

# Positivity, Toeplitz operators, and Berger-Coburn Conjecture

Michael Hitrik

Department of Mathematics, UCLA

Workshop on Microlocal Analysis and Mathematical Physics, Lund,  
September 19-21, 2023

In honor of **ANDERS MELIN**

Joint work with L. Coburn and J. Sjöstrand

# Introduction. Positive complex Lagrangians

**Main theme of the talk** : explore/develop links between **Toeplitz operators** and **Fourier integral operators** in the complex domain. An important role throughout the talk will be played by complex canonical transformations, enjoying certain **positivity properties**. For motivation, let us start by considering a couple of examples.

**Example I.** Let  $q : \mathbb{R}_x^n \times \mathbb{R}_\xi^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a quadratic form such that

$$\operatorname{Re} q > 0.$$

Associated to  $q$  is the **Hamilton map**  $F : \mathbb{C}^{2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{2n}$  defined by

$$q(X, Y) = \sigma(X, FY), \quad X, Y \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}.$$

Here

$$\sigma = \sum_{j=1}^n d\xi_j \wedge dx_j$$

is the **complex symplectic form** on  $\mathbb{C}^{2n} = \mathbb{C}_x^n \times \mathbb{C}_\xi^n$ .

We have  $\text{Spec}(F) \cap \mathbb{R} = \emptyset$  and

$$\lambda \in \text{Spec}(F) \iff -\lambda \in \text{Spec}(F).$$

Let us set

$$\Lambda^+ = \bigoplus_{\substack{\lambda \in \text{Spec}(F) \\ \text{Im } \lambda > 0}} \text{Ker}(F - \lambda)^{2n} \subset \mathbb{C}^{2n}.$$

The complex linear subspace  $\Lambda^+$  is a **complex Lagrangian plane** in the sense that  $\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \Lambda^+ = n$  and

$$\sigma(X, Y) = 0, \quad X, Y \in \Lambda^+.$$

**Fundamental observation** (J. Sjöstrand, 1974) : the  $\mathbb{C}$ -Lagrangian  $\Lambda^+$  is **strictly positive** :

$$\frac{1}{i} \sigma(X, \bar{X}) > 0, \quad 0 \neq X \in \Lambda^+.$$

**Example.** Let  $q(x, \xi) = x^2 + \xi^2$ . We have

$$\Lambda^+ = \{X = (x, \xi) \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}; \xi = ix\}.$$

L. Hörmander (1971), ... A. Melin – J. Sjöstrand (1974–1977).

Let

$$\varphi(x, y) = \frac{i(x - y)^2}{2}, \quad x, y \in \mathbb{C}^n,$$

and consider the complex linear map

$$\kappa : \mathbb{C}^{2n} \ni (y, -\varphi'_y(x, y)) \mapsto (x, \varphi'_x(x, y)) \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}.$$

We have :  $\kappa$  is a complex **canonical transformation** in the sense that

$$\kappa^* \sigma = \sigma,$$

and

$$\kappa(\mathbb{R}^{2n}) = \Lambda_{\Phi_0} := \left\{ \left( x, \frac{2}{i} \frac{\partial \Phi_0}{\partial x}(x) \right), x \in \mathbb{C}^n \right\} \subset \mathbb{C}^{2n} = \mathbb{C}_x^n \times \mathbb{C}_\xi^n.$$

Here

$$\Phi_0(x) = \sup_{y \in \mathbb{R}^n} (-\operatorname{Im} \varphi(x, y)) = \frac{|\operatorname{Im} x|^2}{2}.$$

The  $\mathbb{C}$ -Lagrangian plane  $\kappa(\Lambda^+) \subset \mathbb{C}^{2n}$  enjoys the following positivity property,

$$\frac{1}{i} \sigma(X, \iota_{\Phi_0}(X)) \geq 0, \quad X \in \kappa(\Lambda^+).$$

Here

$$\iota_{\Phi_0} : \mathbb{C}^{2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{2n}$$

is the unique anti-linear involution such that  $\iota_{\Phi_0} = 1$  along  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0}$  (the complex conjugation with respect to  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0}$ ).

Let now  $\Phi_0$  be a strictly plurisubharmonic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ ,

$$\sum_{j,k=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 \Phi_0(x)}{\partial x_j \partial \bar{x}_k} \zeta_j \bar{\zeta}_k > 0, \quad 0 \neq \zeta \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

The associated manifold

$$\Lambda_{\Phi_0} = \left\{ \left( x, \frac{2}{i} \frac{\partial \Phi_0}{\partial x}(x) \right), x \in \mathbb{C}^n \right\} \subset \mathbb{C}^{2n} = \mathbb{C}_x^n \times \mathbb{C}_\xi^n$$

is **maximally totally real**  $\implies \exists$  a corresponding anti-linear involution  $\iota_{\Phi_0}$ .  
Let  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{C}^{2n}$  be a  $\mathbb{C}$ -Lagrangian plane which is **positive relative to  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0}$** , i.e.

$$\frac{1}{i} \sigma(X, \iota_{\Phi_0}(X)) \geq 0, \quad X \in \Lambda.$$

**Proposition (J. Sjöstrand, 1982)**

*A  $\mathbb{C}$ -Lagrangian plane  $\Lambda$  is positive relative to  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0}$  precisely when we have*

$$\Lambda = \Lambda_\Psi,$$

*where  $\Psi$  is **pluriharmonic quadratic** with  $\Psi \leq \Phi_0$ .*

The proposition plays a crucial role in the work by J. Sjöstrand – J. Viola – M.H. (2013) on sharp **resolvent estimates** for the **Weyl quantization** of  $q$ .

**Example II.** Let  $g = (g_{jk})$  be a real analytic Riemannian metric on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Associated to  $g$  is the **Laplace-Beltrami operator**  $-\Delta_g$  with the principal symbol

$$p(y, \eta) = \sum_{j,k=1}^n g^{jk}(y) \eta_j \eta_k, \quad (g^{jk}) = (g_{jk})^{-1}, \quad (y, \eta) \in \mathbb{R}^{2n}.$$

Let  $\rho_0 \in p^{-1}(1) \subset \mathbb{R}^{2n}$  and for  $\rho \in \text{neigh}(\rho_0, p^{-1}(1))$ , consider the Hamiltonian trajectory emanating from  $\rho$ ,

$$\Gamma_\rho = \{\exp(tH_p)(\rho); t \in \text{neigh}(0, \mathbb{R})\} \subset p^{-1}(1).$$

Here

$$H_p = \partial_\eta p \cdot \partial_y - \partial_y p \cdot \partial_\eta$$

is the **Hamilton vector field** of  $p$ .

Let

$$\Lambda = \bigcup_{\rho} \Gamma_{\rho}^{\mathbb{C}} \subset \mathbb{C}^{2n},$$

where  $\Gamma_{\rho}^{\mathbb{C}}$  is the **complexification** of  $\Gamma_{\rho}$ ,

$$\Gamma_{\rho}^{\mathbb{C}} = \{\exp(tH_{\rho})(\rho); t \in \text{neigh}(0, \mathbb{C})\} \subset (\rho^{-1}(1))^{\mathbb{C}}.$$

What can we say about the **positivity properties** of  $\Lambda$ ? To understand this, we apply the canonical transformation of **Example I**,

$$\kappa : \mathbb{C}^{2n} \ni (y, -\varphi'_y(x, y)) \mapsto (x, \varphi'_x(x, y)) \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}.$$

**Proposition** (J. Sjöstrand, 1982, G. Lebeau, 1985)

We have  $\kappa(\Lambda) = \Lambda_{\Phi}$ , where  $\Phi$  is **plurisubharmonic** with  $\Phi \leq \Phi_0$ .

This result is instrumental in the work in progress by J. Sjöstrand – M.H., devoted to a **heat evolution** approach to **second microlocalization** with respect to the hypersurface  $\rho^{-1}(1) \subset \mathbb{R}^{2n}$ .



# Positive canonical transformations

L. Hörmander (1983, 1994).

Let  $\Phi_0$  be a **strictly plurisubharmonic** quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , with the anti-linear involution  $\iota_{\Phi_0}$ . A complex linear canonical transformation

$$\kappa : \mathbb{C}^{2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{2n}$$

is said to be **positive** relative to  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0}$  provided that

$$\frac{1}{i} \left( \sigma(\kappa(\rho), \iota_{\Phi_0} \kappa(\rho)) - \sigma(\rho, \iota_{\Phi_0}(\rho)) \right) \geq 0, \quad \rho \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}.$$

**Example.** Let  $q$  be a holomorphic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}_{x,\xi}^{2n}$  such that

$$\operatorname{Re} q|_{\Lambda_{\Phi_0}} \geq 0.$$

Then the canonical transformation

$$\kappa = \exp \left( \frac{1}{i} H_q \right)$$

is **positive** relative to  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0}$ ,  $H_q = \partial_{\xi} q \cdot \partial_x - \partial_x q \cdot \partial_{\xi}$ .

# Characterizing positive canonical transformations

Theorem (L. Coburn – J. Sjöstrand — M. H., 2019)

Let  $\Phi_0$  be a strictly plurisubharmonic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . A complex linear canonical transformation  $\kappa : \mathbb{C}^{2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{2n}$  is *positive* relative to  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0}$  precisely when we have

$$\kappa(\Lambda_{\Phi_0}) = \Lambda_{\Phi},$$

where  $\Phi$  is a strictly plurisubharmonic quadratic form such that  $\Phi \leq \Phi_0$ .

## A couple of words about the proof

Let  $\varphi(x, y, \theta)$  be a holomorphic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}_x^n \times \mathbb{C}_y^n \times \mathbb{C}_\theta^N$  which is a **non-degenerate phase function** in the sense of Hörmander,

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi''_{\theta x} & \varphi''_{\theta y} & \varphi''_{\theta\theta} \end{pmatrix} = N,$$

and such that

$$\kappa : \mathbb{C}^{2n} \ni (y, -\varphi'_y(x, y, \theta)) \mapsto (x, \varphi'_x(x, y, \theta)) \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}, \quad \varphi'_\theta(x, y, \theta) = 0.$$

The proof of the **necessity part** is based on direct geometric arguments, using that

$$\Phi(x) = \text{vc}_{y,\theta} (-\text{Im} \varphi(x, y, \theta) + \Phi_0(y)).$$

Here  $\text{vc}_{y,\theta}$  = the critical value with respect to  $(y, \theta)$ .

# Fourier integral operators

When establishing the **sufficiency part**, we consider a (formal) **Fourier integral operator** quantizing  $\kappa$ ,

$$Au(x) = \iint e^{i\varphi(x,y,\theta)} a u(y) dy \wedge d\theta. \quad (1)$$

Here  $a \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $u \in \text{Hol}(\mathbb{C}^n) \implies$  the integrand is an  $(n + N, 0)$  differential form on  $\mathbb{C}_{y,\theta}^{n+N}$  which is **closed**. More specifically, we introduce the **Bargmann space**

$$H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) = \text{Hol}(\mathbb{C}^n) \cap L^2(\mathbb{C}^n, e^{-2\Phi_0} L(dx)),$$

and let  $u \in H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ .

How do we choose the **contour of integration** in (1)?

## Good contours I

**Main point** (J. Sjöstrand, 1982) : the mapping property

$$\kappa(\Lambda_{\Phi_0}) = \Lambda_{\Phi},$$

with  $\Phi_0, \Phi$  **strictly plurisubharmonic** implies that the plurisubharmonic quadratic form

$$\mathbb{C}_{y,\theta}^{n+N} \ni (y, \theta) \mapsto -\operatorname{Im} \varphi(0, y, \theta) + \Phi_0(y)$$

is non-degenerate of **signature**  $(n + N, n + N)$ . It follows that for each  $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$ , there exists an affine subspace  $\Gamma(x) \subset \mathbb{C}_{y,\theta}^{n+N}$  of real dimension  $n + N$ , passing through the critical point  $(y_c(x), \theta_c(x))$  of the function

$$(y, \theta) \mapsto -\operatorname{Im} \varphi(x, y, \theta) + \Phi_0(y),$$

such that

$$-\operatorname{Im} \varphi(x, y, \theta) + \Phi_0(y) \leq \Phi(x) - \frac{1}{C} \operatorname{dist}((y, \theta), (y_c(x), \theta_c(x)))^2,$$

along  $\Gamma(x)$ .

## Good contours II

We say that  $\Gamma(x) \subset \mathbb{C}_{y,\theta}^{n+N}$  is a **good contour** for the plurisubharmonic function

$$(y, \theta) \mapsto -\operatorname{Im} \varphi(x, y, \theta) + \Phi_0(y).$$

**Example.** Let  $N = n$ ,  $\varphi(x, y, \theta) = (x - y) \cdot \theta$ , so that  $\kappa = 1$ . The contour

$$\theta = \frac{2}{i} \frac{\partial \Phi_0}{\partial x} \left( \frac{x + y}{2} \right) + \frac{i}{C} \overline{(x - y)}, \quad C > 1,$$

is **good**.

## Good contours III

Consider the realization of  $A$ ,

$$A_\Gamma u(x) = \iint_{\Gamma(x)} e^{i\varphi(x,y,\theta)} a u(y) dy \wedge d\theta, \quad u \in H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n),$$

where  $\Gamma(x)$  is a good contour.

It follows that

$$A_\Gamma = A : H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow H_\Phi(\mathbb{C}^n)$$

is bounded. Here

$$H_\Phi(\mathbb{C}^n) = \text{Hol}(\mathbb{C}^n) \cap L^2(\mathbb{C}^n, e^{-2\Phi} L(dx)).$$

# Bergman representation of FIO

Using a version of the [Schwartz kernel theorem](#) (J. Peetre (1990),...), we obtain a [Bergman type representation](#) for the realization  $A_\Gamma = A$ : the operator may uniquely be written in the form

$$Au(x) = \hat{a} \int e^{2\Psi(x,\bar{y})} u(y) e^{-2\Phi_0(y)} L(dy), \quad u \in H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n).$$

Here  $\hat{a} \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\Psi(x, z)$  is a holomorphic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}_{x,z}^{2n}$ .



## Inferring the positivity of $\kappa$

**Main point** : We have

$$2\operatorname{Re} \Psi(x, \bar{y}) \leq \Phi(x) + \Phi_0(y), \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{C}^{2n},$$

implying that

$$2\operatorname{Re} \Psi(x, \bar{y}) \leq \Phi_0(x) + \Phi_0(y), \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}.$$

It follows that the  $\mathbb{C}$ -Lagrangian plane

$$\Lambda_{2\operatorname{Re} \Psi} = \left\{ \left( x, \frac{2}{i} \partial_x \Psi(x, y); y, \frac{2}{i} \partial_y \Psi(x, y) \right) \right\} \subset \mathbb{C}^{4n}$$

is **positive** relative to  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0(x) + \Phi_0(\bar{y})}$ . This implies the positivity of  $\kappa$ .

## Corollary

Let  $\Phi_0$  be a strictly plurisubharmonic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and let

$$\kappa : \mathbb{C}^{2n} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{2n}$$

be a complex linear canonical transformation which is **positive** relative to  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0}$ . Then, if  $U$  is a Fourier integral operator quantizing  $\kappa$ , we have

$$U : H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)$$

is **bounded**.

**Example.** Let  $q$  be a holomorphic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}_{x,\xi}^{2n}$  such that

$$\operatorname{Re} q|_{\Lambda_{\Phi_0}} \geq 0,$$

and let  $q^w$  be the **Weyl quantization** of  $q$ . Then the **heat evolution semigroup**  $e^{-tq^w}$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , is an **FIO** quantizing the **positive** canonical transformation

$$\exp\left(\frac{t}{i}H_q\right), \quad t \geq 0,$$

and therefore **for all  $t \geq 0$**  we have

$$\exp\left(\frac{t}{i}H_q\right)(\Lambda_{\Phi_0}) = \Lambda_{\Phi_t},$$

and

$$e^{-tq^w} : H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow H_{\Phi_t}(\mathbb{C}^n)$$

is bounded.

Here the family  $t \mapsto \Phi_t$  is **decreasing**. We have the Bergman representation

$$e^{-tq^w} u(x) = \widehat{a}(t) \int e^{2\Psi_t(x, \bar{y})} u(y) e^{-2\Phi_0(y)} L(dy),$$

valid globally **for all**  $t \geq 0$ .

F. Hérau – J. Sjöstrand – C. Stolk (2004), ... F. White (2022) :  
propagation of **global analytic singularities** for quadratic non-selfadjoint  
evolution equations,  **$L^p$  bounds** for the semigroup.

## Applications to Toeplitz operators

C. Berger – L. Coburn (1986, 1987, 1994), L. Coburn (1992, 2001, 2005), G. Rozenblum (2012), G. Rozenblum – A. Borichev (2015), G. Rozenblum – N. Vasilevski (2014, 2020), J. Toft (2002, 2004, 2007, 2012), C. Pfeuffer – J. Toft (2019), L. Amour – J. Nourrigat (2019).

There are also numerous developments in [complex geometry/Toeplitz quantization](#), in the context of holomorphic sections of high powers of a positive holomorphic line bundle over a complex manifold : F. Berezin (1975), . . . , J. Peetre (1990), . . . , D. Catlin (1999), S. Zelditch (1998), . . . , R. Berman – B. Berndtsson – J. Sjöstrand (2008), . . . , O. Rouby – J. Sjöstrand – S. Vũ Ngoc (2021), A. Deleporte (2021), H. Hezari – H. Xu (2021), A. Deleporte – J. Sjöstrand – M. H. (2023), M. Stone – M. H. (2022), R. Melrose (2004), C. Epstein – R. Melrose (1998).

C. Fefferman (1974), L. Boutet de Monvel – J. Sjöstrand (1975) (asymptotics of the Bergman and Szegő kernels for [strictly pseudoconvex](#) smooth domains  $\Subset \mathbb{C}^n$ ), . . . , M. Kashiwara (1977), A. Deleporte (2023) (the Szegő kernel for domains with analytic boundary).

# Toeplitz quantization on Bargmann space

Let  $\Phi_0$  be a **strictly plurisubharmonic** quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Given a measurable function  $p : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , let us consider the **Toeplitz operator** with symbol  $p$ ,

$$\text{Top}(p) = \Pi_{\Phi_0} \circ p \circ \Pi_{\Phi_0} : H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n),$$

equipped with the natural (**maximal**) domain

$$\mathcal{D}(\text{Top}(p)) = \{u \in H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n); pu \in L^2(\mathbb{C}^n, e^{-2\Phi_0} L(dx))\}.$$

Here

$$\Pi_{\Phi_0} : L^2(\mathbb{C}^n, e^{-2\Phi_0} L(dx)) \rightarrow H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)$$

is the orthogonal (**Bergman**) projection.

# Toeplitz vs Weyl quantization I

Let  $p \in L^\infty(\mathbb{C}^n)$ , say. We have

$$\text{Top}(p) = a^w(x, D_x).$$

Here the Weyl quantization  $a^w(x, D_x)$  of  $a \in C^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0})$  is given by

$$a^w(x, D_x) u(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \iint_{\Gamma_{\Phi_0}(x)} e^{i(x-y)\cdot\theta} a\left(\frac{x+y}{2}, \theta\right) u(y) dy \wedge d\theta,$$

with  $\Gamma_{\Phi_0}(x) \subset \mathbb{C}_{y,\theta}^{2n}$  being the natural contour of integration given by

$$\theta = \frac{2}{i} \frac{\partial \Phi_0}{\partial x} \left( \frac{x+y}{2} \right).$$

## Toeplitz vs Weyl quantization II

The **Weyl symbol**  $a \in C^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0})$  is given by

$$a\left(x, \frac{2}{i} \frac{\partial \Phi_0}{\partial x}(x)\right) = \left( \exp\left(\frac{1}{4}(\Phi''_{0,x\bar{x}})^{-1} \partial_x \cdot \partial_{\bar{x}}\right) p \right)(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

The symbol of  $(\Phi''_{0,x\bar{x}})^{-1} \partial_x \cdot \partial_{\bar{x}}$  is

$$-\frac{1}{4}(\Phi''_{0,x\bar{x}})^{-1} \bar{\zeta} \cdot \zeta < 0, \quad 0 \neq \zeta \in \mathbb{C}^n \simeq \mathbb{R}^{2n} \implies$$

the Weyl symbol  $a$  is given by the forward **heat flow** acting on  $p$ .

V. Guillemin (1985), ..., C. Berger – L. Coburn (1994), J. Sjöstrand (1994), ..., M. Zworski (2012).



## When is a Toeplitz operator bounded on $H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)$ ?

**Example** (C. Berger – L. Coburn, 1994). Let  $\Phi_0(x) = \frac{|x|^2}{2}$  and let

$$\rho(x) = \exp(\lambda |x|^2), \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \quad \operatorname{Re} \lambda < 1/2.$$

Explicit computations show that

$$\operatorname{Top}(\rho) \in \mathcal{L}(H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n), H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)) \iff |1 - \lambda| \geq 1.$$

Furthermore,

- $|1 - \lambda| > 1 \implies \operatorname{Top}(\rho)$  is of trace class
- $|1 - \lambda| = 1 \implies \operatorname{Top}(\rho)$  is unitary

The Weyl symbol  $a$  can be computed by **exact stationary phase** and we see that

$$|1 - \lambda| \geq 1 \iff a \in L^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0}).$$

# The Berger-Coburn Conjecture

**Conjecture** (C. Berger – L. Coburn, 1994) For any "reasonable" Toeplitz symbol  $p^1$ , we have

$$\text{Top}(p) \in \mathcal{L}(H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n), H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)) \iff \text{the Weyl symbol } a \in L^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0}).$$

The conjecture **still stands**.

C. Berger – L. Coburn, 1994 : some partial results towards the conjecture.

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1. such that  $p e^{2\Psi_0(\cdot, \bar{y})} \in L^2_{\Phi_0}$ , for all  $y \in \mathbb{C}^n$ . Here  $\Psi_0$  is the polarization of  $\Phi_0$ .

## Theorem (L. Coburn – J. Sjöstrand – M. H., 2019, 2023)

Let  $\Phi_0$  be a strictly plurisubharmonic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and let  $q$  be a complex valued quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ . Assume that

$$\operatorname{Re} q(x) < \Phi_{\text{herm}}(x) := \frac{1}{2} (\Phi_0(x) + \Phi_0(ix)), \quad 0 \neq x \in \mathbb{C}^n,$$

and that

$$\det \partial_{\bar{x}} \partial_x (2\Phi_0 - q) \neq 0.$$

The Toeplitz operator

$$\operatorname{Top}(e^q) : H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)$$

is *bounded* if and only if the Weyl symbol  $a \in C^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0})$  of  $\operatorname{Top}(e^q)$  satisfies  $a \in L^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0})$ . Furthermore,  $\operatorname{Top}(e^q)$  is *compact* precisely when the Weyl symbol  $a$  *vanishes at infinity*.

## An extension to the inhomogeneous case

**Remark.** The result is still valid when the quadratic form  $q$  is replaced by a complex **inhomogeneous** quadratic polynomial on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  :

L. Coburn – J. Sjöstrand – F. White – M. H. (2021) : [sufficiency](#)

H. Xiong (2023) : [necessity](#)

## Some ideas of the proof : Toeplitz operators as FIOs

Let  $\Psi_0$  be the holomorphic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^{2n}$  such that  $\Psi_0(x, \bar{x}) = \Phi_0(x)$  (the **polarization** of  $\Phi_0$ ) and let us write for  $u \in \mathcal{D}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Top}(e^q)u(x) &= C \int e^{2\Psi_0(x, \bar{y})} e^{q(y, \bar{y})} u(y) e^{-2\Phi_0(y)} dy d\bar{y} \\ &= C \iint_{\Gamma} e^{2(\Psi_0(x, \theta) - \Psi_0(y, \theta)) + q(y, \theta)} u(y) dy d\theta.\end{aligned}$$

Here  $\Gamma$  is the contour in  $\mathbb{C}_{y, \theta}^{2n}$  given by  $\theta = \bar{y}$ .

The holomorphic quadratic form

$$F(x, y, \theta) = \frac{2}{i} (\Psi_0(x, \theta) - \Psi_0(y, \theta)) + \frac{1}{i} q(y, \theta)$$

is a **non-degenerate phase function** in the sense of Hörmander  $\implies$  the operator  $\text{Top}(e^q)$  can be regarded as a **Fourier integral operator** associated to the (complex linear) **canonical transformation**

$$\kappa : (y, -F'_y(x, y, \theta)) \mapsto (x, F'_x(x, y, \theta)), \quad F'_\theta(x, y, \theta) = 0.$$

## Passing to the Weyl quantization

We write

$$\text{Top}(e^q) = a^w(x, D_x),$$

where  $a \in C^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0})$  is given by

$$a\left(x, \frac{2}{i} \frac{\partial \Phi_0}{\partial x}(x)\right) = \left( \exp\left(\frac{1}{4}(\Phi''_{0,x\bar{x}})^{-1} \partial_x \cdot \partial_{\bar{x}}\right) e^q \right)(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

By [exact stationary phase](#), we conclude that

$$a(x, \xi) = C \exp(iF(x, \xi)), \quad (x, \xi) \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}, \quad C \neq 0,$$

where  $F$  is a holomorphic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^{2n}$ .

# Positivity : from bounded Weyl symbols to bounded Toeplitz operators

It follows that

$$\kappa : \rho + \frac{1}{2}H_F(\rho) \mapsto \rho - \frac{1}{2}H_F(\rho), \quad \rho \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}.$$

where  $H_F = \partial_\xi F \cdot \partial_x - \partial_x F \cdot \partial_\xi$  is the **Hamilton vector field** of  $F$ .

**Main observation** : We have :

the Weyl symbol  $a = Ce^{iF} \in L^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0}) \iff \kappa$  is **positive** relative to  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0}$ .

The implication

$$a \in L^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0}) \implies \text{Top}(e^a) \in \mathcal{L}(H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n), H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n))$$

follows.

# Compactness of Toeplitz operators

**Remark.** We have : the Weyl symbol

$$a(x, \xi) \rightarrow 0, \quad \Lambda_{\Phi_0} \ni (x, \xi) \rightarrow \infty$$

precisely when the canonical transformation  $\kappa$  is **strictly positive**,

$$\frac{1}{i} \left( \sigma(\kappa(\rho), \iota_{\Phi_0} \kappa(\rho)) - \sigma(\rho, \iota_{\Phi_0}(\rho)) \right) > 0, \quad 0 \neq \rho \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}.$$

It follows that

$$\text{Top}(e^q) : H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)$$

is **compact** (in fact, of trace class), cf. with the **Berger-Coburn** example.



# From bounded Toeplitz operators to bounded Weyl symbols

Assume that

$$\text{Top}(e^q) \in \mathcal{L}(H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n), H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)).$$

**Main idea** : consider the operator  $\text{Top}(e^q)$  acting on the space of **coherent states**,

$$k_y(x) = C_{\Phi_0} e^{2\Psi_0(x, \bar{y}) - \Phi_0(y)}, \quad y \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

We have  $\|k_y\|_{H_{\Phi_0}} = 1$  and

$$-\Phi_0(x) + 2\text{Re} \Psi_0(x, \bar{y}) - \Phi_0(y) \asymp -|x - y|^2,$$

so that  $k_y$  is centered at  $y \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .

**Remark.** We have, essentially,

$$k_y(x) e^{-\Phi_0(y)} = (\Pi_{\Phi_0} \delta_y)(x),$$

where  $\Pi_{\Phi_0}$  is the Bergman projection.

# Bergman form for Toeplitz operators and positivity

Exact stationary phase shows that

$$(\text{Top}(e^q)k_y)(x) = C e^{2f(x,\bar{y})-\Phi_0(y)}, \quad y \in \mathbb{C}^n,$$

where  $f(x, z)$  is a holomorphic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}_{x,z}^{2n}$ , giving a **Bergman representation** for the bounded operator  $\text{Top}(e^q)$ ,

$$\text{Top}(e^q)u(x) = C \iint e^{2f(x,\bar{y})} u(y) e^{-2\Phi_0(y)} dy d\bar{y}.$$

**Main observation** :  $\text{Top}(e^q) \in \mathcal{L}(H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n), H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)) \implies$

$$2\text{Re} f(x, \bar{y}) \leq \Phi_0(x) + \Phi_0(y), \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{C}^{2n},$$

implying the **positivity** of  $\kappa$  relative to  $\Lambda_{\Phi_0}$ ,

$$\kappa : \left( y, \frac{2}{i} \partial_y \Psi_0(y, z) \right) \mapsto \left( x, \frac{2}{i} \partial_x f(x, z) \right), \quad \partial_z f(x, z) = \partial_z \Psi_0(y, z),$$

and hence the **boundedness of the Weyl symbol**.

## More Toeplitz surprises

**The composition problem** : For which Toeplitz symbols  $f, g$  is there an  $h$  such that

$$\text{Top}(f) \text{Top}(g) = \text{Top}(h)?$$

**Example.** L. Coburn (2001) : let  $\Phi_0(x) = \frac{|x|^2}{2}$ . There exists  $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $0 < \text{Re } \lambda_0 < 1/2$ ,  $|\lambda_0 - 1| = 1$ , such that the **unitary** operator

$$\text{Top}(e^{\lambda_0|x|^2}) : H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)$$

satisfies :  $\left(\text{Top}(e^{\lambda_0|x|^2})\right)^2$  is **not a Toeplitz operator**.

## Composing Toeplitz FIOs I

Let  $\Phi_0$  be a **strictly plurisubharmonic** quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  and let  $q, \tilde{q}$  be complex valued quadratic forms on  $\mathbb{C}^n$  such that

$$\operatorname{Re} q(x) < \Phi_{\text{herm}}(x) := \frac{1}{2} (\Phi_0(x) + \Phi_0(ix)), \quad x \neq 0,$$

$$\operatorname{Re} \tilde{q}(x) < \Phi_{\text{herm}}(x), \quad x \neq 0,$$

satisfying

$$\det \partial_{\bar{x}} \partial_x (2\Phi_0 - q) \neq 0, \quad \det \partial_{\bar{x}} \partial_x (2\Phi_0 - \tilde{q}) \neq 0.$$

Assume that the Weyl symbols  $a, \tilde{a}$  of  $\operatorname{Top}(e^q)$ ,  $\operatorname{Top}(e^{\tilde{q}})$  satisfy

$$a \in L^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0}), \quad \tilde{a} \in L^\infty(\Lambda_{\Phi_0}),$$

so that the Toeplitz operators

$$\operatorname{Top}(e^q) : H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n), \quad \operatorname{Top}(e^{\tilde{q}}) : H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n)$$

are **bounded**.

## Composing Toeplitz FIOs II

L. Coburn – J. Sjöstrand – M. H. (2023) : we have (under an additional mild assumption),

$$\text{Top}(e^{\tilde{q}}) \circ \text{Top}(e^q) = C \text{Op}^w(e^{i\hat{F}}) : H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n) \rightarrow H_{\Phi_0}(\mathbb{C}^n),$$

for some  $0 \neq C \in \mathbb{C}$ . Here  $\hat{F}$  is a **holomorphic quadratic form** on  $\mathbb{C}^{2n}$  such that

$$\text{Im } \hat{F}|_{\Lambda_{\Phi_0}} \geq 0.$$

We also give a general criterion for when the Weyl quantization  $\text{Op}^w(e^{iG})$ , where  $G$  is a **holomorphic quadratic form** on  $\mathbb{C}^{2n}$ , is of the form  $C \text{Top}(e^Q)$  where  $Q$  is a quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ .

## Theorem (L. Coburn – J. Sjöstrand — M. H., 2023)

Let  $G$  be a holomorphic quadratic form on  $\mathbb{C}^{2n}$  such that  $\text{Im } G|_{\Lambda_{\Phi_0}} \geq 0$ . Assume that the holomorphic quadratic form

$$iG \left( x, \frac{2}{i} \frac{\partial \Psi_0}{\partial x}(x, z) \right) + 4\Psi_{\text{herm}}(x, z), \quad (x, z) \in \mathbb{C}^{2n}$$

is *non-degenerate*, where  $\Psi_{\text{herm}}$  is the polarization of  $\Phi_{\text{herm}}$ , and let us set

$$Q^\pi(y, \theta) = \text{vc}_{x,z} \left( 4\Psi_{\text{herm}}(x - y, z - \theta) + iG \left( x, \frac{2}{i} \frac{\partial \Psi_0}{\partial x}(x, z) \right) \right).$$

Assume that the restriction  $Q(y) = Q^\pi(y, \bar{y})$  of the holomorphic quadratic form  $Q^\pi$  on  $\mathbb{C}^{2n}$  to the anti-diagonal satisfies

$$\text{Re } Q(y) < \Phi_{\text{herm}}(y), \quad 0 \neq y \in \mathbb{C}^n.$$

Then the Weyl quantization  $\text{Op}^w(e^{iG})$  is a bounded *Toeplitz operator*, with the Toeplitz symbol of the form  $C e^Q$ , for some  $C \neq 0$ .

TACK SÅ MYCKET, ANDERS, FÖR DEN FANTASTISKA  
HANDLEDNINGEN!

HA DEN ÄRAN PÅ FÖDELSEDAGEN!

