

FLORENTIN SMARANDACHE  
**An Infinity Of Unsolved Problems  
Concerning A Function In The Number  
Theory**

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# AN INFINITY OF UNSOLVED PROBLEMS CONCERNING A FUNCTION IN THE NUMBER THEORY

## §1. Abstract.

W.Sierpinski has asserted to an international conference that if mankind lasted for ever and numbered the unsolved problems, then in the long run all these unsolved problems would be solved.

The purpose of our paper is that making an infinite number of unsolved problems to prove his supposition is not true. Moreover, the author considers the unsolved problems proposed in this paper can never be all solved!

Every period of time has its unsolved problems which were not previously recommended until recent progress. Number of new unsolved problems are exponentially increasing in comparison with ancient unsolved ones which are solved at present. Research into one unsolved problem may produce many new interesting problems. The reader is invited to exhibit his works about them.

## §2. Introduction

We have constructed (\*) a function  $\eta$  which associates to each non-null integer  $n$  the smallest positive integer  $m$  such that  $m!$  is multiple of  $n$ . Thus, if  $n$  has the standard form:  $n = \epsilon p_1^{a_1} \dots p_r^{a_r}$ , with all  $p_i$  distinct primes, all  $a_i \in N^*$ , and  $\epsilon = \pm 1$ , then  $\eta(n) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq r} \{\eta_{p_i}(a_i)\}$ , and  $\eta(\pm 1) = 0$ .

Now, we define the  $\eta_p$  functions: let  $p$  be a prime and  $a \in N^*$ ; then  $\eta_p(a)$  is a smallest positive integer  $b$  such that  $b!$  is a multiple of  $p^a$ . Constructing the sequence:

$$\alpha_k^{(p)} = \frac{p^k - 1}{p - 1}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

we have  $\eta_p(\alpha_k^{(p)}) = p^k$ , for all prime  $p$ , an all  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Because any  $a \in N^*$  is uniquely written in the form:

$$a = t_1 \alpha_{n_1}^{(p)} + \dots + t_l \alpha_{n_l}^{(p)}, \quad \text{where } n_1 > n_2 > \dots > n_l > 0,$$

and  $1 \leq t_j \leq p - 1$  for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, e - 1$  and  $1 \leq t_e \leq p$ , with all  $n_i, t_i$  from  $N$ , the author proved that

$$\eta_p(a) = \sum_{i=1}^e \eta_p(\alpha_{n_i}^{(p)}) = \sum_{i=1}^e t_i p^{n_i}.$$



#### §4. Glossary of Symbols and Notes

- A*-sequence: an integer sequence  $1 \leq a_1 < a_2 < \dots$  so that no  $a_i$  is the sum of distinct members of the sequence other than  $a_i$ ; (R. K. Guy);
- Average Order : if  $f(n)$  is an arithmetical function and  $g(n)$  is any simple function of  $n$  such that  $f(1) + \dots + f(n) - g(1) + \dots + g(n)$  we say that  $f(n)$  is of the average order of  $g(n)$ ;
- $d(x)$ : number of positive divisors of  $x$ ;
- $d_x$ : difference between two consecutive primes:  $p_{x+1} - p_x$ ;
- Dirichlet Series: a series of the form  $F(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n^s}$ ,  $s$  may be real or complex;
- Generating Function: any function  $F(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n u_n(s)$  is considered as a generating function of  $\alpha_n$ ; the most usual form of  $u_n(s)$  is:  $u_n(s) = e^{-\lambda_n s}$ , where  $\lambda_n$  is a sequence of positive numbers which increases steadily to infinity;
- Log* <sub>$e$</sub> : Napierian logarithm of  $x$ , to base  $e$ ;
- Normal Order:  $f(n)$  has the normal order  $F(n)$  if  $f(n)$  is approximately  $F(n)$  for almost all values of  $n$ , i.e. (2),  $(\forall)\epsilon > 0, (1 - \epsilon) \cdot F(n) < f(n) < (1 + \epsilon) \cdot F(n)$  for almost all values of  $n$ ; "almost all"  $n$  means that the numbers less than  $n$  which do not possess the property (2) is  $o(x)$ ;
- Lipshitz-Condition: a function  $f$  verifies the Lipshitz-condition of order  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$  if  $(\exists)k > 0 : |f(x) - f(y)| \leq k|x - y|^\alpha$ ; if  $\alpha = 1, f$  is called a  $k$  Lipshitz-function; if  $k < 1, f$  is called a contractant function;
- Multiplicative Function: a function  $f : N^* \rightarrow C$  for which  $f(1) = 2$ , and  $f(m \cdot n) = f(m) \cdot f(n)$  when  $(m, n) = 1$ ;
- $p(x)$ : largest prime factor of  $x$ ;
- Uniformly Distributed: a set of points in  $(a, b)$  is uniformly distributed if every sub-interval of  $(a, b)$  contains its proper quota of points;
- Incongruent Roots: two integers  $x, y$  which satisfy the congruence  $f(x) \equiv f(y) \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$  and so that  $x \not\equiv y \pmod{m}$ ;

$s$ -additive sequence:	a sequence of the form: $a_1 = \dots = a_s = 1$ and $a_{n+s+1} = a_{n+1} + \dots + a_{n+s}$ , $n \in N^*$ (R.Queneau);
$s(n)$ :	sum of aliquot parts (divisors of $n$ other than $n$ ) of $n$ ; $\sigma(n) - n$ ;
$s^k(n)$ :	$k^{\text{th}}$ iterate of $s(n)$ ;
$s^*(n)$ :	sum of unitary aliquot parts of $n$ ;
$r_k(n)$ :	least number of numbers not exceeding $n$ , which must contain a $k$ -term arithmetic progression;
$\pi(x)$ :	number of primes not exceeding $x$ ;
$\pi(x; a, b)$ :	number of primes not exceeding $x$ and congruent to $a$ modulo $b$ ;
$\sigma(n)$ :	sum of divisors of $n$ ; $\sigma_1(n)$ ;
$\sigma_k(n)$ :	sum of $k$ -th powers of divisors of $n$ ;
$\sigma^k(n)$ :	$k$ -th iterate of $\sigma(n)$ ;
$\sigma^*(n)$ :	sum of unitary divisors of $n$ ;
$\varphi(n)$ :	Euler's totient function; number of numbers not exceeding $n$ and prime to $n$ ;
$\varphi^k(n)$ :	$k$ -th iterate of $\varphi(n)$ ;
$\bar{\varphi}(n)$ :	$= n \prod (1 - p^{-1})$ , where the product is taken over the distinct prime divisors of $n$ ;
$\Omega(n)$ :	number of prime factors of $n$ , counting repetitions;
$\omega(n)$ :	number of distinct prime factors of $n$ , counting repetitions;
$\lfloor a \rfloor$ :	floor of $a$ ; greatest integer not great than $a$ ;
$(m, n)$ :	g.c.d. (greatest common divisor) of $m$ and $n$ ;
$[m, n]$ :	l.c.d. (least common multiple) of $m$ and $n$ ;
$ f $ :	modulus or absolute value of $f$ ;
$f(x) \rightarrow g(x)$ :	$f(x)/g(x) \rightarrow 1$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$ ; $f$ is asymptotic to $g$ ;

$f(x) = o(g(x)):$	$f(x)/g(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$ ;
$f(x) = O(g(x))$	there is a constant $c$ such that $ f(x)  < c \cdot g(x)$ to any $x$ ;
$f(x) \ll g(x)$	
$\Gamma(x):$	Euler's function of first case ( $\gamma$ function); $\Gamma: R^* \rightarrow R$ , $\Gamma(x) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^{x-1} dt$ . We have $\Gamma(x) = (x-1)!$
$\beta(x):$	Euler's function of second degree (beta function); $\beta: R_+^* \times R_+^* \rightarrow R$ , $\beta(u, v) = \Gamma(u)\Gamma(v)/\Gamma(u+v) = \int_0^1 t^{u-1} \cdot (1-t)^{v-1} dt$ ;
$\mu(x):$	Möbius' function; $\mu: N \rightarrow N$ , $\mu(1) = 1$ ; $\mu(n) = (-1)^k$ if $n$ is the product of $k > 1$ distinct primes; $\mu(n) = 0$ in all others cases;
$\theta(x):$	Tchebycheff $\theta$ -function; $\theta: R_+ \rightarrow R$ , $\theta(x) = \sum \log p$ , where the summation is taken over all primes $p$ not exceeding $x$ ;
$\Psi(x):$	Tchebycheff's $\Psi$ -function; $\Psi(x) = \sum_{n \leq x} \Lambda(n)$ , with $\Lambda(n) = \begin{cases} \log p, & \text{if } n \text{ is an integer power of the prime } p \\ 0, & \text{in all other cases.} \end{cases}$

This glossary can be continued with OTHER (ARITHMETICAL) FUNCTIONS.

### §5. General Unsolved Problems Concerning the Function $\eta$

- (1) Is there a closed expression for  $\eta(n)$ ?
- (2) Is there a good asymptotic expression for  $\eta(n)$ ? (If yes, find it.)
- (3) For a fixed non-null integer  $m$ , does  $\eta(n)$  divide  $n - m$ ? (Particularly when  $m = 1$ .) Of course, for  $m = 0$  it is trivial: we find  $n = k!$ , or  $n$  is squarefree, etc.
- (4) Is  $\eta$  an algebraic function? (If no, is there the *max Card*  $\{n \in Z^* | (\exists)p \in R[x, y], p$  non-null polynomial, with  $p(n, \eta(n)) = 0$  for all these  $n\}$ ?) More generally we introduce the notion:  $g$  is a *f-function* if  $f(x, g(x)) = 0$  for all  $x$ , and  $f \in R[x, y]$ ,  $f$  non-null. Is  $\eta$  a *f-function*? (If no, is there the *max Card*  $\{n \in Z^* | (\exists)f \in R[x, y], f$  non-null,  $f(n, \eta(n)) = 0$  for all these  $n\}$ ?)
- (5) Let  $A$  be a set of consecutive integers from  $N^*$ . Find *max Card*  $A$  for which  $\eta$  is monotonous. For example, *Card*  $A \geq 5$ , because for  $A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$   $\eta$  is 0, 2, 3, 4, 5, respectively.
- (6) A number is called an  $\eta$ -algebraic number of degree  $n \in N^*$  if it is a root of the polynomial

$$(p) \quad p_\eta(x) = \eta(n)x^n + \eta(n-1)x^{n-1} + \dots + \eta(1)x^1 = 0.$$

An  $\eta$ -algebraic field  $M$  is the aggregate of all numbers

$$R_\eta(\nu) = \frac{A(\nu)}{B(\nu)},$$

where  $\nu$  is a given  $\eta$ -algebraic number, and  $A(\nu), B(\nu)$  are polynomials in  $\nu$  of the form (p) with  $B(\nu) \neq 0$ . Study  $M$ .

(7) Are the points  $p_n = \eta(n)/n$  uniformly distributed in the interval  $(0, 1)$ ?

(8) Is  $0.0234537465114\dots$ , where the sequence of digits is  $\eta(n), n \geq 1$ , an irrational number?

\*

Is it possible to represent all integer  $n$  under the form:

(9)  $n = \pm\eta(a_1)^{a_2} \pm \eta(a_2)^{a_3} \pm \dots \pm \eta(a_k)^{a_1}$ , where the integers  $k, a_1, \dots, a_k$ , and the signs are conveniently chosen?

(10) But as  $n = \pm a_1^{\eta(a_1)} \pm \dots \pm a_k^{\eta(a_k)}$ ?

(11) But as  $n = \pm a_1^{\eta(a_2)} \pm a_2^{\eta(a_3)} \pm \dots \pm a_k^{\eta(a_1)}$ ?

Find the smallest  $k$  for which:  $(\forall)n \in N^*$  at least one of the numbers  $\eta(n), \eta(n+1), \dots, \eta(n+k-1)$  is:

(12) A perfect square.

(13) A divisor of  $k^n$ .

(14) A multiple of fixed nonzero integer  $p$ .

(15) A factorial of a positive integer.

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(16) Find a general form of the continued fraction expansion of  $\eta(n)/n$ , for all  $n \geq 2$ .

(17) Are there integers  $m, n, p, q$ , with  $m \neq n$  or  $p \neq q$ , for which:  $\eta(m) + \eta(m+1) + \dots + \eta(m+p) = \eta(n) + \eta(n+1) + \dots + \eta(n+q)$ ?

(18) Are there integers  $m, np, k$  with  $m \neq n$  and  $p > 0$ , such that:

$$\frac{\eta(m)^2 + \eta(m+1)^2 + \dots + \eta(m+p)^2}{\eta(n)^2 + \eta(n+1)^2 + \dots + \eta(n+p)^2} = k?$$

(19) How many primes have the form:

$$\overline{\eta(n) \eta(n+1) \dots \eta(n+k)},$$

for a fixed integer  $k$ ? For example:  $\overline{\eta(2) \eta(3)} = 23$ ,  $\overline{\eta(5) \eta(6)} = 53$  are primes.

(20) Prove that  $\eta(x^n) + \eta(y^n) = n(z^n)$  has an infinity of integer solutions, for any  $n \geq 1$ . Look, for example, at the solution (5, 7, 2048) when  $n = 3$ . (On Fermat's last theorem.) More generally: the diophantine equation  $\sum_{i=1}^k \eta(x_i^n) = \sum_{j=1}^m \eta(y_j^n)$  has an infinite number of solutions.

(21) Are there  $m, n, k$  non-null positive integers,  $m \neq 1 \neq n$ , for which  $\eta(m \cdot n) = m^k \cdot \eta(n)$ ? Clearly,  $\eta$  is not homogenous to degree  $k$ .

(22) Is it possible to find two distinct numbers  $k, n$  for which  $\log_{\eta(k^n)} \eta(n^k)$  be an integer? (The base is  $\eta(k^n)$ .)

(23) Let the congruence be:  $h_\eta(x) = c_n x^{\eta(n)} + \dots + c_1 x^{\eta(1)} \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ . How many incongruent roots has  $h_\eta$ , for some given constant integers  $n, c_1, \dots, c_n$ ?

(24) We know that  $e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n/n!$ . Calculate  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^{\eta(n)}/n!$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^n/\eta(n)!$  and eventually some of their properties.

(25) Find the average order of  $\eta(n)$ .

(26) Find some  $u_n(s)$  for which  $F(s)$  is a generating function of  $\eta(n)$ , and  $F(s)$  have at all a simple form. Particularly, calculate Dirichlet series  $F(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \eta(n)/n^s$ , with  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  (or  $s \in \mathbb{C}$ ).

(27) Does  $\eta(n)$  have a normal order?

(28) We know that Euler's constant is

$$\nu = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} - \log n\right).$$

Is  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [1 + \sum_{k=2}^n 1/\eta(k) - \log \eta(n)]$  a constant? If yes, find it.

(29) Is there an  $m$  for which  $\eta^{-1}(m) = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{pq}\}$  such that the numbers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{pq}$  can constitute a matrix of  $p$  rows and  $q$  columns with the sum of elements on each row and each column constant? Particularly when the matrix is square.

\*

(30) Let  $\{x_n^{(s)}\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a  $s$ -additive sequence. Is it possible to have  $\eta(x_n^{(s)}) = x_n^{(s)}$ ,  $n \neq m$ ? But  $x_{\eta(n)}^{(s)} = \eta(x_n^{(s)})$ ?

(31) Does  $\eta$  verify a Lipschitz Condition?

(32) Is  $\eta$  a  $k$ -Lipschitz Condition?

(33) Is  $\eta$  a contractant function?

(34) Is it possible to construct an  $A$ -sequence  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  such that  $\eta(a_1), \dots, \eta(a_n)$  is an  $A$ -sequence, too? Yes, for example 2, 3, 7, 31, ... Find such an infinite sequence.

\*

Find the greatest  $n$  such that: if  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  constitute a  $p$ -sequence then  $\eta(a_1), \dots, \eta(a_n)$  constitute a  $p$ -sequence too; where a  $p$ -sequence means:

- (35) Arithmetical progression.
- (36) Geometrical progression.
- (37) A complete system of modulo  $n$  residues.

Remark: let  $p$  be a prime, and  $p, p^2, \dots, p^p$  a geometrical progression, then  $\eta(p^i) = ip, i \in \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$ , constitute an arithmetical progression of length  $p$ . In this case  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

(38) Let's use the sequence  $a_n = \eta(n), n \geq 1$ . Is there a recurring relation of the form  $a_n = f(a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots)$  for any  $n$ ?

(39) Are there blocks of consecutive composite numbers  $m + 1, \dots, m + n$  such that  $\eta(m + 1), \dots, \eta(m + n)$  are composite numbers, too? Find the greatest  $n$ .

(40) Find the number of partitions of  $n$  as sum of  $\eta(m), 2 < m \leq n$ .

## MORE UNSOLVED GENERAL PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE FUNCTION $\eta$

### §6. Unsolved Problems Concerning the Function $\eta$ and Using the Number Sequences

41-2065) Are there non-null and non-prime integers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  in the relation  $P$ , so that  $\eta(a_1), \eta(a_2), \dots, \eta(a_n)$  are in the relation  $R$ ? Find the greatest  $n$  with this property. (Of course, all  $a_i$  are distinct). Where each  $P, R$  can represent one of the following number sequences:

- (1) Abundant numbers;  $a \in N$  is abundant if  $\sigma(a) > 2a$ .
- (2) Almost perfect numbers;  $a \in N, \sigma(a) = 2a - 1$ .
- (3) Amicable numbers; in this case we take  $n = 2; a, b$  are called amicable if  $a \neq b$  and  $\sigma(a) = \sigma(b) = a + b$ .
- (4) Augmented amicable numbers; in this case  $n = 2; a, b$  are called augmented amicable if  $\sigma(a) = \sigma(b) = a + b - 1$  (Walter E. Beck and Rudolph M. Najjar).
- (5) Bell numbers:  $b_n = \sum_{k=1}^n S(n, k)$ , where  $S(n, k)$  are Stirling numbers of second case.
- (6) Bernulli numbers (Jacques 1st):  $B_n$ , the coefficients of the development in integer sequence of

$$\frac{1}{e^t - 1} = 1 - \frac{t}{2} + \frac{B_1}{2!}t^2 - \frac{B_2}{4!}t^4 + \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{B_n}{(2n)!}t^{2n} + \dots,$$

for  $0 < |t| < 2\pi$ ; (here we always take  $\lfloor 1/B_n \rfloor$ ).

(7) Catalan numbers;  $C_1 = 1, C_n = \frac{1}{n} \binom{2n-1}{n-1}$  for  $n \geq 2$ .

(8) Carmichael numbers; an odd composite number  $a$ , which is a pseudoprime to base  $b$  for every  $b$  relatively prime to  $a$ , is called a Carmichael number.

(9) Congruent numbers; let  $n = 3$ , and the numbers  $a, b, c$ ; we must have  $a = b \pmod{c}$ .

(10) Cullen numbers:  $c_n = n * 2^n + 1, n \geq 0$ .

(11)  $C_1$ -sequence of integers; the author introduced a sequence  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  so that:

$$(\forall)i \in N^*, (\exists)j, k \in N^*, j \neq i \neq k \neq j, : a_i \equiv a_j \pmod{a_k}.$$

(12)  $C_2$ -sequence of integers; the author defined other sequence  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  so that:

$$(\forall)i \in N^*, (\exists)j, k \in N^*, i \neq j \neq k \neq i, : a_i \equiv a_k \pmod{a_j}.$$

(13) Deficient numbers;  $a \in N^*, \sigma(a) < 2a$ .

(14) Euler numbers: the coefficients  $E_n$  in the expansion of  $\sec x = \sum_{n \geq 0} E_n x^n / n!$ ; here we will take  $|E_n|$ .

(15) Fermat numbers:  $F_n = 2^{2^n} + 1, n \geq 0$ .

(16) Fibonacci numbers:  $f_1 = f_2 = 1, f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}, n \geq 3$ .

(17) Genocchi numbers:  $G_n = 2(2^{2^n} - 1)B_n$ , where  $B_n$  are Bernoulli numbers; always  $G_n \in Z$ .

(18) Harmonic mean; in this case every member of the sequence is the harmonic mean of the preceding members.

(19) Harmonic numbers; a number  $n$  is called harmonic if the harmonic mean of all divisors of  $n$  is an integer (C. Pomerance).

(20) Heteromeous numbers:  $h_n = n(n+1), n \in N^*$ .

(21)  $K$ -hyperperfect numbers;  $a$  is  $k$ -hyperperfect if  $a = 1 + \sum d_i$ , where the numeration is taken over all proper divisors,  $1 < d_i < a$ , or  $k\sigma(a) = (k+1)a + k - 1$  (Daniel Minoli and Robert Bear).

(22) Kurepa numbers:  $!n = 0! + 1! + 2! + \dots + (n-1)!$

(23) Lucas numbers:  $L_1 = 1, L_2 = 3, L_n = L_{n-1} + L_{n-2}, n \geq 3$ .

(24) Lucky numbers: from the natural numbers strike out all even numbers, leaving the odd numbers; apart from 1, the first remaining number is 3; strike out every third member in

the new sequence; the next member remaining is 7; strike out every seventh member in this sequence; next 9 remains; etc. (V.Gardiner, R.Lazarus, N.Metropolis, S.Ulam).

(25) Mersenne numbers:  $M_p = 2^p - 1$ .

(26)  $m$ -perfect numbers;  $a$  is  $m$ -perfect if  $\sigma^m(a) = 2a$  (D.Bode).

(27) Multiply perfect (or  $k$ -fold perfect) numbers;  $a$  is  $k$ -fold perfect if  $\sigma(a) = ka$ .

(28) Perfect numbers;  $a$  is perfect if  $\sigma(a) = 2a$ .

(29) Polygonal numbers (reperesented on the perimeter of a polygon):  $p_n^k = k(n-1)$ .

(30) Polygonal numbers (represented on the closed surface of a polygon):

$$p_n^k = \frac{(k-2)n^2 - (k-4)n}{2}.$$

(31) Primitive abundant numbers;  $a$  is a primitive abundant if it is abundant, but none of its proper divisors are.

(32) Primitive pseudoperfect numbers;  $a$  is primitive pseudoperfect if it is pseudoperfect, but none of its proper divisors are.

(33) Pseudoperfect numbers;  $a$  is pseudoperfect if it is equal to the sum of some of its proper divisors (W.Sierpinski).

(34) Pseudoprime numbers to base  $b$ ;  $a$  is pseudoprime to base  $b$  if  $a$  is an odd composite number for which  $b^{a-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{a}$  (C.Pomerance, J.L. Selfridge, S.Wagstaff).

(35) Pyramidal numbers:  $\pi_n = \frac{1}{6}n(n+1)(n+2)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ .

(36) Pythagorean numbers; let  $n = 3$  and  $a, b, c$  be integers; then one must have the relation:  $a^2 = b^2 + c^2$ .

(37) Quadratic residues of a fixed prime  $p$ : the nonzero number  $r$  for which the congruence  $r \equiv x^2 \pmod{p}$  has solutions.

(38) Quasi perfect numbers;  $a$  is quasi perfect if  $\sigma(a) = 2a + 1$ .

(39) Reduced amicable numbers; we take  $n = 2$ ; two integers  $a, b$  for which  $\sigma(a) = \sigma(b) = a + b + 1$  are called reduced amicable numbers (Walter E. Beck and Rudolph M. Najjar).

(40) Stirling numbers of first case:  $s(0,0) = 1$ , and  $s(n,k)$  is the coefficient of  $x^k$  from the development  $x(x-1)\dots(x-n+1)$ .

(41) Stirling numbers of second case:  $S(0,0) = 1$ , and  $S(n,k)$  is the coefficient of the polynomial  $x^{(k)} = x(x-1)\dots(x-k+1)$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , from the development (which is uniquely written):

$$x^n = \sum_{k=1}^n S(n,k)x^{(k)}.$$

(42) Superperfect numbers;  $a$  is superperfect if  $\sigma^2(a) = 2a$  (D.Surynarayana).

(43) Untouchable numbers;  $a$  is untouchable if  $s(x) = 1$  has no solution (Jack Alanen).

(44)  $U$ -numbers: starting from arbitrary  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  continue with those numbers which can be expressed in just one way as the sum of two distinct earlier members of the sequence (S.M.Ulam).

(45) Weird numbers;  $a$  is called weird if it is abundant but not pseudoperfect (S.J.Benkoeki).

## MORE NUMBER SEQUENCES

The unsolved problem No. 41 is obtained by taking  $P = (1)$  and  $R = (1)$ .

The unsolved problem No. 42 is obtained by taking  $P = (1), R = (2)$ .

.....  
The unsolved problem No. 2065 is obtained by taking  $p = (45), R = (45)$ .

## OTHER UNSOLVED PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE FUNCTION $\eta$ AND USING NUMBER SEQUENCES

### §7. Unsolved Diophantine Equations Concerning the Function $\eta$

2066) Let  $0 < k \leq 1$  be a rational number. Does the diophantine equation  $\eta(n)/n = k$  always have solutions? Find all  $k$  so that this equation has an infinite number of solutions. (For example, if  $k = 1/r, r \in N^*$ , then  $n = rp_{a+h}, h = 1, 2, \dots$ , all  $p_{a+h}$  are primes, and  $a$  is a chosen index such that  $p_{a+1} > r$ .)

2067) Let  $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  be a sequence,  $a_0 = 1, a_1 = 2$ , and  $a_{n+1} = a_{\eta(n)} + \eta(a_n)$ . Are there infinitely many pairs  $(m, n), m \neq n$ , for which  $a_m = a_n$ ? (For example:  $a_9 = a_{13} = 16$ .)

2068) Conjecture: the equation  $\eta(x) = \eta(x+1)$  has no solution.

Let  $m, n$  be fixed integers. Solve the diophantine equations:

2069)  $\eta(mx + n) = x$ .

2070)  $\eta(mx + n) = m + nx$ .

2071)  $\eta(mx + n) = x!$

2072)  $\eta(x^m) = x^n$ .

2073)  $\eta(x)^m = \eta(x^n)$ .

2074)  $\eta(mx + n) = \eta(x)^y$ .

- 2075)  $\eta(x) + y = x + \eta(y)$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are not primes.
- 2076)  $\eta(x) + \eta(y) = \eta(x + y)$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are not twin primes. (Generally,  $\eta$  is not additive.)
- 2077)  $\eta(x + y) = \eta(x) \cdot \eta(y)$ . (Generally,  $\eta$  is not an exponential function.)
- 2078)  $\eta(xy) = \eta(x)\eta(y)$ . (Generally,  $\eta$  is not a multiplicative function.)
- 2079)  $\eta(mx + n) = x^y$ .
- 2080)  $\eta(x)y = x\eta(y)$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are not primes.
- 2081)  $\eta(x)/y = x/\eta(y)$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are not primes. (Particularly when  $y = 2^k, k \in \mathbb{N}$ , i.e.,  $\eta(x)/2^k$  is a dyadic rational numbers.)
- 2082)  $\eta(x)^y = x^{\eta(y)}$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are not primes.
- 2083)  $\eta(x)^{\eta(y)} = \eta(x^y)$ .
- 2084)  $\eta(x^y) - \eta(z^w) = 1$ , with  $y \neq 1 \neq w$ . (On Catalan's problem.)
- 2085)  $\eta(x^y) = m, y \geq 2$ .
- 2086)  $\eta(x^x) = y^y$ . (A trivial solution:  $x = y = 2$ ).
- 2087)  $\eta(x^y) = y^x$ . (A trivial solution:  $x = y = 2$ ).
- 2088)  $\eta(x) = y!$  (An example:  $x = 9, y = 3$ .)
- 2089)  $\eta(mx) = m\eta(x), m \geq 2$ .
- 2090)  $m^{\eta(x)} + \eta(x)^n = m^n$ .
- 2091)  $\eta(x^2)/m \pm \eta(y^2)/n = 1$ .
- 2092)  $\eta(x_1^{y_1} + \dots + x_r^{y_r}) = \eta(x_1)^{y_1} + \dots + \eta(x_r)^{y_r}$ .
- 2093)  $\eta(x_1! + \dots + x_r!) = \eta(x_1)! + \dots + \eta(x_r)!$
- 2094)  $(x, y) = (\eta(x), \eta(y))$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are not primes.
- 2095)  $[x, y] = [\eta(x), \eta(y)]$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are not primes.
- .....

## OTHER UNSOLVED DIOPHANTINE EQUATIONS CONCERNING THE FUNCTION $\eta$ ONLY

### §8. Unsolved Diophantine Equations Concerning the Function $\eta$ in Correlation with Other Functions

Let  $m, n$  be fixed integers. Solve the diophantine equations:

2096-2102)  $\eta(x) = d(mx + n)$

$\eta(x)^m = d(x^n)$

$$\eta(x) + y = x + d(y)$$

$$\eta(x) \cdot y = x \cdot d(y)$$

$$\eta(x)/y = d(y)/x$$

$$\eta(x)^y = x^{d(y)}$$

$$\eta(x)^y = d(y)^x$$

2103-2221) Same equations as before, but we substitute the function  $d(x)$  with  $d_x, p(x), s(x), s^k(x), s^*(x), r_k(x), \pi(x), \pi(x; m, n), \sigma_k(x), \sigma^k(x), \sigma^*(x), \varphi(x), \varphi^k(x), \bar{\varphi}(x), \Omega(x), \omega(x)$  respectively.

$$2222) \eta(s(x), y) = s(\eta^x, \eta(y)).$$

$$2223) \eta(S(x), y) = S(\eta(x), \eta(y)).$$

$$2224) \eta(\lfloor x \rfloor) = \lfloor \Gamma(x) \rfloor.$$

$$2225) \eta(\lfloor x - y \rfloor) = \lfloor \beta(x, y) \rfloor.$$

$$2226) \beta(\eta(\lfloor x \rfloor), y) = \beta(x, \eta(\lfloor y \rfloor)).$$

$$2227) \eta(\lfloor \beta(x, y) \rfloor) = \lfloor \beta(\eta(\lfloor x \rfloor), \eta(\lfloor y \rfloor)) \rfloor.$$

$$2228) \mu(\eta(x)) = \mu(\varphi(x)).$$

$$2229) \eta(x) = \lfloor \Theta(x) \rfloor.$$

$$2230) \eta(x) = \lfloor \Psi(x) \rfloor.$$

$$2231) \eta(mx + n) = A_x^n = x(x-2) \dots (x-n+1).$$

$$2232) \eta(mx + n) = Ax^m.$$

$$2233) \eta(mx + n) = \binom{x}{n} = \frac{x!}{n!(x-n)!}.$$

$$2234) \eta(mx + n) = \binom{x}{m}.$$

$$2235) \eta(mx + n) = p_x = \text{the } x\text{-th prime.}$$

$$2236) \eta(mx + n) = \lfloor 1/B_x \rfloor.$$

$$2237) \eta(mx + n) = G_x.$$

$$2238) \eta(mx + n) = k_x = \binom{x+n-1}{n}.$$

$$2239) \eta(mx + n) = k_x^m.$$

$$2240) \eta(mx + n) = s(m, x).$$

$$2241) \eta(mx + n) = s(x, n).$$

$$2242) \eta(mx + n) = S(m, x).$$

$$2243) \eta(mx + n) = S(x, n).$$

$$2244) \eta(mx + n) = \pi_x.$$

$$2245) \eta(mx + n) = b_x.$$

$$2246) \eta(mx + n) = |E_x|.$$

$$2247) \eta(mx + n) = !x.$$

$$2248) \eta(x) \equiv \eta(y) \pmod{m}.$$

$$2249) \eta(xy) \equiv x \pmod{y}.$$

$$2250) \eta(x)(x + m) + \eta(y)(y + m) = \eta(z)(z + m).$$

$$2251) \eta(mx + n) = f_x.$$

$$2252) \eta(mx + n) = F_x.$$

$$2253) \eta(mx + n) = M_x.$$

$$2254) \eta(mx + n) = c_x.$$

$$2255) \eta(mx + n) = C_x.$$

$$2256) \eta(mx + n) = h_x.$$

$$2257) \eta(mx + n) = L_x.$$

More unsolved diophantine equations concerning the function  $\eta$  in correlation with other functions.

### §9. Unsolved Diophantine Equations Concerning The Function $\eta$ in Composition with Other Functions

$$2258) \eta(d(x)) = d(\eta(x)), x \text{ is not prime.}$$

2259-2275) Same equations as this, but we substitute the function  $d(x)$  with  $d_x, p(x), \dots, \omega(x)$  respectively.

.....  
More unsolved diophantine equations concerning the function  $\eta$  in composition with other functions. (For example:  $\eta(\pi(4(x))) = \varphi(\eta(\pi(x)))$ , etc.)

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### §10. Unsolved Diophantine Inequalities Concerning the Function $\eta$

Let  $m, n$  be fixed integers. Solve the following diophantine inequalities:

$$2276) \eta(x) \geq \eta(y).$$

2277) is  $0 < \{x/\eta(x)\} < \{\eta(x)/x\}$  infinitely often?

where  $\{a\}$  is the factorial part of  $a$ .

2278)  $\eta(mx + n) < d(x)$ .

2279-2300) Same (or similar) inequalities as this, but we substitute the function  $d(x)$  with  $d_x, p(x), \dots, \omega(x), \Gamma(x), \beta(x, x), \mu(x), \Theta(x), \Psi(x)$ , respectively.

.....  
More unsolved diophantine inequations concerning the function  $\eta$  in correlation (or composition, etc.) with other function. (For example:  $\Theta(\eta(\lfloor x \rfloor)) < \eta(\lfloor \Theta(x) \rfloor)$ , etc.)

\*

### §11. Arithmetic Functions Constructed by Means of the Function $\eta$

#### UNSOLVED PROBLEMS CONCERNING THESE NEW FUNCTIONS

I. The function  $S_\eta : N^* \rightarrow N, S_\eta(x) = \sum_{0 < n \leq x} \eta(n)$ .

2301) Is  $\sum_{x \geq 2} S_\eta(x)^{-1}$  a convergent series?

2302) Find the smallest  $k$  for which  $\underbrace{(S_\eta \circ \dots \circ S_\eta)}_{k \text{ times}}(m) \geq n$ , for  $m, n$  fixed integers.

2303-4602) Study  $S_\eta$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $S_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

II. The function  $C_\eta : N^* \rightarrow Q, C_\eta(x) = \frac{1}{x}(\eta(1) + \eta(2) + \dots + \eta(x))$  (sum of Cesaro concerning the function  $\eta$ ).

4603) Is  $\sum_{x \geq 1} C_\eta(x)^{-1}$  a convergent series?

4604) Find the smallest  $k$  for which  $\underbrace{(C_\eta \circ \dots \circ C_\eta)}_{k \text{ times}}(m) \geq n$ , for  $m, n$  fixed integers.

4605-6904) Study  $C_\eta$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $C_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

III. The function  $E_\eta : N^* \rightarrow N, E_\eta(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{k_0} \eta^{(k)}(x)$ , where  $\eta^{(1)} = \eta$  and  $\eta^{(k)} = \eta \circ \dots \circ \eta$  of  $k$  times, and  $k_0$  is the smallest integer  $k$  for which  $\eta^{(k+1)}(x) = \eta^{(k)}(x)$ .

6905) Is  $\sum_{x \geq 2} E_\eta(x)^{-1}$  a convergent series?

6906) Find the smallest  $x$  for which  $E_\eta(x) > m$ , where  $m$  is a fixed integer.

6907-9206) Study  $E_\eta$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $S_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

IV. The function  $F_\eta : N \setminus \{0, 1\} \rightarrow N, F_\eta = \sum_{\substack{0 < p \leq x \\ p \text{ prime}}} \eta_p(x).$

9207) Is  $\sum_{x \geq 2} F_\eta(x)^{-1}$  a convergent series?

9208-11507) Study the function  $F_\eta$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $F_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

V. The function  $\alpha_\eta : N^* \rightarrow N, \alpha_\eta(x) = \sum_{n=1}^x \beta(n)$ , where  $\beta(n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \eta(n) \text{ is even;} \\ 1, & \text{if } \eta(n) \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$

11508) Let  $n \in N^*$ . Find the smallest  $k$  for which  $\underbrace{(\alpha_\eta \circ \dots \circ \alpha_\eta)}_k(n) = 0$ .

11509-13808) Study  $\alpha_\eta$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $\alpha_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

VI. The function  $m_\eta : N^* \rightarrow N, m_\eta(j) = a_j, 1 \leq j \leq n$ , fixed integers, and  $m_\eta(n+1) = \min_i \{\eta(a_i + a_{n-i})\}$ , etc.

13809) Is  $\sum_{x \geq 1} m_\eta(x)^{-1}$  a convergent series?

13810-16109) Study  $m_\eta$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $m_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

VII. The function  $M_\eta : N^* \rightarrow N$ . A given finite positive integer sequence  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  is successively extended by:

$$M_\eta(n+1) = \max_j \{\eta(a_j + a_{n-j})\}, \text{ etc.}$$

$$M_\eta(j) = a_j, 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

16110) Is  $\sum_{x \geq 1} M_\eta(x)^{-1}$  a convergent series?

16111-18410) Study  $M_\eta$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $M_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

VIII. The function  $\eta_{\min}^{-1} : N \setminus \{1\} \rightarrow N, \eta_{\min}^{-1}(x) = \min\{\eta^{-1}(x)\}$  where  $\eta^{-1}(x) = \{a \in N \mid \eta(a) = x\}$ . For example  $\eta^{-1}(x) = \{2^4, 2^4 \cdot 3, 2^4 \cdot 3^2, 3^2 \cdot 2, 3^2 \cdot 2^2, 3^2 \cdot 2^3\}$ , whence  $\eta_{\min}^{-1}(6) = 9$ .

18411) Find the smallest  $k$  for which  $\underbrace{(\eta_{\min}^{-1} \circ \dots \circ \eta_{\min}^{-1})}_k(m) \geq n$ .

18412-20711) Study  $\eta_{\min}^{-1}$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $\eta_{\min}^{-1}$  as for  $\eta$ .

IX. The function  $\eta_{\text{card}}^{-1} : N \rightarrow N, \eta_{\text{card}}^{-1}(x) = \text{Card}\{\eta^{-1}(x)\}$ , where  $\text{Card}A$  means the number of elements of the set  $A$ .

20712) Find the smallest  $k$  for which  $\underbrace{(\eta_{\text{card}}^{-1} \circ \dots \circ \eta_{\text{card}}^{-1})}_k(m) \geq n$ , for  $m, n$  fixed integers.

20713-23012) Study  $\eta_{\text{card}}^{-1}$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $\eta_{\text{card}}^{-1}$  as for  $\eta$ .



25314) Find the smallest  $k$  for which  $\underbrace{(\omega_\eta \circ \dots \circ \omega_\eta)}_k(x) = 0$ , for a fixed integers  $x$ .

25315-27614) Study  $\omega_\eta$ . The same (or similar) <sup>k times</sup> questions for  $\omega_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

**XII.** The function  $M_\eta : N^* \rightarrow N$ ,  $M_\eta(x)$  is the number of  $m$ , with  $0 < m \leq x^k$ , so that  $\eta(m)$  is a multiple of  $x$ . For example  $M_\eta(3) = \text{Card}\{1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 27\} = 6$ . If  $p$  is a prime  $M_\eta(p) = \text{Card}\{1, a_2, \dots, a_r\}$ , then all  $a_i, 2 \leq i \leq r$ , are multiples of  $p$ .

27615) Let  $m, n$  be integer numbers. Find the smallest  $k$  for which  $\underbrace{(M_\eta \circ \dots \circ M_\eta)}_k(m) \geq n$ .

27616-29915) Study  $M_\eta$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $M_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

**XIII.** The function  $\sigma_\eta : N^* \rightarrow N$ ,  $\sigma_\eta(x) = \sum_{\substack{d|x \\ d > 0}} \eta(d)$ .

For example  $\sigma_\eta(18) = \eta(1) + \eta(2) + \eta(3) + \eta(6) + \eta(9) + \eta(18) = 20$ ,  $\sigma_\eta(9) = 9$ .

29916) Are there an infinity of nonprimes  $n$  so that  $\sigma_\eta(n) = n$ ?

29917-32216) Study  $\sigma_\eta$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $\sigma_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

**XIV.** The function  $\pi_\eta : N \rightarrow N$ ,  $\pi_\eta(x)$  is the number of numbers  $n$  so that  $\eta(n) \leq x$ . If  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_k \leq n < p_{k+1}$  is the primes sequence, and for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$  we have  $p_i^{a_i}$  divides  $n!$  but  $p_i^{a_i+1}$  does not divide  $n!$ , then:

$$\pi_\eta(n) = (a_1 + 1) \dots (a_k + 1).$$

32217-34516) Study  $\pi_\eta$ . The same (or similar) question for  $\pi_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

**XV.** The function  $\varphi_\eta : N^* \rightarrow N$ ,  $\varphi_\eta(x)$  is the number of  $m$ , with  $0 < m \leq x$ , having the property  $(\eta(m), x) = 1$ .

34517) Is always true that  $\varphi_\eta(x) < \varphi(x)$ ?

34518) Find  $x$  for which  $\varphi_\eta(x) \geq \varphi(x)$ .

34519) Find the smallest  $k$  so that  $\underbrace{(\varphi_\eta \circ \dots \circ \varphi_\eta)}_k(x) = 1$ , for a fixed integers  $x$ .

34520-36819) Study  $\varphi_\eta$ . The same (or similar) questions for  $\varphi_\eta$  as for  $\eta$ .

.....  
More unsolved problems concerning these 15 functions.

.....  
More new (arithmetic) functions constructed by means of the function  $\eta$ , and new unsolved problems concerning them.

36820  $\rightarrow \infty$ . We can continue these recurring sequences of unsolved problems in number theory to infinity. Thus, we construct an infinity of more new functions: Using the functions  $S_\eta, C_\eta, \dots, \varphi_\eta$  construct the functions  $f_{11}, f_{12}, \dots, f_{1n_1}$  (by varied combinations between  $S_\eta, C_\eta, \dots, \varphi_\eta$ ; for example:  $S_\eta^{(i+1)}(x) = \sum_{0 < n \leq x} S_\eta^{(i)}$  for all  $x \in N^*, S_\eta^{(i)} : N^* \rightarrow N$  for all  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , where  $S_\eta^{(0)} = S_\eta$ . Or:  $SC_\eta(x) = \frac{1}{x} \sum_{n=1}^x S_\eta(n)$ ,  $SC_\eta : N^* \rightarrow Q$ ,  $SC_\eta$  being a combination between  $S_\eta$  and  $C_\eta$ ; etc.); analogously by means of the functions  $f_{11}, f_{12}, \dots, f_{1n_1}$  we construct the functions  $f_{21}, f_{22}, \dots, f_{2n_2}$  etc. The method to obtain new functions continues to infinity. For each function we have at least 2300 unsolved problems, and we have an infinity of thus functions. The method can be represented in the following way:

$$\eta \xrightarrow{\text{produces}} S_\eta, C_\eta, \dots, \varphi \rightarrow f_{11}, f_{12}, \dots, f_{1n_1}$$

$$f_{11}, f_{12}, \dots, f_{1n_1} \rightarrow f_{21}, f_{22}, \dots, f_{2n_2}$$

$$f_{21}, f_{22}, \dots, f_{2n_2} \rightarrow f_{31}, f_{32}, \dots, f_{3n_3}$$

.....

$$f_{i1}, f_{i2}, \dots, f_{in_i} \rightarrow f_{i+1,1}, f_{i+1,2}, \dots, f_{i+1,n_{i+1}}$$

.....

\*

## §12. Conclusion

With this paper the author wants to prove that we can construct infinitely many unsolved problems, especially in number theory: you "rock and roll" the numbers until you create interesting scenarios! Some problems in this paper could effect the subsequent development of mathematics.

The world is in a general crisis. Do the unsolved problems really constitute a mathematical crisis, or contrary to that, do their absence lead to an intellectual stagnation? Making will always have problems to solve, they even must again solve previously solved problems (!) For example, this paper shows that people will be more and more overwhelmed by (open) unsolved problems. [It is easier to ask than to answer.]

Here, there are proposed (un)solved problems which are enough for ever!! Suppose you solve an infinite number of problems, there will always be an infinity of problems remaining. Do not assume those proposals are trivial and non-important, rather, they are very substantial.

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Florentin Smarandache,

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