Maciej Zworski* (zworski@math.berkeley.edu), Mathematics Department, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720, and Stephane Nonnenmacher, Service de Physique Théorique, CEA, Saclay, 91191 Gif-sur-Yvette, France. Quantum decay rates in chaotic scattering.

In this talk we consider a model of chaotic scattering by studying the semiclassical operator

$$P_0(h) = -h^2 \Delta_g + V(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

We show that, if the corresponding classical flow is hyperbolic, and if the dimension of the trapped set on the energy surface is smaller than 2 then there is a gap between the resonances of P(h) near that energy and the real axis. In other words, the quantum decay rate is bounded from below if the classical repeller is sufficiently filamentary. The size of the gap is specified using the topological pressure and that concept is used to formulate the result in higher dimensions. (Received September 26, 2006)