

EXPONENTIAL DECAY FOR PRODUCTS OF FOURIER INTEGRAL OPERATORS*

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Abstract. This text contains an alternative presentation, and in certain cases an improvement, of the “hyperbolic dispersive estimate” proved in [1, 3], where it was used to make progress towards the quantum unique ergodicity conjecture. The main statement gives a sufficient condition to have exponential decay of the norms of long products of sub-unitary Fourier integral operators. The improved version presented here is needed in the two papers [5] and [6].

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1. Introduction. On a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , consider the product $\hat{P}_n \hat{P}_{n-1} \cdots \hat{P}_1$ of a large number of operators \hat{P}_j , with $\|\hat{P}_j\| = 1$. Think, for instance, of the case where each operator \hat{P}_j is an orthogonal projector, or a product of an orthogonal projector and a unitary operator. What kind of geometric considerations can be helpful to prove that the norm $\|\hat{P}_n \hat{P}_{n-1} \cdots \hat{P}_1\|$ is strictly less than 1? or better, that it decays exponentially fast with n ? In Section 2, we will describe a situation in which $\mathcal{H} = L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, and the operators \hat{P}_j are Fourier integral operators associated to a sequence of canonical transformations κ_j . We will give a “hyperbolicity” condition, on the sequence of transformations κ_j and on the symbols of the operators \hat{P}_j , under which we can prove exponential decay of the norms $\|\hat{P}_n \hat{P}_{n-1} \cdots \hat{P}_1\|$.

This technique was introduced in [1, 3], and is used in [1, 3, 4, 19, 20, 6] to prove results related to the quantum unique ergodicity conjecture. In [1, 3], the proofs are written on a riemannian manifold of negative curvature, for the operators $\hat{P}_n = e^{\frac{i\tau h \Delta}{2}} \hat{\chi}_n$, in the semiclassical limit $h \rightarrow 0$; Δ is the laplacian, $\tau > 0$ is fixed, and the operators $\hat{\chi}_n$ belong to a finite family of h -pseudodifferential operators, microsupported inside compact sets of small diameters. The exponential decay is then used to prove a lower bound on the “entropy” of eigenfunctions, answering by the negative the long-standing question: can a sequence of eigenfunctions concentrate on a closed geodesic, as the eigenvalue goes to infinity? An expository paper can be found in [16], see also the forthcoming paper [2]. We give here an alternative presentation, based on the use of local adapted symplectic coordinates, which leads in certain cases to an improvement, needed in the two papers [5] and [6].

Let us also mention the work of Nonnenmacher-Zworski [17, 18], Christianson [8, 9, 10], Datchev [11], and Burq-Guillarmou-Hassell [7], who showed how to use these techniques in scattering situations, to prove the existence of a gap below the real axis in the resonance spectrum, and to get local smoothing estimates with loss, as well as Strichartz estimates. In this context, the idea of proving exponential decay for Fourier integral operators was also present, although in an implicit form, in Doi’s work [12].

The technique is presented in the first four sections, and the applications needed in [5, 6] are stated in section 5.

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2. A hyperbolic dispersion estimate. In this section, $\mathbb{R}^d \times (\mathbb{R}^d)^*$ is endowed with the canonical symplectic form $\omega_o = \sum_{j=1}^d dx_j \wedge d\xi_j$, where dx_j denotes the projection on the j -th vector of the canonical basis in \mathbb{R}^d , and $d\xi_j$ is the projection on the j -th vector of the dual basis in $(\mathbb{R}^d)^*$. The space \mathbb{R}^d will also be endowed with its usual scalar product, denoted by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$, and we use it to systematically identify \mathbb{R}^d with $(\mathbb{R}^d)^*$.

We consider a sequence of smooth (C^∞) transformations $\kappa_n : \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$, preserving ω_o ($n \in \mathbb{N}^*$). We will only be interested in the restriction of κ_1 to a fixed bounded subset of \mathbb{R}^d , and it is actually sufficient for us to assume that the product $\kappa_n \circ \kappa_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ \kappa_1$ is well defined there for all n . The Darboux-Lie theorem ensures that every lagrangian foliation can be locally mapped, by a symplectic change of coordinates, to the foliation of $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$ by the ‘‘horizontal’’ leaves $\mathcal{L}_{\xi_0} = \{(x, \xi) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d, \xi = \xi_0\}$. For our purposes (section 5), there is no loss of generality if we make the simplifying assumption that each symplectic transformation κ_n preserves this horizontal foliation. It means that κ_n is of the form $(x, \xi) \mapsto (x', \xi' = p_n(\xi))$ where $p_n : \mathbb{R}^d \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ is a smooth function. In more sophisticated words, κ_n has a generating function of the form

$$S_n(x, x', \theta) = \langle p_n(\theta), x' \rangle - \langle \theta, x \rangle + \alpha_n(\theta)$$

(where $x, x', \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$, and $\alpha_n : \mathbb{R}^d \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a smooth function). We have the equivalence

$$[(x', \xi') = \kappa_n(x, \xi)] \iff [\xi = -\partial_x S_n(x, x', \theta), \xi' = \partial_{x'} S_n(x, x', \theta), \partial_\theta S_n(x, x', \theta) = 0].$$

The product $\kappa_n \circ \dots \circ \kappa_2 \circ \kappa_1$ also preserves the horizontal foliation, and it admits the generating function

$$\begin{aligned} \langle p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\theta), x' \rangle - \langle \theta, x \rangle + \alpha_1(\theta) + \alpha_2(p_1(\theta)) + \dots + \alpha_n(p_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ p_1(\theta)) \\ = \langle p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\theta), x' \rangle - \langle \theta, x \rangle + A_n(\theta), \end{aligned}$$

where the equality defines $A_n(\theta)$.

If p is a map $\mathbb{R}^d \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$, we will denote ∇p the matrix $(\frac{\partial p_i}{\partial \theta_j})_{ij}$, which represents its differential in the canonical basis.

Assumptions (H) : We shall be interested in the following operators, acting on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$:

$$\hat{P}_n f(x') = \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^d} \int_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d} e^{\frac{iS_n(x, x', \theta)}{h}} a^{(n)}(x, x', \theta, h) f(x) dx d\theta,$$

where $h > 0$ is a ‘‘semiclassical’’ parameter destined to go to 0. We will assume the following :

- (FIO1) For a given $h > 0$, the function $(x, x', \theta) \mapsto a^{(n)}(x, x', \theta, h)$ is of class C^∞ ;
- (FIO2) When $h \longrightarrow 0$, each $a^{(n)}(x, x', \theta, h)$ has an asymptotic expansion

$$a^{(n)}(x, x', \theta, h) \sim (\det \nabla p_n(\theta))^{1/2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} h^k a_k^{(n)}(x, x', \theta),$$

valid up to any order and in all the C^ℓ norms on compact sets.

These conditions imply that the operators \hat{P}_n are (semiclassical) *Fourier integral operators* quantizing the transformations κ_n [13].

In addition, we assume some uniformity in the behaviour of certain functions as n varies :

- (H1) In (FIO2), the asymptotic expansions hold *uniformly with respect to n* (the derivatives of $a_k^{(n)}$ are bounded uniformly in n , and the constants in the remainder terms of the expansions are independent of n);
- (H2) The functions p_n are smooth diffeomorphisms, and all the derivatives of p_n , of p_n^{-1} and of α_n are bounded uniformly in n .
- (H3) For all n , for all $(x, \theta), (x', \theta')$ such that $(x', \theta') = \kappa_n(x, \theta)$, we have $|a_0^{(n)}(x, x', \theta)| \leq 1$. This condition, together with (H1), ensures that $\|\hat{P}_n\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \leq 1 + \mathcal{O}(h)$ (uniformly in n).

Finally, the variables x, x', θ will be restrained to some fixed bounded subsets of \mathbb{R}^d , thanks to the following assumption :

- (H4) There exist relatively compact subsets $\Omega_1, \Omega_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ such that, for all n and h , the functions $a^{(n)}(x, x', \theta, h)$ vanish for $x \notin \Omega_1$ or $x' \notin \Omega_1$ or $\theta \notin \Omega_2$.

2.1. Propagation of a single plane wave. The following theorem is essentially proved in [1]. We denote $e_{\xi_0, h}$ the function $e_{\xi_0, h}(x) = e^{\frac{i\langle \xi_0, x \rangle}{h}}$.

THEOREM 2.1. *Fix $\xi_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$. Denote $\xi_n = p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0)$. In addition to the assumptions (H) above, assume that*

$$(2.1) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{k} \log \|\nabla(p_{n+k} \circ p_{n+k-1} \circ \dots \circ p_{n+1})(\xi_n)\| \leq 0,$$

uniformly in n (where $\|\cdot\|$ denotes here the norm of a $d \times d$ matrix).

Fix $\mathcal{K}, \tilde{\epsilon} > 0$ arbitrary, and an integer $M \in \mathbb{N}$ large enough. Then we have, for any $n \leq \mathcal{K}|\log h|$, and $x \in \Omega_1$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1 e_{\xi_0, h}(x) \\ &= e^{i\frac{A_n(\xi_0)}{h}} e_{\xi_n, h}(x) (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0))^{1/2} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x, \xi_n) \right] + \mathcal{O}(h^{M(1-\tilde{\epsilon})}) \end{aligned}$$

where the estimate of the remainder holds in the L^2 -norm, as a function of x .

The functions $b_k^{(n)}$, defined on $\mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d$, are smooth, supported inside $\Omega_1 \times \Omega_2$, and the function $b_0^{(n)}$ is defined by

$$b_0^{(n)}(x_n, \xi_n) = \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} a_0^{(j)}(x_j, x_{j+1}, \xi_j),$$

where $\xi_n = p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0)$, and the other terms satisfy $(x_j, \xi_j) = \kappa_j \circ \dots \circ \kappa_1(x_0, \xi_0)$.

The functions $b_k^{(n)}$, for $k > 0$, have the same support as $b_0^{(n)}$. We have $|b_0^{(n)}(x_n, \xi_n)| \leq 1$, and besides, we have bounds

$$\|d_x^j b_k^{(n)}\|_\infty \leq C(k, j, \epsilon) n^{j+3k} e^{\epsilon(j+2k)n}$$

valid for arbitrary $\epsilon > 0$, where the prefactor $C(k, j, \epsilon)$ does not depend on n .

If we make the assumption that $\|\nabla(p_{n+k} \circ p_{n+k-1} \circ \dots \circ p_{n+1})(\xi_n)\|$ is bounded above, uniformly in n, k , the statement holds with $\epsilon = 0$.

If n is fixed, and if we write $\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1 e_{\xi_0, h}(x)$ explicitly as an integral over $(\mathbb{R}^d)^{2n}$, this theorem is a straightforward application of the stationary phase method. If n is allowed to go to infinity as $h \rightarrow 0$, our result amounts, in some sense, to applying the method of stationary phase on a space whose dimension goes to ∞ , and this is known to be very delicate. The theorem was first proved this way, in an unpublished version (available on request or on my webpage) of the paper [1]. A nicer proof, written with the collaboration of Stéphane Nonnenmacher, is available in [1], and has also appeared under different forms in [3, 17]. In these papers, the proofs are written on a riemannian manifold, for $\hat{P}_n = e^{\frac{i\tau\hat{H}}{h}} \hat{\chi}_n$, where the operators $\hat{\chi}_n$ belong to a finite family of h -pseudodifferential operators, microsupported inside compact sets of small diameters, and where $\tau > 0$ is fixed and \hat{H} is a semiclassical Schrödinger operator ($\hat{H} = -h^2\Delta$ in [3]). In local coordinates, and on a manifold of constant negative sectional curvature, the calculations done in [1, 3] amount to the simpler statement presented here (see section 5).

In all the papers cited above, the hamiltonian flows under study satisfy a *uniform hyperbolicity* (or Anosov) property, ensuring a uniform bound $\sup_{\xi \in \Omega_2} \|\nabla(p_n \circ \dots \circ p_2 \circ p_1)(\xi)\| \leq C$, and actually an exponential decay

$$(2.2) \quad \sup_{\xi \in \Omega_2} \|\nabla(p_n \circ \dots \circ p_2 \circ p_1)(\xi)\| \leq C e^{-\lambda n},$$

with uniform constants $C, \lambda > 0$, transversally to some “trivial directions”. This is why, following [17], we call our result a *hyperbolic dispersion estimate*.

2.2. Estimating the norm of $\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1$. We use the h -Fourier transform

$$\mathcal{F}_h u(\xi) = \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} u(x) e^{-\frac{i(\xi, x)}{h}} dx,$$

the inversion formula

$$u(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{F}_h u(\xi) e^{\frac{i(\xi, x)}{h}} d\xi,$$

and the Plancherel formula $\|u\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} = \|\mathcal{F}_h u\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)}$.

We introduce an open relatively compact set $\tilde{\Omega}_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, that contains $\overline{\Omega}_2$. Using the Fourier inversion formula, Theorem 2.1 implies, in a straightforward manner, the following

THEOREM 2.2. *In addition to the assumptions (H), we assume that (2.1) holds uniformly in n and $\xi_0 \in \tilde{\Omega}_2$ (with $\xi_n = p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0)$).*

Fix $\mathcal{K}, \epsilon > 0$ arbitrary. Then, for $n \leq \mathcal{K}|\log h|$,

$$\|\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \leq \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \sup_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi)|^{1/2} (1 + \mathcal{O}(hn^3 e^{\epsilon n})).$$

Since multiplicative constants do not play a role in the applications we have in mind, all these estimates are to be understood up to a constant.

Of course, since $\|\hat{P}_j\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \leq 1 + \mathcal{O}(h)$, we always have the trivial bound $\|\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \leq 1 + \mathcal{O}(h|\log h|)$. Since we are working in the limit $h \rightarrow 0$, our estimate can only have an interest if we have an upper bound of the form

$$(2.3) \quad \sup_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi)|^{1/2} \leq C e^{-\lambda n}, \quad \lambda > 0,$$

and if \mathcal{K} is large enough. Note that (2.3) is weaker than the condition (2.2).

We now state a refinement of Theorem 2.2. We consider the same family \hat{P}_i , satisfying assumptions (H). The multiplicative constants in our estimates have no importance, and in what follows we will omit them.

THEOREM 2.3. *Assume as above that (2.1) holds uniformly in n and $\xi_0 \in \tilde{\Omega}_2$.*

Let $r \leq d$, and assume that the coisotropic foliation by the leaves $\{\xi_{r+1} = c_{r+1}, \dots, \xi_d = c_d\}$ is invariant by each canonical transformation κ_n . In other words, the map p_n is of the form

$$p_n((\xi_1, \dots, \xi_r), (\xi_{r+1}, \dots, \xi_d)) = (m_n(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_d), \tilde{p}_n(\xi_{r+1}, \dots, \xi_d)),$$

where $m_n : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r$ and $\tilde{p}_n : \mathbb{R}^{d-r} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d-r}$.

Fix $\mathcal{K}, \epsilon > 0$ arbitrary. Then there exists $h_{\mathcal{K}} > 0$ such that, for any $n \leq \mathcal{K}|\log h|$, and for $h < h_{\mathcal{K}}$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{(r+\epsilon)/2}} \frac{\sup_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |(\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))|^{1/2}}{\inf_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |(\det \nabla \tilde{p}_n \circ \dots \circ \tilde{p}_1(\xi))|^{1/2}} (1 + \mathcal{O}(n^3 h e^{\epsilon n})). \end{aligned}$$

In addition, if we make the stronger assumption that $\|\nabla(p_{n+k} \circ p_{n+k-1} \circ \dots \circ p_{n+1})(\xi_n)\|$ is bounded above, uniformly in n, k and for $\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2$, the statement holds with $\epsilon = 0$.

Theorem 2.3 is an improvement of Theorem 2.2 in the case where we have

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \sup_{\xi \in \Omega_2} |(\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0))|^{1/2} \gg 1$$

but

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{r/2}} \frac{\sup_{\xi \in \Omega_2} |(\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))|^{1/2}}{\inf_{\xi \in \Omega_2} |(\det \nabla \tilde{p}_n \circ \dots \circ \tilde{p}_1(\xi))|^{1/2}} \ll 1.$$

As a trivial example, consider the case where each κ_n is the identity. Theorem 2.2 gives a non-optimal bound, whereas we can take $r = 0$ in Theorem 2.3, and recover the (almost) optimal bound $\|\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} \leq 1 + \mathcal{O}(h|\log h|^3)$. A less trivial example will be given in section 5.

3. Proof of Theorem 2.1. The ideas below are contained in [1, 3]; however, our notation here is quite different, and we recall (without giving all details) the main steps. In all this section, M is a fixed integer, and all the calculations are done modulo remainders of order h^M (with explicit control of the constants).

It is useful to keep in mind the following : if $(x', \xi') = \kappa_n \circ \dots \circ \kappa_2 \circ \kappa_1(x, \xi)$, we have $\xi' = p_n \circ \dots \circ p_2 \circ p_1(\xi)$, and $x = \nabla(p_n \circ \dots \circ p_2 \circ p_1)^\top x' + \nabla A_n(\xi)$.

3.1. One step of the iteration. Let us first fix $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d$, and look at the action of the operator \hat{P}_n on a function of the form

$$b_\xi(x) = e^{\frac{i(\xi, x)}{h}} b(x)$$

where

$$b(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k(x),$$

and where the functions b_k are of class \mathcal{C}^∞ . Applying \hat{P}_n to b_ξ will automatically restrict x to a compact subset of \mathbb{R}^d .

We introduce the following notation :

$$(T_n^\xi a)(x') = a_0^{(n)}(x, x', \xi) a(x)$$

where x is the point such that $(x', p_n(\xi)) = \kappa_n(x, \xi)$ (in other words, $x = \nabla p_n(\xi)^\top x' + \nabla \alpha_n(\xi)$). In the case $a_0^{(n)} \equiv 1$, we note that the operator $U_n^\xi : a \mapsto (\det \nabla p_n(\xi))^{1/2} T_n^\xi a$ is unitary on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. If we assume (as above) that $|a_0^{(n)}(x, x', \xi)| \leq 1$, U_n^ξ defines a bounded operator on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, of norm ≤ 1 .

A standard application of the stationary phase method yields :

PROPOSITION 3.1.

$$\hat{P}_n b_\xi(x') = e^{i \frac{\alpha_n(\xi) + (p_n(\xi), x')}{h}} (\det \nabla p_n(\xi))^{1/2} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b'_k(x') \right] + h^M R_M(x'),$$

where :

- $b'_0(x') = (T_n^\xi b_0)(x')$;
- $b'_k(x') = \sum_{0 \leq l \leq k-1} D_n^{2(k-l)} b_l(x') + (T_n^\xi b_k)(x')$, where the operator $D_n^{2(k-l)}$ is a differential operator of order $2(k-l)$ (whose expression also depends on ξ , although it does not appear in our notation). Its coefficients can be expressed in terms of the derivatives of order $\leq 2(k-l)$ of $a_l^{(n)}$, and of order $\leq 2(k-l)+3$ of p_n, p_n^{-1} and α_n , at the point (x, x', ξ) , where $(x', p_n(\xi)) = \kappa_n(x, \xi)$.
- There exists an integer N_d (depending only on the dimension d), and a positive real number C such that

$$\|R_M\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} \|b_k\|_{\mathcal{C}^{2(M-k)+N_d}}.$$

The constant C can be expressed in terms of a fixed finite number of derivatives of the functions $a_l^{(n)}$ ($l \leq M-1$), p_n, p_n^{-1} and α_n at the point (x, x', ξ) . Under our assumptions (H1) to (H3), C is uniformly bounded for all n . Also note that, under (H4), the functions b'_k are always supported inside the relatively compact set Ω_1 .

3.2. After many iterations. We now describe the action of the product $\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1$ on $e_{\xi_0, h}$. We will give an approximate expression of $\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1 e_{\xi_0, h}(x)$, in the form

$$e^{i \frac{A_n(\xi_0)}{h}} e_{\xi_n, h}(x) (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0))^{1/2} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x) \right],$$

as announced in the theorem. This expression will approximate $\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1 e_{\xi_0, h}$ up to an error of order $h^{M(1-\tilde{\epsilon})}$ for any $\tilde{\epsilon} > 0$. The function $b_k^{(n)}(x)$ depends, of course, on ξ_0 , and in the final statement of the theorem we indicated this dependence by writing $b_k^{(n)}(x, \xi_n)$ (with $\xi_n = p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0)$).

The method consists in iterating the method described in Section 3.1, controlling carefully how the remainders grow with n in the L^2 -norm. We recall that $\|\hat{P}_n\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq 1 + \mathcal{O}(h)$, uniformly in n .

Suppose that, after n iterations, we have proved that

$$\begin{aligned} & \hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1 e_{\xi_0, h}(x) \\ &= e^{i \frac{A_n(\xi_0)}{h}} e_{\xi_n, h}(x) (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0))^{1/2} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x) \right] + h^M \mathcal{R}_M^{(n)}(x). \end{aligned}$$

We then find a similar expression $\hat{P}_{n+1} \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1 e_{\xi_0, h}$, with an explicit expression of the family $(b_k^{(n+1)})_{k=0}^{M-1}$ in terms of $(b_k^{(n)})_{k=0}^{M-1}$, and a bound on the L^2 -norm of $\mathcal{R}_M^{(n+1)}$ in terms of $(b_k^{(n)})_{k=0}^{M-1}$ and the L^2 -norm of $\mathcal{R}_M^{(n)}$.

The calculations done in Section 3.1 allows to describe the action of \hat{P}_{n+1} on $e_{\xi_n, h} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)} \right]$:

$$\begin{aligned} (3.1) \quad & \hat{P}_{n+1} e_{\xi_n, h} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)} \right] (x) \\ &= e^{i \frac{\alpha_{n+1}(\xi_n) + \langle p_{n+1}(\xi_n), x \rangle}{h}} (\det \nabla p_{n+1}(\xi_n))^{1/2} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n+1)}(x) \right] + h^M R_M^{(n+1)}(x). \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\prod_{\ell=1}^n (\det \nabla p_\ell(\xi_{\ell-1}))^{1/2} = (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0))^{1/2},$$

and

$$A_n(\xi_0) = \alpha_1(\xi_0) + \alpha_2(\xi_1) + \dots + \alpha_n(\xi_{n-1}),$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} & \hat{P}_{n+1} \hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1 e_{\xi_0, h}(x) \\ &= e^{i \frac{A_{n+1}(\xi_0)}{h}} e_{\xi_{n+1}, h}(x) (\det \nabla p_{n+1} \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0))^{1/2} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n+1)}(x) \right] + h^M \mathcal{R}_M^{(n+1)}(x), \end{aligned}$$

with the relation $\mathcal{R}_M^{(n+1)} = e^{i \frac{A_n(\xi_0)}{h}} (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0))^{1/2} R_M^{(n+1)} + \hat{P}_{n+1} \mathcal{R}_M^{(n)}$.

We need to control how each term in these expansions will grow with n , and in particular, to control the remainder terms. We form an array $B^{(n)}$ that contains all the functions $b_k^{(n)}$, and a certain number of higher order differentials:

$$B_{j,k}^{(n)} = d^j b_k^{(n)},$$

with $0 \leq k \leq M-1$ and $0 \leq j \leq 2(M-k) + N_d$. The index k indicates the power of h , and the index j indicates the number of differentials. Note that $d^j b_k^{(n)}$ is a (symmetric) covariant tensor field of order j on \mathbb{R}^d . If σ is a covariant tensor field of order j on \mathbb{R}^d , we define $\|\sigma\|_\infty = \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}^d} |\sigma_x|$, where $|\sigma_x|$ is the norm of the j -linear form σ_x . By assumption (H4), the forms $d^j b_k^{(n)}$ all vanish outside the compact set Ω_1 .

There is a linear relation between $B^{(n)}$ and $B^{(n+1)}$, that we now make a little more explicit. We extend the definition of the operators T_n^ξ (previously defined on

functions) to covariant tensor fields, by letting for all $v_1, \dots, v_j \in \mathbb{R}^d$ (if σ is of order j)

$$(T_n^\xi \sigma)_{x'}(v_1, \dots, v_j) = a_0^{(n)}(x, x', \xi) \sigma_x(\nabla p_n(\xi)^\top v_1, \dots, \nabla p_n(\xi)^\top v_j),$$

where $x = \nabla p_n(\xi)^\top x'$. Taking successive derivatives of the relation

$$b_k^{(n+1)} = \sum_{0 \leq l \leq k-1} D_{n+1}^{2(k-l)} b_l^{(n)} + T_{n+1}^\xi b_k^{(n)},$$

which appears in Proposition 3.1, we obtain a linear relation of the form :

$$B^{(n+1)} = K_{n+1} B^{(n)} + L_{n+1} B^{(n)} + T_{n+1}^\xi B^{(n)},$$

where T_{n+1}^ξ acts ‘‘diagonally’’, meaning that $[T_{n+1}^\xi B^{(n)}]_{j,k} = T_{n+1}^\xi (B_{j,k}^{(n)})$. The only information we need about the other terms is that $[K_{n+1} B^{(n)}]_{j,k}$ depends only on the components $B_{j',l}^{(n)}$, for $l \leq k-1$ and $j' \leq 2(k-l) + j$; and $[L_{n+1} B^{(n)}]_{j,k}$ depends only on the components $B_{j',k}^{(n)}$, with $j' \leq j-1$. Besides, we have

$$\max_{j,k} \|[K_{n+1} B^{(n)}]_{j,k}\|_\infty \leq C \max_{j,k} \|B_{j,k}^{(n)}\|_\infty,$$

where C does not depend on n by our assumptions (H1) and (H2) – and the same holds with K_{n+1} replaced by L_{n+1} .

By induction, we see that $B^{(n)}$ can be expressed as

$$(3.2) \quad B^{(n)} = \sum_{M_\ell \in \{T_\ell^\xi, K_\ell, L_\ell\}} M_n \circ M_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ M_1 B^{(0)}.$$

In a product of the form $M_n \circ M_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ M_1$ (where $M_\ell \in \{T_\ell^\xi, K_\ell, L_\ell\}$ for all $\ell = 1, \dots, n$), we see that there can be at most M indices ℓ for which $M_\ell = K_\ell$, and $2M + N_d$ indices k such that $M_\ell = L_\ell$ (otherwise the product $M_n \circ M_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ M_1$ vanishes). Even more precisely, when we write

$$(3.3) \quad B_{j,k}^{(n)} = \left[\sum_{M_\ell \in \{T_\ell^\xi, K_\ell, L_\ell\}} M_n \circ M_{n-1} \circ \dots \circ M_1 B^{(0)} \right]_{j,k},$$

in the right-hand side there can be at most k indices ℓ with $M_\ell = K_\ell$, and $2k + j$ indices ℓ with $M_\ell = L_\ell$. Hence, the sum has at most $2^{3k+j} \binom{n}{3k+j} \sim C(k, j) n^{3k+j}$ terms. Besides, the expression of $B_{j,k}^{(n)}$ involves the action of the operators T_ℓ^ξ on tensor fields of order at most $2k + j$.

We now use our assumption (2.1). We fix $\epsilon > 0$. In the sum (3.3), we use (2.1) to estimate the norm of a string $T_{\ell+m}^\xi T_{\ell+m-1}^\xi \dots T_\ell^\xi$, acting on tensor fields of order j : the norm $\|T_{\ell+m}^\xi T_{\ell+m-1}^\xi \dots T_\ell^\xi \sigma\|_\infty$ can be estimated by $\epsilon^{\epsilon m j} \|\sigma\|_\infty$. We obtain

$$\|B_{j,k}^{(n)}\|_\infty \leq C(k, j, \epsilon) n^{3k+j} e^{\epsilon n(j+2k)}$$

where the term $e^{\epsilon n(j+2k)}$ comes from our estimate of strings $T_{\ell+m}^\xi T_{\ell+m-1}^\xi \dots T_\ell^\xi$ on tensor fields of order $\leq 2k + j$, and the fact that the total length of these strings is at

most n . If we make the extra assumption that $\|\nabla(p_{n+k} \circ p_{n+k-1} \circ \dots \circ p_{n+1})(\xi_n)\|$ is bounded uniformly in n, k and for $\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2$, the statement holds with $\epsilon = 0$.

These estimates (combined with Proposition 3.1) imply that

$$\|R_M^{(n+1)}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C \sum_{k=0}^{M-1} \sum_{j=0}^{2(M-k)+N_d} \|B_{j,k}^{(n)}\|_\infty \leq C(M, \epsilon) n^{3M+N_d} e^{\epsilon n(2M+N_d)}.$$

Remember the induction relation

$$\mathcal{R}_M^{(n+1)} = e^{i\frac{A_n(\xi_0)}{h}} (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi_0))^{1/2} R_M^{(n+1)} + \hat{P}_{n+1} \mathcal{R}_M^{(n)}.$$

We have $\|\hat{P}_{n+1} \mathcal{R}_M^{(n)}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq (1 + \mathcal{O}(h)) \|\mathcal{R}_M^{(n)}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)}$. We thus have an inequality

$$\|\mathcal{R}_M^{(n+1)}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C(M, \epsilon) n^{3M+N_d} e^{\epsilon n(2M+N_d+1)} + (1 + \mathcal{O}(h)) \|\mathcal{R}_M^{(n)}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)}$$

with $\|\mathcal{R}_M^{(0)}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} = 0$. With $\mathcal{O}(h) \leq Ch$, this implies that

$$\|\mathcal{R}_M^{(n)}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq C(M, \epsilon) n^{3M+N_d} e^{\epsilon n(2M+N_d+1)} \frac{(1 + Ch)^n - 1}{Ch}.$$

Since we restrict our attention to $n \leq \mathcal{K}|\log h|$, and if we take M larger than N_d , the right-hand side is bounded by $h^{-\tilde{\epsilon}M}$, where $\tilde{\epsilon} = 5\mathcal{K}\epsilon$.

4. Proof of Theorems 2.2 and 2.3.

4.1. Theorem 2.2. The proof of Theorem 2.2 is now very easy. Let $u \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. We know that

$$u(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \mathcal{F}_h u(\xi) e^{\frac{i\langle \xi, x \rangle}{h}} d\xi.$$

Let $\tilde{\Omega}_2$ be an open set containing the closure of Ω_2 . We decompose $u = u_1 + u_2$, where

$$u_1(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \int_{\tilde{\Omega}_2} \mathcal{F}_h u(\xi) e^{\frac{i\langle \xi, x \rangle}{h}} d\xi$$

and

$$u_2(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d \setminus \tilde{\Omega}_2} \mathcal{F}_h u(\xi) e^{\frac{i\langle \xi, x \rangle}{h}} d\xi.$$

Since $\hat{P}_1^* \hat{P}_1$ is a pseudodifferential operator, which vanishes microlocally outside $\overline{\Omega_1} \times \tilde{\Omega}_2$, we have $\|\hat{P}_1 u_2\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} = \mathcal{O}(h^\infty) \|u_2\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)}$.

Concerning u_1 , we apply Theorem 2.1 for each $\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2$. We take $n = \mathcal{K}|\log h|$ and choose M accordingly, large enough so that

$$\mathcal{O}(h^{M(1-\tilde{\epsilon})}) \ll \sup_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi)|^{1/2}.$$

This is possible because our assumptions on the derivatives of p_n imply a lower bound $|\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi)| \geq e^{-\beta n}$ for some positive β .

From Theorem 2.1, we know that

$$\|\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1 e_{\xi, h}\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \leq |\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi)|^{1/2} (1 + \mathcal{O}(hn^3 e^{2\epsilon n}))$$

(for $\epsilon > 0$ arbitrary). By a direct application of the triangular inequality, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_2 \circ \hat{P}_1 u_1\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \sup_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi)|^{1/2} (1 + \mathcal{O}(hn^3 e^{2\epsilon n})) \|\mathcal{F}_h u\|_{L^1(\tilde{\Omega}_2)} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \sup_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi)|^{1/2} (1 + \mathcal{O}(hn^3 e^{2\epsilon n})) |\tilde{\Omega}_2|^{1/2} \|\mathcal{F}_h u\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} \end{aligned}$$

and our result follows.

4.2. Theorem 2.3.

4.2.1. The Cotlar-Stein lemma.

LEMMA 4.1. *Let E, F be two Hilbert spaces. Let $(A_\alpha) \in \mathcal{L}(E, F)$ be a countable family of bounded linear operators from E to F . Assume that for some $R > 0$ we have*

$$\sup_\alpha \sum_\beta \|A_\alpha^* A_\beta\|^{1/2} \leq R$$

and

$$\sup_\alpha \sum_\beta \|A_\alpha A_\beta^*\|^{1/2} \leq R.$$

Then $A = \sum_\alpha A_\alpha$ converges strongly and A is a bounded operator with $\|A\| \leq R$.

The Cotlar-Stein lemma is often used to bound in a precise manner the norm of pseudodifferential operators (see, for example, [13]).

4.2.2. Remember that we assume everywhere that $n = \mathcal{K} |\log h|$, with \mathcal{K} fixed. In order to bound the norm of $\hat{P}_n \circ \dots \circ \hat{P}_1$ (modulo h^N for arbitrary N), the results of the previous sections show that it is enough to bound the norm of the operator A defined by

$$\begin{aligned} (4.1) \quad Af(x') &= \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^d} \int_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2, x \in \mathbb{R}^d} (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))^{1/2} \\ & \quad \times \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi_n) \right] e^{\frac{i}{h}(\langle \xi_n, x' \rangle + A_n(\xi) - \langle \xi, x \rangle)} f(x) dx d\xi \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \int_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2, x \in \mathbb{R}^d} (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))^{1/2} \\ & \quad \times \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi_n) \right] e^{\frac{i}{h}(\langle \xi_n, x' \rangle + A_n(\xi))} \mathcal{F}_h f(\xi) d\xi \end{aligned}$$

for a suitable choice of M , large. We denote everywhere $\xi_n = p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi)$.

We decompose $\mathbb{R}^d = \mathbb{R}^r \times \mathbb{R}^{d-r}$, and write any $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^d$ as $\xi = (\xi_{(r)}, \tilde{\xi})$ where $\xi_{(r)} \in \mathbb{R}^r$ and $\tilde{\xi} \in \mathbb{R}^{d-r}$. Under our current assumptions, ξ_n decomposes as $\xi_n = (\xi_{n(r)}, \tilde{\xi}_n)$, where $\tilde{\xi}_n = \tilde{p}_n \circ \dots \circ \tilde{p}_1(\tilde{\xi})$.

To apply the Cotlar-Stein lemma, we partition the operator A into thin tubes according to the variable $\tilde{\xi}_n$; we get a decomposition $A = \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^{d-r}} A_\ell$, where A_ℓ and

A_m are microsupported in disjoint tubes if $\|m - \ell\|$ is large. As a result, we show that $\|A_m^* A_\ell\|$ and $\|A_\ell A_m^*\|$ are small when $\|m - \ell\|$ is large, and it follows that the norm of A is of the same order as the norms of the individual A_ℓ .

We introduce a (real-valued) smooth compactly supported χ on \mathbb{R}^{d-r} , such that $0 \leq \chi \leq 1$, and having the property that

$$\sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^{d-r}} \chi(\tilde{\xi} - \ell) = 1$$

for all $\tilde{\xi} \in \mathbb{R}^{d-r}$. For $h > 0$, $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^{d-r}$ and $\tilde{\xi} \in \mathbb{R}^{d-r}$, we denote $\chi_{h,\ell}(\tilde{\xi}) = \chi\left(\frac{\tilde{\xi}}{2\pi h} - \ell\right)$. Using the same notation as in (4.1), we define

$$\begin{aligned} (4.2) \quad A_\ell f(x') &= \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^d} \int (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))^{1/2} \\ &\times \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi_n) \right] \chi_{h,\ell}(\tilde{\xi}_n) e^{\frac{i}{h}(\langle \xi_n, x' \rangle + A_n(\xi) - \langle \xi, x \rangle)} f(x) dx d\xi \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \int_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))^{1/2} \\ &\times \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi_n) \right] \chi_{h,\ell}(\tilde{\xi}_n) e^{\frac{i}{h}(\langle \xi_n, x' \rangle + A_n(\xi))} \mathcal{F}_h f(\xi) d\xi. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that $A = \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^{d-r}} A_\ell$. A crucial remark is that the function $\xi \mapsto \chi_{h,\ell}(\tilde{\xi}_n)$, defined on Ω_2 , is supported in a set of volume $\leq (2\pi h)^{d-r} \frac{1}{\inf_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |(\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))|}$.

We are going to apply the Cotlar-Stein lemma to this decomposition. Let us write explicitly the expression for the adjoint :

$$\begin{aligned} (4.3) \quad A_\ell^* f(x) &= \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^d} \int (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))^{1/2} \\ &\times \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k \overline{b_k^{(n)}}(x', \xi_n) \right] \chi_{h,\ell}(\tilde{\xi}_n) e^{-\frac{i}{h}(\langle \xi_n, x' \rangle + A_n(\xi) - \langle \xi, x \rangle)} f(x') dx' d\xi. \end{aligned}$$

We shall evaluate the norm of $A_m^* A_\ell$ and $A_\ell A_m^*$, for all $m, \ell \in \mathbb{Z}^{d-r}$.

4.2.3. Norm of $A_m^* A_\ell$. We evaluate the norm of $A_m^* A_\ell$ acting on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ by studying the scalar product $\langle A_\ell f, A_m f \rangle$ for $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Using expression (4.2) and bilinearity of the scalar product, we will bound the scalar product $\langle A_\ell f, A_m f \rangle$ by studying separately each bracket

$$(4.4) \quad \chi_{h,\ell}(\tilde{\xi}_n) \chi_{h,m}(\tilde{\xi}'_n) \left\langle \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi_n) \right] e^{\frac{i}{h} \langle \xi_n, x' \rangle}, \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi'_n) \right] e^{\frac{i}{h} \langle \xi'_n, x' \rangle} \right\rangle_{L^2_{x'}}.$$

Using the notation of §4.2.2, we decompose the complex phase $\langle \xi_n, x' \rangle - \langle \xi'_n, x' \rangle$ into $\langle \xi_{n(r)}, x'_{(r)} \rangle - \langle \xi'_{n(r)}, x'_{(r)} \rangle + \langle \tilde{\xi}_n, \tilde{x}' \rangle - \langle \tilde{\xi}'_n, \tilde{x}' \rangle$. In the integral defining the scalar product (4.4), we perform an integration by parts with respect to $\tilde{x}' \in \mathbb{R}^{d-r}$: we integrate N times the function $e^{\frac{i}{h}(\langle \xi_n, \tilde{x}' \rangle - \langle \xi'_n, \tilde{x}' \rangle)}$ and differentiate the functions $b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi_n)$. Using the estimates of Theorem 2.1, we obtain

PROPOSITION 4.2.

(4.5)

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_{h,\ell}(\tilde{\xi}_n)\chi_{h,m}(\tilde{\xi}'_n) & \left| \left\langle \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi_n) \right] e^{\frac{i}{h}\langle \xi_n, x' \rangle}, \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi'_n) \right] e^{\frac{i}{h}\langle \xi'_n, x' \rangle} \right\rangle \right| \\ & \leq C(\epsilon)n^N e^{\epsilon Nn} \frac{1}{(\|m - \ell\| + 1)^N} \end{aligned}$$

for $\epsilon > 0$ arbitrary.

The integer N will be chosen soon, and only depends on the dimension d .

REMARK 4.3. The factor $e^{\epsilon Nn}$ comes from the estimate of the derivatives of order N with respect to x' of the functions $b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi_n)$, given in Theorem 2.1. If we make the assumption that $\|\nabla(p_{n+k} \circ p_{n+k-1} \circ \dots \circ p_{n+1})(\xi_n)\|$ is bounded above, the statement holds with $\epsilon = 0$.

We now use the bilinearity of the scalar product, and the fact that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\chi_{h,\ell}(\tilde{\xi}_n)\mathcal{F}_h f(\xi)\|_{L^1(\tilde{\Omega}_2)} & \leq (2\pi h)^{(d-r)/2} \frac{1}{\inf_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |(\det \nabla \tilde{p}_n \circ \dots \circ \tilde{p}_1(\xi))|^{1/2}} \|\mathcal{F}_h f(\xi)\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)}. \end{aligned}$$

Combined with expression (4.2), this yields that

$$(4.6) \quad \|A_m^* A_\ell\| \leq C(\epsilon)e^{\epsilon Nn} \frac{1}{(\|m - \ell\| + 1)^N} \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^r} \frac{\sup_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |(\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))|}{\inf_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |(\det \nabla \tilde{p}_n \circ \dots \circ \tilde{p}_1(\xi))|}.$$

Looking at the statement of the Cotlar-Stein lemma, we see that we must choose N large enough such that $\sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^{d-r}} \frac{1}{(\|\ell\| + 1)^{N/2}} < +\infty$.

4.2.4. Norm of $A_\ell A_m^*$. This step is actually shorter than the previous one. We now have to evaluate the scalar product $\langle A_\ell^* f, A_m^* f \rangle$ for $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, and we use the expression (4.3) of the adjoint. We do not need integration by parts, as we see directly that $\langle A_\ell^* f, A_m^* f \rangle$ vanishes as soon as $\|m - \ell\|$ is too large (in fact, the supports of $\chi_{h,\ell}$ and $\chi_{h,m}$ are disjoint if $\|m - \ell\| > C$, where C is fixed and depends only on the support of χ). In what follows we consider the case $\|m - \ell\| \leq C$. We see that $A_\ell^* f$ is the \mathcal{F}_h -transform of

$$\begin{aligned} F_\ell : \xi \mapsto & \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \int (\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))^{1/2} \\ & \times \left[\sum_{k=0}^{M-1} h^k \overline{b_k^{(n)}}(x', \xi_n) \right] \chi_{h,\ell}(\tilde{\xi}_n) e^{-\frac{i}{h}(\langle \xi_n, x' \rangle + A_n(\xi))} f(x') dx'. \end{aligned}$$

We recall that each $b_k^{(n)}(x', \xi_n)$ is supported in $\{x' \in \Omega_1\}$, and we bound

$$\begin{aligned} \|F_\ell\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)} & \leq \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} \sup_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |(\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))|^{1/2} (2\pi h)^{(d-r)/2} \\ & \quad \times \frac{1}{\inf_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |(\det \nabla \tilde{p}_n \circ \dots \circ \tilde{p}_1(\xi))|^{1/2}} \|f\|_{L^1(\Omega_1)}, \end{aligned}$$

and $\|f\|_{L^1(\Omega_1)} \leq |\Omega_1|^{1/2} \|f\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)}$. We obtain the bound

$$(4.7) \quad \|A_\ell A_m^*\| \leq \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^r} \frac{\sup_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |(\det \nabla p_n \circ \dots \circ p_1(\xi))|}{\inf_{\xi \in \tilde{\Omega}_2} |(\det \nabla \tilde{p}_n \circ \dots \circ \tilde{p}_1(\xi))|},$$

and $\|A_\ell A_m^*\| = 0$ if $\|\ell - m\| > C$. Estimates (4.6) and (4.7), combined with the Cotlar-Stein lemma, yield Theorem 2.3. The last statement of the theorem comes from Remark 4.3.

5. Examples. We now give an application of Theorems 2.2 and 2.3. These results are needed in [6] and [5].

Let \mathbf{Y} be a d -dimensional C^∞ manifold. The cotangent bundle $T^*\mathbf{Y}$ is endowed with its canonical symplectic form, denoted by ω . Let $H : T^*\mathbf{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a smooth function (hamiltonian), and let $\Phi_H^t : T^*\mathbf{Y} \rightarrow T^*\mathbf{Y}$ be the corresponding hamiltonian flow (we assume for simplicity that (Φ_H^t) is complete).

We assume that we have a smooth foliation \mathcal{F} of $T^*\mathbf{Y}$ by lagrangian leaves (in the sequel we shall simply speak about a ‘‘lagrangian foliation’’), such that \mathcal{F} is Φ_H^t -invariant : $\Phi_H^t(\mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{F}$ for all t . Let $O \subset T^*\mathbf{Y}$ be an open, relatively compact subset of $T^*\mathbf{Y}$; we assume that we have a finite open covering of O , $O \subset O_1 \cup O_2 \cup \dots \cup O_K$, and for all $k = 1, \dots, K$, a smooth symplectic coordinate chart $\Psi_k : (O_k, \omega) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^{2d}, \omega_o)$ which maps O_k to a ball in \mathbb{R}^{2d} , and the foliation $\mathcal{F}|_{O_k}$ to the horizontal foliation of that ball.

We now describe the operators \hat{P}_k to which we shall apply the main results. Let \hat{H} be a self-adjoint h -pseudodifferential operator with principal symbol H . We fix a family $\hat{\chi}_1, \dots, \hat{\chi}_K$ of h -pseudodifferential operators, microsupported inside O_k . We also assume that its principal symbol χ_k (which is a smooth function on $T^*\mathbf{Y}$) satisfies $\|\chi_k\|_{C^0} \leq 1$. Fix, finally, a time step $\tau > 0$ and a sequence $(\alpha_0, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{n-1}) \in \{1, \dots, K\}^n$. We shall use Theorems 2.2 and 2.3 to estimate the norm of the product $\prod_{k=0}^{n-1} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_{k+1}} e^{-\frac{i\tau \hat{H}}{h}} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_k}$. The operator \hat{P}_k will be $\hat{\chi}_{\alpha_{k+1}} e^{-\frac{i\tau \hat{H}}{h}} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_k}$, read in an adapted coordinate system.

We fix a collection of Fourier integral operators $U_k : L^2(\mathbf{Y}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, quantizing the canonical transformation Ψ_k ($k = 0, \dots, n-1$), and such that the pseudodifferential operator $U_k^* U_k$ satisfies $U_k^* U_k \hat{\chi}_k = \hat{\chi}_k + \mathcal{O}(h^\infty)$ and $\hat{\chi}_k = \hat{\chi}_k U_k^* U_k + \mathcal{O}(h^\infty)$ (where the \mathcal{O} is to be understood in the $L^2(\mathbf{Y})$ -operator norm). We take $\hat{P}_k = U_{\alpha_{k+1}} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_{k+1}} e^{-\frac{i\tau \hat{H}}{h}} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_k} U_{\alpha_k}^*$. It is a Fourier integral operator $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$, associated with the canonical transformation $\kappa_k = \Psi_{\alpha_{k+1}} \Phi_H^\tau \Psi_{\alpha_k}^{-1}$, which by construction preserves the horizontal foliation. These operators satisfy all assumptions (H), hence we can apply to them Theorems 2.2 and 2.3. Actually, we may allow the collection of coordinate charts $(\Psi_{\alpha_0}, \dots, \Psi_{\alpha_{n-1}})$ to depend on the whole sequence $(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})$, the important requirement being that the derivatives of Ψ_{α_k} and $\Psi_{\alpha_k}^{-1}$ be bounded, independently of n , $(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})$, and k .

We give a particular example of application, used in [6] and [5]. We refer to [6], and more generally to the book [15], for details about semisimple Lie groups and locally symmetric space of non-positive curvature. Let G denote a non-compact connected simple Lie group with finite center. Let $K < G$ be a maximal compact subgroup, and $\mathbf{S} = G/K$ be the associated symmetric space. For a lattice $\Gamma < G$ we write $\mathbf{X} = \Gamma \backslash G$ and $\mathbf{Y} = \Gamma \backslash G/K$, the latter being a locally symmetric space of non-positive curvature.

On $T^*\mathbf{S}$, consider the algebra \mathcal{H} of smooth G -invariant hamiltonians, that are polynomial in the fibers of the projection $T^*\mathbf{S} \rightarrow \mathbf{S}$. The structure theory of semisim-

ple Lie algebras shows that \mathcal{H} is isomorphic to a polynomial ring in r generators (where r is the real rank of G). Moreover, the elements of \mathcal{H} commute under the Poisson bracket. Thus, we have on $T^*\mathbf{S}$ a family of r independent commuting Hamiltonians H_1, \dots, H_r . Since the corresponding hamiltonian flows are G -equivariant, they descend to the quotient $T^*\mathbf{Y}$.

We apply the discussion above to a Hamiltonian $H \in \mathcal{H}$. The local dynamical properties of the flow (Φ_H^t) , and in particular the invariant foliations, are best understood using the group-theoretical language.

We denote \mathfrak{g} the Lie algebra of G , \mathfrak{k} the Lie algebra of K , and \mathfrak{a} a maximal abelian subalgebra of \mathfrak{g} , orthogonal to \mathfrak{k} for the Killing form. The dimension of \mathfrak{a} is the real rank r . For α in the dual \mathfrak{a}^* , let $\mathfrak{g}_\alpha = \{X \in \mathfrak{g}, \forall H \in \mathfrak{a} : ad(H)X = \alpha(H)X\}$, and let $\Delta = \{\alpha \in \mathfrak{a}^* \setminus \{0\}, \mathfrak{g}_\alpha \neq \{0\}\}$ be the set of roots of \mathfrak{g} with respect to \mathfrak{a} . For $\alpha \in \Delta$, we denote by m_α the dimension of \mathfrak{g}_α . We have $\mathfrak{g}_0 = \mathfrak{a} \oplus \mathfrak{m}$ where $\mathfrak{m} = Z_{\mathfrak{k}}(\mathfrak{a})$, the centralizer of \mathfrak{a} in \mathfrak{k} . In Δ , one can define a notion of positivity, and we will denote by Δ^+ the set of positive roots, by $\Delta^- = -\Delta^+$ the set of negative roots. Writing $\mathfrak{n} = \bigoplus_{\alpha > 0} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha$ and $\bar{\mathfrak{n}} = \bigoplus_{\alpha < 0} \mathfrak{g}_\alpha$, we have $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{n} \oplus \mathfrak{a} \oplus \mathfrak{m} \oplus \bar{\mathfrak{n}}$. Finally, let $N, A < G$ be the connected subgroups corresponding to the subalgebras $\mathfrak{n}, \mathfrak{a} \subset \mathfrak{g}$ respectively, and let $M = Z_K(\mathfrak{a})$.

We consider an open set $O \subset T^*\mathbf{Y}$ such that the differentials (dH_1, \dots, dH_r) are everywhere independent on O . It is known that any common energy layer $\{H_1 = E_1, \dots, H_r = E_r\} \subset T^*\mathbf{Y}$, where the differentials dH_i are independent, may naturally be identified (in a G -equivariant way) with G/M [14]. We thus have an equivariant map $O \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r \times G/M$ which is a diffeomorphism onto its image. In all that follows, we identify O with an open subset of $\mathbb{R}^r \times G/M$. Under this identification, the action of Φ_H^t is transported to

$$(E_1, \dots, E_r, \rho M) \mapsto (E_1, \dots, E_r, \rho e^{ta_{E_1, \dots, E_r}} M),$$

where $a_{E_1, \dots, E_r} \in \mathfrak{a}$ depends smoothly on E_1, \dots, E_r , and linearly on H – see [14, 6] for detailed explanations. The foliation \mathcal{F} can be described as follows : the leaf of $(E_1, \dots, E_r, \rho M) \in \mathbb{R}^r \times G/M$ is $(E_1, \dots, E_r) \times \{\rho a \bar{n} M, a \in A, \bar{n} \in \bar{N}\}$.

We assume that each O_k is small enough so that, for any given $(E_1, \dots, E_r, \rho M) \in O_k$, the map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{R}^r \times \mathfrak{n} \times \mathfrak{a} \times \bar{\mathfrak{n}} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^r \times G/M \\ (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r, X, Y, Z) &\mapsto (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r, \rho e^X e^Y e^Z M) \end{aligned}$$

is a local diffeomorphism from a neighbourhood of $(E_1, \dots, E_r, 0, 0, 0)$ onto O_k . In such coordinates, the leaves of the foliation \mathcal{F} are then given by the equations $(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r, X) = cst$.

Let $(\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})$ be such that $O_{\alpha_0} \cap \Phi_H^{-\tau}(O_{\alpha_1}) \cap \dots \cap \Phi_H^{-(n-1)\tau}(O_{\alpha_{n-1}}) \neq \emptyset$. We can then take $\rho = \rho_{\alpha_k}$ and (E_1, \dots, E_r) such that $(E_1, \dots, E_r, \rho_{\alpha_k} M) \in O_{\alpha_k}$ and $(E_1, \dots, E_r, \rho_{\alpha_{k+1}} M) = \Phi_H^\tau(E_1, \dots, E_r, \rho_{\alpha_k} M)$. As explained in the previous paragraph, fixing ρ_{α_k} allows to identify O_{α_k} with a subset of $\mathbb{R}^r \times \mathfrak{n} \times \mathfrak{a} \times \bar{\mathfrak{n}}$; and we denote $(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r, X, Y, Z)$ these coordinates.

Denote by d the dimension of \mathbf{S} (note that $d = r + \dim \mathfrak{n} = r + \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} m_\alpha$). By the Darboux-Lie theorem [21], we can find some coordinate system $\Psi_k = (x_1^k, \dots, x_d^k, \xi_1^k, \dots, \xi_d^k) : O_{\alpha_k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2d}$ mapping ω to ω_α , and such that $(\xi_1^k, \dots, \xi_d^k) = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r, X)$. The canonical transformations $\kappa_k = \Psi_{k+1} \Phi_H^\tau \Psi_k^{-1}$ preserve the horizontal foliation of \mathbb{R}^{2d} , hence they are of the form $\kappa_k : (x, \xi) \mapsto (x', \xi' = p_k(\xi))$.

It turns out, in this particular case, that the maps p_k are all the same, and of the particular form

$$p_k(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r, X) = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r, Ad(e^{-\tau a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r}}).X),$$

where $a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r} \in \mathfrak{a}$ depends smoothly on $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r$. The linear maps $Ad(e^{-\tau a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r}})$ acting on \mathfrak{n} are all simultaneously diagonalizable, the eigenspaces being the root spaces \mathfrak{g}_α , with eigenvalue $e^{-\tau \alpha(a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r})}$. We are thus in a case of application of Theorem 2.3 provided that condition (2.1) is satisfied; in our case this holds if and only if $\alpha(a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r}) \geq 0$ for all $\alpha \in \Delta^+$, since each p_k is a linear map. This means that we want the leaves of \mathcal{F} to be expanded under the action of κ_k . If we fix $J \subset \Delta^+$ arbitrarily, the map κ_k preserves the coisotropic foliation by the leaves $(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r, X_J) = cst$ (where any $X \in \mathfrak{n}$ is decomposed into $X = \sum_{\alpha \in \Delta^+} X_\alpha$, $X_\alpha \in \mathfrak{g}_\alpha$, and X_J is defined by $X_J = \sum_{\alpha \in J} X_\alpha$).

COROLLARY 5.1. *Assume that H and O are such that $\alpha(a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r}) \geq 0$ for all $(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r, \rho M) \in O$ and all $\alpha \in \Delta^+$. Fix a subset $J \subset \Delta^+$ of the sets of roots.*

Fix $\mathcal{K} > 0$ arbitrary. Then, for any $n \leq \mathcal{K}|\log h|$, and for every sequence $(\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})$,

$$\left\| \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_{k+1}} e^{-\frac{i\tau h \hat{H}}{h}} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_k} \right\| \leq \sup_{(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r, \rho M) \in O} \prod_{\alpha \in \Delta^+ \setminus J} \left(\frac{e^{-n\tau \alpha(a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r})}}{2\pi h} \right)^{m_\alpha/2}$$

for $h > 0$ small enough.

In applications, one gets the best possible bound by choosing J such that

$$\frac{e^{-n\tau \alpha(a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r})}}{2\pi h} < 1$$

for all $\alpha \in \Delta^+ \setminus J$. If n is small, $J = \Delta^+$ is the best possible choice and one gets the trivial bound $\left\| \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_{k+1}} e^{-\frac{i\tau h \hat{H}}{h}} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_k} \right\| \leq 1$. Taking $J \neq \Delta^+$ starts to be interesting for $n = \mathcal{K}|\log h|$ with \mathcal{K} large enough.

REMARK 5.2. In the situation of [6], we actually do not have $\alpha(a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r}) \geq 0$, but $\alpha(a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r}) \geq -\delta$, where $\delta > 0$ can be made arbitrarily small by conveniently choosing the set O . Once \mathcal{K} is given, we can choose δ small enough (and O) so that the proof of Section 4.2 works for $n = \mathcal{K}|\log h|$.

In the special case $G = SO_o(d, 1)$, \mathbf{Y} is a hyperbolic manifold of dimension d . We have $r = 1$, and \mathcal{H} is generated by the laplacian Δ . We take $\hat{H} = -\frac{h^2 \Delta}{2}$, $J = \emptyset$, and assume that the pseudodifferential operators $\hat{\chi}_k$ are all microsupported in $\{(x, \xi) \in T^*\mathbf{Y}, \|\xi\| \in [1 - \eta, 1 + \eta]\}$ for some small $\eta > 0$. With the previous notation, this implies that $\alpha(a_{\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_r})$ is in $[1 - \eta, 1 + \eta]$. We thus obtain the estimate

$$\left\| \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_{k+1}} e^{-\frac{i\tau h \hat{H}}{h}} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_k} \right\| \leq \left(\frac{e^{-n\tau(1-\eta)}}{2\pi h} \right)^{\frac{d-1}{2}}.$$

If $n \leq \frac{|\log h|}{1-\eta}$, this bound is trivial and it is preferable to take $J = \Delta^+$ as we said above. But as soon as $n \geq \frac{|\log h|}{1-\eta}$, the bound is optimized by taking $J = \emptyset$.

We note that the result proved in [1, 3], which was only based on the idea of Theorem 2.2, was

$$\left\| \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_{k+1}} e^{-\frac{i\tau h \hat{H}}{h}} \hat{\chi}_{\alpha_k} \right\| \leq \frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}} e^{-n\tau \frac{(d-1)}{2}(1-\eta)}.$$

We see that Theorem 2.3 allows to improve the prefactor $\frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{d/2}}$ to $\frac{1}{(2\pi h)^{(d-1)/2}}$, as needed in [5].

REMARK 5.3. Versions of the hyperbolic dispersion estimate have also been proved for more general uniformly hyperbolic dynamical systems [1, 3, 17, 19], and even for certain non-uniformly hyperbolic systems [20]. We refer the reader to [16] for an expository paper. It is not clear to me whether the new presentation (and improvement) introduced here can be used for those systems. Indeed, there is in general no *smooth* lagrangian foliations preserved by the hamiltonian flow, and so one cannot hope that the symplectic changes of coordinates Ψ_k used above will have uniformly bounded derivatives. Control of high order derivatives is crucial when one applies the techniques of semiclassical analysis (method of stationary phase, integration by parts,...) It is a drawback of semiclassical analysis that it cannot deal with symplectic transformations of low regularity: I don't know if this obstacle can be overcome.

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