

Cranks for colored partitions

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Partitions

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A *partition* of an integer n is a sequence of positive integers

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Example

The partitions of 4 are

$$4, \quad 3 + 1, \quad 2 + 2, \quad 2 + 1 + 1, \quad 1 + 1 + 1 + 1,$$

so $p(4) = 5$.

Ramanujan congruences

Theorem (Hardy, Ramanujan, 1919)

For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\begin{aligned}p(5n + 4) &\equiv 0 \pmod{5}, \\p(7n + 5) &\equiv 0 \pmod{7}, \\p(11n + 6) &\equiv 0 \pmod{11}.\end{aligned}$$

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Theorem (Atkin–Swinnerton-Dyer, 1954)

The ranks for $5n + 4$ are equidistributed modulo 5, i.e.

$$N(0, 5, 5n + 4) = N(1, 5, 5n + 4) = \cdots = N(4, 5, 5n + 4).$$

Similarly, the ranks for $7n + 5$ are equidistributed modulo 7.

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Definition (Garvan, Andrews–Garvan, 1988)

For a partition λ , let $\ell(\lambda)$ denote the largest part of λ , $\omega(\lambda)$ denote the number of 1's in λ , and $\mu(\lambda)$ denote the number of parts of λ larger than $\omega(\lambda)$. The *crank* of λ is

$$\begin{cases} \ell(\lambda) & \text{if } \omega(\lambda) = 0 \\ \mu(\lambda) - \omega(\lambda) & \text{if } \omega(\lambda) > 0. \end{cases}$$

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Theorem (Andrews–Garvan, 1988)

The cranks for $5n + 4$, $7n + 5$, and $11n + 6$ are equidistributed modulo 5, 7, and 11 respectively.

Reframing equidistribution

Let $M(m, n)$ denote the number of partitions of n with crank m .
The generating function is ($\zeta = e^{2\pi iz}$, $q = e^{2\pi i\tau}$)

$$\mathcal{C}(z; \tau) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^n M(m, n) \zeta^m q^n$$

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For prime ℓ , let $\Phi_\ell(\zeta) = 1 + \zeta + \dots + \zeta^{\ell-1}$.

Lemma

The equidistribution of the crank mod ℓ for $\ell n + \beta$ is equivalent to

$$\Phi_\ell(\zeta) \Big| [q^{\ell n + \beta}] \mathcal{C}(z; \tau).$$

Other partition congruences

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For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, we define the k -colored partition function $p_k(n)$ by

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Theorem (Gritsenko–Skoruppa–Zagier)

Let R be an irreducible root system with a choice of positive roots R^+ , and let $w = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{r \in R^+} r$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_R(z; \tau) &:= \eta(\tau)^{n-N} \prod_{r \in R^+} \theta\left(\frac{(r, z)}{h}; \tau\right) \\ &= \sum_{x \in w + W_{R, ev}} q^{\frac{(x, x)}{2h}} \sum_{g \in G_R} \text{sn}(g) e\left(\frac{(gx, z)}{h}\right)\end{aligned}$$

for all $\tau \in \mathbb{H}$ and $z \in \mathbb{C} \otimes W_R$. In particular, θ_R is a holomorphic Jacobi form in $J_{\frac{n}{2}, \underline{R}}(\epsilon^{n+2N})$.

Important: $\sum = \prod$ formulas for various root systems.

Families of cranks

Idea: Take products of the crank generating function $\mathcal{C}(z; \tau)$ to obtain cranks for these congruences.

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For k odd, we try the form:

$$\mathcal{C}_k(a_1 z, a_2 z, \dots, a_{\frac{k+1}{2}} z; \tau) := \mathcal{C}(0; \tau)^{\frac{k-1}{2}} \prod_{i=1}^{\frac{k+1}{2}} \mathcal{C}(a_i z; \tau).$$

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Goal: Multiply by $\phi_R / \phi_R = 1$ for a certain theta block ϕ_R ($k \pmod{\ell}$ determines this).

- 1 Numerator: Only ϕ_R remains.
- 2 Denominator: Look what happens $(\text{mod } \Phi_\ell(\zeta))$.

Which congruences can we explain?

Reminder: For k odd,

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If there is not a congruence for $k \equiv -14 \pmod{\ell}$, we define

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The first definition explains all congruences coming from $k \equiv -2, -4, -6, -8, -10 \pmod{\ell}$, while the second explains those coming from $k \equiv -2, -4, -6, -10, -14 \pmod{\ell}$.

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