

SUM OF SMALL ARITHMETIC FUNCTIONS IN A FLOOR FUNCTION SET

TRAIWAT INTARAWONG¹ and TEERAPAT SRICHAN^{2*} and BOONROD YUTTANAN³

ABSTRACT. In this paper, we derive asymptotic formulas for the summation of small arithmetic functions over a floor function set. Our results are obtained under assumptions on the size of the floor function set and its alignment with a given arithmetic progression.

Keywords. Floor function set, Small arithmetic function

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1. INTRODUCTION AND RESULTS

As usual, denote by $\tau(n)$ the divisor function, $\mu(n)$ the Möbius function, $\sigma(n)$ the sum-of-divisors function, $\beta(n)$ the alternative sum-of-divisors function, $\phi(n)$ the Euler totient function, $\Omega(n)$ the number of prime factors of n and $\Psi(n)$ the Dedekind function. Let $[t]$ be the integral part of the real number t . The study of sums of the form, for an arithmetic function f ,

$$\sum_{n \leq x} f\left(\left[\frac{x}{n}\right]\right), \quad (1.1)$$

is an intensive problem. It was first studied in [1] with f satisfying various conditions. Specifically, Bordellés-Dai-Heyman-Pan-Shparlinski [1, Corollary 2.4] showed that

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\phi\left(\left[\frac{x}{n}\right]\right)}{\left[\frac{x}{n}\right]} = x \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\phi(n)}{n^2(n+1)} + O(x^{1/2}). \quad (1.2)$$

Later, Wu [5] improved the error term in (1.2) to $O(x^{1/3} \log x)$. Subsequently, Stucky [4] generalized Wu's results by letting a class of functions f , when f is “close to one” in a suitable sense. In this approach, Stucky proved that

$$\sum_{n \leq x} f\left(\left[\frac{x}{n}\right]\right) = x \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f(n)}{n(n+1)} + O(x^{(1+\alpha)/(3-\alpha)} (\log x)^\theta), \quad (1.3)$$

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* Corresponding author

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where $f(n) = \sum_{d|n} g(d)$ such that $\sum_{d \leq x} |g(d)| \ll x^\alpha (\log x)^\theta$, for some $\alpha \in [0, 1)$, $\theta \geq 0$ and the implied constant depends only on α . In the case $\alpha = 0$, we can replace θ by $\max(1, \theta)$. Utilizing the following well-known results

$$\frac{\phi(n)}{n} = \sum_{d|n} \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{d \leq x} \left| \frac{\mu(d)}{d} \right| \leq \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{1}{d} \ll x^\epsilon,$$

in (1.3), Stucky enabled to show that

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\phi\left(\left\lfloor \frac{x}{n} \right\rfloor\right)}{\left\lfloor \frac{x}{n} \right\rfloor} = x \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\phi(n)}{n^2(n+1)} + O(x^{1/3+\epsilon}).$$

Recently, Heyman [2] introduced a set $S(x) := \{\lfloor \frac{x}{n} \rfloor : 1 \leq n \leq x\}$ called a floor function set and also studied the number of primes in such a set. Heyman proved that, as $x \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\sum_{\substack{p \leq x \\ \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } \lfloor \frac{x}{n} \rfloor = p}} 1 = \frac{4x^{1/2}}{\log x} + O\left(\frac{x^{1/2}}{(\log x)^2}\right). \quad (1.4)$$

Very recently, Rong and Wu [3] gave a better result of (1.4). They showed that, as $x \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\sum_{\substack{p \leq x \\ \exists n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } \lfloor \frac{x}{n} \rfloor = p}} 1 = \int_2^{x^{1/2}} \frac{dt}{\log t} + \int_2^{x^{1/2}} \frac{dt}{\log(x/t)} + O\left(\frac{x^{1/2} \exp(-c(\log x)^{3/5})}{(\log \log x)^{1/5}}\right),$$

where $c > 0$ is a positive constant. These results are rather interesting since $S(x)$ is a very sparse subset of $[1, x] \cap \mathbb{N}$. It seems natural and fascinating to study an analogue of (1.3). Namely, we shall derive the following sum

$$T_f(x) := \sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) f(n),$$

where $\mathbb{1}_{S(x)}$ is the characteristic function of the set $S(x)$ and

$$f(n) = \sum_{d|n} g(d) \text{ such that } \sum_{d \leq x} |g(d)| \ll x^\alpha (\log x)^\theta, \quad (1.5)$$

for some $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ and $\theta \geq 0$. Interestingly, Heyman [2] considered the set $S_d(x) := \{m \in S(x) : d \mid m\}$ for $d \leq x$ and assumed that

$$|S_d(x)| \sim \frac{2x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{d}. \quad (1.6)$$

Under the assumption (1.6), we can establish the next theorem.

Theorem 1.1. *Under the assumption (1.6), we have*

$$T_f(x) = 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d} + O\left(x^{(\alpha+1)/4} (\log x)^{3/2-3\alpha/2+\theta}\right),$$

where

$$f(n) = \sum_{d|n} g(d) \text{ such that } \sum_{d \leq x} |g(d)| \ll x^\alpha (\log x)^\theta,$$

for some $\alpha \in [0, 1)$ and $\theta \geq 0$.

Using the following well-known relations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sigma(n)}{n} &= \sum_{d|n} \frac{1}{d}, & \frac{\phi(n)}{n} &= \sum_{d|n} \frac{\mu(d)}{d}, \\ \frac{\beta(n)}{n} &= \sum_{d|n} \frac{(-1)^{\Omega(d)}}{d}, & \frac{\Psi(n)}{n} &= \sum_{d|n} \frac{\mu^2(d)}{d} \end{aligned}$$

with Theorem 1.1, we obtain the following results.

Corollary 1.2. *Under the assumption (1.6), we have*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \frac{\sigma(n)}{n} = 2\zeta(2)x^{1/2} + O(F(x)), \quad (1.7)$$

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \frac{\phi(n)}{n} = \frac{2}{\zeta(2)}x^{1/2} + O(F(x)), \quad (1.8)$$

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \frac{\beta(n)}{n} = \frac{2\zeta(4)}{\zeta(2)}x^{1/2} + O(F(x)), \quad (1.9)$$

and

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \frac{\Psi(n)}{n} = \frac{2\zeta(2)}{\zeta(4)}x^{1/2} + O(F(x)), \quad (1.10)$$

where $F(x) = x^{1/4}(\log x)^{5/2}$.

Proof. To prove (1.7)-(1.10), we set $f(n) = \frac{\sigma(n)}{n}, \frac{\phi(n)}{n}, \frac{\beta(n)}{n}$ and $\frac{\Psi(n)}{n}$, respectively. Then, we have $g(n) = \frac{1}{n}, \frac{\mu(n)}{n}, \frac{(-1)^{\Omega(n)}}{n}$ and $\frac{\mu^2(n)}{n}$, respectively and $\sum_{n \leq x} |g(n)| \ll \log x$. Thus, $\alpha = 0$ and $\theta = 1$. Then, the main term of (1.7)-(1.10) follows from the following Dirichlet series:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} &= \zeta(2), & \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(n)}{n^2} &= \frac{1}{\zeta(2)}, \\ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{\Omega(n)}}{n^2} &= \frac{\zeta(4)}{\zeta(2)}, & \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu^2(n)}{n^2} &= \frac{\zeta(2)}{\zeta(4)}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Moreover, we will extend this problem to include additional classes of arithmetic functions. In 2019, the following three categories of assumptions on g were

presented by the authors in [1]. Namely,

$$\text{Type I:} \quad |g(n)| \ll \tau_k(n) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}), \quad (1.11)$$

$$\text{Type II:} \quad |g(n)| \ll n^{\varphi-1} (\log(en))^{-A} \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, \varphi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}, A > 0), \quad (1.12)$$

$$\text{Type III:} \quad \sum_{n \leq x} |g(n)|^2 \ll x^\theta \quad (x \geq 1, n \in \mathbb{N}, 0 < \theta < 2). \quad (1.13)$$

Here, the asymptotic behaviour of a multiplicative function

$$h(n) := \sum_{d^2 | n} g(d)$$

will be examined where $g(d)$ is a multiplicative function satisfying (1.11)–(1.13) in the floor function set $S(x)$.

Theorem 1.3. *Let g be a multiplicative function satisfying (1.11). Under the assumption (1.6), we obtain*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) h(n) = 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} + O\left(x^{3/8} (\log x)^{k-1/4}\right).$$

Theorem 1.4. *Let φ be the Golden Ratio and g a multiplicative function satisfying (1.12). Under the assumption (1.6), we get*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) h(n) = 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} + O\left(x^{1/4+\varphi/8} (\log x)^{(6-3\varphi)/4}\right).$$

Theorem 1.5. *Let g be a multiplicative function satisfying (1.13). Under the assumption (1.6), we get*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) h(n) = 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} + O\left(x^{5/16+\theta/16} \log^{9/8-3\theta/8} x\right).$$

The proof of Theorems makes use of the following estimate, due originally to [6].

Lemma 1.6 ([6]). *Let q be an integer and x a positive real number such that $0 < q \leq x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x$. Then*

$$\sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{q}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) = \frac{2x^{1/2}}{q} + O\left(\frac{x^{1/3}}{q^{1/3}} \log x\right).$$

2. PROOFS

Proof of Theorem 1.1. For $x > 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
T_f(x) &= \sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) f(n) \\
&= \sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \sum_{d|n} g(d) \\
&= \sum_{d \leq x} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \\
&= \sum_{d \leq x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \\
&\quad + \sum_{x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x < d \leq x} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n). \tag{2.1}
\end{aligned}$$

We employ Lemma 1.6 to evaluate the first sum in (2.1). It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sum_{d \leq x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \\
&= \sum_{d \leq x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x} g(d) \left(\frac{2x^{1/2}}{d} + O\left(\frac{x^{1/3}}{d^{1/3}} \log x\right) \right) \\
&= 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d \leq x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x} \frac{g(d)}{d} \\
&\quad + O\left(x^{1/3} \log x \sum_{d \leq x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^{1/3}}\right) \\
&=: \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2.
\end{aligned}$$

From the assumption (1.5), we have the series $\sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d^s}$, is absolutely convergent for $\Re(s) > \alpha$. Then by the partial summation and (1.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{d \leq x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x} \frac{g(d)}{d} &= \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d} - \sum_{d > x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x} \frac{g(d)}{d} \\
&= \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d} + O\left(\sum_{d > x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d}\right) \\
&= \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d} + O\left(x^{(\alpha-1)/4} (\log x)^{3/2-3\alpha/2+\theta}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have

$$\Sigma_1 = 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d} + O\left(x^{(\alpha+1)/4} (\log x)^{3/2-3\alpha/2+\theta}\right).$$

Using (1.5) and the partial summation again, we have

$$\sum_{d \leq x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^{1/3}} \ll x^{-1/12+\alpha/4} (\log x)^{1/2-3\alpha/2+\theta}.$$

Thus, we have

$$\Sigma_2 = O\left(x^{(\alpha+1)/4} (\log x)^{3/2-3\alpha/2+\theta}\right).$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d \leq x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \\ = 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d} + O\left(x^{(\alpha+1)/4} (\log x)^{3/2-3\alpha/2+\theta}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

Next, the bound of the second sum is determined. Under the assumption (1.6), we have

$$\sum_{x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x < d \leq x} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) = O\left(x^{1/2} \sum_{x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x < d \leq x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d}\right).$$

Then by the partial summation and (1.5), we have

$$x^{1/2} \sum_{x^{1/4} \log^{-3/2} x < d \leq x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d} \ll x^{(\alpha+1)/4} (\log x)^{3/2-3\alpha/2+\theta}. \quad (2.3)$$

Then, the proof follows from (2.2) and (2.3). $\square$

Proof of Theorem 1.3. For $x > 1$, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) h(n) &= \sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \sum_{d^2 | n} g(d) \\ &= \sum_{d \leq x^{1/2}} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d^2}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \\ &= \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d^2}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \\ &\quad + \sum_{x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x < d \leq x^{1/2}} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d^2}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) \\ &=: A_1 + A_2. \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

Utilizing Lemma 1.6, we get

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} g(d) \left(\frac{2x^{1/2}}{d^2} + O\left(\frac{x^{1/3}}{d^{2/3}} \log x \right) \right) \\ &= 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} + O\left(x^{1/3} \log x \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^{2/3}} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

In view of the hypothesis (1.11) and the well-known formula

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \tau_k(n) \ll x \log^{k-1} x, \quad (2.6)$$

by the partial summation, we have

$$\sum_{d > x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^2} \ll \sum_{d > x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{\tau_k(d)}{d^2} \ll \frac{\log^{k-1} x}{x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} = \frac{\log^{k-1/4} x}{x^{1/8}}.$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} = \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} + O\left(\frac{\log^{k-1/4} x}{x^{1/8}} \right). \quad (2.7)$$

To bound the error term in (2.5), we use again (2.6) and the partial summation, we have

$$x^{1/3} \log x \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^{2/3}} \ll x^{3/8} \log^{k-1/4} x. \quad (2.8)$$

In view of (2.7) and (2.8), we have

$$A_1 = 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} + O\left(x^{3/8} \log^{k-1/4} x \right). \quad (2.9)$$

Next, we bound the second sum A_2 . Under the assumption (1.6), we have

$$A_2 \ll x^{1/2} \sum_{x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x < d \leq x^{1/2}} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^2} \ll x^{3/8} \log^{k-1/4} x. \quad (2.10)$$

Inserting (2.9) and (2.10) in to (2.4), Theorem 1.3 follows. $\square$

Proof of Theorem 1.4. By using the similar proof of Theorem 1.3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) h(n) &= 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} + O\left(x^{1/3} \log x \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^{2/3}} \right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x < d \leq x^{1/2}} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d^2}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n). \end{aligned}$$

Let φ be the Golden Ratio. Since $|g(n)| \ll n^{\varphi-1} (\log(en))^{-A}$, we have

$$\sum_{d \leq x} |g(d)| \ll x^{\varphi} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{d > x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^2} \ll x^{\varphi-2}.$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} g(d) \frac{2x^{1/2}}{d^2} = 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} + O\left(x^{1/4+\varphi/8} \log^{3/2-3\varphi/4} x\right). \quad (2.11)$$

Using again the partial summation with the hypothesis (1.12), we have

$$\begin{aligned} x^{1/3} \log x \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^{2/3}} &\ll x^{1/3} \log x \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{d^{\varphi-1}}{d^{2/3}} \\ &\ll x^{1/4+\varphi/8} \log^{3/2-3\varphi/4} x, \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

and under the assumption (1.6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x < d \leq x^{1/2}} g(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv 0 \pmod{d^2}}} \mathbb{1}_{S(x)}(n) &\ll x^{1/2} \sum_{x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x < d \leq x^{1/2}} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^2} \\ &\ll x^{1/4+\varphi/8} \log^{3/2-3\varphi/4} x. \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

Then, Theorem 1.4 follows from (2.11)–(2.13). $\square$

Proof of Theorem 1.5. Let $0 < \theta < 2$. By the Cauchy inequality and the hypothesis (1.13), we have

$$\sum_{d \leq x} |g(d)| \ll x^{(1+\theta)/2}. \quad (2.14)$$

By utilizing the partial summation, we get

$$\sum_{d > x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^2} \ll x^{(\theta-3)/2}. \quad (2.15)$$

In view of (2.15), we have

$$2x^{1/2} \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} = 2x^{1/2} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(d)}{d^2} + O\left(x^{5/16+\theta/16} \log^{9/8-3\theta/8} x\right). \quad (2.16)$$

Employing again the partial summation with the hypothesis (2.14), we obtain

$$x^{1/3} \log x \sum_{d \leq x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^{2/3}} \ll x^{5/16+\theta/16} \log^{9/8-3\theta/8} x \quad (2.17)$$

and under the assumption (1.6), we have

$$x^{1/2} \sum_{x^{1/8} \log^{-3/4} x < d \leq x^{1/2}} \frac{|g(d)|}{d^2} \ll x^{5/16+\theta/16} \log^{9/8-3\theta/8} x. \quad (2.18)$$

Then, Theorem 1.5 follows from (2.16)–(2.18). $\square$

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¹ DIVISION OF COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE, FACULTY OF SCIENCE, PRINCE OF SONGKLA UNIVERSITY, HAT YAI, SONGKHLA 90110, THAILAND
Email address: pootraiwat3@gmail.com

² DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, FACULTY OF SCIENCE, KASETSART UNIVERSITY, BANGKOK, 10900, THAILAND
Email address: fscitrp@ku.ac.th

³ DIVISION OF COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE, FACULTY OF SCIENCE, PRINCE OF SONGKLA UNIVERSITY, HAT YAI, SONGKHLA 90110, THAILAND
Email address: boonrod.y@psu.ac.th