

JOURNÉES ARITHMÉTIQUES, 30 JUNE 2025

CONNECTION BETWEEN ZERO-FREE REGIONS AND ERROR TERM PNT

Frederik Broucke — fabrouck.broucke@ugent.be

PRIME NUMBER THEOREM

Prime number theorem

$$\psi(x) := \sum_{n \leq x} \Lambda(n) \sim x.$$

PRIME NUMBER THEOREM

Prime number theorem

$$\psi(x) := \sum_{n \leq x} \Lambda(n) \sim x.$$

Relative error $\Delta(x) = (\psi(x) - x)/x$.

$$\Delta(x) = o(1)$$

PNT,

$$\Delta(x) \ll_{\varepsilon} x^{-1/2+\varepsilon}$$

Riemann hypothesis.

PRIME NUMBER THEOREM

Prime number theorem

$$\psi(x) := \sum_{n \leq x} \Lambda(n) \sim x.$$

Relative error $\Delta(x) = (\psi(x) - x)/x$.

$$\Delta(x) = o(1)$$

PNT,

$$\Delta(x) \ll_{\varepsilon} x^{-1/2+\varepsilon}$$

Riemann hypothesis.

Ingham (1932): if $\zeta(s)$ has no zeros for $\sigma > 1 - \eta(|t|)$, then

$$\Delta(x) \ll_{\varepsilon} \exp(-(1/2 - \varepsilon)\omega_{\eta}(x)), \quad \omega_{\eta}(x) := \inf_{t \geq 1} (\eta(t) \log x + \log t).$$

PINTZ'S THEOREMS

Theorem (Pintz, 1980)

Suppose $\zeta(s)$ has no zeros in $\sigma > 1 - \eta(|t|)$, then

$$\Delta(x) \ll_{\varepsilon} \exp(-(1 - \varepsilon)\omega_{\eta}(x)), \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

PINTZ'S THEOREMS

Theorem (Pintz, 1980)

Suppose $\zeta(s)$ has no zeros in $\sigma > 1 - \eta(|t|)$, then

$$\Delta(x) \ll_{\varepsilon} \exp\left(-(1 - \varepsilon)\omega_{\eta}(x)\right), \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

Recent refinement by Johnston (2024): one may take

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{\eta}(x) = c \frac{\omega_{\eta}(x)}{\log x}.$$

PINTZ'S THEOREMS

Theorem (Pintz, 1980)

Suppose $\zeta(s)$ has no zeros in $\sigma > 1 - \eta(|t|)$, then

$$\Delta(x) \ll_{\varepsilon} \exp(-(1 - \varepsilon)\omega_{\eta}(x)), \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

Recent refinement by Johnston (2024): one may take

$$\varepsilon = \varepsilon_{\eta}(x) = c \frac{\omega_{\eta}(x)}{\log x}.$$

Note:

$$\varepsilon_{\eta}(x) \rightarrow 0, \quad \varepsilon_{\eta}(x)\omega_{\eta}(x) \text{ unbounded if } \sqrt{\log x} = o(\omega_{\eta}(x)).$$

PINTZ'S THEOREMS

Theorem (Pintz, 1980)

Suppose $\zeta(s)$ has infinitely many zeros in $\sigma \geq 1 - g(|t|)$, then

$$\Delta(x) = \Omega_{\pm, \varepsilon} \left(\exp \left(-(1 + \varepsilon) \omega_g(x) \right) \right), \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

PINTZ'S THEOREMS

Theorem (Pintz, 1980)

Suppose $\zeta(s)$ has infinitely many zeros in $\sigma \geq 1 - g(|t|)$, then

$$\Delta(x) = \Omega_{\pm, \varepsilon} \left(\exp \left(-(1 + \varepsilon) \omega_g(x) \right) \right), \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

Idea: explicit formula:

$$\Delta(x) \approx - \sum_{\rho} \frac{x^{\rho-1}}{\rho}, \quad \left| \frac{x^{\rho-1}}{\rho} \right| \approx \exp \left(- \left((1 - \beta) \log x + \log \gamma \right) \right).$$

PINTZ'S THEOREMS

Theorem (Pintz, 1980)

Suppose $\zeta(s)$ has infinitely many zeros in $\sigma \geq 1 - g(|t|)$, then

$$\Delta(x) = \Omega_{\pm, \varepsilon} \left(\exp \left(-(1 + \varepsilon) \omega_g(x) \right) \right), \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

Idea: explicit formula:

$$\Delta(x) \approx - \sum_{\rho} \frac{x^{\rho-1}}{\rho}, \quad \left| \frac{x^{\rho-1}}{\rho} \right| \approx \exp \left(-((1 - \beta) \log x + \log \gamma) \right).$$

For fixed x , size of $\Delta(x)$ is determined by biggest term in above sum.

BEURLING NUMBER SYSTEMS

Beurling generalized primes and integers: $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N})$.

BEURLING NUMBER SYSTEMS

Beurling generalized primes and integers: $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N})$.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P} &= (p_j)_{j \geq 1}, & 1 < p_1 \leq p_2 \leq \dots, & & p_j \rightarrow \infty; \\ \mathcal{N} &= (n_k)_{k \geq 0}, & 1 = n_0 < n_1 \leq n_2 \leq \dots, & & n_k = p_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots p_j^{\alpha_j}.\end{aligned}$$

BEURLING NUMBER SYSTEMS

Beurling generalized primes and integers: $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N})$.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P} &= (p_j)_{j \geq 1}, & 1 < p_1 \leq p_2 \leq \dots, & & p_j \rightarrow \infty; \\ \mathcal{N} &= (n_k)_{k \geq 0}, & 1 = n_0 < n_1 \leq n_2 \leq \dots, & & n_k = p_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots p_j^{\alpha_j}.\end{aligned}$$

Counting functions:

$$\pi_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = \#\{p_j \leq x\}, \quad N_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = \#\{n_k \leq x\};$$

$$\psi_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = \sum_{p_j^{\alpha} \leq x} \log p_j.$$

BEURLING NUMBER SYSTEMS

Beurling generalized primes and integers: $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N})$.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{P} &= (p_j)_{j \geq 1}, & 1 < p_1 \leq p_2 \leq \dots, & & p_j \rightarrow \infty; \\ \mathcal{N} &= (n_k)_{k \geq 0}, & 1 = n_0 < n_1 \leq n_2 \leq \dots, & & n_k = p_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots p_j^{\alpha_j}.\end{aligned}$$

Counting functions:

$$\pi_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = \#\{p_j \leq x\}, \quad N_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = \#\{n_k \leq x\};$$

$$\psi_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = \sum_{p_j^{\alpha} \leq x} \log p_j.$$

Beurling zeta function

$$\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(s) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n_k^s} = \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - p_j^{-s}}.$$

LANDAU'S PNT

Theorem (Landau, 1924)

Let $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N})$ be a Beurling number system with $N_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = Ax + O(x^{\theta})$ for some $A > 0$ and $\theta \in [0, 1)$. Then

$$\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(s) \neq 0 \quad \text{for } \sigma > 1 - \frac{c(1-\theta)}{\log |t|},$$

and

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}(x) := \frac{\psi_{\mathcal{P}}(x) - x}{x} \ll_{\varepsilon} \exp\left(-(1-\varepsilon)2\sqrt{c(1-\theta)\log x}\right).$$

PINTZ'S THEOREMS IN BEURLING SETTING

Theorem (Révész, 2024)

Suppose $N_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = Ax + O(x^\theta)$. If $\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(s)$ has no zeros in $\sigma > 1 - \eta(|t|)$, then

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}(x) \ll_{\varepsilon} \exp(-(1 - \varepsilon)\omega_{\eta}(x)), \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

If $\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(s)$ has infinitely many zeros in $\sigma \geq 1 - g(|t|)$, then

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = \Omega_{\pm, \varepsilon} \left(\exp(-(1 + \varepsilon)\omega_g(x)) \right), \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0.$$

MY ASSUMPTIONS

Set $f(u) := \eta(e^u)$. We consider those η such that

- f regularly varying of index $-\alpha$, $\alpha \in (0, 1]$:

$$\frac{f(\lambda u)}{f(u)} \rightarrow \lambda^{-\alpha}, \quad u \rightarrow \infty, \quad \lambda > 0 \text{ fixed.}$$

or

- f slowly varying:

$$\frac{f(\lambda u)}{f(u)} \rightarrow 1, \quad u \rightarrow \infty, \quad \lambda > 0 \text{ fixed.}$$

MY ASSUMPTIONS

Set $f(u) := \eta(e^u)$. We consider those η such that

- f regularly varying of index $-\alpha$, $\alpha \in (0, 1]$:

$$\frac{f(\lambda u)}{f(u)} \rightarrow \lambda^{-\alpha}, \quad u \rightarrow \infty, \quad \lambda > 0 \text{ fixed.}$$

or

- f slowly varying:

$$\frac{f(\lambda u)}{f(u)} \rightarrow 1, \quad u \rightarrow \infty, \quad \lambda > 0 \text{ fixed.}$$

Vinogradov–Korobov zero-free region:

$$\eta(t) = \frac{c}{(\log t)^{2/3}(\log \log t)^{1/3}} \rightsquigarrow f \text{ regularly varying of index } -2/3.$$

$$\eta(t) = \frac{c}{\log \log t} \rightsquigarrow f \text{ slowly varying.}$$

MY REFINEMENT

Theorem (B., 2025)

Suppose $N_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = Ax + O(x^\theta)$, and suppose $\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(s)$ has no zeros in $\sigma > 1 - \eta(|t|)$, η as above. Then

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}(x) \ll \exp(-\omega_{\eta}(x) + \varpi_{\eta}(x)).$$

MY REFINEMENT

Theorem (B., 2025)

Suppose $N_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = Ax + O(x^{\theta})$, and suppose $\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(s)$ has no zeros in $\sigma > 1 - \eta(|t|)$, η as above. Then

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}(x) \ll \exp(-\omega_{\eta}(x) + \varpi_{\eta}(x)).$$

Here,

$$\varpi_{\eta}(x) := Cf(u_0(x))u_0(x), \quad \text{any } C > \frac{4}{1-\theta},$$

and $u_0(x)$ is such that $\omega_{\eta}(x) = f(u_0(x)) \log x + u_0(x)$ (the minimizer).

MY REFINEMENT

Theorem (B., 2025)

Suppose $N_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = Ax + O(x^\theta)$, and suppose $\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(s)$ has no zeros in $\sigma > 1 - \eta(|t|)$, η as above. Then

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}(x) \ll \exp(-\omega_{\eta}(x) + \varpi_{\eta}(x)).$$

Here,

$$\varpi_{\eta}(x) := Cf(u_0(x))u_0(x), \quad \text{any } C > \frac{4}{1-\theta},$$

and $u_0(x)$ is such that $\omega_{\eta}(x) = f(u_0(x)) \log x + u_0(x)$ (the minimizer).

For Riemann zeta refines Johnston's result:

always $\varpi_{\eta}(x) < \varepsilon_{\eta}(x)\omega_{\eta}(x)$, in some cases $\varpi_{\eta}(x) = o(\varepsilon_{\eta}(x)\omega_{\eta}(x))$.

THE EXAMPLES

Theorem (B., 2025)

Let η be as before. Then there exists a Beurling number system $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N})$ such that

- 1** $N_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = Ax + O_{\varepsilon}(x^{1/2+\varepsilon})$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$;
- 2** $\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(s)$ has infinitely many zeros on $\sigma = 1 - \eta(|t|)$, none to the right;

3

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = \Omega_{\pm} \left(\exp(-\omega_{\eta}(x) + (1/8)\varpi_{\eta}(x)) \right).$$

THE EXAMPLES

Theorem (B., 2025)

Let η be as before. Then there exists a Beurling number system $(\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{N})$ such that

- 1** $N_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = Ax + O_{\varepsilon}(x^{1/2+\varepsilon})$ for all $\varepsilon > 0$;
- 2** $\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(s)$ has infinitely many zeros on $\sigma = 1 - \eta(|t|)$, none to the right;

3

$$\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}(x) = \Omega_{\pm}\left(\exp(-\omega_{\eta}(x) + (1/8)\varpi_{\eta}(x))\right).$$

One can also construct examples with 1. and 2. and with $\Delta_{\mathcal{P}}(x) \ll \exp(-\omega_{\eta}(x))(\log x)^{-\nu}$ for some small $\nu > 0$.

LANDAU'S METHOD

Theorem (Landau, 1924)

Let $\varphi(t)$ and $\psi(t)$ be non-decreasing functions with $\psi(t) \ll e^{\varphi(t)}$. If

$$\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(\sigma + it) \ll e^{\varphi(t)} \quad \text{for } \sigma \geq 1 - \frac{1}{\psi(t)},$$

then there exists a constant $c > 0$ such that

$$\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(\sigma + it) \neq 0 \quad \text{for } \sigma \geq 1 - \frac{c}{\varphi(2t+1)\psi(2t+1)}.$$

SHARPNESS

This is sharp up to the value of the constant c :

Proposition (B., 2025)

For every η as before, there exists a Beurling zeta $\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(s)$ satisfying 1. and 2., and admissible functions $\varphi(t)$ and $\psi(t)$ for which

$$\zeta_{\mathcal{P}}(\sigma + it) \ll e^{\varphi(t)} \quad \text{for } \sigma \geq 1 - \frac{1}{\psi(t)},$$

$$\eta(t) \asymp \frac{1}{\varphi(2t+1)\psi(2t+1)}.$$

QUESTIONS?