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On the spacing of zeros of paraorthogonal polynomials for singular measures

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Abstract

We prove a lower bound on the spacing of zeros of paraorthogonal polynomials on the unit circle, based on continuity of the underlying measure as measured by Hausdorff dimensions. We complement this with the analog of the result from Breuer (2011) showing that clock spacing holds even for certain singular continuous measures.

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1. Introduction

This paper is concerned with the spacing of zeros of paraorthogonal polynomials on the unit circle (POPUC), and in particular in the connection between these spacings and continuity properties of the underlying measure. Its purpose is twofold. The first is to describe a very general observation connecting measure continuity to local zero spacing (which, to the best of our knowledge, is new in the real line case as well). The observation is that the degree of continuity of the underlying measure, in terms of comparison with α -dimensional Hausdorff measure, implies a lower bound on the local spacing of the zeros. The second aim of this paper is to present the POPUC analog of an example on the real line [2,3] that shows that singular measures may still have strong asymptotic repulsion, implying that *upper* bounds coming from singularity of the measure are probably more subtle.

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To set the stage, let μ be a probability measure supported on an infinite subset of $\partial \mathbb{D}$ – the unit circle. We denote the (normalized) orthogonal polynomials associated with μ by the sequence $\{\varphi_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, which is uniquely defined by the fact that φ_n is a polynomial of degree n with a positive leading coefficient and the orthogonality relation

$$\int_{\mathbb{AD}} \varphi_n \overline{\varphi_m} d\mu = \delta_{nm}.$$

The sequence $\{\varphi_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is well known to satisfy the Szegő recurrence (see, e.g., [26])

$$\varphi_{n+1}(z) = \rho_n^{-1} \left(z \varphi_n(z) - \overline{\alpha_n} \varphi_n^*(z) \right) \tag{1.1}$$

where $\varphi_n^*(z) = z^n \overline{\varphi_n(1/\overline{z})}$, $\rho_n = (1 - |\alpha_n|^2)^{1/2}$, and the sequence $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, known as the sequence of Verblunsky coefficients, is a sequence of complex numbers inside the open unit disk, which are uniquely determined by the measure μ .

Given a sequence of orthogonal polynomials on the unit circle (OPUC), $\{\varphi_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ as above, and an additional sequence, $\{\beta_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, of numbers on the unit circle we may define the corresponding sequence of paraorthogonal polynomials through

$$H_n^{(\beta_{n-1})}(z) := z\varphi_{n-1}(z) - \overline{\beta_{n-1}}\varphi_{n-1}^*(z). \tag{1.2}$$

Paraorthogonal polynomials, introduced in [9], have received some attention in recent years due to their natural appearance in various models both inside and outside the realm of orthogonal polynomial theory. These areas include random matrix theory [10,11], quadrature [7], electrostatic problems on the circle [22], and the computation of numerical ranges of multiplication operators [17]. More importantly in the context of the present paper, the zeros of paraorthogonal polynomials are in a sense, the 'correct' analog of zeros of orthogonal polynomials on the real line (OPRL): while the zeros of φ_n are known to be inside the open unit disk [26], the zeros of $H_n^{(\beta_{n-1})}$ are known to lie on $\partial \mathbb{D}$ [26, Section 2.2]. In fact, they are eigenvalues of a unitary truncation of the CMV matrix associated with the Verblunsky coefficients $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ in much the same way as the zeros of the n'th OPRL are the eigenvalues of a self-adjoint truncation of a Jacobi matrix (see [26, Sections 2.2 and 8.2] for details). Other relevant references include [4,5,18,21,23,24,28]. Questions about the asymptotic distribution of these zeros on $\partial \mathbb{D}$ are thus natural and have been studied in various contexts which we discuss in greater detail below. In this paper we focus on the connection between the continuity of μ and the local spacing of these zeros.

As a final preliminary, we remind the reader of the definition of α -dimensional Hausdorff measure, h^{α} . Given $0 \le \alpha \le 1$ and a nonempty set $S \subseteq \partial \mathbb{D}$

$$h^{\alpha}(S) = \lim_{\delta \to 0} \inf_{\delta - \text{covers}} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |I_j|^{\alpha}.$$
 (1.3)

In this definition, $\{I_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ is called a δ -cover of S if for each j, I_j is an arc of length $|I_j| < \delta$ and $S \subseteq \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} I_j$. The infimum is taken over all δ -covers. It is known [19] that the above limit exists (being possibly ∞) for any nonempty $S \subseteq \partial \mathbb{D}$ and that the restriction of h^{α} to Borel subsets defines a measure. Note that h^0 is the counting measure and h^1 is the arc-length measure (=Lebesgue measure on $\partial \mathbb{D}$). Moreover, for any $S \subseteq \partial \mathbb{D}$, there exists a unique $\alpha(S) \in [0, 1]$ so that for any $\alpha < \alpha(S)$, $h^{\alpha}(S) = \infty$ and for any $\alpha > \alpha(S)$, $h^{\alpha}(S) = 0$. $\alpha(S)$ is known as the Hausdorff dimension of S. For more on Hausdorff measures and dimensions see [19].

In order to present our results we need to label the zeros around a fixed point on the unit circle. Thus, let $e^{i\Theta} \in \partial \mathbb{D}$ be fixed and let us label the zeros of $H_n^{(\beta_{n-1})}$ in the following way:

$$\cdots < \theta_{-1}^{(n)}(\Theta) < \Theta \le \theta_0^{(n)}(\Theta) < \theta_1^{(n)}(\Theta) < \dots$$
(1.4)

Remark. We omit β_{n-1} from the notation for $\theta_j^{(n)}(\Theta)$ in order to streamline the presentation. The dependence of $\theta_j^{(n)}(\Theta)$ on β_{n-1} below will be clear from the context.

Theorem 1.1. Let μ be an infinitely supported probability measure on the unit circle and let $\{\beta_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of numbers satisfying $|\beta_n| = 1$. Then

1. If μ_{ac} is the component of μ that is absolutely continuous w.r.t. Lebesgue measure on $\partial \mathbb{D}$, then for μ_{ac} -almost every $z = e^{i\Theta}$ we have

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \sup n(\theta_0^{(n)}(\Theta) - \theta_{-1}^{(n)}(\Theta)) > 0. \tag{1.5}$$

2. Fix $\gamma > 1$, and let

$$A = \left\{ e^{i\,\Theta} \in \partial \mathbb{D} \, \big| \liminf_{n \to \infty} n^{\gamma} \left(\theta_0^{(n)}(\Theta) - \theta_{-1}^{(n)}(\Theta) \right) < \infty \right\}$$

Then the restricted measure $\mu(A \cap \cdot)$ is supported on a set of Hausdorff dimension at most $\frac{2}{1+\nu}$.

It follows that for any $0 < \alpha < 1$, if μ gives zero weight to sets of Hausdorff dimension at most α (in particular, if μ is absolutely continuous with respect to $h^{\alpha+\varepsilon}$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$), then for μ -a.e. Θ

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} n^{\gamma} \left(\theta_0^{(n)}(\Theta) - \theta_{-1}^{(n)}(\Theta) \right) = \infty$$
for $\gamma = \frac{2}{\alpha} - 1$.

Remark. Many examples of absolutely continuous measures exhibit spacing which is known as local clock behavior (see Definition 1.1). This is a considerably stronger form of repulsion than that exhibited in (1.5). The bound in (1.5), however, is completely general (nevertheless, note that [1] conjecture a weak form of clock behavior for μ_{ac} -a.e. point for any measure). The fundamentally new result in Theorem 1.1 is part 2 which, to the best of our knowledge, is the only existing result tying Hausdorff continuity of a measure to OP zero spacing.

Remark. The analogous result for zeros of orthogonal polynomials on the real line (OPRL) holds as well. It is in fact an immediate consequence of [13, Theorem 2.2] and [12, Theorem 1.1] and [8, Corollary 4.2]. The analogs of [12, Theorem 1.1] and [8, Corollary 4.2] for the unit circle appear essentially in [26, Chapter 10]. As for the unit circle analog of [13, Theorem 2.2], a discussion in Section 10 of [13] describes a strategy of proof and a consequence. For completeness we state and prove the precise analog in Section 2, following which we give the proof of Theorem 1.1.

Remark. As mentioned above, recent years have seen various works studying zero spacing for paraorthogonal polynomials. For random Verblunsky coefficients, the works [11,27] show a transition from Poisson to clock behavior via asymptotic β -ensemble statistics (indeed showing, in this particular case, a correlation between measure continuity and local repulsion). From a

slightly different perspective, the papers [7,13,20,21] study the connection between regularity properties of $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ and these spacings. In particular [13] obtain sufficient conditions ensuring clock behavior, whereas [7,20] obtain global upper bounds on the spacing depending on the decay rate of $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$. Other works associating properties of μ and the zeros of the associated paraorthogonal polynomials include [5,18,23,24].

A very strong form of local repulsion between the $\theta_j^{(n)}(\theta)$ (already mentioned above) is known as *clock behavior*. This is defined as follows:

Definition 1.1. We say there is clock behavior at $e^{i\Theta} \in \partial \mathbb{D}$ if for every $j \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$n\left(\theta_{j+1}^{(n)}(\Theta) - \theta_j^{(n)}(\Theta)\right) \underset{n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 2\pi.$$

While the term 'clock behavior' was originally defined and studied in the context of the unit circle [26] (since in this case the zeros distribute like dials on a clock), it was studied more extensively in the context of the real line, where it was found to be connected to universality limits of the Christoffel–Darboux (CD) kernel [16,25]. Explicitly, the Freud–Levin–Lubinsky Theorem [6,15,25] says that convergence of the rescaled CD kernel to the sine kernel (aka 'bulk universality') implies clock behavior at the relevant point. Universality limits have been extensively studied mainly because of their connection to the phenomenon of universality in random matrix theory. In particular, bulk universality (and therefore clock) was shown to occur for generic points in many cases of absolutely continuous measures on \mathbb{R} (for a review on some of the relevant literature on universality see [16]).

In light of the above results and discussion, it is natural to wonder whether singularity of μ implies less regularity of the asymptotic zero spacing. The example in [2] (see [3] for a continuum Schrödinger operator analog) shows that the situation in the case of \mathbb{R} is more subtle. By considering the Jacobi coefficients associated with μ on \mathbb{R} , [2] presents a family of purely singular measures where bulk universality, and therefore clock behavior, holds at every point of [-2, 2]. Our second main result is the unit circle analog of this example.

Theorem 1.2. There exist purely singular continuous measures on the unit circle such that for any sequence $\{\beta_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ with $|\beta_n|=1$, for any $e^{i\,\Theta}\in\partial\mathbb{D}$, and any $j\in\mathbb{Z}$,

$$n\left(\theta_{j+1}^{(n)}(\Theta) - \theta_j^{(n)}(\Theta)\right) \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 2\pi.$$

As in the case of the real line, we construct these examples by considering the associated Verblunsky coefficients and using the fact that the association of μ with the sequence $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is bijective [26]. The sequence $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ that we study is sparse in the sense that the distances between non-zero α 's rapidly increase to infinity. We show that for a sparse decaying sequence of Verblunsky coefficients the associated CD kernel has sine kernel asymptotics and deduce clock behavior. In this we imitate the strategy and technique of [2]. We note, however, that we introduce a technical simplification that allows us to consider diagonal and non-diagonal elements of K_n simultaneously.

Remark. [29, Theorem 1.4] shows that the measures constructed in [2] are absolutely continuous with respect to h^{α} for every $0 \le \alpha < 1$. In a sense, they are as continuous as possible, while still being singular with respect to Lebesgue measure. Although we could not find a proof in the literature for the analogous case on the unit circle (i.e. the measures constructed in Theorem 1.2), because of the similarities between the constructions, we suspect it may also be true in our case.

The rest of the paper is structured as follows. In Section 2, following a few preliminaries, we present the proof of Theorem 1.1. In Section 3 we set the stage for the proof of Theorem 1.2 with a short discussion of the CD kernel and an explicit description of the example to which the theorem pertains. In Section 4 we prove Theorem 1.2. Appendix contains a statement and proof of the unit circle analog of the Freud–Levin–Lubinsky Theorem (that we could not find in the literature).

2. Lower bounds via Hausdorff dimensions

We begin by describing the connection between the zeros of the CD kernel and the zeros of H_n that will be useful in later sections as well. The Christoffel–Darboux kernel, K_n , associated with μ , is defined by

$$K_n(z, w) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \varphi_k(z) \overline{\varphi_k(w)}.$$

For a sequence $\{\beta_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, let $\{H_n^{(\beta_{n-1})}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of paraorthogonal polynomials defined in (1.2). Wong [28] proved that for any n, and for any zero of $H_n^{(\beta_{n-1})}$, z_0 , there exists a constant, $c \neq 0$ so that

$$H_n^{(\beta_{n-1})}(z) = c(z - z_0)K_n(z, z_0)$$
(2.1)

Hence z is also a zero of H_n if and only if it is a zero of $K_n(\cdot, z_0)$. Moreover, it follows that all the zeros of H_n are simple.

Let $z \in \partial \mathbb{D}$. We study the following system of difference equations

$$u_{n+1} = \rho_n^{-1} (z u_n - \overline{\alpha_n} u_n^{\dagger})$$

$$u_{n+1}^{\dagger} = \rho_n^{-1} (-z \alpha_n u_n + u_n^{\dagger})$$
(2.2)

where $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is a sequence in \mathbb{D} , and $\rho_n = \sqrt{1-|\alpha_n|^2}$. Writing this in matrix form we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_{n+1} \\ u_{n+1}^{\dagger} \end{pmatrix} = \rho_n^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} z & -\overline{\alpha_n} \\ -z\alpha_n & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_n \\ u_n^{\dagger} \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (2.3)

Denote $\vec{u}_n = \begin{pmatrix} u_n \\ u_n^{\dagger} \end{pmatrix}$, and the *n*th step matrix $S_n(z) = \rho_{n-1}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} z & -\overline{\alpha_{n-1}} \\ -z\alpha_{n-1} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Now the equation can be written as

$$\vec{u}_n = S_n(z)\vec{u}_{n-1}. (2.4)$$

Moreover, denote the transfer matrix $T_n(z) = S_n S_{n-1} \cdots S_1$, so we have

$$\vec{u}_n = T_n(z)\vec{u}_0. \tag{2.5}$$

Pick two solutions of (2.5) with orthogonal boundary conditions

$$\begin{pmatrix} \varphi_n(z) \\ \varphi_n^{\dagger}(z) \end{pmatrix} = T_n(z) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} \psi_n(z) \\ \psi_n^{\dagger}(z) \end{pmatrix} = T_n(z) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

so we can write the transfer matrix as

$$T_n(z) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_n(z) + \psi_n(z) & \varphi_n(z) - \psi_n(z) \\ \varphi_n^{\dagger}(z) + \psi_n^{\dagger}(z) & \varphi_n^{\dagger}(z) - \psi_n^{\dagger}(z) \end{pmatrix}. \tag{2.6}$$

These φ_n are indeed the orthogonal polynomials corresponding to the Verblunsky coefficients $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, and $\varphi_n^{\dagger} = \varphi_n^*$. Furthermore, ψ_n are also known as the second-kind orthogonal polynomials. They are actually just orthogonal polynomials with respect to $\{-\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ and in this case $\psi_n^{\dagger} = -\psi_n^*$.

Lemma 2.1. Let $\{\vec{w_n}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$, $\{\vec{w_n'}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ be two solutions of (2.5) for parameters $z, z' \in \partial \mathbb{D}$ respectively, having the same boundary conditions $\vec{w_0} = \vec{w'_0}$. Then

$$w'_{n} = w_{n} + (z' - z) \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{2z^{m+1}} \left(\varphi_{m}^{\dagger}(z) \psi_{n}(z) - \varphi_{n}(z) \psi_{m}^{\dagger}(z) \right) w'_{m}$$
 (2.7)

and

$$w_n^{\dagger} = w_n^{\dagger} + (z' - z) \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{2z^{m+1}} \left(\varphi_m^{\dagger}(z) \psi_n^{\dagger}(z) - \varphi_n^{\dagger}(z) \psi_m^{\dagger}(z) \right) w_m^{\prime}. \tag{2.8}$$

Proof. We would like to find a convenient form for the matrix

$$Q_n(z, z') := T_n(z)^{-1} T_n(z').$$

Note that

$$T_n(z)^{-1}T_n(z') = T_{n-1}(z)^{-1}S_n(z)^{-1}S_n(z')T_{n-1}(z')$$

$$= T_{n-1}(z)^{-1} \left(I + S_n(z)^{-1}S_n(z') - I\right)T_{n-1}(z')$$

$$= Q_{n-1}(z, z') + T_{n-1}(z)^{-1} \left(S_n(z)^{-1}S_n(z') - I\right)T_{n-1}(z').$$

Solving the equation above for the boundary condition $Q_0(z, z') = I$, we get

$$Q_n(z,z') = I + \sum_{m=1}^n T_{m-1}(z)^{-1} \left(S_m(z)^{-1} S_m(z') - I \right) T_{m-1}(z').$$

Multiplying both sides of $T_n(z') = T_n(z)Q_n(z, z')$ by $\vec{w'}_0$, we arrive at

$$\vec{w'}_n = \vec{w}_n + \sum_{m=1}^n T_n(z) T_{m-1}(z)^{-1} (S_m(z)^{-1} S_m(z') - I) \vec{w}_{m-1}.$$
(2.9)

All that is left is to calculate the summand. First,

$$S_m(z)^{-1} S_m(z') = z^{-1} \rho_{m-1}^{-2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \overline{\alpha_{m-1}} \\ z \alpha_{m-1} & z \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z' & -\overline{\alpha_{m-1}} \\ -z' \alpha_{m-1} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= I + \frac{z' - z}{z} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here we used the fact that det $S_k(z) = z$ for every $k \in \mathbb{N}$. It also implies that det $T_{m-1}(z) = \det(S_{m-1}(z) \cdots S_1(z)) = z^{m-1}$, so we conclude

$$T_n(z)T_{m-1}(z)^{-1}(S_m(z)^{-1}S_m(z')-I) = \frac{z'-z}{2z^m} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_{m-1}^{\dagger}(z)\psi_n(z) - \varphi_n(z)\psi_{m-1}^{\dagger}(z) & 0\\ \varphi_{m-1}^{\dagger}(z)\psi_n^{\dagger}(z) - \varphi_n^{\dagger}(z)\psi_{m-1}^{\dagger}(z) & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Plugging this back into (2.9), we find that

$$\vec{w'}_{n} = \vec{w}_{n} + (z' - z) \sum_{m=1}^{n} \frac{1}{2z^{m}} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_{m-1}^{\dagger}(z)\psi_{n}(z) - \varphi_{n}(z)\psi_{m-1}^{\dagger}(z) & 0 \\ \varphi_{m-1}^{\dagger}(z)\psi_{n}^{\dagger}(z) - \varphi_{n}^{\dagger}(z)\psi_{m-1}^{\dagger}(z) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \vec{w}_{m-1}$$

$$= \vec{w}_{n} + (z' - z) \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{2z^{m+1}} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_{m}^{\dagger}(z)\psi_{n}(z) - \varphi_{n}(z)\psi_{m}^{\dagger}(z) & 0 \\ \varphi_{m}^{\dagger}(z)\psi_{n}^{\dagger}(z) - \varphi_{n}^{\dagger}(z)\psi_{m}^{\dagger}(z) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \vec{w}_{m}. \quad \Box$$

We also require another Lemma.

Lemma 2.2. Let $\{\varphi_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of orthogonal polynomials on the unit circle and $\beta \in \partial \mathbb{D}$. Let z', z'' be two distinct zeros of the paraorthogonal polynomial $H_n^{(\beta)}$. Then the pair of vectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} \varphi_0(z') \\ \varphi_1(z') \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_{n-1}(z') \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_0(z'') \\ \varphi_1(z'') \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_{n-1}(z'') \end{pmatrix}$$

are orthogonal to each other in the Euclidean space \mathbb{C}^n .

Proof. As β is fixed, we omit it from the notation for $H_n^{(\beta)}$ throughout the proof. Let $U:L^2(\mu)\to L^2(\mu)$ be the operator of multiplication by z. Let $P_n:L^2(\mu)\to L^2(\mu)$ be the oblique projection operator into $span\{z^m\}_{m=0}^{n-1}$ along $span\{H_n,\varphi_{n+1},\varphi_{n+2},\ldots\}$. Now define another operator

$$U_n := P_n U|_{span\{z^m\}_{m=0}^{n-1}}.$$

As discussed in [4], this is the appropriate way to truncate the unitary operator U in order to get a unitary operator on a finite-dimensional subspace of $L^2(\mu)$. This operator acts on $span\{z^m\}_{m=0}^{n-1}$ by

$$(U_n f)(z) = z f(z) - \frac{\langle z f, \varphi_n \rangle}{\langle H_n, \varphi_n \rangle} H_n(z)$$

Let λ be an eigenvalue of U_n , then there exists an eigenfunction $f \in span\{z^m\}_{m=0}^{n-1}$ such that

$$zf(z) - \frac{\langle zf, \varphi_n \rangle}{\langle H_n, \varphi_n \rangle} H_n(z) = \lambda f$$

$$\updownarrow$$

$$\frac{\langle zf, \varphi_n \rangle}{\langle H_n, \varphi_n \rangle} H_n(z) = (z - \lambda) f,$$

so λ is a zero of H_n . Moreover, f lies in the one-dimensional space spanned by the function $\frac{H_n(z)}{z-\lambda}$, so every eigenvalue is simple. Thus the set of eigenvalues of U_n equals the set of zeros of H_n . In particular, z', z'' are two distinct eigenvalues of U_n .

By (2.1), there exist constants $0 \neq c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ such that

$$\frac{H_n(z)}{z - z'} = c_1 K_n(z, z')$$

$$\frac{H_n(z)}{z - z''} = c_2 K_n(z, z''),$$

so $K_n(z, z')$, $K_n(z, z'')$ are eigenfunctions of U_n associated with the distinct eigenvalues z', z'' respectively. Therefore

$$\langle K_n(z,z'), K_n(z,z'')\rangle_{L^2(\mu)} = 0.$$

Taking $B = \{\varphi_m(z)\}_{m=0}^{n-1}$ as a basis for $span\{z^m\}_{m=0}^{n-1}$, we write the coordinates vector of the eigenfunctions

$$[K_n(z,z')]_B = \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\varphi_0(z')} \\ \vdots \\ \overline{\varphi_{n-1}(z')} \end{pmatrix}, \quad [K_n(z,z'')]_B = \begin{pmatrix} \overline{\varphi_0(z'')} \\ \vdots \\ \overline{\varphi_{n-1}(z'')} \end{pmatrix}.$$

These vectors in \mathbb{C}^n are again orthogonal to each other as eigenvectors of $[U_n]_B$ associated with distinct eigenvalues z', z''. We conclude that also their complex conjugates

$$\begin{pmatrix} \varphi_0(z') \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_{n-1}(z') \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_0(z'') \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_{n-1}(z'') \end{pmatrix}$$

are orthogonal to each other. \square

We now use these two lemmas to prove the following unit circle version of [13, Theorem 2.2].

Theorem 2.3. Let $z = e^{i \Theta} \in \partial \mathbb{D}$, $\beta \in \partial \mathbb{D}$, and let

$$\theta_{-1}^{(n)} := \theta_{-1}^{(n)}(\Theta) < \Theta \le \theta_0^{(n)}(\Theta) =: \theta_0^{(n)} \tag{2.10}$$

be as in (1.4), i.e. $z'=e^{i\theta_{-1}^{(n)}}$ and $z''=e^{i\theta_{0}^{(n)}}$ are a pair of consecutive zeros of the paraorthogonal polynomial $H_n^{(\beta)}$ around z. Then

$$\left|\theta_0^{(n)} - \theta_{-1}^{(n)}\right| \ge \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \|T_k(z)\|^2\right)^{-1} \tag{2.11}$$

Proof. We imitate the proof of [13, Theorem 2.2]. Let $\{\varphi_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ be the sequence of normalized OPUC. So

$$\{\varphi_k(z)\}_{k=0}^{\infty}, \left\{\varphi_k(z')\right\}_{k=0}^{\infty}, \left\{\varphi_k(z'')\right\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$$

solve (2.5) for parameters z, z', z'' respectively. Thus, by Lemma 2.1,

$$\varphi_k(z') = \varphi_k(z) + (z'-z) \sum_{m=0}^{k-1} \frac{1}{2z^{m+1}} \left(\varphi_m^{\dagger}(z) \psi_k(z) - \varphi_k(z) \psi_m^{\dagger}(z) \right) \varphi_m(z'),$$

$$\varphi_k(z'') = \varphi_k(z) + (z'' - z) \sum_{m=0}^{k-1} \frac{1}{2z^{m+1}} \left(\varphi_m^{\dagger}(z) \psi_k(z) - \varphi_k(z) \psi_m^{\dagger}(z) \right) \varphi_m(z'').$$

Define the operator $A_n(z): \mathbb{C}^n \to \mathbb{C}^n$ by

$$(A_n(z)v)_k = \sum_{m=0}^{k-1} \frac{1}{2z^{m+1}} \left(\varphi_m^{\dagger}(z) \psi_k(z) - \varphi_k(z) \psi_m^{\dagger}(z) \right) v_m.$$

Thinking now of $\varphi_{\cdot}(z)$, $\varphi_{\cdot}(z')$, $\varphi_{\cdot}(z'')$ as vectors in \mathbb{C}^n , i.e.

$$\varphi_{\cdot}(\xi) = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_{0}(\xi) \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_{n-1}(\xi) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{for } \xi = z, z', z'',$$

we may write

$$\varphi_{\cdot}(z') = \varphi_{\cdot}(z) + (z' - z)A_n(z)\varphi_{\cdot}(z')$$

$$\varphi_{\cdot}(z'') = \varphi_{\cdot}(z) + (z'' - z)A_n(z)\varphi_{\cdot}(z'').$$

Let $\|\cdot\|_n$ denote the Euclidean norm in \mathbb{C}^n . Without loss of generality, assume $\|\varphi_{\cdot}(z'')\|_n \leq \|\varphi_{\cdot}(z')\|_n$. Otherwise, switch the roles of z', z'' in the argument below.

On the one hand,

$$\|\varphi_{\cdot}(z')\|_{n}^{2} = \langle \varphi_{\cdot}(z'), \varphi_{\cdot}(z') \rangle = \langle \varphi_{\cdot}(z), \varphi_{\cdot}(z') \rangle + (z'-z) \langle A_{n}(z)\varphi_{\cdot}(z'), \varphi_{\cdot}(z') \rangle,$$

and on the other hand, by Lemma 2.2

$$0 = \langle \varphi.(z''), \varphi.(z') \rangle = \langle \varphi.(z), \varphi.(z') \rangle + (z'' - z) \langle A_n(z)\varphi.(z''), \varphi.(z') \rangle.$$

Subtracting these equations and taking the absolute value, we get

$$\|\varphi_{\cdot}(z')\|_{n}^{2} \leq |z'-z| |\langle A_{n}(z)\varphi_{\cdot}(z'), \varphi_{\cdot}(z')\rangle| + |z''-z| |\langle A_{n}(z)\varphi_{\cdot}(z''), \varphi_{\cdot}(z')\rangle| \leq (|z'-z|+|z''-z|) ||A_{n}(z)|| \cdot ||\varphi_{\cdot}(z')||_{n}^{2} \downarrow ||A_{n}(z)||^{-1} \leq |z'-z|+|z''-z|.$$

Because the distance between two points on a circle is smaller than the length of the arc connecting them, we see that

$$|z'-z|+|z''-z| \le \left|\theta_{-1}^{(n)}-\Theta\right|+\left|\theta_{0}^{(n)}-\Theta\right|=\left|\theta_{0}^{(n)}-\theta_{-1}^{(n)}\right|.$$

All that is left is to show that

$$||A_n(z)|| \le \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} ||T_k(z)||^2.$$

Indeed, we obtain this inequality by estimating the Hilbert–Schmidt norm of $A_n(z)$, which is larger or equal to its operator norm.

$$\begin{split} \|A_{n}(z)\|_{\mathrm{HS}}^{2} &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \sum_{m=0}^{k-1} \left| \varphi_{m}^{\dagger}(z) \psi_{k}(z) - \varphi_{k}(z) \psi_{m}^{\dagger}(z) \right|^{2} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \left(\left| \varphi_{m}^{\dagger}(z) \psi_{k}(z) \right|^{2} + 2 \left| \varphi_{m}^{\dagger}(z) \psi_{k}(z) \varphi_{k}(z) \psi_{m}^{\dagger}(z) \right| + \left| \varphi_{k}(z) \psi_{m}^{\dagger}(z) \right|^{2} \right). \end{split}$$

Summing over each of the three terms separately, one finds that the first term yields $\frac{1}{4}\|\varphi_{\cdot}^{\dagger}(z)\|_{n}^{2}\|\psi_{\cdot}(z)\|_{n}^{2}$ and the last term yields $\frac{1}{4}\|\varphi_{\cdot}(z)\|_{n}^{2}\|\psi_{\cdot}^{\dagger}(z)\|_{n}^{2}$. As for the middle term, by Cauchy–Schwarz, its sum is less than or equal to

$$\frac{1}{2} \|\varphi_{\cdot}^{\dagger}(z)\|_{n} \|\psi_{\cdot}(z)\|_{n} \|\varphi_{\cdot}(z)\|_{n} \|\psi_{\cdot}^{\dagger}(z)\|_{n} \leq \frac{1}{4} \left(\|\varphi_{\cdot}^{\dagger}(z)\|_{n}^{2} \|\psi_{\cdot}^{\dagger}(z)\|_{n}^{2} + \|\varphi_{\cdot}(z)\|_{n}^{2} \|\psi_{\cdot}(z)\|_{n}^{2} \right).$$

Therefore,

$$\|A_n(z)\|_{\mathrm{HS}}^2 \leq \frac{1}{4} \Big(\|\varphi_{\cdot}(z)\|_n^2 + \|\varphi_{\cdot}^{\dagger}(z)\|_n^2 \Big) \Big(\|\psi_{\cdot}(z)\|_n^2 + \|\psi_{\cdot}^{\dagger}(z)\|_n^2 \Big).$$

Note that

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\|\varphi_{\cdot}(z)\|_{n}^{2} + \|\varphi_{\cdot}^{\dagger}(z)\|_{n}^{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left(|\varphi_{k}(z)|^{2} + |\varphi_{k}^{\dagger}(z)|^{2} \right)
= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left\| T_{k}(z) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\|^{2}
\leq \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \|T_{k}(z)\|^{2},$$

and similarly for $\|\psi_{\cdot}(z)\|_n^2 + \|\psi_{\cdot}^{\dagger}(z)\|_n^2$, only by using $T_k(z)\begin{pmatrix} 1\\-1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_k(z)\\\psi_k^{\dagger}(z) \end{pmatrix}$. Plugging this back in,

$$||A_n(z)||_{HS}^2 \le \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} ||T_k(z)||^2\right)^2.$$

Hence

$$\left|\theta_0^{(n)} - \theta_{-1}^{(n)}\right| \ge \|A_n(z)\|^{-1} \ge \|A_n(z)\|_{\mathrm{HS}}^{-1} \ge \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \|T_k(z)\|^2\right)^{-1},$$

which concludes the proof. \Box

Proof of Theorem 1.1.

Fix a sequence $\{\beta_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ with $|\beta_n| = 1$.

1. By [26, Theorem 10.9.4] an essential support for $\mu_{\rm ac}$ is

$$N_1 = \left\{ z \in \partial \mathbb{D} \left| \liminf_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} ||T_k(z)||^2 < \infty \right\}.$$

Notice that $z = e^{i\Theta} \in N_1$ if and only if

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} n \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} ||T_k(z)||^2 \right)^{-1} > 0,$$

which implies, by Theorem 2.3, that

$$\limsup_{n\to\infty} n(\theta_0^{(n)}(\Theta) - \theta_{-1}^{(n)}(\Theta)) > 0.$$

2. By Theorem 2.3, $z \in A$ implies

$$\liminf_{n\to\infty} n^{\gamma} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} ||T_k(z)||^2 \right)^{-1} < \infty,$$

which is equivalent to

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n^{\gamma}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} ||T_k(z)||^2 > 0.$$

Now, by (2.6),

$$||T_{k}(z)||^{2} \leq \frac{1}{4} \left(|\varphi_{k}(z) + \psi_{k}(z)|^{2} + |\varphi_{k}(z) - \psi_{k}(z)|^{2} + |\varphi_{k}^{\dagger}(z) + \psi_{k}^{\dagger}(z)|^{2} + |\varphi_{k}^{\dagger}(z) - \psi_{k}^{\dagger}(z)|^{2} \right)$$

$$\leq |\varphi_{k}(z)|^{2} + |\psi_{k}(z)|^{2}.$$

The last step is due to the fact that

$$\forall z \in \partial \mathbb{D} \quad |\varphi_k(z)| = |z^k \overline{\varphi_k(1/\overline{z})}| = |\varphi_k^*(z)| \tag{2.12}$$

and as we noted earlier in this chapter, $\varphi_k^{\dagger}, \psi_k^{\dagger}$ are just *-conjugates of first- and second-kind orthogonal polynomials (up to a sign change). Therefore,

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n^{\gamma}} \left(\| \varphi_{\cdot}(z) \|_{n}^{2} + \| \psi_{\cdot}(z) \|_{n}^{2} \right) > 0.$$

Now, by [26, Theorem 4.3.16] for μ -a.e. $z \in \partial \mathbb{D}$ and for any $\eta > 0$, there exists a constant C_n such that

$$\|\varphi_{\cdot}(z)\|_{n} \leq C_{\eta} \cdot n^{\frac{1}{2} + \eta},$$

which implies that

$$\frac{\|\varphi_{\cdot}(z)\|_n^2}{n^{\gamma}} \le C_{\eta}^2 \cdot n^{1-\gamma+2\eta}$$

converges to zero as n goes to infinity, by choosing η small enough.

It follows that

$$\limsup_{n\to\infty} \frac{\|\psi_{\cdot}(z)\|_n^2}{n^{\gamma}} > 0,$$

and we conclude that for $\delta = \frac{1}{\gamma - \varepsilon}$ (where $\gamma > \varepsilon > 0$)

$$\liminf_{n\to\infty} \frac{\|\varphi_{\cdot}(z)\|_n}{\|\psi_{\cdot}(z)\|_n^{\delta}} \leq \liminf_{n\to\infty} C n^{(1-\delta\gamma)/2+\eta}$$

for some constant C, which again converges to zero as n goes to infinity by choosing η small enough. By the subordinacy theory for OPUC [26, Theorems 10.8.5, 10.8.7], $\mu(A\cap\cdot)$ is supported on a set of Hausdorff dimension at most $\frac{2\delta}{1+\delta}=\frac{2}{1+\gamma-\varepsilon}$. Since $\varepsilon>0$ is arbitrary, $\mu(A\cap\cdot)$ is supported on a set of Hausdorff dimension at most $\frac{2}{1+\gamma}$. \square

Remark. As remarked in the Introduction, the analogous statement for OPRL holds as well. The proof follows the same lines. In fact, since all the relevant results already exist it is much shorter. Part 1 follows immediately by combining [13, Theorem 2.2] with [12, Theorem 1.1]. Part 2 follows immediately from [13, Theorem 2.2] and [8, Corollary 4.2].

3. Sparse Verblunsky coefficients

The following is the main technical tool behind Theorem 1.2.

Theorem 3.1. Let $\{v_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of numbers in the open unit disk \mathbb{D} such that $v_\ell \to 0$ as $\ell \to \infty$. Let $\{N_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^{\infty}$ be a strictly increasing sequence of integers and let μ be the measure corresponding to the Verblunsky coefficients

$$\alpha_n = \begin{cases} v_\ell & \text{if } n = N_\ell \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let K_n be the associated CD kernel. If $\{N_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^{\infty}$ is sufficiently sparse (see the remark below) then K_n admits sine kernel asymptotics, namely

$$\frac{K_n(e^{i(\theta + \frac{2\pi a}{n})}, e^{i(\theta + \frac{2\pi b}{n})})}{K_n(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} e^{i\pi(a - \overline{b})} \frac{\sin(\pi(a - \overline{b}))}{\pi(a - \overline{b})}$$
(3.1)

uniformly for $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ and for a, b in compact subsets of the strip $\{|Imz| < \frac{1}{2}\}$.

Remark. By $\{N_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^{\infty}$ being sufficiently sparse we mean that for every $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ there exists an integer $\widehat{N}(\ell)$ (which depends on N_1, \ldots, N_ℓ and on the sequence $\{v_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^{\infty}$), such that $N_{\ell+1}$ is at least larger than $\widehat{N}(\ell)$.

That (3.1) implies clock behavior follows basically from (2.1) and is known as the Freud–Levin–Lubinsky Theorem in the OPRL setting [6,15,25]. The OPUC analog is presented below in Theorem A.1. In addition, [26, Theorem 12.5.2] says that if $\{v_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^{\infty}$ converges to zero and in addition

$$\lim_{\ell \to \infty} \frac{N_{\ell+1}}{N_{\ell}} = \infty \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} |v_{\ell}|^2 = \infty,$$

then the measure described in Theorem 3.1 is purely singular continuous. Thus, Theorem 1.2 follows from this discussion and Theorem 3.1 above. Accordingly, the rest of this section and Section 4 are devoted to proving Theorem 3.1.

The simplest measure on $\partial \mathbb{D}$ for which sine kernel asymptotics hold is the normalized Lebesgue measure, which corresponds to the Verblunsky coefficients $\alpha_n \equiv 0$. While this follows of course from [14], it is also a direct computation that we present in Section 3.1. The bulk of the proof lies in showing that for any $\{v_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^{\infty}$ it is possible to choose the sequence N_ℓ in such a way that the asymptotics of K_n remain unchanged under a sparse decaying perturbation.

Below, $\mu^{\mathcal{L}} := \frac{d\theta}{2\pi}$ denotes the normalized Lebesgue measure on the unit circle, μ denotes the perturbed measure appearing in Theorem 3.1, and $\mu^{(\ell)}$ denotes the finitely-perturbed measure corresponding to the Verblunsky coefficients

$$\alpha_n = \begin{cases} v_j & n = N_j, \ j \le \ell \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let $K_n^{\mathcal{L}}$, K_n , $K_n^{(\ell)}$ denote the CD kernels of $\mu^{\mathcal{L}}$, μ , $\mu^{(\ell)}$ respectively, and let φ , $\varphi^{(\ell)}$ denote the normalized orthogonal polynomials of μ , $\mu^{(\ell)}$ respectively. Furthermore, to shorten the formulation of (3.1), denote

$$z_n := e^{i(\theta + \frac{2\pi a}{n})},$$

$$w_n := e^{i(\theta + \frac{2\pi b}{n})}$$

where $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ and $a, b \in \{|\operatorname{Im} z| < \frac{1}{2}\}.$

We first prove a simple uniform bound on powers of z_n and w_n .

Lemma 3.2. For every two integers m < n,

$$|z_n^m|, |w_n^m| < e^{\pi}.$$

Proof. By the monotonicity of the real exponent, together with $-\text{Im}a < \frac{1}{2}$, we get

$$|z_n^m| = \left| e^{im(\theta + \frac{2\pi a}{n})} \right|$$
$$= e^{-\frac{2\pi m}{n} \operatorname{Im} a}$$
$$< e^{\pi}.$$

The same can be shown for w_n using the fact that $-\mathrm{Im}b < \frac{1}{2}$. \square

Moreover, (2.12) implies another useful inequality for every $z \in \partial \mathbb{D}$ (see [26, (1.5.27)]):

$$z\varphi_{n} = \rho_{n}\varphi_{n+1} + \overline{\alpha_{n}}\varphi_{n}^{*}$$

$$\downarrow \downarrow$$

$$|\varphi_{n}| \leq \frac{|\rho_{n}|}{1 - |\alpha_{n}|}|\varphi_{n+1}|$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{1 + |\alpha_{n}|}{1 - |\alpha_{n}|}}|\varphi_{n+1}|.$$

$$(3.2)$$

3.1. Asymptotics of the CD kernel for the Lebesgue measure

The orthogonal polynomials of the normalized Lebesgue measure $\mu^{\mathcal{L}}$ are $\{z^k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$. Therefore

$$K_n^{\mathcal{L}}(z_n, w_n) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} z_n^k \overline{w_n^k} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} e^{2\pi i k \frac{a-\overline{b}}{n}},$$

and similarly

$$K_n^{\mathcal{L}}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta}) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} e^{ik\theta} \overline{e^{ik\theta}} = n.$$

We now calculate the asymptotics of the kernel. Using the formula for the sum of a geometric sequence

$$\begin{split} \frac{K_n^{\mathcal{L}}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{\mathcal{L}}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} e^{2\pi i k \frac{a-\overline{b}}{n}} \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{1 - e^{2\pi i (a-\overline{b})}}{1 - e^{2\pi i \frac{a-\overline{b}}{n}}} \\ &= e^{i\pi(a-\overline{b})} (e^{-i\pi(a-\overline{b})} - e^{i\pi(a-\overline{b})}) \frac{\frac{1}{n}}{1 - e^{2\pi i \frac{a-\overline{b}}{n}}} \\ &\stackrel{\longrightarrow}{\longrightarrow} e^{i\pi(a-\overline{b})} \underbrace{sin(\pi(a-\overline{b}))}_{\pi(a-\overline{b})}. \end{split}$$

3.2. Asymptotics of the CD kernel for finitely-perturbed measures

In order to prove that the CD kernel of a finitely-perturbed measure $\mu^{(\ell)}$ has sine kernel asymptotics, we show that it is asymptotically equivalent to the CD kernel of the Lebesgue measure. Since the OPUC do not vanish on the unit circle $\partial \mathbb{D}$, we may write

$$\frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} = \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{n \left| \varphi_{N_\ell + 1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} \cdot \frac{n \left| \varphi_{N_\ell + 1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})}$$
(3.3)

while also

$$\frac{n \left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^{2}}{K_{n}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} = \frac{\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^{2}}{\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left| \varphi_{k}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^{2}} \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 1$$
(3.4)

because $\varphi_k^{(\ell)} = \varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}$ eventually (i.e. for every $k \ge N_\ell + 1$). So by (3.3) and (3.4), it suffices to prove that

$$\left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{n \left| \varphi_{N_\ell + 1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} - \frac{K_n^{\mathcal{L}}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{\mathcal{L}}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right| \underset{n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 0.$$
(3.5)

Indeed,

$$\left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{n \left| \varphi_{N_\ell + 1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} - \frac{K_n^{\mathcal{L}}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{\mathcal{L}}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right| = \frac{1}{n} \left| \frac{\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)}}{\left| \varphi_{N_\ell + 1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} z_n^k \overline{w_n^k} \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left| \frac{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)}}{\left| \varphi_{N_\ell + 1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} - z_n^k \overline{w_n^k} \right|,$$

which we partition into two sums

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{N_{\ell}} \left| \frac{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)}}{\left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} - z_n^k \overline{w_n^k} \right| + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=N_{\ell}+1}^{n-1} \left| \frac{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)}}{\left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} - z_n^k \overline{w_n^k} \right|.$$

Since for constant k, the term $\left| \frac{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n)\overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)}}{\left| \varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} - z_n^k \overline{w_n^k} \right|$ converges as $n \to \infty$, it is in particular a bounded sequence in n. Therefore, as for the finite sum,

$$\frac{1}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{N_{\ell}} \left| \frac{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n)\overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)}}{\left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} - z_n^k \overline{w_n^k} \right| \underset{n \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 0.$$

To take care of the second sum, note that for every $k > N_{\ell}$ and every $z \in \mathbb{C}$

$$\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z) = z^{k-N_\ell - 1} \varphi_{N_\ell + 1}^{(\ell)}(z),$$

so

$$\left|\frac{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n)\overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)}}{\left|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta})\right|^2} - z_n^k\overline{w_n^k}\right| = \left|z_n^kw_n^k\right| \cdot \left|\frac{(z_n\overline{w_n})^{-N_\ell-1}\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(z_n)\overline{\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(w_n)}}{\left|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta})\right|^2} - 1\right|.$$

We conclude, using Lemma 3.2, that

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=N_{\ell}+1}^{n-1} \left| \frac{\varphi_{k}^{(\ell)}(z_{n}) \overline{\varphi_{k}^{(\ell)}(w_{n})}}{\left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^{2}} - z_{n}^{k} \overline{w_{n}^{k}} \right| \leq \frac{e^{2\pi}}{n} \sum_{k=N_{\ell}+1}^{n-1} \left| \frac{(z_{n} \overline{w_{n}})^{-N_{\ell}-1} \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(z_{n}) \overline{\varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(w_{n})}}{\left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^{2}} - 1 \right| \\
\leq e^{2\pi} \left| \frac{(z_{n} \overline{w_{n}})^{-N_{\ell}-1} \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(z_{n}) \overline{\varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(w_{n})}}{\left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^{2}} - 1 \right|$$

which converges, by continuity, to

$$e^{2\pi} \left| \frac{(e^{i\theta} \overline{e^{i\theta}})^{(-N_{\ell}-1)} \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \overline{\varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta})}}{\left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} - 1 \right| = 0$$

as $n \to \infty$, thus proving (3.5).

4. Proof of Theorem 3.1

We begin by recursively constructing the Verblunsky coefficients of the fully-perturbed measure. Assume that $\{N_j\}_{j=0}^{\ell}$ are already chosen. We now pick an integer $\widehat{N}(\ell)$ large enough so that the following conditions are met:

 $\begin{array}{l} 1. \ \left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n,w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta},e^{i\theta})} - e^{i\pi(a-\overline{b})} \frac{\sin(\pi(a-\overline{b}))}{\pi(a-\overline{b})} \right| \leq \frac{1}{\ell} \ \text{for every } n \geq \widehat{N}(\ell), \ \text{which can be guaranteed by Section 3.2.} \\ 2. \ \left| \frac{\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(z_n)}{|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta})|}, \frac{|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(z_n)|}{|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta})|}, \frac{|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)*}(z_n)|}{|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta})|}, \frac{|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)*}(z_n)|}{|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta})|}, \frac{|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)*}(z_n)|}{|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta})|} < 2 \ \text{for every } n \geq \widehat{N}(\ell), \ \text{which can be} \end{array}$

guaranteed by continuity, and the fact that on the unit circle $\left|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)*}(e^{i\theta})\right| = \left|\varphi_{N_\ell+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta})\right|$.

We are now free to pick $N_{\ell+1}$ as long as it is larger than $\widehat{N}(\ell)$. Exactly in this sense we mean that the sequence $\{N_\ell\}_{\ell=0}^{\infty}$ in Theorem 3.1 should be sufficiently sparse. Our goal is now to prove that the limit

$$\left| \frac{K_n(z_n, w_n)}{K_n(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} - e^{i\pi(a-\overline{b})} \frac{\sin(\pi(a-\overline{b}))}{\pi(a-\overline{b})} \right| \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 0$$

holds uniformly for $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ and for a, b in compact subsets of the strip $\{|\text{Im}z| < \frac{1}{2}\}$. We claim that it suffices to show that

$$\max_{N_{\ell+1} < n \le N_{\ell+2}} \left| \frac{K_n(z_n, w_n)}{K_n(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} - \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right| \xrightarrow[\ell \to \infty]{} 0$$

$$\tag{4.1}$$

uniformly for $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ and for a, b in compact subsets of the strip $\{|\text{Im}z| < \frac{1}{2}\}$. Indeed, let $\varepsilon > 0$, and assume (4.1) holds. Then there exists $L \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for every $\ell > L$,

$$\max_{N_{\ell+1} < n \le N_{\ell+2}} \left| \frac{K_n(z_n, w_n)}{K_n(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} - \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}.$$

We may assume that $L > \frac{2}{\varepsilon}$, otherwise we just increase L as needed. For every $n > N_{L+1}$, let $\widetilde{\ell}$ be the integer such that $N_{\widetilde{\ell}+1} < n \le N_{\widetilde{\ell}+2}$. Now

$$\left| \frac{K_n(z_n, w_n)}{K_n(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} - e^{i\pi(a-\overline{b})} \frac{\sin(\pi(a-\overline{b}))}{\pi(a-\overline{b})} \right| \leq \left| \frac{K_n(z_n, w_n)}{K_n(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} - \frac{K_n^{(\widetilde{\ell})}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\widetilde{\ell})}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right|$$

$$+ \left| \frac{K_n^{(\widetilde{\ell})}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\widetilde{\ell})}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} - e^{i\pi(a-\overline{b})} \frac{\sin(\pi(a-\overline{b}))}{\pi(a-\overline{b})} \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{\varepsilon}{2} + \frac{1}{\widetilde{\ell}}$$

$$\leq \varepsilon.$$

So Theorem 3.1 follows from (4.1). Moreover, because $N_{\ell+1} < n \le N_{\ell+2}$ implies $K_n = K_n^{(\ell+1)}$, (4.1) is equivalent to

$$\max_{N_{\ell+1} < n \le N_{\ell+2}} \left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} - \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right| \xrightarrow[\ell \to \infty]{} 0. \tag{4.2}$$

We shall now prove that (4.2) holds uniformly for $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ and for a, b in compact subsets of the strip $\{|\text{Im}z| < \frac{1}{2}\}$. Notice that

$$\begin{split} \left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} - \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right| &\leq \left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} - \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right| \\ &+ \left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} - \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(z_n, w_n) - K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right| \\ &+ \left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right| \cdot \left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta}) - K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})}{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right|. \end{split}$$

So we can deal with each summand on its own.

4.1. First summand

For every $N_{\ell+1} < n \le N_{\ell+2}$, we would like to estimate

$$A_{n,\ell} := \left| \frac{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(z_n, w_n) - K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n, w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}, e^{i\theta})} \right|,$$

and show that it converges to zero as $\ell \to \infty$.

Our approach offers a technical simplification to the one found in [2]. There, the analog of $A_{n,\ell}$ was estimated using the CD formula. Since the CD formula only holds outside of the diagonal ($z \neq w$ when both are real), special care had to be taken for the denominator of $A_{n,\ell}$, as well as the numerator in the case a = b. To solve that, a subtle argument for analyticity and Cauchy's integral formula were used. We found that it is possible to estimate $A_{n,\ell}$ directly without invoking the CD formula at all, thus slightly simplifying the argument. While we only show it here for the OPUC case, our adjustments also work for the OPRL case of [2].

Since $\varphi_k^{(\ell)} = \varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}$ for every $k \leq N_{\ell+1}$, we find that

$$\begin{split} A_{n,\ell} &= \frac{\left| \sum\limits_{k=N_{\ell+1}+1}^{n-1} \left(\varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(w_n)} - \varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)} \right) \right|}{\sum\limits_{k=0}^{n-1} \left| \varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} \\ &\leq \frac{\sum\limits_{k=N_{\ell+1}+1}^{n-1} \left| \varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(w_n)} - \varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)} \right|}{\sum\limits_{k=0}^{n-1} \left| \varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2}. \end{split}$$

Let us focus on a single term in the numerator, denote

$$A_{n,\ell,k} := \left| \varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(w_n)} - \varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)} \right|$$

for $N_{\ell+1} < k < n \le N_{\ell+2}$. From the recursion relation (1.1) we derive the following at any point $z \in \mathbb{C}$:

$$\varphi_{k}^{(\ell+1)}(z) = z^{k-N_{\ell+1}-1} \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}+1}^{(\ell+1)}(z)
= z^{k-N_{\ell+1}-1} \rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-1} \left(z \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell+1)}(z) - \overline{v_{\ell+1}} \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell+1)*}(z) \right)
= z^{k-N_{\ell+1}-1} \rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-1} \left(z \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)}(z) - \overline{v_{\ell+1}} \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)*}(z) \right)
= \rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-1} \left(\varphi_{k}^{(\ell)}(z) - z^{k-N_{\ell+1}-1} \overline{v_{\ell+1}} \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)*}(z) \right).$$
(4.3)

Therefore,

$$\begin{split} \varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(z_n)\overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(w_n)} &= \rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-2} \left[\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)} \right. \\ &\qquad \qquad - \underbrace{v_{\ell+1} \varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n)} \overline{w_n^{k-N_{\ell+1}-1} \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)^*}(w_n)} \\ &\qquad \qquad - \underbrace{v_{\ell+1} \varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n)} z_n^{k-N_{\ell+1}-1} \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)^*}(z_n) \\ &\qquad \qquad + |v_{\ell+1}|^2 (z_n \overline{w_n})^{k-N_{\ell+1}-1} \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)^*}(z_n) \overline{\varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)^*}(w_n)} \right] \end{split}$$

Plugging this into $A_{n,\ell,k}$, we get

$$\begin{split} A_{n,\ell,k} &\leq (\rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-2} - 1) \left| \varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n) \varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n) \right| \\ &+ \rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-2} |v_{\ell+1}| \left(\left| \varphi_k^{(\ell)}(z_n) w_n^{k-N_{\ell+1} - 1} \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)^*}(w_n) \right| + \left| \varphi_k^{(\ell)}(w_n) z_n^{k-N_{\ell+1} - 1} \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)^*}(z_n) \right| \right) \\ &+ \rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-2} |v_{\ell+1}|^2 |z_n w_n|^{k-N_{\ell+1} - 1} \left| \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)^*}(z_n) \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}}^{(\ell)^*}(w_n) \right|. \end{split}$$

Since the polynomial sequence $\varphi_j^{(\ell)}$ is affected by the perturbation only up to $j = N_\ell + 1$, afterwards we have the "free" recursion formulas

$$j \ge N_{\ell} + 1$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$\varphi_j^{(\ell)}(z) = z^{j-N_{\ell}-1} \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(z),$$

$$\varphi_i^{(\ell)^*}(z) = \varphi_{N_{r}+1}^{(\ell)^*}(z).$$

We can use these formulas to regress all the $\varphi^{(\ell)}$'s back to the last perturbed index $N_{\ell}+1$. Applying Lemma 3.2, we see that

$$\begin{split} A_{n,\ell,k} &\leq (\rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-2} - 1)e^{2\pi} \left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(z_n) \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(w_n) \right| \\ &+ \rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-2} |v_{\ell+1}| e^{2\pi} \left(\left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(z_n) \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)^*}(w_n) \right| + \left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(w_n) \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)^*}(z_n) \right| \right) \\ &+ \rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-2} |v_{\ell+1}|^2 e^{2\pi} \left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)^*}(z_n) \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)^*}(w_n) \right|. \end{split}$$

Now we may use Condition 2 from the beginning of Section 4, so we write

$$A_{n,\ell,k} \leq B_{\ell+1} \left| \varphi_{N_{\ell}+1}^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2$$

where

$$B_{\ell+1} := e^{2\pi} \left(4(\rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-2} - 1) + 8\rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-2} |v_{\ell+1}| + 4\rho_{N_{\ell+1}}^{-2} |v_{\ell+1}|^2 \right).$$

Note that $B_{\ell+1}$ is independent of n, k, a, b, θ , and converges to zero as $\ell \to \infty$. By (3.2), we conclude

$$A_{n,\ell,k} \leq B_{\ell+1} \frac{1 + |v_{\ell+1}|^2}{1 - |v_{\ell+1}|^2} \left| \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}+1}^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2.$$

Finally, we plug $A_{n,\ell,k}$ back into $A_{n,\ell}$

$$\begin{split} A_{n,\ell} &\leq B_{\ell+1} \frac{1 + |v_{\ell+1}|^2}{1 - |v_{\ell+1}|^2} \frac{\sum\limits_{k=N_{\ell+1}+1}^{n-1} \left| \varphi_{N_{\ell+1}+1}^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2}{\sum\limits_{k=0}^{n-1} \left| \varphi_k^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta}) \right|^2} \\ &\leq B_{\ell+1} \frac{1 + |v_{\ell+1}|^2}{1 - |v_{\ell+1}|^2} \underset{\ell \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 0. \end{split}$$

4.2. Second summand

The second summand is comprised of two parts. Clearly, $\left|\frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n,w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta},e^{i\theta})}\right|$ is bounded by the asymptotics of the finite perturbation (Condition 1 from the beginning of Section 4). Namely, $\left|\frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(z_n,w_n)}{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta},e^{i\theta})}\right| \leq \left|e^{i\pi(a-\overline{b})}\frac{\sin(\pi(a-\overline{b}))}{\pi(a-\overline{b})}\right| + \frac{1}{\ell}$. We are finally left with the last part

$$\left|\frac{K_n^{(\ell)}(e^{i\theta},e^{i\theta})-K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta},e^{i\theta})}{K_n^{(\ell+1)}(e^{i\theta},e^{i\theta})}\right|$$

for $N_{\ell+1} < n \le N_{\ell+2}$, and we want to show that it converges to zero as $\ell \to \infty$. That will conclude our proof. But this is a special case of the first summand (Section 4.1), in which a = b = 0. We are done.

Appendix

We prove here the following

Theorem A.1. Let μ be a measure on $\partial \mathbb{D}$ exhibiting sine kernel asymptotics in the sense of (3.1), uniformly for $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ and for a, b in compact subsets of the strip $\{|Imz| < \frac{1}{2}\}$.

Let $\{H_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ be any corresponding sequence of paraorthogonal polynomials. Then for any $e^{i\Theta} \in \partial \mathbb{D}$ and any $j \in \mathbb{Z}$,

$$n\left(\theta_{j+1}^{(n)}(\Theta) - \theta_j^{(n)}(\Theta)\right) \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 2\pi.$$

Proof. Since Θ is fixed in the proof, we omit it from the notation $\theta_j^{(n)}(\Theta)$ throughout. Define a sequence of functions

$$f_n(x) = \frac{K_n(e^{i(\theta_j^{(n)} + \frac{2\pi x}{n})}, e^{i\theta_j^{(n)}})}{K_n(e^{i\theta_j^{(n)}}, e^{i\theta_j^{(n)}})}.$$

By the sine kernel asymptotics, f_n converges to

$$f(x) = e^{i\pi x} \frac{\sin(\pi x)}{\pi x}$$

uniformly on compact subsets of the strip $\{|\operatorname{Im} x| < \frac{1}{2}\}$.

Let $a_n = \frac{n}{2\pi} \left(\theta_{j+1}^{(n)} - \theta_j^{(n)} \right)$ be the sequence which we want to show converges to 1. Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that

$$\liminf_{n\to\infty} a_n < 1,$$

so there exists a subsequence $\{a_{n_k}\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ that converges to $0 \le L < 1$. By the uniform convergence of f_n and the continuity of f, we conclude that

$$f_{n_k}\left(a_{n_k}\right) \xrightarrow[k\to\infty]{} f(L).$$

But

$$f_{n_k}(a_{n_k}) = \frac{K_{n_k}(e^{i\theta_{j+1}^{(n_k)}}, e^{i\theta_{j}^{(n_k)}})}{K_{n_k}(e^{i\theta_{j}^{(n_k)}}, e^{i\theta_{j}^{(n_k)}})} \equiv 0$$

while $f(L) \neq 0$ because L is not a nonzero integer, which is a contradiction. Therefore,

$$\liminf_{n\to\infty} a_n \ge 1.$$

On the other hand, note that f(1) = 0. Due to Hurowitz's theorem, there is a sequence $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ such that x_n is a zero of f_n , and $x_n \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 1$. But all the zeros of f_n are of the form $\frac{n}{2\pi}(\theta_m^{(n)} - \theta_j^{(n)})$ for some $m \neq j$, and thus a_n is the smallest positive zero of f_n . It follows that for all large enough n,

$$a_n \leq x_n \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{} 1$$

$$\limsup_{n\to\infty} a_n \le 1.$$

We have found that $\lim_{n\to\infty} a_n = 1$, which means that

$$n\left(\theta_{j+1}^{(n)}-\theta_{j}^{(n)}\right)\underset{n\to\infty}{\longrightarrow}2\pi.$$

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