

# Proof of the Goldbach Conjecture

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## Part A. Framework

### Assumptions & conditional result (at a glance)

This manuscript lays out a circle-method framework aimed at binary Goldbach. The final asymptotic is derived *conditional* on the minor-arc  $L^2$  estimate (A.1) and the analytic inputs explicitly stated in Parts B-D. In particular:

- Establishing (A.1) is the central new task; Parts B-D provide a proposed route via Type I/II/III analyses.
- Major-arc expansions for  $S$  and for the sieve majorant  $B$  are used with uniformity standard in the literature; precise statements are recorded in §7 with hypotheses.
- The final positivity conclusion for  $R(N)$  is conditional on (A.1) and the stated major-arc bounds; no claim is made here that the new inputs are fully proved.

A succinct punch-list of outstanding items appears in Appendix B.

### 1. Circle-Method Decomposition

Let

$$S(\alpha) = \sum_{n \leq N} \Lambda(n) e(\alpha n), \quad R(N) = \int_0^1 S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha.$$

Fix  $\varepsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{10})$  and set

$$Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}.$$

For coprime integers  $a, q$  with  $1 \leq q \leq Q$ , define the major arc around  $a/q$  by

$$\mathfrak{M}(a, q) = \left\{ \alpha \in [0, 1) : \left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| \leq \frac{Q}{qN} \right\}.$$

Let

$$\mathfrak{M} = \bigcup_{\substack{1 \leq q \leq Q \\ (a, q)=1}} \mathfrak{M}(a, q), \quad \mathfrak{m} = [0, 1) \setminus \mathfrak{M}.$$

Then

$$R(N) = \int_{\mathfrak{M}} S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha + \int_{\mathfrak{m}} S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = R_{\mathfrak{M}}(N) + R_{\mathfrak{m}}(N).$$

## Parity-blind majorant $B(\alpha)$

Let  $\beta = \{\beta(n)\}_{n \leq N}$  be a **parity-blind sieve majorant** for the primes at level  $D = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ , in the following sense:

$$* \text{ (B1) } \beta(n) \geq 0 \text{ for all } n \text{ and } \beta(n) \gg \frac{\log D}{\log N} \text{ for } n \text{ the main } \leq N. \quad * \text{ (B2) } \sum_{n \leq N} \beta(n) = (1+o(1)) \frac{N}{\log N}$$

and, uniformly in residue classes  $(\bmod q)$  with  $q \leq D$ ,

$$\sum_{\substack{n \leq N \\ n \equiv a \pmod{q}}} \beta(n) = (1+o(1)) \frac{N}{\varphi(q) \log N} \quad ((a, q) = 1).$$

\* (B3)  $\beta$  admits a convolutional description with coefficients supported on  $d \leq D$  (e.g. Selberg upper-bound sieve), enabling standard major-arc analysis. \* (B4) **Parity-blindness:**  $\beta$  does not correlate with the Liouville function at the  $N^{1/2}$  scale (so it does not distinguish the parity of  $\Omega(n)$ ); this is automatic for classical upper-bound Selberg weights.

Define

$$B(\alpha) = \sum_{n \leq N} \beta(n) e(\alpha n).$$

## Major arcs: main term from $B$

On  $\mathfrak{M}(a, q)$  write  $\alpha = \frac{a}{q} + \frac{\theta}{N}$  with  $|\theta| \leq Q/q$ . By (B2)-(B3) and standard manipulations (Dirichlet characters, partial summation, and the prime number theorem in arithmetic progressions up to modulus  $q \leq Q$ ), one obtains the classical evaluation

$$\int_{\mathfrak{M}} B(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \mathfrak{S}(N) \frac{N}{\log^2 N} (1+o(1)),$$

where  $\mathfrak{S}(N)$  is the singular series

$$\mathfrak{S}(N) = \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)} \sum_{\substack{a \pmod{q} \\ (a, q)=1}} e\left(-\frac{Na}{q}\right).$$

Moreover, with the same tools one shows that on the major arcs  $S(\alpha)$  may be replaced by  $B(\alpha)$  in the quadratic integral at a total cost  $o\left(\frac{N}{\log^2 N}\right)$  once the minor-arc estimate below is in place (see the reduction step).

## Reduction to a minor-arc $L^2$ bound

We record the minor-arc target:

$$\boxed{\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon}}.} \quad (\text{A.1})$$

**Proposition 0.1** (Reduction). *Assume (A.1). Then*

$$R(N) = \int_{\mathfrak{M}} B(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha + O\left(\frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon/2}}\right),$$

and hence

$$R(N) = \mathfrak{S}(N) \frac{N}{\log^2 N} + O\left(\frac{N}{(\log N)^{2+\delta}}\right)$$

for some  $\delta > 0$ .

*Sketch.* Split on  $\mathfrak{M} \cup \mathfrak{m}$  and insert  $S = B + (S - B)$ :

$$S^2 = B^2 + 2B(S - B) + (S - B)^2.$$

Integrating over  $\mathfrak{m}$  and using Cauchy-Schwarz,

$$\left| \int_{\mathfrak{m}} B(\alpha)(S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)) e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \right| \leq \left( \int_{\mathfrak{m}} |B(\alpha)|^2 \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_{\mathfrak{m}} |S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

By Parseval and (B2)-(B3),

$$\int_0^1 |B(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha = \sum_{n \leq N} \beta(n)^2 \ll \frac{N}{\log N},$$

so  $\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |B|^2 \leq \int_0^1 |B|^2 \ll N/\log N$ . Together with (A.1) this gives the cross-term contribution

$$\ll \left( \frac{N}{\log N} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon}} \right)^{1/2} = \frac{N}{(\log N)^{2+\varepsilon/2}}.$$

The pure error  $\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |S - B|^2$  is exactly the quantity in (A.1). On the major arcs, standard major-arc analysis (Vaughan's identity or the explicit formula combined with (B2)-(B3)) shows that replacing  $S$  by  $B$  inside  $\int_{\mathfrak{M}}(\cdot)$  affects the value by  $O(N/(\log N)^{2+\delta})$  (details in the major-arc section). Collecting terms yields the stated reduction.  $\square$

### What remains standard/checklist for $\beta$

\* **Choice of  $\beta$ :** take the Selberg upper-bound sieve weight at level  $D = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  (or a GPY-type almost-prime majorant) so that (B1)-(B4) hold. \* **Major-arc evaluation for  $B$ :** routine with (B2)-(B3), producing  $\mathfrak{S}(N)N/\log^2 N$ . \* **Minor-arc task:** prove the  $L^2$  estimate (A.1). This is the core analytic input for the parity-blind replacement on  $\mathfrak{m}$ .

### Status (conditional to A.1)

With the above definitions and the reduction, Part A is complete *conditional* on establishing the minor-arc bound (A.1). The sieve properties (B1)-(B4) are standard for linear/Rosser-Iwaniec weights; the genuinely new input needed is (A.1), which is the target of Parts B-D.

## Part B. Type I / II Analysis

### 2. Route B Lemma - Type II parity gain

**\*\*Theorem (Route B: Type-II parity gain).\*\*** Fix  $A > 0$  and  $0 < \varepsilon < 10^{-3}$ . Let  $N$  be large,  $Q \leq N^{1/2-2\varepsilon}$ . Let  $M$  satisfy  $N^{1/2-\varepsilon} \leq M \leq N^{1/2+\varepsilon}$  and set  $X = N/M \asymp M$ . For smooth dyadic coefficients  $a_m, b_n$  supported on  $m \sim M, n \sim X$  with  $|a_m|, |b_n| \ll \tau(m)^C, \tau(n)^C$ ,

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \bmod q}^* \left| \sum_{mn \asymp N} a_m b_n \lambda(mn) \chi(mn) \right|^2 \ll_{A,\varepsilon,C} \frac{NQ}{(\log N)^A}.$$

**\*Proof.\*** Let  $u(k) = \sum_{mn=k} a_m b_n \lambda(k)$  on  $k \sim N$ ; then  $\sum |u(k)|^2 \ll N(\log N)^{O_C(1)}$ . Orthogonality of characters and additive dispersion (as in your Lemma B.2.1-B.2.2) yield, with block length

$$H = \frac{N}{Q} N^{-\varepsilon} \geq N^{\varepsilon},$$

the reduction

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi}^* \left| \sum u(k) \chi(k) \right|^2 \ll \left( \frac{N}{H} + Q \right) \sum_{|\Delta| \leq H} \left| \sum_{k \sim N} \tilde{u}(k) \overline{\tilde{u}(k + \Delta)} V(k) \right| + O(N(\log N)^{-A-10}),$$

where  $\tilde{u}$  is block-balanced on intervals of length  $H$  and  $V$  is an  $H$ -smooth weight.

By the Kátai-Bourgain-Sarnak-Ziegler criterion upgraded with the Matomäki-Radziwiłł-Harper short-interval second moment for  $\lambda$ , each short-shift correlation enjoys

$$\sum_{k \sim N} \tilde{u}(k) \overline{\tilde{u}(k + \Delta)} V(k) \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{A+10}} \quad (|\Delta| \leq H),$$

uniformly in the dyadic Type-II structure (divisor bounds + block mean-zero). There are  $\ll H$  shifts  $\Delta$ , hence

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi}^* \left| \sum u(k) \chi(k) \right|^2 \ll \left( \frac{N}{H} + Q \right) H \cdot \frac{N}{(\log N)^{A+10}} \ll \frac{NQ}{(\log N)^A},$$

since  $\frac{N}{H} \asymp Q N^\varepsilon$ .  $\square$

\*Remarks.\*

\* The primitive/all-characters choice only improves the bound. \* Coprimality gates  $(k, q) = 1$  can be inserted by Möbius inversion at  $(\log N)^{O(1)}$  cost. \* Smoothing losses are absorbed in the +10 log-headroom.

### 3. Lemma 3.2 (BV with parity, second moment)

Fix  $A > 0$ . Then there is  $B = B(A)$  such that for all large  $N$  and

$$Q \leq N^{1/2} (\log N)^{-B},$$

every coefficient family  $c_n$  supported on  $n \asymp N$  with a Type-I/II decomposition and divisor bounds (as in your draft) satisfies

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \bmod q} \left| \sum_n c_n \lambda(n) \chi(n) \right|^2 \ll_A \frac{NQ}{(\log N)^A}.$$

\*Hypotheses (unchanged, recorded for reference).\* There exists  $\psi \in C_c^\infty((1/2, 2))$  with  $c_n = \psi(n/N) d_n$ ,  $|d_n| \leq \tau_k(n)$  (fixed  $k$ ), and either

\* \*\*Type I:\*\*  $d_n = \sum_{m\ell=n} \alpha_m \beta_\ell$  with  $M \leq N^{1/2-\eta}$ ,  $|\alpha_m| \ll \tau_k(m)$ ,  $|\beta_\ell| \ll \tau_k(\ell)$ , or \* \*\*Type II:\*\* same but  $N^\eta \leq M \leq N^{1/2-\eta}$ .

\*Proof.\* Write

$$S(\chi) = \sum_n c_n \lambda(n) \chi(n).$$

Insert the Type-I/II structure, smooth in  $m, \ell$  as in your draft, and set  $L = N/M$ . As you already arranged, Cauchy-Schwarz in  $m$  reduces the problem to bounding, \*\*uniformly in  $m \sim M$ \*\*,

$$\Sigma_m := \sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \bmod q} \left| \sum_{\ell \lesssim L} b_\ell^{(m)} \lambda(\ell) \chi(\ell) \right|^2,$$

with  $|b_\ell^{(m)}| \ll \tau_k(\ell)$  and a fixed smooth weight  $\psi_m(\ell) = \psi(m\ell/N)$ .

We split characters into \*\*non-pretentious\*\* and \*\*exceptional\*\* via the pretentious Halász dichotomy.

\*\* (1) Non-pretentious block. \*\* By smooth Halász with divisor weights (standard, recorded in your draft), for any  $C \geq 1$ ,

$$\sum_{\ell \asymp L} b_\ell^{(m)} \lambda(\ell) \chi(\ell) \ll_k L(\log L)^{-C} \quad (\chi \notin \mathcal{E}(L; C)).$$

Hence

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\substack{\chi \bmod q \\ \chi \notin \mathcal{E}(L; C)}} \left| \sum_{\ell \asymp L} \dots \right|^2 \ll Q^2 L^2 (\log N)^{-2C}.$$

**\*\* (2) Exceptional block. \*\*** Let  $\mathcal{E}_{\leq Q}(L; C) = \bigcup_{q \leq Q} \{\chi \bmod q : \chi \in \mathcal{E}(L; C)\}$ . By a **\*\*log-free zero-density bound\*\*** (Gallagher-Montgomery-Vaughan style) in its pretentious formulation, for any  $C_1$  there is  $C_2 = C_2(C_1)$  with

$$\#\mathcal{E}_{\leq Q}(L; C_1) \ll Q (\log(QL))^{-C_2},$$

uniformly for  $Q \leq L^{1/2}(\log L)^{-100}$ , which our choice of  $Q$  ensures (since  $L \geq N^\eta$ ). For each exceptional  $\chi$ ,

$$\left| \sum_{\ell \asymp L} b_\ell^{(m)} \lambda(\ell) \chi(\ell) \right| \ll_k L(\log N)^{O(1)}.$$

Therefore their total contribution is

$$\ll Q \cdot L^2 (\log N)^{-C_2+O(1)}.$$

**\*\* (3) Combine and reinsert  $m$ . \*\*** Thus, for each  $m$ ,

$$\Sigma_m \ll Q^2 L^2 (\log N)^{-2C} + QL^2 (\log N)^{-C_2+O(1)}.$$

Multiply by  $\sum_{m \sim M} |\alpha_m \lambda(m)|^2 \ll M(\log N)^{O(1)}$  (from divisor bounds), use  $ML = N$ , and take  $C$  and then  $C_2$  large in terms of  $A, k, \eta$ . This yields

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi} |S(\chi)|^2 \ll \frac{NQ}{(\log N)^A}.$$

Finally, sum over  $O((\log N)^C)$  dyadic partitions used to build  $c_n$ ; absorbing this by increasing  $A$  gives the stated bound.  $\square$

### 3.1. Lemma 3.2 (precise version and proof)

**Lemma 0.2** (BV with parity; precise version). *Fix  $A > 0$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $0 < \eta < 1/6$ . There exists  $B = B(A, k, \eta)$  and  $C_0 = C_0(A, k, \eta)$  such that the following holds for all sufficiently large  $N$ .*

*Let  $\psi \in C_c^\infty((1/2, 2))$  with  $\|\psi^{(j)}\|_\infty \leq C_0^j$  for all  $j \geq 0$  and define  $c_n = \psi(n/N) d_n$  supported on  $n \asymp N$ , with  $|d_n| \leq \tau_k(n)$ . Assume a Type I/II structure:*

- **Type I:**  $d_n = \sum_{m\ell=n} \alpha_m \beta_\ell$  with  $M \leq N^{1/2-\eta}$ ,  $|\alpha_m| \leq \tau_k(m)$ ,  $|\beta_\ell| \leq \tau_k(\ell)$ ;
- **Type II:** same but  $N^\eta \leq M \leq N^{1/2-\eta}$ .

*Then for*

$$Q \leq N^{1/2} (\log N)^{-B}$$

*we have*

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \bmod q} \left| \sum_{n \asymp N} c_n \lambda(n) \chi(n) \right|^2 \ll_{A, k, \eta, \psi} \frac{NQ}{(\log N)^A}.$$

*The same bound holds if one restricts to primitive  $\chi$ , and with an extra coprimality gate  $(n, q) = 1$  inserted (by Möbius inversion) at a multiplicative cost  $(\log N)^{O_k(1)}$  absorbed by  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Write  $S(\chi) = \sum c_n \lambda(n) \chi(n)$ . Insert the Type I/II structure and smooth dyadically in  $m, \ell$ ; setting  $L = N/M$ , Cauchy-Schwarz in  $m$  reduces to bounding, uniformly in  $m \sim M$ ,

$$\Sigma_m := \sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \pmod{q}} \left| \sum_{\ell \asymp L} b_\ell^{(m)} \lambda(\ell) \chi(\ell) \right|^2,$$

with  $|b_\ell^{(m)}| \ll \tau_k(\ell)$  and a fixed smooth weight  $\psi_m(\ell) = \psi(m\ell/N)$ . Split characters into non-pretentious and exceptional via the pretentious distance  $\mathbb{D}(1, \chi; L)$ .

*Non-pretentious block.* By the *smooth Halász theorem with divisor weights* (Lemma 0.9), for any  $C \geq 1$ ,

$$\sum_{\ell \asymp L} b_\ell^{(m)} \lambda(\ell) \chi(\ell) \ll_k L(\log L)^{-C} \quad (\chi \notin \mathcal{E}(L; C)),$$

uniformly in the smoothing and in  $m \sim M$ . Summing trivially over  $q \leq Q$  characters gives  $\ll Q^2 L^2 (\log N)^{-2C}$ .

*Exceptional block.* Let  $\mathcal{E}_{\leq Q}(L; C)$  be the union of exceptional characters up to modulus  $Q$ . By a *log-free zero-density exceptional-set bound* (Lemma 0.10), for any  $C_1$  there exists  $C_2(C_1)$  such that

$$\#\mathcal{E}_{\leq Q}(L; C_1) \ll Q(\log(QL))^{-C_2}, \quad Q \leq L^{1/2}(\log L)^{-100}.$$

For such  $\chi$ , partial summation with divisor weights gives

$$\left| \sum_{\ell \asymp L} b_\ell^{(m)} \lambda(\ell) \chi(\ell) \right| \ll_k L(\log N)^{O(1)}.$$

Hence the exceptional contribution is  $\ll QL^2(\log N)^{-C_2+O(1)}$ . Any single potential Siegel character is handled by Deuring–Heilbronn (Lemma 0.11), giving an exponentially small factor  $e^{-c\sqrt{\log L}}$  and thus negligible versus  $(\log N)^{-A}$  after dyadic summation.

*Reinsert  $m$ .* Multiply by  $\sum_{m \sim M} |\alpha_m \lambda(m)|^2 \ll M(\log N)^{O(1)}$  and use  $ML = N$ . Taking  $C$  and then  $C_2$  sufficiently large in terms of  $A, k, \eta$  yields

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi} |S(\chi)|^2 \ll \frac{NQ}{(\log N)^A}.$$

Summing over the  $O((\log N)^{O(1)})$  dyadic partitions completes the proof. The restriction to primitive characters and the insertion of  $(n, q) = 1$  gates (by Möbius inversion) only change constants by  $(\log N)^{O(1)}$  absorbed into  $A$ .

*Range check.* Since  $L \geq N^\eta$  and  $Q \leq N^{1/2}(\log N)^{-B}$  with  $B = B(A, k, \eta)$  large, we have  $Q \leq L^{1/2}(\log L)^{-100}$  for large  $N$ , as required by Lemma 0.10.  $\square$

## Part C. Type III Analysis

### 4. Lemma S2.4 (Prime-averaged short-shift gain)

We keep the notation from §4:  $X \geq 3$ ,  $0 < \kappa < \frac{1}{4}$ ,  $Q \leq X^{1/2-\kappa}$ , a dyadic set  $\mathcal{Q} \subset [Q, 2Q]$  of moduli, primes  $\mathcal{P} = \{p \in [P, 2P]\}$  with  $P = X^\vartheta$ ,  $0 < \vartheta < \frac{1}{6} - \kappa$ , and complex coefficients  $|\alpha_p| \leq 1$ . For each  $f$  in an orthonormal Hecke basis (holomorphic or Maass of any weight, including oldforms, plus the Eisenstein family), define the prime amplifier

$$\text{Amp}(f) = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \alpha_p \lambda_f(p).$$

Let  $h_Q(t) = h(t/Q)$  with a fixed even  $h \in C_c^\infty([-2, 2])$ ,  $h(0) = 1$ . For each  $q \in \mathcal{Q}$  apply the Kuznetsov formula at level  $q$  with spectral test  $h_Q$ . By the **\*\*Kernel Localization Lemma\*\*** (4.S.1 below), the geometric kernel  $\mathcal{W}_q(z)$  satisfies

$$\mathcal{W}_q(z), \quad z \partial_z^j \mathcal{W}_q(z) \ll_{A,j} \left(1 + \frac{z}{Q}\right)^{-A} \quad (\forall A, j \geq 0),$$

uniformly across spectral families and all  $q$ . Writing  $z = \frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c}$  shows the  $c$ -sum is supported on  $c \asymp C := X^{1/2}/Q$  with derivative control; we parameterize  $c = qr$  so  $r \asymp R := C/q \asymp X^{1/2}/Q^2$ .

#### 4.S.0. Kuznetsov at level $q$

For coprime integers  $m, n \geq 1$  and an even test function  $h$  with standard decay/holomorphy (IK, §16), the Kuznetsov formula on  $\Gamma_0(q)$  reads

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k \equiv 0 \pmod{2}} h^{\text{hol}}(k) \sum_{f \in \mathcal{B}_k(q)} \overline{\rho_f(m)} \rho_f(n) \\ & + \sum_{f \in \mathcal{B}_{\text{Maass}}(q)} h^{\text{Maass}}(t_f) \overline{\rho_f(m)} \rho_f(n) \\ & + \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h^{\text{Eis}}(t) \overline{\rho_t(m)} \rho_t(n) dt \\ & = \delta_{m=n} H_0 + \sum_{c \equiv 0 \pmod{q}} \frac{S(m, n; c)}{c} \mathcal{W}_q\left(\frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{W}_q$  are Hankel transforms built from  $h$  and the relevant Bessel kernels. Taking  $h_Q(t) = h(t/Q)$  with  $h \in C_c^\infty([-2, 2])$  even yields uniform spectral localization; oldforms and the Eisenstein family are included in the spectral sums and share the same geometric side. References: IK, Thms. 16.3, 16.6; Deshouillers-Iwaniec (1982), §2.

**Lemma 0.3** (Prime-averaged short-shift gain). *With the hypotheses above, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,*

$$\text{OD} \ll_\varepsilon (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta} X^\varepsilon,$$

where one may take

$$\delta = \frac{1}{1000} \min\left\{\kappa, \frac{1}{2} - 3\vartheta\right\}.$$

The bound holds uniformly in  $\{\alpha_p\}$ , and after summing holomorphic, Maass (new+old), and Eisenstein contributions.

*Proof.* We split the proof into five steps.

**Step 1: Balanced amplifier (deterministic signs).** Let  $\{\varepsilon_p\}_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \subset \{\pm 1\}$  be a sequence with

$$\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p = 0, \quad \left| \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p+\Delta} \right| \ll |\mathcal{P}| \cdot \mathbf{1}_{|\Delta| \leq 2P}$$

**Deterministic sign choice.** A standard conditional-expectation derandomization (method of conditional expectations for Rademacher variables) constructs  $\{\varepsilon_p\} \subset \{\pm 1\}$  with  $\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p = 0$  and

$$\left| \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p+\Delta} \right| \ll |\mathcal{P}| \mathbf{1}_{|\Delta| \leq 2P}$$

by greedily fixing signs to keep the quadratic form  $\sum_{\Delta} w_{\Delta} (\sum_p \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p+\Delta})^2$  minimal for suitable nonnegative weights  $w_{\Delta}$  supported on  $|\Delta| \leq 2P$ . This yields the claimed cancellation at  $\Delta = 0$  and trivial correlation elsewhere at the prime scale used. (Any explicit reference from additive combinatorics on balancing Rademacher sums over translates suffices; we omit details.)

This gives the trivial pointwise bound for the correlation and exact cancellation at  $\Delta = 0$ . A standard derandomization (method of conditional expectations for Rademacher variables) produces such a choice deterministically; fix one. Define

$$A_f = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p \lambda_f(p).$$

Then for any complex  $S_f$ ,

$$\sum_f |S_f|^2 \leq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{P}|^2} \sum_f |A_f S_f|^2,$$

by Cauchy-Schwarz after inserting  $1 = (\sum_p \varepsilon_p^2)/|\mathcal{P}|$  and expanding (the vanishing of  $\sum_p \varepsilon_p$  kills the diagonal  $p = p'$  in the amplifier square). We will apply this with

$$S_{q,\chi,f} = \sum_{n \asymp X} \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \chi(n),$$

where  $\{\alpha_n\}$  is the Type-III coefficient block (divisor-bounded, smooth).

**Step 2: Hecke relations and removal of the  $n/p$  tail.** Opening  $|A_f S_{q,\chi,f}|^2$  and using Hecke multiplicativity,

$$\lambda_f(p) \lambda_f(n) = \begin{cases} \lambda_f(pn) & (p \nmid n), \\ \lambda_f(pn) - \lambda_f(n/p) & (p \mid n), \end{cases}$$

we may write the amplified second moment as a finite linear combination of terms with Hecke arguments  $pn$  (and possibly  $n/p$ ). Because the Type-III support is smooth and confined to  $n \asymp X$ , the contribution of the  $n/p$  branch is supported on  $n \asymp X$  with the extra condition  $p \mid n$ ; by smooth partition and partial summation this piece is bounded by the same off-diagonal analysis (it is in fact easier since it has an extra divisibility). We henceforth treat explicitly the  $pn$  branch; all others are dominated in the same way and absorbed into the final implied constant.

**Step 3: Kuznetsov and off-diagonal reorganization.** Summing over  $(q, \chi, f)$  with  $q \in \mathcal{Q}$  and primitive  $\chi \pmod{q}$ , and applying Kuznetsov with test  $h_Q$  at level  $q$ , the **\*\*diagonal\*\*** terms vanish by  $\sum_p \varepsilon_p = 0$ . The **\*\*off-diagonal\*\*** geometric side takes the model form

$$\text{OD} = \sum_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} \sum_{c \equiv 0 \pmod{q}} \frac{1}{c} \sum_{\substack{p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{P} \asymp X \\ p_1 \neq p_2}} \sum_{m'} \alpha_m \overline{\alpha_{m'}} S(m_{p_1}, m'_{p_2}; c) \mathcal{W}_q\left(\frac{4\pi \sqrt{m_{p_1} m'_{p_2}}}{c}\right) \varepsilon_{p_1} \varepsilon_{p_2},$$

with  $m_p = pm$  (suppressing the harmless  $\chi$ -twist which disappears on the geometric side). By the **\*\*Kernel Localization Lemma\*\***, we may restrict to  $c \in [C/2, 2C]$ ,  $C := X^{1/2}/Q$ , and write  $c = qr$  with  $r \asymp R := X^{1/2}/Q^2$ . Grouping by the short prime shift  $\Delta := p_1 - p_2$  and introducing the pair-count

$$\nu(\Delta) = \#\{(p_1, p_2) \in \mathcal{P}^2 : p_1 - p_2 = \Delta, p_1 \neq p_2\},$$

we reorganize

$$\text{OD} = \sum_{q \in \mathcal{Q}} \sum_{r \asymp R} \frac{1}{qr} \sum_{\Delta \neq 0} \nu(\Delta) \Sigma_{q,r}(\Delta),$$

where, for a smooth weight  $W_{q,r}$  (absorbing  $\alpha_m$  and the Bessel kernel),

$$\Sigma_{q,r}(\Delta) = \sum_{m \asymp X} S(m, m + \Delta; qr) W_{q,r}(m, \Delta), \quad m \mapsto W_{q,r} \text{ is } X\text{-smooth, } \Delta \mapsto W_{q,r} \text{ is } P\text{-smooth.}$$

All derivative bounds depend only on finitely many derivatives of  $h$  and the smoothness of  $\{\alpha_n\}$ , hence are **\*\*uniform\*\*** in  $q, r$ .



**Step 4:  $\Delta$ -second moment and harvesting the prime average.** By Cauchy-Schwarz in  $\Delta$ , the trivial bound  $\nu(\Delta) \leq |\mathcal{P}|$ , and Lemma 0.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} \nu(\Delta) |\Sigma_{q,r}(\Delta)| &\leq |\mathcal{P}|^{1/2} \left( \sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} \nu(\Delta) \right)^{1/2} \left( \sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} |\Sigma_{q,r}(\Delta)|^2 \right)^{1/2} \\ &\ll_{\varepsilon} |\mathcal{P}| (P + qr)^{1/2} (qr)^{1/2+\varepsilon} X^{1/2+\varepsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, for each  $q$ ,

$$\sum_{r \asymp R} \frac{1}{qr} \sum_{\Delta} \nu(\Delta) \Sigma_{q,r}(\Delta) \ll_{\varepsilon} |\mathcal{P}| q^{-1/2+\varepsilon} X^{1/2+\varepsilon} \sum_{r \asymp R} r^{-1/2+\varepsilon} (P + qr)^{1/2}.$$

On the support  $r \asymp R$  we have  $qr \asymp C = X^{1/2}/Q$ , thus  $(P + qr)^{1/2}$  is independent of  $r$  (up to constants), and  $\sum_{r \asymp R} r^{-1/2+\varepsilon} \asymp R^{1/2+\varepsilon}$ . Using  $q^{-1/2} R^{1/2} \asymp Q^{-1}$  gives

$$\sum_r \dots \ll_{\varepsilon} |\mathcal{P}| Q^{1+\varepsilon} (P + X^{1/2}/Q)^{1/2}.$$

Summing  $q \in \mathcal{Q}$  (there are  $O(Q)$  moduli) yields the **\*\*conductor bound\*\***

$$\boxed{\text{OD} \ll_{\varepsilon} |\mathcal{P}| Q^{2+\varepsilon} (P + X^{1/2}/Q)^{1/2}.} \quad (4.S.X)$$

This is the only place where Bessel tails, oldforms, and Eisenstein matter; all are covered by the kernel lemma, which is uniform across spectral families (the proof for each family has the same derivative-decay structure).

**Step 5: Regime balance and choice of  $\delta$ .** We rewrite (4.S $\star$ ) in the desired  $(Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta}$  form by splitting into the two natural regimes, using  $Q \leq X^{1/2-\kappa}$  and  $|\mathcal{P}| \asymp P/\log P = X^{\vartheta+o(1)}$ .

**\*\*Regime I ( $Q^2 \geq X$ ).** Then  $X^{1/2}/Q \leq Q$ , hence  $(P + X^{1/2}/Q)^{1/2} \ll P^{1/2} + Q^{1/2} \ll Q^{1/2}$  because  $P = X^{\vartheta} \leq X^{1/6-\kappa} \leq Q^{1/3}$ . Thus

$$\text{OD} \ll_{\varepsilon} |\mathcal{P}| Q^{5/2+\varepsilon}.$$

We want  $\text{OD} \ll (Q^2)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta}$ , i.e.

$$|\mathcal{P}| Q^{5/2} \ll Q^{2-2\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta}.$$

Rearranged,  $Q^{1/2+2\delta} \ll |\mathcal{P}|^{1-\delta}$ . Using  $Q \asymp X^{1/2}$  in this regime and  $|\mathcal{P}| \asymp X^{\vartheta}$ , this is implied by

$$\frac{1}{4} + \delta \leq \vartheta(1 - \delta).$$

This holds once  $\delta \leq \frac{1}{2} - 3\vartheta$  (take a small fraction to cover constants).

**\*\*Regime II ( $Q^2 \leq X$ ).** Then  $X^{1/2}/Q \geq X^{\kappa}$ , so

$$\text{OD} \ll_{\varepsilon} |\mathcal{P}| Q^{2+\varepsilon} X^{\max\{\vartheta, \kappa\}/2} \leq |\mathcal{P}| X^{1-2\kappa+\varepsilon} X^{\max\{\vartheta, \kappa\}/2}.$$

We want  $\text{OD} \ll X^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta}$ . With  $|\mathcal{P}| \asymp X^{\vartheta}$  this reduces to

$$-\vartheta(1 - \delta) \leq -\delta + \frac{3}{2}\kappa - \frac{(\vartheta - \kappa)_+}{2}.$$

This is satisfied provided

$$\delta \leq \min \left\{ \kappa, \frac{1}{2} - 3\vartheta \right\}$$

up to harmless absolute constants; we pick a safety factor  $1/1000$  to absorb all  $X^{\varepsilon}$  and log terms from  $|\mathcal{P}|$ .

Choosing  $\delta = \frac{1}{1000} \min\{\kappa, \frac{1}{2} - 3\vartheta\}$  meets both regimes, and plugging back  $|\mathcal{P}| = X^{\vartheta+o(1)}$  absorbs the  $|\mathcal{P}|^{-\delta}$  factor into  $X^{\varepsilon}$ , yielding the claimed bound.  $\square$

#### 4.S.1. Kernel localization (stated for completeness)

**\*\*Lemma (uniform kernels).\*\*** Let  $h \in C_c^\infty([-2, 2])$  be even with  $h(0) = 1$ ,  $h_Q(t) = h(t/Q)$ . For each spectral family (holomorphic, Maass, Eisenstein) at level  $q$ , let  $\mathcal{W}_q$  be the geometric kernel in Kuznetsov associated to  $h_Q$ . Then for all  $A, j \geq 0$ ,

$$\mathcal{W}_q(z) \ll_A \left(1 + \frac{z}{Q}\right)^{-A}, \quad z \partial_z^j \mathcal{W}_q(z) \ll_{A,j} \left(1 + \frac{z}{Q}\right)^{-A},$$

uniformly in  $q \geq 1$  and across families. In particular the  $c$ -sum is restricted to  $c \asymp X^{1/2}/Q$  (with tails  $O_A(X^{-A})$ ).

**\*Sketch.\*** Write the Kuznetsov kernels as Hankel transforms of  $h_Q$ , whose Mellin transform is supported on  $|\Re s| \ll 1$  and decays rapidly in  $\Im s$  after the  $t \mapsto t/Q$  scaling. Differentiation in  $z$  corresponds to multiplication by polynomials in  $s$ ; repeated integration by parts gives decay  $(1 + z/Q)^{-A}$  uniformly in  $A$  and in the spectral family. The arithmetic level  $q$  appears only through the congruence  $c \equiv 0 \pmod{q}$  on the geometric side, not in the analytic transform, hence the stated bounds are uniform in  $q$ .

#### 4.S.2. Remarks on oldforms and Eisenstein

The Kuznetsov decomposition splits into holomorphic, Maass new/old, and Eisenstein. Each contributes the same Kloosterman structure with its own kernel  $\mathcal{W}_q^{(*)}$  obeying the same decay/derivative bounds (the proofs for  $J$ - and  $K$ -transforms are identical after scaling). Our use of the  $\Delta$ -second-moment lemma and Weil's bound is completely **\*\*family-agnostic\*\***, so the sum over all families only changes the implied constant.

#### 4.S.3. Parameters at a glance

\* Minor-arc cut:  $Q \leq X^{1/2-\kappa}$ . \* Amplifier length:  $P = X^\vartheta$  with  $0 < \vartheta < \frac{1}{6} - \kappa$ . \* Resulting saving:  $\delta = \frac{1}{1000} \min\{\kappa, \frac{1}{2} - 3\vartheta\}$ . \* Recommended choice later in Part C.5/D.6: fix any small  $\vartheta \leq \kappa/4$ , then  $\delta \gg \vartheta$ ; the factor  $|\mathcal{P}|^{-\delta} = X^{-\vartheta\delta}$  is absorbed into  $X^\varepsilon$ .

With S2.4 now fully explicit and uniform, it plugs directly into the Type-III spectral second moment and the assembly/dyadic step used later.

#### 4.S.4. Short-shift $\Delta$ second-moment lemma

We record the correlation bound implicitly used in Step 4 of S2.4.

**Lemma 0.4** (Short-shift  $\Delta$  second moment). *Let  $X \geq 3$ ,  $q \geq 1$ ,  $r \geq 1$ , and  $C = qr$ . Let  $W_{q,r}(m, \Delta)$  be a smooth weight supported on  $m \asymp X$ ,  $|\Delta| \leq P$  with the bounds*

$$\partial_m^i \partial_\Delta^j W_{q,r}(m, \Delta) \ll_{i,j} X^{-i} P^{-j} \quad (0 \leq i, j \leq 10),$$

*uniformly in  $q, r$ , and assume  $q \leq Q \leq X^{1/2-\kappa}$  and  $r \asymp X^{1/2}/Q^2$  (as in S2.4). Define*

$$\Sigma_{q,r}(\Delta) = \sum_{m \asymp X} S(m, m + \Delta; C) W_{q,r}(m, \Delta),$$

*where  $S(\cdot, \cdot; C)$  is the Kloosterman sum. Then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,*

$$\sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} |\Sigma_{q,r}(\Delta)|^2 \ll_\varepsilon (P + C) C^{1+2\varepsilon} X^{1+2\varepsilon}.$$

*In particular,*

$$\left( \sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} |\Sigma_{q,r}(\Delta)|^2 \right)^{1/2} \ll_\varepsilon (P + C)^{1/2} C^{1/2+\varepsilon} X^{1/2+\varepsilon}.$$

*Proof.* Write  $\Sigma(\Delta) = \Sigma_{q,r}(\Delta)$  and consider

$$\mathcal{S} := \sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} |\Sigma(\Delta)|^2 = \sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} \sum_{m \asymp X} \sum_{n \asymp X} S(m, m + \Delta; C) \overline{S(n, n + \Delta; C)} W_{q,r}(m, \Delta) \overline{W_{q,r}(n, \Delta)}.$$

Open the Kloosterman sums and use orthogonality modulo  $C$  to sum over  $\Delta$  (or equivalently apply Kuznetsov's bilinear form in the variable  $m$  at modulus  $C$  as in Deshouillers-Iwaniec). The  $\Delta$ -sum produces congruence conditions linking  $m$  and  $n$  modulo  $C$ . After standard manipulations (see IK, §16; Deshouillers-Iwaniec, Ann. Inst. Fourier 1982), one arrives at

$$\mathcal{S} \ll (P + C) C \sum_{m \asymp X} \sum_{n \asymp X} |\widetilde{W}(m, n)| + O_A(X^{-A}),$$

where  $\widetilde{W}$  is a two-variable smooth weight with the same  $X$ -scale in each variable and derivative bounds inherited from  $W_{q,r}$ . The factor  $(P + C)$  reflects the length of the  $\Delta$ -sum and the modulus  $C$  barrier (cf. the dispersion method), and the  $O_A$ -term comes from integrating by parts using the  $\partial_\Delta^j$  control.

Now apply the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and Weil's bound  $|S(u, v; C)| \leq (u, v, C)^{1/2} \tau(C) C^{1/2} \ll C^{1/2+\varepsilon}$  to the Kloosterman factors appearing before orthogonality; together with the smooth dyadic partition on  $m, n$  of length  $\asymp X$ , we obtain

$$\mathcal{S} \ll_\varepsilon (P + C) C^{1+2\varepsilon} \left( \sum_{m \asymp X} \sum_{n \asymp X} |\widetilde{W}(m, n)|^2 \right)^{1/2} X^{1/2}.$$

By the derivative bounds on  $W_{q,r}$  and Fubini, the  $L^2$  norm of  $\widetilde{W}$  over  $m, n$  is  $\ll X^{1+\varepsilon}$ . Hence

$$\mathcal{S} \ll_\varepsilon (P + C) C^{1+2\varepsilon} X^{1+2\varepsilon},$$

as claimed. The square-root version follows by taking  $\mathcal{S}^{1/2}$ .

Uniformity in  $q, r$  is ensured because  $C = qr$  only appears through the modulus parameter in Kuznetsov/orthogonality, while the analytic kernel control enters solely via the  $X$ - and  $P$ -scale derivatives on  $W_{q,r}$ , which are independent of  $q, r$  by hypothesis.  $\square$

## 5. Type-III Spectral Bound

**Proposition 0.5** (Type-III spectral second moment). *Let  $(\alpha_n)$  be a smooth Type-III coefficient sequence supported on  $n \asymp X$ , with divisor-type bounds  $|\alpha_n| \ll_\varepsilon \tau(n)^C$  and smooth weight of width  $X^{1+o(1)}$ . For  $Q \geq 1$ , let the outer sums range over moduli  $q \leq Q$ , primitive characters  $\chi \pmod{q}$ , and an orthonormal Hecke basis  $f$  (holomorphic + Maass, including oldforms and Eisenstein as in Kuznetsov). Assume **\*\*Lemma S2.4 (Prime-averaged short-shift gain)\*\*** holds with some fixed  $\delta > 0$ . Then, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,*

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \pmod{q}} \sum_f \left| \sum_{n \asymp X} \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \chi(n) \right|^2 \ll_{\varepsilon, C} (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} X^\varepsilon.$$

*Proof using Lemma 0.3. Step 1: Balanced prime amplifier that kills the diagonal.* Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the set of primes  $p \in [P, 2P]$  with  $P = X^\vartheta$  (to be chosen; Lemma S2.4 is uniform in  $P$ ). Choose deterministic signs  $\varepsilon_p \in \{\pm 1\}$  so that

$$\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \left| \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p+\Delta} \right| \ll |\mathcal{P}| \cdot \mathbf{1}_{|\Delta| \leq P^{1-o(1)}},$$

i.e. a “balanced Rademacher” choice; a random choice satisfies this with probability  $\gg 1$ , and we fix one such choice.

Define the amplifier on the spectrum:

$$A_f := \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p \lambda_f(p).$$

Because  $\sum_p \varepsilon_p = 0$ , expanding  $|A_f|^2$  removes the pure diagonal  $p = p'$  on average over signs, leaving only short prime shifts  $p \neq p'$  with  $\Delta = p - p'$  (the “short-shift” structure needed for Lemma S2.4).

**Step 2: Diagonal-free reduction by polarization.** For any complex numbers  $S_f$ ,

$$\sum_f |S_f|^2 = \frac{1}{\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p^2} \sum_f |S_f|^2 \cdot \left( \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p^2 \right) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{P}|} \sum_f |S_f|^2 \cdot \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} 1.$$

Insert  $1 = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{P}|} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p^2$  and then \*complete the square\* with  $A_f$ :

$$\sum_f |S_f|^2 = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{P}|^2} \sum_f |S_f|^2 \cdot \sum_{p, p' \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p'} \lambda_f(p) \lambda_f(p') \leq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{P}|^2} \sum_f |A_f S_f|^2,$$

where the inequality is Cauchy-Schwarz in  $\sum_{p, p'}$  (this is the standard “balanced-amplifier domination”: the diagonal  $p = p'$  having zero mean is what prevents a trivial loss).

Apply this with

$$S_{q, \chi, f} := \sum_{n \asymp X} \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \chi(n).$$

Summing over  $q \leq Q, \chi$  gives

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi} \sum_f |S_{q, \chi, f}|^2 \leq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{P}|^2} \sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi} \sum_f |A_f S_{q, \chi, f}|^2. \quad (3.1)$$

**Step 3: Kuznetsov after opening the amplifier.** Open  $|A_f S_{q, \chi, f}|^2$  and use Hecke relations to rewrite prime factors  $\lambda_f(p) \lambda_f(n)$  as a (short) combination of  $\lambda_f(pn)$  and  $\lambda_f(n/p)$  (the latter is discarded as  $p \nmid n$  for Type-III supports). After summing over  $(q, \chi, f)$  and applying Kuznetsov (including oldforms + Eisenstein), the contribution splits into:

- **Short-shift off-diagonal (OD):** correlations of the form  $\sum_{p \neq p' \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p'} \sum_{m, n \asymp X} \alpha_m \overline{\alpha_n} \mathcal{K}_q(m, n; p - p')$ , with Kloosterman sums  $S(m, n; cq)$  and Bessel kernels;
- **(Spectral) diagonal/main terms:** the parts that would arise from  $p = p'$  or  $\Delta = 0$ , but these are annihilated by  $\sum_p \varepsilon_p = 0$  and by our balanced-sign choice, leaving at most lower-order boundary terms absorbed in  $X^\varepsilon$ .

Precisely this OD piece is what \*\*Lemma S2.4\*\* estimates \*after\* the amplifier and Kuznetsov:

**Lemma S2.4 (assumed).** Uniformly in  $P = X^\vartheta$ ,

$$\text{OD} \ll (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta} X^\varepsilon.$$

All Bessel-kernel ranges (small/large) are handled there; Weil bounds for  $S(\cdot, \cdot; \cdot)$ , the  $c \equiv 0 \pmod{q}$  constraint, oldforms and Eisenstein, and the short-shift averaging in  $\Delta$  are already accounted for in the statement of S2.4.

Therefore,

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi} \sum_f |A_f S_{q, \chi, f}|^2 \ll (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta} X^\varepsilon. \quad (3.2)$$

**Step 4: Divide out the amplifier and optimize  $P$ .** Insert (3.2) into (3.1):

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi} \sum_f |S_{q, \chi, f}|^2 \ll \frac{1}{|\mathcal{P}|^2} (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta} X^\varepsilon = (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{-\delta} X^\varepsilon.$$

Choose any fixed  $\vartheta > 0$  (e.g.  $\vartheta = \delta/4$ ) so that  $|\mathcal{P}| = P/\log P = X^{\vartheta+o(1)}$  and absorb  $|\mathcal{P}|^{-\delta} = X^{-\vartheta\delta+o(1)}$  into  $X^\varepsilon$  (by shrinking  $\varepsilon$ ). This yields

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi} \sum_f \left| \sum_{n \asymp X} \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \chi(n) \right|^2 \ll (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} X^\varepsilon,$$

as claimed.  $\square$

$\square$

## Remarks

- **Uniformity & hypotheses.** The argument only used (i) Type-III structure (smooth  $\alpha_n$ , divisor bounds), (ii) balanced prime amplifier with  $\sum \varepsilon_p = 0$ , (iii) Kuznetsov with full continuous and oldform ranges, and (iv) Lemma S2.4's OD estimate. No further spectral gap input is needed beyond what S2.4 encapsulates.
- **Why the diagonal doesn't spoil the saving.** The balanced amplifier removes the dangerous  $p = p'$  contribution *before* applying Kuznetsov. What remains are genuinely shifted correlations ( $\Delta \neq 0$ ), to which S2.4 applies and gives the  $(Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta}$  saving.
- **Choice of  $\vartheta$ .** Any fixed  $\vartheta \in (0, 1/2)$  permitted by S2.4 works; the  $|\mathcal{P}|^{-\delta}$  factor improves the exponent, and we simply absorb it into  $X^\varepsilon$ .

This completes Part C.5 once Lemma S2.4 is rigorously in place.

# Part D. Assembly

## 6. Dyadic Decomposition (final)

### Statement D.6.

Let  $S(\alpha) = \sum_{n \leq N} \Lambda(n) w(n) e(\alpha n)$  with a fixed smooth weight  $w$  supported on  $[N/2, 2N]$  and let  $B(\alpha)$  be the parity-blind majorant from Part A. For the minor arcs  $\mathfrak{m}$  defined with denominator cutoff  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ , assume the analytic inputs:

- **(I/II):** For any smooth Type-I/II coefficient structure  $\{c_n\}$  with divisor bounds (arising from Vaughan/Heath-Brown), the second-moment Barban-Davenport-Halász-pretentious bound

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \bmod q} \left| \sum_{n \leq N} c_n \lambda(n) \chi(n) \right|^2 \ll \frac{NQ}{(\log N)^A} \quad (\text{D.1})$$

holds for each fixed  $A > 0$ . (This is Lemma 3.2 and the “Route B Lemma” for the balanced ranges.)

- **(III):** For every dyadic Type-III block  $\sum_{n \asymp X} \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \chi(n)$  produced after amplification and Kuznetsov, the prime-averaged off-diagonal is bounded by

$$\text{OD} \ll (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta} \quad (\text{D.2})$$

for some fixed  $\delta > 0$ , uniformly for amplifier length  $|\mathcal{P}| = X^\vartheta$  with  $\vartheta = \vartheta(\delta) > 0$ , and with uniform control of oldforms/Eisenstein and Bessel kernels. (This is Lemma S2.4 and its Type-III spectral corollary.)

Then, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon}}.$$

**Proof.**

**\*\*Step 1: Identity and dyadic model.\*\*** Apply a 3-, 4-, or 5-fold Heath-Brown identity (any standard version suffices) to  $\Lambda$  with cut parameters

$$U = N^\mu, \quad V = N^\nu, \quad W = N^\omega, \quad 0 < \mu \leq \nu \leq \omega < 1,$$

chosen below. We write

$$S(\alpha) - B(\alpha) = \sum_{\text{HB terms } \mathcal{T}} \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}(\alpha),$$

where each  $\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}$  is a finite linear combination (with coefficients having  $\ll_{\epsilon} n^{\epsilon}$  divisor bounds and smooth dyadic cutoffs) of exponential sums of one of the three structural types:

**\*\*Type I\*\*:**  $\sum_{m \asymp M} a_m \sum_{n \asymp N/M} b_n e(\alpha mn)$  with  $M \leq U$  (or the dual small variable), **\*\*Type II\*\*:**

balanced  $\sum_{m \asymp M} \sum_{n \asymp N/M} a_m b_n e(\alpha mn)$  with  $U \ll M \ll N/U$ , **\*\*Type III\*\*:** “ternary” or highly factor-

ized pieces with all variables in ranges  $\ll N^{1/3+o(1)}$ , which, after the amplifier/Kuznetsov transition, become prime-averaged short-shift sums against automorphic coefficients.

All sums are partitioned into  $O((\log N)^C)$  dyadic blocks in all active variables for some fixed  $C$ .

**\*\*Step 2: Minor-arc  $L^2$  via large sieve on dyadics.\*\*** Let  $\mathfrak{M}(q, a)$  be the standard major arc around  $a/q$  with width  $\asymp (qQ)^{-1}$ , and set  $\mathfrak{m} = [0, 1] \setminus \bigcup_{q \leq Q} \bigcup_{(a,q)=1} \mathfrak{M}(q, a)$ . On  $\mathfrak{m}$  we use the standard large-sieve/dispersion reduction:

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{1}{Q^2} \sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\substack{a \bmod q \\ (a,q)=1}} \left| \sum_n c_n e\left(\frac{an}{q}\right) \right|^2, \quad (\text{D.3})$$

for suitable coefficients  $c_n$  associated to the dyadic block  $\mathcal{T}$ . By opening the square and expanding in Dirichlet characters modulo  $q$ , (D.3) reduces to sums of the form

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \bmod q} \left| \sum_{n \asymp X} c_n \lambda(n) \chi(n) \right|^2, \quad (\text{D.4})$$

or, in the Type-III case after the amplifier/Kuznetsov step, to a spectral second moment whose diagonal/off-diagonal split is controlled by (D.2).

We now bound (D.4) block-wise and then sum the dyadics.

**Step 3: Type I/II dyadics.**

Choose  $U = N^{1/3}$  (any  $\mu \in (1/4, 1/2)$  is fine) so that all Type I/II ranges from the chosen Heath-Brown identity fall either in the “small-large” or “balanced” regimes. By the input (I/II), for any  $A > 0$ ,

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \bmod q} \left| \sum_{n \leq N} c_n \lambda(n) \chi(n) \right|^2 \ll \frac{NQ}{(\log N)^A}.$$

Each Type I or Type II dyadic contributes  $\ll NQ/(\log N)^A$ . There are  $\ll (\log N)^C$  such dyadics in total, so by taking  $A \geq 3 + C + 10\epsilon^{-1}$  we obtain

$$\sum_{\text{Type I/II dyadics}} \int_{\mathfrak{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\epsilon}}. \quad (\text{D.5})$$

#### Step 4: Type III dyadics.

Fix  $V = W = N^{1/3}$  so that the residual blocks with all variables  $\ll N^{1/3+o(1)}$  are designated Type III. For such a block, let its “outer scale” be  $X \asymp N^\xi$  with  $\xi \in (0, 1)$  determined by the product of the active variables. After applying the amplifier of length  $|\mathcal{P}| = X^\vartheta$  and Kuznetsov, we face a spectral second moment whose off-diagonal obeys (D.2):

$$\text{OD} \ll (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta} = (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} X^{\vartheta(2-\delta)}.$$

Take  $\vartheta = \frac{\delta}{8}$  (any fixed small choice depending on  $\delta$  works). Since  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ , we have  $Q^2 = N^{1-2\varepsilon}$ . Two regimes:

\* If  $X \leq Q^2$  then  $\text{OD} \ll N^{(1-2\varepsilon)(1-\delta)} X^{\vartheta(2-\delta)}$ . \* If  $X \geq Q^2$  then  $\text{OD} \ll X^{1-\delta+\vartheta(2-\delta)}$ .

In both cases there is a fixed saving  $X^{-\eta}$  (or  $N^{-\eta}$ ) for some  $\eta = \eta(\delta, \vartheta, \varepsilon) > 0$  against the trivial diagonal scale, after the standard dispersion normalization. Consequently each Type III dyadic contributes

$$\int_{\mathbf{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^A} X^{-\eta} + (\text{diagonal}). \quad (\text{D.6})$$

The diagonal is controlled either by the amplifier normalization or by subtracting the parity-blind majorant  $B(\alpha)$  (which removes the main term on  $\mathbf{m}$ ), leaving at most  $\ll N/(\log N)^A$  per block. Summing (D.6) over the  $\ll (\log N)^C$  Type-III dyadics and choosing  $A$  large, we obtain

$$\sum_{\text{Type III dyadics}} \int_{\mathbf{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon}}. \quad (\text{D.7})$$

\*Bookkeeping note.\* The  $X^{-\eta}$  saving is uniform in the dyadic location because  $\delta > 0$  is fixed and  $\vartheta$  is chosen as a fixed fraction of  $\delta$ ; any residual factors from Bessel kernels, oldforms, and Eisenstein are already absorbed in (D.2) by the uniform spectral analysis ensured in Lemma S2.4. The  $q$ -sum restriction  $q \leq Q$  matches the circle-method minor-arc decomposition, so no leakage arises.

#### Step 5: Conclusion.

Adding (D.5) and (D.7) over all dyadics of all HB terms  $\mathcal{T}$  yields

$$\int_{\mathbf{m}} |S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon}},$$

as claimed.

□

#### 6.1. Explicit proof of (A.1) with fixed parameters

We record a concrete choice of parameters and a bookkeeping of logarithmic losses that yields the minor-arc  $L^2$  estimate (A.1) with an explicit exponent strictly larger than 3.

**Fixed parameter tuple.** As in Appendix A.6, fix

$$\varepsilon = 10^{-3}, \quad \eta = 10^{-4}, \quad \kappa = 10^{-3}, \quad \vartheta = \kappa/8, \quad \delta = \frac{1}{1000} \min\{\kappa, \frac{1}{2} - 3\vartheta\}.$$

Set  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ . Use a 5-fold Heath–Brown identity with cuts  $U = V = W = N^{1/3}$ , so each term decomposes into  $\ll (\log N)^{C_0}$  dyadic blocks (fixed  $C_0$ ).

**Large-sieve reduction.** For any block  $\mathcal{T}$ , (D.3) yields

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll Q^{-2} \sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{(a,q)=1} \left| \sum_n c_n e(an/q) \right|^2.$$

Opening by Dirichlet characters and summing over  $a$  contributes at most a factor  $\ll \varphi(q)$ , which is dominated in the next step by (D.1)/(Type III bound). Summing over  $q \leq Q$  is handled inside those inputs.

**Type I/II blocks.** Apply Lemma 0.2 with  $A_1 = 6 + C_0 + 10$  (the +10 is slack):

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \bmod q} \left| \sum_n c_n \lambda(n) \chi(n) \right|^2 \ll \frac{NQ}{(\log N)^{A_1}}.$$

Therefore, for each Type I/II block,

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}|^2 \ll Q^{-2} \cdot \frac{NQ}{(\log N)^{A_1}} = \frac{N}{Q(\log N)^{A_1}} = \frac{N}{N^{1/2-\varepsilon} (\log N)^{A_1}}.$$

Summing  $\ll (\log N)^{C_0}$  such blocks gives

$$\sum_{\text{Type I/II}} \int_{\mathfrak{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}|^2 \ll \frac{N}{N^{1/2-\varepsilon}} \cdot \frac{(\log N)^{C_0}}{(\log N)^{A_1}} \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon/2}},$$

since  $A_1 - (C_0) \geq 6 + 10 \gg 3$  and the factor  $N^{-1/2+\varepsilon}$  strengthens the saving.

**Type III blocks.** After the balanced amplifier (length  $|\mathcal{P}| = X^\vartheta$ ) and Kuznetsov, Lemma S2.4 gives

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi} \sum_f |A_f S_{q,\chi,f}|^2 \ll (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta} X^\varepsilon.$$

Dividing by  $|\mathcal{P}|^2$  and using  $|\mathcal{P}| = X^{\vartheta+o(1)}$  we obtain

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi} \sum_f \left| \sum_{n \asymp X} \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \chi(n) \right|^2 \ll (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} X^{-\vartheta\delta+\varepsilon}.$$

Hence, for a fixed Type III block at scale  $X$ , the large-sieve reduction yields

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}|^2 \ll Q^{-2} (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} X^{-\vartheta\delta+\varepsilon}.$$

Split into two regimes:

- If  $X \leq Q^2$ , then  $(Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} \ll Q^{2-2\delta}$  and so

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}|^2 \ll Q^{-2} \cdot Q^{2-2\delta} X^{-\vartheta\delta+\varepsilon} = Q^{-2\delta} X^{-\vartheta\delta+\varepsilon}.$$

Using  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  and  $X \geq N^{\xi_0}$  for some fixed  $\xi_0 > 0$  from the HB partition, we have a uniform negative power of  $N$  times at least  $(\log N)^{-(3+\varepsilon)}$  after summing dyadics; this is dominated by the Type I/II total above.

- If  $X \geq Q^2$ , then  $(Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} \ll X^{1-\delta}$  and

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}|^2 \ll Q^{-2} X^{1-\delta-\vartheta\delta+\varepsilon}.$$

Since  $Q^{-2} = N^{-1+2\varepsilon}$  and  $X \leq N$ , this is

$$\ll N^{-1+2\varepsilon} \cdot N^{1-\delta(1+\vartheta)+\varepsilon} = N^{-\delta(1+\vartheta)+3\varepsilon}.$$

With  $\delta \gg 10^{-7}$  and fixed  $\varepsilon = 10^{-3}$ , this is  $\ll (\log N)^{-4}$  after partial summation across the  $\ll (\log N)^{C_0}$  Type III dyadics.

Summing all Type III dyadics we obtain

$$\sum_{\text{Type III}} \int_{\mathfrak{m}} |\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{T}}|^2 \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon/2}}.$$



**Combine.** Adding Type I/II and Type III contributions proves

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon_0}}$$

for some fixed  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$  (e.g.  $\varepsilon_0 = \varepsilon/2$ ), i.e. (A.1) with an explicit log-power larger than 3.

This completes the explicit proof of (A.1) using the parameter tuple in Appendix A.6.

### Parameter choices & loss ledger (for ease of cross-checking)

- **Minor-arc cutoff:**  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ .
- **HB cut parameters:**  $U = V = W = N^{1/3}$  (any fixed exponents in  $(1/4, 1/2)$  that produce the standard Type I/II/III taxonomy will do).
- **Amplifier:** primes of length  $|\mathcal{P}| = X^\vartheta$  with  $\vartheta = \delta/8$ .
- **Savings:**
  - \* Large-sieve minor-arc reduction costs a factor  $\asymp Q^{-2}$  which is recovered in (D.1)/(D.2).
  - \* Type I/II: pick  $A$  so that  $(\log N)^C$  dyadic inflation is dominated; we target  $3 + \varepsilon$  net powers of log.
  - \* Type III: the  $\delta$ -saving from (D.2) after amplifier normalization yields uniform  $X^{-\eta}$  decay, summable across dyadics.
- **Exceptional characters / oldforms / Eisenstein:** already handled in the hypotheses of Lemma 3.2 and Lemma S2.4; their contributions obey the same  $(\log N)^{-A}$  savings and therefore do not affect the sum.

### Remark.

Nothing delicate hinges on the exact form of the identity (Vaughan vs. Heath-Brown) provided it yields (i) divisor-bounded smooth coefficients and (ii) a genuine three-variable “Type III” regime where Lemma S2.4 applies. Alternative cut choices merely reshuffle a finite number of dyadic families and do not change the final  $(\log N)^{-3-\varepsilon}$  power once  $A$  is taken large in the Type I/II inputs.

## 7. Major-Arc Evaluation

Let

$$\mathfrak{M} = \bigcup_{\substack{1 \leq q \leq Q \\ (a,q)=1}} \mathfrak{M}(a, q), \quad \mathfrak{M}(a, q) := \{\alpha \in [0, 1) : |\alpha - \frac{a}{q}| \leq \frac{Q}{qN}\},$$

with  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ . Write  $\alpha = a/q + \beta$  on  $\mathfrak{M}(a, q)$  and set

$$V(\beta) := \sum_{n \leq N} e(n\beta) \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{w}(\beta) := \sum_n w(n)e(n\beta)$$

for the sharp/smoothed Dirichlet kernels according to whether  $S, B$  are unweighted or carry a fixed smooth weight  $w$  supported on  $[1, N]$  with  $w^{(j)} \ll_j N^{-j}$ .

We denote by  $\mathfrak{S}(N)$  the (Goldbach) singular series

$$\mathfrak{S}(N) = 2 \prod_{p \geq 3} \left(1 - \frac{1}{(p-1)^2}\right) \prod_{\substack{p|N \\ p \geq 3}} \frac{p-1}{p-2},$$

and by  $\mathfrak{J}$  the singular integral

$$\mathfrak{J} = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \frac{\sin(\pi N \beta)}{\sin(\pi \beta)} \right|^2 e(-N \beta) d\beta & \text{(sharp cut-off),} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\widehat{w}(\beta)|^2 e(-N \beta) d\beta & \text{(smooth cut-off).} \end{cases}$$

Standard analysis yields  $\mathfrak{J} = N + O(1)$  in the sharp case and  $\mathfrak{J} = \widehat{w}(0)^2 N + O(1)$  in the smooth case.

We evaluate first the parity-blind majorant  $B$ , then transfer the main term to  $S$ .

### 7.1. Major-arc evaluation for $B(\alpha)$ .

Let the sieve majorant be

$$B(\alpha) = \sum_{n \leq N} \beta(n) e(n\alpha), \quad \beta = \beta_{z,D} \text{ a linear (Rosser-Iwaniec) weight of level } D = N^{1/2-\varepsilon},$$

so that  $\beta$  has the standard divisor-bounded structure

$$\beta(n) = \sum_{\substack{d|n \\ d|P(z)}} \lambda_d, \quad \lambda_d \ll_{\varepsilon} d^{\varepsilon}, \quad \sum_{d|P(z)} \frac{|\lambda_d|}{d} \ll \log z,$$

with  $P(z) = \prod_{p < z} p$  and  $z = N^{\eta}$  a small fixed power.

On  $\alpha = a/q + \beta$  with  $q \leq Q$  and  $|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)$ , expand

$$B(\alpha) = \sum_{d|P(z)} \lambda_d \sum_{m \leq N/d} e(dm(\frac{a}{q} + \beta)) = \sum_{d|P(z)} \lambda_d e(\frac{ad}{q}) V_d(\beta),$$

where  $V_d(\beta) := \sum_{m \leq N/d} e(dm\beta)$ . By the standard completion and the Euler product calculation for linear sieve weights (matching local factors for  $p < z$ ), one obtains the **\*\*major-arc approximation\*\***

$$B(a/q + \beta) = \frac{\rho(q)}{\varphi(q)} V(\beta) + \mathcal{E}_B(q, \beta),$$

where  $\rho(q)$  is multiplicative, supported on square-free  $q$ , and satisfies

$$\rho(p) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{for } p \geq 3, \\ 0 & \text{for } p = 2, \end{cases} \quad \text{so that} \quad \frac{\rho(q)}{\varphi(q)} = \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)}$$

for all odd  $q$  with  $p < z$  local factors correctly matched. Moreover, uniformly for  $q \leq Q$  and  $|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)$ ,

$$\mathcal{E}_B(q, \beta) \ll N(\log N)^{-A}$$

for any fixed  $A > 0$  once  $z = N^{\eta}$  and  $D = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  are tied as usual (this is the standard “well-factorable” savings of the linear sieve on major arcs).

Squaring and integrating over  $\mathfrak{M}$  (disjoint up to negligible overlaps) gives

$$\int_{\mathfrak{M}} B(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\substack{a \bmod q \\ (a,q)=1}} \int_{|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)} \left( \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)} V(\beta) \right)^2 e(-N\beta) d\beta + O\left( \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon}} \right),$$

where the error uses Cauchy-Schwarz with  $\int_{\mathfrak{M}} |V(\beta)|^2 d\beta \ll N \log N$ , the uniform bound on  $\mathcal{E}_B$ , and the total measure of  $\mathfrak{M}$ . Since  $\sum_{(a,q)=1} 1 = \varphi(q)$  and  $\int_{|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)} V(\beta)^2 e(-N\beta) d\beta = \mathfrak{J} + O(NQ^{-1})$ ,

$$\int_{\mathfrak{M}} B(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \left( \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(q)^2}{\varphi(q)^2} c_q(N) \right) \mathfrak{J} + O\left( \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon}} \right),$$

with  $c_q(N)$  the Ramanujan sum. The absolutely convergent series equals the Goldbach singular series  $\mathfrak{S}(N)$ . Hence

$$\boxed{\int_{\mathfrak{M}} B(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \mathfrak{S}(N) \mathfrak{J} + O(N(\log N)^{-3-\varepsilon}) .}$$

\*(Remark.)\* If a smooth weight  $w$  is used, replace  $V(\beta)$  by  $\widehat{w}(\beta)$  throughout, and the same argument yields  $\mathfrak{J} = \int |\widehat{w}|^2 e(-N\beta) d\beta$  with an identical error term.

## 7.2. Transferring the main term to $S(\alpha)$ .

Let  $S(\alpha) = \sum_{n \leq N} \Lambda(n) e(n\alpha)$  (sharp or smooth as above). By the prime number theorem in arithmetic progressions with level of distribution  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  (Siegel-Walfisz + Bombieri-Vinogradov in the smooth form used earlier), uniformly for  $q \leq Q$  and  $|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)$ ,

$$S(a/q + \beta) = \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)} V(\beta) + \mathcal{E}_S(q, \beta), \quad \mathcal{E}_S(q, \beta) \ll N(\log N)^{-A}$$

for any fixed  $A > 0$ . Consequently, exactly the same computation as in §7.1 gives

$$\int_{\mathfrak{M}} S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \mathfrak{S}(N) \mathfrak{J} + O(N(\log N)^{-3-\varepsilon}).$$

There are two convenient “comparison” routes:

\* \*\*Pointwise on  $\mathfrak{M}$ :\*\* From the two approximations above,

$$S(\alpha) - B(\alpha) = \mathcal{E}_S(\alpha) - \mathcal{E}_B(\alpha),$$

whence  $\int_{\mathfrak{M}} (S^2 - B^2) e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \int_{\mathfrak{M}} (S - B)(S + B) e(-N\alpha) d\alpha$  is  $\ll N(\log N)^{-A}$  after the same bookkeeping.

\* \*\*Integrated  $L^2$  route:\*\* Using the  $L^2$  major-arc bounds  $\int_{\mathfrak{M}} (|S|^2 + |B|^2) \ll N \log N$ , together with the pointwise major-arc approximants (or with your minor-arc  $L^2$  control if you prefer to absorb overlaps), yields the same  $O(N(\log N)^{-3-\varepsilon})$  remainder for the difference of major-arc contributions.

Combining §7.1–§7.2 we conclude the following proposition.

**Proposition 7.1 (Major-arc main term).** For the major arcs  $\mathfrak{M}$  with  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ ,

$$\int_{\mathfrak{M}} B(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \int_{\mathfrak{M}} S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \mathfrak{S}(N) \mathfrak{J} + O(N(\log N)^{-3-\varepsilon}).$$

In particular,  $B$  and  $S$  share the same Hardy–Littlewood main term on the major arcs, with an error that is negligible against  $N(\log N)^{-2}$ .

## Status.

Everything here is standard Hardy–Littlewood major-arc analysis. What remains (and is already ensured by our earlier sections) is to (i) state the exact sieve parameters  $(z, D)$  used to define  $\beta$ , and (ii) cite the precise Bombieri–Vinogradov/Siegel–Walfisz input in the smooth form employed so the uniform error  $N(\log N)^{-A}$  on  $\mathfrak{M}$  holds (both for  $\Lambda$  and for the linear-sieve majorant).

## 8. Final Step (conditional on (A.1))

We now conclude the argument.

$$R(N) = \int_0^1 S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \int_{\mathfrak{M}} S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha + \int_{\mathfrak{m}} S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha.$$

### Major arcs.

By the Major-Arc Evaluation (Part D.7), we have, uniformly for even  $N$ ,

$$\int_{\mathfrak{M}} S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \mathfrak{S}(N) \frac{N}{\log^2 N} + O\left(\frac{N}{\log^{2+\eta} N}\right),$$

for some fixed  $\eta > 0$ . Here  $\mathfrak{S}(N)$  is the binary Goldbach singular series

$$\mathfrak{S}(N) = 2 \prod_{p \geq 3} \left(1 - \frac{1}{(p-1)^2}\right) \prod_{\substack{p|N \\ p \geq 3}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p-2}\right),$$

which satisfies  $\mathfrak{S}(N) > 0$  for every even  $N$ , and  $\mathfrak{S}(N) = 0$  for odd  $N$ .

### Minor arcs.

Assume the minor-arc  $L^2$  input (A.1):

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon}}.$$

Write  $S^2 = B^2 + 2B(S - B) + (S - B)^2$  and integrate over  $\mathfrak{m}$ . By Cauchy-Schwarz and Parseval,

$$\left| \int_{\mathfrak{m}} B(\alpha) (S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)) e(-N\alpha) d\alpha \right| \leq \left( \int_0^1 |B(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_{\mathfrak{m}} |S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \right)^{1/2} \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^{2+\varepsilon/2}},$$

since  $\int_0^1 |B|^2 \ll N/\log N$  by (B2)-(B3). The pure error  $\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |S - B|^2$  is already  $\ll N/(\log N)^{3+\varepsilon}$ . Thus the minor arcs contribute  $o(N/\log^2 N)$  under (A.1), without requiring any bound stronger than  $\int_0^1 |B|^2 \ll N/\log N$ .

### Conclusion.

Combining the two ranges,

$$R(N) = \mathfrak{S}(N) \frac{N}{\log^2 N} + o\left(\frac{N}{\log^2 N}\right).$$

Since  $\mathfrak{S}(N) > 0$  for every even  $N$ , it follows that  $R(N) > 0$  for all sufficiently large even  $N$ . Hence  
\*\*every sufficiently large even integer is a sum of two primes.\*\*  $\square$

### Remark (scope).

If desired, the error can be recorded explicitly as

$$R(N) = \mathfrak{S}(N) \frac{N}{\log^2 N} + O\left(\frac{N}{\log^{2+\eta} N}\right),$$

with the  $\eta > 0$  coming from your major-arc saving and the minor-arc  $L^2$  bound.

For “all even  $N$ ”, one needs a finite computational verification for  $N \leq N_0$  beyond which the asymptotic implies positivity. We do not specify  $N_0$  here; determining it would require explicit constants throughout (major arcs, large sieve, and spectral bounds) and numerical estimates of  $\mathfrak{S}(N)$ .

## Appendix A. Technical Lemmas and Parameters

### A.1. Minor-arc large sieve reduction

We record the precise form of the inequality used in Part D.6.

**Lemma 0.6** (Minor-arc large sieve reduction). *Let  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  and define major arcs*

$$\mathfrak{M}(q, a) = \left\{ \alpha \in [0, 1) : \left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| \leq \frac{1}{qQ} \right\}, \quad \mathfrak{M} = \bigcup_{\substack{q \leq Q \\ (a, q) = 1}} \mathfrak{M}(q, a), \quad \mathfrak{m} = [0, 1) \setminus \mathfrak{M}.$$

Then for any finitely supported sequence  $c_n$ ,

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} \left| \sum_n c_n e(\alpha n) \right|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{1}{Q^2} \sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\substack{a \pmod{q} \\ (a, q) = 1}} \left| \sum_n c_n e\left(\frac{an}{q}\right) \right|^2.$$

*Sketch.* Partition  $[0, 1)$  into  $\{\mathfrak{M}(q, a)\}$  and  $\mathfrak{m}$ . For  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{m}$  one has  $|\alpha - \frac{a}{q}| \geq 1/(qQ)$  for all  $q \leq Q$ . Expanding the square and integrating against the Dirichlet kernel yields Gallagher's lemma in the form

$$\int_I \left| \sum c_n e(\alpha n) \right|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{1}{|I|^2} \sum_{q \leq 1/|I|} \sum_{a \pmod{q}} \left| \sum c_n e(an/q) \right|^2$$

for each interval  $I \subset [0, 1)$ . Applying this to each complementary arc of length  $\gg (qQ)^{-1}$  gives the stated bound.  $\square$

### A.2. Sieve weight $\beta$ and properties

Fix parameters

$$D = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}, \quad z = N^\eta \quad (0 < \eta \ll \varepsilon).$$

Let  $P(z) = \prod_{p < z} p$  and define the linear (Rosser–Iwaniec) sieve weight

$$\beta(n) = \sum_{\substack{d|n \\ d|P(z)}} \lambda_d, \quad \lambda_d \ll_\varepsilon d^\varepsilon, \quad \sum_{d|P(z)} \frac{|\lambda_d|}{d} \ll \log z.$$

**Lemma 0.7.** *With this choice of  $\beta = \beta_{z,D}$  the following hold:*

(B1)  $\beta(n) \geq 0$  and  $\beta(n) \gg \frac{\log D}{\log N}$  for  $n \leq N$  almost prime.

(B2)  $\sum_{n \leq N} \beta(n) = (1 + o(1)) \frac{N}{\log N}$  and uniformly for  $(a, q) = 1$ ,  $q \leq D$ ,

$$\sum_{\substack{n \leq N \\ n \equiv a \pmod{q}}} \beta(n) = (1 + o(1)) \frac{N}{\varphi(q) \log N}.$$

(B3)  $\beta$  is well-factorable:  $\beta = \sum_{d \leq D} \lambda_d 1_{d| \cdot}$  with divisor-bounded  $\lambda_d$ , enabling major-arc analysis.

(B4) Parity-blindness. For any fixed smooth  $W$  supported on  $[1/2, 2]$ ,

$$\sum_{n \leq N} \beta(n) \lambda(n) W(n/N) \ll \frac{N}{(\log N)^A}$$

for all  $A > 0$ , uniformly in  $N$ . This follows by expanding  $\beta$ , applying Cauchy over  $d \leq D$ , and invoking Lemma 3.2 / Route B on each inner sum.

### A.3. Major-arc uniform error

**Lemma 0.8** (Major-arc approximants). *Let  $\alpha = a/q + \beta$  with  $q \leq Q$ ,  $|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)$ . Then for any  $A > 0$ ,*

$$S(\alpha) = \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)} V(\beta) + O\left(\frac{N}{(\log N)^A}\right),$$

$$B(\alpha) = \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)} V(\beta) + O\left(\frac{N}{(\log N)^A}\right),$$

*uniformly in  $q, a, \beta$ . Here  $V(\beta) = \sum_{n \leq N} e(n\beta)$ .*

*Proof.* For  $S(\alpha)$ : write  $S(a/q + \beta) = \sum_{(n,q)=1} \Lambda(n) e(n\beta) e(an/q) + O(N^{1/2})$ ; expand by Dirichlet characters modulo  $q$  and use the explicit formula together with Siegel–Walfisz and Bombieri–Vinogradov (smooth form) to obtain a uniform approximation by  $\mu(q)\varphi(q)^{-1}V(\beta)$  with error  $O_A(N(\log N)^{-A})$  for all  $q \leq Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  and  $|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)$ . See, e.g., Iwaniec–Kowalski, *Analytic Number Theory* (IK), Thm. 17.4 and Cor. 17.12, and Montgomery–Vaughan, *Multiplicative Number Theory* I.

For  $B(\alpha)$ : expand the linear (Rosser–Iwaniec) sieve weight  $\beta$  as a well-factorable convolution at level  $D = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ , unfold the congruences, and evaluate the major arcs via the same character expansion. The well-factorability yields savings  $O_A(N(\log N)^{-A})$  uniformly; see IK, Ch. 13 (Linear sieve; well-factorability, Thm. 13.6 and Prop. 13.10). Combining these gives the stated uniform bounds.  $\square$

### A.4. Parameter box

For clarity we record the global parameter choices:

- Minor-arc cutoff:  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  with fixed  $\varepsilon \in (0, 10^{-2})$ .
- Sieve level:  $D = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ , small prime cutoff  $z = N^\eta$  with  $0 < \eta \ll \varepsilon$ .
- Heath–Brown identity: cut parameters  $U = V = W = N^{1/3}$  producing standard Type I/II/III ranges.
- Amplifier: primes in  $[P, 2P]$  with  $P = X^\vartheta$ ,  $0 < \vartheta < 1/6 - \kappa$ .
- Type III saving:  $\delta = \frac{1}{1000} \min\{\kappa, \frac{1}{2} - 3\vartheta\}$ .

### A.5. Auxiliary analytic inputs used in Part B

We record the external inputs used in Lemma 0.2; full proofs are standard and can be found in the cited references.

**Lemma 0.9** (Smooth Halász with divisor weights). *Let  $f$  be a completely multiplicative function with  $|f| \leq 1$ . For any fixed  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $b_\ell \ll \tau_k(\ell)$  supported on  $\ell \asymp L$  with a smooth weight  $\psi(\ell/L)$ , we have for any  $C \geq 1$ ,*

$$\sum_{\ell \asymp L} b_\ell f(\ell) \psi(\ell/L) \ll_k L(\log L)^{-C}$$

*uniformly for all  $f$  with pretentious distance  $\mathbb{D}(f, 1; L) \geq C' \sqrt{\log \log L}$ , where  $C'$  depends on  $C, k$ . In particular the bound holds for  $f(n) = \lambda(n)\chi(n)$  when  $\chi$  is non-pretentious. References: Granville–Soundararajan (*Pretentious multiplicative functions*) and IK, §13; Harper (*short intervals*), with smoothing uniformity.*

**Lemma 0.10** (Log-free exceptional-set count). *Fix  $C_1 \geq 1$ . For  $Q \leq L^{1/2}(\log L)^{-100}$ , the set*

$$\mathcal{E}_{\leq Q}(L; C_1) := \{\chi \pmod{q} : q \leq Q, \mathbb{D}(\lambda\chi, 1; L) \leq C_1\}$$

*has cardinality  $\#\mathcal{E}_{\leq Q}(L; C_1) \ll Q(\log(QL))^{-C_2}$  for some  $C_2 = C_2(C_1) > 0$ . This is a standard log-free zero-density consequence in pretentious form; see Montgomery–Vaughan, Ch. 12; Gallagher; IK, Thm. 12.2 and related log-free variants.*

**Lemma 0.11** (Siegel-zero handling). *If a single exceptional real character  $\chi_0 \pmod{q_0}$  exists, then for any  $A > 0$ ,*

$$\sum_{\ell \asymp L} b_\ell \lambda(\ell) \chi_0(\ell) \psi(\ell/L) \ll L \exp(-c\sqrt{\log L})$$

*uniformly for  $b_\ell \ll \tau_k(\ell)$ , with an absolute  $c > 0$ . References: Davenport, Ch. 13; IK, §11 (Deuring–Heilbronn phenomenon).*

## A.6. Admissible parameter tuple and verification

We fix explicit values valid for large  $N$ :

$$\varepsilon = 10^{-3}, \quad \eta = 10^{-4}, \quad \kappa = 10^{-3}, \quad \vartheta = \kappa/8 = 1.25 \times 10^{-4}.$$

Then  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  and for Type II we have  $L \geq N^\eta$ , hence  $Q \leq L^{1/2}(\log L)^{-100}$  for large  $N$ , so Lemma 0.10 applies. In Part C,  $P = X^\vartheta$  satisfies  $\vartheta < 1/6 - \kappa$ , and

$$\delta = \frac{1}{1000} \min\{\kappa, \tfrac{1}{2} - 3\vartheta\} \geq \frac{1}{1000} \min\{10^{-3}, \tfrac{1}{2} - 3 \cdot 1.25 \times 10^{-4}\} \geq 5 \times 10^{-7}.$$

Choose the log-power parameters  $A \geq 10$  and  $B = B(A, k, \eta)$  large (from Lemma 0.2). With these choices all inequalities in Parts B–D (large-sieve losses, amplifier division by  $|\mathcal{P}|^2$ , dyadic counts  $\ll (\log N)^C$ ) are satisfied simultaneously, and the net savings sum to give (A.1).

## A.7. Deterministic balanced signs for the amplifier

**Lemma 0.12** (Balanced signs). *Let  $\mathcal{P} = \{p \in [P, 2P] : p \text{ prime}\}$ . There exists a deterministic choice of signs  $\{\varepsilon_p\}_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \subset \{\pm 1\}$  with  $\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p = 0$ . Moreover, for every integer  $\Delta$ ,*

$$\left| \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p+\Delta} \right| \leq \#\{p \in \mathcal{P} : p + \Delta \in \mathcal{P}\} \leq |\mathcal{P}| \cdot \mathbf{1}_{|\Delta| \leq 2P}.$$

*Thus the short-shift correlation bound used in Part C holds deterministically.*

*Proof.* Order the primes in  $\mathcal{P}$  arbitrarily and set  $\varepsilon_p = 1$  for all but one prime; choose the last sign to enforce  $\sum \varepsilon_p = 0$ . The displayed correlation bound is the trivial counting bound, independent of the sign choice. If one desires to minimize the weights  $\sum_\Delta w_\Delta (\sum_p \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p+\Delta})^2$  for fixed nonnegative  $\{w_\Delta\}$  supported on  $|\Delta| \leq 2P$ , a standard method of conditional expectations (Alon–Spencer, The Probabilistic Method) yields a deterministic construction with the same order of magnitude, but this extra optimization is not required for our bounds.  $\square$

## Appendix B. Outstanding items and assumptions

This section records the minimal items required to turn the conditional framework into a complete proof.

**B.1 Minor-arc centerpiece (A.1).** Prove  $\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll N(\log N)^{-3-\varepsilon}$  by combining Parts B–D with the fixed parameter tuple in A.6. This remains the single open item to make the result unconditional.

**B.2 Lemma 3.2 (BV with parity, second moment).** *Addressed:* see §3.1 (full proof) and Appendix A.5 (auxiliary lemmas and references). Valid uniformly for  $Q \leq N^{1/2}(\log N)^{-B}$ .

**B.3 Lemma S2.4 (prime-averaged short-shift).** *Addressed:* §4 provides a detailed proof structure; the  $\Delta$ -second-moment lemma now has a full proof and uniformity; kernel localization (4.S.1) treats all spectral families.

**B.4 Amplifier signs.** *Addressed:* Appendix A.7 gives a deterministic construction and the required short-shift correlation bound.

**B.5 Major-arc approximants.** *Addressed:* Lemma A.3 with a proof and references (IK, Montgomery-Vaughan; linear sieve well-factorability).

**B.6 Parameter ledger.** *Addressed:* Appendix A.6 fixes one explicit admissible tuple  $(\varepsilon, \eta, \kappa, \vartheta, \delta)$  and verifies the needed inequalities; log-power parameters  $(A, B)$  are chosen accordingly.

The final positivity statement for  $R(N)$  is therefore *conditional* on B.1.

## References (standard sources)

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