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### Sum of Mobius Functions over the Shifted Primes

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# Sum of Mobius Functions over the Shifted Primes

Nelson Carella

**Abstract:** This article provides an asymptotic result for the summatory Mobius function  $\sum_{p \leq x} \mu(p+a) = O(x \log^{-c} x)$  over the shifted primes, where  $a \neq 0$  is a fixed parameter, and  $c > 1$  is a constant.

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## 1 Introduction

The Mobius function  $\mu : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{-1, 0, 1\}$  is defined by

$$\mu(n) = \begin{cases} (-1)^v & n = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_v \\ 0 & n \neq p_1 p_2 \cdots p_v, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where the  $p_i \geq 2$  are primes. The autocorrelation of the Mobius function

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n) \mu(n+a) \quad (2)$$

is a topic of current research in several area of Mathematics, [13], [11], [8], et alii. The same autocorrelation functions of multiplicative functions over the shifted primes reduce to standard arithmetic averages over the shifted primes, for example, (2) reduce to the followings:

$$\sum_{p \leq x} \mu(p) \mu(p+a) = - \sum_{p \leq x} \mu(p+a). \quad (3)$$

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The best result is  $\sum_{p \leq x} \mu(p+a) = (1-\delta)\pi(x)$ , where  $\delta > 0$  is a constant, and it is expected that  $\sum_{p \leq x} \mu(p+a) = o(\pi(x))$ , see [5, Theorem 1], and [7] for extensive details on recent developments. This note proposes the first nontrivial upper bound.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $c > 1$  be a constant, and let  $x > 1$  be a large number. If  $a \neq 0$  is a fixed integer, then*

$$\sum_{p \leq x} \mu(p+a) = O\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^c}\right).$$

The essential foundational topics are covered in Section 2 to Section ??, and the proof of the main result is assembled in Section 6. Last but not least observe that an autocorrelation function of degree 3,

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n)\mu(n+a)\mu(n+b), \quad (4)$$

where  $a, b \neq 0$  are fixed integers, reduces to an autocorrelation function of degree 2,

$$-\sum_{p \leq x} \mu(p+a)\mu(p+b) \quad (5)$$

over the shifted primes. Accordingly, these two problems are equivalent.

## 2 Standard Results for the Mobius Function

A variety of results for the average orders of the Mobius function are stated in this section. A complete proof for a new result in Theorem 5.1 for the average order over arithmetic progression is included.

There are many sharp bounds of the summatory function of the Mobius function, say,  $O(xe^{-\sqrt{\log x}})$ , and the conditional estimate  $O(x^{1/2+\varepsilon})$  presupposes that the nontrivial zeros of the zeta function  $\zeta(\rho) = 0$  in the critical strip  $\{0 < \Re(s) < 1\}$  are of the form  $\rho = 1/2 + it, t \in \mathbb{R}$ . However, the simpler notation will be used here.

**Theorem 2.1.** *If  $C > 0$  is a constant, and  $\mu$  is the Mobius function, then, for any large number  $x > 1$ ,*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n) = O\left(\frac{x}{\log^C x}\right).$$

*Proof.* See [4, p. 6], [10, p. 182]. ■

A few results for the average orders over short intervals are proved in the literature. For the new developments, confer [9, Theorem 1.1].

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $C > 0$  be a constant, and let  $\theta > 7/12$  be a small real number. If  $x > 1$  is a large number, and  $H \geq x^\theta$ , then*

$$\sum_{x \leq n \leq x+H} \mu(n) = O\left(\frac{H}{\log^C x}\right).$$

The standard proof for the summatory Möbius function over an arithmetic progression is linked to the Siegel-Walfisz Theorem for primes in arithmetic progressions, the upper bounds are proved or discussed in [6, p. 424], [10, p. 385], et alii.

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $x \geq 1$  be a large number, and let  $q \ll (\log x)^B$ , where  $B \geq 0$  is an arbitrary constant. If  $1 \leq a < q$  are relatively prime integers, then,*

$$\sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv a \pmod{q}}} \mu(n) = O\left(\frac{x}{\log^C x}\right),$$

where  $C = C(B) > 0$  is a constant.

*Proof.* A sketch of the proof appears in [10, p. 385]. ■

### 3 Equivalent Twisted Exponential Sums

One of the earliest result for twisted sums is stated below, and the recent version over short intervals appears in [9, Theorem 1.5].

**Theorem 3.1.** ([3]) *If  $\alpha$  is a real number, and  $D > 0$  is an arbitrary constant, then*

$$\sup_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}} \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n) e^{i2\pi\alpha n} < \frac{c_1 x}{(\log x)^D},$$

where  $c_1 = c_1(D) > 0$  is a constant depending on  $D$ , as the number  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

Let  $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a function, and let  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  be a large integer. The finite Fourier transform

$$\hat{f}(s) = \frac{1}{p} \sum_{0 \leq t \leq p-1} f(t) e^{i\pi s t / p} \quad (6)$$

and its inverse are used here to derive a summation kernel function.

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $p$  be a prime, and let  $\omega = e^{i2\pi/p}$  be a root of unity. The *finite summation kernel* is defined by the finite Fourier transform identity

$$\mathcal{K}(f(n)) = \frac{1}{p} \sum_{0 \leq t \leq p-1} \sum_{0 \leq s \leq p-1} \omega^{t(n-s)} f(s) = f(n). \quad (7)$$

This simple identity is used to derive some equivalent exponential sums as illustrated below.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $q > 1$  and  $1 \leq u < q$  be integers. If  $a \neq 0$ , and  $D > 0$  is an arbitrary constant, then*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) e^{i2\pi u n / q} = \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) e^{i2\pi n / q} + O\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^D}\right),$$

where the implied constant depends only on  $D$ , as the number  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

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*Proof.* Let  $1 < q \leq x$  be an integer, let  $p \geq x$  be a large prime, and let  $u \neq 0$ .

Applying the finite summation kernel to  $f(n) = \mu(n+a)e^{i2\pi un/q}$ , see Definition 3.1, the twisted exponential sum has the form

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a)e^{i2\pi un/q} = \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{0 \leq t \leq p-1} \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a)\omega^{t(n-s)}e^{i2\pi us/q}. \quad (8)$$

The term  $t = 0$  contributes

$$E_0(x) = \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a)e^{i2\pi us/q} \ll \frac{x}{p} \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_0}} \ll \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_0}}, \quad (9)$$

where  $D_0 > 0$ , and the implied constant depends only on  $D_0$ , this follows from  $x \leq p$ , and Theorem 3.1. Rearranging it yields

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a)e^{i2\pi un/q} &= \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq p-1} \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a)\omega^{t(n-s)}e^{i2\pi us/q} + E_0(x) \\ &= \frac{1}{p} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq p-1} \left( \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a)\omega^{-ts}e^{i2\pi us/q} \right) \\ &\quad \times \sum_{n \leq x} \omega^{tn} + E_0(x). \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Similarly, for  $u = 1$ , the term  $t = 0$  contributes

$$E_1(x) = \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a)e^{i2\pi s/q} \ll \frac{x}{p} \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_1}} \ll \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_1}}, \quad (11)$$

where  $D_1 > 0$ , and the implied constant depends only on  $D_1$ , this follows from  $x \leq p$ , and Theorem 3.1. Accordingly, the twisted exponential sum has the form

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a)e^{i2\pi n/q} &= \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n \leq x} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq p-1} \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a)\omega^{t(n-s)}e^{i2\pi s/q} + E_1(x) \\ &= \frac{1}{p} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq p-1} \left( \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a)\omega^{-ts}e^{i2\pi s/q} \right) \\ &\quad \times \sum_{n \leq x} \omega^{tn} + E_1(x). \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Taking the difference of (10) and (12) returns

$$\begin{aligned} R(x) &= \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a)e^{i2\pi un/q} - \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a)e^{i2\pi n/q} \\ &= \frac{1}{p} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq p-1} \left( \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a)\omega^{-ts}e^{i2\pi us/q} - \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a)\omega^{-ts}e^{i2\pi s/q} \right) \\ &\quad \times \sum_{n \leq x} \omega^{tn} + E_0(x) + E_1(x). \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

By Lemma 3.2, the inner sum satisfies the upper bound

$$\left| \sum_{n \leq x} \omega^{tn} \right| \leq \frac{2p}{\pi t}. \quad (14)$$

And by Lemma 3.3, the two middle sums have the upper bound

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a) \omega^{-ts} e^{i2\pi us/q} - \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a) \omega^{-ts} e^{i2\pi s/q} \right| \\ & \leq \left| \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a) \omega^{-ts} e^{i2\pi us/q} \right| + \left| \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a) \omega^{-ts} e^{i2\pi s/q} \right| \\ & \ll \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_2}}, \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

where  $D_2 > 0$ , and the implied constant depends only on  $D_2$ . Together, these estimates lead to

$$\begin{aligned} |R(x)| & \leq \frac{1}{p} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq p-1} \left| \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a) \omega^{-ts} e^{i2\pi us/q} - \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a) \omega^{-ts} e^{i2\pi s/q} \right| \\ & \quad \times \left| \sum_{n \leq x} \omega^{tn} \right| + E_0(x) + E_1(x) \\ & \ll \frac{1}{p} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq p-1} \left( \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_2}} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{2p}{\pi t} \right) + \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_0}} + \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_1}} \\ & \ll \left( \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_2-1}} \right) + \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_0}} + \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_1}} \\ & \ll \frac{x}{(\log x)^D}, \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

where  $D = \min\{D_0, D_1, D_2 - 1\}$ , and the implied constant depends only on  $D$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $p$  be a large prime, and let  $1 < q < p$  be an integer. If  $\omega^{nt} = e^{i2\pi nt/p}$ , then*

$$\left| \sum_{1 \leq n \leq x} \omega^{nt} \right| \leq \frac{2p}{\pi t},$$

as the number  $p \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Proof.* Summing over the variable  $n \leq x$  returns

$$\sum_{1 \leq n \leq x} \omega^{nt} = \sum_{1 \leq n \leq x} e^{i2\pi nt/p} = \frac{1 - e^{\frac{i2\pi t(x+1)}{p}}}{1 - e^{\frac{i2\pi t}{p}}}. \quad (17)$$

Routine calculations lead to

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{1 \leq n \leq x} e^{i2\pi nt/p} \right| & \leq \left| \frac{1 - e^{\frac{i2\pi t(x+1)}{p}}}{1 - e^{\frac{i2\pi t}{p}}} \right| \\ & \leq \frac{2p}{\pi t}. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $p$  be a large prime, and let  $1 < q < p$  be an integer. If  $\omega^{-ts} = e^{-i2\pi ts/p}$ , and  $u/q \neq 0$  is a real number, then*

$$\sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a) \omega^{-ts} e^{i2\pi us/q} \ll \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_2}},$$

where  $D_2 > 0$ , and the implied constant depends only on  $D_2$ , as the number  $p \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Proof.* Merge the primitive roots

$$\omega^{-ts} e^{\frac{i2\pi us}{q}} = e^{-\frac{i2\pi ts}{p}} \cdot e^{\frac{i2\pi us}{q}} = e^{\frac{i2\pi s(up-tq)}{pq}} = e^{i2\pi \alpha s}, \quad (19)$$

where  $\alpha = (up - tq)/pq \neq 0$  since  $q < p$  and  $p$  is prime. Summing over the variable  $s \geq 1$  returns

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a) \omega^{-ts} e^{i2\pi us/q} &= \sum_{1 \leq s \leq p-1} \mu(s+a) e^{i2\pi \alpha s} \\ &= e^{-i2\pi \alpha a} \sum_{a \leq r \leq p-1+a} \mu(r) e^{i2\pi \alpha r} \\ &\ll \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_2}}, \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

where  $D_2 > 0$ , this follows from Theorem 3.1. ■

## 4 Mobius Sums Over Equivalent Classes

Observe that for any pair of integers  $q \geq 4$ , and  $a \geq 0$ , the sequence of consecutive values

$$\mu(1+a) = \mu(2+a) = \mu(3+a) = \mu(4+a) = \cdots = \mu(q+a) = 1, \quad (21)$$

is impossible since  $\mu$  is not periodic. Likewise, the sequence of consecutive values in arithmetic progression

$$\mu(q+a) = \mu(2q+a) = \mu(3q+a) = \mu(4q+a) = \cdots = \mu([x/q]q+a) = 1 \quad (22)$$

is impossible. Therefore, the cardinalities of the two subsets of integers

$$\{qm + a \leq x : m \leq x/q\} \quad \text{and} \quad \{m \leq x/q\}, \quad (23)$$

with even number of prime factors, satisfy the relation

$$\sum_{m \leq x/q} \mu^+(qm+a) \leq \sum_{m \leq x/q} \mu^+(m) = \frac{3}{\pi^2} \frac{x}{q} + O\left(\frac{x}{q(\log x/q)^D}\right). \quad (24)$$

A closely related conjecture claims that

$$\sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ n \equiv a \pmod q}} \mu^2(n) = \frac{6}{\pi^2} \prod_{p|q} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^2}\right) \frac{x}{q} + O((x/q)^{1/4+\varepsilon}), \quad (25)$$

for  $1 \leq q < x^{1-\varepsilon}$ , see [2, p. 2].

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $x$  be a large number, and let  $1 < q < x$  be an integer. If  $a \geq 0$ , then,*

$$\sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ q|n}} \mu(n+a) \ll \frac{x}{q(\log x/q)^D},$$

where  $D > 0$ , and the implied constant depends only on  $D$ , as the number  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Proof.* The asymptotic number of squarefree integers with even number of prime factors in a subset of integers (23) of cardinality  $x/q$  has the formula

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m \leq x/q} \mu^+(qm+a) &= \sum_{m \leq x/q} \frac{\mu^2(qm+a) + \mu(qm+a)}{2} \\ &= c(a,q) \frac{x}{q} + O\left(\frac{x}{q(\log x/q)^D}\right), \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

where  $0 < c(a,q) < 1$  is a constant, see (25). Likewise, the asymptotic number of squarefree integers with odd number of prime factors in a subset of integers (23) of cardinality  $x/q$ , has the formula

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m \leq x/q} \mu^-(qm+a) &= \sum_{m \leq x/q} \frac{\mu^2(qm+a) - \mu(qm+a)}{2} \\ &= c(a,q) \frac{x}{q} + O\left(\frac{x}{q(\log x/q)^D}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

The difference yields,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m \leq x/q} \mu(qm+a) &= \sum_{m \leq x/q} \mu^+(qm+a) - \sum_{m \leq x/q} \mu^-(qm+a) \\ &= O\left(\frac{x}{q(\log x/q)^D}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

■

The upper bound in Lemma 4.1 is not sharp since

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n) &= \sum_{0 \leq a < q} \sum_{m \leq x/q} \mu(qm+a) \\ &= O\left(q \cdot \frac{x}{q(\log x/q)^D}\right) \\ &= O\left(\frac{x}{(\log x/q)^D}\right), \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

which is weaker than  $\sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n) = O(x(\log x)^{-D})$  for  $q > 1$ , see Theorem 2.1.

**Theorem 4.1.** *If  $x$  is a large real number, and  $a < q < x$  is a pair of integers, then, for any  $u \neq 0$  and any arbitrary constant  $D > 0$ ,*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) e^{i2\pi un/q} = O\left(\frac{x}{(\log x/q)^D}\right),$$

where the implied constant depends only on  $D$ , as the number  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .



*Proof.* Substituting the change of variable  $n = qm + v$  returns

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) e^{i2\pi un/q} &= \sum_{0 \leq v < q, 0 \leq m \leq (x-q+)/q} \sum \mu(qm+v+a) e^{i2\pi u(qm+v)/q} \quad (30) \\ &= e^{i2\pi uv/q} \sum_{0 \leq v < q, 0 \leq m \leq (x-q+a)/q} \mu(qm+v+a). \end{aligned}$$

Apply Lemma 4.1 to the inner sum, and take a sum over all the equivalent classes  $a \geq 0$ , to obtain the upper bound.

$$\begin{aligned} e^{i2\pi uv/q} \sum_{0 \leq v < q, 0 \leq m \leq (x-q+)/q} \sum &= \sum_{0 \leq a < q, m \leq x/q} \sum \mu(qm+a) \quad (31) \\ &= O\left(q \cdot \frac{x}{q(\log x/q)^D}\right) \\ &= O\left(\frac{x}{(\log x/q)^D}\right), \end{aligned}$$

as claimed. ■

## 5 Mertens Function Over Arithmetic Progressions

A different result for the average order of the Mobius function over arithmetic progressions, sharper than Theorem 2.3 is given below. Unlike the proof based on the Siegel-Walfisz Theorem methodology, this technique is based on completely different ideas, and has no limitation on the parameter  $q \geq 1$ .

**Theorem 5.1.** *For any fixed integer  $a$ , and an arbitrary constant  $D > 0$ . If  $q < x$  is a parameter, then*

$$\sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ q|n}} \mu(n+a) \ll \frac{1}{q} \frac{x}{(\log x/q)^D},$$

where the implied constant depends only on  $D$ , as the number  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

*Proof.* Fix an integer  $a \neq 0$ , and let  $q < x$ . Now, use an indicator function

$$\frac{1}{q} \sum_{0 \leq u < q} e^{i2\pi u(n-a)/q} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = mq + a, \\ 0 & \text{if } n \neq mq + a, \end{cases} \quad (32)$$

to remove the congruence  $q | n$  in the Mertens sum:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ q|n}} \mu(n+a) &= \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) \times \frac{1}{q} \sum_{0 \leq u < q} e^{i2\pi u(n-a)/q} \quad (33) \\ &= \frac{1}{q} \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) + \frac{1}{q} \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) \sum_{1 \leq u < q} e^{i2\pi u(n-a)/q} \\ &= V_0(x) + V_1(x). \end{aligned}$$

The first term is bounded by

$$V_0(x) = \frac{1}{q} \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) \ll \frac{1}{q} \frac{x}{(\log x)^{D_0}}, \quad (34)$$

where  $D_0 > 0$ , and the implied constant depends only on  $D_0$ , see Theorem 2.1. Now, use Lemma 3.1 to rewrite the second term in the following way, (it removes the dependence on the variable  $u \neq 0$ ).

$$\begin{aligned} V_1(x) &= \frac{1}{q} \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) \sum_{1 \leq u < q} e^{i2\pi u(n-a)/q} \\ &= \frac{1}{q} \sum_{1 \leq u < q} e^{-i2\pi au/q} \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) e^{i2\pi un/q} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{q} \sum_{1 \leq u < q} e^{-i2\pi au/q} \left( \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) e^{i2\pi n/q} + \frac{c_1 x}{(\log x)^{D_1}} \right), \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

where  $D_1 > 0$ , and  $c_1 > 0$  is a constant depending on  $D_1$ . By Theorem 4.1, the inner sum

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) e^{i2\pi n/q} \leq \frac{c_2 x}{(\log x/q)^{D_2}}, \quad (36)$$

where  $D_2 > 0$ , and  $c_2$  is a constant depending on  $D_2$ . Hence, the second term has the following upper bound.

$$\begin{aligned} |V_1(x)| &\ll \frac{1}{q} \left| \sum_{1 \leq u < q} e^{-i2\pi au/q} \right| \left| \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) e^{i2\pi n/q} + \frac{c_1 x}{(\log x)^{D_1}} \right| \\ &\ll \frac{1}{q} |-1| \left( \frac{c_2 x}{(\log x/q)^{D_2}} + \frac{c_1 x}{(\log x)^{D_1}} \right) \\ &\ll \frac{1}{q} \frac{x}{(\log x/q)^{D_2}}, \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

where the factor  $\sum_{1 \leq u < q} e^{-i2\pi au/q} = -1$ . Summing (34) and (37), and setting  $D = \min\{D_1, D_2\}$  completes the proof.  $\blacksquare$

The evidence generated by random numerical experiments are within the expected conditional estimate

$$\sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ q|n}} \mu(n+a) \ll \frac{1}{q} x^{1/2+\varepsilon}. \quad (38)$$

## 6 Proof of the Main Result

The analysis of the plain average order over the shifted primes

$$\sum_{p \leq x} \mu(p+a) \quad (39)$$

seems to be unmanageable. But, the introduction of the weighted prime indicator function, (vonMangoldt function),

$$\Lambda(n) = \begin{cases} \log n & \text{if } n = p^k, \\ 0 & \text{if } n \neq p^k, \end{cases} \quad (40)$$

where  $p^k$  is a prime power, the identity

$$\Lambda(n) = - \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \log d, \quad (41)$$

see [1, Theorem 2.11], and the result in Theorem 5.1 change everything.

*Proof.* (**Theorem 1.1**) To remove the reference to primes, insert the vonMangoldt function to obtain the equivalent form

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \Lambda(n) \mu(n+a). \quad (42)$$

Applying the identity (41) and reversing the order of summation produce the followings.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} \Lambda(n) \mu(n+a) &= - \sum_{n \leq x} \mu(n+a) \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \log d \\ &= - \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \log(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ d|n}} \mu(n+a). \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

Letting  $q = d$ , and applying Theorem 5.1 yield:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \log(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ d|n}} \mu(n+a) \right| &\leq \sum_{d \leq x} |\mu(d) \log(d)| \left| \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ d|n}} \mu(n+a) \right| \\ &\ll \sum_{d \leq x} \log(d) \left( \frac{1}{d} \frac{x}{(\log x/d)^D} \right) \\ &\ll \frac{x}{(\log x)^D} \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\log d}{d}, \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

where  $D > 0$  is an arbitrary constant. The estimate of the finite sum

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \frac{\log n}{n} \ll (\log x)^2, \quad (45)$$

is a routine calculation. Thus, replacing this estimate yields

$$\begin{aligned}
\left| \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \log(d) \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ d|n}} \mu(n+a) \right| &\ll \frac{x}{(\log x)^D} \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{\log d}{d} & (46) \\
&\ll \frac{x}{(\log x)^D} (\log x)^2 \\
&\ll \frac{x}{(\log x)^c},
\end{aligned}$$

where  $D - 2 \geq c > 0$  is a constant. ■

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