Möbius Orthogonality for the Zeckendorf Sum-of-Digits Function

Clemens Müllner

Friday, May 26, 2017

Joint work with Michael Drmota and Lukas Spiegelhofer

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Zeckendorf Sum-of-Digits Function

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The Möbius function is defined by

$$\mu(n) = \begin{cases} (-1)^k & \text{if } n \text{ is squarefree and} \\ k \text{ is the number of prime factors} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

A sequence **u** is **orthogonal to the Möbius function** $\mu(n)$ if

$$\sum_{n\leq N}\mu(n)u_n=o(\sum_{n\leq N}|u_n|) \qquad (N\to\infty).$$

Old Heuristic - Mobius Randomness Law

Any "reasonably defined (easy)" bounded sequence independent of μ is orthogonal to $\mu.$ The Möbius function is defined by

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- Constant sequences ⇔ PNT
- Periodic sequences \Leftrightarrow PNT in arithmetic Progressions
- Quasiperiodic sequences $f(n) = F(\alpha n \mod 1)$ Davenport
- Nilsequences Green and Tao
- Horocycle Flows Bourgain, Sarnak and Ziegler
- Dynamical systems with discrete spectrum

Results

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Definition

A dynamical system is said to be deterministic, if its topological entropy is 0.

Conjecture (Sarnak conjecture, 2010)

Every bounded complex sequence $\mathbf{u} = (u_n)_{n>0}$ that is obtained by a deterministic dynamical system is orthogonal to the Möbius function $\mu(n)$.

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Chowla Conjecture

Conjecture (Chowla)

Let $0 \le a_1 < a_2 < \ldots < a_t$ and k_1, k_2, \ldots, k_t in $\{1, 2\}$ not all even, then as $N \to \infty$

$$\sum_{n \leq N} \mu^{k_1}(n + a_1) \mu^{k_2}(n + a_2) \cdots \mu^{k_t}(n + a_t) = o(N).$$

Theorem (Sarnak)

The Chowla Conjecture implies the Sarnak Conjecture.

Theorem (Tao)

The logarithmic version of the Sarnak Conjecture implies the logarithmic version of the Chowla Conjecture.

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Zeckendorf Sum-of-Digits Function

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Automatic sequence



 $n = 22 = (10110)_2,$ $u_{22} = 1$ $\mathbf{u} = (u_n)_{n \ge 0} = 0110100110100101100101100101...$

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Theorem 2 (M., 2016)

Under suitable (weak) conditions one also gets a Prime Number Theorem for automatic sequence.

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Use and adopt a framework of Mauduit and Rivat developed for the Rudin-Shapiro sequence.

- Carry Property: The contribution of high and low digits is "independent".
- Fourier Property:

We say that U has the **Fourier property** if there exists $\eta > 0$ and c such that for all λ, α and t

$$\left\|rac{1}{k^{\lambda}}\sum_{m < k^{\lambda}} U(mk^{lpha}) e(mt)
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Zeckendorf Representation

Fibonacci numbers

$$F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1$$
 and $F_{k+2} = F_{k+1} + F_k$ for $k \ge 0$.

where,
$$\omega$$
 is the golden ratio.

Zeckendorf Representation

Every positive integer *n* admits a unique representation

$$n=\sum_{i\geq 2}\varepsilon_i(n)F_i,$$

where, $\varepsilon_i(n) \in \{0, 1\}$ and $\varepsilon_i = 1 \Rightarrow \varepsilon_{i+1} = 0$.

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We denote by

$$s_{\varphi}(n) = \sum_{i\geq 2} \varepsilon_i(n)$$

the Zeckendorf sum-of-digits function.

We note that $s_{\varphi}(n)$ is the least k such that n is the sum of k Fibonacci numbers.

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Theorem (Drmota, M., Spiegelhofer, 2017)

Let $s_{\varphi}(n)$ be the Zeckendorf sum-of-digits function and m(n) a bounded multiplicative function. Then we have

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$$\sum_{n< N} (-1)^{s_{\varphi}(n)} m(n) = o(N) \qquad (N \to \infty).$$

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Fixpoint of a Substitution

Definition

Let *E* be a finite set and σ a *k*-uniform morphism such that $\sigma(E) \subseteq E^k$. Then if **w** is a fixed point of σ , i.e. $\sigma(\mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{w}$, then **w** is a *k*-automatic sequence.

Example (Thue-Morse)

 $E = \{0, 1\}$ $\sigma(0) = 01$ $\sigma(1) = 10$

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A Morphism

 $\begin{array}{l} a\mapsto ab\\ b\mapsto c\\ c\mapsto cd\\ d\mapsto a. \end{array}$

This gives the sequence $(-1)^{s_{\varphi}(n)}$ under the coding $\tau(a) = \tau(d) = 1, \tau(b) = \tau(c) = -1.$

This is one of the first examples of a substitution with non-constant length to be orthogonal to the Möbius function.

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A DFAO

We use as input the Zeckendorf representation of n, i.e. $\varepsilon_k(n), \ldots, \varepsilon_0(n)$:



• Use the Kátai Criterion to reduce the problem to

$$\sum_{n\leq N} (-1)^{s_{\varphi}(pn)+s_{\varphi}(qn)} = o(N),$$

for all different primes p, q.

• Use a generating function approach and "quasi-additivity" of $(-1)^{s_{\varphi}(pn)+s_{\varphi}(qn)}$ to reduce this to:

$$s_{\varphi}(pn_0) \not\equiv s_{\varphi}(qn_0) \bmod 2 \tag{1}$$

for some n_0 .

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Kátai Criterion

Suppose that (x_n) is a bounded complex valued sequence with values in a finite set and that for every pair (p, q) of different prime numbers we have

$$\sum_{n\leq N} x_{pn} \overline{x_{qn}} = o(N).$$

Then for all bounded multiplicative functions m(n) it follows that

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We say that n_1 and n_2 are *r*-separated at position k if $\varepsilon_i(n_1) = 0$ for $i \ge k - r$ and $\varepsilon_i(n_2) = 0$ for $i \le k + r$.

Example:

 $n_1 = 4 \Rightarrow 0000101$ $n_2 = 29 \Rightarrow 1010000$

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Definition (for integer base by Kropf, Wagner)

We call a function f(n) quasi-additive (with respect to the Zeckendorf expansion) if there exists $r \ge 0$ such that

$$f(n_1 + n_2) = f(n_1) + f(n_2)$$

for all integers n₁, n₂ that are r separated.
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Let $q > p \ge 2$ and $f(n) = s_{\varphi}(pn) + s_{\varphi}(qn)$. Then f(n) is quasi-additive with respect to the Zeckendorf expansion.

Proof (Sketch): It suffices to work with $s_{\varphi}(mn)$ as the sum of quasi-additive functions is again quasi-additive. Choose r such that $\varphi^{r-1} < m$. $n_1 < F_{k-r} \Rightarrow mn_1 < F_k$. $\varepsilon_i(n_2) = 0 \forall i < k + r \Rightarrow \varepsilon_i(mn_2) = 0 \forall i < k$.

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Generating Functions Approach

Let f be a quasi-additive function and

$$H(x,z) := \sum_{k\geq 3} x^k \sum_{F_{k-1}\leq n < F_k} z^{f(n)}.$$

Note that

$$[x^{k}]H(x,-1) = \sum_{F_{k-1} \le n < F_{k}} (-1)^{s_{\varphi}(pn) + s_{\varphi}(qn)}.$$

Let \mathcal{B} be the set of integers *n* whose Zeckendorf expansion ends with exactly *r* zeros and that can not be decomposed into positive, *r*-separated summands. Let

$$B(x,z) = \sum_{n \in \mathcal{B}} x^{\ell(n)} z^{f(n)},$$

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Thus by decomposing n into parts belonging to \mathcal{B} , we find

$$H(x,z) = \frac{1}{1-x} \frac{1}{1-B(x,z)\frac{x^{2r+1}}{1-x}} B'(x,z)$$
$$= \frac{B'(x,z)}{1-x-x^{2r+1}B(x,z)}.$$

The dominant singularity of H(x, 1) is at $x_0 = \frac{1}{\varphi}$. This is due to the fact that $x = x_0$ is a solution for

$$x + x^{2r+1}B(x,1) = 1.$$

It suffices to show that there exists no solution in $|x| < x_0 + \varepsilon$ for

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