

# Non-Uniform Stability of Damped Contraction Semigroups

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# Goal of the Talk

*Introduce general conditions for non-uniform stability of **damped** hyperbolic Cauchy problems (and PDEs).*

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$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = (A - BB^*)x(t) \\ x(0) = x_0 \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{w}(t) + Lw(t) + DD^*\dot{w}(t) = 0 \\ w(0) = w_0, \quad \dot{w}(0) = w_1 \end{cases}$$

## Problem

*Formulate conditions on  $(A, B)$  and  $(L, D)$  such that*

$$\|x(t)\| \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{or} \quad \|w(t)\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

*and especially study the **rate** of the convergence.*

# Main Assumptions (roughly, to keep things simple)

- $A$  generates a contraction semigroup  $e^{At}$  on a Hilbert space  $X$ , i.e.,  $\|e^{At}\| \leq 1$ .
- Either  $B \in \mathcal{L}(U, X)$ , or  $(A, B, B^*)$  is a “well-posed system”.
- $\Rightarrow A - BB^*$  generates a contraction semigroup  $e^{(A-BB^*)t}$

# Polynomial and Non-Uniform Stability

## Definition

$e^{(A-BB^*)t}$  generated by  $A - BB^*$  is **non-uniformly stable** if there exist an unbounded increasing  $N_T: [t_0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  and  $C > 0$  s.t.

$$\|e^{(A-BB^*)t}x_0\| \leq \frac{C}{N_T(t)}\|(A-BB^*)x_0\| \quad x_0 \in D(A-BB^*)$$

[... , Liu–Rao '05, Batty–Duyckaerts '08, Borichev–Tomilov '10, Rozendaal–Seifert–Stahn '19]

Application:  $E(t) \sim \|e^{(A-BB^*)t}x_0\|^2$  for many PDE systems.

Terminology: “Non-uniform stability” = “Semi-uniform stability”

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## Theorem (BT'10, RSS'19)

Assume  $e^{(A-BB^*)t}$  is contractive,  $i\mathbb{R} \subset \rho(A - BB^*)$ , and

$$\|(is - A + BB^*)^{-1}\| \leq N(|s|), \quad N \text{ non-decreasing.}$$

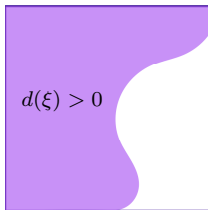
- If  $N(s) \lesssim 1 + s^\alpha$ , then  $N_T(t) = t^{1/\alpha}$
- If  $N$  has “positive increase”, then  $N_T(t) = N^{-1}(t)$ .

## Damped Wave Equations

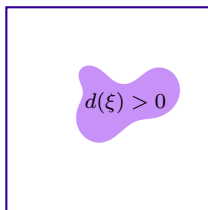
**Non-uniform stability** is encountered in wave/beam/plate equations with **partial** or **weak** dampings. In the 2D wave equation

$$\begin{aligned}\ddot{w}(\xi, t) - \Delta w(\xi, t) + d(\xi)\dot{w}(\xi, t) &= 0, & \xi \in \Omega, \quad t > 0 \\ w(\xi, t) &= 0 & \xi \in \partial\Omega\end{aligned}$$

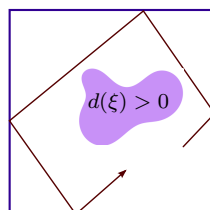
stability depends on geometry of  $\Omega$  and  $\omega := \{ \xi \in \Omega \mid d(\xi) > 0 \}$ :



Exponential stability



Non-uniform stability



Geometric Control  
Condition

# Goal of the Talk

*Introduce general conditions for non-uniform stability of **damped** hyperbolic Cauchy problems and PDEs.*

Damped systems of the form

$$\dot{x}(t) = (A - BB^*)x(t) \quad \text{and} \quad \ddot{w}(t) + Lw(t) + DD^*\dot{w}(t) = 0$$

## Motivation:

- So-called “polynomial” and “non-uniform” stability often arise in wave/beam/plate equations with weak or partial dampings
- Most of the current literature based on case-by-case analysis

## Main results:

- General **observability-type** sufficient conditions for stability



$(B^*, A)$  **exactly** observable  $\Leftrightarrow A - BB^*$  exponentially stable  
 $\|x(t)\| \leq Me^{-\omega t} \|x_0\| \quad \forall x_0$

$(B^*, A)$  **approx.** observable  $\Leftrightarrow^* A - BB^*$  strongly/weakly stable  
 $x(t) \rightarrow 0 \quad \forall x_0$

[Slemrod, Levan, Russell, Benchimol, Guo–Luo, Lasiecka–Triggiani,  
Curtain–Weiss . . .]

$(B^*, A)$  **exactly** observable  $\Leftrightarrow A - BB^*$  exponentially stable  
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$(B^*, A)$  **non-uniformly** obs.  $\Leftrightarrow A - BB^*$  non-uniformly stable

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 $x(t) \rightarrow 0 \quad \forall x_0$

[Slemrod, Levan, Russell, Benchimol, Guo–Luo, Lasiecka–Triggiani,  
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Earlier work: Ammari–Tucsnak 2001, Ammari et. al.

Anantharaman–Léautaud 2014, Joly–Laurent 2019

# Main Results

# A Non-Uniform Hautus Test

Consider the Hautus-type condition [Miller 2012]

$$\|x\|^2 \leq M(|s|)\|(is - A)x\|^2 + m(|s|)\|B^*x\|^2, \quad x \in D(A), s \in \mathbb{R},$$

for some non-decreasing  $M, m: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [r_0, \infty)$ .

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for some non-decreasing  $M, m: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [r_0, \infty)$ .

### Theorem

*If the above condition holds, then  $i\mathbb{R} \subset \rho(A - BB^*)$ . If  $N(s) := M(s) + m(s)$  has positive increase, then*

$$\|e^{(A-BB^*)t}x_0\| \leq \frac{C}{N^{-1}(t)}\|(A - BB^*)x_0\|, \quad x_0 \in D(A - BB^*)$$

# Observability of the Schrödinger Group

For

$$\ddot{w}(t) + Lw(t) + DD^*\dot{w}(t) = 0, \quad \text{on } H$$

and  $M_S, m_S: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [r_0, \infty)$  consider ( $s \geq 0$ )

$$\|w\|^2 \leq M_S(s)\|(s^2 - L)w\|^2 + m_S(s)\|D^*w\|^2, \quad w \in D(L)$$

This is **observability of the “Schrödinger group”** ( $D^*, iL$ )  
(generalises Anantharaman–Léautaud 2014, Joly–Laurent 2019)

## Theorem

*A similar result, decay rate determined by  $N^{-1}(t)$ , where*

$$N(s) := M_S(s)m_S(s)(1 + s^2).$$

# The Wavepacket Condition

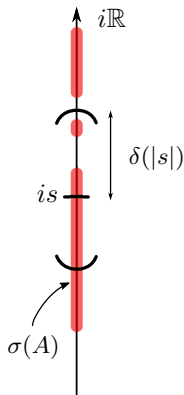
For  $A$  skew-adjoint with spectral projection  $P_{(a,b)}$  (for  $i(a,b) \subset i\mathbb{R}$ )

$$\|B^*x\| \geq \gamma(|s|)\|x\|, \quad x \in \text{Ran}(P_{(s-\delta(|s|), s+\delta(|s|))}), \quad s \in \mathbb{R}$$

for some non-increasing  $\delta, \gamma: [0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, r_0]$ .

Such  $x$  are often called “**wavepackets**” of  $A$ .

(Used for exact observability, e.g., in Ramdani et. al. 2005, Miller 2012, Tucsnak–Weiss 2009.)



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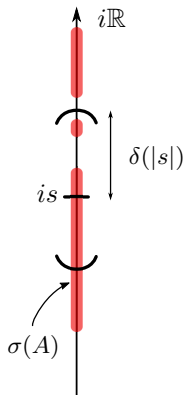
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## Theorem

If  $A^* = -A$  and if  $N(s) := \delta(s)^{-2}\gamma(s)^{-2}$  has positive increase, then

$$\|e^{(A-BB^*)t}x_0\| \leq \frac{C}{N^{-1}(t)}\|(A-BB^*)x_0\|.$$





# Time-Domain Non-Uniform Observability

## Time-domain observability conditions:

For  $\tau, c_\tau, \beta > 0$ :

$$c_\tau \|(1 - A)^{-\beta} x_0\|^2 \leq \int_0^\tau \|B^* e^{At} x_0\|^2 dt, \quad x_0 \in D(A).$$

(cf. generalised observability conditions by Ammari–Tuscnak 2001, Ammari–Bchatnia–El Mufti 2017)

## Theorem

*Assume  $D(A^*) = D(A)$ ,  $B \in \mathcal{L}(U, X)$  and  $0 < \beta \leq 1$ . If the above condition holds, then  $i\mathbb{R} \subset \rho(A - BB^*)$ , and*

$$\|e^{(A - BB^*)t} x_0\| \leq \frac{C}{t^{1/(2\beta)}} \|Ax_0\|, \quad x_0 \in D(A)$$

## Examples: 2D Wave Equations

A wave equation with viscous damping on a convex  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  with Lipschitz boundary,  $d \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ ,  $d \geq 0$

$$\begin{aligned}w_{tt}(\xi, t) - \Delta w(\xi, t) + d(\xi)w_t(\xi, t) &= 0, & \xi \in \Omega, \quad t > 0, \\w(\xi, t) &= 0, & \xi \in \partial\Omega, \quad t > 0, \\w(\cdot, 0) = w_0(\cdot) &\in H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega), & w_t(\cdot, 0) = w_1(\cdot) \in H_0^1(\Omega).\end{aligned}$$

- Several results exist for the exact observability of the Schrödinger group  $(D^*, i\Delta)$  (Jaffard '90, Burq–Zworski '19) for rectangles/tori. Leads to polynomial decay  $1/\sqrt{t}$ .
- Precise lower bounds on  $d$  lead to generalised observability of the Schrödinger group via Burq–Zuily 2016.
- In general our results are sub-optimal, since conditions do not take into account the **smoothness** of  $d$ ! (Burq–Hitrik '07)

# 1D Wave Equations

Consider a wave equation with weak damping (and Dirichlet BC)

$$w_{tt}(\xi, t) - w_{\xi\xi}(\xi, t) + d(\xi) \int_0^1 d(r) w_t(r, t) dr = 0, \quad \xi \in (0, 1), \quad t > 0,$$

- The wavepacket condition characterises (optimal) stability via lower bounds of the sine Fourier coefficients, e.g.,  $(c, \alpha > 0)$

$$\left| \int_0^1 d(\xi) \sin(n\pi\xi) d\xi \right| \geq \frac{c}{n^\alpha}$$

- Pointwise damping possible (formally  $d(\xi) = \delta(\xi - \xi_0)$ ).
- Analogous results for Euler–Bernoulli / Timoshenko beams

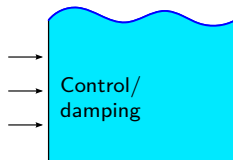
# Application: Water Waves System

In the reference



Su–Tucsnak–Weiss “Stabilizability properties of a linearized water waves system,” *Systems & Control Letters*, 2020.

the results were applied to prove non-uniform stabilizability of a “**water waves system**” in a 2D domain.



- The PDE system models small amplitude gravity water waves
- Stability and convergence rate proved using the “Wavepacket condition”,  $A$  has eigenvalues  $\lambda_k \approx i\sqrt{k}$
- $\delta(|s|) \rightarrow 0$  so that  $(is - \delta(|s|), is + \delta(|s|))$  reduce to 1D spectral subspaces.
- The stability result is likely to be optimal.

# Conclusions

In this presentation:

- General sufficient conditions for non-uniform stability of the semigroup generated by  $A - BB^*$ .
- Discussion of PDE examples and optimality of the results



R. Chill, LP, D. Seifert, R. Stahn, Y. Tomilov, “Non-Uniform Stability of Damped Contraction Semigroups,” *Analysis & PDE*, 2023 (<https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.04804>)

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