

ON SUMS INVOLVING RECIPROCAL OF CERTAIN LARGE ADDITIVE FUNCTIONS

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Abstract. Let $\beta(n) = \sum_{p|n} p$, $B(n) = \sum_{p^\alpha || n} \alpha p$, $B_1(n) = \sum_{p^\alpha || n} p^\alpha$. Sums of reciprocal of these functions are evaluated asymptotically. Asymptotic formulas for some related sums, involving the function $\Omega(n)$ and $\omega(n)$ (the number of distinct and total number of prime factors of n) are also derived.

1. Introduction. Let $p(n)$ denote the largest prime factor of an integer $n \geq 2$, and let $p(1) = 1$. Let $\beta(n)$, $B(n)$ and $B_1(n)$ denote the additive functions

$$\beta(n) = \sum_{p|n} p, \quad B(n) = \sum_{p^\alpha || n} \alpha p, \quad B_1(n) = \sum_{p^\alpha || n} p^\alpha,$$

where as usual p denotes primes and $p^\alpha || n$ means that p^α divides n but $p^{\alpha+1}$ does not.

In 1981, Ivić [7] proved that

$$(1.1) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} 1/p(n) = x \exp\{-(2 \log x \cdot \log_2 x)^{1/2} + O((\log x \cdot \log_3 x)^{1/2})\},$$

where $\log_2 x = \log \log x$, $\log_3 x = \log \log \log x$. The formula above remains true if $p(n)$ is replaced by $\beta(n)$ or $B(n)$.

In 1984, Ivić and Pomerance [9] proved that

$$\sum_{n \leq x} 1/p^r(n) = x \exp\{-(2r \log x \log_2 x)^{1/2} (1 + g_{r-1}(x) + O(\log_3^3 x / \log_2^3 x))\},$$

where $r > 0$ is fixed and

$$g_r(x) = \frac{\log_3 x + \log(1+r) - 2 - \log 2}{2 \log_2 x} \left(1 + \frac{2}{\log_2 x}\right) - \frac{(\log_3 x + \log(1+r) - \log 2)^2}{8 \log_2^2 x}.$$

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The proofs of results above depend on estimates for $\psi(x, y)$, the number of positive integers not exceeding x all of whose prime factors do not exceed y .

Recently Hildebrand [4] and Maier (unpublished) obtained independently much better results concerning $\psi(x, y)$ (see Lemma 2 below). With the help of these results, Erdős, Ivić and Pomerance [3] obtained a precise estimate for the sum in (1.1), where it was shown that

$$(1.2) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)} = \left(1 + O\left(\left(\frac{\log_2 x}{\log x}\right)^{1/2}\right)\right) \delta(x),$$

where

$$\delta(x) = \int_2^x \rho\left(\frac{\log x}{\log t}\right) \frac{dt}{t^2},$$

and the function $\rho(u)$ is defined for $u \geq 0$ as the continuous solution of the equations

$$(1.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \rho(u) &= 1, & (0 \leq u \leq 1), \\ u\rho'(u) &= -\rho(u-1), & (u > 1). \end{aligned}$$

It is well-known that (see [6] or [2])

$$(1.4) \quad \rho(u) = \exp\left\{-u(\log u + \log_2 u - 1 + \frac{\log_2 u}{\log u} + O\left(\frac{1}{\log u}\right))\right\}.$$

In [3], it was shown that

$$\delta(x) = \exp\{-2 \log x \log_2 x\}^{1/2} (1 + g_0(x) + O(\log_3^3 x / \log_2^3 x))$$

Very recently, Ivić [8] proved that

$$(1.5) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\omega(n)}{p(n)} = \left(\frac{2 \log x}{\log_2 x}\right)^{1/2} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x}\right)\right) \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)},$$

$$(1.6) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\Omega(n) - \omega(n)}{p(n)} = \left(\sum_p \frac{1}{p^2 - p} + O\left(\left(\frac{\log_2 x}{\log x}\right)^{1/2}\right)\right) \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)},$$

and

$$(1.7) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\mu^2(n)}{p(n)} = \left(\frac{6}{\pi^2} + O\left(\left(\frac{\log_2 x}{\log x}\right)^{1/2}\right)\right) \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)}$$

where $\omega(n)$ and $\Omega(n)$ denote the number of distinct prime factors of n and the total number of prime factors of n , respectively, and $\mu(n)$ is the Moebius function.

Moreover, it was shown in [10] that

$$(1.8) \quad \left(\frac{1}{2} + O\left(\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x}\right)\right) \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)} \leq \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} \frac{1}{\beta(n)} \leq \left(\log 2 + O\left(\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x}\right)\right) \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)}.$$

The following result occurs as a remark in [3]:

$$(1.9) \quad \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} 1/\beta(n) = (1 + \exp\{-C(\log x \log_2 x)^{1/2}\}) \sum_{x \leq x} 1/p(n),$$

From (1.8) we know that (1.9) is not true.

The purpose of this paper is to give estimates for the analogous sums in (1.2), (1.5), (1.6) and (1.7) with $p(n)$ replaced by $\beta(n)$.

2. Statement of results.

$$\text{THEOREM 1.} \quad \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} \frac{1}{\beta(n)} = \left(D + O\left(\frac{\log_3^2 x}{\log_2 x}\right) \right) \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)},$$

where $1/2 < D < 1$ denotes an absolute constant which will be described precisely in section 4.

THEOREM 2.

$$\sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} \frac{\omega(n)}{\beta(n)} = D \left(\frac{2 \log x}{\log_2 x} \right)^{1/2} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{\log_3^2 x}{\log_2 x}\right) \right) \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)},$$

where D is as in Theorem 1.

The last formula remains true if $\omega(n)$ is replaced by $\Omega(n)$.

THEOREM 3.

$$\sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} \frac{\Omega(n) - \omega(n)}{\beta(n)} = \left(D \left(\sum_p \frac{1}{p^2 - p} \right) + O\left(\frac{\log_3^2 x}{\log_2 x}\right) \right) \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)}.$$

THEOREM 4.

$$\sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} \frac{\mu^2(n)}{\beta(n)} = \left(\frac{6}{\pi^2} D + O\left(\frac{\log_3^2 x}{\log_2 x}\right) \right) \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)}.$$

Moreover, it was shown in [11, 12] that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} \left(\frac{1}{\beta^r(n)} - \frac{1}{B^r(n)} \right) &= x \exp \left\{ -(2(r+1) \log x \log_2 x)^{1/2} - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \left(\frac{r+1}{2} \frac{\log x}{\log_2 x} \right)^{1/2} \log_3 x + O\left(\left(\frac{\log x}{\log_2 x} \right)^{1/2} \right) \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} \left(\frac{1}{\beta^r(n)} - \frac{1}{B_1^r(n)} \right) &= x \exp \left\{ -(2(r+1) \log x \log_2 x)^{1/2} - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \left(\frac{2r+1}{4} \frac{\log x}{\log_2 x} \right)^{1/2} \log_3 x + O\left(\left(\frac{\log x}{\log_2 x} \right)^{1/2} \right) \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

respectively, where r is any fixed positive number. From the two results above, we know that Theorems 1, 2, 3, and 4 remain true if $\beta(n)$ is replaced by $B(n)$ or $B_1(n)$.

3. Several Lemmas.

$$\text{LEMMA 1. Let } L_1 = \exp\left\{\left(\frac{1}{2}\log x \log_2 x\right)^{1/2}\left(1 - 2\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x}\right)\right\},$$

$$L_2 = \exp\left\{\left(\frac{1}{2}\log x \log_2 x\right)^{1/2}\left(1 - 2\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x}\right)\right\},$$

Then we have

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)} = \left(1 + O\left(\frac{1}{\log^A x}\right)\right) \sum_{L_1 \leq p \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p}, p\right),$$

for any fixed $A > 0$.

Proof. See [8, formula (4.3)].

LEMMA 2. [4]. For any fixed $\varepsilon > 0$ and $x \geq 3$, $\exp\{(\log_2 x)^{5/3+\varepsilon}\} \leq y \leq x$, we have uniformly

$$\psi(x, y) = x\rho(u) \left(1 + O\left(\frac{\log(u+1)}{\log y}\right)\right), \quad u = \frac{\log x}{\log y}.$$

LEMMA 3. [1, 5]. Uniformly for $u \geq 1$ and $0 \leq t \leq 1$ we have

$$(3.1) \quad \rho(u-t) = \rho(u)e^{t\xi(u)}(1 + O(1/u)),$$

where $\xi = \xi(u)$ denotes the positive solution of the equation

$$(3.2) \quad e^\xi = u\xi + 1,$$

and satisfies

$$(3.3) \quad \xi(u) = \log u + O(\log_2(u+2)), \quad u \geq 2.$$

LEMMA 4. [5]. Uniformly for $u \geq 1$ and $0 \leq t \leq u$ we have

$$\rho(u-t) \ll \rho(u)e^{t\xi(u)}.$$

LEMMA 5. For any fixed $\varepsilon > 0$ and $1 \leq d \leq y$, $\exp\{(\log_2 x)^{5/3+\varepsilon}\} \leq y \leq x^{1/2}$, we have uniformly

$$\psi\left(\frac{x}{d}, y\right) = \psi(x, y)d^{-\beta} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{1}{u}\right) + O\left(\frac{\log(u+1)}{\log y}\right)\right),$$

where

$$(3.4) \quad \beta = \beta(x, y) = 1 - \xi((\log x)/(\log y))/(\log y),$$

and $\xi(u)$ is defined as in Lemma 3.

Proof. Let $t = \log d / \log y$. In view of Lemmas 2 and 3 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \psi\left(\frac{x}{d}, y\right) &= \frac{x}{d} \rho\left(\frac{\log(x/d)}{\log y}\right) \left(1 + O\left(\frac{\log(u+1)}{\log y}\right)\right) \\ &= \frac{x}{d} \rho(u) e^{t\xi(u)} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{1}{u}\right) + O\left(\frac{\log(u+1)}{\log y}\right)\right) \\ &= \psi(x, y) d^{-\beta} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{1}{u}\right) + O\left(\frac{\log(u+1)}{\log y}\right)\right). \end{aligned}$$

The Lemma is proved.

LEMMA 6. For any fixed $\varepsilon > 0$, and $1 \leq d \leq x/y$, $\exp\{(\log_2 x)^{5/3+\varepsilon}\} \leq y \leq x$, we have uniformly $\psi(x/d, y) \ll \psi(x, y) d^{-\beta}$, where $\xi = \xi(x, y)$ is given by (3.4).

Proof. Using Lemma 4 instead of Lemma 3, the proof of this result is analogous to the proof of Lemma 5.

4. Proof of Theorem 1. By Lemma 1 we have

$$(4.1) \quad G(x) := \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} \frac{1}{\beta(n)} = \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x, L_1 < p(n) \leq L_2} \frac{1}{\beta(n)} + O(R),$$

where $R = \frac{1}{\log^A x} \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{p(n)}$, for any fixed $A > 0$. Writing

$$\sum_{2 \leq n \leq x, L_1 < p(n) \leq L_2} \frac{1}{\beta(n)} = \sum_{p(n) \parallel n} + \sum_{p^2(n) \mid n},$$

we then obtain

$$\begin{aligned} G(x) &= \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{m_1 \leq x/p_1, p(m_1) < p_1} \frac{1}{p_1 + \beta(m_1)} + \\ &+ O\left(\sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1^2}, p_1\right)\right) + O(R). \end{aligned}$$

Again, writing

$$\sum_{m_1 \leq x/p_1, p(m_1) < p_1} \frac{1}{p_1 + \beta(m_1)} = \sum_{L_1 < p(m_1) < p_1, p(m_1) \parallel m_1} + \sum_{L_1 < p(m_1) < p_1, p^2(m_1) \mid m_1} + \sum_{p(m_1) \leq L_1},$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} G(x) &= \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \sum_{m_2 \leq x/p_1 p_2, p(m_2) < p_2} \frac{1}{p_1 + p_2 + \beta(m_2)} \\ &+ O\left(\sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1^2}, p_1\right)\right) + O\left(\sum_{L_1 < p_1 < L_2} \frac{1}{p_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1^2}, p_1\right)\right) \\ &+ O\left(\sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1} \sum_{p_2 \leq L_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1 p_2}, p_2\right)\right) + O(R). \end{aligned}$$

Proceeding as before, finally we have

$$(4.2) \quad G(x) = \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \cdots \sum_{L_1 < p_s < p_{s-1}} \sum_{m_s \leq x/p_1 \cdots p_s, p(m_s) < p_s} \frac{1}{p_1 + \cdots + p_s + \beta(m_s)} \\ + O\left(\sum_{j=1}^s G_{1j}\right) + O\left(\sum_{j=2}^s G_{2j}\right) + O(R),$$

where $2 \leq s \leq \log_3 x$ is a large number which will be chosen latter, and

$$(4.3) \quad G_{1j} = \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \cdots \sum_{L_1 < p_j < p_{j-1}} \frac{1}{p_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1 \cdots p_{j-1} p_j^2}, p_j\right),$$

$$(4.4) \quad G_{2j} = \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \cdots \sum_{L_1 < p_{j-1} < p_{j-2}} \sum_{p_j \leq L_1} \frac{1}{p_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1 \cdots p_j}, p_j\right).$$

Further, from (4.2) we have

$$(4.5) \quad G(x) = \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \cdots \sum_{L_1 < p_s < p_{s-1}} \frac{1}{p_1 + \cdots + p_s} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1 \cdots p_s}, p_s\right) \\ + O\left(\sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \cdots \sum_{L_1 < p_s < p_{s-1}} \sum_{m \leq x/p_1 \cdots p_s, p(m) < p_s} \frac{\beta(m)}{p_1^2}\right) \\ + O\left(\sum_{j=1}^s G_{1,j}\right) + O\left(\sum_{j=2}^s G_{2j}\right) + O(R) \\ = G_3 + (G_4) + O\left(\sum_{j=1}^s G_{1,j}\right) + O\left(\sum_{j=2}^s G_{2j}\right) + O(R), \text{ say.}$$

Now we come to the estimation of G_3 . Changing the order of summation gives

$$(4.6) \quad G_3 = \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} \sum_{p_s < p_{s-1} \leq L_2} \cdots \sum_{p_2 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1 + \cdots + p_s} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1 \cdots p_s}, p_s\right).$$

Nothing that $p_1 > p_2 > \cdots > p_s$, we get

$$\frac{1}{p_1 + \cdots + p_s} = \sum_{k_1=0}^{\infty} \frac{(p_1 + \cdots + p_{s-1} - p_s)^{k_1}}{2^{k_1+1} (p_1 + \cdots + p_{s-1})^{k_1+1}} = \\ = \sum_{k_1=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^{k_1+1}} \sum_{r_1=0}^{k_1} (-1)^{r_1} C_{k_1}^{r_1} \frac{p_s^{r_1}}{(p_1 + \cdots + p_{s-1})^{r_1+1}},$$

and

$$\frac{1}{(p_1 + \cdots + p_{s-1})^{r_1+1}} = \sum_{k_2=r_1}^{\infty} C_{k_2}^{r_1} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{k_2+1}} \\ \sum_{r_2=0}^{k_2-r_1} (-1)^{r_2} C_{k_2-r_1}^{r_2} \frac{p_{s-1}^{r_2}}{(p_1 + \cdots + p_{s-2})^{r_1+r_2+1}},$$

where we used the following two formulas:

$$(4.7) \quad \frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k, \quad (-1 < x < 1),$$

$$(4.8) \quad \frac{1}{(1-x)^{r+1}} = \sum_{k=r}^{\infty} C_k^r x^{k-r}, \quad (-1 < x < 1).$$

Proceeding as before, finally we have

$$(4.9) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{1}{p_1 + \cdots + p_s} &= \sum_{k_1=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^{k_1+1}} \sum_{r_1=0}^{k_1} (-1)^{r_1} C_{k_1}^{r_1} \sum_{k_2=r_1}^{\infty} C_{k_2}^{r_1} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{k_2+1}} \\ &\sum_{\gamma_2=0}^{k_2-r_1} (-1)^{r_2} C_{k_2-\gamma_2}^{r_2} \cdots \sum_{k_{s-1}=r_1+\cdots+r_{s-2}}^{\infty} C_{k_{s-1}}^{r_1+\cdots+r_{s-2}} \frac{1}{2^{k_{s-1}+1}} \\ &\sum_{r_{s-1}=0}^{k_{s-1}-r_1-\cdots-r_{s-2}} (-1)^{r_{s-1}} C_{k_{s-1}-r_1-\cdots-r_{s-2}}^{r_{s-1}} \cdot \frac{p_s^{r_1} \cdots p_2^{r_{s-1}}}{p_1^{r_1+\cdots+r_{s-1}+1}} = \\ &\sum_{k,r} F(k_1, \dots, k_{s-1}, r_1, \dots, r_{s-1}) p_s^{r_1} \cdots p_2^{r_{s-1}} p_1^{-(r_1+\cdots+r_{s-1}+1)}, \text{ say.} \end{aligned}$$

From (4.6) and (4.9) we get

$$(4.10) \quad \begin{aligned} G_3 &= \sum_{k,r} F(k_1, \dots, k_{s-1}, r_1, \dots, r_{s-1}) \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} p_s^{r_1} \sum_{p_s < p_{s-1} \leq L_2} p_{s-1}^{r_2} \cdots \\ &\cdot \sum_{p_3 < p_2 \leq L_2} p_2^{r_{s-1}} \sum_{p_2 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1^{r_1+\cdots+r_{s-1}+1}} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1 \cdots p_s}, p_s\right). \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$u_i = \frac{\log(x/p_{i+1} \cdots p_s)}{\log p_s}, \quad \delta_i = \frac{\xi(u_i)}{\log p_s}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, s-1,$$

Note that $s \leq \log_3 x$ and $L_1 < p_i \leq L_2$. We then get

$$(4.11) \quad u_i = \left(\frac{2 \log x}{\log_2 x}\right)^{1/2} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x}\right)\right), \quad \log u_i = \frac{1}{2} \log_2 x + O(\log_3 x).$$

Thus from this and (3.3) we obtain

$$(4.12) \quad \xi(u_i) = (1/2) \log_2 x + O(\log_3 x), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, s-1$$

From (3.2), (4.11) and (4.12) we have $\exp(\xi(u_i) - \xi(u_{s-1})) = 1 + O(\log_3 x / \log_2 x)$. So $\xi(u_i) = \xi(u_{s-1}) + O(\log_3 x / \log_2 x)$, and therefore $\delta_i = \delta + O(\log_3 x / (\log p_s \cdot \log_2 x))$, where $\delta = \delta_{s-1}$. Hence for $L_1 < p \leq L_2$ we have

$$(4.13) \quad p^{\delta_i} = p^{\delta} (1 + O(\log_3 x / \log_2 x))$$

By Lemma 5 and (4.13) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{p_2 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1^{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-1} + 1}} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_1 \dots p_s}, p_s \right) \\
&= \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_2 \dots p_s}, p_s \right) \sum_{p_2 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1^{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-1} + 1}} \cdot \frac{1}{p_1^{1-\delta_1}} \left(1 + O \left(\left(\frac{\log_2 x}{\log x} \right)^{1/2} \right) \right) \\
&= \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_2 \dots p_s}, p_s \right) \int_{p_2}^{L_2} \frac{1}{\xi^{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-1} + 2 - \delta}} d(\pi(\xi)) \left(1 + O \left(\left(\frac{\log_2 x}{\log x} \right)^{1/2} \right) \right) \\
&= \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_1 \dots p_s}, p_s \right) \frac{1}{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-1} + 1} \cdot \frac{1}{p_2^{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-1} + 1 - \delta} M} \\
&\quad \cdot \left(1 + O \left(\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x} \right) + O \left(\left(\frac{p_2}{L_2} \right)^{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-1} + 1 - \delta} \right) \right),
\end{aligned}$$

where $M = ((1/2) \log x \cdot \log_2 x)^{1/2}$, So (4.10) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
G_3 &= \sum_{k,r} \frac{F(k_1, \dots, k_{s-1}, r_1, \dots, r_{s-1})}{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-1} + 1} \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} p_s^{r_1} \sum_{p_s < p_{s-1} \leq L_2} \\
& p_{s-1}^{r_2} \dots \sum_{p_4 < p_3 \leq L_2} p_3^{r_{s-2}} \sum_{p_3 < p_2 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_2^{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-2} + 1 - \delta} M} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_2 \dots p_s}, p_s \right) \\
&\quad \cdot \left(1 + O \left(\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x} \right) + O \left(\left(\frac{p_2}{L_2} \right)^{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-1} + 1 - \delta} \right) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Proceeding analogously, finally we have

$$\begin{aligned}
G_3 &= \sum_{k,r} \frac{F(k_1, \dots, k_{s-1}, r_1, \dots, r_{s-1})}{(r_1 + \dots + r_{s-1} + 1) \dots (r_1 + 1)} \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_s} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) \\
&\quad \cdot \frac{p_s^{(r-1)\delta}}{M^{s-1}} \left(1 + O \left(s \frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x} \right) \right) + O \left(\sum_{j=1}^{s-1} G_{3j} \right),
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.14) \quad G_{3j} &= \sum_{k,\gamma} \frac{F(k_1, \dots, k_{s-1}, r_1, \dots, r_{s-1})}{(r_1 + \dots + r_{s-1} + 1) \dots (r_1 + \dots + r_{s-j} + 1) M^j} \\
&\quad \cdot \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} p_s^{r_1} \sum_{p_s < p_{s-1} \leq L_2} p_{s-1}^{r_2} \dots \sum_{p_j + 3 < p_j + 2 \leq L_2} p_{j+2}^{r_{s-j} + 1} \\
&\quad \sum_{p_j + 2 < p_j + 1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_{j+1}^{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-j-1} + 1 - j\delta}} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_{1+1} \dots p_s}, p_s \right) \cdot (r_{j+1}/L_2)^{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-j} + 1 - j\delta}.
\end{aligned}$$

From (3.2) and (3.3) we have $p_s^{(s-1)\delta} \cdot M^{-(s-1)} = 1 + O(s \log_3 x / \log_2 x)$, so that

$$(4.15) \quad G_3 = D_s \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_s} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) \left(1 + O \left(s \frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x} \right) \right) + O \left(\sum_{j=1}^{s-1} G_{3j} \right),$$

where

$$(4.16) \quad D_s = \sum_{k_1=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^{k_1+1}} \sum_{r_1=0}^{k_1} \frac{(-1)^{r_1} C_{k_1}^{r_1}}{r_1+1} \sum_{k_2=r_1}^{\infty} \frac{C_{k_2}^{r_1}}{2^{k_2+1}} \sum_{r_2=0}^{k_2-r_1} \frac{(-1)^{r_2} C_{k_2-r_1}^{r_2}}{r_1+r_2+1} \cdots \\ \cdot \sum_{k_{s-1}=r_1+\cdots+r_{s-2}}^{\infty} \frac{C_{k_{s-1}}^{r_1+\cdots+r_{s-2}}}{2^{k_{s-1}+1}} \sum_{r_{s-1}=0}^{k_{s-1}-r_1-\cdots-r_{s-2}} \frac{(-1)^{r_{s-1}} C_{k_{s-1}-r_1-\cdots-r_{s-2}}^{r_{s-1}}}{r_1+\cdots+r_{s-1}+1}.$$

Next we show

$$(4.17) \quad G_{3j} \ll R, \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots, s-1)$$

$$\text{Let } L'_2 = \exp \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{2} \log x \log_2 x \right)^{1/2} \left(1 + 1.9 \frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x} \right) \right\},$$

$$D = \{(p_s, \dots, p_{j+1}) \mid L_1 < p_s < \cdots < p_{j+1} \leq L_2\},$$

$$D_1 = \{(p_s, \dots, p_{j+1}) \mid L_1 < p_s < \cdots < p_{j+1} \leq L'_2\},$$

$$D_{2t} = \{(p_s, \dots, p_{j+1}) \mid L_1 < p_s < \cdots < p_{s-t+1} \leq L'_2, L'_2 < p_{s-t} < \cdots < p_{j+1} \leq L_2\},$$

$$D_3 = \{(p_s, \dots, p_{j+1}) \mid L'_2 < p_s < \cdots < p_{j+1} \leq L_2\}.$$

So we may put

$$G_{3j} := \sum_{(D)} = \sum_{(D_1)} + \sum_{t=1}^{s-j-1} \sum_{(D_{2t})} + \sum_{(D_3)}.$$

Now we come to the estimation of $\sum_{D_{2t}}$. Since $p_{j+1}/L_2 \leq 1$, by using Lemma 6 we obtain

$$\sum_{(D_{2t})} \ll \sum_{k,r} \frac{F(k_1, \dots, k_{s-1}, r_1, \dots, r_{s-1})}{(r_1 + \cdots + r_{s-1} + 1) \cdots (r_1 + \cdots + r_t + 1) M^{s-t}} \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L'_2} p_s^{r_1} \cdots \\ \cdot \sum_{p_{s-t+2} < p_{s-t+1} \leq L'_2} \frac{1}{p_{s-t+1}^{r_1+\cdots+r_{t-1}+1-(s-t)\delta}} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_{s-t+1} \cdots p_s}, p_s \right) \\ \cdot (p_{s-t+1}/L'_2)^{r_1+\cdots+r_{t-1}-(s-t)\delta}.$$

From this we know that

$$\sum_{(D_{21})} \ll \sum_{k,r} \frac{F(k_1, \dots, k_{s-1}, r_1, \dots, r_{s-1})}{(r_1 + \cdots + r_{s-1} + 1) \cdots (r_1 + 1) N^{s-1}} \\ \cdot \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L'_2} \frac{1}{p_s^{1-(s-1)\delta}} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) \left(\frac{p_s}{L'_2} \right)^{r_1+1-(s-1)\delta} \\ \ll D_s \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L''_2} \frac{1}{p_s} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) \left(\frac{L''_2}{L'_2} \right)^{r_1+1-(s-1)\delta} + D_s \sum_{L''_2 < p_s \leq L'_2} \frac{1}{p_s} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) \ll R,$$

where $L_2'' = \exp \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{2} \log x \log_2 x \right)^{1/2} \left(1 + 1.89 \frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x} \right) \right\}$.

By the same argument as before, we obtain that $\sum_{(D_{2i})} \ll R$. Also, it is evident that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{(D_1)} &\ll D_s \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2'} \frac{1}{p_s} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) \left(\frac{L_2'}{L_2} \right)^{r_1 + \dots + r_{s-j+1} - j - \delta} \ll R, \\ \sum_{(D_3)} &\ll D_s \sum_{L_2' < p_s \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_s} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) \ll R. \end{aligned}$$

Thus it follows that (4.17) is true. So (4.15) becomes

$$(4.18) \quad G_3 = D_s \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_s} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) \left(1 + O \left(s \frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x} \right) \right).$$

Next we come to the estimation of G_4 in (4.5). By the definition of $\beta(m)$, we have

$$G_4 = \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} \sum_{p < p_s} p \sum_{p_s < p_{s-1} \leq L_2} \cdots \sum_{p_3 < p_2 \leq L_2} \sum_{p_2 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1^2} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_1 \cdots p_s p}, p_s \right).$$

Let

$$u'_i = \frac{\log(x/p_{i+1} \cdots p_s p)}{\log p_s}, \quad \delta'_i = \frac{\xi(u'_i)}{\log p_s}, \quad \delta' = \delta'_{s-1}.$$

As for p^{δ_i} of (4.13) we similarly obtain $p^{\delta'_i} = p^{\delta'} (1 + O(\log_3 x / \log_2 x))$, for $L_1 < p \leq L_2$. By this and Lemma 5 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{p_2 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1^2} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_1 \cdots p_s p}, p_s \right) &= \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_2 \cdots p_s p}, p_s \right) \sum_{p_2 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1^{3-\delta'_1}} (1 + o(1)) \\ &= \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_2 \cdots p_s p}, p_s \right) \cdot \frac{1}{2p_2^{2-\delta'}} M (1 + o(1)). \end{aligned}$$

Proceeding as before, we have finally

$$\begin{aligned} (4.19) \quad G_4 &= \frac{1}{2^{s-1}} \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_s^{2-(s-1)\delta} M^{s-1}} \sum_{p < p_s} p \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s p}, p_s \right) (1 + o(1)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2^{s-1}} \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_s^2} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) \sum_{p < p_s} p^{\delta'} (1 + o(1)) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2^{s-1}} \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_s} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) (1 + o(1)). \end{aligned}$$

Now we show

$$(4.20) \quad G_{2j} \ll R, \quad (j = 2, 3, \dots, s).$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} G_{22} &= \sum_{L_1^{1/10} < p_2 \leq L_1} \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1 p_2}, p_2\right) \\ &+ \sum_{p_2 \leq L_1^{1/10}} \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1 p_2}, p_2\right) = \sum_1 + \sum_2 \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 6 we get

$$\sum_1 \ll \sum_{L_1^{1/10} < p_2 \leq L_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_2}, p_2\right) \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1^{2-\Delta_1}} \ll \sum_{L_1^{1/10} < p_2 \leq L_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_2}, p_2\right) \frac{L_2^{\Delta_1}}{L_1 \log L_1},$$

where $\Delta_1 = \frac{1}{\log p_2} \xi\left(\frac{\log(x/p_2)}{\log p_2}\right)$. From (3.2) and (3.3) we have

$$\frac{L_2^{\Delta_1}}{\log L_1} \ll \frac{1}{\log L_1} \left(\frac{\log x}{\log p_2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \log_2 x\right)^{(\log L_2)/(\log p_2)} \ll (\log_2 x)^{C_1}.$$

By Lemma 1 we have

$$\sum_2 \ll (\log_2 x)^{C_1} \sum_{L_1^{1/10} < p_2 \leq L_1} \frac{1}{p_2} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_2}, p_2\right) \ll R.$$

Using Lemma 2 and (1.7) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_2 &\ll \sum_{p_2 < L_1^{1/10}} \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1 p_2}, L_1^{1/10}\right) \\ &\ll x \exp\{-4(\log x \log_2 x)^{1/2}\} \sum_{p_2 \leq L_1^{1/10}} \frac{1}{p_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1} \ll R. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have

$$(4.21) \quad G_{22} \ll R.$$

Let $\Delta_j = \frac{1}{\log p_j} \xi\left(\frac{\log(x/p_2 \cdots p_j)}{\log p_j}\right)$. By Lemma 6 we have

$$\begin{aligned} (4.22) \quad G_{2j} &= \sum_{p_j \leq L_1} \sum_{p_j < p_{j-1} \leq L_2} \cdots \sum_{p_2 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_1 \cdots p_j}, p_j\right) \\ &\ll \sum_{p_j \leq L_1} \sum_{p_j < p_{j-1} \leq L_2} \cdots \sum_{p_3 < p_2 \leq L_2} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_2 \cdots p_j}, p_j\right) \sum_{p_2 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1^{2-\Delta_j}} \\ &\ll \sum_{p_j \leq L_1} \sum_{p_j < p_{j-1} \leq L_2} \cdots \sum_{p_3 < p_2 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_2} \psi\left(\frac{x}{p_2 \cdots p_j}, p_j\right) (\log_2 x)^{C_1} \\ &\ll (\log_2 x)^{C_1} G_{2,j-1}. \end{aligned}$$

From (4.21) and (4.22), we can derive (4.20).

Next we come the estimation of G_{1j} . Changing the order of summation gives

$$G_{1j} = \sum_{L_1 < p_j \leq L_2} \sum_{p_j < p_{j-1} \leq L_2} \cdots \sum_{p_2 < p_1 \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_1} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_1 \cdots p_{j-1} p_j^2}, p_j \right).$$

Using Lemma 6 repeatedly, we get

$$(4.23) \quad \begin{aligned} G_{1j} &\ll (\log_2 x)^{C_1 S} \sum_{L_1 < p_j \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_j} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_j^2}, p_j \right) \\ &\ll (\log_2 x)^{C_1 S} \sum_{L_1 < p_j \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_j} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_j}, p_j \right) \cdot \frac{1}{p_j^{1/2}} \ll R. \end{aligned}$$

From (4.5), (4.18), (4.20) and (4.23), and noting that $1/2 < D_s < 1$ (see (4.30) below), we obtain

$$G(x) = D_s \sum_{L_1 < p_s \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p_s} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_s}, p_s \right) \left(1 + O \left(\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x} \right) + O \left(\frac{1}{2^s} \right) \right).$$

Now if we put $s = s_0 = \lceil \log_3 x / \log 2 \rceil$, we have

$$(4.24) \quad G(x) = D_{s_0} \sum_{L_1 < p \leq L_2} \frac{1}{p} \psi \left(\frac{x}{p}, p \right) \left(1 + O \left(\frac{\log_3^2 x}{\log_2 x} \right) \right),$$

where D_s is defined as in (4.16).

To finish the proof of the theorem it remains to simplify the expression for D_{s_0} . We shall use the following three formulas:

$$(4.25) \quad \sum_{r=0}^{k-h} (-1)^r C_{k-h}^r \frac{\xi^{h+r+1}}{h+r+1} = \int_0^\xi (1-x)^{k-h} x^h dx,$$

$$(4.26) \quad \sum_{r=0}^{k-h} (-1)^r C_{k-h}^r \frac{1}{h+r+1} = (k+1)^{-1} (C_k^h)^{-1},$$

$$(4.27) \quad \sum_{k=r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^{k+1} (k+1)} = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{x^r}{1-x} dx.$$

By (4.26) and (4.27), we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{k_{s-1}=r_1+\cdots+r_{s-2}}^{\infty} \frac{C_{k_{s-2}}^{r_1+\cdots+r_{s-2}}}{2^{k_{s-1}+1}} \sum_{r_{s-1}=0}^{k_{s-1}-r_1-\cdots-r_{s-2}} \frac{(-1)^{r_{s-1}} C_{k_{s-1}-r_1-\cdots-r_{s-2}}^{r_{s-1}}}{r_1+\cdots+r_{s-1}+1} \\ &= \sum_{k_{s-1}=r_1+\cdots+r_{s-2}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^{k_{s-1}+1} (k_{s-1}+1)} = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{x_1^{r_1+\cdots+r_{s-2}}}{1-x_1} dx_1. \end{aligned}$$

By (4.25) and (4.8) we further have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{k_{s-2}=r_1+\dots+r_{s-3}}^{\infty} \frac{C_{k_{s-2}}^{r_1+\dots+r_{s-3}}}{2^{k_{s-2}+1}} \sum_{r_{s-2}=0}^{k_{s-2}-r_1-\dots-r_{s-3}} \\
& \frac{(-1)^{r_{s-2}} C_{k_{s-2}-r_1-\dots-r_{s-3}}^{r_{s-2}}}{r_1+\dots+r_{s-2}+1} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{x_1^{r_1+\dots+r_{s-2}}}{1-x_1} dx_1 \\
& \sum_{k_{s-2}=r_1+\dots+r_{s-3}}^{\infty} \frac{C_{k_{s-2}}^{r_1+\dots+r_{s-3}}}{2^{k_{s-2}+1}} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{dx_1}{x_1(1-x_1)} \\
& \int_0^{x_1} (1-x_2)^{k_{s-2}-r_1-\dots-r_{s-3}} x_2^{r_1+\dots+r_{s-3}} dx_2 \\
& = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{dx_1}{x_1(1-x_1)} \int_0^{x_1} \frac{x_2^{r_1+\dots+r_{s-3}}}{(1+x_2)^{r_1+\dots+r_{s-3}+1}} dx_2.
\end{aligned}$$

Proceeding as before, finally we have

$$D_s = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{dx_1}{x_1(1-x_1)} \int_0^{x_1} \frac{dx_2}{x_2} \int_0^{\frac{x_2}{1+x_2}} \frac{dx_3}{x_3} \dots \int_0^{\frac{x_{s-3}}{1+x_{s-3}}} \frac{dx_{s-2}}{x_{s-2}} \int_0^{\frac{x_{s-2}}{1+x_{s-2}}} \frac{dx_{s-1}}{1+x_{s-1}}, s \geq 3.$$

If we put

$$x_1 = x'_1, x_2 = x'_1 x'_2, x_3 = \frac{x'_1 x'_2 x'_3}{1+x'_1 x'_2}, \dots, x_{s-1} = \frac{x'_1 \dots x'_{s-1}}{1+x'_1 x'_2 + \dots + x'_1 \dots x'_{s-2}},$$

we then have

(4.28)

$$D_s = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{dx_1}{1-x_1} \int_0^1 dx_2 \dots \int_0^1 dx_{s-2} \int_0^1 \frac{dx_{s-1}}{1+x_1 x_2 + \dots + x_1 \dots x_{s-1}}, s \geq 3.$$

From this, it is easy to see that

$$0 < D_{s+1} < D_s < D_2 = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{dx}{1-x} = \log 2, \quad (s = 3, 4, \dots).$$

Hence

$$(4.29) \quad D = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} D_s$$

exists. Obviously, we have

$$D_s - D_{s+1} \leq \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{dx_1}{1-x_1} \int_0^1 dx_2 \dots \int_0^1 dx_{s-2} \int_0^1 x_1 \dots x_{s-1} dx_{s-1} = \left(\log 2 - \frac{1}{2}\right) 2^{-(s-1)}$$

Hence

$$D_s > D_3 - (\log 2 - (1/2)) \cdot 2^{-1}.$$

Since

$$D_3 = \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\log(1+x_1)}{x_1(1-x_1)} dx_1 \geq \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{x_1(1-x_1)} \left(x_1 - \frac{x_1^2}{2} + \frac{x_1^3}{3} - \frac{x_1^4}{4} + \frac{x_1^5}{5} - \frac{x_1^6}{6} \right) dx_1 = 0.6140,$$

so that

$$(4.30) \quad 0.5174 < D < D_s < \log 2, \quad (s \geq 3).$$

Also, it is evident that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < D_{s_0} - D &= \sum_{s=s_0}^{\infty} (D_s - D_{s+1}) \leq \sum_{s=s_0}^{\infty} \left(\log 2 - \frac{1}{2} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{s-1} \\ &= (4 \log 2 - 2) \cdot 2^{-s_0}. \end{aligned}$$

Recalling that $S_0 = \lceil \log_3 x / \log 2 \rceil$ we obtain

$$(4.31) \quad D_{s_0} = D + O(1/\log_2 x).$$

From this and (4.24), the theorem follows.

5. Proofs of Theorems 2, 3 and 4. *Proof of Theorem 2.* We shall only sketch the proof of Theorem 2. As for $G(x)$ in (4.5) we obtain similarly

$$\begin{aligned} W(x) &:= \sum_{2 < n \leq x} \frac{\omega(n)}{\beta(n)} = \sum_{L < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \cdots \sum_{L_1 < p_s < p_{s-1}} \frac{1}{p_1 + \cdots + p_s} \\ &\cdot \sum_{m \leq x/p_1 \cdots p_s, p(m) < p_s} \omega(m) + O \left(\sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \cdots \sum_{L_1 < p_s < p_{s-1}} \frac{1}{p_1^2} \right. \\ &\cdot \left. \sum_{m \leq x/p_1 \cdots p_s, p(m) < p_s} \omega(m) \beta(m) \right) + O(SR = W_1 + O(W_2) + O(SR)), \text{ say,} \end{aligned}$$

where R is defined in Section 4. By [8], Lemma 6, we have

$$\begin{aligned} W_1 &= \sum_{L < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \cdots \sum_{L_1 < p_s < p_{s-1}} \frac{1}{p_1 + \cdots + p_s} \\ &\cdot \psi \left(\frac{x}{p_1 \cdots p_s}, p_s \right) \left(\frac{2 \log x}{\log_2 x} \right)^{1/2} \left(1 + O \left(\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x} \right) \right) = G_3 \left(\frac{2 \log x}{\log_2 x} \right)^{1/2} \left(1 + O \left(\frac{\log_3 x}{\log_2 x} \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

By the definition of $\beta(m)$ and by Lemma 6 of [8], we have

$$(5.3) \quad \begin{aligned} W_2 &\ll \sum_{L_1 < p_1 \leq L_2} \sum_{L_1 < p_2 < p_1} \cdots \sum_{L_1 < p_s < p_{s-1}} \frac{1}{p_1^2} \sum_{p < p_s} p \\ &\cdot \sum_{m' \leq x/p_1 \cdots p_s, p(m') < p_s} \omega(m') \ll G_4 \left(\frac{\log x}{\log_2 x} \right)^{1/2}. \end{aligned}$$

From (5.1), (5.2) and (5.3) the theorem follows.

Proofs of Theorems 3 and 4 are similar to the proof of Theorem 2, but they use Theorem 1 of [8] and Lemma 5 of [8] instead of Lemma 6 of [8], respectively.

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