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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  $\tau$  has positive imaginary part. We first need to introduce the Jacobi theta functions.

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

$$\theta_1(z|\tau) = 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{(2n+1)^2/8} \sin(2n+1)z,$$

$$\theta_2(z|\tau) = 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^{(2n+1)^2/8} \cos(2n+1)z,$$

$$\theta_3(z|\tau) = 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} q^{n^2/2} e^{2ni z},$$

$$\theta_4(z|\tau) = 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{n^2/2} e^{2ni z}.$$

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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*

$$h_i(z|\tau) = -h_i(z + \pi|\tau) = -q^{3/2}e^{6iz}h_i(z + \pi\tau|\tau) \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2.$$

*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  $\sigma$ -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  $\theta_4$  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  $\theta_4$  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  $\theta_2$ ,  $\theta_3$ , and  $\theta_4$ :

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

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

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

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

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

*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  $(\tau, x, y)$  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  $\tau$  to  $2\tau$  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.  $\square$

**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

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

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

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

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

Applying the imaginary transformation to this identity, we conclude that

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

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

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

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

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

$$(4-6) \quad \theta_1(\pi/5|\tau)\theta_1(2\pi/5|\tau) = \sqrt{5}q^{1/4}(q; q)_\infty(q^5; q^5)_\infty,$$

$$\theta_j(\pi/5|\tau)\theta_j(2\pi/5|\tau) = \sqrt{\frac{(q; q)_\infty^5}{(q^5; q^5)_\infty}} \times \frac{\vartheta_j(5\tau)}{\vartheta_j(\tau)} \quad \text{for } j = 2, 3, 4.$$

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

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

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  $\tau$  by  $3\tau$  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  $\theta_1$ , 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  $\theta_3$  and  $\theta_4$  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  $\theta_3$  and  $\theta_4$  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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