

# WEIGHTED AVERAGES OF MODULAR $L$ -VALUES

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ABSTRACT. Using an explicit relative trace formula on  $GL(2)$ , we derive a formula for averages of modular  $L$ -values in the critical strip, weighting by Fourier coefficients, Hecke eigenvalues, and Petersson norms. As an application we show that a GRH holds for these averages as the weight or the level goes to  $\infty$ . We also use the formula to give explicit zero-free regions of the form  $|\operatorname{Im}(s)| \leq \tau_0$  for some particular modular  $L$ -functions.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega')$  denote the space of cusp forms  $h$  on  $\Gamma_0(N)$  satisfying

$$h\left(\frac{az+b}{cz+d}\right) = \omega'(d)^{-1}(cz+d)^{\mathbf{k}} h(z) \quad \left(\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(N)\right).$$

The Mellin transform of  $h$  is the analytic function

$$\Lambda(s, h) = \int_0^\infty h(iy)y^{s-1} dy,$$

which converges absolutely for all  $s \in \mathbf{C}$  ([Sh], p. 94). Write  $h(z) = \sum_{r>0} a_r(h)e^{2\pi irz}$ .

When  $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 1 + \mathbf{k}/2$ , we have additionally

$$\int_0^\infty \sum_{r>0} |a_r(h)e^{-2\pi ny}y^{s-1}| dy < \infty.$$

Therefore for such  $s$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda(s, h) &= \sum_{r>0} a_r(h) \int_0^\infty e^{-2\pi ry}y^{s-1} dy = \sum_{r>0} a_r(h) \int_0^\infty e^{-t}t^{s-1}(2\pi r)^{-s} dt \\ &= (2\pi)^{-s}\Gamma(s) \sum_{r>0} \frac{a_r(h)}{r^s} = (2\pi)^{-s}\Gamma(s)L(s, h), \end{aligned}$$

where  $L(s, h)$  is the Dirichlet series attached to  $h$ . The completed  $L$ -function  $\Lambda(s, h)$  satisfies a functional equation relating values at  $s$  and  $\mathbf{k} - s$ , which in the case of  $N = 1$  is simply

$$(1) \quad \Lambda(s, h) = i^{\mathbf{k}}\Lambda(\mathbf{k} - s, h).$$

Hence the critical line of the  $L$ -function is  $\operatorname{Re}(s) = \mathbf{k}/2$ . If  $h$  is a newform determining the cuspidal representation  $\pi$ , then  $\Lambda(s, \pi) = \Lambda(s + \frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{2}, h)$ , and  $\Lambda(s, \pi)$  satisfies a functional equation relating its values at  $s$  and  $1 - s$ .

The central values of  $L$ -functions have deep arithmetic significance. If the Hecke eigenvalues are known, one can compute the central values of a particular  $L$ -function using the approximate functional equation (see e.g. [Mi], §1.3.2). We can also use the trace formula to get information about averages of  $L$ -values as  $h$  ranges through

an orthogonal Hecke eigenbasis  $\mathcal{F}$  for  $S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega')$ . In this paper, we will explicitly compute such an average, with the  $L$ -values weighted by Hecke eigenvalues, Fourier coefficients and Petersson norms.

An asymptotic formula for averages of  $L$ -values (over normalized newforms and weighting by eigenvalues of  $T_{p^n}$ ) was given by Royer in the special case  $\mathbf{k} = 2$  in §4.3 of [Ro]:

$$\sum_{h \in \mathcal{F}^{new}} L(1, h) \lambda_{p^n}(h) = \zeta(2) \dim S_2(N)^{new} c(n, p) + O_\varepsilon(p^{n+\varepsilon} \dim S_2(N)^{new} N^{-1/4+\varepsilon})$$

for an explicit constant  $c(n, p)$ . Royer's estimate comes from the Eichler-Selberg formula for  $\text{tr}(T_{p^n})$ .

Weighting by Fourier coefficients, Duke showed that when  $\mathbf{k} = 2$ ,  $N$  is prime,  $\omega'$  is trivial, and  $\chi$  is a Dirichlet character unramified at  $N$ ,

$$\frac{1}{\psi(N)} \sum_{h \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{a_1(h) L(1, h \otimes \chi)}{\|h\|^2} = 4\pi + O(N^{-1/2} \log N),$$

where  $\psi(N) = [\text{SL}_2(\mathbf{Z}) : \Gamma_0(N)]$ , [Du]. Here we have normalized the Petersson norm as in (2) below. With a more careful estimation, Ellenberg improved Duke's error term to  $O(N^{-1+\varepsilon})$ , while at the same time allowing  $a_r(h)$  in place of  $a_1(h)$ , [El]. Of the many other generalizations of Duke's work, we mention two: Akbary extended it to weight  $\mathbf{k} > 2$  with an error term of  $O_{\mathbf{k}}(N^{-1/2} (\log N)^{\mathbf{k}-1})$  [Ak], and Kamiya further allowed composite  $N$  and  $L(1+it, h \otimes \chi)$  with an error term of  $O_{t, \mathbf{k}}(N^{-\mathbf{k}/4})$  [Ka]. The method of Duke uses the Petersson trace formula.

Here we consider the case  $\mathbf{k} > 2$ . For the weighted averages we obtain an error term of  $O(N^{-\mathbf{k}/2})$  on the critical line. In fact, we give an explicit formula for the average (Theorem 1.1). At the same time, we allow  $s$  to vary through the whole critical strip. We will also give the asymptotic behavior of the average as  $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow \infty$ .

To state the main theorem, for  $h \in S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega')$ , let  $h^- \in S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega'^{-1})$  denote the "complex conjugate" of  $h$ , given by  $h^-(z) = \sum \overline{a_n(h)} q^n$ . If  $\omega'$  is trivial, then  $h^- = h$ , and in general  $\Lambda(s, h^-) = \overline{\Lambda(\bar{s}, h)}$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $r, N, \mathbf{n}, \mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{Z}^+$  with  $(\mathbf{n}, N) = 1$  and  $\mathbf{k} > 2$ . Fix a Dirichlet character  $\omega'$  of conductor dividing  $N$ , and suppose  $S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega') \neq \{0\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be an orthogonal basis for  $S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega')$  consisting of eigenfunctions for the Hecke operator  $T_{\mathbf{n}}$ . Then for any  $s \in \mathbf{C}$  with  $1 < \text{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k} - 1$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{h \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{\lambda_{\mathbf{n}}(h) a_r(h) \Lambda(s, h^-)}{\|h\|^2} \\ &= \frac{\psi(N) 2^{\mathbf{k}-1} \Gamma(s) (2\pi r \mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-s-1}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!} \sum_{m | \gcd(\mathbf{n}, r)} \frac{m^{2s-\mathbf{k}+1}}{\omega'(m)} \\ &+ \delta_{N,1} \frac{2^{\mathbf{k}-1} \Gamma(\mathbf{k}-s) (2\pi r \mathbf{n})^{s-1}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)! i^{\mathbf{k}}} \sum_{m | \gcd(\mathbf{n}, r)} m^{\mathbf{k}-2s+1} \\ &+ \frac{\psi(N) (4\pi r \mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-1}}{N^s (\mathbf{k}-2)! e^{i\pi s/2}} \sum_{\substack{a \neq 0, d > 0 \\ \gcd(a, Nd) | \gcd(r, \mathbf{n})}} \frac{a^{-(\mathbf{k}-s)} d^{-s} \gcd(a, Nd)}{\omega'(a) e^{2\pi i r \ell_0/a}} {}_1f_1\left(s; \mathbf{k}; \frac{2\pi i r \mathbf{n}}{Nad}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $T_{\mathbf{n}}h = \lambda_{\mathbf{n}}(h)h$ ,  $\ell_0$  is any integer satisfying  $\ell_0 N d \equiv \mathbf{n} \pmod{a}$ , and

$${}_1f_1(s; \mathbf{k}; w) = \frac{\Gamma(s)\Gamma(\mathbf{k}-s)}{\Gamma(\mathbf{k})} {}_1F_1(s; \mathbf{k}; w)$$

for the confluent hypergeometric function  ${}_1F_1(s; \mathbf{k}; w) = 1 + \frac{s}{\mathbf{k}}w + \frac{s(s+1)}{\mathbf{k}(\mathbf{k}+1)}\frac{w^2}{2!} + \dots$ . When  $a < 0$ , we take  $a^s = e^{i\pi s}|a|^s$ . We use the convention throughout that  $\sum_{m|n}$  is a sum over positive divisors of  $n$ .

This theorem generalizes a result of Kohnen, who derived the special case  $\mathbf{n} = N = 1$  using a Poincaré series-type argument ([Ko], p. 188). Our approach here is quite different.

From its integral representation (cf. (17) on page 17), it follows that

$$|{}_1f_1(s; \mathbf{k}; 2\pi i r \mathbf{n} / N a d)| \leq 1.$$

Thus the sum over  $a, d$  is bounded independently of  $N$  (see Prop. 4.2 for a precise bound), and we have the following.

**Corollary 1.2.** *With notation as above and  $1 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k} - 1$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\psi(N)} \sum_{h \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{\lambda_{\mathbf{n}}(h) a_r(h) \Lambda(s, h^-)}{\|h\|^2} \\ &= \frac{2^{\mathbf{k}-1} \Gamma(s) (2\pi r \mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-s-1}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!} \sum_{m | \gcd(\mathbf{n}, r)} \frac{m^{2s-\mathbf{k}+1}}{\omega'(m)} + O(N^{-\operatorname{Re}(s)}). \end{aligned}$$

*The implied constant is effective, and depends only on  $\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{n}, r$  and  $s$ , uniformly for  $s$  in compact subsets of the given strip.*

According to the Grand Riemann Hypothesis, when  $h$  is a Hecke eigenform all zeros of  $\Lambda(s, h)$  inside the critical strip  $\frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{2} < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \frac{\mathbf{k}+1}{2}$  lie on the critical line  $\operatorname{Re}(s) = \mathbf{k}/2$ . Using Theorem 1.1, we will show that a GRH holds for averages (see also [Ko] for the  $N = 1$  case). Note that Corollary 1.2 implies nonvanishing of the average when  $N$  is large, at least when  $\gcd(\mathbf{n}, r) = 1$ . By the results of Section 4.1 in which we determine the asymptotic behavior as  $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow \infty$ , the average is also nonzero when  $\mathbf{k}$  is large. To state the result, we shift the  $L$ -functions so that the critical strip becomes  $0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(s) \leq 1$ , independent of  $\mathbf{k}$ .

**Corollary 1.3.** *Assume  $N > 1$ ,  $\mathbf{k} > 3$ ,  $\gcd(\mathbf{n}, r) = 1$ , and that  $S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega') \neq \{0\}$ . For  $\tau_0 > 0$ , let  $R$  be the rectangle consisting of  $s$  with  $0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(s) \leq 1$  and  $|\operatorname{Im}(s)| \leq \tau_0$ . Then there exist constants  $C_{\mathbf{k}}, C_N > 0$  depending only on  $R$ ,  $\mathbf{n}$  and  $r$ , such that if either  $\mathbf{k} > C_{\mathbf{k}}$  or  $N > C_N$ , the sum*

$$\sum_{h \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{\lambda_{\mathbf{n}}(h) a_r(h) \Lambda(s + \frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{2}, h^-)}{\|h\|^2}$$

*is nonzero for every  $s \in R$ . In particular for any  $s \in R$  there exists an eigenform  $h \in S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega')$  such that  $\lambda_{\mathbf{n}}(h)$ ,  $a_r(h)$  and  $\Lambda(s + \frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{2}, h)$  are all nonzero.*

Some of the hypotheses of Corollary 1.3 can be weakened with minor modifications. To allow  $\gcd(\mathbf{n}, r) > 1$ , we simply need to exclude the left edge of the strip. Thus the boundary of  $R$  should be shrunk to  $\delta \leq \operatorname{Re}(s) \leq 1$  for any  $0 < \delta < 1/2$ . If in addition we exclude the right edge by considering  $\delta \leq \operatorname{Re}(s) \leq 1 - \delta$  for such  $\delta$ , then the statement is also valid for  $\mathbf{k} = 3$ . When  $N = 1$ , the situation is a little

more delicate because if  $s$  lies on the critical line, the first two terms in the formula for the average may cancel each other out and we cannot say anything. Indeed if  $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , the  $L$ -values themselves vanish at  $s = k/2$  because of the functional equation (1). So when  $N = 1$  we must assume that  $R$  is a compact region which does not meet the critical line  $\operatorname{Re}(s) = \frac{1}{2}$ .

Suppose it happens that  $\dim S_k(N, \omega') = 1$ . Then the theorem gives a computable formula for the values of the  $L$ -function of the cusp form. Using an effective version of Corollary 1.3, we obtain zero-free regions for several such  $L$ -functions in Section 4.2. As a final illustration, we show how to use the formula to compute some familiar data, namely values of Ramanujan's  $\tau$ -function. This is achieved by taking a quotient of two different averages. The resulting expression can be estimated to any desired precision using partial sum approximations, and since  $\tau(r)$  is known to be an integer, we can pinpoint its value with just a few terms.

Theorem 1.1 is proven using a relative trace formula on  $\operatorname{GL}(2)$ . We start with a Hecke operator, and integrate its associated kernel over the group  $N \times M$ , where  $N$  is unipotent and  $M$  is diagonal. This is a hybrid of the techniques of the papers [Li], [KL1] (which used  $N \times N$ ) and [RaRo] (which used  $M \times M$ ). The paper [RaRo] of Ramakrishnan and Rogawski gives an asymptotic formula for certain averages of the form  $\sum_{h \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{\lambda_{p^n}(h) \Lambda(k/2, h \otimes \chi) \Lambda(k/2, h)}{\|h\|^2}$ , which yields a weighted equidistribution result for the Hecke eigenvalues. They use a regularization procedure since they assert that the terms on their geometric side are not absolutely convergent. Thus the replacement here of just one factor of  $M$  by the unipotent group  $N$  (of compact quotient) is enough to give an absolutely convergent trace formula.

We mention that Feigon and Whitehouse refined the method of [RaRo] in many cases by using the Jacquet-Langlands correspondence to avoid the convergence issues inherent to  $\operatorname{GL}(2)$ , [FW]. They obtain closed formulas for the averages at the central point, over a totally real field.

A version of Theorem 1.1 involving twisted  $L$ -functions  $\Lambda(s, h \otimes \chi)$  should be obtainable by similar methods, using a test function as in [RaRo]. Of course, the presence of a nontrivial character  $\chi$  will only help the convergence of the trace formula.

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## 2. NOTATION AND PRELIMINARIES

We briefly recall the notation and test function of [KL2], which contains proofs of the various facts mentioned in this section. Let  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}$  be the adèles and finite adèles of  $\mathbf{Q}$ , and let  $G = \operatorname{GL}(2)$ . We write  $\bar{G}$  for  $G/Z$  where  $Z$  is the center. Fix a level  $N \geq 1$  and a Dirichlet character  $\omega'$  of conductor dividing  $N$ . For a weight  $k > 2$ , let  $S_k(N, \omega')$  denote the space of cusp forms satisfying

$$h(\gamma z) = \omega'(\gamma)^{-1} j(\gamma, z)^k h(z) \quad (\gamma \in \Gamma_0(N)).$$

Here  $\omega'(\left(\begin{smallmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{smallmatrix}\right)) = \omega'(d)$  and

$$j\left(\left(\begin{smallmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{smallmatrix}\right), z\right) = (ad - bc)^{-1/2} (cz + d) \quad \left(\left(\begin{smallmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{smallmatrix}\right) \in G(\mathbf{R})^+\right).$$

Using  $\mathbf{A}^* = \mathbf{Q}^*(\mathbf{R}_+^* \times \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*)$ , define

$$\omega : \mathbf{A}^* \rightarrow \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^* \rightarrow (\mathbf{Z}/N\mathbf{Z})^* \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^*,$$

where the last arrow is  $\omega'$ . For an idele  $x$ , let  $x_N$  denote the idele which agrees with  $x$  at the places  $p|N$ , and which is 1 at all other places. Then for any integer  $d$  prime to  $N$ ,

$$\omega(d_N) = \omega'(d).$$

To each  $h \in S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega')$  we associate  $\phi_h \in L_0^2(\omega) = L_0^2(\overline{G}(\mathbf{Q}) \backslash \overline{G}(\mathbf{A}), \omega)$  by using strong approximation:

$$\phi_h(\gamma(g_\infty \times k)) = \omega(k)j(g_\infty, i)^{-\mathbf{k}}h(g_\infty(i))$$

for  $\gamma \in G(\mathbf{Q})$ ,  $g_\infty \in G(\mathbf{R})^+$  and  $k \in K_0(N) = \{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in G(\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}) \mid c \in N\widehat{\mathbf{Z}} \}$ .

We normalize the Petersson norm by

$$(2) \quad \|h\|^2 = \frac{1}{\psi(N)} \int_{\Gamma_0(N) \backslash \mathbf{H}} |h(z)|^2 y^{\mathbf{k}} \frac{dx dy}{y^2}.$$

If we normalize Haar measure on  $\overline{G}(\mathbf{A})$  so that  $\text{meas}(\overline{G}(\mathbf{Q}) \backslash \overline{G}(\mathbf{A})) = \pi/3$ , then the Petersson norm corresponds to the  $L^2$ -norm, and the map  $h \mapsto \phi_h$  is an isometry. We normalize Haar measure on  $\mathbf{A}$  so that  $\text{meas}(\mathbf{Q} \backslash \mathbf{A}) = 1$ . We take Lebesgue measure  $dx$  on  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $d^*y = \frac{dy}{|y|}$  on  $\mathbf{R}^*$ . On  $\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}^*$  we normalize so that  $\text{meas}(\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*) = 1$ .

Fix  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbf{Z}^+$  with  $\text{gcd}(\mathbf{n}, N) = 1$ , and define a test function  $f = f_\infty \times f^{\mathbf{n}}$  as follows. Define

$$M(\mathbf{n}, N) = \{g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in M_2(\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}) \mid \det g \in \mathbf{n}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^* \text{ and } c \equiv 0 \pmod{N\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}}\}.$$

The support of  $f_{\text{fin}} = f^{\mathbf{n}}$  is the set  $Z(\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}})M(\mathbf{n}, N) = Z(\mathbf{Q}^+)M(\mathbf{n}, N)$ . By definition,

$$f^{\mathbf{n}}(z_{\mathbf{Q}}m) = \frac{\psi(N)}{\omega(m)} \quad (z_{\mathbf{Q}} \in Z(\mathbf{Q}^+), m \in M(\mathbf{n}, N)),$$

where for  $m = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in M(\mathbf{n}, N)$  we define  $\omega(m) = \omega(d_N)$ . We take  $f_\infty(g) = \frac{1}{d_{\mathbf{k}}} \langle \pi_{\mathbf{k}}(g)v_0, v_0 \rangle$ , where  $\pi_{\mathbf{k}}$  is the weight  $\mathbf{k}$  discrete series of  $\text{GL}_2(\mathbf{R})$  with formal degree  $d_{\mathbf{k}} = \frac{4\pi}{\mathbf{k}-1}$  and lowest weight unit vector  $v_0$ . Explicitly, if  $g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ , then

$$f_\infty(g) = \begin{cases} \frac{(\mathbf{k}-1)}{4\pi} \frac{\det(g)^{\mathbf{k}/2} (2i)^{\mathbf{k}}}{(-b+c+(a+d)i)^{\mathbf{k}}} & \text{if } \det(g) > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(see [KL2], Theorem 14.5).

This function  $f$  is integrable precisely when  $\mathbf{k} > 2$ . Hence for such  $\mathbf{k}$  it defines an operator  $R(f)$  on  $L^2(\omega)$  by

$$R(f)\phi(x) = \int_{\overline{G}(\mathbf{A})} f(g)\phi(xg)dg.$$

Then as shown in [KL2], we have the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} L^2(\omega) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{n}^{\frac{\mathbf{k}}{2}-1}R(f)} & L^2(\omega) \\ \text{orthog. proj.} \downarrow & & \uparrow \\ S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega') & \xrightarrow{T_{\mathbf{n}}} & S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega') \end{array}$$

where  $T_n$  is the classical Hecke operator. Letting  $\mathcal{F}$  be any orthogonal basis for  $S_k(N, \omega')$ , the kernel of  $R(f)$  is the function on  $G(\mathbf{A}) \times G(\mathbf{A})$  defined by

$$(3) \quad K(g_1, g_2) = \sum_{\gamma \in \widehat{G}(\mathbf{Q})} f(g_1^{-1}\gamma g_2) = \sum_{h \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{R(f)\phi_h(g_1)\overline{\phi_h(g_2)}}{\|\phi_h\|^2}.$$

Lastly, we let  $\theta : \mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^*$  denote the standard character of  $\mathbf{A}$ . It is defined by

$$\theta_\infty(x) = e^{-2\pi i x}, \quad x \in \mathbf{R},$$

and

$$\theta_p(x) = e^{2\pi i r(x)}, \quad x \in \mathbf{Q}_p,$$

where  $r(x) \in \mathbf{Q}$  is the principal part of  $x$ , a number with  $p$ -power denominator characterized (up to  $\mathbf{Z}_p$ ) by  $x \in r(x) + \mathbf{Z}_p$ . Then  $\theta$  is trivial on  $\mathbf{Q}$  and  $\theta_{\text{fin}} = \prod_p \theta_p$  is trivial precisely on  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ . In particular, for any  $q \in \mathbf{Q}$ ,  $\theta_{\text{fin}}(q) = \theta_\infty(q)^{-1} = e^{2\pi i q}$ . The characters of  $\mathbf{Q} \setminus \mathbf{A}$  are parametrized by  $r \in \mathbf{Q}$  via:

$$\theta_r(x) = \theta(-rx).$$

### 3. PROOF OF THE THEOREM

**3.1. Spectral side.** The theorem is proven by computing the following

$$(4) \quad \int_{\mathbf{Q}^* \setminus \mathbf{A}^*} \int_{\mathbf{Q} \setminus \mathbf{A}} K\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} y & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \overline{\theta_r(x)} |y|^{s-k/2} dx d^*y$$

using the two expressions for the kernel (3). We will see presently that the integral (4) is absolutely convergent for all  $s$ .

For the spectral side, choose  $\mathcal{F}$  in (3) to be an orthogonal basis of eigenvectors of  $T_n$ . Then  $R(f)\phi_h = \mathbf{n}^{1-k/2} \lambda_n(h) \phi_h$  for  $h \in \mathcal{F}$ , so (4) is equal to

$$(5) \quad \sum_{h \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{\mathbf{n}^{1-k/2} \lambda_n(h)}{\|\phi_h\|^2} \int_{\mathbf{Q} \setminus \mathbf{A}} \phi_h\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \overline{\theta_r(x)} dx \int_{\mathbf{Q}^* \setminus \mathbf{A}^*} \overline{\phi_h\left(\begin{pmatrix} y & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right)} |y|^{s-k/2} d^*y \\ = \frac{\mathbf{n}^{1-k/2}}{e^{2\pi r}} \sum_{h \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{\lambda_n(h) a_r(h) \Lambda(s, h^-)}{\|h\|^2},$$

by the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.1.** For  $r \in \mathbf{Q}$ ,

$$\int_{\mathbf{Q} \setminus \mathbf{A}} \phi_h\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \overline{\theta_r(x)} dx = \begin{cases} e^{-2\pi r} a_r(h) & \text{if } r \in \mathbf{Z}^+ \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\int_{\mathbf{Q}^* \setminus \mathbf{A}^*} \overline{\phi_h\left(\begin{pmatrix} y & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right)} |y|^{s-k/2} d^*y = \Lambda(s, h^-).$$

*Proof.* For a proof of the first statement, see [KL2], Corollary 12.4. For the second, note that  $\phi_h\left(\begin{pmatrix} y & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = y^{k/2} h(iy)$  when  $y \in \mathbf{R}_+^*$ . Furthermore,  $\overline{h(iy)} = \sum a_r(h) e^{-2\pi r y} = h^-(iy)$ . We can integrate over the fundamental domain  $\mathbf{R}_+^* \times \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*$ . The integrand is invariant under  $\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*$ , which has measure 1. Thus

$$\int_{\mathbf{Q}^* \setminus \mathbf{A}^*} \overline{\phi_h\left(\begin{pmatrix} y & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right)} |y|^{s-k/2} d^*y = \int_0^\infty h^-(iy) y^{s-1} dy = \Lambda(s, h^-). \quad \square$$

The two integrals in (5) are absolutely convergent for all  $s$ , so we have the following.

**Proposition 3.2.** *The double integral (4) is absolutely convergent for all  $s \in \mathbf{C}$ .*

**3.2. Geometric side.** On the geometric side, we use the formalism of Jacquet's relative trace formula. Let  $N$  be the upper triangular unipotent subgroup of  $G$ , and let  $M$  be the diagonal subgroup. Let  $\overline{M} = M/Z$ , where  $Z$  is the center. Setting  $H = N \times \overline{M}$ , the integral (4) is taken over  $H(\mathbf{Q}) \backslash H(\mathbf{A})$ . Using  $K(n, m) = \sum_{\gamma \in \overline{G}(\mathbf{Q})} f(n^{-1}\gamma m)$ , we would like to pull the sum out of (4), however the individual terms  $f(n^{-1}\gamma m)$  are not well-defined modulo  $H(\mathbf{Q})$ . We have to break  $\overline{G}(\mathbf{Q})$  into  $H(\mathbf{Q})$ -orbits, and sum over these orbits. The action of  $H$  is  $(n, m) \cdot \gamma = n^{-1}\gamma m$ . For  $\delta \in \overline{G}(\mathbf{Q})$ , its orbit is

$$[\delta] = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -x \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \delta \begin{pmatrix} y & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid x \in \mathbf{Q}, y \in \mathbf{Q}^* \right\} = \{n^{-1}\delta m \mid (n, m) \in H_\delta(\mathbf{Q}) \backslash H(\mathbf{Q})\}$$

where  $H_\delta$  is the stabilizer of  $\delta$ . It is easy to check that in fact  $H_\delta = \{1\}$  for any  $\delta$ . Thus the geometric expression for (4) is equal to

$$(6) \quad \sum_{[\delta]} \int_{\mathbf{A}^*} \int_{\mathbf{A}} f\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -x \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \delta \begin{pmatrix} y & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \overline{\theta_r(x)} |y|^{s-k/2} dx d^*y.$$

To justify this manipulation we have to show that (6) converges absolutely.

**Proposition 3.3.** *Suppose  $1 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < k - 1$ . Then*

$$\sum_{[\delta]} \int_{\mathbf{A}^*} \int_{\mathbf{A}} \left| f\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -x \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \delta \begin{pmatrix} y & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \overline{\theta_r(x)} |y|^{s-k/2} \right| dx d^*y < \infty.$$

Thus for such  $s$ , the geometric side (6) converges absolutely and equals the spectral side (5).

We postpone the proof of the proposition until Section 3.3 below. Assuming it for now, let  $I_\delta(f)$  denote the double integral attached to  $\delta$  in (6). By the proposition,  $I_\delta(f)$  is absolutely convergent on the given strip. We just need to determine the set of  $\delta$  and compute each of these geometric integrals. We assume throughout that the hypothesis of the proposition is satisfied.

The set of orbits  $[\delta]$  is in one-to-one correspondence with  $N(\mathbf{Q}) \backslash \overline{G}(\mathbf{Q}) / \overline{M}(\mathbf{Q})$ . By the Bruhat decomposition

$$G(\mathbf{Q}) = N(\mathbf{Q})M(\mathbf{Q}) \cup N(\mathbf{Q}) \begin{pmatrix} & 1 \\ -1 & \end{pmatrix} N(\mathbf{Q})M(\mathbf{Q}),$$

a set of representatives is given by

$$\{1\} \cup \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & t \end{pmatrix} \mid t \in \mathbf{Q} \right\}.$$

**Proposition 3.4.** *When  $\delta = 1$ , the integral*

$$I_1(f) = \int_{\mathbf{A}^*} \int_{\mathbf{A}} f\left(\begin{pmatrix} y & -x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \theta(rx) dx |y|^{s-k/2} d^*y$$

converges absolutely on  $0 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < k - 1$ , and for such  $s$  it is

$$= \frac{\mathfrak{n}^{1-k/2}}{e^{2\pi r}} \frac{\psi(N) 2^{k-1} \Gamma(s) (2\pi r \mathfrak{n})^{k-s-1}}{(k-2)!} \sum_{m \mid \gcd(\mathfrak{n}, r)} \frac{m^{2s-k+1}}{\omega'(m)}.$$

*Proof.* The absolute convergence will be proven in Prop. 3.10 below. For  $s$  as given, we factorize the integral as  $I_1(f)_\infty I_1(f)_{\text{fin}}$ . To start with,

$$I_1(f)_{\text{fin}} = \int_{\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}^*} \int_{\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}} f^n \left( \begin{pmatrix} y & -x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx |y|_{\text{fin}}^{s-k/2} d^*y.$$

The value of  $f^n$  is nonzero if and only if there exists  $m \in \mathbf{Q}^+$  such that  $\begin{pmatrix} my & -mx \\ 0 & m \end{pmatrix} \in M(\mathfrak{n}, N)$ . In particular,  $m \in \widehat{\mathbf{Z}} \cap \mathbf{Q}^+ = \mathbf{Z}^+$ . Furthermore,

- (i)  $my \in \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$
- (ii)  $m^2y \in \mathfrak{n}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*$
- (iii)  $mx \in \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ .

Together, the first two conditions imply that  $m|\mathfrak{n}$ . Conversely, if  $m|\mathfrak{n}$ , condition (ii) implies condition (i). Assuming that  $m|\mathfrak{n}$  and  $y$  satisfies (ii), we have

$$\int_{\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}} f^n \left( \begin{pmatrix} y & -x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx = \frac{\psi(N)}{\omega(m_N)} \int_{\frac{1}{m}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}} \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx.$$

Because  $m|\mathfrak{n}$ , it follows that  $(m, N) = 1$ , so  $\omega(m_N) = \omega'(m)$ . Hence the above is

$$= \begin{cases} m\psi(N)/\omega'(m) & \text{if } m|r \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Thus

$$\int_{\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}} f^n \left( \begin{pmatrix} y & -x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx = \begin{cases} m\psi(N)/\omega'(m) & \text{if } y \in \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{m^2}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^* \text{ for} \\ & \text{some } m|\gcd(\mathfrak{n}, r), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We note that if such  $m$  exists, it is uniquely determined by  $y$ . Now

$$I_1(f)_{\text{fin}} = \sum_{m|\gcd(\mathfrak{n}, r)} \frac{m\psi(N)}{\omega'(m)} \int_{\frac{\mathfrak{n}}{m^2}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*} |y|_{\text{fin}}^{s-k/2} d^*y = \psi(N) \sum_{m|\gcd(\mathfrak{n}, r)} \frac{m(m^2/\mathfrak{n})^{s-k/2}}{\omega'(m)}.$$

For the infinite part, recall that  $f_\infty$  vanishes on matrices with negative determinant. Thus

$$I_1(f)_\infty = \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbf{R}} f_\infty \left( \begin{pmatrix} y & -x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \theta_\infty(rx) dx |y|^{s-k/2} d^*y.$$

We have

$$\int_{\mathbf{R}} f_\infty \left( \begin{pmatrix} y & -x \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \theta_\infty(rx) dx = \frac{\mathfrak{k}-1}{4\pi} y^{k/2} (2i)^{\mathfrak{k}} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{e^{-2\pi irx}}{(x+(y+1)i)^{\mathfrak{k}}} dx.$$

Use a clockwise semicircular contour integral in the lower complex half-plane. The integrand has a pole at  $x = -(y+1)i$  inside the contour. By the residue theorem, the above is

$$\begin{aligned} &= -\frac{\mathfrak{k}-1}{4\pi} y^{k/2} (2i)^{\mathfrak{k}} \frac{2\pi i}{(\mathfrak{k}-1)!} \left. \frac{d^{\mathfrak{k}-1}}{dx^{\mathfrak{k}-1}} \right|_{x=-(y+1)i} e^{-2\pi irx} \\ &= -\frac{\mathfrak{k}-1}{4\pi} y^{k/2} (2i)^{\mathfrak{k}} \frac{2\pi i}{(\mathfrak{k}-1)!} (-2\pi ir)^{\mathfrak{k}-1} e^{-2\pi r(y+1)} = \frac{(4\pi r)^{\mathfrak{k}-1}}{(\mathfrak{k}-2)! e^{2\pi r}} y^{k/2} e^{-2\pi ry}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore using  $\text{Re}(s) > 0$ ,

$$I_1(f)_\infty = \frac{(4\pi r)^{\mathfrak{k}-1}}{(\mathfrak{k}-2)! e^{2\pi r}} \int_0^\infty y^{s-1} e^{-2\pi ry} dy = \frac{(4\pi r)^{\mathfrak{k}-1}}{(\mathfrak{k}-2)! e^{2\pi r}} (2\pi r)^{-s} \Gamma(s).$$

All together we have

$$I_1(f) = \frac{\psi(N)2^{k-1}\Gamma(s)\mathfrak{n}^{k/2-s}(2\pi r)^{k-s-1}}{(\mathfrak{k}-2)!e^{2\pi r}} \sum_{m|\gcd(\mathfrak{n},r)} \frac{m^{2s-k+1}}{\omega'(m)}. \quad \square$$

Next we need to compute  $I_\delta(f)$  for  $\delta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & t \end{pmatrix}$  with  $t \in \mathbf{Q}$ . We begin with the special case  $t = 0$ .

**Proposition 3.5.** *If  $\delta = \begin{pmatrix} & 1 \\ -1 & \end{pmatrix}$ , then*

$$(7) \quad I_\delta(f) = \int_{\mathbf{A}^*} \int_{\mathbf{A}} f\left(\begin{pmatrix} yx & 1 \\ -y & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) \theta(rx) dx |y|^{s-k/2} d^*y$$

converges absolutely for  $1 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \mathfrak{k}$ . For such  $s$ ,  $I_\delta(f) = 0$  unless  $N = 1$ . When  $N = 1$ ,

$$I_\delta(f) = \frac{\mathfrak{n}^{1-k/2} 2^{k-1} \Gamma(\mathfrak{k}-s) (2\pi r \mathfrak{n})^{s-1}}{e^{2\pi r} (\mathfrak{k}-2)! i^{\mathfrak{k}}} \sum_{m|\gcd(\mathfrak{n},r)} m^{k-2s+1}.$$

*Proof.* For the absolute convergence, see Prop. 3.10 below. The value of  $f^{\mathfrak{n}}$  in  $I_\delta(f)_{\text{fin}} = \int_{\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}^*} \int_{\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}} f^{\mathfrak{n}}\left(\begin{pmatrix} yx & 1 \\ -y & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx |y|_{\text{fin}}^{s-k/2} d^*y$  is nonzero if and only if there exists  $m \in \mathbf{Q}^+$  such that  $\begin{pmatrix} myx & m \\ -my & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in M(\mathfrak{n}, N)$ . This means  $m \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ ,  $my \in N\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$  and  $m^2y \in \mathfrak{n}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*$ . It follows that  $N|\mathfrak{n}$ , which is only possible if  $N = 1$ . Assuming  $N = 1$ , we have  $m|\mathfrak{n}$ . The last requirement for nonvanishing is  $x \in \frac{1}{my}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}} = \frac{m}{\mathfrak{n}}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ , in which case  $f^{\mathfrak{n}}\left(\begin{pmatrix} yx & 1 \\ -y & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = 1$ . Hence for fixed  $m|\mathfrak{n}$  and  $y \in \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{m^2}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*$ ,

$$\int_{\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}} f^{\mathfrak{n}}\left(\begin{pmatrix} yx & 1 \\ -y & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx = \int_{\frac{m}{\mathfrak{n}}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}} \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx = \begin{cases} \mathfrak{n}/m & \text{if } \frac{rm}{\mathfrak{n}} \in \widehat{\mathbf{Z}} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Now we have

$$\begin{aligned} I_\delta(f)_{\text{fin}} &= \sum_{\substack{m|\mathfrak{n} \\ \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{m}|r}} \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{m} \int_{\frac{\mathfrak{n}}{m^2}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*} |y|_{\text{fin}}^{s-k/2} d^*y = \sum_{\substack{m|\mathfrak{n} \\ \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{m}|r}} \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{m} (m^2/\mathfrak{n})^{s-k/2} \\ &= \mathfrak{n}^{k/2-s+1} \sum_{\substack{m|\mathfrak{n} \\ \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{m}|r}} m^{2s-k-1} = \mathfrak{n}^{k/2-s+1} \sum_{m|\gcd(\mathfrak{n},r)} (\mathfrak{n}/m)^{2s-k-1} \\ &= \mathfrak{n}^{s-k/2} \sum_{m|\gcd(\mathfrak{n},r)} m^{k-2s+1}. \end{aligned}$$

For the infinite part  $I_\delta(f)_\infty = \int_{\mathbf{R}^*} \int_{\mathbf{R}} f_\infty\left(\begin{pmatrix} yx & 1 \\ -y & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) \theta_\infty(rx) dx |y|^{s-k/2} d^*y$ , as before we can assume  $y > 0$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbf{R}} f_\infty\left(\begin{pmatrix} yx & 1 \\ -y & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) e^{-2\pi i r x} dx &= \frac{\mathfrak{k}-1}{4\pi} y^{k/2} (2i)^{\mathfrak{k}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-2\pi i r x}}{(-1-y+(yx)i)^{\mathfrak{k}}} dx \\ &= \frac{(\mathfrak{k}-1)(2i)^{\mathfrak{k}}}{4\pi} y^{k/2} (iy)^{-\mathfrak{k}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-2\pi i r x}}{(x + (\frac{1+y}{y})i)^{\mathfrak{k}}} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Take a clockwise semicircular contour integral in the lower half-plane. The integrand has a pole at  $x = -i(1 + \frac{1}{y})$ . By the residue theorem the above is

$$= -\frac{(\mathfrak{k}-1)2^{\mathfrak{k}}}{4\pi} y^{-k/2} \frac{2\pi i}{(\mathfrak{k}-1)!} \left. \frac{d^{\mathfrak{k}-1}}{dx^{\mathfrak{k}-1}} \right|_{x=-i(1+\frac{1}{y})} e^{-2\pi i r x}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{-i2^{\mathbf{k}-1}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!} y^{-\mathbf{k}/2} (-2\pi ir)^{\mathbf{k}-1} e^{-2\pi r(1+1/y)} \\
&= \frac{(4\pi r)^{\mathbf{k}-1} e^{-2\pi r}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)! i^{\mathbf{k}}} y^{-\mathbf{k}/2} e^{-2\pi r/y}.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$I_\delta(f)_\infty = \frac{(4\pi r)^{\mathbf{k}-1} e^{-2\pi r}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)! i^{\mathbf{k}}} \int_0^\infty y^{s-\mathbf{k}-1} e^{-2\pi r/y} dy.$$

For any  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\int_0^\infty t^{w-1} e^{-\alpha/t} dt = \alpha^w \Gamma(-w)$  when  $\operatorname{Re}(w) < 0$ , so we get

$$I_\delta(f) = \frac{(4\pi r)^{\mathbf{k}-1} e^{-2\pi r}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)! i^{\mathbf{k}}} (2\pi r)^{s-\mathbf{k}} \Gamma(\mathbf{k}-s) \mathbf{n}^{s-\mathbf{k}/2} \sum_{m|\gcd(\mathbf{n},r)} m^{\mathbf{k}-2s+1}.$$

□

For the case of  $\delta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & t \end{pmatrix}$  with  $t \in \mathbf{Q}^*$ , we use the following lemma, which is very easy to prove.

**Lemma 3.6.** *For any  $n, m, r \in \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ ,*

$$r\widehat{\mathbf{Z}} \cap (n + m\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}) = \begin{cases} rc_0 + \frac{rm}{\gcd(r,m)} \widehat{\mathbf{Z}} & \text{if } \gcd(r,m) | n \\ \emptyset & \text{if } \gcd(r,m) \nmid n, \end{cases}$$

where  $c_0 \in \mathbf{Z}$  is any fixed solution to  $rc_0 \equiv n \pmod{m\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}}$ .

We also need to recall the definition of the confluent hypergeometric function

$${}_1F_1(s; k; w) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(s)_m}{(k)_m} \frac{w^m}{m!}$$

where  $(s)_0 = 1$  and for  $m > 0$ ,  $(s)_m = s(s+1)(s+2)\cdots(s+m-1)$ . This is absolutely convergent for all  $s, k, w \in \mathbf{C}$ , except when  $k$  is a nonpositive integer. We have the following useful integral representation:

$$(8) \quad {}_1F_1(s; k; w) = \frac{\Gamma(k)}{\Gamma(k-s)\Gamma(s)} \int_0^1 e^{wt} t^{s-1} (1-t)^{k-s-1} dt \quad (\operatorname{Re}(k) > \operatorname{Re}(s) > 0)$$

(see [Sl], §3.1).

**Proposition 3.7.** *If  $\delta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & t \end{pmatrix}$  for  $t \in \mathbf{Q}^*$ , then  $I_\delta(f)$  is absolutely convergent when  $0 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k}$ . It vanishes unless  $t \in \frac{\mathbf{N}}{\mathbf{n}}\mathbf{Z}$ . For such  $t$ , write  $t = \frac{\mathbf{N}}{\mathbf{n}}b$ . Then*

$$I_\delta(f) = \frac{(4\pi r)^{\mathbf{k}-1} \psi(N) \mathbf{n}^{\mathbf{k}/2}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)! e^{i\pi s/2} e^{2\pi r} N^s} b^{s-\mathbf{k}} {}_1f_1(s; \mathbf{k}; \frac{2\pi ir\mathbf{n}}{Nb}) \sum_{\substack{d|b \\ \gcd(b/d, Nd) | \gcd(r, \mathbf{n})}} \frac{\gcd(b/d, Nd)}{d^{2s-\mathbf{k}} \omega'(b/d)} e^{-\frac{2\pi ir\ell_0}{b/d}},$$

where  $\ell_0 \in \mathbf{Z}$  is any integer satisfying  $\ell_0(Nd) \equiv \mathbf{n} \pmod{b/d}$ , and

$${}_1f_1(s; \mathbf{k}; w) = \frac{\Gamma(s)\Gamma(\mathbf{k}-s)}{\Gamma(\mathbf{k})} {}_1F_1(s; \mathbf{k}; w).$$

When  $b < 0$ , we take  $b^{s-\mathbf{k}} = |b|^{s-\mathbf{k}} e^{i\pi(s-\mathbf{k})}$ .

*Proof.* The absolute convergence will be proven in Prop. 3.9 below. We can factorize the integral as  $I_\delta(f) = I_\delta(f)_\infty I_\delta(f)_{\text{fin}}$ . First we compute

$$I_\delta(f)_{\text{fin}} = \int_{\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}^*} \int_{\mathbf{A}_{\text{fin}}} f^{\mathbf{n}} \left( \begin{pmatrix} yx & 1-tx \\ -y & t \end{pmatrix} \right) \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx |y|^{s-\mathbf{k}/2} d^*y.$$

Suppose  $f^n\left(\begin{pmatrix} yx & 1-tx \\ -y & t \end{pmatrix}\right) \neq 0$ . Then there exists  $m \in \mathbf{Q}^+$  such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} myx & m - mtx \\ -my & mt \end{pmatrix} \in M(\mathfrak{n}, N).$$

This means:

- (i)  $my \in N\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$
- (ii)  $m^2y \in \mathfrak{n}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*$
- (iii)  $mt \in \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$
- (iv)  $mxy \in \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$
- (v)  $m - mtx \in \widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ .

The first two conditions imply that  $m = \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{Nd}$  for some integer  $d > 0$ , and that  $y \in \frac{N^2d^2}{\mathfrak{n}}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*$ . By the third condition,  $t \in \frac{Nd}{\mathfrak{n}}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ , or equivalently,  $t \in \frac{N}{\mathfrak{n}}\mathbf{Z}$  and  $d \mid \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{N}t$ . This proves the first assertion. Condition (iv) is now equivalent to  $x \in \frac{1}{Nd}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ . Conversely, if  $m, y, t, x$  are given in this way, they will satisfy (i)-(iv). Thus we have

$$I_\delta(f)_{\text{fin}} = \sum_{d \mid \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{N}t} \frac{\mathfrak{n}^{s-k/2}}{(Nd)^{2s-k}} \int_{\frac{N^2d^2}{\mathfrak{n}}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}^*} \int_{\frac{1}{Nd}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}} f^n\left(\begin{pmatrix} yx & 1-tx \\ -y & t \end{pmatrix}\right) \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx d^*y.$$

Write  $t = \frac{N}{\mathfrak{n}}b$  for nonzero  $b \in d\mathbf{Z}$ . Then  $mt = b/d$ , so the fifth condition is equivalent to  $x \in \frac{\mathfrak{n}}{Nb} + \frac{d}{b}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ . Thus the inner integral is taken over

$$x \in \frac{1}{Nd}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}} \cap \left(\frac{\mathfrak{n}}{Nb} + \frac{d}{b}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}\right).$$

By Lemma 3.6 (multiply the above through by  $Nb$ ), this set is nonempty if and only if  $\gcd(b/d, Nd) \mid \mathfrak{n}$ , in which case it is equal to  $\frac{1}{Nd}c_0 + \frac{1}{\gcd(b/d, Nd)}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}$ , where  $c_0$  is any solution to  $(b/d)c_0 \equiv \mathfrak{n} \pmod{Nd}$ .

Note that  $\gcd(b/d, Nd) \mid \mathfrak{n}$  implies that  $b/d$  is prime to  $N$ . Therefore the value of  $f^n$  in the integrand is  $\frac{\psi(N)}{\omega'(b/d)}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} I_\delta(f)_{\text{fin}} &= \sum_{\substack{d \mid b \\ \gcd(b/d, Nd) \mid \mathfrak{n}}} \frac{\mathfrak{n}^{s-k/2}}{(Nd)^{2s-k}} \frac{\psi(N)}{\omega'(b/d)} \int_{\frac{1}{Nd}c_0 + \frac{1}{\gcd(b/d, Nd)}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}} \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx \\ (9) \quad &= \sum_{\substack{d \mid b \\ \gcd(b/d, Nd) \mid \mathfrak{n}}} \frac{\mathfrak{n}^{s-k/2}}{(Nd)^{2s-k}} \frac{\psi(N)}{\omega'(b/d)} \theta_{\text{fin}}\left(\frac{rc_0}{Nd}\right) \int_{\frac{1}{\gcd(b/d, Nd)}\widehat{\mathbf{Z}}} \theta_{\text{fin}}(rx) dx \\ &= \frac{\psi(N)\mathfrak{n}^{s-k/2}}{N^{2s-k}} \sum_{\substack{d \mid b \\ \gcd(b/d, Nd) \mid \gcd(r, \mathfrak{n})}} \frac{\gcd(b/d, Nd)}{d^{2s-k}\omega'(b/d)} e^{2\pi i rc_0/Nd}. \end{aligned}$$

For the archimedean part, the inner integral is

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathbf{R}} f_\infty\left(\begin{pmatrix} yx & 1-tx \\ -y & t \end{pmatrix}\right) e^{-2\pi i r x} dx \\ &= \frac{k-1}{4\pi} (2i)^k y^{k/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-2\pi i r x}}{(tx - 1 - y + (yx + t)i)^k} dx \\ &= \frac{k-1}{4\pi} (2i)^k y^{k/2} (t + iy)^{-k} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-2\pi i r x}}{\left(x - \frac{1+y-it}{i(y-it)}\right)^k} dx. \end{aligned}$$

The integrand has a pole at  $x = -i(1 + \frac{1}{y-it})$  in the lower half-plane. Using a clockwise lower semicircular contour integral, this is

$$= -\frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{4\pi}(2i)^{\mathbf{k}}\frac{2\pi i}{(\mathbf{k}-1)!}(-2\pi ir)^{\mathbf{k}-1}y^{\mathbf{k}/2}(i)^{-\mathbf{k}}(y-it)^{-\mathbf{k}}e^{-2\pi r(1+\frac{1}{y-it})}.$$

Thus

$$I_{\delta}(f)_{\infty} = \frac{(4\pi r)^{\mathbf{k}-1}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!i^{\mathbf{k}}e^{2\pi r}}\int_0^{\infty}y^{s-1}(y-it)^{-\mathbf{k}}e^{-2\pi r/(y-it)}dy.$$

This has an essential singularity at  $y = it$ . We define  $y^{s-1}$  as a holomorphic function of  $y$  by taking the principal value of  $\log y$  on the positive real axis, and making a branch cut along the positive imaginary axis if  $t > 0$  or the negative imaginary axis if  $t < 0$ . Now pulling out  $t$  and making a change of variables, we get

$$I_{\delta}(f)_{\infty} = \frac{(4\pi r)^{\mathbf{k}-1}t^{s-\mathbf{k}}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!i^{\mathbf{k}}e^{2\pi r}}\int_0^{\pm\infty}y^{s-1}(y-i)^{-\mathbf{k}}e^{-2\pi r/t(y-i)}dy,$$

where the sign in the upper limit is the sign of  $t$ , and by our choice of branch,  $t^{s-\mathbf{k}} = |t|^{s-\mathbf{k}}e^{i\pi(s-\mathbf{k})}$  if  $t < 0$ . In the notation of the next lemma below, the integral is  $\mathbf{G}(s, \mathbf{k}, r/t)$ . By the result of the lemma and setting  $t = Nb/n$ , this gives

$$I_{\delta}(f)_{\infty} = \frac{(4\pi r)^{\mathbf{k}-1}N^{s-\mathbf{k}}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!e^{i\pi s/2}e^{2\pi r}n^{s-\mathbf{k}}}\frac{b^{s-\mathbf{k}}{}_1f_1(s; \mathbf{k}; 2\pi irn/Nb)}{e^{2\pi irn/Nb}}.$$

When we multiply this by  $I_{\delta}(f)_{\text{fin}}$ , we can combine the terms

$$e^{-2\pi irn/Nb}e^{2\pi ir c_0/Nd} = e^{2\pi ir(c_0(b/d)-n)/Nb}.$$

Writing  $c_0(b/d) - n = -Nd\ell_0$  for some  $\ell_0 \in \mathbf{Z}$ , we have  $Nd\ell_0 \equiv n \pmod{(b/d)}$ , and the above is equal to  $e^{-2\pi ir\ell_0/(b/d)}$ . The result now follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.8.** *For  $s, w \in \mathbf{C}$  and  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ , define*

$$\mathbf{G}(s, \mathbf{k}, w) = \int_0^{\infty}y^{s-1}(y-i)^{-\mathbf{k}}e^{-2\pi w/(y-i)}dy.$$

*This function converges absolutely for  $0 < \text{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k}$ . On this strip we can represent  $\mathbf{G}(s, \mathbf{k}, w)$  in terms of the confluent hypergeometric function:*

$$\mathbf{G}(s, \mathbf{k}, w) = i^{\mathbf{k}}e^{-i\pi s/2}e^{-2\pi iw}\frac{\Gamma(s)\Gamma(\mathbf{k}-s)}{\Gamma(\mathbf{k})}{}_1F_1(s; \mathbf{k}; 2\pi iw).$$

*Furthermore, the integral defining  $\mathbf{G}$  is unchanged if we replace  $\infty$  by  $-\infty$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $t = 1 + \frac{i}{y-i}$ , so that  $y-i = \frac{-i}{1-t}$ . This linear fractional transformation takes the positive real axis to the upper semicircle  $C$  of radius  $1/2$  centered at  $z = 1/2$ . Then  $dy = \frac{-i}{(1-t)^2}dt$  and

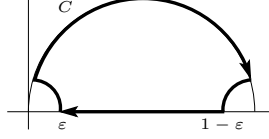
$$\mathbf{G}(s, \mathbf{k}, w) = \int_C\left(\frac{-it}{1-t}\right)^{s-1}\left(\frac{-i}{1-t}\right)^{-\mathbf{k}}e^{2\pi iw(t-1)}\frac{-i}{(1-t)^2}dt.$$

We define  $y^{s-1} = e^{(s-1)\log y}$  by taking the principal value of  $\log y$  for  $y > 0$ , and making a cut along the positive imaginary axis in the  $y$ -plane. This cut corresponds in the  $t$ -plane to cuts on the real axis from  $0$  to  $-\infty$  and from  $1$  to  $\infty$ . We choose  $\log(-i) = -i\pi/2$ , and choose the principal branches of  $\log(t)$  and  $\log(1-t)$ . Then

for  $t \in (0, 1)$ ,  $-3\pi/2 < \arg(-it/(1-t)) < \pi/2$  and therefore these choices are compatible with the choice of  $\log y$ . Now

$$\mathbf{G}(s, \mathbf{k}, w) = e^{-is\pi/2} (-i)^{-\mathbf{k}} e^{-2\pi iw} \int_C e^{2\pi i w t} t^{s-1} (1-t)^{\mathbf{k}-s-1} dt.$$

The integrand is holomorphic in  $t$  and single-valued in the cut plane, and by Cauchy's theorem, its integral around the following contour vanishes.



Using the fact that  $0 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k}$ , it is straightforward to show that the contribution along the small arcs goes to 0 as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . It follows that the integral along  $C$  can instead be taken along the real axis, so

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{G}(s, \mathbf{k}, w) &= i^{\mathbf{k}} e^{-i\pi s/2} e^{-2\pi iw} \int_0^1 e^{2\pi i w t} t^{s-1} (1-t)^{\mathbf{k}-s-1} dt. \\ &= i^{\mathbf{k}} e^{-i\pi s/2} e^{-2\pi iw} \frac{\Gamma(\mathbf{k}-s)\Gamma(s)}{\Gamma(\mathbf{k})} {}_1F_1(s; \mathbf{k}; 2\pi iw) \end{aligned}$$

by (8). If the upper limit of  $\mathbf{G}$  is replaced by  $-\infty$ , then  $t$  will traverse instead the lower semicircle  $\bar{C}$  from 0 to 1, which can likewise be moved to the real axis. In fact a more general path independence property can be proven in a similar way.  $\square$

**3.3. Proof of Proposition 3.3.** For each  $\delta$ , we set

$$I_{\delta}^{abs}(f) = \int_{\mathbf{A}^*} \int_{\mathbf{A}} \left| f\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -x \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \delta \begin{pmatrix} y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \overline{\theta_r(x)} |y|^{s-\mathbf{k}/2} \right| dx d^*y.$$

Because  $f^n$  is compactly supported modulo the center and bounded by  $\psi(N)$ , the finite part  $I_{\delta}^{abs}(f)_{\text{fin}}$  converges for all  $s$  to a value depending on  $\delta$ . Thus we primarily need to consider the infinite part

$$I_{\delta}^{abs}(f)_{\infty} = \int_0^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f_{\infty}\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -x \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \delta \begin{pmatrix} y \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}\right)| dx y^{\operatorname{Re}(s)-\mathbf{k}/2-1} dy.$$

We will repeatedly use the fact that for  $g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in G(\mathbf{R})^+$ ,

$$(10) \quad |f_{\infty}(g)| = \frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{4\pi} \frac{\det(g)^{\mathbf{k}/2} 2^{\mathbf{k}}}{(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 + 2\det(g))^{\mathbf{k}/2}}.$$

This follows easily from the explicit formula for  $f_{\infty}$ .

**Proposition 3.9.** Let  $\delta_t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & t \end{pmatrix}$  for  $t \in \mathbf{Q}^*$ . Then if  $0 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k}$ ,

- (a)  $I_{\delta_t}^{abs}(f) < \infty$
- (b)  $I_{\delta_t}^{abs}(f)_{\infty} \ll |t|^{\operatorname{Re}(s)-\mathbf{k}}$ .

Furthermore, if  $1 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k}-1$ , then

- (c)  $\sum_{t \in \mathbf{Q}^*} I_{\delta_t}^{abs}(f) < \infty$ .

*Proof.* We need to estimate the expression

$$\int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty \left| f_\infty \left( \begin{pmatrix} yx & 1-tx \\ -y & t \end{pmatrix} \right) \right| dx y^{\operatorname{Re}(s)-k/2-1} dy.$$

By (10), the inner integral is

$$\begin{aligned} &\ll y^{k/2} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{dx}{(y^2 x^2 + y^2 + t^2 + (1-tx)^2 + 2y)^{k/2}} \\ &= y^{k/2} (t^2 + y^2)^{-k/2} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{dx}{(x^2 - \frac{2t}{t^2+y^2}x + \frac{1+t^2+y^2+2y}{t^2+y^2})^{k/2}} \end{aligned}$$

We will show that the integral is bounded, independently of  $y$  and  $t$ . Completing the square, the integral is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{dx}{((x - \frac{t}{t^2+y^2})^2 + \frac{(1+y)^2+t^2}{t^2+y^2} - \frac{t^2}{(t^2+y^2)^2})^{k/2}} = \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{dx}{(x^2 + \frac{(1+2y+y^2+t^2)(t^2+y^2)-t^2}{(t^2+y^2)^2})^{k/2}} \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{dx}{(x^2 + \frac{(t^2+y^2+y)^2}{(t^2+y^2)^2})^{k/2}} < \int_{-\infty}^\infty \frac{dx}{(x^2+1)^{k/2}} < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore writing  $s = \sigma + i\tau$ ,

$$I_{\delta_t}^{abs}(f)_\infty \ll \int_0^\infty y^{\sigma-1} (t^2 + y^2)^{-k/2} dy.$$

For convergence as  $y \rightarrow 0$ , we need  $\sigma - 1 > -1$ , i.e.  $\sigma > 0$ . For convergence as  $y \rightarrow \infty$ , we need  $\sigma - 1 - k < -1$ , i.e.  $\sigma < k$ . This proves the absolute convergence of  $I_{\delta_t}(f)$  on the given strip.

In order to sum over  $t$ , we need to bound the above integral in terms of  $t$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} I_{\delta_t}^{abs}(f)_\infty &\ll \int_0^\infty y^{\sigma-1} |t|^{-k} (1 + \frac{y^2}{t^2})^{-k/2} dy \\ &= |t|^{-k} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{y^2}{t^2} \right)^{\frac{\sigma}{2}} |t|^\sigma (1 + \frac{y^2}{t^2})^{-k/2} d^*y. \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $u = (y/t)^2$  so  $d^*u = 2d^*y$ , the above is

$$= \frac{1}{2} |t|^{\sigma-k} \int_0^\infty \frac{u^{\frac{\sigma}{2}-1}}{(1+u)^{k/2}} du,$$

which proves the second assertion since  $k > \sigma > 0$ . (As an aside, this last integral equals  $B(\frac{\sigma}{2}, \frac{k-\sigma}{2})$  where  $B(n, m) = \Gamma(n)\Gamma(m)/\Gamma(n+m)$  is the Beta function.)

As in the proof of Proposition 3.7,  $I_{\delta_t}^{abs}(f)_{\text{fin}}$  vanishes unless  $t = \frac{N}{n}b$  for some  $b \in \mathbf{Z} - \{0\}$ . By (9), we see that

$$I_{\delta_t}^{abs}(f)_{\text{fin}} \ll \frac{n^{\sigma-k/2} \psi(N)}{N^{2\sigma-k}} \sum_{d|b} d^{-2\sigma+k}.$$

If  $\sigma > k/2$ , then  $d^{-2\sigma+k} \leq 1$ . If  $\sigma \leq k/2$ , then  $d^{-2\sigma+k} \leq |b|^{-2\sigma+k}$ . The number of divisors of  $b$  is  $\ll b^\varepsilon$  for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since  $I_{\delta_t}^{abs}(f)_\infty$  contributes  $|b|^{\sigma-k}$ , we have

$$(11) \quad \sum_{t \in \mathbf{Q}^*} I_{\delta_t}^{abs}(f) \ll \begin{cases} \sum_{b \in \mathbf{Z} - \{0\}} |b|^{-\sigma+\varepsilon} & \text{if } \sigma \leq k/2 \\ \sum_{b \in \mathbf{Z} - \{0\}} |b|^{\sigma-k+\varepsilon} & \text{if } \sigma > k/2. \end{cases}$$

Hence  $\sum_t I_{\delta_t}^{abs}(f) < \infty$  as long as  $1 < \sigma < k - 1$ .  $\square$

The following will complete the proof of Proposition 3.3.

**Proposition 3.10.** For  $\delta = 1$ ,  $I_1^{abs}(f) < \infty$  provided  
 $0 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k} - 1$ .

For  $\delta = \begin{pmatrix} & 1 \\ -1 & \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $I_\delta^{abs}(f) < \infty$  provided  
 $1 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k}$ .

*Proof.* For any  $a > 0$ , a change of variables gives

$$(12) \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{(x^2 + a^2)^{k/2}} = a^{-k+1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{du}{(u^2 + 1)^{k/2}}.$$

We again write  $s = \sigma + i\tau$ . When  $\delta = 1$ , using (10) we have

$$I_1^{abs}(f) \ll \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{y^{\sigma-1}}{(x^2 + y^2 + 2y + 1)^{k/2}} dx dy.$$

By (12), this is

$$\ll \int_0^\infty y^{\sigma-1} (y+1)^{-k+1} dy.$$

This converges precisely when  $0 < \sigma < \mathbf{k} - 1$ .

Similarly, for  $\delta = \begin{pmatrix} & 1 \\ -1 & \end{pmatrix}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} I_\delta^{abs}(f) &\ll \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{y^{\sigma-1}}{(x^2 y^2 + y^2 + 2y + 1)^{k/2}} dx dy \\ &= \int_0^\infty y^{\sigma-1-k} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dx}{(x^2 + (1 + \frac{1}{y})^2)^{k/2}} dy \\ &\ll \int_0^\infty y^{\sigma-k-1} (1 + y^{-1})^{-k+1} dy. \end{aligned}$$

As  $y \rightarrow 0$ , we need  $\sigma - \mathbf{k} - 1 + \mathbf{k} - 1 > -1$ , i.e.  $\sigma > 1$ . As  $y \rightarrow \infty$ , we need  $\sigma - \mathbf{k} - 1 < -1$ , i.e.  $\sigma < \mathbf{k}$ . This proves the proposition.  $\square$

**3.4. Proof of Theorem 1.1.** We have now proven that the geometric side converges absolutely when  $1 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k} - 1$ , and therefore it is equal to the spectral side on this strip. When we sum the contribution of Prop. 3.7 over all  $b \neq 0$ , we set  $a = b/d$  so that  $b = ad$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{b \neq 0} b^{s-k} {}_1f_1\left(s; \mathbf{k}; \frac{2\pi i r n}{Nb}\right) &\sum_{\substack{d|b \\ \gcd(b/d, Nd) | \gcd(r, n)}} \frac{\gcd(b/d, Nd)}{d^{2s-k} \omega'(b/d)} e^{-\frac{2\pi i r \ell_0}{b/d}} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{a \neq 0, d > 0 \\ \gcd(a, Nd) | \gcd(r, n)}} \frac{a^{s-k} d^{-s} \gcd(a, Nd)}{\omega'(a) e^{2\pi i r \ell_0/a}} {}_1f_1\left(s; \mathbf{k}; \frac{2\pi i r n}{Nad}\right). \end{aligned}$$

The theorem now follows immediately upon equating the two sides of the trace formula and dividing through by  $e^{-2\pi r} \mathbf{n}^{1-k/2}$ .

## 4. ESTIMATES AND EXAMPLES

**4.1. Asymptotic behavior.** For two functions  $A, B$ , we write  $A \sim B$  to mean that  $A/B \rightarrow 1$  in a limiting sense which will be clear from the context. For example, by Stirling's approximation we have the following:

$$(13) \quad \Gamma(z+b) \sim \sqrt{2\pi} e^{-z} z^{z+b-1/2} \quad (z \rightarrow \infty, |\arg z| < \pi)$$

([AS], 6.1.39). The  $\sim$  notation here depends on  $b$ , i.e. given  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a constant  $N(b) > 0$  such that the quotient is within  $\varepsilon$  of 1 whenever  $|z| > N(b)$ .

We now estimate each term of Theorem 1.1 as  $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow \infty$ . It will turn out that the first two terms are dominant, provided their sum does not vanish. In order to ensure nonvanishing of  $\sum_{m|\gcd(\mathbf{n},r)} m^{2s-\mathbf{k}+1}/\omega'(m)$ , we will assume for simplicity that  $\gcd(\mathbf{n}, r) = 1$ . However in general one can prove that this sum can only vanish on the left edge of the critical strip, i.e. on the line  $\operatorname{Re}(s) = \frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{2}$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *Let  $s = \mathbf{k}/2 + \alpha + i\tau$ , with  $1 < \mathbf{k}/2 + \alpha < \mathbf{k} - 1$ . Assume  $\gcd(\mathbf{n}, r) = 1$ . Then as  $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow \infty$  the identity term in Theorem 1.1 satisfies*

$$(14) \quad \left| \frac{\psi(N)2^{\mathbf{k}-1}\Gamma(s)(2\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-s-1}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!} \right| \sim \frac{2\sqrt{\pi}\psi(N)(4\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}/2-\alpha-1}\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{k}/2+\alpha-1/2}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!e^{\mathbf{k}/2}} \\ \sim \sqrt{2}\psi(N)e^{\alpha+1} \left( \frac{4\pi r\mathbf{n}e}{\mathbf{k}} \right)^{\mathbf{k}/2-\alpha-1}.$$

If  $N = 1$ , then as  $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow \infty$  the second term in Theorem 1.1 satisfies

$$(15) \quad \left| \frac{2^{\mathbf{k}-1}\Gamma(\mathbf{k}-s)(2\pi r\mathbf{n})^{s-1}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!i^{\mathbf{k}}} \right| \sim \frac{2\sqrt{\pi}(4\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}/2+\alpha-1}\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{k}/2-\alpha-1/2}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!e^{\mathbf{k}/2}} \\ \sim \sqrt{2}e^{-\alpha+1} \left( \frac{4\pi r\mathbf{n}e}{\mathbf{k}} \right)^{\mathbf{k}/2+\alpha-1}.$$

*Remark:* The  $\sim$  notation here depends on  $\alpha + i\tau$  as discussed after (13).

*Proof.* Using (13), the lefthand side of (14) is

$$= \frac{\psi(N)2^{\mathbf{k}-1}|\Gamma(\mathbf{k}/2 + \alpha + i\tau)|(2\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}/2-\alpha-1}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!} \\ \sim \frac{\psi(N)2^{-1}2^{\mathbf{k}}(2\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}/2-\alpha-1}\sqrt{2\pi}e^{-\mathbf{k}/2}(\mathbf{k}/2)^{\mathbf{k}/2+\alpha-1/2}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!}.$$

For the second line of (14) we substitute  $(\mathbf{k}-2)! = \Gamma(\mathbf{k}-1) \sim \sqrt{2\pi}e^{-\mathbf{k}}\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{k}-1-1/2}$ . The second estimate is similar, as the lefthand side of (15) is

$$\sim \frac{2^{-1}2^{\mathbf{k}}(2\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}/2+\alpha-1}e^{-\mathbf{k}/2}(\mathbf{k}/2)^{\mathbf{k}/2-\alpha-1/2}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!}.$$

□

We now show that the third term in Theorem 1.1 decays much more rapidly in comparison with the first terms as  $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow \infty$ . We can rewrite it as a sum over  $a, d > 0$ .

Note that  $\omega'(-a) = (-1)^{\mathbf{k}}\omega'(a)$ . Thus the third term is equal to

$$(16) \quad \frac{\psi(N)(4\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-1}}{N^s(\mathbf{k}-2)!e^{i\pi s/2}} \sum_{\substack{a,d>0 \\ \gcd(a,Nd)|\gcd(r,\mathbf{n})}} \left[ a^{s-\mathbf{k}}d^{-s} {}_1f_1(s; \mathbf{k}; \frac{2\pi i r\mathbf{n}}{Nad})e^{-2\pi i r\ell_0/a} \right. \\ \left. + e^{i\pi s} a^{s-\mathbf{k}}d^{-s} {}_1f_1(s; \mathbf{k}; -\frac{2\pi i r\mathbf{n}}{Nad})e^{2\pi i r\ell_0/a} \right] \frac{\gcd(a, Nd)}{\omega'(a)},$$

where  $\ell_0$  is any integer satisfying  $\ell_0 Nd \equiv \mathbf{n} \pmod{a}$ . Write  $s = \sigma + i\tau$ . If  $w$  is real,

$$(17) \quad |{}_1f_1(s; \mathbf{k}; 2\pi i w)| = \left| \int_0^1 e^{2\pi i w t} t^{s-1} (1-t)^{\mathbf{k}-s-1} dt \right| \\ \leq \int_0^1 t^{\sigma-1} (1-t)^{\mathbf{k}-\sigma-1} dt = B(\sigma, \mathbf{k}-\sigma)$$

for the Beta function  $B$ . Furthermore,  $|e^{i\pi s/2}| = e^{-\pi\tau/2}$ . Thus the absolute value of (16) is

$$\leq \frac{\psi(N)(4\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-1} \gcd(r, \mathbf{n}) B(\sigma, \mathbf{k}-\sigma)}{N^\sigma(\mathbf{k}-2)!} e^{\pi\tau/2} \sum_{a,d>0} a^{-(\mathbf{k}-\sigma)} d^{-\sigma} |1 + e^{i\pi s}|.$$

Note that  $|1 + e^{i\pi s}| \leq (1 + e^{-\pi\tau})$ . Pulling this out of the sum, we obtain  $(e^{\pi\tau/2} + e^{-\pi\tau/2}) = 2 \cosh(\tau\pi/2)$ , and we immediately arrive at the following.

**Proposition 4.2.** *Write  $s = \sigma + i\tau$  for  $1 < \sigma < \mathbf{k} - 1$ . Then the absolute value of the last term (16) of Theorem 1.1 is*

$$\leq \frac{\psi(N)(4\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-1} \gcd(r, \mathbf{n}) B(\sigma, \mathbf{k}-\sigma)}{N^\sigma(\mathbf{k}-2)!} 2 \cosh(\tau\pi/2) \zeta(\mathbf{k}-\sigma) \zeta(\sigma)$$

for the Beta function  $B$  and the Riemann zeta function  $\zeta$ .

We remark that when  $1 < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \mathbf{k} - 1$  as is the case here, the integrand in (17) is smaller than 1 so  $0 < B(\sigma, \mathbf{k}-\sigma) < 1$ .

If we restrict  $s$  to the critical strip  $\frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{2} < \operatorname{Re}(s) < \frac{\mathbf{k}+1}{2}$ , then both zeta values approach 1 as  $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow \infty$ . Therefore we see that if  $N > 1$ , the identity term is dominant as  $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow \infty$ . If  $N = 1$ , then  $I_1(f)$  is the main term when  $\sigma > \mathbf{k}/2$ , while  $I\left(\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{smallmatrix}\right)(f)$  is the main term when  $\sigma < \mathbf{k}/2$ .

Corollary 1.3 now follows easily. In fact we can make it effective. Assume  $N > 1$ ,  $\mathbf{k} > 3$  and  $\gcd(\mathbf{n}, r) = 1$ . Let

$$F(s) = \frac{\psi(N)2^{\mathbf{k}-1}\Gamma(s)(2\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-s-1}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!}$$

denote the first term of the geometric side of Theorem 1.1, and let  $T(s)$  denote the other term, given in (16). Clearly the average of  $L$ -values is nonzero whenever  $|T(s)| < |F(s)|$ . By Prop. 4.2, this holds whenever

$$\frac{\psi(N)(4\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-1} B(\sigma, \mathbf{k}-\sigma)}{N^\sigma(\mathbf{k}-2)!} 2 \cosh(\pi\tau/2) \zeta(\mathbf{k}-\sigma) \zeta(\sigma) \\ < \frac{\psi(N)2^{\mathbf{k}-1} |\Gamma(s)| (2\pi r\mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-\sigma-1}}{(\mathbf{k}-2)!}.$$

Using  $B(\sigma, \mathbf{k} - \sigma) = \Gamma(\sigma)\Gamma(\mathbf{k} - \sigma)/(\mathbf{k} - 1)!$ , the above is equivalent to

$$(18) \quad 2 \cosh(\tau\pi/2) < \left(\frac{N}{2\pi r \mathbf{n}}\right)^\sigma \frac{(\mathbf{k} - 1)! |\Gamma(s)|}{\zeta(\mathbf{k} - \sigma)\zeta(\sigma)\Gamma(\mathbf{k} - \sigma)\Gamma(\sigma)}.$$

**Lemma 4.3.** *For any  $s = \sigma + i\tau$  with  $\sigma > 1$ ,*

$$\left|\frac{\Gamma(s)}{\Gamma(\sigma)}\right| \geq e^{-\tau \arg(s-1/2)} \left(\frac{\sigma - 1/2 - \frac{\ln(2)}{\pi\sqrt{2\pi e}}}{\sigma - 1/2 + \frac{\ln(2)}{\pi\sqrt{2\pi e}}}\right).$$

*Proof.* This follows immediately from the following approximation due to Spouge:

$$(19) \quad \Gamma(s) = \sqrt{2\pi}(s - 1/2)^{s-1/2} e^{-s+1/2} [1 + \varepsilon(s)] \quad (\sigma > 1),$$

where

$$|\varepsilon(s)| < \frac{\frac{\ln(2)}{\pi\sqrt{2\pi e}}}{\sigma - 1/2}$$

([Sp], Theorem 1.3.2). We apply this to  $\Gamma(s)$  and  $\Gamma(\sigma)$ , and use

$$\left|(s - 1/2)^{s-1/2}\right| = |s - 1/2|^{\sigma-1/2} e^{-\tau \arg(s-1/2)} \geq (\sigma - 1/2)^{\sigma-1/2} e^{-\tau \arg(s-1/2)}.$$

□

By the lemma and (18), we see that the average of Theorem 1.1 is nonzero whenever

$$(20) \quad 2 \cosh(\tau\pi/2) e^{\tau \arg(s-1/2)} < \frac{\left(\frac{N}{2\pi r \mathbf{n}}\right)^\sigma (\mathbf{k} - 1)!}{\zeta(\mathbf{k} - \sigma)\zeta(\sigma)\Gamma(\mathbf{k} - \sigma)} \left(\frac{\sigma - 1/2 - \frac{\ln(2)}{\pi\sqrt{2\pi e}}}{\sigma - 1/2 + \frac{\ln(2)}{\pi\sqrt{2\pi e}}}\right).$$

We remark that since  $|\arg(s - 1/2)| < \pi/2$ , the lefthand side is bounded above by  $2 \cosh(\tau\pi/2) e^{|\tau|\pi/2} = e^{\pi|\tau|} + 1$ , which would simplify but weaken the inequality.

Since the lefthand side of (20) increases with  $|\tau|$ , we obtain the following.

**Proposition 4.4.** *Suppose  $N > 1$ ,  $\mathbf{k} > 3$ , and  $\gcd(\mathbf{n}, r) = 1$ . Fix  $\tau_0 > 0$ , and let  $R$  denote the set of  $s = \sigma + i\tau$  with  $|\tau| \leq \tau_0$  and  $\frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{2} \leq \sigma \leq \frac{\mathbf{k}+1}{2}$ . Then the average in Theorem 1.1 is nonzero at every point of  $R$  if*

$$(21) \quad 2 \cosh(\tau_0\pi/2) e^{\tau_0 \tan^{-1}(\frac{\tau_0}{\mathbf{k}/2-1})} < \frac{\left(\frac{N}{2\pi r \mathbf{n}}\right)^{\frac{\mathbf{k}+1}{2}} (\mathbf{k} - 1)!}{\zeta(\frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{2})^2 \Gamma(\frac{\mathbf{k}+1}{2})} \left(\frac{\frac{\mathbf{k}}{2} - 1 - \frac{\ln(2)}{\pi\sqrt{2\pi e}}}{\frac{\mathbf{k}}{2} + \frac{\ln(2)}{\pi\sqrt{2\pi e}}}\right).$$

Here we choose  $\frac{\mathbf{k}-1}{2}$  if  $N > 2\pi r \mathbf{n}$ , and  $\frac{\mathbf{k}+1}{2}$  otherwise.

Because the righthand side of (21) tends to  $\infty$  as  $N + \mathbf{k} \rightarrow \infty$ , Corollary 1.3 follows immediately.

**4.2. Zero-free regions.** We can use Prop. 4.4 to find zero-free regions of certain modular  $L$ -functions. The idea is to apply the proposition with  $\mathbf{n} = r = 1$  when  $\dim S_{\mathbf{k}}(N, \omega') = 1$ , since the average then gives an actual  $L$ -value. The exponent of  $\frac{N}{2\pi}$  in (21) is  $\frac{\mathbf{k}+1}{2}$  unless  $N \geq 7$ .

**Example 4.5.** *Let  $h$  denote the unique normalized cusp form in  $S_{10}(2)$ . When  $\mathbf{n} = r = 1$ ,  $N = 2$  and  $\mathbf{k} = 10$ , the righthand side of (21) is 8.97346, and the inequality holds for  $\tau_0 = 1.169259$ . Hence the value of  $\Lambda(s, h)$  is nonzero for all  $s$  in the critical strip with  $|\operatorname{Im}(s)| \leq 1.169259$ .*

**Example 4.6.** Let  $h$  denote the unique normalized cusp form in  $S_8(3)$ . Then  $\Lambda(s, h)$  is nonzero for all  $s$  in the critical strip with  $|\operatorname{Im}(s)| \leq 1.119308$ .

**Example 4.7.** Let  $h$  denote the unique normalized cusp form in  $S_6(5)$ . Then the value of  $\Lambda(s, h)$  is nonzero for all  $s$  in the critical strip with  $|\operatorname{Im}(s)| \leq 0.852608$ .

**Example 4.8.** According to Stein's Modular Forms Database, there exists a Dirichlet character  $\chi \pmod{7}$  (unique up to Galois conjugacy) for which  $\dim S_5(7, \chi) = 1$ . If  $h$  is the normalized cusp form, then  $\Lambda(s, h)$  is nonzero for all  $s$  in the critical strip with  $|\operatorname{Im}(s)| \leq 0.501352$ .

**4.3. Approximation by partial sums.** In order to estimate the geometric side, we can truncate the last term (16). Let  $A, D$  be positive integers. Define the partial sum

$$S_{A,D} = \frac{\psi(N)(4\pi r \mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-1}}{N^s(\mathbf{k}-2)! e^{i\pi s/2}} \sum_{\substack{1 \leq a \leq A, 1 \leq d \leq D \\ \gcd(a, Nd) | \gcd(r, \mathbf{n})}} \left[ a^{s-\mathbf{k}} d^{-s} {}_1f_1\left(s; \mathbf{k}; \frac{2\pi i r \mathbf{n}}{Nd}\right) e^{-2\pi i r \ell_0/a} \right. \\ \left. + e^{i\pi s} a^{s-\mathbf{k}} d^{-s} {}_1f_1\left(s; \mathbf{k}; -\frac{2\pi i r \mathbf{n}}{Nd}\right) e^{2\pi i r \ell_0/a} \right] \frac{\gcd(a, Nd)}{\omega'(a)}$$

where as usual  $\ell_0 Nd \equiv \mathbf{n} \pmod{a}$ . The error is given by the tail of the series

$$\Delta_{A,D} = \frac{\psi(N)(4\pi r \mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-1}}{N^s(\mathbf{k}-2)! e^{i\pi s/2}} \sum_{\substack{a, d > 0 \\ a > A \text{ or } d > D \\ \gcd(a, Nd) | \gcd(r, \mathbf{n})}} \left[ a^{s-\mathbf{k}} d^{-s} {}_1f_1\left(s; \mathbf{k}; \frac{2\pi i r \mathbf{n}}{Nd}\right) e^{-2\pi i r \ell_0/a} \right. \\ \left. + e^{i\pi s} a^{s-\mathbf{k}} d^{-s} {}_1f_1\left(s; \mathbf{k}; -\frac{2\pi i r \mathbf{n}}{Nd}\right) e^{2\pi i r \ell_0/a} \right] \frac{\gcd(a, Nd)}{\omega'(a)}.$$

As in the proof of Prop. 4.2, we have the following bound for the error:

$$|\Delta_{A,D}| \leq \frac{\psi(N)(4\pi r \mathbf{n})^{\mathbf{k}-1} \gcd(r, \mathbf{n}) B(\sigma, \mathbf{k} - \sigma)}{N^\sigma (\mathbf{k} - 2)!} 2 \cosh(\pi\tau/2) \sum_{\substack{a > A \text{ or } d > D \\ \gcd(a, Nd) | \gcd(r, \mathbf{n})}} a^{-(\mathbf{k}-\sigma)} d^{-\sigma}.$$

We can estimate the error using the following easy lemma.

**Lemma 4.9.** For  $s = \sigma + i\tau$ ,

$$\sum_{\substack{a > A \text{ or } d > D \\ \gcd(a, Nd) | \gcd(r, \mathbf{n})}} a^{-(\mathbf{k}-\sigma)} d^{-\sigma} \leq \zeta(\mathbf{k} - \sigma) \zeta(\sigma) - \sum_{a=1}^A a^{-(\mathbf{k}-\sigma)} \sum_{d=1}^D d^{-\sigma}.$$

**4.4. Computing the  $\tau$ -function.** As a simple example, consider Ramanujan's  $\Delta(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \tau(n) e^{2\pi i n z} \in S_{12}(1)$ . Writing

$$(22) \quad \tau(r) = \frac{\tau(r) \Lambda(6, \Delta) / \|\Delta\|^2}{\tau(1) \Lambda(6, \Delta) / \|\Delta\|^2},$$

we can use the geometric side of Theorem 1.1 to compute the top and bottom. Taking  $\mathbf{n} = 1$ , let  $F(r)$  denote the sum of the first two terms of the formula for  $\frac{\tau(r) \Lambda(6, \Delta)}{\|\Delta\|^2}$ . We find that

$$F(r) = \frac{2^{12} (2\pi r)^5 5!}{10!}.$$

Let  $S_A(r)$  denote the  $A^{\text{th}}$  partial sum (taking  $A = D$  above) of the last term of the formula. Then  $\frac{\tau(r)\Lambda(6,\Delta)}{\|\Delta\|^2} \approx F(r) + S_A(r)$  with an error of

$$(23) \quad \leq \frac{2(4\pi r)^{11}B(6,6)}{10!} \left[ \zeta(6)^2 - \left( \sum_{a=1}^A \frac{1}{a^6} \right)^2 \right]$$

by Lemma 4.9.

As an illustration, we will compute  $\tau(2)$ . To estimate the denominator of (22), take  $r = 1$  and  $A = 1$ . This gives

$$\frac{\Lambda(6,\Delta)}{\|\Delta\|^2} \approx \frac{2^{12}(2\pi)^5 5!}{10!} - \frac{(4\pi)^{11}}{10!} \left[ {}_1f_1(6; 12; 2\pi i) + {}_1f_1(6; 12; -2\pi i) \right] = 1492.55$$

with an error of  $\leq 8.584$ . So the exact value is in the interval  $[1483, 1502]$ .

For  $r = 2$  we need to use  $A = 3$  to get a reasonable approximation. We get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\tau(2)\Lambda(6,\Delta)}{\|\Delta\|^2} &\approx \frac{2^{12}(4\pi)^5 5!}{10!} - \frac{(8\pi)^{11}}{10!} \sum_{\substack{a,d \in \{1,2,3\} \\ \gcd(a,d)=1}} (ad)^{-6} \left[ {}_1f_1(6; 12; \frac{4\pi i}{ad})e^{-2\pi i r \ell_0/a} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + {}_1f_1(6; 12; -\frac{4\pi i}{ad})e^{2\pi i r \ell_0/a} \right] \\ &= -35769.72. \end{aligned}$$

By (23) the error here is

$$\leq \frac{2(8\pi)^{11}B(6,6)}{(10)!} \left( \zeta(6)^2 - \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2^6} + \frac{1}{3^6} \right)^2 \right) = 354.008.$$

Thus the exact value is in the interval  $[-36124, -35415]$ .

Taking the quotient of the estimates, we find that

$$\frac{-36124}{1483} \leq \tau(2) \leq \frac{-35415}{1502},$$

i.e.

$$-24.359 \leq \tau(2) \leq -23.578.$$

Because  $\tau(2)$  is an integer, it must equal  $-24$ .

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