

# ON ONE REMARKABLE IDENTITY RELATED TO FUNCTION $\pi(x)$

Mladen V. Vassilev – Missana

5, V. Hugo Str., Sofia-1124, Bulgaria, e-mail: *missana@abv.bg*

## Introduction

By  $\mathcal{R}_+$  we denote the set of all positive real numbers and  $\mathcal{N} = \{1, 2, \dots\}$ .

Let

$$g = \{g_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

be sequence such that:

$$g_n \in \mathcal{R}_+, \tag{a_1}$$

$$(\forall n \in \mathcal{N})(g_n < g_{n+1}), \tag{a_2}$$

$$g \text{ is unbounded.} \tag{a_3}$$

For any  $x \in \mathcal{R}_+$  we denote by  $\pi(x)$  the number of all terms of  $g$ , which are not greater than  $x$ .

When  $x$  satisfies the inequality

$$0 \leq x < g_1$$

we put

$$\pi(x) = 0.$$

**Remark 1:** The condition  $(a_3)$  shows that the number  $\pi(x)$  is always finite for a fixed  $x$ .

The main result in this paper is the following

**Theorem:** Let  $a, b \in \mathcal{R}_+$  and  $b \geq g_1$ . Then the identity

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\pi(b)} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_i}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \pi(b) + \sum_{j=1}^{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1}) - \pi(\frac{a}{b})} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_{\pi(\frac{a}{b}) + j}}\right) \tag{1}$$

holds.

**Remark 2:** When

$$\pi\left(\frac{a}{g_1}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)$$

we put in (1)  $\sum_{j=1}^{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1}) - \pi(\frac{a}{b})}$  to be zero, i.e., the right hand-side of (1) reduces to  $\pi(\frac{a}{b}) \cdot \pi(b)$ .

Thus, under the conditions of the above Theorem, identity

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\pi(b)} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_i}\right) = \begin{cases} \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \pi(b), & \text{if } \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_1}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \\ \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \pi(b) + \sum_{j=1}^{\pi\left(\frac{a}{g_1}\right) - \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_{\pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) + j}}\right), & \text{if } \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_1}\right) > \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \end{cases} \quad (1')$$

holds.

**Proof of the Theorem.** First, we note that if  $a = 0$ , then (1), i.e., (1') holds, since

$$\pi\left(\frac{a}{g_1}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = \pi(0) = 0$$

and therefore, we may use Remark 2.

For that reason, further we assume that  $a > 0$ .

First, let us prove (1), i.e., (1') for case  $b = g_1$ .

Now, we have

$$\pi(b) = \pi(g_1) = 1$$

and

$$\pi\left(\frac{a}{g_1}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right).$$

Hence

$$\pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \pi(b) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_1}\right) \cdot \pi(g_1) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_1}\right)$$

and (1), resp. (1'), is proved, since the left hand-side of (1') coincides with  $\pi\left(\frac{a}{g_1}\right)$ . Then it remains only to consider the case

$$g_1 < b \quad (3)$$

and the proof of the Theorem will be finished.

Let (3) holds. We must consider the alternatives

$$b \leq \frac{a}{g_1} \quad (e1)$$

and

$$b > \frac{a}{g_1}. \quad (e2)$$

Let (e1) holds. We shall prove (1) in this case. Inequality (3) implies that interval

$$\alpha \equiv [g_1, b] \quad (4)$$

is well defined. Also, (3) and (e1) yield

$$\frac{a}{b} < \frac{a}{g_1}. \quad (5)$$

Then (5) implies that the interval

$$\beta \equiv (\frac{a}{b}, \frac{a}{g_1}] \quad (6)$$

is well defined, too. Obviously,  $\alpha \cap \beta = \emptyset$  and moreover,  $\beta$  lie to the right side of  $\alpha$  on the real axis.

Let  $g_i, g_j \in g$  ( $i \neq j$ ) be arbitrary. we introduce  $\tau_{i,j}$  putting

$$\tau_{i,j} = g_i \cdot g_j. \quad (7)$$

we denote by  $\mathcal{P}$  the set of these  $\tau_{i,j}$  defined by (7), for which

$$g_i \in g \cap \alpha, \quad g_j \in g \cap \beta$$

and inequality

$$\tau_{i,j} \leq a \quad (8)$$

holds. Then we consider the alternatives:

$$\mathcal{P} = \emptyset \quad (u_1)$$

and

$$\mathcal{P} \neq \emptyset. \quad (u_2)$$

Let  $(u_1)$  holds. Then  $g \cap \beta = \emptyset$ .

Indeed, if we assume that there exists  $g_j \in g \cap \beta$ , then we obtain

$$\tau_{1,j} = g_1 \cdot g_j \leq g_1 \cdot \frac{a}{g_1} = a,$$

i.e.,  $\tau_{1,j}$  satisfies (8). Therefore,  $\tau_{i,j} \in \mathcal{P}$ , since  $g_1 \in g \cap \alpha$ . Hence

$$\mathcal{P} \neq \emptyset.$$

But the last contradicts to  $(u_1)$ .

Now,  $g \cap \beta = \emptyset$  implies

$$\pi(\frac{a}{g_1}) = \pi(\frac{a}{b}). \quad (9)$$

Moreover, the equality

$$\pi(x) = \pi(\frac{a}{b}) \quad (10)$$

holds for each  $x \in \beta$ .

Let for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \pi(b)$ :  $x_i = \frac{a}{g_i}$ . Then

$$g_1 \leq g_i \leq b$$

and therefore for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \pi(b)$ :

$$x_i \in [\frac{a}{b}, \frac{a}{g_1}]. \quad (11)$$

Now, (10) and (11) yield

$$\pi\left(\frac{a}{g_i}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right). \quad (12)$$

for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, \pi(b)$ .

But (12) implies

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\pi(b)} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_i}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \pi(b), \quad (13)$$

which proves (1), because of Remark 2.

The case  $(u_1)$  is finished.

let  $(u_2)$  holds. Then the inequality

$$\pi\left(\frac{a}{g_1}\right) > \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \quad (14)$$

holds.

Indeed, the assumption that (9) holds, implies

$$g \cap \beta = \emptyset.$$

Hence  $\mathcal{P} = \emptyset$ . But the last equality contradicts to  $(u_2)$ .

Now, (14) implies that

$$g \cap \beta \neq \emptyset$$

and that

$$g_{\pi(\frac{a}{b})+k} \in g \cap \beta$$

at least for  $k = 1$ . Therefore, the sum  $\sum_{j=1}^{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1}) - \pi(\frac{a}{b})} \bullet$  from the right hand-side of (1) is well

defined.

We shall use the following approach to prove (1) in the case  $(u_2)$ . First, we denote by  $\theta(\alpha, \beta)$  the number of all elements of the set  $\mathcal{P}$ . Second, we shall calculate  $\theta(\alpha, \beta)$  using two different ways. Third, we shall compare the results of these two different calculations and as a result we shall establish (1).

### First way of calculation

Let

$$E \equiv \{1, 2, \dots, \pi(b)\}.$$

If  $i$  describes  $E$ , then  $g_i$  describes  $g \cap \alpha$ .

Let  $E_1 \subset E$  be the set of those  $i \in E$  for which there exist at least one  $j$ , such that  $g_j \in g \cap \beta$  and  $\tau_{i,j} \in \mathcal{P}$ . For each  $i \in E_1$  we denote by  $\delta_i$  the number of those  $g_j \in g \cap \beta$ , for which  $\tau_{i,j} \in \mathcal{P}$ . Then, equality

$$\theta(\alpha, \beta) = \sum_{i \in E_1} \delta_i \quad (15)$$

holds.

On the other hand, from the definition of these  $g_j$  it follows that they belong to interval  $(\frac{a}{b}, \frac{a}{g_j}]$ . Hence, for  $i \in E_1$

$$\delta_i = \pi(\frac{a}{g_i}) - \pi(\frac{a}{b}). \quad (16)$$

**Remark 3:** From the definitions of  $\delta_i$  and  $E_1$  it follows that  $\delta_i > 0$ .

Let  $i \in E_2$ , where

$$E_2 \equiv E - E_1.$$

Then

$$g \cap (\frac{a}{b}, \frac{a}{g_i}] = \emptyset,$$

because in the opposite case we will obtain that  $i \in E_1$ , that is impossible, since  $E_1 \cap E_2 = \emptyset$ .

Hence for  $i \in E_2$

$$\pi(\frac{a}{g_i}) = \pi(\frac{a}{b}),$$

i.e., for  $i \in E_2$

$$\pi(\frac{a}{g_i}) - \pi(\frac{a}{b}) = 0. \quad (17)$$

Now, (15), (16), and (17) imply

$$\theta(\alpha, \beta) = \sum_{i \in E} (\pi(\frac{a}{g_i}) - \pi(\frac{a}{b})),$$

i.e.,

$$\theta(\alpha, \beta) = \sum_{i=1}^{\pi(b)} \pi(\frac{a}{g_i}) - \pi(\frac{a}{b}) \cdot \pi(b). \quad (18)$$

### Second way of calculation

Let

$$W \equiv \{\pi(\frac{a}{b}) + k \mid k = 1, 2, \dots, \pi(\frac{a}{g_1}) - \pi(\frac{a}{b})\}.$$

Of course, we have  $W \neq \emptyset$ , since  $(u_2)$ , i.e., (14), is true.

When  $j$  describes  $W$ ,  $g_j$  describes  $g \cap \beta$ . For every such  $j$  it is fulfilled

$$g_1 \leq \frac{a}{g_j} < b. \quad (19)$$

Therefore, there exist exactly  $\pi(\frac{a}{g_j})$  in number  $g_i \in g \cap \beta$ , for which  $\tau_{i,j} \in \mathcal{P}$ . Hence

$$\theta(\alpha, \beta) = \sum_{j \in W} \pi(\frac{a}{g_j}).$$

Thus, using the definition of  $W$ , we finally get

$$\theta(\alpha, \beta) = \sum_{j=1}^{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1}) - \pi(\frac{a}{b})} \pi(\frac{a}{g_{\pi(\frac{a}{b}) + j}}). \quad (20)$$

If we compare (18) and (20), we prove (1) in case  $(u_2)$ .

Up to now, we have established that (1) (and (1')) holds, when

$$g_1 \leq b \leq \frac{a}{b} \quad (21)$$

and case  $(u_2)$  is finished too.

Now, let  $(e_2)$  hold. To prove (1') (and (1)) in this case we consider the alternatives

$$\frac{a}{b} < g_1 \quad (e_{21})$$

and

$$\frac{a}{b} \geq g_1. \quad (e_{22})$$

Let  $(e_{21})$  hold. Then  $\pi(\frac{a}{b}) = 0$  and (1) looks like

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\pi(b)} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_i}\right) = \sum_{j=1}^{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1})} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_j}\right). \quad (22)$$

We must note, that (21) implies  $b > \frac{a}{g_1}$ . Then (22) will be proved, if we prove that for all  $k \in \mathcal{N}$

$$\pi\left(\frac{a}{g_{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1})+k}}\right) = 0. \quad (23)$$

But  $g_{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1})+k} \notin W$ . Then we have that  $g_{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1})+k} > \frac{a}{g_1}$ . Hence, for all  $k \in \mathcal{N}$

$$\frac{a}{g_{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1})+k}} < g_1.$$

The last inequalities prove (23), since  $\pi(g_1) = 1$  and for  $0 \leq x < g_1$  it is fulfilled  $\pi(x) = 0$ . Therefore, (22) is proved, too, and the case  $(e_{21})$  is finished.

Let  $(e_{22})$  holds. Then it is fulfilled

$$g_1 \leq \frac{a}{b} < b. \quad (24)$$

We introduce the number  $b_1$  putting

$$b_1 = \frac{a}{b}. \quad (25)$$

Then, we find

$$b = \frac{a}{b_1}. \quad (26)$$

From (24), (25), and (26) it follows immediately

$$g_1 \leq b_1 < \frac{a}{b_1}. \quad (27)$$

Obviously, (27) looks like (21) (only  $b$  from (21) is changed with  $b_1$  in (27)). But we proved that (21) imply (1). Therefore, (27) imply (1), but with  $b_1$  instead of  $b$ . Hence, the identity

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\pi(b_1)} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_j}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{b_1}\right) \cdot \pi(b_1) + \sum_{j=1}^{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1}) - \pi(\frac{a}{b_1})} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_{\pi(\frac{a}{b_1})+j}}\right) \quad (28)$$

holds and Remark 2 stays valid again after changing  $b$  with  $b_1$ .

Using (25) we rewrite (28) in the form

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\pi(\frac{a}{b})} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_i}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \pi(b) + \sum_{j=1}^{\pi(\frac{a}{g_1}) - \pi(b)} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_{\pi(b)+j}}\right). \quad (29)$$

First, let  $\pi(b) = \pi(\frac{a}{b})$ . In this case (29) coincides with (1) and (1) is proved, since (29) is true.

Second, let  $\pi(\frac{a}{b}) < \pi(b)$ . Then we add to the two hand-sides of (29) the sum

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\pi(b) - \pi(\frac{a}{b})} \pi\left(\frac{a}{g_{\pi(\frac{a}{b})+j}}\right)$$

and obtain again (1). This finishes the proof of (1) in this case, too, sence, (29) is true.

Since, we have no other possibilities (the inequality  $\pi(b) < \pi(\frac{a}{b})$  is impossible, because  $(e_2)$ ), we finish with the case  $(e_{22})$ . Hence, the case  $(e_2)$  is finished too.

The Theorem is proved.

Further, we use some well known functions (see, e.g., [1]):

$$\operatorname{ch}x \equiv \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2}, \quad \operatorname{sh}x \equiv \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2}, \quad \operatorname{th}x \equiv \frac{\operatorname{sh}x}{\operatorname{ch}x}, \quad \operatorname{cth}x \equiv \frac{\operatorname{ch}x}{\operatorname{sh}x}.$$

**Corollary 1:** Let  $a = \operatorname{ch}x$ ,  $b = \operatorname{sh}x$ , where  $x \in \mathcal{R}_+$  and  $\operatorname{sh}x \geq g_1$ . Then, the identity

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\pi(\operatorname{sh}x)} \pi\left(\frac{\operatorname{ch}x}{g_i}\right) = \begin{cases} \pi(\operatorname{sh}x) \cdot \pi(\operatorname{cth}x), & \text{if } \pi(\frac{\operatorname{ch}x}{g_1}) = \pi(\operatorname{cth}x) \\ \pi(\operatorname{sh}x) \cdot \pi(\operatorname{cth}x) + \sum_{j=1}^{\pi(\frac{\operatorname{ch}x}{g_1}) - \pi(\operatorname{cth}x)} \pi\left(\frac{\operatorname{ch}x}{g_{\pi(\operatorname{cth}x)+j}}\right), & \text{if } \pi(\frac{\operatorname{ch}x}{g_1}) > \pi(\operatorname{cth}x) \end{cases} \quad (30)$$

holds.

The same way, putting:  $a = \operatorname{sh}x$ ,  $b = \operatorname{ch}x$ , where  $x \in \mathcal{R}_+$  and  $\operatorname{ch}x \geq g_1$ , as a corollary of the Theorem, we obtain another identity, that we do not write here since one may get it putting in (30)  $\operatorname{ch}x, \operatorname{sh}x, \operatorname{th}x$  instead of  $\operatorname{sh}x, \operatorname{ch}x, \operatorname{cth}x$ , respectively.

Now, let  $g$  be the sequence of all primes, i.e.,

$$g = 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, \dots$$

Then the function  $\pi(x)$  coincides with the famous function  $\pi$  of the prime number distribution. Thus, from our Theorem we obtain

**Corollary 2:** Let  $a, b \in \mathcal{R}_+$ ,  $b \geq 2$  and  $\{p_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is the sequence of all primes. Then the identity

$$\pi\left(\frac{a}{p_1}\right) + \pi\left(\frac{a}{p_2}\right) + \dots + \pi\left(\frac{a}{p_{\pi(b)}}\right) = \pi\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \pi(b) + \pi\left(\frac{a}{p_{\pi(\frac{a}{b})+1}}\right) + \pi\left(\frac{a}{p_{\pi(\frac{a}{b})+2}}\right) + \dots \pi\left(\frac{a}{p_{\pi(\frac{a}{2})}}\right) \quad (31)$$

holds.

In (31)  $\pi(x)$  denotes (as usually) the number of primes, which are not greater than  $x$ . Also, the right hand-side of (31) reduces to  $\pi(\frac{a}{b}) \cdot \pi(b)$  if and only if  $\pi(\frac{a}{b}) = \pi(\frac{a}{2})$ .

Finally, we must observe that the main result of the present paper was discovered trough the year 2001 in Sinemoretz (a Bulgarian vilagge on Black See).

## REFERENCE:

- [1] Handbook of Mathematical Functions, M. Abramowitz and I. Stegun (Eds.), National Bureau of Standards, Applied Mathematics Series, Vol. 55, 1964. 1960.