

FOURIER TRANSFORMS OF SURFACE-CARRIED MEASURES AND DIFFERENTIABILITY OF SURFACE AVERAGES

BY WALTER LITTMAN¹

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1. **Introduction.** We are given an n surface S (possibly with boundary) embedded in R^{n+1} and a smooth mass density μ on the surface, vanishing near the boundary. We consider the following transformation of $C(R^{n+1}) \rightarrow C(R^{n+1})$:

$$(1) \quad g(y) = \int_{x \in S} f(y - x) \mu(x) dS_x.$$

Letting D^m be a generic symbol for differentiation of order m , we ask the

QUESTION: When does there exist an estimate of the type

$$(2) \quad \|D^m g\|_{L_p} \leq \text{constant} \cdot \|f\|_{L_p}?$$

This is related to the behavior at ∞ of the Fourier transform of the measure μ . Our main result in that direction is the following:

ESTIMATE OF FOURIER TRANSFORMS. Let S be a sufficiently smooth compact n -surface (possibly with boundary) embedded in R^{n+1} , μ a sufficiently smooth mass distribution on S vanishing near the boundary of S . Suppose that at each point of S , k of the n principal curvatures are different from zero. Then

$$(3) \quad I \equiv \int_{x \in S} e(X \cdot Y) \mu(X) dS_X = O(|Y|^{-k/2}).$$

(Notation: $e(\cdot) \equiv e^{i(\cdot)}$.)

For the case of $\mu \equiv 1$ and surfaces of strictly positive Gaussian curvature this result has been proved by C. S. Herz [2] and previously by E. Hlawka [3]. Herz assumes S to be of differentiability class $C^{[(n/2)+2]}$. For simplicity we shall not keep track in this note of the smoothness assumptions on S and μ . The proof here, as it stands, does not give the best results in that direction. However, it can be modified (at the expense of making it somewhat more complicated) so as to get results reducing to those of [2] in the case of positive curvature.

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To answer our "question," we notice that if the Fourier transform (3) is $O(|Y|^{-k/2})$ then (2) holds with $p=2$ and $m=k/2$. Also, (2) holds with $m=0$ and $p=\infty$. By a theorem of A. P. Calderón [1] (2) holds with $m < k/p$ if $p \geq 2$, and $m < k/p'$ if $p \leq 2$. We interpret fractional n in the sense of [1].

2. Estimates for nonhorizontal part of surface. To estimate the integral I in (3), first consider the case of curvature $\neq 0$. By rotation of axes take $Y = (0, 0, \dots, 0, y)$. The points p_1, p_2, \dots, p_q where S is normal to the X_{n+1} axis is finite in number. Decompose μ (by means of a partition of unity) into a sum $\mu = \mu_0 + \mu_1 + \dots + \mu_q$, where μ_0 vanishes near p_1, \dots, p_q and where the μ_j ($j \neq 0$) have disjoint supports containing the respective p_j . We first dispose of the integral I_2 involving μ_0 . We have

$$(4) \quad I_2 = \int e(zy) m_z^1 dz,$$

where $m_z^1 = (d/dz)m_z$, $S_z \equiv S \cap [x_{n+1} \leq z]$, and $m_z = \int_{X \in S_z} \mu_0(X) dS_X$. To study m_z further, decompose $\mu_0 \equiv \mu_{01} + \mu_{02} + \dots + \mu_{0n}$ such that the support of μ_{0k} ($k \neq n+1$) lies in a part of the surface S with a representation (caret \equiv omit)

$$x_k = x_k(x_1 \dots \hat{x}_k \dots x_{n+1}).$$

Then $m_z = \sum_{k=1}^n m_{z,k}$, where

$$m_{z,k} = \int_{-\infty < x_{n+1} \leq z} \mu_{0k} \frac{dS}{dx_1 \dots (dx)_k \dots dx_{n+1}} \cdot dx_1 \dots (dx)_k \dots dx_{n+1}.$$

From this it follows that $m_{z,k}^1$ has compact support and has as many derivatives as μ_0 or as the normal to S has, whichever is less. Integrating by parts ν times in (4), we see that $I_2 = O(|y|^{-\nu})$, where ν is the differentiability class of μ or the normal to S , whichever is less.

3. Estimates near horizontal part of surface. To study the integral with μ_j , $j > 0$, simply write $\mu \equiv \mu_j$, and pick a coordinate system centered at point of tangency of the surface such that the tangent plane is given by $x_{n+1} = 0$, the directions of principal curvature at the point of tangency are the x_j axes ($j \neq n+1$) and the part of the surface containing the support of μ is given by $x_{n+1} = z(x_1 \dots x_n)$.

Since the first derivatives of z vanish at the origin,

$$z = \sum a_{ij} x_i x_j + R(x),$$

where $R = O(|x|^8)$ and the a_{ij} are constants and form a symmetric matrix with eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ bounded away from zero. By

a lemma of Morse [4] a new s -coordinate system can be introduced near the origin, also centered at the origin such that

$$z(x_1 \cdots x_n) = \sum \lambda_j s_j^2.$$

The mapping $x \rightarrow s$ can be so chosen so that its differentiability class is two less than that of z . Furthermore, it is asymptotic to the identity as $x \rightarrow 0$, hence its Jacobian is close to one and the mapping is 1:1 for x near 0. Now the support of μ is picked so small that the Jacobian is greater than $\frac{1}{2}$.

Thus

$$(5) \quad I = \int e(\sum \lambda_j s_j^2) \phi(s) ds,$$

where $\phi(s) \equiv \mu(x(s)) dS/ds$ and $ds = ds_1 \cdots ds_n$.

Now introduce the C^∞ function

$$\beta(t) = 1 \quad \text{for } |t| \leq \frac{a}{2},$$

$$\beta(t) = 0 \quad \text{for } |t| \geq a$$

and $\beta(s_1)\beta(s_2) \cdots \beta(s_n) \equiv B(s)$ and split I of (5) into the sum $I = I_3 + I_4$, where

$$I_4 = \int e(\sum \lambda_j s_j^2) \phi(s) B(s) ds.$$

Now I_3 is an integral of type I_2 already discussed.

Expanding ϕ by Taylor's formula with the remainder

$$\left[\phi(s) = \phi(0) + \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq m-1} b_\alpha s^\alpha + \sum_{|\alpha|=m} \check{\phi}_\alpha(s) s^\alpha \right],$$

$$I_4 = \phi(0) \prod_{j=1}^n \int e(\sum \lambda_j s_j^2) \beta(s_j) ds_j \quad (\equiv I_6)$$

$$+ \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq m-1} b_\alpha \prod_j \int e(\lambda_j s_j^2) s_j^{\alpha_j} \beta(s_j) ds_j \quad (\equiv I_6)$$

$$+ \sum_{|\alpha|=m} \int e(\sum \lambda_j s_j^2) \check{\phi}_\alpha(s) s^\alpha B(s) dx \quad (\equiv I_7).$$

Now

$$\int e(\lambda_j s_j^2 y)(1 - \beta(s_j)) ds_j = O\left(\frac{1}{\lambda_j |y|}\right)$$

(let $s_j = \pm \sqrt{\eta}$ and integrate by parts), hence

$$I_5 = \pi^{n/2} \mu(0) |y|^{-n/2} K^{-1/2} + O(|y|^{-n})$$

(where $K \equiv$ Gaussian curvature). Integrating the terms in I_1 by part an appropriate number of times shows that these terms are $O(|y|^{-n/2-1/2})$ or better. In I_7 the substitution $s_j = \pm \sqrt{\eta}$ and integration by parts $[n/2] + 1$ times shows that $I_7 = O(y^{-[n/2]-1})$ (we take $m > n/2$). Thus $I_4 = O(y^{-n/2})$.

4. Zero Gaussian curvature. Finally, consider the case where only some of the principal curvatures are bounded away from zero. The set A of points on S at which S is normal to the x_{n+1} direction is no longer finite, but is compact. A may be covered by a finite system of neighborhoods N_j whose size can be chosen arbitrarily small. Introduce an appropriate partition of unity $\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_q$ such that α_0 has support in $S - UN_j, \alpha_j$ in $N_j (j \neq 0)$. The Fourier transform corresponding to α_0 is of type I_2 already estimated. To estimate the remaining integrals, pick a point p in A and translate and rotate axes in $x_1 \dots x_n$ space so that the origin is at p and the surface is described by

$$x_{n+1} = z(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j x_j^2 + O(|x|^8).$$

Now consider the integral

$$\int e(z(x_1 \dots x_n) y) \phi(x_1 \dots x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_k,$$

where $\phi = \mu(x) dS/dx_1 \dots dx_n$, and where the support of ϕ lies in the set

$$\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} |x_j| \leq a.$$

For x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n fixed, the $k-1$ surface

$$x_{n+1} = z(x_1, \dots, x_k), \quad |x_j| < a, 1 \leq j \leq k$$

in $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, x_{n+1}$ space has Gaussian curvature bounded away from 0, and this holds uniformly for $|x_j| < a, k+1 \leq j \leq n$, again provided a is sufficiently small. Hence, from previous results,

$$\int e(z(x) y) \phi(x_1 \dots x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_k = O(|y|^{-k/2})$$

and this uniformly for $|x_j| < a$, $k+1 \leq j \leq n$. Hence

$$\left| \int e(z(x)y)\phi(x_1 \cdots x_n)dx_1 \cdots dx_n \right| \\ \leq \int \left| \int e(z(x)y)\phi(x)dx_1 \cdots dx_k \right| dx_{k+1} \cdots dx_n = O(|y|^{-k/2}),$$

since the inner integral vanishes for $\max_{k+1 \leq j \leq n} |x_j| \leq a$.

FINAL REMARK. That the estimate of the Fourier transform is uniform with respect to all directions of Y follows from a careful analysis of the proof. Namely, every time some quantity is to be made "sufficiently small," it can be made so uniformly with respect to the direction of Y .

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