

# Lecture Notes in Mathematics

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Takafumi Murai

A Real Variable Method for  
the Cauchy Transform,  
and Analytic Capacity

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## PREFACE

The purpose of this lecture note is to study the Cauchy transform on curves and analytic capacity. For a compact set  $\Gamma$  in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $H^\infty(\Gamma^c)$  denotes the Banach space of bounded analytic functions in  $\mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\} - \Gamma (= \Gamma^c)$  with supremum norm  $\|\cdot\|_{H^\infty}$ . The analytic capacity of  $\Gamma$  is defined by

$$\gamma(\Gamma) = \sup\{|f'(\infty)|; \|f\|_{H^\infty} \leq 1, f \in H^\infty(\Gamma^c)\},$$

where  $f'(\infty) = \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} z(f(z) - f(\infty))$ . We also define

$$\gamma_+(\Gamma) = \sup\{(1/2\pi) \int d\mu; \|C_\mu\|_{H^\infty} \leq 1, C_\mu \in H^\infty(\Gamma^c), \mu \geq 0\},$$

where

$$C_\mu(z) = (1/2\pi i) \int 1/(\zeta - z) d\mu(\zeta) \quad (z \notin (\text{the support of } \mu)).$$

We are concerned with estimating  $\gamma(\cdot)$  and  $\gamma_+(\cdot)$ . To do this, compact sets having finite 1-dimension Hausdorff measure are critical. Hence we assume that  $\Gamma$  is a finite union of mutually disjoint smooth arcs. Let  $|\cdot|$  denote the 1-dimension Hausdorff measure (the generalized length). Let  $L^p(\Gamma)$  ( $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ) denote the  $L^p$  space of functions on  $\Gamma$  with respect to the length element  $|dz|$ , and let  $L^1_w(\Gamma)$  denote the weak  $L^1$  space of functions on  $\Gamma$ . Put

$$\rho(\Gamma) = \inf \gamma(E)/|E|, \quad \rho_+(\Gamma) = \inf \gamma_+(E)/|E|,$$

where the infimums are taken over all compact sets  $E$  in  $\Gamma$ . The Cauchy(-Hilbert) transform on  $\Gamma$  is defined by

$$H_\Gamma f(z) = (1/\pi) \text{ p.v. } \int_\Gamma f(\zeta)/(\zeta - z) |d\zeta| \quad (z \in \Gamma).$$

Then we see that

$$\rho_+(\Gamma) \leq \rho(\Gamma) \leq \text{Const } \rho_+(\Gamma)^{1/3}, \quad \text{Const } \rho_+(\Gamma) \leq 1/\|H_\Gamma\|_{L^1(\Gamma), L^1_w(\Gamma)} \leq \text{Const } \rho_+(\Gamma),$$

where  $\|H_\Gamma\|_{L^1(\Gamma), L^1_w(\Gamma)}$  is the norm of  $H_\Gamma$  as an operator from  $L^1(\Gamma)$  to  $L^1_w(\Gamma)$  (Theorem D). Hence the study of  $\gamma(\Gamma)$  is closely related to the study of  $H_\Gamma$ .

Here is a history of the study of the Cauchy transform on Lipschitz graphs. According to Professor Igari, the  $L^2$  boundedness of the Cauchy transform on Lipschitz graphs was first conjectured by Professor Zygmund in his lecture at Orsay in 1960's. Let  $\Gamma = \{(x, A(x)); x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ ,  $a(x) = A'(x)$ , where  $\mathbb{R}$  is the real line. Let  $C[a]$  denote the singular integral operator defined by a kernel  $1/\{(x-y)+i(A(x)-A(y))\}$ . Then the above conjecture means the following assertion:  $C[a]$  is bounded (from  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  to itself) if  $a \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ . The operator  $C[a]$  is formally expanded in the following form:  $(-\pi)H + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-i)^n T_n[a]$ , where  $H$  is the Hilbert transform and  $T_n[a]$  is the singular integral operator defined by a

kernel  $(A(x)-A(y))/(x-y)^{n+1}$ . In 1965, Calderón [3] showed that  $T_1[a]$  is bounded if  $a \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  (Theorem A). This theorem is very important and closely related to the  $BMO(\mathbb{R})$  theory, where  $BMO(\mathbb{R})$  is the Banach space, modulo constants, of functions on  $\mathbb{R}$  of bounded mean oscillation. Coifman-Meyer [8], [9] studied  $T_n[a]$ , Calderón [4] showed that  $C[a]$  is bounded if  $\|a\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R})}$  is sufficiently small, and consequently Coifman-McIntosh-Meyer [7] solved the above conjecture in the affirmative (Theorem B). David [17] studied  $H_\Gamma$  for continuous curves  $\Gamma$ . It is already known [44] that  $\|C[a]\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}), L^2(\mathbb{R})} \leq \text{Const}(1 + \sqrt{\|a\|_{BMO(\mathbb{R})}})$  (Theorem C) and that the square root is best possible [18]. Jones-Semmes gives a simple proof of Theorem B by complex variable methods. (See Appendix II.)

As a first step of the study of  $H_\Gamma$  for discontinuous curves  $\Gamma$ , we begin with a review of the study of  $C[a]$ . In CHAP. I, 8 proofs of Theorem A will be given. Once this theorem is known, we can easily deduce Theorem B (cf. CHAP. II), and hence Theorem A is very important in the study of  $C[a]$ . As is easily seen, if  $f, g \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$  have analytic extensions  $f(z), g(z)$  to the upper half plane (such that  $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} f(iy) = \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} g(iy) = 0$ ), then the Poisson extension of  $(fg)(x)$  to the upper half plane is identical with  $f(z)g(z)$ . This simple property of analytic functions is essential in a proof of Theorem A by complex variable methods. We shall give, in CHAP. I, various interpretations of this property from the point of view of real analysis (cf. Coifman-Meyer-Stein [13]). These proofs are, of course, mutually very close, but each proof has proper applications and is interesting in itself.

In CHAP. II, we shall give the proofs of Theorems B and C by perturbation. Our method is an improvement of Calderón's perturbation [4] and David's perturbation [17]. Put

$$\sigma(C[a]) = \sup(1/|I|) \int_I |C[a](\chi_I f)(x)| dx,$$

where  $\chi_I$  is the characteristic function of  $I$  and the supremum is taken over all intervals  $I$  and all real-valued functions  $f$  with  $\|f\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R})} \leq 1$ . This quantity is comparable to  $\|C[a]\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R}), BMO(\mathbb{R})}$  and convenient for our perturbation. Considering a suitable Calderón-Zygmund decomposition of a primitive  $A(x)$  of  $a(x)$  on  $I$ , we obtain an a-priori estimate of  $(1/|I|) \int_I |C[a](\chi_I f)(x)| dx$  by moderate graphs. (See the figure in § 2.2.) Repeating this argument infinitely many times and estimating infinitely many error terms, we see that the boundedness of  $C[a]$  is consequently reduced to the boundedness of  $H$ . For the proof, Theorem A is necessary. We shall also give a proof of Theorem A by perturbation [45]. Tools which we use are only the Calderón-Zygmund decomposition and the covering lemma. For the proof of Theorem C, we put

$$\hat{\sigma}(C[a]) = \sup(1/|I|) \int_I |C[a](\chi_I f)(x)|^2 f(x) dx,$$

where the supremum is taken over all intervals  $I$  and all real-valued functions

$f$  with  $0 \leq f \leq 1$ . Then  $\sigma(C[a])^2 \leq \text{Const } \hat{\sigma}(C[a])$ . Since  $\int_I C[a](\chi_I f)(x) f(x) dx = 0$ , this quantity behaves like a linear functional of  $a(x)$ , and this gives an a-priori estimate better than  $\sigma(C[a])$ . Our method is not short but very simple, and this is applicable to various kernels.

In CHAP. III, we shall study  $H_\Gamma$  for discontinuous graphs  $\Gamma$  and shall compare  $\gamma(\cdot)$  with integralgeometric quantities. We first give the proof of Theorem D. As is well-known, planar Cantor sets are useful to construct various examples (cf. Denjoy [23], Vitushkin [52]). Let  $Q_0 = [0,1] \times [0,1]$  and let  $Q_n$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) be the union of  $4^n$  closed squares with sides of length  $4^{-n}$  obtained from  $Q_{n-1}$  with each component of  $Q_{n-1}$  replaced by four squares in the four corners of the component. Put  $Q_\infty = \bigcap_{n=0}^\infty Q_n$ . Then  $\gamma(Q_\infty) = 0$  and  $|Q_\infty| > 0$  (Garnett [28]). This shows that two classes of null sets of  $\gamma(\cdot)$  and  $|\cdot|$  are different. We shall try to give grounds to this example. We may consider that  $Q_n$  is a graph. (See the figure in § 3.3.) Let  $T_{s_1, \dots, s_n}$  ( $s_1, \dots, s_n \in \mathbb{R}$ ) be the singular integral operator defined by a kernel

$$1/\{(x-y) + i(A_{s_1, \dots, s_n}(x) - A_{s_1, \dots, s_n}(y))\},$$

where  $A_{s_1, \dots, s_n}(x) = s_k$  ( $((k-1)/n \leq x < k/n, 1 \leq k \leq n)$  and  $A_{s_1, \dots, s_n}(x) = 0$  ( $x \in [0,1)$ ). Then we see that

$$\max\{\sigma(T_{s_1, \dots, s_n}); s_1, \dots, s_n \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

is comparable to  $\sqrt{\log(n+1)}$  (Theorem G), and, if we neglect constant multiples, an  $n$ -tuple  $(s_1^0, \dots, s_n^0)$  obtained from a graph  $\{(x, A_{s_1^0, \dots, s_n^0}(x)); x \in [0,1)\}$  similar to  $Q_m$  ( $m = (\text{the integral part of } (\log n)/4)$ ) is a solution of this extremal problem. Hence planar Cantor sets are worst curves in a sense. We shall also generalize  $Q_n$ . A segment  $[0,1)$  is called a (thick) crank of degree 0 and a finite union  $\Gamma_n$  of segments parallel to the  $x$ -axis is called a (thick) crank of degree  $n$ , if  $\Gamma_n$  is obtained from a crank  $\Gamma_{n-1}$  of degree  $n-1$  with each component  $J$  of  $\Gamma_{n-1}$  replaced by a finite number of segments  $J_1, \dots, J_{2^p}$  ( $p=p(J)$ ) parallel to the  $x$ -axis such that  $|J_k| = 2^{-p}|J|$ , the distance between  $J_k$  and  $J$  is less than or equal to  $2^{-p}|J|$  ( $1 \leq k \leq 2^p$ ) and the projections of these segments to  $\mathbb{R}$  are mutually disjoint and contained in the projection of  $J$ . We shall show that, for any crank  $\Gamma$  of degree  $n$ ,  $\|H_\Gamma\|_{L^2(\Gamma), L^2(\Gamma)} \leq \text{Const } \sqrt{n}$  and that this estimate is best possible (Theorem E). To prove this, we define  $n+1$  singular integral operators  $\{T_k\}_{k=0}^n$  such that  $T_0 = (-\pi)H$ ,  $\|z_{k=0}^n T_k\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}), L^2(\mathbb{R})} = \|H_\Gamma\|_{L^2(\Gamma), L^2(\Gamma)}$  and  $\{T_k\}_{k=0}^n$  are mutually almost orthogonal. Hence we see that the meaning of  $\sqrt{n}$  is the central limit theorem.

We define integralgeometric quantities  $Cr_\alpha(\cdot)$  ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ ) as follows. Let  $D(z, r)$  be the open disk of center  $z$  and radius  $r$ . For a compact set  $E$ ,  $N_E(r, \theta)$  ( $r > 0, |\theta| \leq \pi$ ) denotes the (cardinal) number of elements of  $E \cap L(r, \theta)$ , where  $L(r, \theta)$  is the straight line defined by the equation  $x \cos \theta + y \sin \theta = r$ . We put

$$Cr_{\alpha}(E) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} Cr_{\alpha}^{(\varepsilon)}(E),$$

$$Cr_{\alpha}^{(\varepsilon)}(E) = \inf \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \{ \int_0^{\infty} N_{\partial \{ \bigcup_{k=1}^n D(z_k, r_k) \}}(r, \theta)^{\alpha} dr \} d\theta \quad (\varepsilon > 0),$$

where  $\partial \{ \bigcup_{k=1}^n D(z_k, r_k) \}$  is the boundary of  $\bigcup_{k=1}^n D(z_k, r_k)$  and the infimum is taken over all finite coverings  $\{ D(z_k, r_k) \}_{k=1}^n$  of  $E$  with radii less than  $\varepsilon$ . Since  $\gamma(E) \leq \text{Const } Cr_1(E)$ , it is interesting to compare  $\gamma(\cdot)$  with  $Cr_{\alpha}(\cdot)$  (cf. Marshall [37]). As an application of Theorem E, we shall show that, for  $0 < \alpha < 1/2$ , there exists a compact set  $E_{\alpha}$  such that  $\gamma(E_{\alpha}) = 1$  and  $Cr_{\alpha}(E_{\alpha}) = 0$  (Theorem F). For the proof, we use a branching process. Let  $\{X_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be a sequence of independent random variables on the standard probability space  $([0,1], \mathcal{B}, \text{Prob})$  such that  $\text{Prob}(X_n = \pm 1) = 1/2$  ( $n \geq 1$ ), and let  $S_0 = 0$ ,  $S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n X_k$  ( $n \geq 1$ ). We define a Galton-Watson process  $\{y_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  by  $y_0(x) = 1$ ,  $y_n(x) = y_{n-1}(x) + S_{y_{n-1}(x)}(x)$  ( $n \geq 1$ ). Then we see that, for  $n \geq 1$ , there exists a crank  $\Gamma_n$  of degree  $n$  such that  $Cr_{\alpha}(\Gamma_n)$  is comparable to  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^{\alpha} \text{Prob}(y_n = k)$ . This quantity is comparable to  $1/n^{1-\alpha}$ . Using the difference of order between  $1/\sqrt{n}$  (the central limit theorem) and  $1/n^{1-\alpha}$  (the Galton-Watson process), we construct the required set  $E_{\alpha}$ .

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New Haven, July, 1987

# CONTENTS

CHAPTER I.	The Calderón commutator ( 8 proofs of its boundedness) .....	1
1.1.	Calderón's theorem .....	1
1.2.	Proof of (1.3) .....	1
1.3.	Area integral .....	2
1.4.	Good $\lambda$ inequalities .....	4
1.5.	BMO .....	6
1.6.	The Coifman-Meyer expression .....	9
1.7.	A tent space .....	11
1.8.	The McIntosh expression .....	13
1.9.	Almost orthogonality .....	15
1.10.	Interpolation .....	21
1.11.	Successive compositions of kernels .....	24
CHAPTER II.	A real variable method for the Cauchy transform on graphs .....	31
2.1.	Coifman-McIntosh-Meyer's theorem .....	31
2.2.	Two basic principles .....	32
2.3.	$\sigma$ -function .....	35
2.4.	A-priori estimates .....	39
2.5.	Proof of Theorem A by perturbation .....	47
2.6.	Proof of Theorem B by perturbation .....	50
2.7.	Estimates of norms of $E[\cdot]$ and $C[\cdot]$ .....	53
2.8.	Proof of (2.38) .....	55
2.9.	Proof of (2.39) .....	61
2.10.	Application of (2.38) .....	68
CHAPTER III.	Analytic capacities of cranks .....	71
3.1.	Relation between $\gamma(\cdot)$ and $H$ .....	71
3.2.	Vitushkin's example, Garnett's example, Calderón's problem and extremal problems .....	79
3.3.	The Cauchy transform on cranks .....	83
3.4.	Proof of the latter half of Theorem E .....	91
3.5.	Analytic capacities of fat cranks .....	99
3.6.	Analytic capacity and integralgeometric quantities .....	105
3.7.	Proof of Theorem F .....	112
APPENDIX I.	An extremal problem .....	117
APPENDIX II.	Proof of Theorem B by P.W.Jones-S.Semmes .....	126
REFERENCES	.....	129
SUBJECT INDEX	.....	132

CHAPTER I. THE CALDERÓN COMMUTATOR  
(8 PROOFS OF ITS BOUNDEDNESS)

§1.1. Calderón's Theorem (Calderón [3])

Let  $L^p$  ( $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ ) denote the  $L^p$  space on the real line  $\mathbb{R}$  with respect to the 1-dimension Lebesgue measure  $|\cdot|$ . Its norm is denoted by  $\|\cdot\|_p$ . Let  $BMO$  denote the Banach space, modulo constants, of functions  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $\|f\|_{BMO} = \sup(1/|I|) \int_I |f(x) - (f)_I| dx$  is finite, where the supremum is taken over all (finite) intervals  $I$  and  $(f)_I$  is the mean of  $f$  over  $I$ . For  $a \in L^\infty$ , we define a kernel

$$(1.1) \quad T[a](x, y) = \{A(x) - A(y)\} / (x-y)^2,$$

where  $A$  is a primitive of  $a$ . We write simply by  $T[a]$  the operator from  $L^2$  to itself defined by the above kernel, i.e.,

$$(1.2) \quad T[a]f(x) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{|x-y| > \varepsilon} T[a](x, y) f(y) dy.$$

Calderón showed

Theorem A ([3]). For any  $f \in L^2$ ,  $T[a]f(x)$  exists a.e.

$$(1.3) \quad \|a\|_\infty \leq \text{Const } \|T[a]\|_{2,2}$$

and

$$(1.4) \quad \|T[a]\|_{2,2} \leq \text{Const } \|a\|_\infty,$$

where  $\|T[a]\|_{2,2}$  is the norm of  $T[a]$  (as an operator from  $L^2$  to itself).

In §1.2, we show (1.3). In §1.3-1.11, we show various proofs of (1.4).

§1.2. Proof of (1.3) (Coifman-Rochberg-Weiss [15])

For a set  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\chi_E$  denotes the characteristic function of  $E$ . We put

$$\rho_\varepsilon(x) = \left| \int_{I_{+\varepsilon}} \left\{ \int_{I_{-\varepsilon}} (A(s) - A(t)) dt \right\} ds \right| \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}, \varepsilon > 0),$$

where  $I_{+\varepsilon} = (x, x+\varepsilon)$ ,  $I_{-\varepsilon} = (x-\varepsilon, x)$ . Then  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \rho_\varepsilon / \varepsilon^3 = \text{Const } |a|$  a.e.

We have, for almost all  $x$ ,



$$\begin{aligned}
\rho_\varepsilon(x) &= \left| \int_{I_{+\varepsilon}} \left[ \int_{I_{-\varepsilon}} T[a](s,t) \{ (s-x)^2 + 2(s-x)(x-t) + (x-t)^2 \} dt \right] ds \right| \\
&\leq \int_{I_{+\varepsilon}} \left[ (s-x)^2 |T[a] \chi_{I_{-\varepsilon}}(s)| + 2|s-x| |T[a] \{ (x-\cdot) \chi_{I_{-\varepsilon}} \}(s)| \right. \\
&\quad \left. + |T[a] \{ (x-\cdot)^2 \chi_{I_{-\varepsilon}} \}(s)| \right] ds \\
&\leq \text{Const} [\varepsilon^{5/2} \|T[a] \chi_{I_{-\varepsilon}}\|_2 + \varepsilon^{3/2} \|T[a] \{ (x-\cdot) \chi_{I_{-\varepsilon}} \}\|_2 \\
&\quad + \varepsilon^{1/2} \|T[a] \{ (x-\cdot)^2 \chi_{I_{-\varepsilon}} \}\|_2] \\
&\leq \text{Const} \|T[a]\|_{2,2} \{ \varepsilon^{5/2} \|\chi_{I_{-\varepsilon}}\|_2 + \varepsilon^{3/2} \|(x-\cdot) \chi_{I_{-\varepsilon}}\|_2 \\
&\quad + \varepsilon^{1/2} \|(x-\cdot)^2 \chi_{I_{-\varepsilon}}\|_2 \} \leq \text{Const} \|T[a]\|_{2,2} \varepsilon^3,
\end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$|a| = \text{Const} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \rho_\varepsilon / \varepsilon^3 \leq \text{Const} \|T[a]\|_{2,2} \quad \text{a.e.}$$

Thus we obtain (1.3).

### §1.3. Area integral ([3])

In this section we show the proof of (1.4) by Calderón. Let  $C_0^\infty$  denote the totality of infinitely differentiable functions with compact support,  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  denote the inner product and  $\gamma_\varepsilon = \chi_{(-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)^c}$  ( $\varepsilon > 0$ ). Given real-valued functions  $a, f, g$  in  $C_0^\infty$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we estimate

$$(T^\varepsilon[a]g, f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} T^\varepsilon[a]g(x)f(x)dx,$$

where  $T^\varepsilon[a]$  is an operator defined by a kernel  $\gamma_\varepsilon(x-y) T[a](x, y)$ . We may assume that  $A(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x a(s)ds$ . Then  $A(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e(x-s)a(s)ds$ , where  $e = \chi_{[0, \infty)}$ . We have

$$(T^\varepsilon[a]g, f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(s) \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\gamma_\varepsilon(x-y)}{(x-y)^2} \{e(x-s) - e(y-s)\} g(y)f(x) dy dx \right] ds.$$

Set

$$f_\pm(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{f(x)}{x-z} dx \quad \text{Im } z \begin{cases} > 0 \\ < 0 \end{cases}.$$

We denote also by  $f_\pm(x)$  ( $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ) the non-tangential limit of  $f_\pm(z)$ , respectively. We define analogously  $g_\pm(z)$ ,  $g_\pm(x)$ . Then  $f = f_+ - f_-$ ,  $g = g_+ - g_-$ ,  $\|f_\pm\|_2 \leq \|f\|_2$  and  $\|g_\pm\|_2 \leq \|g\|_2$ . Let

$$K_0(x, y, s) = \gamma_\varepsilon(x-y) \{e(x-s) - e(y-s)\} / (x-y)^2,$$

$$K_1^\pm(x, y, s) = \{e(x-s) - e(y-s)\} / (x-y \pm i\varepsilon)^2,$$

$$K_2(x, y, s) = \varepsilon / \{(x-s)^2 + (y-s)^2 + \varepsilon^2\}^{3/2}.$$

Then  $|K_0(x, y, s) - K_1^\pm(x, y, s)| \leq \text{Const } K_2(x, y, s)$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} |(T^\varepsilon[a]g, f)| &= \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(s) \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K_0(x, y, s) \{g_+(y) - g_-(y)\} f(x) dy dx \right] ds \right| \\ &\leq \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(s) \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K_1^+(x, y, s) g_+(y) f(x) dy dx \right] ds \right| \\ &+ \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(s) \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K_1^-(x, y, s) g_-(y) f(x) dy dx \right] ds \right| \\ &+ \text{Const} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |a(s)| \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K_2(x, y, s) \{|g_+(y)| + |g_-(y)|\} |f(x)| dy dx \right] ds \\ &= \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(s) k_1^+(s) ds \right| + \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(s) k_1^-(s) ds \right| + \text{Const} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |a(s)| k_2(s) ds, \text{ say).} \end{aligned}$$

We now estimate  $k_1^\pm(s)$ ,  $k_2(s)$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} k_1^+(s) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \left\{ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K_1^+(x, y, s) g_+(y) dy \right\} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \left\{ e(x-s) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{g_+(y)}{(x-y-i\varepsilon)^2} dy - \int_s^{\infty} \frac{g_+(y)}{(x-y-i\varepsilon)^2} dy \right\} dx \\ &= -i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \left[ \int_0^{\infty} g_+(s+it) / \{(x-i\varepsilon) - (s+it)\}^2 dt \right] dx \\ &= -i \int_0^{\infty} g_+(s+it) \left[ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) / \{(x-i\varepsilon) - (s+it)\}^2 dx \right] dt \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^{\infty} f'_+(s+i(t+\varepsilon)) g_+(s+it) dt. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$F(z) = -i \int_0^{\infty} f'_+(z+i(t+\varepsilon)) g_+(z+it) dt \quad (z \in U),$$

where  $U = \{(x, y); x \in \mathbb{R}, y > 0\}$ . Then  $F$  is analytic in  $U$  and the non-tangential limit  $F(s)$  equals  $(1/2\pi i) k_1^+(s)$ . Here is a main lemma necessary for the proof of (1.4). Let  $P_y(x)$  be the Poisson kernel, i.e.,  $P_y(x) = y / \{\pi(x^2 + y^2)\}$ . For a differentiable function  $v(x, y)$  in  $U$ , we write  $|\nabla v(x, y)| = \{|\partial v / \partial x|^2 + |\partial v / \partial y|^2\}^{1/2}$ .

Lemma 1.1 ([3]). For  $v \in L^1$ , we define

$$A(v)(x) = \left\{ \iint_{\Delta(x)} |\nabla v(\xi, \eta)|^2 d\xi d\eta \right\}^{1/2} \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}),$$

where  $v(\xi, \eta) = P_\eta * v(\xi)$  and  $\Delta(x) = \{(\xi, \eta); |\xi - x| < \eta\}$ . Then  $\|v\|_1 \leq \text{Const} \|A(v)\|_1$ .

Once this lemma is known, (1.4) is deduced as follows. Since  $F'(z) = f_+^*(z + i\varepsilon)g_+(z)$ , we have  $A(F)(s) \leq A(f_+)(s)m(g_+)(s) \leq \text{Const} A(f_+)(s) M g_+(s)$ , where  $m(g_+)(s) = \sup\{|g_+(\xi, \eta)|; (\xi, \eta) \in \Delta(x)\}$  and  $M$  is the non-centered maximal operator (Journé [35, p.6]). (See Lemma 2.3.) We have  $\|Mg_+\|_2 \leq \text{Const} \|g_+\|_2$ . Green's formula shows that  $\|A(f_+)\|_2 = \text{Const} \|f_+\|_2$ . Thus we have, by Lemma 1.1,

$$\begin{aligned} |\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(s)k_1^+(s)ds| &\leq 2\pi \|a\|_{\infty} \|F\|_1 \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\infty} \|A(F)\|_1 \\ &\leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\infty} \|A(f_+)\|_2 \|m(g_+)\|_2 \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\infty} \|f_+\|_2 \|g_+\|_2 \\ &\leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\infty} \|f\|_2 \|g\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

In the same manner, we have  $|\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(s)k_1^-(s)ds| \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\infty} \|f\|_2 \|g\|_2$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} k_2(s) &\leq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\varepsilon}{(x-s)^2 + \varepsilon^2} |f(x)| [\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{(x-s)^2 + \varepsilon^2}}{(x-s)^2 + (y-s)^2 + \varepsilon^2} \{|g_+(y)| + |g_-(y)|\} dy] dx \\ &\leq \text{Const} M f(s) \{Mg_+(s) + Mg_-(s)\}, \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |a(s)| k_2(s) ds \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\infty} \|f\|_2 \|g\|_2.$$

Consequently  $|(T^\varepsilon[a]g, f)| \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\infty} \|f\|_2 \|g\|_2$ . Since  $f, g \in C_0^\infty$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$  are arbitrary, we have (1.4) for  $a \in C_0^\infty$ . In the general case, we can deduce (1.4) from the boundedness of maximal operators  $T^*[b]$  ( $b \in C_0^\infty$ ) and Fatou's lemma. (See Lemma 2.5.)

#### §1.4. Good $\lambda$ inequalities ([2], [26], [48])

In this section we give the proof of Lemma 1.1 by the so-called "good  $\lambda$  inequalities". We put  $\tilde{m}(v)(x) = \sup\{|v(x, y)|; y > 0\}$ . Fixing a sufficiently large  $\tau$ , we prove

$$\begin{aligned} (1.5) \quad |x; \tilde{m}(v)(x) > \tau\lambda, A(v)(x) \leq \lambda/\tau| \\ \leq (\text{Const}/\tau^2) |x; \tilde{m}(x) > \lambda| \quad (\lambda > 0). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $W(\lambda) = \{x; \tilde{m}(x) > \lambda\}$ ,  $\delta(\lambda) = |W(\lambda)|$ . Then we can write  $W(\lambda) = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k$  with a sequence  $M_\lambda = \{I_k\}$  of mutually disjoint open intervals. It is sufficient to show that, for each  $I \in M_\lambda$ ,

$$(1.6) \quad |E| \leq (\text{Const}/\tau^2) |I|,$$

where  $E = \{x \in I; \tilde{m}(v)(x) > \tau\lambda, A(v)(x) \leq \lambda/\tau\}$ . To do this we may assume that  $A(v)(\xi) \leq \lambda/\tau$  for some  $\xi \in I$ ; otherwise  $E = \emptyset$ . Since  $A(v)(\xi) \leq \lambda/\tau$ , we have, for any  $x \in I$ ,  $y \geq 2|I|$ ,

$$(1.7) \quad |v(\alpha, y) - v(x, y)| \leq \text{Const } A(v)(\xi) \leq \text{Const } \lambda/\tau,$$

where  $\alpha$  is the left endpoint of  $I$ . We choose  $\tau$  large enough so that the last quantity in (1.7) is less than  $\lambda$ . Since  $\tilde{m}(v)(\alpha) \leq \lambda$ , we have  $|v(x, y)| \leq 2\lambda$  ( $x \in I$ ,  $y \geq 2|I|$ ). Hence, for any  $x \in E$ , there exists  $0 < y_x < 2|I|$  such that  $|v(x, y_x)| = \sup\{|v(x, y)|; y > y_x\} = \tau\lambda$ . Let  $J(x) = (x - (y_x/5), x + (y_x/5))$ ,  $\tilde{J}(x) = \{(\xi, y_x); |\xi - x| < y_x/10\}$  ( $x \in E$ ). Then, for any  $(\xi, y_x) \in \tilde{J}(x)$ , we have  $|v(\xi, y_x)| \geq |v(x, y_x)| - \text{Const } A(v)(x) \geq \tau\lambda - \text{Const } \lambda/\tau \geq \tau\lambda/2$ . There exist a finite number of mutually disjoint intervals  $\{J(x_\mu)\}$  such that  $|E| \leq 5 \sum |J(x_\mu)|$ . (See §2.2.) Let  $R = Q_0 \cap \bigcup \tilde{\Delta}(x_\mu)$ , where  $Q_0 = \{(\xi, \eta); \xi \in I, 0 < \eta < 2|I|\}$ ,  $\tilde{\Delta}(x_\mu) = \{(\xi, \eta); |\xi - x_\mu| < \eta/10, \eta > y_{x_\mu}\}$ . Green's formula shows that

$$(1.8) \quad \int_{\partial R} \left\{ \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial n} |v|^2 - \eta \frac{\partial |v|^2}{\partial n} \right\} ds = \text{Const} \iint_R \eta |\nabla v|^2 d\xi d\eta,$$

where  $\partial/\partial n$  is the inner normal derivative and  $ds$  is the length element. Let  $A_R(v)(x) = \left\{ \iint_{\Delta^*(x) \cap R} |\nabla v|^2 d\xi d\eta \right\}^{1/2}$ , where  $\Delta^*(x) = \{(\xi, \eta); |\xi - x| < \eta/10\}$ . Then a geometric observation shows that  $A_R(v)(x) \leq A(v)(x_\nu) \leq \lambda/\tau$ , where  $x_\nu$  is a point which is nearest to  $x$  in  $\{x_\mu\}$ . Hence the right-hand side of (1.8) is dominated by:

$$\text{Const} \int_I A_R(v)(x)^2 dx \leq \text{Const} (\lambda/\tau)^2 |I| \leq \text{Const } \lambda^2 |I|.$$

We divide  $\partial R$  into the following three parts:  $\partial R_0 = \partial R \cap \bigcup \tilde{J}(x_\mu)$ ,  $\partial R_1 = \{(\xi, \eta); \xi \in I, \eta = 2|I|\}$ ,  $\partial R_2 = \partial R - (\partial R_0 \cup \partial R_1)$ . Note that  $\eta |\nabla v(\xi, \eta)| \leq \text{Const } \lambda/\tau$  on  $\partial R$ . By the definition of  $y_x$  ( $x \in E$ ), we have, for any  $(\xi, \eta) \in \partial R$ ,  $|v(\xi, \eta)| \leq \tau\lambda + \text{Const } \lambda/\tau \leq \text{Const } \tau\lambda$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{\partial R} \eta \frac{\partial |v|^2}{\partial n} ds \right| \leq \text{Const} \int_{\partial R} \eta |\nabla v| |v| ds \\ & \leq \text{Const} (\lambda/\tau) \tau\lambda \int_{\partial R} ds \leq \text{Const } \lambda^2 |I|. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $|v(\xi, \eta)| \leq \text{Const } \lambda$  on  $\partial R_1$ , we have  $\left| \int_{\partial R_1} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial n} |v|^2 ds \right| \leq \text{Const } \lambda^2 |I|$ . These estimates yield that  $\int_{\partial R_0 \cup \partial R_2} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial n} |v|^2 ds \leq \text{Const } \lambda^2 |I|$ . Since  $\partial \eta / \partial n \geq 0$  on  $\partial R_2$ ,  $\partial \eta / \partial n = 1$  on  $\partial R_0$  and  $|v(\xi, \eta)| \geq \tau\lambda/2$  on  $\partial R_0$ , we have

$$\tau^2 \lambda^2 |E| \leq \text{Const} \int_{\partial R_0} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial n} |v|^2 ds \leq \text{Const} \int_{\partial R_0 \cup \partial R_2} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial n} |v|^2 ds \leq \text{Const} \lambda^2 |I|,$$

which shows (1.6). Consequently (1.5) holds.

By (1.5), we have, with a constant  $C_0$ ,

$$(1.9) \quad \delta(\tau\lambda) \leq \tilde{\delta}(\lambda/\tau) + (C_0/\tau^2) \delta(\lambda),$$

where  $\tilde{\delta}(\lambda) = |x; A(v)(x) > \lambda|$ . We now choose  $\tau = 2C_0$  and integrate each quantity in (1.9) by  $d\lambda$  from 0 to infinity. Then we obtain

$\|m(v)\|_1 \leq \text{Const} \|A(v)\|_1$ , which gives  $\|v\|_1 \leq \text{Const} \|A(v)\|_1$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 1.1.

### §1.5. BMO (Fefferman-Stein [27])

Theorem A is closely related to the theory of BMO [27]. In this section, we show the proof of Theorem A by Fefferman-Stein. We say that a non-negative measure  $d\mu(x,y)$  in  $U$  is a Carleson measure with constant  $B$  if

$$\iint_{I \times (0, |I|)} d\mu(x,y) \leq B |I|$$

for any interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ . The following two facts are elementary.

Lemma 1.2 ([27]). Let  $a \in \text{BMO}$ . Then  $y |\nabla a(x,y)|^2 dx dy$  is a Carleson measure with constant  $\text{Const} \|a\|_{\text{BMO}}^2$ , where  $a(x,y) = P_y * a(x)$ .

Proof. Given an interval  $I$ , we put

$$a^{(1)}(x) = (a(x) - (a)_I) \chi_{I^*}^*(x), \quad a^{(2)}(x) = (a(x) - (a)_I) \chi_{I^*c}^*(x),$$

where  $(a)_I = (1/|I|) \int_I a(y) dy$  and  $I^*$  is the double of  $I$ , i.e., the (open) interval of the same midpoint as  $I$  and of length  $2|I|$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} a(x,y) &= P_y * a^{(1)}(x) + P_y * a^{(2)}(x) + (a)_I \\ &= a^{(1)}(x,y) + a^{(2)}(x,y) + (a)_I, \quad \text{say).} \end{aligned}$$

John-Nirenberg's inequality [32] shows that  $\|a^{(1)}\|_2 \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} \sqrt{|I|}$ . (See Lemma 2.5.) Hence we have, with  $\hat{I} = I \times (0, |I|)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_{\hat{I}} y |\nabla a^{(1)}(x,y)|^2 dx dy &\leq \iint_U y |\nabla a^{(1)}(x,y)|^2 dx dy \\ &= \text{Const} \|a^{(1)}\|_2^2 \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\text{BMO}}^2 |I|. \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $|(a)_{I_j} - (a)_I| \leq \text{Const } j \|a\|_{\text{BMO}}$  ( $j \geq 1$ ), where  $I_j$  is the interval of the same midpoint as  $I$  and of length  $2^j |I|$ . We have, for  $(x,y) \in \hat{I}$

$$\begin{aligned}
|\nabla a^{(2)}(x,y)| &\leq \text{Const} \int_{I^*c} \frac{1}{(x-s)^2} |a^{(2)}(s)| ds \\
&\leq \text{Const} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |I_j|^{-2} \int_{I_{j+1}-I_j} |a(y)-(a)_{I_j}| dy \\
&\leq \text{Const} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |I_j|^{-2} |I_{j+1}| \{ \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} + |(a)_{I_j} - (a)_{I_j}| \} \\
&\leq \text{Const} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} j 2^{-j} \right) \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} / |I| ,
\end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned}
\iint_{\hat{I}} y |\nabla a^{(2)}(x,y)|^2 dx dy &\leq \text{Const} (\|a\|_{\text{BMO}} / |I|)^2 \iint_{\hat{I}} y dx dy \\
&\leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\text{BMO}}^2 |I| .
\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
\iint_{\hat{I}} y |\nabla a(x,y)|^2 dx dy &\leq \text{Const} \{ \iint_{\hat{I}} y |\nabla a^{(1)}(x,y)|^2 dx dy \\
+ \iint_{\hat{I}} y |\nabla a^{(2)}(x,y)|^2 dx dy \} &\leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\text{BMO}}^2 |I| . \quad \text{Q.E.D.}
\end{aligned}$$

Lemma 1.3 ([35, p. 85]). Let  $d\mu(x,y)$  be a Carleson measure with constant  $B$ . Then, for any  $f \in L^2$ ,

$$\iint_U |f(x,y)|^2 d\mu(x,y) \leq \text{Const } B \|f\|_2^2 \quad (f(x,y) = P_y * f(x)).$$

Proof. Let  $W(\lambda) = \{(x,y) \in U; |f(x,y)| > \lambda\}$ ,  $\delta(\lambda) = \iint_{W(\lambda)} d\mu(x,y)$  ( $\lambda > 0$ ). Then the left-hand side of our lemma is dominated by

$\text{Const} \int_0^\infty \lambda \delta(\lambda) d\lambda$ . If  $(x,y) \in W(\lambda)$ , then  $\lambda \leq \sup\{|f(\xi,\eta)|; |x-\xi| < \eta\} \leq CMf(x)$  for some constant  $C$ . Hence  $W(\lambda)$  is contained in  $W_0(\lambda) = \bigcup I \times (0, |I|)$ , where the union is taken over all components  $I$  of  $\{x; Mf(x) > C\lambda\}$ . Thus

$$\delta(\lambda) \leq \iint_{W_0(\lambda)} d\mu(x,y) \leq B |x; Mf(x) > C\lambda| ,$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^\infty \lambda \delta(\lambda) d\lambda &\leq B \int_0^\infty \lambda |x; Mf(x) > C\lambda| d\lambda \\
&\leq \text{Const } B \|Mf\|_2^2 \leq \text{Const } B \|f\|_2^2 . \quad \text{Q.E.D.}
\end{aligned}$$

We now prove Theorem A. The Hilbert transform  $H$  is defined by

$$Hf(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{|s-x| > \varepsilon} \frac{f(s)}{s-x} ds .$$

For  $a, f \in C_0^\infty$ , we have

$$(1.10) \quad T[a]f(x) = -\pi H(af)(x) + \pi [A, H]f'(x),$$

where  $[A, H]f' = A(Hf') - H(Af')$ . Since  $\|H(af)\|_2 \leq \|a\|_\infty \|f\|_2$ , it is sufficient to show that  $\|[A, H]f'\|_2 \leq \text{Const } \|a\|_\infty \|f\|_2$ ; we will prove a better inequality.

$$(1.11) \quad \|[A, H]f'\|_2 \leq \text{Const } \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} \|f\|_2.$$

Without loss of generality we may assume that  $a, f$  are real-valued. We have, for any real-valued function  $g \in C_0^\infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} ([A, H]f', g) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [A, H]f'(x)g(x)dx = (A, Hf' \cdot g + f'Hg) \\ &= 4 \operatorname{Im}(A, f'_+ g_+) = 4 \operatorname{Im}(A, F') = -4 \operatorname{Im}(a, F), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(1.12) \quad F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f'_+(s)g_+(s)ds = -i \int_0^\infty f'_+(x+is)g_+(x+is)ds.$$

Let  $a(x, y) = P_y * a(x, y)$ ,  $F(x, y) = P_y * F(x)$ . Since  $f'_+(z)$ ,  $g_+(z)$  are analytic in  $U$ , we have  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x, y) = f'_+(x+iy)g_+(x+iy)$ . Thus Lemmas 1.2, 1.3 and Parseval's formula yield that

$$\begin{aligned} |(a, F)| &= \text{Const } \left| \iint_U y \frac{\partial a}{\partial x}(x, y) \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x, y) dx dy \right| \\ &= \text{Const } \left| \iint_U y \frac{\partial a}{\partial x}(x, y) f'_+(x+iy)g_+(x+iy) dx dy \right| \\ &\leq \text{Const } \left\{ \iint_U y |f'_+(x+iy)|^2 dx dy \right\}^{1/2} \left\{ \iint_U y |\nabla a(x, y)|^2 |g_+(x+iy)|^2 dx dy \right\}^{1/2} \\ &\leq \text{Const } \|f_+\|_2 \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} \|g_+\|_2 \leq \text{Const } \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} \|f\|_2 \|g\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Theorem A.

Fefferman-Stein [27] showed also the following inequality, which is essentially same as (1.11).

Lemma 1.4 ([27]). Let  $a \in \text{BMO}$ . Then  $\|[a, H]\|_{2,2} \leq \text{Const } \|a\|_{\text{BMO}}$ .

Proof. Without loss of generality we may assume that  $a$  is real-valued. We have, for any real-valued functions  $f, g \in C_0^\infty$ ,

$$([a, H]f, g) = (a, Hf \cdot g + fHg) = -4 \operatorname{Im}(a, f_+ g_+).$$

Let  $G(x) = f_+(x)g_+(x)$ . Then Parseval's formula shows that, with  $G(x, y) = P_y * G(x)$ ,  $a(x, y) = P_y * a(x)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
|(a, f_+ g_+)| &= |(a, G)| = \text{Const} \left| \iint_U y \frac{\partial a}{\partial x}(x, y) \frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(x, y) dx dy \right| \\
&\leq \text{Const} \left\{ \iint_U y |\nabla a|^2 |G| dx dy \right\}^{1/2} \left\{ \iint_U y |\nabla G|^2 |G|^{-1} dx dy \right\}^{1/2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\log|G(x, y)|$  is subharmonic in  $U$ ,

$$\Delta \log |G| = (\Delta |G| - \frac{|\nabla |G||^2}{|G|}) \frac{1}{|G|} \geq 0,$$

and hence

$$\frac{|\nabla |G||^2}{|G|} = \Delta |G| + \frac{|\nabla |G||^2}{|G|} \leq 2 \Delta |G|.$$

This shows that

$$\iint_U y |\nabla G|^2 |G|^{-1} dx dy \leq 2 \iint_U y \Delta |G| dx dy = \text{Const} \|G\|_1.$$

Since  $|G(x, y)|^{1/2}$  is subharmonic in  $U$ , we have  $|G(x, y)| \leq p_y * (|G|^{1/2})(x)^2$ . Hence Lemmas 1.2 and 1.3 yield that

$$\begin{aligned}
\iint_U y |\nabla a(x, y)|^2 |G(x, y)| dx dy &\leq \iint_U y |\nabla a(x, y)|^2 p_y * (|G|^{1/2})(x)^2 dx dy \\
&\leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\text{BMO}}^2 \|G\|_1.
\end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we have

$$|([a, H]f, g)| \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} \|G\|_1 \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} \|f\|_2 \|g\|_2. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

### §1.6. The Coifman-Meyer expression (Coifman-Meyer [8])

It is important to understand Theorem A from the point of view of real analysis. Coifman-Rochberg-Weiss [15] showed Lemma 1.4 without using analytic functions. Coifman-Meyer gave the following expression.

Lemma 1.5 ([8]).  $[A, H]f'(x)$

$$= - \text{Const} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [a_{-s}, H]f_s(x)/(1+s^2) ds \quad (a \in \text{BMO}, f \in C_0^\infty),$$

where  $a_s = k_s * a$ ,  $f_s = k_s * f$ ,  $k_s(x) = \Xi_s/|x|^{1+is}$  and  $\Xi_s = \Gamma((1+is)/2)/\{\Gamma(-is/2)\pi^{is}\}$ .

Proof. We have, for  $a, f \in C_0^\infty$ ,

$$[A, H]f'(x) = \text{Const} i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i(\xi+\eta)x} \{\text{sign } \eta - \text{sign}(\xi+\eta)\} \frac{\hat{a}(\xi)}{i\xi} i\eta \hat{f}(\eta) d\xi d\eta,$$

where  $\hat{a}, \hat{f}$  are the Fourier transform of  $a, f$ , respectively. Note that



$\{\text{sign } \eta - \text{sign}(\xi+\eta)\} (\eta/\xi) = - \{\text{sign } \eta - \text{sign}(\xi+\eta)\} \chi_{(0,1)}(|\eta/\xi|)$ . Since

$$|\eta/\xi| = \text{Const} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\eta/\xi|^{1s/(1+s^2)} ds \quad (|\eta/\xi| \leq 1),$$

$\hat{a}_{-s}(\xi) = \hat{k}_{-s}(\xi) \hat{a}(\xi) = |\xi|^{-is} \hat{a}(\xi)$  and  $\hat{f}_s(\eta) = |\eta|^{is} \hat{f}(\eta)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} [A, H]f'(x) &= - \text{Const} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i(\xi+\eta)x} \{\text{sign } \eta - \text{sign}(\xi+\eta)\} \\ &\quad \hat{a}_{-s}(\xi) \hat{f}_s(\eta) d\xi d\eta] / (1+s^2) ds = - \text{Const} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} [a_{-s}, H]f_s(x) / (1+s^2) ds. \end{aligned}$$

(In the case of  $a \in \text{BMO}$ ,  $f \in C_0^\infty$ , it is necessary to show the convergence of the quantity in the right-hand side of Lemma 1.5. This will be shown later in the proof of Theorem A.) Q.E.D.

Here is another lemma necessary for the proof of Theorem A.

Lemma 1.6 ([8]).  $\|a_s\|_{\text{BMO}} \leq \text{Const}(1 + |s|^{3/4}) \|a\|_{\text{BMO}}$ .

Proof. Without loss of generality we may assume that  $s > 0$ . We put  $a^{(1)} = (a - (a)_I) \chi_{I^*}$ ,  $a^{(2)} = (a - (a)_I) \chi_{I^{*c}}$ . (See Lemma 1.2.) Then

$a_s = a_s^{(1)} + a_s^{(2)}$ , where  $a_s^{(j)} = k_s * a^{(j)}$  ( $j = 1, 2$ ). John-Nirenberg's inequality shows that  $\|a^{(1)}\|_2 \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} \sqrt{|I|}$ , and hence

$$\int_I |a_s^{(1)}(x)| dx \leq \|a_s^{(1)}\|_2 \sqrt{|I|} = \|a^{(1)}\|_2 \sqrt{|I|} \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} |I|.$$

Note that  $|\Xi_s| \leq \text{Const}(1 + \sqrt{s})$ . In the same manner as in Lemma 1.2, we have, with  $x_0 = (\text{the midpoint of } I)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_I |a^{(2)}(x) - a^{(2)}(x_0)| dx \\ &= |\Xi_s| \int_I \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left\{ \frac{1}{|x-y|^{1+is}} - \frac{1}{|x_0-y|^{1+is}} \right\} a^{(2)}(y) dy \right| dx \\ &\leq \text{Const} \{ |\Xi_s| (1 + s^{1/4}) \} \int_I |x-x_0|^{1/4} \left\{ \int_{I^{*c}} \frac{1}{|x_0-y|^{5/2}} |a(y) - (a)_I| dy \right\} dx \\ &\leq \text{Const} (1 + s^{3/4}) \|a\|_{\text{BMO}} |I|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we obtain

$$(|a_s - (a_s)_I|)_I \leq 2(|a_s - a_s^{(2)}(x_0)|)_I \leq \text{Const} (1 + s^{3/4}) \|a\|_{\text{BMO}},$$

which gives the required inequality. Q.E.D.

Theorem A is deduced from Lemmas 1.4-1.6 as follows. Inequality (1.10) shows that it is sufficient to show that  $\|[A, H]f'\|_2 \leq \text{Const} \|a\|_\infty \|f\|_2$ . Lemmas 1.4-1.6