

# On the behaviour of $\gamma \operatorname{Log} p$ modulo 1

O. Ramaré

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*In memoriam Kanakanahalli Ramachandra*

## Abstract

We prove non-trivial lower bounds for sums of type  $\sum_{p \sim P} g(\gamma \operatorname{Log} p)$ , where  $g$  is a non-negative  $2\pi$ -periodical function and  $\gamma$  is a given parameter. As an application we prove that  $\zeta(1 + it)^{\pm 1} \ll \operatorname{Log} \operatorname{Log}(9 + |t|)$  and extend the zero-free region of the Riemann zeta-function.

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CNRS, Laboratoire Paul Painlevé, Université Lille 1, 59 655 Villeneuve d'Ascq, France  
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## 1 Introduction

Sums over primes and their evaluation is one of the main subject of multiplicative number theory. We are concerned in this paper with lower bounds for sums of type  $\sum_{p \sim P} g(\gamma \log p)$  for a non-negative  $2\pi$ -periodical function  $g$  and some parameter  $\gamma$ . Such sums appear in the connection of zero-free region problems. The case  $g(t) = 1 + \cos t$  shows that we have to handle the case of  $g$  being essentially a *multiplicative* character associated to the infinite place; bilinear forms techniques are not available in such a context since the bilinear form reduces here simply to a product of two linear forms. Using Mellin transforms is not possible either since we are asking for too much precision in the location of  $p$ . Sieve techniques are not efficient either since we are seeking a lower bound. However Balasubramanian & Ramachandra introduced in [1] and [2] a technique that transforms a sieve upper bound for a sum over primes (namely the Brun-Titchmarsh inequality) into a lower bound. This is the starting point of this paper. To cut a long story short, let us rapidly say that we use an enveloping sieve as in [21]; when  $\gamma$  is a power of  $P$ , we are able to take the  $z$ -parameter of this sieve to be as large as  $P^{\frac{1}{2} + \delta}$  for some positive  $\delta$ . When  $\gamma \geq P \geq (\log \gamma)^4$  and  $\gamma$  is large enough, we can even take  $z = P / \exp((\log \log P)^3)$ . This is surprising as one would expect the case of large values of  $\gamma$  to be more difficult to handle than the case of small values.

To express our result in full generality, we define for positive real number  $\eta$  and integrable function  $g$ :

$$V(g, \eta) = \min_{\substack{\mathcal{A} \subset [0, 2\pi], \\ \mu(\mathcal{A}) \geq \eta}} \int_{\mathcal{A}} |g(u)| du / \eta \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathcal{A}$  ranges the set of mesurable subsets within  $[0, 2\pi]$  of measure at least  $\eta$ . More classically, we use the continuity modulus of  $g$ , when  $g$  is moreover assumed to be continuous, defined

$$\omega_g(\delta) = \max_{u \leq v \leq u+\delta} |g(u) - g(v)|. \quad (2)$$

**Theorem 1.1.** *There exists  $P_0 \geq 10$  with the following property. Let  $g$  be a continuous  $2\pi$ -periodical non-negative real-valued function bounded in absolute value by 1. Assume the parameters  $P$ ,  $\gamma \geq 2$  and  $\xi \in (0, 1]$  verify*

$$P \geq \max(P_0, (\text{Log } \gamma)^4), \quad \xi \geq 1/(\text{Log } P)^2.$$

Then we have

$$\sum_{P < p \leq (1+\xi) \cdot P} g(\gamma \text{Log } p) \geq (V(g, 2\pi\kappa_\gamma(P)) + \mathcal{O}(H)) \xi P / \text{Log } P$$

where

$$H = \frac{1}{\text{Log } P} + \omega_g\left(\frac{6\pi}{(\text{Log } P)^4}\right)$$

and where  $\kappa_\gamma(P)$  is given by the following table:

$P$	$\gamma$	$\gamma^{5/3}$	$\gamma^{5/2}$	
$\kappa_\gamma(P)$	1	$(1 + \theta)/2$	$4/5$	$(2 + 3\theta)/4$

with  $\theta = (\text{Log } \gamma) / \text{Log } P$ .

As already mentionned, we will obtain this result by improving on the method developped in [1] and [2]. In term of the  $z$ -parameter in the Selberg sieve, the path we take can be roughly described as follows. Balasubramanian & Ramachandra in [2] were looking at each separate subinterval where  $g(t)$  is close to some fixed value. They were limited to  $z \simeq \sqrt{P/\gamma}$ . On looking at the collection of each of these subintervals, with still a fixed value of  $g(t)$ , we are already able to select  $z \simeq \sqrt{P}$ . At this level, we are treating the error term via a Mellin transform with variable  $s$ . We can next take special advantage of our selector/smoothing function and gain an additional saving when  $\Im s$  is large enough, and this is embodied in inequality (52). A more classical part of this treatment depends on good average bounds for  $\zeta(s)M(s)$  on the line  $\Re s = 1/2$  for a fairly long Dirichlet polynomial  $M$ . This allows us to take  $z$  larger than  $\sqrt{P}$  when  $\gamma$  is large enough, if we are able to handle the case of variables  $s$  with a not too large imaginary part. We treat this problem in two steps. We first

remark that the relevant error term depends only weakly on  $\gamma$  so that we can average over this variable. When we revert to a summation over integers, we see that our averaging has the same effect as not specifying the value of  $g(t)$  anymore. We still have to compute the full sum, and it is for this purpose that we sieve from the very beginning with Barban & Vehov's weights from [4]. We need here a better result than the one proved in [8] and in [19], and this is our Theorem 10.1.

Under the Riemann Hypothesis, the above line of work leads to the following.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let us assume the truth of the Riemann Hypothesis. For every small positive constant  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $P_0(\varepsilon) \geq 10$  with the following property. Let  $g$  be a continuous  $2\pi$ -periodical non-negative real-valued function bounded in absolute value by 1. Assume the parameters  $P$ ,  $\gamma \geq 2$  and  $\xi \in (0, 1]$  verify*

$$P \geq \max(P_0, (\text{Log } \gamma)^{1/\varepsilon}), \quad \xi \geq 1/(\text{Log } P)^2.$$

Then we have

$$\sum_{P < p \leq (1+\xi) \cdot P} g(\gamma \text{Log } p) \geq (V(g, 2\pi(1-4\varepsilon)) + \mathcal{O}(H)) \xi P / \text{Log } P$$

where  $H$  is defined in Theorem 1.1.

In particular, given a fixed small  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and some  $\xi$  in  $(0, 1]$ , we can find  $\gamma_0(\varepsilon, \xi)$  such that, when  $\gamma \geq \gamma_0$ , and either  $\gamma \geq P \geq (\text{Log } \gamma)^4$  or the Riemann Hypothesis holds and  $P \geq (\text{Log } \gamma)^{1/\varepsilon}$ , we have

$$\left| \frac{\text{Log } P}{\xi P} \sum_{P < p \leq (1+\xi) \cdot P} g(\gamma \text{Log } p) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} g(u) du \right| \leq \varepsilon.$$

This is because  $2\pi V(g, 2\pi) = \int_0^{2\pi} g(u) du$  and we can apply the same inequality with  $A - g$  for a large enough constant  $A$ . The condition linking  $P$  and  $\gamma$  cannot be fully dispensed with since none of the sequences  $(\gamma \cdot \text{Log } p)_p$  is equidistributed modulo 1, when  $\gamma$  is fixed. We try to clarify the situation in sections 2 and 3. Our proof in fact works as soon as  $P \gg (\text{Log } \gamma)^{3+\varepsilon}$ .

Here is a corollary of Theorem 1.1:

**Theorem 1.3.** *There exists  $\gamma_0$  such that, for every real valued, non-negative, continuously differentiable and  $2\pi$ -periodical function  $g$ , for every  $\gamma \geq \gamma_0$  and every  $\sigma \in ]1, 2]$ , we have*

$$\sum_{p \geq 1} \frac{g(\gamma \text{Log } p) \text{Log } p}{p^\sigma} \geq \int_{(\text{Log } \gamma)^4}^{\infty} V(g, 2\pi \kappa_\gamma(t)) \frac{dt}{t^\sigma} + \mathcal{O}(-\text{Log}(\sigma - 1))$$

On selecting first  $g(t) = 1 \pm \cos t$  and then  $g(t) = 1 \pm \sin t$  in Theorem 1.1, we immediately reach:

**Corollary 1.4.** *There exists  $t_0$  such that, for every  $t \geq t_0$  and every  $\sigma \in ]1, 2]$  such that  $(\sigma - 1) \text{Log Log } t$  is small enough in terms of  $t_0$ , we have*

$$\left| \Re \frac{\zeta'}{\zeta}(\sigma + it) \right| \leq \frac{h((\sigma - 1) \text{Log } t)}{\sigma - 1} + \mathcal{O}(-\text{Log}(\sigma - 1) + \text{Log Log } t)$$

where

$$h(x) = x \int_1^{5/3} \frac{2v/\pi}{1+v} \sin\left(\frac{1+v}{2v/\pi}\right) e^{-xv} dv + (e^{-5x/3} - e^{-5x/2}) \frac{5}{4\pi} \sin \frac{4\pi}{5} \\ + x \int_{5/2}^{\infty} \frac{4v/\pi}{2v+3} \sin\left(\frac{2v+3}{4v/\pi}\right) e^{-xv} dv$$

The function  $h$  verifies  $h(x) \leq 2e^{-x}/\pi$ . The same inequality holds with  $\Im$  instead of  $\Re$ .

The main point is that  $2/\pi < 1$ . Note that to reach this  $2/\pi$ , taking the  $z$ -parameter of the Selberg sieve to be  $\sqrt{P}/(\text{Log } P)^{40}$  would be enough. Here is a table of (upper bounds for) values for  $h$  which shows that this function decreases rapidly to 0:

$x$	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1	$\infty$
$h(x)$	0.416	0.314	0.247	0.200	0.165	0.138	0.117	0.100	0.086	0.074	0

Note that the bound of Corollary 1.4 exploits the dependence in  $\sigma$ . We do not know how to improve on this Corollary under the sole Lindelöf Hypothesis. Under the Riemann Hypothesis the same proof but relying also on Theorem 1.2 yields:

**Corollary 1.5.** *We assume the Riemann Hypothesis. For every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a  $t_0(\varepsilon)$  such that, for every  $t \geq t_0(\varepsilon)$  and every  $\sigma \in ]1, 2]$  such that  $(\sigma - 1) \text{Log Log } t$  is small enough in terms of  $t_0$ , we have*

$$\left| \frac{\zeta'}{\zeta}(\sigma + it) \right| \leq \frac{\varepsilon/t^{\sigma-1}}{\sigma - 1} + \mathcal{O}(-\text{Log}(\sigma - 1) + \text{Log Log } t).$$

Corollary 1.4 has the following remarkable consequences.

**Corollary 1.6.** *When  $\sigma \geq 1$  and  $t \geq 100$ , we have*

$$\zeta(\sigma + it), 1/\zeta(\sigma + it) \ll \text{Log Log } t.$$

This is proved at the end of section 19. These two bound are optimal up to the implied constant, as shown in [16]. The reader may also have a look at the numerical study from [13]. The effect on a zero-free region of a bound for  $|\zeta(1 + it)|$ , as opposed to one valid in the vicinity of the line  $\Re s = 1$ , is not immediate. As a matter of fact, our bound on this line is as good as what would follow from the Riemann Hypothesis (see [24, Theorem 14.8]) though we are not able to infer the Riemann Hypothesis from it. Our bound is however strong enough to lead so some improvement on the existing zero-free region:

**Theorem 1.7.** *There exists a constant  $c > 0$  such that the Riemann zeta-function has no zero in the region*

$$\sigma \geq 1 - \frac{c}{(\text{Log } t)^{2/3}(\text{Log Log Log } t)^{1/3}}.$$

Moreover we can choose  $c$  such that, in the region above, we have

$$\frac{\zeta'}{\zeta}(\sigma + it) \ll (\text{Log } t)^{2/3}(\text{Log Log Log } t)^{1/3}.$$

This is the first time the Vinogradov-Korobov's result [12] from 1958 (see Lemma 19.1 below) is being refined, aside from numerical sharpening, see [6]. The above zero-free region leads mechanically to the following prime number Theorem:

$$\psi(x) - x \ll x \exp(-c_3(\text{Log } x)^{3/5}/(\text{Log Log Log } x)^{1/5}) \quad (3)$$

for some positive constant  $c_3$  and provided  $x \geq 100$ .

**Notation.** Some of our expressions need parenthesing and it is better to have the brackets [ and ] at our disposal. As a consequence, we do not use them to indicate the integer part, for which we use  $\lfloor$  and  $\rfloor$ . We will also use  $\lceil x \rceil$  to denote the smallest integer larger than  $x$ . Special weights have been introduced in [4]. They are similar in some aspects to the Selberg weights, see [9], but verify the property proved below in Theorem 10.1. Here is their definition:

$$\beta(n) = \left( \sum_{d|n} \lambda_d \right)^2 \quad (4)$$

where  $\lambda_d$  is defined by

$$\lambda_d = \mu(d) \frac{\text{Log}(z/d)}{\text{Log } z}. \quad (5)$$

## 2 A direct approach when $\gamma$ is bounded

The truncated Perron summation formula, see e.g. [22, Theorem 7.1], gives us

$$\sum_{n \leq P} \Lambda(n) n^{i\gamma} = \frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{c-iT}^{c+iT} \frac{-\zeta'}{\zeta}(z - i\gamma) \frac{P^z dz}{z} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{P(\text{Log } P)(\text{Log } T)}{T} + \text{Log } P\right).$$

for  $c = 1 + (\text{Log } P)^{-1}$ . We select  $T = (\text{Log } P)^4$  and skip some classical steps. As a conclusion, we find that, for every  $\gamma \geq 0$ , and  $P$  large enough satisfying  $\text{Log } P \geq c_2(\text{Log}(9 + \gamma))^{2/3}(\text{Log Log}(9 + \gamma))^{1/3}$  for a large enough constant  $c_2$ , we have

$$\left| \sum_{p \leq P} p^{i\gamma} - \frac{P^{1+i\gamma}/\text{Log } P}{1+i\gamma} \right| \leq P/(\text{Log } P)^2. \quad (6)$$

### 3 Full equidistribution modulo 0

The previous section shows that the sequence  $(\text{Log } p)$  is not equidistributed modulo  $2\pi$ , and in fact is not equidistributed modulo  $m$  for every  $m > 0$ . In order to proceed further, we need a definition.

**Definition 3.1.** A real-valued sequence  $(u_n)_n$  is said to be fully equidistributed modulo 0 if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $m_0(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that, for every  $m_1 \geq m_0$ , we have

$$\limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} \max_{\substack{m_0 \leq m \leq m_1, \\ m \in \mathbb{R}}} \max_{0 \leq a < b < 1} \left| \# \{n \leq N, m \cdot u_n \in [a, b] + \mathbb{Z}\} / N - (b - a) \right| \leq \varepsilon.$$

The inner maximum over  $a$  and  $b$  is the discrepancy of the sequence  $(mu_n)_n$  at  $N$ . If a sequence is equidistributed modulo  $q > 0$  say, then it is equidistributed modulo  $hq$  for every integer  $h \geq 1$ , and so the discrepancy of  $(hqu_n)$  tends to zero. The above definition adds a maximum over  $m$  which implies some uniformity and the fact that  $m$  is a *real* number and is not restricted to the integers multiple of a given period. A fully equidistributed modulo 0 sequence is a priori not dense modulo  $m$  for some positive  $m$  though I do not have any example showing that density is not a consequence of being fully equidistributed modulo 0. Concerning sets of real numbers  $m$  that are such that  $(mu_n)_n$  is equidistributed modulo 1, the reader may look at [17] and [23].

Here is the equivalent of Weyl's criterium in this context:

**Theorem 3.1.** A real-valued sequence  $(u_n)_n$  is fully equidistributed modulo 0 if and only if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\gamma_0(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that, for every  $\gamma_1 \geq \gamma_0$ , we have

$$\limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} \max_{\gamma_0 \leq \gamma \leq \gamma_1} \left| \sum_{n \leq N} e(\gamma u_n) \right| / N \leq \varepsilon.$$

*Proof.* The Erdős-Turán inequality (cf [25, Theorem 20]) readily shows that a sequence verifying the conditions of our Theorem is fully equidistributed modulo 0. Let us turn our attention to the reverse implication. Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and select  $\gamma_0(\varepsilon) = m_0(\varepsilon/3)$ . Let  $\gamma_1 > \gamma_0(\varepsilon)$  and  $K$  the smallest integer larger than  $6\pi/\varepsilon$ . Let  $\gamma \in [\gamma_0, \gamma_1]$ . We have that

$$\begin{aligned} e(\gamma x) &= \sum_{0 < k \leq K} \mathbb{1}_{k-1 \leq \gamma K x < k} \cdot e(\gamma x) \\ &= \sum_{0 < k \leq K} \mathbb{1}_{k-1 \leq \gamma K x < k} \cdot e(k/K) + \mathcal{O}^*(\varepsilon/3). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\sum_{n \leq N} e(\gamma u_n) = \sum_{0 < k \leq K} \mathbb{1}_{k-1 \leq \gamma K u_n < k} \cdot e(k/K) + \mathcal{O}^*(N\varepsilon/3).$$

We use our property with  $\varepsilon/3$  and  $m_1 = K\gamma_1$ . For  $N$  large enough, we have

$$(1/N) \sum_{n \leq N} e(\gamma u_n) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{0 < k \leq K} e(k/K) + \mathcal{O}^*(\varepsilon/3) + \mathcal{O}^*(\varepsilon/2) = \mathcal{O}^*(\varepsilon).$$

□

Let us first notice that the sequence  $(\text{Log } n)$  is not equidistributed modulo  $m$ , for any  $m > 0$ , but is fully equidistributed modulo 0. It is furthermore dense modulo  $m$  for any positive real number  $m$  since the difference between two consecutive terms is  $o(1)$ . Here is a consequence of (6).

**Theorem 3.2.** *The sequence  $(\text{Log } p)$  is fully equidistributed modulo 0.*

The sequence  $(\text{Log } p)$  is also dense modulo  $m$  for every positive real number  $m$  by the same reason as above, i.e. the difference between two consecutive terms is  $o(1)$ . The nature of fully equidistributed modulo 0 sequences is an intriguing problem. Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 suggest that we can expect such a sequence to be not too erratically distributed in intervals.

## 4 Some properties of $V(g, \eta)$

We gather in this section several general properties of the quantity  $V(g, \eta)$  that will lead to smoother treatments later on.

**Lemma 4.1.** *We have, when  $g$  and  $h$  are in  $L^1([0, 2\pi])$  and  $\eta > 0$ ,*

$$|V(g, \eta) - V(h, \eta)| \leq \|g - h\|_1 / \eta.$$

*Proof.* Let  $B$  be a measurable subset of  $[0, 2\pi]$  of measure  $\leq \eta$ . We have

$$\left| \int_B |g(u)| du - \int_B |h(u)| du \right| \leq \| |g| - |h| \|_1 \leq \|g - h\|_1.$$

As a conclusion

$$\min_{A/\mu(A) \geq \eta} \int_A |g(u)| du \leq \min_{B/\mu(B) \geq \eta} \int_B |h(u)| du + \|g - h\|_1$$

and the reverse inequality follows by exchanging  $h$  and  $g$ . The Lemma follows readily. □

We continue by the following Lemma which converts our geometrical definition into a functional one.

**Lemma 4.2.** *We have*

$$V(g, \eta) = \min_{\substack{0 \leq h \leq 1, \\ \|h(u)\|_1 \geq \eta}} \int_0^{2\pi} h(u) |g(u)| du / \eta$$

where the minimum is taken over all measurable functions  $h$  satisfying the stated conditions.



*Proof.* Let us momentarily call  $W$  the RHS above. We have  $V(g, \eta) \leq W$  since the set of possible  $h$  contains all the characteristic functions of measurable subsets of cardinality at least  $\eta$ . Reciprocally, let  $h$  be as in the definition of  $W$ , and let  $A$  be its support. We have

$$\eta \leq \int_0^{2\pi} h(u) du = \int_A h(u) du \leq \mu(A)$$

while  $\int_0^{2\pi} h(u)|g(u)| du \leq \int_A |g(u)| du$ . This proves the reverse inequality.  $\square$

We continue with a more combinatorial definition.

**Lemma 4.3.** *We have*

$$\eta V(g, \eta) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \min_{\substack{\mathcal{N} \subset \{0, \dots, N-1\}, \\ |\mathcal{N}| \geq \eta \cdot N / (2\pi)}} \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \int_{2\pi n/N}^{2\pi(n+1)/N} |g(u)| du$$

We can also restrict the above limit over  $N$  to any sequence that goes to infinity.

*Proof.* Let us momentarily call  $W$  the RHS above. We have  $V(g, \eta) \geq W$  since the set

$$A = \bigcup_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \left[ \frac{2\pi n}{N}, \frac{2\pi(n+1)}{N} \right]$$

is of measure  $\geq \eta$ . Reciprocally, let us select a positive  $\varepsilon$ . Let  $A$  be a measurable subset of measure at least  $\eta$ . Since the Lebesgue measure is regular, we can find a set

$$A_1 = \bigcup_{1 \leq \ell \leq L} ]\alpha_\ell, \beta_\ell[ \supset A$$

and with  $\mu(A_1) \leq \mu(A) + \varepsilon$ . Given a positive integer  $N$ , we can find a subset  $\mathcal{N}$  of  $\{0, \dots, N-1\}$  such that

$$A_2 = \bigcup_{n \in \mathcal{N}} \left[ \frac{2\pi n}{N}, \frac{2\pi(n+1)}{N} \right] \supset A_1$$

with  $\mu(A_2) \leq \mu(A_1) + 2L \frac{2\pi}{N}$ . The conclusion is straightforward.  $\square$

We now prove the following monotonicity property.

**Lemma 4.4.** *When  $0 < \eta' < \eta$ , we have  $V(g, \eta) \geq V(g, \eta')$ .*

*Proof.* We simply rewrite Lemma 4.2 in the form

$$V(g, \eta) = \min_{\substack{0 \leq h \leq 1/\eta, \\ \|h(u)\|_1 \geq 1}} \int_0^{2\pi} h(u)|g(u)| du.$$

The variations as a function of  $\eta$  are clear on this expression. This elegant proof is due to J. Kaczorowski.  $\square$

#### 4.0.1 The special case of step-functions

We now consider the special case of non-negative step functions:

$$g(u) = \sum_{0 \leq n \leq N-1} G(n) \mathbb{1}_{n < uN/(2\pi) \leq n+1}.$$

We have

$$\int_A g(u) du = \sum_{0 \leq n \leq N-1} G(n) \sigma^*(n)$$

with

$$\sigma^*(n) = \int_{A \cap [2\pi n/N, 2\pi(n+1)/N]} du.$$

We have  $\sum_n \sigma^*(n) \geq \eta$  and  $\sigma^*(n) \leq 2\pi/N$ . On elaborating on this we find that  $V(g, \eta)$  is the minimum of

$$\sum_{0 \leq n \leq N-1} G(n) x_n$$

under the two conditions  $\sum_n x_n \geq \eta$  and  $0 \leq x_n \leq 2\pi/N$

## 5 A partition of identity

We start with an integer  $C \geq 1$  and the sequel of inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{1}_{|u-t| \leq 1/2} = 1 &\iff u - \frac{1}{2} \leq t \leq u + \frac{1}{2} \\ \mathbb{1}_{|u-t-1| \leq 1/2} = 1 &\iff u - \frac{3}{2} \leq t \leq u - \frac{1}{2} \\ &\vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots \\ \mathbb{1}_{|u-t-C| \leq 1} = 1 &\iff u - \frac{1}{2} - C \leq t \leq u + \frac{1}{2} - C \end{aligned}$$

to obtain that

$$\mathbb{1}_{|u-t| \leq 1/2} + \mathbb{1}_{|u-t-1| \leq 1/2} + \cdots + \mathbb{1}_{|u-t-C| \leq 1/2} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when } -\frac{1}{2} - C \leq t - u \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Let  $f$  be any element from  $L^1([-1, 1])$ . We notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-1}^1 (\mathbb{1}_{|u-t| \leq 1/2} + \mathbb{1}_{|u-t-1| \leq 1/2} + \cdots + \mathbb{1}_{|u-t-C| \leq 1/2}) f(t) dt \\ = \begin{cases} \int_{-1}^1 f(t) dt & \text{when } \frac{1}{2} \leq u \leq C - \frac{1}{2}, \\ 0 & \text{when } u \leq -1/2 \text{ or } u \geq C + \frac{1}{2}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Indeed the integral we consider is

$$\int_{-1}^1 \mathbb{1}_{u-\frac{1}{2}-C \leq t \leq u+\frac{1}{2}} f(t) dt.$$

We can guarantee that this integral equals  $\int_{-1}^1 f(t)dt$  when

$$u - \frac{1}{2} - C \leq -1, \quad 1 \leq u + \frac{1}{2}.$$

We proceed in a similar fashion to guarantee that the initial integral vanishes.  $\square$

Thus, and assuming  $\int_{-1}^1 f(t)dt = 1$ , the sequence (in  $c \in \{0, \dots, C\}$ ) of functions

$$\rho_c(u) = \int_{-1}^1 \mathbb{1}_{|u-t-c| \leq 1/2} f(t)dt \quad (= \rho_0(u-c)) \quad (7)$$

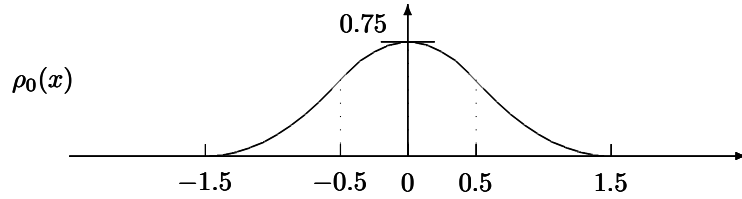
(its support lies within  $[c - \frac{3}{2}, c + \frac{3}{2}]$ ) enables us to represent the characteristic function of  $[0, C]$  as a sum of smooth functions having a support of length 3, upto a bounded function with support contained in the union of the intervals  $[-3/2, 0]$  and between  $[C, C + \frac{3}{2}]$ . Furthermore, as it is a convolution product, the Fourier transform of each part is easily computed, once we know the one of  $f(t)$ . In the sequel we select  $f(t) = (1 - |t|)^+$ , so that

$$\hat{\rho}_c(v) = e(cv) \left( \frac{\sin \pi v}{\pi v} \right)^3 \quad (8)$$

while we have specifically

$$\rho_0(u) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{when } |u| \geq 3/2, \\ (3 - 2|u|)^2/8 & \text{when } 1/2 < |u| \leq 3/2, \\ \frac{3}{4} - u^2 & \text{when } |u| \leq 1/2. \end{cases}$$

Here is a plot of this function:



We shall make use of a rescaled version of the family  $(\rho_c)_c$ , namely (with  $\delta_B = 2\pi/B$ ):

$$w_{c,B}(u) = \rho_c(\delta_B^{-1}u) \quad \left( \hat{w}_{c,B}(v) = e(c\delta_B v) \delta_B \left( \frac{\sin \pi \delta_B v}{\pi \delta_B v} \right)^3 \right) \quad (9)$$

which has its support within  $[\delta_B(c - \frac{3}{2}), \delta_B(c + \frac{3}{2})]$ . Let us note that the dependencies in  $c$  and  $B$  are (rather) well separated in  $\hat{w}_{c,B}(v)$ .

As a consequence of the above analysis, we get

$$\mathbb{1}_{\gamma \log P \leq x \leq \gamma \log[(1+\xi)P]} \geq \sum_{C_1 \leq c \leq C_2} w_{c,B}(x) \quad (10)$$

with

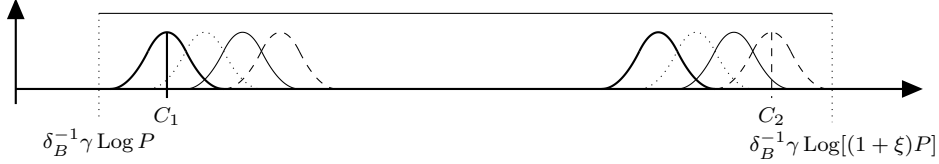
$$C_1 = \left\lceil \delta_B^{-1} \gamma \log P + \frac{3}{2} \right\rceil, \quad C_2 = \left\lfloor \delta_B^{-1} \gamma \log[(1+\xi)P] - \frac{3}{2} \right\rfloor. \quad (11)$$

Our aim is to find a lower bound for

$$S(g; \gamma) = \sum_{P < p \leq (1+\xi) \cdot P} g(\gamma \log p) \quad (12)$$

and we replace this function here by a smoothed version on using (10):

$$S(g; \gamma) \geq S^-(g; \gamma) = \sum_p \sum_{C_1 \leq c \leq C_2} w_{c,B}(\gamma \log P) g(\gamma \log p). \quad (13)$$



(See (62)). The function  $g$  is periodical modulo  $2\pi$  and we want to use incorporate (some of) this fundamental property in our smoothing. Note that

$$w_{c+B,B}(u) = \rho_{c+B}(\delta_B^{-1} u) = \rho_c(\delta_B^{-1}(u - B)) = w_{c,B}(u - 2\pi)$$

which leads us to consider, for  $b$  ranging  $\{0, \dots, B-1\}$ , the family of functions defined by

$$W(x; b, B, J_1(b), J_2(b)) = \sum_{J_1 \leq j \leq J_2} w_{b+jB,B}(x). \quad (14)$$

The parameter  $J_1(b)$  is the smallest integer such that  $b + J_1(b)B \geq C_1$ , while  $J_2(b)$  is the largest integer such that  $b + J_2(b)B \leq C_2$ . The required inequalities on  $J_1(b)$  and  $J_2(b)$  have been gathered in section 7. We note here that the function  $H_{b,B}(y)$  is only a short form defined in (16) for  $W(\gamma \log y; b, B, J_1(b), J_2(b))$  when working with fixed parameters  $\gamma$ ,  $J_1(b)$  and  $J_2(b)$ .

$$S_{b,B}^-(g; \gamma) = \sum_{P < p \leq (1+\xi) \cdot P} W(\gamma \log p; b, B, J_1(b), J_2(b)) g(\gamma \log p) \quad (15)$$

## 6 A selector function

We consider here the function  $W(x; b, B, J_1, J_2)$  defined in (14) where the integer parameters  $J_1 \leq J_2$  can be kept arbitrary but, again, read section 7 to see how they are related to the datas of the initial problem. Our object here is

$$H_{b,B}(y) = W(\gamma \log y; b, B, J_1, J_2). \quad (16)$$

We compute its Mellin transform:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M} H_{b,B}(s) &= \int_0^\infty H_{b,B}(y) y^{s-1} ds = \int_{-\infty}^\infty W(\gamma x; b, B, J_1, J_2) e^{sx} dx \\ &= \sum_{J_1 \leq j \leq J_2} \int_{-\infty}^\infty w_{b+jB,B}(t) e^{ts/\gamma} dt / \gamma.\end{aligned}$$

We introduce Fourier transforms and find that

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{M} H_{b,B}(s) &= \sum_{J_1 \leq j \leq J_2} \hat{w}_{b+jB,B}(s/(2i\gamma\pi)) / \gamma \\ &= \sum_{J_1 \leq j \leq J_2} e\left(\delta_B \frac{(b+jB)s}{2i\pi\gamma}\right) \hat{w}_{0,B}(s/(2i\gamma\pi)) / \gamma \\ &= \frac{e^{2\pi(J_2+1)s/\gamma} - e^{2\pi J_1 s/\gamma}}{e^{2\pi s/\gamma} - 1} e^{2\pi b s/(B\gamma)} \hat{w}_{0,B}(s/(2i\gamma\pi)) / \gamma \quad (17)\end{aligned}$$

Here is a Lemma that enables us to control the size of  $\mathcal{M} H_{b,B}$ .

**Lemma 6.1.** *When  $\sigma = 1/2$ , and provided  $B, \gamma \geq 10$ , we have*

$$|\mathcal{M} H_{b,B}(s)| \ll e^{\pi J_2/\gamma} \begin{cases} \delta_B / \sqrt{1+t^2} & \text{when } |t| \leq \gamma/2, \\ \frac{\delta_B^{-2} \gamma^3}{(1+|t|)^3 \sqrt{1+\gamma^2 \sin^2(\pi t/\gamma)}} & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* We start from (9) and get immediately

$$\hat{w}_{b,B}(v) = e(b\delta_B v) \delta_B \left( \frac{\sin \pi \delta_B v}{\pi \delta_B v} \right)^3.$$

When  $|t| \leq \gamma/2$ , we bound this part by  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  and use (17) to conclude. When  $|t| \geq \gamma/2$ , we recall the simple identity

$$|\sin(-i\sigma + \tau)|^2 = \text{sh}^2 \sigma + \sin^2 \tau \quad (18)$$

which implies that  $\sin \pi \delta_B v$  is bounded when  $v = s/(2i\gamma\pi)$  and  $s$  is on the line  $\Re s = 1/2$ . Hence

$$\left| \hat{w}_{0,B}\left(\frac{s}{2i\gamma\pi}\right) \right| \ll \frac{\delta_B^{-2} \gamma^3}{(1+t^2)^{3/2}}.$$

Then we write

$$\frac{e^{2\pi(J_2+1)s/\gamma} - e^{2\pi J_1 s/\gamma}}{e^{2\pi s/\gamma} - 1} = \frac{e^{\pi(J_2+J_1+1)s/\gamma}}{e^{\pi s/\gamma}} \frac{\text{sh}(\pi(J_2+1-J_1)s/\gamma)}{\text{sh}(\pi s/\gamma)}$$

and, on using again (18) with  $\sigma = 1/2$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\left| \frac{e^{2\pi(J_2+1)s/\gamma} - e^{2\pi J_1 s/\gamma}}{e^{2\pi s/\gamma} - 1} \right| &= \frac{e^{\frac{\pi(J_2+J_1+1)}{2\gamma}}}{e^{\pi/(2\gamma)}} \sqrt{\frac{\text{sh}^2(\pi \frac{J_2-J_1+1}{2\gamma}) + \sin^2(\pi \frac{J_2-J_1+1}{\gamma} t)}{\text{sh}^2(\pi/(2\gamma)) + \sin^2(\pi t/\gamma)}} \\ &\leq e^{\pi(J_2+\frac{1}{2})/\gamma} \sqrt{\frac{2\gamma^2}{\pi^2 + 4\gamma^2 \sin^2(\pi t/\gamma)}}.\end{aligned}$$

The Lemma follows readily.  $\square$

## 7 On the choice of $J_1$ and $J_2$

We have used integer parameters  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  that do not occur in the initial problem, and we need to relate them to the parameters  $P$  and  $(1 + \xi)P$ . Note that they are dependant on the parameter  $b \in \{0, \dots, B - 1\}$ . We need

$$\delta_B^{-1} \gamma \log P \leq b + J_1 B - \frac{3}{2}, \quad b + J_2 B + \frac{3}{2} \leq \delta_B^{-1} \gamma \log[(1 + \xi)P] \quad (19)$$

As a matter of fact we will choose  $J_1$  to be the smallest integer verifying the first inequality, and  $J_2$  to be the largest integer verifying the second one. With such a choice, we have

$$e^{2\pi J_2/\gamma} - e^{2\pi J_1/\gamma} \leq \xi P e^{2\pi \frac{-b+\frac{3}{2}}{B\gamma}} \quad (20)$$

The bound from below for this difference is  $P e^{2\pi \frac{-b}{B\gamma}} ((1 + \xi)e^{\frac{-5\pi}{B\gamma}} - e^{\frac{3\pi}{B\gamma}})$  and thus

$$e^{2\pi J_2/\gamma} - e^{2\pi J_1/\gamma} \geq \xi P e^{\frac{-2\pi b}{B\gamma}} \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\xi B\gamma}\right)\right). \quad (21)$$

Furthermore

$$e^{2\pi J_2/\gamma} \geq (1 + \xi) P e^{-\frac{4\pi}{\gamma} - \frac{5\pi}{B\gamma}}, \quad P e^{\frac{5\pi}{\gamma B}} \geq e^{2\pi J_1/\gamma}. \quad (22)$$

We will need a lower bound for the number of primes in  $[P_1, P_2]$  where  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are defined as follows: replace  $b + J_1 B$  and  $b + J_2 B$  by  $c$  in (19). Say  $C_1$  is the smallest such integer, and  $C_2$  is the largest, and define  $P_1 = \exp(2\pi(C_1 + \frac{3}{2})/\gamma)$  and  $P_2 = \exp(2\pi(C_2 + \frac{3}{2})/\gamma)$ . We use

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{P_1}^{P_2} \frac{dt}{\log t} &\geq \frac{((1 + \xi)e^{\frac{-5\pi}{B\gamma}} - e^{\frac{5\pi}{B\gamma}})P}{\log((1 + \xi)P)} \\ &\geq \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\xi B\gamma}\right)\right) \frac{\xi P}{\log((1 + \xi)P)} \\ &\geq \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\xi}{\log P} + \frac{1}{\xi B\gamma}\right)\right) \frac{\xi P}{\log P}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently we have

$$\frac{\pi(P_2) - \pi(P_1)}{\xi P / \log P} \geq 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\xi}{\log P} + \frac{1}{\xi B\gamma} + \frac{1}{\xi \exp \sqrt{\log P}}\right). \quad (23)$$

Assuming  $\xi \gg 1/(\log P)^2$ , and anticipating on the choice  $B = \lfloor (\log P)^4 \rfloor$  (the largest integer  $\leq (\log P)^4$ ), this implies that

$$\frac{\pi(P_2) - \pi(P_1)}{\xi P / \log P} \geq 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\xi}{\log P} + \frac{1}{\xi (\log P)^4}\right). \quad (24)$$

## 8 More on our selector

Let us assume the parameters  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  are selected as in section 7. We use the more explicit notation

$$\mathcal{M} H_{b,B}(s; P, (1 + \xi)P, \gamma) = \mathcal{M} H_{b,B}(s). \quad (25)$$

When  $s = \frac{1}{2} + it$  with small enough  $t$  in terms of  $\gamma$ , this function can be approximated independently of  $\gamma$ , as shown in the next Lemma.

**Lemma 8.1.** *When  $s = \frac{1}{2} + it$ , with  $|t| \ll \gamma$ , we have*

$$\mathcal{M} H_{b,B}(s; P, (1 + \xi)P, \gamma) = \delta_B \frac{[(1 + \xi)P]^s - P^s}{2\pi s} + \mathcal{O}(\delta_B \sqrt{P}/\gamma).$$

The constant in the  $\mathcal{O}$ -symbol depends only on the upper bound for  $|t|/\gamma$ .

*Proof.* We start from (17). First, we have

$$J_2 = \frac{\gamma \operatorname{Log}[(1 + \xi)P]}{2\pi} + \mathcal{O}(1)$$

and thus

$$2\pi(J_2 + 1)s/\gamma = s \operatorname{Log}[(1 + \xi)P] + \mathcal{O}(|s|/\gamma)$$

and similarly for  $J_1$ ; this finally gives us

$$e^{2\pi(J_2+1)s/\gamma} - e^{2\pi J_1 s/\gamma} = [(1 + \xi)P]^s - P^s + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\sqrt{P}|s|}{\gamma}\right).$$

Then, provided  $|s| \ll \gamma$ , we have

$$\frac{1/\gamma}{e^{2\pi s/\gamma} - 1} = \frac{1}{2\pi s} + \mathcal{O}(|s|/\gamma)$$

and

$$e^{2\pi b s/(B\gamma)} = 1 + \mathcal{O}(|s|/\gamma).$$

Finally

$$\delta_B^{-1} \hat{w}_{0,B}(s/(2i\gamma\pi)) = 1 + \mathcal{O}(|s|/\gamma).$$

The Lemma follows readily from these estimates.  $\square$

## 9 Auxiliaries on a function from sieve theory

We define

$$M(s_0, \delta) = \sum_{m \leq z/\delta} \frac{\mu(m\delta) \operatorname{Log} \frac{z}{m\delta}}{(\delta m)^{s_0}}. \quad (26)$$

We start by recalling the first part of [8, Lemma 2].

**Lemma 9.1.** *We have, when  $\delta \geq 1$  and for any  $A \geq 1$ ,*

$$M(1, \delta) = \frac{\mu(\delta)}{\phi(\delta) \operatorname{Log} z} + \mathcal{O}_A(\sigma_{-1/2}(\delta) \operatorname{Log}(2z)^{-A}/\delta)$$

where, when  $\delta$  is squarefree,

$$\sigma_{-1/2}(\delta) = \prod_{p|\delta} (1 + p^{-1/2}).$$

**Lemma 9.2.** *We have, for any  $A \geq 1$  and any  $z \geq 2$ ,*

$$\sum_{d_1, d_2} \frac{\lambda_{d_1} \lambda_{d_2}}{[d_1, d_2]} = \frac{1}{\operatorname{Log} z} \left( 1 + \frac{c_0}{\operatorname{Log} z} + \mathcal{O}_A(1/(\operatorname{Log} z)^A) \right)$$

where  $\lambda_d$  is defined in (5), and

$$c_0 = \gamma + \sum_{p \geq 2} \frac{\operatorname{Log} p}{p(p-1)} = 1.332582 \dots \quad (27)$$

Comparing this result with [5], the reader will notice that the factor  $\operatorname{Log}(z/d)/\operatorname{Log} z$  by which we multiply  $\mu(d)$  to get  $\lambda_d$  has a critical effect. See also [20] and [3]. This fact ought to be emphasized as there is a popular belief that the smoothing is only here to render this quantity amenable to computations. See also [4], [8] for a possible modification of this smoothing factor and its effect on the result.

*Proof.* Let us denote by  $S$  the sum to be evaluated. We have classically (see (30))

$$S \operatorname{Log}^2 z = \sum_{\delta \leq z} \mu^2(\delta) \phi(\delta) M(1, \delta)^2.$$

Routine manipulations give us, on using Lemma 9.1, that

$$S = \sum_{\delta \leq z} \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\phi(\delta) \operatorname{Log}^2 z} + \mathcal{O}_A((\operatorname{Log} z)^{-A})$$

for any  $A \geq 1$ . We combine this with the classical evaluation of the summation over  $\delta$  which is for instance contained in [21, Lemma 3.4]. The Lemma follows readily.  $\square$

**Lemma 9.3.** *When  $x > 0$ , we have*

$$\frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{2-i\infty}^{2+i\infty} \frac{x^{-s} ds}{s(s+1)} = \begin{cases} 1-x, & \text{when } 0 < x \leq 1, \\ 0, & \text{when } 1 \leq x. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Indeed, when  $x \geq 1$ , shift the line of integration to the far right. When  $x < 1$ , shift the line to the far left. The polar contribution in this latter case amounts to 1 in 0, and to  $-x$  in  $-1$ . The Lemma follows readily.  $\square$



This gives us, when  $\Re s_0 \geq 0$ ,

$$M(s_0, \delta) = \frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{2-i\infty}^{2+i\infty} \sum_{\substack{d \geq 1, \\ (d, \delta)=1}} \frac{\mu(d)\mu(\delta)}{(d\delta)^{s_0+s}} \frac{z^s ds}{s^2}$$

which easily gets rewritten in the form

$$M(s_0, \delta) = \frac{\mu(\delta)}{2i\pi} \int_{2-i\infty}^{2+i\infty} \prod_{p|\delta} (p^{s_0+s} - 1)^{-1} \frac{z^s ds}{s^2 \zeta(s + s_0)}. \quad (28)$$

We now use this formula for  $s_0 = \frac{1}{2} + it$ .

**Lemma 9.4.** *We have, when  $\delta \leq z$ ,*

$$M(\tfrac{1}{2} + it, \delta) \ll \frac{\sqrt{z}}{\phi(\delta)}.$$

*Proof.* Push the line of integration to  $\Re s = 1/2$ . □

**Lemma 9.5.** *Under the Riemann Hypothesis, we have, when  $\delta \leq z$  and for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,*

$$\sqrt{\delta} M(\tfrac{1}{2} + it, \delta) \ll_{\varepsilon} [(1 + |t|)z]^{\varepsilon} \delta^{-\varepsilon/2}.$$

*Proof.* Push the line of integration to  $\Re s = \varepsilon > 0$ . We use [24, Theorem 14.14 (B)] to bound  $1/\zeta(s + \frac{1}{2} + it_0)$  by  $[(1 + |t|)(1 + |t_0|)]^{\varepsilon}$ . □

**Lemma 9.6.** *We define  $M_2$ , when  $s$  is a complex number, by*

$$M_2(s) = \sum_{d_1, d_2 \leq z} \frac{\lambda_{d_1} \lambda_{d_2}}{[d_1, d_2]^s}. \quad (29)$$

*We have  $|M_2(1/2 + it)| \ll z/(\log z)^2$ .*

*Proof.* We use the Selberg diagonalisation process to infer

$$M_2(s) = \sum_{d_1, d_2 \leq z} (d_1, d_2)^s \frac{\lambda_{d_1} \lambda_{d_2}}{d_1^s d_2^s} = \sum_{\delta \leq z} \frac{\phi_s(\delta)}{\delta^{2s}} \left( \sum_{\ell \leq z/\delta} \frac{\lambda_{\delta \ell}}{\ell^s} \right)^2 \quad (30)$$

with

$$\phi_s(\delta) = \prod_{p^{\alpha} \parallel \delta} (p^{as} - p^{(a-1)s}). \quad (31)$$

The Lemma follows readily from Lemma 9.4. □

**Lemma 9.7.** *Under the Riemann Hypothesis and on recalling (29), we have, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,*

$$|M_2(1/2 + it)| \ll_{\varepsilon} [(1 + |t|)z]^{\varepsilon} \sqrt{z}.$$

*Proof.* Same proof as the one of Lemma 9.6 but employing Lemma 9.5 instead of Lemma 9.4 (and change  $3\varepsilon$  by  $\varepsilon$ ).  $\square$

On bounding simply  $|\lambda_d|$  by 1, we reach easily:

**Lemma 9.8.** *We have, when  $z \geq 2$*

$$\sum_n \left( \sum_{[d_1, d_2]=n} \lambda_{d_1} \lambda_{d_2} \right)^2 \ll z^2 (\log z)^8$$

and

$$\sum_n \left( \sum_{[d_1, d_2]=n} \lambda_{d_1} \lambda_{d_2} \right)^2 / n \leq (\log z)^9.$$

We recall [18, Corollary 3] :

**Lemma 9.9.** *When  $\sum_{n \geq 1} |a_n| + \sum_{n \geq 1} n |a_n|^2 < \infty$ , we have*

$$\int_0^T \left| \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n n^{-it} \right|^2 dt = \sum_{n \geq 1} |a_n|^2 (T + \mathcal{O}(n))$$

This Lemma yields readily the next one.

**Lemma 9.10.** *We have, for  $z \geq 2$ ,*

$$\int_0^T |M_2(\tfrac{1}{2} + it)|^2 dt \leq (z^2 + T)(\log z)^9.$$

## 10 A refined estimates for the Barban & Vehov weights

The result of this section is the following Theorem:

**Theorem 10.1.** *We have*

$$\sum_{n \leq N} \left( \sum_{d|n} \lambda_d \right)^2 = \frac{N}{\log^2 z} \left( \log z + c_0 + \mathcal{O} \left( \exp(-\sqrt{\log \min(z, N/z)}) \right) \right)$$

for any  $N \geq z \geq 10$  and where  $c_0$  is defined in (27).

With the error term  $\mathcal{O}(N/\log^2 z)$ , this is the main result of [8]. Graham's proof relies on a switching to the complementary divisor that is absent from the proof we present below. The remainder of this section is devoted to a proof of this Theorem.

We consider the function (decreasing when  $t \geq 0$ )

$$\varphi(t) = \frac{1}{100(\log(|t| + 10))^{2/3}(\log \log(|t| + 10))^{1/3}} \quad (32)$$

so that we have, by [6] (see also Lemma 19.1 below), we have

$$|\zeta(\sigma + it)|^{\pm 1} \ll \log(2 + |t|) \quad \text{when } \sigma \geq 1 - \varphi(t). \quad (33)$$

**Notation:**

We denote by  $\mathfrak{L}(\delta, c)$  the line of the points  $\sigma + it$  that are such that

$$\mathfrak{L}(\delta, c) : \quad \sigma = \delta + c\varphi(t). \quad (34)$$

Here is another classical Lemma whose proof goes along the same lines as the proof of Lemma 9.3.

**Lemma 10.2.** *When  $k \geq 1$  is an integer and  $x > 0$ , we have*

$$\frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{2-i\infty}^{2+i\infty} \frac{x^{-s} ds}{s^{k+1}} = \begin{cases} (-\operatorname{Log} x)^k / k!, & \text{when } 0 < x \leq 1, \\ 0, & \text{when } 1 \leq x. \end{cases}$$

We recall that, with the help of definition (31), equation (28) reads, for squarefree  $\delta$ ,

$$M(s, \delta) = \frac{\mu(\delta)}{2i\pi} \int_{2-i\infty}^{2+i\infty} \frac{z^{s_1} ds_1}{s_1^2 \zeta(s + s_1) \phi_{s+s_1}(\delta)}. \quad (35)$$

Recall also that, by (30), we have

$$M_2(s) = \sum_{\delta \leq z} \phi_s(\delta) M(s, \delta)^2 / \operatorname{Log}^2 z. \quad (36)$$

**Handling the sieve coefficient, step 2**

We introduce yet another Dirichlet series, namely

$$D(s, s_1, s_2) = \prod_{p \geq 2} \left( 1 - \frac{p^{s_1+s_2} - p^{s_1} - p^{s_2} + 1}{(p^{s+s_1} - 1)(p^{s+s_2} - 1)p^{s_1+s_2}} \right) \quad (37)$$

which is absolutely convergent as a product in the region defined by

$$\Re(s + s_1), \Re(s + s_2) > 0, \quad \Re(2s + s_1 + s_2), \Re(2s + 2s_1 + 2s_2) > 1. \quad (\mathcal{R})$$

It and its inverse are moreover bounded in any region defined as above but where, in the last two jointed inequalities, the “ $> 1$ ” is replaced by “ $\geq 1 + \delta$ ” for some positive  $\delta$ . This function appears via

$$\sum_{\delta \geq 1} \frac{\mu^2(\delta) \phi_s(\delta)}{\phi_{s+s_1}(\delta) \phi_{s+s_2}(\delta)} = \zeta(s + s_1 + s_2) D(s, s_1, s_2). \quad (38)$$

**10.1 Proof of a smoothed version of Theorem 10.1**

We assume, without any loss of generality that  $N \geq z \geq 2$  and study

$$S(N; z) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \sum_{d|n} \lambda_d \operatorname{Log} z \right)^2 \left( 1 - \frac{n}{N} \right)^+.$$

We use Lemma 9.3 to get the expression:

$$S(N; z) = \frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{2-i\infty}^{2+i\infty} \zeta(s) M_2(s) \frac{N^s ds}{s(s+1)}. \quad (39)$$

We continue with (36) and (26), recall (35) and (38) to get

$$S(N; z) = \frac{1}{(2i\pi)^3} \int_{2-i\infty}^{2+i\infty} \int_{1-i\infty}^{1+i\infty} \int_{1-i\infty}^{1+i\infty} D(s, s_1, s_2) \frac{\zeta(s)\zeta(s+s_1+s_2)}{\zeta(s+s_1)\zeta(s+s_2)} \frac{z^{s_1} ds_1}{s_1^2} \frac{z^{s_2} ds_2}{s_2^2} \frac{N^s ds}{s(s+1)}. \quad (40)$$

We need some notation to be able to handle such an expression. We first define the function

$$\mathfrak{F}(s, s_1, s_2) = D(s, s_1, s_2) \frac{\zeta(s)\zeta(s+s_1+s_2)}{\zeta(s+s_1)\zeta(s+s_2)} \frac{z^{s_1+s_2}}{s_1^2 s_2^2} \frac{N^s}{s(s+1)}. \quad (41)$$

We then write (40) as

$$S(N; z) = \frac{1}{(2i\pi)^3} \int_{(2)} ds \int_{(1)} ds_1 \int_{(1)} ds_2 \mathfrak{F}(s, s_1, s_2). \quad (42)$$

### First step

On shifting the lines of integration in  $s$ , we meet the first pole at  $s = 1$ , and, checking that we stay within  $(\mathcal{R})$ , we find that

$$S(N; z) = S_0 + S^{(0)}$$

where  $S_0$  and  $S^{(0)}$  are being defined by

$$S^{(0)} = \frac{1}{(2i\pi)^3} \int_{\mathfrak{L}(1, -1)} ds \int_{(1)} ds_1 \int_{(1)} ds_2 \mathfrak{F}(s, s_1, s_2) \quad (43)$$

and

$$S_0 = \frac{N}{2} \frac{1}{(2i\pi)^2} \int_{(1)} ds_1 \int_{(1)} ds_2 \mathfrak{F}^*(s_1, s_2) \quad (44)$$

with the additional notation

$$\mathfrak{F}^*(s_1, s_2) = D(1, s_1, s_2) \frac{\zeta(1+s_1+s_2)}{\zeta(1+s_1)\zeta(1+s_2)} \frac{z^{s_1+s_2}}{s_1^2 s_2^2}. \quad (45)$$

### Treatment of $S_0$

We shift the line of integration in  $s_1$  and get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{N} S_0 &= \frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{(1)} ds_2 D(1, 0, s_2) \frac{z^{s_2}}{s_2^2} + \frac{1}{(2i\pi)^2} \int_{\mathfrak{L}(0, -1/3)} ds_1 \int_{(1)} ds_2 \mathfrak{F}^*(s_1, s_2) \\ &= \text{Log } z + S^{(2)} \end{aligned}$$

say, since  $D(1, 0, s_2) = 1$ , while the remaining integral is computed in Lemma 10.2. As for  $S^{(2)}$ , we shift the line of integration in  $s_2$  to  $\mathfrak{L}(0, 1/6)$ , meeting a pole at  $s_2 = -s_1$ . Concerning the remainder part, it is routine to show it is

$$\ll \exp(-2\sqrt{\log z})$$

for some positive constant  $c'$ . Let us explain rapidly how this is achieved: we select a large positive  $T_0$ . The contribution of the  $s_1$  that are such that  $|\Im s_1| \geq T_0$  is  $\ll (\log T_0)^2/T_0$ . A same contribution comes from the  $s_2$  that are such that  $|\Im s_2| \geq T_0$ . However, when both imaginary parts are smaller than  $T_0$  in absolute value, we can save  $z^{-\varphi(T_0)/6}$  and the remaining contribution is bounded. We choose  $\log T_0 = (\log z)^{\frac{3}{5}-0.001}$ . As a conclusion

$$S_0 = \frac{N}{2}(\log z + c_0) + \mathcal{O}\left(N \exp(-2\sqrt{\log z})\right)$$

for some constant  $c_0$ . This constant is irrelevant to the main argument, but it is interesting to get its value. To do so, we can assume that  $z$  is small with respect to  $N$ , and so simply opening the square in the summation to be computed is enough. The computation of the appearing main term is then achieved by appealing to Lemma 9.2.

### Second step: splitting $S^{(0)}$

On shifting the lines of integration, we find that

$$S^{(0)} = S_1 + S^{(1)}$$

with

$$S^{(1)} = \frac{1}{(2i\pi)^3} \int_{\mathfrak{L}(1, -1)} ds \int_{\mathfrak{L}(0, 1/3)} ds_1 \int_{\mathfrak{L}(0, 1/3)} ds_2 \mathfrak{F}(s, s_1, s_2) \quad (46)$$

and

$$S_1 = \frac{1}{(2i\pi)^2} \int_{\mathfrak{L}(1, -1)} ds \int_{\mathfrak{L}(0, 1/3)} ds_2 \mathfrak{F}^{**}(s, s_2), \quad (47)$$

the integrand  $\mathfrak{F}^{**}(s, s_2)$  being

$$N D(s, 1 - s - s_2, s_2) \frac{\zeta(s)}{\zeta(1 - s_2)\zeta(1 + s_2)} \frac{(N/z)^{s-1}}{(1 - s - s_2)^2 s_2^2 s(s+1)}. \quad (48)$$

The paths have been chosen so as not to pass through the poles at  $s_1 = 0$  or  $s_2 = 0$ , use the pole at  $s + s_1 + s_2 = 1$ . It is again routine to show it is

$$\ll \exp(-2\sqrt{\log(N/z)})$$

with the conclusion that

$$S_1 \ll N \exp(-2\sqrt{\log(N/z)}).$$

Concerning  $S^{(1)}$ , we simply shift the line of integration in  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  to the lines  $\Re s_1 = 0$  and  $\Re s_2 = 0$  on avoiding the vicinity of  $s_1 = 0$  and  $s_2 = 0$ . The saving in  $N$  is largely enough.

## 10.2 Proof of Theorem 10.1: removing the smoothing

We remove the smoothing with the simple identity

$$\mathbb{1}_{n \leq N} = \frac{(N + L - n)^+ - (N - n)^+}{L} - \mathbb{1}_{N < n \leq N+L} \frac{N + L - n}{L}.$$

with

$$L = N / \exp \sqrt{\text{Log} \min(z, N/z)}. \quad (49)$$

The Theorem follows readily.

## 11 Moment estimates

In this section, we consider bounds for

$$F_0(T, z) = \int_T^{2T} |\zeta(\tfrac{1}{2} + iu) M_2(\tfrac{1}{2} + iu)| du. \quad (50)$$

**Lemma 11.1.** *We have, for  $z \geq 2$  and with  $s = \frac{1}{2} + it$*

$$F_0(T, z) \ll (T + \sqrt{T}z) \sqrt{\text{Log } T \text{Log}^9 z}.$$

*Proof.* We use the  $L^2$ -estimate for  $M_2$  from Lemma 9.10 and the  $L^2$ -moment for  $\zeta$  from [24, Theorem 7.4], via Cauchy's inequality.  $\square$

**Lemma 11.2.** *We have, for  $z \geq 2$  and with  $s = \frac{1}{2} + it$*

$$F_0(T, z) \ll (Tz^{5/8} + T^{1/4}z)(\text{Log } z)^{-2/3} \text{Log } T.$$

*Proof.* We use

$$F_0(T, z) \ll \left( \int_T^{2T} |\zeta(\tfrac{1}{2} + iu)|^4 du \right)^{1/4} \left( \int_T^{2T} |M_2(\tfrac{1}{2} + iu)|^{4/3} du \right)^{3/4}.$$

The first integral is  $\ll T(\text{Log } T)^4$  on using the bound for the fourth power moment of  $\zeta$ , see [24, (7.6.2)]. In the second one, we bound  $|M_2(\frac{1}{2} + iu)|^{1/3}$  by  $z^{1/3}(\text{Log } z)^{-2/3}$ . For the remaining part, we use (30) to write

$$\begin{aligned} \int_T^{2T} |M_2(\tfrac{1}{2} + iu)| du &\ll \sum_{\delta \leq z} \frac{\prod_{p|\delta} (\sqrt{p} + 1)}{\delta} \int_T^{eT} \left| \sum_{\substack{\ell \leq z/\delta, \\ (\ell, \delta) = 1}} \frac{\lambda_\ell \delta}{\ell^{\frac{1}{2} + iu}} \right|^2 du \\ &\ll \sum_{\delta \leq z} \frac{\prod_{p|\delta} (\sqrt{p} + 1)}{\delta} (T \text{Log}(z/\delta) + z/\delta) \\ &\ll T\sqrt{z} + z. \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

## 12 Treatment of the error term: the large ordinates

In this section we consider the integral

$$I(\gamma) = \int_{\gamma/2}^{\infty} \left| \zeta\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right) M_2\left(\frac{1}{2} + it\right) \right| \frac{dt}{t^3 \sqrt{1 + \gamma^2 \sin^2(\pi t/\gamma)}}. \quad (51)$$

We define

$$F(t) = \int_{\gamma/2}^t \left| \zeta\left(\frac{1}{2} + iu\right) M_2\left(\frac{1}{2} + iu\right) \right| du$$

which is bounded above by  $(z\sqrt{t} + t)\sqrt{\text{Log } t}(\text{Log } z)^{9/2}$  by Lemma 11.1. An integration by parts yields

$$I(t) \ll \int_{\gamma/2}^{\infty} \frac{F(t) dt}{t^4 \sqrt{1 + \gamma^2 \sin^2(\pi t/\gamma)}} + \gamma \int_{\gamma/2}^{\infty} \frac{F(t) |\sin(2\pi t/\gamma)| dt}{t^3 (1 + \gamma^2 \sin^2(\pi t/\gamma))^{3/2}}$$

by using  $2 \cos x \sin x = \sin(2x)$ . We next note that, when  $T \geq \gamma/2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_T^{2T} \frac{dt}{\sqrt{1 + \gamma^2 \sin^2(\pi t/\gamma)}} &\ll \gamma \int_{T/\gamma}^{2T/\gamma} \frac{du}{\sqrt{1 + \gamma^2 \sin^2(\pi u)}} \\ &\ll T \int_0^{1/2} \frac{du}{\sqrt{1 + \gamma^2 \sin^2(\pi u)}} \\ &\ll T \int_0^{1/2} \frac{du}{\sqrt{1 + \gamma^2 u^2}} \ll \frac{T \text{Log } \gamma}{\gamma}. \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

We also have, also when  $T \geq \gamma/2$ , and on following a similar path

$$\begin{aligned} \int_T^{2T} \frac{|\sin(2\pi t/\gamma)| dt}{(1 + \gamma^2 \sin^2(\pi t/\gamma))^{3/2}} &\ll \gamma \int_{T/\gamma}^{2T/\gamma} \frac{|\sin(2\pi u)| du}{\sqrt{1 + \gamma^2 \sin^2(\pi u)}} \\ &\ll T \int_0^{1/2} \frac{u du}{(1 + \gamma^2 u^2)^{3/2}} \ll \frac{T}{\gamma^2}. \end{aligned}$$

A diadic decomposition with Lemma 11.1 then leads to

$$I(\gamma) \ll (1 + z/\sqrt{\gamma})(\text{Log } \gamma)^{3/2}(\text{Log } z)^{9/2}/\gamma^3. \quad (53)$$

On using Lemma 11.2 instead, we get

$$I(\gamma) \ll (z^{5/8} + z/\gamma^{3/4})(\text{Log } \gamma)^2(\text{Log } z)^{-2/3}/\gamma^3. \quad (54)$$

### 13 Averaging over $\gamma$

We somehow anticipate on the sequel and define

$$S_{b,B}^+(1; \gamma) = \sum_{P < n \leq (1+\xi)P} H_{b,B}(n) \beta(n). \quad (55)$$

We find that, on using (16), (14), (9) and (7),

$$\begin{aligned} S_{b,B}^+(1; \gamma) &= \sum_{P < n \leq (1+\xi)P} \sum_{\substack{k \equiv b[B], \\ b+J_1 B \leq k \leq b+J_2 B}} w_{k,B}(\gamma \log n) \beta(n) \\ &= \sum_{P < n \leq (1+\xi)P} \sum_{\substack{k \equiv b[B], \\ b+J_1 B \leq k \leq b+J_2 B}} \rho_k\left(\frac{B}{2\pi} \gamma \log n\right) \beta(n) \\ &= \sum_{P < n \leq (1+\xi)P} \sum_{\substack{k \equiv b[B], \\ b+J_1 B \leq k \leq b+J_2 B}} \rho_0\left(\frac{B}{2\pi} \gamma \log n - k\right) \beta(n). \end{aligned}$$

We now show that the size conditions on  $k$  are in fact redundant. Indeed,  $\rho_0\left(\frac{B}{2\pi} \gamma \log n - k\right)$  vanishes unless

$$k + \frac{3}{2} > \frac{B}{2\pi} \gamma \log n > k - \frac{3}{2}.$$

This implies that  $k + \frac{3}{2} > \delta_B^{-1} \gamma \log P$  and in particular  $k \geq b + J_1 B$  and a similar reasoning applies to the upper bound. Going back to (7), we find that (for an arbitrary integrable function  $u$  that is going to be the characteristic function of an interval)

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty u(\gamma) \rho_0\left(\frac{B}{2\pi} \gamma \log n - k\right) d\gamma &= \int_{-1}^1 f(t) \int_0^\infty u(\gamma) \mathbb{1}_{\left|\frac{B\gamma \log n}{2\pi} - k - t\right| \leq 1/2} d\gamma dt \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 f(t) \int_{\frac{2\pi}{B \log n}(k+t-1/2)}^{\frac{2\pi}{B \log n}(k+t+1/2)} u(\gamma) d\gamma dt \end{aligned}$$

and thus, on writing  $k = b + B\ell$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k \equiv b[B]} \int_{-1}^1 f(t) \int_{\frac{2\pi}{B \log n}(k+t-1/2)}^{\frac{2\pi}{B \log n}(k+t+1/2)} u(\gamma) d\gamma dt &= \\ \int_{-1}^1 f(t) \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}} \int_{\frac{2\pi}{B \log n}(\ell+(t+b-1/2)/B)}^{\frac{2\pi}{B \log n}(\ell+(t+b+1/2)/B)} u(\gamma) d\gamma dt. \end{aligned}$$

We take for  $u(\gamma)$  to be the characteristic function of the interval  $[\Gamma, 2\Gamma]$ . The number of  $\ell$ 's is

$$\frac{\Gamma}{2\pi/B \log n} + \mathcal{O}(1)$$



and we consider a subinterval of length  $2\pi/(B \log n)$  next to each of these, so the total measure is

$$\frac{\Gamma}{B} + \mathcal{O}(1/(B \log n)).$$

Since  $\int_{-1}^1 f(t)dt = 1$ , we have reached

$$\int_{\Gamma}^{2\Gamma} S_{b,B}^+(1; \gamma) d\gamma = \frac{\Gamma + \mathcal{O}(1/\log P)}{B} \sum_{P < n \leq (1+\xi)P} \beta(n)$$

on assuming essentially nothing on  $z$ . When  $\Gamma \geq (\log P)^4$ , we can find a  $\gamma^* \in [\Gamma, 2\Gamma]$  such that

$$S_{b,B}^+(1; \gamma^*) \leq \frac{1 + \mathcal{O}(1/(\log P)^5)}{B} \sum_{P < n \leq (1+\xi)P} \beta(n).$$

The evaluation of the summation over  $n$  is a consequence of Theorem 10.1:

$$\sum_{P < n \leq (1+\xi)P} \beta(n) = \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\log z} + \frac{1}{\xi(\log z)^9}\right)\right) \frac{\xi P}{\log z} \quad (56)$$

provided  $z \leq P/\exp((\log \log P)^3)$ . The term  $(\log z)^9$  will be of no interest.

## 14 A hybrid Brun-Titchmarsh Theorem

We are seeking an upper bound for  $S_{b,B}^-(1; \gamma)$  defined in (15). On recalling (55), we find that, when  $z \leq P$ ,

$$S_{b,B}^-(1; \gamma) = \sum_{p \geq 1} H_{b,B}(p) \leq \sum_{n \geq 1} H_{b,B}(n) \beta(n) = S_{b,B}^+(1; \gamma).$$

We expand the square in  $\beta(n)$  and use the Mellin transform to get

$$\begin{aligned} S_{b,B}^+(1; \gamma) &= \frac{1}{2i\pi} \sum_{d_1, d_2} \lambda_{d_1} \lambda_{d_2} \int_{2-i\infty}^{2+i\infty} \mathcal{M} H_{b,B}(s) \sum_{m \geq 1} \frac{ds}{[d_1, d_2]^s m^s} \\ &= \frac{1}{2i\pi} \int_{2-i\infty}^{2+i\infty} \mathcal{M} H_{b,B}(s) \sum_{d_1, d_2} \frac{\lambda_{d_1} \lambda_{d_2}}{[d_1, d_2]^s} \zeta(s) ds. \end{aligned}$$

We select  $\Gamma = \gamma$  in section 13 (see particularly (56)). We recover a  $\gamma^*$  in the interval  $[\gamma, 2\gamma]$  such that

$$S_{b,B}^+(1; \gamma^*) \leq \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{(\log P)^5} + \frac{1}{\log z}\right)\right) \frac{\xi P}{B \log z}$$

provided  $z \geq P^{1/4}$ . We shift the line of integration to  $\Re s = 1/2$ , but we do not evaluate the integration on this line by introducing absolute values.

When  $|t| \leq \gamma$ , we compare the integral to the one corresponding to  $\gamma^*$  by using Lemma 8.1. This introduces an error bounded above up to a multiplicative constant by

$$\delta_B \frac{\sqrt{P}}{\gamma} \int_0^\gamma |\zeta(\tfrac{1}{2} + it) M_2(\tfrac{1}{2} + it)| dt. \quad (57)$$

### First treatment

We appeal to Lemma 11.1 and a diadic decomposition to get a contribution of the term (57) which is at most (up to a multiplicative constant)

$$\delta_B \sqrt{P} (\text{Log } \gamma + z/\sqrt{\gamma}) \sqrt{\text{Log } \gamma \text{Log}^9 z}.$$

We shift the line of integration to  $\Re s = 1/2$ . The integral on the segment  $[1/2, 1/2 + i\gamma]$  is controlled by the above while the remaining integral is  $\ll \sqrt{P} B^2 \gamma^3 I(\gamma)$  by Lemma 6.1. We appeal to (53) and reach the inequality (since  $\xi \geq 1/(\text{Log } P)^2$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{S_{b,B}^-(1; \gamma) - S_{b,B}^+(1; \gamma^*)}{\delta_B \xi P / \text{Log } P} &\ll \sqrt{P}^{-1} (1 + z/\sqrt{\gamma}) (\text{Log } \gamma)^{3/2} (\text{Log } P)^{15/2} \\ &\quad + \frac{B^3}{\sqrt{P}} (1 + z/\sqrt{\gamma}) (\text{Log } \gamma)^{3/2} (\text{Log } P)^{9/2}. \end{aligned}$$

We select  $B = \lfloor (\text{Log } P)^4 \rfloor$ . We take, provided  $P \geq (\text{Log } \gamma)^4$ ,

$$z = \min(P, \sqrt{P\gamma}) / \exp((\text{Log } \text{Log } P)^3). \quad (58)$$

This choice is optimal when  $\gamma \geq P$ . We finally get

$$S_{b,B}^-(1; \gamma) \leq \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{(\text{Log } P)^5} + \frac{1}{\text{Log } z}\right)\right) \frac{\xi P}{B \text{Log } z}. \quad (59)$$

### Second treatment

If we use Lemma 11.2 instead, we get a contribution from (57):

$$\ll \delta_B \frac{\sqrt{P}}{\gamma} (\gamma z^{5/8} + \gamma^{1/4} z) (\text{Log } \gamma) / (\text{Log } z)^{2/3}.$$

Note that we can assume  $\gamma \leq P$  since the previous section already contains an optimal result otherwise. We proceed as above by use (54). This allows us to select

$$z = \min(P^{4/5}, P^{1/2} \gamma^{3/4}) / \exp((\text{Log } \text{Log } P)^3) \quad (60)$$

and again reach (59).

## Summary

We select  $B = \lfloor (\text{Log } P)^2 \rfloor$  and get when  $\xi \geq 1/(\text{Log } P)^2$  and provided  $P \geq (\text{Log } \gamma)^4$

$$S_{b,B}^-(1; \gamma) \leq \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\text{Log } P}\right)\right) \frac{\xi P}{B \text{Log } z} \quad (61)$$

where  $z$  is chosen as follows:

$P$	$\gamma$	$\gamma^{5/3}$	$\gamma^{5/2}$	
$\exp((\text{Log } \text{Log } P)^3)z$	$P$	$\sqrt{P\gamma}$	$P^{4/5}$	$P^{1/2}\gamma^{3/4}$

In the above bound we have removed the term  $\mathcal{O}(1/(\text{Log } P)^5)$  because it is absorbed in the term  $\mathcal{O}(1/\text{Log } z)$ , since  $z$  is roughly between  $\sqrt{P}$  and  $P$ , so that  $\text{Log } z \asymp \text{Log } P$ .

## 15 Proof of Theorem 1.1

We are seeking a lower bound for  $S(g; \gamma)$ , and we start with (12). Recalling (15), we consider

$$S^-(g; \gamma) = \sum_{0 \leq b \leq B-1} S_{b,B}^-(g; \gamma) \quad (\leq S(g; \gamma)). \quad (62)$$

On looking at the support of  $H_{b,B}$ , we infer that

$$S_{b,B}^-(g; \gamma) \geq S_{b,B}^-(1; \gamma) g^*(\delta_B \cdot b)$$

where we have used the definition

$$g^*(u) = \sum_{0 \leq b' \leq B-1} \left( \min_{b' - \frac{3}{2} \leq \theta/\delta_B \leq b' + \frac{3}{2}} g(\theta) \right) \mathbb{1}_{\delta_B(b'-1/2) < u \leq \delta_B(b'+1/2)}. \quad (63)$$

We know also that by the prime number Theorem and the discussion that occurred at the end of section 7 that

$$\sum_{0 \leq b \leq B-1} S_{b,B}^-(1; \gamma) \geq \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\xi}{\text{Log } P} + \frac{1}{\xi(\text{Log } P)^4}\right)\right) \frac{\xi P}{\text{Log } P}.$$

We define

$$\sigma_b = \frac{B \text{Log } P}{\xi P} S_{b,B}(1; \gamma).$$

Our problem is to minimize

$$\sum_{0 \leq b \leq B-1} \sigma_b g^*(\delta_B \cdot b) \quad (64)$$

under the conditions (here  $P^\kappa = z$ ), see (61),

$$\kappa^{-1} \Theta \geq \sigma_b, \quad \sum_{0 \leq b \leq B-1} \sigma_b \geq \Theta^{-1} B,$$

where, to clarify the situation,  $\Theta$  is the maximum of the  $(1 + \mathcal{O}(1/\text{Log } P))$  from (61) and one above the  $1 + \mathcal{O}(\xi/\text{Log } P + 1/(\xi \text{Log}^4 P))$  from (24). We are left with the conditions:

$$2\pi/B \geq 2\pi\kappa\Theta^{-1}\sigma_b/B, \quad \sum_{0 \leq b \leq B-1} 2\pi\Theta\kappa\sigma_b/B \geq 2\pi\Theta\kappa.$$

We use the sub-section 4.0.1 to infer that the minimum of (64) is

$$\geq (2\pi\Theta\kappa)^{-1} 2\pi\Theta\kappa V(g^*, 2\pi\Theta\kappa) \geq \Theta V(g^*, 2\pi\Theta\kappa).$$

Since  $g$ , and thus  $g^*$ , is bounded, we have

$$V(g^*, 2\pi\Theta\kappa) \geq V(g^*, 2\pi\kappa) + \mathcal{O}(\Theta).$$

We then appeal to Lemma 4.1 to show that

$$V(g^*, 2\pi\kappa) \geq V(g, 2\pi\kappa) + \omega_g(6\pi/B)/\kappa$$

where  $\omega_g$  is the continuity modulus of  $g$  defined in (2).

## 16 Proof of Theorem 1.3

The proof is a simple application of Theorem 1.1. Since  $g$  is here assumed to be continuously differentiable, its modulus of continuity verifies  $\omega_g(\delta) \ll \delta$ . Let us say that we study the sum starting from  $P_0 = (\text{Log } \gamma)^4$ . We recursively define, when  $k \geq 0$ ,

$$P_{k+1} = P_k + \xi(P_k)P_k, \quad \text{with } \xi(x) = 1/\text{Log } x.$$

When  $P_0$  is large enough in terms of  $\varepsilon$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{p > P_0} \frac{g(\gamma \text{Log } p) \text{Log } p}{p^\sigma} &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{P_k < p \leq P_{k+1}} \frac{g(\gamma \text{Log } p) \text{Log } p}{p^\sigma} \\ &\geq \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{P_{k+1}^\sigma} (V(g, 2\pi\kappa_\gamma(P_k)) - \mathcal{O}((\text{Log } P_k)^{-1})) \xi(P_k) P_k \\ &\geq \sum_{k \geq 0} (V(g, 2\pi\kappa_\gamma(P_k)) - \mathcal{O}((\text{Log } P_k)^{-1})) \left( \frac{P_k}{P_{k+1}} \right)^\sigma \int_{P_k}^{P_{k+1}} \frac{dt}{t^\sigma}. \end{aligned}$$

We first note that

$$V(g, 2\pi\kappa_\gamma(P_k)) \left( 1 - \left( \frac{P_k}{P_{k+1}} \right)^\sigma \right) \ll \frac{1}{\text{Log } P_k}.$$

Moreover

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{\text{Log } P_k} \int_{P_k}^{P_{k+1}} \frac{dt}{t^\sigma} \ll \int_{P_0}^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t^\sigma \text{Log } t} \ll \int_0^{P_0^{1-\sigma}} \frac{dv}{-\text{Log } v}$$

with  $v = t^{1-\sigma}$ . We continue by  $u = 1/v$  and isolate the singularity at  $u = 1$ , getting

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{\text{Log } P_k} \int_{P_k}^{P_{k+1}} \frac{dt}{t^\sigma} &\ll \int_{P_0^{\sigma-1}}^{\infty} \frac{du}{u^2 \text{Log } u} \ll \int_{\min(2, P_0^{\sigma-1})}^2 \frac{du}{u-1} + \mathcal{O}(1) \\ &\ll -\text{Log}(\sigma-1) + \mathcal{O}(1). \end{aligned}$$

This is valid provided  $\gamma$  is large enough. We appeal to the monotony property proved in Lemma 4.4 and remark that  $\kappa(t)$  is non-increasing to infer that

$$\sum_{p > P_0} \frac{g(\gamma \text{Log } p) \text{Log } p}{p^\sigma} \geq \int_{P_0}^{\infty} V(g, 2\pi\kappa_\gamma(t)) \frac{dt}{t^\sigma} - \mathcal{O}(\text{Log}(\sigma-1)).$$

Theorem 1.3 follows readily on extending the summation to encompass  $p \leq P_0$  by positivity.

## 17 Proof of Corollary 1.4

Proving Corollary 1.4 is a simple application of Theorem 1.3 on selecting  $g(t) = 1 \pm \cos t$  and  $g(t) = 1 \pm \sin t$ , but we provide details in the case  $g(t) = 1 - \cos t$  so as to render checking easier. Let  $\kappa$  be a real number between  $1/2$  and  $1$ . We readily check that

$$V(g, 2\pi\kappa) = \frac{2}{2\pi\kappa} \int_0^{\pi\kappa} (1 - \cos t) dt = 1 - \frac{\sin \pi\kappa}{\pi\kappa}.$$

We thus get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{-\zeta'}{\zeta}(\sigma) + \Re \frac{-\zeta'}{\zeta}(\sigma + i\gamma) &\geq \int_{(\text{Log } \gamma)^4}^{\gamma} \frac{dt}{t^\sigma} + \int_{\gamma}^{\gamma^{5/3}} \left( 1 - \frac{\sin \pi \frac{1+\vartheta(t)}{2}}{\pi(1+\vartheta(t))/2} \right) \frac{dt}{t^\sigma} \\ &+ \int_{\gamma^{5/3}}^{\gamma^{5/2}} \left( 1 - \frac{\sin \pi \frac{4}{5}}{\pi 4/5} \right) \frac{dt}{t^\sigma} + \int_{\gamma^{5/2}}^{\infty} \left( 1 - \frac{\sin \pi \frac{2+3\vartheta(t)}{4}}{\pi(2+3\vartheta(t))/4} \right) \frac{dt}{t^\sigma} + \mathcal{O}(\text{Log}(\sigma-1)) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\vartheta(t) = (\text{Log } \gamma) / \text{Log } t$ . We use  $\frac{-\zeta'}{\zeta}(\sigma) = 1/(\sigma-1) + \mathcal{O}(1)$  and the change of variable  $t = \gamma^v$  to get infer from the above that

$$\begin{aligned} \Re \frac{\zeta'}{\zeta}(\sigma + i\gamma) &\leq \frac{e^{-4(\sigma-1) \text{Log } \text{Log } \gamma} - 1}{\sigma-1} + \int_1^{5/3} \frac{\sin \pi \frac{1+v^{-1}}{2}}{\pi(1+v^{-1})/2} \frac{dv \text{Log } \gamma}{e^{v(\sigma-1) \text{Log } \gamma}} \\ &+ \int_{5/3}^{5/2} \frac{\sin \pi \frac{4}{5}}{\pi 4/5} \frac{dv \text{Log } \gamma}{e^{v(\sigma-1) \text{Log } \gamma}} + \int_{5/2}^{\infty} \frac{\sin \pi \frac{2+3v^{-1}}{4}}{\pi(2+3v^{-1})/4} \frac{dv \text{Log } \gamma}{e^{v(\sigma-1) \text{Log } \gamma}} + \mathcal{O}(\text{Log}(\sigma-1)). \end{aligned}$$

The Corollary follows readily.

The bound  $h(x) \leq 2e^{-x}/\pi$  comes from the bound

$$V(g, 2\pi\kappa_\gamma(t)) \geq V(g, \pi) = 1 - \frac{2}{\pi}$$

which we use when  $t \geq \gamma$ .

## 18 Proof of Theorem 1.2

On using Lemma 9.7, we find that

$$F_0(T, z) = \int_T^{2T} |\zeta(\tfrac{1}{2} + it) M_2(\tfrac{1}{2} + it)| dt \ll_\varepsilon T \sqrt{z} (Tz)^\varepsilon$$

for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ . It is a simple matter to modify section 12 in order to obtain

$$I(\gamma) \ll_\varepsilon \sqrt{z} (\text{Log } \gamma) (\gamma z)^\varepsilon / \gamma^3$$

when  $\gamma \geq 2$  and where  $I(\gamma)$  is being defined in (51). We reach in this fashion:

$$\frac{S_{b,B}^-(1; \gamma) - S_{b,B}^+(1; \gamma^*)}{\delta_B P / \text{Log } P} \ll_\varepsilon B^3 \frac{(Pz)^{\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon}}{P} \text{Log } \gamma \ll_\varepsilon (Pz)^{\frac{1}{2} + 2\varepsilon} P^{-1} \text{Log } \gamma. \quad (65)$$

We thus take  $z = P^{1-4\varepsilon}$  and get

$$\frac{S_{b,B}^-(1; \gamma) - S_{b,B}^+(1; \gamma^*)}{\delta_B P / \text{Log } P} \ll_\varepsilon P^{-\varepsilon} \text{Log } \gamma.$$

We conclude the proof as we did the one of Theorem 1.1.

## 19 On the size of $\zeta(s)^{\pm 1}$ next to the line $\Re s = 1$

Let us recall a classical consequence of the Vinogradov-Korobov bound (68) and of the classical method of Mertens. See [11, Corollary 8.28, Theorem 8.29].

**Lemma 19.1.** *There exists a constant  $c > 0$  such that, in the region*

$$\sigma \geq 1 - \frac{c}{(\text{Log } t)^{2/3} (\text{Log Log } t)^{1/3}},$$

*the Riemann zeta-function has no zero, and we furthermore have*

$$\left| \frac{\zeta'}{\zeta}(\sigma + it) \right| + \left| \frac{1}{\zeta(\sigma + it)} \right| \ll (\text{Log } t)^{2/3} (\text{Log Log } t)^{1/3}$$

*as well as*

$$\zeta(\sigma + it) \ll (\text{Log } t)^{2/3}, \quad \zeta'(\sigma + it) \ll (\text{Log } t)^{4/3}.$$

### Proof of Corollary 1.6

We define  $\sigma_1 - 1 = c / \text{Log Log } t$  for a small enough constant  $c > 0$  and readily check that

$$\pm \text{Log } |\zeta(\sigma + it)| \leq \pm \text{Log } |\zeta(\sigma_1 + it)| + \int_\sigma^{\sigma_1} \left| \Re \frac{\zeta'}{\zeta}(u + it) \right| du.$$

On appealing to Corollary 1.4, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\pm \operatorname{Log} |\zeta(\sigma + it)| &\leq \int_{\sigma-1}^{\sigma_1-1} \frac{2/\pi}{e^{v \operatorname{Log} t} v} dv + \mathcal{O}(1) \pm \operatorname{Log} |\zeta(\sigma_1 + it)| \\
&\leq (2/\pi) \int_{(\sigma-1) \operatorname{Log} t}^{\infty} \frac{dw}{e^w w} + \mathcal{O}(1) \pm \operatorname{Log} |\zeta(\sigma_1 + it)| \\
&\leq \frac{2/\pi}{t^{\sigma-1}(\sigma-1) \operatorname{Log} t} (1 + \mathcal{O}(\delta)) + \mathcal{O}(1) \pm \operatorname{Log} |\zeta(\sigma_1 + it)|
\end{aligned}$$

by using an integration by parts and with  $\delta^{-1} = (\sigma - 1) \operatorname{Log} t$ . We first apply this inequality with  $\delta = 1$ , getting

$$\zeta((\operatorname{Log} t)^{-1} + it) \ll \operatorname{Log} \operatorname{Log} t.$$

Since  $\zeta'(\sigma + it) \ll (\operatorname{Log} t)^{4/3}$  for  $\sigma \geq 1$ , we get, when  $\sigma \in [1, (\operatorname{Log} t)^{-1}]$ ,

$$\zeta(\sigma + it) = \zeta((\operatorname{Log} t)^{-1} + it) + \mathcal{O}((\operatorname{Log} t)^{-1} (\operatorname{Log} t)^{4/3}) \quad (66)$$

and thus  $\zeta(\sigma + it) \ll (\operatorname{Log} t)^{1/3}$ . Once this first inequality has been established, we use  $\zeta' = \zeta \cdot (\zeta'/\zeta)$  to infer the bound

$$\zeta'(\sigma + it) \ll (\operatorname{Log} t)(\operatorname{Log} \operatorname{Log} t)^{1/3}.$$

We finally use this bound in (66) to reach

$$\zeta(\sigma + it) \ll \operatorname{Log} \operatorname{Log} t, \quad (\sigma \geq 1).$$

We prove similarly that

$$1/\zeta(\sigma + it) \ll \operatorname{Log} \operatorname{Log} t, \quad (\sigma \geq 1)$$

by using  $\zeta'/\zeta^2(\sigma + it) \ll (\operatorname{Log} t)^{4/3}(\operatorname{Log} \operatorname{Log} t)^{2/3}$ . The proof is complete.

## 20 Extension of an upper bound of $|\zeta(1 + it)|$

We define

$$G(t, \Delta) = \max_{|t-t'| \leq \Delta} |\zeta(1 + it')| \quad (67)$$

and seek upper bounds of  $|\zeta(\sigma + it)|$  and  $|\zeta'(\sigma + it)|$  for  $\sigma$  close to 1 in terms of  $G(t, \Delta)$ . We will then appeal to Corollary 1.6 to bound  $G(t, \Delta)$  by  $\mathcal{O}(\operatorname{Log} \operatorname{Log}(|t| + \Delta))$ .

**Lemma 20.1.** *For  $\Delta \leq 1$ ,  $\delta \geq 0$  and  $|1 - \sigma| \leq (\operatorname{Log}_2 t)^{2\delta} (\operatorname{Log} t)^{-2/3}$ , we have*

$$|\zeta(\sigma + it)| \ll \exp\left\{C_9 (\operatorname{Log}_2 t)^{3\delta}\right\} \left(G(t, \Delta) \operatorname{Log} \operatorname{Log} t + \frac{1}{\Delta (\operatorname{Log}_2 t)^\delta}\right) + 1.$$

This Lemma is proved in subsection 20.2.

## 20.1 A good representation of $\zeta(\sigma + it)$

We introduce the smoothing function

$$\Omega(u) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when } |u| \leq U, \\ (U + L - |u|)/L & \text{when } U \leq |u| \leq U + L, \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

whose Fourier transform is given by

$$\hat{\Omega}(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \Omega(u) e(zu) = \frac{2}{\pi L z^2} \sin(Lz/2) \sin((2U + L)z/2).$$

Let us recall Vinogradov-Korobov's estimate:

$$\left| \sum_{N < n \leq N'} n^{-it} \right| \ll N \exp \left\{ -\alpha \frac{(\log N)^3}{(\log t)^2} \right\} \quad (N' \leq 2N) \quad (68)$$

where  $\alpha$  is some positive constant. The best such result can be found in [7]. Equipped with this result, we readily shorten the classical representation  $\zeta(\sigma + it) = \sum_{n \leq t} n^{-\sigma - it} + \mathcal{O}(1)$  (valid when  $\sigma \geq \frac{1}{2}$  and  $t \geq 1$ ) and get

$$\zeta(\sigma + it) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\Omega(\log n)}{n^{\sigma + it}} + \mathcal{O}(1). \quad (69)$$

This is valid provided  $U + L \leq \log t$  and

$$U \geq C_7(\delta) \max \left( \max(0, (1 - \sigma))^{1/2} \log t, (\log t)^{2/3} (\log_2 t)^\delta \right)$$

for any  $\delta > 0$  and some constant  $C_7$  depending on  $\delta$ .

## 20.2 Expressing $\zeta(\sigma + it)$ in terms of $\zeta(1 + it)$

We rewrite formula (69) as follows:

$$\zeta(\sigma + it) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\Omega(\log n) n^\eta}{n^{1 + it}} + \mathcal{O}(1) \quad (\eta = 1 - \sigma)$$

which, on using

$$\Omega(\log n) e^{\eta \log n} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{\Omega}(u + \eta/(2i\pi)) e(-u \log n) du,$$

yields the representation we were looking for, namely

$$\zeta(\sigma + it) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{\Omega}(u + \eta/(2i\pi)) \zeta(1 + it - 2i\pi u) du + \mathcal{O}(1). \quad (70)$$



The conclusion is then just a matter of routine. We first check that

$$|\hat{\Omega}(u + \eta/(2i\pi))| \leq e^{(U+L)|\eta|/(2\pi)} \min\left(\frac{2U+L}{2\pi}, \frac{1}{\pi|z|}, \frac{2}{\pi L|z|^2}\right)$$

where  $z = u - i\eta/(2\pi)$  by using  $|\sin z| \leq e^\sigma \min(1, |z|)$ . We deduce from them that

$$\begin{aligned} |\zeta(\sigma + it)| &\ll e^{(U+L)|\eta|} \left( \int_{|t-v| \leq 1/(U+L)} (U+L) |\zeta(1+iv)| dv \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{1/(U+L) \leq |t-v| \leq \Delta} |\zeta(1+iv)| \frac{dv}{|v-t|} + \frac{(\text{Log } t)^{2/3}}{L\Delta} \right) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

whence

$$\begin{aligned} |\zeta(\sigma + it)| &\ll e^{(U+L)|\eta|} \left( G(t, (U+L)^{-1}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{1/(U+L) \leq |t-v| \leq \Delta} |\zeta(1+iv)| \frac{dv}{|v-t|} + \frac{(\text{Log } t)^{2/3}}{L\Delta} \right) + 1, \\ &\ll e^{(U+L)|\eta|} \left( G(t, \Delta) \text{Log}((U+L)\Delta) + \frac{(\text{Log } t)^{2/3}}{L\Delta} \right) + 1, \end{aligned}$$

for  $\Delta \leq 1$  (whether  $\Delta \leq 1/L$  or not). On taking  $U = L = C_8(\text{Log } t)^{2/3}(\text{Log}_2 t)^\delta$ , Lemma 20.1 follows readily.

## 21 A zero-free region: proof of Theorem 1.7

The proof and the statement of the following Lemma has taken some years to find a proper shape. One can find traces of it in [14], between equations (92) and (93), see the definition of  $F$ . It will evolve until [15, Lemma 1] to yield a bound on  $\zeta'/\zeta(s)$  next to the line  $\Re s = 1$ . At the time, Gronwall and Landau were improving each other's bound. See also [24, section 3.9, Lemma  $\alpha$ ].

**Lemma 21.1.** *Let  $M$  be an upper bound for the holomorphic function  $F$  in  $|s - s_0| \leq R$ . Assume we know of a lower bound  $m > 0$  for  $|F(s_0)|$ . Then*

$$\frac{F'(s)}{F(s)} = \sum_{|\rho - s_0| \leq R/2} \frac{1}{s - \rho} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\text{Log}(M/m)}{R}\right)$$

*for every  $s$  such that  $|s - s_0| \leq R/4$  and where the summation variable  $\rho$  ranges the zeros  $\rho$  of  $F$  in the region  $|\rho - s_0| \leq R/2$ , repeated according to multiplicity.*

This Lemma is our main tool in what follows. The reader should look at the very interesting section 3 of [10], and more precisely to [10, Lemma 3.2]. An expression for the real part of  $F'(s)/F(s)$  in terms of the possible zeros is obtained there. In fact, the proof therein contains an expression for  $F'(s)/F(s)$ , but it seems necessary to take the real part to bound it solely in term of  $M/m$  (notation as above).

### Proof of Theorem 1.7

Let  $\gamma_0$  be the (large enough) ordinate of a zero  $\rho_0 = \beta_0 + i\gamma_0$  of the Riemann zeta-function. It will be easier in this proof to use the notation  $\text{Log}_k t$  to denote the  $k$ -fold iterate of the logarithm, so that  $\text{Log}_2 t = \text{Log Log } t$ .

We apply Lemma 21.1 with parameters  $F = \zeta$ ,  $s_0 = 1 + i\gamma_0$ , and  $R = (\log_3 \gamma_0 / \log \gamma_0)^{2/3}$ . The bound  $M$  required is provided by Lemma 20.1 where we select  $\Delta = 1$ ,  $\delta = (\text{Log}_4 \gamma_0) / \text{Log}_3 \gamma_0$  and we bound  $G(\gamma_0, 1)$  by appealing to Corollary 1.6. We also use this Corollary to show that we can take  $m \gg 1 / \text{Log Log } \gamma_0$ . As a conclusion, we find that

$$\frac{\zeta'(s)}{\zeta(s)} = \sum_{|\rho - 1 - i\gamma_0| \leq R/2} \frac{1}{s - \rho} + \mathcal{O}((\text{Log } \gamma_0)^{2/3} (\text{Log}_3 \gamma_0)^{1/3}).$$

We select  $s = \sigma + it$  for some  $\sigma > 1$  that we choose below. Note that

$$\Re \frac{1}{s - \rho} \geq 0$$

so that we have

$$\Re \frac{\zeta'(s)}{\zeta(s)} \leq \Re \frac{1}{s - \rho_0} + \mathcal{O}((\text{Log } \gamma_0)^{2/3} (\text{Log}_3 \gamma_0)^{1/3}).$$

We differ here from the usual treatment (but this one would also do) to show the strength of Corollary 1.4. On using this Corollary, we find that

$$\frac{2/\pi}{\sigma - 1} + \mathcal{O}(-\text{Log}(\sigma - 1)) \leq \Re \frac{\zeta'(s)}{\zeta(s)}.$$

We conclude, on assuming  $\sigma - 1 \geq 1 / \text{Log } t$ , that

$$\frac{2/\pi}{\sigma - 1} \leq \frac{1}{\sigma - \beta_0} + \mathcal{O}((\text{Log } \gamma_0)^{2/3} \text{Log Log Log } \gamma_0).$$

We take  $\sigma - 1 = 1 - \beta_0$  and find that

$$1 \ll \frac{2}{\pi} - \frac{1}{2} \ll (1 - \beta_0)(\text{Log } \gamma_0)^{2/3} (\text{Log}_3 \gamma_0)^{1/3}.$$

The proof of Theorem 1.7 is now complete.

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