Star graphs and Šeba billiards

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Abstract

We derive an exact expression for the two-point correlation function for quantum star graphs in the limit as the number of bonds tends to infinity. This turns out to be identical to the corresponding result for certain Šeba billiards in the semiclassical limit. The reasons for this are discussed. The formula we derive is also shown to be equivalent to a series expansion for the form factor—the Fourier transform of the two-point correlation function—previously calculated using periodic orbit theory.

(Some figures in this article are in colour only in the electronic version; see `www.iop.org`)

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1. Introduction

The statistical distribution of quantum energy levels is a much studied topic. It has been conjectured that generic, classically integrable systems give rise to uncorrelated quantum spectra [1], while the energy levels of generic classically chaotic systems have the same statistical properties as the eigenvalues of random matrices [2]. This has been confirmed by semiclassical theory [3, 4], and in a large number of numerical studies, but classes of systems have also been found for which it is not true; these include geodesic motion on surfaces of constant negative curvature [5], and the cat maps [6].

Quantum graphs [7, 8] are mathematical models introduced in order to explore the connection between the periodic orbits of a system and the statistical properties of its energy levels. The trace formula, in which the level density is connected to a sum over periodic orbits, is exact for graphs, rather than a semiclassical approximation, and the orbits can be classified straightforwardly. However, despite the fact that numerical computations have revealed good conformance of the spectral statistics of many quantum graphs to the predictions of random matrix theory (RMT), few conclusive analytical results have been obtained so far. This is due to the fact that although some individual finite graphs can be shown to reproduce certain features of RMT behaviour [9–11], the full RMT results can only be recovered in a limit in which one is forced to consider larger and larger graphs, and this necessitates finding general,
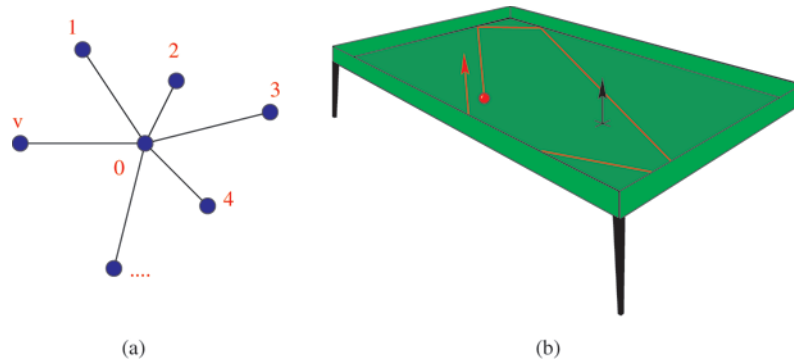
Figure 1. A star graph with v edges (*a*) and a Šeba billiard (*b*).

combinatorial asymptotic techniques for dealing with the (non-trivial) length degeneracies of
periodic orbits.

One family of graphs in which this goal has been achieved are the star graphs [12] (defined
below and shown in figure 1), but in this case the resulting spectral statistics are neither RMT
nor Poissonian (i.e. those of random numbers). It turns out, however, that it is not the first
time that such statistics have arisen in the connection with the study of quantum chaos. Our
purpose here is to demonstrate that the star graphs have exactly the same two-point spectral
correlations as a large class of quantum systems, which we will refer to as *Šeba billiards*.

The original Šeba billiard, a rectangular quantum billiard perturbed by a point singularity
(also illustrated in figure 1), was introduced in [13] as an example of a system whose classical
counterpart is integrable (the singularity affects only a set of measure zero of the orbits)
but which nonetheless exhibits properties of quantum chaos. This construction was later
generalized to all integrable systems [14] perturbed in the same way. We will refer to any
system in this class as a Šeba billiard.

The energy levels of a Šeba billiard can be found by solving an explicit equation which
depends on the levels of the original unperturbed system and on the boundary conditions
imposed at the singularity. This equation takes the general form

$$\lambda \xi(z) = 1 \tag{1}$$

where $\xi(z)$ is the meromorphic function

$$\xi(z) = \sum_n \frac{|\psi_n(\boldsymbol{x_0})|^2}{E_n - z} \tag{2}$$

the sum being suitably regularized to ensure convergence. Here $\{E_i\}$ are the eigenvalues
of the unperturbed system, $\psi_n(\boldsymbol{x_0})$ is the value of the nth unperturbed eigenfunction at
the position $\boldsymbol{x_0}$ of the singularity, and the coupling constant λ parametrizes the boundary
conditions [13, 14]. Assuming that $\{E_i\}$ are given by a Poisson process, one can then calculate
the associated spectral statistics, such as the joint level distribution, asymptotics of the level
spacing distribution [14], and the two-point spectral correlation function [15]. The results
show the presence of spectral correlations but are substantially different from the RMT forms.

Here we apply the methods developed for Šeba billiards in [15] to calculate the two-point
spectral correlation function for star graphs, starting from an expression which is analogous
to (2). The formula obtained will be shown to be a resummation of the expansion computed
from the periodic orbit sum in [12]. Our main result will be that this correlation function is
the same as that already found for Šeba billiards in the case when $|\psi_n(\boldsymbol{x_0})|^2 = $ constant (e.g.

when the billiard is rectangular with periodic boundary conditions) and $\lambda \to \infty$. We finish with a discussion of reasons for this coincidence.

2. Quantum star graphs

Star graphs are metric graphs of the type shown in figure 1 with a Schrödinger equation

$$-\frac{d^2}{dx_j^2}\Psi_j = k^2\Psi_j \qquad x_j \in [0, L_j] \tag{3}$$

defined on the bonds and boundary conditions, for example

$$\Psi_j(0) = \Psi_k(0) \tag{4}$$

$$\sum_j \frac{d}{dx_j}\Psi_j(0) = 0 \tag{5}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx_j}\Psi_j(L_j) = 0 \tag{6}$$

specified on the vertices. Here L_j is the length of the jth bond, $j = 1, \dots, v$, and the real variable x_j varies from 0 to L_j, with 0 corresponding to the central vertex and L_j to the outer vertex. The lengths L_j are assumed to be incommensurate; see [12] for further details. We refer to positive values of the parameter k for which the system (3)–(6) is solvable as eigenvalues of the quantum star graph.

Denoting the ordered sequence of eigenvalues by $\{k_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$, we define the spectral density by

$$d(k) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \delta(k - k_i). \tag{7}$$

The statistic we shall mainly be concerned with is the two-point correlation function

$$R_2(x) = \frac{1}{\bar{d}^2}\left\langle d(k)d\left(k + \frac{x}{\bar{d}}\right)\right\rangle - \delta(x) \tag{8}$$

where $\bar{d} = \langle d(k)\rangle$ is the mean density, $\delta(x)$ is the Dirac δ-function, and the average $\langle\cdot\rangle$ is either over k or over the bond lengths L_j (we shall specify which in each particular context). $R_2(x)$ is an even function and hence so is its Fourier transform

$$K(\tau) = 1 + 2\text{Re}\int_0^\infty (R_2(x) - 1)e^{2\pi ix\tau}\,dx \tag{9}$$

which is called the form factor.

A complete series expansion of the $v \to \infty$ limit of $K(\tau)$ in powers of τ around $\tau = 0$ was derived for the star graphs in [12] using the trace formula and a classification of the periodic orbits:

$$K(\tau) = \exp(-4\tau) + \sum_{j=2}^\infty \sum_{M=0}^\infty \frac{4^j}{j!}C_{j,M}\tau^{M+j+1} \tag{10}$$

where

$$C_{j,M} = (-2)^M \sum_{K=0}^M \frac{(K+j-1)!(M-K+j-1)!}{(M+j-1)!}F_j(K, M-K) \tag{11}$$

with

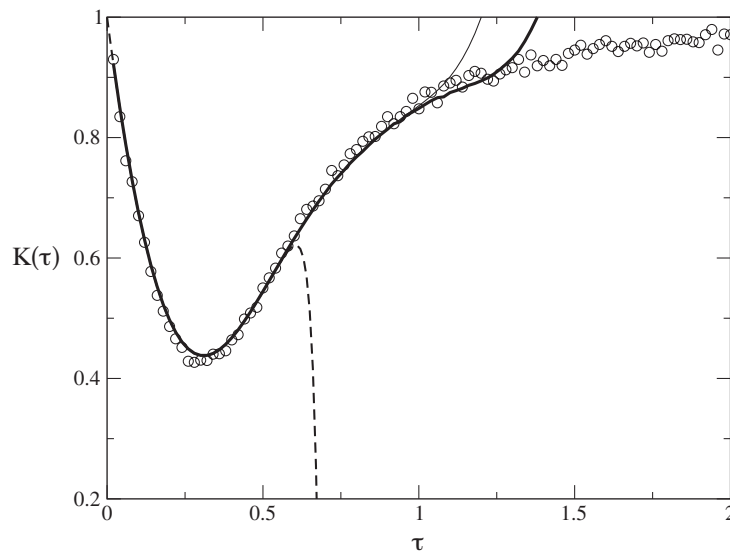$$F_1(K, N) = \frac{\binom{K+N}{N}}{(N+1)!(K+1)!} \tag{12}$$

Figure 2. The sum of the first 30 terms in the expansion (10) (dashed curve), which converges in the range $\tau \leqslant \tau^* \approx 0.63$, compared to the results of a numerical computation [8] of $K(\tau)$ (circles). Also shown are the Padé approximations to the series of order [21/20] (thin solid curve) and [23/23] (thick solid curve).

and

$$F_j(K, N) = \sum_{k=0}^{K} \sum_{n=0}^{N} F_1(k, n) F_{j-1}(K - k, N - n). \tag{13}$$

Explicitly

$$K(\tau) = e^{-4\tau} + 8\tau^3 - \frac{32}{3}\tau^4 + \frac{16}{3}\tau^5 - \frac{128}{15}\tau^6 + \frac{16}{9}\tau^7 + \frac{64}{63}\tau^8 + o(\tau^8). \tag{14}$$

In this calculation, the average in (8) was over k. The result is in excellent agreement with the numerical data (see figure 2) but is limited by the fact that the radius of convergence of the series is finite, being approximately 0.63 (found by applying Cauchy's test to the coefficients in the series, but see also figure 2). The range of convergence can be extended using the Padé approximation (again, see figure 2), which suggests that the singularity causing the divergence is not on the positive real line [16].

Here we approach the problem from a different direction: it is possible to solve equations (3)–(6) to derive an explicit condition on k to be an eigenvalue. Indeed, the general solution of (3) on a star graph can be written in the form $\Psi_j(x) = A_j \cos(k(x + \phi_j))$, $j = 1, \ldots, v$. Applying condition (6), we obtain $\phi_j = -L_j$ while condition (4) on the central vertex implies $A_j \cos(L_j k) = \text{const}$. Finally, applying condition (5) and dividing by $A_j \cos(L_j k)$ we obtain

$$\sum_{j=1}^{v} \tan L_j k = 0. \tag{15}$$

Similar expressions can easily be found when different boundary conditions are applied at the central vertex. The general equation reads

$$\sum_{j=1}^{v} \tan L_j k = \frac{1}{\lambda} \tag{16}$$

where λ is an arbitrary parameter. However, in the limit as $v \to \infty$, λ fixed, the two-point correlation function turns out to be independent of λ (see the comment following equation (49)). Our calculations will therefore be performed for $\lambda^{-1} = 0$.

Note the similarity between (16) and the quantization condition (1) for Šeba billiards when $|\psi_n(x_0)|^2 = \text{constant}$.

Condition (15) means that k is an eigenvalue if and only if it is a zero of the function $F(k) = \sum_{j=1}^{v} \tan L_j k$, and so we can express the density $d(k)$ as

$$d(k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int |F'(k)| e^{izF(k)} \, dz = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int \sum_{s=1}^{v} \frac{L_s}{\cos^2 L_s k} e^{iz \sum_{j=1}^{v} \tan L_j k} \, dz. \quad (17)$$

Our analysis of the spectral correlations will be based on this representation.

3. Mean density

As an example of the techniques to be employed later, we begin by calculating the mean density $\overline{d}$ defined as

$$\overline{d} = \lim_{\Delta L \to 0, k \to \infty} \langle d(k) \rangle_{\{L_j\}} \quad (18)$$

where now the average is with respect to the individual lengths of the bonds, rather than over k:

$$\langle \cdot \rangle_{\{L_j\}} = \int_{L_0}^{L_0 + \Delta L} \cdots \int_{L_0}^{L_0 + \Delta L} \cdot \frac{dL_1}{\Delta L} \cdots \frac{dL_v}{\Delta L}. \quad (19)$$

That is, we assume that the lengths are independent random variables distributed uniformly on the interval $[L_0, L_0 + \Delta L]$. We also assume that ΔL and k tend to their respective limits in such a way that $\Delta L k \to \infty$.

Applying this averaging to (17) we obtain

$$\langle d(k) \rangle_{\{L_j\}} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz \sum_{s=1}^{v} \int \cdots \int_{L_0}^{L_0 + \Delta L} L_s \frac{e^{iz \sum_{j=1}^{v} \tan kL_j}}{\cos^2 kL_s} \frac{dL_1}{\Delta L} \cdots \frac{dL_v}{\Delta L}$$

$$= \frac{v}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz \left(\int_{L_0}^{L_0 + \Delta L} e^{iz \tan kL} \frac{dL}{\Delta L} \right)^{v-1} \left(\int_{L_0}^{L_0 + \Delta L} L \frac{e^{iz \tan kL}}{\cos^2 kL} \frac{dL}{\Delta L} \right)$$

$$\equiv \frac{v}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{f}^{v-1}(z) \tilde{g}(z) \, dz. \quad (20)$$

Here

$$\tilde{g}(z) = \int_{L_0}^{L_0 + \Delta L} L \frac{e^{iz \tan kL}}{\cos^2 kL} \frac{dL}{\Delta L} \approx \frac{L_0}{\Delta L k} \int_{\tan kL_0}^{\tan k(L_0 + \Delta L)} e^{iz \tan kL} \, d\tan k \, L \quad (21)$$

where we were able to approximate L by L_0 because it is slowly varying (compared with $\tan kL$) and ultimately we will take the limit $\Delta L \to 0$. Now, since $\tan kL$ is a periodic function with the period of π/k, and the integration is performed over the interval containing approximately $\Delta L k / \pi$ periods, we can further approximate

$$\tilde{g}(z) = \frac{L_0}{\Delta L k} \left(\frac{\Delta L k}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iz \tan kL} \, d\tan k \, L + O(1) \right)$$

$$\approx 2 L_0 \delta(z) \quad (22)$$

where O(1) is a quantity which is bounded as $k\Delta L \to \infty$. Similarly

$$\tilde{f}(z) = \int_{L_0}^{L_0+\Delta L} e^{iz\tan kL}\frac{dL}{\Delta L} = \frac{L_0}{\Delta Lk}\int_{\tan kL_0}^{\tan k(L_0+\Delta L)} e^{iz\tan kL}\frac{d\tan kL}{1+\tan^2 kL}$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{\pi}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty}\frac{e^{iz\alpha}}{1+\alpha^2}\,d\alpha = e^{-|z|} \tag{23}$$

where the last integral was evaluated by closing the contour in either the upper ($z > 0$) or lower ($z < 0$) half-plane.

Substituting the results into (20) we obtain for the average density

$$\bar{d} = \frac{v}{2\pi}2L_0\int_{-\infty}^{\infty}e^{-(v-1)|z|}\delta(z)\,dz = \frac{L_0 v}{\pi} \tag{24}$$

which coincides with the result of averaging over k with the bond-lengths fixed [7, 8, 12].

4. Two-point correlation function

The two-point correlation function is given by

$$R_2(x) = \lim_{\Delta L\to 0, k\to\infty}\frac{1}{\bar{d}^2}R\left(k, k + \frac{x}{\bar{d}}\right) \tag{25}$$

where $\bar{d}$ is the mean density, the limit is taken in such a way that $k\Delta L \to \infty$, and we take

$$R(k_1, k_2) = \langle d(k_1)d(k_2)\rangle_{\{L_j\}}$$

$$= \left\langle \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}\sum_{r,s=1}^{v}\frac{L_r L_s e^{i\sum_{j=1}^{v}(z_1\tan k_1 L_r + z_2\tan k_2 L_s)}}{\cos^2 k_1 L_r \cos^2 k_2 L_s}\frac{dz}{4\pi^2}\right\rangle_{\{L_j\}} \tag{26}$$

with $z = (z_1, z_2)$.

In this case, the analogue of (20) is that

$$R(k_1, k_2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty}\{vg(z)f^{v-1}(z) + v(v-1)\phi_1(z)\phi_2(z)f^{v-2}(z)\}\frac{dz}{4\pi^2} \tag{27}$$

where

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{\Delta L}\int_{L_0}^{L_0+\Delta L}e^{i(z_1\tan(k_1 L)+z_2\tan(k_2 L))}\,dL \tag{28}$$

$$g(z) = \frac{1}{\Delta L}\int_{L_0}^{L_0+\Delta L}\frac{L^2}{\cos^2 k_1 L\cos^2 k_2 L}e^{i(z_1\tan(k_1 L)+z_2\tan(k_2 L))}\,dL \tag{29}$$

$$\phi_1(z) = \frac{1}{\Delta L}\int_{L_0}^{L_0+\Delta L}\frac{L}{\cos^2 k_1 L}e^{i(z_1\tan(k_1 L)+z_2\tan(k_2 L))}\,dL \tag{30}$$

$$\phi_2(z) = \frac{1}{\Delta L}\int_{L_0}^{L_0+\Delta L}\frac{L}{\cos^2 k_2 L}e^{i(z_1\tan(k_1 L)+z_2\tan(k_2 L))}\,dL. \tag{31}$$

Substituting $k_1 = k$, $k_2 = k + \pi x/(vL_0)$, where x is fixed, and taking the limits $k \to \infty$, $\Delta L \to 0$ (while $k\Delta L \to \infty$), we obtain for the first integral

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{\Delta L}\int_{L_0}^{L_0+\Delta L}e^{i(z_1\tan(kL)+z_2\tan(kL+\frac{\pi xL}{vL_0}))}\,dL$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{\pi}\int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2}e^{i(z_1\tan\phi+z_2\tan(\phi+\frac{\pi x}{v}))}\,d\phi \tag{32}$$

where we have again used $L/L_0 \approx 1$ and, as in the transition from (21) to (22), we have approximated f by the integral over one period. We now write

$$\tan\left(\phi + \frac{\pi x}{v}\right) = \frac{\tan\phi + \tan(\frac{\pi x}{v})}{1 - \tan\phi\tan(\frac{\pi x}{v})} = -\beta + \frac{1 + \beta^2}{\beta - \tan\phi} \tag{33}$$

where $\beta = (\tan(\pi x/v))^{-1} \propto v/(\pi x)$ (we are interested in the $v \to \infty$ limit). Performing the change of variables $\alpha = \tan\phi - \beta$, we arrive at

$$f(z) \approx \frac{e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iz_1\alpha - iz_2\frac{\beta^2+1}{\alpha}} \frac{d\alpha}{(\alpha+\beta)^2 + 1}. \tag{34}$$

Note that $f(z)$ is invariant under the exchange $z_1 \leftrightarrow z_2$ and $\beta \to -\beta$, which can be verified by the change of variables $\alpha = (\beta^2 + 1)/y$ in (34).

To evaluate the integral in (34) we differentiate it with respect to z_1 and z_2 to get

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z_1} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_2} = \frac{ie^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iz_1\alpha - iz_2\frac{\beta^2+1}{\alpha}} \left(2\beta + \alpha + \frac{\beta^2+1}{\alpha}\right) \frac{d\alpha}{(\alpha+\beta)^2 + 1}$$

$$= \frac{ie^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iz_1\alpha - iz_2\frac{\beta^2+1}{\alpha}} \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha} = -e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}\Phi(z_1, z_2) \tag{35}$$

where

$$\Phi(z_1, z_2) \equiv -\frac{i}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iz_1\alpha - iz_2\frac{\beta^2+1}{\alpha}} \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha}$$

$$= 2\operatorname{sign}(z_1)H(-z_1z_2)J_0\left(2\sqrt{-(\beta^2+1)z_1z_2}\right) \tag{36}$$

$J_0(x)$ being the Bessel function of the first kind and $H(x)$ the Heaviside function (characteristic function of the half axis $[0, \infty)$).

Applying the method of characteristics to the PDE

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z_1} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial z_2} = -e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}\Phi(z_1, z_2) \tag{37}$$

we obtain the solution

$$f(z) = e^{-|z_1+z_2|} - \int_0^{z_1} e^{i\beta(2y-z_1-z_2)}\Phi(y, z_1 + z_2 - y)\,dy. \tag{38}$$

Treating the integral for $g(z)$ (see (29)) in a fashion similar to the one used to obtain (34) leads us to

$$g(z_1, z_2) \approx \frac{L_0^2}{\pi} \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \frac{e^{i(z_1\tan(\phi)+z_2\tan(\phi+\pi x/v))}}{\cos^2(\phi)\cos^2(\phi+\pi x/v)}\,d\phi$$

$$= L_0^2 \frac{e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iz_1\alpha - iz_2\frac{\beta^2+1}{\alpha}} \left(1 + \left(\frac{1+\beta^2}{\alpha} + \beta\right)^2\right)d\alpha. \tag{39}$$

Comparing this integral to the one in (36), and noting that

$$1 + \left(\frac{1+\beta^2}{\alpha} + \beta\right)^2 = \frac{\beta^2+1}{\alpha}\left(\alpha + \beta + \frac{\beta^2+1}{\alpha} + \beta\right) \tag{40}$$

we have that

$$g(z) = L_0^2(\beta^2 + 1)\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_1} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z_2}\right)[e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}\Phi(z_1, z_2)]. \tag{41}$$

One can derive a similar expression for the functions $\phi_1(z)$

$$\phi_1(z) \approx L_0 \frac{e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iz_1\alpha - iz_2\frac{\beta^2+1}{\alpha}}\,d\alpha = L_0 e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}\frac{\partial}{\partial z_1}\Phi(z_1, z_2) \tag{42}$$

and $\phi_2(z)$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\phi_2(z) &\approx L_0 \frac{e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iz_1\alpha - iz_2 \frac{\beta^2+1}{\alpha}} \frac{(\beta^2+1)\, d\alpha}{\alpha^2} \\
&= -L_0 e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_2} \Phi(z_1, z_2).
\end{aligned} \tag{43}
$$

Now we have all the ingredients necessary for evaluating the integral in (27). Substituting the expression for $g(z)$, (41), into the first half of the integral and integrating it by parts we obtain

$$
\begin{aligned}
\int \frac{dz}{4\pi^2} v f^{v-1} g &= v L_0^2 \int \frac{dz}{4\pi^2} f^{v-1}(\beta^2+1) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_1} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z_2} \right) [e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)}\Phi] \\
&= -v L_0^2 \int \frac{dz}{4\pi^2} (\beta^2+1) e^{i\beta(z_1-z_2)} \Phi \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_1} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z_2} \right) [f^{v-1}(z)] \\
&= v(v-1) L_0^2 \int \frac{dz}{4\pi^2} (\beta^2+1) f^{v-2} e^{2i\beta(z_1-z_2)} \Phi^2.
\end{aligned} \tag{44}
$$

Thus

$$
R_2(x) = \frac{v(v-1)L_0^2}{\bar{d}^2} \int \frac{dz}{4\pi^2} f^{v-2} e^{2i\beta(z_1-z_2)} \left[(\beta^2+1)\Phi^2 - \frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial z_1}\frac{\partial\Phi}{\partial z_2} \right]. \tag{45}
$$

Now we need to take the limit $v \to \infty$. To do so we write $f^{v-2}(z) = e^{(v-2)\ln f}$ and rescale $f(z)$

$$
f(u/\beta) = e^{-\frac{|u_1+u_2|}{\beta}} - \frac{1}{\beta} \int_0^{u_1} e^{i(2y-u_1-u_2)} \Psi(y, u_1+u_2-y)\, dy \tag{46}
$$

and hence, to leading order in $1/\beta = \pi x/v$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
(v-2)\ln f(u) &\approx -\pi x \left(|u_1+u_2| + \int_0^{u_1} e^{i(2y-u_1-u_2)} \Psi(y, u_1+u_2-y)\, dy \right) \\
&\equiv -\pi x Q
\end{aligned} \tag{47}
$$

where Ψ is the rescaled function Φ

$$
\Psi(u) = \Phi\left(\frac{u}{\beta}\right) = 2\mathrm{sign}(u_1) H(-u_1 u_2) J_0\left(2\sqrt{-u_1 u_2}\right) \tag{48}
$$

and we have taken the limit $v \to \infty$ ($\beta \to \infty$).

Renormalizing the rest of (45) and taking the limit $v \to \infty$ we obtain

$$
R_2(x) = \frac{1}{4} \int du\, e^{-\pi x Q} e^{2i(u_1-u_2)} \left[\Psi^2 - \frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial u_1}\frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial u_2} \right]. \tag{49}
$$

The only change when the above calculation is generalized to other boundary conditions at the central vertex (i.e. to nonzero values of λ^{-1} in (16)) is the appearance of a factor $e^{-\lambda^{-1}(z_1+z_2)}$ next to every occurrence of dz in the above integrals. For λ fixed, this factor disappears after rescaling $z = u/\beta$ and taking the limit $\beta \to \infty$. Hence equation (49) is then independent of λ. In the case when $\lambda^{-1} = \tilde{\lambda}^{-1} v$, the dependence of the spectral statistics on the boundary conditions at the central vertex persists. The above expressions then coincide with those for Šeba billiards with a renormalized coupling constant, given in [15].

For the derivatives of the function Ψ one has

$$
\frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial u_1} = 2\left(J_0(0)\delta(u_1) + \mathrm{sign}(u_1) H(-u_1 u_2) \frac{u_2 J_0'\left(2\sqrt{-u_1 u_2}\right)}{\sqrt{-u_1 u_2}} \right) \tag{50}
$$

$$
\frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial u_2} = 2\left(-J_0(0)\delta(u_2) + \mathrm{sign}(u_1) H(-u_1 u_2) \frac{u_1 J_0'\left(2\sqrt{-u_1 u_2}\right)}{\sqrt{-u_1 u_2}} \right). \tag{51}
$$

Therefore, using $J_0(0) = 1$ and $J_0'(x) = -J_1(x)$

$$\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial u_1} \frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial u_2} = -4 \left(\delta(u_1)\delta(u_2) + H(-u_1 u_2) J_1^2 \left(2\sqrt{-u_1 u_2} \right) \right). \tag{52}$$

Thus

$$R_2(x) = 1 + \int e^{-\pi x Q + 2i(u_1 - u_2)} \left[J_0^2 \left(2\sqrt{-u_1 u_2} \right) + J_1^2 \left(2\sqrt{-u_1 u_2} \right) \right] H(-u_1 u_2) \, du. \tag{53}$$

Now we perform the change of variables $u_2 \mapsto -u_2$ arriving at the following integral representation of the two-point correlation function

$$R_2(x) = 1 + \int_D e^{-\pi x M(u) + 2i(u_1 + u_2)} \left[J_0^2 \left(2\sqrt{u_1 u_2} \right) + J_1^2 \left(2\sqrt{u_1 u_2} \right) \right] du. \tag{54}$$

Here the domain of integration D includes first and third quadrants of the $u_1 u_2$-plane and $M(u)$ is given by

$$M(u) \equiv M(u_1, u_2) = |u_1 - u_2| + \int_0^{u_1} e^{i(2y - u_1 + u_2)} \Psi(y, u_1 - u_2 - y) \, dy$$

$$= |u_1| + |u_2| - 2i \operatorname{sign}(u_1) \sum_{r,s=1}^{\infty} \frac{(iu_1)^r (iu_2)^s (r + s - 2)!}{r! s! (r - 1)! (s - 1)!}. \tag{55}$$

Equation (54) constitutes an exact formula for $R_2(x)$ for star graphs in the limit $v \to \infty$. It is our main result. The point we seek to draw attention to is that it is exactly the same as the one obtained in [15] for Šeba billiards when $|\psi_n(x_0)|^2 = \text{constant}$ in (2) and $\lambda \to \infty$. We will expand on this observation later. First, we consider some of the properties of the two-point correlation function and the form factor in more detail.

5. Expansion for large x

To derive an expansion of the two-point correlation function $R_2(x)$ for large x we notice that since $M(-u) = \overline{M(u)}$, the integral over the third quadrant in (54) is equal to the complex conjugate of the integral over second quarter-plane, i.e.

$$R_2(x) = 1 + 2\operatorname{Re} \iint_0^{\infty} e^{-\pi x M(u) + 2i(u_1 + u_2)} J(u) \, du \tag{56}$$

where

$$J(u) = J_0^2 \left(2\sqrt{u_1 u_2} \right) + J_1^2 \left(2\sqrt{u_1 u_2} \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n u_1^n u_2^n (2n)!}{(n + 1)! (n!)^3}. \tag{57}$$

Now we can use the expansion of $M(u)$, (55), to expand $R_2(x)$ in the powers of $1/x$. We substitute $u_i = \gamma_i/(x\pi)$ and obtain

$$R_2(x) = 1 + 2\operatorname{Re} \frac{1}{x^2 \pi^2} \iint_0^{\infty} d\gamma_1 \, d\gamma_2 \, e^{-\gamma_1 - \gamma_2} \left[1 + \frac{2i(\gamma_1 + \gamma_2 - \gamma_1 \gamma_2)}{x\pi} \right.$$

$$\left. - \frac{(5\gamma_1 \gamma_2 + 2\gamma_1^2 + 2\gamma_2^2 - 5\gamma_1 \gamma_2^2 - 5\gamma_1^2 \gamma_2 + 2\gamma_1^2 \gamma_2^2)}{x^2 \pi^2} + O\left(\frac{1}{x^3}\right) \right]$$

$$= 1 + 2\operatorname{Re} \left[\frac{1}{x^2 \pi^2} + \frac{2i}{x^3 \pi^3} - \frac{1}{x^4 \pi^4} + \cdots \right]. \tag{58}$$

To compare this to the expansion (14) of $K(\tau)$ we note that if $K(\tau) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k \tau^k$ for $\tau > 0$ then, inverting the Fourier transform in (9)

$$R_2(x) - 1 = 2\mathrm{Re} \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \int_0^\infty (K(\tau) - 1)\mathrm{e}^{-2\pi\mathrm{i}(x-\mathrm{i}\epsilon)\tau}\,\mathrm{d}\tau \tag{59}$$

$$= 2\mathrm{Re} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{-\mathrm{i}}{2\pi}\right)^{k+1} \frac{a_k k!}{x^{k+1}}. \tag{60}$$

Applying this to

$$K(\tau) = 1 - 4\tau + 8\tau^2 - \tfrac{8}{3}\tau^3 + \mathrm{O}(\tau^4) \tag{61}$$

we see that the first few coefficients of the two expansions agree. The proof that it is so for all coefficients is given by the following proposition.

Proposition 1. *The asymptotic expansion (58) of the two-point correlation function and the expansion (10) of the form factor coincide under the Fourier transformation*

$$\iint_0^\infty \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\boldsymbol{u})+2\mathrm{i}(u_1+u_2)} J(\boldsymbol{u})\,\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{u} = \int_0^\infty (K(\tau')-1)\mathrm{e}^{-2\pi\mathrm{i}x\tau'}\,\mathrm{d}\tau'. \tag{62}$$

Proof. The Fourier transform in (62) establishes the correspondence between the terms in the asymptotic expansion of

$$\tilde{R}_2(x) = \iint_0^\infty \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\boldsymbol{u})+2\mathrm{i}(u_1+u_2)} J(\boldsymbol{u})\,\mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{u} \tag{63}$$

and the terms of the small τ expansion of $K(\tau)$. This correspondence is

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi\mathrm{i}x)^k} \longleftrightarrow \frac{\tau^{k-1}}{(k-1)!}. \tag{64}$$

Our plan is to modify the integrand in the definition of $\tilde{R}_2(x)$, getting rid of the factor $\mathrm{e}^{2\mathrm{i}(u_1+u_2)} J(\boldsymbol{u})$, expand the integral in inverse powers of x and apply the correspondence rule (64) to recover (10).

First of all, as one can verify by direct substitution of the series for $M(u_1, u_2)$

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_2}\right)\left(xM\left(\frac{\alpha_1}{x}, \frac{\alpha_2}{x}\right)\right) = \sum_{r,s=0}^{\infty} \mathrm{i}^{r+s} \binom{r+s}{r} \frac{(\alpha_1/x)^r (\alpha_2/x)^s}{r!s!}$$

$$= 2\mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}(\alpha_1+\alpha_2)/x} J_0\left(\frac{2\sqrt{\alpha_1\alpha_2}}{x}\right) \tag{65}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(xM\left(\frac{\alpha_1}{x}, \frac{\alpha_2}{x}\right)\right) = \sum_{r,s=1}^{\infty} 2\mathrm{i}^{r+s+1} \frac{(r+s-1)!(\alpha_1/x)^r(\alpha_2/x)^s}{r!s!(r-1)!(s-1)!}$$

$$= -\frac{2\mathrm{i}\sqrt{\alpha_1\alpha_2}}{x} J_1\left(\frac{2\sqrt{\alpha_1\alpha_2}}{x}\right) \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}(\alpha_1+\alpha_2)/x}. \tag{66}$$

Applying (66)

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\frac{\alpha_1}{x}, \frac{\alpha_2}{x})}$$

$$= \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M}\left(-4\pi^2 \frac{\alpha_1\alpha_2}{x^2} J_1^2 \mathrm{e}^{2\phi} - \frac{2\pi\mathrm{i}}{x^3}\left(2J_0\mathrm{e}^{\phi}\alpha_1\alpha_2 + \mathrm{i}J_1\mathrm{e}^{\phi}\sqrt{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(\alpha_1+\alpha_2)\right)\right) \tag{67}$$

where $\phi = \mathrm{i}(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)/x$ and for simplicity we have omitted the argument $(\alpha_1/x, \alpha_2/x)$ of the functions M, J_0 and J_1.

Similarly, using (65), we have

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_2}\right)^2 \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\frac{\alpha_1}{x}, \frac{\alpha_2}{x})}$$

$$= \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M}\left(4\pi^2 J_0^2 \mathrm{e}^{2\phi} - \frac{2\pi\mathrm{i}}{\alpha_1\alpha_2 x}\left(2J_0\mathrm{e}^{\phi}\alpha_1\alpha_2 + \mathrm{i}J_1\mathrm{e}^{\phi}\sqrt{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)\right)\right). \qquad (68)$$

Noticing the similarity between (67) and (68), we subtract the first from the second, with the appropriate factors, to obtain

$$\frac{1}{4\pi^2}\left[\frac{1}{x^2}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{\alpha_1\alpha_2}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\right]\mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\frac{\alpha_1}{x}, \frac{\alpha_2}{x})} = \frac{1}{x^2}[J_0^2 + J_1^2]\mathrm{e}^{2\phi}\mathrm{e}^{-xM} \qquad (69)$$

where, as before, the argument $(\alpha_1/x, \alpha_2/x)$ of M, J_0 and J_1 has been omitted. The right-hand side of (69) is exactly the integrand of (56) if we perform the change of variables $u_i = \alpha_i/x$ and, therefore

$$\tilde{R}_2(x) = \iint_0^\infty \frac{\mathrm{d}\alpha_1\,\mathrm{d}\alpha_2}{4\pi^2}\left[\frac{1}{x^2}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{\alpha_1\alpha_2}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\right]\mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\frac{\alpha_1}{x}, \frac{\alpha_2}{x})}. \qquad (70)$$

The first term in the integral can be evaluated as follows:

$$\iint_0^\infty \frac{\mathrm{d}\alpha_1\,\mathrm{d}\alpha_2}{4\pi^2 x^2}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_2}\right)^2 \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\frac{\alpha_1}{x}, \frac{\alpha_2}{x})}$$

$$= \left(-\int_0^\infty \frac{\mathrm{d}\alpha_2}{4\pi x^2}[\Theta]_{\alpha_1=0}^\infty - \int_0^\infty \frac{\mathrm{d}\alpha_1}{2\pi x^2}[\Theta]_{\alpha_2=0}^\infty\right) \qquad (71)$$

where

$$\Theta = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_2}\right)\mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\frac{\alpha_1}{x}, \frac{\alpha_2}{x})} = 2\mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}(\alpha_1+\alpha_2)/x}J_0\left(\frac{2\sqrt{\alpha_1\alpha_2}}{x}\right)\mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M}. \qquad (72)$$

Since

$$[\Theta]_{\alpha_1=0}^\infty = -2\mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}\alpha_2/x}\mathrm{e}^{-\pi\alpha_2} \qquad\qquad [\Theta]_{\alpha_2=0}^\infty = -2\mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}\alpha_1/x}\mathrm{e}^{-\pi\alpha_1} \qquad (73)$$

we obtain

$$\iint_0^\infty \frac{\mathrm{d}\alpha_1\,\mathrm{d}\alpha_2}{4\pi^2 x^2}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_1} + \frac{\partial}{\partial\alpha_2}\right)^2 \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\frac{\alpha_1}{x}, \frac{\alpha_2}{x})} = \frac{1}{2\pi x^2}\frac{2}{\pi - \mathrm{i}/x}. \qquad (74)$$

Now we can expand the result in inverse powers of x and apply the correspondence rule (64). We obtain

$$\frac{1}{\pi x}\frac{1}{\pi x - \mathrm{i}} = -\sum_{k=0}^\infty \left(\frac{\mathrm{i}}{\pi x}\right)^{k+2} \longleftrightarrow 2\sum_{k=0}^\infty \frac{(-2\tau)^{k+1}}{(k-1)!} = 2(\mathrm{e}^{-2\tau} - 1). \qquad (75)$$

Next we need to expand the second part of the integrand in (70)

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\mathrm{e}^{-\pi(\alpha_1+\alpha_2)}\exp\left(2\pi\mathrm{i}\sum_{r,s=0}^\infty \frac{(\mathrm{i}\alpha_1)^{r+1}(\mathrm{i}\alpha_2)^{s+1}(r+s)!}{x^{r+s+1}r!s!(r+1)!(s+1)!}\right)$$

$$= \mathrm{e}^{-\pi(\alpha_1+\alpha_2)}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\left[\sum_{j=0}^\infty \frac{(2\pi\mathrm{i})^j}{j!}\left(\sum_{r,s=0}^\infty \frac{(\mathrm{i}\alpha_1)^{r+1}(\mathrm{i}\alpha_2)^{s+1}(r+s)!}{x^{r+s+1}r!s!(r+1)!(s+1)!}\right)^j\right]. \qquad (76)$$

Using the same notation as in (12)

$$
\left(\sum_{r,s=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\mathrm{i}\alpha_1)^{r+1}(\mathrm{i}\alpha_2)^{s+1}(r+s)!}{x^{r+s+1}r!s!(r+1)!(s+1)!} \right)^{j} = \left(\sum_{r,s=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\mathrm{i}\alpha_1)^{r+1}(\mathrm{i}\alpha_2)^{s+1}}{x^{r+s+1}} F_1(r,s) \right)^{j}
$$

$$
= \sum_{R,S=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\mathrm{i}\alpha_1)^{R+j}(\mathrm{i}\alpha_2)^{S+j}}{x^{R+S+j}} F_j(R,S) \qquad (77)
$$

where, as before, $F_j(R,S)$ is the jth convolution of $F_1(R,S)$ with itself. Thus

$$
\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\frac{\alpha_1}{x},\frac{\alpha_2}{x})} = \mathrm{e}^{-\pi(\alpha_1+\alpha_2)} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2\pi\mathrm{i})^j}{j!} \sum_{R,S=0}^{\infty} \frac{(R+S+j-1)!(\mathrm{i}\alpha_1)^{R+j}(\mathrm{i}\alpha_2)^{S+j}}{(R+S+j+1)!x^{R+S+j+2}} F_j(R,S).
$$
$$
(78)
$$

Finally we integrate against $\mathrm{d}\alpha_1\,\mathrm{d}\alpha_2/(4\pi^2\alpha_1\alpha_2)$ to arrive at

$$
-\iint_0^{\infty} \frac{\mathrm{d}\alpha_1\,\mathrm{d}\alpha_2}{4\pi^2\alpha_1\alpha_2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(\frac{\alpha_1}{x},\frac{\alpha_2}{x})}
$$

$$
= -\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2\pi\mathrm{i})^j}{4\pi^2 j!} \sum_{R,S=0}^{\infty} \frac{(R+S+j+1)!(R+j-1)!(S+j-1)!}{(R+S+j-1)!(-\mathrm{i}\pi)^{R+S+2j}x^{R+S+j+2}} F_j(R,S)
$$

$$
\longleftrightarrow \tau \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{(4\tau)^j}{j!} \sum_{R,S=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2\tau)^{R+S}(R+j-1)!(S+j-1)!}{(R+S+j-1)!} F_j(R,S). \qquad (79)
$$

This is exactly the same as the j sum in (10) with the exception of the extra $j = 1$ term in the summation above. For $j = 1$ we have

$$
4\tau^2 \sum_{R,S=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2\tau)^{R+S}R!S!}{(R+S)!} F_j(R,S) = \sum_{R,S=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2\tau)^{R+S+2}}{(R+1)!(S+1)!}
$$

$$
= \left(\sum_{R=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2\tau)^{R+1}}{(R+1)!} \right) \left(\sum_{S=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2\tau)^{S+1}}{(S+1)!} \right)
$$

$$
= (1 - \mathrm{e}^{-2\tau})^2 = 1 - 2\mathrm{e}^{-2\tau} + \mathrm{e}^{-4\tau} \qquad (80)
$$

which, together with the terms 1 and $2(\mathrm{e}^{-2\tau} - 1)$, gives the correct contribution $\mathrm{e}^{-4\tau}$. □

6. Singularities of the form factor

One can also obtain some information about the singularities of $K(\tau)$ by Fourier transforming the integral representation (56). There is, however, a subtle problem associated with this approach. The form factor is by definition an even function defined on the real line. What we want to get from transforming (56) is an analytic function which coincides with the form factor for real $\tau > 0$, so as to be able to study its complex singularities.

As we saw above

$$
\tilde{R}_2(x) = \iint_0^{\infty} \mathrm{e}^{-\pi x M(u)+2\mathrm{i}(u_1+u_2)} J(u)\,\mathrm{d}u = \int_0^{\infty} (K(\tau')-1)\mathrm{e}^{-2\pi\mathrm{i}x\tau'}. \qquad (81)
$$

Integrating (81) against $\mathrm{e}^{2\pi\mathrm{i}x\tau}$ on the real line we obtain

$$
\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \tilde{R}_2(x)\mathrm{e}^{2\pi\mathrm{i}x\tau}\,\mathrm{d}x = K(\tau) - 1 \qquad \tau > 0. \qquad (82)
$$

One can check that this leads to the correct power series expansion of the form factor: give x a small negative imaginary part, $x \mapsto x - i\epsilon$, in $\tilde{R}_2(x)$ (this is consistent with (81)), substitute in the asymptotic expansion (56), and integrate term-by-term.

We now use $\tilde{R}_2(-x) = \overline{\tilde{R}_2(x)}$ to write

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{2\pi i x \tau} \tilde{R}_2(x) \, dx = \int_0^{\infty} (e^{2\pi i x \tau} \tilde{R}_2(x) + e^{-2\pi i x \tau} \overline{\tilde{R}_2(x)}) \, dx. \tag{83}$$

The only factor $\tilde{R}_2(x)$ which depends on x is $e^{-\pi x M(u)}$ and

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{2\pi i x \tau} e^{-\pi x M(u)} \, dx = \frac{1}{\pi (M(u) - 2i\tau)}. \tag{84}$$

Thus we have for the form factor

$$K(\tau) = 1 + \frac{1}{\pi} \iint_0^{\infty} \left[\frac{e^{2i(u_1+u_2)}}{M(u) - 2i\tau} + \frac{e^{-2i(u_1+u_2)}}{M(u) + 2i\tau} \right] J(u) \, du. \tag{85}$$

The representation (85) presents us with a way to find the singularities of $K(\tau)$. These are given by the condition $\tau = M(u_s)/(2i)$ and $\tau = \overline{M(u_s)}/(2i)$, where the point u_s is such that

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial u_1}(u_s) = \frac{\partial M}{\partial u_2}(u_s) = 0. \tag{86}$$

The derivative with respect to u_2 is

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial u_2} = 1 - 2 \int_0^{u_1} \left[e^{i(y+z)} J_1\left(2\sqrt{yz}\right) \sqrt{y/z} - i e^{i(y+z)} J_0\left(2\sqrt{yz}\right) \right] dy \tag{87}$$

where $z = y - u_1 + u_2$ and we have assumed that $u_1 > u_2 > 0$. It is obvious from the expansion (55), however, that the function $M(u)$ is continuously differentiable if $u_1 u_2 > 0$ and hence that the expression (87) is valid for all $u_1 > 0$ and $u_2 > 0$. The integral in (87) is not easy to analyse and to simplify it we reduce our search to the line $u_2 = u_1$, where

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial u_2}(u_2 = u_1) = 1 - 2 \int_0^{u_1} e^{2iy} J_1(2y) \, dy + 2i \int_0^{u_1} e^{2iy} J_0(2y) \, dy. \tag{88}$$

Performing the second integration by parts

$$\int_0^{u_1} e^{2iy} J_0(2y) \, dy = \left. \frac{e^{2iy} J_0(2y)}{2i} \right|_0^{u_1} + \frac{2}{2i} \int_0^{u_1} e^{2iy} J_1(2y) \, dy \tag{89}$$

we obtain, after simplification,

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial u_2}(u_2 = u_1) = e^{2iu_1} J_0(2u_1). \tag{90}$$

Since $\frac{\partial M}{\partial u_1}(u_2 = u_1) = \frac{\partial M}{\partial u_2}(u_2 = u_1)$, we see that the zeros of the derivatives of $M(u)$ on the line $u_2 = u_1$ are given by the zeros of the Bessel function J_0. The nearest zero is at $u_s \approx 1.202$. Thus one of the singularities of $K(\tau)$ lies at $\tau_s = M(1.202, 1.202)/(2i) = 0.462 - 0.420i$. We note that $|\tau_s| = 0.624$, which coincides with our previous numerical estimate of the radius of convergence of the series expansion of $K(\tau)$ in powers of τ around $\tau = 0$. This strongly suggests that this singularity is the closest to the origin. To this end, we can prove the following.

Proposition 2. *Among the singularities arising from stationary points of $M(u_1, u_2)$ along the line $u_2 = u_1$, the singularity at $\tau_s = M(1.202, 1.202)/(2i)$ is the nearest to the origin.*

Proof. To show that the statement is true we need to prove that the function $|M(u, u)|^2$ is a nowhere decreasing function of u. On the line $u_1 = u_2 = u$ we have

$$M(u, u) = \int_0^{2u} e^{iy} J_0(y) \, dy = 2e^{2iu} u(J_0(2u) - iJ_1(2u)). \tag{91}$$

Thus $|M(x/2, x/2)|^2 = x^2(J_0^2(x) + J_1^2(x))$ and its derivative is, after simplification, $\frac{d}{dx}|M(x/2, x/2)|^2 = 2x J_0^2(x) \geqslant 0$. $\qquad\square$

It is straightforward to approximate the behaviour of $K(\tau)$ near these singularities. We expand

$$M(u) \approx M(u_s) + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial u_1^2}(u_s)(u_1 - u_2)^2 + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial u_2^2}(u_s)(u_2 - u_s)^2$$
$$+ \frac{\partial^2 M}{\partial u_1 \partial u_2}(u_s)(u_1 - u_s)(u_2 - u_s)$$
$$= M(u_s) + \alpha_s(u_1 - u_s)^2 + (u_2 - u_s)^2. \tag{92}$$

For the singularity associated with the first Bessel zero, $\alpha_s \approx 0.385 - 0.349i$. Then, when τ is real

$$K(\tau) \approx \frac{1}{\pi \alpha_s} \iint_0^\infty \frac{J(u)e^{2i(u_1 + u_2)} \, du}{(u_1 - u_s)^2 + (u_2 - u_s)^2 + (M(u_s) - 2i\tau)/\alpha_s} + \text{c.c.} \tag{93}$$

The main contribution to the integral around these singularities is

$$K(\tau) \propto -C \ln\left(1 - \frac{2i\tau}{M(u_s)}\right) - \overline{C} \ln\left(1 + \frac{2i\tau}{M(u_s)}\right) \tag{94}$$

where $C = J(u_s)e^{4iu_s}/\alpha_s$. Expanding (94) into a series around $\tau = 0$ we get

$$K(\tau) \propto 2\text{Re}\left(C \sum_{n=1}^\infty \rho^n \frac{e^{in\phi}}{n} \tau^n\right) = 2A \sum_{n=1}^\infty \cos(\phi n + \psi) \frac{\rho^n}{n} \tau^n \tag{95}$$

where, for the singularity analysed above, $A = |J(u_s)e^{4iu_s}/\alpha_s| \approx 0.519$, $\psi = \arg(J(u_s)e^{4iu_s}/\alpha_s) \approx -0.737$, $\rho = |2i/M(u_s)| \approx 1.602$ and $\phi = \arg(2i/M(u_s)) \approx 0.737$. By Darboux's Principle, the coefficients of the expansion (95) should comprise the leading contribution to large-order asymptotics of the exact coefficients given by (10) and (11). To compare them we plot the exact coefficients na_n/ρ^n against the approximate coefficients $2A\cos(\phi n + \psi)$. The result is shown in figure 3.

7. Small x limit of $R_2(x)$

Returning to (49), one can check that the function Ψ, defined by (48), satisfies the equation

$$\left[\frac{\partial^2}{2\partial u_1 \partial u_2} + i\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} - \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2}\right)\right](e^{2i(u_1 - u_2)}\Psi^2) = e^{2i(u_1 - u_2)}\left(\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z_1}\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z_2} - \Psi^2\right). \tag{96}$$

Substituting it into (49) and integrating by parts we obtain

$$R_2(x) = -\frac{1}{4}\int du \, e^{-\pi x Q}\left[\frac{\partial^2}{2\partial u_1 \partial u_2} + i\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} - \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2}\right)\right](e^{2i(u_1 - u_2)}\Psi^2)$$
$$= \int \frac{du}{4} e^{2i(u_1 - u_2)}\Psi^2\left[i\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} - \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2}\right) - \frac{\partial^2}{2\partial u_1 \partial u_2}\right](e^{-\pi x Q}). \tag{97}$$
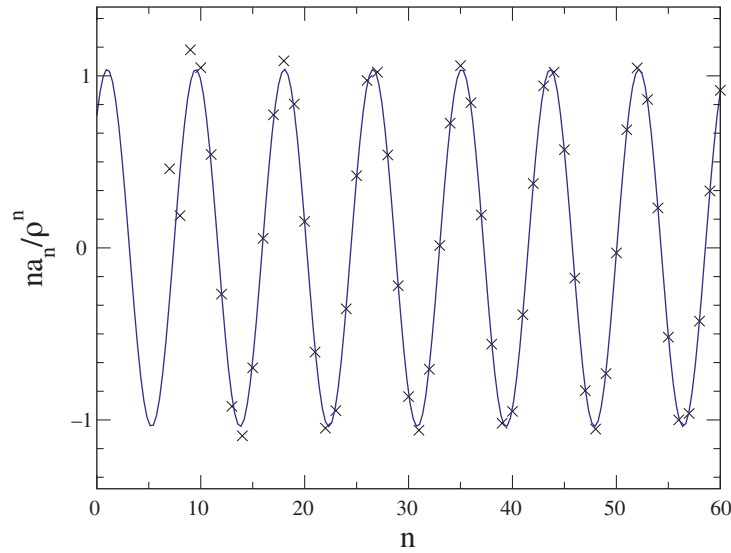
Figure 3. The coefficients of the power series expansion of $K(\tau)$ normalized by ρ^n (crosses), compared to (95). As expected, the agreement improves as n increases.

Now, using the identities

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_1} - \frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_2} = e^{i(u_1-u_2)}\Psi \qquad \frac{\partial^2 Q}{2\partial u_1 \partial u_2} = -ie^{i(u_1-u_2)}\Psi \qquad (98)$$

which one can derive using the series expansion of $Q(u_1, u_2) = M(u_1, -u_2)$, we write

$$\left[i\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u_1} - \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2}\right) - \frac{\partial^2}{2\partial u_1 \partial u_2}\right](e^{-\pi x Q})$$

$$= e^{-\pi x Q}\left(-i\pi x\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_1} - \frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_2}\right) + \frac{\pi x}{2}\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial u_1 \partial u_2} - \frac{(\pi x)^2}{2}\frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_1}\frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_2}\right)$$

$$= -e^{-\pi x Q}\left(\frac{3i\pi x}{2}e^{i(u_1-u_2)}\Psi + \frac{(\pi x)^2}{2}\frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_1}\frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_2}\right). \qquad (99)$$

Thus we obtain, finally,

$$R_2(x) = -\int \frac{du}{8}e^{2i(u_1-u_2)-\pi x Q}\Psi^2\left[\pi^2 x^2 \frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_1}\frac{\partial Q}{\partial u_2} + 3i\pi x \Psi e^{i(u_1-u_2)}\right]. \qquad (100)$$

From (100) one can see that the two-point correlation function $R_2(x)$ is linear in x for small x. The slope was computed in [15]

$$R_2(x) = \frac{\pi\sqrt{3}}{2}x + O(x^2). \qquad (101)$$

8. Discussion

The derivation presented above provides a proof that two-point spectral correlations for certain Šeba billiards and quantum star graphs are the same, in the appropriate limits. This initially surprising fact has its explanation in the following observations. First, the dynamics in both systems is centred around a single-point scatterer; in star graphs it is the central vertex, and in

Šeba billiards the singularity. Furthermore, in between scatterings the dynamics is integrable in both cases.

Second, applying the Mittag–Leffler theorem to the meromorphic function $\tan z$, we have that

$$\tan z = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{n\pi + \pi/2 - z} - \frac{1}{n\pi + \pi/2} \right). \tag{102}$$

We can, therefore, rewrite (16) in a form similar to (1) when $|\psi_n(\boldsymbol{x_0})|^2 = \text{constant}$. It thus becomes less surprising that the two-point correlation functions of the two systems are the same, because in the limit $v \to \infty$ the poles in (15) have properties similar to those of a Poisson sequence.

Third, from the mathematical point of view star graphs and Šeba billiards are similar in that in both cases the scattering centre corresponds quantum mechanically to a perturbation of rank one.

Finally, we remark that our results demonstrate that, at least as regards the special case considered here, graphs are able to reproduce features of other, experimentally realizable, quantum systems, and also that they provide further confirmation that spectral statistics can be computed exactly using the trace formula when the periodic orbit statistics are known [12].

Acknowledgments

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