

# NB/BD Stability via a Weighted Hilbert Operator: Operator–Spectral Roadmap (v3.5)

Serabi  
Independent Researcher  
24ping@naver.com

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## Abstract

We refine a weighted Hilbert-operator approach to the Nyman–Beurling/Báez-Duarte (NB/BD) criterion. Our operator formulation isolates near-diagonal interactions while damping off-diagonal terms through a log-banded partition and a low-frequency cutoff. We provide a self-contained lemma (Hilbert-type decay with Möbius-weighted coefficients) with explicit assumptions, clarify where numerical heuristics enter, and outline a spectral roadmap (near-normality, compact perturbations, and stability of normal equations). This note is a *mathematical framework*, not a proof of the Riemann Hypothesis (RH).

## 1 Setup and Operator Form

Let  $N$  be large. Fix a smooth cutoff  $v \in C_0^\infty(0, 1)$  with  $\|v^{(k)}\|_\infty \ll_k 1$  and a slowly-varying weight  $q$  with

$$|q(n)| \ll (\log N)^C, \quad \Delta^r q(n) \ll_r (\log N)^C n^{-r}.$$

Define coefficients  $a_n = \mu(n) v(n/N) q(n)$  and the kernel

$$K_{mn} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}|\log(m/n)|} = \min\left\{\sqrt{\frac{m}{n}}, \sqrt{\frac{n}{m}}\right\}.$$

For vectors  $x = (x_n)_{n \leq N}$  set the discrete operator

$$(\mathcal{H}x)_m = \sum_{n \leq N} K_{mn} x_n, \quad m \leq N.$$

NB/BD normal equations produce  $A = I + E$  where  $E$  collects off-diagonal interactions governed by  $\mathcal{H}$ .

## 2 Hilbert-Type Decay Lemma

**Lemma 1** (Weighted Hilbert Decay). *With  $a_n = \mu(n)v(n/N)q(n)$  as above, there exist constants  $\theta > 0$  and  $C = C(v, q)$  such that*

$$\sum_{\substack{m \neq n \\ m, n \leq N}} a_m a_n K_{mn} \leq C (\log N)^{-\theta} \sum_{n \leq N} a_n^2.$$

*Sketch.* Partition pairs  $(m, n)$  into dyadic log-bands  $\mathcal{B}_j := \{(m, n) : 2^{-(j+1)} < |\log(m/n)| \leq 2^{-j}\}$ . On  $\mathcal{B}_j$  we have  $K_{mn} \leq e^{-c2^{-j}}$ . A discrete Hilbert-type bound with smooth cutoffs controls

the raw band sum by  $(\log N)\|a\|_2^2$ . With  $a_n = \mu(n) \cdot (\text{low-frequency})$ , summation by parts across each band gains an extra  $2^{-j\delta}$  via smoothness of  $v$  and the oscillation of  $\mu(n)$ , yielding

$$\sum_{(m,n) \in \mathcal{B}_j} a_m a_n K_{mn} \ll e^{-c2^{-j}} (2^{-j} \log N)^{1-\varepsilon} \sum a_n^2.$$

Summing  $j$  gives the stated  $(\log N)^{-\theta}$  suppression for some  $\theta > 0$ .  $\square$

*Remark 1 (Scope).* Lemma 1 is qualitative: it ensures *some*  $\theta > 0$  under the stated smooth and low-frequency assumptions. Sharper, explicit  $\theta$  requires zero-free input or stronger mean value bounds for Möbius correlations; this is outside the present note.

### 3 Spectral Roadmap

Write  $A = I + E$  for the NB/BD normal matrix. Lemma 1 gives  $\|E\|_{\ell^2 \rightarrow \ell^2} \leq C(\log N)^{-\theta} < 1$  for  $N$  large, so  $A$  is invertible via a Neumann series. This supports stability of the least-squares coefficients and the NB/BD distance  $d_N$  in the weighted, low-frequency regime. A rigorous spectral path forward is:

- (i) **Near-normality:** show  $[\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{H}^*]$  is compact/small on the weighted subspace;
- (ii) **Band-limited compactness:** the off-diagonal tail is compact under log-banding and smoothing;
- (iii) **Fredholm alternative:** stability of  $A = I + E$  under compact perturbations yields control of minimizers.

### 4 Limitations and Outlook

Our analysis does not prove RH. It isolates why the NB/BD linear system is *stable* under weighted, low-frequency designs. Future steps (all purely NT):

- explicit band-by-band constants and an effective  $\theta(\delta)$ ;
- zero-free region input to trade oscillation for quantitative decay;
- functional equation/explicit formula integration to close remaining gaps.

### References

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