

On the Density of Integers n Divisible by a Certain Integer m Such That m Does Not Divide $\sigma(n)-(n)$

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1 Introduction

The purpose of this paper is to present the proof of a theorem concerning the density of integers n divisible by a certain integer m such that m doesn't divide $\sigma(n)-(n)$. We will demonstrate that this density is zero by giving an asymptotic upper bound of the cardinality of these numbers n less than a real x .

2 Notations and Definitions

In the rest of the paper:

Let m be a fixed natural integer ≥ 3 .

x and t will designate positive real numbers.

We denote $(\text{mod } m)$ by $[m]$ for brevity.

We define the sum-of-divisors and sum-of-proper-divisors functions like so:

$$\sigma(n) = \sum_{d|n} d. \quad (1)$$

And

$$\sigma'(n) = \sigma(n) - n. \quad (2)$$

And we also define the function $\phi(n)$ as Euler's totient function, which counts the number of integers $\leq n$ that are coprime to n .

3 Theorem 1

The (asymptotic) density of the integers n divisible by m such that m doesn't divide $\sigma'(n)$ is zero.

Furthermore, we also give the following asymptotic upper bound for any sufficiently large real number x :

$$A_m(x) := \text{card}\{n \leq x \text{ such that } m|n \text{ and } m \nmid \sigma'(n)\} = O\left(\frac{x}{(\ln \ln x)^{\frac{1}{\phi(m)}}}\right). \quad (3)$$

4 Proof of the Theorem

In order to prove this theorem, we need to prove the following intermediate lemma:

5 Lemma

For all real numbers x :

$$S_m(x) := \text{card}\{n \leq x \text{ such that } m \nmid \sigma(n)\} = O\left(\frac{x}{(\ln \ln x)^{\frac{1}{\phi(m)}}}\right). \quad (4)$$

6 Proof of the Lemma

Let x and t be two sufficiently large reals such that $1 \ll t \ll x$.

It's clear that if a prime number q exists such that $q \equiv -1[m]$, $q|n$, and $q^2 \nmid n$, then $m|\sigma(n)$.

Let $q_1 < q_2 < \dots$ be the prime numbers such that $q_i \equiv -1[m]$.

From a corollary of a theorem by Dirichlet concerning the prime numbers in arithmetic progressions, we have the following:

$$\sum_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1[m]} \frac{1}{q} = \frac{\ln \ln t}{\phi(m)} + O(1). \quad (5)$$

And from this we deduce that:

$$\sum_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1[m]} \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2} = \frac{\ln \ln t}{\phi(m)} + O(1). \quad (6)$$

Now we will consider the following product: $\prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1[m]} (1 - \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2})$

We know that for all real y such that $0 \leq y < 1$, the following inequality holds:

$$\ln(1 - y) \leq -y. \quad (7)$$

Thus:

$$\ln\left(\prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1[m]} \left(1 - \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2}\right)\right) \leq -\left(\sum_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1[m]} \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2}\right) \quad (8)$$

Whence:

$$\ln\left(\prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1[m]} \left(1 - \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2}\right)\right) \leq -\left(\frac{\ln \ln t}{\phi(m)}\right) + O(1) \quad (9)$$

And from this we deduce that:

$$\prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1[m]} \left(1 - \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2}\right) = O\left(\exp\left(\frac{-\ln \ln t}{\phi(m)}\right)\right) = O\left(\frac{1}{(\ln t)^{\frac{1}{\phi(m)}}}\right) \quad (10)$$

Now we'll consider the following product:

$$Q_t = \prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1[m]} q_i \quad (11)$$

If for a certain integer a such that $1 \leq a \leq Q_t^2$ and for a prime number q_i ($q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1[m]$) such that $q_i | a$ and $q_i^2 \nmid a$ and $n \equiv a[m]$, then $m | \sigma(n)$.

By applying the sieve of Eratosthenes, we'll find that the number of classes of

residues (mod Q_t^2) for which the preceding property isn't checked for any index i is equal to:

$$Q_t^2 \prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1 [m]} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_i} + \frac{1}{q_i^2}\right) = Q_t^2 \prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1 [m]} \left(1 - \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2}\right) \quad (12)$$

From this we thus conclude:

$$S_m(x) := \text{card}\{n \leq x \text{ such that } m \nmid \sigma(n)\} \leq \left(\frac{x}{Q_t^2} + 1\right) Q_t^2 \prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1 [m]} \left(1 - \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2}\right). \quad (13)$$

Whence:

$$S_m(x) \leq x \prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1 [m]} \left(1 - \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2}\right) + Q_t^2 \prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1 [m]} \left(1 - \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2}\right). \quad (14)$$

If we define $t = \frac{\ln x}{2}$, the theorem of primes in arithmetic progressions shows that:

$$\ln(Q_t) \sim \frac{\ln x}{2\phi(m)} \quad (15)$$

Whence:

$$\ln(Q_t^2) \sim \frac{\ln x}{\phi(m)} \quad (16)$$

And since $2 \leq \phi(m)$ because $3 \leq m$, then:

$$Q_t^2 = o(x) \quad (17)$$

Thus:

$$S_m(x) = O\left(x \prod_{q_i \leq t, q_i \equiv -1 [m]} \left(1 - \frac{q_i - 1}{q_i^2}\right)\right). \quad (18)$$

Whence the following result:

$$S_m(x) = O\left(\frac{x}{(\ln \ln x + \ln(\frac{1}{2}))^{\frac{1}{\phi(m)}}}\right) = O\left(\frac{x}{(\ln \ln x)^{\frac{1}{\phi(m)}}}\right) \quad (19)$$

QED.

7 Following the Proof of the Theorem

Now we'll use the lemma and start by remarking that if $m|n$ and $m \nmid \sigma'(n)$ then $m \nmid \sigma(n)$.

Thus:

$$\{n \leq x \text{ such that } m|n \text{ and } m \nmid \sigma'(n)\} \subset \{n \leq x \text{ such that } m \nmid \sigma(n)\}. \quad (20)$$

Whence:

$$A_m(x) := \text{card}\{n \leq x \text{ such that } m|n \text{ and } m \nmid \sigma'(n)\} \leq S_m(x) := \text{card}\{n \leq x \text{ such that } m \nmid \sigma(n)\} \quad (21)$$

And from the lemma we deduce:

$$A_m(x) := \text{card}\{n \leq x \text{ such that } m|n \text{ and } m \nmid \sigma'(n)\} = O\left(\frac{x}{(\ln \ln x)^{\frac{1}{\phi(m)}}}\right) \quad (22)$$