisfying

$$\sup_{(x,t) \in B(0,1) \times (0,t_0)} (W[|\mu|](x,t) - |W[\mu](x,t)|) < \infty.$$

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Stratified Lie groups

A stratified Lie group (G, \circ) is a connected, simply connected nilpotent Lie group whose Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} admits a vector space decomposition $\mathfrak{g} = V_1 \oplus V_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus V_l$, such that

$$[V_1, V_j] = V_{j+1}, \quad 1 \leq j < l, \quad [V_1, V_l] = 0.$$

$$[V_1, V_j] = \text{span}_{\mathbb{R}} \{[X, Y] \mid X \in V_1, Y \in V_j\}.$$

The Lie algebra \mathfrak{g} is equipped with a **canonical family of dilations** $\{\delta_r \mid r \in (0, \infty)\}$, which are Lie algebra automorphisms defined by

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Homogeneous norm

A stratified Lie group G **always admits a homogeneous norm** which is a continuous function $d : G \rightarrow [0, \infty)$, satisfying the following:

- i) d is smooth on $G \setminus \{0\}$;
- ii) $d(\delta_r(x)) = rd(x)$, for all $r \in (0, \infty)$, $x \in G$;
- iii) $d(x^{-1}) = d(x)$, for all $x \in G$;
- iv) $d(x) = 0$, if and only if $x = 0$.
 - $d(x \circ y) \leq C(d(x) + d(y))$.
 - $C^{-1}d_1(x) \leq d_2(x) \leq Cd_1(x)$.

d -ball: $B_d(x, s) = \{x_1 \in G \mid d(x^{-1} \circ x_1) < s\}$.

Fact: $m(B_d(x, s)) = s^Q m(B(\underline{0}, 1))$, where $Q = \sum_{j=1}^l j \dim V_j$.

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Sub-Laplacian

We identify \mathfrak{g} as the Lie algebra of all left G -invariant vector fields on G and fix a basis $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{M_1}\}$ for V_1 , which generates \mathfrak{g} as a Lie algebra. The second order differential operator $\mathcal{L} = \sum_{j=1}^{M_1} X_j^2$ is called a sub-Laplacian on G .

- There exists a homogeneous norm $d_{\mathcal{L}}$ on G such that $d_{\mathcal{L}}(\cdot)^{2-Q}$ is the fundamental solution of \mathcal{L} .
- $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L} - \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ is the heat operator associated to the sub-Laplacian \mathcal{L} .
- Since $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{M_1}\}$ generates \mathfrak{g} as a Lie algebra, Hörmander's theorem $\implies \mathcal{L}$ and \mathcal{H} are hypoelliptic.

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We identify \mathfrak{g} as the Lie algebra of all left G -invariant vector fields on G and fix a basis $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{M_1}\}$ for V_1 , which generates \mathfrak{g} as a Lie algebra. The second order differential operator $\mathcal{L} = \sum_{j=1}^{M_1} X_j^2$ is called a sub-Laplacian on G .

- There exists a homogeneous norm $d_{\mathcal{L}}$ on G such that $d_{\mathcal{L}}(\cdot)^{2-Q}$ is the fundamental solution of \mathcal{L} .
- $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{L} - \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ is the heat operator associated to the sub-Laplacian \mathcal{L} .
- Since $\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{M_1}\}$ generates \mathfrak{g} as a Lie algebra, Hörmander's theorem $\implies \mathcal{L}$ and \mathcal{H} are hypoelliptic.

Heisenberg group

The simplest nontrivial example of a stratified Lie group is the Heisenberg group $H^n = \mathbb{R}^{2n} \oplus \mathbb{R}$.

A basis for \mathbb{R}^{2n} is given by

$$X_j = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} + 2y_j \frac{\partial}{\partial s}, \quad Y_j = \frac{\partial}{\partial y_j} - 2x_j \frac{\partial}{\partial s}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

$\{X_j, Y_j\}_{1 \leq j \leq n}$ generates the Lie algebra of H^n as

$$[X_j, Y_j] = -4 \frac{\partial}{\partial s}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

The sub-Laplacian $\sum_{j=1}^n X_j^2 + Y_j^2$ also known as the Kohn Laplacian.

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Heat kernel on stratified Lie groups

The heat equation on G : $\mathcal{H}u(x, t) = 0$, $(x, t) \in G \times (0, \infty)$.

The fundamental solution (heat kernel) of \mathcal{H} :

$\Gamma(x, t; \xi) := \Gamma(\xi^{-1} \circ x, t)$, where Γ is a smooth, strictly positive function on $G \times (0, \infty)$ satisfying the following properties:

- (i) $\Gamma(x, t) = \Gamma(x^{-1}, t)$;
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- (iii) $\int_G \Gamma(x, t) dm(x) = 1$;
- (iv) [Bonfiglioli et al., 2002] Following **Gaussian estimates** hold.

$$c_0^{-1} t^{-\frac{Q}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{c_0 d_{\mathcal{L}}(x)^2}{t}\right) \leq \Gamma(x, t) \leq c_0 t^{-\frac{Q}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{d_{\mathcal{L}}(x)^2}{c_0 t}\right).$$

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Parabolic convergence and strong derivative

- A function u defined on $G \times (0, t_0)$, for some $t_0 \in (0, \infty]$, is said to have **parabolic limit** $L \in \mathbb{C}$, at $x_0 \in G$, if for each $\alpha \in (0, \infty)$

$$\lim_{\substack{t \rightarrow 0 \\ (x,t) \in P(x_0, \alpha)}} u(x, t) = L,$$

where $P(x_0, \alpha) = \{(x, t) \in G \times (0, \infty) \mid (d_{\mathcal{L}}(x_0^{-1} \circ x))^2 < \alpha t\}$.

- Given a measure μ on G , we say that μ has **strong derivative** $L \in \mathbb{C}$, at $x_0 \in G$, if

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu(x_0 \circ \delta_r(B))}{m(x_0 \circ \delta_r(B))} = L,$$

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Main result

Lemma (Bonfiglioli-Uguzzoni[BU05], 2005)

Let $u \geq 0$ be a solution of the heat equation in the strip $G \times (0, T)$.

Then there exists a unique positive measure μ on G such that

$$u(x, t) = \Gamma[\mu](x, t) = \int_G \Gamma(\xi^{-1} \circ x, t) d\mu(\xi), \quad (x, t) \in G \times (0, T).$$

Theorem (.,[Sar21a])

Suppose that u is as above, and that $x_0 \in G$, $L \in [0, \infty)$. Then the following statements are equivalent.

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Some auxiliary results I

- Suppose $\{\mu_j \mid j \in \mathbb{N}\}$, μ are positive measures. If $\Gamma[\mu_j] \rightarrow \Gamma[\mu]$ **normally**, i.e, uniformly on every compact set in $G \times (0, \infty)$, then

$$\int_G f d\mu_j \rightarrow \int_G f d\mu$$

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Some auxiliary results II

- $M_{HL}(\mu)(x_0) = \sup_{r>0} \mu(B(x_0, r))/m(B(x_0, r)).$

Maximal inequality:

$$c_n M_{HL}(\mu)(x_0) \leq \sup_{t>0} \Gamma[\mu](x_0, t^2) \leq \sup_{(x,t) \in P(x_0, \alpha)} \Gamma[\mu](x, t) \leq c_\alpha M_{HL}(\mu)(x_0),$$

- Let $\{u_j\}$ be a sequence of solutions of the heat equation in $G \times (0, \infty)$. If $\{u_j\}$ is locally bounded, then it has a subsequence which converges to some solution v normally. This result was recently proved by Bär[B13].

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Sketch of the proof

Step 1:

- One can reduce to the case $x_0 = 0$, and $\mu(\mathbb{R}^n) < \infty$.
- Fix a $d_{\mathcal{L}}$ -ball B_0 , a sequence $\{r_j\}$ of positive numbers with $r_j \rightarrow 0$. Set $L_j = \mu(\delta_{r_j}(B_0)) / m(\delta_{r_j}(B_0))$.
- $\mu(\mathbb{R}^n) < \infty$, $u(0, t^2) \rightarrow L$ as $t \rightarrow 0$
 $\implies L_j \leq CM_{HL}(\mu)(0) \leq C' \sup_{0 < t < \infty} \Gamma[\mu](0, t^2) < \infty$.
- Take convergent subsequence of $\{L_j\}$ and denote it also by $\{L_j\}$. Using corresponding r_j 's, define $u_j(x, t) = u(\delta_{r_j}(x), r_j^2 t)$.

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- $P(0, \alpha)$ is invariant under the action $(r, (x, t)) \rightarrow (\delta_{r_j}(x), r_j^2 t)$.
- $\{u_j\}$ is a sequence of solutions with $\sup_j \|u_j\|_{L^\infty(K)} < \infty$, for all compact set $K \subset G \times (0, \infty)$.
- Use Bär's result to get a subsequence $\{u_{j_k}\}$ such that $u_{j_k} \rightarrow v$ normally.
- Fix (x_0, t_0) . Choose $\eta > 0$ such that $(x_0, t_0) \in P(0, \alpha)$. Since $r_{j_k} \rightarrow 0$, $v(x_0, t_0) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} u(\delta_{r_{j_k}}(x_0), r_{j_k}^2 t_0) = L$.

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- Set $\mu_k(E) = r_{j_k}^{-Q} \mu(\delta_{r_{j_k}}(E))$. Then $u_{j_k} = \Gamma[\mu_k] \rightarrow L = \Gamma[Lm]$ normally.
- $\mu_{r_{j_k}}(B) \rightarrow Lm(B)$ for every $d_{\mathcal{L}}$ -ball B .
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Remark

Work in progress to see whether this theorem can be proved for more general class of measures satisfying Brossard-Chevalier type condition:

$$\sup_{(x,t) \in B \times (0,t_0)} (\Gamma[|\mu|](x,t) - |\Gamma[\mu](x,t)|) < \infty,$$

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Thank you!