

# Generalization of A Known Congruence By Andrews, Dixit and Yee Related To The Mock Theta Function $\nu(q)$

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**Abstract.** We find the exact generating function for  $p_\nu(10n + 8)$  from where the congruence  $p_\nu(10n + 8) \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  follows immediately.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

A  $q$  series has an expression involving  $(a; q)_n$ , which is defined by

$$(a)_n := (a; q)_n := \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} (1 - aq^k), n \geq 1$$

and  $(a; q)_\infty := \prod_{k=0}^{\infty} (1 - aq^k), |q| < 1,$

where  $a$  is any complex number.

Ramanujan's general theta function  $f(a, b)$  is defined by

$$f(a, b) := \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} a^{k(k+1)/2} b^{k(k-1)/2}, |ab| < 1.$$

In this notation, Jacobi's famous triple product identity takes the form

$$f(a, b) = (-a; ab)_\infty (-b; ab)_\infty (ab; ab)_\infty. \tag{1.1}$$

Three special cases of  $f(a, b)$  are [6, p. 36, Entry 22]

$$\varphi(q) := f(q, q) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{k^2} = (-q; q^2)_\infty^2 (q^2, q^2)_\infty,$$

$$\psi(q) := f(q, q^3) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} q^{k(k+1)/2} = \frac{(q^2; q^2)_\infty}{(q; q^2)_\infty}, \tag{1.2}$$

and

$$f(-q) := f(-q, -q^2) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^k q^{k(3k-1)/2} = (q; q)_\infty,$$

where the product representations in the above arise from (1.1). After Ramanujan, we also define

$$\chi(q) := (-q; q^2)_\infty. \tag{1.3}$$

A partition  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k)$  of a non-negative integer  $n$  is a non-increasing sequence of positive integers such that  $n = \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i$ . The number of partitions of  $n$  is called the partition function and is denoted by  $p(n)$ . By convention,  $p(0) = 1$ . For example,  $p(4) = 5$ , since there are 5 partitions of 4, namely, 4, 3 + 1, 2 + 2, 2 + 1 + 1, 1 + 1 + 1 + 1.

The generating function for  $p(n)$  is given by

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p(n)q^n = \frac{1}{(q; q)_{\infty}}.$$

In his last letter to Hardy, Ramanujan defined 17 theta function like functions, for  $|q| < 1$ , which he called mock theta functions. Ramanujan found an additional three mock theta functions in his lost notebook [1]. See [2] and [3] for details on the subject.

In [4], Andrews, Dixit and Yee found many results related to the mock theta functions  $\omega(q)$ ,  $\nu(q)$  and  $\phi(q)$ . These three mock theta functions are defined, by Ramanujan, as

$$\begin{aligned} \omega(q) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{2(n^2+n)}}{(q; q^2)_{n+1}^2}, \\ \nu(q) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n(n+1)}}{(-q; q^2)_{n+1}}, \\ \phi(q) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2}}{(-q^2; q^2)_n}. \end{aligned}$$

Andrew et al. [4] proved that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_{\omega}(n)q^n &= q\omega(q), \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_{\nu}(n)q^n &= \nu(-q), \end{aligned}$$

where,  $p_{\omega}(n)$  denotes the number of partitions of  $n$  in which each odd part is less than twice the smallest part and  $p_{\nu}(n)$  denotes the number of partitions of  $n$  into distinct parts in which each odd part is less than twice the smallest part.

The simpler form of these two functions as given in [4] are

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_{\omega}(n)q^n &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^n}{(1-q^n)(q^{n+1}; q)_{\infty}(q^{2n+2}; q^2)_{\infty}}, \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_{\nu}(n)q^n &= q\omega(q^2) + (-q^2; q^2)_{\infty}\psi(q^2). \end{aligned}$$

Andrews, Dixit and Yee [4] find that

$$p_{\nu}(10n + 8) \equiv 0 \pmod{5}.$$

**Theorem 1.1.**

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_v(n)q^n = 5 \frac{f_2^2 f_5^2 f_{10}}{f_1^4}, \tag{1.4}$$

where  $f_k := (q^k; q^k)_{\infty}$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

### Lemma 2.1.

$$xy^2 - \frac{q^2}{xy^2} = k, \tag{2.1}$$

$$\frac{x^2}{y} - \frac{y}{x^2} = 4 \frac{q}{k}, \tag{2.2}$$

$$x^5 - \frac{q^2}{x^5} = 11q + \frac{f_1^6}{f_5^6}, \tag{2.3}$$

$$y^5 - \frac{q^4}{y^5} = 11q^2 + \frac{f_2^6}{f_{10}^6}. \tag{2.4}$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are defined as-

$$x = T(q^5),$$

$$y = T(q^{10}).$$

Here  $T(q)$  is a continued fraction given by

$$T(q) := 1 + \frac{q}{1 + \frac{q^2}{1 + \frac{q^3}{1 + \dots}}}$$

### Lemma 2.2.

$$\frac{f_5^7}{f_1^4 f_{10}^3} - 4q \frac{f_5^2 f_{10}^2}{f_1^3 f_2} = \frac{f_5^3}{f_2^2 f_{10}}, \tag{2.5}$$

$$\frac{f_2^4}{f_1^2} - 5q \frac{f_{10}^4}{f_5^2} = \frac{f_1^3 f_{10}}{f_2 f_5}, \tag{2.6}$$

$$\frac{f_5^7}{f_1^4 f_{10}^3} + q \frac{f_5^2 f_{10}^2}{f_1^3 f_2} = \frac{f_2^3 f_5^4}{f_1^5 f_{10}^2}, \tag{2.7}$$

$$\frac{f_1^4}{f_2^2} + 4 \frac{f_2^3 f_5}{f_1 f_{10}} = \frac{f_5^4}{f_{10}^2}. \tag{2.8}$$

## 3. Proof of Theorem 1.1

We have,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_v(n)q^n = q\omega(q^2) + \psi(q^2)(-q^2; q^2)_{\infty},$$

Which implies

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_v(2n) q^n = \psi(q)(-q; q)_{\infty} = \frac{f_2^3}{f_1^2}, \tag{3.1}$$

Now, from [5]

$$\frac{1}{f_1} = \frac{f_{25}^5}{f_5^6} (x^4 + qx^3 + 2q^2x^2 + 3q^3x + 5q^4 - 3\frac{q^5}{x} + 2\frac{q^6}{x^2} - \frac{q^7}{x^3} + \frac{q^8}{x^4}), \tag{3.2}$$

$$f_1 = f_{25}(x - q - \frac{q^2}{x}), \tag{3.3}$$

and

$$f_2 = f_{50}(y - q^2 - \frac{q^4}{y}). \tag{3.4}$$

Using (3.2) and (3.4) in (3.1), and extracting the coefficients of  $q^{5n+4}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_v(10n + 8)q^n &= 5 \frac{f_{10}^3 f_5^{10}}{f_1^2} [4 \left( x^4 y^3 - \frac{q^4}{x^4 y^3} \right) - 4q \left( \frac{y^3}{x} + q^2 \frac{x}{y^3} \right) + q^2 \left( \frac{y^3}{x^6} - \frac{x^6}{y^3} \right) \\ &\quad - 3 \left( x^6 y^2 + \frac{q^4}{x^6 y^2} \right) - 12q \left( xy^2 - \frac{q^2}{xy^2} \right) + 10q \left( x^5 - \frac{q^2}{x^5} \right) + 15q^2] \end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

Again using (2.1), (2.2), (2.3) and (2.4) in equation (3.5), we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_v(10n + 8)q^n &= 5[147q^2 \frac{f_{10}^3 f_5^{10}}{f_1^{12}} - 33q \frac{f_2 f_5^{15}}{f_1^{13} f_2} + 4q^3 \frac{f_5^5 f_{10}^8}{f_1^{11} f_2} - 64q^5 \frac{f_{10}^8}{f_1^9 f_2^3 f_5^5} + 4 \frac{f_2^6 f_5^{10}}{f_1^{12} f_{10}^3} - \\ &\quad 3 \frac{f_2 f_5^9}{f_1^7 f_{10}^2} + 10q \frac{f_5^4 f_{10}^3}{f_1^6} - 240q^4 \frac{f_{10}^{13}}{f_1^{10} f_2^2}] \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

Now, we use (2.5), (2.6), (2.7) and (2.8), and will try to reduce the powers of  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ . Then equation (3.6) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_v(10n + 8)q^n &= 5[-33q \frac{f_5^{11}}{f_1^9 f_2} + 15q^2 \frac{f_5^6 f_{10}^5}{f_1^8 f_2^2} + 64q^3 \frac{f_5 f_{10}^{10}}{f_1^7 f_2^3} + 16q^4 \frac{f_{10}^{15}}{f_1^6 f_2^4 f_5^4} + 10q \frac{f_5^4 f_{10}^3}{f_1^6} \\ &\quad + 4 \frac{f_5^{10} f_2^6}{f_1^{12} f_{10}^3} - 3 \frac{f_5^9 f_2}{f_1^7 f_{10}^2}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 5[-33q \frac{f_5^{11}}{f_1^9 f_2} + 15q^2 \frac{f_5^6 f_{10}^5}{f_1^8 f_2^2} + 64q^3 \frac{f_5 f_{10}^{10}}{f_1^7 f_2^3} + 16q^4 \frac{f_{10}^{15}}{f_1^6 f_2^4 f_5^4} + 10q \frac{f_5^4 f_{10}^3}{f_1^6} \\
 &\quad + 5 \frac{f_5^{13} f_2^3}{f_1^{11} f_{10}^4} - 4 \frac{f_2 f_5^9}{f_1^7 f_{10}^2}] \\
 &= 5[-33q \frac{f_5^{11}}{f_1^9 f_2} + 15q^2 \frac{f_5^6 f_{10}^5}{f_1^8 f_2^2} + 64q^3 \frac{f_5 f_{10}^{10}}{f_1^7 f_2^3} + 16q^4 \frac{f_{10}^{15}}{f_1^6 f_2^4 f_5^4} + 10q \frac{f_5^4 f_{10}^3}{f_1^6} \\
 &\quad + 5 \frac{f_5^9 f_2}{f_1^7 f_{10}^2} + 20q \frac{f_2^2 f_5^8 f_{10}}{f_1^{10}}] \\
 &= 5[-8q \frac{f_5^{11}}{f_1^9 f_2} + 15q^2 \frac{f_5^6 f_{10}^5}{f_1^8 f_2^2} + 64q^3 \frac{f_5 f_{10}^{10}}{f_1^7 f_2^3} + 16q^4 \frac{f_{10}^{15}}{f_1^6 f_2^4 f_5^4} + 10q \frac{f_5^4 f_{10}^3}{f_1^6} \\
 &\quad + \frac{f_5^9 f_2}{f_1^7 f_{10}^2} - 5q \frac{f_5^7 f_{10}^2}{f_1^5 f_2^3}] \\
 &= 5[-13q \frac{f_5^7 f_{10}^2}{f_1^5 f_2^3} - 17q^2 \frac{f_5^2 f_{10}^7}{f_1^4 f_2^4} - 4q^3 \frac{f_{10}^{12}}{f_1^3 f_2^5 f_5^3} + 10q \frac{f_5^4 f_{10}^3}{f_1^6} + \frac{f_2 f_5^9}{f_1^7 f_{10}^2}] \\
 &= 5[-8q \frac{f_5^7 f_{10}^2}{f_1^5 f_2^3} - 17q^2 \frac{f_5^2 f_{10}^7}{f_1^4 f_2^4} - 4q^3 \frac{f_{10}^{12}}{f_1^3 f_2^5 f_5^3} + 10q \frac{f_5^4 f_{10}^3}{f_1^6} + \frac{f_5^8}{f_1^2 f_2^4 f_{10}}] \\
 &= 5[-8q \frac{f_5^7 f_{10}^2}{f_1^5 f_2^3} + 33q^2 \frac{f_5^2 f_{10}^7}{f_1^4 f_2^4} - 4q^3 \frac{f_{10}^{12}}{f_1^3 f_2^5 f_5^3} + \frac{f_5^8}{f_1^2 f_2^4 f_{10}} + 10q \frac{f_5^3 f_{10}^4}{f_1 f_2^5}] \\
 &= 5[-8q \frac{f_5^3 f_{10}^4}{f_1 f_2^5} + q^2 \frac{f_{10}^9}{f_2^6 f_5^2} + \frac{f_5^8}{f_1^2 f_2^4 f_{10}} + 10q \frac{f_5^3 f_{10}^4}{f_1 f_2^5}] \\
 &= 5[2q \frac{f_5^3 f_{10}^4}{f_1 f_2^5} + \frac{f_5^8}{f_1^2 f_2^4 f_{10}} + q^2 \frac{f_{10}^9}{f_2^6 f_5^2}] \\
 &= \frac{5}{f_{10}} \left[ \frac{f_5^4}{f_1 f_2^2} + q \frac{f_{10}^5}{f_2^3 f_5} \right]^2. \tag{3.7}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, we have the relation from [6], we have

$$5\phi^2(-q^5) - \phi^2(-q) = 4\chi(-q)\chi(-q^5)\psi^2(q)$$

which implies

$$\frac{f_5^4}{f_1 f_2^2} + q \frac{f_{10}^5}{f_2^3 f_5} = \frac{f_2 f_5 f_{10}}{f_1^2} \tag{3.8}$$

Now, finally using (3.8) in (3.7), we arrive at

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_n (10n + 8)q^n = 5 \frac{f_2^2 f_5^2 f_{10}}{f_1^4}.$$

#### 4. Conclusion

We used Ramanujan's Continued fractions and five dissection of  $f_1$  and  $\frac{1}{f_1}$  to find the exact generating function of  $p_\nu(10n + 8)$ .

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