

# THE X-RAY TRANSFORM FOR A GENERIC FAMILY OF CURVES AND WEIGHTS

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ABSTRACT. We study the weighted integral transform on a compact manifold with boundary over a smooth family of curves  $\Gamma$ . We prove generic injectivity and a stability estimate under the condition that the conormal bundle of  $\Gamma$  covers  $T^*M$ .

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $M$  be a compact manifold with boundary. Let  $\Gamma$  be an open family of smooth (oriented) curves on  $M$ , with a fixed parametrization on each one of them, with endpoints on  $\partial M$ , such that for each  $(x, \xi) \in TM \setminus 0$ , there is at most one curve  $\gamma_{x, \xi} \in \Gamma$  through  $x$  in the direction of  $\xi$ , and the dependence on  $(x, \xi)$  is smooth, see next section. Define the weighted ray transform

$$(1) \quad I_{\Gamma, w} f(\gamma) = \int w(\gamma(t), \dot{\gamma}(t)) f(\gamma(t)) dt, \quad \gamma \in \Gamma,$$

where  $w(x, \xi) \neq 0$  is a smooth non-vanishing complex valued function on  $TM \setminus 0$ . We study the problem of the injectivity of  $I_{\Gamma, w}$  on functions on  $M$ . We impose no-conjugacy conditions on  $\Gamma$  that would guarantee that  $I_{\Gamma, w}$  recovers singularities. Under that condition, we prove that  $I_{\Gamma, w}$  is injective for generic  $\Gamma$ ,  $w$ , including analytic ones, and that there is a stability estimate. This is a generalization of the X-ray transform arising in Computed Tomography which consists in integrating functions over lines provided with the standard Lebesgue measure.

In [Mu1], Mukhometov showed that in a compact domain  $\Omega$  in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ ,  $I_{\Gamma, 1}$  (with  $w = 1$ ) is injective for any set  $\Gamma$ , provided that the curves  $\gamma$  have unit speed, and  $\Omega$  is simple w.r.t. those curves. The latter means that for any two points  $x, y$  in  $\bar{\Omega}$ , there is unique curve in  $\Gamma$  connecting them that depends smoothly on its endpoints. He later showed that this remains true if  $w$  is close enough to a constant in an explicit way. Stability estimates were also given. In dimension  $n \geq 3$  there is no such known result for an arbitrary simple family of curves. On the other hand, if  $\Gamma$  is the family of the geodesics of a given (simple) Riemannian or Finsler metric, and  $w$  is close enough to a constant, injectivity and stability of  $I_{\Gamma, w}$  was established in [Mu2, Mu3, AR, BG, R].

The transform  $I_{\Gamma, w}$  is not always injective, even for simple  $\Gamma$ . An example by Boman [B] provides a smooth positive weight function  $w$  so that  $I_{\Gamma, w}$  fails to be injective in a ball in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ , where  $\Gamma$  consists of all straight lines.

In the present work, we have incomplete data, i.e., we do not assume that we have a curve in  $\Gamma$  through any point in  $M$  in the direction of any vector (unless  $n = 2$ ). On the other hand, we want  $\{N^*\gamma, \gamma \in \Gamma\}$  to cover  $T^*M$ , the latter considered as a conic set. We do not assume convexity of the boundary w.r.t.  $\Gamma$ . If  $\Gamma$  is a subset of geodesics of a certain metric, then some geodesics (not in  $\Gamma$ ) are allowed to have conjugate points, or to be trapped, but we exclude them from  $\Gamma$ . On the other hand, the result is generic uniqueness and stability, and Boman's result shows that this is the optimal one in this setting.

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Our approach differs from the works cited above and uses microlocal and analytic microlocal methods. Such methods are not new in integral geometry, see, e.g., [Gu, GuS1, GuS2, GrU, B, BQ, Q], but we use some recent ideas that led to new results in tensor tomography and boundary rigidity of compact Riemannian manifolds with boundary, see [SU3, SU4, SU5].

## 2. STATEMENT OF THE MAIN RESULTS

Fix a compact manifold with boundary  $M_1$  such that  $M_1^{\text{int}} \supset M$ , where  $M_1^{\text{int}}$  stands for the interior of  $M_1$ . We equip  $M_1$  with a real analytic atlas, where  $\partial M$  is smooth but not necessarily analytic. We will think of the curves  $\gamma$  as extended outside  $M$  to  $M_1^{\text{int}}$  so that their endpoints are in  $M_1^{\text{int}}$ , and  $\gamma \cap M$  remains unchanged. Different extensions will not change  $I_{\Gamma, w} f$  as long as  $\gamma \cap M$  is the same. By  $\gamma_{x, \xi}$ , we will frequently denote the curve in  $\Gamma$ , if exists, so that  $x \in \gamma_{x, \xi}$ , and  $\dot{\gamma}_{x, \xi} = \mu \xi$  at the point  $x$  with some  $\mu > 0$ . We will freely shift the parameter on  $\gamma_{x, \xi}$  but not rescale it, so we may assume that  $x = \gamma_{x, \xi}(0)$ , then  $\dot{\gamma}_{x, \xi}(0) = \mu \xi$ .

We want  $\gamma_{x, \xi}$ , for  $(x, \xi) \in TM$ , to depend smoothly on  $(x, \xi)$ , therefore in any coordinate chart,  $\gamma = \gamma_{x, \xi}$  solves

$$(2) \quad \ddot{\gamma} = G(\gamma, \dot{\gamma}),$$

where  $G(x, \xi) = \ddot{\gamma}_{x, \xi}(0)$  is smooth. The generator  $G(x, \xi)$  is only defined for  $|\xi| = |\dot{\gamma}_{x, \xi}(0)|$  (in any fixed coordinates) but we can extend it for all  $\xi$ . In case of a Riemannian metric, for example,  $G^i(x, \xi) = -\Gamma_{kl}^i(x) \xi^k \xi^l$ , for  $|\xi|_g = 1$ , and extended for all  $\xi$ . The generator  $G$  determines a vector field  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $TM$  that in local coordinates is given by

$$(3) \quad \mathbf{G} = \xi^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} + G^i(x, \xi) \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^i},$$

see also (29), (30). The curves  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  are the projections of integral curves of  $\mathbf{G}$  to the base, with appropriate initial conditions that reflect the choice of the parametrization.

We assume that  $\Gamma$  is open with a natural smooth structure as follows. Fix any  $\{\gamma(t); l^- \leq t \leq l^+\} \in \Gamma$ ,  $\pm l_{\pm} > 0$ ,  $\gamma(l_{\pm}) \in M_1^{\text{int}} \setminus M$ , where we shifted the parameter  $t$  arbitrarily, and set  $x_0 := \gamma(0)$ . Let  $H$  be a hypersurface in  $M_1^{\text{int}} \setminus M$  intersecting  $\gamma$  transversally at  $x_0$ , and let  $\xi_0 = \dot{\gamma}(0)$ . We assume that there exists a neighborhood  $U$  of  $(x_0, \xi_0)$  and a smooth positive function  $\mu(x, \xi)$ ,  $(x, \xi) \in U \cap H$ , with  $\mu(x_0, \xi_0) = 1$ , so that the integral curves of  $\mathbf{G}$  with initial conditions  $(\gamma(0), \dot{\gamma}(0)) = (x, \mu(x, \xi)\xi)$ ,  $(x, \xi) \in U \cap H$ , and interval of definition  $l^- \leq t \leq l^+$  belong to  $\Gamma$  (and in particular, the endpoints are in  $M_1^{\text{int}} \setminus M$ ). This makes  $\Gamma$  a smooth manifold; if  $H$  is given locally by  $x^n = 0$ , then  $\Gamma$  is locally parametrized by  $(x', \theta) \in \mathbf{R}^{n-1} \times S^{n-1}$ . We say that  $\Gamma$  is  $C^k$ , respectively *analytic*, if  $G$  is  $C^k$ , respectively analytic, on  $TM_1$ , and for any such choice of  $C^k$ , respectively analytic  $H$ , the functions  $\mu$  are  $C^k$ , respectively analytic, too.

It is not hard to see that by duality, one can define  $I_{\Gamma, w} f$  for any distribution  $f \in \mathcal{D}'(M_1^{\text{int}})$  supported in  $M$ .

Given  $x \in M$ , we define the exponential map  $\exp_x(t, \xi)$ ,  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $\xi \in TM \setminus 0$ , as  $\exp_x(t, \xi) = \gamma_{x, \xi}(t)$ . Note that  $\exp_x(t, \xi)$  is a positively homogeneous function of order 0 in the  $\xi$  variable, and in local coordinates, we can think that  $\xi \in S^{n-1}$ . Then  $x = \gamma(0)$  and  $y = \gamma(t_0)$  will be called *conjugate* along  $\gamma$ , if  $D_{t, \xi} \exp_x(t, \xi)$  has rank less than  $n$  at  $(t_0, \xi_0)$ , where  $\xi_0 = \dot{\gamma}(0)$ . It is easy to see that this definition is independent of a change of the parametrization along the curves in  $\Gamma$  (that we keep fixed). We would like to note here that (in a fixed coordinate system) the map  $v = t\xi \mapsto \exp_x(t, \xi)$ , where  $|\xi| = 1$ ,  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ , may not be  $C^\infty$ . In case of magnetic systems, for example, it is only  $C^1$  while  $\exp_x(t, \xi)$  is a smooth function of all variables, see [DPSU]. This requires some modifications in the analysis of the normal operator (6), see section 4.1.

It is clear that one cannot hope to recover any  $f$  from  $I_{\Gamma,w}f$ , if there is a point in  $M$  so that no  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  goes through it. We impose a microlocal condition that requires something more than that, we want any  $(x, \zeta) \in T^*M \setminus 0$  to be “seen” by some simple  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .

**Definition 1.** We say that  $\Gamma$  satisfying the assumptions above is a **regular** family of curves, if for any  $(x, \zeta) \in T^*M$ , there exists  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  through  $x$  normal to  $\zeta$  without conjugate points.

We call any  $\gamma$  as above a **simple** curve.

If  $\Gamma$  is not regular, one can give the following example of a non-injective  $I_{\Gamma,w}$ . Let  $M$  be a subdomain with boundary of the sphere  $S^{n-1}$  with its natural metric. Assume that  $M^{\text{int}}$  contains a pair of antipodal points  $a$  and  $b$ . Then any function that is supported in two symmetric to each other small enough neighborhoods  $A \ni a$ ,  $B \ni b$ , and odd with respect to the antipodal map, integrates to 0 over any geodesic in  $M$ . Not only  $I_{\Gamma,w}f$  with  $w = 1$  does not determine  $f$ , it does not determine the singularities, either. For example, if  $f = \delta_a - \delta_b$ , where  $\delta_{a,b}$  are delta distributions centered at  $a$  and  $b$ , respectively; then  $I_{\Gamma,1}f = 0$ .

On the other hand, one can see that  $I_{\Gamma,w}f$ , known for a regular family of curves, resolves the singularities of  $f$ . Using analytic microlocal arguments, we also show that one can recover the analytic singularities, as well, if  $\Gamma$  is analytic. This allows us to prove the following.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $\Gamma$  be an analytic regular family of curves in  $M_1$  and let  $w$  be analytic and non-vanishing in  $M$ . Then  $I_{\Gamma,w}f = 0$  for  $f \in \mathcal{D}'(M_1^{\text{int}})$  supported in  $M$  implies  $f = 0$ . In particular,  $I_{\Gamma,w}$  is injective on  $L^1(M)$ .

To formulate a stability result, we will fix a parametrization of  $\Gamma$ . Let  $H$  be a finite collection of hypersurfaces  $\{H_m\}$  in  $M_1^{\text{int}}$  that are allowed to intersect each other. Then  $H$  may not be a hypersurface but is still a manifold if we think of each  $H_m$  as belonging to a different copy of  $M$ . Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be an open conic subset of  $\{(z, \theta) \in TM_1; z \in H, \theta \notin T_z H\}$ , and let  $\pm l^\pm(z, \theta) \geq 0$  be two continuous functions. Let  $\Gamma(\mathcal{H})$  be the subset of curves of  $\Gamma$  originating from  $\mathcal{H}$ , i.e.,

$$(4) \quad \Gamma(\mathcal{H}) = \{\gamma_{z,\theta}(t); l^-(z, \theta) \leq t \leq l^+(z, \theta), (z, \theta) \in \mathcal{H}\}.$$

We also assume that each  $\gamma \in \Gamma(\mathcal{H})$  is a simple curve.

We will fix a parametrization of a subset of  $\Gamma$  that is still regular.

Given  $\mathcal{H}$  as above, we consider an open set  $\mathcal{H}' \Subset \mathcal{H}$ , and let  $\Gamma(\mathcal{H}') \Subset \Gamma(\mathcal{H})$  be the associated set of curves defined as in (4), with the same  $l^\pm$ . The restriction  $\gamma \in \Gamma(\mathcal{H}') \subset \Gamma(\mathcal{H})$  can be modeled by introducing a weight function  $\alpha$  in  $\mathcal{H}$ , such that  $\alpha = 1$  on  $\mathcal{H}'$ , and  $\alpha = 0$  otherwise. It is more convenient to allow  $\alpha$  to be smooth but still supported in  $\mathcal{H}$ .

We consider  $I_{\Gamma,w,\alpha} = \alpha I_{\Gamma,w}$ , or more precisely,

$$(5) \quad I_{\Gamma,w,\alpha}f = \alpha(z, \theta) \int_{l^-(z,\theta)}^{l^+(z,\theta)} w(\gamma_{z,\theta}, \dot{\gamma}_{z,\theta}) f(\gamma_{z,\theta}) dt, \quad (z, \theta) \in \mathcal{H}.$$

Next, we set

$$(6) \quad N_{\Gamma,w,\alpha} = I_{\Gamma,w,\alpha}^* I_{\Gamma,w,\alpha} = I_{\Gamma,w}^* |\alpha|^2 I_{\Gamma,w}.$$

Here the adjoint is taken w.r.t. a fixed positive smooth measure  $d\Sigma$  on  $\mathcal{H}$ ; more precisely, we assume that in any local coordinate chart,  $d\Sigma := \sigma(z, \theta) dS_z d\theta$  on  $\mathcal{H}$ , where  $dS_z$  is the surface measure on  $H$  in the so fixed coordinate system,  $d\theta$  is the surface measure on  $S^{n-1}$ , and  $C^\infty \ni \sigma > 0$ . Notice that  $d\Sigma$  is not invariant under a different choice of  $\mathcal{H}$  and a coordinate system on it. On the other hand, injectivity of  $N_{\Gamma,w,\alpha}$  is equivalent to injectivity of  $I_{\Gamma,w,\alpha}$ , and the latter is equivalent to injectivity of  $I_{\Gamma,w}$  restricted to  $\text{supp } \alpha$ , see [SU3], and this property is independent of the choice of  $\mathcal{H}$  and the coordinates on it as long as they parametrize the same set of curves.

**Theorem 2.**

(a) Let  $\mathcal{H}' \Subset \mathcal{H}$  be as above with  $\Gamma(\mathcal{H}') \subset \Gamma(\mathcal{H})$  regular, and  $(G, \mu, \sigma, w)$  fixed. Fix  $\alpha \in C^\infty$  with  $\mathcal{H}' \subset \text{supp } \alpha \subset \mathcal{H}$ . If  $I_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$  is injective, where  $\Gamma = \Gamma(\mathcal{H})$ , then we have

$$(7) \quad \|f\|_{L^2(M)}/C \leq \|N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha} f\|_{H^1(M_1)} \leq C \|f\|_{L^2(M)}.$$

(b) Let  $\mathcal{H}' \Subset \mathcal{H}$ ,  $\alpha = \alpha^0$  be as above related to some fixed  $(G_0, \mu_0, \sigma_0, w_0)$ . Assume that  $I_{\Gamma_0, w_0, \alpha^0}$  is injective, where  $\Gamma_0 = \Gamma_0(\mathcal{H})$ . Then estimate (7) remains true for  $(G, \mu, \sigma, w, \alpha)$  belonging to a small  $C^2$  neighborhood of  $(G_0, \mu_0, \sigma_0, w_0, \alpha^0)$ , with a uniform constant  $C > 0$ .

**Remark.** In fact, we need only  $C^1$  regularity for  $w, \alpha$ .

We notice that  $C^2$  above refers to different spaces. More precisely,  $\mu, \alpha^0$  are considered in  $C^2(\mathcal{H})$ , while  $G, w$  are considered in  $C^2(TM)$ . To define correctly  $C^2(TM)$ , we fix any finite atlas on  $M$ , see also the remark in section 4.

**Example (simple systems).** Let  $M \subset \mathbf{R}^n$  be diffeomorphic to a ball, and let  $G(x, \xi)$  be a smooth generator on  $TM \setminus 0 \cong M \times \mathbf{R}^n \setminus 0$ . Fix a coordinate system on  $M$ . We can assume that  $G$  is defined on  $SM \cong M \times S^{n-1}$  and extend as a homogeneous of order 0 to all  $\xi \neq 0$ . Set

$$\partial_- SM = \{z \in \partial M; \theta \cdot \nu < 0\}$$

where  $\nu(z)$  is the exterior unit normal to  $\partial M$ . Then we define  $\Gamma$  as the set of all curves  $\gamma = \gamma_{z, \theta}$  that solve

$$(8) \quad \ddot{\gamma} = G(\gamma, \dot{\gamma}), \quad \gamma(0) = z, \quad \dot{\gamma}(0) = \lambda(z, \theta)\theta, \quad (z, \theta) \in \partial_- SM,$$

where  $\lambda > 0$  is a given smooth function on  $M \times S^{n-1}$  with  $\lambda(z, \theta) = |\dot{\gamma}_{z, \theta}(0)|$ . Let  $\gamma_{z, \theta}$  be the maximal curves with those initial conditions. Assume that for any  $x \in M$ , the map  $\exp_x : \exp_x^{-1}(M) \rightarrow M$  is a diffeomorphism depending smoothly on  $x$ . Note that this implies that all those curves are of finite length; for any  $x, y$  in  $M$ , there is unique  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  that passes through them, smoothly depending on  $x, y$ , and the curves in  $\Gamma$  have no conjugate points. As above,  $\gamma$ 's are allowed to be directed curves; if  $x \in M^{\text{int}}$ ,  $\theta \in S^{n-1}$  then the curves  $\gamma_{x, \theta}$  and  $\gamma_{x, -\theta}$  are not necessarily the same. We also assume that  $M_1 \ni M$  (meaning that  $M_1^{\text{int}} \supset \bar{M} = M$ ) is another domain diffeomorphic to a ball so that  $(G, \lambda)$  extends smoothly there and satisfies the same assumptions.

For a simple system as above, define

$$(9) \quad I_{G, \lambda, w} f(z, \theta) = \int w(\gamma_{z, \theta}(t), \dot{\gamma}_{z, \theta}(t)) f(\gamma_{z, \theta}(t)) dt, \quad (z, \theta) \in \partial_- SM_1.$$

One could also study subsets of curves as above. Let  $\sigma$  be any positive  $C^1$  function on  $\overline{\partial_- SM_1}$ , and set  $d\Sigma = \sigma(z, \theta)|\nu(z) \cdot \theta| dS_z d\theta$ . Then

$$I_{G, \lambda, w} : L^2(M) \rightarrow L^2(\partial_- SM_1, d\Sigma)$$

is a bounded map, and  $N_{G, \lambda, w} = I_{G, \lambda, w}^* I_{G, \lambda, w}$  is a well defined operator on  $L^2(M)$  that can be extended as an operator from  $L^2(M)$  to  $H^1(M_1)$ . Note that the factor  $|\nu(z) \cdot \theta|$  in  $d\Sigma$  can be omitted since  $\partial M_1$  is convex and  $M$  stays at a positive distance from  $\partial M_1$ . If  $M_1 = M$ , and if  $\partial M$  is strictly convex w.r.t.  $\Gamma$ , then that factor is needed to preserve the mapping properties of  $N_{G, \lambda, w}$ ; see [SU3] for the Riemannian case.

### 3. INJECTIVITY OF $I_{\Gamma, w}$ FOR ANALYTIC SYSTEMS

In this section we prove Theorem 1. We denote by  $\text{WF}_A(f)$  the analytic wave front set of  $f$ , see [Tre, Sj].

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $\gamma_0 \in \Gamma$  be a simple curve. Let  $I_{\Gamma,w} f(\gamma) = 0$  for some  $f \in \mathcal{D}'(M_1)$  with  $\text{supp } f \subset M$  and all  $\gamma \in \text{neigh}(\gamma_0)$ . Let  $\Gamma$  and  $w$  be analytic near  $\gamma_0$ . Then*

$$(10) \quad N^* \gamma_0 \cap \text{WF}_A(f) = \emptyset.$$

*Proof.* We will choose first a coordinate system  $(x', x^n)$  near  $\gamma_0$  so that the latter is given by  $x' = 0, x^n = t, t \in [l^-, l^+]$  with some  $\pm l^\pm \geq 0$ , and moreover, replacing  $x' = 0$  by  $x' = z$ , where  $z$  is a constant vector with  $|z| \ll 1$ , one still gets a curve in  $\Gamma$  (parametrized by  $t$  again, i.e., a unit speed line segment in the so fixed coordinate system).

Fix a point  $p_0 \in \gamma_0$ , and shift the parametrization of  $[l^-, l^+] \ni t \mapsto \gamma_0(t)$  so that  $p_0 = \gamma_0(0)$ . Assume that  $p_0 \notin M$  and that the part of  $\gamma_0$  corresponding to  $l^- \leq t \leq 0$  is outside  $M$ , too. Set  $x = \exp_{p_0}(t, \theta)$ , where  $|\theta| = 1, t \geq 0$ , where the norm is in any fixed coordinate system near  $p_0$ . Then  $(t, \theta)$  are local coordinates near any point on  $\gamma_0 \cap M$  because the  $\gamma_0$  is simple. Since  $\gamma_0$  may self-intersect, they may not be global ones. On the other hand, there can be finitely many intersections only, and one can assume that each time  $\gamma_0$  intersect itself, it happens on a different copy of  $M \times \mathbf{R}$ . More precisely,  $(t, \theta) \mapsto (t, \exp_{p_0}(t, \theta)) \subset M \times \mathbf{R}$  is a codimension one submanifold of  $M$  for  $\theta$  close to  $\theta_0 = \dot{\gamma}_0(0)$  and  $t \in (0, l^+)$  by the simplicity assumption, and we think of any function  $f : M \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  as defined on that manifold. Therefore, without loss of generality, we may assume that  $\gamma_0$  does not self-intersect.

Write  $x' = \theta', x^n = t$ . Then  $x$  are the coordinates we were looking for in

$$U = \{x; |x'| < \varepsilon, l^- < t < l^+\} \subset M_1$$

with  $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ . They are analytic, since  $\Gamma$  is analytic.

Fix  $x_0 \in \gamma_0$ , and  $\xi^0 \in T^*M_1$  conormal to  $\gamma_0$ . We need to prove that

$$(11) \quad (x_0, \xi^0) \notin \text{WF}_A(f).$$

By shifting the  $x^n$  coordinate, we can always assume that  $x_0 = 0$ . Note that  $\theta_0 := \dot{\gamma}_0(0) = e_n$ . Here and below,  $e_j$  stand for the vectors  $\partial/\partial x^j$ , and  $e^j$  stand for the covectors  $dx^j$ .

Assume first that  $f$  is continuous in  $M$  and vanishes outside  $M$ .

The arguments that follow are close to those in [SU5]. Set first  $Z = \{x^n = 0; |x'| < 7\varepsilon/8\}$ , and denote the  $x'$  variable on  $Z$  by  $z'$ . We will work with the curves  $t \mapsto \gamma_{(z',0),(\theta',1)}(t)$  defined on  $l^- \leq t \leq l^+$ , the same interval on which  $\gamma_0$  is defined. Each such curve is in  $\Gamma$  for  $|\theta'| \ll 1$  because the latter is open. They all have endpoints in  $M_1^{\text{int}} \setminus M$ , and in fact, we modified a bit the endpoints of the interval of definition to make them constant ( $l^\pm$ ). We can do this, when  $\varepsilon \ll 1$ , and this does not affect integrals of  $f$  over them.

Let  $\chi_N(z')$ ,  $N = 1, 2, \dots$ , be a sequence of smooth cut-off functions equal to 1 for  $|z'| \leq 3\varepsilon/4$ , supported in  $Z$ , and satisfying the estimates

$$(12) \quad |\partial^\alpha \chi_N| \leq (CN)^{|\alpha|}, \quad |\alpha| \leq N,$$

see [Tre, Lemma 1.1]. Set  $\theta = (\theta', 1)$ ,  $|\theta'| \ll 1$ , and multiply

$$I_{\Gamma,w} f(\gamma_{(z',0),\theta}) = 0$$

by  $\chi_N(z') e^{i\lambda z' \cdot \xi'}$ , where  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\xi'$  is in a complex neighborhood of  $(\xi^0)'$ , and integrate w.r.t.  $z'$  to get

$$(13) \quad \iint e^{i\lambda z' \cdot \xi'} \chi_N(z') w(\gamma_{(z',0),\theta}(t), \dot{\gamma}_{(z',0),\theta}(t)) f(\gamma_{(z',0),\theta}(t))(t) dt dz' = 0.$$

For  $|\theta'| \ll 1$ ,  $(z', t) \in Z \times (l^-, l^+)$  are local coordinates near  $\gamma_0$  given by  $x = \gamma_{(z',0),\theta}(t)$ . Indeed, if  $\theta' = 0$ , we have  $x = (z', t)$ . Therefore, for  $\theta'$  fixed and small enough,  $(t, z')$  are analytic local coordinates,

depending analytically on  $\theta'$ . In particular,  $x = (z' + t\theta', t) + O(|\theta'|)$ . Performing a change of variables in (13), we get

$$(14) \quad \int e^{i\lambda z'(x, \theta') \cdot \xi'} a_N(x, \theta') f(x) dx = 0$$

for  $|\theta'| \ll 1$ ,  $\forall \lambda$ ,  $\forall \xi'$ , where, for  $|\theta'| \ll 1$ , the function  $(x, \theta') \mapsto a_N$  is analytic, independent of  $N$ , and non-zero for  $x$  in a neighborhood of  $\gamma_0$ , satisfies (12) everywhere, vanishes for  $x \notin U$ ; and  $a_N(0, \theta') = w(0, \theta)$ .

Without loss of generality we can assume that

$$\xi^0 = e^{n-1}.$$

Here and below,  $e_j$  stand for the vectors  $\partial/\partial x^j$ , and  $e^j$  stand for the covectors  $dx^j$ .

We choose the following vector  $\theta(\xi)$  analytically depending on  $\xi$  near  $\xi = \xi^0$ :

$$(15) \quad \theta(\xi) = \left( \xi_1, \dots, \xi_{n-2}, -\frac{\xi_1^2 + \dots + \xi_{n-2}^2 + \xi_n}{\xi_{n-1}}, 1 \right).$$

If  $n = 2$ , this reduces to  $\theta(\xi) = (-\xi_2/\xi_1, 1)$ . Clearly,

$$(16) \quad \theta(\xi) \cdot \xi = 0, \quad \theta^n(\xi) = 1, \quad \theta(\xi^0) = e_n.$$

Differentiate (15) to get

$$(17) \quad \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \xi_v}(\xi^0) = e_v, \quad v = 1, \dots, n-2, \quad \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \xi_{n-1}}(\xi^0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \xi_n}(\xi^0) = -e_{n-1}.$$

In particular, the differential of the map  $S^{n-1} \ni \xi \mapsto \theta'(\xi)$  is invertible at  $\xi = \xi^0 = e^{n-1}$ .

Replace  $\theta = (\theta', 1)$  in (14) by  $\theta(\xi)$  (the requirement  $|\theta'| \ll 1$  is fulfilled for  $\xi$  close enough to  $\xi^0$ ), to get

$$(18) \quad \int e^{i\lambda \varphi(x, \xi)} \tilde{a}_N(x, \xi) f(x) dx = 0,$$

where  $\varphi$  is analytic in  $U$ , and  $\tilde{a}_N$  has the properties of  $a_N$  above for  $\xi$  close enough to  $\xi^0$ . In particular,

$$\tilde{a}_N(0, \xi) = w(0, \theta(\xi)).$$

The phase function is given by

$$(19) \quad \varphi(x, \xi) = z'(x, \theta'(\xi)) \cdot \xi'.$$

To verify that  $\varphi$  is a non-degenerate phase in  $\text{neigh}(0, \xi^0)$ , i.e., that  $\det \varphi_{x\xi}(0, \xi^0) \neq 0$ , note first that  $z' = x'$  when  $x^n = 0$ , therefore,  $(\partial z'/\partial x')(0, \theta(\xi)) = \text{Id}$ . On the other hand, linearizing near  $x^n = 0$ , we easily get  $(\partial z'/\partial x^n)(0, \theta(\xi)) = -\theta'(\xi)$ . Therefore,

$$(20) \quad \varphi_x(0, \xi) = (\xi', -\theta'(\xi) \cdot \xi') = \xi$$

by (16). So we get  $\varphi_{x\xi}(0, \xi) = \text{Id}$ , which proves the non-degeneracy claim above. In particular,  $x \mapsto \varphi_\xi(x, \xi)$  is a local diffeomorphism in  $\text{neigh}(0)$  for  $\xi \in \text{neigh}(\xi^0)$ , and therefore injective. We need however a semiglobal version of this along  $\gamma_0$  as in the lemma below.

**Lemma 1.** *There exists  $\delta > 0$  such that*

$$\varphi_\xi(x, \xi) \neq \varphi_\xi(y, \xi) \quad \text{for } x \neq y,$$

for  $x \in U$ ,  $|y| < \delta$ ,  $|\xi - \xi^0| < \delta$ ,  $\xi$  complex.

*Proof.* We will prove the lemma first for  $y = 0$ ,  $\xi = \xi^0$ ,  $x' = 0$ . Since  $\varphi_\xi(0, \xi) = 0$ , we need to prove that the only solution to  $\varphi_\xi((0, x^n), \xi^0) = 0$  in the interval  $l^- \leq x^n \leq l^+$  is  $x^n = 0$ .

We start with the observation that  $\varphi(\gamma_{0,(\theta'(\xi),1)}(t), \xi) = 0$ . Differentiate the latter w.r.t.  $\xi$  at  $\xi = \xi^0$ ,  $t = x^n$ , to get

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial \xi_i}((0, x^n), \xi^0) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \xi_i} \Big|_{\xi=\xi^0} \varphi(\gamma_{0,(\theta'(\xi),1)}(x^n), \xi^0) = -\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x^j}((0, x^n), \xi^0) J_v^j(0, x^n) \frac{\partial \theta^v}{\partial \xi_i}(\xi^0),$$

where  $J_v(t) = \partial \gamma_{0,\theta}(t) / \partial \theta_v$  at  $\theta = e_n$ ,  $v = 1, \dots, n-1$ , are ‘‘Jacobi’’ vector fields. Since  $\varphi(x, \xi^0) = x' \cdot (\xi^0)' = x^{n-1}$ , we get by (17), (recall that  $\xi^0 = e^{n-1}$ ),

$$(21) \quad \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial \xi_j}((0, x^n), \xi^0) = \begin{cases} -J_j^{n-1}(x^n), & j = 1, \dots, n-2, \\ 0, & j = n-1, \\ J_{n-1}^{n-1}(x^n), & j = n, \end{cases}$$

where  $J_v^{n-1}$  is the  $(n-1)$ -th component of  $J_v$ . Now, assuming that the l.h.s. of (21) vanishes for some fixed  $x^n = t_0$ , we get that  $J_v^{n-1}(t_0) = 0$ ,  $v = 1, \dots, n-1$ . On the other hand,  $\Sigma := \text{span}(J_1(t_0), \dots, J_{n-1}(t_0))$  is a hyperplane transversal to  $e_n$  by the simplicity assumption. Therefore, for the unit normal  $\nu$  to  $\Sigma$ , we have  $\nu_n \neq 0$ . Hence,  $\nu$  and  $e_{n-1}$  are linearly independent, and the intersection of  $\Sigma$  and  $e_{n-1}^\perp$  is of codimension 2, and  $J_1(t_0), \dots, J_{n-1}(t_0)$  all belong there. Therefore,  $J_v(t_0)$ ,  $v = 1, \dots, n-1$ , form a linearly dependent system of vectors. The latter contradicts the simplicity assumption.

The same proof applies if  $x' \neq 0$  by shifting the  $x'$  coordinates.

Let now  $y$ ,  $\xi$  and  $x$  be as in the Lemma. The lemma is clearly true for  $x$  in the ball  $B(0, \varepsilon_1) = \{|x| < \varepsilon_1\}$ , where  $\varepsilon_1 \ll 1$ , because  $\varphi(0, \xi^0)$  is non-degenerate. On the other hand,  $\varphi_\xi(x, \xi) \neq \varphi_\xi(y, \xi)$  for  $x \in \bar{U} \setminus B(0, \varepsilon_1)$ ,  $y = 0$ ,  $\xi = \xi^0$ . Hence, we still have  $\varphi_\xi(x, \xi) \neq \varphi_\xi(y, \xi)$  for a small perturbation of  $y$  and  $\xi$ .  $\square$

We will apply the complex stationary phase method [Sj], see also [KSU, Section 6]. For  $x$ ,  $y$  as in Lemma 1, and  $|\eta - \xi^0| \leq \delta/\tilde{C}$ ,  $\tilde{C} \gg 1$ ,  $\delta \ll 1$ , multiply (18) by

$$\tilde{\chi}(\xi - \eta) e^{i\lambda(i(\xi - \eta)^2/2 - \varphi(y, \xi))},$$

where  $\tilde{\chi}$  is the characteristic function the complex ball  $B(0, \delta)$ , and integrate w.r.t.  $\xi$  to get

$$(22) \quad \iint e^{i\lambda\Phi(y, x, \eta, \xi)} b_N(x, \xi, \eta) f(x) dx d\xi = 0,$$

where  $b_N$  is another amplitude, analytic, independent of  $N$ , and elliptic near  $\gamma_0 \times \{\xi^0\}$ , satisfying (12), and

$$\Phi = -\varphi(y, \xi) + \varphi(x, \xi) + \frac{i}{2}(\xi - \eta)^2.$$

We study the critical points of  $\xi \mapsto \Phi$ . If  $y = x$ , there is a unique (real) critical point  $\xi_c = \eta$ , and it satisfies  $\Im \Phi_{\xi\xi} > 0$  at  $\xi = \xi_c$ . For  $y \neq x$ , there is no real critical point by Lemma 1. On the other hand, again by Lemma 1, there is no (complex) critical point if  $|x - y| > \delta/C_1$  with some  $C_1 > 0$ , and there is a unique complex critical point  $\xi_c$  if  $|x - y| < \delta/C_2$ , with some  $C_2 > C_1$ , still non-degenerate if  $\delta \ll 1$ . For any  $C_0 > 0$ , if we integrate in (22) for  $|x - y| > \delta/C_0$ , and use the fact that  $|\Phi_\xi|$  has a positive lower bound (for  $\xi$  real), we get

$$(23) \quad \left| \iint_{|x-y|>\delta/C_0} e^{i\lambda\Phi(y, x, \eta, \xi)} b_N(x, \xi, \eta) f(x) dx d\xi \right| \leq C_3(C_3 N/\lambda)^N + C N e^{-\lambda/C}.$$

Estimate (23) is obtained by integrating  $N$  times by parts, using the identity

$$Le^{i\lambda\Phi} = e^{i\lambda\Phi}, \quad L := \frac{\bar{\Phi}_\xi \cdot \partial_\xi}{i\lambda|\Phi_\xi|^2}$$

as well as using the estimate (12), and the fact that on the boundary of integration in  $\xi$ , the  $e^{i\lambda\Phi}$  is exponentially small. Choose  $C_0 \gg C_2$ . Note that  $\Im\Phi > 0$  for  $\xi \in \partial(\text{supp } \tilde{\chi}(\cdot - \eta))$ , and  $\eta$  as above, as long as  $\tilde{C} \gg 1$ , and by choosing  $C_0 \gg 1$ , we can make sure that  $\xi_c$  is as close to  $\eta$ , as we want.

To estimate (22) for  $|x - y| < \delta/C_0$ , set

$$\psi(x, y, \eta) := \Phi|_{\xi=\xi_c}.$$

Note that  $\xi_c = -i(y - x) + \eta + O(\delta)$ , and  $\psi(x, y, \eta) = \eta \cdot (x - y) + \frac{i}{2}|x - y|^2 + O(\delta)$ . The stationary complex phase method [Sj], see Theorem 2.8 there and the remark after it, together with (23), gives

$$(24) \quad \int_{|x-y|\leq\delta/C_0} e^{i\lambda\psi(x,\alpha)} f(x) B(x, \alpha; \lambda) dx = O(Ne^{-\lambda/C} + \lambda^{n/2}(C_3N/\lambda)^N), \quad \forall N,$$

where  $\alpha = (y, \eta)$ , and  $B$  is a classical elliptic analytic symbol [Sj], independent of  $N$ . Moreover, the principal symbol  $\sigma_p(B)(0, 0, \eta)$  equals  $w(0, \theta(\eta))$  times an elliptic factor, and is therefore elliptic itself. Recall that  $w(0, \theta(\xi^0)) = w(0, e_n) \neq 0$ . Take  $N$  so that  $N \leq \lambda/(C_3e) \leq N + 1$  to conclude that the r.h.s. of (24) is  $O(e^{-\lambda/C})$ .

At  $y = x$  we have

$$(25) \quad \psi_y(x, x, \eta) = -\varphi_x(x, \eta), \quad \psi_x(x, x, \eta) = \varphi_x(x, \eta), \quad \psi(x, x, \eta) = 0.$$

We also get that

$$(26) \quad \Im\psi(y, x, \eta) \geq |x - y|^2/C,$$

that can be obtained by writing  $y = x + h$ , and expanding  $\psi$  in terms of powers of  $h$  up to  $O(h^3)$ .

Define the transform

$$\alpha \mapsto \beta = (\alpha_x, \nabla_{\alpha_x} \varphi(\alpha)),$$

where, following [Sj],  $\alpha = (\alpha_x, \alpha_\xi)$ . This is equivalent to setting  $\alpha = (y, \eta)$ ,  $\beta = (y, \zeta)$ , where  $\zeta = \varphi_y(y, \eta)$ . Note that  $\zeta = \eta + O(\delta)$ , and at  $y = 0$ , we have  $\zeta = \eta$ , by (20). It is a diffeomorphism from a neighborhood of  $(0, \xi^0)$  to its image, leaving  $(0, \xi^0)$  fixed. Denote the inverse map by  $\alpha(\beta)$ . Note that this map and its inverse preserve the first (n-dimensional) component and change only the second one. Plug  $\alpha = \alpha(\beta)$  in (24) to get

$$(27) \quad \int_{|x-\alpha_x|\leq\delta/C_0} e^{i\lambda\psi(x,\beta)} B(x, \beta; \lambda) f(x) dx = O(e^{-\lambda/C}),$$

for  $\beta \in \text{neigh}(0, \xi^0)$ , where  $\psi$ ,  $B$  are (different) functions having the same properties as above, except that now  $\psi$  satisfies

$$(28) \quad \psi_y(x, x, \zeta) = -\zeta, \quad \psi_x(x, x, \zeta) = \zeta, \quad \psi(x, x, \zeta) = 0.$$

By [Sj, Definition 6.1], (26), (27), (28), together with the ellipticity of  $B$  imply that

$$(0, \xi^0) \notin \text{WF}_A(f).$$

Note that in [Sj], it is required that  $f$  must be replaced by  $\bar{f}$  in (27). If  $f$  is complex-valued, we could use the fact that  $I(\Re f)(\gamma) = 0$ , and  $I(\Im f)(\gamma) = 0$  for  $\gamma$  near  $\gamma_0$  and then work with real-valued  $f$ 's only.

If  $f$  is a distribution, then one can see that (14) still remains true with the integral in the  $x$  variable understood in distribution sense. The rest of the proof remains the same, except that the cutoffs w.r.t.  $x$  in

(24), (27) have to be replaced by smooth ones. The characterization of  $\text{WF}_A(f)$  in [Sj, Definition 6.1] is formulated for distributions, too.

This concludes the proof of Proposition 1.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.* The proof of Theorem 1 now follows immediately. By Proposition 1,  $f$  is analytic in  $M_1$  and has compact support there. Therefore,  $f = 0$ .  $\square$

#### 4. THE SMOOTH PARAMETRIX

Under coordinate changes  $x \mapsto x'$ ,  $\mathbf{G}$  preserves its form, i.e.,

$$(29) \quad \mathbf{G} = \xi'^i \frac{\partial}{\partial x'^i} + G'^i(x', \xi') \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi'^i},$$

and the transformation law is

$$(30) \quad G'^i(x', \xi') = G^k \left( x', \frac{\partial x}{\partial x'^j} \xi'^j \right) \frac{\partial x'^i}{\partial x^k} + \frac{\partial^2 x'^j}{\partial x^i \partial x^k} \frac{\partial x^i}{\partial x^s} \frac{\partial x^k}{\partial x^t} \xi'^s \xi'^t.$$

This shows that the assumption  $G \in C^k$  is independent of the choice of the coordinate chart, and choosing a different finite atlas will preserve inequalities of the kind  $\|G - \tilde{G}\|_{C^2(TM)} \leq C\varepsilon$  by changing  $C$  only.

We construct below a parametrix for  $N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$  assuming that  $G, \lambda, w, \alpha$  are smooth.

**Proposition 2.**  $N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$  is an elliptic classical  $\Psi$ DO of order  $-1$  in  $M^{\text{int}}$ . As a consequence, there exists a classical pseudodifferential operator  $Q$  in  $M_1^{\text{int}}$  of order 1 so that

$$QN_{\Gamma, w, \alpha} f = f + Kf$$

for any  $f \in \mathcal{D}'(M_1^{\text{int}})$  with  $\text{supp } f \subset M$ , and an operator  $K$  with a  $C_0^\infty(M_1^{\text{int}} \times M_1^{\text{int}})$  Schwartz kernel.

As a first step towards the proof of Proposition 2, we derive a formula for  $I_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}^*$ . Notice that the map  $\mathcal{H} \times (l^-, l^+) \ni (z, \theta, t) \mapsto (x, v) \in \mathbf{R}^n \times S^{n-1}$  given by  $x = \exp_z(t, \theta)$ ,  $v = \partial_t \exp_z(t, \theta) / |\partial_t \exp_z(t, \theta)|$  is a local diffeomorphism. Indeed, fix  $(z_0, \theta_0, t_0)$ , and let  $(x_0, v_0)$  be the corresponding  $(x, v)$ . To find the inverse of that map, we need to solve

$$\exp_x(-t, v) = z, \quad -\partial_t \exp_x(-t, v) = \theta, \quad z \in H,$$

for  $(z, \theta, t)$  near  $(z_0, \theta_0, t_0)$ , so that  $(z, \theta, t) = (z_0, \theta_0, t_0)$  for  $(x, v) = (x_0, v_0)$ . This can be done, since  $H$  is not tangent to any  $\theta$  such that  $(z, \theta) \in \mathcal{H}$ . Let  $J^b(x, v) = d(z, \theta, t)/d(x, v)$  be the corresponding Jacobian (depending on the choice of the local chart near  $x$ ).

Let  $\phi \in C_0^\infty(\mathcal{H})$ ,  $f \in C^\infty(M)$ , and let  $w_1 \in C_0^\infty(TM_1^{\text{int}})$  have small enough support that can fit in a coordinate chart that we fix. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int (I_{\Gamma, w_1, \alpha} f) \bar{\phi} \, d\Sigma &= \iiint \alpha(z, \theta) w_1(\gamma_{z, \theta}(t), \dot{\gamma}_{z, \theta}(t)) f(\gamma_{z, \theta}(t)) \bar{\phi}(z, \theta) \, dt \, dS_z \, d\theta \\ &= \iint \alpha^\#(x, v) w_1(x, v) f(x) \bar{\phi}^\#(x, v) J^b(x, v) \, dx \, dv, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\alpha^\#(x, v) = \alpha(z(x, v), \theta(x, v))$ , i.e.,  $\alpha^\#$  equals  $\alpha$ , extended as constant along the curves  $\gamma_{z, \theta}(t)$ ; and the meaning of  $\bar{\phi}^\#$  is the same. Therefore,

$$I_{\Gamma, w_1, \alpha}^* \phi(x) = \int_{|v|=1} \alpha^\#(x, v) \bar{w}_1(x, v) \bar{\phi}^\#(x, v) J^b(x, v) \, dv.$$

Let  $w_0 \in C_0^\infty(TM_1^{\text{int}})$  be another function with small enough support. Then

$$(31) \quad I_{\Gamma, w_1, \alpha}^* I_{\Gamma, w_0, \alpha} f(x) = \int_{S^{n-1}} \int (\alpha^\# \bar{w}_1)(x, v) (\alpha^\# w_0)(\exp_x(t, v), \partial_t \exp_x(t, v)) \\ \times f(\exp_x(t, v)) J^b(x, v) dt dv.$$

The simplicity assumption implies that for any  $t_0 \neq 0$ , and  $(x_0, v_0)$  belonging to the support of the integrand above, the map  $(t, v) \mapsto y = \exp_x(t, v)$  is a diffeomorphism from a neighborhood of  $(t_0, v_0)$  to its image, and this is true for  $x$  in some neighborhood of  $x_0$ . On the other hand, near  $t_0 = 0$ , the map  $(t, v) \mapsto y = \exp_x(t, v)$  has Jacobian vanishing at  $t = 0$ , and the ‘‘true exponential map’’  $\xi = tv \mapsto y = \exp_x(t, v)$  is only a  $C^1$  diffeomorphism, in general. By a compactness argument, given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , one can cover  $M$  with finitely many charts, so that when  $x$  belongs to either one of them, one can split the integration in (31) into finitely many open sets that cover  $\mathbf{R} \setminus (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \times S^{n-1}$ . In each of those integrals, perform the change of variables  $(t, v) \mapsto y = \exp_x(t, v)$ . Then we get that the l.h.s. of (31) is an operator with a smooth kernel. The only contribution to the singularities of the kernel may therefore come from  $t \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ .

To analyze the contribution to (31) from  $t \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ , we proceed as follows, see also [DPSU]. The function  $m(t, v; x) = (\exp_x(t, v) - x)/t$  is smooth, therefore

$$(32) \quad \exp_x(t, v) - x = tm(t, v; x), \quad m(0, v; x) = \lambda(x, v)v.$$

We introduce the new variables  $(r, \omega) \in \mathbf{R} \times S^{n-1}$  by

$$(33) \quad r = t|m(t, v; x)|, \quad \omega = m(t, v; x)/|m(t, v; x)|.$$

Then  $(r, \omega)$  are polar coordinates for  $y - x = r\omega$  in which we allow  $r$  to be negative. Clearly,  $(r, \omega)$  are smooth at least for  $\varepsilon$  small enough. Consider the Jacobian of this change of variables

$$(34) \quad J(x, t, v) := \det \frac{\partial(r, \omega)}{\partial(t, v)},$$

computed with the same choice of local coordinates on  $S^{n-1}$  for  $v$  and  $\omega$  (and independent of that choice). It is not hard to see that  $J|_{t=0} = \lambda \neq 0$ , therefore the map  $\mathbf{R} \times S^{n-1} \ni (t, v) \mapsto (r, \omega) \in \mathbf{R} \times S^{n-1}$  is a local diffeomorphism from  $\text{neigh}(0) \times S^{n-1}$  to its image. We can decrease  $\varepsilon$  if needed to ensure that it is a (global) diffeomorphism on its domain because then it is clearly injective. We denote the inverse functions by  $t = t(x, r, \omega)$ ,  $v = v(x, r, \omega)$ . Note that in the  $(r, \omega)$  variables

$$(35) \quad t = r/\lambda + O(|r|), \quad v = \omega + O(|r|), \quad \dot{\gamma}_{x, v}(t) = \lambda\omega + O(|r|).$$

Another representation of the new coordinates can be given by

$$r = \text{sign}(t) |\exp_x(t, v) - x|, \quad \omega = \text{sign}(t) \frac{\exp_x(t, v) - x}{|\exp_x(t, v) - x|},$$

and

$$(t, v) = \exp_x^{-1}(x + r\omega)$$

with the additional condition that  $r$  and  $t$  have the same sign (or are both zero).

We return to (31). The paragraph after it shows that one can multiply the integrand by a smooth function  $\chi(t)$  so that  $\chi = 1$  near  $t = 0$  and  $\text{supp } \chi$  is small enough; and the error is a smoothing operator. Then one can write, modulo a smoothing operator applied to  $f$ :

$$(36) \quad I_{\Gamma, w_1, \alpha}^* I_{\Gamma, w_0, \alpha} f(x) \equiv \int_{S^{n-1}} \int \chi(t) B(x, t, v) f(\exp_x(t, v)) dt dv \\ = \int_{S^{n-1}} \int \chi(t) J^{-1}(x, t, v) B(x, t, v) f(x + r\omega) \Big|_{t=t(x, r, \omega), v=v(x, r, \omega)} dr d\omega,$$

where, see (31),

$$(37) \quad B(x, t, v) = (\alpha^\# \bar{w}_1)(x, v) (\alpha^\# w_0)(\exp_x(t, v), \partial_t \exp_x(t, v)) J^b(x, v).$$

**4.1. Certain class of integral operators with singular kernels.** Let  $U \subset \mathbf{R}^n$  be open and bounded. The integral representation (36) shows that we need to study integral operators with singular Schwartz kernels (with integrable singularity at  $x = y$ ) of the class below, see also [DPSU, Appendix D].

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $\mathcal{A} : C_0(U) \rightarrow C(U)$  be the operator*

$$(38) \quad \mathcal{A}f(x) = \int_{S^{n-1}} \int_{\mathbf{R}} A(x, r, \omega) f(x + r\omega) dr d\omega,$$

with  $A \in C^\infty(U \times \mathbf{R} \times S^{n-1})$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a classical  $\Psi$ DO of order  $-1$  with full symbol

$$a(x, \xi) \sim \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k(x, \xi),$$

where

$$a_k(x, \xi) = 2\pi \frac{i^k}{k!} \int_{S^{n-1}} \partial_r^k A(x, 0, \omega) \delta^{(k)}(\omega \cdot \xi) d\omega.$$

*Proof.* Notice first that if  $A$  is an odd function of  $(r, \omega)$ , then  $\mathcal{A}f = 0$ . Therefore, we can replace  $A$  above by  $A_{\text{even}}(r, \omega) = (A(r, \omega) + A(-r, -\omega))/2$ . Next, it is easy to check that we can integrate over  $r \geq 0$  only and double the result. Therefore,

$$(39) \quad \mathcal{A}f(x) = 2 \int_{S^{n-1}} \int_0^\infty A_{\text{even}}(x, r, \omega) f(x + r\omega) dr d\omega.$$

Consider now  $r, \omega$  as polar coordinates for  $z = r\omega$ , and make also the change of variables  $y = x + z$  to get

$$(40) \quad \mathcal{A}f(x) = 2 \int A_{\text{even}}\left(x, |y-x|, \frac{y-x}{|y-x|}\right) \frac{f(y)}{|y-x|^{n-1}} dy.$$

Let

$$(41) \quad A_{\text{even}}(x, r, \omega) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} A_{\text{even},k}(x, \omega) r^k + r^N R_N(x, r, \omega)$$

be a finite Taylor expansion of  $A_{\text{even}}$  in  $r$  near  $r = 0$  with  $N > 0$ . It follows easily that  $2A_{\text{even},k}(x, \omega) = A_k(x, \omega) + (-1)^k A_k(x, -\omega)$ , where  $k!A_k = \partial_r^k|_{r=0} A$ , and in particular,  $A_{\text{even},k}(x, \omega) r^k$  is even w.r.t.  $(r, \omega)$ . The remainder term contributes to (40) an operator that maps  $L^2_{\text{comp}}(U)$  into  $H^{N-N_0}(U)$  with some fixed  $N_0$ . To study the contribution of the other terms, write

$$(42) \quad \mathcal{A}_{\text{even},k} f(x) = 2 \int A_{\text{even},k}\left(x, \frac{y-x}{|y-x|}\right) |y-x|^{k-n+1} f(y) dy.$$

The kernel of  $\mathcal{A}_{\text{even},k}$  is therefore a function of  $x$  and  $z = y-x$ , with a polynomial singularity at  $y-x = 0$ , and it is therefore a formal  $\Psi$ DO with symbol that can be obtained by taking Fourier transform in the  $z$  variable. Motivated by this, apply the Plancherel theorem to the integral above to get

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{even},k} f(x) = (2\pi)^{-n} \int e^{ix \cdot \xi} a_k(x, \xi) \hat{f}(\xi) d\xi,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
a_k(x, \xi) &= 2 \int e^{-iy \cdot \xi} A_{\text{even},k} \left( x, \frac{y-x}{|y-x|} \right) |y-x|^{k-n+1} dy \\
&= 2 \int_{S^{n-1}} \int_0^\infty e^{-ir\omega \cdot \xi} A_{\text{even},k}(x, \omega) r^k dr d\omega \\
&= \int_{S^{n-1}} \int_{-\infty}^\infty e^{-ir\omega \cdot \xi} A_k(x, \omega) r^k dr d\omega \\
(43) \quad &= 2\pi i^k \int_{S^{n-1}} A_k(x, \omega) \delta^{(k)}(\omega \cdot \xi) d\omega.
\end{aligned}$$

In the third line, we used the fact that  $A_{\text{even},k}(x, \omega)r^k$  is even. Note that  $a_k(x, \xi)$  is homogeneous in  $\xi$  of order  $-k-1$  and smooth away from  $\xi = 0$  but a distribution (in  $S'$ ) near zero. To deal with this, choose  $\chi \in C_0^\infty$  supported in  $|\xi| \leq 1$  and equal to 1 near  $\xi = 0$ . Write  $a(x, \xi) = \chi(\xi)a(x, \xi) + (1 - \chi(\xi))a(x, \xi)$ . The second term is a classical amplitude, while the first one contributes the term

$$(44) \quad \mathcal{A}_{\text{even},k}(\check{\chi} * f)$$

to (42) that is smooth, as can be easily seen by making the change of variables  $z = y - x$  in (42).  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 2.* For  $x$  in a small enough neighborhood of a fixed  $x_0$ , using a partition of unity  $\{\chi_j\}$ , we can express  $N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$  as a finite sum of operators of the kind (31), namely  $N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha} = \sum I_{\Gamma, w_j, \alpha}^* I_{\Gamma, w_j, \alpha}$  with  $w_i = \chi_i w$ . By the analysis following (31), their Schwartz kernels are smooth if we integrate outside any interval containing  $t = 0$ , and the only non-smooth contribution may come from terms of the kind (36), where  $w_0$  and  $w_1$  are replaced by some  $w_i$  and  $w_j$ . By Lemma 2, (31) is a classical  $\Psi$ DO of order  $-1$ . Its principal symbol is given by

$$a_0(x, \xi) = 2\pi \int_{S^{n-1}} A(x, 0, \omega) \delta(\omega \cdot \xi) d\omega.$$

In case of (36),  $A(x, 0, \omega)$  is given by  $A_{ij} = J^{-1}(x, 0, \omega) (|\alpha^\# w|^2 \chi_i \chi_j)(x, \omega)$ . Then  $\sum_{ij} A_{ij}$  is elliptic because  $w \neq 0$ , and because given  $(x, \xi)$ , there is  $\omega \perp \xi$  so that  $\alpha^\#(x, \omega) \neq 0$ , and there exists  $i$  so that  $\chi_i(x, \omega) > 0$ ; and all other terms are non-negative. Therefore,  $N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$  is an elliptic  $\Psi$ DO of order  $-1$  in  $M_1^{\text{int}}$ , and the proposition follows.  $\square$

The next proposition is a standard consequence of the ellipticity of  $N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$ . See [SU3, Theorem 2] for a similar statement in tensor tomography. In contrast to [SU3] however, we do not lose a derivative.

**Proposition 3.** *Under the conditions of Theorem 2, without assuming that  $I_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$  is injective,*

(a) *one has the a priori estimate*

$$\|f\|_{L^2(M)} \leq C \|N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha} f\|_{H^1(M_1)} + C_s \|f\|_{H^{-s}(M_1)}, \quad \forall s;$$

(b)  *$\text{Ker } I_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$  is finite dimensional and included in  $C^\infty(M)$ .*

*Proof.* Part (a) follows directly from Proposition 2. Next, if  $f \in \text{Ker } I_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$ , then  $(\text{Id} + K)f = 0$ , and  $K$  is a compact operator on  $L^2(M)$ , with smooth kernel. This proves (b).  $\square$

## 5. REDUCING THE SMOOTHNESS REQUIREMENTS

In this section, we will reduce the smoothness requirements on  $\Gamma$  and the weight  $w$ , and will prove Theorem 2.

We start with the observation that assuming that  $I_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$  is injective on  $L^2(M)$ , then  $N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha} : L^2(M) \rightarrow H^1(M_1)$  is injective, also, see [SU3]. Then we get by Proposition 3(b) and [Ta1, Proposition V.3.1] that

$$(45) \quad \|f\|_{L^2(M)} \leq C \|N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha} f\|_{H^1(M_1)}.$$

The second inequality in (7) is obvious. This proves part (a) of Theorem 2.

In the rest of this section, we will perturb  $\Gamma, w, \alpha$  and show that this will result in a small constant times  $\|f\|_{L^2(M)}$  that can be absorbed by the l.h.s. above. We think of  $\Gamma$  as determined by  $(G, \mu, \sigma)$ . Since  $N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha}$  is a  $\Psi$ DO that depends on  $\Gamma, w, \alpha$  in a continuous way, if the latter belongs to  $C^k$ ,  $k \gg 2$ , the statement of Theorem 2(b) follows immediately from what we already proved if  $C^2$  there is replaced by  $C^k$ ,  $k \gg 2$ , see also [SU3, SU4, SU5]. Our goal here is to reduce that smoothness requirement.

**Proposition 4.** *Assume that  $G, \mu, \sigma, w, \alpha$  are fixed and belong to  $C^2$ . Let  $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\mu}, \tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{w}, \tilde{\alpha})$  be  $O(\delta)$  close to  $(G, \mu, \sigma, w, \alpha)$  in  $C^2$ . Then there exists a constant  $C > 0$  that depends on an a priori bound on the  $C^2$  norm of  $(G, \mu, \sigma, w, \alpha)$ , so that*

$$(46) \quad \|(N_{\tilde{\Gamma}, \tilde{w}, \tilde{\alpha}} - N_{\Gamma, w, \alpha})f\|_{H^1(M_1)} \leq C\delta \|f\|_{L^2(M)}$$

*Proof.* Assume now that we have two systems  $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\mu}, \tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{w}, \tilde{\alpha})$  and  $(G, \mu, \sigma, w, \alpha)$ , as in the proposition. Let  $C_0$  be a bound on the  $C^2$  norm of the first system. All constants below will depend on  $C_0$ . Let  $\delta$  be as in the proposition. To estimate the difference of those quantities related to the two systems, we will need the following comparison inequality for ODEs of Gronwall type.

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $x, \tilde{x}$  solve the ODE systems*

$$x' = F(t, x), \quad \tilde{x}' = \tilde{F}(t, \tilde{x}),$$

where  $F, \tilde{F}$  are continuous functions from  $[0, T] \times U$  to a Banach space  $\mathcal{B}$ , where  $U \subset \mathcal{B}$  is open. Let  $F$  be Lipschitz w.r.t.  $x$  with a Lipschitz constant  $k > 0$ . Assume that

$$\|F(t, x) - \tilde{F}(t, x)\| \leq \delta, \quad \forall t \in [0, T], \quad \forall x \in U.$$

Assume that  $x(t), \tilde{x}(t)$  stay in  $U$  for  $0 \leq t \leq T$ . Then for  $0 \leq t \leq T$ ,

$$(47) \quad \|x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)\| \leq e^{kt} \|x(0) - \tilde{x}(0)\| + \frac{\delta}{k} (e^{kt} - 1).$$

For a proof see [CL]. Note that the lemma can be used to compare the derivatives of  $x$  and  $\tilde{x}$  w.r.t. the initial conditions by differentiating w.r.t. the initial conditions first, and then applying the lemma. Since the curves  $\gamma$  solve the equation (2) considered in the phase space, see (3), we get under the assumptions of Proposition 4,

$$(48) \quad \|\gamma_{x, v} - \tilde{\gamma}_{x, v}\|_{C^2} + \|\dot{\gamma}_{x, v} - \dot{\tilde{\gamma}}_{x, v}\|_{C^2} \leq C\delta,$$

where the  $C^2$  norm is w.r.t.  $(x, v, t)$ . The inclusion of  $t$  can be easily deduced from equation (2).

Assume that  $G, \mu, \sigma, w, \alpha$  are fixed and belong to  $C^2$ . We will determine first the smoothness of the functions  $r(x, t, v)$  and  $\omega(x, t, v)$  defined in (33). Since

$$(49) \quad m(t, v; x) = \int_0^1 \dot{\gamma}_{x, v}(st) ds,$$

we get that  $m$  and  $\dot{m}$  are  $C^2$  functions of their arguments. By (33), we get that  $\partial_t^j r$  and  $\partial_t^j \omega$ ,  $j = 0, 1$ , are  $C^2$ , also. In particular, the inverse functions  $t(x, r, \omega)$ ,  $v(x, r, \omega)$  are  $C^2$ , too. On the other hand,  $J$  and  $J^b$  in (36), (37) are  $C^1$ . Moreover, the difference of those functions for the two systems is  $O(\delta)$  in the corresponding norms.

Let us analyze first (31) in the case when the kernel there is multiplied by  $1 - \chi(t)$ , compare with (36). As explained in the paragraph following (31), we perform the change of variables  $(t, v) \mapsto y = \exp_x(t, v)$  that is  $C^2$  in our case, and its Jacobian is  $C^1$ . Moreover, the Jacobians for the two systems differ by  $O(\delta)$  in the  $C^1$  norm. Then we get an integral operator with a  $C^1$  kernel, vanishing near the diagonal  $x = y$ . Clearly, such an operator maps  $L^2(M)$  into  $C^1(M_1)$ . Moreover, the difference of two such operators, related to  $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\mu}, \tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{w}, \tilde{\alpha})$  and  $(G, \mu, \sigma, w, \alpha)$ , respectively, has a norm  $O(\delta)$ .

The more interesting case is what happens near the diagonal. To analyze this, we expand  $B$  in (37) and  $J$ , see (34) as

$$(50) \quad B(x, t, v) = B_0(x, v) + tB_1(x, t, v), \quad J^{-1}(x, t, v) = J_0(x, v) + tJ_1(x, t, v).$$

The explicit expressions for  $B_0, B_1, J_0, J_1$  are listed below:

$$\begin{aligned} B_0(x, v) &= ((\alpha^\#)^2 \tilde{w}_1 w_0)(x, v) J^b(x, v), \\ B_1(x, t, v) &= \int_0^1 b_1(x, st, v) ds, \quad \text{where} \\ b_1(x, t, v) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\alpha^\# \tilde{w}_1)(x, v) (\alpha^\# w_0)(\exp_x(t, v), (\partial_t \exp_x)(t, v)) J^b(x, v), \\ J_0(x, v) &= J^{-1}(x, 0, v) = \lambda^{-1}(x, v), \\ J_1(x, t, v) &= \int_0^1 \frac{\partial J^{-1}}{\partial t}(x, st, v) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $B_0, B_1, J_0, J_1 \in C^1$ . Moreover,  $\tilde{B}_0, \tilde{B}_1, \tilde{J}_0, \tilde{J}_1$  differ from them by  $O(\delta)$  in the  $C^1$  norm.

Then for  $A$  in (38), we get

$$(51) \quad \begin{aligned} A(x, r, \omega) &= \chi(t(x, r, \omega)) J^{-1}(x, t(x, r, \omega), v(x, r, \omega)) B(x, t(x, r, \omega), v(x, r, \omega)) \\ &=: A_0(x, \omega) + rA_1(x, r, \omega). \end{aligned}$$

Here  $A_0(x, \omega)$  and  $A_1(x, r, \omega)$  are  $C^1$  functions of all variables, and we have used the fact that  $t(x, r, \omega)/r$  is  $C^1$ , too. As above, we get

$$(52) \quad \|A_0(x, \omega) - \tilde{A}_0(x, \omega)\|_{C^1} + \|A_1(x, r, \omega) - \tilde{A}_1(x, r, \omega)\|_{C^1} \leq C\delta.$$

Let  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1$  be as in Lemma 2 related to  $A_1$  and  $rA_1$ , respectively. Then the Schwartz kernel of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , see (40), is  $2A_{0,\text{even}}(x, \omega)r^{-n+1}$ , where we use the notation

$$r = |x - y|, \quad \omega = (y - x)/r.$$

Therefore  $2A_{0,\text{even}}(x, \omega)r^{-n+1}$  has singularity of the type  $r^{-n+1}$ , while the kernel of  $\mathcal{A}_1$  has singularity of the type  $r^{-n+2}$ . To estimate the  $H^1$  norm of  $\mathcal{A}$ , we need to analyze the operator with kernel  $\partial_x \mathcal{A}$ . We get that formally,  $\partial_x \mathcal{A}_0$  is an operator with a non-integrable singularity of the type  $r^{-n}$ , while  $\partial_x \mathcal{A}_{1,\text{even}}$  is an operator with kernel that still has an integrable singularity. Let now  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_{0,1}$  be related to  $(\tilde{G}, \tilde{\mu}, \tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{w}, \tilde{\alpha})$ . The contribution of  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_1 - \mathcal{A}_1$  to (46) is easy to estimate using (52). The remaining question is whether

$$(53) \quad \|(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_0 - \mathcal{A}_0)f\|_{H^1(U)} \leq C\delta \|f\|_{L^2(U)}, \quad f \in L^2(U),$$

where  $U$  is as in Lemma 2, and in our case, is a small enough open set in a fixed coordinate chart of  $M_1$ . We showed above that  $\mathcal{A}_0$  an operator with a weakly singular kernel, and  $\partial_x \mathcal{A}_0$  is formally an operator with singular kernel. The continuity properties of the latter class are well studied, see e.g., [St, MP], and the integration is understood in principle value sense. By the Calderón-Zygmund Theorem, see, e.g., [MP, Theorem X1.3.1], [St], a singular operator with kernel  $K(x, y) = \Omega(x, \omega)r^{-n}$  is bounded on  $L^2(U)$ , if  $\Omega$

has a mean value 0 in the  $\omega$  variable, and belongs to  $L^\infty(U_x; L^2(S^{n-1}))$ . Then the norm of that operator is bounded by  $C\|\Omega\|$ , where the latter norm is in  $L^\infty(U_x; L^2(S^{n-1}))$ .

In our case, we start with an operator with weakly singular kernel  $2A_{0,\text{even}}(x, \omega)r^{-n+1}$  that is even w.r.t.  $\omega$ , since  $A_{0,\text{even}}$  it is independent of  $r$ . Therefore the  $x$ -derivative, if we differentiate the occurrence of  $x$  in  $r$  and  $\omega$  only, is an odd function of  $\omega$ . This makes the kernel  $\partial_x(2A_{0,\text{even}}(x, \omega)r^{-n+1})$  a singular odd one, up to a weakly singular kernel. Now [MP, Theorem XI.11.1] says that this is actually the kernel of  $\partial_x\mathcal{A}_0$ , and by the Calderón-Zygmund Theorem, its  $L^2 \rightarrow L^2$  norm is bounded by  $C\|A_0\|_{C^1}$ . We apply now those arguments to  $\tilde{A}_0 - A_0$  with the aid of (52). This yields (53) and completes the proof of the proposition.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 2.* We already proved part (a) in (45). Combine estimate (45) and Proposition 4 to get

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{L^2(M)} &\leq C\|N_{\Gamma,w,\alpha}f\|_{H^1(M_1)} \\ &\leq C\|N_{\tilde{\Gamma},\tilde{w},\tilde{\alpha}}f\|_{H^1(M_1)} + C\|(N_{\tilde{\Gamma},\tilde{w},\tilde{\alpha}} - N_{\Gamma,w,\alpha})f\|_{H^1(M_1)} \\ &\leq C\|N_{\tilde{\Gamma},\tilde{w},\tilde{\alpha}}f\|_{H^1(M_1)} + C\delta\|f\|_{L^2(M)}. \end{aligned}$$

This immediately implies Theorem 2(b).  $\square$

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