

An Alternate Proof of the Prime Number Theorem

RC Hall MSEE, BSEE

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- 1) $\sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{k} \approx \text{Ln}(N)$ i.e. $\int_1^N \frac{1}{x} dx = \text{Ln}(N)$
- 2) $\text{Ln}(\text{Ln}(N)) \approx \text{Ln}(\sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{k})$
- 3) $\sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{k} = \prod_{p \leq N} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{p}}$; p – prime number
- 4) $\text{Ln}(\text{Ln}(N)) = \text{Ln}(\prod_{p \leq N} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{p}}) =$
- 5) $\sum_{p \leq N} \text{Ln}(\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{p}})$
- 6) $\text{Ln}(\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{p}}) = -\text{Ln}(1 - \frac{1}{p})$
- 7) Solve $\int_0^x \frac{dt}{1-t}$
- 8) Let $u = 1-t$; $du = -dt$
- 9) $\int_0^x \frac{dt}{1-t} = \int_1^{1-x} \frac{-du}{u} = \text{Ln}(1) - \text{Ln}(1-x) = -\text{Ln}(1-x)$
- 10) $x = \frac{1}{p}$
- 11) $\frac{1}{1-t} = 1 + t + t^2 + t^3 + \dots + t^r$ as $r \rightarrow \infty$ geometric progression
- 12) $\int_0^{\frac{1}{p}} \frac{dt}{1-t} = \int_0^{\frac{1}{p}} (1 + t + t^2 + t^3 + \dots + t^r) dt =$
- 13) $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{2p^2} + \frac{1}{3p^3} + \dots + \frac{1}{rt^r} \sim \frac{1}{p}$
- 14) $\text{Ln}(\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{p}}) \approx \frac{1}{p}$
- 15) Therefore $\sum_{p \leq N} \text{Ln}(\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{p}}) \approx \sum_{p \leq N} \frac{1}{p}$
- 16) And $\text{Ln}(\text{Ln}(N)) \approx \sum_{p \leq N} \frac{1}{p}$
- 17) Solve $\int_e^N \frac{dt}{t \text{Ln}(t)}$
- 18) Let $u = \text{Ln}(t)$; $du = \frac{dt}{t}$
- 19) $\int_{\text{Ln}(e)}^{\text{Ln}(N)} \frac{du}{u} = \text{Ln}(u) = \text{Ln}(\text{Ln}(u)) = \text{Ln}(\text{Ln}(N)) - \text{Ln}(\text{Ln}(e)) = \text{Ln}(\text{Ln}(N)) - \text{Ln}(\text{Ln}(e)) = \text{Ln}(\text{Ln}(N))$
- 20) $\sum_{p \leq N} \frac{1}{p} \approx \text{Ln}(\text{Ln}(N)) = \int_e^N \frac{dt}{t \text{Ln}(t)}$
- 21) $\frac{1}{t \text{Ln}(t)}$ is the probability density function of the sum of the reciprocals of prime numbers i.e.
 $\sum_{p \leq N} \frac{1}{p}$
- 22) $\int_e^{100000} \frac{dt}{t \text{Ln}(t)} = 2.831$

- 23) The actual sum of the reciprocals of prime numbers up to (N = 100,000) = 2.705 (percentage difference of 4.66%
- 24) If $\frac{1}{t \ln(t)}$ is the probability density function of the sum of the reciprocals of prime numbers then what is the probability density function of the actual sum of prime numbers?
- 25) Let $y = \frac{1}{x}$ (the reciprocal of the reciprocal i.e. p)
- 26) $\text{pdf}_y dy = \text{pdf}_x dx$
- 27) $\text{pdf}_y = \text{pdf}_x \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|$
- 28) $\left| \frac{dy}{dx} \right| = x^{-2}$; $\left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = x^2$
- 29) pdf_y (sum of primes) = $x^2 \times \left(\frac{1}{x \ln(x)} \right) = \frac{x}{\ln(x)}$
- 30) $\int_e^{100000} \frac{x dx}{\ln(x)} = 455,059,956$; $\sum_2^{p < 100000} p = 454,495,540$

31) % difference is 0.124% (very close)

32) $\frac{\int_e^N \frac{x dx}{\ln(x)}}{\int_e^N \frac{dx}{\ln(x)}}$ is the approximate mean value of prime numbers between e and N for a probability density of function of $\frac{1}{\ln(x)}$

33) $\frac{\sum_e^{p < N} p_i}{\int_e^N \frac{dx}{\ln(x)}} \approx$ mean value of prime numbers less than N

34) $\frac{\int_e^N \frac{x dx}{\ln(x)}}{\int_e^N \frac{dx}{\ln(x)}} \approx \frac{\sum_e^{p < N} p_i}{\int_e^N \frac{dx}{\ln(x)}} \approx$ mean value of primes less than N

35) $\int_e^N \frac{dx}{\ln(x)} \approx \frac{\sum_e^{p < N} p_i}{\text{mean } p} \approx \frac{N}{\ln(N)}$, which is the prime number theorem

References:

John Derbyshire.2003. Prime Obsession:Bernard Riemann and the Greatest Unsolved Problem in Mathematics. Washington, DC: Joseph Henry Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/10532>