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# Abel Summation and Character mod $q$

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## 1 PARTIAL SUMMATION FORMULA

Partial summation technique also called as Abel Summation was first introduced by Niels Henrik Abel.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be a sequence of complex numbers and  $f(t)$  a differentiable function for  $t \geq 0$ . Set  $A(x) = \sum a_n$  for  $n$ . Then

$$\sum (a_n \times f(n)) = A(x)f(x) - \int_1^x A(t)f'(t)$$

Proof: We can write  $a_n$  as  $a_n = A(n) - A(n-1)$  and let  $k \leq x < k+1$  where  $k$  is a natural number.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} (a_n f(n)) &= \sum_{n \leq k} (a_n f(n)) \\ \sum_{n \leq k} (A(n) - A(n-1))f(n) &= \sum_{n \leq k} (A(n)f(n)) - \sum_{n \leq k} (A(n-1)f(n)) \\ &= \sum_{n \leq k} (A(n)f(n)) - \sum_{n \leq k} (A(n-1)f(n)) \\ &= \sum_{n \leq k} (A(n)f(n)) - \sum_{n \leq k-1} (A(n)f(n+1)) \\ &= A(k)f(k) + \sum_{n \leq k-1} A(n)(f(n) - f(n+1)) \end{aligned}$$

but  $f(n) - f(n+1)$  can be written as  $-\int_n^{n+1} f'(t)dt$

So,  $\sum_{n \leq k-1} A(n)(f(n) - f(n+1)) = -\sum_{n \leq k-1} A(n) \int_n^{n+1} f'(t)dt$

But  $A(t) = A(n)$  when  $n \leq t \leq n+1$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq k-1} A(n) \int_n^{n+1} f'(t)dt &= \int_1^k A(t)f'(t)dt \\ \int_1^k A(t)f'(t)dt &= \int_1^x A(t)f'(t)dt - \int_k^x A(t)f'(t)dt \\ &= A(k)f(x) - A(k)f(k) = A(x)f(x) - A(k)f(k) \end{aligned}$$

Hence we get

$$\sum (a_n \times f(n)) = A(x)f(x) - \int_1^x A(t)f'(t)$$

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## 1.1 BIG O NOTATION

Big O notation (with a capital letter O, not a zero) is also called Landau's symbol. It describes the asymptotic behaviour of functions. It tells how fast a function is growing or declining. O is used because rate of growth of function is also called its order.

If  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  are defined on some subset of real numbers we write  $f(x) = O(g(x))$  if and only if  $\exists N$  and  $c$  such that

$$|f(x)| \leq c|g(x)| \forall x > N$$

If "a" is some real number, then

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= O(g(x)) \text{ for } x \rightarrow a \\ \text{if and only if } \exists d > 0 \text{ and } c \text{ such that} \\ |f(x)| &\leq c|g(x)| \forall x \text{ with } |x - a| < d \end{aligned}$$

### 1.1.1 EXAMPLES ON ABEL SUMMATION

**Example 1** Show that  $H_x = \sum_{n \leq x} (1/n) = \gamma + \log x + O(1/x)$

Proof: Here we take  $a_n = 1$  and  $f(x) = 1/x$  and  $A(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} 1 = [x]$

We now use the partial summation formula that we derived in section 1

$$\sum_{n \leq x} (1/n) = [x] \cdot (1/x) - \int_1^x [t] (-1/t^2) dt$$

$$\sum_{n \leq x} (1/n) = \frac{[x]}{x} + \int_1^x \frac{[t]}{t^2} dt \text{ and } [x] = x - \{x\}$$

$$\sum_{n \leq x} (1/n) = \frac{x - \{x\}}{x} + \int_1^x \frac{t - \{t\}}{t^2} dt$$

$$\sum_{n \leq x} (1/n) = 1 - \frac{\{x\}}{x} + \log x - \int_1^x \frac{\{t\}}{t^2} dt$$

$$\int_1^x \frac{\{t\}}{t^2} dt \text{ is convergent as } x \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\text{Thus we can write, } \int_1^x \frac{\{t\}}{t^2} dt = \int_1^\infty \frac{\{t\}}{t^2} dt - \int_x^\infty \frac{\{t\}}{t^2} dt$$

for large  $x$   $\int_x^\infty \frac{\{t\}}{t^2} dt = O(1/x)$  and  $\int_1^\infty \frac{\{t\}}{t^2} dt = O(1/x)$  is a constant ( $c$ ) as the integral is convergent.

$$\text{So, } H_x = 1 - \frac{[x]}{x} + \log x - (c - O(1/x))$$

$$H_x = (1 - c) - \frac{[x]}{x} + \log x + O(1/x)$$

$$\text{but } \frac{[x]}{x} = O(1/x) \text{ and take } 1 - c = \gamma$$

$$H_x = \gamma + \log x + O(1/x) \text{ where } \gamma \text{ is the Euler's constant.}$$

**Example 2** Show that  $\sum_{n \leq x} \log n = x \log x - x + O(\log x)$

Proof: Here we take  $a_n$  as 1 and  $f(t) = \log t$ . Applying Abel's lemma, we get

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \log n = [x] \log x - \int_1^x \frac{[t]}{t} dt$$

$$\text{take } [x] = x + O(1)$$

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \log n = (x + O(1)) \log x - \int_1^x \frac{(t + O(1))}{t} dt$$

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \log n = x \log x + O(\log x) - (x - 1) + O(\log x)$$

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \log n = x \log x - x + O(\log x) + 1$$

$$+1 \text{ can be ignored as } \log x > 1$$

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \log n = x \log x - x + O(\log x)$$

**Example 3** Show that  $\sum n \leq x \frac{1}{n} = \log x + O(1)$ . In fact show that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (\sum_{n \leq x} (\frac{1}{n}) - \log x)$

Proof:  $\sum n \leq x \frac{1}{n} = \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{n} = \int_1^x \frac{1}{t^2} dt + O(1)$

take  $\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{n} = x + O(1)$

$\sum n \leq x \frac{1}{n} = \frac{x+O(1)}{x} + \int_1^x \frac{t+O(1)}{t^2} dt = 1 + O(\frac{1}{x}) + \log x + \int_1^x \frac{O(1)}{t^2} dt$

$\int_1^x \frac{O(1)}{t^2} dt$  is a convergent integral. It can be written as  $O(1)$

So,  $\sum n \leq x \frac{1}{n} = \log x + O(1)$

For the second part  $\sum_{n \leq x} (\frac{1}{n} - \log x)$  can be written as  $\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{n} - \int_1^x \frac{dt}{t}$

$\sum_{n \leq x} (\frac{1}{n} - \int_n^{n+1} \frac{dt}{t}) = \sum_{n \leq x} (\frac{1}{n} - (\log t)_{n+1}^{n+1}) = \sum_{n \leq x} (\frac{1}{n} - \log \frac{n+1}{n})$

We know that  $\log(1 + \frac{1}{n}) = \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{2n^2} + \frac{1}{3n^3} - \dots$

Using the above expansion we get  $\sum_{n \leq x} (\frac{1}{n} - \log \frac{n+1}{n}) = \sum_{n \leq x} (\frac{1}{2n^2} - \frac{1}{3n^3} + \dots)$

The latter term has a limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

Hence the given summation has a limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

**Example 4** Show that  $\sum_{n \leq x} d(n) = x \log x + O(x)$ .  $d(x)$  here represents the number of divisors of  $n \leq x$ .

Proof:  $d(n) = \sum_{d|n} 1$  then  $\sum_{n \leq x} d(n) = \sum_{d \leq x} (\sum_{n \leq x} 1)$  when  $d|n$

if  $d|n$  then  $n = dt$  for some  $t$ . Then  $t \leq \frac{x}{d}$ . Hence the double summation can be replaced by  $\sum_{d \leq x} \sum_{t \leq \frac{x}{d}} 1 = \sum_{d \leq x} (\frac{x}{d} + O(1))$  as  $\sum_{t \leq \frac{x}{d}} 1 = \frac{x}{d} + O(1)$

$\sum_{d \leq x} (\frac{x}{d} + O(1)) = x \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{1}{d} + \sum_{d \leq x} O(1)$

We have seen earlier that  $\sum_{d \leq x} \frac{1}{d} = \log x + O(1)$

Using this we can write  $\sum_{d \leq x} (\frac{x}{d} + O(1)) = x(\log x + O(1)) + xO(1)$

$\sum_{d \leq x} (\frac{x}{d} + O(1)) = x \log x + O(x) + O(x) = x \log x + O(x)$

**Example 5** Suppose  $A(x) = O(x^\delta)$ . Show that for  $s > \delta$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n^s} = s \int_1^{\infty} \frac{A(t)dt}{t^{s+1}}$ . Hence the Dirichlet series converges for  $s > \delta$

Proof: Apply Abel summation by taking  $f(x) = x^{-s}$

Hence  $\sum_{n \leq x} a_n f(n) = A(x)f(x) - \int_1^x A(t)f'(t)dt$

$\sum_{n \leq x} a_n f(n) = O(x^\delta)(x^{-s}) - \int_1^x O(x^\delta)(-s^{-(s+1)})t dt$

$\sum_{n \leq x} a_n f(n) = \frac{O(x^\delta)}{x^s} + s \int_1^x \frac{O(x^\delta)dt}{t^{s+1}}$

The former term in the above line tends to 0 as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  only when  $s > \delta$ . The latter term has a bounded numerator and the denominator tends to infinity as  $x \rightarrow \infty$

Hence when  $x \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\sum_{n \leq x} a_n f(n) = s \int_1^x \frac{O(x^\delta)dt}{t^{s+1}}$

The right hand side is a convergent integral only when  $s > \delta$

**Example 6** Show that for  $s > 1$ ;  $\zeta(s) = \frac{s}{s-1} - s \int_1^{\infty} \frac{\{x\}dx}{x^{s+1}}$

Show that  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 1+} (s-1)\zeta(s) = 1$

Proof:  $\zeta(s) = \frac{s}{s-1} - s \int_1^{\infty} \frac{\{x\}dx}{x^{s+1}}$

$\lim_{s \rightarrow 1+} (\frac{s}{s-1} - s \int_1^{\infty} \frac{\{x\}dx}{x^{s+1}})$

$\lim_{s \rightarrow 1+} (s-1)(\frac{s}{s-1} - s \int_1^{\infty} \frac{\{x\}dx}{x^{s+1}})$

$\lim_{s \rightarrow 1+} (s-1)\zeta(s) = s - s(s-1) \int_1^{\infty} (\frac{1}{x^s} - \frac{\{x\}}{x^{s+1}})dx$

The integral in above line is always convergent and the term  $s-1$  tends to 0.

Hence the limit value is 1. The integral converges for  $s > 0$

## 1.2 BERNOULLI'S NUMBERS

These numbers were discovered by Jacob Bernoulli. These numbers hold a deep relation with Riemann zeta function (this function is related to prime numbers). If  $S_n(n)$  refers to  $n_{th}$  powers of natural numbers then  $S_n$  is written as  $\sum_{k \leq p} \frac{B_k}{k!} \frac{p!}{(p+1-k)!} n^{p+1-k}$  where each  $B_n$  is called a Bernoulli's number and they are independent of  $p$ .

*Modern Definition:* Series expansion of  $\frac{z}{e^z-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} B_k \frac{z^k}{k!}$  has the coefficients of its terms as Bernoulli numbers.

*Bernoulli Polynomials:* Consider the sequence of polynomials  $b_r(x)$  defined recursively as

$$b_0(x) = 1$$

$$b'_r = r b_{r-1}(x) \quad r \geq 1$$

$$\int_0^1 b_r(x) dx = 0$$

For example  $B_3$  is given by  $x^3 - \frac{3x^2}{2} + \frac{1x}{2}$

We get the Bernoulli number when we substitute 0 in place of  $x$

**Question:** Prove that  $F(x, t) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} b_r(x) \frac{t^r}{r!} = \frac{te^{xt}}{e^t-1}$

$$\frac{dF(x, t)}{dx} = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} b'_r(x) \frac{t^r}{r!}$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} b'_r(x) \frac{t^r}{r!} = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} b_{r-1}(x) \frac{t^{r-1}}{(r-1)!t}$$

$$\text{Hence } \frac{dF(x, t)}{dx} = t \times F(x, t)$$

$$\text{So } t = \frac{F'(x, t)}{F(x, t)} \text{ which means } t dx = d(\log(F(x, t)))$$

$$\text{hence } F(x, t) = e^{tx+c(t)} \text{ Given that } \int_0^1 F(x, t) dx = 1$$

$$\text{so, } \int_0^1 e^{tx+c(t)} dt = e^{c(t)} \frac{(e^t-1)}{t} = 1$$

$$\text{so } e^{c(t)} = \frac{t}{e^t-1}$$

$$\text{Therefore } F(x, t) = e^{c(t)} \cdot e^{tx} = \frac{e^{tx} \cdot t}{(e^t-1)}$$

**Question:** Show that  $B_{2r+1} = 0$  for  $r \geq 1$  Proof:  $\frac{t}{2} + \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} b_r(0) \frac{t^r}{r!}$

$$= \frac{t}{2} + \frac{t}{e^t-1} = \frac{t(e^t+1)}{2(e^t-1)}$$

The right hand side is an even function. So  $b_r(0) = 0$  when  $r$  is odd. So  $B_r(0) = 0$  when  $r = 1n + 1$  form or odd.

## 1.3 CHARACTERS MOD Q

$(\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z})$  : This denotes the set containing all possible remainders when a number is divided by  $q$ .

$(\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z})^*$  : This is a multiplicative group that is every element  $x$  in the set has an element  $y$  such that  $xy \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$

So  $xy - qt = 1$  for some  $t$ . This can have integer solutions for  $y$  and  $t$  only if  $\gcd(x, q) = 1$ . Hence this set contains all elements co-prime to  $q$ . Hence the order of this group (number of elements in group) is  $\varphi(q)$  that is the Euler-phi function.

*Characters:* They are a homomorphism from a multiplicative group  $(\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z})^*$  to the multiplicative group of complex numbers  $\mathbb{C}^*$

We know that the Euler theorem states that  $a^{\varphi(q)} \equiv 1 \pmod{q}$

Hence  $\chi^{\varphi(q)(a)} = 1 \forall a \in (\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z})^*$ . Thus  $\chi(a)$  is the  $\varphi(q)^{th}$  root of 1.

We extend  $\chi$  to all numbers by defining it as follows:

$\chi(n) = \chi(n \pmod{q})$  if  $\gcd(n, q) = 1$  otherwise it is given the value 0 which does not

belong to the set  $\mathbb{C}^*$

From the above definition of  $\chi$  and using the fact that it is a homomorphism we can say that it is a completely multiplicative function that is  $f(a * b) = f(a) * f(b)$ . The operation we consider here is composition of functions.

**Question** We define L-series as  $L(s, \chi) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\chi(n)}{n^s}$

Prove that for  $\text{Re}(s) > 1$ ,  $L(s, \chi) = \prod_p (1 - \frac{\chi(p)}{p^s})^{-1}$  where product is over primes  $p$ .

Proof:  $L = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\chi(n)}{n^s}$

$L - L\chi(2)/2^s = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\chi(2n)}{(2n)^s}$  So all even number denominator terms are removed. This is true as  $\chi$  is multiplicative.

Similarly subtracting  $L\chi(3)/3^s$  will remove all the fractions whose denominator has multiples of 3.

$$L \prod (1 - \frac{\chi(n)}{n^s}) = 1$$

$$\text{So } L = \prod (1 - \frac{\chi(n)}{n^s})^{-1}$$

## REFERENCES

- [1] Silverman, Joseph H. (2012). *A Friendly Introduction to Number Theory*. Pearson Inc.
- [2] M Ram Murthy . *Problems in analytic number theory*