

# Tempered Fundamental Solution and Eigendistributions for the Invariant Differential Operators on the Heisenberg Group

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## Abstract

It is known that  $\chi_\xi(x) = e^{-i\langle \xi, x \rangle}$  are eigendistributions for any invariant differential operator on  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . In this paper, we show that if  $T$  is an eigendistribution of an invariant differential operator on  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , then an eigendistribution for an invariant differential operator on the Heisenberg group  $H^n$  of dimension  $m = 2n + 1$  can be obtained. To this end, an existence theorem is put forward. Out of this theorem a tempered fundamental solution of these invariant differential operators has been also obtained.

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## 1 Introduction.

In this paper we use the Fourier transform on the  $2n + 1$ -dimensional Heisenberg group  $H^n$ , which is well defined and discussed in [7] to solve the equation  $PT = f$ , for any distribution  $f$  on  $H^n$  (see theorem 3.1). Moreover if  $f$  is a tempered distribution, then  $T$  is a tempered distribution (theorem 2.1). These results are obtained by the strong relationship between the invariant differential operators on  $\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$ , and the invariant differential operators on  $H^n$ . (see proposition 2.1 and proposition 2.2). In addition, the functions which define the Fourier transform on  $\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$ , are not only eigenfunctions for the invariant differential operators on  $\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$ , but by the exploitation of the properties of

the invariance of  $H^n$ , these functions will be also eigendistributions for the invariant differential operators on  $H^n$ , (see corollary 3.2).

Therefore Let  $H^n$  be the real Heisenberg group of dimension  $2n + 1$ , which consists of all matrices of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x & z \\ 0 & I & y \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $I$  is the identity matrix of order  $n$ .

Let  $G = \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \underset{\rho}{\ltimes} \mathbb{R}^n$  be the group of the semi-direct product of the group  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , via the group homomorphism  $\rho : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{R})$ , which is defined by

$$\rho(x)(z, y) = (z + xy, y) \quad (1.2)$$

for any  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $xy = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i$ . Here,  $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{R}^{n+1})$  is the group of all automorphism of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ . The group  $H^n$  can be identified with the group  $G$ , see [12, P.238 – 240] or [7].

Let  $C^\infty(G)$ ,  $\mathcal{D}(G)$ ,  $\mathcal{D}'(G)$  and  $\mathcal{E}'(G)$  be the spaces of  $C^\infty$ -functions,  $C^\infty$  with compact supports, distributions, and distributions with compact support on  $G$  respectively. Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be the complexified universal enveloping algebra of the real Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of  $G$ ; which is canonically isomorphic onto the algebra of all distributions on  $G$  supported by  $\{0\}$ , where  $0$  is the identity element of  $G$ . For any  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ , a differential operator  $P_u$  on  $G$  can be defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} P_u f(X) &= u \star f(X) \\ &= \int_G f(Y^{-1}X)u(Y)dY \end{aligned}$$

for any  $f \in C^\infty(G)$ , where  $dY = dz'dy'dx'$  is the Haar measure on  $G$  which is Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$ ,  $Y = ((z', y'); x')$ ,  $X = (z, y); x$ , and  $\star$  denotes the convolution product on  $G$ . The mapping  $u \mapsto P_u$  is an algebra isomorphism of  $\mathcal{U}$  onto the algebra of all invariant differential operators on  $G$  [3, 8]. We denote by  $V = \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \times \mathbb{R}^n$  the real vector group which is the direct product of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and we denote by  $S(V)$  the symmetric algebra over  $V$ . Then there exists a unique linear bijection  $\lambda : S(V) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ , and the algebra  $S(V)$  is isomorphic onto the algebra  $D(V)$  of the differential operators with constant coefficients on  $V$ .

## 2 The Division of Distibutions on G.

Let  $K = \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$  be the group of the mixed product of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , with multiplication

$$\begin{aligned} X \cdot Y &= ((z, y); x, t)((z', y'); x', t') \\ &= (((z, y) + t(z', y')); x + x', t + t') \\ &= ((z + z' + ty', y + y'); x + x', t + t') \end{aligned}$$

for any  $X = ((z, y); x, t) \in K$  and  $Y = ((z', y'); x', t') \in K$

**Definition 2.1:** For every  $f \in \mathcal{D}(K)$ , one can define a function  $\widehat{f} \in C^\infty(K)$ , as follows:

$$\widehat{f}((z, y); x, t) = f(x(z, y); 0, x + t) \tag{2.1}$$

for any  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Note that the function  $\widehat{f}$  is invariant in the following sense :

$$\widehat{f}((k(z, y)); x - k, t + k) = \widehat{f}((z, y); x, t) \tag{2.2}$$

for any  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Definition 2.2:** For every  $f \in \mathcal{S}(G)$ , one can define its Fourier transform  $\mathcal{F}f$  by :

$$\mathcal{F}f(\xi) = \int_G f(X) e^{-i\langle \xi, X \rangle} dX \tag{2.3}$$

where  $X = ((z, y); x) \in G$ ,  $\xi = ((\eta, \lambda); \mu) \in G$

$$\langle \xi, X \rangle = z\eta + y\lambda + x\mu = z\eta + \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i y_i + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \mu_i$$

and  $dX = dz dy dx$  the Lebesgue measure on  $G$ . It is clear that the function  $\mathcal{F}f \in \mathcal{S}(G)$  and the mapping  $f \mapsto \mathcal{F}f$  is an isomorphism from the topological vector space  $\mathcal{S}(G)$  onto it self.

Now let  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ , then we can associate two invariant differential operators, the first on  $G$  and the second on  $V$ . These two operators can be acted on

$C^\infty(K)$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (i) \quad u \star F((z, y); x, t) &= \int_G F((a, b); c)^{-1}((z, y); x, t)u((a, b); c)da \, db \, dc \\
 &= \int_G F((-c(z - a, y - b)); x, t - c)u((a, b); c)da \, db \, dc \\
 (ii) \quad u \star_c F((z, y); x, t) &= \int_V F((z - a, y - b); x - c, t)u((a, b); c)da \, db \, dc
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2.4}$$

for any  $F \in C^\infty(K)$  and  $((z, y); x, t) \in K$ .

**Proposition 2.1:** For every  $F \in C_I^\infty(K)$ ,

$$u \star F((z, y); x, t) = u \star_c F((z, y); x, t) \tag{2.5}$$

for every  $((z, y, x, t) \in K$ .

According to (2.2), we have

$$F((-c(z - a, y - b)); x, t - c) = F((z - a, y - b; x - c, t)$$

for any  $F \in C_I^\infty(K)$ ,  $(z, y, x, t) \in K$ , and  $((a, b); c) \in G$ . Thus (2.5) gives the proof of the proposition

The Schwartz space  $\mathcal{S}(G)$  of  $G$  can be considered as the Schwartz space  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2n+1})$  of the vector group  $\mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$ . Let  $\mathcal{S}'(G)$  be the space of all tempered distributions on  $G$ . The action  $\rho$  of the group  $\mathbb{R}^n$  on  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  defines a natural action  $\rho$  on the dual group  $(\mathbb{R}^{n+1})^*$  of the group  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  ( $(\mathbb{R}^{n+1})^* \simeq \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ ), which is given by :

$$x(\eta, \lambda) = (\eta, \eta x + \lambda) \tag{2.6}$$

for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^n, x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\eta \in \mathbb{R}$  , where :

$$x(\eta, \lambda) = \rho(x)(\eta, \lambda) \quad \text{and} \quad \eta x = \sum_{i=1}^n \eta x_i$$

In order to prove our mai rseultat, we need the following[see, 8]

**Proposition 3.2:** For every  $f \in \mathcal{S}(G)$  and  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ , we have:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \mathcal{F}(\check{u} * \widehat{f})(\xi, v) \, dv = \mathcal{F}(\widehat{f})(\xi, 0) \mathcal{F}(\check{u})(\xi) \tag{2.7}$$

where  $\xi = (\eta, \lambda, \mu) \in G$ . Now we can state the following Theorem.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Every invariant differential operator on  $G$  which is not identically 0 has a tempered fundamental solution.*

*Proof :* For each complex number  $s$  with positive real part, we can define a distribution  $T^s$  on  $K$  by:

$$\langle T^s, f \rangle = \int_G \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left[ |\mathcal{F}(\check{u})(\xi)|^2 \right]^s \mathcal{F}(f)(\xi, v) \, d\xi \, dv$$

for each  $f \in \mathcal{S}(K)$ . By Atiyah-Bernstein theorems [1, 2], the function  $s \mapsto T^s$  has a meromorphic continuation in the whole complex plan, which is analytic at  $s = 0$  and its value at this point is the Dirac measure on the group  $K$ . Now we can define another distribution,  $\widehat{T}^s$ , as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \widehat{T}^s, f \rangle &= \langle T^s, \widehat{f} \rangle \\ &= \int_G \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left[ |\mathcal{F}(\check{u})(\xi)|^2 \right]^s \mathcal{F}(\widehat{f})(\xi, v) \, d\xi \, dv \end{aligned} \tag{2.8}$$

for any  $f \in \mathcal{S}(K)$  and  $s \in \mathbb{C}$ , with  $\text{Res}(s) \geq 0$ .

Note that the distribution  $\widehat{T}^s$  is invariant in sense (2.2) and we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u * \widehat{\check{u}} * cT^s, f \rangle &= \langle u * \check{u} * cT^s, \widehat{f} \rangle \\ &= \langle T^s, \check{u} * \check{c}u * \widehat{f} \rangle \\ &= \int_G \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left[ |\mathcal{F}(\check{u})(\xi)|^2 \right]^s \mathcal{F}(\check{u} * \check{c}u * \widehat{f})(\xi, v) \, d\xi \, dv \end{aligned}$$

here

$$\check{u}((z, y); x) = \overline{u((-z, -y); -x)}$$

and

$$\check{u} *_c f = \int_G f((z - a, y - b); x - c) \check{u}((a, b); c) da db dc \tag{2.9}$$

is the commutative convolution product on  $G$ . By proposition 3.2, we get:

$$\langle u * \widehat{\check{u} *_c T^s}, f \rangle = \int_G \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left[ |\mathcal{F}(\check{u})(\xi)|^2 \right]^{s+1} \mathcal{F}(\widehat{f})(\xi, v) d\xi dv$$

hence

$$u * \widehat{\check{u} *_c T^s} = \widehat{T^{s+1}} \tag{2.10}$$

In view of invariance (2.2), the restriction of the distributions  $u * \widehat{\check{u} *_c T^s} = \widehat{T^{s+1}}$  on the sub-group  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1} \times \{0\} \underset{\rho}{\propto} \mathbb{R}^n \simeq G$  are nothing but the distributions

$$u * \check{u} *_c T^s = T^{s+1}. \tag{2.11}$$

The distribution  $T^s$  can be expanded a round  $s = -1$  in the form

$$T^s = \sum_{j=-(2n+1)}^{\infty} \alpha_j (s + 1)^j$$

where each  $\alpha_j$  is a distribution on  $G$ . But  $u * \check{u} *_c T^s = T^{s+1}$  can not have a pole at  $s = -1$  (since  $T^0 = \delta_G$ ) and so we must have:

$$\begin{aligned} u * \check{u} *_c \alpha_j &= 0 \quad \text{for } j < 0 \\ u * \check{u} *_c \alpha_0 &= \delta_G \end{aligned} \tag{2.12}$$

### 3 An Existence Theorem and Eigendistributions.

In the following, we state and prove an existence theorem, which leads us to deduce the eigendistributions of an element  $u \in \mathcal{U}$ .

**Theorem 3.1:** *Let  $P_{\check{u}}$  and  $Q_{\check{u}}$  be the invariant differential operators on  $G$  and  $V$  respectively, then the following conditions are equivalent:*

$$\begin{aligned}
 (i) \quad & Q_{\check{u}}\mathcal{D}'(V) = \mathcal{D}'(V). \\
 (ii) \quad & P_{\check{u}}\mathcal{D}'(G) = \mathcal{D}'(G).
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{3.1}$$

*Proof :* By equation(2.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle i(\widetilde{\check{u} \star_c T}), F \rangle &= \langle i(\check{u} \star_c T), \tilde{F} \rangle \\
 &= \langle (\check{u} \star_c T) \otimes \delta, \tilde{F} \rangle \\
 &= \langle (\check{u} \star_c (T \otimes \delta)), \tilde{F} \rangle \\
 &= \langle T \otimes \delta, u \star_c \tilde{F} \rangle \\
 &= \langle T \otimes \delta, u \star \tilde{F} \rangle \\
 &= \langle iT, u \star \tilde{F} \rangle \\
 &= \langle \check{u} \star iT, \tilde{F} \rangle \\
 &= \langle \widetilde{\check{u} \star iT}, F \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

for any  $F \in \mathcal{D}(K)$  and  $T \in \mathcal{D}'(V)$ . Thus

$$\widetilde{\check{u} \star iT} = i(\widetilde{\check{u} \star_c T})
 \tag{3.2}$$

Now, as well known in the theory of differential operators with constant coefficients, for every distribution  $S$  on  $V$ , there is a distribution  $T$  on  $V$  [11], such that

$$\check{u} \star_c T = S
 \tag{3.3}$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned}
 i(\widetilde{\check{u} \star_c T}) &= \widetilde{\check{u} \star iT} = \widetilde{\check{u} \star (T \otimes \delta)} \\
 &= \widetilde{iS} = \widetilde{S \otimes \delta}
 \end{aligned}$$

By the restriction on  $G$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\check{u} \star_c T) \otimes \delta((z, y); 0, t) &= \check{u} \star (T \otimes \delta)((z, y); 0, t) \\
 &= S \otimes \delta((z, y); 0, t)
 \end{aligned}$$

for any  $((z, y), t) \in G$ . Let  $\theta$  be any distribution on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \check{u} \star (T \otimes \delta) \star_e \theta((z, y); 0, t) &= \check{u} \star (T \otimes \theta)((z, y); 0, t) \\ &= S \otimes \theta((z, y); 0, t) \end{aligned}$$

where:

$$\check{u} \star (T \otimes \delta) \star_e \theta((z, y); x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \check{u} \star (T \otimes \delta)((z, y); x, k) \theta(t - k) dk$$

Since  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^{n+1}) \otimes \mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$  is dense in  $\mathcal{D}'(G)$ , then for any distribution  $S'$  on  $G$  there is a distribution  $E$  on  $G$  such that

$$\check{u} \star E((z, y); 0, t) = S'((z, y); 0, t) \quad (3.4)$$

for any  $((z, y), t) \in G$ . This proves that (i) implies (ii).

In order to prove that (ii) implies (i), consider the group  $K$  and the mapping  $F \mapsto \tilde{F}$ , which is defined by

$$\tilde{F}((z, y); x, t) = F((-x(z, y)); 0, x + t)$$

for any  $F \in C^\infty(K)$  and  $((z, y); x, t) \in K$ . Then it is easy to show that (ii) implies (i).

**Corollary 3.1.** *If  $T((z, y); x)$  is a fundamental solution for  $\check{u} \in D(V)$ , then  $iT((z, y); 0, t)$  is also a fundamental solution for  $\check{u} \in \mathcal{U}$ .*

**Theorem 3.2:** *If  $T((z, y); x)$  is an eigendistribution of an element  $u \in S(V)$ , then  $iT((z, y); 0, t)$  is an eigendistribution of  $u$  considered as an invariant differential operator on  $G$ .*

*Proof :* In fact we have :

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{\check{u} \star iT((z, y); x, t)} &= i(\widetilde{\check{u} \star_c T})((z, y); x, t) \\ &= \widetilde{\check{u} \star_c iT((z, y); x, t)} \end{aligned}$$

Taking the restriction on  $G$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \check{u} \star iT((z, y); 0, t) &= i(\check{u} \star_c T)((z, y); 0, t) \\ &= \check{u} \star_c iT((z, y); 0, t) \end{aligned}$$



If  $T$  is an eigendistribution of  $\check{u}$ , as an invariant differential operator on  $V$ , we obtain

$$\widetilde{\check{u} \star iT} = \widetilde{\lambda iT} = \widetilde{\check{u} \star_c iT} \tag{3.5}$$

thus, we get

$$\check{u} \star iT((z, y); 0, t) = \lambda iT((z, y); 0, t) \tag{3.6}$$

Convolving each side of equation(3.6)by a distribution on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with respect to  $t$ , we have

$$\check{u} \star (T \otimes \theta)((z, y); 0, t) = \lambda(T \otimes \theta)((z, y); 0, t)$$

equivalently;

$$(T \otimes \check{\theta}) \star u((z, y); 0, t) = \lambda(T \otimes \check{\theta})((z, y); 0, t)$$

Now, let  $T_\xi$  be the distribution on  $V$  defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T_\xi, f \rangle &= \langle T_\xi(X), f(X) \rangle \\ &= \int_V f(X) e^{-i\langle \xi, X \rangle} dX \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

for any  $f \in \mathcal{D}(V)$ , where  $X = (z, y); x \in V, \xi = ((\lambda, \tau); \mu) \in V$ , and  $\langle \xi, X \rangle = \lambda z + \sum_{i=1}^n \tau_i y_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i x_i$ , then we have:

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $T_\xi((z, y); x)$  be the distributions on  $V$  defined by (3.7), then the distributions  $T_\xi \otimes \chi_\alpha((z, y); 0, t)$  on  $G$  are eigendistributions for any invariant differential operator on  $G$ , where  $\chi_\alpha = e^{-i\langle \alpha, t \rangle}$ .*

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