

On the spinor zeta functions problem: higher power moments of the Riesz mean

by

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1. Introduction and statement of results. Let $S_k(\Gamma_g)$ be the space of cusp forms of weight k and genus g on the full Siegel modular group $\Gamma_g = Sp_g(\mathbb{Z})$. If $F \in S_k(\Gamma_g)$ is a common Hecke eigenform, define

$$(1.1) \quad Z_{F,p}(X) := (1 - \alpha_{0,p}X) \prod_{\nu=1}^n \prod_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_\nu \leq n} (1 - \alpha_{0,p} \alpha_{i_1,p} \cdots \alpha_{i_\nu,p} X).$$

For $\Re s \gg 0$, the *spinor zeta function* by definition is

$$(1.2) \quad Z_F(s) = \prod_p [Z_{F,p}(p^{-s})]^{-1} := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n n^{-s}.$$

We shall only use the spinor zeta function for eigenforms of genus 2. In this case, Andrianov [1] has proved the following properties.

LEMMA 1.1 (Andrianov, 1974). *Suppose that $f|T(n) = \lambda(n)f$ for all $n \geq 1$. Then*

$$Z_{F,p}(X) = 1 - \lambda(p)X + (\lambda(p)^2 - \lambda(p^2) - p^{2k-4})X^2 - \lambda(p)p^{2k-3}X^3 + p^{4k-6}X^4,$$

where $\lambda(n)$ denotes the eigenvalue of F with respect to the Hecke operator $T(n)$. The function

$$Z_F^*(s) := (2\pi)^{-2s} \Gamma(s) \Gamma(s - k + 2) Z_F(s)$$

has a meromorphic continuation to \mathbb{C} and satisfies the functional equation

$$Z_F^*(2k - 2 - s) = (-1)^k Z_F^*(s).$$

In [2] and [8], the authors proved that $Z_F^*(s)$ is holomorphic if either k is odd or if k is even and F is contained in the orthogonal complement of the Maass subspace $S_k^*(\Gamma_2)$. Since $Z_F^*(s)$ is entire, $Z_F(s)$ is entire and in particular vanishes at the points $s = k - 2, k - 3, \dots$.

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification*: 11N37, 11F46.

Key words and phrases: Riesz mean, spinor zeta function, power moment.

Under our assumption on F , by Weissauer’s theorem [13] the Satake p -parameters $\alpha_{1,p}, \alpha_{2,p}$ are of absolute value 1. As in [9], we can define $\alpha_{1,p} := \chi_1(p), \alpha_{2,p} = \chi_2(p)$ and $\alpha_{0,p} = p^{k-3/2}\sigma(p)$, where χ_1, χ_2 and σ are unramified characters of \mathbb{Q}_p^\times . Then combining (1.1) and (1.2) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Z_F(s) &= \prod_p ((1 - \alpha_{0,p}p^{-s})(1 - \alpha_{0,p}\alpha_{1,p}p^{-s})(1 - \alpha_{0,p}\alpha_{2,p}p^{-s}) \\ &\qquad \qquad \qquad \times (1 - \alpha_{0,p}\alpha_{1,p}\alpha_{2,p}p^{-s}))^{-1} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{n^{k-3/2}(\sigma^4(n)\chi_1^2(n)\chi_2^2(n))}{n^s}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$(1.3) \qquad c_n \ll n^{k-3/2+\epsilon}.$$

Thus we conclude that the Dirichlet series $Z_F(s)$ converges absolutely for $\Re s > k - 1/2$.

The Riesz mean of the coefficients c_n of the function $Z_F(s)$ is defined by the relation

$$D_\rho(x; Z_F) := \frac{1}{\Gamma(\rho + 1)} \sum'_{n \leq x} (x - n)^\rho c_n,$$

where $\rho \geq 0$, and \sum' means that if $\rho = 0$ and x is an integer, then c_x is replaced by $c_x/2$.

When $Z_F(s)$ is entire, using Hafner’s method [4], we gave the truncated Voronoï-type formula for $D_\rho(x, Z_F)$ in [7]:

LEMMA 1.2. *Assume that k is odd or k is even and F is contained in the orthogonal complement of the Maass subspace $S_k^*(\Gamma_2)$. Fix $1/2 < \rho \leq 1$. Let $N \gg 1$. Then for any $x > 1$,*

$$\begin{aligned} (1.4) \quad D_\rho(x; Z_F) &= (2\pi)^{-(\rho+1)} x^{3\rho/4+k-9/8} \sum_{n \leq N} c_n n^{-\rho/4-k+7/8} \sin \left(8\pi(nx)^{1/4} + \frac{3-2\rho}{4}\pi \right) \\ &\quad + O(x^{3(\rho-1)/4+k+\epsilon} N^{-(1+\rho)/4}) + O(x^{(3\rho-5)/4+k} N^{(1-\rho)/4+\epsilon}) \end{aligned}$$

for any $\epsilon > 0$.

Letting $N = x^{3/5}$ in (1.4) one obtains

$$(1.5) \qquad D_\rho(x; Z_F) \ll x^{3\rho/5+k-9/10}.$$

In this paper we are concerned with estimates of power moments of $D_\rho(x; Z_F)$. Before stating our results, we introduce some notations. Suppose $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is any function such that $f(n) \ll n^\epsilon$, and $h \geq 2$ is a fixed integer.

Define

$$(1.6) \quad s_\rho(l, h; f) := \sum_{\sqrt[4]{n_1} + \dots + \sqrt[4]{n_l} = \sqrt[4]{n_{l+1}} + \dots + \sqrt[4]{n_h}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \quad (1 \leq l < h),$$

and

$$(1.7) \quad B_\rho(h; f) := \sum_{l=1}^{h-1} \binom{h-1}{l} s_\rho(l, h; f) \cos\left(\frac{(1-2\rho)(h-2l)}{4}\pi\right).$$

We shall use $s_\rho(l, h; f)$ to denote both the series (1.6) and its value.

Let

$$b_\rho(h) = 4^{h-2} + (3-2\rho)h/8 - 1/4.$$

For a real number $A_0 := A_0(\rho) > 3$, let H_0 be the least even integer n such that $n \geq A_0$. Define

$$(1.8) \quad \sigma_\rho(h, A_0) := \frac{(1+2\rho)(A_0-h)}{4(A_0-2)}, \quad 3 \leq h < A_0,$$

$$\delta_\rho(h, A_0) := \sigma_\rho(h, A_0) \min\left(\frac{2\rho-1}{2\rho+1}, \frac{1}{4b_\rho(H_0)}\right),$$

$$(1.9) \quad \lambda_\rho(h, A_0) := \frac{\sigma_\rho(h, A_0)}{4b_\rho(h) + 4\sigma_\rho(h, A_0)}.$$

Our results are as follows:

THEOREM 1.3. *Suppose that the assumption of Lemma 1.2 holds. Fix $1/2 < \rho \leq 1$. Then*

$$\int_1^X D_\rho(x; Z_F)^2 dx = CX^{3\rho/2+2k-5/4} + O(T^{\rho+2k-1}),$$

where

$$C = 2^{-2\rho-3}\pi^{-2\rho-2}(3\rho/2 + 2k - 5/4)^{-1} \sum_{n=1}^\infty c_n^2 n^{-\rho/2-2k+7/4}.$$

Using the result of Robert–Sargos [10] and following the proof of Theorem 2 in [6], one can prove the fourth power moments

$$\int_1^T D_1^4(x; Z_F) dx \ll T^{4k-1/2+\epsilon} + T^{4k-2+\epsilon}.$$

THEOREM 1.4. *Suppose that the assumption of Lemma 1.2 holds. Fix $1/2 < \rho \leq 1$. If there exists a real number $A_0 > 3$ such that*

$$(1.10) \quad \int_1^T |D_\rho(x; Z_F)|^{A_0} dx \ll T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)A_0+\epsilon},$$

then for any integer $3 \leq h < A_0$, we have the asymptotic formula

$$\int_1^T D_\rho^h(x; Z_F) dx = \frac{B_\rho(h; f)}{(2\pi)^{(\rho+1)h} 2^{h-1}} (1 + (3\rho/4 + k - 9/8)h)^{-1} T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} + O(T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h-\delta_\rho(h, A_0)+\epsilon}),$$

where $B_\rho(h; f)$ and $\delta_\rho(h, A_0)$ are given in (1.7) and (1.8).

THEOREM 1.5. *Suppose that the assumption of Lemma 1.2 holds and $\rho = 1$. Then*

$$\int_1^T |D_1(x; Z_F)|^{16/3} dx \ll T^{1+16(k-3/8)/3+\epsilon}.$$

Thus the asymptotic formula

$$\int_1^T D_1^h(x; Z_F) dx = \frac{B_1(h; f)}{2^{3h-1}\pi^{2h}} (1 + (k - 3/8)h)^{-1} T^{1+(k-3/8)h} + O(T^{1+(k-3/8)h-\lambda_1(h, 16/3)+\epsilon}).$$

holds for $h = 3, 4, 5$, where $\lambda_\rho(h, A_0)$ is defined by (1.9).

REMARK. From Theorem 1.5 we find that the estimate

$$(1.11) \quad \int_1^T |D_1(x; Z_F)|^{A_0} dx \ll T^{1+(k-3/8)A_0+\epsilon}$$

holds for $A_0 = 16/3$. The value of A_0 for which (1.11) holds is closely related to the upper bound of $D_1(x; Z_F)$.

REMARK. To prove Theorem 1.5, we use the method given in Section 4. But this method breaks down for the other ρ ($1/2 < \rho < 1$).

2. Proof of Theorem 1.3. In the section, we estimate the integral

$$\int_1^X D_\rho(x; Z_F)^2 dx$$

for $1/2 < \rho \leq 1$. We follow the approach of Fomenko [3] and Ivić [5, Theorem 13.5]. It is sufficient to consider the integral over $[T, 2T]$. In this case, $T \leq x \leq 2T$, and, for $N = T$, Lemma 1.2 yields

$$D_\rho(x; Z_F) = (2\pi)^{-(\rho+1)} x^{3\rho/4+k-9/8} \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{f(n)}{n^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \cos\left(8\pi(nx)^{1/4} + \frac{1-2\rho}{4}\pi\right) + O(T^{\rho/2+k-1+\epsilon}),$$

where $f(n) = c_n n^{-k+3/2} \ll n^\epsilon$.

On integrating the latter equality term-by-term, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.1) \quad & \int_T^{2T} D_\rho(x; Z_F)^2 dx \\
 &= (2\pi)^{-2(\rho+1)} \int_T^{2T} x^{3\rho/2+2k-9/4} \sum_{\substack{m, n \leq T \\ mn \leq T}} f(m)f(n)(mn)^{-(2\rho+5)/8} \\
 & \quad \times \cos\left\{8\pi(nx)^{1/4} + \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{\rho}{2}\right)\pi\right\} \cos\left\{8\pi(mx)^{1/4} + \frac{1-2\rho}{4}\pi\right\} dx \\
 & \quad + O\left(T^{\rho/2+k-1+\epsilon} \int_T^{2T} x^{3\rho/4+k-9/8}\right. \\
 & \quad \quad \left. \times \left| \sum_{n \leq T} \frac{f(n)}{n^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \cos\left\{8\pi(nx)^{1/4} + \frac{1-2\rho}{4}\pi\right\} \right| dx\right) \\
 & \quad + O(T^{\rho+2k-1+\epsilon}).
 \end{aligned}$$

In the first term in (2.1), we distinguish the cases $m = n$ and $m \neq n$. The contribution of the terms with $m = n$ is

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.2) \quad & (2\pi)^{-2(\rho+1)} \sum_{n \leq T} \int_T^{2T} x^{3\rho/2+2k-9/4} f^2(n) n^{-(2\rho+5)/4} \cos^2\left\{8\pi(nx)^{1/4} + \frac{1-2\rho}{4}\pi\right\} dx \\
 &= 2^{-2\rho-3} \pi^{-2(\rho+1)} \sum_{n \leq T} f^2(n) n^{-(2\rho+5)/4} \int_T^{2T} x^{3\rho/2+2k-9/4} \\
 & \quad \times \left\{1 + \cos\left(16\pi(nx)^{1/4} + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \rho\right)\pi\right)\right\} dx \\
 &= 2^{-2\rho-3} \pi^{-2(\rho+1)} \left(\frac{3}{2}\rho + 2k - \frac{5}{4}\right)^{-1} ((2T)^{3\rho/2+2k-5/4} - T^{3\rho/2+2k-5/4}) \\
 & \quad \times \sum_{n=1}^\infty f^2(n) n^{-(2\rho+5)/4} + O(T^{\rho+2k-3/2+\epsilon}) + O(T^{\rho+2k-1+\epsilon}).
 \end{aligned}$$

In deriving (2.2), we have used the bound

$$(2.3) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} f(n) \ll \sum_{n \leq x} |f(n)| = \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{|c_n|}{n^{k-3/2}} \ll x,$$

partial summation, and the following classical lemma (see [11, Lemma 4.3]).

LEMMA 2.1. *Let $F(x)$ be a real differentiable function such that $F'(x)$ is monotone and $F'(x) \geq m > 0$ or $F'(x) \leq -m < 0$ for $a \leq x \leq b$. Then*

$$(2.4) \quad \left| \int_a^b G(x) e^{iF(x)} dx \right| \leq 4Gm^{-1},$$

where $G(x)$ is a positive monotone function for $a \leq x \leq b$ such that $|G(x)| \leq G$.

The formula $2 \cos \alpha \cos \beta = \cos(\alpha - \beta) + \cos(\alpha + \beta)$ implies that the terms in (2.1) for which $m \neq n$ are a multiple of

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{m \neq n \leq T} f(m)f(n)(mn)^{-(2\rho+5)/8} \int_T^{2T} \cos(8\pi(mx)^{1/4} - 8\pi(nx)^{1/4}) \cdot x^{3\rho/2+2k-9/4} dx \\ & + \sum_{m \neq n \leq T} f(m)f(n)(mn)^{-(2\rho+5)/8} \\ & \quad \times \int_T^{2T} \cos(8\pi(mx)^{1/4} + 8\pi(nx)^{1/4} + (1/2 - \rho)\pi)x^{3\rho/2+2k-9/4} dx \\ & =: S_1 + S_2, \quad \text{say.} \end{aligned}$$

By estimating the integral in S_2 with the use of (2.4), we obtain

$$S_2 \ll \sum_{m < n \leq T} f(m)f(n)(mn)^{-(2\rho+5)/8} T^{3\rho/2+2k-3/2} (\sqrt[4]{m} + \sqrt[4]{n})^{-1}.$$

Using (2.3), we derive

$$S_2 \ll T^{\rho+2k-1}.$$

Analogously, we have

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 & \ll T^{3\rho/2+2k-3/2} \sum_{m, n \leq T} |f(m)||f(n)|(mn)^{-(2\rho+5)/8} (\sqrt[4]{m} - \sqrt[4]{n})^{-1} \\ & = T^{3\rho/2+2k-3/2} \left(\sum_{n \leq m/2} + \sum_{n > m/2} \right) =: T^{3\rho/2+2k-3/2} (S'_1 + S'_2), \quad \text{say.} \end{aligned}$$

Further, we also have

$$\begin{aligned} S'_1 & \ll \sum_{m \leq T, n \leq m/2} |f(m)||f(n)|(mn)^{-(2\rho+5)/8} m^{-1/4} \\ & \leq \left(\sum_{m \leq T} |f(m)|m^{-(2\rho+7)/8} \right) \left(\sum_{n \leq T} |f(n)|n^{-(2\rho+5)/8} \right) \ll T^{(1-\rho)/2}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} S'_2 & \ll \sum_{m \leq T} |f(m)|m^{-(2\rho+5)/8} \sum_{m/2 < n < m} |f(n)|n^{-(2\rho+5)/8} (\sqrt[4]{m} - \sqrt[4]{n})^{-1} \\ & \ll T^{(3-2\rho)/8} \sum_{m/2 < n < m} |f(n)|n^{(1-2\rho)/8} (m - n)^{-1} \ll T^{(1-\rho)/2} \log T. \end{aligned}$$

Combining the above estimates proves Theorem 1.3.

3. Proof of Theorem 1.4

LEMMA 3.1. *Suppose $y > 1$. Define*

$$s_\rho(l, h, y; f) := \sum_{\substack{\sqrt[4]{n_1} + \dots + \sqrt[4]{n_l} = \sqrt[4]{n_{l+1}} + \dots + \sqrt[4]{n_h} \\ n_j \leq y, 1 \leq j \leq h}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \quad (1 \leq l < h).$$

Then

$$|s_\rho(l, h; f) - s_\rho(l, h, y; f)| \ll y^{-(1+2\rho)/4+\epsilon}.$$

Proof. This lemma can be proved by the same argument of Lemma 3.1 of [14], so we omit the details. ■

LEMMA 3.2. *Suppose $h \geq 3$, $(i_1, \dots, i_{h-1}) \in \{0, 1\}^{h-1}$ and*

$$\sqrt[4]{n_1} + (-1)^{i_1} \sqrt[4]{n_2} + (-1)^{i_2} \sqrt[4]{n_3} + \dots + (-1)^{i_{h-1}} \sqrt[4]{n_h} \neq 0.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & |\sqrt[4]{n_1} + (-1)^{i_1} \sqrt[4]{n_2} + (-1)^{i_2} \sqrt[4]{n_3} + \dots + (-1)^{i_{h-1}} \sqrt[4]{n_h}| \\ & \gg \max(n_1, \dots, n_h)^{-(4^{h-2}-4^{-1})}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. See for example Lemma 2.2 in [14] or Lemma 1 in [12]. ■

Let $T \geq 10$ and $y > T^\epsilon$ be a parameter to be determined later. For any $T \leq x \leq 2T$, define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_1 = \mathcal{R}_1(x; y) & := (2\pi)^{-(\rho+1)} x^{3\rho/4+k-9/8} \\ & \times \sum_{n \leq y} \frac{f(n)}{n^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \cos\left(8\pi \sqrt[4]{nx} + \frac{1-2\rho}{4}\pi\right), \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_2 = \mathcal{R}_2(x; y) := D_\rho(x; Z_F) - \mathcal{R}_1.$$

We shall show that the higher-power moment of \mathcal{R}_2 is small and hence the integral $\int_T^{2T} D_\rho^h(x; Z_F) dx$ can be well approximated by $\int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^h dx$, which is easy to evaluate.

3.1. Evaluation of the integral $\int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^h dx$. For simplicity we set $\mathbb{I} = \{0, 1\}$ and

$$\mathbb{N}^h = \{\mathbf{n} = (n_1, \dots, n_h) : n_j \in \mathbb{N}, 1 \leq j \leq h\}.$$

For each element $\mathbf{i} = (i_1, \dots, i_{h-1}) \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}$, put $|\mathbf{i}| = i_1 + \dots + i_{h-1}$. By the elementary formula

$$\cos a_1 \cdots \cos a_h = \frac{1}{2^{h-1}} \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \cos(a_1 + (-1)^{i_1} a_2 + (-1)^{i_2} a_3 + \dots + (-1)^{i_{h-1}} a_h),$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_1^h &= (2\pi)^{-(\rho+1)h} x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} \sum_{n_1 \leq y} \cdots \sum_{n_h \leq y} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \\ &\quad \times \prod_{j=1}^h \cos\left(8\pi \sqrt[4]{n_j x} + \frac{1-2\rho}{4} \pi\right) \\ &= \frac{x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h}}{(2\pi)^{(\rho+1)h} 2^{h-1}} \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \sum_{n_1 \leq y} \cdots \sum_{n_h \leq y} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \\ &\quad \times \cos\left(8\pi \sqrt[4]{x} \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) + \frac{1-2\rho}{4} \pi \beta(\mathbf{i})\right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) &:= \sqrt[4]{n_1} + (-1)^{i_1} \sqrt[4]{n_2} + (-1)^{i_2} \sqrt[4]{n_3} + \cdots + (-1)^{i_{h-1}} \sqrt[4]{n_h}, \\ \beta(\mathbf{i}) &:= 1 + (-1)^{i_1} + (-1)^{i_2} + \cdots + (-1)^{i_{h-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus we can write

$$(3.1) \quad \mathcal{R}_1^h = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{(\rho+1)h} 2^{h-1}} (S_1(x) + S_2(x)),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} S_1(x) &= x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \cos\left(\frac{1-2\rho}{4} \pi \beta(\mathbf{i})\right) \sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 1 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i})=0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}}, \\ S_2(x) &= x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 1 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) \neq 0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \\ &\quad \times \cos\left(8\pi \sqrt[4]{x} \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) + \frac{1-2\rho}{4} \pi \beta(\mathbf{i})\right). \end{aligned}$$

For the contribution of $S_1(x)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_T^{2T} S_1(x) dx &= \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \cos\left(\frac{1-2\rho}{4} \pi \beta(\mathbf{i})\right) \sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 1 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i})=0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \\ &\quad \times \int_T^{2T} x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} dx. \end{aligned}$$

It is easily seen that if $\alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) = 0$, then $1 \leq |\mathbf{i}| \leq h - 1$. Let $l = |\mathbf{i}|$. Then

$$\sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 1 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i})=0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}} = s_\rho(l, h, y; f),$$

where $s_\rho(l, h, y; f)$ has been defined in Lemma 3.1. Hence

$$\int_T^{2T} S_1(x) dx = B_\rho^*(h; f) \int_T^{2T} x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} dx + O(T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+\epsilon} y^{-(1+2\rho)/4}),$$

where

$$B_\rho^*(h; f) := \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \cos\left(\frac{1-2\rho}{4} \pi \beta(\mathbf{i})\right) \sum_{\substack{(n_1, \dots, n_h) \in \mathbb{N}^h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i})=0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}}.$$

For any $\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1} \setminus 0$, let

$$S_\rho(\mathbf{i}, h; f) := \sum_{\substack{(n_1, \dots, n_h) \in \mathbb{N}^h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i})=0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}}.$$

It is easily seen that if $|\mathbf{i}| = |\mathbf{i}'|$ or $|\mathbf{i}| + |\mathbf{i}'| = h$, then

$$S_\rho(\mathbf{i}, h; f) = S_\rho(\mathbf{i}', h; f) = s_\rho(|\mathbf{i}|, h; f).$$

From $(-1)^j = 1 - 2j$ ($j = 0, 1$) we also have $\beta(\mathbf{i}) = h - 2|\mathbf{i}|$. So we get

$$\begin{aligned} B_\rho^*(h; f) &= \sum_{l=1}^{h-1} \sum_{|\mathbf{i}|=l} \cos\left(\frac{1-2\rho}{4} \pi \beta(\mathbf{i})\right) s_\rho(|\mathbf{i}|, h; f) \\ &= \sum_{l=1}^{h-1} s_\rho(l, h; f) \cos\left(\frac{1-2\rho}{4} (h-2l)\pi\right) \sum_{|\mathbf{i}|=l} 1 \\ &= \sum_{l=1}^{h-1} \binom{h-1}{l} s_\rho(l, h; f) \cos\left(\frac{1-2\rho}{4} (h-2l)\pi\right) = B_\rho(h; f). \end{aligned}$$

Now we consider the contribution of $S_2(x)$. By Lemma 3.2 we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_T^{2T} S_2(x) dx &\ll T^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+3/4} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 1 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) \neq 0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8} |\alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i})|} \\ &\ll T^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+3/4} y^{4^{h-2}+(3-2\rho)h/8-1/4} \\ &\ll T^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+3/4} y^{b_\rho(h)}. \end{aligned}$$

Here we have used the elementary estimate

$$(3.2) \quad \int_T^{2T} \cos(A\sqrt[4]{t} + B) dt \ll T^{3/4} |A|^{-1}, \quad A \neq 0.$$

Combining the above estimates, we obtain the following:

LEMMA 3.3. *For any fixed $h \geq 3$, we have*

$$\int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^h dx = \frac{B_\rho(h; f)}{(2\pi)^{(\rho+1)h} 2^{h-1}} \int_T^{2T} x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} dx + O(T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+\epsilon} y^{-(1+2\rho)/4} + T^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+3/4} y^{b_\rho(h)}).$$

3.2. Higher-power moments of \mathcal{R}_2 . Taking $N = T$ in Lemma 1.2 and combining with the definition of \mathcal{R}_2 we get

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_2 &= (2\pi)^{-(\rho+1)} x^{3\rho/4+k-9/8} \sum_{y < n \leq T} \frac{f(n)}{n^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \cos \left\{ 8\pi(nx)^{1/4} + \frac{1-2\rho}{4}\pi \right\} \\ &\quad + O(T^{\rho/2+k-1+\epsilon}) \\ &\ll \left| x^{3\rho/4+k-9/8} \sum_{y < n \leq T} \frac{f(n)}{n^{(2\rho+5)/8}} e(4(nx)^{1/4}) \right| + T^{\rho/2+k-1+\epsilon}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$(3.4) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_2^2 dx &\ll T^{\rho+2k-1+\epsilon} + \int_T^{2T} \left| x^{3\rho/4+k-9/8} \sum_{y < n \leq T} \frac{f(n)}{n^{(2\rho+5)/8}} e(4(nx)^{1/4}) \right|^2 dx \\ &\ll T^{\rho+2k-1+\epsilon} + T^{3\rho/2+2k-5/4} \sum_{y < n \leq T} \frac{f^2(n)}{n^{(2\rho+5)/4}} \\ &\quad + T^{3\rho/2+2k-3/2} \sum_{y < m < n \leq T} \frac{f(m)f(n)}{(mn)^{(2\rho+5)/8} (\sqrt[4]{n} - \sqrt[4]{m})} \\ &\ll T^{\rho+2k-1+\epsilon} + T^{3\rho/2+2k-5/4} y^{-(1+2\rho)/4} \ll T^{3\rho/2+2k-5/4} y^{-(1+2\rho)/4}. \end{aligned}$$

Here we use the bound (1.3) and the estimate

$$\sum_{y < m < n \leq T} \frac{f(m)f(n)}{(mn)^{(2\rho+5)/8} (\sqrt[4]{n} - \sqrt[4]{m})} \ll T^{(1-\rho)/2+\epsilon},$$

which can be proved in a standard way.

Now suppose y satisfies $y^{4b_\rho(H_0)} \leq T$. Then by Lemma 3.3, we obtain

$$\int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_1|^{H_0} dx \ll T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)H_0+\epsilon},$$

which implies

$$(3.5) \quad \int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_1|^{A_0} dx \ll T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)A_0+\epsilon}$$

since $A_0 \leq H_0$. From (1.10) and (3.5) we get

$$(3.6) \quad \int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_2|^{A_0} dx \ll \int_T^{2T} (|D_1(x; Z_F)|^{A_0} + |\mathcal{R}_1|^{A_0}) dx \\ \ll T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)A_0+\epsilon}.$$

For any $2 < A < A_0$, by (3.4), (3.6) and Hölder's inequality we get

$$\int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_2|^A dx = \int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_2|^{\frac{2(A_0-A)}{A_0-2} + \frac{A_0(A-2)}{A_0-2}} dx \\ \ll \left(\int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_2^2 dx \right)^{\frac{A_0-A}{A_0-2}} \left(\int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_2|^{A_0} dx \right)^{\frac{A-2}{A_0-2}} \\ \ll T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)A+\epsilon} y^{-\frac{(1+2\rho)(A_0-A)}{4(A_0-2)}}.$$

Therefore we have

LEMMA 3.4. *Suppose $T^\epsilon \leq y \leq T^{\min(\frac{2\rho-1}{2\rho+1}, \frac{1}{4b_\rho(H_0)})}$, $2 < A < A_0$. Then*

$$\int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_2|^A dx \ll T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)A+\epsilon} y^{-\frac{(1+2\rho)(A_0-A)}{4(A_0-2)}}.$$

3.3. Upper bound of the integral $\int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^{h-1} \mathcal{R}_2 dx$. In this subsection we shall estimate the integral $\int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^{h-1} \mathcal{R}_2 dx$. We suppose $T^\epsilon \leq y \leq T^{\min(\frac{2\rho-1}{2\rho+1}, \frac{1}{4b_\rho(H_0)})}$, which, combined with Lemma 3.3, implies that

$$\int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^{h-1} dx \ll T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)(h-1)}.$$

Thus from (3.3) we get

$$(3.7) \quad \int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^{h-1} \mathcal{R}_2 dx = \int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^{h-1} \mathcal{R}_2^* dx + O(T^{(9-2\rho)/8+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+\epsilon}),$$

where

$$\mathcal{R}_2^* = (2\pi)^{-2} x^{3\rho/4+k-9/8} \sum_{y < n \leq T} \frac{f(n)}{n^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \cos \left\{ 8\pi(nx)^{1/4} + \frac{1-2\rho}{4} \pi \right\}.$$

Similarly to (3.1) we can write

$$\mathcal{R}_1^{h-1} \mathcal{R}_2^* = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{(\rho+1)h} 2^{h-1}} (S_3(x) + S_4(x)),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_3(x) &:= x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \sum_{y < n_1 \leq T} \sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 2 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i})=0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \\
 &\quad \times \cos\left(\frac{1-2\rho}{4} \pi \beta(\mathbf{i})\right), \\
 S_4(x) &:= x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \sum_{y < n_1 \leq T} \sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 2 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) \neq 0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \\
 &\quad \times \cos\left(8\pi \sqrt[4]{x} \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) + \frac{1-2\rho}{4} \pi \beta(\mathbf{i})\right).
 \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 3.1, the contribution of $S_3(x)$ is

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.8) \quad &\int_T^{2T} S_3(x) dx \\
 &\ll \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \sum_{y < n_1 \leq T} \sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 2 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i})=0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8}} \int_T^{2T} x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} dx \\
 &\ll \sum_{l=1}^{h-1} |s_\rho(l, h; f) - s_\rho(l, h, y; f)| \int_T^{2T} x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} dx \\
 &\ll T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+\epsilon} y^{-(1+2\rho)/4}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Also, using Lemma 3.2 and (3.2), the contribution of $S_4(x)$ is bounded by

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.9) \quad &\int_T^{2T} S_4(x) dx \\
 &\ll T^{3/4+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \sum_{y < n_1 \leq T} \sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 2 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) \neq 0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8} |\alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i})|} \\
 &\ll T^{3/4+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \sum_{y < n_1 \leq h^4 y} \sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 2 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) \neq 0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8} |\alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i})|} \\
 &\quad + T^{3/4+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} \sum_{\mathbf{i} \in \mathbb{I}^{h-1}} \sum_{n_1 > h^4 y} \sum_{\substack{n_j \leq y, 2 \leq j \leq h \\ \alpha(\mathbf{n}; \mathbf{i}) \neq 0}} \frac{f(n_1) \cdots f(n_h)}{(n_1 \cdots n_h)^{(2\rho+5)/8} n_1^{1/4}} \\
 &\ll T^{3/4+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} y b_\rho(h).
 \end{aligned}$$

Combining the estimates in (3.7)–(3.9) we obtain

$$(3.10) \quad \int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^{h-1} \mathcal{R}_2 dx \ll T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+\epsilon} y^{-3/4} \\ + T^{3/4+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} y b_\rho(h) + T^{(9-2\rho)/8+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+\epsilon},$$

where $T^\epsilon \leq y \leq T^{\min(\frac{2\rho-1}{2\rho+1}, \frac{1}{4b_\rho(H_0)})}$.

Proof of Theorem 1.4. Suppose $3 \leq h < A_0$ and $T^\epsilon \leq y \leq T^{\min(\frac{2\rho-1}{2\rho+1}, \frac{1}{4b_\rho(H_0)})}$. By the elementary formula $(a + b)^h = a^h + ha^{h-1}b + O(|a^{h-2}b^2| + |b|^h)$, we get

$$(3.11) \quad \int_T^{2T} D_\rho^h(x; Z_F) dx = \int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^h dx + h \int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^{h-1} \mathcal{R}_2 dx \\ + O\left(\int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_1^{h-2} \mathcal{R}_2^2| dx\right) + O\left(\int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_2|^h dx\right).$$

By (3.5), Lemma 3.4 and Hölder’s inequality we get

$$(3.12) \quad \int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_1^{h-2} \mathcal{R}_2^2| dx \ll \left(\int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_1|^{A_0} dx\right)^{\frac{h-2}{A_0}} \left(\int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_2|^{\frac{2A_0}{A_0-h+2}} dx\right)^{\frac{A_0-h+2}{A_0}} \\ \ll T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h+\epsilon} y^{-\frac{(1+2\rho)(A_0-h)}{4(A_0-2)}}.$$

Now take $y = T^{\min(\frac{2\rho-1}{2\rho+1}, \frac{1}{4b_\rho(H_0)})}$. Collecting the estimates in Lemma 3.3, Lemma 3.4, and (3.10)–(3.12), we finally obtain

$$(3.13) \quad \int_T^{2T} D_\rho^h(x; Z_F) dx = \frac{B_\rho(h; f)}{(2\pi)^{(\rho+1)h} 2^{h-1}} \int_T^{2T} x^{(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h} dx \\ + O(T^{1+(3\rho/4+k-9/8)h-\delta_\rho(h, A_0)+\epsilon}).$$

Hence, Theorem 1.4 follows from (3.13) immediately. ■

4. Proof of Theorem 1.5. The following lemma is the well-known Halász–Montgomery inequality (see [5, (A.40)]).

LEMMA 4.1. *Let S be an inner-product vector space over \mathbb{C} , let (a, b) denote the inner product in S and $\|a\|^2 = (a, a)$. Suppose that $\xi, \varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_R$ are arbitrary vectors in S . Then*

$$\sum_{l_1 \leq R} |(\xi, \varphi_{l_1})|^2 \leq \|\xi\|^2 \max_{l_1 \leq R} \sum_{l_2 \leq R} |(\varphi_{l_1}, \varphi_{l_2})|.$$

LEMMA 4.2. *Suppose $T \leq x_1 < \dots < x_M \leq 2T$ satisfy $|D_1(x_l; Z_F)| \gg VT^{k-1/2}$ ($l = 1, \dots, M$) and $|x_j - x_i| \gg V \gg T^{1/13} \mathcal{L}^{14/13}$ ($i \neq j$). Then*

$$M \ll \mathcal{L}^3 TV^{-3} + \mathcal{L}^{17} T^3 V^{-17},$$

where $\mathcal{L} := \log T$.

Proof. Suppose $V < T_0$ is a parameter to be determined later. Let I be any subinterval of $[T, 2T]$ of length not exceeding T_0 and let $G = I \cap \{x_1, \dots, x_M\}$. Without loss of generality, we may suppose $G = \{x_1, \dots, x_{M_0}\}$, where $M_0 \leq M$.

Taking $x = T$, by Lemma 1.2, we have

$$T^{k+\epsilon} N^{-1/2} \ll VT^{k-1/2-\epsilon}, \quad T^{k-1/2} N^\epsilon \ll VT^{k-1/2-\epsilon}.$$

Then we get

$$N \gg V^{-2} T^{1+4\epsilon}.$$

It is easy to check that the estimate of $D_1(x; Z_F)$ is much better when we take smaller N . Hence, we take $N = 2^{J+1} \asymp V^{-2} T^{1+4\epsilon}$, where $J := \lfloor \frac{(1+4\epsilon)\mathcal{L} - 2 \log V}{\log 2} \rfloor$.

By Lemma 1.2, for $T \leq x \leq 2T$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} D_1(x; Z_F) &\ll T^{k-3/8} \left| \sum_{n \leq N} f(n) n^{-7/8} e(4(nx)^{1/4}) \right| + VT^{k-1/2-\epsilon} \\ &\ll T^{k-3/8} \left| \sum_{j=0}^{J+1} \sum_{n \sim 2^j} f(n) n^{-7/8} e(4(nx)^{1/4}) \right| + VT^{k-1/2-\epsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

Squaring, summing over G and applying the Cauchy inequality, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{l \leq M_0} D_1^2(x_l; Z_F) &\ll T^{2k-3/4} \sum_{l \leq M_0} \left| \sum_j \sum_{n \sim 2^j} f(n) n^{-7/8} e(4(nx_l)^{1/4}) \right|^2 \\ &\ll T^{2k-3/4} \mathcal{L} \sum_{l \leq M_0} \sum_j \left| \sum_{n \sim 2^j} f(n) n^{-7/8} e(4(nx_l)^{1/4}) \right|^2 \\ &\ll T^{2k-3/4} \mathcal{L}^2 \sum_{l \leq M_0} \left| \sum_{n \sim 2^{j_0}} f(n) n^{-7/8} e(4(nx_l)^{1/4}) \right|^2, \end{aligned}$$

for some $0 \leq j_0 \leq J$.

Let $N_0 = 2^{j_0}$. Take $\xi = \{\xi_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ with $\xi_n = f(n) n^{-7/8}$ for $n \sim N_0$ and zero otherwise, and take $\varphi_l = \{\varphi_{l,n}\}_{n=1}^\infty$ with $\varphi_{l,n} = e(4(nx_l)^{1/4})$ for $n \sim N_0$ and zero otherwise. Then we have

$$(\xi, \varphi_l) = \sum_{n \sim N_0} \frac{f(n)}{n^{7/8}} e(4(nx_l)^{1/4}), \quad (\varphi_{l_1}, \varphi_{l_2}) = \sum_{n \sim N_0} e(4n^{1/4}(x_{l_1}^{1/4} - x_{l_2}^{1/4})),$$

and

$$(4.1) \quad \|\xi\|^2 = \sum_{n \sim N_0} \frac{f^2(n)}{n^{7/4}} \ll N_0^{-7/4} \sum_{n \sim N_0} f(n)^2 \ll N_0^{-3/4},$$

where we use the bound $\sum_{n \leq x} |f(n)|^2 \ll x$.

From (4.1) and Lemma 4.1, we get

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{aligned} M_0 V^2 &\ll T^{1/4} \mathcal{L}^2 \sum_{l \leq M_0} \left| \sum_{n \sim N_0} f(n) n^{-7/8} e(4(n x_l)^{1/4}) \right|^2 \\ &\ll T^{1/4} \mathcal{L}^2 N_0^{-3/4} \max_{l_1 \leq M_0} \sum_{l_2 \leq M_0} \left| \sum_{n \sim N_0} e(4n^{1/4}(x_{l_1}^{1/4} - x_{l_2}^{1/4})) \right| \\ &\ll T^{1/4} \mathcal{L}^2 N_0^{1/4} + \frac{T^{1/4} \mathcal{L}^2}{N_0^{3/4}} \max_{l_1 \leq M_0} \sum_{\substack{l_2 \leq M_0 \\ l_1 \neq l_2}} \left| \sum_{n \sim N_0} e(4n^{1/4}(x_{l_1}^{1/4} - x_{l_2}^{1/4})) \right|. \end{aligned}$$

By the Kuz'min–Landau inequality taking the exponent pair

$$(1/7, 6/7) = C_{5/7}((0, 1), (1/2, 1/2)),$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \sim N_0} e(4n^{1/4}(\sqrt[4]{x_{l_1}} - \sqrt[4]{x_{l_2}})) &\ll \frac{N_0^{3/4}}{|\sqrt[4]{x_{l_1}} - \sqrt[4]{x_{l_2}}|} + \left(\frac{|\sqrt[4]{x_{l_1}} - \sqrt[4]{x_{l_2}}|}{N_0^{3/4}} \right)^{1/7} N_0^{6/7} \\ &\ll \frac{(N_0 T)^{3/4}}{|x_{l_1} - x_{l_2}|} + \left(\frac{|x_{l_1} - x_{l_2}|}{(N_0 T)^{3/4}} \right)^{1/7} N_0^{6/7} \\ &\ll \frac{(N_0 T)^{3/4}}{|x_{l_1} - x_{l_2}|} + T^{-3/28} T_0^{1/7} N_0^{3/4}, \end{aligned}$$

where we use the mean value theorem and the estimate $|x_{l_1} - x_{l_2}| \leq T_0$.

Inserting this estimate back into (4.2) we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} M_0 V^2 &\ll T^{1/4} \mathcal{L}^2 N_0^{1/4} + \frac{T^{1/4} \mathcal{L}^2}{N_0^{3/4}} \max_{l_1 \leq M_0} \sum_{\substack{l_2 \leq M_0 \\ l_1 \neq l_2}} \left(\frac{(N_0 T)^{3/4}}{|x_{l_1} - x_{l_2}|} + T^{-3/28} T_0^{1/7} N_0^{3/4} \right) \\ &\ll T^{1/4} \mathcal{L}^2 N_0^{1/4} + \mathcal{L}^3 T V^{-1} + \mathcal{L}^2 (T T_0)^{1/7} M_0 \\ &\ll \mathcal{L}^3 T V^{-1} + \mathcal{L}^2 (T T_0)^{1/7} M_0, \end{aligned}$$

where we use the facts that $\{x_l\}$ is V -spaced and $N_0 \asymp V^{-2} T^{1+4\epsilon}$.

Taking $T_0 = V^{14} T^{-1} \mathcal{L}^{-14}$, if $V \gg T^{1/13} \mathcal{L}^{14/13}$, it is easy to check that $T_0 \gg V$. For this T_0 we get

$$M_0 \ll \mathcal{L}^3 T V^{-3}.$$

Now we divide the interval $[T, 2T]$ into $O(1+T/T_0)$ subintervals of length not exceeding T_0 . In each interval of this type, the number of x_l 's is at

most $O(\mathcal{L}^3TV^{-3})$. So we have

$$M \ll \mathcal{L}^3TV^{-3}(1 + TT_0^{-1}) \ll \mathcal{L}^3TV^{-3} + \mathcal{L}^{17}T^3V^{-17}.$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 4.2. ■

LEMMA 4.3. *For any $\epsilon > 0$, we have*

$$\int_1^T |D_1(x; Z_F)|^{16/3} dx \ll T^{16k/3-1+\epsilon}.$$

Proof. Suppose $x^\epsilon \ll y \ll x/2$. By the definition of $D_1(x; Z_F)$ we get

$$D_1(x; Z_F) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(2)} \sum_{n \leq x} (x - n)c_n.$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} |D_1(x + y; Z_F) - D_1(x; Z_F)| &\ll \left| \sum_{n \leq x+y} (x + y - n)c_n - \sum_{n \leq x} (x - n)c_n \right| \\ &\ll y \sum_{n \leq x} c_n + y \sum_{x < n \leq x+y} c_n \ll x^{k-1/2}y, \end{aligned}$$

where we use the bound $\sum_{x < n \leq x+y} |c_n| \ll x^{k-3/2}y$. So there exists an absolute constant $c_0 > 0$ such that

$$|D_1(x + y; Z_F) - D_1(x; Z_F)| \leq c_0x^{k-1/2}y,$$

which implies that if $|D_1(x; Z_F)| \geq 2c_0x^{k-1/2}y$, then

$$|D_1(x + y; Z_F)| \geq |D_1(x; Z_F)| - |D_1(x + y; Z_F) - D_1(x; Z_F)| \geq c_0x^{k-1/2}y.$$

This together with (1.5) and an argument similar to (13.70) of [5] yields

$$(4.3) \quad \int_1^T |D_1(x; Z_F)|^A dx \ll T^{1+(k-3/8)A} + \sum_V V \sum_{r \leq N_V} |D_1(x_r; Z_F)|^A,$$

where

$$T^{1/8} \leq V \leq T^{1/5}, \quad VT^{k-1/2} < |D_1(x_r; Z_F)| \leq 2VT^{k-1/2} \quad (r = 1, \dots, N_V),$$

and

$$|x_r - x_s| \geq V \quad \text{for } r \neq s \leq N = N_V.$$

Then by Lemma 4.2, we get

$$\begin{aligned} V \sum_{r \leq N_V} |D_1(x_r; Z_F)|^A &\ll T^{(k-1/2)A} N_V V^{A+1} \\ &\ll \mathcal{L}^3T^{1+(k-1/2)A} V^{A-2} + \mathcal{L}^{17}T^{3+(k-1/2)A} V^{A-16} \\ &=: I_1 + I_2, \quad \text{say.} \end{aligned}$$

Suppose $A > 2$. From

$$I_1 \ll \mathcal{L}^3T^{1+(k-1/2)A} T^{(A-2)/5} \ll T^{1+(k-3/8)A},$$

we can deduce $A \leq 16/3$. It is easy to check that $I_2 \ll T^{1+(k-3/8)A} \mathcal{L}^{17}$ for $0 \leq A \leq 16/3$. Back to (4.3), we complete the proof of Lemma 4.3. ■

Proof of Theorem 1.5. Suppose $T^\epsilon < y \leq T^{1/3}$. Taking $\rho = 1$ and applying the arguments of Lemmas 4.2 and 4.3 directly to \mathcal{R}_1 , we obtain

$$\int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_1|^{16/3} dx \ll T^{16/3k-1+\epsilon}.$$

Then by the definition of \mathcal{R}_2 and Lemma 4.3, we have

$$\int_T^{2T} |\mathcal{R}_2|^{16/3} dx \ll T^{16/3k-1+\epsilon}.$$

By the same argument in the last subsection, we find that for $h = 3, 4, 5$,

$$\int_T^{2T} D_1^h(x; Z_F) dx = \int_T^{2T} \mathcal{R}_1^h dx + O(T^{1+(k-3/8)h+\epsilon} y^{-\sigma_1(h, 16/3)} + T^{(k-3/8)h+3/4} y^{b_1(h)}).$$

Taking $y = T^{1/(4\sigma_1(h, 16/3)+4b_1(h))}$, by Lemma 3.3 we get

$$\int_T^{2T} D_1^h(x; Z_F) dx = \frac{B_1(h; f)}{2^{3h-1} \pi^{2h}} \int_T^{2T} x^{(k-3/8)h} dx + O(T^{1+(k-3/8)h-\lambda_1(h, 16/3)+\epsilon}).$$

Hence, Theorem 1.5 follows by dyadic subdivision. ■

Acknowledgements. This work was partly supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant Nos. 11226037, 11101239 and 11101249). The author would like to express her thanks to the referee for many useful suggestions and comments on the manuscript.

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*Received on 24.12.2011
and in revised form on 26.8.2012*

(6917)