

*A WEIGHTED MULTIPLIER THEOREM
FOR ROCKLAND OPERATORS*

BY

KRZYSZTOF STEMPAK (WROCLAW)

1. Introduction. A simply connected nilpotent Lie group G is called *graded* if its Lie algebra \mathfrak{G} is endowed with a vector space decomposition $\mathfrak{G} = \bigoplus_1^n V_j$ such that $[V_i, V_j] \subseteq V_{i+j}$. Then \mathfrak{G} and correspondingly G admits a one-parameter group of automorphisms δ_r , $r > 0$, called *dilations*. Let Q be the homogeneous dimension of G that is the positive number defined by

$$r^Q \int_G f(\delta_r x) dx = \int_G f(x) dx, \quad f \in L^1(G), \quad r > 0.$$

A left-invariant differential operator L on G is called a *Rockland operator* if it is homogeneous with respect to the dilations and for every irreducible unitary representation π of G the operator $\pi(L)$ is injective on the space of C^∞ -vectors. It is known, by Helffer and Nourrigat, that L is hypoelliptic and as such it is essentially self-adjoint on $C_c^\infty(G)$ in $L^2(G)$.

Let L be a positive Rockland operator on G and let $E(\lambda)$ be the spectral resolution of the identity for a positive self-adjoint extension of L ,

$$L f = \int_0^\infty \lambda dE(\lambda) f, \quad f \in \text{Dom}(L).$$

If m is a bounded measurable function on \mathbb{R}^+ we write $m(L)$ for the multiplier operator

$$m(L) f = \int_0^\infty m(\lambda) dE(\lambda) f, \quad f \in L^2(G)$$

which is bounded on $L^2(G)$.

Recently a Hörmander–Myhlin-type multiplier theorem has been proved by A. Hulanicki and E. M. Stein for the case when L is a sublaplacian on a stratified group, cf. [3], and as remarked by A. Hulanicki in [4] it can be generalized to Rockland operators on graded groups. It says the following:

THEOREM A. *Let L be a positive Rockland operator on G . There exists an integer N such that if $m \in C^N(\mathbb{R}^+)$ satisfies*

$$\|m\|_N^* = \max_{0 \leq j \leq N} \sup_{\lambda > 0} |\lambda^j m^{(j)}(\lambda)| < \infty,$$

then for every p , $1 < p < \infty$, the operator $m(L)$ extends to the bounded operator on $L^p(G)$; moreover,

$$\|m(L)f\|_p \leq C \|m\|_N^* \|f\|_p, \quad f \in L^p \cap L^2(G)$$

with a constant $C = C(p)$ independent of m .

On the other hand, Kurtz and Wheeden [7], [8] have obtained weighted multiplier theorems for classical multipliers on \mathbb{R}^n .

The aim of this note is to prove a similar weighted multiplier theorem for a positive Rockland operator. To state our main result let us remind the following notions.

A topological space X equipped with a continuous pseudometric ϱ and a measure μ which, for a constant C , satisfies

$$\mu(B_{2r}(x)) \leq C\mu(B_r(x)), \quad x \in X, r > 0,$$

is called a *space of homogeneous type*. Here $B_r(x)$ denotes the ball, $B_r(x) = \{y: \varrho(x, y) < r\}$.

For a locally integrable function f on X we define the maximal function Mf of f by

$$(1.1) \quad Mf(x) = \sup_{r > 0} \mu(B_r(x))^{-1} \int_{B_r(x)} |f(y)| d\mu(y).$$

We say that a weight function $w(x)$, $w(x) > 0$ on X , belongs to the *Muckenhoupt class* $A_p(X)$ if for a constant C

$$\left[\int_B w(x) d\mu \right] \cdot \left[\int_B w(x)^{-1/(p-1)} d\mu \right]^{p-1} \leq C\mu(B)^p, \quad 1 < p < \infty,$$

$$\int_B w(x) d\mu \leq C\mu(B) \cdot \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{x \in B} w(x), \quad p = 1,$$

for all balls B .

A. P. Calderón [1] has extended the Muckenhoupt theory, cf. [2], from the Euclidean to the general spaces of homogeneous type. In particular, the following weighted L^p -norm inequality for the maximal function (1.1) holds: for $1 < p < \infty$

$$(1.2) \quad \int_X Mf(x)^p w(x) d\mu \leq C \int_X |f(x)|^p w(x) d\mu$$

with a constant C independent of f if and only if $w \in A_p$.

On the graded group G there exists a continuous positive function $|\cdot|$ called a *homogeneous norm* such that $|x| = 0$ iff $x = e$, $|x| = |x^{-1}|$, $|xy| \leq$

$\gamma(|x|+|y|)$ for a $\gamma \geq 1$, and $|\delta_r x| = r|x|$, $r > 0$. G endowed with the Haar measure and the pseudometric generated by the homogeneous norm $d(x, y) = |y^{-1}x|$ is of homogeneous type.

For a positive weight w denote $w(E) = \int_E w(x) dx$, $E \subseteq G$, and

$$\|f\|_{p,w} = \left(\int_G |f(x)|^p w(x) dx \right)^{1/p}, \quad 1 < p < \infty.$$

Now we state our main result.

THEOREM 1. *Let L be a positive Rockland operator on G , $1 \leq p < \infty$ and $w \in A_p(G)$. There exists an integer N such that for a function $m \in C^N(\mathbb{R}^+)$ which satisfies*

$$\|m\|_N^* = \max_{0 \leq j \leq N} \sup_{\lambda > 0} |\lambda^j m^{(j)}(\lambda)| < \infty$$

we have: for $p > 1$

$$(1.3) \quad \|m(L)f\|_{p,w} \leq C \|f\|_{p,w}$$

and for $p = 1$

$$(1.4) \quad w(\{x \in G: |m(L)f| > \lambda\}) \leq \frac{C}{\lambda} \|f\|_{1,w}, \quad \lambda > 0,$$

with a constant $C = C(p)$ independent of f .

To prove Theorem 1 we apply the technique of [8] based on the sharp maximal function f^* of Fefferman and Stein. However, our crucial estimate contained in Theorem 2, similar to the key Lemma 1 in [8], is proved in a quite different way: in absence of Fourier transform we use a result of Hulanicki [4] (cf. also [5], [6]) which can be formulated as follows.

THEOREM B. *Let L be a positive Rockland operator on G and let $l > Q$ be given. There exists an integer N such that if $m \in C^N(\mathbb{R}^+)$ satisfies*

$$(1.5) \quad \|m\|_N = \max_{0 \leq j \leq N} \sup_{\lambda > 0} |(1+\lambda)^N m^{(j)}(\lambda)| < \infty,$$

then $m(L)f = f * k$ where $k \in L^1(G)$ and

$$(1.6) \quad |k(x)| \leq C \|m\|_N (1+|x|)^{-l}$$

with a constant C independent of m .

Note in particular that for a given $d \geq 0$ we can find such an N that for a function m which satisfies (1.5) we have $m(L)f = f * k$ and

$$(1.7) \quad \int_G |x|^d |k(x)| dx \leq C \|m\|_N$$

with a constant C independent of m .

Throughout this paper C will denote a positive constant not necessarily the same for each occurrence.

2. Preliminary results. Suppose L is a positive Rockland operator on G , homogeneous of degree a , $\delta_r L = r^a L$, $r > 0$. If a function m is such that $m(L)f = f * k$ and $k \in L^1(G)$ then for a function $m_r(\lambda) = m(r\lambda)$ we have $m_r(L)f = f * \alpha_r k$ where

$$\alpha_r k(x) = r^{-Q/a} k(\delta_{r^{-1/a}}(x)).$$

Till the end of this section we assume that $d \geq 0$ and $Q < l < Q + 1$ are fixed real numbers and an integer N is such that for a function $m \in C^N(\mathbf{R}^+)$ which satisfies (1.5) in Theorem B, (1.6) and (1.7) are valid.

Let $m \in C^N(\mathbf{R}^+)$. Choose a decomposition of the identity

$$\sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi_j(\lambda) = 1, \quad \lambda > 0$$

where $\phi_j(\lambda) = \phi(2^j \lambda)$ and ϕ is infinitely differentiable, non-negative function supported in $1/2 < \lambda < 2$. Define $m_j(\lambda) = m(\lambda) \phi_j(\lambda)$. Then $m_j(L)f = f * k_j$, $k_j \in L^1(G)$. Put $K_M = \sum_{-M}^M k_j$, $M = 1, 2, \dots$. As in [8], the following theorem shows how conditions on m can be interpreted as conditions on K_M .

THEOREM 2. Let $m \in C^N(\mathbf{R}^+)$ satisfy

$$(2.1) \quad \|m\|_N^* = \max_{0 \leq j \leq N} \sup_{\lambda > 0} |\lambda^j m^{(j)}(\lambda)| < \infty.$$

Then for $1 < p < \infty$ and for $|y| \leq R/2$

$$\left(\int_{|x| > R} |K_M(xy^{-1}) - K_M(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \leq C \cdot R^{-(l-Q/p)} |y|^{l-Q}$$

with a constant $C = C(p, l)$ independent of M, R and y .

The proof of Theorem 2 requires several lemmas.

LEMMA 1. Let $m \in C^N(\mathbf{R}^+)$ satisfy (2.1). Then for $1 < p < \infty$

$$(2.2) \quad \left(\int_{|x| > R} |k_j(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \leq C \cdot R^{-(l-Q/p)} 2^{ja^{-1}(l-Q)}$$

with $C = C(p, l)$ independent of j and R .

Proof. Define $\beta_j(\lambda) = m_j(2^{-j}\lambda)$. Then $\beta_j(L)f = f * B_j$, $B_j \in L^1(G)$, $B_j = \alpha_{2^{-j}} k_j$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\int_{|x| > R} |k_j(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} &= \left(\int_{|\delta_{2^{j/a}}(x)| > R} |k_j(\delta_{2^{j/a}}(x))|^p (2^{j/a})^Q dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &= 2^{jQa^{-1}p^{-1}(1-p)} \left(\int_{|x| > 2^{-j/a}R} |B_j(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

But β_j are supported in $1/2 < \lambda < 2$ and (2.1) implies $\|\beta_j\|_N \leq C$ independently of j . Hence, by (1.6), $|B_j(x)| \leq C|x|^{-l}$ independently of j . For

the polar decomposition of x , i.e. $x = \delta_r x'$ with $r = |x|$, $|x'| = 1$ we have $dx = r^{Q-1} dr d\sigma(x')$, cf. [3]. Therefore

$$\left(\int_{|x| > 2^{-j/a_R}} |x|^{-lp} dx \right)^{1/p} = \left(\int_{2^{-j/a_R}}^{\infty} s^{Q-1-lp} ds \right)^{1/p} = (2^{-j/a} R)^{-l+Q/p}$$

and

$$\left(\int_{|x| > 2^{-j/a_R}} |B_j(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \leq C(2^{-j/a})^{-l+Q/p}.$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 1.

Let $T^t f = \int_0^{\infty} \exp(-t\lambda) dE(\lambda) f$ be the semi-group of operators generated by L . It is known, cf. [3], that $T^t f = f * h_t$ where $h_t \in L^1(G)$ and $\int_G |x|^\alpha |Y h_t(x)|^p dx < \infty$ for all $\alpha > 0$, $p \geq 1$, $t > 0$ and $Y \in \mathfrak{G}$. Denote $h = h_1$.

LEMMA 2. Let $1 \leq p < \infty$. Then

$$(2.3) \quad L(p, d, y) = \left(\int_G |x|^d (h(xy^{-1}) - h(x))^p dx \right)^{1/p} \leq C|y|$$

with a constant $C = C(p, d)$ independent of y .

Proof. It suffices to show (2.3) for $|y| \leq 1$ only. Recall, [3], that for $|y| \leq 1$

$$(2.4) \quad c_1 \|y\| \leq |y| \leq c_2 \|y\|^b$$

for positive constants b, c_1, c_2 , where $\|\cdot\|$ means the Euclidean norm on \mathfrak{G} . Write $y^{-1} = \exp sY$, $|Y| = 1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} L(p, d, y) &= \left(\int_G \left| \int_0^s |x|^d Y h(x \exp tY) dt \right|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq \int_0^s \left(\int_G |x|^d |Y h(x \exp tY)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} dt. \end{aligned}$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} |x|^d &\leq C(|x \exp tY|^d + |\exp(-tY)|^d), \\ \sup_{|Y|=1} \|\cdot\|^d |Y h|_p &< \infty \end{aligned}$$

and in virtue of (2.4) we get

$$\begin{aligned} L(p, d, y) &\leq C(s \|\cdot\|^d |Y h|_p + s |\exp sY|^d \|Y h\|_p) \\ &\leq C(|y| \|\cdot\|^d |Y h|_p + |y|^{1+d} \|Y h\|_p) \leq C|y|. \end{aligned}$$

LEMMA 3. Let $\beta \in C^N(\mathbb{R}^+)$, $\text{supp } \beta \subseteq (1/2, 2)$ and $\beta(L)f = f * B$,

$B \in L^1(G)$. Denote $\beta'(\lambda) = \beta(\lambda) \exp \lambda$. Then

$$(2.5) \quad \left(\int_{|x| > R} |B(xy^{-1}) - B(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \leq CR^{-d} |y| \|\beta'\|_N$$

with a constant $C = C(p, d)$ independent of R, y and β .

Proof. Let $\beta'(L)f = f * B'$, $B' \in L^1(G)$. Then $B = B' * h$ and we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\int_{|x| > R} |B(xy^{-1}) - B(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} &\leq R^{-d} \left(\int_{|x| > R} |x|^d (B(xy^{-1}) - B(x))^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq R^{-d} \left(\int_G \int_G |x|^d B'(z) (h(z^{-1}xy^{-1}) - h(z^{-1}x)) dz \right)^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ &\leq R^{-d} \int_G |B'(z)| \left(\int_G |x|^d (h(z^{-1}xy^{-1}) - h(z^{-1}x))^p dx \right)^{1/p} dz. \end{aligned}$$

But $|x|^d \leq C(|z|^d + |z^{-1}x|^d)$ and using notations of Lemma 2 we get

$$\left(\int_{|x| > R} |B(xy^{-1}) - B(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \leq CR^{-d} \int_G |B'(z)| (|z|^d L(p, 0, y) + L(p, d, y)) dz.$$

In virtue of Lemma 2 and Theorem B we obtain (2.5).

LEMMA 4. Suppose $m \in C^N(\mathbb{R}^+)$ satisfies (2.1). Then for $1 < p < \infty$

$$\left(\int_{|x| \geq R} |k_j(xy^{-1}) - k_j(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \leq CR^{-d} (2^{-j/a})^{Q-Q/p-d+1} |y|$$

with a constant $C = C(p, d)$ independent of R, y and j .

Proof. As before define $\beta_j(\lambda) = m_j(2^{-j}\lambda)$, $\beta'_j(\lambda) = \beta_j(\lambda) \exp \lambda$. We then have $\beta_j(L)f = f * B_j$, $B_j \in L^1(G)$, $\alpha_{2^{-j}} k_j = B_j$, and (2.1) implies $\|\beta_j\|_N \leq C$, $\|\beta'_j\|_N \leq C$ independently of j . For a function k , by homogeneity we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\int_{|x| \geq R} |k(xy^{-1}) - k(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ = s^{-(Q/p-Q)/a} \left(\int_{|x| \geq R s^{1/a}} |\alpha_s k(x \delta_{s^{1/a}}(y^{-1})) - \alpha_s k(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}. \end{aligned}$$

Putting $s = 2^{-j}$ we obtain, in virtue of Lemma 3,

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\int_{|x| \geq R} |k_j(xy^{-1}) - k_j(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ = 2^{-j(Q-Q/p)/a} \left(\int_{|x| \geq R 2^{-j/a}} |B_j(x \delta_{2^{-j/a}}(y^{-1})) - B_j(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ \leq C 2^{-j(Q-Q/p)/a} R^{-d} (2^{-j/a})^{-d} 2^{-j/a} |y|. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 4.

Proof of Theorem 2. Denote

$$I_p(j, R, y) = \left(\int_{|x| \geq R} |k_j(xy^{-1}) - k_j(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}.$$

By Lemma 1, for $|y| \leq R/2$, we get

$$I_p(j, R, y) \leq CR^{-(l-Q/p)} 2^{j(l-Q)/a}.$$

By Lemma 4, putting $d = l - Q/p$, we obtain

$$I_p(j, R, y) \leq CR^{-(l-Q/p)} (2^{-j/a})^{Q+1-l} |y|.$$

Suppose $2^{(j_0-1)/a} \leq |y| \leq 2^{j_0/a}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\int_{|x| \geq R} |K_M(xy^{-1}) - K_M(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p} \\ & \leq \sum_j I_p(j, R, y) \\ & \leq CR^{-(l-Q/p)} \left(\sum_{2^{j/a} < |y|} 2^{j(l-Q)/a} + |y| \sum_{2^{j/a} \geq |y|} 2^{-j(Q+1-l)/a} \right) \\ & \leq CR^{-(l-Q/p)} |y|^{l-Q}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.

3. Proof of Theorem 1. For $1 < p < \infty$ define

$$M_p f(x) = (M(|f|^p)(x))^{1/p}$$

and for a locally integrable function f on G , let f^* be defined by

$$f^*(x) = \sup_{x \in B} (|B|^{-1} \int_B |f(x) - f_B| dx),$$

where B is a ball and $f_B = |B|^{-1} \int_B f(x) dx$. $|B|$ means the Haar measure of B .

Denote $T_M f = f * K_M$, $M = 1, 2, \dots$

The following lemma is obtained in the same manner as, in [8], (3.1) is derived from Lemma 1. We include its proof here for reader's convenience.

LEMMA 5. Under the assumptions of Theorem 2, for $1 < p < \infty$, we have

$$(T_M f)^*(x) \leq CM_p f(x)$$

with a constant $C = C(p)$ independent of f and M .

Proof. Fix $x \in G$ and let B be a ball centered at x and of radius δ . Write

$$f = \bar{f}_0 + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_j$$

where $\bar{f}_0 = f \cdot \chi_{\bar{A}_0}$, $f_j = f \cdot \chi_{A_j}$ and

$$\bar{A}_0 = \{y \in G: |y^{-1}x| < \delta\}, \quad A_j = \{y \in G: 2^j \delta < |y^{-1}x| < 2^{j+1} \delta\}.$$

Thus

$$f * K_M = \bar{f}_0 * K_M + \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} f_j * K_M.$$

By Theorem A we get $\|g * K_M\|_p \leq C \|g\|_p$ with a C independent of M , and so

$$\begin{aligned} |B|^{-1} \int_B |\bar{f}_0 * K_M| dy &\leq (|B|^{-1} \int_B |f_0 * K_M|^p dy)^{1/p} \\ &\leq C (|B|^{-1} \int_B |f|^p dy)^{1/p} \\ &\leq CM_p(f)(x) \end{aligned}$$

with a C independent of M . For any j ,

$$\begin{aligned} f_j * K_M(y) &= f_j * K_M(x) + \int_G f_j(z) [K_M(z^{-1}y) - K_M(z^{-1}x)] dz \\ &= c_j + \varepsilon_j(y). \end{aligned}$$

Assume for a moment that

$$(3.1) \quad |\varepsilon_j(y)| \leq C2^{j(Q-1)} M_p(f)(x)$$

for every $y \in B$ with a C independent of j and M . Since

$$(f * K_M)_B = (f_0 * K_M)_B + \sum_j c_j + \sum_j (\varepsilon_j)_B,$$

we then have

$$\begin{aligned} |B|^{-1} \int_B |f * K_M(y) - (f * K_M)_B| dy &\leq 2(f_0 * K_M)_B + |B|^{-1} \int_B \left| \sum_j (f_j * K_M(y) - c_j) - \sum_j (\varepsilon_j)_B \right| dy \\ &\leq 2CM_p(f)(x) + |B|^{-1} \int_B \left| \sum_j \varepsilon_j(y) - \sum_j (\varepsilon_j)_B \right| dy \\ &\leq 2CM_p(f)(x) + 2 \sum_j |(\varepsilon_j)_B| \\ &\leq 2CM_p(f)(x) + 2C \left(\sum_j (2^j)^{Q-1} \right) M_p(f)(x) \\ &\leq CM_p(f)(x). \end{aligned}$$

To complete the proof we verify (3.1). By Hölder's inequality, Theorem 2 and an obvious change of variable for $y \in B$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |\varepsilon_j(y)| &\leq \int_{2^j\delta < |z^{-1}x| < 2^{j+1}\delta} |f(z)| |K_M(z^{-1}y) - K_M(z^{-1}x)| dz \\ &\leq \left(\int_{|z^{-1}x| < 2^{j+1}\delta} |f(z)|^p dz \right)^{1/p} \left(\int_{2^j\delta < |z^{-1}x|} |K_M(z^{-1}y) - K_M(z^{-1}x)|^{p'} dz \right)^{1/p'} \\ &\leq C(2^{j+1}\delta)^{Q/p} M_p(f)(x) \left(\int_{2^j\delta < |u|} |K_M(u(y^{-1}x)^{-1}) - K_M(u)|^{p'} du \right)^{1/p'} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq C(2^{j+1}\delta)^{Q/p}(2^j\delta)^{-(l-Q/p)}\delta^{l-Q}M_p(f)(x) \\ &\leq C(2^j)^{Q-l}M_p(f)(x). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 5.

We say that a weight function w satisfies the A_∞ condition, $w \in A_\infty$, if there exist positive constants C and δ such that for every ball $B \subseteq G$ and a subset E in B

$$\frac{w(E)}{w(B)} \leq C \left(\frac{|E|}{|B|} \right)^\delta.$$

We refer to [1] and [2] for results concerning A_p and A_∞ conditions, which we use below. In particular, if $w \in A_p$ then $w \in A_\infty$ and $w \in A_{p-\varepsilon}$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$. To prove Theorem 1 we need also two known results.

LEMMA 6, [1]. *If $0 < r < p$ and $w \in A_{p/r}(G)$ then*

$$\|M_r f\|_{p,w} \leq C \|f\|_{p,w}$$

with a constant C independent of f .

LEMMA 7, [9]. *If $1 < p < \infty$ and $w \in A_\infty(G)$ then*

$$\|f\|_{p,w} \leq C \|f^*\|_{p,w}$$

with a constant C independent of f .

Let $w \in A_p$. Choose $1 < r < p$ such that $w \in A_{p/r}$. Using Lemmas 5, 6, 7 we obtain

$$\|T_M f\|_{p,w} \leq C \|(T_M f)^*\|_{p,w} \leq C \|M_r(f)\|_{p,w} \leq C \|f\|_{p,w}$$

with constants independent of M and f . Consequently, applying Fatou's lemma for $p > 1$ we obtain

$$\|m(L)f\|_{p,w} \leq C \|f\|_{p,w}.$$

This completes the proof of the first part of Theorem.

The case $p = 1$, i.e. the weak-type (1,1) result, can be obtained in the same way as in [8] the weak-type estimate is proved. We use an abstract version of the Calderón-Zygmund decomposition lemma for a homogeneous space and we apply our estimate contained in Theorem 2.

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INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS
UNIVERSITY OF WROCLAW
WROCLAW, POLAND

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