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A note on the remainder term of the prime-number formula for arithmetical progressions

1. Let us write

$$\psi(x, k, l) = \sum_{\substack{n \equiv l \pmod{k} \\ n \leq x}} \Lambda(n),$$

where k, l denote integers, $k \geq 1$, $0 < l \leq k$, $(l, k) = 1$.

Consider the remainder term

$$\tilde{\Delta}(x, k, l) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \psi(x, k, l) - \frac{x}{\varphi(k)}.$$

Using the idea of T. Tatzawa we can prove (see [4] and [2], p. 354-360):

If $\prod_{x \bmod k} L(s, \chi) \neq 0$, $s \neq \beta_1$, in the region

$$\sigma \geq 1 - \frac{b_1}{\max\{\log k, \log^{\gamma}(|t| + 3)\}}, \quad 0 < \gamma \leq 1,$$

then

$$\tilde{\Delta}(x, k, l) = O\left(\frac{x}{\varphi(k)} \exp\{-b_2 \log^{1/(1+\gamma)} x\}\right)$$

for

$$x \geq \exp(k^{2(1+\gamma)/\gamma}),$$

where $b_1, b_2, \dots$ are numerical constants.

The subject of this note is to converse this theorem in the case $l = 1$ (see [7]). We prove the following

THEOREM. If $0 < \gamma \leq 1$,

$$(1.1) \quad \tilde{\Delta}(x, k, 1) < c_1 \frac{x}{\varphi(k)} \exp(-c_2 \log^{1/(1+\gamma)} x)$$

for

$$x \geq \exp(k^{2(1+\gamma)/\gamma}),$$

where c_1, c_2 are constants depending only on γ , then $\prod_{\chi \bmod k} L(s, \chi) \neq 0$ in the region

$$(1.2) \quad \sigma > 1 - \frac{1}{c_0} \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma} \frac{1}{\log^\gamma t}, \quad t \geq \max \left(c_3, \exp \frac{c_2}{2} k^{2/\gamma} \right),$$

where $c_3, c_4, \dots$ are constants depending only on c_1, c_2 and γ , and c_0 is numerical.

The case $k = 1$ was solved by P. Turán (see [5], [6]).

2. The proof of the theorem will be based on the following Turán's Theorem (see [5], p. 52):

Let $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_h$ be complex numbers such that

$$|z_1| \geq |z_2| \geq \dots \geq |z_h|, \quad |z_1| \geq 1,$$

and let $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_h$ be any complex numbers.

Then, if m is positive and $N \geq h$, there exists an integer ν such that $m \leq \nu \leq m + N$ and

$$|b_1 z_1^\nu + b_2 z_2^\nu + \dots + b_h z_h^\nu| \geq \left(\frac{1}{48e^2} \frac{N}{2N + m} \right)^N \min_{1 \leq j \leq h} |b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_j|.$$

We will use also the following lemmas:

I. Let k be a positive integer

$$a_n = \begin{cases} 1, & n \equiv 1 \pmod{k}, \\ 0, & n \not\equiv 1 \pmod{k}. \end{cases}$$

Then for $\sigma > 1$, $\xi > 1$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| (-1)^r \sum_{n \geq \xi} \frac{a_n A(n) \log^{r+1}(n/\xi)}{n^s (r+1)!} + \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{\varphi(k)} \left(\sum_{\varrho} \frac{\xi^{\varrho-s}}{(\varrho-s)^{r+2}} - \frac{\xi^{1-s}}{(1-s)^{r+2}} \right) \right| < b_4 \frac{\log \{k(|t|+2)\}}{\xi^{3/2}}, \end{aligned}$$

where r is a positive integer and ϱ runs over all zeros of $\prod_{\chi \bmod k} L(s, \chi)$ in the strip $0 \leq \sigma \leq 1$ (see [3]).

II. Denoting by $N(T)$ the numbers of zeros of all $L(s, \chi)$, $\chi \bmod k$ in the region $0 \leq \sigma < 1$, $|t| \leq T$ we have

$$N(T+1) - N(T) < b_1 k \log k (T+2),$$

where $k \geq 1$, $T \geq 0$, and b_1 is a numerical constant (see [2], Theorem (3.3), p. 220).

III. If $\sigma \geq \frac{1}{2}$, $t > e$, $k \geq 1$, then

$$|L(s, \chi)| < b_6 \log kt \{1 + (kt)^{1-\sigma}\},$$

(see [1]).

3. Let t be positive, a_n defined as above and

$$(3.1) \quad f_{N_1 N_2}(k, t) = \sum_{N_1 \leq n \leq N_2} a_n \Lambda(n) \exp(-it \log n).$$

Then

$$a_n \Lambda(n) = (\tilde{\Delta}(n, k, 1) - \tilde{\Delta}(n-1, k, 1)) + \frac{1}{\varphi(k)}.$$

Hence

$$(3.2) \quad |f_{N_1 N_2}(k, t)| \\ \leq \frac{1}{\varphi(k)} \left| \sum_{N_1 \leq n \leq N_2} \exp(-it \log n) \right| + \\ + \left| \sum_{N_1 \leq n \leq N_2} (\tilde{\Delta}(n, k, 1) - \tilde{\Delta}(n-1, k, 1)) \exp(-it \log n) \right| \\ = \frac{1}{\varphi(k)} I_1 + I_2.$$

By partial summation, we get

$$I_2 \leq |\tilde{\Delta}(N_2, k, 1)| + |\tilde{\Delta}(N_1-1, k, 1)| + \\ + \sum_{N_1 \leq n \leq N_2-1} |\tilde{\Delta}(n, k, 1)| |1 - \exp(-it \log(1 + 1/n))|.$$

Let t be such that for the above c_2 and γ

$$(3.3) \quad 1 + t^2 \leq \exp \left\{ \left(\frac{2}{c_2} \log t \right)^{1+\gamma} \right\},$$

and N_1, N_2 such that

$$(3.4) \quad \exp \left\{ \max \left(\left(\frac{2}{c_2} \log t \right)^{1+\gamma}, k^{(2+\gamma)/\gamma} \right) \right\} \leq N/2 \leq N_1 < N_2 \leq N.$$

Applying (1.1) and noticing that the right-hand side of (1.1) is increasing with $x \geq N/2$, we get

$$I_2 < c_4 \frac{Nt}{\varphi(k)} \exp(-c_2 \log^{1/(1+\gamma)} N).$$

From (3.4) we get

$$\exp(-c_2 \log^{1/(1+\gamma)} N) \leq 1/t^2.$$

Hence

$$(3.5) \quad I_2 < \frac{c_5}{\varphi(k)} \cdot \frac{N}{t}.$$

We have also

$$(3.6) \quad \frac{1}{\varphi(k)} \cdot I_1 < \frac{c_6}{\varphi(k)} \cdot \frac{N}{t}$$

(see [5], p. 152-153).

Using (3.5), (3.6) with (3.2) we infer that

$$(3.7) \quad |f_{N_1 N_2}(k, t)| < \frac{c_8}{\varphi(k)} \cdot \frac{N}{t}.$$

Let us apply (3.7) to estimate from above the sum $\left| \sum_{N_1 \leq n \leq N_2} a_n \Lambda(n)/n^s \right|$ in the region

$$(3.8) \quad 1 < \sigma \leq \frac{3}{2}, \quad t > 2.$$

By partial summation from (3.7) we get

$$(3.9) \quad \left| \sum_{N_1 \leq n \leq N_2} a_n \frac{\Lambda(n)}{n^s} \right| < \frac{c_9}{\varphi(k)} \cdot \frac{N^{1-\sigma}}{t}.$$

4. Choosing

$$(4.1) \quad \eta \geq \exp \left\{ \max \left(\left(\frac{2}{c_2} \log t \right)^{1+\gamma}, k^{2(1+\gamma)/\gamma} \right) \right\}$$

and using (3.9) with

$$N_1^j = \eta \cdot 2^j, \quad N_2^j = \eta \cdot 2^{j+1}, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

we get

$$(4.2) \quad \left| \sum_{n \geq \eta} a_n \frac{\Lambda(n)}{n^s} \right| < c_{10} \frac{\eta^{1-\sigma}}{\varphi(k)t(\sigma-1)}.$$

If

$$(4.3) \quad \xi \geq \exp \left\{ \max \left(\left(\frac{2}{c_2} \log t \right)^{1+\gamma}, k^{2(1+\gamma)/\gamma} \right) \right\}$$

and r denotes a positive integer, then multiplying (4.2) by $\eta^{-1} \cdot \log^r \eta \xi^{-1}$ and integrating over $\langle \xi, +\infty \rangle$ we get

$$\left| \sum_{n \geq \xi} a_n \frac{\Lambda(n)}{n^s} \int_{\xi}^n \frac{1}{\eta} \log^r \frac{\eta}{\xi} d\eta \right| \leq \frac{c_{10}}{\varphi(k)t(\sigma-1)} \int_{\xi}^{\infty} \eta^{-\sigma} \log^r \frac{\eta}{\xi} d\eta.$$

Since

$$\int_{\xi}^{\infty} \eta^{-\sigma} \log^r \frac{\eta}{\xi} d\eta = r! \frac{\xi^{1-\sigma}}{(\sigma-1)^{r+1}}, \quad \int_{\xi}^n \frac{1}{\eta} \log^r \frac{\eta}{\xi} d\eta = \log^{r+1} \left(\frac{n}{\xi} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{r+1},$$

we have

$$(4.4) \quad \left| \sum_{n \geq \xi} \frac{a_n A(n)}{n^s} \log^{r+1} \frac{n}{\xi} \right| < \frac{c_{10}}{\varphi(k)} \cdot \frac{(r+1)! \xi^{1-\sigma}}{t(\sigma-1)^{r+1}}.$$

Applying I to (4.4) we get

$$\left| \sum_{\varrho} \frac{\xi^{\varrho-s}}{(\varrho-s)^{r+2}} - \frac{\xi^{1-s}}{(1-s)^{r+2}} \right| < \frac{c_{10}}{t} \frac{\xi^{1-\sigma}}{(\sigma-1)^{r+2}} + c_{11} \frac{k \log \{k(t+2)\}}{\xi^{3/2}}.$$

Since

$$\left| \frac{\xi^{1-s}}{(s-1)^{r+2}} \right| \leq \frac{\xi^{1-\sigma}}{t(\sigma-1)^{r+1}},$$

we have

$$(4.5) \quad \left| \sum_{\varrho} \frac{\xi^{\varrho-s}}{(\varrho-s)^{r+2}} \right| < c_{10} \frac{\xi^{1-\sigma}}{t(\sigma-1)^{r+2}} + c_{11} \frac{k \log \{k(t+2)\}}{\xi^{3/2}}.$$

From conditions (3.8), (4.3) it follows

$$\frac{1}{\xi} \cdot \frac{k \log k(t+2)}{\xi^{1/2}} < \frac{\xi^{1-\sigma}}{t} \cdot \frac{2 \log \xi \cdot \exp \log^{1/2} \xi}{\xi^{1/2}}.$$

Hence from (4.5) we get the estimate

$$(4.6) \quad \left| \sum_{\varrho} \frac{\xi^{\varrho-s}}{(\varrho-s)^{r+2}} \right| < c_{12} \frac{\xi^{1-\sigma}}{t(\sigma-1)^{r+2}}.$$

5. If Theorem (1.1), (1.2) is false, then there exist such zeros $\varrho^* = \sigma^* + it^*$ for which

$$(5.1) \quad \sigma^* > 1 - \frac{1}{40} \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma} \cdot \frac{1}{\log^\gamma t^*}, \quad t^* \geq \max \left(c_3, \exp \left(\frac{c_2}{2} k^{2/\gamma} \right) \right),$$

where c_3 is an arbitrary large constant. Let t^* be such that

$$(5.2) \quad t^* \geq \max \left\{ e^e, \exp \left(\frac{2}{c_2} \right)^{1+\gamma}, \exp \left(40^{1/\gamma} \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{(1+\gamma)/\gamma} \right), \exp \frac{c_2}{2} k^{2/\gamma} \right\} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} T_0.$$

We apply estimate (4.6) with

$$(5.3) \quad s = s_1 = 1 + \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma} \cdot \frac{1}{\log^\gamma t^*} + it^* \equiv \sigma_1 + it^*,$$

$$(5.4) \quad \xi = e^{(r+2)\omega},$$

where

$$(5.5) \quad \log t^* \leq r+2 \leq \frac{5}{4} \log t^*$$

and

$$(5.6) \quad \omega = \left(\frac{2}{c_2}\right)^{1+\gamma} \log^\gamma t^*.$$

It is easily seen that conditions (3.3), (4.3) are satisfied and that (3.8), owing to (5.2), is of the form

$$(5.7) \quad 1 < \sigma_1 = 1 + \left(\frac{c_2}{2}\right)^{1+\gamma} \cdot \frac{1}{\log^\gamma t^*} < 1 + \left(\frac{c_2}{2}\right)^{1+\gamma} \cdot \frac{1}{40 \cdot (c_2/2)^{1+\gamma}} = 1 + \frac{1}{40}.$$

Multiplying (4.6) by

$$|\xi^{s_1 - \varrho^*} (s_1 - \varrho^*)^{r+2}| = \xi^{\sigma_1 - \sigma^*} (\sigma_1 - \sigma^*)^{r+2},$$

we get

$$(5.8) \quad \left| \sum_{\varrho} \xi^{\varrho - \varrho^*} \left(\frac{s_1 - \varrho^*}{s_1 - \varrho} \right)^{r+2} \right| < c_{13} \frac{\xi^{1-\sigma^*}}{t^*} \left(\frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma^*}{\sigma_1 - 1} \right)^{r+2}.$$

From (5.1), (5.3), (5.5) it follows

$$\left(\frac{\sigma_1 - \sigma^*}{\sigma_1 - 1} \right)^{r+2} < \left(1 + \frac{1}{40} \right)^{r+2} < t^{*1/32}.$$

Therefore from (5.8) we get the estimate

$$(5.9) \quad \left| \sum_{\varrho} \xi^{\varrho - \varrho^*} \left(\frac{s_1 - \varrho^*}{s_1 - \varrho} \right)^{r+2} \right| < c_{14} \frac{\xi^{1-\sigma}}{t^{*31/32}}.$$

6. Let us estimate the part of the sum (5.9) for which $t_{\varrho} > t^* + 8$. Owing to II and (5.5) we have

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= \left| \sum_{\substack{\varrho \\ t_{\varrho} > t^* + 8}} \xi^{\varrho - \varrho^*} \left(\frac{s_1 - \varrho^*}{s_1 - \varrho} \right)^{r+2} \right| < \sum_{n=8}^{\infty} \xi^{1-\sigma^*} \left(\frac{1}{32n} \right)^{r+2} \sum_{\substack{\varrho \\ t^* + n < t_{\varrho} \leq t^* + n+1}} 1 \\ &\leq c_{15} \xi^{1-\sigma^*} \sum_{n=8}^{\infty} \frac{kn \log kt^*}{n^{r+2} (32)^{r+2}} < c_{16} \xi^{1-\sigma^*} \frac{k \log kt^*}{(t^*)^{\log 32}}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can prove that the sums for

$$t^* + 6(\sigma_1 - \sigma^*) \leq t_{\varrho} \leq t^* + 8; \quad 0 \leq t_{\varrho} \leq t^* - 6(\sigma_1 - \sigma^*)$$

and

$$|t_{\varrho} - t^*| \leq 6(\sigma_1 - \sigma^*), \quad \sigma_{\varrho} < 1 - 3(\sigma_1 - \sigma^*)$$

are absolutely less than

$$c_{17} \xi^{1-\sigma^*} \frac{\log^{3/2} t^*}{t^{* \log 3.97}}.$$

Therefore, owing to (5.9) and (5.4), we have

$$(6.1) \quad V \equiv \left| \sum_{\substack{\varrho \\ |t_\varrho - t^*| \leq 6(\sigma_1 - \sigma^*) \\ \sigma_\varrho \geq 1 - 3(\sigma_1 - \sigma^*)}} \left(e^{\omega(\varrho - \varrho^*)} \frac{s_1 - \varrho^*}{s_1 - \varrho} \right)^{r+2} \right| < c_{18} \frac{\xi^{1-\sigma^*}}{t^{*31/32}}.$$

7. Let us estimate V from below. We begin with the estimate of the number of terms in V .

Let

$$\left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma} \frac{1}{\log^\gamma t^*} = \mu,$$

N_1 stands for the number of zeros of $\prod_{\chi \bmod k} L(s, \chi)$ in the circle $|s - s_1| \leq 8\mu$.

Since $16\mu < \frac{1}{2}$, we have owing to III and applying (5.2), in the circle $|s - s_1| \leq 16\mu$ the estimate

$$\log \left| \frac{L(s, \chi)}{L(s_1, \chi)} \right| \leq 15\mu \log kt^* + c_{19} \log \log kt^*.$$

Hence, owing to Jensen inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} N_1 &< 25k\mu \log kt^* + c_{19} k \log \log kt^* \\ &< 25 \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma/2} \frac{\log t^*}{\log^{\gamma/2} t^*} + c_{20} \log^{\gamma/2} t^* \cdot \log \log t^*. \end{aligned}$$

Since the maximal distance of a point in

$$(7.1) \quad |t_\varrho - t^*| \leq 6(\sigma_1 - \sigma^*), \quad \sigma_\varrho \geq 1 - 3(\sigma_1 - \sigma^*)$$

from s_1 is

$$d = |s_1 - (1 - 3(\sigma_1 - \sigma^*)) + (t^* - 6(\sigma_1 - \sigma^*)i)|,$$

in view of $1 - \sigma^* < \frac{1}{40}(\sigma_1 - 1)$, $\sigma_1 - \sigma^* < \frac{41}{40}(\sigma_1 - 1)$ we get $d < 7.4(\sigma_1 - 1) < 8\mu$. So the region (7.1) is contained in the circle $|s - s_1| \leq 8\mu$. Therefore the number of terms in V is less than

$$(7.2) \quad 25 \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma/2} \frac{\log t^*}{\log^{\gamma/2} t^*} + c_{20} \log^{\gamma/2} t^* \cdot \log \log t^*.$$

Let us estimate V from below applying Turán's Theorem. Owing to (7.2) we can choose

$$\begin{aligned} N &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 25 \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma/2} \cdot \frac{\log t^*}{\log^{\gamma/2} t^*} + c_{20} \log^{\gamma/2} t^* \cdot \log \log t^*, \\ z_j &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} e^{\omega(\varrho - \varrho^*)} \frac{s_1 - \varrho^*}{s_1 - \varrho}, \quad m \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \log t^*. \end{aligned}$$

Since, owing to (5.2), we have for $t^* > c_{20}(\gamma)$ the estimate

$$N < \frac{1}{4} \log t^* = \frac{1}{4} m,$$

the interval $(m, m+N)$ is contained in (5.5) for

$$t^* \geq \max(T_0, c_{20}(\gamma)) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} T_1.$$

Defining the exponent $(r+2)$ in the sense of Turán's Theorem, for $t^* \geq T_1$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} V &\geq \left(\frac{1}{48e^2} \cdot \frac{N}{2N+m} \right)^N > \left(\frac{25}{72e^2} \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma/2} \frac{1}{\log^{\gamma/2} t^*} \right)^{25 \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma/2} \cdot \frac{\log t^*}{\log^{\gamma/2} t^*}} \times \\ &\quad \times \left(\frac{c_{20}}{72e^2} \cdot \frac{\log^{\gamma/2} t^* \log \log t^*}{\log t^*} \right)^{c_{20} \log^{\gamma/2} t^* \cdot \log \log t^*} \\ &> \exp \left(-12.5\gamma \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma/2} \frac{\log t^* \cdot \log \log t^*}{\log^{\gamma/2} t^*} \right) \cdot \exp \left(-c_{21} \frac{\log t^* (\log \log t^*)^2}{\log^{\gamma/2} t^*} \right) \\ &= \exp \left\{ -12.5\gamma \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma/2} \log^{1-\gamma/2} t^* \cdot \log \log t^* - c_{21} \log^{1-\gamma/2} t^* \cdot (\log \log t^*)^2 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, owing to (6.1), it follows

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^{1-\sigma^*} &> \frac{t^{*31/32}}{c_{18}} \exp \left\{ -12.5\gamma \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma/2} \log^{1-\gamma/2} t^* \log \log t^* - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - c_{21} \log^{1-\gamma/2} t^* \cdot (\log \log t^*)^2 \right\} > t^{*1/2} \end{aligned}$$

for $t^* > \max(T_1, c_{23}(\gamma))$. Taking into account (5.4), (5.5), (5.6) we get

$$\frac{1}{2} \log t^* < (1-\sigma^*) \left(\frac{2}{c_2} \right)^{1+\gamma} \frac{5}{4} \log^{1+\gamma} t^*.$$

Hence

$$1-\sigma^* > \frac{2}{5} \left(\frac{c_2}{2} \right)^{1+\gamma} \frac{1}{\log^{\gamma} t^*}.$$

and this leads to a contradiction, which proves (1.1), (1.2).

References

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