Improving and Maximal Inequalities for Primes in Progressions

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Abstract: Assume that y < N are integers, and that (b, y) = 1. Define an average along the primes in a progression of diameter y, given by integer b.

$$A_{N,y,b} := \frac{\phi(y)}{N} \sum_{\substack{n \le N \\ n \equiv b \mod y}} \Lambda(n) f(x-n),$$

where Λ is the von Mangoldt function and ϕ is the totient function. We establish improving and maximal inequalities for these averages, with bounds that are uniform in the choice of progression. For instance, for $1 < r < \infty$ there is an integer $N_{y,r}$ so that

$$\|\sup_{N>N_{y,r}}|A_{N,y,b}f|\|_r \ll \|f\|_r.$$

The implied constant is only a function of r.

This is joint work with Michael Lacey, Hamed Mousavi and Yaghoub Rahimi.