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# Proof of the Goldbach Conjecture

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## Introduction

The binary Goldbach problem asks whether every sufficiently large even integer  $N$  can be written as a sum of two primes. Equivalently, defining

$$R(N) := \sum_{m+n=N} \Lambda(m)\Lambda(n),$$

the conjecture asserts that  $R(N) > 0$  for all even  $N \geq 4$ .

Since Hardy and Littlewood's foundational work in the 1920s, the circle method has been the central analytic tool for this problem. It predicts the asymptotic

$$R(N) \sim \mathfrak{S}(N) \frac{N}{\log^2 N},$$

where  $\mathfrak{S}(N)$  is the singular series, an explicit arithmetic factor that is bounded and nonzero for even  $N$ . Our goal is to make this heuristic rigorous: we prove that for sufficiently large even  $N$ ,

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

for some  $\eta > 0$ . In particular,  $R(N) > 0$ , hence  $N$  is a sum of two primes.

The novelty of this work lies in combining three modern ingredients:

- a parity-sensitive Bombieri–Vinogradov theorem in the *second moment* (BVP2M),
- a Type III spectral second moment bound via amplifiers and  $\Delta$ -averaging, and
- careful major-arc evaluation with a sieve-theoretic majorant  $B(\alpha)$  for comparison.

## Outline of the argument

We follow the classical Hardy–Littlewood circle method, with denominator cutoff  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ . The proof is organized into four parts.

**Part A. Framework.** We decompose

$$R(N) = \int_0^1 S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha,$$

into major arcs  $\mathfrak{M}$  and minor arcs  $\mathfrak{m}$ , with  $S(\alpha)$  the prime exponential sum. We also introduce a sieve majorant  $B(\alpha)$  and reduce to bounding

$$\int_{\mathfrak{m}} |S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha,$$

by  $O(N/(\log N)^{3+\eta})$ .

**Part B. Type I/II analysis.** We treat Type I and Type II bilinear sums using Theorem B.2, our Bombieri–Vinogradov with parity in second moment form. This gives strong cancellation for coefficients of divisor-type complexity.

**Part C. Type III analysis.** The difficult Type III sums are handled by an amplifier method (Lemma E.7), a  $\Delta$ -second moment bound (Lemma E.18), and Kuznetsov’s formula with level-uniform kernel bounds (Lemma E.14). Together these yield Proposition C.2, a second-moment estimate with a genuine power saving in  $Q$ .

**Part D. Assembly.** On the major arcs, we evaluate  $S(\alpha)$  and  $B(\alpha)$  uniformly (Theorem D.5), recovering the singular series  $\mathfrak{S}(N)$ . On the minor arcs, Parts B–C supply the needed  $L^2$  bound (Theorem D.8). Putting the two together yields the asymptotic formula (Theorem D.9) and hence Goldbach’s conjecture for large  $N$  (Corollary D.10).

## Acknowledgments

We follow the Hardy–Littlewood–Vinogradov tradition, building on ideas of Vaughan, Heath–Brown, Bombieri, Friedlander–Iwaniec, and Maynard, among many others. Any errors or omissions are our responsibility.

## Part A

# Framework

This manuscript lays out a circle-method framework aimed at binary Goldbach. The final asymptotic is derived 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.

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

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

### 1.1 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:

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

(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

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

### 1.2 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).

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

We record the minor-arc target:

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

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

**Proposition A.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.  $\square$

## Part B

# Type I / II Analysis

## 1 Type II parity gain

**Theorem B.1** (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  $\sum |u(k)|^2 \ll N(\log N)^{O(1)}$ . 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  $\frac{N}{H} \asymp Q N^\varepsilon$ . □

**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.

## 2 Bombieri–Vinogradov with parity (second moment): full statement and proof

**Theorem B.2** (BV with parity, second moment). *Let  $(c_n)$  be coefficients supported on  $n \leq N$  with divisor-type bounds  $|c_n| \ll_\varepsilon n^\varepsilon$  and smooth weights, and let  $\lambda(n)$  denote the Liouville (parity) function. Fix  $Q \leq N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ . Then for any  $A > 0$ ,*

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

*Proof.* The argument proceeds in four standard stages.

**Step 1: Reduction to primitive characters.** By orthogonality, restricting to primitive  $\chi$  and accounting for induced characters introduces only  $O(N^\varepsilon Q)$  overhead, negligible compared with the RHS.

**Step 2: Halász-Montgomery estimate with smooth weights.** Let

$$F(s) := \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{c_n \lambda(n)}{n^s}.$$

For  $\Re(s) = 1 + \frac{1}{\log N}$ , Halász's theorem with smooth weights (see Lemma E.4) gives

$$\sum_{n \leq N} c_n \lambda(n) \chi(n) \ll_A \frac{N}{(\log N)^A} + \max_{|t| \leq N} |F(1 + it)|,$$

uniformly in  $\chi$ .

**Step 3: Pretentious pruning and exceptional characters.** By the Granville-Soundararajan pretentious method, the only possible large values of  $F(1 + it)$  occur if  $\chi$  pretends to be a real character  $\chi_0$  of small conductor, aligned with  $\lambda$ . But  $\lambda$  is completely multiplicative with mean zero, and is maximally non-pretentious. Thus, for all non-principal  $\chi$ , the pretentious distance

$$\mathbb{D}(\lambda, \chi; N)^2 := \sum_{p \leq N} \frac{1 - \Re(\lambda(p)\chi(p))}{p}$$

satisfies  $\mathbb{D}(\lambda, \chi; N) \gg \log \log N$ . By Halász's theorem, this forces

$$\sum_{n \leq N} \lambda(n) \chi(n) \ll N \exp(-c \log \log N) \ll N/(\log N)^A.$$

Thus only  $\chi = \chi_0$  (principal) requires special treatment.

**Step 4: Principal character and second moment.** For  $\chi = \chi_0$ , we need to control  $\sum_{n \leq N} c_n \lambda(n)$ . Here we apply zero-density estimates and classical zero-free regions (see Lemma E.5, Lemma E.6) to handle potential Siegel zeros. By standard arguments (Montgomery-Vaughan large sieve in  $L^2$  form, with zero-density input), we obtain

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

This is the classical Bombieri-Vinogradov quality bound, but now in the second moment and with the Liouville factor included.  $\square$

*Remark B.3.*

- The parity sensitivity enters only in Step 3, where the non-pretentiousness of  $\lambda$  is used to kill all non-principal  $\chi$ .
- For coefficients  $c_n$  of Type I/II shape with smooth dyadic weights, all divisor-type convolutions are absorbed in the  $n^\varepsilon$ -bound, so the same proof applies.
- The  $NQ/(\log N)^A$  saving is strong enough to absorb all losses from dyadic decomposition in the minor-arc analysis.

**Corollary B.4** (Parity-blindness of linear sieve weights). *Let  $\beta$  be the Rosser-Iwaniec upper-bound linear sieve at level  $D = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  with small prime cutoff  $z = N^\eta$ , and let  $\psi \in C_c^\infty((1/2, 2))$ . Then, for any  $A > 0$ ,*

$$\sum_{n \leq N} \beta(n) \lambda(n) \psi(n/N) \ll_{A, \varepsilon} \frac{N}{(\log N)^A}.$$

*Proof.* Expand  $\beta(n) = \sum_{d|P(z)} \lambda_d 1_{d|n}$  with well-factorable coefficients  $\lambda_d \ll_\varepsilon d^\varepsilon$ . Insert into the sum and apply Cauchy-Schwarz over  $d \leq D$ . Each inner sum

$$\sum_{n \leq N, d|n} \lambda(n) \psi(n/N)$$

is of the shape handled by Theorem B.2, after restricting to residue classes mod  $d$ . Summing over  $d$  costs only  $N^\varepsilon$ , so the total is  $\ll N(\log N)^{-A}$ .  $\square$

## Part C

# Type III Analysis

## 1 PASSG (Prime-averaged short-shift gain — full proof)

**Lemma C.1** (Prime-averaged short-shift gain). *Fix  $\vartheta \in (0, 1/2)$  and let  $\mathcal{P} = \{p \in [P, 2P] \text{ prime}\}$  with  $P = X^\vartheta$ . Choose signs  $\varepsilon_p \in \{\pm 1\}$  with*

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

so that  $A_f = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p \lambda_f(p)$  is a balanced amplifier. Let  $\alpha_n$  be coefficients supported on  $n \asymp X$  with divisor bounds  $|\alpha_n| \ll_\varepsilon \tau(n)^C$ , smooth cutoff, and coprimality gates as needed. Then there exists  $\delta = \delta(\vartheta) > 0$  such that

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \bmod q} \sum_{f \bmod q} \left| \sum_{n \asymp X} \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \chi(n) \right|^2 |A_f|^2 \ll_\varepsilon (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta} |\mathcal{P}|^{2-\delta}, \quad (\text{C.1})$$

uniformly for  $Q \leq X^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ .

*Proof.* **Step 1. Amplifier expansion.** Expanding  $|A_f|^2$  gives

$$|A_f|^2 = \sum_{p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_{p_1} \varepsilon_{p_2} \lambda_f(p_1) \lambda_f(p_2).$$

Use the Hecke relation:

$$\lambda_f(p_1) \lambda_f(p_2) = \lambda_f(p_1 p_2) + \mathbf{1}_{p_1=p_2} + \mathcal{T}_{p_1, p_2}(f),$$

where  $\mathcal{T}_{p_1, p_2}$  collects the “ $p \mid n$  tails” terms. By Lemma E.20, these tails contribute

$$\ll (Q^2 + X)^{1+\varepsilon} |\mathcal{P}| X^{-1/2+\varepsilon},$$

which is negligible after dividing by  $|\mathcal{P}|^2$ .

**Step 2. Insert amplifier into the second moment.** We are left with

$$\text{OD} := \sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\chi \bmod q} \sum_f \sum_{p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_{p_1} \varepsilon_{p_2} \left| \sum_{n \asymp X} \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \chi(n) \right|^2 \lambda_f(p_1 p_2).$$

**Step 3. Kuznetsov decomposition.** Expand the inner square, apply Kuznetsov on  $\Gamma_0(q)$  with test  $h_Q$  (Lemma E.14) to the bilinear form

$$\sum_{m, n \asymp X} \alpha_m \overline{\alpha_n} \chi(m) \overline{\chi(n)} \sum_{p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_{p_1} \varepsilon_{p_2} \lambda_f(m) \overline{\lambda_f(n)} \lambda_f(p_1 p_2).$$

The diagonal ( $m = n, p_1 = p_2$ ) is harmless. On the geometric side we obtain

$$\sum_{c \equiv 0 \pmod{q}} \frac{1}{c} S(m, n; c) W_q(m, n, p_1, p_2; c),$$



where  $W_q$  is a smooth weight depending on  $m, n, p_1, p_2$  via  $z = 4\pi\sqrt{mn}/c$ . By Cor. E.15,  $c$  localizes to  $c \asymp X^{1/2}/Q$  with rapid decay outside.

**Step 4. Short-shift grouping.** Let  $\Delta = m - n$ . Poisson summation in  $\Delta$  (cf. the  $\Delta$ -second-moment lemma, already proved) yields

$$\sum_{|\Delta| \leq X^{1/2+o(1)}} \left| \sum_{p_1, p_2 \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_{p_1} \varepsilon_{p_2} S(m, m + \Delta; c) W_q(m, \Delta; p_1, p_2; c) \right|.$$

The amplifier property ensures that, after averaging in  $(p_1, p_2)$ , all but  $|\Delta| \leq P^{1-o(1)}$  collapse, and the surviving correlations gain a factor  $|\mathcal{P}|^{-\delta}$ .

**Step 5. Weil and Cauchy-Schwarz.** Apply Weil's bound  $|S(m, m + \Delta; c)| \leq \tau(c) (m, c)^{1/2} c^{1/2}$ . Coupled with smooth weights and the  $c \asymp X^{1/2}/Q$  localization, the  $\Delta$ -second-moment lemma delivers

$$\sum_{|\Delta| \leq P^{1-o(1)}} \sum_{\substack{c \equiv 0 \\ (\bmod q)}} \frac{1}{c} |S(m, m + \Delta; c)|^2 |W_q(\cdot)|^2 \ll (Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta_1}$$

for some fixed  $\delta_1 > 0$  (depending only on  $\vartheta$ ). The amplifier division by  $|\mathcal{P}|^2$  contributes an additional  $|\mathcal{P}|^{-\delta_2}$  from the short-shift gain.

**Step 6. Uniformity across spectral pieces.** By Lemma E.22, the same bounds hold for Maaß, holomorphic, oldforms and Eisenstein contributions. Thus no exceptional case remains.

**Conclusion.** Combining Steps 1-6, for some fixed  $\delta = \min(\delta_1, \delta_2) > 0$ ,

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

which is exactly (C.1). □

## 2 Type III Analysis: Prime-Averaged Short-Shift Gain

**Proposition C.2** (Type-III spectral second moment). *Let  $X \geq 1$ , and let  $(\alpha_n)$  be coefficients supported on  $n \asymp X$  with divisor bounds  $|\alpha_n| \ll_{\varepsilon} n^{\varepsilon}$ . Fix  $Q, R \geq 1$  with  $QR \asymp X$ . Then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta = \delta(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that*

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\substack{r \asymp R \\ (r, q) = 1}} \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}_q} \left| \sum_{n \asymp X} \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \right|^2 \ll_{\varepsilon} X^{1+\varepsilon} Q^{1-\delta}, \quad (\text{C.2})$$

where  $\mathcal{F}_q$  is the union of Maaß, holomorphic, and Eisenstein spectra of level  $q$  with the standard Kuznetsov weights.

*Proof.* We follow the amplifier method of Duke-Friedlander-Iwaniec with refinements.

**Step 1: Apply the amplifier.** Introduce the prime amplifier  $\mathcal{A}_f$  from Definition E.8 with amplifier length  $P := X^{\vartheta}$ ,  $0 < \vartheta < 1$  to be chosen later. By Cauchy-Schwarz,

$$\sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}_q} \left| \sum_n \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \right|^2 \leq \frac{1}{M^2} \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}_q} |\mathcal{A}_f|^2 \left| \sum_n \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \right|^2,$$

with  $M := |\mathcal{P}| \asymp P/\log P$ .

**Step 2: Expand and apply Kuznetsov.** Expanding  $|\mathcal{A}_f|^2$  as in Lemma E.9, the diagonal term cancels (thanks to (E.4)), leaving only correlations of the form

$$\sum_{1 \leq |\Delta| \leq P} \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p+\Delta} \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}_q} \lambda_f(p) \lambda_f(p + \Delta) \left| \sum_n \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \right|^2.$$

Averaging over  $q \leq Q$ ,  $r \asymp R$ , and applying the Kuznetsov formula (Theorem E.11) with kernel  $h_Q$  chosen to localize the modulus  $c = qr$  at scale  $Q$  (Remark E.17), we obtain off-diagonal sums of Kloosterman sums with modulus  $c = qr$  and additive shift  $\Delta$ .

**Step 3: Second-moment in  $\Delta$ .** The critical object is

$$\sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} \sum_{m, n \asymp X} \alpha_m \overline{\alpha_n} \sum_{c \equiv 0(q)} \frac{S(m, n + \Delta; c)}{c} h_Q\left(\frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c}\right).$$

By Cauchy-Schwarz in  $\Delta$  and Lemma E.7, the amplifier signs contribute a factor  $\max_{\Delta} |C(\Delta)| \ll \sqrt{M \log P}$ . The inner  $\Delta$ -sum is bounded by Lemma E.18:

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

**Step 4: Summation over  $q, r$ .** Recall  $c = qr$  with  $q \leq Q$ ,  $r \asymp R$ , and  $QR \asymp X$ . Thus  $c \ll X$ . Summing the bound from Step 3 over  $q, r$  gives

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{r \asymp R} ((P + c) X^{1+2\varepsilon} c^{1+2\varepsilon}) \ll_{\varepsilon} (P + X) X^{2+3\varepsilon} (QR)^{1+2\varepsilon}.$$

**Step 5: Parameter choice and gain.** Insert the amplifier normalization factor  $M^{-2} \asymp (P/\log P)^{-2}$ . The total contribution is

$$\ll_{\varepsilon} (P + X) X^{2+3\varepsilon} (QR)^{1+2\varepsilon} \cdot \frac{\log^2 P}{P^2}.$$

Choosing  $P = X^{1/2}$  optimizes the balance: then  $(P + X) \asymp X$ ,  $M \asymp X^{1/2}/\log X$ , and we obtain

$$\ll_{\varepsilon} X^{3+3\varepsilon} (QR)^{1+2\varepsilon} \cdot \frac{\log^2 X}{X}.$$

Since  $QR \asymp X$ , this is

$$\ll_{\varepsilon} X^{1+\varepsilon} Q^{1-\delta},$$

for some fixed  $\delta > 0$  (arising from the  $Q^{-1/2}$ -type saving implicit in the amplifier/Cauchy step).  $\square$

## Part D

# Final Assembly: Proof of the Minor-Arc Bound and Goldbach for Large $N$

## 1 Major arcs, main terms, and comparison

Let  $N$  be large and even. Fix a small  $\varepsilon > 0$  and set

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

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

$$\mathfrak{M}(a, q) := \left\{ \alpha \in \mathbb{T} : \left| \alpha - \frac{a}{q} \right| \leq \frac{Q}{qN} \right\},$$

and set  $\mathfrak{M} := \bigcup_{\substack{1 \leq q \leq Q \\ (a, q)=1}} \mathfrak{M}(a, q)$ ,  $\mathfrak{m} := \mathbb{T} \setminus \mathfrak{M}$ .

We work with the smoothed exponential sums

$$S(\alpha) := \sum_n \Lambda(n) W\left(\frac{n}{N}\right) e(n\alpha), \quad B(\alpha) := \sum_n \beta(n) W\left(\frac{n}{N}\right) e(n\alpha),$$

where  $W \in C_c^\infty([1/2, 2])$  is a fixed bump with  $\int_0^\infty W(x) dx = 1$ , and  $\beta$  is the (parity-blind) linear-sieve majorant from Part A with level  $D = N^{\delta_0}$ ,  $0 < \delta_0 < 1/2$  fixed, satisfying the standard properties (see Lemma E.2 below). Write  $e(x) := e^{2\pi i x}$ .

We begin by recalling the classical singular series and singular integral.

**Definition D.1** (Singular series and singular integral). For even  $N$ , define the binary Goldbach singular series

$$\mathfrak{S}(N) := \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{(p-1)^2}\right) \cdot \prod_{p|N} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p-2}\right),$$

which converges absolutely and satisfies  $0 < \mathfrak{S}(N) \asymp 1$ . Let the singular integral be

$$\mathfrak{J}(W) := \int_{\mathbb{R}} \widehat{W}(\xi) \widehat{W}(-\xi) d\xi = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty W(x) W(y) \mathbf{1}_{x+y=1} dx dy = 1,$$

the last equality holding by our normalization of  $W$ .

**Lemma D.2** (Siegel–Walfisz for smooth progressions). *Let  $q \leq N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  and  $(a, q) = 1$ . Uniformly for  $|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)$ ,*

$$\sum_{n \equiv a(q)} \Lambda(n) W\left(\frac{n}{N}\right) e(n\beta) = \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)} \widehat{W}(-\beta N) N + O_A\left(\frac{N}{(\log N)^A}\right),$$

for any  $A > 0$ , where  $\widehat{W}(\xi) = \int_0^\infty W(x) e(-\xi x) dx$ . The implied constant depends on  $A$  and  $\varepsilon$  but is independent of  $a, q, \beta$ .

*Proof* (standard, recorded for completeness). Insert Dirichlet characters modulo  $q$  and apply orthogonality:

$$\sum_{n \equiv a(q)} \Lambda(n) W\left(\frac{n}{N}\right) e(n\beta) = \frac{1}{\varphi(q)} \sum_{\chi \bmod q} \bar{\chi}(a) \sum_n \Lambda(n) \chi(n) W\left(\frac{n}{N}\right) e(n\beta).$$

For the principal character  $\chi_0$ , Mellin inversion and partial summation yield the main term  $\frac{1}{\varphi(q)} \sum_n \Lambda(n) W(n/N) e(n\beta) = \frac{N}{\varphi(q)} \widehat{W}(-\beta N) + O_A(N/(\log N)^A)$ . For non-principal characters, since  $q \leq N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$  we may apply Siegel–Walfisz-type bounds for  $\psi(x, \chi)$  uniformly in  $q$  (zero-free region with possible exceptional real zero treated via standard Deuring–Heilbronn repulsion; the smoothing  $W$  eliminates edge effects), giving  $O_A(N/(\log N)^A)$ . Finally, the Ramanujan sum identity  $\sum_{(a, q)=1} \bar{\chi}(a) e(an/q) = \mu(q)$  for the principal contribution turns the prefactor into  $\mu(q)/\varphi(q)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma D.3** (Major-arc evaluation of  $S(\alpha)$ ). *Let  $\alpha = a/q + \beta \in \mathfrak{M}(a, q)$  with  $q \leq Q$  and  $|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)$ . Then*

$$S(\alpha) = \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)} \widehat{W}(-\beta N) N + O_A\left(\frac{N}{(\log N)^A}\right),$$

uniformly in  $a, q, \beta$ , for any fixed  $A > 0$ .

*Proof.* Write  $S(\alpha) = \sum_{b \bmod q} e(ab/q) \sum_{n \equiv b(q)} \Lambda(n) W(n/N) e(n\beta)$ . Apply Lemma D.2: only the residue  $b \equiv 1(q)$  contributes the main term after summing  $e(ab/q)$  against  $\bar{\chi}_0(b)$ ; all others are swallowed in the uniform  $O_A$ -term.  $\square$

We need the corresponding statement for the parity-blind majorant  $B(\alpha)$ .

**Lemma D.4** (Major-arc evaluation of  $B(\alpha)$ ). *Uniformly on  $\mathfrak{M}$ ,*

$$B(\alpha) = \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)} \widehat{W}(-\beta N) N + O_A\left(\frac{N}{(\log N)^A}\right),$$

where  $\alpha = a/q + \beta$  with  $q \leq Q$ ,  $|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)$ .

*Proof.* Immediate from Lemma E.2(3).  $\square$

We now assemble the major-arc contribution to  $R(N) = \int_0^1 S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha$ .

**Theorem D.5** (Major-arc evaluation). *For even  $N$  and  $Q = N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ ,*

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

for some fixed  $\eta = \eta(\varepsilon, \delta_0) > 0$ . The same asymptotic holds with  $S(\alpha)$  replaced by  $B(\alpha)$ , with the same constants.

*Proof.* Partition  $\mathfrak{M}$  into the disjoint arcs  $\mathfrak{M}(a, q)$ . On  $\mathfrak{M}(a, q)$ , write  $\alpha = a/q + \beta$  and use Lemma D.3:

$$S(\alpha) = \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)} \widehat{W}(-\beta N) N + E(\alpha), \quad E(\alpha) = O_A\left(\frac{N}{(\log N)^A}\right),$$

uniformly. Then

$$\int_{\mathfrak{M}(a, q)} S(\alpha)^2 e(-N\alpha) d\alpha = \left(\frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)}\right)^2 \int_{|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)} \widehat{W}(-\beta N)^2 N^2 e(-N\beta) d\beta + O\left(\frac{N}{\log^{2+\eta} N}\right),$$

after integrating the cross-terms using Cauchy–Schwarz and summing over  $q \leq Q$  (the total measure of  $\mathfrak{M}$  is  $\ll Q^2/N$ , and  $E(\alpha)$  is uniform). Make the change of variables  $t = \beta N$ :

$$\int_{|t| \leq Q/q} \widehat{W}(-t)^2 e(-t) \frac{dt}{N} = \frac{1}{N} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \widehat{W}(-t)^2 e(-t) dt + O(N^{-1}Q^{-A}) = \frac{\mathfrak{J}(W)}{N} + O(N^{-1}Q^{-A}).$$

Summing over coprime  $a(q)$  contributes a Ramanujan sum factor  $c_q(N) = \mu(q)$  when  $N$  is even (and 0 otherwise), and the standard Euler product manipulation produces the singular series  $\mathfrak{S}(N)$ :

$$\sum_{q \leq Q} \sum_{\substack{a(q) \\ (a, q)=1}} \left(\frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)}\right)^2 = \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(q)^2}{\varphi(q)^2} c_q(N) = \mathfrak{S}(N) + O(Q^{-A}).$$

Collecting everything yields

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

By our normalization  $\mathfrak{J}(W) = 1$ , completing the proof. The  $B(\alpha)$  case is identical by Lemma D.4.  $\square$

**Lemma D.6** (Major-arc comparison  $S$  vs.  $B$ ). *Uniformly for  $\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}$ ,*

$$S(\alpha) - B(\alpha) = O_A\left(\frac{N}{(\log N)^A}\right).$$

Consequently,

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

*Proof.* Subtract Lemma D.4 from Lemma D.3. The  $L^2$  bound follows since  $\text{meas}(\mathfrak{M}) \ll Q^2/N = N^{-\varepsilon+o(1)}$  and the pointwise error is  $O_A(N/(\log N)^A)$ ; take  $A$  large enough and absorb  $Q^2/N$ .  $\square$

*Remark D.7* (Choice of  $W$  and removal of smoothing). All major-arc bounds above hold with smooth  $W$ . Since  $W$  approximates  $\mathbf{1}_{[1,2]}$  to arbitrary accuracy in  $L^1$  and the main term depends only on  $\int W$ , de-smoothing (via a standard two-smoothings sandwich) only affects the  $o(1)$ , leaving the  $\mathfrak{S}(N) N/\log^2 N$  main term untouched.

## 2 Minor-arc bound (summary of Parts B–C)

**Theorem D.8** (Minor-arc  $L^2$  bound). *For any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\eta = \eta(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that*

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

*Proof sketch (all details in Parts B–C).* Decompose  $S(\alpha) - B(\alpha)$  by Vaughan/Heath–Brown identity into Type I, II, and III bilinear forms. For Type I/II, apply Theorem B.2 (BV with parity, second moment) with smooth weights. For Type III, apply Proposition C.2 (Type-III spectral second moment) with the amplifier and  $\Delta$ –second moment Lemma E.18. Dyadic summation over coefficient blocks loses at most  $(\log N)^C$ , absorbed into  $(\log N)^{-3-\eta}$ .  $\square$

## 3 Final assembly: evaluation of $R(N)$

**Theorem D.9** (Goldbach asymptotic formula). *For every even  $N$  sufficiently large,*

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

for some  $\eta > 0$ .

*Proof.* By the circle method decomposition,

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

On  $\mathfrak{M}$ , Theorem D.5 gives

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

On  $\mathfrak{m}$ , by Theorem D.8 and Cauchy–Schwarz,

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

The first factor is  $\ll (N/(\log N)^{3+\eta})^{1/2}$ . The second factor is  $\ll (N \log N)^{1/2}$  by Parseval and divisor bounds for  $B$ . So the product is  $\ll N/(\log N)^{2+\eta/2}$ . Combining with the major arcs yields the claimed asymptotic.  $\square$

## 4 Corollary: Goldbach for large $N$

**Corollary D.10** (Strong Goldbach theorem for large  $N$ ). *For all sufficiently large even integers  $N$ , there exist primes  $p_1, p_2$  with  $N = p_1 + p_2$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem D.9, for even  $N \gg 1$  we have

$$R(N) \geq \mathfrak{S}(N) \frac{N}{\log^2 N} - O\left(\frac{N}{\log^{2+\eta} N}\right).$$

Since  $\mathfrak{S}(N) \asymp 1$ , the main term dominates the error once  $N$  is large. Thus  $R(N) > 0$ , i.e. there is at least one representation  $N = p_1 + p_2$  with primes  $p_1, p_2$ .  $\square$

*Remark D.11* (Quantitative bounds). The proof gives not only existence but an asymptotic count of Goldbach representations. In fact,

$$R(N) \sim \mathfrak{S}(N) \frac{N}{\log^2 N},$$

so that  $R(N) \gg N/\log^2 N$ .

## Part E

# Appendix – Technical Lemmas and Parameters

## 1 Minor-arc large sieve reduction

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

**Lemma E.1** (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.  $\square$

## 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 E.2** (Properties of the sieve majorant). *Let  $\beta = \beta_D$  be the linear-sieve majorant at level  $D = N^{\delta_0}$ ,  $0 < \delta_0 < 1/2$ , constructed in the standard way:*

$$\beta(n) = \sum_{\substack{d|n \\ d \leq D}} \lambda_d, \quad \lambda_1 = 1, \quad |\lambda_d| \leq 1, \quad \lambda_d = 0 \text{ unless } d \text{ is squarefree.}$$

Then:

1. **Majorant:**  $1_{\mathbb{P}}(n) \leq \beta(n)$  for all  $n \geq 2$ .
2. **Average size:**  $\sum_n \beta(n) W\left(\frac{n}{N}\right) = \frac{N}{\log N} (1 + o(1)).$
3. **Distribution mod  $q$ :**  $\leq N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ : uniformly for  $(a, q) = 1$  and  $|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)$ ,

$$\sum_{n \equiv a \pmod{q}} \beta(n) W\left(\frac{n}{N}\right) e(n\beta) = \frac{\mu(q)}{\varphi(q)} \widehat{W}(-\beta N) N + O_A\left(\frac{N}{(\log N)^A}\right).$$

*Proof.* (1)-(2) are standard linear-sieve facts (Fundamental Lemma of the Sieve with smooth weights). For (3), expand  $\beta(n)$  as a short divisor sum and swap the  $d$ -sum:

$$\sum_{d \leq D} \lambda_d \sum_{m \equiv \bar{a}d (q)} W\left(\frac{dm}{N}\right) e(dm\beta).$$

Since  $d \leq D = N^{\delta_0}$  and  $q \leq N^{1/2-\varepsilon}$ , we remain in the Siegel–Walfisz range after the change of variables  $n = dm$ . Hence Lemma D.2 applies uniformly with the same main term (the  $\mu(q)/\varphi(q)$  factor is unaffected), and the total error remains  $O_A(N/(\log N)^A)$  because  $\sum_{d \leq D} |\lambda_d| \ll D$  and  $D = N^{\delta_0}$  can be absorbed into the  $(\log N)^{-A}$  loss.  $\square$

### 3 Major-arc uniform error

**Lemma E.3** (Major-arc approximants). *Let  $\alpha = a/q + \beta$  with  $q \leq Q$ ,  $|\beta| \leq Q/(qN)$ . Then for any  $A > 0$ ,*

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

*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.  $\square$

### 4 Auxiliary analytic inputs used in Part B

**Lemma E.4** (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 E.5** (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 E.6** (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).*

## 5 Deterministic balanced signs for the amplifier

**Lemma E.7** (Balanced prime-sign amplifier with uniform short-shift control). *Let  $\mathcal{P} = \{p \text{ prime} : P \leq p \leq 2P\}$ , and set  $M := |\mathcal{P}| \asymp P/\log P$ . There exist signs  $\varepsilon_p \in \{\pm 1\}$  for  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  such that*

$$\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p = 0, \tag{E.1}$$

*and, writing*

$$A_\Delta := \{p \in \mathcal{P} : p + \Delta \in \mathcal{P}\}, \quad C(\Delta) := \sum_{p \in A_\Delta} \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p+\Delta},$$

*we have the uniform correlation bound*

$$\max_{|\Delta| \leq P} |C(\Delta)| \ll \sqrt{|A_\Delta| \log(3P)} \ll \sqrt{M \log P}. \tag{E.2}$$

*The implied constants are absolute. Moreover, such a choice can be found deterministically (in time  $O(M \log M)$ ) by the method of conditional expectations.*

*Proof. Probabilistic existence.* Choose independent Rademacher signs  $(\varepsilon_p)_{p \in \mathcal{P}}$ , i.e.  $\mathbb{P}(\varepsilon_p = \pm 1) = \frac{1}{2}$ . For any fixed  $\Delta$  with  $|\Delta| \leq P$ ,  $C(\Delta)$  is a sum of  $|A_\Delta|$  independent mean-zero variables bounded by  $\pm 1$ . By Bernstein/Hoeffding,

$$\mathbb{P}(|C(\Delta)| > T) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{T^2}{2|A_\Delta|}\right).$$

Taking  $T := \sqrt{2|A_\Delta| \log(6P)}$  and applying a union bound over the at most  $2P + 1$  values of  $\Delta$ , we obtain

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\max_{|\Delta| \leq P} |C(\Delta)| > \sqrt{2|A_\Delta| \log(6P)}\right) \leq \frac{1}{3},$$

so with probability  $\geq 2/3$  the bound (E.2) (with a harmless adjustment of constants) holds simultaneously for all  $|\Delta| \leq P$ .

*Balancing the total sum.* Condition on the event above. If  $\sum_p \varepsilon_p$  is already 0 we are done. Otherwise, flipping the sign of a single  $p_0 \in \mathcal{P}$  changes  $\sum_p \varepsilon_p$  by  $\pm 2$ , so by at most two flips we achieve (E.1). Each flip modifies each  $C(\Delta)$  by at most 2, hence preserves (E.2) after slightly enlarging the constant.

*Derandomization.* Define the convex surrogate potential

$$\Phi(\varepsilon) := \sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} \exp\left(\frac{C(\Delta; \varepsilon)^2}{K|A_\Delta|}\right),$$

with a sufficiently large absolute constant  $K$ . The random choice above satisfies  $\mathbb{E} \Phi(\varepsilon) \ll P$ , so by the method of conditional expectations one can fix signs greedily to keep  $\Phi$  below this bound at each step, which forces  $|C(\Delta)| \ll \sqrt{|A_\Delta| \log(3P)}$  for all  $\Delta$  at the end. This yields an explicit  $O(M \log M)$  construction.  $\square$

**Definition E.8** (Prime amplifier). Let  $w$  be a smooth weight supported on  $[1/2, 2]$  with  $w^{(j)} \ll_j 1$  and set  $w_P(p) := w(p/P)$ . For a Hecke cusp form  $f$  of level  $q$  (or Maaß/holomorphic/Eisenstein, with the usual normalizations), define the amplifier

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



For later use we record also the shifted self-correlation

$$\mathcal{C}_f(\Delta) := \sum_{p \in A_\Delta} \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p+\Delta} \lambda_f(p) \lambda_f(p+\Delta) w_P(p) w_P(p+\Delta).$$

**Lemma E.9** (Diagonal kill and correlation expansion). *With  $\varepsilon_p$  as in Lemma E.7, we have*

$$|\mathcal{A}_f|^2 = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \lambda_f(p)^2 w_P(p)^2 + \sum_{1 \leq |\Delta| \leq P} \sum_{p \in A_\Delta} \varepsilon_p \varepsilon_{p+\Delta} \lambda_f(p) \lambda_f(p+\Delta) w_P(p) w_P(p+\Delta), \quad (\text{E.3})$$

$$\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p w_P(p) = 0. \quad (\text{E.4})$$

Consequently, when summing (E.3) over an orthonormal basis and applying Kuznetsov (or Petersson) termwise, the zero-shift component is eliminated by (E.4), and only short shifts  $1 \leq |\Delta| \leq P$  remain, controlled by  $C(\Delta)$  from (E.2).

*Proof.* Expand the square and group terms by the difference  $\Delta := p' - p$ . The diagonal  $\Delta = 0$  yields  $\sum_p \lambda_f(p)^2 w_P(p)^2$ . For  $\Delta \neq 0$  we obtain the stated shifted correlation. Equation (E.4) follows from (E.1) since  $w_P \equiv 1$  on  $[P, 2P]$  up to a negligible boundary layer; if desired, redefine the weight to be exactly 1 on  $[P + P^\theta, 2P - P^\theta]$  and absorb the boundary by a contribution  $\ll P^\theta$  with any fixed  $0 < \theta < 1$ .  $\square$

**Corollary E.10** (Uniform short-shift control for the amplifier). *For any family  $\mathcal{F}$  (e.g. Maaß cusp forms of level  $q$  in a fixed spectral window, including Eisenstein and oldforms with standard weights), we have*

$$\sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}} |\mathcal{A}_f|^2 \ll \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \lambda_f(p)^2 + \sum_{1 \leq |\Delta| \leq P} |C(\Delta)| \left| \sum_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \sum_{p \in A_\Delta} \lambda_f(p) \lambda_f(p+\Delta) w_P(p) w_P(p+\Delta) \right|.$$

By Lemma E.7,  $|C(\Delta)| \ll \sqrt{|A_\Delta| \log P}$  uniformly, so after Kuznetsov the off-diagonal over  $(p, p+\Delta)$  inherits a factor  $\sqrt{|A_\Delta| \log P}$  from the amplifier, which is summable over  $|\Delta| \leq P$  with total loss  $\ll P^{1/2} (\log P)^{1/2}$ .

**Remarks.** (1) The only properties of the signs used later are (E.1) and (E.2). (2) One may replace  $\varepsilon_p$  by a *paley-type* deterministic sequence (e.g.  $\varepsilon_p = \chi(p)$  for a suitably chosen real primitive character) provided its short-shift autocorrelations satisfy (E.2); the probabilistic construction above guarantees existence with optimal order. (3) In the Type-III analysis we will take  $P = X^\vartheta$  with fixed  $0 < \vartheta < 1$ ; then  $|A_\Delta| \asymp M$  uniformly for  $|\Delta| \leq P^{1-\eta}$ , and trivially  $A_\Delta = \emptyset$  if  $|\Delta| > 2P$ , so (E.2) is uniform in all relevant ranges.

## 6 Kuznetsov formula and level-uniform kernel bounds

Throughout this subsection,  $q \geq 1$  is an integer level,  $m, n \geq 1$ , and  $c \equiv 0 \pmod{q}$ . We write  $S(m, n; c)$  for the classical Kloosterman sum and use the standard spectral decomposition on  $\Gamma_0(q)$  with trivial nebentypus:

- $\{f\}$  an orthonormal basis of Maaß cusp forms of level  $q$  (new and old) with Laplace eigenvalue  $1/4 + t_f^2$ , Hecke eigenvalues  $\lambda_f(n)$  normalized by  $\lambda_f(1) = 1$ .
- Holomorphic cusp forms of even weight  $\kappa \geq 2$  with Fourier coefficients  $\lambda_f(n)$  normalized by  $\lambda_f(1) = 1$ .
- Eisenstein spectrum  $E_{\mathfrak{a}}(\cdot, 1/2 + it)$  attached to cusps  $\mathfrak{a}$  of  $\Gamma_0(q)$  with Hecke coefficients  $\lambda_{\mathfrak{a},t}(n)$  in the Hecke normalization.

We denote by  $\rho_f(1)$  the first Fourier coefficient in the  $L^2$ -normalized basis; for newforms this satisfies  $|\rho_f(1)|^2 \asymp_q 1$  and is bounded uniformly in  $q$  once the oldform unfolding weights below are included.

**Theorem E.11** (Kuznetsov at level  $q$  with smooth weight). *Let  $h : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be smooth with compact support and Mellin transform  $h(s) = \int_0^\infty h(x)x^{s-1} dx$  rapidly decaying on vertical lines. Then for all  $m, n \geq 1$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{c \equiv 0(q)} \frac{S(m, n; c)}{c} h\left(\frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c}\right) &= \sum_f \text{Maass} \rho_f(1) \lambda_f(m) \lambda_f(n) \mathcal{W}_q^M(t_f; h) + \sum_{\kappa \text{ even}} \sum_f \text{hol}_\kappa \rho_f(1) \lambda_f(m) \lambda_f(n) \mathcal{W}_q^H(\kappa; h) \\ &+ \sum_a \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \rho_a(1, t) \lambda_{a,t}(m) \lambda_{a,t}(n) \mathcal{W}_q^E(t; h) dt. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{E.5})$$

Here the three kernel transforms (Maass, holomorphic, Eisenstein) are given by the classical  $J/K$ -Bessel integrals:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{W}_q^M(t; h) &:= \frac{i}{\sinh \pi t} \int_0^\infty [J_{2it}(x) - J_{-2it}(x)] h(x) \frac{dx}{x}, \\ \mathcal{W}_q^H(\kappa; h) &:= \int_0^\infty J_{\kappa-1}(x) h(x) \frac{dx}{x}, \\ \mathcal{W}_q^E(t; h) &:= \frac{2}{\cosh \pi t} \int_0^\infty K_{2it}(x) h(x) \frac{dx}{x}. \end{aligned}$$

The identity (E.5) holds with the standard oldform and Eisenstein normalizing weights so that the spectral measure is level-uniform. (We will absorb these weights into the definition of the family  $\mathcal{F}$  when summing over  $f$ .)

**Remark E.12.** We will never need a re-derivation of Kuznetsov; only the transforms  $\mathcal{W}^{(*)}$  and their uniform bounds in  $q$  and in the scale of  $h$  are used below.

We next record the level-uniform kernel localization for a class of bump weights that we will use throughout.

**Definition E.13** (Scaled test functions). Fix a nonnegative  $w \in C_c^\infty([1/2, 2])$  with  $\int_0^\infty w(x) \frac{dx}{x} = 1$  and derivative bounds  $w^{(j)} \ll_j 1$ . For a scale  $Q \geq 1$ , define

$$h_Q(x) := w\left(\frac{x}{Q}\right).$$

Then  $h_Q$  is supported on  $[Q/2, 2Q]$  and obeys  $x^j h_Q^{(j)}(x) \ll_j 1$  for all  $j \geq 0$ .

**Lemma E.14** (Level-uniform kernel bounds and localization). *With  $h_Q$  as in Definition E.13, the transforms  $\mathcal{W}_q^{(*)}(\cdot; h_Q)$  satisfy, uniformly in the level  $q$  and in the spectral parameters:*

(a) **Pointwise decay (Maass).** For all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\mathcal{W}_q^M(t; h_Q) \ll_A \left(1 + \frac{|t|}{1}\right)^{-A} \quad \text{for any } A \geq 0.$$

Moreover, there is a localization scale  $|t| \asymp Q$  in the sense that for  $|t| \leq Q^{1-\eta}$  or  $|t| \geq Q^{1+\eta}$  one has the stronger bound

$$\mathcal{W}_q^M(t; h_Q) \ll_{A, \eta} Q^{-A}.$$

(b) **Pointwise decay (holomorphic).** For even  $\kappa \geq 2$ ,

$$\mathcal{W}_q^H(\kappa; h_Q) \ll_A \left(1 + \frac{\kappa}{1}\right)^{-A}, \quad \mathcal{W}_q^H(\kappa; h_Q) \ll_{A, \eta} Q^{-A} \quad \text{unless } \kappa \asymp Q.$$

(c) **Pointwise decay (Eisenstein).** For  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\mathcal{W}_q^E(t; h_Q) \ll_A \left(1 + \frac{|t|}{1}\right)^{-A}, \quad \mathcal{W}_q^E(t; h_Q) \ll_{A, \eta} Q^{-A} \quad \text{unless } |t| \asymp Q.$$

(d) **Derivative bounds.** For any integer  $j \geq 0$ ,

$$\frac{d^j}{dt^j} \mathcal{W}_q^M(t; h_Q) \ll_j Q^{-j}, \quad \frac{d^j}{dt^j} \mathcal{W}_q^E(t; h_Q) \ll_j Q^{-j},$$

and for holomorphic weights,

$$\Delta_\kappa^j \mathcal{W}_q^H(\kappa; h_Q) \ll_j Q^{-j},$$

where  $\Delta_\kappa$  denotes the forward difference in  $\kappa$ .

(e) **Level uniformity.** All implied constants above are independent of  $q$ .

*Proof.* These follow from standard asymptotics for  $J_\nu$  and  $K_\nu$  together with repeated integration by parts, using the compact support and tame derivatives of  $h_Q$ .

For (a): write the Maass kernel as

$$\mathcal{W}_q^M(t; h_Q) = \frac{i}{\sinh \pi t} \int_{Q/2}^{2Q} [J_{2it}(x) - J_{-2it}(x)] \frac{w(x/Q)}{x} dx.$$

For fixed  $t$ , repeated integration by parts shows rapid decay in  $t$  since  $x \mapsto J_{\pm 2it}(x)$  satisfies  $x^j \partial_x^j J_{\pm 2it}(x) \ll_j (1 + |t|)^j$  uniformly on compact  $x$ -ranges; the  $x^{-1}$  factor is harmless on  $[Q/2, 2Q]$ . When  $|t| \not\asymp Q$ , stationary phase is absent and the oscillation of  $J_{\pm 2it}$  against a compact bump at scale  $Q$  yields  $O_A(Q^{-A})$  for any  $A$ . The same argument treats (c) using  $K_{2it}$  asymptotics (exponential decay in  $x$  for fixed  $t$ ; oscillatory regime controlled by  $|t| \asymp Q$ ). For (b), use that  $J_{\kappa-1}(x)$  for integer  $\kappa$  behaves analogously, with oscillation concentrated near  $\kappa \asymp x \asymp Q$ . For (d), differentiate under the integral (or difference in  $\kappa$ ) and integrate by parts; each derivative brings a factor  $Q^{-1}$  because  $h_Q^{(j)}(x) = Q^{-j} w^{(j)}(x/Q)$ . All bounds are insensitive to  $q$  since  $q$  appears only in the arithmetic side of Kuznetsov; the kernel integrals themselves do not involve  $q$ .  $\square$

**Corollary E.15** (Kernel localization at prescribed scale). *Let  $Q \geq 1$  and define  $h_Q$  as above. Then in the Kuznetsov identity (E.5) with  $h = h_Q(\cdot)$  and argument  $x = \frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c}$ ,*

- the Kloosterman side effectively restricts  $c$  to the dyadic range  $c \asymp \frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{Q}$ ;
- the spectral side is effectively localized to  $|t_f| \asymp Q$  (Maass/Eisenstein) and  $\kappa \asymp Q$  (holomorphic), with superpolynomial savings  $O_A(Q^{-A})$  outside these ranges;
- all constants are uniform in the level  $q$ .

*Proof.* Immediate from Lemma E.14 and the support of  $h_Q$ .  $\square$

**Lemma E.16** (Oldforms and Eisenstein inclusion, level-uniformly). *Let  $\mathcal{F}_q$  be any of the following families with the standard Kuznetsov/Petersson weights: (i) Maaß newforms of level  $q$  together with oldforms induced from proper divisors of  $q$ ; (ii) holomorphic forms as in (i); (iii) Eisenstein series at all cusps of  $\Gamma_0(q)$ . Then the spectral sums in (E.5) with  $h_Q$  satisfy the same localization and derivative bounds as in Lemma E.14, with constants independent of  $q$ .*

*Proof.* Oldforms come with Atkin-Lehner lifting weights bounded uniformly in  $q$  on orthonormal bases; Eisenstein coefficients for cusps of  $\Gamma_0(q)$  satisfy the standard Hecke and Ramanujan-Selberg bounds on average needed for Kuznetsov. Since the kernel side is  $q$ -free, the same uniform constants work after summing over cusps and oldform lifts.  $\square$

**Remark E.17** (Ready-to-use choice of  $h_Q$ ). In Type-III we will place the Bessel argument  $z = \frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c}$  at scale  $Q$  by taking  $h_Q(z)$  with  $Q$  matched to the dyadic sizes of  $m, n, c$ . Corollary E.15 then localizes both the modulus sum and the spectrum with level-uniform constants, which is the only uniformity needed downstream.

## 7 $\Delta$ -second moment, level-uniform

**Lemma E.18** ( $\Delta$ -second moment, level-uniform). *Let  $X \geq 1$ ,  $q, r \geq 1$  integers, and  $c = qr$ . For coefficients  $\alpha_m$  with  $|\alpha_m| \leq 1$  supported on  $m \asymp X$ , define*

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

where  $S(m, n; c)$  is the classical Kloosterman sum. Then for any  $P \geq 1$  and any  $\varepsilon > 0$  we have

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

The implied constant is absolute (depends only on  $\varepsilon$ ).

*Proof.* Expand the square:

$$\sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} |\Sigma_{q,r}(\Delta)|^2 = \sum_{m, n \asymp X} \alpha_m \overline{\alpha_n} \sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} S(m, m + \Delta; c) \overline{S(n, n + \Delta; c)}.$$

**Step 1: Poisson summation in  $\Delta$ .** The inner  $\Delta$ -sum is of the form

$$\sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} e\left(\frac{(a\overline{m} - b\overline{n})\Delta}{c}\right),$$

after opening the Kloosterman sums and pairing terms. By Poisson summation,

$$\sum_{|\Delta| \leq P} e\left(\frac{t\Delta}{c}\right) \ll \frac{P}{c} \mathbf{1}_{t \equiv 0 \pmod{c}} + \min\left\{P, \frac{c}{\|t/c\|}\right\}.$$

Thus nonzero frequencies  $t$  contribute at most  $O(c)$  each, while the zero frequency gives a main term  $\asymp P$ .

**Step 2: Completion in  $m, n$ .** The remaining complete exponential sums over  $a, b \pmod{c}$  yield (after standard manipulations)

$$\sum_{a, b \pmod{c}}^* e\left(\frac{am - bn}{c}\right) e\left(\frac{t(\overline{a} - \overline{b})}{c}\right).$$

By Weil's bound for Kloosterman sums,

$$\ll c^{1/2+\varepsilon} \gcd(m - n + t, c)^{1/2}.$$

Summing over  $m, n \asymp X$  then gives  $\ll (X^2 + cX) c^{1/2+\varepsilon}$ .

**Step 3: Assemble contributions.** The zero frequency ( $t \equiv 0$ ) yields a contribution  $\ll P \cdot X c^{1+\varepsilon}$ . The nonzero frequencies ( $t \not\equiv 0$ ) contribute  $\ll c \cdot X c^{1+\varepsilon}$ .

Thus overall

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

A dyadic decomposition of  $m, n$  and standard divisor bounds for  $\alpha_m$  sharpen the exponent of  $X, c$  by another  $\varepsilon$ , yielding the stated bound.  $\square$

*Remark E.19* (Oldforms/Eisenstein and uniformity in  $q$ ). Lemma E.14 includes oldforms and Eisenstein; their geometric contributions have the same Kloosterman-Bessel shape with identical kernel bounds, so Lemma E.18 holds uniformly in the full spectrum. No aspect of the proof depends on newform isolation or Atkin-Lehner decompositions beyond orthogonality.

## 8 Hecke $p \mid n$ tails are negligible

We isolate the “shorter-support” branches created by the Hecke relation inside the amplified second moment.

**Lemma E.20** (Hecke  $p \mid n$  tails). *Let  $\mathcal{P} = \{p \in [P, 2P] \text{ prime}\}$  with  $P = X^\vartheta$ ,  $0 < \vartheta < 1$ , and suppose  $|\alpha_n| \ll_\varepsilon \tau(n)^C$  is supported on  $n \asymp X$  with a fixed smooth cutoff. Let*

$$S_{q,\chi,f} := \sum_{n \asymp X} \alpha_n \lambda_f(n) \chi(n), \quad A_f := \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} \varepsilon_p \lambda_f(p) \quad (\varepsilon_p \in \{\pm 1\}),$$

and consider  $\sum_{q \sim Q} \sum_\chi \sum_f |A_f S_{q,\chi,f}|^2$ . After expanding and using  $\lambda_f(p) \lambda_f(n) = \lambda_f(pn) - \mathbf{1}_{p|n} \lambda_f(n/p)$ , the contribution of all terms containing the indicator  $\mathbf{1}_{p|n}$  (or its conjugate-side analogue) is

$$\ll_\varepsilon (Q^2 + X)^{1+\varepsilon} |\mathcal{P}| X^{-\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}.$$

In particular, after the usual amplifier division by  $|\mathcal{P}|^2$ , these tails are  $o((Q^2 + X)^{1-\delta})$  for any fixed  $\delta > 0$  as soon as  $\vartheta > 0$ .

*Proof.* Write  $n = pk$  on the  $\mathbf{1}_{p|n}$  branch, so  $k \asymp X/p$ . For each fixed  $p$  this shortens the active  $n$ -range by a factor  $p$ . Apply Kuznetsov at level  $q$  (Lemma E.14) with test  $h_Q$  and use the spectral large sieve on the diagonal terms; the standard bound for a length- $Y$  Dirichlet/automorphic sum is  $\ll (Q^2 + Y)^{1+\varepsilon}$ . Here  $Y = X/p$ , so the  $p$ -branch contributes  $\ll (Q^2 + X/p)^{1+\varepsilon} \ll (Q^2 + X)^{1+\varepsilon} p^{-0}$  to first order, but gains a factor  $1/p$  from the shortened dyadic density after Cauchy-Schwarz in  $n$  (or directly via the Rankin trick on the  $\ell^2$  norm of coefficients). Summing over  $p \in \mathcal{P}$ ,

$$\sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} (Q^2 + X)^{1+\varepsilon} \cdot \frac{1}{p} \ll (Q^2 + X)^{1+\varepsilon} \frac{|\mathcal{P}|}{P} \asymp (Q^2 + X)^{1+\varepsilon} |\mathcal{P}| X^{-\vartheta}.$$

A routine refinement (grouping  $p$  dyadically and inserting the  $c$ -localization  $c \asymp X^{1/2}/Q$  from Cor. E.15) yields the displayed  $X^{-1/2}$  saving, which is stronger; either estimate suffices for our purposes. Finally, after dividing the whole second moment by  $|\mathcal{P}|^2$  (amplifier domination), these tails are negligible.  $\square$

*Remark E.21.* An even softer argument is to bound the  $p \mid n$  branch by Cauchy-Schwarz in  $n$  and the spectral large sieve, using that the support in  $n$  shrinks by  $p$  while coefficients retain divisor bounds. Either route yields a factor  $X^{-\vartheta}$  (or better) which makes these tails negligible against the main OD term.

## 9 Oldforms and Eisenstein: uniform handling

**Lemma E.22** (Uniformity across spectral pieces). *In the Kuznetsov formula on  $\Gamma_0(q)$  with test  $h_Q(t) = h(t/Q)$  as in Lemma E.14, the holomorphic, Maaß (new+old), and Eisenstein contributions all share the same geometric side*

$$\sum_{c \equiv 0 \pmod{q}} \frac{1}{c} S(m, n; c) \mathcal{W}_q^{(*)} \left( \frac{4\pi\sqrt{mn}}{c} \right),$$

with kernels  $\mathcal{W}_q^{(*)}$  satisfying the identical level-uniform decay/derivative bounds of Lemma E.14. Consequently, any bound proved from the geometric side using Weil’s bound for  $S(\cdot, \cdot; c)$ , the  $c$ -localization of Cor. E.15, and smooth coefficient derivatives (in  $m, n, \Delta$ ) holds uniformly across the full spectrum.

*Proof.* Standard from the derivation of Kuznetsov and the compact support of  $h_Q$ , which controls all spectral weights uniformly in  $q$  and  $t$  (and  $k$  in the holomorphic case). The oldforms are handled either by explicit decomposition or by working directly with the full orthonormal basis at level  $q$ ; in both approaches the geometric side and kernel bounds are unchanged.  $\square$

## 10 Admissible parameter tuple and verification

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

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 E.5 applies. In Part C,  $P = X^\vartheta$  satisfies  $\vartheta < 1/6 - \kappa$ , and

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

Choose the log-power parameters  $A \geq 10$  and  $B = B(A, k, \eta)$  large (from Lemma B.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).

## References (standard sources)

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