

## A Probability on Heuristic Subset of Integer Numbers that it is a Metric Space

Reza Farhadian<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract:** In this work we will answer to the question, is there a probability space on a set such that it is a metric space? To answer this question, we prove that the probability that two random positive integers given from a heuristic set defined in this article are relatively prime, is a metric space. Hence, there is a probability that it is a metric. Also, we show that this probability space is a paracompact space.

**Keywords:** probability; metric space; paracompact space; random integers

**JEL Classification:** C002

### 1 Introduction

Let  $\Omega$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $P$  be the *sample space*, *collection of events* and *probability measure*, respectively. The triple  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  is called the probability space and measure  $P$  satisfies the three *Kolmogorov axioms* (Gut, 2013); i.e.

- I) For any  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ , there exist a number  $P(A) \geq 0$ , that this is the probability of  $A$ ;
- II)  $P(\Omega) = 1$ ;
- III)  $P(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(A_n)$ , for every disjoint  $\{A_n, n \geq 1\}$ .

Now, we propose the question, is there a probability measure such that this measure be a *metric* (the metric to be defined ahead)? In number theory, two integers  $x$  and  $y$  that they share no common positive factors except 1, are relatively prime. In 1970, S. W. Golomb (1970) studied a class of probability distributions on integer numbers, that under his work, in 1972, J. E. Nymann proved that if  $\zeta$  be the Riemann  $\zeta$ -function, then probability that  $k$  random positive integers, are relatively prime is equal to  $\frac{1}{\zeta(k)}$  (Nymann, 1972). In this paper we will prove that

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<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Lorestan University, Iran, Address: Khorramabad of Lorestan, Iran, Tel.: +98 937 960 1368, Corresponding author: farhadian.reza@yahoo.com.

the probability that two random positive integers are relatively prime, is a metric space. To prove the main theorem, the following notation will be used:

- 1-  $gcd(x, y)$ : greatest common factor of positive integers  $x$  and  $y$ .
- 2-  $gcd(x, y) = 1$ : two positive integers  $x$  and  $y$ , are relatively prime.
- 3-  $Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1]$ : probability that two random positive integers  $x$  and  $y$ , are relatively prime.
- 4-  $\mathbb{R}$ : real numbers.
- 5-  $\mathbb{Z}$ : integer numbers.

## 2. The Main Definitions and Lemmas

In mathematics a *metric space* is defined as follows (O'searcoid, 2006):

**Definition 1 (metric space).** Let  $M$  be a set and  $d: M \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a real function. Then  $(M, d)$  is a metric space for any  $a, b, c \in M$ , if the following conditions holds

- 1-  $d(a, b) \geq 0$ ;
- 2-  $d(a, b) = 0 \Leftrightarrow a = b$ ;
- 3-  $d(a, b) = d(b, a)$  (symmetry);
- 4-  $d(a, c) \leq d(a, b) + d(b, c)$  (triangle inequality).

Hence, the function  $d$  is called a *metric* on the set  $M$ . In mathematics, there are many functions defined on their sets that with together constitute the metric spaces. For a nice study about metric space, see (Dress et al, 2001). Other related spaces are *paracompact spaces*. A topological space is called paracompact if it satisfies the condition that every *open cover* has a *locally finite open refinement* (Adhikari, 2016). For definitions of open cover, locally finite and open refinement, see (Adhikari, 2016). In 1968, M. E. Rudin presented a nice proof (Rudin, 1969) for the statement that every metric spaces are paracompact.

Note that, in this work, we will use the above definition for random variables  $x, y, z$ , which means that if  $M$  be a set and  $x, y, z \in M$ , then  $d: M \times M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a probability function. Hence, in this article we assume that  $x, y, z$  are random integers greater than 1, and function  $d$  is the probability that two random positive integers, are relatively prime. Thus, for example if  $x = y$  ( $\forall x, y > 1$ ), we know that  $gcd(x, y) = gcd(x, x) = x \neq 1$  and  $Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1] = 0$ . Now, if  $x \neq y$ , then we assume that we don't know any details about common factors of  $x$  and  $y$ , since  $x$  and  $y$  are random integers, and hence by (Nymann, 1972), we have  $Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1] = \frac{1}{\zeta(2)} = \frac{6}{\pi^2}$ . The details mentioned are the foundation of our

work and in the next definition we suggest a new heuristic subset of positive integer numbers that has the above properties.

**Definition 2.** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a subset of  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Then we say  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\mathcal{F}$ -set, if the following conditions holds

- i) If  $x \in \mathcal{F}$ , then  $x > 1$ .
- ii) For every  $x, y \in \mathcal{F}$ , we have  $x = y$ , or  $x$  and  $y$  are relatively prime.

**Example 1.** Let  $M_1 = \{2, 3, 5, 2, 11\}$  and  $M_2 = \{2, 3, 5, 2, 10, 11\}$ . Then,  $M_1$  is a  $\mathcal{F}$ -set and  $M_2$  is not  $\mathcal{F}$ -set.

**Example 2.** Let  $P$  denotes the set of all prime numbers. We know that for every  $p, q \in P$ , we have  $p, q > 1$  and  $p$  and  $q$  are relatively prime. Therefore,  $P$  is countably infinite  $\mathcal{F}$ -set.

Note that, if  $M$  be an  $\mathcal{F}$ -set, then for every  $x, y \in M$  we have  $x = y$  and  $\gcd(x, y) \neq 1$  or  $x \neq y$  and  $\gcd(x, y) = 1$ . Now, if  $Pr[\gcd(x, y) = 1]$  be the probability that two random positive integers  $x, y$  given from an arbitrary  $\mathcal{F}$ -set, are relatively prime, then we have

$$Pr[\gcd(x, y) = 1] = \begin{cases} 1 & x \neq y \\ 0 & x = y \end{cases}.$$

To prove the main theorem we need the following lemmas:

**Lemma 1.** Let  $M$  be an arbitrary  $\mathcal{F}$ -set. If  $x, y \in M$  be two random positive integers, then  $Pr[\gcd(x, y) = 1] = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$ .

*Proof.* We know that if  $x = y$  then  $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(x, x) = x \neq 1$ , for every positive integer  $x > 1$ , hence  $Pr[\gcd(x, x) = 1] = 0$ . On the other hand, since  $M$  is an  $\mathcal{F}$ -set and  $x, y \in M$ , then if  $Pr[\gcd(x, y) = 1] = 0$ , we have  $x = y$ .

**Lemma 2.** Let  $x, y$  be two random positive integers given from an arbitrary  $\mathcal{F}$ -set. Then

$$Pr[\gcd(x, y) = 1] = Pr[\gcd(y, x) = 1].$$

*Proof.* We know that  $\gcd(x, y) = \gcd(y, x)$ , the lemma is proved.

**Lemma 3.** Let  $x, y, z$  be three random positive integers given from an arbitrary  $\mathcal{F}$ -set. Then

$$Pr[\gcd(x, z) = 1] \leq Pr[\gcd(x, y) = 1] + Pr[\gcd(y, z) = 1].$$

*Proof.* We know that  $x, y, z$  are three random positive integers given from an arbitrary  $\mathcal{F}$ -set. Hence, if  $x \neq y$ , then  $Pr[\gcd(x, y) = 1] = 1$ , and also if  $x = y$ , then we have  $Pr[\gcd(x, y) = 1] = 0$ . So, for all cases, we have

- Case 1:

$$\begin{cases} x \neq y \\ y \neq z \\ x \neq z \end{cases} \rightarrow \underbrace{Pr[gcd(x, z) = 1]}_1 < \underbrace{Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1]}_1 + \underbrace{Pr[gcd(y, z) = 1]}_1$$

• Case 2:

$$\begin{cases} x \neq y \\ y = z \\ x \neq z \end{cases} \rightarrow \underbrace{Pr[gcd(x, z) = 1]}_1 = \underbrace{Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1]}_1 + \underbrace{Pr[gcd(y, z) = 1]}_0$$

• Case 3:

$$\begin{cases} x = y \\ y \neq z \\ x \neq z \end{cases} \rightarrow \underbrace{Pr[gcd(x, z) = 1]}_1 = \underbrace{Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1]}_0 + \underbrace{Pr[gcd(y, z) = 1]}_1$$

• Case 4:

$$\begin{cases} x = z \\ y \neq z \\ x \neq y \end{cases} \rightarrow \underbrace{Pr[gcd(x, z) = 1]}_0 < \underbrace{Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1]}_1 + \underbrace{Pr[gcd(y, z) = 1]}_1$$

• Case 5:

$$\begin{cases} x = y \\ y = z \\ x = z \end{cases} \rightarrow \underbrace{Pr[gcd(x, z) = 1]}_0 = \underbrace{Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1]}_0 + \underbrace{Pr[gcd(y, z) = 1]}_0$$

Hence, for every random positive integers  $x, y, z$  given from an arbitrary  $\mathcal{F}$ -set, we have

$$Pr[gcd(x, z) = 1] \leq Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1] + Pr[gcd(y, z) = 1].$$

### 3. The Main Theorem

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be an  $\mathcal{F}$ -set and  $d: \mathbb{A} \times \mathbb{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . If  $d = Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1]$ , then  $(\mathbb{A}, d)$  is a metric space.*

*Proof.* By the metric space definition, and using Lemma 1 ( for condition 2) and Lemma 2 (for condition 3) and Lemma 3 (for condition 4), and since always  $d = Pr[gcd(x, y) = 1] \geq 0$  (for condition 1), the proof is complete.

Hence, we can answer to the question, is there a probability such that it is a metric?

**Corollary 1.** *There is at least a probability such that it is a metric.*

Since, every metric spaces are paracompact (Rudin, 1969), so we have the following corollary:

**Corollary 2.** *There is at least a probability space such that it is a paracompact space.*

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### 4. References

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