

3. Tìm tất cả các hàm số $f: \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^*$ thỏa mãn:

$$f^{(n)}(m) \mid m+n+1$$

Case 1: There is a v such that $f(v)=1$

Case 1.1: There is a u different from v such that $f(u)=1$

We have that f is bounded (plugging $n=u$ and $n=v$). We have $f(n) \mid n+v+1$ for all n , therefore for all large primes p , $f(p-v-1)=1$. Plugging $n=p-v-1$, $f(m) \mid m+p-v$ for all m and large primes p . Using Dirichlet theorem, it is easy to see that $f(m)=1$ or $f(m)=2$ for all m . If $f(1)=1$ then $f(n) \mid n+2$ for all n , therefore $f(2k+1)=1$. If

$f(2)=1$ then $f(n) \mid n+3$, therefore $f(2k)=1$. **Thus $f(n)=1$ is a solution**

If $f(2)=2$ then $f^2(m) \mid m+3$, plugging $m=2$ we reach a contradiction.

If $f(1)=2$ and $f(2)=2$, we have $f^2(m) \mid m+2$ for all m , plugging $m=1$ we reach a contradiction.

The case $f(1)=2$ and $f(2)=1$ will be solved later.

Case 1.2: $f(v)=1$ if and only if $v=1$

We have $f(m) \mid m+v+1$ and $f^{(m)-1}(1) \mid m+v+1$

For all large primes we have $f(p-v-1)=p$ and $f^{p-1}(1) \mid p$

Case 1.2.1: f is injective

We have $f^{(p-2)}(1) \mid p$

If the sequence $1, f(1), f(f(1)), f(f(f(1))), \dots$ not bounded $f^{p-1}(1) = f^{(p-2)}(1) = p$ for all large primes p , thus $f(p-2)=p-1$. But $p-1 \nmid p-2+v+1$, contradiction.

If the sequence $1, f(1), f(f(1)), f(f(f(1))), \dots$ bounded $f^{p-1}(1)=1$ for all large primes p . Thus the sequence has period 1 or 2. Thus $f(f(1))=1$. Therefore $f(1)=1$ or $f(1)=2$ and $f(2)=1$. The case $f(1)=2$ and $f(2)=1$ will be solved later.

Case 1.2.2: f is not injective

Consider $f(a)=f(b)=M$ then $f^M(n) \mid a-b$ for all n .

Consider the sequence, $1, f(1), f(f(1)), f(f(f(1))), \dots$ there must be two equal values therefore the sequence is bounded, therefore $f^{p-1}(1)=1$ for all primes p , therefore $f(1)=1$ or $f(1)=2$ and $f(2)=1$.

We will solve the case $f(1)=2, f(2)=1$ and $f(x) \neq 1$ for all $x \neq 2$. We have $f(m) \mid m+3$ and $f(f(m)) \mid m+2$. Plugging $m=3$, we have $f(3) \mid 6$ thus $f(3)=2, 3$ or 6 . If $f(3)=3$, since $f(f(m)) \mid m+2$ we reach a contradiction. If $f(3)=6$ then $f(6)=5$ but $f(6) \nmid 9$, contradiction. If $f(3)=2$ then $f(f(m)) \mid m+4$ therefore $f(f(2k+1))=1$ this mean $f(2k+1)=2$ for all k

The case $f(1)=2, f(2)=1$ and $f(x) \mid 2$ for all x can be solved similarly.

We conclude that $f(2k+1)=2$ for k , $f(2k) \mid 2k+3$ for all k and $f(2)=1$ is a solution

We will solve the case $f(1)=1$ and $f(x) \neq 1$ for all x . We have $f(1)=1$, $f(m) \mid m+2$ therefore $f(3)=5, f(5)=7$. It is not possible for $f(2)=2$ therefore $f(2)=4$ thus $f^4(m) \mid m+3$, since $f(7) \mid 9$, if $f(7)=3$ then using $f^4(m) \mid m+3$, plugging $m=3$ we reach a contradiction, thus $f(7)=9$ and $f(9)=11$. However this is impossible because $f^4(m) \mid m+3$, plugging $m=3$ we reach a contradiction.

Case 2: $f(x) \neq 1$ for all x , f is injective because $f^{(p-1-k)}(k)=p$ for all $k=1, 2, \dots, p-2$ and large primes p . If f is not injective, there is a number c such that $f^{(c)}(k)$ is bounded for all k (we have $f(c)=f(d)$ for some c and d , plugging $n=c$ and $n=d$ in the original equation), thus the sequence $1, f(1), f(f(1)), \dots$ is, bounded, but for large primes p , $f^{(p-2)}(1)=p$, contradiction.

We prove that f is strictly increasing. Notice that for all large primes p , $f^{(p-2)}(1)=p$, and $f^{(p-1-k)}(k)=p$ since f is injective and $f(x) \neq 1$ for all x , we have

$f(p-1-k) < f(p-2)$ for all $k > 1$ và $f^{f(p-2)-f(p-k-1)}(1) = k$ for all $1 < k < p-1$. Since $f^{f(3)-f(1)}(1) = 3$ and $f^{f(3)-f(2)}(1) = 2$ and $f^{f(1)}(1) = 3$ we have $f(3) = 2f(1)$. Notice that $f^{f(2)}(1) \mid 4$ and $f^{f(1)}(2) \mid 4$. If $f^{f(2)}(1) = 2$, since $f^{f(3)-f(2)}(1) = 2$ we have that $f(3) = 2f(2)$ but f is injective and $f(3) = 2f(1)$, thus this case is impossible, thus $f^{f(2)}(1) = 4$. If $f^{f(1)}(2) = 2$ we have $f(3) = f(2) + f(1)$, however $f(3) = 2f(1)$ thus this case is impossible. Thus $f^{f(1)}(2) = 4$ and $f^{f(2)-f(1)}(1) = 2$ or $f(2) = 1.5f(1)$.

We have $f(2) = 1.5f(1)$ and $f(3) = 2f(1)$, therefore $f(1) < f(2) < f(3)$. Let p_k be the k -th prime number, we will prove that f is strictly increasing in $[1, p_k - 2]$ for all k by induction.

Suppose f is strictly increasing in $[1, p_n - 2]$ for some n . Notice that for all primes p, q and $p < q$ we have that $f(p-2) - f(p-k-1) = f(q-2) - f(q-k-1)$ for all $k = 2, 3, \dots, p-2$.

Also notice that for all $k > 2$, we have that $p_{k+1} - p_k + 1 \leq p_k - 2$ (If $p_k < 29$, it is obviously true, if $p_k > 30$ then by Nagell's theorem between $5/6 p$ and p there is at least one prime number) thus plugging $p = p_n, q = p_{n+1}$ and $k = 2, 3, \dots, p_n - 2$, by induction it is easy to see that f is strictly increasing in $[p_{n+1} - p_n + 1, p_{n+1} - 2]$, induction complete. We conclude that $f(n) \geq n+1$ for all positive integers n , thus $f^{f(n)}(m) \geq m+n+1$, but $f^{f(n)}(m) \mid m+n+1$ equality happen if and only if $f(n) = n+1$.

Thus $f(n) = n+1$ is a solution.