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# On the polynomial sharp upper estimate conjecture in 7-dimensional simplex<sup>☆</sup>



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## ABSTRACT

Because of its importance in number theory and singularity theory, the problem of finding a polynomial sharp upper estimate of the number of positive integral points in an  $n$ -dimensional ( $n \geq 3$ ) polyhedron has received attention by a lot of mathematicians. The first named author proposed the Number Theoretic Conjecture for the upper estimate. The previous results on the Number Theoretic Conjecture in low dimension cases ( $n < 7$ ) are proved by using the sharp GLY conjecture which is true only for low dimensional case. Thus the proof cannot be generalized to high dimension. In this paper, we offer a uniform approach to prove the Number Theoretic Conjecture for all dimensions by simply using the induction method and the Yau–Zhang [19] estimates (see Lemmas 2.3–2.5). As a result, the Number Theoretic Conjecture is proven for  $n = 7$ . An important estimate for all dimensions is also obtained (Propositions 3.1 and 3.2) which will be useful to prove the general case of the Number Theoretic Conjecture. As an application, we give a sharper

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estimate of the Dickman–De Bruijn function  $\psi(x, y)$  for  $5 \leq y < 19$ , compared with the result obtained by Ennola.

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $T(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  be an  $n$ -dimensional simplex described by

$$\frac{x_1}{a_1} + \frac{x_2}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{x_n}{a_n} \leq 1, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \geq 0 \tag{1}$$

where  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_n \geq 1$  are real numbers. Let  $P_n = P(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  and  $Q_n = Q(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  be the number of positive integer solutions and nonnegative integer solutions of (1), respectively. We can see there is a relation

$$Q(a_1, \dots, a_n) = P(a_1(1+a), \dots, a_n(1+a))$$

where  $a = \frac{1}{a_1} + \dots + \frac{1}{a_n}$ .

The estimate of  $P_n$  and  $Q_n$  can be applied in number theory. A *smooth number* is a number with only small prime factors. Smooth numbers play important roles in factoring and primality testing [12]. Given an integer  $y$ , the number  $m = p_1^{l_1} p_2^{l_2} \dots p_n^{l_n}$  is called  $y$ -smooth if all its prime factors  $p_i \leq y$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Number theorists want to know the number of  $y$ -smooth integers less than or equal to  $x$ , which is denoted by  $\psi(x, y)$ , called the Dickman–De Bruijn function. One of the central topics in computational number theory is the estimate of  $\psi(x, y)$  (see [5]). It turns out that the computation of  $\psi(x, y)$  is equivalent to compute the number of integral points in an  $k$ -dimensional tetrahedron  $\Delta(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$  with real vertices  $(a_1, 0, \dots, 0), \dots, (0, \dots, 0, a_k)$ . Let  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_k$  denote the primes up to  $y$ . It is clear that  $p_1^{l_1} p_2^{l_2} \dots p_k^{l_k} \leq x$  which is also equivalent to counting the number of  $(l_1, l_2, \dots, l_k) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$  such that

$$\frac{l_1}{a_1} + \frac{l_2}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{l_k}{a_k} \leq 1, \text{ where } a_i = \frac{\log x}{\log p_i}.$$

Therefore,  $\psi(x, y)$  is precisely the number  $Q_k$  of (integer) lattice points inside the  $n$ -dimensional tetrahedron (1) with  $a_i = \frac{\log x}{\log p_i}$ ,  $n = k$ , and  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . In [4], Ennola gave both lower and upper bounds for the  $\psi(x, y)$ :

$$\frac{(\log x)^k}{k! \prod_{i=1}^k \log p_i} < \psi(x, y) \leq \frac{(\log x + \sum_{i=1}^k \log p_i)^k}{k! \prod_{i=1}^k \log p_i} \tag{2}$$

which yields the following result.

**Theorem 1.1.** (See Ennola [4].) *Uniformly for  $2 \leq y \leq \sqrt{\log x \log_2 x}$ , we have that*

$$\psi(x, y) = \frac{1}{k!} \prod_{p \leq y} \left(\frac{\log x}{\log p}\right) \left[1 + O\left(\frac{y^2}{\log x \log y}\right)\right].$$

Numbers  $P_n$  and  $Q_n$  also have applications in geometry and singularity theory. Let  $f : (\mathbb{C}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, 0)$  be a holomorphic function with isolated critical point at the origin and  $V = \{z \in \mathbb{C}^n : f(z) = 0\}$ . The geometric genus  $p_g$  is defined to be  $\dim \Gamma(V - \{0\}, \Omega^{n-1})/L^2(V - \{0\}, \Omega^{n-1})$ , where  $\Omega^{n-1}$  is the sheaf of germs of holomorphic  $(n - 1)$ -forms on  $V - \{0\}$ . If  $f(z_1, \dots, z_n)$  is weighted homogeneous of type  $(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ , where  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  are fixed positive rational numbers, i.e.,  $f$  can be expressed as a linear combination of monomials  $z_1^{i_1} \dots z_n^{i_n}$  for which  $i_1/w_1 + \dots + i_n/w_n = 1$ , then Merle and Teissier [9] showed that  $p_g$  is exactly the number  $P(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ .

There are a lot of papers on finding the exact formula for  $P_n$  or  $Q_n$ , in case  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  are integers. For example, Mordell [11] gave an exact formula for  $Q_3$  with  $a_1, a_2$  and  $a_3$  relatively prime. Pommersheim [13] extended this result to arbitrary integers  $a_1, a_2$  and  $a_3$  using toric variety techniques and a result of Ehrhart [3]. The exact formula is complicated, it involves generalized Dedekind sum. It is hard to figure out how large the sum is from the exact formula. Therefore, sometimes we want to get a sharp upper estimate of  $P_n$  in terms of a polynomial in  $a_1, \dots, a_n$ . Such a polynomial upper estimate have many important applications. For example, it can be used in the following Durfee Conjecture:

**Conjecture.** (See Durfee [2].) *Let  $(V, 0)$  be an isolated hypersurface singularity defined by a holomorphic function  $f : (\mathbb{C}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, 0)$ . Let*

$$\mu = \dim \mathbb{C}\{z_1, \dots, z_n\}/(f_{z_1}, \dots, f_{z_n})$$

*be the Milnor number of the singularity. Then  $n!p_g \leq \mu$  where  $p_g$  is the geometric genus of  $(V, 0)$ .*

If  $f$  is weighted homogeneous of type  $(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ , Milnor and Orlik [10] proved that  $\mu = (w_1 - 1) \dots (w_n - 1)$ . Therefore Durfee conjecture is a special case of the following theorem, which was proved by Yau and Zhang [19]:

**Theorem 1.2** (GLY rough estimate). *Let  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  be positive real numbers greater than or equal to 1 and  $n \geq 3$ . Then*

$$n!P(a_1, \dots, a_n) < (a_1 - 1)(a_2 - 1) \dots (a_n - 1). \tag{3}$$

The estimate in the above theorem is nice. However, it is not sharp enough to provide a solution of the following problem:

**Problem.** (See [21,20].) Let  $f : (\mathbb{C}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, 0)$  be a holomorphic function with an isolated critical point at the origin. Find an intrinsic characterization for  $f$  to be a homogeneous polynomial.

In 1971, Saito [14] gave an intrinsic characterization for  $f$  to be a weighted homogeneous polynomial

**Theorem 1.3** (Saito). *Let  $f : (\mathbb{C}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, 0)$  be a holomorphic function with isolated critical point at the origin. Then  $f$  is a weighted homogeneous polynomial after a biholomorphic change of coordinates if and only if  $\mu = \tau$ , where*

$$\mu = \dim \mathbb{C}\{z_1, \dots, z_n\} / (f_{z_1}, \dots, f_{z_n})$$

and

$$\tau = \dim \mathbb{C}\{z_1, \dots, z_n\} / (f, f_{z_1}, \dots, f_{z_n}).$$

To find a necessary and sufficient condition for  $f$  to be a homogeneous polynomial, Yau made the following conjecture in 1995:

**Conjecture** (Yau Geometric Conjecture). *Let  $f : (\mathbb{C}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, 0)$  be a weighted homogeneous polynomial with an isolated singularity at the origin. Let  $\mu$ ,  $p_g$  and  $\nu$  be the Milnor number, geometric genus and multiplicity of singularity  $V = \{z : f(z) = 0\}$ , respectively. Then*

$$\mu - h(\nu) \geq n!p_g \tag{4}$$

where  $h(\nu) = (\nu - 1)^n - \nu(\nu - 1) \dots (\nu - n + 1)$ . The equality holds if and only if  $f$  is a homogeneous polynomial after a biholomorphic change of coordinates.

The Yau Geometric Conjecture together with Theorem 1.3 will give an intrinsic characterization for a holomorphic function  $f$  to be a homogeneous polynomial after a biholomorphic change of coordinates. In order to prove Yau Geometric Conjecture, Lin, Yau [6] and Granville have formulated GLY Rough Estimate and the following GLY Sharp Conjecture:

**Conjecture** (GLY Sharp Estimate). *Let  $n \geq 3$ . If  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_n \geq n - 1$ . Then*

$$n!P_n \leq f_n := A_0^n + \frac{s(n, n - 1)}{n} A_1^n + \sum_{l=1}^{n-2} \frac{s(n, n - 1 - l)}{\binom{n-1}{l}} A_l^{n-1} \tag{5}$$

where  $s(n, k)$  is the Stirling number of the first kind defined by the following generating function:

$$x(x - 1) \dots (x - n + 1) = \sum_{k=0}^n s(n, k)x^k$$

and  $A_k^n$  is defined as

$$A_k^n = \left( \prod_{i=1}^n a_i \right) \left( \sum_{1 \leq i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_k \leq n} \frac{1}{a_{i_1} a_{i_2} \dots a_{i_k}} \right)$$

for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ . Equality in (5) holds if and only if  $a_1 = \dots = a_n$  are integers.

The above GLY Sharp Estimate is true for  $n = 4, 5, 6$  (cf. [22,1]) and there is a counter-example for  $n = 7$  [16]. In [16], Wang and Yau also modify GLY Conjecture as follows:

**Conjecture** (Modified GLY Conjecture). *There exists an integer  $y(n)$  which depends only on  $n$  such that the sharp estimate (5) holds when  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_n \geq y(n)$ .*

In order to overcome the difficulty that GLY Sharp Estimate is only true when  $a_n$  is larger than  $y(n)$ , Yau proposed a new sharp upper estimate which is motivated for the Yau Geometric Conjecture:

**Conjecture** (Yau Number Theoretic Conjecture). *Let*

$$P_n = P_n(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = \#\{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^n : \frac{x_1}{a_1} + \frac{x_2}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{x_n}{a_n} \leq 1\},$$

where  $n \geq 3, a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_n > 1$  are real numbers. If  $P_n > 0$ , then

$$n!P_n \leq (a_1 - 1)(a_2 - 1) \dots (a_n - 1) - (a_n - 1)^n + a_n(a_n - 1) \dots (a_n - (n - 1)) \quad (6)$$

and equality holds if and only if  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n$  are integers.

There is an intimate relation between the Yau Geometric Conjecture and the Yau Number Theoretic Conjecture. Let  $f : (\mathbb{C}^n, 0) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, 0)$  be a weighted homogeneous polynomial with an isolated singularity at the origin, then the multiplicity  $\nu$  of  $f$  at the origin is given by  $\inf\{n \in \mathbb{Z}_+ : n \geq \inf\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}\}$ , where  $w_i$  is the weight of  $x_i$ . In general, the weight  $w_i$  is a rational number. In case the minimal weight is an integer, the Yau Geometric Conjecture and Yau Number Theoretic Conjecture are the same. However, in general, these two conjectures do not imply each other.

The Yau Number Theoretic Conjecture has already been verified for  $n = 3$  by Xu and Yau [17,18] and for  $n = 4, 5$  by Lin, Luo, Yau and Zuo [7,8]. Liang, Yau and Zuo [5] gave the following result for  $n = 6$ . In this paper, we will prove the conjecture for  $n = 7$ :

**Theorem 1.4 (Main Theorem).** Let  $P_7 = P_7(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_7) = \#\{(x_1, \dots, x_7) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^7 : \frac{x_1}{a_1} + \frac{x_2}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{x_7}{a_7} \leq 1\}$ , where  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_7 > 1$  are real numbers. If  $P_7 > 0$ , then

$$7!P_7 \leq (a_1 - 1)(a_2 - 1) \dots (a_7 - 1) - (a_7 - 1)^7 + a_7(a_7 - 1) \dots (a_7 - 6) \tag{7}$$

and equality holds if and only if  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_7$  are integers.

Let

$$g_n(a_1, \dots, a_n) := (a_1 - 1) \dots (a_n - 1) - (a_n - 1)^n + a_n(a_n - 1) \dots (a_n - (n - 1))$$

be the right hand of (6). In case  $n = 7$ ,

$$g_7(a_1, \dots, a_n) := (a_1 - 1) \dots (a_7 - 1) - (a_7 - 1)^7 + a_7(a_7 - 1) \dots (a_7 - 6).$$

In [7], we can see that, when  $n = 5$ , the number of subcases increases from 4 (when  $n = 4$ ) to 11. The authors of [7] ([5] resp.) simplify those 11 (21 resp.) subcases into 5 (6 resp.) major classes. They divide the whole range into five intervals and classify those subcases by which interval the last variable  $a_n$  is in. The benefit of this classification is that the number of classes will increase only by 1 as the dimension increase by 1. However, the proofs of  $n \leq 6$  relied on the GLY Sharp Estimate, which is only true for  $n \leq 6$ . Therefore the proof cannot be generalized to higher dimension. In this paper, we avoid entirely the GLY Sharp Estimate, and we will prove our main theorem purely by induction. This is a significant improvement since it suggests a way to prove the general case.

As an application, we will also prove that

**Theorem 1.5 (Estimate of  $\psi(x, y)$ ).** Let  $\psi(x, y)$  be the function as before. We have the following upper estimate for  $5 \leq y < 17$ :

(I) when  $5 \leq y < 7$  and  $x > 5$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(x, y) \leq \frac{1}{6} \{ & \frac{1}{\log 2 \log 3 \log 5} (\log x + \log 15)(\log x + \log 10)(\log x + \log 6) \\ & - \frac{1}{\log^3 5} [(\log x + \log 6)^3 \\ & - (\log x + \log 6 + \log 5)(\log x + \log 6)(\log x + \log 6 - \log 5)] \}; \end{aligned}$$

(II) when  $7 \leq y < 11$  and  $x > 7$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(x, y) \leq \frac{1}{24} \{ & \frac{1}{\log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7} (\log x + \log 105)(\log x + \log 70) \\ & \cdot (\log x + \log 42)(\log x + \log 30) \\ & - \frac{1}{\log^4 7} [(\log x + \log 30)^4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - (\log x + \log 7 + \log 30)(\log x + \log 30) \\
 & \cdot (\log x + \log 30 - \log 7)(\log x + \log 30 - 2 \log 7)];
 \end{aligned}$$

(III) when  $11 \leq y < 13$  and  $x > 11$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \psi(x, y) \leq & \frac{1}{120} \left\{ \frac{1}{\log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7 \log 11} (\log x + \log 1155)(\log x + \log 770) \right. \\
 & \cdot (\log x + \log 462)(\log x + \log 330)(\log x + \log 210) \\
 & - \frac{1}{\log^5 11} [(\log x + \log 210)^5 \\
 & - (\log x + \log 11 + \log 210)(\log x + \log 210) \\
 & \cdot (\log x + \log 210 - \log 11)(\log x + \log 210 - 2 \log 11) \\
 & \left. \cdot (\log x + \log 210 - 3 \log 11) \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

(IV) when  $13 \leq y < 17$  and  $x > 13$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \psi(x, y) \leq & \frac{1}{720} \left\{ \frac{1}{\log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7 \log 11 \log 13} (\log x + \log 15015)(\log x + \log 10010) \right. \\
 & \cdot (\log x + \log 6006)(\log x + \log 4290)(\log x + \log 2730) \\
 & \cdot (\log x + \log 2310) - \frac{1}{\log^6 13} [(\log x + \log 2310)^6 \\
 & - (\log x + \log 13 + \log 2310)(\log x + \log 2310)(\log x + \log 2310 - \log 13) \\
 & \cdot (\log x + \log 2310 - 2 \log 13)(\log x + \log 2310 - 3 \log 13) \\
 & \left. (\log x + \log 2310 - 4 \log 13) \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

(V) when  $17 \leq y < 19$  and  $x > 17$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \psi(x, y) \leq & \frac{1}{5040} \left\{ \frac{1}{\log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7 \log 11 \log 13 \log 17} (\log x + \log 255255) \right. \\
 & (\log x + \log 170170)(\log x + \log 102102)(\log x + \log 72930)(\log x + \log 46410) \\
 & \cdot (\log x + \log 39270)(\log x + \log 30030) - \frac{1}{\log^7 17} [(\log x + \log 30030)^7 \\
 & - (\log x + \log 17 + \log 30030)(\log x + \log 30030)(\log x + \log 30030 - \log 17) \\
 & \cdot (\log x + \log 30030 - 2 \log 17)(\log x + \log 30030 - 3 \log 17) \\
 & \left. \cdot (\log x + \log 30030 - 4 \log 17)(\log x + \log 30030 - 5 \log 17) \right\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Remark.** For comparison, we list the Ennola’s upper bounds (see (2)) for  $5 \leq y < 19$  as follows:

(1):  $5 \leq y < 7$  and  $x > 5$ ,

$$\psi(x, y) \leq \frac{(\log x + \log 30)^3}{6 \log 2 \log 3 \log 5}$$

(2):  $7 \leq y < 11$  and  $x > 7$ ,

$$\psi(x, y) \leq \frac{(\log x + \log 210)^4}{24 \log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7}$$

(3):  $11 \leq y < 13$  and  $x > 11$ ,

$$\psi(x, y) \leq \frac{(\log x + \log 2310)^5}{120 \log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7 \log 11}$$

(4):  $13 \leq y < 17$  and  $x > 13$ ,

$$\psi(x, y) \leq \frac{(\log x + \log 30030)^6}{720 \log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7 \log 11 \log 13}$$

(5):  $17 \leq y < 19$  and  $x > 17$ ,

$$\psi(x, y) \leq \frac{(\log x + \log 255255)^7}{5040 \log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7 \log 11 \log 13 \log 17}$$

It is easy to see that our upper bound of  $\psi(x, y)$  is substantially better than the one obtained by Ennola. For example, in  $17 \leq y < 19$  and  $x > 17$  case, though the coefficient of  $(\log x)^7$  in our estimate is same as Ennola's, but our coefficient of  $(\log x)^6$  is

$$\frac{1}{5040} \left( \frac{\log 255255 + \log 170170 + \log 102102 + \log 72930 + \log 46410 + \log 39270 + \log 30030}{\log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7 \log 11 \log 13 \log 17} - \frac{14}{\log^6 17} \right) \approx 0.00599482679$$

which is smaller than Ennola's

$$\frac{1}{5040} \frac{7 \log 255255}{\log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7 \log 11 \log 13 \log 17} \approx 0.0620120969.$$

We use the symbolic computation software, Sage, to deal with tremendous involved computation. Besides, we have found a quick way to judge the positivity of a polynomial in a restricted domain. We also simplify the process of computation by making use of some characteristics of those polynomials.



**2. Some lemmas**

We will frequently use the following two lemmas to decide the positivity of polynomials in some restricted domains.

**Lemma 2.1.** (See [16] Lemma 3.1.) Let  $f(\beta)$  be a polynomial defined by

$$f(\beta) = \sum_{i=0}^n c_i \beta^i \tag{8}$$

where  $\beta \in (0, 1)$ . If for any  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$

$$\sum_{i=0}^k c_i \geq 0 \tag{9}$$

then  $f(\beta) \geq 0$  for  $\beta \in (0, 1)$ .

Lemma 2.1 is easy to use. However, the condition of Lemma 2.1 may not be satisfied in some situation. In that case, we shall make use of the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.2** (Sturm’s Theorem). Starting from a given polynomial  $X = f(x)$ , let the polynomials  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_r$  be determined by Euclidean algorithm as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= f'(x) && , \\ X &= Q_1 X_1 - X_2, \\ X_1 &= Q_2 X_2 - X_3, \\ &\dots && \dots && \dots \\ X_{r-1} &= Q_r X_r \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

where  $\deg X_k > \deg X_{k+1}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, r - 1$ . For every real number  $a$  which is not a root of  $f(x)$  let  $w(a)$  be the number of variations in sign in the number sequence

$$X(a), X_1(a), \dots, X_r(a)$$

in which all zeros are omitted. If  $b$  and  $c$  are any numbers ( $b < c$ ) for which  $f(x)$  does not vanish, then the number of the various roots in the interval  $b \leq x \leq c$  (multiple roots to be counted only once) is equal to

$$w(b) - w(c).$$

**Proof.** See [15].  $\square$

The condition of Lemma 2.2 is necessary and sufficient, so it can be applied to judge the positivity of any such polynomials in some intervals. The computation in Lemma 2.2 is more complicated than that in Lemma 2.1. Therefore, we prefer Lemma 2.1 when it works.

**Lemma 2.3.** (See [19] Proposition 3.1.) *Given any positive real number  $\beta$  where  $0 < \beta < 1$ , let  $a > 1$  be any number such that  $\beta = a - [a]$ , where  $[a]$  denotes the greatest positive integer less than or equal to  $a$ . If  $n \geq 3$ , then*

$$a - 1 > (n + 1) \sum_{k=0}^{[a]-1} \frac{(k + \beta)^n}{a^n}. \tag{11}$$

**Lemma 2.4.** (See [19] Lemma 3.3.) *Let  $a_{j-1}, a_j, \dots, a_{n+1}$  be real numbers and  $\beta = a_{n+1} - [a_{n+1}]$ . Assume that  $a_{j-1} > 1$  and  $a_j \geq a_{j+1} \geq \dots \geq a_n \geq a_{n+1} > 1$ . If  $\frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}}\beta \geq 1$ , and*

$$\prod_{i=j}^{n+1} (a_i - 1) > (n + 1) \sum_{k=0}^{[a_{n+1}]-1} \left[ \frac{(k + \beta)^{j-1}}{a_{n+1}^{j-1}} \prod_{i=j}^n \left( \frac{a_i}{a_{n+1}} (k + \beta) - 1 \right) \right] \tag{12}$$

then

$$\prod_{i=j-1}^{n+1} (a_i - 1) > (n + 1) \sum_{k=0}^{[a_{n+1}]-1} \left[ \frac{(k + \beta)^{j-2}}{a_{n+1}^{j-2}} \prod_{i=j-1}^n \left( \frac{a_i}{a_{n+1}} (k + \beta) - 1 \right) \right]. \tag{13}$$

**Lemma 2.5.** (See [19] Lemma 3.4.) *Let  $a_{j-1}, a_j, \dots, a_{n+1}$  be real numbers and  $\beta = a_{n+1} - [a_{n+1}]$ . Assume that  $a_{j-1} > 1$  and  $a_j \geq a_{j+1} \geq \dots \geq a_n \geq a_{n+1} > 1$ . If  $\frac{a_n}{a_{n+1}}\beta < 1$ , and*

$$\prod_{i=j}^{n+1} (a_i - 1) > (n + 1) \sum_{k=1}^{[a_{n+1}]-1} \left[ \frac{(k + \beta)^{j-1}}{a_{n+1}^{j-1}} \prod_{i=j}^n \left( \frac{a_i}{a_{n+1}} (k + \beta) - 1 \right) \right] \tag{14}$$

then

$$\prod_{i=j-1}^{n+1} (a_i - 1) > (n + 1) \sum_{k=1}^{[a_{n+1}]-1} \left[ \frac{(k + \beta)^{j-2}}{a_{n+1}^{j-2}} \prod_{i=j-1}^n \left( \frac{a_i}{a_{n+1}} (k + \beta) - 1 \right) \right]. \tag{15}$$

### 3. Proof of the main theorem

We will prove the main theorem by induction. Notice that  $P_n$  can be obtained by recursion: let  $k$  be the possible integer such that  $1 \leq k \leq [a_n]$ , where  $[a_n]$  is the biggest integer less than or equal to  $a_n$ . For each  $k$ , we have an  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional simplex

$$\frac{x_1}{a_1} + \frac{x_2}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{k}{a_n} \leq 1, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1} \geq 0. \tag{16}$$

Let  $P_{n-1}^{(k)}$  be the number of positive integer solution of (16). Clearly,

$$P_n = \sum_{k=1}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor} P_{n-1}^{(k)}. \tag{17}$$

Therefore, since we already know that the Yau Number Theoretic Conjecture is true for  $n = 6$  [5], we want to prove that  $g_7(a_1, \dots, a_7)$  is greater than or equal to the sum of  $g_6$ 's, the upper estimate of 6-dimensional layers in  $T(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_7)$ .

Let  $m$  be number of 6-dimensional layers in 7-dimensional simplex, i.e.  $P_6^{(m)} > 0$  and  $P_6^{(m+1)} = 0$ , where  $P_6^{(k)} = \#\{(x_1, \dots, x_6) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^6 : \frac{x_1}{a_1} + \dots + \frac{x_6}{a_6} + \frac{k}{a_7} \leq 1\}$ , where  $1 \leq k \leq m, a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_6 \geq 1$  are real numbers. Let

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_m &:= g_7(a_1, \dots, a_7) - 7 \sum_{k=1}^m g_6(a_1(1 - \frac{k}{a_7}), \dots, a_6(1 - \frac{k}{a_7})) \\ &= (a_1 - 1) \dots (a_7 - 1) - (a_7 - 1)^7 + a_7(a_7 - 1) \dots (a_7 - 6) \\ &\quad - 7[\sum_{k=1}^m (a_1(1 - \frac{k}{a_7}) - 1) \dots (a_6(1 - \frac{k}{a_7}) - 1) - (a_6(1 - \frac{k}{a_7}) - 1)^6 \\ &\quad + a_6(1 - \frac{k}{a_7})(a_6(1 - \frac{k}{a_7}) - 1) \dots (a_6(1 - \frac{k}{a_7}) - 5)] \end{aligned}$$

be the difference between  $g_7(a_1, \dots, a_7)$  and the sum of  $g_6$ 's. We should prove that  $\Delta_m \geq 0$  under the condition of main theorem.

Since  $P_6^{(m)} = \#\{(x_1, \dots, x_6) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^6 : \frac{x_1}{a_1} + \dots + \frac{x_6}{a_6} + \frac{m}{a_7} \leq 1\}$ , let  $\alpha = 1 - \frac{m}{a_7} \in (0, 1)$ ,  $A_i = a_i\alpha$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, 6$ , then we have

$$\frac{x_1}{A_1} + \frac{x_2}{A_2} + \dots + \frac{x_6}{A_6} \leq 1 \tag{18}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} g_6(m) &:= \sum_{k=1}^m g_6(\frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha}A_1, \dots, \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha}A_6) \\ \Delta_m(A_1, \dots, A_6, \alpha) &= g_7(\frac{A_1}{\alpha}, \dots, \frac{A_6}{\alpha}, \frac{m}{1-\alpha}) - 7g_6(m). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $B_{6,k}$  be  $e_k(A_1, \dots, A_6)$ , the elementary symmetric polynomial, for  $k = 0, \dots, 6$ , that is,  $B_{6,k} = A_1 \dots A_6 \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq 6} \frac{1}{A_{i_1} \dots A_{i_k}}$ . For example,  $B_{6,0} = A_1 \dots A_6, B_{6,5} = A_1 + \dots + A_6$  and  $B_{6,6} = 1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 g_6(m) &= \sum_{k=1}^m \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_1 - 1 \right) \cdots \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_6 - 1 \right) - \sum_{k=1}^m \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_6 - 1 \right)^6 \\
 &\quad + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_6 \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_6 - 1 \right) \cdots \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_6 - 5 \right) \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^m \left[ \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^6 B_{6,0} - \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^5 B_{6,1} + \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^4 B_{6,2} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^3 B_{6,3} + \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^2 B_{6,4} - \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right) B_{6,5} + B_{6,6} \right] \\
 &\quad + \sum_{k=1}^m \left[ -9 \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^5 A_6^5 + 70 \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^4 A_6^4 - 205 \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^3 A_6^3 \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + 259 \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^2 A_6^2 - 114 \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right) A_6 - 1 \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

To make  $g_6(m)$  a polynomial of  $m$ , we must transform the function to avoid the appearance of  $m$  in the sum symbol. Let

$$S_q := \sum_{k=1}^m \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^q, \quad \text{for } q = 1, \dots, 6.$$

We will use the first six  $S_q$  in the later computation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_1 &= \frac{1}{m\alpha} \left[ \frac{1}{2} m(m+1)\alpha + \frac{1}{2} m(m-1) \right] \\
 S_2 &= \left( \frac{1}{m\alpha} \right)^2 \left[ \frac{1}{6} m(m+1)(2m+1)(\alpha-1)^2 + m^2(m+1)(\alpha-1) + m^3 \right] \\
 S_3 &= \left( \frac{1}{m\alpha} \right)^3 \left[ \frac{1}{4} m^2(m+1)^2(\alpha-1)^3 + \frac{1}{2} m^2(m+1)(2m+1)(\alpha-1)^2 \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{3}{2} m^3(m+1)(\alpha-1) + m^4 \right] \\
 S_4 &= \left( \frac{1}{m\alpha} \right)^4 \left[ \frac{1}{30} m(m+1)(2m+1)(3m^2+3m-1)(\alpha-1)^4 + m^3(m+1)^2(\alpha-1)^3 \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + m^3(m+1)(2m+1)(\alpha-1)^2 + 2m^4(m+1)(\alpha-1) + m^5 \right] \\
 S_5 &= \left( \frac{1}{m\alpha} \right)^5 \left[ \frac{1}{12} m^2(m+1)^2(2m^2+2m-1)(\alpha-1)^5 \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{6} m^2(m+1)(2m+1)(3m^2+3m-1)(\alpha-1)^4 + \frac{5}{2} m^4(m+1)^2(\alpha-1)^3 \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{5}{3} m^4(m+1)(2m+1)(\alpha-1)^2 + \frac{5}{2} m^5(m+1)(\alpha-1) + m^6 \right] \\
 S_6 &= \left( \frac{1}{m\alpha} \right)^6 \left[ \frac{1}{42} m(m+1)(2m+1)(3m^4+6m^3-3m+1)\alpha^6 \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} m^3(m+1)^2(2m^2+2m-1)(\alpha-1)^5 \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ \frac{1}{2}m^3(m+1)(2m+1)(3m^2+3m-1)(\alpha-1)^4 + 5m^5(m+1)^2(\alpha-1)^3 \\
 &+ \frac{5}{2}m^5(m+1)(2m+1)(\alpha-1)^2 + 3m^6(m+1)(\alpha-1) + m^7].
 \end{aligned}$$

In large part of this paper, we determine the positivity of the polynomial in some restricted domain by using the initial value of all partial derivatives. To make this point clear, we introduce the following lemmas:

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $f(m)$  be a polynomial of  $m$ , whose degree is  $s$ . If*

- (1)  $\frac{\partial^s f}{\partial m^s} > 0$ ,
- (2)  $\frac{\partial^k f}{\partial m^k} |_{m=m_0} > 0$  for  $k = 0, \dots, s - 1$ .

Then  $f(m) > 0$  for  $m \geq m_0$ .

**Proof.** It is trivial.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** *Consider  $\alpha$  and  $m$  as parameters and let  $\Delta_m(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_6, \alpha)$  be a polynomial of  $A_1, \dots, A_6$ . If*

- (1)  $\Delta_m(A_1^{(0)}, \dots, A_6^{(0)}, \alpha) \geq 0$ ,
- (2)  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_i} \geq 0$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_i \partial A_6} \geq 0$  and  $\frac{\partial^5 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^5} \geq 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq 5$ ,  $A_1 \geq A_1^{(0)}, \dots, A_6 \geq A_6^{(0)}$ ,
- (3)  $\frac{\partial^k \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^k} |_{A_1=A_1^{(0)}, \dots, A_6=A_6^{(0)}} \geq 0$  for all  $1 \leq k \leq 4$ .

Then  $\Delta_m(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_6, \alpha) \geq 0$  for  $A_1 \geq A_1^{(0)}, \dots, A_6 \geq A_6^{(0)}$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $f(A_1, \dots, A_6)$  is a polynomial of  $A_1, \dots, A_6$ . To prove  $f \geq 0$  for  $A_1 \geq A_1^{(0)}, \dots, A_6 \geq A_6^{(0)}$ , we only need to show

- (1)  $f(A_1^{(0)}, \dots, A_6^{(0)}) \geq 0$  and
- (2)  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial A_i} \geq 0$ , for all  $1 \leq i \leq 6$ ,  $A_1 \geq A_1^{(0)}, \dots, A_6 \geq A_6^{(0)}$ .

In particular, we can apply this method to show  $\Delta_m \geq 0$  and  $\frac{\partial^k \Delta_m}{\partial A_{i_1} \dots \partial A_{i_k}} \geq 0$ , where  $1 \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_k \leq 6$ . In order to show  $\frac{\partial^k \Delta_m}{\partial A_{i_1} \dots \partial A_{i_k}} \geq 0$ , we only need to show

- (1)  $\frac{\partial^k \Delta_m}{\partial A_{i_1} \dots \partial A_{i_k}} |_{A_1=A_1^{(0)}, \dots, A_6=A_6^{(0)}} \geq 0$  and
- (2)  $\frac{\partial}{\partial A_j} (\frac{\partial^k \Delta_m}{\partial A_{i_1} \dots \partial A_{i_k}}) \geq 0$ , for all  $1 \leq j \leq 6$ ,  $A_1 \geq A_1^{(0)}, \dots, A_6 \geq A_6^{(0)}$ .

Notice that for  $k \geq 2$ ,  $\frac{\partial^k \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^k}$  only contains one variable  $A_6$ , i.e.,  $\frac{\partial^{k+1} \Delta_m}{\partial A_i \partial A_6^k} = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 5$ . Therefore, given the three conditions in the proposition statement, by induction we can prove that  $\Delta_m(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_6, \alpha) \geq 0$  for  $A_1 \geq A_1^{(0)}, \dots, A_6 \geq A_6^{(0)}$ .  $\square$

So we can use the initial value of all partial derivatives to determine the sign of  $\Delta_m$  by applying Lemma 3.2. The following proposition gives results about the sign of some partial derivatives of  $\Delta_m$  in general  $n$ -dimensional case. This proposition can save us some labor of computing.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let*

$$g_n(a_1, \dots, a_n) := (a_1 - 1) \dots (a_n - 1) - (a_n - 1)^n + a_n(a_n - 1) \dots (a_n - (n - 1))$$

be the polynomial upper estimate of  $P_n(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  in the Yau Number Theoretic Conjecture. And let  $m$  be the number of  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional layers in the  $n$ -dimensional simplex, i.e.,  $P_{n-1}(m) > 0$  and  $P_{n-1}(m + 1) = 0$ . Let  $\alpha = 1 - \frac{m}{a_n} \in (0, 1)$ ,  $A_i = a_i \alpha$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$  and

$$g_{n-1}(m) := \sum_{k=1}^m g_{n-1}\left(\frac{m - k + k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_1, \dots, \frac{m - k + k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_{n-1}\right)$$

$$\Delta_m(A_1, \dots, A_{n-1}, \alpha) = g_n\left(\frac{A_1}{\alpha}, \dots, \frac{A_{n-1}}{\alpha}, \frac{m}{1 - \alpha}\right) - n g_{n-1}(m)$$

then

$$\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_i} > 0$$

and

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_i \partial A_{n-1}} > 0$$

for all  $i = 1, \dots, n - 2$ ,  $A_1 \geq \dots \geq A_{n-1} \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1 - \alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

**Proof.** Notice that  $A_1, \dots, A_{n-2}$  are symmetric in the polynomial. Therefore we only need to prove  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_1} > 0$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_1 \partial A_{n-1}} > 0$  for  $A_1 \geq \dots \geq A_{n-1} \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1 - \alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Let  $k' = \lfloor a_n \rfloor - k$ ,  $\beta = a_n - \lfloor a_n \rfloor$ ,

$$\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_1} = \frac{1}{\alpha} \left\{ \prod_{i=2}^n (a_i - 1) - n \sum_{k'=\lfloor a_n \rfloor - m}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \left[ \left(\frac{k' + \beta}{a_n}\right) \prod_{i=2}^{n-1} \left(\frac{a_i}{a_n} (k' + \beta) - 1\right) \right] \right\}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_1 \partial A_{n-1}} = \frac{1}{\alpha^2} \left\{ \prod_{i=2}^{n-2} (a_i - 1)(a_n - 1) - n \sum_{k'=\lfloor a_n \rfloor - m}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \left[ \left( \frac{k' + \beta}{a_n} \right)^2 \prod_{i=2}^{n-2} \left( \frac{a_i}{a_n} (k' + \beta) - 1 \right) \right] \right\}.$$

Our goal is to show that

$$\prod_{i=2}^n (a_i - 1) - n \sum_{k'=\lfloor a_n \rfloor - m}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \left[ \left( \frac{k' + \beta}{a_n} \right) \prod_{i=2}^{n-1} \left( \frac{a_i}{a_n} (k' + \beta) - 1 \right) \right] > 0 \tag{19}$$

and

$$\prod_{i=2}^{n-2} (a_i - 1)(a_n - 1) - n \sum_{k'=\lfloor a_n \rfloor - m}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \left[ \left( \frac{k' + \beta}{a_n} \right)^2 \prod_{i=2}^{n-2} \left( \frac{a_i}{a_n} (k' + \beta) - 1 \right) \right] > 0. \tag{20}$$

We are going to consider two cases.

*Case 1:*  $a_n - 1 < m < a_n$

In this case,  $m = \lfloor a_n \rfloor$ . Since  $P_n(m) > 0$ ,  $\frac{1}{a_1} + \dots + \frac{1}{a_{n-1}} + \frac{m}{a_n} \leq 1$  must hold. Thus  $\frac{1}{a_{n-1}} + \frac{m}{a_n} \leq 1$  and it is equivalent to  $\frac{1}{a_{n-1}} + \frac{a_n - \beta}{a_n} \leq 1$ , so  $\frac{a_n - 1}{a_n} \beta \geq 1$ . By [Lemma 2.3](#),

$$a_n - 1 > n \sum_{k'=0}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \frac{(k' + \beta)^{n-1}}{a_n^{n-1}}. \tag{21}$$

Since we have  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_{n-2} \geq a_{n-1} \geq a_n > 1$ , if we repeatedly apply [Lemma 2.4](#) to (21), then after  $n - 2$  times we will have

$$\prod_{i=2}^n (a_i - 1) - n \sum_{k'=0}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \left[ \left( \frac{k' + \beta}{a_n} \right) \prod_{i=2}^{n-1} \left( \frac{a_i}{a_n} (k' + \beta) - 1 \right) \right] > 0.$$

Notice that we also have  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_{n-2} \geq a_n > 1$ , so if we repeatedly apply [Lemma 2.4](#) to (21) only  $n - 3$  times we will have

$$\prod_{i=2}^{n-2} (a_i - 1)(a_n - 1) - n \sum_{k'=0}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \left[ \left( \frac{k' + \beta}{a_n} \right)^2 \prod_{i=2}^{n-2} \left( \frac{a_i}{a_n} (k' + \beta) - 1 \right) \right] > 0.$$

Notice that for  $k' \geq 0$ ,

$$\left( \frac{k' + \beta}{a_n} \right) \prod_{i=2}^{n-1} \left( \frac{a_i}{a_n} (k' + \beta) - 1 \right) \geq 0 \tag{22}$$

$$\left( \frac{k' + \beta}{a_n} \right)^2 \prod_{i=2}^{n-2} \left( \frac{a_i}{a_n} (k' + \beta) - 1 \right) \geq 0. \tag{23}$$

Thus we have (19) and (20).

Case 2:  $m \leq a_n - 1$  In this case,  $\lfloor a_n \rfloor - m \geq 1$ . By Lemma 2.3,

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n - 1 &> n \sum_{k'=0}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \frac{(k' + \beta)^{n-1}}{a_n^{n-1}} \\
 &> n \sum_{k'=1}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \frac{(k' + \beta)^{n-1}}{a_n^{n-1}}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{24}$$

Since we have  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_{n-2} \geq a_{n-1} \geq a_n > 1$ , if we repeatedly apply Lemma 2.5 to (24), then after  $n - 2$  times we will have

$$\prod_{i=2}^n (a_i - 1) - n \sum_{k'=1}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \left[ \left( \frac{k' + \beta}{a_n} \right) \prod_{i=2}^{n-1} \left( \frac{a_i}{a_n} (k' + \beta) - 1 \right) \right] > 0.$$

Notice that we also have  $a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_{n-2} \geq a_n > 1$ , so if we repeatedly apply Lemma 2.5 to (24) only  $n - 3$  times we will have

$$\prod_{i=2}^{n-2} (a_i - 1)(a_n - 1) - n \sum_{k'=1}^{\lfloor a_n \rfloor - 1} \left[ \left( \frac{k' + \beta}{a_n} \right)^2 \prod_{i=2}^{n-2} \left( (k' + \beta) \frac{a_i}{a_n} - 1 \right) \right] > 0.$$

Notice that  $a_i > a_n$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$ , thus for  $k' \geq 1$ , (22) and (23) holds. Thus we get (19) and (20) in this case. Therefore,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_1} > 0$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_1 \partial A_{n-1}} > 0$  for  $A_1 \geq \dots \geq A_{n-1} \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let*

$$g_n(a_1, \dots, a_n) := (a_1 - 1) \dots (a_n - 1) - (a_n - 1)^n + a_n(a_n - 1) \dots (a_n - (n - 1))$$

be the polynomial upper estimate of  $P_n(a_1, \dots, a_n)$  in the Yau Number Theoretic Conjecture. And let  $m$  be the number of  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional layers in the  $n$ -dimensional simplex, i.e.,  $P_{n-1}(m) > 0$  and  $P_{n-1}(m + 1) = 0$ . Let  $\alpha = 1 - \frac{m}{a_n} \in (0, 1)$ ,  $A_i = a_i\alpha$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
 g_{n-1}(m) &:= \sum_{k=1}^m g_{n-1} \left( \frac{m - k + k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_1, \dots, \frac{m - k + k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_{n-1} \right) \\
 \Delta_m(A_1, \dots, A_{n-1}, \alpha) &= g_n \left( \frac{A_1}{\alpha}, \dots, \frac{A_{n-1}}{\alpha}, \frac{m}{1 - \alpha} \right) - n g_{n-1}(m)
 \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\frac{\partial^{n-2} \Delta_m}{\partial A_{n-1}^{n-2}} > 0$$

for all  $n \geq 5$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .



**Proof.** In fact, for  $n \geq 5$ ,

$$\frac{\partial^{n-2} g_n(\frac{A_1}{\alpha}, \dots, \frac{A_{n-1}}{\alpha}, \frac{m}{1-\alpha})}{\partial A_{n-1}^{n-2}} = 0$$

hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^{n-2} \Delta_m}{\partial A_{n-1}^{n-2}} &= -n \frac{\partial^{n-2} g_{n-1}(m)}{\partial A_{n-1}^{n-2}} \\ &= n \frac{\partial^{n-2}}{\partial A_{n-1}^{n-2}} \left[ \sum_{k=1}^m \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_{n-1} - 1 \right)^{n-1} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_{n-1} \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_{n-1} - 1 \right) \dots \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_{n-1} - (n-2) \right) \right] \\ &= n \frac{\partial^{n-2}}{\partial A_{n-1}^{n-2}} \sum_{k=1}^m \left[ -(n-1) \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_{n-1} \right)^{n-2} + \frac{(n-1)(n-2)}{2} \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} A_{n-1} \right)^{n-2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \text{lower degree terms of } A_{n-1} \right] \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{(n-4) \cdot n!}{2} \left( \frac{m-k+k\alpha}{m\alpha} \right)^{n-2} > 0 \end{aligned}$$

for  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ .  $\square$

The proof of the main theorem is divided into 7 cases:

- Case 1:  $a_7 \in (m, m + 1]$ ;
- Case 2:  $a_7 \in (m + 1, m + 2]$ ;
- Case 3:  $a_7 \in (m + 2, m + 3]$ ;
- Case 4:  $a_7 \in (m + 3, m + 4]$ ;
- Case 5:  $a_7 \in (m + 4, m + 5]$ ;
- Case 6:  $a_7 \in (m + 5, m + 6]$ ;
- Case 7:  $a_7 \geq m + 6$ .

**Remark.** For cases 1 to 6, the equality in (7) cannot be attained by any chance, because in these cases  $\Delta_m$  is positive. On the other hand,  $a_1 = \dots = a_7$  cannot hold in these cases, it can only hold in case 7.

The proof will begin with case (1) and solve the rest of cases in numerical order. For conciseness, we shall give the detailed proof of cases (1), (6) and (7). Since the proofs of cases (2)–(5) are akin to that of cases (1) and (6), we shall only list the subcases in each cases.

3.1. Case 1:  $a_7 \in (m, m + 1]$

For  $a_7 \in (m, m + 1]$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ . Since  $x_1 = \dots = x_6 = 1$ ,  $x_7 = m$  is a solution of the inequality, we know that

$$\frac{1}{A_1} + \dots + \frac{1}{A_6} \leq 1 \tag{25}$$

and  $A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6$ . So we just need to show that  $\Delta_m \geq 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1$ . Notice that in this case,  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (0, 1]$ , so by Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_i} > 0$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_i \partial A_6} > 0$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, 5, A_1 \geq \dots \geq A_{n-1} \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ .

By Proposition 3.2,  $\frac{\partial^5 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^5} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, 1), m \geq 2, m$  integer.

(i)  $\frac{\partial^4 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^4} |_{A_6=1} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2, m$  integer.

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial^4 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^4} |_{A_6=1} \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha^5 m^3} [-14(m+1)(78m^3 + 72m^2 - 17m + 17)\alpha^5 \\ & \quad - 14(m-1)(m+1)(78m^2 + 23)\alpha^4 \\ & \quad - 1092(m-1)(m+1)(m^2 + 1)\alpha^3 - 28(m-1)(m+1)(39m^2 - 101)\alpha^2 \\ & \quad - 14(m-1)(78m^3 - 342m^2 + 163m + 163)\alpha + 630(m-1)^2(2m^2 - 2m - 1)]. \end{aligned}$$

For  $m \geq 4$ , the coefficients of  $\alpha, \dots, \alpha^5$  are less than 0, and

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial^4 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^4} |_{A_6=1, \alpha=\frac{1}{m+1}} \\ &= 14 \frac{(1+m)^5}{m^3} (90m^4 + 12m^3 - 207m^2 - 73m + 28) \frac{m^4}{(1+m)^4} \\ &= 14(1+m)m(90m^4 + 12m^3 - 207m^2 - 73m + 28) \\ &> 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\frac{\partial^4 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^4} |_{A_6=1} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 4$ .

For  $m = 2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial^4 \Delta_2}{\partial A_6^4} |_{A_6=1} \\ &= -\frac{105}{4\alpha^5} (179\alpha^5 + 67\alpha^4 + 78\alpha^3 + 22\alpha^2 - 17\alpha - 9) \\ &> 0 \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{for } \alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{3}]. \end{aligned}$$

For  $m = 3$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial^4 \Delta_2}{\partial A_6^4} \Big|_{A_6=1} \\ &= -\frac{280}{27\alpha^5} (544\alpha^5 + 290\alpha^4 + 312\alpha^3 + 200\alpha^2 - 32\alpha - 99) \\ &> 0 \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{for } \alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{4}]. \end{aligned}$$

These two “>”s can be proved by Lemma 2.1, you may need to replace  $\alpha$  with, for example,  $\beta = (m+1)\alpha$ ,  $\beta \in (0, 1]$ , for both  $m = 2$  and  $m = 3$  cases. Thus  $\frac{\partial^4 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^4} \Big|_{A_6=1} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

(ii)  $\frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. Let  $\beta = (1 + m)\alpha \in (0, 1]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} \\ &= \frac{1+m}{\beta^5 m^3} \left[ \frac{7}{2} (123m^3 - 33m^2 - 22m + 22)\beta^5 + \frac{7}{2} (m-1)(m+1)(123m^2 + 178)\beta^4 \right. \\ & \quad + \frac{861}{2} (m-1)(m+1)^2 (m-2)(m+2)\beta^3 \\ & \quad + \frac{7}{2} (m-1)(m+1)^2 (123m^3 - 1107m^2 + 628m + 628)\beta^2 \\ & \quad - 7(m-1)(m+1)^3 (246m^3 - 594m^2 + 191m + 191)\beta \\ & \quad \left. + 315(m-1)^2 (m+1)^4 (2m^2 - 2m - 1) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

The function  $\Delta_m$  can be extended to a function of  $m$  for  $m \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . We still denote this extended function by  $\Delta_m$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial^8}{\partial m^8} \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\ &= 25401600 > 0 \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1] \\ & \frac{\partial^7}{\partial m^7} \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\ &= -211680(41\beta - 255) > 0 \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1] \\ & \frac{\partial^6}{\partial m^6} \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\ &= 7560(41\beta^2 - 2228\beta + 7350) > 0 \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1] \\ & \frac{\partial^5}{\partial m^5} \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\ &= 420(123\beta^3 + 492\beta^2 - 36886\beta + 87480) > 0 \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{\partial^4}{\partial m^4} \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\
 &= 84(123\beta^4 + 1353\beta^3 - 3062\beta^2 - 105742\beta + 207630) > 0 && \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1] \\
 & \frac{\partial^3}{\partial m^3} \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\
 &= 21(123\beta^5 + 984\beta^4 + 5289\beta^3 - 22256\beta^2 - 167064\beta + 299700) > 0 && \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1] \\
 & \frac{\partial^2}{\partial m^2} \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\
 &= 7(705\beta^5 + 3007\beta^4 + 8487\beta^3 - 49101\beta^2 - 142344\beta + 255150) > 0 && \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1] \\
 & \frac{\partial}{\partial m} \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\
 &= 7(661\beta^5 + 2078\beta^4 + 2214\beta^3 - 22158\beta^2 - 29619\beta + 58320) > 0 && \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1] \\
 & \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\
 &= 35(83\beta^5 + 201\beta^4 - 1404\beta^2 - 891\beta + 2187) > 0 && \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1].
 \end{aligned}$$

The “>”s can be proved by [Lemma 2.1](#) or [Lemma 2.2](#). Thus by [Lemma 3.1](#),  $\frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} \Big|_{A_6=1} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

(iii)  $\frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^2} \Big|_{A_6=1} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. Let  $\beta = (1+m)\alpha \in (0, 1]$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^2} \Big|_{A_6=1} \\
 &= \frac{1+m}{\beta^5 m^3} \left[ \frac{7}{6} (19m^3 - 175m^2 + 78m - 78)\beta^5 - \frac{7}{6} (m-1)(m+1)(19m^2 - 402)\beta^4 \right. \\
 & \quad - \frac{7}{6} (m-1)(m+1)(19m^3 - 1535m^2 + 828m + 828)\beta^3 \\
 & \quad + \frac{7}{2} (m-1)(m-2)(m+1)^2(339m^2 - 213m - 142)\beta^2 \\
 & \quad - 7(m-1)(m+1)^3(138m^3 - 282m^2 + 73m + 73)\beta \\
 & \quad \left. + 105(m-1)^2(m+1)^4(2m^2 - 2m - 1) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly as case 1(ii), we can show that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{\partial^i}{\partial m^i} \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^2} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} > 0 && \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq 8, \\
 & \left( \frac{\beta^5 m^3}{1+m} \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^2} \Big|_{A_6=1} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\
 &= \frac{7}{3} (235\beta^5 + 489\beta^4 + 5256\beta^2 - 15795\beta + 10935) > 0 && \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1].
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus by Lemma 3.1,  $\frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^2} |_{A_6=1} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

(iv)  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. Let  $\beta = (1 + m)\alpha \in (0, 1]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} \\ &= \frac{1+m}{\beta^6 m^5 (1+m-\beta)} \left[ \frac{1}{12} (1906m^5 + 4142m^4 + 3425m^3 - 3425m^2 - 1440m + 1440) \beta^7 \right. \\ & \quad - \frac{1}{6} (615m^5 + 11333m^4 - 10934m^2 + 5040) \beta^6 \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{12} (m+1) (4818m^6 - 27174m^5 + 388081m^4 - 46445m^2 + 30240) \beta^5 \\ & \quad - \frac{1}{3} (m+1)^2 (3706m^6 - 13209m^5 + 12588m^4 - 18620m^2 + 12600) \beta^4 \\ & \quad + \frac{5}{12} (m+1)^3 (2862m^6 - 11928m^5 + 20489m^4 - 20111m^2 + 10080) \beta^3 \\ & \quad - \frac{1}{6} (m+1)^4 (3744m^6 - 31185m^5 + 65275m^5 - 46690m^2 + 15120) \beta^2 \\ & \quad + \frac{3}{4} (m+1)^5 (302m^6 - 6090m^5 + 10955m^4 - 5327m^2 + 1120) \beta \\ & \quad \left. + 120(m-1)(m+1)^6 (15m^4 - 6m^3 - 6m^2 + m + 1) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Similarly as case 1(ii), we can show that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial^i}{\partial m^i} \left( \frac{\beta^6 m^5 (1+m-\beta)}{1+m} \frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} \right) > 0 \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq 11, \\ & \left( \frac{\beta^6 m^5 (1+m-\beta)}{1+m} \frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} \right) |_{m=2} \\ &= 11627\beta^7 - 27052\beta^6 - 23985\beta^5 - 25272\beta^4 + 662985\beta^3 - 1545156\beta^2 \\ & \quad - 3728835\beta + 14959080 > 0 \quad \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1] \end{aligned}$$

Thus by Lemma 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. By Lemma 3.2, we conclude that

**Proposition 3.3.**  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

(v)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. Let  $\beta = (1 + m)\alpha \in (0, 1]$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} \\
 = & \frac{1+m}{\beta^6 m^5 (1+m-\beta)^6} \left[ \frac{1}{60} (m-1)(4904m^4 - 4861m^2 + 7200)\beta^{12} \right. \\
 & - \frac{1}{12} (13472m^6 + 5418m^5 - 19747m^4 + 26453m^2 - 17280)\beta^{11} \\
 & - \frac{1}{12} (m+1)(20916m^7 - 47230m^6 - 48636m^5 + 103285m^4 - 141939m^2 + 95040)\beta^{10} \\
 & - \frac{1}{12} (m+1)^2 (19068m^8 - 83664m^7 + 58346m^6 + 208698m^5 - 381563m^4 \\
 & + 495159m^2 - 316800)\beta^9 \\
 & - \frac{1}{6} (m+1)^3 (4200m^9 - 28602m^8 + 62748m^7 + 12388m^6 - 292950m^5 + 544817m^4 \\
 & - 619941m^2 + 356400)\beta^8 \\
 & - \frac{1}{30} (m+1)^4 (4620m^{10} - 42000m^9 + 143010m^8 - 209160m^7 - 436126m^6 \\
 & + 3067470m^5 - 6013175m^4 + 5767461m^2 - 2851200)\beta^7 \\
 & - \frac{1}{6} (m+1)^5 (84m^{11} - 924m^{10} + 4200m^9 - 9534m^8 + 10458m^7 + 138376m^6 \\
 & - 1001958m^5 + 2003561m^4 - 1605387m^2 + 665280)\beta^6 \\
 & + \frac{1}{6} (m+1)^6 (136430m^6 - 1262178m^5 + 2463055m^4 - 1659567m^2 + 570240)\beta^5 \\
 & - \frac{1}{12} (m+1)^7 (190904m^6 - 2364948m^5 + 4370653m^4 - 2505069m^2 + 712800)\beta^4 \\
 & + \frac{1}{12} (m+1)^8 (92316m^6 - 1572090m^5 + 2713319m^4 - 1338617m^2 + 316800)\beta^3 \\
 & - \frac{1}{60} (m+1)^9 (136206m^6 - 3477240m^5 + 5584285m^4 - 2396611m^2 + 475200)\beta^2 \\
 & + \frac{3}{4} (m+1)^{10} (406m^6 - 20322m^5 + 30415m^4 - 11459m^2 + 1920)\beta \\
 & \left. + 120(m-1)(m+1)^{11} (15m^4 - 6m^3 - 6m^2 + m + 1) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly as case 1(ii), we can show that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{\partial^i}{\partial m^i} \left( \frac{\beta^6 m^5 (1+m-\beta)^6}{1+m} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} \right) > 0 \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq 16, \\
 & \left( \frac{\beta^6 m^5 (1+m-\beta)^6}{1+m} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} \right) |_{m=2} \\
 = & \frac{1}{3} (\beta + 3) (3311\beta^{11} - 211974\beta^{10} + 1177407\beta^9 - 3855600\beta^8 - 207522\beta^7 + 103332348\beta^6 \\
 & - 719244522\beta^5 + 2771068968\beta^4 - 6761799405\beta^3 + 10405811610\beta^2 - 9253982133\beta \\
 & + 3635056440) > 0 \quad \text{for } \beta \in (0, 1]
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\Delta_m|_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. By Lemma 3.2, we know that  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

(vi)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $m = 1, 1 < a_7 \leq 2, \alpha = 1 - \frac{1}{a_7} \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_i} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq 5, A_1 \geq 1, \dots, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

And

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_1}{\partial A_6^2} &= 1260A_6^3 - 5880A_6^2 + 8610A_6 - 3626 > 0 && \text{for } A_6 \geq 1. \\ \frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} &|_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-\alpha)\alpha^6} (1008\alpha^7 - 1009\alpha^6 + 19\alpha^5 - 135\alpha^4 + 425\alpha^3 - 464\alpha^2 - 324\alpha + 720) \\ &> 0 && \text{for } \alpha \in (0, 1) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we conclude that

**Proposition 3.4.**  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

And since

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta_1|_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6=1} \\ &= -\frac{1}{(1-\alpha)^6 \alpha^5} (693\alpha^{10} - 1547\alpha^9 - 63\alpha^8 + 6510\alpha^7 - 18970\alpha^6 + 34026\alpha^5 \\ &\quad - 41330\alpha^4 + 33695\alpha^3 - 17644\alpha^2 + 5364\alpha - 720) \\ &> 0 && \text{for } \alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{2}], \end{aligned}$$

thus by Lemma 3.2,  $\Delta_1 > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$ .

Therefore  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{m+1}]$ ,  $m \geq 1, m$  integer.

3.2. Case 2:  $a_7 \in (m + 1, m + 2]$

In this case,  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (1, 2]$ , so  $A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_i} > 0, \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_j \partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i, j \leq 5, A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1), m \geq 1, m$  integer.

By Proposition 3.2,  $\frac{\partial^5 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^5} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (0, 1), m \geq 2, m$  integer.

The same argument as case 1, we can show that

- (i)  $\frac{\partial^4 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^4} |_{A_6 = \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, 1]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer,
- (ii)  $\frac{\partial^3 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^3} |_{A_6 = \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, 1]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer,
- (iii)  $\frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_6^2} |_{A_6 = \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, 1]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer,
- (iv)  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6 = \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, 1]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

By the above observation, we conclude that

**Proposition 3.5.** *In case  $n = 7$ ,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$  for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, \dots, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, 1]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.*

The same argument as case 6, we can show that

- (v)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, \frac{2}{m+2}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

Thus by Lemma 3.1,  $\Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6 = \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, \frac{2}{m+2}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. By Lemma 3.2, we know that  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, \frac{2}{m+2}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

- (vi)  $\Delta_m > 0$  for  $m = 1, a_7 \in (2, 3], \alpha = 1 - \frac{1}{a_7} \in (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}]$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_i} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq 5, A_1 \geq 1, \dots, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

By Proposition 3.4,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Since  $\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (1, 2]$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ . And we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \Delta_1 |_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=2, A_6 = \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{(1-\alpha)^6 \alpha^3} (2912\alpha^9 - 6613\alpha^8 + 952\alpha^7 + 9116\alpha^6 - 7481\alpha^5 - 3772\alpha^4 \\ & \quad + 10772\alpha^3 - 9076\alpha^2 + 3924\alpha - 720) > 0 \quad \text{for } \alpha \in (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}] \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\Delta_1 > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}]$ .

Therefore,  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, \frac{2}{m+2}]$ ,  $m \geq 1, m$  integer.

### 3.3. Case 3: $a_7 \in (m + 2, m + 3]$

For  $a_7 \in (m + 2, m + 3], \alpha \in (\frac{2}{m+2}, \frac{3}{m+3}]$ .  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, \dots, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ .

In this case,  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (2, 3]$ , so  $A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_i} > 0, \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_j \partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i, j \leq 5, A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1), m \geq 1, m$  integer.

By Proposition 3.5, we know that  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, 1], m \geq 2, m$  integer. Since  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (2, 3]$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ ,



for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{2}{m+2}, \frac{3}{m+3}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. The same argument as case 6, we can show that

- (i)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{2}{m+2}, \frac{3}{m+3}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

Thus  $\Delta_m|_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (\frac{2}{m+2}, \frac{3}{m+3}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. By Lemma 3.2, we know that  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{2}{m+2}, \frac{3}{m+3}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

- (ii)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $m = 1, a_7 \in (3, 4], \alpha = 1 - \frac{1}{a_7} \in (\frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}]$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_i} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq 5, A_1 \geq 1, \dots, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

By Proposition 3.4,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Since  $\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (2, 3]$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ . And we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta_1|_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=3, A_5=A_6=\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{(1-\alpha)^6\alpha} (7952\alpha^7 - 32650\alpha^6 + 56327\alpha^5 - 52474\alpha^4 + 28545\alpha^3 - 9581\alpha^2 \\ &\quad + 2255\alpha - 360) \\ &> 0 \quad \text{for } \alpha \in \left(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}\right] \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\Delta_1 > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}]$ .

Therefore,  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{2}{m+2}, \frac{3}{m+3}]$ ,  $m \geq 1$ ,  $m$  integer.

### 3.4. Case 4: $a_7 \in (m + 3, m + 4]$

For  $a_7 \in (m + 3, m + 4], \alpha \in (\frac{3}{m+3}, \frac{4}{m+4}]$ .  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq A_5 \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ .

In this case,  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (3, 4]$ , so  $A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_i} > 0, \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_j \partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i, j \leq 5, A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1), m \geq 1$ ,  $m$  integer.

By Proposition 3.5, we know that  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, 1], m \geq 2, m$  integer. Since  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (3, 4]$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq A_5 \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{3}{m+3}, \frac{4}{m+4}]$ ,  $m \geq 2, m$  integer. The same argument as case 6, we can show that

- (i)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{3}{m+3}, \frac{4}{m+4}]$ ,  $m \geq 2, m$  integer.

Thus by Lemma 3.1,  $\Delta_m|_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=A_5=A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (\frac{3}{m+3}, \frac{4}{m+4}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. By Lemma 3.2, we know that  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in (\frac{3}{m+3}, \frac{4}{m+4}]$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

(ii)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $m = 1, a_7 \in (4, 5], \alpha = 1 - \frac{1}{a_7} \in (\frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{5}]$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_i} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq 5, A_1 \geq 1, \dots, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

By Proposition 3.4,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Since  $\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (3, 4]$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . And we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta_1|_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=4, A_4=A_5=A_6=\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{(1-\alpha)^6} (1232\alpha^6 - 726\alpha^5 - 5904\alpha^4 + 11417\alpha^3 - 8602\alpha^2 + 3024\alpha - 427) \\ &> 0 \quad \text{for } \alpha \in \left(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{5}\right] \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\Delta_1 > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{5}]$ .

Therefore,  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{3}{m+3}, \frac{4}{m+4}]$ ,  $m \geq 1$ ,  $m$  integer.

### 3.5. Case 5: $a_7 \in (m + 4, m + 5]$

For  $a_7 \in (m + 4, m + 5], \alpha \in (\frac{4}{m+4}, \frac{5}{m+5}]$ .  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq A_4 \geq A_5 \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ .

In this case,  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (4, 5]$ , so  $A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_i} > 0, \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_j \partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i, j \leq 5, A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1), m \geq 1, m$  integer.

By Proposition 3.5, we know that  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, 1], m \geq 2, m$  integer. Since  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (4, 5]$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq A_4 \geq A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{4}{m+4}, \frac{5}{m+5}]$ ,  $m \geq 2, m$  integer.

The same argument as case 6, we can show that

(i)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{4}{m+4}, \frac{5}{m+5}]$ ,  $m \geq 2, m$  integer.

Thus by Lemma 3.1,  $\Delta_m|_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (\frac{4}{m+4}, \frac{5}{m+5}]$ ,  $m \geq 2, m$  integer. By Lemma 3.2, we know that  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{4}{m+4}, \frac{5}{m+5}]$ ,  $m \geq 2, m$  integer.

(ii)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $m = 1, a_7 \in (5, 6], \alpha = 1 - \frac{1}{a_7} \in (\frac{4}{5}, \frac{5}{6}]$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_i} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq 5, A_1 \geq 1, \dots, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

By Proposition 3.4,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Since  $\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (4, 5]$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ . And we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \Delta_1|_{A_1=6, A_2=5, A_3=\dots=A_6=\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \\ &= -\frac{1}{(1-\alpha)^6} (6832\alpha^6 - 24801\alpha^5 + 36312\alpha^4 - 27110\alpha^3 + 10684\alpha^2 - 2036\alpha + 133) \\ &> 0 \quad \text{for } \alpha \in \left(\frac{4}{5}, \frac{5}{6}\right]. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\Delta_1 > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{4}{5}, \frac{5}{6}]$ .

Therefore,  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{4}{m+4}, \frac{5}{m+5}]$ ,  $m \geq 1$ ,  $m$  integer.

3.6. Case 6:  $a_7 \in (m + 5, m + 6)$

We shall give the detailed proof in this case. For  $a_7 \in (m + 5, m + 6)$ ,  $\alpha \in (\frac{5}{m+5}, \frac{6}{m+6})$ ,  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ .

In this case,  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (5, 6)$ , so  $A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_i} > 0, \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_j \partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i, j \leq 5, A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1), m \geq 1, m$  integer.

By Proposition 3.5, we know that  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, 1], m \geq 2, m$  integer. Since  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (5, 6)$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq A_3 \geq A_4 \geq A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{5}{m+5}, \frac{6}{m+6}]$ ,  $m \geq 2, m$  integer.

(i)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{5}{m+5}, \frac{6}{m+6})$ ,  $m \geq 2, m$  integer. Let  $\eta = \frac{\alpha - \frac{5}{m+5}}{\frac{6}{m+6} - \frac{5}{m+5}} \in (0, 1)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \Delta_m|_{A_1=6, A_2=\dots=A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \\ &= \frac{(1-\eta)(m+6)}{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)} \left[ \frac{1}{12}m(m+1)(m+2)(68m^3 + 396m^2 + 571m - 43)\eta^6 \right. \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{6}(m+6)(720m^5 + 5605m^4 + 15257m^3 + 16439m^2 + 5317m - 30)\eta^5 \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{12}(m+6)^2(12395m^4 + 81586m^3 + 179893m^2 + 146450m + 34500)\eta^4 \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{3}(m+6)^3(14021m^3 + 74127m^2 + 122545m + 62775)\eta^3 \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{12}(m+6)^4(565m^4 + 9362m^3 + 193643m^2 + 650710m + 577800)\eta^2 \\ & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{6}(m+6)^5(120m^5 + 2435m^4 + 19669m^3 + 79075m^2 + 244793m + 289200)\eta \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \frac{1}{12}(m+6)^6(40m^6 + 960m^5 + 9565m^4 + 50654m^3 + 150415m^2 + 237526m + 245760)] \\
 & \frac{\partial^{12}}{\partial m^{12}} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) \\
 & = 1596672000 > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 & \frac{\partial^{11}}{\partial m^{11}} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) |_{m=2} \\
 & = 11176704000 > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 & \frac{\partial^{10}}{\partial m^{10}} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) |_{m=2} \\
 & = 1512000(48\eta + 25817) > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 & \frac{\partial^9}{\partial m^9} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) |_{m=2} \\
 & = -423360(1205\eta + 214221) > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 & \frac{\partial^8}{\partial m^8} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) |_{m=2} \\
 & = 3360(565\eta^2 + 532298\eta + 46930651) > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 & \frac{\partial^7}{\partial m^7} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) |_{m=2} \\
 & = 840(15981\eta^2 + 4963889\eta + 260535253) > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 & \frac{\partial^6}{\partial m^6} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) |_{m=2} \\
 & = 60(68\eta^6 + 1440\eta^5 + 12395\eta^4 + 56084\eta^3 + 924559\eta^2 + 121371922\eta + 4209174216) \\
 & > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 & \frac{\partial^5}{\partial m^5} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) |_{m=2} \\
 & = 20(708\eta^6 + 18565\eta^5 + 189533\eta^4 + 989514\eta^3 + 8235757\eta^2 + 509759278\eta + 12463623296) \\
 & > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 & \frac{\partial^4}{\partial m^4} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) |_{m=2} \\
 & = 2(11975\eta^6 + 382674\eta^5 + 4652105\eta^4 + 28309636\eta^3 + 184400896\eta^2 + 5989254880\eta \\
 & \quad + 107446195712) > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 & \frac{\partial^3}{\partial m^3} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) |_{m=2} \\
 & = 26251\eta^6 + 1011277\eta^5 + 14639831\eta^4 + 104750378\eta^3 + 640625536\eta^2 + 12228276992\eta \\
 & \quad + 164515139584 > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 & \frac{\partial^2}{\partial m^2} \left( \frac{(m-\eta+6)^6(m\eta+5m+30)}{(1-\eta)(m+6)} \Delta_m |_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) |_{m=2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{6}(125585\eta^6 + 5783850\eta^5 + 99645980\eta^4 + 843940320\eta^3 + 5316157440\eta^2 \\
 &\quad + 66873626624\eta + 680812576768) > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 &\quad \frac{\partial}{\partial m} \left( \frac{(m - \eta + 6)^6(m\eta + 5m + 30)}{(1 - \eta)(m + 6)} \Delta_m \Big|_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\
 &= \frac{1}{6}(77603\eta^6 + 4240072\eta^5 + 86918048\eta^4 + 876552064\eta^3 + 5989519360\eta^2 \\
 &\quad + 55514390528\eta + 429013336064) > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1) \\
 &\quad \left( \frac{(m - \eta + 6)^6(m\eta + 5m + 30)}{(1 - \eta)(m + 6)} \Delta_m \Big|_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \right) \Big|_{m=2} \\
 &= 14(461\eta^6 + 29632\eta^5 + 723040\eta^4 + 8734976\eta^3 + 66748416\eta^2 + 505266176\eta \\
 &\quad + 2986606592) > 0 \quad \text{for } \eta \in (0, 1).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus by Lemma 3.1,  $\Delta_m \Big|_{A_1=6, A_2=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} > 0$ , for  $\alpha \in (\frac{5}{m+5}, \frac{6}{m+6})$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. By Lemma 3.2, we know that  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{5}{m+5}, \frac{6}{m+6})$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

(ii)  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $m = 1, a_7 \in (6, 7), \alpha = 1 - \frac{1}{a_7} \in (\frac{5}{6}, \frac{6}{7})$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_i} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq 5, A_1 \geq 1, \dots, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

By Proposition 3.4,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Since  $\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \in (5, 6)$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

And

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\Delta_1 \Big|_{A_1=6, A_2=\dots=A_6=\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \\
 &= -\frac{1}{(1 - \alpha)^6} (7\alpha - 6)(496\alpha^5 - 1277\alpha^4 + 1207\alpha^3 - 474\alpha^2 + 50\alpha + 7) \\
 &> 0 \quad \text{for } \alpha \in \left(\frac{5}{6}, \frac{6}{7}\right).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\Delta_1 > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{5}{6}, \frac{6}{7})$ .

Therefore,  $\Delta_m > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{5}{m+5}, \frac{6}{m+6})$ ,  $m \geq 1, m$  integer.

### 3.7. Case 7: $a_7 \geq m + 6$

For  $a_7 \geq m + 6, \alpha \in [\frac{6}{m+6}, 1)$ .

In this case,  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \geq 6$ , so  $A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_i} > 0, \frac{\partial^2 \Delta_m}{\partial A_j \partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i, j \leq 5, A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1), m \geq 1, m$  integer.

By Proposition 3.5, we know that  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (\frac{1}{m+1}, 1], m \geq 2, m$  integer. Since  $\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \geq 6$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_m}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq A_2 \geq \dots \geq A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in [\frac{6}{m+6}, 1), m \geq 2, m$  integer.

- (i)  $\Delta_m \geq 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_2 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in [\frac{6}{m+6}, 1)$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer.

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta_m|_{A_1=A_2=\dots=A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \\ &= \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} \left(\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} - 1\right) \left(\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} - 2\right) \left(\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} - 3\right) \left(\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} - 4\right) \left(\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} + -5\right) \left(\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha} - 6\right) \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\Delta_m|_{A_1=A_2=\dots=A_6=\frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \geq 0$ , for  $\alpha \in [\frac{6}{m+6}, 1)$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. By Lemma 3.2,  $\Delta_m \geq 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_2 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in [\frac{6}{m+6}, 1)$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,  $m$  integer. Equality holds if and only if  $A_1 = A_2 = \dots = A_6 = \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$  and  $\alpha = \frac{6}{m+6}$ , or equivalently,  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_7 = m + 6$ .

- (ii)  $\Delta_m \geq 0$ , for  $m = 1, a_7 \geq 7, \alpha = 1 - \frac{1}{a_7} \in [\frac{6}{7}, 1)$ . By Proposition 3.1,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_i} > 0$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq 5, A_1 \geq 1, \dots, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

By Proposition 3.4,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq 6, A_2 \geq 5, A_3 \geq 4, A_4 \geq 3, A_5 \geq 2, A_6 \geq 1, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ . Since  $\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} > 6$  here,  $\frac{\partial \Delta_1}{\partial A_6} > 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_2 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, \alpha \in (0, 1)$ .

And

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta_1|_{A_1=\dots=A_6=\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \\ &= \frac{\alpha}{(1-\alpha)^7} (2\alpha - 1)(3\alpha - 2)(4\alpha - 3)(5\alpha - 4)(6\alpha - 5)(7\alpha - 6) \\ &> 0 \quad \text{for } \alpha \in [\frac{6}{7}, 1). \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\Delta_1 \geq 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_2 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in [\frac{6}{7}, 1)$ . Equality holds if and only if  $A_1 = A_2 = \dots = A_6 = \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}$  and  $\alpha = \frac{6}{7}$ , or equivalently,  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_7 = 7$ .

Therefore,  $\Delta_m \geq 0$ , for  $A_1 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_2 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_3 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_4 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_5 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}, A_6 \geq \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha \in [\frac{6}{m+6}, 1)$ ,  $m \geq 1$ ,  $m$  integer. Equality holds if and only if  $A_1 = \dots = A_6 = \frac{m\alpha}{1-\alpha}$  and  $\alpha = \frac{6}{m+6}$ , or equivalently,  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_7 = m + 6$ .

### 3.8. Completion of the proof

We still need to show the necessary and sufficient condition for the equality in (7) to hold. We have proved that  $\Delta_m = g_7 - 7 \sum_{k=1}^m g_6(k) \geq 0$ , with the equality holds only if  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_7 = m + 6$ . Then we have,

$$7!P_7 = 7! \sum_{k=1}^m P_6(k) = 7 \sum_{k=1}^m 6!P_6(k) \leq 7 \sum_{k=1}^m g_6(k) \leq g_7. \tag{26}$$

For the last “ $\leq$ ”, the equality holds only if  $a_1 = \dots = a_7 = m + 6$ .

To complete the last statement of [Theorem 1.4](#), we only need the following result which was given by Wang and Yau [\[16\]](#):

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $P_n$  and  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  be as the same as in the Yau Number Theoretic Conjecture. If  $a_1 = \dots = a_n = \text{integer}$ , then the equality in [\(6\)](#) holds.*

Thus we have our main theorem proved.

### 3.9. Proof of [Theorem 1.5](#)

Due to the fact that  $\psi(x, y) = Q_n$ , we can apply our sharp estimate of  $P_7$  to the function in order to obtain an estimate. Let  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_7$  be the first seven prime numbers up to  $y$ . If  $p_1^{l_1} p_2^{l_2} \dots p_7^{l_7} \leq x$ , then  $\frac{l_1}{\log p_1} + \frac{l_2}{\log p_2} + \dots + \frac{l_7}{\log p_7} \leq 1$ . It follows that  $a_i = \frac{\log x}{\log p_i}$  and  $x_i = l_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 7$ . Note that  $Q_7 = P(a_1(1+a), a_2(1+a), \dots, a_7(1+a))$ , where  $a = \frac{1}{a_1} + \frac{1}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{a_7}$ . We split the estimate into five cases:

- (I)  $5 \leq y < 7$
- (II)  $7 \leq y < 11$
- (III)  $11 \leq y < 13$
- (IV)  $13 \leq y < 17$
- (V)  $17 \leq y < 19$ .

Cases (I) through (IV) have been proven through the estimates of  $P_3, P_4, P_5$ , and  $P_6$ , respectively [\[5\]](#). Case (V) involves the first seven prime numbers:  $p_1 = 2, p_2 = 3, p_3 = 5, p_4 = 7, p_5 = 11, p_6 = 13$  and  $p_7 = 17$ . Set  $\lambda = \log 2 + \log 3 + \log 5 + \log 7 + \log 11 + \log 13 + \log 17$ , consequently,  $a = \frac{\log 2 + \log 3 + \log 5 + \log 7 + \log 11 + \log 13 + \log 17}{\log x} = \frac{\lambda}{\log x}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(x, y) &= Q_7 \\ &= P\left(\frac{\log x}{\log 2}\left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{\log x}\right), \frac{\log x}{\log 3}\left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{\log x}\right), \frac{\log x}{\log 5}\left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{\log x}\right), \frac{\log x}{\log 7}\left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{\log x}\right), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{\log x}{\log 11}\left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{\log x}\right), \frac{\log x}{\log 13}\left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{\log x}\right), \frac{\log x}{\log 17}\left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{\log x}\right)\right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{7!} \left[ \left(\frac{\log x}{\log 2} + \frac{\lambda - \log 2}{\log 2}\right) \left(\frac{\log x}{\log 3} + \frac{\lambda - \log 3}{\log 3}\right) \left(\frac{\log x}{\log 5} + \frac{\lambda - \log 5}{\log 5}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left(\frac{\log x}{\log 7} + \frac{\lambda - \log 7}{\log 7}\right) \left(\frac{\log x}{\log 11} + \frac{\lambda - \log 11}{\log 11}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left(\frac{\log x}{\log 13} + \frac{\lambda - \log 13}{\log 13}\right) \left(\frac{\log x}{\log 17} + \frac{\lambda - \log 17}{\log 17}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \left\{ \left(\frac{\log x}{\log 17} + \frac{\lambda - \log 17}{\log 17}\right)^7 - \left(\frac{\log x}{\log 17} + \frac{\lambda - \log 17}{\log 17} + 1\right) \left(\frac{\log x}{\log 17} + \frac{\lambda - \log 17}{\log 17}\right) \right\} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left( \frac{\log x}{\log 17} + \frac{\lambda - \log 17}{\log 17} - 1 \right) \left( \frac{\log x}{\log 17} + \frac{\lambda - \log 17}{\log 17} - 2 \right) \left( \frac{\log x}{\log 17} + \frac{\lambda - \log 17}{\log 17} - 3 \right) \\
& \left( \frac{\log x}{\log 17} + \frac{\lambda - \log 17}{\log 17} - 4 \right) \left( \frac{\log x}{\log 17} + \frac{\lambda - \log 17}{\log 17} - 5 \right) \Big] \\
& = \frac{1}{5040} \left\{ \frac{1}{\log 2 \log 3 \log 5 \log 7 \log 11 \log 13 \log 17} (\log x + \log 255255) \right. \\
& (\log x + \log 170170)(\log x + \log 102102)(\log x + \log 72930)(\log x + \log 46410) \\
& \cdot (\log x + \log 39270)(\log x + \log 30030) - \frac{1}{\log^7 17} [(\log x + \log 30030)^7 \\
& - (\log x + \log 17 + \log 30030)(\log x + \log 30030)(\log x + \log 30030 - \log 17) \\
& \cdot (\log x + \log 30030 - 2 \log 17)(\log x + \log 30030 - 3 \log 17) \\
& \left. \cdot (\log x + \log 30030 - 4 \log 17)(\log x + \log 30030 - 5 \log 17) \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

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