Fractal uncertainty principle and quantum chaos

Semyon Dyatlov (UC Berkeley/MIT)

July 23, 2018



- This talk presents two recent results in quantum chaos
- Central ingredient: fractal uncertainty principle (FUP)

No function can be localized in both position and frequency near a fractal set

- Using tools from
 - Microlocal analysis (classical/quantum correspondence)
 - Hyperbolic dynamics (classical chaos)
 - Fractal geometry
 - Harmonic analysis

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- (M,g) compact hyperbolic surface (Gauss curvature $\equiv -1$)
- Geodesic flow on *M*: a standard model of classical chaos (perturbations diverge exponentially from the original geodesic)
- Eigenfunctions of the Laplacian $-\Delta_g$ studied by quantum chaos

$$(-\Delta_g - \lambda^2)u = 0, \quad ||u||_{L^2} = 1$$



Theorem 1 [D–Jin '17, using D–Zahl '15 and Bourgain–D '16]

Let $\Omega \subset M$ be a nonempty open set. Then there exists c depending on M, Ω but not on λ s.t. $\|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \ge c > 0$

For bounded λ this follows from unique continuation principle The new result is in the high frequency limit $\lambda \to \infty$

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The chaotic nature of geodesic flow is important For example, Theorem 1 is false if M is the round sphere

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Theorem 1

Let M be a hyperbolic surface and $\Omega \subset M$ a nonempty open set. Then there exists $c_{\Omega} > 0$ s.t. $(-\Delta_g - \lambda^2)u = 0 \implies ||u||_{L^2(\Omega)} \ge c_{\Omega} ||u||_{L^2(M)}$

Application to control theory (using standard techniques e.g. Burq–Zworski '04, '12):

Theorem 2 [Jin '17

Fix T > 0 and nonempty open $\Omega \subset M$. Then there exists $C = C(T, \Omega)$ such that $\|f\|_{L^2(M)}^2 \leq C \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} |e^{it\Delta_g} f(x)|^2 dx dt$ for all $f \in L^2(M)$

Control by any nonempty open set previously known only for flat tori: Haraux '89, Jaffard '90

Work in progress

- Datchev–Jin: an estimate on c_{Ω} in terms of Ω (using Jin–Zhang '17)
- D-Jin-Nonnenmacher: Theorems 1 and 2 for surfaces of variable negative curvature

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Theorem 1 arose from trying to understand high frequency sequences of eigenfunctions

$$(-\Delta_g - \lambda_j^2)u_j = 0, \quad \|u_j\|_{L^2} = 1, \quad \lambda_j \to \infty$$

in terms of weak limit: probability measure μ on M such that $u_j \rightarrow \mu$ in the following sense

$$\int_{\mathcal{M}} a(x) |u_j(x)|^2 \, d \operatorname{vol}_g(x) \to \int_{\mathcal{M}} a \, d\mu \quad \text{for all} \quad a \in C^\infty(\mathcal{M})$$

Theorem 1 \Rightarrow for hyperbolic surfaces, every μ has supp $\mu = M$: 'no whitespace' A (much) stronger property is equidistribution: $\mu = d \operatorname{vol}_g$

- Quantum ergodicity: geodesic flow is chaotic ⇒ most eigenfunctions equidistribute Shnirelman '74, Zelditch '87, Colin de Verdière '85 ... Zelditch–Zworski '96
- QUE conjecture [Rudnick–Sarnak '94]: all eigenfunctions equidistribute for strongly chaotic systems. Only proved in arithmetic situations: Lindenstrauss '06

• Entropy bounds on possible weak limits: Anantharaman '07, A-Nonnenmacher '08...

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One can also study Dirichlet eigenfunctions on a domain with boundary The geodesic flow is replaced by the billiard ball flow

Completely integrable

Whitespace in the center (easy)

Mildly chaotic

Whitespace on the sides (conj.) Lack of equidistribution [Hassell '10]

Strongly chaotic

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(M,g) convex co-compact hyperbolic surface

Pictures of resonances by David Borthwick and Tobias Weich)



Resonances: zeroes of the Selberg zeta function

$$Z_{M}(s) = \prod_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}_{M}} \prod_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(1 - e^{-(s+k)\ell}
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where $\mathcal{L}_M = \{$ lengths of primitive closed geodesics $\}$

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July 23, 2018 7 / 11

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Theorem 3 [D-Zahl '15, Bourgain-D '16, D-Zworski '17]

Let *M* be a convex co-compact hyperbolic surface. Then there exists an essential spectral gap of size $\beta = \beta(M) > 0$, namely *M* has only finitely many resonances *s* with $\text{Re } s > \frac{1}{2} - \beta$

- Previously known only for 'thinner half' of surfaces: Patterson '76, Sullivan '79, Naud '05
- Gap for 'thin' open systems: Ikawa '88, Gaspard-Rice '89, Nonnenmacher-Zworski '09
- Applications to exponential decay for waves and Strichartz estimates: Wang '17
- Conjecture: every strongly chaotic scattering system has a spectral gap
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- Density results supporting stronger conjecture: Naud '14, D '15

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Main ingredient: fractal uncertainty principle (FUP)

Definition

Fix $\nu > 0$. A set $X \subset \mathbb{R}$ is ν -porous up to scale \hbar if for each interval $I \subset R$ of length $\hbar \leq |I| \leq 1$, there is an interval $J \subset I$, $|J| = \nu |I|$, $J \cap X = \emptyset$

Theorem 4 [Bourgain–D '16]

Let $\hbar \ll 1$ and X, Y be ν -porous up to scale \hbar . Then there exists $\beta = \beta(\nu) > 0$: $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}), \quad \operatorname{supp} \hat{f} \subset \hbar^{-1} \cdot Y \implies \|\mathbf{1}_X f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})} \leq C \hbar^{\beta} \|f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}$

"Cannot concentrate in both position and frequency on a fractal set"

Tools: Beurling–Malliavin theorem, iteration on scales...

Recent progress: Jin–Zhang '17 (quantitative version), Han–Schlag '18 (some higher dimensional cases)

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- $U \subset S^*M$ open nonempty set, called the **hole**
- The fractal sets to which FUP is applied arise from geodesics missing the hole:





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 $\Gamma_{\pm}(T) := \{ \rho \in S^*M \mid \varphi_{\mp t}(\rho) \notin U \text{ for all } t \in [0, T] \}$





 $\Gamma_+(T), T = 1$

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Thank you for your attention!