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Superscars in the Šeba billiard

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Abstract. We consider the Laplacian with a delta potential (a “point scatterer”) on an *irrational* torus, where the square of the side ratio is *diophantine*. The eigenfunctions fall into two classes: “old” eigenfunctions (75%) of the Laplacian which vanish at the support of the delta potential, and therefore are not affected, and “new” eigenfunctions (25%) which are affected, and as a result feature a logarithmic singularity at the location of the delta potential.

Within a *full density* subsequence of the new eigenfunctions we determine all semiclassical measures in the weak coupling regime and show that they are localized along four wave vectors in momentum space—we therefore prove the existence of so-called “superscars” as predicted by Bogomolny and Schmit [5].

This result contrasts with the phase space *equidistribution* which is observed for a *full density* subset of the new eigenfunctions of a point scatterer on a *rational* torus [14]. Further, in the strong coupling limit we show that a weaker form of localization holds for an *essentially full density* subsequence of the new eigenvalues; in particular quantum ergodicity does not hold.

We also explain how our results can be modified for rectangles with Dirichlet boundary conditions with a point scatterer in the interior. In this case our results extend previous work of Keating, Marklof and Winn who proved the existence of localized semiclassical measures under a clustering condition on the spectrum of the Laplacian.

Keywords. Superscars, Šeba billiard, semiclassical measures

1. Introduction

In the quantum chaos literature the *Šeba billiard* [17], a delta potential placed inside an irrational rectangular billiard, has attracted considerable attention [19, 20, 21, 22, 18, 23, 4]. Šeba introduced the model to investigate the transition between integrability and chaos in quantum systems, and numerical experiments revealed features characteristic of chaotic systems: level repulsion and a Gaussian value distribution of the wave functions—in agreement with Berry’s random wave conjecture [1].

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The present paper deals with irrational tori having diophantine¹ aspect ratio; for convenience the main focus is on periodic rather than Dirichlet boundary conditions, but the methods also apply in the latter case (see [Appendix](#)).

The eigenfunctions of this system fall into two classes: old and new eigenfunctions. The old eigenfunctions are simply eigenfunctions of the Laplacian which vanish at the position of the scatterer x_0 and therefore do not feel its presence. In the case of an irrational torus they make up 75% of the spectrum. In this paper we will only be interested in the new eigenfunctions, which do feel the effect of the scatterer and feature a logarithmic singularity at x_0 . They make up the remaining 25% of the spectrum.

1.1. Statement of the main result

We prove that a full density subsequence of the new eigenfunctions of the point scatterer fail to equidistribute in phase space in the *weak* coupling limit. Specifically, these eigenfunctions become localized (“scarred”, or even “superscarred”) in four wave vectors in momentum space and we are able to classify all possible semiclassical measures which may arise along this sequence in the weak coupling regime (i.e., fixed self-adjoint extensions). Moreover, in the *strong* coupling regime (where the self-adjoint extension parameter varies with the eigenvalue) we are able to show a somewhat weaker result, namely that a subsequence of almost full density fails to equidistribute in phase space.

To describe this more precisely, we first introduce semiclassical measures arising from eigenfunctions.

Definition 1.1. Let λ be a new eigenvalue of the scatterer and denote by g_λ the corresponding L^2 -normalised eigenfunction. Let $a \in C^\infty(S^*\mathbb{T}^2)$ be a classical observable and let $\text{Op}(a)$ be a zeroth order pseudo-differential operator² associated with a . We define the distribution $d\mu_\lambda$ by the identity

$$\langle \text{Op}(a)g_\lambda, g_\lambda \rangle = \int_{S^*\mathbb{T}^2} a d\mu_\lambda. \quad (1.1)$$

By a *semiclassical measure* for a sequence $\{\lambda_n\}$ we mean any limit point of $\{d\mu_{\lambda_n}\}$ in the weak-* topology.

By a subsequence of full density we mean the following.

Definition 1.2. Let $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathbb{R}$ be a countably infinite, increasing sequence of numbers which accumulate at infinity. We say that $\mathcal{S}' \subset \mathcal{S}$ is a *subsequence of full density* if

$$\lim_{X \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\{x \in \mathcal{S}' : x \leq X\}|}{|\{x \in \mathcal{S} : x \leq X\}|} = 1. \quad (1.2)$$

The following definitions will be used throughout the paper.

¹ An irrational γ is *diophantine* if there exist constants $C > 0$ and $k \geq 2$ such that $|\gamma - p/q| > Cq^{-k}$ for any rational p/q .

² We will give a precise definition of our choice of quantization in Section 2.2.

Definition 1.3. For a fixed real number $a > 0$, define a lattice

$$\mathcal{L}_0 := \mathbb{Z}(a, 0) \oplus \mathbb{Z}(0, 1/a) \subset \mathbb{R}^2,$$

let \mathcal{L} denote the dual lattice of \mathcal{L}_0 , and let \mathcal{N} denote the set of distinct Laplacian eigenvalues (i.e., squares of norms of the lattice vectors in \mathcal{L}). Further, given $m \in \mathcal{N}$, denote by $\lambda_m < m$ the new eigenvalue of the scatterer associated³ with m .

With notation as above, the main result of this paper is the following theorem.

Theorem 1.4. *Assume that $a^4 \notin \mathbb{Q}$ is diophantine. We consider the Laplacian on the flat torus $\mathbb{T}^2 = \mathbb{R}^2/2\pi\mathcal{L}_0$. There exists a subsequence $\mathcal{N}' \subset \mathcal{N}$ of full density such that the set of semiclassical measures of the sequence $d\mu_{\lambda_m}$, $m \in \mathcal{N}'$, is given by the following subset of the set of probability measures on the unit cotangent bundle $S^*\mathbb{T}^2$:*

$$\mathcal{Q} = \left\{ \frac{dx}{\text{vol}(\mathbb{T}^2)} \times \frac{1}{4}(\delta_\theta + \delta_{-\theta} + \delta_{\pi-\theta} + \delta_{\pi+\theta})(\phi) \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} : \theta \in [0, \pi/2] \right\}. \quad (1.3)$$

Remark 1.5. As already mentioned, the result can be extended to irrational (diophantine) rectangles with Dirichlet boundary conditions and a delta potential in the interior—the original setting of Šeba’s paper. In the [Appendix](#) we illustrate how our proof can be modified. For a generic position of the scatterer we prove scarring for a proportion $1 - \epsilon$ of all eigenfunctions, for any $\epsilon > 0$. In the nongeneric case of positions with rational coordinates, a positive proportion of the eigenfunctions do not feel the effect of the scatterer, hence are old Laplacian eigenfunctions. Our theorem then applies to the remaining part of the spectrum, which are new eigenfunctions.

In the strong coupling limit, which is studied in the physics literature, and in which features such as level repulsion between the new eigenvalues are observed, we are able to prove the following somewhat weaker result (see [Section 4](#) for the proof).

Theorem 1.6. *Given $\delta > 0$ there exists a subsequence of the new spectrum, of density at least $1 - \delta$, on which the momentum representation of the new eigenfunctions carries positive mass on a finite number of points.⁴ For δ fixed, the mass is uniformly bounded from below, and the number of points is uniformly bounded from above.*

These results may also be easily modified for rectangular domains with Dirichlet or Neumann boundary conditions (cf. [Remark A.1](#) in the appendix.)

1.2. Discussion

The scarring phenomenon described above contrasts with the equidistribution of a full density subset of new eigenfunctions for a point scatterer on a square torus, both in the weak as well as strong coupling limits ([\[14\]](#); also note that “superscars” can occur along zero density subsequences in this model [\[13\]](#)). Interestingly, a key feature for obtaining

³ See [Section 2.1](#) for more details.

⁴ We allow these points to depend on the eigenvalue.

equidistribution for the square torus is that the unperturbed spectrum has unbounded multiplicities (along a generic sequence), whereas in the diophantine aspect ratio case, where the unperturbed spectrum has bounded multiplicities, most eigenfunctions scar strongly.

Moreover, the type of scarring proven here seems quite different from the sequence of scars established by Hassell [9] for the stadium billiard (his construction is based on quasimodes corresponding to a certain sparse sequence of “bouncing ball modes”), or the construction of scars for cat maps with small quantum periods by de Bièvre, Faure and Nonnenmacher [3] (they construct sparse sequences at most half of whose mass is scarred, and a crucial feature in the construction is having essentially *maximal* spectral multiplicities; note that Bourgain [6] has shown that scarring does not occur for cat maps if multiplicities are just slightly smaller than maximal). We also mention Kelmer’s construction [11] of scars for certain higher-dimensional analogues of cat maps; here the existence of invariant rational isotropic subspaces plays a key role.

In the original setting of the Šeba billiard, i.e., for irrational rectangles with Dirichlet boundary conditions and a delta potential in the interior (and in the weak coupling limit), Keating, Marklof and Winn [10] showed that eigenfunctions can scar in momentum space, provided that the unperturbed eigenfunctions are bounded from below at the location of the scatterer, together with a certain clustering assumption on the spectrum of the Laplacian. (The clustering assumption is implied by the Berry–Tabor conjecture, which suggests that the eigenvalues of a generic integrable system behave like points from a Poisson process.) Our proof can easily be modified for this setting.

Our results also show that contrary to the title of Šeba’s original paper [17] there is no “wave chaos” with respect to the wave functions of diophantine rectangular quantum billiards (even though chaotic effects, such as level repulsion, appear in the strong coupling regime [4])—quantum ergodicity fails, both in the weak and strong coupling regimes. Moreover, in the specific setting of Šeba’s original paper (weak coupling and Dirichlet boundary conditions), we show that for any $\epsilon > 0$ a proportion $1 - \epsilon$ of the eigenfunctions are scarred in momentum space, and we determine all possible scarred measures explicitly.

2. Background

This section has the purpose of providing the reader with a brief summary of various results which will be used in the paper.

2.1. The spectrum of a point scatterer on an irrational torus

In order to realize the formal operator

$$-\Delta + \alpha\delta_{x_0}, \quad (\alpha, x_0) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{T}^2,$$

we use self-adjoint extension theory. We simply state the most important facts in this section to make the paper as self-contained as possible. For a more detailed discussion of the theory we refer the reader to the introduction and appendix of [15].

Recall $\mathbb{T}^2 = \mathbb{R}^2/2\pi\mathcal{L}_0$. We restrict the positive Laplacian $-\Delta$ to the domain

$$D_0 = C_c^\infty(\mathbb{T}^2 \setminus \{x_0\})$$

of functions which vanish near the position of the scatterer:

$$H_0 = -\Delta|_{D_0}.$$

The operator H_0 is symmetric, but it fails to be essentially self-adjoint, in fact H_0 has deficiency indices $(1, 1)$. Therefore there exists a one-parameter family of self-adjoint extensions H_φ , $\varphi \in (-\pi, \pi]$, which are restrictions of the adjoint H_0^* of the restricted operator to the domain of functions $f \in \text{Dom}(H_0^*)$ which satisfy the logarithmic boundary condition

$$f(x) = C \left(\cos(\varphi/2) \frac{\log|x - x_0|}{2\pi} + \sin(\varphi/2) \right) + o(1)$$

as $x \rightarrow x_0$ for some constant $C \in \mathbb{C}$. The case $\varphi = \pi$ corresponds to $\alpha = 0$, i.e. we simply obtain the unrestricted Laplacian in this case. In this paper we will study the operators H_φ , $\varphi \in (-\pi, \pi)$. In the physics literature [19] the operator H_φ for fixed φ is known as the “weak coupling” quantization of the scatterer.

Let us now focus on the special case of an irrational torus \mathbb{T}^2 . This means we take a lattice \mathcal{L}_0 such that $a^4 \notin \mathbb{Q}$. The spectrum of the operator H_φ consists of two parts:

- (A) Eigenfunctions which vanish at x_0 and therefore do not “feel” the scatterer. These are simply eigenfunctions of the Laplacian, and occur with multiplicity $m - 1$ where m is the multiplicity of the corresponding eigenspace of the Laplacian. The multiplicity of the positive old eigenvalues is 3, unless the corresponding lattice vector lies on one of the axes, in which case it is 1.
- (B) Eigenfunctions which feature a logarithmic singularity at x_0 . These “feel” the effect of the scatterer, and turn out to be given by the Green’s functions $G_\lambda = (\Delta + \lambda)^{-1} \delta_{x_0}$. The new eigenvalues λ occur with multiplicity 1 and interlace with the “old” Laplace eigenvalues (counted without multiplicity).

We will be interested in the eigenfunctions of type (B), and in particular we will study how these eigenfunctions are distributed in phase space as the eigenvalue tends to infinity. Recall that \mathcal{N} denotes the set of distinct eigenvalues of the Laplacian on \mathbb{T}^2 (these are just norms squared of the lattice vectors in \mathcal{L}). For each $n \in \mathcal{N}$ denote its multiplicity by $r(n)$.

The eigenvalues of type (B) are solutions to the equation

$$\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} r(n) \left(\frac{1}{n - \lambda} - \frac{n}{n^2 + 1} \right) = \tan(\varphi/2) \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{r(n)}{n^2 + 1} \quad (2.1)$$

and they *interlace* with the distinct Laplacian eigenvalues

$$\mathcal{N} = \{0 = n_0 < n_1 < n_2 < \dots\}$$

as follows:

$$\lambda_{n_0} < 0 = n_0 < \lambda_{n_1} < n_1 < \lambda_{n_2} < n_2 < \dots \quad (2.2)$$

where the new eigenvalue associated with $n \in \mathcal{N}$ is denoted by λ_n .

2.2. *Quantization of phase space observables*

Recall that $\mathbb{T}^2 = \mathbb{R}^2/2\pi\mathcal{L}_0$ where $\mathcal{L}_0 = \mathbb{Z}(a, 0) \oplus \mathbb{Z}(0, 1/a)$, $a > 0$, and \mathcal{L} denotes its dual lattice. Consider a classical symbol $a \in C^\infty(S^*\mathbb{T}^2)$, where $S^*\mathbb{T}^2 \simeq \mathbb{T}^2 \times S^1$ denotes the unit cotangent bundle of \mathbb{T}^2 . We may expand a in the Fourier series

$$a(x, \phi) = \sum_{\zeta \in \mathcal{L}, k \in \mathbb{Z}} \hat{a}(\zeta, k) e^{i(\zeta, x) + ik\phi}. \tag{2.3}$$

We choose the following quantization of the symbol a . Let $f \in L^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$ with Fourier expansion

$$f(x) = \sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}} \hat{f}(\xi) e^{i(\xi, x)}. \tag{2.4}$$

On the Fourier side the action of the 0-th order pseudodifferential operator $\text{Op}(a)$ is defined by (we have chosen a “right” quantization, which means we first apply momentum then position operators [14, Section 2.1])

$$(\widehat{\text{Op}(a)f})(\xi) = \sum_{\zeta \neq \xi \in \mathcal{L}, k \in \mathbb{Z}} \hat{a}(\zeta, k) \left(\frac{\tilde{\xi} - \tilde{\zeta}}{|\tilde{\xi} - \tilde{\zeta}|} \right)^k \hat{f}(\xi - \zeta) + \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \hat{a}(\xi, k) \hat{f}(0), \tag{2.5}$$

where for a given $\xi = (\xi_1, \xi_2) \in \mathcal{L}$ we define $\tilde{\xi} := \xi_1 + i\xi_2$.

In terms of the Fourier coefficients the matrix elements of $\text{Op}(a)$ can be written as

$$\langle \text{Op}(a)f, f \rangle = \sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}} (\widehat{\text{Op}(a)f})(\xi) \overline{\hat{f}(\xi)}. \tag{2.6}$$

With $e_{\zeta, k}(x, \phi) := e^{i(\zeta, x) + ik\phi}$, we then have

$$\langle \text{Op}(e_{\zeta, k})f, f \rangle = \sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L} \setminus \{\zeta\}} \left(\frac{\tilde{\xi} - \tilde{\zeta}}{|\tilde{\xi} - \tilde{\zeta}|} \right)^k \overline{\hat{f}(\xi)} \hat{f}(\xi - \zeta) + \overline{\hat{f}(\zeta)} \hat{f}(0). \tag{2.7}$$

2.2.1. *Mixed modes.* If $\zeta \neq 0$ we have the bound

$$|\langle \text{Op}(e_{\zeta, k})f, f \rangle| \leq \sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}} |\hat{f}(\xi)| |\hat{f}(\xi - \zeta)|. \tag{2.8}$$

In the case $f = g_\lambda = G_\lambda/\|G_\lambda\|_2$ we have the L^2 -expansion

$$G_\lambda(x, x_0) = -\frac{1}{4\pi^2} \sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}} c(\xi) e^{i(x-x_0, \xi)}$$

where $c(\xi) = \frac{1}{|\xi|^2 - \lambda}$. We obtain

$$|\langle \text{Op}(e_{\zeta, k})g_\lambda, g_\lambda \rangle| \leq \frac{\sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}} |c(\xi)| |c(\xi - \zeta)|}{\sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}} |c(\xi)|^2}. \tag{2.9}$$

In [15] it was proved that one can construct a full density subsequence $\mathcal{N}' \subset \mathcal{N}$ such that for any nonzero lattice vector $\zeta \in \mathcal{L}$ the matrix elements of $\text{Op}(e_{\zeta, k})$ vanish as $n \rightarrow \infty$ along \mathcal{N}' . The following result was obtained.

Theorem 2.1 (Rudnick–Ueberschär, 2012). *Let \mathcal{L} be a unimodular lattice as above. There exists a subsequence $\mathcal{N}' \subset \mathcal{N}$ of full density such that for any nonzero $\zeta \in \mathcal{L}$ and $k \in \mathbb{Z}$,*

$$\lim_{\substack{n \rightarrow \infty \\ n \in \mathcal{N}'}} \langle \text{Op}(e_{\zeta,k}) g_{\lambda_n}, g_{\lambda_n} \rangle = 0. \quad (2.10)$$

Remark 2.2. Although the paper [15] is solely concerned with the weak coupling regime, i.e. fixed self-adjoint extensions, the theorem holds generally for Green's functions G_{λ_n} and any sequence $\{\lambda_n\}$ of real numbers which interlaces with the Laplacian eigenvalues on \mathbb{T}^2 . A detailed explanation is given in [14, p. 7, Remark 3].

2.2.2. *Pure momentum modes.* Let us consider the case $\zeta = 0$. We rewrite the matrix elements as

$$\langle \text{Op}(e_{0,k}) g_{\lambda}, g_{\lambda} \rangle = \frac{\sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L} \setminus \{0\}} (\tilde{\xi}/|\xi|)^k |c(\xi)|^2 + |c(0)|^2}{\sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}} |c(\xi)|^2} = \frac{\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{w_k(n)}{(n-\lambda)^2}}{\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{r(n)}{(n-\lambda)^2}} \quad (2.11)$$

where for $0 \neq n \in \mathcal{N}$ we define the exponential sum

$$w_k(n) := \sum_{\substack{|\xi|^2 = n \\ \xi \in \mathcal{L} \setminus \{0\}}} (\tilde{\xi}/|\xi|)^k \quad (2.12)$$

and we set $w_k(0) = 1$.

2.3. Pair correlations for values of quadratic forms

In this section we will briefly review a result of Eskin, Margulis and Mozes [7] on the pair correlations of the values of the quadratic form $Q(k, l) = a^{-2}k^2 + a^2l^2$, $k, l \in \mathbb{Z}$, where $\gamma = a^4$ is diophantine. We have the following theorem [7, Thm. 1.7], which we only state in the special case relevant to the present paper. Note that $\text{area}(\mathbb{T}^2)/(4\pi) = \pi$.

Theorem 2.3 (Eskin–Margulis–Mozes, 2005). *Let $\gamma = a^4$ be diophantine and assume $0 \notin (b, c)$. Denote the Laplacian eigenvalues on $\mathbb{T}^2 = \mathbb{R}^2/2\pi\mathcal{L}_0$ by $\{\lambda_j(\mathbb{T}^2)\}$. Then*

$$\lim_{X \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\{(j, k) : \lambda_j(\mathbb{T}^2), \lambda_k(\mathbb{T}^2) \leq X, \lambda_j(\mathbb{T}^2) - \lambda_k(\mathbb{T}^2) \in (b, c)\}|}{X} = \pi^2(c-b). \quad (2.13)$$

The theorem above proves the Berry–Tabor conjecture [2] for the pair correlations of the Laplacian eigenvalues on the torus \mathbb{T}^2 , where $\gamma = a^4$ is diophantine. Recall that the Laplacian eigenvalues are given by the squared norms $(k^2 + a^4l^2)/a^2$, and the ordered set of such distinct squared norms is denoted by \mathcal{N} .

As in the irrational case the multiplicities of the Laplacian eigenvalues on the torus are generically 4, for the pair correlation of the distinct Laplacian eigenvalues, i.e. the set \mathcal{N} of norms, we have

$$\lim_{X \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\{(m, n) \in \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N} : m, n \leq X, m - n \in (b, c)\}|}{X} = \frac{\pi^2}{16}(c-b).$$

Letting

$$\mathcal{N}(X) := \{n \in \mathcal{N} : n \leq X\}$$

denote the intersection of \mathcal{N} and the interval $[0, X]$, we have the asymptotic (“Weyl’s law”)

$$|\mathcal{N}(X)| \sim \frac{\pi}{4}X \quad \text{as } X \rightarrow \infty. \quad (2.14)$$

Consequently, we obtain

$$\lim_{X \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(X)|} |\{(m, n) \in \mathcal{N}(X) \times \mathcal{N}(X) : m - n \in (b, c)\}| = \frac{\pi}{4}(c - b).$$

We note that the mean spacing is $4/\pi$ (see (2.14)).

3. The weak coupling limit—proof of Theorem 1.4

We begin by proving the following proposition.

Proposition 3.1. *Let \mathcal{L} be a diophantine rectangular unimodular lattice as above. There exists a subsequence $\mathcal{N}' \subset \mathcal{N}$ of full density such that for $m \in \mathcal{N}'$ and any integer k ,*

$$\langle \text{Op}(e_{0,k})g_{\lambda_m}, g_{\lambda_m} \rangle = \frac{w_k(m)}{r(m)} + o(1) \quad \text{as } m \rightarrow \infty \text{ along } \mathcal{N}'. \quad (3.1)$$

Before giving the proof we recall the following bound from [16]; it shows that, in the weak coupling regime, the new eigenvalues of the scatterer and the eigenvalues of the Laplacian generically “clump” together.

Theorem 3.2. *Let \mathcal{L} be an irrational lattice as above. Given any increasing function f such that $f(m) \rightarrow \infty$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$ along \mathcal{N} , there exists a density one subsequence $\mathcal{N}'' \subset \mathcal{N}$ such that for all $m \in \mathcal{N}''$,*

$$0 < m - \lambda_m \ll \frac{f(m)}{\log m}. \quad (3.2)$$

The following key lemma will allow us to circumvent the lack of uniformity in the size of the interval (b, c) in Theorem 2.3.

Lemma 3.3. *For $A \geq 3$ we have*

$$\sum_{\substack{m, n \in \mathcal{N}(x) \\ |m-n| > A}} \frac{1}{|m-n|^2} \ll \frac{x}{A}.$$

Proof. Given an integer $k \geq 0$, define

$$M(k) := |\{n \in \mathcal{N} : n \in [k, k+1]\}|.$$

We begin by deducing an L^2 -bound on $M(k)$ using Theorem 2.3:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k \leq T} M(k)^2 &= \sum_{k \leq T} |\{(m, n) \in \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N} : m, n \in [k, k+1]\}| \\ &\leq |\{(m, n) \in \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N} : m, n \leq T+1, m-n \in [-1, 1]\}|, \end{aligned}$$

which, by Theorem 2.3, is

$$\ll 2(T+1) + (T+1) \ll T$$

(note that we include pairs $m, n \leq T+1$ for which $m = n$; this gives rise to the additional $T+1$ term.)

Using Cauchy–Schwarz, we now find that for $l \ll T$,

$$\sum_{k \leq T} M(k)M(k+l) \leq \left(\sum_{k \leq T} M(k)^2 \right)^{1/2} \cdot \left(\sum_{k \leq T+l} M(k)^2 \right)^{1/2} \ll T^{1/2} \cdot T^{1/2} = T. \quad (3.3)$$

We may now conclude the proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{m, n \in \mathcal{N}(x) \\ |m-n| > A}} \frac{1}{|m-n|^2} &\ll \sum_{k=A}^x \frac{|\{(m, n) \in \mathcal{N}(x) \times \mathcal{N}(x) : m < n, n-m \in [k, k+1]\}|}{k^2} \\ &\leq \sum_{k=A}^x \frac{1}{k^2} \sum_{l \leq x} M(l) \cdot (M(l+k) + M(l+k+1)), \end{aligned}$$

which, by using (3.3), is

$$\ll \sum_{k=A}^x \frac{x}{k^2} \ll \frac{x}{A}. \quad \square$$

We can now prove the following key estimate.

Proposition 3.4. *There exists a subsequence $\mathcal{N}_1 \subset \mathcal{N}$ of full density such that for $m \in \mathcal{N}_1$,*

$$\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}, n \neq m} \frac{1}{(n-m)^2} = O((\log m)^{2-\epsilon}). \quad (3.4)$$

Proof. Let $G(m) = (\log m)^{-1+\epsilon}$ for small fixed $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$, and denote by m_-, m_+ the nearest neighbours of $m \in \mathcal{N}$ to the left and to the right. We claim that the subsequence

$$\mathcal{N}_0 = \{m \in \mathcal{N} : |m - m_-|, |m - m_+| \geq G(m)\}$$

is of full density in \mathcal{N} . Assume for a contradiction that the sequence

$$\mathcal{N}'_0 = \{m \in \mathcal{N} : |m - m_-| \text{ or } |m - m_+| < G(m)\}$$

has nonzero density, i.e., for some $\eta > 0$,

$$|\mathcal{N}'_0(x)| \geq \eta |\mathcal{N}(x)| \quad (3.5)$$

for a sequence of values of x tending to infinity. Recall that $N(x) \sim \pi x/4$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$, since $\text{area}(\mathbb{T}^2) = 4\pi^2$ and the multiplicity is generically 4. Using Theorem 2.3, we thus find that as $x \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(x)|} |\{m \in \mathcal{N}'_0 : m \leq x\}| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(x)|} |\{(m, n) \in \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N} : |m - n| < G(m), m \neq n, m, n \leq x\}| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{N}(x)|} |\{(m, n) \in \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N} : |m - n| \leq \eta/\pi, m \neq n, x^{1/4} \leq m, n \leq x\}| + O(x^{-1/2}) \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad \rightarrow \eta/2, \quad (3.6) \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts (3.5).

Next we estimate the sum on the LHS of (3.4). For $m \in \mathcal{N}(x)$ and x large we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}, n \neq m} \frac{1}{(m - n)^2} &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}(2x), n \neq m} \frac{1}{(m - n)^2} + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}, n > 2x, n \neq m} \frac{1}{(m - n)^2} \\ &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}(2x), n \neq m} \frac{1}{(m - n)^2} + O\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

where in the last line we have used the fact that $m \leq x$ and $n > 2x$, hence $n - m > n/2$, and the bound on the second sum follows from Weyl’s law (2.14) and partial summation.

Next we show that there exists a density one subsequence $\mathcal{N}_1 \subset \mathcal{N}_0$ such that for all $m \in \mathcal{N}_1(x)$,

$$\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}(2x), n \neq m} \frac{1}{(m - n)^2} \ll (\log m)^{2-\epsilon}.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}_0(x)} \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}(2x)} \frac{1}{(m - n)^2} &\leq \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}(x)} \sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}(2x) \\ |n - m| \geq G(m)}} \frac{1}{(m - n)^2} \\ &= \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}(x)} \sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}(2x) \\ |n - m| \in [G(m), 1]}} \frac{1}{(m - n)^2} + \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}(x)} \sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}(2x) \\ |n - m| > 1}} \frac{1}{(m - n)^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

We estimate the second sum by

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}(x)} \sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}(2x) \\ |n - m| > 1}} \frac{1}{(m - n)^2} &\leq \sum_{k \leq 2x} \frac{1}{k^2} |\{(m, n) \in \mathcal{N}(x) \times \mathcal{N}(2x) : |m - n| \in [k, k + 1]\}| \\ &=: \sum_{k \leq 2x} \frac{c(k)}{k^2} \ll \log x \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

where the logarithmic bound follows from

$$\sum_{k \leq 2x} c(k) \leq |\{(m, n) \in \mathcal{N}(2x) \times \mathcal{N}(2x) : |m - n| \leq 2x + 2\}| \leq |\mathcal{N}(2x)|^2 \ll x^2$$

together with summation by parts.

For the first sum we have, by Theorem 2.3,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}(x)} \sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}(2x) \\ |n-m| \in [G(m), 1]}} \frac{1}{(m-n)^2} &\ll \frac{1}{G(x)^2} |\{(m, n) \in \mathcal{N}(x) \times \mathcal{N}(2x) : |m-n| \in (0, 1]\}| \\ &\ll \frac{x}{G(x)^2} \ll x(\log x)^{2-2\epsilon}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

Now, let

$$F(m) = \sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}(2x) \\ |n-m| \geq G(m)}} \frac{1}{(m-n)^2}.$$

From the estimates above we have, for fixed $\delta \in (0, 1)$,

$$\sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}_0(x), m \geq x^\delta} F(m) \ll x(\log x)^{2-2\epsilon}. \quad (3.11)$$

Letting $T(m) = (\log m)^{2-\epsilon}$ and using Chebyshev's inequality we find that

$$\begin{aligned} &|\{m \in \mathcal{N}_0(x) : F(m) \geq T(m), m \geq x^\delta\}| \\ &\ll T(x)^{-1} \sum_{m \in \mathcal{N}_0(x), m \geq x^\delta} F(m) \ll x(\log x)^{2-2\epsilon} / T(x) = x / (\log x)^\epsilon \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

where we have used the fact that $T(m) \asymp T(x)$ for $m \in [x^\delta, x]$. It follows that $F(m) < T(m)$ is a density one condition inside $\mathcal{N}_0(x)$, thereby concluding the proof. \square

3.1. Proof of Proposition 3.1

Fix some integer $k \neq 0$. In order to construct the full density subsequence we will use the result about ‘‘clumping’’ of the spectrum as stated in Theorem 3.2. In what follows assume that f is as in Theorem 3.2. Then $|m - \lambda_m|^2 = O(f(m)^2 / (\log m)^2)$ for $m \in \mathcal{N}''$, and hence

$$\langle \text{Op}(e_{0,k})g_\lambda, g_\lambda \rangle = \frac{w_k(m) + O((\log m)^{-2} f(m)^2) \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N} \setminus \{m\}} w_k(n)(n - \lambda_m)^{-2}}{r(m) + O((\log m)^{-2} f(m)^2) \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N} \setminus \{m\}} r(n)(n - \lambda_m)^{-2}}. \quad (3.13)$$

Let $\mathcal{N}' = \mathcal{N}_1 \cap \mathcal{N}''$, with \mathcal{N}_1 as in Proposition 3.4. For $m \in \mathcal{N}'$, by the proof of Proposition 3.4 (in particular note that $|m - m_-|, |m - m_+| \geq G(m) = (\log m)^{-1+\epsilon}$ for $m \in \mathcal{N}_1 \subset \mathcal{N}_0'$), if we take $f(m) = \log \log m$, then

$$\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N} \setminus \{m\}} \frac{|w_k(n)|}{(n - \lambda_m)^2} \ll \sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N} \setminus \{m\} \\ |n-m| \geq G(m)}} \frac{1}{(n-m)^2} = O((\log m)^{2-\epsilon}), \quad (3.14)$$

and it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \text{Op}(e_{0,k})g_\lambda, g_\lambda \rangle &= \frac{w_k(m) + O((\log m)^{-\epsilon}) \cdot f(m)^2}{r(m) + O((\log m)^{-\epsilon}) \cdot f(m)^2} = \frac{w_k(m) + o(1)}{r(m) + o(1)} \\ &= \frac{w_k(m)}{r(m)} + o(1) \quad \text{as } m \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

(note that $|w_k(m)| \leq r(m) \leq 4$). So (3.1) follows. \square

Proposition 3.1 easily gives a classification of the quantum limits which may arise within the sequence \mathcal{N}' . We are interested in the sequence $d\mu_{\lambda_m}$, $m \in \tilde{\mathcal{N}}$, where $\tilde{\mathcal{N}}$ denotes the intersection of the subsequences in Theorems 2.1 and 3.2, so $\tilde{\mathcal{N}}$ is of full density. We would like to determine the quantum limits of this sequence, i.e. the limit points in the weak-* topology.

From Theorem 2.1 we know that along $\tilde{\mathcal{N}}$ the limit measures must be flat, or equidistributed, in position. Moreover, from Proposition 3.1 we also know that the matrix elements of pure momentum observables for the eigenfunction g_{λ_m} , $m \in \tilde{\mathcal{N}}$, tend to stay away from zero, because for an irrational lattice \mathcal{L} the multiplicity $r(n)$ is bounded. The intuition is that the sequence $d\mu_{\lambda_m}$, $m \in \tilde{\mathcal{N}}$, becomes localized in momentum in the semiclassical limit. Theorem 1.4 determines the set of such localized quantum limits.

3.2. Proof of Theorem 1.4

Consider the classical observable

$$a = \sum_{\zeta \in \mathcal{L}, k \in \mathbb{Z}} \hat{a}(\zeta, k) e_{\zeta, k}.$$

Let $m \in \tilde{\mathcal{N}}$. By a standard diagonalization argument [14, Section 4] it suffices to prove the result for the trigonometric polynomials

$$P_J = \sum_{\substack{\zeta \in \mathcal{L}, k \in \mathbb{Z} \\ |\zeta|, |k| \leq J}} \hat{a}(\zeta, k) e_{\zeta, k}.$$

It follows from (3.1) and Theorem 2.1 that

$$\langle \text{Op}(P_J)g_{\lambda_m}, g_{\lambda_m} \rangle = \frac{1}{r(m)} \sum_{2|k} \hat{a}(0, k) w_k(m) + o(1) \quad \text{as } m \rightarrow \infty. \quad (3.15)$$

For given $m \in \tilde{\mathcal{N}}$ let $\theta_m \in [0, \pi/2]$ be the phase angle of the lattice point on the upper right arc of the circle $|\xi|^2 = m$, i.e. $\hat{\xi} = m^{1/2} e^{i\theta_m}$ for some $\xi \in \mathcal{L}$. Since \mathcal{L} is irrational, we have

$$\frac{w_k(m)}{r(m)} = \begin{cases} \cos(k\theta_m), & 2|k, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Lemma 3.5. *The sequence $\{\theta_m\}_{m \in \tilde{\mathcal{N}}}$ of angles is dense in $[0, \pi/2]$.*

Proof. Let $I \subset [0, \pi/2]$ be a nonempty open interval. As

$$|\{m \in \mathcal{N}(x) : \theta_m \in I\}| = |\{\xi \in \mathcal{L} : |\xi|^2 \leq x, \xi_1, \xi_2 \geq 0, \text{ and } \arctan(\xi_2/\xi_1) \in I\}|,$$

and the latter can be interpreted as the number of \mathbb{Z}^2 -lattice points inside the intersection of an ellipse with a circular sector, dilated by \sqrt{x} , we find that $|\{m \in \mathcal{N}(x) : \theta_m \in I\}| \sim c_I \cdot x$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$, for some $c_I > 0$. Since the interval I can be freely chosen, the result follows. \square

The set of limit points of the sequence $((\text{Op}(P_J)g_{\lambda_m}, g_{\lambda_m}))_{m \in \tilde{\mathcal{N}}}$ is thus given by

$$\left\{ \sum_{2|k} \cos(k\theta) \hat{a}(0, k) : \theta \in [0, \pi/2] \right\}.$$

Now, since for k even,

$$\cos(k\theta) = \frac{1}{4}(e^{ik\theta} + e^{-ik\theta} + e^{ik(\pi+\theta)} + e^{ik(\pi-\theta)}),$$

we find that all such limit elements can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{2|k} \cos(k\theta) \hat{a}(0, k) &= \int_{S^*\mathbb{T}^2} a(x, \phi) \sum_{2|k} \cos(k\theta) e^{-ik\phi} \frac{dx d\phi}{\text{vol}(S^*\mathbb{T}^2)} \\ &= \int_{S^*\mathbb{T}^2} a(x, \phi) \frac{dx}{\text{vol}(\mathbb{T}^2)} \times \frac{1}{4}(\delta_\theta + \delta_{-\theta} + \delta_{\pi+\theta} + \delta_{\pi-\theta})(\phi) \frac{d\phi}{2\pi}, \end{aligned}$$

and the proof is concluded.

4. The strong coupling limit

Let λ_m be any interlacing sequence. We claim that there exists a *positive density* subsequence $\mathcal{N}' \subset \mathcal{N}$ such that $\{G_{\lambda_m}\}_{m \in \mathcal{N}'}$ does not equidistribute.

As before, we define $\mathcal{N}(T) := \{n \in \mathcal{N} : n \leq T\}$.

Let n_1, n_2, \dots be ordered representatives of the elements in \mathcal{N} (i.e., $n_1 < n_2 < \dots$), and let $s_i := n_{i+1} - n_i$ denote the consecutive spacings.

Lemma 4.1. *The number of $i \leq T$ such that $s_i > G > 0$ is $\leq (T/G)(4/\pi + o(1))$.*

Proof. Recalling that $\mathcal{N}(T) \sim T \cdot \pi/4$, we find that $\sum_{i \leq T} s_i = (1 + o(1)) \cdot 4T/\pi$. Since $s_i \geq 0$ for all i , the statement is an immediate consequence of Chebyshev's inequality. \square

Lemma 4.2. *Given $D > 0$ and $E \geq 1$,*

$$|\{n \in \mathcal{N}(T) : |\mathcal{N}(T) \cap [n - D, n + D]| > E + 1\}| \ll DT/E.$$

Proof. By Theorem 2.3,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}(T)} (|\mathcal{N}(T) \cap [n - D, n + D]| - 1) \\ &= |\{(n, m) \in \mathcal{N}(T) \times \mathcal{N}(T) : m \neq n, |m - n| \leq D\}| \sim \pi^2 \cdot 2D \cdot T, \end{aligned}$$

and hence, by Chebyshev, we get the conclusion. \square

We can now finish the proof. Define \mathcal{N}' as follows: for G large take $n \in \mathcal{N}$ such that the gap to the nearest left neighbour is at most G ; by Lemma 4.1 this sequence has density at least $1 - 2/G$.

By Chebyshev's inequality and Lemma 3.3 (note that the lemma is valid also in the strong coupling limit) we may choose F sufficiently large so that

$$\left| \left\{ m \in \mathcal{N}(T) : \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}(T), |m-n|>3} \frac{1}{|m-n|^2} > F \right\} \right| \leq T/G;$$

remove all such m and we are left with a sequence of density at least $1 - 3/G$.

Next take $D = 3$ in Lemma 4.2, and choose E sufficiently large so that

$$|\{n \in \mathcal{N}(T) : |\mathcal{N}(T) \cap [n - D, n + D]| > E + 1\}| \leq T/G;$$

removing also these elements we are left with a set of density at least $1 - 4/G$.

Now, for $m \in \mathcal{N}'$ we have the following:

- $|\lambda_m - m| \leq G,$
- $|\{n \in \mathcal{N} : 0 < |m - n| \leq 3\}| \leq E,$
- $\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}, |m-n|>3} \frac{1}{(m-n)^2} \leq F.$

Thus, if we consider pure momentum observables, and given $n \in \mathcal{N}$ we let μ_n denote the measure on the unit circle consisting of four delta measures (corresponding to lattice points lying on a circle of radius \sqrt{n}), we find that the measure—not necessarily a probability measure since we have not yet normalized—associated with G_{λ_m} is given by

$$\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{\mu_n}{(n - \lambda_m)^2} = \frac{\mu_m}{(m - \lambda_m)^2} + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}, 0 < |n-m| \leq 3} \frac{\mu_n}{(n - \lambda_m)^2} + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}, |n-m| > 3} \frac{\mu_n}{(n - \lambda_m)^2}$$

where the first term is $\gg 1/G^2$, the second sum has at most E terms, and the last sum is $\ll F$. In particular, for G fixed the mass contribution from the first two terms,

$$\frac{\mu_m}{(m - \lambda_m)^2} + \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}, 0 < |n-m| \leq 3} \frac{\mu_n}{(n - \lambda_m)^2},$$

is uniformly bounded from below, and the number of terms in the sum is uniformly bounded from above. Hence the finite sum

$$\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}, |n-m| \leq 3} \frac{\mu_n}{(n - \lambda_m)^2}$$

carries mass uniformly bounded from below; after normalizing so that we obtain a probability measure, we find that the normalized measure will have a positive proportion of its mass on a *finite* number of points.

Appendix. Dirichlet boundary conditions

In Šeba's original paper [17] the author considers an irrational rectangle D with a delta potential placed in the interior of D and Dirichlet boundary conditions. The setting of the torus has the advantage that calculations are much simplified because of translation invariance, i.e. the position of the potential is not important. The subject of this appendix is to illustrate how our proof can easily be modified for this setting. A modification would work in the analogous way and correspond to a different character in the Fourier representation of the eigenfunctions.

A.1. The spectrum and eigenfunctions

Let $D = [0, 2\pi a] \times [0, 2\pi/a]$ with $a^4 \notin \mathbb{Q}$ diophantine. Let $z \in \text{int } D$. We study the self-adjoint extensions of the restricted Dirichlet Laplacian $-\Delta|_{D_0}$, where $D_0 = \{f \in C_c^\infty(D \setminus \{z\}) : f|_{\partial D} = 0\}$. This operator has deficiency indices $(1, 1)$ and we denote the one-parameter family of self-adjoint extensions by $\{-\Delta_\varphi^D\}_{\varphi \in (-\pi, \pi]}$.

The eigenfunctions of $-\Delta_\varphi^D$ are given by the Green's functions

$$G_\lambda^D(x) = \sum_{\substack{\xi \in \mathcal{L} \\ \xi_1, \xi_2 > 0}} \frac{\psi_\xi(x) \overline{\psi_\xi(z)}}{|\xi|^2 - \lambda}, \quad \psi_\xi(x) = \frac{1}{\pi^2} \sin(\xi_1 x_1) \sin(\xi_2 x_2),$$

where $\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{Z}(1/a, 0) \oplus \mathbb{Z}(0, a)$. The eigenvalues are solutions of the equation

$$\sum_{\substack{\xi \in \mathcal{L} \\ \xi_1, \xi_2 > 0}} |\psi_\xi(z)|^2 \left\{ \frac{1}{|\xi|^2 - \lambda} - \frac{1}{|\xi|^2 + 1} \right\} = C_\mathcal{L} \tan(\varphi/2) \quad (\text{A.1})$$

where $C_\mathcal{L} = \sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}} \frac{1}{|\xi|^4 + 1}$.

A.2. Modification of the proof of Theorem 1.4

We will show that we can rewrite the function G_λ^D as

$$-\frac{1}{4\pi^2} \sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}} \frac{\chi(\xi) \overline{\psi_\xi(z)} e^{i(x, \xi)}}{|\xi|^2 - \lambda}, \quad \text{where } \chi(\xi) = \text{sgn}(\xi_1) \text{sgn}(\xi_2) \quad (\text{A.2})$$

and

$$\text{sgn}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0, \\ -1 & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

Indeed, first of all, given $\xi = (\xi_1, \xi_2)$ with $\xi_1, \xi_2 > 0$, define $\bar{\xi} = (\xi_1, -\xi_2)$. We may expand the Laplacian eigenfunctions into complex exponentials

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{\xi}(x) &= \frac{1}{\pi^2} \sin(\xi_1 x_1) \sin(\xi_2 x_2) = -\frac{1}{4\pi^2} (e^{i\xi_1 x_1} - e^{-i\xi_1 x_1})(e^{i\xi_2 x_2} - e^{-i\xi_2 x_2}) \\ &= -\frac{1}{4\pi^2} \sum_{\eta=\xi, -\xi, \bar{\xi}, -\bar{\xi}} \chi(\eta) e^{i\langle \eta, x \rangle}. \end{aligned} \tag{A.3}$$

Hence, we obtain (noting $\psi_{\xi} = 0$ if $\xi_1 \xi_2 = 0$)

$$G_{\lambda}^D(x) = \sum_{\substack{\xi \in \mathcal{L} \\ \xi_1, \xi_2 > 0}} \frac{\psi_{\xi}(x) \overline{\psi_{\xi}(z)}}{|\xi|^2 - \lambda} = -\frac{1}{4\pi^2} \sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}} \frac{\chi(\xi) \overline{\psi_{\xi}(z)} e^{i\langle \xi, x \rangle}}{|\xi|^2 - \lambda}. \tag{A.4}$$

Let $g_{\lambda}^D = G_{\lambda}^D / \|G_{\lambda}^D\|_2$ and define

$$d(\xi) := \frac{\chi(\xi) \overline{\psi_{\xi}(z)}}{|\xi|^2 - \lambda}.$$

For the matrix element of a pure momentum monomial $e_{0,k}$ we then obtain

$$\langle \text{Op}(e_{0,k}) g_{\lambda}^D, g_{\lambda}^D \rangle = \frac{\sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L} \setminus \{0\}} (\tilde{\xi}/|\xi|)^k |d(\xi)|^2 + |d(0)|^2}{\sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}_0} |d(\xi)|^2} = \frac{\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{\delta_n w_k(n)}{(n-\lambda)^2}}{\sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \frac{\delta_n r(n)}{(n-\lambda)^2}} \tag{A.5}$$

where $\delta_n = |\psi_{\xi(n)}(z)|^2$ and $\xi(n) \in \mathcal{L}$ is the lattice vector which solves the equation $|\xi|^2 = n$, $\xi_1, \xi_2 \geq 0$, and

$$w_k(n) = \sum_{\substack{\xi \in \mathcal{L} \\ |\xi|^2 = n}} (\tilde{\xi}/|\xi|)^k.$$

Assumption: Suppose that the position $z \in \text{int } D$ is “generic”⁵ in the sense that $z_1 a, z_2/a \notin \mathbb{Q}$. This ensures that $\delta_n > 0$ for all $n \in \mathcal{N}$.

Clumping: The proof of [16] can easily be modified for rectangles with Dirichlet boundary conditions. Thus we obtain the analogue of Theorem 3.2 for the operator $-\Delta_{\varphi}^D$.

In order to construct localized semiclassical measures we pick a subsequence $n \in \mathcal{N}' \subset \mathcal{N}$, of density $1 - \epsilon$ for any $\epsilon > 0$, such that $\liminf_n \delta_n = \delta > 0$.⁶ For mixed monomials $e_{\zeta,k}$ we may now apply exactly the same argument as in the proof of Theorem 2.1, to see that $\lim_{n \in \mathcal{N}'} \langle \text{Op}(e_{\zeta,k}) g_{\lambda_n}^D, g_{\lambda_n}^D \rangle = 0$. The analogue of Proposition 3.1 is again proved in exactly the same way as above. Hence the analogue of Theorem 1.4 for diophantine rectangles with Dirichlet boundary conditions follows.

⁵ In the case of rational coordinates there will be a positive proportion of eigenvalues whose eigenfunctions vanish at the position of the scatterer and therefore do not feel its effect. In the generic case of irrational coordinates all eigenfunctions feel the effect of the scatterer, therefore there are only “new” eigenfunctions.

⁶ Such a sequence may easily be constructed by noticing that the set $\{(z_1 \xi_1, z_2 \xi_2)\}_{\xi \in \mathcal{L}}$ equidistributes modulo $[0, 2\pi]^2$ if z is generic in the above sense.

Remark A.1. In a similar fashion we can prove the result also for the strong coupling limit (see Section 4), where within a subsequence of positive density the eigenfunctions have positive mass on a finite number of Dirac masses in momentum space.

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