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# ON *r*-GAPS BETWEEN ZEROS OF THE RIEMANN ZETA-FUNCTION

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ABSTRACT. Under the Riemann Hypothesis, we prove for any natural number r there exist infinitely many natural numbers n such that  $(\gamma_{n+r} - \gamma_n)/(2\pi r/\log \gamma_n) > 1 + \Theta/\sqrt{r}$  and  $(\gamma_{n+r} - \gamma_n)/(2\pi r/\log \gamma_n) < 1 - \vartheta/\sqrt{r}$  for explicit absolute positive constants  $\Theta$  and  $\vartheta$ , where  $\gamma$  denotes an ordinate of a zero of the Riemann zeta-function on the critical line. Selberg published announcements of this result several times without proof.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $\zeta(s)$  denote the Riemann zeta-function, and let  $\rho = \beta + i\gamma$  denote a nontrivial zero of  $\zeta(s)$ . Consider the sequence of ordinates of zeros in the upper half-plane

$$0 < \gamma_1 \le \gamma_2 \le \ldots \le \gamma_n \le \gamma_{n+1} \le \ldots$$

It is well known that

$$N(T) := \sum_{0 < \gamma \le T} 1 \sim \frac{T}{2\pi} \log T$$

from which it follows that the average gap between consecutive zeros is  $2\pi/\log \gamma_n$ . Assuming the Riemann Hypothesis,  $\beta = 1/2$  and  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ . The result of this note is a proof of the following theorem.

**Theorem.** Assuming the Riemann Hypothesis, for any natural number r there exist infinitely many n such that

$$\frac{\gamma_{n+r} - \gamma_n}{2\pi r/\log \gamma_n} > 1 + \frac{\Theta}{\sqrt{r}} \qquad and \qquad \frac{\gamma_{n+r} - \gamma_n}{2\pi r/\log \gamma_n} < 1 - \frac{\vartheta}{\sqrt{r}}$$

for the absolute positive constants  $\Theta = 0.574271$  and  $\vartheta = 0.299856$ . Moreover, for r sufficiently large, we may take  $\Theta = \vartheta = 0.9065$ .

There are discrepancies in the literature regarding the correct statement of this result, which we hope to now clarify. In [11, p. 199], Selberg announced, without proof, that there exists an absolute positive constant  $\theta$  such that for all positive integers r

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\gamma_{n+r} - \gamma_n}{2\pi r / \log \gamma_n} > 1 + \theta \quad \text{and} \quad \liminf_{n \to \infty} \frac{\gamma_{n+r} - \gamma_n}{2\pi r / \log \gamma_n} < 1 - \theta.$$

This statement was later updated in the Acknowledgements section of [9], with the  $\theta$  appearing above replaced with  $\theta/\sqrt{r}$ . Finally, in the errata of Volume 1 of his collected papers [12, p. 355], Selberg clarified the correct statement of his result.

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**Selberg's Announced Result.** There exist an absolute positive constant  $\theta$  such that for all positive integers r

$$\limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\gamma_{n+r} - \gamma_n}{2\pi r/\log \gamma_n} > 1 + \theta r^{-\alpha} \qquad and \qquad \liminf_{n \to \infty} \frac{\gamma_{n+r} - \gamma_n}{2\pi r/\log \gamma_n} < 1 - \theta r^{-\alpha},$$

where  $\alpha$  may be taken as 2/3, and if one assumes the Riemann Hypothesis as 1/2.

Selberg did not give an indication of a proof for either statement, however Heath-Brown in [13, p. 246-249] provides an unconditional proof of Selberg's result in the case r = 1 using the work of Fujii [5] concerning the mean value of S(t) in short intervals. (Note that  $\pi S(t)$  is the argument of  $\zeta(s)$  at the point s = 1/2 + it.) We remark that Heath-Brown's proof for r = 1 shows that the result holds for a positive proportion of integers n.

The goal of this note is to give a proof of Selberg's conditional result for all  $r \ge 1$  with explicit constants. To prove our theorem, we adapt a method developed by Conrey, Ghosh, and Gonek [3] on gaps between consecutive nontrivial zeros of  $\zeta(s)$  in the interval [0, T] for T large. The method is conditional on the Riemann Hypothesis. To our knowledge, our proof is the first to appear in the literature for r > 1.

For a fixed, positive integer r, let

(1) 
$$\lambda_r := \limsup_{n \to \infty} \frac{\gamma_{n+r} - \gamma_n}{2\pi/\log \gamma_n}$$
 and  $\mu_r := \liminf_{n \to \infty} \frac{\gamma_{n+r} - \gamma_n}{2\pi/\log \gamma_n}$ 

By definition  $\lambda_r \geq r$  and similarly  $\mu_r \leq r$ , however random matrix theory predicts that  $\lambda_r = \infty$  and  $\mu_r = 0$ . Following [3], we compare averages of a well-chosen polynomial of the form

(2) 
$$A(t) := \sum_{n \le X} \frac{a^{\pm}(n)}{n^{it}},$$

where  $X = T^{1-\delta}$  for some small  $\delta > 0$ . To adapt for r-gaps, we set

$$M_1 := \int_T^{2T} |A(t)|^2 dt$$

and

$$M_2(c_r) := \int_{-\pi c_r/\log T}^{\pi c_r/\log T} \sum_{T \le \gamma \le 2T} \left| A(\gamma + \alpha) \right|^2 \, d\alpha,$$

where  $c_r$  is some nonzero real number. We see that  $M_2(c_r)$  is monotonically increasing and

$$M_2(\mu_r) \le rM_1 \le M_2(\lambda_r).$$

Therefore, if  $M_2(c_r) < rM_1$  for some choice of  $a^+(n)$  and  $c_r$  then  $\lambda_r > c_r$ . Similarly, if  $M_2(c_r) > rM_1$  for some choice of  $a^-(n)$  and  $c_r$  then  $\mu_r < c_r$ .

Connecting their work to a previous result of Montgomery and Odlyzko [8], Conrey, Ghosh, and Gonek show

$$\frac{M_2(c_r)}{M_1} = h^{\pm}(c_r) + o(1),$$

where  $h(c_r)$  is defined by

(3) 
$$h^{\pm}(c_r) := c_r \mp \frac{\Re\left(\sum_{kn \le X} \frac{a^{\pm}(n)\overline{a^{\pm}(kn)}g_{c_r}(k)\Lambda(k)}{kn}\right)}{\sum_{n \le X} \frac{|a^{\pm}(n)|^2}{n}}$$

and

$$g_{c_r}(k) = \frac{2\sin\left(\pi c_r \frac{\log k}{\log T}\right)}{\pi \log k}$$

so that  $|g_{c_r}(k)| \leq 2c_r/\log T$ . The function  $h^{\pm}(c_r)$  was introduced by Montgomery and Odlyzko to study gaps between consecutive zeros of  $\zeta(s)$ . In particular, they show that if one is able to find  $c_r$  such that  $h^+(c_r) < r$  then  $\lambda_r > c_r$  and such that if  $h^-(c_r) > r$  then  $\mu_r < c_r$ .

Letting r = 1 in (1), it follows from our theorem that  $\lambda_1 > 1$  and  $\mu_1 < 1$ . Quantitative bounds on  $\lambda_1$  and  $\mu_1$  have been obtained using the above approach, with different choices of a(n) leading to improved results. See [2] and subsequently [6] for discussions of these choices. The best current quantitative bounds concerning gaps between consecutive zeros of the Riemann zeta function (under the assumption of the Riemann Hypothesis) are  $\lambda_1 > 3.18$ , due to Bui and Milinovich [1], and  $\mu_1 < 0.515396$ , due to Preobrazhenskii [10]. We note that the method employed in [1], which is based on the work of Hall [7] and different from the method discussed above, is unconditional if one restricts the analysis to critical zeros.

## 2. Proof of the theorem for fixed $r \ge 1$

For large gaps for any fixed  $r \ge 1$ , we choose  $a^+(n) = d_\ell(n)$ , where  $d_\ell$  is multiplicative and defined on prime powers by

$$d_{\ell}(p^m) = \frac{\Gamma(m+\ell)}{\Gamma(\ell)m!}.$$

Fix  $\ell \geq 1$ . (In the proof, we will ultimately set  $\ell$  to be an explicit value depending on r.) Similarly, for small gaps for any fixed  $r \geq 1$ , we choose  $a^{-}(n) = \lambda(n)d_{\ell}(n)$ , where  $\lambda(n)$  denotes the Liouville function.

We now prove the result for large gaps for any fixed  $r \ge 1$ . Take  $a^+(n) = d_{\ell}(n)$  for  $\ell \ge 1$  an integer to be determined later. In this case the relevant mean-value to compute is well known:

$$\sum_{n \le x} \frac{d_{\ell}(n)^2}{n} = C_{\ell} (\log x)^{\ell^2} + O((\log T)^{\ell^2 - 1})$$

for fixed  $\ell \geq 1$ , uniformly for  $x \leq T$ , where  $C_{\ell}$  is a constant which will not have an effect in our application. It is shown in [3, p.422] that for this choice of  $a^+(n)$ , the equation  $M_2(c_r)/M_1 = h^+(c_r) + o(1)$  reduces to

(4) 
$$h^{+}(c_{r}) = c_{r} - 2\ell \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\sin(\pi c_{r} v(1-\delta))}{\pi v} (1-v)^{\ell^{2}} dv + O(1/\log T)$$

where  $\delta > 0$  is as in (2) and will be taken to be sufficiently small. To detect large gaps, we must show that  $h^+(c_r) < r$  for fixed  $r \ge 1$ . By the previous discussion,

this will imply  $\lambda_r > c_r$ . For example, using (4) we can compute the following table of values.

r	l	$c_r$	$h^+(c_r)$
1	2.2	2.337	0.99965
2	2.8	3.708	1.99937
3	3.3	4.994	2.99975
4	3.7	6.235	3.99950
5	4.0	7.448	4.99978

TABLE 1. For fixed r, the table gives values of  $\ell, c_r$  for which  $h^+(c_r) < r$ , implying  $\lambda_r > c_r$ .

In general, to prove large gaps of the desired shape, we show that  $h^+(c_r) < r$  for fixed  $r \ge 1$  and  $c_r = r + \Theta \sqrt{r}$  with  $\Theta > 0$ . We estimate the integral appearing in (4) as follows. Let

$$\int_0^1 \frac{\sin(\pi c_r (1-\delta)v)}{\pi v} (1-v)^{\ell^2} \, dv = I_1 + I_2,$$

where

$$I_1 := \int_0^{1/c_r} \frac{\sin(\pi c_r (1-\delta)v)}{\pi v} (1-v)^{\ell^2} dv \quad \text{and} \quad I_2 := \int_{1/c_r}^1 \frac{\sin(\pi c_r (1-\delta)v)}{\pi v} (1-v)^{\ell^2} dv$$

For  $I_1$ , we first observe that the integrand is positive in the range of integration and write

(5) 
$$I_1 \ge I_{1,a} + I_{1,b},$$

say, where

$$I_{1,a} := \int_0^{1/4c_r} \frac{\sin(\pi c_r (1-\delta)v)}{\pi v} (1-v)^{\ell^2} dv,$$
$$I_{1,b} := \int_{1/4c_r}^{1/2c_r} \frac{\sin(\pi c_r (1-\delta)v)}{\pi v} (1-v)^{\ell^2} dv,$$

and we have discarded the portion of the integral from  $1/(2c_r)$  to  $1/c_r$ . Now we estimate  $I_{1,a}$  and  $I_{1,b}$ . For  $I_{1,a}$ , we compare  $\sin(\pi c_r(1-\delta)v)$  to  $2\sqrt{2}c_r(1-\delta)v$  and find (6)

$$I_{1,a} \ge \int_0^{1/4c_r} \frac{2\sqrt{2}c_r(1-\delta)v}{\pi v} (1-v)^{\ell^2} \, dv = \frac{2\sqrt{2}c_r(1-\delta)}{\pi(\ell^2+1)} \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{1}{4c_r}\right)^{\ell^2+1}\right).$$

Similarly for  $I_{1,b}$ , we compare  $\sin(\pi c_r(1-\delta)v)$  to  $(4-2\sqrt{2})c_r(1-\delta)v$  and find

(7) 
$$I_{1,b} \ge \frac{(4 - 2\sqrt{2})c_r(1 - \delta)}{\pi(\ell^2 + 1)} \left( \left(1 - \frac{1}{2c_r}\right)^{\ell^2 + 1} - \left(1 - \frac{1}{4c_r}\right)^{\ell^2 + 1} \right).$$

Thus by (5), (6), and (7), we have

$$I_1 \ge \frac{2c_r(1-\delta)}{\pi(\ell^2+1)} \left(\sqrt{2} - (2\sqrt{2}-2)\left(1-\frac{1}{4c_r}\right)^{\ell^2+1} - (2-\sqrt{2})\left(1-\frac{1}{2c_r}\right)^{\ell^2+1}\right).$$

Furthermore, since  $\exp(-x) \ge 1 - x$  for  $x \ge 0$ , it follows that (8)

$$I_1 \ge \frac{2c_r(1-\delta)}{\pi(\ell^2+1)} \left\{ \sqrt{2} - (2\sqrt{2}-2) \exp\left(\frac{-(\ell^2+1)}{4c_r}\right) - (2-\sqrt{2}) \exp\left(\frac{-(\ell^2+1)}{2c_r}\right) \right\}.$$

We now estimate the second integral  $I_2$ . Since  $v \ge 0$ , we have

$$|I_2| \le \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{1/c_r}^1 \frac{(1-v)^{\ell^2}}{v} dv \le \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{1/c_r}^1 \frac{\exp(-\ell^2 v)}{v} dv.$$

Thus, by the change of variable  $u = \ell^2 v$ , we find

(9) 
$$I_2 \ge \frac{-1}{\pi} \int_{\ell^2/c_r}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(-u)}{u} du.$$

Combining the estimates in (8) and (9), we have

$$h^{+}(c_{r}) \leq c_{r} - 2\ell \left\{ \frac{2c_{r}(1-\delta)}{\pi(\ell^{2}+1)} \left( \sqrt{2} - (2\sqrt{2}-2) \exp\left(\frac{-(\ell^{2}+1)}{4c_{r}}\right) - (2-\sqrt{2}) \exp\left(\frac{-(\ell^{2}+1)}{2c_{r}}\right) \right) - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\ell^{2}/c_{r}}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(-u)}{u} du \right\} + O\left(1/\log T\right)$$

In this case,  $c_r = r + \Theta \sqrt{r}$  where  $\Theta > 0$ , and thus  $c_r > 1$  for any  $r \ge 1$ . Thus, letting  $\ell = \sqrt{bc_r - 1}$ , where b > 1 is a real number that will be chosen later, we have

$$\ell = \sqrt{bc_r - 1} \ge \sqrt{br}\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{b}}$$

for any  $r \ge 1$ . Furthermore, since we always have  $c_r > 1$ , for any  $r \ge 1$  it follows that

$$\frac{\ell^2}{c_r} > b - 1$$

and thus we may again increase the length of integration in  $I_2$  to write

$$\int_{\ell^2/c_r}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(-u)}{u} \, du < \int_{b-1}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(-u)}{u} \, du.$$

Combining these estimates, we find

$$h^{+}(c_{r}) < r + \Theta\sqrt{r} - 2\sqrt{br}\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{b}} \left\{ \frac{2(1-\delta)}{\pi b} \left(\sqrt{2} - (2\sqrt{2} - 2)\exp\left(\frac{-b}{4}\right) - (2-\sqrt{2})\exp\left(\frac{-b}{2}\right)\right) - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{b-1}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(-u)}{u} du \right\} + O\left(\frac{1}{\log T}\right).$$

To show  $h^+(c_r) < r$  and prove the theorem, we set

$$\Theta = \max_{b} \left\{ 2\sqrt{b}\sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{b}} \left(\frac{2}{\pi b} \left(\sqrt{2} - (2\sqrt{2} - 2)\exp\left(\frac{-b}{4}\right)\right) - (2 - \sqrt{2})\exp\left(\frac{-b}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{b-1}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(-u)}{u} du \right) \right\}.$$

The choice b = 5.0107 yields  $\Theta = 0.574271$ . With  $\delta$  sufficiently small and T sufficiently large, these choices guarantee that  $h^+(c_r) < r$ , as desired.

We now prove the result for small gaps for any fixed  $r \ge 1$ . The proof for small gaps is similar to the proof for large gaps, so we indicate the necessary changes.

Take  $a^{-}(n) = \lambda(n)d_{\ell}(n)$  for  $\ell \geq 1$  fixed. It is given in [3, p.422] that this choice of  $a^{-}(n)$ , yields

(10) 
$$h^{-}(c_r) = c_r + 2\ell \int_0^1 \frac{\sin(\pi c_r v(1-\delta))}{\pi v} (1-v)^{\ell^2} dv + O(1/\log T).$$

To detect small gaps, we must show that  $h^-(c_r) > r$  for fixed  $r \ge 1$ . By the previous discussion, this will imply  $\mu_r < c_r$ . For example, using (10) we can compute the following table of values.

r	$\ell$	$c_r$	$h^{-}(c_r)$
1	1.1	0.5172	1.00012
2	1.4	1.126	2.00118
3	1.9	1.831	3.00072
4	2.3	2.588	4.00099
5	2.7	3.375	5.00116

TABLE 2. For fixed r, the table gives values of  $\ell, c_r$  for which  $h^-(c_r) > r$ , implying  $\mu_r < c_r$ .

In general, to prove small gaps of the desired shape, we show that  $h^{-}(c_r) < r$  for fixed  $r \geq 1$  and  $c_r = r - \Theta \sqrt{r}$  with  $\Theta > 0$ . We estimate the integral appearing in (10) as before, however for brevity we will perform the calculation without writing  $I_1$  as the sum of two integrals of equal length.<sup>1</sup> We find

$$h^{-}(c_{r}) \ge c_{r} + 2\ell \left\{ \frac{2c_{r}(1-\delta)}{\pi(\ell^{2}+1)} \left( 1 - \exp\left(\frac{-(\ell^{2}+1)}{c_{r}}\right) - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\ell^{2}/c_{r}}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(-u)}{u} \, du \right\} + O\left(\frac{1}{\log T}\right).$$

Let  $\ell = \sqrt{bc_r - 1}$  and  $c_r = r - \vartheta \sqrt{r}$ , with  $\vartheta > 0$ . In this case, we do not always have  $c_r > 1$ . Indeed, since  $\vartheta > 0$ , if r = 1 then  $0 < c_r < 1$ . However, if we require that  $\vartheta \le 0.5$ , the estimate

$$\ell = \sqrt{bc_r - 1} > \sqrt{br}\sqrt{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{b}}$$

holds for any  $r \ge 1$ . The requirement that  $\vartheta \le 0.5$  also implies

$$\frac{\ell^2}{c_r} \ge b - 2$$

for any  $r \geq 1$ , and we may increase the length of integration in  $I_2$  to write

$$\int_{\ell^2/c_r}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(-u)}{u} \, du \le \int_{b-2}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(-u)}{u} \, du.$$

Thus, requiring that  $\vartheta \leq 0.5$ , we may put these estimates together to write

$$h^{-}(c_{r}) > r - \vartheta \sqrt{r} + 2\sqrt{br} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{b}} \left\{ \frac{2(1-\delta)}{\pi b} \left( 1 - \exp\left(-b\right) \right) - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{b-2}^{\infty} \frac{\exp(-u)}{u} \, du \right\} + O\left(\frac{1}{\log T}\right) + O\left(\frac$$

To show  $h^{-}(c_r) > r$  and thus prove the theorem, we set

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>To see how these choices affect the size of  $\vartheta$  here and in the large gaps setting, please refer to the remark following the proof.

$$\vartheta = \max_{b} \left\{ 2\sqrt{b} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{b}} \left( \frac{2}{\pi b} (1 - \exp\left(-b\right) \right) - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{b-2}^{\infty} \frac{\exp\left(-u\right)}{u} \, du \right) \right\}.$$

The choice b = 5.17305 yields  $\vartheta = 0.299856$ . (We note that the condition  $\vartheta < 0.5$  is satisfied.) With  $\delta$  sufficiently small and T sufficiently large, these choices guarantee that  $h^+(c_r) < r$ , as desired.

**Remark 1.** In the argument above for large gaps, if we had not divided the remaining portion of  $I_1$  into two smaller integrals and instead compared  $\sin(\pi c_r(1-\delta)v)$ to  $2c_r(1-\delta)v$  over the interval  $[0, 1/2c_r]$ , we would have ultimately found that one can take  $\Theta = 0.447$ . Instead, by carrying out the analysis on  $I_1 > I_{1,a} + I_{1,b}$  (see (5)) and estimating  $I_{1,a}$  and  $I_{1,b}$  separately, we were able to provide the stronger constant  $\Theta = 0.570717$ . One could thus slightly improve the absolute constant  $\Theta$ by breaking up  $I_1$  into smaller pieces over the interval  $[0, 1/2c_r]$ , and estimating each piece accordingly. For example, writing  $I_1 > I_{1,a'} + I_{1,b'} + I_{1,c'} + I_{1,d'}$  where each integral has equal length of integration over the interval  $[0, 1/2c_r]$ , one can obtain  $\Theta = 0.593234$ , and comparing  $I_1$  to the sum of sixteen such smaller integrals  $\Theta = 0.599648$ . Similarly, for small gaps, comparing  $I_1$  to the sum of two smaller integrals of equal length over the interval  $[0, 1/2c_r]$  yields  $\vartheta = 0.359222$ ; using sixteen smaller integrals of equal length of integration over the interval  $[0, 1/2c_r]$  yields  $\vartheta = 0.379674$ .

#### 3. Proof of the theorem for r sufficiently large

We can improve the constants  $\Theta$  and  $\vartheta$  appearing in the theorem if we take r to be large. In fact, we will see that in this setting, we may take  $\Theta = \vartheta = 0.9065$ .

We first consider large gaps for sufficiently large r. Starting with (4), to detect large gaps of the desired size, we must show that  $h^+(c_r) < r$  for sufficiently large rand  $c_r = r + \Theta \sqrt{r}$  with  $\Theta > 0$ . Choosing  $\ell = B\sqrt{r}$ , we have

$$h^{+}(c_{r}) < c_{r} - 2B\sqrt{r} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\sin(\pi r v(1-\delta))}{\pi v} (1-v)^{B^{2}r} \, dv + O(1/\log T)$$

for sufficiently large r. Making the change of variable rv = w, the above inequality becomes

$$h^{+}(c_{r}) < c_{r} - 2B\sqrt{r} \int_{0}^{r} \frac{\sin(\pi w(1-\delta))}{\pi w} \left(1 - \frac{w}{r}\right)^{B^{2}r} dw + O(1/\log T)$$
  
$$< c_{r} - 2B\sqrt{r} \int_{0}^{r} \frac{\sin(\pi w(1-\delta))}{\pi w} \exp\left(-B^{2}w\right) dw + O(1/\log T)$$
  
$$= c_{r} - 2B\sqrt{r} \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(\pi w(1-\delta))}{\pi w} \exp\left(-B^{2}w\right) dw - 2B\sqrt{r}E(r) + O(1/\log T)$$

where

$$E(r) = \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(\pi w(1-\delta))}{\pi w} \exp\left(-B^{2}w\right) dw$$

Note that as  $r \to \infty$ ,  $\sqrt{r}E(r) \to 0$ , so for sufficiently large r this term is negligible. Thus we set

$$\Theta = \max_{B} \left\{ 2B \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(\pi w)}{\pi w} \exp\left(-B^{2} w\right) dw \right\} = \max_{B} \left\{ \frac{2B}{\pi} \arctan\left(\frac{\pi}{B^{2}}\right) \right\}.$$

The choice B = 1.502243. yields  $\Theta = 0.9065$ . With  $\delta$  sufficiently small, T and r sufficiently large, these choices guarantee that  $h^+(c_r) < r$ .

We now consider small gaps for r sufficiently large. We begin with (10) and let  $\ell = B\sqrt{r - \sqrt{r}}$ . If we assume  $\vartheta < 1$ , then  $r - \vartheta\sqrt{r} > r - \sqrt{r}$  for all r, and we have

$$h^{-}(c_{r}) > c_{r} + 2B\sqrt{r - \sqrt{r}} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\sin(\pi(r - \sqrt{r})v(1 - \delta))}{\pi v} (1 - v)^{B^{2}(r - \sqrt{r})} dv + O(1/\log T)$$

Using the change of variable  $(r - \sqrt{r})v = w$ , we follow an analogous argument as in the previous subsection and ultimately set

$$\vartheta = \max_{B} \left\{ 2B \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(\pi w)}{\pi w} \exp\left(-B^{2} w\right) \, dw \right\} = \max_{B} \left\{ \frac{2B}{\pi} \arctan\left(\frac{\pi}{B^{2}}\right) \right\}.$$

As before, the choice B = 1.502243 yields  $\vartheta = 0.9065$ . With  $\delta$  sufficiently small, T and r sufficiently large, these choices guarantee that  $h^{-}(c_r) > r$ .

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