

# Spectral multipliers for sub-Laplacians on amenable Lie groups with exponential volume growth

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Received: date / Revised version: date – © Springer-Verlag 2003

## 1 Introduction

Let  $G$  be a Lie group and  $\Delta$  a left invariant sub-Laplacian on  $G$ . If  $L^2(G)$  denotes the space of square integrable functions with respect to the right invariant Haar measure on  $G$ , then  $\Delta$  is a selfadjoint operator on  $L^2(G)$ . Therefore every bounded Borel function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  induces a continuous operator  $f(\Delta)$  on  $L^2(G)$ .

It is now natural to ask, under which additional conditions on  $f$  the operator  $f(\Delta)$  is necessarily bounded on  $L^p(G)$ ,  $p \neq 2$ . In this case we call  $f$  an  *$L^p$ -multiplier for  $\Delta$* . For more background information and various multiplier theorems we refer to [1], [3], [2], [5], [10], [8] and the literature mentioned therein.

Here we focus our attention on amenable groups with exponential volume growth and continuous functions  $f$  with compact support. Our aim is to show for a reasonably large class of Lie groups and sub-Laplacians that a certain degree of differentiability of  $f$  is sufficient for  $f(\Delta)$  to extend to a bounded operator on  $L^p(G)$ , i. e. that  $\Delta$  has *differentiable  $L^p$ -functional calculus*.

That this is not true on any group with exponential growth (in contrast to the situation on Lie groups with polynomial growth, cf. [1]), was shown by M. Christ and D. Müller in [2]. They gave examples of sub-Laplacians  $\Delta$  on solvable Lie groups, which are for any  $p \neq 2$  of *holomorphic  $L^p$ -type*, i. e., there exists some non-isolated point  $\lambda$  in the  $L^2$ -spectrum of  $\Delta$  and an open complex neighbourhood  $U$  of  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  such that every continuous  $L^p$ -multiplier, which vanishes at infinity, extends holomorphically to  $U$ . (More recent articles dealing with this topic are [8] and [7].)

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<sup>\*</sup> Partially supported by the European Commission TMR network ‘Harmonic Analysis’

Therefore it is interesting to study new classes of groups and sub-Laplacians, to find out whether they admit differentiable  $L^p$ -functional calculus or not.

In Section 2 of this article we consider compact extensions of a class of solvable Lie groups. We modify and extend some methods, which were used in [6], to show that any sub-Laplacian on these groups possesses differentiable  $L^p$ -functional calculus for each  $p \in [1, \infty]$ .

In Section 3 we turn to some semidirect products of the 3-dimensional Heisenberg group  $\mathbb{H}_1$  and the real line and study distinguished sub-Laplacians thereon. In fact, up to some exceptional cases, the groups and operators here are treated in Section 2 as well, namely when  $K$  is chosen to be the trivial compact group  $\{1_K\}$ . But in Section 3 we use different methods (introduced in [5] and again employed in [10]) to derive differentiable  $L^p$ -functional calculus. From the quantitative point of view our results here are better than the results about these special sub-Laplacians in Section 2.

## 2 Compact extensions of solvable groups

### 2.1 Preliminaries

Let  $\mathfrak{n}$  be a real  $m$ -dimensional nilpotent Lie algebra, and let  $N$  be  $\mathfrak{n}$ , endowed with the Campbell-Hausdorff multiplication. Then, up to isomorphism,  $N$  is the uniquely determined connected and simply connected nilpotent Lie group whose Lie algebra is  $\mathfrak{n}$ . Although the exponential map  $\exp_N$  of  $N$  is in fact the identity on  $\mathfrak{n}$ , we will use the notation  $\exp_N$  to make a clear distinction between the levels of Lie group and Lie algebra.

Let  $D$  be a derivation on  $\mathfrak{n}$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, q$ , whose real parts  $\rho_i$  are all strictly positive (or all strictly negative). We define  $\rho$  to be the real part  $\rho_i$ , which has the smallest absolute value. The trace of  $D$  will be denoted by  $Q$ . If  $D$  is diagonalizable over the field of complex numbers, we shall say that  $D$  is *semisimple*.

Let  $\theta : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathfrak{n}) = \text{Aut}(N)$  be the group homomorphism defined by  $\theta(s) = e^{sD}$ . Thus we can consider the semidirect product  $H := N \rtimes_{\theta} \mathbb{R}$ .

Furthermore, let  $K$  be a connected compact Lie group and  $\gamma : K \rightarrow \text{Aut}(H)$  a group homomorphism such that the mapping

$$H \times K \rightarrow H, (h, k) \mapsto \gamma(k)h$$

is analytic. The group of main interest in this section is  $G := H \rtimes_{\gamma} K$ .

The measures we would like to consider, are the Lebesgue measures on  $N$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $dn$  and  $dr$ , as well as the biinvariant Haar measure  $dk$  on  $K$ . For simplicity we may assume  $dk(K) = 1$ . The Lie algebra of the group  $K$  is denoted by  $\mathfrak{k}$ .

A right invariant Haar measure on  $H$  is given by  $d^r h := dn dr$ , and the measure  $d^l h := e^{-rQ} dn dr$  is left invariant. We shall denote by  $\mu$  the modular factor  $\mu(n, r) := e^{rQ}$ . It is easy to verify that  $d^r g := dn dr dk$  is a right invariant Haar measure on  $G$ . As  $K$  is compact, the modular

function  $m$  on  $G$  is given by  $m(n, r, k) = \mu(n, r)$ . Hence the left invariant Haar measure on  $G$  is of the form  $d^l g := e^{-rQ} dn dr dk$ . For  $p \in [1, \infty]$  let  $L^p(G) := L^p(G, d^l g)$ .

Since the modular functions  $\mu$  and  $m$  are not trivial, the groups  $H$  and  $G$  are of exponential volume growth (cf. [11], §IX.1).

Let  $\mathcal{Y}_1, \dots, \mathcal{Y}_p$  be left invariant vector fields on  $G$ , which generate the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of  $G$ . We are interested in the sub-Laplacian

$$\Delta = - \sum_{j=1}^p \mathcal{Y}_j^2 \quad (1)$$

and its heat kernel  $(\phi_z)_{z \in \mathcal{H}_r}$ , where  $\mathcal{H}_r$  denotes the right open complex halfplane. The heat kernel is defined by  $e^{-z\Delta} f = f * \phi_z$  for all  $f \in C_c^\infty(G)$ .

## 2.2 Results

In the situation described above the following two theorems hold:

**Theorem 1.** *For any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $C_\varepsilon > 0$  such that for each  $s \in \mathbb{R}$*

$$\|\phi_{1+is}\|_{L^1(G)} \leq C_\varepsilon (1 + |s|)^{\frac{Q}{2p} + 2 + \varepsilon}. \quad (2)$$

*If  $D$  is semisimple, there exists a  $C_0 > 0$  such that for all  $s \in \mathbb{R}$*

$$\|\phi_{1+is}\|_{L^1(G)} \leq C_0 (1 + |s|)^{\frac{Q}{2p} + 2}. \quad (3)$$

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $f \in C_c(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $\kappa > \frac{Q}{2p} + \frac{5}{2}$  and  $p \in [1, \infty]$ . If  $f$  lies in the Sobolev space  $H^\kappa(\mathbb{R})$ , the operator  $f(\Delta)$  extends to a bounded endomorphism on  $L^p(G)$ , given by convolution from the right with the  $L^1(G)$ -function*

$$k_f := \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} (f \cdot \exp)^\wedge(\xi) \phi_{1-i\xi} d\xi.$$

*Theorem 2 follows directly from Theorem 1:* With Theorem 1 and the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality it is easily verified, that for  $f \in H^\kappa(\mathbb{R})$  the function  $k_f$  is integrable on  $G$ . The Fourier inversion formula implies for all  $\varphi \in L^p \cap L^2(G)$

$$f(\Delta)\varphi = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} (f \cdot \exp)^\wedge(\xi) e^{-(1-i\xi)\Delta} \varphi d\xi,$$

so we obtain  $f(\Delta)\varphi = \varphi * k_f$  and  $\|f(\Delta)\varphi\|_{L^p(G)} \leq \|k_f\|_{L^1(G)} \|\varphi\|_{L^p(G)}$ .

*Remark 1.* Consider the special case, where  $K$  is the trivial group  $\{1_K\}$ ,  $N$  a stratified group and  $\mathbb{R}$  is acting on  $N$  by the natural dilations. More precisely, let  $V_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, q$ , be vector spaces with  $\mathfrak{n} = V_1 \oplus \dots \oplus V_q$  and  $[V_i, V_j] = V_{i+j}$  (with the convention  $V_l = \{0\}$  for  $l > q$ ), and let  $Dv_j = jv_j$  for each  $v_j \in V_j$ .

In this situation Theorem 1 and 2 were proved in [6] (with slight restrictions on the form of the considered sub-Laplacians). In the Section *Improvements and open problems* of that article W. Hebisch mentioned that his results can be extended to any semidirect product  $H$ , defined as in our preceding section. So in the case  $K = \{1_K\}$  our proof of Theorem 1 serves as a rigorous verification of the statement made by W. Hebisch.

When  $K$  and  $\gamma$  are non-trivial our results are new.

### 2.3 Proof of Theorem 1

If all  $\rho_i$  are strictly negative, the mapping  $\tau(n, r, k) = (n, -r, k)$  is a group isomorphism between  $G$  and  $\tilde{G} := (N \rtimes_{\tilde{\theta}} \mathbb{R}) \rtimes_{\tilde{\gamma}} K$  with  $\tilde{\theta}(r) = e^{r(-D)}$  and  $\tilde{\gamma} = \tau \circ \gamma \circ \tau^{-1}$ . The operator  $\tilde{\Delta} := d\tau(\Delta)$  is a sub-Laplacian on  $\tilde{G}$  and its heat kernel is given by  $\tilde{\phi}_z = \phi_z \circ \tau$ , which implies  $\|\phi_z\|_{L^1(G)} = \|\tilde{\phi}_z\|_{L^1(\tilde{G})}$ .

So we just have to prove the case, where all real parts  $\rho_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, q$ , are strictly positive.

We shall reduce the  $L^1$ -estimate of the heat kernel to a weighted  $L^2$ -estimate in Proposition 1. But previously, we have to define a reasonable weight function  $w$  and to prove two preparatory lemmas.

Let  $|\cdot|_D$  be a *homogeneous norm on  $N$  with respect to  $D$* , i. e., a continuous mapping  $|\cdot|_D : N \rightarrow [0, \infty[$ , which is smooth away from the origin and which fulfils the conditions  $|x|_D = 0$  iff  $x = 0$ ,  $|-x|_D = |x|_D$  and  $|e^{sD}x|_D = e^s|x|_D$ . (Such a homogeneous norm exists iff all the  $\rho_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, q$ , are strictly positive; see e. g. [4], §2.5.)  $F_s$  shall denote the compact smooth surface  $\{n \in N : |n|_D = e^s\}$ . The weight function  $w : G \rightarrow [0, \infty[$  is defined by  $w(n, r, k) = |n|_D^Q$ .

We consider a left invariant Riemannian metric  $d$  on  $G$ . Let  $1_G$  be the unit element in  $G$ . Then we define  $d(g)$  to be  $d(1_G, g)$  for any  $g \in G$ .

**Lemma 1.** *There is a constant  $C > 0$  such that for all  $g = (n, r, k) \in G$*

$$|n|_D \leq Ce^{Cd(g)} \quad \text{and} \quad |r| \leq C(1 + d(g)).$$

*Proof.* Let  $B_r$  denote the Riemannian ball in  $G$  with centre  $1_G$  and radius  $r$ . As its closure  $\overline{B}_r$  is compact, there are  $q, p \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$\overline{B}_1 \subset (B_q \cap H) \times K \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma(K)(\overline{B}_q \cap H) \subset B_p \cap H.$$

If  $g_0 = (h_0, k_0)$  is in  $B_j$ , there exist  $g_i = (h_i, k_i) \in B_1$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, j$ , with

$$g_0 = g_1 \cdot \dots \cdot g_j = (h_1 \cdot \gamma(k_1)h_2 \cdot \dots \cdot \gamma(k_1 \cdot \dots \cdot k_{j-1})h_j, k_1 \cdot \dots \cdot k_j).$$

Thus  $h_0 = (n_0, r_0)$  is in  $(B_p \cap H)^j$ , and we can find  $h'_i = (n_i, r_i) \in B_p \cap H$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, j$ , with

$$h_0 = h'_1 \cdot \dots \cdot h'_j = (n_1 \cdot e^{r_1 D} n_2 \cdot \dots \cdot e^{(r_1 + \dots + r_{j-1})D} n_j, r_1 + \dots + r_j).$$

There is a  $C > 0$  with  $\overline{B}_p \cap H \subset \{(n, r) : |n|_D \leq C, |r| \leq C\}$ , which implies  $|r_0| \leq Cj$ . For all  $n', m' \in N$  we have  $|n' \cdot m'|_D \leq M \cdot \max\{|n'|_D, |m'|_D\}$ , where  $M := \max\{|n \cdot m|_D : |n|_D, |m|_D \leq 1\}$ . Hence

$$|n_0|_D \leq M^{j-1} \max\{|n_1|_D, \dots, e^{r_1+\dots+r_{j-1}}|n_j|_D\} \leq CM^{j-1}e^{C(j-1)}.$$

□

**Lemma 2.** *There exists a  $C > 0$  such that for each  $R > 0$*

$$\int_{d(g) < R} (1 + w(g))^{-1} d^r g \leq C(1 + R)^2. \quad (4)$$

*Proof.* Lemma 1 ensures the existence of a constant  $C > 0$  independent of  $g = (n, r, k)$  such that  $|n|_D \leq Ce^{Cd(g)}$  and  $2|r| \leq C(1 + d(g))$  are satisfied. That implies

$$\int_{d(g) < R} \frac{d^r g}{1 + w(g)} \leq C(1 + R) \int_{|n|_D \leq Ce^{CR}} \frac{dn}{1 + |n|_D^Q}.$$

For the sake of simplicity we confine our analysis to the situation, where  $F_0$  can be parametrized up to a set with surface measure zero by one chart  $\varphi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m = \mathfrak{n}$ . Here  $U$  is an open subset in  $\mathcal{R}^{m-1}$ . Let  $R' := (CR + \ln(C))/Q$ . The mapping  $e^{sD} \circ \varphi$  is a parametrization of  $F_s$  and

$$\Phi : U \times ]-\infty, R'[ \rightarrow \{n \in N \setminus \{0\} : |n|_D < e^{R'Q}\}, (u, s) \mapsto e^{sD}(\varphi(u))$$

is a diffeomorphism onto the range of  $\Phi$  with Jacobian determinant

$$e^{sQ} |\det(\partial_u \varphi(u), D(\varphi(u)))|.$$

With a suitable  $C_0 > 0$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{|n|_D \leq e^{R'Q}} \frac{dn}{1 + |n|_D^Q} &= \int_{-\infty}^{R'} \left( \int_U \frac{e^{sQ} |\det(\partial_u \varphi(u), D(\varphi(u)))|}{1 + e^{sQ}} du \right) ds \\ &= C_0 \ln(1 + e^{R'Q}). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Proposition 1.** *There exists a  $C > 0$  such that for every  $s \in \mathbb{R}$*

$$\|\phi_{1+is}\|_{L^1(G)} \leq C(1 + |s|)^2 (1 + \|w^{1/2} \phi_{1+is}\|). \quad (5)$$

Here and in the sequel,  $\|\cdot\|$  shall denote the norm on  $L^2(G) = L^2(G, d^r g)$ .

Because of inequality 4, the argument from [5], p. 160 (or [6], p. 438 – 439) can be used to prove Proposition 1. Consequently, in order to prove Theorem 1 it suffices to verify the following proposition:

**Proposition 2.** *For given  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $C_\varepsilon > 0$  such that for each  $s \in \mathbb{R}$*

$$\|w^{1/2}\phi_{1+is}\| \leq C_\varepsilon(1 + |s|)^{\frac{Q}{2\rho} + \varepsilon}. \quad (6)$$

*If  $D$  is semisimple, then there exists a  $C_0 > 0$ , independent of  $s$ , with*

$$\|w^{1/2}\phi_{1+is}\| \leq C_0(1 + |s|)^{\frac{Q}{2\rho}}. \quad (7)$$

For the proof of Proposition 2 it is useful to consider a distinguished basis of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$ . Let  $\{\mathcal{X}_1, \dots, \mathcal{X}_m\}$  be a basis of  $\mathfrak{n}$ ,  $\mathcal{X}_0 = (0, 1, 0) \in \mathfrak{n} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathfrak{k}$  and  $\{\mathcal{X}_{-1}, \dots, \mathcal{X}_{-n}\}$  a basis of  $\mathfrak{k}$ . These Lie algebra elements induce left invariant vector fields on  $G$  by

$$\mathcal{X}_j f(g) = \frac{d}{dt} f(g \cdot \exp_G(t\mathcal{X}_j))|_{t=0}, \quad j = -n, \dots, 0, \dots, m,$$

which we will identify with the Lie algebra elements themselves. If  $j = 0, \dots, m$ , we can also consider left invariant vector fields  $\mathcal{X}_j^H$  on  $H$ , defined by

$$\mathcal{X}_j^H \varphi(h) = \frac{d}{dt} \varphi(h \cdot \exp_H(t\mathcal{X}_j))|_{t=0}.$$

Analogously, we define for  $j = 1, \dots, m$  and a function  $\psi$  on  $N$

$$\mathcal{X}_j^N \psi(n) = \frac{d}{dt} \psi(n \cdot \exp_N(t\mathcal{X}_j))|_{t=0}.$$

Then the vector fields  $\mathcal{X}_j^H$ ,  $j = 0, \dots, m$ , on  $H$  are given by

$$\mathcal{X}_0^H = \partial_r \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{X}_i^H = (e^{rD} \mathcal{X}_i)^N \quad \text{for all } i = 1, \dots, m. \quad (8)$$

For a given  $k \in K$  let now  $\tilde{\gamma}(k)$  be the uniquely determined linear mapping, which ensures commutativity in the diagram below:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H & \xrightarrow{\gamma(k)} & H \\ \exp_H \uparrow & & \uparrow \exp_H \\ \mathfrak{h} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\gamma}(k)} & \mathfrak{h} \end{array}$$

(A maybe more common notation for  $\tilde{\gamma}(k)$  would be  $d\gamma(k)$ .) If  $\tilde{\gamma}(k)$  will be represented as a matrix in the sequel, this is always meant with respect to the basis  $\{\mathcal{X}_0, \dots, \mathcal{X}_m\}$  of  $\mathfrak{h}$ . With this convention we obtain for each  $j \in \{0, \dots, m\}$  and  $n \in N \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $k \in K$

$$(\mathcal{X}_j w)(n, r, k) = \sum_{i=1}^m \tilde{\gamma}(k)_{i,j} [(e^{rD} \mathcal{X}_i)^N w](n). \quad (9)$$

The following statement can be calculated directly by transforming  $D$  into complex Jordan normal form: There are functions  $P_{i,l,\nu} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,

$i, l = 1, \dots, m; \nu = 1, \dots, q$ , and constants  $C, \mu > 0$  independent of  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ , satisfying

$$e^{sD} \mathcal{X}_i = \sum_{l=1}^m \left( \sum_{\nu=1}^q e^{s\rho_\nu} P_{i,l,\nu}(s) \right) \mathcal{X}_l \quad \text{and} \quad |P_{i,l,\nu}(s)| \leq C(1 + |s|^\mu). \quad (10)$$

If  $D$  is semisimple, each  $P_{i,l,\nu}$  can be chosen as a bounded function.

Now we are going to establish a proposition, which is essential for our approach to the proof of Proposition 2:

**Proposition 3.** *For any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $C_\varepsilon > 0$  such that for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, p\}$ ,  $n \in N \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $k \in K$  the following inequality holds:*

$$|\mathcal{Y}_i w|(n, r, k) \leq C_\varepsilon \sum_{\nu=1}^q \left\{ e^{r(\rho_\nu + \varepsilon)} w(n)^{\frac{Q - \rho_\nu - \varepsilon}{Q}} + e^{r(\rho_\nu - \varepsilon)} w(n)^{\frac{Q - \rho_\nu + \varepsilon}{Q}} \right\}. \quad (11)$$

If  $D$  is semisimple, one can estimate

$$|\mathcal{Y}_i w|(n, r, k) \leq C_0 \sum_{\nu=1}^q e^{r\rho_\nu} w(n)^{\frac{Q - \rho_\nu}{Q}}, \quad (12)$$

with a constant  $C_0 > 0$  independent of  $i, n, r$  and  $k$ .

*Proof.* For  $i = -n, \dots, -1$  the functions  $\mathcal{X}_i w$  are identically zero, as  $w$  does not depend on the variable  $k$ .

Using formula (10), we get for  $n \in F_0$  and  $i = \{1, \dots, m\}$

$$\begin{aligned} [(e^{rD} \mathcal{X}_i)^N w](e^{sD} n) &= e^{sQ} \frac{d}{dt} w(n \cdot \exp_N(te^{(r-s)D} \mathcal{X}_i))|_{t=0} \\ &= e^{sQ} (e^{(r-s)D} \mathcal{X}_i)^N w(n) = \sum_{\nu=1}^q e^{sQ + (r-s)\rho_\nu} \sum_{l=1}^m P_{i,l,\nu}(r-s) (\mathcal{X}_l^N w)(n). \end{aligned}$$

Hence there exists for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  a constant  $c_\varepsilon > 0$ , fulfilling

$$|(e^{rD} \mathcal{X}_i)^N w|(e^{sD} n) \leq c_\varepsilon \sum_{\nu=1}^q e^{sQ + (r-s)\rho_\nu + |r-s|\varepsilon} \sum_{l=1}^m |\mathcal{X}_l^N w|(n). \quad (13)$$

Now define  $C := c_\varepsilon \max\{\sum_{l=1}^m |(\mathcal{X}_l^N w)|(n) : n \in F_0\}$ . Because of  $w|_{F_0} \equiv 1$ , there holds for  $n \in F_0, r \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned} & |(e^{rD} \mathcal{X}_i)^N w|(e^{sD} n) \\ & \leq C e^{sQ} \sum_{\nu=1}^q \left\{ e^{(r-s)(\rho_\nu + \varepsilon)} w(n)^{\frac{Q - \rho_\nu - \varepsilon}{Q}} + e^{(r-s)(\rho_\nu - \varepsilon)} w(n)^{\frac{Q - \rho_\nu + \varepsilon}{Q}} \right\} \\ & = C \sum_{\nu=1}^q \left\{ e^{r(\rho_\nu + \varepsilon)} w(e^{sD} n)^{\frac{Q - \rho_\nu - \varepsilon}{Q}} + e^{r(\rho_\nu - \varepsilon)} w(e^{sD} n)^{\frac{Q - \rho_\nu + \varepsilon}{Q}} \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

We have  $N \setminus \{0\} = \{e^{sD}F_0 : s \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . Furthermore, the functions  $\tilde{\gamma}_{i,j}$  are bounded on  $K$  and the  $\mathcal{Y}_i$ s are linear combinations of the  $\mathcal{X}_j$ s. Thus formulae (9) and (14) imply inequality (11). If  $D$  is semisimple, (13) can be simplified to

$$|(e^{rD}\mathcal{X}_i)^N w|(e^{sD}n) \leq c_0 \sum_{\nu=1}^q e^{sQ+(r-s)\rho_\nu} \sum_{l=1}^m |\mathcal{X}_l^N w|(n)$$

with a suitable constant  $c_0 > 0$ . Therefore inequality (12) follows.  $\square$

To simplify the proof of Proposition 2, we state two preliminary lemmas:

**Lemma 3.** *For any  $\delta > 0$  there exists a  $C > 0$  such that for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, p\}$  and each  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\Re(z) \geq \delta$  the inequality  $\|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\mathcal{Y}_j\phi_z\| \leq C$  holds; here  $e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}$  denotes the function  $(n, r, k) \mapsto e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\Re(z) \geq \delta$ . If  $\mathcal{Y}_j$  has the form  $\mathcal{Y}_j = \sum_{i=-n}^m a_{i,j}\mathcal{X}_i$  with  $a_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R}$ , then, by using the notation  $\eta_j := \sum_{i=0}^m a_{i,j}\tilde{\gamma}_{0,i}$ , we get

$$\langle \Delta\phi_z, e^{rQ}\phi_z \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^p (\|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\mathcal{Y}_j\phi_z\|^2 + \langle \mathcal{Y}_j\phi_z, \eta_j Q e^{rQ}\phi_z \rangle).$$

The Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and the fact that  $\phi_z$  solves the homogeneous heat equation with respect to  $\Delta$  imply

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^p \|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\mathcal{Y}_j\phi_z\|^2 &\leq \langle e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\Delta\phi_z, e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\phi_z \rangle + \sum_{j=1}^p |\eta_j|_\infty Q \langle |e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\mathcal{Y}_j\phi_z|, |e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\phi_z| \rangle \\ &\leq \|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\partial_z\phi_z\| \|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\phi_z\| + \sum_{j=1}^p \frac{1}{2} (\|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\mathcal{Y}_j\phi_z\|^2 + |\eta_j|_\infty^2 Q^2 \|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\phi_z\|^2). \end{aligned}$$

From  $(e^{-z\Delta})^* = e^{-z^*\Delta}$  follows  $\phi_z(g^{-1}) = m(g)\phi_z(g)$ . As the modular function  $m$  is given by  $e^{rQ}$ , we get  $\|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\phi_z\| = \|\phi_z\|$ . Since  $\phi_z = e^{-(z-\delta)\Delta}\phi_\delta$ ,  $\|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\phi_z\| \leq \|\phi_\delta\|$  holds. By using Cauchy's formula, it is easy to verify that

$$\|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\partial_z\phi_z\| \leq \frac{2}{\delta} \sup\{\|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}}\phi_\zeta\| : |z - \zeta| < \frac{\delta}{2}\}.$$

$\square$

**Lemma 4.** *Let  $j \in \{1, \dots, p\}$ ,  $\delta > 0$ ,  $\eta > 0$  and  $\tilde{C} > 0$ .*

(i) *If  $Q \geq 2\eta$ , there exists a  $C > 0$  such that for  $\alpha > 0$  and  $z$  with  $\Re(z) \geq \delta$*

$$\langle |\mathcal{Y}_j\phi_z|, e^{r\eta} w^{\frac{Q-\eta}{Q}} |\phi_z| \rangle \leq \frac{\alpha}{\tilde{C}} \|w^{1/2}\mathcal{Y}_j\phi_z\|^2 + \frac{C}{\alpha} \|w^{1/2}\phi_z\|^{\frac{2Q-4\eta}{Q}}. \quad (15)$$

(ii) *If  $Q < 2\eta < 2Q$ , there exists a  $C > 0$  with*

$$\langle |\mathcal{Y}_j\phi_z|, e^{r\eta} w^{\frac{Q-\eta}{Q}} |\phi_z| \rangle \leq \frac{\alpha}{\tilde{C}} \|w^{1/2}\mathcal{Y}_j\phi_z\|^2 + C\alpha^{\frac{\eta-Q}{\eta}} \quad (16)$$

for all  $\alpha > 0$  and  $z$  with  $\Re(z) \geq \delta$ .

*Proof.* Consider  $\alpha, \tilde{C}, \eta, \delta > 0$ . Let  $j \in \{1, \dots, p\}$  and  $z$  with  $\Re(z) \geq \delta$ .

(i)  $Q \geq 2\eta$  implies

$$\langle |\mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z|, e^{r\eta} w^{\frac{Q-\eta}{Q}} |\phi_z| \rangle \leq \frac{\alpha}{\tilde{C}} \|w^{1/2} \mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z\|^2 + \frac{\tilde{C}}{\alpha} \|e^{r\eta} w^{\frac{Q-2\eta}{2Q}} \phi_z\|^2.$$

By using Hölder's inequality, one gets

$$\|e^{r\eta} w^{\frac{Q-2\eta}{2Q}} \phi_z\| \leq \|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}} \phi_z\|^{\frac{2\eta}{Q}} \|w^{1/2} \phi_z\|^{\frac{Q-2\eta}{Q}} \leq \|\phi_\delta\|^{\frac{2\eta}{Q}} \|w^{1/2} \phi_z\|^{\frac{Q-2\eta}{Q}}.$$

(ii) Let  $Q < 2\eta < 2Q$ . By using Hölder's inequality with exponents  $p = Q/2(Q - \eta)$  and  $p' = Q/(2\eta - Q)$ , we can estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \langle |\mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z|, e^{r\eta} w^{\frac{Q-\eta}{Q}} |\phi_z| \rangle &\leq \|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}} \phi_z\| \|e^{r(\eta-\frac{Q}{2})} w^{\frac{Q-\eta}{Q}} \mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z\| \\ &\leq \|\phi_\delta\| \|e^{r(\eta-\frac{Q}{2})} w^{\frac{Q-\eta}{Q}} \mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z\| \leq \|\phi_\delta\| \|w^{1/2} \mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z\|^{\frac{2(Q-\eta)}{Q}} \|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}} \mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z\|^{\frac{2\eta-Q}{Q}}. \end{aligned}$$

As there exists a constant  $C > 0$  with  $\|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}} \mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z\| \leq C$  (cf. Lemma 3) and as the inequality  $ab \leq a^r + b^{r'}$ ,  $r' = \frac{r}{r-1}$  holds for all  $a, b > 0$  and  $r > 1$ , we obtain inequality (16) with  $r = Q/(Q - \eta)$  and a suitable  $C > 0$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 2.* Lemma 1 states the existence of a  $C > 0$  with  $w(g) \leq C e^{Cd(g)}$ , and  $(e^{-z\Delta})_{\Re(z) > 0}$  is a holomorphic semigroup of operators on each weighted  $L^2$ -space  $L^2(G, e^{sd(g)} d^r g)$ ,  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  (cf. [5], Lemma 1.2). Hence  $z \mapsto w^{1/2} \phi_z$  is a holomorphic mapping from the right open complex halfplane into  $L^2(G)$ . Therefore there exists a  $C > 0$  such that  $\|w^{1/2} \phi_{1+is}\| \leq C$  for each  $s \in [0, 1]$ . Since  $\phi_{1-is} = (\phi_{1+is})^*$ , we have to consider only the case where  $s \geq 1$ . For  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  we define

$$\psi_\alpha(s) := \|w^{1/2} \phi_{\frac{1}{2}+(i+\alpha)s}\|^2.$$

Further we define  $z := \frac{1}{2} + (i + \alpha)s$ . Using this notation, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_s \psi_\alpha(s) &= 2\Re \langle (i + \alpha) \partial_z \phi_z, w \phi_z \rangle = -2\Re \langle (i + \alpha) \Delta \phi_z, w \phi_z \rangle \\ &\leq 2 \sum_{j=1}^p \left( -\alpha \|w^{1/2} \mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z\|^2 + 2 \langle |\mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z|, |\mathcal{Y}_j w| |\phi_z| \rangle \right). \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Case (1):  $\dim \mathfrak{n} = 1$ . Here,  $D$  is given by the  $1 \times 1$ -matrix  $(Q)$ . Estimate (12) leads us to the inequality  $|\mathcal{Y}_j w|(n, r, k) \leq C_0 e^{rQ}$  for  $j \in \{1, \dots, p\}$ . Hence

$$\langle |\mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z|, |\mathcal{Y}_j w| |\phi_z| \rangle \leq C_0 \|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}} \mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z\| \|e^{r\frac{Q}{2}} \phi_z\| \leq C,$$

with  $C > 0$  independent of  $s, \alpha$  (cf. Lemma 3). Thus there exists a  $C > 0$  such that  $\partial_s \psi_\alpha(s) \leq C$  for all  $s$  and  $\alpha$ . That implies (with  $\alpha := \frac{1}{2s}$ )

$$\|w^{1/2} \phi_{1+is}\| \leq C \sqrt{1 + |s|} \quad \text{for } s \geq 1.$$

Case (2):  $\dim \mathfrak{n} \geq 2$ . For  $j = 1, \dots, p$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  Proposition 3 implies

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle |\mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z|, |\mathcal{Y}_j w| |\phi_z| \rangle \\ & \leq C_\varepsilon \sum_{\nu=1}^q \langle |\mathcal{Y}_j \phi_z|, (e^{r(\rho_\nu + \varepsilon)} w^{\frac{Q - (\rho_\nu + \varepsilon)}{Q}} + e^{r(\rho_\nu - \varepsilon)} w^{\frac{Q - (\rho_\nu - \varepsilon)}{Q}}) |\phi_z| \rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

(If  $D$  is semisimple, we can exchange  $\varepsilon$  by 0 in (18) and in the rest of this proof.) For every  $\varepsilon < \rho$ ,  $\rho_\nu + \varepsilon$  fulfills  $Q > \rho_\nu + \varepsilon$  for any  $\nu \in \{1, \dots, q\}$ . According to (17), (18), (15) and (16) (with  $C := 4qC_\varepsilon$ ),  $\partial_s \psi_\alpha$  is majorized by a sum over  $\eta \in \{\rho_\nu \pm \varepsilon : \nu = 1, \dots, q\}$ , consisting of terms of the form

$$\frac{C}{\alpha} \|w^{1/2} \phi_z\|_{\frac{2Q-4\eta}{Q}} = \frac{C}{\alpha} \psi_\alpha^{\frac{Q-2\eta}{Q}} \quad \text{for } Q \geq 2\eta$$

and

$$C \alpha^{\frac{\eta-Q}{\eta}} \leq \frac{C}{\alpha} \quad \text{for } Q < 2\eta < 2Q.$$

Hence, there exists a  $C > 0$  such that for all  $\alpha \in ]0, 1]$ ,  $s \geq 1$  the function  $\psi_\alpha$  is majorized by the solution  $u$  of the initial value problem

$$u'(s) = \frac{C}{\alpha} (1 + u(s))^{\frac{Q-2(\rho-\varepsilon)}{Q}}, \quad u(1) = \psi_\alpha(1),$$

which is given by

$$u(s) = \left( \frac{2(\rho - \varepsilon)C}{Q\alpha} (s - 1) + (1 + \psi_\alpha(1))^{\frac{2(\rho - \varepsilon)}{Q}} \right)^{\frac{Q}{2(\rho - \varepsilon)}} - 1.$$

Hence, for  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2s}$  there exists a constant  $c_\varepsilon > 0$ , independent of  $s$ , with

$$\|w^{1/2} \phi_{1+is}\| = \sqrt{\psi_\alpha(s)} \leq c_\varepsilon (1 + |s|)^{\frac{Q}{2(\rho - \varepsilon)}}.$$

□

### 3 Semidirect products of the Heisenberg group $\mathbb{H}_1$ and the real axis

#### 3.1 Motivation

Noteworthy about Theorem 1 and 2 is, that the exponents in (2), (3) and the exponent  $\kappa$  in Theorem 2 tend to infinity with the ratio  $Q/\rho$ . There are indications that this phenomenon might be a consequence of our method of proof and does not reflect any underlying mathematical reality.

In [10] e. g., groups of the form  $H = \mathbb{R}^2 \rtimes_\theta \mathbb{R}$  with  $\theta(t) = e^{tD}$ ,  $D$  any  $2 \times 2$ -matrix, were studied and for distinguished sub-Laplacians and their heat kernels the estimate

$$\|\phi_{1+i\xi}\|_{L^1(H)} \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^5 \quad (19)$$

was proven. (In some cases the estimates are better; the method which handled the most delicate case had been introduced in [5].) So the exponent of (19) is bounded, regardless of the action  $e^{tD}$ .

If we consider semidirect products  $\mathbb{H}_1 \rtimes_{\theta} \mathbb{R}$  of the 3-dimensional Heisenberg group with the real axis, we can of course not expect such a result. The article [2] shows that not even all of this semidirect products admit differentiable  $L^p$ -functional calculus.

But if we confine ourselves to group homomorphisms  $\theta$ , which are induced by derivations  $D$  in diagonal form with non-negative entries (or non-positive entries), we are able to derive an estimate like (19) with exponent 6 for all  $\theta$  by transferring the methods from [5] and [10] to our situation.

### 3.2 Preliminaries

The *Heisenberg group*  $\mathbb{H}_1$  is the set  $\mathbb{R}^3$  endowed with the multiplication

$$(x, y, u)(x', y', u') = \left( x + x', y + y', u + u' + \frac{1}{2}(xy' - yx') \right).$$

The Lie algebra of  $\mathbb{H}_1$  is the *Heisenberg algebra*  $\mathfrak{h}_1$ .

Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $\alpha\beta \geq 0$ , and let  $D$  be the derivation on  $\mathfrak{h}_1$  defined by  $D(p, q, t) = (\alpha p, \beta q, (\alpha + \beta)t)$ . The trace  $Q$  of  $D$  is then equal to  $2(\alpha + \beta)$ . Here our object of interest is the group  $G := \mathbb{H}_1 \rtimes_{\theta} \mathbb{R}$ , where  $\theta(r) = e^{rD}$ .

As in Section 2 the right invariant Haar measure  $d^r g$  is simply the Lebesgue measure  $dx dy du dr$  on  $\mathbb{R}^4$  and the modular function is  $m(g) = m(x, y, u, r) = e^{2(\alpha+\beta)r}$ .

The left invariant vector fields on  $G$ , induced by the Lie algebra elements  $\mathcal{X}_1 := (1, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $\mathcal{X}_2 := (0, 1, 0, 0)$ ,  $\mathcal{X}_3 := (0, 0, 1, 0)$  and  $\mathcal{X}_0 := (0, 0, 0, 1)$  from  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{h}_1 \times \mathbb{R}$ , are explicitly given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{X}_1 &= e^{\alpha r} \left( \partial_x - \frac{1}{2} y \partial_u \right), & \mathcal{X}_2 &= e^{\beta r} \left( \partial_y + \frac{1}{2} x \partial_u \right), \\ \mathcal{X}_3 &= e^{(\alpha+\beta)r} \partial_u, & \mathcal{X}_0 &= \partial_r. \end{aligned}$$

The operator  $\Delta_S := -\sum_{j=0}^2 \mathcal{X}_j^2$  is a sub-Laplacian and  $\Delta_L := -\sum_{j=0}^3 \mathcal{X}_j^2$  a full Laplacian on  $G$ . Let  $\phi_t^S$  and  $\phi_t^L$  denote the heat kernels of  $\Delta_S$  and  $\Delta_L$ , respectively. Further let  $J(\Delta_S) := \{0, 1, 2\}$  and  $J(\Delta_L) := \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . In the sequel  $\Delta$  shall denote the sub-Laplacian  $\Delta_S$  as well as the full Laplacian  $\Delta_L$ , and  $(\phi_t)_{t>0}$  shall denote the heat kernel of  $\Delta$ .

### 3.3 Results

**Theorem 3.** *There exists a  $C > 0$  such that for each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$  the inequality*

$$\|\phi_{1+i\xi}\|_{L^1(G)} \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^{\kappa} \quad (20)$$

holds; hereby we have

$$\kappa = \begin{cases} \frac{\alpha+\beta}{\min\{\alpha,\beta\}} + 2 & \text{if } \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \in [\frac{1}{3}, 3], \\ 6 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (21)$$

Like Theorem 1, Theorem 3 implies a multiplier theorem:

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $p \in [1, \infty]$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $\kappa$  as in (21). Then each  $f \in C_c \cap H^{\kappa+\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}(\mathbb{R})$  is an  $L^p$ -multiplier for  $\Delta$ .*

*Remark 2.* (a) Extending the results of Theorem 3 and Theorem 4 to compact extensions  $G \rtimes_\gamma K$  of  $G$  and sub-Laplacians  $\Delta_K + d\gamma(\Delta)$ ,  $\Delta_K$  a sub-Laplacian on  $K$ , is more or less trivial:

If  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , it can be shown that any homomorphism  $\gamma : K \rightarrow \text{Aut}(G)$  has to be trivial, i. e.,  $\gamma(k)$  is the identity on  $G$  for any  $k \in K$ . (One can e. g. calculate the entries of the matrix  $\tilde{\gamma} = d\gamma$  successively.) But then our sub-Laplacian is of the form  $\Delta_K + \Delta$  and its heat kernel is given by  $\phi_z^K \otimes \phi_z$ ,  $\phi_z^K$  the heat kernel of  $\Delta_K$ .

If  $\alpha = \beta \neq 0$ , the extension of the results is contained in Section 2.

If  $\alpha = 0 = \beta$ , then  $G \rtimes_\gamma K$  has polynomial growth, so we refer to [1].

(b) If  $\phi_z = \phi_z^S$  is the heat kernel of the sub-Laplacian and if  $\alpha = \beta \neq 0$ , Inequality (20) and Theorem 4 hold even with  $\kappa = 3/2$  (cf. [9] or [4]).

### 3.4 Outline of the proof of Theorem 3

The general strategy for proving Theorem 3 is the same as in the proof of Theorem 1. That is, we want to reduce the  $L^1$ -estimate of the heat kernel to a weighted  $L^2$ -estimate. But this time we utilize a weight function  $w$ , which is independent of the action  $\theta$ : We define  $w : G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$w(x, y, u, r) = (1 + |x|)(1 + |y|)(1 + |u|).$$

Then there exists a  $C > 0$  such that for any  $R > 0$

$$\int_{d(g) \leq R} w(g)^{-1} d^r g \leq C(1 + R)^4.$$

Again, by using the same argument as in [5], we are able to find a constant  $C > 0$  such that for each  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\|\phi_{1+i\xi}\|_{L^1(G)} \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^4(1 + \|w^{1/2}\phi_{1+i\xi}\|). \quad (22)$$

Therefore we are interested in estimating the term  $|\partial_\xi \|w^{1/2}\phi_{1+i\xi}\|^2|$ . We will do this step by step, beginning with weights of low order in  $x, y, u$  (like  $|x|^{1/2}$  and  $|y|^{1/2}$ ) and using the estimations of these terms to estimate higher order terms in  $x, y$  and  $u$ . We start with the analogue of Lemma 3:

**Lemma 5.** *For any  $\delta > 0$  there exists a  $C > 0$  such that for each  $j \in J(\Delta)$  and each  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\Re(z) \geq \delta$  the inequality  $\|e^{(\alpha+\beta)r} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_z\| \leq C$  holds.*

Lemma 5 can be verified easily by mimicking the proof of Lemma 3.

**Lemma 6.** *For any compact set  $K \subset ]0, \infty[$  there exists a  $C > 0$  with*

$$\| |x|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| + \| |y|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^{1/2} \quad (23)$$

and

$$\| |x|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| + \| |y|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^{1/2} \quad (24)$$

for all  $\rho \in K$ ,  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$  and all  $j \in J(\Delta)$ .

*Proof.* By using the notation  $z = \rho + i\xi$  we get

$$\langle \Delta \phi_z, |y| \phi_z \rangle = \sum_{j \in J(\Delta)} \| |y|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_z \|^2 + \langle \mathcal{X}_2 \phi_z, e^{\beta r} \operatorname{sgn}(y) \phi_z \rangle.$$

On the one hand, from this and Lemma 5 there follows

$$\begin{aligned} |\partial_\xi \| |y|^{1/2} \phi_z \|^2| &= 2|\Re(i \langle \partial_z \phi_z, |y| \phi_z \rangle)| = 2|\Im \langle \Delta \phi_z, |y| \phi_z \rangle| \\ &\leq 2|\langle \mathcal{X}_2 \phi_z, e^{\beta r} \operatorname{sgn}(y) \phi_z \rangle| \leq 2\| \phi_z \| \| e^{\beta r} \mathcal{X}_2 \phi_z \| \leq C. \end{aligned}$$

We obtain  $\| |y|^{1/2} \phi_z \|^2 \leq C(1 + |\xi|)$ , because the mapping  $K \ni \rho \mapsto \| |y|^{1/2} \phi_\rho \|^2$  is in particular continuous and thus bounded.

On the other hand, it follows from  $(\partial_z + \Delta) \phi_z = 0$  and Cauchy's formula that

$$\sum_{j \in J(\Delta)} \| |y|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_z \|^2 \leq C + \| |y|^{1/2} \phi_z \| \| |y|^{1/2} \partial_z \phi_z \| \leq C(1 + |\xi|).$$

The rest of the statement can be obtained analogously.  $\square$

**Lemma 7.** *For any compact set  $K \subset ]0, \infty[$  one can choose a  $C > 0$  in such a way that for each  $\rho \in K$ ,  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$  and each  $j \in J(\Delta)$*

$$\| e^{(\frac{\alpha}{2} + \beta)r} |x|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| + \| e^{(\alpha + \frac{\beta}{2})r} |y|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^{1/2} \quad (25)$$

and

$$\| e^{(\frac{\alpha}{2} + \beta)r} |x|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| + \| e^{(\alpha + \frac{\beta}{2})r} |y|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^{1/2}. \quad (26)$$

*Proof.* Let again  $z := \rho + i\xi$ . With the notation  $\gamma(r) = \exp((\alpha + \frac{\beta}{2})r)$  we get  $\| \gamma |y|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| = \| |y|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$ , because of  $\phi_z(g^{-1}) = m(g) \phi_z(g)$ . Further

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta \phi_z, \gamma^2 |y| \phi_z \rangle &= \sum_{j \in J(\Delta)} \| \gamma |y|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_z \|^2 + \langle \mathcal{X}_2 \phi_z, m \operatorname{sgn}(y) \phi_z \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle \mathcal{X}_0 \phi_z, (2\alpha + \beta) \gamma^2 |y| \phi_z \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Here the absolute value of the last term can be majorized by

$$\frac{1}{2} \| \gamma |y|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_0 \phi_z \|^2 + \frac{(2\alpha + \beta)^2}{2} \| \gamma |y|^{1/2} \phi_z \|^2.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j \in J(\Delta)} \|\gamma|y|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_z\|^2 &\leq 2\|\gamma|y|^{1/2} \phi_z\| \|\gamma|y|^{1/2} \partial_z \phi_z\| + 2\|\sqrt{m} \phi_z\| \|\sqrt{m} \mathcal{X}_2 \phi_z\| \\ &+ (2\alpha + \beta)^2 \|\gamma|y|^{1/2} \phi_z\|^2 \leq C(1 + |\xi|). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Lemma 8.** *For any compact set  $K \subset ]0, \infty[$  there exists a  $C > 0$  with*

$$\| |u|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| + \| |u|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| \leq C(1 + |\xi|) \quad (27)$$

for every  $\rho \in K$ ,  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $j \in J(\Delta)$ .

*Proof.* We consider just the case  $\Delta = \Delta_L$ . (The proof for the heat kernel of the sub-Laplacian  $\Delta_S$  is contained in the proof for the Laplacian  $\Delta_L$  – one has just to ignore all terms in which  $\mathcal{X}_3$  occurs.)

With  $z = \rho + i\xi$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \Delta_L \phi_z^L, |u| \phi_z^L \rangle &= \sum_{j=0}^3 \| |u|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_z^L \|^2 - \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{X}_1 \phi_z^L, e^{\alpha r} y \operatorname{sgn}(u) \phi_z^L \rangle \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{X}_2 \phi_z^L, e^{\beta r} x \operatorname{sgn}(u) \phi_z^L \rangle + \langle \mathcal{X}_3 \phi_z^L, e^{(\alpha+\beta)r} \operatorname{sgn}(u) \phi_z^L \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

By proceeding as in the proof of (23) we obtain  $|\partial_\xi| \| |u|^{1/2} \phi_z^L \|^2 \leq C(1 + |\xi|)$ , and from this follows  $\| |u|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi}^L \|^2 \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^2$ . As in the proof of (24) one derives eventually  $\sum_{j=0}^3 \| |u|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_z^L \|^2 \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^2$ . □

In Lemma 7 we got the same upper bound  $C(1 + |\xi|^{1/2})$  for the terms  $\| e^{(\alpha+\frac{\beta}{2})r} |y|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$  and  $\| e^{(\alpha+\frac{\beta}{2})r} |y|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$  (which we shall call *related terms of*  $\| |y|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$ ) as for the terms  $\| |y|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$  and  $\| |y|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$  in Lemma 6. Similarly, we get from Lemma 8 the estimate

$$\| e^{\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}r} |u|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| + \| e^{\frac{\alpha+\beta}{2}r} |u|^{1/2} \mathcal{X}_j \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| \leq C(1 + |\xi|) \quad (28)$$

for the sum of the related terms of  $\| |u|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$ . The last inequality holds again for any compact  $K \subset ]0, \infty[$ ,  $\rho \in K$ ,  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $j \in J$  and the constant  $C$  depends just on  $K$ .

By using the same notation and just the same techniques that we have used so far, we obtain

$$\| x \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| + \| y \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| \leq C(1 + |\xi|) \quad (29)$$

and this upper bound holds also for the related terms  $\| e^{\beta r} x \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$ ,  $\| e^{\alpha r} y \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$ ,  $\| e^{\beta r} x \mathcal{X}_j \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$  and  $\| e^{\alpha r} y \mathcal{X}_j \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$ .

After this it is easy to derive that  $\| |xu|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$ ,  $\| |yu|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \|$  and the related terms are bounded by  $C(1 + |\xi|)^{3/2}$ .

In a similar way one establishes

$$\| |x|y|^{1/2} \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| + \| |x|^{1/2} y \phi_{\rho+i\xi} \| \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^{3/2} \quad (30)$$

(and this bound holds also for the related terms). With this bunch of estimates we are able to verify  $\| w^{1/2} \phi_{1+i\xi} \| \leq C(1 + |\xi|)^2$ . Therefore, with regard to inequality (22) and Theorem 1, Theorem 3 holds.

*Acknowledgements* I would like to thank Prof. D. Müller for turning my attention to the multiplier problem on compact extensions of solvable Lie groups and for his encouragement.

I would also like to thank Prof. G. Mauceri and Prof. P. Sjögren for the opportunity to stay in Genova and Göteborg with scholarships of the european TMR-network "Harmonic Analysis".

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