

Investigations of the Number Derivative

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The Number Derivative

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All positive integers $n \geq 2$ can be written as $n = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{x_i}$ for distinct primes p and positive integers x . This factorization is unique up to order.

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- 3 $(ab)' = a'b + ab', \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ (Product Rule)

Examples and Domains

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$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{10}{9} \right)' &= (2 \cdot 5 \cdot 3^{-2})' \\ &= (2 \cdot 5 \cdot 3^{-2}) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{-2}{3} \right) \\ &= \frac{5}{9} + \frac{2}{9} - \frac{20}{27} \\ &= \frac{1}{27} \end{aligned}$$

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Applications on \mathbb{Z}^+

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③ $n' = 2b, \quad (\text{Goldbach Conjecture})$

The Goldbach Conjecture states that every even number greater than 3 is the sum of two primes. So for two primes p and q , if there are solutions of type $n = pq$ for every $b > 1$, then the Goldbach Conjecture holds. (Ufranovski, 6)

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④ $n'' = 1, \quad (\text{Twin Primes Conjecture})$

The Twin Primes Conjecture states that there are infinitely many prime pairs of the type $p, p + 2$. So if $n = 2p, n' = p + 2$, and thus if there are infinitely many solutions to $(2p)'' = 1$, then the Twin Primes Conjecture holds. (Ufranovski, 10)

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This is analogous to the $k \times k$ determinant of the diagonal matrix of the form:

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Since this matrix is diagonal the determinant of this matrix takes the same form as our factorization above.

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Consider a number n having only two prime factors, i.e. $n = p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2}$. We must show that our determinant gives us the same result when applying the product rule to this factorization, namely,

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Proof of the 3×3 Case

Factorization:

$$n = p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2} p_3^{x_3} \implies n' = x_1 p_1^{x_1-1} p_2^{x_2} p_3^{x_3} + x_2 p_2^{x_2-1} p_1^{x_1} p_3^{x_3} + x_3 p_3^{x_3-1} p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2}$$

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Inductive Step

Factorization: $n = p_1^{x_1} p_2^{x_2} \cdots p_k^{x_k}$

We assume that the result holds for the above factorization, and we proceed by induction on k . Consider the case for $k + 1$. We want to show that

$$(n \cdot p_{k+1}^{x_{k+1}})' = n' \cdot p_{k+1}^{x_{k+1}} + n \cdot x_{k+1} p_{k+1}^{x_{k+1}-1}.$$

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- (2) Investigate orbits of numbers with stable factors under \mathbb{Z}^n ,

$$108 = 2^2 \cdot 3^3 : \quad 108 \rightarrow 108 \cdot 2 \rightarrow 108 \cdot 5 \rightarrow 108 \cdot 11 \rightarrow 108 \cdot 23 \rightarrow \dots$$

$$432 = 2^2 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3^3 : \quad 432 \rightarrow 432 \cdot 3 \rightarrow 432 \cdot 10 \rightarrow 432 \cdot 37 \rightarrow 432 \cdot 112 \rightarrow \dots$$

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Questions?