SUMS OF $\omega(N)$ AND $\Omega(N)$ OVER THE K-FREE PARTS AND K-FULL PARTS OF SOME PARTICULAR SEQUENCES

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Received: , Revised: , Accepted: , Published:

Abstract

The k-free part of a positive integer n is the product of the prime powers dividing n that have exponent less than k in the factorization, while the k-full part of n is the product of the prime powers that have exponent at least k. We consider sums of the prime factor counting functions ω and Ω going over the k-free parts and k-full parts of some particular number sequences.

1. Introduction

For a positive integer with prime factorization

$$n = q_1^{s_1} \cdots q_r^{s_r}, \tag{1}$$

where the q_j are the prime factors and the $s_j \geq 1$ are their respective exponents, the prime factor counting functions are defined by $\omega(n) = r$ and $\Omega(n) = s_1 + \cdots + s_r$.

For $k \geq 1$, and n as above, let

$$L_k(n) = \prod_{\substack{1 \leq j \leq r \\ s_j < k}} q_j^{s_j} \qquad \text{and} \qquad U_k(n) = \prod_{\substack{1 \leq j \leq r \\ k \leq s_j}} q_j^{s_j}.$$

We say that $L_k(n)$ is the *k-free part* of n and that $U_k(n)$ is the *k-full part* of n. By convention, $L_1(n) = 1$, while naturally $U_1(n) = n$. Similarly, when $k > \max_j s_j$, we have $L_k(n) = n$ and $U_k(n) = 1$. We remark that $n = L_k(n)U_k(n)$ for any k and that $L_k(n)$ and $U_k(n)$ are coprime. The case of $k = 2$ was considered by Cloutier, De Koninck, and Doyon [2].

The aim of this article is to consider sums of ω and Ω composed with U_k and L_k evaluated in certain sequences of positive integer numbers.

To begin, we consider the evaluation in the whole sequence of positive integer numbers.

Theorem 1. *Let $k \geq 1$ be an integer. We have that*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \omega(U_k(n)) = \left(\sum_p \frac{1}{p^k} \right) x + O_k\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{\log x} \right), \tag{2}$$

and

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \Omega(U_k(n)) = \left(\sum_p \frac{1-k+kp}{p^{k+1}-p^k} \right) x + O_k\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{\log x} \right), \tag{3}$$

where the sums over p indicate that the sums are taken over all prime numbers.

For the rest of this article we will continue to use the convention that sums and products over p indicate over all the primes, unless stated otherwise.

Corollary 1. *Let $k \geq 1$ be an integer. We have that*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \omega(L_k(n)) = x \log\log x + \left(B_1 - \sum_p \frac{1}{p^k} \right) x + O\left(\frac{x}{\log x} \right), \tag{4}$$

where B_1 is the Mertens constant given by

$$B_1 = \gamma + \sum_p \left(\log\left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) + \frac{1}{p} \right), \tag{5}$$

and $\gamma = 0.57721\ldots$ is the Euler–Mascheroni constant.

We have that

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \Omega(L_k(n)) = x \log\log x + \left(B_2 - \sum_p \frac{1-k+kp}{p^{k+1}-p^k} \right) x + O\left(\frac{x}{\log x} \right), \tag{6}$$

where

$$B_2 = B_1 + \sum_p \frac{1}{p(p-1)}. \tag{7}$$

Let $h \geq 1$ be an integer. A positive integer n is said to be h-free if all its prime factors have exponents less than h. In other words, if n has prime factorization (1), then $s_j \leq h-1$ for all j. In particular, n is square-free if all $s_j = 1$. We denote by $\mathcal{S}_h$ the set of h-free positive integers.

We have the following result.

Theorem 2. *Let $h > k > 1$ be integers. Then we have*

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x}} \Omega(U_k(n)) = \frac{1}{\zeta(h)} D_{\Omega,k,h}x + O_h\left(x^{\frac{2k-1}{k^2}}\log\log x\right), \tag{8}$$

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x}} \omega(U_k(n)) = \frac{1}{\zeta(h)} D_{\omega,k,h}x + O_h\left(x^{\frac{2k-1}{k^2}}\log\log x\right). \tag{9}$$

where

$$D_{\Omega,k,h} = \sum_p \frac{h-1-(k-1)p^{h-k}-hp+kp^{h-k+1}}{(p-1)\left(p^h-1\right)}, \tag{10}$$

and

$$D_{\omega,k,h} = \sum_p \frac{p^{h-k}-1}{p^h-1}. \tag{11}$$

Corollary 2. *Let $h > k > 1$ be integers. Then we have*

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x}} \Omega(L_k(n)) = \frac{1}{\zeta(h)} x\log\log x + O(x), \tag{12}$$

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x}} \omega(L_k(n)) = \frac{1}{\zeta(h)} x\log\log x + O(x). \tag{13}$$

Let $h \ge 1$ be an integer. A positive integer n is said to be h-full if all its prime factors have exponents greater or equal than h. In other words, if n has prime factorization (1), then $s_j \ge h$ for all j. (This definition is trivial for $h = 1$.) We denote by $\mathcal{N}_h$ the set of h-full positive integers.

We prove the following estimates.

Theorem 3. *Let $k > h > 0$ be integers. Then we have*

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x}} \Omega(U_k(n)) = \gamma_{0,h} E_{\Omega,k,h} x^{\frac{1}{h}} + O\left(x^{\frac{1}{h}-\left(\frac{k}{h}-1\right)\frac{1}{k+2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}\log\log x\right), \tag{14}$$

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x}} \omega(U_k(n)) = \gamma_{0,h} E_{\omega,k,h} x^{\frac{1}{h}} + O\left(x^{\frac{1}{h}-\left(\frac{k}{h}-1\right)\frac{1}{k+2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}\log\log x\right), \tag{15}$$

where

$$\gamma_{0,h} = \prod_p \left(1 + \frac{p-p^{\frac{1}{h}}}{p^2\left(p^{\frac{1}{h}}-1\right)}\right), \tag{16}$$

$$E_{\Omega,k,h} = \sum_p \frac{kp^{\frac{1}{h}} - k + 1}{p^{\frac{k-h-1}{h}} \left(p^{\frac{1}{h}} - 1\right) \left(p^{1+\frac{1}{h}} + p^{\frac{1}{h}} - p\right)}, \tag{17}$$

and

$$E_{\omega,k,h} = \sum_p \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k-h-1}{h}} \left(p^{1+\frac{1}{h}} + p^{\frac{1}{h}} - p\right)}. \tag{18}$$

Corollary 3. *Let $k > h > 0$ be integers. The following formula holds:*

$$\sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}_h \\ n \leq x}} \Omega(L_k(n)) = h\gamma_{0,h} x^{\frac{1}{h}} \log\log x + \gamma_{0,h} \left(C_{\Omega,h} - E_{\omega,k,h}\right) x^{\frac{1}{h}} + O_h\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{h}}}{\sqrt{\log x}}\right), \tag{19}$$

where

$$C_{\Omega,h} = h(B_2 - \log h) + \sum_p \frac{(h+1)p^{1+\frac{1}{h}} - hp - 2hp^{\frac{2}{h}} + (2h-1)p^{\frac{1}{h}}}{(p-1)\left(p^{\frac{1}{h}} - 1\right)\left(p^{1+\frac{1}{h}} + p^{\frac{1}{h}} - p\right)}. \tag{20}$$

Corollary 3 is deduced from an estimate for the first moment of $\Omega(n)$ over h-full numbers that was computed in [8, Theorem 2]. It would be interesting to obtain an analogous result for $\omega(n)$. To do this, we would need to use different techniques than the ones employed in the proof of [8, Theorem 2], which rely in the total multiplicativity of $\Omega(n)$. See [9, Section 6] for a discussion of this issue in the function field case.

This article is organized as follows. Section 2 includes the proof of Theorem 1 and Corollary 1 by elementary counting, as well as a corollary considering the sum going over h-powers. Theorem 2 is proven in Section 3. This is achieved by counting first the h-free integers that are coprime to certain fixed number. Corollary 2 is obtained as a consequence of known results for the count over all h-free numbers. Finally, Section 4 contains a proof of Theorem 3, which follows from counting integers that are simultaneously h-free and k-full, while Corollary 3 is obtained as a consequence of known results for the count over all h-full numbers.

2. Sums over integers

In this section we prove Theorem 1. We start by recalling the following results involving sums of primes.

Lemma 1. *[1, Lemma 1.2] If $s > 1$,*

$$\sum_{p \geq x} \frac{1}{p^s} = \frac{1}{(s-1)x^{s-1}\log x} + O\left(\frac{1}{x^{s-1}\log^2 x}\right).$$

Lemma 2. *[1, Lemma 1.4] If $r, s \geq 0$,*

$$\sum_{p\leq x} \frac{p^s}{\log^r p} = \frac{x^{s+1}}{(s+1)\log^{r+1} x} + O\left(\frac{x^{s+1}}{\log^{r+2} x}\right).$$

Proof of Theorem 1. We consider Equation (2). Notice that summing over all the numbers of the form $\omega(U_k(n))$ is equivalent to counting the number of powers $p^\ell \leq x$ such that $\ell \geq k$, and each power must be counted with multiplicity equal to the number of $n \leq x$ such that $p^\ell \mid n$. But this is equivalent to counting the multiples of p^k that are less than or equal to x. In other words, we have

$$\sum_{n\leq x} \omega(U_k(n)) = \sum_{p^k\leq x} \left\lfloor \frac{x}{p^k} \right\rfloor = \sum_{p\leq x^{\frac{1}{k}}} \frac{x}{p^k} - \sum_{p\leq x^{\frac{1}{k}}} \left\{ \frac{x}{p^k} \right\}.$$

Applying the Prime Number Theorem as well as Lemma 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n\leq x} \omega(U_k(n)) =& x\sum_{p} \frac{1}{p^k} - x\sum_{p>x^{\frac{1}{k}}} \frac{1}{p^k} + O_k\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{\log x}\right)\\ =& x\sum_{p} \frac{1}{p^k} + O_k\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{\log x}\right).\end{aligned}$$

Equation (3) is proven similarly. Summing over all the numbers of the form $\Omega(U_k(n))$ is equivalent to counting the number of powers $p^\ell \leq x$ such that $\ell \geq k$, and each power must be counted with multiplicity equal to the number of $n \leq x$ such that $p^\ell \mid n$ but $p^{\ell+1} \nmid n$, multiplied by ℓ. Set $t = \lfloor \log_p x \rfloor$. We have

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n\leq x} \Omega(U_k(n)) &= \sum_{p^k\leq x} \sum_{\ell=k}^{t} \ell \left(\left\lfloor \frac{x}{p^\ell} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{x}{p^{\ell+1}} \right\rfloor \right)\\ &= \sum_{p^k\leq x} \left(k\left\lfloor \frac{x}{p^k} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{x}{p^{k+1}} \right\rfloor + \cdots + \left\lfloor \frac{x}{p^t} \right\rfloor \right)\\ &= x\sum_{p^k\leq x} \left(\frac{k}{p^k} + \frac{1}{p^{k+1}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{p^t} \right)\\ &\quad - \sum_{p^k\leq x} \left(k\left\{ \frac{x}{p^k} \right\} + \left\{ \frac{x}{p^{k+1}} \right\} + \cdots + \left\{ \frac{x}{p^t} \right\} \right)\\ &= x\sum_{p^k\leq x} \left(\frac{\frac{1}{p^{k+1}} - \frac{1}{p^{t+1}}}{1-\frac{1}{p}} + \frac{k}{p^k} \right) + O\left(\sum_{p\leq x^{\frac{1}{k}}} t \right)\\ &= x\sum_{p^k\leq x} \frac{\frac{1-k}{p^{k+1}} - \frac{1}{p^{t+1}} + \frac{k}{p^k}}{1-\frac{1}{p}} + O\left(\log x \sum_{p\leq x^{\frac{1}{k}}} \frac{1}{\log p} \right).\end{aligned}$$

Now we use the Prime Number Theorem to estimate

$$x\sum_{p^k\le x}\frac{1}{p^{t+1}(1-\frac{1}{p})}\ll x\sum_{p\le x^{\frac{1}{k}}}\frac{1}{x}\ll_k\frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{\log x}.$$

By applying the above estimate as well as Lemmas 1 and 2 (with $r=1, s=0$), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n\le x}\Omega(U_k(n)) =& x\sum_{p}\frac{\frac{1-k}{p^{k+1}}+\frac{k}{p^k}}{1-\frac{1}{p}}-x\sum_{p>x^{\frac{1}{k}}}\frac{\frac{1-k}{p^{k+1}}+\frac{k}{p^k}}{1-\frac{1}{p}}+O_k\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{\log x}\right)\\ =& x\sum_{p}\frac{1-k+kp}{p^{k+1}-p^k}+O_k\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{\log x}\right).\end{aligned}$$

This concludes the proof of Theorem 1. □

Proof of Corollary 1. To prove Equations (4) and (6) we use the well-known identities [5, Theorem 430] and [4, Section 1.4.4]) for $x\ge 2$:

$$\sum_{n\le x}\omega(n) = x\log\log x+B_1x+O\left(\frac{x}{\log x}\right), \tag{21}$$

$$\sum_{n\le x}\Omega(n) = x\log\log x+B_2x+O\left(\frac{x}{\log x}\right), \tag{22}$$

where B_1 and B_2 are given by Equations (5) and (7) respectively.

Notice that $\Omega(n)=\Omega(L_k(n))+\Omega(U_k(n))$ and, since $L_k(n)$ and $U_k(n)$ are coprime, $\omega(n)=\omega(L_k(n))+\omega(U_k(n))$ as well. Combining Equations (2) and (3) with Equations (21) and (22), we get Equations (4) and (6).

□

A perfect power is a number of the form n^h, where $h\ge 2$ and n are positive integers. We can immediately deduce the following result from Theorem 1.

Corollary 4. *Let $k\ge 2$ be an integer. The following formulas hold:*

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n^h\le x}\Omega(U_k(n^h)) =& h\left(\sum_{p}\frac{1-k+kp}{p^{k+1}-p^k}\right)x^{\frac{1}{h}}+O_{k,h}\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{hk}}}{\log x}\right),\\ \sum_{n^h\le x}\omega(U_k(n^h)) =& \left(\sum_{p}\frac{1}{p^k}\right)x^{\frac{1}{h}}+O_{k,h}\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{hk}}}{\log x}\right).\end{aligned}$$

In addition, the following formulas hold:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{n^h\le x}\Omega(L_k(n^h)) =& hx^{\frac{1}{h}}\log\log x + h\left(B_2 - \log h - \sum_p \frac{1-k+kp}{p^{k+1}-p^k}\right)x^{\frac{1}{h}}\\ &+ O_h\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{h}}}{\log x}\right),\\ \sum_{n^h\le x}\omega(L_k(n^h)) =& x^{\frac{1}{h}}\log\log x + \left(B_1 - \log h - \sum_p \frac{1}{p^k}\right)x^{\frac{1}{h}} + O_h\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{h}}}{\log x}\right).\end{aligned}$$

Let $\omega_k(n)$ be the number of primes with exponent k in the prime factorization of n.

Corollary 5. *Let $k \ge 1$ be an integer. We have the asymptotic formula*

$$\sum_{n\le x}\omega_k(n) = \left(\sum_p \frac{p-1}{p^{k+1}}\right)x + O_k\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{\log x}\right).$$

This recovers a result of Elma and Liu [3], who also studied the second moment of ω_k.

Proof. By Equation (2), we have

$$\sum_{n\le x}\omega_k(n) = \sum_{n\le x}\omega(U_k(n)) - \omega(U_{k+1}(n)) = x\left(\sum_p \frac{1}{p^k} - \sum_p \frac{1}{p^{k+1}}\right) + O_k\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{\log x}\right),$$

and the result follows. □

Remark 1. It is interesting to consider the quotient of the sums appearing in Equations (2) and (3). We get

$$\frac{\sum_{n\le x}\Omega(U_k(n))}{\sum_{n\le x}\omega(U_k(n))} \to \frac{\sum_p \frac{1-k+kp}{p^{k+1}-p^k}}{\sum_p \frac{1}{p^k}}. \tag{23}$$

Since we have that

$$\frac{k}{p^k} = \frac{k(p-1)}{p^k(p-1)} < \frac{kp-(k-1)}{p^k(p-1)} \le \frac{(k+1)(p-1)}{p^k(p-1)} = \frac{k+1}{p^k},$$

and the second inequality is strict for $p > 2$, we conclude that the limit (23) belongs to the interval $(k, k+1)$.

Remark 2. The constants appearing in Equations (2) and (3) can also be expressed as

$$\sum_p \frac{1}{p^k} = \frac{1}{\zeta(k)}\sum_{U\in\mathcal{N}_k}\prod_{q|U}\left(\frac{q^k-q^{k-1}}{q^k-1}\right)\frac{\omega(U)}{U} \tag{24}$$

and

$$\sum_p \frac{1-k+kp}{p^{k+1}-p^k} = \frac{1}{\zeta(k)} \sum_{U\in\mathcal{N}_k} \prod_{p|n} \left(\frac{q^k-q^{k-1}}{q^k-1}\right) \frac{\Omega(U)}{U}. \tag{25}$$

This can be seen by working with the generating functions, in a method that will be employed to find the constants in Theorems 2 and 3. In fact, Equations (24) and (25) can be obtained from $D_{\omega,k,h}$ and Equation (30) as well as $D_{\Omega,k,h}$ and Equation (29) by letting $h\to\infty$ and therefore removing the condition h-free.

3. Sums over h-free numbers

In this section we prove Theorem 2. We start with the following estimate for the number of k-free positive integers that are not divisible by some fixed primes.

Lemma 3. *Let $q_1,\ldots,q_r$ be prime numbers, and let $\mathfrak{Q}_{k,q_1\cdots q_r}(x)$ be the number of k-free positive integers not exceeding x such that they are relatively prime to $q_1\cdots q_r$. The following formula holds:*

$$\mathfrak{Q}_{k,q_1\cdots q_r}(x) = \frac{1}{\zeta(k)} \prod_{j=1}^{r} \frac{\left(1-\frac{1}{q_j}\right)}{\left(1-\frac{1}{q_j^k}\right)} x + O_k\left(2^r x^{\frac{1}{k}}\right).$$

We remark that the above formula generalizes the classical estimate giving

$$Q_k(x) = \frac{x}{\zeta(k)} + O\left(x^{\frac{1}{k}}\right),$$

where $Q_k(x)$ is the number of k-free numbers not exceeding x.

Proof. Consider the modified Möbius function defined as

$$\mu_{q_1\cdots q_r}(d) = \begin{cases} \mu(d) & (d,q_1\cdots q_r)=1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}.$$

By Möbius inversion, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{Q}_{k,q_1\cdots q_r}(x) &= \sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_k \\ n\le x \\ (n,q_1\cdots q_r)=1}} 1 = \sum_{\substack{n\le x \\ (n,q_1\cdots q_r)=1}} \sum_{\substack{d^k|n \\ (d,q_1\cdots q_r)=1}} \mu(d) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{n\le x \\ (n,q_1\cdots q_r)=1}} \sum_{d^k|n} \mu_{q_1\cdots q_r}(d). \end{aligned}$$

Writing $n = d^k e$, we have

$$\mathfrak{Q}_{k,q_1\cdots q_r}(x) = \sum_{d^k \le x} \mu_{q_1\cdots q_r}(d) \sum_{\substack{e \le x/d^k \\ (e,q_1\cdots q_r)=1}} 1.$$

Estimating the inner sum with inclusion-exclusion, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathfrak{Q}_{k,q_1\cdots q_r}(x) &= \sum_{d^k \le x} \mu_{q_1\cdots q_r}(d) \left(\left\lfloor \frac{x}{d^k} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{x}{q_i d^k} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{x}{q_i q_j d^k} \right\rfloor + \cdots \right) \\
&= \sum_{d^k \le x} \mu_{q_1\cdots q_r}(d) \frac{x}{d^k} \prod_{j=1}^{r} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_j}\right) \\
&\quad + O\left(\sum_{d^k \le x} \mu_{q_1\cdots q_r}(d) \left(\left\{ \frac{x}{d^k} \right\} - \left\{ \frac{x}{q_i d^k} \right\} + \left\{ \frac{x}{q_i q_j d^k} \right\} + \cdots \right) \right) \\
&= \sum_{d^k \le x} \mu_{q_1\cdots q_r}(d) \frac{x}{d^k} \prod_{j=1}^{r} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_j}\right) + O\left(2^r \sum_{d^k \le x} 1\right).
\end{aligned}$$

After using the full sum to estimate, the above becomes,

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sum_{d} \mu_{q_1\cdots q_r}(d) \frac{x}{d^k} \prod_{j=1}^{r} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_j}\right) - \sum_{d^k > x} \mu_{q_1\cdots q_r}(d) \frac{x}{d^k} \prod_{j=1}^{r} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_j}\right) + O\left(2^r x^{\frac{1}{k}}\right) \\
=&x \prod_{p \ne q_j} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^k}\right) \prod_{j=1}^{r} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_j}\right) + O\left(x \sum_{d^k > x} \frac{1}{d^k}\right) + O\left(2^r x^{\frac{1}{k}}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

Estimating the first big-O term by approximating with an integral, we obtain $O_k(x^{\frac{1}{k}})$, and this yields

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathfrak{Q}_{k,q_1\cdots q_r}(x) =& x \prod_{p} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^k}\right) \prod_{j=1}^{r} \frac{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q_j}\right)}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q_j^k}\right)} + O_k\left(2^r x^{\frac{1}{k}}\right) \\
=& \frac{1}{\zeta(k)} \prod_{j=1}^{r} \frac{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q_j}\right)}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q_j^k}\right)} x + O_k\left(2^r x^{\frac{1}{k}}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

□

We now state some results involving sums of prime factor counting functions over h-full numbers that will be needed for the proofs of Theorem 2 and Corollary 2.

Theorem 4. *Let $h \geq 1$ be an integer. We have*

$$\sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}_h \\ n \leq x}} \Omega(n) = h\gamma_{0,h} x^{\frac{1}{h}} \log\log x + \gamma_{0,h} C_{\Omega,h} x^{\frac{1}{h}} + O_h\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{h}}}{\sqrt{\log x}}\right), \tag{26}$$

where $\gamma_{0,h}$ is given by Equation (16) *and $C_{\Omega,h}$ is given by Equation* (20).

We omit the proof, since Equation (26) was proven in [8, Theorem 2].

Lemma 4. *Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$. Then, we have*

$$\sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}_h \\ x < n \leq y}} \Omega(n) n^{\alpha} = O_h\left(y^{\frac{1}{h}+\alpha} \log\log y\right) + O_h\left(x^{\frac{1}{h}+\alpha} \log\log x\right).$$

and

$$\sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}_h \\ x < n \leq y}} \omega(n) n^{\alpha} = O_h\left(y^{\frac{1}{h}+\alpha} \log\log y\right) + O_h\left(x^{\frac{1}{h}+\alpha} \log\log x\right).$$

Proof. Denote

$$\mathscr{N}_h(x) = \sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}_h \\ n \leq x}} \Omega(n),$$

and remark that the asymptotics for $\mathscr{N}_h(x)$ is given by Equation (26).

By Abel's summation formula,

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{N}_h \\ x < n \leq y}} \Omega(n) n^{\alpha} =& \mathscr{N}_h(y) y^{\alpha} - \mathscr{N}_h(x) x^{\alpha} - \alpha \int_x^y \mathscr{N}_h(t) t^{\alpha-1} dt \\
=& h\gamma_{0,h} y^{\frac{1}{h}+\alpha} \log\log y - h\gamma_{0,h} x^{\frac{1}{h}+\alpha} \log\log x \\
&+ O\left(y^{\frac{1}{h}+\alpha}\right) + O\left(x^{\frac{1}{h}+\alpha}\right) + O\left(\int_x^y t^{\alpha - \frac{h-1}{h}} \log\log t dt\right) \\
=& O_h\left(y^{\frac{1}{h}+\alpha} \log\log y\right) + O_h\left(x^{\frac{1}{h}+\alpha} \log\log x\right).
\end{aligned}$$

The estimate for the sum over $\omega(n)$ can be deduced from the fact that $\omega(n) \leq \Omega(n)$. □

Proof of Theorem 2. We prove Equations (8) and (10). Fix $0 < B \leq x$ (to be determined later) and suppose that $U = U_k(n)$ is such that $U \leq B$. We start by counting all the possible values of $L = L_k(n)$ satisfying $L \leq x/U$. By Lemma 3, the number of possible values of L is given by

$$\mathfrak{Q}_{k,q_1 \cdots q_r}\left(\frac{x}{U}\right) = \frac{1}{\zeta(k)} \prod_{j=1}^{r} \left(\frac{q_j^k - q_j^{k-1}}{q_j^k - 1}\right) \frac{x}{U} + O\left(2^r \frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{U^{\frac{1}{k}}}\right),$$

where $q_1, \ldots, q_r$ are the primes in the factorization of U. Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x}} \Omega(U_k(n)) = &\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x\\ U_k(n)\le B}} \Omega(U_k(n)) + \sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x\\ B<U_k(n)\le x}} \Omega(U_k(n))\\ =&\frac{x}{\zeta(k)} \sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\cap\mathcal{S}_h\\ U\le B}} \prod_{q\mid U}\left(\frac{q^k-q^{k-1}}{q^k-1}\right)\frac{\Omega(U)}{U}\\ &+O\left(\sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\cap\mathcal{S}_h\\ U\le B}} \Omega(U)2^{\omega(U)}\frac{x^{\frac{1}{k}}}{U^{\frac{1}{k}}}\right) + \sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x\\ B<U_k(n)\le x}} \Omega(U_k(n)).\end{aligned}$$

Notice that for $U \in \mathcal{N}_k$, we have $2^{\omega(U)} \le q_1 \cdots q_r \le U^{\frac{1}{k}}$. Using this to bound the error term gives

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x}} \Omega(U_k(n)) =&\frac{x}{\zeta(k)} \sum_{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\cap\mathcal{S}_h} \prod_{q\mid U}\left(\frac{q^k-q^{k-1}}{q^k-1}\right)\frac{\Omega(U)}{U} + O\left(x^{\frac{1}{k}}\sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\cap\mathcal{S}_h\\ U\le B}} \Omega(U)\right)\\ &+\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x\\ B<U_k(n)\le x}} \Omega(U_k(n)) - \frac{x}{\zeta(k)}\sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\cap\mathcal{S}_h\\ B<U}} \prod_{q\mid U}\left(\frac{q^k-q^{k-1}}{q^k-1}\right)\frac{\Omega(U)}{U}.\end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

We have the following estimate

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x\\ B<U_k(n)\le x}} \Omega(U_k(n)) \le \sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\cap\mathcal{S}_h\\ B<U\le x}} \left\lfloor\frac{x}{U}\right\rfloor \Omega(U) \le \sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\\ U\le x}} \frac{x}{U}\Omega(U). \tag{28}$$

Applying Lemma 4 to Equations (27) and (28), we have

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x}} \Omega(U_k(n)) =&\frac{x}{\zeta(k)} \sum_{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\cap\mathcal{S}_h} \prod_{q\mid U}\left(\frac{q^k-q^{k-1}}{q^k-1}\right)\frac{\Omega(U)}{U} + O_h\left(x^{\frac{1}{k}}B^{\frac{1}{k}}\log\log B\right)\\ &+O_h\left(x^{\frac{1}{k}}\log\log x\right) + O_h\left(xB^{\frac{1}{k}-1}\log\log B\right).\end{aligned}$$

Let $B = x^{1-\frac{1}{k}}$. We get

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\le x}} \Omega(U_k(n)) =\frac{x}{\zeta(k)} \sum_{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\cap\mathcal{S}_h} \prod_{q\mid U}\left(\frac{q^k-q^{k-1}}{q^k-1}\right)\frac{\Omega(U)}{U} + O_h\left(x^{\frac{2k-1}{k^2}}\log\log x\right).$$

We now proceed to find a closed expression for

$$\frac{1}{\zeta(k)} \sum_{U \in \mathcal{N}_k \cap \mathcal{S}_h} \prod_{q|U} \left(\frac{q^k - q^{k-1}}{q^k - 1} \right) \frac{\Omega(U)}{U}. \tag{29}$$

We consider a generating function given by

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{D}_{\Omega,k,h}(z) = & \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_k \cap \mathcal{S}_h} \frac{z^{\Omega(n)}}{n} \prod_{q|n} \frac{q^k - q^{k-1}}{q^k - 1} \\
= & \prod_p \left(1 + \left(\frac{p^k - p^{k-1}}{p^k - 1} \right) \frac{z^k}{p^k} \left(1 + \frac{z}{p} + \cdots + \frac{z^{h-k-1}}{p^{h-k-1}} \right) \right) \\
= & \prod_p \left(1 + \left(\frac{p^k - p^{k-1}}{p^k - 1} \right) \frac{\frac{z^h}{p^h} - \frac{z^k}{p^k}}{\frac{z}{p} - 1} \right),
\end{aligned}$$

which is absolutely convergent over compact sets.

We will recover our term of interest from considering $\mathcal{D}'_{\Omega,k,h}(1)$. In order to find this term, we consider the logarithmic derivative of $\mathcal{D}_{\Omega,k,h}(z)$:

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}'_{\Omega,k,h}(z)}{\mathcal{D}_{\Omega,k,h}(z)} = \sum_p \frac{\left(\frac{p^k - p^{k-1}}{p^k - 1} \right) \left((h-1) \frac{z^h}{p^{h+1}} - (k-1) \frac{z^k}{p^{k+1}} - h \frac{z^{h-1}}{p^h} + k \frac{z^{k-1}}{p^k} \right)}{\left(\frac{z}{p} - 1 \right)^2 \left(1 + \left(\frac{p^k - p^{k-1}}{p^k - 1} \right) \frac{\frac{z^h}{p^h} - \frac{z^k}{p^k}}{\frac{z}{p} - 1} \right)}.$$

Evaluating at $z = 1$, we obtain,

$$\left. \frac{\mathcal{D}'_{\Omega,k,h}(z)}{\mathcal{D}_{\Omega,k,h}(z)} \right|_{z=1} = \sum_p \frac{\left(\frac{p^k}{p^k - 1} \right) \left(\frac{h-1}{p^{h+1}} - \frac{k-1}{p^{k+1}} - \frac{h}{p^h} + \frac{k}{p^k} \right)}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{p^k}{p^k - 1} \left(\frac{1}{p^h} - \frac{1}{p^k} \right) \right)}.$$

Multiplying the above by $\mathcal{D}_{\Omega,k,h}(1)$ and by the coefficient $\frac{1}{\zeta(k)} = \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^k} \right)$ provides the coefficient for the main term of (8):

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\mathcal{D}'_{\Omega,k,h}(1)}{\zeta(k)} = & \frac{1}{\zeta(k)} \sum_p \frac{\left(\frac{p^k}{p^k - 1} \right) \left(\frac{h-1}{p^{h+1}} - \frac{k-1}{p^{k+1}} - \frac{h}{p^h} + \frac{k}{p^k} \right)}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{p^k}{p^k - 1} \left(\frac{1}{p^h} - \frac{1}{p^k} \right) \right)} \\
& \times \prod_p \left(1 - \left(\frac{p^k}{p^k - 1} \right) \left(\frac{1}{p^h} - \frac{1}{p^k} \right) \right) \\
= & \sum_p \frac{\frac{h-1}{p^{h+1}} - \frac{k-1}{p^{k+1}} - \frac{h}{p^h} + \frac{k}{p^k}}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{p} \right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^h} \right)} \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^h} \right) \\
= & \frac{1}{\zeta(h)} \sum_p \frac{h - 1 - (k-1)p^{h-k} - hp + kp^{h-k+1}}{(p-1)(p^h - 1)}.
\end{aligned}$$

Equations (9) and (11) are proven analogously. Here the difference is that we must consider instead

$$\frac{1}{\zeta(k)} \sum_{U \in \mathcal{N}_k \cap \mathcal{S}_h} \prod_{q|U} \left(\frac{q^k - q^{k-1}}{q^k - 1} \right) \frac{\omega(U)}{U}, \tag{30}$$

while the error term can be bounded as in the Ω case, using the fact that $\omega(n) \leq \Omega(n)$.

In this case the generating function is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{D}_{\omega,k,h}(z) &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_k \cap \mathcal{S}_h} \frac{z^{\omega(n)}}{n} \prod_{q|n} \frac{q^k - q^{k-1}}{q^k - 1} \\ &= \prod_p \left(1 + \left(\frac{p^k - p^{k-1}}{p^k - 1} \right) \frac{z}{p^k} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p} + \cdots + \frac{1}{p^{h-k-1}} \right) \right) \\ &= \prod_p \left(1 + \left(\frac{p^k - p^{k-1}}{p^k - 1} \right) \frac{z\left(\frac{1}{p^h} - \frac{1}{p^k} \right)}{\frac{1}{p} - 1} \right),\end{aligned}$$

which is absolutely convergent.

In order to find $\mathcal{D}'_{\omega,k,h}(1)$, we consider the logarithmic derivative:

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}'_{\omega,k,h}(z)}{\mathcal{D}_{\omega,k,h}(z)} = \sum_p \frac{\left(\frac{p^k - p^{k-1}}{p^k - 1} \right) \frac{\left(\frac{1}{p^h} - \frac{1}{p^k} \right)}{\frac{1}{p} - 1}}{1 + \left(\frac{p^k - p^{k-1}}{p^k - 1} \right) \frac{z\left(\frac{1}{p^h} - \frac{1}{p^k} \right)}{\frac{1}{p} - 1}}.$$

Therefore,

$$\left. \frac{\mathcal{D}'_{\omega,k,h}(z)}{\mathcal{D}_{\omega,k,h}(z)} \right|_{z=1} = \sum_p \frac{p^{h-k} - 1}{p^h - 1}.$$

Multiplying the above by $\mathcal{D}_{\omega,k,h}(1)$ and by the coefficient $\frac{1}{\zeta(k)} = \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^k}\right)$ yields the coefficient for the main term of Equation (9):

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\mathcal{D}'_{\omega,k,h}(1)}{\zeta(k)} &= \frac{1}{\zeta(k)} \sum_p \frac{p^{h-k} - 1}{p^h - 1} \prod_p \left(1 - \left(\frac{p^k}{p^k - 1} \right) \left(\frac{1}{p^h} - \frac{1}{p^k} \right) \right) \\ &= \sum_p \frac{p^{h-k} - 1}{p^h - 1} \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^h} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\zeta(h)} \sum_p \frac{p^{h-k} - 1}{p^h - 1}.\end{aligned}$$

This concludes the proof of Theorem 2. □

Theorem 5. *The following asymptotic formulas hold:*

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\leq x}} \Omega(n) = \frac{1}{\zeta(h)} x\log\log x + O(x), \tag{31}$$

and

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{S}_h\\ n\leq x}} \omega(n) = \frac{1}{\zeta(h)} x\log\log x + O(x). \tag{32}$$

We omit the proof, since Equation (31) was proven in [8, Theorem 1] and Equation (32) can be proven similarly.

Proof of Corollary 2. Since $n = L_k(n)U_k(n)$, we have $\Omega(n) = \Omega(L_k(n)) + \Omega(U_k(n))$, and similarly with ω (since $L_k(n)$ and $U_k(n)$ are coprime). Combining Equations (8) and (31), we immediately obtain Equation (12). Equation (13) follows by combining Equations (9) and (32). $\square$

4. Sums over h-full numbers

In this section we prove Theorem 3. Before proceeding to the proof, we need the following generalization of Lemma 3.

Lemma 5. *Let $q_1, \ldots, q_r$ be prime numbers and let $k > h$ be integers. We define $\mathfrak{Q}_{k,h,q_1\cdots q_r}(x)$ as the number of k-free, h-full positive integers not exceeding x such that they are relatively prime to $q_1\cdots q_r$. The following formula holds:*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathfrak{Q}_{k,h,q_1\cdots q_r}(x) = &\prod_{j=1}^{r}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q_j}-\frac{1}{q_j^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q_j^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\prod_p\left(1-\frac{1}{p}\right)\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)x^{\frac{1}{h}}\\ &+O\left(2^r x^{\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}\right),\end{aligned}$$

where $\varepsilon > 0$ is arbitrarily small.

Proof. Consider the generating function

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\cap\mathcal{S}_k\\(n,q_1\cdots q_r)=1}}\frac{1}{n^s}&=\prod_{p\neq q_j}\left(1+\frac{1}{p^{sh}}+\cdots+\frac{1}{p^{s(k-1)}}\right)\\
&=\prod_{p\neq q_j}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{p^{sh}}-\frac{1}{p^{sk}}}{1-\frac{1}{p^s}}\right)\\
&=\prod_{j=1}^{r}\left(1+\frac{1}{q_j^{sh}}\right)^{-1}\prod_{p}\left(1+\frac{1}{p^{sh}}\right)\prod_{p\neq q_j}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{p^{s(h+1)}}-\frac{1}{p^{sk}}}{\left(1-\frac{1}{p^s}\right)\left(1+\frac{1}{p^{sh}}\right)}\right)\\
&=\prod_{j=1}^{r}\left(1+\frac{1}{q_j^{sh}}\right)^{-1}\frac{\zeta(sh)}{\zeta(2sh)}\mathcal{H}_{q_1\cdots q_r}(s).
\end{aligned}$$

Notice that for $\mathrm{Re}(s)>\frac{1}{h+1}$,

$$\begin{aligned}
|\mathcal{H}_{q_1\cdots q_r}(s)|&\leq\prod_{p\neq q_j}\left(1+\left|\frac{\frac{1}{p^{s(h+1)}}-\frac{1}{p^{sk}}}{\left(1-\frac{1}{p^s}\right)\left(1+\frac{1}{p^{sh}}\right)}\right|\right)\\
&\leq\prod_{p}\left(1+\left|\frac{\frac{1}{p^{s(h+1)}}-\frac{1}{p^{sk}}}{\left(1-\frac{1}{p^s}\right)\left(1+\frac{1}{p^{sh}}\right)}\right|\right),
\end{aligned}\tag{33}$$

which is convergent for $\mathrm{Re}(s)\geq\frac{1}{h+1}+\varepsilon$, and therefore $\mathcal{H}_{q_1\cdots q_r}(s)$ is convergent for $\mathrm{Re}(s)>\frac{1}{h+1}$. Now we use Perron's formula ([10, Section 5.1], [11, Section 4.4], more precisely, Problems 4.4.15-4.4.17). Take $\sigma_0=\frac{1}{h}+\varepsilon$. As $T\to\infty$,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathfrak{Q}_{k,h,q_1\cdots q_r}(x)=&\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\cap\mathcal{S}_k\\n\leq x\\(n,q_1\cdots q_r)=1}}1\\
=&\frac{1}{2\pi i}\int_{\sigma_0-iT}^{\sigma_0+iT}\prod_{j=1}^{r}\left(1+\frac{1}{q_j^{sh}}\right)^{-1}\frac{\zeta(sh)}{\zeta(2sh)}\mathcal{H}_{q_1\cdots q_r}(s)\frac{x^s}{s}ds\\
&+O\left(\frac{x^{\sigma_0+\varepsilon}}{T}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

To compute this integral we consider the rectangle of vertical sides $[\sigma_0-iT,\sigma_0+iT]$ and $[\sigma_1-iT,\sigma_1+iT]$ and horizontal sides $[\sigma_0\pm iT,\sigma_1\pm iT]$. The integral over the sides is equal to the residue from the pole at $s=\frac{1}{h}$, which can be computed as follows:

$$\prod_{j=1}^{r}\left(1+\frac{1}{q_j}\right)^{-1}\frac{h}{\zeta(2)}\mathcal{H}_{q_1\cdots q_r}\left(\frac{1}{h}\right)x^{\frac{1}{h}}\mathrm{Res}_{s=\frac{1}{h}}\zeta(sh)$$
$$=\prod_{j=1}^{r}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q_j}-\frac{1}{q_j^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q_j^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\frac{1}{\zeta(2)}\prod_{p}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}+1}}-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{\left(1-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}\right)\left(1+\frac{1}{p}\right)}\right)x^{\frac{1}{h}}.$$

Since we are interested in the integral over the segment $[\sigma_0-iT,\sigma_0+iT]$, we proceed to bound the integral at the vertical segment $[\sigma_1-iT,\sigma_1+iT]$ and at the horizontal lines $[\sigma_0\pm iT,\sigma_1\pm iT]$. First we note that Inequality (33) gives a uniform bound for $\mathcal{H}_{q_1\cdots q_r}(s)$ which is independent of the choice of $q_1,\ldots,q_r$. Next notice that we have, over the same segments,

$$\left|1+\frac{1}{q^{sh}}\right|^{-1}\leq\frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{q^{\mathrm{Re}(s)h}}}\leq\frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{h}{h+1}}}}\leq\frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{2}}}},$$

and the above bound is less than or equal to 2 when $q\neq 2,3$, and for $q=2,3$ it is bounded by 4 and 3, respectively. Thus, we have the following bound over the vertical segment $[\sigma_1-iT,\sigma_1+iT]$ and at the horizontal lines $[\sigma_0\pm iT,\sigma_1\pm iT]$:

$$\left|\prod_{j=1}^{r}\left(1+\frac{1}{q_j^{sh}}\right)^{-1}\right|<12\cdot 2^r.$$

Since $\zeta(\sigma\pm iT)=O\left(T^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)$ uniformly for $\varepsilon\leq\sigma\leq 1$ as $T\to\infty$ (see for example, [6, Theorem 1.9]), the horizontal integrals on $[\sigma_0\pm iT,\sigma_1\pm iT]$ contribute $O\left(2^r\frac{x^{\sigma_0}T^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{\log x}\right)$.

The vertical line $[\sigma_1-iT,\sigma_1+iT]$ contributes to $O\left(2^r x^{\sigma_1}T^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)$.

Finally, taking $T=x^{\frac{1}{h(h+1)}}$ gives a final estimate of

$$\mathfrak{Q}_{k,h,q_1\cdots q_r}(x)=\prod_{j=1}^{r}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q_j}-\frac{1}{q_j^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q_j^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\frac{1}{\zeta(2)}\prod_{p}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}+1}}-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{\left(1-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}\right)\left(1+\frac{1}{p}\right)}\right)x^{\frac{1}{h}}$$
$$+O\left(2^r x^{\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}\right).$$

□

We remark that the main term in Lemma 5 reduces to the main term in Lemma 3 when $h=1$. However, the error term has size $O\left(2^r x^{\frac{3}{4}+\varepsilon}\right)$ and is worse. The reason for this is that we are we are only considering the pole at $s = \frac{1}{h}$ in Perron's formula. To eliminate the dependence on h we would need to remove all the poles up to $\frac{1}{k}$.

Another interesting case is when $k \to \infty$ and $r = 0$. This counts the h-full numbers not exceeding x and recovers the formula

$$\gamma_{0,h} x^{\frac{1}{h}} + O\left(x^{\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}\right).$$

This is a much weaker version of the result of Ivić and Shiu [7], who estimate this number to be

$$\gamma_{0,h} x^{\frac{1}{h}} + \gamma_{1,h} x^{\frac{1}{h+1}} + \cdots + \gamma_{h-1,h} x^{\frac{1}{2h-1}} + \Delta_h(x),$$

where $\gamma_{0,h}, \gamma_{1,h} \ldots, \gamma_{h-1,h}$ are certain computable constants and $\Delta_h(x) \ll x^{\rho}$ for ρ small.

Proof of Theorem 3. First, we proceed to prove Equations (14) and (17). Fix $0 < B \leq x$ (to be determined later) and suppose that $U = U_k(n)$ is such that $U \leq B$. We start by counting all the possible $L = L_k(n)$ satisfying $L \leq x/U$. Since L must be both k-free and h-full, Lemma 5 implies that the number of possible values of L is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathfrak{Q}_{k,h,q_1\cdots q_r}\left(\frac{x}{U}\right) = &\prod_{j=1}^{r}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q_j}-\frac{1}{q_j^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q_j^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\prod_{p}\left(1-\frac{1}{p}\right)\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)\frac{x^{\frac{1}{h}}}{U^{\frac{1}{h}}}\\ &+O\left(2^r\frac{x^{\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}}{U^{\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}}\right),\end{aligned}$$

where $q_1, \ldots, q_r$ are the primes in the factorization of U.

To make the proof easier to follow, we define

$$f(k,h) := \prod_{p}\left(1-\frac{1}{p}\right)\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right).$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x}}\Omega(U_k(n)) = &\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x\\ U_k(n)\le B}}\Omega(U_k(n)) + \sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x\\ B<U_k(n)\le x}}\Omega(U_k(n))\\ =&f(k,h)x^{\frac{1}{h}}\sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\\ U\le B}}\prod_{q|U}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\frac{\Omega(U)}{U^{\frac{1}{h}}}\\ &+O\left(\sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\\ U\le B}}2^{\omega(U)}\Omega(U)\frac{x^{\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}}{U^{\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}}\right)+\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x\\ B<U_k(n)\le x}}\Omega(U_k(n)).\end{aligned}$$

Notice that for $U\in\mathcal{N}_k$, we have $2^{\omega(U)}\le q_1\cdots q_r\le U^{\frac{1}{k}}$. Using this to bound the error term above gives

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x}}\Omega(U_k(n)) =&f(k,h)x^{\frac{1}{h}}\sum_{U\in\mathcal{N}_k}\prod_{q|U}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\frac{\Omega(U)}{U^{\frac{1}{h}}}\\ &+O\left(x^{\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}\sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\\ U\le B}}\Omega(U)U^{\frac{1}{k}-\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}-\varepsilon}\right)\\ &+\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x\\ B<U_k(n)\le x}}\Omega(U_k(n))\\ &-f(k,h)x^{\frac{1}{h}}\sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\\ B<U}}\prod_{q|U}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\frac{\Omega(U)}{U^{\frac{1}{h}}}.\end{aligned}\tag{34}$$

We have the following estimate, analogous to Equation (28):

$$\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x\\ B<U_k(n)\le x}}\Omega(U_k(n))\le\sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\\ B<U\le x}}\left\lfloor\frac{x}{U}\right\rfloor\Omega(U)\le\sum_{\substack{U\in\mathcal{N}_k\\ U\le x}}\frac{x}{U}\Omega(U).\tag{35}$$

Applying Lemma 4 to Equations (34) and (35), we have

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x}}\Omega(U_k(n)) =& f(k,h)x^{\frac{1}{h}}\sum_{U\in\mathcal{N}_k}\prod_{q\mid U}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\frac{\Omega(U)}{U^{\frac{1}{h}}}\\ &+O\left(x^{\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}B^{\frac{2}{k}-\frac{2h+1}{2h(h+1)}-\varepsilon}\log\log B\right)\\ &+O\left(x^{\frac{1}{k}}\log\log x\right)+O\left(x^{\frac{1}{h}}B^{\frac{1}{k}-\frac{1}{h}}\log\log B\right).\end{aligned}$$

We choose $B=x^{\frac{k}{k+2h(h+1)}}$ and get

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{\substack{n\in\mathcal{N}_h\\ n\le x}}\Omega(U_k(n)) =& f(k,h)x^{\frac{1}{h}}\sum_{U\in\mathcal{N}_k}\prod_{q\mid U}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\frac{\Omega(U)}{U^{\frac{1}{h}}}\\ &+O\left(x^{\frac{1}{h}-\left(\frac{k}{h}-1\right)\frac{1}{k+2h(h+1)}+\varepsilon}\log\log x\right).\end{aligned}$$

We now proceed to find a closed expression for

$$f(k,h)\sum_{U\in\mathcal{N}_k}\prod_{q\mid U}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\frac{\Omega(U)}{U^{\frac{1}{h}}}.$$

We consider a generating function given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}_{\Omega,k,h}(z) &= \sum_{n\in\mathcal{N}_k}\frac{z^{\Omega(n)}}{n^{\frac{1}{h}}}\prod_{q\mid n}\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{q}-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\\ &=\prod_p\left(1+\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\frac{z^k}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}\left(1+\frac{z}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}+\frac{z^2}{p^{\frac{2}{h}}}+\cdots\right)\right)\\ &=\prod_p\left(1+\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1}\frac{\frac{z^k}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{z}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right),\end{aligned}$$

which is absolutely convergent over compact sets.

We will recover our term of interest by computing $\mathcal{E}'_{\Omega,k,h}(1)$, which we find by considering the logarithmic derivative:

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}'_{\Omega,k,h}(z)}{\mathcal{E}_{\Omega,k,h}(z)}=\sum_p\frac{\frac{\frac{kz^{k-1}}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}-\frac{(k-1)z^k}{p^{\frac{k+1}{h}}}}{\left(1-\frac{z}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}\right)^2}}{\left(1+\frac{\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)+\frac{\frac{z^k}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1-\frac{z}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}}.$$

Therefore,

$$\left.\frac{\mathcal{E}'_{\Omega,k,h}(z)}{\mathcal{E}_{\Omega,k,h}(z)}\right|_{z=1} = \sum_p \frac{\frac{k}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}} - \frac{k-1}{p^{\frac{k+1}{h}}}}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}\right)\left(1 + \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}\right)}.$$

By multiplying the above by $\mathcal{E}_{\Omega,k,h}(1)$ and by the coefficient $f(k,h)$, we get an expression for $E_{\Omega,k,h}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
f(k,h)\mathcal{E}'_{\Omega,k,h}(1) =& f(k,h) \sum_p \frac{\frac{k}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}} - \frac{k-1}{p^{\frac{k+1}{h}}}}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}\right)\left(1 + \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}\right)} \\
&\times \prod_p \left(1 + \left(1 + \frac{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1} \frac{\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right) \\
=& \sum_p \frac{\frac{k}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}} - \frac{k-1}{p^{\frac{k+1}{h}}}}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}\right)\left(1 + \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}\right)} \\
&\times \prod_p \left(1 + \frac{\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}} + \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}\right)\left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)\left(1 + \frac{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right) \\
=& \sum_p \frac{kp^{\frac{1}{h}} - k + 1}{p^{\frac{k-h-1}{h}}\left(p^{\frac{1}{h}} - 1\right)\left(p^{1+\frac{1}{h}} + p^{\frac{1}{h}} - p\right)} \prod_p \left(1 + \frac{p - p^{\frac{1}{h}}}{p^2\left(p^{\frac{1}{h}} - 1\right)}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

Equations (15) and (18) are proven analogously. Here instead we must consider

$$f(k,h) \sum_{U \in \mathcal{N}_k} \prod_{q|U} \left(1 + \frac{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{q^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1} \frac{\omega(U)}{U^{\frac{1}{h}}}.$$

The corresponding generating function is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{E}_{\omega,k,h}(z) &= \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}_k} \frac{z^{\omega(n)}}{n^{\frac{1}{h}}} \prod_{q|n} \left(1 + \frac{\frac{1}{q} - \frac{1}{q^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1} \\
&= \prod_p \left(1 + \left(1 + \frac{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1} \frac{z}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}\left(1 + \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}} + \frac{1}{p^{\frac{2}{h}}} + \cdots\right)\right) \\
&= \prod_p \left(1 + \left(1 + \frac{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1} \frac{\frac{z}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right),
\end{aligned}$$

which is absolutely convergent.

In order to find $\mathcal{E}'_{\omega,k,h}(1)$, we consider the logarithmic derivative:

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}'_{\omega,k,h}(z)}{\mathcal{E}_{\omega,k,h}(z)} = \sum_p \frac{\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}} + \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}} + \frac{z}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}.$$

Therefore,

$$\left.\frac{\mathcal{E}'_{\omega,k,h}(z)}{\mathcal{E}_{\omega,k,h}(z)}\right|_{z=1} = \sum_p \frac{\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}} + \frac{1}{p}}.$$

By multiplying the above by $\mathcal{E}_{\omega,k,h}(1)$ and by the coefficient $f(k,h)$, we get an expression for $E_{\omega,k,h}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
f(k,h)\mathcal{E}'_{\omega,k,h}(1) =& f(k,h) \sum_p \frac{\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}} + \frac{1}{p}} \prod_p \left(1 + \left(1 + \frac{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right)^{-1} \frac{\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right) \\
=& \sum_p \frac{\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}} + \frac{1}{p}} \\
&\times \prod_p \left(1 + \frac{\frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}} + \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}\right)\left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)\left(1 + \frac{\frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k}{h}}}}{1 - \frac{1}{p^{\frac{1}{h}}}}\right) \\
=& \sum_p \frac{1}{p^{\frac{k-h-1}{h}}\left(p^{1+\frac{1}{h}} + p^{\frac{1}{h}} - p\right)} \prod_p \left(1 + \frac{p - p^{\frac{1}{h}}}{p^2\left(p^{\frac{1}{h}} - 1\right)}\right).
\end{aligned}$$

This concludes the proof of Theorem 3. □

Proof of Corollary 3. Recall that $n = L_k(n)U_k(n)$ and this implies

$$\Omega(n) = \Omega(L_k(n)) + \Omega(U_k(n)).$$

Combining Equations (14) and (26), we immediately obtain Equation (19).

□

Acknowledgements. The authors are grateful to the anonymous reviewer for their helpful corrections. The first author would like to thank to Universidad Nacional de Luján for their support. The second author is partially supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (Discovery Grant 355412-2022) and the Fonds de recherche du Québec - Nature et technologies (Projet de recherche en équipe 300951).

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