

Square roots of elliptic systems on  
open sets

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## Introduction

Let  $O \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  open,  $D \subseteq \partial O$  closed. Consider (formally):

$$L = -\operatorname{div} A \nabla - \operatorname{div} b + c \nabla + d \quad \text{on } O \text{ subject to } u=0 \text{ in } D$$

More precisely:

- $W_D^{1,2}(O) \subseteq W^{1,2}(O)$  closed subspace with "vanishing trace" in  $D$
- $a_{ij}, b_i, c_j, d: O \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{C}^m)$ ,  $m \geq 1$ , measurable, bounded, elliptic

• define

$$a: W_D^{1,2}(O)^m \times W_D^{1,2}(O)^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad a(u, v) = \int_O \begin{bmatrix} d & c \\ b & A \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ \nabla u \end{bmatrix} \cdot \overline{\begin{bmatrix} v \\ \nabla v \end{bmatrix}} dx$$

- $\mathcal{L}: W_D^{1,2}(O)^m \xrightarrow{\cong} (W_D^{1,2}(O)^m)^*$ ,  $\langle \mathcal{L}u, v \rangle = a(u, v)$
- $L$  restriction of  $\mathcal{L}$  to  $L^2(O)^m \subseteq (W_D^{1,2}(O)^m)^*$ .

good properties of  $L$ : densely defined, invertible, maximal accretive, sectorial, ...

problem: regularity of solutions?

$\alpha$                        $D(L^\alpha)$

$$\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{2}) \quad D(L^\alpha) = [L^2(\Omega)^m, W_D^{2\alpha, 2}(\Omega)^m]_{2\alpha} \subseteq W^{2\alpha, 2}(\Omega)^m \quad (\text{Kato '61})$$

$\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$                        $\geq$                        $\longrightarrow$  "Kato's square root problem"

$\alpha \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1]$                        $D(L^\alpha) \neq W_D^{2\alpha, 2}(\Omega)^m$ .                      (e.g. counterexample in  $d=1$  by interpolation)

Goal: show  $D(L^{\frac{1}{2}}) = W_D^{1, 2}(\Omega)^m$  (with equivalent norms)

## Kato's square root problem: a (very short) history

- '61 & '62: question posed by Kato, refined by Lions
- '01: Ayscher, Hofmann, Lacey, McIntosh, Tchamitchian (Annals of Math)  
whole space case
- '06: Axelsson (Rosén), Keith, McIntosh (Inventiones)  
first-order reformulation and application to special Lipschitz domains

(for convenience:  $L = -\operatorname{div} A \nabla$ ). Put  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\operatorname{div} \\ \nabla & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{Id} & 0 \\ 0 & A \end{bmatrix}$ .

$$\Rightarrow (BD)^2 = \begin{bmatrix} L & 0 \\ 0 & * \end{bmatrix}, \quad |BD| := \sqrt{(BD)^2} = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{L} & 0 \\ 0 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

bdd.  $H^0$ -calc. for  $BD \Rightarrow \|\sqrt{u}\| = \||BD| \begin{bmatrix} u \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\| \stackrel{H^0\text{-calc.}}{\approx} \|BD \begin{bmatrix} u \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\| \approx \|\nabla u\|$

- '74: Egert, Haller-Dintelmann, Tolksdorf (JFA)  $\rightarrow$  next slide

## Kato in rough domains

Theorem: (Egert, Haller-Dintelmann, Tolksdorf '14)

Assume:

- $\Omega$  bounded domain
- $\Omega$  interior thick
- $\Omega$  Ahlfors–David regular
- Lipschitz charts around  $N = \partial\Omega$ .

Then:  $D(L^2) = W_D^{1,2}(\Omega)^m$  with equivalent norms.

## How to get rid of thickness?

Observation: interior thick  $\Rightarrow$  dyadic structure  
(crucial for involved harmonic analysis!)

Idea: Extend  $L$  to system on interior thick set!

Proposition:

$(O, D, L)$  has Kato property  $\Leftrightarrow (O_i, D_i, L_i)$  has Kato property (with uniform constants)

Hence: Theorem with ITC  $\Rightarrow (O, D, L)$  has Kato

$\Downarrow$  Prop.

Theorem without ITC  $\Leftarrow (O, D, L)$  has Kato

Observation: Kato  $\Rightarrow$  Riesz transform  $\nabla L^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  bounded, where underlying metric measure space not doubling.



## What about $L^p$ -theory?

Kato:  $L^{\frac{1}{2}}$ :  $W_0^{1,2}(\Omega)^m \xrightarrow{\cong} L^2(\Omega)^m$

Question: extrapolation to  $W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)^m \xrightarrow{\cong} L^p(\Omega)^m$  for which  $p$ ?

Some critical numbers:

•  $p_-(L) = \inf J(L)$

•  $p_+(L) = \sup J(L)$

•  $q_-(L) = \inf J(L)$

•  $q_+(L) = \sup J(L)$

where:

•  $J(L) = \left\{ p \in (1, \infty) : e^{-tL} \text{ } L^p\text{-bounded} \right\}$

•  $J(L) = \left\{ q \in (1, \infty) : t \nabla e^{-t^2 L} \text{ } L^q\text{-bounded} \right\}$

## Known results:

• on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ : Auscher :  $p \in (p_-(L), q_+(L))$

• bdd. domain, real & scalar coefficients:

Auscher, Badr, Haller-Dintelmann, Rehberg :  $p \in (1, 2] = (p_-(L), 2]$

• bdd domain, complex systems:

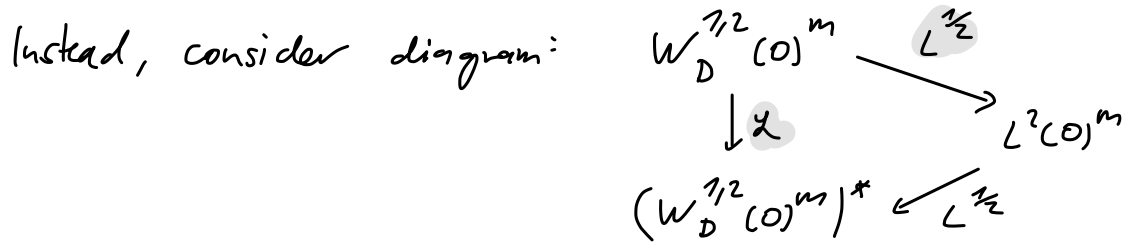
Egert :  $p \in (p_-(L), 2 + \varepsilon)$ ,  $\varepsilon$  depending on ellipticity.

## Goals:

- ① geometry as in first part of talk
- ② optimal & explicit upper endpoint
- ③ sharpness at endpoints

## Characterization of upper endpoint

problem with  $q_+(L)$ : related to boundedness of Riesz transform  
argument of "homogeneous" nature using  
conservation property



Heuristic: 2 arrows  $p$ -isomorphisms

$\Rightarrow$  3 arrows  $p$ -isomorphisms

$\longrightarrow$  new critical number:  $\tilde{q}_+(L) = \sup \left\{ p \in (1, \infty) : \mathcal{L} \text{ is } \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{compatible} \\ p\text{-isomorphism} \end{array} \right\} \right.$

Let  $p \in (2, \tilde{q}_+(L))$ .

$$\begin{aligned} L^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ } p\text{-isomorphism} & \text{ reduces to } L^{\frac{1}{2}} : L^p(\mathbb{O})^m \xrightarrow{\cong} (W_D^{1,p}(\mathbb{O})^m)^* \\ & \text{duality} \\ \Leftrightarrow (L^*)^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ } p'\text{-isomorphism} \\ \Leftarrow p_-(L) < p' \leq 2 \\ \Leftrightarrow 2 \leq p < p_+(L). \end{aligned}$$

Hence: need to show  $p_+(L) > \tilde{q}_+(L)$ .

Lemma:  $P_+(L) \geq (\tilde{q}_+(L))^*$ .

Sketch of proof:

$$2 \leq q \leq \tilde{q}_+(L)^* \Rightarrow$$

a)  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $q_*$ -isomorphism

b)  $H^\infty$ -calc. of  $L$  is  $q_{**}$ -bounded

Calculate:

$$\|e^{-tL}u\|_q \stackrel{\text{Sobolev}}{\lesssim} \|e^{-tL}u\|_{W^1, q_*} = \|\mathcal{L}^{-1}L e^{-tL}u\|_{W^1, q_*}$$

$$\stackrel{q_*\text{-iso}}{\lesssim} \|L e^{-tL}u\|_{W^{-1}, q_*} \stackrel{\text{Sobolev}}{\lesssim} t^{-1} \|tL e^{-tL}u\|_{q_{**}}$$

$$\stackrel{H^\infty\text{-calc.}}{\lesssim} t^{-1} \|u\|_{q_{**}}$$

$\Rightarrow e^{-tL}$  hypercontractive  $\Rightarrow e^{-tL}$   $L^p$ -bounded for  $p \in (2, q)$ .  $\square$

## Sharpness at endpoints

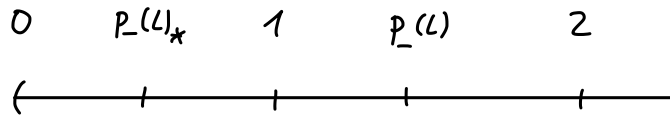
- Summary:
- $p \in (p_-(L), \tilde{q}_+(L)) \Rightarrow L^{\frac{1}{2}}$   $p$ -isomorphism
  - $p \notin [p_-(L), \tilde{q}_+(L)] \Rightarrow L^{\frac{1}{2}}$  not  $p$ -isomorphism

Remaining question: What happens when (for example)  $p = p_-(L)$ ?

That is to say:  $\{ p \in (1, \infty) : L^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ } p\text{-isomorphism} \}$  open in  $(1, \infty)$ ?

Argument for lower endpoint:

Assume  $p_-(L) > 1$  &  $L^{\frac{1}{2}}$   $p_-(L)$ -isomorphism.



Scheiberg  $\Rightarrow L^{\frac{1}{2}}$   $(p_-(L) - \varepsilon)$ -isomorphism



Thank you

for your attention!