

## EXTENSIONS OF DEDEKIND'S $\psi$ -FUNCTION

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### 1. Introduction.

In 1877 R. Dedekind [4, p. 288] (cf. also [5, p. 123]) established the arithmetical form of  $\psi(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} dg^{-1}\varphi(g)$ , where  $g = (d, \delta)$  and  $\varphi(n)$  is the Euler totient function. He proved that

$$(1.1) \quad \psi(n) = n \prod_{p|n} (1 + p^{-1}),$$

the product being extended over all prime divisors  $p$  of  $n$ . It is clear that  $\psi(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \mu^2(d)\delta$ , where  $\mu(n)$  is the Möbius function. Recently, E. Cohen [3] proved an interesting result, viz.,

$$(1.2) \quad \sum_{n \in L} \psi(n)^{-1} = \pi^2/6,$$

where  $L$  is the set of integers whose prime factors are all multiple (see Remark 2.2 below).

In this paper we define three arithmetical functions  $\psi_k(n)$ ,  $\Psi_k(n)$  and  $\varphi_{(k)}(n)$  as generalizations of  $\psi(n)$  and establish their arithmetical forms, arithmetical identities, orders and average orders. Further, we prove two results of type (1.2).

### 2. Notation and preliminaries.

Let  $k$  be a fixed positive integer. Let  $\varphi_k(n)$  and  $\Phi_k(n)$  be Cohen's (cf. [1], also cf. [2]) and Klee's totient functions [7], respectively. They have the following arithmetical forms:

$$(2.1) \quad \varphi_k(n) = n^k \prod_{p|n} (1 - p^{-k}),$$

$$(2.2) \quad \Phi_k(n) = n \prod_{p^k|n} (1 - p^{-k}).$$

We need the following property of  $\varphi_k(n)$  (cf. [1, Theorem 1]):

$$(2.3) \quad \sum_{d|n} \varphi_k(d) = n^k.$$

Let  $\theta(n)$  denote the number of square-free divisors of  $n$ . It is clear that  $\theta(n) = 2^{w(n)}$ , where  $w(n)$  is the number of distinct prime factors of

$n > 1$ , and  $w(1) = 0$ . We define the functions  $\psi_k(n)$ ,  $\Psi_k(n)$  and  $\psi_{(k)}(n)$  as follows:

$$(2.4) \quad \psi_k(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} d^k g^{-k} \varphi_k(g), \quad \text{where } g = (d, \delta),$$

$$(2.5) \quad \Psi_k(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \varepsilon_k(d) \Phi_k(\delta),$$

where

$$(2.6) \quad \varepsilon_k(n) = \theta(n) \text{ or } 0 \text{ according as } n \text{ is or is not the } k\text{th power of an integer.}$$

Clearly,  $\varepsilon_1(n) = \theta(n)$ . Further

$$(2.7) \quad \psi_k(n) = \prod_{i=1}^r \left\{ \psi(p_i^{\alpha_i}) + \binom{k-1}{1} \psi(p_i^{\alpha_i-1}) + \dots + \binom{k-1}{\alpha_i} \right\}$$

and  $\psi_{(k)}(1) = 1$ , where

$$(2.8) \quad n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_r^{\alpha_r} \text{ is the canonical representation of } n,$$

and

$$\binom{s}{t} = \frac{s(s-1) \dots (s-t+1)}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot t}.$$

Clearly,  $\binom{s}{t} = 0$  if  $0 \leq s < t$ , and

$$(2.9) \quad \binom{s}{t} + \binom{s}{t+1} = \binom{s+1}{t+1}.$$

REMARK 2.1. It is clear that  $\psi_1(n) = \psi_{(1)}(n) = \psi(n)$ . The fact that  $\Psi_1(n) = \psi(n)$  is noted in Remark 3.1 below.

The following notation and terminology is needed in our present discussion: A positive integer  $n$  is said to be *k-free* if  $n$  is not divisible by the  $k$ th power of any integer  $> 1$ . Clearly, 1 is *k-free* and if  $n$  is of the form (2.8), then  $n$  is *k-free* if  $\alpha_i < k$  for each  $i$ . On the other hand,  $n$  is said to be *k-full* if  $\alpha_i \geq k$  for each  $i$ . 1 is also considered to be *k-full*. Let  $Q_k$  and  $L_k$  be the sets of *k-free* and *k-full* integers respectively.

REMARK 2.2. The set  $L$  of (1.2) is the set  $L_2$  of 2-full integers.

We note that any positive integer  $n$  can be uniquely written as  $n = n_1 n_2$ , where  $(n_1, n_2) = 1$  and  $n_1 \in Q_k, n_2 \in L_k$ . We define an arithmetical function  $\varrho_k(n)$  by setting

$$(2.10) \quad \varrho_k(n) = \theta(n_2).$$

Since every positive integer is 1-full,  $\varrho_1(n) = \theta(n)$ . We introduce another

function  $\varrho_{(k)}(n)$  defined thus:  $\varrho_{(k)}(1) = 1$  and if  $n$  is of the form (2.8), then

$$(2.11) \quad \varrho_{(k)}(n) = \prod_{i=1}^r \binom{k}{\alpha_i}.$$

Clearly,  $\varrho_{(1)}(n) = \mu^2(n)$ .

Finally, we need the function  $\mu_k(n)$  introduced by Klee [7] as a generalization of the Möbius  $\mu$ -function, defined thus:  $\mu_k(1) = 1$ ,  $\mu_k(n) = (-1)^r$  if  $n$  is of the form (2.8) with  $\alpha_i = k$  for each  $i$  and  $\mu_k(n) = 0$ , otherwise.

REMARK 2.3. We note that  $\varepsilon_k(n)$ ,  $\varrho_k(n)$ ,  $\varrho_{(k)}(n)$  and  $\mu_k(n)$  are multiplicative.

### 3. Arithmetical properties.

In this section we establish the arithmetical forms of  $\psi_k(n)$ ,  $\Psi_k(n)$ ,  $\psi_{(k)}(n)$  and some arithmetical identities. We prove first

THEOREM 3.1.  $\psi_k(n)$  is multiplicative.

PROOF. By (2.4) it is clear that  $\psi_k(1) = 1$ . Let  $(m, n) = 1$ . Every divisor  $d$  of  $mn$  can be expressed as  $d_1 d_2$ , where  $d_1 | m$ ,  $d_2 | n$  and  $(d_1, d_2) = 1$ . Further,  $((d_1, m/d_1), (d_2, n/d_2)) = 1$  and  $(d_1 d_2, mn/d_1 d_2) = (d_1, m/d_1)(d_2, n/d_2)$ .

Hence by (2.4) and the multiplicative property of  $\varphi_k(n)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_k(mn) &= \sum_{d|mn} d^k (d, mn/d)^{-k} \varphi_k((d, mn/d)) \\ &= \sum_{d_1|m, d_2|n} d_1^k d_2^k (d_1, m/d_1)^{-k} (d_2, n/d_2)^{-k} \varphi_k((d_1, m/d_1)(d_2, n/d_2)) \\ &= \sum_{d_1|m, d_2|n} d_1^k (d_1, m/d_1)^{-k} \varphi_k((d_1, m/d_1)) d_2^k (d_2, n/d_2)^{-k} \varphi_k((d_2, n/d_2)) \\ &= \sum_{d_1|m} d_1^k (d_1, m/d_1)^{-k} \varphi_k((d_1, m/d_1)) \cdot \sum_{d_2|n} d_2^k (d_2, n/d_2)^{-k} \varphi_k((d_2, n/d_2)) \\ &= \psi_k(m) \psi_k(n). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\psi_k(n)$  is multiplicative.

COROLLARY 3.1.1.  $\psi_k(n) = n^k \prod_{p|n} (1 + p^{-k})$ .

PROOF. In virtue of Theorem 3.1, it is enough if we prove this corollary for  $n = p^\alpha$ , a prime power. By definition (2.4),

$$\psi_k(p^\alpha) = \sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} d^k g^{-k} \varphi_k(g), \quad \text{where } g = (d, \delta).$$

By (2.1),

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_k(p^\alpha) &= 1 + (p^k - 1) + (p^{2k} - p^k) + \dots + (p^{(\alpha-1)k} - p^{(\alpha-2)k}) + p^{\alpha k} \\ &= p^{\alpha k} + p^{(\alpha-1)k} = p^{\alpha k} (1 + p^{-k}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the corollary follows.

**THEOREM 3.2.**  $\Psi_k(n) = n \prod_{p^k|n} (1 + p^{-k})$ .

**PROOF.** By definition (2.5),  $\Psi_k(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \varepsilon_k(d) \Phi_k(\delta)$ . Since  $\varepsilon_k(n)$  and  $\Phi_k(n)$  are multiplicative,  $\Psi_k(n)$  is also multiplicative, by the calculus of multiplicative arithmetical functions (cf. [8, § 7.2, Theorem 3]). Hence, it is enough if we prove the theorem for  $n = p^\alpha$ , a prime power.

By (2.2) and (2.6), if  $\alpha < k$ ,

$$\Psi_k(p^\alpha) = \sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \varepsilon_k(d) \Phi_k(\delta) = \Phi_k(p^\alpha) = p^\alpha$$

and if  $\alpha \geq k$ , then  $0 \leq \alpha - [\alpha/k]k < k$  so that

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_k(p^\alpha) &= \Phi_k(p^\alpha) + 2\{\Phi_k(p^{\alpha-k}) + \Phi_k(p^{\alpha-2k}) + \dots + \Phi_k(p^{\alpha-[\alpha/k]k})\} \\ &= (p^\alpha - p^{\alpha-k}) + 2\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{[\alpha/k]-1} (p^{\alpha-ik} - p^{\alpha-(i+1)k}) + p^{\alpha-[\alpha/k]k} \right\} \\ &= p^\alpha - p^{\alpha-k} + 2p^{\alpha-k} = p^\alpha + p^{\alpha-k} = p^\alpha(1 + p^{-k}). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the theorem follows.

**COROLLARY 3.2.1.**  $\Psi_k(n^k) = \psi_k(n)$ .

This follows by Corollary 3.1.1 and Theorem 3.2.

**REMARK 3.1.** It is clear by Theorem 3.2 and (1.1) that  $\Psi_1(n) = \psi(n)$ .

**THEOREM 3.3.** *If  $n$  is of the form (2.8), then*

$$\psi_{(k)}(n) = \prod_{i=1}^r \left\{ p^{\alpha_i} + \binom{k}{1} p^{\alpha_i-1} + \dots + \binom{k}{\alpha_i} \right\}.$$

**PROOF.** It is clear by definition (2.7) that  $\psi_{(k)}(n)$  is multiplicative. Hence it is enough if we prove the theorem for  $n = p^\alpha$ , a prime power.

By (2.7), (1.1) and (2.9)

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{(k)}(p^\alpha) &= \psi(p^\alpha) + \binom{k-1}{1} \psi(p^{\alpha-1}) + \dots + \binom{k-1}{\alpha} \\ &= (p^\alpha + p^{\alpha-1}) + \binom{k-1}{1} (p^{\alpha-1} + p^{\alpha-2}) + \dots + \binom{k-1}{\alpha} \\ &= p^\alpha + \binom{k}{1} p^{\alpha-1} + \binom{k}{2} p^{\alpha-2} + \dots + \binom{k}{\alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the theorem follows.

We now prove some arithmetical identities. We prove each of the following identities only for  $n = p^\alpha$ , a prime power, since all the arithmetical functions involved in the identities are multiplicative.

**THEOREM 3.4.**  $\psi_k(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \mu^2(d) \delta^k$ .

**PROOF.** By the definition of  $\mu(n)$  and Corollary 3.1.1,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \mu^2(d) \delta^k &= \mu^2(1) p^{\alpha k} + \mu^2(p) p^{(\alpha-1)k} \\ &= p^{\alpha k} + p^{(\alpha-1)k} = \psi_k(p^\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 3.5.**  $\psi_k(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \theta(d) \varphi_k(\delta)$ .

**PROOF.** By the definition of  $\theta(n)$ , (2.1), (2.3) and Corollary 3.1.1,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \theta(d) \varphi_k(\delta) &= \varphi_k(p^\alpha) + 2 \sum_{\delta|p^{\alpha-1}} \varphi_k(\delta) \\ &= (p^{\alpha k} - p^{(\alpha-1)k}) + 2p^{(\alpha-1)k} \\ &= p^{\alpha k} + p^{(\alpha-1)k} = \psi_k(p^\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 3.6.**  $\Psi_k(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \mu_k^2(d) \delta$ .

**PROOF.** By the definition of  $\mu_k(n)$  and Theorem 3.2,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \mu_k^2(d) \delta &= p^\alpha && \text{if } \alpha < k, \\ &= p^\alpha + p^{\alpha-k} && \text{if } \alpha \geq k, \end{aligned}$$

so that in any case

$$\sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \mu_k^2(d) \delta = \Psi_k(p^\alpha).$$

Hence the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 3.7.**  $\Psi_k(n) = \sum_{d^k\delta=n} \mu^2(d) \delta$ .

**PROOF.**  $\sum_{d^k\delta=n} \mu^2(d) \delta$  is multiplicative (cf. [9, Lemma 2.4]) and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d^k\delta=p^\alpha} \mu^2(d) \delta &= p^\alpha && \text{if } \alpha < k, \\ &= p^\alpha + p^{\alpha-k} && \text{if } \alpha \geq k. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 3.8.**  $\Psi_k(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \varrho_k(d) \varphi(\delta)$ .

**PROOF.** By the definition of  $\varrho_k(n)$  in (2.10) and  $\sum_{d|n} \varphi(d) = n$ , we have if  $\alpha < k$ ,

$$\sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \varrho_k(d) \varphi(\delta) = \sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \varphi(\delta) = p^\alpha,$$

and if  $\alpha \geq k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \varrho_k(d) \varphi(\delta) &= \varphi(p^\alpha) + \dots + \varphi(p^{\alpha-k+1}) + \\ &\quad + 2 \{ \varphi(p^{\alpha-k}) + \dots + \varphi(1) \} \\ &= \sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \varphi(\delta) + \sum_{d\delta=p^{\alpha-k}} \varphi(\delta) \\ &= p^\alpha + p^{\alpha-k}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence in any case,

$$\sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \varrho_k(d) \varphi(\delta) = \Psi_k(p^\alpha),$$

by Theorem 3.2. Hence the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 3.9.**  $\psi_{(k)}(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \varrho_{(k)}(d) \delta$ .

**PROOF.** By the definition of  $\varrho_{(k)}(n)$  in (2.11) and Theorem 3.3,

$$\sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \varrho_k(d) \delta = p^\alpha + \binom{k}{1} p^{\alpha-1} + \dots + \binom{k}{\alpha} = \psi_{(k)}(p^\alpha).$$

Hence the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 3.10.** *If  $k \geq 2$ , then  $\psi_{(k)}(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \mu^2(d) \psi_{(k-1)}(\delta)$ .*

**PROOF.** By (2.9) and Theorem 3.3,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \mu^2(d) \psi_{(k-1)}(\delta) &= \psi_{(k-1)}(p^\alpha) + \psi_{(k-1)}(p^{\alpha-1}) \\ &= \left\{ p^\alpha + \binom{k-1}{1} p^{\alpha-1} + \dots + \binom{k-1}{\alpha} \right\} + \\ &\quad + \left\{ p^{\alpha-1} + \binom{k-1}{1} p^{\alpha-2} + \dots + \binom{k-1}{\alpha-1} \right\} \\ &= p^\alpha + \binom{k}{1} p^{\alpha-1} + \dots + \binom{k}{\alpha} \\ &= \psi_{(k)}(p^\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 3.11.** *If  $k \geq 2$ , then  $\psi_{(k)}(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \varrho_{(k-1)}(d) \psi(\delta)$ .*

**PROOF.** By (2.11) and (2.7),

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \varrho_{(k-1)}(d) \psi(\delta) &= \psi(p^\alpha) + \binom{k-1}{1} \psi(p^{\alpha-1}) + \binom{k-1}{\alpha} \\ &= \psi_{(k)}(p^\alpha). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 3.12.** *If  $k \geq 2$ , then  $\varrho_{(k)}(n) = \sum_{d\delta=n} \mu^2(d) \varrho_{(k-1)}(\delta)$ .*

**PROOF.** By (2.11) and (2.9),

$$\sum_{d\delta=p^\alpha} \mu^2(d) \varrho_{(k-1)}(\delta) = \binom{k-1}{\alpha} + \binom{k-1}{\alpha-1} = \binom{k}{\alpha} = \varrho_{(k)}(p^\alpha).$$

Hence the theorem follows.

**REMARK 3.2.** Theorems 3.4 to 3.12 can also be obtained by using generating series of arithmetical functions involved and multiplication of Dirichlet series.

#### 4. Orders and Average orders.

In this section we establish the orders and average orders of  $\psi_k(n)$ ,  $\Psi_k(n)$  and  $\psi_{(k)}(n)$ .

**THEOREM 4.1.** *For every  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,*

$$(4.1) \quad \psi_k(n) = O(n^{k+\varepsilon}),$$

$$(4.2) \quad \Psi_k(n) = O(n^{1+\varepsilon}),$$

$$(4.3) \quad \psi_{(k)}(n) = O(n^{1+\varepsilon}).$$

**PROOF.** We first prove (4.2). Writing  $f(n) = \Psi_k(n)/n^{1+\varepsilon}$ , we see that  $f(n)$  is multiplicative.

If  $m < k$ ,

$$f(p^m) = \Psi_k(p^m)/p^{m(1+\varepsilon)} = p^m/p^{m(1+\varepsilon)} = 1/(p^m)^\varepsilon \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } p^m \rightarrow \infty.$$

If  $m \geq k$ ,

$$f(p^m) = p^m(1+p^{-k})/p^{m(1+\varepsilon)} = (1+p^{-k})/p^{m\varepsilon} \leq (1+2^{-k})/(p^m)^\varepsilon \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } p^m \rightarrow \infty.$$

Thus in any case,  $f(p^m) \rightarrow 0$  as  $p^m \rightarrow \infty$ . Hence  $f(n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  (cf. [6, Theorem 316]), so that (4.2) follows.

Now, (4.1) is an immediate consequence of Corollary 3.2.1 and (4.2).

To prove (4.3), we write  $g(n) = \psi_{(k)}(n)/n^{1+\varepsilon}$ . This function  $g(n)$  is multiplicative, and by Theorem 3.3,

$$\begin{aligned}
g(p^m) &= \frac{p^m + \binom{k}{1} p^{m-1} + \dots + \binom{k}{m}}{p^{m(1+\varepsilon)}} = \frac{1 + \binom{k}{1} p^{-1} + \dots + \binom{k}{m} p^{-m}}{p^{m\varepsilon}} \\
&\leq \frac{(1+p^{-1})^k}{p^{m\varepsilon}} \quad (\text{equality if } m \geq k \text{ and inequality if } m < k) \\
&\leq \frac{(1+2^{-1})^k}{(p^m)^\varepsilon} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } p^m \rightarrow \infty.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $g(n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  (cf. [6, Theorem 316]), so that (4.3) follows.

Thus the theorem is proved.

Throughout the following  $x$  denotes a real variable  $\geq 2$  and  $\zeta(s)$  denote the usual Riemann Zeta function. We need the well-known (cf. [6, Theorem 302]) result, viz.,

$$(4.4) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu^2(n) n^{-s} = \zeta(s)/\zeta(2s) \quad \text{for } s > 1.$$

**THEOREM 4.2.** *The average order (cf. [6, § 18.2]) of  $\psi_k(n)$  is  $n^k \zeta(k+1)/\zeta(2k+2)$ . More precisely,*

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.5) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} \psi_k(n) &= \frac{\zeta(2)x^2}{2\zeta(4)} + O(x \log x) && \text{if } k = 1, \\
&= \frac{\zeta(k+1)x^{k+1}}{(k+1)\zeta(2k+2)} + O(x^k) && \text{if } k \geq 2.
\end{aligned}$$

**PROOF.** By Theorem 3.4,

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{n \leq x} \psi_k(n) &= \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{\delta \delta = n} \mu^2(d) \delta^k = \sum_{\delta \leq x} \mu^2(d) \delta^k \\
&= \sum_{\delta \leq x} \mu^2(d) \sum_{\delta \leq x/d} \delta^k \\
&= \sum_{\delta \leq x} \mu^2(d) \left\{ \int_1^{x/d} t^k dt + O(x^k/d^k) \right\} \\
&= \sum_{\delta \leq x} \mu^2(d) \left\{ \frac{x^{k+1}}{(k+1)d^{k+1}} + O(x^k/d^k) \right\} \\
&= \frac{x^{k+1}}{k+1} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu^2(d)}{d^{k+1}} + O(x^{k+1} \sum_{d > x} d^{-(k+1)}) + O(x^k \sum_{d \leq x} d^{-k}).
\end{aligned}$$



The first  $O$ -term is  $O(x)$  and the second  $O$ -term is  $O(x \log x)$  or  $O(x^k)$  according as  $k = 1$  or  $k \geq 2$ .

Hence (4.5) follows by (4.4).

**THEOREM 4.3.** *The average order of  $\Psi_k(n)$  is  $n\zeta(2k)/\zeta(4k)$ . More precisely,*

$$(4.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \Psi_k(n) &= \frac{1}{2} x^2 \zeta(2)/\zeta(4) + O(x \log x) && \text{if } k = 1, \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x^2 \zeta(2k)/\zeta(4k) + O(x) && \text{if } k \geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

**PROOF.** By Theorem 3.7,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \Psi_k(n) &= \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{d^k \delta = n} \mu^2(d) \delta \\ &= \sum_{d^k \delta \leq x} \mu^2(d) \delta \\ &= \sum_{d^k \leq x} \mu^2(d) \sum_{\delta \leq x/d^k} \delta \\ &= \sum_{d \leq x^{1/k}} \mu^2(d) \left\{ \frac{1}{2} ([x/d^k]^2 + [x/d^k]) \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{d \leq x^{1/k}} \mu^2(d) \{x^2/d^{2k} + O(x/d^k)\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x^2 \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \mu^2(d)/d^{2k} + O(x^2 \sum_{d > x^{1/k}} d^{-2k}) + O(x \sum_{d \leq x^{1/k}} d^{-k}). \end{aligned}$$

The first  $O$ -term is  $O(x^{1/k})$  and the second  $O$ -term is  $O(x \log x)$  or  $O(x)$  according as  $k = 1$  or  $k \geq 2$ .

Hence (4.6) follows by (4.4).

**THEOREM 4.4.** *The average order of  $\psi_{(k)}(n)$  is  $n\zeta^k(2)/\zeta^k(4) = n(15/\pi^2)^k$ . More precisely,*

$$(4.7) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} \psi_{(k)}(n) = \frac{1}{2} x^2 \zeta^k(2)/\zeta^k(4) + O(x \log^k x).$$

To prove this theorem we need the following

**LEMMA.** *For  $h > 0$ ,*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} x n^{-1} \log^h(x n^{-1}) = O(x \log^{h+1} x).$$

**PROOF.** Since  $t \log^h t$  is an increasing function of  $t$ , we have, for  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$x n^{-1} \log^h(x n^{-1}) \leq \int_{n-1}^n x t^{-1} \log^h(x t^{-1}) dt.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{2 \leq n \leq x} xn^{-1} \log^h(xn^{-1}) &\leq \int_1^x xt^{-1} \log^h(xt^{-1}) dt \\ &= x \int_1^x u^{-1} \log^h u du \\ &= O(x \log^{h+1} x). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the lemma follows.

PROOF OF (4.7). We prove this by induction on  $k$ . It follows by (4.5) that (4.7) is true for  $k=1$ . Let  $k \geq 2$ . Assuming (4.7) for  $k-1$ , we prove it for  $k$ . By the induction assumption, we have

$$(4.8) \quad \sum_{n \leq x} \psi_{(k-1)}(n) = \frac{1}{2}x^2 \zeta^{k-1}(2) / \zeta^{k-1}(4) + O(x \log^{k-1} x).$$

By Theorem 3.10,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \psi_{(k)}(n) &= \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{d\delta=n} \mu^2(d) \psi_{(k-1)}(\delta) \\ &= \sum_{d\delta \leq x} \mu^2(d) \psi_{(k-1)}(\delta) \\ &= \sum_{d \leq x} \mu^2(d) \sum_{\delta \leq x/d} \psi_{(k-1)}(\delta), \end{aligned}$$

so that by (4.8),

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \psi_{(k)}(n) &= \sum_{d \leq x} \mu^2(d) \left\{ \frac{1}{2}x^2 d^{-2} \zeta^{k-1}(2) / \zeta^{k-1}(4) + O(xd^{-1} \log^{k-1}(xd^{-1})) \right\} \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{2}x^2 \zeta^{k-1}(2) / \zeta^{k-1}(4) \right) \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} d^{-2} \mu^2(d) + O(x^2 \sum_{d > x} d^{-2}) + \\ &\quad + O(\sum_{d \leq x} xd^{-1} \log^{k-1}(xd^{-1})). \end{aligned}$$

The first  $O$ -term is  $O(x)$  and the second  $O$ -term is  $O(x \log^k x)$ , by the above lemma. Hence by (4.4), it follows that (4.7) is true for  $k$ . Thus (4.7) is proved.

### 5. Two special properties.

In this section we establish two results of type (1.2).

THEOREM 5.1.  $\sum_{n \in L_2} \psi_k(n)^{-1} = \zeta(2k)$ , where  $L_2$  is the set of all 2-full integers.

PROOF. If  $a(n)$  is the characteristic function of  $L_2$  (that is,  $a(n) = 1$  or  $0$  according as  $n \in L_2$  or  $n \notin L_2$ ), then

$$\sum_{n \in L_2} \psi_k(n)^{-1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a(n) \psi_k(n)^{-1}.$$

This series is absolutely convergent by (4.1), and hence it may be expanded into an infinite product of Euler type (cf. [6, § 17.4]). By Corollary 3.1.1,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a(n)}{\psi_k(n)} &= \prod_p \left\{ \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{a(p^m)}{\psi_k(p^m)} \right\} = \prod_p \left\{ 1 + \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} \frac{p^{-mk}}{1 + p^{-k}} \right\} \\ &= \prod_p \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{1 + p^{-k}} \cdot \frac{p^{-2k}}{1 - p^{-k}} \right\} \\ &= \prod_p \left\{ \frac{1}{(1 - p^{-2k})} \right\} = \zeta(2k). \end{aligned}$$

Hence the theorem follows.

**THEOREM 5.2.**  $\sum_{n \in L_4} \psi_k(n)^{-1} = \zeta(4k)\zeta(6k)/\zeta(12k)$ , where  $L_4$  is the set of all 4-full integers.

**PROOF.** If  $b(n)$  is the characteristic function of  $L_4$ , then

$$\sum_{n \in L_4} \psi_k(n)^{-1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{b(n)}{\psi_k(n)}.$$

By the same reasoning as in Theorem 5.1,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{b(n)}{\psi_k(n)} &= \prod_p \left\{ \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{b(p^m)}{\psi_k(p^m)} \right\} \\ &= \prod_p \left\{ 1 + \sum_{m=4}^{\infty} \frac{p^{-mk}}{1 + p^{-k}} \right\} \\ &= \prod_p \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{1 + p^{-k}} \cdot \frac{p^{-4k}}{1 - p^{-k}} \right\} \\ &= \prod_p \left\{ \frac{1 - p^{-2k} + p^{-4k}}{1 - p^{-2k}} \right\} = \prod_p \left\{ \frac{1 + p^{-6k}}{1 - p^{-4k}} \right\} \\ &= \prod_p \left\{ \frac{1 - p^{-12k}}{(1 - p^{-4k})(1 - p^{-6k})} \right\} = \frac{\zeta(4k)\zeta(6k)}{\zeta(12k)}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the theorem follows.

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