

Proofs of the claims in the Comments section of Ayyyyyy

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Throughout only odd numbers $n = \prod p_i^{e_i}$, p_i distinct odd primes and e_i positive, that have at least two prime factors are considered; the total number of divisors of n , $1 = d_1 < d_2 < \dots < d_{\sigma_0(n)} = n$, is $\sigma_0(n) = \prod (e_i + 1)$. The symmetric representation of $\sigma(n)$, i.e. the list of the areas of its regions between two adjacent Dyck paths, is denoted by $\text{srs}(n)$, see A237270 & A237271, and its total area by $\text{area}(\text{srs}(n))$. Functions with two arguments, such as $\text{a237048}(n,k)$, denote the value of the k -th entry in the n -th row of the respective irregular triangle of the sequence referenced, i.e. A237048; when a single argument is used, such as $\text{a237048}(n)$, it represents the list of values in the entire n -th row. All triangles referenced have the same shape; their n -th row has $\text{row}(n) = \lfloor (\sqrt{8n+1} - 1) / 2 \rfloor$ many entries so that the 2-nd indices in functions are assumed to be in the range $1 \dots \text{row}(n)+1$.

$t(n,k) = \text{a235791}(n,k) = \lfloor \frac{n+1}{k} - \frac{k+1}{2} \rfloor$ and $\text{a235791}(n, \text{row}(n)+1) = 0$ in the triangle of A235791.

$\text{leg}(n,k) = \text{a237591}(n,k) = t(n,k) - t(n,k+1)$ is the length of the k -th segment of the n -th Dyck path; $\text{legs}(n)$ represents the entire n -th row.

$\text{a237048}(n,k) = 1$ when $k|n$ or when $k = 2 \times s$ where $s|n$ and $2 \times s \leq \text{row}(n) < \frac{n}{s}$, otherwise $\text{a237048}(n,k) = 0$; thus all (odd) divisors of n are represented by 1's in the n -th row of the triangle of A237048.

$\text{width}(n,k) = \text{a249223}(n,k) = \sum_{j=1}^k (-1)^{j+1} \text{a237048}(n, j)$ is the width of the k -th leg between the n -th and $(n-1)$ -st Dyck paths; $\text{widths}(n)$ represents the entire n -th row of widths and $\text{diag}(n) = \text{width}(n, \text{row}(n))$ is the area of the squares between the Dyck paths containing the diagonal.

From A249223 we have: $\text{area}(\text{srs}(n)) = 2 \times \text{legs}(n) \cdot \text{widths}(n) - \text{diag}(n)$ (1)

where “ \cdot ” denotes the inner product.

The length of a symmetric central region starting with leg s is :

$$2 \times \sum_{i=s}^{\text{row}(n)} \text{leg}(n, i) - 1 = 2 \times \sum_{i=s}^{\text{row}(n)} (t(n, i) - t(n, i+1)) - 1 = 2 \times t(n, s) - 1$$
 (2)

Since $\text{a237048}(n,1) = \text{a237048}(n,2) = 1$ it follows that $\text{width}(n,1) = 1$ and $\text{width}(n,2) = 0$, i.e. the first and last region of $\text{srs}(n)$ each consists of a single leg of width 1 and length (hence area) $\text{leg}(n,1) = \lfloor \frac{n+1}{2} \rfloor$.

Therefore, $\text{srs}(n)$ consists of 3 regions with a center region of maximum width 2 when $\text{widths}(n)$ has the following numeric pattern in the triangle of A249223:

position index in row:	1	2	...	d_2	d_3	$2 \times d_2$	d_4	$2 \times d_3$	$d_5 \dots$						
value at position:	1	0	...	0	1	...	1	2	...	2	1	...	1	2	...
divisor represented:	d_1	$\frac{n}{1}$		d_2	d_3	$\frac{n}{d_2}$	d_4	$\frac{n}{d_3}$	$d_5 \dots$						

(3)

Lemma 1:

When $srs(n)$ consists of 3 regions of maximum width 2 the center region contains $\sigma_0(n) - 3$ areas of width 2. An area including the diagonal has width 2 when $\sigma_0(n)$ is even.

Lemma 2:

The central region of $srs(n) = srs(3^e \times 5)$, $e \geq 1$, has $2 \times e - 1$ areas of width 2.

Lemma 3:

$45 = 5 \times 3^2$ is the only odd number in the second column of the first table.

Lemma 4:

For $n = p \times q$, a product of distinct odd primes, $srs(n)$ consists of 3 regions of maximum width 2 precisely when $p < q < 2 \times p$.

Lemma 5:

The area of $srs(p \times q) = (\frac{p \times q + 1}{2}, p + q, \frac{p \times q + 1}{2})$, where p and q are primes and $p < q < 2 \times p$, equals $\sigma(p \times q)$. Furthermore, the central region consists of two symmetric subparts of width 1 of length $2 \times q - p$ and $2 \times p - q$.

Proof of Lemma 1:

When for some index h , $d_h \leq \text{row}(n) < 2 \times d_{h-1}$ then n has an even number of divisors, $h = \frac{\sigma_0(n)}{2} + 1$, and by pattern (3) the center region of $srs(n)$ has $2 \times (h - 3) + 1 = \sigma_0(n) - 3$ areas of width 2. Similarly, when $2 \times d_{h-1} \leq \text{row}(n) < d_{h+1}$ then n has an odd number of divisors, $h = \frac{\sigma_0(n) - 1}{2} + 1$, and by pattern (3) the center region of $srs(n)$ has $2 \times (h - 2) = \sigma_0(n) - 3$ areas of width 2. An alternative description of pattern (3) is: $1 = d_1 < d_2 < d_3$ and $d_i < 2 \times d_{i-1} < d_{i+1}$, for $3 \leq i \leq \lfloor \frac{\sigma_0(n)}{2} \rfloor + 1 = h$.

□

Proof of Lemma 2:

$1 < 2 < 3 < 5 < 2 \times 3 < 3^2 < 2 \times 5 < b(1) < \dots < b(i) < 2 \times 3^{i+1} < 3^{i+2} < 2 \times b(i) < b(i+1) < \dots$, for $i \geq 1$, shows that pattern (3) for widths is satisfied so that $\sigma_0(3^e \times 5) - 3 = 2 \times (e + 1) - 3 = 2 \times e - 1$, for $e \geq 1$.

In addition, pattern (3) requires for an even number $2^k \times q$, $k \geq 1$, q odd, that its two smallest proper divisors must satisfy $4 \leq 2^{k+1} < d_2 < d_3 < 2^{k+1} \times d_2$, and for an odd number that its two smallest proper divisors must satisfy $2 < d_2 < d_3 < 2 \times d_2$ so that the numbers $b(i)$ are the smallest numbers in their respective columns.

□

Proof of Lemma 3:

We eliminate the three possible patterns for prime factors of n :

$p \times q^2$, except for $p = 3$ & $q = 5$; p^3 ; $p \times q \times r$, distinct primes.

(a) Let $n = p \times q^2$, with $p < q^2$ and p, q distinct odd primes. Then pattern (3) is fulfilled precisely when $q < p < 2 \times q < q^2 \leq \lfloor \frac{(\sqrt{8 \times p \times q^2 + 1} - 1)}{2} \rfloor < 2 \times p$ (*)

since $p < q < 2 \times p < p \times q < 2 \times q$ - satisfying pattern (3) - is a contradiction.

Therefore, (*) implies $q^2 < 2 \times p < 4 \times q$, i.e. $q = 3$ and $p = 5$.

$q^2 < p$ would imply $q < q^2 < 2 \times q < p$ to satisfy pattern (3), contradicting that q is prime.

(b) Let $n = p^3$, with p an odd prime. Then $1 < 2 < p < 2 \times p < p^2$ implies that $\text{srs}(p^3)$ consists of 4 regions (see also A280107).

(c) Let $n = p \times q \times r$ with $p < q < r$ distinct odd primes. If $r < p \times q$ then pattern (3) provides $p < q < 2 \times p < r < 2 \times q < p \times q \leq \text{row}(p \times q \times r) < 2 \times r$,

but $r < 2 \times q$ together with $p \geq 5$ implies $2 \times r < 4 \times q < p \times q < 2 \times r$, a contradiction. Therefore, $p = 3$ which forces $q = 5$ and $r < 2 \times q = 10$, i.e. $r = 7$, so that both $10 = 2 \times q$ and $14 = 2 \times r$ are smaller than $15 = p \times q$ implying that $\text{srs}(3 \times 5 \times 7)$ has 4 regions.

For the inequality $p < q < p \times q < r$ pattern (3) leads to the contradiction

$$p < q < 2 \times p < p \times q < 2 \times q.$$

□

Proof of Lemma 4:

Pattern (3) is fulfilled precisely when

$$q \leq \left\lfloor \left(\frac{\sqrt{8 \times p \times q + 1} - 1}{2} \right) \right\rfloor < 2 \times p$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2 \times q + 1 \leq \sqrt{8 \times p \times q + 1} < 4 \times p + 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4 \times q^2 + 4 \times q + 1 \leq 8 \times p \times q + 1 < 16 \times p^2 + 8 \times p + 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow q + 1 \leq 2 \times p$$

□

Proof of Lemma 5:

Pattern (3) for $n = p \times q$ is:

position in row: 1 2 p q $\text{row}(p \times q) < 2 \times p$

value at position: 1 0 ... 0 1 ... 1 2 ... 2 ...

divisor represented: 1 $p \times q$ p q

Therefore, $\text{width}(n, k) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } k = 1, p \dots q - 1 \\ 0 & \text{for } k = 2 \dots p - 1 \\ 2 & \text{for } k = q \dots \text{row}(n) \end{cases}$

$\text{leg}(n, 1) = \frac{p \times q + 1}{2}$ and with its width of 1 establishes the area of each outer region.

By formula (2) the length of the entire symmetric central region is

$$2 \times t(n, p) - 1 = 2 \times \left\lceil \frac{p \times q + 1}{p} - \frac{p + 1}{2} \right\rceil - 1 = (2 \times q - (p + 1) + 2) - 1 = 2 \times q - p.$$

Similarly, the length of the symmetric extent of width 2 in the central region is

$$2 \times t(n, q) - 1 = 2 \times \left\lceil \frac{p \times q + 1}{q} - \frac{q + 1}{2} \right\rceil - 1 = (2 \times p - (q + 1) + 2) - 1 = 2 \times p - q.$$

Therefore, $\text{area}(\text{srs}(n)) = 2 \times \frac{p \times q + 1}{2} + (2 \times q - p) + (2 \times p - q) = p \times q + p + q + 1 = \sigma(n)$.

□