

EXPLICIT EXPRESSION OF A BARBAN & VEHOV THEOREM

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Abstract: We prove that

$$S = \sum_{n \leq N} \left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)} \right)^2 / n \leq 166 \frac{\log N}{\log z}$$

where $N \geq z \geq 100$, where the $\lambda_d^{(1)}$ is the weight introduced by Barban & Vehov in 1968, namely

$$\lambda_d^{(1)} = \begin{cases} \mu(d) & \text{when } d \leq z, \\ \mu(d) \frac{\log(z^2/d)}{\log z} & \text{when } z < d \leq z^2, \\ 0 & \text{when } z^2 < d, \end{cases}$$

where μ is the Moebius function.

Keywords: explicit estimates, Möbius function.

1. Introduction and results

This paper is a contribution to the famous optimisation problem of Barban & Vehov. These two authors noticed in [1] that

$$\sum_{n \leq N} \left(\sum_{\substack{d \leq z \\ d|n}} \mu(d) + \sum_{\substack{z < d \leq z^2 \\ d|n}} \mu(d) \frac{\log(z^2/d)}{2 \log z} \right)^2 \ll \frac{N}{\log z} \quad (1.1)$$

for every $N \geq 1$. Such a result was previously known only for $N \geq z^4$, reducing drastically the range of applications. As a matter of fact, they considered a more general sum but gave no details. These were published by Y. Motohashi in [5] and in a much simpler form by R. Graham in [2]. They select two parameters $1 \leq z_1 \leq z_2 \leq N$, and set $\Lambda_i(d) = \mu(d) \max(\log(z_i/d), 0)$ for $i = 1, 2$. They showed that

$$\sum_{n \leq N} \left(\sum_{d|n} \Lambda_1(d) \right) \left(\sum_{e|n} \Lambda_2(e) \right) = N \log z_1 + O(N). \quad (1.2)$$

These weights were widely generalized by Y. Motohashi in [3, Lemma 5] (see also his book [4]), We restrict our attention to a specific choice and set, following Y. Motohashi's notation:

$$\lambda_d^{(1)} = \begin{cases} \mu(d) & \text{when } d \leq z, \\ \mu(d) \frac{\log(z^2/d)}{\log z} & \text{when } z < d \leq z^2, \\ 0 & \text{when } z^2 < d. \end{cases} \tag{1.3}$$

Previous authors considered slightly more general weights with a y instead of the z^2 that we use here. Y. Motohashi noticed in 1978 that it is enough in many proofs to establish the following weaker estimate:

$$\sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)} \right)^2}{n} \ll \frac{\log N}{\log z}. \tag{1.4}$$

Our aim is to produce an explicit form of this result.

Theorem 1.1. *We have, when $z \leq N$ and $z \geq 10^2$,*

$$\sum_{n \leq N} \left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)} \right)^2 / n \leq 166 \frac{\log N}{\log z}.$$

From now on we call S the sum to be studied (i.e. the left-hand side above). In between, we improve on the main result of [8] in Lemma 2.2 and give a more precise form of [8, Theorem 1] in Lemma 2.1 below.

Notation. The notation $f = O^*(g)$ means that

$$|f| \leq g$$

2. Auxiliary lemmas

Lemma 2.1. *For $x \geq 1$ and for any positive integer r ,*

$$-\frac{11}{15}(1 + \varepsilon) \leq \sum_{\substack{\ell \leq x, \\ (\ell, r) = 1}} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^{1+\varepsilon}} \leq 1 + \varepsilon.$$

Proof. This lower bound is proved in [8, (10)] when $x \geq 9$ while the upper bound is [8, Theorem 1] for any positive x . Let us complete the proof of the lower bound for $x \in [1, 9)$. It is enough to consider $x \leq 7$. The sum is larger than

$$1 - \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} = -\frac{37}{210} \geq -\frac{11}{15}.$$

This concludes the proof. ■

Lemma 2.2. *When $\varepsilon \in [0, 1/10]$, for any real number $x \geq 1$ and any integer $r \geq 1$, we have*

$$\left| \sum_{\substack{\ell \leq x, \\ (\ell, r) = 1}} \frac{\mu(\ell) \log(x/\ell)}{\ell^{1+\varepsilon}} - (1 + \varepsilon) \right| \leq \frac{9}{10} + (1 + \varepsilon)x^\varepsilon \frac{r^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)},$$

where $\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)/r^{1+\varepsilon} = \prod_{p|r} (1 - p^{-1-\varepsilon})$.

Proof. We first treat the case when $x \geq 10$. On following the paper [8], we define

$$S_1 = \sum_{\substack{\ell \leq x, \\ (\ell, r) = 1}} \mu(\ell) \sum_{m \leq d/\ell} m^\varepsilon \tau(m). \tag{2.1}$$

Thus,

$$S_1 = \sum_{\substack{\ell \leq x, \\ (\ell, r) = 1}} f_{r, \varepsilon}(n)$$

where the multiplicative function $f_{r, \varepsilon}$ is defined by

$$f_{r, \varepsilon}(n) = \sum_{\substack{\ell \leq x, \\ (\ell, \delta) = 1}} \frac{\mu(\ell)}{\ell^{1+\varepsilon}} \tau(n/\ell).$$

In multiplicative form

$$f_{r, \varepsilon}(n) = \prod_{\substack{p^\nu || n, \\ p|r}} \left(\nu + 1 - \frac{\nu}{p^\varepsilon} \right) \prod_{\substack{p^\nu || n, \\ p \nmid r}} (\nu + 1).$$

Note that $f_{r, \varepsilon} \geq 1$. As a consequence, we have $S_1 \geq x^{1+\varepsilon}/(1 + \varepsilon) - x^\varepsilon$ for every $x \geq 1$. On the other hand, by using [8, Lemma 3.7], we also have

$$S_1 = \frac{x^{1+\varepsilon}}{1 + \varepsilon} \sum_{\substack{\ell \leq x, \\ (\ell, r) = 1}} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^{1+\varepsilon}} \left(\log \frac{x}{d} + 2\gamma - \frac{1}{1 + \varepsilon} \right) + O^*(0.961 \times 1.33(1 + 2\varepsilon)x^{1+\varepsilon})$$

We set $\alpha = 2\gamma - \frac{1}{1+\varepsilon}$ and rewrite the above in the form

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= \frac{x^{1+\varepsilon}}{1 + \varepsilon} \sum_{\substack{\ell \leq x, \\ (\ell, r) = 1}} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^{1+\varepsilon}} \left(\log \frac{x}{d} + \alpha \right) + O^*(1.279(1 + 2\varepsilon)x^{1+\varepsilon}) \\ &= S_1^* + \alpha S_0 + O^*(1.279(1 + 2\varepsilon)x^{1+\varepsilon}). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have

$$\frac{x^{1+\varepsilon}}{1+\varepsilon} - x^\varepsilon - 1.279(1+2\varepsilon)x^{1+\varepsilon} \leq S_1^* + \alpha S_0 \leq 1.279(1+2\varepsilon)x^{1+\varepsilon} + x^{1+2\varepsilon} \frac{r^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)}.$$

By Lemma 2.1, we find that

$$\frac{1}{(1+\varepsilon)} - x^{-1} - 1.279(1+2\varepsilon) - \alpha \leq x^{-1-\varepsilon} S_1^* \leq 1.279(1+2\varepsilon) + x^\varepsilon \frac{r^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)} + \frac{11}{15}\alpha.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{-\varepsilon}{(1+\varepsilon)} - x^{-1} - 1.279(1+2\varepsilon) - \alpha &\leq x^{-1-\varepsilon} S_1^* - 1 \\ &\leq 0.279 + 2 \times 1.279\varepsilon + x^\varepsilon \frac{r^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)} + \frac{11}{15}\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Notice that

$$(1+\varepsilon)x^{-1-\varepsilon} S_1^* = \sum_{\substack{d \leq x, \\ (d,r)=1}} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^{1+\varepsilon}} \log \frac{x}{d} = S_2$$

is the quantity we want to approximate. We reduce the above inequality to

$$-M_1 - (1+\varepsilon)x^\varepsilon \frac{r^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)} \leq S_2 - (1+\varepsilon) \leq M_2 + (1+\varepsilon)x^\varepsilon \frac{r^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} M_1 &= \varepsilon + (1+\varepsilon)x^{-1} + 1.279(1+2\varepsilon)(1+\varepsilon) + 2\gamma(1+\varepsilon) - 1 - (1+\varepsilon)x^\varepsilon \frac{r^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)} \\ &\leq \varepsilon + (1+\varepsilon)x^{-1} + 1.279(1+2\varepsilon)(1+\varepsilon) + 2\gamma(1+\varepsilon) - 1 - (1+\varepsilon)x^\varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

since $\frac{r^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)} \geq 1$ and

$$M_2 = 0.279(1+\varepsilon) + 2 \times 1.279\varepsilon(1+\varepsilon) + \frac{22}{15}\gamma(1+\varepsilon) - \frac{11}{15}.$$

We want to find an upper bound for $\max(M_1, M_2)$. The function $x \mapsto (1+\varepsilon)x^{-1} - (1+\varepsilon)x^\varepsilon$ is non-increasing in x and is hence not more than $\frac{1}{10}(1+\varepsilon) - (1+\varepsilon)10^\varepsilon$. We thus bound M_1 by

$$\begin{aligned} M_1 &\leq \varepsilon + (1+\varepsilon) \left(\frac{1}{10} - 10^\varepsilon \right) + 1.279(1+2\varepsilon)(1+\varepsilon) + 2\gamma(1+\varepsilon) - 1 \\ &\leq 0.1 + (1+\varepsilon) \left(\frac{1}{10} - 10^\varepsilon + 1.279 \times 1.2 + 2\gamma \right) - 1 \end{aligned}$$

since $\varepsilon \in [0, 1/10]$. The derivative of this function of ε is

$$\frac{1}{10} - 10^\varepsilon + 1.279 \times 1.2 + 2\gamma - (1+\varepsilon)10^\varepsilon \log 10.$$

It is non-increasing and negative at $\varepsilon = 0$. This point is thus where the maximum of the initial function is reached and thus

$$M_1 \leq 0.1 + \frac{1}{10} - 1 + 1.279 \times 1.2 + 2\gamma - 1 \leq 0.89.$$

Concerning M_2 , we find that

$$M_2 \leq 0.279 \times 1.1 + 2 \times 1.279 \times 0.1 \times 1.1 + \frac{22}{15}\gamma \times 1.1 - \frac{11}{15} \leq 0.79.$$

Hence the result in this case.

We now consider the case when x is strictly below 10. We define

$$D_r(x, \varepsilon) = \sum_{\substack{d \leq x, \\ (d,r)=1}} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^{1+\varepsilon}} \log \frac{x}{d} - (1 + \varepsilon). \tag{2.2}$$

When x is in $[1, 2)$, we have directly

$$|D_r(x, \varepsilon)| = |\log x - (1 + \varepsilon)| \leq \frac{9}{10} + (1 + \varepsilon)x^\varepsilon \frac{r^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)}$$

since $x^\varepsilon r^{1+\varepsilon} / \varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r) \geq 1$. When x is in $[2, 3)$, if r is even then

$$|D_r(x, \varepsilon)| \leq |\log 3 - (1 + \varepsilon)| \leq \frac{9}{10} + (1 + \varepsilon)x^\varepsilon \frac{r^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_{1+\varepsilon}(r)},$$

while, if r is odd, we have

$$D_r(x, \varepsilon) = \log x - \frac{1}{2^{1+\varepsilon}} \log \frac{x}{2} - (1 + \varepsilon)$$

which is increasing in x . It is enough to consider $x = 2$ and $x = 3$ and the result follows readily.

In general, when $x \in [n, n + 1)$ and n is some positive integer, we discuss according to the gcd of r with $P(n) = \prod_{p \leq n} p$. We get in this manner a function of the shape $a \log x + b$, from which we deduce that, ε being fixed, is either non-increasing or non-decreasing. In either case, it is enough to handle the case of the two endpoints n and $n + 1$.

When $x < 10$ and either $(r, 6) > 1$ or $x < 6$, the $1/d^{1+\varepsilon}$ term that appears is with a negative coefficient. Thus,

$$D_r(x, \varepsilon) \leq \log x - (1 + \varepsilon) \leq \log(10) - 1 \leq \frac{9}{10} + 1 + \varepsilon. \tag{2.3}$$

When $(r, 6) > 1$, this inequality still holds since

$$-\frac{1}{2^{1+\varepsilon}} \log \frac{x}{2} + \frac{1}{6^{1+\varepsilon}} \log \frac{x}{6} \leq 0.$$

We now consider the lower bound. The worst case is $\varepsilon = 0$ for the $d^{1+\varepsilon}$ term, i.e. we have, when $7 \leq x < 10$

$$D_r(x, \varepsilon) \geq \log x - \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{x}{2} - \frac{1}{3} \log \frac{x}{3} - \frac{1}{5} \log \frac{x}{5} - \frac{1}{7} \log \frac{x}{7} - \left(1 + \frac{1}{10}\right)$$

which is readily shown to be ≥ -0.2 . When $x \in [5, 7)$, a similar proof (erase the contribution of 7 above) shows that $D_r(x, \varepsilon) \geq -0.14$. Same when $x \in [3, 5)$, though this time the relevant function is increasing and this proves that $D_r(x, \varepsilon) \geq -0.21$. When $x \in [2, 3)$, we get $D_r(x, \varepsilon) \geq -0.41$. ■

Lemma 2.3. *For $y \geq 1$ we have*

$$\sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\varphi(\delta)} \leq \log y + 1.332582 + \frac{3.95}{\sqrt{y}}.$$

This lemma follows from [6, Theorem 1.2].

Lemma 2.4. *For a real number $y \geq 1$ we have*

$$\frac{6}{\pi^2} \log y + 0.578 \leq \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta} \leq \frac{6}{\pi^2} \log y + 1.166.$$

This lemma follows from [9, Lemma 3.4].

Lemma 2.5. *We have*

$$\sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(\delta)\varphi(\delta)}{\delta^2} = a \log y + b + O^*(0.174)$$

with

$$a = \prod_{p \geq 2} (p^3 - 2p + 1)/p^3 = 0.4282 + O^*(10^{-4})$$

and

$$b/a = \gamma + \sum_{p \geq 2} \frac{3p - 2}{p^3 - 2p + 1} \log p = 2.046 + O^*(10^{-4}).$$

This lemma follows from [9, Lemma 3.4].

Lemma 2.6. *When s is a real number satisfying $|s - 1| \leq \frac{1}{2}$ we have*

$$\zeta(s) = \frac{1}{s - 1} + \gamma - \gamma_1(s - 1) + O^*(20|s - 1|^2)$$

where $\gamma = 0.57721\dots$ and $\gamma_1 = 0.07281\dots$ are the Laurent-Stieltjes constants.

This lemma follows from [9, Lemma 5.3]. Let the von Mangoldt function be defined by

$$\Lambda(n) = \begin{cases} \log p & \text{if } n = p^k \text{ for a prime number } p \text{ and an integer } k \geq 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Lemma 2.7. *For $x > 0$ we have*

$$\psi(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \Lambda(n) < 1.03883 x.$$

This lemma follows from [10].

3. Proof of Theorem 1.1 for $N \geq z^2$

To simplify the typographic work, we let

$$S = \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)}\right)^2}{n}. \tag{3.1}$$

3.1. Reduction to an infinite sum

Let $\epsilon > 0$ be a real parameter which we will choose later. We use Rankin’s trick to write

$$S \leq \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)}\right)^2}{n} \left(\frac{N}{n}\right)^\epsilon = N^\epsilon \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)}\right)^2}{n^{\epsilon+1}}.$$

We set

$$\omega = \epsilon + 1. \tag{3.2}$$

3.2. Reduction to two sums

Let

$$L(y, d) = \begin{cases} \mu(d) \log(y/d) & \text{if } d \leq y, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We notice that

$$\lambda_d^{(1)} = \frac{L(z^2, d) - L(z, d)}{\log z}.$$

By using the classical inequality $|x + y|^2 \leq 2(|x|^2 + |y|^2)$, we find that

$$(\log z)^2 \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)}\right)^2}{n^\omega} \leq 2 \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d)\right)^2}{n^\omega} + 2 \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z, d)\right)^2}{n^\omega}.$$

3.3. Individual upper bound

We are looking for the upper bound of

$$\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(y, d)\right)^2}{n^\omega}$$

for $y = z$ and $y = z^2$. We expand the square and notice that

$$\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(y, d)\right)^2}{n^\omega} = \sum_{d_1, d_2} \frac{L(y, d_1)L(y, d_2)}{[d_1, d_2]^\omega} \zeta(\omega).$$

We are looking for the upper bound of the sum

$$S_1(y) = \sum_{d_1, d_2} \frac{L(y, d_1)L(y, d_2)}{[d_1, d_2]^\omega} = \sum_{d_1, d_2} \frac{L(y, d_1)L(y, d_2)(d_1, d_2)^\omega}{d_1^\epsilon d_2^\omega}. \tag{3.3}$$

We use the process of diagonalisation of Selberg. To do so, we have

$$\varphi_\omega(d) = \prod_{p|d} (p^\omega - 1). \tag{3.4}$$

When $d \geq 1$ is squarefree, this function satisfies the following

$$\sum_{p|d} \varphi_\omega(d) = (\varphi_\omega \star \mathbb{1})(d) = d^\omega.$$

From this we infer that

$$S_1(y) = \sum_{\delta \geq 1} \varphi_\omega(\delta) \sum_{\substack{d_1, d_2 \\ \delta|d_1 \ \delta|d_2}} \frac{L(y, d_1)L(y, d_2)}{d_1^\omega d_2^\omega} = \sum_{\delta \leq y} \varphi_\omega(\delta) \left(\sum_{\substack{d \\ \delta|d}} \frac{L(y, d)}{d^\omega} \right)^2.$$

We are now looking for an estimate of $\sum_{d/\delta|d} L(y, d)/d^\omega$. According to the definition of L we find that

$$\sum_{\substack{d \\ \delta|d}} \frac{L(y, d)}{d^\omega} = \sum_{\substack{d \leq y \\ \delta|d}} \frac{\mu(d) \log(\frac{y}{d})}{d^\omega} = \sum_{\substack{\ell \leq y/\delta \\ d = \delta \ell}} \frac{\mu(\delta \ell) \log(\frac{y}{\delta \ell})}{(\delta \ell)^\omega}.$$

We can assume that $(\delta, \ell) = 1$ since otherwise $\mu(\delta \ell) = 0$. Since μ is multiplicative, we then have $\mu(\delta \ell) = \mu(\delta)\mu(\ell)$. Thus, we get

$$\sum_{\substack{d \\ \delta|d}} \frac{L(y, d)}{d^\omega} = \frac{\mu(\delta)}{\delta^\omega} \sum_{\substack{\ell \leq y/\delta \\ (\delta, \ell) = 1}} \frac{\mu(\ell) \log(\frac{y}{\delta \ell})}{\ell^\omega}.$$

By Lemma 2.2, we have the following upper bound

$$\left| \sum_{\substack{d \\ \delta|d}} \frac{L(y, d)}{d^\omega} - \frac{\mu(\delta)}{\delta^\omega} (1 + \varepsilon) \right| \leq \frac{1}{\delta^{1+\varepsilon}} \left(\frac{9}{10} + (\varepsilon + 1) \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^\varepsilon \frac{\delta^{1+\varepsilon}}{\varphi_\omega(\delta)} \right),$$

i.e. with $\omega = 1 + \varepsilon$:

$$\left| \sum_{\substack{d \\ \delta|d}} \frac{L(y, d)}{d^\omega} - \frac{\mu(\delta)}{\delta^\omega} (1 + \varepsilon) \right| \leq \frac{1}{\delta^\omega} \left(\frac{9}{10} + \omega \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^{\omega-1} \frac{\delta^\omega}{\varphi_\omega(\delta)} \right).$$

This implies that

$$\sum_{\delta \leq y} \varphi_\omega(\delta) \left| \sum_{\substack{d \\ \delta|d}} \frac{L(y, d)}{d^\omega} - \frac{\mu(\delta)}{\delta^\omega} (1 + \varepsilon) \right|^2 \leq \sum_{\delta \leq y} \varphi_\omega(\delta) \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta^{2\omega}} \left(\frac{9}{10} + \omega \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^{\omega-1} \frac{\delta^\omega}{\varphi_\omega(\delta)} \right)^2.$$

We use the identity $a^2 = (a - e)^2 + 2ae - e^2$ to infer from the above that

$$\begin{aligned} S_1(y) &\leq \sum_{\delta \leq y} \varphi_\omega(\delta) \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta^{2\omega}} \left(\frac{9}{10} + \omega \left(\frac{y}{\delta}\right)^{\omega-1} \frac{\delta^\omega}{\varphi_\omega(\delta)} \right)^2 \\ &\quad + 2(1 + \varepsilon) \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\mu(\delta)\varphi_\omega(\delta)}{\delta^\omega} \sum_{\substack{d \\ \delta|d}} \frac{L(y, d)}{d^\omega} - \sum_{\delta \leq y} \varphi_\omega(\delta) \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta^{2\omega}} (1 + \varepsilon)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Let us investigate the factor of $2(1 + \varepsilon)$. It is

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\delta|d \leq y} \frac{\mu(\delta)\varphi_\omega(\delta)\mu(d) \log(y/d)}{d(\delta)^\omega} &= \sum_{d \leq y} \frac{\mu(d) \log(y/d)}{d^\omega} \sum_{\delta|d} \mu(\delta) \frac{\varphi_\omega(\delta)}{\delta^\omega} \\ &= \sum_{d \leq y} \frac{\mu(d) \log(y/d)}{d^\omega} \prod_{p|d} \left(1 - \frac{p^\omega - 1}{p^\omega} \right) \\ &= \sum_{d \leq y} \frac{\mu(d) \log(y/d)}{d^{2\omega}}. \end{aligned}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{d \leq y} \frac{\mu(d) \log(y/d)}{d^{2\omega}} \right| &\leq \sum_{d \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(d) \log(y/d)}{d^2} = \sum_{d \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(d)}{d^2} \int_d^y \frac{dt}{t} \\ &= \int_1^y \sum_{d \leq t} \frac{\mu^2(d)}{d^2} \frac{dt}{t} \leq \frac{\zeta(2)}{\zeta(4)} \log y. \end{aligned}$$

The above upper bound reduces to:

$$S_1(y) \leq \sum_{\delta \leq y} \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 + 2\omega \frac{9}{10} \frac{\delta^\omega}{\varphi_\omega(\delta)} \left(\frac{y}{\delta} \right)^{\omega-1} + \omega^2 \frac{\delta^{2\omega}}{\varphi_\omega^2(\delta)} \left(\frac{y}{\delta} \right)^{2(\omega-1)} \right) \frac{\varphi_\omega(\delta)\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta^{2\omega}} + 2\omega \frac{\zeta(2)}{\zeta(4)} \log y$$

Then we have

$$S_1(y) \leq \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\varphi_\omega(\delta)\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta^{2\omega}} + \frac{18}{10} \omega y^{\omega-1} \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta^{2\omega-1}} + \omega^2 y^{2\omega-2} \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\varphi_\omega(\delta)\delta^{2(\omega-1)}} + 3.04\omega \log y.$$

On using the two inequalities

$$\varphi_\omega(\delta) \leq \delta^\omega \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{\varphi_\omega(\delta)} \leq \frac{1}{\varphi(\delta)},$$

we obtain

$$S_1(y) \leq \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\varphi(\delta)\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta^{2\omega}} + 1.8\omega y^{\omega-1} \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta^{2\omega-1}} + \omega^2 y^{2\omega-2} \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\varphi(\delta)\delta^{2(\omega-1)}} + 3.04\omega \log y.$$

We use $\frac{1}{\delta^{2\omega}} \geq \frac{e^{-2c}}{\delta^2}$, $\frac{1}{\delta^{2\omega-1}} \leq \frac{1}{\delta}$, and $\frac{1}{\delta^{2\omega-2}} \leq 1$.

By choosing $\omega = 1 + \frac{c}{\log N} \leq 1 + \frac{c}{\log(z^2)}$, where now $c > 0$ is a real parameter that we can choose, we get

$$S_1(y) \leq \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\varphi(\delta)\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta^2} + 1.8\omega y^{\omega-1} \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\delta} + \omega^2 y^{2\omega-2} \sum_{\delta \leq y} \frac{\mu^2(\delta)}{\varphi(\delta)} + 3.04\omega \log y.$$

On using Lemma 2.3, 2.4 and 2.5 we obtain

$$S_1(y) \leq \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} a \log y + \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} b - 0.174 \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} + 1.8\omega y^{\omega-1} \left(\frac{6}{\pi^2} \log y + 1.166 \right) + \omega^2 y^{2(\omega-1)} \left(\log y + 1.3325 + \frac{3.95}{\sqrt{y}} \right) + 3.04\omega \log y. \tag{3.5}$$

3.4. Conclusion

Using the upper bound given by (3.5) for $y = z$ and for $y = z^2$ we obtain the following upper bound of S :

$$\begin{aligned}
 S \leq & \frac{2N^{\omega-1}\zeta(\omega)}{(\log z)^2} \left(\left(2 \frac{a}{e^{2c}} \log z + \frac{b}{e^{2c}} - \frac{0,174}{e^{2c}} \right) \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) \right. \\
 & + 1.8\omega e^{c/2} \left(\frac{12}{\pi^2} \log z + 1.166 \right) + w^2 e^c \left(2 \log z + 1.3325 + \frac{3.95}{z} \right) + 6.08\omega \log z \Big) \\
 & + \frac{2N^{\omega-1}\zeta(\omega)}{(\log z)^2} \left(\left(\frac{a}{e^{2c}} \log z + \frac{b}{e^{2c}} - \frac{0,174}{e^{2c}} \right) \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) \right. \\
 & + 1.8\omega e^c \left(\frac{6}{\pi^2} \log z + 1.166 \right) + w^2 e^{2c} \left(\log z + 1.3325 + \frac{3.95}{\sqrt{z}} \right) \\
 & \left. + 3.04\beta(c) \log z. \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 S \leq & \frac{2N^{\omega-1}\zeta(\omega)}{(\log z)^2} \left(\left(1.1e^{-2c} + (2 + e^c - 1.285e^{-3c})\omega^2 e^c + \frac{10.8}{\pi^2} \omega e^c \right) \log z \right. \\
 & + \left(\frac{21.6}{\pi^2} \omega e^{c/2} + 9.12\omega \right) \log z \\
 & + w^2 e^c \left(1.3325 + \frac{3.95}{10^2} + 1.3325e^c + \frac{3.95e^c}{\sqrt{10^2}} - 1.6e^{-3c} \right) \\
 & \left. + 2.1\omega e^c + 2.1\omega e^{c/2} + 1.42e^{-2c} \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

provided that $z^2 \leq N$ and $z \geq 10^2$. We have

$$\omega = 1 + \frac{c}{\log N} \leq 1 + \frac{c}{\log 10^4} = \beta(c)$$

where

$$\beta(c) = 1 + \frac{c}{\log(10^4)}. \tag{3.6}$$

Otherwise, by using Lemma 2.6 with $s = 1 + \epsilon$, we find that

$$\zeta(\omega) = \zeta(1 + \epsilon) = \frac{\log N}{c} + \gamma + 20 \left(\frac{c}{\log N} \right)^2 \leq g(c) \log N$$

where

$$g(c) = \frac{1}{c} + \frac{\gamma + 20 \left(\frac{c}{\log 10^4} \right)^2}{\log 10^4}. \tag{3.7}$$

We now find that

$$\begin{aligned}
 S \leq & \frac{2N^{\omega-1}g(c) \log N}{(\log z)^2} \left(\left(1.1e^{-2c} + (2 + e^c - 1.285e^{-3c})\beta^2(c)e^c + \frac{10.8}{\pi^2}\beta(c)e^c \right) \log z \right. \\
 & + \left(\frac{21.6}{\pi^2}\beta(c)e^{c/2} + 9.12\beta(c) \right) \log z \\
 & + \beta^2(c)e^c \left(1.3325 + \frac{3.95}{10^2} + 1.3325e^c + \frac{3.95e^c}{\sqrt{10^2}} - 1.6e^{-3c} \right) \\
 & \left. + 2.1\beta(c)e^c + 2.1\beta(c)e^{c/2} + 1.42e^{-2c} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

We next define $A(c)$ by

$$\begin{aligned}
 A(c) = & 2e^c g(c) \left(1.1e^{-2c} + (2 + e^c - 1.285e^{-3c})\beta^2(c)e^c \right) \\
 & + 2e^c g(c) \left(\frac{10.8}{\pi^2}\beta(c)e^c + \frac{21.6}{\pi^2}\beta(c)e^{c/2} + 9.12\beta(c) \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

and $B(c)$ by

$$\begin{aligned}
 B(c) = & 2e^c g(c) \left(\beta^2(c)e^c \left(1.3325 + \frac{3.95}{10^2} + 1.3325e^c + \frac{3.95e^c}{\sqrt{10^2}} - 1.6e^{-3c} \right) \right. \\
 & \left. + 2.1\beta(c)e^c + 2.1\beta(c)e^{c/2} + 1.42e^{-2c} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

With these definitions, our upper bound of S becomes

$$S \leq \frac{\log N}{(\log z)^2} (A(c) \log z + B(c)).$$

We optimize the choice of the parameter c by using PARI/GP [7]: we find that by choosing $c = 0.535$, we obtain that, for $z^2 \leq N$ and $z \geq 100$

$$S \leq \frac{\log N}{(\log z)^2} (144.55 \log z + 97.9) \leq 166 \frac{\log N}{\log z}.$$

4. Proof of Theorem 1.1 for $z \leq N \leq z^2$

We begin slightly differently. We notice that

$$(\log z)^2 S \leq 2 \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d) \right)^2}{n} + 2 \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z, d) \right)^2}{n}$$

By using Rankin's trick on the second sum, we obtain that

$$(\log z)^2 S \leq 2 \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d) \right)^2}{n} + 2N^\epsilon \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z, d) \right)^2}{n^\omega}$$

with $\omega = \epsilon + 1$. We are still asking $\omega = 1 + \frac{c}{\log N}$ for a certain parameter c . On using (3.3) for $y = z$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} S &\leq \frac{2}{(\log z)^2} \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d)\right)^2}{n} + \frac{2N^\epsilon \zeta(\omega)}{(\log z)^2} S_1(z) \\ &\leq \frac{2}{(\log z)^2} \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d)\right)^2}{n} + \frac{2e^c g(c) \log N}{(\log z)^2} S_1(z). \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$S_2 = \frac{2}{(\log z)^2} \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d)\right)^2}{n} \tag{4.1}$$

and

$$S_3 = \frac{2e^c g(c) \log N}{(\log z)^2} S_1(z). \tag{4.2}$$

4.1. Upper bound of S_2

Recall that $L(z^2, d) = \mu(d) \log(z^2/d)$, we get that, for $n \leq N \leq z^2$,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d) &= \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) (2 \log z - \log d) = 2 \log z \delta_{n=1} - \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \log d \\ &= 2 \log z \delta_{n=1} + \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \left(\log\left(\frac{n}{d}\right) - \log n\right) \\ &= 2 \log z \delta_{n=1} + \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \log\left(\frac{n}{d}\right). \end{aligned}$$

since $(\mu \star \log)(n) = \Lambda(n)$ where Λ is the von Mangoldt function. Hence, when $n \leq z^2$,

$$\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d) = 2 \log z \delta_{n=1} + \Lambda(n).$$

Therefore, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d)\right)^2}{n} &= 4(\log z)^2 + \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\Lambda(n)^2}{n} \leq 4(\log z)^2 + \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\Lambda(n) \log n}{n} \\ &\leq 4(\log z)^2 + \sum_{n \leq N} \Lambda(n) \left(\frac{\log N}{N} + \int_2^N \frac{\log t - 1}{t^2} dt\right) \\ &\leq 4(\log z)^2 + \sum_{n \leq N} \Lambda(n) \frac{\log N}{N} + \int_2^N \sum_{n \leq t} \Lambda(n) \frac{\log t - 1}{t^2} dt, \end{aligned}$$

so,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d)\right)^2}{n} &\leq 4(\log z)^2 + \sum_{n \leq N} \Lambda(n) \frac{\log N}{N} + \int_2^N \sum_{n \leq t} \Lambda(n) \frac{\log t - 1}{t^2} dt \\ &\leq 4(\log z)^2 + \sum_{n \leq N} \Lambda(n) \frac{\log N}{N} + \int_2^e \sum_{n \leq t} \Lambda(n) \frac{\log t - 1}{t^2} dt \\ &\quad + \int_e^N \sum_{n \leq t} \Lambda(n) \frac{\log t - 1}{t^2} dt. \end{aligned}$$

According to Lemma 2.7, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d)\right)^2}{n} &\leq 4(\log z)^2 + \psi(N) \frac{\log N}{N} + \int_2^e \log 2 \frac{\log t - 1}{t^2} dt \\ &\quad + \int_e^N \psi(t) \frac{\log t - 1}{t^2} dt \\ &\leq 4(\log z)^2 + 1.03883 \log N + \log 2 \int_2^e \frac{\log t - 1}{t^2} dt \\ &\quad + 1.03883 \int_e^N \frac{\log t - 1}{t} dt. \end{aligned}$$

By using integration by parts, we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d)\right)^2}{n} &\leq 4(\log z)^2 + 1.03883 \log N - 0.0147 \\ &\quad + 1.03883((\log N)^2 - \log N) \\ &\leq 4(\log z)^2 - 0.0147 + 1.03883(\log N)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} S_2 &= \frac{2}{(\log z)^2} \sum_{n \leq N} \frac{\left(\sum_{d|n} L(z^2, d)\right)^2}{n} \\ &\leq \frac{2}{(\log z)^2} (4(\log z)^2 - 0.0147 + 1.03883(\log N)^2) \\ &\leq \frac{\log N}{(\log z)^2} \left(8 \log z + 2 \frac{-0.0147}{2 \log 10} + 2.07766 \log N\right) \\ &\leq \frac{\log N}{(\log z)^2} (8 \log z - 0.0025 + 4.3166 \log z). \end{aligned}$$

Then we have

$$S_2 \leq \frac{\log N}{(\log z)^2} (12.32 \log z - 0.0025).$$

4.2. Upper bound of S_3

Recall that:

$$S_3 = \frac{2e^c g(c) \log N}{(\log z)^2} S_1(z).$$

From (3.5) for $y = z$, we infer that

$$\begin{aligned} S_1(z) \leq & \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} a \log z + \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} b \\ & - 0.174 \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} + 1.8\omega e^c \left(\frac{6}{\pi^2} \log z + 1.166 \right) \\ & + w^2 e^{2c} \left(\log z + 1.3325 + \frac{3.95}{\sqrt{z}} \right) + 3.04\beta(c) \log z. \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} S_1(z) \leq & \left(\left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) \frac{a}{e^{2c}} + \frac{10.8}{\pi^2} \omega e^c + w^2 e^{2c} + 3.04\beta(c) \right) \log z \\ & + \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) \frac{b}{e^{2c}} - 0.174 \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} \\ & + 2.1\omega e^c + w^2 e^{2c} \left(1.3325 + \frac{3.95}{\sqrt{10^2}} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

Hence

$$S_3 \leq \frac{\log N}{(\log z)^2} (U(c) \log z + V(c))$$

with

$$U(c) = 2e^c g(c) \left(\left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} a + 1.8 \frac{6}{\pi^2} \omega e^c + w^2 e^{2c} + 3.04\beta(c) \right)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} V(c) = & 2e^c g(c) \left(\left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} b - 0.174 \left(\left(\frac{9}{10} \right)^2 - \omega^2 \right) e^{-2c} \right) \\ & + 2e^c g(c) \left(2.1\omega e^c + w^2 e^{2c} \left(1.3325 + \frac{3.95}{\sqrt{10^2}} \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Letting $c = 0.4$, we obtain

$$S_3 \leq \frac{\log N}{(\log z)^2} (44.25 \log z + 65.29).$$

4.3. Conclusion

Putting together the upper bounds of S_2 and S_3 , we get

$$\begin{aligned} S &\leq \frac{\log N}{(\log z)^2} (12.32 \log z - 0.0025) + \frac{\log N}{(\log z)^2} (44.25 \log z + 65.29) \\ &\leq \frac{\log N}{(\log z)^2} (56.57 \log z + 52) \leq 68 \frac{\log N}{\log z}, \end{aligned}$$

and the theorem is proved.

5. Further results

We find that by choosing $c = 0.555$, we obtain for $z^2 \leq N$ and $z \geq 10^3$ the inequality

$$S = \sum_{n \leq N} \left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)} \right)^2 / n \leq 152 \frac{\log N}{\log z}.$$

By choosing $c = 0.421$, we obtain for $z \leq N \leq z^2$ and $z \geq 10^3$

$$S = \sum_{n \leq N} \left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)} \right)^2 / n \leq 63 \frac{\log N}{\log z}.$$

We find that by choosing $c = 0.565$, we obtain for $z^2 \leq N$ and $z \geq 10^4$

$$S = \sum_{n \leq N} \left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)} \right)^2 / n \leq 146 \frac{\log N}{\log z}.$$

Lastly, by choosing $c = 0.44$, we obtain for $z \leq N \leq z^2$ and $z \geq 10^4$ the inequality

$$S = \sum_{n \leq N} \left(\sum_{d|n} \lambda_d^{(1)} \right)^2 / n \leq 59 \frac{\log N}{\log z}.$$

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