Fourth-moment Analysis for Wave Propagation in the White-Noise Paraxial Regime

Josselin Garnier · Knut Sølna

Abstract In this paper we consider the Itô-Schrödinger model for wave propagation in random media in the paraxial regime. We solve the equation for the fourth-order moment of the field in the regime where the correlation length of the medium is smaller than the initial beam width. As applications we derive the covariance function of the intensity of the transmitted beam and the variance of the smoothed Wigner transform of the transmitted field. The first application is used to explicitly quantify the scintillation of the transmitted beam and the second application to quantify the statistical stability of the Wigner transform.

Mathematics Subject Classification (2000) 60H15, 35R60, 74J20.

Keywords Waves in random media, parabolic approximation, scintillation, Wigner transform, fourth-order moments.

1 Introduction

In many wave propagation scenarios the medium is not constant, but varies in a complicated fashion on a scale that may be small compared to the total propagation distance. This is the case for wave propagation through the turbulent atmosphere, the earth’s crust, the ocean, and complex biological tissue for instance. If one aims to use transmitted or reflected waves for communication or

This work is partly supported by AFOSR grant # FA9550-11-1-0176 and by ERC Advanced Grant Project MULTIMOD-267184.

J. Garnier
Laboratoire de Probabilités et Modèles Aléatoires & Laboratoire Jacques-Louis Lions, Université Paris Diderot, 75205 Paris Cedex 13, France E-mail: garnier@math.univ-paris-diderot.fr

K. Solna
Department of Mathematics, University of California, Irvine CA 92697 E-mail: ksolna@math.uci.edu
imaging purposes it is important to characterize how such microstructure affects and corrupts the wave. Such a characterization is particularly important for modern imaging techniques such as seismic interferometry or coherent interferometric imaging that correlate wave field traces that have been strongly corrupted by the microstructure and use their coherence or covariance for imaging. The wave field correlations can indeed be characterized by second-order wave field moments and a characterization of the signal-to-noise ratio then involves a fourth-order moment calculation.

Motivated by the situation described above we consider wave propagation through time-independent media with a complex spatially varying index of refraction that can be modeled as the realization of a random process. Typically we cannot expect to know the index of refraction pointwise, but we may be able to characterize its statistics and we are interested in how the statistics of the medium affect the statistics of the wave field. In its most common form, the analysis of wave propagation in random media consists in studying the field $v$ solution of the scalar time-harmonic wave or Helmholtz equation

$$\Delta v + k_0^2 n^2(z, x)v = 0, \quad (z, x) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^2, \quad (1)$$

where $k_0$ is the free space homogeneous wavenumber and $n$ is a randomly heterogeneous index of refraction. Since the index of refraction $n$ is a random process, the field $v$ is also a random process whose statistical behavior can be characterized by the calculations of its moments. Even though the scalar wave equation is simple and linear, the relation between the statistics of the index of refraction and the statistics of the field is highly nontrivial and nonlinear. In this paper we consider a primary scaling regime corresponding to long-range beam propagation and small-scale medium fluctuations giving negligible backscattering. This is the so-called white-noise paraxial regime, as described by the Itô-Schrödinger model, which is presented in Section 2. This model is a simplification of the model (1) since it corresponds to an evolution problem, but yet in the regime that we consider it describes the propagated field in a weak sense in that it gives the correct statistical structure of the wave field. The Itô-Schrödinger model can be derived rigorously from (1) by a separation of scales technique in the high-frequency regime (see [2] in the case of a randomly layered medium and [22–24] in the case of a three-dimensional random medium). It models many situations, for instance laser beam propagation [38], time reversal in random media [5,34], underwater acoustics [39], or migration problems in geophysics [7]. The Itô-Schrödinger model allows for the use of Itô’s stochastic calculus, which in turn enables the closure of the hierarchy of moment equations [17,28]. Unfortunately, even though the equation for the second-order moments can be solved, the equation for the fourth-order moments is very difficult and only approximations or numerical solutions are available (see [13,27,40,43,46] and [28, Sec. 20.18]).

Here, we consider a secondary scaling regime corresponding to the so-called scintillation regime and in this regime we derive explicit expressions for the fourth-order moments. The scintillation scenario is a well-known paradigm,
related to the observation that the irradiance of a star fluctuates due to interaction of the light with the turbulent atmosphere. This common observation is far from being fully understood mathematically. However, experimental observations indicate that the statistical distribution of the irradiance is exponential, with the irradiance being the square magnitude of the complex wave field. Indeed it is a well-accepted conjecture in the physical literature that the statistics of the complex wave field becomes circularly symmetric complex Gaussian when the wave propagates through the turbulent atmosphere [44,47], so that the irradiance is the sum of the squares of two independent real Gaussian random variables, which has chi-square distribution with two degrees of freedom, that is an exponential distribution. However, so far there is no mathematical proof of this conjecture, except in randomly layered media [16, Chapter 9]. The regime we consider here, which we refer to as the scintillation regime, gives results for the fourth-order moments that are consistent with the scintillation or Gaussian conjecture and we discuss the statistical character of the irradiance in detail in Section 8 exploiting our novel results on the fourth-order moments.

Certain functionals of the solution to the white-noise paraxial wave equation can be characterized in some specific regimes [3,4,11,35]. An important aspect of such characterizations is the so-called statistical stability property which corresponds to functionals of the wave field becoming deterministic in the considered scaling regime. This is in particular the case in the limit of rapid decorrelation of the medium fluctuations (in both longitudinal and lateral coordinates). As shown in [3] the statistical stability also depends on the initial data and can be lost for very rough initial data even with a high lateral diversity as considered there. In [29,30] the authors also consider a situation with rapidly fluctuating random medium fluctuations and a regime in which the so-called Wigner transform itself is statistically stable. The Wigner transform is described in detail in Section 5.1 and is known to be a convenient tool to analyze problems involving the Schrödinger equation [26,37]. Here, we are able to push through a detailed and quantitative analysis of the stability of this quantity using our results on the fourth-order moments. An important aspect of our analysis is that we are able to derive an explicit expression of the coefficient of variation of the smoothed Wigner transform as a function of the smoothing parameters, in the general situation in which the standard deviation can be of the same order as the mean. This is a realistic scenario, we are not deep into a statistical stabilization situation, but in a situation where the parameters of the problem give partly coherent but fluctuating wave functionals. Here we are for the first time able to explicitly quantify such fluctuations and how their magnitude can be controlled by smoothing of the Wigner transform. We believe that these results are important for the many applications where the smoothed Wigner transform appears naturally.

The outline of the paper is as follows: In Section 4 we introduce the Itô-Schrödinger model and the general equations for the moments of the field. In Section 5 we discuss the second-order moments. In Section 6 we introduce and analyze the fourth-order moments and the particular parameterization
that will be useful to untangle these. In Section 7 we introduce the so-called scintillation regime where we can get an explicit characterization of the fourth-order moments via the main result of the paper presented in Proposition 1. Next we discuss two applications of the main result: In Section 8 we compute the scintillation index and in Section 9 we analyze the statistical stability of the smoothed Wigner transform.

2 The White-Noise Paraxial Model

Let us consider the time-harmonic wave equation with homogeneous wavenumber $k_0$, random index of refraction $n(z, x)$, and source in the plane $z = 0$:

$$
\Delta v + k_0^2 n^2(z, x)v = -\delta(z)f(x),
$$

for $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and $z \in [0, \infty)$. Denote by $\lambda_0$ the carrier wavelength (equal to $2\pi/k_0$), by $L$ the typical propagation distance, and by $r_0$ the radius of the initial transverse source. The paraxial regime holds when the wavelength $\lambda_0$ is much smaller than the radius $r_0$, and when the propagation distance is smaller than or of the order of $r_0^2/\lambda_0$ (the so-called Rayleigh length). The white-noise paraxial regime that we address in this paper holds when, additionally, the medium has random fluctuations, the typical amplitude of the medium fluctuations is small, and the correlation length of the medium fluctuations is larger than the wavelength and smaller than the propagation distance. In this regime the solution of the time-harmonic wave equation (2) can be approximated by [23]

$$
v(z, x) = \frac{i}{2k_0} u(z, x) \exp (ik_0 z),
$$

where $(u(z, x))_{z \in [0, \infty), x \in \mathbb{R}^2}$ is the solution of the Itô–Schrödinger equation

$$
du(z, x) = \frac{i}{2k_0} \Delta_x u(z, x) dz + \frac{i k_0}{2} u(z, x) \circ dB(z, x),
$$

with the initial condition in the plane $z = 0$:

$$
u(z = 0, x) = f(x).
$$

Here the symbol $\circ$ stands for the Stratonovich stochastic integral and $B(z, x)$ is a real-valued Brownian field over $[0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^2$ with covariance

$$
\mathbb{E}[B(z, x)B(z', x')] = \min\{z, z\}' C(x - x').
$$

The model (3) can be obtained from the scalar wave equation (2) by a separation of scales technique in which the three-dimensional fluctuations of the index of refraction $n(z, x)$ are described by a zero-mean stationary random process $\nu(z, x)$ with mixing properties: $n^2(z, x) = 1 + \nu(z, x)$. The covariance
function \( C(x) \) in (4) is then given in terms of the two-point statistics of the random process \( \nu \) by

\[
C(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}[\nu(z' + z, x' + x)\nu(z', x')] dz.
\] (5)

The covariance function \( C \) is assumed to belong to \( L^1(\mathbb{R}^2) \) and with \( C(0) < \infty \). Note that this means that the Fourier transform \( \hat{C} \), which is positive by Bochner’s theorem, is integrable so that continuity follows by Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem.

Remark: Do we actually have \( C(x) = C(-x) \) in general, I assumed so? Note that its Fourier transform is nonnegative (it is the power spectral density of the stationary process \( x \to B(1, x) \)). The white-noise paraxial model is widely used in the physical literature. It simplifies the full wave equation (2) by replacing it with the initial value-problem (3). It was studied mathematically in [8], in which the solution of (3) is shown to be the solution of a martingale problem whose \( L^2 \)-norm is preserved in the case \( f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2) \). The derivation of the Itô-Schrödinger equation (3) from the three-dimensional wave equation in randomly scattering medium is given in [23].

### 3 Main Result and Quasi Gaussianity

Modeling with the white noise paraxial model is often motivated by propagation through “cluttered media”. The objective for such modeling is in the typical situation to describe some communication or imaging scheme, say with an object buried in the clutter. In many wave propagation and imaging scenarios the quantity of interest is given by a quadratic quantity of the field \( u \). For instance, in so called “time reversal problems” [15] a wave field emitted by the source is recorded on an array, then time reversed and re-propagated into the medium. Indeed the forward and time reversed propagation paths give rise to a quadratic quantity in the field itself for the “re-propagated field”. Moreover, in important imaging approaches, in particular so called passive imaging techniques [20], the image is formed based on computing cross correlations of field itself (measured over an array) again giving a quadratic expression in the field itself for the quantity of interest, the correlations. In a number of situations, in particular in optics, the measured quantity is an intensity, again a quadratic quantity in the field itself. As we explain in Section 5 the expected value of such quadratic quantities can in the paraxial regime be computed explicitly. This allows one to compute the mean image and assess issues like resolution. However, it is important to go beyond this description and describe the signal to noise ratio which requires one to compute a fourth order moment of the wave field. Despite the importance of the signal to noise ratio hitherto no rigorous results have been available that accomplishes this task. Indeed explicit expressions for the fourth moment has been a long standing open problem. This is what we push through in this paper. The main result in Section 7 enables one to quantify the signal to noise ratio. I the context of design of imaging and
communication techniques this insight is important to make proper balance in between noise and resolution in the image. We remark that in certain regimes one may be able to prove "statistical stability", that is, that the signal to noise ratio goes to infinity in the scaling limit [34,35]. The results we present here are more general in the sense that we can actually describe a finite signal to noise ratio and how the parameters of the problem determines this.

To summarize and explicitly articulate the main result regarding the fourth moment we consider first the first and second order moments of \( u \) in (3) in the context when \( f(x) = \exp(-|x|^2/2r_0^2) \). We use the notations for the first and second-order moments

\[
\mu_1(z, x) = \mathbb{E}[u(z, x)], \quad \mu_2(z, x, y) = \mathbb{E}[u(z, x)u(z, y)],
\]

Note that \( \mu_2 \) is given explicitly in (26). For the second centered moment we use the notation:

\[
\tilde{\mu}_2(z, x, y) = \mu_2(z, x, y) - \mu_1(z, x)\mu_1(z, y).
\] (6)

Then, to obtain an expression for the fourth order moment, one heuristic approach often used in the literature [28] is to assume Gaussianity. Consider any complex circularly symmetric Gaussian process \((Z(t))_{t}\), then we have [36] that the fourth-order moment can be expressed in terms of the second-order moments by the Gaussian summation rule as

\[
\mathbb{E}[Z(t_1)Z(t_2)Z(t_3)Z(t_4)] = \mathbb{E}[Z(t_1)Z(t_2)]\mathbb{E}[Z(t_3)Z(t_4)]
+ \mathbb{E}[Z(t_1)Z(t_4)]\mathbb{E}[Z(t_2)Z(t_3)]
\] (7)

This leads to the following expression for the fourth order moment

\[
\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[u(z, x_1)u(z, x_2)u(z, y_1)u(z, y_2)] &= \mu_1^{Q}(z, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2) \\
&= \mu_1(z, x_1)\mu_1(z, x_2)\mu_1(z, y_1)\mu_1(z, y_2) \\
&\quad + \mu_1(z, x_1)\mu_1(z, y_1)\tilde{\mu}_2(z, x_2, y_2) + \mu_1(z, x_2)\mu_1(z, y_1)\tilde{\mu}_2(z, x_1, y_2) \\
&\quad + \mu_1(z, x_1)\mu_1(z, y_2)\tilde{\mu}_2(z, x_2, y_1) + \mu_1(z, x_2)\mu_1(z, y_2)\tilde{\mu}_2(z, x_1, y_1) \\
&\quad + \tilde{\mu}_2(z, x_1, y_1)\tilde{\mu}_2(z, x_2, y_2) + \tilde{\mu}_2(z, x_1, y_2)\tilde{\mu}_2(z, x_2, y_1)
\end{aligned}
\]

This result is not correct in general. We show however via a long calculation presented below that in the so called scintillation regime it can be corrected in the manner we now describe. First note that the scintillation regime that we discuss in more detail in Section 7 is characterized by a wide initial beam, a long propagation distance and weak medium fluctuations. For \( \varepsilon \ll 1 \) we assume the scaling

\[
 z_0 = r_0'/\varepsilon, \quad C(x) = \varepsilon C'(x), \quad z = z'/\varepsilon,
\]
with the primed quantities of order one. Then we have the corrected result

$$
\mathbb{E}[u(z, x_1)u(z, x_2)u(z, y_1)u(z, y_2)] = \mu_4(z, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2)
$$

$$
\approx \mu_1(z, x_1)\mu_1(z, x_2)\mu_1(z, y_1)\mu_1(z, y_2)
$$

$$
+ \mu_1(z, x_1)\mu_1(z, y_1)\hat{\mu}_2(z, x_2, y_2) + \mu_1(z, x_2)\mu_1(z, y_1)\hat{\mu}_2(z, x_1, y_2)
$$

$$
+ \mu_1(z, x_1)\mu_1(z, y_2)\hat{\mu}_2(z, x_2, y_1) + \mu_1(z, x_2)\mu_1(z, y_2)\hat{\mu}_2(z, x_1, y_1)
$$

$$
+ \hat{\mu}_2(z, x_1, y_1)\hat{\mu}_2(z, x_2, y_2) + \hat{\mu}_2(z, x_1, y_2)\hat{\mu}_2(z, x_2, y_1)
$$

for

$$
\hat{\mu}_2(z, x, y) = \exp \left( \frac{|x - y|^2}{4r_0^2} \right) \hat{\mu}_2(z, x, y)
$$

$$
= \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi} \exp \left( -\frac{k_0^2 z C(0)}{4} \right) \int \left[ \exp \left( -\frac{r_0^2 |\xi|^2}{4} + i\xi \cdot (x + y)/2 \right) \right.
$$

$$
\times \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_0^z C((x - y) - \xi z') dz' \right) - 1 \bigg] d\xi
$$

and also in this regime

$$
\mu_1(z, x) = \exp \left( -\frac{|x|^2}{2r_0^2} \right) \exp \left( -\frac{k_0^2 z C(0)}{8} \right).
$$

We will make precise the meaning of the approximation in Section 7.

Finally in the regime when the field becomes incoherent so that \( \mu_1 \) is relatively small, that is \( C'(0) \) is large, we have in fact:

$$
\mu_4(z, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2) \approx \mu_4'(z, x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2)
$$

$$
\approx \mu_2(z, x_1, y_1)\mu_2(z, x_2, y_2) + \mu_2(z, x_1, y_2)\mu_2(z, x_2, y_1).
$$

These results can now be used to discuss a wide range of applications in imaging and wave propagation. The fourth moment is a fundamental quantity in the context of waves in complex media and the above result is the first rigorous derivation of it that makes explicit the particular scaling regime in which it is valid, moreover, when in fact the Gaussian assumption is can be used.

In this paper we also discuss application to characterization of the scintillation in Section 8. The Scintillation index is a fundamental quantity that describes the relative intensity fluctuations for the wave field. Despite being a fundamental physical quantity associated for instance with light propagation through the atmosphere, a rigorous derivation was not obtained before. We moreover give an explicit characterization of the signal to noise ratio for the Wigner transform in Section 9. The Wigner transform is a fundamental quadratic form of the field that is useful in the context of analysis of problems involving paraxial or Schrödinger equations, for instance time reversal problems.
We remark finally that the results derived here also has proven to be useful in analysis of so called “ghost imaging” [7], “enhanced focusing” problems [21] and “scintillation correlation” [45]. Results on this will be reported elsewhere.

Ghost imaging is a fascinating recent imaging methodology that involves correlating two wave field observations. In the typical situation one correlate coarsely sampled wave field observation of waves in the “line of sight” of the object to be imaged, that is, the wave field has interacted with the object with high resolution observations that are outside of the line of sight. Indeed this problem can be understood at the mathematical level by using the results presented in this paper.

Enhanced focusing refers to schemes for communication and imaging in a case where one assumes that a reference signal for propagation through the channel is available. Then one uses this information to design an optimal probe that focuses tightly at the desired focusing point. How to optimally design and analyze such schemes, given the limitations of the transducers and so on, can be analyzed using the moment theory presented here.

Intensity correlations is a recently proposed scheme for communication in the optical regime that is based on using cross corrections of intensities, as measured in this regime, for communication. This is a promising scheme for communication through relatively strong clutter. By using the correlation of the intensity or speckle for different incoming angles of the source one can get spatial information about the source. The idea of using the information about the statistical structure of speckle to enhance signaling is very interesting and corroborates the idea that modern schemes for communication and imaging require a mathematical theory for analysis of higher order moments.

The results derived in this paper already have opened for the mathematical analysis of important imaging problems and we believe that many more problems than those mentioned here will benefit from the results regarding the fourth moment. In fact, enhanced transducer technology and sampling schemes allows for using finer aspects of the wave field involving second and fourth order moments and in such complex cases a rigorous mathematical analysis is important to support, complement, or actually disprove, statements based on physical intuition alone.

4 The General Moment Equations

The main tool for describing wave statistics are the finite-order moments. We show in this section that in the context of the Itô-Schrödinger equation (3) the moments of the field satisfy a closed system at each order [17,28]. For $p \in \mathbb{N}$, we define

$$M_p(z, (x_j)_{j=1}^p, (y_l)_{l=1}^p) = \mathbb{E} \left[ \prod_{j=1}^p u(z, x_j) \prod_{l=1}^p u(z, y_l) \right] ,$$

for $(x_j)_{j=1}^p, (y_l)_{l=1}^p \in \mathbb{R}^{2p}$. Note that here the number of conjugated terms equals the number of non-conjugated terms, otherwise the moments decay.
relatively rapidly to zero due to unmatched random phase terms associated with random travel time perturbations. Using the stochastic equation (3) and Itô’s formula for Hilbert space-valued processes \cite{33}, we find that the function $M_p$ satisfies the Schrödinger-type system:

$$\frac{\partial M_p}{\partial z} = \frac{i}{2k_0} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{p} \Delta x_j - \sum_{l=1}^{p} \Delta y_l \right) M_p + \frac{k_0^2}{4} U_p ((x_j)_{j=1}^{p}, (y_l)_{l=1}^{p}) M_p, \quad (9)$$

$$M_p(z = 0) = \prod_{j=1}^{p} f(x_j) \prod_{l=1}^{p} f(y_l), \quad (10)$$

with the generalized potential

$$U_p ((x_j)_{j=1}^{p}, (y_l)_{l=1}^{p}) = \sum_{j,l=1}^{p} C(x_j - y_l) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,j' = 1}^{p} C(x_j - x_{j'}) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{l,l' = 1}^{p} C(y_l - y_{l'}) \quad (11)$$

We introduce the Fourier transform

$$\hat{M}_p(z, (\xi_j)_{j=1}^{p}, (\zeta_l)_{l=1}^{p}) = \int\int M_p(z, (x_j)_{j=1}^{p}, (y_l)_{l=1}^{p}) \times \exp \left( -i \sum_{j=1}^{p} x_j \cdot \xi_j + i \sum_{l=1}^{p} y_l \cdot \zeta_l \right) dx_1 \cdots dx_p dy_1 \cdots dy_p. \quad (12)$$

It satisfies

$$\frac{\partial \hat{M}_p}{\partial z} = -\frac{i}{2k_0} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{p} |\xi_j|^2 - \sum_{l=1}^{p} |\zeta_l|^2 \right) \hat{M}_p + \frac{k_0^2}{4} \hat{U}_p \hat{M}_p, \quad (13)$$

$$\hat{M}_p(z = 0) = \prod_{j=1}^{p} \hat{f}(\xi_j) \prod_{l=1}^{p} \hat{f}(\zeta_l), \quad (14)$$

where $\hat{f}$ is the Fourier transform of the initial field:

$$\hat{f}(\xi) = \int f(x) \exp(-i \xi \cdot x) dx,$$

and the operator $\hat{U}_p$ is defined by

$$\hat{U}_p \hat{M}_p = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int C(k) \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{p} \hat{M}_p(\xi_j - k, \zeta_l - k) - \sum_{1 \leq j < j' \leq p} \hat{M}_p(\xi_j - k, \zeta_{j'} + k) - \sum_{1 \leq l < l' \leq p} \hat{M}_p(\zeta_l - k, \zeta_{l'} + k) - p \hat{M}_p \right] dk, (15)$$
where we only write the arguments that are shifted. In this paper, unless mentioned explicitly, all integrals are over $\mathbb{R}^2$. It turns out that the equation for the Fourier transform $\hat{M}_p$ is easier to solve than the one for $M_p$ as we will see below.

5 The Second-Order Moments

The second-order moments play an important role, as they give the mean intensity profile and the correlation radius of the transmitted beam [14, 24], they can be used to analyze time reversal experiments [5, 34] and wave imaging problems [9, 10], and we will need them to compute the scintillation index of the transmitted beam and the variance of the Wigner transform. We describe them in detail in this section.

5.1 The Mean Wigner Transform

The second-order moments

$$M_1(z, x, y) = E[u(z, x)u(z, y)]$$

satisfy the system:

$$\frac{\partial M_1}{\partial z} = i\frac{k_0}{2} (\Delta x - \Delta y) M_1 + \frac{k_0^2}{4} (C(x - y) - C(0)) M_1,$$

starting from $M_1(z = 0, x, y) = f(x)f(y)$. The second-order moment is related to the mean Wigner transform defined by

$$W_m(z, x, q) = \int \exp(-i q \cdot y) E\left[u(z, x + \frac{y}{2})u(z, x - \frac{y}{2})\right] dy,$$

that is the angularly-resolved mean wave energy density. Using (17) we find that it satisfies the closed system

$$\frac{\partial W_m}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{k_0} q \cdot \nabla_x W_m = \frac{k_0^2}{4(2\pi)^2} \int \hat{C}(k) \left[W_m(q - k) - W_m(q)\right] dk,$$

starting from $W_m(z = 0, x, q) = W_0(x, q)$, which is the Wigner transform of the initial field $f$:

$$W_0(x, q) = \int \exp(-i q \cdot y) f(x + \frac{y}{2}) f(x - \frac{y}{2}) dy.$$

Eq. (19) has the form of a radiative transport equation for the wave energy density $W_m$. In this context $k_0^2 C(0)/4$ is the total scattering cross-section and $k_0^2 \hat{C}(\cdot)/[4(2\pi)^2]$ is the differential scattering cross-section that gives the mode conversion rate.
By taking a Fourier transform in $q$ and $x$ of Eq. (19):

$$\hat{W}_m(z, \xi, y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int \int \exp \left(-i \xi \cdot x + i q \cdot y \right) W_m(z, x, q) dq dx,$$

we obtain a transport equation:

$$\frac{\partial \hat{W}_m}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{k_0} \xi \cdot \nabla_y \hat{W}_m = \frac{k_0^2}{4} [C(y) - C(0)] \hat{W}_m,$$

that can be integrated and we find the following integral representation for $W_m$:

$$W_m(z, x, q) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int \int \exp \left( i \xi \cdot x - \frac{z}{k_0} \right) \hat{W}_m(z, x, q) dq dx,$$

where $\hat{W}_0$ is defined in terms of the initial field $f$ as:

$$\hat{W}_0(\xi, y) = \int \exp \left(-i \xi \cdot x \right) f(x + \frac{y}{2}) f(x - \frac{y}{2}) dx.$$  (21)

5.2 The Mutual Coherence Function

The second-order moment of the field (or mutual coherence function) is defined by:

$$\Gamma^{(2)}(z, x, y) = E \left[ u(z, x + \frac{y}{2}) u(z, x - \frac{y}{2}) \right],$$  (22)

where $x$ is the mid-point and $y$ is the offset. It can be characterized by taking the inverse Fourier transform of the expression (20):

$$\Gamma^{(2)}(z, x, y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int \exp \left(i q \cdot y \right) W_m(z, x, q) dq$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int \exp \left(i \xi \cdot x \right) \hat{W}_0(\xi, y - \frac{z}{k_0})$$

$$\times \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_0^z C(y - \frac{z}{k_0}) - C(0) dz' \right) d\xi.$$  (23)

Let us examine the particular initial condition which corresponds to a Gaussian-beam wave. If the input spatial profile is Gaussian with radius $r_0$:

$$f(x) = \exp \left(-\frac{|x|^2}{2r_0^2} \right),$$  (24)

then we have

$$\hat{W}_0(\xi, y) = \pi r_0^2 \exp \left(-\frac{r_0^2|\xi|^2}{4} - \frac{|y|^2}{4r_0^2} \right).$$  (25)
and we find from (23) that the second-order moment of the field has the form
\[
I^{(2)}(z, x, y) = \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi} \int \exp \left( -\frac{1}{4r_0^2} |y - \xi| \cdot \frac{z}{k_0}^2 - \frac{r_0^2|\xi|^2}{4} + i\xi \cdot x \right) \times \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_0^z C(y - \xi) - C(0) dz \right) d\xi.
\] (26)

6 The Fourth-Order Moments

We consider the fourth-order moment \(M_2\) of the field, which is the main quantity of interest in this paper, and parameterize the four points \(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2\) in (8) in the special way:
\[
\begin{align*}
x_1 &= \frac{r_1 + r_2 + q_1 + q_2}{2}, & y_1 &= \frac{r_1 + r_2 - q_1 - q_2}{2}, \\
x_2 &= \frac{r_1 - r_2 + q_1 - q_2}{2}, & y_2 &= \frac{r_1 - r_2 - q_1 + q_2}{2}.
\end{align*}
\]

In particular \(r_1/2\) is the barycenter of the four points \(x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2\):
\[
\begin{align*}
r_1 &= \frac{x_1 + x_2 + y_1 + y_2}{2}, & q_1 &= \frac{x_1 + x_2 - y_1 - y_2}{2}, \\
r_2 &= \frac{x_1 - x_2 + y_1 - y_2}{2}, & q_2 &= \frac{x_1 - x_2 - y_1 + y_2}{2}.
\end{align*}
\]

The fourth-order moment \(M_2\) is of interest for instance for the characterization of the second-order moment of the intensity, also called intensity correlation function by Ishimaru [28, Eq. (20.125)]:
\[
I^{(4)}(z, x, y) = \mathbb{E}\left[|u(z, x + y/2)|^2|u(z, x - y/2)|^2\right].
\] (27)

The intensity correlation function with mid-point \(x\) and offset \(y\) is given by (in terms of the function \(M_2\) with the new variables):
\[
I^{(4)}(z, x, y) = M_2(z, q_1 = 0, q_2 = 0, r_1 = 2x, r_2 = y).
\]

Thus, the key to the understanding of the intensity correlation function and related physical quantities is to understand \(M_2\) and we consider this in detail in this paper.

In the variables \((q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2)\) the function \(M_2\) satisfies the system:
\[
\frac{\partial M_2}{\partial z} = \frac{i}{k_0} (\nabla_{r_1} \cdot \nabla_{q_1} + \nabla_{r_2} \cdot \nabla_{q_2}) M_2 + \frac{k_0^2}{4} U_2(q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2) M_2,
\] (28)

with the generalized potential
\[
U_2(q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2) = C(q_2 + q_1) + C(q_2 - q_1) + C(r_2 + q_1) + C(r_2 - q_1) - C(q_2 + r_2) - C(q_2 - r_2) - 2C(0).
\] (29)
Note in particular that the generalized potential does not depend on the barycenter \( r_1 \), and this comes from the fact that the medium is statistically homogeneous. If we assume that the input spatial profile is the Gaussian \((24)\) with radius \( r_0 \), then the initial condition for Eq. \((28)\) is

\[
M_2(z = 0, q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2) = \exp \left( - \frac{|q_1|^2 + |q_2|^2 + |r_1|^2 + |r_2|^2}{2r_0^2} \right).
\]

The Fourier transform (in \( q_1, q_2, r_1, \) and \( r_2 \)) of the fourth-order moment is defined by:

\[
\hat{M}_2(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \int \int \int \int M_2(z, q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2) \\
\times \exp \left( - i q_1 \cdot \xi_1 - i r_1 \cdot \zeta_1 - i q_2 \cdot \xi_2 - i r_2 \cdot \zeta_2 \right) dr_1 dr_2 dq_1 dq_2.
\]

It satisfies

\[
\frac{\partial \hat{M}_2}{\partial z} + i \left( \xi_1 \cdot \zeta_1 + \xi_2 \cdot \zeta_2 \right) \hat{M}_2 = \frac{k_0^2}{4(2\pi)^2} \int \hat{C}(k) \left[ \hat{M}_2(\xi_1 - k, \xi_2 - k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) \\
+ \hat{M}_2(\xi_1 + k, \xi_2 + k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) \\
+ \hat{M}_2(\xi_1 + k, \xi_2 - k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2 - k) - 2 \hat{M}_2(\xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) \\
- \hat{M}_2(\xi_1, \xi_2 - k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2 - k) - \hat{M}_2(\xi_1, \xi_2 + k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2 + k) \right] dk,
\]

starting from \( \hat{M}_2(z = 0, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = (2\pi r_0^2)^4 \exp(-r_0^2 |\xi_1|^2 + |\xi_2|^2 + |\zeta_1|^2 + |\zeta_2|^2)/2) \), which is well posed by Lemma 1. The resolution of this transport equation would give the expression of the fourth-order moment. However, in contrast to the second-order moment, we cannot solve this equation and find a closed-form expression of the fourth-order moment in the general case. Therefore we address in the next sections a particular regime in which explicit expressions can be obtained.

### 7 The Scintillation Regime and Main Result

In this paper we address a regime which can be considered as a particular case of the paraxial white-noise regime: the scintillation regime. In \([25]\) we addressed this regime in the limit case of an infinite beam radius, that is, a plane wave. Here we address the propagation of a beam with finite radius \( r_0 \) to analyze its role. Note that this general situation gives transport equations as in \((38)\) below that are in \( \mathbb{R}^{2d} \), \( d = 2 \), rather than the simpler situation with transport equations in \( \mathbb{R}^{2d} \) that was considered in \([25]\). In Appendix A we explain the conditions for validity of this regime in the context of the wave equation \((2)\). More directly, if we start from the Itô-Schrödinger equation \((3)\), then the scintillation regime is valid if the (transverse) correlation length of the Brownian field is smaller than the beam radius, the standard deviation of the Brownian field is small, and the propagation distance is large. If the
correlation length is our reference length, this means that in this regime the covariance function $C^\varepsilon$ is of the form:

$$C^\varepsilon(x) = \varepsilon C(x), \quad (32)$$

the beam radius is of order $1/\varepsilon$, i.e. the initial source is of the form

$$f^\varepsilon(x) = \exp\left(-\frac{\varepsilon^2 |x|^2}{2r_0^2}\right), \quad (33)$$

and the propagation distance is of order $1/\varepsilon$. Here $\varepsilon$ is a small dimensionless parameter and we will study the limit $\varepsilon \to 0$. Note that for simplicity we assume that the initial beam profile is Gaussian, which allows us to get closed-form expressions, but the results could be extended to more general beam profiles.

Let us denote the rescaled function

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}^\varepsilon(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \hat{\mathcal{M}}(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2). \quad (34)$$

The evolution equations (31) of the Fourier transforms of the moments become

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\mathcal{M}}^\varepsilon}{\partial z} + \frac{i}{\varepsilon k_0} (\mathbf{\xi}_1 \cdot \mathbf{\zeta}_1 + \mathbf{\xi}_2 \cdot \mathbf{\zeta}_2) \hat{\mathcal{M}}^\varepsilon = \frac{k_0^2}{4(2\pi)^2} \int \hat{C}(k) \left[ \hat{\mathcal{M}}^\varepsilon (\mathbf{\xi}_1 - k, \mathbf{\xi}_2 - k, \mathbf{\zeta}_1, \mathbf{\zeta}_2) + \hat{\mathcal{M}}^\varepsilon (\mathbf{\xi}_1 + k, \mathbf{\xi}_2 - k, \mathbf{\zeta}_1, \mathbf{\zeta}_2) 
+ \hat{\mathcal{M}}^\varepsilon (\mathbf{\xi}_1 - k, \mathbf{\xi}_2, \mathbf{\zeta}_1 - k, \mathbf{\zeta}_2) 
+ \hat{\mathcal{M}}^\varepsilon (\mathbf{\xi}_1 + k, \mathbf{\xi}_2, \mathbf{\zeta}_1, \mathbf{\zeta}_2 - k) 
- \hat{\mathcal{M}}^\varepsilon (\mathbf{\xi}_1, \mathbf{\xi}_2 - k, \mathbf{\zeta}_1, \mathbf{\zeta}_2 - k) 
- \hat{\mathcal{M}}^\varepsilon (\mathbf{\xi}_1 + k, \mathbf{\xi}_2 + k, \mathbf{\zeta}_1, \mathbf{\zeta}_2 - k) \right] dk, \quad (35)$$

which shows the appearance of a rapid phase, and the initial condition (corresponding to (33)) is

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}^\varepsilon(z = 0, \mathbf{\xi}_1, \mathbf{\xi}_2, \mathbf{\zeta}_1, \mathbf{\zeta}_2) = \frac{(2\pi)^4 r_0^8}{\varepsilon^8} \exp\left(-\frac{r_0^2}{2\varepsilon^2} (|\mathbf{\xi}_1|^2 + |\mathbf{\xi}_2|^2 + |\mathbf{\zeta}_1|^2 + |\mathbf{\zeta}_2|^2)\right). \quad (36)$$

The asymptotic behavior as $\varepsilon \to 0$ of the moments is therefore determined by the solutions of partial differential equations with rapid phase terms. A key limit theorem will allow us to get a representation of the fourth-order moments in the asymptotic regime $\varepsilon \to 0$. We will see that, although the initial condition (36) is concentrated in the four variables around an $\varepsilon$-neighborhood of $\mathbf{0}$, the evolution equation will spread it, except in the $\mathbf{\zeta}_1$-variable which is a frozen parameter in the evolution equation (35). This is related to the fact that the generalized potential does not depend on $\mathbf{r}_1$ as the medium is statistically homogeneous. It corresponds to the fourth-order moment not varying rapidly with respect to the spatial center coordinate $\mathbf{r}_1$ while in the other barycentric coordinates we have in general rapid variations induced by the medium fluctuations on this scale.
In the scintillation regime the rescaled function \(\tilde{M}^\varepsilon\) defined by

\[
\tilde{M}^\varepsilon(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \tilde{M}^\varepsilon_2(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) \exp\left( \frac{i\varepsilon}{\kappa_0 \varepsilon} (\xi_2 \cdot \zeta_2 + \xi_1 \cdot \zeta_1) \right) \quad (37)
\]
satisfies the equation with fast phases

\[
\frac{\partial \tilde{M}^\varepsilon}{\partial z} = \frac{k_0^2}{4(2\pi)^2} \int \hat{C}(k) \left[ -2 \tilde{M}^\varepsilon(\xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) + \tilde{M}^\varepsilon(\xi_1 - k, \xi_2 - k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) e^{i\frac{i\varepsilon}{\kappa_0 \varepsilon} k (\zeta_2 + \xi_1)} + \tilde{M}^\varepsilon(\xi_1 + k, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2 - k) e^{i\frac{i\varepsilon}{\kappa_0 \varepsilon} k (\zeta_2 - \xi_1)} + \tilde{M}^\varepsilon(\xi_1, \xi_2 + k, \zeta_1 - k, \zeta_2 - k) e^{i\frac{i\varepsilon}{\kappa_0 \varepsilon} k (\zeta_2 + \xi_1 + |k|^2)} - \tilde{M}^\varepsilon(\xi_1, \xi_2 - k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2 + k) e^{i\frac{i\varepsilon}{\kappa_0 \varepsilon} k (\zeta_2 - \xi_1 + |k|^2)} \right] dk, \quad (38)
\]

starting from

\[
\tilde{M}^\varepsilon(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = (2\pi)^8 \phi^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \phi^\varepsilon(\xi_2) \phi^\varepsilon(\zeta_1) \phi^\varepsilon(\zeta_2), \quad (39)
\]

where we have denoted

\[
\phi^\varepsilon(\xi) = \frac{r_0}{2\pi\varepsilon^2} \exp\left( -\frac{r_0^2}{2\pi\varepsilon^2} |\xi|^2 \right). \quad (40)
\]

Note that \(\phi^\varepsilon\) belongs to \(L^1\) and has a \(L^1\)-norm equal to one. Our goal is now to study the asymptotic behavior of \(\tilde{M}^\varepsilon\) as \(\varepsilon \to 0\). We have the following result, which shows that \(\tilde{M}^\varepsilon\) exhibits a multi-scale behavior as \(\varepsilon \to 0\), with some components evolving at the scale \(\varepsilon\) and some components evolving at the order one scale.

**Proposition 1** Under the assumptions in Section 2, the function \(\tilde{M}^\varepsilon(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2)\) can be expanded as

\[
\tilde{M}^\varepsilon(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \phi^\varepsilon(\xi_2) \phi^\varepsilon(\zeta_1) \phi^\varepsilon(\zeta_2) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}}) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\sqrt{2}}) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_2}{\sqrt{2}}) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\sqrt{2}}) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 - \zeta_2}{\sqrt{2}}) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\sqrt{2}}) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 - \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_2}{\sqrt{2}}) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\sqrt{2}}) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 - \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 - \zeta_2}{\sqrt{2}}) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\sqrt{2}}) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 - \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_2}{\sqrt{2}}) \phi^\varepsilon(\frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\sqrt{2}}) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 - \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \phi^\varepsilon(\xi_2) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\zeta_1) \phi^\varepsilon(\zeta_2) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \phi^\varepsilon(\xi_2) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 - \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\zeta_1) \phi^\varepsilon(\zeta_2) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 - \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\xi_1) \phi^\varepsilon(\xi_2) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 - \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + K(z) \phi^\varepsilon(\zeta_1) \phi^\varepsilon(\zeta_2) A(z, 2 \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}, 2 \frac{\xi_2 - \zeta_1}{\varepsilon}) + R^\varepsilon(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2), \quad (41)
\]
where the functions $K$ and $A$ are defined by

\begin{align}
K(z) &= (2\pi)^8 \exp \left( -\frac{k_0^2}{2} C(0) z \right), \\
A(z, \xi, \zeta) &= \frac{1}{2(2\pi)^2} \int \left[ \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_0^z C(x + \frac{\zeta}{k_0} z') dx' \right) - 1 \right] \\
& \quad \times \exp \left( -i \xi \cdot x \right) dx,
\end{align}

and the function $R^\varepsilon$ satisfies

$$
\sup_{z \in [0, Z]} \| R^\varepsilon (z, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot) \|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2)} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} 0,
$$

for any $Z > 0$.

It follows from the proof given in Appendix B that the function $\xi \to A(z, \xi, \zeta)$ belongs to $L^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$ and that its $L^1$-norm $\| A(z, \cdot) \|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^2)}$ is bounded uniformly in $\zeta \in \mathbb{R}^2$ and $z \in [0, Z]$. Therefore, all terms in the right-hand side of (41) are in $L^1(\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2)$ with $L^1$-norms bounded uniformly in $\varepsilon$ and $z \in [0, Z]$. This proposition is important as many quantities of interest, such as the intensity correlation function, the scintillation index, or the variance of the Wigner transform of the wave field that we will address in the next two sections, can be expressed as integrals of $M^\varepsilon$ against bounded functions. As a consequence we will be able to substitute $M^\varepsilon$ with the right-hand side of (41) without the remainder $R^\varepsilon$ in these integrals, and this substitution will allow us to give quantitative results.

8 The Intensity Correlation Function

The intensity correlation function (27) in the scintillation regime is defined by

$$
\Gamma^{(4, \varepsilon)}(z, x, y) = \mathbb{E} \left[ |u(z \varepsilon, x \varepsilon + \frac{y}{\varepsilon})|^2 \right],
$$

that is, the mid-point $x/\varepsilon$ is of the order of the initial beam width, and the off-set $y$ is of the order of the correlation length of the medium. The intensity correlation function can be expressed in terms of $M^\varepsilon$ as

$$
\Gamma^{(4, \varepsilon)}(z, x, y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^8} \iint \exp \left( 2i \frac{\xi \cdot x}{\varepsilon} + i \zeta_2 \cdot y \right) \\
\times M^\varepsilon (z, \xi, \zeta_2) d\xi_1 d\zeta_2 d\xi_1 d\xi_2.
$$

It can also be written in terms of $\tilde{M}^\varepsilon$ as

$$
\Gamma^{(4, \varepsilon)}(z, x, y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^8} \iint \exp \left( 2i \frac{\xi \cdot x}{\varepsilon} + i \zeta_2 \cdot y - i \frac{z}{k_0 \varepsilon} (\xi_2 \cdot \zeta_2 + \xi_1 \cdot \xi_1) \right) \\
\times \tilde{M}^\varepsilon (z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) d\xi_1 d\zeta_2 d\xi_1 d\xi_2.
Using Proposition 1, the intensity correlation function \((44)\) has the following form in the regime \(\varepsilon \to 0:\)

\[
I^{(4, \varepsilon)}(z, x, y) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{4K(z)}{(2\pi)^3} \int e^{-\frac{|z|^2}{2}(|\zeta_1|+|\zeta_2|)^2} + 2i\pi \zeta_1 \left[ \frac{r_0^8}{(2\pi)^4} e^{-r_0^8(|\alpha|^2+|\beta|^2)} \right.
\]

\[
\left. + \frac{r_0^6}{(2\pi)^3} A(z, \alpha, \zeta_2 + \zeta_1) e^{-r_0^6|\beta|^2} e^{-i\alpha \cdot \zeta_2 z} \right]
\]

\[
\left. + \frac{r_0^6}{(2\pi)^3} A(z, \beta, \zeta_2 - \zeta_1) e^{-r_0^6|\alpha|^2} e^{-i\beta \cdot \zeta_2 z} \right]
\]

\[
\left. + \frac{r_0^6}{(2\pi)^3} A(z, \alpha, \zeta_2 + \zeta_1) A(z, \beta, \zeta_2 - \zeta_1) e^{-i\alpha \cdot \zeta_2 z - i\beta \cdot \zeta_2 z} \right] d\alpha d\beta d\zeta_2 d\zeta_1.
\]

Using the explicit form \((43)\) of \(A\), this expression can be simplified to

\[
I^{(4, \varepsilon)}(z, x, y) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} - \text{exp} \left( - \frac{k_0^2 C(0) z}{2} \right) \text{exp} \left( - \frac{2|x|^2}{r_0^6} \right)
\]

\[
+ \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi} \int \text{exp} \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_{0}^{2} C(\zeta z') - C(0) d\zeta' - \frac{r_0^2|\zeta|^2}{4} + i\zeta \cdot x \right) d\zeta^2
\]

\[
+ \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi} \int \text{exp} \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_{0}^{2} C(\zeta z') - C(0) d\zeta' - \frac{r_0^2|\zeta|^2}{4} + i\zeta \cdot x \right) d\zeta^2.
\]

For comparison, the mutual coherence function defined by

\[
I^{(2, \varepsilon)}(z, x, y) = E \left[ u \left( \frac{z}{\varepsilon} - \frac{x}{\varepsilon} \right) + \frac{y}{2} u \left( \frac{z}{\varepsilon} - \frac{x}{\varepsilon} - \frac{y}{2} \right) \right]
\]

is given by (see \((26)\) with \(r_0 \to r_0/\varepsilon, x \to x/\varepsilon, z \to z/\varepsilon, \) and \(C \to \varepsilon C\):)

\[
I^{(2, \varepsilon)}(z, x, y) = \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi \varepsilon^2} \int \text{exp} \left( - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{4r_0^2} |y - \zeta z| \frac{z}{k_0 \varepsilon} |^2 - \frac{r_0^2|\zeta|^2}{4\varepsilon^2} + i\zeta \cdot x \right)
\]

\[
\times \text{exp} \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_{0}^{2} C(y - \zeta z') - C(0) d\zeta' \right) d\zeta
\]

\[
= \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi} \int \text{exp} \left( - \frac{\varepsilon^2}{4r_0^2} |y - \zeta z| \frac{z}{k_0 |\zeta|^2} + i\zeta \cdot x \right)
\]

\[
\times \text{exp} \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_{0}^{2} C(y - \zeta z') - C(0) d\zeta' \right) d\zeta.
\]
so that in the limit $\varepsilon \to 0$:

$$
I^{(2,\varepsilon)}(z, x, y) \xrightarrow[\varepsilon \to 0]{} \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi} \int_0^\infty \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_C \zeta \left( \frac{z'}{k_0} - y \right) - C(0)dz' - \frac{r_0^2}{4} \zeta_0^2 + i\zeta \cdot x \right) d\zeta.
$$

Before giving the result about the scintillation index, we briefly revisit the case of a plane wave, which corresponds to the limit case $r_0 \to \infty$ and which was already addressed in [25]. We here find that, in the double limit $\varepsilon \to 0$ and $r_0 \to \infty$:

$$
\lim_{r_0 \to \infty} \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} I^{(2,\varepsilon)}(z, x, y) = \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2 (C(y) - C(0))z}{4} \right).
$$

moreover, by (45)

$$
\lim_{r_0 \to \infty} \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} I^{(4,\varepsilon)}(z, x, y) = 1 - \exp \left( - \frac{k_0^2 C(0)z}{2} \right) + \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2 (C(y) - C(0))z}{2} \right),
$$

which is the result obtained in [25]. Note that in [25] we first took the limit $r_0 \to \infty$, and then $\varepsilon \to 0$, while we here do the opposite. The two limits are exchangeable. As discussed in [25], this result shows in particular that the scintillation index, that is, the variance of the intensity divided by the square of the mean intensity as defined below in (49), is close to one when $k_0^2 (C(0)z) \gg 1$.

We next consider the scintillation index in the general case of an initial Gaussian beam as considered here. The expressions (45) and (48) allow us to describe the scintillation index of the transmitted beam for the general case of an initial Gaussian beam with radius $r_0$.

**Proposition 2** The scintillation index defined as the square coefficient of variation of the intensity [28, Eq. (20.151)]:

$$
S^\varepsilon(z, x) = \frac{\mathbb{E}[|u(z, x)|^4] - \mathbb{E}[|u(z, x)|^2]^2}{\mathbb{E}[|u(z, x)|^2]^2}
$$

has the following expression in the limit $\varepsilon \to 0$:

$$
S^\varepsilon(z, x) \xrightarrow[\varepsilon \to 0]{} \frac{2|z|}{r_0} - \frac{1}{\pi} \int \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_C \left( u \cdot \frac{z'}{k_0 r_0^2} \right) dz' - \frac{|u|^2}{4} + iu \cdot \frac{x}{r_0} \right) du.
$$

Let us consider the following form of the covariance function of the medium fluctuations:

$$
C(x) = C(0)\tilde{C} \left( \frac{|x|}{l_\varepsilon} \right).
$$
Fig. 1 Scintillation index at the beam center (51) as a function of the propagation distance for different values of $Z_{sca}$ and $Z_c$. Here $\tilde{C}(x) = \exp(-x^2)$.

with $\tilde{C}(0) = 1$ and the width of the function $x \to \tilde{C}(x)$ is of order one. For instance, we may consider $\tilde{C}(x) = \exp(-x^2)$. Then the scintillation index at the beam center $x = 0$ is

$$S^c(z, 0) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} 1 - \frac{4}{\int_0^\infty \exp \left( \frac{2z}{Z_{sca}} \int_0^1 \tilde{C}(u \frac{x}{z}) ds - \frac{u^2}{4} \right) u du}^{2},$$

which is a function of $z/Z_{sca}$ and $z/Z_c$ only (or, equivalently, a function of $z/Z_{sca}$ and $Z_c/Z_{sca}$ only), where $Z_{sca} = \frac{8}{k_0 C(0)}$ and $Z_c = k_0 r_0 l_c$. Here $Z_{sca}$ is the scattering mean free path, since the mean field decays exponentially at this rate:

$$E[u(z, x)] \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \exp \left( -\frac{|x|^2}{2r_0^2} \right) \exp \left( -\frac{z}{Z_{sca}} \right),$$

as can be seen from the Itô form of (3). Moreover, $Z_c$ is the typical propagation distance for which diffractive effects are of order one, as shown in [23, Eq. 4.4]. The function (51) is plotted in Figure 1 in the case of Gaussian correlations: $\tilde{C}(x) = \exp(-x^2)$. It is interesting to note that, even if the propagation distance is larger than the scattering mean free path, the scintillation index can be smaller than one if $Z_c$ is small enough.

In order to get more explicit expressions that facilitate interpretation of the results let us assume that $C(x)$ can be expanded as

$$C(x) = C(0) - \frac{\gamma}{2} |x|^2 + o(|x|^2), \quad x \to 0.$$

When scattering is strong in the sense that the propagation distance is larger than the scattering mean free path $k_0^2 C(0) z \gg 1$, we have

$$K(z)^{1/2} A(z, \xi, \zeta) \simeq \frac{(2\pi)^3}{\pi k_0^2 \gamma z} \exp \left( -\frac{\gamma z^3}{96} |\xi|^2 - \frac{2}{k_0^2 \gamma z} |\xi|^2 + \frac{iz\zeta}{2k_0} \cdot \xi \right).$$
and Eqs. (45) and (48) can be simplified:

\[
\Gamma^{(2,\varepsilon)}(z, x, y) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{r_0^2}{r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2/6} \times \exp \left( -\frac{|x|^2}{r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2/6} - \frac{k_0^2 \gamma z |y|^2 r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2/24}{8 r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2/6} + i \frac{k_0 \gamma z^2 x \cdot y}{4(r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2/6)} \right), \tag{52}
\]

\[
\Gamma^{(4,\varepsilon)}(z, x, y) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{r_0^4}{(r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2/6)^2} \times \exp \left( -\frac{2 |x|^2}{r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2/6} \right) \left[ 1 + \exp \left( -\frac{k_0^2 \gamma z |y|^2 r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2/24}{4 r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2/6} \right) \right]. \tag{53}
\]

This shows that, in the regime \( \varepsilon \to 0 \) and \( k_0^2 C(0) z \gg 1 \):

- The beam radius is \( R_z \) with
  \[
  R_z^2 = r_0^2 + \frac{7\varepsilon^3}{6}. \tag{54}
  \]
  - The correlation radius of the intensity distribution is \( \rho_z \) with
    \[
    \rho_z^2 = \frac{4}{k_0^2 \gamma z} \left( \frac{r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2}{r_0^2 + 2\varepsilon^2/6} \right)^2, \tag{55}
    \]
    which is of the same order as the correlation radius of the field (compare the \( y \)-dependence of (52) and (53)).

- The scintillation index is close to one:
  \[
  S(\varepsilon) = \frac{\Gamma^{(4,\varepsilon)}(z, x, 0) - \Gamma^{(2,\varepsilon)}(z, x, 0)^2}{\Gamma^{(2,\varepsilon)}(z, x, 0)^2} \simeq 1. \tag{56}
  \]

- The fourth-order moment and the second-order moment of the field satisfy:
  \[
  \Gamma^{(4,\varepsilon)}(z, x, y) \simeq \left| \Gamma^{(2,\varepsilon)}(z, x, 0) \right|^2 + \left| \Gamma^{(2,\varepsilon)}(z, x, y) \right|^2,
  \]
  or equivalently
  \[
  \mathbb{E} \left[ \left| u(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \frac{x}{\varepsilon} + \frac{y}{2}) \right|^2 \left| u(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \frac{x}{\varepsilon} - \frac{y}{2}) \right|^2 \right] \simeq \mathbb{E} \left[ \left| u(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \frac{x}{\varepsilon} + \frac{y}{2}) \right|^2 \right] \mathbb{E} \left[ \left| u(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \frac{x}{\varepsilon} - \frac{y}{2}) \right|^2 \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[ \left| u(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \frac{x}{\varepsilon} + \frac{y}{2}) \right|^2 \left| u(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \frac{x}{\varepsilon} - \frac{y}{2}) \right|^2 \right]. \tag{57}
  \]

These observations are consistent with the physical intuition that, in the strongly scattering regime \( z/Z_{\text{sca}} \gg 1 \), the wave field is expected to have zero-mean complex circularly symmetric Gaussian statistics, and therefore the intensity is expected to have exponential (or Rayleigh) distribution [13, 28], in agreement with (56), and the fourth-order moment can be expressed in terms of the second-order moments by the Gaussian summation rule in (57) in agreement with (57).
9 Stability of the Wigner Transform of the Field

The Wigner transform of the transmitted field is defined by

$$W^\varepsilon(z, x, q) = \int \exp \left( -i q \cdot y \right) u\left( \frac{z}{\varepsilon}, x + \frac{y}{2} \right) \overline{u\left( \frac{z}{\varepsilon}, x - \frac{y}{2} \right)} dy.$$  \hspace{1cm} (58)

It is an important quantity that can be interpreted as the angularly-resolved wave energy density (note, however, that it is real-valued but not always non-negative valued). Remember that the initial source is (33). This means that the Wigner transform is observed at a mid point of the medium is smaller than the initial beam width. As a result (see (20) with \( r_0 \to r_0/\varepsilon \), \( x \to x/\varepsilon \), \( z \to z/\varepsilon \), and \( C \to \varepsilon C \)), the expectation of the Wigner transform is:

$$\mathbb{E}[W^\varepsilon(z, x, q)] \to \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi \varepsilon} \int \int \exp \left( - \frac{r_0^2|\zeta|^2}{4\varepsilon^2} - \frac{\varepsilon^2|y|^2}{4r_0^2} + i \zeta \cdot (x - \frac{qz}{k_0}) - i q \cdot y \right)$$

$$\times \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_0^{z/\varepsilon} C(y + \zeta \frac{z'}{k_0}) - C(0)dz' \right) d\zeta dy$$

$$= \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi \varepsilon} \int \int \exp \left( - \frac{r_0^2|\zeta|^2}{4\varepsilon^2} - \frac{\varepsilon^2|y|^2}{4r_0^2} + i \zeta \cdot (x - \frac{qz}{k_0}) - i q \cdot y \right)$$

$$\times \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_0^{z} C(y + \zeta \frac{z'}{k_0}) - C(0)dz' \right) d\zeta dy.$$  \hspace{1cm} (61)

so that in the limit \( \varepsilon \to 0 \) it is given by

$$\mathbb{E}[W^\varepsilon(z, x, q)] \overset{\varepsilon \to 0}{\to} \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi} \int \int \exp \left( - \frac{r_0^2|\zeta|^2}{4\varepsilon^2} + i \zeta \cdot x - i q \cdot (y + \frac{z}{k_0}) \right)$$

$$\times \exp \left( \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_0^{z} C(y + \zeta \frac{z'}{k_0}) - C(0)dz' \right) d\zeta dy.$$  \hspace{1cm} (62)
More precisely, the mean Wigner transform can be split into two pieces: a narrow cone and a broad cone in \( q \):

\[
\mathbb{E}[W^\varepsilon(z, x, q)] \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{K(z)^{1/2}}{(2\pi)^2} \delta(q) \exp \left( -\frac{|x|^2}{r_0^2} \right)
+ \frac{r_0^2 K(z)^{1/2}}{(2\pi)^2} \int \exp \left( -\frac{r_0^2}{4} |\zeta|^2 + i \zeta \cdot (x - q \frac{z}{k_0}) \right) A(z, q, \zeta) d\zeta. \tag{63}
\]

The narrow cone is the contribution of the coherent transmitted wave components and it decays exponentially with the propagation distance (see the expression (42) for \( K(z) \)). The broad cone is the contributions of the incoherent scattered waves and it becomes dominant when the propagation distance becomes so large that \( k_0^2 C(0) z \gg 1 \).

It is known that the Wigner transform is not statistically stable, and that it is necessary to smooth it (that is to say, to convolve it with a kernel) to get a quantity that can be measured in a statistically stable way (that is to say, the Wigner transform for one typical realization is approximately equal to its expected value) \([3,35]\). Our goal in this section is to quantify this statistical stability.

Let us consider two positive parameters \( r_s \) and \( q_s \) and define the smoothed Wigner transform:

\[
W^\varepsilon_s(z, x, q) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2 r_s^2 q_s^2} \int \int W^\varepsilon(z, x', q'-q') \exp \left( -\frac{|x'|^2}{2 r_s^2} - \frac{|q'|^2}{2 q_s^2} \right) dx' dq'. \tag{64}
\]

The expectation of the smoothed Wigner transform is in the limit \( \varepsilon \to 0 \):

\[
\mathbb{E}[W^\varepsilon_s(z, x, q)] \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{r_0^2}{4\pi} \int \int \exp \left( -\frac{r_0^2}{4} |\zeta|^2 - \frac{q_s^2 |y + \zeta \frac{z}{k_0}|^2}{2} - iq \cdot (y + \zeta \frac{z}{k_0}) \right)
\times \exp \left( i \zeta \cdot x + \frac{k_0^2}{4} \int_0^z C(y + \zeta \frac{z}{k_0}) - C(0) dz' \right) d\zeta dy. \tag{65}
\]

It can also be written as

\[
\mathbb{E}[W^\varepsilon_s(z, x, q)] \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{K(z)^{1/2}}{(2\pi)^3 q_s^2} \exp \left( -\frac{|q|^2}{2 q_s^2} \right) \exp \left( -\frac{|x|^2}{r_0^2} \right)
+ \frac{K(z)^{1/2} r_0^2}{(2\pi)^4 q_s^2} \int \int A(z, \xi, \zeta) \exp \left( -\frac{r_0^2}{4} |\zeta|^2 - \frac{\xi - q_s^2 |\zeta|^2}{2 q_s^2} + i \zeta \cdot (x - \xi \frac{z}{k_0}) \right) d\zeta d\xi. \tag{66}
\]

The first term is a narrow cone in \( q \) around \( q = 0 \) corresponding to coherent wave components and the second term is a broad cone in \( q \) corresponding to incoherent wave components. Note that the expectation of the smoothed Wigner transform is independent on \( r_s \) as the smoothing in \( x \) vanishes in the limit \( \varepsilon \to 0 \). However the smoothing in \( x \) plays an important role in the control of the fluctuations of the Wigner transform. We will analyze the variance of the smoothed Wigner transform and its dependence on the smoothing parameters \( r_s \) and \( q_s \).
The second moment of the smoothed Wigner transform is

\[ E[W^\varepsilon(z, x, q)^2] = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2 q_0^2} \int \int \exp \left( -\frac{|x_s|^2 + |x_s'|^2}{2q_0^2} - \frac{q_0^2(|y|^2 + |y'|^2)}{2} \right) \]

\[ \times M_{z, q_1} y = y + y', q_2 = y - y', r_1 = \frac{2x + x_s + x_s'}{\varepsilon}, r_2 = \frac{x - x_s}{\varepsilon} \]

\[ \times \exp \left( -i q \cdot (y + y') \right) dy dy' dx_s dx_s', \]

which gives using (30), (34) and (37):

\[ E[W^\varepsilon(z, x, q)^2] = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^6 q_0^6} \int \int \exp \left( -r_2^2 |\zeta|^2 - r_2^2 |\xi|^2 - \frac{|\xi_1 - 2q|^2}{4q_0^2} - \frac{|\xi|^2}{4q_0^2} \right) \]

\[ \times \exp \left( 2i \frac{\zeta \cdot x}{\varepsilon} - i \frac{z}{q_0^2} (\zeta_1 \cdot \zeta_1 + \zeta_2 \cdot \zeta_2) \right) M^\varepsilon(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) d\zeta_1 d\zeta_2 d\xi_1 d\xi_2. \]

Using Proposition 1, we find that, in the limit \( \varepsilon \to 0 \):

\[ E[W^\varepsilon(z, x, q)^2] \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{K(z)}{(2\pi)^6 q_0^6} \exp \left( -\frac{|q|^2}{q_0^2} \right) \exp \left( -\frac{2|\zeta|^2}{r_0^2} \right) \]

\[ + \frac{r_0^2 K(z)}{(2\pi)^6 q_0^6} \int d\zeta_1 d\zeta_2 \zeta_1 (2x - \frac{\zeta_1}{2}) \exp \left( -\frac{2\zeta_1^2}{r_0^2} \right) - \frac{i\zeta_1^2}{4r_0^2} \]

\[ \times \zeta_2 e^{-i\frac{\zeta_1^2}{4r_0^2}} + e^{-i\frac{\zeta_1^2}{4r_0^2}} - \frac{r_0^2}{4r_0^2} \zeta_1 e^{-i\frac{\zeta_1^2}{4r_0^2}} A(z, \zeta_1, \zeta_2 + \zeta_1) d\zeta_2 \]

\[ + \int e^{-i\frac{\zeta_2^2}{4r_0^2}} - \frac{r_0^2}{4r_0^2} \zeta_1 e^{-i\frac{\zeta_1^2}{4r_0^2}} A(z, \frac{\zeta_2 + \zeta_1}{2}, \zeta_2 + \zeta_1) \]

\[ \times A\left( z, \frac{\zeta_2 - \zeta_1}{2}, \zeta_2 - \zeta_1 \right) d\zeta_2 d\xi_2 \]

\[ + 4e^{-r_0^2 |\zeta|^2} \int e^{-i\frac{\zeta_1^2}{4r_0^2}} - \frac{r_0^2}{4r_0^2} \zeta_1 e^{-i\frac{\zeta_1^2}{4r_0^2}} A(z, \zeta_1, \zeta_2 + \zeta_1) d\xi_2 \]

\[ + \int e^{-r_0^2 |\zeta|^2} - i\frac{r_0^2}{4r_0^2} \zeta_1 e^{-r_0^2 |\zeta|^2} A\left( z, \frac{\zeta_2 + \zeta_1}{2}, \zeta_2 + \zeta_1 \right) \]

\[ \times A\left( z, \frac{\zeta_2 - \zeta_1}{2}, \zeta_2 - \zeta_1 \right) d\zeta_2 d\xi_2, \]

where we have used the fact that \( A(z, -\zeta, -\zeta) = A(z, \zeta, \zeta) \). This is an exact expression but, as it involves four-dimensional integrals, it is complicated to interpret it. This expression becomes simple in the strongly scattering regime \( k_0^2 C(0) z \gg 1 \), because then \( A(z, \zeta, \zeta) \) takes a Gaussian form and all integrals can be evaluated. To get more explicit expressions in the discussion of the results we here again assume that \( C(x) \) can be expanded as:

\[ C(x) = C(0) - \frac{2}{2} |x|^2 + o(|x|^2), \quad x \to 0. \]
When $k_0^2 C(0) z \gg 1$, we have

$$
\mathbb{E} \left[ W_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q) \right] \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{8\pi}{k_0^2 \gamma^2} \frac{r_0^2}{(r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^2}{2\varepsilon})(1 + \frac{4q^2}{k_0^2 \gamma^2}) + \frac{z^2 q^2}{2k_0^2}} \times \exp \left( - \frac{q^2}{2k_0(1 + \frac{\gamma z^2}{\varepsilon^2})} \right)^2
$$

and

$$
\mathbb{E} \left[ W_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q)^2 \right] \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \mathbb{E} \left[ W_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q) \right]^2 \left( 1 + \frac{(r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^2}{2\varepsilon})(1 + \frac{4q^2}{k_0^2 \gamma^2}) + \frac{z^2 q^2}{2k_0^2}}{(r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^2}{2\varepsilon})(4r_0^2 q^2 + \frac{4q^2}{k_0^2 \gamma^2}) + \frac{z^2 q^2}{2k_0^2}} \right)^2.
$$

The coefficient of variation $C_s^\varepsilon$ of the smoothed Wigner transform is defined by:

$$
C_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q) = \frac{\sqrt{\mathbb{E} \left[ W_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q)^2 \right] - \mathbb{E} \left[ W_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q) \right]^2}}{\mathbb{E} \left[ W_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q) \right]}.
$$

We get then the following expression for the coefficient of variation in the strongly scattering regime $k_0^2 C(0) z \gg 1$:

$$
C_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \left( \frac{(r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^2}{2\varepsilon})(1 + \frac{4q^2}{k_0^2 \gamma^2}) + \frac{z^2 q^2}{2k_0^2}}{(r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^2}{2\varepsilon})(4r_0^2 q^2 + \frac{4q^2}{k_0^2 \gamma^2}) + \frac{z^2 q^2}{2k_0^2}} \right)^{1/2} = \left( \frac{\frac{1}{2} + 1}{\frac{4r_0^2 + 1}{2}} \right)^{1/2},
$$

where $\rho_s$ is the correlation radius (55). Note that the coefficient of variation is independent of $x$ and $q$. Eq. (70) is a simple enough formula to help determining the smoothing parameters $q_s$ and $r_s$ that are needed to reach a given value for the coefficient of variation. The coefficient of variation is plotted in Figure 2, which exhibits the line $2q_s r_s = 1$ separating the two regions where the coefficient is larger and smaller than one.

For $2q_s r_s = 1$, we have $\lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} C_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q) = 1$. For $2q_s r_s < 1$ (resp. $> 1$) we have $\lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} C_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q) > 1$ (resp. $< 1$). The curve $2q_s r_s = 1$ determines the region where the coefficient of variation of $W_s^\varepsilon(z, x, q)$ is smaller or larger than one (in the limit $\varepsilon \to 0$). The critical value $r_s = 1/(2q_s)$ is indeed special. In this case, the smoothed Wigner transform (64) can be written as the double convolution of the Wigner transform $W^\varepsilon$ of the random field $u(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \cdot)$ with the Wigner transform

$$
W_s^\varepsilon(x, q) = \int \exp \left( - i q \cdot y \right) u_q(x + \frac{y}{2}) \frac{\pi}{2} \left( \frac{x}{\varepsilon} - \frac{y}{2} \right) dy
$$

of the Gaussian state

$$
u_q(x) = \exp \left( - q_s^2 |x|^2 \right),$$
Fig. 2 Contour levels of the coefficient of variation (70) of the smoothed Wigner transform. Here \( r_s = r_s / \rho_s \) and \( \tau_s = q_s \rho_s \). The contour level 1 is \( 2\tau_s r_s = 1 \).

since we have

\[
W_{\varepsilon s}(x, q) = \frac{2\pi}{q_s^2} \exp \left( -2 \frac{q_s^2 |x|^2}{\varepsilon^2} - \frac{|q|^2}{2q_s^2} \right),
\]

and therefore

\[
W_{\varepsilon s}(z, x, q) = \frac{4q_s^2}{(2\pi)^2 \varepsilon^2} \int \int W_{\varepsilon s}(z, x - x', q - q') W_{\varepsilon s}(x', q') dx'dq',
\]

for \( r_s = 1/(2q_s) \). It is known that the convolution of a Wigner transform with a kernel that is itself the Wigner transform of a function (such as a Gaussian) is nonnegative real valued (the smoothed Wigner transform obtained with the Gaussian \( W_{\varepsilon s} \) is sometimes called Husimi function) [6,31]. This can be shown easily in our case as the smoothed Wigner transform can be written as

\[
W_{\varepsilon s}(z, x, q) = \frac{2\pi}{\pi} \left| \int \exp \left( i q \cdot x' \right) u_{\varepsilon s}(x') u \left( \frac{z}{\varepsilon} - \frac{x}{\varepsilon} \right) dx' \right|^2,
\]

for \( r_s = 1/(2q_s) \). From this representation formula of \( W_{\varepsilon s} \) valid for \( r_s = 1/(2q_s) \), we can see that it is the square modulus of a linear functional of \( u(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \cdot) \).

The physical intuition that \( u(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \cdot) \) has circularly symmetric complex Gaussian statistics in strongly scattering media then predicts that \( W_{\varepsilon s}(z, x, q) \) should have an exponential (or Rayleigh) distribution, because the sum of the squares of two independant real-valued Gaussian random variables has an exponential distribution. This is indeed consistent with our theoretical finding that \( \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} C_{\varepsilon s} = 1 \) for \( r_s = 1/(2q_s) \). In fact the situation with complex scattering giving a field that has centered circularly symmetric Gaussian statistics is exactly what motivates the name “scintillation regime” with unit relative intensity fluctuations.

If \( r_s > 1/(2q_s) \), by observing that

\[
\exp \left( - \frac{|x|^2}{2\varepsilon^2 r_s^2} \right) = \Psi_{\varepsilon s}(x) \ast_{x} \exp \left( - \frac{2q_s^2 |x|^2}{\varepsilon^2} \right),
\]
where \( * \) stands for the convolution product in \( x \):

\[
\Psi^\varepsilon(x) * f(x) = \int \Psi^\varepsilon(x - x') f(x') dx',
\]

and the function \( \Psi^\varepsilon \) is defined by

\[
\Psi^\varepsilon(x) = \frac{8q^2 r^2}{\pi \varepsilon^2 (4q^2 r^2 - 1)} \exp \left( -\frac{2q^2 |x|^2}{(4q^2 r^2 - 1)\varepsilon^2} \right),
\]

we observe that the smoothed Wigner transform (64) can be expressed as:

\[
W^\varepsilon(z, x, q) = \Psi^\varepsilon(x) \ast \left( \frac{2q^2}{\pi} \int \exp(iq \cdot x') \varphi(x') u \left( \frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \frac{x}{\varepsilon} - x' \right) dx' \right),
\]

(72)

for \( r_s > 1/(2q_s) \). From this representation formula for \( W^\varepsilon \) valid for \( r_s > 1/(2q_s) \), we can see that it is nonnegative valued and that it is a local average of (71), which has a unit coefficient of variation in the strongly scattering scintillation regime. That is why the coefficient of variation of the smoothed Wigner transform is smaller than one when \( r_s > 1/(2q_s) \).

Finally, it is possible to take \( r_s = 0 \) in (64), which corresponds to the absence of smoothing in \( x \):

\[
W^\varepsilon(z, x, q) = \frac{1}{2\pi q_s} \int \Psi^\varepsilon(z, x, q - q') \exp \left( -\frac{|q'|^2}{2q_s^2} \right) dq',
\]

for \( r_s = 0 \). We then get

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Var}(W^\varepsilon(z, x, q)) & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \left( \frac{8\pi r^2}{k^2 \gamma z} \right)^2 (r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^3}{24}(1 + \frac{4q^2}{k^2 \gamma z}) + \frac{2z q^2}{2k_0^2}) \left( (r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^3}{24})(\frac{4q^2}{k^2 \gamma z}) + \frac{2z q^2}{2k_0^2} \right) \\
& \times \exp \left( -\frac{2|x - \frac{z q}{2k_0(1 + \frac{4q^2}{k^2 \gamma z})}|^2}{r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^3}{24} + \frac{2z q^2}{1 + \frac{4q^2}{k^2 \gamma z}}} - \frac{4|q|^2}{k_0^2 \gamma z + 4q_s^2} \right),
\end{align*}
\]

and

\[
C^\varepsilon(z, x, q) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} \sqrt{1 + (q_s^2 \varepsilon z)^2},
\]

for \( r_s = 0 \). If, additionally, we let \( q_s \to \infty \), then we find

\[
\lim_{q_s \to \infty} \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{q_s^2}{2\pi} \mathbb{E}[W^\varepsilon(z, x, q)] = \frac{r_0^2}{r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^3}{6}} \exp \left( -\frac{|x|^2}{r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^3}{6}} \right),
\]

\[
\lim_{q_s \to \infty} \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{q_s^2}{2\pi} \text{Var}(W^\varepsilon(z, x, q)) = \left( \frac{r_0^2}{r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^3}{6}} \right)^2 \exp \left( -\frac{2|x|^2}{r_0^2 + \frac{\gamma z^3}{6}} \right),
\]

and also

\[
\lim_{q_s \to \infty} \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} C^\varepsilon(z, x, q) = 1,
\]
for $r_s = 0$. These results are consistent with formulas (52-53) (with $y = 0$) and the fact that

$$\left| u\left(\frac{z}{\varepsilon}, \frac{x}{\varepsilon}\right) \right|^2 = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int W^\varepsilon(z, x, q')dq' = \lim_{q_s \to \infty} \frac{q^2_s}{2\pi} W^\varepsilon(z, x, q) |_{r_s=0} .$$

This shows that the limits $q_s \to \infty$ and $\varepsilon \to 0$ are exchangeable.

10 Conclusions

In this paper we have considered the white-noise paraxial wave model and computed the second and fourth-order moments of the field. In the regime in which the correlation length of the medium is smaller than the initial beam width, the moments exhibit a multi-scale behavior with components varying at these two scales. Our novel characterization of the solution of the fourth-order moment equation allows us to solve important questions: in this paper we have analyzed the correlation function of the intensity distribution and the variance of the smoothed Wigner transform of the transmitted field. In particular we have characterized quantitatively the amount of smoothing necessary to get a statistically stable smoothed Wigner transform. We believe that our main result can find many other applications, for instance for the stability of time-reversal experiments [5,34] or the stability of correlation-based imaging techniques in the paraxial regime [9,10].

A Scintillation Regime for the Wave Equation

In Section 7 we address a scaling regime which can be considered as a particular case of the paraxial white-noise regime: the scintillation regime. This corresponds to a situation in which the relative intensity fluctuations are of order one and it is an important regime to capture from the physical viewpoint. We explain in this appendix the conditions for the validity of this regime in the context of the wave equation (2).

Let $\sigma$ be the standard deviation of the fluctuations of the index of refraction $n$ in (2). Moreover, let $l_c$ be the correlation length of the fluctuations of the index of refraction, $\lambda_0$ be the carrier wavelength (equal to $2\pi/k_0$), $L$ be the typical propagation distance, and $r_0$ be the radius of the initial transverse beam/source. In this framework the variance $C(0)$ of the Brownian field in the Itô-Schrödinger equation (3) is of order $\sigma^2 l_c$ and the transverse scale of variation of the covariance function $C(x)$ in (4) is of order $l_c$.

We next discuss the scintillation scaling regime in more detail. First, we consider the primary scaling that leads to the canonical white-noise Schrödinger equation (3), which corresponds to zooming in on a high-frequency beam that propagates over a distance that is large relative to the medium correlation length, which is itself large relative to the wavelength. Moreover, the medium fluctuations are relatively small. Explicitly, we assume the primary scaling when

$$\frac{l_c}{r_0} \sim 1, \quad \frac{l_c}{L} \sim \theta, \quad \frac{l_c}{\lambda_0} \sim \theta^{-1}, \quad \sigma^2 \sim \theta^3,$$

where $\theta$ is a small dimensionless parameter. We introduce dimensionless coordinates by:

$$x = l_c x', \quad z = l_c z', \quad k_0 = \frac{k_0'}{l_c \theta}, \quad \nu(l_c z', l_c x') = \theta^{3/2} \nu'(z', x').$$
Then dropping “primes” we find that in dimensionless coordinates the Helmholtz equation reads
\[
(\partial^2_x + \Delta_x)\psi^\theta + \frac{k_0^2}{\theta^2} \left( 1 + \theta^{3/2} \nu(z, x) \right) \psi^\theta = 0.
\]
We look for the behavior of the slowly-varying envelope \( u^\theta \) for long propagation distances of the order of \( \theta^{-1} \):
\[
\psi^\theta \left( \frac{z}{\theta}, x \right) = \exp \left( i \frac{k_0 z}{\theta^2} \right) u^\theta (z, x)
\]
that satisfies (by the chain rule)
\[
\theta^2 \partial^2_x u^\theta + \left( 2ik_0 \partial_z u^\theta + \Delta_x u^\theta + \frac{k_0^2}{\theta^1/2} \nu \left( \frac{z}{\theta}, x \right) u^\theta \right) = 0.
\]
Heuristically, when \( \theta \ll 1 \) the backscattering term \( \theta^2 \partial^2_x u^\theta \) can be neglected and we obtain a Schrödinger-type equation in which the potential fluctuates in \( z \) on the scale \( \theta \) and is of amplitude \( \theta^{-1/2} \). This diffusion approximation scaling gives the Brownian field and the model (3):
\[
2ik_0 du^\theta + \Delta_x u^\theta dz + k_0^2 u^\theta dB(z, x).
\]
This heuristic derivation can be made rigorous as shown in [22–24].

In Section 7 we address the subsequent scaling regime in which the correlation length of the medium \( l_c \) is smaller than the initial beam radius \( r_0 \). Moreover, the medium fluctuations are relatively weak, and the beam propagates deep into the medium. We then get the modified scaling picture
\[
\frac{l_c}{r_0} \sim \varepsilon, \quad \frac{l_c}{L} \sim \theta \varepsilon, \quad \frac{l_c}{\lambda_0} \sim \theta^{-1}, \quad \sigma^2 \sim \theta^2 \varepsilon,
\]
and we assume \( \theta \ll \varepsilon \ll 1 \). This means that the paraxial white-noise limit \( \theta \to 0 \) is taken first, and we find
\[
2ik_0 du^\varepsilon + \Delta_x u^\varepsilon dz + \frac{k_0^2}{\theta^1/2} u^\varepsilon dB(z, x) = 0,
\]
where the radius \( r_0 \) of the initial condition is of order \( \varepsilon^{-1} \), the variance \( C^\varepsilon(0) \) of the Brownian field \( B^\varepsilon \) is of order \( \varepsilon \), and the propagation distance \( L \) is of order \( \varepsilon^{-1} \). Then the limit \( \varepsilon \to 0 \) is applied, corresponding to the scintillation regime. In the regime (73) the effective strength \( k_0^2 C^\varepsilon(0) L \) of the Brownian field is of order one since \( \sigma^2 l_c/L \lambda_0^2 \sim 1 \). Moreover, \( L \lambda_0/r_0^2 \) is of order \( \varepsilon \). That is, the typical propagation distance is smaller than the Rayleigh length of the initial beam. Here the Rayleigh length corresponds to the distance when the transverse radius of the beam has roughly doubled by diffraction in the homogenous medium case and it is given by \( r_0^2/\lambda_0 \). Indeed, it is seen in Section 7 that the propagation distance at which relevant phenomena arise in the random case is of the order of \( r_0 l_c/\lambda_0 \), which is smaller than the Rayleigh distance \( r_0^2/\lambda_0 \).

**B Proof of Proposition 1**

Let \( Z > 0 \). For any \( z \in [0, Z] \), we introduce the linear operator \( \mathcal{L}^z \):
\[
\mathcal{L}^z M = \int \frac{k_0^2}{4(2\pi)} \left[ C(k) - 2M(\xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) \right. \\
+ M(\xi_1 - k, \xi_2 - k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) e^{i k_0 k (\zeta_2 + \xi_1) - i \frac{k_0^2}{2} k^2 (\zeta_2 + \xi_1)} \\
+ M(\xi_1 + k, \xi_2 + k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) e^{i k_0 k (\zeta_2 - \xi_1) + i \frac{k_0^2}{2} k^2 (\zeta_2 - \xi_1)} \\
- M(\xi_1 - k, \xi_2 + k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) e^{i k_0 k (\zeta_2 + \xi_1) - i \frac{k_0^2}{2} k^2 (\zeta_2 + \xi_1)} \\
- M(\xi_1 + k, \xi_2 - k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) e^{i k_0 k (\zeta_2 - \xi_1) + i \frac{k_0^2}{2} k^2 (\zeta_2 - \xi_1)} \\
\left. - M(\xi_1 - k, \xi_2 - k, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) e^{i k_0 k (\zeta_2 + \xi_1) - i \frac{k_0^2}{2} k^2 (\zeta_2 + \xi_1)} \right] dk.
\]
Then we have
Lemma 1 The operator $L' : (\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2) \to (\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2)$ satisfies

$$
\sup_{z \leq \bar{z}} \|L'\|_1 \leq 2k_0^2 C(0)
$$

Proof Since $\hat{C}$ is non-negative by Bochner’s theorem we have

$$
\|L' M\|_1 \leq \frac{k_0^2}{4(2\pi)^2} \int \hat{C}(k) \int 8|M(\xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2)|d\xi_1d\xi_2d\zeta_1d\zeta_2 = 2k_0^2 C(0)\|M\|_1.
$$

We denote

$$
R^r(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = M^r(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) - N^r(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = K(z)\phi^r(\xi_1)\phi^r(\xi_2)\phi^r(\zeta_1)\phi^r(\zeta_2)
$$

$$
+\phi^r(\xi_1 - \xi_2)\phi^r(\xi_1)\phi^r(\xi_2)\hat{A}(z, \frac{\xi_1 + \xi_2}{2}, \frac{\zeta_1 + \zeta_2}{e})
$$

$$
+\phi^r(\xi_1 + \xi_2)\phi^r(\xi_1)\phi^r(\xi_2)\hat{A}(z, \frac{\xi_1 + \xi_2}{2}, \frac{\zeta_1 - \zeta_2}{e})
$$

$$
+\phi^r(\xi_1 - \zeta_2)\phi^r(\xi_1)\phi^r(\xi_2)\hat{A}(z, \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_2}{2}, \frac{\zeta_1 + \zeta_2}{e})
$$

$$
+\phi^r(\xi_1 + \zeta_2)\phi^r(\xi_1)\phi^r(\xi_2)\hat{A}(z, \frac{\xi_1 + \zeta_2}{2}, \frac{\zeta_1 - \zeta_2}{e}),
$$

Here (using the definitions (42) and (43)):

- The function $K(z) = (2\pi)^8 e^{-\frac{k_0^2}{2} C(0)z}$ is the solution of the equation

$$
\frac{\partial K}{\partial z} = \frac{k_0^2}{4(2\pi)^2} \int \hat{C}(k)[-2K]dk,
$$

starting from $K(z = 0) = (2\pi)^8$.

- The function

$$
\hat{A}(z, \xi, \zeta) = K(z)A(z, \xi, \zeta)
$$

is the solution of the equation (in which $\xi$ is frozen)

$$
\frac{\partial \hat{A}}{\partial z} = \frac{k_0^2}{4(2\pi)^2} \int \hat{C}(k)[\hat{A}(z, \xi - k, \zeta)e^{i\frac{k_0}{\pi}k} - 2\hat{A}(z, \xi, \zeta)]dk + \frac{k_0^2}{8(2\pi)^2}C(0)K(z)e^{i\frac{k_0}{\pi}k},
$$

starting from $\hat{A}(z = 0, \xi, \zeta) = 0$. By Gronwall’s inequality $\|\hat{A}(z, \cdot, \cdot)\|_{L^1}$ is bounded by

$$
\|\hat{A}(z, \cdot, \cdot)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^2)} \leq (2\pi)^8 \sup_{z \leq \bar{z}} \frac{k_0^2 C(0)z}{8} \exp \left(-\frac{k_0^2 C(0)z}{4}\right),
$$

so that it is bounded uniformly in $\zeta \in \mathbb{R}^2$, $z \in [0, Z]$ by

$$
\sup_{\xi \in [0, \bar{\xi}], \zeta \in \mathbb{R}^2} \|\hat{A}(z, \cdot, \cdot)\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^2)} \leq \frac{(2\pi)^8}{2} \sup_{z \leq \bar{z}} \frac{k_0^2 C(0)z}{4} \exp \left(-\frac{k_0^2 C(0)z}{4}\right) \leq \frac{(2\pi)^8}{2e}.
$$

- The function

$$
\hat{B}(z, \alpha, \beta, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = K(z)A(z, \alpha, \zeta_2 + \zeta_1)A(z, \beta, \zeta_2 - \zeta_1)
$$
is the solution of the equation (in which $\zeta_1$ and $\zeta_2$ are frozen):

$$
\frac{\partial \hat{B}}{\partial z} = \frac{k_0^2}{4(2\pi)^2} \int \tilde{C}(k) \left[ \hat{B}(z, \alpha - k, \beta, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) e^{i\frac{\zeta_1 + \zeta_2}{k}} + \hat{B}(z, \alpha - k, \beta, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) e^{i\frac{\zeta_1 - \zeta_2}{k}} - 2\hat{B}(z, \alpha, \beta, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) \right] dk
$$

starting from $\hat{B}(z, 0, \alpha, \beta, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = 0$. From (76) $\|\hat{B}(z, \cdot, \cdot, \zeta_1, \zeta_2)\|_{L^1}$ is bounded uniformly in $\zeta_1, \zeta_2 \in \mathbb{R}^2$, $z \in [0, Z]$ by

$$
\sup_{z \in [0, Z], \zeta_1, \zeta_2 \in \mathbb{R}^2} \|\hat{B}(z, \cdot, \cdot, \zeta_1, \zeta_2)\|_{L^1} \leq (2\pi)^8 \left( \frac{k_0^2 C(0) Z}{8} \right)^2.
$$

The strategy is to show that the remainder $R^e$ in (74) belongs to $L^1$ and that its $L^1$-norm goes to zero as $\varepsilon \to 0$ uniformly in $z \in [0, Z]$. To this effect we will first show that $R^e$ satisfies an equation with zero initial condition and with a source term (Lemma 2), then that the source term is small in $L^1$-norm (Lemma 3), and we finally get the desired result by a Gronwall-type argument (Lemma 4).

**Lemma 2** $R^e$ satisfies

$$
\frac{\partial R^e}{\partial z}(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \left[ L^e_s R^e \right](z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) + S^e(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2),
$$

starting from $R^e(z, 0, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = 0$, with the source term $S^e$ given by

$$
S^e(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = S^e_1(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) + S^e_2(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2),
$$

with

$$
S^e_1(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = - \frac{\partial N^e}{\partial z}(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2),
$$

$$
S^e_2(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \left[ L^e_s N^e \right](z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2).
$$

**Proof** By taking the $z$-derivative of $R^e$, and using $R^e = \hat{M}^e - N^e$, we find that

$$
\frac{\partial R^e}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial \hat{M}^e}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial N^e}{\partial z} = \left[ L^e_s \hat{M}^e \right] - \frac{\partial N^e}{\partial z} = \left[ L^e_s R^e \right] + \left[ L^e_s N^e \right] - \frac{\partial N^e}{\partial z},
$$

which gives the desired result. \(\square\)

**Lemma 3** For any $Z > 0$ we have

$$
\sup_{z \in [0, Z]} \left\| \int_0^z S^e(z', \cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot) dt \right\|_{L^1(B^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2)} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} 0.
$$

**Proof** There are three types of contributions to $S^e_1$, the one that involves $K$, the ones that involve $\hat{A}$, and the ones that involve $\hat{B}$. We decompose $S^e_1$ into three terms corresponding to these three contributions,

$$
S^e_1 = S^e_K + S^e_\hat{A} + S^e_\hat{B}.
$$
From (75) and the differential equations satisfied by $K$, $\hat{A}$, and $\hat{B}$, the components of $S_i^\prime$ are given explicitly by

$$S_i^\prime(z; \xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) = \frac{k^2}{4(2\pi)^2} \int \hat{C}(k) \left\{ 2K \phi^\prime(\xi_1) \phi^\prime(\xi_2) \phi^\prime(\xi_3) \phi^\prime(\xi_4) \right\} dk, \quad (83)$$

$$S_\hat{A}(z; \xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) = -\frac{k^2}{8(2\pi)^2} \phi^\prime(\xi_1) \int \hat{C}(k) \left\{ \phi^\prime(\xi_1 - \xi_2) \phi^\prime(\xi_2) K \hat{C}(\xi_2 + \xi_1) e^{i \pi_0 k(\xi_2 + \xi_1)} + \phi^\prime(\xi_2 - \xi_1) \phi^\prime(\xi_1) K \hat{C}(\xi_2 + \xi_1) e^{i \pi_0 k(\xi_2 + \xi_1)} + \phi^\prime(\xi_2 + \xi_1) \phi^\prime(\xi_1 - \xi_2) K \hat{C}(\xi_2 + \xi_1) e^{i \pi_0 k(\xi_2 + \xi_1)} \right\} dk, \quad (84)$$

$$S_\hat{B}(z; \xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_4) = -\frac{k^2}{8(2\pi)^2} \phi^\prime(\xi_1) \int \hat{C}(k) \left\{ \phi^\prime(\xi_1 - \xi_2) \phi^\prime(\xi_2) B \hat{C}(\xi_2 + \xi_1) e^{i \pi_0 k(\xi_2 + \xi_1)} + \phi^\prime(\xi_2 - \xi_1) \phi^\prime(\xi_1) B \hat{C}(\xi_2 + \xi_1) e^{i \pi_0 k(\xi_2 + \xi_1)} + \phi^\prime(\xi_2 + \xi_1) \phi^\prime(\xi_1 - \xi_2) B \hat{C}(\xi_2 + \xi_1) e^{i \pi_0 k(\xi_2 + \xi_1)} \right\} dk, \quad (85)$$
$S'_2$ is given by $L'_z N^z$, with $N^z$ given by (75). Therefore we can express $S'_2$ as

$$S'_2(z, \xi_1, \xi_2, \zeta_1, \zeta_2) = L'_z [K(z)\phi^o(\xi_1)\phi^o(\zeta_1)\phi^o(\xi_2)\phi^o(\zeta_2)]$$

$$+ L'_z^o [\phi^o(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^o(\zeta_1)\phi^o(\zeta_2)A(z, \frac{\xi_2 + \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 + \zeta_1}{2}, \frac{\xi_2 - \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 - \zeta_1}{2})]$$

$$+ L'_z^o [\phi^o(\frac{\xi_1 + \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^o(\zeta_1)\phi^o(\zeta_2)A(z, \frac{\xi_2 + \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 + \zeta_1}{2}, \frac{\xi_2 - \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 - \zeta_1}{2})]$$

$$+ L'_z^o [\phi^o(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^o(\xi_2)\phi^o(\zeta_1)A(z, \frac{\xi_2 + \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 + \zeta_1}{2}, \frac{\xi_2 - \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 - \zeta_1}{2})]$$

$$+ L'_z^o [\phi^o(\xi_1 + \xi_2)\phi^o(\xi_2)\phi^o(\zeta_1)A(z, \frac{\xi_2 + \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 + \zeta_1}{2}, \frac{\xi_2 - \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 - \zeta_1}{2})]$$

$$+ L'_z^o [\phi^o(\xi_1)\phi^o(\zeta_2)B(z, \frac{\xi_2 + \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 + \zeta_1}{2}, \frac{\xi_2 - \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 - \zeta_1}{2})]$$

$$+ L'_z^o [\phi^o(\xi_1)\phi^o(\zeta_2)B(z, \frac{\xi_2 + \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 + \zeta_1}{2}, \frac{\xi_2 - \xi_1}{2}, \frac{\zeta_2 - \zeta_1}{2})].$$

(86)

It turns out that all the terms in $S'_1$ are canceled by terms in $S'_2$, and the last terms of $S'_2$ are small, as will be shown below.

Again there are three types of contributions in the expression (86) for $S'_2$, the one that involves $K$, the ones that involve $A$, and the ones that involve $B$. We will study one contribution for each of these three types and show the desired result for them.

Let us examine the contributions of $K(z)\phi^o(\xi_1)\phi^o(\xi_2)\phi^o(\zeta_1)\phi^o(\zeta_2)$ to $S'_2$:

$$L'_z [K(z)\phi^o(\xi_1)\phi^o(\xi_2)\phi^o(\zeta_1)\phi^o(\zeta_2)] = \frac{k^3}{4(2\pi)^2} K(z)\phi^o(\xi_1) \int \hat{C}(k) \left[ -2\phi^o(\xi_1)\phi^o(\xi_2)\phi^o(\zeta_2) + \phi^o(\xi_1 - k)\phi^o(\xi_2 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_2) \right]$$

$$+ \phi^o(\xi_1 + k)\phi^o(\xi_2 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_2) \phi^o(\xi_1 + k - k)\phi^o(\zeta_1 - k)\phi^o(\xi_2) \phi^o(\xi_2 - k)$$

$$+ \phi^o(\xi_1 + k)\phi^o(\xi_2 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_2) \phi^o(\xi_1 + k - k)\phi^o(\zeta_1 - k)\phi^o(\xi_2) \phi^o(\xi_2 - k)$$

$$- \phi^o(\xi_1)\phi^o(\xi_2 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_2 - k)\phi^o(\xi_1 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_1)$$

$$+ \phi^o(\xi_1)\phi^o(\xi_2 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_2 - k)\phi^o(\xi_1 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_1)$$

$$- \phi^o(\xi_1)\phi^o(\xi_2 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_2 - k)\phi^o(\xi_1 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_1)$$

$$- \phi^o(\xi_1 + k)\phi^o(\xi_2 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_2 + k) \phi^o(\xi_1 + k + |k|^2) dk.$$ (87)

The first term cancels with the term $S'_K$. The second term can be rewritten since

$$\phi^o(\xi_1 - k)\phi^o(\xi_2 - k) = \phi^o(\sqrt{2}(k - \frac{\xi_1 + \xi_2}{2})) \phi^o(\xi_1 - \frac{\xi_2}{\sqrt{2}}),$$

and therefore, up to a negligible term in $L^1(\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2)$,

$$\int \hat{C}(k)\phi^o(\xi_1 - k)\phi^o(\xi_2 - k)\phi^o(\zeta_1)\phi^o(\zeta_2) e^{i\frac{\xi_1 + \xi_2}{2}(k + \zeta_1 + k + \zeta_1)} dk$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \hat{C}(\frac{\xi_1 + \xi_2}{2}) \phi^o(\xi_1 - \frac{\xi_2}{\sqrt{2}}) \phi^o(\zeta_1) \phi^o(\zeta_2) e^{i\frac{\xi_1 + \xi_2}{2}(\xi_2 + \zeta_1)} + o(1).$$ (88)
that cancels with the first “source” term in \( S_A^0 \). The \( o(1) \) characterization follows from the following arguments:

\[
\mathcal{C}(k) \phi^\circ (\xi_1 - k) \phi^\circ (\xi_2 - k) \phi^\circ (\xi_3) \phi^\circ (\xi_4) e^{i \frac{2 \pi}{N} k (\xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3)} dk
\]

\[
- \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{C}(k) \phi^\circ \left( \frac{\xi_1 + \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \phi^\circ (\xi_3) \phi^\circ (\xi_4) e^{i \frac{2 \pi}{N} k (\xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3)} \xi_1 d\xi_1 d\xi_2 d\xi_3 d\xi_4
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{C}(k) \phi^\circ \left( \sqrt{2} (k - \xi_1 - \xi_2) \right) e^{i \frac{2 \pi}{N} k (\xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3)} dk
\]

\[
- \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{C}(k) \phi^\circ \left( \frac{\xi_1 + \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}} \right) e^{i \frac{2 \pi}{N} k (\xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3)} \phi^\circ \left( \xi_1 - \frac{\xi_2}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \phi^\circ (\xi_2) d\xi_1 d\xi_2 d\xi_3 d\xi_4
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{C}(k) \phi^\circ \left( \sqrt{2} (k - \xi) \right) e^{i \frac{2 \pi}{N} k (\xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3)} dk
\]

\[
- \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{C}(k) \phi^\circ \left( \frac{\xi_1 + \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}} \right) e^{i \frac{2 \pi}{N} k (\xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3)} \phi^\circ \left( \frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \phi^\circ (\xi_2) d\xi_1 d\xi_2 d\xi_3 d\xi_4
\]

\[
= 2 \int \left| e^{i \sqrt{2} \mathcal{C}(\xi) \xi'} - 1 \right| \mathcal{C}(\xi) \phi^\circ (\sqrt{2} k) \phi^\circ (\xi') d\xi d\xi'
\]

\[
\leq 2 \int \left| \mathcal{C}(\xi + \epsilon k) - \mathcal{C}(\xi) \right| \phi^\circ (\sqrt{2} k) \phi^\circ (\xi') d\xi d\xi'
\]

where

\[
\phi^\circ (\xi) = \frac{r^2}{2 \pi} \exp \left( - \frac{r^2 |\xi|^2}{2} \right),
\]

whose \( L^1 \)-norm is one. The first term in the right-hand side goes to zero as \( \epsilon \to 0 \) by Lebesgue’s dominated convergence theorem (since \( C \) is Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem (since \( C \) is in \( L^1 \), \( C \) is continuous, and since \( C(0) < \infty \), the nonnegative-valued function \( C \) is in \( L^1 \)). The second term can be bounded by

\[
2 \int \left| e^{i \sqrt{2} \mathcal{C}(\xi) \xi'} - 1 \right| \mathcal{C}(\xi) \phi^\circ (\sqrt{2} k) \phi^\circ (\xi') d\xi d\xi'
\]

\[
\leq 2 \left( \int |k| \phi^\circ (k) dk \right)^2 \int \mathcal{C}(\xi) d\xi,
\]

which shows that it also goes to zero as \( \epsilon \to 0 \) and which justifies the \( o(1) \) in (88). The third, fourth, and fifth terms of the right-hand side of (87) can be dealt with in the same way and cancel the next three “source” terms in \( S_A^0 \). The last two terms give negligible contributions in the sense of (82). Indeed, for instance, the sixth term satisfies (using the change of variables \( (\xi_2, \xi_3) \to (\xi = (\xi_2 - k)/\epsilon, \xi' = (\xi_3 - k)/\epsilon) \)):

\[
\mathcal{C}(k) K(\xi') \phi^\circ (\xi) \phi^\circ (\xi_2 - k) \phi^\circ (\xi_3) e^{i \frac{2 \pi}{N} k (\xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3) - |k|^2} | d\xi d\xi_2 d\xi_3 d\xi_4
\]

\[
\leq \int \left| \mathcal{C}(k) K(\xi') \phi^\circ (\xi) \phi^\circ (\xi_2 - k) \phi^\circ (\xi_3) e^{i \frac{2 \pi}{N} k (\xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3) - |k|^2} \right| d\xi d\xi_2 d\xi_3 d\xi_4.
\]

From Lemma 5 this term goes to zero as \( \epsilon \to 0 \).
Let us examine the contributions of $\phi^ε(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^ε(\xi_1)\phi^ε(\xi_2)\tilde{A}(z, \xi_2 + \xi_1, \xi_2 + \xi_1)$ to $S'_4$:

$$L^ε[\phi^ε(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^ε(\xi_1)\phi^ε(\xi_2)\tilde{A}(z, \xi_2 + \xi_1, \xi_2 + \xi_1)] = \frac{k_0^2}{4(2\pi)^2} \phi^ε(\xi_1) \int \tilde{C}(k) \times \left[ -2\phi^ε(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^ε(\xi_1)\tilde{A}(z, \xi_2 + \xi_1, \xi_2 + \xi_1) \right. \\
+ \phi^ε(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2 - k}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^ε(\xi_1)\tilde{A}(z, \xi_2 + \xi_1 - k, \xi_2 + \xi_1 - k) e^{i\frac{k_0 x_0}{k_0} \cdot (\xi_2 + \xi_1)} \\
+ \phi^ε(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2 + k}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^ε(\xi_1)\tilde{A}(z, \xi_2 + \xi_1 + k, \xi_2 + \xi_1 + k) e^{i\frac{k_0 x_0}{k_0} \cdot (\xi_2 + \xi_1)} \\
\left. + \phi^ε(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2 + 2k}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^ε(\xi_1)\tilde{A}(z, \xi_2 + \xi_1 + 2k, \xi_2 + \xi_1 + 2k) e^{i\frac{k_0 x_0}{k_0} \cdot (\xi_2 + \xi_1)} \right] \, dk.$$  

The first and second terms will be canceled by the corresponding terms in $S'_4$. The fourth term can be rewritten up to a negligible term (in $L^1(\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2)$) as

$$\int \tilde{C}(k)\phi^ε(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2 + 2k}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^ε(\xi_1)\phi^ε(\xi_2)\tilde{A}(z, \xi_2 + \xi_1, \xi_2 + \xi_1) e^{i\frac{k_0 x_0}{k_0} \cdot (\xi_2 - \xi_1)} \, dk = \frac{1}{2} \phi^ε(\frac{\xi_2 - \xi_1}{2})\phi^ε(\xi_1)\phi^ε(\xi_2)\tilde{A}(z, \xi_2 + \xi_1, \xi_2 + \xi_1) e^{i\frac{k_0 x_0}{k_0} \cdot (\xi_2 - \xi_1)} + o(1).$$

Therefore the fourth term will be canceled by the corresponding “source” term in $S'_4$. The other terms are negligible in the sense of (82). Indeed, for instance, the third term satisfies (using the change of variables $(\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_1, \xi_2) \rightarrow (\xi = \xi_1/\epsilon, \zeta = (\xi_2 - k)/\epsilon, \alpha = (\xi_2 + \xi_1 - k)/2, \beta = (\xi_1 - \xi_2 - k)/(\epsilon \sqrt{2}))$):

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} dz' \int dk \tilde{C}(k)\phi^ε(\frac{\xi_1 - \xi_2 - k}{\sqrt{2}})\phi^ε(\xi_1)\phi^ε(\xi_2 - k) \\
\times A(z', \xi_2 + \xi_1 - k, \xi_2 + \xi_1 - k) e^{i\frac{k_0 x_0}{k_0} \cdot (\xi_2 - \xi_1)} \, dk \, dz' \, d\xi' \, d\xi_2 \, d\xi_1 \\
\leq 2 \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} dz' \tilde{C}(k)\phi^ε(\beta)\phi^ε(\xi)\phi^ε(\xi) A(z', \alpha, \zeta + \xi) e^{i\frac{k_0 x_0}{k_0} \cdot (\xi - \beta)} e^{i\frac{k_0 x_0}{k_0} \cdot \alpha} \, dz' \, d\beta \, d\zeta \, d\xi.$$  

From Lemma 5 this term goes to zero as $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$. 

Let us examine finally the contributions of $\phi'(\zeta_1)\phi'(\zeta_2)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2)$ to $S^2_2$:

$$L_2^e[\phi'(\zeta_1)\phi'(\zeta_2)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2)] = \frac{k^2_0}{4(2\pi)^2} \phi'(\zeta_1) \int \tilde{C}(k)$$

$$\times \left[ -2\phi'(\zeta_2)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) + \phi'(\zeta_2)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) \right] e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2+\zeta_1)$$

$$+ \phi'(\zeta_2-k)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1-k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1-k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2-\zeta_1)$$

$$+ \phi'(\zeta_2)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1+k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1-k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2+\zeta_1)$$

$$+ \phi'(\zeta_2-k)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1-k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1-k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2-\zeta_1)$$

$$+ \phi'(\zeta_2)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1+k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1+k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2-\zeta_1)$$

$$+ \phi'(\zeta_2-k)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1-k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1-k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2-\zeta_1)$$

$$- \phi'(\zeta_2)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1+k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1-k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2-\zeta_1)$$

$$- \phi'(\zeta_2-k)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1-k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1+k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2-\zeta_1)$$

$$- \phi'(\zeta_2)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1+k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1+k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2-\zeta_1)$$

$$- \phi'(\zeta_2-k)\tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1-k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1-k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2-\zeta_1)$$

$$\int dk.$$ 

The first, second and fourth terms will be canceled by the corresponding terms in $S^2_y$. The other terms are negligible in the sense of (82). Indeed, for instance, the third term satisfies (using the change of variables $(\zeta_1, \xi_1, \zeta_2) \to (\alpha = \xi_1/\varepsilon, \xi = \xi_1-k, \zeta = (\zeta_2-k)/\varepsilon)$):

$$\int \int_0^\varepsilon \int \int_0^{\varepsilon} d\zeta d\xi_2 d\xi_1 d\zeta_2 \tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1-k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1+k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2+\zeta_1)$$

$$\times \tilde{B}(z', \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1-k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1+k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2-\zeta_1)$$

$$\leq \int \int_0^\varepsilon \int \int_0^{\varepsilon} d\zeta d\xi_2 d\xi_1 d\zeta_2 \tilde{B}(z, \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1-k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1+k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2+\zeta_1)$$

$$\times \tilde{B}(z', \frac{\xi_2+\xi_1-k}{2}, \frac{\xi_2-\xi_1+k}{2}, \xi_1, \xi_2) e^{i \pi \alpha \cdot k} (\zeta_2-\zeta_1).$$

From Lemma 5 this term goes to zero as $\varepsilon \to 0$. 

$$\square$$

We can now state and prove the lemma that gives the statement of Proposition 1.

**Lemma 4** For any $Z > 0$

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{R}^2} \| R^e(z, \cdot', \cdot, \cdot) \|_{L^1(\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2)} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} 0. \quad (89)$$

**Proof** We have for any $z$

$$\left\| \left[ L_1^e R^e \right](z, \cdot', \cdot, \cdot) \right\|_{L^1} \leq 2k^2_0 C(0) \left\| R^e(z, \cdot', \cdot, \cdot) \right\|_{L^1}.$$
Lemma 5 Let \( m \) be a positive integer and \( F \in C([0, Z], L^1(\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2)) \). For any \( Z > 0 \) we have
\[
\sup_{z \in [0, Z]} \int_0^Z F(z', u, v, w) \exp \left( i \frac{z'}{\varepsilon} \cdot \mathbf{v} \right) d\mathbf{z}' \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} 0.
\] (90)
Let \( m \) be a positive integer and \( F' \in C([0, Z], L^1(\mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^2)) \). For any \( Z > 0 \) we have
\[
\sup_{z \in [0, Z]} \int_0^Z \left| F(z', u, v) \exp \left( i \frac{z'}{\varepsilon} \cdot |v|^2 \right) d\mathbf{z}' \right| d\mathbf{u} \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \to 0} 0.
\] (91)

Proof Let us denote \( F^\varepsilon(z, u, v, w) = F(z, u, v, w) \exp \left( i \frac{z}{\varepsilon} \cdot \frac{z}{\varepsilon} \right) \).

For any \( \delta > 0 \) we introduce the domain in \( \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2 \):
\[
\Omega_\delta = \{ (u, v, w) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2, |v| \leq \delta \}.
\]

Since
\[
\left\| \int_0^Z F^\varepsilon(z', u, v, w) d\mathbf{z}' \right\| \leq \int_0^Z |F(z', u, v, w)| d\mathbf{z}',
\]
we obtain
\[
\sup_{z \in [0, Z]} \int_0^Z \left| F^\varepsilon(z', u, v, w) d\mathbf{z}' \right| d\mathbf{u} \leq \int_0^Z \int_{\Omega_\delta} |F(z', u, v, w)| d\mathbf{u} d\mathbf{z}'.
\] (92)

For any positive integer \( n \) we have
\[
\left| \int_0^Z F^\varepsilon(z', u, v, w) d\mathbf{z}' \right| - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \int_0^{\frac{k+1}{n}} F^\varepsilon \left( \frac{kz}{n}, u, v, w \right) \exp \left( i \frac{z}{\varepsilon} \cdot \frac{z}{\varepsilon} \right) d\mathbf{z}'
\]
\[
\leq \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \int_0^{\frac{k+1}{n}} |F(z', u, v, w) - F \left( \frac{kz}{n}, u, v, w \right)| d\mathbf{z}'.
\]

Since
\[
\left| \int_0^{\frac{k+1}{n}} \exp \left( i \frac{z}{\varepsilon} \cdot \frac{z}{\varepsilon} \right) d\mathbf{z}' \right| = \left| \frac{\exp \left( i \frac{z}{\varepsilon} \cdot \frac{z}{\varepsilon} \right) - 1}{i \varepsilon \cdot \frac{z}{\varepsilon} \cdot \frac{z}{\varepsilon}} \right| \leq \frac{2\varepsilon}{\delta} \quad \text{if} \quad (u, v, w) \not\in \Omega_\delta,
\]
we obtain
\[
\sup_{z \in [0, Z]} \int_0^{\frac{k+1}{n}} \left| F^\varepsilon(z', u, v, w) d\mathbf{z}' \right| d\mathbf{u} \leq \sup_{z \in [0, Z]} \left\| F(z', \cdot, \cdot) \right\|_L \frac{2n\varepsilon}{\delta} + Z \sup_{z_1, z_2 \in [0, Z], |z_1 - z_2| \leq Z/n} \left\| F(z_1, \cdot, \cdot) - F(z_2, \cdot, \cdot) \right\|_L.
\] (93)

If we sum (92) and (93) and take the limit sup in \( \varepsilon \) then we find:
\[
\lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \sup_{z \in [0, Z]} \left\| \int_0^Z F^\varepsilon(z', \cdot, \cdot, \cdot) d\mathbf{z}' \right\|_L \leq \int_0^Z \int_{\Omega_\delta} \left| F(z', u, v, w) d\mathbf{u} d\mathbf{z}' \right| + Z \sup_{z_1, z_2 \in [0, Z], |z_1 - z_2| \leq Z/n} \left\| F(z_1, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot) - F(z_2, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot) \right\|_L.
\]

We then take the limit \( \delta \to 0 \) and \( n \to \infty \) in the right-hand side to obtain the first result of the Lemma (using Lebesgue’s dominated convergence theorem).

The proof of the second statement of the Lemma is similar with the domain
\[
\Omega_\delta = \{ (u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^m \times \mathbb{R}^2, |v|^2 \leq \delta \}.
\]

\( \square \)
References

1. L. C. Andrews and R. L. Philips, *Laser Beam Propagation Through Random Media*, SPIE Press, Bellingham, 2005.
2. F. Bailly, J.-F. Clouet, and J.-P. Fouque, Parabolic and white noise approximation for waves in random media, SIAM J. Appl. Math. 56 (1996), 1445-1470.
3. G. Bal, On the self-averaging of wave energy in random media, SIAM Multiscale Model. Simul. 2 (2004), 398-420.
4. G. Bal and O. Pinaud, Dynamics of wave scintillation in random media, Comm. Partial Differential Equations 35 (2010), 1176-1235.
5. P. Blomgren, G. Papanicolaou, and H. Zhao, Super-resolution in time-reversal acoustics, J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 111 (2002), 230-248.
6. N. D. Cartwright, A non-negative Wigner-type distribution, Physica 83A (1976), 210-212.
7. J. F. Claerbout, *Imaging the Earth’s Interior*, Blackwell Scientific Publications, Palo Alto, 1985.
8. D. Dawson and G. Papanicolaou, A random wave process, Appl. Math. Optim. 12 (1984), 97-114.
9. M. de Hoop and K. Solna, Estimating a Green’s function from “field-field” correlations in a random medium, SIAM J. Appl. Math. 69 (2009) 909-932.
10. M. de Hoop, J. Garnier, S. F. Holman, and K. Solna, Retrieval of a Green’s function with reflections from partly coherent waves generated by a wave packet using cross correlations, SIAM J. Appl. Math. 73 (2013), 493-522.
11. A. C. Fannjiang, Self-averaging radiative transfer for parabolic waves, C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris, Ser. I 342 (2006), 109-114.
12. A. Fannjiang and K. Solna, Superresolution and duality for time-reversal of waves in random media, Phys. Lett. A 352 (2005), 22-29.
13. R. L. Fante, Electromagnetic beam propagation in turbulent media, Proc. IEEE 63 (1975), 1669-1692.
14. Z. I. Feizulin and Yu. A. Kravtsov, Broadening of a laser beam in a turbulent medium, Radio Quantum Electron. 10 (1967), 33-35.
15. M. Fink, *Time-Reversed Acoustics*, Scientific American, 91-97, Nov. (1999)
16. J.-P. Fouque, J. Garnier, G. Papanicolaou, and K. Solna, *Wave Propagation and Time Reversal in Randomly Layered Media*, Springer, New York, 2007.
17. J.-P. Fouque, G. Papanicolaou, and Y. Samuelides, Forward and Markov approximation: the strong-intensity-fluctuations regime revisited, Waves in Random Media 8 (1998), 303-314.
18. K. Furutsu, Statistical theory of wave propagation in a random medium and the irradiance distribution function, J. Opt. Soc. Am. 62 (1972), 240-254.
19. K. Furutsu and Y. Furuhama, Spot dancing and relative saturation phenomena of irradiance scintillation of optical beams in a random medium, Optica 20 (1973), 707-719.
20. J. Garnier and G. Papanicolaou, passive imaging ref
21. J. Garnier and K. Solna, Focusing Waves Through a Randomly Scattering Medium in the White-Noise Paraxial Regime, Preprint.
22. J. Garnier and K. Solna, Random backscattering in the parabolic scaling, J. Stat. Phys. 131 (2008), 445-486.
23. J. Garnier and K. Solna, Coupled paraxial wave equations in random media in the white-noise regime, Ann. Appl. Probab. 19 (2009), 318-346.
24. J. Garnier and K. Solna, Scaling limits for wave pulse transmission and reflection operators, Wave Motion 46 (2009), 122-143.
25. J. Garnier and K. Solna, Scintillation in the white-noise paraxial regime, Comm. Partial Differential Equations 39 (2014), 626-650.
26. P. Gérard, P. A. Markowich, N. J. Mauser, and F. Poupaud, Homogenization limits and Wigner transforms, Comm. Pure Appl. Math. 50 (1997), 323-379.
27. J. Gozani, Numerical solution of the fourth-order coherence function of a plane wave propagating in a two-dimensional Kolmogorovian medium, J. Opt. Soc. Am. A 2 (1985), 2144-2151.
28. A. Ishimaru, *Wave Propagation and Scattering in Random Media*, Academic Press, San Diego, 1978.
29. T. Komorowski, S. Peszat, and L. Ryzhik, Limit of fluctuations of solutions of Wigner equation, Commun. Math. Phys. **292** (2009), 479-510.
30. T. Komorowski and L. Ryzhik, Fluctuations of solutions to Wigner equation with an Ornstein-Uhlenbeck potential, Discrete and Continuous Dynamical Systems-Series B **17** (2012), 871-914.
31. G. Manfredi and M. R. Feix, Entropy and Wigner functions, Phys. Rev. E **62** (2000), 4665-4674.
32. Y. Mao and J. Gilles, Non rigid geometric distortions correction - Application to atmospheric turbulence stabilization, Inverse Problems and Imaging **6** (2012), 531-546.
33. Y. Miyahara, Stochastic evolution equations and white noise analysis, Carleton Mathematical Lecture Notes **42**, Ottawa, Canada, (1982), 1-80.
34. G. Papanicolaou, L. Ryzhik, and K. Solna, Statistical stability in time reversal, SIAM J. Appl. Math. **64** (2004), 1133-1155.
35. G. Papanicolaou, L. Ryzhik, and K. Solna, Self-averaging from lateral diversity in the Ko-Schrödinger equation, SIAM Multiscale Model. Simul. **6** (2007), 468-492.
36. I. S. Reed, On a moment theorem for complex Gaussian processes, IRE Trans. Inform. Theory **IT-8** (1962), 194-195.
37. L. Ryzhik, J. Keller, and G. Papanicolaou, Transport equations for elastic and other waves in random media, Wave Motion **24** (1996), 327-370.
38. J. W. Strohbehn, ed., *Laser Beam Propagation in the Atmosphere*, Springer, Berlin, 1978.
39. F. Tappert, The parabolic approximation method, in *Wave Propagation and Underwater Acoustics*, J. B. Keller and J. S. Papadakis, eds., 224-287, Springer, Berlin (1977).
40. V. I. Tatarskii, *The Effect of Turbulent Atmosphere on Wave Propagation*, U.S. Department of Commerce, TT-68-50464, Springfield, 1971.
41. V. I. Tatarskii, A. Ishimaru, and V. U. Zavorotny, eds., *Wave Propagation in Random Media (Scintillation)*, SPIE Press, Bellingham, 1993.
42. D. H. Tofsted, Reanalysis of turbulence effects on short-exposure passive imaging, Opt. Eng. **50** (2011), 016001.
43. B. J. Ucsinski, Analytical solution of the fourth-moment equation and interpretation as a set of phase screens, J. Opt. Soc. Am. A **2** (1985), 2077-2091.
44. G. C. Valley and D. L. Knepp, Application of joint Gaussian statistics to interplanetary scintillation, J. Geophys. Res. **81** (1976), 4723-4730.
45. ...
46. A. M. Whitman and M. J. Beran, Two-scale solution for atmospheric scintillation, J. Opt. Soc. Am. A **2** (1985), 2133-2143.
47. I. G. Yakushkin, Moments of field propagating in randomly inhomogeneous medium in the limit of saturated fluctuations, Radiophys. Quantum Electron. **21** (1978), 835-840.