

ON ESTIMATE OF COMPLETE TRIGONOMETRIC SUMS

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Abstract

In this paper, the following theorem is proved:

Let $f(x) = a_k x^k + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ be a polynomial with integral coefficients such that $(a_1, \dots, a_k, q) = 1$, where q is a positive integer. Then, for $k \geq 3$,

$$\left| \sum_{x=1}^q e^{2\pi i f(x)/q} \right| \leq e^{2k} q^{1-1/k}.$$

§ 1. Introduction

Let q be an integer > 1 and $f(x) = a_k x^k + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ be a polynomial of degree k with integral coefficients such that $(a_1, \dots, a_k, q) = 1$. By a complete trigonometric sum we mean a sum of the form

$$S(q, f(x)) = \sum_{x=1}^q e^{2\pi i f(x)/q}. \quad (1)$$

Many problems in analytic number theory desire to have precise estimates of $S(q, f(x))$ for large q . Since $S(q, f(x)) = 0$ for $k=1$ and the case $k=2$ can be settled by the theory of Gaussian sums, we suppose $k \geq 3$.

In 1940, Professor Hua^[1] first proved that

$$S(q, f(x)) = O(q^{1-\frac{1}{k}+\epsilon}), \quad (2)$$

where the constant implied by "O" depends only on k . The main order $1-1/k$ is the best possible. Afterwards, some mathematicians are interested in the improvements of the constant implied by "O". In 1977, Chen Jingrun^[2] and Стоцкий, С. Б.^[3] proved respectively that

$$|S(q, f(x))| \leq e^{6.1k} q^{1-1/k} \quad (k \geq 3) \quad (3)$$

and

$$|S(q, f(x))| \leq B(k) q^{1-1/k}, \quad (4)$$

where

$$B(k) \leq \exp \left\{ k + O \left(\frac{k}{\log k} \right) \right\} \quad (k \rightarrow \infty). \quad (5)$$

Recently Lu Minggao^[4] has proved that

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$$|S(q, f(x))| \leq e^{3k} q^{1-1/k} \quad (k \geq 3). \tag{6}$$

Our purpose in this paper is to prove the following

Theorem. Let $f(x) = a_k x^k + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ be a polynomial with integral coefficients such that $(a_1, \dots, a_k, q) = 1$, where q is a positive integer. Then for $k \geq 3$ we have

$$|S(q, f(x))| \leq e^{3k} q^{1-1/k}.$$

§ 2. Several Lemmas

Lemma 1.^[3, 4] Let k be integer ≥ 3 and $f(x) = a_k x^k + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ be a polynomial with integral coefficients such that $(a_1, \dots, a_k, p) = 1$, where p is a prime $> k$. Then for $l \geq 1$

$$|S(p^l, f(x))| \leq \begin{cases} \text{Max}\{1, \text{Min}(p^{1/k}, (k-1)p^{-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{k}})\} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}, & p > (k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}} \\ (k-1) p^{\frac{3}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}, & k < p \leq (k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}}. \end{cases} \tag{7}$$

It can also be written in the form

$$|S(p^l, f(x))| p^{-l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq \begin{cases} 1, & p > (k-1)^{\frac{2k}{k-2}}; \\ (k-1) p^{-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{k}}, & (k-1)^2 < p \leq (k-1)^{\frac{2k}{k-2}}; \\ p^{\frac{1}{k}}, & (k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}} < p \leq (k-1)^2; \\ (k-1) p^{\frac{3}{k}-1}, & k < p \leq (k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}}. \end{cases} \tag{8}$$

Lemma 2.^[5, 6] Define

$$\pi(x) = \sum_{p \leq x} 1, \quad \vartheta(x) = \sum_{p \leq x} \log p.$$

Then

$$\vartheta(x) < 1.001102x, \text{ if } x > 0; \tag{9}$$

$$\pi(x) < 1.2551 \frac{x}{\log x}, \text{ if } x > 1. \tag{10}$$

Lemma 3. Let $k \geq 3$. Then for $p \leq k$ and $1 \leq y \leq k-1$ we have

$$p^{\frac{y}{k}} \leq y p^{\frac{1}{k}}. \tag{11}$$

Proof It is similar to the proof of Lemma 5 in [2].

Lemma 4. Let k be an integer ≥ 3 and p is a prime $\leq k$. Let $f(x) = a_k x^k + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ be a polynomial with integral coefficients such that $(a_1, \dots, a_k, p) = 1$. Then for $l \geq 1$, we have

$$|S(p^l, f(x))| \leq (k-1) k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}. \tag{12}$$

Proof We define t satisfying $p^t \parallel (ka_k, \dots, 2a_2, a_1)$. From $(a_1, \dots, a_k, p) = 1$, we obtain $p^t \leq k$. Let μ_1, \dots, μ_r be the different zeros modulo p of the congruence

$$p^{-t} f'(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}, \quad 0 \leq x < p \tag{13}$$

and let m_1, \dots, m_r be their multiplicities. Putting $m_1 + \dots + m_r = m$, it is obvious that $r \leq M \leq k-1$.

1) $l \leq 2t$: From $p^t \leq k$ we have

$$|S(p^l, f(x))| \leq p^l = p^{\frac{l}{k}} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq (k-1) k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}. \tag{14}$$

2) $l = 2t+1$; If $t=0$, then $l=1$. We get immediately

$$|S(p^l, f(x))| \leq p^l = p^{\frac{1}{k}} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq (k-1) k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}. \tag{15}$$

So we suppose $t \geq 1$. We transform the sum $S(p^l, f(x))$ by substituting $x = y + p^{l-t-1}z$, where y and z run independently through the values

$$y = 1, \dots, p^{l-t-1}, z = 0, \dots, p^{t+1} - 1.$$

Also we denote $e_q(x) = e^{2\pi i x/q}$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} S(p^l, f(x)) &= \sum_{x=1}^{p^l} e_{p^l}(f(x)) \\ &= \sum_{y=1}^{p^{l-t-1}} e_{p^l}(f(y)) \sum_{z=0}^{p^{t+1}-1} e_{p^l} \left(p^{l-t-1} z f'(y) + \frac{1}{2} p^{2(l-t-1)} z^2 f''(y) \right) \\ &= \sum_{y=1}^{p^{l-t-1}} e_{p^l}(f(y)) \sum_{z=0}^{p^{t+1}-1} e_p \left(z \frac{f'(y)}{p^t} + \frac{1}{2} z^2 f''(y) \right). \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

If either p is an odd prime and $t \geq 1$ or $p=2$ and $t \geq 2$, since $p^t | f''(y)$, then $2p | f''(y)$ for all $1 \leq y \leq p^{l-t-1}$. Thus from (16) we have

$$S(p^l, f(x)) = \sum_{y=1}^{p^{l-t-1}} e_{p^l}(f(y)) \sum_{z=0}^{p^{t+1}-1} e_{p^{t+1}}(z f'(y)).$$

Now if $y \not\equiv \mu_j \pmod{p}$, $j=1, \dots, r$, then

$$\sum_{z=0}^{p^{t+1}-1} e_{p^{t+1}}(z f'(y)) = 0. \tag{17}$$

Therefore we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |S(p^l, f(x))| &\leq \sum_{j=1}^r \left| \sum_{y=\mu_j \pmod{p}}^{p^l} e_{p^l}(f(y)) \right| = \sum_{j=1}^r \left| \sum_{y=1}^{p^{l-1}} e_{p^l}(f(\mu_j + py)) \right| \leq r p^{l-1} \\ &= r p^{\frac{l}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} = r p^{\frac{2l}{k}} p^{\frac{1}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq (k-1) k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{1}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}. \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

It remains to consider $p=2$ and $t=1$. In this case $l=3$. Hence

$$|S(p^l, f(x))| \leq p^l = p^{\frac{3}{k}} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq (k-1) p^{\frac{3}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq (k-1) k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{1}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}. \tag{19}$$

3) $l \geq 2(t+1)$: By the same argument as before, we substitute $x = y + p^{l-t-1}z$, where y and z run independently through the values

$$y = 1, \dots, p^{l-t-1}, z = 0, \dots, p^{t+1} - 1.$$

Thus for $l \geq 2(t+1)$

$$S(p^l, f(x)) = \sum_{x=1}^{p^l} e_{p^l}(f(x)) = \sum_{y=1}^{p^{l-t-1}} e_{p^l}(f(y)) \sum_{z=0}^{p^{t+1}-1} e_{p^{t+1}}(z f'(y)).$$

Hence from (17) we have

$$|S(p^l, f(x))| \leq \sum_{j=1}^r \left| \sum_{y=\mu_j \pmod{p}}^{p^l} e_{p^l}(f(y)) \right| = \sum_{j=1}^r |S_{\mu_j, p^l}|, \text{ say.} \tag{20}$$

Let σ_j Satisfy $p^{\sigma_j} \| (f(py + \mu_j) - f(\mu_j))$ and put

$$g_{\mu_j}(y) = p^{-\sigma_j} (f(py + \mu_j) - f(\mu_j)). \tag{21}$$

In view of

$$f(py + \mu_j) - f(\mu_j) = pyf'(\mu_j) + \frac{(py)^2 f''(\mu_j)}{2!} + \dots + \frac{(py)^{m_j} f^{(m_j)}(\mu_j)}{m_j!} + \dots, \tag{22}$$

we obtain

$$2 \leq \sigma_j \leq m_j + t + 1. \tag{23}$$

Also from [7], we have

$$\sigma_j \leq k. \tag{24}$$

Let t_j satisfy $p^{t_j} \| g'_{\mu_j}(y)$. It is obvious that.

$$p^{t_j} \leq k. \tag{25}$$

Since $p^t \| f'(x)$, $p^t \left| \frac{f^{(h+1)}(\mu_j)}{h!} \right|$ holds for any non-negative integer h . So

$$p^{m_j+t+1} \left\| \frac{1}{m_j!} p^{m_j+1} f^{(m_j+1)}(\mu_j) \right\|.$$

From (21) and (22), we see that $p^{-\sigma_j} \cdot \frac{p^{m_j+1} f^{(m_j+1)}(\mu_j)}{m_j!}$ is one of the coefficients of the polynomial $g'_{\mu_j}(y)$. Hence we have

$$m_j + t + 1 - \sigma_j \geq t_j \tag{26}$$

and

$$g'_{\mu_j}(y) \equiv p^{-\sigma_j} \left(pf'(\mu_j) + \dots + \frac{1}{m_j!} p^{m_j+1} f^{(m_j+1)}(\mu_j) \right) \pmod{p^{t_j+1}}.$$

By this expression, we conclude that the congruence $g'_{\mu_j}(y) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{t_j+1}}$ ($0 \leq y \leq p$) has atmost m_j solutions.

Using mathematical induction, we now prove that for $l \geq 2(t+1)$, the following estimate

$$|S(p^l, f(x))| \leq mk^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \tag{27}$$

holds for any polynomial $f(x)$ satisfying the lemma's conditions.

For $l = 2(t+1)$, from (20) we have

$$|S(p^l, f(x))| \leq rp^{l-1} = rp^{\frac{2t}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq mk^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}.$$

Now assume that (27) is true for each integer in interval $[2(t+1), l-1]$. Then for $l > 2(t+1)$, let

$$\mathcal{A}_1 = \{j: l - \sigma_j \geq 2t_j + 2\},$$

$$\mathcal{A}_2 = \{j: l - \sigma_j = 2t_j + 1\},$$

$$\mathcal{A}_3 = \{j: l - \sigma_j \leq 2t_j\}$$

and write $M_1 = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_1} m_j$, $M_2 = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} m_j$, $M_3 = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_3} m_j$. We have $M_1 + M_2 + M_3 = m$.

Since

$$|S_{\mu_j, p^l}| = \left| \sum_{y=0}^{p^l-1} e_{p^l}(f(\mu_j + py)) \right| = \left| e_{p^l}(f(\mu_j)) \sum_{y=0}^{p^l-1} e_{p^l-\sigma_j}(g_{\mu_j}(y)) \right|$$

$$= p^{\sigma_j-1} |S(p^{l-\sigma_j}, g_{\mu_j}(y))|,$$

by the inductive hypothesis and (24), (28), we have

$$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_1} |S_{\mu_j, p^l}| = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_1} p^{\sigma_j-1} |S(p^{l-\sigma_j}, g_{\mu_j}(y))|$$

$$\leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_1} p^{\sigma_j-1} m_j k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{(l-\sigma_j)(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq M_1 k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}. \tag{29}$$

We consider $j \in \mathcal{A}_2$. If $t_j=0$, it follows from (28), (23), and Lemma 3 that

$$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} |S_{\mu_j, p^l}| = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{\sigma_j-1} |S(p^{l-\sigma_j}, g_{\mu_j}(y))| \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{l-1} = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{\frac{\sigma_j+t+1}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}$$

$$\leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{\frac{m_j+t+2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq \sum_{t \in \mathcal{A}_2} m_j k^{\frac{1}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}$$

$$\leq M_2 k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}. \tag{30}$$

Now we turn to $t_j \geq 1$. At first, suppose either p is an odd prime and $t_j \geq 1$ or $p=2$ and $t_j \geq 2$. We proceed as in the proof of (18) but use $t_j, l-\sigma_j$ and $g_{\mu_j}(y)$ instead of t, l and $f(x)$ respectively. We have

$$|S(p^{l-\sigma_j}, g_{\mu_j}(y))| \leq s p^{l-\sigma_j-1}, \tag{31}$$

where s is the number of the different zeros modulo p of the congruence

$$g_{\mu_j}(y) \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{t_j+1}} \quad (0 \leq y < p).$$

Hence $s \leq m_j$. From (28), (31) and (24) we have

$$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} |S_{\mu_j, p^l}| = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{\sigma_j-1} |S(p^{l-\sigma_j}, g_{\mu_j}(y))| \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} m_j p^{l-2}$$

$$= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} m_j p^{\frac{\sigma_j+2t_j+1}{k}-2} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq M_2 k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{1}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}.$$

It remains to investigate $p=2$ and $t_j=1$. In this case, by (26)

$$\sigma_j \leq m_j + t + 1 - t_j = m_j + t, \quad l = \sigma_j + 2t_j + 1 \leq m_j + t + 3.$$

If $k \geq 4$, then

$$p^{\frac{2}{k}} = 2^{\frac{2}{k}} = 4^{\frac{1}{k}} < k^{\frac{1}{k}}.$$

Thus from (28) and Lemma 3 we have

$$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} |S_{\mu_j, p^l}| = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{\sigma_j-1} |S(p^{l-\sigma_j}, g_{\mu_j}(y))| \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{l-1} \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{\frac{m_j+t+3}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}$$

$$\leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} m_j k^{\frac{1}{k}} p^{\frac{4}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq M_2 k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}.$$

If $k=3$. Since $p^t \leq k$ and $p=2$, we have $t \leq 1$. Also we have

$$p^{\frac{3}{k}} = 2 < 3^{\frac{2}{3}} = k^{\frac{2}{k}}.$$

Therefore, it follows from (28) and Lemma 3 that

$$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} |S_{\mu_j, p^l}| = \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{\sigma_j-1} |S(p^{l-\sigma_j}, g_{\mu_j}(y))| \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{l-1} \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} p^{\frac{m_j+t+3}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}$$

$$\leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} m_j p^{\frac{5}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq M_2 k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}.$$

Hence we have in any case

$$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} |S_{\mu_j, p^l}| \leq M_2 k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}. \tag{32}$$

Finally it follows from (25), (26) and Lemma 3 that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_3} |S_{\mu_j, p^l}| &= \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_3} \left| \sum_{y=0}^{p^l-1} e_{p^l}(f(\mu_j + py)) \right| \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_3} p^{l-1} \leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_3} p^{\frac{\sigma_j+2t_j-1}{k}} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \\ &\leq \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_3} p^{\frac{m_j+t+1+t_j-1}{k}} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq M_3 k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}. \end{aligned} \tag{33}$$

In view of (20), (29), (32), (33), we have for $l \geq 2(t+1)$

$$\begin{aligned} |S(p^l, f(x))| &\leq \left(\sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_1} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_2} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{A}_3} \right) |S_{\mu_j, p^l}| \leq (M_1 + M_2 + M_3) k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \\ &= m k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} p^{l(1-\frac{1}{k})}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus it follows that (27) is true for all $l \geq 2(t+1)$. We complete the proof of the Lemma.

§ 3. Proof of the Theorem

In view of Lemma 1, Lemma 4 and Theorem 1 0.2 in [7], we have

$$\begin{aligned} |S(q, f(x))| &\leq \prod_{p \leq k} (k-1) k^{\frac{2}{k}} p^{\frac{2}{k}-1} \prod_{k < p \leq (k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}}} (k-1) p^{\frac{3}{k}-1} \times \prod_{(k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}} < p \leq (k-1)^2} p^{\frac{1}{k}} \\ &\times \prod_{(k-1)^2 \leq p < (k-1)^{\frac{2k}{k-2}}} (k-1) p^{-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{k}} q^{1-\frac{1}{k}} = e^{F(k)} q^{1-\frac{1}{k}}, \text{ say.} \end{aligned} \tag{44}$$

Let $x_k = (k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} F(k) &= \left(1 - \frac{2}{k}\right) (\pi(x_k) \log x_k - \vartheta(x_k)) + \frac{2}{k} \pi(k) \log k \\ &+ \frac{1}{k} (\vartheta(x_k^2) - \vartheta(k)) + \log(k-1) (\pi(x_k^2) - \pi((k-1)^2)) \\ &- \frac{1}{2} (\vartheta(x_k^2) - \vartheta((k-1)^2)). \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

Since

$$\pi(x) \log x - \vartheta(x) = \log x \int_2^x \frac{\vartheta(t)}{t \log^2 t} dt, \tag{36}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(k) &= \log(k-1) \int_2^{x_k} \frac{\vartheta(t)}{t \log^2 t} dt + \log(k-1) \int_{(k-1)^2}^{x_k^2} \frac{\vartheta(t)}{t \log^2 t} dt \\ &+ \frac{2}{k} \pi(k) \log k - \frac{1}{k} \vartheta(k), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{F(k)}{k} &= \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \int_2^{x_k} \frac{\vartheta(t)}{t \log^2 t} dt + \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \int_{(k-1)^2}^{x_k^2} \frac{\vartheta(t)}{t \log^2 t} dt \\ &+ \frac{1}{k^2} (2\pi(k) \log k - \vartheta(k)) = I_1(k) + I_2(k) + I_3(k), \text{ say.} \end{aligned} \tag{37}$$

By Lemma 2, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_2(k) &\leq 1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \int_{(k-1)^2}^{k^2} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} \\
 &= 1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \sum_{i=0}^{15} \int_{(k-1)^{2+\frac{0.25i}{k-2}}}^{(k-1)^{2+\frac{0.25(i+1)}{k-2}}} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} \\
 &\leq 1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \sum_{i=0}^{15} \frac{(k-1)^{2+\frac{0.25i}{k-2}}}{\left(2+\frac{0.25i}{k-2}\right)^2 \log^2(k-1)} \left[(k-1)^{\frac{0.25}{k-2}} - 1 \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

A Simple calculation shows that

$$e^x - 1 \leq x \left(1 + \frac{x}{2} \left(1 + \frac{x}{3} \left(1 + \frac{x}{4} e^x \right) \right) \right), \quad (x > 0), \tag{38}$$

and that $\frac{(k-1)^{2+\frac{0.25i}{k-2}}}{k(k-2)\left(2+\frac{0.25i}{k-2}\right)^2}$ and $(k-1)^{\frac{0.25}{k-2}} - 1$ are decreasing for $k \geq 9$ and $0 \leq i \leq 15$. Hence, for $k \geq 12$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_2(k) &\leq 1.001102 \frac{0.25}{k(k-2)} \left[1 + \frac{0.25 \log(k-1)}{2(k-2)} \left(1 + \frac{0.25 \log(k-1)}{3(k-2)} \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. \times \left(1 + \frac{0.25 \log(k-1)}{4(k-2)} (k-1)^{\frac{0.25}{k-2}} \right) \right) \right] \sum_{i=0}^{15} \frac{(k-1)^{\frac{0.25i}{k-2}+2}}{\left(2+\frac{0.25i}{k-2}\right)^2} \\
 &\leq 1.001102 \frac{0.25}{12 \times 10} \left[1 + \frac{0.25 \log 11}{20} \left(1 + \frac{0.25 \log 11}{30} \left(1 + \frac{0.25 \log 11}{40} \cdot 11^{\frac{1}{40}} \right) \right) \right] \\
 &\quad \times \sum_{i=0}^{15} \frac{11^{\frac{i}{40}+2}}{\left(2+\frac{i}{40}\right)^2} < 1.3872. \tag{39}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$I_1(k) + I_3(k) = \frac{k-2}{k^2} (\pi(x_k) \log x_k - \delta(x_k)) + \frac{1}{k^2} (2\pi(k) \log k - \delta(k)),$$

we have

$$[x_{12}] = 17,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_1(12) + I_3(12) &= \frac{10}{12^2} \left(\pi(17) \cdot \frac{12}{10} \log 11 - \delta(17) \right) + \frac{1}{12^2} (2\pi(12) \log 12 - \delta(12)) \\
 &\leq \frac{10}{12^2} \left(7 \times \frac{12}{10} \log 11 - 13.1431 \right) + \frac{1}{12^2} (2 \times 5 \log 12 - 7.7450) \\
 &\leq 0.4861 + 0.1188 = 0.6049.
 \end{aligned}$$

From this and (37), (39) it follows that

$$\frac{F(12)}{12} \leq 1.3872 + 0.6049 = 1.9921. \tag{40}$$

Similarly

$$I_1(13) + I_3(13) \leq 0.4826 + 0.1212 = 0.6038;$$

$$\frac{F(13)}{13} \leq 1.3872 + 0.6038 = 1.9910; \tag{41}$$

$$I_1(14) + I_3(14) \leq 0.4808 + 0.1090 = 0.5898;$$

$$\frac{F(14)}{14} \leq 1.3872 + 0.5898 = 1.9770. \quad (42)$$

The expression (36) implies that $\pi(x)\log x \leq \vartheta(x)$ is increasing for $x > 2$. Note that $\frac{k-2}{k}$ is decreasing for $k \geq 4$. Hence for $15 \leq k \leq 16$, we have $[x_{16}] = 22$,

$$I_1(k) + I_3(k) = \frac{k-2}{k^2} (\pi(x_k)\log x_k - \vartheta(x_k)) + \frac{1}{k^2} (\pi(k)\log k + (\pi(k)\log k - \vartheta(k)))$$

$$\leq \frac{13}{15^2} \left(\pi(22) \cdot \frac{16}{14} \log 15 - \vartheta(22) \right)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{15^2} (\pi(16)\log 16 + \pi(16)\log 16 - \vartheta(16))$$

$$\leq \frac{13}{15^2} \left(8 \times \frac{16}{14} \log 15 - 16.0876 \right) + \frac{1}{15^2} (2 \times 6 \log 16 - 10.3099)$$

$$\leq 0.5011 + 0.1021 = 0.6032,$$

$$\frac{F(k)}{k} \leq 1.3872 + 0.6032 = 1.9904, \quad (15 \leq k \leq 16). \quad (43)$$

Similarly, for $17 \leq k \leq 18$, we have

$$I_1(k) + I_3(k) \leq 0.4912 + 0.0946 = 0.5858,$$

$$\frac{F(k)}{k} \leq 1.3872 + 0.5858 = 1.9730 \quad (17 \leq k \leq 18). \quad (44)$$

For $19 \leq k \leq 22$, we have

$$I_1(k) + I_3(k) \leq 0.5142 + 0.0925 = 0.6067,$$

$$\frac{F(k)}{k} \leq 1.3872 + 0.6067 = 1.9939 \quad (19 \leq k \leq 22). \quad (45)$$

For $23 \leq k \leq 28$, we have

$$I_1(k) + I_3(k) \leq 0.5169 + 0.0771 = 0.5940,$$

$$\frac{F(k)}{k} \leq 1.3872 + 0.5940 = 1.9812 \quad (23 \leq k \leq 28). \quad (46)$$

For $29 \leq k \leq 40$, we have

$$I_1(k) + I_3(k) \leq 0.5422 + 0.0701 = 0.6123,$$

$$\frac{F(k)}{k} \leq 1.3872 + 0.6123 = 1.9995 \quad (29 \leq k \leq 40). \quad (47)$$

Now suppose $k \geq 41$. As before we have

$$I_2(k) \leq 1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \sum_{i=0}^3 \int_{(k-1)^{2+\frac{i}{k-2}}}^{(k-1)^{2+\frac{i+1}{k-2}}} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t}$$

$$\leq 1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \sum_{i=0}^3 \frac{(k-1)^{2+\frac{i}{k-2}}}{\left(2+\frac{i}{k-2}\right)^2 \log^2(k-1)} \left[(k-1)^{\frac{1}{k-2}} - 1 \right].$$

Since $\frac{(k-1)^{2+\frac{i}{k-2}}}{k(k-2)\left(2+\frac{i}{k-2}\right)^2}$ and $(k-1)^{\frac{1}{k-2}}$ are decreasing for $k \geq 9$ and $0 \leq i \leq 3$, it

follows from (38) that for $k \geq 41$

$$\begin{aligned} I_2(k) &\leq 1.001102 \frac{(k-1)^2}{k(k-2)} \left[1 + \frac{\log(k-1)}{2(k-1)} \left(1 + \frac{\log(k-1)}{3(k-2)} \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \left(1 + \frac{\log(k-1)}{4(k-2)} (k-1)^{\frac{1}{k-2}} \right) \right] \sum_{i=0}^3 \frac{(k-1)^{\frac{i}{k-2}}}{\left(2 + \frac{i}{k-2} \right)^2} \\ &\leq 1.001102 \cdot \frac{40^2}{41 \times 39} \left[1 + \frac{\log 40}{2 \times 39} \left(1 + \frac{\log 40}{3 \times 39} \left(1 + \frac{\log 40}{4 \times 39} \cdot 40^{\frac{1}{39}} \right) \right) \right] \\ &\quad \cdot \sum_{i=0}^3 \frac{40^{\frac{i}{39}}}{\left(2 + \frac{i}{39} \right)^2} \leq 1.16929. \end{aligned}$$

We turn next to $I_1(k)$ for $k \geq 41$. In view of Lemma 2, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I_1(k) &\leq 1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \int_2^{x_k} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} \\ &= 1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \left(\int_{k-1}^{(k-1)^{1+\frac{1}{k-2}}} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} + \int_{(k-1)^{1+\frac{1}{k-2}}}^{(k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}}} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{(k-1)^{\frac{11}{12}}}^{k-1} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} + \sum_{i=0}^4 \int_{(k-1)^{\frac{1}{2}+\frac{i}{12}}}^{(k-1)^{\frac{1}{2}+\frac{i+1}{12}}} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} + \int_2^{(k-1)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} \right). \quad (49) \end{aligned}$$

We shall have an upper estimate on the right hand side of (49). Since $(k-1)^{\frac{1}{k-2}} - 1$,

$\frac{k+1}{k \log(k-1)}$ and $\frac{(k-1)^{1+\frac{1}{k-2}}}{k \left(1 + \frac{1}{k-2} \right)^2 \log(k-1)}$ are decreasing for $k \geq 41$, we have for $k \geq 41$

$$\begin{aligned} &1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \left(\int_{k-1}^{(k-1)^{1+\frac{1}{k-2}}} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} + \int_{(k-1)^{1+\frac{1}{k-2}}}^{(k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}}} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} \right) \\ &\leq 1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \left[\frac{k-1}{\log^2(k-1)} \left((k-1)^{\frac{1}{k-2}} - 1 \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{(k-1)^{1+\frac{1}{k-2}}}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{k-2} \right)^2 \log^2(k-1)} \left((k-1)^{\frac{1}{k-2}} - 1 \right) \right] \\ &\leq 1.001102 \cdot \frac{40^{\frac{1}{39}} - 1}{41 \log 40} \left(40 + \frac{40^{\frac{40}{39}}}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{39} \right)^2} \right) \leq 0.05372. \quad (50) \end{aligned}$$

Since $e^x - 1 \leq xe^x$ for $x > 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \int_{(k-1)^{\frac{11}{12}}}^{k-1} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} \\ &\leq 1.001102 \cdot \frac{(k-1)^{\frac{11}{12}}}{\left(\frac{11}{12} \right)^2 k \log(k-1)} \left((k-1)^{\frac{1}{12}} - 1 \right) \\ &\leq 1.001102 \cdot \left(\frac{12}{11} \right)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{12} \cdot \frac{k-1}{k} \leq 0.09929. \quad (51) \end{aligned}$$

Since $\frac{(k-1)^{\frac{1}{2}+\frac{i}{12}}}{k \log(k-1)} ((k-1)^{\frac{1}{12}} - 1)$ is decreasing for $k \geq 41$ and $0 \leq i \leq 4$, we have for $k \geq 41$

$$\begin{aligned} & 1.001102 \cdot \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \cdot \sum_{i=0}^4 \int_{(k-1)^{\frac{1}{2}+\frac{i}{12}}}^{(k-1)^{\frac{1}{2}+\frac{i+1}{12}}} \frac{dt}{\log^3 t} \\ & \leq 1.001102 \cdot \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \cdot \sum_{i=0}^4 \frac{(k-1)^{\frac{1}{2}+\frac{i}{12}}}{\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{i}{12}\right)^2 \log^2(k-1)} ((k-1)^{\frac{1}{12}} - 1) \\ & \leq 1.001102 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{40}(40^{\frac{1}{12}} - 1)}{41 \log 40} \sum_{i=0}^4 \frac{40^{\frac{i}{12}}}{\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{i}{12}\right)^2} \leq 0.32473. \end{aligned} \tag{52}$$

It remains to estimate the last term on the right hand side of (49). We know

$$\left(\frac{1}{x} \int_2^x \frac{dt}{\log^2 t}\right)' = -\frac{1}{x^2} \int_2^x \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} + \frac{1}{x \log^2 x} = -\frac{2}{x^2} \left(\int_2^x \frac{dt}{\log^3 t} - \frac{1}{\log^2 2}\right) \tag{53}$$

and

$$\log t \leq c \frac{t-1}{t+1},$$

where

$$c = \begin{cases} 2 \log 3, & 2 \leq t \leq 3, \\ \frac{4}{3} \log 7, & 3 \leq t \leq 7. \end{cases}$$

Put $g(t) = t + 6 \log(t-1) - \frac{12}{t-1} - 4 \frac{1}{(t-1)^2}$, then $g'(t) = \left(\frac{t+1}{t-1}\right)^3$. Thus for $x \geq 6.3$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2^x \frac{dt}{\log^3 t} & \geq \int_2^{6.3} \frac{dt}{\log^3 t} \geq \frac{1}{(2 \log 3)^3} \int_2^3 g'(t) dt + \frac{27}{(4 \log 7)^3} \int_3^{6.3} g'(t) dt \\ & = \frac{1}{(2 \log 3)^3} (g(3) - g(2)) + \frac{27}{(4 \log 7)^3} (g(6.3) - g(3)) \\ & \geq 1.334 + 0.786 = 2.120 > \frac{1}{\log^2 2}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence it follows from (53) that $\frac{1}{x} \int_2^x \frac{dt}{\log^2 t}$ is decreasing for $x \geq 6.3$. When $k \geq 41$, it

is easily to prove that $\frac{(k-1)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{k} \log(k-1)$ is decreasing and $(k-1)^{\frac{1}{2}} \geq 6.3$. Thus for $k \geq 41$, we have

$$1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \int_2^{(k-1)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} \leq 1.001102 \cdot \frac{\log 40}{41} \int_2^{6.33} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t}. \tag{54}$$

We note that

$$\log t \geq D \frac{t-1}{t+1},$$

where

$$D = \begin{cases} 3 \log 2, & t \geq 2, \\ 2 \log 3, & t \geq 3. \end{cases}$$

Put $h(t) = t + 4 \log(t-1) - \frac{4}{t-1}$, then $h'(t) = \left(\frac{t+1}{t-1}\right)^2$. So

$$\begin{aligned} \int_2^{6.33} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} &\leq \frac{1}{9 \log^2 2} \int_2^3 h'(t) dt + \frac{1}{4 \log^2 3} \int_3^{6.33} h'(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{9 \log^2 2} (h(3) - h(2)) + \frac{1}{4 \log^2 3} (h(6.33) - h(3)) \\ &\leq 1.33499 + 1.76071 = 3.09570. \end{aligned}$$

From this and (54), it follows that for $k \geq 41$

$$1.001102 \frac{\log(k-1)}{k} \int_2^{(k-1)^2} \frac{dt}{\log^2 t} \leq 1.001102 \cdot \frac{\log 40}{41} \cdot (3.09570) \leq 0.27884. \quad (55)$$

In view of (49), (50), (51), (52) and (55), for $k \geq 41$ we obtain

$$I_1(k) \leq 0.05372 + 0.09929 + 0.32473 + 0.27884 = 0.75658. \quad (56)$$

Also, it follows from (10) that for $k \geq 41$ we have

$$I_3(k) \leq \frac{2}{k^2} \pi(k) \log k \leq \frac{2}{k} \cdot 1.2551 \leq \frac{2}{41} \cdot 1.2551 \leq 0.06123. \quad (57)$$

From this and (37), (48), (56), we see that for $k \geq 41$

$$\frac{F(k)}{k} \leq 0.75658 + 1.16929 + 0.06123 = 1.98710. \quad (58)$$

By (40)–(47) and (58) we see that $F(k) \leq 2k$ is true for all integers $k \geq 12$.

Thus all that remains is to consider $3 \leq k \leq 11$. By (35), we calculate $\frac{F(k)}{k}$ directly.

$$\begin{aligned} [x_{11}] &= 16, \quad [x_{11}^2] = [10^{\frac{22}{9}}] = 278. \\ \frac{F(11)}{11} &= \frac{1}{11} \left[\frac{9}{11} \left(\pi(16) \cdot \frac{11}{9} \log 10 - \vartheta(16) \right) + \frac{2}{11} \pi(11) \log 11 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{11} (\vartheta(278) - \vartheta(11)) + \log 10 (\pi(278) - \pi(100)) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{2} (\vartheta(278) - \vartheta(100)) \right] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{11} \left[\frac{9}{11} \left(6 \times \frac{11}{9} \log 10 - 10.3099 \right) + \frac{2}{11} \times 5 \log 11 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{11} (260.0611 - 7.7450) + (59 - 25) \log 10 \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{2} (260.0610 - 83.7284) \right] \leq 1.8745. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{F(10)}{10} &\leq 1.8843, \quad \frac{F(9)}{9} \leq 1.9190, \quad \frac{F(8)}{8} \leq 1.9470, \quad \frac{F(7)}{7} \leq 1.9835, \\ \frac{F(6)}{6} &\leq 1.9715, \quad \frac{F(5)}{5} \leq 1.9932, \quad \frac{F(4)}{4} \leq 1.8866. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we consider $k=3$. In this case $(k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}} > (k-1)^2$. Hence, from (7), we see that (8) must be replaced by

$$|S(p^l, f(x))| \cdot p^{-l(1-\frac{1}{k})} \leq \begin{cases} 1, & p > (k-1)^{\frac{2k}{k-2}}, \\ (k-1)p^{-\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{k}}, & (k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}} < p \leq (k-1)^{\frac{2k}{k-2}}, \\ (k-1)p^{\frac{3}{k}-1}, & k < p \leq (k-1)^{\frac{k}{k-2}}. \end{cases}$$

By computation as before, we get

$$F(k) = \left(1 - \frac{2}{k}\right) (\pi(x_k) \log x_k - \vartheta(x_k)) + \frac{2}{k} \pi(k) \log k + \frac{1}{k} (\vartheta(x_k^2) - \vartheta(k)) \\ + \log(k-1) (\pi(x_k^2) - \pi(x_k)) - \frac{1}{2} (\vartheta(x_k^2) - \vartheta(x_k)).$$

From this

$$[x_3] = 8, \quad [x_3^2] = [2^6] = 64. \\ \frac{F(3)}{3} = \frac{1}{3} \left[\frac{1}{3} (\pi(8) \times 3 \log 2 - \vartheta(8)) + \frac{2}{3} \pi(3) \log 3 + \frac{1}{3} (\vartheta(64) - \vartheta(3)) \right. \\ \left. + \log 2 (\pi(64) - \pi(8)) - \frac{1}{2} (\vartheta(64) - \vartheta(8)) \right] \\ = \frac{1}{3} \left[\pi(64) \log 2 + \frac{2}{3} \pi(3) \log 3 - \frac{1}{3} \vartheta(3) - \frac{1}{6} (\vartheta(64) - \vartheta(8)) \right] \\ \leq \frac{1}{3} \left[18 \log 2 + \frac{2}{3} \times 2 \log 3 - \frac{1}{3} \times 1.7917 - \frac{1}{6} (53.1189 - 5.3472) \right] \\ \leq 1.7941.$$

Hence we complete the proof of the Theorem.

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