## **On Normal Numbers**

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Joint work with Jean-Marie De Koninck.

Let  $E := \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_q\}, E_q^* = \text{words over } E_q, E_q^{\mathbb{N}} = E_q \times E_q \times \dots = \text{infinite sequences over } E_q.$ 

Let 
$$\alpha \in E^*$$
,  $\underline{\varepsilon} = \varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 \ldots \in E_q^{\mathbb{N}}$ ,  $\underline{\varepsilon}^T = \varepsilon_1 \ldots \varepsilon_T$ .

Let

$$M_T(\underline{\varepsilon}|\alpha) = \#\{\beta_1, \beta_2|\underline{\varepsilon}^T = \beta_1 \alpha \beta_2\}.$$

**Definition.**  $\underline{\varepsilon}$  is a normal sequence if for every  $\alpha \in E^*$ ,

$$rac{q^{\lambda(lpha)}M_T(arepsilon|lpha)}{q^T} 
ightarrow \mathbf{1} \quad (T
ightarrow \infty),$$

 $\lambda(\alpha) = length \ of \ \alpha.$ 

Clear: If  $E = A_q = \{0, 1, ..., q - 1\}$ , then  $\underline{\varepsilon}$  is a normal sequence if and only if

$$\xi = \sum \frac{\varepsilon_n}{q^n}$$

is a q-normal number, i.e. if  $\{q^n\xi\}$  is UD sequence.

I. Let 
$$R(n)=n(n+1)\cdots(n+q-1)$$
. 
$$R(n)=\vartheta\pi_1^{\alpha_1}\dots\pi_r^{\alpha_r}$$
 
$$q+1\leq\pi_1<\dots<\pi_r,\quad\pi_j\in\mathcal{P}$$
 
$$P(\vartheta)< q.$$

Let

$$h_n(\pi^a) = h_n(\pi) = \begin{cases} \Lambda & \text{if } \pi | \vartheta \\ l & \text{if } \pi^a | n + l \end{cases}$$
$$\alpha_n = h_n(\pi_1^{\alpha_1}) \dots h_n(\pi_r^{\alpha_r}).$$

Let

$$\underline{\eta} = \alpha_1 \alpha_2 \dots;$$

$$\underline{\xi} = \alpha_3 \alpha_4 \alpha_6 \dots \alpha_{p+1} \dots$$

**Theorem 1.**  $\underline{\eta}$  and  $\underline{\xi}$  are normal sequences.

II. 
$$\mathcal{B} \subset \mathbb{N}$$
,  $B(x) = \#\{b \leq x; b \in \mathcal{B}\}$ 

$$F: \mathcal{B} \to \mathbb{N}, \quad (0 <) c_1 \le \frac{F(b)}{b^r} \le c_2 \quad (b \in \mathcal{B})$$

$$n = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \varepsilon_j(n) q^j, \quad \varepsilon_j(n) \in A_q$$

$$\overline{n} = \varepsilon_0(n) \dots \varepsilon_t(n), \quad \varepsilon_t(n) \ne 0$$

$$N = \left[\frac{\log x}{\log q}\right]$$

Let 
$$0 \le l_1 < \dots < l_h (\le rN), \ a_1, \dots, a_h \in A_q.$$

Let

$$B_F\left(x \middle| \begin{array}{c} l_1, \dots l_h \\ a_1, \dots, a_h \end{array}\right) = \#\{b \le x, \ b \in \mathbb{B}, \ \varepsilon_{l_j}(F(b)) = a_j \ j = 1, \dots, h\},$$

$$B_F(x) = B(x).$$

We say:  $F(\mathcal{B})$  is a q-ary smooth sequence, if there exists  $0 < \alpha < 1$ ,  $\varepsilon(x) \to 0$ , such that for every fixed  $h \ge 1$ :

$$\sup_{N^{\alpha} \leq l_1 < \dots < l_h \leq rN - N^{\alpha}} \left| \frac{q^h B_F\left(x \,\middle|\, \substack{l_1, \dots l_h \\ a_1, \dots, a_h}\right)}{B_F(x)} - 1 \right| \leq c(h)\varepsilon(x)$$

$$\xi_n = \overline{F(b_n)} = \varepsilon_0(F(b_n)) \dots \varepsilon_t(F(b_n)).$$

**Theorem 2.** Assume that  $B(x) \geq c \frac{x}{\log x}$ . Let  $F(\mathcal{B})$  be a q-ary smooth sequence,  $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, b_2, \ldots\}, b_n < b_{n+1}, (n = 1, 2, \ldots)$ 

$$\eta = 0, \xi_1 \xi_2 \dots$$

Then  $\eta$  is a q-normal number.

**Remarks**. 1. If  $P \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ,  $r = \deg P(\geq 1)$ ,  $P(x) \to \infty$   $(x \to \infty)$ , then for  $\mathcal{B} = \mathbb{N}$ , and  $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{P}$ , the corresponding  $\eta$  is normal.

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2. **L. Germán - I. Kátai**: Let  $\widetilde{\mathcal{P}}$  be a subset of the primes such that  $\pi(x|\widetilde{\mathcal{P}}) = \#\{p \leq x, \ p \in \widetilde{\mathcal{P}}\} > c\frac{x}{\log x}$  if  $x > x_0, \ c > 0$ . Let  $N(\widetilde{\mathcal{P}}) = \text{subgroup generated by } \widetilde{\mathcal{P}}$ .  $P \in \mathbb{Z}[x], \ P(x) \to \infty \ (x \to \infty), \ N(\widetilde{\mathcal{P}}) = \{n_1 < n_2 < \ldots\}$ . Then  $\eta = 0, \overline{P(n_1)} \ \overline{P(n_2)} \ldots$  is a normal number. (Annales Sectio Computatorica ELTE, **38** 2012))

III. 
$$q \ge 2$$
,  $n = p_1^{e_1} \cdots p_{k+1}^{e_{k+1}}$ ,  $p_1 < \ldots < p_{k+1}$ 

$$H(n) = c_1(n) \cdots c_k(n)$$
, if  $k \ge 1$ 

$$c_j(n) := \left[ \frac{q \log p_j}{\log p_{j+1}} \right] \in A_q$$

 $H(p^{\alpha}) = \Lambda.$ 

$$\xi = 0, H(1)H(2)...$$

**Theorem 3.**  $\xi$  is a q-normal number.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $R(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ , R(m) > 0 if  $m \ge m_0$  H(R(n) as earlier,

$$\xi = 0, H(R(m_0))H(R(m_0 + 1))...$$

Then  $\xi$  is a q-normal number. Assume further that  $R(0) \neq 0$ .

Let

$$\eta = 0, H(R(p_1))H(R(p_2))...$$

where  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots$  is the whole sequence of the primes. Then  $\eta$  is a q-normal number. **IV.**  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{P}_0 \cup \mathcal{P}_1 \cup \ldots \cup \mathcal{P}_{d-1}$  disjoint

$$\pi([u, u+v]|\mathcal{P}_j) = \frac{1}{d}\pi([u, u+v]) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{u}{(\log u)^c}\right)$$

 $c \geq 5$ ,  $2 \leq u \leq v$ . Let

$$H(p) = \begin{cases} j & \text{if } p \in \mathcal{P}_j & j = 0, \dots, d-1 \\ \Lambda & \text{if } p \in \mathcal{R}. \end{cases}$$

If  $n = p_1^{a_1} \cdots p_r^{a_r}$ , then let

$$R(n) = H(p_1) \cdots H(p_r).$$

Let

$$\xi = 0, R(1)R(2)...$$
  
 $\eta_a = 0, R(2+a)R(3+a)...R(p+a)...$ 

**Theorem 5.** We have  $\xi$  is a d-normal number, furthermore  $\eta_a$  is a d-normal number, if  $a \neq 0$ .

Special case:  $\{h_0,\ldots,h_{\varphi(D)-1}\}$  set of reduced residues mod D,

$$\mathcal{P}_j = \{p | p \equiv h_j \pmod{D}\}$$
  
 $j = 0, \dots, \varphi(D) - 1$   
 $\mathcal{R} = \{p; \ p | D\}.$ 

Functiones et Approximatio 45, 2(2011), 231-253.

$$P(x) = e_k x^k + \dots + e_1 x \in \mathbb{R}[x], \quad P(x) \notin \mathbb{Q}[x].$$
  $I_0, I_1 \subset [0, 1), \lambda(I_0) = \lambda(I_1) > 0,$ 

## intervals

$$\mathcal{P}_0 = \{p : \{P(p)\} \in I_0\}; \quad \mathcal{P}_1 = \{p : \{P(p)\} \in I_1\}$$

$$\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{P} \setminus (\mathcal{P}_0 \cup \mathcal{P}_1).$$

$$H(p) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p \in \mathcal{P}_0 \\ 1 & \text{if } p \in \mathcal{P}_1 \\ \Lambda & \text{if } p \in \mathcal{R}. \end{cases}$$

$$n = p_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots p_r^{\alpha_r}, \ H(n) = H(p_1) \dots H(p_r)$$

 $\xi = 0, H(2)H(3)...$ 

V.

**Theorem 6.** Let  $F \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ ,  $r = \deg F$ , the leading coefficient of F is positive. For some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $n = \sum_{j=0}^{t} \epsilon_j(n)q^j$ ,  $\epsilon_t(n) \neq 0$ ,  $\overline{n} = \epsilon_0(n) \dots \epsilon_t(n)$ . For some nonpositive integer m, let  $\overline{m} = \Lambda$ . Let

$$\eta = 0, \overline{F(P(2+1))} \overline{F(P(3+1))} \dots \overline{F(P(p+1))} \dots$$
  
 $\xi = 0, \overline{F(P(2))} \overline{F(P(3))} \dots \overline{F(P(n))} \dots$ 

Then  $\eta$  and  $\xi$  are q-normal numbers.

J-M. D.K. - I.K.: On a problem of normal numbers raised by Igor Shparlinski, Bull. Austr. Math. Soc. **84** (2011), 337-349.

**Remark**. The assertion remains true by changing  $P \rightarrow P_k$  = the k'th largest prime divisor.

## VI. Problems on normal numbers

Let  $q \geq 2$ ,  $E_q := \{l_0, l_1, \ldots, l_{\varphi(q)-1}\}$ ,  $l_{\nu} \pmod{q}$  are the reduced residues  $\mod q$ .  $A_{\varphi(q)} := \{0, 1, \ldots, \varphi(q) - 1\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{P} = \{p_1, p_2, \ldots\}$  be the whole sequence of primes.  $f_q : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \{\Lambda, A_{\varphi(q)}\}$ .

Let

$$f_q(p) = \begin{cases} j & \text{if } p \equiv l_j \pmod{q} \\ \Lambda & \text{if } (q, p) > 1. \end{cases}$$

Let

$$\mathcal{B}_q = \{ f_q(p_1), f_q(p_2), \ldots \} \in A_{\varphi(q)}^{\mathcal{N}}$$
  
 $\xi_q = 0, f_q(p_1) f_q(p_2) \ldots$ 

Conjecture 1.  $\xi_q$  is a  $\varphi(q)$ -normal number, i.e.

$$x_n = \{\varphi(q)^n \xi_q\}$$

is UD mod 1.

Conjecture 2. Let  $q \geq 3, k_1, k_2, \ldots, k_R \in A_{\varphi(q)}$ . Then

$$p_{n+j} \equiv l_{k_j} \pmod{q} \quad (j = 1, \dots R)$$

holds for infinitely many n.

This seems to be open for  $R \ge 2$  and for  $R \ge 3$  in the case q = 3.

Knapowski-Turán wrote several papers on  $\Omega_{\pm}$  estimations on

$$\pi(x, k, l_1) - \pi(x, k, l_2).$$

A. Rényi formulated a conjecture, namely that for every permutation  $\pi$  of  $A_{\varphi(q)}$  :  $\pi:A_{\varphi(q)}\to A_{\varphi(q)}$  there exists a sequence  $x_1,x_2\ldots,x_n\to\infty$  such that

$$\pi(x_{\nu}, q, \pi(0)) > \pi(x_{\nu}, q, \pi(1)) > \cdots > \pi(x_{\nu}, q, \pi(\varphi(q) - 1))$$

This seems to be very hard also.

Assume that the Hardy-Littlewood conjecture holds, namely that if 0 < b < q,  $(b,q) = 1, a_1, \ldots, a_{k-1}$  be such positive numbers for which the number of solutions  $\rho(p)$  of  $F(m) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  is smaller than p, where

$$F(m) = (mq + b)(mq + b + a_1) \cdots (mq + b + a_1 + \cdots + a_{k-1}).$$

Then the number of  $p_0 = p \le x$ , for which  $p \equiv b \pmod{q}$ 

$$p_j = p_0 + a_1 + \dots + a_j$$
  $(j = 1, \dots, k - 1)$ 

are primes satisfies

$$N_b(x, a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}) = (1 + o_x(1)) \times \prod_{\substack{\pi \le x \\ \pi \in \mathcal{P}}} \left(1 - \frac{\rho(\pi)}{\pi}\right).$$

From the Hardy-Littlewood conjecture one can obtain that large part of the primes  $(p_0, \ldots, p_{k-1})$  counted in  $N_b(x, a_1, \ldots, a_k)$  are consecutive primes, i.e. no primes exists in the intervals  $(p_j, p_{j+1})$   $(j = 1, \ldots k-1)$ .

From this not hard to deduce that for every  $h_0, \ldots, h_{k-1} \in E_q$  there are infinitely many consecutive primes  $p_0, \ldots, p_{k-1}$ , such that

$$p_j \equiv h_j \pmod{q} \quad (j = 0, \dots, k-1).$$

**Problem.** Construct explicitly such a sequence of integers:  $n_1 < n_2 \ldots$  for which in the notation  $n_j \equiv \delta_j \pmod{q}, \ 0 \le \delta_i < q$ , the number

$$\eta = 0, \delta_1 \delta_2 \dots$$
 ( q-ary expansion)

is a q-ary normal number.

I can imagine that one can prove that it is impossible to define such a sequence explicitly, if we would like to use only "simple functions". The following theorem seems to be interesting.

Let  $\xi_1, \xi_2, \ldots$  be independent random variables in  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, P)$  taking values 0 and 1,  $P(\xi_n = 1) = \lambda_n$ ,  $P(\xi_n = 0) = 1 - \lambda_n$ .

Assume that  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0$ ,  $\lambda_n = \frac{1}{\log n}$   $(n \ge 3)$ .

For some  $\omega \in \Omega$  let  $S(\omega) := \{n_1, n_2, \ldots\}$  where  $n_1, n_2, \ldots$  are those indices for which  $\xi_{n_j} = 1$ .

Let  $S(\omega) |_q = \{l_1, l_2, \ldots\}$ , where  $n_j \equiv l_j \pmod{q}$ ,  $l_j \in A_q$ . Theorem 7. Let

$$\theta_q := 0, l_1 l_2 \dots$$
 ( q-ary exp.)

Then  $heta_q$  is a q-ary normal number with probability 1.