

96. On Selberg's Function

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1. In a recent paper, A. Selberg has achieved an elementary proof of Dirichlet's theorem about primes in an arithmetic progression⁵⁾ (numbers in square brackets refer to the references at the end of this note), and his proof is based upon the following Selberg's Inequality :

$$(1) \quad \frac{x}{k} V(x) = \sum_{p \leq x, p \equiv \lambda(k)} \log^2 p + \sum_{pq \leq x, pq \equiv \lambda(k)} \log p \log q + O(x),$$

where

$$(2) \quad V(x) = \sum_{d \leq x, (d, k) = 1} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \log^2 \frac{x}{d} = \frac{2}{\varphi(k)} x \log x + O(x).$$

For every positive integer k , $\mu(k)$ and $\varphi(k)$ are the Möbius function and the Euler function respectively. p, q are primes and $(k, l) = 1$.

We shall give in this note the generalized forms of (1) and (2) (Theorems 1, 2 and 3). Our method is based upon Selberg's original papers⁶⁾, and Shapiro's⁷⁾. The umbral calculus is very effective in our description of the calculations and results¹⁾. The results of our previous paper²⁾ are used here without proofs.

2. Preliminary Lemmas and Notions

Lemma 1. For every integers k and i , the number theoretic function $[k]^i \geq 0$ with the following initial conditions: $k \geq 0$, $k \geq i$, $[0]^i = 1$ for $i = 0, 1$, $1/|i|!$ for $i < 0$ and $[k]^i = 0$ for $k < i$, is defined by the recurrence formula $[k]^i = [k - i]^i + i[k - 1]^{i-1}$. Then, we get $[k]^i = k!/(k - i)!$ ($i \leq 0$). $[k]^i$ ($i \geq 0$) is said the factorial polynomial in k degree i .

Lemma 2.

$$\sum_{i=l+m}^k (-1)^i [i]^m \binom{k}{i} \binom{i-m}{i} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{for } k \neq l + m, \\ (-1)^k [k]^{k-l}, & \text{for } k = l + m, \end{cases}$$

where $\binom{k}{i} = [k]!/i!$, $k \geq i \geq 0$ is the binomial coefficient.

Lemma 3. λ_n is a partition of n and if there are m_1 parts equal to 1, m_2 parts equal to 2, m_3 parts equal to 3, etc., then the partition may be written as⁴⁾ $\lambda_n = (1^{m_1} 2^{m_2} 3^{m_3} \dots)$, $m_i \geq 0$, and we put $m = \sum_{i=1}^m m_i$, $p(\lambda_n) = m!/m_1! m_2! \dots m_n! = \binom{m}{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n}$. We associate a monomial $M(\lambda_n, x) = M(\lambda_n, x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_1^{m_1} x_2^{m_2} \dots x_n^{m_n}$ with a partition λ_n . Put $A^n = A^n(x) = A^n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{\lambda_n} p(\lambda_n) M(\lambda_n, x)$, then, we have $A^n = \sum_{j=1}^n x_j A^{n-j}$.