

Theorems of Barban-Davenport-Halberstam type with higher moments

Tomos PARRY
Universität Göttingen

In an arithmetic progression $(a + nq)_{n \geq 1}$ we know that up to x there are around $x/\phi(q)$ primes. The error $E(x; q, a)$ in this approximation is expected to be not much bigger than $\sqrt{x/q}$, but general knowledge is nowhere near this. On average, however, we do know this, and this statement is the Barban-Davenport-Halberstam Theorem:

$$\sum_{\substack{1 \leq a \leq q \leq Q \\ (q, a) = 1}} E(x; q, a)^2 \ll_A Qx \log x + \frac{x^2}{(\log x)^A}, \quad \text{for } Q \leq x \text{ and every } A > 0;$$

and you could ask if a similar statement might be true for the higher moments. We will investigate the higher moments for some other sequences than the primes.