

THEORY OF NUMBERS  
TCHEBYCHEV'S THEOREM

**Prime numbers** We denote  $\Pi(x) = \sum_{p \leq x} 1$ . So  $\Pi(p_n) = n$   $\Pi(x) < x$ .

**Theorem**  $\sum_p \frac{1}{p}$  diverges.

**Proof**  $\prod_{p \leq N} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)^{-1} = \prod_{p \leq N} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p^2} + \dots\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\theta_n}{n}$

where  $\theta_N = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if every prime factor of } n \text{ is } \leq N \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$\geq \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{n} \geq \log N$

$\log N \leq \prod_{p \leq N} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)^{-1}$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \log \log N &\leq \sum_{p \leq N} -\log \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \\ &= \sum_{p \leq N} \frac{1}{p} + \sum_{p \leq N} \left(\frac{1}{p^2} + \frac{1}{p^3} + \dots\right) \\ &= \sum_{p \leq N} \frac{1}{p} + C \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\sum_{p \leq N} \frac{1}{p} > \log \log N - C$

**Tchebychev's Theorem**  $\exists$  positive constants  $A, B$  such that  $A \frac{x}{\log x} < \Pi(x) < B \frac{x}{\log x}$  for large  $x$ .

**Proof**

**Definition**

$$\Lambda(n) = \begin{cases} \log p & \text{if } n = p^l \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\Psi(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \Lambda(n)$$

$$\theta(x) = \sum_{p \leq x} \log p$$

$$F(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \log n$$

**Lemma A**  $F(x) = x \log x - x + O(\log x)$   $x \geq 2$

**Corollary**  $F(x) - 2F\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) = x \log 2 + O(\log x)$   $x \geq 2$

**Proof**  $F(x) = \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} \log n$

Now  $\log t$  increases as  $t$  increases and so

$$\int_{n-1}^n \log t \, dt \leq \log n \leq \int_n^{n+1} \log t \, dt$$

So

$$\int_1^{[x]} \log t \, dt \leq F(x) \leq \int_1^{[x]+1} \log t \, dt$$

$$[t \log t - t]_1^{[x]} \leq F(x) \leq [t \log t - t]_1^{[x]+1}$$

Where  $F(x) = x \log x - x + O(\log x)$

**Lemma B**  $\Psi(x) - \Psi\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) \leq F(x) - 2F\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) \leq \psi(x)$   $x \geq 2$

**Proof**  $\log n = \sum_{d|n} \Lambda(d)$   $n = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) &= \sum_{n \leq x} \log n = \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{d|n} \Lambda(d) \\ &= \sum_{d \leq x} \Lambda(d) \sum_{n: d|n \leq x} 1 \\ &= \sum_{d \leq x} \lambda(d) \sum_{m: m \leq \frac{x}{d}} 1 \\ &= \sum_{d \leq x} \Lambda(d) \left[ \frac{x}{d} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) - 2F\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) &= \sum_{d \leq x} \Lambda(d) \left[ \frac{x}{d} \right] - 2 \sum_{d \leq \frac{1}{2}x} \Lambda(d) \left[ \frac{\frac{1}{2}x}{d} \right] \\ &= \sum_{\frac{1}{2}x < d \leq x} \Lambda(d) \left[ \frac{x}{d} \right] + \sum_{d \leq \frac{1}{2}x} \Lambda(d) \left\{ \left[ \frac{x}{d} \right] - 2 \left[ \frac{\frac{1}{2}x}{d} \right] \right\} \\ &= \sum_1 + \sum_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_1 = \sum \Lambda(d) = \Psi(x) - \Psi\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right)$$

Now  $f(\alpha) = [\alpha] - 2 \left[ \frac{1}{2}\alpha \right]$  is periodic with period 2.

$$f(\alpha) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } 0 \leq \alpha < 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } 1 \leq \alpha < 2 \end{cases}$$

Therefore  $0 \leq f(\alpha) \leq 1$  for all real  $\alpha$

therefore  $0 \leq \sum_2 \leq \sum d \leq \frac{1}{2}x\Lambda(d) = \Psi\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right)$

Hence the result.

**Lemma C (i)**  $\Psi(x) \geq x \log 2 + O(\log x)$

**(ii)**  $\Psi(x) \leq 2x \log 2 + O(\log^2 x)$

**Proof (i)** Immediate by  $B$  and corollary  $A$ .

**(ii)** Choose  $l$  to satisfy  $1 \leq x2^{-l} < 2$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(x) &= \Psi(x) - \Psi(x2^{-l}) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{l-1} \left\{ \Psi(x2^{-n}) - \Psi(x2^{-n-1}) \right\} \\ &\leq x \log 2 \sum_{n=0}^{l-1} + O(l \log x) \text{ by } B \\ &\leq 2x \log 2 + O(\log^2 x) \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma D**  $\theta(x) = \Psi(x) + O\left\{(x^{\frac{1}{2}}) \log^2 x\right\}$

**Proof**

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \Psi(x) - \theta(x) \\ &= \sum_{p, l(p^l \leq x, l \geq 2)} \log p \\ &\leq \frac{\log x}{\log 2} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{2}} \log x \end{aligned}$$

**Corollary**  $\theta(x) = O(x)$

**Lemma E**

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi(x) &= \frac{\theta(x)}{\log x} + O\left(\frac{x}{\log^2 x}\right) \\ &= \frac{\Psi(x)}{\log x} + O\left(\frac{x}{\log^2 x}\right) \end{aligned}$$

**Proof** Suppose  $x \geq 3$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Pi(x) &= \sum_{p \leq x} 1 \\
&= \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} \frac{\theta(n) - \theta(n-1)}{\log n} \\
&= \frac{\theta([x])}{\log([x])} + \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x-1} \theta(n) \left( \frac{1}{\log n} - \frac{1}{\log(n-1)} \right) \\
&= \frac{\theta([x])}{\log([x])} + O \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x-1} \frac{1}{\log^2 n} \\
&= \frac{\theta(x)}{\log x} + O \left( \frac{x}{\log^2 x} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

The theorem follows from Lemmas E, D, C if we take

$$A < \log 2, \quad B > 2 \log 2.$$

It follows that  $\exists K_1, k_2$  such that

$$k_1 m \log n < p_n < k_2 n \log n.$$