Odd Perfect Numbers Not Divisible By 3. II

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Abstract. We prove that odd perfect numbers not divisible by 3 have at least eleven distinct prime factors.

1. N is called a perfect number if $\sigma(N) = 2N$, where $\sigma(N)$ is the sum of positive divisors of N. Twenty-seven even perfect numbers are known; however, no odd perfect (OP) numbers have been found.

Suppose N is OP and $\omega(N)$ is the number of distinct prime factors of N. Gradstein (1925), Kühnel (1949), Weber (1951), and the author (1978, [5]) proved that $\omega(N) \ge 6$. Pomerance (1972, [7]) and Robbins (1972) proved that $\omega(N) \ge 7$. Hagis (1975, [2]) and Chein (1978, [1]) proved that $\omega(N) \ge 8$.

Hagis and McDaniel [3] proved that the largest prime factor of $N \ge 100129$, and Pomerance [8] proved that the second largest prime factor of $N \ge 139$.

If $3 \nmid N$, then Kanold (1949) proved that $\omega(N) \ge 9$, and the author (1977, [4]) proved that $\omega(N) \ge 10$.

In this paper we prove

THEOREM. If N is OP and $3 \nmid N$, then $\omega(N) \ge 11$.

2. In the remainder of this paper we assume that N is OP and

$$N = \prod_{i=1}^{10} p_i^{a_i},$$

where p_i 's are primes, $5 \le p_1 < \cdots < p_{10}$ and a_i 's are positive integers, and we will get a contradiction. We write $p_i^{a_i} || N$ and $a_i = V_{p_i}(N)$.

The following lemmas were proved in [4] and [7]:

LEMMA 1. Suppose $p^a \parallel N$. Then

- (a) All a's are even except for one a in which case $a \equiv p \equiv 1(4)$. We write π for p.
- (b) If $p \equiv 1$ (3), $a \not\equiv 2$ (3).
- (c) If $p \equiv 1$ (4) and $p \equiv 2$ (3), then $p \neq \pi$.

LEMMA 2. Suppose q = 5 or 17 and $p^a \parallel N$. Then

$$V_q(\sigma(p^a)) = \begin{cases} V_q(a+1) & \text{if } p \equiv 1(q), \\ V_q(p+1) + V_q(a+1) & \text{if } p \equiv -1(q) \text{ and } p = \pi, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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LEMMA 3. Suppose $p^a \parallel N$, q is a prime and $q^b \parallel a+1$. Then N is divisible by at least c distinct primes $\equiv 1(q)$ other than p, where c=b if $q^b=a+1$, and c=2b if $q^b\neq a+1$.

The proof of the next lemma is similar to that of Lemma 6 in [4].

LEMMA 4. $p_1 = 5$, $p_2 = 7$, $p_3 = 11$, $p_4 \le 17$, $p_5 \le 23$, $p_6 \le 37$, $p_7 \le 107$, $p_9 \ge 139$, $p_{10} \ge 100129$. If $p_7 \ge 103$, then $p_8 \le 113$.

LEMMA 5. Suppose p, q are odd primes, a, b are positive integers, $p^b \mid q+1$, $p \ge 5$ and $2b \ge a$. Then $q \nmid \sigma(p^a)$.

Proof. Since p and q are odd primes, $q \ge 2p^b - 1$. Suppose $\sigma(p^a) = mq$ for some integer m. Then $a \ge b$ and

$$\sigma(p^{b-1}) + m \equiv \sigma(p^a) + m = m(q+1) \equiv o(p^b).$$

Hence

$$m \ge p^b - \sigma(p^{b-1}) = (p^{b+1} - 2p^b + 1)/(p-1),$$

and

$$\sigma(p^{a}) = mq \ge (2p^{b} - 1)(p^{b+1} - 2p^{b} + 1)/(p - 1)$$

$$= (2p^{2b+1} - 4p^{2b} - p^{b+1} + 4p^{b} - 1)/(p - 1)$$

$$> (p^{2b+1} - 1)/(p - 1) = \sigma(p^{2b}) \ge \sigma(p^{a}),$$

because $p \ge 5$ and $2b \ge a$, a contradiction. Q.E.D.

Remark. Lemma 5 also holds if p = 3 and 2b > a.

The next lemma is due to Hagis.

LEMMA 6. Suppose p = 5 or 17 and p^a is a component of an OP number. Then $\sigma(p^a)$ has at least one prime factor ≥ 100129 except

- (a) if p = 5, a = 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14, 17, 26, 29.
- (b) If p = 17, a = 1, 2, 4, 5, 9.

COROLLARY 6. Suppose p = 5 or 17 and $p^a \parallel N$. Then $\sigma(p^a)$ has at least one prime factor ≥ 100129 except

- (a) if p = 5, a = 2, 4, 6, 8,
- (b) if p = 17, a = 2, 4.

Proof. We can easily show that $5^{14} \not\parallel N$ and $5^{26} \not\parallel N$ because $\sigma(5^{14}) = 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 71 \cdot 181 \cdot 1741$ and $\sigma(5^{26}) = 19 \cdot 31 \cdot 109 \cdot 271 \cdot 829 \cdot 4159 \cdot 31051$. Then Corollary 6 follows from Lemmas 1 and 6. Q.E.D.

LEMMA 7. If $17^a \parallel N$ and $a \ge 8$, then $p_9 \ge 100129$, $p_{10} \ge 2 \cdot 17^{a-3} - 1 > 2 \cdot 10^6$, and $17^{a-3} \mid \pi + 1$.

Proof. If p is a prime and $p \le 113$, then $p \ne \pm 1$ (17) except for p = 103. Hence by Lemmas 1, 2 and 4 if $17 \mid \sigma(p_i^{a_i})$ for $1 \le i \le 7$, then i = 7, $p_7 = 103$ and $17 \mid \sigma(p_8^{a_8})$.

Suppose $p_7 \neq 103$. Then $17^a \mid \sigma(p_8^{a_8}p_9^{a_0}p_{10}^{a_{10}})$. Since $a \geq 8$, $17^3 \mid \sigma(p_i^{a_i})$ for some $8 \leq i \leq 10$. If $p_i \equiv 1$ (17), then $17^3 \mid a_i + 1$, and by Lemma 3 N would have at least three more primes $\equiv 1$ (17), a contradiction. Hence $p_i \equiv -1$ (17) and $p_i = \pi$. Then by the same lemma $17^2 \nmid \sigma(p_i^{a_j})$ for $j \neq i$, $8 \leq j \leq 10$, $17^{a-2} \mid \sigma(p_i^{a_i})$, $17^2 \nmid a_i + 1$,

and $17^{a-3} | p_i + 1$ by Lemma 2. By Lemma 5 $p_i | \sigma(17^a)$, and by Corollary 6 $\sigma(17^a)$ has at least one prime factor ≥ 100129 .

The same arguments hold if $p_7 = 103$ because $17 \nmid \sigma(p_8^{a_8})$. Q.E.D.

LEMMA 8. If $5^a \parallel N$ and $a \ge 14$, then $a \ge 16$, $p_9 \ge 100129$ and $p_{10} \ge 579281$.

Proof. We showed that $a \neq 14$ in the proof of Corollary 6. Suppose $p^b \parallel N$, $p \equiv 1$ (5) and $p \leq 107$. Then p = 11, 31, 41, 61, 71, or 101. If $5 \mid \sigma(p^b)$, then by Lemma 2 $\sigma(p^4) \mid \sigma(p^b)$. Since $131 \cdot 21491 \mid \sigma(61^4)$, $211 \cdot 2221 \mid \sigma(71^4)$ and $31 \cdot 391 \cdot 1381 \mid \sigma(101^4)$, it is easy to show that if $5 \mid \sigma(p^b)$, $p \neq 61, 71$, or 101.

Suppose $5 \mid \sigma(41^b)$. Then $579281 \mid \sigma(41^4)$. Since the order of $5 \mod 579281$ is 72410 and a is even, $579281 \nmid \sigma(5^a)$, and $\sigma(5^a)$ has at least one prime factor ≥ 100129 by Corollary 6. Hence we may assume that $5 \nmid \sigma(41^b)$.

Since $3001 \cdot 3221 \cdot 24151 \mid \sigma(11^{24})$ and $101 \cdot 4951 \cdot 17351 \mid \sigma(31^{24})$, $5^2 \nmid \sigma(11^b)$ and $5^2 \nmid \sigma(31^b)$.

Suppose $5 \mid \sigma(11^b)$. Then $3221 \mid \sigma(11^4)$, and if $3221^c \parallel N$, $5^2 \nmid \sigma(3221^c)$ because $151 \cdot 601 \cdot 1301 \cdot 1601 \mid \sigma(3221^{24})$. Similarly, if $5 \mid \sigma(31^b)$, then $17351 \mid \sigma(31^4)$, and if $17351^c \parallel N$, $5^2 \nmid \sigma(17351^c)$ because $101 \cdot 2351 \mid \sigma(17351^{24})$.

Suppose $p^b \parallel N$, $p \equiv -1$ (5), and $p \leq 107$. Then p = 19, 29, 59, 79, or 89, and by Lemma 1 $p \neq \pi$. Hence by Lemma 2 5 $\nmid \sigma(p^b)$.

In summary if $p^b \parallel N$, $p \le 107$, and if $5 \mid \sigma(p^b)$, then p = 11 or 31, in which case $q^c \parallel N$ where q = 3221 or 17351 and $5^2 \nmid \sigma(q^c)$.

Now we will show that $5^{a-8} \mid \pi + 1$. Suppose three $p_i \equiv 1$ (5) for $1 \le i \le 7$. Then $p_3 = 11$, $p_6 = 31$ and $p_7 = 41$, and it is easy to show that $41 < p_8 \le 61$. Hence $5 \nmid \sigma(p_8^{a_8})$. Since $p_{10} \ge 100129$, the above summary shows that $5^2 \nmid \sigma(\prod_{i=1}^8 p_i^{a_i})$. Suppose $5^a \mid \sigma(p_9^{a_9} p_{10}^{a_{10}})$. By a similar argument used in the proof of Lemma 7 we have for i = 9 or $10 \quad 5^{a-4} \mid \sigma(p_i^{a_i})$, $p_i = \pi$, and $5^{a-6} \mid \pi + 1$. Suppose $5^{a-1} \mid \sigma(p_9^{a_9} p_{10}^{a_{10}})$. Then $p_9 = 3221$ or 17351 and $5^2 \nmid \sigma(p_9^{a_9})$, $5^{a-2} \mid \sigma(p_{10}^{a_{10}})$, $p_{10} = \pi$, and $5^{a-4} \mid \pi + 1$.

Similar arguments show that if two $p_i \equiv 1$ (5) for $1 \le i \le 7$, then $5^{a-8} \mid \pi + 1$ and that if $p_i \equiv 1$ (5) for $1 \le i \le 7$, then $5^{a-5} \mid \pi + 1$.

Since $a \ge 16$ and $5^{a-8} \mid \pi + 1$, $\pi \nmid \sigma(5^a)$ by Lemma 5, $\pi \ge 2 \cdot 5^{a-8} - 1 > 7 \cdot 10^5 > 579281$, and Lemma 8 follows from Corollary 6. Q.E.D.

COROLLARY 8. Suppose $5^a \parallel N$, $a \ge 14$, and $579281 \nmid N$ if $41 \mid N$. Then $a \ge 16$, $p_9 \ge 100129$, $p_{10} \ge 2 \cdot 5^{a-8} - 1 > 7 \cdot 10^5$, and $5^{a-8} \mid \pi + 1$.

The next lemma is due to McDaniel [6].

LEMMA 9. Suppose $a \ge 2$, a + 1 is a prime, and p is a prime.

- (a) If $p^2 | \sigma(5^a)$, then $p > 2^{29}$.
- (b) If $p^2 \mid \sigma(17^a)$, then $p > 2^{27}$ or p = 48947.

LEMMA 10. Suppose $p^a \parallel N$, $q \mid \sigma(p^b)$, $b+1 \mid a+1$, $q \leq 107$, and q, b+1 are primes. Then

- (a) If p = 5, q = 11, 31, 59, or 71.
- (b) If p = 17, q = 47, 59, or 83.

Proof. Suppose p = 5 or 17, and d is the order of $p \mod q$. Then $p^d \equiv 1$ (q), and $d \mid b + 1$. Since $p \not\equiv 1$ (q), d > 1, and d = b + 1 because b + 1 is an odd prime. The order d is not an odd prime except for those q stated above. Q.E.D.

LEMMA 11. Suppose $17^a \parallel N$, $a \ge 8$, and $307 \nmid N$. If $p_8 < 1000$, then $a \ge 10$, $p_9 \ge 25646167$, and $p_{10} > 8 \cdot 10^8$.

Proof. Since 307 | σ(17⁸), $a \ge 10$, and by Lemma 7, 17^{a-3} | $\pi + 1$ and $p_{10} \ge 2 \cdot 17^{a-3} - 1 > 8 \cdot 10^8$. Suppose $p_8 < 1000$ and $100129 \le p_9 < 25646167 < 2^{27}$. Choose b such that b+1 is a prime and b+1 | a+1. Then $σ(17^b)$ | $σ(17^a)$, and $b \ne 2$, 4, or 6 because 307 | $σ(17^2)$, 88741 | $σ(17^4)$ and 25646167 | $σ(17^6)$. Hence $b \ge 10$. If $1 \le i \le 7$ and p_i | $σ(17^b)$, then by Lemmas 4, $10 \ i = 7$ and $p_7 = 47$, 59, or 83. Since $\pi = p_{10} + σ(17^a)$ by Lemma 5, we have $σ(17^b)$ | $p_7 p_8 p_9$ by Lemma 9. Then $σ(17^{10}) \le 83 \cdot 1000 \cdot p_9$, or $p_9 > 25646167$, a contradiction. Hence $p_9 \ge 25646167$. Q.E.D.

COROLLARY 11. If $p_7 \le 29$ and $p_8 < 6203$, then $a \ge 10$, $p_9 \ge 25646167$, and $p_{10} > 8 \cdot 10^8$.

Proof. As in Lemma 11 $\sigma(17^b) | p_8 p_9$. Then $\sigma(17^{10}) \le 6203 \cdot p_9$, or $p_9 > 25646167$, a contradiction. Q.E.D.

LEMMA 12. Suppose $5^a \parallel N$, $a \ge 14$, $579281 \nmid N$ if $41 \mid N$, and $p \nmid N$ if p = 31, 71, 191, 409, or 19531. If $p_8 \le 41$, then $a \ge 22$, $p_9 \ge 12207031$, and $p_{10} \ge 2 \cdot 5^{a-8} - 1 > 10^{10}$.

Proof. $a \ge 22$ because $a \ne 14$ as before, $409 \mid \sigma(5^{16})$, $191 \mid \sigma(5^{18})$, and $19531 \mid \sigma(5^{20})$. The rest of the proof is similar to that of Lemma 11 using $\sigma(5^{10}) = 12207031$ and $\sigma(5^{12}) = 307175781$. Q.E.D.

COROLLARY 12. If $p_7 \le 29$ and $p_8 < 6203$, then $a \ge 22$, $p_9 \ge 12207031$, and $p_{10} \ge 2 \cdot 5^{a-8} - 1 > 10^{10}$.

LEMMA 13. Suppose $5^a \parallel N$, a = 10 or 12, $p_8 \le 151$, $p_9 > 3011$, at most two $p_i \equiv 1$ (5) for $1 \le i \le 8$, $p_i = 11$, 31, 41, or 151 if $p_i \equiv 1$ (5) and $1 \le i \le 8$, $p_i = 19$, 29, 59, 79, 89, 109, or 149 if $p_i \equiv -1$ (5) and $1 \le i \le 8$, $p \nmid N$ if p = 131, 3221, or 17351, and 579281 $\nmid N$ if $41 \mid N$. Then $p_9 \ge 3 \cdot 10^6$, and $p_{10} \ge 12207031$.

Proof. Suppose $3011 < p_9 < 3 \cdot 10^6$. Then $p_{10} = \sigma(5^a) = 12207031$ or 305175781, and $5 \nmid \sigma(p_{10}^{a_{10}})$ because $131 \mid \sigma(12207031^4)$ and $3011 \mid \sigma(305175781^4)$. Suppose $5 \mid \sigma(p_i^{a_i})$, $1 \le i \le 8$. Since $3221 \mid \sigma(11^4)$, $17351 \mid \sigma(31^4)$, $579281 \mid \sigma(41^4)$ and $104670301 \mid \sigma(151^4)$, $p_i \ne 1$ (5). Since $p_i \ne \pi$ if $p_i = 19$, 29, 59, 79, 89, and 149 by Lemma 1, we have $p_8 = 109 = \pi$ by Lemmas 2, 4. If $5^4 \mid \sigma(p_8^{a_8})$, then $5^3 \mid a_8 + 1$ by Lemma 2, and N would have at least six prime factors = 1 (5), a contradiction. Hence $5^4 \nmid \sigma(p_8^{a_8})$, and so $5^{a-3} \mid \sigma(p_9^{a_9})$, $p_9 \ne \pi$, $p_9 = 1$ (5) and N would have at least 7 more prime factors = 1 (5), a contradiction. Hence $5 \nmid \sigma(p_8^{a_i})$ for $1 \le i \le 8$.

Then $5^a \mid \sigma(p_9^{a_9})$, $p_9 = \pi$, $5^2 \mid a_9 + 1$, $5^{a-1} \mid p_9 + 1$, and $p_9 \ge 2 \cdot 5^{a-1} - 1 > 3 \cdot 10^6$, a contradiction. Q.E.D.

Definition. Suppose $M = \prod_{i=1}^{r} p_i^{a_i}$. Then

$$S(M) = \sigma(M)/M$$

 $a(p_i) = \min \{a_i | p_i^{a^i+1} > 10^{10} \text{ where } p_i^a \text{ satisfies the restrictions } \}$

implied by Lemma 1,

$$b_i = \begin{cases} a_i & \text{if } a_i < a(p_i), \\ a(p_i) & \text{if } a_i \ge a(p_i). \end{cases}$$

LEMMA 14. Suppose $M = \prod_{i=1}^{10} p_i^{b_i}$. Then $0 \le \log 2 - \log S(M) < 10 \cdot 10^{-10}$.

Proof. Suppose $p^a \parallel N$ and $a \ge a(p)$. Then

$$0 \le \log S(p^{a}) - \log S(p^{a(p)}) < \log \frac{p}{p-1} - \log \frac{p^{a(p)+1} - 1}{p^{a(p)}(p-1)}$$

$$= \log \frac{p^{a(p)+1}}{p^{a(p)+1} - 1} = \log \left(1 + \frac{1}{p^{a(p)+1} - 1}\right)$$

$$< \frac{1}{p^{a(p)+1} - 1} \le 10^{-10}.$$

Hence

$$0 \le \log S(N) - \log S(M)$$

$$\le \sum_{i=1}^{10} |\log S(p_i^{a_i}) - \log S(p_i^{b_i})| < 10 \cdot 10^{-10}.$$

Q.E.D.

The proof of the next two lemmas is easy.

LEMMA 15. If q is a prime, $q \mid \sigma(p_i^{a_i})$ for some $1 \le i \le 7$ with $a_i < a(p_i)$, and if $q \le p_7$, then q = 2 or $q = p_i$ for some $1 \le i \le 7$.

LEMMA 16. Suppose $M = \prod_{i=1}^7 p_i^{b_i}$ and $L = M \cdot \prod_{j=1}^r q_j^{c_j}$ where q_j is a prime, $q_j > p_7$, $q_j \mid \sigma(p_i^{b_i})$ for some $1 \le i \le 7$ with $b_i < a(p_i)$, $q_1 < \cdots < q_r$, and c_j is the minimum allowable power of q_j determined by Lemma 1. If there is no such q_j , then r = 0 and the product is defined to be 1. Then

(a) $r \le 3$ and $\log S(L) \le \log 2$.

(b) If
$$r = 3$$
, then $p_8 = q_1, p_9 = q_2, p_{10} = q_3$ and

$$\log 2 < \log S(M) + 7 \cdot 10^{-10} + \sum_{i=1}^{3} \log q_i / (q_i - 1).$$

(c) If
$$r=2$$
 and $q_2<100129$, then $p_8=q_1$, $p_9=q_2$ and

$$\log 2 < \log S(M) + 7 \cdot 10^{-10} + \sum_{j=1}^{2} \log q_j / (q_j - 1) + \log 100129 / 100128.$$

LEMMA 17. $p_8 < 3011$.

Proof. Suppose $p_8 \ge 3011$. We used a computer (PDP 11/70 at the University of Toledo) to find $M = \prod_{i=1}^{7} p_i^{b_i}$ satisfying Lemmas 1, 4, 15, 16, $\log S(M) < \log 2$, and

$$\log 2 < \log S(M) + 7 \cdot 10^{-10} + \log 3011/3010 + \log 3019/3018 + \log 100129/100128.$$

The results were:

$$5^{14}7^{12}11^{10}13^{9}17^{8}23^{a_{6}}29^{6},$$
 $5^{14}7^{12}11^{10}13^{9}17^{6}23^{a_{6}}29^{6},$
 $5^{14}7^{12}11^{10}13^{6}17^{8}23^{a_{6}}29^{6},$
 $5^{12}7^{12}11^{10}13^{9}17^{8}23^{a_{6}}29^{6},$
 $5^{10}7^{12}11^{10}13^{9}17^{8}23^{a_{6}}29^{6},$

where $a_6 = 6$ or 8. Since

$$\frac{5}{4} \ \frac{7}{6} \ \frac{11}{10} \ \frac{13}{12} \ \frac{17}{16} \ \frac{23}{22} \ \frac{29}{28} \ \frac{6203}{6202} \ \frac{6211}{6210} \ \frac{100129}{100128} < 2,$$

 $3011 \le p_8 < 6203$. By Corollaries 11 and 12 $p_9 \ge \min\{25646167, 12207031\}$ and $p_{10} \ge \min\{8 \cdot 10^8, 10^{10}\}$. Then N is not OP because

$$\frac{5}{4} \frac{7}{6} \frac{11}{10} \frac{13}{12} \frac{17}{16} \frac{23}{22} \frac{29}{28} \frac{3011}{3010} \frac{12207031}{12207030} \frac{800000000}{7999999999} < 2. \quad Q.E.D.$$

The proof of the next lemma is also easy.

LEMMA 18. Suppose $M = \prod_{i=1}^{9} p_i^{b_i}$, $q = \max\{p \mid p \text{ is a prime and } \log S(M) + \log S(p^a) \ge \log 2$ where a is the minimum allowable power of $p\}$ and $r = \min\{p \mid p \text{ is a prime and } \log S(M) + 9 \cdot 10^{-9} + \log p/(p-1) < \log 2\}$. Then $q < p_{10} < r$; in particular, if there are no primes between q and r, N is not OP.

LEMMA 19. $p_9 < 3011$.

Proof. Suppose $p_8 < 3011 \le p_9$. We used a computer to find $M = \prod_{i=1}^8 p_i^{b_i}$ satisfying Lemmas 1, 4, 7, 8, 15, 16, $\log S(M) < \log 2$, and

$$\log 2 < \log S(M) + 8 \cdot 10^{-10} + \log 3011/3010 + \log 100129/100128.$$

There were seventy-two such M's. However, none of them satisfied Lemmas 11, 12 and 13 except

$$5^27^{12}11^{10}13^{10}19^{10}23^831^659^6.$$

It is easy to show that $7753 \le p_9 \le 8389$, $a_2 \ge 22$ ($\sigma(7^{12})$ is a prime), $a_3 \ge 16$, $a_4 \ge 16$, $a_5 = 10$ or ≥ 16 (if $\sigma(19^{10})$ is a prime, $a_5 \ge 16$), $a_6 \ge 12$, $a_7 \ge 12$, and $a_8 \ge 12$. Then for each p_9 with $7753 \le p_9 \le 8389$ Lemma 18 is not satisfied. Hence N is not OP. Q.E.D.

Proof of Theorem. By Lemma 19 $p_9 < 3011$. We used a computer to find $M = \prod_{i=1}^9 p_i^{b_i}$ satisfying Lemmas 1, 4, 7, 8, 15, 16, $\log S(M) < \log 2$, and

$$\log 2 < \log S(M) + 9 \cdot 10^{-10} + \log 100129/100129.$$

There were thirty-nine such M's; however, none of them satisfied Lemma 18. Hence N is not OP. Q.E.D.

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