

# Spectral theory for non-self-adjoint Lévy operators in the half-line

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## Starting point

If  $L$  is a self-adjoint operator on a finitely-dimensional vector space, then

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j \langle u, \varphi_j \rangle \langle \varphi_j, v \rangle \quad (\text{EE})$$

for a complete orthogonal set of eigenvectors  $\varphi_j$ :

$$L\varphi_j = \lambda_j\varphi_j$$

EE stands for 'eigenfunction expansion'.

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & & | \\ \varphi_1 & \varphi_2 & \dots & \varphi_n \\ | & | & & | \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \lambda_2 & & \\ & & \dots & \\ & & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\varphi_1} \\ \overline{\varphi_2} \\ \dots \\ \overline{\varphi_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

## Hilbert–Schmidt theory

If  $L$  is a compact self-adjoint operator on a Hilbert space, then

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \lambda_j \langle u, \varphi_j \rangle \langle \varphi_j, v \rangle \quad (\text{EE})$$

for a complete orthogonal set of eigenvectors  $\varphi_j$ :

$$L\varphi_j = \lambda_j \varphi_j$$

EE stands for ‘eigenfunction expansion’.

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_1 & \varphi_2 & \dots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \lambda_2 & \\ & & \dots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

## Spectral theorem

If  $L$  is a self-adjoint operator on a Hilbert space, then

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \int_{\mathbb{Z}} \lambda d\langle E_{\lambda} u, v \rangle$$

for a resolution of identity  $E_{\lambda}$ .

## Spectral theorem for Carleman's operators (Gårding, 1954)

If  $L$  is a self-adjoint Carleman operator on  $L^2(X)$ , then

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \int_Z \lambda_r \langle u, \varphi_r \rangle \langle \varphi_r, v \rangle dr \quad (\text{GEE})$$

for a set of generalised eigenfunctions  $\varphi_r$ :

$$L\varphi_r(x) = \lambda_r \varphi_r(x)$$

Note:  
typically  
 $\varphi_r \notin L^2(X)$

Carleman operators have 'nice' kernels:

$$Lu(x) = \int K(x, y)u(y)dy$$

with  $\|K(x, \cdot)\|_2 < \infty$  for almost all  $x$ .

## Non-normal case

If  $L$  is an arbitrary operator on a finitely-dimensional vector space, then  $L$  can be written in a Jordan normal form.

## Optimistic scenario

If we are lucky:

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_1 & \varphi_2 & \dots & \varphi_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \lambda_2 & & \\ & & \dots & \\ & & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \\ \vdots \\ \psi_n \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{EE})$$

←

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j \langle u, \psi_j \rangle \langle \varphi_j, v \rangle$$

for a complete set of eigenvectors  $\varphi_j$  and co-eigenvectors  $\psi_j$ :

$$L\varphi_j = \lambda_j\varphi_j, \quad L^*\psi_j = \bar{\lambda}_j\psi_j$$

## F. Riesz's theory

If  $L$  is a compact operator on a Hilbert space, then

$L$  can be 'written' in a Jordan normal form.

## Optimistic scenario

If we are lucky:

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_1 & \varphi_2 & \dots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 & \dots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\psi_1} \\ \overline{\psi_2} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{EE})$$

$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \lambda_j \langle u, \psi_j \rangle \langle \varphi_j, v \rangle$

for a complete set of eigenvectors  $\varphi_j$  and co-eigenvectors  $\psi_j$ :

$$L\varphi_j = \lambda_j\varphi_j, \quad L^*\psi_j = \overline{\lambda_j}\psi_j$$

## Overly optimistic scenario?

If  $L$  is an appropriate operator on  $L^2(X)$ , we hope for

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \int_Z \lambda_r \langle u, \psi_r \rangle \langle \varphi_r, v \rangle dr \quad (\text{GEE})$$

for a set of generalised eigenfunctions  $\varphi_r$  and generalised co-eigenfunctions  $\psi_r$ :

$$L\varphi_r = \lambda_r\varphi_r, \quad L^*\psi_r = \bar{\lambda}_r\psi_r$$



## Markov chains

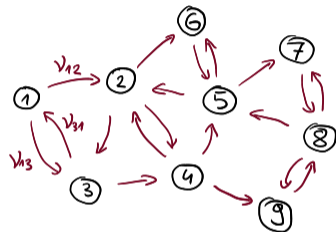
The generator of a continuous-time Markov chain:

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} -\nu_1 & \nu_{12} & \nu_{13} & \cdots & \nu_{1n} \\ \nu_{21} & -\nu_2 & \nu_{23} & \cdots & \nu_{2n} \\ \nu_{31} & \nu_{32} & -\nu_3 & \cdots & \nu_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \nu_{n1} & \nu_{n2} & \nu_{n3} & \cdots & -\nu_n \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $\nu_{ij} \geq 0$  and  $\nu_i = \sum_{j \neq i} \nu_{ij}$ .

Its transition probabilities:

$$P_t = \exp(tL)$$



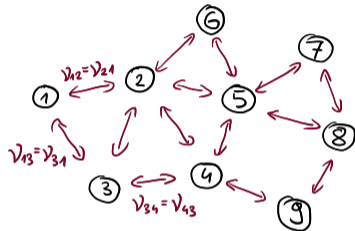
## Symmetric Markov chains

For a symmetric Markov chain:

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^N (-\lambda_j) \langle u, \varphi_j \rangle \langle \varphi_j, v \rangle \quad (\text{EE})$$

$$\langle P_t u, v \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^N e^{-t\lambda_j} \langle u, \varphi_j \rangle \langle \varphi_j, v \rangle$$

with  $\lambda_j \geq 0$ .



## Markov processes

The generator of a Markov process, e.g.:

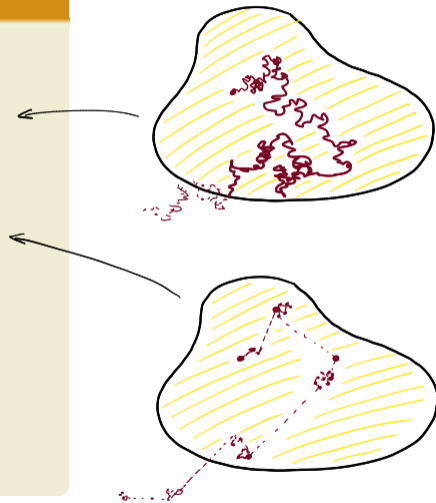
$$Lu(x) = \Delta u(x) \quad (\text{Laplace operator})$$

or

$$Lu(x) = \int (u(y) - u(x)) \nu(x, y) dy$$

Its transition operators:

$$\begin{aligned} P_t u(x) &= \exp(tL)u(x) \\ &= \int p_t(x, y) u(y) dy \end{aligned}$$



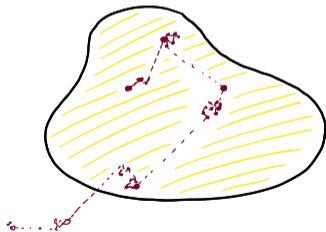
## Symmetric Markov processes

If  $P_t$  are compact operators:

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (-\lambda_j) \langle u, \varphi_j \rangle \langle \varphi_j, v \rangle \quad (\text{EE})$$

$$\langle P_t u, v \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} e^{-t\lambda_j} \langle u, \varphi_j \rangle \langle \varphi_j, v \rangle$$

with  $\lambda_j \geq 0$ .



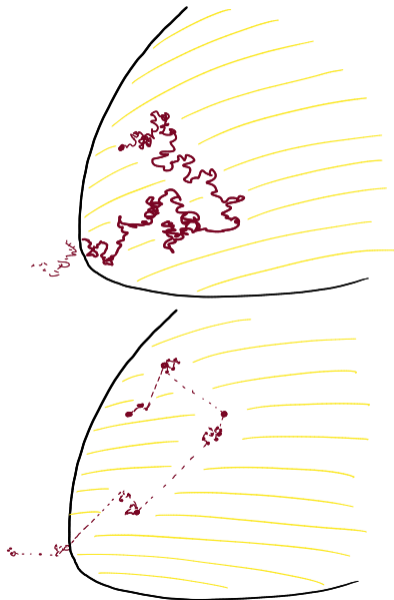
## Symmetric Markov processes (Gettoor, 1959)

If  $P_t$  are Carleman operators:

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \int_Z (-\lambda_r) \langle u, \varphi_r \rangle \langle \varphi_r, v \rangle dr \quad (\text{GEE})$$

$$\langle P_t u, v \rangle = \int_Z e^{-t\lambda_r} \langle u, \varphi_r \rangle \langle \varphi_r, v \rangle dr$$

with  $\lambda_r \geq 0$



## Non-symmetric Markov processes

For a non-symmetric Markov process, if  $P_t$  are compact operators:  
we only know what follows from F. Riesz's theory.

## Optimistic scenario

If we are lucky:

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (-\lambda_j) \langle u, \psi_j \rangle \langle \varphi_j, v \rangle$$

$$\langle P_t u, v \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} e^{-t\lambda_j} \langle u, \psi_j \rangle \langle \varphi_j, v \rangle$$

with  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda_j \geq 0$ .

## Non-symmetric case

For a general non-symmetric Markov process:

we know virtually nothing.

## Self-adjoint example

The 1-D Brownian motion:

$$Lu(x) = u''(x)$$

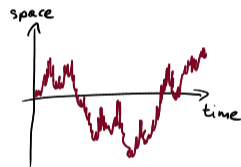
Plancherel's formula:

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (-\xi^2) \hat{u}(\xi) \overline{\hat{v}(\xi)} d\xi$$

Equivalently:

$$Lu(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (-\xi^2) \langle u, \varphi_\xi \rangle \langle \varphi_\xi, v \rangle d\xi$$

with  $\varphi_\xi(x) = e^{i\xi x}$ .



(GEE)



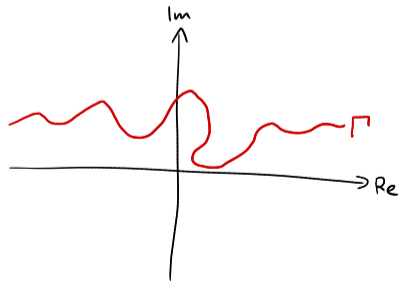
## Non-uniqueness of GEE

By contour deformation:

$$Lu(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\Gamma} (-\xi^2) \langle u, \psi_{\xi} \rangle \langle \varphi_{\xi}, v \rangle d\xi \quad (\text{GEE})$$

with  $\varphi_{\xi}(x) = e^{i\xi x}$ ,  $\psi_{\xi}(x) = e^{i\bar{\xi}x}$ , as long as  $\Gamma$  goes 'from  $-\infty$  to  $+\infty$ '.

It is clear that  $\Gamma = (-\infty, \infty)$  is 'optimal'.



## Normal example

The 1-D Brownian motion with drift:

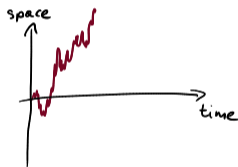
$$Lu(x) = u''(x) + 2bu'(x)$$

Plancherel's formula:

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (-\xi^2 + 2bi\xi) \hat{u}(\xi) \overline{\hat{v}(\xi)} d\xi$$

Equivalently:

$$Lu(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (-\xi^2 + 2bi\xi) \langle u, \varphi_\xi \rangle \langle \varphi_\xi, v \rangle d\xi$$

with  $\varphi_\xi(x) = e^{i\xi x}$ .

(GEE)

## Non-uniqueness of GEE

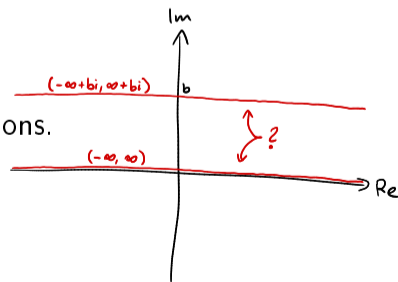
By contour deformation:

$$Lu(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\Gamma} (-\xi^2 + 2bi\xi) \langle u, \psi_{\xi} \rangle \langle \varphi_{\xi}, v \rangle d\xi \quad (\text{GEE})$$

with  $\varphi_{\xi}(x) = e^{i\xi x}$ ,  $\psi_{\xi}(x) = e^{i\bar{\xi}x}$ , as long as  $\Gamma$  goes 'from  $-\infty$  to  $+\infty$ '.

The choice of  $\Gamma$  is no longer clear:

- $\Gamma = (-\infty, \infty)$  leads to  $\psi_{\xi} = \varphi_{\xi}$  bounded;
- $\Gamma = (-\infty + bi, \infty + bi)$  leads to real-valued expressions.



## Non-normal example

The killed 1-D Brownian motion with drift in  $(0, \infty)$ :

$$Lu(x) = u''(x) + 2bu'(x) \quad x \in (0, \infty)$$

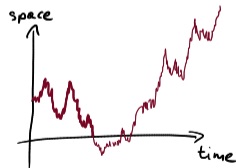
with Dirichlet boundary condition  $u(0) = 0$ .

The solution of the eigenvalue problem:

$$L\varphi = (-\xi^2 + 2ib\xi)\varphi$$

is given by

$$\varphi_\xi(x) = e^{i\xi x} - e^{i(-\xi+2ib)x}$$



## Non-normal GEE

After an elementary calculation:

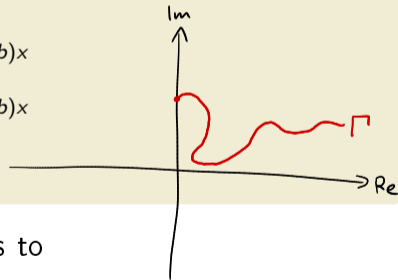
$$Lu(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\Gamma} (-\xi^2 + 2bi\xi) \langle u, \psi_{\xi} \rangle \langle \varphi_{\xi}, v \rangle d\xi \quad (\text{GEE})$$

with

$$\varphi_{\xi}(x) = e^{i\xi x} - e^{i(-\xi+2ib)x}$$

$$\psi_{\xi}(x) = e^{i\bar{\xi}x} - e^{i(-\bar{\xi}-2ib)x}$$

as long as  $\Gamma$  goes 'from a point on  $i\mathbb{R}$  to  $+\infty$ '.



The choice of  $\Gamma$  clear again:  $\Gamma = (bi, \infty + bi)$  leads to

- $\varphi_{\xi}, \psi_{\xi}$  as small as possible,
- all expressions real-valued.

## Goal

Study generalised eigenfunction expansions for generators  $L$  of other Markov processes

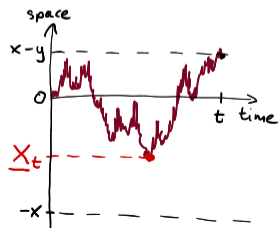
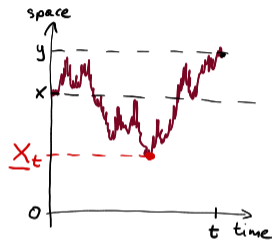
Applications so far:

- expression for the heat kernel in  $(0, \infty)$ :

$$p_t^+(x, y) = \int_0^\infty \lambda_r \psi_r(x) \varphi_r(y) dr \quad (\text{GEE})$$

- supremum and infimum functionals:

$$\mathbb{P}(\underline{X}_t < -x) = \int_0^\infty p_t^+(x, y) dy.$$



## Lévy process

A 1-D Lévy process is a translation-invariant Markov process on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

## Lévy operators

A 1-D Lévy operator is the generator of a 1-D Lévy process:

$$Lu(x) = au''(x) + ibu'(x) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (u(y) - u(x) - (\dots)) \nu(y - x) dy$$

## Lévy–Khinchin theorem

A Lévy operator  $L$  is a Fourier multiplier:

$$\widehat{Lu}(\xi) = -f(\xi)\hat{u}(\xi)$$

where the characteristic exponent is given by:

$$f(\xi) = a\xi^2 - ib\xi + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (1 - e^{i\xi z} - (\dots))\nu(z)dz$$

Transition operators  $P_t = \exp(tL)$  are Fourier multipliers with symbol  $e^{-tf(\xi)}$ .



## Bernstein's theorem

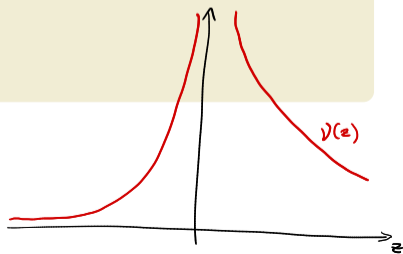
The following are equivalent:

- $\nu$  is **completely monotone** (or **CM**):  $(-1)^n \nu^{(n)}(z) \geq 0$  for  $z > 0$ ;
- $\nu$  is the Laplace transform of a non-negative measure.

## CM jumps

A Lévy process has **CM jumps** if

$\nu(z)$  and  $\nu(-z)$  are CM.



## Rogers functions

A **Rogers function** is a holomorphic function in  $\{\operatorname{Re} \xi > 0\}$  such that  $\operatorname{Re} \frac{f(\xi)}{\xi} \geq 0$ .

Equivalently:  $\frac{f(\xi)}{\xi}$  is a **Nevanlinna–Pick function**.

## Theorem (Rogers, 1983)

For a Lévy process, the following are equivalent:

- it has CM jumps;
- $f(\xi)$  extends to a **Rogers function**.

## Spine

The **spine** of a Rogers function  $f(\xi)$  is the curve

$$\Gamma = f^{-1}((0, \infty)) = \{\xi : f(\xi) \in (0, \infty)\}$$

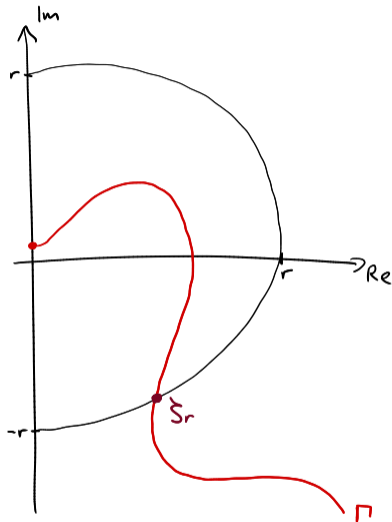
## Lemma (K, 2019, 2021<sup>+</sup>)

The spine intersects centred circles at most once:

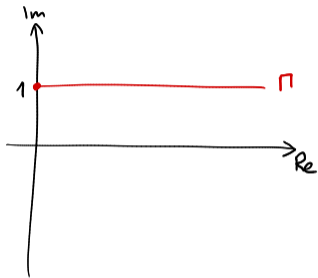
$$\Gamma = \{\zeta_r : r \in Z\}$$

with  $|\zeta_r| = r$  and  $Z \subseteq (0, \infty)$ . Furthermore:

- $\zeta_r$  is  $\frac{1}{30}$ -Hölder continuous.
- $\lambda_r = f(\zeta_r)$  is  $\frac{1}{3}$ -Hölder continuous.



### Sample spines:

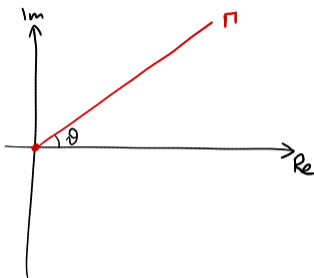


BM + drift

$$f(\xi) = \xi^2 - 2i$$

$$\zeta_r = \sqrt{r^2 - 1} + i$$

$$\lambda_r = r^2 + 1$$

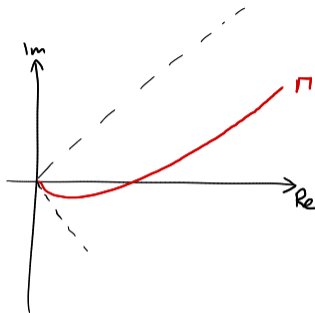


stable

$$f(\xi) = a\xi^\alpha$$

$$\zeta_r = re^{i\vartheta}$$

$$\lambda_r = |a|r^\alpha$$



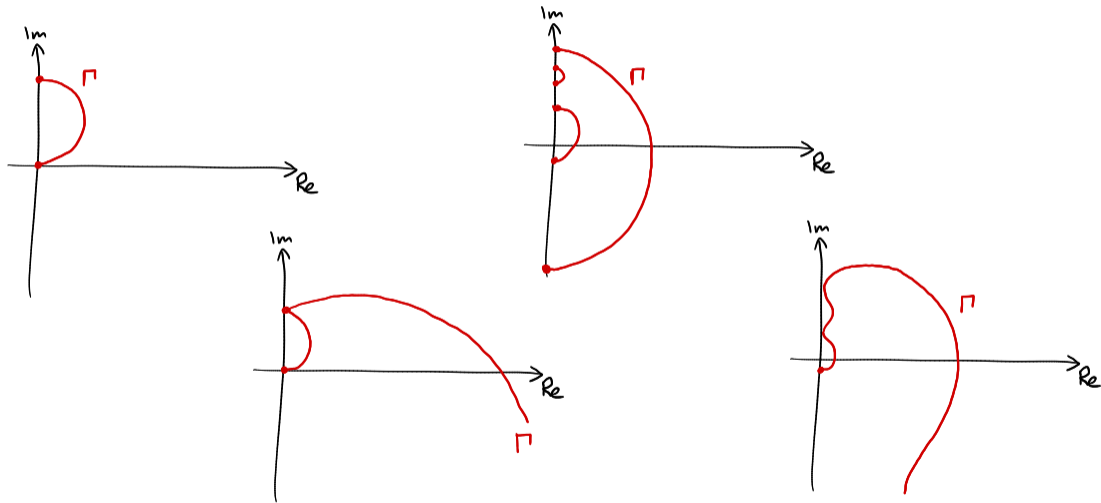
mixed stable

$$f(\xi) = a\xi^\alpha + b\xi^\beta$$

$$\zeta_r \sim re^{i\vartheta}$$

$$\zeta_r \sim |a|r^\alpha + |b|r^\beta$$

# Sample spines for various meromorphic Rogers functions:



## Lévy operators in half-line

A Lévy operator  $L$  restricted to  $(0, \infty)$ :

$$\langle L^+ u, v \rangle = \int_0^\infty Lu(x) \overline{v(x)} dx$$

Probabilistically: killing the process as soon as it exits  $(0, \infty)$ .

Transition operators:  $P_t^+ = \exp(tL^+)$ .

## Theorem (K, 2011; K–Małeckı–Ryznar, 2013)

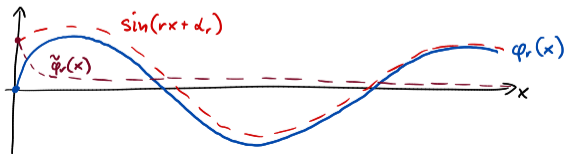
For a **symmetric** Lévy process with CM jumps and  $u, v \in C_c((0, \infty))$ :

$$\langle P_t^+ u, v \rangle = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty e^{-tf(r)} \langle u, \varphi_r \rangle \langle \varphi_r, v \rangle dr \quad (\text{GEE})$$

where

$$\varphi_r(x) = \sin(rx + \alpha_r) - \tilde{\varphi}_r(x)$$

with explicit  $\alpha_r$  and ‘explicit’ CM correction  $\tilde{\varphi}_r(x)$ .



## Theorem (K, 2019, 2021<sup>+</sup>)

For a Lévy process with CM jumps such that:

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} |\text{Arg } \zeta_r| < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

and **admissible**  $u$  and  $v$  we have:

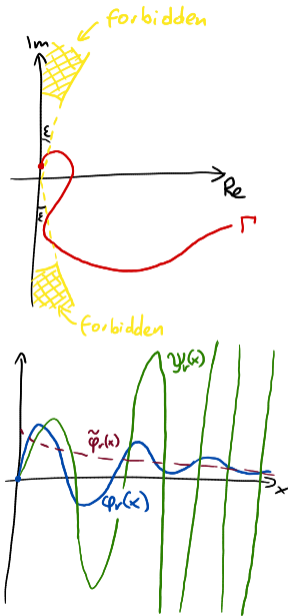
$$\langle P_t^+ u, v \rangle = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\mathbb{Z}} e^{-t\lambda r} \langle u, \psi_r \rangle \langle \varphi_r, v \rangle |\zeta_r'| dr \quad (\text{GEE})$$

where

$$\varphi_r(x) = e^{-x \text{Im } \zeta_r} \sin(x \text{Re } \zeta_r + \alpha_r) - \tilde{\varphi}_r(x)$$

$$\psi_r(x) = e^{x \text{Im } \zeta_r} \sin(x \text{Re } \zeta_r + \beta_r) - \tilde{\psi}_r(x)$$

with explicit  $\alpha_r$ ,  $\beta_r$  and 'explicit' CM corrections  $\tilde{\varphi}_r(x)$ ,  $\tilde{\psi}_r(x)$ .





If  $f(\xi) = a\xi^\alpha$  (and in many other examples), we have:

$$\varphi_r(x) \approx e^{-arx} \sin(brx + \alpha_r)$$

$$\psi_r(x) \approx e^{arx} \sin(brx + \beta_r)$$

If  $a > 0$  and  $u, v \in C_c((0, \infty))$ , then

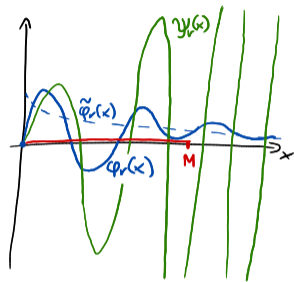
$$\langle u, \psi_r \rangle = O(e^{arM}),$$

$$\langle \varphi_r, v \rangle = O(1)$$

Hence, the integral in

$$\langle P_t^+ u, v \rangle = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\mathbb{Z}} e^{-t\lambda_r} \langle u, \psi_r \rangle \langle \varphi_r, v \rangle |\zeta'_r| dr \quad (\text{GEE})$$

need not even converge!



## Admissible functions

A function  $u$  is **admissible** if

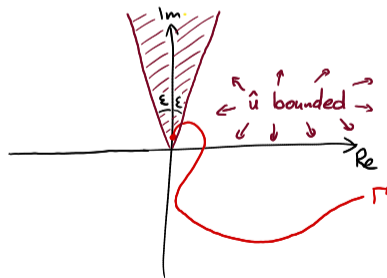
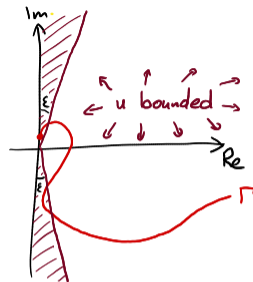
- it is a holomorphic function in  $\{|\text{Arg } \xi| < \frac{\pi}{2} - \varepsilon\}$ ;
- $|u(\xi)| \leq C \exp(-C|\xi| \log |\xi|)$  in this sector.

The Laplace transform of  $u$  is entire and

$$\left| \int_0^\infty e^{-\xi x} u(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{C}{1 + |\xi|}$$

in  $\{|\text{Arg } \xi| \leq \pi - \varepsilon\}$ .

Dense in  $L^2((0, \infty))$ :  $e^{-r\xi \log(1+\xi)}$  is admissible.



Corollary (K, 2019, 2021<sup>+</sup>)

For  $\beta > 1$  and a Lévy process with CM jumps such that:

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} |\operatorname{Arg} \zeta_r| < \frac{\pi}{2\beta}$$

and

$$\int_{\mathcal{Z}} e^{-t\lambda_r} e^{s|\operatorname{Im} \zeta_r|} |\zeta_r'| dr \leq Ae^{s\beta}$$

we have

$$p_t^+(x, y) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\mathcal{Z}} e^{-t\lambda_r} \psi_r(x) \varphi_r(y) |\zeta_r'| dr \quad (\text{GEE})$$

Note: not quite optimal for L-funct. deriv. (stable Lévy proc.)

## History

- $L = \partial^2$ ,  $f(\xi) = \xi^2$ : Laplacian or Brownian motion  
— classical (Fourier sine transform)
- $L = \partial^2 + 2b\partial$ ,  $f(\xi) = \xi^2 - 2ib\xi$ : Brownian motion with drift  
— also classical (Doob's  $h$ -transform)
- symmetric  $L$ : complete Bernstein functions of  $\Delta$  or subordinate BM  
— K, 2011; K–Małeck–Ryznar, 2013
- $L = \partial^\beta(-\partial)^\gamma$ ,  $f(\xi) = a\xi^\alpha$ : fractional derivatives or stable Lévy processes  
— K–Kuznetsov, 2018
- general  $L$   
— K, 2019; K, 2021<sup>+</sup>

Elements of the proof:

- integral expression for

$$\int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-\tau t - \xi x - \eta y} p_t^+(x, y) dx dy dt$$

(Baxter–Donsker, Fristedt, Pecherski–Rogozin)

- inversion of Laplace transforms
- lots of contour deformations
- even more auxiliary estimates
- boundary geometry of level lines of 2-D harmonic functions
- regularity of the Hilbert transform

Generalities  
○○○○○○

Probability  
○○○○○○

Toy example  
○○○○○

Goal  
○

Lévy processes  
○○○○○○○

Results  
○○○○

Comments  
○○●