On Robin's criterion for the Riemann Hypothesis

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Abstract Robin's criterion states that the Riemann hypothesis is true if and only if the inequality $\sigma(n) < e^{\gamma} \times n \times \log\log n$ holds for all natural numbers n > 5040, where $\sigma(n)$ is the sum-of-divisors function of n and $\gamma \approx 0.57721$ is the Euler-Mascheroni constant. In 2022, Vega stated that the possible existence of the smallest counterexample n > 5040 of the Robin inequality implies that $q_m > e^{31.018189471}$ and $(\log n)^{\beta} < 1.03352795481 \times \log(N_m)$, where $N_m = \prod_{i=1}^m q_i$ is the primorial number of order m, q_m is the largest prime divisor of n and $\beta = \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{q_i^{a_i+1}}{q_i^{a_i+1}-1}$ when n must be an Hardy-Ramanujan integer of the form $\prod_{i=1}^m q_i^{a_i}$. Based on that result, we obtain a contradiction just assuming the existence of such possible smallest counterexample n > 5040 for the Robin inequality. By contraposition, we show that the Riemann hypothesis should be true.

Keywords Riemann hypothesis \cdot Robin inequality \cdot Sum-of-divisors function \cdot Prime numbers \cdot Counterexample

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1 Introduction

In mathematics, the Riemann hypothesis is a conjecture that the Riemann zeta function has its zeros only at the negative even integers and complex numbers with real part $\frac{1}{2}$. As usual $\sigma(n)$ is the sum-of-divisors function of n:

$$\sum_{d|n} a$$

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where $d \mid n$ means the integer d divides n and $d \nmid n$ means the integer d does not divide n. Define f(n) to be $\frac{\sigma(n)}{n}$. Say Robins(n) holds provided

$$f(n) < e^{\gamma} \times \log \log n$$
.

The constant $\gamma \approx 0.57721$ is the Euler-Mascheroni constant and log is the natural logarithm. The importance of this property is:

Theorem 1.1 Robins(n) holds for all natural numbers n > 5040 if and only if the Riemann hypothesis is true [3].

It is known that Robins(n) holds for many classes of numbers n. We recall that an integer n is said to be square free if for every prime divisor q of n we have $q^2 \nmid n$.

Theorem 1.2 Robins(n) holds for all natural numbers n > 5040 that are square free [1].

Let $q_1 = 2, q_2 = 3, ..., q_m$ denote the first m consecutive primes, then an integer of the form $\prod_{i=1}^m q_i^{a_i}$ with $a_1 \ge a_2 \ge ... \ge a_m \ge 0$ is called an Hardy-Ramanujan integer [1]. Now, we are able to use this recently result:

Theorem 1.3 The possible existence of the smallest counterexample n > 5040 of the Robin inequality implies that $q_m > e^{31.018189471}$ and $(\log n)^{\beta} < 1.03352795481 \times \log(N_m)$, where $N_m = \prod_{i=1}^m q_i$ is the primorial number of order m, q_m is the largest prime divisor of n and $\beta = \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{q_i^{a_i+1}}{q_i^{a_i+1}-1}$ when n must be an Hardy-Ramanujan integer of the form $\prod_{i=1}^m q_i^{a_i}$ [4].

Putting all together yields a proof for the Riemann hypothesis using the Theorem 1.3 as the principal argument.

2 Known Results

These are known results:

Lemma 2.1 *For every x* > -1 [2]:

$$\log(1+x) \ge \frac{x}{x+1}.$$

Lemma 2.2 For every real number x [2]:

$$e^{x} > 1 + x$$
.

Lemma 2.3 *For every* x > -1 *[2]:*

$$\frac{\log(1+x)}{x} \ge \frac{2}{x+2}.$$

3 A Central Lemma

The following is a key Lemma.

Lemma 3.1 If the natural number n > 5040 is an Hardy-Ramanujan integer of the form $\prod_{i=1}^m q_i^{a_i}$, then $\beta \ge 1 + \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}$ where $\beta = \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{q_i^{a_i+1}}{q_i^{a_i+1}-1}$.

Proof If we apply the logarithm to the value of

$$\prod_{i=1}^{m} \frac{q_i^{a_i+1}}{q_i^{a_i+1}-1}$$

then we obtain that

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \log(\frac{q_i^{a_i+1}}{q_i^{a_i+1}-1}).$$

For some $1 \le j \le m$, we know that

$$\frac{q_j^{a_j+1}}{q_j^{a_j+1}-1} = 1 + \frac{1}{q_j^{a_j+1}-1}.$$

We use the Lemma 2.1 to show that

$$\begin{split} \log(1 + \frac{1}{q_j^{a_j + 1} - 1}) &\geq \frac{\frac{1}{q_j^{a_j + 1} - 1}}{\frac{1}{q_j^{a_j + 1} - 1} + 1} \\ &= \frac{1}{(q_j^{a_j + 1} - 1) \times (\frac{1}{q_j^{a_j + 1} - 1} + 1)} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 + (q_j^{a_j + 1} - 1)} \\ &= \frac{1}{q_j^{a_j + 1}}. \end{split}$$

So,

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \log(\frac{q_i^{a_i+1}}{q_i^{a_i+1}-1}) \geq \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}$$

and thus,

$$\prod_{i=1}^m \frac{q_i^{a_i+1}}{q_i^{a_i+1}-1} \geq e^{\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}}.$$

Using the Lemma 2.2, we have that

$$e^{\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}} \ge 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}$$

and therefore,

$$\beta \ge 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}.$$

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4 Main Insight

This is the main insight.

Lemma 4.1 Suppose that n > 5040 is an Hardy-Ramanujan integer of the form $\prod_{i=1}^m q_i^{a_i}$ and $q_m > e^{31.018189471}$. Then $(\log n)^{\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}} \ge 1.03352795481$.

Proof If we apply the logarithm to the both sides of the inequality, then

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right) \times \log \log n \ge \log(1.03352795481).$$

Let's multiply the both sides of the inequality by e^{γ} ,

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right) \times e^{\gamma} \times \log\log n \ge e^{\gamma} \times \log(1.03352795481).$$

From the Theorem 1.2, we know that

$$e^{\gamma} \times \log \log n \ge e^{\gamma} \times \log \log N_m$$
$$> f(N_m)$$
$$= \prod_{i=1}^{m} (1 + \frac{1}{q_i})$$

since n > 5040 is an Hardy-Ramanujan integer, $N_m = \prod_{i=1}^m q_i$ is the primorial number of order m and thus, $n \ge N_m$ and N_m is square free. Hence, we would have that

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right) \times \prod_{i=1}^{m} (1 + \frac{1}{q_i}) \ge e^{\gamma} \times \log(1.03352795481).$$

If we apply the logarithm to the both sides again, then

$$\log\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \log(1 + \frac{1}{q_i}) \ge \log(e^{\gamma} \times \log(1.03352795481)).$$

We use the Lemma 2.3 to show that

$$\log\left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right) = \log\left(1 + \left(-1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right)\right)$$

$$\geq \frac{2 \times \left(-1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right)}{\left(-1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right) + 2}$$

$$= \frac{2 \times \left(-1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right)}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}}$$

$$\geq 2 \times \left(-1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right)$$

$$= -2 + 2 \times \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right)$$

since

$$-1 + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}} > -1.$$

For some $1 \le j \le m$, we know that

$$\log(1 + \frac{1}{q_j}) \ge \frac{\frac{1}{q_j}}{\frac{1}{q_j} + 1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{q_j \times (\frac{1}{q_j} + 1)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 + q_j}$$

according to the Lemma 2.1. However, we note that

$$-2 + 2 \times \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{1+q_i} > 0$$

when $q_m > e^{31.018189471}$. In addition, we have that

$$0 > \log(e^{\gamma} \times \log(1.03352795481))$$

and finally, the proof is complete.

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5 Main Theorem

We conclude with the following statement:

Theorem 5.1 *The Riemann hypothesis is true.*

Proof Suppose that n > 5040 is the possible smallest number such that Robins(n) does not hold. By the Theorem 1.3, we know that $q_m > e^{31.018189471}$ and $(\log n)^{\beta} < 1.03352795481 \times \log(N_m)$, where $N_m = \prod_{i=1}^m q_i$ is the primorial number of order m, q_m is the largest prime divisor of n and $\beta = \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{q_i^{a_i+1}}{q_i^{a_i+1}-1}$ when n must be an Hardy-Ramanujan integer of the form $\prod_{i=1}^m q_i^{a_i}$. From the Lemma 3.1, we know that

$$(\log n)^{\beta} \ge (\log n)^{\left(1+\sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right)}$$

and therefore, we would have that

$$(\log n)^{\left(1+\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}\right)} < 1.03352795481 \times \log(N_m)$$

when n > 5040 is the possible smallest number such that Robins(n) does not hold. Thus, we would obtain that

$$(\log n)^{\sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{1}{q_i^{a_i+1}}} < 1.03352795481$$

since n must be an Hardy-Ramanujan integer and so, $\log n \ge \log N_m$. However, we know the previous inequality cannot be satisfied because of the Lemma 4.1. By contraposition, we show that the Riemann hypothesis is true, since we obtain a contradiction just assuming the possible smallest counterexample for the Robin inequality greater than 5040. Certainly, this is a direct consequence of the Theorem 1.1.

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