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EXPECTED VALUES OF EIGENFUNCTION PERIODS

SURESH ESWARATHASAN

ABSTRACT. Let (M, g) be a compact Riemannian surface. Consider a family of L^2 normalized Laplace-Beltrami eigenfunctions, written in the semiclassical form $-h_j^2 \Delta_g \varphi_{h_j} = \varphi_{h_j}$, whose eigenvalues satisfy $hh_j^{-1} \in (1, 1 + hD]$ for $D > 0$ a large enough constant. Let \mathbf{P}_h be a uniform probability measure on the L^2 unit-sphere S_h of this cluster of eigenfunctions and take $u \in S_h$. Given a closed curve $\gamma \subset M$, there exists $C_1(\gamma, M), C_2(\gamma, M) > 0$ and $h_0 > 0$ such that for all $h \in (0, h_0]$,

$$C_1 h^{1/2} \leq \mathbf{E}_h \left[\left| \int_{\gamma} u d\sigma \right| \right] \leq C_2 h^{1/2}.$$

This result contrasts the previous deterministic $\mathcal{O}(1)$ upperbounds obtained by Chen-Sogge, Reznikov, and Zelditch. Furthermore, we treat the higher dimensional cases and compute large deviation estimates. Under a measure zero assumption on the periodic geodesics in S^*M , we can consider windows of small width $D = 1$ and establish a $\mathcal{O}(h^{1/2})$ estimate. Lastly, we treat probabilistic L^q restriction bounds along curves.

1. INTRODUCTION AND MAIN RESULTS

1.1. Introduction. Let (M, g) be a smooth compact Riemannian manifold without boundary and φ_h be an L^2 normalized eigenfunction of the Laplace-Beltrami operator, written in the semiclassical form $-h^2 \Delta_g \varphi_h = \varphi_h$. The quantities known as “periods” $I_{\gamma, h}$, where

$$I_{\gamma, h} = \left| \int_{\gamma} \varphi_h d\sigma \right| \tag{1.1.1}$$

for γ a smooth closed curve on M with arclength measure $d\sigma$, have garnered much interest as of late due to its connection with understanding nodal domains of eigenfunctions [JZ]. Such quantities are a complement to the study of restricted L^p norms [BGT, Hu] and quantum ergodic restriction [TZ, DZ], and give us information on the fluctuations of eigenfunctions along a curve.

For perspective, let us recall the global L^p estimates of Sogge [So] in dimension 2: There exists $C > 0$ such that $\|\varphi_h\|_{L^p(M)} \leq Ch^{-\delta(p)}$ where $\delta(p) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{p}$ for $p \geq 6$ and $\delta(p) = \frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{p})$ for $p \leq 6$. The results for L^p restriction along curves, due in full generality to Burq, Gérard, and Tzvetkov [BGT], state: For any finite-length smooth curve γ , there exists $C > 0$ such that $\|\varphi_h\|_{L^p(\gamma)} \leq Ch^{-\eta(p)}$ where $\eta(p) = \frac{1}{4}$ for $2 \leq p \leq 4$ and $\eta(p) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{p}$ for $p \geq 4$.

The question of asymptotics of (1.1.1), which do not seem to follow trivially from L^2 restriction bounds even though an eigenfunction period is the zeroth coefficient of the eigenfunction’s Fourier series expansion along the curve, was initially posed on compact hyperbolic surfaces by Good and Hejhal [Go, Hej]. They showed, by using the Kuznecov trace formula, that

$$I_{\gamma, h} \leq C_{\gamma} \tag{1.1.2}$$

for some $C_\gamma > 0$ and all $h \in (0, 1]$. This demonstrates a stark contrast to the L^p results of [So] and [BGT]. Subsequent work by Chen and Sogge [CS] generalized this bound to unit-length geodesics γ on compact surfaces using the Hörmander parametrix, while Reznikov [Rez] proved the bound in the case of arithmetic surfaces using representation theory. However, before these results were proved, Zelditch [Zel] generalized the Kuznecov trace formula to compact manifolds and obtained (1.1.2) for any closed hypersurface using the full power of the global symbol calculus for homogeneous Lagrangian distributions. It is this trace formula that Zelditch established and the consequential asymptotic

$$\sum_{h_j^{-1} < h^{-1}} \left| \int_\gamma \varphi_{h_j} d\sigma \right|^2 = C_\gamma h^{-1} + \mathcal{O}(1), \quad (1.1.3)$$

along with an idea used by Burq and Lebeau [BL] (see also [SZ, V]) that play key roles in our main probabilistic result. As the Weyl law tells us the number of terms in the sum of (1.1.3) is on the order of h^{-2} , it follows that “most” of the terms should be on the order of h .

Using a simple application of Chebyshev’s inequality and the asymptotic (1.1.3), Jung and Zelditch were able to obtain the following upper bound:

Theorem. [JZ] *For any compact surface M and closed curve $\gamma \subset M$, and any $g(t)$ such that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} g(t) = \infty$, there exists a subsequence of eigenfunctions φ_{h_j} of density one such that*

$$\left| \int_\gamma \varphi_{h_j} d\sigma \right| = \mathcal{O}((g(h_j^{-1})h_j)^{1/2}). \quad (1.1.4)$$

We would like to mention that without using the Kuznecov trace formula, we can replace the estimate (1.1.4) with the little- o estimate $o(1)$ just by assuming a generic condition on γ and using the “quantum ergodic restriction” result of Toth and Zelditch [TZ, DZ]. Chen and Sogge [CS] were also able to prove that the constant in (1.1.2) can be replaced with $o(1)$ in the strictly negative curvature setting via a refined analysis with the Hadamard parametrix. Both of these estimates are reminiscent of consequences of the “Random wave conjecture” of Berry [Berr]. Please see our remarks section and the discussion below.

1.2. Main Results. Let S_h denote the L^2 unit sphere of the space $E_h = \{u \in L^2(M) = \sum_{hh_j^{-1} \in [1, 1+hD_M)} z_j \varphi_j(x), z_j \in \mathbb{C}\}$ endowed with a uniform probability measure \mathbf{P}_h , defined in Section 2, for some large enough constant $D > 0$ that is independent of h .

Also, let “ $f(h) \simeq g(h)$ ” be the notation that there exists constants $C_1, C_2 > 0$ independent of h and an $h_0 > 0$ such that for $h \in (0, h_0]$, we have $C_1 g(h) \leq f(h) \leq C_2 g(h)$.

In this note, we prove the following theorem:

THEOREM 1.2.1. *Let (M, g) be a compact Riemannian manifold of dimension n and S be a closed submanifold of dimension d with the induced measure $d\sigma$. Then for a positive integer p and $u \in S_h$, there exists $h_0 > 0$ such that*

$$\mathbf{E}_h \left[\left| \int_S u d\sigma \right|^p \right] \simeq h^{\frac{dp}{2}}$$

for $h \in (0, h_0]$, where \mathbf{E}_h is taken with respect to \mathbf{P}_h .

Furthermore, for $M_{1,h}$ being the median value of the random variable $|\int_S u|$,

$$\mathbf{P}_h \left[\left| \int_S u d\sigma - M_{1,h} \right| > r \right] \leq C \exp(-h^{-d} r^2),$$

where $C > 0$ is independent of h .

That is, we are able to prove for random linear combinations of eigenfunctions u in the spectral window $[1, 1+hD)$, (1.1.4) is improved to a $h^{1/2}$ upperbound and lowerbound when $p = d = 1$ and $n = 2$, and that the random variable concentrates around the median with h . Moreover, we can set $D = \varepsilon$ for any fixed $\varepsilon > 0$ under a measure zero assumption for the set of periodic geodesics in S^*M , but must settle for a $h^{1/2}$ upperbound only; please see Section 2.2 for the precise measure 0 assumption and Corollary 4.0.19. We also establish a deviation estimate for renormalized random variables when $p > 1$. However, due to the fact that our p th moments are just the p th powers of our random variables, the most meaningful deviation estimate occurs when $p = 1$.

As a simple justification for this estimate, consider the normalized plane waves on $\mathbb{T}^2 = (\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})^2$ of the form $\varphi_h = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_h}} \sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{E}} a_\xi \exp(i\xi \cdot x)$ for $|\xi|^2 = h^{-2}$. Here, N_h is equal to the dimension of the eigenspace $\mathcal{E} = \{\xi \in \mathbb{Z}^2 : |\xi|^2 = h^{-2}\}$ and the coefficients a_j are chosen such that $\|\varphi_h\|_2 = 1$. These plane waves are a deterministic model for the random eigenfunction packets we consider. Taking γ to be a circle of radius 1 centered at the origin and using the standard estimates on the decay rates of Fourier transforms of measures demonstrates our upper bound. Setting $a_\xi = 1$ and using Bessel function asymptotics demonstrates our lower bound.

For the purpose of comparison, let us observe other deterministic cases. Take S^2 and let Z_h be a zonal harmonic associated to the eigenvalue h^{-2} and γ be a small segment going through the north pole that is also part of a great circle; then $|\int_\gamma Z_h d\sigma| = \mathcal{O}(h^{1/2})$. In a large contrast however, letting γ be the equator saturates the Chen-Sogge bound (1.1.2). Now, on the 2-torus \mathbb{T}^2 with eigenfunctions of the form e^{inx_2} , taking γ to be a small segment of a vertical geodesic gives $|\int_\gamma e^{inx_2} d\sigma| = \mathcal{O}(n^{-1})$. And similarly to the spherical case, for a given closed geodesic γ on \mathbb{T}^2 , there exist a sequence of eigenfunctions φ_j such that $\varphi_j|_\gamma = 1$ and therefore saturates the corresponding period bound (1.1.2) as well. It is clear that among these two manifolds, which have diametrically opposite spectral theoretic settings, there exists a large range of decay rates.

Our probabilistic results can be interpreted as saying a “typical” eigenfunction cluster should oscillate enough in order to induce a decaying period on a closed curve, along which the deterministic bounds seemed to be saturated, and that decay better/worse than $h^{1/2}$ is “atypical”.

It is worth mentioning that the methods in [BL] were inspired by the articles of Shiffman and Zelditch [SZ] where upperbounds for the L^p norms of random sequences of holomorphic sections of positive line bundles over compact Kähler manifolds are computed, and Vanderkam [V] where upperbounds for L^∞ norms of random spherical harmonics are computed. More recently, Poiret, Robert, and Thomann [PRT] pushed these methods further and applied them towards the case of harmonic oscillators on \mathbb{R}^n . In fact, [PRT] gives precise large deviations estimates for random variables given by general linear forms, with a special case of theirs given in the second part of our Theorem 1.2.1.

We spend a majority of our note proving Theorem 1.2.1, but also give the following related result on restricted L^q norms along finite-length smooth curves. The result essentially follows from Theorem 4 in [BL] after making a simple observation.

THEOREM 1.2.2. *Given the same setup as Theorem 1.2.1 in the 2-dimensional case with $L_{q,h}$ being the median value of the random variable $\|u\|_{L^q(\gamma)}$ for $q \in [2, \infty)$, we have that for all $h \in (0, 1]$*

$$\mathbf{P}_h(\|u\|_{L^q(\gamma)} - L_{q,h} > r) \leq C e^{-c_q h^{-\delta(q)} r^2}$$

where $C, c_q > 0$ and $\delta(q) > 0$. Moreover, given $q \in [2, \infty)$ there exists h_0 such that for all $h \in (0, h_0]$, we have that

$$L_{q,h} \simeq 1.$$

We would like to mention that [BL] also treats the case of probabilistic L^∞ bounds on M , from which the restricted L^∞ bounds on γ follow immediately. Independently and using different methods, Canzani and Hanin [CH] are able to retrieve these same L^∞ upperbounds over aperiodic manifolds M with more precise constants.

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2. PROBABILITY AND MEASURE CONCENTRATION ON SPHERES

The probabilistic setup, and following exposition in the first two sections, we use is patterned after that in [BL].

2.1. Measure concentration on spheres. In this section, we define the probability measures used in our note.

As we are dealing with \mathbb{C}^N but using standard Euclidean measure, the only property of \mathbb{C}^N that is important for our analysis is that it is a vector space. Therefore we can write our formulas with respect to \mathbb{R}^{2N} . For simplicity of exposition in this section, let us establish our general framework over \mathbb{R}^N first and then later modify things accordingly.

Take the standard Lebesgue measure $dx = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq N} dx_j$ on \mathbb{R}^N , and consider the uniform probability measure on the unit sphere $S^{N-1} \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ of dimension $N - 1$. This probability measure \mathbf{P}_N on $S(N) := S^{N-1}$ is exactly the pushforward of the Gaussian probability measure

$$\prod_{1 \leq j \leq N} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-|x_j|^2/2} dx_j$$

on \mathbb{R}^N via the projection map

$$\pi : x \rightarrow \frac{x}{|x|},$$

where $|x|$ is the standard Euclidean norm. The main idea is to consider large N and use these Gaussian probability measures on the corresponding spheres.

For our purposes, we want to compute the corresponding distribution functions explicitly and utilize the concentration of measure phenomenon (to be described more precisely below). In order to do this, let us fix $M \geq 1$ and group the variables on a large sphere $S(N)$ into M parts. For $N_j \geq 1$, we consider $N = \sum_{j=1}^M N_j$. Using this decomposition of N , we can rewrite the coordinates on \mathbb{R}^N as (x_1, \dots, x_M) , with each component x_j having the polar decomposition $x_j = \rho_j \omega_j \in \mathbb{R}^{N_j}$ for $\rho_j > 0$ and $\omega_j \in S^{N_j-1}$.

Keeping in mind that \mathbb{C}^N can be identified with \mathbb{R}^{2N} and as we need a particular representation of the distribution function \mathbf{P}_{2N} , we consider the decomposition of $2N = 2 + (2N - 2)$ where $M = 2$. An explicit calculation shows that the mass carried in the first coordinate is given by

$$\mathbf{P}_{2N}(|x_1| > t) = 1_{t \in [0,1)} (1 - t^2)^{N-1}, \quad (2.1.1)$$

where $(x_1, x_2) \in S(2N)$ with $N_1 = 2$ and $N_2 = 2N - 2$. Equation (2.1.1) will prove to be useful in Section 4.

Furthermore, after returning to the setting of \mathbb{R}^N from \mathbb{R}^{2N} , we have the following deviation formula.

PROPOSITION 2.1.2. *Suppose F is a Lipschitz function on the sphere $S^{N-1} = S(N)$, endowed with the uniform probability measure \mathbf{P}_N given above, with respect to the natural geodesic distance. For the median value $M(F)$, we have that for all $r > 0$*

$$\mathbf{P}_N(|F - M(F)| > r) \leq 2e^{-(N-2) \frac{r^2}{2\|F\|_{Lip}^2}}. \quad (2.1.3)$$

This large deviation estimate is more commonly referred to as the “concentration of measure phenomenon”.

The factors in the exponential essentially say that the width of the distribution for F is on the order of $\frac{\|F\|_{Lip}}{\sqrt{N}}$ for N large. Please see [Led] for further results on measure concentration.

2.2. Probabilistic decomposition of $L^2(M)$. Although the results we present are inspired by the eigenfunction treatment in [BL], these results are mainly intended for probabilistic applications towards the damped and non-linear wave equations. The probabilistic treatment in [BL] uses the dyadic Littlewood-Paley decomposition in harmonic analysis through eigenfunction clusters. For more on the relationship between Littlewood-Paley theory and probabilistic methods, please see [BL].

General manifolds. Take two h dependent sequences a_h and b_h (with limits a and b , respectively) with the relation that $a_h < b_h$ for all $h \in (0, 1]$ and

$$0 \leq \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} a_h \leq \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} b_h.$$

Furthermore, in the case that $a = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} a_h = b = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} b_h$ exist, we impose $a > 0$ and that the rate of decay cannot be too fast, i.e.

$$Dh \leq b_h - a_h$$

for some large constant $D > 0$ that we will specify shortly.

As (M, g) is a compact manifold with the semiclassical relation $-h_j^2 \Delta_g \varphi_j = \varphi_j$ and L^2 orthonormal basis of eigenfunctions $\{\varphi_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$, we can consider the set

$$I_h := \{k \in \mathbb{N} : hh_k^{-1} \in (a_h, b_h]\}$$

and the spectral cluster

$$E_h = \{u = \sum_{k \in I_h} z_k \varphi_k(x), z_k \in \mathbb{C}\},$$

which is independent of the choice of eigenbasis. Lastly, set $N_h = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} E_h$. The Weyl formula, in its semiclassical form (please see [Zw]) where $\lambda^{-1} = h$, states that there exists a constant $C > 0$ independent of h such that

$$|N_h - c_n \frac{\text{Vol}(M)}{(2\pi)^n} ((h^{-1}b_h)^n - (h^{-1}a_h)^n)| \leq Ch^{-(n-1)}. \quad (2.2.1)$$

A further calculation shows that N_h is asymptotic to either $c_n \frac{\text{Vol}(M)}{(2\pi)^n} h^{-n} (b_h^n - a_h^n)$ when $0 \leq a < b$ or $c_n n a^{n-1} \frac{\text{Vol}(M)}{(2\pi)^n} h^{-n} ((b_h - a_h) + \mathcal{O}(h + (b_h - a_h)^2 + (b_h - a_h)|a - a_h|))$ when $0 < a = b$.

In either case, there exists $D_M > 0$ and constants $0 < \alpha < \beta$ such that for $D_M h \leq b_h - a_h$ and $h \in (0, 1]$,

$$\alpha h^{-n} (b_h - a_h) \leq N_h \leq \beta h^{-n} (b_h - a_h) \quad (2.2.2)$$

which implies $N_h \geq 2$. We choose the constant $D_M > 0$ in this particular way in order to guarantee that N_h properly goes to infinity with h , which is important for our asymptotic results. Otherwise, we may be in a geometrical setting where this is not the case. For instance, choosing $D_M = \frac{1}{2}$ in the case of the S^2 with the round metric would give us $N_h = 0$ for infinitely many h .

Although we can consider windows of growing size, we will be primarily concerned with the case $b_h = 1 + D_M h$ and $a_h = 1$, with the spaces $E_h \subset L^2(M)$ corresponding to the spectral window $(1, 1 + hD_M]$. Moreover, it follows that the quantity $N_h \simeq h^{-(n-1)}$, suggesting to us that it should be thought of as the remainder term in the semiclassical form of the Weyl law.

Aperiodic manifolds. As the case of small-length spectral windows $(1, 1 + hD]$, for $D > 0$ arbitrarily small but fixed, is also of interest, we must make a further dynamical assumption on M in order to obtain (2.2.2). First, we will review some important results. For the boundaryless situation, Duistermaat and Guillemin [DG] proved that if the set of periodic geodesics forms a set of measure zero in S^*M , then for any $\varepsilon > 0$

$$|\#\{k : h\lambda_k \in (a_h, b_h]\} - c_n \frac{\text{Vol}(M)}{(2\pi)^n} ((h^{-1}b_h)^n - (h^{-1}a_h)^n)| \leq \varepsilon h^{-(n-1)},$$

for all $h \leq h_0(\varepsilon)$. This is equivalent to saying that the remainder term $R(\lambda)$ in the Weyl law is $o(\lambda^{n-1})$. Compact manifolds with this assumption will be referred to as being ‘‘aperiodic’’. In the case of manifolds with boundary, Weyl conjectured that there exist two-term asymptotics with $R(\lambda) = o(\lambda^{n-1})$; this was proved in the 1980s by Ivrii [Ivr] under the same measure zero assumption for the billiard flow (this result was also proved independently by Melrose [Mel] using some stronger assumptions involving convexity).

Hence, choosing $\varepsilon_0 > 0$ small enough implies there exists $\beta > \alpha > 0$ such that

$$\alpha h^{-(n-1)} \leq N_h \leq \beta h^{-(n-1)} \quad (2.2.3)$$

for $h \in [0, h_0(\varepsilon_0))$ in the case of small-length D spectral windows.

Probability measure. We are able to endow the unit sphere $S_h \subset E_h$, with respect to the L^2 norm, with the uniform probability measure \mathbf{P}_{N_h} defined in the previous section. An important set of random variables we will consider, for $u \in S_h$, are defined in the following way:

$$ev_x(u) = u(x) = \sum_{h\lambda_k \in (a_h, b_h]} z_k \varphi_k(x) = \langle z, \frac{b_{x,h}}{|b_{x,h}|} \rangle |b_{x,h}| \quad (2.2.4)$$

for $b_{x,h} = (\varphi_k(x))_{k=1}^{N_h}$. Clearly, the above representation only holds for x such that $b_{x,h} \neq 0$, and is the only situation of relevance to our results as we will be computing probabilities of positive quantities. Notice that $|b_{x,h}|^2 = \frac{N_h}{Vol(M)} + \mathcal{O}(h^{-(n-1)})$ by the pointwise Weyl law [Ho].

For the simplicity of notation, we will abbreviate \mathbf{P}_{N_h} by using the symbol \mathbf{P}_h in the later sections.

3. GENERALIZED KUZNECOV TRACE FORMULAS

The tool of trace formulas has a rich history and has deeply influenced the spectral theory of automorphic forms, as well as spectral geometry. Even to today, microlocal analysts are finding new ways to use trace formulas to derive spectral data on manifolds via dynamical information. For an extensive survey on the far-reaching effects of semiclassical trace formulae and their applications towards the spectral theory of the Laplace-Beltrami operator, please see the survey [CdV] of Colin de Verdiere.

For our purposes, we will be concentrating only on the Kuznecov trace formula [Ku], whose original formulation was

$$\int_{Y_1} \int_{Y_2} U(t, x, y) d\mu_1(x) d\mu_2(y) = \sum_{[\sigma] \in \Gamma_{Y_1} \backslash (\Gamma / \Gamma_{Y_2})} I_t([\sigma]),$$

where $U(t, x, y)$ is the full half-wave kernel $e^{-it\sqrt{\Delta}}$ on a compact quotient $M = \Gamma/D$ of a non-compact symmetric space D , Y_i are closed geodesics for $i = 1, 2$ on M , Γ_{Y_i} is the isotropy group in Γ of Y_i , and $I_t([\sigma])$ is a distribution on \mathbb{R} that is invariantly associated to $[\sigma]$. This notation was generalized to compact Riemannian manifolds by Zelditch [Zel].

We now provide the spectral asymptotics that were computed in [Zel] from the Kuznecov trace formula. The following is a key estimate in the proof of Theorem 1.2.1.

PROPOSITION 3.0.5. *For a closed submanifold S of dimension d with surface measure $d\sigma$, we have*

$$\left| \sum_{\{j: h_j^{-1} \leq h^{-1}\}} \left| \int_S \varphi_j(s) d\sigma(s) \right|^2 - c_n Vol(S(N^*S)) h^{-(n-d)} \right| \leq c_S h^{-(n-d)+1}$$

for N^*S denoting the normal bundle over S and $S(N^*S)$ denoting its unit sphere bundle.

Now, let us set

$$E(h, S) := \sum_{j: h_j^{-1} \leq h^{-1}} \left| \int_S \varphi_j(s) d\sigma(s) \right|^2,$$

which is also independent of the choice of eigenbasis. We can consider an analogous quantity to N_h , which we will label as $N(S)_h$ and set it as

$$N(S)_h := E(h^{-1}b_h, S) - E(h^{-1}a_h, S).$$

Moreover,

$$|N(S)_h - c_n \text{Vol}(S(N^*S))((h^{-1}b_h)^{n-d} - (h^{-1}a_h)^{n-d})| \leq C_S h^{-(n-d)-1} \quad (3.0.6)$$

for $h \in (0, 1]$. Furthermore, we set $b_{S,h} := (\int_S \varphi_j(s) d\sigma(s))_{j \in I_h} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_h}$. Similarly to the pointwise Weyl law after (2.2.4), $N(S)_h = |b_{S,h}|^2$.

Following the calculations after (2.2.1), we see that there exists $\tilde{D}_S > 0$ and constants $0 < \alpha < \beta$ such that for $\tilde{D}_S h \leq b_h - a_h$ and $h \in (0, 1]$,

$$\alpha h^{-(n-d)}(b_h - a_h) \leq N(S)_h \leq \beta h^{-(n-d)}(b_h - a_h). \quad (3.0.7)$$

4. PROOF OF MAIN THEOREM

The main idea in the article [BL] is that by having spectral asymptotics associated to a summation formula (in our case, the eigenvalue counting function and the Kuznecov sum formula), we can obtain explicit expected values and deviation estimates. Therefore, let us consider the random variable defined by

$$\int_S u(s) d\sigma(s) = \int_S \sum_{k \in I_h} z_k \varphi_k(s) d\sigma(s) = \langle z, b_{S,h} \rangle = \langle z, \frac{b_{S,h}}{|b_{S,h}|} \rangle |b_{S,h}|, \quad (4.0.8)$$

where $d\sigma$ is the surface measure on S . Once again, we note that the above representation only holds for $|b_{S,h}| \neq 0$, which is exactly our case since we will compute $\mathbf{P}_h[|\int_S u| > \lambda]$ for $\lambda \geq 0$. As we computing with measures on spheres of large dimension, it is natural that we choose to express our random variable in this polar-coordinate type decomposition. It is important to note that as we are using real probability measures on complex vector spaces, the quantities N_h and $N(S)_h$ will be multiplied by 2 once we begin to use the formulas in Section 2.

We note again that it is useful to view $N(S)_h = |b_{S,h}|^2$ as sort of remainder term for the asymptotics of $E(h^{-1}b_h, S)$. For instance, if we again consider the spectral window of large size D , i.e. $b_h = 1 + hD$ and $a_h = 1$ where D is the supremum of the constants in (2.2.2) and (3.0.7), then it is clear that $N(S)_h \simeq h^{-(n-d)-1}$. Notice that for $n = 2$ and $d = 1$, $N(S)_h \simeq 1$.

LEMMA 4.0.9. *For an integral $p \geq 1$ and $u \in S_h$, there exists $C_p > 0$ such that for $h \in (0, 1]$, we have*

$$\|F_p(u)\|_{Lip} \leq C_p (N(S)_h)^{p/2}$$

where $F_p(u) = |\int_S u(s) d\sigma(s)|^p = F_1(u)^p$.

Proof. We have, after (4.0.8) with $u = \sum_{k \in I_h} z_k \varphi_k$ and $v = \sum_{k \in I_h} w_k \varphi_k$, that

$$\left| \left| \int_S u \right|^p - \left| \int_S v \right|^p \right| = \left| \left| \langle z, \frac{b_{S,h}}{|b_{S,h}|} \rangle |b_{S,h}| \right|^p - \left| \langle w, \frac{b_{S,h}}{|b_{S,h}|} \rangle |b_{S,h}| \right|^p \right|.$$

Using the fact that $u, v \in S_h$ gives us

$$\begin{aligned} |b_{S,h}|^p \cdot \left| \left| \langle z, \frac{b_{S,h}}{|b_{S,h}|} \rangle \right| - \left| \langle w, \frac{b_{S,h}}{|b_{S,h}|} \rangle \right| \right| & \cdot \left(\sum_{j=0}^{p-1} \left| \langle z, \frac{b_{S,h}}{|b_{S,h}|} \rangle \right|^{p-1-j} \cdot \left| \langle w, \frac{b_{S,h}}{|b_{S,h}|} \rangle \right|^j \right), \\ & \leq p |b_{S,h}|^p \cdot \left| \langle z - w, \frac{b_{S,h}}{|b_{S,h}|} \rangle \right|. \end{aligned}$$

Also $|b_{S,h}|^p = N(S)_h^{p/2}$, and applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality once more shows

$$\left| \left| \int_S u|^p - \left| \int_S v|^p \right| \right| \leq p \cdot N(S)_h^{p/2} \|u - v\|_{L^2(M)}.$$

Finally, as $\|u - v\|_{L^2(M)} = |z - w| \leq C \cdot \text{dist}_{S^{2N_h-1}}(z, w) = C \cdot \text{dist}_{S(2N_h)}(u, v)$, our proposition is proved. \square

THEOREM 4.0.10. (*Average value $A_{p,h}$*)

$$A_{p,h} = \mathbf{E}_h \left[\left| \int_S u|^p \right] = p \cdot N(S)_h^{p/2} \beta\left(\frac{p}{2}, N_h\right),$$

which as $h \rightarrow 0$ gives us the asymptotic

$$A_{p,h} = C_p \cdot \left(\frac{N(S)_h}{N_h} \right)^{p/2} (1 + o(1))$$

for some $C_p > 0$.

Proof. It is known that

$$\mathbf{E}_h \left[\left| \int_S u|^p \right] = \int_0^\infty p \lambda^{p-1} \mathbf{P}_h \left[\left| \int_S u \right| > \lambda \right] d\lambda.$$

Furthermore, after using (4.0.8) we obtain

$$\mathbf{P}_h \left[\left| \int_S u \right| > \lambda \right] = \mathbf{P}_h \left[\left| \langle z, \frac{b_{S,h}}{|b_{S,h}|} \rangle \right| > \frac{\lambda}{|b_{S,h}|} \right].$$

It is here that we take advantage of the polar-coordinate type decomposition with respect to a sphere of large real dimension, namely $S(2N_h)$, and use the formulas for spheres established in Section 2.1. Therefore, after we recall that our probability measures are defined on \mathbb{R}^{2N_h} and then use (2.1.1), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}_h \left[\left| \int_S u|^p \right] &= p \int_0^\infty \lambda^{p-1} \cdot \mathbf{1}_{\frac{\lambda}{|b_{S,h}|} \in [0,1]} \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{|b_{S,h}|^2} \right)^{N_h-1} d\lambda \\ &= p \cdot |b_{S,h}|^p \int_0^1 \eta^{p-1} \cdot (1 - \eta^2)^{N_h-1} d\eta \\ &= p \cdot |b_{S,h}|^p \cdot \beta\left(\frac{p}{2}, N_h\right). \end{aligned}$$

Recalling that the beta function has the closed form $\beta(\frac{p}{2}, N_h) = \frac{\Gamma(p/2)\Gamma(N_h)}{\Gamma((p/2)+N_h)}$, and as $N_h \rightarrow \infty$ we have the following well-known asymptotic for fixed p :

$$\beta\left(\frac{p}{2}, N_h\right) = \Gamma(p/2) N_h^{-p/2} (1 + o_h(1)).$$

Using $N(S)_h = |b_{S,h}|^2$ completes our proof. \square

THEOREM 4.0.11. (*Estimation of the median $M_{p,h}$ and large deviation*)

For all $p \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ and $h \in [0, 1)$,

$$0 \leq M_{p,h} \leq 2^{p/2} (A_{2,h})^{p/2} \quad (4.0.12)$$

and the following deviation estimates hold in the range $p < \frac{n}{n-d}$ and $h \in (0, h_0]$:

$$\left| A_{p,h} - M_{p,h} \right| \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{2^{p+1} N(S)_h^p}{N_h - 1} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (4.0.13)$$

and

$$\mathbf{P}_h(|F_p(u) - M_{p,h}| > r) \leq 2 \exp \left(- \frac{N_h - 1}{p 2^{p-1} (N(S)_h)^p} r^2 \right). \quad (4.0.14)$$

Proof. Equation (4.0.12) follows immediately from properties of the median and Chebyshev's inequality. Then, equation (4.0.13) is just another direct calculation after applying (2.1.3). Observe that (4.0.14) comes from the Lipschitz estimate on $F_p(u)$ and (2.1.3). Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \left| A_{p,h} - M_{p,h} \right| &= \left| \|F_p(u)\|_{L^1(S(N_h))} - \|M_{p,h}\|_{L^1(S(N_h))} \right| \\ &\leq \|F_p(u) - M_{p,h}\|_{L^1(S(N_h))} \\ &= \int_0^\infty \mathbf{P}_h[|F_p(u) - M_{p,h}| > \lambda] d\lambda \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{N_h - 1}{2^p N(S)_h^p} \lambda^2} d\lambda. \end{aligned} \quad (4.0.15)$$

Hence, we obtain that (4.0.15) is equal to

$$\frac{\pi}{2} \left(\frac{2^{p+1} N(S)_h^p}{N_h - 1} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

For the purpose of obtaining a nontrivial deviation estimate, we must have that $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{N(S)_h^p}{N_h - 1} = 0$, which is only possible if $p < \frac{n}{n-d}$ after using (2.2.2) and (3.0.7). \square

COROLLARY 4.0.16. *Let $\tilde{M}_{p,h}$ be the median value for the renormalized random variable $\tilde{F}_p(u) := \frac{F_p(u)}{p N(S)_h^{p/2}}$. Then for all $p \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, there exists $C > 0$ such that for all $h \in [0, 1)$,*

$$\mathbf{P}_h(|\tilde{F}_p(u) - \tilde{M}_{p,h}| > r) \leq C \exp \left(- N_h r^2 \right). \quad (4.0.17)$$

Remark 4.0.18. Notice the deviation estimate (4.0.14) is meaningful only in the case $p = 1$, as the deviation is larger than the average for $p > 1$ because $F_p(u) = F_1(u)^p$. This is our reasoning for renormalizing in Corollary 4.0.16.

Using the asymptotics in (2.2.2) and (3.0.7), along with Theorems 4.0.10 and 4.0.11, immediately gives us

COROLLARY 4.0.19. *For a spectral window of large enough constant size D ,*

$$A_{p,h} \simeq h^{dp/2}.$$

Furthermore, the random variable $F_1(u)$ concentrates around the median $M_{1,h}$.

Remark 4.0.20. Under the aperiodicity assumption on M , we can consider windows of small constant length $D > 0$, but the asymptotic in Corollary 4.0.19 becomes only a $\mathcal{O}(h^{pd/2})$ bound as we are unable to refine the estimate (3.0.6) further at this time. However, the deviation estimate continues to hold.

Remark 4.0.21. Based on the analysis made in the proofs of Theorems 4.0.10 and 4.0.11, we see that obtaining actual asymptotics with error terms for the eigenfunction periods comes down to deducing more precise asymptotics for the remainders of both the Weyl law and Kuznecov sum formula. Given the various works that improve on the remainder estimate under different assumptions (for instance [DG, Iv] and the references therein), it is clear that this problem is difficult.

5. PROOF OF RESTRICTED VERSIONS OF THE BURQ-LEBEAU ASYMPTOTICS

We now present probabilistic restricted L^q estimates in the spectral window $[1, 1 + Dh)$ with $D > 0$ large in the general case and with $D > 0$ small in the aperiodic case, for which the even periods $\int_\gamma u^{2l} d\sigma$ for $l \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ follow immediately. Before beginning, we want to make note that the proofs for the global L^q bounds in Section 2.3 of [BL] go through with minor changes, such as establishing the new Lipschitz estimate and the new deviation estimate.

For the sake of simplicity, we write our theorems in the case of finite-length smooth curves in surfaces $\gamma \subset M$. Using the general theorems in Burq, Gérard, and Tzvetkov [BGT] that give the corresponding Lipschitz estimates for lower dimensional submanifolds, the higher dimensional formulations of our theorems follow similarly.

PROPOSITION 5.0.22. [BGT] *For the spectral window $[1, 1 + Dh)$ with $D > 0$ large enough in the general case, and $[1, 1 + h)$ in the aperiodic case, there exists $C_q > 0$ such that for $q \in [2, \infty)$ and $u \in S_h$, we have*

$$\left(\int_\gamma |u|^q d\sigma \right)^{1/q} = \|u\|_{L^q(\gamma)} \leq C_q h^{-\delta(q)} \cdot \|u\|_{L^2(M)},$$

where

$$\delta(q) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{q}, & \text{for } q \geq 4 \\ \frac{1}{4}, & \text{for } 2 \leq q \leq 4. \end{cases}$$

Moreover, the function $F_q(u) = \|u\|_{L^q(\gamma)}$ has Lipschitz norm $C_q \cdot h^{-\delta(q)}$.

The proof of this proposition is similar to that of Lemma 4.0.9. Now, using (2.1.3) and the above estimate results immediately in

THEOREM 5.0.23. *Consider $u \in S_h$. For any $q \in [2, \infty)$, there exists $c_{1,q} > 0$ such that for $h \in (0, h_0]$ with $L_{q,h}$ being the median value of $F_q(u) = \|u\|_{L^q(\gamma)}$,*

$$\mathbf{P}_h(|\|u\|_q - L_{q,h}| > r) \leq 2e^{-c_{1,q}G(h)r^2},$$

where $G(h) = h^{-2/q}$ for $q \geq 4$ and $G(h) = h^{-1/2}$ for $2 \leq q \leq 4$.

THEOREM 5.0.24. *For $B_{q,h} = \mathbf{E}_h[\|u\|_q^{1/q}]$ and $q \in [2, \infty)$, there exists $h_0 > 0$ such that for $h \in (0, h_0]$ and $C(\gamma, q, M) = \frac{\Gamma(q/2)^{1/q}(\text{Vol}(\gamma))^{1/q}}{2^{1/q}\sqrt{2e\text{Vol}(M)}} > 0$ we have*

$$B_{q,h} \simeq C. \tag{5.0.25}$$

It follows that for a given $q \in [2, \infty)$, there exists $c_1(q, \gamma, M) > 0$ such that for all $h \in (0, 1]$,

$$L_{q,h} \leq c_1. \quad (5.0.26)$$

And, there exists $c_2(q, \gamma, M) > 0$ and $h_0 > 0$ such that for all $h \in (0, h_0]$,

$$c_2 \leq L_{q,h}. \quad (5.0.27)$$

Remark 5.0.28. The constants $c_1(q, \gamma, M)$ and $c_2(q, \gamma, M)$ can be computed in terms of $C(q, \gamma, M)$; please see the following proof.

Proof. We re-do the proof of Theorem 4 in [BL], with the necessary modifications, for the facility of the reader. Notice that

$$\mathbf{E}_h[|g|^q] = q \int_0^\infty \lambda^{q-1} \mathbf{P}_h(|g| > \lambda) d\lambda,$$

and we obtain, after applying Fubini and (2.1.1), that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}_h(\|u\|_q^q) &= \int_\gamma \int_{S_h} |u(s)|^q d\sigma(s) d\mathbf{P}_h = q \int_\gamma \int_0^\infty \lambda^{q-1} \mathbf{P}_h(|u(s)| > \lambda) d\lambda d\sigma(s) \\ &= q \int_\gamma \int_0^{|b_{s,h}|} \lambda^{q-1} \left(1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{|b_{s,h}|^2}\right)^{N_h-1} d\lambda d\sigma(s) \\ &= q \left(\int_\gamma |b_{s,h}|^q d\sigma(s) \right) \int_0^1 z^{q-1} (1 - z^2)^{N_h-1} dz = (B_{q,h})^q. \end{aligned}$$

We note that

$$\int_0^1 z^{q-1} (1 - z^2)^{N_h-1} dz = (1/2) \beta(q/2, N_h) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \Gamma(q/2) \cdot N_h^{-q/2} (1 + o(1))$$

for $h \in (0, h_0]$ when q is fixed using basic beta function asymptotics, while

$$\int_\gamma |b_{s,h}|^q d\sigma(s) \simeq \frac{\text{Vol}(\gamma)}{\text{Vol}(M)^{q/2}} N_h^{q/2} \text{ for } h \in (0, h_0]$$

as $|b_{x,h}|^2 = \frac{N_h}{\text{Vol}(M)} + \mathcal{O}(h^{-(n-1)})$ for all $x \in M$ by the pointwise Weyl law on M (see [Ho] for the case of length D windows and [DG, Iv] for the case of small-length windows with $o(h^{-(n-1)})$ remainder estimate) and proceeding similarly as to obtaining (2.2.1). Using Stirling's formula for the gamma function $\Gamma(t)$ and the pointwise Weyl law once more, it follows that

$$B_{q,h}^q \leq q C_1^q \left(\frac{2N_h}{2N_h + (q/2)} \right)^{N_h + (q/2) - (1/2)} \Gamma(q/2) \quad (5.0.29)$$

for $C_1 > 0$ and all $h \in [0, 1]$. Hence $B_{q,h} \leq C_{2,q}$ for any $q \in [2, \infty)$ and $h \in [0, 1]$, where $C_{2,q} > 0$. Furthermore, we have that

$$B_{q,h} \simeq \frac{\Gamma(q/2)^{1/q}}{2^{1/q} \sqrt{2e \text{Vol}(M)}} (\text{Vol}(\gamma))^{1/q} \quad (5.0.30)$$

as $h \rightarrow 0$ and (5.0.25) follows.

The inequality (5.0.26) now follows from Chebyshev's inequality in the following way. Clearly,

$$\mathbf{P}_h[\|u\|_q > t] \leq \frac{1}{t^q} \mathbf{E}_h[\|u\|_q^q] = (B_{q,h}/t)^q.$$

Setting $t = L_{q,h}$ and using properties of the median, we obtain $L_{q,h} \leq 2^{1/q} B_{q,h}$ and (5.0.26) follows. We will use (5.0.30) to prove our last inequality (5.0.27).

Observe that

$$|B_{q,h} - L_{q,h}|^q = \|\|F_q\|_{L^q(S(2N_h))} - \|L_{q,h}\|_{L^q(S(2N_h))}\|^q \leq \|F_q - L_{q,h}\|_{L^q(S(2N_h))}^q.$$

In our case, as opposed to that in [BL], our Lipschitz estimate for F_q is $C_q \cdot h^{-\delta(q)}$. Hence, after using Corollary 5.0.23, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|F_q - L_{q,h}\|_{L^q(S(2N_h))}^q &= q \int_0^\infty \lambda^{q-1} \mathbf{P}_h(|F_q - L_{q,h}| > \lambda) d\lambda \\ &\leq 2q \int_0^\infty \lambda^{q-1} \exp(-c_1 h^{-\delta(q)} \lambda^2) d\lambda = \frac{2q}{c_1^{q/2}} h^{q\delta(q)/2} \Gamma(q/2). \end{aligned}$$

Taking q th roots shows the right-hand side is bounded above by $C_{3,q} h^{\delta(q)/2}$ for $C_{3,q} > 0$, which converges to 0 as $h \rightarrow 0$ for q fixed. This convergence along with the estimate (5.0.30) concludes the proof of (5.0.27). \square

6. REMARKS

Remark 6.0.31. We will now provide a simple argument that gives a $o(1)$ estimate for (1.1.4) without using the Kuznecov trace formula. Let us recall the quantum ergodic restriction (i.e. “QER”) result of [TZ].

THEOREM 6.0.32. *Let (M, g) be a compact surface with ergodic geodesic flow, $\gamma \subset M$ be a closed curve which is microlocally asymmetric with respect to the geodesic flow, and $\{\varphi_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ be eigenfunctions of the Laplace-Beltrami operator in semiclassical form. Then there exists a density-one subset S of \mathbb{N} such that for $a \in S^{0,0}(T^*\gamma \times [0, h_0))$,*

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty, j \in S} \langle \text{Op}_{h_j}(a) \varphi_j, \varphi_j \rangle_{L^2(\gamma)} = \omega(a)$$

where

$$\omega(a) = \frac{4}{\text{vol}(S^*\gamma)} \int_{B^*\gamma} a_0(s, \sigma) (1 - |\sigma|^2)^{-1/2} ds d\sigma.$$

Here, $S^*\gamma$ is the unit cotangent bundle over γ and $B^*\gamma$ is the unit ball bundle over γ with measure $ds d\sigma$, which is the projection of the Liouville measure $dx d\xi$ on the unit cotangent bundle S^*M .

For the definition of microlocal asymmetry, and further details, please see [TZ]. The definitions for the standard symbol classes $S^{0,0}$ and quantizations Op_h can be found in [Zw], as well as [TZ].

Now, let us assume γ satisfies the microlocal asymmetry assumption with $\{\varphi_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ being a quantum ergodic sequence of eigenfunctions on M , i.e. an entire sequence of eigenfunctions for which quantum ergodicity holds. Take $\varepsilon > 0$. Notice that $\int_\gamma \varphi_j d\sigma = \langle 1, \varphi_j \rangle_{L^2(\gamma)}$. Set

(s, τ) to be the coordinates on $B^*\gamma$. Since $WF_h(1) \subset \gamma \times \{0\}$, we have that for a smooth cutoff χ_ε where $\chi_\varepsilon(\tau) = 1$ on $(-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ and $\chi_\varepsilon(\tau) = 0$ outside $(-(3/2)\varepsilon, (3/2)\varepsilon)$,

$$\langle 1, \varphi_j \rangle_{L^2(\gamma)} = \langle Op_{h_j}(\chi_\varepsilon)1, \varphi_j \rangle_{L^2(\gamma)} + \mathcal{O}(h^\infty), \quad (6.0.33)$$

by semiclassical wavefront set calculus (see [Zw] for more details) for the corresponding h_j -pseudodifferential cutoff $Op_{h_j}(\chi_\varepsilon)$. Applying the QER result to the quantity $\langle 1, Op_{h_j}(\chi_\varepsilon)^* \varphi_j \rangle_{L^2(\gamma)}$ after using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality shows that there exists $h_0(\varepsilon)$ such that (6.0.33) is $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$ for all $h_j \leq h_0(\varepsilon)$. This proves our estimate.

Heuristically speaking, if we were to express φ_j as an “ergodic” one-dimensional Fourier series on the curve, then the above calculation suggests that the mass of the “period” arises from the constant mode of the series. It is interesting to ask how one can formalize this notion and apply it to periods of odd powers of ergodic eigenfunctions. A similar idea is used in [Rez].

As we can see, using quantum ergodicity assumptions along with asymmetry allows us to retrieve the $o(1)$ bound of Chen-Sogge [CS] (proved under negative curvature assumptions) without the use of any trace formula. The “Random wave conjecture” of M. Berry [Berr] states that the behavior of Gaussian random waves accurately models that of eigenfunctions when the underlying classical dynamics is chaotic. If we assume classical ergodicity, then our above estimate holds for a density one subsequence of eigenfunctions. Following calculations with Gaussian random waves and comparing the resulting asymptotics to our $o(1)$ estimate shows some consistency with Berry’s conjecture.

Remark 6.0.34. As mentioned above, the analogous question for $|\int_S u^{2l+1} d\sigma|$ for $l \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ is still of interest but is more subtle. It is not entirely clear that the same methods using Weyl-type formulas will work. Furthermore, it is not known if we have analogues of (1.1.2) in the case of all odd powers. We hope to address these questions in future work.

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