

## A heat kernel version of Cowling–Price theorem for the Laguerre hypergroup

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we prove a heat kernel version of Cowling–Price theorem for the Laguerre hypergroup.

**Keywords.** Laguerre hypergroup; uncertainty principle; Cowling–Price theorem.

### 1. Introduction

The uncertainty principle says that a function and its Fourier transform cannot simultaneously decay very rapidly at infinity. A classical version of uncertainty principle, known as Hardy’s theorem, was first proved by Hardy [6] on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Several generalizations of the Hardy’s theorem have appeared since, one of these is the Cowling–Price theorem, which was first proved by Cowling and Price in [4]. The following version of Cowling–Price theorem on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  can be found in [2] or [12].

**Theorem 1.** Suppose  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and satisfies

$$\left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left( \frac{|f(x)|e^{ax^2}}{(1+|x|)^N} \right)^p dx \right)^{1/p} < \infty \quad \text{and}$$
$$\left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \left( \frac{|\hat{f}(y)|e^{by^2}}{(1+|y|)^N} \right)^q dy \right)^{1/q} < \infty,$$

where  $a, b > 0$ ,  $N \geq 0$  and  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ . Then  $f = 0$  whenever  $ab > \frac{1}{4}$  and when  $ab = \frac{1}{4}$ ,  $f(x) = P(x) e^{-a|x|^2}$  where  $P$  is a polynomial of degree  $\leq N - n/p$ .

The Cowling–Price theorem has been extended to various settings. More results can be found in the book [15] by Thangavelu and the references therein.

We note that the heat kernel  $h_s$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is given by

$$h_s(x) = (4\pi s)^{-\frac{n}{2}} e^{-\frac{|x|^2}{4s}}, \quad \hat{h}_s(y) = e^{-s|y|^2}.$$

Thus Cowling–Price theorem is well explained in terms of the heat kernel. In view of this point, Parui and Thangavelu [11] proved a heat kernel version of Cowling–Price theorem

for the nilpotent Lie group. For the Heisenberg group, their result is remarkable because the heat kernel with respect to the sub-Laplacian on the Heisenberg group decays as  $e^{-a|t|}$  much slower than  $e^{-a|t|^2}$  where the central variable  $t$  is concerned. In this paper, we will prove a heat kernel version of Cowling–Price theorem for the Laguerre hypergroup.

Throughout the paper, we will use  $C$  to denote the positive constant, which is not necessarily same at each occurrence.

## 2. Preliminaries

In this section, we give some notations and collect some basic results about the Laguerre hypergroup. For more about the Laguerre hypergroup we refer the reader to [7], [10], [13] and [16]. We also give Hardy’s theorem for the Hankel transform, which we will use in the sequel.

Given  $\alpha \geq 0$ , let  $\mathbb{K} = [0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}$  equipped with the measure

$$dm_\alpha(x, t) = \frac{1}{\pi \Gamma(\alpha + 1)} x^{2\alpha+1} dx dt.$$

We simply write  $L^p(\mathbb{K})$  instead of  $L^p(\mathbb{K}, dm_\alpha)$ .

For  $(x, t) \in \mathbb{K}$ , the generalized translation operators  $T_{(x,t)}^{(\alpha)}$  are defined by (cf. [10] or [13])

$$T_{(x,t)}^{(\alpha)} f(y, s) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + 2xy \cos \theta}, s + t + xy \sin \theta) d\theta, & \text{if } \alpha = 0, \\ \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^1 f(\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + 2xyr \cos \theta}, s + t + xyr \sin \theta) \\ \quad r(1 - r^2)^{\alpha-1} dr d\theta, & \text{if } \alpha > 0. \end{cases}$$

Let  $M_b(\mathbb{K})$  denote the space of bounded Radon measures on  $\mathbb{K}$ . The convolution on  $M_b(\mathbb{K})$  is defined by

$$(\mu * \nu)(f) = \int_{\mathbb{K} \times \mathbb{K}} T_{(x,t)}^{(\alpha)} f(y, s) d\mu(x, t) d\nu(y, s).$$

It is easy to see that  $\mu * \nu = \nu * \mu$ . If  $f, g \in L^1(\mathbb{K})$  and  $\mu = fm_\alpha$ ,  $\nu = gm_\alpha$ , then  $\mu * \nu = (f * g)m_\alpha$ , where  $f * g$  is the convolution of functions  $f$  and  $g$  defined by

$$(f * g)(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{K}} T_{(x,t)}^{(\alpha)} f(y, s) g(y, -s) dm_\alpha(y, s).$$

$(\mathbb{K}, *, i)$  is a hypergroup in the sense of Jewett (cf. [9], [1]), where  $i$  denotes the involution defined by  $i(x, t) = (x, -t)$ . If  $\alpha = n - 1$  is a nonnegative integer, then the Laguerre hypergroup  $\mathbb{K}$  can be identified with the hypergroup of radial functions on the Heisenberg group  $\mathbb{H}^n$ .

The dilations on  $\mathbb{K}$  are defined by

$$\delta_r(x, t) = (rx, r^2t), \quad r > 0.$$

It is clear that the dilations are consistent with the structure of hypergroup. Let

$$(\delta_r f)(x, t) = r^{-(2\alpha+4)} f\left(\frac{x}{r}, \frac{t}{r^2}\right).$$

Then we have

$$\|(\delta_r f)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{K})} = \|f\|_{L^1(\mathbb{K})}.$$

Let us consider the partial differential operator

$$\mathcal{L} = -\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{2\alpha + 1}{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + x^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\right).$$

$\mathcal{L}$  is positive and symmetric in  $L^2(\mathbb{K})$ , and is homogeneous of degree 2 with respect to the dilations defined above. When  $\alpha = n - 1$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$  is the radial part of the sub-Laplacian on the Heisenberg group  $\mathbb{H}^n$ . We call  $\mathcal{L}$  the generalized sublaplacian.

Let  $L_m^{(\alpha)}$  be the Laguerre polynomial of degree  $m$  and order  $\alpha$  defined in terms of the generating function by

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} s^m L_m^{(\alpha)}(x) = \frac{1}{(1-s)^{\alpha+1}} \exp\left(-\frac{xs}{1-s}\right).$$

Set

$$\varphi_m^{(\alpha)}(x) = e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} L_m^{(\alpha)}(x^2). \tag{1}$$

The proof of the following Lemma can be found in [14].

*Lemma 1. For any  $\lambda \neq 0$ , the system*

$$\left\{ \left( \frac{2|\lambda|^{\alpha+1} m!}{\Gamma(m + \alpha + 1)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \varphi_m^{(\alpha)}(\sqrt{|\lambda|x}) : m \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

*forms an orthonormal basis of the space  $L^2([0, \infty), x^{2\alpha+1} dx)$ .*

For  $(\lambda, m) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}$ , we put

$$\psi_{(\lambda, m)}(x, t) = \frac{m! \Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{\Gamma(m + \alpha + 1)} e^{i\lambda t} \varphi_m^{(\alpha)}(\sqrt{|\lambda|x}).$$

*Lemma 2. The functions  $\psi_{(\lambda, m)}$  satisfy that*

- (a)  $\|\psi_{(\lambda, m)}\|_{L^\infty} = \psi_{(\lambda, m)}(0, 0) = 1$ ,
- (b)  $T_{(x, t)}^{(\alpha)} \psi_{(\lambda, m)}(y, s) = \psi_{(\lambda, m)}(x, t) \psi_{(\lambda, m)}(y, s)$ ,
- (c)  $\mathcal{L} \psi_{(\lambda, m)} = 2|\lambda|(2m + \alpha + 1) \psi_{(\lambda, m)}$ .

Let  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{K})$ , the generalized Fourier transform of  $f$  is defined by

$$\hat{f}(\lambda, m) = \int_{\mathbf{K}} f(x, t) \psi_{(-\lambda, m)}(x, t) dm_\alpha(x, t).$$

We note that

$$\hat{f}(\lambda, m) = \frac{m!}{\pi \Gamma(m + \alpha + 1)} \int_0^\infty f^\lambda(x) \varphi_m^{(\alpha)}(\sqrt{|\lambda|}x) x^{2\alpha+1} dx \quad (2)$$

where

$$f^\lambda(x) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x, t) e^{-i\lambda t} dt$$

is the Fourier transform of  $f(x, t)$  in the  $t$ -variable.

Let  $d\gamma_\alpha$  be the positive measure defined on  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}$  by

$$\int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}} g(\lambda, m) d\gamma_\alpha(\lambda, m) = \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{\Gamma(m + \alpha + 1)}{m! \Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \int_{\mathbb{R}} g(\lambda, m) |\lambda|^{\alpha+1} d\lambda.$$

Write  $L^p(\hat{\mathbb{K}})$  instead of  $L^p(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}, d\gamma_\alpha)$ . We have the following Plancherel formula.

$$\|f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})} = \|\hat{f}\|_{L^2(\hat{\mathbb{K}})}, \quad f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}) \cap L^2(\mathbb{R}).$$

We also have the inverse formula of the generalized Fourier transform.

$$f(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}} \hat{f}(\lambda, m) \psi_{(\lambda, m)}(x, t) d\gamma_\alpha(\lambda, m)$$

provided  $\hat{f} \in L^1(\hat{\mathbb{K}})$ .

Let  $\{H^s : s > 0\} = \{e^{-s\mathcal{L}} : s > 0\}$  be the heat semigroup generated by  $\mathcal{L}$ . There is an unique smooth function  $h((x, t), s) = h_s(x, t)$  on  $\mathbb{R} \times (0, +\infty)$  such that

$$H^s f(x, t) = f * h_s(x, t).$$

$h_s$  is called the heat kernel associated to  $\mathcal{L}$ .

By the definition of the generalized Fourier transform and Lemma 2, it is easy to show that

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\delta_r f}(\lambda, m) &= \hat{f}(r^2\lambda, m), \\ \widehat{\mathcal{L}f}(\lambda, m) &= 2|\lambda|(2m + \alpha + 1)\hat{f}(\lambda, m), \\ (f * g)^\wedge(\lambda, m) &= \hat{f}(\lambda, m) \hat{g}(\lambda, m). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{h}_s(\lambda, m) &= e^{-2|\lambda|(2m+\alpha+1)s}, \\ h_{s_1} * h_{s_2} &= h_{s_1+s_2}, \\ h_s(x, t) &= s^{-(\alpha+2)} h_1\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{s}}, \frac{t}{s}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Although the heat kernel  $h_s(x, t)$  is not explicitly known, we do have the explicit expression of  $h_s^\lambda(x)$ , from which the estimate for  $h_s(x, t)$  is obtained (cf. [7]).

Lemma 3.

$$h_s^\lambda(x) = 2\pi \left( \frac{\lambda}{2 \sinh(2\lambda s)} \right)^{\alpha+1} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\lambda \coth(2\lambda s)x^2}.$$

Lemma 4. There exists  $A > 0$  such that

$$0 < h_s(x, t) \leq C s^{-(\alpha+2)} e^{-\frac{A}{s}(|x|^2+|t|)}.$$

Now we turn to the Hankel transform. For  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , the Bessel function of first kind and order  $\alpha$  is defined by

$$J_\alpha(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k 2^{-\alpha-2k} z^{\alpha+2k}}{\Gamma(k+1)\Gamma(k+\alpha+1)} = \frac{2^{-\alpha} z^\alpha}{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\alpha + \frac{1}{2})} \int_{-1}^1 e^{izs} (1-s^2)^{\alpha-\frac{1}{2}} ds.$$

In this paper we only concern about the case  $\alpha \geq 0$  although  $J_\alpha(z)$  are well defined for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ . We refer the reader to Watson’s book [17] for the reference about the Bessel function. Here we point out that

$$\frac{d}{dz} (z^{-\alpha} J_\alpha(z)) = -z^{-\alpha} J_{\alpha+1}(z), \tag{3}$$

$$|J_\alpha(it)| \leq C t^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^t, \quad t > 0. \tag{4}$$

Then the Hankel transform of order  $\alpha$  of  $f \in L^1([0, \infty), x^{2\alpha+1} dx)$  is defined by

$$(\mathcal{H}_\alpha f)(y) = \int_0^\infty f(x) \frac{J_\alpha(xy)}{(xy)^\alpha} x^{2\alpha+1} dx.$$

The functions  $\varphi_m(x)$  defined by (1) are the eigenfunctions of the Hankel transform, i.e.,

$$(\mathcal{H}_\alpha \varphi_m)(x) = (-1)^m \varphi_m(x) \tag{5}$$

(cf. p. 42 of [5]). It follows that  $\mathcal{H}_\alpha^{-1} = \mathcal{H}_\alpha$ . Also we have

$$(\mathcal{H}_\alpha f(r \cdot))(y) = r^{-2(\alpha+1)} (\mathcal{H}_\alpha f) \left( \frac{y}{r} \right), \quad r > 0. \tag{6}$$

We state Cowling–Price theorem for the Hankel transform as follows.

**PROPOSITION 1**

Suppose  $f \in L^2([0, \infty), x^{2\alpha+1} dx)$  and satisfies

$$\|f(x)e^{ax^2}\|_p < \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \|(\mathcal{H}_\alpha f)(y)e^{by^2}\|_q < \infty,$$

where  $a, b$  are positive constants and  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ . Then  $f(x) = 0$  whenever  $ab > \frac{1}{4}$ .

In [3], the authors proved Beurling’s theorem for the Chébli–Trimèche transform. We can get Cowling–Price theorem for the Chébli–Trimèche transform by Beurling’s theorem, the proof of this is standard (cf. [15]). Proposition 1 is a special case of Cowling–Price theorem for the Chébli–Trimèche transform.

### 3. Cowling–Price theorem in terms of heat kernel on $\mathbb{K}$

In this section, we can prove the main result of this paper.

**Theorem 2.** *Suppose  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{K})$  and satisfies*

$$\left( \int_{\mathbb{K}} |f(x, t) h_a^{-1}(x, t)|^p dm_\alpha(x, t) \right)^{1/p} < \infty, \quad (7)$$

$$\left( \int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}} |\hat{f}(\lambda, m) e^{2|\lambda|b(2m+a+1)|q} d\gamma_\alpha(\lambda, m) \right)^{1/q} < \infty, \quad (8)$$

where  $a, b$  are positive constants and  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ .

Then, if  $a < b$ , we have  $f(x, t) = 0$ , a.e.  $(x, t) \in \mathbb{K}$ .

*Proof.* When  $p = q = \infty$ , Theorem 2 reduces to Hardy's theorem which has been proved in [8]. In the following, we assume  $\min\{p, q\} < \infty$ .

By (7), we have

$$\left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(x, t) h_a^{-1}(x, t)|^p dt \right)^{1/p} < \infty, \quad \text{a.e. } x \in [0, \infty).$$

Therefore, by Lemma 4, for  $\lambda \in \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\text{Im } \lambda| < \frac{1}{4a}\}$  and almost all  $x \in [0, \infty)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(x, t) e^{|\text{Im } \lambda||t|} dt &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(x, t) h_a^{-1}(x, t) h_a(x, t) e^{|\text{Im } \lambda||t|} dt \\ &\leq \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(x, t) h_a^{-1}(x, t)|^p dt \right)^{1/p} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} (h_a(x, t) e^{|\text{Im } \lambda||t|})^{p'} dt \right)^{1/p'} \\ &< \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for almost all  $x \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $f^\lambda(x)$  can be extended to a holomorphic function of  $\lambda$  in the strip  $\{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : |\text{Im } \lambda| < \frac{1}{4a}\}$ .

Choose  $\delta > 0$ , such that  $b < \frac{1}{2\delta}$ . Then, we will prove that  $f^\lambda(x) = 0$ , for  $0 < \lambda < \delta$ .

This means that  $f^\lambda(x) = 0$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , therefore  $f(x, t) = 0$ , a.e.  $(x, t) \in \mathbb{K}$ .

By Lemma 4 and (7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\left( \int_0^\infty |f^\lambda(x) e^{\frac{x^2}{4a}}|^p x^{2\alpha+1} dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq \left( \int_0^\infty \left| \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} |f(x, t)| dt \right) e^{\frac{x^2}{4a}} \right|^p x^{2\alpha+1} dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \int_0^\infty \left| f(x, t) e^{\frac{x^2}{4a}} \right|^p x^{2\alpha+1} dx \right)^{1/p} dt \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \int_0^\infty |f(x, t) h_a^{-1}(x, t) h_a(x, t) e^{\frac{x^2}{4a}}|^p x^{2\alpha+1} dx \right)^{1/p} dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq C \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \int_0^\infty |f(x, t) h_a^{-1}(x, t) e^{-\frac{|t|}{4a}}|^p x^{2\alpha+1} dx \right)^{1/p} dt \\
 &= C \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \int_0^\infty |f(x, t) h_a^{-1}(x, t)|^p x^{2\alpha+1} dx \right)^{1/p} e^{-\frac{|t|}{4a}} dt \\
 &\leq C \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \int_0^\infty |f(x, t) h_a^{-1}(x, t)|^p x^{2\alpha+1} dx dt \right)^{1/p} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-\frac{p'|t|}{4a}} dt \right)^{1/p'} \\
 &< \infty.
 \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

By (8) and Hölder inequality, for any  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ , we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{N}} |\hat{f}(\lambda, m) e^{2\epsilon b|\lambda|(2m+\alpha+1)}| d\gamma_\alpha(\lambda, m) < \infty,$$

i.e.,

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma(m + \alpha + 1)}{m! \Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \int_{\mathbb{R}} |\hat{f}(\lambda, m) e^{2\epsilon b|\lambda|(2m+\alpha+1)}| |\lambda|^{\alpha+1} d\lambda < \infty. \tag{10}$$

Since  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{K})$ , we get  $f^\lambda(x) \in L^2([0, \infty), x^{2\alpha+1} dx)$ . Therefore, by Lemma 1, we can get

$$f^\lambda(x) = 2\pi |\lambda|^{\alpha+1} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\lambda, m) \varphi_m^{(\alpha)}(|\lambda|^{1/2} x).$$

Taking Hankel transform on the both sides of the above equality, we obtain from (6),

$$(\mathcal{H}_\alpha f^\lambda)(y) = 2\pi \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\lambda, m) (-1)^m \varphi_m^{(\alpha)}(|\lambda|^{-1/2} y).$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left( \int_0^\infty |(\mathcal{H}_\alpha f^\lambda)(y) e^{by^2}|^q y^{2\alpha+1} dy \right)^{1/q} \\
 &\leq C \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |\hat{f}(\lambda, m)| \left( \int_0^\infty |\varphi_m^{(\alpha)}(|\lambda|^{-1/2} y) e^{by^2}|^q y^{2\alpha+1} dy \right)^{1/q} \\
 &= C |\lambda|^{(\alpha+1)/q} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |\hat{f}(\lambda, m)| \left( \int_0^\infty |\varphi_m^{(\alpha)}(y) e^{b|\lambda|y^2}|^q y^{2\alpha+1} dy \right)^{1/q}.
 \end{aligned}$$

By  $0 < \lambda < \delta$  and  $b < \frac{1}{2\delta}$ , we know  $b\lambda < b\delta < \frac{1}{2}$ . Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left( \int_0^\infty |(\mathcal{H}_\alpha f^\lambda)(y) e^{by^2}|^q y^{2\alpha+1} dy \right)^{1/q} \\
 &\leq C \lambda^{(\alpha+1)/q} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |\hat{f}(\lambda, m)| \left( \int_0^\infty |e^{-(\frac{1}{2}-b\lambda)y^2} L_m^{(\alpha)}(y^2)|^q y^{2\alpha+1} dy \right)^{1/q} \\
 &\leq C \delta^{(\alpha+1)/q} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\Gamma(m + \alpha + 1)}{m! \Gamma(\alpha + 1)} |\hat{f}(\lambda, m)| e^{2\epsilon b|\lambda|(2m+\alpha+1)} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

By (10) and the fact that  $\hat{f}(\lambda, m)$  is continuous with  $\lambda$ , for  $0 \leq \lambda \leq \delta$ , we have

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\Gamma(m + \alpha + 1)}{m! \Gamma(\alpha + 1)} |\hat{f}(\lambda, m)| e^{2\epsilon b |\lambda| (2m + \alpha + 1)} \right) < \infty.$$

Therefore

$$\left( \int_0^{\infty} |(\mathcal{H}_{\alpha} f^{\lambda})(y)| e^{by^2} |y|^{2\alpha+1} dy \right)^{1/q} < \infty. \quad (11)$$

By (9), (11) and Proposition 1, we get  $f^{\lambda}(x) = 0$ , a.e.  $x \in [0, \infty)$  for  $0 < \lambda < \delta$  and  $a < b$ .

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.  $\square$

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