

Analytic Number Theory Homework 2

Xingfeng Lin

2025 Fall

1. (a) If f has a continuous derivative f' on the interval $[y, x]$, where $0 < y < x$, then

$$\sum_{y < n \leq x} f(n) = \int_y^x f(t) dt + \int_y^x (t - [t]) f'(t) dt + f(x)([x] - x) - f(y)([y] - y).$$

- (b) *Proof.* By Euler's summation formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{n} &= 1 + \sum_{1 < n \leq x} \frac{1}{n} \\ &= 1 + \log x - \int_1^x \frac{t - [t]}{t^2} dt + O\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \\ &= \log x + 1 - \int_1^\infty \frac{t - [t]}{t^2} dt + O\left(\frac{1}{x}\right). \end{aligned}$$

It suffices to show that $1 - \int_1^\infty \frac{t - [t]}{t^2} dt = \gamma$, where $\gamma := \lim_n (\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} - \log n)$. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_1^\infty \frac{t - [t]}{t^2} dt &= \sum_{n=1}^\infty \int_n^{n+1} \frac{t - n}{t^2} dt \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^\infty \left(\log(n+1) - \log n - \frac{1}{n+1} \right) \\ &= -\lim_n \left(\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} - \log n \right) + 1 \\ &= 1 - \gamma. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{n} = \log x + \gamma + O\left(\frac{1}{x}\right).$$

□

- (c) *Proof.* Let $f(t) = \frac{\log t}{t}$. By Euler's summation formula,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\log n}{n} &= 1 + \int_1^x \frac{\log t}{t} dt + \frac{\log x}{x}([x] - x) + \int_1^x (t - [t]) f'(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \log^2 x + 1 + \int_1^\infty \frac{(t - [t])(1 - \log t)}{t^2} dt - \int_x^\infty (t - [t]) f'(t) dt + O\left(\frac{\log x}{x}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_x^\infty (t - [t])f'(t)dt \right| &\leq \int_x^\infty |f'(t)|dt \\ &= - \int_x^\infty f'(t)dt \\ &= \frac{\log x}{x}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $A = 1 + \int_1^\infty \frac{(t-[t])(1-\log t)}{t^2} dt$, where the integral converges to a constant. Then we have

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\log n}{n} = \frac{1}{2} \log^2 x + A + O\left(\frac{\log x}{x}\right).$$

□

(d) *Proof.* Rewrite the summation as

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\tau(n)}{n} &= \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{d|n} \frac{1}{n} \\ &= \sum_{q,d: qd \leq x} \frac{1}{qd} \\ &= 2 \sum_{q \leq \sqrt{x}} \frac{1}{q} \sum_{d \leq \frac{x}{q}} \frac{1}{d} - \left(\sum_{n \leq \sqrt{x}} \frac{1}{n} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

By (b),

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\tau(n)}{n} &= 2 \sum_{q \leq \sqrt{x}} \frac{1}{q} \left(\log\left(\frac{x}{q}\right) + \gamma + O\left(\frac{q}{x}\right) \right) - \left(\log \sqrt{x} + \gamma + O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}\right) \right)^2 \\ &= -2 \sum_{q \leq \sqrt{x}} \frac{\log q}{q} + 2(\gamma + \log x) \sum_{q \leq \sqrt{x}} \frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{4} \log^2 x - \gamma \log x + O(1). \end{aligned}$$

By (b)(c), the first two terms are

$$= \frac{3}{4} \log^2 x + 3\gamma \log x + O(1).$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\tau(n)}{n} = \frac{1}{2} \log^2 x + 2\gamma \log x + O(1).$$

□

2. (a) Let $[x]$ denote the largest integer not greater than x . We have

$$\begin{aligned} [nx] &= \sum_{t \leq nx} 1 \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \sum_{m: nm-k \leq nx} 1 \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \sum_{m \leq x + \frac{k}{n}} 1 \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[x + \frac{k}{n} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

This proves the equality and, in particular, for $n = 2$.

(b) *Proof.* Note that $\sqrt{4n+1} \leq \sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1} \leq \sqrt{4n+2}$, we have $[\sqrt{4n+1}] \leq [\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}] \leq [\sqrt{4n+2}]$. If $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, and $k \leq \sqrt{4n+2}$, then there must be $k^2 \leq 4n+1$ since $k^2 \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}$. This implies that $[\sqrt{4n+1}] \geq [\sqrt{4n+2}]$. Therefore we have $[\sqrt{n} + \sqrt{n+1}] = [\sqrt{4n+2}]$. \square

3. *Proof.* If otherwise, there exists $N \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ such that $f(x)$ is a prime for every $x \geq N$. In particular, $f(N + kf(N))$ are primes for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, but

$$f(N + kf(N)) \equiv a_0 + a_1N + \cdots + a_nN^n \equiv 0 \pmod{f(N)},$$

leading to a contradiction. \square

4. (a) *Proof.* By induction we know that it suffices to show: if $n \in S$ is an S -composite, then n is divided by some S -prime.

In fact, pick p to be the smallest integer among $\{m \in S : m|n\}$. If p is not an S -prime, then there exists $p' \in S$ with $1 < p' < p$ and $p'|p$, but this leads to $p'|n$, contradicting the minimality of p . Hence p is an S -prime. \square

(b) If n is an S -composite, decompose n into prime numbers, $n = p_1 \cdots p_k p_{k+1} \cdots p_{k+l}$, where $p_i \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, i = 1, \dots, k, p_j \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, j = k+1, \dots, k+l$. Then k must be even and, if n can be expressed in more than one way as a product of distinct S -primes, $k \geq 4$, and there are at least two distinct primes turning up in $\{p_i\}_{i=1}^k$. Therefore, $n \geq 3^2 7^2 = 441$. Indeed, $441 = 21 \cdot 21 = 9 \cdot 49$, where $9, 21, 49$ are S -primes. Therefore the smallest S -composite is 441.

5. Here I describe the content and main steps covered in the notes Riemann's Explicit Formula by Paul Garrett.

The notes illustrate the relation between prime numbers and the Riemann ζ -function, together with discussions on analytic continuation and integral presentation of the ζ -function, using ξ -function and θ -function. I will split these content into three sections.

Riemann's Explicit Formula. Let $\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}$. We state the Riemann-Hadamard product as follows:

Theorem 1. For all $s \in \mathbb{C}$, we have

$$(s-1)\zeta(s) = e^{a+bs} \prod_{\rho} \left(1 - \frac{s}{\rho}\right) e^{s/\rho} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{s}{2n}\right) e^{-\frac{s}{2n}}, \quad (1)$$

where the product over ρ ranges over all nontrivial zeros of ζ , a, b .

Combined with Euler product, by taking logarithmic derivatives of both sides of (1), we obtain

$$\sum_p \log p \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{p^{ms}} = \frac{1}{s-1} - b - \sum_{\rho} \left(\frac{1}{s-\rho} + \frac{1}{\rho}\right) - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{s+2n} - \frac{1}{2n}\right). \quad (2)$$

The left-hand side needs $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 1$ for convergence, while the right-hand side converges for all $s \in \mathbb{C}$ apart from the visible poles at 1, the nontrivial zeros ρ , and the trivial zeros $-2n, n \geq 1$ (this is a consequence of the Riemann-von Mangoldt formula stated as Theorem 2 below).

The left-hand side is appropriate for direct estimation, and operations like integration, while the right-hand side has its advantage of exhibiting poles concretely.

Theorem 2. For $T > 0$, let $N(T)$ denote the number of nontrivial zeros of ζ in $|\text{Im} \rho| \leq T$. Then,

$$N(T) = \frac{T}{2\pi} \log \frac{T}{2\pi} - \frac{T}{2\pi} + O(\log T).$$

Now apply to (2) the Perron identity

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\sigma-i\infty}^{\sigma+i\infty} \frac{Y^t}{t} dt = \begin{cases} 1, & Y > 1 \\ \frac{1}{2}, & Y = 1 \\ 0, & 0 \leq Y < 1, \end{cases}$$

where $\sigma > 0$. We can obtain Riemann's explicit formula:

Theorem 3. Let $X > 1$, then

$$\sum_{p^m < X} \log p = X - (b+1) - \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{\rho: |\text{Im} \rho| \leq T} \frac{X^\rho}{\rho} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{X^{-2n}}{2n}.$$

□

Functional Equation of ζ . To extend ζ to $\text{Re}(s) > 0$, one approach is to do an elementary estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(s) - \frac{1}{s-1} &= \zeta(s) - \int_1^\infty t^{-s} dt \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{n^s} - \frac{1}{s-1} \left(\frac{1}{n^{s-1}} - \frac{1}{(n+1)^{s-1}} \right) \right) \\ &= O_s \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{s+1}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

However, this approach is under-powered since it is done by direct estimation, giving nothing more than the convergence of $\zeta(s) - \frac{1}{s-1}$. We introduce another approach using the functional equation (and ξ -function). We have the following result:

Theorem 4. The completed zeta function (ξ -function)

$$\xi(s) = \pi^{-\frac{s}{2}} \Gamma\left(\frac{s}{2}\right) \zeta(s)$$

has an analytic continuation to $s \in \mathbb{C}$, except for $s = 0, 1$, and satisfies the functional equation

$$\xi(1-s) = \xi(s).$$

Moreover, $s(s-1)\xi(s)$ is entire and bounded in vertical strips of finite width.

θ -Function and Integral Presentation of ζ . Let $\theta(z) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{\pi i n^2 z} = 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{\pi i n^2 z}$, $z \in \mathbb{H}$, where $\mathbb{H} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Im}(z) > 0\}$ is the complex upper-half plane. Simple calculation gives

$$\frac{\theta(iy) - 1}{2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-\pi n^2 y},$$

for $y > 0$. This deduces the following result, presenting the ξ -function (or ζ -function) as an integral.

Theorem 5. *For $\operatorname{Re}(s) > 1$,*

$$\xi(s) = \int_0^\infty \frac{\theta(iy) - 1}{2} y^{s/2} \frac{dy}{y}.$$

□