ON LINKED BINARY REPRESENTATIONS OF PAIRS OF INTEGERS: SOME THEOREMS OF THE ROMANOV TYPE¹

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1. Introduction. Let us denote by N the sequence $\{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$, by p a prime, by (a, b) the greatest common divisor of a and b, by [a, b] the least common multiple of a and b, by $\{*: \dots\}$ resp. $A\{*: \dots\}$ the set resp. number of * with the properties \dots , by μ the Moebius function, by C an absolute positive constant and by C(*) a positive constant depending on * only.

Suppose $N_j \subset N$ (j=1, 2, 3, 4) and denote by $y_1 \sim y_2$ an arbitrary relation (= linking) with $y_{1,2} \in N$. For instance, $[y_1 \sim y_2]$: $= [(y_1, y_2) = 1] \text{ resp. } [y_1 \sim y_2] := [y_1 = y_2] \text{ can be considered a weak resp.}$ strong linking. By a linked binary representation of a pair m, n with $m \in N$ and $n \in N$ we mean a solution x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 of the Diophantine system $x_1+x_2=m \wedge x_3+x_4=n \wedge x_j \in N_j$ $(j=1, 2, 3, 4) \wedge x_2 \sim x_4$. Various generalizations are obvious (more summands, triples, etc.). We do not intend to give a detailed and general study of the questions arising in this context. We rather prefer to investigate two special problems of this type with \sim being =; they are inspired by the following two well-known results of Romanov:

$$E_a := \{m : m = p + v^a \land p \text{ prime } \land v \in N\} \qquad (1 < a \in N)$$

and

$$F_a := \{m : m = p + a^v \land p \text{ prime } \land v \in N\} \qquad (a \in N)$$

have positive asymptotic density [1, pp. 63–70].

2. On Romanov's first theorem. Generalizing the result for E_a , we show that the set $\{m, n: m = p_1 + v^a \land n = p_2 + v^a \land p_{1,2} \text{ prime} \land v \in N\}$, considered as a set of lattice points in the plane, has positive asymptotic density in the plane:

THEOREM 1. For $1 < a \in N$ there exist constants $C_1(a)$ and $C_2(a)$ such that $x > C_1(a)$ implies

$$A_1(x, a) := A \{m, n : m < x \land n < x \land m = p_1 + v^a \land \\ n = p_2 + v^a \land p_{1,2} \text{ prime } \land v \in N \} > C_2(a) x^2.$$

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