THE RECIPROCAL SUM OF THE AMICABLE NUMBERS

HANH MY NGUYEN AND CARL POMERANCE

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we improve on several earlier attempts to show that the reciprocal sum of the amicable numbers is small, showing this sum is $< 227$.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let $\sigma(n)$ denote the sum-of-divisors function; that is, $\sigma(n) = \sum_{d|n} d$. A pair of distinct numbers $n, n'$ are said to form an amicable pair if $\sigma(n) = \sigma(n') = n + n'$, and we call an integer amicable if it is a member of such a pair. This concept was first noted by Pythagoras who used the function $s(n) = \sigma(n) - n$. Thus, $n$ is amicable if and only if $s(s(n)) = n$ and $s(n) \neq n$. There are about 12 million amicable pairs known, but we do not know if there are infinitely many of them.

Though studied by many since antiquity, the amicable numbers were not known to comprise a set of asymptotic density 0 until 1955, when this was shown by Erdős [5]. And it was not known until 1981 that the amicable numbers have a finite reciprocal sum, see [10]. Roughly using the approach of [10], Bayless and Klyve [2] were able to show the reciprocal sum of the amicable numbers is less than $656,000,000$. This is in contrast to the lower bound of 0.011984 computed from the known amicable numbers, so there is clearly a huge gap between this upper bound and the lower bound!

The paper [10] on the distribution of the amicable numbers was improved in the recent paper [11], and using some ideas from this paper, the first-named author [6] was able to about halve the gap (on a logarithmic scale), showing the reciprocal sum of the amicable numbers is less than 4084. Here we make further progress.

Theorem 1.1. The reciprocal sum of the amicable numbers is smaller than $227$.

One of the ideas from [6], namely using an averaging argument to show there are few odd abundant numbers ($s(n) > n$), is taken further here, to include numbers that are 2 (mod 4) and not divisible by 5. We establish some new estimates on the reciprocal sum of numbers without large prime factors. These estimates may prove to be useful in other problems, such as in [1]. We carve out various subsets of the amicable numbers, such as the odd amicables and the even pairs which do not agree (mod 4). In particular, these two subsets have a considerably smaller reciprocal sum than what we are able to prove for the complementary set.

2. LEMMAS

Lemma 2.1. With $\gamma$ as Euler’s constant, we have for $x > 0$ that

$$\left| \sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{n} - (\log x + \gamma) \right| < \frac{1}{x}.$$
Proof. The result holds trivially when $0 < x < 1$, so assume $x \geq 1$. By partial summation
\[
\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{n} = \frac{\lfloor x \rfloor}{x} + \int_1^x \frac{\lfloor t \rfloor}{t^2} dt = \log x + \frac{\lfloor x \rfloor}{x} + \int_1^\infty \frac{\lfloor t \rfloor - t}{t^2} dt + \int_x^\infty \frac{t - \lfloor t \rfloor}{t^2} dt.
\]
The next-to-last integral is $\gamma - 1$ so that
\[
\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{1}{n} = \log x + \frac{\lfloor x \rfloor}{x} + \int_1^\infty \frac{\lfloor t \rfloor - t}{t^2} dt.
\]
Since this last integral is positive and smaller than $1/x$, the result follows. \hfill \Box

Let $\varphi$ denote Euler’s function, let $\mu$ denote the Möbius function, and let $\omega$ denote the function which counts the number of distinct prime divisors.

Corollary 2.1. For $x > 0$ and $u$ a positive integer,
\[
\left| \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\gcd(n, u) = 1}} \frac{1}{n} - \frac{\varphi(u)}{u} (\log x + \gamma) + \sum_{d \mid u} \mu(d) \log d \right| < \frac{2\omega(u)}{x}.
\]
Proof. This result follows immediately from Lemma 2.1 and the identity
\[
\sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\gcd(n, u) = 1}} \frac{1}{n} = \sum_{d \mid u} \mu(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\gcd(n, u) = 1}} \frac{1}{n} = \sum_{d \mid u} \mu(d) \sum_{n \leq x/d} \frac{1}{n}.
\]

Lemma 2.2. For any $z > 0$ we have
\[
\sum_{\frac{z}{n} < n \leq z} \frac{1}{n} < 1 + \frac{1}{z}.
\]
Proof. The first estimate is trivial if $z < 1$, so assume that $z \geq 1$. Then
\[
\sum_{\frac{z}{n} < n \leq z} \frac{1}{n} \leq \frac{1}{\lfloor z \rfloor} + \sum_{\frac{z}{n} < n \leq z} \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{\lfloor z \rfloor} + \int_{\lfloor z \rfloor}^z \frac{dt}{t} \leq 1 + \frac{1}{z}.
\]

For the second estimate, we have that the sum in question is at most
\[
(2.1) \sum_{\substack{s \in S, s \leq z \\lfloor z\rfloor \leq s \leq z}} \frac{1}{n} = \sum_{\substack{s \in S, s \leq z \\lfloor z\rfloor \leq s \leq z}} \frac{1}{s} \sum_{z < n \leq z} \frac{1}{n} < \sum_{\substack{s \in S, s \leq z \\lfloor z\rfloor \leq s \leq z}} \frac{1}{s} \left(1 + \frac{s}{z}\right),
\]

using the first estimate, and the result follows. \hfill \Box

Lemma 2.3. Let $S$ be a set of positive integers coprime to the positive integer $u$. We have
\[
\sum_{\substack{z \leq n \leq z \\lfloor z\rfloor \leq s \leq z \\gcd(n, u) = 1}} \frac{1}{n} < \frac{\varphi(u)}{u} \sum_{\substack{s \in S, s \leq z \\gcd(n, u) = 1}} \frac{1}{s} + \frac{2\omega(u)}{z} (1 + 1/e) \sum_{\substack{s \in S, s \leq z \\gcd(n, u) = 1}} \frac{1}{s}.
\]
Proof. We use Corollary 2.1 for the sum on \( m \) in (2.1).

**Lemma 2.4.** For a real number \( x \geq e \), we have
\[
\log \log x < \sum_{n \leq x/e} \frac{1}{n \log(x/n)} < \log \log x + \frac{1}{\log x}.
\]

Further, for \( x \geq 16 \),
\[
\sum_{n \leq x/e, \text{n odd}} \frac{1}{n \log(x/n)} < \frac{1}{2} \log \log(x/2) - \frac{1}{6} \log \log(x/6) + \frac{1}{2} \log(x/2) < \frac{1}{3} \log x + \frac{3/4}{\log x}.
\]

Proof. The function \( 1/(t \log(x/t)) \) is decreasing in \( t \) on the interval \([1, x/e]\). Since it has antiderivative \(-\log \log(x/t)\), we have
\[
\sum_{n \leq x/e} \frac{1}{n \log(x/n)} < \frac{1}{\log x} + \int_1^{x/e} \frac{dt}{t \log(x/t)} = \frac{1}{\log x} + \log \log x.
\]

For the lower bound, we use
\[
\sum_{n \leq x/e} \frac{1}{n \log(x/n)} > \int_1^{x/e} \frac{dt}{t \log(x/t)}.
\]

The last two assertions follow from the first displayed result and some simple calculations. \(\square\)

**Lemma 2.5.** For positive integers \( j, n \), let \( \tau_j(n) \) denote the number of ordered factorizations of \( n \) into \( j \) positive factors. We have for any \( x > 0 \) that
\[
\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\tau_j(n)}{n} \leq \frac{1}{j!} (j + \log x)^j, \quad \sum_{n \leq x} \tau_j(n) \leq \frac{x}{(j-1)!} (j - 1 + \log x)^{j-1}.
\]

Proof. The second inequality is trivial when \( j = 1 \). Using partial summation, if the second inequality is true at \( j \), so too is the first inequality. Using that \( \tau_{j+1}(n) = \sum_{d \mid n} \tau_j(d) \), if the first inequality is true at \( j \), then the second inequality is true at \( j + 1 \). \(\square\)

We always use the letters \( p, q, r \) to represent prime numbers.

**Lemma 2.6.** Let
\[
H(x) = \sum_{p \leq x} \frac{1}{p}.
\]

With \( B = 0.2614972128 \ldots \) the Mertens constant and \( x \geq 286 \), we have
\[
\left| H(x) - (\log \log x + B) \right| < \frac{1}{2(\log x)^2}.
\]

Further,
\[
\sum_{x/p < x} \frac{1}{p} < \frac{1}{\log x} + \frac{1}{(\log x)^2}.
\]

Proof. The first assertion is [12, Theorem 5], and the second assertion follows directly. \(\square\)
Lemma 2.7. We have
\[
\sum_{p > x} \frac{1}{p^2} < \begin{cases} 
\frac{1}{x \log x} + \frac{2}{x^{3/2} \log x}, & 1 < x \leq 10^{19}, \\
\frac{1 + 3\varepsilon}{x \log x}, & x > 10^{19},
\end{cases}
\]
where \(\varepsilon = 2.3 \times 10^{-8}\).

Proof. We easily verify that the lemma holds when \(x \leq 1500\), so assume that \(x > 1500\), in fact, the sum is smaller than \(0.9/(x \log x)\) in this range. Let \(\theta(t)\) denote the Chebyshev function \(\sum_{p \leq t} \log t\). It follows from [3], [4] (also see [8, Proposition 2.1]) that
\[
\theta(t) < t \quad (0 < t \leq 10^{19}), \quad \theta(t) > t - 2\sqrt{t} \quad (1423 \leq t \leq 10^{19}),
\]
and
\[
|\theta(t) - t| < \varepsilon t \quad (t > 10^{19}).
\]

We have
\[
\sum_{p > x} \frac{1}{p^2} = \sum_{p > x} \frac{\log p}{p^2 \log p} = -\frac{\theta(x)}{x^2 \log x} + \int_x^\infty \frac{\theta(t)\left(\frac{2}{t^3 \log t} + \frac{1}{t^2 (\log t)^2}\right)}{dt},
\]
via partial summation. Assume that \(x \leq 10^{19}\), so that (2.2) implies that
\[
\sum_{p > x} \frac{1}{p^2} < -\frac{x - 2\sqrt{x}}{x^2 \log x} \int_x^\infty \frac{2}{t^3 \log t} + \frac{1}{t^2 (\log t)^2} \right) dt
\]
\[
= -\frac{x - 2\sqrt{x}}{x^2 \log x} + \frac{1}{x \log x} \int_x^\infty \frac{1}{t^2 \log t} dt
\]
\[
< \frac{1}{x \log x} + \frac{2}{x^{3/2} \log x}.
\]
This proves the first assertion, and the second one follows in the same way, except that we use (2.3).

If \(a, m\) are coprime integers with \(m > 0\), let
\[
\pi(x; m, a) = \sum_{p \leq x \atop p \equiv a \pmod{m}} 1.
\]

Lemma 2.8. For \(a, m\) coprime as above and \(x > m\),
\[
\pi(x; m, a) < \frac{2x}{\varphi(m) \log(x/m)}.
\]

Moreover, if \(A, B\) are numbers with \(m < A < B\), then
\[
\sum_{A < p \leq B \atop p \equiv a \pmod{m}} \frac{1}{p} < \frac{2}{\varphi(m) \log(B/m)} + \frac{2}{\varphi(m)} \left(\log \log(B/m) - \log \log(A/m)\right).
\]

Proof. The first assertion is the version of the Brun–Titchmarsh inequality in Montgomery–Vaughan [9]. The second assertion follows directly by partial summation.
Lemma 2.9. For $x > y \geq 2$ and $0 < s < 1$, let

$$S(x, y) = \sum_{n > x, P(n) \leq y} \frac{1}{n^s}, \quad \zeta(s, y) = \sum_{P(n) \leq y} \frac{1}{n^s} = \prod_{p \leq y} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p^s - 1}\right).$$

Then $S(x, y) \leq x^{-s} \zeta(1 - s, y)$. Further, if $2 \leq y_0 < y$, then

$$S(x, y) \leq x^{-s} \exp\left(\frac{y_0^{1-s}}{y_0^{1-s} - 1} \sum_{y_0 < p \leq y} \frac{1}{p}\right) \prod_{p \leq y} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p^{1-s} - 1}\right).$$

Proof. The first inequality is clear since if $n > x$ we have $1/n < x^{-s}/n^{1-s}$. The second inequality follows from $1 + \alpha < e^\alpha$ for $\alpha > 0$ and the fact that $z^{1-s}/(z^{1-s} - 1)$ is decreasing in $z$ for $z \geq 2$. □

Lemma 2.10. Let $x > y \geq 2$, $u = \log x / \log y$, and assume that $u \geq 3$ and $\log(u \log u) / \log y \leq 1/3$.

With $S(x, y)$ as in Lemma 2.9, we have

$$S(x, y) < 25e^{(1+\varepsilon)u} (u \log u)^{-u}(2 \log(u \log u) / \log y - 1)^{-1}.$$ 

where $\varepsilon = 2.3 \times 10^{-8}$.

Proof. Let $s = \log(u \log u) / \log y$ and apply Lemma 2.9. Then $x^{-s} = (u \log u)^{-u}$ and we have

$$(2.4) \quad S(x, y) \leq (u \log u)^{-u} \exp\left(\sum_{p \leq y} \log \left(1 + 1/(p^{1-s} - 1)\right)\right).$$

We have

$$(2.5) \quad \sum_{p \leq y} \log \left(1 + \frac{1}{p^{1-s} - 1}\right) = \sum_{p \leq y} \frac{1}{p^{1-s}} + \sum_p \left(\log \left(1 + \frac{1}{p^{1-s} - 1}\right) - \frac{1}{p^{1-s}}\right) < \sum_{p \leq y} \frac{1}{p^{1-s}} + 0.83,$$

using $s \leq 1/3$. Let $f(t) = 1/(t^{1-s} \log t)$. By partial summation and (2.2), (2.3), we have

$$\sum_{p \leq y} \frac{1}{p^{1-s}} = \sum_{p \leq y} f(p) \log p = \theta(y) f(y) - \int_2^y \theta(t) f'(t) \, dt < (1 + \varepsilon) y f(y) - (1 + \varepsilon) \int_2^y tf'(t) \, dt,$$

using that $f'(t) < 0$ for $t \geq 2$. Integrating by parts, we have

$$\sum_{p \leq y} \frac{1}{p^{1-s}} < (1 + \varepsilon) 2 f(2) + (1 + \varepsilon) \int_2^y f(t) \, dt = (1 + \varepsilon) \left(\text{Li}(y^s) - \text{Li}(2^s) + 2^s / \log 2\right),$$

where $\text{Li}(t) = \int_1^t dt / \log t$. Note that

$$- \text{Li}(2^s) = \int_2^2 \frac{dt}{\log t} < \int_2^2 \frac{dt}{(t - 1) - \frac{1}{2}(t - 1)^2} = - \log(2^s - 1) + \log(3 - 2^s).$$

Using this in (2.6) and noting that $y^s = u \log u$, we have

$$\sum_{p \leq y} \frac{1}{p^{1-s}} < (1 + \varepsilon) \left(\text{Li}(u \log u) - \log(2^s - 1) + \log(3 - 2^s) + 2^s / \log 2\right).$$

Finally, using this in (2.5) and (2.4), noting that $\text{Li}(u \log u) < u$ and $\log(3 - 2^s) + 2^s / \log 2 + .83 < \log 25$, we have the lemma. □

Remark 2.1. We can use some of the techniques in the proof of Lemma 2.10 to help numerically with the estimate in Lemma 2.9. In particular, we have

$$\sum_{y_0 < p \leq y} \frac{1}{p^{1-s}} < (1 + \varepsilon) \left(\text{Li}(y^s) - \text{Li}(y_0^s) + \frac{y_0^s}{\log y_0} \right) - \frac{y_0^s}{\log y_0}.$$
We find that in the ranges we are using Lemma 2.9, it is helpful to take
\[ s = \log(e^\gamma u \log u) / \log y. \]
Let
\[ S_{\text{odd}}(x, y) = \sum_{n > x, P(n) \leq y, n \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{n}, \quad S_{\text{even}}(x, y) = \sum_{n > x, P(n) \leq y, n \text{ even}} \frac{1}{n}, \quad S_{\text{even}, \text{no } 3}(x, y) = \sum_{n > x, P(n) \leq y, 3 \nmid n, n \text{ even}} \frac{1}{n}. \]

In Lemma 2.9, if we know our summand \( n \) is odd, as in \( S_{\text{odd}}(x, y) \), we may remove the factor \((1 + 1/(2^s - 1))\) from the product. And if we know our summand is even, as in \( S_{\text{even}} \), we may replace the factor \((1 + 1/(2^s - 1))\) with \(1/(2^s - 1)\). In the latter case, if we also know our summand is coprime to 3, as in \( S_{\text{even}, \text{no } 3} \), we may also remove the factor \((1 + 1/(3^s - 1))\).

3. Amicable numbers of moderate size

3.1. Parity and number of primes.

Proposition 3.1. Let \( A_0 \) denote the set of amicable numbers \( n \) such that either

1. \( n < 10^{14} \),
2. \( n \) belongs to a pair of opposite parity, or
3. \( 10^{14} < n < e^{300} \) and \( 4 \nmid \sigma(n) \).

The reciprocal sum of the members of \( A_0 \) is \( < 2.826 \).

Proof. The amicable numbers to \( 10^{14} \) have been completely enumerated, and their reciprocal sum is \( < 0.012 \). If \( n \) belongs to an amicable pair of opposite parity, then \( \sigma(n) \) is odd. This implies that \( n \) is either a square or the double of a square. There are no examples up to \( 10^{14} \). Further, as is easy to see,

\[ \sum_{n^2 > 10^{14}} \frac{1}{n^2} + \sum_{2n^2 > 10^{14}} \frac{1}{2n^2} < \frac{2}{10^7}. \]

If \( n \) is even and \( 2 \parallel \sigma(n) \), then \( n = pm \), where \( p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \) and \( m \) is either an even square or the double of one. So, the reciprocal sum of such \( n \) in \((10^{14}, e^{300})\), when \( p > 10^{14} \), is at most

\[ \sum_{10^{14} < p < e^{300}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m \text{ or } 2m = \square} \frac{1}{pm} = \frac{3}{4} \zeta(2)(H(e^{300}) - H(10^{14})) < 2.753, \]

using Lemma 2.6. For the case \( p < 10^{14} \), we use that for \( x > 0 \),

\[ \sum_{j^2 > x} \frac{1}{j^2} < \frac{1}{x} + \int_{\sqrt{x}}^\infty \frac{1}{t^2} dt = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{1}{x}. \]

We have

\[ \sum_{p<10^{14}} \frac{1}{4} \sum_{m=\square} \frac{1}{pm} \frac{1}{p} < \frac{1}{4} \sum_{p<10^{14}} \frac{1}{p} \left( \sqrt{\frac{4p}{10^{14}}} + \frac{4p}{10^{14}} \right) = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 10^7} \sum_{p<10^{14}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} + \frac{\pi(10^{14})}{10^{14}}. \]

Similarly, we have

\[ \sum_{p<10^{14}} \frac{1}{8} \sum_{m=\square} \frac{1}{pm} \frac{1}{p} < \frac{1}{8} \cdot 10^7 \sum_{p<10^{14}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} + \frac{\pi(10^{14})}{10^{14}}. \]

We know that \( \pi(t) < \text{Li}(t) \) for \( t < 10^{19} \), see [3]. Using this we compute that

\[ \sum_{p<10^{14}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{p}} < 332 460. \]
We also know the exact value of \( \pi(10^{14}) \), it is 3 204 941 750 802. Adding these estimates to our prior one when \( p > 10^{14} \) and to (3.1), we have less than 2.814 for the reciprocal sum of the members of \( A_0 \).

Remark 3.1. In the sequel we will only consider amicable pairs of the same parity. We shall also assume a simple, but useful result of Lee [7] that no amicable number in an even-even pair is divisible by 3.

We would like to extend the third property in Proposition 3.1 to all even amicable numbers, but this will require some tools, which will be of use later as well.

Proposition 3.2. Let \( A_1 \) denote the set of amicable numbers \( n \) not in \( A_0 \) with \( \omega(n) > 4 \log \log n \). The sum of reciprocals of those amicable numbers with at least one of the pair \( > e^{100} \) and at least one of the pair in \( A_1 \) is less than 0.028.

Proof. Note that \( \tau_4(n) \geq 4^{\omega(n)} \), using the notation in §2. For any integer \( K \geq 10 \), we have

\[
\sum_{n > e^K, \omega(n) > 4 \log \log n} \frac{1}{n} < \sum_{k \geq K+1} \frac{1}{n} < \sum_{k \geq K+1} 4^{-4 \log(k-1)} \sum_{n < e^k} \frac{\tau_4(n)}{n} < \frac{1}{24} \sum_{k \geq K+1} \frac{(4 + k)^4}{(k - 1)^4 \log 4}.
\]

We can use this inequality to capture the reciprocal sum of those amicable numbers \( n > e^K \) with \( \omega(n) > 4 \log \log n \). We must also sum \( 1/n' \) for such numbers \( n \). If \( n' > n \),

\[
\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n'} < \frac{2}{n}.
\]

Suppose \( n' < n \) and \( \omega(n') \leq 4 \log \log n' \). If \( n' \) is even, then we may assume that \( n \) is even as well, so that \( n' > n/2 \), and

\[
\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n'} < \frac{3}{n}.
\]

Now assume that \( n, n' \) are odd. Let \( \mu_k \) be the product of \( p/(p - 1) \) over the first \( \lfloor 4 \log k \rfloor \) odd primes.

Since

\[
\omega(n') \leq 4 \log \log n' < 4 \log \log n < 4 \log k,
\]

We have \( n + n' = \sigma(n') < \mu_k n' \), so that

\[
\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n'} < \frac{\mu_k}{n}.
\]

Since \( \mu_k > 3 \) for \( k \geq 10 \), we have in all cases that (3.3) holds.

It follows from [12, Theorem 15] that if \( s(n) > e^{100} \), then \( n > e^{97} \). We compute that

\[
\frac{1}{24} \sum_{K+1 \leq k \leq 20000} \frac{\mu_k(4 + k)^4}{(k - 1)^4 \log 4} < 0.0263.
\]

for \( K = 97 \). For larger values of \( k \), we use some estimates in [12], in particular, (3.11) and (3.30). From these we deduce that

\[
\mu_k < 1.3 \log(1 + 4 \log k).
\]

We compute that

\[
\frac{1}{24} \sum_{k \geq 20000} 1.3 \log(1 + 4 \log k)(4 + k)^4/(k - 1)^4 \log 4 < 0.0016.
\]
This completes the proof. □

3.2. Multipliers. We have seen in the proof of Proposition 3.2 that if \( n, n' \) form an odd amicable pair with \( n > n' \) and \( e^{k-1} < n < e^k \), then (3.3) holds, while if \( n > n' \) form an even amicable pair, then (3.2) holds. Here \( \mu_k \) is the product of \( p/(p-1) \) as \( p \) runs over the first \( \lfloor 4 \log k \rfloor \) odd primes, and that 3 \( < \mu_k < 1.3 \log(1 + 4 \log k) \). We can do better in certain cases. For example, suppose that \( n > n' \) and \( h(n') \leq 2.5 \). Then \( n/n' \leq 1.5 \) and \( 1/n + 1/n' \leq 2.5/n \). We shall see shortly that there are very few odd amicables where one of the pair is so abundant, so in moderate ranges we can take the odd multiplier as 2.5.

The multiplier for even amicable numbers can be improved from the “3” in (3.2) when we know that \( 2^j \mid n, n' \). It can be taken as \((2^j+1-1)/(2^j-1)\). Indeed, if \( n > n' \), then \( s(n)/n > s(2^j)/2^j = 1 - 2^{-j} \). Thus, \( n' > (1 - 2^{-j})n \), and so \( 1/n + 1/n' < (1 + (1 - 2^{-j})^{-1})/n \).

3.3. Proper prime powers. Let \( L(x) = \exp(\sqrt{\log x}/5) \) and let \( L_k = L(e^k) = e^{\sqrt{k}/5} \). We have \( L(x) = L_k \) for all \( x \in (e^{k-1}, e^k) \).

Proposition 3.3. Let \( A_2 \) denote the set of amicable numbers \( n \) not in \( A_0 \) nor \( A_1 \) such that either

\[
\begin{align*}
(1) & \quad n > e^{750}, n \text{ is even, and } n \text{ is divisible by a proper prime power } > 15L(n), \\
(2) & \quad n > e^{1500}, n \text{ is odd, } s(n)/n \leq 1.5 \text{ when } n < e^{5000}, \text{ and } n \text{ is divisible by a proper prime power } > 15L(n), \\
(3) & \quad n > e^{300} \text{ and } P(n)^2 \mid n.
\end{align*}
\]

The reciprocal sum of those amicable numbers \( n \) or \( n' \) in \( A_2 \) is \( < 4.507 \).

Proof. Let \( S \) be the reciprocal sum of all odd proper prime powers, so that

\[
S = \sum_p \sum_{p^a \geq 5, a \geq 2} \frac{1}{p^a} = \sum_{p \geq 3} \frac{1}{p(p-1)}.
\]

We compute that

\[
0.1064900 < S < 0.1064901.
\]

By a fairly trivial argument, for \( B \geq 12 \) we have,

\[
\sum_{p^a > B, a \geq 2} \frac{1}{p^a} = \sum_{p \geq \sqrt{B}} \frac{1}{p(p-1)} + \sum_{p < \sqrt{B}, p^a > B} \frac{1}{p^a} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{B} - 1} + \frac{\pi(\sqrt{B})}{B} < \frac{2}{\sqrt{B}}.
\]

We also have that for \( x \geq 200 \),

\[
\sum_{p^a \leq x, a \geq 2} 1 = \sum_{j \geq 2} \pi(x^{1/j}) < x^{1/2}.
\]

Let

\[
S = \{ p^a : p \geq 5, a \geq 2 \}, \quad S_k = S \cap (15L_k, e^k).
\]

We have, by Lemma 2.2, Lemma 2.3, and (3.7), that for any positive integer \( k \),

\[
\sum_{e^{k-1} < n < e^k} \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{3} \sum_{s \in S_k} \frac{1}{s} + 3e^{1-k} \#S_k < \frac{1}{3} \left( S - \sum_{s \in S, s \leq L_k} \frac{1}{s} \right) + 3e^{1-k/2}
\]

and

\[
\sum_{e^{k-1} < n < e^k} \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{2} \sum_{s \in S_k} \frac{1}{s} + 3e^{1-k} \#S_k < \frac{1}{2} \left( S - \sum_{s \in S, s \leq L_k} \frac{1}{s} \right) + 3e^{1-k/2}.
\]
Let Proposition 3.4. numbers, since those that do not satisfy this property having a fairly small reciprocal sum. Thus

\[ \text{we may write} \quad P_n \leq \frac{1}{n} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{\exists s \in S_k, s | n} \frac{1}{n} < 2.4581. \]

Since \( S \) leaves out powers of 2, in the even case we should also be summing \( 2/(15L_k) \). (The factor 2 reflects the multiplier 3 and the fact that \( n \) is not divisible by 3.) This adds on < 0.1809 summing to infinity. For the remaining even amicables > \( 10^{1000} \) we use (3.7) and (3.6) with the above method to find the reciprocal sum is < 0.0516. In total, the contribution to the reciprocal sum in case (1) is < 2.6906.

For odd amicable numbers, using multiplier 2.5 below \( e^{5000} \), we have

\[ \sum_{k=1500}^{5000} \sum_{\text{odd } n} \text{Big}(\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n'}) \leq 2.5 \sum k = 1500^{5000} \sum_{\text{odd } n} \frac{1}{n} < 0.9949. \]

Beyond 5000 we use multiplier 1.3 \( \log(1 + 4 \log n) \) from (3.4) for the odd amicables and find their contribution to \( e^{10000} \) is < 0.0786. Using (3.6) beyond \( e^{10000} \) the contribution is < 0.1198. Finally, since \( S \) leaves out powers of 3, we add on the sum from \( k = 1500 \) to 5000 of 1.25/(15L_k) and the sum beyond \( k = 5000 \) of \((1/2)1.3 \log(1 + 4 \log k)/(15L_k)\), which is < 0.0159. In all, the contribution to the reciprocal sum in case (2) is < 1.1306.

If \( n \) is an amicable number > \( e^{300} \) and \( n, n' \notin A_1 \), then \( n' > e^{298} \). Since \( \omega(n) \leq 4 \log \log n \) it follows that the largest prime power \( p^a \) (proper or not) that divides \( n \) is > \( n^{1/(4 \log \log n)} \). If \( a = 1 \) then \( p = P(n) \) and \( n \) is not in case (3). If \( a > 1 \), then (3.6) and (3.7) imply that the reciprocal sum in question at most

\[ \sum_{k \geq 299} 1.3 \log(1 + 4 \log k) \left( \frac{2}{e(k-1)/(8 \log(k-1))} + e^{1-k/2} \right) < 0.6857. \]

For an integer \( n > 1 \), the largest prime power that divides \( n \) is at least \( n^{1/\omega(n)} \). If \( \omega(n) \leq 4 \log \log n \) and \( n \) is not divisible by a proper prime power > \( \frac{1}{2}L(n) \), then for \( n \geq 20 \), we have \( P(n) \geq n^{1/4 \log \log n} \) and \( P(n)^2 \nmid n \). We apply this to the numbers \( n, n' \) in an amicable pair with \( n, n' \) not in \( A_j, j < 3 \). It follows that we may write \( n = pm \) where \( p = P(n) \nmid m \), and similarly, \( n' = p'm' \) where \( p' = P(n') \nmid m' \).

We now complete the argument for \( 4 \nmid \sigma(n) \), showing that this may be assumed for even amicable numbers, since those that do not satisfy this property having a fairly small reciprocal sum.

**Proposition 3.4.** Let \( A_3 \) denote the set of amicable numbers \( n \) with \( n, n' \notin A_j \) for \( j < 3 \), with \( 4 \nmid \sigma(n) \). The reciprocal sum of those amicable numbers with at least one of the pair > \( e^{300} \) and with \( n, n' \in A_3 \) is < 0.349.

**Proof.** We have just seen that we have \( n = pm \), \( n' = p'm' \) where \( p, p' \) are the largest primes in \( n, n' \), and they are indeed large. Thus \( \sigma(n) = \sigma(n') \) are both even. If they are not divisible by 4, then both
$m, m'$ are either squares or doubles of squares. It is shown in [11] that $m, m'$ uniquely determine $n, n'$. We have

$$mn' = \frac{mm'}{pp'} < n^{1-1/4\log \log n}n'^{1-1/4\log \log n'}.$$  

Suppose that $e^{k-1} < n < e^k$. Then $n' < (\mu_k - 1)n$, so that

$$(3.8) \quad mn' < (\mu_k - 1)e^{2k-2.5\log \log((\mu_k - 1)e^k)} = x_k, \text{ say.}$$  

Let $S$ denote the set of numbers that are either squares or the doubles of squares, with counting function $S(x)$. Then $S(x) < 2\sqrt{x}$ for $x \geq 1$. The number of pairs $m, m'$ in $S$ satisfying (3.8) is at most

$$\sum_{m \leq x_k, m \in S} \mu_k < x_k, m \in S \sum_{m \leq x_k, m \in S} 1 < (4 + 2 \log x_k)\sqrt{x_k},$$

where we have used partial summation for the last estimate. Thus, the number of $n$ is upper-bounded by this last estimate, so the reciprocal sum is at most

$$\frac{(4 + 2 \log x_k)\sqrt{x_k}}{e^{k-1}}.$$  

Summing this expression for $k \geq 299$ we get a contribution of at most 0.349. □

**Corollary 3.1.** If $n > 10^{14}$ is an amicable number with $n, n' \notin \mathcal{A}_j$, $j \leq 3$, then $2 \parallel n$ if and only if $2 \parallel n'$.

### 3.4. Odd amicables of moderate size.

For the rest of this section we have $K \geq 50$ an integer.

**Proposition 3.5.** We have

$$\sum_{n \leq e^K, n \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{n} < 0.023773K + 0.030,$$

$$\sum_{n \leq e^K, n \text{ odd, amicable}} \frac{1}{n} < 3.777 \times 10^{-5}K + 5 \times 10^{-5}.$$  

**Proof.** Let $h(n) = \sigma(n)/n$. Then $n$ is abundant if and only if $h(n) > 2$. For any positive integer $j$ we have

$$\sum_{n \leq e^K, n \text{ odd, abundant}} \frac{1}{n} < 2^{-j} \sum_{n \leq e^K, n \text{ odd}} h(n)^j/n.$$  

Let $f_j(n)$ be the multiplicative function with $f_j(p^a) = h(p^a) - h(p^{a-1})$ for prime powers $p^a$, so that

$$(3.9) \quad h(n)^j = \sum_{d|n} f_j(d).$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{n \leq e^K, n \text{ odd, abundant}} \frac{1}{n} < 2^{-j} \sum_{d \leq e^K, d \text{ odd}} f_j(d)/d \sum_{m \leq e^K/d, m \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{m}.$$  

By Corollary 2.1 with $u = 2$, we have

$$\sum_{m \leq e^K, m \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{m} < \frac{1}{2}K + \frac{1}{2}\gamma + \frac{1}{2}\log 2 + \frac{2}{eK} < \frac{1}{2}K + 0.64.$$
using $K \geq 50$. Thus,

$$\sum_{d < e^K \atop d \text{ odd}} \frac{f_j(d)}{d} < \sum_{m < e^K \atop m \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{m} < \frac{1}{2} (K + 1.28) \sum_{d \text{ odd}} \frac{f_j(d)}{d}$$

and so

$$\sum_{n < e^K \atop n \text{ odd, amicable}} \frac{1}{n} < 2 \sum_{n < e^K \atop n \text{ odd, abundant}} \frac{1}{n} < 2^{-j} (K + 1.28) \sum_{d \text{ odd}} \frac{f_j(d)}{d}.$$ 

Note the Euler product

(3.10) \[\sum_{d \text{ odd}} \frac{f_j(d)}{d} = \prod_{p > 2} \left(1 + \frac{f_j(p)}{p} + \frac{f_j(p^2)}{p^2} + \ldots\right),\]

which allows us, for any particular value of $j$, to compute this sum to high accuracy. We find that the optimal value of $j$ is 18, and

$$2^{-j} \sum_{d \text{ odd}} \frac{f_j(d)}{d} < 0.023773.$$ 

This completes the proof of the first assertion.

The second assertion follows by exactly the same method, where the factor $2^{-j}$ is replaced with $2.5^{-j}$. The minimum value of $3.776 \times 10^{-5}$, which occurs at $j = 44$. \[\square\]

We shall use $K = 1500$ in the first inequality of Proposition 3.5 and $K = 5000$ in the second. We have

(3.11) \[\sum_{n < 1500 \atop n \text{ odd, amicable}} \frac{1}{n} + \sum_{e^{2000} < n < e^{5000} \atop n \text{ odd, amicable}} \frac{1}{n} < 35.879.\]

### 3.5. Even amicables of moderate size.

We now turn to even amicable numbers $< e^K$, where as before, $K \geq 50$ is an integer.

**Proposition 3.6.** We have

$$\sum_{n < e^K \atop 2 \parallel n \atop 5 \mid mn' \atop n \text{ amicable}} \frac{1}{n} < 0.003559K + 0.0055.$$ 

**Proof.** Using that $6 \mid n$ from Remark 3.1, the sum in question is at most

$$2 \sum_{n < e^K \atop 2 \parallel n \atop \gcd(n, 15) = 1 \atop n \text{ abundant}} \frac{1}{n}.$$
If \( 2 \mid n \) and \( \gcd(n, 15) = 1 \), then \( n = 2l \) where \( \gcd(l, 30) = 1 \). Since \( h(2) = 4/3 \), we have \( h(n) > 2 \) if and only if \( h(l) > 4/3 \). Thus, for any positive integer \( j \), we have

\[
\sum_{\substack{n < e^K \\gcd(n, 15) = 1 \\text{amicable}}} \frac{1}{n} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{l < e^K/2 \\gcd(l, 30) = 1 \\text{amicable}}} \frac{1}{l} < \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{3}{4} \right)^j \sum_{\substack{l < e^K/2 \\gcd(l, 30) = 1 \\text{amicable}}} \frac{h(l)^j}{l}
\]

using (3.9). By Corollary 2.1, the inner sum here is at most

\[
\frac{4}{15}(K - \log 2 + \gamma) + 0.438617 + \frac{8}{e^{K/2}} < \frac{4}{15}K + 0.41,
\]

using \( K \geq 50 \). Further, using the Euler product in (3.10) starting at \( p = 7 \), we find that when \( j = 35 \),

\[
\left( \frac{3}{4} \right)^j \sum_{\gcd(d, 30) = 1} \frac{f_j(d)}{d} < 0.013343.
\]

Thus,

\[
\sum_{\substack{n < e^K \\gcd(n, 15) = 1 \\text{amicable}}} \frac{1}{n} < 2 \sum_{\substack{n < e^K \\gcd(n, 15) = 1 \\text{amicable}}} \frac{1}{n} < 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot 0.013343 \left( \frac{4}{15}K + 0.41 \right) < 0.003559K + 0.0055.
\]

This completes the proof. \( \square \)

For the remaining amicables with \( 2 \mid n \) we have two remaining (possibly overlapping) cases:

1. \( 5 \nmid n \), \( n \) deficient, \( 5 \mid n' \),
2. \( 5 \mid n \).

Note that in case (1) we have \( 1/n < 1/n' \), so the reciprocal sum in case (1) is less than the reciprocal sum in case (2). Thus,

\[
(3.12) \quad \sum_{\substack{10^{14} < n < e^K \\text{amicable}}} \frac{1}{n} < 2 \sum_{\substack{10^{14} < n < e^K \\text{amicable}}} \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{15}K - 2.149
\]

for \( K \geq 50 \), using Corollary 2.1 and Remark 3.1.

When \( 2^2 \mid n \), we can use that \( 7 \nmid n \). Indeed, if \( 7 \mid n \), since \( \sigma(2^2) = 7 \), we would have \( 7 \mid n' \). But by Corollary 3.1, this implies that \( 28 \mid n, n' \), so that both \( n, n' \) are abundant, a contradiction. Using too that \( 3 \nmid n \) from Remark 3.1, we have that

\[
\sum_{\substack{10^{14} < n < e^K \\text{amicable}}} \frac{1}{n} < \sum_{\substack{10^{14} < n < e^K \\text{amicable}}} \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{14}K - 2.302.
\]
If $2^3 || n$, since $5 \mid \sigma(2^3)$ and 20 is abundant, we have that not only $3 \nmid n$, but $5 \nmid n$. Thus,

$$\sum_{10^{14} < n < e^K \atop n \text{ amicable}} \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{30} K - 1.074.$$  

We finally consider $2^4 \mid n$. We consider two cases: $5 \mid n$ and $5 \nmid n$. In the first case, if $n/80$ is divisible by any of the 59 primes to 277, then $h(n) > 7/3$, and so $n$ cannot belong to an amicable pair with both members divisible by 4. Thus,

$$\sum_{10^{14} < n < e^K \atop 80 | n \atop n \text{ amicable}} \frac{1}{n} < 0.001232 K,$$

again using $K \geq 50$. The remaining even amicables to $e^K$ have reciprocal sum at most

$$\sum_{10^{14} < n < e^K \atop 16 | n, \gcd(n, 15) = 1} \frac{1}{n} < \frac{1}{30} K - 1.074.$$  

Adding together all of the contributions in this subsection, we have

$$\sum_{10^{14} < n < e^K \atop n \text{ even, amicable}} \frac{1}{n} < 0.209553 K - 6.593.$$  

In particular, taking $K = 750$,

(3.13)  

$$\sum_{10^{14} < n < e^{750} \atop n \text{ even, amicable}} \frac{1}{n} < 150.572.$$  

4. LARGE AMICABLE NUMBERS

We consider odd amicable numbers in $(e^{1500}, e^{5000})$, odd amicable numbers $> e^{5000}$, and even amicable numbers $> e^{750}$.

**Proposition 4.1.** Let $A_4$ denote the set of amicable numbers $n$ such that $n, n' \not\in A_j$ for $j < 4$ and $\gcd(n, s(n))$ is divisible by a prime $> 31 L(n)$. The reciprocal sum of those even amicable numbers with at least one of the pair $> e^{750}$ and at least one of the pair in $A_4$ plus the reciprocal sum of those odd amicable numbers with at least one of the pair $> e^{1500}$ and at least one in the pair in $A_4$ is at most 0.058.

**Proof.** Let $n$ be an amicable number in the interval $(e^{k-1}, e^{k})$. Let $n'' = \min\{n, n'\}$. If $n$ is even, then $n'' > n/2$, if $n < e^{5000}$ is odd, then $n'' > n/1.5$, and if $n > e^{5000}$ is odd, then $n'' > n/(\mu_k - 1)$. In all cases, if $e^{k-1} < n < e^k$, then we have $n'' > n/(\mu_k - 1)$. Let $L'_k = \exp((\sqrt{k - \log(\mu_k - 1)})/5)$. If $n$ or $n'$ is in $A_4$, since $n' = s(n)$ and $n = s(n')$, then $\gcd(n, n')$ is divisible by a prime $> 31 L'_k$. Thus, it suffices to sum the reciprocals of such numbers $n$ without the need for a multiplier.

Suppose that $e^{k-1} < n < e^k$, $q \mid \gcd(n, n')$, and $q > 31 L'_k$. Since $q \mid \sigma(n)$, there is a prime power $r^a \parallel n$ with $q \mid \sigma(r^a)$. We have $r^a > \frac{1}{2} \sigma(r^a) > \frac{1}{2} q$, so that $r^a > 15.5 L'_k > 15 L_k$ for $k \geq 750$. Thus, since we are assuming that $n \not\in A_2$, we have $a = 1$ and so $r \equiv -1 (\mod q)$. In particular, $r \geq 2q - 1$. It simplifies matters a little if we dispose of the case $r = 2q - 1$. In this case, $n$ is divisible by $q(2q - 1)$. Using Lemma 2.7, we have that the sum of $1/(q(2q - 1))$ for $q > 31 L'_k$ is less than $1.13/(31 L'_k \log(31 L'_k))$, while the number of integers $q(2q - 1) < e^k$ is at most $e^{k/2}$. It thus follows
As in the proof of Proposition 3.4, the pair \( m, m \) determines the pair \( n, n \). Then

\[
(4.1) \quad \sum_{q > 31L_k'} \frac{2 \log(k - \log(31L_k'))}{q(q-1)} < \frac{2.26 \log(k - \log(31L_k'))}{(31L_k' - 1) \log(31L_k' - 1)},
\]

using Lemma 2.7. Summing one-half of this for \( k \geq 750 \) we get \( < 0.0347 \), using Lemma 2.7, and this contributes to the reciprocal sum of even \( n \in A_4 \). The parallel contribution for odd \( n > e^{1500} \) is \( < 0.0043 \). We also must count the number of integers \( qr < e^k \). We could use Lemma 2.8 again, but it’s simpler to not use that \( r \) is prime. For a given \( q \), the number of integers \( r \) with \( q < r < e^k/q \) and \( r \equiv -1 \pmod{q} \) is at most \( e^k/q^2 \). Using Lemma 2.2 and summing \( e^{1-k} \) times this estimate for \( k \geq 750 \) (using Lemma 2.7) adds on \( < 0.0151 \) to the reciprocal sum for even, and the parallel contribution for odd \( n > e^{1500} \) is \( < 0.0009 \).

Now, totalling the various contributions, we have that the sum in the proposition is at most 0.0579.

\[ \square \]

**Proposition 4.2.** Let \( A_5 \) denote the set of amicable numbers \( n \) such that \( n, n' \) are not in \( A_j \) for \( j < 5 \) and \( mm' \leq n/(10L(n)) \). Then the reciprocal sum of those amicable numbers such that at least one of the pair is \( > e^{1500} \) in the odd case and \( > e^{750} \) in the even case, and at least one of the pair is in \( A_5 \) is at most 3.829.

**Proof.** By Proposition 3.4, we may assume that we’re in one of the 3 cases

\[ m, m' \text{ odd, } m \equiv m' \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, \quad m \equiv m' \equiv 0 \pmod{4}. \]

As in the proof of Proposition 3.4, the pair \( m, m' \) determines the pair \( n, n' \).

Suppose we are in the odd-odd case. We distinguish two ranges for \( n \): \( e^{1500} < n < e^{5000} \) and \( n > e^{5000} \). In the first range we have multiplier 2.5, since by (3.11) we are assuming that \( h(n), h(n') \leq 2.5 \). In the second range, we have multiplier \( \mu_k \), where \( k = \lceil \log n \rceil \). Say \( n, n' \) are an amicable pair and \( n/(10L(n)) \geq mm' \). If \( n' > n \), then \( n'/(10L(n')) \geq mm' \). Suppose that \( n' < n \). Then \( n' > n/1.5 \) in the first range, so if \( 1.5n/(10L(n')) \geq mm' \), then \( n'/(10L(n')) \geq mm' \). In the second range, if \( n' < n \), we have \( n' > n/(\mu_k - 1) \), so, if \( (\mu_k - 1)n/(10L(n)) > mm' \), then \( n'/(10L(n')) > mm' \).

For \( n \) or \( n' > e^{1500} \), \( p = P(n) > n^{1/(4 \log \log n)} > 3 \times 10^{28} \). So, if \( n \) is abundant, then

\[
h(m) = \frac{p}{p + 1} h(n) > \frac{2p}{p + 1} > 2 - 10^{-28}.
\]

Also note that if \( n > e^{1500} \), then \( n' > e^{1999} \) and if \( n > e^{5000} \), then \( n' > e^{4998} \). Let \( \nu \) be the appropriate multiplier, so that \( \nu = 2.5 \) in the small odd range and \( \nu = 1.3 \log(1 + 4 \log k) \) for large odd cases. Let \( N_0(t) \) be the number of odd amicable numbers \( n \leq t \) with \( mm' < (\nu - 1)n/(10L(n)) \). By partial summation,

\[
(4.1) \quad \sum_{n \text{ or } n' \in A_5 \atop mm' \text{ odd, } n \text{ or } n' > e^{1500}} \left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n'} \right) \leq \sum_{k \geq 1500} \left( \frac{N_0(e^k)}{e^k} - \frac{N_0(e^{k-1})}{e^{k-1}} + \int_{e^{k-1}}^{e^k} \frac{N_0(t)}{t^2} \, dt \right) \leq \int_{e^{1499}}^{\infty} \frac{N_0(t)}{t^2} \, dt.
\]
Let \( t' = (\nu - 1)t/(10L(t)) \). If \( \{m, m'\} = \{m_1, m_2\} \) where \( h(m_1) < h(m_2) \), then

\[
N_0(t) < \frac{1}{m_2} \sum_{m_2 < \nu, m_2 \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{h(m_2)} < \frac{1}{2} t' \sum_{m_2 < \nu, m_2 \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{m_2}.
\]

(Note that \( m_1 \neq 1 \), since all amicable numbers are composite.) We now follow the argument in the proof of Proposition 3.5. We have for any positive integer \( j \) that

\[
\sum_{m_2 < \nu', m_2 \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{m_2} < (2 - 10^{-28})^{-j} \sum_{m_2 < \nu', m_2 \text{ odd}} \frac{h(m_2)^j}{m_2}
\]

\[
< \frac{1}{2} (\log(t' + 1.28)(2 - 10^{-28})^j \sum_{d \text{ odd}} \frac{f_d(t)}{d}.
\]

Taking \( j = 18 \), we get

\[
\sum_{m_2 < \nu', m_2 \text{ odd}} \frac{1}{m_2} < \frac{1}{2} (\log t' + 1.28) \cdot 0.023773,
\]

so that

\[
N_0(t) < 0.005944(t' + 1)(\log t' + 1.28).
\]

Let \( \nu_k = \nu = 2.5 \) when \( k \leq 5000 \) and \( \nu_k = \mu_k \) when \( k > 5000 \). We conclude from (4.1) that

\[
\sum_{n \text{ odd}, n' \in A_5 \cap n n' \text{ odd}, n \leq 10^{14}} \left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n'} \right) < 0.005944 \int_{e^{499}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{t^2} (t' + 1)(\log t' + 1.28) \, dt
\]

\[
< 0.005944 \sum_{k \geq 1500} \int_{e^{k-1}}^{e^k} \frac{1}{t^2} \frac{(\nu_k - 1)t}{10L_k} (\log t + \log(\nu_k - 1) - \log(10L_k) + 1.29) \, dt
\]

\[
= 0.005944 \sum_{k \geq 1500} \frac{(\nu_k - 1)(k - 1/2 + \log(\nu_k - 1) - \log(10L_k) + 0.79)}{10L_k} < 0.3387.
\]

We now turn to the 2 (mod 4) case, which has multiplier \( \nu = 3 \). First suppose that \( 5 \nmid nn' \). By Remark 3.1 we have \( 3 \nmid mm' \). Let \( N_1(t) \) denote the number of amicable numbers \( n \leq t \) with \( n \equiv 2 \) (mod 4), \( 3 \nmid mm' \), \( 5 \nmid mm' \), and \( mm' < 2n/(10L(n)) \). As in the odd-odd case, we wish to upper bound \( \int_{e^{749}}^{\infty} N_1(t)/t^2 \, dt \). Say \( \{m, m'\} = \{m_1, m_2\} \) where \( h(m_1) < h(m_2) \). Similarly as in the odd-odd case, since \( n, n' > e^{749} \), we have \( h(m_2) > 2 - 10^{-14} \). Let \( t' = 2t/(10L(t)) = t/(5L(t)) \) and let \( N_{1,0}(t) \) be the contribution to \( N_1(t) \) when \( m_2 \leq t'/100 \) and \( N_{1,1}(t) \) be the contribution when \( m_2 > t'/100 \). Note that

\[
N_{1,0}(t) \leq \sum_{m_2 \leq t'/100, 2 \mid m_2, m_1 \leq t'/m_2, \gcd(m_2, 15) = 1, \gcd(m_2, 15) = 1} \frac{1}{m_2} \leq \frac{2}{15} \sum_{m_2 \leq t'/100, 2 \mid m_2, \gcd(m_2, 15) = 1} \frac{t'}{m_2} \sum_{m_2 \geq t'/100, 2 \mid m_2, \gcd(m_2, 15) = 1} \frac{1}{m_2}.
\]

\[
\leq \frac{2(1.04)}{15} t' \sum_{m_2 \leq t'/100, 2 \mid m_2, \gcd(m_2, 15) = 1} \frac{1}{m_2}.
\]
For any positive integer \( j \), the inner sum is
\[
< (2 - 10^{-14})^{-j} \sum_{m_2 \leq t'/100, 2|m_2} \frac{h(m_2)^j}{m_2} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{3}{5} \right)^j (2 - 10^{-14})^{-j} \sum_{m \leq t'/200} \frac{h(m)^j}{m}
\]
\[
< \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{3}{4} + 10^{-14} \right)^j \left( \frac{4}{15} (\log(t'/200) + \gamma) + 0.438167 \right) \sum_{\gcd(d,30)=1} \frac{f_j(d)}{d}.
\]

Taking \( j = 35 \), this last expression is
\[
< \frac{1}{2} \left( 0.013343 \right)^{35} \frac{4}{15} (\log t' - 0.8203) < \frac{2}{15} (0.013343)(\log t' - 3.076).
\]

Thus,
\[
N_{1,0}(t) < \frac{4.16}{225} (0.013343)t' (\log t' - 3.076) < 0.000247t' \log t' - 0.000758t'.
\]

For \( N_{1,1}(t) \) we have
\[
N_{1,1}(t) \leq \sum_{m_1 \leq 100, 2|m_1} \sum_{m_2 \leq t'/2m_1} \frac{h(m)^j}{\gcd(m_1,15)=1} \leq \sum_{m_1 \leq 100, 2|m_1} \sum_{m_2 \leq t'/2m_1} \frac{1}{\gcd(m_1,30)=1} < \sum_{m_1 \leq 100, 2|m_1} \frac{1}{\gcd(m_1,15)=1} < \sum_{m_1 \leq 100, 2|m_1} \frac{1}{\gcd(m_1,30)=1} \leq \frac{t'}{2m_1} \left( \frac{3}{4} + 10^{-14} \right)^j \sum_{\gcd(d,30)=1} \frac{f_j(d)}{d}.
\]

Taking \( j = 35 \) again, we have
\[
N_{1,1}(t) < \frac{t'}{2} \left( 0.013343 \right) \sum_{m_1 \leq 100, 2|m_1} \frac{1}{\gcd(m_1,15)=1} < \frac{t'}{2} \left( 0.013343 \right) (0.825) < 0.005504t'.
\]

With the prior estimate for \( N_{1,0}(t) \), we have
\[
N_1(t) < 0.000247t' \log t' + 0.004746t'.
\]

As in the odd-odd case, we deduce that the contribution when \( 2|m, m' \) and \( 5 \nmid mm' \) is
\[
< \sum_{k \geq 750} \frac{0.000247(k - 1/2 - \log(5L_k)) + 0.004746}{5L_k} < 0.0765.
\]

We now bound the contribution when \( 2|m, m' \) and \( 5 \nmid mm' \). If \( N_2(t) \) denotes the number of pairs, we have
\[
N_2(t) \leq \sum_{m_1 \leq \sqrt{t}/2} \sum_{m_2 \leq t'/4m_1, \gcd(m_1,30)=5, \gcd(m_2,6)=1} 1 + \sum_{m_1 \leq \sqrt{t}/2} \sum_{m_2 \leq t'/4m_1, \gcd(m_1,30)=1, \gcd(m_2,30)=5} 1
\]
\[
\leq \sum_{m_1 \leq \sqrt{t}/2} \sum_{\gcd(m_1,30)=5} \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{t'}{4m_1} + 2 \right) + \sum_{m_1 \leq \sqrt{t}/2} \sum_{\gcd(m_1,30)=1} \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{t'}{20m_1} + 2 \right)
\]
\[
< \frac{1}{60} t' \left( \frac{1}{3} (\log(\sqrt{t}/10) + \gamma) + 0.4142 \right) + \frac{1}{60} t' \left( \frac{4}{15} (\log(\sqrt{t}/2) + \gamma) + 0.4387 \right) + \sqrt{t}.
\]
Thus, for \( t > e^{999} \),

\[
N_2(t) < \frac{1}{200} t' \log t' + 0.000919 t'.
\]

As before, we have the contribution to our sum being

\[
< \sum_{k \geq 750} 0.005(k - 1/2 - \log(5L_k)) + 0.000919 \frac{5L_k}{k} < 1.5222.
\]

We now consider the case when \( m, m' \) are both multiples of 4. We divide this into a few subcases:

1. \( v_2(m) = 2, v_2(m') = 2 \),
2. \( \{v_2(m), v_2(m')\} = \{2, 3\} \),
3. \( \{v_2(m), v_2(m')\} = \{2, 4\} \),
4. \( v_2(m) = 2, v_2(m') \geq 5 \) or \( v_2(m) \geq 5, v_2(m') = 2 \),
5. \( v_2(m) \geq 3, v_2(m') \geq 3 \).

In all of these cases we have \( 3 \nmid mm' \). In cases (1)-(4), since \( 7 \mid \sigma(n) = \sigma(n') \), we have \( 7 \nmid mm' \). Similarly, in case (2), we have \( 5 \nmid mm' \) since \( 5 \mid \sigma(n) = \sigma(n') \). We also have \( 5 \nmid mm' \) in cases (4) and (5) since

\[
\frac{s(20)}{20} \cdot \frac{s(32)}{32} > 1, \quad \frac{s(4)}{4} \cdot \frac{s(160)}{160} > 1, \quad \frac{s(40)}{40} \cdot \frac{s(8)}{8} > 1.
\]

In cases (1)-(4), we have multiplier \( 7/3 \) and in case (5), we have multiplier \( 15/7 \). All cases are symmetric in \( m, m' \), so we may assume that \( m \leq \sqrt{t} \). Using the same method as above, we find that

\[
\sum_{n, n' \in \mathcal{A}_5 \atop n, n' \equiv 0 (\mod 4) \atop n \text{ or } n' > e^{750}} \left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n'} \right) < 1.8908.
\]

Totalling the contributions in the various cases completes the proof. \( \square \)

**Proposition 4.3.** Let \( \mathcal{A}_6 \) denote the set of amicable numbers \( n \) such that \( n, n' \) are not in any \( \mathcal{A}_j \) for \( j < 6 \) and \( p > n^{3/4} L(n) \). The reciprocal sum of those even amicable numbers with at least one of the pair in \( \mathcal{A}_6 \) and at least one \( > e^{750} \) plus the corresponding reciprocal sum of odd amicable pairs with at least one of the pair \( > e^{1500} \) is \( < 2.061 \).

**Proof.** Assume that \( t > e^{750} \) and let \( N(t) \) denote the number of \( n \in \mathcal{A}_6 \) with \( n \leq t \). For \( n \in \mathcal{A}_6 \), we have \( m \leq n^{1/4} \sqrt{L(n)} \), so since \( n \notin \mathcal{A}_5 \), we have \( m' > \frac{1}{10} n^{3/4} \). This then implies that \( p' < 10n'/n^{3/4} \).

Let \( \nu \) be 1 less than the appropriate multiplier, so that \( \nu = 1.5 \) in the smaller odd case, \( \nu = 2 \) in the even case, and \( \nu = 1.3 \log(1 + 4 \log k) - 1 \) in the larger odd case. In particular, \( n' < \nu n \), so we have \( p' < 10\nu n^{1/4} \).

Write \( n' = q_1 q_2 \ldots q_l \), where the \( q_i \)'s are pairwise coprime prime powers (possibly first powers of primes) and \( q_1 > q_2 > \cdots > q_l \). We have \( q_1 = p' \), so all of the \( q_i \)'s are \( < 10\nu n^{1/4} \leq 10 \nu t^{1/4} \). Assume that \( n > t^{0.84} \), and choose \( i \) minimally so that

\[
D := q_1 q_2 \ldots q_i > \sqrt{t/L(t)}.
\]

Then \( D < 10 \nu n^{3/4} \sqrt{L(t)} \). If \( D \) is divisible by a prime \( < 31L(t) \), then in fact \( D \) is smaller, it is \( < 31L(t) \sqrt{t/L(t)} < t^{0.51} \). Further, \( (31L(t))^{4 \log \log t} < t^{0.32} \). Thus, if \( n > t^{0.84} \) and \( n \) is counted by \( N(t) \), then the fact that \( n \) is not in \( \mathcal{A}_1 \) nor \( \mathcal{A}_2 \) implies that all of the prime factors of \( D \) are greater than \( 31L(n) \). Since \( n \notin \mathcal{A}_4 \), we have \( \gcd(D, \sigma(D)) = 1 \).

Write \( n' = DM \). It is shown in [11] that

\[
\sigma(m)DM \equiv m \sigma(m) \quad (\mod \sigma(D)).
\]
Thus, $N(t)$ is at most $t^{0.84}$ plus the number of solutions $M$ to these congruences with $M < \nu t/D$, as $m$ runs to $t^{1/4}/L(t)$ and $D$ runs over the interval $(\sqrt{t/L(t)}, 10\nu t^{3/4}/\sqrt{L(t)})$. For a given choice of $m$, $D$, the number of solutions is at most
\[
1 + \frac{\nu t/D}{\sigma(D)/\gcd(\sigma(m)D, \sigma(D))} \leq 1 + \frac{\nu t\sigma(m)}{D^2},
\]
using $\gcd(D, \sigma(D)) = 1$. We have
\[
\sum_{m < t^{1/4}/L(t)} \sum_{D < \nu t^{3/4}/\sqrt{L(t)}} 1 \leq 5\nu t/L(t)^{3/2} + 1,
\]
both in the case $m$ even and in the case $m$ odd. Further, using the inequality $\sum_{m < B} \sigma(m) < B^2$,
\[
\nu t \sum_{m < t^{1/4}/L(t)} \sum_{D > \sqrt{t}/L(t)} \frac{\sigma(m)}{D^2} < \nu t^{3/2}L(t)^{-2} \sum_{D > \sqrt{t}/L(t)} D^{-2} < \nu t/L(t)^{3/2} + \nu^{1/2}/L(t),
\]
where we also used that $\sum_{D > B} D^{-2} < 1/B + 1/B^2$.

We have
\[
\sum_{n \text{ or } n' \in \mathcal{A}_6} \left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n'} \right) < \int_{e^{k-1}}^{e^k} \frac{N(t)}{t^2} \, dt < \int_{e^{k-1}}^{e^k} \left( \frac{\nu + 1}{t^{1.16}} + \frac{6(\nu + 1)\nu}{L_k^{3/2}} + \frac{\nu + 1}{t^2} \right) \, dt
\]
\[
< e^{-0.15k} + 6(\nu + 1)\nu/L_k^{3/2} + (\nu + 1)/(k - 1)^2.
\]
For evens starting at $k = 750$, we have $\nu = 2$, and the contribution is $< 2.0020$. For odds from $k = 1500$ to $5000$, we have $\nu = 1.5$ and the contribution is $< 0.0581$, and the contribution for odds with $k > 5000$ is $< 3.1 \times 10^{-5}$. In all, the total contribution is $< 2.0602$. □

**Proposition 4.4.** Let $\mathcal{A}_7$ denote the set of amicable numbers $n$ such that neither $n$ nor $n'$ is in $\mathcal{A}_j$ for $j < 7$, and such that $P(\sigma(m)) \leq 100L(n)$. Then the reciprocal sum of the amicable numbers $n$ with either $n$ or $n' > e^{1000}$ in the even case and $> e^{2000}$ in the odd case, and either $n$ or $n' \in \mathcal{A}_7$ is at most $15.784$.

**Proof.** Let $M_k = e^{(k-1)/4}/L_k$. Since $n \notin \mathcal{A}_6$, if $n \in (e^{k-1}, e^k)$, then $m > M_k$. Let $u_k = k^{1/4}$ and let $q = P(m)$. We consider two cases:

1. $q \leq 10^5M_k^{1/u_k}$,
2. $q > 10^5M_k^{1/u_k}$ and $P(q + 1) \leq 100L_k$.

If $n$ is in neither case, then $q > 10^5M_k^{1/u_k} > 15L_k$, so from $n \notin \mathcal{A}_2$, we have $q \parallel m$. Thus, if $n$ is in neither case, then $P(\sigma(m)) \geq P(q + 1) > 100L_k$, so that $n \notin \mathcal{A}_7$.

For a given value of $k$ and $e^{k-1} < n < e^k$, the reciprocal sum in case (1) is at most
\[
\sum_{m > M_k} \frac{1}{m} \sum_{e^{k-1}/m < p < e^k/m} \frac{1}{p}.
\]

We know that $p > n^{1/4}\log \log n > (e^{(k-1)/4}/4\log(k-1))$, so the inner sum here is 0 unless $m$ is such that $e^k/m > e^{(k-1)/4}\log(k-1)$. Lemma 2.6 then implies the inner sum above is at most
\[
\frac{4\log(k-1)}{k-1} + \frac{16(\log(k-1))^2}{(k-1)^2} < \frac{4.12 \log k}{k}.
\]
for \( k \geq 1000 \). Thus, the reciprocal sum in case (1) in the odd and even cases, respectively, is at most
\[
\frac{4.12 \log k}{k} S_{\text{odd}}(M_k, 10^5 M_k^{1/u_k}), \quad \frac{4.12 \log k}{k} S_{\text{even, no } 3}(M_k, 10^5 M_k^{1/u_k}),
\]
using the notation of Remark 2.1. Summing the first expression using Lemma 2.9 and Remark 2.1 with \( y_0 = e^{10} \) for \( 1500 \leq k \leq 5000 \) and using multiplier 2.5, we get an estimate of \(< 0.5044 \). Summing the second expression for \( 750 \leq k \leq 5000 \) with multiplier 3, we get an estimate of \(< 8.1283 \). Summing for \( k > 5000 \) and using a multiplier of \( 1.3 \log(1 + 4 \log k) \), using Lemma 2.10, we get \(< 0.0445 \).

We now turn to case (2). Write \( l = n/q \). Here the reciprocal sum for \( e^{k-1} < n < e^k \) is at most
\[
\sum_{q > 10^5 M_k^{1/u_k}} \frac{1}{q} \sum_{e^{k-1}/q < l < e^k/q} \frac{1}{l},
\]
where \( l \) is odd in the odd case, and in the even case, \( l \) is even and not divisibly by 3. Using Corollary 2.1 for the inner sum, we have a quantity at most
\[
\left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{400 M_k^{1/u_k}}{e^{k-1}} \right) \sum_{q > 10^5 M_k^{1/u_k}} \frac{1}{q} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{400 M_k^{1/u_k}}{e^{k-1}} \right) 10^5 M_k^{1/u_k} + 1 \frac{1}{100 L_k} S_{\text{even}}(10^5 M_k^{1/u_k}, 100 L_k)
\]
in the odd case, with the same estimate but with \( \frac{1}{2} \) in place of \( \frac{1}{2} \) in the even case. Here we have relaxed the condition that \( q \) is prime, keeping only that it is odd, so that \( q + 1 \) is even. Summing this using Lemma 2.9 from \( k = 750 \) to \( k = 5000 \), using \( x = 10^5 M_k^{1/u_k} \), \( y = 10 L_k \), \( s = \log(u \log u)/\log y \), and multiplier 3, we get \(< 6.6930 \) in the even case. For the odd case we sum from \( k = 1500 \) to \( 5000 \) using multiplier 2.5, getting an estimate of \(< 0.6465 \). We sum for \( k \geq 5001 \) using Lemma 2.10 and multiplier 1.3 \( \log(1 + 4 \log k) \) getting \(< 0.0691 \).

Thus, the total contribution to the reciprocal sum from \( A_7 \) is \(< 16.0858 \).

5. Conclusion

We are now faced with summing the reciprocals of those amicable numbers \( n \) such that both \( n, n' \) are \( > e^{1000} \) and neither is in any set \( A_j \). As before, we have \( n = pn, n' = pn', \) where \( p = P(n) \nmid m, p' = P(n') \nmid m \), and \( p \neq p' \). We shall assume that \( p > p' \) and sum \( 1/n \), using an appropriate multiplier to take into account the numbers \( 1/n' \).

Let \( r = P(\sigma(m)) \), so since \( n \notin A_7 \), we have \( r > 100 L(n) \). Since \( r \mid \sigma(m) \mid \sigma(n) = \sigma(n') \), there are prime powers \( q^a || m, q^{a'} || n' \), with \( r \mid \sigma(q^a) \) and \( r \mid \sigma(q^{a'}) \). Then \( q^a, q^{a'} > \frac{1}{2} r > 50 L(n) \), so since \( n, n' \notin A_2 \), we have \( \alpha = \alpha' = 1 \). In particular, \( q \equiv q' \equiv -1 \pmod{r} \).

Since \( q^a > r > 100 L(n) \) and since \( n \notin A_4 \), we have \( q^a \nmid n \). Since \( q^a \nmid n' = s(n) = ps(m) + \sigma(m) \), we have
\[
ps(m) + \sigma(m) \equiv 0 \pmod{q'}.
\]
This implies that if \( q^a \mid \sigma(m) \), then \( q^a \mid s(m) \), which implies that \( q^a \mid m \), a contradiction. So, we have \( q^a \nmid \sigma(m) \) and the above congruence places \( p \) in a residue class \( a(m, q^a) \pmod{q'} \) for a given choice of \( m \) and \( q^a \). Also note that \( p > p' \geq q^a \).

Write \( m = qm_1 \). For a given value of \( k \geq 1000 \), we have
\[
S_k := \sum_{n \text{ in this case}} \frac{1}{n} < \sum_{e^{k-1} < n < e^k} \sum_{r > 100L_k} \sum_{q || e^{k/2}} \frac{1}{q} \sum_{q' \equiv -1 \pmod{r}} \frac{1}{q'} \sum_{m_1 < e^{k}/q} \frac{1}{m_1} \sum_{e^{k-1}/qm_1 < p < e^{k}/qm_1} \frac{1}{p},
\]
We begin with the inner sum. Fix \( q, m_1, q' \) and let \( a \) be in the residue class \( a(qm_1, q') \mod q' \) with \( 0 < a < q' \). First suppose that \( q' \) is large. If \( q' > e^k / qm_1 \), then the sum on \( p \) is 0. (In particular, we may assume that \( q' < e^k / qm_1 \).) Suppose that \( q' > e^{k-2} / qm_1 \). Using only that \( q' \) is odd, that \( p \) is an odd number in the interval \(( e^{k-1} / qm_1, e^k / qm_1) \), and that \( p \equiv a \mod q' \) with \( p > q' \), we have that the sum on \( p \) is at most \( 1 / q' < qm_1 / e^{k-2} \). Let \( w = e^{k-1} / qq' \) and assume that \( q' \leq e^{k-2} / qm_1 \); that is, \( m_1 \leq w/e \). Let \( z = e^{-k-1} / qm_1 \). By Lemma 2.8, we have that

\[
\sum_{\substack{z < p < ez \\ p \equiv a \mod q'}} \frac{1}{p} < \frac{2}{(q' - 1) \log(z / q')} + \frac{2}{q' - 1} \log \left( \frac{1 + \log(z / q')} {\log(z / q')} \right)
\]

\[
< \frac{4}{(q' - 1) \log(w / m_1)} = \frac{4}{(q' - 1) \log(w)}.
\]

We now sum on \( m_1 \). Since \( q' < ez = e^k / qm_1 \), we have \( m_1 < e^k / qq' = ew \), so that we have

\[
\sum_{m_1 < ew} \frac{1}{m_1} \cdot \frac{qm_1} {e^{k-2}} + \sum_{m_1 \leq w/e} \frac{1}{m_1} \cdot \frac{4}{(q' - 1) \log(w / m_1)}.
\]

We distinguish the even and odd cases. For the odd case, using Lemma 2.4, we have the sum on \( m_1 \) is

\[
< \frac{e^2}{2q'} + \frac{2}{q' - 1} \log k \quad \text{odd case},
\]

and similarly in the even case, it is

\[
< \frac{e^2}{3q'} + \frac{4/3}{q' - 1} \log k \quad \text{even case}.
\]

What we have at this point is

\[
S_k < c \sum_{r > 100L_k} \sum_{q < e^{k/2}} \frac{1}{q} \sum_{q' < e^k / q \equiv -1 \mod r} \left( \frac{4}{q' - 1} \log k + \frac{e^2}{q'} \right),
\]

where \( c = 1/3 \) in the odd case and \( c = 1/2 \) in the even case. Let \( t_k = 1/(100L_k - 1) \). Using Lemma 2.8, the fact that the least prime in the residue class \(-1 \mod r\) is \( 2r - 1 \), and \(- \log \log((2r - 1) / r) < 0.37\), the sum on \( q' \) is at most

\[
(1 + t_k)^2 \frac{2(4 \log k + e^2)(\log k + 0.37)}{r}.
\]

Similarly, the sum on \( q \) is at most

\[
(1 + t_k) \frac{2(\log(k/2) + 0.37)}{r},
\]

so we are left with

\[
S_k < c(1 + t_k)^3 \frac{4(4 \log k + e^2)(\log k + 0.37)(\log(k/2) + 0.37)}{r} \sum_{r > 100L_k} \frac{1}{r^2}.
\]

We use Lemma 2.7 for the sum over \( r \). In the odd case we sum our bound for \( S_k \) from \( k = 1500 \) to \( 5000 \) with multiplier 2.5, getting \(< 1.5256\). The remainder of the odds, using multiplier 1.3 \( \log(1 + 4 \log k) \) adds on \(< 0.0082\). For the even case, using multiplier 3 and summing for \( k \geq 750 \), we get \(< 8.4195\). In total, the contribution is \(< 9.9533\).
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are grateful to Paul Kinlaw for pointing out to us that our original version of Lemma 2.7 could be improved.

REFERENCES

[8] J. D. Lichtman and C. Pomerance, Explicit estimates for the distribution of numbers free of large prime factors, submitted for publication, see arXiv:1705.02442 [math.NT].

HMN:

CP: MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT, DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, HANOVER, NH 03755, USA
E-mail address: carl.pomerance@dartmouth.edu