

A talk given at Northwest Univ. (October 27, 2014)

Supercongruences Motivated by e

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Abstract

In this talk we introduce the speaker's recent work [J. Number Theory 147(2015), 326-341] on supercongruences motivated by the well-known fact $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + 1/n)^n = e$. Let $p > 3$ be a prime. We prove that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{1/(p-1)}{k}^{p-1} \equiv \frac{2}{3} p^4 B_{p-3} \pmod{p^5},$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-1/(p+1)}{k}^{p+1} \equiv \frac{p^5}{18} B_{p-3} \pmod{p^6} \text{ if } p > 5,$$

where B_0, B_1, B_2, \dots are Bernoulli numbers. We also show the new congruence

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{(k+1)^k}{k^{k+1}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}.$$

In addition, we mention the speaker's recent discoveries about $\zeta(3)$ and $L(2, (\cdot/3))$ motivated by congruences.

Supercongruences

A p -adic congruence (with p prime) is called a *supercongruence* if it happens to hold modulo higher powers of p . Here is a classical example due to J. Wolstenholme:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \binom{2p-1}{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^3}$$

for every prime $p > 3$. In 1900 Glaisher [G1, G2] showed further that

$$\binom{2p-1}{p-1} \equiv 1 - \frac{2}{3}p^3 B_{p-3} \pmod{p^4}$$

for any prime $p > 3$, where B_0, B_1, B_2, \dots are Bernoulli numbers. In this talk we introduce some new supercongruences modulo prime powers motivated by the well-known formula

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = e.$$

Main Results

Theorem 1. Let $p > 3$ be a prime. Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-1/(p+1)}{k}^{p+1} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^5}.$$

Moreover, if $p > 5$ then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-1/(p+1)}{k}^{p+1} \equiv \frac{p^5}{18} B_{p-3} \pmod{p^6}.$$

Theorem 2. Let $p > 3$ be a prime and let m be an integer not divisible by p . Then we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (-1)^{km} \binom{p/m-1}{k}^m \equiv \frac{(m-1)(7m-5)}{36m^2} p^4 B_{p-3} \pmod{p^5}.$$

In particular,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{1/(p-1)}{k}^{p-1} \equiv \frac{2}{3} p^4 B_{p-3} \pmod{p^5}.$$

Main results (continued)

Theorem 3. Let $p > 3$ be a prime and let m be an integer not divisible by p .

(i) If $p > 5$, then

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

Also, for any $n = 1, \dots, (p-3)/2$ we have

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

(ii) For every $n = 1, \dots, (p-3)/2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{(-1)^{km}}{k^{2n-1}} \binom{p/m-1}{k}^m \\ & \equiv \left(1 + \frac{1-m}{2m} (2n+1) \right) \frac{p^2 n}{2n+1} B_{p-1-2n} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

Main results (continued)

Remark. If n is a positive integer and $p > 2n + 1$ is a prime, then the last congruences with $m = p \pm 1$ yields the congruences

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

and

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

Theorem 4. Let p be an odd prime and let $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $p \nmid a$. Then

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k} \left(1 + \frac{a}{k}\right)^k \equiv -1 \pmod{p}.$$

If $p > 3$, then

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k^2} \left(1 + \frac{a}{k}\right)^k \equiv 1 + \frac{1}{2a} \pmod{p}.$$

Lemma 1

For $m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ and $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, we define

$$H_n^{(m)} := \sum_{0 < k \leq n} \frac{1}{k^m}$$

and call it a harmonic number of order m . Those $H_n = H_n^{(1)}$ ($n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$) are usually called *harmonic numbers*.

Lemma 1. Let $p > 3$ be a prime. Then

$$H_{p-1} \equiv -\frac{p^2}{3} B_{p-3} \pmod{p^3} \quad \text{and} \quad H_{p-1}^{(2)} \equiv \frac{2}{3} p B_{p-3} \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k^{(2)} \equiv p^2 B_{p-3} \pmod{p^3}, \quad \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k^{(3)} \equiv -\frac{2}{3} p B_{p-3} \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k^{(4)} \equiv H_{p-1}^{(3)} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

Remark. The first two congruences are due to Glaisher.

Lemma 2

Lemma 2. Let $p > 3$ be a prime. Set

$$\Sigma_1 = \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \left(\frac{1}{ij^2} + \frac{1}{i^2j} \right), \quad \Sigma_2 = \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \frac{1}{i^2j^2},$$

$$\Sigma_3 = \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \left(\frac{1}{ij^3} + \frac{1}{i^3j} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \Sigma_4 = \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \frac{H_k^{(2)}}{ij}.$$

Then we have

$$\Sigma_1 \equiv pB_{p-3} \pmod{p^2}, \quad \Sigma_2 \equiv B_{p-3} \pmod{p}$$

and

$$\Sigma_3 \equiv \Sigma_4 \equiv -B_{p-3} \pmod{p}.$$

Proof of $\Sigma_3 \equiv -B_{p-3} \pmod{p}$.

Recall the congruence $\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k/k^2 \equiv B_{p-3} \pmod{p}$ (due to Sun and Tauraso [Adv. Appl. Math., 2010]). Note that

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_3 &= \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p-1} \left(\frac{1}{ij^3} + \frac{1}{i^3j} \right) \sum_{k=j}^{p-1} 1 = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p-1} \left(\frac{1}{ij^3} + \frac{1}{i^3j} \right) (p-j) \\ &\equiv - \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p-1} \left(\frac{1}{ij^2} + \frac{1}{i^3} \right) = - \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_j - 1/j}{j^2} - \sum_{i=1}^{p-1} \frac{p-1-i}{i^3} \\ &\equiv - \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k}{k^2} + 2H_{p-1}^{(3)} + H_{p-1}^{(2)} \equiv -B_{p-3} \pmod{p}.\end{aligned}$$

Proof of $\Sigma_4 \equiv -B_{p-3} \pmod{p}$

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma_4 &= \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p-1} \frac{1}{ij} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k^{(2)} - \sum_{s=1}^{j-1} H_s^{(2)} \right) \\ &\equiv - \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p-1} \frac{1}{ij} \sum_{1 \leq t \leq s < j} \frac{1}{t^2} = - \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq p-1} \frac{1}{ij} \sum_{t=1}^j \frac{j-t}{t^2} \\ &= - \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} H_{j-1} H_j^{(2)} + \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_j}{j} \left(H_j - \frac{1}{j} \right) \pmod{p^2}.\end{aligned}$$

For every $k = 1, \dots, p-1$, we have

$$H_{p-k} = H_{p-1} - \sum_{0 < j < k} \frac{1}{p-j} \equiv H_{k-1} \pmod{p},$$

$$H_{p-k}^{(2)} = H_{p-1}^{(2)} - \sum_{0 < j < k} \frac{1}{(p-j)^2} \equiv -H_{k-1}^{(2)} \pmod{p}.$$

Proof of $\Sigma_4 \equiv -B_{p-3} \pmod{p}$ (continued)

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_{k-1} H_k^{(2)} &\equiv \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_{p-k} H_k^{(2)} = \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k H_{p-k}^{(2)} \\ &\equiv -\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k H_{k-1}^{(2)} = -\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k \left(H_k^{(2)} - \frac{1}{k^2} \right) \pmod{p}\end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\Sigma_4 \equiv \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k H_k^{(2)} - 2 \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k}{k^2} + \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k^2}{k} \pmod{p}.$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k^2}{k} &= \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_{p-k}^2}{p-k} \\ &\equiv -\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k} \left(H_k - \frac{1}{k} \right)^2 = -\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k^2}{k} + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k}{k^2} - H_{p-1}^{(3)} \pmod{p}.\end{aligned}$$

Proof of $\Sigma_4 \equiv -B_{p-3} \pmod{p}$.

So we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k^2}{k} \equiv \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k}{k^2} \equiv B_{p-3} \pmod{p}.$$

Since

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

(cf. [Sun, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 2012]), we obtain

$$\Sigma_4 \equiv -B_{p-3} \pmod{p}.$$

This concludes the proof.

Proof of Theorem 1

For any p -adic integer x , we can write $(1 + px)^m$ as the p -adic series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{m}{n} p^n x^n$. Thus, for each $k = 1, \dots, p-1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{-1/(p+1)}{k}^{p+1} &= \binom{p/(p+1) - 1}{k}^{p+1} = \prod_{j=1}^k \left(1 - \frac{p}{(p+1)j} \right)^{p+1} \\ &\equiv \prod_{j=1}^k \left(1 - \frac{p}{j} + \sum_{r=2}^4 (-1)^r \binom{p+1}{r} \frac{p^r}{(p+1)^r j^r} \right) \\ &= \prod_{j=1}^k \left(1 - \frac{p}{j} + \frac{p^3}{2(p+1)j^2} - \frac{p^4(p-1)}{6(p+1)^2 j^3} + \frac{p^5(p-1)(p-2)}{24(p+1)^3 j^4} \right) \\ &\equiv \prod_{j=1}^k \left(1 - \frac{p}{j} + \frac{p^3(p^2 - p + 1)}{2j^2} - \frac{p^4}{6j^3} (p-1)(1-2p) + \frac{2p^5}{24j^4} \right) \\ &\equiv \prod_{j=1}^k \left(1 - \frac{p}{j} + \frac{p^5 - p^4 + p^3}{2j^2} + \frac{p^4 - 3p^5}{6j^3} + \frac{p^5}{12j^4} \right) \pmod{p^6}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof of Theorem 1 (continued)

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \binom{-1/(p+1)}{k}^{p+1} - \prod_{j=1}^k \left(1 - \frac{p}{j}\right) \\ & \equiv \frac{p^5 - p^4 + p^3}{2} H_k^{(2)} + \frac{p^4 - 3p^5}{6} H_k^{(3)} + \frac{p^5}{12} H_k^{(4)} \\ & \quad + \frac{p(p^4 - p^3)}{2} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \left(\frac{1}{ij^2} + \frac{1}{i^2j} \right) - \frac{p^5}{6} \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \left(\frac{1}{ij^3} + \frac{1}{i^3j} \right) \\ & \quad + \frac{p^5}{2} \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 \leq k} \frac{1}{i_1 i_2} \left(\sum_{j=1}^k \frac{1}{j^2} - \frac{1}{i_1^2} - \frac{1}{i_2^2} \right) \pmod{p^6}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof of Theorem 1 (continued)

Thus, in view of Lemmas 1 and 2, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \binom{-1/(p+1)}{k}^{p+1} - \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} (-1)^k \binom{p-1}{k} \\ \equiv & \frac{p^5 - p^4 + p^3}{2} p^2 B_{p-3} + \frac{p^4 - 3p^5}{6} \left(-\frac{2}{3} p B_{p-3} \right) + \frac{p^5}{12} \times 0 \\ & + \frac{p^5 - p^4}{2} p B_{p-3} - \frac{p^5}{6} (-B_{p-3}) + \frac{p^5}{2} (-B_{p-3} - (-B_{p-3})) \\ \equiv & \frac{p^5}{18} B_{p-3} \pmod{p^6} \end{aligned}$$

and hence the desired result follows since

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (-1)^k \binom{p-1}{k} = (1-1)^{p-1} = 0.$$

Lemma 3

Lemma 3 Let $n > m \geq 0$ be integers. Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^k k^m = 0.$$

This is a known identity in combinatorics. Write

$$k^m = \sum_{j=0}^m S(m, j) (k)_j = \sum_{j=0}^m c_j \binom{k}{j},$$

where $S(m, j)$ ($j = 0, \dots, m$) are Stirling numbers of the second kind, and $(x)_j = \prod_{0 \leq i < j} (x - i)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^k k^m &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^k \sum_{j=0}^m c_j \binom{k}{j} \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^m c_j \binom{n}{j} (-1)^j \sum_{k=j}^n \binom{n-j}{k-j} (-1)^{k-j} \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 4

Lemma 4. Let p be an odd prime. Then, for any positive integers d and r with $d + r < p$, we have $\sum_{k=r}^{p-1} \binom{k}{r} / k^{r+d} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$.

Proof. Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=r}^{p-1} \binom{k}{r} k^{-r-d} &= \sum_{s=0}^{p-1-r} \binom{r+s}{s} (r+s)^{-r-d} \\ &= \sum_{s=0}^{p-1-r} (-1)^s \binom{-r-1}{s} (r+s)^{-r-d} \\ &\equiv \sum_{s=0}^{p-1-r} \binom{p-1-r}{s} (-1)^s (s-1-(p-1-r))^{p-1-r-d} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{p-1-r} \binom{p-1-r}{k} (-1)^{p-1-r-k} (-1-k)^{p-1-r-d} \\ &= 0 \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

with the help of Lemma 3.

Proof of Theorem 4

Let $d \in \{1, 2\}$. With the help of Lemma 4, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k^d} \left(1 + \frac{a}{k}\right)^k &= \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{(k+a)^k}{k^{k+d}} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k^{k+d}} \left(k^k + \sum_{r=1}^k \binom{k}{r} k^{k-r} a^r\right) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k^d} + \sum_{r=1}^{p-1} a^r \sum_{k=r}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{k}{r}}{k^{r+d}} \\ &\equiv \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k^d} + \sum_{r=p-d}^{p-1} a^r \sum_{k=r}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{k}{r}}{k^{r+d}} \pmod{p}.\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k} \left(1 + \frac{a}{k}\right)^k \equiv \sum_{k=1}^{(p-1)/2} \left(\frac{1}{k} + \frac{1}{p-k}\right) + \frac{a^{p-1}}{(p-1)^p} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$$

Proof of Theorem 4 (continued)

When $p > 3$, we have

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

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k^2} \left(1 + \frac{a}{k}\right)^k \\ & \equiv \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{k^2} + \frac{a^{p-1}}{(p-1)^{p+1}} + a^{p-2} \left(\frac{\binom{p-2}{p-2}}{(p-2)^p} + \frac{\binom{p-1}{p-2}}{(p-1)^p} \right) \\ & \equiv 0 + 1 + \frac{1}{a} \left(\frac{1}{-2} + 1 \right) = 1 + \frac{1}{2a} \pmod{p} \end{aligned}$$

as desired. This concludes the proof.

Fundamental congruences for harmonic numbers

Z. W. Sun [Proc. AMS 140(2012)] Let $p > 5$ be a prime. Then

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k^2 \equiv 2p - 2 \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} H_k^3 \equiv 6 \pmod{p},$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k}{k2^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p},$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k^2}{k^2} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

Remark. It is known that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k}{k2^k} = \frac{\pi^2}{12} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k^2}{k^2} = \frac{17\pi^4}{360}.$$

Further congruences involving harmonic numbers

Sun and Zhao [Colloq. Math. 2013]. Let $p > 5$ be a prime.

Then

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k}{k2^k} \equiv \frac{7}{24} p B_{p-3} \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k^{(2)}}{k2^k} \equiv -\frac{3}{8} B_{p-3} \pmod{p} \quad \left(\text{in contrast, } \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_k^{(2)}}{k2^k} = \frac{5}{8} \zeta(3) \right).$$

If $p > 6n + 1$ then

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{(H_k^{(2n)})^2}{k^{2n}} \equiv \frac{\binom{6n+1}{2n-1} + n}{6n+1} p B_{p-1-6n} \pmod{p^2}.$$

One more congruence:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_k^2}{k^2} \equiv \frac{4}{5} p B_{p-5} \pmod{p^2}$$

[Conjectured by Sun and proved by R. Meštrović (IJNT, 2012)].

Apéry's series and its p -adic analogues

Apéry used the following series to prove the irrationality of $\zeta(3)$:

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

This was obtained by letting $n \rightarrow +\infty$ in the following identity:

$$5 \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(-1)^k}{k^3 \binom{2k}{k}} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{(-1)^k}{k^3 \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{k}} - 2H_n^{(3)}.$$

Taking $n = p - 1$ Tauraso [JNT 130(2010)] got the following p -adic analogue for any prime $p > 5$.

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{(-1)^k}{k^3 \binom{2k}{k}} \equiv -\frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{H_{p-1}}{p^2} \pmod{p^3} \equiv \frac{2}{15} B_{p-3} \pmod{p^2}.$$

Z.W. Sun [JNT 134(2014)]. For any prime $p > 5$, we have

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

Two new formulas for $\zeta(3)$

Motivated by related congruences, on October 22, 2014 I found the following new formula for $\zeta(3)$:

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

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Conjecture (Sun, Oct. 22, 2014). We have

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

Also, for any prime $p > 3$, we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{H_{2k} + 2H_k}{k^2 \binom{2k}{k}} \equiv -\frac{8}{3} \cdot \frac{H_{p-1}}{p^2} - \frac{17}{30} p^2 B_{p-5} \pmod{p^3}.$$

Related congruences

The formula in the last conjecture has the following equivalent version:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_{2k} + 2/(3k)}{k^2 \binom{2k}{k}} = \zeta(3).$$

Conjecture (Z.-W. Sun, Oct. 27, 2014). For any prime $p > 3$, we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{3H_{2k} + 2/k}{k^2 \binom{2k}{k}} \equiv -4 \frac{H_{p-1}}{p^2} - \frac{9}{10} p^2 B_{p-5} \pmod{p^3}$$

and

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

Remark. It is known that $H_{p-1}/p^2 \equiv -B_{p-3}/3 \pmod{p}$ for any prime $p > 3$.

A new series for $L(2, (\cdot/3))$ and related congruences

Conjecture (Z.-W. Sun, 2009). For any prime $p > 3$, we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{4k}{2k+1} \binom{2k}{k}}{48^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}.$$

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Conjecture (i) (Sun, July 9, 2014). For any prime $p > 3$, we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{4k}{2k+1} \binom{2k}{k}}{48^k} \equiv \frac{5}{12} p^2 B_{p-2} \left(\frac{1}{3} \right) \pmod{p^3}.$$

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(ii) (August 12, 2014) We have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{48^k}{k(2k-1) \binom{4k}{2k} \binom{2k}{k}} = \frac{15}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\left(\frac{k}{3}\right)}{k^2}.$$

Also, for any prime $p > 3$ we have

$$p^2 \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{48^k}{k(2k-1) \binom{4k}{2k} \binom{2k}{k}} \equiv 4 \left(\frac{p}{3} \right) + 4p \pmod{p^2}.$$

Thank you!