

An effective version of Ratner's equidistribution theorem for $SL(3, \mathbb{R})$

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Ratner's theorem (1991)

For any $x \in X$, the closure of $Ux = \{u(r)x : r \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is a closed orbit Lx of some Lie subgroup $L \subset G$. Moreover, the orbit Ux is equidistributed in Lx in the following sense: For any $f \in C_c^\infty(X)$,

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_{[T]} f(u(r)x) dr = \int_{Lx} f(y) d\mu_L(y).$$

Here $[T] = [-T/2, T/2]$, and μ_L denotes the unique L -invariant probability measure on Lx .

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Dream Theorem

There exist $C, \eta > 0$ and some Sobolev norm $\|\cdot\|_S$ such that for any $x \in X$ either

$$\left| \frac{1}{T} \int_{[T]} f(u(r)x) dr - \int_X f(y) d\mu_G(y) \right| \leq C \|f\|_S T^{-\eta},$$

or $u([T])x$ is close to some proper closed orbit Lx .

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$$u(r) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & r \\ & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Theorem 1 (Y. 2022)

There exist $C, \eta, T_0 > 0$ and some Sobolev norm $\|\cdot\|_S$ such that for any $T > T_0$ and $x \in X$, either

$$\left| \frac{1}{T} \int_{[T]} f(u(r)x) dr - \int_X f(y) d\mu_G(y) \right| \leq C \|f\|_S T^{-\eta},$$

or $b(\log T)x$ or $b'(\log T)x$ is "far in the cusp".

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$$a_0(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{t/3} & & \\ & e^{-t/6} & \\ & & e^{-t/6} \end{bmatrix}$$

- $b(t) = a(-t)a_0(t)$, $b'(t) = a(-t)a_0(-t)$

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- Obstruction: $b(\log T)x \notin X_{T^{-\kappa}}$ or $b'(\log T)x \notin X_{T^{-\kappa}}$ where $\kappa = \frac{1}{3} - 0.001$

Theorem 2(Y. 2022)

There exist $C, \eta, t_0 > 0$ and some Sobolev norm $\|\cdot\|_S$ such that for any $t > t_0$ and any $x \in X$, either

$$\left| \int_{[1]} f(a(t)u(r)x)dr - \int_X f(y)d\mu_G(y) \right| \leq C\|f\|_S e^{-\eta t},$$

or $a_0(t)x \notin X_{e^{-\kappa t}}$ or $a_0(-t)x \notin X_{e^{-\kappa t}}$.

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where $a_1(t) = a_0(t)a(t)$.

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The ineffective version is proved by Shah (2009).

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$$\max\{\langle nw_1 \rangle, \langle nw_2 \rangle\} \geq C' n^{-\omega}.$$

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Let (w_1, w_2) be 0.6-Diophantine. There exist $C, \eta, t_0 > 0$ and some Sobolev norm $\|\cdot\|_S$ such that for any $t > t_0$,

$$\left| \int_{[1]} f(a_1(t)u(\varphi_{w_1, w_2}(r))\Gamma) dr - \int_X f(y) d\mu_G(y) \right| \leq C \|f\|_S e^{-\eta t}.$$

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- Lindenstrauss-Margulis-Mohammadi-Shah (in progress): logarithmic effective density in general case

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- Strombergsson (2015): $G = \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \ltimes \mathbb{R}^2$, $\Gamma = \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^2$, U in semisimple part;

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- Kim (2021+): $G = \mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{R}) \ltimes \mathbb{R}^n$, $\Gamma = \mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{Z}) \ltimes \mathbb{Z}^n$, U horospherical in semisimple part

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- Lindenstrauss-Mohammadi-Wang (2022): polynomial effective equidistribution for $G = \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{C}), \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \times \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{R})$

Sketch of the proof

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- The critical part of the approach is quite different from previous works;
- The framework can be applied to general cases.

Venkatesh's argument

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- If we can prove that the normalized measure μ_s on $a(s)u([1])x$ has large dimension in the following sense: for any ball $B_{s'}(x)$ of radius $e^{-s'}$,

$$\mu_s(B(x)) \leq e^{-(d-\theta)s'}$$

where d is the dimension of the whole space and θ is a small constant, then we have that $a(s')_*\mu_s$ is effectively equidistributed.

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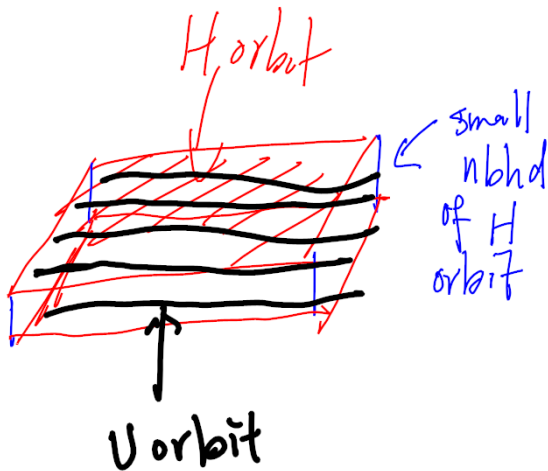
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- When d_i is close to 4, we can apply Venkatesh's argument to get effective equidistribution.

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Closing lemma (Einsiedler-Margulis-Venkatesh, 2009)

There exist $d_0, \xi > 0$ such that if μ_0 is not (d_0, s') -good, then the whole orbit $a(s)u([1])x$ is $e^{-\xi s'}$ -close to a closed H -orbit

Dimension Improvements

- Lindenstrauss-Mohammadi-Wang: Margulis function

$$f_i(x) := \sum \|\mathbf{w}\|^{-\alpha}$$

where \mathbf{w} runs over all small vectors in the Lie algebra of G which is transversal to $Lie(H)$ such that $\exp(\mathbf{w})x \in \text{supp}\mu_i$. Then prove that $\int_{[1]} f_{i+1}(a(\ell)u(r)x)dr \leq af_i(x) + b$.

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- Key: a Kakeya type model

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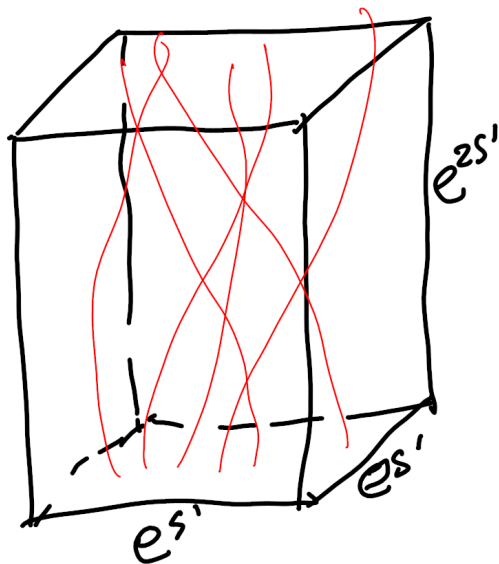
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- Every $u([e^{2s'}])\Omega(y)$ corresponds to a tube $\mathcal{T}(y)$: a $e^{-s'}$ neighborhood of a curve $\{(r, f_1(r), f_2(r)) : r \in [e^{2s'}]\}$

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$$\mathcal{T}(y_1) \cap \mathcal{T}(y_2) \neq \emptyset.$$

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- Large \mathcal{S} : there are a lot structures in the distribution of the U -orbit
- Those structures imply that the orbit is close to a closed periodic orbit.

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- Additive Combinatorics (Balog-Szemerédi-Gowers): $|A + A| \gg |A|$ or A has some structure
- Fractal Theory (Hochman): $H_n(\mu * \nu) \geq H_n(\mu) + \delta$ or μ has some structure

Thank You!