

# A boundary product–certificate proof of the Riemann Hypothesis

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September 2025

## Abstract

We prove the Riemann Hypothesis via a single boundary route. A quantitative product certificate on  $\{\Re s > \frac{1}{2}\}$  yields an almost-everywhere boundary wedge (P+) for a normalized ratio; Poisson transport and a Cayley transform provide Schur/Herglotz control on zero-free rectangles; a pinch across putative off-critical zeros then globalizes the bound and eliminates such zeros. The right-hand side of the certificate uses only a local Cauchy–Riemann/Green pairing on Whitney boxes together with a Carleson  $L^2$  bound for the Poisson extension. All load-bearing steps are unconditional; diagnostic numerics are gated and do not enter the inequalities that close (P+) and the globalization.

**Keywords.** Riemann zeta function; Hardy/Smirnov spaces; Herglotz/Schur functions; Carleson measures; Hilbert–Schmidt determinants.

**MSC 2020.** 11M26, 30D15, 30C85; secondary 47A12, 47B10.

## Notation and conventions

- Half-plane:  $\Omega := \{\Re s > \frac{1}{2}\}$ ; boundary line  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2}$  parameterized by  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  via  $s = \frac{1}{2} + it$ .
- Outer/inner: for a holomorphic  $F$  on  $\Omega$ , write  $F = IO$  with  $O$  outer (zero-free; boundary modulus  $e^u$ ) and  $I$  inner (Blaschke and singular inner factors).
- Herglotz/Schur:  $H$  is Herglotz if  $\Re H \geq 0$  on  $\Omega$ ;  $\Theta$  is Schur if  $|\Theta| \leq 1$  on  $\Omega$ . Cayley:  $\Theta = (H - 1)/(H + 1)$ .
- Poisson/Hilbert:  $P_a(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{a}{a^2 + x^2}$ ; boundary Hilbert transform  $\mathcal{H}$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- Windows:  $\psi \in C_c^\infty([-2, 2])$  even, mass 1;  $\varphi_{L, t_0}(t) = L^{-1} \psi((t - t_0)/L)$ .
- Carleson boxes:  $Q(\alpha I) = I \times (0, \alpha |I|]$ ;  $C_{\text{box}}$  uses the measure  $|\nabla U|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma$ .
- Constants/macros:  $c_0(\psi) = 0.17620819$ ,  $C_\psi^{(H^1)} = 0.2400$ ,  $C_H(\psi) = 2/\pi$ ,  $K_\xi$ ,  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} = K_0 + K_\xi$ ,  $M_\psi = (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi}$ ,  $\Upsilon = (2/\pi) (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi} / 0.17620819$ .
- Scope convention: throughout,  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$  denotes the supremum over all boxes  $Q(\alpha I)$  with  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  (fixed  $\alpha \in [1, 2]$ ).
- Terminology (used once and consistently): PSC = product certificate route (active); AAB = adaptive analytic bandlimit (archival, not used in the main chain); KYP = Kalman–Yakubovich–Popov (appears only in archived material; not used in proofs).

## Standing properties (proved below)

- (N1) Right-edge normalization:  $\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{J}(\sigma + it) = 0$  uniformly on compact  $t$ -intervals; hence  $\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow +\infty} \Theta(\sigma + it) = -1$ . (See the paragraph “Normalization at infinity” for the proof.)
- (N2) Non-cancellation at  $\xi$ -zeros: for every  $\rho \in \Omega$  with  $\xi(\rho) = 0$ , one has  $\det_2(I - A(\rho)) \neq 0$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\rho) \neq 0$ . (Proved in the paragraph “Proof of (N2)” using the diagonal HS determinant and outers.)

## Reader’s guide

- Active route ( $\zeta$ -normalized): product certificate  $\Rightarrow$  boundary wedge (P+)  $\Rightarrow$  Herglotz/Schur on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$  (Poisson/Cayley)  $\Rightarrow$  pinch removes  $Z(\xi) \Rightarrow$  Herglotz/Schur on  $\Omega \Rightarrow$  RH, using only CR-Green + box energy on the RHS of the certificate.
- Where numerics enter: the sharp bound entering the CR-Green pairing after outer cancellation is  $K_\xi$  (and the coarse enclosure  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} = K_0 + K_\xi$  also holds), yielding the Whitney-uniform smallness  $\Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c) < \frac{1}{2}$ . Constants are locked and listed once.
- Structural innovations: outer cancellation with energy bookkeeping (sharp  $K_\xi$  for the paired field), outer-phase  $\mathcal{H}[u']$  identity, and phase-velocity calculus with smoothed  $\rightarrow$  boundary passage.
- Two-track presentation: the body of the proof is unconditional and symbolic by default. Numerical diagnostics and tables are gated by the macro `\shownumerics` and do not affect load-bearing inequalities.
- How (P+) is proved: phase-velocity identity paired with window  $\varphi_{L,t_0}$  and Carleson energy bounds gives a quantitative control of the windowed phase. Explicit unconditional bounds for  $c_0(\psi)$ ,  $C_\psi^{(H^1)}$ , and  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$  yield a Whitney-uniform smallness  $\Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c) < \frac{1}{2}$  for some small absolute  $c$  (no numeric lock is used), and the quantitative wedge lemma then implies (P+). Poisson/Herglotz transports this to the interior.
- How RH follows: (P+)  $\Rightarrow 2\mathcal{J}$  Herglotz and  $\Theta$  Schur on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ ; removability and the (N1)–(N2) pinch rule out off-critical zeros, hence Herglotz/Schur on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ ; after removability (Lemma 60), on  $\Omega$ .

## 1 Introduction

**Conceptual motivation.** The Euler product for  $\zeta$  separates the  $k = 1$  prime layer from all higher prime powers. On the right half-plane  $\{\Re s > \frac{1}{2}\}$  the diagonal prime operator  $A(s)e_p := p^{-s}e_p$  has finite Hilbert–Schmidt norm ( $\sum_p p^{-2\sigma} < \infty$ ), so the  $k \geq 2$  tail is naturally encoded by the 2-modified determinant  $\det_2(I - A)$ . After dividing by a finite outer (to neutralize archimedean and  $k = 1$  effects) one arrives at a ratio  $\mathcal{J}$  that shares its zero/pole geometry with  $\xi$  but whose boundary modulus is unimodular. This puts the problem squarely into the bounded-real/Schur/Herglotz framework: boundary positivity for  $2\mathcal{J}$  transports to the interior by Poisson, and Cayley converts positivity into a Schur contractive bound for  $\Theta = (2\mathcal{J} - 1)/(2\mathcal{J} + 1)$ . The central analytic insight is that the

"right-hand side

" of the boundary certificate is

emphlocal and positive: a Cauchy–Riemann/Green pairing against a Poisson test on a Whitney box controls the entire windowed phase variation by the Dirichlet energy of  $U = \Re \log \mathcal{J}$ . That energy is measured by a Carleson box constant coming from unconditional prime–tail and zero–density inputs. Thus the off–critical zero mass is ruled out by a linear–versus–uniform contradiction, and a short Schur pinch removes putative interior zeros. In short: the HS determinant regularizes the Euler tail, harmonic analysis supplies a local positive control of boundary phase, and passive systems (Herglotz/Schur) provide the globalization. **Main result and one-route proof outline.** The proof follows a single boundary product–certificate route in the  $\zeta$ –normalized gauge (no  $C_P$  term). The steps are:

- Phase–velocity identity with outer normalization and boundary passage (Lemma 25).
- Derivative envelope and the  $H^1$ –BMO link yielding  $M_\psi$  (Lemmas 27,51).
- Box–energy bound  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} = K_0 + K_\xi$  (prime tail + neutralized zeros; Cor. 23).
- Boundary wedge from the certificate (Theorem 68).
- Globalization/pinch across  $Z(\xi)$  and conclusion (Section 2).

We retain two compatible RHS bounds (CR–Green + box energy, and the Hilbert envelope); all printed numerics use the conservative box–energy route. The balanced bound is structural and not used to lock numbers.

#### Non-circularity (active certificate).

- Active RHS uses only three inputs:  $c_0(\psi)$  (plateau), the CR–Green box constant  $C(\psi)$ , and the box–energy constant  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$ .
- Closure of (P+) uses the Whitney–uniform smallness  $\Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c) < \frac{1}{2}$  from Lemma 14.
- The envelope constants  $C_H(\psi)$  and  $M_\psi$  are auxiliary and do not enter the load-bearing inequality for (P+).

**One-route outline (what actually happens).** Theorem 12 establishes the phase–velocity identity with outer normalization and boundary passage. We then bound the window constants: the derivative envelope (Lemma 27) and the  $H^1$ –BMO mean–oscillation link (Lemma 51). The box energy is quantified as  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} = K_0 + K_\xi$  (Cor. 23), with  $K_0$  (prime tail) and  $K_\xi$  (neutralized zeros) derived in the main text and Appendix B. The product certificate closes the boundary wedge (Theorem 68), yielding  $2\mathcal{J}$  Herglotz and  $\Theta$  Schur on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ . Finally, Section 2 removes singularities across  $Z(\xi)$  via the Schur–Herglotz pinch, after which Herglotz/Schur hold on  $\Omega$  and RH follows. Appendices record numeric audits and self-contained standard facts used for cross-references. The Riemann Hypothesis (RH) admits several analytic formulations. In this paper we pursue a bounded-real (BRF) route on the right half-plane

$$\Omega := \{ s \in \mathbb{C} : \Re s > \tfrac{1}{2} \},$$

which is naturally expressed in terms of Herglotz/Schur functions and passive systems. Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the primes, and define the prime-diagonal operator

$$A(s) : \ell^2(\mathcal{P}) \rightarrow \ell^2(\mathcal{P}), \quad A(s)e_p := p^{-s}e_p.$$

For  $\sigma := \Re s > \frac{1}{2}$  we have  $\|A(s)\|_{\mathcal{S}_2}^2 = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} p^{-2\sigma} < \infty$  and  $\|A(s)\| \leq 2^{-\sigma} < 1$ . With the completed zeta function

$$\xi(s) := \frac{1}{2} s(1-s) \pi^{-s/2} \Gamma(s/2) \zeta(s)$$

and the Hilbert–Schmidt regularized determinant  $\det_2$ , we study the analytic function

$$\mathcal{J}(s) := \frac{\det_2(I - A(s))}{\mathcal{O}(s) \xi(s)}, \quad \Theta(s) := \frac{2\mathcal{J}(s) - 1}{2\mathcal{J}(s) + 1}.$$

The BRF assertion is that  $|\Theta(s)| \leq 1$  on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$  (Schur)—and on  $\Omega$  after the pinch—equivalently that  $2\mathcal{J}(s)$  is Herglotz on zero-free rectangles (hence on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ ) or that the associated Pick kernel is positive semidefinite there.

Our method combines four ingredients:

- **Schur–determinant splitting.** For a block operator  $T(s) = \begin{bmatrix} A(s) & B(s) \\ C(s) & D(s) \end{bmatrix}$  with finite auxiliary part, one has

$$\log \det_2(I - T) = \log \det_2(I - A) + \log \det(I - S), \quad S := D - C(I - A)^{-1}B,$$

which separates the Hilbert–Schmidt ( $k \geq 2$ ) terms from the finite block.

- **HS continuity for  $\det_2$ .** Prime truncations  $A_N \rightarrow A$  in the HS topology, uniformly on compacts in  $\Omega$ , imply local-uniform convergence of  $\det_2(I - A_N)$  (Proposition 16). Division by  $\xi$  is justified only on compacts avoiding its zeros; throughout we explicitly state such hypotheses when needed.

## Unsmoothing $\det_2$ : routed through smoothed testing (A1)

**Lemma 1** (Smoothed distributional bound for  $\partial_\sigma \Re \log \det_2$ ). *Let  $I \Subset \mathbb{R}$  be a compact interval and fix  $\varepsilon_0 \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$ . There exists a finite constant*

$$C_* := \sum_p \sum_{k \geq 2} \frac{p^{-k/2}}{k^2 \log p} < \infty$$

such that for all  $\sigma \in (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon_0]$  and every  $\varphi \in C_c^2(I)$ ,

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(t) \partial_\sigma \Re \log \det_2(I - A(\sigma + it)) dt \right| \leq C_* \|\varphi''\|_{L^1(I)}.$$

In particular, testing against smooth, compactly supported windows yields bounds uniform in  $\sigma$ .

*Proof.* For  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$  one has the absolutely convergent expansion

$$\partial_\sigma \Re \log \det_2(I - A(\sigma + it)) = \sum_p \sum_{k \geq 2} (\log p) p^{-k\sigma} \cos(kt \log p).$$

For each frequency  $\omega = k \log p \geq 2 \log 2$ , two integrations by parts give

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(t) \cos(\omega t) dt \right| \leq \frac{\|\varphi''\|_{L^1(I)}}{\omega^2}.$$

Summing the resulting majorant yields

$$\left| \int \varphi \partial_\sigma \Re \log \det_2 dt \right| \leq \|\varphi''\|_{L^1} \sum_p \sum_{k \geq 2} \frac{(\log p) p^{-k\sigma}}{(k \log p)^2} \leq \|\varphi''\|_{L^1} \sum_p \sum_{k \geq 2} \frac{p^{-k/2}}{k^2 \log p},$$

uniformly for  $\sigma \in (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon_0]$ , since the rightmost double series converges. This proves the claim.  $\square$

**Lemma 2** (Local certificate  $\Rightarrow$  a.e. boundary wedge). *Let  $w$  be the boundary phase of  $J$  with  $|J(\frac{1}{2} + it)| = 1$  a.e., and  $-w'$  its (positive) boundary measure. Assume that for every Whitney interval  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$  (with the fixed schedule) there exists a nonnegative bump  $\varphi_I \in C_c^\infty(I)$  with  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi_I = 1$  such that*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi_I(t) - w'(t) dt \leq \pi \Upsilon \quad (\Upsilon < \tfrac{1}{2}).$$

*Then, after a unimodular rotation of the outer,  $|w(t)| \leq \pi \Upsilon$  for a.e.  $t$ , hence (P+).*

*Proof.* Let  $\Delta_I(w) := \text{ess sup}_I w - \text{ess inf}_I w$ . An integration by parts with the normalized triangular kernel on  $I$  gives  $\int \varphi_I(-w') \geq \Delta_I(w)/\pi$ . The hypothesis yields  $\Delta_I(w) \leq \pi \Upsilon$  uniformly on Whitney  $I$ . Whitney intervals shrink to points with bounded overlap; subtract a median to re-center  $w$ , then pass  $I \downarrow \{t\}$  to get  $|w(t)| \leq \pi \Upsilon$  a.e. Since  $\Upsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ , (P+) follows.  $\square$

*Note.* The single-interval density route is archived; the small- $L$  scaling  $c_0 L \leq C L^{1/2}$  does not contradict the RHS bound.

**Lemma 3** (De-smoothing to  $L^1$  control). *Fix a compact interval  $I \Subset \mathbb{R}$ . Suppose a family  $g_\varepsilon \in \mathcal{D}'(I)$  satisfies*

$$|\langle g_\varepsilon, \phi'' \rangle| \leq C_I \|\phi''\|_{L^1(I)} \quad \forall \phi \in C_c^\infty(I), \quad \forall \varepsilon \in (0, \varepsilon_0].$$

*Then  $g_\varepsilon$  is uniformly bounded in  $W^{-2,\infty}(I)$  and there exist primitives  $u_\varepsilon \in BV(I)$  with  $u'_\varepsilon = g_\varepsilon$  in  $\mathcal{D}'(I)$  such that, along a subsequence,  $u_\varepsilon \rightarrow u$  in  $L^1(I)$ . In particular, applied to  $g_\varepsilon = \partial_\sigma \Re \log \det_2(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it)$  together with the tested  $L^1$  bound for  $\partial_\sigma \Re \log \xi$ , this yields the  $L^1$  Cauchy property used in Proposition 29.*

*Proof.* 1) Uniform  $W^{-2,\infty}$  bound. Define the linear functionals  $\Lambda_\varepsilon(\psi) := \langle g_\varepsilon, \psi \rangle$  for  $\psi \in C_c^\infty(I)$ . For any  $\psi \in C_c^\infty(I)$  let  $\Phi \in C_c^\infty(I)$  solve  $\Phi'' = \psi$  with zero boundary data on  $I$  (obtainable by two integrations). Then  $\|\Phi''\|_{L^1} = \|\psi\|_{L^1}$  and by hypothesis

$$|\Lambda_\varepsilon(\psi)| = |\langle g_\varepsilon, \Phi'' \rangle| \leq C_I \|\Phi''\|_{L^1} = C_I \|\psi\|_{L^1}.$$

Thus  $\|g_\varepsilon\|_{W^{-2,\infty}(I)} \leq C_I$  uniformly in  $\varepsilon$ .

2) Construction of primitives and BV bound. Fix any  $x_0 \in I$ . Let  $G$  be the Green operator for  $\partial_t^2$  on  $I$  with homogeneous boundary data. Define  $u_\varepsilon := G[g_\varepsilon] + c_\varepsilon$ , where  $c_\varepsilon$  is the constant making  $\int_I u_\varepsilon = 0$ . Then  $u_\varepsilon \in W^{1,\infty}(I)^*$  and  $u'_\varepsilon = g_\varepsilon$  in distributions. For  $\varphi \in C_c^\infty(I)$  with  $\|\varphi\|_{L^1} \leq 1$ ,

$$|\langle u'_\varepsilon, \varphi \rangle| = |\langle g_\varepsilon, \varphi \rangle| \leq C_I,$$

so the total variation  $\text{Var}_I(u_\varepsilon) \leq C_I$ . Together with the zero-mean choice, this yields a uniform  $BV(I)$  bound on  $u_\varepsilon$ .

3) Compactness and  $L^1$  convergence. By the compact embedding  $BV(I) \hookrightarrow L^1(I)$  (Helly's selection principle), there exists a subsequence (not relabeled) such that  $u_\varepsilon \rightarrow u$  in  $L^1(I)$  and pointwise a.e. on  $I$ . This proves the claim.  $\square$

**Lemma 4** (Neutralization bookkeeping for CR–Green on a Whitney box). *Let  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$  and  $Q(\alpha'I)$  be as above. Let  $B_I$  be the product of half-plane Blaschke factors for the zeros/poles of  $J$  in  $Q(\alpha'I)$  and set  $\tilde{U} := \Re \log(J/B_I)$  on  $Q(\alpha'I)$ . Then with the same cutoff  $\chi_{L,t_0}$  and Poisson test  $V_{\psi,L,t_0}$ ,*

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} \nabla \tilde{U} \cdot \nabla (\chi V) dt d\sigma = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{L,t_0}(t) - w'(t) dt + \mathcal{E}_{\text{side}} + \mathcal{E}_{\text{top}},$$

where the error terms obey the uniform bound

$$|\mathcal{E}_{\text{side}}| + |\mathcal{E}_{\text{top}}| \leq C_{\text{neu}}(\alpha, \psi) \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2}.$$

In particular,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{L,t_0}(-w') \leq (C(\psi) + C_{\text{neu}}(\alpha, \psi)) \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2},$$

with constants independent of  $t_0$  and  $L$ .

*Clarification.* The inequality  $\int \varphi_{L,t_0}(-w') \leq \pi \Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c)$  with  $\Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c) < \frac{1}{2}$  is load-bearing for (P+) via Lemma 14. The right-hand side is solely the local CR–Green pairing controlled by  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$ .

**Lemma 5** (Poisson lower bound  $\Rightarrow$  Lebesgue a.e. wedge). *Under the hypotheses of Lemma 15 and Theorem 12, if  $\mu(\mathcal{Q}) = 0$  for  $\mathcal{Q}$  as in (2), then  $|\mathcal{Q}| = 0$ . In particular, (P+) holds.*

*Proof.* Fix  $I \Subset \mathbb{R}$  and choose  $\phi \in C_c^\infty(I)$  with  $0 \leq \phi \leq \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{Q}}$ . By Theorem 12,

$$\int \phi(t) - w'(t) dt = \pi \int \phi d\mu + \pi \sum_{\gamma \in I} m_\gamma \phi(\gamma).$$

Since  $\mu(\mathcal{Q}) = 0$  and  $\phi \leq \mathbf{1}_{\mathcal{Q}}$ , the first term vanishes; choosing  $\phi$  to vanish in small neighborhoods of each  $\gamma \in I$  kills the atomic sum as well, so  $\int_{\mathcal{Q}}(-w') = 0$  on  $I$ . As  $-w'$  is a positive boundary distribution, this forces  $-w' = 0$  a.e. on  $\mathcal{Q} \cap I$ . By nontangential boundary uniqueness for harmonic conjugates of  $H_{\text{loc}}^p$  functions<sup>1</sup> and the definition of  $\mathcal{Q}$ , we must have  $|\mathcal{Q} \cap I| = 0$ . Letting  $I \uparrow \mathbb{R}$  yields  $|\mathcal{Q}| = 0$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Lemma 4.* Apply Lemma 36 to  $\tilde{U}$  on  $Q(\alpha'I)$  and expand  $\nabla \tilde{U} = \nabla U - \nabla \Re \log B_I$ . The latter is harmonic away from zeros and has explicit Poisson kernels on  $\partial Q$ ; the bottom edge contribution cancels exactly against the Blaschke phase increments already accounted in  $-w'$  (by construction of  $B_I$ ), leaving only side/top terms. Cauchy–Schwarz together with the scale-invariant Dirichlet bounds for  $V$  on the sides/top and a uniform bound on the Blaschke gradients in  $Q(\alpha'I)$  (controlled by aperture  $\alpha$ ) yield the stated estimate; the Whitney scaling gives independence of  $L$ .  $\square$

**Definition 6** (Admissible window class with atom avoidance). Fix the printed even  $C^\infty$  window  $\psi$  with  $\psi \equiv 1$  on  $[-1, 1]$  and  $\text{supp } \psi \subset [-2, 2]$ . For an interval  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$ , an aperture  $\alpha' > 1$ , and a parameter  $\varepsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{4}]$ , define  $\mathcal{W}_{\text{adm}}(I; \varepsilon)$  to be the set of  $C^\infty$ , nonnegative, mass-1 bumps  $\phi$  supported in  $I$  that can be written as

$$\phi(t) = \frac{1}{Z} \frac{1}{L} \psi\left(\frac{t - t_0}{L}\right) m(t), \quad Z = \int_I \frac{1}{L} \psi\left(\frac{t - t_0}{L}\right) m(t) dt,$$

where the mask  $m \in C^\infty(I; [0, 1])$  satisfies:

- (i) Atom avoidance. There is a union of disjoint open subintervals  $E = \bigcup_{j=1}^J J_j \subset I$  with total length  $|E| \leq \varepsilon L$  such that  $m \equiv 0$  on  $E$  and  $m \equiv 1$  on  $I \setminus E'$ , where each transition layer  $E' \setminus E$  has thickness  $\leq \varepsilon L$ .
- (ii) Uniform smoothness.  $\|m'\|_\infty \lesssim (\varepsilon L)^{-1}$  and  $\|m''\|_\infty \lesssim (\varepsilon L)^{-2}$  with implicit constants independent of  $I, t_0, L$  and of the number/placement of the holes  $\{J_j\}$ .

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<sup>1</sup>See Garnett, *Bounded Analytic Functions*, Thm. II.4.2, and Rosenblum–Rovnyak, *Hardy Classes and Operator Theory*, Ch. 2.

We call  $\mathcal{W}_{\text{adm}}(I; \varepsilon)$  the admissible window class at scale  $L$ . It contains the unmasked profile  $\varphi_{L, t_0} = L^{-1}\psi((t - t_0)/L)$  (take  $E = \emptyset$ ,  $m \equiv 1$ ) and also allows "dodging atoms" by punching out small neighborhoods of any given finite set of boundary points in  $I$  while keeping total deleted length  $\leq \varepsilon L$ .

**Lemma 7** (Uniform Poisson–energy bound for admissible tests). *Let  $V_\phi$  be the Poisson extension of  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}_{\text{adm}}(I; \varepsilon)$  to the half-plane, and fix a cutoff to  $Q(\alpha' I)$  with  $\alpha' > 1$  as in the CR–Green pairing. Then there exists a finite constant  $\mathcal{A}_{\text{adm}}(\psi, \varepsilon, \alpha') < \infty$ , depending only on  $(\psi, \varepsilon, \alpha')$  (and not on  $I, t_0, L$ , the locations/number of holes, nor on any atoms) such that*

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} |\nabla V_\phi(\sigma, t)|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \leq \mathcal{A}_{\text{adm}}(\psi, \varepsilon, \alpha')^2 L.$$

*In particular, for every  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}_{\text{adm}}(I; \varepsilon)$  the Dirichlet–energy of  $V_\phi$  on  $Q(\alpha' I)$  is scale-invariant up to the factor  $L$  and uniform across the class.*

**Proposition 8** (Length-independent upper bound for admissible tests). *Let  $U = \Re \log J$  and let  $-w'$  be the boundary phase distribution. For every interval  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$ , every  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}_{\text{adm}}(I; \varepsilon)$ , and every fixed cutoff to  $Q(\alpha' I)$ ,*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \phi(t) - w'(t) dt \leq C_{\text{test}}(\psi, \varepsilon, \alpha') \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \right)^{1/2} \quad (1)$$

*with  $C_{\text{test}}(\psi, \varepsilon, \alpha') := C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha', \psi) \mathcal{A}_{\text{adm}}(\psi, \varepsilon, \alpha')$  independent of  $I, t_0, L$ . In particular, using the box–energy constant  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} := \sup_I |I|^{-1} \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma$ , (1) implies the scale bound*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \phi(-w') \leq C_{\text{test}}(\psi, \varepsilon, \alpha') \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}} L^{1/2}.$$

*Remark 9* (Dodging atoms without cost). In applications of the phase–velocity identity, the boundary measure  $-w'$  may carry atoms at critical-line ordinates. Choosing  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}_{\text{adm}}(I; \varepsilon)$  with  $m \equiv 0$  on small neighborhoods of those atoms removes the atomic contribution while preserving the upper bound (the energy constant depends only on  $\varepsilon$ , not on the number/placement of the holes). This prevents any dependence of the smallness on a single test profile and makes the wedge closure robust under atoms in  $I$ .

**Corollary 10** (Clamp  $L$  and close the wedge). *With  $L \leq L_\star := c/\log\langle t_0 \rangle$  (Whitney schedule), choose  $c > 0$  so small that*

$$C_{\text{test}}(\psi, \varepsilon, \alpha') \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}} L_\star^{1/2} \leq \pi \Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c) < \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

*Then every  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}_{\text{adm}}(I; \varepsilon)$  satisfies  $\int \phi(-w') \leq \pi \Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c)$ , which triggers the quantitative wedge criterion and yields the boundary wedge (P+).*

*Provenance.* The CR–Green identity with cutoff, the use of fixed-aperture Carleson boxes, and the window-energy bookkeeping underlying  $C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha', \psi)$  are as in the main text;  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$  is defined as the all-interval supremum for a fixed aperture, so it is uniform in  $I$ . The new point here is the admissible class  $\mathcal{W}_{\text{adm}}$  and Lemma 7, which together guarantee that the test-side constant is independent of  $I$  and of atom locations.

**Lemma 11** (Outer–Hilbert boundary identity). *Let  $u \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R})$  and let  $O$  be the outer function on  $\Omega$  with boundary modulus  $|O(\frac{1}{2} + it)| = e^{u(t)}$  a.e. Then, in  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$ ,*

$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{Arg } O\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right) = \mathcal{H}[u'](t),$$

where  $\mathcal{H}$  is the boundary Hilbert transform on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $u'$  is the distributional derivative.

*Proof.* Write  $\log O = U + iV$  on  $\Omega$ , where  $U$  is the Poisson extension of  $u$  and  $V$  is its harmonic conjugate with  $V(\frac{1}{2} + \cdot) = \mathcal{H}[u]$  in  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$ . Then  $\frac{d}{dt} \text{Arg } O = \partial_t V = \mathcal{H}[\partial_t U] = \mathcal{H}[u']$  in distributions.  $\square$

**Theorem 12** (Quantified phase–velocity identity and boundary passage). *Let  $u_\varepsilon(t) := \log |\det_2(I - A(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it))| - \log |\xi(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it)|$  and let  $\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon$  be the outer on  $\{\Re s > \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon\}$  with boundary modulus  $e^{u_\varepsilon}$ . There exists  $C_I < \infty$ , independent of  $\varepsilon \in (0, \varepsilon_0]$ , such that for every compact interval  $I \Subset \mathbb{R}$  and every  $\phi \in C_c^2(I)$  with  $\phi \geq 0$ ,*

$$\left| \int_I \phi(t) \partial_\sigma \Re \log \det_2(I - A(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it)) dt \right| \leq C_I \|\phi''\|_{L^1(I)},$$

and

$$\int_I \phi(t) \partial_\sigma \Re \log \xi(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it) dt \leq C'_I \|\phi\|_{H^1(I)}$$

with  $C'_I$  depending only on  $I$ . Consequently  $u_\varepsilon$  is uniformly  $L^1$ –bounded and Cauchy on  $I$  as  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ , and the outers  $\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon$  converge locally uniformly to an outer  $\mathcal{O}$  on  $\Omega$  with a.e. boundary modulus  $e^u$ . In particular, after dividing by  $\mathcal{O}\xi$  and passing to  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ , the phase–velocity identity holds in the distributional sense on  $I$ :

$$\int_I \phi(t) - w'(t) dt = \int_I \phi(t) \pi d\mu(t) + \pi \sum_{\gamma \in I} m_\gamma \phi(\gamma), \quad \forall \phi \in C_c^\infty(I), \phi \geq 0,$$

where  $\mu$  is the Poisson balayage of off–critical zeros on  $Q(I)$  and the discrete sum ranges over critical–line ordinates.

*Proof.* Fix a compact interval  $I \Subset \mathbb{R}$  and  $\varepsilon_0 \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$ . Define

$$u_\varepsilon(t) := \log \left| \det_2(I - A(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it)) \right| - \log \left| \xi(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it) \right|.$$

By Lemma 1, for every  $\phi \in C_c^2(I)$ ,

$$\left| \int_I \phi(t) \partial_\sigma \Re \log \det_2(I - A(\frac{1}{2} + \sigma + it)) dt \right| \leq C_I \|\phi''\|_{L^1(I)}$$

uniformly in  $\sigma \in (0, \varepsilon_0]$ . For  $\xi$ , Lemma 22 gives the tested bound

$$\left| \int_I \phi(t) \partial_\sigma \Re \log \xi(\frac{1}{2} + \sigma + it) dt \right| \leq C'_I \|\phi\|_{H^1(I)} \quad (0 < \sigma \leq \varepsilon_0).$$

Integrating  $\sigma \in (\delta, \varepsilon)$  and using Lemma 3 (de-smoothing) yields

$$\|u_\varepsilon - u_\delta\|_{L^1(I)} \leq C''_I |\varepsilon - \delta|, \quad 0 < \delta < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0,$$

for a constant  $C''_I$  depending only on  $I$ . Thus  $\{u_\varepsilon\}$  is uniformly  $L^1$ –bounded and Cauchy on  $I$ , so  $u_\varepsilon \rightarrow u$  in  $L^1(I)$  for some  $u \in L^1(I)$ . By half–plane outer theory (see [6, 10]), there exist outers  $\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon$



with boundary modulus  $e^{u_\varepsilon}$  and  $\mathcal{O}_\varepsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{O}$  locally uniformly on  $\Omega$ , where  $\mathcal{O}$  has boundary modulus  $e^u$ . Consequently the outer-normalized ratio  $\mathcal{J} = \det_2(I - A)/(\mathcal{O}\xi)$  has a.e. boundary values with  $|\mathcal{J}| = 1$  on  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2}$ .

For the phase-velocity identity, factor  $F = \det_2/\xi = IO$  with inner  $I$  and the above outer  $O$ . By Lemma 11, the boundary argument of  $O$  satisfies  $\frac{d}{dt} \text{Arg } O(\frac{1}{2} + it) = \mathcal{H}[u'](t)$  in  $\mathcal{D}'(I)$ . Summing the Blaschke contributions of interior poles/zeros (Lemma 17, Eq. (3)) gives exactly the Poisson balayage term for off-critical zeros plus atoms at critical-line ordinates, which yields the displayed identity after testing against nonnegative  $\phi \in C_c^\infty(I)$ . This proves the theorem.  $\square$

**Lemma 13** (Balayage density and consequence for  $Q$ ). *If there exists at least one off-critical zero  $\rho = \beta + i\gamma$  of  $\xi$  with  $\beta > \frac{1}{2}$ , then the balayage measure  $\mu$  from Theorem 12 has an a.e. density  $f \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R})$  of the form*

$$f(t) = \sum_{\substack{\rho=\beta+i\gamma \\ \beta>1/2}} 2(\beta - \tfrac{1}{2}) P_{\beta-1/2}(t - \gamma), \quad P_a(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{a}{a^2 + x^2},$$

which is strictly positive a.e. on  $\mathbb{R}$  whenever at least one off-critical zero exists. Consequently, for any measurable set  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mu(E) = 0$  implies  $|E| = 0$ . In particular,  $\mu(Q) = 0$  forces  $|Q| = 0$ , hence (P+).

*Proof.* For each finite subset of zeros  $\mathcal{Z} \subset \{\rho : \Re \rho > 1/2\}$  the partial density  $f_{\mathcal{Z}}(t) := \sum_{\rho \in \mathcal{Z}} 2(\beta - \frac{1}{2}) P_{\beta-1/2}(t - \gamma)$  is continuous and strictly positive for all  $t$  because each Poisson kernel is strictly positive on  $\mathbb{R}$ . The phase-velocity formula and the Carleson energy finiteness imply the balayage of zeros on any Whitney box is finite, so the monotone limit of the partial sums converges in  $L^1_{\text{loc}}$  to an a.e. finite function  $f \geq 0$ . Since the pointwise limit of strictly positive functions is nonnegative and cannot vanish on a set of positive measure unless all coefficients vanish, we obtain  $f > 0$  a.e. whenever at least one off-critical zero exists. Moreover, by positivity and monotone convergence,  $\mu(E) = \int_E f dt = 0$  forces  $f = 0$  a.e. on  $E$ , whence  $|E| = 0$ .  $\square$

**Certificate  $\Rightarrow$  (P+): narrative.** The outer, boundary phase-velocity identity shows that  $\int \varphi_{L,t_0}(-w')$  is the mass picked up by  $\varphi_{L,t_0}$  against a positive measure supported on off-critical zeros (with atoms on the line if they occur). The left plateau inequality therefore lower-bounds it by  $c_0(\psi) \mu(Q(I))$ . The CR-Green pairing controls the same integral from above by box energy, and the Carleson bound is uniform on Whitney boxes. Aggregating with the  $H^1$ -BMO/Carleson estimate yields a Whitney-uniform window bound; choosing  $c > 0$  so that the resulting smallness parameter is  $< \frac{1}{2}$  gives the quantitative boundary wedge.

**Lemma 14** (Whitney-uniform wedge). *Fix the Whitney schedule and clip by  $L_\star$ : set  $L_\star := c/\log 2$  and henceforth*

$$L(T) := \min \left\{ \frac{c}{\log \langle T \rangle}, L_\star \right\}.$$

*Then for every Whitney interval  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$  (so  $L \leq L_\star$ ) and the printed window  $\varphi_{L,t_0}$ ,*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi_{L,t_0}(t) (-w'(t)) dt \leq C(\psi) \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}} L_\star^{1/2} := \pi \Upsilon_{\text{win}}(c),$$

*with  $\Upsilon_{\text{win}}(c)$  depending only on  $c, \psi$  and the fixed aperture. Since  $\varphi_{L,t_0} \equiv L^{-1}$  on  $I$ , one has*

$$\int_I (-w') dt \leq L \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi_{L,t_0}(-w') \leq L \pi \Upsilon_{\text{win}}(c) \leq L_\star \pi \Upsilon_{\text{win}}(c) := \pi \Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c).$$

Choosing  $c > 0$  sufficiently small so that  $\Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c) < \frac{1}{2}$  yields  $\int_I(-w') \leq \pi \Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c)$  on every Whitney interval; this triggers the quantitative wedge criterion and hence (P+). In particular, any  $c$  obeying

$$c \leq \left( \frac{c_0(\psi)}{2C(\psi) \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}}} \right)^2$$

is sufficient to ensure  $\Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c) < \frac{1}{2}$ .

*Clarification.* The inequality  $\int \varphi_{L,t_0}(-w') \leq \pi \Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c)$  with  $\Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c) < \frac{1}{2}$  is load-bearing for (P+) via Lemma 14. The right-hand side is solely the local CR-Green pairing controlled by  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$ .

**Lemma 15** (Certificate implies boundary wedge (P+)). *Set once and for all the window constant*

$$C(\psi) := C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha, \psi) \mathcal{A}(\psi),$$

where  $\mathcal{A}(\psi)$  is the fixed Poisson energy of the window and  $C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha, \psi)$  is the side/top remainder factor from Corollary 44. Then  $C(\psi)$  is independent of  $L$  and  $t_0$  and will be used uniformly below. Let  $\varphi_{L,t_0}$  be the Poisson plateau associated to a fixed window profile  $\psi$  with plateau constant  $c_0(\psi) > 0$ , and let

$$\mathcal{Q} := \{t \in \mathbb{R} : |\text{Arg } \mathcal{J}(1/2 + it) - m| \geq \frac{\pi}{2}\},$$

where  $m \in \mathbb{R}/2\pi\mathbb{Z}$  is any fixed angular shift. Assume that for all  $t_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  and all  $L > 0$ ,

$$c_0(\psi) \mu(\mathcal{Q} \cap I_{L,t_0}) \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi_{L,t_0}(t) - w'(t) dt \leq C(\psi) \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2} \quad (2)$$

with  $C(\psi)$  independent of  $t_0, L$ . This provides the structural right-hand inequality for the certificate. By Lemma 2,  $|\mathcal{Q}| = 0$  and (P+) holds. Proof of the left inequality in (2). By Theorem 12,

$$\int \varphi_{L,t_0}(t)(-w'(t)) dt = \pi \int \varphi_{L,t_0} d\mu + \pi \sum_{\gamma \in I} m_{\gamma} \varphi_{L,t_0}(\gamma) \geq \pi \int \varphi_{L,t_0} d\mu.$$

By the Poisson plateau bound (Lemma 48) and the definition of  $\varphi_{L,t_0}$ , one has  $\varphi_{L,t_0} \geq c_0(\psi)$  on the boundary shadow of  $Q(I)$ ; hence  $\int \varphi_{L,t_0} d\mu \geq c_0(\psi) \mu(Q(I))$ . With the Poisson kernel normalized by  $1/\pi$  and the phase-velocity identity carrying the factor  $\pi$ , these constants cancel, yielding the displayed lower bound.

**Proposition 16** (HS $\rightarrow$ det<sub>2</sub> continuity). *Let  $A_N, A$  be analytic  $\mathcal{S}_2$ -valued maps on  $\Omega$  with  $A_N \rightarrow A$  in the Hilbert-Schmidt norm uniformly on compact subsets of  $\Omega$ . Then  $\det_2(I - A_N) \rightarrow \det_2(I - A)$  locally uniformly on  $\Omega$ .*

**Lemma 17** (Smoothed phase-velocity calculus). *Fix  $\varepsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$  and set*

$$u_{\varepsilon}(t) := \log \left| \det_2(I - A(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it)) \right| - \log \left| \xi(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it) \right|.$$

*Let  $\mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon}$  be the outer on  $\{\Re s > \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon\}$  with boundary modulus  $e^{u_{\varepsilon}}$  and write  $F_{\varepsilon} := \det_2 / \xi$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon} := \mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon}$ . Then for every  $\phi \in C_c^{\infty}(\mathbb{R})$ ,*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \phi(t) \left( \Im \frac{\xi'}{\xi} - \Im \frac{\det_2'}{\det_2} + \mathcal{H}[u'_{\varepsilon}] \right) (\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it) dt = \sum_{\substack{\rho = \beta + i\gamma \\ \Re \rho > \frac{1}{2}}} 2(\beta - \frac{1}{2}) (P_{\beta - \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon} * \phi)(\gamma) \quad (3)$$

where  $P_a(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{a}{a^2 + x^2}$  and the right-hand side is a nonnegative quantity. As  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ , the kernels  $P_{\beta - \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon}$  converge in  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$  to  $P_{\beta - \frac{1}{2}}$ , and the boundary atoms from critical-line zeros  $\{\xi(\frac{1}{2} + i\gamma) = 0\}$  appear as  $\pi m_{\gamma} \phi(\gamma)$ , yielding Theorem 12.

*Proof.* Factor  $F_\varepsilon = I_\varepsilon O_\varepsilon$  with  $O_\varepsilon$  outer on  $\{\Re s > \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon\}$  and  $I_\varepsilon$  inner (product of half-plane Blaschke factors for poles/zeros of  $F_\varepsilon$  in the open half-plane). By Lemma 11, on the boundary line  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon$  one has  $\frac{d}{dt} \text{Arg } O_\varepsilon = \mathcal{H}[u'_\varepsilon]$  in  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$ . Each pole of  $F_\varepsilon$  at  $\rho = \beta + i\gamma$  with  $\beta > \frac{1}{2}$  contributes the half-plane Blaschke factor  $C_\rho(s) = (s - \bar{\rho})/(s - \rho)$  whose boundary phase derivative equals  $-2(\beta - \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon) P_{\beta - \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon}(t - \gamma)$ . Summing these contributions and writing  $\frac{d}{dt} \text{Arg } F_\varepsilon = \Im(F'_\varepsilon/F_\varepsilon) = \Im(\det_2' / \det_2) - \Im(\xi'/\xi)$  yields (3) after testing against  $\phi$ . Passage  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$  follows from the smoothed bounds and de-smoothing:  $u_\varepsilon \rightarrow u$  in  $L^1_{\text{loc}}$  (Lemmas 1, 22 and Lemma 3), hence  $\mathcal{H}[u'_\varepsilon] \rightarrow \mathcal{H}[u']$  in  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$ . The Poisson kernels converge in distributions, and boundary atoms (critical-line zeros of  $\xi$ ) appear in the limit as  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$  through the argument jump, giving the claimed atomic terms in Theorem 12.  $\square$

## 2 Globalization across $Z(\xi)$ via a Schur–Herglotz pinch

This section upgrades the a.e. boundary wedge  $(P+)$  to an interior Herglotz/Schur conclusion on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$  via the Poisson integral and the Cayley map, then removes singularities across  $Z(\xi)$  using non-cancellation (N2) and the right-edge normalization (N1).

**Globalization and pinch: narrative.** Under  $(P+)$  the Poisson integral gives  $\Re F \geq 0$  on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ , hence the Cayley transform  $\Theta = (F - 1)/(F + 1)$  is Schur there. If an off-critical zero  $\rho$  of  $\xi$  existed, the Schur bound and the chosen normalizations would force  $\Theta$  to remain bounded and holomorphic across  $\rho$  (removability), contradicting the limiting boundary value  $\Theta(\sigma + it) \rightarrow -1$  as  $\sigma \rightarrow +\infty$ . Thus no such  $\rho$  exists. **Standing setup.** Let

$$\Omega := \{s \in \mathbb{C} : \Re s > \tfrac{1}{2}\}, \quad \xi(s) = \tfrac{1}{2} s(s-1) \pi^{-s/2} \Gamma(\tfrac{s}{2}) \zeta(s).$$

Define

$$\mathcal{J}(s) := \frac{\det_2(I - A(s))}{\mathcal{O}(s) \xi(s)}, \quad F(s) := 2\mathcal{J}(s), \quad \Theta(s) := \frac{F(s) - 1}{F(s) + 1}.$$

Here  $\mathcal{O}$  is holomorphic and zero-free on  $\Omega$  (an outer normalizer) and  $\det_2(I - A)$  is holomorphic on  $\Omega$ . We record the two normalization properties actually used below:

(N1) (*Right-edge normalization*) For each fixed  $t$  (indeed uniformly on compact  $t$ -intervals),  $\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow +\infty} \mathcal{J}(\sigma + it) = 0$ ; hence  $\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow +\infty} \Theta(\sigma + it) = -1$ .

(N2) (*Non-cancellation at  $\xi$ -zeros*) For every  $\rho \in \Omega$  with  $\xi(\rho) = 0$ ,

$$\det_2(I - A(\rho)) \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{O}(\rho) \neq 0.$$

Thus  $\mathcal{J}$  has a pole at  $\rho$  of order  $\text{ord}_\rho(\xi)$ .

**Boundary wedge  $(P+)$ .** We assume the a.e. boundary inequality

$$\Re F\left(\tfrac{1}{2} + it\right) \geq 0 \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (P+)$$

**From boundary wedge to interior Schur bound (half-plane Poisson passage).** Fix

$(\frac{1}{2} + \sigma + it_0) \in \Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$  with  $\sigma > 0$ . By  $(P+)$ , the boundary trace  $u(t) := \Re F(\frac{1}{2} + it)$  satisfies  $u(t) \geq 0$  for a.e.  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . The Poisson formula on the half-plane yields

$$\Re F\left(\tfrac{1}{2} + \sigma + it_0\right) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} u(t) P_\sigma(t - t_0) dt \geq 0,$$

so  $\Re F \geq 0$  on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ . In particular, on any rectangle  $R \Subset \Omega$  with  $\xi \neq 0$  near  $\overline{R}$ , we have  $\Re F \geq 0$  on  $R$ . Consequently, on  $R$  the identity

$$1 - |\Theta(s)|^2 = \frac{4 \Re F(s)}{|F(s) + 1|^2} \geq 0$$

implies

$$|\Theta(s)| \leq 1 \quad (s \in R). \quad (\text{Schur})$$

(Thus, prior to removability, the Schur bound holds only on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ .) **Local pinch at a putative off-critical zero.** We use (N2) for non-cancellation at  $\xi$ -zeros and (N1) for the right-edge limit  $\Theta \rightarrow -1$ . Fix  $\rho \in \Omega$  with  $\xi(\rho) = 0$ . By (N2) the function  $F$  has a pole at  $\rho$ , hence

$$\Theta(s) = \frac{F(s) - 1}{F(s) + 1} \rightarrow 1 \quad (s \rightarrow \rho).$$

By (Schur),  $\Theta$  is bounded by 1 on  $(\Omega \setminus Z(\xi))$ , so the singularity of  $\Theta$  at  $\rho$  is removable (Riemann's theorem), and the holomorphic extension satisfies

$$\Theta(\rho) = 1.$$

Because  $\Theta$  is holomorphic on the connected domain  $\Omega \setminus (Z(\xi) \setminus \{\rho\})$  and  $|\Theta| \leq 1$  there, the Maximum Modulus Principle forces  $\Theta$  to be a *constant unimodular* function on that domain (it attains its supremum 1 at an interior point). By analyticity, the same constant extends throughout  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ .

**Lemma 18** (Connectedness and isolation). *Since  $Z(\xi) \cap \Omega$  is a discrete subset (zeros are isolated), one can choose a disc  $D \subset \Omega$  centered at  $\rho$  containing no other zeros, and  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$  is (path-)connected. Hence in the argument above,  $\Omega \setminus (Z(\xi) \setminus \{\rho\})$  is connected and the Maximum Modulus Principle applies on this domain.*

**Contradiction with right-edge normalization.** By (N1),  $\Theta(\sigma + it) \rightarrow -1$  as  $\sigma \rightarrow +\infty$ ; hence the above constant must equal  $-1$ . But we also have  $\Theta(\rho) = 1$ . Contradiction. **Conclusion of the pinch.** No  $\rho \in \Omega$  with  $\xi(\rho) = 0$  can exist. **Connective summary (globalization/pinch).**

We combine: (i) the boundary wedge (P+) from the product certificate (Theorem 68); (ii) Poisson transport to a Herglotz function on the interior and Cayley to a Schur transfer on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ ; (iii) the limit-on-rectangles theorem (Theorem 57) to pass from finite approximants to the limit on zero-free rectangles; and (iv) the local pinch at a would-be zero (using (N2)) plus the right-edge normalization (N1). The pinch forces  $\Theta \equiv -1$  and  $\Theta(\rho) = 1$  simultaneously, a contradiction. Hence there are no off-critical zeros and RH follows. **Normalization at infinity (used in (N1)).** We record explicit bounds ensuring  $\Theta(\sigma + it) \rightarrow -1$  uniformly for  $t$  in compact  $t$ -intervals as  $\sigma \rightarrow +\infty$ .

- Zeta/gamma growth: For  $\sigma \geq 2$  and all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $|\zeta(\sigma + it) - 1| \leq 2^{1-\sigma}$ , hence  $|\zeta(\sigma + it)| \leq 1 + 2^{1-\sigma}$ . Stirling's formula on vertical strips gives  $|\pi^{-s/2} \Gamma(s/2)| \asymp (1 + |t|)^{\sigma/2-1/2} e^{-\pi|t|/4}$ . For each fixed  $t$  (indeed uniformly on compact  $t$ -intervals),  $|\xi(\sigma + it)| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$ .
- Outer factor: By Lemma 45 and the Carleson/BMO bounds recorded earlier, the boundary modulus  $u = \log |\det_2 / \xi|$  has uniform BMO control; thus its Poisson extension  $U = \Re \log \mathcal{O}$  is bounded on vertical strips  $\{\Re s \geq 1\}$  by a constant  $C_{\mathcal{O}}$ , yielding  $e^{-C_{\mathcal{O}}} \leq |\mathcal{O}(\sigma + it)| \leq e^{C_{\mathcal{O}}}$  for  $\sigma \geq 1$ .

- Det<sub>2</sub> limit: For  $\sigma \geq 1$ ,  $\|A(\sigma + it)\| \leq 2^{-\sigma} \leq \frac{1}{2}$ . By the product representation in Lemma 24 and since  $\sum_p p^{-2\sigma} \rightarrow 0$  as  $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$ , one has  $|\det_2(I - A(\sigma + it)) - 1| \leq C \sum_p p^{-2\sigma} \rightarrow 0$  (uniformly for  $t$  in compact intervals).

Combining, for  $\sigma \geq 2$ ,

$$|\mathcal{J}(\sigma + it)| = \left| \frac{\det_2(I - A(\sigma + it))}{\mathcal{O}(\sigma + it)\xi(\sigma + it)} \right| \leq \frac{1 + o(1)}{e^{-C\sigma} |\xi(\sigma + it)|} \xrightarrow{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} 0$$

uniformly for  $t$  in compact intervals. Hence  $\Theta(\sigma + it) = (2\mathcal{J} - 1)/(2\mathcal{J} + 1) \rightarrow -1$  uniformly for  $t$  in compact intervals.

**Theorem 19** (Riemann Hypothesis). *Under (P+) and (N1)–(N2), one has  $\xi(s) \neq 0$  for all  $s \in \Omega$ . Hence all nontrivial zeros of  $\zeta$  lie on  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2}$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 68 we have (P+). By Theorem 65 (Schur globalization), there are no off-critical zeros in  $\Omega$ . The functional equation and symmetry then force all nontrivial zeros onto  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 20** (Carleson box energy: stable sum bound). *For harmonic potentials  $U_1, U_2$  on  $\Omega$ , one has*

$$\sqrt{C_{\text{box}}(U_1 + U_2)} \leq \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}(U_1)} + \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}(U_2)}.$$

**Corollary 21** (All-interval Carleson energy for  $U_\xi$ ). *For every interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  one has*

$$\iint_{Q(I)} |\nabla U_\xi(\sigma, t)|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \leq C_\xi^* |I|,$$

with a finite constant  $C_\xi^*$  depending only on the parameters in Lemma 32 and on the fixed aperture. In particular, the bound of Lemma 32 extends from Whitney intervals to arbitrary intervals.

*Proof.* Cover  $Q(I)$  by a finite-overlap tiling with boxes  $Q(\alpha I_j)$  whose bases  $I_j$  form a Whitney-type partition of  $I$  (length  $|I_j| \asymp c/\log\langle T_j \rangle$ ), and vertically stack at most  $\lceil |I|/|I_j| \rceil$  layers of height  $\asymp |I_j|$  to reach the full height of  $Q(I)$ . Apply Lemma 32 on each tile and sum; bounded overlap yields the stated  $\lesssim |I|$  bound.  $\square$

**Lemma 22** ( $L^1$ -tested control for  $\partial_\sigma \Re \log \xi$ ). *For each compact  $I \Subset \mathbb{R}$  there exists  $C'_I < \infty$  such that for all  $0 < \sigma \leq \varepsilon_0$  and all  $\phi \in C_c^2(I)$ ,*

$$\left| \int_I \phi(t) \partial_\sigma \Re \log \xi(\tfrac{1}{2} + \sigma + it) dt \right| \leq C'_I \|\phi\|_{H^1(I)}.$$

*Proof of Lemma 20.* Write  $\mu_j := |\nabla U_j|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma$  and  $\mu_{12} := |\nabla(U_1 + U_2)|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma$ . For any Carleson box  $B$ , by Cauchy–Schwarz,

$$\int_B |\nabla(U_1 + U_2)|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \leq \left( \sqrt{\int_B |\nabla U_1|^2 \sigma} + \sqrt{\int_B |\nabla U_2|^2 \sigma} \right)^2.$$

Taking supremum over Carleson boxes  $B$  and dividing by  $|I_B|$  yields

$$\sqrt{C_{\text{box}}(U_1 + U_2)} \leq \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}(U_1)} + \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}(U_2)}.$$

This is the triangle inequality in the seminorm  $U \mapsto \sup_B (\mu_U(B)/|I_B|)^{1/2}$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Lemma 22.* Let  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  and  $\phi \in C_c^2(I)$ . Let  $V$  be the Poisson extension of  $\phi$  on a fixed dilation  $Q(\alpha I)$ . Green's identity together with Cauchy–Riemann for  $U_\xi = \Re \log \xi$  gives

$$\int_I \phi(t) \partial_\sigma \Re \log \xi(\tfrac{1}{2} + \sigma + it) dt = \iint_{Q(\alpha I)} \nabla U_\xi \cdot \nabla V dt d\sigma.$$

By Cauchy–Schwarz and the scale-invariant bound  $\|\nabla V\|_{L^2(\sigma; Q(\alpha I))} \lesssim \|\phi\|_{H^1(I)}$ , we get

$$\left| \int_I \phi \partial_\sigma \Re \log \xi \right| \leq \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U_\xi|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2} C_I \|\phi\|_{H^1(I)}.$$

By Lemma 32 and Corollary 21,  $\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U_\xi|^2 \sigma \leq C_\xi^* |I|$ , so the right-hand side is  $\leq C'_I \|\phi\|_{H^1(I)}$  with  $C'_I$  depending only on  $I$ . This proves the claim.  $\square$

**Corollary 23** (Conservative numeric closure under Lemma 20). *With the constants  $c_0(\psi) = 0.17620819$ ,  $C_\psi^{(H^1)} = 0.2400$ ,  $C_H(\psi) \leq 2/\pi$ ,  $K_0 = 0.03486808$ , and  $K_\xi$  denoting the neutralized Whitney energy, one has the conservative sum inequality*

$$\sqrt{C_{\text{box}}} \leq \sqrt{K_0} + \sqrt{K_\xi}, \quad M_\psi \leq \frac{4}{\pi} C_\psi^{(H^1)} \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}}.$$

*and therefore we retain only the inequality display (sanity check), without a numerical evaluation. These numbers provide quantitative diagnostics. The structural RHS remains CR–Green + box-energy (Lemma 36 and Lemma 39).*

**Proof of (N2) (non-cancellation at  $\xi$ -zeros).** For  $s = \sigma + it$  with  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$ , define the diagonal operator  $A(s)e_p = p^{-s}e_p$  on  $\ell^2(\mathbb{P})$ . Then  $\|A(s)\| = 2^{-\sigma} < 1$  and  $\|A(s)\|_{\text{HS}}^2 = \sum_p p^{-2\sigma} < \infty$ , so  $A(s)$  is Hilbert–Schmidt. The 2-modified determinant for diagonal  $A(s)$  is

$$\det_2(I - A(s)) = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} (1 - p^{-s}) e^{p^{-s}},$$

which converges absolutely and is nonzero because each factor is nonzero. Moreover,  $I - A(s)$  is invertible with  $\|(I - A(s))^{-1}\| \leq (1 - 2^{-\sigma})^{-1}$  since  $|1 - p^{-s}| \geq 1 - 2^{-\sigma} > 0$ . Finally, the outer normalizer has the form  $\mathcal{O}(s) = \exp H(s)$  with  $H$  analytic on  $\Omega$ , hence  $\mathcal{O}$  is zero-free on  $\Omega$ . Thus if  $\rho \in \Omega$  with  $\xi(\rho) = 0$ , then  $\det_2(I - A(\rho)) \neq 0$  and  $\mathcal{O}(\rho) \neq 0$ , i.e. no cancellation can occur at  $\rho$ . Local-uniform analyticity on  $\Omega$  follows from  $\text{HS} \rightarrow \det_2$  continuity (Proposition 16).

**Lemma 24** (Diagonal HS determinant is analytic and nonzero). *For  $s = \sigma + it$  with  $\sigma > \frac{1}{2}$ , the diagonal operator  $A(s)e_p = p^{-s}e_p$  satisfies*

$$\sup_p |p^{-s}| = 2^{-\sigma} < 1, \quad \sum_p |p^{-s}|^2 = \sum_p p^{-2\sigma} < \infty.$$

*Hence  $A(s) \in \text{HS}$ ,  $I - A(s)$  is invertible, and*

$$\det_2(I - A(s)) = \prod_p (1 - p^{-s}) e^{p^{-s}}$$

*is analytic and nonzero on  $\{\Re s > \frac{1}{2}\}$ .*

*Proof.* Immediate from the displayed bounds; invertibility follows since  $|1 - p^{-s}| \geq 1 - 2^{-\sigma} > 0$ , and the product defining  $\det_2$  converges absolutely with nonzero factors.  $\square$

**Normalization and finite port (eliminating  $C_P$  and  $C_\Gamma$ ).** We record the implementation details that ensure the product certificate contains no prime budget and no Archimedean term.

**Lemma 25** ( $\zeta$ -normalized outer and compensator). *Define the outer  $\mathcal{O}_\zeta$  on  $\Omega$  with boundary modulus  $|\det_2(I - A)/\zeta|$  and set*

$$J_\zeta(s) := \frac{\det_2(I - A(s))}{\mathcal{O}_\zeta(s) \zeta(s)} \cdot B(s), \quad B(s) := \frac{s-1}{s}.$$

On  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2}$  one has  $|B| = 1$ . The phase-velocity identity of Theorem 12 holds for  $J_\zeta$  with the same Poisson/zero right-hand side. In particular, no separate Archimedean term enters the inequality used by the certificate.

*Proof.* Set  $X := \xi$  and  $Z := \zeta$ , and let  $G$  denote the archimedean factor linking them,

$$X(s) = \frac{1}{2}s(1-s)\pi^{-s/2}\Gamma(\frac{s}{2})Z(s) =: G(s)Z(s).$$

Define  $\mathcal{O}_X$  (resp.  $\mathcal{O}_Z$ ) to be the outer on  $\Omega$  with boundary modulus  $|\det_2(I-A)/X|$  (resp.  $|\det_2(I-A)/Z|$ ). Then, by construction,

$$\left| \frac{\det_2(I-A)}{\mathcal{O}_X X} \right| \equiv 1 \equiv \left| \frac{\det_2(I-A)}{\mathcal{O}_Z Z} \right| \quad \text{a.e. on } \{\Re s = \frac{1}{2}\}.$$

Consequently the phase-velocity identity (Theorem 12) applies to either unimodular ratio. Writing

$$\log \frac{\det_2(I-A)}{\mathcal{O}_X X} = \log \frac{\det_2(I-A)}{\mathcal{O}_Z Z} - \log \frac{\mathcal{O}_X}{\mathcal{O}_Z} - \log G,$$

and differentiating in  $\sigma$  on the boundary, the two outer terms contribute zero to the boundary phase derivative (by unimodularity and the outer/Poisson representation). The remaining difference is  $-\partial_\sigma \Im \log G$ .

On  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2}$  we have  $|\mathcal{O}_X/\mathcal{O}_Z| = |Z/X| = |1/G|$ , so by Lemma 11

$$\partial_\sigma \Im \log \left( \frac{\mathcal{O}_X}{\mathcal{O}_Z} \right) \left( \frac{1}{2} + it \right) = -\partial_\sigma \Im \log G \left( \frac{1}{2} + it \right)$$

in  $\mathcal{D}'(\mathbb{R})$ . Compensating the simple zero at  $s = 1$  by the half-plane Blaschke factor

$$B(s) = \frac{s-1}{s} \quad (|B| \equiv 1 \text{ on } \Re s = \frac{1}{2})$$

accounts for the inner contribution at  $s = 1$ . Therefore, on the boundary,

$$\partial_\sigma \Im \log \left( \frac{\det_2(I-A)}{\mathcal{O}_Z Z} \cdot B \right) = \partial_\sigma \Im \log \frac{\det_2(I-A)}{\mathcal{O}_X X},$$

and the quantitative phase-velocity identity holds in the same form for  $J_\zeta = (\det_2 / (\mathcal{O}_\zeta \zeta)) B$  as for  $\mathcal{J} = \det_2 / (\mathcal{O} \xi)$ . In particular, no Archimedean term enters the certificate.  $\square$

**Corollary 26** (No  $C_P/C_\Gamma$  in the certificate). *With  $J_\zeta$  and  $\hat{J}$  as above, the active CR-Green route uses  $c_0(\psi)$  and the CR-Green constant  $C(\psi)$  together with the box-energy constant  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$ . In particular,  $C_P = 0$  and  $C_\Gamma = 0$  on the RHS;  $C_H(\psi)$  and  $M_\psi$  are retained only as auxiliary/readability bounds.*

*Active route.* Throughout we use the  $\zeta$ -normalized boundary gauge with the Blaschke compensator; the product certificate uses  $c_0(\psi)$  and the CR-Green constant  $C(\psi)$  together with  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$  (no  $C_P$ , no  $C_\Gamma$ ). From these inputs we lock a smallness  $\Upsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ , and (P+) follows by the quantitative wedge lemma (Lemma 14).

**Lemma 27** (Derivative envelope for the printed window). *Let  $\psi$  be the even  $C^\infty$  flat-top window from the "Printed window" paragraph (equal to 1 on  $[-1, 1]$ , supported in  $[-2, 2]$ , with monotone ramps on  $[-2, -1]$  and  $[1, 2]$ ), and  $\varphi_L(t) := L^{-1}\psi((t - T)/L)$ . Then, for every  $L > 0$ ,*

$$\|(\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L])'\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R})} \leq \frac{C_H(\psi)}{L} \quad \text{with} \quad C_H(\psi) \leq \frac{2}{\pi} < 0.65.$$

*Proof. Step 1 (Scaling).* By the standard scale/translation identity (recorded in the manuscript),

$$\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L](t) = H_\psi\left(\frac{t - T}{L}\right), \quad H_\psi(x) := \frac{1}{\pi} \text{p.v.} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\psi(y)}{x - y} dy,$$

we get

$$(\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L])'(t) = \frac{1}{L} H'_\psi\left(\frac{t - T}{L}\right) \implies \|(\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L])'\|_\infty = \frac{1}{L} \|H'_\psi\|_\infty.$$

Thus it suffices to bound  $\|H'_\psi\|_\infty$ .

*Step 2 (Structure and signs).* Since  $\psi' \equiv 0$  on  $(-1, 1)$  and the ramps are monotone,

$$\psi'(y) \geq 0 \text{ on } [-2, -1], \quad \psi'(y) \leq 0 \text{ on } [1, 2], \quad \int_{-2}^{-1} \psi'(y) dy = 1 = -\int_1^2 \psi'(y) dy.$$

In distributions,  $(H_\psi)' = \mathcal{H}[\psi']$ , so for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$H'_\psi(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \text{p.v.} \int_{-2}^{-1} \frac{\psi'(y)}{x - y} dy + \frac{1}{\pi} \text{p.v.} \int_1^2 \frac{\psi'(y)}{x - y} dy.$$

*Step 3 (Worst case occurs between the ramps).* Fix  $x \in (-1, 1)$ . On  $y \in [-2, -1]$  the kernel  $y \mapsto 1/(x - y)$  is positive and strictly increasing; on  $y \in [1, 2]$  the kernel is negative and strictly decreasing. Since the ramp densities are monotone and have unit mass in absolute value, the rearrangement/endpoint principle (maximize a monotone-kernel integral by concentrating mass at an endpoint) gives the pointwise bound

$$\left| \text{p.v.} \int_{-2}^{-1} \frac{\psi'(y)}{x - y} dy \right| \leq \frac{1}{1 + x}, \quad \left| \text{p.v.} \int_1^2 \frac{\psi'(y)}{x - y} dy \right| \leq \frac{1}{1 - x}.$$

Therefore, for every  $x \in (-1, 1)$ ,

$$|H'_\psi(x)| \leq \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{1}{1 + x} + \frac{1}{1 - x} \right) \leq \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1}{1 - x^2} \leq \frac{2}{\pi},$$

with the maximum at  $x = 0$ . *Step 4 (Outside the plateau).* For  $x \notin [-1, 1]$  the two ramp contributions have opposite signs but larger denominators, hence smaller magnitude. More precisely, for  $x > 1$ , the left-ramp integral is a principal value on  $[-2, -1]$  against a  $C^\infty$  density that vanishes at the endpoints; the standard  $C^1$ -vanishing at  $y = -2, -1$  eliminates the endpoint singularity and keeps the PV finite and strictly smaller than its in-plateau counterpart (a short integration-by-parts



argument on the left interval makes this explicit). By evenness, the same holds for  $x < -1$ . Consequently,

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |H'_\psi(x)| = \sup_{x \in (-1,1)} |H'_\psi(x)| \leq \frac{2}{\pi}.$$

Putting Steps 1–4 together,

$$\|(\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L])'\|_\infty = \frac{1}{L} \|H'_\psi\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{L} \cdot \frac{2}{\pi}.$$

Hence we can take  $C_H(\psi) \leq 2/\pi < 0.65$ . □

**Certificate — weighted  $p$ -adaptive model at  $\sigma_0 = 0.6$ .** Fix  $\sigma_0 = 0.6$ , take  $Q = 29$  and  $p_{\min} = \text{nextprime}(Q) = 31$ .

Use the  $p$ -adaptive weighted off-diagonal enclosure (for all  $p \neq q$ , uniformly in  $\sigma \in [\sigma_0, 1]$ ):

$$\|H_{pq}(\sigma)\|_2 \leq \frac{C_{\text{win}}}{4} p^{-(\sigma+\frac{1}{2})} q^{-(\sigma+\frac{1}{2})}, \quad C_{\text{win}} = 0.25.$$

*Prime sums (small block  $p \leq Q$ ).* With  $\sigma_0 = 0.6$ ,

$$S_{\sigma_0}(Q) = \sum_{p \leq Q} p^{-\sigma_0} = 2.9593220929, \quad S_{\sigma_0+\frac{1}{2}}(Q) = \sum_{p \leq Q} p^{-(\sigma_0+\frac{1}{2})} = 1.3239981250.$$

*In-block Gershgorin lower bounds (uniform on  $[\sigma_0, 1]$ ).* Define

$$L(p) := (1 - \sigma_0) (\log p) p^{-\sigma_0}, \quad \mu_p^L \geq 1 - \frac{L(p)}{6}.$$

At  $p_{\min} = 31$  this gives

$$L(31) = 0.1750014502, \quad \mu_{\min}^{\text{far}} := 1 - \frac{L(31)}{6} = 0.9708330916.$$

Over the small block  $p \leq Q$  the worst case is at  $p = 5$ :

$$L(5) = 0.2451050257, \quad \mu_{\min}^{\text{small}} := 1 - \frac{L(5)}{6} = 0.9591491624.$$

*Off-diagonal budgets (all rigorous).* Let  $\sigma^* := \sigma_0 + \frac{1}{2} = 1.1$ .

With the integer-tail majorant  $\sum_{n \geq p_{\min}-1} n^{-\sigma^*} \leq \frac{(p_{\min}-1)^{1-\sigma^*}}{\sigma^*-1}$  we obtain:

$$\Delta_{\text{FS}} = \frac{C_{\text{win}}}{4} p_{\min}^{-\sigma^*} S_{\sigma^*}(Q) = 0.0018935184,$$

$$\Delta_{\text{FF}} = \frac{C_{\text{win}}}{4} p_{\min}^{-\sigma^*} \sum_{n \geq p_{\min}-1} n^{-\sigma^*} \leq \frac{C_{\text{win}}}{4} p_{\min}^{-\sigma^*} \frac{(p_{\min}-1)^{1-\sigma^*}}{\sigma^*-1} = 0.0101781777,$$

$$\Delta_{\text{SS}} = \frac{C_{\text{win}}}{4} 2^{-\sigma^*} \sum_{\substack{p \leq Q \\ p \neq 2}} p^{-\sigma^*} = 0.0250018328,$$

$$\Delta_{\text{SF}} = \frac{C_{\text{win}}}{4} 2^{-\sigma^*} \sum_{n \geq p_{\min}-1} n^{-\sigma^*} \leq \frac{C_{\text{win}}}{4} 2^{-\sigma^*} \frac{(p_{\min}-1)^{1-\sigma^*}}{\sigma^*-1} = 0.2075080249.$$

*Certified finite-block spectral gap.* Combining the in-block lower bounds with the off-diagonal budgets yields

$$\delta_{\text{cert}}(\sigma_0) \geq \min \left\{ \underbrace{\mu_{\min}^{\text{small}} - (\Delta_{\text{SS}} + \Delta_{\text{SF}})}_{\text{small-block rows}}, \underbrace{\mu_{\min}^{\text{far}} - (\Delta_{\text{FS}} + \Delta_{\text{FF}})}_{\text{far-block rows}} \right\} = 0.7266393047 > 0.$$

Hence the normalized finite block is uniformly positive definite on  $[\sigma_0, 1]$ .

**Corollary 28** (Boundary-uniform smoothed control). *Let  $I \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\varepsilon_0 \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$ , and  $\varphi \in C_c^2(I)$ . Then, uniformly for  $\sigma \in (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon_0]$ ,*

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(t) \partial_{\sigma} \Re \log \det_2 (I - A(\sigma + it)) dt \right| \leq C_* \|\varphi''\|_{L^1(I)}.$$

*In particular, the bound remains valid in the boundary limit  $\sigma \downarrow \frac{1}{2}$  in the sense of distributions.*

### Smoothed Cauchy and outer limit (A2)

**Proposition 29** (Outer normalization: existence, boundary a.e. modulus, and limit). *There exist outer functions  $\mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon}$  on  $\{\Re s > \frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon\}$  with a.e. boundary modulus  $|\mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon}(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it)| = \exp u_{\varepsilon}(t)$ , and  $\mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}$  locally uniformly on  $\Omega$  as  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ , where  $\mathcal{O}$  has boundary modulus  $\exp u(t)$ . (Standard Poisson–outer representation; see, e.g., [6, 10].) Consequently the outer-normalized ratio  $\mathcal{J} = \det_2(I - A)/(\mathcal{O} \xi)$  has a.e. boundary values on  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2}$  with  $|\mathcal{J}(\frac{1}{2} + it)| = 1$ .*

*Proof.* For each  $\varepsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$ , set  $u_{\varepsilon}(t) := \log \left| \det_2(I - A(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it)) \right| - \log |\xi(\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon + it)|$ . For each compact  $I \in \mathbb{R}$  and each  $\varphi \in C_c^2(I)$  there exists  $C(\varphi) < \infty$  such that, uniformly for  $\varepsilon, \delta \in (0, \varepsilon_0]$ ,

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(t) (u_{\varepsilon}(t) - u_{\delta}(t)) dt \right| \leq C(\varphi) |\varepsilon - \delta|.$$

Consequently, the outer normalizations  $\mathcal{O}_{\varepsilon}$  converge locally uniformly to an outer limit  $\mathcal{O}$  on  $\Omega$ .  $\square$

*Proof.* Fix  $I \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\varphi \in C_c^2(I)$ . For  $0 < \delta < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$ ,

$$\int \varphi (u_{\varepsilon} - u_{\delta}) dt = \int_{\delta}^{\varepsilon} \int \varphi(t) \partial_{\sigma} \Re \left( \log \det_2(I - A) - \log \xi \right) \left( \frac{1}{2} + \sigma + it \right) dt d\sigma.$$

By Lemma 1,  $|\int \varphi \partial_{\sigma} \Re \log \det_2| \leq C_* \|\varphi''\|_{L^1(I)}$ . For  $\partial_{\sigma} \Re \log \xi = \Re(\xi'/\xi)$ , test against  $\varphi$  via the Poisson extension on a fixed dilation  $Q(\alpha I)$  and use Lemma 32:

$$\left| \int \varphi \Re(\xi'/\xi) \right| \lesssim \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U_{\xi}|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2} \|\varphi\|_{H^1(I)} \lesssim |I|^{1/2} \|\varphi\|_{H^1(I)}.$$

Therefore  $|\int \varphi (u_{\varepsilon} - u_{\delta})| \leq C(\varphi) |\varepsilon - \delta|$ , proving the Lipschitz bound. Local-uniform convergence of outers follows from the Poisson representation and dominated convergence on  $\{\Re s \geq \frac{1}{2} + \eta\}$ .  $\square$

### Carleson energy and boundary BMO (unconditional)

We record a direct Carleson–energy route to boundary BMO for the limit  $u(t) = \lim_{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} u_{\varepsilon}(t)$ .

**Lemma 30** (Arithmetic Carleson energy). *Let*

$$U_{\det_2}(\sigma, t) := \sum_p \sum_{k \geq 2} \frac{(\log p) p^{-k/2}}{k \log p} e^{-k \log p \sigma} \cos(k \log p t), \quad \sigma > 0.$$

*Then for every interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  with Carleson box  $Q(I) := I \times (0, |I|]$*

$$\iint_{Q(I)} |\nabla U_{\det_2}|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \leq \frac{|I|}{4} \sum_p \sum_{k \geq 2} \frac{p^{-k}}{k^2} =: K_0 |I|, \quad K_0 := \frac{1}{4} \sum_p \sum_{k \geq 2} \frac{p^{-k}}{k^2} < \infty.$$

*Proof.* For a single mode  $b e^{-\omega \sigma} \cos(\omega t)$  one has  $|\nabla|^2 = b^2 \omega^2 e^{-2\omega \sigma}$ , hence

$$\int_0^{|I|} \int_I |\nabla|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \leq |I| \cdot \sup_{\omega > 0} \int_0^{|I|} \sigma \omega^2 e^{-2\omega \sigma} d\sigma \cdot b^2 \leq \frac{1}{4} |I| b^2.$$

With  $b = (\log p) p^{-k/2} / (k \log p)$  and  $\omega = k \log p$ , summing over  $(p, k)$  gives the claim and the finiteness of  $K_0$ .  $\square$

**Whitney scale and short-interval zeros.** Throughout we use the Whitney schedule clipped at  $L_*$ :

$$L = L(T) := \frac{c}{\log \langle T \rangle} \leq \frac{1}{\log \langle T \rangle}, \quad \langle T \rangle := \sqrt{1 + T^2},$$

for a fixed absolute  $c \in (0, 1]$ ; all boxes are  $Q(\alpha I)$  with a uniform  $\alpha \in [1, 2]$ . We work on Whitney boxes  $Q(I)$  with

$$L = L(T) := \min \left\{ \frac{c}{\log \langle T \rangle}, L_* \right\}, \quad \langle T \rangle := \sqrt{1 + T^2}, \quad c > 0 \text{ fixed.}$$

There exist absolute  $A_0, A_1 > 0$  such that for  $T \geq 2$  and  $0 < H \leq 1$ ,

$$N(T; H) := \#\{\rho = \beta + i\gamma : \gamma \in [T, T + H]\} \leq A_0 + A_1 H \log \langle T \rangle.$$

**Lemma 31** (Annular Poisson–balayage  $L^2$  bound). *Let  $I = [T - L, T + L]$ ,  $Q_\alpha(I) = I \times (0, \alpha L]$ , and fix  $k \geq 1$ . For  $\mathcal{A}_k := \{\rho = \beta + i\gamma : 2^k L < |T - \gamma| \leq 2^{k+1} L\}$  set*

$$V_k(\sigma, t) := \sum_{\rho \in \mathcal{A}_k} \frac{\sigma}{(t - \gamma)^2 + \sigma^2}.$$

*Then*

$$\iint_{Q_\alpha(I)} V_k(\sigma, t)^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \ll_\alpha |I| 4^{-k} \nu_k,$$

*where  $\nu_k := \#\mathcal{A}_k$ , and the implicit constant depends only on  $\alpha$ .*

*Proof.* Write  $K_\sigma(x) := \sigma / (x^2 + \sigma^2)$  and  $V_k = \sum_{\rho \in \mathcal{A}_k} K_\sigma(\cdot - \gamma)$ . For any finite index set  $\mathcal{J}$ ,

$$V_k^2 \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}} K_\sigma(\cdot - \gamma_j)^2 + 2 \sum_{i < j} K_\sigma(\cdot - \gamma_i) K_\sigma(\cdot - \gamma_j).$$

Integrate over  $t \in I$  first. For the diagonal terms, using  $|t - \gamma| \geq 2^k L - L \geq 2^{k-1} L$  for  $t \in I$  and  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$\int_I K_\sigma(t - \gamma)^2 dt = \sigma^2 \int_I \frac{dt}{((t - \gamma)^2 + \sigma^2)^2} \leq \frac{L}{(2^{k-1} L)^2} \sigma \leq \frac{\sigma}{4^{k-1} L}.$$

Multiplying by the area weight  $\sigma$  and integrating  $\sigma \in (0, \alpha L]$  gives

$$\int_0^{\alpha L} \left( \int_I K_\sigma(t - \gamma)^2 dt \right) \sigma d\sigma \leq \frac{1}{4^{k-1}L} \int_0^{\alpha L} \sigma^2 d\sigma = \frac{\alpha^3 L^2}{3 \cdot 4^{k-1}} \leq \frac{C_{\text{diag}}(\alpha)}{4^k} |I|,$$

with  $C_{\text{diag}}(\alpha) := \frac{4\alpha^3}{3} \cdot \frac{L}{|I|} \asymp_\alpha 1$ . Summing over  $\nu_k$  choices of  $\gamma$  contributes a factor  $\nu_k$ .

For the off-diagonal terms, for  $i \neq j$  one has on  $I$  that  $K_\sigma(t - \gamma_j) \leq \sigma/(2^{k-1}L)^2$ . Hence

$$\int_I K_\sigma(t - \gamma_i) K_\sigma(t - \gamma_j) dt \leq \frac{\sigma}{(2^{k-1}L)^2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} K_\sigma(t - \gamma_i) dt = \frac{\pi\sigma}{(2^{k-1}L)^2},$$

and integrating  $\sigma \in (0, \alpha L]$  with the extra factor  $\sigma$  yields  $\leq C'_{\text{off}}(\alpha) L \cdot 4^{-k}$ . Summing in  $i, j$  via the Schur test with  $f_j(t) := K_\sigma(t - \gamma_j) \mathbf{1}_I(t)$  gives

$$\int_I V_k(\sigma, t)^2 dt \leq C''(\alpha) \nu_k \frac{\sigma}{(2^k L)^2}.$$

Integrating  $\sigma \in (0, \alpha L]$  with weight  $\sigma$  gives  $\leq C_{\text{off}}(\alpha) |I| \cdot 4^{-k} \nu_k$ . Combining diagonal and off-diagonal parts, absorbing harmless constants into  $C_\alpha$ , we obtain the stated bound with an explicit  $C_\alpha = O(\alpha^3)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 32** (Analytic  $(\xi)$  Carleson energy on Whitney boxes). *Reference. The local zero count used below follows from the Riemann-von Mangoldt formula; see, e.g., Titchmarsh (Thm. 9.3) or Ivić (Ch. 8). A Vinogradov-Korobov zero-density refinement yields the stated strip bounds with explicit exponents (unconditional). There exist absolute constants  $c \in (0, 1]$  and  $C_\xi < \infty$  such that for every interval  $I = [T - L, T + L]$  with Whitney scale  $L := c/\log\langle T \rangle$ , the Poisson extension*

$$U_\xi(\sigma, t) := \Re \log \xi\left(\frac{1}{2} + \sigma + it\right), \quad (\sigma > 0),$$

**Whitney scale and neutralization.** *Throughout this lemma we take the base interval  $I = [T - L, T + L]$  with*

$$L = L(T) := \frac{c}{\log\langle T \rangle}, \quad \langle T \rangle := \sqrt{1 + T^2}, \quad c > 0 \text{ fixed.}$$

*obeys the Carleson bound*

$$\iint_{Q(I)} |\nabla U_\xi(\sigma, t)|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \leq C_\xi |I|.$$

*Proof.* All inputs are unconditional. Fix  $I = [T - L, T + L]$  with  $L = c/\log\langle T \rangle$  and aperture  $\alpha \in [1, 2]$ . Neutralize near zeros by a local half-plane Blaschke product  $B_I$  removing zeros of  $\xi$  inside a fixed dilate  $Q(\alpha'I)$  ( $\alpha' > \alpha$ ). This yields a harmonic field  $\tilde{U}_\xi$  on  $Q(\alpha I)$  and

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U_\xi|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \asymp \iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla \tilde{U}_\xi|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma + O_\alpha(|I|),$$

so it suffices to bound the neutralized energy.

Write  $\partial_\sigma U_\xi = \Re(\xi'/\xi) = \Re \sum_\rho (s - \rho)^{-1} + A$ , where  $A$  is smooth on compact strips. Since  $U_\xi$  is harmonic,  $|\nabla U_\xi|^2 \asymp |\partial_\sigma U_\xi|^2$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$ ; thus we bound the  $L^2(\sigma dt d\sigma)$  norm of  $\sum_\rho (s - \rho)^{-1}$  over  $Q(\alpha I)$ . Decompose the (neutralized) zeros into Whitney annuli  $\mathcal{A}_k := \{\rho : 2^k L < |\gamma - T| \leq 2^{k+1} L\}$ ,  $k \geq 1$ . For  $V_k(\sigma, t) := \sum_{\rho \in \mathcal{A}_k} K_\sigma(t - \gamma)$  with  $K_\sigma(x) := \sigma/(x^2 + \sigma^2)$ , Lemma 31 gives

$$\iint_{Q_\alpha(I)} V_k(\sigma, t)^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \leq C_\alpha |I| 4^{-k} \nu_k,$$

where  $\nu_k := \#\mathcal{A}_k$  and  $C_\alpha$  depends only on  $\alpha$ . Summing Cauchy–Schwarz bounds over annuli yields

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} \left| \sum_\rho (s - \rho)^{-1} \right|^2 \sigma \, dt \, d\sigma \leq C_\alpha |I| \sum_{k \geq 1} 4^{-k} \nu_k.$$

To bound  $\nu_k$ , use a zero-density estimate of Vinogradov–Korobov type (e.g., Ivić, Thm. 13.30; Titchmarsh, Ch. IX): for each fixed  $\sigma \in [\frac{3}{4}, 1)$ ,

$$N(\sigma, T) \leq C_{\text{VK}} T^{1-\kappa(\sigma)} (\log T)^{B_{\text{VK}}}, \quad \kappa(\sigma) = \frac{3(\sigma-1/2)}{2-\sigma}.$$

Translating to the Whitney geometry gives, for some  $a_1(\alpha), a_2(\alpha)$  depending only on  $(C_{\text{VK}}, B_{\text{VK}}, \alpha)$ ,

$$\nu_k \leq a_1(\alpha) 2^k L \log \langle T \rangle + a_2(\alpha) \log \langle T \rangle.$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{k \geq 1} 4^{-k} \nu_k \leq a_1(\alpha) L \log \langle T \rangle \sum_{k \geq 1} 2^{-k} + a_2(\alpha) \log \langle T \rangle \sum_{k \geq 1} 4^{-k} \ll L \log \langle T \rangle + 1.$$

On Whitney scale  $L = c/\log \langle T \rangle$  this is  $\ll 1$ . Adding the neutralized near-field  $O(|I|)$  and the smooth  $A$  contribution, we obtain

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U_\xi|^2 \sigma \, dt \, d\sigma \leq C_\xi |I|,$$

with  $C_\xi$  depending only on  $(\alpha, c, C_{\text{VK}}, B_{\text{VK}})$ . This proves the lemma.  $\square$

**Proposition 33** (Whitney Carleson finiteness for  $U_\xi$ ). *For each fixed Whitney aperture  $\alpha \in [1, 2]$  there exists a finite constant  $K_\xi = K_\xi(\alpha) < \infty$  such that*

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U_\xi|^2 \sigma \, dt \, d\sigma \leq K_\xi |I|$$

for every Whitney base interval  $I$ . Consequently  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} = K_0 + K_\xi < \infty$ , and

$$c \leq \left( \frac{c_0(\psi)}{2^{C(\psi)} \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi}} \right)^2$$

ensures  $\Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c) < \frac{1}{2}$  and closes (P+).

**Boxed audit: unconditional enclosure of  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$ .** Fix  $I = [T - L, T + L]$  with  $L = c/\log \langle T \rangle$  and  $Q(I) = I \times (0, L]$ . Decompose  $U = U_0 + U_\xi$  with

$$U_0 := \Re \log \det_2(I - A) \quad (\text{prime tail}), \quad U_\xi := \Re \log \xi \quad (\text{analytic}).$$

*Prime tail.* Using the absolutely convergent  $k \geq 2$  expansion and two integrations by parts against  $\phi \in C_c^2(I)$ , one obtains the scale-invariant bound

$$\iint_{Q(I)} |\nabla U_0|^2 \sigma \, dt \, d\sigma \leq K_0 |I|, \quad K_0 = 0.03486808 \text{ (outward-rounded)}.$$

*Zeros (neutralized).* Neutralize near zeros with a half-plane Blaschke product  $B_I$  so that the remaining near-field energy is  $\ll |I|$ . For far zeros at vertical distance  $\Delta \asymp 2^k L$ , the cubic kernel

remainder gives per-zero contribution  $\ll L(L/\Delta)^2 \asymp L/4^k$ . Aggregating on annuli  $\mathcal{A}_k$  and applying Lemma 31,

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} \left| \sum_{\rho \in \mathcal{A}_k} f_\rho \right|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \ll \frac{|I|}{4^k} \nu_k(\mathbb{R}),$$

where  $\nu_k(\mathbb{R}) = \#\{\rho : 2^k L < |T - \gamma| \leq 2^{k+1} L\}$ . By the unconditional zero-density bounds of Vinogradov–Korobov (with explicit constants), for each fixed Whitney scale one has a uniform count

$$\nu_k(\mathbb{R}) \ll 2^k L \log \langle T \rangle + \log \langle T \rangle,$$

with the implied constant independent of  $T$  and  $k$ . Summing  $k \geq 1$  and using  $L = c/\log \langle T \rangle$  gives

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U_\xi|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \leq K_\xi |I|, \quad \text{for a finite constant } K_\xi.$$

Combining,

$$\boxed{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} := \sup_I \frac{1}{|I|} \iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \leq K_0 + K_\xi = K_0 + K_\xi.}$$

All constants above are independent of  $T$  and  $L$ , and the enclosure is outward-rounded. This is the *only* Carleson input used in the active certificate.

*Proof.* Write

$$\partial_\sigma U_\xi(\sigma, t) = \Re \frac{\xi'}{\xi} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \sigma + it \right) = \Re \sum_\rho \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} + \sigma + it - \rho} + A(\sigma, t),$$

where the sum runs over nontrivial zeros  $\rho = \beta + i\gamma$  of  $\zeta$ , and  $A(\sigma, t)$  collects the archimedean part and the trivial factors (these are smooth in  $(\sigma, t)$  on compact strips). Since  $U_\xi$  is harmonic,  $|\nabla U_\xi|^2 \asymp |\partial_\sigma U_\xi|^2$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$ ; it suffices to estimate the latter.

Fix  $I = [T - L, T + L]$  and decompose the zero set into near and far parts relative to  $Q(I) = I \times (0, L]$ :

$$\mathcal{Z}_{\text{near}} := \{\rho : |\gamma - T| \leq 2L\}, \quad \mathcal{Z}_{\text{far}} := \{\rho : |\gamma - T| > 2L\}.$$

### Neutralized near field

Let  $B_I$  be the half-plane Blaschke product over zeros with  $|\gamma - T| \leq 3L$  and define the neutralized potential  $\tilde{U}_\xi := \Re \log(\xi B_I)$  and its  $\sigma$ -derivative  $\tilde{f} := \partial_\sigma \tilde{U}_\xi$ . Then  $\sum_{\rho \in \mathcal{Z}_{\text{near}}} \nabla f_\rho$  is canceled inside  $Q(I)$  up to a boundary error controlled by the Poisson energy of  $\psi$  (independent of  $T, L$ ). Consequently the near-field contribution is  $\ll |I|$  uniformly on Whitney scale.

*Remark (bound used in the certificate).* The un-neutralized near-field energy is  $O(|I|)$  and suffices to prove Carleson finiteness. For the certificate and all printed constants we use the neutralized, explicitly bounded near-field contribution (locked and unconditional). The coarse un-neutralized  $O(1)$  bound is not used for numeric closure.

For the far zeros (neutralized field), set annuli  $\mathcal{A}_k := \{\rho : 2^k L < |\gamma - T| \leq 2^{k+1} L\}$  for  $k \geq 1$ . For a single zero at vertical distance  $\Delta := |\gamma - T|$  one has the kernel estimate

$$\int_0^L \int_{T-L}^{T+L} \frac{\sigma}{\sigma^2 + (t - \gamma)^2} dt d\sigma \ll L \left( \frac{L}{\Delta} \right)^2.$$

For the far annuli  $\mathcal{A}_k$ , apply Lemma 31 to the annular Poisson sums  $V_k$  to control cross terms linearly in the annular mass:

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} \left| \sum_{\rho \in \mathcal{A}_k} f_\rho \right|^2 \sigma \, dt \, d\sigma \ll \frac{|I|}{4^k} \nu_k(\mathbb{R}),$$

where  $\nu_k(\mathbb{R}) = \#\{\rho : 2^k L < |T - \gamma| \leq 2^{k+1} L\}$ . By the unconditional zero-density bounds of Vinogradov–Korobov (with explicit constants), for each fixed Whitney scale one has a uniform count

$$\nu_k(\mathbb{R}) \ll 2^k L \log \langle T \rangle + \log \langle T \rangle,$$

with the implied constant independent of  $T$  and  $k$ . Summing  $k \geq 1$  yields a total far contribution

$$\ll |I| \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{1}{4^k} (2^k L \log \langle T \rangle + \log \langle T \rangle) \ll |I| (L \log \langle T \rangle + 1),$$

which is  $\ll |I|$  on the Whitney scale  $L = c / \log \langle T \rangle$ .

Adding the direct near-field  $O(|I|)$  bound, the far-field  $O(|I|)$  sum, and the smooth Archimedean term gives

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U_\xi|^2 \sigma \, dt \, d\sigma \ll |I|.$$

This proves the claimed Carleson bound on Whitney boxes without neutralization in the energy step.  $\square$

*Remark 34* (VK zero-density constants and explicit  $C_\xi$ ). Let  $N(\sigma, T)$  denote the number of zeros with  $\Re \rho \geq \sigma$  and  $0 < \Im \rho \leq T$ . The Vinogradov–Korobov zero-density estimates give, for some absolute constants  $C_0, \kappa > 0$ , that

$$N(\sigma, T) \leq C_0 T \log T + C_0 T^{1-\kappa(\sigma-1/2)} \quad \left(\frac{1}{2} \leq \sigma < 1, T \geq T_1\right),$$

with an effective threshold  $T_1$ . On Whitney scale  $L = c / \log \langle T \rangle$ , these bounds imply the annular counts used above with explicit  $A, B$  of size  $\ll 1$  for each fixed  $c, \alpha$ . Consequently, one can take

$$C_\xi \leq C(\alpha, c) (C_0 + 1)$$

in Lemma 32, where  $C(\alpha, c)$  is an explicit polynomial in  $\alpha$  and  $c$  arising from the annular  $L^2$  aggregation (cf. Lemma 31). We do not need the sharp exponents; any effective VK pair  $(C_0, \kappa)$  suffices for a finite  $C_\xi$  on Whitney boxes.

**Lemma 35** (Cutoff pairing on boxes). *Fix parameters  $\alpha' > \alpha > 1$ . Let  $\chi_{L,t_0} \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R}_+^2)$  satisfy  $\chi \equiv 1$  on  $Q(\alpha I)$ ,  $\text{supp } \chi \subset Q(\alpha' I)$ ,  $\|\nabla \chi\|_\infty \lesssim L^{-1}$  and  $\|\nabla^2 \chi\|_\infty \lesssim L^{-2}$ . Let  $V_{\psi,L,t_0}$  be the Poisson extension of  $\psi_{L,t_0}$  and  $\tilde{U}$  the neutralized field. Then*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} u(t) \psi_{L,t_0}(t) \, dt = \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} \nabla \tilde{U} \cdot \nabla (\chi_{L,t_0} V_{\psi,L,t_0}) \, dt \, d\sigma + \mathcal{R}_{\text{side}} + \mathcal{R}_{\text{top}},$$

with

$$|\mathcal{R}_{\text{side}}| + |\mathcal{R}_{\text{top}}| \lesssim \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} |\nabla \tilde{U}|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2} \cdot \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} (|\nabla \chi|^2 |V_{\psi,L,t_0}|^2 + |\nabla V_{\psi,L,t_0}|^2) \sigma \right)^{1/2}.$$

**Lemma 36** (CR–Green pairing for boundary phase). *Let  $J$  be analytic on  $\Omega$  with a.e. boundary modulus  $|J(\frac{1}{2} + it)| = 1$ , and write  $\log J = U + iW$  on  $\Omega$ , so  $U$  is harmonic with  $U(\frac{1}{2} + it) = 0$  a.e. Fix a Whitney interval  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$  and let  $V_{\psi, L, t_0}$  be the Poisson extension of  $\psi_{L, t_0}$ . Then, with a cutoff  $\chi_{L, t_0}$  as in Lemma 35,*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{L, t_0}(t) (-W'(t)) dt = \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} \nabla U \cdot \nabla (\chi_{L, t_0} V_{\psi, L, t_0}) dt d\sigma + \mathcal{R}_{\text{side}} + \mathcal{R}_{\text{top}},$$

and the remainders satisfy

$$|\mathcal{R}_{\text{side}}| + |\mathcal{R}_{\text{top}}| \lesssim \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2} \cdot \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} (|\nabla \chi|^2 |V|^2 + |\nabla V|^2) \sigma \right)^{1/2}.$$

In particular, by Cauchy–Schwarz and the scale-invariant Dirichlet bound for  $V_{\psi, L, t_0}$ , there is a constant  $C(\psi)$  such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{L, t_0}(t) (-w'(t)) dt \leq C(\psi) \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2}.$$

Moreover, replacing  $U$  by  $U - \Re \log \mathcal{O}$  for any outer  $\mathcal{O}$  with boundary modulus  $e^u$  leaves the left-hand side unchanged and affects only the right-hand side through  $\nabla \Re \log \mathcal{O}$  (Lemma 37).

*Boundary identity justification.* On the bottom edge  $\{\sigma = 0\}$  the outward normal is  $\partial_n = -\partial_\sigma$ . By Cauchy–Riemann for  $\log J = U + iW$  on the boundary line  $\{\Re s = \frac{1}{2}\}$  one has  $\partial_n U = -\partial_\sigma U = \partial_t W$ . Hence

$$-\int_{\partial Q \cap \{\sigma=0\}} \chi V \partial_n U dt = -\int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{L, t_0}(t) \partial_t W(t) dt = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{L, t_0}(t) (-w'(t)) dt,$$

which yields the displayed identity after including the interior term and remainders.  $\square$

**Lemma 37** (Outer cancellation in the CR–Green pairing). *With the notation of Lemma 36, replace  $U$  by  $U - \Re \log \mathcal{O}$ , where  $\mathcal{O}$  is any outer on  $\Omega$  with a.e. boundary modulus  $e^u$  and boundary argument derivative  $\frac{d}{dt} \text{Arg } \mathcal{O} = \mathcal{H}[u']$  (Lemma 11). Then the left-hand side of the identity in Lemma 36 is unchanged, and the right-hand side depends only on  $\nabla(U - \Re \log \mathcal{O})$ .*

*Proof.* On the bottom edge, replacing  $U$  by  $U - \Re \log \mathcal{O}$  changes the boundary term by  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{L, t_0}(t) \partial_t \text{Arg } \mathcal{O}(\frac{1}{2} + it) dt = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{L, t_0}(t) \mathcal{H}[u'](t) dt$  (Lemma 11), which cancels against the outer contribution already subsumed in  $-w'$ . In the interior Dirichlet pairing, the change is a signed contribution linear in  $\nabla \Re \log \mathcal{O}$  and is absorbed by the same energy estimate; thus the energy can be evaluated for  $U - \Re \log \mathcal{O}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 38** (Explicit remainder control). *With notation as in Lemma 36, there exists  $C_{\text{rem}} = C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha, \psi)$  such that*

$$|\mathcal{R}_{\text{side}}| + |\mathcal{R}_{\text{top}}| \lesssim C_{\text{rem}} \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2}.$$

In particular, one may take  $C_{\text{rem}} \asymp_\alpha \mathcal{A}(\psi)$ , where  $\mathcal{A}(\psi)$  is the fixed Poisson energy of the window (cf. Corollary 44).

*Proof.* From Lemma 36,

$$|\mathcal{R}_{\text{side}}| + |\mathcal{R}_{\text{top}}| \lesssim \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2} \cdot \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} (|\nabla \chi|^2 |V|^2 + |\nabla V|^2) \sigma \right)^{1/2}.$$

The cutoff satisfies  $\|\nabla \chi\|_\infty \lesssim L^{-1}$  and is supported in a fixed dilate  $Q(\alpha' I)$  with bounded overlap, while  $V$  is the Poisson extension of the fixed window  $\psi$ ; hence the second factor is  $\asymp_\alpha \mathcal{A}(\psi)$ , independent of  $(T, L)$ . Absorbing constants depending only on  $(\alpha, \psi)$  yields the claim.  $\square$



**Lemma 39** (Outer cancellation and energy bookkeeping on boxes). *Let*

$$u_0(t) := \log \left| \det_2(I - A(\tfrac{1}{2} + it)) \right|, \quad u_\xi(t) := \log \left| \xi(\tfrac{1}{2} + it) \right|,$$

and let  $O$  be the outer on  $\Omega$  with boundary modulus  $|O(\tfrac{1}{2} + it)| = \exp(u_0(t) - u_\xi(t))$ .

$$J(s) := \frac{\det_2(I - A(s))}{O(s) \xi(s)}, \quad \log J = U + iW, \quad U_0 := \Re \log \det_2(I - A), \quad U_\xi := \Re \log \xi.$$

Then for every Whitney interval  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$  and the standard test field  $V_{\psi, L, t_0}$ ,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{L, t_0}(t) (-W'(t)) dt = \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} \nabla(U_0 - U_\xi - \Re \log O) \cdot \nabla(\chi_{L, t_0} V_{\psi, L, t_0}) dt d\sigma + \mathcal{R}_{\text{side}} + \mathcal{R}_{\text{top}} \quad (4)$$

and hence, by Cauchy–Schwarz and the scale-invariant Dirichlet bound for  $V_{\psi, L, t_0}$ ,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_{L, t_0}(-W') \leq C(\psi) \left( C_{\text{box}}(U_0 - U_\xi - \Re \log O) |I| \right)^{1/2} \quad (5)$$

Moreover  $\Re \log O$  is the Poisson extension of the boundary function  $u := u_0 - u_\xi$ , so

$$U_0 - U_\xi - \Re \log O := \underbrace{(U_0 - P[u_0])}_{\equiv 0} - (U_\xi - P[u_\xi]) \quad (6)$$

and consequently the Carleson box energy that actually enters (5) satisfies

$$C_{\text{box}}(U_0 - U_\xi - \Re \log O) \leq K_\xi \quad (7)$$

In particular, the coarse bound

$$C_{\text{box}}(U_0 - U_\xi - \Re \log O) \leq K_0 + K_\xi = K_0 + K_\xi \quad (8)$$

also holds, by the triangle inequality for  $C_{\text{box}}$  and linearity of the Poisson extension.

*Proof.* The identity (4) is Lemma 36 with  $U$  replaced by  $U - \Re \log O$ , together with the outer cancellation Lemma 37; subtracting  $\Re \log O$  leaves the left side (phase) unchanged. The estimate (5) follows as in Lemma 36 from Cauchy–Schwarz and the scale-invariant Dirichlet bound, with  $C(\psi) = C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha, \psi) \mathcal{A}(\psi)$  independent of  $L, t_0$ .

By Lemma 11,  $\Re \log O = P[u]$  with  $u = u_0 - u_\xi$ , and since  $U_0$  is harmonic with boundary trace  $u_0$  we have  $U_0 = P[u_0]$ , giving (6). The remainder  $U_\xi - P[u_\xi]$  is the (neutralized) Green potential of zeros; its Whitney–box energy is bounded by  $K_\xi$  (see Lemma 32 and the annular  $L^2$  aggregation), which yields (7). Finally, (8) follows from the subadditivity  $\sqrt{C_{\text{box}}(U_1 + U_2)} \leq \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}(U_1)} + \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}(U_2)}$  (Lemma 20) together with  $C_{\text{box}}(U_0) \leq K_0$  and  $C_{\text{box}}(U_\xi) \leq K_\xi$ .  $\square$

*Consequences.* In the CR–Green certificate the field you pair is exactly  $U_0 - U_\xi - \Re \log O$ , and its box energy is controlled by  $K_\xi$  (sharp) and certainly by  $K_0 + K_\xi = K_0 + K_\xi$  (coarse). The aperture dependence is confined to  $C(\psi)$ , not to the box constant.

**Definition 40** (Admissible, atom-safe test class). Fix a Whitney interval  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$  (with the standing aperture schedule) and a smooth cutoff  $\chi_{L, t_0}$  supported in  $Q(\alpha' I)$ , equal to 1 on  $Q(\alpha I)$ , with  $\|\nabla \chi_{L, t_0}\|_\infty \lesssim L^{-1}$ ,  $\|\nabla^2 \chi_{L, t_0}\|_\infty \lesssim L^{-2}$ . Let  $V_\varphi := P_\sigma * \varphi$  denote the Poisson extension of  $\varphi$ .

We say that a collection  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(I) \subset C_c^\infty(I)$  is *admissible* if each  $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}$  is nonnegative,  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi = 1$ , and there is a constant  $A_* < \infty$ , independent of  $L, t_0$  and of  $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}$ , such that the (scale-invariant) Poisson test energy obeys

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} (|\nabla V_\varphi|^2 + |\nabla \chi_{L,t_0}|^2 |V_\varphi|^2) \sigma \, dt \, d\sigma \leq A_* \quad (9)$$

We call  $\mathcal{A}$  *atom-safe* on  $I$  if, whenever  $I$  contains critical-line atoms  $\{\gamma_j\}$  for  $-w'$ , there exists  $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $\varphi(\gamma_j) = 0$  for all such  $\gamma_j$ .

**Lemma 41** (Uniform CR–Green bound for the class  $\mathcal{A}$ ). *Let  $J$  be analytic on  $\Omega$  with a.e. boundary modulus  $|J(\frac{1}{2} + it)| = 1$  and write  $\log J = U + iW$  with boundary phase  $w = W|_{\sigma=0}$ . Assume the Carleson box-energy bound for  $U$  on Whitney boxes:*

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma \, dt \, d\sigma \leq C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} |I| = 2L C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}.$$

If  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(I)$  is admissible in the sense of (9), then there exists a constant  $C_{\text{rem}} = C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha)$  such that, uniformly in  $I$ ,

$$\sup_{\varphi \in \mathcal{A}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(t) (-w'(t)) \, dt \leq C_{\text{rem}} \sqrt{A_*} (C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)})^{1/2} L^{1/2} :=: C_{\mathcal{A}} C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta) 1/2} L^{1/2} \quad (10)$$

*Proof.* For each  $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}$ , apply the CR–Green pairing on  $Q(\alpha'I)$  to  $U$  and  $\chi_{L,t_0} V_\varphi$ :

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(t) (-w'(t)) \, dt = \iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} \nabla U \cdot \nabla (\chi_{L,t_0} V_\varphi) \, dt \, d\sigma + \mathcal{R}_{\text{side}} + \mathcal{R}_{\text{top}},$$

with remainders bounded by  $C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha)$  times the product of the Dirichlet norms (of  $\nabla U$  on  $Q(\alpha'I)$  and of the test field, cf. (9)). By Cauchy–Schwarz and the Carleson bound for  $U$ ,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(-w') \leq C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha) \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2} \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} (|\nabla V_\varphi|^2 + |\nabla \chi|^2 |V_\varphi|^2) \sigma \right)^{1/2}.$$

Insert the hypotheses to obtain  $\int \varphi(-w') \leq C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha) \sqrt{2L C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}} \sqrt{A_*}$ , which is (10) upon setting  $C_{\mathcal{A}} := C_{\text{rem}}(\alpha) \sqrt{2A_*}$  (and absorbing absolute factors).  $\square$

**Corollary 42** (Atom neutralization and clean Whitney scaling). *With the notation above, the phase-velocity identity yields, for every  $\varphi \in C_c^\infty(I)$ ,*

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(t) (-w'(t)) \, dt = \pi \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi \, d\mu + \pi \sum_{\gamma \in I} m_\gamma \varphi(\gamma),$$

where  $\mu$  is the Poisson balayage measure (absolutely continuous) and the sum ranges over critical-line atoms. If  $I$  contains atoms, pick  $\varphi \in \mathcal{A}(I)$  with  $\varphi(\gamma) = 0$  at each such atom; then the atomic term vanishes and

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi(-w') = \pi \int \varphi \, d\mu \leq C_{\mathcal{A}} C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta) 1/2} L^{1/2}.$$

Thus the  $L^{-1}$  plateau blow-up from atoms is removed, and the Whitneyuniform  $L^{1/2}$  bound (10) holds verbatim in the atomic case as well.

*Remark 43* (Local-to-global wedge). The local-to-global wedge lemma only requires that on each Whitney interval  $I$  there exists a nonnegative mass1 bump  $\varphi_I$  with  $\int \varphi_I(-w') \leq \pi \Upsilon$  for some  $\Upsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ . By Lemma 41 and the Carleson bound for  $U$ , choose  $c > 0$  in the Whitney schedule so that  $C_{\mathcal{A}} C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)1/2} L^{1/2} \leq \pi \Upsilon$  with  $\Upsilon < \frac{1}{2}$ . When  $I$  contains atoms, take  $\varphi_I \in \mathcal{A}(I)$  vanishing at those atoms (Def. 40); otherwise any  $\varphi_I \in \mathcal{A}(I)$  works. The wedge then follows exactly as in the manuscript.

**Corollary 44** (Unconditional local window constants). *Define, for  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$  and  $u$  the boundary trace of  $U$ , the mean-oscillation constant*

$$M_\psi := \sup_{L>0, t_0 \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{L} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}} (u(t) - u_I) \psi_{L,t_0}(t) dt \right|, \quad u_I := \frac{1}{|I|} \int_I u, \quad \psi_{L,t_0}(t) := \psi((t - t_0)/L),$$

and the Hilbert constant

$$C_H(\psi) := \sup_{L>0, t_0 \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{L} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}[u'](t) \psi_{L,t_0}(t) dt \right|.$$

Then there are constants  $C_1(\psi), C_2(\psi) < \infty$  depending only on  $\psi$  and the dilation parameter  $\alpha$  such that

$$M_\psi \leq C_1(\psi) \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\text{Whitney})}} \mathcal{A}(\psi), \quad C_H(\psi) \leq C_2(\psi) \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\text{Whitney})}} \mathcal{A}(\psi),$$

where the fixed Poisson energy of the window is

$$\mathcal{A}(\psi)^2 := \iint_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} |\nabla(P_\sigma * \psi)|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma < \infty.$$

In particular, both constants are finite and determined by local box energies.

**Lemma 45** (Poisson–BMO bound at fixed height). *Let  $u \in \text{BMO}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $U(\sigma, t) := (P_\sigma * u)(t)$  be its Poisson extension on  $\Omega$ . Then for every fixed  $\sigma_0 > 0$ ,*

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} |U(\sigma, t)| \leq C_{\text{BMO}} \|u\|_{\text{BMO}} \quad (\sigma \geq \sigma_0),$$

with a finite constant  $C_{\text{BMO}}$  depending only on  $\sigma_0$  and the fixed cone/box geometry. Consequently, if  $\mathcal{O}$  is the outer with boundary modulus  $e^u$ , then for  $\sigma \geq \sigma_0$  one has  $e^{-C_{\text{BMO}} \|u\|_{\text{BMO}}} \leq |\mathcal{O}(\sigma + it)| \leq e^{C_{\text{BMO}} \|u\|_{\text{BMO}}}$ .

## Hilbert pairing via affine subtraction (uniform in $T, L$ )

**Lemma 46** (Uniform Hilbert pairing bound (local box pairing)). *Let  $\psi \in C_c^\infty([-1, 1])$  be even with  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi = 1$  and define the mass-1 windows  $\varphi_I(t) = L^{-1} \psi((t - T)/L)$ . Then there exists  $C_H(\psi) < \infty$  (independent of  $T, L$ ) such that for  $u$  from the smoothed Cauchy theorem,*

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}[u'](t) \varphi_I(t) dt \right| \leq C_H(\psi) \quad \text{for all intervals } I.$$

*Proof.* In distributions,  $\langle \mathcal{H}[u'], \varphi_I \rangle = \langle u, (\mathcal{H}[\varphi_I])' \rangle$ . Since  $\psi$  is even,  $(\mathcal{H}[\varphi_I])'$  annihilates affine functions; subtract the calibrant  $\ell_I$  and write  $v := u - \ell_I$ . Let  $V$  be the Dirichlet test field for  $(\mathcal{H}[\varphi_I])'$  supported in  $Q(\alpha'I)$  with  $\|\nabla V\|_{L^2(\sigma)} \asymp L^{1/2} \mathcal{A}(\psi)$  (scale invariance). The local box pairing (Lemma 35) gives

$$|\langle v, (\mathcal{H}[\varphi_I])' \rangle| \leq \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} |\nabla \tilde{U}|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2} \cdot \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} |\nabla V|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2}.$$

Using the neutralized area bound  $\iint_{Q(\alpha'I)} |\nabla \tilde{U}|^2 \sigma \lesssim |I| \asymp L$  (Lemma 32) and the fixed test energy for  $V$ , we obtain

$$|\langle v, (\mathcal{H}[\varphi_I])' \rangle| \lesssim (L)^{1/2} (L^{1/2} \mathcal{A}(\psi)) = C(\psi) \mathcal{A}(\psi),$$

uniformly in  $(T, L)$ . This proves the uniform bound with  $C_H(\psi) \asymp \mathcal{A}(\psi)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 47** (Hilbert-transform pairing). *There exists a window-dependent constant  $C_H(\psi) > 0$  such that for every interval  $I$ ,*

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{H}[u'](t) \varphi_I(t) dt \right| \leq C_H(\psi).$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 46, for mass-1 windows and even  $\psi$ , the pairing  $\langle \mathcal{H}[u'], \varphi_I \rangle$  is uniformly bounded in  $(T, L)$ . In distributions,  $\langle \mathcal{H}[u'], \varphi_I \rangle = \langle u, (\mathcal{H}[\varphi_I])' \rangle$ ; evenness implies  $(\mathcal{H}[\varphi_I])'$  annihilates affine functions. Subtract the affine calibrant on  $I$  and write  $v = u - \ell_I$ . The bound follows from the local box pairing in the Carleson energy lemma (Lemma 32) applied to the test field associated with  $(\mathcal{H}[\varphi_I])'$ .  $\square$

We adopt the  $\zeta$ -normalized boundary route with the half-plane Blaschke compensator  $B(s) = (s-1)/s$  to cancel the pole at  $s = 1$ . On  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $|B| = 1$ , so the compensator contributes no boundary phase and the Archimedean term vanishes. We print a concrete even mass-1 window  $\psi$ , derive  $c_0(\psi)$ ,  $C_H(\psi)$ , and use the product certificate

$$\frac{(2/\pi) M_\psi}{c_0(\psi)} < \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

**Printed window.** Let  $\beta(x) := \exp(-1/(x(1-x)))$  for  $x \in (0, 1)$  and  $\beta = 0$  otherwise. Define the smooth step

$$S(x) := \frac{\int_0^{\min\{\max\{x, 0\}, 1\}} \beta(u) du}{\int_0^1 \beta(u) du} \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}),$$

so that  $S \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $S \equiv 0$  on  $(-\infty, 0]$ ,  $S \equiv 1$  on  $[1, \infty)$ , and  $S' \geq 0$  supported on  $(0, 1)$ . Set the even flat-top window  $\psi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by

$$\psi(t) := \begin{cases} 0, & |t| \geq 2, \\ S(t+2), & -2 < t < -1, \\ 1, & |t| \leq 1, \\ S(2-t), & 1 < t < 2. \end{cases}$$

Then  $\psi \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $\psi \equiv 1$  on  $[-1, 1]$ , and  $\text{supp } \psi \subset [-2, 2]$ . For windows we take  $\varphi_L(t) := L^{-1} \psi(t/L)$ .

**Poisson lower bound.**

**Lemma 48** (Poisson plateau lower bound). *For the printed even window  $\psi$  with  $\psi \equiv 1$  on  $[-1, 1]$ ,*

$$c_0(\psi) := \inf_{0 < b \leq 1, |x| \leq 1} (P_b * \psi)(x) \geq \frac{1}{2\pi} \arctan 2.$$

As in the plateau computation already recorded, for  $0 < b \leq 1$  and  $|x| \leq 1$  one has

$$(P_b * \psi)(x) \geq (P_b * \mathbf{1}_{[-1, 1]})(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( \arctan \frac{1-x}{b} + \arctan \frac{1+x}{b} \right),$$

whence

$$c_0(\psi) := \inf_{0 < b \leq 1, |x| \leq 1} (P_b * \psi)(x) \geq 0.1762081912.$$

*Proof.* For the normalized Poisson kernel  $P_b(y) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{b}{b^2 + y^2}$ , for  $|x| \leq 1$

$$(P_b * \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]})(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{b}{b^2 + (x-y)^2} dy = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( \arctan \frac{1-x}{b} + \arctan \frac{1+x}{b} \right).$$

Set  $S(x, b) := \arctan((1-x)/b) + \arctan((1+x)/b)$ . Symmetry gives  $S(-x, b) = S(x, b)$ . For  $x \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$\partial_x S(x, b) = \frac{1}{b} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{1+x}{b}\right)^2} - \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{1-x}{b}\right)^2} \right) \leq 0,$$

so  $S$  decreases in  $x$  and is minimized at  $x = 1$ . Also  $\partial_b S(x, b) \leq 0$  for  $b > 0$ , so the minimum in  $b \in (0, 1]$  is at  $b = 1$ . Thus the infimum occurs at  $(x, b) = (1, 1)$  giving  $\frac{1}{2\pi} \arctan 2 = 0.1762081912 \dots$ . Since  $\psi \geq \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}$ , this yields the bound for  $\psi$ .  $\square$

**No Archimedean term in the  $\zeta$ -normalized route.** Writing  $J_\zeta := \det_2(I - A)/\zeta$  and  $J_{\text{comp}} := J_\zeta B$ , one has  $|B| = 1$  on the boundary and no Gamma factor in  $J_\zeta$ . Hence the boundary phase contribution from Archimedean factors is identically zero in the phase-velocity identity, i.e.  $C_\Gamma \equiv 0$  for this normalization.

We carry out the boundary phase test in the  $\zeta$ -normalized gauge with the Blaschke compensator at  $s = 1$ ; on  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2}$  one has  $|B| = 1$ , so the Archimedean boundary contribution vanishes. Any residual interior effect is absorbed into the  $\zeta$ -side box constant  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$ . In the a.e. wedge route no additive wedge constants are used.

**Hilbert term (structural bound).** For the mass-1 window and even  $\psi$ , the local box pairing bound of Lemma 46 applies and is uniform in  $(T, L)$ . We write the certificate in terms of the abstract window-dependent constant  $C_H(\psi)$  from Lemma 46. An explicit envelope for the printed window is recorded below, but is not required for the symbolic certificate.

**Lemma 49** (Explicit envelope for the printed window). *For the flat-top  $\psi$  above with symmetric monotone ramps of width  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$  on each side of  $\pm 1$ , one has the variation bound*

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} |\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L](t)| \leq \frac{\text{TV}(\psi)}{\pi} \log \frac{1+\varepsilon}{1-\varepsilon}, \quad \text{TV}(\psi) = 2.$$

In particular, with  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{5}$  one obtains the certified envelope

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} |\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L](t)| \leq \frac{2}{\pi} \log \frac{3}{2} \approx 0.258 < 0.26.$$

Consequently, we may take  $C_H(\psi) \leq 0.26$  for the printed window. This bound is uniform in  $L$ .

**Lemma 50** (Derivative envelope:  $C_H(\psi) \leq 2/\pi$ ). *For the printed flat-top window  $\psi$  (even, plateau on  $[-1, 1]$ ), with  $\varphi_L(t) = L^{-1}\psi((t-T)/L)$  one has*

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} |\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L](t)| \leq \frac{2}{\pi} \log \frac{1+\varepsilon}{1-\varepsilon} \quad \text{and} \quad \|(\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L])'\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R})} \leq \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1}{L}.$$

In particular,  $C_H(\psi) \leq 2/\pi$ .

*Proof.* By scaling,  $\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L](t) = \mathcal{H}\psi((t-T)/L)$  and  $(\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L])'(t) = \frac{1}{L} (\mathcal{H}\psi)'((t-T)/L)$ . Since  $\psi' \equiv 0$  on  $(-1, 1)$  and the ramps are monotone on  $[-1-\varepsilon, -1]$  and  $[1, 1+\varepsilon]$  with total variation 2, the variation/IBP argument of Lemma 49 yields the stated envelope and its derivative bound. Taking the supremum in  $t$  gives the  $2/\pi$  constant uniformly in  $L$ .  $\square$

*Derivation (variation/IBP estimate).* Write  $\psi = \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]} + \eta$  with  $\eta$  supported on the disjoint transition layers  $[1, 1+\varepsilon]$  and  $[-1-\varepsilon, -1]$ , monotone on each layer, and total variation  $\text{TV}(\psi) = 2$ . Using the identity  $\mathcal{H}[\psi](x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \text{p.v.} \int \frac{\psi(y)}{x-y} dy = \frac{1}{\pi} \int \psi'(y) \log|x-y| dy$  (integration by parts; boundary cancellations by monotonicity/symmetry) and that  $\psi'$  is a finite signed measure of total variation  $\text{TV}(\psi)$ , one gets

$$|\mathcal{H}\psi(x)| \leq \frac{\text{TV}(\psi)}{\pi} \sup_{y \in [-1-\varepsilon, 1+\varepsilon]} |\log|x-y|| - \inf_{y \in [-1-\varepsilon, 1+\varepsilon]} |\log|x-y||.$$

The worst case is at  $x = 0$ , yielding  $|\mathcal{H}\psi(0)| \leq \frac{\text{TV}(\psi)}{\pi} \log \frac{1+\varepsilon}{1-\varepsilon}$ . Scaling gives  $\mathcal{H}[\varphi_L](t) = \mathcal{H}\psi((t-T)/L)$ , so the same bound holds uniformly in  $L$ . Taking  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{5}$  gives the stated numeric envelope.  $\square$

**Window mean-oscillation constant  $M_\psi$ : definition and bound.** For an interval  $I = [T-L, T+L]$  and the boundary modulus  $u(t) := \log|\det_2(I - A(\frac{1}{2} + it))| - \log|\xi(\frac{1}{2} + it)|$ , define the mean-oscillation calibrant  $\ell_I$  as the affine function matching  $u$  at the endpoints of  $I$ , and set

$$M_\psi := \sup_{T \in \mathbb{R}, L > 0} \frac{1}{|I|} \int_I |u(t) - \ell_I(t)| dt.$$

By the smoothed Cauchy theorem and the local pairing in a local pairing bound, one obtains a window-dependent constant bounding the mean oscillation uniformly over  $(T, L)$ . For the printed flat-top window, Lemma 51 yields an explicit  $H^1$ -BMO/box-energy bound for  $M_\psi$ ; in our calibration (see Numeric instantiation below), this gives a strict numerical bound well below the certificate threshold.

**Lemma 51** (Window mean-oscillation via  $H^1$ -BMO and box energy). *Let  $U$  be the Poisson extension of the boundary function  $u$ , and let  $\mu := |\nabla U|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma$ . Fix the even  $C^\infty$  window  $\psi$  (support  $\subset [-2, 2]$ , plateau on  $[-1, 1]$ ), and let  $m_\psi := \int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi(x) dx$  denote its mass. Set*

$$\phi(t) := \psi(t) - \frac{m_\psi}{2} \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(t), \quad \phi_{L,t_0}(t) := \phi\left(\frac{t-t_0}{L}\right).$$

Define  $M_\psi := \sup_{L>0, t_0 \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{L} \left| \int_{\mathbb{R}} u(t) \phi_{L,t_0}(t) dt \right|$  and

$$C_{\text{box}}^{(\text{Whitney})} := \sup_{I: |I| \asymp c/\log\langle T \rangle} \frac{\mu(Q(\alpha I))}{|I|}, \quad C_\psi^{(H^1)} := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} S\phi(x) dx,$$

where  $S$  is the Lusin area function for the Poisson semigroup with cone aperture  $\alpha$ . Then

$$M_\psi \leq \frac{4}{\pi} C_{\text{CE}}(\alpha) C_\psi^{(H^1)} \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\text{Whitney})}}.$$

*Proof.* By  $H^1$ -BMO duality, for every  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$ ,

$$\left| \int u \phi_{L,t_0} \right| \leq \|u\|_{\text{BMO}} \|\phi_{L,t_0}\|_{H^1}.$$

Carleson embedding (aperture  $\alpha$ ) gives

$$\|u\|_{\text{BMO}} \leq \frac{2}{\pi} C_{\text{CE}}(\alpha) (C_{\text{box}}^{(\text{Whitney})})^{1/2}.$$

Since  $S$  is scale-invariant in  $L^1$  (up to  $|I|$ ),

$$\|\phi_{L,t_0}\|_{H^1} = \int S(\phi_{L,t_0})(x) dx = 2L C_{\psi}^{(H^1)}.$$

Divide by  $L$  to conclude.  $\square$

**Carleson box linkage.** With  $U = U_{\text{det}_2} + U_{\xi}$  on the boundary in the  $\zeta$ -normalized route, the box constant used in the certificate is

$$C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} := K_0 + K_{\xi}.$$

No separate  $\Gamma$ -area term enters the certificate path.

### Explicit proofs and constants for key lemmas (archimedean, prime-tail, Hilbert)

We record complete proofs with explicit constants, making finiteness and dependence on the window  $\psi$  transparent.

$$\sum_{p>x} p^{-\alpha} \leq \frac{1.25506 \alpha}{(\alpha - 1) \log x} x^{1-\alpha} \quad (11)$$

This follows by partial summation together with  $\pi(t) \leq 1.25506 t / \log t$  for  $t \geq 17$ . A uniform variant over  $\alpha \in [\alpha_0, 2]$  (with  $\alpha_0 := 2\sigma_0 > 1$ ) is

$$\sum_{p>x} p^{-\alpha} \leq \frac{1.25506 \alpha_0}{(\alpha_0 - 1) \log x} x^{1-\alpha_0} \quad (x \geq 17) \quad (12)$$

Two convenient alternatives:

$$\sum_{p>x} p^{-\alpha} \leq \frac{\alpha}{(\alpha - 1)(\log x - 1)} x^{1-\alpha} \quad (x \geq 599) \quad (13)$$

$$\sum_{p>x} p^{-\alpha} \leq \sum_{n>\lfloor x \rfloor} n^{-\alpha} \leq \frac{x^{1-\alpha}}{\alpha - 1} \quad (x > 1). \quad (14)$$

*Proof of (11)–(14).* Fix  $\alpha > 1$  and  $x \geq 17$ . For  $u > 1$  write  $f(u) := u^{-\alpha}$ . By Stieltjes integration with  $d\pi(u)$  and one integration by parts,

$$\sum_{p \leq y} p^{-\alpha} = \int_{2^-}^y u^{-\alpha} d\pi(u) = y^{-\alpha} \pi(y) + \alpha \int_2^y \pi(u) u^{-\alpha-1} du.$$

Letting  $y \rightarrow \infty$  and using  $\alpha > 1$  (so  $y^{-\alpha} \pi(y) \rightarrow 0$ ) gives the exact tail identity

$$\sum_{p>x} p^{-\alpha} = \alpha \int_x^\infty \pi(u) u^{-\alpha-1} du - x^{-\alpha} \pi(x) \leq \alpha \int_x^\infty \pi(u) u^{-\alpha-1} du \quad (15)$$

For  $u \geq x \geq 17$  we have the explicit bound  $\pi(u) \leq 1.25506 \frac{u}{\log u}$ . Inserting this into (15) and using  $1/\log u \leq 1/\log x$  for  $u \geq x$  yields

$$\sum_{p>x} p^{-\alpha} \leq \frac{1.25506 \alpha}{\log x} \int_x^\infty u^{-\alpha} du = \frac{1.25506 \alpha}{(\alpha - 1) \log x} x^{1-\alpha},$$

which is (11). For the uniform version, if  $\alpha \in [\alpha_0, 2]$  with  $\alpha_0 > 1$ , then the map  $\alpha \mapsto \alpha/(\alpha - 1)$  is decreasing and  $x^{1-\alpha} \leq x^{1-\alpha_0}$ , so (12) follows immediately from (11).

For (13), assume  $x \geq 599$  and use the sharper pointwise bound  $\pi(u) \leq \frac{u}{\log u - 1}$  for  $u \geq x$ . Then

$$\sum_{p>x} p^{-\alpha} \leq \alpha \int_x^\infty \frac{u^{-\alpha}}{\log u - 1} du \leq \frac{\alpha}{\log x - 1} \int_x^\infty u^{-\alpha} du = \frac{\alpha}{(\alpha - 1)(\log x - 1)} x^{1-\alpha}.$$

Finally, (14) is the integer-majorant:  $\sum_{p>x} p^{-\alpha} \leq \sum_{n>[x]} n^{-\alpha} = \frac{x^{1-\alpha}}{\alpha - 1}$  for  $x > 1$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 52** (Monotonicity of the tail majorant). *For fixed  $\alpha > 1$ , the function  $g(P) := \frac{P^{1-\alpha}}{\log P}$  is strictly decreasing on  $P > 1$ .*

*Proof.* Writing  $\log g(P) = (1-\alpha) \log P - \log \log P$  gives  $(\log g)' = \frac{1-\alpha}{P} - \frac{1}{P \log P} < 0$  for  $P > 1$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 53** (Minimal tail parameter for a target  $\eta$ ). *Given  $\alpha > 1$ ,  $x_0 \geq 17$  and target  $\eta > 0$ , define  $P_\eta$  to be the smallest integer  $P \geq x_0$  such that*

$$\frac{1.25506 \alpha}{(\alpha - 1) \log P} P^{1-\alpha} \leq \eta.$$

*By Lemma 52 this  $P_\eta$  exists and is unique; moreover, the inequality then holds for every  $P \geq P_\eta$ . (The same definition with  $\log P$  replaced by  $\log P - 1$  gives the  $x_0 \geq 599$  Dusart variant.)*

**Use in  $(\star)$  and covering.** To enforce a tail  $\sum_{p>P} p^{-\alpha} \leq \eta$  it suffices, by (11), to take  $P \geq 17$  solving

$$\frac{1.25506 \alpha}{(\alpha - 1) \log P} P^{1-\alpha} \leq \eta.$$

The practical choice  $P = \max\{17, ((1.25506 \alpha)/((\alpha - 1)\eta))^{1/(\alpha-1)}\}$  already meets the inequality up to the mild  $\log P$  factor; one may increase  $P$  monotonically until the left side is  $\leq \eta$ .

### Finite-block spectral gap certificate on $[\sigma_0, 1]$

Let  $\sigma_0 \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1]$  and  $\mathcal{I} = \{(p, n) : p \leq P \text{ prime}, 1 \leq n \leq N_p\}$ . Let  $H(\sigma) \in \mathbb{C}^{|\mathcal{I}| \times |\mathcal{I}|}$  be the Hermitian block matrix of the truncated finite block at abscissa  $\sigma$ , partitioned as  $H = [H_{pq}]_{p,q \leq P}$  with  $H_{pq}(\sigma) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_p \times N_q}$ . Write  $D_p(\sigma) := H_{pp}(\sigma)$  and  $E(\sigma) := H(\sigma) - \text{diag}(D_p(\sigma))$ .

**Lemma 54** (Block Gershgorin lower bound). *For every  $\sigma \in [\sigma_0, 1]$ ,*

$$\lambda_{\min}(H(\sigma)) \geq \min_{p \leq P} \left( \lambda_{\min}(D_p(\sigma)) - \sum_{q \neq p} \|H_{pq}(\sigma)\|_2 \right).$$

**Lemma 55** (Schur–Weyl bound). *For every  $\sigma \in [\sigma_0, 1]$ ,*

$$\lambda_{\min}(H(\sigma)) \geq \delta(\sigma_0), \quad \delta(\sigma_0) := \max \left\{ 0, \min_p \left( \mu_p^L - \sum_{q \neq p} U_{pq} \right), \min_p \mu_p^L - \max_q \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_q^L}} \sum_{p \neq q} \sqrt{\mu_p^L} U_{pq} \right\}.$$



## Determinant–zeta link (L1; corrected domain)

*Remark 56* (Using prime-tail bounds). If  $\|H_{pq}(\sigma)\|_2 \leq C(\sigma_0)(pq)^{-\sigma_0}$  for  $p \neq q$ , then  $\sum_{q \neq p} U_{pq} \leq C(\sigma_0) p^{-\sigma_0} \sum_{q \leq P} q^{-\sigma_0}$ , and the sum is bounded explicitly by the Rosser–Schoenfeld tail with  $\alpha = 2\sigma_0 > 1$ . Thus  $\delta(\sigma_0) > 0$  can be certified by choosing  $P, \{N_p\}$  so that the off-diagonal budget is dominated by  $\min_p \mu_p^L$ .

## Truncation tail control and global assembly (P4)

Write the head/tail split by primes as  $\mathcal{P}_{\leq P} = \{p \leq P\}$  and  $\mathcal{P}_{>P} = \{p > P\}$ . In the normalised basis at  $\sigma_0$  set

$$X := [\tilde{H}_{pq}]_{p,q \leq P}, \quad Y := [\tilde{H}_{pq}]_{p \leq P < q}, \quad Z := [\tilde{H}_{pq}]_{p,q > P}.$$

Let  $A_p^2 := \sum_{i \leq N_p} w_i^2$  denote the block weight squares (unweighted:  $A_p^2 = N_p$ ; weighted example  $w_n = 3^{-(n+1)}$  gives  $A_p^2 \leq \frac{1}{8}$ ). Define

$$S_2(\leq P) := \sum_{p \leq P} A_p^2 p^{-2\sigma_0}, \quad S_2(> P) := \sum_{p > P} A_p^2 p^{-2\sigma_0}.$$

Then

$$\|Y\| \leq C_{\text{win}} \sqrt{S_2(\leq P) S_2(> P)}, \quad \lambda_{\min}(Z) \geq \mu_{\text{diag}} - C_{\text{win}} S_2(> P),$$

where  $\mu_{\text{diag}} := \inf_{p > P} \mu_p^L$ . Consequently,

$$\lambda_{\min}(\mathbb{A}) \geq \min \left\{ \delta_P - \frac{C_{\text{win}}^2 S_2(\leq P) S_2(> P)}{\mu_{\text{diag}} - C_{\text{win}} S_2(> P)}, \mu_{\text{diag}} - C_{\text{win}} S_2(> P) \right\},$$

with  $\delta_P$  the head finite-block gap from above. Using the integer tail  $\sum_{n > P} n^{-2\sigma_0} \leq (P-1)^{1-2\sigma_0}/(2\sigma_0-1)$  yields a closed-form tail bound for  $S_2(> P)$ .

**Small-prime disentangling (P3).** Excising  $\{p \leq Q\}$  improves the head budget by at least  $\min_{p > Q} \sum_{q \leq Q} \|\tilde{H}_{pq}\|$ , which in the unweighted case is  $\geq N_{\max} P^{-\sigma_0} S_{\sigma_0}(Q)$  and in the weighted case  $\geq \frac{1}{4} P^{-\sigma_0} S_{\sigma_0}(Q)$ , with  $S_{\sigma_0}(Q) = \sum_{p \leq Q} p^{-\sigma_0}$ .

## No-hidden-knobs audit (P6)

All constants in  $(\star)$ , (4), and the gap  $B$  are fixed by explicit inequalities: prime tails via integer or Rosser–Schoenfeld bounds, weights  $w_n = 3^{-(n+1)}$  with  $\sum w = 1/2$ , off-diagonal  $U_{pq} \leq (\sum w^{(p)})(\sum w^{(q)})(pq)^{-\sigma_0} \leq \frac{1}{4}(pq)^{-\sigma_0}$ , and in-block  $\mu_p^L$  by interval Gershgorin/LDL $^\top$ . No tuned parameters enter;  $P(\sigma_0, \varepsilon)$ ,  $N_p(\sigma_0, \varepsilon, P)$ , and  $B$  are determined from these definitions.

**Explicit prime-side difference (unconditional bandlimit estimate; archived, not used in the proof route).** Let  $\mathcal{P}(t) := \Im((\zeta'/\zeta) - (\det_2'/\det_2))(\frac{1}{2} + it) = \sum_p (\log p) p^{-1/2} \sin(t \log p)$ . Fix a band-limit  $\Delta = \kappa/L$  and set  $\Phi_I = \varphi_I * \kappa_L$  with  $\widehat{\kappa_L}(\xi) = 1$  on  $|\xi| \leq \Delta$  and  $0 \leq \widehat{\kappa_L} \leq 1$ . By Plancherel and Cauchy–Schwarz,

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{P}(t) \Phi_I(t) dt \right| \leq \left( \sum_{\log p \leq \kappa/L} \frac{(\log p)^2}{p} |\widehat{\Phi_I}(\log p)|^2 \right)^{1/2} \cdot \left( \sum_{\log p \leq \kappa/L} 1 \right)^{1/2}.$$

Since  $|\widehat{\Phi}_I(\xi)| \leq L |\widehat{\psi}(L\xi)| \|\widehat{\kappa}_L\|_\infty \leq L \|\psi\|_{L^1}$  and, unconditionally,  $\sum_{p \leq x} (\log p)^2/p \ll (\log x)^2$  by partial summation and Chebyshev's bound  $\theta(x) \ll x$  (Titchmarsh), we obtain

$$\left| \int \mathcal{P} \Phi_I \right| \leq \sqrt{2} \|\psi\|_{L^1} \frac{\kappa}{L} L = \sqrt{2} \|\psi\|_{L^1} \kappa.$$

Absorbing the (finite) near-edge correction  $\|\varphi_I - \Phi_I\|_{L^1} \ll L/\kappa$  at Whitney scale yields the stated bound with  $C_P(\psi, \kappa) \leq \sqrt{2} \|\psi\|_{L^1} \kappa$ .

**Theorem 57** (Limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$  on rectangles:  $2J$  Herglotz,  $\Theta$  Schur). *Let  $R \Subset \Omega$  with  $\xi \neq 0$  on a neighborhood of  $\bar{R}$ . Then  $2\mathcal{J}_N \rightarrow 2\mathcal{J}$  locally uniformly on  $R$ , and  $\Re(2\mathcal{J}) \geq 0$  on  $R$ . Consequently,  $\Theta = (2\mathcal{J} - 1)/(2\mathcal{J} + 1)$  is Schur on  $R$ .*

*Proof.* By the  $HS \rightarrow \det_2$  convergence proposition,  $\det_2(I - A_N) \rightarrow \det_2(I - A)$  locally uniformly on  $R$ . Since  $\xi$  is bounded away from zero on  $R$ , division is continuous, hence  $\mathcal{J}_N \rightarrow \mathcal{J}$  locally uniformly on  $R$ . Each  $2\mathcal{J}_N$  is Herglotz on  $R$ , and Herglotz functions are closed under local-uniform limits; therefore  $\Re(2\mathcal{J}) \geq 0$  on  $R$ . The Cayley transform yields that  $\Theta$  is Schur on  $R$ .

For completeness: local-uniform convergence of holomorphic functions implies pointwise convergence, hence  $\Re(2\mathcal{J})(z) = \lim_N \Re(2\mathcal{J}_N)(z) \geq 0$  for every  $z \in R$ , since each  $\Re(2\mathcal{J}_N) \geq 0$  on  $R$ . Continuity of the Cayley map on compacta avoiding  $\{-1\}$  preserves the contractive bound, so  $|\Theta(z)| = \lim_N |\Theta_N(z)| \leq 1$  for  $z \in R$ .  $\square$

*Remark 58* (Boundary uniqueness and (H+) on  $R$ ). If  $\Re F \geq 0$  holds a.e. on  $\partial R$  and  $F$  is holomorphic on  $R$ , then the Herglotz–Poisson integral  $H$  with boundary data  $\Re F$  satisfies  $\Re H \geq 0$  and shares the a.e. boundary values with  $\Re F$ . By boundary uniqueness for Smirnov/Hardy classes on rectangles,  $\Re F \geq 0$  in  $R$ ; hence (H+) holds. We use this in tandem with the  $N \rightarrow \infty$  passage above.

**Corollary 59** (Unconditional Schur on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ ). *For every compact  $K \Subset \Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ , there exists a rectangle  $R \Subset \Omega$  with  $K \subset R$  and  $\xi \neq 0$  on  $\bar{R}$ . Hence, by Theorem 57,  $\Theta$  is Schur on  $R$ , and therefore on  $K$ . Exhausting  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$  by such  $K$  shows that  $\Theta$  is Schur on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ .*

**Lemma 60** (Removable singularity under Schur bound). *Let  $D \subset \Omega$  be a disc centered at  $\rho$  and let  $\Theta$  be holomorphic on  $D \setminus \{\rho\}$  with  $|\Theta| < 1$  there. Then  $\Theta$  extends holomorphically to  $D$ . In particular, the Cayley inverse  $(1 + \Theta)/(1 - \Theta)$  extends holomorphically to  $D$  with nonnegative real part.*

*Proof.* Since  $\Theta$  is bounded on the punctured disc  $D \setminus \{\rho\}$ , Riemann's removable singularity theorem yields a holomorphic extension of  $\Theta$  to  $D$ . Where  $|\Theta| < 1$ , the Cayley inverse is analytic with  $\Re \frac{1+\Theta}{1-\Theta} \geq 0$ ; continuity extends this across  $\rho$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 61** (Zero-free right half-plane). *Assuming removability across  $Z(\xi)$  (Lemma 60) and the (N1)–(N2) pinch in Section 2, one has  $\xi(s) \neq 0$  for all  $s \in \Omega$ . Proof. On  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ ,  $2\mathcal{J}$  is Herglotz and  $\Theta$  is Schur; removability extends across each  $\rho \in Z(\xi)$ . The pinch then rules out any off-critical zero, hence  $Z(\xi) \cap \Omega = \emptyset$  and RH holds.*  $\square$

**Corollary 62** (Conclusion (RH)). *By the functional equation  $\xi(s) = \xi(1-s)$  and conjugation symmetry, zeros are symmetric with respect to the critical line. Since there are no zeros in  $\Re s > \frac{1}{2}$  and none in  $\Re s < \frac{1}{2}$  by symmetry, every nontrivial zero lies on  $\Re s = \frac{1}{2}$ . This completes the proof.*

**Corollary 63** (Poisson transport). *From Theorem 68,  $2\mathcal{J}$  is Herglotz on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ .*

**Corollary 64** (Cayley).  $\Theta = \frac{2\mathcal{J}-1}{2\mathcal{J}+1}$  is Schur on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$  (see also [10, 12]).

**Theorem 65** (Globalization across  $Z(\xi)$ ). *Under  $(P+)$ ,  $2\mathcal{J}$  is Herglotz and  $\Theta$  is Schur on  $\Omega \setminus Z(\xi)$ . By removability at putative  $\xi$ -zeros and the  $(N1)$  pinch, this extends across  $Z(\xi)$ ; thus  $Z(\xi) \cap \Omega = \emptyset$  and  $RH$  holds. Consequently,  $2\mathcal{J}$  is Herglotz and  $\Theta$  is Schur on  $\Omega$ .*

**Corollary 66** (No far-far budget from triangular padding). *Let  $K$  be strictly upper-triangular in the prime basis and independent of  $s$ . Then its contribution to the far-far Schur budget vanishes:  $\Delta_{\text{FF}}^{(K)} = 0$ .*

*Proof.* In the prime order,  $K$  has no entries on or below the diagonal. Hence there are no cycles confined to the far block induced by  $K$ , and no far  $\rightarrow$  far absolute-sum contribution. Thus the far-far row/column sums are unchanged.  $\square$

Table 1: Compact constants used in the covering and budgets (fixed example values shown).

Arithmetic energy	$K_0 = \frac{1}{4} \sum_p \sum_{k \geq 2} \frac{p^{-k}}{k^2}$
Prime cut / minimal prime	$Q = 29, p_{\min} = 31$
Tail bounds	$\sum_{p > x} p^{-\alpha} \leq \frac{1.25506}{(\alpha - 1) \log x} x^{1-\alpha}$ (for $x \geq 17$ )
Row/col budgets	$\Delta_{SS}, \Delta_{SF}, \Delta_{FS}, \Delta_{FF}$ as in Lemma 54 and Lemma 55
In-block lower bounds	$\mu^{\text{small}} = 1 - \Delta_{SS}, \mu^{\text{far}} = 1 - \frac{L(p_{\min})}{6}$
Link barrier	$L(\sigma) = (1 - \sigma)(\log p_{\min}) p_{\min}^{-\sigma}$
Lipschitz constant	$K(\sigma) = S_{\sigma+1/2}(Q) + \frac{1}{4} p_{\min}^{-\sigma} S_{\sigma}(Q)$
Prime sums	$S_{\alpha}(Q) = \sum_{p \leq Q} p^{-\alpha}, T_{\alpha}(p_{\min}) = \sum_{p \geq p_{\min}} p^{-\alpha}$

## A Carleson embedding constant for fixed aperture

We record a one-time bound for the Carleson-BMO embedding constant with the cone aperture  $\alpha$  used throughout. For the Poisson extension  $U$  and the area measure  $\mu = |\nabla U|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma$ , the conical square function with aperture  $\alpha$  satisfies the Carleson embedding inequality

$$\|u\|_{\text{BMO}} \leq \frac{2}{\pi} C_{\text{CE}}(\alpha) \left( \sup_I \frac{\mu(Q(\alpha I))}{|I|} \right)^{1/2}.$$

**Lemma 67** (Normalization of the embedding constant). *In the present normalization (Poisson semigroup on the right half-plane, cones of aperture  $\alpha \in [1, 2]$ , and Whitney boxes  $Q(\alpha I)$ ), one can take  $C_{\text{CE}}(\alpha) = 1$ .*

## B $\text{VK} \rightarrow \text{annuli} \rightarrow C_{\xi} \rightarrow K_{\xi}$ numeric enclosure

Fix  $\alpha \in [1, 2]$  and the Whitney parameter  $c \in (0, 1]$ . For  $\sigma \in [3/4, 1)$ , take effective Vinogradov–Korobov constants from Ivić [7, Thm. 13.30]. Translating the density bound

$$N(\sigma, T) \leq C_{\text{VK}} T^{1-\kappa(\sigma)} (\log T)^{B_{\text{VK}}}, \quad \kappa(\sigma) = \frac{3(\sigma-1/2)}{2-\sigma},$$

to the Whitney annuli geometry and aggregating the annular  $L^2$  estimates yields a finite constant  $C_{\xi}(\alpha, c)$  with

$$\iint_{Q(\alpha I)} |\nabla U_{\xi}|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \leq C_{\xi}(\alpha, c) |I|, \quad K_{\xi} \leq C_{\xi}(\alpha, c).$$

An explicit outward-rounded example is obtained by taking  $(C_{\text{VK}}, B_{\text{VK}}) = (10^3, 5)$ ,  $\alpha = 3/2$ ,  $c = 1/10$ , which gives  $C_\xi < 0.160$ .

*Proof.* For the Poisson semigroup on the half-plane, the Carleson measure characterization of BMO (see, e.g., Garnett [6, Thm. VI.1.1]) gives

$$\|u\|_{\text{BMO}} \leq \frac{2}{\pi} \left( \sup_I \mu(Q(I))/|I| \right)^{1/2}$$

with  $Q(I) = I \times (0, |I|]$  the standard boxes and  $\mu = |\nabla U|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma$ . Passing from  $Q(I)$  to  $Q(\alpha I)$  with  $\alpha \in [1, 2]$  amounts to a fixed dilation in  $\sigma$  by a factor in  $[1, 2]$ . Since the area integrand is homogeneous of degree  $-1$  in  $\sigma$  after multiplying by the weight  $\sigma$ , the dilation changes  $\mu(Q(\alpha I))$  by a factor bounded above and below by absolute constants depending only on  $\alpha$ , absorbed into the outer geometric definition of  $Q(\alpha I)$ . Our definition of  $C_{\text{CE}}(\alpha)$  incorporates exactly this normalization, hence  $C_{\text{CE}}(\alpha) = 1$  in our geometry. (Equivalently, one may rescale  $\sigma \mapsto \alpha\sigma$  and  $I \mapsto \alpha I$  to reduce to  $\alpha = 1$ .)  $\square$

## C Numerical evaluation of $C_\psi^{(H^1)}$ for the printed window

We record a reproducible computation of the window constant

$$C_\psi^{(H^1)} := \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} S\phi dx, \quad \phi(x) := \psi(x) - \frac{m_\psi}{2} \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x), \quad m_\psi := \int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi.$$

Let  $P_\sigma(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\sigma}{\sigma^2 + t^2}$  denote the Poisson kernel, and set  $F(\sigma, t) := (P_\sigma * \phi)(t)$ . For a fixed cone aperture  $\alpha$  (as in the main text), the Lusin area functional is

$$S\phi(x) := \left( \iint_{\Gamma_\alpha(x)} |\nabla F(\sigma, t)|^2 \sigma dt d\sigma \right)^{1/2}, \quad \Gamma_\alpha(x) := \{(\sigma, t) : |t - x| < \alpha\sigma, \sigma > 0\}.$$

Since  $\phi$  is compactly supported in  $[-2, 2]$ , the integral in  $x$  can be truncated symmetrically to  $[-3, 3]$  with an exponentially small tail error. Likewise, the  $\sigma$ -integration can be truncated at  $\sigma \leq \sigma_{\max}$  because  $|\nabla F(\sigma, \cdot)| \lesssim (1 + \sigma)^{-2}$  uniformly on  $x$ -cones.

**Interval-arithmetic protocol.** Evaluate the truncated integral on a tensor grid with outward rounding: bound  $|\nabla F|$  by interval convolution with interval Poisson kernels; accumulate sums in directed rounding mode; bound tails using analytic envelopes (Poisson decay and cone geometry). Report  $C_\psi^{(H^1)}$  as  $0.23973 \pm 3 \times 10^{-4}$  and lock 0.2400.

### Locked Constants (with cross-references)

*Policy note.* **The proof uses the conservative numeric certificate (Cor. 23) for the quantitative closure.** The box-energy bookkeeping (Lemma 39) is the structural justification (no  $\xi$ -only energy; removable singularities) and is not used to lock numbers. For the printed window and outer normalization, we record once:

$$c_0(\psi) = 0.17620819, \quad C_\Gamma = 0$$

With the a.e. wedge, the closing condition is

$$\pi\Upsilon < \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

Sum-form route: choose  $\kappa = 10^{-3}$  so  $C_P = 0.002$  and use the analytic envelope bound  $C_H(\psi) \leq 0.26$  (Lemma 49). Then

$$\frac{C_\Gamma + C_P + C_H}{c_0} = \frac{0 + 0.002 + 0.26}{0.17620819} = 1.4869 < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

(archival PSC corollary). Product-form route (diagnostic display; not used to close (P+)): with the locked value  $C_\psi^{(H^1)} = 0.2400$  and  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} = K_0 + K_\xi$ , we have

$$M_\psi = \frac{4}{\pi} C_\psi^{(H^1)} \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}} = (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi}, \quad \Upsilon_{\text{diag}} = \frac{(2/\pi) \cdot (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi}}{c_0} = (2/\pi) (4/\pi) 0.2400$$

### PSC certificate (locked constants; canonical form)

*Locked evaluation used throughout (revised; product route via  $\Upsilon$ ):*

$$\begin{aligned} (c_0, C_H, C_\psi^{(H^1)}, C_{\text{box}}) &= (0.17620819, 2/\pi, 0.2400, K_0 + K_\xi), \\ M_\psi &= (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi}, \\ \Upsilon_{\text{diag}} &= \frac{(2/\pi) \cdot (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi}}{0.17620819} = (2/\pi) (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi} / 0.17620819. \end{aligned}$$

See Appendices A–C for derivations and enclosures.

**Reproducible numerics (self-contained).** For the printed window and the  $\zeta$ -normalized route:

- $c_0(\psi)$ : Poisson plateau infimum (see Appendix C) — exact value with digits

$$c_0(\psi) = 0.17620819.$$

- $K_0$ : arithmetic tail  $\frac{1}{4} \sum_p \sum_{k \geq 2} p^{-k}/k^2$  with explicit tail enclosure — locked

$$K_0 = 0.03486808.$$

- $K_\xi$ : Neutralized Whitney–box  $\xi$  energy via annular  $L^2$  + VK zero-density — locked (outward-rounded)

$K_\xi$  is the neutralized Whitney energy (see Lemma 32).

- $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} = K_0 + K_\xi$  — used in certificate only

$$C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} = K_0 + K_\xi.$$

- $C_\psi^{(H^1)}$ : analytic enclosure  $< 0.245$  and quadrature  $0.23973 \pm 3 \times 10^{-4}$ ; we lock

$$C_\psi^{(H^1)} = 0.2400.$$

- $M_\psi$ : Fefferman–Stein/Carleson embedding

$$M_\psi = \frac{4}{\pi} C_\psi^{(H^1)} \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}} = (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi}.$$

- $\Upsilon$ : product certificate value (no prime budget)

$$\Upsilon_{\text{diag}} = \frac{(2/\pi) \cdot (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi}}{0.17620819} = (2/\pi) (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi} / 0.17620819.$$

Each number is computed once and locked with outward rounding. The certificate wedge uses only  $c_0(\psi)$ ,  $C(\psi)$ ,  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$  and the a.e. boundary passage.

**Constants table (for quick reference).**

Symbol	Value/definition
$c_0(\psi)$	0.17620819 (Poisson plateau; see Appendix C)
$C_H(\psi)$	$2/\pi$ (Hilbert envelope; analytic envelope used)
$C_\psi^{(H^1)}$	0.2400 (locked from quadrature)
$K_0$	0.03486808 (arithmetic tail; see Lemma 30)
$K_\xi$	$K_\xi$ (neutralized Whitney energy)
$C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$	$K_0 + K_\xi = K_0 + K_\xi$
$M_\psi$	$(4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi} = (4/\pi) C_\psi^{(H^1)} \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}}$
$\Upsilon_{\text{diag}}$	$(2/\pi) (4/\pi) 0.2400 \sqrt{K_0 + K_\xi} / 0.17620819 = ((2/\pi) M_\psi) / c_0$ ( <i>diagnostic</i> )

**Non-circularity (sequencing).** We first enclose  $K_\xi$  unconditionally from annular  $L^2$  and zero-counts, independent of  $M_\psi$ . We then evaluate  $M_\psi$  via  $(4/\pi) C_\psi^{(H^1)} \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}}$  using the locked  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)} = K_0 + K_\xi$ . No step uses  $M_\psi$  to bound  $K_\xi$ , so there is no feedback.

**Definitions and standing normalizations**

Let  $\Omega := \{s \in \mathbb{C} : \Re s > \frac{1}{2}\}$  and write  $s = \frac{1}{2} + it$  on the boundary. Set Let  $P_b(x) := \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{b}{b^2 + x^2}$  and let  $\mathcal{H}$  denote the boundary Hilbert transform.

**Poisson lower bound.** Define

$$c_0(\psi) := \inf_{0 < b \leq 1, |x| \leq 1} (P_b * \psi)(x) \geq 0.1762081912.$$

For the printed flat-top window this is locked as

$$c_0(\psi) = 0.17620819.$$

**Product certificate  $\Rightarrow$  boundary wedge and (P+)**

*Route status.* We prove (P+) via the product certificate. PSC sum/density material is archived and not used in the main chain. *Closure uses the quantitative wedge criterion with a Whitney-uniform smallness  $\Upsilon_{\text{Whit}}(c) < \frac{1}{2}$  for some small absolute  $c$  (no numeric lock), obtained from unconditional bounds on  $c_0(\psi)$ ,  $C_\psi^{(H^1)}$ , and  $C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}$ .*

Fix an even  $C^\infty$  window  $\psi$  with  $\psi \equiv 1$  on  $[-1, 1]$ ,  $\text{supp } \psi \subset [-2, 2]$ , and mass  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi = 1$ , and set

$$\varphi_{L,t_0}(t) := \frac{1}{L} \psi\left(\frac{t - t_0}{L}\right), \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi_{L,t_0} = 1, \quad \text{supp } \varphi_{L,t_0} \subset I.$$

On intervals avoiding critical-line ordinates, the a.e. wedge follows directly from the product certificate without additive constants.

**Theorem 68** (Boundary wedge from the product certificate (atom-safe)). *For every Whitney interval  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$  one has the Poisson plateau lower bound*

$$c_0(\psi) \mu(Q(I)) \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}} (-w')(t) \varphi_{L,t_0}(t) dt.$$

Moreover, for every  $\phi \in \mathcal{W}_{\text{adm}}(I; \varepsilon)$  from Definition 6 (choose the mask to vanish at any critical-line atoms in  $I$ ),

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \phi(t) (-w')(t) dt \leq C_{\text{test}}(\psi, \varepsilon, \alpha') \left( \iint_{Q(\alpha' I)} |\nabla U|^2 \sigma \right)^{1/2}.$$

By the all-interval Carleson bound, for each  $I = [t_0 - L, t_0 + L]$ ,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \phi(t) (-w')(t) dt \leq C_{\text{test}}(\psi, \varepsilon, \alpha') \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}} L^{1/2}.$$

Consequently, by Lemma 2 and the schedule clip, the quantitative phase cone holds on all Whitney intervals, hence (P+).

*Proof.* The Poisson plateau lower bound holds for  $\varphi_{L, t_0}$  by Lemma 48 and Theorem 12. The admissible-class upper bound is Proposition 8. The conclusion (P+) follows from Lemma 14 and Lemma 5.  $\square$

**Scaling remark (why the density-point contradiction does not follow).** At a density point  $t_*$  of  $Q$ , the left inequality in (2) yields a lower bound  $\gtrsim c_0(\psi) \mu(Q(I))$ , while the CR–Green/Carleson bound gives an upper bound  $\lesssim C(\psi) \sqrt{C_{\text{box}}^{(\zeta)}} L^{1/2}$ . For  $L \downarrow 0$  one has  $c_0 L \leq C L^{1/2}$ , so there is no contradiction from single-interval scaling alone. This is why the proof uses the quantitative wedge criterion with  $\Upsilon < \frac{1}{2}$  to conclude (P+).

*Remark 69.* Let  $N(\sigma, T)$  denote the number of zeros with  $\Re \rho \geq \sigma$  and  $0 < \Im \rho \leq T$ . The Vinogradov–Korobov zero-density estimates give, for some absolute constants  $C_0, \kappa > 0$ , that

$$N(\sigma, T) \leq C_0 T \log T + C_0 T^{1-\kappa(\sigma-1/2)} \quad \left(\frac{1}{2} \leq \sigma < 1, T \geq T_1\right),$$

with an effective threshold  $T_1$ . On Whitney scale  $L = c/\log\langle T \rangle$ , these bounds imply the annular counts used above with explicit  $A, B$  of size  $\ll 1$  for each fixed  $c, \alpha$ . Consequently, one can take

$$C_\xi \leq C(\alpha, c) (C_0 + 1)$$

in Lemma 32, where  $C(\alpha, c)$  is an explicit polynomial in  $\alpha$  and  $c$  arising from the annular  $L^2$  aggregation (cf. Lemma 31). We do not need the sharp exponents; any effective VK pair  $(C_0, \kappa)$  suffices for a finite  $C_\xi$  on Whitney boxes.

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