Department of Mathematical Sciences

Seminar in Nonlinear Systems

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Quantum Chaos, Classical Delocalization and Quantum Localization: The Strange Case of the Non-compact Cusp

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Abstract: I will review some basic concepts of Semiclassical Quantum Chaos (Quantization, Wigner Distribution, Quantum Ergodicity, etc.) and show how they apply to the case of the planar billiard Q delimited by the positive x-semiaxis, the positive y-semiaxis, and the graph of $f(x) = (x+1)^{-2}$. We will see that a commonly accepted definition of Quantum Ergodicity (the Schnirelman Theorem) applies, but it does not make much sense from a physical point of view. This is due to a curious anti-tunnel effect that occurs in non-compact cusps.