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(mpivarski@roosevelt.edu). *The rate of decay of the Wiener sausage in a local Dirichlet space*. Preliminary report.

Given a heat kernel diffusion which admits a Gaussian type estimate with parameter  $b$  on a local Dirichlet space, we will consider the log asymptotic behavior of the negative exponential moments of the Wiener sausage. We show that the log asymptotic behavior up to time  $t^b V(x; t)$  is  $V(x; t)$ , where  $V(x; t)$  represents the mass of the ball of radius  $t$  about a point  $x$ . This result provides the first such asymptotics for several contexts, including diffusions on complete Riemannian manifolds with non-negative Ricci curvature. (Received September 22, 2011)