Quantitative equidistribution properties
of toral eigenfunctions

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Abstract. In this note, we prove quantitative equidistribution properties for orthonormal bases of eigenfunctions of the Laplacian on the rational d-torus. We show that the rate of equidistribution of such eigenfunctions is of polynomial decay. We also prove that equidistribution of eigenfunctions holds for symbols supported in balls with a radius shrinking at a polynomial rate.

1. Introduction

In [17, 20, 5], Shnirelman, Zelditch, and Colin de Verdière proved that, on a compact connected Riemannian manifold (M, g) without boundary, whose geodesic flow is ergodic for the Liouville measure, the eigenfunctions of the Laplacian are quantum ergodic. Quantum ergodicity means that, for any orthonormal basis of eigenfunctions, there exists a full density subsequence along which the associated microlocal lifts to the unit cotangent bundle S^*M tend weakly to the Liouville measure on S^*M. The main example of ergodic geodesic flow is given by the geodesic flow on negatively curved manifolds. Thus, in this geometric context, eigenfunctions of the Laplacian are quantum ergodic. On a general compact Riemannian manifold (M, g), where the geodesic flow is not necessarily ergodic for the Liouville measure, the above result can be extended using the ergodic decomposition of the Liouville measure – see for instance [15].

A natural example is the case of the rational torus $\mathbb{T}^d = \mathbb{R}^d / \mathbb{Z}^d$ endowed with its canonical metric. In this setting, the geodesic flow is not ergodic, but if one considers symbols dependent on x and independent of ξ, then an ergodic property holds for such symbols – see proposition 2.1 below. Using this observation,

one can show that eigenfunctions become equidistributed[1] on the configuration space $\mathbb{T}^d$ [14, 15]. In this paper, we will give quantitative versions of this equidistribution property of toral eigenfunctions. In fact, these quantitative equidistribution properties are originated and motivated by some conjectures concerning the eigenfunctions of negatively curved manifolds. The two related topics we shall be concerned with are:

- the rate of equidistribution (Theorem 1.3);

- small scale equidistribution (Corollary 1.6).

Remark 1.1. It is worth mentioning that on the rational torus all the quantum limits of eigenfunctions of the Laplacian are absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure [11, 1]. In fact in dimension two, by Zygmund's theorem [24], there is a uniform constant A such that, for all L^2 *normalized* eigenfunctions ψ of Δ on $\mathbb{T}^2$, one has $\|\psi\|_{L^4(\mathbb{T}^d)} \leq A$. Hence all quantum limits in this case have density functions in L^2. This was refined by Jakobson in [11] where he proved that the density function of any quantum limit must a trigonometric polynomial.

Remark 1.2. In the last section, as an easy corollary of Zygmund's theorem and of the results of [14, 15], we show that equidistribution holds on the 2-torus for L^2 symbols.

Before we state our results, we fix some notations.

Throughout the paper we denote by $\mathbb{T}^d := \mathbb{R}^d/\mathbb{Z}^d$ the rational torus with the standard metric, and we denote by dx the normalized volume measure induced by the standard metric.

Let $\alpha > 0$ be some fixed positive number. For every $0 < \hbar \leq 1$, we consider an orthonormal basis $(\psi_\hbar^j)_{j=1,\dots,N(\hbar)}$ of the subspace

$$\mathcal{H}_\hbar := \mathbf{1}_{[1-\alpha\hbar, 1+\alpha\hbar]}(-\hbar^2\Delta)L^2(\mathbb{T}^d),$$

made of eigenfunctions of $-\hbar^2\Delta$. According to the Weyl's law – see e.g. [7], one has $N(\hbar) \sim \alpha A_d \hbar^{1-d}$ for some constant A_d depending only on d. For each $1 \leq j \leq N(\hbar)$, we denote $E_j(\hbar) \in [1 - \alpha\hbar, 1 + \alpha\hbar]$ to be the eigenvalue corresponding to $\psi_j^\hbar$:

$$-\hbar^2\Delta\psi_\hbar^j = E_j(\hbar)\psi_\hbar^j.$$

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[1] Note that they do not equidistribute on $S^*\mathbb{T}^d$.

1.1. Rate of equidistribution. Our first result states that

Theorem 1.3. *Let* $\mathbb{T}^d = \mathbb{R}^d/\mathbb{Z}^d$ *be the rational torus with* $d \geq 2$ *and let* a *be an element in* $\mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{T}^d)$ *(independent of* $\hbar$*). Then, there exists some constant* $C_a > 0$ *such that, for any orthonormal basis* $(\psi_\hbar^j)_{j=1,\dots N(\hbar)}$ *of* $\mathbf{1}_{[1-\alpha\hbar,1+\alpha\hbar]}(-\hbar^2\Delta)L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)$ *made of eigenfunctions of* $-\hbar^2\Delta$,

$$\frac{1}{N(\hbar)}\sum_{j=1}^{N(\hbar)}\left|\int_{\mathbb{T}^d}a|\psi_\hbar^j|^2dx - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d}adx\right|^2 \leq C_a\hbar^{\frac{2}{3}}.$$

The fact that this quantity converges to 0 was already observed in [14, 15]. The novelty here is that we are able to prove that this convergence holds at the polynomial rate $\hbar^{\frac{2}{3}}$. Although this is a natural question, to our knowledge it has not been addressed in the literature. This result is a direct consequence of Theorem 1.5 below which is slightly more general. In [14], Marklof and Rudnick proved that equidistribution on configuration space also holds for eigenfunctions of a rational polygon, hence it is natural to understand if one can obtain a polynomial rate of convergence in this setting. In the case of the torus, it is natural to investigate the optimal rate of convergence in terms of the dimension.

Remark 1.4. Let us rewrite this statement using the standard convention (the non-semiclassical notation). We define the eigenfunctions ψ_j to be the nonzero solutions to

$$-\Delta\psi_j = \lambda_j\psi_j, \quad \lambda_j \geq 0.$$

where the eigenvalues λ_j are sorted as

$$0 = \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_3 \leq \cdots \longrightarrow \infty.$$

Suppose $(\psi_j)_{j\in\mathbb{N}}$ is an ONB of $L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)$ made of eigenfunctions. Then, with this notation, the above result can be written as

$$V(a,\lambda) := \frac{1}{N_1(\lambda)}\sum_{j:\lambda-\sqrt{\lambda}\leq\lambda_j\leq\lambda+\sqrt{\lambda}}\left|\int_{\mathbb{T}^d}a|\psi_j|^2dx - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d}adx\right|^2 = \mathcal{O}(\lambda^{-\frac{1}{3}}),$$

where (see [7, 6])

$$N_1(\lambda) := \sharp\{j:\lambda-\sqrt{\lambda}\leq\lambda_j\leq\lambda+\sqrt{\lambda}\} \sim C_d\lambda^{\frac{d-1}{2}},$$

with $C_d > 0$ depending only on d. For *chaotic* systems, it is conjectured in the physics literature [8], that $V(a,\lambda)$ is of order $\lambda^{\frac{1-d}{2}}$. In the case of negatively curved

manifolds, the best known upper bound is $\mathcal{O}(|\log \lambda|^{-1})$ [21, 16]. We emphasize that our general strategy is the same as the ones in these two references: the main inputs are that we are able to use the semiclassical approximation for much longer times and that we have a better control on the error terms due to the exact formulas one has on $\mathbb{T}^d$. Finally, in the case of Hecke eigenfunctions on the modular surface, we note that the upper bound $\mathcal{O}(\lambda^{-\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon})$ was proved in [13] for spectral intervals of the form $[\lambda, 2\lambda]$.

1.2. Small-scale equidistribution. Our next result concerns equidistribution properties of toral eigenfunctions in balls of shrinking radius. This question is motivated by our recent work [10], where we showed that on negatively curved manifolds quantum ergodicity holds for symbols carried on balls whose radius shrink at a logarithmic rate (see also [19, 9, 12]), and where we found some applications to L^p estimates and the size of nodal sets. In the case of $\mathbb{T}^d$, one can also prove a quantitative equidistribution result where symbols are allowed to depend on $\hbar$. This is the content of the following theorem which is our main result:

Theorem 1.5. *Let* $\mathbb{T}^d = \mathbb{R}^d/\mathbb{Z}^d$ *be the rational torus with* $d \geq 2$. *Let* $s > \frac{d+4}{2}$, $\nu_0 \geq 0$, *and* $\nu_1 \geq 0$. *Suppose* $a = (a_\hbar)_{0 < \hbar \leq 1} \in \mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{T}^d)$ *is a symbol such that for every* β *in* $\mathbb{N}^d$, *there exists* $C_\beta > 0$ *satisfying*

$$|\partial_x^\beta a_\hbar| \leq C_\beta \hbar^{-\nu_1 |\beta|}, \quad \text{for all } 0 < \hbar \leq 1,\ x \in \mathbb{T}^d. \tag{1}$$

Then, there exists $\hbar_0 > 0$ *such that, for any* $0 < \hbar \leq \hbar_0$, *and for any orthonormal basis* $(\psi_\hbar^j)_{j=1,\dots N(\hbar)}$ *of* $\mathbf{1}_{[1-\alpha\hbar, 1+\alpha\hbar]}(-\hbar^2\Delta)L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)$ *made of eigenfunctions of* $-\hbar^2\Delta$, *one has*

$$\frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{j=1}^{N(\hbar)} \left| \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} a_\hbar |\psi_\hbar^j|^2 dx - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} a_\hbar dx \right|^2$$

$$\leq C \|a_\hbar\|_{L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)}^2 \hbar^{\nu_0} + C \|a_\hbar\|_{H^s(\mathbb{T}^d)}^2 \hbar^{2-2\nu_0} + C_a \hbar^{2-2(\nu_0+\nu_1)},$$

where C *is independent of* a, ν_0 *and* ν_1, *and where* C_a *depends only on* ν_0, ν_1 *and on a finite number[2] of the constants* C_β *appearing in* (1).

As was already mentioned, this result implies Theorem 1.3 by picking a independent of $\hbar$, $\nu_1 = 0$ and $\nu_0 = \frac{2}{3}$. This theorem also allows us to show that on the rational torus, the eigenfunctions equidistribute on balls whose radius shrink at a

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[2] The β involved in the constant depends on the choice of ν_0 and ν_1.

polynomial rate. In particular, if we fix x_0 in $\mathbb{T}^d$ and $0 < \nu_1 < \frac{1}{2(d+1)}$, then one can find $\Lambda_{\nu_1, x_0}(\hbar) \subset \{1, \ldots, N(\hbar)\}$ such that

$$\lim_{\hbar \to 0} \frac{|\Lambda_{\nu_1, x_0}(\hbar)|}{N(\hbar)} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{\hbar \to 0, j \in \Lambda_{\nu_1, x_0}(\hbar)} \frac{\int_{B(x_0, \hbar^{\nu_1})} |\psi_\hbar^j(x)|^2 dx}{\text{Vol}(B(x_0, \hbar^{\nu_1}))} = 1, \quad (2)$$

where $B(x_0, \hbar^{\nu_1})$ denotes the geodesic ball of radius $\hbar^{\nu_1}$ centered at x_0. This can be proved by choosing $a_\hbar$ to be certain cutoff functions supported in geodesic balls of radius $\hbar^{\nu_1}$, and using an extraction argument. Mimicking the arguments of section 3.2 in [10] or the proof of corollary 1.7 in [9], one can also prove a result that holds uniformly for x_0 in $\mathbb{T}^d$. Precisely, one gets the following corollary:

Corollary 1.6. *Let* $0 < \nu_1 < \frac{2}{7d+4}$. *Then there exists* $0 < \hbar_0 \leq 1/2$ *such that given any orthonormal basis* $(\psi_\hbar^j)_{j=1,\ldots N(\hbar)}$ *of* $\mathbf{1}_{[1-\alpha\hbar, 1+\alpha\hbar]}(-\hbar^2\Delta)L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)$ *made of eigenfunctions of* $-\hbar^2\Delta$, *one can find a full density subsequence* $\Lambda_{\nu_1}(\hbar)$ *of* $\{1, \ldots, N(\hbar)\}$ *such that*

$$a_1 \leq \frac{\int_{B(x, \hbar^{\nu_1})} |\psi_\hbar^j(x)|^2 dx}{\text{Vol}(B(x, \hbar^{\nu_1}))} \leq a_2, \quad \text{for all } 0 < \hbar \leq \hbar_0, \ x \in \mathbb{T}^d, \ j \in \Lambda_{\nu_1}(\hbar),$$
$$(3)$$

where the constants $a_1, a_2 > 0$ *are independent of* $\hbar$, x, *and* j *and* $B(x, \hbar^{\nu_1})$ *denotes the geodesic ball of radius* $\hbar^{\nu_1}$ *centered at* x.

Here, the fact that $(\Lambda_{\nu_1}(\hbar))_{0 < \hbar \leq \hbar_0}$ is of full density means that

$$\lim_{\hbar \to 0} \frac{|\Lambda_{\nu_1}(\hbar)|}{N(\hbar)} = 1.$$

In other words, this statement says that there exists a large proportion of eigenfunctions where the average value of the square of eigenfunctions in shrinking balls of radius $\hbar^{\nu_1}$, are uniformly bounded by two constants. As was already mentioned, the corollary provides a subsequence of density 1 that works *uniformly for every point on the torus*. Compared to (2), we can only ensure that the L^2 mass of the eigenfunctions in these shrinking balls is uniformly comparable to 1 and not that it converges uniformly to 1. The values of a_1 and a_2 could be tracked for example in the proof of corollary 1.7 in [9] but a priori there is no reason for them to be close to 1. The exponent $\frac{2}{7d+4}$ appearing in this statement is probably not optimal and it is plausible that this exponent can be improved using for instance methods used by Bourgain in [3]. Here, our proof relies only on tools from ergodic theory and semiclassical analysis.

Remark 1.7. Using this corollary and the strategy of [10], we can in fact improve Sogge's L^p estimates for toral eigenfunctions [18]. However the L^p bounds we obtain using this method are not better than the upper bounds proved in [24, 2, 3, 4].

1.3. Quantum ergodicity for L^2 observables.

Motivated by the recent question raised by Zelditch on L^∞ quantum ergodicity [22], we mention the following nice consequence of the quantum ergodicity property on the 2-torus:

Corollary 1.8. *Let* $\mathbb{T}^2 = \mathbb{R}^2/\mathbb{Z}^2$ *be the rational 2-torus. Then, for any orthonormal basis* $(\psi_\hbar^j)_{j=1,\ldots N(\hbar)}$ *of* $\mathbf{1}_{[1-\alpha\hbar,1+\alpha\hbar]}(-\hbar^2\Delta)L^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$ *made of eigenfunctions of* $-\hbar^2\Delta$, *there exists a full density subsequence* $\Lambda(\hbar)$ *of* $\{1, 2, \ldots, N(\hbar)\}$ *such that, for all* $a(x) \in L^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$ *(independent of* $\hbar$),

$$\lim_{\hbar\to 0, j\in\Lambda(\hbar)} \int_{\mathbb{T}^2} a(x)|\psi_\hbar^j(x)|^2 dx = \int_{\mathbb{T}^2} a(x)dx. \tag{4}$$

The important point in this statement is that convergence holds for any observables in $L^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$, and not only $\mathcal{C}^0$ ones (as it is usually the case in quantum ergodicity statements). In particular, it holds for the characteristic function of *any* measurable subset of $\mathbb{T}^2$. In fact, Zelditch conjectured in [22] that (4) holds for any a in $L^\infty(M)$ provided (M, g) is a *negatively curved manifold*. As will be explained in section 4, this corollary follows directly from a classical result of Zygmund [24] combined to the above quantum ergodicity property. We emphasize that we do not need all the strength of the above theorems and that this result could be deduced directly from the results in [14, 15].

We will now give the proof of Theorem 1.5 from which all the other results follow. As in the case of negatively curved manifolds, we will first prove a result on the rate of convergence of Birkhoff averages. Then, we will implement this result in the classical proof of quantum ergodicity, and we will have to optimize the size of the different remainders to get our results.

Remark 1.9. After communicating this note to Zeev Rudnick, he informed us they might be able with Steve Lester to improve part of the above results using methods of more arithmetic nature. The proof presented here only makes use of standard tools of Fourier analysis, and it is modeled on arguments similar to the ones used to prove rate of quantum ergodicity on negatively curved manifolds [21, 16].

2. Convergence of Birkhoff averages

We start with the following proposition which gives us the rate of equidistribution for observables depending only on the x variable:

Proposition 2.1. *Let* $\mathbb{T}^d = \mathbb{R}^d/\mathbb{Z}^d$ *with* $d \geq 2$. *There exists* $C_d > 0$ *such that, for every* a *in* $\mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{T}^d)$, *one has*

$$\int_{S^*\mathbb{T}^d} \left| \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T a(x + t\xi)dt - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} a(y)dy \right|^2 dxd\xi \leq \frac{C_d \|a\|^2_{L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)}}{T}.$$

Proof. Let a be a smooth function on $\mathbb{T}^d$. We write its Fourier decomposition $a := \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^d} a_k e_k$, where $e_k(x) := e^{2i\pi k.x}$. We set

$$V(a, T) := \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} \left| \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T a(x + t\xi)dt - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} a(y)dy \right|^2 d\xi dx.$$

First, we perform integration in the x variable and we find that

$$V(a, T) = \frac{1}{T^2} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^d - \{0\}} |a_k|^2 \int_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} \left| \int_0^T e^{2i\pi k.t\xi} dt \right|^2 d\xi.$$

Now we would like to estimate the integral in each term of the above sum. Using the spherical symmetry first, and then calculating the dt integral, we get

$$\int_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} \left| \int_0^T e^{2i\pi k.t\xi} dt \right|^2 d\xi = \int_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} \left| \int_0^T e^{2i\pi \|k\| t\xi_1} dt \right|^2 d\xi$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} \frac{\sin^2(\pi T \|k\| \xi_1)}{\pi^2 ||k||^2 \xi_1^2} d\xi.$$

Using spherical coordinates and putting $\xi_1 = \cos\varphi$, $0 \leq \varphi \leq \pi$, we obtain

$$\int_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} \frac{\sin^2(\pi T \|k\| \xi_1)}{\pi^2 ||k||^2 \xi_1^2} d\xi = C \int_0^\pi \frac{\sin^2(\pi T \|k\| \cos\varphi)}{\pi^2 ||k||^2 \cos^2\varphi} (\sin\varphi)^{d-2} d\varphi,$$

where the constant C is the value of the integral with respect to the remaining spherical variables. The change of variable $s = \cos\varphi$, turns this last integral into

$$2 \int_0^1 \frac{\sin^2(\pi T \|k\| s)}{\pi^2 ||k||^2 s^2} (\sqrt{1 - s^2})^{d-3} ds.$$

We then split this integral into integrals over $[0, \delta]$ and its complement $[\delta, 1]$, where $0 < \delta < 1$. Clearly

$$\int_\delta^1 \frac{\sin^2(\pi T \|k\| s)}{\pi^2 ||k||^2 s^2} (\sqrt{1 - s^2})^{d-3} ds \leq \frac{1}{\pi^2 ||k||^2 \delta^2}.$$

To estimate the integral on $[0, \delta]$, we use the substitution $u = \pi T \|k\| s$. Since $d \geq 2$ we get

$$\int_0^\delta \frac{\sin^2 (\pi T \|k\| s)}{\pi^2 \|k\|^2 s^2} (\sqrt{1 - s^2})^{d-3} \, ds \leq \frac{T}{\pi \|k\| \sqrt{1 - \delta^2}} \int_0^{\pi T \|k\| \delta} \frac{\sin^2 u}{u^2} \, du$$

$$\leq \frac{T}{\pi \|k\| \sqrt{1 - \delta^2}} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin^2 u}{u^2} \, du$$

$$= \frac{T}{2 \|k\| \sqrt{1 - \delta^2}}.$$

Therefore, by choosing $\delta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\|k\| T}}$ and $T \geq 2$, we get

$$V(a, T) \leq \frac{C'}{T} \sum_{k \neq 0} \frac{|a_k|^2}{\|k\|} \leq \frac{C' \|a\|_{L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)}^2}{T}.$$

for some uniform constant $C' > 0$. $\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\square$

3. Proof of Theorem 1.5

We fix a in $\mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbb{T}^d)$ that potentially depends on $\hbar$, even if we omit the index $\hbar$ in order to alleviate the notations. We also suppose that a belongs to a nice class of symbols. More precisely, there exists $\nu_1 \geq 0$ such that, for every α in $\mathbb{N}^d$, one can find $C_\alpha > 0$ such that

$$|\partial_x^\alpha a| \leq C_\alpha \hbar^{-\nu_1 |\alpha|}, \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{T}^d. \tag{5}$$

Without loss of generality, we will also suppose that a is real valued. We set $\bar{a} := a - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} a \, dx$. Our goal is to give an upper bound on the following quantity:

$$V_{\hbar,2}(a) = \frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{j=1}^{N(\hbar)} \left| \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} a(x) |\psi_\hbar^j(x)|^2 dx - \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} a \, dx \right|^2.$$

3.1. Applying Egorov's theorem. We rewrite the previous expression as follows

$$V_{\hbar,2}(a) = \frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{j=1}^{N(\hbar)} |\langle \psi_\hbar^j, \bar{a} \psi_\hbar^j \rangle_{L^2}|^2.$$

One of the main differences with the negatively curved case treated in [21, 16, 9, 10] is that we can consider much longer semiclassical times using the fact that we are on $\mathbb{T}^d$. Precisely, we fix[3] $\nu_0 > 0$ and $T = T(\hbar) := \hbar^{-\nu_0}$. We introduce the averaged operator

$$A(T, \hbar) := \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T e^{-\frac{it\hbar\Delta}{2}} \bar{a} e^{\frac{it\hbar\Delta}{2}} dt.$$

Using the fact that $\psi_\hbar^j$ is an eigenmode for every $1 \leq j \leq N(\hbar)$, one can write that

$$V_{\hbar,2}(a) = \frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{j=1}^{N(\hbar)} |\langle \psi_\hbar^j, A(T, \hbar)\psi_\hbar^j \rangle_{L^2}|^2.$$

Then by the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we find that

$$V_{\hbar,2}(a) \leq \frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{j=1}^{N(\hbar)} \langle \psi_\hbar^j, A(T, \hbar)^2 \psi_\hbar^j \rangle_{L^2}.$$

Note that this quantity is the (normalized) trace of the operator

$$A(T, \hbar)\mathbf{1}_{[1-\alpha\hbar, 1+\alpha\hbar]}(-\hbar^2\Delta),$$

and hence it is independent of the choice of an orthonormal basis of the space

$$\mathcal{H}_\hbar = \mathbf{1}_{[1-\alpha\hbar, 1+\alpha\hbar]}(-\hbar^2\Delta)L^2(\mathbb{T}^d).$$

We will now take advantage of the fact that we are on the torus and that there is an explicit basis of eigenfunctions given by the $(e^{2i\pi k.x})_{k\in\mathbb{Z}^d}$. Precisely, we have

$$V_{\hbar,2}(a) \leq \frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}^d : (2\pi\hbar\|k\|)^2 \in [1-\alpha\hbar, 1+\alpha\hbar]} \|A(T, \hbar)e_k\|_{L^2}^2. \qquad (6)$$

where $e_k(x) := e^{2i\pi k.x}$. We write the following exact formula

$$(A(T, \hbar)e_k)(x) = \left(\frac{1}{T(\hbar)} \int_0^{T(\hbar)} \sum_{p\in\mathbb{Z}^d-\{0\}} \hat{a}_p e^{\frac{it\hbar(2\pi)^2\|p\|^2}{2}} e_p(x + 2\pi\hbar t k) dt \right) e_k(x),$$

where $a := \sum_{p\in\mathbb{Z}^d} \hat{a}_p e_p(x)$. We now fix $s > \frac{d+4}{2}$. We note that, uniformly for x in $\mathbb{T}^d$ and t in $\mathbb{R}$, one has

$$\left| \sum_{p\in\mathbb{Z}^d-\{0\}} \hat{a}_p e^{\frac{it\hbar(2\pi)^2\|p\|^2}{2}} e_p(x + 2\pi\hbar t k) - \bar{a}(x + 2\pi k\hbar t) \right| \leq 2\pi^2\hbar t \sum_{p\neq 0} \|p\|^2 |\hat{a}_p|$$

$$\leq c_s \hbar t \|\bar{a}\|_{H^s},$$

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[3] In the following, we will suppose $\nu_0 + \nu_1 < 1$.

for some constant $c_s > 0$ depending only on d and s. Implementing this in our upper bound (6), we obtain that

$$V_{\hbar,2}(a) \leq \frac{2}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}^d : (2\pi\hbar\|k\|)^2 \in [1-\alpha\hbar, 1+\alpha\hbar]} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left(\frac{1}{T(\hbar)} \int_0^{T(\hbar)} \bar{a}(x+2\pi k\hbar t)dt \right)^2 dx$$

$$+ \|\bar{a}\|_{H^s}^2 \mathcal{O}(\hbar^{2-2\nu_0}),$$

(7)

where the constant in the remainder is independent of a.

3.2. Trace asymptotics. In order to compute the previous expression, we proceed as in [7] – see [6] (Chapter 11) for a semiclassical version. We will in fact follow the presentation of Prop. 1 in [16] and we will take advantage of the fact that we are working on $\mathbb{T}^d$.

Regarding (7), we now have to estimate

$$\frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}^d : (2\pi\hbar\|k\|)^2 \in [1-\alpha\hbar, 1+\alpha\hbar]} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} b_\hbar(x, 2\pi k\hbar)dx.$$

where we set

$$b_\hbar(x,\xi) := \chi_1(\|\xi\|^2) \left(\frac{1}{\hbar^{-\nu_0}} \int_0^{\hbar^{-\nu_0}} a(x+t\xi)dt \right)^2,$$

with $0 \leq \chi_1 \leq 1$ a smooth cutoff function which is equal to 1 in a small neighborhood of 1 and is 0 outside a slightly bigger neighborhood, say outside $[1/4, 4]$. We fix a smooth function $\rho \geq 0$ in the Schwartz class $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$, which is ≥ 1 on the interval $[-\alpha, \alpha]$. We also suppose that $\hat{\rho}'(0) = 0$ and that $\hat{\rho}$ has compact support, say that the support is included in $[-1/8, 1/8]$.

Remark 3.1. In order to construct such a function, one can start from a nonzero smooth even function $f \geq 0$ which is compactly supported in $[-1/16, 1/16]$ and take ρ to be the inverse Fourier transform of $A_0 f * f$ with $A_0 > 0$ large enough. We note that the function $\hat{\rho}$ satisfies $\hat{\rho}'(0) = 0$.

We can then write that

$$\frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}^d : (2\pi\hbar\|k\|)^2 \in [1-\alpha\hbar, 1+\alpha\hbar]} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} b_\hbar(x, 2\pi k\hbar)dx \leq \widetilde{V}_{\hbar,2}(a),$$

where we have defined

$$\widetilde{V}_{\hbar,2}(a) := \frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{k\in\mathbb{Z}^d} \rho\left(\frac{4\pi^2\|k\|^2\hbar^2 - 1}{\hbar} \right) \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} b_\hbar(x, 2\pi k\hbar)dx.$$

Thus

$$\widetilde{V}_{\hbar,2}(a) = \frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \hat{\rho}(\tau) e^{-\frac{i\tau}{\hbar}} e^{\frac{i4\pi^2\tau\|k\|^2\hbar^2}{\hbar}} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} b_\hbar(x, 2\pi k\hbar) dx d\tau.$$

Thanks to the Poisson summation formula, we get

$$\widetilde{V}_{\hbar,2}(a) = \frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \Big(\sum_{l \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^d} \int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d} \hat{\rho}(\tau) e^{i\frac{\tau(\|\xi\|^2-1)-\xi.l}{\hbar}} b_\hbar(x, \xi) d\tau d\xi \Big) dx. \tag{8}$$

We will now make use of the stationary (and non-stationary) phase lemma. To do so, we fix l in $\mathbb{Z}^d$ and we denote by $\varphi_l(\tau, \xi)$ to be the phase function of the above oscillatory integral. We observe that, for $l \neq 0$, one has $\|d_\xi\varphi_l\| \geq \|l\| - 2\tau\|\xi\| \geq \|l\| - 1/2$, for τ in the support of $\hat{\rho}$ and $\|\xi\|^2$ in the support of χ_1. For $l \neq 0$, we introduce the operator

$$P_l := \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{d_\xi\varphi_l.d_\xi}{\|d_\xi\varphi_l\|^2}.$$

We perform N integration by parts using this operator and we find that, for every x in $\mathbb{T}^d$,

$$\left| \frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^d} \int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d} \hat{\rho}(\tau) e^{i\frac{\tau(\|\xi\|^2-1)-\xi.l}{\hbar}} b_\hbar(x, \xi) d\tau d\xi \right| \leq C \frac{\hbar^{N(1-\nu_0-\nu_1)-d}}{(\|l\| - 1/2)^N},$$

for some uniform constant $C > 0$ that depends only on ρ, a and d. Using the upper bound (8) and taking N large enough in the previous equation, we get

$$V_{\hbar,2}(a) \leq \frac{1}{N(\hbar)} \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \left(\frac{1}{(2\pi\hbar)^d} \int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d} \hat{\rho}(\tau) e^{i\frac{\tau(\|\xi\|^2-1)}{\hbar}} b_\hbar(x, \xi) d\tau d\xi \right) dx \\ + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^{2(1-\nu_0-\nu_1)}). \tag{9}$$

We now disintegrate the measure $d\xi$ along the energy layers $\{\|\xi\|^2 - 1 = E\}$ (or in other words we use the coarea formula), to write for every x in $\mathbb{T}^d$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d} \hat{\rho}(\tau) e^{i\frac{\tau(\|\xi\|^2-1)}{\hbar}} b_\hbar(x, \xi) d\tau d\xi = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{-1}^{+\infty} \hat{\rho}(\tau) e^{i\frac{\tau E}{\hbar}} \langle b_\hbar \rangle(x, E) dE d\tau,$$

where

$$\langle b_\hbar \rangle(x, E) := \int_{\|\xi\|^2-1=E} b_\hbar(x, \xi) dL_E(\xi).$$

We can now use the stationary phase formula and the fact that $\hat{\rho}'(0) = 0$; see for instance [23] (Chapter 3). Precisely, we find that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d} \hat{\rho}(\tau) e^{i\frac{\tau(\|\xi\|^2-1)}{\hbar}} b_\hbar(x, \xi) d\tau d\xi \\ = \hat{\rho}(0) 2\pi\hbar \left(\int_{\|\xi\|^2=1} b_\hbar(x, \xi) dL_0(\xi) + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^{2(1-\nu_0-\nu_1)}) \right). \tag{10}$$

Remark 3.2. This asymptotic expansion follows from Theorems 3.17 of [23]. In fact, this result tells us that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{-1}^{+\infty} \hat{\rho}(\tau) e^{i\frac{\tau E}{\hbar}} \langle b_{\hbar} \rangle(x, E) dE d\tau$$

$$= (2\pi\hbar) \Big(\sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \frac{(i\hbar)^k}{k!} \hat{\rho}^{(k)}(0) \partial_E^k \langle b_{\hbar} \rangle(x, 0) + \hbar^N R_N(\hbar, x) \Big),$$

where, according to Theorem 3.13 (and lemma 3.5) in [23], the remainder is controlled, for every x in $\mathbb{T}^d$ by

$$|R_N(\hbar, x)| \leq C_N \sup_{|\alpha| \leq 3} \sup_{\tau, E} |\partial_{\tau, E}^\alpha (\hat{\rho}^{(N)}(\tau) \partial_E^N \langle b_{\hbar} \rangle(x, E))|,$$

for some constant $C_N > 0$ independent of $\hbar$ and x. In particular, we have, uniformly for x in $\mathbb{T}^d$,

$$|R_N(\hbar, x)| = \mathcal{O}(\hbar^{N(1-\nu_0-\nu_1)-3(\nu_0+\nu_1)}),$$

from which (10) follows as $\hat{\rho}'(0) = 0$.

Now by the Weyl's law, we know that $N(\hbar) \sim \alpha C_d \hbar^{1-d}$, for some constant depending only on d – see for example Ch. 11 of [6]. Thus, combining (7), (9) and (10), we have that

$$V_{\hbar,2}(a) \leq C_0 \int_{\mathbb{T}^d} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}} \left| \frac{1}{\hbar^{-\nu_0}} \int_0^{\hbar^{-\nu_0}} a(x + t\xi) dt \right|^2 d\xi dx$$

$$+ C_s' \|\bar{a}\|_{H^s}^2 \hbar^{2-2\nu_0} + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^{2(1-\nu_0-\nu_1)}),$$

where C_0 depends only on d and on the choice of ρ, and where C_s' depends only on s. We also note that the constant in the remainder depends only on finitely many of the C_α appearing in (5).

3.3. The conclusion. We can now apply Proposition 2.1 and we finally find that

$$V_{\hbar,2}(a) \leq C_0 C_d \|a\|_{L^2(\mathbb{T}^d)}^2 \hbar^{\nu_0} + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^{2(1-\nu_0-\nu_1)}) + C_0' \|\bar{a}\|_{H^s(\mathbb{T}^d)}^2 \hbar^{2-2\nu_0},$$

which concludes the proof of Theorem 1.5.

4. Proof of Corollary 1.8

The proof of this result is a direct consequence of the quantum ergodicity property on the 2-torus, of Zygmund's theorem on the L^4 norms of the eigenfunctions on the 2-torus [24], and of the Banach-Alaoglu theorem.

Let $(\psi_\hbar^j)_{j=1,\dots N(\hbar)}$ be an orthonormal basis of $\mathbf{1}_{[1-\alpha\hbar,1+\alpha\hbar]}(-\hbar^2\Delta)L^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$ made of eigenfunctions of $-\hbar^2\Delta$ on the rational 2-torus. Then by Theorem 1.3, there exists a full density subsequence of $\Lambda(\hbar)$ of $\{1,2,\dots,N(\hbar)\}$ such that for all $a(x) \in C^0(\mathbb{T}^2)$

$$\lim_{\hbar\to 0, j\in\Lambda(\hbar)} \int_{\mathbb{T}^2} a(x)|\psi_\hbar^j(x)|^2 dx = \int_{\mathbb{T}^2} a(x)dx. \tag{11}$$

We refer to section 15.4 in [23] for the details of the extraction argument. We want to show that (11) holds for all $a \in L^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$. To prove this, we first note that by Zygmund's theorem [24], there exists a uniform constant A such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^2} |\psi_\hbar^j(x)|^4 dx \le A^4.$$

Thus, the sequence $\mathcal{F} := (|\psi_\hbar^j|^2)_{1\le j\le N(\hbar), 0<\hbar\le 1}$ is bounded in L^2. By the Banach–Alaoglu theorem, it is relatively compact for the weak-$\star$ topology on $L^2(\mathbb{T}^2)$. On the other hand, by (11), $\mathcal{F}$ has at most one weak-$\star$ limit in L^2, and that is the constant function 1. This proves the corollary.

Acknowledgments

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