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# TIME-FREQUENCY ANALYSIS OF BORN-JORDAN PSEUDODIFFERENTIAL OPERATORS

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ABSTRACT. Born-Jordan operators are a class of pseudodifferential operators arising as a generalization of the quantization rule for polynomials on the phase space introduced by Born and Jordan in 1925. The weak definition of such operators involves the Born-Jordan distribution, first introduced by Cohen in 1966 as a member of the Cohen class. We perform a time-frequency analysis of the Cohen kernel of the Born-Jordan distribution, using modulation and Wiener amalgam spaces. We then provide sufficient and necessary conditions for Born-Jordan operators to be bounded on modulation spaces. We use modulation spaces as appropriate symbols classes.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In 1925 Born and Jordan [2] introduced for the first time a rigorous mathematical explanation of the notion of “quantization”. This rule was initially restricted to polynomials as symbol classes but was later extended to the class of tempered distribution  $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  [1, 6]. Roughly speaking, a quantization is a rule which assigns an operator to a function (called symbol) on the phase space  $\mathbb{R}^{2d}$ . The Born-Jordan quantization was soon superseded by the most famous Weyl quantization rule proposed by Weyl in [38], giving rise to the well-known Weyl operators (transforms) (see, e.g. [39]).

Recently there has been a regain in interest in the Born-Jordan quantization, both in Quantum Physics and Time-frequency Analysis [17]. The second of us has proved that it is the correct rule if one wants matrix and wave mechanics to be equivalent quantum theories [16]. Moreover, as a time-frequency representation, the Born-Jordan distribution has been proved to be better than the Wigner distribution since it damps very well the unwanted “ghost frequencies”, as shown in [1, 37]. For a throughout and rigorous mathematical explanation of these phenomena we refer to [9] whereas [25, Chapter 5] contains the relevant engineering literature about the geometry of interferences and kernel design.

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To be more specific, the (cross-)Wigner distribution of signals  $f, g$  in the Schwartz class  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is defined by

$$(1) \quad W(f, g)(x, \omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-2\pi i y \omega} f\left(x + \frac{y}{2}\right) \overline{g\left(x - \frac{y}{2}\right)} dy.$$

The Weyl operator  $\text{Op}_W(a)$  with symbol  $a \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  can be defined in terms of the Wigner distribution by the formula

$$\langle \text{Op}_W(a)f, g \rangle = \langle a, W(g, f) \rangle.$$

For  $z = (x, \omega)$ , consider the Cohen kernel

$$(2) \quad \Theta(z) := \text{sinc}(x\omega) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sin(\pi x \omega)}{\pi x \omega} & \text{for } \omega x \neq 0 \\ 1 & \text{for } \omega x = 0. \end{cases}$$

The (cross-)Born-Jordan distribution  $Q(f, g)$  is then defined by

$$(3) \quad Q(f, g) = W(f, g) * \Theta_\sigma, \quad f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d),$$

where  $\Theta_\sigma$  is the symplectic Fourier transform recalled in (22) below. Likewise the Weyl operator, a Born-Jordan operator with symbol  $a \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  can be defined as

$$(4) \quad \langle \text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)f, g \rangle = \langle a, Q(g, f) \rangle \quad f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

Any pseudodifferential operator admits a representation in the Born-Jordan form  $\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)$ , as stated in [8].

Now, a first relevant feature of this work is to have computed the Cohen kernel  $\Theta_\sigma$  explicitly (cf. the subsequent Proposition 3.4). Namely

$$\Theta_\sigma(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \begin{cases} -2 \text{Ci}(4\pi|\zeta_1\zeta_2|), & (\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2, d = 1 \\ \mathcal{F}(\chi_{\{|s|\geq 2\}}|s|^{d-2})(\zeta_1\zeta_2), & (\zeta_1\zeta_2) \in \mathbb{R}^{2d}, d \geq 2, \end{cases}$$

where  $\chi_{\{|s|\geq 2\}}$  is the characteristic function of the set  $\{s \in \mathbb{R} : |s| \geq 2\}$  and where

$$(5) \quad \text{Ci}(t) = - \int_t^{+\infty} \frac{\cos s}{s} ds, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

is the cosine integral function.

This expression of  $\Theta_\sigma$  shows that this kernel behaves badly in general: it does not even belong to  $L_{loc}^\infty$  (see Corollary 3.5) and has no decay at infinity (see Corollary 3.6). In spite of these facts, it was proved in [9] that some directional smoothing effect is still present, but the analysis carried on there also shows the necessity of a systematic and general study of the boundedness of such operators  $\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)$  on modulation spaces, in dependence of the Born-Jordan symbol space. Modulation spaces, introduced by Feichtinger in [19], have been widely employed in the literature to investigate properties of pseudodifferential operators, in particular

we highlight the contributions [3, 4, 14, 24, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36]. For their definition and main properties we refer to the successive section.

The main result concerning the sufficient boundedness conditions of Born-Jordan operators on modulation spaces shows that they behave similarly to Weyl pseudodifferential operators or any other  $\tau$ -form of pseudodifferential operators. For comparison, see [12, Theorem 5.2, Proposition 5.3], [13, Theorem 1.1] and [35, Theorem 4.3]. The necessary boundedness conditions still contain some open problems, as shown in the following result. We denote  $q'$  the conjugate exponent of  $q \in [1, \infty]$ ; it is defined by  $1/q + 1/q' = 1$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** *Consider  $1 \leq p, q, r_1, r_2 \leq \infty$ , such that*

$$(6) \quad p \leq q'$$

and

$$(7) \quad q \leq \min\{r_1, r_2, r'_1, r'_2\}.$$

*Then the Born-Jordan operator  $\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)$ , from  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  to  $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , having symbol  $a \in M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ , extends uniquely to a bounded operator on  $\mathcal{M}^{r_1, r_2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , with the estimate*

$$(8) \quad \|\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)f\|_{\mathcal{M}^{r_1, r_2}} \lesssim \|a\|_{M^{p,q}} \|f\|_{\mathcal{M}^{r_1, r_2}} \quad f \in \mathcal{M}^{r_1, r_2}.$$

*Vice-versa, if this conclusion holds true, the constraints (6) is satisfied and it must hold*

$$(9) \quad \max \left\{ \frac{1}{r_1}, \frac{1}{r_2}, \frac{1}{r'_1}, \frac{1}{r'_2} \right\} \leq \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{p}$$

*which is (7) when  $p = \infty$ .*

Notice that the condition (9) is weaker than (7) when  $p < \infty$ . The condition (9) is obtained by working with rescaled Gaussians which provide the best localization in terms of Wigner distribution (cf. [29]). On the Fourier side, the Born-Jordan distribution is the point-wise multiplication of the Wigner distribution with the kernel  $\Theta$ . This reasoning conduces to conjecture that the condition (9) should be the optimal one so that the sufficient boundedness conditions for Born-Jordan operators might be weaker than the corresponding ones for Weyl and  $\tau$ -pseudodifferential operators. But the matter is really subtle and requires a new and most refined analysis of the kernel  $\Theta$ . In particular the zeroes of the  $\Theta$  function should play a key for a thorough understanding of such operators, which certainly deserve further study.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 is devoted to some preliminary results from Time-frequency Analysis. In Section 3 we perform an analysis of the kernel  $\Theta$  and we prove the above formula for  $\Theta_\sigma$ . In Sections 4 and 5 we study the

Cohen kernels and the boundedness of Born-Jordan operators in the framework of modulation spaces.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

In this section we recall the definition of the spaces involved in our study and present the main time-frequency tools used.

**Modulation and Wiener amalgam spaces.** The modulation and Wiener amalgam space norms are a measure of the joint time-frequency distribution of  $f \in \mathcal{S}'$ . For their basic properties we refer to the original literature [18, 19, 20] and the textbooks [15, 23].

Let  $f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . We define the short-time Fourier transform of  $f$  as

$$(10) \quad V_g f(z) = \langle f, \pi(z)g \rangle = \mathcal{F}[fT_x g](\omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(y) \overline{g(y-x)} e^{-2\pi i y \omega} dy$$

for  $z = (x, \omega) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$ .

Given a non-zero window  $g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ ,  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ , the *modulation space*  $M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  consists of all tempered distributions  $f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$  such that  $V_g f \in L^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  (weighted mixed-norm spaces). The norm on  $M^{p,q}$  is

$$\|f\|_{M^{p,q}} = \|V_g f\|_{L^{p,q}} = \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |V_g f(x, \omega)|^p(x, \omega)^p dx \right)^{q/p} d\omega \right)^{1/p}$$

(with natural modifications when  $p = \infty$  or  $q = \infty$ ). If  $p = q$ , we write  $M^p$  instead of  $M^{p,p}$ .

The space  $M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is a Banach space whose definition is independent of the choice of the window  $g$ , in the sense that different nonzero window functions yield equivalent norms. The modulation space  $M^{\infty,1}$  is also called Sjöstrand's class [31].

The closure of  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  in the  $M^{p,q}$ -norm is denoted  $\mathcal{M}^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ . Then

$$\mathcal{M}^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^d) \subseteq M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^d), \quad \text{and } \mathcal{M}^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^d) = M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^d),$$

provided  $p < \infty$  and  $q < \infty$ .

Recalling that the conjugate exponent  $p'$  of  $p \in [1, \infty]$  is defined by  $1/p + 1/p' = 1$ , for any  $p, q \in [1, \infty]$  the inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  on  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d) \times \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  extends to a continuous sesquilinear map  $M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^d) \times M^{p',q'}(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ .

Modulation spaces enjoy the following inclusion properties:

$$(11) \quad \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d) \subseteq M^{p_1, q_1}(\mathbb{R}^d) \subseteq M^{p_2, q_2}(\mathbb{R}^d) \subseteq \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d), \quad p_1 \leq p_2, \quad q_1 \leq q_2.$$

The Wiener amalgam spaces  $W(\mathcal{F}L^p, L^q)(\mathbb{R}^d)$  are given by the distributions  $f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$  such that

$$\|f\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^p, L^q)(\mathbb{R}^d)} := \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |V_g f(x, \omega)|^p d\omega \right)^{q/p} dx \right)^{1/q} < \infty$$

(with obvious changes for  $p = \infty$  or  $q = \infty$ ). Using Parseval identity in (10), we can write the so-called fundamental identity of time-frequency analysis  $V_g f(x, \omega) = e^{-2\pi i x \omega} V_{\hat{g}} \hat{f}(\omega, -x)$ , hence

$$|V_g f(x, \omega)| = |V_{\hat{g}} \hat{f}(\omega, -x)| = |\mathcal{F}(\hat{f} T_\omega \bar{\hat{g}})(-x)|$$

so that

$$\|f\|_{M^{p,q}} = \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \|\hat{f} T_\omega \bar{\hat{g}}\|_{\mathcal{F}L^p}^q(\omega) d\omega \right)^{1/q} = \|\hat{f}\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^p, L^q)}.$$

This means that these Wiener amalgam spaces are simply the image under Fourier transform of modulation spaces:

$$(12) \quad \mathcal{F}(M^{p,q}) = W(\mathcal{F}L^p, L^q).$$

We will often use the following product property of Wiener amalgam spaces ([18, Theorem 1 (v)]):

$$(13) \quad f \in W(\mathcal{F}L^1, L^\infty) \text{ and } g \in W(\mathcal{F}L^p, L^q) \implies fg \in W(\mathcal{F}L^p, L^q).$$

In order to prove the necessary boundedness conditions for Born-Jordan operators we shall use the dilation properties for Gaussian functions. Precisely, consider  $\varphi(x) = e^{-\pi|x|^2}$  and define

$$(14) \quad \varphi_\lambda(x) = \varphi(\sqrt{\lambda}x) = e^{-\pi\lambda|x|^2}, \quad \lambda > 0.$$

The dilation properties for the Gaussian  $\varphi_\lambda$  in modulation spaces were proved in [35, Lemma 1.8] (see also [7, Lemma 3.2]).

**Lemma 2.1.** *For  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ , we have*

$$(15) \quad \|\varphi_\lambda\|_{M^{p,q}} \asymp \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2q'}} \quad \text{as } \lambda \rightarrow +\infty$$

$$(16) \quad \|\varphi_\lambda\|_{M^{p,q}} \asymp \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2p}} \quad \text{as } \lambda \rightarrow 0^+.$$

The following dilation properties are a straightforward generalization of [9, Lemma 2.3].

**Lemma 2.2.** *Consider  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ ,  $\psi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d) \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\lambda > 0$ . Then*

$$(17) \quad \|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda} \cdot)\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^p, L^q)} \asymp \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2p'}} \quad \text{as } \lambda \rightarrow +\infty$$

$$(18) \quad \|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda} \cdot)\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^p, L^q)} \asymp \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2q}} \quad \text{as } \lambda \rightarrow 0^+.$$

The same conclusion holds uniformly with respect to  $\lambda$  if  $\psi$  varies in bounded subsets of  $C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

Another tool for obtaining the optimality of our results is the cross-Wigner distribution of rescaled Gaussian functions. The proof is a straightforward computation (see Prop. 244 in [15]):

**Lemma 2.3.** *Consider  $\varphi(x) = e^{-\pi|x|^2}$  and  $\varphi_\lambda$  as in (14). Then*

$$(19) \quad W(\varphi, \varphi_\lambda)(x, \omega) = \frac{2^d}{(\lambda + 1)^{\frac{d}{2}}} e^{-\frac{4\pi\lambda}{\lambda+1}|x|^2} e^{-\frac{4\pi}{\lambda+1}|\omega|^2} e^{-4\pi i \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda+1} x\omega}.$$

It follows that:

**Corollary 2.4.** *Consider  $\varphi$  and  $\varphi_\lambda$  as in the assumptions of Lemma 2.3. Then*

$$(20) \quad \mathcal{FW}(\varphi, \varphi_\lambda)(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \frac{1}{(\lambda + 1)^{\frac{d}{2}}} e^{-\frac{\pi}{\lambda+1}\zeta_1^2} e^{-\frac{\pi\lambda}{\lambda+1}\zeta_2^2} e^{-\pi i \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda+1} \zeta_1 \zeta_2}.$$

*Proof.* Formula (20) is easily obtained from (19) using well-known Gaussian integral formulas; it can also be painlessly obtained from (19) by observing that for any functions  $\psi, \phi \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  the following relation between the cross-Wigner distribution and its Fourier transform holds:

$$\mathcal{FW}(\psi, \phi)(x, \omega) = 2^{-d} W(\psi, \phi^\vee)\left(\frac{1}{2}\omega, \frac{1}{2}x\right)$$

where  $\phi^\vee(x) = \phi(-x)$  (see formula (9.27) in [15], or formula (1.90) in Folland [22]).  $\square$

We denote by  $\sigma$  the symplectic form on the phase space  $\mathbb{R}^{2d} \equiv \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$ ; the phase space variable is denoted  $z = (x, \omega)$  and the dual variable by  $\zeta = (\zeta_1, \zeta_2)$ . By definition  $\sigma(z, \zeta) = Jz \cdot \zeta = \omega \cdot \zeta_1 - x \cdot \zeta_2$ , where

$$(21) \quad J = \begin{pmatrix} 0_{d \times d} & I_{d \times d} \\ -I_{d \times d} & 0_{d \times d} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The Fourier transform of a function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is normalized as

$$\mathcal{F}f(\omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-2\pi i x\omega} f(x) dx,$$

and the symplectic Fourier transform of a function  $F$  on the phase space  $\mathbb{R}^{2d}$  is

$$(22) \quad \mathcal{F}_\sigma F(\zeta) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} e^{-2\pi i \sigma(\zeta, z)} F(z) dz.$$

Observe that  $\mathcal{F}_\sigma F(\zeta) = \mathcal{F}F(J\zeta)$ . Hence the symplectic Fourier transform of the Wigner distribution (19) is given by

$$(23) \quad \mathcal{F}_\sigma W(\varphi, \varphi_\lambda)(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \frac{1}{(\lambda + 1)^{\frac{d}{2}}} e^{-\frac{\pi\lambda}{\lambda+1}\zeta_1^2} e^{-\frac{\pi}{\lambda+1}\zeta_2^2} e^{\pi i \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda+1} \zeta_1 \zeta_2}.$$

We will also use the important relation

$$(24) \quad \mathcal{F}_\sigma[F * G] = \mathcal{F}_\sigma F \mathcal{F}_\sigma G.$$

The convolution relations for modulation spaces are essential in the proof of the boundedness of a Born-Jordan operator on these spaces and were proved in [10, Proposition 2.4]:

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $1 \leq p, q, r, s, t \leq \infty$ . If*

$$\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} - 1 = \frac{1}{r}, \quad \frac{1}{t} + \frac{1}{t'} = 1,$$

then

$$(25) \quad M^{p,st}(\mathbb{R}^d) * M^{q,st'}(\mathbb{R}^d) \hookrightarrow M^{r,s}(\mathbb{R}^d)$$

with  $\|f * h\|_{M^{r,s}} \lesssim \|f\|_{M^{p,st}} \|h\|_{M^{q,st'}}$ .

We also recall the useful result proved in [9, Lemma 5.1].

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $\chi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ . Then, for  $\zeta_1, \zeta_2 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , the function  $\chi(\zeta_1 \zeta_2)$  belongs to  $W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ .*

### 3. ANALYSIS OF THE COHEN KERNEL $\Theta$

Consider the Cohen kernel  $\Theta$  defined in (2). Obviously  $\Theta \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{2d}) \cap L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  but displays a vary bad decay at infinity, as clarified in what follows.

**Proposition 3.1.** *For  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , the function  $\Theta \notin L^p(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ .*

*Proof.* Observe that, for  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $|t| \leq 1/2$ , the function  $\text{sinc} t$  satisfies  $|\text{sinc} t| \geq 2/\pi$ . Hence, for any  $1 \leq p < \infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} |\Theta(x, \omega)|^p dx d\omega &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} |\text{sinc}(x\omega)|^p dx d\omega \\ &\geq \int_{|x\omega| \leq 1/2} |\text{sinc}(x\omega)|^p dx d\omega \\ &\geq \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right)^p \int_{|x\omega| \leq 1/2} dx d\omega \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right)^p \text{meas}\{(x, \omega) : |x\omega| \leq 1/2\} = +\infty. \end{aligned}$$

This concludes the proof.  $\square$

We continue our investigation of the function  $\Theta$  by looking for the right Wiener amalgam and modulation spaces containing this function. For this reason, we first reckon explicitly the STFT of the  $\Theta$  function, with respect to the Gaussian window  $g(x, \omega) = e^{-\pi x^2} e^{-\pi \omega^2} \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ .



**Proposition 3.2.** For  $z_1, z_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& V_g \Theta(z_1, z_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) \\
(26) \quad &= \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \frac{1}{(t^2 + 1)^{d/2}} e^{-2\pi i [\frac{1}{t} \zeta_1 \zeta_2 + \frac{t}{t^2+1} (z_1 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2)(z_2 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1)]} e^{-\pi \frac{t^2}{t^2+1} [(z_1 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2)^2 + (z_2 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1)^2]} dt.
\end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* We write  $\Theta(z_1, z_2) = F_1(z_1, z_2) + F_2(z_1, z_2)$ , where  $F_1(z_1, z_2) = \int_0^{1/2} e^{2\pi i z_1 z_2 t} dt$  and  $F_2(z) = F_1(Jz)$ ,  $z = (z_1, z_2)$ . Let us first reckon  $V_g F_1(z, \zeta)$ ,  $z = (z_1, z_2)$ ,  $\zeta = (\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \in \mathbb{R}^{2d}$ , where  $g$  is the Gaussian function above. For  $t > 0$  we define the function  $H_t(z_1, z_2) = e^{2\pi i t z_1 z_2}$  and observe that

$$(27) \quad \mathcal{F}H_t(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \frac{1}{t^d} e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1 \zeta_2}$$

(cf. [22, Appendix A, Theorem 2]). By the Dominated Convergence Theorem,

$$\begin{aligned}
V_g F_1(z, \zeta) &= \int_0^{1/2} \mathcal{F}(H_t T_z g)(\zeta) dt = \int_0^{1/2} (\mathcal{F}(H_t) * M_{-z} \hat{g})(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) dt \\
&= \int_0^{1/2} \frac{1}{t^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{t} (\zeta_1 - y_1) \cdot (\zeta_2 - y_2)} e^{-2\pi i (z_1, z_2) \cdot (y_1, y_2)} e^{-\pi y_1^2} e^{-\pi y_2^2} dy_1 dy_2 dt \\
&= \int_0^{1/2} \frac{1}{t^d} e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{t} y_1 y_2 + 2\pi i \frac{1}{t} (\zeta_2 y_1 + \zeta_1 y_2) - 2\pi i (z_1 y_1 + z_2 y_2)} e^{-\pi (y_1^2 + y_2^2)} dy_1 dy_2 dt \\
&= \int_0^{1/2} \frac{1}{t^d} e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{2\pi i (\frac{1}{t} \zeta_1 y_2 - z_2 y_2)} e^{-\pi y_2^2} \\
&\quad \cdot \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-2\pi i y_1 \cdot (\frac{1}{t} y_2 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2 + z_1)} e^{-\pi y_1^2} dy_1 \right) dy_2 dt \\
&= \int_0^{1/2} \frac{1}{t^d} e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-2\pi i y_2 \cdot (z_2 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1)} e^{-\pi y_2^2} e^{-\pi (\frac{1}{t} y_2 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2 + z_1)^2} dy_2 dt \\
&= \int_0^{1/2} \frac{1}{t^d} e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} e^{-\pi (z_1 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2)^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-2\pi i y_2 \cdot (z_2 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1)} e^{-\pi ((1 + \frac{1}{t^2}) y_2^2 - 2(z_1 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2) \cdot \frac{1}{t} y_2)} dy_2 dt \\
&= \int_0^{1/2} \frac{1}{t^d} e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} e^{-\pi \frac{t^2}{t^2+1} (z_1 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2)^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-2\pi i y_2 \cdot (z_2 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1)} \\
&\quad \cdot e^{-\pi (\frac{\sqrt{t^2+1}}{t} y_2 - \frac{t}{\sqrt{t^2+1}} (z_1 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2))^2} dy_2 dt \\
&= \int_0^{1/2} \frac{1}{(t^2 + 1)^{d/2}} e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} e^{-\pi \frac{t^2}{t^2+1} (z_1 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2)^2} \\
&\quad \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-2\pi i (\frac{t}{\sqrt{t^2+1}} w + \frac{t}{t^2+1} (z_1 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2)) \cdot (z_2 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1)} e^{-\pi w^2} dw dt \\
&= \int_0^{1/2} \frac{1}{(t^2 + 1)^{d/2}} e^{-2\pi i \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} e^{-\pi \frac{t^2}{t^2+1} (z_1 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2)^2} e^{-\pi \frac{t^2}{t^2+1} (z_2 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1)^2} \\
&\quad \cdot e^{-2\pi i \frac{t}{t^2+1} (z_1 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_2) \cdot (z_2 - \frac{1}{t} \zeta_1)} dt.
\end{aligned}$$

Now, an easy computation shows

$$V_g F_2(z, \zeta) = V_g F_1(Jz, J\zeta)$$

so that  $V_g \Theta = V_g F_1 + V_g F_2$  and we obtain (26).  $\square$

**Proposition 3.3.** *The function  $\Theta$  in (2) belongs to  $W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ .*

*Proof.* We simply have to calculate

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{R}^{2d}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} |V_g \Theta(z, \zeta)| d\zeta.$$

From (26) we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \|V_g\Theta(z, \cdot)\|_1 &\leq \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} \frac{1}{(t^2+1)^{d/2}} e^{-\pi \frac{t^2}{t^2+1} (z_1 - \frac{1}{t}\zeta_2)^2} e^{-\pi \frac{t^2}{t^2+1} (z_2 - \frac{1}{t}\zeta_1)^2} d\zeta_1 d\zeta_2 dt \\ &= \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} \frac{1}{(t^2+1)^{d/2}} e^{-\pi \frac{1}{t^2+1} (tz_1 - \zeta_2)^2} e^{-\pi \frac{1}{t^2+1} (tz_2 - \zeta_1)^2} d\zeta_1 d\zeta_2 dt \\ &= \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} (t^2+1)^{d/2} e^{-\pi(v_1^2+v_2^2)} dv_1 dv_2 dt = C < \infty, \end{aligned}$$

from which the claim follows.  $\square$

Using the STFT of the function  $\Theta$  in (26) we observe that

$$\|V_g\Theta(\cdot, \zeta)\|_1 \leq \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} \frac{1}{(t^2+1)^{d/2}} e^{-\pi \frac{t^2}{t^2+1} (u_1 - \frac{1}{t}\zeta_2)^2} e^{-\pi \frac{t^2}{t^2+1} (u_2 - \frac{1}{t}\zeta_1)^2} du_1 du_2 dt = +\infty$$

so that we conjecture that  $\Theta \notin M^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ . The previous claim will follow if we prove that  $\Theta_\sigma \notin W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ .

Note that  $\Theta_\sigma(\zeta) = \mathcal{F}\Theta(J\zeta) = \mathcal{F}\Theta(\zeta)$ . Furthermore, the distributional Fourier transform of  $\Theta$  can be computed explicitly as follows. First, recall the definition of the cosine integral function (5).

**Proposition 3.4.** *For  $d \geq 1$  the distribution symplectic Fourier transform  $\Theta_\sigma$  of the function  $\Theta$  is provided by*

$$(28) \quad \Theta_\sigma(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \begin{cases} -2 \operatorname{Ci}(4\pi|\zeta_1\zeta_2|), & (\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2, d = 1 \\ \mathcal{F}(\chi_{\{|s|\geq 2\}}|s|^{d-2})(\zeta_1\zeta_2), & (\zeta_1\zeta_2) \in \mathbb{R}^{2d}, d \geq 2, \end{cases}$$

where  $\chi_{\{|s|\geq 2\}}$  is the characteristic function of the set  $\{s \in \mathbb{R} : |s| \geq 2\}$ . The case  $d = 1$  can be recaptured by the case  $d \geq 2$  using (5).

*Proof.* We carry out the computations of  $\Theta_\sigma$  by studying first the case in dimension  $d = 1$  and secondly, inspired by the former case,  $d > 1$ .

*First step:  $d = 1$ .* By Proposition 3.1, the function  $\Theta$  is in

$$L^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2) \setminus L^p(\mathbb{R}^2) \subset \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^2), \quad 1 \leq p < \infty,$$

so that the Fourier transform is meant in  $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . Observe that

$$\mathcal{F}\Theta(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \mathcal{F}_2\mathcal{F}_1\Theta(\zeta_1, \zeta_2),$$

where  $\mathcal{F}_1$  (resp.  $\mathcal{F}_2$ ) is the partial Fourier transform with respect to the first (resp. second) variable. Indeed, for every test function  $\varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ ,

$$\langle \mathcal{F}\Theta, \varphi \rangle = \langle \Theta, \mathcal{F}^{-1}\varphi \rangle$$

and  $\mathcal{F}^{-1}\varphi(x, \omega) = \mathcal{F}_1^{-1}\mathcal{F}_2^{-1}\varphi(x, \omega) = \mathcal{F}_2^{-1}\mathcal{F}_1^{-1}\varphi(x, \omega)$ , by Fubini's Theorem.

Using

$$\mathcal{F}_1 \text{sinc}(y_2 \cdot)(\zeta_1) = \frac{1}{|y_2|} p_{1/2}(\zeta_1/y_2), \quad y_2 \neq 0,$$

where  $p_{1/2}(t)$  is the box function defined by  $p_{1/2}(t) = 1$  for  $|t| \leq 1/2$  and  $p_{1/2}(t) = 0$  otherwise, we obtain, for  $\zeta_1 \zeta_2 \neq 0$  (hence in particular  $|\zeta_1| > 0$ ),

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}\Theta(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-2\pi i \zeta_2 y_2} \frac{1}{|y_2|} p_{1/2}(\zeta_1/y_2) dy_2 = \int_{|y_2| \geq 2|\zeta_1|} e^{-2\pi i \zeta_2 y_2} \frac{1}{|y_2|} dy_2 \\ &= \int_{|s| \geq 2|\zeta_1 \zeta_2|} e^{-2\pi i s} \frac{1}{|s|} ds \\ &= \int_{|s| \geq 2|\zeta_1 \zeta_2|} \frac{\cos(2\pi s) - i \sin(2\pi s)}{|s|} ds \\ &= \int_{|s| \geq 2|\zeta_1 \zeta_2|} \frac{\cos 2\pi s}{|s|} ds \\ &= 2 \int_{2|\zeta_1 \zeta_2|}^{+\infty} \frac{\cos 2\pi s}{s} ds = -2\text{Ci}(4\pi|\zeta_1 \zeta_2|), \end{aligned}$$

by (5), so that, since  $\zeta_1 \zeta_2 = 0$  is a set of Lebesgue measure equal zero on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , we can write

$$(29) \quad \Theta_\sigma(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = -2\text{Ci}(4\pi|\zeta_1 \zeta_2|), \quad (\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

*Second step:*  $d > 1$ . This is a simple generalization on the former step. For  $(z_1, z_2), (\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \in \mathbb{R}^{2d}$ ,  $d > 1$ , we write

$$(30) \quad z_i = (z'_i, z_{i,d}), \quad \zeta_i = (\zeta'_i, \zeta_{i,d}), \quad z'_i, \zeta'_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d-1}, \quad z_{i,d}, \zeta_{i,d} \in \mathbb{R}, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

We decompose  $\mathcal{F}\Theta = \mathcal{F}_{2d} \mathcal{F}' \mathcal{F}_1 \Theta$  where, for  $\Theta = \Theta(z_1, z_2)$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_1$  is the partial Fourier transform with respect to the variable  $z_{1,d}$ ,  $\mathcal{F}'$  is the partial Fourier transform with respect the  $2d-2$  variables  $(z'_1, z'_2) \in \mathbb{R}^{2d-2}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{2d}$  is the partial Fourier transform with respect to the last variable  $z_{2,d}$ . We start with computing the partial Fourier transform  $\mathcal{F}_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}_1 \Theta(z'_1, \cdot, z'_2, z_{2,d})(\zeta_{1,d}) &= \mathcal{F}_1 (T_{\substack{-z'_1 z'_2 \\ z_{2,d}}} \text{sinc}(z_{2,d} \cdot))(\zeta_{1,d}) \\ &= e^{2\pi i \frac{\zeta_{1,d}}{z_{2,d}} z'_1 z'_2} \frac{1}{|z_{2,d}|} \mathcal{F}_1(\text{sinc}) \left( \begin{matrix} \zeta_{1,d} \\ z_{2,d} \end{matrix} \right) \\ &= e^{2\pi i \frac{\zeta_{1,d}}{z_{2,d}} z'_1 z'_2} \frac{1}{|z_{2,d}|} p_{1/2} \left( \begin{matrix} \zeta_{1,d} \\ z_{2,d} \end{matrix} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Using the Gaussian integrals in [22, Appendix A, Theorem 2]) we calculate

$$\mathcal{F}'(e^{2\pi i \frac{\zeta_{1,d}}{z_{2,d}} z'_1 z'_2})(\zeta'_1, \zeta'_2) = \left| \frac{z_{2,d}}{\zeta_{1,d}} \right|^{d-1} e^{-2\pi i \frac{z_{2,d}}{\zeta_{1,d}} \zeta'_1 \zeta'_2},$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}\Theta(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) &= \mathcal{F}_{2d} \left( e^{-2\pi i \frac{z_{2,d}}{\zeta_{1,d}} \zeta'_1 \zeta'_2} \left| \frac{z_{2,d}}{\zeta_{1,d}} \right|^{d-1} \frac{1}{|z_{2,d}|} p_{1/2} \left( \frac{\zeta_{1,d}}{z_{2,d}} \right) \right) (\zeta_{2,d}) \\ &= \int_{\left| \frac{\zeta_{1,d}}{z_{2,d}} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2}} \left| \frac{z_{2,d}}{\zeta_{1,d}} \right|^{d-1} \frac{1}{|z_{2,d}|} e^{-2\pi i \frac{z_{2,d}}{\zeta_{1,d}} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} dz_{2,d} \\ &= \int_{|s| \geq 2} e^{-2\pi i s(\zeta_1 \zeta_2)} |s|^{d-2} ds, \end{aligned}$$

as claimed.  $\square$

Notice that the second equation (28) can be written

$$\Theta_\sigma(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \int_{|s| \geq 2} e^{-2\pi i s(\zeta_1 \zeta_2)} |s|^{d-2} ds.$$

**Corollary 3.5.** *We have*

$$\Theta_\sigma \notin L_{loc}^\infty(\mathbb{R}^{2d}).$$

*Proof.* For the case  $d = 1$ , recall that the cosine integral  $\text{Ci}(x)$  has the series expansion

$$\text{Ci}(x) = \gamma + \log x + \sum_{k=1}^{+\infty} \frac{(-x^2)^k}{2k(2k)!}, \quad x > 0$$

where  $\gamma$  is the Euler–Mascheroni constant, from which our claim easily follows.

For  $d \geq 2$ ,  $\Theta_\sigma$  is only defined as a tempered distribution.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.6.** *The function  $\Theta_\sigma \notin L^p(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ , for any  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ .*

*Proof.* The case  $p = \infty$  is already treated in Corollary 3.5. For  $d \geq 2$  again we observe that  $\Theta_\sigma$  is not defined as function but only as a tempered distribution. For  $d = 1$ ,  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , the claim follows by the expression (29). Indeed, choose  $0 < \epsilon < \pi/2$ , then  $|\text{Ci}(x)| \geq |\text{Ci}(\epsilon)|$ , for  $0 < x < \epsilon$ , so that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |\Theta_\sigma(\zeta_1, \zeta_2)|^p d\zeta_1 d\zeta_2 &\geq 2 \int_{|\zeta_1 \zeta_2| < \frac{\epsilon}{4\pi}} |\text{Ci}(4\pi|\zeta_1 \zeta_2|)|^p d\zeta_1 d\zeta_2 \\ &\geq C_p \text{meas}\left\{(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) : |\zeta_1 \zeta_2| < \frac{\epsilon}{4\pi}\right\} = +\infty, \end{aligned}$$

for a suitable constant  $C_p > 0$ .  $\square$

Since  $\mathcal{FL}^1 \subset L^\infty$ , the Wiener amalgam space  $W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)$  is included in  $L_{loc}^\infty$ . This proves our claim:

**Corollary 3.7.** *The function  $\Theta_\sigma \notin W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  or, equivalently,  $\Theta \notin M^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ .*

#### 4. COHEN KERNELS IN MODULATION AND WIENER SPACES

In this section we focus on other members of the Cohen class, introduced by Cohen in [5], which define, for  $\tau \in [0, 1]$ , the (cross-) $\tau$ -Wigner distributions

$$(31) \quad W_\tau(f, g)(x, \omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-2\pi i y \zeta} f(x + \tau y) \overline{g(x - (1 - \tau)y)} dy \quad f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

Such distributions enter in the definition of the  $\tau$ -pseudodifferential operators as follows

$$(32) \quad \langle \text{Op}_\tau(a)f, g \rangle = \langle a, W_\tau(g, f) \rangle \quad f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

It is then natural to investigate the time-frequency properties of such kernels and compare to the corresponding Weyl and Born-Jordan ones. The Cohen class consists of elements of the type

$$M(f, f)(x, \omega) = W(f, f) * \sigma$$

where  $\sigma \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  is called the Cohen kernel. When  $\sigma = \delta$ , then  $M(f, f) = W(f, f)$  and we come back to the Wigner distribution. When  $\sigma = \Theta_\sigma$ , then  $M(f, f) = Q(f, f)$ , that is the Born-Jordan distribution. The  $\tau$ -Wigner function  $W_\tau(f, f)$  belongs to the Cohen class for every  $\tau \in [0, 1]$ , as proved in [1, Proposition 5.6]:

$$W_\tau(f, f) = W(f, f) * \sigma_\tau,$$

where

$$\sigma_\tau(x, \omega) = \frac{2^d}{|2\tau - 1|^d} e^{2\pi i \frac{2}{2\tau - 1} x \omega}, \quad \tau \neq \frac{1}{2}$$

and  $\sigma_{1/2} = \delta$  (the case of the Wigner distribution, as already observed).

In what follows we study the properties of the Cohen kernels  $\sigma_\tau$  in the realm of modulation and Wiener amalgam spaces. As we shall see, the Born-Jordan kernel and the Wigner one display similar time-frequency properties and are locally worse than the kernels  $\sigma_\tau$ ,  $\tau \neq 1/2$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *We have, for every  $\tau \in [0, 1] \setminus \{1/2\}$ ,*

$$\sigma_\tau \in W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d}) \cap M^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}).$$

*Proof.* We exploit the dilation properties for Wiener spaces (cf. [33, Lemma 3.2] and its generalization in [7, Corollary 3.2]): for  $A = \lambda I$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ ,

$$(33) \quad \|f(A \cdot)\|_{W(\mathcal{FL}^p, L^q)} \leq C \lambda^{d(\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{q} - 1)} (\lambda^2 + 1)^{d/2} \|f\|_{W(\mathcal{FL}^p, L^q)}.$$

Using the dilation relations for Wiener amalgam spaces (33) for  $\lambda = \sqrt{t}$ ,  $0 < t < 1/2$ ,  $p = 1$ ,  $q = \infty$ , we obtain

$$\|e^{\pm 2\pi i \zeta_1 \zeta_2 t}\|_{W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)} \leq C \|e^{\pm 2\pi i \zeta_1 \zeta_2}\|_{W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)}$$

with constant  $C > 0$  independent on the parameter  $t$ . For  $t = \frac{2}{2\tau-1}$ , when  $\tau > 1/2$  and  $t = -\frac{2}{2\tau-1}$ , when  $0 \leq \tau < 1/2$ , we obtain that  $\sigma_\tau \in W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ . Now, an easy computation gives

$$\mathcal{F}\sigma_\tau(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = e^{-\pi i(2\tau-1)\zeta_1 \zeta_2},$$

so that, using  $\mathcal{FM}^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}) = W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  and repeating the previous argument we obtain  $\sigma_\tau \in M^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  for every  $\tau \in [0, 1] \setminus \{1/2\}$ .  $\square$

The case  $\tau = 1/2$  is different. Indeed,  $\sigma_{1/2} = \delta$  and for any fixed  $g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}) \setminus \{0\}$  the STFT  $V_g \delta$  is given by

$$V_g \delta(z, \zeta) = \langle \delta, M_\zeta T_z g \rangle = \overline{g(-z)},$$

that yields  $\delta \in M^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}) \setminus W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ .

The Born-Jordan kernel  $\Theta_\sigma$  behaves analogously. Indeed, using Proposition 3.3 and Corollary 3.7, we obtain

$$\Theta_\sigma \in M^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}) \setminus W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d}).$$

Those distributions can be used in the definition of the  $\tau$ -pseudodifferential operators

## 5. SYMBOLS IN MODULATION SPACES

This section is focused on the proof of Theorem 1.1. We first demonstrate the sufficient boundedness conditions.

**Theorem 5.1.** *Assume that  $1 \leq p, q, r_1, r_2 \leq \infty$ . Then the pseudodifferential operator  $\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)$ , from  $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  to  $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , having symbol  $a \in M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ , extends uniquely to a bounded operator on  $\mathcal{M}^{r_1, r_2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , with the estimate (8) and the indices' conditions (6) and (7).*

The result relies on a thorough understanding of the action of the mapping

$$(34) \quad A : a \longmapsto a * \Theta_\sigma,$$

which gives the Weyl symbol of an operator with Born-Jordan symbol  $a$ , on modulation spaces.

**Proposition 5.1.** *For every  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ , the mapping  $A$  in (34), defined initially on  $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ , restricts to a linear continuous map on  $M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ , i.e., there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that*

$$(35) \quad \|Aa\|_{M^{p,q}} \leq C \|a\|_{M^{p,q}}.$$

*Proof.* By Proposition 3.3, the function  $\Theta \in W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ . Its symplectic Fourier transform  $\Theta_\sigma$  belongs to  $\mathcal{F}_\sigma W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)(\mathbb{R}^{2d}) = M^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ . Now, for every  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$ , the convolution relations for modulation space  $\mathfrak{s}$  (25) give

$$M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}) * M^{1,\infty}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}) \hookrightarrow M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$$

and this shows the claim (35).  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 5.1.* Assume  $a \in M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ , then Proposition 5.1 proves that  $Aa = a * \Theta_\sigma \in M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$  as well. We next write  $\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a) = \text{Op}_{\text{W}}(Aa)$  and use the sufficient conditions for Weyl operators in [12, Theorem 5.2]: if the Weyl symbol  $Aa$  is in  $M^{p,q}(\mathbb{R}^{2d})$ , then  $\text{Op}_{\text{W}}(Aa)$  extends to a bounded operator on  $\mathcal{M}^{r_1, r_2}(\mathbb{R}^d)$ , with

$$\|\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)f\|_{\mathcal{M}^{r_1, r_2}} = \|\text{Op}_{\text{W}}(Aa)f\|_{\mathcal{M}^{r_1, r_2}} \lesssim \|Aa\|_{M^{p,q}} \|f\|_{\mathcal{M}^{r_1, r_2}}$$

where the indices  $r_1, r_2, p, q$  satisfy (6) and (7). The inequality (35) then provides the claim.  $\square$

The necessary conditions of Theorem 1.1 require some preliminaries.

We reckon the adjoint operator  $\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)^*$  of a Born-Jordan operator  $\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)$  using the connection with Weyl operators. Recall that  $\text{Op}_{\text{W}}(b)^* = \text{Op}_{\text{W}}(\bar{b})$  [26], so that

$$\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)^* = \text{Op}_{\text{W}}(a * \Theta_\sigma)^* = \text{Op}_{\text{W}}(\overline{a * \Theta_\sigma}) = \text{Op}_{\text{W}}(\bar{a} * \bar{\Theta}_\sigma) = \text{Op}_{\text{W}}(\bar{a} * \Theta_\sigma) = \text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(\bar{a})$$

because  $\Theta$  is an even real-valued function. Hence the adjoint of a Born-Jordan operator  $\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)$  with symbol  $a$  is the Born-Jordan operator having symbol  $\bar{a}$  (the complex-conjugate of  $a$ ). This nice property is the key argument for the following auxiliary result, already obtained for the case of Weyl operators in [12, Lemma 5.1]. The proof uses the same pattern as the former result and hence is omitted.

**Lemma 5.2.** *Suppose that, for some  $1 \leq p, q, r_1, r_2 \leq \infty$ , the following estimate holds:*

$$\|\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)f\|_{M^{r_1, r_2}} \leq C \|a\|_{M^{p,q}} \|f\|_{M^{r_1, r_2}}, \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}), \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

*Then the same estimate is satisfied with  $r_1, r_2$  replaced by  $r'_1, r'_2$  (even if  $r_1 = \infty$  or  $r_2 = \infty$ ).*

The above instruments let us show the necessity of (6) and (9).

**Theorem 5.2.** *Suppose that, for some  $1 \leq p, q, r_1, r_2 \leq \infty$ ,  $C > 0$  the estimate*

$$(36) \quad \|\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a)f\|_{M^{r_1, r_2}} \leq C \|a\|_{M^{p,q}} \|f\|_{M^{r_1, r_2}} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}), \quad f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$$

*holds. Then the constraints in (6) and (9) must hold.*



*Proof.* The estimate (36) can be written as

$$|\langle a, Q(f, g) \rangle| \leq C \|a\|_{M^{p,q}} \|f\|_{M^{r_1, r_2}} \|g\|_{M^{r'_1, r'_2}} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}), f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$$

which is equivalent to

$$\|Q(f, g)\|_{M^{p', q'}} \leq C \|f\|_{M^{r_1, r_2}} \|g\|_{M^{r'_1, r'_2}} \quad \forall f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

Now, one should test this estimate on families of functions  $f_\lambda, g_\lambda$  such that  $Q(f_\lambda, g_\lambda)$  is concentrated inside the hyperbola  $|x \cdot \omega| < 1$  (say), see Figure 1, where  $\theta \asymp 1$ , so that the left-hand side is comparable to  $\|W(f_\lambda, g_\lambda)\|_{M^{p', q'}}$  and can be estimated from below.

The choice  $f_\lambda(x) = g_\lambda(x) = e^{-\pi\lambda|x|^2}$ , provides the estimate (6) when  $\lambda \rightarrow +\infty$ . Indeed in this case we argue exactly as in the proof of [9, Theorem 1.4]. We recall this pattern, useful also for other cases. Remind that  $\varphi(x) = e^{-\pi|x|^2}$  and  $\varphi_\lambda$  is defined in (14). By (15) we obtain the estimate

$$(37) \quad \|\varphi_\lambda\|_{M^{r_1, r_2}} \|\varphi_\lambda\|_{M^{r'_1, r'_2}} \lesssim \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2r'_2}} \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2r_2}}.$$

We gauge from below the norm  $\|Q(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)\|_{M^{p', q'}}$  as follows. By taking the symplectic Fourier transform and using Lemma 2.5 and the product property (13) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|Q(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)\|_{M^{p', q'}} &= \|\Theta_\sigma * W(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)\|_{M^{p', q'}} \\ &\asymp \|\Theta \mathcal{F}_\sigma[W(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)]\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})} \\ &\gtrsim \|\Theta(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \chi(\zeta_1 \zeta_2) \mathcal{F}_\sigma[W(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)]\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})} \end{aligned}$$

for any  $\chi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ . Choosing  $\chi$  supported in the interval  $[-1/4, 1/4]$  and  $= 1$  in the interval  $[-1/8, 1/8]$ , we write

$$\chi(\zeta_1 \zeta_2) = \chi(\zeta_1 \zeta_2) \Theta(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \Theta^{-1}(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) \tilde{\chi}(\zeta_1 \zeta_2),$$

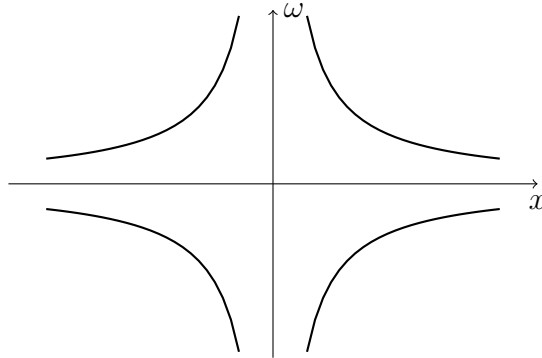


FIGURE 1. The region  $|x \cdot \omega| < 1$  ( $d = 1$ ).

with  $\tilde{\chi} \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  supported in  $[-1/2, 1/2]$  and  $\tilde{\chi} = 1$  on  $[-1/4, 1/4]$ , therefore on the support of  $\chi$ . Since by Lemma 2.5 the function  $\Theta^{-1}(\zeta_1, \zeta_2)\tilde{\chi}(\zeta_1\zeta_2)$  belongs to  $W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)$ , again by the product property the last expression is estimated from below as

$$\gtrsim \|\chi(\zeta_1\zeta_2)\mathcal{F}_\sigma[W(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)]\|_{W(\mathcal{FL}^{p'}, L^{q'})}.$$

Consider a function  $\psi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d) \setminus \{0\}$ , supported in  $[-1/4, 1/4]$ . Using

$$|\zeta_1\zeta_2| \leq \frac{1}{2}(|\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1|^2 + |\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2|^2)$$

we see that  $\chi(\zeta_1\zeta_2) = 1$  on the support of  $\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2)$ , for every  $\lambda > 0$ .

Then, we can write

$$\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2) = \chi(\zeta_1\zeta_2)\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2)$$

and by Lemma 2.2 we also infer

$$\|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2)\|_{W(\mathcal{FL}^1, L^\infty)} \lesssim 1$$

so that we can continue the above estimate as

$$\gtrsim \|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2)\mathcal{F}_\sigma[W(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)]\|_{W(\mathcal{FL}^{p'}, L^{q'})}.$$

Using (see e.g. [23, Formula (4.20)])

$$(38) \quad W(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)(x, \omega) = 2^{\frac{d}{2}}\lambda^{-\frac{d}{2}}\varphi(\sqrt{2\lambda}x)\varphi\left(\sqrt{\frac{2}{\lambda}}\omega\right),$$

we calculate

$$\mathcal{F}_\sigma[W(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)](\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = 2^{\frac{d}{2}}\lambda^{-\frac{d}{2}}\varphi((\sqrt{2\lambda})^{-1}\zeta_2)\varphi\left(\sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{2}}\zeta_1\right),$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2)\mathcal{F}_\sigma[W(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)]\|_{W(\mathcal{FL}^{p'}, L^{q'})} \\ &= 2^{d/2}\lambda^{-\frac{d}{2}}\|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)\varphi((1/\sqrt{2})\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)\|_{W(\mathcal{FL}^{p'}, L^{q'})}\|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2)\varphi((\sqrt{2\lambda})^{-1}\zeta_2)\|_{W(\mathcal{FL}^{p'}, L^{q'})}. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.2 we can estimate the last expression so that

$$\|Q(\varphi_\lambda, \varphi_\lambda)\|_{M^{p', q'}} \gtrsim \lambda^{-d + \frac{d}{2p'} + \frac{d}{2q'}} \quad \text{as } \lambda \rightarrow +\infty.$$

Finally, using the estimate (37) we infer (6).

We now prove that  $\max\{1/r_1, 1/r'_1\} \leq 1/q + 1/p$ . If we show the estimate  $1/r_1 \leq 1/q + 1/p$ , then the constraint  $1/r'_1 \leq 1/q + 1/p$  follows by the duality argument of Lemma 5.2. To reach this goal, we consider  $f_\lambda = \varphi$  (independent

of the parameter  $\lambda$ ) and  $g = \varphi_\lambda$  as before and use the previous pattern for these families of functions, in the case  $\lambda \rightarrow 0^+$ . By (15) the upper estimate becomes

$$(39) \quad \|\varphi\|_{M^{r_1, r_2}} \|\varphi_\lambda\|_{M^{r'_1, r'_2}} \lesssim \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2r'_1}}.$$

The same arguments as before let us write

$$\|Q(\varphi, \varphi_\lambda)\|_{M^{p', q'}} \gtrsim \|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2)\mathcal{F}_\sigma[W(\varphi, \varphi_\lambda)]\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})},$$

where  $\mathcal{F}_\sigma[W(\varphi, \varphi_\lambda)]$  is computed in (23). Observe that, given any  $F \in W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|e^{\pi i \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda+1} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2)\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})} &\gtrsim \|e^{-\pi i \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda+1} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} e^{\pi i \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda+1} \zeta_1 \zeta_2} F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2)\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})} \\ &= \|F(\zeta_1, \zeta_2)\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})}, \end{aligned}$$

because  $\|e^{-\pi i \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda+1} \zeta_1 \zeta_2}\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^1, L^\infty)} \leq C$ , for every  $\lambda > 0$  by [9, Proposition 3.2]. So, writing

$$c_\lambda = \frac{1}{(\lambda + 1)^{\frac{d}{2}}}$$

(notice  $c_\lambda \rightarrow 1$  for  $\lambda \rightarrow 0^+$ ) we are reduced to

$$\|Q(\varphi, \varphi_\lambda)\|_{M^{p', q'}} \gtrsim c_\lambda \|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)e^{-\frac{\pi\lambda}{\lambda+1}\zeta_1^2}\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})} \|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2)e^{-\frac{\pi}{\lambda+1}\zeta_2^2}\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})}.$$

By Lemma 2.2 we can estimate, for  $\lambda \rightarrow 0^+$ ,

$$\|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)e^{-\frac{\pi\lambda}{\lambda+1}\zeta_1^2}\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})} = \|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)e^{-\frac{\pi}{\lambda+1}(\sqrt{\lambda}\zeta_1)^2}\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})} \asymp \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2q'}},$$

whereas

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi(\sqrt{\lambda}^{-1}\zeta_2)e^{-\frac{\pi}{\lambda+1}\zeta_2^2}\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{p'}, L^{q'})} &\gtrsim \lambda^{\frac{d}{2}}(\lambda + 1)^{\frac{d}{2}} \left\| \int \hat{\psi}(\sqrt{\lambda}(\zeta_2 - \eta))e^{-\pi(\lambda+1)|\eta|^2} d\eta \right\|_{L^{p'}} \\ &= \lambda^{\frac{d}{2}}(\lambda + 1)^{\frac{d}{2}} \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2p'}} \left\| \int \hat{\psi}(\zeta_2 - \sqrt{\lambda}\eta)e^{-\pi(\lambda+1)|\eta|^2} d\eta \right\|_{L^{p'}} \\ &= (\lambda + 1)^{\frac{d}{2}} \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2p'}} \left\| \int \hat{\psi}(\zeta_2 - t)e^{-\pi\frac{\lambda+1}{\lambda}|t|^2} dt \right\|_{L^{p'}} \\ &= \lambda^{\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2p'}} \|\hat{\psi} * K_{1/\sqrt{\lambda}}\|_{L^{p'}} \\ &\sim \lambda^{\frac{d}{2} - \frac{d}{2p'}} \|\hat{\psi}\|_{p'}, \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow 0^+ \end{aligned}$$

where  $K_{1/\sqrt{\lambda}}(\zeta_2) = \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2}}(\lambda + 1)^{\frac{d}{2}} e^{-\frac{\pi(\lambda+1)}{\lambda}|\zeta_2|^2}$ ,  $\lambda \rightarrow 0^+$ , is an approximate identity. So that

$$\lambda^{-\frac{d}{2r'_1}} \gtrsim \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2q'}} \lambda^{\frac{d}{2p}}$$

and, for  $\lambda \rightarrow 0^+$ , we obtain

$$\frac{1}{r_1} \leq \frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{p},$$

as desired.

It remains to prove that  $\max\{1/r_2, 1/r'_2\} \leq 1/q + 1/p$ . Again, it is enough to show that  $1/r_2 \leq 1/q + 1/p$  and invoke Lemma 5.2 for  $1/r'_2 \leq 1/q + 1/p$ .

An explicit computation (see [12, Proposition 5.3]) shows that

$$(40) \quad \mathcal{F}^{-1} \text{Op}_W(\sigma) \mathcal{F} = \text{Op}_W(\sigma \circ J),$$

where  $J(x, \omega) = (\omega, -x)$  as defined in (21) (this is also a consequence of the intertwining property of the metaplectic operator  $\mathcal{F}$  with the Weyl operator  $\text{Op}_W(\sigma)$  [15, Corollary 221]).

Now, observing that  $\Theta_\sigma \circ J = \Theta_\sigma$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (a * \Theta_\sigma)(Jz) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} a(u) \Theta_\sigma(Jz - u) du = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} a(u) \Theta_\sigma(J(z - J^{-1}u)) du \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} a(u) \Theta_\sigma(z - J^{-1}u) du = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{2d}} a(Ju) \Theta_\sigma(z - u) du \\ &= (a \circ J) * \Theta_\sigma(z). \end{aligned}$$

The previous computations together with (40) gives

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1} \text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a) \mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}^{-1} \text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a \circ J) \mathcal{F}.$$

On the other hand, the map  $a \mapsto a \circ J$  is an isomorphism of  $M^{p,q}$ , so that (36) is in fact equivalent to

$$(41) \quad \|\text{Op}_{\text{BJ}}(a) f\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{r_1}, L^{r_2})} \lesssim \|a\|_{M^{p,q}} \|f\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{r_1}, L^{r_2})} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}), f \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

The estimate (41) can be written as

$$|\langle a, Q(f, g) \rangle| \leq C \|a\|_{M^{p,q}} \|f\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{r_1}, L^{r_2})} \|g\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{r'_1}, L^{r'_2})} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^{2d}), f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d)$$

which is equivalent to

$$\|Q(f, g)\|_{M^{p',q'}} \leq C \|f\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{r_1}, L^{r_2})} \|g\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{r'_1}, L^{r'_2})} \quad \forall f, g \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^d).$$

Now, taking  $f = \varphi$  and  $g = \varphi_\lambda$  as before, we observe that, for  $\lambda \rightarrow 0^+$ , by (15),

$$\|\varphi_\lambda\|_{W(\mathcal{F}L^{r'_1}, L^{r'_2})} \asymp \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2}} \|\varphi_{1/\lambda}\|_{M^{r'_1, r'_2}} \asymp \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2} + \frac{d}{2r_2}} = \lambda^{-\frac{d}{2r'_2}}.$$

Arguing as in the previous case we obtain  $1/r_2 \leq 1/q + 1/p$ . This concludes the proof.  $\square$

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