

Prof. Dr. Valentin Blomer  
 Dr. Edgar Assing

## Relative Trace Formulae in Analytic Number Theory

### Set 2: Analytic applications of the Kuznetsov formula

In the beginning we will state two versions of the Kuznetsov formula that can be used as black boxes.<sup>1</sup> After stating the exercises there is a list of useful facts that might be helpful solving them.

**Basic notation:** Let  $\mathbb{H} = \{z = x + iy : x \in \mathbb{R}, y > 0\}$  be the upper half plane equipped with the measure  $dz = \frac{dx dy}{y^2}$  and the hyperbolic Laplacian  $\Delta = -y^2(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2})$ . The Hecke operators are defined by

$$[T_n f](z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{\substack{ad=n, b \bmod d \\ d>0}} \sum_{d>0} f\left(\frac{az+b}{d}\right) \text{ for } n \geq 1 \text{ and } [T_{-1} f](z) = f(-\bar{z}).$$

We write  $G = \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\Gamma = \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ . We have the action

$$\gamma.z = \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \text{ for } \gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } z \in \mathbb{H}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{z = x + iy : |x| \leq \frac{1}{2}, |z| \geq 1\}$  be the standard fundamental domain for  $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}$ . The space  $L^2(\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H})$  of  $\Gamma$ -invariant functions on  $\mathbb{H}$  that are square integrable on  $\mathcal{F}$  has a spectral expansion featuring the constant function  $\phi_0$  with  $\Delta$ -eigenvalue  $\lambda_0 = 0$ , so called Maaß cusp forms and Eisenstein series.

**Maaß Forms:** A Hecke-Maaß cusp form  $\phi$  is a square integrable eigenfunction of  $\Delta$  that is also an eigenfunction of all Hecke operators  $T_n$  with  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . We sort the corresponding Laplace eigenvalues by size and numerate them:  $0 < \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots$ . The corresponding Hecke-Maaß cusp forms are denoted by  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots$ . Note that  $\frac{1}{4} < \lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_j \sim 12j$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ . These are already non-trivial facts. We normalize our Maaß forms by

$$\langle \phi_i, \phi_j \rangle = \int_{\mathcal{F}} \phi_i(z) \overline{\phi_j(z)} dz = \delta_{i=j} \text{ for } i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}.$$

One has the Fourier expansion

$$\phi_j(z) = \sqrt{y} \sum_{n \neq 0} \rho_j(n) K_{it_j}(2\pi|n|y) e(nx) \text{ where } t_j = \sqrt{\lambda_j - \frac{1}{4}}.$$

If  $\lambda_j(n)$  denotes the eigenvalue of the  $n$ 'th Hecke operator (i.e.  $T_n \phi_j = \lambda_j(n) \phi_j$ ), then one can compute that

$$\rho_j(n) = \rho_j(1) \lambda_j(n) \text{ and } \rho_j(-n) = \epsilon_j \rho_j(n) \text{ with } \epsilon_j = \lambda_j(-1) \in \{\pm 1\}.$$

Finally we associate the  $L$ -function

$$L(s, \phi_j) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \lambda_j(n) n^{-s} = \prod_p (1 - \lambda_j(p) p^{-s} + p^{-2s})^{-1}.$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Some of the notation differs from the one used in the lecture series. Sorry for the inconvenience.

**Eisenstein Series:** We define the Eisenstein series by

$$E(z, s) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\Gamma_\infty \backslash \Gamma} \Im(\gamma.z)^s \text{ where } \Gamma_\infty = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : x \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}.$$

For  $\Re(s) > 1$  the series converges and defines a non square integrable eigenfunction of  $\Delta$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda = s(1 - s)$ . The Eisenstein series features a meromorphic continuation to all  $s \in \mathbb{C}$ . Further we have

$$T_n E(\cdot, \frac{1}{2} + it) = n^{-it} \sigma_{2it}(n) E(\cdot, \frac{1}{2} + it) \text{ for } \sigma_s(n) = \sum_{d|n} d^s.$$

Of course Eisenstein series feature a Fourier expansion (with constant term) and one can form a Dirichlet series using their Hecke eigenvalues.

**The forward Kuznetsov Formula:** For  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \pi \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} A(r, t_j) \overline{\rho_j(m)} \rho_j(n) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} A(r, t) \left(\frac{m}{n}\right)^{it} \sigma_{2it}(n) \sigma_{-2it}(m) \frac{\cosh(\pi t)}{|\zeta(1 + 2ir)|^2} dt \\ &= \frac{r}{2\pi^2} \delta_{m=n} + \frac{r}{\cosh(\pi r)} \sum_{c=1}^{\infty} \frac{S(n, m; c)}{c} \cdot \frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c} \cdot \int_{4\pi\sqrt{mn}/c}^{\infty} [J_{2ir}(u) + J_{-2ir}(u)] \frac{du}{u}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$A(r, t) = \frac{\sinh(\pi r)}{\cosh(\pi r)^2 + \sinh(\pi t)^2}$$

and

$$S(n, m; c) = \sum_{\substack{d \bmod c, \\ (c,d)=1}} e\left(\frac{nd + m\bar{d}}{c}\right).$$

**The backward Kuznetsov Formula:** Let  $f \in \mathcal{C}_c^2(\mathbb{R}_{>0})$ . Then for  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{c=1}^{\infty} \frac{S(n, -m; c)}{c} f\left(\frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c}\right) \\ &= 4 \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \rho_j(n) \rho_j(m) \tilde{f}(t_j) + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (nm)^{it} \sigma_{2it}(n) \sigma_{2it}(m) \frac{\tilde{f}(t)}{|\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + it)\zeta(\frac{1}{2} + 2it)|^2} dt \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\tilde{f}(t) = \int_0^{\infty} K_{2it}(x) f(x) \frac{dx}{x}. \tag{1}$$

**Exercise 2.1:** Prove the following estimate: For large parameter  $T, N$  and any sequence  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of complex numbers we have

$$\sum_{T/2 \leq t_j \leq T} \frac{1}{\cosh(\pi t_j)} \left| \sum_{N/2 \leq n \leq N} a_n \rho_j(n) \right|^2 \ll (T^2 + N) N^\epsilon \sum_{N/2 \leq n \leq N} |a_n|^2. \quad (2)$$

a) For  $N/2 < N_1 < N$  and  $1 \leq |\theta| < 3$  define

$$B(c, N) = \sum_{N_1 < n, m \leq N} \overline{b_m} b_n S(n, m; c) e(\theta \frac{\sqrt{nm}}{c}).$$

Show that

$$B(c, N) \ll c^{\frac{1}{2} + \epsilon} N \sum |b_n|^2 \text{ for all } c \geq 1, \quad (3)$$

$$B(c, N) \ll (c + N) N^\epsilon \sum |b_n|^2 \text{ for } c > N^{1-\epsilon} \text{ and} \quad (4)$$

$$B(c, N) \ll c^{\frac{1}{2}} N^{\frac{1}{2} + \epsilon} \sum |b_n|^2 \text{ for } c \leq N^{1-\epsilon}. \quad (5)$$

b) Choose a suitable function  $\varphi(x)$  so that for  $t \in [T/2, T]$  the bound

$$\int_0^\infty \varphi(x) A(x, t) dx > \cosh(\pi t)^{-1}$$

holds. Conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} & \pi \sum_{T/2 \leq t_j \leq T} \frac{1}{\cosh(\pi t_j)} \left| \sum_{N/2 \leq n \leq N} a_n \rho_j(n) \right|^2 \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \left( \int_0^\infty t \varphi(t) dt \right) \sum_n |a_n|^2 + \sum_{c=1}^\infty \frac{4\pi^2}{c^2} \sum_{m,n} \overline{a_m} a_n \sqrt{mn} S(n, m; c) \Phi\left(\frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c}\right) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\Phi(x) = \int_0^\infty \frac{t \varphi(t)}{\cosh(\pi t)} \int_x^\infty (J_{2it}(u) + J_{-2it}(u)) \frac{du}{u} dt.$$

c) Show that  $\Phi(x) = \Delta(x) + O(TN^{-2})$  where

$$\Delta(x) = \int \int K(t, z) \sin(x \cosh(z)) dt dz$$

for some  $K: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  with  $\|K\|_{L^1} \ll \frac{N^\epsilon}{T}$ . Furthermore, if  $x > T^2$ , then we have

$$\Delta(x) = \frac{1}{x} \int \int L(t, z) \cos(x \cosh(z)) dt dz$$

for some  $L: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  with  $\|L\|_{L^1} \ll N^\epsilon T$ .

d) Conclude the proof by combining the estimates obtained above.

**Exercise 2.2:** Prove the following estimate: For large parameter  $L \geq 1$ ,  $1 \leq N \ll K$  and any sequences  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ ,  $(b_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  of complex numbers we have

$$\sum_{T/2 < t_j \leq T} \frac{1}{\cosh(\pi t_j)} \left| \sum_{N/2 < n \leq N} a_n \rho_j(n) \right|^2 \left| \sum_{L/2 < l \leq L} b_l \cdot l^{it_j} \right|^2 \ll T^{1+\epsilon}(T+L) \left( \sum_{n \leq N} |a_n|^2 \right) \left( \sum_{l \leq L} |b_l|^2 \right).$$

- a) Use the function  $\varphi$  from Exercise 2.1, (2) and the forward Kuznetsov formula to show that

$$\begin{aligned} \pi \sum_{T/2 < \kappa_j \leq T} \frac{1}{\cosh(\pi t_j)} \left| \sum_{N/2 < n \leq N} a_n \rho_j(n) \right|^2 \left| \sum_{L/2 < l \leq L} b_l \cdot l^{it_j} \right|^2 \\ \leq S_1(T, L, N) + S_2(T, L, N) + O(TL \|a_n\|_2^2 \|b_l\|_2^2), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} S_1(T, L, N) &= \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} t \varphi(t) \sum_{l_1, l_2} \frac{b_{l_1} \bar{b}_{l_2}}{\alpha(l_1/l_2)} \left( \frac{l_1}{l_2} \right)^{it} dt \|a_n\|^2 \text{ and} \\ S_2(T, L, N) &= \sum_{l_1, l_2} \frac{b_{l_1} \bar{b}_{l_2}}{\alpha(l_1/l_2)} \sum_{c=1}^{\infty} \frac{4\pi}{c^2} \sum_{m, n} \bar{a}_m a_n \sqrt{mn} S(n, m; c) \Phi\left(\frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c}, \frac{l_1}{l_2}\right) \text{ with} \\ \Phi(x, y) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} y^{it} \frac{t \varphi(t)}{\cosh(\pi t)} \int_x^{\infty} (J_{2it}(u) + J_{-2it}(u)) \frac{du}{u} dt. \end{aligned}$$

The function  $\alpha$  should be well behaved:  $\alpha(y) = \alpha(1) + O(\log(y)) > \frac{1}{2}\alpha(1)$ .

- b) Show that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} t \varphi(t) \left( \frac{l_1}{l_2} \right)^{it} dt \ll \min(T^2, \log(l_1/l_2)^{-2})$$

and deduce that

$$S_1(T, L, N) \ll T(T+L) \|a_n\|_2^2 \|b_l\|_2^2.$$

- c) Show that  $\Phi(x, y) \ll T^{-1}$  for  $|\log y| \ll 1$  and  $x \ll T$ . Use this to prove

$$S_2(T, L, N) \ll T^{1+\epsilon} L \|a_n\|_2^2 \|b_l\|_2^2.$$

This is the final missing piece to complete the exercise.

**Exercise 2.3:** An interesting application of the backward Kuznetsov formula and the results from Exercise 2.1 and 2.2 is the following fourth moment of zeta. Let  $T \geq 2$ ,  $T^{\frac{1}{2}} < T_0 \leq T$  and  $T \leq t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_R \leq 2T$  with  $t_{r+1} - t_r \geq T_0$ . Then

$$\sum_{r=1}^R \int_{t_r}^{t_r+T_0} |\zeta(\frac{1}{2} + it)|^4 dt \ll (RT_0 + R^{\frac{1}{2}}T_0^{-\frac{1}{2}}T)T^\epsilon. \tag{6}$$

Choosing  $R = 1$  and  $T_0 = T^{\frac{2}{3}}$  yields

$$\int_T^{T+T^{\frac{2}{3}}} |\zeta(\frac{1}{2} + it)|^4 dt \ll T^{\frac{2}{3}+\epsilon}.$$

Another nice corollary is the bound

$$\int_0^T |\zeta(\frac{1}{2} + it)|^{12} dt \ll T^{2+\epsilon}$$

originally due to Heath-Brown. We will now sketch the proof of (6) up to the point where Kloosterman sums come into play. Then the exercises will start.

We set

$$M(\frac{1}{2} + it) = \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} \alpha(m) m^{-\frac{1}{2}-it}$$

for a smooth function  $\alpha$  with support in  $[M, 2M]$ , with  $M < T^{\frac{1}{2}} \log(T)$ . Further we require  $\alpha^{(p)}(m) \ll_p M^{-p}$ . By the typical approximate functional equation yoga we can reduce the problem to showing that

$$\sum_{r=1}^R \int_{t_r}^{t_r+T_0} |\zeta(\frac{1}{2} + it)|^2 |M(\frac{1}{2} + it)|^2 dt \ll (RT_0 + R^{\frac{1}{2}}T_0^{-\frac{1}{2}}T)T^\epsilon.$$

Let  $\theta(x)$  be a positive smooth function with support in  $[-2, 2]$  dominating the indicator function on the unit interval. Set  $f(x) = \theta(Tx/T_0)$  and  $j(\tau) = \theta(\tau/T - 1)$ . Opening  $|M(\frac{1}{2} + it)|^2$ , sorting the resulting double sum by greatest common divisor and including the test functions  $f$  and  $j$  shows that it suffices to estimate

$$\sum_{\tau=t_1, \dots, t_R} j(\tau) \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{2\pi t}{T}} f\left(\frac{t-\tau}{T}\right) |\zeta(\frac{1}{2} + it)|^2 G(t) dt \ll (RT_0 + R^{\frac{1}{2}}T_0^{-\frac{1}{2}}T)T^\epsilon,$$

where

$$G(t) = \sum_{(h,k)=1} (hk)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{h}{k}\right)^{it} g(h)g(k)$$

for any positive smooth function  $g$  with support in  $[M, 4M]$  for  $1 \leq M \leq T^{\frac{1}{2}} \log(T)$  satisfying  $g^{(p)}(x) \ll_p M^{-p}$ .

Using Fourier inversion we write

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{2\pi t}{T}} f\left(\frac{t-\tau}{T}\right) |\zeta\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right)|^2 G(t) dt = 2\Re \int_0^\infty \hat{f}(v) e\left(-\frac{v\tau}{T}\right) W(v) dv \quad (7)$$

where

$$W(v) = \int_0^\infty e\left(\frac{v+i}{T}t\right) |\zeta\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right)|^2 G(t) dt.$$

Partial integration gives the bound  $\hat{f}(v) \ll_p \frac{T_0}{T} \left(\frac{T}{(|v|+1)T_0}\right)^p$ , which we should keep in mind.

At this point classical results give the bound  $W(v) \ll T^{1+\epsilon}$ , which suffices to treat the ranges  $v < T^\epsilon$  and  $v > T^{1+\epsilon}/T_0$ . By a common dyadic dissection one reduces the problem to showing

$$\sum_{\tau=t_1, \dots, t_R} j(\tau) S(M, N, \tau) \ll (RT_0 + R^{\frac{1}{2}} T_0^{-\frac{1}{2}} T) T^\epsilon$$

for the integrals

$$S(M, N, \tau) = \int_{N/2}^N \hat{f}(v) S(\log(v)) e\left(-\frac{v\tau}{T}\right) W(v) dv$$

with  $1 \leq M \leq T^{\frac{1}{2}} \log(T)$  and  $T^\epsilon < N \leq T^{1+\epsilon} T_0^{-1}$ . We can assume that the integrand (and all its derivatives) vanishes at the end points of the integral.

A Lemma of Titchmarsh gives the Laplace transform of  $|\zeta(\frac{1}{2} + it)|^2$  as

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-zt} |\zeta\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right)|^2 dt = 2\pi e^{\frac{iz}{2}} \sum_{l=1}^\infty \tau(l) \exp(2\pi i l e^{iz}) + p(z)$$

for  $\Re(z) > 0$  and a function  $p$ , which is regular for  $z$  sufficiently close to 0. Define

$$S\left(z, \frac{h}{k}\right) = \sum_{l=1}^\infty \tau(l) e\left(l \frac{h}{k}\right) \exp(-lz).$$

Recalling the definition of  $G(t)$  and inserting Titchmarsh's result yields

$$W(v) = 2\pi \exp\left(\pi \frac{v+i}{T}\right) \sum_{(h,k)=1} \frac{1}{k} g(h) g(k) S\left(2\pi i \frac{h}{k} \left(1 - e^{2\pi(v+i)/T}\right), \frac{h}{k}\right) + O(M).$$

The sum  $S\left(z, \frac{h}{k}\right)$  can be written as the Mellin transform

$$S\left(z, \frac{h}{k}\right) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{(c)} D\left(s, \frac{h}{k}\right) \Gamma(s) z^{-s} ds$$

of the (Estermann-type) zeta function

$$D\left(s; \frac{h}{k}\right) = \sum_{l=1}^\infty \tau(l) e\left(-l \frac{h}{k}\right) l^{-s}, \text{ for } \Re(s) > 1.$$

The function  $D(s, \frac{h}{k})$  extends meromorphically to  $\mathbb{C}$  and has a pole of order 2 at  $s = 1$ . The Laurent expansion at  $s = 1$  is

$$D(s, \frac{h}{k}) = \frac{1}{k}(s-1)^{-2} + \frac{2}{k}(\gamma - \log(k))(s-1)^{-1} + \dots$$

Further we have the nice functional equation

$$D(s, \frac{h}{k}) = 2(2\pi)^{2s-2}\Gamma(1-s)^2k^{1-2s}[D(1-s; \frac{\bar{h}}{k}) - \cos(\pi s)D(1-s; -\frac{\bar{h}}{k})].$$

Finally, one has the bound  $|D(0, \frac{h}{k})| \leq k \log(2k)^2$ . Using these properties (due to Estermann) together with typical contour shift arguments yields the decomposition

$$S(z; \frac{h}{k}) = R_0(T; \frac{h}{k}) + R_1(T, v; h, k) + R_2(T, v; \frac{h}{k}) + R_3(T, v; \frac{h}{k}) \tag{8}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} R_0(T; \frac{h}{k}) &= D(0; \frac{h}{k}), \\ R_1(T, v; h, k) &= \frac{1}{zk}(\gamma - 2\log(k) - \log(z)), \\ R_2(T, v; \frac{h}{k}) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{(1-c)} 2(2\pi)^{2s-2}\Gamma(1-s)^2\Gamma(s)k^{1-2s}[D(1-s; \frac{\bar{h}}{k}) - e^{-\pi is}D(1-s; -\frac{\bar{h}}{k})]z^{-s}ds \text{ and} \\ R_3(T, v; \frac{h}{k}) &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{(1-c)} 2(2\pi)^{2s-2}\Gamma(1-s)^2\Gamma(s)\sin(\pi s)k^{1-2s}D(1-s; -\frac{\bar{h}}{k})z^{-s}ds. \end{aligned}$$

The total contribution of  $R_0(T; \frac{h}{k})$  to  $S(M, NM\tau)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} S_0(M, N, \tau) &= 2\pi \int_{N/2}^N \hat{f}(v)S(\log(v))e(-\frac{v\tau}{T}) \exp(\pi \frac{v+i}{T})dv \sum_{(h,k)=1} \frac{1}{k}g(h)g(k)D(0; \frac{h}{k}) \\ &\ll T_0T^\epsilon, \end{aligned}$$

simply by integration by parts. Similarly easy one can estimate the contribution of  $R_1(T, v; \frac{h}{k})$  to  $S(M, N, \tau)$  by

$$\begin{aligned} S_0(M, N, \tau) &= 2\pi \int_{N/2}^N \hat{f}(v)S(\log(v))e(-\frac{v\tau}{T}) \exp(\pi \frac{v+i}{T})dv \sum_{(h,k)=1} \frac{1}{k}g(h)g(k)R_1(T, v; \frac{h}{k}) \\ &\ll T_0 \log(T), \end{aligned}$$

The contribution of  $R_2(T, v; \frac{h}{k})$  is handled using Stirling's formula and trivial bounds for  $|D(1-s; \frac{h}{k})| \leq \zeta^2(c)$  on the contour  $(1-c)$ . One can deduce

$$S_2(M, N; \tau) \ll T_0.$$

It remains to bring  $R_3(T, v; \frac{h}{k})$  in shape. We expand  $D(1 - s; -\frac{\bar{h}}{k})$  into its Dirichlet series, recall the duplication formula  $\Gamma(1 - s)\Gamma(s)\sin(\pi s) = \pi$  as well as the Mellin integral  $\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{(\sigma)} \Gamma(w)x^{-w}dx = \exp(-x)$ . With this we can rewrite

$$R_3(T, v; \frac{h}{k}) = -\frac{2\pi i}{zk} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \tau(l) e(-l\frac{\bar{h}}{k}) \exp(-\frac{4\pi^2 l}{zk^2}), \text{ with } z = 2\pi i \frac{h}{k} (1 - e^{2\pi(v+i)/T}).$$

Gathering everything gives the contribution

$$S_3(M, N, \tau) = \pi \int_{N/2}^N \hat{f}(v) S(\log(v)) \sinh(\pi \frac{v+i}{T})^{-1} e(-\frac{v\tau}{T}) \cdot \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \tau(l) \sum_{(h,k)=1} \frac{g(h)g(k)}{hk} e\left(-l\frac{\bar{h}}{k} - \frac{l}{hk} (e^{2\pi(v+i)/T} - 1)^{-1}\right) dv$$

of  $R_3(T, v; \frac{h}{k})$  to  $S(M, N, \tau)$ .

Put  $L = 2\pi M^2 N^2 T^{-1}$ . The part of  $S_3(M, N, \tau)$  where  $l$  lies outside the interval  $[L/16, 16L]$  can be estimated trivially using partial integration (for the  $v$ -integral). This can be detected using a positive smooth function  $b(x)$  supported in  $[L/32, 32L]$  that satisfies  $b^{(j)}(x) \ll x^{-j}$  and dominates the indicator function on  $[L/16, 16L]$ . We get

$$S(M, \tau) = S_4(M, N, \tau) + O(T_0 T^\epsilon)$$

with

$$S_4(M, N, \tau) = \sum_l \tau(l) \sum_{(h,k)=1} C(h, k, l, \tau) e(-l\frac{\bar{h}}{k}) \quad (9)$$

and

$$C(h, k, l, \tau) = \pi b(l) \frac{g(h)g(k)}{hk} \int_{N/2}^N \hat{f}(v) S(\log(v)) \sinh(\pi(v+i)/T)^{-1} e\left(-v\frac{\tau}{T} - \frac{l}{hk} (e^{2\pi(v+i)/T} - 1)^{-1}\right) dv.$$

Using the method of stationary phase (for the  $v$ -integral) one can show that

$$j(\tau) S_4(M, N, \tau) = M^{-1} N^{-\frac{1}{2}} T_0 \sum_l \tau(l) \sum_{(h,k)=1} \frac{1}{k} b(h, k, l, \tau) e\left(-l\frac{\bar{h}}{k} - \left(\frac{2lT^2}{\pi hk\tau}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right).$$

for a smooth function  $b(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$ , which is non-zero only for

$$x_1, x_2 \asymp M, x_3 \asymp L \text{ and } x_4 \asymp T$$

and satisfies

$$\frac{\partial^{|\mathbf{j}|}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{j}}} b(\mathbf{x}) \ll_{\mathbf{j}} \mathbf{x}^{-\mathbf{j}},$$

where we use standard multi index notation.

Put

$$H(x, k, l, \tau) = b(x, k, l, \tau) e\left(-\left(\frac{2lT^2}{\pi hk\tau}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right).$$

We can expand this in a Fourier series

$$H(x, k, l, \tau) = \sum_{u \in \mathbb{Z}} \hat{H}(u, k, l, \tau) e\left(u \frac{x}{k}\right)$$

with

$$\hat{H}(u, k, l, \tau) = \frac{1}{k} \int_{\mathbb{R}} b(x, k, l, \tau) e\left(-u \frac{x}{k} - \left(\frac{2lT^2}{\pi hk\tau}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right) dx.$$

Another application of the method of stationary phase leads to

$$j(\tau)S_4(M, N, \tau) = \frac{T_0}{MN} \sum_{u, l, k} \tau(l) \frac{1}{k} a(k, l, u, \tau) S(u, -l; k) e\left(-3 \left(\frac{ulT^2}{2\pi k^2\tau}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}}\right) + O(T_0). \quad (10)$$

Now  $a(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$  is a smooth function non-vanishing only for

$$x_1 \asymp M, x_2 \asymp L, x_3 \asymp N \text{ and } x_4 \asymp T$$

satisfying

$$\frac{\partial^{|\mathbf{j}|}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{j}}} a(\mathbf{x}) \ll_{\mathbf{j}} \mathbf{x}^{-\mathbf{j}}.$$

Kloosterman sums finally arrived on stage for the grand finale. Note that estimating trivially using the Weil bound suffices for  $T_0 \geq T^{\frac{7}{8}}$ .

- a) Put  $f(x) = a\left(\frac{4\pi\sqrt{ul}}{x}, l, u, \tau\right) e\left(-\frac{3}{2\pi} \left(\frac{T^2 x^2}{4\tau}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}}\right)$ . Recall the Bessel transform  $\tilde{f}$  from (1) and show that

$$\tilde{f}(r) = \theta(r) c(l, u, \tau, r) \tau^{ir} + O\left((|r| + N)^{-6} e^{-\pi|r|} \log(T)\right),$$

where  $|\theta(r)| \leq r^{-1} e^{-\pi r}$ . Furthermore  $c(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$  is a smooth function non-vanishing only for

$$x_1 \asymp L, x_2 \asymp N, x_3 \asymp T \text{ and } x_4 \asymp N$$

satisfying  $\frac{\partial^{|\mathbf{j}|}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{j}}} c(\mathbf{x}) \ll_{\mathbf{j}} \mathbf{x}^{-\mathbf{j}}$ . (Recall that  $L = 2\pi M^2 N^2 T^{-1}$ ,  $M < T^{\frac{1}{2}} \log(T)$  and  $T^\epsilon < N < T^{1+\epsilon} T_0^{-1}$ .)

- b) Locate the function  $f$  from a) in our expression for  $S_4(M, N, \tau)$  and apply the backward Kuznetsov formula to the  $k$ -sum. Derive

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{v=1}^R j(t_v) S_4(M, N, t_v) &\ll RT_0 T^\epsilon \\ &+ \frac{T_0}{MN} \int \left| \sum_{v=1}^R \sum_{u, l} \tau(l) (ul)^{ir} \sigma_{2ir}(u) \sigma_{2ir}(l) t_v^{ir} c(l, u, t_v, r) \right| \frac{dr}{r |\zeta(1 + 2ir)|^2} \\ &+ \frac{T_0}{MN} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{t_j \cosh(\pi t_j)} \left| \sum_{v=1}^R \sum_{u, l} \tau(l) \rho_j(u) \rho_j(l) t_v^{it_j} c(l, u, t_v, t_j) \right|. \end{aligned}$$

- c) Apply the results from Exercise 2.1 and 2.2 to derive the desired bound.

**List of useful facts:**

- The classical Rankin-Selberg estimate

$$\sum_{n \leq N} |\rho_j(n)|^2 \ll (|t_j| + 1)^\epsilon \cosh(\pi t_j) N.$$

- The Weyl law

$$\#\{j \in \mathbb{N} : t_j \leq X\} = \frac{1}{12} X^2 + O(X)$$

as well as the estimate

$$\#\{j \in \mathbb{N} : |t - t_j| \leq 1\} \ll t.$$

- One also has the (elementary) identity

$$S(n, m; c) = \sum_{d|(n, m, c)} d \cdot S\left(1, \frac{nm}{d^2}, \frac{c}{d}\right).$$

The Weil bound for Kloosterman sums is

$$|S(n, m; c)| \leq (n, m, c)^{\frac{1}{2}} c^{\frac{1}{2}} \tau(c).$$

- The large sieve inequality

$$\sum_{h \bmod c} \left| \sum_{m \leq M} a_m e\left(m \frac{h}{c}\right) \right|^2 \leq (c + M) \sum_{m \leq M} |a_m|^2.$$

- For  $x > 0$  and  $-1 < \Re(v) < 1$  one has

$$\pi J_v(x) = 2 \int_0^\infty \sin(x \cosh t - \frac{\pi v}{2}) \cosh(vt) dt.$$

- Basset's formula reads

$$K_{2ir}(x) = \frac{3}{\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2} + 2ir\right) \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{2x}{w^2 + x^2}\right)^{2ir} \frac{w \sin(w)}{(x^2 + w^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} dw.$$

Furthermore  $K_{2ir}(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{1}{\sinh(2\pi r)} (I_{2ir}(x) - I_{-2ir}(x))$  and we have the power series expansion

$$I_{2ir} = (x/2)^{2ir} \frac{1}{\Gamma(1 + 2ir)} \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{(x/2)^{2m}}{m!} (1 + 2ir) \cdots (m + 2ir).$$

- A mean-value theorem for Dirichlet polynomials:

$$\int_{r \asymp N} \left| \sum_{v=1}^R t_v^{ir} e(xt_v) \right|^2 dr \ll \left(N + \frac{T}{T_0}\right) R,$$

where the  $t_v$  are of size  $T$  and are at least  $T_0$  apart.

**A version of the stationary phase lemma:**

Let  $\mathbf{D}$  be the domain in  $\mathbb{R}^{r+1}$  given by  $(1 - c_i)X_i < x_i < (1 + c_i)X_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r$  and  $(1 - c)Y < y < (1 + c)Y$  for some constants  $0 < c_1, \dots, c_r, c < \frac{1}{2}$ . Further, let  $f(x_1, \dots, x_r, y)$  be a real function in  $\mathcal{C}^\infty(\mathbf{D})$  satisfying the following properties:

- For  $(\mathbf{x}, y) \in \mathbf{D}$  we have  $\Delta \leq \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} f(\mathbf{x}, y) \leq 2\Delta$ ;
- For  $(\mathbf{x}, y) \in \mathbf{D}$  we have

$$\left| \frac{\partial^{p+q}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^p \partial y^q} f(\mathbf{x}, y) \right| \leq c(p, q) \Delta Y^{2-q} X_1^{-p_1} \dots X_r^{-p_r},$$

for some constants  $c(p, q)$  so that  $c(0, 3) \leq \frac{1}{4c}$ .

- The equation  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(\mathbf{x}, y) = 0$  has a smooth solution  $y = y(\mathbf{x})$  in  $\mathbf{D}$  so that

$$\frac{\partial |p|}{\partial \mathbf{x}^p} \ll_p X_1^{-p_1} \dots X_r^{-p_r}.$$

Finally let  $a(\mathbf{x}, y)$  be a function smooth function with  $\text{supp}(a) \subseteq \mathbf{D}$  satisfying  $\frac{\partial^{p+q}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^p \partial y^q} a(\mathbf{x}, y) \ll_{p,q} X_1^{-p_1} \dots X_r^{-p_r} Y^{-q}$ . Then

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} b(\mathbf{x}, y) e(f(\mathbf{x}, y)) dy = \Delta^{-\frac{1}{2}} b(\mathbf{x}) e(f(\mathbf{x}, y(\mathbf{x}))),$$

where  $b$  is a smooth function supported in the ranges

$$x_i \asymp X_i \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, r$$

satisfying

$$\frac{\partial^p}{\partial \mathbf{x}^p} b(\mathbf{x}) \ll X_1^{-p_1} \dots X_r^{-p_r}.$$

**Remark:** *This is a version of the stationary phase lemma featuring non-degenerate critical points and a set of  $r$  parameters. There are many versions of this result in the literature. Important for our application is that we do not lose control over the new weight function  $b(\mathbf{x})$ .*