

THE PROBABILITY OF TWO INTEGERS TO BE CO-PRIME, REVISITED — ON THE BEHAVIOR OF CLT-SCALING LIMIT

HIROSHI SUGITA* and SATOSHI TAKANOBU†

(Received February 27, 2002)

1. Introduction

Let $\gcd(x, y)$ denote the greatest common divisor of integers x and y . Define functions X and S_N on \mathbb{Z}^2 by

$$(1) \quad X(x, y) := \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \gcd(x, y) = 1, \\ 0, & \text{if } \gcd(x, y) > 1, \end{cases}$$
$$(2) \quad S_N(x, y) := \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{m, m'=1}^N X(x+m, y+m'), \quad N \in \mathbb{N}.$$

The following number-theoretic limit theorem is due to Dirichlet [4] (cf. [6, Theorem 332]):

$$(3) \quad \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S_N(x, y) = \frac{6}{\pi^2}, \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}^2.$$

Regarding (3) as a law of large numbers (LLN for short), it is natural to ask if a central limit theorem (CLT for short) holds for X . That is, for sufficiently large N , is the scaled function

$$(4) \quad Y_N(x, y) := N \left(S_N(x, y) - \frac{6}{\pi^2} \right)$$

approximately normally “distributed”? Here we consider “distribution” of Y_N , at the suggestion of [2], [5] and [9], as follows: If the limit

$$(5) \quad \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{M^2} \sum_{m, m'=1}^M \exp\left(\sqrt{-1} t Y_N(m, m')\right), \quad t \in \mathbb{R},$$

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification* : Primary 60B10; secondary 60F05, 60B15, 11N37, 11K41.

*Partially supported by Grant-in-Aid for scientific research 11440034 Min. Education, Japan.

†Partially supported by Grant-in-Aid for scientific research 13640108 Min. Education, Japan.