WANNIER TRANSFORM for

APERIODIC SOLIDS

Sponsoring

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Main References

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J. BELLISSARD, G. DE NITTIS, V. MILANI, *Wannier transform for aperiodic tilings*, in preparation, (2010)





Renormalization of Quasiperiodic Mappings

Stellan Ostlund and Seung-hwan Kim



Fig. 3. – We show, respectively, the IDOS of the Octonacci chain (up) and the IDOS of the labyrinth, for a) r = 0.8 (no gap, finite measure), b) r = 0.6 (some gaps and finite measure) and c) r = 0.3 (infinity of gaps and zero measure). The energy varies between -2 and 2, since r < 1.

C. SIRE

Electronic Spectrum of a 2D Quasi-Crystal Related to the Octagonal Quasi-Periodic Tiling. EUROPHYSICS LETTERS

Europhys. Lett., 10 (5), pp. 483-488 (1989)



Figure 1: A sample of the icosahedral quasicrystal *AlPdMn*



Partial DoS⁺ measured by SXES^{*} or SXAS^{*}

- (a) Pure Al
- (b) ω -Al₇Cu₂Fe
- (c) Rhombohedral approximant Al_{62.5}Cu_{26.5}Fe₁₁
- (d) Icosahedral phase Al₆₂Cu_{25.5}Fe_{12.5}

* = Soft X-ray Emission or Absorption Spectroscopy



- For periodic crystals, the *Wannier transform* leads to band spectrum calculation (*Bloch theory*)
- The Wannier transform uses the translation invariance of the crystal
- Is it possible to extend it to *aperiodic solids* ?

Content

- 1. An example: Fibonacci
- 2. The Wannier Transform
- 3. The Schrödinger Operator
- 4. To conclude

I - An example: Fibonacci

The *Fibonacci sequence* is an infinite word generated by the substitution

$$\hat{\sigma}: a \longrightarrow ab, b \longrightarrow a$$

Iterating gives



It can be represented by a 1*D*-*tiling* if

$$a \to [0,1]$$
 $b \to [0,\sigma]$ $\sigma = \frac{\sqrt{5}-1}{2} \sim .618$













- Collared tiles in the Fibonacci tiling -



- The Anderson-Putnam complex for the Fibonacci tiling -



- The substitution map -

Let $\Xi_n \subset X_n$ be the set of *tile endpoints* (0-cells). The sequence of complexes $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ together with the maps $f_n : X_{n+1} \mapsto X_n$ gives rise to inverse limits

$$\lim_{\leftarrow} (X_n, f_n) = \Omega \qquad \lim_{\leftarrow} (\Xi_n, f_n) = \Xi$$

- The space Ω is *compact* and is called the *Hull*.
- It is endowed with an *action* of \mathbb{R} generated by infinitesimal translation on the X_n 's
- The space Ξ is a Cantor set and is called the *transversal*
- Ξ parametrizes a the set of all tilings sharing the same words as the Fibonacci sequence with one tile endpoint at the origin.
- There is a *two-to one* correspondence between Ξ and the window.















The Fibonacci Sequence: Groupoid

 Γ_{Ξ} is the set of pairs (ξ, a) with $\xi \in \Xi$ and $a \in \mathcal{L}_{\xi}$.

It is a *locally compact groupoid* when endowed with the following structure

- Units: Ξ ,
- Range and Source maps: $r(\xi, a) = \xi$, $s(\xi, a) = \tau^{-a}\xi$
- **Composition:** $(\xi, a) \circ (T^{-a}\xi, b) = (\xi, a + b)$
- Inverse: $(\xi, a)^{-1} = (T^{-a}\xi, -a)$
- **Topology:** induced by $\Xi \times \mathbb{R}$

II - Wannier Transform

J. BELLISSARD, G. DE NITTIS, V. MILANI, Wannier transform for aperiodic tilings, in preparation, (2010)

Wannier Transform: Periodic Case

If $\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}$ is a one dimensional lattice the Wannier transform is defined for a *function* $f \in C_c(\mathbb{R})$ by

$$g(s;k) = \mathscr{W}f(s;k) = \sum_{a \in \mathbb{Z}} f(s+a) \ e^{-\imath k \cdot a}$$

Here *k* belongs to the dual group of \mathbb{Z} , called *Brillouin zone*

 $\mathbb{B} \sim \mathbb{T} = \mathbb{R}/2\pi\mathbb{Z}$

- Bloch boundary conditions: $g(s + a; k) = g(s; k)e^{ik \cdot a}$ whenever $a \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- Plancherel's formula:

$$\int_{0}^{1} ds \int_{\mathbb{T}} \frac{dk}{2\pi} |g(s;k)|^{2} = \int_{\mathbb{R}} dx |f(x)|^{2}$$

• Unitarity: $\mathscr{W} : L^2(\mathbb{R}) \mapsto L^2([0,1]) \otimes L^2(\mathbb{T})$ is a *unitary operator*.

Wannier Transform: Definition

In the case of the Fibonacci sequence: $\xi \in \Xi$, \mathcal{L}_{ξ} being the corresponding Delone set, $v = \hat{\sigma}^n(w)$ the *n*-th substitute of a *collared tile*. Denote by $\mathbb{B} \simeq \mathbb{T}^2$ the dual group of \mathbb{Z}^2 .

Then, for $s \in \mathbb{R}$ and $k \in \mathbb{B}$ the *Wannier transform* of a *function* $f \in C_c(\mathbb{R})$ is

$$\mathcal{W}_{\xi}f(v,s;k) = \sum_{a \in \mathcal{L}_{\xi}(v)} f(s+a)e^{-\imath k \cdot a}$$

Wannier Transform: Properties

• Smoothness: if f is *smooth*, then (1k c) = 2k c w f

$$\mathscr{W}_{\xi}\left(\frac{d^{\kappa}f}{dx^{k}}\right) = \frac{\partial^{\kappa}\mathscr{W}_{\xi}f}{\partial s^{k}}$$

• **Covariance:** if $g = \mathcal{W} f$ then

$$g_{\xi}(v,s+b;k) = g_{\mathsf{T}^{b}\xi}(v,s;k) \ e^{ik \cdot b} \qquad b \in \mathcal{L}_{\xi}$$

• **Inversion:** if dk denotes the *normalized Haar measure* on \mathbb{B}

$$f(s+a) = \int_{\mathbb{B}} dk g_{\xi}(v,s;k) e^{ik\cdot a} \qquad a \in \mathcal{L}_{\xi}, s \in \mathbb{R}$$

Wannier Transform: Momentum Space

Let $\mathcal{E}_{\xi}(v) \subset L^2(\mathbb{B})$ be the closed subspace generated by

 $\{e_a: k \in \mathbb{B} \mapsto e^{-\iota k \cdot a} ; a \in \mathcal{L}_{\xi}\}$

- $\mathcal{E}(v) = (\mathcal{E}_{\xi}(v))_{\xi \in \Xi}$ is a *continuous field* of Hilbert spaces.
- If $W_{\upsilon}(\xi, a) : \mathcal{E}_{T^{-a}\xi}(\upsilon) \mapsto \mathcal{E}_{\xi}(\upsilon)$ is defined by

 $W_{v}(\xi, a)e_{b} = e_{a+b}$

then the family $(W_v(\gamma))_{\gamma \in \Gamma_{\Xi}}$ defines a *strongly continuous unitary representation* of the groupoid Γ_{Ξ} .

Wannier Transform: Momentum Space

- Define $\mathcal{H}_{\xi} = \bigoplus_{v} L^{2}(v) \otimes \mathcal{E}_{\xi}(v) \subset L^{2}(X_{n}) \otimes L^{2}(\mathbb{B})$ where v varies among the *d*-cells of the Anderson-Putnam complex.
- Let $\Pi_{\xi} : L^2(X_n) \otimes L^2(\mathbb{B}) \mapsto \mathcal{H}_{\xi}$ be the corresponding *orthogonal projection*.
- $\mathcal{H} = (\mathcal{H}_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$ is a continuous field of Hilbert spaces.
- Similarly $U(\gamma) = \bigoplus_{v} \mathbf{1}_{v} \otimes W_{v}(\gamma)$ defines a strongly continuous unitary representation of the groupoid Γ_{Ξ} on \mathcal{H} .

Wannier Transform: Plancherel

• The Wannier transform is a *strongly continuous field of unitary operators* defined on the constant field $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ with values in \mathcal{H}

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} dx \ |f(x)|^2 = \sum_{v} \int_{v} ds \int_{\mathbb{B}} dk \ |\mathcal{W}_{\xi}f(v,s;k)|^2$$

• The Wannier transform is *covariant*:

$$U(\xi, a) \mathcal{W}_{\mathrm{T}^{-a}\xi} = \mathcal{W}_{\xi} U_{\mathrm{reg}}(a)$$

where U_{reg} is the usual action of the translation group \mathbb{R} in $L^2(\mathbb{R})$.

III - Schrödinger's Operator

J. BELLISSARD, G. DE NITTIS, V. MILANI, Wannier transform for aperiodic tilings, in preparation, (2010)

The Schrödinger Operator: Model

As an example let an *atomic nucleus* be placed is each tile, namely sites in \mathcal{L}_{ξ} . The atomic species are labeling the tiles. The corresponding *atomic potential* has compact support small enough to be contained in one tile

$$V_{\xi}(x) = \sum_{v} \sum_{a \in \mathcal{L}_{\xi}(v)} v_{\mathrm{at}}^{(v)}(x-a)$$

The *Schrödinger operator* describing the electronic motion is then a covariant family

$$H_{\xi}(x) = -\Delta + V_{\xi}$$

The Schrödinger Operator: Form

If $f \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R})$ then, like in the *Bloch Theory* for periodic potentials

 $Q_{\xi}(f,f) = \langle f | H_{\xi} f \rangle_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}$

$$= \sum_{v} \int_{v} ds \int_{\mathbb{B}} dk \left(\left| \nabla_{s} \mathscr{W}_{\xi} f(v,s;k) \right|^{2} + v_{\mathrm{at}}^{(v)}(s) \left| \mathscr{W}_{\xi} f(v,s;k) \right|^{2} \right)$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{B}} dk \; \hat{Q}_k \left((\mathscr{W}_{\xi} f)_k, (\mathscr{W}_{\xi} f)_k \right)$$

with

$$\hat{Q}_k(g,g) = \sum_{v} \int_{v} ds \left(|\nabla_s g(v,s)|^2 + v_{\text{at}}^{(v)}(s)|g(v,s)|^2 \right)$$

The Schrödinger Operator: Form

A function *g* belongs to the *form domain* of \hat{Q}_k if and only if

1. both g(v, s) and its derivative are in $L^2(v)$ for all (d = 1)-cell v

2. *g* satisfies the following *cohomological equation*: at each $(\{d - 1\} = 0)$ -*cell u* of the Anderson-Putnam complex

$$\sum_{v:\partial_0 v=u} g(v,u)e^{\imath k\cdot a_{\hat{v}\to v}} = \sum_{w:\partial_1 v=u} g(w,u)e^{\imath k\cdot a_{\hat{v}\to w}}$$

where $a_{v \to w}$ is the *translation* vector sending the initial point of v the initial point of w, and \hat{v} is one tile touching u.

The Schrödinger Operator: Form



The Schrödinger Operator: Bands

The form \hat{Q}_k generates a selfadjoint operator \hat{H}_k defined by

$$\langle g | \hat{H}_k g \rangle_{L^2(X_n)} = \hat{Q}_k(g,g)$$

On each *d*-cell v, $\hat{H}_k = -\Delta_s + v_{at}^{(v)}$, with *k*-dependent boundary conditions.

Since a cell is *compact* it follows that \hat{H}_k is *elliptic*, thus it has *compact resolvent*. In particular its spectrum is *discrete* with finite multiplicity, namely its eigenvalues are

 $E_0(k) \le E_1(k) \le \cdots \le E_r(k) \le \cdots$

with each $E_r(k)$ a smooth function of $k \in \mathbb{B}$.

The Schrödinger Operator: Bands

What is the connection with the original operator ?

Theorem *The Schrödinger operator* $H_{\mathcal{E}}$ *is given by*

$$H_{\xi} = \Pi_{\xi} \int_{\mathbb{B}}^{\oplus} dk \, \hat{H}_k \, \Pi_{\xi}$$

if Π_{ξ} is the orthogonal projection from $L^2(X_n) \otimes L^2(\mathbb{B})$ onto \mathcal{H}_{ξ} .

The restriction to the subspace \mathcal{H}_{ξ} is **NOT INNOCENT** and reduces the band spectrum to produce a Cantor spectrum in the one-dimensional cases.

IV - To Conclude

- 1. The Fibonacci sequence can be replaced by *aperiodic, repetitive tilings* on \mathbb{R}^d with *finite local complexity*. The Hull and the transversal are well-defined.
- 2. The *Lagarias group* \mathbb{L} plays the role of \mathbb{Z}^2 in general. It is always free with finite rank. Then \mathbb{B} is the group dual to \mathbb{L} .
- 3. The definition of the *Wannier transform* can be extended to this case
- 4. The sequence of *Anderson-Putnam complexes* $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ can be defined in this general case as well.
- 5. The Wannier transform identifies wave functions in $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ with a *proper subspace* of $L^2(X_n) \otimes L^2(\mathbb{B})$
- 6. The Schrödinger operator can be written in terms of this new representation as the *compression* of a Bloch-type operator exhibiting band spectrum.