A LOCALIZATION FORMULA IN DIRICHLET FORM THEORY

ZHEN-QING CHEN AND MASATOSHI FUKUSHIMA

Abstract. A localization energy formula is established for symmetric Markov processes on Luzin spaces.

1. Introduction

Let $E$ be a Luzin space, $m$ a $\sigma$-finite measure on it and $X$ an $m$-symmetric right process on $E$. Let $(E, F)$ be the Dirichlet form on $L^2(E; m)$ associated with $X$, which is known to be quasi regular. In view of the quasi homeomorphism method in [3], without loss of generality, we may and do assume that $E$ is a locally compact separable metric space, $m$ is a positive Radon measure on $E$ with $\text{supp}\[m\] = E$, $(E, F)$ is a regular symmetric Dirichlet form in $L^2(E; m)$, and $X = (X_t, P_x, \zeta)$ is an $m$-symmetric Hunt process associated with $(E, F)$. We will use $(E, F_e)$ to denote the extended Dirichlet space of $(E, F)$ and $E_1 := E + (\cdot, \cdot)_{L^2(E; m)}$. The expectation with respect to the probability measure $P_x$ will be denoted as $E_x$. We will use the convention that any function defined on $E$ is extended to $E_\partial := E \cup \{\partial\}$ by taking the value 0 at the cemetery point $\partial$ that is added to $E$ as a one-point compactification. Every element $u$ in $F_e$ then admits a quasi continuous version and we will assume that functions in $F_e$ are always represented by their quasi continuous versions. In the sequel, the abbreviations CAF, PCAF and MAF stands for “continuous additive functional”, “positive continuous additive functional” and “martingale additive functional”, respectively, whose definitions can be found both in [1] and [4]. We also refer readers to the above two books for notions such as $m$-polar and $E$-quasi everywhere ($E$-q.e. in abbreviation).

Consider a Lévy system $(N(x, dy), H)$ for the $m$-symmetric Hunt process $X$ on $E$. The Revuz measure of the PCAF $H$ of $X$ will be denoted as $\mu_H$. We define

$$J(dx, dy) = N(x, dy)\mu_H(dx) \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa(dx) = N(x, \{\partial\})\mu_H(dx)$$

as the jumping measure and the killing measure of $X$ (or, equivalently, of $(E, F)$). For square-integrable martingales $M$ and $N$, we use $[M]$ to denote the quadratic
variation process of $M$, and define their quadratic covariation process $[M, N]$ by $([M + N] - [M - N])/4$. The dual predictable projections of $[M]$ and $[M, N]$ are denoted as $\langle M \rangle$ and $\langle M, N \rangle$, respectively (cf. [5]). For $u \in \mathcal{F}_e$, the following Fukushima decomposition holds:

$$u(X_t) - u(X_0) = M_t^u + N_t^u, \quad t \geq 0,$$

where $M^u$ is an MAF of $X$ of finite energy and $N^u$ is a CAF of $X$ having zero energy. Let $M^{[u],c}$ be the continuous martingale part of $M^u$, $\langle M^u \rangle$ and $\langle M^{[u],c} \rangle$ are then PCAFs of $X$. We use $\mu_u$ and $\mu^c_u$ to denote their Revuz measures on $E$, respectively. Let $\{P_t, t \geq 0\}$ be the transition semigroup of $X$.

The following facts are well known (see [1, Chapter 4] or [4, Chapter 5]): For $u \in L^2(E; m)$, $u \in \mathcal{F}$ if and only if $\sup_{t > 0} \frac{1}{t} \int (u - P_t u, u)_{L^2(E; m)} < \infty$, and for $u \in \mathcal{F}$,

$$\mathcal{E}(u, u) = \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} (u - P_t u, u)_{L^2(E; m)}$$

$$= \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{2t} \mathbb{E}_m [(u(X_t) - u(X_0))^2] + \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{2t} \int_E u(x)^2 (1 - P_t 1) m(dx).$$

Moreover, for $u \in \mathcal{F}_e$,

$$\mu_u(dx) = \mu^c_u(dx) + \int_{E} (u(x) - u(y))^2 N(x, dy) \mu_H(dx)$$

$$= \mu^c_u(dx) + \int_{E} (u(x) - u(y))^2 J(dx, dy) + u(x)^2 \kappa(dx),$$

$$\lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \int_{E} u(x)^2 (1 - P_t 1) m(dx) = \int_{E} u(x)^2 \kappa(dx),$$

and

$$\lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_m [(u(X_t) - u(X_0))^2] = \mu^c_u(E) + \int_{E \times E} (u(x) - u(y))^2 J(dx, dy)$$

$$+ \int_{E} u(x)^2 \kappa(dx).$$

It follows from (1.3) and (1.5) that for $u \in \mathcal{F}_e$,

$$\lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_m [(u(X_t) - u(X_0))^2; t < \zeta] = \mu^c_u(E) + \int_{E \times E} (u(x) - u(y))^2 J(dx, dy).$$

In addition, the following Beurling-Deny decomposition holds for the Dirichlet form $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F})$:

$$\mathcal{E}(u, u) = \frac{1}{2} \mu^c_u(E) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{E \times E} (u(x) - u(y))^2 J(dx, dy) + \int_{E} u(x)^2 \kappa(dx) \quad \text{for } u \in \mathcal{F}_e.$$
Let $D$ be a quasi open subset of $E$ and $X^D$ the subprocess of $X$ killed upon leaving $D$. The subprocess $X^D$ is then symmetric with respect to the measure $m_0 := m|_D$. The Dirichlet form of $X^D$ is $\{\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F}^D\}$, where
\[ \mathcal{F}^D = \{ u \in \mathcal{F} : u = 0 \ \text{E.q.e. on } D^c \}. \]

Let $\{P^D_t, t \geq 0\}$ denote the transition semigroup of $X^D$. For $u \in \mathcal{F}_e$, (1.2) tells us that neither $\lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \int_D u(x)^2 (1 - P^D_1(x))m_0(dx)$ nor $\lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_{m_0}((u(X^D_t) - u(X^D_0))^2)$ can be expected to exist in general unless $E \setminus D$ is $m$-polar. Nevertheless, the following main result of this paper asserts that (1.5) remains valid for $u \in \mathcal{F}_e$ with $\tau_D$ and $D$ in place of $\zeta$ and $E$, respectively.

**Theorem 1.1.** For every $v \in \mathcal{F}_e$,
(1.7)
\[ \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_{m_0}[(v(X_t) - v(X_0))^2; t < \tau_D] = \mu_{(v)}(D) + \int_{D \times D} (v(x) - v(y))^2 J(dx, dy). \]

It is a bit surprising to us that this localization formula was not known until now. Such a formula is very useful in the study of boundary theory of symmetric Markov processes, especially in deriving the Beurling-Deny decomposition of the Dirichlet form of the trace (the time-changed process) of the symmetric Markov process $X$ on a quasi closed set $F = E \setminus D$; see Section 5.5 and Section 5.6 of [1]. This Beurling-Deny decomposition assertions (see [1] Theorem 5.5.9 and Corollary 5.6.1]) that for every $u \in \mathcal{F}_e$,
\[ \mathcal{E}(Hu, Hu) = \frac{1}{2} \mu_{(Hu)}(F) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{F \times F} (u(x) - u(y))^2 (J(dx, dy) + U(dx, dy)) \]
(1.8)
\[ + \int_F u(x)^2 (\kappa(dx) + V(dx)), \]

where $Hu(x) = \mathbb{E}_x [u(X_{\sigma_F})], \sigma_F = \inf\{t > 0 : X_t \in F\}$, $U$ and $V$ are Feller measures of $X$ that characterize the excursions of $X$ around $F$. The identity (1.8) was first established in [2]. However, the proof of a key step, Theorem 2.6 of [2], while its conclusion is correct, contains a serious gap in that a dual predictable projection result was applied incorrectly on line 1 of p.1069 there. The use of Theorem 1.1 enables us to give a correct proof of [2] Theorem 2.6; see Theorem 5.5.8 of [4].

2. Proof

For notational convenience, let $F := E \setminus D$ and $F_\partial := F \cup \{\partial\}$.

**Lemma 2.1.** Suppose $v$ is a bounded function in $\mathcal{F}_e$. Then
\[ \limsup_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_{m_0}[(v(X_t) - v(X_0))^2; t < \tau_D] \leq \mu_{(v)}(D) + \int_{D \times D} (v(x) - v(y))^2 J(dx, dy). \]

**Proof.** First note that
\[ \mathbb{E}_x \left[ (M_{t \wedge \tau_D}^v)^2 \right] = \mathbb{E}_x \left[ (M_t^v)^2 \right] \]
By [1] Proposition 4.1.10, $t \to (M_t^v)_{t \wedge \tau_D}$ is a PCAF of $X^D$ and
\[ \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_{m_0}[(M_t^v)_{t \wedge \tau_D}] = \mu_{(v)}(D) \]
(2.1)
\[ = \mu_{(v)}(D) + \int_{D \times E_\partial} (v(x) - v(y))^2 N(x, dy) \mu_H(dx). \]
Define, for \( t \geq 0 \), \( A_t := (v(X_{\tau_D}) - v(X_{\tau_D -}))1_{\{t \geq \tau_D > 0\}} \), and let \( A^p \) be its dual predictable projection. Since \( A \) is a process of bounded variation, \( A^p \) can be expressed as
\[
A^p_t = \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_D} \int_{F_0} (v(y) - v(x))N(x_s, dy)dH_s,
\]
on account of the Lévy system formula (see, e.g., [1] (A.3.33)). It is known (see, e.g., [3]) that \( M := A - A^p \) is a purely discontinuous square integrable martingale that is orthogonal to \( M_{\wedge \tau_D} - M \) in the sense that \( [M, M_{\wedge \tau_D} - M] = 0 \). We claim that
\[
\lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} E_{m_0} [(A^p_t)^2] = 0.
\]
To prove it, for \( k \geq 1 \), define
\[
A^k_t := (v(X_{\tau_D}) - v(X_{\tau_D -}))1_{\{v(X_{\tau_D}) - v(X_{\tau_D -}) > 1/k\}} 1_{\{t \geq \tau_D > 0\}}
\]
and
\[
A^{k,p}_t := \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_D} \int_{F_0} (v(y) - v(x))1_{\{v(y) - v(x) > 1/k\}} N(x_s, dy)dH_s.
\]
Then \( M^k := A^k - A^{k,p} \) is a purely discontinuous square integrable martingale and \( [M - M^k]_t = (A_t - A^k_t)^2 \). Therefore by the Lévy system formula mentioned above,
\[
\limsup_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} E_{m_0} [(A^p_t - A^{k,p}_t)^2] 
\leq \limsup_{t \to 0} \frac{2}{t} E_{m_0} [(M_t - M^k_t)^2] + \limsup_{t \to 0} \frac{2}{t} E_{m_0} [(A_t - A^k_t)^2] 
\leq 4 \int_{D \times F_0} (v(x) - v(y))^2 1_{\{|v(x) - v(y)| > 1/k\}} J(dx, dy),
\]
which tends to 0 as \( k \to \infty \). Now define
\[
B^k_t := |v(X_{\tau_D}) - v(X_{\tau_D -})|1_{\{|v(X_{\tau_D}) - v(X_{\tau_D -}) > 1/k\}} 1_{\{t \geq \tau_D > 0\}}
\]
and
\[
B^{k,p}_t := \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_D} \int_{F_0} |v(y) - v(x)|1_{\{|v(y) - v(x)| > 1/k\}} N(x_s, dy)dH_s.
\]
Then
\[
E_x[B^{k,p}_t] = E_x[B^k_t] \leq 2\|v\|_\infty \mathbb{P}_x(t \geq \tau_D) \quad \text{for} \quad x \in D
\]
and \( B^{k,p} \) is a PCAF of \( X^D \) having Revuz measure \( \mu_k \) with
\[
\mu_k(D) = \int_{D \times F_0} |v(x) - v(y)|1_{\{|v(x) - v(y)| > 1/k\}} N(x, dy)\mu_H(dx)
\leq k \int_{D \times F_0} (v(x) - v(y))^2 N(x, dy)\mu_H(dx) < \infty.
\]
By the Markov property of \( X^D \), equation (2.5) and Revuz correspondence (see, e.g., [1] Theorem 4.1.1),
This completes the proof of the lemma. □

Proof of Theorem 1.1. It suffices to prove the theorem for \( v = R_ag \) for some bounded \( g \in L^2(E;m) \), as such functions \( v \) are \( \mathcal{E} \)-dense in \( \mathcal{F}_c \) and the upper bound in Lemma 2.1 can be utilized.

For \( f \in \mathcal{F}_D \subset \mathcal{F} \), let the Fukushima decomposition of \( f(X_D^0) - f(X_P^0) \) be denoted as \( M_t^{[f]} + N_t^{[f]} \), while the Fukushima decomposition for \( f(X_t) - f(X_0) \) is denoted by \( M_t^{[f]} + N_t^{[f]} \). Since \( f(X_{t \wedge \tau_D}) - f(X_0) = f(X_D^0) - f(X_P^0) \), we have

\[
M_t^{[f]} - M_t^{[0,f]} = N_t^{[f]} - N_t^{[0,f]}, \quad t \geq 0.
\]

It is easy to check (see [1], Exercise 4.1.9) that \( M_t^{[0,f]} \) is a square-integrable martingale with respect to the filtration \( \{\mathcal{F}_{t \wedge \tau_D}, t \geq 0 \} \) and so is \( M_t^{[f]} - M_t^{0,[f]} \). Since \( N^{[f]} \) (resp. \( N^{0,[f]} \)) is a CAF of \( X \) (resp. \( X^0 \)) of zero energy, we have

\[
\begin{align*}
E_{m_0} \left[ (M_t^{[f]} - M_t^{0,[f]}); t < \tau_D \right] &= E_{m_0} \left[ (N_t^{[f]} - N_t^{0,[f]}); t < \tau_D \right] \\
&= E_{m_0} \left[ \lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left( N_{k/2^n}^{[f]} - N_{(k-1)/2^n}^{[f]} - N_{k/2^n}^{0,[f]} + N_{(k-1)/2^n}^{0,[f]} \right)^2 ; t < \tau_D \right] \\
&\leq \lim_{n \to \infty} 2E_m \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left( N_{k/2^n}^{[f]} - N_{(k-1)/2^n}^{[f]} \right)^2 \right] + \lim_{n \to \infty} 2E_{m_0} \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left( N_{k/2^n}^{0,[f]} - N_{(k-1)/2^n}^{0,[f]} \right)^2 \right] = 0.
\end{align*}
\]
By the continuity of \( \langle M^{[f]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} - M^{[0]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} \rangle_t \), we conclude that \( \langle M^{[f]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} - M^{[0]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} \rangle_{\tau_D} = 0 \) and therefore \( M^{[f]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} = M^{[0]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} \). Consequently, \( N^{[f]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} = N^{[0]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} \).

Now let \( f = \alpha R^D_0 1_{D \cap K} \in \mathcal{F}^D \) for a fixed compact set \( K \subset E \). Note that \( 0 \leq f \leq 1 \). By Fukushima’s decomposition and the fact that \( t \mapsto \langle M^{[v]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} \rangle \) is a PCAF of \( X^D \) with Revuz measure \( \mu_{(v)} \) (see Proposition 4.1.10 of [I]),

\[
\lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}^{m_0} \left[ (v(X_t) - v(X_0))^2; t < \tau_D \right] = \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}^{m_0} \left[ (M^{[v]}_{t\wedge \tau_D})^2; t < \tau_D \right] = \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}^{m_0} \left[ (M^{[v]}_{t\wedge \tau_D})^2 f(X^D_t) \right] = \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}^{m_0} \left[ (M^{[v]}_{t\wedge \tau_D})^2 \right] + \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}^{m_0} \left[ (M^{[v]}_{t\wedge \tau_D})^2 (f(X^D_t) - f(X^D_0)) \right] = \int_D f(x)\mu_{(v)}(dx) + \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}^{m_0} \left[ (M^{[v]}_{t\wedge \tau_D})^2 \right] = \int_D f(x)\mu_{(v)}(dx) + I.
\]

In the second to last equality, we used the fact that

\[
N^{[f]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} = N^{[0]}_{t\wedge \tau_D} = \int_0^{t\wedge \tau_D} \alpha (f - 1_{D \cap K})(X_s)ds,
\]

whose absolute value is bounded by \( \alpha t \). By Itô’s formula,

\[
I = \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}^{m_0} \left[ \int_0^{t\wedge \tau_D} M^v_s d\langle M^{[v,c]} \rangle_s + \sum_{s \leq t\wedge \tau_D} ((M^v_s)^2 - (M^v_{s-})^2)(M^{[f]}_s - M^{[f]}_{s-}) \right] = \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}^{m_0} \left[ \int_0^{t\wedge \tau_D} M^v_s d\langle M^{[v,c]} \rangle_s + 2M^v_s(M^{[f]}_s - M^{[f]}_{s-}) + \sum_{s \leq t\wedge \tau_D} (M^v_s - M^{[v]}_{s-})^2 (M^{[f]}_s - M^{[f]}_{s-}) \right].
\]

Since \( v = R_\alpha g \) for some bounded \( g \in L^2(E; m) \),

\[
M^v_t = v(X_t) - v(X_0) - \int_0^t (\alpha u - g)(X_s)ds.
\]

Observe that \( ||\alpha u - g||_\infty \leq 2||g||_\infty \) and so \( |\int_0^t (\alpha u - g)(X_s)ds| \leq 2||g||_\infty t \). We then have by the Revuz formula in Proposition 4.1.10 of [I], the Lévy system formula,
\[ I = \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_{m_0} \left[ \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_D} (v(X_s) - v(X_0))d\langle M^{[\nu],c}, M^{[f],c} \rangle_s \right. \\
+ \sum_{s \leq t \wedge \tau_D} 2(v(X_s) - v(X_0))(v(X_s) - v(X_{s-}))(f(X_s) - f(X_{s-})) \\
+ \left. \sum_{s \leq t \wedge \tau_D} (v(X_s) - v(X_{s-}))^2(f(X_s) - f(X_{s-})) \right] \\
= 0 + \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_{m_0} \left[ 2 \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_D} v(X_s) \int_{E_0} (v(X_s) - v(y))(f(X_s) - f(y))N(X_s, dy)dH_s \right] \\
- \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_{v \cdot m_0} \left[ 2 \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_D} \int_{E_0} (v(X_s) - v(y))(f(X_s) - f(y))N(X_s, dy)dH_s \right] \\
+ \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_{m_0} \left[ \int_0^{t \wedge \tau_D} \int_{E_0} (v(y) - v(X_s))^2(f(y) - f(X_s))N(X_s, dy)dH_s \right] \\
= \int_{D \times E_0} (v(y) - v(x))^2(f(y) - f(x))N(x, dy)d\mu_H(dx) \\
- \int_{D \times F_0} f(x)(v(x) - v(y))^2N(x, dy)d\mu_H(dx). \\
\]

In the last equality above, we used the symmetry of \( J \) and the fact that \( f = 0 \) q.e. on \( F \). Thus we have by \([13] \) and \([24] \),

\[ \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_{m_0} \left[ (v(X_t) - v(X_0))^2; t < \tau_D \right] \geq \int_D f(x)\mu_{[\nu]}(dx) - \int_{D \times F_0} f(x)(v(x) - v(y))^2N(x, dy)d\mu_H(dx) \]

\[ = \int_D f(x)\mu_{[\nu]}^c(dx) + \int_{D \times D} f(x)(v(x) - v(y))^2N(x, dy)d\mu_H(dx). \]

Since this is true for all \( f = \alpha R^{D}_{\nu} 1_{D \cap K} \), where \( \alpha > 0 \) and \( K \) is a compact subset of \( E \), by first letting \( K \uparrow \infty \) and then \( \alpha \uparrow \infty \) we conclude that

\[ \lim_{t \to 0} \frac{1}{t} \mathbb{E}_{m_0} \left[ (v(X_t) - v(X_0))^2; t < \tau_D \right] \geq \mu_{[\nu]}^c(D) + \int_{D \times D} (v(x) - v(y))^2N(x, dy)d\mu_H(dx). \]

This together with Lemma \([24] \) completes the proof of the theorem. \( \square \)

**References**


Department of Mathematics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195

E-mail address: zqchen@uw.edu

Branch of Mathematical Science, Osaka University, Toyonaka, Osaka 560-0043, Japan

E-mail address: fuku2@mx5.canvas.ne.jp