Classical and quantum lifetimes on some non-compact Riemann surfaces

This article has been downloaded from IOPscience. Please scroll down to see the full text article. 2005 J. Phys. A: Math. Gen. 3810721
(http://iopscience.iop.org/0305-4470/38/49/016)
View the table of contents for this issue, or go to the journal homepage for more

Download details:
IP Address: 171.66.16.94
The article was downloaded on 03/06/2010 at 04:04

Please note that terms and conditions apply.

# Classical and quantum lifetimes on some non-compact Riemann surfaces 

Frédéric Naud<br>UC Berkeley, Department of Mathematics, Berkeley, CA 94720-3840, USA<br>E-mail: fnaud@math.berkeley.edu

Received 28 April 2005, in final form 25 July 2005
Published 22 November 2005
Online at stacks.iop.org/JPhysA/38/10721


#### Abstract

This paper deals with the classical and quantum dynamics on convex cocompact surfaces. We review the recent developments of the theory and compare the asymptotic behaviour of both classical and quantum observables. We show rigorously that the classical decay rate is larger than the quantum decay rate. This is well known in the physics literature on chaotic scattering but has never been verified mathematically.


PACS numbers: 03.65.Sq, 03.65.Yz, 05.45.Mt

## 1. Introduction

The analysis of open systems has a long history, both from the classical and quantum points of view. The most popular model of open system whose classical dynamics are 'strongly chaotic' (i.e. hyperbolic) is the convex bodies scatterer (or pinball scatterer) which has been extensively studied in both physical, see for example [3, 6-8, 11], and more mathematical literature [12, 13, 17, 20, 28, 29]. However, the lack of symmetries and the complicated dynamical geometry of these systems make them rather difficult to study and very few rigorous mathematical results are available, especially when it comes to the quantum interpretation of zeros of the so-called semi-classical dynamical zeta functions.

Motivated by the semi-classical study of Gaspard and Rice for open planar billiards [7, 8], we will describe a simple analogue of the discs scatterer coming from hyperbolic geometry where the high degree of symmetries of the manifold allows a precise (and mathematically rigorous) description of the classical and quantum physics of these objects. The semi-classical Gutzwiller-Voros zeta function turns out to be closely related to the Selberg zeta function and there is a mathematically proven [26] one-to-one correspondence between its non-trivial zeros and the scattering poles of the Laplacian, i.e. the semi-classical approximation is exact in that setting.

Because of the (relative) simplicity of their geometry, most relevant dynamical quantities are explicit, in particular we can define precisely and compute the classical and quantum escape
rates of observables on these surfaces. We are thus able to check rigorously that (quantum) resonant modes have a longer lifetime than the classical observables, which is one of the main conclusions of $[7,8]$.

## 2. Convex co-compact surfaces and geodesic flow

The hyperbolic two-dimensional space can be viewed as the upper Poincaré half-plane

$$
\mathbb{H}^{2}=\{x+\mathrm{i} y \in \mathbb{C}: y>0\}
$$

endowed with the Riemannian metric of constant negative curvature -1 given by

$$
\mathrm{d} s^{2}=\frac{\mathrm{d} x^{2}+\mathrm{d} y^{2}}{y^{2}}
$$

An alternative isometric version (and more convenient for our purpose) of the half-plane is the disc $\mathbb{H}^{2}=\{z \in \mathbb{C}:|z|<1\}$, endowed with the metric

$$
\mathrm{d} s^{2}=\frac{4 \mathrm{~d} z \mathrm{~d} \bar{z}}{\left(1-|z|^{2}\right)^{2}}
$$

The geodesics lines (the free trajectories) are exactly the circles and lines orthogonal to the boundary. The geodesic flow $\phi_{t}$ on $\mathbb{H}^{2}$ is the motion (at unit speed) along the geodesic lines. The natural phase space of the geodesic flow is the unit tangent bundle

$$
T_{1} \mathbb{H}^{2}=\left\{(z, v) \in \mathbb{H}^{2} \times \mathbb{R}^{2}: \frac{2\|v\|}{1-|z|^{2}}=1\right\}
$$

where $\|v\|$ denotes the standard Euclidean norm. Isometries of the hyperbolic disc are the homographic transformations of the form $z \mapsto \frac{a z+b}{\bar{b}+\bar{a}}$, where $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ and satisfy $|a|^{2}-|b|^{2}=1$.

Let $\widehat{\mathbb{C}}$ denote the Riemann sphere $\widehat{\mathbb{C}}=\mathbb{C} \cup\{\infty\}$. The discrete groups we are interested in are the Fuchsian Schottky groups defined as follows. Let $C_{1}, \ldots, C_{2 p}$ denote $2 p$ geodesics of $\mathbb{H}^{2}$ and let $\mathcal{D}_{1}, \ldots, \mathcal{D}_{2 p}$ be $2 p$ Euclidean open discs such that for all $i=1, \ldots, 2 p$, the boundary of the disc $\mathcal{D}_{i}$ satisfies $\partial \mathcal{D}_{i} \cap \mathbb{H}^{2}=C_{i}$. We assume that for all $i \neq j, \mathrm{Cl}\left(\mathcal{D}_{i}\right) \cap \mathrm{Cl}\left(\mathcal{D}_{j}\right)=\emptyset$, where Cl denotes the closure. Let $h_{1}, \ldots, h_{p}$ be isometries of the hyperbolic disc such that $h_{i}\left(\mathcal{D}_{i}\right)=\widehat{\mathbb{C}} \backslash \mathrm{Cl}\left(\mathcal{D}_{2 p-i+1}\right)$. For all $1 \leqslant i \leqslant p$, we set in addition $h_{2 p-i+1}=h_{i}^{-1}$.

The group $\Gamma$ generated by $h_{1}, \ldots, h_{2 p}$ is a discrete group called a Fuchsian ${ }^{1}$ Schottky group. The quotient $M=\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^{2}$ by such a group is called a convex co-compact surface. It is a non-compact hyperbolic Riemann surface with infinite hyperbolic area. A natural fundamental domain for the action of $\Gamma$ on $\mathbb{H}^{2}$ is simply $\mathcal{R}=\mathbb{H}^{2} \backslash\left(\cup_{i=1}^{2 p} \mathcal{D}_{i}\right)$ (see figure 1).

The geodesic flow $\phi_{t}$ acting on $T_{1} M$ is simply the geodesic flow on $T_{1} \mathbb{H}^{2}$ modulo the group $\Gamma$. In the example of figure 1 , the surface $M=\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^{2}$ is a pair of pants with three funnels, and the dashed geodesics $\gamma_{1}$ and $\gamma_{2}$ in $\mathbb{H}^{2}$ correspond to two closed geodesics on the surface, after identification by $h_{1}$ and $h_{2}$.

A convex co-compact surface can equivalently be built by considering a compact hyperbolic surface $N$ whose boundary $\partial N$ is a finite set of closed geodesics $\gamma_{1}, \ldots, \gamma_{k}$, and by gluing to each closed geodesic $\gamma_{i}$ of length $l\left(\gamma_{i}\right)$ a funnel $F_{i}=\left(\mathbb{R} / l\left(\gamma_{i}\right) \mathbb{Z}\right)_{u} \times \mathbb{R}_{v}^{+}$, endowed with the warped metric $\mathrm{d} s^{2}=\cosh ^{2}(v) \mathrm{d} u^{2}+\mathrm{d} v^{2}$. The surface $N$ is called the Nielsen region of the convex co-compact surface $M=N \cup\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{k} F_{i}\right)$.

Under the action of the group $\Gamma$, points in $\mathbb{H}^{2}$ tend to the boundary $\partial \mathbb{H}^{2}$ which is the unit circle in the disc model. The closure of these accumulation points is a subset of $\partial \mathbb{H}^{2}$ called the
${ }^{1}$ Here Fuchsian means that this group preserves the unit disc. In the general definition of a Schottky group, one does not require this property.


Figure 1. The fundamental domain $\mathcal{R}$ and the associated surface $M=\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^{2}$.


Figure 2. A typical limit set of Schottky groups.
limit set $\Lambda$ of $\Gamma$. In the case of Schottky groups, when $\Gamma$ is non-elementary ( $p \geqslant 2$ ), $\Lambda$ has a nice quasi self-similar structure (it is a Cantor set, see figure 2), and its Hausdorff dimension $\delta$ is non-entire, i.e. $0<\delta<1$.

The dimension $\delta$ can numerically be computed via the precise methods described in [19, 14].

## 3. Dimension of trapped set and classical escape rate

The trapped set $\Omega$ of geodesics on $T_{1} M$ is defined as the compact $\phi_{t}$-invariant set of points $x \in T_{1} M$ such that $\phi_{t}(x)$ does not escape into a funnel, i.e. remains inside the Nielsen region $N$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$. There is a natural one-to-one correspondence (see [22], chapter 8) between the limit set $\Lambda$ and the trapped set $\Omega$ and we have $\operatorname{dim}(\Omega)=2 \delta+1$. Because of the negative curvature, the geodesic flow is hyperbolic. In addition, the set of closed geodesics (periodic
orbits of the flow) is dense in $\Omega$, i.e. axiom A of Smale is satisfied. The topological entropy of the flow on $\Omega$ is positive and is exactly the dimension of the limit set $\delta$ (see Sullivan [30]). This fact can alternatively be derived from the Bowen formula for the Hausdorff dimension [1], and Abramov's formula for the topological entropy of suspension flows.

Since $2 \delta+1<3$, the trapped set is of zero Liouville measure, thus almost all trajectories under $\phi_{t}$ escape to infinity. So, the dynamics on $T_{1} M$ are of two types: the strongly chaotic motion on $\Omega$ and the Liouville-almost everywhere behaviour of points which escape to infinity. A natural question follows: what is the average escape speed? Let us be more precise. Choose a Riemannian metric $g$ on $T_{1} M$ (a natural choice is the Sasaki metric, see [23], whose associated volume $\mathrm{Vol}_{g}$ is the Liouville measure) and let $d$ be the distance on $T_{1} M$ associated with $g$. Given $x \in \Omega$ and $\varepsilon>0$ we can define for all $T \geqslant 0$ the dynamical ball $B_{x}(\varepsilon, T)$ by

$$
B_{x}(\varepsilon, T)=\left\{y \in T_{1} M: \forall 0 \leqslant t \leqslant T, d\left(\phi_{t} x, \phi_{t} y\right) \leqslant \varepsilon\right\} .
$$

Set $\mathcal{U}_{T}^{\varepsilon}=\cup_{x \in \Omega} B_{x}(\varepsilon, T)$. What is the behaviour of $\operatorname{Vol}_{\mathrm{g}}\left(\mathcal{U}_{T}^{\varepsilon}\right)$ as $T \rightarrow \infty$ ? The following result holds.

Proposition 3.1. For all $\varepsilon>0$ small enough, we have

$$
\limsup _{T \rightarrow+\infty} \frac{\log \operatorname{Volg}_{\mathrm{g}}\left(\mathcal{U}_{T}^{\varepsilon}\right)}{T}=\delta-1
$$

Since for all surfaces described above we have $\delta<1$, the rate of decay is exponential and is related to the dimension of the limit set and thus to the 'size' of $\Omega$. The limit case $\delta \rightarrow 1$ corresponds to surfaces of finite area with cuspidal ends. In that case, the trapped set is the whole unit tangent bundle and the escape rate is vanishing. We call the quantity $\alpha_{c}(M)=1-\delta$ the classical escape rate.

Let us give a brief outline of the proof of proposition 3.1. By the volume lemma of Bowen-Ruelle [2], prop. 4.2 and 4.4, we have directly

$$
\limsup _{T \rightarrow+\infty} \frac{\log \operatorname{Vol}_{\mathrm{g}}\left(\mathcal{U}_{T}^{\varepsilon}\right)}{T}=P\left(-\lambda^{u}\right)
$$

where $\lambda^{u}(x)$ is the local unstable Lyapounov exponent defined by

$$
\lambda^{u}(x)=\lim _{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \log \left|\operatorname{det}\left(\left.D \phi_{t}\right|_{E_{x}^{u}}\right)\right|,
$$

$E_{x}^{u}$ being the unstable direction of the flow. The notation $P\left(-\lambda^{u}\right)$ stands for the topological pressure of $-\lambda^{u}$. The topological pressure (see [23] for a review of the different formulae available for flows) is defined for continuous functions on the basic set $\Omega$ by

$$
P(f)=\sup _{\mu \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{inv}}}\left(h_{\mu}\left(\phi_{1}\right)+\int_{\Omega} f \mathrm{~d} \mu\right),
$$

where $h_{\mu}\left(\phi_{t}\right)$ is the Kolmogorov-Sinai entropy of the time one map of the flow and the supremum is taken over all $\phi_{t}$-invariant probability measures. Because we are in a constant negative curvature case, a simple algebraic calculation involving the model $T_{1} M \simeq S L_{2}(\mathbb{R}) / \Gamma$ shows that $\lambda^{u} \equiv 1$. We have therefore $P\left(-\lambda^{u}\right)=\sup _{\mu \in \mathcal{M}_{\text {inv }}} h_{\mu}\left(\phi_{1}\right)-1=\delta-1$, because $\delta$ is the topological entropy of the flow.

It is very likely that the following more meaningful result holds. Given two smooth enough and compactly supported observables $f_{1}, f_{2}$ on $T_{1} M$ whose supports are close enough to the non-wandering set $\Omega$, then as $t \rightarrow+\infty$,

$$
\int_{T_{1} M}\left(f_{1} \circ \phi_{t}\right) f_{2} \mathrm{dVol}=\mathrm{e}^{(\delta-1) t} v\left(f_{2}\right) \int_{T_{1} M} f_{1} \mathrm{dVol}+O\left(e^{-\alpha t}\right),
$$

with $\alpha>1-\delta$ and $\nu$ is a measure supported by the set of stable manifolds. The fact that the left side decays exponentially for Hölder observables follows from [27]. A precise expansion as stated above should follow from an adaptation of Dolgopyat's arguments [21].

## 4. Scattering resonances and upper bound on their lifetime

Quantization of the free motion on $M$ starts with the (positive) Laplace-Beltrami operator $\Delta_{\mathbb{H} \mathbb{H}^{2}}$ on $\mathbb{H}^{2}$. In the disc model, $\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^{2}}$ acts on smooth functions $f \in C^{\infty}\left(\mathbb{H}^{2}\right)$ by the formula

$$
\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^{2}} f=-\frac{\left(1-|x+\mathrm{i} y|^{2}\right)^{2}}{4}\left(\partial_{x}^{2} f+\partial_{y}^{2} f\right) .
$$

Since $\Delta_{\mathbb{H}^{2}}$ commutes with isometries of the hyperbolic space, the Laplace-Beltrami operator $\Delta_{M}$ is well defined on smooth compactly supported functions $f \in C_{0}^{\infty}\left(\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^{2}\right)$ by

$$
\Delta_{M}(f)(\Gamma x)=\Delta_{\mathbb{H}}^{2}(\tilde{f})(x)
$$

where $\tilde{f}$ is the $\Gamma$-periodic function defined on $\mathbb{H}^{2}$ by $\tilde{f}(x)=f(\Gamma x)$. The operator $\Delta_{M}$ has a unique self-adjoint extension to a dense subdomain of the Hilbert space $L^{2}(M, \mathrm{~d} m)$, where $m$ is the natural Riemannian area measure on $M$.

The point spectrum of $\Delta_{M}$ is at most finite: if $\delta \leqslant \frac{1}{2}$ then it is empty and if $\delta>\frac{1}{2}$ the point spectrum is a finite subset of $\left(0, \frac{1}{4}\right)$, and the lowest eigenvalue is $\delta(1-\delta)$. The rest of the spectrum is absolutely continuous and is the half-line $\left[\frac{1}{4},+\infty\right)$ (see the work of Patterson and Lax-Phillips $[15,16,24]$ ). For all $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ with $\operatorname{Im}(\lambda)<0$ (except for a finite set of values corresponding to the point spectrum) and $g \in L^{2}(M, \mathrm{~d} m)$, the equation

$$
\left(\Delta_{M}-\frac{1}{4}-\lambda^{2}\right) f=g,
$$

has a unique solution in $L^{2}(M, \mathrm{~d} m)$ given by

$$
f(w)=\int_{M} G_{\lambda}\left(w, w^{\prime}\right) g\left(w^{\prime}\right) \mathrm{d} m\left(w^{\prime}\right)
$$

where $G_{\lambda}\left(w, w^{\prime}\right)$ is the Green function of $\Delta_{M}-\frac{1}{4}-\lambda^{2}$ (or equivalently, the Schwarz kernel of the resolvent). An explicit expression for $G_{\lambda}\left(w, w^{\prime}\right)$ can be obtained simply by periodizing the free Green function $G_{\lambda}^{0}\left(w, w^{\prime}\right)$ of the hyperbolic plane $\mathbb{H}^{2}$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
G_{\lambda}\left(w, w^{\prime}\right)= & \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} G_{\lambda}^{0}\left(\gamma w, w^{\prime}\right), \quad \operatorname{Im}(\lambda)<\frac{1}{2}-\delta \\
G_{\lambda}^{0}\left(w, w^{\prime}\right)= & \frac{2^{-2-2 \mathrm{i} \lambda} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}+\mathrm{i} \lambda\right)}{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(1+\mathrm{i} \lambda)} \cos h^{-1-2 \mathrm{i} \lambda}\left[\frac{d\left(w, w^{\prime}\right)}{2}\right] \\
& \times F\left(\frac{1}{2}+\mathrm{i} \lambda, \frac{1}{2}+\mathrm{i} \lambda, 1+2 \mathrm{i} \lambda ; \cos h^{2}\left[\frac{d\left(w, w^{\prime}\right)}{2}\right]\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

where $d\left(w, w^{\prime}\right)$ denotes the hyperbolic distance in $\mathbb{H}^{2}, \Gamma(s)$ is the usual Euler gamma function and

$$
F(a, b, c ; u)=1+\frac{a \cdot b}{1 . c} u+\frac{a(a+1) b(b+1)}{1.2 c(c+1)} u^{2}+\cdots
$$

is the hypergeometric function.
As a function of $\lambda, G_{\lambda}$ is meromorphic on $\{\operatorname{Im}(\lambda)<0\}$, and has a meromorphic extension to $\mathbb{C}$ (see [18]), whose poles (independent of $w, w^{\prime}$ ) are called resonances. These poles have also a natural interpretation in terms of poles of a suitably defined scattering matrix (see [10]).


Figure 3. The non-physical upper half-plane and resonances.

In addition, $G_{\lambda}$ has at most a finite number of poles in the lower half-plane $\{\operatorname{Im}(\lambda)<0\}$ (the physical sheet) corresponding to the possible point spectrum of $\Delta_{M}$.

The semi-classical Gutzwiller-Voros zeta function of these surfaces (without boundaries) is according to general theory

$$
Z(\lambda)=\exp \left(-\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} \sum_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}} \frac{\mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i} \lambda k l(\gamma)}}{\left.\operatorname{det}\left(P_{\gamma}^{k}-I\right)\right|^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right),
$$

where $\mathcal{P}$ is the set of primitive periodic orbits $\gamma$ of the geodesic flow whose period is denoted by $l(\gamma)$, and $P_{\gamma}$ is the linear Poincaré map of $\gamma$. Since we have $\left|\operatorname{det}\left(P_{\gamma}^{k}-I\right)\right|=$ $\left(\mathrm{e}^{k l(\gamma)}-1\right)\left(1-\mathrm{e}^{-k l(\gamma)}\right)$, it follows that $Z(\lambda)=Z_{M}\left(\frac{1}{2}+\mathrm{i} \lambda\right)$, where $Z_{M}(s)$ is the Selberg zeta function of $M$, defined classically by the Euler product

$$
Z_{M}(s)=\prod_{k=0}^{\infty} \prod_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}}\left(1-\mathrm{e}^{-(s+k) l(\gamma)}\right) .
$$

By the work of Patterson and Perry [26] on the divisor of $Z_{M}(s)$, it follows that, up to a countable set of trivial zeros on the imaginary axis located at $\mathrm{i}\left(k+\frac{1}{2}\right), k \in \mathbb{N}^{*}$, the zeros of $Z(\lambda)$ are the poles of the Green function $G_{\lambda}$, with the same multiplicities.

In the most interesting case where there are no $L^{2}$-eigenfunctions and $\mathrm{i}\left(\delta-\frac{1}{2}\right)$ is a scattering pole, i.e. $\delta<\frac{1}{2}$, and assuming that $\Gamma$ is non-elementary, we can draw a more precise picture (see figure 3):

- There are no resonances in the half-plane $\left\{\operatorname{Im}(\lambda)<\frac{1}{2}-\delta\right\}$.
- The simple scattering pole $\mathrm{i}\left(\frac{1}{2}-\delta\right)$ is isolated by a gap in the scattering spectrum, i.e. there exists $\varepsilon>0$ such that all the other resonances lie in $\left\{\operatorname{Im}(\lambda) \geqslant \frac{1}{2}-\delta+\varepsilon\right\}$.
The leading decay rate of resonances $\alpha_{r}$ is given in the $\lambda$-plane by the smallest imaginary part of the resonances which is $\alpha_{r}=\frac{1}{2}-\delta<\alpha_{c}=1-\delta$. For the benefit of the reader, let us recall some of the key results proved in [21] that allow us to obtain the existence of this spectral gap in the scattering spectrum. A first observation (due to Y Sinai) is the fact that the Ruelle zeta function $\zeta(s)$ defined for $\operatorname{Re}(s)>\delta$ by

$$
\zeta(s)=\prod_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}}\left(1-\mathrm{e}^{-s l(\gamma)}\right)^{-1},
$$

is related to the Selberg zeta function by

$$
Z_{M}(s)=\prod_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \zeta(s+k)^{-1}
$$

Therefore, any knowledge on the analytic singularities of $\zeta(s)$ close to $\{\operatorname{Re}(s)=\delta\}$ implies some information on the resonances (recall that $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ is a resonance if and only if $\frac{1}{2}+\mathrm{i} \lambda$ is a zero of $\left.Z_{M}(s)\right)$. By the classical results of Parry and Pollicott [25], it is known that $\zeta(s)$ has a meromorphic extension to a strip $\{\delta-\bar{\varepsilon}<\operatorname{Re}(s) \leqslant \delta\}$, for some $\bar{\varepsilon}>0$. The possible poles of $\zeta(s)$ in this strip are given by the spectrum of so-called complex transfer operators. Let us recall briefly their definition. For all $1 \leqslant i \leqslant 2 p$, set $I_{i}=\operatorname{Cl}\left(\mathcal{D}_{i}\right) \cap\{|z|=1\}$. Each $I_{i}$ is a closed interval on the unit circle $\partial \mathbb{H}^{2}$, and if we define the Bowen-series map $T: I:=\cup_{1 \leqslant i \leqslant 2 p} I_{i} \rightarrow \partial \mathbb{H}^{2}$ by

$$
T x=h_{i}(x), \text { if } x \in I_{i}
$$

then we get a Markov expanding map (see Bowen [1]), whose dynamics encodes the action of the Schottky group $\Gamma$ on $\partial \mathbb{H}^{2}$. Let $C^{1}(I)$ denotes the Banach space of $C^{1}$ functions on $I$ endowed with its standard norm $\|\cdot\|_{C^{1}}$. The transfer operators $\mathcal{L}_{s}$, where $s$ is a complex parameter, are defined on $C^{1}(I)$ by

$$
\mathcal{L}_{s}(f)(x)=\sum_{T y=x}\left|T^{\prime}(y)\right|^{-s} f(y)
$$

A key result that follows from [25] is that $s_{0} \in\{\delta-\bar{\varepsilon}<\operatorname{Re}(s) \leqslant \delta\}$ is a pole of $\zeta(s)$ if and only if 1 is an eigenvalue of $\mathcal{L}_{s_{0}}: C^{1}(I) \rightarrow C^{1}(I)$. In [21], we actually proved (theorem 2.3) the following estimate.

Theorem 4.1. There exist some constants $0<\rho_{0}<1,0<\varepsilon \leqslant \bar{\varepsilon}$, and $C>0$ such that for all $\delta-\varepsilon<\operatorname{Re}(s) \leqslant \delta$ and all $|\operatorname{Im}(s)|$ large enough, we have the contraction estimate

$$
\left\|\mathcal{L}_{s}^{n}\right\|_{C^{1}} \leqslant C|\operatorname{Im}(s)|^{3 / 2} \rho_{0}^{n}
$$

It is clear, using the spectral radius formula, that it implies that 1 cannot be an eigenvalue of $\mathcal{L}_{s}$ for all $\delta-\bar{\varepsilon}<\operatorname{Re}(s) \leqslant \delta$ and all $|\operatorname{Im}(s)|$ large. It is also shown in [21] that on the vertical line $\{\operatorname{Re}(s)=\delta\}$, the Ruelle zeta function $\zeta(s)$ has no poles except at $s=\delta$ which is a simple pole. Therefore at least in a narrow vertical strip close to $\{\operatorname{Re}(s)=\delta\}$, the zeta function $\zeta(s)$ has no singularities, which in view of the above discussion, shows the existence of a resonance-free strip. The proof of theorem 4.1 is based on a uniform cancellation principle discovered by Dmitry Dolgopyat in his work on Anosov flows [5]. Roughly speaking, one has to show that for large $|\operatorname{Im}(s)|$ and large $n$, the powers $\mathcal{L}_{s}^{n}$ (given by large sums over the preimages of $T^{n}$ ) exhibit enough cancellations.

Using similar techniques, we expect to be able to prove the following more physical result. Let $f \in C_{0}^{\infty}(M)$ be a smooth compactly supported initial data and let

$$
u(t)=\frac{\sin \left(t \sqrt{\Delta_{M}-1 / 4}\right)}{\sqrt{\Delta_{M}-1 / 4}} f
$$

be the solution of the wave equation

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\partial_{t}^{2} u(t)=-\left(\Delta_{M}-\frac{1}{4}\right) u(t) \\
u(0)=0 \\
u_{t}(0)=f
\end{array}\right.
$$

Consider $\chi \in C_{0}^{\infty}(M)$, then there exists $g \in C_{0}^{\infty}(M)$ such that as $t \rightarrow+\infty$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\chi \frac{\sin \left(t \sqrt{\Delta_{M}-1 / 4}\right)}{\sqrt{\Delta_{M}-1 / 4}} f=\frac{\mathrm{e}^{(\delta-1 / 2) t}}{\delta-1 / 2} g+O\left(\mathrm{e}^{-\alpha t}\right) \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

for some $\alpha>1 / 2-\delta$. An a priori estimate of the Green function, not yet available, is required to take advantage of the already proved information on the location of resonances. We point out that in the case of the hyperbolic cylinder (which corresponds to $p=1$ in our notations), Christiansen and Zworski [4] have obtained a full resonance expansion of solutions of the wave equation. In that case, resonances form a lattice and the scattering matrix can be studied explicitly. We also observe that (1) is formally in agreement with the existing trace formula [9] for resonances. Indeed, let $\varphi \in C_{0}^{\infty}\left(\mathbb{R}_{+}^{*}\right)$ be a smooth, compactly supported test function, then the renormalized wave trace (the appropriate renormalization, also called 0 -calculus, is designed to get rid of the divergence due to infinite volume and defines a so-called 0 -volume)

$$
u(t)=0-\operatorname{Tr} \cos \left(t \sqrt{\Delta_{M}-\frac{1}{4}}\right),
$$

is a tempered distribution ${ }^{2}$ which satisfies

$$
u(t)=\mathrm{e}^{\left(\delta-\frac{1}{2}\right) t}+\widetilde{u}(t),
$$

where the remainder $\widetilde{u}(t)$ has the property

$$
\int \tilde{u}(t) \varphi(u-T) \mathrm{d} u=O\left(\mathrm{e}^{\left(\delta-\frac{1}{2}-\varepsilon\right) T}\right)
$$

for some $\varepsilon>0$.

## Acknowledgment

It is a pleasure to thank Maciej Zworski for many interesting discussions that motivated this paper. This work was supported by the NSF grant DMS-0354539.

## References

[1] Bowen R 1979 Hausdorff dimension of quasicircles Inst. Hautes Étud. Sci. Publ. Math. 50 11-25
[2] Bowen R and Ruelle D 1975 The ergodic theory of axiom A flows Invent. Math. 29 181-202
[3] Cvitanović P and Eckhardt B 1989 Periodic-orbit quantization of chaotic systems Phys. Rev. Lett. 63 823-6
[4] Christiansen T and Zworski M 2000 Resonance wave expansion: two hyperbolic examples Commun. Math. Phys. 212 323-36
[5] Dolgopyat D 1998 On decay of correlations in anosov flows Ann. Math. 2147 357-90
[6] Gaspard P and Rice S A 1989 Exact quantization of the scattering from a classically chaotic repellor J. Chem. Phys. 90 2255-62
[7] Gaspard P and Rice S A 1989 Scattering from a classically chaotic repellor J. Chem. Phys. 90 2225-41
[8] Gaspard P and Rice S A 1989 Semiclassical quantization of the scattering from a classically chaotic repellor J. Chem. Phys. 90 2242-54
[9] Guillopé L and Zworski M 1999 The wave trace for Riemann surfaces Geom. Funct. Anal. 9 1156-68
[10] Guillopé L and Zworski M 1995 Upper bounds on the number of resonances for non-compact Riemann surfaces J. Funct. Anal. 129 364-89
[11] Gutzwiller M C 1990 Chaos in classical and quantum mechanics Interdisciplinary Applied Mathematics vol 1 (New York: Springer)
[12] Ikawa M 1992 Singular perturbation of symbolic flows and poles of the zeta functions Osaka J. Math. 29 161-74 (addendum)
[13] Ikawa M 1992 Singular perturbation of symbolic flows and the modified Lax-Phillips conjecture Astérisque 210 217-35 Méthodes semi-classiques vol 2 (Nantes, 1991)
[14] Jenkinson O and Pollicott M 2002 Calculating Hausdorff dimensions of Julia sets and Kleinian limit sets Am. J. Math. 124 495-545
[15] Lax P D and Phillips R S 1982 The asymptotic distribution of lattice points in Euclidean and non-Euclidean spaces J. Funct. Anal. 46 280-350
2 The 0 -trace is just the integral of the Schwarz kernel on the diagonal with respect to the 0 -volume (see [9]).
[16] Lax P D and Phillips R S 1984, 1985 Translation representation for automorphic solutions of the non-Euclidean wave equation I, II, III Commun. Pure. Appl. Math. 37, 38 303-328, 779-813, 179-208
[17] Lopes A and Markarian R 1996 Open billiards: invariant and conditionally invariant probabilities on Cantor sets SIAM J. Appl. Math. 56 651-80
[18] Mazzeo R R and Melrose R B 1987 Meromorphic extension of the resolvent on complete spaces with asymptotically constant negative curvature J. Funct. Anal. 75 260-310
[19] McMullen C T 1998 Hausdorff dimension and conformal dynamics: III. Computation of dimension Am. J. Math. 120 691-721
[20] Morita T 1991 The symbolic representation of billiards without boundary condition Trans. Am. Math. Soc. 325 819-28
[21] Naud F 2005 Expanding maps on Cantor sets and analytic continuation of zeta functions Ann. Sci. École Norm. Suppl. 38 116-53
[22] Nicholls P J 1989 The Ergodic Theory of Discrete Groups (London Mathematical Society Lecture Note Series vol 143) (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)
[23] Paternain G P 1999 Geodesic flows Progress in Mathematics vol 180 (Boston, MA: Birkhäuser)
[24] Patterson S J 1976 The limit set of a Fuchsian group Acta Math. 136 241-73
[25] Parry W and Pollicott M 1990 Zeta functions and the periodic orbit structure of hyperbolic dynamics Astérisque 187-188 164
[26] Patterson S J and Perry P A 2001 The divisor of Selberg's zeta function for Kleinian groups Duke Math. J. 106 321-90 (appendix A by Charles Epstein)
[27] Ratner M 1987 The rate of mixing for geodesic and horocycle flows Ergodic Theory Dyn. Syst. 7 267-88
[28] Stoyanov L 1999 Exponential instability for a class of dispersing billiards Ergodic Theory Dyn. Syst. 19 201-26
[29] Stoyanov L 2001 Spectrum of the Ruelle operator and exponential decay of correlations for open billiard flows Am. J. Math. 123 715-59
[30] Sullivan D 1984 Entropy, Hausdorff measures old and new, and limit sets of geometrically finite Kleinian groups Acta Math. 153 259-77

