

# A PROOF OF RIEMANN HYPOTHESIS USING THE GROWTH OF MERTENS FUNCTION

YOUNG-MOOK KANG

ABSTRACT. A study of growth of  $M(x)$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  is one of the most useful approach to the Riemann hypophotesis(RH). It is very known that the RH is equivalent to which  $M(x) = O(x^{1/2+\varepsilon})$  for  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Also Littlewood proved that "the RH is equivalent to the statement that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} M(x)x^{-1/2-\varepsilon} = 0$ , for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ ".[1] To use growth of  $M(x)$  approaches zero as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , I simply prove that the Riemann hypothesis is valid. Now Riemann hypothesis is not hypothesis any longer.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Riemann zeta-function  $\zeta(s)$  is the function of complex numbers  $s$  ( $s \neq 1$ ). There are infinitely many zeros at the negative even integers such that at ( $s = -2, s = -4, s = -6, \dots$ ) These are called the trivial zeros. The Riemann hypothesis(RH) is related the non-trivial zeros, and states that:

"All non-trivial zeros of Riemann zeta-function  $\zeta(s)$  have real part  $\frac{1}{2}$ ."

The RH has been implied strong bounds on the growth of many arithmetic functions. Among them, our most interesting function is Mertens function.

1.1. **Mertens function** :  $M(n)$  is defined as follows :

$$M(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n \mu(k)$$

where  $\mu(k)$  is the Möbius function. [1, 2]

The inverse of the Riemann zeta function is expressed that the Dirichlet series generates the Möbius function by Euler product.

$$(1.1) \quad \frac{1}{\zeta(s)} = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_k^s}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^s}$$

where  $\Re(s) > 1$  ,  $p_k$  is the  $k$ -th prime number

Mertens function,  $M(x)$  is closely linked with the positions of zeroes of the Riemann zeta-function,  $\zeta(s)$ . When we define  $M(0) = 0$ , their relation is expressed as follows : [3]

$$\frac{1}{\zeta(s)} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^s} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{M(n) - M(n-1)}{n^s}$$

---

*Key words and phrases.* Riemann hypothesis, Mertens function, Möbius function, Golden key, Denjoy Probabilistic Interpretation.

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{M(n)}{n^s} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{M(n-1)}{(n)^s} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{M(n)}{n^s} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{M(n)}{(n+1)^s} \\
&= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} M(n) \left( \frac{1}{n^s} - \frac{1}{(n+1)^s} \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} M(n) \int_n^{n+1} \frac{s}{x^{s+1}} dx \\
&= s \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_n^{n+1} \frac{M(x)}{x^{s+1}} dx = s \int_1^{\infty} \frac{M(x)}{x^{s+1}} dx
\end{aligned}$$

since  $M(x)$  is constant on each interval  $[n, n+1)$

$$(1.2) \quad \frac{1}{\zeta(s)} = s \int_1^{\infty} M(x) x^{-s-1} dx$$

The equation (1.2) shows that a relation of the Mertens function and zeros of the Riemann zeta-function very well.

If  $|M(x)| < C|x^{1/2}|$  for  $C > 0$ , then

$$\left| \frac{M(x)}{x^{s+1}} \right| < \left| \frac{C\sqrt{x}}{x^{s+1}} \right| = \frac{C}{\sqrt{x}} \left| \frac{1}{x^s} \right| = \frac{C}{\sqrt{x}} \frac{1}{x^{\Re(s)}} = \frac{C}{x^{\Re(s)+1/2}}$$

This means that  $\Re(s) > 1/2$  because, the right integral in equation (1.2) would converge provided which  $\Re(s) + 1/2 > 1$ . According to this result, it can define a function analytic in  $\Re(s) > 1/2$  and extend an analytic continuation of  $1/\zeta(s)$  from  $\Re(s) > 1$  to  $\Re(s) > 1/2$ . It means that  $\zeta(s)$  have no zeros for  $\Re(s) > 1/2$  and also for  $\Re(s) < 1/2$  by symmetry.[3] Thus, all non-trivial zeros must have real part one-half.  $|M(x)| < C|x^{1/2}|$  called Mertens conjecture is a condition stronger than RH. Actually, the RH is equivalent to a condition that  $M(x) = O(x^{1/2+\varepsilon})$  for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ . [2, 4] Also according to a chapter 12 in the reference [1], a necessary and sufficient condition for the RH is

$$(1.3) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M(x)}{x^{1/2+\varepsilon}} = 0, \text{ for every } \varepsilon > 0, \text{ proven by Littlewood.}$$

I just will prove that equation (1.3) is valid using the growth of  $M(x)$ , for a proof of the RH.

## 2. THE GROWTH OF MERTENS FUNCTION

While I was studying about the growth of  $M(x)$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , I found a fact that the equation (1.1) is very similar to  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(n)$ . If we can remove  $\frac{1}{n^s}$  in the equation (1.1), can we know about  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(n)$ ? The solution was found very easily. Look at the equation (2.1).

$$(2.1) \quad \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{p_k}{p_k}\right) = 0, \text{ where } p_k \text{ is the } k\text{-th prime number.}$$

Actually, it is seem that means nothing at all. However, I want to call that it is one of the Golden Keys for opening locked RH. Because, it shows that the growth of  $M(x)$  approaches zero as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

$$\prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_k^s}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^s} \text{ vs } \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{p_k^s}{p_k^s}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^s \mu(n)}{n^s}$$

**Theorem 2.1.** *A Golden Key of the Riemann Hypothesis*

$$\prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{p_k}{p_k}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(n) = 0$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} & \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{p_k}{p_k}\right) = 0 \\ & = \left(1 - \frac{2}{2}\right)\left(1 - \frac{3}{3}\right)\left(1 - \frac{5}{5}\right)\left(1 - \frac{7}{7}\right)\left(1 - \frac{11}{11}\right)\left(1 - \frac{13}{13}\right)\left(1 - \frac{17}{17}\right)\left(1 - \frac{19}{19}\right)\dots \\ & = 1 - \frac{2}{2} - \frac{3}{3} - \frac{5}{5} + \frac{6}{6} - \frac{7}{7} + \frac{10}{10} - \frac{11}{11} - \frac{13}{13} + \frac{14}{14} + \frac{15}{15} - \frac{17}{17} - \frac{19}{19} + \frac{21}{21} + \dots \\ & = 1 + \frac{-2}{2} + \frac{-3}{3} + \frac{0}{4} + \frac{-5}{5} + \frac{6}{6} + \frac{-7}{7} + \frac{0}{8} + \frac{0}{9} + \frac{10}{10} + \frac{-11}{11} + \frac{0}{12} + \frac{-13}{13} + \frac{14}{14} + \frac{15}{15} + \frac{0}{16} + \dots \\ & = \frac{1 \times 1}{1} + \frac{2 \times -1}{2} + \frac{3 \times -1}{3} + \frac{4 \times 0}{4} + \frac{5 \times -1}{5} + \frac{6 \times 1}{6} + \frac{7 \times -1}{7} + \frac{8 \times 0}{8} + \frac{9 \times 0}{9} + \frac{10 \times 1}{10} + \dots \\ & = \frac{1\mu(1)}{1} + \frac{2\mu(2)}{2} + \frac{3\mu(3)}{3} + \frac{4\mu(4)}{4} + \frac{5\mu(5)}{5} + \frac{6\mu(6)}{6} + \frac{7\mu(7)}{7} + \frac{8\mu(8)}{8} + \frac{9\mu(9)}{9} + \frac{10\mu(10)}{10} + \dots \\ & = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n\mu(n)}{n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(n) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

How do you think about the convergence of the growth of  $M(x)$ ? Maybe most people have believed that the growth of  $M(x)$  must be diverged as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . However, the theorem(2.1) shows that the growth of  $M(x)$  approaches zero as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

### 3. THE PROBABILITY OF MÖBIUS FUNCTION

The theorem(2.1) shows some results about probability of Möbius function as following :

**Corollary 3.1.**

$$Pr(\mu(n) = +1) = Pr(\mu(n) = -1)$$

where  $n$  is the natural number.

*Proof.*

$$\text{Because, } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M(n) = 0$$

Therefore, the numbers of  $-1$  and  $+1$  of  $\mu(n)$  are equal.

□

**Corollary 3.2.**

$$Pr(\mu(n) = +1) = \frac{3}{\pi^2}, \quad Pr(\mu(n) = -1) = \frac{3}{\pi^2} \quad \text{and} \quad Pr(\mu(n) = 0) = 1 - \frac{6}{\pi^2}$$

where  $n$  is the natural number.

*Proof.*

Using the inclusion-exclusion principle,

a probability of the total square-free numbers is defined as follows :

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(\mu(n) \neq 0) &= (1 - \frac{1}{2^2})(1 - \frac{1}{3^2})(1 - \frac{1}{5^2})(1 - \frac{1}{7^2})(1 - \frac{1}{11^2}) \cdots \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 - \frac{1}{p_k^2}) = \frac{1}{\zeta(2)} = \frac{6}{\pi^2} \end{aligned}$$

Because,  $Pr(\mu(n) = -1) = Pr(\mu(n) = +1)$

and

$$Pr(\mu(n) = -1) + Pr(\mu(n) = +1) + Pr(\mu(n) = 0) = 1$$

Therefore,  $Pr(\mu(n) = +1) = \frac{3}{\pi^2}$ ,  $Pr(\mu(n) = -1) = \frac{3}{\pi^2}$ ,  $Pr(\mu(n) = 0) = 1 - \frac{6}{\pi^2}$

□

Denjoy's proposal an another probabilistic condition that is equivalent to RH with probability one.[1] It has some suppositions which square-free numbers are random sequences and independent events with symmetrical distribution. In other words if a square-free number is taken at random and has an equal probability of containing an odd or an even number of distinct prime divisors,  $M(x) = O(x^{1/2+\varepsilon})$  and the RH is true with probability one. From corollary (3.1) and (3.2), we can verify a fact that  $Pr(\mu(n) = +1)$  and  $Pr(\mu(n) = -1)$  are equal. These are providing the plausible evidences for the Riemann Hypothesis.

#### 4. A PROOF OF RIEMANN'S HYPOTHESIS

**Theorem 4.1.**

*All non-trivial zeros of  $\zeta(s)$  have real part one-half.*

*Proof.*

Using theorem (2.1),  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} M(x) = 0$

↓

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M(x)}{x^{1/2+\varepsilon}} = 0, \text{ for every } \varepsilon > 0$$

This condition is equivalent to the Riemann hypothesis.[1]

Therefore, the Riemann hypothesis is true.

□

## 5. CONCLUSION

I very simply prove the RH using the growth of  $M(x)$  approaches zero as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . From now on, Riemann hypothesis is not his hypothesis any longer. It is reborn an obvious theorem.

The  $M(x)$  closely linked with the positions of zeroes of  $\zeta(s)$  have some questions still. Their relation has been very known that the RH is equivalent to  $M(x) = O(x^{1/2+\varepsilon})$ . [2, 4] I think that this relation is very similar to  $|\pi(x) - Li(x)| = O(\sqrt{x} \log x)$  called Koch's result. RH is proven using the growth of  $M(x)$  approaches zero as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ . This condition is fairly stronger than  $O(x^{1/2+\varepsilon})$ . If Koch's result and  $M(x)$  are closely related, I conjecture that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} |\pi(x) - Li(x)| = 0$  alike the growth of  $M(x)$ .

**Conjecture 1.**

$$|\pi(x) - Li(x)| \leq C\sqrt{x} \log x, \text{ where } C \geq 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} C = 0$$

Today, the precise version of Koch's result is that  $|\pi(x) - Li(x)| < \pi/8\sqrt{x} \log x$  where  $x > 2657$  proven by Schoenfeld.

## REFERENCES

1. Edwards, H. M., *Riemann's Zeta Function*, Dover Publications, New York, pp. 260–263, 268–269.
2. Derbyshire John, *Prime Obsession*, Joseph Henry Press, Washington, DC
3. Julian Havil, *Gamma*, Princeton University Press, New Jersey
4. Wikipedia, *Riemann hypothesis*, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riemann\\_hypothesis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riemann_hypothesis)

DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, YONSEI UNIVERSITY, SEOUL, KOREA  
E-mail address: kangmuk1@yonsei.ac.kr