

# A proof of the non-existence of "Samma".

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**Introduction:** If  $\prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{r_i}$  is the prime factorization of the natural number  $n \geq 2$ , then it is easy to verify that

$$S(n) = S\left(\prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{r_i}\right) = \max\{S(p_i^{r_i})\}_{i=1}^k.$$

From this formula we see that it is essential to determine  $S(p^r)$ , where  $p$  is a prime and  $r$  is a natural number.

Legendres formula states that

$$(1) \quad n! = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \lfloor n/p_i^m \rfloor}.$$

The definition of the Smarandache function tells us that  $S(p^r)$  is the least natural number such that  $p^r \mid (S(p^r))!$ . Combining this definition with (1), it is obvious that  $S(p^r)$  must satisfy the following two inequalities:

$$(2) \quad \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left\lfloor \frac{S(p^r)-1}{p^k} \right\rfloor < r \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left\lfloor \frac{S(p^r)}{p^k} \right\rfloor.$$

This formula (2) gives us a lower and an upper bound for  $S(p^r)$ , namely

$$(3) \quad (p-1)r + 1 \leq S(p^r) \leq pr.$$

It also implies that  $p$  divides  $S(p^r)$ , which means that

$$S(p^r) = p(r-i) \text{ for a particular } 0 \leq i \leq \left\lfloor \frac{r-1}{p} \right\rfloor.$$

**"Samma":** Let  $T(n) = 1 - \log(S(n)) + \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{S(i)}$  for  $n \geq 2$ . I intend to prove that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T(n) = \infty$ , i.e. "Samma" does not exist.

First of all we define the sequence  $p_1 = 2$ ,  $p_2 = 3$ ,  $p_3 = 5$  and  $p_n =$  the  $n$ th prime.

Next we consider the natural number  $p_m^n$ . Now (3) gives us that

$$\begin{aligned}
S(p_i^k) &\leq p_i k \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\} \text{ and } \forall k \in \{1, \dots, n\} \\
&\Downarrow \\
\frac{1}{S(p_i^k)} &\geq \frac{1}{p_i k} \\
&\Downarrow \\
\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{S(p_i^k)} &\geq \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{p_i k} = \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{p_i} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} \right) \\
&\Downarrow \\
(4) \quad \sum_{k=2}^{p_m^n} \frac{1}{S(k)} &\geq \left( \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{p_k} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

since  $S(k) > 0$  for all  $k \geq 2$ ,  $p_a^b \leq p_m^n$  whenever  $a \leq m$  and  $b \leq n$  and  $p_a^b = p_c^d$  if and only if  $a = c$  and  $b = d$ .

Futhermore  $S(p_m^n) \leq p_m n$ , which implies that  $-\log S(p_m^n) \geq -\log(p_m n)$  because  $\log x$  is a strictly increasing function in the intervall  $[2, \infty)$ . By adding this last inequality and (4), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
T(p_m^n) &= 1 - \log(S(p_m^n)) + \sum_{i=2}^{p_m^n} \frac{1}{S(i)} \geq 1 - \log(p_m n) + \left( \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{p_k} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} \right) \\
&\Downarrow \\
T(p_m^{p_m}) &\geq 1 - \log(p_m^2) + \left( \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{p_k} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{k=1}^{p_m} \frac{1}{k} \right) \quad (n = p_m) \\
&\Downarrow \\
T(p_m^{p_m}) &\geq 1 + 2 \left( -\log p_m + \sum_{k=1}^{p_m} \frac{1}{k} \right) + \left( -2 + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{p_k} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{k=1}^{p_m} \frac{1}{k} \right) \\
&\Downarrow \\
\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} T(p_m^{p_m}) &\geq 1 + 2 \cdot \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left( -\log p_m + \sum_{k=1}^{p_m} \frac{1}{k} \right) + \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \left( -2 + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{p_k} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{k=1}^{p_m} \frac{1}{k} \right) \right] \\
&= 1 + 2 \cdot \lim_{p_m \rightarrow \infty} \left( -\log p_m + \sum_{k=1}^{p_m} \frac{1}{k} \right) + \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \left( -2 + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{p_k} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{k=1}^{p_m} \frac{1}{k} \right) \right] \\
&= 1 + 2\gamma + \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left( -2 + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{p_k} \right) \cdot \lim_{p_m \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{p_m} \frac{1}{k} \right) \quad (\gamma = \text{Euler's constant}) \\
&= \infty
\end{aligned}$$

since both  $\sum_{k=1}^t \frac{1}{k}$  and  $\sum_{k=1}^t \frac{1}{p_k}$  diverges as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . In other words,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T(n) = \infty$ .  $\square$