6.1 Almost Everywhere Convergence of Fourier Integrals

it suffices to obtain $L^2 \to L^{2,\infty}$ bounds for the one-sided maximal operators

$$\mathscr{C}_{1}(f)(x) = \sup_{N>0} \left| \int_{-\infty}^{N} \widehat{f}(\xi) e^{2\pi i x \xi} d\xi \right|,$$

$$\mathscr{C}_{2}(f)(x) = \sup_{N>0} \left| \int_{-\infty}^{-N} \widehat{f}(\xi) e^{2\pi i x \xi} d\xi \right|,$$

acting on a Schwartz function f (with bounds independent of f). Note that

$$\mathscr{C}_2(f)(x) \le |f(x)| + \mathscr{C}_1(f)(-x),$$

where $\tilde{f}(x) = f(-x)$ is the usual reflection operator. Therefore, it suffices to obtain bounds only for \mathscr{C}_1 .

For a > 0 and $y \in \mathbf{R}$ we define the translation operator τ^y , the modulation operator M^a , and the dilation operator D^a as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau^{y}(f)(x) &= f(x-y), \\ D^{a}(f)(x) &= a^{-\frac{1}{2}}f(a^{-1}x), \\ M^{y}(f)(x) &= f(x)e^{2\pi i y x}. \end{aligned}$$

These operators are isometries on $L^2(\mathbf{R})$.

We break down the proof of Theorem 6.1.1 into several steps.

6.1.1 Preliminaries

We denote rectangles of area 1 in the (x, ξ) plane by *s*, *t*, *u*, etc. All rectangles considered in the sequel have sides parallel to the axes. We think of *x* as the time coordinate and of ξ as the frequency coordinate. For this reason we refer to the (x, ξ) coordinate plane as the time–frequency plane. The projection of a rectangle *s* on the time axis is denoted by I_s , while its projection on the frequency axis is denoted by ω_s . Thus a rectangle *s* is just $s = I_s \times \omega_s$. Rectangles with sides parallel to the axes and area equal to one are called *tiles*.

The center of an interval *I* is denoted by c(I). Also for a > 0, aI denotes an interval with the same center as *I* whose length is a|I|. Given a tile *s*, we denote by s(1) its bottom half and by s(2) its upper half defined by

$$s(1) = I_s \times (\omega_s \cap (-\infty, c(\omega_s))), \qquad s(2) = I_s \times (\omega_s \cap [c(\omega_s), +\infty)).$$

These sets are called *semitiles*. The projections of these sets on the frequency axes are denoted by $\omega_{s(1)}$ and $\omega_{s(2)}$, respectively. See Figure 6.1.

A dyadic interval is an interval of the form $[m2^k, (m+1)2^k)$, where k and m are integers. We denote by **D** the set of all rectangles $I \times \omega$ with I, ω dyadic intervals and $|I||\omega| = 1$. Such rectangles are called *dyadic tiles*. We denote by **D** the set of

all dyadic tiles. For every integer *m*, we denote by \mathbf{D}_m the set of all tiles $s \in \mathbf{D}$ such that $|I_s| = 2^m$. We call these dyadic tiles *of scale m*.

Fig. 6.1 The lower and the upper parts of a tile <i>s</i> .	s(2)
	<i>s</i> (1)

We fix a Schwartz function φ such that $\hat{\varphi}$ takes values in [0, 1] and supported in the interval [-1/10, 1/10], and equal to 1 on the interval [-9/100, 9/100]. For each tile *s*, we introduce a function φ_s as follows:

$$\varphi_{s}(x) = |I_{s}|^{-\frac{1}{2}} \varphi\left(\frac{x - c(I_{s})}{|I_{s}|}\right) e^{2\pi i c(\omega_{s(1)})x}.$$
(6.1.4)

This function is localized in frequency near $c(\omega_{s(1)})$. Using the previous notation, we have

$$\varphi_s = M^{c(\omega_{s(1)})} \tau^{c(I_s)} D^{|I_s|}(\varphi).$$

Observe that

$$\widehat{\varphi}_{s}(\xi) = |\omega_{s}|^{-\frac{1}{2}} \widehat{\varphi}\left(\frac{\xi - c(\omega_{s(1)})}{|\omega_{s}|}\right) e^{2\pi i (c(\omega_{s(1)}) - \xi)c(I_{s})}, \quad (6.1.5)$$

from which it follows that $\hat{\varphi}_s$ is supported in $\frac{2}{5}\omega_{s(1)}$. Also observe that the functions φ_s have the same $L^2(\mathbf{R})$ norm.

Recall the complex inner product notation for $f, g \in L^2(\mathbf{R})$:

$$\langle f | g \rangle = \int_{\mathbf{R}} f(x) \overline{g(x)} dx.$$
 (6.1.6)

Given a real number ξ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}$, we introduce an operator

$$A_{\xi}^{m}(f) = \sum_{s \in \mathbf{D}_{m}} \chi_{\omega_{s(2)}}(\xi) \left\langle f \,|\, \varphi_{s} \right\rangle \varphi_{s}, \qquad (6.1.7)$$

for functions $f \in \mathscr{S}(\mathbf{R})$. The series in (6.1.7) converges absolutely and in L^2 for f in the Schwartz class (see Exercise 6.1.9) and thus A_{ξ}^m is well defined on $\mathscr{S}(\mathbf{R})$. Note that for a fixed m, the sum in (6.1.7) is taken over the row of dyadic rectangles of size $2^m \times 2^{-m}$ whose tops contain the horizontal line at height ξ . The Fourier transforms of the operators A_{ξ}^m are supported in a horizontal strip contained in $(-\infty, \xi]$ of width $\frac{2}{5}2^{-m}$. Notice that if the characteristic function were missing in (6.1.7), then for a suitable function φ , the sum would be equal to a multiple of f(x); cf. Exercise 6.1.9. Thus for each $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ the operator $A_{\xi}^m(f)$ may be viewed as a "piece" of the multiplier operator $f \mapsto (\widehat{f}\chi_{(-\infty,\xi]})^{\vee}$. Summing over m yields a better approximation to this half-line multiplier operator.