

# Variance of Gaussian Primes Across Sectors and the Hecke L-functions Ratios Conjecture

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## Introduction

A Gaussian prime is a prime element in the ring of Gaussian integers  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ . Since they are located in the complex plane, interesting questions regarding their geometric properties naturally arise. We associate to each Gaussian prime  $a + bi$  an angle whose tangent is  $b/a$ . Hecke showed in 1919 that these angles are uniformly distributed in the plane, and Kubilius proved uniform distribution in somewhat short arcs in 1950. Motivated by a random matrix theory model and a function field analogue, Rudnick and Waxman gave a conjecture for the variance of such angles across short arcs. We apply the  $L$ -functions ratios conjecture to a family of Hecke  $L$ -functions to derive a formula which computes the one-level density and variance of Gaussian primes across short arcs.

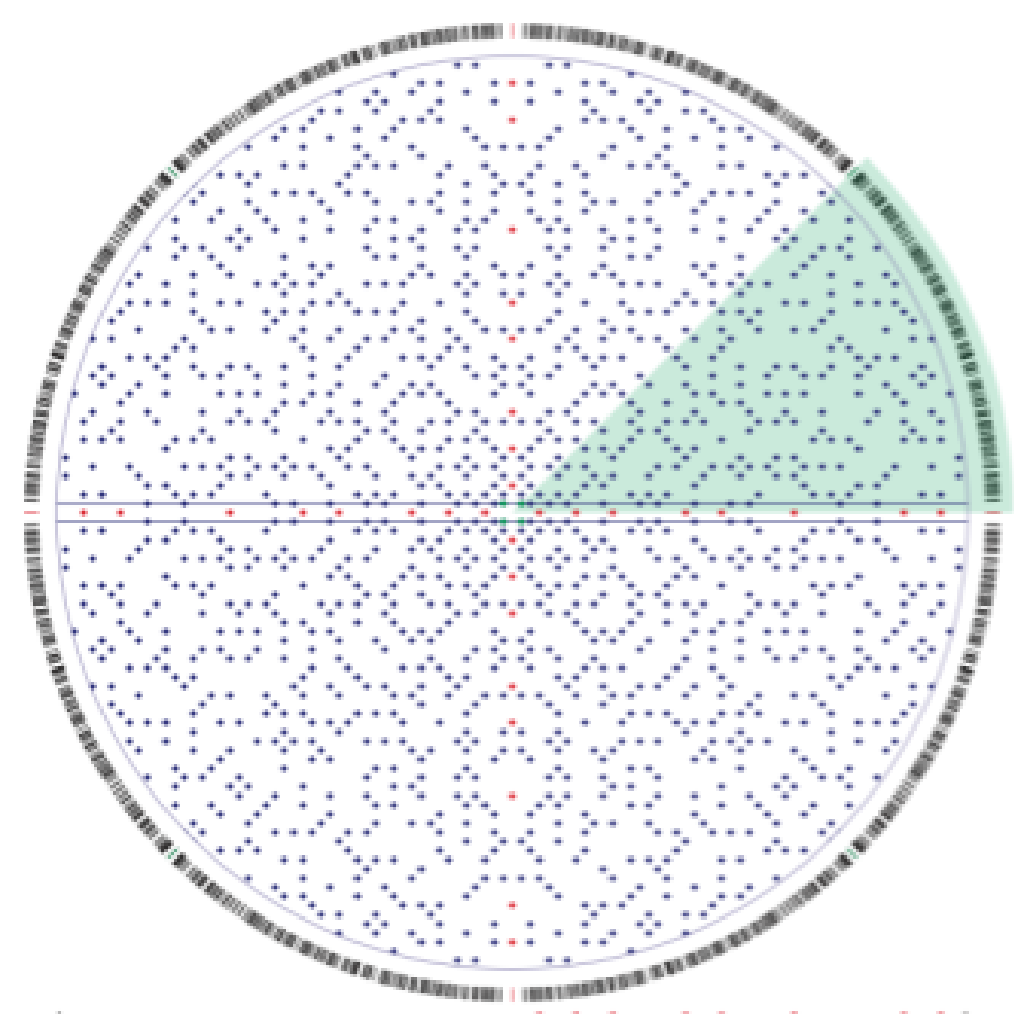


Figure 1: Gaussian primes uniformly distributed in the plane  
<https://illustratedtheoryofnumbers.wordpress.com/tag/primes/>

## The Conjecture

It has been observed that the statistics for classical random matrix ensembles match the statistics for zeros of various families of  $L$ -functions, and that the characteristic polynomials for such matrix ensembles can model the  $L$ -functions. A natural extension is to use random matrices to model ratios of products of  $L$ -functions. However, the ratios conjecture captures the subtle arithmetic properties found in the correction factor, thus providing an even closer model.

## The Ratios Recipe

We wish to apply the ratios conjecture to

$$\frac{1}{K} \sum_{k \leq K} \frac{L_K(1/2 + \alpha)L_K(1/2 + \beta)}{L_K(1/2 + \gamma)L_K(1/2 + \delta)}$$

- 1 We replace all  $L$ -functions in the numerator by their approximate functional equation. In our case, the approximate functional equation is given by

$$L_k(s) = \sum_n \frac{A(n)}{n^s} + \pi^{2s-1} \frac{\Gamma(1-s+|2k|)}{\Gamma(s+|2k|)}$$

We replace  $L$ -functions in the denominator using the equation

$$\frac{1}{L_k(s)} = \sum_n \frac{U(n)}{n^s}$$

We then multiply out the remaining expression.

- 2 We use Euler products to rewrite each term in the expanded expression as a product over primes, and then replace the values  $A(p^m)A(p^n)U(p^h)U(p^l)$  with their averages over the family.
- 3 We now pull out terms that contribute zeros and poles to the products. In particular, these are Zeta functions and  $L$ -functions. We are then left with something of the form

$$\frac{A}{Y}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta),$$

where  $Y$  is composed of the pulled out Zeta and  $L$ -functions and  $A$  is the remaining arithmetic term.

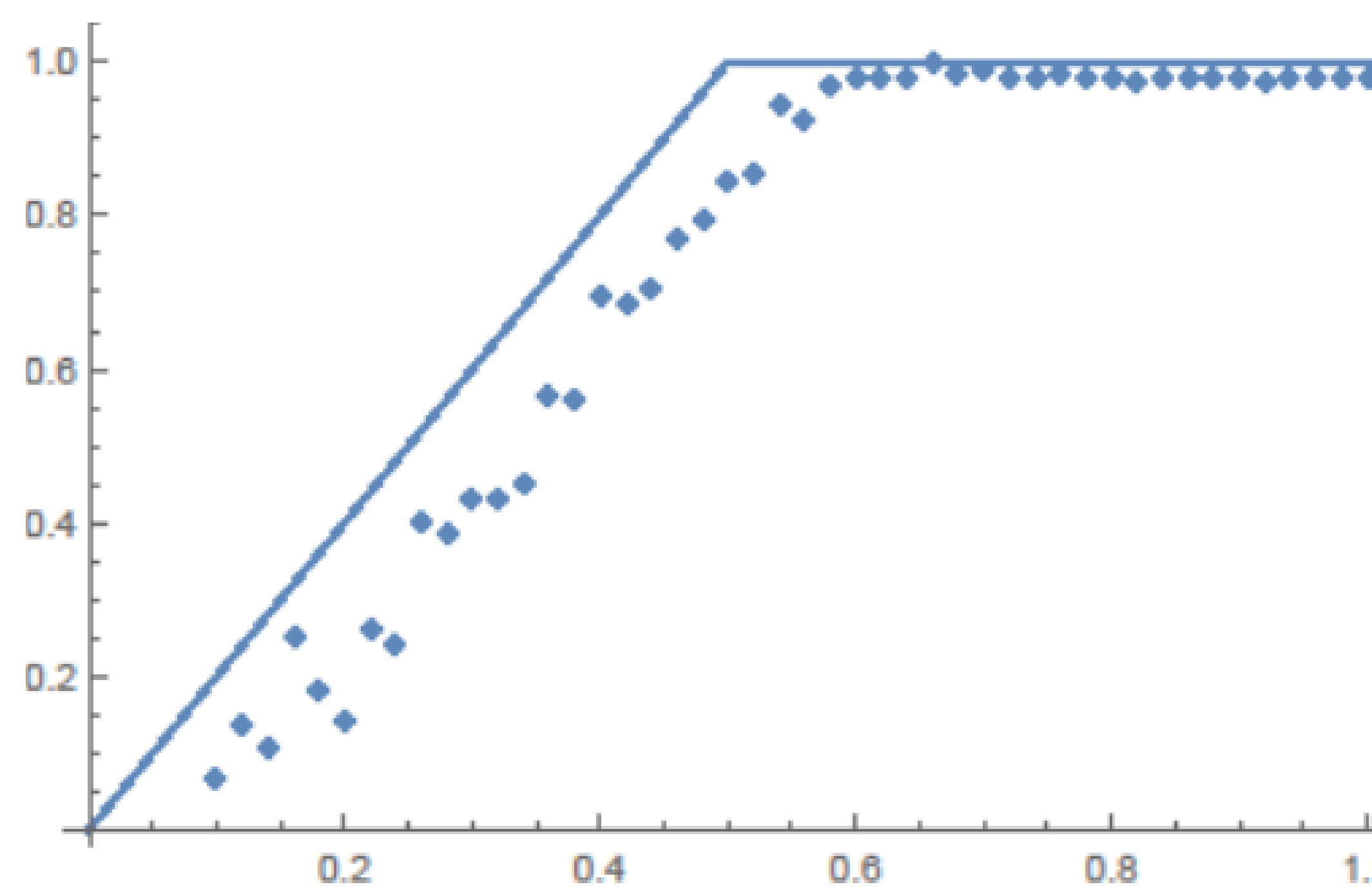


Figure 2: A plot of the ratio  $\text{Var}(NK, x)/E(NK, x)$  versus  $\beta = \log K / \log N$ , for  $X \approx 108$ . The smooth line is  $\min(1, 2\beta)$ .

## Application to the One-Level Density

We wish to compute  $S_K(f) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k \leq K} \sum_{\gamma_k} f(\gamma_k)$ , where  $f$  is a nice even function, and  $\frac{1}{2} + \gamma_k$  denotes the ordinate of a generic zero of  $L_k(s)$  on the half-line. However, contour integration gives

$$\frac{1}{K} \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t - i(c - 1/2)) \sum_{k \leq K} \frac{L'_k(c + it)}{L_k(c + it)} dt \rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) \left(1 - \frac{\sin(2\pi x)}{2\pi x}\right) dx$$

where  $s = c + it$ . We apply the ratios conjecture to  $L'_k(s)/L_k(s)$ , and make the substitution  $x = (2\pi / \log K)t$ .

## Application to the Variance

We wish to compute

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(\psi_{K,X}) = & \frac{K^{\gamma-2}}{4\pi^2} \sum_{k \neq 0} |\hat{f}(\frac{k}{K})|^2 \int_{(c)} \int_{(c')} \frac{L'_k(\frac{1}{2} + \alpha)}{L_k(\frac{1}{2} + \alpha)} \frac{L'_k(\frac{1}{2} - \beta)}{L_k(\frac{1}{2} - \beta)} \\ & \cdot \tilde{\Phi}(\frac{1}{2} + \alpha) \tilde{\Phi}(\frac{1}{2} + \beta) e^{i\lambda(\alpha-\beta)} d\alpha d\beta. \end{aligned}$$

We apply the ratios conjecture to the expression

$$\frac{L_k(\frac{1}{2} + \alpha)L_k(\frac{1}{2} + \beta)}{L_k(\frac{1}{2} + \gamma)\bar{L}_k(\frac{1}{2} + \delta)},$$

and then take the second derivative with respect to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  to get a more manageable form of  $\frac{L'_k(\frac{1}{2} + \alpha)}{L_k(\frac{1}{2} - \beta)}$ .

## References

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