



Applied  
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# Semiclassical Analysis

**Maciej Zworski**

**Graduate Studies  
in Mathematics**

**Volume 138**



**American Mathematical Society**

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# Contents

|                                                 |    |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|
| Preface                                         | xi |
| Chapter 1. Introduction                         | 1  |
| §1.1. Basic themes                              | 1  |
| §1.2. Classical and quantum mechanics           | 3  |
| §1.3. Overview                                  | 5  |
| §1.4. Notes                                     | 9  |
| <b>Part 1. BASIC THEORY</b>                     |    |
| Chapter 2. Symplectic geometry and analysis     | 13 |
| §2.1. Flows                                     | 13 |
| §2.2. Symplectic structure on $\mathbb{R}^{2n}$ | 14 |
| §2.3. Symplectic mappings                       | 16 |
| §2.4. Hamiltonian vector fields                 | 20 |
| §2.5. Lagrangian submanifolds                   | 23 |
| §2.6. Notes                                     | 26 |
| Chapter 3. Fourier transform, stationary phase  | 27 |
| §3.1. Fourier transform on $\mathcal{S}$        | 27 |
| §3.2. Fourier transform on $\mathcal{S}'$       | 35 |
| §3.3. Semiclassical Fourier transform           | 38 |
| §3.4. Stationary phase in one dimension         | 40 |

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|                                                                   |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| §3.5. Stationary phase in higher dimensions                       | 46  |
| §3.6. Oscillatory integrals                                       | 52  |
| §3.7. Notes                                                       | 54  |
| Chapter 4. Semiclassical quantization                             | 55  |
| §4.1. Definitions                                                 | 56  |
| §4.2. Quantization formulas                                       | 59  |
| §4.3. Composition, asymptotic expansions                          | 65  |
| §4.4. Symbol classes                                              | 72  |
| §4.5. Operators on $L^2$                                          | 81  |
| §4.6. Compactness                                                 | 87  |
| §4.7. Inverses, Gårding inequalities                              | 90  |
| §4.8. Notes                                                       | 96  |
| <br><b>Part 2. APPLICATIONS TO PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS</b> |     |
| Chapter 5. Semiclassical defect measures                          | 99  |
| §5.1. Construction, examples                                      | 99  |
| §5.2. Defect measures and PDE                                     | 104 |
| §5.3. Damped wave equation                                        | 106 |
| §5.4. Notes                                                       | 117 |
| Chapter 6. Eigenvalues and eigenfunctions                         | 119 |
| §6.1. The harmonic oscillator                                     | 119 |
| §6.2. Symbols and eigenfunctions                                  | 124 |
| §6.3. Spectrum and resolvents                                     | 129 |
| §6.4. Weyl's Law                                                  | 132 |
| §6.5. Notes                                                       | 137 |
| Chapter 7. Estimates for solutions of PDE                         | 139 |
| §7.1. Classically forbidden regions                               | 140 |
| §7.2. Tunneling                                                   | 143 |
| §7.3. Order of vanishing                                          | 148 |
| §7.4. $L^\infty$ estimates for quasimodes                         | 152 |
| §7.5. Schauder estimates                                          | 158 |
| §7.6. Notes                                                       | 167 |

**Part 3. ADVANCED THEORY AND APPLICATIONS**

|                                                            |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Chapter 8. More on the symbol calculus                     | 171 |
| §8.1. Beals's Theorem                                      | 171 |
| §8.2. Real exponentiation of operators                     | 177 |
| §8.3. Generalized Sobolev spaces                           | 182 |
| §8.4. Wavefront sets, essential support, and microlocality | 187 |
| §8.5. Notes                                                | 196 |
| Chapter 9. Changing variables                              | 197 |
| §9.1. Invariance, half-densities                           | 197 |
| §9.2. Changing symbols                                     | 203 |
| §9.3. Invariant symbol classes                             | 206 |
| §9.4. Notes                                                | 217 |
| Chapter 10. Fourier integral operators                     | 219 |
| §10.1. Operator dynamics                                   | 220 |
| §10.2. An integral representation formula                  | 226 |
| §10.3. Strichartz estimates                                | 235 |
| §10.4. $L^p$ estimates for quasimodes                      | 240 |
| §10.5. Notes                                               | 244 |
| Chapter 11. Quantum and classical dynamics                 | 245 |
| §11.1. Egorov's Theorem                                    | 245 |
| §11.2. Quantizing symplectic mappings                      | 251 |
| §11.3. Quantizing linear symplectic mappings               | 257 |
| §11.4. Egorov's Theorem for longer times                   | 264 |
| §11.5. Notes                                               | 271 |
| Chapter 12. Normal forms                                   | 273 |
| §12.1. Overview                                            | 273 |
| §12.2. Normal forms: real symbols                          | 275 |
| §12.3. Propagation of singularities                        | 279 |
| §12.4. Normal forms: complex symbols                       | 282 |
| §12.5. Quasimodes, pseudospectra                           | 286 |
| §12.6. Notes                                               | 289 |



---

|                                                        |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Chapter 13. The FBI transform                          | 291 |
| §13.1. Motivation                                      | 291 |
| §13.2. Complex analysis                                | 293 |
| §13.3. FBI transforms and Bergman kernels              | 302 |
| §13.4. Quantization and Toeplitz operators             | 311 |
| §13.5. Applications                                    | 321 |
| §13.6. Notes                                           | 336 |
| <br><b>Part 4. SEMICLASSICAL ANALYSIS ON MANIFOLDS</b> |     |
| Chapter 14. Manifolds                                  | 339 |
| §14.1. Definitions, examples                           | 339 |
| §14.2. Pseudodifferential operators on manifolds       | 345 |
| §14.3. Schrödinger operators on manifolds              | 354 |
| §14.4. Notes                                           | 362 |
| Chapter 15. Quantum ergodicity                         | 365 |
| §15.1. Classical ergodicity                            | 366 |
| §15.2. A weak Egorov Theorem                           | 368 |
| §15.3. Weyl's Law generalized                          | 370 |
| §15.4. Quantum ergodic theorems                        | 372 |
| §15.5. Notes                                           | 379 |
| <br><b>Part 5. APPENDICES</b>                          |     |
| Appendix A. Notation                                   | 383 |
| §A.1. Basic notation                                   | 383 |
| §A.2. Functions, differentiation                       | 385 |
| §A.3. Operators                                        | 387 |
| §A.4. Estimates                                        | 388 |
| §A.5. Symbol classes                                   | 389 |
| Appendix B. Differential forms                         | 391 |
| §B.1. Definitions                                      | 391 |
| §B.2. Push-forwards and pull-backs                     | 394 |
| §B.3. Poincaré's Lemma                                 | 396 |
| §B.4. Differential forms on manifolds                  | 397 |

---

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Appendix C. Functional analysis | 399 |
| §C.1. Operator theory           | 399 |
| §C.2. Spectral theory           | 403 |
| §C.3. Trace class operators     | 411 |
| Appendix D. Fredholm theory     | 415 |
| §D.1. Grushin problems          | 415 |
| §D.2. Fredholm operators        | 416 |
| §D.3. Meromorphic continuation  | 418 |
| Bibliography                    | 421 |
| Index                           | 427 |



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# PREFACE

This book originated with a course I taught at UC Berkeley during the spring of 2003, with class notes taken by my colleague Lawrence C. Evans. Various versions of these notes have been available on-line as the *Evans-Zworski lecture notes on semiclassical analysis* and our original intention was to use them as the basis of a coauthored book. Craig Evans's contributions to the current manuscript can be recognized by anybody familiar with his popular partial differential equations (PDE) text [E]. In the end, the scope of the project and other commitments prevented Craig Evans from participating fully in the final stages of the effort, and he decided to withdraw from the responsibility of authorship, generously allowing me to make use of the contributions he had already made. I and my readers owe him a great debt, for this book would never have appeared without his participation.

Semiclassical analysis provides PDE techniques based on the *classical-quantum* (particle-wave) correspondence. These techniques include such well-known tools as geometric optics and the Wentzel–Kramers–Brillouin (WKB) approximation. Examples of problems studied in this subject are high energy eigenvalue asymptotics or effective dynamics for solutions of evolution equations. From the mathematical point of view, semiclassical analysis is a branch of *microlocal analysis* which, broadly speaking, applies *harmonic analysis* and *symplectic geometry* to the study of linear and non-linear PDE.

The book is intended to be a graduate level text introducing readers to semiclassical and microlocal methods in PDE. It is augmented in later chapters with many specialized advanced topics. Readers are expected to have reasonable familiarity with standard PDE theory (as recounted, for example, in Parts I and II of [E]), as well as a basic understanding of linear functional analysis. On occasion familiarity with differential forms will also prove useful.

Several excellent treatments of semiclassical analysis have appeared recently. The book [D-S] by Dimassi and Sjöstrand starts with the WKB-method, develops the general semiclassical calculus, and then provides high-tech spectral asymptotics. Martinez [M] provides a systematic development of FBI transform techniques, with applications to microlocal exponential estimates and to propagation estimates. This text is intended as a more elementary, but much broader, introduction. Except for the general symbol calculus, for which we followed Chapter 7 of [D-S], there is little overlap with these other two texts or with the influential books by Helffer [He] and by Robert [R]. Guillemin and Sternberg [G-St1] offer yet another perspective on the subject, very much complementary to that given here. Their notes concentrate on global and functorial aspects of semiclassical analysis, in particular on the theory of Fourier integral operators and on trace formulas.

The approach to semiclassical analysis presented here is influenced by my long collaboration with Johannes Sjöstrand. I would like to thank him for sharing his philosophy and insights over the years. I first learned microlocal analysis from Richard Melrose, Victor Guillemin, and Gunther Uhlmann, and it is a pleasure to acknowledge my debt to them. Discussions of semiclassical physics and chemistry with Stéphane Nonnenmacher, Paul Brumer, William H. Miller, and Robert Littlejohn have been enjoyable and valuable. They have added a lot to my appreciation of the subject.

I am especially grateful to Stéphane Nonnenmacher, Semyon Dyatlov, Claude Zuily, Oran Gannot, Xi Chen, Hans Christianson, Jeff Galkowski, Justin Holmer, Long Jin, Gordon Linoff, and Steve Zelditch for their very careful reading of the earlier versions of this book and for their many valuable comments and corrections.

My thanks also go to Faye Yeager for typing the original lecture notes and to Jonathan Dorfman for  $\text{T}_\text{E}\text{X}$  advice. Stephen Moye at the AMS provided fantastic help on deeper  $\text{T}_\text{E}\text{X}$  issues and Arlene O'Sean's excellent copyediting removed many errors and inconsistencies.

I will maintain on my website at the UC Berkeley Mathematics Department <http://math.berkeley.edu/~zworski> a list of errata and corrections, as well as at the American Mathematical Society's website [www.ams.org/bookpages/gsm-138](http://www.ams.org/bookpages/gsm-138). Please let me know about any errors you find.

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Maciej Zworski

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---

# Index

- adjoint, 58
- adjoint action, 174
- almost analytic extension, 34, 358, 359
- annihilation, creation operators, 120
- asymptotic sum, 73
- atlas, 340
- average
  - in time, 109, 366
  - of symbols, 372
  
- Beals's Theorem, 7, 171–177, 179, 180, 196, 216, 249, 271
- Bergman kernel, 293, 307–309
- Bergman projection, 307
- Bergman projector, 293
- Birkhoff's Ergodic Theorem, 367
- Borel's Theorem, 74, 231, 278, 284
  
- Cartan's formula, 22, 23, 255, 395, 397
- Cauchy–Riemann operator, 34, 289, 294
- characteristic
  - equations, 274
  - variety, 104
- closable operator, 405
- closed operator, 405
- Coarea Formula, 366
- coherent state, 102
- commutator, 5, 61, 68, 106, 174
- compact operator, 87–90, 129, 186, 403–405, 409, 411, 416
- composition formula, 6, 66, 160, 175, 178, 186, 193, 194, 263, 268
- conjugation, 141, 277, 282
  
- and symbols, 141
- by Fourier transform, 56, 64
- by unitary operators, 247, 251, 256, 257, 260, 266, 368
- contraction of forms, 20, 393
- coordinate patch, 340
- cotangent bundle, 341
  - canonical symplectic form, 342
  - integral over, 342
- cotangent space, 342
- Cotlar–Stein Theorem, 86, 90, 401
  
- defect measure, semiclassical, 99–117
  - definition, 101
  - examples, 102–104
  - on torus, 108
  - properties, 104–106
- density of states, 132
- diffeomorphism, 14, 18, 22, 24, 48, 192, 194, 197, 199, 203, 207, 340, 383, 386
- differential, 392
- differential forms, 15, 22, 24, 230, 342, 391–398
  - canonical, 342
- differential operator, 345
- distribution, 35, 58, 76, 345, 347, 387, 399
- domain of operator, 405
- Duhamel's formula, 154, 234, 270, 271
- dynamics
  - classical, 1, 4, 8, 13–14, 106, 272, 274
  - operator, 181, 220–227, 246

- quantum, 5, 106, 219–226, 245–251, 264–271, 409
- Egorov’s Theorem, 8, 245–251, 278  
 for long times, 8, 264–271  
 weak, 368–370
- Ehrenfest time, 8, 264–271
- eigenfunctions, 7, 119–137, 143, 152  
 basis of, 129, 157, 357  
 clusters of, 157, 243  
 concentration in phase space, 125  
 equidistribution of, 365, 378, 379  
 exponential decay estimates, 143  
 for harmonic oscillator, 120–124, 127  
 for Laplace–Beltrami operator, 357, 378  
 for pseudodifferential operator, 187  
 on manifolds, 356  
 order of vanishing, 152  
 regularity, 354
- eigenvalues, 48, 120, 123, 286, 287, 357, 362, 363, 370, 404, 405, 411, 412  
 and trace, 413  
 counting, 410  
 for harmonic oscillator, 120–124  
 for Laplace–Beltrami operator, 157, 243, 357, 362  
 for Schrödinger’s equation, 1, 7, 119, 286, 357  
 minimax formulas for, 409, 410  
 of matrix, 36  
 of operator, 403
- elliptic  
 estimates, 140  
 symbol, 91, 133, 144, 146, 156, 222, 242, 260, 277, 282, 288, 289
- energy  
 decay, 114–117  
 surface, 366  
 wave equation, 109
- ergodicity, 8  
 classical, 366–368  
 quantum, 365–379
- essential support, 192–194
- essentially selfadjoint operator, 406
- estimates  
 $H_h^2$ , 140  
 $H_h^k$ , 149  
 Agmon–Lithner, 142  
 Carleman, 7, 146–148  
 notation for, 388  
 Schauder, 7, 158–167  
 Strichartz, 8, 235–240
- exponential map, 14
- FBI transform, 291, 302–311
- flow map, 14
- forbidden region, 139, 141
- Fourier  
 decomposition, 65  
 integral operator, 8, 199, 228, 244, 245
- Fourier transform, 2, 27–40  
 exponential of imaginary quadratic form, 36  
 exponential of real quadratic form, 28  
 on  $\mathcal{S}$ , 28  
 on  $\mathcal{S}'$ , 36  
 semiclassical, 38–40
- Fredholm  
 operator, 416  
 theory, 415–419
- functional calculus, 137, 354, 357–361, 370
- generalized Sobolev space  $H_h(m)$ , 182–187  
 definition, 183  
 dual space of, 184  
 examples, 183  
 pseudodifferential operators and, 185, 187
- geodesic flow, 365, 378, 379
- graph, 405  
 twisted, 25, 262, 383
- Grushin problems, 415–417
- half-density, 197–206, 234–235, 345
- Hamilton–Jacobi equation, 7, 228, 231–233, 238, 260
- harmonic oscillator, 119–124, 126, 135  
 Weyl’s Law for, 123
- heat equation, 285
- Helffer–Sjöstrand formula, 358, 361, 363
- Helmholtz’s equation, 274
- Hermite polynomials, 121
- hypoellipticity  
 condition, 144, 145  
 estimate, 144
- Implicit Function Theorem, 19, 25, 156, 366
- index of Fredholm operator, 416
- inequality  
 Fefferman–Phong, 93, 216

- Gårding, 6, 73, 92–96, 101, 142, 145, 214–216
- Gronwall, 117, 265
- Hardy–Littlewood–Sobolev, 236
- Minkowski, 239
- Schur, 82, 314, 327
- interpolation, 236, 241, 244
- inverse, 91–92
  - approximate, 400
- Inverse Function Theorem, 49, 400, 420
- Jacobi’s identity, 20, 21
- kernel
  - Bergman, 293, 307–309
  - of Fredholm operator, 416
  - Schwartz, 59, 65, 81, 82, 175, 209, 210, 238, 263, 370, 399
- Laplace–Beltrami operator, 157, 243, 351, 353, 357, 362, 378
- Leibnitz rule, 150
- Lidskii’s Theorem, 413
- Lie derivative, 395
- lifting, 18–19, 203
- Liouville measure, 366
- Littlewood–Paley theory, 158, 159, 161, 163, 167, 214
- localization, 39, 153, 155, 188, 195
- manifolds, 339–363
  - definition of, 339
  - PDE on, 353–362
  - pseudodifferential operators on, 345–352
  - Riemannian, 344–345
  - smooth functions on, 340
- Maslov index, 264
- matrices
  - $J$ , 15, 16, 64, 257
  - notation for, 384
  - symplectic, 252–253, 262
  - transition, 340
- Mean Ergodic Theorem, 367
- meromorphic
  - family of operators, 110, 419
  - resolvents, 129, 131
- microlocality, 195
- microlocally invertible, 195
- Morse Lemma, 46, 48–50
- nondegeneracy condition, 15, 48, 155, 157, 237, 239, 240, 244, 282
- nonnormal operators, 287
- norm, 140, 346, 347, 371, 387, 411
- normal forms, 273–289
  - complex symbols, 282–286
  - real symbols, 275–279
- notation, 383–389
  - basic, 383–384
  - for estimates, 388
  - for functions, 385–387
  - for matrices, 384
  - for operators, 387
  - for sets, 384
  - multiindex, 385
- observables, 3, 5, 8, 56, 247, 348, 370
- Open Mapping Theorem, 417
- order functions, 73
  - change of, 182, 183
  - definition, 72
  - examples, 72
  - log of, 182
- order of vanishing, 148–152
- oscillatory integral, 6, 40, 46, 52–54
- oscillatory testing, 80
- phase shift, 36
- Planck’s constant, 1, 5
- plurisubharmonic functions, 300–302
- Poincaré’s Lemma, 230, 255, 396
  - on manifolds, 398
- Poisson bracket, 4, 5, 20, 68, 106, 369, 386
- polar decomposition, 252
- principal symbol, 74, 213, 277, 279, 281, 282, 361, 371
- principal type, 276, 278, 282
- projection, 127–129, 131, 134, 368, 371, 373
  - Bergman, 293, 307
- propagation of singularities, 279–281
- pseudodifferential operators, 2, 4, 55–96
  - on manifold, 347
  - symbol of, 348, 349, 351
- pseudolocality, 81, 204
- pseudospectrum, 287, 288
- push-forward, 246, 394
- quadratic forms, 295
- quantization
  - and commutators, 61
  - composition, 66
  - Fourier decomposition, 65

- general, 56
- linear symbols, 59, 60
- on torus, 106–108
- standard, 56
- symbols
  - exponentials of linear symbols, 62
  - exponentials of quadratic symbols, 63
- symbols depending on  $x$  only, 59
- symbols linear in  $x$ , 60
- Toeplitz, 8, 293, 311–320
- Weyl, 4, 6, 56
  - complex, 312–316
- quantum mechanics, 1, 198
  - Heisenberg picture, 5, 247, 271, 368
- quasimode, 152–157, 240–243, 286–288
- Quillen’s Theorem, 332
- rank, 410
- Rank-Nullity Theorem, 418
- Rauch–Taylor Theorem, 354
- rescaling, 2, 38, 39, 57, 95, 123, 126
  - standard, 57
- Riemannian manifold, 152, 157, 243, 344–345, 365, 378
- Riesz Representation Theorem, 101
- Riesz–Thorin Theorem, 236
- $s$ -density bundles, 342
- Schrödinger’s equation, 1, 7
- Schur complement formula, 415
- Schwartz space  $\mathcal{S}$ , 28
- section, 341
- selfadjoint operator, 58, 106, 130, 177, 221, 222, 244, 286, 368, 401, 402, 404–409, 411–413
- seminorm, 28, 76, 108, 131, 192, 211, 388
- signature of matrix, 36
- singular values, 411
- Sobolev space, 140, 183, 346, 351, 355
  - generalized, 7, 182–187, 279
- Sogge’s Theorem, 243
- spectral clusters, 157, 243
- spectrum, 129–132, 177, 286, 287, 357, 403, 405, 408–411
- stationary phase, 2, 6, 40–52, 68, 69, 72, 78, 103, 213, 239
  - higher-dimensional, 46–52
  - one-dimensional, 40–46
- Stirling’s formula, 150, 151, 328
- Stone’s Theorem, 222, 409
- subadditive function, 265
- symbol calculus, 55
- symbols, 3, 56, 389
  - depending only on  $x$ , 59
  - distributional, 58
  - exponentials of linear symbols, 62
  - exponentials of quadratic symbols, 63
  - Kohn–Nirenberg, 7, 206–217, 389
  - linear, 59, 60
  - linear in  $x$ , 60
- symmetric operator, 132, 222, 355, 406
- symplectic
  - form, 342
  - geometry, 2, 13–26
    - complex, 299
  - mapping, 16–20
  - matrix, 16–17, 252, 262
  - product  $\sigma$ , 14, 50
- tangent
  - bundle, 341
  - space, 341
- Taylor’s Theorem, 93, 95, 151
- tempered
  - distributions, 35
  - family of distributions, 187
  - family of operators, 187, 188
- Toeplitz quantization, 293, 311–320
- torus, 7, 106–109, 366, 383
- trace, 413
  - integral operators, 413
- trace class, 361, 411–413
  - norm, 411
- transform
  - Bargmann, 292, 306
  - FBI (Fourier–Bros–Iagolnitzer), 291, 302–311
  - Fourier, 2
  - Gabor, 292
  - Segal–Bargmann, 292
- tunneling, 2, 7, 143–148
- uncertainty principle, 39–40, 132, 196
- unitary
  - matrix, 253
  - operators, 85, 100, 126, 172, 176, 220, 222, 228, 246, 251, 256, 259, 260, 263, 368, 404, 408, 409
- vector bundles, 340–343
  - fibers of, 340
  - sections of, 341

- 
- transition matrices, 340
  - version, 162
  
  - wave equation, 281
    - damped, 2, 7, 109–117
  - wavefront set
    - classical, 190
    - for operators, 194
    - semiclassical, 188, 191, 192, 196
    - using FBI transform, 323
  - wedge product, 391
  - weight, 145
  - Weyl's Law, 7, 132–137, 370
    - for harmonic oscillator, 123
    - on manifolds, 361–362
  - WKB approximation, xii, 227, 228, 273–274
  
  - Young's inequality, 160





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