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the Spectral Projector of the Laplacian*

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# $C^\infty$ SCALING ASYMPTOTICS FOR THE SPECTRAL PROJECTOR OF THE LAPLACIAN

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ABSTRACT. This article concerns new off-diagonal estimates on the remainder and its derivatives in the pointwise Weyl law on a compact  $n$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold. As an application, we prove that near any non self-focal point, the scaling limit of the spectral projector of the Laplacian onto frequency windows of constant size is a normalized Bessel function depending only on  $n$ .

## 0. INTRODUCTION

Let  $(M, g)$  be a compact, smooth, Riemannian manifold without boundary. We assume throughout that the dimension of  $M$  is  $n \geq 2$  and write  $\Delta_g$  for the non-negative Laplace-Beltrami operator. Denote the spectrum of  $\Delta_g$  by

$$0 = \lambda_0^2 < \lambda_1^2 \leq \lambda_2^2 \leq \dots \nearrow \infty.$$

This article concerns the behavior of the Schwarz kernel of the projection operators

$$E_I : L^2(M) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\lambda_j \in I} \ker(\Delta_g - \lambda_j^2),$$

where  $I \subset [0, \infty)$ . Given an orthonormal basis  $\{\varphi_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$  of  $L^2(M, g)$  consisting of real-valued eigenfunctions,

$$\Delta_g \varphi_j = \lambda_j^2 \varphi_j \quad \text{and} \quad \|\varphi_j\|_{L^2} = 1, \tag{1}$$

the Schwarz kernel of  $E_I$  is

$$E_I(x, y) = \sum_{\lambda_j \in I} \varphi_j(x) \varphi_j(y). \tag{2}$$

The study of  $E_{[0, \lambda]}(x, y)$  as  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$  has a long history, especially when  $x = y$ . For instance, it has been studied notably in [7, 8, 9, 10] for its close relation to the asymptotics of the spectral counting function

$$\#\{j : \lambda_j \leq \lambda\} = \int_M E_{[0, \lambda]}(x, x) dv_g(x), \tag{3}$$

where  $dv_g$  is the Riemannian volume form. An important result, going back to Hörmander [8, Thm 4.4], is the pointwise Weyl law (see also [4, 18]), which says that there exists  $\varepsilon > 0$  so that if the Riemannian distance  $d_g(x, y)$  between  $x$  and  $y$  is less than  $\varepsilon$ , then

$$E_{[0, \lambda]}(x, y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{|\xi|_{g_y} < \lambda} e^{i(\exp_y^{-1}(x), \xi)} \frac{d\xi}{\sqrt{|g_y|}} + R(x, y, \lambda). \tag{4}$$

The integral in (4) is over the cotangent fiber  $T_y^*M$  and the integration measure is the quotient of the symplectic form  $d\xi \wedge dy$  by the Riemannian volume form  $dv_g = \sqrt{|g_y|}dy$ . In Hörmander's original theorem, the phase function  $\langle \exp_y^{-1}(x), \xi \rangle$  is replaced by any so-called adapted phase function and one still obtains that

$$\sup_{d_g(x,y) < \varepsilon} \left| \nabla_x^j \nabla_y^k R(x, y, \lambda) \right| = O(\lambda^{n-1+j+k}) \quad (5)$$

as  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $\nabla$  denotes covariant differentiation. The estimate (5) for  $j = k = 0$  is already in [8, Thm 4.4], while the general case follows from the wave kernel method (e.g. as in §4 of [16] see also [3, Thm 3.1]).

Our main technical result, Theorem 2, shows that the remainder estimate (5) for  $R(x, y, \lambda)$  can be improved from  $O(\lambda^{n-1+j+k})$  to  $o(\lambda^{n-1+j+k})$  under the assumption that  $x$  and  $y$  are near a non self-focal point (defined below). This paper is a continuation of [4] where the authors proved Theorem 2 for  $j = k = 0$ . An application of our improved remainder estimates is Theorem 1, which shows that we can compute the scaling limit of  $E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]}(x, y)$  and its derivatives near a non self-focal point as  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Definition 1.** A point  $x \in M$  is *non self-focal* if the loopset

$$\mathcal{L}_x := \{ \xi \in S_x^*M : \exists t > 0 \text{ with } \exp_x(t\xi) = x \}$$

has measure 0 with respect to the natural measure on  $T_x^*M$  induced by  $g$ . Note that  $\mathcal{L}_x$  can be dense in  $S_x^*M$  while still having measure 0 (e.g. for points on a flat torus).

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $(M, g)$  be a compact, smooth, Riemannian manifold of dimension  $n \geq 2$ , with no boundary. Suppose  $x_0 \in M$  is a non self-focal point and consider a non-negative function  $r_\lambda$  satisfying  $r_\lambda = o(\lambda)$  as  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ . Define the rescaled kernel*

$$E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]}^{x_0}(u, v) := \lambda^{-(n-1)} E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]} \left( \exp_{x_0} \left( \frac{u}{\lambda} \right), \exp_{x_0} \left( \frac{v}{\lambda} \right) \right).$$

Then, for all  $k, j \geq 0$ ,

$$\sup_{|u|, |v| \leq r_\lambda} \left| \partial_u^j \partial_v^k \left( E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]}^{x_0}(u, v) - \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{S_{x_0}^*M} e^{i\langle u-v, \omega \rangle} d\omega \right) \right| = o(1)$$

as  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ . The inner product in the integral over the unit sphere  $S_{x_0}^*M$  is with respect to the flat metric  $g(x_0)$  and  $d\omega$  is the hypersurface measure on  $S_{x_0}^*M$  induced by  $g(x_0)$ .

**Remark 1.** Theorem 1 holds for  $\Pi_{(\lambda, \lambda+\delta]}$  with arbitrary fixed  $\delta > 0$ . The difference is that the limiting kernel is multiplied by  $\delta$  and the rate of convergence in the  $o(1)$  term depends on  $\delta$ .

**Remark 2.** One can replace the shrinking ball  $B(x_0, r_\lambda)$  in Theorem 1 by a compact set  $S \subset M$  in which for any  $x, y \in S$  the measure of the set of geodesics joining  $x$  and  $y$  is zero (see Remark 3 after Theorem 2).

Theorem 1 follows from Theorem 2 by combining (9) with the relation  $E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]} = E_{[0, \lambda+1]} - E_{[0, \lambda]}$ . In normal coordinates at  $x_0$ , Theorem 1 shows that the scaling limit of  $E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]}^{x_0}$  in the  $C^\infty$  topology is

$$E_1^{\mathbb{R}^n}(u, v) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{S^{n-1}} e^{i\langle u-v, \omega \rangle} d\omega,$$

which is the kernel of the frequency 1 spectral projector for the flat Laplacian on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Theorem 1 can therefore be applied to studying the local behavior of random waves on  $(M, g)$ . More precisely, a frequency  $\lambda$  monochromatic random wave  $\varphi_\lambda$  on  $(M, g)$  is a Gaussian random linear combination

$$\varphi_\lambda = \sum_{\lambda_j \in (\lambda, \lambda+1]} a_j \varphi_j \quad a_j \sim N(0, 1) \text{ i.i.d.},$$

of eigenfunctions with frequencies in  $\lambda_j \in (\lambda, \lambda + 1]$ . In this context, random waves were first introduced by Zelditch in [20]. Since the Gaussian field  $\varphi_\lambda$  is centered, its law is determined by its covariance function, which is precisely  $E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]}(x, y)$ . In the language of Nazarov-Sodin [11] (cf [6, 14]), the estimate (6) means that frequency  $\lambda$  monochromatic random waves on  $(M, g)$  have frequency 1 random waves on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  as their translation invariant local limits at every non self-focal point. This point of view is taken up in the forthcoming article [5].

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $(M, g)$  be a compact, smooth, Riemannian manifold of dimension  $n \geq 2$ , with no boundary. Let  $K \subseteq M$  be the set of all non self-focal points in  $M$ . Then for all  $k, j \geq 0$  and all  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a neighborhood  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}(\varepsilon, k, j)$  of  $K$  and constants  $\Lambda = \Lambda(\varepsilon, k, j)$  and  $C = C(\varepsilon, k, j)$  for which*

$$\|R(x, y, \lambda)\|_{C_x^k(\mathcal{U}) \times C_y^j(\mathcal{U})} \leq \varepsilon \lambda^{n-1+j+k} + C \lambda^{n-2+j+k} \quad (6)$$

for all  $\lambda > \Lambda$ . Hence, if  $x_0 \in K$  and  $\mathcal{U}_\lambda$  is any sequence of sets containing  $x_0$  with diameter tending to 0 as  $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$ , then

$$\|R(x, y, \lambda)\|_{C_x^k(\mathcal{U}_\lambda) \times C_y^j(\mathcal{U}_\lambda)} = o(\lambda^{n-1+j+k}). \quad (7)$$

**Remark 3.** One can consider more generally any compact  $S \subseteq M$  such that all  $x, y \in S$  are mutually non-focal, which means

$$\mathcal{L}_{x,y} := \{\xi \in S_x^* M : \exists t > 0 \text{ with } \exp_x(t\xi) = y\}$$

has measure zero. Then, combining [12, Thm 3.3] with Theorem 2, for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a neighborhood  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}(\varepsilon, j)$  of  $S$  and constants  $\Lambda = \Lambda(\varepsilon, j, S)$  and  $C = C(\varepsilon, j, S)$  such that

$$\sup_{x,y \in S} |\nabla_x^j \nabla_y^j R(x, y, \lambda)| \leq \varepsilon \lambda^{n-1+2j} + C \lambda^{n-2+2j}.$$

We believe that this statement is true even when the number of derivatives in  $x, y$  is not the same but do not take this issue up here.

Our proof of Theorem 2 relies heavily on the argument for Theorem 1 in [4], which treated the case  $j = k = 0$ . That result was in turn based on the work of Sogge-Zelditch [18, 19], who studied  $j = k = 0$  and  $x = y$ . This last situation was also studied (independently and significantly before [4, 18, 19]) by Safarov in [12] (cf [13]) using a somewhat different method. The case  $j = k = 1$  and  $x = y$  is essentially Proposition 2.3 in [20]. We refer the reader to the introduction of [4] for more background on estimates like (6).

## 1. PROOF OF THEOREM 2

Let  $x_0$  be a non-self focal point. Let  $I, J$  be multi-indices and set

$$\Omega := |I| + |J|.$$

We abbreviate

$$E_\lambda \equiv E_{[0, \lambda]}.$$

Using that

$$\int_{S^{n-1}} e^{i\langle u, w \rangle} dw = (2\pi)^{n/2} J_{\frac{n-2}{2}}(|u|) |u|^{-\frac{n-2}{2}} \quad (8)$$

for all  $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we have

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi)^n} \int_{|\xi|_{g_y} < \lambda} e^{i\langle \exp_y^{-1}(x), \xi \rangle} \frac{d\xi}{\sqrt{|g_y|}} = \int_0^\lambda \frac{\mu^{n-1}}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}} \left( \frac{J_{\frac{n-2}{2}}(\mu d_g(x, y))}{(\mu d_g(x, y))^{\frac{n-2}{2}}} \right) d\mu. \quad (9)$$

Choose coordinates around  $x_0$ . We seek to show that there exists a constant  $c > 0$  so that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is an open neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$  of  $x_0$  and a constant  $c_\varepsilon$  so that we have

$$\sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} \left| \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda(x, y) - \int_0^\lambda \frac{\mu^{n-1}}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}} \partial_x^I \partial_y^J \left( \frac{J_{\frac{n-2}{2}}(\mu d_g(x, y))}{(\mu d_g(x, y))^{\frac{n-2}{2}}} \right) d\mu \right| \leq c \varepsilon \lambda^{n-1+\Omega} + c_\varepsilon \lambda^{n-2+\Omega}. \quad (10)$$

Let  $\rho \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$  satisfy  $\text{supp}(\hat{\rho}) \subseteq (-\text{inj}(M, g), \text{inj}(M, g))$  and

$$\hat{\rho}(t) = 1 \quad \text{for all} \quad |t| < \frac{1}{2} \text{inj}(M, g). \quad (11)$$

We prove (10) by first showing that it holds for the convolved measure  $\rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda(x, y)$  and then estimating the difference  $|\rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda(x, y) - \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda(x, y)|$  in the following two propositions.

**Proposition 3.** *Let  $x_0$  be a non-self focal point. Let  $I, J$  be multi-indices and set  $\Omega = |I| + |J|$ . There exists a constant  $c$  so that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist an open neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$  of  $x_0$  and a constant  $c_\varepsilon$  so that we have*

$$\left| \rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda(x, y) - \int_0^\lambda \frac{\mu^{n-1}}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}} \partial_x^I \partial_y^J \left( \frac{J_{\frac{n-2}{2}}(\mu d_g(x, y))}{(\mu d_g(x, y))^{\frac{n-2}{2}}} \right) d\mu \right| \leq c \varepsilon \lambda^{n-1+\Omega} + c_\varepsilon \lambda^{n-2+\Omega},$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$ .

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $x_0$  be a non-self focal point. There exists a constant  $c$  so that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist an open neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$  of  $x_0$  and a constant  $c_\varepsilon$  so that for all multi-indices  $I, J$  we have*

$$\sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} |\rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda(x, y) - \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda(x, y)| \leq c \varepsilon \lambda^{n-1+\Omega} + c_\varepsilon \lambda^{n-2+\Omega}.$$

The proof of Proposition 4 hinges on the fact that  $x_0$  is a non self-focal point. Indeed, for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , Lemma 15 in [4] (which is a generalization of Lemma 3.1 in

[18]) yields the existence of a neighborhood  $\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon$  of  $x_0$ , a function  $\psi_\varepsilon \in C_c^\infty(M)$  and operators  $B_\varepsilon, C_\varepsilon \in \Psi^0(M)$  supported in  $\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon$  satisfying both:

$$\bullet \text{ supp}(\psi_\varepsilon) \subset \mathcal{O}_\varepsilon \text{ and } \psi_\varepsilon = 1 \text{ on a neighborhood of } x_0, \quad (12)$$

$$\bullet B_\varepsilon + C_\varepsilon = \psi_\varepsilon^2. \quad (13)$$

The operator  $B_\varepsilon$  is built so that it is microlocally supported on the set of cotangent directions that generate geodesic loops at  $x_0$ . Since  $x_0$  is non self-focal, the construction can be carried so that the principal symbol  $b_0(x, \xi)$  satisfies  $\|b_0(x, \cdot)\|_{L^2(B_x^*M)} \leq \varepsilon$  for all  $x \in M$ . The operator  $C_\varepsilon$  is built so that  $U(t)C_\varepsilon^*$  is a smoothing operator for  $\frac{1}{2}\text{inj}(M, g) < |t| < \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ . In addition, the principal symbols of  $B_\varepsilon$  and  $C_\varepsilon$  are real valued and their sub-principal symbols vanish in a neighborhood of  $x_0$  (when regarded as operators acting on half-densities).

In what follows we use the construction above to decompose  $E_\lambda$ , up to an  $O(\lambda^{-\infty})$  error, as

$$E_\lambda(x, y) = E_\lambda B_\varepsilon^*(x, y) + E_\lambda C_\varepsilon^*(x, y) \quad (14)$$

for all  $x, y$  sufficiently close to  $x_0$ . This decomposition is valid since  $\psi_\varepsilon \equiv 1$  near  $x_0$ .

**1.1. Proof of Proposition 3.** The proof of Proposition 3 consists of writing

$$\rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda(x, y) = \int_0^\lambda \partial_\mu(\rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\mu(x, y)) d\mu,$$

and on finding an estimate for  $\partial_\mu(\rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\mu(x, y))$ . Such an estimate is given in Lemma 5, which is stated for the more general case  $\partial_\mu(\rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\mu Q^*(x, y))$  with  $Q \in \{Id, B_\varepsilon, C_\varepsilon\}$  that is needed in the proof of Proposition 4.

**Lemma 5.** *Let  $(M, g)$  be a compact, smooth, Riemannian manifold of dimension  $n \geq 2$ , with no boundary. Let  $Q \in \{Id, B_\varepsilon, C_\varepsilon\}$  have principal symbol  $D_0^Q$ . Consider  $\rho$  as in (11), and define*

$$\Omega = |I| + |J|.$$

*Then, for all  $x, y \in M$  with  $d_g(x, y) \leq \frac{1}{2}\text{inj}(M, g)$ , all multi-indices  $I, J$ , and all  $\mu \geq 1$ , we have*

$$\begin{aligned} & \partial_\mu(\rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\mu Q^*)(x, y) \\ &= \frac{\mu^{n-1}}{(2\pi)^n} \partial_x^I \partial_y^J \left( \int_{S_y^*M} e^{i\mu \langle \exp_y^{-1}(x), \omega \rangle_{g_y}} \left( D_0^Q(y, \omega) + \mu^{-1} D_{-1}^Q(y, \omega) \right) \frac{d\omega}{\sqrt{|g_y|}} \right) \\ &+ W_{I, J}(x, y, \mu). \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

*Here,  $d\omega$  is the Euclidean surface measure on  $S_y^*M$ , and  $D_{-1}^Q$  is a homogeneous symbol of order  $-1$ . The latter satisfy*

$$D_{-1}^{B_\varepsilon}(y, \cdot) + D_{-1}^{C_\varepsilon}(y, \cdot) = 0 \quad \forall y \in \mathcal{O}_\varepsilon, \quad (16)$$

*where  $\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon$  is as in (12). Moreover, there exists  $C > 0$  so that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$*

$$\sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{O}_\varepsilon} \left| \int_{S_y^*M} e^{i\mu \langle \exp_y^{-1}(x), \omega \rangle_{g_y}} D_{-1}^Q(y, \omega) \frac{d\omega}{\sqrt{|g_y|}} \right| \leq C \varepsilon. \quad (17)$$

Finally,  $W_{I,J}$  is a smooth function in  $(x, y)$  for which there exists  $C > 0$  such that for all  $x, y$  satisfying  $d_g(x, y) \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{inj}(M, g)$  and all  $\mu > 0$

$$|W_{I,J}(x, y, \mu)| \leq C\mu^{n-2+\Omega} (d_g(x, y) + (1 + \mu)^{-1}). \quad (18)$$

**Remark 4.** Note that Lemma 5 does not assume that  $x, y$  are near a non self-focal point.

**Remark 5.** We note that Lemma 5 is valid for more general operators  $Q$ . Indeed, if  $Q \in \Psi^k(M)$  has vanishing subprincipal symbol (when regarded as an operator acting on half-densities), then (15) holds with  $D_0^Q(y, \omega)$  substituted by  $\mu^k D_k^Q(y, \omega)$  and with  $\mu^{-1} D_{-1}^Q(y, \omega)$  substituted by  $\mu^{k-1} D_{k-1}^Q(y, \omega)$ . Here,  $D_k^Q$  is the principal symbol of  $Q$  and  $D_{k-1}^Q$  is a homogeneous polynomial of degree  $k-1$ . In this setting, the error term satisfies  $|W_{I,J}(x, y, \mu)| \leq C\mu^{n+k-2+\Omega} (d_g(x, y) + (1 + \mu)^{-1})$ .

*Proof of Lemma 5.* We use that

$$\partial_\mu(\rho * EQ^*)(x, y, \lambda) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{it\lambda} \hat{\rho}(t) U(t) Q^*(x, y) dt, \quad (19)$$

where  $Q \in \Psi(M)$  is any pseudo-differential operator and  $U(t) = e^{-it\sqrt{\Delta_g}}$  is the half-wave propagator. The argument from here is identical to that of [4, Proposition 12], which relies on a parametrrix for the half-wave propagator for which the kernel can be controlled to high accuracy when  $x$  and  $y$  are close to the diagonal. The main corrections to the proof of [4, Proposition 12] are that  $\partial_x^I \partial_y^J$  gives an  $O(\mu^{n-3+\Omega})$  error in equations (54) and (60), and gives an  $O(\mu^{n-1})$  error in (59). We must also take into account that  $\partial_x \Theta(x, y)^{1/2}$  and  $\partial_y \Theta(x, y)^{1/2}$  are both  $O(d_g(x, y))$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 3.* Following the technique for proving [4, Proposition 7], we obtain Proposition 3 by applying Lemma 5 to  $Q = Id$  (this gives  $D_0^{Id} = 1$  and  $D_{-1}^{Id} = 0$ ) and integrating the expression in (15) from  $\mu = 0$  to  $\mu = \lambda$ . One needs to choose  $\mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$  so that its diameter is smaller than  $\varepsilon$ , since this makes  $\int_0^\lambda W_{I,J}(x, y, \mu) d\mu = O(\varepsilon\lambda^{n-1+\Omega} + \lambda^{n-2+\Omega})$  as needed. One also uses identity (9) to obtain the exact statement in Proposition 3.  $\square$

**1.2. Proof of Proposition 4.** As in (14),

$$E_\lambda(x, y) = E_\lambda B_\varepsilon^*(x, y) + E_\lambda C_\varepsilon^*(x, y) + O(\lambda^{-\infty})$$

for all  $x, y$  sufficiently close to  $x_0$ . Proposition 4 therefore reduces to showing that there exist a constant  $c$  independent of  $\varepsilon$ , a constant  $c_\varepsilon = c_\varepsilon(I, J, x_0)$ , and a neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$  of  $x_0$  such that

$$\sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} \left| \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda B_\varepsilon^*(x, y) - \rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda B_\varepsilon^*(x, y) \right| \leq c\varepsilon\lambda^{n-1+\Omega} + c_\varepsilon\lambda^{n-2+\Omega}, \quad (20)$$

and

$$\sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} \left| \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda C_\varepsilon^*(x, y) - \rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda C_\varepsilon^*(x, y) \right| \leq c\varepsilon\lambda^{n-1+\Omega} + c_\varepsilon\lambda^{n-2+\Omega}. \quad (21)$$

Our proofs of (20) and (21) use that these estimates hold on diagonal when  $|I| = |J| = 0$  (i.e. no derivatives are involved). This is the content of the following result,

which was proved in [18] for  $Q = Id$ . Its proof extends without modification to general  $Q \in \Psi^0(M)$ .

**Lemma 6** (Theorem 1.2 and Proposition 2.2 in [18]). *Let  $Q \in \Psi^0(M)$  have real-valued principal symbol  $q$ . Fix a non-self focal point  $x_0 \in M$  and write  $\sigma_{sub}(QQ^*)$  for the subprincipal symbol of  $QQ^*$  (acting on half-densities). Then, there exists  $c > 0$  so that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist a neighborhood  $\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon$  and a constant  $C_\varepsilon$  making*

$$QE_\lambda Q^*(x, x) = (2\pi)^{-n} \int_{|\xi|_{g_x} < \lambda} (|q(x, \xi)|^2 + \sigma_{sub}(QQ^*)(x, \xi)) \frac{d\xi}{\sqrt{|g_x|}} + R_Q(x, \lambda),$$

with

$$\sup_{x \in \mathcal{U}} |R_Q(x, \lambda)| \leq c\varepsilon\lambda^{n-1} + C_\varepsilon\lambda^{n-2}$$

for all  $\lambda \geq 1$ .

We prove relation (20) in Section 1.2.1 and relation (21) in Section 1.2.2.

1.2.1. *Proof of relation (20).* Define

$$g_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda) := \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda B_\varepsilon^*(x, y) - \rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda B_\varepsilon^*(x, y).$$

Note that  $g_{I,J}(x, y, \cdot)$  is a piecewise continuous function. We aim to find  $c, c_\varepsilon$  and  $\mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$  so that  $x_0 \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$  and

$$\sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} |g_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda)| \leq c\varepsilon\lambda^{n-1+\Omega} + c_\varepsilon\lambda^{n-2+\Omega}. \quad (22)$$

By [4, Lemma 17], which is a Tauberian Theorem for non-monotone functions, relation (22) reduces to checking the following two conditions:

$$\bullet \mathcal{F}_{\lambda \rightarrow t}(g_{I,J})(x, y, t) = 0 \quad \text{for all } |t| < \frac{1}{2} \text{inj}(M, g), \quad (23)$$

$$\bullet \sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} \sup_{s \in [0, 1]} |g_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda + s) - g_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda)| \leq c\varepsilon\lambda^{n-1+\Omega} + c_\varepsilon\lambda^{n-2+\Omega}. \quad (24)$$

By construction,  $\mathcal{F}_{\lambda \rightarrow t}(\partial_\lambda g_{I,J})(x, y, t) = (1 - \hat{\rho}(t)) \partial_x^I \partial_y^J U(t) B_\varepsilon^*(x, y) = 0$  for all  $|t| < \frac{1}{2} \text{inj}(M, g)$ . Hence, since  $\mathcal{F}_{\lambda \rightarrow t}(g_{I,J})$  is continuous at  $t = 0$ , we have (23). To prove (24) we write

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{s \in [0, 1]} |g_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda + s) - g_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda)| \\ & \leq \sup_{s \in [0, 1]} |\partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_{(\lambda, \lambda+s)} B_\varepsilon^*(x, y)| + \sup_{s \in [0, 1]} |\rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_{(\lambda, \lambda+s)} B_\varepsilon^*(x, y)|. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

The second term in (25) is bounded above by the right hand side of (24) by Lemma 5. To bound the first term, use Cauchy-Schwartz to get

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{s \in [0, 1]} |\partial_x^I \partial_y^J [E_{(\lambda, \lambda+s)} B_\varepsilon^*(x, y)]| = \sup_{s \in [0, 1]} \left| \sum_{\lambda_j \in (\lambda, \lambda+1]} \partial_x^I \varphi_j(x) \cdot \partial_y^J B_\varepsilon \varphi_j(y) \right| \\ & \leq \sum_{\lambda_j \in (\lambda, \lambda+1]} |[(B_\varepsilon \partial_y^J + [\partial_y^J, B_\varepsilon]) \varphi_j(y)]| \cdot |\partial_x^I \varphi_j(x)|. \end{aligned}$$

Write  $b_0$  for the principal symbol of  $B_\varepsilon$ . By construction, for all  $y$  in a neighborhood of  $x_0$ , we have  $\partial_y b_0(y, \xi) = 0$ . Therefore,  $\sigma_{|J|-1}([\partial_y^J, B_\varepsilon]) = i^{|J|} \{\xi^J, b_0(y, \xi)\} = 0$  and



we conclude that  $[\partial_y^J, B_\varepsilon] \in \Psi^{|J|-2}$ . Thus, by the usual pointwise Weyl Law (e.g. [19, Equation (2.31)]),

$$\sup_{s \in [0,1]} |\partial_x^I \partial_y^J [E_{(\lambda, \lambda+s)} B_\varepsilon^*(x, y)]| \leq \sum_{\lambda_j \in (\lambda, \lambda+1]} |B_\varepsilon \partial_y^J \varphi_j(y)| \cdot |\partial_x^I \varphi_j(x)| + O(\lambda^{n-3+\Omega})$$

Next, define for each multi-index  $K \in \mathbb{N}^n$  the order zero pseudo-differential operator

$$P_K := \partial^K \Delta_g^{-|K|/2}.$$

Using Cauchy-Schwarz and that  $\partial^K \varphi_j = \lambda_j^{|K|} P_K \varphi_j$ , we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\lambda_j \in (\lambda, \lambda+1]} |B_\varepsilon \partial_y^J \varphi_j(y)| \cdot |\partial_x^I \varphi_j(x)| \\ & \leq (\lambda + 1)^\Omega [(B_\varepsilon P_J) E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]} (B_\varepsilon P_J)^*(y, y)]^{\frac{1}{2}} [P_I E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]} P_I^*(x, x)]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Again using the pointwise Weyl Law (see [19, Equation (2.31)]), we have  $[P_I E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]} P_I^*(x, x)]^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is  $O(\lambda^{\frac{n-1}{2}})$ . Next, since according to the construction of  $B_\varepsilon$  we have

$$\sup_{x \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} \|b_0(x, \cdot)\|_{L^2(B_x^* M)} \leq \varepsilon$$

and  $\partial_x b_0(x, \xi) = 0$  for  $x$  in a neighborhood  $\mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$  of  $x_0$ , we conclude that

$$\sup_{x \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} \|\sigma_{sub}(B_\varepsilon P_J (B_\varepsilon P_J)^*)(x, \cdot)\|_{L^2(B_x^* M)} \leq \varepsilon^2.$$

Proposition 6 therefore shows that there exists  $c > 0$  making

$$\sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} |(B_\varepsilon P_J) E_{(\lambda, \lambda+1]} (B_\varepsilon P_J)^*(y, y)|^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq c \varepsilon \lambda^{\frac{n-1}{2}}. \quad (26)$$

This proves (24), which together with (23) allows us to conclude (22).

1.2.2. *Proof of relation (21).* Write

$$\partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda C_\varepsilon^*(x, y) = \sum_{\lambda_j \leq \lambda} \lambda_j^\Omega (P_I \varphi_j(x)) \cdot (C_\varepsilon P_J \varphi_j(y)) + \sum_{\lambda_j \leq \lambda} \lambda_j^{|I|} (P_I \varphi_j(x)) \cdot ([\partial^J, C_\varepsilon] \varphi_j(y)). \quad (27)$$

As before,  $[\partial^J, C_\varepsilon] \in \Psi^{|J|-2}$ . Hence, by the usual pointwise Weyl law, the second term in (27) and its convolution with  $\rho$  are both  $O(\lambda^{n-2+\Omega})$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} |\partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda C_\varepsilon^*(x, y) - \rho * \partial_x^I \partial_y^J E_\lambda C_\varepsilon^*(x, y)| &= \sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} |V(x, y, \lambda) - \rho * V(x, y, \lambda)| \\ &+ O(\lambda^{n+\Omega-2}), \end{aligned}$$

where we have set

$$V(x, y, \lambda) := \partial^I E_\lambda (C_\varepsilon \partial^J)^*(x, y) = \sum_{\lambda_j \leq \lambda} \lambda_j^\Omega (P_I \varphi_j(x)) \cdot (C_\varepsilon P_J \varphi_j(y)).$$

Define

$$\alpha_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda) := V(x, y, \lambda) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\lambda_j \leq \lambda} \lambda_j^\Omega \left( |P_I \varphi_{\lambda_j}(x)|^2 + |C_\varepsilon P_J \varphi_{\lambda_j}(y)|^2 \right) \quad (28)$$

$$\beta_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda) := \rho * V(x, y, \lambda) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\lambda_j \leq \lambda} \lambda_j^\Omega \left( |P_I \varphi_{\lambda_j}(x)|^2 + |C_\varepsilon P_J \varphi_{\lambda_j}(y)|^2 \right). \quad (29)$$

By construction,  $\alpha_{I,J}(x, y, \cdot)$  is a monotone function of  $\lambda$  for  $x, y$  fixed, and  $\alpha_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda) - \beta_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda) = V(x, y, \lambda) - \rho * V(x, y, \lambda)$ . So we aim to show that

$$\sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon} |\alpha_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda) - \beta_{I,J}(x, y, \lambda)| \leq c\varepsilon \lambda^{n-1+\Omega} + c_\varepsilon \lambda^{n-2+\Omega}. \quad (30)$$

We control the difference in (30) applying a Tauberian theorem for monotone functions [4, Lemma 16]. To apply it we need to show the following:

- There exists  $c > 0$  and  $c_\varepsilon > 0$  making

$$\int_{\lambda-\varepsilon}^{\lambda+\varepsilon} |\partial_\mu \beta_{I,J}(x, y, \mu)| d\mu \leq c\varepsilon \lambda^{n-1+\Omega} + c_\varepsilon \lambda^{n-2+\Omega}. \quad (31)$$

- For all  $N$  there exists  $M_{\varepsilon, N}$  so that for all  $\lambda > 0$

$$|\partial_\lambda (\alpha_{I,J}(x, y, \cdot) - \beta_{I,J}(x, y, \cdot)) * \phi_\varepsilon(\mu)| \leq M_{\varepsilon, N} (1 + |\lambda|)^{-N}. \quad (32)$$

In equation (32) we have set  $\phi_\varepsilon(\lambda) := \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \phi\left(\frac{\lambda}{\varepsilon}\right)$  for some  $\phi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R})$  chosen so that  $\text{supp } \hat{\phi} \subseteq (-1, 1)$  and  $\hat{\phi}(0) = 1$ .

Relation (31) follows after applying Lemma 6 to the piece of the integral corresponding to the second term in (29) and from applying Lemma 5 together with Remark 5 to  $\rho * V = \rho * \partial^I E_\lambda Q^*$ , where  $Q := C_\varepsilon \partial^J$  has vanishing subprincipal symbol.

To verify (32) note that  $\text{supp}(1 - \hat{\rho}) \subseteq \{t : |t| \geq \text{inj}(M, g)/2\}$  and  $\text{supp}(\hat{\phi}_\varepsilon) \subseteq \{t : |t| \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\}$ . Observe that

$$\partial_\lambda \left( \alpha_{I,J}(x, y, \cdot) - \beta_{I,J}(x, y, \cdot) \right) * \phi_\varepsilon(\lambda) = \mathcal{F}_{t \rightarrow \lambda}^{-1} \left( (1 - \hat{\rho}(t)) \hat{\phi}_\varepsilon(t) \partial^I U(t) (\partial^J C_\varepsilon)^*(x, y) \right) (\lambda).$$

By construction  $U(t) C_\varepsilon^*$  is a smoothing operator for  $\frac{1}{2} \text{inj}(M, g) < |t| < \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ . Thus, so is  $\partial^I U(t) (\partial^J C_\varepsilon)^*$  which implies (32). This concludes the proof of relation (21).  $\square$

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