



Title	Localization of differential operators and the uniqueness of the Cauchy problem
Author(s)	Tsuno, Yoshimichi
Citation	Osaka Journal of Mathematics. 1980, 17(3), p. 751-762
Version Type	VoR
URL	<a href="https://doi.org/10.18910/7931">https://doi.org/10.18910/7931</a>
rights	
Note	

*The University of Osaka Institutional Knowledge Archive : OUKA*

<https://ir.library.osaka-u.ac.jp/>

The University of Osaka

## LOCALIZATION OF DIFFERENTIAL OPERATORS AND THE UNIQUENESS OF THE CAUCHY PROBLEM

YOSHIMICHI TSUNO

(Received June 18, 1979)

### 1. Introduction

Let  $P(x, \partial_x)$  be a differential operator of order  $m$  with analytic coefficients in an open set  $U$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  and  $\Omega$  be an open subset of  $U$  with  $C^1$  boundary  $\partial\Omega$ . Then the uniqueness theorem of Holmgren which is extended for distribution solutions ([3]) states that a distribution solution  $u(x)$  of the equation  $Pu=0$  in  $U$  vanishing in  $\Omega$  must vanish in a neighborhood of  $\partial\Omega$  if  $\partial\Omega$  is non-characteristic. The extension of this theorem to the case near a characteristic point has been made by many authors relating to the problem of deciding the  $P$ -convexity domains. Among others Hörmander [3] showed that when the principal part is real the uniqueness theorem holds if  $\partial\Omega \in C^2$  and the characteristic points are simple and some convexity conditions are satisfied at these points. The refinements of this Hörmander's result are made by Treves [8], Zachmanoglou [10], [11] and Hörmander [5]. Recently Bony [2] introduced the notion of strongly characteristic and proved the uniqueness theorem for degenerate equations. Bony's result is extended by Hörmander [6]. In this note we deal with a differential operator which is highly degenerated at some point  $p$  on  $\partial\Omega$  and obtain the sufficient conditions to get the uniqueness theorem. Though the uniqueness theorem is invariant under the analytic change of coordinates, we here employ the weighted local coordinates at  $p$  such that the normal direction  $x_1$  of  $\partial\Omega$  at  $p$  is assigned the weight 2, while the tangential directions  $x_2, \dots, x_n$  are each assigned the weight 1. The motivation of this employment is that the boundary  $\partial\Omega$  can be approximated by the quadratic hypersurface of the form

$$(1.1) \quad x_1 = \sum_{i,j \geq 2} a_{ij} x_i x_j.$$

The transformations of the coordinates in this note are limited to the ones which preserve the weights  $(2, 1, \dots, 1)$  (see the section 2 for the precise definition). In the section 3, the basic theorem is proved under some fixed local coordinates. The idea of the proof is due to Hörmander [3] and extensively used by Treves [8], Zachmanoglou [10], [11] and others. That is to construct the family of surfaces

which are non-characteristic with respect to  $P(x, \partial_x)$  and cover a neighborhood of  $p$ . This basic theorem is a generalization of Hörmander's theorem [3] of the simple characteristic case. In the last section, §4, we study the geometric conditions on  $P(x, \partial_x)$  and  $\partial\Omega$  to insure the existence of the local coordinates in the third section. The assumptions are made in relation to the localization of  $P(x, \partial_x)$  at  $(p, N)$ , where  $N$  is the normal direction of  $\partial\Omega$  at  $p$ . The localization of an operator is also due to Hörmander [4] to research the location of the singularities of the solutions of  $Pu=0$ . Our method in this note is also used to show the holomorphic continuation of the solutions of  $P(z, \partial_z)u=f$  in the complex  $n$  dimensional space, which is to appear in [9].

## 2. Weighted coordinates

As in the introduction, we shall approximate  $\partial\Omega$  by the quadratic hypersurface of the form (1.1). For this sake we here introduce the weighted coordinates. Weighted coordinates are also used by T. Bloom and I. Graham [1] to determine the type of the real submanifold in  $\mathbf{C}^n$  which is firstly introduced by Kohn in relation to the boundary regularity for the  $\bar{\partial}$ -Neumann problem. In this note we use the simplest weighted coordinates.

Let  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a local coordinates in  $U$  of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Then we say that  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is the weighted coordinates system of the weights  $(2, 1, \dots, 1)$  if the coordinate function  $x_1$  has the weight 2 and  $x_j$  ( $j=2, \dots, n$ ) has the weight 1. The weight of a monomial  $x^\alpha$  is determined by  $2\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_n$ . An analytic function  $f(x)$  at 0 has the weight  $l$  if  $l$  is the lowest weight among the monomials in the Taylor expansion of  $f(x)$  at 0. For convenience, the weight of  $f=0$  is assigned  $+\infty$ . The weight of a differential operator is defined by the corresponding negative weight. For a differential monomial  $(\partial/\partial x)^\alpha$ , its weight is defined by  $-2\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - \dots - \alpha_n$ . The weight of  $a(x)(\partial/\partial x)^\alpha$  is equal to  $\text{weight}(a(x)) + \text{weight}((\partial/\partial x)^\alpha)$  and the weight of a linear partial differential operator  $P(x, \partial_x) = \sum a_\alpha(x)(\partial/\partial x)^\alpha$  is determined by  $\min \text{weight}(a_\alpha(x)(\partial/\partial x)^\alpha)$ .

Let  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  be two local coordinates with the same origin. We say that these coordinates are equivalent as the weighted coordinates if  $u_j$  has the same weight as  $x_j$  as an analytic function of  $x_j$ , and the converse is also true. In this note the weights are always equal to  $(2, 1, \dots, 1)$ . Therefore  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  are equivalent if and only if

$$\frac{\partial(u_1, \dots, u_n)}{\partial(x_1, \dots, x_n)}(0) = \begin{vmatrix} c & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ a_2 & c_{22} & \dots & c_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_n & c_{n2} & \dots & c_{nn} \end{vmatrix} \neq 0.$$

It is easily derived that the weights of functions or differential operators are invariant under the equivalent transformation of the weighted coordinates.

We also remark that if the weights of covectors  $(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_n)$  are each assigned the  $(-2, -1, \dots, -1)$ , then the weight of  $P_m(x, \xi)$ , the principal part of  $P$ , is invariant.

### 3. The basic theorem

The differential operator studied in this section is the following one:

$$(3.1) \quad P(x, \partial_x) = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \right)^{m-l} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \right)^l + \sum a_\alpha(x) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^\alpha$$

where  $a_\alpha(x)$  are analytic in some neighborhood  $U$  of 0 and the summation is taken over the multi-indices  $\alpha$  such that  $|\alpha| \leq m$ . The domain  $\Omega$  is given by

$$(3.2) \quad \Omega = \{x \in U \mid \rho(x) < 0\}$$

where  $\rho$  is a real-valued  $C^2$  function such that

$$(Q.1) \quad \rho(0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x_1}(0) = 1, \quad \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x_j}(0) = 0 \quad j = 2, \dots, n.$$

We consider this local coordinates as the weighted coordinates with the weights  $(2, 1, \dots, 1)$ . Then we make the following conditions on the principal part  $P_m(x, \partial_x)$  of the operator (3.1).

(P.1) Every weight of  $a_\alpha(x)(\partial/\partial x)^\alpha$  in  $P_m(x, \partial_x)$  is larger than or equal to  $l-2m$  = the weight of  $(\partial/\partial x_1)^{m-1}(\partial/\partial x_2)^l$ .

(P.2) For the term in  $P_m$  with the weight  $l-2m$ , its coefficient does not vanish at 0, that is

$$\text{weight}[(a_\alpha(x) - a_\alpha(0))(\partial/\partial x)^\alpha] \geq l - 2m + 1,$$

when  $|\alpha| = m$  and especially  $a_\alpha(0) = 0$  if  $\alpha = (m-l, l, 0, \dots, 0)$  in the second terms of the right hand side of (3.1).

(P.3) There exists an integer  $\mu$  ( $2 \leq \mu \leq n$ ) such that the term in  $P_m$  with the weight  $l-2m$  is generated only by  $\partial/\partial x_1, \dots, \partial/\partial x_\mu$ .

REMARK 3.1 If  $P$  is simple characteristic at  $(0, N)$  with  $N = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$ , then it is possible to choose the local coordinates such that  $P$  is in the form (3.1) with  $l=1$  and  $\alpha_1 < m-1$  in the sum of the second terms. In this case all conditions (P.1,2,3) with  $\mu=2$  are automatically fulfilled.

REMARK 3.2 In  $P_m$  the condition (P.1) is only restrictive on the terms of the order larger than  $m-l$  with respect to  $\partial/\partial x_1$ . Because by (P.1),

$$\text{weight}(a_\alpha(x)) \geq \max \{0, l-2m+2\alpha_1+\alpha_2+\dots+\alpha_n = l-m+\alpha_1\}.$$

REMARK 3.3 The conditions (P.1) and (P.2) imply that the term of the weight  $l-2m$  in  $P_m$  is essentially of the form  $a_\alpha(0)(\partial/\partial x)^\alpha$  with  $\alpha_1=m-l$ .

Concerning the boundary function  $\rho(x)$  of  $\partial\Omega$ , we set

$$H = \left( \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} (0) \right) \quad (2 \leq i, j \leq n),$$

which is the tangential Hessian of  $\rho$  at 0. Then the following conditions are made in addition to (Ω.1).

(Ω.2)  $H$  can be written as

$$H = \begin{matrix} & \overbrace{\lambda}^{\mu-1} \\ & \left\{ \begin{array}{c|c|c} A & 0 & * \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline * & 0 & * \end{array} \right\} \end{matrix}$$

where  $A$  is strictly negative definite ( $0 < \lambda \leq \mu - 1$ ).

We remark that if  $\mu=2$  in (P.3), then (Ω.2) means only that  $\partial^2 \rho / \partial x_2^2 (0) < 0$ . Such a case is happened when  $P$  is simple characteristic at  $(0, N)$ .

REMARK 3.4 It is easy to show that this condition (Ω.2) is independent of the choice of the defining function  $\rho(x)$ .

Now the basic theorem is as follows:

**Theorem 3.1** Let  $P(x, \partial_x)$  be a differential operator of the form (3.1) which satisfies the conditions (P. 1, 2, 3), and  $\Omega$  be an open set given by (3.2) with the conditions (Ω.1, 2). If  $u(x)$  is a distribution solution of  $Pu=0$  in  $U$  vanishing in  $\Omega$ , then  $u(x)$  must vanish in a neighborhood of 0.

For the rest of this section, we devote ourselves to prove this theorem.

**Lemma 3.1** Let  $\rho(x)$  be an defining function of  $\Omega$  with the conditions (Ω.1, 2). Then by changing the defining function  $\rho(x)$  if necessarily we may assume that

$$(\Omega.3) \quad \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x_1 \partial x_j} (0) = 0 \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

in addition to (Ω.1, 2).

Proof. If we expand  $\rho(x)$  to the second order, we have

$$\rho(x) = x_1 + \left( \sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j \right) x_1 + \sum_{i,j \geq 2} a_{ij} x_i x_j + o(|x|^2)$$

where  $(a_{ij}) = \frac{1}{2}H$ . Then  $r(x) = \rho(x) \exp \left[ -\sum_{j=1}^n a_j x_j \right]$  becomes the desired boundary function, which completes the proof.

**Lemma 3.2** *If a real-valued  $C^2$  function  $\rho$  satisfies the conditions  $(\Omega.1, 2$  and  $3)$ , then there exist positive constants  $\alpha$  and  $M$  such that for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  the following inequality holds in a sufficiently small neighborhood  $V$  of  $0$ .*

$$(3.3) \quad \rho(x) \leq x_1 - \alpha x_2^2 + \varepsilon(x_1^2 + x_3^2 + \cdots + x_\mu^2) + M(x_{\mu+1}^2 + \cdots + x_n^2).$$

*Proof.* We expand  $\rho$  in the Taylor series up to the second order. Then by  $(\Omega.1$  and  $3)$ ,

$$\rho(x) = x_1 + \sum_{i,j \geq 2} a_{ij} x_i x_j + o(|x|^2)$$

where  $(a_{ij}) = \frac{1}{2}H$  satisfies  $(\Omega.2)$ . From  $(\Omega.2)$ , it is easy to derive the inequality

(3.3). The details are omitted.

Set  $\psi(x)$  as

$$(3.4) \quad \psi(x) = x_1 - \alpha x_2^2 + \varepsilon(x_1^2 + x_3^2 + \cdots + x_\mu^2) + M(x_{\mu+1}^2 + \cdots + x_n^2).$$

Then the above lemma shows that in some neighborhood  $V$  of  $0$ , the open set  $\{\psi(x) < 0\}$  is contained in  $\Omega$ . Thus it is sufficient for the proof of the theorem 3.1 to obtain the uniqueness theorem across the surface  $\psi(x) = 0$ . For this purpose we construct the family of surfaces. Define  $\phi(x)$  as

$$(3.5) \quad \phi(x) = x_1 - \frac{1}{2} \alpha r x_2 + 2\varepsilon(x_1^2 + x_3^2 + \cdots + x_\mu^2) + 2M(x_{\mu+1}^2 + \cdots + x_n^2),$$

where  $r > 0$  is a parameter and determined later.

**Lemma 3.3** *If  $s$  is real and  $s \leq \alpha r^2$ , then the set  $\{\psi(x) \geq 0\} \cap \{\phi(x) \leq s\}$  is compact and contained in  $U(r)$ , where*

$$\begin{aligned} U(r) = \{x \mid & |x_1| < 2\alpha r^2, |x_2| < 2r, \\ & |x_j| < (2\alpha/\varepsilon)^{1/2} r \quad j = 3, \dots, \mu \\ & |x_k| < (2\alpha/M)^{1/2} r \quad k = \mu+1, \dots, n\} \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Set  $R_\mu^2 = x_1^2 + x_3^2 + \cdots + x_\mu^2$  and  $R_n^2 = x_{\mu+1}^2 + \cdots + x_n^2$ . For any  $x \in \{\psi(x) \geq 0\} \cap \{\phi(x) \leq s\}$  we have

$$2\alpha x_2^2 - 2x_1 \leq 2\varepsilon R_\mu^2 + 2M R_n^2 \leq s + \frac{1}{2} \alpha r x_2 - x_1,$$

which imply the next two inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &\geq 2\alpha x_2^2 - \frac{1}{2}\alpha r x_2 - s \\s + \frac{1}{2}\alpha r x_2 - x_1 &\geq 0.\end{aligned}$$

Then it easily derived that  $|x_1| < 2\alpha r^2$  and  $|x_2| < 2r$  provided that  $s \leq \alpha r^2$ . Using these estimates we have

$$0 \leq \varepsilon R_\mu^2 + M R_n^2 < 2\alpha r^2.$$

Thus the lemma is proved.

Now we determine the parameters  $\varepsilon$  and  $r$  so that the surface  $\phi(x) = s$  is non-characteristic with respect to  $P(x, \partial_x)$  in some neighborhood of 0. Let  $Q(\partial_x)$  be the sum of the terms in  $P_m$  with the weight exactly  $l - 2m$ . By the remark 3.3 and the condition (P.3),  $Q(\partial_x)$  is expressed as follows:

$$(3.6) \quad Q(\partial_x) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}\right)^{m-l} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}\right)^l + \sum a_\alpha \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)^\alpha$$

where the summation is taken over the multi-indices  $\alpha$  such that  $\alpha_1 = m - l$ ,  $\alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_\mu = l$ ,  $\alpha_2 \leq l$  and  $\alpha_{\mu+1} = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$ . In (3.6) every  $a_\alpha$  is a constant. If we set  $\xi_j = \partial\phi/\partial x_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, n$ ), then we have

$$\begin{aligned}\xi_1 &= 1 + 4\varepsilon x_1 \\ \xi_2 &= -\frac{1}{2}\alpha r \\ \xi_j &= 4\varepsilon x_j \quad j = 3, \dots, \mu \\ \xi_k &= 4M x_k \quad k = \mu + 1, \dots, n.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have the next estimates on  $U(r)$ :

$$(3.7) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \leq |\xi_1| \leq 2 & \text{if } \varepsilon \alpha r^2 \leq 4^{-2} \\ |\xi_2| = \frac{1}{2}\alpha r \\ |\xi_j| \leq 4(2\alpha\varepsilon)^{1/2}r & j = 3, \dots, \mu \\ |\xi_k| \leq 4(2\alpha M)^{1/2}r & k = \mu + 1, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 3.4** *If we take  $\varepsilon$  sufficiently small ( $\varepsilon \alpha r^2 \leq 4^{-2}$ ), then  $Q(\xi)$  does not vanish on  $U(r)$ .*

**Proof.** We use the notation  $C(\alpha)$  which is a different constant in each position depending only on  $\alpha$ . By (3.7),

$$|\xi_1^{m-l} \xi_2^l| \geq \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^m \alpha^l r^l$$

$$|a_\alpha \xi^\alpha| \leq C(\alpha) \varepsilon^{(1/2)(\alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_\mu)} r^l,$$

for  $|\alpha| = m$ ,  $\alpha_1 = m - l$  and  $\alpha_{\mu+1} = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$ . If we put these estimates into the corresponding terms in (3,6), we have that

$$|Q(\xi)| \geq \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^m \alpha^l - C(\alpha) \varepsilon^{(1/2)(\alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_\mu)} \right\} r^l.$$

Since  $\alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_\mu \neq 0$ ,  $|Q(\xi)| \geq C(\alpha) r^l$  with  $C(\alpha) > 0$  for a sufficiently small  $\varepsilon$ . This proves the lemma.

From now on, the constant  $\varepsilon$  is taken as in this lemma and always fixed. For the determination of the parameter  $r$ , we have the next lemma.

**Lemma 3.5** *If we take  $r$  sufficiently small, then  $P_m(x, \xi)$  does not vanish on  $U(r)$ .*

*Proof.* If the weight of an analytic function  $a(x)$  is equal to  $k$ , then the inequality

$$\sup_{U(r)} |a(x)| \leq \text{const. } r^k$$

holds for a sufficiently small  $r$ . Thus for a term  $a(x)(\partial/\partial x)^\alpha$  in  $P_m$  with the weight larger than  $l - 2m$ , the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \text{weight } a(x) &\geq l - 2m + 1 + 2\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_n \\ &= l - m + \alpha_1 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

implies

$$\begin{aligned} |a(x) \xi^\alpha| &\leq \text{const. } r^{l-m+\alpha_1+1} \text{const. } r^{\alpha_2+\dots+\alpha_n} \\ &= \text{const. } r^{l+1} \end{aligned}$$

While  $|Q(\xi)| \geq C(\alpha) r^l$  on  $U(r)$ . Since  $P_m$  is the sum of  $Q$  and the terms of the weight larger than  $l - 2m$ , we can choose  $r$  sufficiently small so that  $P_m$  does not vanish on  $U(r)$ . This proves the lemma.

Under these preparations we now prove the basic theorem. The key lemma of this proof is the following one which is due to Hörmander [3].

**Lemma 3.6** *Suppose that there exist a real-valued  $C^1$  function  $\phi(x)$  and constants  $s_0, s_1$  such that in some neighborhood  $V$  of 0,*

- (i)  $P_m(x, \text{grad } \phi(x)) \neq 0$
- (ii)  $s_0 < \phi(0) < s_1$
- (iii)  $\{x \in V \mid \phi(x) \leq s_1\} \cap \overline{\Omega^c}$  is compact,
- (iv)  $\{x \in V \mid \phi(x) \leq s_0\} \cap \overline{\Omega^c}$  is empty,
- (v)  $\{x \in V \mid \phi(x) \leq s_0\}$  is not empty.



Then every distribution solution  $u(x)$  in  $V$  of the equation  $Pu=0$  vanishing in  $\Omega$  must vanish in  $\{x \in V \mid \phi(x) < s_1\}$ .

**Proof of the Theorem 3.1** By the lemma 3.2 we may take  $\Omega$  as the set  $\{x \in V \mid \psi(x) < 0\}$ . Now take  $U(r)$  in the lemma 3.5 as the neighborhood  $V$  of 0 in the lemma 3.6. Then the condition (i) is fulfilled. Set  $s_0 = -\alpha r^2$  and  $s_1 = \alpha r^2$ . Then (ii) becomes trivial and (iii) is derived from the lemma 3.3. The other conditions (iv) and (v) are easily derived from the expression of  $\phi(x)$  and  $\psi(x)$ , so we omit their proves. This ends the proof of the theorem 3.1.

#### 4. Choice of the local coordinates in the basic theorem

Let  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be the local coordinates such that the surface  $x_1=0$  is tangent to  $\partial\Omega$  at  $x=0$ . We consider this coordinates as the weighted coordinates with the weights  $(2, 1, \dots, 1)$ . The other local coordinates with the same property become equivalent to this coordinates as the weighted coordinates.

Let  $P(x, \partial_x)$  be a linear differential operator of order  $m$  with analytic coefficients which is characteristic at 0 in the cotangential direction  $N=(1, 0, \dots, 0)$ . We set  $l$  the multiplicity of  $P$  at  $(0, N)$ . That is, for a cotangent vector  $\zeta=(\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \dots, \zeta_n)$ ,

$$(4.1) \quad P_m(0, N+t\zeta) = L(\zeta)t^l + \text{higher order terms of } t$$

where  $P_m$  is the principal part of  $P$  and  $L(\zeta)$  is a non-zero polynomial of  $\zeta$ . This polynomial  $L(\zeta)$  is called the localization of  $P_m$  at  $(0, N)$ , which is originally introduced by Hörmander [4]. When  $N=(1, 0, \dots, 0)$ , (4.1) means that in  $P_m(0, \partial_x)$  there is none of the terms of order larger than  $m-l$  with respect to  $\partial/\partial x_1$  and the sum of the coefficients of  $(\partial/\partial x_1)^{m-l}$  is equal to  $L(\partial/\partial x_2, \dots, \partial/\partial x_n)$ . Therefore  $L(\zeta)$  is a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $l$  in the variables  $(\zeta_2, \dots, \zeta_n)$ . Since the weight of  $L(\partial/\partial x_2, \dots, \partial/\partial x_n)(\partial/\partial x_1)^{m-l}$  is equal to  $l-2m$ , we make the assumption:

$$(P.I) \quad \text{the weight of } P_m(x, \xi) \text{ is equal to } l-2m, \text{ if the weight of } \xi \text{ are assigned by } (-2, -1, \dots, -1).$$

Relating to the localization  $L(\zeta)$  of  $P_m$ , we introduce some linear spaces in the tangent space  $T_0$  and the cotangent space  $T_0^*$  of the surface  $\partial\Omega$  at 0. For the polynomial  $L(\zeta)$ , we set

$$(4.2) \quad \Lambda^*(L) = \{\eta \in T_0^* \mid L(\xi + \eta t) = L(\xi) \quad \text{for all } t \text{ and } \xi\},$$

which is a linear subspace, and we introduce the annihilator

$$(4.3) \quad \Lambda(L) = \{v \in T_0 \mid \langle v, \eta \rangle = 0 \quad \text{for any } \eta \in \Lambda^*(L)\},$$

where  $\langle, \rangle$  denotes the contraction between cotangent vectors and tangent

vectors.  $\Lambda(L)$  is the smallest subspace along which  $L(\partial/\partial x)$  operates and is called the bicharacteristic space of  $P$  at  $(0, N)$ . These subspaces are introduced by Hörmander [4].

**DEFINITION 4.1** An analytic function  $\phi(x)$  with  $\text{grad } \phi(0) = N$  is said to be a weighted characteristic function of  $P(x, \partial_x)$  if it satisfies the following condition:

$$(4.4) \quad \text{weight } P_m(x, t \text{ grad } \phi(x)) \geq l - 2m + 1,$$

where the parameter  $t$  is assigned the weight  $-2$ .

To find such a weighted characteristic function  $\phi(x)$ , it is sufficient that  $\phi$  is in the form

$$\phi(x) = x_1 + \sum_{i,j \geq 2} a_{ij} x_i x_j.$$

Assume that

(P.II) *there exists a weighted characteristic function  $\phi(x)$ .*

By the suitable equivalent change of the weighted coordinates we can assume that  $\phi(x) = x_1$ . Then the following proposition is easy to prove.

**Proposition 4.1** *If  $\phi(x) = x_1$ , then (4.4) is equivalent to that there is none of the differential monomials of the weight  $l - 2m$  in  $P_m(x, \partial_x)$  which is generated only by  $\partial/\partial x_1$ .*

We now fix some weighted characteristic function  $\phi(x)$  and consider the local coordinates  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  as  $\phi(x) = x_1 \pmod{\text{weight } 3}$  and each  $x_j$  ( $j = 2, \dots, n$ ) has the weight 1. This means that the coordinates transformation considered from now on is in the following form:

$$(4.5) \quad \begin{cases} u_1 = x_1 + \text{an analytic function of the weight } \geq 3, \\ u_j = \sum_{k=2}^n c_{jk} x_k + \text{an analytic function of the weight } \geq 2 \\ j = 2, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$

Then we make the last assumption on  $P_m$  such that

$$(P.III) \quad \text{weigh } [P_m(x, \xi) - P_m(0, \xi)] \geq l - 2m + 1.$$

**Proposition 4.2** *This assumption (P.III) is invariant under the change of variables of form (4.5).*

**Proof.** If we remark that by (4.5),

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} = \frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} + \text{terms of the weight larger than } -2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} = \sum_{k=1}^n c_{kj} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_k} + \text{terms of the weight larger than } -1,$$

$$j = 2, \dots, n$$

the invariance of (P.III) is easy to prove.

Assumption (P.III) means that the terms with the lowest weight in  $P_m$  do not degenerate at 0.

Now we proceed to examine the conditions on  $\Omega$  under the assumptions (P. I, II, III).

If  $\Omega$  is given by  $\{\rho(x) < 0\}$  with a real-valued  $C^2$  function  $\rho$ , we denote by  $H_\rho$  the tangential Hessian of  $\rho$  at 0. That is

$$H_\rho = \left( \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} (0) \right) \quad 2 \leq i, j \leq n.$$

Then it easily derived that the symmetric bilinear form  $\sum_{i,j \geq 2} \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} (0) dx_i \otimes dx_j$  on  $T_0 \times T_0$  is invariant under the transformation of the coordinates of the form (4.5). We set  $N_\rho$  as the kernel of the linear map  $H_\rho: T_0 \rightarrow T_0^*$  defined by

$$H_\rho(v) = \sum \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} (0) \langle dx_i, v \rangle dx_j.$$

Then  $H_\rho$  is derived to the bilinear form on the space  $T_0/N_\rho \times T_0/N_\rho$ . Similary if we set

$$\tilde{\Lambda}(L) = \Lambda(L)/N_\rho \cap \Lambda(L),$$

where  $\Lambda(L)$  is the bicharacteristic space of  $P$ ,  $H_\rho$  is also derived to the bilinear form on  $\tilde{\Lambda}(L) \times \tilde{\Lambda}(L)$ .

The first assumption on  $\partial\Omega$  is as follows:

( $\Omega$ .I)  $\tilde{\Lambda}(L) \neq 0$  and  $H_\rho$  is strictly negative definite on  $\tilde{\Lambda}(L) \times \tilde{\Lambda}(L)$ .

This condition means that  $\Omega$  is concave in the direction of the bicharacteristic space at 0.

Lastly we demand that  $L(\xi)$ , the localization of  $P$ , is non-characteristic at some covector  $\xi_0$  for which  $\Omega$  is strictly concave at 0. For this sake we introduce  $N_\rho^*$  the annihilator of  $N_\rho$ ,

$$N_\rho^* = \{\xi \in T_0^* \mid \langle \xi, v \rangle = 0 \quad \forall v \in N_\rho\}.$$

Then we assume

( $\Omega$ .II) there exists a covector  $\xi_0$  in  $N_\rho^*$  such that  $L(\xi_0) \neq 0$ .

Now we construct the local coordinates  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  so that the operator

$P(x, \partial_x)$  is reduced to the form (3.1) and all assumptions in the basic theorem are satisfied.

First we fix the weighted characteristic function  $\phi(x)$  in (P.II) and set  $\phi(x) = x_1$ .

Secondly we choose the tangential coordinates  $(x_2, \dots, x_n)$  such that the vectors  $\partial/\partial x_2, \dots, \partial/\partial x_\mu$  span the bicharacteristic space  $\Lambda(L)$  at 0. Since  $L(\zeta)$  does not vanish identically, the dimension of  $\Lambda(L)$  is  $\mu - 1$  which becomes positive (i.e.  $\mu \geq 2$ ).

Thirdly under the suitable linear change of variables  $(x_2, \dots, x_\mu)$ , we may assume that for some  $\lambda$  ( $2 < \lambda \leq \mu$ ),  $\partial/\partial x_{\lambda+1}, \dots, \partial/\partial x_\mu$  span the subspace  $N_\rho \cap \Lambda(L)$ . At this moment, the condition  $(\Omega.1)$  means that the matrix

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} (0) \right) \quad 2 \leq i, j \leq \lambda$$

is strictly negative definite and

$$\frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} (0) = 0 \quad \text{if } \lambda + 1 \leq i \text{ or } j \leq \mu.$$

Lastly we shall prove that  $L(\zeta)$  can be non-characteristic at  $dx_2$  by the linear change of variables  $(x_2, \dots, x_\lambda)$ .

**Proposition 4.3** *By the suitable linear change of variables  $(x_2, \dots, x_\lambda)$ ,  $L(\zeta)$  is non-characteristic at the covector  $dx_2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\xi_0 \in T_0^*$  be the covector in the condition  $(\Omega.II)$ . Since  $\langle \xi_0, \partial/\partial x_j \rangle = 0$  ( $j = \lambda + 1, \dots, \mu$ ),  $\xi_0$  is written as

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_0 &= c_2 dx_2 + \dots + c_\lambda dx_\lambda + c_{\mu+1} dx_{\mu+1} + \dots + c_n dx_n \\ &= c_2 dx_2 + \dots + c_\lambda dx_\lambda + \xi'_0 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\xi'_0 \in \Lambda^*(L)$  which is generated by  $dx_{\mu+1}, \dots, dx_n$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \neq L(\xi_0) &= L(c_2 dx_2 + \dots + c_\lambda dx_\lambda + \xi'_0) \\ &= L(c_2 dx_2 + \dots + c_\lambda dx_\lambda). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore this proposition is easily derived from this relation.

From this proposition,  $L(\partial/\partial x)$  is written as

$$L(\partial_x) = a \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \right)^l + \sum a_\alpha \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^\alpha$$

where  $a \neq 0$  and the summation is taken over the multi-indices  $|\alpha| = l$ ,  $\alpha_2 < l$ ,  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_{\mu+1} = \dots = \alpha_n = 0$ .

Thus the operator  $P(x, \partial_x)$  is expressed in the form (3.1) under this coordi-

nates. Since (P.I) implies (P.1), (P.III) implies (P.2), (P.3) follows from the fact that  $\partial/\partial x_2, \dots, \partial/\partial x_\mu$  span  $\Lambda(L)$ ,  $(\Omega.1)$  is trivial from the choice of  $x_1$  and  $(\Omega.2)$  is derived from  $(\Omega.1)$ , all conditions in the theorem 3.1 are satisfied under this coordinates. Summing up these results we have the final theorem:

**Theorem 4.1** *Let  $P(x, \partial_x)$  be a differential operator of order  $m$  with analytic coefficients in a neighborhood  $V$  of  $p$  and  $\Omega$  be an open set with  $C^2$  boundary  $\partial\Omega \in p$ . We suppose that  $P$  and  $\Omega$  satisfy the conditions (P. I, II, III) and  $(\Omega. I, II)$ . Then every distribution solution  $u(x)$  of  $Pu=0$  in  $V$  vanishing in  $\Omega$  must vanish in a neighborhood of  $p$ .*

### References

- [1] T. Bloom and I. Graham: *On 'Type' conditions for generic real submanifolds of  $C^n$* , Invent. Math. **40** (1977), 217–243.
- [2] J.M. Bony: *Une extension du théorème de Holmgren sur l'unicité du problème de Cauchy*, C.R.Acad. Sci. Paris **268** (1969), 1103–1106.
- [3] L. Hörmander: *Linear partial differential operators*, Springer-Verlag, 1963.
- [4] L. Hörmander: *On the singularities of solutions of partial differential equations*, Comm. Pure Appl. Math. **23** (1970), 329–358.
- [5] L. Hörmander: *Uniqueness theorems and wave front sets for solutions of linear differential equations with analytic coefficients*, Comm. Pure Appl. Math. **24** (1971), 671–704.
- [6] L. Hörmander: *A remark on Holmgren's uniqueness theorem*, J. Differential Geom. **6** (1971), 129–134.
- [7] J. Perrson: *On uniqueness cones, velocity cones and  $P$ -convexity*, Ann. Mat. Pura Appl. **96** (1973), 69–87.
- [8] F. Trèves: *Linear partial differential equations with constant coefficients*, Gordon and Breach, New York, 1966.
- [9] Y. Tsuno: *Localization of differential operators and holomorphic continuation of the solutions*, Hiroshima Math. J. **10** (1980), to appear.
- [10] E.C. Zachmanoglou: *Uniqueness of the Cauchy problem when the initial surface contains characteristic points*, Arch. Rational Mech. Anal. **23** (1966), 317–326.
- [11] E. C. Zachmanoglou: *Uniqueness of the Cauchy problem for linear partial differential equations with variable coefficients*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **136** (1969), 517–526.

Department of Mathematics  
Okayama University  
Tsushima, Okayama, 700  
Japan