

# Math 247A Lecture 15 Notes

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## 1 Riesz Transforms and Calderón-Zygmund Convolution Kernels

### 1.1 Riesz transforms

Last time, we proved the Sobolev embedding theorem:

**Theorem 1.1** (Sobolev embedding). *For  $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $0 < s < d$ , we have*

$$\|f\|_q \lesssim \|\nabla^s f\|_p$$

whenever  $\frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{q} + \frac{s}{d}$ . The implicit constant is independent of  $f$ .

In particular,

$$\|f\|_q \lesssim \|\nabla f\|_p, \quad \frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{d}.$$

However, the Fourier transform is not a local operator; it looks at the whole function. However, we can ask whether it is true that

$$\|f\|_q \lesssim \|\nabla f\|_p \quad \frac{1}{p} = \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{d}$$

with  $1 < p < q < \infty$ . This would follow from boundedness of the Riesz transforms on  $L^p$  for  $1 < p < \infty$ .

**Definition 1.1.** For  $1 \leq j \leq d$  and  $f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , we define the **Riesz transforms** as

$$\widehat{R_j f}(\xi) = m_j(\xi) \widehat{f}(\xi) = -\frac{i\xi_j}{|\xi|} \widehat{f}(\xi).$$

In other words,  $R_j = -\frac{\partial_j}{|\nabla|}$ .

We write

$$2\pi|\xi| = \sum_{j=1}^d m_j(\xi) \cdot 2\pi i \xi_j.$$

So

$$|\nabla| = \sum_{j=1}^d R_j \partial_j.$$

Then

$$\|f\|_q \lesssim \|\nabla f\|_p \leq \sum_{j=1}^d \|R_j \partial_j f\| \lesssim \sum_{j=1}^d \|\partial_j f\|_p \lesssim \|\nabla f\|_p,$$

if we knew the Riesz transforms were bounded on  $L^p$ . (The last step comes from the fact that all finite dimensional vector space norms are equivalent.)

**Remark 1.1.** If we knew that the Riesz transforms are bounded on  $L^p$  for  $1 < p < \infty$ , we could also conclude that the solution  $u$  to the Poisson equation  $-\Delta u = f$  satisfies  $\partial_j \partial_k u \in L^p$  whenever  $f \in L^p$ . Indeed,

$$(\partial_j \partial_k u)^\wedge(\xi) = -4\pi^2 \xi_j \xi_k \widehat{u}(\xi) = -\frac{\xi_j \xi_k}{|\xi|^2} \widehat{f}(\xi) = m_j(\xi) m_k(\xi) \widehat{f}(\xi).$$

So  $\partial_j \partial_k u = R_j R_k f$ .

How do we prove boundedness of Riesz transforms?

**Definition 1.2.** A function  $K : \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a **Calderón-Zygmund convolution kernel** if it satisfies:

1.  $|K(x)| \lesssim |x|^{-d}$  uniformly for  $|x| > 0$ .
2.  $\int_{R_1 \leq |x| \leq R_2} L(x) dx = 0$  for all  $0 < R_1 < R_2 < \infty$  (cancellation condition).
3.  $\int_{|x| > 2|y|} |K(x+y) - K(x)| dx \lesssim 1$  uniformly for  $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$  (regularity condition).

**Example 1.1.** The Riesz transforms correspond to Calderón-Zygmund convolution kernels.

$$m_j = -\frac{i\xi_j}{|\xi|} \implies k_j(x) = m_j^\vee(x) = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \partial_j \left[ \frac{\pi^{-(d-1)/2} \Gamma((d-1)/2)}{\pi^{-1/2} \Gamma(1/2)} \right]^{(d-1/2)} \sim_d \frac{x_j}{|x|^{d+1}}.$$

We have

1.  $|k_j(x)| \lesssim |x|^{-d}$  uniformly in  $|x| > 0$ .

2.  $\int_{R_1 \leq |x| \leq R_2} k_j(x) dx = 0$  for all  $0 < R_1 < R_2 < \infty$  because it is odd in  $x_j$ .

3. By the fundamental theorem of calculus,

$$\int_{|x| \geq 2|y|} |k_j(x+y) - k_j(x)| dx \leq \int_{|x| > 2|y|} |y| \int_0^1 |\nabla k_j(x + \theta y)| d\theta dx$$

For  $|x| > 2|y|$  and  $\theta \in (0, 1)$ ,  $|x|/2 \leq |x| - |y| \leq |x + \theta y| \leq |x| + |y| \leq 3|x|/2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} &\lesssim \int_{|x| > 2|y|} |y| \frac{1}{|x|^{d+1}} dx \\ &\lesssim |y| \cdot \frac{1}{|y|} \lesssim 1. \end{aligned}$$

More generally, we have proved the following.

**Lemma 1.1.** *If  $|\nabla K(x)| \lesssim |x|^{-(d+1)}$  uniformly for  $|x| > 0$ , then  $K$  satisfies the regularity condition.*

## 1.2 $L^2$ -boundedness of convolution with Calderón-Zygmund convolution kernels

Here is a lemma we need.

**Lemma 1.2.** *Let  $K : \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a Calderón-Zygmund convolution kernel. For  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let  $K_\varepsilon = K \mathbb{1}_{\{\varepsilon \leq |x| \leq 1/\varepsilon\}}$ . Then  $K_\varepsilon$  is a Calderón-Zygmund convolution kernel.*

*Proof.*  $|k_\varepsilon(x)| \lesssim |k(x)| \lesssim |x|^{-d}$  uniformly for  $|x| > 0$ . For the second condition,

$$\int_{R_1 \leq |x| \leq R_2} K_\varepsilon(x) dx = \int_{\max\{R_1, \varepsilon\} \leq |x| \leq \min\{R_2, 1/\varepsilon\}} K(x) dx = 0, \quad \forall 0 < R_1 < R_2 < \infty.$$

For the third condition,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{|x| > 2|y|} |K_\varepsilon(x+y) - K_\varepsilon(y)| dx &\leq \int_{\substack{\varepsilon \leq |x| \leq 1/\varepsilon \\ \varepsilon \leq |x+y| \leq 1/\varepsilon \\ |x| > 2|y|}} |K_\varepsilon(x+y) - K_\varepsilon(y)| dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\substack{\varepsilon \leq |x| \leq 1/\varepsilon \\ \varepsilon > |x+y| \text{ or } |x+y| > 1/\varepsilon \\ |x| > 2|y|}} |K_\varepsilon(x)| dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\substack{\varepsilon > |x| \text{ or } x > 1/\varepsilon \\ \varepsilon \leq |x+y| \leq 1/\varepsilon \\ |x| > 2|y|}} |K_\varepsilon(x+y)| dx. \end{aligned}$$

Look at  $I$ : If  $|x + y| < \varepsilon$ , then  $|x| \leq |x + y| + |y| \leq |x + y| + |x|/2$ , so  $|x| \leq 2|x + y| \leq 2\varepsilon$ . The contribution is at most

$$\int_{\varepsilon \leq |x| \leq 2\varepsilon} |K(x)| dx \lesssim \int_{\varepsilon \leq |x| \leq 2\varepsilon} |x|^{-d} dx \lesssim 1,$$

uniformly in  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

If  $|x + y| > 1/\varepsilon$ , then  $|x| \geq |x + y| - |y| \geq |x + y| - |x|/2$ , so  $|x| \geq \frac{2}{3}|x + y| \geq \frac{2}{3\varepsilon}$ . The contribution is at most

$$\int_{\frac{2}{3\varepsilon} \leq |x| \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon}} |K(x)| dx \lesssim 1,$$

uniformly in  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Similarly,  $\text{II} \lesssim 1$  uniformly in  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $K : \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a Calderón-Zygmund convolution kernel. For  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let  $K_\varepsilon = K \mathbb{1}_{\{\varepsilon < |x| \leq 1/\varepsilon\}}$ . Then*

$$\|K_\varepsilon * f\|_2 \lesssim \|f\|_2$$

uniformly for  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $f \in L^2$ . Consequently,  $f \mapsto K * f$  (which is the  $L^2$  limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  of  $K_\varepsilon * f$ ) extends continuously from  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  to a bounded map on  $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \|K_\varepsilon * f\|_2 &= \|\widehat{K_\varepsilon * f}\|_2 \\ &= \|\widehat{K_\varepsilon} \widehat{f}\|_2 \\ &\leq \|\widehat{K_\varepsilon}\|_\infty \|whf\|_2 \\ &\leq \|\widehat{K_\varepsilon}\|_\infty \|f\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

Fix  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{K_\varepsilon}(\xi) &= \int e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} K_\varepsilon(x) dx \\ &= \int_{|x| \leq 1/|\xi|} e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} K_\varepsilon(x) dx + \int_{|x| > 1/|\xi|} e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} K_\varepsilon(x) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Now observe that by condition 2 of the definition of the Calderón-Zygmund convolution kernel,

$$\left| \int_{\varepsilon \leq |x| \leq 1/|\xi|} e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} K_\varepsilon(x) dx \right| = \left| \int_{|x| \leq 1/|\xi|} (e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} - 1) K_\varepsilon(x) dx \right|$$

By condition 1,

$$\lesssim \int_{|x| \leq 1/|\xi|} |x| |\xi| |x|^{-d} dx$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\lesssim |\xi| \frac{1}{|\xi|} \\ &\lesssim 1. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{|x|>1/|\xi|} e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} K_\varepsilon(x) dx &= \int_{|x|>1/|\xi|} \frac{1}{2} (1 - e^{\pi i}) e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} K_\varepsilon(x) dx \\ &= \int_{|x|>1/|\xi|} \frac{1}{2} e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} K_\varepsilon(x) dx \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \int_{|x|>1/|\xi|} e^{-2\pi i \xi(x - \xi/(2|\xi|^2))} K_\varepsilon(x) dx \\ &= \int_{|x|>1/|\xi|} \frac{1}{2} e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} K_\varepsilon(x) dx \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \int_{|x + \frac{\xi}{2|\xi|^2}|>\frac{1}{|\xi|}} e^{-2\pi i x \cdot \xi} K_\varepsilon\left(x + \frac{|xi|}{2|\xi|^2}\right) dx, \end{aligned}$$

which puts us into a position to make a change of variables and use condition 3. We will finish the proof next time.  $\square$