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**ADDITION FORMULAS FOR JACOBI THETA FUNCTIONS,
DEDEKIND'S ETA FUNCTION,
AND RAMANUJAN'S CONGRUENCES**

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ADDITION FORMULAS FOR JACOBI THETA FUNCTIONS, DEDEKIND'S ETA FUNCTION, AND RAMANUJAN'S CONGRUENCES

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Previously, we proved an addition formula for the Jacobi theta function, which allows us to recover many important classical theta function identities. Here, we use this addition formula to derive a curious theta function identity, which includes Jacobi's quartic identity and some other important theta function identities as special cases. We give new series expansions for $\eta^2(\tau)$, $\eta^6(\tau)$, $\eta^8(\tau)$, and $\eta^{10}(\tau)$, where $\eta(\tau)$ is Dedekind's eta function. The series expansions for $\eta^6(\tau)$ and $\eta^{10}(\tau)$ lead to simple proofs of Ramanujan's congruences $p(7n+5) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$ and $p(11n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$, respectively.

1. Introduction

Throughout this paper we take $q = \exp(2\pi i\tau)$, where τ has positive imaginary part. We first need to introduce the Jacobi theta functions.

Definition 1.1. The Jacobi theta functions θ_k for $k = 1, 2, 3, 4$ are defined as

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_1(z|\tau) &= 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{(2n+1)^2/8} \sin(2n+1)z, \\ \theta_2(z|\tau) &= 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^{(2n+1)^2/8} \cos(2n+1)z, \\ \theta_3(z|\tau) &= 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} q^{n^2/2} e^{2niz}, \\ \theta_4(z|\tau) &= 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{n^2/2} e^{2niz}.\end{aligned}$$

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Using the theory of elliptic functions, we derived in [Liu 2007] the following general theta function identity.

Theorem 1.2. *Let h_1 and h_2 be two entire functions of z that satisfy the functional equations*

$$h_i(z|\tau) = -h_i(z + \pi|\tau) = -q^{3/2}e^{\delta iz}h_i(z + \pi\tau|\tau) \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2.$$

Then there is a constant C independent of x and y such that

$$\begin{aligned} (1-1) \quad & (h_1(x|\tau) - h_1(-x|\tau))(h_2(y|\tau) - h_2(-y|\tau)) \\ & - (h_2(x|\tau) - h_2(-x|\tau))(h_1(y|\tau) - h_1(-y|\tau)) \\ & = C\theta_1(x|\tau)\theta_1(y|\tau)\theta_1(x+y|\tau)\theta_1(x-y|\tau). \end{aligned}$$

This identity was then used to derive many identities, including Ramanujan's cubic theta function identity, Winquist's identity, and the addition formula for Weierstrass's σ -function.

In this paper we will discuss additional applications of this identity. For brevity, we will use $\vartheta'_1(\tau)$, $\vartheta_2(\tau)$, $\vartheta_3(\tau)$, and $\vartheta_4(\tau)$ to denote $\theta'_1(0|\tau)$, $\theta_2(0|\tau)$, $\theta_3(0|\tau)$, and $\theta_4(0|\tau)$ respectively.

In Section 2, we shall use Theorem 1.2 to prove the following identity.

Theorem 1.3. *Let $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3,$ and θ_4 be the Jacobi theta functions. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1(x+y|\tau)\theta_1(x-y|\tau)\theta_2(u+v|\tau)\theta_2(u-v|\tau) = \\ \theta_3(y+u|\tau)\theta_3(y-u|\tau)\theta_4(x+v|\tau)\theta_4(x-v|\tau) \\ - \theta_3(x+u|\tau)\theta_3(x-u|\tau)\theta_4(y+v|\tau)\theta_4(y-v|\tau). \end{aligned}$$

This identity includes many well-known addition formulas for the Jacobi theta functions. In Section 3 we will derive this corollary from Theorem 1.3:

Corollary 1.4.

$$2\theta_1(x+y|\tau)\theta_1(x-y|\tau) = \theta_3(y|\tau/2)\theta_4(x|\tau/2) - \theta_3(x|\tau/2)\theta_4(y|\tau/2).$$

In Section 4, this identity will be used to derive the following remarkable four-term theta function identity.

Theorem 1.5. *Let $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3,$ and θ_4 be the Jacobi theta functions. Then we have*

$$\begin{aligned} 2\theta_1^2(x+y|\tau)\theta_1^2(x-y|\tau) = & \vartheta_3^2(\tau)\theta_3(2x|\tau)\theta_3(2y|\tau) \\ & - \vartheta_2^2(\tau)\theta_2(2x|\tau)\theta_2(2y|\tau) \\ & - \vartheta_4^2(\tau)\theta_4(2x|\tau)\theta_4(2y|\tau). \end{aligned}$$

When $y = 0$, this identity will reduce to the beautiful but little known identity [Enneper 1890, page 295, Equation (4)]

$$2\theta_1^4(x|\tau) = \vartheta_3^3(\tau)\theta_3(2x|\tau) - \vartheta_2^3(\tau)\theta_2(2x|\tau) - \vartheta_4^3(\tau)\theta_4(2x|\tau).$$

With $\theta_1(0|\tau) = 0$, the $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ case of Theorem 1.5 will give immediately the well-known Jacobi quartic identity

$$\vartheta_3^4(\tau) = \vartheta_2^4(\tau) + \vartheta_4^4(\tau).$$

Some applications of Theorem 1.5 to modular identities of degrees 3 and 5 are also discussed in Section 4.

For convenience, we introduce the q -shifted factorial $(a; q)_\infty$ by

$$(a; q)_\infty := \prod_{n=0}^{\infty} (1 - aq^n) \quad \text{for } |q| < 1.$$

In this notation the well-known Dedekind eta function may be written as

$$\eta(\tau) = q^{1/(24)}(q; q)_\infty.$$

It is obvious that $\eta(\tau)$ is the same as Euler’s product $(q; q)_\infty$ except for an extra factor $q^{1/(24)}$, and hence finding the series representation for $\eta^r(\tau)$ is equivalent to finding the series representation for $(q; q)_\infty^r$, where r is an integer.

With Corollary 1.4, in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, we will give new series expansions of $\eta^{2k}(\tau)$ for $k = 1, 3, 4, 5$, respectively. We will use the series expansions for $\eta^6(\tau)$ and $\eta^{10}(\tau)$ to give simple proofs of Ramanujan’s congruences $p(7n + 5) \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ and $p(11n + 6) \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$.

Theorem 1.6. $(q; q)_\infty^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} ((-1)^n - (-1)^m)q^{(3m^2+3n^2+4m+1)/4}.$

Theorem 1.7. $(q; q)_\infty^6 = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^m(n^2 - m^2)q^{(m^2+n^2-1)/4}.$

A corollary of Theorem 1.7 is the Ramanujan partition congruence modulo 7.

Corollary 1.8. *Let $p(n)$ denote the number of unrestricted partitions of the positive integers n . Then $p(7n + 5) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$.*

Theorem 1.9. $(q; q)_\infty^8 = -\frac{1}{4} \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} m^2(3n + 2)(1 + (-1)^{m+n})q^{(m^2+3n^2+4n)/4}.$

Theorem 1.10.

$$(q; q)_\infty^{10} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} (3m + 2)(3n + 2)^3 ((-1)^m - (-1)^n) q^{(3m^2+3n^2+4m+4n+1)/4}.$$

A corollary of [Theorem 1.10](#) is the Ramanujan partition congruence modulo 11.

Corollary 1.11. *Let $p(n)$ denote the number of unrestricted partitions of the positive integers n . Then $p(11n + 6) \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$.*

Remark 1.12. Using [Corollary 1.4](#) we can also derive for $\eta^4(\tau)$ the identity

$$(q; q)_\infty^4 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m, n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^{m+n} (2n+1) q^{(n^2+3m^2+n-m)/2},$$

which can be simply obtained by multiplying together Euler's pentagonal number identity for $(q; q)_\infty$ and Jacobi's identity for $(q; q)_\infty^3$, so we omit the details. This identity can be used to prove Ramanujan's congruence $p(5n + 4) \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$; see for example [[Hardy and Wright 1979](#), pages 287–289].

In this paper we also need the infinite product representations of theta functions. We recall the Jacobi triple product identity (see for example [[Andrews et al. 1999](#), page 497; [Berndt 1991](#), page 35; [Berndt 2006](#), page 10; [Hardy and Wright 1979](#), page 282; [Kongsiriwong and Liu 2003](#)])

$$(q; q)_\infty(z; q)_\infty(q/z; q)_\infty = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{n(n-1)/2} z^n.$$

Replacing z with e^{2iz} in the Jacobi triple product identity will give

$$(1-2) \quad \theta_1(z|\tau) = 2q^{1/8}(\sin z)(q; q)_\infty(qe^{2iz}; q)_\infty(qe^{-2iz}; q)_\infty.$$

From the definitions of theta functions, by direct computations, we readily find that

$$(1-3) \quad \begin{aligned} \theta_2(z|\tau) &= \theta_1(z + \pi/2|\tau), \\ \theta_3(z|\tau) &= q^{1/8}e^{iz}\theta_1(z + (\pi + \pi\tau)/2|\tau), \\ \theta_4(z|\tau) &= -iq^{1/8}e^{iz}\theta_1(z + (\pi\tau)/2|\tau). \end{aligned}$$

Combining (1-2) and (1-3) gives the infinite product representations of θ_2 , θ_3 , and θ_4 :

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_2(z|\tau) &= 2q^{1/8}(\cos z)(q; q)_\infty(-qe^{2iz}; q)_\infty(-qe^{-2iz}; q)_\infty, \\ \theta_3(z|\tau) &= (q; q)_\infty(-q^{1/2}e^{2iz}; q)_\infty(-q^{1/2}e^{-2iz}; q)_\infty, \\ \theta_4(z|\tau) &= (q; q)_\infty(q^{1/2}e^{2iz}; q)_\infty(q^{1/2}e^{-2iz}; q)_\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Differentiating (1-2) with respect to z and then putting $z = 0$ will yield

$$\vartheta_1'(\tau) = 2q^{1/8}(q; q)_\infty^3 = 2\eta^3(\tau).$$

2. The proof of [Theorem 1.3](#)

Our main aim of this section is to prove [Theorem 1.3](#) using [Theorem 1.2](#).

Proof. From the definitions of theta functions in [Definition 1.1](#), we readily find that

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1(z|\tau) &= -\theta_1(z + \pi|\tau) = -q^{1/2}e^{2iz}\theta_1(z + \pi\tau|\tau), \\ \theta_3(z|\tau) &= \theta_3(z + \pi|\tau) = q^{1/2}e^{2iz}\theta_3(z + \pi\tau|\tau), \\ \theta_4(z|\tau) &= \theta_4(z + \pi|\tau) = -q^{1/2}e^{2iz}\theta_4(z + \pi\tau|\tau). \end{aligned}$$

With these functional equations and by direct computations, we can easily verify that

$$\theta_1(z|\tau)\theta_3(z - v|\tau)\theta_3(z + v|\tau) \quad \text{and} \quad \theta_1(z|\tau)\theta_4(z - u|\tau)\theta_4(z + u|\tau)$$

satisfy all the conditions of [Theorem 1.2](#). Thus we can choose h_1 and h_2 as

$$\begin{aligned} h_1(z|\tau) &= \frac{1}{2}\theta_1(z|\tau)\theta_3(z - v|\tau)\theta_3(z + v|\tau), \\ h_2(z|\tau) &= \frac{1}{2}\theta_1(z|\tau)\theta_4(z - u|\tau)\theta_4(z + u|\tau) \end{aligned}$$

in [Theorem 1.2](#) and then cancel out the common factor $\theta_1(x|\tau)\theta_1(y|\tau)$ in the resulting equation to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (2-1) \quad C\theta_1(x + y|\tau)\theta_1(x - y|\tau) &= \\ &= \theta_3(y + u|\tau)\theta_3(y - u|\tau)\theta_4(x + v|\tau)\theta_4(x - v|\tau) \\ &\quad - \theta_3(x + u|\tau)\theta_3(x - u|\tau)\theta_4(y + v|\tau)\theta_4(y - v|\tau). \end{aligned}$$

Putting $x = v + (\pi\tau)/2$ in the this equation and then using the fact $\theta_4((\pi\tau)/2|\tau) = 0$ in the resulting equation, we find that

$$C\theta_4(y + u|\tau)\theta_4(y - u|\tau) = \theta_4(y + u|\tau)\theta_4(y - u|\tau)\theta_2(u + v|\tau)\theta_2(u - v|\tau).$$

It follows that $C = \theta_2(u + v|\tau)\theta_2(u - v|\tau)$. Substituting this into [\(2-1\)](#), we arrive at [Theorem 1.3](#). □

[Theorem 1.3](#) contains some interesting cases. If we let (u, v) equal

$$(0, 0), \quad ((\pi\tau)/2, 0), \quad ((\pi + \pi\tau)/2, 0), \quad ((\pi\tau)/2, (\pi\tau)/2), \quad (0, (\pi\tau)/2),$$

we find, respectively, that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vartheta_2^2(\tau)\theta_1(x-y|\tau)\theta_1(x+y|\tau) &= \theta_3^2(y|\tau)\theta_4^2(x|\tau) - \theta_4^2(y|\tau)\theta_3^2(x|\tau), \\
 \vartheta_3^2(\tau)\theta_1(x-y|\tau)\theta_1(x+y|\tau) &= \theta_2^2(y|\tau)\theta_4^2(x|\tau) - \theta_4^2(y|\tau)\theta_2^2(x|\tau), \\
 (2-2) \quad \vartheta_4^2(\tau)\theta_1(x-y|\tau)\theta_1(x+y|\tau) &= \theta_1^2(x|\tau)\theta_4^2(y|\tau) - \theta_4^2(y|\tau)\theta_1^2(x|\tau), \\
 \vartheta_2^2(\tau)\theta_1(x-y|\tau)\theta_1(x+y|\tau) &= \theta_1^2(x|\tau)\theta_2^2(y|\tau) - \theta_2^2(y|\tau)\theta_1^2(x|\tau), \\
 \vartheta_3^2(\tau)\theta_1(x-y|\tau)\theta_1(x+y|\tau) &= \theta_1^2(x|\tau)\theta_3^2(y|\tau) - \theta_3^2(y|\tau)\theta_1^2(x|\tau).
 \end{aligned}$$

The identities of (2-2) are usually called the addition formulas for the theta functions and were known to Jacobi. See [Enneper 1890, pages 107–108] for more identities of this type.

3. The proof of Corollary 1.4 and its dual form

In this section we will use Theorem 1.3 to prove Corollary 1.4 and its dual form

$$(3-1) \quad \theta_1(x+y|\tau)\theta_1(x-y|\tau) = \theta_2(2y|\tau)\theta_3(2x|\tau) - \theta_3(2y|\tau)\theta_2(2x|2\tau).$$

Proof. Appealing to the infinite product representations of theta functions and using direct computation, we find that

$$\begin{aligned}
 2\theta_4(z+(\pi\tau)/4|\tau)\theta_4(z-(\pi\tau)/4|\tau) &= q^{-1/(16)}\vartheta_2(\tau/2)\theta_4(z|\tau/2), \\
 (3-2) \quad 2\theta_3(z+(\pi\tau)/4|\tau)\theta_3(z-(\pi\tau)/4|\tau) &= q^{-1/(16)}\vartheta_2(\tau/2)\theta_3(z|\tau/2), \\
 2\vartheta_2(\tau)\theta_2((\pi\tau)/2|\tau) &= q^{-1/8}\vartheta_2^2(\tau/2).
 \end{aligned}$$

Setting $u = v = (\pi\tau)/4$ in Theorem 1.3, using (3-2), and canceling out the common factor $q^{-1/8}\theta_2^2(0|\tau/2)$, we obtain Corollary 1.4.

Now we will use Corollary 1.4 to derive (3-1). First, by replacing (τ, x, y) by $(-1/\tau, x/\tau, y/\tau)$ in Corollary 1.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3-3) \quad \theta_1\left(\frac{x+y}{\tau} \middle| -\frac{1}{\tau}\right)\theta_1\left(\frac{x-y}{\tau} \middle| -\frac{1}{\tau}\right) \\
 = \theta_2\left(\frac{y}{\tau} \middle| -\frac{1}{2\tau}\right)\theta_3\left(\frac{x}{\tau} \middle| -\frac{1}{2\tau}\right) - \theta_3\left(\frac{y}{\tau} \middle| -\frac{1}{2\tau}\right)\theta_2\left(\frac{x}{\tau} \middle| -\frac{1}{2\tau}\right).
 \end{aligned}$$

We apply the imaginary transformation formulas

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta_1\left(\frac{z}{\tau} \middle| -\frac{1}{\tau}\right) &= -i\sqrt{-i\tau} \exp((iz^2)/(\pi\tau))\theta_1(z|\tau), \\
 \theta_2\left(\frac{z}{\tau} \middle| -\frac{1}{\tau}\right) &= \sqrt{-i\tau} \exp((iz^2)/(\pi\tau))\theta_4(z|\tau), \\
 \theta_3\left(\frac{z}{\tau} \middle| -\frac{1}{\tau}\right) &= \sqrt{-i\tau} \exp((iz^2)/(\pi\tau))\theta_3(z|\tau), \\
 \theta_4\left(\frac{z}{\tau} \middle| -\frac{1}{\tau}\right) &= \sqrt{-i\tau} \exp((iz^2)/(\pi\tau))\theta_2(z|\tau)
 \end{aligned}$$

in (3-3) and then cancel out the common factors to obtain (3-1). Thus (3-1) and Corollary 1.4 are equivalent under the imaginary transformations. This completes the proofs of Corollary 1.4 and its dual form. \square

Remark 3.1. Replacing x by $x + \pi/2$ in (3-1), we immediately find that

$$(3-4) \quad \theta_2(x + y | \tau)\theta_2(x - y | \tau) = \theta_2(2y | 2\tau)\theta_3(2x | 2\tau) + \theta_3(2y | \tau)\theta_2(2x | 2\tau),$$

which is the same as [Enneper 1890, page 140, Equation (16)] and was known to Jacobi. So (3-1) is just a variant of Jacobi’s identity (3-4). Ewell [1995] rediscovered (3-1) and called it a sextuple product identity. Corollary 1.4 first appeared in [Shen 1994, page 327, Equation (1.3d)] in a different form, and we may call it the Jacobi–Shen identity.

4. The proof of Theorem 1.5 and its applications

The proof of Theorem 1.5. Taking τ to 2τ in Corollary 1.4 and then replacing x by $x + \pi/2$ and $x + (\pi + 2\pi\tau)/2$ in the resulting equations, we find respectively that

$$2\theta_2(x + y | 2\tau)\theta_2(x - y | 2\tau) = \theta_3(x | \tau)\theta_3(y | \tau) - \theta_4(x | \tau)\theta_4(y | \tau),$$

$$2\theta_3(x + y | 2\tau)\theta_3(x - y | 2\tau) = \theta_3(x | \tau)\theta_3(y | \tau) + \theta_4(x | \tau)\theta_4(y | \tau).$$

Taking $y = 0$ in these two equations and then replacing x by $2x$, we have

$$(4-1) \quad 2\theta_2^2(2x | 2\tau) = \vartheta_3(\tau)\theta_3(2x | \tau) - \vartheta_4(\tau)\theta_4(2x | \tau),$$

$$(4-2) \quad 2\theta_3^2(2x | 2\tau) = \vartheta_3(\tau)\theta_3(2x | \tau) + \vartheta_4(\tau)\theta_4(2x | \tau).$$

Replacing x by y in (4-2) and then multiplying the resulting equation with (4-1), we find that

$$4\theta_2^2(2x | 2\tau)\theta_3^2(2y | 2\tau) = \vartheta_3^2(\tau)\theta_3(2x | \tau)\theta_3(2y | \tau) - \vartheta_4^2(\tau)\theta_4(2x | \tau)\theta_4(2y | \tau) \\ + \vartheta_3(\tau)\vartheta_4(\tau)\theta_3(2x | \tau)\theta_4(2y | \tau) - \vartheta_3(\tau)\vartheta_4(\tau)\theta_4(2x | \tau)\theta_3(2y | \tau).$$

If we interchange x and y in the above equation, then we immediately find that

$$4\theta_2^2(2y | 2\tau)\theta_3^2(2x | 2\tau) = \vartheta_3^2(\tau)\theta_3(2x | \tau)\theta_3(2y | \tau) - \vartheta_4^2(\tau)\theta_4(2x | \tau)\theta_4(2y | \tau) \\ + \vartheta_3(\tau)\vartheta_4(\tau)\theta_3(2y | \tau)\theta_4(2x | \tau) - \vartheta_3(\tau)\vartheta_4(\tau)\theta_4(2y | \tau)\theta_3(2x | \tau).$$

Adding the above two equations together and simplifying, we conclude that

$$(4-3) \quad 2\theta_2^2(2x | 2\tau)\theta_3^2(2y | 2\tau) + 2\theta_2^2(2y | 2\tau)\theta_3^2(2x | 2\tau) \\ = \vartheta_3^2(\tau)\theta_3(2x | \tau)\theta_3(2y | \tau) - \vartheta_4^2(\tau)\theta_4(2x | \tau)\theta_4(2y | \tau).$$

Using the infinite product representations of the theta functions, we readily find

$$(4-4) \quad 2\theta_2(2z | 2\tau)\theta_3(2z | 2\tau) = \vartheta_2(\tau)\theta_2(2z | \tau).$$

Squaring both sides of (3-1) and then using (4-4) in the resulting equation, we find that

$$\theta_1^2(x + y | \tau)\theta_1^2(x - y | \tau) = \theta_2^2(2y | 2\tau)\theta_3^2(2x | 2\tau) + \theta_2^2(2x | 2\tau)\theta_3^2(2y | 2\tau) - \frac{1}{2}\vartheta_2^2(\tau)\theta_2(2x | \tau)\theta_2(2y | \tau).$$

Combining this identity with (4-3), we arrive at [Theorem 1.5](#). □

Some modular identities of degrees 3 and 5. By taking $y = 0$ and $x = \pi/3$ in [Theorem 1.5](#), we immediately have

$$(4-5) \quad 2\theta_1^4(\pi/3 | \tau) = \vartheta_2^3(\tau)\theta_2(\pi/3 | \tau) + \vartheta_3^3(\tau)\theta_3(\pi/3 | \tau) - \vartheta_4^3(\tau)\theta_4(\pi/3 | \tau).$$

Using the infinite product representations of theta functions, we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1(\pi/3 | \tau) &= \sqrt{3}q^{1/8}(q^3; q^3)_\infty, \\ \theta_j(\pi/3 | \tau) &= \sqrt{\frac{(q; q)_\infty^3}{(q^3; q^3)_\infty}} \times \frac{\vartheta_j(3\tau)}{\vartheta_j(\tau)} \quad \text{for } j = 2, 3, 4. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting these equations into (4-5) and simplifying, we can deduce that

$$\sqrt{\vartheta_2^5(\tau)\vartheta_2(3\tau)} + \sqrt{\vartheta_3^5(\tau)\vartheta_3(3\tau)} - \sqrt{\vartheta_4^5(\tau)\vartheta_4(3\tau)} = 9\sqrt{\vartheta_1'(3\tau)^3/\vartheta_1'(\tau)}.$$

Applying the imaginary transformation to this identity, we conclude that

$$\sqrt{\vartheta_3^5(3\tau)\vartheta_3(\tau)} - \sqrt{\vartheta_2^5(3\tau)\vartheta_2(\tau)} + \sqrt{\vartheta_4^5(3\tau)\vartheta_4(\tau)} = \sqrt{\vartheta_1'(\tau)^3/\vartheta_1'(3\tau)}.$$

The above two identities are equivalent, respectively, to the two modular equations

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha^5\beta)^{1/8} - ((1 - \alpha)^5(1 - \beta))^{1/8} + 1 &= \frac{9}{m^2} \left(\frac{\beta^3(1 - \beta)^3}{\alpha(1 - \alpha)} \right)^{1/8}, \\ 1 - (\alpha\beta^5)^{1/8} + ((1 - \alpha)(1 - \beta)^5)^{1/8} &= m^2 \left(\frac{\alpha^3(1 - \alpha)^3}{\beta(1 - \beta)} \right)^{1/8}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha = \vartheta_2^4(\tau)/\vartheta_3^4(\tau)$, $\beta = \vartheta_2^4(3\tau)/\vartheta_3^4(3\tau)$ and $m = \vartheta_3^2(\tau)/\vartheta_3^2(3\tau)$.

Using the infinite product representations of theta functions, we easily find that

$$(4-6) \quad \begin{aligned} \theta_1(\pi/5 | \tau)\theta_1(2\pi/5 | \tau) &= \sqrt{5}q^{1/4}(q; q)_\infty(q^5; q^5)_\infty, \\ \theta_j(\pi/5 | \tau)\theta_j(2\pi/5 | \tau) &= \sqrt{\frac{(q; q)_\infty^5}{(q^5; q^5)_\infty}} \times \frac{\vartheta_j(5\tau)}{\vartheta_j(\tau)} \quad \text{for } j = 2, 3, 4. \end{aligned}$$

Setting $x = \pi/5$ and $y = (2\pi)/5$ in [Theorem 1.5](#) and simplifying, we find

$$\begin{aligned} 2\theta_1^2(\pi/5 | \tau)\theta_1^2(2\pi/5 | \tau) &= \vartheta_2^2(\tau)\theta_2(\pi/5 | \tau)\theta_2(2\pi/5 | \tau) \\ &\quad + \vartheta_3^2(\tau)\theta_3(\pi/5 | \tau)\theta_3(2\pi/5 | \tau) - \vartheta_4^2(\tau)\theta_4(\pi/5 | \tau)\theta_4(2\pi/5 | \tau). \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the equations of (4-6) into the above equations and simplifying, we find that [Shen 1995]

$$\sqrt{\vartheta_2^3(\tau)\vartheta_2(5\tau)} + \sqrt{\vartheta_3^3(\tau)\vartheta_3(5\tau)} - \sqrt{\vartheta_4^3(\tau)\vartheta_4(5\tau)} = 10\sqrt{\eta^5(5\tau)/\eta(\tau)}.$$

Applying the imaginary transformation to this identity, we find that [Shen 1995]

$$\sqrt{\vartheta_3(\tau)\vartheta_3^3(5\tau)} - \sqrt{\vartheta_2(\tau)\vartheta_2^3(5\tau)} + \sqrt{\vartheta_4(\tau)\vartheta_4^3(5\tau)} = 2\sqrt{\eta^5(\tau)/\eta(5\tau)}.$$

The two identities above are equivalent, respectively, to the two modular equations

$$1 + (\alpha^3\beta)^{1/8} - ((1-\alpha)^3(1-\beta))^{1/8} = \frac{5\sqrt[3]{2}}{m} \left(\frac{\beta^5(1-\beta)^5}{\alpha(1-\alpha)} \right)^{1/24},$$

$$1 - (\alpha\beta^3)^{1/8} + ((1-\alpha)(1-\beta)^3)^{1/8} = \sqrt[3]{2}m \left(\frac{\alpha^5(1-\alpha)^5}{\beta(1-\beta)} \right)^{1/24},$$

where $\alpha = \vartheta_2^4(\tau)/\vartheta_3^4(\tau)$, $\beta = \vartheta_2^4(5\tau)/\vartheta_3^4(5\tau)$, and $m = \vartheta_3^2(\tau)/\vartheta_3^2(5\tau)$.

5. The proof of Theorem 1.6

Proof. Replacing τ by 3τ in Corollary 1.4 and then setting $(x, y) = (\pi\tau, 0)$ in the resulting equation, we deduce that

$$(5-1) \quad 2\theta_1^2(\pi\tau | 3\tau) = \vartheta_3(3\tau/2)\theta_4(\pi\tau | \tau/2) - \vartheta_4(3\tau/2)\theta_3(\pi\tau | \tau/2).$$

Appealing to the infinite product representation of θ_1 , we find easily that

$$\theta_1(\pi\tau | 3\tau) = iq^{-1/8}(q; q)_\infty.$$

Using the series representations of theta functions, we immediately find that

$$\vartheta_3(3\tau/2) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{3n^2/4}, \quad \theta_4(\pi\tau | \tau/2) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{(3n^2+4n)/4},$$

$$\vartheta_4(3\tau/2) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{3n^2/4}, \quad \theta_3(\pi\tau | \tau/2) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{(3n^2+4n)/4},$$

Substituting the five equations above into (5-1) and using a direct computation, we arrive at Theorem 1.6. □

There are several different series representations for $\eta^2(\tau)$ in the literature. In a famous paper, L. J. Rogers [1894] first proved the identity

$$(q; q)_\infty^2 = \sum_{\substack{m, n = -\infty \\ n \geq 2|m|}}^{\infty} (-1)^{m+n} q^{n(n+1)/2 - m(3m-1)/2}.$$

In [1959, pages 418–427], Hecke rediscovered this identity. Andrews [1984; 1986] and Kac and Peterson [1980] reproved this identity recently.

Liu [2002] proved the identity

$$(q; q)_\infty^2 = \sum_{n=0}^\infty \sum_{j=-n}^n (-1)^j (1 - q^{2n+1}) q^{2n^2+n-j(3j+1)/2}$$

using a general q -series expansion formula.

Ewell [1982] and Shen [1999] respectively found these two formulas for $\eta^2(\tau)$:

$$(q; q)_\infty^2 = \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^\infty (q^{3m^2+3n^2+n} - q^{3m^2+3n^2+3m+2n+1}),$$

$$(q; q)_\infty^2 = \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^\infty (-1)^m q^{m^2+n^2+mn+n/2}.$$

6. The proofs of Theorem 1.7 and Corollary 1.8

Proof. Differentiating both sides of Corollary 1.4 with respect to x twice and then putting $x = y = 0$ in the resulting equation and noting that $\theta_1(0|\tau) = \theta_1'(0|\tau) = 0$, we conclude that

$$4\vartheta_1'(\tau)^2 = \vartheta_3(\tau/2)\theta_4''(0|\tau/2) - \vartheta_4(\tau/2)\theta_3''(0|\tau/2).$$

Substituting $4\vartheta_1'(\tau)^2 = 16q^{1/4}(q; q)_\infty^6$ and the series expansions of θ_3 and θ_4 into this equation, we immediately arrive at the equation of Theorem 1.7.

Next we will prove Corollary 1.8 with the help of Theorem 1.7. If we write

$$(6-1) \quad (q; q)_\infty^6 = \sum_{n=0}^\infty a(n)q^n,$$

then equating coefficients of q^n for $n \geq 1$ on both sides of Theorem 1.7, we find

$$(6-2) \quad a(n) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\substack{u,v=-\infty \\ u^2+v^2-1=4n}}^\infty (-1)^u (v^2 - u^2).$$

If $n \equiv 5 \pmod{7}$, then $u^2 + v^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$. By examining all cases modulo 7, we find that both $u, v \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$. It follows from (6-2) that

$$(6-3) \quad a(7n + 5) \equiv 0 \pmod{7^2}.$$

Now from (6-1), we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p(n)q^n = \frac{1}{(q; q)_{\infty}} = \frac{(q; q)_{\infty}^6}{(q; q)_{\infty}^7} \equiv \frac{(q; q)_{\infty}^6}{(q^7; q^7)_{\infty}} = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(n)q^n}{(q^7; q^7)_{\infty}} \pmod{7}.$$

Extracting those terms with indices of the form $7n + 5$ and employing (6-3), we conclude that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p(7n + 5)q^{7n+5} \equiv \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(7n + 5)q^{7n+5}}{(q^7; q^7)_{\infty}} \equiv 0 \pmod{7}.$$

Thus we have $p(7n + 5) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$. This proves **Corollary 1.8**. □

Schoeneberg [1953] gave a beautiful formula for $\eta^6(\tau)$:

$$(q; q)_{\infty}^6 = \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} \operatorname{Re}(m + 2ni)^2 q^{(m^2+4n^2-1)/4}.$$

Hirschhorn [1983] used his septuple product identity to give a series representation for $\eta^6(\tau)$, which he then used to prove that $p(7n + 5) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$.

Ewell [1982] provided a series representation for $\eta^6(\tau)$ from a theta function identity of Gauss, which let to an alternative proof of $p(7n + 5) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$.

7. The proof of Theorem 1.9

Proof. Differentiating both sides of **Corollary 1.4** with respect to x and then setting $y = x$, we find that

$$(7-1) \quad 2\vartheta'_1(\tau)\theta_1(2x|\tau) = \theta_3(x|\tau/2)\theta'_4(x|\tau/2) - \theta'_3(x|\tau/2)\theta_4(x|\tau/2).$$

Now we introduce two theta functions $Q_1(x|\tau)$ and $Q_2(x|\tau)$ by

$$\begin{aligned} Q_1(x|\tau) &= (q; q)_{\infty}^{-1}\theta_1(2x|\tau)\theta_3(x|\tau/2), \\ Q_2(x|\tau) &= (q; q)_{\infty}^{-1}\theta_1(2x|\tau)\theta_4(x|\tau/2). \end{aligned}$$

Using the infinite product representations of theta functions and a direct computation, we easily find that

$$\theta_1(x|\tau)\theta_2(x|\tau) = \vartheta_4(2\tau)\theta_1(2x|2\tau).$$

Combining this equation with [Shen 1999, Equations (a) and (b)], we deduce that

$$(7-2) \quad \begin{aligned} Q_1(x|\tau) &= 2q^{3/8} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{(3n^2+4n)/4} \sin(6n + 4)x, \\ Q_2(x|\tau) &= -2q^{3/8} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{(3n^2+4n)/4} \sin(6n + 4)x. \end{aligned}$$

We multiply both sides of (7-1) by $(q; q)_{\infty}^{-1}\theta_1(2x | \tau)$ and obtain the identity

$$2(q; q)_{\infty}^{-1}\vartheta_1'(\tau)\theta_1(2x | \tau) = Q_1(x | \tau)\theta_4'(x | \tau/2) - Q_2(x | \tau)\theta_3'(x | \tau/2).$$

Dividing this equation by x^2 and then letting $x \rightarrow 0$, we conclude that

$$(7-3) \quad 8(q; q)_{\infty}^{-1}\vartheta_1'(\tau)^3 = Q_1'(0 | \tau)\theta_4''(0 | \tau/2) - Q_2'(0 | \tau)\theta_3''(0 | \tau/2).$$

Substituting $\vartheta_1'(\tau) = 2\eta^3(\tau)$, (7-2), and the series expansion of θ_3 and θ_4 into (7-3) and simplifying, we arrive at Theorem 1.9. □

Klein and Fricke [1890] (see also [Chan et al. 2007]) derived for $\eta^8(\tau)$ that

$$(q; q)_{\infty}^8 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{\alpha \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ \beta \equiv 1 \pmod{3}}} (\alpha + \beta)(2\alpha - \beta)(2\beta - \alpha)q^{(\alpha^2 + \beta^2 - \alpha\beta - 1)/3}.$$

Winquist [1969] (see also [Chan et al. 2007]) stated without proof that

$$(q; q)_{\infty}^8 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\substack{\alpha \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ \alpha + \beta \equiv 0 \pmod{3}}} \alpha\beta^2 q^{(\alpha^2 + 3\beta^2 - 4)/12}.$$

Schoeneberg [1953, Equation (11)] found a curious formula for $\eta^8(\tau)$:

$$(q; q)_{\infty}^8 = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{\mu \in \mathbb{Z}[\exp(2\pi i/3)]} \chi(\mu)\mu^3 q^{(|\mu|^2 - 1)/3},$$

where

$$\chi(\mu) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mu \equiv 1 \pmod{\sqrt{-3}}, \\ -1 & \text{if } \mu \equiv -1 \pmod{\sqrt{-3}}. \end{cases}$$

8. The proofs of Theorem 1.10 and Corollary 1.11

Proof. Let Q_1 and Q_2 be as in (7-2). Multiplying both sides of Corollary 1.4 by $(q; q)_{\infty}^{-2}\theta_1(2x | \tau)\theta_1(2y | \tau)$, we find that

$$\begin{aligned} 2(q; q)_{\infty}^{-2}\theta_1(2x | \tau)\theta_1(2y | \tau)\theta_1(x + y | \tau)\theta_1(x - y | \tau) \\ = Q_1(y | \tau)Q_2(x | \tau) - Q_1(x | \tau)Q_2(y | \tau). \end{aligned}$$

Differentiating this equation with respect to x and then setting $y = x$, we find that

$$2(q; q)_{\infty}^{-2}\vartheta_1'(\tau)\theta_1^3(2x | \tau) = Q_1(x | \tau)Q_2'(x | \tau) - Q_1'(x | \tau)Q_2(x | \tau).$$

Dividing this equation by x^3 and then letting $x \rightarrow 0$, we arrive at

$$(8-1) \quad 16(q; q)_{\infty}^{-2}\vartheta_1'(\tau)^4 = Q_1'''(0 | \tau)Q_2'(0 | \tau) - Q_1'(0 | \tau)Q_2'''(0 | \tau).$$

From (7-2), it is easily seen that

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q'_1(0|\tau) &= 4q^{3/4} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n (3n+2) q^{(3n^2+4n)/4}, \\
 Q'''_1(0|\tau) &= -16q^{3/4} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n (3n+2)^3 q^{(3n^2+4n)/4}, \\
 Q'_2(0|\tau) &= -4q^{3/4} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (3n+2) q^{(3n^2+4n)/4}, \\
 Q'''_1(0|\tau) &= 16q^{3/4} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (3n+2)^3 q^{(3n^2+4n)/4}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the four equations above and $\vartheta'_1(\tau) = 2\eta^3(\tau)$ into (8-1) and simplifying, we arrive at Theorem 1.10.

Now we begin to prove Corollary 1.11 using Theorem 1.10. If we write

$$(8-2) \quad (q; q)_{\infty}^{10} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b(n)q^n,$$

then by equating coefficients of q^n for $n \geq 1$ on both sides of 1.10, we deduce that

$$(8-3) \quad b(n) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{\substack{u,v=-\infty \\ 3u^2+3v^2+4u+4v+1=4n}}^{\infty} ((-1)^u - (-1)^v) (3u+2)(3v+2)^3.$$

If $n \equiv 6 \pmod{11}$, then $3u^2 + 3v^2 + 4u + 4v \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$. By inspecting all cases modulo 11, we find that both $u, v \equiv 3 \pmod{11}$. It follows from (8-3) that

$$(8-4) \quad b(11n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{11^4}.$$

Now from (8-2), we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p(n)q^n = \frac{1}{(q; q)_{\infty}} = \frac{(q; q)_{\infty}^{10}}{(q; q)_{\infty}^{11}} \equiv \frac{(q; q)_{\infty}^{10}}{(q^{11}; q^{11})_{\infty}} = \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b(n)q^n}{(q^{11}; q^{11})_{\infty}} \pmod{11}.$$

Extracting those terms with indices of the form $11n + 6$ and employing (8-4), we conclude that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p(11n+6)q^{11n+6} \equiv \frac{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b(11n+6)q^{11n+6}}{(q^{11}; q^{11})_{\infty}} \equiv 0 \pmod{11}.$$

Thus we have $p(11n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$. This proves Corollary 1.11. □

There are several different series representations of $\eta^{10}(\tau)$ in the literature.

Winquist [1969] derived an important identity, now known as the Winquist identity, which he then used to get the following identity for $\eta^{10}(\tau)$:

$$48(q; q)_{\infty}^{10} = \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^{m+n} (6m+3)(6n+1) \times ((6m+3)^2 - (6n+1)^2) q^{(3m^2+3n^2+3m+n)/2}.$$

Winquist then used this identity to give a simple proof of Ramanujan's partition congruence $p(11n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$.

Berndt, Chan, Liu, and Yesilyurt [2004] used two results from Ramanujan's notebooks, and Liu [2005] used the theory of elliptic functions to prove

$$32(q; q)_{\infty}^{10} = \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^{m+n} (2m+1)(2n+1) \times (9(2m+1)^2 - (2n+1)^2) q^{(9m^2+n^2+9m+n)/6},$$

which leads to a short proof of Ramanujan's congruence $p(11n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$.

By using some Lambert series expansions for infinite products, Chan [2005] established that

$$3(q; q)_{\infty}^{10} = \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} (3m+1)(3n+1)(4(3m+1)^2 - (3n+1)^2) q^{3m^2+2m+(3n^2+2n)/4}.$$

Chu [2005; 2007] used the method of difference equations to prove that

$$3(q; q)_{\infty}^{10} = \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} (3m+1)(6n+1)(4(3m+1)^2 - (6n+1)^2) q^{3m^2+3n^2+2m+n},$$

and then derived a proof of $p(11n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$.

Chan, Cooper, and Toh [2007] provided the following formula by using a theta function identity:

$$6(q; q)_{\infty}^{10} = \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} (6m+1)(6n+4)((6m+1)^2 - (6n+4)^2) q^{3m^2+m+3n^2+4n+1}.$$

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