

## A FAMILY OF STRONGLY SINGULAR OPERATORS

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### Abstract

Let  $\psi$  be a positive function defined near the origin such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \psi(t) = 0$ . We consider the operator  $T_z f$ , defined as the principal value of the convolution of a function  $f$  and a kernel  $K(t) = e^{i\gamma(t)} t^{-z} / \psi(t)^{1-z}$ , where  $z$  is a complex number,  $0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(z) \leq 1$ ,  $0 < t \leq 1$  and  $\gamma$  is a real function. Assuming certain regularity conditions on  $\psi$  and  $\gamma$  and certain relations between  $\psi$  and  $\gamma$  we show that  $T_\theta$  is a bounded operator on  $L^p(\mathbb{R})$  for  $1/p = (1 + \theta)/2$  and  $0 \leq \theta < 1$ , and  $T_1$  is bounded from  $H^1(\mathbb{R})$  to  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ .

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### 1. Introduction

Consider the following operator, defined for functions in  $C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$

$$T_{\alpha\beta} f(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\epsilon}^1 e^{it^{-\alpha}} f(x-t) \frac{dt}{t^\beta},$$

where  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\beta > 1$ . Hirschman studied this operator and proved the following theorem in [2].

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\beta > 1$ . Whenever  $\alpha + 2 \geq 2\beta$  the following holds:*

- (i)  $T_{\alpha\beta}$  extends to a bounded operator on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ .
- (ii) If  $|1/2 - 1/p| < 1/2 - (\beta - 1)/\alpha$  then  $T_{\alpha\beta}$  extends to a bounded operator on  $L^p(\mathbb{R})$ .

(iii) If  $|1/2 - 1/p| > 1/2 - (\beta - 1)/\alpha$  then  $T_{\alpha\beta}$  is not a bounded operator on  $L^p(\mathbb{R})$ .

Fefferman and Stein considered the case  $|1/2 - 1/p| = 1/2 - (\beta - 1)/\alpha$  in [1]. Their results complete Theorem 1.1.

**THEOREM 1.2.** *Let  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\beta > 1$  such that  $\alpha + 2 \geq 2\beta$ . If*

$$\left| \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{p} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\beta - 1}{\alpha}$$

*then  $T_{\alpha\beta}$  extends to a bounded operator on  $L^p(\mathbb{R})$ , for  $1 < p < \infty$ .*

In the present work we are interested in studying the operator when the singularity at zero is worse than a power. An example would be

$$(1) \quad Tf(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\epsilon}^1 e^{i\gamma(t)} f(x-t) \frac{e^{1/t}}{t} dt,$$

where  $\gamma$  is a real-valued function.

To compensate for the singularity at the origin, the phase function  $\gamma$  should approach infinity fast as the argument tends to zero. For  $f$  in  $C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  we consider the operator

$$(2) \quad Tf(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\epsilon}^1 e^{i\gamma(t)} f(x-t) \frac{dt}{\Phi(t)},$$

where  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \Phi(t) = 0$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \Phi'(t) = 0$ .

The first thing to do is to understand under what conditions  $T$  is a bounded operator on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ .

When  $\Phi$  approaches zero faster than a power,  $\gamma$  has to approach infinity faster than the reciprocal of a power. It is clear that when  $\Phi$  is supported in the interval  $[0, 1]$ , the behavior of  $\gamma$  near zero should be dictated by that of  $\Phi$ .

In the example given by equation (1) it turns out that if  $\gamma$  is such that  $\gamma'(t) = e^{2/t}$ , for example  $\gamma(t) = -\int_t^1 e^{2/s} ds$ , then  $T$  is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ .

If we now choose  $\gamma$  so that  $\gamma''(t) = t^{2b-2} e^{2/t}$ , for  $b > 0$ ,  $T$  will not be bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ .

For this choice of  $\Phi$  and  $\gamma$  we have that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{|\Phi(t)| \sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^{-b} = \infty.$$

Assuming some regularity conditions on  $\gamma$  and  $\Phi$  we will show that if

$$(3) \quad \left| \frac{1}{\Phi(t)} \right| \leq C \sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|},$$

then  $T$  is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ .

On the other hand if

$$(4) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{|\Phi(t)|\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}} = \infty$$

then  $T$  will not be bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ .

Notice that when  $\Phi(t) = t^\beta$  and  $\gamma(t) = t^{-\alpha}$  the above statements imply that  $T_{\alpha\beta}$  is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  only when  $\alpha/2 + 1 - \beta \geq 0$ , which is Hirschman’s result for  $p = 2$ .

We now turn our attention to the study of  $T$  on  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ . The only way  $T$  can be bounded on  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$  is when the function  $1/\Phi$  is integrable near zero. Since  $1/\Phi(t) = t^{-1}$  just fails to be integrable near zero, there is some hope that

$$(5) \quad Tf(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\epsilon}^1 e^{i\gamma(t)} f(x-t) \frac{dt}{t},$$

is a bounded operator from  $H^1(\mathbb{R})$  to  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ , due to the oscillatory factor  $e^{i\gamma(t)}$ .

Fefferman and Stein proved this statement when  $\gamma$  is the reciprocal of a power (see [1]). Theorem 1.2 follows as a corollary.

When  $\gamma$  approaches zero faster than the reciprocal of a power we will also have that  $T$ , as defined in (5), is a bounded operator from  $H^1(\mathbb{R})$  to  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ .

The above discussion leads us to consider a family of operators

$$(6) \quad T_z f(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_{\epsilon}^1 e^{i\gamma(t)} f(x-t) \frac{t^{-z}}{\psi(t)^{1-z}} dt,$$

where  $z = a + ib$ ,  $0 \leq a \leq 1$  and  $\psi$  is a positive function that satisfies

$$\frac{1}{\psi(t)} \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}.$$

In this setting one of our tasks is to prove that  $T_0$  is a bounded operator on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $T_1$  is a bounded operator from  $H^1(\mathbb{R})$  to  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ . To do so we will impose the following regularity conditions on  $\gamma$  and  $\psi$ .

**1.1. Assumptions and results** (a.1) We will assume that  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma'$  are monotone, guaranteeing the existence of the inverse of  $\gamma'$ , denoted  $\gamma'^{-1}$ . Without loss of generality we will take  $\gamma'(t) > 0$ , with  $\gamma'$  decreasing on  $(0, 1]$ .

(a.2) As discussed before, for the operator to be bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  we will need to assume  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$ , for  $t > 0$  close to zero and  $C$  a constant. However to prove that the operator is bounded from  $H^1(\mathbb{R})$  to  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$  we will assume the stronger condition

$$(7) \quad \left| \frac{\psi'(t)}{\psi(t)} \right| \leq \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{\gamma'''(t)}{\gamma''(t)} \right|,$$

for  $t > 0$  close to zero and  $C$  a constant. We will take  $\psi \in C^2[0, 1]$  and  $\gamma \in C^3(0, 1]$ .

The fact that (7) implies that  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$  will be proved below.

**(a.3)** Several growth conditions on  $\gamma''$  and  $\gamma'$  will be assumed. One of these is that  $\gamma''$  is to be roughly constant where  $\gamma'$  ‘doubles’. We write that as follows:

$$|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(2s))| \leq C|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(s))|,$$

where  $C$  is a constant bigger than one independent of  $s$ .

**(a.4)** We will assume that there exists a constant  $A$  and  $\epsilon > 0$  with  $A > 1 + \epsilon$  such that

$$\gamma'(t) \geq A\gamma'((1 + \epsilon)t),$$

for  $t > 0$  close to zero.

**(a.5)** The last condition on the growth of  $\gamma$  is the following. There exists a  $\lambda$  such that  $1/2 < \lambda < 1$ , and a constant  $C$  such that

$$|\gamma''(t)| \leq C\gamma'(t)^{2\lambda},$$

for  $t > 0$  close to zero.

**(a.6)** Finally we will assume that  $\psi$ ,  $\psi'$  and  $\gamma''$  are monotone.

Unless otherwise noted, we will assume throughout that  $\psi$  and  $\gamma$  satisfy assumptions (a.1) through (a.6) in Theorem 1.3 through Theorem 1.5 below.

Examples:  $\gamma'(t) = e^{1/t}$ ,  $e^{1/t}$ ,  $t^{-\alpha}$ ,  $e^{(\ln(1/t))^\alpha}$  for  $\alpha > 1$  satisfy (a.1) through (a.6).

Let us prove now that inequality (7) implies that  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$ . For  $0 < t < 1$  integrate both sides of (7) from  $t$  to 1.

$$\int_t^1 \left| \frac{\psi'(s)}{\psi(s)} \right| ds \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_t^1 \left| \frac{\gamma'''(s)}{\gamma''(s)} \right| ds.$$

Since  $\psi$  and  $\gamma''$  are monotone we get

$$\ln \left( \frac{\psi(1)}{\psi(t)} \right) \leq \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{|\gamma''(t)|}{|\gamma''(1)|} \right),$$

and so  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$ .

Assuming that the limit in (6) exists we now state the results on  $T_z$ . If  $z = \theta$ , for  $0 \leq \theta \leq 1$ , we have

$$T_\theta f(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_\epsilon^1 e^{i\gamma(t)} f(x-t) \frac{t^{-\theta}}{\psi(t)^{1-\theta}} dt.$$

The main theorem for  $T_\theta$  is the following.

**THEOREM 1.3.** (i)  $T_\theta$  is a bounded operator on  $L^p(\mathbb{R})$  for  $1/p = (1 + \theta)/2$  and  $0 \leq \theta < 1$ , with  $\|T_\theta\|_{L^p \rightarrow L^p} \leq A_\theta$  where  $A_\theta$  depends only on  $\theta$ .  
 (ii)  $T_1$  is a bounded operator from  $H^1(\mathbb{R})$  to  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ .

Theorem 1.3 will be obtained from the two following results.

**THEOREM 1.4.**  $T_{ib}$  extends to a bounded operator on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  with  $\|T_{ib}\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \leq A_b$ , where  $A_b = O(|b| + 1)$ .

**THEOREM 1.5.**  $T_{1+ib}$  is a bounded operator from  $H^1(\mathbb{R})$  to  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$  with  $\|T_{1+ib}\|_{H^1 \rightarrow L^1} \leq A_b$ , where  $A_b = O(|b| + 1)$ .

Theorem 1.1 says that  $T_{\alpha\beta}$  will not be bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  when  $2 + \alpha < 2\beta$ . This result is generalized as follows.

**THEOREM 1.6.** Suppose that  $\gamma, \gamma', \gamma''$  and  $\psi$  are monotone and that

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\gamma''(\epsilon)}{\gamma'^2(\epsilon)} = 0.$$

Also suppose there is a constant  $A > 1$  such that

$$\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(2s)) \leq A\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(s))$$

for all large  $s > 0$ . Then if  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} 1/(|\psi(t)|\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}) = \infty$ ,  $T_0$  is not bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ .

In what follows  $C$  will denote a constant that may change from line to line.

**1.2. Existence** Let  $f$  be a function in  $C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ . To see that under assumptions (a.1) through (a.6) the limit in (6) exists, we integrate by parts. For  $0 < \epsilon' \leq \epsilon$  we write

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon e^{i\gamma(t)} f(x-t) \frac{t^{-z}}{\psi(t)^{1-z}} dt &= \frac{1}{i} \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon \frac{d}{dt} (e^{i\gamma(t)}) \frac{f(x-t)}{\gamma'(t)} \frac{t^{-z}}{\psi(t)^{1-z}} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{i} e^{i\gamma(t)} \frac{f(x-t)}{\gamma'(t)} \frac{t^{-z}}{\psi(t)^{1-z}} \Big|_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon - \frac{1}{i} \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon e^{i\gamma(t)} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{f(x-t)}{\gamma'(t)} \frac{t^{-z}}{\psi(t)^{1-z}} \right) dt \\ &= I_\epsilon + II_\epsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $z = a + ib$  with  $0 \leq a \leq 1$ . Then

$$|I_\epsilon| \leq \frac{|f(x - \epsilon')|\epsilon'^{-a}}{\gamma'(\epsilon')\psi(\epsilon')^{1-a}} + \frac{|f(x - \epsilon)|\epsilon^{-a}}{\gamma'(\epsilon)\psi(\epsilon)^{1-a}}.$$

Since  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \psi'(t) = 0$ , we have that for  $t$  close to zero,  $\psi(t) \leq t$ . Using this and the fact that  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$  we have that

$$\frac{\epsilon^{-a}}{\gamma'(\epsilon)\psi(\epsilon)^{1-a}} \leq C \frac{\sqrt{|\gamma''(\epsilon)|}}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} \epsilon^{-a} \psi(\epsilon)^a \leq C \frac{\sqrt{|\gamma''(\epsilon)|}}{\gamma'(\epsilon)}.$$

Assumption (a.5) implies that  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \sqrt{|\gamma''(\epsilon)|}/\gamma'(\epsilon) = 0$ . Hence

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} |I_\epsilon| = 0.$$

Let's now estimate  $II_\epsilon$ .

$$\begin{aligned} |II_\epsilon| &\leq \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon \frac{|f'(x-t)|t^{-a}}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{1-a}} dt + \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon |z| \frac{|f(x-t)|t^{-a-1}}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{1-a}} dt \\ &\quad + \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon \frac{|f(x-t)|t^{-a}|\gamma''(t)|}{\gamma'^2(t)\psi(t)^{1-a}} dt + \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon |z-1| \frac{|f(x-t)|t^{-a}|\psi'(t)|}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{2-a}} dt \\ &= II_{\epsilon 1} + II_{\epsilon 2} + II_{\epsilon 3} + II_{\epsilon 4}. \end{aligned}$$

As before we have that  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \epsilon^{-a}/(\gamma'(\epsilon)\psi(\epsilon)^{1-a}) = 0$  and hence

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} |II_{\epsilon 1}| = 0.$$

Since  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$  we see that

$$\begin{aligned} |II_{\epsilon 2}| &\leq \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |f(x-t)||z| \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon \frac{t^{-a-1}}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{1-a}} dt \\ &\leq C \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |f(x-t)||z| \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon \frac{\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}t^{-a-1}\psi(t)^a}{\gamma'(t)} dt. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \gamma''(t)/\gamma'(t)^2 = 0$ , we have that  $1/\gamma'(t) \leq Ct$ , for  $t$  small. Using this together with assumption (a.5),  $\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|} \leq C\gamma'^\lambda(t)$  for some  $1/2 < \lambda < 1$ , and  $\psi(t) \leq t$  we see that

$$\begin{aligned} |II_{\epsilon 2}| &\leq C \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |f(x-t)||z| \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon \gamma'(t)^{\lambda-1} t^{-1} dt \\ &\leq C \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |f(x-t)||z| \int_{\epsilon'}^\epsilon t^{-\lambda} dt. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} |II_{\epsilon 2}| = 0.$$

In a similar way we have

$$|\Pi_{\epsilon 3}| \leq C \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |f(x-t)| \int_{\epsilon'}^{\epsilon} \frac{|\gamma''(t)|^{3/2}}{\gamma'^2(t)} dt.$$

If  $k'$  is such that  $\gamma'^{-1}(2^{k'+1}) < \epsilon \leq \gamma'^{-1}(2^{k'})$  then we see that

$$\begin{aligned} |\Pi_{\epsilon 3}| &\leq C \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |f(x-t)| \sum_{k=k'}^{\infty} \int_{\gamma'^{-1}(2^{k+1})}^{\gamma'^{-1}(2^k)} \frac{|\gamma''(t)|}{\gamma'(t)} \frac{\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}}{\gamma'(t)} dt \\ &\leq C \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |f(x-t)| \sum_{k=k'}^{\infty} \int_{\gamma'^{-1}(2^{k+1})}^{\gamma'^{-1}(2^k)} \frac{|\gamma''(t)|}{\gamma'(t)} \gamma'(t)^{\lambda-1} dt \\ &\leq C \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |f(x-t)| \sum_{k=k'}^{\infty} (2^k)^{\lambda-1} \ln(2). \end{aligned}$$

As  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ ,  $k' \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\lambda - 1 < 0$  hence we can conclude that

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} |\Pi_{\epsilon 3}| = 0.$$

To bound  $\Pi_{\epsilon 4}$  just notice that

$$|\Pi_{\epsilon 4}| \leq C \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} |f(x-t)| |z-1| \int_{\epsilon'}^{\epsilon} \frac{1}{\gamma'(t)} \frac{|\psi'(t)|}{\psi^2(t)} dt.$$

After an integration by parts, methods used before show that

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} |\Pi_{\epsilon 3}| = 0.$$

This shows that the limit in (6) exists.

### 2. Preliminaries

Let  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ , and define

$$T_{\epsilon,z} f(x) = \int_{\epsilon}^1 e^{i\gamma(t)} f(x-t) \frac{t^{-z}}{\psi(t)^{1-z}} dt$$

so that for  $f$  in  $C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  we have that  $T_z f(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} T_{\epsilon,z} f(x)$ . Let  $K_{\epsilon,z}$  be such that  $T_{\epsilon,z} f(x) = K_{\epsilon,z} * f(x)$ . To prove the  $L^2$ -boundedness of  $T_{ib}$  as well as the  $L^1$ -boundedness of  $T_{1+ib}$  on  $H^1(\mathbb{R})$  we need some estimations of  $\widehat{K_{\epsilon,ib}}$  and  $\widehat{K_{\epsilon,1+ib}}$ , respectively. We devote this section to the proof of such estimates, which are contained in the following theorem.

**THEOREM 2.1.** *If  $z = a + ib$  and  $0 \leq a \leq 1$  then*

$$\left| \widehat{K_{\epsilon,z}}(\xi) \right| \leq \frac{C(1 + |b|)}{\left( \sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} |\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|) \right)^a}$$

*if  $|\xi|$  is large, and*

$$\left| \widehat{K_{\epsilon,z}}(\xi) \right| \leq C(1 + |b|)$$

*otherwise.*

We start with a basic result on oscillatory integrals due to van der Corput.

**LEMMA 2.1.** *Suppose that  $\phi$  is real-valued and smooth on  $(a, b)$ , and that  $|\phi^k(t)| \geq \lambda > 0$  for all  $t \in (a, b)$ . Then*

$$\left| \int_a^b e^{i\phi(t)} dt \right| \leq C_k \lambda^{-1/k}$$

*holds when:*

- (i)  $k \geq 2$ ; or
- (ii)  $k = 1$  and  $\phi'(t)$  is monotonic.

$C_k$  depends only on  $k$ .

The proof of Lemma 2.1 can be found in [4].

We now state some propositions needed to prove Theorem 2.1.

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *If  $|\xi|$  is large,  $0 < \epsilon < \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)$ , and  $0 \leq a \leq 1$  then*

$$\int_{\epsilon}^{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)} \left( \frac{t^{-1-a}}{|\gamma'(t)\psi(t)|^{1-a}} + \frac{t^{-a}|\psi'(t)|}{|\gamma'(t)\psi(t)|^{2-a}} \right) dt \leq \frac{C}{\left( \sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} |\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|) \right)^a}$$

*where  $C$  is a constant independent of  $|\xi|$  and  $\epsilon$ .*

**PROPOSITION 2.2.** *If  $|\xi|$  is large and  $0 \leq a \leq 1$  then*

$$\frac{1}{|\xi|} \int_{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)}^1 \left( \frac{|\psi'(t)|t^{-a}}{|\psi(t)|^{2-a}} + \frac{t^{-1-a}}{|\psi(t)|^{1-a}} \right) dt \leq \frac{C}{\left( \sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} |\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|) \right)^a}$$

*where  $C$  is a constant independent of  $|\xi|$ .*

Before we proceed to the proof of these propositions the following remarks are in order.

REMARKS. (1) Given  $u < v$  let  $G(t) = \int_u^t e^{i(\gamma(s)-\xi s)} ds$  for  $u < t < v$ . Then  $G'(t) = e^{i(\gamma(t)-\xi t)}$ . If  $\rho(s) = \gamma(s) - \xi s$  then for any  $u < s < t$ ,  $|\rho''(s)| = |\gamma''(s)| \geq |\gamma''(t)|$ . Hence by Lemma 2.1 we have that  $|G(t)| \leq C/\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$ .

(2) Since  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} d(1/\gamma'(t))/dt = 0$ , for  $t > 0$  close to zero  $1/\gamma'(t) \leq Ct$ .

(3) Since  $\gamma'(x) \geq A\gamma'((1 + \epsilon)x)$  for  $x$  small we have that  $1/(\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1}|\xi|)) \leq (1 + \epsilon)/(\gamma'^{-1}(A^k|\xi|))$ , for  $|\xi|$  large and  $k$  any positive integer.

(4) For  $0 \leq a \leq 1$  and  $t$  small we have that  $|\gamma''(t)|^{a/2} \leq C\gamma'(t)^{a\lambda} \leq C\gamma'^{1-\lambda(1-a)}(t)$ . Hence  $|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|^{a/2} \leq C|\xi|^{1-\lambda(1-a)}$  for  $|\xi|$  large.

(5) If  $t$  is small then  $1/t \leq \gamma'(t)$ . Hence if  $|\xi|$  is large we must have that  $1/\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|) \leq |\xi|$ .

(6) For  $|\xi|$  large,  $1/(\psi(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))) \leq C|\xi|$ , since  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|} \leq C\gamma'(t)$ .

(7) There exists a constant  $C$  such that for  $t > 0$  close to zero,  $1/t \leq C|\gamma''(t)|/\gamma'(t)$ .

Remark 7 is a consequence of assumption (a.4):

$$\epsilon a(-\gamma''(a)) \geq \int_a^{(1+\epsilon)a} -\gamma''(t)dt = \gamma'(a) - \gamma'((1 + \epsilon)a).$$

Since

$$-\gamma'((1 + \epsilon)a) \geq -\frac{\gamma'(a)}{A}$$

we have that

$$|\gamma''(a)| \geq \frac{\gamma'(a) - \gamma'((1 + \epsilon)a)}{\epsilon a} \geq \frac{\gamma'(a)}{a} \left( \frac{A - 1}{A} \right) \frac{1}{\epsilon} > \frac{\gamma'(a)}{a} \frac{1}{A}$$

which is Remark 7.

Let us prove the propositions.

PROOF OF PROPOSITION 2.1. Since  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|} \leq C\gamma'(t)^\lambda$  we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_\epsilon^{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)} \frac{t^{-1-a}}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{1-a}} dt &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^\infty \int_{\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1}|\xi|)}^{\gamma'^{-1}(A^k|\xi|)} \frac{t^{-1-a}\gamma'(t)^{\lambda(1-a)}}{\gamma'(t)} dt \\ &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^\infty \frac{(A^k|\xi|)^{\lambda(1-a)}}{(\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1}|\xi|))^a A^k|\xi|} \ln \left( \frac{\gamma'^{-1}(A^k|\xi|)}{\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1}|\xi|)} \right) \\ &\leq C \sum_{k=0}^\infty \frac{(A^k|\xi|)^{\lambda(1-a)}}{(\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1}|\xi|))^a A^k|\xi|}, \end{aligned}$$

since by Remark 3 we have that  $\ln(\gamma'^{-1}(A^k|\xi|)/\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1}|\xi|)) \leq \ln(1 + \epsilon)$ .

Hence iterating Remark 3  $k$  times we see that

$$\int_{\epsilon}^{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)} \frac{t^{-1-a}}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{1-a}} dt \leq C \frac{|\xi|^{\lambda(1-a)}}{(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))^a |\xi|} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1+\epsilon}{A}\right)^{ka} A^{k(\lambda-1)} \leq C \left(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|) \sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|}\right)^{-a}.$$

The last inequality is due to Remark 4 and the facts that  $1 - \lambda > 0$  and  $1 + \epsilon < A$ .

Using assumption (a.2) we have that

$$\int_{\epsilon}^{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)} \frac{t^{-a} |\psi'(t)|}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{2-a}} dt \leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(A^k |\xi|)^{\lambda(1-a)}}{(\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1} |\xi|))^a A^k |\xi|} \int_{\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1} |\xi|)}^{\gamma'^{-1}(A^k |\xi|)} \left| \frac{\psi'(t)}{\psi(t)} \right| dt \leq C \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(A^k |\xi|)^{\lambda(1-a)}}{(\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1} |\xi|))^a A^k |\xi|} \ln \left( \frac{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1} |\xi|))|}{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(A^k |\xi|))|} \right).$$

Using assumption (a.3) we see that there is a constant  $C$  independent of  $s$  so that

$$\left| \gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(As)) \right| \leq C \left| \gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(s)) \right|,$$

and hence

$$\ln \left( \frac{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1} |\xi|))|}{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(A^k |\xi|))|} \right) \leq C.$$

As before we have that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(A^k |\xi|)^{\lambda(1-a)}}{(\gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1} |\xi|))^a A^k |\xi|} \leq C \left(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|) \sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|}\right)^{-a},$$

and hence we have proved that

$$\int_{\epsilon}^{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)} \left( \frac{t^{-1-a}}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{1-a}} + \frac{t^{-a} |\psi'(t)|}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{2-a}} \right) dt \leq \frac{C}{\left(\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)\right)^a}.$$

□

**PROOF OF PROPOSITION 2.2.** Since  $\psi$  is monotone and  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$  we have that

$$\frac{1}{|\xi|} \int_{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)}^1 \frac{|\psi'(t)| t^{-a}}{\psi(t)^{2-a}} dt \leq \frac{C}{|\xi|} \frac{\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|}^{1-a}}{(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))^a} \ln \left( \frac{\psi(1)}{\psi(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))} \right) \leq C \left(\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)\right)^{-a}$$

since

$$\frac{\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} \ln(\psi(1)/\psi(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)))}{|\xi|} \leq C \frac{|\xi|^\lambda \ln(|\xi|)}{|\xi|} \leq C$$

if  $|\xi|$  is large.

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|\xi|} \int_{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)}^1 \frac{t^{-1-a}}{\psi(t)^{1-a}} dt &\leq \frac{C}{|\xi|} \frac{\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|}^{1-a}}{(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))^a} \ln\left(\frac{1}{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)}\right) \\ &\leq C \left(\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)\right)^{-a} \end{aligned}$$

since  $\ln(1/\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)) \leq C \ln(|\xi|)$ .

Hence we have that

$$\frac{1}{|\xi|} \int_{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)}^1 \left( \frac{|\psi'(t)|t^{-a}}{\psi(t)^{2-a}} + \frac{t^{-1-a}}{\psi(t)^{1-a}} \right) dt \leq \frac{C}{\left(\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)\right)^a}.$$

□

We can now proceed to the proof of Theorem 2.1.

PROOF OF THEOREM 2.1. We need to estimate

$$\widehat{K}_{\epsilon,z}(\xi) = \int_{\epsilon}^1 e^{i(\gamma(t)-\xi t)} \frac{t^{-a-ib}}{\psi(t)^{1-a-ib}} dt$$

where  $z = a + ib$ . In order to take advantage of the behavior of  $\gamma$  near zero we would like to do an integration by parts by writing in the notation of Remark 1

$$e^{i(\gamma(t)-\xi t)} = G'(t),$$

and then integrate by parts.

Case I:  $\xi$  is small so that  $|\gamma'(t) - \xi| \geq C\gamma'(t)$ , for some constant  $C$ .

For  $\epsilon < t < 1$  we write  $G(t) = \int_{\epsilon}^t e^{i(\gamma(s)-\xi s)} ds$ . Since  $|\rho'(s)| = |\gamma'(s) - \xi| \geq C\gamma'(s)$ , using van der Corput's Lemma we see that  $|G(t)| \leq C/\gamma'(t)$ .

We now have  $\widehat{K}_{\epsilon,z}(\xi) = \int_{\epsilon}^1 G'(t)t^{-a-ib}/\psi(t)^{1-a-ib} dt$ . We integrate by parts to get  $|\widehat{K}_{\epsilon,z}(\xi)| \leq |I| + |II|$  where

$$|I| \leq \frac{C}{\gamma'(1)\psi(1)} \leq C$$

For II we have that

$$\text{II} = \int_{\epsilon}^1 G(t) \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{t^{-a-ib}}{\psi(t)^{1-a-ib}} \right) dt$$

and so

$$|\text{II}| \leq C(1 + |b|) \int_{\epsilon}^1 \left[ \frac{t^{-a-1}}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{1-a}} + \frac{t^{-a}|\psi'(t)|}{\psi(t)^{2-a}\gamma'(t)} \right] dt.$$

Using Proposition 2.1 we see that  $|\text{II}| \leq C(1 + |b|)$ .

Case II:  $|\xi|$  is large.

Let  $t_0 = \gamma'^{-1}(2|\xi|)$  and  $t_1 = \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|/2)$ . We write

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{K_{\epsilon,z}}(\xi) &= \int_{\epsilon}^{t_0} + \int_{t_0}^{t_1} + \int_{t_1}^1 e^{i(\gamma(t)-\xi t)} \frac{t^{-a-ib}}{\psi(t)^{1-a-ib}} dt \\ &= \text{I} + \text{II} + \text{III}. \end{aligned}$$

We now treat II, III, and I separately.

For  $t_0 < t < t_1$ , define  $G$  as in Remark 1,  $G(t) = \int_{t_0}^t e^{i(\gamma(s)-\xi s)} ds$ . Then we have  $|G(t)| \leq B/\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$  and  $\text{II} = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} G'(t)t^{-a-ib}/\psi(t)^{1-a-ib}dt$ . We integrate by parts to get

$$|\text{II}| \leq C(|\text{II}_1| + |\text{II}_2|),$$

where

$$|\text{II}_1| \leq \frac{C}{(\sqrt{|\gamma''(t_1)|}t_1)^a}$$

and

$$\text{II}_2 = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} G(t) \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{t^{-a-ib}}{\psi(t)^{1-a-ib}} \right) dt.$$

So

$$|\text{II}_2| \leq C(1 + |b|) \left( \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \frac{t^{-a}|\psi'(t)|}{\psi(t)^{2-a}\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}} dt + \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \frac{t^{-1-a}}{\psi(t)^{1-a}\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}} dt \right).$$

Since  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$  we see that

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_1} \frac{t^{-1-a}}{\psi(t)^{1-a}\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}} dt \leq C \frac{1}{(t_0\sqrt{|\gamma''(t_1)|})^a} \ln \left( \frac{t_1}{t_0} \right).$$

Since

$$\frac{1}{\gamma'^{-1}(A|\xi|)} \leq \frac{1 + \epsilon}{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)},$$

if  $k$  is such that  $2/A^k < 1$  we must have that

$$\frac{1}{\gamma'^{-1}(2|\xi|)} \leq \frac{(1 + \epsilon)^k}{\gamma'^{-1}(2|\xi|/A^k)} \leq \frac{(1 + \epsilon)^k}{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)},$$

and so  $\ln(t_1/t_0) \leq C$ . Hence

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_1} \frac{t^{-1-a}}{\psi(t)^{1-a} \sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}} dt \leq C \frac{1}{(t_0 \sqrt{|\gamma''(t_1)|})^a}.$$

Similarly, using assumptions (a.2) and (a.3) we get

$$\int_{t_0}^{t_1} \frac{|\psi'(t)| t^{-a}}{\psi(t)^{2-a} \sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}} dt \leq \frac{1}{(t_0 \sqrt{|\gamma''(t_0)|})^a} \left| \ln \left( \frac{\gamma''(t_0)}{\gamma''(t_1)} \right) \right| \leq C \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\gamma''(t_0)|}} \frac{1}{t_0} \right)^a.$$

Finally, since

$$\frac{1}{\gamma'^{-1}(2|\xi|)} \leq \frac{(1 + \epsilon)^k}{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)},$$

and

$$|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(2s))| \leq C |\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(s))|$$

we get

$$|II| \leq \frac{C(1 + |b|)}{\left( \sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))} |\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|) \right)^a}.$$

Let's now estimate

$$III = \int_{t_1}^1 e^{i(\gamma(t)-\xi t)} \frac{t^{-a-ib}}{\psi(t)^{1-a-ib}} dt.$$

For  $t_1 \leq t \leq 1$  we define

$$G(t) = \int_{t_1}^t e^{i(\gamma(s)-\xi s)} ds.$$

For  $t_1 \leq s \leq t$  we have that  $|\gamma'(s) - \xi| \geq C|\xi|$  and  $\gamma'(s) - \xi$  is monotone, hence by van der Corput's Lemma we have that  $|G(t)| \leq C/|\xi|$ .

We write

$$\text{III} = \int_{t_1}^1 G'(t) \frac{t^{-a-ib}}{\psi(t)^{1-a-ib}} dt$$

and after an integration by parts we see that  $\text{III} = \text{III}_1 + \text{III}_2$  with

$$|\text{III}_1| \leq \frac{C}{|\xi|\psi(1)^{1-a}} \leq \frac{C}{|\xi|}.$$

Using Remark 4 we see that

$$|\text{III}_1| \leq C \left( \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|) \sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} \right)^{-a}.$$

Since for  $t_1 \leq t \leq 1$ ,  $|G(t)| \leq C/|\xi|$  we have that

$$|\text{III}_2| \leq \frac{C(1+|b|)}{|\xi|} \int_{t_1}^1 \left[ \frac{t^{-1-a}}{\psi(t)^{1-a}} + \frac{|\psi'(t)|t^{-a}}{\psi(t)^{2-a}} \right] dt.$$

By Proposition 2.2 we have that

$$|\text{III}_2| \leq C \left( \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|) \sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} \right)^{-a}.$$

We still have to deal with

$$\text{I} = \int_{\epsilon}^{t_0} e^{i(\gamma(t)-\xi t)} \frac{t^{-a-ib}}{\psi(t)^{1-a-ib}} dt.$$

For  $\epsilon \leq t \leq t_0$  we define

$$G(t) = \int_{\epsilon}^t e^{i(\gamma(s)-\xi s)} ds.$$

In this case we have that  $|\gamma'(s) - \xi| \geq C\gamma'(s)$  and hence we now have that  $|G(t)| \leq C/\gamma'(t)$ . We write

$$\text{I} = \int_{\epsilon}^{t_0} G'(t) \frac{t^{-a-ib}}{\psi(t)^{1-a-ib}} dt$$

and integrate by parts to get

$$\begin{aligned} |\text{I}| &\leq \frac{C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t_0)|}}{\gamma'(t_0)(\sqrt{|\gamma''(t_0)|}t_0)^a} + \left| \int_{\epsilon}^{t_0} G(t) \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{t^{-a-ib}}{\psi(t)^{1-a-ib}} \right) dt \right| \\ &= \text{I}_1 + \text{I}_2. \end{aligned}$$

As before, we have that

$$I_1 \leq \frac{C}{\left(\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|}|\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)\right)^a}.$$

Since for  $\epsilon \leq t \leq t_0$  we have that  $|G(t)| \leq \frac{C}{\gamma'(t)}$ , we see that

$$I_2 \leq C(1 + |b|) \int_{\epsilon}^{t_0} \left[ \frac{t^{-1-a}}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{1-a}} + \frac{|\psi'(t)|t^{-a}}{\gamma'(t)\psi(t)^{2-a}} \right] dt.$$

In view of Proposition 2.1 we can conclude that

$$I_2 \leq C \left( \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} \right)^{-a}.$$

So for  $|\xi|$  small

$$|\widehat{K_{\epsilon,z}}(\xi)| \leq C(1 + |b|)$$

and for  $|\xi|$  large

$$|\widehat{K_{\epsilon,z}}(\xi)| \leq \frac{C(1 + |b|)}{\left(\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}|\xi|)}|\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)\right)^a}$$

and Theorem 2.1 is proved. □

### 3. $L^p(\mathbb{R})$ -boundedness of $T_\theta$

In this section we want to prove the statement of the  $L^p$ -boundedness of  $T_\theta$ , that is Theorem 1.3. We start with the proof of Theorem 1.4 and Theorem 1.5. Then using an interpolation argument we will be able to prove Theorem 1.3.

**3.1.  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ -boundedness of  $T_{ib}$**  To prove the  $L^2$ -boundedness of  $T_{ib}$  it is enough to prove the following theorem.

**THEOREM 3.1.**  $\|T_{\epsilon,ib}f\|_{L^2} \leq C(1 + |b|)\|f\|_{L^2}$  for every  $f$  in  $C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ . The constant  $C$  is independent of  $\epsilon$ .

To prove this statement we just have to see that  $|\widehat{K_{\epsilon,ib}}(\xi)| \leq C(1 + |b|)$ , where  $C$  is independent of  $\xi$  and  $\epsilon$ . Since this is Theorem 2.1 when  $a = 0$ , there is nothing to prove. □

However it is important to mention the following. To prove that  $T_{ib}$  is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  it is enough to assume that  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$ .

The stronger assumption (a.2)

$$\left| \frac{\psi'(t)}{\psi(t)} \right| \leq C \left| \frac{\gamma'''(t)}{\gamma''(t)} \right|,$$

was used twice during the proof of Theorem 2.1, to estimate a pair of integrals, namely

$$\int_{\epsilon}^{\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)} \frac{t^{-a} |\psi'(t)|}{\gamma'(t) \psi(t)^{2-a}} dt \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{b_0}^{t_1} \frac{t^{-a} |\psi'(t)|}{\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|} \psi(t)^{2-a}} dt.$$

It can be easily seen that when  $a = 0$  the desired estimate for these two integrals follows from the monotonicity of  $\psi$  and the weaker assumption  $1/\psi(t) \leq C\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}$ .

**3.2.  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ -boundedness of  $T_{1+ib}$  on  $H^1(\mathbb{R})$**  Again, to prove Theorem 1.5 it is enough to prove the following theorem.

**THEOREM 3.2.**  $\|T_{\epsilon,1+ib} f\|_{L^1} \leq C(1+|b|)\|f\|_{H^1}$  for every  $f$  in  $H_1(\mathbb{R})$ . The constant  $C$  is independent of  $\epsilon$ .

Since  $K_{\epsilon,1+ib}$  is the kernel of  $T_{\epsilon,1+ib}$  we have that

$$K_{\epsilon,1+ib}(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{i\gamma(x)}}{x^{1+ib} \psi(x)^{-ib}} & \text{if } \epsilon \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Theorem 3.2 will be a consequence of the following Calderón-Zygmund type lemmas. The first one is Theorem 2.1 for  $a = 1$ . We restate it here for convenience.

**LEMMA 3.1.** For  $\xi$  large  $|\widehat{K}_{\epsilon,1+ib}(\xi)| \leq (C(1+|b|))/(\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|} \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))$ , and for  $\xi$  small  $|\widehat{K}_{\epsilon,1+ib}(\xi)| \leq C(1+|b|)$ . The constant  $C$  is independent of  $\epsilon$ .

**LEMMA 3.2.** For  $L$  small and  $|y| \leq L$

$$\int_{|x| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1})} |K_{\epsilon,1+ib}(x-y) - K_{\epsilon,1+ib}(x)| dx \leq C(1+|b|).$$

Let's assume for a moment Lemma 3.2 in order to prove Theorem 3.2.

**PROOF OF THEOREM 3.2.** It is enough to do it for atoms. So let  $a(x)$  be an atom. Without loss of generality we can assume that  $a$  is supported in  $(-L, L)$ . Since  $a$  is an atom we have that  $|a(x)| \leq 1/L$  and  $\int a(x) dx = 0$ .

Case I:  $L \geq 1$ . Using Schwarz’s inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int |T_{\epsilon,1+ib}a(x)|dx &\leq \int_{-L-1}^{L+1} |T_{\epsilon,1+ib}a(x)|dx \\ &\leq C(L+1)^{1/2} \left( \int |T_{\epsilon,1+ib}a(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq C(1+|b|)(L+1)^{1/2} \left( \int |a(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

The last inequality follows from the fact that  $T_{\epsilon,1+ib}$  is bounded in  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ , by Lemma 3.1.

Since  $\int |a(x)|^2 dx \leq 1/L$  and  $L \geq 1$  we get

$$\int |T_{\epsilon,1+ib}a(x)|dx \leq C(1+|b|) \left( \frac{L+1}{L} \right)^{1/2} \leq C(1+|b|).$$

Case II:  $L < 1$ . Let  $L$  be as in Lemma 3.2 and write

$$\begin{aligned} \int |T_{\epsilon,1+ib}a(x)|dx &= \int_{|x| \leq 2\gamma'^{-1}(1/L)} |T_{\epsilon,1+ib}a(x)|dx + \int_{|x| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(1/L)} |T_{\epsilon,1+ib}a(x)|dx \\ &= \text{I} + \text{II}. \end{aligned}$$

We will first estimate I. Again using Schwarz’s inequality we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{I}^2 &\leq 2\gamma'^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{L} \right) \int |T_{\epsilon,1+ib}a(x)|^2 dx \\ &= 2\gamma'^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{L} \right) \int |\widehat{K_{\epsilon,1+ib}}(\xi)\widehat{a}(\xi)|^2 d\xi \\ &= 2\gamma'^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{L} \right) \left[ \int_{|\xi| \leq 1} |\widehat{K_{\epsilon,1+ib}}(\xi)\widehat{a}(\xi)|^2 d\xi \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{1 \leq |\xi| \leq \frac{1}{L}} |\widehat{K_{\epsilon,1+ib}}(\xi)\widehat{a}(\xi)|^2 d\xi + \int_{|\xi| \geq \frac{1}{L}} |\widehat{K_{\epsilon,1+ib}}(\xi)\widehat{a}(\xi)|^2 d\xi \right] \\ &= \text{I}_1 + \text{I}_2 + \text{I}_3. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $|\widehat{K_{\epsilon,1+ib}}(\xi)| \leq C(1+|b|)$  for  $\xi$  small and  $|\widehat{a}(\xi)| \leq \|a\|_{L^1} \leq 1$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\text{I}_1| &\leq 2\gamma'^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{L} \right) C(1+|b|)^2 \int_{|\xi| \leq 1} |\widehat{a}(\xi)|^2 d\xi \\ &\leq 2\gamma'^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{L} \right) C(1+|b|)^2 \leq C(1+|b|)^2. \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 3.1 and the fact that  $|\widehat{a}(\xi)| \leq 1$  we see that

$$|I_2| \leq 2\gamma'^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{L}\right) C(1 + |b|)^2 \int_{1 \leq |\xi| \leq \frac{1}{L}} \frac{d\xi}{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))|(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))^2}.$$

Make the change of variable  $u = \gamma'^{-1}(\xi)$  to get

$$\begin{aligned} |I_2| &\leq 2\gamma'^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{L}\right) C(1 + |b|)^2 \int_{\gamma'^{-1}(1/L) \leq u \leq \gamma'^{-1}(1)} u^{-2} du \\ &\leq C(1 + |b|)^2 \gamma'^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{L}\right) \left[ \frac{1}{\gamma'^{-1}(1)} + \frac{1}{\gamma'^{-1}(1/L)} \right] \leq C(1 + |b|)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since for  $\xi$  large

$$|\widehat{K_{\epsilon,1+ib}}(\xi)| \leq \frac{C(1 + |b|)}{\sqrt{|\gamma''(\gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|))| \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)}}$$

and for  $t$  small  $\gamma'(t)/t \leq C|\gamma''(t)|$ , we see that for  $\xi$  large

$$|\widehat{K_{\epsilon,1+ib}}(\xi)|^2 \leq \frac{C(1 + |b|)^2}{|\xi| \gamma'^{-1}(|\xi|)}.$$

This together with the fact that  $\int |\widehat{a}(\xi)|^2 d\xi = \int |a(x)|^2 dx \leq 1/L$  gives us

$$\begin{aligned} |I_3| &\leq 2\gamma'^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{L}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \int_{\frac{A^k}{L} \leq |\xi| \leq \frac{A^{k+1}}{L}} |\widehat{K_{\epsilon,1+ib}}(\xi) \widehat{a}(\xi)|^2 d\xi \\ &\leq 2C(1 + |b|)^2 \gamma'^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{L}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{L}{A^k \gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1}/L)} \int |\widehat{a}(\xi)|^2 d\xi \\ &\leq 2C(1 + |b|)^2 \gamma'^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{L}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{A^k \gamma'^{-1}(A^{k+1}/L)}. \end{aligned}$$

Now by hypothesis we have that for  $x$  small  $\gamma'(x) \geq A\gamma'((1 + \epsilon)x)$ . For  $t$  large let  $x = \gamma'^{-1}(t)$ . We then get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{t}{A} &\geq \gamma'((1 + \epsilon)\gamma'^{-1}(t)) \\ \text{if and only if } \gamma'^{-1} \left(\frac{t}{A}\right) &\leq (1 + \epsilon)\gamma'^{-1}(t) \\ \text{if and only if } \gamma'^{-1}(\xi) &\leq (1 + \epsilon)\gamma'^{-1}(A\xi). \end{aligned}$$

So finally we have

$$\begin{aligned} |I_3| &\leq 2C(1 + |b|)^2 \gamma'^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{L}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1 + \epsilon)^{k+1}}{A^k \gamma'^{-1}(1/L)} \\ &= 2C(1 + |b|)^2 (1 + \epsilon) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1 + \epsilon}{A}\right)^k \leq C(1 + |b|) \end{aligned}$$

since  $1 + \epsilon < A$ .

So we do have that  $|I| \leq C(1 + |b|)$ . It remains to see that  $|II| \leq C(1 + |b|)$ , where  $II = \int_{|x| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(1/L)} |T_{\epsilon, 1+ib}a(x)| dx$ .

Since  $\int a(x) dx = 0$  we have

$$T_{\epsilon, 1+ib}a(x) = \int K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x - y)a(y) dy = \int [K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x - y) - K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x)]a(y) dy.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} |II| &\leq \int_{|x| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(1/L)} \left| \int [K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x - y) - K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x)]a(y) dy \right| dx \\ &\leq \int |a(y)| dy \int_{|x| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(1/L)} |K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x - y) - K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x)| dx \\ &\leq \int |a(y)| dy \int_{|x| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1})} |K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x - y) - K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x)| dx \\ &\leq C(1 + |b|) \int |a(y)| dy \leq C(1 + |b|). \end{aligned}$$

The next to last inequality is due to Lemma 3.2.

Altogether we have that  $\int |T_{\epsilon, 1+ib}a(x)| dx \leq C(1 + |b|)$  and Theorem 3.2 is proved. □

Let's now prove Lemma 3.2.

PROOF OF LEMMA 3.2. Recall that

$$K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{iy(x)}}{x^{1+ib}\psi(x)^{-ib}} & \text{if } \epsilon \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For  $0 \leq t \leq 1$  let  $f(t) = K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x - ty)$ . Then

$$K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x - y) - K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x) = \int_0^1 f'(t) dt = \int_0^1 -y K'_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x - ty) dt.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} |K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x - y) - K_{\epsilon, 1+ib}(x)| &\leq |y|(1 + |b|) \int_0^1 \left| \frac{\gamma'(x - ty)}{x - ty} \right| dt \\ &\quad + |y|(1 + |b|) \int_0^1 \frac{1}{|x - ty|^2} dt \\ &\quad + |y|(1 + |b|) \int_0^1 \left| \frac{\psi'(x - ty)}{\psi(x - ty)} \right| \frac{1}{|x - ty|} dt. \end{aligned}$$

And hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \int |K_{\epsilon,1+ib}(x-y) - K_{\epsilon,1+ib}(x)| dx \\ & \leq |y|(1+|b|) \iint_0^1 \left| \frac{\gamma'(x-ty)}{x-ty} \right| dt dx + |y|(1+|b|) \iint_0^1 \frac{1}{|x-ty|^2} dt dx \\ & \quad + |y|(1+|b|) \iint_0^1 \left| \frac{\psi'(x-ty)}{\psi(x-ty)} \right| \frac{1}{|x-ty|} dt dx. \end{aligned}$$

Making the change of variable  $z = x - ty$  and interchanging the order of integration we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{|x| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1})} |K_{\epsilon,1+ib}(x-y) - K_{\epsilon,1+ib}(x)| dx \\ & \leq |y|(1+|b|) \int_{1 \geq |z| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1}) - |y|} \gamma'(z) \frac{dz}{|z|} + |y|(1+|b|) \int_{1 \geq |z| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1}) - |y|} \frac{dz}{|z|^2} \\ & \quad + |y|(1+|b|) \int_{1 \geq |z| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1}) - |y|} \left| \frac{\psi'(z)}{z\psi(z)} \right| dz = \text{I} + \text{II} + \text{III}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $L$  small and  $|y| \leq L$  we have that  $1/|y| \leq \gamma'(|y|)$ . Hence  $|y|/\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1}) \leq 1$  and  $2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1}) - |y| \geq \gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1})$ . So

$$\text{II} \leq C|y|(1+|b|) \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1}) - |y|} \right) \leq C(1+|b|).$$

Since  $\gamma'(x)/x \leq C|\gamma''(x)|$  we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{I} & \leq |y|(1+|b|) \int_{1 \geq |z| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1}) - |y|} (-\gamma''(z)) dz \\ & \leq |y|(1+|b|) \left[ \gamma'(2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1}) - |y|) + \gamma'(1) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1}) - |y| \geq \gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1})$  we have that  $\gamma'(2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1}) - |y|) \leq |y|^{-1}$ . So  $\text{I} \leq C(1+|b|)$ . To estimate III it is sufficient to note that

$$\left| \frac{\psi'(z)}{z\psi(z)} \right| \leq C \frac{1}{|z\psi(z)|} \leq C \frac{\sqrt{|\gamma''(z)|}}{|z|} \leq C \frac{\gamma'(z)}{z}.$$

So  $\text{III} \leq C\text{I} \leq C(1+|b|)$ . Altogether we have

$$\int_{|x| \geq 2\gamma'^{-1}(|y|^{-1})} |K_{\epsilon,1+ib}(x-y) - K_{\epsilon,1+ib}(x)| dx \leq C(1+|b|),$$

for  $|y| < L$  and Lemma 3.2 is proved. □

**3.3.  $L^p(\mathbb{R})$ -boundedness of  $T_\theta$**  To prove Theorem 1.3 we will need a theorem on interpolation of analytic families of operators. Here we will formulate the version needed to prove the desired  $L^p$ -estimate. The proof of this particular case can be found in [1]. For the general version see [5].

Let  $S$  be the open strip of complex numbers  $z$  such that  $0 < \text{Re}(z) < 1$ . Consider the mapping taking  $z$  to  $T_z$  from the closure of  $S$  to bounded operators on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ . Suppose this mapping is analytic in  $S$  and continuous and bounded in the closure of  $S$ . Then we have the following theorem.

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Suppose  $\|T_{iy}f\|_{L^1} \leq M_0(y)\|f\|_{H^1}$  for  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}) \cap H^1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\|T_{1+iy}f\|_{L^2} \leq M_1(y)\|f\|_{L^2}$  for  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$ , where  $M_i(y) \leq A_i(1 + |y|)^N$  for some  $N$ , and  $i = 0, 1$ . Then  $\|T_t f\|_{L^p} \leq M_t \|f\|_{L^p}$  for  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}) \cap L^p(\mathbb{R})$  whenever  $0 < t < 1$  and  $1/p = 1 - t/2$ .  $M_t$  depends only on  $t, A_0$  and  $A_1$ .*

Taking  $\theta = 1 - t$  in Theorem 3.3 we see that

$$T_\theta f(x) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \int_\epsilon^1 e^{iy(t)} f(x-t) \frac{t^{-\theta}}{\psi(t)^{1-\theta}} dt$$

is bounded on  $L^p(\mathbb{R})$  for  $1/p = (1 + \theta)/2, 0 \leq \theta < 1$ . This concludes the proof of the  $L^p$ -boundedness of  $T_\theta$ . □

### 4. Sharp $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ result

The purpose of this section is to prove that if

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{|\gamma''(t)|\psi^2(t)} = \infty$$

and if there is a constant  $A \geq 1$  such that for all large  $s > 0$

$$\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(2s)) \leq A\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(s))$$

then  $T_0$  cannot be bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ .

In order to prove this we will need to find a lower bound for  $|T_0 f(x)|$  for certain points  $x$  and an appropriate function  $f$  in  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ . These points  $x$  will be such that for  $t$  close to  $x$ , the oscillation  $e^{iy(t)}$  will not vary too much. Those points will lie in the intervals built in the following lemma.

**LEMMA 4.1.** *Suppose there is a constant  $A \geq 1$  such that for all large  $s > 0$*

$$\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(2s)) \leq A\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(s)).$$

*Then there is a constant  $B_0$  such that whenever  $\epsilon \leq B_0 \leq 1$  and  $k \leq |\gamma|(\epsilon)$ , the following is true:*

(i)

$$\frac{B}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} \leq |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2k\pi - \frac{\pi}{3} \right) - |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2k\pi + \frac{\pi}{3} \right),$$

where  $B = 2\pi/(3A^3)$ ;

(ii) Let  $I_k = [|\gamma|^{-1}(2k\pi + \pi/3) + B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)), |\gamma|^{-1}(2k\pi - \pi/3) - B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon))]$  and  $J_k = [|\gamma|^{-1}(2(k + 1)\pi - \pi/3) - B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)), |\gamma|^{-1}(2k\pi + \pi/3) + B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon))]$ . If  $k'$  is such that  $k' \leq |\gamma|(\epsilon) < k' + 1$  then

$$(\epsilon, |\gamma|^{-1}(7)) \subseteq I_{k'} \cup \left[ \bigcup_{k=1}^{k'-1} J_k \cup I_k \right].$$

(iii) There is a constant  $D$  such that  $|J_k| \leq D|I_{k+1}|$ .

The construction of these intervals when the phase function is the inverse of a power can be found in [3].

We will also need the following fact. If  $\gamma$  is such that  $\gamma'(t) \geq 0$  for  $t > 0$ ,  $\gamma'$  is decreasing,  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \gamma'(\epsilon) = \infty$  and  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \gamma''(\epsilon)/\gamma'(\epsilon)^2 = 0$ , then

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \gamma'(\epsilon + 1/\gamma'(\epsilon))/\gamma'(\epsilon) = 1.$$

To see this we write

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma' \left( \epsilon + \frac{1}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} \right) &= \gamma' \left( \epsilon + \frac{1}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} \right) + \gamma'(\epsilon) - \gamma'(\epsilon) \\ &= \gamma'(\epsilon) + \int_{\epsilon}^{\epsilon + 1/\gamma'(\epsilon)} \gamma''(t) dt. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\left| \int_{\epsilon}^{\epsilon + 1/\gamma'(\epsilon)} \gamma''(t) dt \right| \leq \frac{|\gamma''(\epsilon)|}{\gamma'(\epsilon)}$$

and  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \gamma''(\epsilon)/\gamma'(\epsilon)^2 = 0$  we get

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\gamma'(\epsilon + 1/\gamma'(\epsilon))}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} = 1.$$

Let's assume Lemma 4.1 and prove Theorem 1.6.

**PROOF OF THEOREM 1.6.** We are going to argue by contradiction. Suppose that  $T_0$  is bounded on  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  and that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} 1/(|\psi(t)|\sqrt{|\gamma''(t)|}) = \infty$ . Then there exists a positive, decreasing function  $g$  such that  $1/\psi^2(t) \geq |\gamma''(t)|g(t)$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} g(t) = \infty$ .

Let  $f(x) = 1$  for  $x \in (-1, 1)$  and 0 otherwise so that  $\int |f(x)|dx = 2$  and  $\int |f(x)|^2 dx = 2$ . Let  $\epsilon$  and  $B$  be the same as in Lemma 4.1 and define

$$f_\epsilon(x) = f\left(\frac{x}{B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon))}\right).$$

In the notation of Lemma 4.1 let  $x \in I_k$ . If  $x \in I_k$  and  $|x - t| \leq B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon))$  then

$$2k\pi - \frac{\pi}{3} \leq |\gamma|(t) \leq 2k\pi + \frac{\pi}{3}.$$

Hence for  $0 \leq \epsilon' \leq \epsilon$  and  $x \in I_k$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{\epsilon'}^1 e^{i\gamma(t)} f_\epsilon(x - t) \frac{dt}{\psi(t)} \right| &\geq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\epsilon'}^1 f_\epsilon(x - t) \frac{dt}{\psi(t)} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\epsilon'}^1 f_\epsilon(x - t) \frac{dt}{\psi(x + B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)))}. \end{aligned}$$

The last inequality is due to the fact that since

$$t = |t| \leq |x - t| + x \leq \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} + x$$

and  $\psi$  is monotone then  $\psi(t) \leq \psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)$ .

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_{\epsilon'}^1 e^{i\gamma(t)} f_\epsilon(x - t) \frac{dt}{\psi(t)} \right| &\geq \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\psi(x + B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)))} \int f_\epsilon(x - t) dt \\ &= \frac{B}{6\psi(x + B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon))) \gamma'(\epsilon)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus for  $x \in I_k$  we have

$$|T_0 f_\epsilon(x)| \geq \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon) \psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)}.$$

Hence we get

$$\int_{I_k} |T_0 f_\epsilon(x)|^2 dx \geq \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon)^2} \int_{I_k} \frac{dx}{\psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)^2}.$$

And so we see that

$$\int |T_0 f_\epsilon(x)|^2 dx \geq \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon)^2} \sum_{k=1}^k \int_{I_k} \frac{dx}{\psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)^2}.$$

For any  $1 \leq l \leq k' - 1$ , we have  $|J_l| \leq D|I_{l+1}|$ . Since  $\psi$  is monotone and  $I_{l+1}$  lies to the left of  $J_l$  we have that  $\max_{J_l} 1/\psi(t) \leq \min_{I_{l+1}} 1/\psi(t)$  and hence

$$\int_{J_l} \frac{dx}{\psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)^2} \leq D \int_{I_{l+1}} \frac{dx}{\psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)^2}.$$

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \int |T_0 f_\epsilon(x)|^2 dx &\geq \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon)^2} \left( \int_{I_{k'}} \frac{dx}{\psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)^2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{\cup_{k=1}^{k'-1} (I_k \cup J_k)} \frac{dx}{\psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)^2} \right) \\ &\geq \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon)^2} \int_\epsilon^{|\gamma|^{-1}(7)} \frac{dx}{\psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

For  $\epsilon \leq \delta \leq |\gamma|^{-1}(7)$  we have

$$\int |T_0 f_\epsilon(x)|^2 dx \geq \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon)^2} \int_\epsilon^\delta \frac{dx}{\psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)^2}.$$

Since we are assuming that  $T_0 : L^2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R})$  we have

$$\int |T_0 f_\epsilon|^2(x) dx \leq \|T_0\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2}^2 \|f_\epsilon\|_2^2 \leq \|T_0\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2}^2 \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)}.$$

So finally we have

$$\|T_0\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2}^2 \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} \geq \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon)^2} \int_\epsilon^\delta \frac{dx}{\psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)^2}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} (8) \quad 1 &\geq \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} \int_\epsilon^\delta \frac{dx}{\psi(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + x)^2} \\ &\geq \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} \int_\epsilon^\delta -\gamma'' \left( \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} + x \right) g \left( \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} + x \right) dx \\ &\geq \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} g \left( \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} + \delta \right) \int_\epsilon^\delta -\gamma'' \left( \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} + x \right) dx \\ &= \frac{C}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} g \left( \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} + \delta \right) \left[ \gamma' \left( \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} + \epsilon \right) - \gamma' \left( \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} + \delta \right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Now,  $g(B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)) + \delta) \geq g(2\delta)$  by also requiring  $\delta > B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon))$ .

The proof that

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\gamma'(\epsilon + 1/\gamma'(\epsilon))}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} = 1$$

gives us that

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\gamma'(\epsilon + B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon)))}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} = 1$$

and hence we have that

$$\frac{1}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} \left[ \gamma' \left( \epsilon + \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} \right) - \gamma' \left( \delta + \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} \right) \right] \rightarrow 1, \quad \text{as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0^+.$$

So letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$  in inequality (8) we get  $1 \geq Cg(2\delta)$  and letting  $\delta \rightarrow 0^+$  we have a contradiction. This concludes the proof of Theorem 1.6. □

Now let us prove Lemma 4.1.

PROOF OF LEMMA 4.1. (i) Using the mean value theorem we have:

$$|\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2k\pi - \frac{\pi}{3} \right) - |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2k\pi + \frac{\pi}{3} \right) = \left( -\frac{2\pi}{3} \right) (|\gamma|^{-1})'(d) = \frac{2\pi}{3} \frac{1}{\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(d))}$$

for some  $d$  such that  $2k\pi - \pi/3 \leq d \leq 2k\pi + \pi/3$ .

Since there is an  $A \geq 1$  such that  $\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(2k)) \leq A\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(k))$  and  $\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(t))$  is increasing we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(d))} &\geq \frac{1}{\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(2k\pi + \pi/3))} \geq \frac{1}{\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(8k))} \\ &\geq A^{-3} \frac{1}{\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(k))} \geq \frac{1}{A^3\gamma'(\epsilon)}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have  $|\gamma|^{-1} (2k\pi - \pi/3) - |\gamma|^{-1} (2k\pi + \pi/3) \geq 2\pi/(3A^3\gamma'(\epsilon))$ .

(ii) It is enough to prove

- (a)  $\epsilon \geq |\gamma|^{-1} (2k'\pi + \pi/3) + B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon))$  and
- (b)  $|\gamma|^{-1}(7) \leq |\gamma|^{-1}(2\pi - \pi/3) - B/(3\gamma'(\epsilon))$ .

(a) Since  $k' \leq |\gamma|(\epsilon) < k' + 1 \leq 2k'\pi - \pi/3$  we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &\geq |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2k'\pi - \frac{\pi}{3} \right) \geq |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2k'\pi + \frac{\pi}{3} \right) + \frac{B}{\gamma'(\epsilon)} \\ &\geq |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2k'\pi + \frac{\pi}{3} \right) + \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)}. \end{aligned}$$

(b) Let

$$B_0 = \min \left[ |\gamma|^{-1}(7), \gamma'^{-1} \left( \frac{B}{3(|\gamma|^{-1}(2\pi - \pi/3) - |\gamma|^{-1}(7))} \right) \right].$$

Since  $\epsilon \leq B_0$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &\leq \gamma'^{-1} \left( \frac{B}{3(|\gamma|^{-1}(2\pi - \pi/3) - |\gamma|^{-1}(7))} \right) \\ \Leftrightarrow \gamma'(\epsilon) &\geq \frac{B}{3(|\gamma|^{-1}(2\pi - \pi/3) - |\gamma|^{-1}(7))} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} &\leq |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2\pi - \frac{\pi}{3} \right) - |\gamma|^{-1}(7) \\ \Leftrightarrow |\gamma|^{-1}(7) &\leq |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2\pi - \frac{\pi}{3} \right) - \frac{B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)}. \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Let  $\alpha = 2k\pi + \pi/3$  and  $\beta = 2\pi/3$ , so that  $2(k + 1)\pi + \pi/3 = \alpha + 3\beta$ .  
 Since

$$|I_{k+1}| + |J_k| = |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2k\pi + \frac{\pi}{3} \right) - |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2(k + 1)\pi + \frac{\pi}{3} \right)$$

then

$$|I_{k+1}| + |J_k| = (-3\beta)(|\gamma|^{-1})'(t_1) = 3\beta \frac{1}{\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(t_1))}$$

for some  $t_1$  such that  $\alpha \leq t_1 \leq \alpha + 3\beta$ .

Also

$$\begin{aligned} |I_{k+1}| + \frac{2B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} &= |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2(k + 1)\pi - \frac{\pi}{3} \right) - |\gamma|^{-1} \left( 2(k + 1)\pi + \frac{\pi}{3} \right) \\ &= |\gamma|^{-1}(\alpha + 2\beta) - |\gamma|^{-1}(\alpha + 3\beta) \\ &= -\beta(|\gamma|^{-1})'(t_2) \\ &= \beta \frac{1}{\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(t_2))} \end{aligned}$$

for some  $t_2$  with  $\alpha + 2\beta \leq t_2 \leq \alpha + 3\beta$ .

Since  $t_2 \leq \alpha + 3\beta \leq 2\alpha \leq 2t_1$ , we have  $t_2/2 \leq t_1$ . Using the doubling property of  $\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(t))$  we get  $\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(t_2/2)) \geq \frac{1}{A}\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(t_2))$ .

So finally we see that

$$\begin{aligned} |I_{k+1}| + |J_k| &= 3\beta \frac{1}{\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(t_1))} \leq 3\beta \frac{1}{\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(t_2/2))} \\ &\leq 3\beta A \frac{1}{\gamma'(|\gamma|^{-1}(t_2))} = 3A \left( |I_{k+1}| + \frac{2B}{3\gamma'(\epsilon)} \right) \\ &\leq 3A (|I_{k+1}| + 2|I_{k+1}|). \end{aligned}$$

So  $|J_k| \leq (9A - 1)|I_{k+1}|$ . This ends the proof of Lemma 4.1. □

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