

## LARGE HIGHLY POWERFUL NUMBERS ARE CUBEFUL

C. B. LACAMPAGNE AND J. L. SELFRIDGE

**ABSTRACT.** A number  $n = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^E$  is called *highly powerful* if the product of the exponents  $E(p_i)$  of the primes is larger than that of any smaller number. If  $p_k > 19$ ,  $E(p_k) = 3$ . Further, we have developed an algorithm which finds all highly powerful numbers with  $E(p_k) \neq 3$ , and we list the 19 highly powerful numbers with  $E(p_k) = 2$ .

Let the *prodex* of  $n$  be the product of the exponents of the primes when  $n$  is written in standard form. M. V. Subbarao has called a number *highly powerful* if its prodex is larger than that of any smaller number. Assume that  $n = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^E$  is highly powerful. Then it is clear that  $p_i$  is the  $i$ th prime, the exponents  $E = E(p_i)$  are nonincreasing,  $E(p_k) \geq 2$  and  $E(p_{k-1}) \geq 3$  (since  $p_{k-1}^4 < p_{k-1}^2 p_k^2$ ). The theorem of the title asserts that if  $p_k > N$ , then  $E(p_k) \geq 3$ . Further, we have developed an algorithm which finds all highly powerful numbers having  $E(p_k) \neq 3$ . The nineteen highly powerful numbers with  $E(p_k) = 2$  are listed in Table 1.

Throughout the paper,  $n = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^E$  will be assumed to be a highly powerful number and the exponent of  $p_i$  will be written  $E(p_i)$ . In the proof of Theorem 1, we will introduce a one-line notation which will be used throughout the paper.

**THEOREM 1.** *If  $n$  is highly powerful and  $p_k > 13$ , then  $E(p_k) \leq 3$ .*

**PROOF.** Assuming the contrary ( $E(p_k) \geq 4$ ), we will show that  $n$  is not highly powerful by exhibiting a smaller number whose prodex is equal to or greater than  $\text{prodex}(n)$ .

First we show that  $E(2) \geq 10$ . If  $E(2) \leq 9$ , multiply by 8 and divide by  $p_k$ . The changes in the prodex will be  $(E(2) + 3)/E(2)$  and  $E(p_k)/(E(p_k) - 1)$ .

In our one-line notation, we will first write the conclusion, followed by the ratio of the new number to  $n$ , and an inequality or equality, the left side of which will be a lower bound for the changes that increase the prodex, the right side of which will be an upper bound for the changes that decrease the prodex.

Thus, in the case above, we have

$$E(2) \geq 10 \quad 2^3/p_k \quad 12/9 = 4/3$$

and the new number has the same or a larger prodex. In the remaining case, multiply by  $p_{k+1}^2$  and divide by  $2p_{k-1}p_k$ .

end proof  $p_{k+1}^2/2p_{k-1}p_k \quad 2 > (10/9)(4/3)^2$

It remains to prove that  $p_{k+1}^2 < 2p_{k-1}p_k$  when  $p_k \geq 17$ . This can be verified directly for  $p_k = 17, 19, 23$  and  $29$ . If  $p_{k-1} > (31/37)29$ ,  $p_k \leq (37/31)p_{k-1}$ . This

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Received by the editors May 1, 1983 and, in revised form, June 4, 1983. Presented to the Society, January 8, 1983.

1980 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 10A20.

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 0002-9939/84 \$1.00 + \$.25 per page

and similar statements follow from Table 3. Thus,  $p_{k+1}^2 < (37/31)^3 p_{k-1} p_k$  and, since  $(37/31)^3 < 2$ , our proof of Theorem 1 is complete, with the words "end proof" signaling that a contradiction has been reached.

**The main result.**

**THEOREM 2.** *If  $p_k > 2190$ , then  $E(p_k) = 3$ .*

**PROOF.** Let  $q_1$  be the largest prime less than  $p_k^{1/4}$ ,  $q_2$  the smallest prime greater than  $p_k^{1/3}$ , and  $q_3$  and  $q_4$  the smallest consecutive primes such that  $q_1 q_3$  is greater than  $p_k$ .

Since  $p_k^{1/4} > 5$ ,  $q_1 > (7/11)p_k^{1/4}$ . This follows since there is always a prime between  $(7/11)x$  and  $x$  if  $x > 5$ . Similarly, since  $p_k^{1/3} > (13/17)11$ ,  $q_2 < (17/13)p_k^{1/3}$ . Since  $p_k^{3/4} > (523/541)331$ ,  $q_3 < (541/523)p_k/q_1 < (11/7)(541/523)p_k^{3/4}$  and  $q_4 < (11/7)(541/523)^2 p_k^{3/4}$ . From this it follows that

$$q_2 q_3 q_4 < (17/13)(11/7)^2 (541/523)^3 p_k^{11/6} < p_k^2.$$

Assume  $E(p_k) = 2$ . Then since  $q_1 < p_k^{1/4}$ ,

$$E(q_1) \geq 9 \quad q_1^8/p_k^2 \quad 16/8 = 2.$$

Since  $q_1 q_3 > p_k$ ,

$$E(q_3) = 3 \quad p_k/q_1 q_3 \quad 3/2 = (9/8)(4/3).$$

Since  $q_2 q_3 q_4 < p_k^2$ ,

$$E(q_2) \geq 9 \quad q_2 q_3 q_4/p_k^2 \quad (9/8)(4/3)^2 = 2.$$

Since  $q_2^3 > p_k$ ,

end proof 
$$p_k/q_2^3 \quad 3/2 = 9/6.$$

**THEOREM 3.** *If  $631 \leq p_k \leq 2213$ , or  $83 \leq p_k \leq 113$ , then  $E(p_k) = 3$ .*

The argument used above applies for the following:

range of $p_k$	$q_1$	$q_2$	$q_3$	$q_4$
1847–2213	5	17	443	449
1361–1861	5	13	373	379
907–1327	5	11	269	271
631–887	5	11	179	181
97–113	3	5	41	43
83, 89	3	5	31	37

**THEOREM 4.** *If  $p_k = 37$  or  $p_k \geq 53$ ,  $p_k \neq 67$ , then  $E(p_k) = 3$ .*

**PROOF.** For the values of  $p_k$  not yet considered, we extend the previous argument.

Let  $q_1^4 < p_k$ ,  $q_1 q_6 > p_k$ ,  $q_2 q_6 q_7 < p_k^2$ ,  $q_2 q_4 > p_k$ ,  $q_3 q_4 q_5 < p_k^2$ , and  $q_3^3 > p_k$ . Assume  $E(p_k)$ . Then since  $q_1^8 < p_k^2$ ,

$$E(q_1) \geq 9 \quad q_1^8/p_k^2 \quad 16/8 = 2.$$

Since  $q_1 q_6 > p_k$ ,

$$E(q_6) = 3 \quad p_k/q_1 q_6 \quad 3/2 = (9/8)(4/3).$$

Since  $q_2 q_6 q_7 < p_k^2$ ,

$$E(q_2) \geq 9 \quad q_2 q_6 q_7/p_k^2 \quad (9/8)(4/3)^2 = 2.$$

Since  $q_2 q_4 > p_k$ ,

$$E(q_4) = 3 \quad p_k/q_2 q_4 \quad 3/2 = (9/8)(4/3).$$

Since  $q_3 q_4 q_5 < p_k^2$ ,

$$E(q_3) \geq 9 \quad q_3 q_4 q_5/p_k^2 \quad (9/8)(4/3)^2 = 2.$$

Since  $q_3^3 > p_k$ ,

end proof 
$$p_k/q_3^3 \quad 3/2 = 9/6,$$

This argument applies for the following:

range of $p_k$	$q_1$	$q_2$	$q_3$	$q_4$	$q_5$	$q_6$	$q_7$
487-631	3	5	11	127	131	211	223
373-487	3	5	11	101	103	163	167
293-379	3	5	11	79	83	127	131
223-283	3	5	7	59	61	97	101
163-211	3	5	7	43	47	71	73
127-157	3	5	7	37	41	53	59
73, 79	2	3	5	29	31	41	43
71, 73	2	3	5	29	31	37	41
59, 61	2	3	5	23	29	31	37
53	2	3	5	19	23	29	31
37	2	3	5	13	17	19	23

**THEOREM 5.** *If  $p_k = 67, 47, 43, 41, 31, 29,$  or  $23,$  then  $E(p_k) = 3.$*

Assume  $E(67) = 2.$  Then

$$\begin{aligned} E(2) &\geq 13 & 2^{12}/67^2 & & 24/12 = 2 \\ E(37) &= 3 & 67/2 \cdot 37 & & 3/2 > (13/12)(4/3) \\ E(3) &\geq 9 & 3^4 37/67^2 & & (12/8)(4/3) = 2 \\ E(23) &= 3 & 67/3 \cdot 23 & & 3/2 = (9/8)(4/3) \\ E(5) &\geq 9 & 5 \cdot 23 \cdot 29/67^2 & & (9/8)(4/3)^2 = 2 \end{aligned}$$

end proof

Assume  $E(p_k) = 2$  when  $p_k = 47$  and  $q_6 = 29$ , or when  $41 \leq p_k \leq 43$  and  $q_6 = 23$ .  
Then

$E(2) \geq 11$	$2^{10}/p_k^2$	$20/10 = 2$
$E(q_6) = 3$	$p_k/2q_6$	$3/2 > (11/10)(4/3)$
$E(7) \leq 5$	$p_k/7^2$	$3/2 = 6/4$
$E(3) \geq 9$	$3^2 7 q_6 / p_k^2$	$(10/8)(6/5)(4/3) = 2$
$E(17) = 3$	$p_k/3 \cdot 17$	$3/2 = (9/8)(4/3)$
$E(5) \geq 9$	$5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19 / p_k^2$	$(9/8)(4/3)^2 = 2$
end proof	$p_k/5^3$	$3/2 = 9/6$

Assume  $E(31) = 2$ . Then

$E(2) \geq 10$	$2^9/31^2$	$18/9 = 2$
$E(3) \geq 7$	$3^6/31^2$	$12/6 = 2$
$E(2) \leq 14$	$31/2^5$	$3/2 = 15/10$
$E(17) = 3$	$31/2 \cdot 17$	$3/2 > (10/9)(4/3)$
$E(7) \geq 5$	$2^3 7 \cdot 17 / 31^2$	$(17/14)(5/4)(4/3) > 2$
$E(5) = 5$	$31/5 \cdot 7$	$3/2 = (6/5)(5/4)$
$E(11) \geq 53$	$5 \cdot 11 \cdot 17 / 31^2$	$(6/5)(5/4)(4/3) = 2$
end proof	$31/3 \cdot 11$	$3/2 > (7/6)(5/4)$

Assume  $E(29) = 2$ . Then

$E(2) \geq 10$	$2^9/29^2$	$18/9 = 2$
$E(17) = 3$	$29/2 \cdot 17$	$3/2 > (10/9)(4/3)$
$E(7) \geq 5$	$7^2 17 / 29^2$	$(6/4)(4/3) = 2$
$E(5) = 53$	$29/5 \cdot 7$	$3/2 = (6/5)(5/4)$
$E(3) \geq 9$	$3^2 5 \cdot 17 / 29^2$	$(10/8)(6/5)(4/3) = 2$
$E(11) = 5$	$29/3 \cdot 11$	$3/2 = (9/8)(4/3)$
end proof	$5 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 / 29^2$	$(6/5)(4/3)^2 > 2$

Assume  $E(23) = 2$ . Then

$E(2) \geq 10$	$2^9/23^2$	$18/9 = 2$
$E(13) = 3$	$23/2 \cdot 13$	$3/2 > (10/9)(4/3)$
$E(5) \leq 5$	$23/5^2$	$3/2 = 6/4$
$E(7) = 5$	$5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 / 23^2$	$(6/5)(5/4)(4/3) = 2$
$E(2) \leq 11$	$23/2^2 7$	$3/2 = (12/10)(5/4)$
end proof	$2^3 5 \cdot 13 / 23^2$	$(14/11)(6/5)(4/3) > 2$

This completes the proof that  $E(p_k) = 3$  if  $p_k > 19$ .

**Highly powerful numbers for which  $E(p_k) = 2$ .** The following arguments show that there are no highly powerful numbers with  $E(p_k) = 2$  beyond those listed in Table 1.

Assume  $E(19) = 2$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 E(2) \geq 9 & 2^8/19^2 & 16/8 = 2 \\
 E(11) = 3 & 19/2 \cdot 11 & 3/2 = (9/8)(4/3) \\
 E(3) \leq 8 & 19/3^3 & 3/2 = 9/6 \\
 E(3) \geq 7 & 3^3 11/19^2 & (9/6)(4/3) = 2 \\
 E(5) \leq 5 & 19/5^2 & 3/2 = 6/4 \\
 E(5) = 5 & 5^2 11/19^2 & (6/4)(4/3) = 2 \\
 E(7) \leq 4 & 19/3 \cdot 7 & 3/2 > (7/6)(5/4) \\
 E(7) = 4 & 7^3/19^2 & 6/3 = 2 \\
 E(2) \geq 11 & 2^5 11/19^2 & (15/10)(4/3) = 2 \\
 E(2) = 11 & 19/2^{25} & 3/2 = (12/10)(5/4)
 \end{array}$$

Two possible solutions:  $2^{11} 3^{7,8} 5^5 7^4 11^3 13^3 17^3 19^2$ .

Assume  $E(17) = 2$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 E(2) \geq 9 & 2^8/17^2 & 16/8 = 2 \\
 E(11) = 3 & 17/2 \cdot 11 & 3/2 = (9/8)(4/3) \\
 E(3) \geq 6 & 3^5/17^2 & 10/5 = 2 \\
 E(3) \leq 7 & 17/2 \cdot 3^2 & 3/2 = (9/8)(8/6) \\
 E(5) \leq 5 & 17/5^2 & 3/2 = 6/4 \\
 E(5) = 5 & 5^2 11/17^2 & (6/4)(4/3) = 2 \\
 E(7) \leq 4 & 17/3 \cdot 7 & 3/2 = (6/5)(5/4) \\
 E(7) = 4 & 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11/17^2 & (8/7)(4/3)^2 > 2 \\
 E(2) \leq 11 & 17/2^{25} & 3/2 = (12/10)(5/4) \\
 E(2) \geq 10 & 2^5 3^2/17^2 & (14/9)(9/7) = 2 \\
 \text{not } 2^{10} 3^6 & 2^5 3^2/17^2 & (15/10)(8/6) = 2
 \end{array}$$

Three possible solutions:

$$2^{11} 3^6 5^5 7^4 11^3 13^3 17^2, \quad 2^{10,11} 3^7 5^5 7^4 11^3 13^3 17^2.$$

Assume  $E(13) = 2$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 E(2) \leq 11 & 13/2^4 & 3/2 = 12/8 \\
 E(3) \leq 8 & 13/3^3 & 3/2 = 9/6 \\
 E(5) \geq 4 & 5^3/13^2 & 6/3 = 2 \\
 E(5) \leq 5 & 13/5^2 & 3/2 = 6/4
 \end{array}$$

Suppose  $E(5) = 5$ ,

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 E(3) = 5 & 13/3 \cdot 5 & 3/2 = (6/5)(5/4) \\
 E(2) \geq 10 & 2 \cdot 3^4/13^2 & (10/9)(9/5) = 2 \\
 E(7) = 3 & 13/2 \cdot 7 & 3/2 > (10/9)(4/3)
 \end{array}$$

end subproof  $2^3 3 \cdot 7/13^2 \quad (14/11)(6/5)(4/3) > 2$

Thus,  $E(5) = 4$  and

$$\begin{array}{lll} E(2) \geq 9 & 2^5 5 / 13^2 & (13/8)(5/4) > 2 \\ E(7) = 3 & 13/2 \cdot 7 & 3/2 = (9/8)(4/3) \\ E(2) = 11 & 2^2 5 \cdot 7 / 13^2 & (12/10)(5/4)(4/3) = 2 \\ E(3) \geq 7 & 3^2 5 \cdot 7 / 2 \cdot 13^2 & (8/6)(5/4)(4/3) > (11/10)2 \\ E(3) = 7 & 13/2 \cdot 3^2 & 3/2 > (11/10)(8/6) \end{array}$$

One possible solution:  $2^{11} 3^7 5^4 7^3 11^3 13^2$ .

Assume  $E(11) = 2$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{lll} E(2) \geq 7 & 2^6 / 11^2 & 12/6 = 2 \\ E(3) \leq 8 & 11/3^3 & 3/2 = 9/6 \\ E(5) \leq 5 & 11/5^2 & 3/2 = 6/4 \\ E(7) \leq 4 & 11/2 \cdot 7 & 3/2 > (7/6)(5/4) \end{array}$$

Suppose  $E(7) = 4$ ,

$$\begin{array}{lll} E(2) \leq 8 & 11/2 \cdot 7 & 3/2 = (9/8)(4/3) \\ E(3) \geq 6 & 2^2 3^3 / 11^2 & (10/8)(8/5) = 2 \\ E(5) = 4 & 11/3 \cdot 5 & 3/2 = (6/5)(5/4) \\ E(3) \geq 7 & 2^3 3 \cdot 5 / 11^2 & (11/8)(7/6)(5/4) > 2 \\ E(2) = 8 & 2^3 3 \cdot 5 / 11^2 & (10/7)(9/8)(5/4) > 2 \end{array}$$

end subproof  $2^2 5 / 3 \cdot 7$   $(10/8)(5/4) > (7/6)(4/3)$

Thus,  $E(7) = 3$  and

$$\begin{array}{lll} E(2) \geq 9 & 2^4 7 / 11^2 & (12/8)(4/3) = 2 \\ E(5) \geq 4 & 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 / 11^2 & (9/8)(4/3)^2 = 2 \\ E(3) \leq 6 & 11/2^2 3 & 3/2 = (9/7)(7/6) \end{array}$$

Suppose  $E(5) = 5$ ,

$$\begin{array}{lll} E(3) = 5 & 11/3 \cdot 5 & 3/2 = (6/5)(5/4) \\ E(2) \geq 10 & 2 \cdot 11/5^2 & (10/9)(3/2) = 5/3 \end{array}$$

end subproof  $3^2 / 2 \cdot 5$   $7/5 > (10/9)(5/4)$

Thus,  $E(5) = 4$  and

$$\begin{array}{lll} E(3) = 6 & 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 / 11^2 & (6/5)(5/4)(4/3) = 2 \\ E(2) = 9 & 11/2^2 3 & 3/2 = (10/8)(6/5) \end{array}$$

One possible solution:  $2^9 3^6 5^4 7^3 11^2$ .

Assume  $E(7) = 2$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 E(3) \geq 4 & 3^3/7^2 & 6/3 = 2 \\
 E(3) \leq 5 & 7/3^2 & 3/2 = 6/4 \\
 E(2) \geq 7 & 2^43/7^2 & (10/6)(6/5) = 2 \\
 E(2) \leq 8 & 7/2^3 & 3/2 = 9/6 \\
 E(5) \leq 4 & 7/2 \cdot 5 & 3/2 > (7/6)(5/4) \\
 \text{not } 3^45^3 & 3^25/7^2 & (6/4)(4/3) = 2 \\
 \text{not } 3^55^4 & 2 \cdot 7/3 \cdot 5 & (9/8)(3/2) > (5/4)(4/3)
 \end{array}$$

Four possible solutions:

$$2^{7,8}3^55^37^2, \quad 2^{7,8}3^45^47^2.$$

Assume  $E(5) = 2$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 E(2) \leq 8 & 5/2^3 & 3/2 = 9/6 \\
 E(2) \geq 5 & 2^4/5^2 & 8/4 = 2 \\
 E(3) \leq 5 & 5/3^2 & 3/2 = 6/4 \\
 \text{not } 2^{6-8}3^5 & 5/2 \cdot 3 & 3/2 = (6/5)(5/4) \\
 \text{not } 2^53^4 & 2^33/5^2 & (8/5)(5/4) = 2 \\
 \text{not } 2^{5,6}3^3 & 2^33/5^2 & (9/6)(4/3) = 2 \\
 \text{not } 2^83^3 & 3/2^2 & 4/3 = 8/6
 \end{array}$$

Five possible solutions:

$$2^73^35^2, \quad 2^53^55^2, \quad 2^{6-8}3^45^2.$$

Assume  $E(3) = 2$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 E(2) \geq 4 & 2^3/3^2 & 6/3 = 2 \\
 E(2) \leq 5 & 3/2^2 & 3/2 = 6/4
 \end{array}$$

Two possible solutions:  $2^{4,5}3^2$ .

All highly powerful numbers with  $E(p_k) = 2$  are listed below:

TABLE 1

The 19 highly powerful numbers which are not cubeful

$2^2$	$2^83^45^2$	$2^{11}3^65^57^411^313^317^2$
$2^43^2$	$2^73^55^37^2$	$2^{10}3^75^57^411^313^317^2$
$2^53^2$	$2^73^45^47^2$	$2^{11}3^75^57^411^313^317^2$
$2^73^35^2$	$2^83^55^37^2$	$2^{11}3^75^57^411^313^317^319^2$
$2^63^45^2$	$2^83^45^47^2$	$2^{11}3^85^57^411^313^317^319^2$
$2^53^55^2$	$2^93^65^47^311^2$	
$2^73^45^2$	$2^{11}3^75^47^311^313^2$	

On first examination we had 21 possible solutions. These cases were tested by a small program which generated 2682 numbers including all highly powerful numbers

less than or equal to the largest of these cases, namely

$$2^{11}3^85^57^411^313^317^319^2 \quad (5.23 \cdot 10^{26}).$$

Each number generated by the program was tested to see if it were a smaller number with greater or equal prodex when compared in turn with each of the 21 cases. Two of the 21 cases were found not to be highly powerful. We perfected our arguments, which now eliminate these two cases.

**Highly powerful numbers for which  $E(p_k) > 3$ .** First we give a slight improvement of Theorem 1.

**THEOREM 6.** *If  $n$  is highly powerful and if  $p_k > 7$ , then  $E(p_k) \leq 3$ .*

**PROOF.** Assume  $p_k = 13$  and  $E(13) \geq 4$ . Then

$E(2) \geq 10$	$2^3/13$	$12/9 = 4/3$
$E(5) \geq 5$	$5^2/2 \cdot 13$	$6/4 > (10/9)(4/3)$
end proof	$17^3/5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$	$3 > (5/4)(4/3)^3$

Assume  $p_k = 11$  and  $E(11) \geq 4$ . Then

$E(2) \geq 10$	$2^3/11$	$12/9 = 4/3$
$E(3) \geq 7$	$3^3/11$	$8/6 = 4/3$
$E(5) = 4$	$13^3/2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$	$3 > (10/9)(7/6)(5/4)(4/3)^2$
$E(2) \geq 16$	$2 \cdot 5/11$	$(16/15)(5/4) = 4/3$
end proof	$13^2/2^411$	$2 > (16/12)(4/3)$

Subbarao and G. E. Hardy [3] have listed seventeen highly powerful numbers with  $p_k = 7$ ,  $E(p_k) = 4$  and nine with  $p_k = 5$ ,  $E(p_k) = 4$ , and are sure that the list is complete.

**THEOREM 7.** *If  $n$  is highly powerful and  $p_k > 3$ , then  $E(p_k) \leq 4$ . If  $p_k = 3$ ,  $E(p_k) \leq 5$ .*

Assume  $p_k = 7$  and  $E(7) \geq 5$ . Then

$E(3) = 5$	$11^2/3 \cdot 7^2$	$2 = (6/5)(5/3)$
$E(2) \leq 9$	$3^2/2 \cdot 7$	$7/5 > (10/9)(5/4)$
end proof	$2 \cdot 3/7$	$(10/9)(6/5) > 5/4$

Assume  $p_k = 5$  and  $E(5) \geq 5$ . Then

$E(2) \geq 9$	$2^2/5$	$10/8 = 5/4$
end proof	$7^2/2 \cdot 5^2$	$2 > (9/8)(5/3)$

Assume  $p_k = 3$  and  $E(3) \geq 6$ . Then

end proof	$5^2/3^3$	$2 = 6/3$
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The largest  $n$  with  $E(p_k) > 4$  is  $2^83^5$ . All  $n$  with  $p_k \leq 3$  are included in the list of the 25 smallest highly powerful numbers in Table 2.



TABLE 2  
The 25 smallest highly powerful numbers

$2^2$	$2^7$	$2^5 3^3$	$2^6 3^4$	$2^7 3^5$
$2^3$	$2^4 3^2$	$2^4 3^4$	$2^5 3^5$	$2^9 3^4$
$2^4$	$2^3 3^3$	$2^6 3^3$	$2^7 3^4$	$2^8 3^5$
$2^5$	$2^5 3^2$	$2^5 3^4$	$2^6 3^5$	$2^7 3^3 5^2$
$2^6$	$2^4 3^3$	$2^7 3^3$	$2^8 3^4$	$2^5 3^3 5^3$

**Chebyshev-type theorems concerning primes.** According to Diamond [2], in 1852 Chebyshev proved a result which implies there is always a prime between  $x$  and  $6x/5$ , provided that  $x$  is “sufficiently large”. If this can be proved for all  $x > 10^6$ , say, then it is easy to use a small computer to show that it holds for all  $x > (5/6)29$ . The estimates obtained from the first part of such a computer run are listed in Table 3.

The most recent result for large  $x$  that we could find is due to Schoenfeld [4, p. 354], which asserts that the open interval  $(x, x + x/16597)$  contains a prime for each  $x > 2010759.9$ . This result and the list of largest gaps between primes up to  $10^{12}$  [1] make us sure of the correctness of the entries in Table 3.

TABLE 3  
There is always a prime between  $cx$  and  $x$   
( $cx \leq p < x$ ), provided that  $x > N(c)$

$c$	$N(c)$	$c$	$N(c)$
3/5	2	293/307	223
7/11	5	317/331	307
13/17	11	523/541	331
23/29	17	1327/1361	541
31/37	29	1669/1693	1361
47/53	37	1951/1973	1693
113/127	53	2179/2203	1973
139/149	127	2477/2503	2203
199/211	149	2971/2999	2503
211/223	211	3271/3299	2999

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, FLINT, MICHIGAN 48503

MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT, NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, DEKALB, ILLINOIS 60115