

## ON THE INTERVALS BETWEEN CONSECUTIVE NUMBERS THAT ARE SUMS OF TWO PRIMES

By

Hiroshi MIKAWA

### 1. Introduction.

It is the well known conjecture of H. Cramér that

$$p_{n+1} - p_n \ll (\log p_n)^2$$

where  $p_n$  is the  $n$ -th prime. In 1940 P. Erdős proposed the problem to estimate the sum

$$\sum_{p_n \leq x} (p_{n+1} - p_n)^2,$$

and A. Selberg showed that it is

$$\ll x(\log x)^3$$

under the Riemann hypothesis. This problem has been stimulating the several authors, vide [2, 3, 10, 11, 13].

Let  $(g_n)$  denote in ascending order even integers that are representable as the sum of two primes. The Goldbach conjecture is then interpreted as that

$$g_{n+1} - g_n = 2$$

for all  $n$ . In 1952 Ju. V. Linnik [7] proved, on assuming the Riemann hypothesis, that

$$g_{n+1} - g_n \ll (\log g_n)^{3+\varepsilon}$$

for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  and all  $n$ . Also see [1]. In this paper we shall estimate the third moment of it.

THEOREM.

$$\sum_{g_n \leq x} (g_{n+1} - g_n)^3 \ll x(\log x)^{300}.$$

COROLLARY. For  $0 \leq \gamma < 3$ , we have

$$\sum_{g_n \leq x} (g_{n+1} - g_n)^\gamma = (2^{\gamma-1} + o(1))x.$$

Our assertion should be compared with the known results in Goldbach's problem. Let  $E(x)$  be the number of even integers not exceeding  $x$  that may not be expressed as a sum of two primes, and  $D(x)$  be the maximum of  $(g_{n+1}-g_n)$  for  $g_n \leq x$ . It was proved by H. L. Montgomery and R. C. Vaughan [9] that

$$E(x) \ll x^{1-\delta}$$

with some  $\delta > 0$ . As for  $D(x)$ , the argument in [9] runs as follows. Suppose that one knows the equi-distribution of primes in intervals  $[x, x+x^\theta]$  for almost all  $x$ , and in  $[x, x+x^\theta]$  for all  $x$ . Then,

$$(1.1) \quad D(x) \ll x^{\theta\theta}.$$

By an elementary consideration, see section 3, we find

$$\sum_{g_n \leq x} (g_{n+1}-g_n)^2 = 2x + O(D(x)E(x)).$$

It seems that no unconditional result leads  $\theta\theta \leq \delta$ .

Our argument is based upon Linnik's method [6, 7] and D. Wolke's trick [13]. The limitation of our estimate comes from A. E. Ingham's bound [4] for zeros of the Riemann zeta-function.

I would like to thank Professor Uchiyama and Dr. Kawada for encouragement and valuable comment.

## 2. Notation and Lemmas.

We use the standard notation in number theory.  $\rho$  stands for the non-trivial zeros of the Riemann zeta-function. For  $1/2 \leq \sigma \leq 1$  and  $T > 0$ ,  $N(\sigma, T)$  denotes the number of  $\rho$  such that  $\sigma \leq \text{Re}(\rho)$  and  $|\text{Im}(\rho)| \leq T$ .

LEMMA 1. *Uniformly for  $x, T \geq 3$ , we have*

$$\sum_{|\text{Im}(\rho)| \leq T} x^\rho = -\frac{T}{\pi} A'(x) + O(x(\log xT)^2)$$

where  $A'(x)$  is equal to the von Mangoldt function if  $x$  is an integer, and  $A'(x) = 0$  otherwise.

This is a formula of E. Landau [5]. Though his estimate is not uniform for  $x$ , it is easy to alter the proof of [5] to be suitable for our aim. The following Lemma 2 is due to Ingham [4] and Montgomery [8, Theorem 1]. Lemma 3 follows from [8, Theorem 2].

LEMMA 2. For  $T > 2$ , we have

$$N(\sigma, T) \ll T^{\lambda(\sigma)(1-\sigma)} (\log T)^{13}$$

where

$$\lambda(\sigma) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{2-\sigma} & \text{if } 1/2 \leq \sigma \leq 4/5 \\ \frac{2}{\sigma} & \text{if } 4/5 \leq \sigma \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

LEMMA 3. If  $9/10 \leq \sigma \leq 1$ , then

$$N(\sigma, T) \ll T^{(2-c)(1-\sigma)} (\log T)^{13}$$

where  $c$  is a positive absolute constant.

In sections 3 and 4 we use the convention  $L = \log X$ . For a real  $x$ , write  $e(x) = e^{2\pi i x}$ .  $*$  and  $\wedge$  mean that  $f * g(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x-y)g(y)dy$  and  $\hat{f}(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(y) \cdot e(-xy)dy$ , respectively. The implied constants in  $O$  and  $\ll$  are absolute, except for the proof of Corollary.

### 3. Reduction of the problem

In this section we first reduce the proof of Theorem to that of Lemma 4 below. Lemma 4 will be verified in section 5. Next we derive Corollary from Theorem. Put  $d_n = g_{n+1} - g_n$ , for simplicity.

PROOF OF THEOREM. It is sufficient to prove

$$F(x) = \sum_{x' < g_n \leq x} d_n^3 \ll x(\log x)^{300}$$

for all large  $x$  and  $x' = (5/7)x$ . We have

$$F(x) \ll \sum_{\substack{x' < g_n \leq x \\ d_n \leq (\log x)^{150}}} d_n^3 + (\log x) \sup_{\delta > (\log x)^{150}} \sum_{\substack{x' < g_n \leq x \\ \delta < d_n \leq 2\delta}} d_n^3.$$

Because of (1.1),  $\delta \leq D(x) < x^{1/6}$ . Put

$$\Gamma(x, \delta) = \{g_n : x' < g_n \leq x, \delta < d_n \leq 2\delta, g_{n+1} \leq x\}.$$

Then,

$$(3.1) \quad F(x) \ll (\log x)^{300} \sum_{g_n \leq x} d_n + (\log x) \sup_{(\log x)^{150} < \delta < x^{1/6}} \left( \sum_{g_n \in \Gamma(x, \delta)} d_n^3 + \delta^2 D(x) \right) \\ \ll x(\log x)^{300} + (\log x) \sup_{(\log x)^{150} < \delta < x^{1/6}} \delta^2 \sum_{g_n \in \Gamma(x, \delta)} d_n.$$

Here we state our main lemma.

LEMMA 4. *Let  $X$  be a large parameter,*

$$(5/2)X \leq x \leq (7/2)X \quad \text{and} \quad (1/2)(\log X)^{150} < \Delta < X^{1/6}.$$

*There exists a function  $R(x, \Delta)$  such that*

$$(3.2) \quad \int_{(5/2)X}^{(7/2)X} |R(x, \Delta)|^2 dx \ll X^3 (\log X)^{299}$$

*and*

$$(3.3) \quad \sum_{\substack{X < m, n \leq 2X \\ x - \Delta < m + n \leq x}} A(m)A(n) = \Delta(X - |x - 3X|) + O(\Delta X (\log X)^{-4}) + R(x, \Delta),$$

*uniformly for  $X, x$  and  $\Delta$ .*

Now, if  $t \in [(g_n + g_{n+1})/2, g_{n+1})$  for  $g_n \in \Gamma(x, \delta)$  then

$$t - \frac{\delta}{2} > \frac{g_n + g_{n+1}}{2} - \frac{d_n}{2} = g_n.$$

Namely the interval  $(t - \delta/2, t]$  contains no sum of two primes. By (3.3) in Lemma 4 with  $(7/2)X = x$  and  $2\Delta = \delta$ , we therefore have

$$R(t, \delta/2) = -\frac{\delta}{2} \left( \frac{2}{7}x - \left| t - \frac{6}{7}x \right| \right) + O(\delta x (\log x)^{-4})$$

for all  $t \in [(g_n + g_{n+1})/2, g_{n+1})$  with  $g_n \in \Gamma(x, \delta)$ . Since these intervals are mutually disjoint, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{g_n \in \Gamma(x, \delta)} \left( g_{n+1} - \frac{g_n + g_{n+1}}{2} \right) (\delta x)^2 &\ll \sum_{g_n \in \Gamma(x, \delta)} \int_{(g_n + g_{n+1})/2}^{g_{n+1}} |R(t, \delta/2)|^2 dt \\ &\leq \int_{x'}^x |R(t, \delta/2)|^2 dt. \end{aligned}$$

Hence (3.2) in Lemma 4 yields that

$$\delta^2 \sum_{g_n \in \Gamma(x, \delta)} d_n \ll x (\log x)^{299}$$

uniformly for  $\delta, (\log x)^{150} < \delta < x^{1/6}$ . Combining this with (3.1) we obtain

$$F(x) \ll x (\log x)^{300},$$

as required.

PROOF OF COROLLARY. With the notation in section 1, we easily see that

$$\sum_{g_n \leq x} d_n = x + O(D(x)),$$

and

$$\sum_{g_n \leq x} 1 = \frac{1}{2}x + O(1) - E(x).$$

By subtraction, we have

$$(3.4) \quad \sum_{\substack{g_n \leq x \\ d_n > \frac{x}{2}}} d_n \ll D(x) + E(x) \ll E(x),$$

or

$$(3.5) \quad \sum_{\substack{g_n \leq x \\ d_n \leq \frac{x}{2}}} 1 = \frac{1}{2} x + O(E(x)).$$

Now, if  $0 \leq \gamma \leq 1$  then

$$\sum_{g_n \leq x} d_n^\gamma = 2^\gamma \sum_{\substack{g_n \leq x \\ d_n = 2}} 1 + O\left(\sum_{\substack{g_n \leq x \\ d_n > \frac{x}{2}}} d_n\right) = 2^{\gamma-1} x + O(E(x))$$

by (3.4) and (3.5). It is known [12; Kap. VI. Satz 7.1] that

$$(3.6) \quad E(x) \ll x(\log x)^{-A}$$

for any  $A > 0$ . Hence we get Corollary in case  $0 \leq \gamma \leq 1$ .

Suppose  $1 < \gamma < 3$ . Let  $D$  be a positive constant, which will be specified later. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{g_n \leq x} d_n^\gamma &= \sum_{d_n = 2} + \sum_{2 < d_n \leq (\log x)^D} + \sum_{d_n > (\log x)^D} \\ &= 2^{\gamma-1} x + O(E(x)) + O\left((\log x)^{(\gamma-1)D} \sum_{\substack{g_n \leq x \\ d_n > \frac{x}{2}}} d_n\right) + O\left((\log x)^{-(3-\gamma)D} \sum_{g_n \leq x} d_n^3\right) \\ &= 2^{\gamma-1} x + O(E(x)(\log x)^{(\gamma-1)D} + x(\log x)^{300-(3-\gamma)D}) \end{aligned}$$

because of (3.4), (3.5) and Theorem. On taking  $D = 301/(3-\gamma)$  we get, by (3.6), that

$$\sum_{g_n \leq x} d_n^\gamma = 2^{\gamma-1} x + O(x(\log x)^{-1}),$$

as required.

**4. Proof of Lemma 4, preliminaries.**

We begin with modifying the explicit formula :

$$(4.1) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} \Lambda(n) = x - \sum_{1 \leq \text{Im}(\rho) \leq T} \frac{x^\rho}{\rho} + O\left(\left(1 + \frac{x}{T}\right)(\log x T)^2\right)$$

uniformly for  $x, T \geq 3$ . For  $T \geq 3$ , define

$$(4.2) \quad q_n = q_n(T) = \int_{n-1/2}^{n+1/2} \sum_{1 \leq \text{Im}(\rho) \leq T} y^{\rho-1} dy$$

if  $n \leq 5$ , and  $q_n = 0$  otherwise. Moreover we determine  $r_n = r_n(T)$  by the relation

$$(4.3) \quad \Lambda(n) = 1 - q_n - r_n.$$

Lemma 1 then gives

$$(4.4) \quad q_n, r_n \ll (\log nT)^2.$$

For large  $x$ , it follows from the prime number theorem, (4.1) and (4.2) that

$$(4.5) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} q_n &= \sum_{|\text{Im}(\rho)| \leq T} \left( \frac{([\!x\!] + 1/2)^\rho}{\rho} + O\left(\frac{1}{|\rho|}\right) \right) \\ &\ll x \exp(-(\log x)^{1/2}) + \left(1 + \frac{x}{T}\right) (\log xT)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$(4.6) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} r_n \ll \left(1 + \frac{x}{T}\right) (\log xT)^2$$

by (4.1), (4.2) and (4.3).

Now, on choosing

$$T = \frac{X}{\Delta} L^8,$$

we consider the sum in question:

$$G = \sum_{\substack{X < m, n \leq 2X \\ x - \Delta < m + n \leq x}} A(m)A(n).$$

By (4.3),

$$A(m)A(n) = 1 + q_m q_n - (q_m + q_n) - r_m A(n) - A(m) r_n - r_m r_n.$$

Accordingly,

$$(4.7) \quad G = G_1 + G_2 - 2G_3 - 2G_4 - G_5, \quad \text{say.}$$

$$(4.8) \quad \begin{aligned} G_1 &= \sum_{\substack{X < m, n \leq 2X \\ x - \Delta < m + n \leq x}} 1 \\ &= \sum_{\substack{X < m \leq 2X \\ x - 2X < m < x - \Delta - X}} \#\{n : x - m - \Delta < n \leq x - m\} + O(\Delta^2) \\ &= \Delta \sum_{\substack{X < m \leq 2X \\ x - 2X < m \leq x - X}} 1 + O(X) \\ &= \Delta(X - |x - 3X|) + O(X). \end{aligned}$$

On writing

$$(4.9) \quad Z(y) = Z(y, T) = \sum_{|\text{Im}(\rho)| \leq T} y^{\rho-1},$$

we have

$$G_2 = \sum_{\substack{X < m, n \leq 2X \\ x - \Delta < m + n \leq x}} \int_{m-1/2}^{m+1/2} \int_{n-1/2}^{n+1/2} Z(u)Z(v) dudv \\ = \iint_D Z(u)Z(v) dudv, \quad \text{say.}$$

We replace the domain  $D$  by

$$(4.10) \quad D = D(X, x, \Delta) = \{(u, v) \in [X, 2X]^2 : x - \Delta \leq u + v \leq x\}.$$

The resulting error is

$$(4.11) \quad \ll \iint_{(D \cup D) \setminus (D \cap D)} |Z(u)Z(v)| dudv \ll XL^4,$$

because of Lemma 1.

$$(4.12) \quad G_3 = \sum_{\substack{X < m, n \leq 2X \\ x - \Delta < m + n \leq x}} q_m \\ = \sum_{\substack{X < m \leq 2X \\ x - 2X < m \leq x - \Delta - X}} q_m (\Delta + O(1)) + O(\Delta^2 L^2) \\ \ll \Delta \sup_{M \leq 2X} \left| \sum_{m \leq M} q_m \right| + XL^2 \\ \ll \Delta XL^{-4},$$

by (4.4) and (4.5). Also, (4.4) and (4.6) give that

$$(4.13) \quad G_4 = \sum_{\substack{X < m, n \leq 2X \\ x - \Delta < m + n \leq x}} A(m)r_n \\ \ll \sum_{m \leq 2X} A(m) \sup_{\substack{N \leq 2X \\ n \leq N}} \left| \sum r_n \right| \\ \ll XL^2 \left(1 + \frac{X}{T}\right) L^2 \\ \ll \Delta XL^{-4}.$$

Similarly,

$$(4.14) \quad G_5 \ll \Delta XL^{-4}.$$

On summing up the above estimates (4.7)-(4.14) we obtain

$$(4.15) \quad G = \Delta(X - |x - 3X|) + O(\Delta XL^{-4}) + \iint_D Z(u)Z(v) dudv$$

where  $Z$  and  $D$  are defined by (4.9) and (4.10), respectively.

**5. Proof of Lemma 4.**

Put

$$N^+(\sigma, T) = T^{\lambda(\sigma)(1-\sigma)} L^{13}$$

where  $\lambda$  is defined in Lemma 2. Since

$$T^{\lambda(1/2)} = T^{\lambda(1)} = \left(\frac{X}{\Delta} L^8\right)^2 < X^2 L^{-280} < \left(\frac{X}{\Delta} L^8\right)^{12/5} = T^{\lambda(3/4)} < T^{\lambda(4/5)},$$

there exist  $r$  and  $t$  such that  $1/2 < r < 3/4$ ,  $4/5 < t < 1$  and

$$T^{\lambda(r)} = T^{\lambda(t)} = X^2 L^{-280}.$$

Define  $s = \min(t, 9/10)$ , and  $I = [r, s)$ . We then see

$$(5.1) \quad T^{\lambda(\sigma)} \leq X^2 L^{-280} \quad \text{for all } \sigma \in [1/2, 9/10) \setminus I,$$

and

$$(5.2) \quad T^{\lambda(\sigma)} \geq X^2 L^{-280} \quad \text{for all } \sigma \in I.$$

Now, we divide the sum  $Z(y)$ , which is defined by (4.9).

$$(5.3) \quad Z(y) = \sum_{\text{Re}(\rho) \notin I} + \sum_{\text{Re}(\rho) \in I} = z_1(y) + z(y), \quad \text{say.}$$

We first consider  $z_1$ . By a familiar way,

$$\begin{aligned} J &= \int_X^{2X} |z_1(y)|^2 dy \ll L^2 \sum_{\substack{\text{Im}(\rho) \leq T \\ \text{Re}(\rho) \notin I}} X^{2\text{Re}(\rho)-1} \\ &\ll L^2 \sum_{\substack{\text{Im}(\rho) \leq T \\ \text{Re}(\rho) < 1/2}} 1 + L^3 \sup_{1/2 \leq \sigma \notin I} X^{2\sigma-1} N(\sigma, T). \end{aligned}$$

Here, because of the zero-free region [12; Kap. VIII. Satz 6.2], the above supremum may be taken over  $\sigma \leq 1 - \eta(T)$  only, where  $\eta(T) = (\log T)^{-4/5}$ . Lemmas 2 and 3 yield that

$$\begin{aligned} (5.4) \quad J &\ll L^3 T + L^{16} X \left\{ \sup_{\substack{1/2 \leq \sigma < 9/10 \\ \sigma \notin I}} \left(\frac{T^{\lambda(\sigma)}}{X^2}\right)^{1-\sigma} + \sup_{9/10 \leq \sigma \leq 1-\eta(T)} \left(\frac{T^2}{X^2}\right)^{1-\sigma} T^{-c(1-\sigma)} \right\} \\ &\ll L^{11} X \Delta^{-1} + L^{16} X \{(X^{-280})^{1/10} + T^{-c\eta(T)}\} \\ &\ll XL^{-12}, \end{aligned}$$

by (5.1).

We turn to the double integral in (4.15). Since

$$Z(u)Z(v) = z(u)z(v) + z_1(u)Z(v) + Z(u)z_1(v) - z_1(u)z_1(v),$$



$$\begin{aligned} & \iint_D (Z(u)Z(v) - z(u)z(v))dudv \\ & \ll \iint_{\substack{X \leq u, v \leq 2X \\ x - \Delta \leq u+v \leq x}} |z_1(u)|(|Z(v)| + |z_1(v)|)dudv \\ & \ll L^2 \Delta \int_X^{2X} |z_1(y)|dy + \Delta \int_X^{2X} |z_1(y)|^2 dy \\ & \ll L^2 \Delta (X^2 L^{-12})^{1/2} + \Delta X L^{-12} \\ & \ll \Delta X L^{-4}, \end{aligned}$$

by Lemma 1 and (5.4). Combining this with (4.15) we reach (3.3);

$$G = \Delta(X - |x - 3X|) + O(\Delta X L^{-4}) + R(x, \Delta)$$

where

$$(5.5) \quad R(x, \Delta) = \iint_D z(u)z(v)dudv.$$

It remains to prove (3.2). First we define  $z(y) = 0$  if  $y \notin [X, 2X]$ . Next we split up  $z(y)$ . Let  $z_\sigma(y)$  be the partial sum of  $z(y)$  restricted by  $\sigma \leq \text{Re}(\rho) < \sigma(1 + 1/L)$ . Then,

$$z(y) = \sum_{\substack{\alpha = r \\ n \neq 0}}^{\sigma(1+1/L)} z_\alpha(y).$$

Furthermore let  $\chi(x)$  denote the characteristic function of  $[0, \Delta]$ . Thus we may rewrite (5.5) as

$$\begin{aligned} R(x, \Delta) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \chi(x - u - v) z(u)z(v)dudv \\ &= \chi * z * z(x). \end{aligned}$$

Now, by Plancherel's relation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (5.6) \quad I &= \int_{(5/2)X}^{(7/2)X} |R(x, \Delta)|^2 dx \leq \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\chi * z * z(x)|^2 dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\widehat{\chi * z * z}(x)|^2 dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\hat{\chi}(x)|^2 |\hat{z}(x)|^4 dx. \end{aligned}$$

Here we see

$$|\hat{\chi}(x)|^2 = \left( \frac{\sin \pi \Delta x}{\pi x} \right)^2,$$

and, on using Hölder's inequality,

$$|\hat{z}(x)|^4 \ll L^3 \sum_{\alpha} |\hat{z}_{\alpha}(x)|^4.$$

Therefore (5.6) becomes

$$(5.7) \quad I \ll L^4 \Delta^2 \sup_{\sigma \in I} \left( \sup_x |\hat{z}_{\sigma}(x)|^2 \right) \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |z_{\sigma}(x)|^2 dx,$$

by Plancherel's relation again.

We proceed to estimate the square integral of  $z_{\sigma}$ .

$$(5.8) \quad \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |z_{\sigma}(y)|^2 dy = \int_x^{2X} \left| \sum_{\substack{|\operatorname{Im}(\rho)| \leq T \\ \sigma \leq \operatorname{Re}(\rho) < \sigma(1+1/L)}} y^{\rho-1} \right|^2 dy \\ \ll L^2 X^{2\sigma-1} N(\sigma, T).$$

We turn to  $\hat{z}_{\sigma}$ . The simplest saddle point method [12; Kap IX, Lemma 4.2] leads that

$$\hat{z}_{\sigma}(x) = \sum_{\substack{|\operatorname{Im}(\rho)| \leq T \\ \sigma \leq \operatorname{Re}(\rho) < \sigma(1+1/L)}} \int_x^{2X} y^{\operatorname{Re}(\rho)-1} \exp(i(\operatorname{Im}(\rho) \log y - 2\pi x y)) dy \\ \ll L X^{\sigma} + \sum_{\substack{3 \leq |\operatorname{Im}(\rho)| \leq T \\ \sigma \leq \operatorname{Re}(\rho) < \sigma(1+1/L)}} X^{\operatorname{Re}(\rho)} |\operatorname{Im}(\rho)|^{-1/2} \\ \ll L X^{\sigma} \left( 1 + \sup_{3 \leq t \leq T} t^{-1/2} N(\sigma, t) \right).$$

We now appeal to Lemma 2. Since  $\lambda(\sigma)(1-\sigma) \geq 1/2$  if  $1/2 \leq \sigma \leq 4/5$  and  $\leq 1/2$  if  $4/5 \leq \sigma \leq 1$ , we have that

$$(5.9) \quad \hat{z}_{\sigma}(x) \ll \begin{cases} L X^{\sigma} T^{-1/2} N^{+}(\sigma, T) & \text{if } 1/2 \leq \sigma \leq 4/5 \\ L^{14} X^{\sigma} & \text{if } 4/5 \leq \sigma \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

uniformly for  $x$ .

In conjunction with (5.7), (5.8) and (5.9) we obtain

$$I \ll L^4 \Delta^2 \left( \sup_{\substack{\sigma \in I \\ \sigma \leq 4/5}} L^4 X^{4\sigma-1} T^{-1} N^{+}(\sigma, T)^3 + \sup_{\substack{\sigma \in I \\ \sigma \geq 4/5}} L^{30} X^{4\sigma-1} N^{+}(\sigma, T) \right).$$

Notice that

$$\lambda(\sigma)(1-\sigma) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{1}{3} \lambda(\sigma)(2\sigma-1) & \text{if } 1/2 \leq \sigma \leq 4/5 \\ 2 - \lambda(\sigma)(2\sigma-1) & \text{if } 4/5 \leq \sigma \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Hence, by (5.2), we conclude

$$I \ll L^{47} \Delta^2 \sup_{\sigma \in I} X^{4\sigma-1} T^{2-\lambda(\sigma)(2\sigma-1)} \\ \ll L^{63} X^3 \sup_{\sigma \in I} \left( \frac{X^2}{T^{\lambda(\sigma)}} \right)^{2\sigma-1} \\ \ll X^3 L^{287},$$

as required.

This completes our proof.

### References

- [1] Goldston, D. A., Linnik's theorem on Goldbach numbers in short intervals., *Glasgow Math. J.* **32** (1990), 285-297.
- [2] Heath-Brown, D. R., The differences between consecutive primes. IV., in *A tribute to Paul Erdős.*, Cambridge 1990, 277-287.
- [3] Hooley, C., On the intervals between consecutive terms of sequences., *Proc. Symposia Pure Math.* **24** (1973), 129-140.
- [4] Ingham, A. E., On the estimation of  $N(\sigma, T)$ ., *Quart. J. Math. Oxford* **11** (1940), 291-292.
- [5] Landau, E., Über die Nullstellen der Zetafunktion., *Math. Ann.* **71** (1911), 548-564.
- [6] Linnik, Ju. V., On the possibility of a unique method in certain problems of "additive" and "distributive" prime number theory., *Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR* **48** (1945), 3-7.
- [7] Linnik, Ju. V., Some conditional theorems concerning binary Goldbach problem., *Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR* **16** (1952), 503-520.
- [8] Montgomery, H. L., Zeros of  $L$ -functions., *Invent. Math.* **8** (1969), 346-354.
- [9] Montgomery, H. L. and Vaughan, R. C., The exceptional set in Goldbach's problem., *Acta Arith.* **27** (1975), 353-370.
- [10] Montgomery, H. L. and Vaughan, R. C., On the distribution of reduced residues., *Ann. Math.* **123** (1986), 311-333.
- [11] Plaksin, V. A., The distribution of numbers representable as a sum of two squares., *Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR* **51** (1987), 860-877.
- [12] Prachar, K., *Primzahlverteilung.*, Springer 1957.
- [13] Wolke, D., Große Differenzen zwischen aufeinanderfolgenden Primzahlen., *Math. Ann.* **218** (1975), 269-271.

Institute of Mathematics  
University of Tsukuba