

## The average number of Goldbach representations over multiples of $q$

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# The average number of Goldbach representations over multiples of $q$

Karin Ikeda and Ade Irma Suriajaya

**ABSTRACT.** We discuss the evaluation of the average number of Goldbach representations for integers which are multiples of  $q$  introduced by Granville. We improve an estimate given by Granville under the generalized Riemann hypothesis.

## 1. Introduction

This paper describes a relationship between the average number of Goldbach representation

$$G(N) := \sum_{n \leq N} \psi_2(n)$$

and its variant

$$G_q(N) := \sum_{\substack{n \leq N \\ q|n}} \psi_2(n) \quad (1 \leq q \leq N).$$

Here

$$\psi_2(n) := \sum_{m+m'=n} \Lambda(m)\Lambda(m')$$

with  $\Lambda(n)$  the von Mangoldt function, which counts the number of Goldbach representations of  $n$  in primes and prime powers. Here and in the following, all sums are over positive integers unless otherwise indicated, and  $N \geq 4$  so that  $G(N) > 0$ . Fujii [Fuj91] proved the following explicit formula for  $G(N)$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** [Fuj91] *Assuming the Riemann hypothesis, we have*

$$G(N) = \frac{N^2}{2} - 2 \sum_{\rho} \frac{N^{\rho+1}}{\rho(\rho+1)} + \mathcal{O}\left((N \log N)^{\frac{4}{3}}\right),$$

where the sum is over the nontrivial zeros  $\rho$  of the Riemann zeta function, and the Riemann hypothesis states that  $\operatorname{Re}(\rho) = 1/2$ .

Using classical results, one immediately sees that the Riemann hypothesis implies that the second main term in Theorem 1.1 is bounded above by  $N^{3/2}$ . In fact, it is known that

$$G(N) - \frac{N^2}{2} = \mathcal{O}(N^{\frac{3}{2}+\epsilon}) \quad (\forall \epsilon > 0)$$

is equivalent to the Riemann hypothesis, see [Gra07, Gra08], [BR18] and [BHMS19, Theorem 1 (2)]. In [BR18] and [BHMS19], and in addition [BCSS24], more general

equivalences between bounds for the right-hand side above and zero-free regions of the Riemann zeta function are obtained.

Fujii's [Theorem 1.1](#) was improved by Bhowmik and Schlage-Puchta [[BS10](#)] who showed that  $\mathcal{O}\left((N \log N)^{\frac{4}{3}}\right)$  can be replaced by  $\mathcal{O}(N \log^5 N)$ , and further by Languasco and Zaccagnini [[LZ12a](#)] as follows.

**Theorem 1.2.** [[LZ12a](#)] *Assuming the Riemann hypothesis, we have*

$$G(N) = \frac{N^2}{2} - 2 \sum_{\rho} \frac{N^{\rho+1}}{\rho(\rho+1)} + \mathcal{O}(N \log^3 N),$$

where the sum is over the nontrivial zeros of the Riemann zeta function.

Granville [[Gra07](#), [Gra08](#)] introduced the function  $G_q(N)$  defined by

$$G_q(N) := \sum_{\substack{n \leq N \\ q|n}} \psi_2(n), \quad (2 \leq q \leq N).$$

When  $q = 1$ , we set  $G_1(N) = G(N)$ . Granville stated the formula, for any  $\epsilon > 0$ ,

$$(1.1) \quad G_q(N) = \frac{G(N)}{\phi(q)} + \mathcal{O}(N^{1+\epsilon}),$$

where  $\phi(q)$  is Euler's totient function, but the proof of this had to wait until the work of Bhowmik and Schlage-Puchta [[BS10](#)] or Languasco and Zaccagnini [[LZ12a](#)]. Either of these papers can be used to prove the stronger result that

$$G_q(N) = \frac{G(N)}{\phi(q)} + \mathcal{O}(N \log^C N)$$

for some fixed constant  $C$ . There are now a variety of methods for proving this result, see for example [[BHMS19](#)] where they considered much more general problems. In this paper, we show that  $C = 3$  using the same basic method as Languasco and Zaccagnini [[LZ12a](#)] with some additional refinements from [[GS23a](#)]. An outline of this proof appeared in Goldston and Suriajaya's work [[GS23b](#)], in which they discussed a smooth version of the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.3.** *Assume the generalized Riemann hypothesis for Dirichlet  $L$ -functions  $L(s, \chi)$  associated with characters  $\chi \pmod{q}$ . For  $2 \leq q \leq N$ , we have*

$$G_q(N) = \frac{G(N)}{\phi(q)} + \mathcal{O}(N \log^3 N).$$

Furthermore, by using [Theorem 1.2](#) and [Theorem 1.3](#), we easily obtain the following corollary.

**Corollary 1.4.** *Under the same assumption of [Theorem 1.3](#), we have*

$$G_q(N) = \frac{1}{\phi(q)} \left( \frac{N^2}{2} - 2 \sum_{\rho} \frac{N^{\rho+1}}{\rho(\rho+1)} \right) + \mathcal{O}(N \log^3 N),$$

where the sum is over the nontrivial zeros of the Riemann zeta function.

An analogous problem was also considered by Nguyen in her recent work [Ngu24]. She considered a general case with prime powers from arbitrary arithmetic progressions using

$$\sum_{n \leq X} \sum_{\substack{m+m'=n \\ m \equiv a \pmod{q} \\ m' \equiv a' \pmod{q'}}} \Lambda(m) \Lambda(m')$$

for positive integers  $a, a', q, q'$  satisfying  $1 \leq a < q$ ,  $(a, q) = 1$  and  $1 \leq a' < q'$ ,  $(a', q') = 1$ . Our  $G_q(N)$  is the case  $q = q'$  and includes the case  $a = a' = q$  which is not covered in [Ngu24]. Nguyen [Ngu24] considered also cases when not assuming the generalized Riemann hypothesis analogous to [BHMS19], in addition to a [BS10]-type omega result and a Cesàro weighted average as in [LZ15, CGZ21]. Finally, we remark that all the  $\mathcal{O}$ -constants mentioned above are absolute. In the following section, we retain the same notation, unless otherwise specified.

## 2. Proof of Theorem 1.3

Our method follows closely that of [GS23b] where this problem was introduced and [GS23a] by Goldston and the second author. Following earlier works [MV73, LZ12a, GS23a, GS23b], we use power series generating functions. This approach originates from Hardy and Littlewood's circle method [HL23]. As in [GS23b], we define for  $N \geq 4$  a smooth version of  $G_q(N)$  as

$$F_q(z) = \sum_{\substack{n \\ q|n}} \psi_2(n) z^n,$$

with  $z = re(\alpha)$  and  $r = e^{-1/N}$ , where  $e(\alpha) = e^{2\pi i \alpha}$ . We first show that we can represent  $G_q(N)$  by using  $F_q(z)$ . Setting

$$I_N(z) := \sum_{n \leq N} z^n = z \left( \frac{1 - z^N}{1 - z} \right),$$

we have for  $1 \leq q \leq N$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 F_q(z) I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) d\alpha &= \int_0^1 \sum_{\substack{n \\ q|n}} \psi_2(n) z^n \sum_{n' \leq N} \left( \frac{1}{z} \right)^{n'} d\alpha \\ &= \int_0^1 \sum_{\substack{n \\ q|n}} \psi_2(n) r^n (e(\alpha))^n \sum_{n' \leq N} r^{-n'} (e(\alpha))^{-n'} d\alpha \\ (2.1) \quad &= \sum_{\substack{n \\ q|n}} \psi_2(n) r^n \left( \sum_{n' \leq N} r^{-n'} \int_0^1 e(\alpha(n - n')) d\alpha \right) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{n \leq N \\ q|n}} \psi_2(n) \\ &= G_q(N), \end{aligned}$$

see also [GS23a, Equation (40)]. In particular, when  $q = 1$ , we get

$$(2.2) \quad G(N) = G_1(N) = \int_0^1 F_1(N) I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) d\alpha = \int_0^1 \Psi^2(z) I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) d\alpha,$$

where

$$(2.3) \quad \Psi(z) = \sum_n \Lambda(n) z^n.$$

Next, for a Dirichlet character  $\chi \pmod{q}$ , we let

$$\Psi(z, \chi) = \sum_n \chi(n) \Lambda(n) z^n.$$

As shown in [GS23b],  $F_q(z)$  can be approximated using a character weighted average of  $\Psi(z, \chi)$  as follows.

**Lemma 2.1.** [GS23b, Lemma 2.1] *For  $N \geq 4$  and  $q \geq 2$ ,*

$$F_q(z) = \frac{1}{\phi(q)} \sum_{\chi \pmod{q}} \chi(-1) \Psi(z, \chi) \Psi(z, \bar{\chi}) + \mathcal{O}((\log N \log q)^2).$$

For  $q = 1$ ,  $F_1(z) = \Psi(z)^2$ .

The next lemma shows that with respect to the principal character  $\chi_0 \pmod{q}$  we can approximate  $\Psi(z, \chi_0)$  using  $\Psi(z)$  defined in (2.3).

**Lemma 2.2.** [GS23b, (17) of Lemma 2.2] *Let  $q \geq 2$  and  $\chi_0$  be the principal character  $\pmod{q}$ . Then we have*

$$\Psi(z, \chi_0) = \sum_{\substack{n \\ (n, q)=1}} \Lambda(n) z^n = \Psi(z) + \mathcal{O}(\log N \log q).$$

We remark that [GS23b, Lemma 2.2] also includes the case of general characters  $\chi$ , see also [Suz17, Lemma 2.1]. The proof can be found in [LZ12b, Lemma 2] or [HL23, Lemmas 1 to 4].

We use the short-hand notation

$$\sum_{\chi} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{\chi \neq \chi_0}$$

to denote respectively a sum over all characters modulo  $q$  and a sum over all characters modulo  $q$  except the principal character. Now, applying Lemma 2.1 and Lemma 2.2, we divide the integral on the left-hand side of (2.1) into three parts

$$\begin{aligned} G_q(N) &= \int_0^1 \left( \frac{1}{\phi(q)} \sum_{\chi} \chi(-1) \Psi(z, \chi) \Psi(z, \bar{\chi}) + \mathcal{O}((\log N \log q)^2) \right) I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) d\alpha \\ &= \mathcal{I}_1 + \mathcal{I}_2 + \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{I}_3), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}_1 &= \int_0^1 \frac{1}{\phi(q)} \chi_0(-1) \Psi(z, \chi_0) \Psi(z, \bar{\chi}_0) I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) d\alpha, \\ \mathcal{I}_2 &= \int_0^1 \left( \frac{1}{\phi(q)} \sum_{\chi \neq \chi_0} \chi(-1) \Psi(z, \chi) \Psi(z, \bar{\chi}) \right) I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) d\alpha, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\mathcal{I}_3 = (\log N \log q)^2 \int_0^1 \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha.$$

The term  $\mathcal{I}_2$  is an error term that is difficult to estimate, so we handle the easy terms  $\mathcal{I}_1$  and  $\mathcal{I}_3$  immediately.

### Evaluation of $\mathcal{I}_1$ and $\mathcal{I}_3$ .

We first need to estimate

$$\int_0^1 \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha.$$

We recall that  $|z| = r = e^{-1/N} \leq 1$ , hence we can trivially bound  $I_N(1/z)$  as

$$(2.4) \quad \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| = \left| \sum_{n \leq N} \left( \frac{1}{z} \right)^n \right| = \left| \frac{1}{z^N} (1 + z + \dots + z^{N-1}) \right| \leq eN.$$

If  $|\alpha| \leq 1/2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} |z - 1| &= \sqrt{(r \cos(2\pi\alpha) - 1)^2 + (r \sin(2\pi\alpha))^2} = \sqrt{r^2 + 1 - 2r \cos(2\pi\alpha)} \\ &= \sqrt{(r - 1)^2 + 2r(1 - \cos(2\pi\alpha))} = \sqrt{(r - 1)^2 + 4r(\sin \pi\alpha)^2} \\ &\geq 2\sqrt{r} \sin(\pi|\alpha|) \geq 4\sqrt{r}|\alpha|, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality uses the fact that  $\pi \sin \theta - 2\theta \geq 0$  for  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi/2$ . Thus we have, for  $0 < |\alpha| \leq 1/2$ ,

$$(2.5) \quad \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| = \left| \frac{1}{z} \frac{1 - \frac{1}{z^N}}{1 - \frac{1}{z}} \right| = \left| \frac{1 - z^{-N}}{z - 1} \right| \leq \frac{1 + |z|^{-N}}{4\sqrt{r}|\alpha|} \leq \frac{(1 + e)\sqrt{e}}{4|\alpha|} < \frac{e}{|\alpha|}.$$

By (2.4) and (2.5), we conclude for  $|\alpha| \leq 1/2$  that

$$(2.6) \quad \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| \leq e \min \left\{ N, \frac{1}{|\alpha|} \right\}$$

Therefore

$$\int_0^1 \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha = \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha \ll \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \min \left\{ N, \frac{1}{|\alpha|} \right\} d\alpha.$$

For  $N \geq 2$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \min \left\{ N, \frac{1}{|\alpha|} \right\} d\alpha &= 2 \left( \int_0^{\frac{1}{N}} N d\alpha + \int_{\frac{1}{N}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{d\alpha}{\alpha} \right) \\ &= 2 \left( 1 + \log \frac{N}{2} \right) \ll \log N, \end{aligned}$$

and thus

$$(2.7) \quad \int_0^1 \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha = \mathcal{O}(\log N).$$

From this estimate we see immediately that  $\mathcal{I}_3 \ll \log^5 N$ . Applying Lemma 2.2 and (2.2), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}_1 &= \frac{1}{\phi(q)} \int_0^1 (\Psi(z) + \mathcal{O}(\log N \log q))^2 I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) d\alpha \\ &= \frac{1}{\phi(q)} \int_0^1 \Psi^2(z) I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) d\alpha + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{\log N \log q}{\phi(q)} \int_0^1 \left| \Psi(z) I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha \right) \\ &\quad + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{\mathcal{I}_3}{\phi(q)} \right) \\ (2.8) \quad &= \frac{G(N)}{\phi(q)} + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{\log N \log q}{\phi(q)} \int_0^1 \left| \Psi(z) I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha \right) + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{\log^5 N}{\phi(q)} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Next by partial summation, we can easily show that

$$|\Psi(z)| \leq \sum_n \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} \ll \frac{1}{N} \int_1^\infty \psi(t) e^{-\frac{t}{N}} dt \ll \frac{1}{N} \int_1^\infty t e^{-\frac{t}{N}} dt \ll N,$$

where  $\psi(x) := \sum_{n \leq x} \Lambda(n)$  and we have used the weaker estimate  $\psi(x) \ll x$  than the Prime Number Theorem  $\psi(x) \sim x$ . Thus we have that the second term of (2.8) is

$$(2.9) \quad \ll \frac{N \log^2 N}{\phi(q)} \int_0^1 \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha \ll \frac{N \log^3 N}{\phi(q)},$$

and therefore

$$(2.10) \quad \mathcal{I}_1 + \mathcal{O}(\mathcal{I}_3) = \frac{G(N)}{\phi(q)} + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{N \log^3 N}{\phi(q)} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\log^5 N).$$

Thus

$$(2.11) \quad G_q(N) = \frac{G(N)}{\phi(q)} + \mathcal{I}_2 + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{N \log^3 N}{\phi(q)} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\log^5 N).$$

**Evaluation of  $\mathcal{I}_2$ .** Since

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{I}_2| &\leq \int_0^1 \left| \frac{1}{\phi(q)} \sum_{\chi \neq \chi_0} \chi(-1) \Psi(z, \chi) \Psi(z, \bar{\chi}) \right| \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\phi(q)} \sum_{\chi \neq \chi_0} \int_0^1 |\Psi(z, \chi)|^2 \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha \\ &\leq \max_{\chi \neq \chi_0} \int_0^1 |\Psi(z, \chi)|^2 \left| I_N \left( \frac{1}{z} \right) \right| d\alpha, \end{aligned}$$

we have by (2.6)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}_2 &\ll \max_{\chi \neq \chi_0} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} |\Psi(z, \chi)|^2 \min \left\{ N, \frac{1}{\alpha} \right\} d\alpha \\ &\ll \max_{\chi \neq \chi_0} \left( N \int_0^{\frac{1}{N}} |\Psi(z, \chi)|^2 d\alpha + \sum_{0 \leq k < \log_2 N} \frac{N}{2^k} \int_{\frac{2^k}{N}}^{\frac{2^{k+1}}{N}} |\Psi(z, \chi)|^2 d\alpha \right) \\ (2.12) \quad &\ll N \sum_{0 \leq k < \log_2 N} \frac{1}{2^k} \left( \max_{\chi \neq \chi_0} \int_0^{\frac{2^{k+1}}{N}} |\Psi(z, \chi)|^2 d\alpha \right). \end{aligned}$$

The key tool in estimating the integral in (2.12), and thus  $\mathcal{I}_2$ , is Gallagher's lemma [Mon71, Lemma 1.9]; one form of which can be stated as follows.

**Lemma 2.3** (Gallagher). *For any sequence of complex numbers  $\{c_n\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and*

$$S(\alpha) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e(n\alpha), \quad \text{where} \quad \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} |c_n| < \infty,$$

*we have for any  $h > 0$  that*

$$\int_{\frac{-1}{2h}}^{\frac{1}{2h}} |S(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll \frac{1}{h^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \sum_{x < n \leq x+h} c_n \right|^2 dx.$$

Applying this lemma, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^{\frac{1}{2h}} |\Psi(z, \chi)|^2 d\alpha &= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2h}} \left| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) r^n e(n\alpha) \right|^2 d\alpha \\
&\ll \frac{1}{h^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \sum_{x < n \leq x+h} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} \right|^2 dx \\
&= \frac{1}{h^2} \int_{-h}^0 \left| \sum_{n \leq x+h} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} \right|^2 dx + \frac{1}{h^2} \int_0^{\infty} \left| \sum_{x < n \leq x+h} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} \right|^2 dx \\
&= \frac{1}{h^2} \int_0^h \left| \sum_{n \leq x} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} \right|^2 dx + \frac{1}{h^2} \int_0^{\infty} \left| \sum_{x < n \leq x+h} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} \right|^2 dx \\
(2.13) \quad &=: \frac{1}{h^2} (I_1(N, h) + I_2(N, h)).
\end{aligned}$$

We introduce the counting function

$$\psi(x, \chi) := \sum_{n \leq x} \chi(n) \Lambda(n),$$

which is simply the Chebyshev function twisted by a Dirichlet character  $\chi$ . Next, we define

$$(2.14) \quad J_1(X) = J_1(X, \chi) := \int_0^X |\psi(x, \chi)|^2 dx,$$

$$(2.15) \quad J_2(X, h) = J_2(X, h, \chi) := \int_0^X |\psi(x+h, \chi) - \psi(x, \chi)|^2 dx.$$

In the rest of the paper we will frequently use (without comment) the inequality, for  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$(2.16) \quad |a + b|^2 \leq (|a| + |b|)^2 \leq (|a| + |b|)^2 + (|a| - |b|)^2 = 2(|a|^2 + |b|^2).$$

**Lemma 2.4.** *Assuming GRH and  $X \geq 1$ . Then for any Dirichlet character  $\chi \neq \chi_0$  modulo  $q$ , we have*

$$(2.17) \quad J_1(X) \ll X^2 \log^2(2q)$$

and, for  $0 \leq h \leq X$ ,

$$(2.18) \quad J_2(X, h) \ll (h+1)X \log^2 \left( \frac{3qX}{h+1} \right).$$

**PROOF.** This is proved in [GV96, Lemma 2] for  $\chi$  primitive, so we only need to deal with the case of  $\chi$  imprimitive. If  $\chi$  is an imprimitive character modulo  $q$ , then it is induced by a primitive character  $\chi^*$  modulo  $q^*$ , where  $q^* | q$ . Thus, since we know (2.17) and (2.18) hold for primitive characters, we have

$$J_1(X, \chi^*) \ll X^2 \log^2(2q^*) \ll X^2 \log^2(2q)$$

and

$$J_2(X, h, \chi^*) \ll (h+1)X \log^2 \left( \frac{3q^*X}{h+1} \right) \ll (h+1)X \log^2 \left( \frac{3qX}{h+1} \right).$$



Now, following [Dav00, p. 119],

$$(2.19) \quad |\psi(x, \chi) - \psi(x, \chi^*)| \leq \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ (n, q) > 1}} \Lambda(n) = \sum_{p|q} \sum_{p^m \leq x} \log p \ll (\log(x+2))(\log 2q),$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} J_1(X, \chi) &= \int_0^X |\psi(x, \chi^*) + (\psi(x, \chi) - \psi(x, \chi^*))|^2 dx \\ &\ll \int_0^X |\psi(x, \chi^*)|^2 dx + \int_0^X |(\log(x+2))(\log 2q)|^2 dx \\ &\ll X^2 \log^2(2q) + X \log^2(X+2) \log^2(2q) \\ &\ll X^2 \log^2(2q), \end{aligned}$$

which proves (2.17) for imprimitive characters.

Next, for  $J_2(X, h, \chi)$ , we first note that

$$\begin{aligned} J_2(h, h, \chi) &= \int_0^h |\psi(x+h, \chi) - \psi(x, \chi)|^2 dx \ll \int_0^{2h} |\psi(x, \chi)|^2 dx \\ &\ll (h+1)^2 \log^2(2q) \ll (h+1)X \log^2(2q) \end{aligned}$$

on using (2.17) which we just proved for all  $\chi \neq \chi_0$ , and therefore the piece  $J_2(h, h, \chi)$  of  $J_2(X, h, \chi)$  satisfies (2.18). Letting  $\psi_h(x, \chi) := \psi(x+h, \chi) - \psi(x, \chi)$ , it remains to prove that

$$J_2(X, h, \chi) - J_2(h, h, \chi) = \int_h^X |\psi_h(x, \chi)|^2 dx$$

satisfies (2.18). We argue as in (2.19), making use of the lower bound  $x \geq h$  not available there. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi_h(x, \chi) - \psi_h(x, \chi^*)| &= \left| \sum_{x < n \leq x+h} (\chi(n) - \chi^*(n)) \Lambda(n) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{\substack{x < n \leq x+h \\ (n, q) > 1}} \Lambda(n) = \sum_{p|q} \sum_{\substack{m \\ x < p^m \leq x+h}} \log p. \end{aligned}$$

The condition  $x < p^m \leq x+h$  is equivalent to

$$\frac{\log x}{\log p} < m \leq \frac{\log x}{\log p} + \frac{\log(1 + \frac{h}{x})}{\log p}.$$

Since  $x \geq h$ , we have

$$\frac{\log(1 + \frac{h}{x})}{\log p} \leq \frac{\log 2}{\log p} \leq 1,$$

and therefore there is at most 1 solution for  $m$  in the interval above. Hence  $|\psi_h(x, \chi) - \psi_h(x, \chi^*)| \leq \log q$  and

$$\begin{aligned} J_2(X, h, \chi) - J_2(h, h, \chi) &= \int_h^X |\psi_h(x, \chi^*) + O(\log 2q)|^2 dx \\ &\ll \int_h^X |\psi_h(x, \chi^*)|^2 dx + X \log^2(2q) \\ &\ll (h+1)X \log^2\left(\frac{3qX}{h+1}\right). \end{aligned}$$

□

We now are ready to estimate  $I_1(N, h)$  and  $I_2(N, h)$  using partial summation and [Lemma 2.4](#). Starting with the counting function  $\psi(x, \chi)$  we have

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} = \int_0^x e^{-\frac{u}{N}} d\psi(u, \chi) = \psi(x, \chi) e^{-\frac{x}{N}} + \frac{1}{N} \int_0^x \psi(u, \chi) e^{-\frac{u}{N}} du.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} I_1(N, h) &= \int_0^h \left| \sum_{n \leq x} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} \right|^2 dx \\ &= \int_0^h \left| \psi(x, \chi) e^{-\frac{x}{N}} + \frac{1}{N} \int_0^x \psi(u, \chi) e^{-\frac{u}{N}} du \right|^2 dx \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^h |\psi(x, \chi)|^2 e^{-\frac{2x}{N}} dx + \frac{2}{N^2} \int_0^h \left( \int_0^x |\psi(u, \chi)| e^{-\frac{u}{N}} du \right)^2 dx \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^h |\psi(x, \chi)|^2 dx + \frac{2}{N^2} \int_0^h \left( \int_0^x |\psi(u, \chi)|^2 du \right) \left( \int_0^x e^{-\frac{2u}{N}} du \right) dx, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality to obtain the last line. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} I_1(N, h) &\leq 2J_1(h) + \frac{1}{N} \int_0^h \int_0^x |\psi(u, \chi)|^2 du dx \\ (2.20) \quad &\leq 2J_1(h) + \frac{h}{N} \int_0^h |\psi(u, \chi)|^2 du = \left( 2 + \frac{h}{N} \right) J_1(h) \leq 3J_1(h). \end{aligned}$$

Proceeding in the same way for  $I_2(N, h)$ , we have by partial summation

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x < n \leq x+h} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} &= \int_x^{x+h} e^{-\frac{u}{N}} d\psi(u, \chi) \\ &= \psi(x+h, \chi) e^{-\frac{x+h}{N}} - \psi(x, \chi) e^{-\frac{x}{N}} + \frac{1}{N} \int_x^{x+h} \psi(u, \chi) e^{-\frac{u}{N}} du \\ &= \left( \psi(x+h, \chi) - \psi(x, \chi) \right) e^{-\frac{x}{N}} + \psi(x+h, \chi) \left( e^{-\frac{x+h}{N}} - e^{-\frac{x}{N}} \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{N} \int_x^{x+h} \psi(u, \chi) e^{-\frac{u}{N}} du \\ &= \left( \psi(x+h, \chi) - \psi(x, \chi) \right) e^{-\frac{x}{N}} + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{h}{N} |\psi(x+h, \chi)| e^{-\frac{x}{N}} \right) \\ &\quad + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{1}{N} \int_x^{x+h} |\psi(u, \chi)| e^{-\frac{u}{N}} du \right), \end{aligned}$$

where in the first error term we used the estimate

$$\left| e^{-\frac{x+h}{N}} - e^{-\frac{x}{N}} \right| = \left| - \int_{\frac{x}{N}}^{\frac{x}{N} + \frac{h}{N}} e^{-u} du \right| \ll \frac{h}{N} e^{-\frac{x}{N}}.$$

Substituting and using (2.16) repeatedly, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
I_2(N, h) &= \int_0^\infty \left| \sum_{x < n \leq x+h} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} \right|^2 dx \\
&\ll \int_0^\infty |\psi(x+h, \chi) - \psi(x, \chi)|^2 e^{-\frac{2x}{N}} dx + \frac{h^2}{N^2} \int_0^\infty |\psi(x+h, \chi)|^2 e^{-\frac{2x}{N}} dx \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{N^2} \int_0^\infty \left( \int_x^{x+h} |\psi(u, \chi)| e^{-\frac{u}{N}} du \right)^2 dx.
\end{aligned}$$

For the third term we use the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality and change the order of integration to see

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{N^2} \int_0^\infty \left( \int_x^{x+h} |\psi(u, \chi)| e^{-\frac{u}{N}} du \right)^2 dx &\leq \frac{h}{N^2} \int_0^\infty \left( \int_x^{x+h} |\psi(u, \chi)|^2 e^{-\frac{2u}{N}} du \right) dx \\
&= \frac{h}{N^2} \int_0^\infty \left( \int_{u-h}^u dx \right) |\psi(u, \chi)|^2 e^{-\frac{2u}{N}} du \\
&= \frac{h^2}{N^2} \int_0^\infty |\psi(u, \chi)|^2 e^{-\frac{2u}{N}} du.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence we have proved

$$(2.21) \quad I_2(N, h) \ll \frac{h^2}{N^2} \int_0^\infty |\psi(x, \chi)|^2 e^{-\frac{2x}{N}} dx + \int_0^\infty |\psi(x+h, \chi) - \psi(x, \chi)|^2 e^{-\frac{2x}{N}} dx.$$

Finally, since

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_0^\infty f(x) e^{-\frac{2x}{N}} dx &= \int_0^N f(x) e^{-\frac{2x}{N}} dx + \sum_{j=1}^\infty \int_{jN}^{(j+1)N} f(x) e^{-\frac{2x}{N}} dx \\
&\leq \int_0^N f(x) e^{-\frac{2x}{N}} dx + \sum_{j=1}^\infty e^{-2j} \int_{jN}^{(j+1)N} f(x) dx \\
&\leq \sum_{j=1}^\infty \frac{1}{2^{j-1}} \int_0^N f(x) dx
\end{aligned}$$

for any function  $0 \leq f(x) \ll |x|^k$  (for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ) on  $[0, \infty)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
I_2(N, h) &\ll \sum_{j=1}^\infty \frac{1}{2^j} \left( \frac{h^2}{N^2} \int_0^{jN} |\psi(x, \chi)|^2 dx + \int_0^{jN} |\psi(x+h, \chi) - \psi(x, \chi)|^2 dx \right) \\
(2.22) \quad &\ll \sum_{j=1}^\infty \frac{1}{2^j} \left( \frac{h^2}{N^2} J_1(jN) + J_2(jN, h) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

In what follows we will by (2.12) always choose  $h = \frac{N}{2^{k+2}}$  for  $0 \leq k < \log_2 N$  so that  $\frac{1}{4} \leq h \leq \frac{N}{4}$ . By (2.13), (2.20), (2.22), and Lemma 2.4, we have on using  $2 \leq q \leq N$  that

$$\begin{aligned}
&\int_0^{\frac{1}{2h}} |\Psi(z, \chi)|^2 d\alpha \\
&\ll \frac{1}{h^2} \int_0^h \left| \sum_{n \leq x} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} \right|^2 dx + \frac{1}{h^2} \int_0^\infty \left| \sum_{x < n \leq x+h} \chi(n) \Lambda(n) e^{-\frac{n}{N}} \right|^2 dx
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{h^2} (I_1(N, h) + I_2(N, h)) \\
&\ll \frac{1}{h^2} \left( J_1(h) + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^j} \left( \frac{h^2}{N^2} J_1(jN) + J_2(jN, h) \right) \right) \\
&\ll \frac{1}{h^2} (h^2 \log^2 q) + \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^j} (jN)^2 \log^2 q + \frac{1}{h^2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^j} jN h \log^2 \left( \frac{3qjN}{h} \right) \\
&\ll \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{j^2}{2^j} \right) \log^2 q + \frac{N}{h} \log^2 \left( \frac{3qN}{h} \right) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{j}{2^j} + \frac{N}{h} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{j \log^2 j}{2^j} \\
&\ll \frac{N}{h} \log^2 N.
\end{aligned}$$

We thus obtain by (2.12) that

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{I}_2 &\ll N \sum_{0 \leq k < \log_2 N} \frac{1}{2^k} \left( \max_{\chi \neq \chi_0} \int_0^{\frac{2^{k+1}}{N}} |\Psi(z, \chi)|^2 d\alpha \right) \\
&\ll N \sum_{0 \leq k < \log_2 N} \frac{1}{2^k} \left( \frac{N}{N/2^{k+2}} \log^2 N \right) \\
&= N \log^2 N \sum_{0 \leq k < \log_2 N} \frac{2^{k+2}}{2^k} \\
&= 4N \log^2 N \sum_{0 \leq k < \log_2 N} 1 \\
(2.23) \quad &\ll N \log^3 N.
\end{aligned}$$

From (2.11) and (2.23), we conclude, for  $2 \leq q \leq N$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
G_q(N) &= \frac{G(N)}{\phi(q)} + \mathcal{O}(N \log^3 N) + \mathcal{O} \left( \frac{N}{\phi(q)} \log^3 N \right) + \mathcal{O}(\log^5 N) \\
&= \frac{G(N)}{\phi(q)} + \mathcal{O}(N \log^3 N).
\end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 1.3. □

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