

# Semiclassical propagation estimates

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Reference with details:

S. Dyatlov & M. Zworski,

"Mathematical Theory of Scattering Resonances",

AMS, 2019, Appendix E.4

I. Quick review of notation:

← PREPARE  
IN ADVANCE

$M$  compact mfd w/o boundary

$\Psi_h^k(M)$  - the algebra of semiclassical pseudodifferential operators of order  $k$

They have the form  $Op_h(a)$

where  $a \in S^k(T^*M)$

$$|\partial_x^\alpha \partial_\xi^\beta a(x, \xi; h)| \leq C_{\alpha\beta} \langle \xi \rangle^{k-|\beta|}$$

$$Op_h(a) = a(x, hD_x), \quad D_x = \frac{1}{i} \partial_x$$

(on manifolds, non-canonically defined by piecing together from local charts)

Principal symbol:

$$A \in \Psi_h^k(M) \mapsto \sigma_h(A) \in \frac{S^k(T^*M)}{hS^{k-1}(T^*M)}$$

$H_h^s(M)$  - semiclassical Sobolev space

$$\sigma_h(\text{Op}_h(a)) = [a]$$

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Elliptic set:

$$\text{ell}_h(A) \subset \bar{T}^*M \text{ open}$$

$$\text{ell}_h(A) = \{\sigma_h(A) \neq 0\}$$

Wavefront set:

$$\text{WF}_h(A) \subset \bar{T}^*M \text{ closed}$$

$$\text{WF}_h(\text{Op}_h(a)) = \text{ess-supp } a$$

places where  $a \neq O(h^{\infty})$

Here  $\bar{T}^*M$  is the fiber-radially compactified  $T^*M$ ,  
adding  $S^*M$  at  $|\xi| = \infty$  with  $|\xi|^{-1}$  as a b.d.f.

## ② Propagation of singularities

Setting:

$$(P - iQ)u = f, \quad u, f \in C^\infty(M)$$

$$P \in \Psi_h^1(M), \quad Q \in \Psi_h^0(M), \quad P^* = P, \quad Q^* = Q$$

$p = \sigma_h(P)$   $h$ -independent, real-valued

homogeneous of order 1 for  $|\xi| \gg 1$

$e^{tH_p}: \bar{T}^*M \rightarrow \bar{T}^*M$  Hamiltonian flow of  $p$

# Theorem [Propagation of singularities]

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Assume  $A, B, B_1 \in \mathcal{Y}_h^0(M)$

satisfy the control condition:

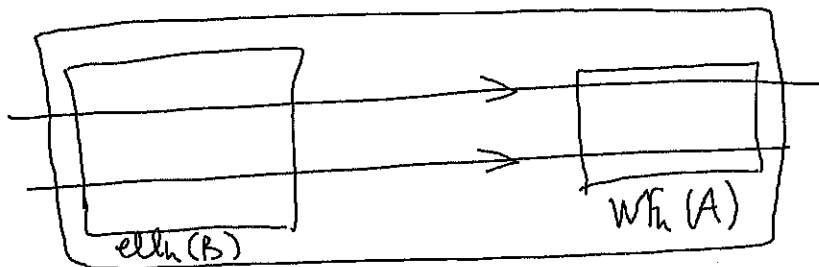
$\forall p \in WF_h(A) \exists T \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

- $e^{-tH_p}(p) \in \text{ell}_h(B)$ , and

- $e^{-tH_p}(p) \in \text{ell}_h(B_1) \forall t$  between 0 & T.

Then we have  $\forall s, N \exists C$

$$(*) \quad \|A u\|_{H_h^s} \leq C \|B u\|_{H_h^s} + C h^{-1} \|B_1 f\|_{H_h^s} + C h^N \|u\|_{H_h^{-N}}$$



flow lines  
of  $e^{tH_p}$

$\text{ell}_h(B_1)$

Remarks.

① If  $f=0$ , this says that  $WF_h(u) \subset \bar{T}^*M$  invariant under  $e^{tH_p}$

"Singularities propagate along Hamiltonian flow lines"

② Stronger versions available:

- don't need  $u \in C^\infty$

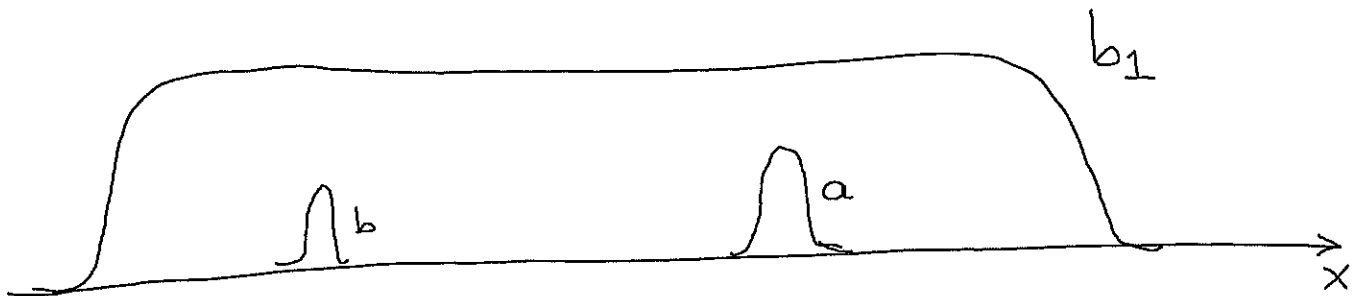
- can take  $Q \in \mathcal{Y}_h^1$ ,  $\sigma_h(Q) \geq 0$ , as long as  $T \geq 0$  above.

# ④ Proof of PofS in the model case

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- $M = \mathbb{R}$  (noncompact but it does not matter)
- $P = h D_x$ ,  $p(x, \xi) = \xi$ ,  $e^{tH_p}(x, \xi) = (x+t, \xi)$
- $Q = h q$ ,  $q \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R})$
- $(P - iQ)u = f \Leftrightarrow (-ih\partial_x - ihq)u = f$
- $A, B, B_1 \rightarrow$  multiplication operators by  
 $a, b, b_1 \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R})$
- Assume control condition with  $T \geq 0$



- Get the estimate without remainder (just put  $s=0$ )
- (\*)'  $\|au\|_{L^2} \leq C \|bu\|_{L^2} + Ch^{-1} \|b_1 f\|_{L^2}$ .

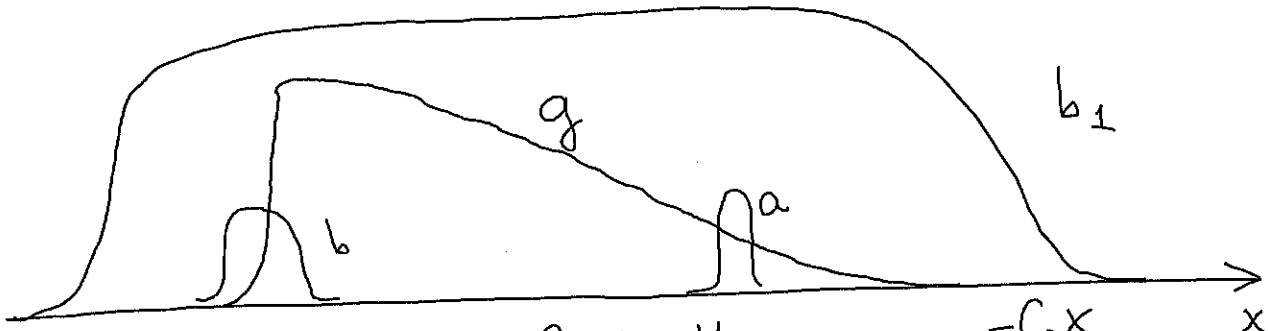
We will use the positive commutator method  
 (exercise: prove using DDE/FTC)

Step 1: Construction of escape function.

Fix  $C_0 > 0$  to be chosen later & take  
 $g \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $g \geq 0$ ,

- ①  $g > 0$  on  $\text{supp } a$
- ②  $g' \leq -C_0 g$  near  $\{b=0\}$
- ③  $\text{supp } g \subset \{b_1 \neq 0\}$

Existence of such  $g$  follows from control condition:



Note: can take  $g' \leq 0$  first, then  $g \cdot e^{-C_0 x}$ .

Step 2: the commutator identity

$$\underbrace{\text{Im} \langle f, g^2 u \rangle}_{\text{I}} = \text{Im} \langle (P - iQ)u, g^2 u \rangle = \underbrace{\text{Im} \langle Pu, g^2 u \rangle}_{\text{II}} - \underbrace{\text{Re} \langle Qu, g^2 u \rangle}_{\text{III}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{And } \text{II} &= \frac{1}{2i} (\langle Pu, g^2 u \rangle - \langle g^2 u, Pu \rangle) \leftarrow \text{used } P^* = P \\ &= \frac{1}{2i} (\langle g^2 Pu, u \rangle - \langle Pg^2 u, u \rangle) \\ &= \frac{i}{2} \langle [P, g^2]u, u \rangle = h \langle g g' u, u \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Since } [P, g^2] = -ih [\partial_x, g^2] = -2ih g g'$$

Step 3: estimate the terms

$$\text{I} \leq C \|b\| \cdot \|g u\| \quad (\text{used } \textcircled{3})$$

$$\text{II} \leq -C_0 h \|g u\|^2 + C h \|b u\|^2 \quad (\text{used } \textcircled{2})$$

$$\text{III} \leq C_1 h \|g u\|^2 \quad \text{where } C_1 := \sup |q|$$

Put  $C_0 := C_1 + 1$ , then get

$$h \|g u\|^2 \leq C h \|b u\|^2 + C \|b\| \cdot \|g u\|$$

This gives

$$\|g_{\text{ull}}\| \leq C \|b_{\text{ull}}\| + Ch^{-1} \|b_{\text{t}}^0\|$$

It remains to note that

$$\|a_{\text{ull}}\| \leq C \|g_{\text{ull}}\| \quad (\text{used } \textcircled{1})$$

to set  $(*)'$ .  $\square$

How to deal with general case?

• Similar proof but now  $g^2 \rightarrow G^*G$ ,

$$G = \text{Op}_h(g),$$

$$\textcircled{II} = \frac{i}{2} \langle [P, G^*G]u, u \rangle, \quad [P, G^*G] = -2ih \text{Op}_h(gH_g) + O(h^2) \psi_h^{-1}$$

by the Commutator Rule

• Construct  $g$  so that  $H_g \leq -C_0g$  near  $\{\sigma_h(B) = 0\}$

Use this inequality + Sharp Gårding Inequality

• Get a  $Ch^{1/2} \|u\|_{H_h^{-1/2}}$  remainder - remove iteratively

• How to set an estimate on  $H_h^s$ ? Enough to get an  $L^2$  estimate for

$$(P-iQ)_s = \langle hD \rangle^s (P-iQ) \langle hD \rangle^{-s}, \quad \text{here}$$

$$\langle hD \rangle^{\pm s} = \text{Op}_h(\langle \xi \rangle^{\pm s}) + O(h) \psi_h^{\pm s-1}$$

Compute

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$$P_s = P + [\langle hD \rangle^s, P] \langle hD \rangle^{-s}$$

$$= P + ihs \text{Op}_h(\langle \xi \rangle^{-1} H_P \langle \xi \rangle) + h^2 \Psi_h^{-1}$$

$$Q_s = Q + h^2 \Psi_h^{-1}$$

$$S_0 (P - iQ)_s = P - i\tilde{Q} + h^2 \Psi_h^{-1}$$

$$\text{where } \tilde{Q} = Q - s \text{Op}_h(\langle \xi \rangle^{-1} H_P \langle \xi \rangle)$$

to which the previous proof applies

### IV Radial estimates

#### Theorem [High regularity radial estimate]

Assume  $P, Q$  as before,  $f = (P - iQ)u$ , and

$L \subset \partial \bar{T}^*M \leftarrow$  fiber infinity " $\{|\xi| = \infty\}$ " cpct set  
is a radial source for  $e^{thP}$ :

- $L$  is  $e^{thP}$ -invariant

- $\exists$  nbhd  $U$  of  $L$  in  $T^*M$ :

$$\forall p \in U, e^{-thP}(p) \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} L \text{ uniformly in } p$$

- and  $|\xi| \rightarrow \infty$  exponentially fast on the above trajectories

Then  $\exists s_0$  (depending on  $P, Q$ ) s.t.  $\forall B_1 \in \mathcal{Z}_h^0$  s.t.  $L \text{ cell}_h(B_1)$   
 $\exists A \in \mathcal{Z}_h^0, L \text{ cell}_h(A)$  and  $\forall s > s_0$  (\*) holds with  $B=0$ :

$$(*)_{\text{rad}} \quad \|Au\|_{H_h^s} \leq Ch^{-1} \|B_1\|_{H_h^s} + Ch^N \|u\|_{H_h^{-N}}$$

$$\forall u \in C^\infty$$

Example: on  $M = \mathbb{R}$

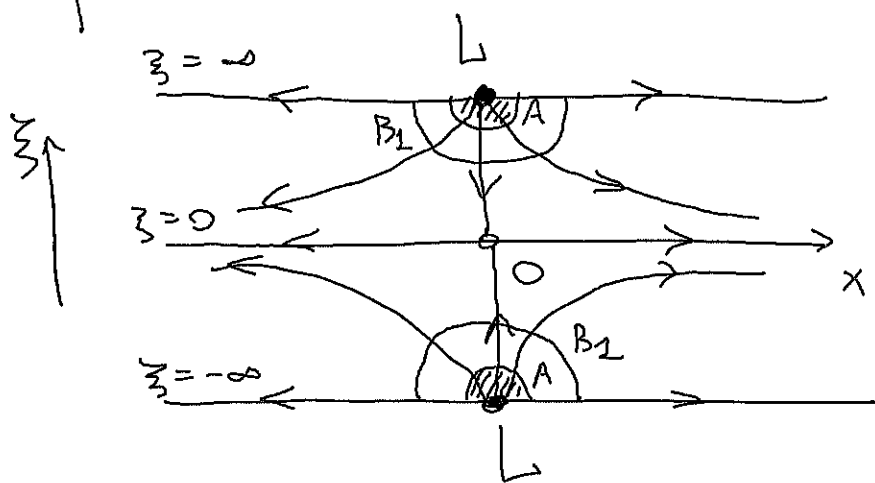
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$$P = x \cdot h D_x - \frac{i h}{2} \leftarrow \text{to make } P^* = P$$

$$Q = h q, \quad q = \text{const}$$

$$p = x \cdot \xi, \quad H_p = x \partial_x - \xi \partial_\xi, \quad L = \{x=0, \xi = \pm \infty\}$$



$$x \partial_x + \frac{1}{2} + q$$

Special case:  $s=0, q > 0$  Then we can take

$A, B_1 \rightarrow a, b_1$  multiplication operators

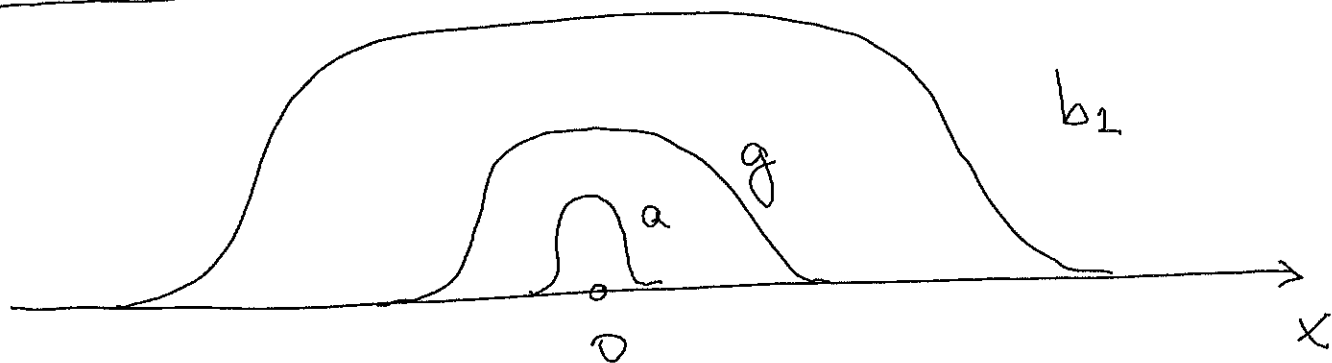
& we get

$$(*)' \quad \|a u\|_{L^2} \leq C h^{-1} \|b_1 A\|_{L^2}$$

Note:  $u = x_{\pm}^{-\frac{1}{2} - q}$  solves  $(P - iQ)u = 0$

But  $(*)'$  does not apply since  $u \notin C^\infty$

Proof of special case: Argue as for P of S, with





Now (I) estimated as before,

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$$(II) = h \langle x g g' u, u \rangle \leq 0$$

since  $x g g' \leq 0$

And (III) =  $-h q \|g u\|^2$  and  $q > 0$ ,

So we have

$$(II) + (III) \leq -\frac{h}{c} \|g u\|^2, \text{ the argument}$$

still works.  $\square$

This special case gives a proof for general  $P$  as long as  $S=0$ ,

$$\sigma_h(Q)|_L < 0.$$

Now, proving an estimate on  $H_h^s$  is like proving an  $L^2$  estimate for

$$P_s - iQ_s = P - i\tilde{Q} + \dots,$$

$$\tilde{Q} = Q - s O_p h \langle \xi \rangle^{-1} H_p \langle \xi \rangle.$$

Because  $L$  is a radial source, we can arrange  $\langle \xi \rangle^{-1} H_p \langle \xi \rangle|_L < 0$  (e.g.  $p = x \cdot \xi$  model case  $|\xi|^{-1} H_p |\xi| = -1$ )

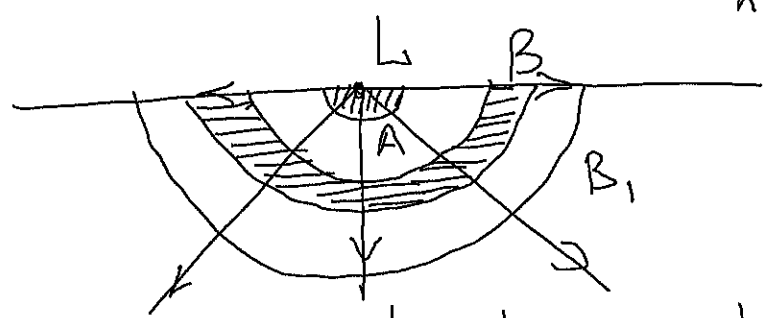
So for  $s$  large enough, we get

$$\sigma_h(\tilde{Q}_s)|_L < 0. \text{ This gives the general case}$$

# Theorem [Low regularity radial estimate]

Assume  $P, Q, u, f, L, B_1$  as in the high regularity radial estimate. Then  $\exists s_1$  (depending on  $P, Q$ ) and  $\exists A, B \in \mathcal{U}_h^0$ :  $L \subset \text{cell}_h(A)$ ,  $W_h(B) \subset \text{cell}_h(B_1) \setminus L$  and  $(*)$  holds when  $s < s_1$ :  $\forall u \in C^\infty$

$$\|Au\|_{H_h^s} \leq C \|Bu\|_{H_h^s} + Ch^{-1} \|B_1 f\|_{H_h^s} + Ch^N \|u\|_{H_h^{-N}}$$



(for the proof see the back)

Note: radial estimates apply also to sinks:  $L$  a sink for  $p(\Rightarrow L$  a source for  $-p$

Note: the above estimates apply under weaker regularity assumptions:

- PotS & LowRegRad: enough  $u \in D'$ ,  $Bu \in H_h^s$ ,  $B_1 f \in H_h^s$ , and we get  $Au \in H_h^s$
- HighRegRad: enough  $u \in H^{s_0+}$ ,  $B_1 f \in H_h^s$ , and we get  $Au \in H_h^s$ .