

# Irregularities of point distribution relative to half-planes I

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## 1. Introduction

Suppose that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a distribution of  $N$  points in  $U_0$ , the closed disc of unit area and centred at the origin  $\mathbf{0}$ . For every measurable set  $B$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , let  $Z[\mathcal{P}; B]$  denote the number of points of  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $B$ , and write

$$D[\mathcal{P}; B] = Z[\mathcal{P}; B] - N\mu(B \cap U_0),$$

where  $\mu$  denotes the usual measure in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

For every real number  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  and every angle  $\theta$  satisfying  $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ , let  $S(r, \theta)$  denote the closed half-plane

$$S(r, \theta) = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{e}(\theta) \geq r\}.$$

Here  $\mathbf{e}(\theta) = (\cos \theta, \sin \theta)$  and  $\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}$  denotes the scalar product of  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$ .

Roth asked the question (see Schmidt [7], pages 124–125) of whether

$$\inf_{|\mathcal{P}|=N} \sup_{\substack{0 \leq r \leq \pi^{-1/2} \\ 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi}} |D[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| \rightarrow +\infty$$

as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ . Here the supremum is taken over all disc-segments in  $U_0$ , and the infimum is taken over all distributions  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $N$  points in  $U_0$ .

This question was answered in the affirmative by Beck [2], who proved in 1983 that

$$\inf_{|\mathcal{P}|=N} \sup_{\substack{0 \leq r \leq \pi^{-1/2} \\ 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi}} |D[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| \gg N^{1/4}(\log N)^{-7/2}.$$

Recently, Alexander [1] improved this to

$$\inf_{|\mathcal{P}|=N} \sup_{\substack{0 \leq r \leq \pi^{-1/2} \\ 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi}} |D[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| \gg N^{1/4}.$$

Beck and Alexander basically studied the  $L^2$ -norm of the discrepancy function  $D[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]$ . The following result can be proved.

**Theorem A.** For every distribution  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $N$  points in  $U_0$ , we have

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi^{-1/2}} |D[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]|^2 dr d\theta \gg N^{1/2}.$$

This is complemented by the result below, which can be proved using probabilistic methods.

**Theorem B.** For every natural number  $N$ , there exists a distribution  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $N$  points in  $U_0$  such that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi^{-1/2}} |D[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]|^2 dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2}.$$

The purpose of this paper is to study the  $L^1$ -norm of the discrepancy function  $D[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]$ . We shall prove, in particular, the following rather surprising result.

**Theorem.** For every natural number  $N \geq 2$ , there exists a distribution  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $N$  points in  $U_0$  such that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi^{-1/2}} |D[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll (\log N)^2.$$

Our work in this paper is in fact motivated by the case when  $U_0$  is a square and not a disc, and only for very special values of  $N$ . In developing the method to prove the theorem above, we realized that it is possible to study the problem in far greater generality.

Let  $U$  be a convex set in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  of unit area, and with centre of gravity at the origin  $\mathbf{0}$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{P}$  is a distribution of  $N$  points in  $U$ . For every measurable set  $B$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , let  $Z[\mathcal{P}; B]$  denote the number of points of  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $B$ , and write

$$D[\mathcal{P}; B] = Z[\mathcal{P}; B] - N\mu(B \cap U).$$

For any  $\theta$  satisfying  $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$ , let

$$R(\theta) = \sup\{r \geq 0 : S(r, \theta) \cap U \neq \emptyset\}.$$

We shall in fact prove

**Main Theorem.** For every natural number  $N \geq 2$ , there exists a distribution  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $N$  points in  $U$  such that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{R(\theta)} |D[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll_U (\log N)^2.$$

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## 2. A special case: $U$ is a square

We first of all consider the case when  $U$  is the square  $[-1/2, 1/2]^2$ , and show that for every natural number  $N$ , there exists a set  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $4N^2 + 4N + 1$  points in  $U$  such that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{R(\theta)} |D[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll (\log N)^2.$$

For ease of notation, we consider the following renormalized version of the problem. Let  $V$  be the square  $[-N - 1/2, N + 1/2]^2$ . For every finite distribution  $\mathcal{P}$  of points in  $V$  and every measurable set  $B$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , let  $Z[\mathcal{P}; B]$  denote the number of points of  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $B$ , and write

$$E[\mathcal{P}; B] = Z[\mathcal{P}; B] - \mu(B \cap V).$$

We shall show that the set

$$\mathcal{P} = \{-N, -N + 1, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, N - 1, N\}^2$$

of  $4N^2 + 4N + 1$  integer lattice points in  $V$  satisfies

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll N(\log N)^2, \quad (1)$$

where, for every  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$ , we have  $M(\theta) = (2N + 1)R(\theta)$ .

The line

$$T(r, \theta) = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{e}(\theta) = r\}$$

is the boundary of the half-plane  $S(r, \theta)$ , and can be rewritten in the form

$$x_1 \cos \theta + x_2 \sin \theta = r,$$

where  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .

Suppose that  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$ . Clearly  $M(\theta) = (N + 1/2)(\cos \theta + \sin \theta)$ . We distinguish two cases.

Case 1:  $0 \leq r \leq (N + 1/2)(\cos \theta - \sin \theta)$ . It is not difficult to see that  $T(r, \theta)$  intersects the edges  $\{(x_1, N + 1/2) : |x_1| \leq N + 1/2\}$  and  $\{(x_1, -N - 1/2) : |x_1| \leq N + 1/2\}$  of  $V$ , i.e., the “top” and “bottom” edges of  $V$ . Then

$$S(r, \theta) \cap V = \bigcup_{n=-N}^N S(n, V, r, \theta),$$

where, for every  $n = -N, \dots, 0, \dots, N$ ,

$$S(n, V, r, \theta) = S(r, \theta) \cap V \cap (\mathbb{R} \times [n - 1/2, n + 1/2]).$$

Clearly

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)] = \sum_{n=-N}^N E[\mathcal{P}; S(n, V, r, \theta)].$$

Now, for every  $n = -N, \dots, 0, \dots, N$ , we have

$$Z[\mathcal{P}; S(n, V, r, \theta)] = [N + n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta + 1]$$

and

$$\mu(S(n, V, r, \theta)) = N + n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta + 1/2,$$

so that

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S(n, V, r, \theta)] = -\psi(n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta),$$

where  $\psi(z) = z - [z] - 1/2$  for every  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ . Hence

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)] = - \sum_{n=-N}^N \psi(n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta).$$

Case 2:  $(N + 1/2)(\cos \theta - \sin \theta) \leq r \leq (N + 1/2)(\cos \theta + \sin \theta)$ . It is not difficult to see that  $T(r, \theta)$  intersects the edges  $\{(x_1, N + 1/2) : |x_1| \leq N + 1/2\}$  and  $\{(N + 1/2, x_2) : |x_2| \leq N + 1/2\}$  of  $V$ , i.e., the “top” and “right” edges of  $V$ . Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} T(r, \theta) \cap \{(N + 1/2, x_2) : |x_2| \leq N + 1/2\} \\ = \{(N + 1/2, -(N + 1/2) \cot \theta + r \operatorname{cosec} \theta)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $S(n, V, r, \theta) = \emptyset$  if  $n < -(N + 1/2) \cot \theta + r \operatorname{cosec} \theta - 1/2$ . On the other hand, it is trivial that  $E[\mathcal{P}; S(n, V, r, \theta)] = O(1)$  always. It follows that

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)] = - \sum_{\substack{n=-N \\ (*)}}^N \psi(n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta) + O(1),$$

where the summation is under the further restriction

$$n \geq -(N + 1/2) \cot \theta + r \operatorname{cosec} \theta. \quad (*)$$

Note that in Case 1, the restriction  $(*)$  would become superfluous since it is weaker than the requirement  $n \geq -N$ . It follows that for all  $r \geq 0$ , we have

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)] - G[\mathcal{P}; r, \theta] \ll 1,$$

where

$$G[\mathcal{P}; r, \theta] = - \sum_{\substack{n=-N \\ (*)}}^N \psi(n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta).$$

The function  $\psi(z) = z - [z] - 1/2$  has the Fourier expansion

$$- \sum_{\nu \neq 0} \frac{e(z\nu)}{2\pi i \nu},$$

so that  $-\psi(n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta)$  has the Fourier expansion

$$\sum_{\nu \neq 0} \frac{e(-r\nu \sec \theta)}{2\pi i \nu} e(n\nu \tan \theta).$$

It follows that the Fourier expansion of  $G[\mathcal{P}; r, \theta]$  is given by

$$\sum_{\nu \neq 0} \frac{e(-r\nu \sec \theta)}{2\pi i \nu} \sum_{\substack{n=-N \\ (*)}}^N e(n\nu \tan \theta).$$

However, the restriction  $(*)$  prevents us from applying Parseval's theorem.

To overcome this difficulty, we introduce the following idea which is motivated by Roth's variation of Davenport's method (see Roth [6] and §3.1 of Beck and Chen [3]).

Let  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2) \in [-1/2, 1/2]^2$ . For every  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$  and every  $r \geq 1$ , let

$$T(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = T(r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta, \theta) \quad (2)$$

and

$$S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = S(r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta, \theta) \quad (3)$$

(note here that  $r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta \geq 0$  always). Then

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] = E[\mathcal{P}; S(r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta, \theta)].$$

It is not difficult to see that if we write

$$G[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta] = - \sum_{\substack{n=-N \\ (*)}}^N \psi(n \tan \theta - (r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta) \sec \theta),$$

then

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] - G[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta] \ll \begin{cases} \cot \theta & (M(\theta) - (2N + 1) \sin \theta - 1 \leq r \leq M(\theta)), \\ 1 & (\text{otherwise}), \\ N & (\text{trivially}), \end{cases}$$

so that

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_1^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] - G[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]| dr d\theta \ll N \quad (4)$$

(note that  $|y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta| \leq 1$ , so that if  $r \leq M(\theta) - (2N+1) \sin \theta - 1$ , then  $T(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  intersects the top and bottom edges of  $V$ ).

Now  $G[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]$  has the Fourier expansion

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\nu \neq 0} \frac{e(-(r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta)\nu \sec \theta)}{2\pi i \nu} \sum_{\substack{n=-N \\ (*)}}^N e(n\nu \tan \theta) \\ &= \sum_{\nu \neq 0} \frac{e(-r\nu \sec \theta)}{2\pi i \nu} \sum_{\substack{n=-N \\ (*)}}^N e((n - y_2)\nu \tan \theta) e(-y_1 \nu). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that for every  $y_2 \in [-1/2, 1/2]$ , we have, by Parseval's theorem, that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} |G[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]|^2 dy_1 &\ll \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\nu^2} \left| \sum_{\substack{n=-N \\ (*)}}^N e((n - y_2)\nu \tan \theta) \right|^2 \\ &= \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\nu^2} \left| \sum_{\substack{n=-N \\ (*)}}^N e(n\nu \tan \theta) \right|^2, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} |G[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]|^2 dy_1 dy_2 &\ll \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\nu^2} \left| \sum_{\substack{n=-N \\ (*)}}^N e(n\nu \tan \theta) \right|^2 \\ &\ll \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\nu^2} \min\{N^2, \|\nu \tan \theta\|^{-2}\}, \quad (5) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\|\beta\| = \min_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} |\beta - n|$  for every  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ .

We need the following crucial estimate.

**Lemma 1.** *We have*

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \left( \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\nu^2} \min\{N^2, \|\nu \tan \theta\|^{-2}\} \right)^{1/2} d\theta \ll (\log N)^2.$$

*Proof.* Since  $\tan \theta \asymp \theta$  if  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$ , it suffices to show that

$$\int_0^1 \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \min\{N^2, \|n\omega\|^{-2}\} \right)^{1/2} d\omega \ll (\log N)^2. \quad (6)$$

Clearly

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \min\{N^2, \|n\omega\|^{-2}\} \leq \sum_{n=1}^{N^2} \frac{1}{n^2} \min\{N^2, \|n\omega\|^{-2}\} + 1,$$

so that

$$\left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \min\{N^2, \|n\omega\|^{-2}\} \right)^{1/2} \leq \sum_{n=1}^{N^2} \frac{1}{n} \min\{N, \|n\omega\|^{-1}\} + 1. \quad (7)$$

Now, for every  $n = 1, \dots, N^2$ , we have

$$\int_0^1 \min\{N, \|n\omega\|^{-1}\} d\omega = 2n \int_0^{1/2n} \min\{N, (n\omega)^{-1}\} d\omega \ll \log N. \quad (8)$$

Inequality (6) now follows on combining (7) and (8). ♣

By the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} |G[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]| dy_1 dy_2 \\ & \ll \left( \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} |G[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]|^2 dy_1 dy_2 \right)^{1/2}. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

It follows from (4), (5), (9) and Lemma 1 that

$$\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_1^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)]| dr d\theta dy_1 dy_2 \ll N(\log N)^2. \quad (10)$$

Note now that for every  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$ , every  $r \geq 1$  and every  $\mathbf{y} \in [-1/2, 1/2]^2$ , we have, writing  $s = r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta$ , that  $|r - s| < 1$ . It follows that since  $S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = S(r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta, \theta)$ , where  $r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta \geq 0$ , we must have

$$\int_2^{M(\theta)-1} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr \leq \int_1^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)]| dr. \quad (11)$$

On the other hand,

$$\left( \int_0^2 + \int_{M(\theta)-1}^{M(\theta)} \right) |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr \ll N. \quad (12)$$

It now follows from (10)–(12) that

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll N(\log N)^2.$$

Similarly, for  $j = 1, \dots, 7$ , we have

$$\int_{j\pi/4}^{(j+1)\pi/4} \int_0^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll N(\log N)^2.$$

Inequality (1) now follows.

### 3. A special case: $U$ is a circular disc

Next, we consider the case when  $U$  is the closed disc of unit area and centred at the origin  $\mathbf{0}$ .

Let  $N$  be any given natural number. Again we consider a renormalized version of the problem, and take  $V$  to be the closed disc of area  $N$  and centred at the origin  $\mathbf{0}$ . However, if we simply attempt to take all the integer lattice points in  $V$  as our set  $\mathcal{P}$ , then the number of points of  $\mathcal{P}$  can differ from  $N$  by an amount sufficiently large to make our task impossible (see Hardy [4] and pp. 183–308 of Landau [5]).

Our new idea is to introduce a set  $\mathcal{P}$  such that the majority of points of  $\mathcal{P}$  are integer lattice points in  $V$ , and that the remaining points give rise to a one-dimensional discrepancy along and near the boundary of  $V$ . More precisely, for any  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ , let

$$A(\mathbf{x}) = A(x_1, x_2) = [x_1 - 1/2, x_1 + 1/2] \times [x_2 - 1/2, x_2 + 1/2]; \quad (13)$$

in other words,  $A(\mathbf{x})$  is the aligned closed square of unit area and centred at  $\mathbf{x}$ . Let

$$\mathcal{P}_1 = \{\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{Z}^2 : A(\mathbf{p}) \subseteq V\}, \quad (14)$$

and write

$$V_1 = \bigcup_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}_1} A(\mathbf{p}). \quad (15)$$

Note that the points of  $\mathcal{P}_1$  form the majority of any point set  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $N$  points in  $V$ . For the remaining points, let

$$V_2 = V \setminus V_1. \quad (16)$$

Then it is easy to see, writing  $\pi M^2 = N$ , that

$$\mu(V_2) \in \mathbb{N} \quad \text{and} \quad \mu(V_2) \ll M.$$

We partition  $V_2$  as follows. Write

$$L = \mu(V_2), \quad (17)$$



and let

$$0 = \theta_0 < \theta_1 < \dots < \theta_{L-1} < \theta_L = 1 \quad (18)$$

such that for every  $j = 1, \dots, L$ , the set

$$R_j = \{\mathbf{x} \in V_2 : 2\pi\theta_{j-1} \leq \arg \mathbf{x} < 2\pi\theta_j\} \quad (19)$$

satisfies

$$\mu(R_j) = 1. \quad (20)$$

For every  $j = 1, \dots, L$ , let

$$\mathbf{p}_j \in R_j, \quad (21)$$

and write

$$\mathcal{P}_2 = \{\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_L\}. \quad (22)$$

If we now take

$$\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_1 \cup \mathcal{P}_2, \quad (23)$$

then clearly  $\mathcal{P}$  contains exactly  $N$  points.

For every measurable set  $B$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , let  $Z[\mathcal{P}; B]$  denote the number of points of  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $B$ , and write

$$E[\mathcal{P}; B] = Z[\mathcal{P}; B] - \mu(B \cap V).$$

Clearly, for every  $j = 1, \dots, L$ , we have

$$E[\mathcal{P}; R_j] = 0. \quad (24)$$

We shall show that the set  $\mathcal{P}$  satisfies

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^M |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll M(\log N)^2. \quad (25)$$

Again, suppose that  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$ .

As before, the line  $T(r, \theta)$  is given by  $x_1 \cos \theta + x_2 \sin \theta = r$ , where  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . Furthermore,  $T(r, \theta)$  intersects the boundary of  $V$  at the points

$$(r \cos \theta + (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \sin \theta, r \sin \theta - (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta) \quad (26)$$

and

$$(r \cos \theta - (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \sin \theta, r \sin \theta + (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta). \quad (27)$$

Let  $T^{(1)}(r, \theta)$  denote the line segment joining the point  $(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta)$  and (26), and let  $T^{(2)}(r, \theta)$  denote the line segment joining the point  $(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta)$  and (27).

Suppose first of all that  $0 \leq r \leq M - 4$ . Let

$$M^{(1)}(r, \theta) = \max\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{there exists } m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } A(m, n) \cap V_2 \neq \emptyset \\ \text{and } A(m, n) \cap T^{(1)}(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset\}$$

and

$$M^{(2)}(r, \theta) = \min\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{there exists } m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } A(m, n) \cap V_2 \neq \emptyset \\ \text{and } A(m, n) \cap T^{(2)}(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset\},$$

and let

$$I(r, \theta) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : M^{(1)}(r, \theta) < n < M^{(2)}(r, \theta)\}.$$

We can now write  $S(r, \theta) \cap V$  as a union of subsets as follows. Let

$$S_0(r, \theta) = \bigcup_{\substack{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \\ A(\mathbf{x}) \subseteq S(r, \theta) \cap V_1}} A(\mathbf{x}). \quad (28)$$

Also, let

$$S_1(r, \theta) = S(r, \theta) \cap \left( \bigcup_{n \in I(r, \theta)} \bigcup_{\substack{m \in \mathbb{Z} \\ A(m, n) \cap S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset \\ A(m, n) \setminus S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset}} A(m, n) \right) \quad (29)$$

(note here that the three conditions  $n \in I(r, \theta)$ ,  $A(m, n) \cap S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset$  and  $A(m, n) \setminus S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset$  imply that we must have  $A(m, n) \subseteq V_1$ ) and

$$S_2(r, \theta) = \bigcup_{\substack{j=1 \\ R_j \subseteq S(r, \theta)}}^L R_j. \quad (30)$$

The remainder of  $S(r, \theta)$  consists of

$$W_1^{(1)}(r, \theta) = S(r, \theta) \cap V \cap \left( \bigcup_{n \leq M^{(1)}(r, \theta)} \bigcup_{\substack{m \in \mathbb{Z} \\ A(m, n) \subseteq V_1 \\ A(m, n) \cap S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset \\ A(m, n) \setminus S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset}} A(m, n) \right) \quad (31)$$

and

$$W_1^{(2)}(r, \theta) = S(r, \theta) \cap V \cap \left( \bigcup_{n \geq M^{(2)}(r, \theta)} \bigcup_{\substack{m \in \mathbb{Z} \\ A(m, n) \subseteq V_1 \\ A(m, n) \cap S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset \\ A(m, n) \setminus S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset}} A(m, n) \right), \quad (32)$$

as well as

$$W_2^{(1)}(r, \theta) = S(r, \theta) \cap \left( \bigcup_{\substack{j=1 \\ R_j \cap T^{(1)}(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset \\ R_j \setminus S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset}}^L R_j \right) \quad (33)$$

and

$$W_2^{(2)}(r, \theta) = S(r, \theta) \cap \left( \bigcup_{\substack{j=1 \\ R_j \cap T^{(2)}(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset \\ R_j \setminus S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset}}^L R_j \right). \quad (34)$$

It is not difficult to see that since  $0 \leq r \leq M - 4$ , we have

$$S(r, \theta) \cap V = \left( \bigcup_{j=0}^2 S_j(r, \theta) \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{j=1}^2 \bigcup_{k=1}^2 W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta) \right).$$

Also, each pair  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  of the seven sets on the right-hand side satisfy  $\mu(B_1 \cap B_2) = 0$  and  $B_1 \cap B_2 \cap \mathcal{P} = \emptyset$ . It follows that

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)] = \sum_{j=0}^2 E[\mathcal{P}; S_j(r, \theta)] + \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{k=1}^2 E[\mathcal{P}; W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta)]. \quad (35)$$

We shall estimate each of the terms on the right-hand side when  $0 \leq r \leq M - 4$ .

Clearly

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_0(r, \theta)] = 0, \quad (36)$$

as for each square  $A(\mathbf{x})$  in  $S_0(r, \theta)$ , we have  $Z[\mathcal{P}; A(\mathbf{x})] = \mu(A(\mathbf{x})) = 1$ . Similarly

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_2(r, \theta)] = 0 \quad (37)$$

in view of (24).

As before, let  $\psi(z) = z - [z] - 1/2$  for every  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Lemma 2.** *Suppose that  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$  and  $0 \leq r \leq M - 4$ . Then*

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)] = - \sum_{n \in I(r, \theta)} \psi(n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta). \quad (38)$$

*Proof.* For each  $n \in I(r, \theta)$ , let

$$S_1(n, r, \theta) = S(r, \theta) \cap \left( \bigcup_{\substack{m \in \mathbb{Z} \\ A(m, n) \cap S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset \\ A(m, n) \setminus S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset}} A(m, n) \right).$$

Then

$$S_1(r, \theta) = \bigcup_{n \in I(r, \theta)} S_1(n, r, \theta).$$

Clearly

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)] = \sum_{n \in I(r, \theta)} E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(n, r, \theta)]. \quad (39)$$

Now let  $n \in I(r, \theta)$ . Then there exists a greatest  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $A(m, n) \cap S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset$  and  $A(m, n) \setminus S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset$ . It is not difficult to see that

$$Z[\mathcal{P}; S_1(n, r, \theta)] = [m + n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta + 1]$$

and

$$\mu(S_1(n, r, \theta)) = m + n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta + 1/2.$$

It follows that

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(n, r, \theta)] = -\psi(n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta). \quad (40)$$

Clearly (38) follows on combining (39) and (40). ♣

Again, if we work out the Fourier expansion of the term  $E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)]$ , then the summation restriction  $n \in I(r, \theta)$  prevents us from applying Parseval's theorem. As before, let  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2) \in [-1/2, 1/2]^2$ . For every  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$  and every  $r \geq 1$ , define  $T(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  and  $S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  as in (2) and (3). Note that  $T(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  intersects the boundary of  $V$  at the points

$$(s \cos \theta + (M^2 - s^2)^{1/2} \sin \theta, s \sin \theta - (M^2 - s^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta) \quad (41)$$

and

$$(s \cos \theta - (M^2 - s^2)^{1/2} \sin \theta, s \sin \theta + (M^2 - s^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta), \quad (42)$$

where  $s = s(\mathbf{y}) = r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta$ . Let  $T^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  denote the line segment joining the points  $(s \cos \theta, s \sin \theta)$  and (41), and let  $T^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  denote the line segment joining the points  $(s \cos \theta, s \sin \theta)$  and (42). For  $1 \leq r \leq M - 4$ , let

$$M^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = \max\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{there exists } m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } A(m, n) \cap V_2 \neq \emptyset \\ \text{and } A(m, n) \cap T^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \neq \emptyset\}$$

and

$$M^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = \min\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{there exists } m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } A(m, n) \cap V_2 \neq \emptyset \\ \text{and } A(m, n) \cap T^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \neq \emptyset\},$$

and let

$$I(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : M^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) < n < M^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)\}.$$

Now let

$$S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \cap \left( \bigcup_{n \in I(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)} \bigcup_{\substack{m \in \mathbb{Z} \\ A(m, n) \cap S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \neq \emptyset \\ A(m, n) \setminus S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \neq \emptyset}} A(m, n) \right).$$

Then clearly

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] = - \sum_{n \in I(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)} \psi(n \tan \theta - (r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta) \sec \theta).$$

We shall approximate  $E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)]$  by

$$G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta] = - \sum_{n \in I(r, \theta)} \psi(n \tan \theta - (r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta) \sec \theta).$$

**Lemma 3.** For every  $\mathbf{y} \in [-1/2, 1/2]^2$ , we have

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_1^{M-4} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] - G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]| dr d\theta \ll M.$$

The proof of Lemma 3 will be given later, as the ideas are similar to those for studying the terms  $E[\mathcal{P}; W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta)]$ .

Now  $G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]$  has the Fourier expansion

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\nu \neq 0} \frac{e(-(r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta)\nu \sec \theta)}{2\pi i \nu} \sum_{n \in I(r, \theta)} e(n\nu \tan \theta) \\ &= \sum_{\nu \neq 0} \frac{e(-r\nu \sec \theta)}{2\pi i \nu} \sum_{n \in I(r, \theta)} e((n - y_2)\nu \tan \theta) e(-y_1 \nu). \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

It follows that for every  $y_2 \in [-1/2, 1/2]$ , we have, by Parseval's theorem, that

$$\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} |G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]|^2 dy_1 \ll \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\nu^2} \left| \sum_{n \in I(r, \theta)} e(n\nu \tan \theta) \right|^2.$$

It follows that

$$\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} |G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]|^2 dy_1 dy_2 \ll \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\nu^2} \min\{M^2, \|\nu \tan \theta\|^{-2}\},$$

so that by the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality,

$$\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} |G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]| dy_1 dy_2 \ll \left( \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\nu^2} \min\{M^2, \|\nu \tan \theta\|^{-2}\} \right)^{1/2}. \quad (44)$$

To study the terms  $E[\mathcal{P}; W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta)]$ , we have

**Lemma 4.** For  $j, k \in \{1, 2\}$ , we have

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M-4} |E[\mathcal{P}; W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll M.$$

Suppose that  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$  and  $0 \leq r \leq M - 4$ . Let

$$I^{(1)}(r, \theta) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : r \sin \theta - (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta \leq n \leq M^{(1)}(r, \theta)\}$$

and

$$I^{(2)}(r, \theta) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : M^{(2)}(r, \theta) \leq n \leq r \sin \theta + (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta\}.$$

Note that  $r \sin \theta \pm (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta$  are the second coordinates of the two points of intersection of  $T(r, \theta)$  and the boundary of  $V$ , and that

$$\begin{aligned} & I(r, \theta) \cup I^{(1)}(r, \theta) \cup I^{(2)}(r, \theta) \\ &= \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : r \sin \theta - (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta \leq n \leq r \sin \theta + (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta\}. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, the three sets on the left-hand side are pairwise disjoint.

If  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$  and  $0 \leq r \leq M - 4$ , it is not difficult to see that for every  $j, k \in \{1, 2\}$ , we have

$$|E[\mathcal{P}; W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta)]| \ll \text{card} \left( I^{(k)}(r, \theta) \right).$$

Lemma 4 will follow if we can prove

**Lemma 5.** For  $j, k \in \{1, 2\}$ , we have

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M-4} \text{card} \left( I^{(k)}(r, \theta) \right) dr d\theta \ll M.$$

To prove Lemma 3, note that if  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq M - 4$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in [-1/2, 1/2]^2$ , we have

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] - G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta] \ll \min\{M, \text{card}(I(r, \theta) \Delta I(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta))\}, \quad (45)$$

where  $B_1 \Delta B_2$  denotes the symmetric difference between the sets  $B_1$  and  $B_2$ . Clearly  $I(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = I(s, \theta)$ , where  $s = r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta \geq 0$ . In this case,

$$I(r, \theta) \Delta I(s, \theta) \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^2 \left( I^{(k)}(r, \theta) \cup I^{(k)}(s, \theta) \right). \quad (46)$$

Note now that  $|r - s| < 1$ , so it follows from (45), (46) and Lemma 5 that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_2^{M-5} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] - G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]| dr d\theta \\ & \ll \sum_{k=1}^2 \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_1^{M-4} \text{card} \left( I^{(k)}(r, \theta) \right) dr d\theta \ll M. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 3 now follows on combining this and the simple observation that

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \left( \int_1^2 + \int_{M-5}^{M-4} \right) |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] - G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]| dr d\theta \ll M.$$

*Proof of Lemma 5.* Note that  $T^{(1)}(r, \theta)$  intersects  $\partial V$ , the boundary of  $V$ , at the point (26). Clearly  $n + 1 \notin I^{(1)}(r, \theta)$  if the distance between the points

$$(-n \tan \theta + r \sec \theta, n) \in T^{(1)}(r, \theta) \quad \text{and} \quad \left( (M^2 - n^2)^{1/2}, n \right) \in \partial V$$

exceeds 1. It follows that

$$\text{card} \left( I^{(1)}(r, \theta) \right) \ll 1 + v - r \sin \theta + (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta, \quad (47)$$

where

$$(M^2 - v^2)^{1/2} + v \tan \theta - r \sec \theta = 1 \quad (48)$$

and  $v < r \sin \theta$ . Elementary calculation gives

$$v = \sin \theta \cos \theta + r \sin \theta - (M^2 - (r + \cos \theta)^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta, \quad (49)$$

so that, combining (47) and (49), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{card} \left( I^{(1)}(r, \theta) \right) \\ & \ll 1 + \sin \theta \cos \theta + (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta - (M^2 - (r + \cos \theta)^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta \\ & \ll 1 + \frac{r}{(M^2 - r^2)^{1/2}} \end{aligned}$$

since  $r \leq M - 4$ . Clearly

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M-4} \text{card} \left( I^{(1)}(r, \theta) \right) dr d\theta \ll M.$$

On the other hand,  $T^{(2)}(r, \theta)$  intersects  $\partial V$  at the point (27). Suppose first of all that  $r \geq M \sin \theta$ , so that  $r \cos \theta - (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \sin \theta \geq 0$ . Then  $n - 1 \notin I^{(2)}(r, \theta)$  if the distance between the points

$$(-n \tan \theta + r \sec \theta, n) \in T^{(2)}(r, \theta) \quad \text{and} \quad \left( (M^2 - n^2)^{1/2}, n \right) \in \partial V \quad (50)$$

exceeds 1. It follows that if  $r \geq M \sin \theta$ , then

$$\text{card} \left( I^{(2)}(r, \theta) \right) \ll 1 + r \sin \theta + (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta - v, \quad (51)$$

where  $v$  satisfies (48) and

$$v > r \sin \theta. \quad (52)$$

Elementary calculation gives

$$v = \sin \theta \cos \theta + r \sin \theta + (M^2 - (r + \cos \theta)^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta, \quad (53)$$

so that, combining (51) and (53), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{card} \left( I^{(2)}(r, \theta) \right) \\ & \ll 1 - \sin \theta \cos \theta + (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta - (M^2 - (r + \cos \theta)^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta \\ & \ll 1 + \frac{r}{(M^2 - r^2)^{1/2}} \end{aligned}$$

since  $r \leq M - 4$ . Suppose now that  $r < M \sin \theta$ , so that  $r \cos \theta - (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \sin \theta < 0$ . Then  $n - 1 \notin I^{(2)}(r, \theta)$  if the distance between the points (50) and the distance between the points

$$(-n \tan \theta + r \sec \theta, n) \in T^{(2)}(r, \theta) \quad \text{and} \quad \left( -(M^2 - n^2)^{1/2}, n \right) \in \partial V$$

exceeds 1. It follows that (51) must hold both when  $v$  satisfies (48) and (52) and when  $v$  satisfies

$$(M^2 - v^2)^{1/2} - v \tan \theta + r \sec \theta = 1$$

and (52). Clearly we only need to investigate the latter case. Elementary calculation gives

$$v = r \sin \theta - \sin \theta \cos \theta + (M^2 - (r - \cos \theta)^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta, \quad (54)$$



so that, combining (51) and (54), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{card} \left( I^{(2)}(r, \theta) \right) & \ll 1 + \sin \theta \cos \theta + (M^2 - r^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta - (M^2 - (r - \cos \theta)^2)^{1/2} \cos \theta \\ & \ll 1 + \frac{r}{(M^2 - r^2)^{1/2}} \end{aligned}$$

since  $r \leq M - 4$ . Clearly

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M-4} \text{card} \left( I^{(2)}(r, \theta) \right) dr d\theta \ll M. \clubsuit$$

It now follows from (35)–(37) and Lemma 4 that

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M-4} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll M + \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M-4} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta. \quad (55)$$

On the other hand, it is easy to see that if  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$  and  $M - 4 \leq r \leq M$ , we have

$$Z[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)] = Z[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta) \cap V_1] + Z[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta) \cap V_2] \ll M + L \ll M$$

and  $\mu(S(r, \theta) \cap V) \ll M$ , so that  $E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)] \ll M$ , whence

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_{M-4}^M |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll M. \quad (56)$$

Combining (55) and (56), we have

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^M |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll M + \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M-4} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta. \quad (57)$$

Combining Lemma 1, (44) and Lemma 3, we have

$$\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_1^{M-4} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)]| dr d\theta dy_1 dy_2 \ll M(\log N)^2. \quad (58)$$

Note again that for every  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$ , every  $r \geq 1$  and every  $\mathbf{y} \in [-1/2, 1/2]^2$ , we have, writing  $s = r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta$ , that  $|r - s| < 1$ . It follows that since  $S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = S_1(r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta, \theta)$ , where  $r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta \geq 0$ , we must have

$$\int_2^{M-5} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)]| dr \leq \int_1^{M-4} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)]| dr. \quad (59)$$

On the other hand,  $|E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)]| \ll M$  always, so that

$$\left( \int_0^2 + \int_{M-5}^{M-4} \right) |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)]| dr \ll M. \quad (60)$$

It now follows from (58)–(60) that

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M-4} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll M(\log N)^2. \quad (61)$$

Combining (57) and (61), we have

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^M |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll M(\log N)^2.$$

Similarly, for  $j = 1, \dots, 7$ , we have

$$\int_{j\pi/4}^{(j+1)\pi/4} \int_0^M |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll M(\log N)^2.$$

Inequality (25) now follows.

#### 4. Proof of the Main Theorem

Finally, we consider the problem in general, where  $U$  is a closed convex set in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and with centre of gravity at  $\mathbf{0}$ .

Let  $N$  be any given natural number. As in the special cases considered earlier, we let  $V = \{N^{1/2}\mathbf{x} : \mathbf{x} \in U\}$ , so that  $\mu(V) = N$ . Our approach is similar to that when  $V$  is a circular disc. Indeed, we define  $\mathcal{P}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_2$ ,  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$ ,  $L$  and  $R_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, L$ ) in terms of  $V$  by (13)–(23), and note that

$$\mu(V_2) \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{and} \quad \mu(V_2) \ll N^{1/2}.$$

For every measurable set  $B$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , let  $Z[\mathcal{P}; B]$  denote the number of points of  $\mathcal{P}$  in  $B$ , and write

$$E[\mathcal{P}; B] = Z[\mathcal{P}; B] - \mu(B \cap V).$$

Then (24) holds for every  $j = 1, \dots, L$ . We shall show that the set  $\mathcal{P}$  satisfies

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; B]| dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2}(\log N)^2, \quad (62)$$

where, for every  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$ , we have  $M(\theta) = N^{1/2}R(\theta)$ .

Again, suppose that  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$ .

As before, the line  $T(r, \theta)$  is given by  $x_1 \cos \theta + x_2 \sin \theta = r$ , where  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . Furthermore,  $T(r, \theta)$  intersects the boundary of  $V$  at the points

$$\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(r, \theta) = \left( u_1^{(1)}(r, \theta), u_2^{(1)}(r, \theta) \right) \quad (63)$$

and

$$\mathbf{u}^{(2)}(r, \theta) = \left( u_1^{(2)}(r, \theta), u_2^{(2)}(r, \theta) \right), \quad (64)$$

with the restriction that  $u_2^{(1)}(r, \theta) \leq u_2^{(2)}(r, \theta)$ . Here the argument is slightly more complicated than before. Consider the line segment  $T(r, \theta) \cap V$ . We need the following geometric lemma. To state this, we need some notation. Let

$$R_{\max} = \sup\{M(\theta) : 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi\} \quad \text{and} \quad R_{\min} = \inf\{M(\theta) : 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi\},$$

and let

$$\rho = \frac{R_{\min}}{R_{\max}}.$$

Also, for  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$  and  $r \in [0, M(\theta)]$ , let

$$l(r, \theta) = \left| \mathbf{u}^{(1)}(r, \theta) - \mathbf{u}^{(2)}(r, \theta) \right|;$$

in other words,  $l(r, \theta)$  is the length of the line segment  $T(r, \theta) \cap V$ . Furthermore, let  $\mathbf{p}(r, \theta)$  denote the midpoint of  $T(r, \theta) \cap V$ .

We shall assume that  $N$  is sufficiently large.

**Lemma 6.** *Suppose that  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$ . Suppose further that  $0 \leq r \leq M(\theta) - 48$  and  $l(r, \theta) \geq 96/\rho$ . Then the square of side 12, centred at  $\mathbf{p}(r, \theta)$  and with one side parallel to  $T(r, \theta)$ , lies in  $V$ .*

*Proof.* It clearly suffices to show that the sets  $S(r, \theta) \cap V$  and  $(V \setminus S(r, \theta)) \cup (T(r, \theta) \cap V)$  each contains a rectangle of sides 6 and 12, with the point  $\mathbf{p}(r, \theta)$  as the midpoint of one of the long sides.

(I) We shall first consider  $S(r, \theta) \cap V$ . Let  $\mathbf{v}(r, \theta) \in S(r, \theta) \cap V$  be of maximal (perpendicular) distance from the line  $T(r, \theta)$ . By a suitable translation and rotation, we may assume that  $\mathbf{p}(r, \theta)$  is the point  $(0, 0)$ , that  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(r, \theta)$  and  $\mathbf{u}^{(2)}(r, \theta)$  are the points  $(y, 0)$  and  $(-y, 0)$  respectively, where  $2y = l(r, \theta)$ , and that  $\mathbf{v}(r, \theta)$  is the point  $(u, x)$ , where  $x \geq 0$  (the reader is advised to draw a picture). We may further assume, without loss of generality, that  $u \geq 0$ . Clearly, it suffices to show, in view of the convexity of  $V$ , that the rectangle with vertices  $(\pm 6, 0)$  and  $(\pm 6, 6)$  is contained in the triangle with vertices  $(\pm y, 0)$  and  $(u, x)$ . In view of our assumption  $u \geq 0$ , it suffices to show that if  $x \geq 48$  and  $y \geq 48/\rho$ , then

$$\frac{x}{y+u} \geq \frac{6}{y-6},$$

i.e.  $x(y - 6) \geq 6u + 6y$ . Now if  $u \leq y$ , then since  $x \geq 24$  and  $y \geq 12$ , we have

$$x(y - 6) \geq \frac{xy}{2} \geq 12y \geq 6u + 6y.$$

On the other hand, if  $u > y$ , then by the convexity of  $V$ , we must have  $x \geq R_{\min}$  and  $u - y \leq R_{\max}$ , so that

$$\frac{x}{u - y} \geq \frac{R_{\min}}{R_{\max}} = \rho,$$

i.e.  $x + \rho y \geq \rho u$ . Since  $x \geq 48$  and  $y \geq 48/\rho$ , we have, noting that  $\rho \leq 1$ , that

$$x(y - 6) \geq \frac{xy}{2} \geq \frac{12x}{\rho} + 12y = \frac{12}{\rho}(x + \rho y) \geq 12u > 6u + 6y.$$

(II) We now consider  $(V \setminus S(r, \theta)) \cup (T(r, \theta) \cap V)$ . Let  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(0, \theta)$  and  $\mathbf{u}^{(2)}(0, \theta)$  denote the endpoints of the line segment  $T(0, \theta) \cap V$ . By a suitable rotation about the centre  $\mathbf{0}$  of  $V$ , we may assume that  $T(r, \theta)$  is a horizontal line (the reader is advised to draw a picture), that the point  $\mathbf{p}(r, \theta)$  is denoted by  $(u, r)$ , that the points  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(r, \theta)$  and  $\mathbf{u}^{(2)}(r, \theta)$  are denoted by  $(u + y, r)$  and  $(u - y, r)$  respectively, where  $2y = l(r, \theta)$ . Clearly, in view of convexity, it suffices to show that if  $y \geq 48/\rho$ , then the points  $(u \pm 6, r - 6)$  are contained in the triangle with vertices  $(0, 0)$  and  $(u \pm y, r)$ . Again, in view of convexity, it suffices to show that if  $y \geq 48/\rho$ , then

$$\frac{6}{y - 6} \leq \frac{R_{\min}}{R_{\max}} = \rho,$$

i.e.  $y \geq 6(1 + \rho)/\rho$ . This last inequality clearly holds if  $y \geq 48/\rho$ , since  $\rho \leq 1$ . ♣

For every  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$  and  $r \in [0, M(\theta)]$ , let  $SQ(r, \theta)$  denote the square of side 12, centred at  $\mathbf{p}(r, \theta)$  and with one side parallel to  $T(r, \theta)$ . Further, let

$$M^*(\theta) = \sup\{0 \leq r \leq M(\theta) : SQ(r, \theta) \subseteq V\}.$$

Then clearly

**Lemma 7.** For every  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$ , either

$$M^*(\theta) \geq M(\theta) - 48$$

or

$$l(M^*(\theta), \theta) \leq \frac{96}{\rho}.$$

We shall also need

**Lemma 8.** For every  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$  and every  $r \in [M^*(\theta), M(\theta)]$ , we have

$$l(r, \theta) \leq 2l(M^*(\theta), \theta)$$

if  $N$  is sufficiently large.

*Proof.* We may assume that  $N$  is sufficiently large so that  $l(0, \theta) \geq 96/\rho$ . Suppose first of all that  $l(M^*(\theta), \theta) \leq l(0, \theta)$ . Then in view of convexity, we must have  $l(r, \theta) \leq l(M^*(\theta), \theta)$  if  $r \geq M^*(\theta)$ . Suppose now that  $l(M^*(\theta), \theta) > l(0, \theta)$ . Then, again by convexity, we must have

$$\frac{l(r, \theta)}{r} \leq \frac{l(M^*(\theta), \theta)}{M^*(\theta)}.$$

In view of Lemma 7 and our assumption that  $l(0, \theta) \geq 96/\rho$ , we must have  $M^*(\theta) \geq M(\theta) - 48$ . It follows that

$$l(r, \theta) \leq \frac{r}{M(\theta) - 48} l(M^*(\theta), \theta) \leq \frac{M(\theta)}{M(\theta) - 48} l(M^*(\theta), \theta).$$

Note now that  $M(\theta) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ . ♣

For every  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$  and every  $r \in [0, M(\theta)]$ , let  $T^{(1)}(r, \theta)$  denote the line segment joining the points  $\mathbf{p}(r, \theta)$  and  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(r, \theta)$ , and let  $T^{(2)}(r, \theta)$  denote the line segment joining the points  $\mathbf{p}(r, \theta)$  and  $\mathbf{u}^{(2)}(r, \theta)$ .

Suppose first of all that  $0 \leq r \leq M^*(\theta)$ . As before, let

$$M^{(1)}(r, \theta) = \max\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{there exists } m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } A(m, n) \cap V_2 \neq \emptyset \\ \text{and } A(m, n) \cap T^{(1)}(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset\} \quad (65)$$

and

$$M^{(2)}(r, \theta) = \min\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{there exists } m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } A(m, n) \cap V_2 \neq \emptyset \\ \text{and } A(m, n) \cap T^{(2)}(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset\}, \quad (66)$$

and let

$$I(r, \theta) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : M^{(1)}(r, \theta) < n < M^{(2)}(r, \theta)\}. \quad (67)$$

Then in view of Lemma 6, we must have  $I(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset$ . We now write  $S(r, \theta) \cap V$  in the form

$$S(r, \theta) \cap V = \left( \bigcup_{j=0}^2 S_j(r, \theta) \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{j=1}^2 \bigcup_{k=1}^2 W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta) \right),$$

where the seven sets on the right-hand side are defined by (28)–(34). Clearly, each pair  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  of these seven sets satisfy  $\mu(B_1 \cap B_2) = 0$  and  $B_1 \cap B_2 \cap \mathcal{P} = \emptyset$ . It follows that

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)] = \sum_{j=0}^2 E[\mathcal{P}; S_j(r, \theta)] + \sum_{j=1}^2 \sum_{k=1}^2 E[\mathcal{P}; W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta)]. \quad (68)$$

We shall estimate each of the terms on the right-hand side when  $0 \leq r \leq M^*(\theta)$ .

Clearly

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_0(r, \theta)] = E[\mathcal{P}; S_2(r, \theta)] = 0 \quad (69)$$

as before. Also, as in Lemma 2, we have, writing  $\psi(z) = z - [z] - 1/2$  for every  $z \in \mathbb{R}$ , that

**Lemma 9.** *Suppose that  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$  and  $0 \leq r \leq M^*(\theta)$ . Then*

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)] = - \sum_{n \in I(r, \theta)} \psi(n \tan \theta - r \sec \theta).$$

As in the special case of the disc, the summation restriction  $n \in I(r, \theta)$  again prevents us from applying Parseval's theorem to the Fourier expansion of the term  $E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)]$ . We can overcome this in a similar way as before. Let  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2) \in [-1/2, 1/2]^2$ . For every  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$  and every  $r \geq 1$ , define  $T(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  and  $S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  as in (2) and (3). Suppose now that  $T(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  intersects the boundary of  $V$  at the points

$$\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = \left( u_1^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta), u_2^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \right)$$

and

$$\mathbf{u}^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = \left( u_1^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta), u_2^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \right),$$

with the restriction that  $u_2^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \leq u_2^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$ . Let  $T^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  denote the line segment joining the points  $\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  and  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$ , and let  $T^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  denote the line segment joining the points  $\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  and  $\mathbf{u}^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$ , where  $\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)$  denotes the midpoint of the line segment  $T(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \cap V$ . For  $1 \leq r \leq M^*(\theta)$ , let

$$M^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = \max\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{there exists } m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } A(m, n) \cap V_2 \neq \emptyset \\ \text{and } A(m, n) \cap T^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \neq \emptyset\}$$

and

$$M^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = \min\{n \in \mathbb{Z} : \text{there exists } m \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } A(m, n) \cap V_2 \neq \emptyset \\ \text{and } A(m, n) \cap T^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \neq \emptyset\},$$

and let

$$I(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : M^{(1)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) < n < M^{(2)}(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)\}.$$

Now let, as before,

$$S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \cap \left( \bigcup_{n \in I(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)} \bigcup_{\substack{m \in \mathbb{Z} \\ A(m, n) \cap S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \neq \emptyset \\ A(m, n) \setminus S(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) \neq \emptyset}} A(m, n) \right).$$

Then clearly

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] = - \sum_{n \in I(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)} \psi(n \tan \theta - (r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta) \sec \theta).$$

We shall approximate  $E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)]$  by

$$G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta] = - \sum_{n \in I(r, \theta)} \psi(n \tan \theta - (r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta) \sec \theta).$$

Corresponding to Lemma 3, we have

**Lemma 10.** For every  $\mathbf{y} \in [-1/2, 1/2]^2$ , we have

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_1^{M^*(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] - G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]| dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2}.$$

We shall prove Lemma 10 later.

Now  $G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]$  has the Fourier expansion (43). It follows, as before, that

$$\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} |G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]| dy_1 dy_2 \ll \left( \sum_{\nu=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\nu^2} \min\{N, \|\nu \tan \theta\|^{-2}\} \right)^{1/2} \quad (70)$$

for every  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$  and  $r \in [0, M^*(\theta)]$ .

To study the terms  $E[\mathcal{P}; W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta)]$ , we have the following analogue of Lemma 4.

**Lemma 11.** For  $j, k \in \{1, 2\}$ , we have

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M^*(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2}.$$

Suppose that  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$  and  $0 \leq r \leq M^*(\theta)$ . Let

$$I^{(1)}(r, \theta) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : u_2^{(1)}(r, \theta) \leq n \leq M^{(1)}(r, \theta)\} \quad (71)$$

and

$$I^{(2)}(r, \theta) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : M^{(2)}(r, \theta) \leq n \leq u_2^{(2)}(r, \theta)\}.$$

Then clearly

$$I(r, \theta) \cup I^{(1)}(r, \theta) \cup I^{(2)}(r, \theta) = \{n \in \mathbb{Z} : u_2^{(1)}(r, \theta) \leq n \leq u_2^{(2)}(r, \theta)\}.$$

Furthermore, the three sets on the left-hand side are pairwise disjoint.

If  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$  and  $0 \leq r \leq M^*(\theta)$ , it is not difficult to see that for every  $j, k \in \{1, 2\}$ , we have

$$|E[\mathcal{P}; W_j^{(k)}(r, \theta)]| \ll \text{card} \left( I^{(k)}(r, \theta) \right).$$

Lemma 11 will follow from the analogue of Lemma 5 below.

**Lemma 12.** For  $j, k \in \{1, 2\}$ , we have

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M^*(\theta)} \text{card} \left( I^{(k)}(r, \theta) \right) dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2}.$$

To prove Lemma 10, note that if  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$ ,  $1 \leq r \leq M^*(\theta)$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in [-1/2, 1/2]^2$ , we have

$$E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] - G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta] \ll \min \left\{ N^{1/2}, \text{card}(I(r, \theta) \Delta I(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)) \right\}, \quad (72)$$

where  $B_1 \Delta B_2$  denotes the symmetric difference between the sets  $B_1$  and  $B_2$ . Clearly  $I(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta) = I(s, \theta)$ , where  $s = r + y_1 \cos \theta + y_2 \sin \theta \geq 0$ . In this case,

$$I(r, \theta) \Delta I(s, \theta) \subseteq \bigcup_{k=1}^2 \left( I^{(k)}(r, \theta) \cup I^{(k)}(s, \theta) \right). \quad (73)$$

Note now that  $|r - s| < 1$ , so it follows from (72), (73) and Lemma 12 that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_2^{M^*(\theta)-1} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] - G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]| dr d\theta \\ & \ll \sum_{k=1}^2 \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_1^{M^*(\theta)} \text{card} \left( I^{(k)}(r, \theta) \right) dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 10 now follows on combining this and the simple observation that

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \left( \int_1^2 + \int_{M^*(\theta)-1}^{M^*(\theta)} \right) |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)] - G_1[\mathcal{P}; \mathbf{y}; r, \theta]| dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2}.$$

Note that Lemma 12 is a generalization of Lemma 5. Our proof, however, is necessarily different. In our earlier proof of Lemma 5, we use explicitly the equation of  $\partial V$ , the boundary of  $V$ . In the general case, such information is clearly not available.

Our proof here is based on the following simple geometric observation.

Consider the points  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(n, \theta)$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $0 \leq n \leq M(\theta)$ . We extend this definition in the natural way to  $n = -1, -2, \dots, -6$ . For each  $\theta \in [0, \pi/4]$  and



$n = -6, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, [M(\theta)]$ , let  $\mathcal{N}_\theta(n)$  denote the area of the rectangle with one edge on  $T(n, \theta)$  and with vertices  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(n, \theta)$  and  $\mathbf{u}^{(1)}(n+1, \theta)$ .

**Lemma 13.** *Suppose that  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$  and  $0 \leq r \leq M^*(\theta)$ . Then*

$$I^{(1)}(r, \theta) \leq \max \left\{ 6, \sum_{i=1}^6 \mathcal{N}_\theta(n+i, \theta), \sum_{i=1}^6 \mathcal{N}_\theta(n-i, \theta) \right\},$$

where  $n = [r]$ .

*Proof.* Let

$$\mathcal{M} = \max \left\{ 6, \sum_{i=1}^6 \mathcal{N}_\theta(n+i, \theta), \sum_{i=1}^6 \mathcal{N}_\theta(n-i, \theta) \right\}.$$

Then the two right-angled triangles with vertices

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}^{(1)}(r, \theta) & \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{u}^{(1)}(r, \theta) + \mathcal{M}\mathbf{e}(\theta + \pi/2) \\ & \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{u}^{(1)}(r, \theta) + \mathcal{M}\mathbf{e}(\theta + \pi/2) \pm 6\mathbf{e}(\theta), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{e}(\phi) = (\cos \phi, \sin \phi)$  for  $\phi \in \mathbb{R}$ , each contains a square of the type  $A(m, n) \subseteq V_1$ , in view of the convexity of  $V$ . The result follows from the definitions of  $I(r, \theta)$  and  $I^{(1)}(r, \theta)$  (see (65)–(67) and (71)). ♣

*Proof of Lemma 12.* Note that for every  $n = -6, \dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots, [M(\theta)]$ , we have

$$\mathcal{N}_\theta(n) \leq \left| \mathbf{u}^{(1)}(n, \theta) - \mathbf{u}^{(1)}(n+1, \theta) \right|.$$

It follows from Lemma 13 that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{M^*(\theta)} \text{card} \left( I^{(1)}(r, \theta) \right) dr d\theta & \ll M^*(\theta) + \sum_{i=-6}^6 \left| \mathbf{u}^{(1)}(n+i, \theta) - \mathbf{u}^{(1)}(n+i+1, \theta) \right| \\ & \leq M^*(\theta) + 13 \text{perimeter}(V) \ll N^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

A similar argument applies for  $I^{(2)}(r, \theta)$ . ♣

It now follows from (68), (69) and Lemma 11 that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M^*(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \\ & \ll N^{1/2} + \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M^*(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta. \end{aligned} \tag{74}$$

Next, we investigate the integral

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_{M^*(\theta)}^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta.$$

Suppose that  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/4$  and  $M^*(\theta) \leq r \leq M(\theta)$ . We shall use Lemma 7. If  $M^*(\theta) \geq M(\theta) - 48$ , then clearly  $M(\theta) - r \leq 48$ . On the other hand,  $l(r, \theta) \ll N^{1/2}$  trivially. We now use the simple estimate

$$|E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| \ll \mu(S(r, \theta)) \leq (M(\theta) - r)l(r, \theta).$$

Clearly

$$\int_{M^*(\theta)}^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr \ll N^{1/2}.$$

Suppose now that  $M^*(\theta) < M(\theta) - 48$ . Note that

$$\begin{aligned} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| &\ll \mu \left( \bigcup_{\substack{m, n \in \mathbb{Z} \\ A(m, n) \subseteq V_1 \\ A(m, n) \cap S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset \\ A(m, n) \setminus S(r, \theta) \neq \emptyset}} A(m, n) \right) + \mu \left( \bigcup_{j=1}^L R_j \right) \\ &\ll l(r, \theta) \ll 1 \end{aligned}$$

in view of Lemmas 7 and 8. It now follows that

$$\int_{M^*(\theta)}^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr \ll M(\theta) - M^*(\theta) \ll N^{1/2}.$$

In either case,

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_{M^*(\theta)}^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2}. \quad (75)$$

Combining (74) and (75), we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \\ &\ll N^{1/2} + \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M^*(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta. \end{aligned} \quad (76)$$

As before, combining Lemmas 1 and 10 and (70), we have

$$\int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_0^{\pi/4} \int_1^{M^*(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(\mathbf{y}; r, \theta)]| dr d\theta dy_1 dy_2 \ll N^{1/2} (\log N)^2. \quad (77)$$

The estimate

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M^*(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S_1(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2} (\log N)^2 \quad (78)$$

now follows from (77) in the same way that (61) follows from (58). Combining (76) and (78), we have

$$\int_0^{\pi/4} \int_0^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2} (\log N)^2.$$

Similarly, for  $j = 1, \dots, 7$ , we have

$$\int_{j\pi/4}^{(j+1)\pi/4} \int_0^{M(\theta)} |E[\mathcal{P}; S(r, \theta)]| dr d\theta \ll N^{1/2} (\log N)^2.$$

Inequality (62) now follows.

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