

SPACE-TIME FRACTIONAL DERIVATIVE OPERATORS

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ABSTRACT. Evolution equations for anomalous diffusion employ fractional derivatives in space and time. Linkage between the space-time variables leads to a new type of fractional derivative operator. This paper develops the mathematical foundations of those operators.

1. INTRODUCTION

In classical diffusion, particles spread in a normal bell-shaped pattern whose width grows like the square root of time. Anomalous diffusion occurs when the growth rate or the shape of the particle distribution is different than the classical model predicts. Anomalous diffusion is observed in many physical situations, motivating the development of new mathematical and physical models [5, 6, 7, 13, 16, 20]. Some of the most successful models employ fractional derivatives [21, 27] in place of the usual integer order derivatives in the diffusion equation. One way to develop physically meaningful models for anomalous diffusion is to derive the limiting distribution of an ensemble of particles following a specified stochastic process. Continuous time random walks [22, 29], where each random particle jump occurs after a random waiting time, have been the most useful [18, 20, 30]. Very large particle jumps are associated with fractional derivatives in space [14], while very long waiting times lead to fractional derivatives in time [18, 26]. The same model equations have also been applied to chaotic dynamics [31] and finance [28].

In the continuous time random walk, the size of the particle jumps can depend on the waiting time between jumps. For these models, the limiting particle distribution is governed by a fractional differential equation involving coupled space-time fractional derivative operators [3, 19]. This paper develops the mathematical foundations of those operators. In particular, they are shown to be the generators of certain continuous convolution semigroups, and their domain is shown to be the subset of a suitable function space for which multiplication by the operator symbol in Fourier-Laplace space yields a product whose inverse transform exists in that space. The general form of the operator in ordinary space-time is also provided. The technical tools used in this development are semigroups of operators [1, 11, 23], and the theory of operator stable probability distributions [12, 15].

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2. FRACTIONAL DERIVATIVES AND ANOMALOUS DIFFUSION

Let $C(x, t)$ denote the relative concentration of particles at location x at time t . The classical diffusion equation $\partial_t C = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x^2 C$ can be solved using the Fourier transform $c(k, t) = \int e^{ikx} C(x, t) dx$, which converts the diffusion equation to an ordinary differential equation $dc/dt = \frac{1}{2} (-ik)^2 c$. The initial condition $c(k, 0) \equiv 1$ is equivalent to $C(x, 0) = \delta(x)$, so that all particles start at position $x = 0$ at time $t = 0$. The solution $c(k, t) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2} k^2 t)$ inverts to a normal probability density with mean zero and standard deviation \sqrt{t} . This is also, using the central limit theorem, the limiting density of a random walk of particle jumps when the jumps have mean zero and variance one.

If the probability distribution of the particle jumps has symmetric regularly varying tails with index $-\alpha$ for some $0 < \alpha < 2$ (roughly speaking, this means that the probability of jumping a distance greater than r falls off like $r^{-\alpha}$) then the variance is undefined, so the classical central limit theorem does not apply. An extended central limit theorem [8, 9, 15] implies that the random walk converges to a stable Lévy motion whose probability density $C(x, t)$ has Fourier transform $c(k, t) = \exp(-|k|^\alpha t)$, evidently the solution to $dc/dt = -|k|^\alpha c$ with $c(k, 0) \equiv 1$. Inverting shows that the particle concentration solves a fractional partial differential equation $\partial_t C = \partial_{|x|}^\alpha C$ where the symmetric fractional derivative operator $\partial_{|x|}^\alpha$ corresponds to multiplication by the symbol $-|k|^\alpha$ in Fourier space. This is the usual fractional power of the second derivative operator. Asymmetric particle jumps lead to a more general form $p\partial_x^\alpha + q\partial_{-x}^\alpha$ of the fractional derivative operator [7, 4] with symbol $p(-ik)^\alpha + q(ik)^\alpha$, where $p = 1 - q$ is the asymptotic fraction of positive jumps as the jump size tends to infinity. For symmetric vector jumps a similar argument leads to $\partial_t C = \Delta_x^{\alpha/2} C$ using the fractional Laplacian with symbol $-||k||^\alpha$, see [14, 16] for more general forms in \mathbb{R}^d . These pseudodifferential operators are also generators of certain continuous convolution semigroups [2, 11].

If the waiting time between particle jumps varies regularly with index $0 < \beta < 1$ then the random walk of particle jumps (called a continuous time random walk) converges to a Lévy motion subordinated to an inverse β -stable subordinator [17, 18]. Assuming that the waiting time and the ensuing particle jump are independent, the subordinator is independent of the Lévy process, and the governing equation becomes $\partial_t^\beta C = \partial_{|x|}^\alpha C + C(x, 0)t^{-\beta}/\Gamma(1 - \beta)$ which was first proposed by Zaslavsky [31] as a model for Hamiltonian chaos. Asymmetric jumps, or vector jumps, modify the spatial derivative in the same manner as before [2]. Heavy tailed particle jumps lead to fractional derivatives in space, and heavy tailed waiting times introduce fractional derivatives in time.

When the waiting times and the particle jumps are dependent random variables, a different form of the governing equation emerges. The limiting process is still a Lévy motion subordinated to an inverse stable subordinator, but now the two processes are dependent. The space-time vector consisting of the waiting time and the jump has to be treated using operator stable limit theory, since each coordinate has a different tail behavior [3]. This leads to a governing equation that employs a new kind of coupled space-time fractional derivative. Suppose the waiting time J satisfies $P(J > t) = t^{-\beta}$ and the symmetric particle jump size Y is normally distributed with mean zero and variance $2t$ when the waiting time $J = t$. Then the governing equation $(\partial_t - \partial_x^2)^\beta C(x, t) = C(x, 0)t^{-\beta}/\Gamma(1 - \beta)$ employs a coupled

space-time fractional derivative with Fourier-Laplace symbol $(s+k^2)^\beta$. The purpose of this paper is to develop the properties of these operators, in order to establish a mathematical basis for the analysis of these equations. What makes this problem interesting is that, since space and time are inexorably linked, one cannot view these evolution equations in the usual manner, as ordinary differential equations on some abstract function space.

3. SPACE-TIME FRACTIONAL DERIVATIVES

Let $\mathbb{R}_+ = [0, \infty)$ and suppose that $\nu(dx, dt)$ is a probability distribution on $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+$ with Fourier-Laplace transform

$$\hat{\nu}(k, s) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+} e^{ix \cdot k} e^{-st} \nu(dt, dx).$$

Let $\nu^n = \nu * \dots * \nu$ denote the n -fold convolution of ν with itself. We say that ν is *infinitely divisible* if for each $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ there exists a probability distribution ν_n such that $\nu_n^n = \nu$. The *Lévy representation* (e.g., see Lemma 2.1 in [3]) states that ν is infinitely divisible if and only if we can write $\hat{\nu}(k, s) = \exp(\psi(k, s))$ for some unique continuous function $\psi : \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ such that $\psi(0, 0) = 0$, $\Re(\psi) \leq 0$ and

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \psi(k, s) = & ik \cdot a - bs - \frac{1}{2}k \cdot Ak \\ & + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+ \setminus \{(0,0)\}} \left(e^{ik \cdot x} e^{-st} - 1 - \frac{ik \cdot x}{1 + \|x\|^2} \right) \phi(dx, dt) \end{aligned}$$

for some uniquely determined $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+$, some nonnegative definite $d \times d$ matrix A , and some positive measure ϕ on $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+ \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$ which is finite on sets bounded away from the origin and which satisfies

$$(3.2) \quad \int_{0 < \|x\|^2 + t \leq 1} (\|x\|^2 + t) \phi(dx, dt) < \infty.$$

The measure ϕ is called the Lévy measure of ν , and the unique triple $[(a, b), A, \phi]$ is called the Lévy representation of ν . In this case, we define the (possibly fractional) convolution power ν^u to be the infinitely divisible law with Lévy representation $[ua, uA, u\phi]$, so that ν^u has characteristic function $\exp(u\psi(k, s))$ for any $u \geq 0$. Then it follows that $\nu^u * \nu^v = \nu^{u+v}$ for any $u, v \geq 0$.

Infinitely divisible distributions can be used to define convolution semigroups. Let $L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ denote the collection of measurable functions for which the integral and hence the norm

$$\|f\|_\omega := \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-\omega t} \|f(t, x)\| dx dt$$

exists. With this norm, which we will call the L_ω^1 -norm, $L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ is a Banach space. Unless explicitly stated otherwise, ω will always be assumed to be a positive real number. Clearly, that $L^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+) \subset L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ with containment proper unless $\omega = 0$ in which event the two functions spaces are identical. Further, if $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$, then $\|f\|_\omega \leq \|f\|_1$.

A family of bounded linear operators $\{T(t) : t \geq 0\}$ on a Banach space X such that $T(0)$ is the identity operator and $T(u+v) = T(u)T(v)$ for all $u, v \geq 0$ is called a *semigroup of bounded linear operators on X* . If $\|T(u)f\| \leq M\|f\|$ for all $f \in X$ and all $u \geq 0$ then the semigroup is *uniformly bounded*; if in this case $M \leq 1$ we

also speak of a *contraction semigroup*. If $T(u_n)f \rightarrow T(u)f$ in X for all $f \in X$ whenever $u_n \rightarrow u$ then the semigroup is *strongly continuous*. It is easy to check that $\{T(u) : u \geq 0\}$ is strongly continuous if $T(u)f \rightarrow f$ in X for all $f \in X$ as $u \downarrow 0$. A semigroup on a Banach lattice is called *positive*, if $f > 0$ implies that $T(u)f \geq 0$ for all $u > 0$. A strongly continuous positive contraction semigroup is also called a *Feller semigroup*. The next result shows that any infinitely divisible law on $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+$ defines a Feller semigroup on $L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$.

Proposition 3.1. Let ν be an infinitely divisible law on $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+$ and define

$$(3.3) \quad T(u)f(x, t) = \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(x - y, t - s) \nu^u(dy, ds)$$

for all $f \in L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ and all $u \geq 0$. Then the family of linear operators $\{T(u)\}_{u \geq 0}$ has the following properties valid for all $f \in L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$:

- (a) $T(u + v)f = T(u)T(v)f$ for all $u, v \geq 0$
- (b) $T(0)f = f$
- (c) $f > 0$ implies that $T(u)f > 0$ for all $u > 0$.
- (d) $\|T(u)f\|_\omega \leq \|f\|_\omega$ for all $u \geq 0$
- (e) $\lim_{u \downarrow 0} \|T(u)f - f\|_\omega = 0$.

Proof. The points (a), (b), and (c) follow immediately from the definition of ν being infinitely divisible. Point (d) follows from Fubini's theorem:

$$\begin{aligned} \|T(u)f\|_\omega &= \int_0^\infty e^{-\omega t} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left| \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(x - y, t - s) \nu^u(dy, ds) \right| dx dt \\ &\leq \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_s^\infty e^{-\omega t} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |f(x - y, t - s)| dx dt \nu^u(dy, ds) \\ &\leq \|f\|_\omega. \end{aligned}$$

Point (e) is a bit more delicate. We first show that (e) holds for a indicator function on a rectangle; i.e., let $f(x, t) = I_Q(x, t) = I((x, t) \in Q)$ where the rectangle $Q = \{(x, t) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+ : a_0 \leq t \leq b_0, a_i \leq x_i \leq b_i \text{ for } i = 1 \dots d\}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |T(u)f(x, t)| dx dt &= \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left| \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(x - y, t - s) \nu^u(dy, ds) \right| dx dt \\ (3.4) \quad &= \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int \int_{(y, s) + Q} dx dt \nu^u(dy, ds) \\ &= \prod_{0 \leq i \leq d} (b_i - a_i) \end{aligned}$$

for all $u \geq 0$. Since ν is infinitely divisible we have that $\nu^u \Rightarrow \nu^0$ as $u \downarrow 0$ (e.g., see Corollary 3.1.4 in [15]), which means that $\nu^u(B) \rightarrow \nu(B)$ for all Borel subsets $B \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+$ such that $\nu^0(\partial B) = 0$.¹ Since ν^0 is the point mass at zero, this occurs if and only if $(0, 0) \in \partial B$. Then for all $(x, t) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+$ with $x_i \neq a_i, b_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, d$ and $t \neq a_0, b_0$, we obtain that

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow 0^+} T(u)f(x, t) = \lim_{u \rightarrow 0^+} \nu^u((x, t) - Q) = \nu^0((x, t) - Q) = f(x, t).$$

¹Here ∂B denotes the topological boundary of B , i.e. $\partial B = \bar{B} \setminus B^\circ$ where \bar{B} is the closure of B , defined as the intersection of all closed sets containing B , and B° is the interior of B , defined as the union of all open sets contained in B .

Thus, by the Dominated Convergence Theorem,

$$\int \int_Q |T(u)f(x, t) - f(x, t)| dx dt = \int \int_Q |\nu^u((x, t) - Q) - \nu^0((x, t) - Q)| dx dt \rightarrow 0$$

and thus, $\int \int_Q |T(u)f(x)| dx dt \rightarrow \int \int f(x, t) dx dt = \prod_{0 \leq i \leq d} (b_i - a_i)$. In light of (3.4), this implies that

$$\int \int_{(x, t) \notin Q} |T(u)f(x, t) - f(x, t)| dx dt = \int \int_{(x, t) \notin Q} |T(u)f(x, t)| dx dt \rightarrow 0.$$

Hence, $\int \int |T(u)f(x, t) - f(x, t)| dx dt \rightarrow 0$ so that (e) holds for such f with the L^1 norm in place of the L_ω^1 norm. Since $\|f\|_\omega \leq \|f\|_1$ whenever $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$, (e) holds for any indicator function f . Then it follows easily that (e) holds for any $f = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j I_{Q_j}$ with the L_ω^1 norm.

Now for any $f \in L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ set $h(x, t) = e^{-\omega t} f(x, t)$. It is clear that $h \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ and thus we can take a Riemann approximation to the integral $\int \int h(x, t) dx dt$ to obtain $g_n = \sum \alpha_j I_{Q_j}$ with $\|g_n - h\|_1 < n^{-1}$. Then letting $g_n^\omega(x, t) = e^{\omega t} g_n(x, t)$, it follows that $\|f - g_n^\omega\|_\omega = \|h - g_n\|_1 < n^{-1}$. Using the triangle inequality,

$$\|T(u)f - f\|_\omega \leq \|T(u)f - T(u)g_n^\omega\|_\omega + \|T(u)g_n^\omega - g_n^\omega\|_\omega + \|g_n^\omega - f\|_\omega$$

Application of point (d) of this proposition yields

$$\|T(u)f - T(u)g_n^\omega\|_\omega \leq \|f - g_n^\omega\|_\omega \leq n^{-1}.$$

Thus

$$(3.5) \quad \|T(u)f - f\|_\omega \leq n^{-1} + \|T(u)g_n^\omega - g_n^\omega\|_\omega + n^{-1}$$

Establishing point (e) depends solely upon showing

$$(3.6) \quad \lim_{u \downarrow 0} \|T(u)g_n^\omega - g_n^\omega\|_\omega = 0$$

for any choice of n . If we let $\omega = 0$, then all the ω -norms in inequality (3.5) and inequality (3.6) are equivalent to L^1 norms and g_n^ω is an indicator function. Thus inequality (3.6) holds by our earlier work: this shows that (e) holds for L^1 functions.

Now let $\omega > 0$, in this case g_n^ω is an L^1 function and since we just established that point (e) holds for L^1 functions, we see inequality (3.6) holds and thus we have now established point (e) for L_ω^1 functions. \square

For any strongly continuous semigroup $\{T(u) : u > 0\}$ on a Banach space X we define the *generator*

$$(3.7) \quad Lf = \lim_{u \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{T(u)f - f}{u} \quad \text{in } X$$

meaning that $\|u^{-1}(T(u)f - f) - Lf\| \rightarrow 0$ in the Banach space norm. The domain $D(L)$ of this linear operator is the set of all $f \in X$ for which the limit in (3.7) exists. Then $D(L)$ is dense in X , and L is closed, meaning that if $f_n \rightarrow f$ and $Lf_n \rightarrow g$ in X then $f \in D(L)$ and $Lf = g$ (see, for example, [23] Cor. I.2.5). In the following theorem we characterize the generator of the semigroup defined in equation (3.3). For any $g \in L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ the Fourier-Laplace transform

$$\hat{g}(k, s) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+} e^{ik \cdot x} e^{-st} g(x, t) dt dx$$

is defined for all $k \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and $s > \omega$.

Theorem 3.2. *Suppose that T is defined by equation (3.3) in Proposition 3.1 and set $X = L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$. Let L be the generator of this strongly continuous semigroup. Then $\widehat{Lf}(k, s) = \psi(k, s)\hat{f}(k, s)$ for all $f \in D(L)$, where $\psi(k, s)$ is given by (3.1), and*

$$D(L) = \{f \in X : \psi(k, s)\hat{f}(k, s) = \hat{h}(k, s) \exists h \in X\}$$

Furthermore, if Σ denotes the subset of $L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ whose weak first and second order spatial derivatives as well as weak first order time derivatives are in $L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$, then $\Sigma \subset D(L)$ and for $f \in \Sigma$ we have

$$(3.8) \quad \begin{aligned} Lf(x, t) = & -a \cdot \nabla f(x, t) + b \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(x, t) + \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot A \nabla f(x, t) \\ & + \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+ \setminus \{(0,0)\}} \left(H(t-s)f(x-y, t-s) - f(x, t) + \frac{\nabla f(x, t) \cdot y}{1 + \|y\|^2} \right) \phi(dy, ds) \end{aligned}$$

where $H(t)$ is the Heaviside step function.

Proof. If $f \in D(L) \subset L_\omega^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ then the Fourier-Laplace transform $\hat{f}(k, s)$ exists. Since the Fourier-Laplace transform of a convolution is a product,

$$\widehat{T(u)f}(k, s) = \exp(u\psi(k, s))\hat{f}(k, s).$$

Then since $\|\hat{f} - \hat{g}\|_\infty \leq \|f - g\|_\omega$ for any $f, g \in X$ where the essential supremum is taken over $(k, s) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times (\omega, \infty)$ it follows from (3.7) that

$$(3.9) \quad \widehat{Lf}(k, s) = \lim_{u \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\exp(u\psi(k, s)) - 1}{u} \hat{f}(k, s) = \psi(k, s)\hat{f}(k, s)$$

for all $f \in D(L)$.

Conversely, let $f \in X$ be such that $\psi(k, s)\hat{f}(k, s) = \hat{h}(k, s)$ for some $h \in X$. Then $g := \lambda f - h \in X$ for all $\lambda > 0$. Furthermore, it is a basic fact of semigroup theory (see, e.g. [23] Thm. I.5.2) that the resolvent operator $(\lambda I - L)^{-1}$ is a bounded linear operator for all $\lambda > 0$ and maps X into $D(L)$. Let $q = (\lambda I - L)^{-1}g$. Then $\lambda q - Lq = g$ and $\lambda \hat{q}(k, s) - \psi(k, s)\hat{q}(k, s) = \hat{g}(k, s)$. Thus

$$\hat{q}(k, s) = \frac{\hat{g}(k, s)}{\lambda - \psi(k, s)} = \frac{\lambda \hat{f}(k, s) - \psi(k, s)\hat{f}(k, s)}{\lambda - \psi(k, s)} = \hat{f}(k, s).$$

Hence $q = f$ and therefore, $f \in D(L)$.

Finally, we establish the form of the generator L in equation (3.8). Let

$$\|f\|_\Sigma = \|f\|_\omega + \sum_{i=1}^d \left\| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \right\|_\omega + \sum_{i,j=1}^d \left\| \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right\|_\omega + \left\| \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right\|_\omega$$

We assume that f is defined to be zero for $t < 0$ and suppress the Heaviside function H written in (3.8). First assume f is continuously differentiable twice in x and once in t . Using a Taylor series expansion on x ,

$$f(x-y, t) - f(x, t) + y \cdot \nabla f(x, t) = y \cdot \int_0^1 (1-r) M_{x-ry} y dr,$$

where M_x is the Hessian matrix of f evaluated at (x, t) , it is easy to check that

$$\int e^{-\omega t} |f(x-y, t) - f(x, t) + \frac{y \cdot \nabla f(x, t)}{1 + \|y\|^2}| dx dt \leq C \|f\|_{\Sigma} \frac{\|y\|^2}{1 + \|y\|^2}$$

for some constant C . Similarly, using a Taylor series expansion on t

$$\int e^{-\omega t} |f(x, t-s) - f(x, t)| dx dt \leq D \|f\|_{\Sigma} \frac{s}{1+s}$$

for some constant D .

Using the Fubini theorem—tacitly adding and subtracting $f(x-y, t)$ so we can utilize the preceding estimates—we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int e^{-\omega t} \left(|f(x-y, t-s) - f(x, t) + \frac{y \cdot \nabla f(x, t)}{1 + \|y\|^2}| \phi(dy, ds) \right) dx dt \\ (3.10) \quad &= \int \left(\int e^{-\omega t} |f(x-y, t-s) - f(x, t) + \frac{y \cdot \nabla f(x, t)}{1 + \|y\|^2}| dx dt \right) \phi(dy, ds) \\ &\leq \|f\|_{\Sigma} \left(C \int \frac{\|y\|^2}{1 + \|y\|^2} \phi(dy, ds) + D \int \frac{s}{1+s} \phi(dy, ds) \right) \\ &\leq K \|f\|_{\Sigma} \end{aligned}$$

for some constant K in view of (3.2). Thus (3.8) is well defined for all f satisfying the stated continuity conditions.

Since $(-ik_j)\hat{f}(k, s)$ is the Fourier-Laplace transform of $\partial f(x, t)/\partial x_j$, $s\hat{f}(k, s)$ is the (distributional) Fourier-Laplace transform of $\partial f(x, t)/\partial t$ and $f(x-y, t-s)$ has Fourier-Laplace transform $\exp(ik \cdot y) \exp(-st)\hat{f}(k, s)$, it follows that the right hand side of (3.8) has Fourier-Laplace transform $\psi(k, s)\hat{f}(k, s)$.

Next we show $\Sigma \subset D(L)$. First note that if

$$L_1 f(x, t) := -a \cdot \nabla f(x, t) - b \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(x, t) - \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot A \nabla f(x, t)$$

then

$$\|L_1 f\|_{\omega} \leq B \|f\|_{\Sigma}$$

for some constant B independent of f . Further, note that if

$$L_2 f(x, t) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+ \setminus \{(0,0)\}} \left(f(x-y, t-s) - f(x, t) + \frac{\nabla f(x, t) \cdot y}{1 + \|y\|^2} \right) \phi(dy, ds)$$

then $L = L_1 - L_2$ and for $f \in \Sigma \cap C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$,

$$(3.11) \quad \|L f\|_{\omega} \leq \|L_1 f\|_{\omega} + \|L_2 f\|_{\omega} \leq B \|f\|_{\Sigma} + K \|f\|_{\Sigma}$$

Now if $f \in \Sigma$, there is a sequence $\{f_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset \Sigma \cap C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ such that $f_n \rightarrow f$ in the norm $\|\cdot\|_{\Sigma}$ and hence in the L_{ω}^1 norm. Inequality (3.11) shows that $\{L f_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ converges to some $g \in L_{\omega}^1(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$ in the L_{ω}^1 norm. Since L is closed, $f \in D(L)$, and $L f = g$. \square

Remark 3.3. Another consequence of $T(u)$ being a strongly continuous semigroup is that $f_u(x, t) = T(u)p(x, t)$ solves the abstract *Cauchy problem*

$$(3.12) \quad \frac{d}{du} f_u = L f_u; \quad f_0 = p$$

for $p \in D(L)$. Furthermore, the integrated equation $T(u)p = L \int_0^u T(v)p dv + p$ holds for all $p \in X$ (see, for example, [23] Theorem I.2.4.). This evolution equation

must be interpreted with care since now $f_u(x, t)$ is a function of both space and time for each $u \geq 0$.

Remark 3.4. While some of the conclusions of Theorem 3.2 can be obtained from the general theory of strongly continuous semigroups [1, 11, 23] we have not seen any results that entail the time variable as part of the state space. As an additional difficulty, the function f_u in Remark 3.3 does not even have compact support in $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+$ for any $u > 0$. Also, note that if $p(x, t)$ is a probability density in x for each t then neither $p(x, t)$ nor $f_u(x, t)$ has a converging Fourier integral in (x, t) .

4. COUPLED SPACE-TIME DIFFUSION EQUATIONS

In this section we apply the results of Section 3 in combination with the stochastic process limit theorems in [3] for a coupled continuous time random walk (CTRW). In the CTRW model, each random waiting time $J_i > 0$ is followed by a random particle jump $Y_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$. We assume that the space-time vectors (J_i, Y_i) are independent for $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ but we allow dependence between J_i and Y_i . If J_i has finite mean, a renewal theorem [8] shows that the number of jumps by time t is asymptotically constant, so that the limiting process is the same as for a simple random walk with nonrandom waiting times. On the other hand, if $P(J > t) = t^{-\beta}$ for some $0 < \beta < 1$ then under mild conditions the random walk of space-time vectors converges to a $d + 1$ dimensional operator Lévy motion $\{(D(u), A(u))\}_{u \geq 0}$ where $D(u)$ is a β -stable subordinator with Laplace transform e^{-us^β} . The function $f_u(x, t)$ in Remark 3.3 is the probability density of this limit process when L is the generator of the associated Feller semigroup. Since $D(u)$ counts the jump times, the inverse process $E_t = \inf\{u \geq 0 : D(u) > t\}$ counts the number of jumps, and the CTRW limit $\{A(E_t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ represents the limiting stochastic process that models coupled anomalous diffusion. A computation in [3] shows that the probability density of this process is

$$(4.1) \quad h(x, t) = \int_0^\infty \frac{\partial^{\beta-1}}{\partial t^{\beta-1}} f_u(x, t) du$$

and the Fourier-Laplace transform of h is simply

$$(4.2) \quad \hat{h}(k, s) = \int_0^\infty s^{\beta-1} e^{u\psi(k, s)} du = \frac{s^{\beta-1}}{\psi(k, s)}$$

since $\hat{f}_u(k, s) = \exp(u\psi(k, s))$. Then $\psi(k, s)\hat{h}(k, s) = s^{\beta-1}$ where $\psi(k, s)$ is the Fourier-Laplace symbol of the generator L . Now suppose that the particle location at time $t = 0$ is a random variable X_0 with C^∞ probability density $P(x)$. Under the CTRW model, the random particle location at time $t > 0$ is $Z_t = X_0 + A(E_t)$, and assuming X_0 is independent of everything else, the probability density of Z_t is

$$C(x, t) = \int h(x - y, t) P(y) dy.$$

Then $\hat{C}(k, s) = \hat{h}(k, s)p(k)$ where $p(k) = \int e^{ik \cdot x} P(x) dx$ is the Fourier transform. Now

$$\psi(k, s)\hat{C}(k, s) = \psi(k, s)\hat{h}(k, s)p(k) = s^{\beta-1}p(k).$$

The right hand side inverts to $\frac{t^{-\beta}}{\Gamma(1-\beta)}P(x)$, and is thus an element of $L^1_\omega(\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}_+)$. Hence $C(x, t)$ satisfies the conditions of Theorem 3.2 so that C is in the domain

of L and inverting above equation leads us to conclude that $C(x, t)$ is the unique Laplace-Fourier transformable solution to the coupled space-time diffusion equation

$$(4.3) \quad LC(x, t) = \frac{t^{-\beta}}{\Gamma(1-\beta)}P(x).$$

Remark 4.1. The pseudodifferential operator L in (4.3) with Laplace-Fourier symbol $\psi(k, s)$ can be computed using the Lévy representation (3.1) along with Theorem 2.2 in [3], which specifies the form of the Lévy measure $\phi(dx, dt)$. Several examples are contained in [3]. In the uncoupled case with symmetric scalar jumps, the symbol $\psi(k, s) = s^\beta - |k|^\alpha$ corresponds to the uncoupled operator $\partial_t^\beta - \partial_{|x|}^\alpha$ and then (4.3) reduces to the fractional kinetic equation of Zaslavsky [31]. If Y is normal mean zero variance $2t$ when $J = t$ then $\psi(k, s) = (s + k^2)^\beta$ and (4.3) becomes

$$(4.4) \quad (\partial_t - \partial_x^2)^\beta h(x, t) = P(x) \frac{t^{-\beta}}{\Gamma(1-\beta)}.$$

Heavy tailed symmetric jumps lead to a similar form with $L = (\partial_t - \partial_{|x|}^\alpha)^\beta$ in \mathbb{R}^1 or $L = (\partial_t - \Delta_x^{\alpha/2})^\beta$ in \mathbb{R}^d .

5. CONCLUSION

Coupled space-time fractional diffusion equations are useful in physics to model anomalous diffusion, when the waiting time between particle jumps affects the ensuing jump size. Coupled space-time fractional derivatives can be defined as the generators of certain convolution semigroups, and computed in terms of their Fourier-Laplace symbols. Recent research in finance [10, 28] uses coupled CTRW models for the price returns of various financial instruments. Empirical evidence [24, 25] shows that the waiting time between transactions affects the ensuing price jump. Hence the coupled space-time fractional diffusion equations, based on space-time fractional derivatives, may also find applications in this area.

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