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On a theorem of Besicovitch: Values of arithmetic functions that divide their arguments. (In English)

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The authors' starting point is the following result of C. N. Cooper and R. E. Kennedy: Given an arithmetic function $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$, the set of integers n with the property f(n)|n has asymptotic density zero, if $\mu(x) = x^{-1} \sum_{n \leq x} f(n) \to \infty$ and $\sigma(x)/\mu(x) \to 0$, where $\sigma(x)$ denotes the standard deviation.

The authors prove (Theorem 1) the same conclusion in a rather simple way, if f has normal order g, with $g \nearrow \infty$ and $g(n)/n \to 0$.

Next they show (Theorem 2) that, for a function g satisfying the conditions given above, the set of integers n with a divisor in the interval (g(n), 2g(n)] has asymptotic density zero.

The following lemma, used in the proof of Theorem 2, seems to be of independent interest: Denote by $\Omega_z(n)$ the number of prime and prime-power factors of n not exceeding z. If $z \geq 3$, and 0 < C < D, then the number of integers n in the interval (C, D] with the property $|\Omega_z(n) - \log \log z| \geq 1/3 \cdot \log \log z$ may be uniformly estimated by

$$\ll (D-C) \cdot (\log \log z)^{-1} + z \cdot (\log z \cdot \log \log z)^{-1}$$
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11N37 Asymptotic results on arithmetic functions

11N25 Distribution of integers with specified multiplicative constraints

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values of arithmetical functions; integers with divisors in some prescribed intervals; theorem of Cooper and Kennedy; Turán-Kubilius inequality; asymptotic density zero