

## Theorem (Euclid)

There are infinitely many prime numbers

Proof. Toward a contradiction, assume there are only finitely many prime numbers

$$P_1 = 2, P_2 = 3, \dots, P_N \leftarrow \text{largest prime number}$$

Consider  $M = P_1 \cdot P_2 \cdots P_N + 1$ .

Since  $M > P_N$ , it is a composite number.

Hence, there is a prime number  $P_i$  such that  $P_i \mid M$ .

On the other hand  $P_i \mid P_1 \cdot P_2 \cdots P_N \leftarrow \text{prod of ALL prime numbers}$

By 2-out-of-3,  $P_i \mid 1$ , which is a contradiction!

□

So the Hasse diagram of all positive integers is  
an INFINITE-dimensional network !!

But, the # of "primes  $\leq$  a given bound  $x$ " is finite

Def: For any real number  $x > 0$ ,

$$\pi(x) := \# \text{ of primes } \leq x$$

e.g.  $\pi(\frac{3}{2}) = 0$  no prime number is  $\leq \frac{3}{2}$

$$\pi(\sqrt{45}) = \pi(6) = 3 \quad \{2, 3, 5\}$$

$$6 < \sqrt[4]{45} < 7$$

$$\pi(24) = 9$$

$$\{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23\}$$

Open Question :

Do we have an asymptotic formula for  $\pi(x)$ ?

Namely, can we have a simpler function  $f(x)$  s.t.

$$\pi(x) \sim f(x) ?$$

means:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\pi(x)}{f(x)} = 1.$

If so, can we bound the "error"  $|\pi(x) - f(x)|$  in terms of  $x$ ?

Thm ( Prime Number Theorem, 1896,

J. Hadamard and C. J. de la Vallée Poussin )

$$\pi(x) \sim \frac{x}{\log(x)}$$

$$\text{Li}(x) := \int_2^x \frac{dt}{\log(t)} \quad \text{offset logarithmic integral}$$

$$\text{li}(x) := \int_0^x \frac{dt}{\log(t)} \quad \text{logarithmic integral}$$

$$\pi(x) \sim \text{Li}(x)$$

Coro of R/H ( by Lowell Schoenfeld 1976 )

Assuming  $\overset{\uparrow}{\text{R/H}}$ , then  $|\pi(x) - \text{li}(x)| < \frac{\sqrt{x} \log x}{8\pi}$  for  $x \geq 2657$ .

Riemann's Hypothesis

## Gaps between primes

• How large could  $P_n - P_{n-1}$  be? Arbitrarily large.

• Smaller gap: 1 (2 & 3) the only case; 2 (e.g. 3 & 5)

→ Twin Prime  $p$  &  $q$  are twin primes if they are primes  
and  $|p - q| = 2$

Open Question:

Are there infinitely many twin primes?

Thm: There are infinitely many pairs of primes  $(p, q)$  s.t.

(~2013, Y. Zhang)  $|p - q| < 70$  million.

(~2014, Polymath8)  $|p - q| < 246$ .

## The set of divisors

$$D(n) := \{ d \text{ is an positive integer} \mid d \text{ is a divisor of } n \}$$

$$\sigma_0(n) := \# D(n)$$

$$\sigma_k(n) := \sum_{d \in D(n)} d^k$$

$$k=0: \quad \sum_{d \in D(n)} 1 = \# D(n) = \sigma_0(n)$$

Prop. (Multiplicativity of divisor sets /  $\sigma$ )

$$\begin{array}{ccc} D(m) \times D(n) & \xrightarrow{\Phi} & D(mn) \\ u \quad \quad v & & u \cdot v \end{array}$$

If  $m, n$  are coprime, then  $\Phi$  is bijective.

$$\text{GCD}(m, n) = 1$$

proof:  $\Phi$  is well-defined since:

$$u \mid m \ \& \ v \mid n \Rightarrow u \cdot v \mid mn$$

$$\left( m = u \cdot d_1, \ n = v \cdot d_2 \Rightarrow mn = u \cdot v \cdot d_1 d_2 \right)$$

Surjectivity of  $\Phi$ :  $w \mid mn \Rightarrow u \mid m \ \& \ v \mid n$

If  $w \mid mn$ , then for every prime  $p$ , we have

$$v_p(w) \leq v_p(mn) = v_p(m) + v_p(n).$$

But  $m \ \& \ n$  are coprime, so either  $v_p(m) = 0$  or  $v_p(n) = 0$ .

Define  $u, v$  as follows

$$u := \text{GCD}(w, m) \quad \& \quad v := \text{GCD}(w, n)$$

In particular,  $u \mid m$  and  $v \mid n$ . Remains to show  $w = uv$

For every prime number  $p$ , we have.

$$v_p(u) = \min \{ v_p(w), v_p(m) \}$$

$$v_p(v) = \min \{ v_p(w), v_p(n) \}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } v_p(u \cdot v) &= v_p(u) + v_p(v) \\ &= \underbrace{\min \{ v_p(w), v_p(m) \}}_{\textcircled{1}} + \underbrace{\min \{ v_p(w), v_p(n) \}}_{\textcircled{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Since either  $v_p(m) = 0$  or  $v_p(n) = 0$

$$v_p(m) = 0 \Rightarrow \textcircled{1} = 0, \textcircled{2} = v_p(w)$$

$$v_p(n) = 0 \Rightarrow \textcircled{1} = v_p(w), \textcircled{2} = 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow v_p(u \cdot v) = v_p(w).$$

Therefore  $u \cdot v = w$ .



Injectivity of  $\Phi$ :

Suppose  $u \mid m$ ,  $v \mid n$  and  $u \cdot v = w$ .

Then for every prime  $p$ , we have

$$v_p(u) \leq v_p(m), \quad v_p(v) \leq v_p(n),$$

$$\text{and } v_p(u) + v_p(v) = v_p(w)$$

Since either  $v_p(m) = 0$  or  $v_p(n) = 0$ , (by  $\gcd(m, n) = 1$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } v_p(m) = 0 &\Rightarrow v_p(u) = 0 && \& v_p(v) = v_p(w) \\ &= \min\{v_p(m), v_p(w)\} && = \min\{v_p(n), v_p(w)\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } v_p(n) = 0 &\Rightarrow v_p(v) = 0 && \& v_p(u) = v_p(w) \\ &= \min\{v_p(n), v_p(w)\} && = \min\{v_p(m), v_p(w)\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{we have } \begin{cases} v_p(u) = \min\{v_p(w), v_p(m)\} \\ v_p(v) = \min\{v_p(w), v_p(n)\} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} u &= \gcd(w, m) \\ v &= \gcd(w, n) \end{aligned}$$

□

Def. An **Arithmetic function** is a function whose domain is the set of positive integers.

An arithmetic function  $f(z)$  is **multiplicative** if for any **coprime** positive integers  $m, n$ ,

$$f(mn) = f(m) \cdot f(n).$$

Remark: If we remove the restriction of being **coprime**, then the property is called "**complete multiplicative**".

Coro:  $\sigma_k$  is multiplicative. I.e.

$$\sigma_k(mn) = \sigma_k(m) \cdot \sigma_k(n)$$

Proof:  $LHS = \sum_{d \mid mn} d^k$

$d \in \mathcal{D}(mn)$

Rec of  $\Phi$  is bijective  $\rightarrow$

$$\sum_{u \mid m, v \mid n} (u \cdot v)^k$$

$$= \left( \sum_{u \mid m} u^k \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{v \mid n} v^k \right) = RHS.$$

□

Coro. If  $n = p_1^{e_1} \cdots p_r^{e_r}$ , then

$$\sigma_0(n) = (e_1 + 1) \cdots (e_r + 1)$$

Proof: By multiplicativity,

$$\sigma_0(n) = \sigma_0(p_1^{e_1}) \cdots \sigma_0(p_r^{e_r}).$$

For each prime  $p$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_0(p^e) &= \#\{1, p, p^2, \dots, p^e\} \\ &= e + 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the coro is proved.

Lemma: If  $x \neq 1$  is a real number and  $e$  a natural number, then

$$1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^e = \frac{x^{e+1} - 1}{x - 1}$$

Proof: Let  $S = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^e$ .

$$\text{Then } xS = x + x^2 + \dots + x^e + x^{e+1}.$$

$$\text{Hence } (x - 1)S = x^{e+1} - 1.$$

Since  $x \neq 1$ , dividing both side by  $x - 1$  shows the identity.

Q

Prop. If  $n = p_1^{e_1} \cdots p_r^{e_r}$ , then

$$\sigma_k(n) = \frac{(p_1^{e_1+1})^k - 1}{p_1^k - 1} \cdots \frac{(p_r^{e_r+1})^k - 1}{p_r^k - 1}$$

Proof: By multiplicativity of  $\sigma_k$ , it suffices to show

$$\sigma_k(p^e) = \frac{(p^{e+1})^k - 1}{p^k - 1}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_k(p^e) &= \sum_{i=0}^e (p^i)^k = \sum_{i=0}^e (p^k)^i \quad x = p^k \\ &= \frac{(p^k)^{e+1} - 1}{p^k - 1} = \text{RHS} \end{aligned}$$



# After-Class :

- There are many ways to prove *Euclid's theorem on infiniteness of prime numbers*. Please check [this wiki page](#) or [this wiki article](#) for more information. It is worth mentioning that one method is to show the series  $\sum \frac{1}{p}$  of reciprocals of prime numbers *diverges* (see [the beginning of this note](#)).
- See [this wiki page](#) for Prime number theorem. It is worth mentioning that the proof relies on the Riemann zeta function  $\zeta(s)$ .
- The method people used to attack the *twin prime conjecture* as well as many other questions in number theory is called the *Sieve theory*. James Maynard, one of the Fields Medal winner this year, showed that there are infinitely many pairs of primes with gap no larger than 600 in 2013.
- The first **Glossary** submission is due **tonight**, be aware of it.
- HW 2 is **due Monday**, be aware of it.
- We will finish Chapter 2 in one or 1.5 lectures. Please read the rest of Chapter 2 preparing next meeting.