# NOTE ON A DIOPHANTINE INEQUALITY IN SEVERAL VARIABLES 

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#### Abstract

We establish estimates for the number of points that belong to an aligned box in $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}$ in terms of certain exponential sums. These generalize previous results that were known only in case $N=1$.


## 1. Introduction

Let $\boldsymbol{\xi}_{1}, \boldsymbol{\xi}_{2}, \ldots, \boldsymbol{\xi}_{M}$ be a finite set of points in $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}$. A basic problem in Diophantine approximation is to estimate the number of points in this set which belong to an aligned box in $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}$ from knowledge of the exponential sums

$$
\sum_{m=1}^{M} e\left(\ell \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)
$$

where $\boldsymbol{\ell}$ is restricted to a finite subset of $\mathbb{Z}^{N}$ and $e(x)=e^{2 \pi i x}$. The Erdös-Turán inequality, as stated in [2], is a result of this sort, but it is generally not useful when the measure of the box is small. In the case of a small box the usual approach is Vinogradov's "method of little glasses", as discussed in [5], pp. 32-34. In the present note we establish inequalities that are generally sharper and easier to use in applications. For $N=1$ this is described in 1], section 2.1, and in 3], section 1.2. Here we obtain the corresponding inequalities for arbitrary $N$.

Let $\mathcal{B}_{1}$ denote the collection of all normalized characteristic functions $\varphi_{u, v}$ : $\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by

$$
\varphi_{u, v}(x)=\left\{\begin{array}{l}
1 \text { if } u<x-n<v \text { for some } n \in \mathbb{Z}  \tag{1.1}\\
\frac{1}{2} \text { if } u-x \in \mathbb{Z} \text { or if } v-x \in \mathbb{Z} \\
0 \text { otherwise }
\end{array}\right.
$$

where $u<v<u+1$. Then for each positive integer $L$ let $\mathcal{B}_{1}(L) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{1}$ be the subcollection of functions (1.1) such that $(v-u)(L+1)$ is a positive integer. We write $\mathcal{B}_{N}$ for the collection of functions $\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}:(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x})=\prod_{n=1}^{N} \varphi_{u_{n}, v_{n}}\left(x_{n}\right) \tag{1.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

[^0]where $\mathbf{u}$ and $\mathbf{v}$ are points in $\mathbb{R}^{N}$ with $u_{n}<v_{n}<u_{n}+1$ in each coordinate. If $\mathbf{L}$ in $\mathbb{Z}^{N}$ has positive coordinates $L_{n}, n=1,2, \ldots, N$, we write $\mathcal{B}_{N}(\mathbf{L}) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_{N}$ for the subcollection of functions (1.2) such that $\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right)\left(L_{n}+1\right)$ is a positive integer for each $n=1,2, \ldots, N$. Given $\mathbf{L}$ and $\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$ in $\mathcal{B}_{N}$ it will be convenient to set
\[

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right)\left(L_{n}+1\right)=w_{n}, \quad n=1,2, \ldots, N \tag{1.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

\]

so that $0<w_{n}<L_{n}+1$. Thus $\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$ belongs to $\mathcal{B}_{N}(\mathbf{L})$ if and only if $w_{n} \in$ $\left\{1,2, \ldots, L_{n}\right\}$ for each $n$. Also, we use the lattice point $\mathbf{L}$ to determine the subset $\mathcal{L}=\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{L}) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^{N}$ defined by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{L}=\left\{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}^{N}:\left|\ell_{n}\right| \leq L_{n}, n=1,2, \ldots, N\right\} \tag{1.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Now a precise form of the problem we consider in this note is as follows. If $\boldsymbol{\xi}_{1}, \boldsymbol{\xi}_{2}, \ldots, \boldsymbol{\xi}_{M}$ is a finite set of points in $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}$, we wish to estimate sums of the type

$$
\sum_{m=1}^{M} \Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}\left(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)
$$

from knowledge of the exponential sums

$$
\sum_{m=1}^{M} e\left(\boldsymbol{\ell} \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)
$$

where $\ell$ is in $\mathcal{L}$. Here we are concerned with the case where the measure

$$
\int_{(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}} \Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x}) d \mathbf{x}=\prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right)
$$

of the aligned box is small. Thus our main result is a lower bound for the number of points in the box.

Theorem 1. Let $\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$ belong to $\mathcal{B}_{N}(\mathbf{L})$ with $w_{1}, w_{2}, \ldots, w_{N}$ determined by (1.3). Assume that $\delta>0$ and $\eta>0$ satisfy

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{n=1}^{N} w_{n}^{-1} \leq \delta \tag{1.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\ell} \in \mathcal{L} \\ \boldsymbol{\ell} \neq \mathbf{0}}}\left|\sum_{m=1}^{M} e\left(\boldsymbol{\ell} \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)\right| \leq \eta M \tag{1.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

Then we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
M(1-\delta-\eta-\delta \eta) \prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right) \leq \sum_{m=1}^{M} \Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}\left(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right) \tag{1.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

As an application of Theorem 1, we obtain a generalization to $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}$ of the inequality given in [1] as Theorem 2.2 and in [4] as Corollary 21. We write $\|x\|$ for the distance from the real number $x$ to the nearest integer.

Corollary 2. Let $0<\varepsilon_{n} \leq \frac{1}{2}$ and set $L_{n}=\left[N \varepsilon_{n}^{-1}\right]$ for each $n=1,2, \ldots, N$. Assume that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\max _{1 \leq n \leq N} \frac{\left\|\xi_{n m}\right\|}{\varepsilon_{n}} \geq 1 \tag{1.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

for each point $\boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}$ in $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}, m=1,2, \ldots, M$. Then we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
M \leq 3 \sum_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\ell} \in \mathcal{L} \\ \boldsymbol{\ell} \neq \mathbf{0}}}\left|\sum_{m=1}^{M} e\left(\boldsymbol{\ell} \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)\right| \tag{1.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

There is an upper bound analogous to (1.7), but this is much easier to prove.
Theorem 3. Let $\mathbf{L}$ in $\mathbb{Z}^{N}$ have positive coordinates, let $\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$ belong to $\mathcal{B}_{N}$ with $w_{1}, w_{2}, \ldots, w_{N}$ determined by (1.3). Assume that $\delta>0$ and $\eta>0$ satisfy

$$
\begin{equation*}
\prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(1+w_{n}^{-1}\right) \leq(1+\delta) \tag{1.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\ell} \in \mathcal{L} \\ \boldsymbol{\ell} \neq \mathbf{0}}}\left|\sum_{m=1}^{M} e\left(\boldsymbol{\ell} \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)\right| \leq \eta M \tag{1.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

Then we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{m=1}^{M} \Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}\left(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right) \leq M(1+\delta+\eta+\delta \eta) \prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right) \tag{1.12}
\end{equation*}
$$

## 2. Preliminary lemmas

As in [4] we define entire functions $H, J$ and $K$ by

$$
\begin{gather*}
H(z)=\left(\frac{\sin \pi z}{\pi}\right)^{2}\left\{\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} \operatorname{sgn}(m)(z-m)^{-2}+2 z^{-1}\right\}  \tag{2.1}\\
J(z)=\frac{1}{2} H^{\prime}(z), \text { and } K(z)=\left(\frac{\sin \pi z}{\pi z}\right)^{2}
\end{gather*}
$$

We note that each of these functions is real valued on the real axis and has exponential type $2 \pi$. The functions $J$ and $K$ are integrable on $\mathbb{R}$ and their Fourier transforms

$$
\widehat{J}(t)=\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} J(x) e(-t x) d x \text { and } \widehat{K}(t)=\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} K(x) e(-t x) d x
$$

are continuous functions supported on $[-1,1]$. These Fourier transforms are given explicitly by

$$
\begin{gathered}
\widehat{J}(t)=\pi t(1-|t|) \cot \pi t+|t| \text { if } 0<|t|<1 \\
\widehat{K}(t)=(1-|t|) \text { if } 0 \leq|t| \leq 1 \\
\widehat{J}(0)=1, \text { and } \widehat{J}(t)=\widehat{K}(t)=0 \text { if } 1 \leq|t|
\end{gathered}
$$

If $L$ is a positive integer we write $J_{L+1}(z)=(L+1) J((L+1) z)$ so that $J_{L+1}(z)$ has exponential type $2 \pi(L+1)$. Then the Fourier transforms $\widehat{J}$ and $\widehat{J}_{L+1}$ are related
by the identity $\widehat{J}\left((L+1)^{-1} t\right)=\widehat{J}_{L+1}(t)$ for all real $t$. Similar remarks apply to $K$ and $K_{L+1}$.

For each positive integer $L$ we define trigonometric polynomials $j_{L}(x)$ and $k_{L}(x)$ by

$$
\begin{equation*}
j_{L}(x)=\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} J_{L+1}(x+m)=\sum_{\ell=-L}^{L} \widehat{J}_{L+1}(\ell) e(\ell x) \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
k_{L}(x)=\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} K_{L+1}(x+m)=\sum_{\ell=-L}^{L} \widehat{K}_{L+1}(\ell) e(\ell x) \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

The identities (2.2) and (2.3) follow from the Poisson summation formula. We also define the periodic function $\psi(x)$ by

$$
\psi(x)=x-[x]-\frac{1}{2} \text { if } x \notin \mathbb{Z}, \text { and } \psi(x)=0 \text { if } x \in \mathbb{Z}
$$

The trigonometric polynomials

$$
\begin{aligned}
\psi * j_{L}(x) & =\int_{-1 / 2}^{1 / 2} \psi(x-y) j_{L}(y) d y \\
& =\sum_{\substack{\ell=-L \\
\ell \neq 0}}^{L}(-2 \pi i \ell)^{-1} \widehat{J}\left(\frac{\ell}{L+1}\right) e(\ell x)
\end{aligned}
$$

and $k_{L}(x)$ satisfy the basic inequality

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|\psi(x)-\psi * j_{L}(x)\right| \leq(2 L+2)^{-1} k_{L}(x) \tag{2.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $x$ in $\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z}$. A proof of (2.4) is given in [3], Chapter 1 , and in [4, Theorem 18. If $u<v<u+1$, then the periodic functions $\varphi_{u, v}(x)$ and $\psi(x)$ are related by the elementary identity

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varphi_{u, v}(x)=(v-u)+\psi(u-x)+\psi(x-v) \tag{2.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

By combining (2.4) and (2.5) we obtain the inequality

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left|\varphi_{u, v}(x)-\varphi_{u, v} * j_{L}(x)\right|  \tag{2.6}\\
& \quad \leq\left|\psi(u-x)-\psi * j_{L}(u-x)\right|+\left|\psi(x-v)-\psi * j_{L}(x-v)\right| \\
& \quad \leq(2 L+2)^{-1}\left\{k_{L}(u-x)+k_{L}(x-v)\right\}
\end{align*}
$$

for all $x$ in $\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z}$. Alternatively, (2.6) follows directly from [4], Theorem 19.
We now establish some new inequalities.
Lemma 4. Let $\alpha$ and $\beta$ be real numbers such that $\beta-\alpha=M$ is a positive integer. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
0 \leq H(x-\alpha)+H(\beta-x) \tag{2.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all real $x$.

Proof. From (2.1) we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
& H(x)+H(1-x)=\left(\frac{\sin \pi x}{\pi}\right)^{2}\left\{\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} \operatorname{sgn}(m)(x-m)^{-2}+2 x^{-1}\right. \\
&\left.-\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \operatorname{sgn}(n-1)(x-n)^{-2}+2(1-x)^{-1}\right\} \\
&=\left(\frac{\sin \pi x}{\pi}\right)^{2}\left\{x^{-2}+2(1-x)^{-1}+2 x^{-1}+(1-x)^{-2}\right\} \\
&=\left(\frac{\sin \pi x}{\pi}\right)^{2}\left\{x^{-1}+(1-x)^{-1}\right\}^{2} \\
& \geq 0
\end{aligned}
$$

for all real $x$. As $H$ is an odd function, we conclude that

$$
\begin{equation*}
H(x)+H(M-x)=\sum_{m=0}^{M-1}\{H(x-m)+H(1+m-x)\} \geq 0 \tag{2.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

The lemma follows from (2.8) by replacing $x$ with $x-\alpha$.
Lemma 5. Assume that the periodic function $\varphi_{u, v}(x)$ belongs to $\mathcal{B}_{1}(L)$. Then the trigonometric polynomial

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varphi_{u, v} * j_{L}(x)=\int_{-1 / 2}^{1 / 2} \varphi_{u, v}(x-y) j_{L}(y) d y \tag{2.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

satisfies the inequality

$$
\begin{equation*}
0 \leq \varphi_{u, v} * j_{L}(x) \leq 1 \tag{2.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $x$ in $\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z}$.
Proof. Write

$$
\chi_{u, v}(x)=\frac{1}{2}\{\operatorname{sgn}(x-u)+\operatorname{sgn}(v-x)\}
$$

for the normalized characteristic function of the real interval having endpoints $u$ and $v$. As $u<v<u+1$ we have the obvious identity

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varphi_{u, v}(x)=\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} \chi_{u, v}(x+m) \tag{2.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

Next we apply (2.7) with $\alpha=u(L+1), \beta=v(L+1)$, and conclude that

$$
\begin{align*}
0 & \leq \frac{1}{2}\{H((L+1)(x-u))+H((L+1)(v-x))\}  \tag{2.12}\\
& =\frac{1}{2}(L+1) \int_{u}^{v} H^{\prime}((L+1)(x-y)) d y \\
& =\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} J_{L+1}(x-y) \chi_{u, v}(y) d y
\end{align*}
$$

for all real $x$. Then we use (2.2), (2.11), (2.12) and the fact that $J_{L+1}$ is integrable, to establish the inequality

$$
\begin{align*}
0 & \leq \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} J_{L+1}(x+n-y) \chi_{u, v}(y) d y  \tag{2.13}\\
& =\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} j_{L}(x-y) \chi_{u, v}(y) d y \\
& =\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{m-1 / 2}^{m+1 / 2} j_{L}(x-y) \chi_{u, v}(y) d y \\
& =\int_{-1 / 2}^{1 / 2} j_{L}(x-y)\left\{\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} \chi_{u, v}(y+m)\right\} d y \\
& =\varphi_{u, v} * j_{L}(x)
\end{align*}
$$

Now let

$$
\varphi_{v, u+1}(x)=(u+1-v)+\psi(v-x)+\psi(x-u-1)
$$

be the normalized characteristic function of the complimentary interval in $\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z}$. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varphi_{u, v} * j_{L}(x)+\varphi_{v, u+1} * j_{L}(x)=\int_{-1 / 2}^{1 / 2} j_{L}(y) d y=1 \tag{2.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

and we have just proved that

$$
\begin{equation*}
0 \leq \varphi_{v, u+1} * j_{L}(x) \tag{2.15}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $x$ in $\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z}$. Therefore (2.14) and (2.15) verify the inequality on the right of (2.10).

Lemma 6. For each integer $n=1,2, \ldots, N$, let $\alpha_{n}, \beta_{n}$ and $\varepsilon_{n}$ be real numbers such that $0 \leq \alpha_{n} \leq 1,0 \leq \beta_{n}, \alpha_{n}-\beta_{n} \leq \varepsilon_{n}$, and either $\varepsilon_{n}=0$ or $\varepsilon_{n}=1$. Then we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\prod_{n=1}^{N} \alpha_{n}-\sum_{n=1}^{N} \beta_{n} \prod_{\substack{m=1 \\ m \neq n}}^{N} \alpha_{m} \leq \prod_{n=1}^{N} \varepsilon_{n} \tag{2.16}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. If $\varepsilon_{n}=1$ for each $n=1,2, \ldots, N$, then (2.16) is obvious. Assume that $\varepsilon_{\ell}=0$ for some index $\ell, 1 \leq \ell \leq N$. It follows that $0 \leq \alpha_{\ell} \leq \beta_{\ell}$ and therefore

$$
\prod_{n=1}^{N} \alpha_{n}-\sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ n \neq \ell}}^{N} \beta_{n} \prod_{\substack{m=1 \\ m \neq n}}^{N} \alpha_{m}-\beta_{\ell} \prod_{\substack{m=1 \\ m \neq \ell}}^{N} \alpha_{m} \leq-\sum_{\substack{n=1 \\ n \neq \ell}}^{N} \beta_{n} \prod_{\substack{m=1 \\ m \neq n}}^{N} \alpha_{m} \leq 0
$$

This proves the lemma.
Let $\mathbf{L}$ be a point in $\mathbb{Z}^{N}$ with positive coordinates and $\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$ a function in $\mathcal{B}_{N}$ having the representation (1.2). For each integer $n=1,2, \ldots, N$, we define trigonometric polynomials

$$
\alpha_{n}\left(x_{n}\right)=\varphi_{u_{n}, v_{n}} * j_{L_{n}}\left(x_{n}\right)
$$

and

$$
\beta_{n}\left(x_{n}\right)=\left(2 L_{n}+2\right)^{-1}\left\{k_{L_{n}}\left(x_{n}-u_{n}\right)+k_{L_{n}}\left(x_{n}-v_{n}\right)\right\} .
$$

We assemble these into multiple trigonometric polynomials

$$
\begin{gather*}
A(\mathbf{x})=\prod_{n=1}^{N} \alpha_{n}\left(x_{n}\right)  \tag{2.17}\\
B(\mathbf{x})=\sum_{n=1}^{N} \beta_{n}\left(x_{n}\right) \prod_{\substack{m=1 \\
m \neq n}}^{N} \alpha_{m}\left(x_{m}\right) \tag{2.18}
\end{gather*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
C(\mathbf{x})=\prod_{n=1}^{N}\left\{\alpha_{n}\left(x_{n}\right)+\beta_{n}\left(x_{n}\right)\right\} \tag{2.19}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here $A, B$ and $C$ depend on $\mathbf{u}$ and $\mathbf{v}$, but we drop reference to these points so as to simplify our notation. It is clear that the Fourier coefficients of $A, B$ and $C$ are supported on $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^{N}$. In particular, we find that

$$
\begin{align*}
\widehat{A}(\mathbf{0}) & =\int_{(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}} A(\mathbf{x}) d \mathbf{x}=\prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right)  \tag{2.20}\\
\widehat{B}(\mathbf{0}) & =\sum_{n=1}^{N}\left(L_{n}+1\right)^{-1} \prod_{\substack{m=1 \\
m \neq n}}^{N}\left(v_{m}-u_{m}\right)  \tag{2.21}\\
& =\left\{\sum_{n=1}^{N} w_{n}^{-1}\right\} \prod_{m=1}^{N}\left(v_{m}-u_{m}\right)
\end{align*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{align*}
\widehat{C}(\mathbf{0}) & =\prod_{n=1}^{N}\left\{\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right)+\left(L_{n}+1\right)^{-1}\right\}  \tag{2.22}\\
& =\left\{\prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(1+w_{n}^{-1}\right)\right\} \prod_{m=1}^{N}\left(v_{m}-u_{m}\right)
\end{align*}
$$

In case $A, B$ and $C$ take nonnegative values, we also get the estimates

$$
\begin{equation*}
|\widehat{A}(\ell)| \leq \widehat{A}(\mathbf{0}), \quad|\widehat{B}(\ell)| \leq \widehat{B}(\mathbf{0}) \text { and }|\widehat{C}(\ell)| \leq \widehat{C}(\mathbf{0}) \tag{2.23}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $\ell$ in $\mathbb{Z}^{N}$. Lemma 5 shows that $A$ and $B$ take nonnegative values if $\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$ belongs to $\mathcal{B}_{N}(\mathbf{L})$, while (2.6) implies that $C$ always takes nonnegative values.

Theorem 7. We have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x}) \leq C(\mathbf{x}) \tag{2.24}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $\mathbf{x}$ in $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}$, and if $\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$ belongs to $\mathcal{B}_{N}(\mathbf{L})$, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
A(\mathbf{x})-B(\mathbf{x}) \leq \Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x}) \tag{2.25}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $\mathbf{x}$ in $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}$.
Proof. The inequality (2.24) is obvious from (2.6) and the definition of $C$.
In order to verify (2.25) let

$$
E_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}=\left\{\mathbf{x} \in(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N}: x_{n}=u_{n} \text { or } x_{n}=v_{n} \text { for some } n, 1 \leq n \leq N\right\}
$$

Then either $\varphi_{u_{n}, v_{n}}\left(x_{n}\right)=0$ or $\varphi_{u_{n}, v_{n}}\left(x_{n}\right)=1$ for each point $\mathbf{x}$ in $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N} \backslash E_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$. From Lemma 5 we know that

$$
\begin{equation*}
0 \leq \alpha_{n}\left(x_{n}\right) \leq 1 \quad \text { and } \quad 0 \leq \beta_{n}\left(x_{n}\right) \tag{2.26}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $x_{n}$ in $\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z}$. And (2.6) implies that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha_{n}\left(x_{n}\right)-\beta_{n}\left(x_{n}\right) \leq \varphi_{u_{n}, v_{n}}\left(x_{n}\right) \tag{2.27}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $x_{n}$ in $\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z}$. It follows using (2.26), (2.27) and Lemma 6 that

$$
\begin{equation*}
A(\mathbf{x})-B(\mathbf{x}) \leq \Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x}) \tag{2.28}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all points $\mathbf{x}$ in $(\mathbb{R} / \mathbb{Z})^{N} \backslash E_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$. As the left hand side of (2.28) is a continuous function of $\mathbf{x}$, we have

$$
A(\mathbf{x})-B(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0 \leq \Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{x})
$$

when $\mathbf{x}$ is in $E_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$.
We note that the entire functions $H$ and $K$ satisfy the basic inequality

$$
\begin{equation*}
|\operatorname{sgn}(x)-H(x)| \leq K(x) \tag{2.29}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all real $x$. This is established in [4], Lemma 5 . If we use (2.29) in place of (2.4) and apply Lemma 6 , then it is possible to construct an entire function of $N$ complex variables having exponential type and such that its restriction to $\mathbb{R}^{N}$ minorizes the characteristic function of an aligned box in $\mathbb{R}^{N}$. We do not pursue these ideas here as we require only the periodic version of this construction.

## 3. Proof of Theorems 1 and 3

Assume, as in the statement of Theorem 1 , that $\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}$ belongs to $\mathcal{B}_{N}(\mathbf{L})$. Then we apply $(2.20),(2.21),(2.23)$ and $(2.25)$. In this way we obtain the inequality

$$
\begin{align*}
& M \prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right)-\sum_{m=1}^{M} \Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}\left(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)  \tag{3.1}\\
& \leq M \prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right)+\sum_{m=1}^{M}\left\{B\left(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)-A\left(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)\right\} \\
&=\sum_{\boldsymbol{\ell} \in \mathcal{L}} \widehat{B}(\boldsymbol{\ell}) \sum_{m=1}^{M} e\left(\boldsymbol{\ell} \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)-\sum_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\ell} \in \mathcal{L} \\
\boldsymbol{\ell} \neq \mathbf{0}}} \widehat{A}(\boldsymbol{\ell}) \sum_{m=1}^{M} e\left(\boldsymbol{\ell} \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right) \\
&=M\left\{\sum_{k=1}^{N} w_{k}^{-1}\right\} \prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right)+\sum_{\substack{\ell \in \mathcal{L} \\
\boldsymbol{\ell \neq \mathbf { 0 }}}}\{\widehat{B}(\boldsymbol{\ell})-\widehat{A}(\boldsymbol{\ell})\} \sum_{m=1}^{M} e\left(\boldsymbol{\ell} \cdot \boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right) \\
& \quad \leq M \delta \prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right)+\{\widehat{B}(\mathbf{0})+\widehat{A}(\mathbf{0})\} \sum_{\substack{\boldsymbol{\ell} \in \mathcal{L} \\
\boldsymbol{\ell} \neq \mathbf{0}}}\left|\sum_{m=1}^{M} e\left(\boldsymbol{\ell} \cdot \xi_{m}\right)\right| \\
& \quad \leq M(\delta+\eta+\delta \eta) \prod_{n=1}^{N}\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right) .
\end{align*}
$$

The inequality (1.7) plainly follows from (3.1).
The proof of Theorem 3 is essentially the same but uses (2.22), (2.23) and (2.24).

## 4. Proof of Corollary 2

Select $\mathbf{L}$ in $\mathbb{Z}^{N}$ so that $L_{n}=\left[N \varepsilon_{n}^{-1}\right]$ and note that

$$
\begin{equation*}
2 \leq L_{n} \text { and } \frac{N}{L_{n}+1}<\varepsilon_{n} \tag{4.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

for each $n=1,2, \ldots, N$. Then select $\mathbf{u}$ and $\mathbf{v}$ in $\mathbb{R}^{N}$ by setting

$$
u_{n}=-N\left(L_{n}+1\right)^{-1} \text { and } v_{n}=N\left(L_{n}+1\right)^{-1}
$$

for each $n=1,2, \ldots, N$. From (1.8) and (4.1) we conclude that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Phi_{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}}\left(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{m}\right)=0 \tag{4.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

for each $m=1,2, \ldots, M$. Now let $0<\delta$ and $0<\eta$ satisfy (1.5) and (1.6) in the statement of Theorem 1. In view of (4.2) and the conclusion (1.7) of Theorem 1, we must have

$$
\begin{equation*}
1-\delta-\eta-\delta \eta \leq 0 \tag{4.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

As $w_{n}=\left(v_{n}-u_{n}\right)\left(L_{n}+1\right)=2 N$ for each $n=1,2, \ldots, N$, we can take $\delta=1 / 2$. Then $1 / 3 \leq \eta$ follows immediately from (4.3). This verifies the corollary.

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