

soit:

$$\sigma_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\lambda_n} \varepsilon_j(\lambda) \exp 2i\pi x \varphi(j).$$

Comme  $\varepsilon(\lambda)$  est par hypothèse normale, on a  $\lambda_n \sim 2n$ . Par ailleurs, la proposition établie au paragraphe précédent conduit à l'estimation

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_n} \sum_{j=1}^{\lambda_n} (2\varepsilon_j(\lambda) - 1) \exp 2i\pi x \varphi(j) = o(1).$$

Par suite

$$\sigma_n = \frac{1}{\lambda_n} \sum_{j=1}^{\lambda_n} \exp 2i\pi x \varphi(j) + o(1).$$

$\varphi$  étant un polynôme, on sait que lorsque l'entier  $p$  tend vers l'infini, la moyenne

$$\frac{1}{p} \sum_{j=1}^p \exp 2i\pi x \varphi(j)$$

tend vers une limite. Donc:

$$\sigma_n = \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{p} \sum_{j=1}^p \exp 2i\pi x \varphi(j) + o(1).$$

Cette égalité prouve bien la double implication

$$x \in B(\varphi(N)) \Leftrightarrow x \in B(\varphi(\lambda)), \quad \text{C.Q.F.D.}$$

En particulier, si  $\varphi$  est un polynôme non constant défini de  $\mathbf{Z}$  dans  $\mathbf{Z}$ , on sait que  $B(\varphi(N)) = \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{Q}$ . Cette remarque, associée aux lemmes 3 et 6, prouve le théorème 2.

#### Travaux cités

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## A note on the least prime in an arithmetic progression with a prime difference

by

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Let  $P(k, l)$  be the least prime in the arithmetic progression  $n \equiv l \pmod{k}$ , where  $(k, l) = 1$ . The estimate of  $P(k, l)$  is one of the most important problems in the theory of numbers, and so many results have been obtained. But it seems that the following fact has not been observed before.

**THEOREM.** For any fixed  $l$  there exist infinitely many primes  $q$  such that

$$P(q, l) < c(\varepsilon) q^{\vartheta + \varepsilon},$$

where  $\vartheta = 2e^{1/4}(2e^{1/4} - 1)^{-1} = 1.63773\dots$

We will prove this in detail only in the case  $l = 1$ , but the general case is merely an easy extension.

Let us consider the product

$$\prod_{p \leq N} (p-1),$$

where  $p$  runs over all primes not exceeding large  $N$ . Defining  $\pi(N, k)$  to be the number of primes not exceeding  $N$  and  $\equiv 1 \pmod{k}$ , we have

$$(1) \quad \sum_{q \leq N} \pi(N, q^a) \log q = \sum_{p \leq N} \log p + O\left(\sum_{p \leq N} p^{-1}\right) \\ = N + O(N \exp(-c(\log N)^{1/2})),$$

where the sum of the left side is taken over prime  $q$  and integer  $a \geq 1$ .

Now

$$(2) \quad \sum_{q^a \leq N} \pi(N, q^a) \log q \\ = \left\{ \sum_{\substack{q \leq N^{1/2}(\log N)^{-B} \\ a=1}} + \sum_{\substack{N^{1/2}(\log N)^{-B} < q \leq N^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ a=1}} + \sum_{\substack{N^{\frac{1}{2}} < q \leq N \\ a=1}} + \sum_{\substack{q^a \leq N \\ a \geq 2}} \right\} \pi(N, q^a) \log q \\ = \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2 + \Sigma_3 + \Sigma_4, \text{ say,}$$

where  $B$  is a sufficiently large number and  $\frac{1}{2} < \zeta \leq \frac{3}{4}$  is a number which is to be defined explicitly later.

Now to the sum  $\Sigma_1$  we may apply the mean-value theorem of Bombieri [1] (with  $B = 44$  for example). We have

$$(3) \quad \Sigma_1 = \frac{N}{\log N} \sum_{q \leq N^{1/2}(\log N)^{-B}} \frac{\log q}{q-1} + O(N(\log N)^{-1}) \\ = \frac{1}{2}N + O(N \log \log N (\log N)^{-1}).$$

To the sum  $\Sigma_2$  we apply the following result of Klimov [2]:

$$\pi(N, q) \leq 2 \frac{N}{(q-1)\log(N/q)} \left\{ 1 + 4 \frac{\log \log N}{\log(N/q)} + \frac{e^\gamma + \varepsilon}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\log N} \right\},$$

where  $\gamma$  is the Euler constant. Hence we have

$$(4) \quad \Sigma_2 \leq 2N \sum_{N^{1/2}(\log N)^{-B} < q \leq N^\zeta} \frac{\log q}{(q-1)\log(N/q)} + O\left(\frac{\log \log N}{(\log N)^2} \sum_{q \leq N} \frac{\log q}{q}\right) \\ = 2N \sum_{N^{1/2}(\log N)^{-B} < q \leq N^\zeta} \frac{\log q}{q \log(N/q)} + O(N \log \log N (\log N)^{-1}).$$

By the partial summation, putting  $y = N^{1/2}(\log N)^{-B}$  and  $z = N^\zeta$ , we have

$$(5) \quad \sum_{y < q \leq z} \frac{\log q}{q \log(N/q)} \\ = \frac{1}{z \log(N/z)} \sum_{q \leq z} \log q - \frac{1}{y \log(z/y)} \sum_{q \leq y} \log q - \int_y^z f'(\lambda) \sum_{q \leq \lambda} \log q d\lambda$$

where  $f(\lambda) = \left(\lambda \log \frac{N}{\lambda}\right)^{-1}$ .

Now

$$(6) \quad \int_y^z f'(\lambda) \sum_{q \leq \lambda} \log q d\lambda = \int_y^z \lambda f'(\lambda) d\lambda + O\left\{\exp(-c(\log N)^{1/2}) \int_y^z \lambda |f'(\lambda)| d\lambda\right\} \\ = - \int_y^z f(\lambda) d\lambda + O((\log N)^{-1}) \\ = \log \log \frac{N}{z} - \log \log \frac{N}{y} + O((\log N)^{-1}) \\ = \log 2(1-\zeta) + O(\log \log N (\log N)^{-1}).$$

Hence we have

$$\sum_{N^{1/2}(\log N)^{-B} < q \leq N^\zeta} \frac{\log q}{q \log(N/q)} = -\log 2(1-\zeta) + O(\log \log N (\log N)^{-1}).$$

And this gives

$$(7) \quad \Sigma_2 \leq -2 \log 2(1-\zeta)N + O(N \log \log N (\log N)^{-1}).$$

In order to estimate the sum  $\Sigma_4$  we divide this into two parts, namely

$$\Sigma_4 = \left\{ \sum_{\substack{q^a \leq N^{2/3} \\ a \geq 2}} + \sum_{\substack{N^{2/3} < q^a < N \\ a \geq 2}} \right\} \pi(N, q^a) \log q \\ = \Sigma_{41} + \Sigma_{42}, \text{ say.}$$

By the theorem of Brun-Titchmarsh

$$(8) \quad \Sigma_{41} = O\left\{ \sum_{q \leq \sqrt{N}} \log q \cdot \frac{N}{\log N} \sum_{a \geq 2} \frac{1}{\varphi(q^a)} \right\} \\ = O\left\{ \frac{N}{\log N} \sum_{q \leq \sqrt{N}} \frac{\log q}{q^2} \right\} = O(N(\log N)^{-1}).$$

And also

$$(9) \quad \Sigma_{42} = O\left\{ \sum_{q \leq \sqrt{N}} \log q \sum_{N^{2/3} < q^a < N} \frac{N}{q^a} \right\} = O\left\{ N^{1/3} \sum_{q \leq \sqrt{N}} \log q \cdot \frac{\log N}{\log q} \right\} = O(N^{5/6}).$$

From (8) and (9) we have

$$(10) \quad \Sigma_4 = O(N(\log N)^{-1}).$$

Consequently from (3), (7) and (10) we obtain

$$\sum_{N^\zeta < q < N} \pi(N, q) \log q \geq 2N \log(2e^{1/4}(1-\zeta)) + O(N \log \log N (\log N)^{-1}).$$

Hence if  $\zeta < 1 - \frac{1}{2}e^{-1/4}$ , we have

$$\sum_{N^\zeta < q < N} \pi(N, q) \log q > 0.$$

From this inequality the theorem follows at once.

References

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