## SMALL GAPS OF CIRCULAR $\beta$ -ENSEMBLE

## By Renjie Feng<sup>1</sup> and Dongyi Wei<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, University of Science and Technology of China, renjiefeng.math@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics, Peking University, jnwdyi@pku.edu.cn

In this article, we study the smallest gaps of the circular  $\beta$ -ensemble (C $\beta$ E) on the unit circle, where  $\beta$  is any positive integer. The main result is that the smallest gaps, after being normalized by  $n^{\frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1}}$ , will converge in distribution to a Poisson point process with some explicit intensity. And thus one can derive the limiting density of the kth smallest gap, which is proportional to  $x^{k(\beta+1)-1}e^{-x^{\beta+1}}$ . In particular, the results apply to the classical COE, CUE and CSE in random matrix theory. The essential part of the proof is to derive several identities and inequalities regarding the Selberg integral, which should have their own interest.

1. Introduction. The extreme spacings of random point processes are important quantities in probability and statistical physics. In random matrix theory, the limiting densities of the smallest gaps of CUE and GUE were first derived by Vinson [16]; by a different method, Soshnikov investigated the smallest gaps for the determinantal point processes on the real line with translation invariant kernels [15]; Soshnikov's technique was adapted by Ben Arous–Bourgade in [4] where they studied the joint density of the smallest gaps of CUE and GUE (which are both determinantal point processes) and proved that the smallest gaps, after being normalized by  $n^{4/3}$ , will tend to a Poisson point process and the kth smallest gap has the limiting density proportional to  $x^{3k-1}e^{-x^3}$ . Their results are further generalized by Figalli–Guionnet to some invariant multimatrix Hermitian matrices in [8]. The results about the smallest gaps for random matrices with complex Ginibre, Wishart and universal Unitary ensembles are derived in [12].

Regarding the largest gaps, the decay order  $\sqrt{32 \log n}/n$  of the largest gaps of CUE and GUE (in the bulk regime) was predicted by Vinson in [16] and proved by Ben Arous–Bourgade in [4], and this result is further generalized by Figalli–Guionnet in [8]. Recently, the fluctuations of the largest gaps of CUE and GUE have been derived in [7], and it's proved that the largest gaps, after being normalized, will also converge in distribution to a Poisson point process.

In this paper, we will derive the limiting distribution of the smallest gaps of  $C\beta E$  where  $\beta$  is any positive integer. Our results confirm the (numerical) predictions in physics [13] and recover Ben Arous–Bourgade's result in the case of CUE (where  $\beta = 2$ ). But our proof is different and technical. One can not make use of the structure of the determinantal point processes any more (for example, when  $\beta = 1, 4$ , they are Pfaffian point processes other than the determinantal point processes, we refer to Sections 3.9 and 4.2 in [1] for the definitions and the structures of the Pfaffian point process and the determinantal point process and their applications in random matrix theory), and we have to start from the Selberg integral to get the estimates regarding the point correlation functions, where we need to derive several asymptotic limits and inequalities (such as Lemma 1.1 and the crucial Lemma 1.4) which should have their own interest in Selberg integral theory. The method developed in this paper

is also adapted in [6] where we can derive the limiting distribution of the smallest gaps of GOE.

In [10], the authors proved that our results in [6, 7] are universal for both smallest gaps and largest gaps in the bulk of the general Hermitian and symmetric Wigner matrices with assumptions.

1.1. Main results. In the theory of random matrices, Dyson introduced three ensembles of random unitary matrices to study the energy-level behaviors in complex quantum systems [5]. They are the circular orthogonal ensemble (COE) on symmetric unitary matrices, the circular unitary ensemble (CUE) on unitary matrices, and the circular symplectic ensemble (CSE) on self dual unitary quaternionic matrices. The circular  $\beta$ -ensemble ( $\beta > 0$ ) is a generalization of these three ensembles. It is a point process on the unit circle and the joint density of the eigenangles  $\theta_i \in [-\pi, \pi)$ ,  $1 \le j \le n$  with respect to the Lebesgue measure is

(1) 
$$J_{\beta}(\theta_1,\ldots,\theta_n) = \frac{1}{C_{\beta,n}} \prod_{i < k} |e^{i\theta_i} - e^{i\theta_k}|^{\beta}.$$

Here, the partition function

$$C_{\beta,n} := \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_1 \cdots \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_n \prod_{j < k} |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_k}|^{\beta}$$

is derived by the Selberg integral and it reads

$$C_{\beta,n} = (2\pi)^n \frac{\Gamma(1+\beta n/2)}{(\Gamma(1+\beta/2))^n}.$$

In particular, the joint density of the eigenangles of COE, CUE and CSE is given by  $J_1$ ,  $J_2$  and  $J_4$  respectively (see Chapter 2 in [9] for the proofs).

One interpretation of the density  $J_{\beta}(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n)$  is as the Boltzmann factor for a classical gas at inverse temperature  $\beta$  with potential energy

$$-\sum_{1 \le i \le k \le n} \ln |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_k}|.$$

Because of the pairwise logarithmic repulsion, such a classical gas is referred to as a log-gas. This interpretation allows for a number of properties of correlations and distributions to be anticipated using arguments based on macroscopic electrostatics [9].

We will need the following partition functions for the two-component log-gas where the system consists of  $n_1$  particles with charge q = 1 and  $n_2$  particles with charge q = 2:

(2) 
$$C_{\beta,n_1,n_2} := \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_1 \cdots \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_{n_1+n_2} \prod_{j < k} |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_k}|^{q_j q_k \beta}$$

and

(3) 
$$C_{\beta,n_1,n_2}(I) := \int_{(-\pi,\pi)^{n_1} \times I^{n_2}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n_1+n_2} \prod_{j < k} |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_k}|^{q_j q_k \beta},$$

where  $q_j = 1$  for  $1 \le j \le n_1$  and  $q_j = 2$  for  $n_1 + 1 \le j \le n_1 + n_2$ .

We also need the following partition function for the system of the two-component log-gas with  $n_1$  particles with charge q = 1 and one particle with charge q = k:

(4) 
$$C_{\beta,n_1,(k)} := \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_1 \cdots \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_{n_1+1} \prod_{i < l} |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_l}|^{q_j q_l \beta}$$

with  $q_j = 1$  for  $1 \le j \le n_1$  and  $q_{n_1+1} = k$ , then we have

$$C_{\beta,n_1,(2)} = C_{\beta,n_1,1}$$

and the following results.

LEMMA 1.1. For  $0 < k \le n, \beta \ge 1$ , we have

$$C_{\beta,n-k,(k)} \leq C_{\beta,n}(n\beta)^{k(k-1)\beta/2},$$

and

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2,1}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{\beta}} = A_{\beta}, \qquad \lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-k,(k)}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k(k-1)\beta/2}} = A_{\beta,k},$$

where

$$A_{\beta,k} = \frac{(2\pi)^{1-k} (\Gamma(\beta/2+1))^k}{\Gamma(k\beta/2+1)} \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{\Gamma(j\beta/2+1)}{\Gamma((k+j)\beta/2+1)} (\beta/2)^{k(k-1)\beta/2}$$

and

$$A_{\beta} = A_{\beta,2} = (2\pi)^{-1} \frac{(\beta/2)^{\beta} (\Gamma(\beta/2+1))^3}{\Gamma(3\beta/2+1)\Gamma(\beta+1)}.$$

Now we consider the following point process on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :

(5) 
$$\chi^{(n,\gamma)} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \delta_{(n^{\gamma}(\theta_{(i+1)} - \theta_{(i)}),\theta_{(i)})}, \chi^{(n)} = \chi^{(n,\gamma)} \Big|_{\gamma = \frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1}},$$

where  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $\theta_{(i)}$   $(1 \le i \le n)$  is the increasing rearrangement of  $\theta_i$   $(1 \le i \le n)$  and  $\theta_{(i+n)} = \theta_{(i)} + 2\pi$ , i.e. the indices are modulo n, then we have the following main result.

THEOREM 1.1. For  $C\beta E$  where  $\beta$  is a positive integer, the point process  $\chi^{(n)}$  will converge in distribution to a Poisson point process  $\chi$  as  $n \to +\infty$  with intensity

$$\mathbb{E}\chi(A\times I) = \frac{A_{\beta}|I|}{2\pi} \int_{A} u^{\beta} du,$$

where  $A \subset \mathbb{R}_+$  is any bounded Borel set,  $I \subseteq (-\pi, \pi)$  and |I| is the Lebesgue measure of I. In particular, the result holds for COE, CUE and CSE with

$$A_1 = \frac{1}{24}, \qquad A_2 = \frac{1}{24\pi}, \qquad A_4 = \frac{1}{270\pi},$$

respectively.

As a direct consequence, we can derive the limiting distribution of the kth smallest gap.

COROLLARY 1.1. Let  $t_k$  be the kth smallest gap of  $C\beta E$  and we define

$$\tau_k = n^{(\beta+2)/(\beta+1)} \times (A_\beta/(\beta+1))^{1/(\beta+1)} t_k$$

then we have

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{P}(\tau_k \in A) = \int_A \frac{\beta + 1}{(k - 1)!} x^{k(\beta + 1) - 1} e^{-x^{\beta + 1}} dx$$

*for any bounded interval*  $A \subset \mathbb{R}_+$ .

The above results generalize the previous results derived in [4, 16] for CUE with  $\beta = 2$ .

1.2. Factorial moments and correlation functions. We first review some basic concepts about the factorial moments and the correlation functions of a point process, we refer to the survey [14] for more details. Let

$$X = \sum_{i} \delta_{X_i}$$

be a simple point process on  $\mathbb{R}$ , and we consider the point process

(6) 
$$X^{(k)} = \sum_{i_1, ..., i_k \text{ all distinct}} \delta_{(X_{i_1}, ..., X_{i_k})}$$

on  $\mathbb{R}^k$ . One can define a measure  $m_k$  on  $\mathbb{R}^k$  by

(7) 
$$m_k(A) = \mathbb{E}(X^{(k)}(A))$$

for any Borel set A in  $\mathbb{R}^k$ . In particular, the factorial moment reads

(8) 
$$m_k(B^k) = \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{(X(B)!)}{(X(B)-k)!}\right),$$

where B is a Borel set in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

If  $m_k$  is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure, then there exists a function  $f_k$  on  $\mathbb{R}^k$  such that for any Borel sets  $B_1, \ldots, B_k$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , we have

(9) 
$$m_k(B_1 \times \cdots \times B_k) = \int_{B_1 \times \cdots \times B_k} f_k(x_1, \dots, x_k) \, dx_1 \cdots dx_k.$$

The function  $f_k$  is called the k-point correlation function of the point process. Note that  $f_k$  is not a probability density, but it admits the following probabilistic interpretation: for distinct points  $x_1, \ldots, x_k$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , if  $[x_i, x_i + dx_i]$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, k$  are neighbourhoods of  $x_i$ , then  $f_k(x_1, \ldots, x_k) dx_1 \cdots dx_k$  is the probability of the event that each set  $[x_i, x_i + dx_i]$  contains a particle.

In particular, (8) and (9) imply that the kth factorial moment of a point process and the k-point correlation function satisfy

(10) 
$$m_k(B^k) = \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{(X(B)!)}{(X(B)-k)!}\right) = \int_{B^k} f_k(x_1,\ldots,x_k) \, dx_1 \cdots dx_k,$$

where B is a Borel set in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

If X is a determinantal point process, then the k-point correlation function has the representation

(11) 
$$f_k(x_1, ..., x_k) = \det[K(x_i, x_j)]_{1 \le i, j \le k},$$

where K(x, y) is some symmetric kernel. For example, in the case of CUE which is a Haar measure on the unitary group U(n), one can prove that it is a determinantal point process and the k-point correlation function is

$$f_k(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k) = \det[K_n(\theta_i - \theta_j)]_{1 \le i, j \le k}, \qquad K_n(\theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\sin(n\theta/2)}{\sin(\theta/2)}.$$

More properties regarding the correlation functions of determinantal point processes can be found in [1, 14].

1.3. Strategy and key lemmas. Now we explain the main steps to prove Theorem 1.1. As in [4, 15], we still need to prove the convergence of the factorial moments of  $\chi^{(n)}$  in order to prove its convergence to the Poisson point process, but the proof follows a quite different way. For the determinantal point processes considered in [4, 15], the factorial moments are the integrations of the correlation functions (see (10)) which can be further expressed by the symmetric kernels as in (11), therefore, the limits of the factorial moments can be derived directly by taking the limits of the kernels, and one can also use the Hadamard–Fischer inequality to control all the estimates. But for general  $C\beta E$  which are not determinantal point processes, one can only express the point correlation functions and the factorial moments as the integration of the joint density by the definitions (6), (7) and (8). This causes many difficulties and all the proofs require delicate estimates of the integrals.

By the moment method (see Proposition 2.1 in [4]), Theorem 1.1 will be proved if we can prove the following convergence of the factorial moment:

(12) 
$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{(\chi^{(n)}(A \times I))!}{(\chi^{(n)}(A \times I) - k)!}\right) = \left(\int_A u^\beta \, du\right)^k \left(\frac{|I|A_\beta}{2\pi}\right)^k$$

for any fixed positive integer k, where  $A \subset \mathbb{R}_+$  is any bounded interval and  $I \subseteq (-\pi, \pi)$ .

We will not prove this convergence directly. We will study the following auxiliary point process instead. We now introduce  $\theta_{i,j} = \theta_i - \theta_j$  for  $\theta_i > \theta_j$ ,  $\theta_{i,j} = \theta_i - \theta_j + 2\pi$  for  $\theta_i < \theta_j$ . For any  $\gamma > 0$ , we define

(13) 
$$\theta_{i,j,\gamma} = (n^{\gamma}\theta_{i,j}, \theta_j)$$

and

(14) 
$$\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma)} = \sum_{i \neq j} \delta_{\theta_{i,j,\gamma}}, \qquad \widetilde{\chi}^{(n)} = \widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma)} \big|_{\gamma = \frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1}},$$

i.e.,  $\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}$  is the point process of all (normalized) spacings, then we have

$$\chi^{(n)} < \widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}.$$

In fact, we can rewrite

(16) 
$$\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma)} = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,j)}$$

such that

(17) 
$$\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,j)} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \delta_{(n^{\gamma}(\theta_{(i+j)} - \theta_{(i)}),\theta_{(i)})}.$$

Then we have

$$\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,1)} = \chi^{(n,\gamma)}$$
 and  $0 \le \widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,j)}(B) \le n$ 

for every Borel set  $B \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ .

We need the following lemma which indicates that there is no successive smallest gaps. Such property is also considered in [4, 15] for the determinantal point processes.

LEMMA 1.2. For any bounded interval  $A \subset \mathbb{R}_+$  and  $I \subseteq (-\pi, \pi)$ , we have  $\chi^{(n)}(A \times I) - \widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A \times I) \to 0$  in probability as  $n \to +\infty$ .

The proof of Lemma 1.2 relies on the estimates of the integration of the 3-point correlation function, which can be derived for the determinantal point processes by estimating the symmetric kernels directly. But in our case, we can only express the correlation functions as the integrations of the joint density, and thus we will need several integral inequalities (see Lemma 4.1 in §4), which are the basic estimates that will be applied many times in the whole proof.

The significance of Lemma 1.2 is that, instead of proving the convergence of the factorial moment of the point process of the smallest spacings  $\chi^{(n)}$  (see (12)), it's enough to prove the following convergence of the factorial moment of  $\tilde{\chi}^{(n)}$  of all (normalized) spacings:

(18) 
$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A \times I))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A \times I) - k)!}\right) = \left(\int_{A} u^{\beta} du\right)^{k} \left(\frac{|I|A_{\beta}}{2\pi}\right)^{k}$$

for any fixed k. And it is much easier to study the properties of the point process of all spacings  $\tilde{\chi}^{(n)}$  compared with only the smallest spacings  $\chi^{(n)}$ . Actually, (18) is the direct consequence of the following Lemma 1.3 and Lemma 1.4.

LEMMA 1.3. For any bounded interval  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $I \subseteq (-\pi, \pi)$  and any positive integer  $k \ge 1$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E}\left(\frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A\times I))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A\times I)-k)!}\right) - \left(\int_{A} u^{\beta} du\right)^{k} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}} \to 0$$

as  $n \to +\infty$ .

To prove Lemma 1.3, we will introduce another auxiliary point process

$$\rho^{(k,n,\gamma)} = \sum_{i_1,\dots,i_{2k} \text{ all distinct}} \delta_{(\theta_{i_1,i_2,\gamma},\dots,\theta_{i_{2k-1},i_{2k},\gamma})}, \qquad \rho^{(k,n)} = \rho^{(k,n,\gamma)}\big|_{\gamma = \frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1}},$$

where  $\theta_{i_{2j-1},i_{2j},\gamma}$   $(1 \le j \le k)$  is defined in (13).

Regarding  $\rho^{(k,n)}$ , we will see that the expectation of  $\rho^{(k,n)}$  will converge to the kth factorial moment of  $\tilde{\chi}^{(n)}$ . Lemma 1.3 is the consequence of the following two convergences:

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \left( \mathbb{E} \frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A \times I))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A \times I) - k)!} - \mathbb{E} \rho^{(k,n)} ((A \times I)^k) \right) = 0$$

and

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \left( \mathbb{E} \left( \rho^{(k,n)} \left( (A \times I)^k \right) \right) - \left( \int_A u^\beta \, du \right)^k \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)}{C_{\beta,n} n^{k\beta}} \right) = 0.$$

Here, the second convergence is the most significant part of the whole proof, it implies that one can bound  $\mathbb{E}(\rho^{(k,n)}((A\times I)^k))$  by the quotient of the partition functions  $C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)/(C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta})$ , therefore, the problem regarding the smallest gaps in nature is just a problem about the integral estimates. To be more precise, one of the crucial ideas of the whole method is that one can bound  $\mathbb{E}(\rho^{(k,n)}((A\times I)^k))$ , which can be expressed in terms of the integration of the joint density of the one-component log-gas (see (44)), by the generalized partition function of the two-component log-gas (see (45) together with Lemma 6.2).

The intuitive idea of the whole proof is natural: for a pair of two particles with charge 1 of the smallest gap of  $C\beta E$ , these two particles will tend to a "double particle" with charge 2 in the limit, therefore, if there are k-pair of such particles of smallest gaps among n particles in the one-component log-gas, then such system can be approximated by the two-component log-gas with n-2k particles with charge 1 and k particles with charge 2. Therefore, one needs to compare the partition function of the one-component log-gas with the partition function of the two-component log-gas as in the following lemma.

SMALL GAPS 1003

LEMMA 1.4. For any interval  $I \subseteq (-\pi, \pi)$  and any positive integer  $k \ge 1$ , we have

$$\lim_{n\to+\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}} = \left(\frac{|I|A_{\beta}}{2\pi}\right)^k.$$

The convergence for k = 1 is guaranteed by Lemma 1.1. We will not prove this convergence directly for  $k \ge 2$ . Actually, we only need to prove the following inequality for k = 2;

(19) 
$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-4,2}(I)}{C_{\beta,n}n^{2\beta}} \le \left(\frac{|I|A_{\beta}}{2\pi}\right)^2.$$

And in Section 8, we can prove Lemma 1.4 for k=2 by the upper bound (19), Hölder inequality and the powerful result of the convergence of the factorial moments in Lemma 1.3 which is valid for any fixed intervals A and I. The proof of Lemma 1.4 for all  $k \ge 3$  follows by induction and Lemma 1.3 again.

The proof of the upper bound (19) is complicated and it will be proved in Section 7 based on the properties of the Selberg integral and the generalized hypergeometric functions.

The method developed in this article is further applied to derive the limiting distribution of the smallest gaps of GOE in [6]. Actually our method is quite general, it can be used to prove that of  $G\beta E$  and more general ensembles. In all cases, as indicated by the intuitive idea mentioned above, one of the main difficulties is to prove the analogue asymptotic limit as in Lemma 1.4, that is, one has to prove the asymptotic limit of the quotient of the partition functions of the two-component log-gas and the one-component log-gas, once this is done, the point process of the smallest gaps can be proved to be converging to some Poisson point process, and hence the limiting density of the kth smallest gap can be derived.

As a final remark, we also conjecture that Theorem 1.1 must be true for any  $\beta > 0$ , but our method only works for the positive integer  $\beta$ . This is because, in the proof of the upper bound (19), we use the properties about the generalized hypergeometric functions that have been proved to be true for positive integer  $\beta$ . As explained above, if one can prove Lemma 1.4 for every  $\beta > 0$  by other methods without using the properties of generalized hypergeometric functions, then Theorem 1.1 will hold for every  $\beta > 0$ .

**2. Proof of Lemma 1.1.** Now we give the proof of Lemma 1.1, which is based on the Selberg integral. We refer to Selberg's original method [11] and Aomoto's method [2, 3] for the proof of the Selberg integral. We also refer to Chapter 4 in [9] for other proofs and the applications of the Selberg integral in the theory of random matrices.

PROOF. We can write

$$C_{\beta,n_{1},1}$$

$$= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_{1} \cdots \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_{n_{1}+1} \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n_{1}} |e^{i\theta_{j}} - e^{i\theta_{k}}|^{\beta} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n_{1}} |e^{i\theta_{j}} - e^{i\theta_{n_{1}+1}}|^{2\beta}$$

$$= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_{1} \cdots \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_{n_{1}+1} \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n_{1}} |e^{i\theta_{j}} - e^{i\theta_{k}}|^{\beta} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n_{1}} |e^{i\theta_{j}} + 1|^{2\beta}$$

$$= (2\pi)^{n_{1}+1} M_{n_{1}}(\beta, \beta, \beta/2),$$

here we changed variables  $\theta_j \mapsto \theta_j + \theta_{n_1+1} \pm \pi \ (1 \le j \le n_1)$  and used the following formula (see (4.4) in [9]):

(20) 
$$M_{n}(a,b,\lambda) := \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} d\theta_{1} \cdots \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} d\theta_{n} \prod_{l=1}^{n} e^{\pi i \theta_{l}(a-b)} |1 + e^{2\pi i \theta_{l}}|^{a+b}$$

$$\times \prod_{1 \le j < k \le n} |e^{2\pi i \theta_{j}} - e^{2\pi i \theta_{k}}|^{2\lambda}$$

$$= \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{\Gamma(\lambda j + a + b + 1)\Gamma(\lambda(j+1) + 1)}{\Gamma(\lambda j + a + 1)\Gamma(\lambda j + b + 1)\Gamma(1 + \lambda)}.$$

Similarly, we have

(21) 
$$C_{\beta,n_1,1}(I) = (2\pi)^{n_1} |I| M_{n_1}(\beta,\beta,\beta/2) = (2\pi)^{-1} |I| C_{\beta,n_1,1}$$

and

(22) 
$$C_{\beta,n_1,(k)} = (2\pi)^{n_1+1} M_{n_1}(k\beta/2, k\beta/2, \beta/2).$$

For every positive integer k, we have

$$M_n(k\lambda, k\lambda, \lambda) = \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{\Gamma(\lambda(j+2k)+1)\Gamma(\lambda(j+1)+1)}{(\Gamma(\lambda(j+k)+1))^2\Gamma(1+\lambda)}$$
$$= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\lambda+1)^n} \prod_{j=k}^{2k-1} \frac{\Gamma(\lambda(n+j)+1)}{\Gamma(j\lambda+1)} \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{\Gamma(j\lambda+1)}{\Gamma(\lambda(n+j)+1)},$$

thus we have

$$\begin{split} C_{\beta,n_1,(k)} &= (2\pi)^{n_1+1} M_{n_1}(k\beta/2,k\beta/2,\beta/2) \\ &= \frac{(2\pi)^{n_1+1}}{(\Gamma(\beta/2+1))^{n_1}} \prod_{j=k}^{2k-1} \frac{\Gamma(\beta(n_1+j)/2+1)}{\Gamma(j\beta/2+1)} \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{\Gamma(j\beta/2+1)}{\Gamma(\beta(n_1+j)/2+1)}. \end{split}$$

And for  $n_1 = n - k > 0$ , we have

$$\frac{C_{\beta,n-k,(k)}}{C_{\beta,n}} = \frac{(2\pi)^{1-k}(\Gamma(\beta/2+1))^k}{\Gamma(n\beta/2+1)} \prod_{j=1}^{2k-1} \left(\frac{\Gamma(\beta(n_1+j)/2+1)}{\Gamma(j\beta/2+1)}\right)^{\operatorname{sgn}(j-k)} \\
= \frac{(2\pi)^{1-k}(\Gamma(\beta/2+1))^k}{\Gamma(k\beta/2+1)} \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{\Gamma(\beta(n+j)/2+1)\Gamma(j\beta/2+1)}{\Gamma((k+j)\beta/2+1)\Gamma(\beta(n-j)/2+1)}.$$

As  $\ln \Gamma(x)$  is convex for x > 0, we have

$$(\Gamma(\beta/2+1))^k \le \Gamma(k\beta/2+1).$$

For  $n > k - 1 \ge j \ge 1$ , we have  $k\beta/2 \ge 1$ ,  $\beta j \ge 1$ ,

$$\frac{\Gamma(j\beta/2+1)}{\Gamma((k+j)\beta/2+1)} \le \left(\frac{\Gamma(j\beta/2+1)}{\Gamma(j\beta/2+2)}\right)^{k\beta/2} = \left(\frac{1}{j\beta/2+1}\right)^{k\beta/2} \le 1,$$

and

$$\frac{\Gamma(\beta(n+j)/2+1)}{\Gamma(\beta(n-j)/2+1)} \le \left(\frac{\Gamma(\beta(n+j)/2+1)}{\Gamma(\beta(n+j)/2)}\right)^{\beta j} = \left(\beta(n+j)/2\right)^{\beta j} \le (n\beta)^{\beta j},$$

therefore, we have

$$\frac{C_{\beta,n-k,(k)}}{C_{\beta,n}} \le (2\pi)^{1-k} \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} (n\beta)^{\beta j} = (2\pi)^{1-k} (n\beta)^{k(k-1)\beta/2},$$

which will imply the first inequality. Using convexity of  $\ln \Gamma(x)$ , we also have

$$(\beta(n-j)/2+1)^{\beta j} \le \frac{\Gamma(\beta(n+j)/2+1)}{\Gamma(\beta(n-j)/2+1)} \le (\beta(n+j)/2)^{\beta j},$$

which implies

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{\Gamma(\beta(n+j)/2+1)}{\Gamma(\beta(n-j)/2+1)n^{\beta j}} = (\beta/2)^{\beta j}.$$

And thus we have

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-k,(k)}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k(k-1)\beta/2}} \\
= \frac{(2\pi)^{1-k}(\Gamma(\beta/2+1))^k}{\Gamma(k\beta/2+1)} \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{\Gamma(j\beta/2+1)}{\Gamma((k+j)\beta/2+1)} \cdot \lim_{n \to +\infty} \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{\Gamma(\beta(n+j)/2+1)}{\Gamma(\beta(n-j)/2+1)n^{\beta j}} \\
= \frac{(2\pi)^{1-k}(\Gamma(\beta/2+1))^k}{\Gamma(k\beta/2+1)} \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{\Gamma(j\beta/2+1)}{\Gamma((k+j)\beta/2+1)} \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} (\beta/2)^{\beta j} \\
=: A_{\beta,k}.$$

As  $C_{\beta,n_1,(2)} = C_{\beta,n_1,1}$ , we have

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2,1}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{\beta}} = \lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2,(2)}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{\beta}} = A_{\beta,2},$$

and the expression of  $A_{\beta} = A_{\beta,2}$  follows directly from that of  $A_{\beta,k}$ .

3. One more auxiliary point process. Now we introduce another auxiliary point process as

(23) 
$$\rho^{(k,n,\gamma)} = \sum_{i_1,...,i_{2k} \text{ all distinct}} \delta_{(\theta_{i_1,i_2,\gamma},...,\theta_{i_{2k-1},i_{2k},\gamma})}$$

and we define

(24) 
$$\rho^{(k,n)} = \rho^{(k,n,\gamma)}|_{\gamma = \frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1}},$$

where  $\theta_{i_{2j-1},i_{2j},\gamma}$   $(1 \le j \le k)$  is defined in (13). We need the following lemma which will be used to prove that the expectation of the random variable  $\rho^{(k,n)}((A \times I)^k)$  converges to the factorial moment of  $\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A \times I)$  for any bounded interval  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^+$  and  $I \subseteq (-\pi, \pi)$  (see (39)).

LEMMA 3.1. For any bounded intervals  $A \subset \mathbb{R}_+$  and  $I \subseteq (-\pi, \pi)$ , let  $B = A \times I$ , then we have

$$\rho^{(k,n,\gamma)}(B^k) \le \frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma)}(B))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma)}(B)-k)!}, \quad \gamma > 0.$$

Let  $c_1$  be such that  $A \subset (0, c_1)$ ,  $c_n = c_1 n^{-\frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1}}$  and

$$a = \max\{i - j : i, j \in \mathbb{Z}, \theta_{(i)} - \theta_{(i)} \le 2c_n\},\$$

if  $c_n \in (0, 1)$ , then we have

$$0 \leq \frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B) - k)!} - \rho^{(k,n)}(B^k) \leq k(k-1)(a-1)\big(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B)\big)^{k-1}$$

and

$$\rho^{(k,n)}(B^k) \ge (\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^k - k(k-1)a(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^{k-1}.$$

PROOF. We denote

$$X_{1} = \{(i_{1}, \dots, i_{2k}) : i_{j} \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i_{j} \leq n, \forall 1 \leq j \leq 2k,$$

$$i_{2j-1} \neq i_{2j}, \forall 1 \leq j \leq k, \{i_{2j-1}, i_{2j}\} \neq \{i_{2l-1}, i_{2l}\}, \forall 1 \leq j < l \leq k\},$$

$$X_{2} = \{(i_{1}, \dots, i_{2k}) : i_{j} \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i_{j} \leq n, \forall 1 \leq j \leq 2k,$$

$$i_{j} \neq i_{l}, \forall 1 \leq j < l \leq 2k\},$$

$$Y_{i,l} = \{(i_{1}, \dots, i_{2k}) : \{i_{2j-1}, i_{2j}\} \cap \{i_{2l-1}, i_{2l}\} \neq \emptyset\},$$

then we have  $X_2 \subseteq X_1$  and  $X_1 \setminus X_2 = \bigcup_{1 \le i \le l \le k} Y_{i,l}$ . Let

$$X_{j,B} = \{(i_1, \dots, i_{2k}) \in X_j : \theta_{i_{2j-1}, i_{2j}, \gamma} \in B, \forall 1 \le j \le k\}, \quad j = 1, 2,$$
  
$$Y_{j,l,B} = \{(i_1, \dots, i_{2k}) \in Y_{j,l} : \theta_{i_{2j-1}, i_{2j}, \gamma} \in B, \forall 1 \le j \le k\},$$

then we have

(25) 
$$\rho^{(k,n,\gamma)}(B^k) = |X_{2,B}|, \qquad X_{2,B} \subseteq X_{1,B}, \qquad |X_{1,B}| = \frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma)}(B))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma)}(B) - k)!},$$

which gives the first inequality, here |X| is the cardinality of the set X.

We also have  $X_{1,B} \setminus X_{2,B} = \bigcup_{1 \le j < l \le k} Y_{j,l,B}$  and by symmetry  $|Y_{j,l,B}| = |Y_{1,2,B}|$  for  $1 \le j < l \le k$ , therefore

(26) 
$$|X_{1,B}| - |X_{2,B}| \le \sum_{1 \le j < l \le k} |Y_{j,l,B}| = k(k-1)|Y_{1,2,B}|/2.$$

Now we assume  $\gamma = \frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1}$ . If a=0, then we have  $\theta_{j,l} \ge n^{-\gamma}(2c_n) = 2c_1$  for every  $1 \le j < l \le n$ , thus  $\theta_{j,l,\gamma} \notin B$ , and  $\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B) = \rho^{(k,n)}(B^k) = 0$ ; if k=1, then by definition  $\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B) = \rho^{(k,n)}(B^k)$ . Thus, the second and third inequalities are clearly true in these two trivial cases, for the rest, we only need to consider the case a > 0, k > 1. The key point is to estimate  $|Y_{1,2,B}|$ .

For fixed  $\theta_{i_1,i_2,\gamma} \in B$ , we will show that there are at most 2(a-1) choices of  $(i_3,i_4)$  to satisfy  $(i_1,\ldots,i_{2k}) \in Y_{1,2,B}$ . Let

$$T_{j} = \{l : l \neq i_{j}, \theta_{i_{j}, l, \gamma} \in B\} \cup \{l : l \neq i_{j}, \theta_{l, i_{j}, \gamma} \in B\},$$

$$T'_{j} = \{l : l \neq i_{j}, \theta_{i_{j}, l} \in (0, c_{n})\} \cup \{l : l \neq i_{j}, \theta_{l, i_{j}} \in (0, c_{n})\}, \quad j = 1, 2.$$

Then we have  $T_j \subseteq T_j'$ , since  $\theta_{j,l,\gamma} \in B$  implies  $n^{\gamma}\theta_{j,l} \in A \subset (0, c_1)$  and  $\theta_{j,l} \in (0, n^{-\gamma}c_1) = (0, c_n)$ . Assume  $\theta_{i_1} = \theta_{(p)}$  then we have

$$\{\theta_l : l \in T_1' \cup \{i_1\}\} = \{\theta_{(q)} (\text{mod } 2\pi) : |\theta_{(q)} - \theta_{(p)}| < c_n\}$$
$$= \{\theta_{(q)} (\text{mod } 2\pi) : r \le q \le s\},$$

for some  $r, s \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $|\theta_{(r)} - \theta_{(p)}| < c_n$ ,  $|\theta_{(s)} - \theta_{(p)}| < c_n$ , therefore  $|\theta_{(r)} - \theta_{(s)}| < 2c_n$ , and by the definition of a we have  $s - r \le a$ . Since  $i_1 \notin T_1'$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |T_1'| + 1 &= |\{\theta_l : l \in T_1' \cup \{i_1\}\}| \\ &= |\{\theta_{(q)} (\text{mod } 2\pi) : r \le q \le s\}| \\ &\le s - r + 1 \le a + 1, \end{aligned}$$

and thus  $|T_1| \le |T_1'| \le a$ . Similarly, we have  $|T_2| \le |T_2'| \le a$ .

Now for  $\theta_{i_1,i_2,\gamma} \in B$ , by definition we have  $i_2 \in T_1$  and  $i_1 \in T_2$ .

If  $\theta_{i_3,i_4,\gamma} \in B$ ,  $\{i_1,i_2\} \cap \{i_3,i_4\} \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\{i_1,i_2\} \neq \{i_3,i_4\}$ , then we must have  $\{i_3,i_4\} = \{i_1,l\}$ ,  $l \in T_2 \setminus \{i_1\}$  or  $\{i_3,i_4\} = \{i_2,l\}$ ,  $l \in T_1 \setminus \{i_2\}$ , and the order of  $i_3,i_4$  is uniquely determined. In fact, by the definition of  $\theta_{i,j}$ , we have  $\theta_{i_3,i_4} + \theta_{i_4,i_3} = 2\pi$ , if  $\theta_{i_3,i_4,\gamma} \in B$ ,  $\theta_{i_4,i_3,\gamma} \in B$  then we have  $n^{\gamma}\theta_{i_3,i_4}, n^{\gamma}\theta_{i_4,i_3} \in A \subset (0,c_1)$ , and  $\theta_{i_3,i_4} + \theta_{i_4,i_3} < 2n^{-\gamma}c_1 = 2c_n < 2\pi$ , a contradiction.

Thus for  $\theta_{i_1,i_2,\gamma} \in B$ , the number of  $(i_3,i_4)$  satisfying  $\theta_{i_3,i_4,\gamma} \in B$ ,  $\{i_1,i_2\} \cap \{i_3,i_4\} \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\{i_1,i_2\} \neq \{i_3,i_4\}$  is at most  $|T_2 \setminus \{i_1\}| + |T_1 \setminus \{i_2\}| = |T_2| - 1 + |T_1| - 1 \leq 2(a-1)$ . Now there are  $\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B)$  choices of  $(i_1,i_2)$ , for fixed  $(i_1,i_2)$  there are at most 2(a-1) choices of  $(i_3,i_4)$  and  $\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B)$  choices of  $(i_{2l-1},i_{2l})$ ,  $3 \leq l \leq k$ , to satisfy  $(i_1,\ldots,i_{2k}) \in Y_{1,2,B}$ , thus we have

$$|Y_{1,2,B}| \le \widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B) \times 2(a-1) \times \widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B)^{k-2} = 2(a-1)\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B)^{k-1}$$

By (25) and (26), we have

$$0 \le \frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B) - k)!} - \rho^{(k,n)}(B^k)$$
  
=  $|X_{1,B}| - |X_{2,B}| \le k(k-1)|Y_{1,2,B}|/2$   
 $\le k(k-1)(a-1)(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^{k-1},$ 

which is the second inequality.

The third inequality follows from the second inequality and the fact that

$$\frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B) - k)!} = \prod_{j=0}^{k-1} (\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B) - j)$$

$$= (\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^k \prod_{j=0}^{k-1} (1 - j/\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))$$

$$\ge (\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^k \left(1 - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} j/\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B)\right)$$

$$= (\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^k - k(k-1)(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^{k-1}/2,$$

this completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

**4. Integral inequalities.** In this section, we will first prove Lemma 4.1 which is roughly about the integration of the joint density on the small tubes around one variable. Then we can derive several integral inequalities about the two-component log-gas. We will use these inequalities many times during the whole proof.

4.1. *Integral lemma*. We first prove the following integral lemma.

LEMMA 4.1. Let  $m, n, \beta$  be positive integers with  $m \le n$ . Given c such that  $n\beta c \in (0, 1)$  and  $\theta_j \in \mathbb{R}, j = 1, ..., m$ , we define

$$F(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{m} (e^{ix} - e^{i\theta_j}),$$

then we have

$$\left(\frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2}\right)^{\beta} \cos(n\beta c) \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 |F(x_1)|^{2\beta} 
\leq \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \int_{x_1}^{x_1+c} dx_2 |e^{ix_1} - e^{ix_2}|^{\beta} |F(x_1)|^{\beta} |F(x_2)|^{\beta} 
\leq \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 |F(x_1)|^{2\beta},$$

and for  $k \ge 1$ , we have

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \int_{(x_1, x_1 + c)^{k-1}} dx_2 \cdots dx_k \prod_{1 \le j < l \le k} |e^{ix_j} - e^{ix_l}|^{\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{k} |F(x_j)|^{\beta}$$

$$\leq c^{\beta k(k-1)/2 + k - 1} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 |F(x_1)|^{k\beta}.$$

For intervals  $A \subset (0, c)$ ,  $I \subset (-\pi, \pi)$ , we denote

$$\varphi(\beta, A) := \int_{A} |1 - e^{iu}|^{\beta} du,$$

then we have

$$\begin{split} & \left| \int_{I} dx_{1} \int_{x_{1}+A} dx_{2} |e^{ix_{1}} - e^{ix_{2}}|^{\beta} |F(x_{1})|^{\beta} |F(x_{2})|^{\beta} - \varphi(\beta, A) \int_{I} dx_{1} |F(x_{1})|^{2\beta} |F(x_{1})|^{2\beta} \right| \\ & \leq \varphi(\beta, A) (n\beta c) \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_{1} |F(x_{1})|^{2\beta} \end{split}$$

and

$$\left(\frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2}\right)^{\beta} \int_{A} u^{\beta} du \leq \varphi(\beta, A) \leq \int_{A} u^{\beta} du.$$

PROOF. We can write

$$F(x)^{\beta} = \sum_{j=0}^{m\beta} a_j e^{ijx}.$$

We change variables  $x_2 = x_1 + t$  to get

(27) 
$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \int_{x_1}^{x_1+c} dx_2 |e^{ix_1} - e^{ix_2}|^{\beta} |F(x_1)|^{\beta} |F(x_2)|^{\beta}$$

$$= \int_{0}^{c} dt \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |1 - e^{it}|^{\beta} |F(x_1)|^{\beta} |F(x_1 + t)|^{\beta} dx_1.$$

As

$$F(x_1)^{\beta} = \sum_{j=0}^{m\beta} a_j e^{ijx_1}, \qquad F(x_1+t)^{\beta} = \sum_{j=0}^{m\beta} a_j e^{ijt} e^{ijx_1},$$

by Parseval's theorem, we have

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \overline{F(x_1)^{\beta}} F(x_1 + t)^{\beta} dx_1 = 2\pi \sum_{j=0}^{m\beta} \overline{a_j} a_j e^{ijt} = 2\pi \sum_{j=0}^{m\beta} |a_j|^2 e^{ijt}$$

and

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)|^{2\beta} dx_1 = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)^{\beta}|^2 dx_1 = 2\pi \sum_{j=0}^{m\beta} |a_j|^2.$$

Thus for  $t \in (0, c)$ ,  $0 \le j \le m\beta \le n\beta$ , we have  $0 \le jt \le n\beta c < 1$  and

(28) 
$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)|^{\beta} |F(x_1+t)|^{\beta} dx_1$$

$$\geq \operatorname{Re} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \overline{F(x_1)^{\beta}} F(x_1+t)^{\beta} dx_1$$

$$= 2\pi \sum_{j=0}^{m\beta} |a_j|^2 (\cos jt)$$

$$\geq 2\pi \sum_{j=0}^{m\beta} |a_j|^2 \cos(n\beta c)$$

$$= \cos(n\beta c) \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)|^{2\beta} dx_1,$$

integrating for  $t \in (0, c)$  gives

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \int_{x_1}^{x_1+c} dx_2 |e^{ix_1} - e^{ix_2}|^{\beta} |F(x_1)|^{\beta} |F(x_2)|^{\beta}$$

$$\geq \int_{0}^{c} dt |1 - e^{it}|^{\beta} \cos(n\beta c) \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)|^{2\beta} dx_1.$$

As  $(\sin x)/x$  is decreasing for  $x \in (0, 1)$  and  $0 < c \le n\beta c < 1$ , we further have

$$\int_0^c dt |1 - e^{it}|^{\beta} = \int_0^c dt |2\sin(t/2)|^{\beta}$$

$$\geq \int_0^c dt \left| t \frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2} \right|^{\beta} = \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \left( \frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2} \right)^{\beta}.$$

Therefore, we have

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \int_{x_1}^{x_1+c} dx_2 |e^{ix_1} - e^{ix_2}|^{\beta} |F(x_1)|^{\beta} |F(x_2)|^{\beta}$$

$$\geq \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \left( \frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2} \right)^{\beta} \cos(n\beta c) \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)|^{2\beta} dx_1,$$

which is the lower bound in the first inequality.

On the other hand, since F is  $2\pi$ -perodic, for  $t \in (0, c)$ , we have

$$0 \le \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} ||F(x_1)|^{\beta} - |F(x_1 + t)|^{\beta}|^2 dx_1$$

$$= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (|F(x_1)|^{2\beta} + |F(x_1 + t)|^{2\beta}) dx_1 - 2 \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)|^{\beta} |F(x_1 + t)|^{\beta} dx_1$$

$$= 2 \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)|^{2\beta} dx_1 - 2 \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)|^{\beta} |F(x_1 + t)|^{\beta} dx_1,$$

which implies

(29) 
$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)|^{\beta} |F(x_1+t)|^{\beta} dx_1 \le \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_1)|^{2\beta} dx_1,$$

and using (28) and  $2 - 2\cos(n\beta c) \le (n\beta c)^2$ , we also have

(30) 
$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left| \left| F(x_1) \right|^{\beta} - \left| F(x_1 + t) \right|^{\beta} \right|^2 dx_1 \le (n\beta c)^2 \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left| F(x_1) \right|^{2\beta} dx_1.$$

By (27) and (29), we have

$$\begin{split} & \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \int_{x_1}^{x_1+c} dx_2 \big| e^{ix_1} - e^{ix_2} \big|^{\beta} \big| F(x_1) \big|^{\beta} \big| F(x_2) \big|^{\beta} \\ & \leq \int_{0}^{c} dt \big| 1 - e^{it} \big|^{\beta} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \big| F(x_1) \big|^{2\beta} dx_1 \\ & \leq \int_{0}^{c} dt |t|^{\beta} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \big| F(x_1) \big|^{2\beta} dx_1 \\ & = \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \big| F(x_1) \big|^{2\beta}, \end{split}$$

which gives the upper bound in the first inequality.

If  $x_j \in (x_1, x_1 + c)$  for  $1 < j \le k$ , then we have  $|e^{ix_j} - e^{ix_l}| \le |x_j - x_l| < c$  for  $1 \le j < l \le k$ , therefore,

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \int_{(x_1, x_1 + c)^{k-1}} dx_2 \cdots dx_k \prod_{1 \le j < l \le k} |e^{ix_j} - e^{ix_l}|^{\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{k} |F(x_j)|^{\beta} 
\le \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \int_{(x_1, x_1 + c)^{k-1}} dx_2 \cdots dx_k \prod_{1 \le j < l \le k} c^{\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{k} |F(x_j)|^{\beta} 
= c^{\beta k(k-1)/2} \int_{(0, c)^{k-1}} dt_2 \cdots dt_k \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \prod_{j=1}^{k} |F(x_1 + t_j)|^{\beta} 
\le \frac{c^{\beta k(k-1)/2}}{k} \int_{(0, c)^{k-1}} dt_2 \cdots dt_k \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \sum_{j=1}^{k} |F(x_1 + t_j)|^{k\beta} 
= \frac{c^{\beta k(k-1)/2}}{k} \sum_{j=1}^{k} \int_{(0, c)^{k-1}} dt_2 \cdots dt_k \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 |F(x_1)|^{k\beta} 
= c^{\beta k(k-1)/2+k-1} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 |F(x_1)|^{k\beta},$$

which is the second inequality, here we denote  $t_1 = 0$ .

By changing variables, the definition of  $\varphi(\beta, A)$ , Hölder inequality and (30), we have

$$\begin{split} & \left| \int_{I} dx_{1} \int_{x_{1}+A} dx_{2} |e^{ix_{1}} - e^{ix_{2}}|^{\beta} |F(x_{1})|^{\beta} |F(x_{2})|^{\beta} - \varphi(\beta, A) \int_{I} dx_{1} |F(x_{1})|^{2\beta} |F(x_{1})|^{\beta} |F(x_{1})|^{\beta} |F(x_{1}+u)|^{\beta} - \int_{A} |1 - e^{iu}|^{\beta} du \int_{I} dx_{1} |F(x_{1})|^{2\beta} \right| \\ & \leq \int_{A} du \int_{I} dx_{1} |1 - e^{iu}|^{\beta} |F(x_{1})|^{\beta} |F(x_{1}+u)|^{\beta} - |F(x_{1})|^{\beta} |F(x_{1}+u)|^{\beta} - |F(x_{1})|^{\beta} |F(x_{1}+u)|^{\beta} - |F(x_{1})|^{\beta} |F(x_{1})|^{\beta} |F(x_{1})|^{\beta} \\ & \leq \int_{A} du |1 - e^{iu}|^{\beta} \left( \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_{1} |F(x_{1})|^{2\beta} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( (n\beta c)^{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_{1})|^{2\beta} dx_{1} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ & \leq \int_{A} du |1 - e^{iu}|^{\beta} \left( \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_{1} |F(x_{1})|^{2\beta} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( (n\beta c)^{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |F(x_{1})|^{2\beta} dx_{1} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ & = \varphi(\beta, A)(n\beta c) \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_{1} |F(x_{1})|^{2\beta}, \end{split}$$

which is the third inequality.

As  $(\sin x)/x$  is decreasing for  $x \in (0, 1)$  and

$$A \subset (0, c) \subset (0, 1)$$

we have

$$\varphi(\beta, A) = \int_{A} |1 - e^{iu}|^{\beta} du$$

$$= \int_{A} |2\sin(u/2)|^{\beta} du$$

$$\geq \int_{A} \left| u \frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2} \right|^{\beta} du = \left( \frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2} \right)^{\beta} \int_{A} u^{\beta} du,$$

and as  $|1 - e^{iu}| \le u$ , we also have

$$\varphi(\beta, A) = \int_{A} |1 - e^{iu}|^{\beta} du \le \int_{A} u^{\beta} du,$$

which gives the fourth inequality. This completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

4.2. Inequalities regarding two-component log-gas. Let  $B = (0, c_0) \times (-\pi, \pi), n > 2k$ , by the definition of  $\rho^{(k,n,\gamma)}$  (recall (23)), we have

(31) 
$$\mathbb{E}\rho^{(k,n,\gamma)}(B^k) = \frac{n!}{(n-2k)!} \int_{\Sigma_{n,k,c}} J_{\beta}(\theta_1,\ldots,\theta_n) d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_n \bigg|_{c=c_0/n^{\gamma}},$$

here

(32) 
$$\Sigma_{n,k,c} = \{ (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) : \theta_j \in (-\pi, \pi), \forall 1 \le j \le n - k, \\ \theta_j - \theta_{j-k} \in (0, c), \forall n - k < j \le n \}.$$

For  $0 \le l \le k$ , with the same assumptions as in Lemma 4.1, we denote

(33) 
$$E_{\beta,n,k,l}(c) := \int_{\Sigma_{n-l,k-l,c}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n-l} \prod_{j < m} |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_m}|^{q_j q_m \beta} \Big|_{q_s = 1 + \chi_{\{s \le l\}}}.$$

Then we have

$$\int_{\Sigma_{n,k,c}} J_{\beta}(\theta_1,\ldots,\theta_n) d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_n = \frac{E_{\beta,n,k,0}(c)}{C_{\beta,n}},$$

and by definition we can check that

$$E_{\beta,n,k,k}(c) = C_{\beta,n-2k,k}$$
.

We need to show that (for  $0 < n\beta c < 1$ )

$$\left(\frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2}\right)^{\beta} \cos(n\beta c) \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \le \frac{E_{\beta,n,k,l-1}(c)}{E_{\beta,n,k,l}(c)} \le \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}.$$

In fact, after changing the order of variables, we can write

$$\begin{split} E_{\beta,n,k,l-1}(c) &= \int_{\Sigma_{n-l-1,k-l,c}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n-l-1} \prod_{1 \leq j < m \leq n-l-1} |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_m}|^{q_j q_m \beta} \\ &\times \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \int_{x_1}^{x_1+c} dx_2 |e^{ix_1} - e^{ix_2}|^{\beta} \\ &\times \prod_{j=1}^{2} \prod_{m=1}^{n-l-1} |e^{ix_j} - e^{i\theta_m}|^{q_m \beta} \Big|_{q_s = 1 + \chi_{\{s \leq l-1\}}}, \end{split}$$

and

$$E_{\beta,n,k,l}(c) = \int_{\Sigma_{n-l-1,k-l,c}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n-l-1} \prod_{1 \le j < m \le n-l-1} |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_m}|^{q_j q_m \beta}$$

$$\times \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \prod_{m=1}^{n-l-1} |e^{ix_1} - e^{i\theta_m}|^{2q_m \beta} \Big|_{q_s = 1 + \chi_{\{s \le l-1\}}},$$

then (34) is the direct consequence of Lemma 4.1 by taking

$$F(x) = \prod_{m=1}^{n-l-1} (e^{ix} - e^{i\theta_m})^{q_m}.$$

By (34) we finally have the following two estimates:

(35) 
$$E_{\beta,n,k,l}(c) \le \left(\frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^{k-l} E_{\beta,n,k,k}(c) = \left(\frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^{k-l} C_{\beta,n-2k,k}$$

and

(36) 
$$\left(\frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2}\right)^{k\beta} \left(\cos(n\beta c)\right)^k \left(\frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^k C_{\beta,n-2k,k} \le E_{\beta,n,k,0}(c).$$

**5.** No successive small gaps. In this section, we will prove Lemma 1.2 which implies that there is no successive smallest gaps. We first need the following estimate.

LEMMA 5.1. For 
$$B = (0, c_0) \times (-\pi, \pi), n \ge k > 1, n^{1-\gamma}\beta c_0 \in (0, 1), we have$$

$$\mathbb{E}\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,k-1)}(B) \le n(n^{1-\gamma}\beta c_0)^{\beta k(k-1)/2+k-1}.$$

PROOF. We consider the point process

$$\xi^{(n)} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \delta_{\theta_i}, \qquad \xi^{(n,k)} = \sum_{i_1,\dots,i_k \text{ all distinct}} \delta_{(\theta_{i_1},\dots,\theta_{i_k})}.$$

For  $B = (0, c_0) \times (-\pi, \pi)$ ,  $n \ge k > 1$ , let  $c_n = c_0/n^{\gamma}$ , then we have

$$\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,j)}(B) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{1}_{\xi^{(n)}(\theta_i + (0,c_n)) \ge j} \le \frac{1}{j!} \xi^{(n,j+1)}(\Lambda_{j+1,c_n}),$$

here, the angles are modulo  $2\pi$ , 1 is the indicator of an event and we define

$$\Lambda_{k,c} = \{ (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k) : \theta_1 \in (-\pi, \pi), \theta_i - \theta_1 \in (0, c), \forall 1 < j \le k \}.$$

Let

$$\Lambda_{k,c,n} = \{ (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) : \theta_j \in (-\pi, \pi), \forall 1 \le j \le n - k + 1, \\ \theta_j - \theta_{n-k+1} \in (0, c), \forall n - k + 1 < j \le n \},$$

then by Lemma 1.1 and Lemma 4.1, we have

$$\begin{split} &\mathbb{E}\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,k-1)}(B) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{(k-1)!} \mathbb{E}\dot{\xi}^{(n,k)}(\Lambda_{k,c_{n}}) \\ &= \frac{1}{(k-1)!} \frac{n!}{(n-k)!} \int_{\Lambda_{k,c_{n},n}} J_{\beta}(\theta_{1},\ldots,\theta_{n}) \, d\theta_{1} \cdots d\theta_{n} \\ &= \frac{1}{(k-1)!} \frac{n!}{(n-k)!} \frac{1}{C_{\beta,n}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_{1} \cdots \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_{n-k} \prod_{1 \leq j < m \leq n-k} |e^{i\theta_{j}} - e^{i\theta_{m}}|^{\beta} \\ &\times \int_{\Lambda_{k,c_{n}}} dx_{1} \cdots dx_{k} \prod_{1 \leq j < m \leq k} |e^{ix_{j}} - e^{ix_{m}}|^{\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{k} \prod_{m=1}^{n-k} |e^{ix_{j}} - e^{i\theta_{m}}|^{\beta} \\ &\leq \frac{n^{k}}{(k-1)!} \frac{1}{C_{\beta,n}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_{1} \cdots \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d\theta_{n-k} \prod_{1 \leq j < m \leq n-k} |e^{i\theta_{j}} - e^{i\theta_{m}}|^{\beta} \\ &\times c_{n}^{\beta k(k-1)/2+k-1} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_{1} \prod_{m=1}^{n-k} |e^{ix_{1}} - e^{i\theta_{m}}|^{k\beta} \\ &= \frac{n^{k}}{(k-1)!} \frac{C_{\beta,n-k,(k)}}{C_{\beta,n}} c_{n}^{\beta k(k-1)/2+k-1} \\ &\leq \frac{n^{k}}{(k-1)!} (n\beta)^{k(k-1)\beta/2} c_{n}^{\beta k(k-1)/2+k-1} \\ &= \frac{n(n\beta c_{n})^{\beta k(k-1)/2+k-1}}{(k-1)!\beta^{k-1}} \\ &\leq n(n\beta c_{n})^{\beta k(k-1)/2+k-1}, \end{split}$$

this completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

Now we can give the proof of Lemma 1.2.

PROOF. Let c be such that  $A \subset (0,c)$ , and  $B = (0,c) \times (-\pi,\pi)$ ,  $\gamma = \frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1}$ . Then by the definitions (5) and (14),  $\chi^{(n)}(A \times I) - \widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A \times I) \neq 0$  implies  $\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,j)}(A \times I) > 0$  for some

j > 1, and thus we must have  $\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,2)}(B) > 0$ . Since  $\gamma > 1$ , for n large enough we have  $n^{1-\gamma}\beta c \in (0,1)$ , and by Lemma 5.1 with k=3, we have

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}\big(\chi^{(n)}(A\times I) - \widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A\times I) \neq 0\big) &\leq \mathbb{P}\big(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,2)}(B) > 0\big) \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}\big(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,2)}(B)\big) \\ &\leq n\big(n^{1-\gamma}\beta c\big)^{3\beta+2} \\ &= n\big(n^{-\frac{1}{\beta+1}}\beta c\big)^{3\beta+2} \to 0, \end{split}$$

this completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

- **6. Proof of Lemma 1.3.** In this section, we will prove Lemma 1.3.
- 6.1. *Uniform boundedness*. We need the following lemma which will be applied in the proofs of Lemma 1.3 and Lemma 1.4.

LEMMA 6.1.

(37) 
$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}} < +\infty.$$

PROOF. Let  $c_0$  be fixed such that  $\beta c_0 \in (0, 1)$  and  $B = (0, c_0) \times (-\pi, \pi)$ . Thanks to the integral expression of  $\mathbb{E}\rho^{(k,n,\gamma)}(B^k)$  in (31), the definition of  $E_{\beta,n,k,l}$  (33) and the upper bound (36), with  $\gamma = 1$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E}\rho^{(k,n,1)}(B^{k}) = \frac{n!}{(n-2k)!} \frac{E_{\beta,n,k,0}(c)}{C_{\beta,n}} \bigg|_{c=c_{0}/n}$$

$$\geq \frac{n!}{(n-2k)!} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}} \times \left(\frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2}\right)^{k\beta} (\cos(n\beta c))^{k} \left(\frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^{k} \bigg|_{c=c_{0}/n}$$

$$= \frac{n!n^{-k}}{(n-2k)!} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}} \left(\frac{\sin(c_{0}/(2n))}{c_{0}/(2n)}\right)^{k\beta} (\cos(\beta c_{0}))^{k} \left(\frac{c_{0}^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^{k}.$$

By the first inequality in Lemma 3.1, we have

$$\rho^{(k,n,1)}(B^k) \le \frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1)}(B))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1)}(B)-k)!} \le (\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1)}(B))^k,$$

which implies

$$\begin{split} & \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E} \left( n^{-1} \widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1)}(B) \right)^{k} \\ & \geq \limsup_{n \to +\infty} n^{-k} \mathbb{E} \rho^{(k,n,1)} (B^{k}) \\ & \geq \lim_{n \to +\infty} \sup_{n \to +\infty} \frac{n! n^{-2k}}{(n-2k)!} \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n} n^{k\beta}} \left( \cos(\beta c_{0}) \right)^{k} \left( \frac{c_{0}^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \right)^{k} \\ & = \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n} n^{k\beta}} \left( \frac{c_{0}^{\beta+1} \cos(\beta c_{0})}{\beta+1} \right)^{k}. \end{split}$$

Thus, to prove (37), we only need to prove

(38) 
$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E} \left( n^{-1} \widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1)}(B) \right)^k < +\infty.$$

SMALL GAPS 1015

As  $\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma)} = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,j)}$ , by Lemma 5.1 (since  $\beta c_0 \in (0,1)$ ), we have

$$\mathbb{E}(n^{-1}\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1,j)}(B)) \le (\beta c_0)^{\beta j(j+1)/2+j} \le (\beta c_0)^j.$$

Using  $0 \le \widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1,j)}(B) \le n$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E}(n^{-1}\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1,j)}(B))^k \leq \mathbb{E}(n^{-1}\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1,j)}(B)) \leq (\beta c_0)^j.$$

By Minkowski inequality, we finally have

$$(\mathbb{E}(n^{-1}\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1)}(B))^{k})^{1/k} \leq \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (\mathbb{E}(n^{-1}\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,1,j)}(B))^{k})^{1/k}$$
$$\leq \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (\beta c_{0})^{j/k}$$
$$\leq (1 - (\beta c_{0})^{1/k})^{-1},$$

thus (38) is true, so is (37).  $\Box$ 

6.2. Proof of Lemma 1.3. For  $B = A \times I$ , we will use Lemma 3.1 to prove that

(39) 
$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \left( \mathbb{E} \frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B) - k)!} - \mathbb{E} \rho^{(k,n)}(B^k) \right) = 0,$$

and use Lemma 4.1 to prove that

(40) 
$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \left( \mathbb{E} \rho^{(k,n)} (B^k) - \left( \int_A u^\beta du \right)^k \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)}{C_{\beta,n} n^{k\beta}} \right) = 0,$$

then Lemma 1.3 follows from (39) and (40), here  $\rho^{(k,n)}$  is defined in (24).

Let  $A \subset \mathbb{R}_+$  be any bounded interval,  $I \subseteq (-\pi, \pi)$  and  $B = A \times I$ . Let  $c_1$  be such that  $A \subset (0, c_1)$ , and  $B_1 = (0, c_1) \times (-\pi, \pi)$  such that  $B \subset B_1$ . We denote  $\gamma = \frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1}$  and  $c_n = c_1/n^{\gamma}$ .

Since  $\gamma > 1$ , for n large enough we have  $n\beta c_n = n^{1-\gamma}\beta c_1 \in (0, 1)$ . By the expression of  $\mathbb{E}\rho^{(k,n,\gamma)}(B^k)$ ,  $E_{\beta,n,k,l}$  and (35), with  $\gamma(\beta+1)=\beta+2$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E}\rho^{(k,n)}(B^{k}) \leq \mathbb{E}\rho^{(k,n)}(B_{1}^{k})$$

$$= \frac{n!}{(n-2k)!} \frac{E_{\beta,n,k,0}(c_{n})}{C_{\beta,n}}$$

$$\leq \frac{n!}{(n-2k)!} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}} \left(\frac{c_{n}^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^{k}$$

$$\leq n^{2k} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}} \left(\frac{c_{1}^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^{k} n^{-\gamma(\beta+1)k}$$

$$= n^{2k} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}} \left(\frac{c_{1}^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^{k} n^{-(\beta+2)k}$$

$$= \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}} \left(\frac{c_{1}^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^{k}.$$

By Lemma 6.1, we have

(41) 
$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}\rho^{(k,n)}(B^k) < +\infty.$$

Let a be defined in Lemma 3.1 and assume n large enough such that  $0 < c_n \le n\beta c_n = n^{1-\gamma}\beta c_1 < 1/4$ . By definition, we have  $0 \le a < n$  and  $a \ge k$  is equivalent to  $\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,k)}(B_2) > 0$ , here,  $a, k \in \mathbb{Z}, k > 0$  and  $B_2 = (0, 2c_1) \times (-\pi, \pi)$ .

By Lemma 5.1 and  $(1 - \gamma)(\beta + 1) = -1$ , for  $1 \le k < n$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P}(a \ge k) = \mathbb{P}(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,k)}(B_2) > 0) 
\le \mathbb{E}(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n,\gamma,k)}(B_2)) 
\le n(2n^{1-\gamma}\beta c_1)^{k(k+1)\beta/2+k} 
= n(2n^{1-\gamma}\beta c_1)^{\beta+1} (2n^{1-\gamma}\beta c_1)^{(k+2)(k-1)\beta/2+k-1} 
= (2\beta c_1)^{\beta+1} (2n^{1-\gamma}\beta c_1)^{(k+2)(k-1)\beta/2+k-1} 
\le (2\beta c_1)^{\beta+1} (1/2)^{k-1}.$$

Since  $\mathbb{P}(a \ge k) = 0$  for  $k \ge n$ , thus

$$\mathbb{P}(a > k) < (2\beta c_1)^{\beta+1} (1/2)^{k-1}$$

is always true for  $k \ge 1$ .

The above argument also implies that for k > 1,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we must have

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{P}(a \ge k) = 0.$$

And by dominated convergence theorem, we can further deduce that

(42) 
$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}(a-1)_+^p = 0, \quad \forall p \in (0, +\infty),$$

here,  $f_{+} = \max(f, 0)$ .

By Lemma 3.1, for any  $k \ge 1$ , we have  $(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^k \le 2\rho^{(k,n)}(B^k)$  or  $(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^k \le 2k(k-1)a(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^{k-1}$ , therefore, we have

$$(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^k \leq \max(2\rho^{(k,n)}(B^k), (2k(k-1)a)^k)$$

and

$$\mathbb{E}(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^k \le 2\mathbb{E}(\rho^{(k,n)}(B^k)) + (2k(k-1))^k \mathbb{E}(a^k).$$

By (41) and (42), we have

(43) 
$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^k < +\infty.$$

By Lemma 3.1, Hölder inequality, (42) and (43), we have

$$0 \le \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))!}{(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B) - k)!} - \rho^{(k,n)}(B^k)\right)$$
  

$$\le k(k-1)\mathbb{E}\left((a-1)_+(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^{k-1}\right)$$
  

$$\le k(k-1)(\mathbb{E}((a-1)_+^k))^{1/k}(\mathbb{E}(\widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(B))^k))^{1-1/k} \to 0$$

as  $n \to +\infty$ , which implies (39).

For  $B = A \times I$ , n > 2k,  $\gamma > 0$ , we have

(44) 
$$\mathbb{E}\rho^{(k,n,\gamma)}(B^k) = \frac{n!}{(n-2k)!} \int_{\Sigma_{n,k}} J_{\beta}(\theta_1,\ldots,\theta_n) d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_n \bigg|_{C=n^{-\gamma}},$$

here,

$$\Sigma_{n,k,A,I} = \{ (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n) : \theta_j \in (-\pi, \pi), \forall 1 \le j \le n - 2k, \\ \theta_{j-k} \in I, \theta_j - \theta_{j-k} \in A, \forall n - k < j \le n \}.$$

We denote

$$\Sigma_{n,k,A,I,l} = \{ (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_{n-l}) : \theta_j \in (-\pi, \pi), \forall 1 \le j \le n - 2k,$$
  
$$\theta_i \in I, \forall n - 2k < j \le n - k, \theta_i - \theta_{i-k+l} \in A, \forall n - k < j \le n - l \}$$

and

$$E_{\beta,n,k,l}(A,I) := \int_{\Sigma_{n,k,A,I,l}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n-l} \prod_{j < p} |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_p}|^{q_j q_p \beta}$$

with  $q_s = 1 + \chi_{\{n-2k < s \le n-2k+l\}}$ , then we have

(45) 
$$\int_{\Sigma_{n,k,A,I}} J_{\beta}(\theta_1,\ldots,\theta_n) d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_n = \frac{E_{\beta,n,k,0}(A,I)}{C_{\beta,n}}$$

and

$$E_{\beta,n,k,k}(A,I) = C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I).$$

We need some inequalities similar to (34).

LEMMA 6.2.  $A \subset (0, c)$  and  $I \subseteq (-\pi, \pi)$ ,  $n\beta c \in (0, 1)$ , n > 2k, n,  $\beta$ , k are positive integers, then we have

$$\left| E_{\beta,n,k,0}(A,I) - \left( \int_A u^\beta du \right)^k C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I) \right|$$

$$\leq \left( kn\beta c + \beta kc^2 / 24 \right) \left( \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \right)^k C_{\beta,n-2k,k}.$$

PROOF. As before, after changing the order of variables, we can write

$$E_{\beta,n,k,l-1}(A,I) = \int_{\Sigma_{n-2,k-1,A,I,l-1}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n-l-1} \Delta^{\beta}$$

$$\times \int_I dx_1 \int_{x_1+A} dx_2 |e^{ix_1} - e^{ix_2}|^{\beta} \prod_{j=1}^2 \prod_{m=1}^{n-l-1} |e^{ix_j} - e^{i\theta_m}|^{q_m \beta}$$

and

$$E_{\beta,n,k,l}(A,I) = \int_{\Sigma_{n-2,k-1,A,I,l-1}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n-l-1} \Delta^{\beta}$$

$$\times \int_I dx_1 \prod_{m=1}^{n-l-1} \left| e^{ix_1} - e^{i\theta_m} \right|^{2q_m \beta},$$

here,

$$\Delta = \prod_{1 \le j < m \le n - l - 1} |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_m}|^{q_j q_m}, \qquad q_s = 1 + \chi_{\{n - 2k < s < n - 2k + l\}}.$$

By Lemma 4.1,  $\Sigma_{n-2,k-1,A,I,l-1} \subset \Sigma_{n-l-1,k-l,c}$  and (35), we have

$$\begin{split} |E_{\beta,n,k,l-1}(A,I) - \varphi(\beta,A)E_{\beta,n,k,l}(A,I)| \\ &\leq \varphi(\beta,A)(n\beta c) \times \int_{\Sigma_{n-2,k-1,A,l,l-1}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n-l-1} \Delta^{\beta} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \prod_{m=1}^{n-l-1} \left| e^{ix_1} - e^{i\theta_m} \right|^{2q_m\beta} \\ &\leq \varphi(\beta,A)(n\beta c) \int_{\Sigma_{n-l-1,k-l,c}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n-l-1} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx_1 \\ &\times \prod_{1 \leq j < m \leq n-l-1} \left| e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_m} \right|^{q_j q_m \beta} \prod_{m=1}^{n-l-1} \left| e^{ix_1} - e^{i\theta_m} \right|^{2q_m \beta} \left|_{q_s = 1 + \chi_{\{0 < s-n+2k < l\}}} \\ &= \varphi(\beta,A)(n\beta c) \int_{\Sigma_{n-l,k-l,c}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n-l} \\ &\times \prod_{1 \leq j < m \leq n-l-1} \left| e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_m} \right|^{q_j q_m \beta} \left|_{q_s = 1 + \chi_{\{0 < s-n+2k \leq l\}}} \right| \\ &= \varphi(\beta,A)(n\beta c) E_{\beta,n,k,l}(c) \\ &\leq \varphi(\beta,A)(n\beta c) \left( \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \right)^{k-l} C_{\beta,n-2k,k}, \end{split}$$

where  $\varphi(\beta, A)$  is as in Lemma 4.1 and  $E_{\beta,n,k,l}(c)$  is as in (33). Therefore (using Lemma 4.1), we have

$$\begin{split} &|E_{\beta,n,k,0}(A,I) - \varphi(\beta,A)^k E_{\beta,n,k,k}(A,I)| \\ &\leq \sum_{l=1}^k \varphi(\beta,A)^{l-1} |E_{\beta,n,k,l-1}(A,I) - \varphi(\beta,A) E_{\beta,n,k,l}(A,I)| \\ &\leq \sum_{l=1}^k \varphi(\beta,A)^l (n\beta c) \left(\frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^{k-l} C_{\beta,n-2k,k} \\ &\leq \sum_{l=1}^k (n\beta c) \left(\frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^k C_{\beta,n-2k,k} \\ &= (kn\beta c) \left(\frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^k C_{\beta,n-2k,k}. \end{split}$$

As  $1 \ge \frac{\sin x}{x} \ge 1 - x^2/6 > 0$  for  $x \in (0, 1)$ , and by Lemma 4.1, we have

$$0 \le \left(\int_A u^\beta du\right)^k - \varphi(\beta, A)^k$$

$$\le \left(\int_A u^\beta du\right)^k \left(1 - \left(\frac{\sin(c/2)}{c/2}\right)^{\beta k}\right)$$

$$\le \left(\frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^k \left(1 - \left(1 - c^2/24\right)^{\beta k}\right) \le \left(\frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^k \beta k c^2/24.$$

By definition, we have

$$0 \le E_{\beta,n,k,k}(A,I) = C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I) \le C_{\beta,n-2k,k},$$

therefore, we have

$$\begin{split} \left| E_{\beta,n,k,0}(A,I) - \left( \int_{A} u^{\beta} du \right)^{k} C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I) \right| \\ &\leq \left| E_{\beta,n,k,0}(A,I) - \varphi(\beta,A)^{k} E_{\beta,n,k,k}(A,I) \right| \\ &+ \left| \left( \int_{A} u^{\beta} du \right)^{k} - \varphi(\beta,A)^{k} \right| C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I) \\ &\leq (kn\beta c) \left( \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \right)^{k} C_{\beta,n-2k,k} + \left( \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \right)^{k} (\beta kc^{2}/24) C_{\beta,n-2k,k}, \end{split}$$

which completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

Now we are ready to prove (40). By the expression of  $\mathbb{E}\rho^{(k,n,\gamma)}(B^k)$  with  $\gamma = \frac{\beta+2}{\beta+1}$  (see (44)), the definition of  $E_{\beta,n,k,l}(A,I)$  (see (45)) and changing variables, we have

$$\mathbb{E}(\rho^{(k,n)}((A \times I)^{k})) - \left(\int_{A} u^{\beta} du\right)^{k} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}}$$

$$= \frac{n!}{(n-2k)!} \frac{E_{\beta,n,k,0}(n^{-\gamma}A,I)}{C_{\beta,n}} - \left(\int_{n^{-\gamma}A} u^{\beta} du\right)^{k} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta-k(\beta+1)\gamma}}$$

$$= \frac{n^{2k}}{C_{\beta,n}} \left(E_{\beta,n,k,0}(n^{-\gamma}A,I) - \left(\int_{n^{-\gamma}A} u^{\beta} du\right)^{k} C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)\right)$$

$$- \left(n^{2k} - \frac{n!}{(n-2k)!}\right) \frac{E_{\beta,n,k,0}(n^{-\gamma}A,I)}{C_{\beta,n}}.$$

We first notice that

$$0 \le n^{2k} - \frac{n!}{(n-2k)!}$$

$$= n^{2k} - \prod_{j=0}^{2k-1} (n-j)$$

$$= n^{2k} - n^{2k} \prod_{j=0}^{2k-1} (1-j/n)$$

$$\le n^{2k} - n^{2k} \left(1 - \sum_{j=0}^{2k-1} j/n\right)$$

$$= n^{2k} \sum_{j=0}^{2k-1} j/n$$

$$= n^{2k-1}k(2k-1).$$

As  $n^{-\gamma}A \subset (0, n^{-\gamma}c_1)$ ,  $\Sigma_{n-2,k-1,n^{-\gamma}A,I,l-1} \subset \Sigma_{n-l-1,k-l,n^{-\gamma}c_1}$ , for n large enough we have  $n^{1-\gamma}\beta c_1 \in (0,1)$ , then we infer from (35) that

$$0 \le E_{\beta,n,k,0}(n^{-\gamma}A,I) \le E_{\beta,n,k,0}(n^{-\gamma}c_1) \le C_{\beta,n-2k,k}\left(\frac{(n^{-\gamma}c_1)^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^k.$$

Therefore, we have

$$0 \le \left(n^{2k} - \frac{n!}{(n-2k)!}\right) \frac{E_{\beta,n,k,0}(n^{-\gamma}A, I)}{C_{\beta,n}}$$

$$\le n^{2k-1}k(2k-1)\frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}} \left(\frac{(n^{-\gamma}c_1)^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^k$$

$$= n^{2k-1}k(2k-1)\frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}} \left(\frac{n^{-(\beta+2)}c_1^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^k$$

$$= n^{-1}k(2k-1)\frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}} \left(\frac{c_1^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}\right)^k.$$

By Lemma 6.2, we have

$$\frac{n^{2k}}{C_{\beta,n}} \left| E_{\beta,n,k,0}(n^{-\gamma}A,I) - \left( \int_{n^{-\gamma}A} u^{\beta} du \right)^{k} C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I) \right| \\
\leq \frac{n^{2k}}{C_{\beta,n}} \left( kn\beta c + \beta kc^{2}/24 \right) \left( \frac{c^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \right)^{k} C_{\beta,n-2k,k} \Big|_{c=n^{-\gamma}c_{1}} \\
= \frac{n^{2k}}{C_{\beta,n}} \left( kn^{1-\gamma}\beta c_{1} + \beta kn^{-2\gamma}c_{1}^{2}/24 \right) \left( \frac{n^{-(\beta+2)}c_{1}^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \right)^{k} C_{\beta,n-2k,k} \\
= \left( kn^{1-\gamma}\beta c_{1} + \beta kn^{-2\gamma}c_{1}^{2}/24 \right) \left( \frac{c_{1}^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \right)^{k} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}}.$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{split} & \left| \mathbb{E} \left( \rho^{(k,n)} \left( (A \times I) \right)^k \right) - \left( \int_A u^\beta \, du \right)^k \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)}{C_{\beta,n} n^{k\beta}} \right| \\ & \leq \left( k n^{1-\gamma} \beta c_1 + \beta k n^{-2\gamma} c_1^2 / 24 + n^{-1} k (2k-1) \right) \left( \frac{c_1^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \right)^k \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n} n^{k\beta}}. \end{split}$$

Now (40) follows from (37) of the uniform boundedness of  $\frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}}$  and the fact that

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} (kn^{1-\gamma}\beta c_1 + \beta kn^{-2\gamma}c_1^2/24 + n^{-1}k(2k-1)) = 0.$$

7. Proof of the upper bound (19). Now we consider (19). We will make use of several formulas, especially these on the generalized hypergeometric functions  ${}_2F_1^{(\alpha)}$ , and we refer to Chapter 13 of [9] for more details.

By definition, we can rewrite the two-component log-gas as

(46) 
$$C_{\beta,n_1,2}(I) = \int_{r_2} dr_1 dr_2 \left| e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2} \right|^{4\beta} I_{n_1,2}(\beta; r_1, r_2),$$

here

$$I_{n_1,2}(\beta; r_1, r_2) := \int_{(-\pi,\pi)^{n_1}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n_1}$$

$$\times \prod_{j=1}^{n_1} \prod_{k=1}^{2} |1 - e^{i(\theta_j - r_k)}|^{2\beta} \prod_{1 \le j < k \le n_1} |e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_k}|^{\beta}.$$

SMALL GAPS 1021

We will see that the uniform upper bound (19) is a direct consequence of the following Lemma 7.1, together with the integral expression (46) (with  $n_1 = n - 4$ ) and Fatou's lemma.

LEMMA 7.1. There exists a constant C depending only on  $\beta$  such that

$$I_{n-4,2}(\beta; r_1, r_2) |e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2}|^{4\beta} \le CC_{\beta,n} n^{2\beta}, \quad \forall n > 4, r_1, r_2 \in [-\pi, \pi],$$

and

$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} C_{\beta,n}^{-1} n^{-2\beta} I_{n-4,2}(\beta; r_1, r_2) |e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2}|^{4\beta} \le (2\pi)^{-2} A_{\beta}^2.$$

We need to prove several estimates in order to prove Lemma 7.1. By Proposition 13.1.2 in [9], we have the following relation between the generalized hypergeometric function  ${}_2F_1^{(\alpha)}$  and the Selberg type integrals:

$$\frac{1}{M_{n}(a,b,1/\alpha)} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} d\theta_{1} \cdots \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} d\theta_{n} \prod_{l=1}^{n} \left( e^{\pi i \theta_{l}(a-b)} |1 + e^{2\pi i \theta_{l}}|^{a+b} \right) \times \prod_{l'=1}^{m} \left( 1 + t_{l'} e^{2\pi i \theta_{l}} \right) \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} \left| e^{2\pi i \theta_{j}} - e^{2\pi i \theta_{k}} \right|^{2/\alpha}$$

$$= 2F_{1}^{(1/\alpha)} \left( -n, \alpha b; -(n-1) - \alpha(1+a); t_{1}, \dots, t_{m} \right)$$

$$= \frac{2F_{1}^{(1/\alpha)} \left( -n, \alpha b; \alpha(a+b+m); 1 - t_{1}, \dots, 1 - t_{m} \right)}{2F_{1}^{(1/\alpha)} \left( -n, \alpha b; \alpha(a+b+m); (1)^{m} \right)},$$

here,  $M_n(a, b, 1/\alpha)$  is defined as in (20) and we have used the following formula (Proposition 13.1.7 in [9]):

$${}_{2}F_{1}^{(\alpha)}(a,b;c;t_{1},\ldots,t_{m})$$

$$=\frac{{}_{2}F_{1}^{(\alpha)}(a,b;a+b+1+(m-1)/\alpha-c;1-t_{1},\ldots,1-t_{m})}{{}_{2}F_{1}^{(\alpha)}(a,b;a+b+1+(m-1)/\alpha-c;(1)^{m})}.$$

By Proposition 13.1.4 in [9], we have

$$\frac{1}{S_{n}(\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, 1/\alpha)} \int_{0}^{1} dx_{1} \cdots \int_{0}^{1} dx_{n} \prod_{l=1}^{n} x_{l}^{\lambda_{1}} (1 - x_{l})^{\lambda_{2}} (1 - sx_{l})^{-r}$$

$$\times \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} |x_{j} - x_{k}|^{2/\alpha}$$

$$= {}_{2}F_{1}^{(\alpha)} \left(r, \frac{1}{\alpha}(n-1) + \lambda_{1} + 1; \frac{2}{\alpha}(n-1) + \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} + 2; (s)^{n}\right),$$

here, by (4.1) and (4.3) in [9], the Selberg integral is

(49) 
$$S_{n}(\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \lambda) := \int_{0}^{1} dt_{1} \cdots \int_{0}^{1} dt_{n} \prod_{l=1}^{n} t_{l}^{\lambda_{1}} (1 - t_{l})^{\lambda_{2}} \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n} |t_{j} - t_{k}|^{2\lambda}$$

$$= \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{\Gamma(\lambda_{1} + 1 + j\lambda)\Gamma(\lambda_{2} + 1 + j\lambda)\Gamma(1 + (j+1)\lambda)}{\Gamma(\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} + 2 + (n+j-1)\lambda)\Gamma(1 + \lambda)}.$$

Now we change variables  $\theta_j \mapsto \theta_j + r_1 \pm \pi$  to obtain

$$I_{n_{1},2}(\beta; r_{1}, r_{2}) = \int_{(-\pi,\pi)^{n_{1}}} d\theta_{1} \cdots d\theta_{n_{1}} \prod_{j=1}^{n_{1}} (|1 + e^{i\theta_{j}}|^{2\beta} |1 + e^{i(\theta_{j} + r_{1} - r_{2})}|^{2\beta})$$

$$\times \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n_{1}} |e^{i\theta_{j}} - e^{i\theta_{k}}|^{\beta}.$$

For positive integer  $\beta$ , we have

$$|1 + e^{i(\theta_j + r_1 - r_2)}|^{2\beta} = e^{-i\beta(\theta_j + r_1 - r_2)} (1 + e^{i(\theta_j + r_1 - r_2)})^{2\beta},$$

which shows

$$I_{n_1,2}(\beta; r_1, r_2) = e^{-i\beta n_1(r_1 - r_2)} \int_{(-\pi,\pi)^{n_1}} d\theta_1 \cdots d\theta_{n_1}$$

$$\times \prod_{j=1}^{n_1} \left( e^{-i\beta\theta_j} |1 + e^{i\theta_j}|^{2\beta} \left( 1 + e^{i(\theta_j + r_1 - r_2)} \right)^{2\beta} \right) \prod_{1 \le j < k \le n_1} \left| e^{i\theta_j} - e^{i\theta_k} \right|^{\beta}.$$

Comparing with (47) and changing variables  $\theta_j \mapsto 2\pi\theta_j$ , this integral is of the type therein with

$$n = n_1$$
,  $m = 2\beta$ ,  $a - b = -2\beta$ ,  $a + b = 2\beta$ ,  $2/\alpha = \beta$ ,

and

$$t_k = t := e^{i(r_1 - r_2)}$$
 for  $1 \le k \le m$ .

Thus (47) implies that  $I_{n_1,2}$  is proportional to

$$t^{-\beta n_1} {}_2 F_1^{(\beta/2)} (-n_1, 4; 8; ((1-t))^{2\beta}),$$

and by (20), (47),  ${}_2F_1^{(\beta/2)}$  equals to 1 at the origin, thus by considering the case of  $t_k = t = 1$   $(1 \le k \le 2\beta)$  for  $r_1 = r_2$ , we will have

(50) 
$$I_{n_1,2}(\beta; r_1, r_2) = I_{n_1,2}(\beta; r_1, r_1) t^{-\beta n_1} {}_2 F_1^{(\beta/2)} (-n_1, 4; 8; ((1-t))^{2\beta}),$$

where

(51) 
$$I_{n_{1},2}(\beta; r_{1}, r_{1}) = \int_{(-\pi,\pi)^{n_{1}}} d\theta_{1} \cdots d\theta_{n_{1}} \prod_{j=1}^{n_{1}} |1 + e^{i\theta_{j}}|^{4\beta}$$
$$\times \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq n_{1}} |e^{i\theta_{j}} - e^{i\theta_{k}}|^{\beta}$$
$$= (2\pi)^{n_{1}} M_{n_{1}}(2\beta, 2\beta, \beta/2).$$

Comparison with (48) shows that  $_2F_1^{(\beta/2)}$  is of the type therein with

$$r = -n_1,$$
  $\alpha = \beta/2,$   $n = 2\beta,$   $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 4 - \frac{1}{\alpha}(n-1) - 1 = \frac{2}{\beta} - 1,$   $s = 1 - t,$ 

SMALL GAPS 1023

thus by (48), we have

$${}_{2}F_{1}^{(\beta/2)}(-n_{1}, 4; 8; ((1-t))^{2\beta})$$

$$= \frac{1}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)}$$

$$\times \int_{[0,1]^{2\beta}} du_{1} \cdots du_{2\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} u_{j}^{2/\beta - 1} (1 - u_{j})^{2/\beta - 1} (1 - (1-t)u_{j})^{n_{1}}$$

$$\times \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq 2\beta} |u_{j} - u_{k}|^{4/\beta}.$$

Using (50), (51), (52), we have

$$I_{n_1,2}(\beta; r_1, r_2)$$

(53) 
$$= \frac{(2\pi)^{n_1} M_{n_1}(2\beta, 2\beta, \beta/2) t^{-\beta n_1}}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)} \int_{[0,1]^{2\beta}} du_1 \cdots du_{2\beta}$$

$$\times \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} u_j^{2/\beta - 1} (1 - u_j)^{2/\beta - 1} (1 - (1 - t)u_j)^{n_1} \prod_{1 \le j < k \le 2\beta} |u_j - u_k|^{4/\beta}.$$

Now we rewrite (53) as

$$I_{n_1,2}(\beta;r_1,r_2) = \frac{(2\pi)^{n_1} M_{n_1}(2\beta,2\beta,\beta/2) t^{-\beta n_1}}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta-1,2/\beta-1,2/\beta)} F_{n_1,\beta}(t),$$

here  $t = e^{i(r_1 - r_2)}$  and we denote

$$F_{n_1,\beta}(t) := \int_{[0,1]^{2\beta}} du_1 \cdots du_{2\beta}$$

$$\times \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} u_j^{2/\beta-1} (1-u_j)^{2/\beta-1} (1-(1-t)u_j)^{n_1} \prod_{1 \le j < k \le 2\beta} |u_j - u_k|^{4/\beta},$$

then  $F_{n_1,\beta}$  is an analytic function (in fact a polynomial) of t. As  $|1 - (1 - t)u_j| = |1 - u_j| + tu_j| \le |1 - u_j| + |tu_j| = 1$  for  $u_j \in [0, 1], |t| = 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |F_{n_1,\beta}(t)| &\leq \int_{[0,1]^{2\beta}} du_1 \cdots du_{2\beta} \\ &\times \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} u_j^{2/\beta - 1} (1 - u_j)^{2/\beta - 1} |1 - (1 - t)u_j|^{n_1} \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq 2\beta} |u_j - u_k|^{4/\beta} \\ &\leq \int_{[0,1]^{2\beta}} du_1 \cdots du_{2\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} u_j^{2/\beta - 1} (1 - u_j)^{2/\beta - 1} \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq 2\beta} |u_j - u_k|^{4/\beta} \\ &= S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta), \end{aligned}$$

which together with (22) implies

(54) 
$$I_{n_{1},2}(\beta; r_{1}, r_{2}) = \frac{(2\pi)^{n_{1}} M_{n_{1}}(2\beta, 2\beta, \beta/2)}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)} |F_{n_{1},\beta}(t)|$$

$$\leq (2\pi)^{n_{1}} M_{n_{1}}(2\beta, 2\beta, \beta/2) = (2\pi)^{-1} C_{\beta,n_{1},(4)}.$$

Changing variables  $u_i \mapsto t_i/(1+t_i)$ , we obtain

$$F_{n_{1},\beta}(t) = \int_{(0,+\infty)^{2\beta}} \frac{dt_{1} \cdots dt_{2\beta}}{(1+t_{1})^{2} \cdots (1+t_{2\beta})^{2}}$$

$$\times \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} \frac{t_{j}^{2/\beta-1}}{(1+t_{j})^{2(2/\beta-1)}} \left(\frac{1+tt_{j}}{1+t_{j}}\right)^{n_{1}} \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq 2\beta} \left|\frac{t_{j} - t_{k}}{(1+t_{j})(1+t_{k})}\right|^{4/\beta}$$

$$= \int_{(0,+\infty)^{2\beta}} dt_{1} \cdots dt_{2\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} \frac{t_{j}^{2/\beta-1} (1+tt_{j})^{n_{1}}}{(1+t_{j})^{2(2/\beta-1)+2+n_{1}+4/\beta\cdot(2\beta-1)}}$$

$$\times \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq 2\beta} |t_{j} - t_{k}|^{4/\beta}.$$

Since  $2(2/\beta - 1) + 2 + 4/\beta \cdot (2\beta - 1) = 4/\beta + 8 - 4/\beta = 8$ , we have

$$F_{n_1,\beta}(-z^2) = \int_{(0,+\infty)^{2\beta}} dt_1 \cdots dt_{2\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} \frac{t_j^{2/\beta-1} (1-z^2 t_j)^{n_1}}{(1+t_j)^{8+n_1}} \times \prod_{1 \le j < k \le 2\beta} |t_j - t_k|^{4/\beta}.$$

For  $z \in (0, +\infty)$ , a simple changing of variables  $zt_j \mapsto s_j$  shows that

$$F_{n_1,\beta}(-z^2) = z^{-8\beta} \int_{(0,+\infty)^{2\beta}} ds_1 \cdots ds_{2\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} \frac{s_j^{2/\beta - 1} (1 - zs_j)^{n_1}}{(1 + z^{-1}s_j)^{8+n_1}}$$

$$\times \prod_{1 \le j < k \le 2\beta} |s_j - s_k|^{4/\beta}.$$

Since both sides are analytic functions of z for  $\operatorname{Re} z > 0$ , this identity is always true for  $\operatorname{Re} z > 0$ , moreover, we can decompose  $(0, +\infty)$  into  $(0, 1] \cup [1, +\infty)$  and use the symmetry of  $s_i$  to obtain

(55) 
$$F_{n_1,\beta}(-z^2) = z^{-8\beta} \sum_{l=0}^{2\beta} {2\beta \choose l} F_{n_1,\beta,l}(z), \qquad \text{Re } z > 0,$$

where

$$F_{n_1,\beta,l}(z) := \int_{(0,1]^l \times [1,+\infty)^{2\beta-l}} ds_1 \cdots ds_{2\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} \frac{s_j^{2/\beta-1} (1-zs_j)^{n_1}}{(1+z^{-1}s_j)^{8+n_1}} \times \prod_{1 \le j < k \le 2\beta} |s_j - s_k|^{4/\beta}.$$

The changing of variables  $s_j \mapsto s_j^{-1}$  for  $l < j \le 2\beta$  shows that

$$F_{n_1,\beta,l}(z) = \int_{(0,1]^{2\beta}} ds_1 \cdots ds_{2\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{l} \frac{s_j^{2/\beta-1} (1-zs_j)^{n_1}}{(1+z^{-1}s_j)^{8+n_1}}$$

$$\times \prod_{j=l+1}^{2\beta} \frac{s_j^{-2/\beta+1} (1-zs_j^{-1})^{n_1}}{(1+z^{-1}s_j^{-1})^{8+n_1}s_j^2} \prod_{1 \le j < k \le l} |s_j - s_k|^{4/\beta} \prod_{l < j < k \le 2\beta} |s_j^{-1} - s_k^{-1}|^{4/\beta}$$

SMALL GAPS 1025

$$\times \prod_{j=1}^{l} \prod_{k=l+1}^{2\beta} |s_{j} - s_{k}^{-1}|^{4/\beta}$$

$$= \int_{(0,1]^{2\beta}} ds_{1} \cdots ds_{2\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{l} \frac{s_{j}^{2/\beta - 1} (1 - zs_{j})^{n_{1}}}{(1 + z^{-1}s_{j})^{8+n_{1}}} \prod_{j=l+1}^{2\beta} \frac{s_{j}^{a} (s_{j} - z)^{n_{1}}}{(s_{j} + z^{-1})^{8+n_{1}}}$$

$$\times \prod_{1 \le j < k \le l} |s_{j} - s_{k}|^{4/\beta} \prod_{l < j < k \le 2\beta} |s_{j} - s_{k}|^{4/\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{l} \prod_{k=l+1}^{2\beta} |1 - s_{j}s_{k}|^{4/\beta},$$

here,  $a = -2/\beta + 1 + 8 - 2 - 4/\beta \cdot (2\beta - 1) = 2/\beta - 1$ . For  $z = e^{i\theta}$ ,  $\theta \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$  i.e., Re z > 0, and for s > 0, we have  $|1 + z^{-1}s|^2 = |s + z^{-1}|^2 = 1 + s^2 + 2s\cos\theta > 1$  and |1 - zs| = |s - z|, therefore, we have

$$|F_{n_{1},\beta,l}(e^{i\theta})| \leq \int_{(0,1)^{2\beta}} ds_{1} \cdots ds_{2\beta} \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} \frac{s_{j}^{2/\beta-1} |1 - e^{i\theta} s_{j}|^{n_{1}}}{|1 + e^{-i\theta} s_{j}|^{n_{1}}}$$

$$\times \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq l} |s_{j} - s_{k}|^{4/\beta} \prod_{l < j < k \leq 2\beta} |s_{j} - s_{k}|^{4/\beta}$$

$$= F_{n_{1},\beta,(l)}(\theta) F_{n_{1},\beta,(2\beta-l)}(\theta),$$

here, we used  $|1 - s_j s_k| \le 1$  and we denote

$$F_{n_1,\beta,(l)}(\theta) := \int_{(0,1]^l} ds_1 \cdots ds_l \prod_{i=1}^l \frac{s_j^{2/\beta-1} |1 - e^{i\theta} s_j|^{n_1}}{|1 + e^{-i\theta} s_j|^{n_1}} \prod_{1 \le i \le k \le l} |s_j - s_k|^{4/\beta}.$$

As  $\frac{1-s}{1+s} \le e^{-2s}$  for  $s \in (0, 1)$ , we have

$$\frac{|1 - e^{i\theta}s|^{n_1}}{|1 + e^{-i\theta}s|^{n_1}} = \left|\frac{1 + s^2 - 2s\cos\theta}{1 + s^2 + 2s\cos\theta}\right|^{n_1/2} \le e^{-\frac{2sn_1\cos\theta}{1 + s^2}},$$

which implies

$$F_{n_1,\beta,(l)}(\theta) \leq \int_{(0,1]^l} ds_1 \cdots ds_l \prod_{j=1}^l s_j^{2/\beta - 1} e^{-\frac{2s_j n_1 \cos \theta}{1 + s_j^2}} \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq l} |s_j - s_k|^{4/\beta}$$

$$\leq \int_{(0,1]^l} ds_1 \cdots ds_l \prod_{j=1}^l s_j^{2/\beta - 1} e^{-s_j n_1 \cos \theta} \prod_{1 < j < k < l} |s_j - s_k|^{4/\beta}.$$

We denote

$$J_{n,\beta}(z) := \int_{(0,+\infty)^n} \prod_{j=1}^n t_j^{2/\beta-1} e^{-zt_j} \prod_{1 \le j < k \le n} |t_j - t_k|^{4/\beta} dt_1 \cdots dt_n,$$

then we have

$$J_{n,\beta}(z) = z^{-2n^2/\beta} J_{n,\beta}(1).$$

According to Proposition 4.7.3 in [9], we have the explicit evaluation

(57) 
$$J_{n,\beta}(1) = \prod_{j=1}^{n} \frac{\Gamma(1+2j/\beta)\Gamma(2j/\beta)}{\Gamma(1+2/\beta)}.$$

By the definition of  $J_{n,\beta}$ , we have the upper bound

(58) 
$$F_{n_1,\beta,(l)}(\theta) \le J_{l,\beta}(n_1 \cos \theta) = (n_1 \cos \theta)^{-2l^2/\beta} J_{l,\beta}(1).$$

We change of variables  $n_1s_i \mapsto t_i$  to get

$$\begin{split} F_{n_1,\beta,(l)}(\theta) &\leq n_1^{-2l^2/\beta} \int_{(0,n_1]^l} dt_1 \cdots dt_l \\ &\times \prod_{j=1}^l t_j^{2/\beta-1} e^{-\frac{2t_j \cos \theta}{1+t_j^2 n_1^{-2}}} \prod_{1 \leq j < k \leq l} |t_j - t_k|^{4/\beta}. \end{split}$$

By the dominated convergence theorem, we further have

$$\limsup_{n_1 \to +\infty} n_1^{2l^2/\beta} F_{n_1,\beta,(l)}(\theta) \le \int_{(0,+\infty)^l} dt_1 \cdots dt_l \prod_{j=1}^l t_j^{2/\beta-1} e^{-2t_j \cos \theta}$$

$$\times \prod_{1 \le j < k \le l} |t_j - t_k|^{4/\beta}$$

$$= J_{l,\beta} (2\cos \theta) = (2\cos \theta)^{-2l^2/\beta} J_{l,\beta}(1).$$

Therefore, we have

(59) 
$$\lim \sup_{n_1 \to +\infty} (2n_1 \cos \theta)^{2l^2/\beta} F_{n_1,\beta,(l)}(\theta) \le J_{l,\beta}(1).$$

7.1. Proof of Lemma 7.1. Now we are ready to prove Lemma 7.1.

PROOF. If  $|e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2}| \le n^{-1}$ , then by (54) with  $n_1 = n - 4$  and Lemma 1.1, we have the first inequality,

$$I_{n-4,2}(\beta;r_1,r_2) \left| e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2} \right|^{4\beta} \le (2\pi)^{-1} C_{\beta,n-4,(4)} n^{-4\beta} \le C C_{\beta,n} n^{2\beta}.$$

If  $|e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2}| \ge n^{-1}$ , as  $t = e^{i(r_1 - r_2)}$ , we have  $|t - 1| = |e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2}| \ge n^{-1}$  and we can write  $t = -e^{2i\theta}$  for some  $\theta \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$ , then by (22) and (54), we have

$$I_{n-4,2}(\beta; r_1, r_2) |e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2}|^{4\beta}$$

$$= \frac{(2\pi)^{n_1} M_{n-4}(2\beta, 2\beta, \beta/2)}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)} |F_{n-4,\beta}(t)| |1 - t|^{4\beta}$$

$$= \frac{(2\pi)^{-1} C_{\beta,n-4,(4)} |1 - t|^{4\beta}}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)} |F_{n-4,\beta}(t)|.$$

By (55) and (56), we have

$$|F_{n-4,\beta}(t)| \leq \sum_{l=0}^{2\beta} {2\beta \choose l} |F_{n-4,\beta,l}(e^{i\theta})|$$

$$\leq \sum_{l=0}^{2\beta} {2\beta \choose l} F_{n-4,\beta,(l)}(\theta) F_{n-4,\beta,(2\beta-l)}(\theta),$$

thus we have

$$I_{n-4,2}(\beta; r_1, r_2) |e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2}|^{4\beta} \le \sum_{l=0}^{2\beta} I_{n-4,2}^{(l)}(\beta; r_1, r_2),$$

SMALL GAPS 1027

where

$$I_{n-4,2}^{(l)}(\beta;r_1,r_2) = \frac{(2\pi)^{-1}C_{\beta,n-4,(4)}|1-t|^{4\beta}}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta-1,2/\beta-1,2/\beta-1,2/\beta)} {2\beta \choose l} F_{n-4,\beta,(l)}(\theta) F_{n-4,\beta,(2\beta-l)}(\theta).$$

As  $t = -e^{2i\theta}$ , we know that  $|1 - t| = 2\cos\theta \ge n^{-1}$ , by (58) and Lemma 1.1 we have

$$\begin{split} I_{n-4,2}^{(l)}(\beta;r_{1},r_{2}) &\leq \frac{CC_{\beta,n}n^{6\beta}(2\cos\theta)^{4\beta}}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta-1,2/\beta-1,2/\beta)} \binom{2\beta}{l} \\ &\qquad \times (n_{1}\cos\theta)^{-2l^{2}/\beta}J_{l,\beta}(1)(n_{1}\cos\theta)^{-2(2\beta-l)^{2}/\beta}J_{2\beta-l,\beta}(1) \\ &\leq CC_{\beta,n}n^{2\beta}(2n\cos\theta)^{4\beta}(n_{1}\cos\theta)^{-2l^{2}/\beta-2(2\beta-l)^{2}/\beta} \\ &\leq CC_{\beta,n}n^{2\beta}(n_{1}\cos\theta)^{4\beta}(n_{1}\cos\theta)^{-4(\beta^{2}+(\beta-l)^{2})/\beta} \\ &= CC_{\beta,n}n^{2\beta}(n_{1}\cos\theta)^{-4(\beta-l)^{2}/\beta} \leq CC_{\beta,n}n^{2\beta}, \end{split}$$

here  $n_1 = n - 4$ ,  $n_1 \cos \theta = n_1 |1 - t|/2 \ge n_1/(2n) \ge 1/10$ , and C is a constant depending only on  $\beta$ , l. Summing up, we now conclude the first inequality.

Now we consider the second inequality regarding the limit superior. If  $|e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2}| = 0$ , then the result is clearly true. If  $|e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2}| > 0$ , then we can write  $t = e^{i(r_1 - r_2)} = -e^{2i\theta}$  for some  $\theta \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$ , and  $|1 - t| = 2\cos\theta$ . Recall that

$$0 \le I_{n-4,2}^{(l)}(\beta; r_1, r_2) \le CC_{\beta,n} n^{2\beta} (n_1 \cos \theta)^{-4(\beta-l)^2/\beta}, \quad n_1 = n-4,$$

then for  $l \neq \beta$ , we have

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} C_{\beta,n}^{-1} n^{-2\beta} I_{n-4,2}^{(l)}(\beta; r_1, r_2) = 0,$$

thus

(60) 
$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} C_{\beta,n}^{-1} n^{-2\beta} I_{n-4,2}(\beta; r_1, r_2) |e^{ir_1} - e^{ir_2}|^{4\beta}$$
$$\leq \limsup_{n \to +\infty} C_{\beta,n}^{-1} n^{-2\beta} I_{n-4,2}^{(\beta)}(\beta; r_1, r_2).$$

Notice that

$$I_{n-4,2}^{(\beta)}(\beta;r_1,r_2) = \frac{(2\pi)^{-1}C_{\beta,n-4,(4)}|1-t|^{4\beta}}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta-1,2/\beta-1,2/\beta)} {2\beta \choose \beta} \left|F_{n-4,\beta,(\beta)}(\theta)\right|^2,$$

we have

$$\begin{split} &C_{\beta,n}^{-1} n^{-2\beta} I_{n-4,2}^{(\beta)}(\beta; r_1, r_2) \\ &= \frac{(2\pi)^{-1} C_{\beta,n}^{-1} n^{-2\beta} C_{\beta,n-4,(4)} (2\cos\theta)^{4\beta}}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)} \binom{2\beta}{\beta} \left| F_{n-4,\beta,(\beta)}(\theta) \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{C_{\beta,n-4,(4)}}{C_{\beta,n} n^{6\beta}} \frac{(2\pi)^{-1} (2n\cos\theta)^{4\beta}}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)} \binom{2\beta}{\beta} \left| F_{n-4,\beta,(\beta)}(\theta) \right|^2. \end{split}$$

Therefore, by (59), Lemma 1.1 and Lemma 7.2 below, we have

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \sup_{n \to +\infty} C_{\beta,n}^{-1} n^{-2\beta} I_{n-4,2}^{(\beta)}(\beta; r_1, r_2)$$

$$= \lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-4,(4)}}{C_{\beta,n} n^{6\beta}} {2\beta \choose \beta}$$

$$\times \frac{(2\pi)^{-1}}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)} \Big| \limsup_{n \to +\infty} (2n\cos\theta)^{2\beta} F_{n-4,\beta,(\beta)}(\theta) \Big|^{2}$$

$$\leq \frac{(2\pi)^{-1} A_{\beta,4}}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)} \binom{2\beta}{\beta} |J_{\beta,\beta}(1)|^{2} = (2\pi)^{-2} A_{\beta}^{2}.$$

This, together with (60), will complete the proof of Lemma 7.1 provided Lemma 7.2.

Now we prove the following identity to complete Lemma 7.1.

LEMMA 7.2. It holds that

$$(2\pi)A_{\beta,4}\binom{2\beta}{\beta}\frac{|J_{\beta,\beta}(1)|^2}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta-1,2/\beta-1,2/\beta)} = A_{\beta}^2.$$

PROOF. Notice that the Selberg integral

$$S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta) = \prod_{j=0}^{2\beta - 1} \frac{(\Gamma(2(j+1)/\beta))^2 \Gamma(1 + 2(j+1)/\beta)}{\Gamma(2(2\beta + j + 1)/\beta) \Gamma(1 + 2/\beta)}$$

$$= \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} \frac{(\Gamma(2j/\beta))^2 \Gamma(1 + 2j/\beta)}{\Gamma(2j/\beta + 4) \Gamma(1 + 2/\beta)}$$

$$= \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} \frac{(\Gamma(2j/\beta))^2}{\prod_{k=1}^3 (2j/\beta + k) \Gamma(1 + 2/\beta)},$$

that

$$\prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} \prod_{k=1}^{3} (2j/\beta + k) = (2/\beta)^{6\beta} \prod_{k=1}^{3} \prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} (j + k\beta/2) = (2/\beta)^{6\beta} \prod_{k=1}^{3} \frac{\Gamma(1 + (k+4)\beta/2)}{\Gamma(1 + k\beta/2)},$$

and that (using (57))

$$\prod_{j=1}^{2\beta} \frac{(\Gamma(2j/\beta))^2}{\Gamma(1+2/\beta)} = \prod_{j=1}^{\beta} \prod_{k=0}^{1} \frac{(\Gamma(2(j+k\beta)/\beta))^2}{\Gamma(1+2/\beta)}$$

$$= \prod_{j=1}^{\beta} \frac{(\Gamma(2j/\beta)\Gamma(2j/\beta+2))^2}{(\Gamma(1+2/\beta))^2}$$

$$= |J_{\beta,\beta}(1)|^2 \prod_{j=1}^{\beta} (2j/\beta+1)^2$$

$$= |J_{\beta,\beta}(1)|^2 (2/\beta)^{2\beta} \frac{(\Gamma(1+3\beta/2))^2}{(\Gamma(1+\beta/2))^2},$$

we have

$$(2\pi)A_{\beta,4} \binom{2\beta}{\beta} \frac{|J_{\beta,\beta}(1)|^2}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)}$$

$$= (2\pi)A_{\beta,4} \frac{\Gamma(1+2\beta)}{(\Gamma(1+\beta))^2} (2/\beta)^{4\beta} \frac{(\Gamma(1+\beta/2))^2}{(\Gamma(1+3\beta/2))^2} \prod_{k=1}^{3} \frac{\Gamma(1+(k+4)\beta/2)}{\Gamma(1+k\beta/2)},$$

as in Lemma 1.1,

$$A_{\beta,4} = \frac{(2\pi)^{-3} (\Gamma(\beta/2+1))^4}{\Gamma(2\beta+1)} (\beta/2)^{6\beta} \prod_{j=1}^3 \frac{\Gamma(j\beta/2+1)}{\Gamma((4+j)\beta/2+1)},$$

we have

$$(2\pi)A_{\beta,4} \binom{2\beta}{\beta} \frac{|J_{\beta,\beta}(1)|^2}{S_{2\beta}(2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta - 1, 2/\beta)}$$

$$= \frac{(2\pi)^{-2} (\Gamma(\beta/2 + 1))^4}{\Gamma(2\beta + 1)} (\beta/2)^{2\beta} \frac{\Gamma(1 + 2\beta)}{(\Gamma(1 + \beta))^2} \frac{(\Gamma(1 + \beta/2))^2}{(\Gamma(1 + 3\beta/2))^2}$$

$$= \frac{(2\pi)^{-2} (\Gamma(\beta/2 + 1))^6}{(\Gamma(1 + \beta))^2 (\Gamma(1 + 3\beta/2))^2} (\beta/2)^{2\beta} = A_{\beta}^2,$$

this completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

**8. Proof of Lemma 1.4.** Now we give the proof of Lemma 1.4 which will complete the proof Theorem 1.1.

PROOF. As  $C_{\beta,n-2,1}(I) = |I|C_{\beta,n-2,1}/(2\pi)$  (recall (21)), by Lemma 1.1, we have

(61) 
$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2,1}(I)}{C_{\beta,n}n^{\beta}} = \frac{|I|}{2\pi} \lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2,1}}{C_{\beta,n}n^{\beta}} = \frac{|I|A_{\beta}}{2\pi},$$

that is, Lemma 1.4 is true for k = 1. Now we assume |I| > 0, then for every  $\lambda > 0$ , we can find  $A = (0, a(\lambda))$  such that

$$\lambda = \int_A u^\beta \, du \times \frac{|I|A_\beta}{2\pi}.$$

We denote

$$X_n := \widetilde{\chi}^{(n)}(A \times I),$$

then by Lemma 1.3 with k = 1 and (61), we have

$$\lim_{n\to+\infty} \mathbb{E} X_n = \lim_{n\to+\infty} \left( \int_A u^\beta \, du \right) \frac{C_{\beta,n-2,1}(I)}{C_{\beta,n} n^\beta} = \lambda;$$

and with k = 2 in Lemma 1.3, we have

$$\liminf_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}(X_n(X_n - 1)) = \liminf_{n \to +\infty} \left( \int_A u^\beta du \right)^2 \frac{C_{\beta, n-4, 2}(I)}{C_{\beta, n} n^{2\beta}}.$$

On the other hand, by Hölder inequality, we have  $\mathbb{E}(X_n)^2 \ge (\mathbb{E}X_n)^2$  and  $\mathbb{E}(X_n(X_n-1)) \ge (\mathbb{E}X_n)^2 - (\mathbb{E}X_n)$ , and thus we have

$$\liminf_{n\to+\infty} \mathbb{E}(X_n(X_n-1)) \ge \liminf_{n\to+\infty} ((\mathbb{E}X_n)^2 - (\mathbb{E}X_n)) = \lambda^2 - \lambda.$$

Therefore, we have

$$\liminf_{n\to+\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-4,2}(I)}{C_{\beta,n}n^{2\beta}} \ge \left(\int_A u^\beta du\right)^{-2} (\lambda^2 - \lambda) = (1 - \lambda^{-1}) \left(\frac{|I|A_\beta}{2\pi}\right)^2.$$

Letting  $\lambda \to +\infty$ , we have

$$\liminf_{n\to+\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-4,2}(I)}{C_{\beta,n}n^{2\beta}} \ge \left(\frac{|I|A_{\beta}}{2\pi}\right)^2,$$

which along with (19) gives Lemma 1.4 for k = 2.

Moreover, since

$$\mathbb{E}(X_n - \lambda)^2 = \mathbb{E}(X_n(X_n - 1)) - (2\lambda - 1)(\mathbb{E}X_n) + \lambda^2,$$

by Lemmas 1.3 and (19), we have

$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}(X_n(X_n - 1)) = \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \left( \int_A u^\beta \, du \right)^2 \frac{C_{\beta, n-4, 2}(I)}{C_{\beta, n} n^{2\beta}}$$

$$\leq \left( \int_A u^\beta \, du \right)^2 \left( \frac{|I| A_\beta}{2\pi} \right)^2 = \lambda^2,$$

and thus we have

$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}(X_n - \lambda)^2 \le \lambda^2 - (2\lambda - 1)\lambda + \lambda^2 = \lambda.$$

Now we denote by C a constant independent of n,  $\lambda$ , which may be different from line to line. As  $X_n^k \le \frac{2X_n!}{(X_n-k)!} + C$  (-C can be chosen as the lower bound of the polynomial  $2x(x-1)\cdots(x-k+1)-x^k$  for  $x\ge 0$ ), by Lemma 1.3 and Lemma 6.1, we have

$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}(X_n^k) \le 2 \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{X_n!}{(X_n - k)!}\right) + C$$

$$\le 2 \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \left(\int_A u^\beta \, du\right)^k \frac{C_{\beta, n - 2k, k}(I)}{C_{\beta, n} n^{k\beta}} + C$$

$$\le 2 \left(\int_A u^\beta \, du\right)^k \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta, n - 2k, k}}{C_{\beta, n} n^{k\beta}} + C$$

$$\le C \left(\int_A u^\beta \, du\right)^k + C \le C\lambda^k + C.$$

By Hölder inequality, we have

$$\mathbb{E}\left(\frac{(X_{n}-\lambda)^{2}X_{n}!}{(X_{n}-k+1)!}\right) \leq \mathbb{E}\left((X_{n}-\lambda)^{2}X_{n}^{k-1}\right)$$

$$\leq \left(\mathbb{E}(X_{n}-\lambda)^{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\left(\mathbb{E}\left((X_{n}-\lambda)^{2}X_{n}^{2k-2}\right)\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\leq \left(\mathbb{E}(X_{n}-\lambda)^{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\left(\mathbb{E}(X_{n}^{2k}+\lambda^{2}X_{n}^{2k-2})\right)^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

and thus for any positive integer k, we have

$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{(X_n - \lambda)^2 X_n!}{(X_n - k + 1)!}\right)$$

$$\leq \left(\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}(X_n - \lambda)^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}(X_n^{2k} + \lambda^2 X_n^{2k - 2})\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\leq \lambda^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\left(C\lambda^{2k} + C\right) + \lambda^2 \left(C\lambda^{2k - 2} + C\right)\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq C\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}} (\lambda^k + 1)$$

Now we can prove the lemma by induction. Assume  $j \ge 2$  and Lemma 1.4 is true for k = j - 1, j, then by Lemma 1.3, we have

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{X_n!}{(X_n - k)!}\right) = \lim_{n \to +\infty} \left(\int_A u^\beta \, du\right)^k \frac{C_{\beta, n - 2k, k}(I)}{C_{\beta, n} n^{k\beta}}$$
$$= \left(\int_A u^\beta \, du\right)^k \left(\frac{|I| A_\beta}{2\pi}\right)^k = \lambda^k, \quad k = j - 1, j.$$

We note that  $(X_n - \lambda)^2 = (X_n - k)(X_n - k - 1) - (2\lambda - 2k - 1)(X_n - k) + (\lambda - k)^2$ , then for any integer  $k \ge 2$ , we have the identity

(63) 
$$\frac{(X_n - \lambda)^2 X_n!}{(X_n - k)!} = \frac{X_n!}{(X_n - k - 2)!} - \frac{(2\lambda - 2k - 1)X_n!}{(X_n - k - 1)!} + \frac{(\lambda - k)^2 X_n!}{(X_n - k)!}.$$

Now by induction, (62), (63) and Lemma 1.3, we have

$$C\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}(\lambda^{j}+1) \geq \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{(X_{n}-\lambda)^{2}X_{n}!}{(X_{n}-j+1)!}\right)$$

$$= \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{X_{n}!}{(X_{n}-j-1)!} - \frac{(2\lambda-2j+1)X_{n}!}{(X_{n}-j)!} + \frac{(\lambda-j+1)^{2}X_{n}!}{(X_{n}-j+1)!}\right)$$

$$= \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{X_{n}!}{(X_{n}-j-1)!}\right) - (2\lambda-2j+1)\lambda^{j} + (\lambda-j+1)^{2}\lambda^{j-1}$$

$$= \limsup_{n \to +\infty} \left(\int_{A} u^{\beta} du\right)^{k} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}} - (\lambda^{2}-(j-1)^{2}-\lambda)\lambda^{j-1},$$

where we denote k = j + 1 in the last line. Therefore, as  $\lambda$  large enough, we have

$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta,n-2k,k}(I)}{C_{\beta,n}n^{k\beta}} \le \left(\int_A u^\beta du\right)^{-k} \left(\lambda^{j+1} + C\lambda^{\frac{1}{2}}(\lambda^j + 1)\right)$$
$$= \left(\frac{|I|A_\beta}{2\pi}\right)^k \left(1 + C\lambda^{-\frac{1}{2}} + C\lambda^{-j-\frac{1}{2}}\right).$$

Letting  $\lambda \to +\infty$ , we have

$$\limsup_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta, n-2k, k}(I)}{C_{\beta, n} n^{k\beta}} \le \left(\frac{|I| A_{\beta}}{2\pi}\right)^{k}.$$

Similarly, as  $\frac{(X_n - \lambda)^2 X_n!}{(X_n - j + 1)!} \ge 0$ , by induction and Lemma 1.3 again, we have

$$0 \leq \liminf_{n \to +\infty} \mathbb{E} \left( \frac{X_n!}{(X_n - j - 1)!} - \frac{(2\lambda - 2j + 1)X_n!}{(X_n - j)!} + \frac{(\lambda - j + 1)^2 X_n!}{(X_n - j + 1)!} \right)$$

$$= \liminf_{n \to +\infty} \left( \int_A u^{\beta} du \right)^k \frac{C_{\beta, n - 2k, k}(I)}{C_{\beta, n} n^{k\beta}} - \left( \lambda^2 - (j - 1)^2 - \lambda \right) \lambda^{j-1},$$

where k = j + 1 again. Therefore, we have

$$\lim_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta, n-2k, k}(I)}{C_{\beta, n} n^{k\beta}} \ge \left( \int_{A} u^{\beta} du \right)^{-k} (\lambda^{2} - (j-1)^{2} - \lambda) \lambda^{j-1} \\
= \left( \frac{|I| A_{\beta}}{2\pi} \right)^{k} (1 - \lambda^{-1} - (j-1)^{2} \lambda^{-2}).$$

Letting  $\lambda \to +\infty$  again, we have

$$\liminf_{n \to +\infty} \frac{C_{\beta, n-2k, k}(I)}{C_{\beta, n} n^{k\beta}} \ge \left(\frac{|I| A_{\beta}}{2\pi}\right)^k,$$

thus Lemma 1.4 is also true for k = j + 1. This completes the proof of Lemma 1.4, and thus we complete the proof Theorem 1.1.  $\Box$ 

**Acknowledgement.** We are indebted to the anonymous reviewers for providing many corrections and insightful comments, this paper would not have been possible without their supportive work.

## REFERENCES

- [1] ANDERSON, G. W., GUIONNET, A. and ZEITOUNI, O. (2010). An Introduction to Random Matrices. Cambridge Studies in Advanced Mathematics 118. Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge. MR2760897
- [2] AOMOTO, K. (1987). On the complex Selberg integral. Quart. J. Math. Oxford Ser. (2) 38 385–399.
   MR0916224 https://doi.org/10.1093/qmath/38.4.385
- [3] AOMOTO, K. (1987). Jacobi polynomials associated with Selberg integrals. SIAM J. Math. Anal. 18 545–549. MR0876291 https://doi.org/10.1137/0518042
- [4] BEN AROUS, G. and BOURGADE, P. (2013). Extreme gaps between eigenvalues of random matrices. *Ann. Probab.* 41 2648–2681. MR3112927 https://doi.org/10.1214/11-AOP710
- [5] DYSON, F. J. (1962). The threefold way. Algebraic structure of symmetry groups and ensembles in quantum mechanics. J. Math. Phys. 3 1199–1215. MR0177643 https://doi.org/10.1063/1.1703863
- [6] FENG, R., TIAN, G. and WEI, D. (2019). Small gaps of GOE. Geom. Funct. Anal. 29 1794–1827. MR4034920 https://doi.org/10.1007/s00039-019-00520-5
- [7] FENG, R. and WEI, D. Large gaps of CUE and GUE. Available at arXiv:1807.02149.
- [8] FIGALLI, A. and GUIONNET, A. (2016). Universality in several-matrix models via approximate transport maps. Acta Math. 217 81–176. MR3646880 https://doi.org/10.1007/s11511-016-0142-4
- [9] FORRESTER, P. J. (2010). Log-Gases and Random Matrices. London Mathematical Society Monographs Series 34. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, NJ. MR2641363 https://doi.org/10.1515/9781400835416
- [10] LANDON, B., LOPATTO, P. and MARCINEK, J. Comparison theorem for some extremal eigenvalue statistics. Available at arXiv:1812.10022.
- [11] SELBERG, A. (1944). Bemerkninger om et multipelt integral. Norsk. Mat. Tidsskr. 24 71-78.
- [12] SHI, D. and JIANG, Y. Smallest gaps between eigenvalues of random matrices with complex Ginibre, Wishart and universal unitary ensembles. Available at arXiv:1207.4240.
- [13] SMACZYNSKI, M., TKOCZ, T., KUS, M. and ZYCZKOWSKI, K. (2013). Extremal spacings between eigenphases of random unitary matrices and their tensor products. *Phys. Rev. E* 88 052902.
- [14] SOSHNIKOV, A. (2000). Determinantal random point fields. Russian Math. Surveys 55 923-975.
- [15] SOSHNIKOV, A. (2005). Statistics of extreme spacing in determinantal random point processes. *Mosc. Math. J.* 5 705–719. MR2241818 https://doi.org/10.17323/1609-4514-2005-5-3-705-719
- [16] VINSON, J. (2001). Closest spacing of eigenvalues Ph.D. thesis, Princeton University.