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Corrigendum

Corrigendum to “On a generalization of a conjecture of Grosswald” [J. Number Theory 216 (2020) 216–241]



Pradipto Banerjee*, Ranjan Bera

Indian Institute of Technology – Hyderabad, Department of Mathematics, Kandi, Sangareddy, Medak, Telangana 502285, India

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ABSTRACT

We extend the result of Lemma 4, [1] to the case that $e = 0$ and $\ell = 1$ which was missing in [1] but used in the proof of Theorem 1, [1].

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* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: pradipto.banerjee7@gmail.com (P. Banerjee), ma16resch11002@iith.ac.in (R. Bera).

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1. The correction

On page 15, [1], in *Case (ii)*, it is claimed in the fifth display that for $e \in \{0, 1\}$, the following holds.

$$\frac{1}{p-1} + \max \left\{ \frac{1}{p-1}, \frac{1}{p-2\ell}, \frac{2\log(2n+\beta)}{p^s \log p} \right\} > \frac{1}{k}.$$

This was obtained by arguing that $\mu_e(g) \geq 1/k$ and that

$$\mu_e(g) < \frac{1}{p-1} + \max \left\{ \frac{1}{p-1}, \frac{1}{p-2\ell}, \frac{2\log(2n+\beta)}{p^s \log p} \right\}. \tag{1}$$

For the latter estimate, we had referred to Lemma 4, [1]. The bound obtained in Lemma 4, [1], is valid only for $e \geq \ell$. While, according to (b), Corollary 4, if $e = 0$, then $\ell = 1$, i.e., $e < \ell$. Thus, in order for our arguments to work in case (ii), we must justify the validity of (1) in Lemma 4, [1], in the case that $e = 0$ and $\ell = 1$. In the present note, we achieve this.

We follow the notations of [1]. In the case under consideration, $e = 0$ and $\ell = 1$. By (b), Corollary 4 [1], this is the case if $\beta \neq -2$. We let p be a prime factor of $n - \ell = n - 1$ satisfying $p > 2\ell + |\beta| = 2 + |\beta|$, as required in Lemma 4, [1]. We are to establish that

$$\mu_0(g) < \frac{1}{p-1} + \max \left\{ \frac{1}{p-1}, \frac{1}{p-2}, \frac{2\log(2n+\beta)}{p^s \log p} \right\}. \tag{2}$$

We recall from [1] that

$$\mu_e(g) = \mu_{e,p}(g) = \max \left\{ \frac{\nu(b_0) - \nu(b_j)}{j} : e < j \leq n \right\}$$

where $g(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n b_j x^j$ and $\nu(b_j)$ is the highest power of p that divides b_j . From Lemma 4, [1], we already have that

$$\mu_1(g) < \frac{1}{p-1} + \max \left\{ \frac{1}{p-1}, \frac{1}{p-2\ell}, \frac{2\log(2n+\beta)}{p^s \log p} \right\}.$$

Thus, in order to establish (2), it would suffice to show that

$$\nu(b_0) - \nu(b_1) \leq 0.$$

Next, we recall from [1] that

$$b_j = \binom{n}{j} \frac{(2n + \beta - j)!}{(n + \beta)!}.$$

Thus,

$$b_0/b_1 = \frac{(2n + \beta)!}{(n + \beta)!} \frac{(n + \beta)!}{n(2n + \beta - 1)!} = \frac{2n + \beta}{n}.$$

Therefore, $\nu(b_0) - \nu(b_1) > 0$ implies that $p|(2n + \beta)$. Also, as per our hypothesis, p divides $n - 1$. Thus, p divides $2n + \beta - 2n + 2 = \beta + 2$. Since $p > 2 + |\beta|$, it must be that $\beta + 2 = 0$. But this is a contradiction since $|\beta| \neq -2$ in this case. Our assertion now follows.

References

- [1] P. Banerjee, R. Bera, On a generalization of a conjecture of Grosswald, *J. Number Theory* 216 (2020) 216–241.