

**POINTWISE BOUNDS ON QUASIMODES OF SEMICLASSICAL SCHRÖDINGER OPERATORS IN DIMENSION TWO**

HART F. SMITH AND MACIEJ ZWORSKI

ABSTRACT. We prove sharp pointwise bounds on quasimodes of semiclassical Schrödinger operators with arbitrary smooth real potentials in dimension two. This end-point estimate was left open in the general study of semiclassical  $L^p$  bounds conducted by Koch et al. [2]. However, we show that the results of [2] imply the two-dimensional end-point estimate by scaling and localization.

**1. Introduction**

Let  $g_{ij}(x)$  be a positive-definite Riemannian metric on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with the corresponding Laplace–Beltrami operator,

$$\Delta_g u := \frac{1}{\sqrt{g}} \sum_{i,j} \partial_{x_j} (g^{ij} \sqrt{g} \partial_{x_i} u), \quad (g^{ij}) := (g_{ij})^{-1}, \quad \bar{g} := \det(g_{ij}),$$

and let  $V \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$  be real valued. We prove the following general bound, the analogue of which was already established (under an additional necessary condition) in higher dimensions in [2], but which was open in dimension two:

**Theorem 1.** *Suppose that  $h \leq 1$ , and  $u \in H^2_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ . Suppose that  $u$  satisfies*

$$(1.1) \quad \|-h^2 \Delta_g u + Vu\|_{L^2} \leq h, \quad \|u\|_{L^2} \leq 1.$$

*Then for all  $K \Subset \mathbb{R}^2$ ,*

$$(1.2) \quad \sup_{x \in K} |u(x)| \leq C_K h^{-\frac{1}{2}},$$

*where the constant  $C_K$  depends only on  $g$ ,  $V$ , and  $K$ .*

A function  $u$  satisfying (1.1) is sometimes called a weak quasimode. It is a local object in the sense that if  $u$  is a weak quasimode then  $\psi u$ ,  $\psi \in C^\infty_c(\mathbb{R}^2)$  is also one, so the theorem is easily reformulated with  $g$ ,  $V$ , and  $u$  defined on an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . The localization is also valid in phase space: for instance if  $\chi \in C^\infty_c(\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2)$  then  $\chi^w(x, hD)u$  is also a weak quasimode — see [1, Chapter 7] or [4, Chapter 4] for the review of the Weyl quantization  $\chi \mapsto \chi^w$ .

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If  $\liminf_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} V > 0$ , then  $-h^2\Delta + V$  (defined on  $C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$ ) is essentially self-adjoint and the spectrum of  $-h^2\Delta + V$  is discrete in a neighborhood of 0 — see for instance [1, Chapter 4]. In this case, weak quasimodes arise as *spectral clusters*:

$$(1.3) \quad u = \sum_{|E_j| \leq Ch} c_j w_j, \quad (-h^2\Delta + V)w_j = E_j w_j, \quad \langle w_j, w_k \rangle_{L^2} = \delta_{jk}, \quad \sum_j |c_j|^2 \leq 1.$$

Then  $u$  is a weak quasimode in the sense of (1.1). Since  $V(x) \geq c_0 > 0$  for  $|x| \geq R$ , Agmon estimates (see for instance [1, Chapter 6]) and Sobolev embedding show that  $|u(x)| \leq e^{-c_1/h}$ ,  $c_1 > 0$ , for  $|x| \geq R$ . Hence we get global bounds

$$|u(x)| \leq Ch^{-\frac{1}{2}}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

It should be stressed however that a weak quasimode is a more general notion than a spectral cluster.

The result also holds when  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is replaced by a two-dimensional manifold and, as in the example above, gives global bounds on spectral clusters (1.3) when the manifold is compact. If  $V < 0$  this is also a by-product of the Avakumovic–Levitan–Hörmander bound on the spectral function – see [3], and for a proof of a semiclassical generalization see [2, Section 3] or [4, Section 7.4].

In higher dimensions the theorem requires an additional phase space localization assumption and is a special case of [2, Theorem 6]: Suppose  $p(x, \xi)$  is a function on  $\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying  $\partial_x^\alpha \partial_\xi^\beta p(x, \xi) = \mathcal{O}(\langle \xi \rangle^m)$  for some  $m$ . Suppose that  $K \Subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\chi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n)$ , and that for  $(x, \xi) \in \text{supp } \chi$

$$p(x, \xi) = 0, \quad d_\xi p(x, \xi) = 0 \implies d_\xi^2 p(x, \xi) \text{ is non-degenerate.}$$

Then for  $u(h)$  such that

$$(1.4) \quad \text{supp } u(h) \subset K, \quad u(h) = \chi^w(x, hD)u + \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{S}}(h^\infty),$$

we have

$$(1.5) \quad \|u(h)\|_\infty \leq Ch^{-\frac{n-1}{2}} \left( \|u(h)\|_{L^2} + \frac{1}{h} \|p^w(x, hD)u\|_{L^2} \right), \quad n \geq 3.$$

When  $n = 2$  the bound holds with  $(\log(1/h)/h)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , which is optimal in general if  $d_\xi^2 p$  is not positive definite — see [2, Sections 3 and 6] and Section 3 below for examples.

A small bonus for Schrödinger operators in dimension two is the fact that the frequency localization condition in (1.4) required for (1.5) is not necessary — see (2.5) below. Furthermore, as noted already, in all dimensions the compact support condition on  $u$  is easily dropped when working with local estimates on  $u$ .

The proof of Theorem 1 is reduced to a local result presented in Proposition 3. That result follows in turn from a rescaling argument involving several cases, some of which use the following result that forms part of [2, Corollary 1].

**Theorem 2.** *Suppose that  $u = u(h)$  satisfies (1.1), and that (1.4) holds. If  $V(x) \neq 0$  for  $x \in \text{supp } u$ , or if  $g^{ij}$  is positive definite and  $dV(x) \neq 0$  for  $x \in \text{supp } u$ , then*

$$\|u\|_{L^\infty} = \mathcal{O}(h^{-\frac{n-1}{2}}), \quad n \geq 2.$$

This result is the basis for Propositions 4 and 5 used in our proof. The case of Theorem 2 with  $dV \neq 0$  is the most technically involved result in the paper [2]. We do not know of any simpler way to obtain the bound (1.2).

**2. Proof of Theorem 1**

By compactness of  $K$ , it suffices to prove uniform  $L^\infty$  bounds on  $u$  over a small ball about each point in  $K$ , where in our case the diameter of the ball can be taken to depend only on  $C^N$  estimates for  $g$  and  $V$  over a unit sized neighborhood of  $K$ , for some large  $N$ . Without loss of generality we consider a ball centered at the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Let

$$B = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x| < 1\}, \quad B^* = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x| < 2\}.$$

After a linear change of coordinates, we may assume that

$$(2.1) \quad g^{ij}(0) = \delta^{ij}.$$

Next, by replacing  $V(x)$  by  $cV(cx)$  and  $g^{ij}(x)$  by  $g^{ij}(cx)$ , for some constant  $c \leq 1$  depending on the  $C^2$  norm of  $g$  and  $V$  over a unit neighborhood of  $K$ , we may assume that

$$(2.2) \quad \sup_{x \in B^*} |V(x)| + |dV(x)| \leq 2, \quad \sup_{x \in B^*} |d^2V(x)| + \sum_{i,j=1}^2 |dg^{ij}(x)| \leq .01.$$

This has the effect of multiplying  $h$  by a constant in the equation (1.1), which can be absorbed into the constant  $C_K$  in (1.2).

In general, we let

$$(2.3) \quad C_N = \sup_{x \in B^*} \sup_{|\alpha| \leq N} \left( |\partial^\alpha V(x)| + \sum_{i,j=1}^2 |\partial^\alpha g^{ij}(x)| \right),$$

and will deduce Theorem 1 as a corollary of the following:

**Proposition 3.** *Suppose  $h \leq 1$ , that  $g, V$  satisfy (2.1) and (2.2), and that  $u$  satisfies*

$$(2.4) \quad \|-h^2 \Delta_g u + Vu\|_{L^2(B^*)} \leq h, \quad \|u\|_{L^2(B^*)} \leq 1.$$

Then

$$\|u\|_{L^\infty(B)} \leq C h^{-\frac{1}{2}},$$

where the constant  $C$  depends only on  $C_N$  in (2.3) for some fixed  $N$ .

We start the proof of Proposition 3 by recording the following two propositions, which are consequences of Theorem 2.

**Proposition 4.** *Suppose that both (2.1)–(2.2) hold, and that  $\frac{1}{2} \leq |V(x)| \leq 2$  for  $|x| \leq 2$ . If the following holds, and  $h \leq 1$ ,*

$$\| -h^2 \Delta_g u + Vu \|_{L^2(B^*)} \leq h, \quad \|u\|_{L^2(B^*)} \leq 1,$$

*then  $\|u\|_{L^\infty(B)} \leq Ch^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , where  $C$  depends only on  $C_N$  in (2.3) for some fixed  $N$ .*

**Proposition 5.** *Suppose that both (2.1)–(2.2) hold, and that  $V(0) = 0$  and  $|dV(0)| = 1$ . If the following holds, and  $h \leq 1$ ,*

$$\| -h^2 \Delta_g u + Vu \|_{L^2(B^*)} \leq h, \quad \|u\|_{L^2(B^*)} \leq 1,$$

*then  $\|u\|_{L^\infty(B)} \leq Ch^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , where  $C$  depends only on  $C_N$  in (2.3) for some fixed  $N$ .*

To see that these follow from Theorem 2, we first may assume that  $u$  is compactly supported in  $|x| < \frac{3}{2}$ . Indeed, the assumptions imply  $\|du\|_{L^2(|x| < 3/2)} \lesssim h^{-1}$ , so that one may cut off  $u$  by a smooth function which is supported in  $|x| < \frac{3}{2}$  and equals 1 for  $|x| < 1$  without affecting the hypotheses. We may then modify  $g$  and  $V$  outside  $B^*$  so that (2.2)–(2.3) are global bounds.

In Proposition 5 above, since  $|d^2V| \leq .01$ , we have  $.98 \leq |dV(x)| \leq 1.02$  for  $|x| \leq 2$ , so since  $g$  is positive definite the conditions on  $g$  and  $V$  in Theorem 2 are met. We remark that the conditions of Proposition 5 guarantee that the zero set of  $V$  is a nearly-flat curve through the origin, although this is not strictly needed to apply the results of [2]. That the resulting constant  $C$  depends only on  $C_N$  for some fixed finite  $N$  follows from the proofs in [2].

Finally, the condition in (1.4) that  $u - \chi^w(x, hD)u = \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{F}}(h^\infty)$  for some  $\chi \in C_c^\infty$  is not needed for Theorem 2 to hold for positive definite  $g^{ij}$  in dimension two. To see this, we note that if  $|V| < 2$  and  $|g^{ij}(x) - \delta_{ij}| \leq 0.02$  on the ball  $|x| < 2$ , then if  $u$  is supported in  $|x| < \frac{3}{2}$  and  $\varphi(\xi) = 1$  for  $|\xi| < 4$ , condition (1.1) implies that

$$\|(hD)^2(u - \varphi(hD)u)\|_{L^2} = \mathcal{O}(h).$$

This follows by the semiclassical pseudodifferential calculus (see [4, Theorem 4.29]), since for  $\varphi_0 \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}^2)$  with  $\text{supp } \varphi_0 \subset B^*$ ,  $\varphi_0(x)(1 - \varphi(\xi))|\xi|^2 / (|\xi|_g^2 + V(x)) \in S(\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2)$ .

Hence, writing  $\hat{u}(\xi)$  for the standard Fourier transform of  $u$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|u - \varphi(hD)u\|_{L^\infty} &\leq \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |1 - \varphi(h\xi)| |\hat{u}(\xi)| \, d\xi \\ &\leq C \int |h\xi|^2 |1 - \varphi(h\xi)| |\hat{u}(\xi)| (1 + |h\xi|^2)^{-1} \, d\xi \\ (2.5) \qquad &\leq C \|(hD)^2(u - \varphi(hD)u)\|_{L^2} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} (1 + |h\xi|^2)^{-2} \, d\xi \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq Chh^{-1} = C, \end{aligned}$$

an even better estimate than required. Hence, we are reduced to proving estimates on  $\varphi(hD)u$ , which by compact support of  $u$  satisfies (1.4).

We supplement Propositions 4 and 5 with the following two lemmas.

**Lemma 6.** *Suppose that (2.1)–(2.2) hold, and that  $|V(x)| \leq 99h$  for  $|x| \leq 2h^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . If the following holds, and  $h \leq 1$ ,*

$$\| -h^2 \Delta_{\mathbf{g}} u + Vu \|_{L^2(|x| < 2h^{1/2})} \leq h, \quad \|u\|_{L^2(|x| < 2h^{1/2})} \leq 1,$$

then  $\|u\|_{L^\infty(|x| < h^{1/2})} \leq Ch^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , where  $C$  depends only on  $C_N$  in (2.3) for some fixed  $N$ .

*Proof.* Consider the function  $\tilde{u}(x) = h^{\frac{1}{2}}u(h^{\frac{1}{2}}x)$ , and  $\tilde{g}^{ij}(x) = g^{ij}(h^{\frac{1}{2}}x)$ . Then, since  $\|Vu\|_{L^2(|x| < 2h^{1/2})} \leq 99h$ , we have

$$\|\Delta_{\tilde{\mathbf{g}}}\tilde{u}\|_{L^2(|x| < 2)} \leq 100, \quad \|\tilde{u}\|_{L^2(|x| < 2)} \leq 1.$$

Since the spatial dimension is 2, interior Sobolev estimates yield  $\|\tilde{u}\|_{L^\infty(|x| < 1)} \leq C$ , where we note that the conditions (2.1) and (2.2) hold for  $\tilde{\mathbf{g}}$  since  $h^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq 1$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 7.** *Suppose that both (2.1)–(2.2) hold, and that  $\frac{1}{2}c \leq |V(x)| \leq 2c$  for  $|x| \leq 2c^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . If the following holds, and  $h \leq c \leq 1$ ,*

$$\| -h^2 \Delta_{\mathbf{g}} u + Vu \|_{L^2(|x| < 2c^{1/2})} \leq h, \quad \|u\|_{L^2(|x| < 2c^{1/2})} \leq 1,$$

then  $\|u\|_{L^\infty(|x| < c^{1/2})} \leq Ch^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , where  $C$  depends only  $C_N$  in (2.3) for some fixed  $N$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\tilde{u}(x) = c^{\frac{1}{2}}u(c^{\frac{1}{2}}x)$ ,  $\tilde{g}^{ij}(x) = g^{ij}(c^{\frac{1}{2}}x)$ , and  $\tilde{V}(x) = c^{-1}V(c^{\frac{1}{2}}x)$ . Note that the assumptions on  $V(x)$  in the statement and in (2.2) imply that  $|dV(x)| \leq c^{\frac{1}{2}}$  for  $|x| < 2c^{1/2}$ , so that  $\tilde{V}$  satisfies (2.2), and the constants  $C_N$  in (2.3) can only decrease for  $c \leq 1$ . Then with  $\tilde{h} = c^{-1}h \leq 1$ ,

$$\| -\tilde{h}^2 \Delta_{\tilde{\mathbf{g}}}\tilde{u} + \tilde{V}\tilde{u} \|_{L^2(|x| < 2)} \leq \tilde{h}, \quad \|\tilde{u}\|_{L^2(|x| < 2)} \leq 1.$$

By Proposition 4, we have  $\|\tilde{u}\|_{L^\infty(|x| < 1)} \leq C\tilde{h}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , giving the desired result.  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 3.* It suffices to prove that for each  $|x_0| < 1$  there is some  $\frac{1}{2} \geq r > 0$ , so that  $\|u\|_{L^\infty(|x-x_0| < r)} \leq Ch^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , with a global constant  $C$ . Without loss of generality we take  $x_0 = 0$ .

We will split consideration up into four cases, depending on the relative size of  $|V(0)|$  and  $|dV(0)|$ . Since for  $h$  bounded away from 0 the result follows by elliptic estimates, we will assume  $h \leq \frac{1}{4}$  so that  $h^{\frac{1}{2}}$  below is at most  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

*Case 1:*  $|V(0)| \leq h$ ,  $|dV(0)| \leq 8h^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Since  $|d^2V(x)| \leq 0.01$ , then Lemma 6 applies to give the result with  $r = h^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

*Case 2:*  $|V(0)| \leq h$ ,  $|dV(0)| \geq 8h^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Since we may add a constant of size  $h$  to  $V$  without affecting (2.4), we may assume  $V(0) = 0$ . By rotating we may then assume

$$V(x) = \beta x_1 + f_{ij}(x)x_i x_j,$$

where  $\beta = |dV(0)| \geq 8h^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Dividing  $V$  by 4 if necessary we may assume  $\beta \leq \frac{1}{2}$ . Let  $\tilde{u} = \beta u(\beta x)$ ,  $\tilde{g}^{ij}(x) = g^{ij}(\beta x)$ , and

$$\tilde{V}(x) = \beta^{-2}V(\beta x) = x_1 + f_{ij}(\beta x)x_i x_j.$$

With  $\tilde{h} = \beta^{-2}h < 1$  we have

$$\| -\tilde{h}^2 \Delta_{\tilde{g}} \tilde{u} + \tilde{V} \tilde{u} \|_{L^2(|x|<2)} \leq \tilde{h}, \quad \| \tilde{u} \|_{L^2(|x|<2)} \leq 1.$$

Proposition 5 applies, since  $\tilde{g}$  and  $\tilde{V}$  satisfy (2.1)–(2.2), and the constants  $C_N$  in (2.3) for  $\tilde{g}$  and  $\tilde{V}$  are bounded by those for  $g$  and  $V$ . Thus,  $\| \tilde{u} \|_{L^\infty(|x|<1)} \leq C \tilde{h}^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , giving the desired result on  $u$  with  $r = |dV(0)|$ .

*Case 3:*  $|V(0)| \geq h$ ,  $|dV(0)| \leq 9|V(0)|^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . In this case, with  $c = |V(0)|$ , it follows that  $\frac{1}{2}c \leq |V(x)| \leq 2c$  for  $|x| \leq \frac{1}{20}c^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . We may apply Lemma 7 with  $V$  replaced by  $\frac{1}{1600}V$  to get the desired result with  $r = \frac{1}{40}|V(0)|^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .

*Case 4:*  $|V(0)| \geq h$ ,  $|dV(0)| \geq 9|V(0)|^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Since  $|d^2V(x)| \leq .01$ , it follows that there is a point  $x_0$  with  $|x_0| \leq \frac{1}{8}|V(0)|^{\frac{1}{2}}$  where  $V(x_0) = 0$ . Since  $|dV(x_0)| \geq 8|V(0)|^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq 8h^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , we may translate and apply Case 2 to get  $L^\infty$  bounds on  $u$  over a neighborhood of radius  $|dV(x_0)|$  about  $x_0$ . This neighborhood contains the neighborhood about 0 of radius  $r = 0.9998 |dV(0)|$ . □

### 3. A counter-example for indefinite $g$

In [2, Section 6], it was shown that there exist  $u_h$  for which

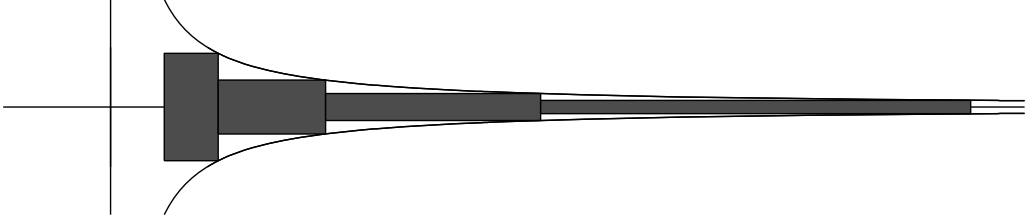
$$(3.1) \quad \| -h^2(\partial_{x_1}^2 - \partial_{x_2}^2)u_h + (x_1^2 - x_2^2)u_h \|_{L^2} \leq h, \quad \| u_h \|_{L^2} \leq 1,$$

for which  $\| u_h \|_{L^\infty} \approx |\log h|^{\frac{1}{2}} h^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , showing that the assumption of definiteness of  $g$  cannot be relaxed to non-degeneracy in the main theorem. In [2, Theorem 6] the positive result was established showing that this growth of  $\| u_h \|_{L^\infty}$  for indefinite, non-degenerate  $g$  in two dimensions is in fact worst case.

The example of [2] was produced using harmonic oscillator eigenstates. Here we present a different construction of such a  $u_h$  with similar  $L^\infty$  growth to help illustrate the role played by the degeneracy of  $g$ . The idea is to produce a collection  $u_{h,j}$  of functions satisfying (3.1) (or equivalent), for which  $u_{h,j}(0) = h^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , and where  $j$  runs over  $\approx |\log h|$  different values. The examples will have disjoint frequency support, hence are orthogonal in  $L^2$ . Upon summation over  $j$  the  $L^2$  norm then grows as  $|\log h|^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , whereas the  $L^\infty$  norm grows as  $|\log h| h^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , yielding an example with worst case growth after normalization.

We start by considering the form  $\xi_1 \xi_2$  with  $V = 0$ . To have  $\| h^2 \partial_{x_1} \partial_{x_2} u_h \|_{L^2} \leq h$ , we will take the Fourier transform of  $u_h$  to be contained in the set  $|\xi_1 \xi_2| \leq 2h^{-1}$ , as well as  $|\xi| \leq 2h^{-1}$  to satisfy the frequency localization condition [2, (1.4)]. Our example is then based on the fact that one can find  $\approx |\log h|$  disjoint rectangles, each of volume  $h^{-1}$ , within this region, as illustrated in the diagram. Each  $u_{h,j}$  will be an

appropriately scaled Schwartz function with Fourier transform localized to one of the rectangles.



We now fix  $\psi, \chi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ , with  $0 \leq \psi(x) \leq 2$  and  $0 \leq \chi(x) \leq 1$ , with  $\int \psi = \int \chi = 1$ , and where

$$\text{supp } \psi \subset [1, 2], \quad \text{supp } \chi \subset [-1, 1].$$

We additionally assume  $\chi(0) = 1$ .

Let

$$u_{h,j}(x) = h^{\frac{1}{2}} \int e^{ix_1 \xi_1 + ix_2 \xi_2} \chi(2^j h \xi_1) \psi(2^{-j} \xi_2) d\xi_1 d\xi_2 = h^{-\frac{1}{2}} \check{\chi}(2^{-j} h^{-1} x_1) \check{\psi}(2^j x_2).$$

By the Plancherel theorem,  $\|u_{h,j}\|_{L^2} \approx 1$  and  $\|h^2 D_1 D_2 u_{h,j}\|_{L^2} \lesssim h$ . Furthermore,  $u_{h,j}(0) = h^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . By disjointness of the Fourier transforms, we have  $\langle u_{h,i}, u_{h,j} \rangle = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ , and similarly  $\langle \partial_{x_1} \partial_{x_2} u_{h,i}, \partial_{x_1} \partial_{x_2} u_{h,j} \rangle = 0$ .

We then form

$$u_h(x) = |\log h|^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{1 \leq 2^j \leq h^{-1}} u_{h,j}(x).$$

Since there are  $\approx |\log h|$  terms in the sum, and the terms are orthogonal in  $L^2$ , it follows that

$$\|u_h\|_{L^2} \approx 1, \quad \|h^2 \partial_{x_1} \partial_{x_2} u_h\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)} \lesssim h, \quad u_h(0) \approx |\log h|^{\frac{1}{2}} h^{-\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Although the example is not compactly supported, it is rapidly decreasing (uniformly so for  $h < 1$ ), and one may smoothly cutoff to a bounded set without changing the estimates.

We observe that for this example it also holds that

$$\|x_1 x_2 u_h\|_{L^2} \lesssim h.$$

Hence,  $u_h$  is also a counterexample for the form  $\xi_1 \xi_2 \pm x_1 x_2$ . Rotating by  $\pi/4$  gives the form  $\xi_1^2 - \xi_2^2 \pm (x_1^2 - x_2^2)$ , including in particular the form considered in [2, Section 6].

We also observe that  $x_1^2 u_h$  will be  $\mathcal{O}_{L^2}(h)$  if one restricts the sum in  $u_h$  to  $1 \leq 2^j \leq h^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , which still has  $\approx |\log h|$  values of  $j$ , and thus exhibits the same  $L^\infty$  growth as  $u_h$ . This idea does not however work to yield a counterexample for the form  $\xi_1 \xi_2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2$ .

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE, WA 98195, USA  
*E-mail address:* `hart@math.washington.edu`

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, CA 94720, USA  
*E-mail address:* `zworski@math.berkeley.edu`