

Lecture 9 (3) Fürstenberg; Cass-Wilderberg ①

↑ article in Wikip. | ↑ better version, unjustly neglected

$X \subset \mathbb{Z}$  is periodic:  $\exists a \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $X+a := \{x+a \mid x \in X\} = X$ ,  $a$  is the period of  $X$ .  $\odot \forall b \in \mathbb{N}$ :  $ab$  is also a period of  $X$ . Properties of periodic sets:

- $X \text{ per.} \iff \mathbb{Z} \setminus X \text{ per.}$  | •  $\emptyset \neq X \subset \mathbb{Z} \text{ per.} \implies X$  is infinite
- $a+d \in \mathbb{Z} = \{a+nd \mid n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is per.,  $a \in \mathbb{Z}, d \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- $X, Y \subset \mathbb{Z} \text{ per.} \implies X \cup Y$  also per. (exercise for you)

For the contrary, let the set  $P$  of primes be finite. Then

$\mathbb{Z} \setminus \{-1, 1\} = \bigcup_{p \in P} (0+p \cdot \mathbb{Z})$  - -1 and 1

are the only integers not divisible by any prime

But  $\mathbb{Z}$  is non-periodic by above properties.  $\implies$  periodic by above properties.  $\square$

④ Thus, by counting | We assume that  $P$  is finite and show that there are

Not enough prime factorizations to create all natural numbers. Let  $P = \{2 \leq p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_q\}$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then the #  $\{(a_1, \dots, a_q) \in \mathbb{N}_0^q \mid p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_q^{a_q} \leq x\} \leq (1 + \log_2 x)^q = o(Lx)$ , where  $Lx = \#\{u \in \mathbb{N} \mid u \leq x\} \sim \frac{x}{\ln x}$ .  $\square$

**⑤ Erdős I**

Let, for any real  $x > 1$ ,

$$\pi(x) = |P_x| = |P \cap \mathbb{N}_x| = |P \cap \{1, 2, \dots, Lx\}|$$

$\uparrow$  the primes  $\leq x$   
 $\uparrow$  the prime counting function

Further, let

$$S_x = \{1, 4, 9, 16, \dots, Lx\}^2 \quad (\square \leq x).$$

Consider the map

$\mathbb{N}_x \ni u \mapsto (A, b^2) \in \mathcal{P}(P_x) \times S_x$ , where  $A =$  the primes with odd exponent in the prime fact. of  $u$ ;  $b^2$  is given by  $u = a b^2$ ,  $a = \prod_{p \in A} p$ . So  $b = \sqrt{u/a} \in \mathbb{N}$ . It is clear that the map is an injection, because  $u = \prod_{p \in A} p \cdot b^2$ .

$$\Rightarrow x-1 < |N_x| \leq |\mathcal{P}(P_x)| \cdot |S_x| = 2^{|P_x|} \cdot |S_x| \leq \quad (3)$$

$$\leq 2^{\pi(x)} \sqrt{x} \Rightarrow \pi(x) > \frac{\log(x\sqrt{x}-1)}{\log 2} \rightarrow +\infty$$

⑥ Erdős's II

Now we

prove that  $\pi(x) > \frac{cx}{\log x} \quad \forall x \geq 2$ , with  $x \rightarrow +\infty$   $\square$

and some constant  $c > 0$ . Let, for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $b_n := \binom{2n}{n} = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_r^{a_r}$  (the prime factorization)

**Lemma** Each  $p_i^{a_i} \leq 2n$ . Proof: Below.

$\Rightarrow b_n \leq (2n)^{\pi(2n)}$ . On the other hand, induction shows that  $\forall n: b_n \geq 2^n$  thus

$$\pi(2n) \geq \frac{n(\log 2)}{\log(2n)}, \text{ which give the bound. } \square$$

But we have to prove the lemma. For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $p$  a prime, let  $v_p(n) :=$  the exponent of  $p$  in the prime factorization of  $n$ . For example,  $v_3(60) = 1$  as  $60 = 2^2 3^1 5^1$ . It is not hard to see that  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}: \text{ord}_p(n!) =$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^u \left\lfloor \frac{u}{p^j} \right\rfloor. \text{ Indeed } \text{ord}_p(u!) = \sum_{z=1}^u \text{ord}_p(z) = \quad (4)$$

(only finitely many  $\neq 0$  summands) (additivity of  $\text{ord}_p(\cdot)$ )

$$= \# \{ (p^j, z) \mid z \in \mathbb{N}, p^j \mid z, z \leq u \} =$$

← grouped by  $z$

$$= \sum_{j \geq 1} \left\lfloor \frac{u}{p^j} \right\rfloor \text{ grouped by } p^j. \text{ (this formula is due to Legendre)}$$

Legendre (1752-1833) - portrait de bûche

$$\text{So, for } u \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ord}_p \binom{2u}{u} = \text{ord}_p((2u)!) - 2 \text{ord}_p(u!) = \sum_{j \geq 1} \left( \left\lfloor \frac{2u}{p^j} \right\rfloor - 2 \left\lfloor \frac{u}{p^j} \right\rfloor \right)$$

$\in \{0, 1\}$  because

$$\forall a \in \mathbb{R}: \lfloor 2a \rfloor - 2 \lfloor a \rfloor \in \{0, 1\}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{ord}_p \binom{2u}{u} \leq \max_{j \in \mathbb{N} \text{ s.t. } p^j \leq 2u} j.$$

(of Lemma)

$$\Rightarrow p^v \leq 2u, \text{ which was to be proved } \square$$

the last 4 proofs elaborate ~~to~~ the Euler

Identity  $\prod_{p \in P} \frac{1}{1-p^{-1}} = \sum \frac{1}{n}$

(7) Infinite distributive law L. Euler:

$$\prod_{p \in P} \frac{1}{1-p^{-1}} = \prod_{p \in P} (1 + \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p^2} + \dots) \Leftrightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} = +\infty$$

which is a contradiction, if  $|P| < +\infty$ , for the product is finite and cannot be equal to the  $1^{st}$  and  $2^{nd}$  equality are fine, but what about the  $2^{nd}$   $\Leftrightarrow$ ? It is in fact an instance of the distributive law for absolutely convergent series.

(8) J. Sylvester

James J. Sylvester (1814-1897)

- finitization of (7)

If  $\forall$  real  $x > 1: \prod_{p \leq x} \frac{1}{1-p^{-1}} \geq \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{n}$ , then

$|P| = \infty$  follows since the  $\sum$  goes to  $+\infty$  with  $x$ .

Proof. (of 8) Since  $\frac{1-y^{q+1}}{1-y} = 1+y+y^2+\dots+y^q$ ,

We have for every real  $y \in (0, 1)$  and  $q \in \mathbb{N}_0$  (6)  
 that  $(1-y)^{-1} > 1+y+y^2+\dots+y^q$ . We set  $y := p^{-1}$ ,  
 and  $q \in \mathbb{N}_0$  to be maximum one with  $p^q \leq x$ .

$$\stackrel{z_p}{\Rightarrow} \prod_{p \leq x} (1-p^{-1})^{-1} > \prod_{p \leq x} (1+p^{-1}+p^{-2}+\dots+p^{-q_p}) =$$

$= \underbrace{n_1^{-1} + n_2^{-1} + \dots + n_\ell^{-1}}_{\substack{\text{whose} \\ n_i \in \mathbb{N} \text{ are exactly the members with prime factorizations} \\ \text{have every prime power } \leq x. \quad \square}}$

(a) L. Euler - analytical proof. Let  $s \in \mathbb{R}$

with  $s > 1$ . then

$$\prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \frac{1}{1-p^{-s}} = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} (1 + \frac{1}{p^s} + \frac{1}{p^{2s}} + \dots) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s}$$

$< +\infty$  (Euler's most famous identity) If

$\mathbb{P}$  were finite, then for  $s \rightarrow 1^+$  the L.S. goes  
 to a finite limit  $\prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \frac{1}{1-1/p}$  but the R.S. goes  
 to  $+\infty$ ,  $\downarrow$  □

(10) An algebraic proof by formal Dirichlet series. (7)

We need the Möbius function  $\mu: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^*$ ,

$$\mu(u) = \begin{cases} 1 & \dots u=1 \\ (-1)^r & \dots u = p_1 p_2 \dots p_r, p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_r \text{ are primes} \\ 0 & \dots \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

**Lemma** For  $u \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\sum_{d|u} \mu(d) = \begin{cases} 1 & \dots u=1 \\ 0 & \dots u > 1. \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** Exercise for you. ☒

In the ring of formal Dirichlet series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n^s}$  where  $a_n \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $s$  is a formal variable, the

Lemma  $\Leftrightarrow$   $\sum \frac{1}{n^s} \cdot \sum \frac{\mu(n)}{n^s} = 1$  ~~Not we~~

~~have in this ring also that~~ Alternatively:

$$S(s) = \sum_n \frac{1}{n^s} = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{p^s} + \frac{1}{p^{2s}} + \dots \right) = \prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} \frac{1}{1 - p^{-s}}$$

formal zeta-function, formal variant of Euler's id.

$$= \frac{\prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}} (1 - 1/p^s)}{\sum \mu(n)/n^s}$$

$$\text{If } |P| < \infty \text{ then } \sum \frac{\mu(n)}{n^s} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n_i)}{n_i^s} \quad (8)$$

where  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_j$  are all  $\square$ -free members, =

$$= \sum_{n=1}^j \frac{a_n}{n^s}, \quad a_1 = \mu(1) = 1 \neq 0. \text{ But in}$$

$$1 = \sum_{n=1}^j \frac{a_n}{n^s} \cdot \sum \frac{1}{n^s} = \sum \left( \sum_{\substack{m|n \\ m \leq j}} a_m \right) \frac{1}{n^s}$$

The coefficient  $\left( \sum_{\substack{m|n \\ m \leq j}} a_m \right)$  is  $\neq 0$

for  $\infty$  many  $n$ , e.g. for  $n = j! + 1, 2j! + 1, 3j! + 1, \dots$  when it equals  $a_1 \neq 0$ . We have a  $\downarrow = \square$

Thank you!!

Author(s) of the note

Proof: H. Klesner and (later) P. Pollock.