

## A Remark on Chen's Theorem (II)\*\*

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**Abstract** Let  $p$  denote a prime and  $P_2$  denote an almost prime with at most two prime factors. The author proves that for sufficiently large  $x$ ,  $\sum_{\substack{p \leq x \\ p+2=P_2}} 1 > \frac{1.13Cx}{\log^2 x}$ , where the constant 1.13 constitutes an improvement of the previous result 1.104 due to J. Wu.

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### 1 Introduction

Let  $p, p'$  denote primes and  $P_2$  denote an almost prime with at most two prime factors. For sufficiently large  $x$ , it is conjectured by Hardy and Littlewood [9] that

$$\sum_{\substack{p \leq x \\ p+2=p'}} 1 = (1 + o(1)) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x},$$

where

$$C = 2 \prod_{p>2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{(p-1)^2}\right).$$

This conjecture still remains open. The best result in this aspect is due to J. R. Chen [2] who showed in 1973 that

$$\pi_{1,2}(x) > \frac{0.335Cx}{\log^2 x},$$

where

$$\pi_{1,2}(x) = \sum_{\substack{p \leq x \\ p+2=P_2}} 1.$$

The constant 0.335 was improved successively to

$$0.3445, 0.3772, 0.405, 0.71, 1.015, 1.05, 1.0974, 1.104$$

by Halberstam [7], J. R. Chen [3, 4], Fouvry and Grupp [5], H. Q. Liu [12], J. Wu [14], Y. C. Cai [1] and J. Wu [15] respectively.

In this paper, we obtain the following sharper result.

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**Theorem 1.1**

$$\pi_{1,2}(x) > \frac{1.13Cx}{\log^2 x}.$$

**2 Some Lemmas**

**Lemma 2.1** (see [5]) For  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let  $Q = x^{\frac{4}{7}-\varepsilon}$ , and  $\lambda(\cdot)$  denote a well-factorable function of level  $Q$ . Then, for any given  $A > 0$  and  $|a| \leq \log^A x$ , we have

$$\sum_{(q,a)=1} \lambda(q) \left( \pi(x; q, a) - \frac{\text{Li } x}{\varphi(q)} \right) = O_{A,\varepsilon,a} \left( \frac{x}{\log^A x} \right).$$

**Lemma 2.2** (see [15]) Let  $(\alpha_m)$  and  $(\beta_n)$  be two sequences satisfying the following conditions:

(A<sub>1</sub>)  $M \geq x^\varepsilon$ ,  $\alpha_m = 0$  for  $m \notin [M, 2M]$ ,  $|\alpha_m| \leq \tau_k(m)$ ;

(A<sub>2</sub>)  $N \geq x^\varepsilon$ ,  $\beta_n = 0$  for  $n \notin [N, 2N]$ ,  $|\beta_n| \leq \tau_k(n)$ ;

(A<sub>3</sub>) For any given  $e \geq 1$ ,  $d \geq 1$ ,  $(d, l) = 1$ ,  $A > 0$ ,

$$\sum_{\substack{n \equiv l(d) \\ (n,e)=1}} \beta_n = \frac{1}{\varphi(d)} \sum_{(n,de)=1} \beta_n + O \left( \frac{N \tau(e)^B}{\log^A N} \right);$$

(A<sub>4</sub>) If  $p|n \rightarrow p < \exp(\log^{\frac{1}{2}} x)$ , then  $\beta_n = 0$ ,

where  $k$  and  $B$  are constants. Let  $MN \leq x$ ,  $v = \frac{\log N}{\log x}$  and  $Q = x^{\theta(v)-2\varepsilon}$ , where  $\theta(v)$  is defined by

$$\theta(v) = \begin{cases} \frac{6-5v}{10}, & 0 < v \leq \frac{1}{15}, \\ \frac{1+2v}{2}, & \frac{1}{15} \leq v \leq \frac{1}{10}, \\ \frac{5-2v}{8}, & \frac{1}{10} \leq v \leq \frac{3}{14}, \\ \frac{3+2v}{6}, & \frac{3}{14} \leq v \leq \frac{1}{4}, \\ \frac{2-v}{3}, & \frac{1}{4} \leq v \leq \frac{2}{7}, \\ \frac{2+v}{4}, & \frac{2}{7} \leq v \leq \frac{2}{5}, \\ 1-v, & \frac{2}{5} \leq v \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ \frac{1}{2}, & \frac{1}{2} \leq v < 1. \end{cases}$$

Then for any  $A > 0$  and  $|a| \leq \log^A x$ ,

$$\sum_{(q,a)=1} \lambda(q) \left( \sum_{mn \equiv a(q)} \alpha_m \beta_n - \frac{1}{\varphi(q)} \sum_{(mn,q)=1} \alpha_m \beta_n \right) = O_{A,\varepsilon,k,B} \left( \frac{x}{\log^A x} \right).$$

**Lemma 2.3** (see [6]) Let  $\xi(\cdot)$  denote an arithmetical function such that

$$|\xi(q)| \leq \log x, \quad \xi(q) = 0 \quad \text{for } q > Q_1.$$

Then

$$\sum_{(qq_1, a)=1} \lambda(q) \xi(q_1) \left( \pi(x; qq_1, a) - \frac{\text{Li} x}{\varphi(qq_1)} \right) = O_{A, \varepsilon, a} \left( \frac{x}{\log^A x} \right)$$

if either

- (1)  $Q_1 \leq Q$ ,  $Q_1 Q \leq x^{\frac{4}{7}-\varepsilon}$ , or
- (2)  $Q_1 \geq Q$ ,  $Q_1^6 Q \leq x^{2-\varepsilon}$ , or
- (3)  $\xi(q) = \Lambda(q)$ ,  $Q_1 Q \leq x^{\frac{11}{20}-\varepsilon}$ ,  $Q_1 \leq x^{\frac{1}{3}-\varepsilon}$ .

**Lemma 2.4** (see [6]) Let  $\eta > 0$  and define

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{4}{7}, & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{2}{7} - \eta, \\ \frac{11}{20}, & \frac{2}{7} - \eta \leq t \leq \frac{1}{3} - \eta, \\ \frac{1}{2}, & \frac{1}{3} - \eta \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} - \eta. \end{cases}$$

Then, for any  $A > 0$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $|a| \leq \log^A x$ , we have

$$\sum_{x^t \leq p < 2x^t} \sum_{(q, a)=1} \lambda(q) \left( \pi(x; pq, a) - \frac{\text{Li} x}{\varphi(pq)} \right) = O_{A, k, a} \left( \frac{x}{\log^A x} \right),$$

where  $Q = x^{g(t)-t-\varepsilon}$ .

**Lemma 2.5** (see [11, 13]) Let

$$x > 1, \quad z = x^{\frac{1}{u}}, \quad Q(z) = \prod_{p < z} p.$$

Then, for  $u \geq u_0 > 1$ , we have

$$\sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ (n, Q(z))=1}} 1 = w(u) \frac{x}{\log z} + O\left(\frac{x}{\log^2 z}\right),$$

where  $w(u)$  is determined by a differential-difference equation and

$$\begin{cases} w(u) < \frac{1}{1.763}, & u \geq 2, \\ w(u) < 0.5644, & u \geq 3. \end{cases}$$

### 3 Weighted Sieve Method

Let  $x$  be a sufficiently large real number and put

$$\mathcal{A} = \{a \mid a = p + 2, p \leq x\}, \tag{3.1}$$

$$\mathcal{P} = \{p \mid p > 2\}. \tag{3.2}$$

**Lemma 3.1** Let  $0 < \alpha < \beta \leq \frac{1}{3}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{1,2}(x) &\geq S(\mathcal{A}, x^\alpha) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p < x^\beta} S(\mathcal{A}_p, x^\alpha) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p_1 < x^\beta \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\ &\quad - \sum_{x^\beta \leq p_1 < p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < x^\beta} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) + O(x^{1-\alpha}). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof** By the trivial inequality

$$\pi_{1,2}(x) \geq S(\mathcal{A}, x^\beta) - \sum_{x^\beta \leq p_1 < p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2)$$

and Buchstab's identity, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{1,2}(x) &\geq S(\mathcal{A}, x^\beta) - \sum_{x^\beta \leq p_1 < p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\ &= S(\mathcal{A}, x^\alpha) - \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p < x^\beta} S(\mathcal{A}_p, x^\alpha) + \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p_1 < p_2 < x^\beta} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}, p_1) \\ &\quad - \sum_{x^\beta \leq p_1 < p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2). \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

On the other hand, we have the trivial inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{1,2}(x) &\geq S(\mathcal{A}, x^\alpha) - \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p_1 < p_2 < x^\beta} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) - \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p_1 < x^\beta \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\ &\quad - \sum_{x^\beta \leq p_1 < p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2). \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

Now by Buchstab's identity we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{x^\alpha \leq p_1 < p_2 < x^\beta} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}, p_1) - \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p_1 < p_2 < x^\beta} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\ &= \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < x^\beta} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) + \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p_1 < p_2 < x^\beta} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1^2 p_2}, p_1) \\ &= \sum_{x^\alpha \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < x^\beta} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) + O(x^{1-\alpha}). \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

Now we add (3.3) and (3.4) and by (3.5), Lemma 3.1 follows.

**Lemma 3.2**

$$\begin{aligned} 2\pi_{1,2}(x) &\geq \frac{3}{2} S(\mathcal{A}, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) + \frac{1}{2} S(\mathcal{A}, x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_2 < \min(x^{\frac{1}{3.6}}, x^{\frac{17}{42}} p_1^{-1})} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p < x^{\frac{1}{3}}} S(\mathcal{A}_p, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}}} S(\mathcal{A}_p, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) \\
& -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
& -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), (\frac{x}{p_1 p_2})^{\frac{1}{2}}) \\
& -\sum_{x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
& -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < p_4 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
& -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_4 < \min(x^{\frac{1}{3.5}}, x^{\frac{17}{42}} p_3^{-1})} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) + O(x^{\frac{11}{12}}) \\
& = \frac{1}{2}(3S_{11} + S_{12}) + \frac{1}{2}(S_{21} + S_{22}) - \frac{1}{2}(S_{31} + S_{32}) - \frac{1}{2}(S_{41} + S_{42}) \\
& \quad - S_5 - \frac{1}{2}(S_{61} + S_{62}) + O(x^{\frac{11}{12}}) \\
& = \frac{1}{2}S_1 + \frac{1}{2}S_2 - \frac{1}{2}S_3 - \frac{1}{2}S_4 - S_5 - \frac{1}{2}S_6 + O(x^{\frac{11}{12}}).
\end{aligned}$$

**Proof** By Buchstab's identity, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{2}S(\mathcal{A}, x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}) &= \frac{1}{2}S(\mathcal{A}, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_p, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}, p_1), \tag{3.6}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}}} S(\mathcal{A}_p, x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}) &\leq \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}}} S(\mathcal{A}_p, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) \\
&\quad - \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_2 < \min(x^{\frac{1}{3.5}}, x^{\frac{17}{42}} p_1^{-1})} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) \\
&\quad + \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_3 < \min(x^{\frac{1}{3.5}}, x^{\frac{17}{42}} p_2^{-1})} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}, p_1), \tag{3.7}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) &= \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
&\quad + \sum_{\substack{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \\ (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2). \tag{3.8}
\end{aligned}$$

If  $p_2 \leq (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{3}}$ , then  $p_2 \leq (\frac{x}{p_1 p_2})^{\frac{1}{2}}$  and by Buchstab's identity, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{3}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
 = & \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{3}}} S\left(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1 p_2), \left(\frac{x}{p_1 p_2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right) \\
 & + \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_2 \leq p_3 < (\frac{x}{p_1 p_2})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}; \mathcal{P}(p_1 p_2), p_3). \tag{3.9}
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, if  $p_2 \geq (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{3}}$ , then  $p_2 \geq (\frac{x}{p_1 p_2})^{\frac{1}{2}}$  and we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{\substack{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \\ (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{3}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
 \leq & \sum_{\substack{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \\ (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{3}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}}} S\left(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1 p_2), \left(\frac{x}{p_1 p_2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right). \tag{3.10}
 \end{aligned}$$

By (3.8)–(3.10), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
 \leq & \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_2 < (\frac{x}{p_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S\left(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}; \mathcal{P}(p_1 p_2), \left(\frac{x}{p_1 p_2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right) \\
 & + \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_2 < p_3 < (\frac{x}{p_1 p_2})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}; \mathcal{P}(p_1 p_2), p_3). \tag{3.11}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now by Buchstab's identity we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < x^{\frac{1}{3}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) - \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}, p_1) \\
 - & \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_3 < \min(x^{\frac{1}{3.5}}, x^{\frac{17}{42}} p_2^{-1})} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}, p_1) \\
 - & \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \leq p_2 \leq p_3 < (\frac{x}{p_1 p_2})^{\frac{1}{2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}; \mathcal{P}(p_1 p_2), p_3) \\
 \geq - & \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < p_4 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
 - & \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_4 < \min(x^{\frac{1}{3.5}}, x^{\frac{17}{42}} p_3^{-1})} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) + O(x^{\frac{11}{12}}). \tag{3.12}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now by Lemma 3.1 with  $(\alpha, \beta) = (\frac{1}{12}, \frac{1}{3})$  and  $(\alpha, \beta) = (\frac{1}{7.2}, \frac{1}{3.5})$  and (3.6), (3.7), (3.11) and (3.12), we complete the proof of Lemma 3.2.

## 4 Proof of Theorem 1.1

In this section, the sets  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  are defined by (3.1) and (3.2) respectively.

### 4.1 Evaluation of $S_1$ and $S_2$

Let  $Q = x^{\frac{4}{7}-\varepsilon}$ . By Lemma 2.1 and the sieve theory with bilinear error term in [10], we get

$$\begin{aligned} S_{11} &\geq 3.5(1+O(\varepsilon)) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \left( \log \frac{41}{7} + \int_2^{\frac{34}{7}} \frac{\log(s-1)}{s} \log \frac{41}{s+1} ds \right) \geq 6.73740 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}, \\ S_{12} &\geq 3.5(1+O(\varepsilon)) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \left( \log \frac{21.8}{7} + \int_2^{\frac{14.8}{7}} \frac{\log(s-1)}{s} \log \frac{21.8}{s+1} ds \right) \geq 3.97613 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$S_1 = 3S_{11} + S_{12} \geq 24.18833 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}. \quad (4.1)$$

Let  $\lambda'_1$  and  $\lambda'_2$  denote the characteristic functions of the primes in the intervals  $[L_1, L'_1)$  and  $[L_2, L'_2)$  respectively, where  $x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq L_1 < L'_1 \leq 2L_1 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}}$ ,  $x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq L_2 < L'_2 \leq 2L_2 < \min(x^{\frac{1}{3.5}-\varepsilon}, x^{\frac{17}{42}-\varepsilon}(2L_1)^{-1})$ , and  $\lambda$  denote a well-factorable function of level  $Q(L_1 L_2)^{-1}$ . Then  $L'_1 < Q(L_1 L_2)^{-1}$ ,  $L'_2 < Q L_2^{-1}$ . Thus  $\lambda \star \lambda'_1$  is a well-factorable function of level  $Q L_2^{-1}$ , and  $(\lambda \star \lambda'_1) \star \lambda'_2$  is a well-factorable function of level  $Q$ . By Lemma 2.1 and the bilinear sieve theory in [10], we get

$$\begin{aligned} S_{22} &\geq \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_2 < \min(x^{\frac{1}{3.5}-\varepsilon}, x^{\frac{17}{42}-\varepsilon} p_1^{-1})} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2}, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) \\ &\geq (1+O(\varepsilon)) \frac{3.5Cx}{\log^2 x} \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\min(\frac{1}{3.5}, \frac{17}{42}-t_1)} \frac{\log(\frac{41}{7} - 12(t_1 + t_2))}{t_1 t_2 (1 - 1.75(t_1 + t_2))} dt_1 dt_2. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$S_{21} \geq (1+O(\varepsilon)) \frac{3.5Cx}{\log^2 x} \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \int_{t_1}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{\log(\frac{41}{7} - 12(t_1 + t_2))}{t_1 t_2 (1 - 1.75(t_1 + t_2))} dt_1 dt_2.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} S_2 &= S_{21} + S_{22} \\ &\geq (1+O(\varepsilon)) \frac{3.5Cx}{\log^2 x} \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \int_{t_1}^{\min(\frac{1}{3.5}, \frac{17}{42}-t_1)} \frac{\log(\frac{41}{7} - 12(t_1 + t_2))}{t_1 t_2 (1 - 1.75(t_1 + t_2))} dt_1 dt_2 \\ &\geq 2.83084 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.2)$$

### 4.2 Evaluation of $S_3$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} S_{31} &= \left( \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p < x^{\frac{2}{7}-\varepsilon}} + \sum_{x^{\frac{2}{7}-\varepsilon} \leq p < x^{0.29}} \right) S(\mathcal{A}_p, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) + \left( \sum_{x^{0.29} \leq p < x^{\frac{1}{3}-\varepsilon}} + \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{3}-\varepsilon} \leq p \leq x^{\frac{1}{3}}} \right) S(\mathcal{A}_p, x^{\frac{1}{12}}) \\ &= \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2 + \Sigma_3 + \Sigma_4. \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

By Lemma 2.1 and the arguments used in [14], we get

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_1 &\leq 3.5(1 + O(\varepsilon)) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \left( \left( 1 + \int_2^{\frac{17}{7}} \frac{\log(s-1)}{s} ds \right) \log \frac{12-1.75}{3.5-1.75} \right. \\ &\quad + \int_{\frac{17}{7}}^{\frac{34}{7}} \frac{\log(s-1)}{s} \log \frac{\frac{41}{7}(\frac{41}{7}-s)}{s+1} ds \\ &\quad \left. + \int_2^{\frac{20}{7}} \frac{\log(s-1)}{s} ds \int_{s+2}^{\frac{34}{7}} \frac{1}{t} \log \frac{t-1}{s+1} \log \frac{\frac{41}{7}(\frac{41}{7}-t)}{t+1} dt \right) \\ &\leq 8.37862 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}.\end{aligned}\tag{4.4}$$

By Lemma 2.3, Lemma 2.4 and the arguments used in [14], we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_2 &\leq (1 + O(\varepsilon)) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \left( \left( 1 + \int_2^{2.12} \frac{\log(s-1)}{s} ds \right) \log \frac{29}{26} + \int_{2.12}^{\frac{17}{7}} \frac{\log(s-1)}{s} \log \frac{23-s}{6(s+1)} ds \right) \\ &\leq 0.11104 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x},\end{aligned}\tag{4.5}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_3 &\leq (1 + O(\varepsilon)) \frac{40Cx}{11 \log^2 x} \left( \log \frac{52}{37.7} + \int_2^{2.12} \frac{\log(s-1)}{s} \log \frac{26(5.6-s)}{29(s+1)} ds \right) \\ &\leq 1.16970 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}.\end{aligned}\tag{4.6}$$

By a trivial estimation, we have

$$\Sigma_4 = O\left(\frac{\varepsilon Cx}{\log^2 x}\right).\tag{4.7}$$

By (4.3)–(4.7), we get

$$\begin{aligned}S_{31} &= \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2 + \Sigma_3 + \Sigma_4 \leq 9.65936 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}, \\ S_{32} &= \Sigma_1 + O\left(\frac{\varepsilon Cx}{\log^2 x}\right) \leq 8.37862 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}.\end{aligned}\tag{4.8}$$

Then

$$S_3 = S_{31} + S_{32} \leq 18.03798 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}.\tag{4.9}$$

### 4.3 Evaluation of $S_6$

By Lemma 2.2, Lemma 2.5 and the arguments used in [15], we get

$$S_{61} \leq (1 + O(\varepsilon)) C_1 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \leq 0.05331 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x},\tag{4.10}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}C_1 &= 4 \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{10}} \frac{dt_1}{t_1(1+2t_1)} \int_{t_1}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_2^2} \int_{t_2}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_3}{t_3} \int_{t_3}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \omega\left(\frac{1-t_1-t_2-t_3-t_4}{t_2}\right) \frac{dt_4}{t_4} \\ &\quad + 16 \int_{\frac{1}{10}}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_1}{t_1(5-2t_1)} \int_{t_1}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_2^2} \int_{t_2}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_3}{t_3} \int_{t_3}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \omega\left(\frac{1-t_1-t_2-t_3-t_4}{t_2}\right) \frac{dt_4}{t_4}.\end{aligned}$$



By a similar method, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{62} &= \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < x^{\frac{5}{42}} < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_4 < x^{\frac{1}{3.5}}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
 &+ \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < x^{\frac{5}{42}} \leq p_3 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_4 < x^{\frac{17}{42}} p_3^{-1}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
 &+ \sum_{x^{\frac{1}{12}} \leq p_1 < x^{\frac{5}{42}} \leq p_2 < p_3 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_4 < x^{\frac{17}{42}} p_3^{-1}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
 &+ \sum_{x^{\frac{5}{42}} \leq p_1 < p_2 < p_3 < x^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \leq p_4 < x^{\frac{17}{42}} p_3^{-1}} S(\mathcal{A}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4}; \mathcal{P}(p_1), p_2) \\
 &= S_{62}^1 + S_{62}^2 + S_{62}^3 + S_{62}^4,
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.11}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{62}^1 &\leq (1 + O(\varepsilon)) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \\
 &\times \left( 4 \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{10}} \frac{dt_1}{t_1(1+2t_1)} \int_{t_1}^{\frac{5}{42}} \frac{dt_2}{t_2^2} \int_{t_2}^{\frac{5}{42}} \frac{dt_3}{t_3} \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \omega\left(\frac{1-t_1-t_2-t_3-t_4}{t_2}\right) \frac{dt_4}{t_4} \right. \\
 &+ 16 \int_{\frac{1}{10}}^{\frac{5}{42}} \frac{dt_1}{t_1(5-2t_1)} \int_{t_1}^{\frac{5}{42}} \frac{dt_2}{t_2^2} \int_{t_2}^{\frac{5}{42}} \frac{dt_3}{t_3} \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{1}{3.5}} \omega\left(\frac{1-t_1-t_2-t_3-t_4}{t_2}\right) \frac{dt_4}{t_4} \Big) \\
 &\leq 0.10505 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x},
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.12}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{62}^2 &\leq (1 + O(\varepsilon)) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \\
 &\times \left( 4 \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{10}} \frac{dt_1}{t_1(1+2t_1)} \int_{t_1}^{\frac{5}{42}} \frac{dt_2}{t_2^2} \int_{\frac{5}{42}}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_3}{t_3} \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{17}{42}-t_3} \omega\left(\frac{1-t_1-t_2-t_3-t_4}{t_2}\right) \frac{dt_4}{t_4} \right. \\
 &+ 16 \int_{\frac{1}{10}}^{\frac{5}{42}} \frac{dt_1}{t_1(5-2t_1)} \int_{t_1}^{\frac{5}{42}} \frac{dt_2}{t_2^2} \int_{\frac{5}{42}}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_3}{t_3} \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{17}{42}-t_3} \omega\left(\frac{1-t_1-t_2-t_3-t_4}{t_2}\right) \frac{dt_4}{t_4} \Big) \\
 &\leq 0.12188 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x},
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.13}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{62}^3 &\leq (1 + O(\varepsilon)) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \\
 &\times \left( 4 \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{10}} \frac{dt_1}{t_1(1+2t_1)} \int_{\frac{5}{42}}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_2^2} \int_{t_2}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_3}{t_3} \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{17}{42}-t_3} \omega\left(\frac{1-t_1-t_2-t_3-t_4}{t_2}\right) \frac{dt_4}{t_4} \right. \\
 &+ 16 \int_{\frac{1}{10}}^{\frac{5}{42}} \frac{dt_1}{t_1(5-2t_1)} \int_{\frac{5}{42}}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_2^2} \int_{t_2}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_3}{t_3} \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{17}{42}-t_3} \omega\left(\frac{1-t_1-t_2-t_3-t_4}{t_2}\right) \frac{dt_4}{t_4} \Big) \\
 &\leq 0.04359 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x},
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.14}$$

$$S_{62}^4 \leq (1 + O(\varepsilon)) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \times \left( 16 \int_{\frac{5}{42}}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_1}{t_1(5-2t_1)} \int_{t_1}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_2^2} \int_{t_2}^{\frac{1}{7.2}} \frac{dt_3}{t_3} \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{17}{42}-t_3} \omega\left(\frac{1-t_1-t_2-t_3-t_4}{t_2}\right) \frac{dt_4}{t_4} \right) \\
& \leq 0.00608 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.15}$$

By (4.11)–(4.15), we get

$$S_{62} \leq 0.27656 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}. \tag{4.16}$$

By (4.10) and (4.16), we obtain

$$S_6 = S_{61} + S_{62} \leq 0.32987 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}. \tag{4.17}$$

#### 4.4 Evaluation of $S_4$ and $S_5$

By Lemma 2.2 and the arguments used in [12], we get

$$S_{41} \leq (1 + O(\varepsilon))C_2 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \leq \frac{2.02916Cx}{\log^2 x}, \tag{4.18}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
C_2 = & 4 \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{10}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\frac{2}{5}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (1+2t_1)(1-t_1-t_2)} + 8 \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{10}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\frac{2}{5}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2+t_2)(1-t_1-t_2)} \\
& \quad \frac{\frac{1+2t_1}{2} \geq \frac{2+t_2}{4}}{\frac{1+2t_1}{2} \leq \frac{2+t_2}{4}} \\
& + 4 \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{10}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{2}{5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (1+2t_1)(1-t_1-t_2)} + 2 \int_{\frac{1}{12}}^{\frac{1}{10}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{2}{5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (1-t_2)(1-t_1-t_2)} \\
& \quad \frac{\frac{1+2t_1}{2} \geq 1-t_2}{\frac{1+2t_1}{2} \leq 1-t_2} \\
& + 16 \int_{\frac{1}{10}}^{\frac{1}{5}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\frac{2}{5}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (5-2t_1)(1-t_1-t_2)} + 8 \int_{\frac{1}{10}}^{\frac{1}{5}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\frac{2}{5}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2+t_2)(1-t_1-t_2)} \\
& \quad \frac{\frac{5-2t_1}{8} \geq \frac{2+t_2}{4}}{\frac{5-2t_1}{8} \leq \frac{2+t_2}{4}} \\
& + 16 \int_{\frac{1}{10}}^{\frac{1}{5}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{2}{5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (5-2t_1)(1-t_1-t_2)} + 2 \int_{\frac{1}{10}}^{\frac{1}{5}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{2}{5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (1-t_2)(1-t_1-t_2)} \\
& \quad \frac{\frac{5-2t_1}{8} \geq 1-t_2}{\frac{5-2t_1}{8} \leq 1-t_2} \\
& + 8 \int_{\frac{1}{5}}^{\frac{3}{14}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2+t_2)(1-t_1-t_2)} + 8 \int_{\frac{3}{14}}^{\frac{1}{4}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2+t_2)(1-t_1-t_2)} \\
& + 8 \int_{\frac{1}{4}}^{\frac{2}{7}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2+t_2)(1-t_1-t_2)} + 8 \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\frac{2}{7}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2+t_2)(1-t_1-t_2)}.
\end{aligned}$$

In a similarly way, we have

$$S_{42} \leq (1 + O(\varepsilon))C_3 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \leq \frac{1.77427Cx}{\log^2 x}, \tag{4.19}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_3 = & 16 \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{1}{5}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3.5}}^{\frac{2}{5}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (5 - 2t_1)(1 - t_1 - t_2)} + 8 \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{1}{5}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3.5}}^{\frac{2}{5}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2 + t_2)(1 - t_1 - t_2)} \\
 & + 16 \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{1}{5}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{2}{5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (5 - 2t_1)(1 - t_1 - t_2)} + 2 \int_{\frac{1}{7.2}}^{\frac{1}{5}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{2}{5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (1 - t_2)(1 - t_1 - t_2)} \\
 & + 16 \int_{\frac{1}{5}}^{\frac{3}{14}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3.5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (5 - 2t_1)(1 - t_1 - t_2)} + 8 \int_{\frac{1}{5}}^{\frac{3}{14}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3.5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2 + t_2)(1 - t_1 - t_2)} \\
 & + 12 \int_{\frac{3}{14}}^{\frac{1}{4}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3.5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (3 + 2t_1)(1 - t_1 - t_2)} + 8 \int_{\frac{3}{14}}^{\frac{1}{4}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3.5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2 + t_2)(1 - t_1 - t_2)} \\
 & + 6 \int_{\frac{1}{4}}^{\frac{1}{3.5}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3.5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2 - t_2)(1 - t_1 - t_2)} + 8 \int_{\frac{1}{3.5}}^{\frac{1}{4}} dt_1 \int_{\frac{1}{3.5}}^{\frac{1-t_1}{2}} \frac{dt_2}{t_1 t_2 (2 + t_2)(1 - t_1 - t_2)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

By (4.18) and (4.19), we get

$$S_4 = S_{41} + S_{42} \leq 3.80343 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}. \quad (4.20)$$

By Lemma 2.2 and the arguments used in [12], we get

$$S_5 \leq 8(1 + O(\varepsilon)) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \int_{\frac{2}{7}}^{\frac{1}{3}} \frac{\log\left(\frac{1}{t} - 2\right)}{t(2+t)(1-t)} dt \leq 0.16203 \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x}. \quad (4.21)$$

#### 4.5 Proof of Theorem 1.1

By Lemma 3.2 and (4.1), (4.2), (4.9), (4.17), (4.20) and (4.21), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 2\pi_{1,2}(x) & \geq \frac{1}{2}(S_1 + S_2) - \frac{1}{2}(S_3 + S_4) - S_5 - \frac{1}{2}S_6 + O(x^{\frac{11}{12}}) \\
 & \geq \left( \frac{24.18833}{2} + \frac{2.83084}{2} - \frac{18.03798}{2} - \frac{3.80343}{2} - 0.16203 - \frac{0.32987}{2} \right) \frac{Cx}{\log^2 x} \\
 & > \frac{2.26Cx}{\log^2 x}, \\
 \pi_{1,2}(x) & > \frac{1.13Cx}{\log^2 x}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The theorem is proved.

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