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## Some of my number-theoretic conjectures and related progress

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# Abstract and References

In recent years the author raised hundreds of number-theoretic conjectures some of which involve representations of integers, binary quadratic forms, congruences for sums of binomial coefficients, and series for powers of  $\pi$ . In this talk we will introduce my main conjectures and related progress, and announce prizes for proofs of some conjectures.

## References

1. Z. W. Sun, *Open Conjectures on Congruences*, arXiv:0911.5665
2. Z. W. Sun, *List of conjectural series for powers of  $\pi$  and other constants*, arXiv:1102.5649.
3. Z. W. Sun, *Conjectures and results on  $x^2 \pmod{p^2}$  with  $4p = x^2 + dy^2$* , arXiv:1103.4325.

## Part A. On Representations of Integers

## Mixed Sums of Triangular Numbers and Other Terms

Triangular numbers:  $T_x = x(x + 1)/2$  ( $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ ).

**Conjecture** (Sun [J. Combin. Number Theory 1(2009)]). Any positive integer  $n \neq 216$  can be written in the form  $p + T_x$  with  $p$  zero or a prime.

*Remark.* This has been verified for  $n \leq 10^{12}$ . Prize \$1000 for the first rigorous proof.

In 2005 Z. W. Sun [Acta Arith. 2007] investigated what kind of mixed sums  $ax^2 + by^2 + cT_z$  or  $ax^2 + bT_y + cT_z$  (with  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ) are universal (i.e., all natural numbers can be so represented). This project was completed via three papers: Z. W. Sun [Acta Arith. 2007], S. Guo, H. Pan & Z. W. Sun [Integers, 2007], and B. K. Oh & Sun [JNT, 2009].

**Theorem** (B. K. Oh and Sun [JNT 2009]). Any positive integer  $n$  can be written as the sum of a square, an *odd* square and a triangular number.

## Mixed Sums of Squares and Triangular Numbers

**Ken Ono and K. Soundararajan** [Invent. Math. 130(1997)]:

Under GRH (the generalized Riemann hypothesis), we have Ramanujan's assertion that any positive odd integer greater than 2719 can be represented by the form  $x^2 + y^2 + 10z^2$ .

$$2n + 1 = (2x)^2 + (2y + 1)^2 + 10z^2 \iff n = 2x^2 + 4T_y + 5z^2.$$

**Another Version of the Ono-Soundararajan Theorem.** Under GRH,  $2x^2 + 5y^2 + 4T_z$  represents all integers greater than 1359.

**B. Kane and Z. W. Sun** [Trans. AMS 362(2010), 6425–6455] determined completely when the general form  $ax^2 + by^2 + cT_z$  ( $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ) represents sufficiently large integers and established similar results for the forms  $ax^2 + bT_y + cT_z$  and  $aT_x + bT_y + cT_z$ . In particular, *the form  $ax^2 + y^2 + T_z$  represents sufficiently large integers if and only if each odd prime divisor of  $a$  is congruent to 1 or 3 modulo 8.*

**Tools:** The theory of ternary quadratic forms and modular forms.

# Polygonal Numbers

Polygonal numbers are nonnegative integers constructed geometrically from the regular polygons.

For  $m = 3, 4, 5, \dots$ , the  $m$ -gonal numbers are given by

$$p_m(n) = (m - 2) \binom{n}{2} + n \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

Note that  $p_3(n) = T_n$  and  $p_4(n) = n^2$ .

Those  $p_5(n) = n(3n - 1)/2$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) are called *pentagonal numbers*.

Those  $p_6(n) = n(2n - 1) = T_{2n-1}$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) are called *hexagonal numbers*.

**Fermat's Assertion** (proved by Cauchy in 1813). Any natural number  $n$  can be written as the sum of  $m$   $m$ -gonal numbers.

# Diagonal Representations by Polygonal Numbers

$$n = \underline{p_3(x_1)} + \underline{p_3(x_2)} + \underline{p_3(x_3)}$$

$$n = \underline{p_4(x_1)} + p_4(x_2) + p_4(x_3) + p_4(x_4)$$

$$n = p_5(x_1) + \underline{p_5(x_2)} + p_5(x_3) + p_5(x_4) + p_5(x_5)$$

$$n = p_6(x_1) + p_6(x_2) + \underline{p_6(x_3)} + p_6(x_4) + p_6(x_5) + p_6(x_6)$$

**Diagonal Representation:**

$$n = \underline{p_4(x_1)} + \underline{p_5(x_2)} + \underline{p_6(x_3)}$$

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun, 2009). Let  $m \geq 3$  be an integer. Then any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  can be written in the form

$$p_{m+1}(x_1) + p_{m+2}(x_2) + p_{m+3}(x_3) + r \quad (x_1, x_2, x_3 \in \mathbb{N}, r \in \{0, \dots, m-3\}).$$

Moreover,  $\{r(n) : n = 1, 2, 3, \dots\} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ , where

$$r(n) = |\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{N}^3 : n = p_4(x) + p_5(y) + p_6(z)\}|.$$

**Remark.** \$500 for the first rigorous proof.

## Part B. On Combinatorial Congruences



## On Fibonacci quotient mod $p$

**Z. W. Sun** [Sci. China Math. 53(2010)] determined  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} / m^k \pmod{p^2}$ , where  $p$  is an odd prime and  $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . In particular,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{2^k} \equiv (-1)^{(p-1)/2} \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (-1)^k \binom{2k}{k} \equiv \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) \left(1 - 2F_{p-(\frac{p}{5})}\right) \pmod{p^2} \quad (p \neq 5),$$

where  $\{F_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is the Fibonacci sequence with  $F_0 = 0$ ,  $F_1 = 1$  and  $F_{n+1} = F_n + F_{n-1}$  ( $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ).

**Theorem** (Sun and Tauraso [Adv. in Appl. Math. 2010]). For any odd prime  $p \neq 5$  we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{(-1)^k}{k} \binom{2k}{k} \equiv -5 \frac{F_{p-(\frac{p}{5})}}{p} \pmod{p}.$$

## Determination of $F_{p-(\frac{p}{5})} \pmod{p^3}$

**Conjecture** (Sun and Tauraso [Adv. in Appl. Math. 2010]). Let  $p \neq 2, 5$  be a prime and let  $a \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p^a-1} (-1)^k \binom{2k}{k} \equiv \left(\frac{p^a}{5}\right) \left(1 - 2F_{p^a-(\frac{p^a}{5})}\right) \pmod{p^3}.$$

Recently Hao Pan and Z. W. Sun confirmed the conjecture. The proof is very sophisticated and we use an important technique of Andrew Granville [2004]. In the same paper Pan and Sun also proved the following conjecture of Roberto Tauraso:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{L_k}{k^2} \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{for any prime } p > 3,$$

where  $L_0 = 2$ ,  $L_1 = 1$  and  $L_{n+1} = L_n + L_{n-1}$  ( $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ).

## Another congruence for $F_{p-(\frac{p}{5})} \pmod{p^3}$

**Theorem** (Z. W. Sun, 2010) Let  $p \neq 2, 5$  be a prime. Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{(-16)^k} \equiv \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) \left(1 + \frac{F_{p-(\frac{p}{5})}}{2}\right) \pmod{p^3}.$$

The proof is also very sophisticated and quite difficult. One of the lemmas is as follows.

**Lemma** (Conjectured by Sun and proved by Tauraso) Let  $p > 5$  be a prime and let  $H_k^{(2)} = \sum_{0 < j \leq k} 1/j^2$  for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (-1)^k \binom{2k}{k} H_k^{(2)} \equiv \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) \frac{5}{2} \left(\frac{F_{p-(\frac{p}{5})}}{p}\right)^2 \pmod{p},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (-2)^k \binom{2k}{k} H_k^{(2)} \equiv \frac{2}{3} q_p(2)^2 \pmod{p}$$

where  $q_p(2)$  denotes the Fermat quotient  $(2^{p-1} - 1)/p$ .

## A further conjecture

**Conjecture** (Sun, 2010) Let  $p$  be an odd prime and let  $a \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ .

(i) If  $p^a \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{5}$ , or  $a > 1$  and  $p \not\equiv 3 \pmod{5}$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor 4p^a/5 \rfloor} (-1)^k \binom{2k}{k} \equiv \left( \frac{5}{p^a} \right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

If  $p^a \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{5}$ , or  $a > 1$  and  $p \not\equiv 2 \pmod{5}$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor 3p^a/5 \rfloor} (-1)^k \binom{2k}{k} \equiv \left( \frac{5}{p^a} \right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

(ii) If  $p \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{10}$  or  $a > 2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor 7p^a/10 \rfloor} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{(-16)^k} \equiv \left( \frac{5}{p^a} \right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

If  $p \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{10}$  or  $a > 2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor 9p^a/10 \rfloor} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{(-16)^k} \equiv \left( \frac{5}{p^a} \right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

## A conjecture on 5-adic valuations

For a prime  $p$  the  $p$ -adic valuation  $\nu_p(m)$  of an integer  $m$  refers to  $\sup\{a \in \mathbb{N} : p^a \mid m\}$ .

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun). For each  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , we have

$$\nu_5 \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} F_{2k+1} \binom{2k}{k} \right) \geq \nu_5 \left( (2n+1)n^2 \binom{2n}{n} \right).$$

Also, if  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $a \geq b$  then the sum

$$\frac{1}{5^{2a}} \sum_{k=0}^{5^a-1} F_{2k+1} \binom{2k}{k}$$

modulo  $5^b$  only depends on  $b$ .

## Central binomial coefficients and 3-adic valuations

**Theorem** (Strauss, Shallit and Zagier, 1992)

$$\nu_3\left(\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \binom{2k}{k}\right) = 2\nu_3(n) + \nu_3\left(\binom{2n}{n}\right) \text{ for } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

**Theorem** (Sun and Tauraso [Int. J. Number Theory 7(2011)]) Let  $p > 3$  be a prime and let  $a$  be a positive integer. Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p^a-1} \binom{2k}{k+d} \equiv \binom{\frac{p^a-d}{3}}{\frac{d-k}{3}} + 2p^a \sum_{0 < k < d} \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{k} \binom{d-k}{3} \pmod{p^2}.$$

*Remark.* Note that  $\binom{2k}{k} = \binom{2k}{k,k}$ , where multi-nomial coefficients are given by

$$\binom{k_1 + \dots + k_n}{k_1, \dots, k_n} = \frac{(k_1 + \dots + k_n)!}{k_1! \dots k_n!}.$$

## On $p$ -adic valuations

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun [Acta Arith. 148(2011)]). For any odd prime  $p$  and positive integer  $n$  we have

$$\nu_p \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \binom{(p-1)k}{k, \dots, k} \right) \geq \nu_p \left( n \binom{2n}{n} \right).$$

*Remark.* I'd like to offer \$200 for the first rigorous proof.

**Theorem** (Z. W. Sun [Acta Arith. 148(2011)]). For any prime  $p$  we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{(p-1)k}{k, \dots, k} \equiv pB_{p-1} + (-1)^{p-1} - 2p \pmod{p^2},$$

where  $B_0, B_1, B_2, \dots$  are Bernoulli numbers. Also, an integer  $n > 1$  is a prime if and only if

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \binom{(n-1)k}{k, \dots, k} \equiv 0 \pmod{n}.$$

## A conjecture on $\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} / k^3 \pmod{p^4}$

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun, Sci. China Math., in press). For any prime  $p > 7$  we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{k^3} \equiv -\frac{2}{p^2} H_{p-1} - \frac{13}{27} \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k^3} \pmod{p^4},$$

where  $H_n$  denotes the harmonic number  $\sum_{k=1}^n 1/k$ .

*Remark.* It is known that  $H_{p-1}/p^2 \equiv -B_{p-3}/3 \pmod{p}$  for any prime  $p > 3$  and  $\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} 1/k^3 \equiv -\frac{6}{5}p^2 B_{p-5} \pmod{p^3}$  for each prime  $p > 5$ .

**Motivation.**

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^4 \binom{2k}{k}} = \frac{17}{36} \zeta(4).$$

**Progress.** (K. Hessami Pilehrood and T. Hessami Pilehrood, 2011) The conjectural congruence holds mod  $p$ .



On  $\sum_{k=1}^{(p-1)/2} (-1)^k / (k^3 \binom{2k}{k}) \pmod p$

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun, Sci. China Math., in press). For any prime  $p > 5$  we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{(-1)^k}{k^3 \binom{2k}{k}} \equiv -2B_{p-3} \pmod p.$$

**Motivation.**

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k^3 \binom{2k}{k}} = -\frac{2}{5}\zeta(3).$$

**Related result** (Sun [Sci. China Math. 53(2010)]): For any prime  $p > 3$  we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{1}{k^2 \binom{2k}{k}} \equiv (-1)^{(p-1)/2} \frac{4}{3} E_{p-3} \pmod p,$$

where  $E_0, E_1, E_2, \dots$  are Euler numbers. (Compare this with the identity  $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 1/(k^2 \binom{2k}{k}) = \pi^2/18$ .)

## On divisibility of binomial coefficients

Catalan numbers:

$$C_n = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n} = \binom{2n}{n} - \binom{2n}{n+1} \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

**An Observation of Sun.** Let  $k$  and  $\ell$  be positive integers. If all prime factors of  $k$  divide  $\ell$ , then  $\ell n + 1 \mid \binom{kn + \ell n}{\ell n}$  for every  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

**Conjecture** (Sun, 2010). Let  $k$  and  $\ell$  be positive integers. If

$$\ell n + 1 \mid \binom{kn + \ell n}{\ell n}$$

for all sufficiently large positive integers  $n$ , then each prime factor of  $k$  divides  $\ell$ .

Part C. Series for powers of  $\pi$  and  $L(2, (\frac{\cdot}{3}))$

## Fast convergent series for $L(2, (\frac{\cdot}{3}))$

With a Dirichlet character  $\chi$ , the series

$$L(s, \chi) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\chi(n)}{n^s} \quad (\operatorname{Re}(s) > 1).$$

converges very slow.

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun, 2010). Set

$$K = L\left(2, \left(\frac{\cdot}{3}\right)\right) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{k}{3}\right)}{k^2} = 0.781302412896486296867187429624\dots$$

Then

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(15k-4)(-27)^{k-1}}{k^3 \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}} = K, \quad (1)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(5k-1)(-144)^k}{k^3 \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}} = -\frac{45}{2}K. \quad (2)$$

**Progress.** (1) was recently confirmed by K. Hessami Pilehrood and T. Hessami Pilehrood (arXiv:1104.3659) via the Hurwitz  $\zeta(s, x)$ .

## Fast convergent series for $\pi^2$

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun, 2010). We have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(10k-3)8^k}{k^3 \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}} = \frac{\pi^2}{2}, \quad (1)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(11k-3)64^k}{k^3 \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}} = 8\pi^2, \quad (2)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(35k-8)81^k}{k^3 \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}} = 12\pi^2. \quad (3)$$

**Progress.** (2) has been confirmed by J. Guillera via applying a Barnes-integrals strategy of the WZ-method.

**Theorem** (Sun, 2010). We have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^n H_{n-1}^{(2)}}{n \binom{2n}{n}} = \frac{\pi^3}{48}, \quad \text{where } H_{n-1}^{(2)} = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k^2}.$$

## Conjectural series for $\zeta(3)$ and $1/\pi^2$

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun). We have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(28k^2 - 18k + 3)(-64)^k}{k^5 \binom{2k}{k}^4 \binom{3k}{k}} = -14\zeta(3), \quad (*)$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{18n^2 + 7n + 1}{(-128)^n} \binom{2n}{n}^2 \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{-1/4}{k}^2 \binom{-3/4}{n-k}^2 = \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{\pi^2},$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{40n^2 + 26n + 5}{(-256)^n} \binom{2n}{n}^2 \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{2k}{k} \binom{2(n-k)}{n-k} = \frac{24}{\pi^2}.$$

**Related  $p$ -adic congruences of (\*):** For any odd prime  $p$  we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{28k^2 + 18k + 3}{(-64)^k} \binom{2k}{k}^4 \binom{3k}{k} \equiv 3p^2 - \frac{7}{2}p^5 B_{p-3} \pmod{p^6},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{28k^2 + 18k + 3}{(-64)^k} \binom{2k}{k}^4 \binom{3k}{k} \equiv 3p^2 + 6 \left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) p^4 E_{p-3} \pmod{p^5}.$$

## Conjectural series for $1/\pi$

I have made over 100 conjectural series for  $1/\pi$  of the form  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (bk + c) \frac{a_k}{m^k} = \frac{C}{\pi}$ , where  $a_k, b, c, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $bm$  is nonzero, and  $C^2$  is rational. Such series are closely related to the theory of modular forms, and the full list of my conjectural series is available from [arXiv:1102.5649](https://arxiv.org/abs/1102.5649).

### Examples of my conjectural series:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{280k - 139}{912^{2k}} \binom{4k}{2k} \binom{2k}{k} a_k = \frac{95\sqrt{399}}{\pi},$$

where  $a_k$  denotes the coefficient of  $x^k$  in  $(x^2 + 12098x + 1)^k$ ;

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1054k + 233}{480^k} \binom{2k}{k} P_k(8) = \frac{520}{\pi}, \quad (*)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{224434k + 32849}{5760^k} \binom{2k}{k} P_k(18) = \frac{93600}{\pi},$$

where  $P_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{2k}{n} (-1)^k x^{2k-n}$ . \$520 for a proof of (\*).

Part D. On  $x^2 \pmod{p^2}$  with  $p = x^2 + dy^2$



On  $p = x^2 + 7y^2$  and  $4p = x^2 + 11y^2$

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun [JNT 131(2011)]). Let  $p$  be an odd prime.

Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^3 \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{7}\right) = 1 \text{ \& } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \ (x, y \in \mathbb{Z}), \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{7}\right) = -1, \text{ i.e., } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}$$

*Remark.* Recently Z. H. Sun confirmed the congruence in the case  $\left(\frac{p}{7}\right) = -1$  via Legendre polynomials.

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun [JNT 131(2011)]). Let  $p$  be an odd prime.

Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ \& } 4p = x^2 + 11y^2 \ (x, y \in \mathbb{Z}), \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1, \text{ i.e., } p \equiv 2, 6, 7, 8, 10 \pmod{11}. \end{cases}$$

## Apéry numbers and polynomials

Define Apéry polynomials by

$$A_n(x) := \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{k}^2 x^k \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

Those Apéry numbers  $A_n = A_n(1)$  play important roles in Apéry's proof of the irrationality of  $\zeta(3)$ .

**Theorem** (Z. W. Sun, 2011) Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (-1)^k A_k(-2) &\equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (-1)^k A_k\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + y^2 \ (2 \nmid x), \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun, 2010). For any odd prime  $p$ , we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} A_k \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

## On congruences involving $D_k(x)^3$

$$D_n := \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{k} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+k}{2k} \binom{2k}{k}.$$

In combinatorics,  $D_n$  is the number of lattice paths from  $(0, 0)$  to  $(n, n)$  with steps  $(1, 0)$ ,  $(0, 1)$  and  $(1, 1)$ . We define

$$D_n(x) := \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{k} x^k.$$

$P_n(x) = D_n((x-1)/2)$  is the Legendre polynomial of degree  $n$ .

**Conjecture** (Sun [JNT, in press]). Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then

$$\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} D_k(-3)^3 \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}; \end{cases}$$
$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} D_k(3)^3 \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 15y^2, \\ 12x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 3x^2 + 5y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{15}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

On  $S_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k$

Define polynomials

$$S_n(x) := \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^4 x^k \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

**Conjecture** (Sun). Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} S_k(12) \equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{[3|x]}(4x^2 - 2p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + y^2 \ (2 \nmid x, 3 \mid xy), \\ \left(\frac{xy}{3}\right)4xy \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + y^2 \ (2 \nmid x, 3 \nmid xy), \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (4k+3)S_k(12) \equiv p \left( 1 + 2 \left( \frac{3}{p} \right) \right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (4k+3)S_k(12) \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{for all } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

On  $p = x^2 + 5y^2$  ( $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-5})$  has class number 2)

**Conjecture** (Sun). Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} S_k(-4) \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} S_k(-64) \\ \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 9 \pmod{20} \text{ \& } p = x^2 + 5y^2, \\ 2x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 7 \pmod{20} \text{ \& } 2p = x^2 + 5y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{-5}{p}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

And

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (8k + 7)S_k(-64) \equiv p \left(\frac{p}{15}\right) \left(3 + 4 \left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

Moreover,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (8k + 7)S_k(-64) \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{for all } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

On  $p = x^2 + 30y^2$  ( $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-30})$  has class number 4)

**Conjecture** (Sun). Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} S_k(36) \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) = 1, \quad p = x^2 + 30y^2, \\ 12x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = 1, \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) = -1, \quad p = 3x^2 + 10y^2, \\ 8x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1, \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) = -1, \quad p = 2x^2 + 15y^2, \\ 2p - 20x^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) = 1, \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = -1, \quad p = 5x^2 + 6y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{-30}{p}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (8k+7)S_k(36) \equiv p \left(\frac{p}{15}\right) \left(3 + 4 \left(\frac{-6}{p}\right)\right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (8k+7)S_k(36) \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{for all } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

*Remark.* I would like to offer \$300 for the first correct proof.

On  $p = x^2 + 190y^2$  ( $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-190})$  has class number 4)

**Conjecture** (Sun) Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} S_k(5776) \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = 1, p = x^2 + 190y^2, \\ 8x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = 1, \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = -1, p = 2x^2 + 95y^2, \\ 2p - 20x^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = 1, \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) = -1, p = 5x^2 + 38y^2, \\ 2p - 40x^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) = 1, \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = -1, p = 10x^2 + 19y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{-190}{p}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (816k+769)S_k(5776) \equiv p \left(\frac{p}{95}\right) \left(361 + 408 \left(\frac{p}{19}\right)\right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

Moreover,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (816k + 769)S_k(5776) \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \text{for all } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

On  $p = x^2 + 105y^2$

**Conjecture** (Sun, 2011).

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2n}{n}}{2160^n} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+2k}{2k} \binom{2k}{k} (-324)^{n-k}$$

$$\equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 105y^2 \ (x, y \in \mathbb{Z}), \\ 2x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 2p = x^2 + 105y^2 \ (x, y \in \mathbb{Z}), \\ 2p - 12x^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 3x^2 + 35y^2 \ (x, y \in \mathbb{Z}), \\ 2p - 6x^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 2p = 3x^2 + 35y^2 \ (x, y \in \mathbb{Z}), \\ 20x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 5x^2 + 21y^2 \ (x, y \in \mathbb{Z}), \\ 10x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 2p = 5x^2 + 21y^2 \ (x, y \in \mathbb{Z}), \\ 28x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 7x^2 + 15y^2 \ (x, y \in \mathbb{Z}), \\ 14x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 2p = 7x^2 + 15y^2 \ (x, y \in \mathbb{Z}), \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{-105}{p}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

*Remark.* The quadratic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-105})$  has class number eight.  
I'd like to offer \$1050 for the first correct proof of the conjecture.



## Related series for $1/\pi$

**Conjecture** (Z. W. Sun, 2011). We have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{357n + 103}{2160^n} \binom{2n}{n} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+2k}{2k} \binom{2k}{k} (-324)^{n-k} = \frac{90}{\pi}.$$

For any prime  $p > 5$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{357n + 103}{2160^n} \binom{2n}{n} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+2k}{2k} \binom{2k}{k} (-324)^{n-k} \\ & \equiv p \left( \frac{-1}{p} \right) \left( 54 + 49 \left( \frac{p}{15} \right) \right) \pmod{p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

For my general philosophy about connections between series for  $1/\pi$  and  $x^2 \pmod{p^2}$  with  $p = x^2 + dy^2$ , see the survey

Z. W. Sun, *Conjectures and results on  $x^2 \pmod{p^2}$  with  $4p = x^2 + dy^2$* , arXiv:1103.4325.

Thank you!

You are welcome to solve my conjectures!