# ON ROBIN'S INEQUALITY AND THE KANEKO-LAGARIAS INEQUALITY

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ABSTRACT. We prove that Robin's inequality and the Lagarias inequality hold for almost every number, including all numbers not divisible by one of the prime numbers  $\{2,3,5\}$ , primorials, sufficiently big numbers of the form  $2^k n$  for odd n and 21-free integers. We also prove that the Kaneko-Lagarias inequality holds for all numbers if and only if it holds for all superabundant numbers.

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# 1. Preliminaries

We denote by  $\sigma(n)$  and  $\varphi(n)$  the sum of divisors function and Euler's totient function respectively. Robin's inequality ([Rob84]) states that the Riemann hypothesis is equivalent to the assertion that

(1.1) 
$$\sigma(n) < e^{\gamma} n \log(\log(n))$$

for all n > 5040, where  $\gamma$  denotes the Euler-Mascheroni constant. Similarly, the Lagarias inequality ([Lag02]) states that the Riemann hypothesis is equivalent to the assertion that

(1.2) 
$$\sigma(n) < H_n + \exp(H_n)\log(H_n)$$

for all  $n \geq 1$ , where  $H_n$  denotes the *n*-th harmonic number. Lagarias also published an equlity that we call the Kaneko-Lagarias inequality (see the acknowledgements in [Lag02]),

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which states that the Riemann hypothesis is equivalent to the assertion that

(1.3) 
$$\sigma(n) < \exp(H_n)\log(H_n)$$

for all n > 60.

### 2. Robin's Inequality

2.1. Sufficiently big numbers not divisible by one of the prime numbers 2, 3, or 5. Let  $p_1 = 2$ ,  $p_2 = 3$ , etc. be an enumeration of the prime numbers which we denote by  $\mathbb{P}$ . Fix  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $q_1 < q_2 < \cdots < q_k$  be some prime numbers distinct from  $p_j$ . Given  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots, \alpha_k \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $n = q_1^{\alpha_1} q_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots q_k^{\alpha_k}$ .

Lemma 2.1. We have

(2.1) 
$$\frac{\sigma(n)}{n} < \prod_{\ell=1}^{k} \frac{q_{\ell}}{q_{\ell} - 1} \le \prod_{\substack{\ell=1, \dots, j-1 \\ j+1, \dots, k+1}} \frac{p_{\ell}}{p_{\ell} - 1} = \frac{n}{\varphi(n)}.$$

*Proof.* The first inequality follows from the fact that for any  $p \in \mathbb{P}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}$ 

(2.2) 
$$\frac{\sigma(p^{\alpha})}{p^{\alpha}} = \frac{p - \frac{1}{p^{\alpha}}}{p - 1} \nearrow \frac{p}{p - 1} \text{ as } \alpha \to \infty.$$

The second inequality follows from the fact that  $p_i \leq q_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ .

Note that

(2.3) 
$$\frac{n}{\varphi(n)} = \left( \prod_{\substack{\ell=1,\dots,j-1\\j+1,\dots,k+1}} \frac{p_{\ell}+1}{p_{\ell}} \right) \left( \prod_{\substack{\ell=1,\dots,j-1\\j+1,\dots,k+1}} \frac{p_{\ell}^2}{p_{\ell}^2 - 1} \right) =: A(k)B(k).$$

We can bound A(k) as follows:

$$(2.4) \qquad \log(A(k)) = \sum_{\substack{\ell = 1, \dots, j-1 \\ j+1, \dots, k+1}} \log\left(1 + \frac{1}{p_{\ell}}\right) \leq \sum_{\substack{\ell = 1, \dots, j-1 \\ j+1, \dots, k+1}} \frac{1}{p_{\ell}} = \left(\sum_{\ell=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{p_{\ell}}\right) - \frac{1}{p_{j}}$$

and

(2.5) 
$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{p_{\ell}} \le \log(\log(p_{k+1})) + c_1 + \frac{5}{\log(p_{k+1})},$$

where  $c_1 \approx .261497$  by Theorem 1.10 in [Ten95]. Thus we obtain

**Lemma 2.2.** For all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

(2.6) 
$$A(k) \le \log(p_{k+1}) \exp\left(c_1 - \frac{1}{p_j} + \frac{5}{\log(p_{k+1})}\right).$$

Combining [Dus99] and Theorem 3 from [RS62], we obtain the following:

Theorem 2.3. For  $k \geq 6$ ,

$$(2.7) k(\log(k) + \log(\log(k)) - 1) < p_k < k(\log(k) + \log(\log(k))).$$

Furthermore, combining Lemma 2.2 and Theorem 2.3, we see that

**Lemma 2.4.** For  $k \ge 6$ , A(k) < C(k) where

(2.8) 
$$C(k) = \log((k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1)))) \\ \exp\left(c_1 - \frac{1}{p_j} + \frac{5}{\log((k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1)) - 1))}\right).$$

Now, put  $m = p_{k+1} \#/p_j$ . Our goal is to show the following, since it implies that Robin's inequality for n as above:

**Theorem 2.5.** For any  $j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , there exists a  $K_j \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $k \geq K_j$  implies

(2.9) 
$$C(k)B(k) < e^{\gamma} \log(\log(m)).$$

Corollary 2.6. Suppose Theorem 2.5 holds. Then Robin's inequality holds for n as above.

*Proof.* We calculate

$$(2.10) \qquad \frac{\sigma(n)}{n} < \frac{n}{\varphi(n)} \le A(k)B(k) < C(k)B(k) < e^{\gamma}\log(\log(m)) \le e^{\gamma}\log(\log(n)),$$

where the last inequality follows from the fact that  $m \leq n$ .

**Definition 2.7.** The *Chebyshev function* is defined as follows:

(2.11) 
$$\theta(x) = \sum_{p \in \mathbb{P}, p \le x} \log(p) = \log\left(\prod_{p \in \mathbb{P}, p \le x} p\right).$$

**Theorem 2.8.** For  $x \ge 529$ ,

(2.12) 
$$\prod_{\substack{p \in \mathbb{P} \\ p \le x}} p = e^{\theta(x)} > e^{x\left(1 - \frac{1}{2\log x}\right)} \ge (2.51)^x.$$

*Proof.* The first inequality is given by (3.14) in [RS62] and the second follows from computations since the function  $f(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{2 \log x}$  increases for x > 1.

**Lemma 2.9.** For  $k \ge 99$ ,

$$\log(\log(m)) > \log((k+1)(\log(k+1)) + \log(\log(k+1)) - 1)\log(2.51) - \log(p_j)) =: D(k).$$

*Proof.* Noting that  $k \geq 99$  implies  $p_{k+1} > 529$ , we calculate

(2.13) 
$$\log(\log(m)) = \log\left(\log\left(\frac{p_{k+1}\#}{p_j}\right)\right) > \log\left(\log\left(\frac{(2.51)^{p_{k+1}}}{p_j}\right)\right)$$
$$= \log(p_{k+1}\log(2.51) - \log(p_j))$$
$$> \log((k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1)) - 1)\log(2.51) - \log(p_j)),$$

where the last inequality uses Theorem 2.3.

The following implies Theorem 2.5:

**Proposition 2.10.** For  $j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , there exists a  $K_j \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $k \geq K_j$  implies

$$(2.14) C(k)B(k) < e^{\gamma}D(k).$$

Proof. Denote

(2.15) 
$$\widetilde{C}(k) = e^{-c_1 + \frac{1}{p_j}} C(k) = \log((k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1))))$$

$$\exp\left(\frac{5}{\log((k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1)) - 1))}\right)$$

and

(2.16) 
$$\widehat{C}(k) = \exp\left(\frac{5}{\log((k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1)) - 1))}\right).$$

Multiplying both sides of (2.14) by  $e^{-c_1+\frac{1}{p_j}}p_j^2/(p_j^2-1)$ , we obtain

(2.17) 
$$\widetilde{C}(k) \prod_{\ell=1}^{k+1} \frac{p_{\ell}^2}{p_{\ell}^2 - 1} < \frac{e^{\gamma - c_1 + \frac{1}{p_j} p_j^2}}{p_j^2 - 1} D(k).$$

Noting that

(2.18) 
$$\prod_{\ell=1}^{k+1} \frac{p_{\ell}^2}{p_{\ell}^2 - 1} \nearrow \frac{\pi^2}{6} \text{ as } k \to \infty,$$

we see that (2.17) is implied by

(2.19) 
$$\widetilde{C}(k) < \frac{6p_j^2 e^{\gamma - c_1 + \frac{1}{p_j}}}{\pi^2 (p_j^2 - 1)} D(k) =: E_j D(k).$$

Raising both sides to the power of e, we see that (2.19) is implied by

(2.20) 
$$[(k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1))]^{\widehat{C}(k)}$$

$$< [(k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1)) - 1)\log(2.51) - \log(p_i)]^{E_j}.$$

(2.20) is equivalent to

(2.21) 
$$1 < [(k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1)))]^{-\widehat{C}(k) + E_j}$$

$$\left[1 - \frac{(k+1)\log(2.51) + \log(p_j)}{(k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1)))}\right]^{E_j}.$$

Noting that  $E_j > 1$  for  $j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , we see that there exists a  $K_j \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $k \geq K_j$  implies  $-\widehat{C}(k) + E_j > \epsilon$  for some  $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$ . If needed, we can increase  $K_j$  so that  $k \geq K_j$  implies

(2.22) 
$$\left[1 - \frac{(k+1)\log(2.51) + \log(p_j)}{(k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1)))}\right]^{E_j} > \epsilon,$$

and also so that  $k \geq K_i$  implies

$$(2.23) 1 < \epsilon [(k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1))]^{\epsilon},$$

which implies (2.21).

2.2. All numbers not divisible by one of the prime numbers 2, 3, or 5. Letting j = 1 in (2.19), we seek to show that

(2.24) 
$$\widetilde{C}(k) < \frac{8e^{\gamma - c_1 + .5}}{\pi^2} D(k).$$

**Lemma 2.11.** For  $k \ge 13042$ ,  $\widehat{C}(k) < 1.525$ .

*Proof.*  $\widehat{C}(k)$  is decreasing, so the result follows from computation.

Denote  $f(k) = (k+1)(\log(k+1) + \log(\log(k+1))$ . Applying Lemma 2.11to (2.24) and performing some algebraic manipulations, our goal reduces to showing that

(2.25) 
$$\log(f(k)) < \frac{8e^{\gamma - c_1 + .5}}{\pi^2(1.525)} \log((f(k) - 1)\log(2.51) - \log(2)).$$

Raising both sides to the power of e, this becomes

$$(2.26) 1 < f(k)^{2.0166} \left[ 1 - \frac{(k+1)\log(2.51) - \log(2)}{f(k)} \right]^{1.20166}.$$

The RHS of (2.26) is increasing, and a computation reveals that it holds for  $k \ge 13042$ . Additionally, using Lemma 2.1, one can check that

(2.27) 
$$\frac{\sigma(n)}{n} < \frac{n}{\varphi(n)} < e^{\gamma} \log(\log(m))$$

for  $k \geq 3$ . Finally, when  $k \in \{1, 2\}$ , we check that

(2.28) 
$$\frac{\sigma(n)}{n} < \frac{n}{\varphi(n)} \le \frac{15}{8} < e^{\gamma} \log(\log(n))$$

for  $n \ge 680$ . This confirms the following for j = 1:

**Theorem 2.12.** For  $j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ , Robin's inequality holds for every natural number > 5040 which is not divisible by  $p_j$ .

To confirm Theorem 2.12 when  $j \in \{2,3\}$ , one can repeat the above process to see that, for sufficiently big k, (2.19) is satisfied. The cases with smaller k have been verified in [MP20].

2.3. Primorials and sufficiently big even numbers. Fix  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and let n be odd. We consider numbers of the form  $2^k n$ . We calculate

$$(2.29) \ \frac{\sigma(2^k n)}{2^k n} = \frac{\sigma(2^k)}{2^k} \frac{\sigma(n)}{n} < \frac{\sigma(2^k)}{2^k} \frac{n}{\varphi(n)} = \frac{\sigma(2^k)}{2^k} \frac{\varphi(2^k)}{2^k} \frac{2^k n}{\varphi(2^k n)} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{k+1}}\right) \frac{2^k n}{\varphi(2^k n)}.$$

Applying Theorem 15 from [RS62], we know

$$(2.30) \qquad \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{k+1}}\right) \frac{2^k n}{\varphi(2^k n)} < \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{k+1}}\right) \left(e^{\gamma} \log(\log(2^k n)) + \frac{2.51}{\log(\log(2^k n))}\right).$$

We ask which n satisfy

$$(2.31) \qquad \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{k+1}}\right) \left(e^{\gamma} \log(\log(2^k n)) + \frac{2.51}{\log(\log(2^k n))}\right) < e^{\gamma} (\log(\log(2^k n))).$$

This is equivalent to asking when

(2.32) 
$$\frac{2.51(2^{k+1}-1)}{e^{\gamma}} < (\log(\log(2^k n)))^2$$

holds, which is when

(2.33) 
$$n > \frac{e^{e^{\sqrt{\frac{2.51(2^{k+1}-1)}{e^{\gamma}}}}}}{2^k} =: b(k).$$

Thus, we obtain the following:

**Theorem 2.13.** Given any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , Robin's inequality holds for all numbers of the form  $2^k n$  when n is odd and satisfies (2.33).

In particular, we have the following:

**Corollary 2.14.** If  $n \ge 620$  is odd, then Robin's inequality holds for 2n. Furthermore, Robin's inequality holds for all primorials > 30.

*Proof.* The first statement follows immediately from Theorem 2.13 and the second follows from the computation of primorials < 1240.3

2.4. All 21-free numbers. The results of the previous subsection are based on the inequality in Theorem 15 from [RS62]. This inequality can be improved by using a sharper bound stated in [AN22]:

$$(2.34) \frac{m}{\varphi(m)} < e^{\gamma} \log(\log(m)) + \frac{.0168}{(\log(\log(m)))^2}$$

for  $m \ge 10^{10^{13.11485}} =: C$ . Using the same reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 2.13, we derive the following result:

**Theorem 2.15.** Given  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , Robin's inequality holds for all numbers of the form  $2^k n$  when n is odd and satisfies

(2.35) 
$$n > \frac{e^{e^{\sqrt[3]{\frac{.0168(2^{k+1}-1)}{e^{\gamma}}}}}}{2^k} =: \tilde{b}(k).$$

We can thus conclude the following:

**Theorem 2.16.** Robin's inequality holds for all 21-free numbers.

*Proof.* Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and n be an odd natural number. If  $n > \tilde{b}(k)$ , n satisfies Robin's inequality by Theorem 2.15. If not, note that n satisfies Robin's inequality if  $5040 < 2^k n \le 2^k \tilde{b}(k) \le C$  by Theorem 13 in [MP20]. Recalling the definition of  $\ell$ -free numbers, we see that if  $2^k \tilde{b}(k) < C$ , then all (k+1)-free numbers satify Robin's inequality. Indeed, setting k=20, we calculate

$$\log(2^{20}\tilde{b}(20)) < 6(10^{11}) < 2.3(10^{13.11485}) < \log(C).$$

## 2.5. Almost every number.

**Definition 2.17.** The natural density of a set E is

(2.36) 
$$d(E) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{\#E \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\}}{n}$$

when the limit exists.

**Theorem 2.18.** Denote by  $\mathcal{R}$  the set of numbers satisfying Robin's inequality. Then the natural density of  $\mathcal{R}$  is 1.

*Proof.* We will prove that the natural density of  $\mathcal{R}^c$  is 0. Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . Let  $E_k = \{2^k n : n \in \mathbb{N}_{\text{odd}}, n \leq b(k)\}$  and note that  $\mathcal{R}^c \subseteq \bigcup_{k \geq 1} E_k$  by Theorem 2.12 and Theorem 2.13.<sup>1</sup> Pick M

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Here  $\mathbb{N}_{\text{odd}} := \{1, 3, \dots\}.$ 

so that  $\sum_{k=M+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k} < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we calculate

(2.37) 
$$\frac{\#\mathcal{R}^c \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\}}{n} \leq \frac{\#\bigcup_{k \geq 1} E_k \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\}}{n} = \frac{\sum_{k \geq 1} E_k \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\}}{n} = \frac{\sum_{k \geq 1} E_k \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\}}{n} = \frac{\sum_{k \geq 1} \#E_k \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\}}{n}$$

where the first equality follows from the fact that the  $E_k$ 's are disjoint. Noting that  $\sum_{k=1}^{M} \#E_k \cap \{1,2,\ldots,n\} < \infty$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we see that we can pick N so that  $n \geq N$ implies that the RHS of (2.37) is  $< \epsilon$ , completing our proof.

# 3. The Lagarias and Kaneko-Lagarias Inequalities

3.1. Superabundant numbers. Let  $\Gamma(x)$  denote the gamma function. We define two functions:

(3.1) 
$$H(x) = \int_0^1 \frac{t^x - 1}{t - 1} dt,$$
$$\psi(x) = \frac{\Gamma'(x)}{\Gamma(x)}.$$

 $\psi$  is known as the digamma function. One can verify that H is smooth for  $x \geq 1$  and that  $H(n) = H_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . It's also easy to see that  $\psi$ , known as the digamma function, satisfies

(3.2) 
$$H(x) = \psi(x+1) + \gamma.$$

**Lemma 3.1.** For all  $x \geq 1$ ,

(3.3) 
$$H(x) < \log(x) + \gamma + \frac{1}{2x}$$

*Proof.* By (2.2) from [Alz97],

$$(3.4) \psi(x) < \log(x) - \frac{1}{2x}$$

for all  $x \ge 1$ . Then we use (3.2) and  $\psi(x+1) = \psi(x) + \frac{1}{x}$  to finish.

**Lemma 3.2.** For all  $x \geq 4$ ,

(3.5) 
$$H(x) < \frac{2\log(x)}{1 + \frac{6}{\pi^2 x}}.$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.1, it suffices to show that

(3.6) 
$$\log(x) + \gamma + \frac{1}{2x} < \frac{2\log(x)}{1 + \frac{6}{\pi^2 x}}$$

for  $x \geq 4$ . By arithmetic manipulations, (3.6) becomes

(3.7) 
$$\frac{1}{\pi^2 x - 6} \left( \gamma \pi^2 x + \frac{\pi^2}{2} + 6\gamma + \frac{3}{x} \right) < \log(x).$$

Computation reveals that (3.7) holds for x = 4, and the LHS of (3.7) is decreasing while the RHS is increasing so we obtain the result.

Lemma 3.3. The following hold

- (a) For all n > 1,  $H_{n+1} \le \frac{n}{\log(n)}$ . (b) For all  $x \ge 4$ ,  $\log(H(x)) \le \frac{x}{2\log(x)}$ .

*Proof.* (a) We can manually verify the inequality for  $n \leq 6$ . Noting that

(3.8) 
$$H_{n+1} = \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{1}{k} \le 1 + \int_{1}^{n+1} \frac{\mathrm{d}t}{t} = 1 + \log(n+1),$$

it suffices to show that

(3.9) 
$$\log(x)(\log(x+1)+1) \le x.$$

Put  $g(t) = e^t - t^2 - t - 1$ . We see that g(2) > 0 and that  $g'(t) = e^t - 2t - 1 > 0$  for  $t \ge 2$ , so g(t) > 0 for  $t \ge 2$ . For  $t \ge 2$  is a pure that  $t \ge 2$ .

$$(3.10) \ \ 0 < g(\log(x+1)) = x+1 - (\log(x+1))^2 - \log(x+1) - 1 < x - \log(x)(\log(x+1) + 1).$$

(b) For  $x \ge 4$ , note that the function mapping  $x \mapsto \frac{x}{\log(x)}$  is increasing. If  $n \le x < n+1$ , then

(3.11) 
$$H_n \le H(x) < H_{n+1} \le \frac{n}{\log(n)} \le \frac{x}{\log(x)}$$

For y > 2 we see that  $\log(y) < \frac{y}{2}$ , so let y = H(x) and apply (3.11) finish.

Lemma 3.4. For  $x \geq 4$ ,

(3.12) 
$$H(x)\log(H(x)) < \frac{x^2}{x + \frac{6}{\pi^2}}.$$

Proof. Apply Lemma 3.1 and Lemma 3.3.

Lemma 3.5. For  $x \geq 4$ ,

(3.13) 
$$H'(x) > \frac{H(x)\log(H(x))}{x^2}.$$

*Proof.* We will use (51) from [FD14] which states that

$$\frac{1}{\psi'(x)} \le x + \frac{6}{\pi^2} - 1$$

for  $x \geq 1$ . We calculate

(3.15) 
$$H'(x) = \psi'(x+1) \ge \frac{1}{x+6\pi^2} > \frac{H(x)\log(H(x))}{x^2},$$

where the equality follows from taking the derivative of (3.2) and the second inequality follows from Lemma 3.4.

**Proposition 3.6.** The function

(3.16) 
$$g(x) = \frac{\exp(H(x))\log(H(x))}{x}$$

is increasing for  $x \geq 4$ .

*Proof.* We start with (3.5) from [Lag02]:

$$(3.17) H_n = \log(n) + \gamma + \int_n^\infty \frac{x - \lfloor x \rfloor}{x^2} dx$$

$$\implies \exp(H_n) = e^{\gamma} n \exp\left(\int_n^\infty \frac{x - \lfloor x \rfloor}{x^2} dx\right)$$

$$\implies \frac{\exp(H_n) \log(H_n)}{n} = e^{\gamma} \log(H_n) \exp\left(\int_n^\infty \frac{x - \lfloor x \rfloor}{x^2} dx\right).$$

Given  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , put

(3.18) 
$$g_k(x) = e^{\gamma} \log(H(x)) \exp\left(\int_x^k \frac{t - \lfloor t \rfloor}{t^2} dt\right)$$

so that  $\lim_{k\to\infty} g_k(x) = g(x)$ . We compute

$$(3.19) g'_k(x) = e^{\gamma} \exp\left(\int_x^k \frac{t - \lfloor t \rfloor}{t^2} dt\right) \left(\frac{H'(x)}{H(x)} + \log(H(x)) \left(-\frac{x - \lfloor x \rfloor}{x^2}\right)\right),$$

so  $g'_k(x) > 0$  if and only if

$$(3.20) \qquad \qquad \frac{H'(x)}{H(x)} + \log(H(x)) \left( -\frac{x - \lfloor x \rfloor}{x^2} \right) \geq \frac{H'(x)}{H(x)} - \frac{\log(H(x))}{x^2} > 0,$$

which is the content of Lemma 3.5. Thus, g(x) is the limit of monotonically increasing functions and is therefore monotonically increasing.

Corollary 3.7. The sequence

(3.21) 
$$\left\{\frac{\exp(H_n)\log(H_n)}{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$$

is monotonically increasing.

*Proof.* Proposition 3.6 gives the result for  $n \geq 4$  and we can manually check the smaller cases.

**Definition 3.8.** A number n is superabundant if  $\sigma(m)/m < \sigma(n)/n$  for all m < n.

**Theorem 3.9.** If there are counterexamples to the Kaneko-Lagarias inequality, the smallest such counterexample is a superabundant number.

*Proof.* Suppose, for sake of contradiction, that m is the smallest counterexample to the Kaneko-Lagarias inequality and that m is not superabundant. Let n be the greatest superabundant number < m. We calculate,

$$(3.22) \frac{\sigma(n)}{n} > \frac{\sigma(m)}{n} \ge \frac{\exp(H_m)\log(H_m)}{m} > \frac{\exp(H_n)\log(H_n)}{n},$$

so n < m violates the Kaneko-Lagarias inequality: a contradiction.

# 3.2. Connection to Robin's inequality.

**Theorem 3.10.** If Robin's inequality holds for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then the Kaneko-Lagarias inequality holds for n.

*Proof.* We use the approximation

(3.23) 
$$H_n \ge \log(n) + \gamma + \frac{1}{2n+1}$$

to calculate

$$\frac{(3.24)}{n} \frac{\exp(H_n)\log(H_n)}{n} \geq \frac{e^{\gamma + \frac{1}{2n+1}} n \log\left(\log(n) + \gamma + \frac{1}{2n+1}\right)}{n} > e^{\gamma} \log(\log(n)),$$
 which implies the result.

Note that we obtain the same result for the Lagarias inequality.

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