

ON  $L^p$  ESTIMATES FOR SQUARE ROOTS OF SECOND  
ORDER ELLIPTIC OPERATORS ON  $\mathbb{R}^n$

PASCAL AUSCHER

*Abstract*

---

We prove that the square root of a uniformly complex elliptic operator  $L = -\operatorname{div}(A\nabla)$  with bounded measurable coefficients in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfies the estimate  $\|L^{1/2}f\|_p \lesssim \|\nabla f\|_p$  for  $\sup(1, \frac{2n}{n+4} - \varepsilon) < p < \frac{2n}{n-2} + \varepsilon$ , which is new for  $n \geq 5$  and  $p < 2$  or for  $n \geq 3$  and  $p > \frac{2n}{n-2}$ . One feature of our method is a Calderón-Zygmund decomposition for Sobolev functions. We make some further remarks on the topic of the converse  $L^p$  inequalities (i.e. Riesz transforms bounds), pushing the recent results of [BK2] and [HM] for  $\frac{2n}{n+2} < p < 2$  when  $n \geq 3$  to the range  $\sup(1, \frac{2n}{n+2} - \varepsilon) < p < 2 + \varepsilon'$ . In particular, we obtain that  $L^{1/2}$  extends to an isomorphism from  $\dot{W}^{1,p}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  to  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^n)$  for  $p$  in this range. We also generalize our method to higher order operators.

---

---

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* 42B20, 42B25, 35J15, 35J30, 35J45, 47F05, 47B44.

*Key words.* Calderón-Zygmund decomposition, elliptic operators, square roots, functional calculus.