

JOURNAL

de Théorie des Nombres

de BORDEAUX

anciennement Séminaire de Théorie des Nombres de Bordeaux

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Tome 28, n° 2 (2016), p. 523-538.

http://jtnb.cedram.org/item?id=JTNB_2016__28_2_523_0

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On Waring–Goldbach problem of mixed powers

par XIAODONG LÜ et QUANWU MU

RÉSUMÉ. Un nombre presque premier est un P_r s'il a au plus r facteurs premiers, comptés avec multiplicité. Dans cet article nous montrons que pour tout entier impair N suffisamment grand, l'équation

$$N = x^2 + p_1^3 + p_2^3 + p_3^3 + p_4^3 + p_5^6 + p_6^7$$

admet une solution avec x un nombre presque premier P_{42} et les autres termes étant des puissances de nombres premiers.

ABSTRACT. Let P_r denote an almost-prime with at most r prime factors, counted according to multiplicity. In this paper it is proved that for every sufficiently large odd integer N , the equation

$$N = x^2 + p_1^3 + p_2^3 + p_3^3 + p_4^3 + p_5^6 + p_6^7$$

is solvable with x being an almost-prime P_{42} and the other terms powers of primes.

1. Introduction

Let b, c and N be positive integers and define $H_{b,c}(N)$ to be the number of solutions of the diophantine equation

$$(1.1) \quad N = x_1^2 + x_2^3 + x_3^3 + x_4^3 + x_5^3 + x_6^b + x_7^c$$

in positive integers x_j . In 1981, C. Hooley [9] obtained an asymptotic formula for $H_{3,5}(N)$. From J. Brüdern's work [2] one can easily get the asymptotic formula for $H_{3,c}(N)$ [12]. Using a sort of pruning technique, Lu [12] established the asymptotic formula for $H_{4,k}(N)$ ($4 \leq k \leq 6$) and gave the lower bound estimates of the expected order of magnitude for $H_{4,k}(N)$ ($7 \leq k \leq 17$), $H_{5,j}(N)$ ($5 \leq j \leq 9$) and $H_{6,l}(N)$ ($6 \leq l \leq 7$). Motivated by [12], A. M. Dashkevich [5] got the asymptotic formula for $H_{6,8}(N)$.

Manuscrit reçu le 19 mai 2014, révisé le 28 février 2015, accepté le 15 avril 2015.

Mathematics Subject Classification. 11P32, 11N36.

Mots-clefs. Waring–Goldbach problem, circle method, sieve method, almost-prime.

This research is supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (grant Nos. 11201107, 11271283). The authors would like to express their thanks to the referee for many useful suggestions and comments on the manuscript.

In view of C. Hooley, Lu and A. M. Dashkevich's results, it is reasonable to conjecture that for every sufficiently large odd integer N the equation

$$(1.2) \quad N = p_1^2 + p_2^3 + p_3^3 + p_4^3 + p_5^3 + p_6^b + p_7^c \quad (3 \leq b \leq c)$$

is solvable, where and below the letter p , with or without subscript, always denotes a prime number. This conjecture is perhaps out of reach at present. However, motivated by [4], the sieve theory and the circle method enable us to obtain the following approximation to it.

Theorem 1.1. *Let b and c be positive integers such that*

$$\frac{5}{18} < \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \leq \frac{1}{3}.$$

For a sufficiently large odd integer N , let $R_{b,c}(N)$ denote the number of solutions of the equation

$$N = x^2 + p_2^3 + p_3^3 + p_4^3 + p_5^3 + p_6^b + p_7^c$$

with x being an almost-prime P_r and the other variables primes, where r is equal to $\lceil \frac{4}{3}(\frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} - \frac{5}{18})^{-1} \rceil$. Then we have

$$R_{b,c}(N) \gg \frac{N^{\frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} + \frac{13}{18}}}{\log^7 N}.$$

We only provide the proof for the case $b = 6$, $c = 7$ and $r = 42$. The other results can be deduced similarly.

2. Notation and auxiliary lemmas

In this paper, N denotes a sufficiently large odd integer. As usual, $\varphi(n)$ and $\mu(n)$ stand for the Euler totient function and the Möbius function respectively. Denote by $\tau_k(n)$ the k -dimensional divisor function and write $\tau(n) = \tau_2(n)$. By $p^\ell || m$ we mean that $p^\ell | m$ but $p^{\ell+1} \nmid m$. We use (m, n) to stand for the greatest common divisor of m and n . We always denote by χ a Dirichlet character $(\bmod q)$, and by χ_0 the principal Dirichlet character $(\bmod q)$. By $\sum_{\chi(q)}$ we denote a sum with χ running over the Dirichlet character $(\bmod q)$. For positive A and B , $A \asymp B$ stands for $A \ll B \ll A$. We denote by $\sum_{x(q)}$ and $\sum_{x(q)^*}$ sums with x running over a complete system and a reduced system of residues modulo q respectively. We write $e(\alpha) = e^{2\pi i \alpha}$. Let $a(m)$ and $b(n)$ be complex numbers with $|a(m)| \leq 1$, $|b(n)| \leq 1$. The letter ε denotes a sufficiently small positive number. c is some positive

constant. Put

$$A = 10^{10}, \quad Q_0 = (\log N)^{20A}, \quad Q_1 = N^{\frac{59}{126} + 30\varepsilon}, \quad Q_2 = N^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

$$Q_3 = N^{\frac{11}{21}}, \quad D = N^{\frac{1}{42} - 30\varepsilon}, \quad U_j = \frac{1}{j}N^{\frac{1}{j}}, \quad U_3^* = \frac{1}{3}N^{\frac{5}{18}},$$

$$f_2(\alpha, d) = \sum_{U_2 < d\ell \leq 2U_2} e\left(\alpha(d\ell)^2\right), \quad h(\alpha) = \sum_{m \leq D^{\frac{2}{3}}} a(m) \sum_{n \leq D^{\frac{1}{3}}} b(n)f_2(\alpha, mn),$$

$$f_j(\alpha) = \sum_{U_j < p \leq 2U_j} (\log p)e(\alpha p^j), \quad f_3^*(\alpha) = \sum_{U_3^* < p \leq 2U_3^*} (\log p)e(\alpha p^3),$$

$$S_k(q, a) = \sum_{r(q)} e\left(\frac{ar^k}{q}\right), \quad S_k^*(q, a) = \sum_{r(q)^*} e\left(\frac{ar^k}{q}\right),$$

$$G_j(\chi, a) = \sum_{r(q)} \chi(r)e\left(\frac{ar^j}{q}\right), \quad v_j(\beta) = \int_{U_j}^{2U_j} e(\beta u^j) du,$$

$$v_3^*(\beta) = \int_{U_3^*}^{2U_3^*} e(\beta u^3) du,$$

$$\mathfrak{J}(N) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} v_2(\theta)v_3(\theta)^2 v_3^*(\theta)^2 v_6(\theta)v_7(\theta)e(-\theta N) d\theta,$$

$$A_d(q, N) = \frac{1}{q\varphi(q)^6} \sum_{\substack{a=1, \\ (a, q)=1}}^q S_2(q, ad^2)S_3^*(q, a)^4 S_6^*(q, a)S_7^*(q, a)e\left(-\frac{aN}{q}\right),$$

$$\mathfrak{S}_d(N) = \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} A_d(q, N),$$

Let Q be some positive number satisfying $Q < \sqrt{N}/2$. We define the intervals

$$\mathfrak{M}(q, a, Q) = \left\{ \alpha \in (0, 1] : \left| q\alpha - a \right| \leq Q/N \right\},$$

denote by $\mathfrak{M}(Q)$ the union of all $\mathfrak{M}(q, a, Q)$ with $1 \leq a \leq q \leq Q$ and $(a, q) = 1$. Note that the intervals $\mathfrak{M}(q, a, Q)$, composing $\mathfrak{M}(Q)$, are mutually disjoint. Let $\mathfrak{B}(Q_1)$ be the union of all $\mathfrak{M}(q, a, N/Q_3)$ with $1 \leq a \leq q \leq Q_1$ and $(a, q) = 1$, and $\mathfrak{b}(Q_1) = (0, 1] \setminus \mathfrak{B}(Q_1)$.

Lemma 2.1. *For $\alpha \in \mathfrak{b}(Q_1)$, we have*

$$h(\alpha) \ll N^{\frac{67}{252} - 10\varepsilon}.$$

Proof. It follows from (4.5) in [3]. □

Lemma 2.2. For $(q, a) = 1$, we have

- (i) $S_k(q, a) \ll q^{1-\frac{1}{k}}$;
- (ii) $G_j(\chi, a) \ll q^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}$.

In particular, for $(p, a) = 1$ we have

- (iii) $|S_k(p, a)| \leq ((k, p - 1) - 1)p^{\frac{1}{2}}$;
- (iv) $|S_k^*(p, a)| \leq ((k, p - 1) - 1)p^{\frac{1}{2}} + 1$;
- (v) $S_k^*(p^\ell, a) = 0$ for $\ell \geq \gamma(p)$,

$$\text{where } \gamma(p) = \begin{cases} \theta + 2, & \text{if } p^\theta \parallel k, p \neq 2 \text{ or } p = 2, \theta = 0, \\ \theta + 3, & \text{if } p^\theta \parallel k, p = 2, \theta > 0. \end{cases}$$

Proof. For (i) and (iii)-(iv), see Theorem 4.2 and Lemma 4.3 of [14] respectively. For (ii) and (v), see Lemmas 8.5 and 8.3 of [10]. □

Lemma 2.3. Let $2 \leq k_1 \leq k_2 \leq \dots \leq k_s$ be natural numbers such that

$$\sum_{i=j+1}^s \frac{1}{k_i} \leq \frac{1}{k_j}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq s - 1.$$

Then we have

$$\int_0^1 \left| \prod_{i=1}^s f_{k_i}(\alpha) \right|^2 d\alpha \ll N^{\frac{1}{k_1} + \dots + \frac{1}{k_s} + \varepsilon}.$$

Proof. See Lemma 1 of J. Brüdern [1]. □

Lemma 2.4. We have

- (i) $\int_0^1 |f_3(\alpha) f_3^*(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll N^{\frac{8}{9} + \varepsilon}$,
- (ii) $\int_0^1 |f_3(\alpha) f_3^*(\alpha)|^4 d\alpha \ll N^{\frac{13}{9}} (\log N)^8$.

Proof. See Lemmas 2.2 and 2.4 of Cai [4]. □

For $\alpha = \frac{a}{q} + \beta$, define

$$(2.1) \quad \mathfrak{N}(q, a) = \left(\frac{a}{q} - \frac{1}{qQ_0^{\frac{1}{2}}}, \frac{a}{q} + \frac{1}{qQ_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right], \quad V_j(\alpha) = \frac{S_j^*(q, a)}{\varphi(q)} v_j(\beta),$$

$$V_3^*(\alpha) = \frac{S_3^*(q, a)}{\varphi(q)} v_3^*(\beta), \quad \Delta_6(\alpha) = f_6(\alpha) - \frac{S_6^*(q, a)}{\varphi(q)} \sum_{U_6 < n \leq 2U_6} e(\beta n^6)$$

and

$$V_2^*(\alpha) = \sum_{d < D} \frac{c(d)}{dq} S_2(q, ad^2) v_2(\beta),$$

where

$$c(d) = \sum_{\substack{mn=d \\ m \leq D^{2/3}, \\ n \leq D^{1/3}}} a(m)b(n) \ll \tau(d).$$

Lemma 2.5. *We have*

$$(i) \quad \sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} \sum_{\substack{a=-q \\ (a,q)=1}}^{2q} \int_{\mathfrak{N}(q,a)} |V_2^*(\alpha)\Delta_6(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll N^{\frac{1}{3}}(\log N)^{-100A},$$

$$(ii) \quad \sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} \sum_{\substack{a=-q \\ (a,q)=1}}^{2q} \int_{\mathfrak{N}(q,a)} |V_2^*(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \ll (\log N)^{11A}.$$

Proof. By Lemma 2.2 (i), the inequalities $(q, d^2) \leq (q, d)^2$, $\tau(d\ell) \leq \tau(d)\tau(\ell)$ and $\sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\tau(d)}{d} \ll (\log x)^2$, we get

$$(2.2) \quad V_2^*(\alpha) \ll \sum_{d \leq D} \frac{\tau(d)}{d} (q, d^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} q^{-\frac{1}{2}} |v_2(\beta)| \ll \tau_3(q) q^{-\frac{1}{2}} |v_2(\beta)| (\log N)^2.$$

Let

$$E(\chi) = \begin{cases} 1, & \chi = \chi_0, \\ 0, & \chi \neq \chi_0, \end{cases}$$

$$J_6(\chi, \beta) = \sum_{U_6 < p \leq 2U_6} \chi(p) e(\beta p^6) \log p - E(\chi) \sum_{U_6 < n \leq 2U_6} e(\beta n^6).$$

Then for $\alpha = \frac{a}{q} + \beta$, we have

$$(2.3) \quad \Delta_6(\alpha) = \frac{1}{\varphi(q)} \sum_{\chi(q)} G_6(\bar{\chi}, a) J_6(\chi, \beta) \ll q^{\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon} \max_{\chi(q)} |J_6(\chi, \beta)|,$$

where Lemma 2.2 (ii) is used.

From the standard estimate

$$(2.4) \quad v_j(\beta) \ll \frac{U_j}{1 + |\beta|N}$$

which follows from Lemma 4.2 in [13], and (2.2)–(2.3), we get

$$(2.5) \quad \sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} \sum_{\substack{a=-q \\ (a,q)=1}}^{2q} \int_{\mathfrak{N}(q,a)} |V_2^*(\alpha)\Delta_6(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha$$

$$\ll (\log N)^4 \sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} q^{4\varepsilon} \sum_{a(q)^*} \max_{\chi(q)} \int_{|\beta| \leq Q_0^{-\frac{1}{2}}} |v_2(\beta) J_6(\chi, \beta)|^2 d\beta$$

$$\ll (\log N)^4 \sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} q^{4\varepsilon} \sum_{a(q)^*} \max_{\chi(q)} \left(N \int_{|\beta| \leq \frac{1}{N}} |J_6(\chi, \beta)|^2 d\beta \right.$$

$$\left. + \max_{1 \leq Z \leq NQ_0^{-\frac{1}{2}}} (\log N) NZ^{-2} \int_{\frac{Z}{N} \leq |\beta| \leq \frac{2Z}{N}} |J_6(\chi, \beta)|^2 d\beta \right).$$

By Gallagher’s Lemma 1 in [7] and Siegel-Walfisz Theorem (see (4) in Chapter 22 of [6]), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.6) \quad & \int_{|\beta| \leq \frac{1}{N}} |J_6(\chi, \beta)|^2 d\beta \\
 & \ll \frac{1}{N^2} \int_2^N \left| \sum_{\substack{U_6 < p \leq 2U_6 \\ \theta < p^6 \leq \theta + \frac{N}{2}}} \chi(p) \log p - E(\chi) \sum_{\substack{U_6 < n \leq 2U_6 \\ \theta < n^6 \leq \theta + \frac{N}{2}}} 1 \right|^2 d\theta \\
 & \ll \frac{1}{N^2} NU_6^2 \cdot \exp(-\log^{\frac{1}{3}} N)
 \end{aligned}$$

and similarly,

$$(2.7) \quad \int_{\frac{Z}{N} \leq |\beta| \leq \frac{2Z}{N}} |J_6(\chi, \beta)|^2 d\beta \ll Z^2 N^{-\frac{2}{3}} \cdot \exp(-\log^{\frac{1}{3}} N).$$

It follows from (2.5)–(2.7) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.8) \quad & \sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} \sum_{\substack{a=-q \\ (a, q)=1}}^{2q} \int_{\mathfrak{N}(q, a)} |V_2^*(\alpha) \Delta_6(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \\
 & \ll (Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}})^{2+4\epsilon} (\log N)^5 N^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot \exp(-\log^{\frac{1}{3}} N) \\
 & \ll N^{\frac{1}{3}} (\log N)^{-100A}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This proves (i). By (2.2) and (2.4), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} \sum_{\substack{a=-q \\ (a, q)=1}}^{2q} \int_{\mathfrak{N}(q, a)} |V_2^*(\alpha)|^2 d\alpha \\
 & \ll (\log N)^4 \sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} q^{-1+\epsilon} \sum_{a(q)^*} \int_{|\beta| \leq Q_0^{-\frac{1}{2}}} |v_2(\beta)|^2 d\beta \\
 & \ll (\log N)^4 \sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} q^{-1+\epsilon} \sum_{a(q)^*} \left(N \int_{|\beta| \leq \frac{1}{N}} d\beta + N^{-1} \int_{\frac{1}{N} < |\beta| \leq Q_0^{-\frac{1}{2}}} |\beta|^{-2} d\beta \right) \\
 & \ll (\log N)^{11A}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The proof of Lemma 2.5 is completed. □

Lemma 2.6. For $\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}(Q_0)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_3(\alpha) &= V_3(\alpha) + O\left(U_3 \exp\left(-(\log N)^{\frac{1}{3}}\right)\right), \\ f_3^*(\alpha) &= V_3^*(\alpha) + O\left(U_3^* \exp\left(-(\log N)^{\frac{1}{3}}\right)\right), \\ f_7(\alpha) &= V_7(\alpha) + O\left(U_7 \exp\left(-(\log N)^{\frac{1}{3}}\right)\right). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. By some routine arrangements, it follows from Siegel-Walfisz Theorem and summation by parts. \square

3. A mean value theorem

In this section, we prove a mean value theorem for the proof of the theorem.

Lemma 3.1. Let

$$J_d(N) = \sum_{\substack{(dx)^2+p_1^3+\dots+p_4^3+p_5^6+p_6^7=N \\ U_2 < dx \leq 2U_2, U_3 < p_1, p_2 \leq 2U_3, \\ U_3^* < p_3, p_4 \leq 2U_3^*, U_6 < p_5 \leq 2U_6, \\ U_7 < p_6 \leq 2U_7}} \prod_{i=1}^6 \log p_i.$$

Then we have

$$\sum_{m \leq D^{2/3}} a(m) \sum_{n \leq D^{1/3}} b(n) \left(J_{mn}(N) - \frac{\mathfrak{S}_{mn}(N)}{mn} \mathfrak{J}(N) \right) \ll N^{\frac{65}{63}} (\log N)^{-A}.$$

Proof. It is easy to see that

$$\begin{aligned} (3.1) \quad & \sum_{m \leq D^{2/3}} a(m) \sum_{n \leq D^{1/3}} b(n) J_{mn}(N) \\ &= \int_0^1 h(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) d\alpha \\ &= \left(\int_{\mathfrak{b}(Q_1)} + \int_{\mathfrak{B}(Q_1)} \right) h(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) d\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

By Cauchy’s inequality, Lemmas 2.3 and 2.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (3.2) \quad & \int_0^1 \left| f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) \right| d\alpha \\ & \leq \left(\int_0^1 \left| f_3(\alpha) f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) \right|^2 d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^1 \left| f_3(\alpha) f_3^*(\alpha)^2 \right|^2 d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ & \leq \left(N^{\frac{9}{14} + \varepsilon + \frac{8}{9} + \varepsilon} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq N^{\frac{193}{252} + \varepsilon}, \end{aligned}$$

this with Lemma 2.1 gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.3) \quad & \int_{\mathfrak{b}(Q_1)} h(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\
 & \ll \max_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{b}(Q_1)} |h(\alpha)| \int_0^1 |f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha)| \, d\alpha \\
 & \ll N^{\frac{65}{63} - \varepsilon}.
 \end{aligned}$$

When $\alpha \in \mathfrak{B}(Q_1)$, using Theorem 4.1 of Vaughan [14] we can get

$$h(\alpha) - V_2^*(\alpha) \ll DQ_1^{\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon}.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.4) \quad & \int_{\mathfrak{B}(Q_1)} (h(\alpha) - V_2^*(\alpha)) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\
 & \ll DQ_1^{\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon} \int_0^1 |f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha)| \, d\alpha \ll N^{\frac{65}{63} - \varepsilon},
 \end{aligned}$$

where (3.2) is used.

We rewrite (3.4) in the form

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.5) \quad & \int_{\mathfrak{B}(Q_1)} h(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\
 & = \int_{\mathfrak{B}(Q_1)} V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha + O(N^{\frac{65}{63} - \varepsilon}) \\
 & = \left(\int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} + \int_{\mathfrak{B}(Q_1) \setminus \mathfrak{M}(U_7)} \right) V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\
 & \quad + O(N^{\frac{65}{63} - \varepsilon}).
 \end{aligned}$$

In the following, we will first prove that the second integral in the above brackets only gives a negligible contribution, and then show that the first integral in the above brackets yields the main term.

Let

$$\mathfrak{N} = \bigcup_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} \bigcup_{\substack{a=-q \\ (a, q)=1}}^{2q} \mathfrak{N}(q, a),$$

where $\mathfrak{N}(q, a)$ is defined by (2.1). Then we have

$$(3.6) \quad \mathfrak{B}(Q_1) \subset \left(-\frac{1}{Q_3}, 1 \right] \subset \mathfrak{N}.$$

Note that for $\alpha = \frac{q}{q} + \beta \in \mathfrak{B}(Q_1) \setminus \mathfrak{M}(U_7)$, one has

$$q \geq U_7 \quad \text{or} \quad |\beta| \geq \frac{U_7}{qN},$$

this with (2.2) and (2.4) yields

$$V_2^*(\alpha) \ll U_2 U_7^{-\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon}.$$

Thus, by Cauchy’s inequality and Hua’s inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (3.7) \quad & \int_{\mathfrak{B}(Q_1) \setminus \mathfrak{M}(U_7)} V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\ & \ll \max_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{B}(Q_1) \setminus \mathfrak{M}(U_7)} |V_2^*(\alpha)|^{\frac{1}{32}} \left(\int_{\mathfrak{B}(Q_1)} |V_2^*(\alpha)|^2 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{31}{64}} \\ & \quad \times \left(\int_0^1 |f_3(\alpha) f_3^*(\alpha)|^4 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^1 |f_6(\alpha)|^{128} \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{128}} \left(\int_0^1 |f_7(\alpha)|^{128} \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{128}} \\ & \ll (U_2 U_7^{-\frac{1}{2}+\varepsilon})^{\frac{1}{32}} U_6^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} \sum_{\substack{a=-q \\ (a,q)=1}}^{2q} \int_{\mathfrak{M}(q,a)} |V_2^*(\alpha)|^2 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{31}{64}} \\ & \quad \times \left(\int_0^1 |f_3(\alpha) f_3^*(\alpha)|^4 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^1 |f_6(\alpha)|^{64} \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{128}} \left(\int_0^1 |f_7(\alpha)|^{128} \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{128}} \\ & \ll (N^{\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{14}+\varepsilon})^{\frac{1}{32}} \cdot N^{\frac{1}{12}+\frac{13}{18}+\varepsilon} \cdot (N^{\frac{29}{3}+\varepsilon})^{\frac{1}{128}} \cdot (N^{\frac{121}{7}+\varepsilon})^{\frac{1}{128}} \\ & \ll N^{\frac{593}{576}+4\varepsilon} \ll N^{\frac{65}{63}-\varepsilon}. \end{aligned}$$

where Lemmas 2.4 and 2.5 (ii) are used.

It follows from [13, Lemma 4.8] that

$$\begin{aligned} (3.8) \quad & \int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\ & = \int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 V_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\ & \quad + \int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 \Delta_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\ & \quad + O\left(\int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} |V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_7(\alpha)| \, d\alpha \right). \end{aligned}$$

By Cauchy’s inequality, Lemmas 2.4 (ii) and 2.5, we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.9) \quad & \int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 \Delta_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\
 & \ll \max_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}(U_7)} |f_7(\alpha)| \left(\int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} |V_2^*(\alpha) \Delta_6(\alpha)|^2 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^1 |f_3(\alpha) f_3^*(\alpha)|^4 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
 & \ll N^{\frac{65}{63}} (\log N)^{-A}
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.10) \quad & \int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} |V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_7(\alpha)| \, d\alpha \\
 & \ll \max_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}(U_7)} |f_7(\alpha)| \left(\int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} |V_2^*(\alpha)|^2 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^1 |f_3(\alpha) f_3^*(\alpha)|^4 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
 & \ll N^{\frac{65}{63}} (\log N)^{-A}.
 \end{aligned}$$

By (3.8)–(3.10), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.11) \quad & \int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 f_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\
 & = \int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 V_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha + O(N^{\frac{65}{63}} (\log N)^{-A}) \\
 & = \left(\int_{\mathfrak{M}(Q_0)} + \int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7) \setminus \mathfrak{M}(Q_0)} \right) V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 V_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\
 & \quad + O(N^{\frac{65}{63}} (\log N)^{-A}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly to (3.6), we get

$$\mathfrak{M}(U_7) \subset \left(-\frac{U_7}{N}, 1 \right] \subset \mathfrak{N}.$$

For $\alpha = \frac{a}{q} + \beta \in \mathfrak{M}(U_7) \setminus \mathfrak{M}(Q_0)$, it is clear that

$$q \geq Q_0 \quad \text{or} \quad |\beta| \geq \frac{Q_0}{qN}.$$

Lemma 2.2 (ii) and (2.4), we have

$$V_6(\alpha) \ll U_6 Q_0^{-\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon}.$$

Hence by Lemmas 2.4 (ii) and 2.5 (ii), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.12) \quad & \int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7) \setminus \mathfrak{M}(Q_0)} V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 V_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\
 & \ll \max_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}(U_7) \setminus \mathfrak{M}(Q_0)} |V_6(\alpha)| U_7 \left(\int_{\mathfrak{M}(U_7)} |V_2^*(\alpha)|^2 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^1 |f_3(\alpha) f_3^*(\alpha)|^4 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
 & \ll (U_6 Q_0^{-\frac{1}{2} + \varepsilon}) U_7 \left(\sum_{1 \leq q \leq Q_0^{\frac{1}{2}}} \sum_{\substack{a=-q \\ (a,q)=1}}^{2q} \int_{\mathfrak{M}(q,a)} |V_2^*(\alpha)|^2 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
 & \quad \times \left(\int_0^1 |f_3(\alpha) f_3^*(\alpha)|^4 \, d\alpha \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
 & \ll N^{\frac{65}{63}} (\log N)^{-A}.
 \end{aligned}$$

For $\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}(Q_0)$, Lemma 2.6 implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 V_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. - V_2^*(\alpha) V_3(\alpha)^2 V_3^*(\alpha)^2 V_6(\alpha) V_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \right| \\
 & \ll \left(\max_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{M}(Q_0)} |V_2^*(\alpha)| \right) U_3^2 U_3^{*2} U_6 U_7 \exp(-(\log N)^{\frac{1}{3}}) \\
 & \ll N^{\frac{128}{63}} \exp(-(\log N)^{\frac{1}{4}}),
 \end{aligned}$$

where the trivial bound $|V_2^*(\alpha)| \ll U_2 \log^2 N$ which can be deduced from (2.2) and (2.4) is used. The above estimate gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.13) \quad & \int_{\mathfrak{M}(Q_0)} V_2^*(\alpha) f_3(\alpha)^2 f_3^*(\alpha)^2 V_6(\alpha) f_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\
 & = \int_{\mathfrak{M}_0} V_2^*(\alpha) V_3(\alpha)^2 V_3^*(\alpha)^2 V_6(\alpha) V_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha \\
 & \quad + O\left(\sum_{q \leq Q_0^5} \sum_{\substack{a=1 \\ (a,q)=1}}^q \int_{|\beta| \leq \frac{Q_0}{N}} N^{\frac{128}{63}} \exp(-(\log N)^{\frac{1}{4}}) \, d\alpha \right) \\
 & = \int_{\mathfrak{M}_0} V_2^*(\alpha) V_3(\alpha)^2 V_3^*(\alpha)^2 V_6(\alpha) V_7(\alpha) e(-\alpha N) \, d\alpha + O(N^{\frac{65}{63}} (\log N)^{-A}).
 \end{aligned}$$

Now the well-known standard endgame technique in the circle method establishes that

$$(3.14) \quad \int_{\mathfrak{M}_0} V_2^*(\alpha)V_3(\alpha)^2V_3^*(\alpha)^2V_6(\alpha)V_7(\alpha)e(-\alpha N) d\alpha \\ = \sum_{m \leq D^{2/3}} a(m) \sum_{n \leq D^{1/3}} b(n) \frac{\mathfrak{S}_{mn}(N)}{mn} \mathfrak{J}(N) + O(N^{\frac{65}{63}}(\log N)^{-A}),$$

and

$$(3.15) \quad N^{\frac{65}{63}} \ll \mathfrak{J}(N) \ll N^{\frac{65}{63}}.$$

From (3.1), (3.3), (3.5) and (3.7)–(3.15), we complete the proof of Lemma 3.1. □

4. On the function $\omega(d)$ and singular series $\mathfrak{S}_1(N)$

Lemma 4.1. *Let $K(q, N)$ and $L(q, N)$ denote the number of solutions to the congruences*

$$u_1^3 + u_2^3 + u_3^3 + u_4^3 + u_5^6 + u_6^7 \equiv N \pmod{q}, \\ 1 \leq u_j \leq q, (u_j, q) = 1, j = 1, \dots, 6$$

and

$$y^2 + u_1^3 + u_2^3 + u_3^3 + u_4^3 + u_5^6 + u_6^7 \equiv N \pmod{q}, \\ 1 \leq y, u_\ell \leq q, (u_\ell, q) = 1, \ell = 1, \dots, 6$$

respectively. Then we have $L(p, N) > K(p, N)$. Moreover, we have

$$(4.1) \quad L(p, N) = p^6 + O(p^5),$$

$$(4.2) \quad K(p, N) = p^5 + O(p^4).$$

Proof. Let $L^*(q, N)$ denote the number of solutions to the congruence $y^2 + u_1^3 + u_2^3 + u_3^3 + u_4^3 + u_5^6 + u_6^7 \equiv N \pmod{q}$, $1 \leq y, u_j \leq q$, $(yu_j, q) = 1$.

Then by the orthogonality of characters, we have

$$(4.3) \quad pL^*(p, N) = \sum_{a=1}^p S_2^*(p, a)S_3^{*4}(p, a)S_6^*(p, a)S_7^*(p, a)e_p(-aN) \\ = (p-1)^7 + E_p,$$

where

$$(4.4) \quad E_p = \sum_{a=1}^{p-1} S_2^*(p, a)S_3^{*4}(p, a)S_6^*(p, a)S_7^*(p, a)e_p(-aN).$$

By Lemma 2.2 (iv), we have

$$|E_p| \leq (p-1)(\sqrt{p}+1)(2\sqrt{p}+1)^4(5\sqrt{p}+1)(6\sqrt{p}+1).$$

It is easy to see that $|E_p| < (p-1)^7$ for $p \geq 23$, hence we have $L^*(p, N) > 0$. For $p = 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19$ we can verify by hand that $L^*(p, N) > 0$ and we have $L^*(p, N) > 0$ for every prime, and

$$(4.5) \quad L(p, N) = L^*(p, N) + K(p, N) > K(p, N).$$

By (4.3)–(4.4) we have

$$L^*(p, N) = p^6 + O(p^5)$$

and (4.1)–(4.2) follow from similar arguments. □

Lemma 4.2. *The series $\mathfrak{S}_1(N)$ is convergent and $\mathfrak{S}_1(N) > 0$.*

Proof. The convergence of $\mathfrak{S}_1(N)$ follows from Lemma 2.2 (i)–(ii) easily. Note the fact that $A_1(q, N)$ is multiplicative in q and by Lemma 2.2 (v), we have

$$(4.6) \quad \mathfrak{S}_1(N) = \prod_p (1 + A_1(p, N)).$$

By Lemma 2.2 (iii)–(iv), for $p \geq 1000$

$$|A_1(p, N)| \leq \frac{(p-1)\sqrt{p}(2\sqrt{p}+1)^4(5\sqrt{p}+1)(6\sqrt{p}+1)}{p(p-1)^6} \leq \frac{1000}{p^2}.$$

Thus,

$$(4.7) \quad \prod_{p \geq 1000} (1 + A_1(p, N)) \geq \prod_{p \geq 1000} (1 - \frac{1000}{p^2}) > c > 0.$$

It is easy to verify that

$$(4.8) \quad 1 + A_1(p, N) = \frac{L(p, N)}{(p-1)^6}.$$

Now by Lemma 4.1 and (4.6)–(4.8) we have $\mathfrak{S}_1(N) > 0$, and the proof of Lemma 4.2 is completed. □

Similar to (4.6), we have

$$(4.9) \quad \mathfrak{S}_d(N) = \prod_{p|d} (1 + A_d(p, N)) \prod_{p \nmid d} (1 + A_d(p, N)).$$

Define

$$\omega(d) = \frac{\mathfrak{S}_d(N)}{\mathfrak{S}_1(N)}.$$

It follows from the facts $S_k(q, ad^k) = S_k(q, a)$ for $(d, q) = 1$, $A_d(p, N) = A_p(p, N)$ for $p \mid d$, (4.6) and (4.9) that

$$(4.10) \quad \begin{aligned} \omega(p) &= \frac{1 + A_p(p, N)}{1 + A_1(p, N)}, \\ \omega(d) &= \prod_{p \parallel d} \omega(p). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, it is easy to show that

$$(4.11) \quad 1 + A_p(p, N) = \frac{pK(p, N)}{(p - 1)^6}.$$

From (4.8) and (4.11) we get

$$(4.12) \quad \omega(p) = \frac{pK(p, N)}{L(p, N)}.$$

It follows from (4.10), Lemma 4.1 and (4.12) that

Lemma 4.3. *The function $\omega(d)$ is multiplicative and*

$$0 \leq \omega(p) < p, \quad \omega(p) = 1 + O(p^{-1}).$$

5. Proof of Theorem

In this section, $f(s)$ denotes the classical function in the linear sieve theory, and γ denotes Euler’s constant. By (2.8) in [8] we have

$$(5.1) \quad f(s) = \frac{2e^\gamma \log(s - 1)}{s}, \quad 2 \leq s \leq 4.$$

In the proof of the theorem we adopt the following notations:

$$z = D^{\frac{1}{2.01}}, \quad \mathfrak{P} = \prod_{2 < p < z} p, \quad W(z) = \prod_{p < z} \left(1 - \frac{\omega(p)}{p}\right).$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{R}(N) &= \sum_{\substack{x^2 + p_1^3 + p_2^3 + p_3^3 + p_4^3 + p_5^6 + p_6^7 = N \\ (x, \mathfrak{P}) = 1, \quad U_2 < x \leq 2U_2, \\ U_3 < p_1, p_2 \leq 2U_3, \quad U_3^* < p_3, p_4 \leq 2U_3^* \\ U_6 < p_5 \leq 2U_6, \quad U_7 < p_6 \leq 2U_7}} \prod_{j=1}^6 \log p_j, \\ r(x) &= \sum_{\substack{x^2 + p_1^3 + \dots + p_4^3 + p_5^6 + p_6^7 = N \\ U_3 < p_1, p_2 \leq 2U_3, \quad U_3^* < p_3, p_4 \leq 2U_3^* \\ U_6 < p_5 \leq 2U_6, \quad U_7 < p_6 \leq 2U_7}} \prod_{j=1}^6 \log p_j. \end{aligned}$$

Then we have

$$(5.2) \quad R_{6,7}(N) \geq \frac{\mathfrak{R}(N)}{(\log N)^6} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathfrak{R}(N) = \sum_{\substack{U_2 < x \leq 2U_2 \\ (x, \mathfrak{P})=1}} r(x).$$

By [11, Lemma 9.1], Lemmas 4.3 and 3.1, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{R}(N) &> \mathfrak{S}_1(N)\mathfrak{J}(N)W(z) \left(f\left(\frac{\log D}{\log z}\right) + O\left((\log \log N)^{-1/50}\right) \right), \\ &= \mathfrak{S}_1(N)\mathfrak{J}(N)W(z) \left(f(2.01) + O\left((\log \log N)^{-1/50}\right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Mertens’ third Theorem and Lemma 4.3 imply that

$$(5.3) \quad \frac{1}{\log N} \ll W(z) \ll \frac{1}{\log N}.$$

Then by (5.2)–(5.3) we obtain

$$R_{6,7}(N) \gg \frac{\mathfrak{S}_1(N)\mathfrak{J}(N)}{(\log N)^7} \gg \frac{N^{\frac{65}{63}}}{(\log N)^7},$$

where Lemma 4.2 and (3.15) are used. This completes the proof of the Theorem.

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