

# Course 428 — Sample Paper 1

Timothy Murphy

1 Dec 1997

Credit will be given for the best 6 questions answered. Logarithmic tables will be available.

1. State carefully, and prove, the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic (the Unique Factorisation Theorem) for the natural numbers  $\mathbb{N}$ .

Prove that there are an infinity of prime numbers.

Show that a number  $n \equiv 5 \pmod{6}$  must have a prime factor  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{6}$ . Hence or otherwise show that there are an infinity of primes  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{6}$ .

**Answer:**

(a) We say that  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  is prime if  $p > 1$  and

$$d \mid p, d > 1 \implies d = p.$$

**Theorem 1.** Each natural number  $n > 0$  is expressible as a product of prime numbers

$$n = p_1 \cdots p_r,$$

and the expression is unique up to order.

(b) The proof of this result depends on Euclid's Lemma

**Lemma 1.** If  $p$  is prime then

$$p \mid ab \implies p \mid a \text{ or } p \mid b \quad (a, b \in \mathbb{Z}).$$

This follows as a by-product of the euclidean algorithm for computing  $d = \gcd(m, n)$  for  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , which shows that there exist  $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$um + vn = d.$$

For suppose  $p \nmid a$ . Then  $\gcd(p, a) = 1$ , so there exist  $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that

$$up + va = 1.$$

Multiplying by  $b$ ,

$$upb + vab = b.$$

Since  $p \mid ab$  it follows that

$$p \mid b.$$

**Lemma 2.** *Each integer  $n > 1$  is expressible as a product of primes.*

*This follows by induction on  $n$ . If  $n$  is not prime then*

$$n = ab,$$

*and by induction  $a, b$  are expressible as products of primes.*

**Lemma 3.** *The expression for  $n$  as a product of primes is unique up to order.*

*This also follows by induction on  $n$ .*

*Suppose*

$$n = p_1 \cdots p_r = q_1 \cdots q_s$$

*are two such expressions for  $n$ . By Euclid's Lemma,*

$$p_1 \mid q_j$$

*for some  $j$ . Since  $q_j$  is prime,*

$$p_1 = q_j.$$

*The result follows on applying the inductive hypothesis to  $n/p_1$ .*

(c) *Suppose there are only a finite number of primes, say*

$$p_1, \dots, p_n.$$

*Consider*

$$N = p_1 \cdots p_n + 1.$$

*Suppose  $p$  is a prime factor of  $N$ . Then  $p = p_i$  for some  $i$ , by hypothesis. But*

$$p_i \mid N \implies p \mid 1,$$

*which is absurd.*

(d) If  $p$  is an prime  $\neq 2, 3$  then

$$p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{6}.$$

Suppose

$$n = p_1 \cdots p_r.$$

Then

$$p_1, \dots, p_r \equiv 1 \pmod{6} \implies n \equiv 1 \pmod{6}.$$

So if  $n \equiv -1 \pmod{6}$  it must have a prime factor  $\equiv -1 \pmod{6}$ .

(e) Suppose there are only a finite number of primes  $\equiv -1 \pmod{6}$ , say

$$p_1, \dots, p_n.$$

Consider

$$N = 6p_1 \cdots p_n - 1.$$

Then  $N \equiv -1 \pmod{6}$ ; so  $N$  has a prime factor  $p \equiv -1 \pmod{6}$ . By hypothesis  $p = p_i$  for some  $i$ . But as before,

$$p_i \mid N \implies p_i \mid 1,$$

which is absurd.

2. State carefully, and sketch the proof of, Gauss' Law of Quadratic Reciprocity.

Determine if 173 is a quadratic residue mod 297.

**Answer:**

(a)

**Theorem 2.** If  $p, q$  are distinct odd primes then

$$\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) \left(\frac{q}{p}\right) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ or } q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -1 & \text{if } p \equiv q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

(b) Here is the proof using permutations that I mentioned in the lectures.

**Lemma 4.** If  $p$  is an odd prime, and  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$  then

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = \epsilon(\pi),$$

where  $\pi = \pi_a$  is the permutation

$$x \mapsto ax : \mathbb{Z}/(p) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/(p)$$

(and  $\epsilon(\pi) = \pm 1$  according as  $\pi$  is even or odd).

*The proof would not be required in an exam, but I give it here.*

*Proof.* Since  $\pi(0) = 0$ , we may consider the restriction of  $\pi$  to  $(\mathbb{Z}/p)^\times$ ; this will not affect the parity of the permutation.

Suppose the order of  $a \bmod p$  is  $r$ . Then the permutation  $\pi$  of  $(\mathbb{Z}/p)^\times$  consists of  $(p-1)/r$  cycles each of length  $r$ .

We know that

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \equiv a^{(p-1)/2} \pmod{p}.$$

Thus  $\pi$  is even if and only if either  $r$  is odd or  $(p-1)/r$  is even. (Recall that a cycle of odd length is even, while a cycle of even length is odd.)

We know of course that  $r \mid p-1$ . Thus if  $r$  is odd then  $r \mid (p-1)/2$  and so  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = 1$ .

On the other hand if  $r$  is even then  $r \mid (p-1)/2$  if and only if  $(p-1)/r$  is even.  $\square$

*Alternatively, one could argue as follows:*

*Proof.* There are certainly quadratic non-residues  $\bmod p$ , since the equivalence

$$a^{(p-1)/2} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

can be regarded as a polynomial equation

$$x^{(p-1)/2} = 1$$

in the finite field  $F_p = \mathbb{Z}/(p)$ ; and a polynomial equation of degree  $d$  over any field has at most  $d$  roots.

If we write  $\pi_a$  for the permutation defined by  $a$ , then

$$a \mapsto \epsilon(\pi_a) : (\mathbb{Z}/p)^\times \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$$

is a homomorphism.

In particular

$$a^2 \mapsto 1,$$

ie if  $b = a^2$  is a quadratic residue then  $\epsilon(\pi_b) = 1$ .

Consider the subgroup

$$G = \{a \in (\mathbb{Z}/p)^\times : \epsilon(\pi_a) = 1\}.$$

This contains the subgroup formed by the quadratic residues, which is of index 2. Since  $G$  is not the whole group, it must be this subgroup.  $\square$

That is just the hors d'oeuvre. Now for the main part of the proof. By the Chinese Remainder Theorem, the map

$$\gamma : a \bmod pq \mapsto (a \bmod p, a \bmod q) : \mathbb{Z}/(pq) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/(p) \times \mathbb{Z}/(q)$$

is an isomorphism.

We consider two maps in the opposite direction,

$$\alpha, \beta : \mathbb{Z}/(p) \times \mathbb{Z}/(q) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/(pq),$$

given by

$$\alpha(a, b) = a + pb, \quad \beta(a, b) = qa + b \quad (0 \leq a < p, 0 \leq b < q).$$

If we imagine  $\mathbb{Z}/(p) \times \mathbb{Z}/(q)$  as a  $p \times q$  array of numbers then we can think of  $\alpha$  as the ordering of the  $pq$  entries by column, and  $\beta$  as the ordering by rows.

Since

$$\gamma\alpha(a, b) = (a, qb),$$

$\gamma\alpha$  permutes each row of the array by the permutation  $\pi_q$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon(\gamma\alpha) &= \epsilon(\pi_q)^p \\ &= \epsilon(\pi_q) \\ &= \binom{q}{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\epsilon(\gamma\beta) = \binom{p}{q}.$$

The permutation

$$\alpha\beta^{-1} : \mathbb{Z}/(pq) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/(pq)$$

can be written

$$qa + b \mapsto a + pb \quad (0 \leq a < p, 0 \leq b < q).$$

Recall that if  $\pi$  is a permutation of  $1, \dots, n$  then

$$\epsilon(\pi) = (-1)^\mu,$$

where  $\mu$  is the number of reversals of order under  $\pi$ , ie the number of pairs  $(i, j)$  with  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$  such that

$$\pi(i) > \pi(j).$$

So  $\epsilon(\alpha\beta^{-1}) = (-1)^\mu$ , where  $\mu$  is the number of pairs (of pairs)

$$(a, b), (a', b')$$

with

$$qa + b < qa' + b',$$

ie

$$a < a' \text{ or } a = a' \text{ } b < b'$$

such that

$$a + pb > a' + pb',$$

ie

$$b > b' \text{ or } b = b' \text{ } a > a'.$$

Clearly there will be no reversal of order if  $a = a'$ , so we need only consider the cases where  $a < a'$ . Again, there cannot be a reversal of order if  $b = b'$ . So  $\mu$  is the number of cases with

$$a < a' \text{ and } b > b'.$$

These are independent conditions; and the total number of solutions is

$$\frac{p(p-1)}{2} \frac{q(q-1)}{2}.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)^\mu &= (-1)^{\frac{p(p-1)}{2}} (-1)^{\frac{q(q-1)}{2}} \\ &= (-1)^{\frac{(p-1)}{2}} (-1)^{\frac{(q-1)}{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

since  $p, q$  are odd.

Hence

$$\epsilon(\alpha\beta^{-1}) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \frac{q-1}{2}},$$

while

$$\epsilon(\gamma\alpha) = \begin{pmatrix} q \\ p \end{pmatrix}, \quad \epsilon(\gamma\beta) = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since

$$(\gamma\beta)^{-1}(\gamma\alpha) = \beta^{-1}\alpha,$$

it follows that

$$\epsilon(\beta^{-1}\alpha) = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} q \\ p \end{pmatrix}.$$

But

$$\epsilon(\beta^{-1}\alpha) = \epsilon(\alpha\beta^{-1});$$

for

$$\alpha\beta^{-1} = \beta(\beta^{-1}\alpha)\beta^{-1},$$

and if  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a bijection between finite sets, and  $\pi$  is a permutation of  $X$  then  $f\pi f^{-1}$  is a permutation of  $Y$ , and

$$\epsilon(f\pi f^{-1}) = \epsilon(\pi).$$

We conclude that

$$\begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} q \\ p \end{pmatrix} = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2} \frac{q-1}{2}},$$

which is what we had to prove.

- (c) Here is a third proof, using Gauss sums. This is by far the best proof - since the method has many applications in other areas - except that it has one surprising point of difficulty.

Let

$$\epsilon(x) = e^{2\pi i x}.$$

We define the Gauss sum

$$E(a, n) = \sum_{0 \leq j < n} \epsilon\left(\frac{ax^2}{n}\right).$$

**Lemma 5.** If  $p$  is an odd prime, and  $p \nmid a$ ,

$$E(a, p) = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ p \end{pmatrix} E(1, p).$$

*Proof.* Suppose

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = 1,$$

say

$$a \equiv b^2 \pmod{p}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} E(a, p) &= \sum \epsilon\left(\frac{ax^2}{p}\right) \\ &= \sum \epsilon\left(\frac{(bx)^2}{p}\right) \\ &= \sum \epsilon\left(\frac{x^2}{p}\right) \\ &= E(1, p), \end{aligned}$$

since  $bx$  runs over a complete set of residues mod  $p$  as  $x$  does.

Now suppose

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) = -1.$$

As  $x$  runs over a set of residues mod  $p$  coprime to  $p$ ,  $ax^2$  runs over the quadratic non-residues mod  $p$ , each one twice. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} E(a, p) + E(1, p) &= 2 \sum \epsilon\left(\frac{x}{p}\right) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} E(a, p) &= -E(1, p) \\ &= \left(\frac{a}{p}\right) E(1, p). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Lemma 6.** *If  $p, q$  are distinct odd primes then*

$$E(p, q)E(q, p) = E(1, pq).$$



*Proof.* We have

$$\begin{aligned}
E(p, q)E(q, p) &= \sum_{0 \leq x < q} \epsilon \left( \frac{px^2}{q} \right) \sum_{0 \leq x < p} \epsilon \left( \frac{qy^2}{p} \right) \\
&= \sum_{0 \leq x < q, 0 \leq y < p} \epsilon \left( \frac{p^2x^2 + q^2y^2}{pq} \right) \\
&= \sum_{0 \leq x < q, 0 \leq y < p} \epsilon \left( \frac{(px + qy)^2}{pq} \right) \\
&= \sum_{0 \leq z < pq} \epsilon \left( \frac{z^2}{pq} \right) \\
&= E(1, pq),
\end{aligned}$$

since  $px + qy$  runs over the residues mod  $pq$  by the Chinese Remainder Theorem.  $\square$

*Evidently the complex conjugate*

$$\begin{aligned}
\overline{E(a, n)} &= \sum \epsilon \left( \frac{-ax^2}{n} \right) \\
&= E(-a, n).
\end{aligned}$$

*In particular, if  $p$  is an odd prime and  $p \nmid a$  then*

$$\begin{aligned}
\overline{E(a, p)} &= E(-a, p) \\
&= \left( \frac{-1}{p} \right) E(a, p).
\end{aligned}$$

*It follows that*

$$E(a, p) \begin{cases} \in \mathbb{R} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ \in i\mathbb{R} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 7.** *If  $p$  is an odd prime then*

$$|E(1, p)| = \sqrt{p}.$$

*Proof.* We have

$$\begin{aligned}
|E(1, p)|^2 &= E(1, p) \overline{E(1, p)} \\
&= \sum_{0 \leq x, y < p} \epsilon \left( \frac{x^2 - y^2}{p} \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $p \nmid a$ . Then

$$x^2 - y^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$$

has just  $p - 1$  solutions, given by

$$x - y = t, \quad x + y = a/t$$

for  $t = 1, 2, \dots, p - 1$ .

On the other hand

$$x^2 - y^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

has  $2p - 1$  solutions  $(0, 0), (1, \pm 1), \dots, (p - 1, \pm(p - 1))$ .

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{0 \leq x, y < p} \epsilon \left( \frac{x^2 - y^2}{p} \right) &= (2p - 1) + (p - 1) \sum_{1 \leq a \leq p-1} \epsilon \left( \frac{a}{p} \right) \\ &= (2p - 1) + (p - 1)(-1) \\ &= p. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$|E(1, p)|^2 = p.$$

□

*It follows that*

$$E(1, p) = \begin{cases} \pm\sqrt{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ \pm i\sqrt{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$

*In fact the positive sign holds in each case:*

$$E(1, p) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ \sqrt{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$

*It is this that is surprisingly difficult to establish.*

(d) While 173 is prime,

$$297 = 3^3 \cdot 11.$$

Since

$$\left( \frac{173}{3} \right) = \left( \frac{2}{3} \right) = -1,$$

173 is not a quadratic residue mod 3. So a fortiori it is not a quadratic residue mod 297

3. Define an *algebraic number* and an *algebraic integer*. Show that the algebraic numbers form a field  $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}$ , and that the algebraic integers form a ring  $\bar{\mathbb{Z}}$ .

Prove that

$$\bar{\mathbb{Z}} \cap \mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Z}.$$

Show that every algebraic number  $\alpha$  is expressible in the form

$$\alpha = \frac{\beta}{n}$$

where  $\beta$  is an algebraic integer, and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Answer:**

- (a) We say that  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  is an algebraic number if it satisfies an equation of the form

$$x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_n = 0,$$

with  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

- (b) We say that  $\alpha$  is an algebraic integer if it satisfies an equation of the form

$$x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_n = 0,$$

with  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- (c) We have to show that if  $\alpha, \beta \in \bar{\mathbb{Q}}$  then  $\alpha + \beta, \alpha\beta \in \bar{\mathbb{Q}}$ ; and if  $\alpha \neq 0$  then  $\alpha^{-1} \in \bar{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

Suppose  $\alpha, \beta$  satisfy the equations

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= x^m + a_1x^{m-1} + \cdots + a_m, \\ g(x) &= x^n + b_1x^{n-1} + \cdots + b_n, \end{aligned}$$

where  $a_i, b_j \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

If  $\alpha = 0$  or  $\beta = 0$  the result is obvious; so we may suppose that  $a_m, b_n \neq 0$ .

Let the roots of these equations be  $\alpha = \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m$  and  $\beta = \beta_1, \dots, \beta_n$ , so that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= (x - \alpha_1) \cdots (x - \alpha_m), \\ g(x) &= (x - \beta_1) \cdots (x - \beta_n). \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$s(x) = \prod_{i,j} (x - \alpha_i - \beta_j),$$
$$p(x) = \prod_{i,j} (x - \alpha_i \beta_j).$$

Then

$$s(x) = \prod_i g(x - \alpha_i).$$

The coefficients of  $s(x)$  are symmetric polynomials in the  $\alpha_i$ . It follows from the theory of symmetric polynomials that they are expressible as polynomials in the coefficients of  $f(x)$ , and so are in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Thus  $s(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ , and so

$$\alpha + \beta \in \bar{\mathbb{Q}}.$$

Similarly

$$p(x) = \left( \prod_i \alpha_i \right)^n \prod_{i,j} (x/\alpha_i - \beta_j)$$
$$= \left( \prod_i \alpha_i \right)^n \prod_i g(x/\alpha_i)$$
$$= \prod_i g_i(x),$$

where

$$g_i(x) = x^n + a_1 \alpha_i + \cdots + a_n \alpha_i^n.$$

Again, the coefficients of  $p(x)$  are symmetric polynomials in the  $\alpha_i$ , and so are in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Thus

$$\alpha\beta \in \bar{\mathbb{Q}}.$$

Finally,  $\alpha^{-1}$  satisfies the equation

$$a_m + a_{m-1}x + \cdots + a_1 x^{m-1} + 1 = 0.$$

Hence

$$\alpha^{-1} \in \bar{\mathbb{Q}}.$$

(d) If

$$\alpha, \beta \in \bar{\mathbb{Z}},$$

then we may assume that the coefficients  $a_i, b_j \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

In this case the coefficients of  $s(x), p(x)$  are symmetric polynomials in the  $\alpha_i$  with integer coefficients; and the theory of symmetric polynomials shows that they are expressible as polynomials in the coefficients  $a_i$  with integer coefficients. Hence the coefficients of  $s(x), p(x)$  are in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , and so

$$\alpha, \beta \in \bar{\mathbb{Z}}.$$

(e) Suppose  $\alpha \in \bar{\mathbb{Z}}$ , say  $\alpha$  satisfies

$$f(x) = x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_n = 0,$$

with  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Now suppose  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$ , say

$$\alpha = \frac{u}{v},$$

where  $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\gcd(u, v) = 1$ . Then

$$u^n + a_1u^{n-1}v + \cdots + a_nv^n = 0.$$

It follows that

$$v \mid u^n.$$

Since  $\gcd(u, v) = 1$ , this implies that  $v = \pm 1$ , ie

$$\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

(f) Suppose  $\alpha \in \bar{\mathbb{Q}}$ , say  $\alpha$  satisfies

$$x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_n = 0,$$

with  $a_i \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

Multiplying by the lcm of the denominators of the  $a_i$ , we can write this as

$$b_0x^n + b_1x^{n-1} + \cdots + b_n = 0,$$

with  $b_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . But now

$$(b_0x)^n + b_0b_1(b_0x)^{n-1} + \cdots + b_0^n b_n = 0,$$

and so

$$\beta = b_0\alpha$$

satisfies the equation

$$x^n + b_0b_1x^{n-1} + \cdots + b_0^n b_n = 0.$$

Thus  $\beta \in \bar{\mathbb{Z}}$ , and

$$\alpha = \frac{\beta}{b_0},$$

with  $b_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

4. State carefully, and prove, the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  of gaussian integers.

Show that the prime number  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  remains prime in  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  if and only if  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .

Determine the number of ways of expressing 1075 as a sum of 2 squares (of natural numbers).

**Answer:**

(a) We say that

$$\pi \in \Gamma = \mathbb{Z}[i]$$

is a prime if

$$\pi = \alpha\beta \implies \alpha \text{ or } \beta \text{ is a unit} \quad (\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma).$$

(We say that  $\epsilon \in \Gamma$  is a unit if it is invertible in  $\Gamma$ .)

**Theorem 3.** Each non-unit  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  is expressible as a product of primes,

$$\alpha = \pi_1 \cdots \pi_r;$$

and the expression is unique up to order, ie if

$$\alpha = \pi'_1 \cdots \pi'_{r'},$$

is a second such expression, then  $r' = r$  and there is a permutation  $\sigma$  of  $\{1, \dots, r\}$  such that, for each  $i$ ,

$$\pi'_{\sigma(i)} = \epsilon_i \pi_i,$$

where  $\epsilon_i$  is a unit.

(b) For

$$\gamma = x + yi \in \mathbb{Q}[i]$$

we set

$$|\gamma| = \gamma \bar{\gamma} = x^2 + y^2.$$

Evidently,

$$|\gamma_1 \gamma_2| = |\gamma_1| |\gamma_2|.$$

**Lemma 8.** If  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  then

$$\alpha \text{ is a unit} \iff |\alpha| = 1.$$

**Lemma 9.** Given

$$\gamma = x + yi \in \mathbb{Q}[i]$$

we can find  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  such that

$$|\gamma - \alpha| \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

**Corollary 1.** Given  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  (with  $\beta \neq 0$ ) there exists  $\gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$  such that

$$\alpha = \gamma\beta + \delta,$$

with

$$|\delta| < |\beta|.$$

This allows us to set up the Euclidean Algorithm, from which we derive the following result.

**Lemma 10.** Given  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$  there exists

$$\delta = \gcd(\alpha, \beta)$$

such that  $\delta \mid \alpha\beta$  and

$$\delta' \mid \alpha\beta \implies \delta' \mid \delta.$$

Furthermore there exist  $u, v \in \Gamma$  such that

$$u\alpha + v\beta = \delta.$$

**Corollary 2.** If  $\pi$  is prime that

$$\pi \mid \alpha\beta \implies \pi \mid \alpha \text{ or } \pi \mid \beta.$$

**Lemma 11.** Each  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  is expressible as a product of primes.

This follows by induction on  $|\alpha|$ .

**Lemma 12.** *The expression is unique up to order.*

This follows again by induction on  $|\alpha|$ .

For if we have two expressions, as above, then

$$\pi_1 \mid \pi'_j$$

for some  $j$ , and so (since  $\pi'_j$  is prime)

$$\pi'_j = \epsilon \pi_1$$

for some unit  $\epsilon$ .

The result follows on applying the inductive hypothesis to  $\alpha/\pi_1$ .

(c) Let  $p$  be a rational prime.

i. Suppose

$$p \equiv 3 \pmod{4};$$

and suppose  $p$  is not prime in  $\Gamma$ , say

$$p = \alpha\beta.$$

Then

$$|p| = p^2 = |\alpha| |\beta|.$$

It follows that

$$|\alpha| = |\beta| = p.$$

Thus if  $\alpha = u + vi$  then

$$a^2 + b^2 = p.$$

Hence

$$a^2 + b^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{4},$$

which is impossible.

ii. Suppose

$$p \equiv 1 \pmod{4};$$

We know that

$$\left(\frac{a}{p}\right) \equiv a^{(p-1)/2} \pmod{p}$$

It follows that

$$\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = 1,$$



ie there exists a such that

$$a^2 + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

Thus

$$p \mid (a + i)(a - i).$$

If  $p$  were prime in  $\Gamma$  then this would imply that

$$p \mid a \pm i,$$

which is absurd.

iii. Since

$$2 = (1 + i)(1 - i),$$

2 is not prime in  $\Gamma$

We conclude that  $p$  remains prime in  $\Gamma$  if and only if  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .

(d) We have

$$1075 = 5^2 \cdot 43.$$

Suppose

$$1075 = a^2 + b^2 = (a + bi)(a - bi).$$

We know that 43 is prime in  $\Gamma$ . Hence

$$43 \mid a \pm bi,$$

ie

$$43 \mid a, b.$$

But then 43 divides both factors, and so

$$43^2 \mid 1075,$$

which is not true.

Hence 1075 cannot be expressed as the sum of two squares.

5. Prove that if  $m > 0$  is not a square then Pell's equation

$$x^2 - my^2 = 1$$

has an infinity of solutions.

Does the equation

$$x^2 - my^2 = -1$$

have a solution in the cases  $m = 3, 5, 7$ ?

**Answer:**

(a)

**Lemma 13.** *If  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  there are an infinity of integers  $p, q$  with*

$$\left| \alpha - \frac{p}{q} \right| < \frac{1}{q^2}.$$

*Applying this with  $\alpha = \sqrt{m}$ , there are an infinity of  $p, q$  with*

$$\left| \sqrt{m} - \frac{p}{q} \right| < \frac{1}{q^2}.$$

*But then*

$$\left| \sqrt{m} + \frac{p}{q} \right| < 2\sqrt{m} + 1,$$

*and so*

$$\left| m - \frac{p^2}{q^2} \right| < \frac{N}{q^2},$$

*where  $N = [2\sqrt{m}] + 1$ .*

*Thus there are an infinity of integers  $x, y$  such that*

$$|x^2 - my^2| < N.$$

*Consider the remainders  $x, y \pmod{N}$ . There must be some integers  $a, b \in [0, N)$  such that there are an infinity of solutions with*

$$x \equiv a, \quad y \equiv b \pmod{N}.$$

*Let  $(x, y), (X, Y)$  be two such solutions, ie*

$$x \equiv X \equiv a, \quad y \equiv Y \equiv b \pmod{N}.$$

*Now*

$$(x^2 - my^2)(X^2 - mY^2) = (xX - myY)^2 - m(xY - yX)^2.$$

*But modulo  $N$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} xX - myY &\equiv x^2 - my^2 = N \\ &\equiv 0, \end{aligned}$$

*while*

$$\begin{aligned} xY - yX &\equiv xy - yx \\ &\equiv 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$N \mid xX - myY, xY - yX;$$

and so if we set

$$u = \frac{xX - myY}{N}, v = \frac{xY - yX}{N}$$

then

$$u^2 - mv^2 = 1.$$

(b) i. The equation

$$x^2 - 3y^2 = -1$$

has no integer solution. For one of  $x, y$  must be even, and one odd. But

$$u^2 \equiv 0 \text{ or } 1 \pmod{4}.$$

It follows that

$$x^2 - 3y^2 \equiv 0, 1 \text{ or } 2 \pmod{4}.$$

ii. The equation

$$x^2 - 5y^2 = -1$$

has the solution  $x = 2, y = 1$ .

iii. The equation

$$x^2 - 7y^2 = -1$$

has no integer solution. For

$$u^2 \equiv 0, 1 \text{ or } 4 \pmod{8},$$

and so

$$x^2 - 7y^2 \equiv x^2 + y^2 \equiv 0, 1, 2, 4 \text{ or } 5 \pmod{8}.$$

6. Express  $\sqrt{7}$  as a continued fraction.

Show that if the continued fraction for a number  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  is periodic then  $\alpha$  is a quadratic surd.

Sketch the proof of the converse, that any quadratic surd has a periodic continued fraction.

**Answer:**

(a) We have

$$\sqrt{7} = 2 + (\sqrt{7} - 2);$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{\sqrt{7} - 2} &= \frac{\sqrt{7} + 2}{3} \\ &= 1 + \frac{\sqrt{7} - 1}{3}.\end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{3}{\sqrt{7} - 1} &= 3 \frac{\sqrt{7} + 1}{6} \\ &= 1 + \frac{\sqrt{7} - 1}{2};\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{\sqrt{7} - 1} &= 2 \frac{\sqrt{7} + 1}{6} \\ &= 1 + \frac{\sqrt{7} - 2}{3}.\end{aligned}$$

We are back to where we started; so

$$\sqrt{7} = 2 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \dots}}$$

(b) Suppose the continued fraction for  $\alpha$  is periodic, say

$$\alpha = [a_0, \dots, a_r, \dot{b}_1, \text{dots}, \dot{b}_s]$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha &= [a_0, \dots, a_r, \beta] \\ &= \frac{p_r + p_{r-1}\beta}{q_r + q_{r-1}\beta},\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\beta = [\dot{b}_1, \dots, \dot{b}_s]$$

and  $p_i/q_i$  is the  $i$ th convergent to  $\alpha$ .

If we show that  $\beta$  is a quadratic surd it will follow that  $\alpha$  is a quadratic surd.

But

$$\begin{aligned}\beta &= [\dot{b}_1, \dots, \dot{b}_s] \\ &= \frac{p'_s + p'_{s-1}\beta}{q'_s + q'_{s-1}\beta},\end{aligned}$$

where  $p'_i/q'_i$  is the  $i$ th convergent to  $\beta$ .

Thus  $\beta$  satisfies the quadratic equation

$$q'_{s-1}x^2 + (q'_s - p'_{s-1})x - p_s = 0,$$

and so is a quadratic surd.

(c) Suppose

$$\alpha = [a_0, a_1, \dots]$$

is a quadratic surd, say  $\alpha$  satisfies

$$Q(x) = Ax^2 + 2Bx + C = 0,$$

where  $A, B, C \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Let

$$\alpha_n = [a_n, a_{n+1}, \dots].$$

Then

$$\alpha = \frac{p_{n-1}\alpha_n + p_{n-2}}{q_{n-1}\alpha_n + q_{n-2}}.$$

Hence

$$A(p_{n-1}\alpha_n + p_{n-2})^2 + 2B(p_{n-1}\alpha_n + p_{n-2})(q_{n-1}\alpha_n + q_{n-2}) + C(q_{n-1}\alpha_n + q_{n-2})^2 = 0.$$

ie

$$A_n\alpha_n^2 + B_n\alpha_n + C_n,$$

with

$$\begin{aligned}A_n &= Ap_{n-1}^2 + 2Bp_{n-1}q_{n-1} + Cq_{n-1}^2 \\ &= q_{n-1}^2 Q(p_{n-1}/q_{n-1}), \\ B_n &= Ap_{n-1}p_{n-2} + B(p_{n-1}q_{n-2} + q_{n-1}p_{n-2}) + Cq_{n-1}q_{n-2} \\ &= q_{n-1}q_{n-2} Q_1(p_{n-1}/q_{n-1}, p_{n-2}/q_{n-2}), \\ C_n &= Ap_{n-2}^2 + 2Bp_{n-2}q_{n-2} + Cq_{n-2}^2 \\ &= q_{n-2}^2 Q(p_{n-2}/q_{n-2}),\end{aligned}$$

where

$$Q_1(x, y) = Axy + B(x + y) + C$$

is the ‘polarized’ form of the quadratic form  $Q(x)$ .

We shall show that  $A_n, B_n, C_n$  do not get large; this follows from the fact that  $p_i/q_i$  is very close to  $\alpha$ . More precisely,

$$\left| \alpha - \frac{p_i}{q_i} \right| \leq \frac{1}{q_i q_{i+1}} \leq \frac{1}{q_i^2}$$

[since  $\alpha$  lies between  $p_i/q_i$  and  $p_{i+1}/q_{i+1}$  and  $p_i q_{i+1} - q_i p_{i+1} = \pm 1$ ].

Now

$$Q(x) - Q(y) = (x - y)(A(x + y) + B).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} Q(p_i/q_i) - Q(\alpha) &= (p_i/q_i - \alpha)(A(\alpha + p_i/q_i) + B), \\ &= (p_i/q_i - \alpha)(A(\alpha + p_i/q_i) + B), \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} |Q(p_i/q_i) - Q(\alpha)| &\leq |p_i/q_i - \alpha| (|A|(2|\alpha| + 1) + |B|), \\ &\leq C \frac{1}{q_i^2}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $C = 2(|\alpha| + 1) + |B|$ . Thus

$$|A_n| \leq C, \quad |C_n| \leq C.$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1(x, y) - Q_1(x', y') &= A(xy - x'y') + B(x - x' + y - y') \\ &= (x - x')(Ay + B) + (y - y')(Ax' + B). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1(p_{n-1}/q_{n-1}, p_{n-2}/q_{n-2}) - Q_1(\alpha, \alpha) &= (p_{n-1}/q_{n-1} - \alpha)(Ap_{n-1}/q_{n-1} + B) + (p_{n-2}/q_{n-2} - \alpha)(A\alpha + B) \\ &= (p_{n-1}/q_{n-1} - \alpha)(Ap_{n-1}/q_{n-1} + B) + (p_{n-2}/q_{n-2} - \alpha)(A\alpha + B) \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} |Q_1(p_{n-1}/q_{n-1}, p_{n-2}/q_{n-2}) - Q_1(\alpha, \alpha)| &\leq C (|p_{n-1}/q_{n-1} - \alpha| + |p_{n-2}/q_{n-2} - \alpha|) \\ &\leq C \left( \frac{1}{q_{n-1}q_n} + \frac{1}{q_{n-2}q_{n-1}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\text{abs}B_n \leq 2C.$$

It follows that the  $\alpha_n$  are roots of a finite number of quadratics; and so there must be a repetition,

$$\alpha_{m+r} = \alpha_m.$$

In other words, the continued fraction for  $\alpha$  is periodic.

7. Express  $2/3$  as a 2-adic number in standard form

$$a_0 + a_1 2 + a_2 2^2 + \cdots \quad (a_i \in \{0, 1\}).$$

Show that the equation

$$x^2 - 7 = 0$$

has no solution in the 2-adic ring  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , while the equation

$$x^2 + 7 = 0$$

has just two solutions.

**Answer:**

(a) We have

$$\frac{2}{3} \equiv 0 \pmod{2},$$

and

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{3}.$$

Next

$$\frac{1}{3} \equiv 1 \pmod{2},$$

and

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{3} - 1 \right) = \frac{-1}{3}.$$

Continuing

$$\frac{-1}{3} \equiv 1 \pmod{2},$$

and

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{-1}{3} - 1 \right) = \frac{-2}{3}.$$

Again,

$$\frac{-2}{3} \equiv 0 \pmod{2},$$

and

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{-2}{3} \right) = \frac{-1}{3}.$$

We are back to where we were 2 steps ago. Thus

$$\frac{2}{3} = 0 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + \dots,$$

ie

$$\frac{2}{3} = 2 + 2^2 + 2^4 + 2^6 + \dots.$$

Checking,

$$\begin{aligned} 2 + 2^2 + 2^4 + 2^6 + \dots &= 2 + \frac{2^2}{1 - 2^2} \\ &= 2 - \frac{4}{3} \\ &= \frac{2}{3}. \end{aligned}$$

**[Remark.** One could work in the opposite direction, by computing the order of 2 mod 3 (in this case). Thus

$$2^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3},$$

ie

$$3 \mid (1 - 2^2)$$

In fact

$$\frac{1}{1 - 2^2} = \frac{-1}{3},$$



and so

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{3} &= 1 + \frac{-1}{3} \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{1-2^2},\end{aligned}$$

as we saw.

Let us look at a slightly more complicated example from this point of view: Suppose we are asked to express  $2/5$  as a 3-adic integer. The order of 3 mod 5 is 4:

$$3^4 - 1 = 80 = 5 \cdot 16.$$

Thus

$$\frac{1}{5} = \frac{-16}{1-3^4},$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{5} &= \frac{-32}{1-3^4} \\ &= 1 + \frac{81-32}{1-3^4} \\ &= 1 + \frac{49}{1-3^4}\end{aligned}$$

Now express 49 in the usual way to base 3:

$$49 = 3^3 + 2 \cdot 2^3 + 3 + 1.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{5} &= (1 + 3 + 2 \cdot 3^2 + 3^3)(1 + 3^4 + 3^8 + \dots) \\ &= 1 + 3 + 2 \cdot 3^2 + 3^3 + 3^4 + 3^5 + 2 \cdot 3^6 + \dots.\end{aligned}$$

(b) The congruence

$$x^2 - 7 \equiv 0 \pmod{2^2}$$

has no solution, since

$$x^2 \equiv 0 \text{ or } 1 \pmod{4}.$$

Hence

$$x^2 - 7 = 0$$

has no solution in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ .

[If

$$x = a_0 + a_1 2 + a_2 2^2 + \dots$$

were a solution in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , then

$$x = a_0 + a_1 2$$

would be a solution of the congruence

$$x^2 - 7 \equiv 0 \pmod{2^2}.]$$

(c)  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  is an integral domain. Hence if  $\theta \in \mathbb{Z}_2$  were a solution of

$$x^2 + 7 = 0$$

then

$$x^2 + 7 = (x - \theta)(x + \theta),$$

and so there would be just two solutions,  $\pm\theta$ .

To see that there is a solution, we start with the solution  $x = 1$  to the congruence

$$x^2 + 7 \equiv 0 \pmod{2^3}.$$

We must show that we can extend this to a solution  $\pmod{2^e}$  for all  $e$ .

Suppose

$$x^2 + 7 \equiv 0 \pmod{2^e},$$

where  $e \geq 3$ . We want to extend this to a solution  $\pmod{2^{e+1}}$ .

If this solution already satisfies

$$x^2 + 7 \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{e+1}}$$

then there is nothing to do. Otherwise

$$x^2 + 7 \equiv 2^e \pmod{2^{e+1}}.$$

In this case,

$$\begin{aligned} (x^2 + 2^{e-1})^2 + 7 &\equiv x^2 + 2 \cdot 2^e x + 7 \pmod{2^{e+1}} \\ &\equiv 2^e + 2^e \pmod{2^{e+1}} \\ &\equiv 0 \pmod{2^{e+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $x + 2^{e-1}$  is a solution  $\pmod{2^{e+1}}$ .

In this way we can extend the solution indefinitely, to give a solution in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ .

**Remarks**

- i. The argument could be expressed very simply in this case, because there are only 2 congruence classes mod 2. But a similar argument works for an odd prime  $p$  as well. The essential point is that if we have a solution  $x \pmod{p^e}$  of a polynomial equation  $f(x) = 0$  (where  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ) then

$$f(x + zp^e) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{e+1}}$$

reduces to a linear equation for  $z \pmod{p}$ , ie the solution of a linear equation in the field  $\mathbb{F}_p = \mathbb{Z}/(p)$ .

That is the essential content of Hensel's Lemma, which states that: if  $x$  is a solution of

$$f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^e}$$

and

$$f'(x) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

then  $x$  can be extended uniquely to a solution mod  $p^{e+1}$ .

- ii. There is a completely different way of solving this, using a bit of 'p-adic analysis'.

By the binomial theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{-7} &= (1 - 2^3)^{1/2} \\ &= 1 - (1/2)2^3 + \frac{1/2 \cdot -1/2}{1 \cdot 2} 2^6 + \frac{1/2 \cdot -1/2 \cdot -3/2}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3} 2^9 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

We need only ensure that the power of 2 in  $2^{3n}$  more than swamps the power of 2 in the binomial coefficient

$$\binom{1/2}{n}.$$

The power of 2 in the numerator of this is  $2^{-n}$ ; while if

$$2^e \parallel n!$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} e &= \left[ \frac{n}{2} \right] + \left[ \frac{n}{2^2} \right] + \dots \\ &\leq \frac{n}{2} + \frac{n}{2^2} + \dots \\ &\leq n. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\binom{1/2}{n} 2^{3n} \equiv 0 \pmod{2^n},$$

and the binomial series converges.

(Recall that

$$\sum a_n$$

converges in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  if and only if

$$a_n \rightarrow 0.)$$

Note that the solution to

$$x^2 + 7 = 0$$

obtained in this way is not in standard format; but there is nothing wrong with that.

8. Show that a Dirichlet series

$$a_1 + a_2 2^{-s} + a_3 3^{-s} + \cdots \quad (a_i \in \mathbb{C})$$

converges in some half-plane  $\Re(s) > \sigma$ , and diverges in  $\Re(s) < \sigma$ .

Show that  $\sigma = 1$  for the Riemann zeta function  $\zeta(s)$

Show how the definition of  $\zeta(s)$  can be extended to  $\Re(s) > 0$  by considering the function  $(1 - 2^{1-s})\zeta(s)$ , and deduce that  $\zeta(s)$  has just one pole in this region.

Could this technique be used to extend the definition of  $\zeta(s)$  to the whole complex plane?

**Answer:**

(a)

**Lemma 14.** *The series*

$$\sum b_n c_n$$

*converges if*

*i. The partial sums*

$$B_n = \sum_{r \leq n} b_r$$

*are bounded; and*

ii.

$$\sum |c_n - c_{n+1}|$$

is convergent.

Let

$$f(s) = a_1 + a_2 2^{-s} + a_3 3^{-s} + \dots$$

We have to show that if  $f(s)$  is convergent for  $s = s_0$  then it is convergent for all  $s$  with

$$\Re(s) > \Re(s_0).$$

Let

$$s = s_0 + s',$$

where

$$\sigma' = \Re(s') > 0.$$

On applying the Lemma with

$$b_n = a_n n^{-s_0}, \quad c_n = n^{-s'}$$

the result will follow if we show that

$$\sum |n^{-s'} - (n+1)^{-s'}|$$

is convergent.

Now

$$\begin{aligned} n^{-s'} - (n+1)^{-s'} &= \left[ -x^{-s'} \right]_n^{n+1} \\ &= s' \int_n^{n+1} x^{-(s'+1)} dx \end{aligned}$$

But

$$|x^{-(s'+1)}| = x^{-(\sigma'+1)}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} |n^{-s'} - (n+1)^{-s'}| &\leq |s'| \int_n^{n+1} x^{-(\sigma'+1)} dx \\ &= \frac{|s'|}{\sigma'} \left( n^{-\sigma'} - (n+1)^{-\sigma'} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\sum_M^N |n^{-s'} - (n+1)^{-s'}| \leq \frac{|s'|}{\sigma'} \left( M^{-\sigma'} - (N+1)^{-\sigma'} \right);$$

and so

$$\sum |n^{-s'} - (n+1)^{-s'}|$$

is convergent.

(b) If

$$\sigma = \Re(s)$$

then

$$|n^{-s}| = n^{-\sigma}.$$

But if  $\sigma > 1$ ,

$$\sum n^{-\sigma}$$

converges, by comparison with

$$\int x^{-\sigma} dx = \frac{1}{\sigma-1} [x^{-(\sigma-1)}].$$

On the other hand, if  $\sigma < 1$  then

$$\sum n^{-\sigma}$$

diverges, by comparison with

$$\int x^{-1} dx = [\log x].$$

We conclude that the abscissa of convergence for  $\zeta(s)$  is  $\sigma = 1$ .

(c) We have

$$f(s) = (1 - 2 \cdot 2^{-s}) \zeta(s) = 1 - 2^{-s} + 3^{-s} - 4^{-s} + \dots$$

Now  $f(s)$  converges for real  $\sigma > 0$ , since the terms of the series are monotone decreasing and tend to 0.

On the other hand  $f(s)$  is not convergent for  $\sigma < 0$  since the terms do not tend to 0.

It follows that the abscissa of convergence of  $f(s)$  is  $\sigma = 0$ . Hence  $f(s)$  is holomorphic in  $\Re(s) > 0$ ; so

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{1}{1 - 2^{1-s}} f(s)$$

defines the analytic continuation of  $\zeta(s)$  to the region.

The function

$$1 - 2^{1-s} = 1 - e^{(1-s)\log 2}$$

has zeros wherever

$$(1 - s) \log 2 = 2n\pi i,$$

ie

$$s = 1 + \frac{2n\pi}{\log 2} i$$

(with  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ).

On the fact of it,  $\zeta(s)$  could have poles at these points. However, we can consider the function

$$g(s) = (1 - 3 \cdot 3^{-s}) \zeta(s) = 1 + 2^{-s} - 2 \cdot 3^{-s} + 4^{-s} + 5^{-s} - 2 \cdot 6^{-s} + \dots .$$

This series also converges for  $\Re(s) > 0$ , on taking the terms three at a time. It follows that

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{1}{1 - 3^{1-s}} g(s)$$

also defines the analytic continuation of  $\zeta(s)$ .

Since

$$1 - 3^{1-s} = 1 - e^{(1-s)\log 3}$$

has zeros where

$$(1 - s) \log 3 = 2m\pi i,$$

ie

$$s = 1 + \frac{2m\pi}{\log 3} i.$$

(with  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ).

These two sets overlap where

$$\frac{n}{\log 2} = \frac{m}{\log 3}$$

*ie*

$$2^m = 3^n.$$

*The only solution of this is  $m = n = 0$ . It follows that  $\zeta(s)$  can only have a pole in  $\Re(s) > 0$  at the point  $s = 1$ .*

*It does have a pole there, since*

$$\zeta(\sigma) \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } \sigma \rightarrow 1+$$

*(ie as  $\sigma \rightarrow 1$  from above).*

*(d) The technique could be used to continue  $\zeta(s)$  to the whole complex plane. Thus*



9. State the Prime Number Theorem, and sketch its proof.

**Answer:**

(a) *The Prime Number Theorem states that*

$$\pi(x) \sim Li(x),$$

where  $\pi(x)$  is the number of primes  $\leq x$  and

$$Li(x) = \int_e^x \frac{dt}{\log t}.$$

(b) *The steps in the proof of the PNT are:*

**Lemma 15.**

$$Li(x) \sim \frac{x}{\log x}$$

*This is a simple exercise in integration by parts.*

**Lemma 16.** *The Riemann zeta function*

$$\zeta(s) = \sum n^{-s}$$

*is holomorphic in  $\Re(s) > 1$ , and can be extended to a meromorphic function in  $\Re(s)$  with a single simple pole at  $s = 1$ .*

**Lemma 17.** *If  $\Re(s) > 1$ ,*

$$\zeta(s) = \prod_p (1 - p^{-s})^{-1}.$$

**Corollary 3.**  *$\zeta(s)$  has no zeros in  $\Re(s) > 1$ .*

**Lemma 18.** *If  $\Re(s) > 1$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\zeta'(s)}{\zeta(s)} &= \sum \log p p^{-s} + h(s) \\ &= \int x^{-s} d\theta(x) + h(s), \end{aligned}$$

where

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

and  $h(s)$  is holomorphic in  $\Re(s) > 1/2$ .

**Lemma 19.** *The PNT is equivalent to*

$$\theta(x) \sim x,$$

*or equivalently*

$$\psi(x) = o(x),$$

*where*

$$\psi(x) = \theta(x) - x.$$

*This is proved using Riemann-Stieltjes integration by parts.*

**Lemma 20.**  $\zeta(s)$  *has no zeros on*  $\Re(s) = 1$ .

*This is derived from the inequality*

$$\cos 2t + 4 \cos t + 3 \geq 0$$

*which implies that*

$$|\zeta(\sigma + 2ti)| |\zeta(\sigma + ti)|^4 |\zeta(\sigma)|^3 \geq 1.$$

**Lemma 21.**

$$\Psi(s) = \int_1^\infty x^{-s} d\psi(x)$$

*is holomorphic in*  $\Re(s) \geq 1$  *(ie in some open set containing this region).*

**Corollary 4.**

$$\Psi(s+1) = \int_1^\infty x^{-(s+1)} d\psi(x)$$

*is holomorphic in*  $\Re(s) \geq 0$ .

**Lemma 22.** *The Tauberian theorem: if*  $f(x)$  *is bounded on*  $(0, \infty)$  *then*

$$F(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-xs} f(x) dx$$

*is holomorphic in*  $\Re(s) > 0$ . *Furthermore, if*  $F(s)$  *is holomorphic in*  $\Re(s) \geq 0$  *then*

$$\int_0^\infty f(x) dx = F(0).$$

**Corollary 5.** *If  $g(x)$  is bounded on  $(1, \infty)$  then*

$$G(s) = \int_1^{\infty} x^{-(s+1)} g(x) dx$$

*is holomorphic in  $\Re(s) > 0$ . Furthermore, if  $G(s)$  is holomorphic in  $\Re(s) \geq 0$  then*

$$\int_1^{\infty} g(x) \frac{dx}{x} = G(0).$$

*This ‘Mellin form’ of the Tauberian theorem follows at once from the previous version on making the change of variable  $y = e^x$  (and changing back from  $y$  to  $x$ ).*

**Lemma 23.**

$$\theta(x) = O(x).$$

*This ‘bootstrap lemma’ follows on considering the primes dividing the binomial coefficient  $\binom{2n}{n}$ .*

**Corollary 6.**

$$x^{-1}\psi(x)$$

*is bounded.*

**Lemma 24.** *The integral*

$$\int_1^{\infty} \frac{\psi(x)}{x^2} dx$$

*converges.*

*[On integrating by parts,*

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(s+1) &= \int_1^{\infty} x^{-(s+1)} d\psi(x) \\ &= [x^{-(s+1)}\psi(x)]_1^{\infty} + (s+1) \int_1^{\infty} x^{-(s+2)}\psi(x) dx \\ &= -1 + (s+1) \int_1^{\infty} x^{-(s+2)}\psi(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

*if  $\Re(s) > 0$ , since  $\psi(x)/x$  is bounded as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , while  $x^{-s} \rightarrow 0$ .*

*Thus*

$$\int_1^{\infty} x^{-(s+2)}\psi(x) dx = \frac{\Psi(s+1) + 1}{s+1},$$

*and the Tauberian Theorem can be applied.]*

**Lemma 25.**

$$\int^{\infty} \frac{\psi(x)}{x^2} dx \text{ convergent} \implies \theta(x) \sim x.$$

*This is a little tricky. It follows because  $\psi(x)$  is not changing rapidly; so if  $\psi(X) > C > 0$  then  $\psi(x) > C/2$  for  $x \in [X, X']$ , where the interval is long enough to contribute  $> C'$  to the integral, which will contradict convergence if it happens infinitely often; and similarly if  $\psi(X) < -C < 0$ .*

*Remarks. The two main steps in the proof are:*

- i. establishing that  $\zeta(s)$  has no zeros on  $\Re(s) = 1$ ; and*
- ii. the Tauberian theorem.*