ON SOMOS’S IDENTITIES OF LEVEL TWENTY ONE AND THEIR PARTITION INTERPRETATIONS

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Abstract. In this paper, proofs of Somos’s theta function identities of level 21 will be given. Further, we deduce certain interesting partition identities from them.

1. Introduction

Let $\tau$ be a complex number satisfying $\text{Im}(\tau) > 0$ and let $q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$. The Dedekind eta-function is defined by

$$\eta(\tau) = q^{1/24} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n).$$

Let $f(-q) = q^{-1/24}\eta(\tau)$ and $f_n = f(-q^n)$. The theta function identity which relates $f_1$, $f_n$, $f_m$ and $f_{mn}$, is called the theta function identity of level $mn$. M. Somos [4] discovered around 6200 theta function identities of different levels using computer. Recently B. Yuttanan [7], K. R. Vasuki, R. G. Veeresha [6] and B. R. Srivatsa Kumar and D. AnuRadha [5] have obtained proofs for levels 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16. Somos discovered 13 identities of level 21, where three are equivalent to (1)–(3) below. In this paper, we provide a proof of identities of level 21.

Our proofs depend on the following three $P$-$Q$ identities of Ramanujan:

**Theorem 1.1** ([1, p. 236], [3, p.323]). (i) Let $P = \frac{f_1}{q^{1/12}}$ and $Q = \frac{f_3}{q^{1/42}}$. Then

$$PQ + \frac{7}{PQ} = \left(\frac{Q}{P}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{P}{Q}\right)^2 - 3.$$  

(ii) Let $A = \frac{f_1}{q^{1/5}}$ and $B = \frac{f_7}{q^{1/21}}$. Then

$$(AB)^3 + \frac{27}{(AB)^3} = \left(\frac{B}{A}\right)^4 - 7\left(\frac{B}{A}\right)^2 + 7\left(\frac{A}{B}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{A}{B}\right)^4.$$
(iii) Let \( L = \frac{f_3}{q^{1/6} q_{21}} \) and \( M = \frac{f_4}{q^{1/6} f_{21}} \). Then
\[
\left( \frac{M}{L} \right)^3 - 27 \left( \frac{L}{M} \right)^3 = (LM)^2 - LM + \frac{7}{LM} - \frac{49}{(LM)^2}.
\]

2. Somos's identities

First let us list Somos's identities of level 21.

**Theorem 2.1.**

\[
q^2 f_4^2 f_{21} + f_3^2 f_{21}^2 - f_3 f_2^2 f_7 f_{21} - 3q f_3^2 f_2 f_7 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
q^4 f_4^4 f_{21}^4 + f_3^4 f_{21}^2 f_7 f_{21} + 27q^4 f_3 f_7 f_2 f_{21} + 7q f_2 f_7 f_{21}^2 = 0
\]

\[
f_3 f_4 f_2 f_7 f_{21} + f_3^3 f_{21}^2 f_7 f_{21} + 49q^4 f_3 f_7 f_{21}^2 = 0
\]

\[
f_2 f_4 f_{21}^2 + f_2^3 f_{21}^2 + 36q^4 f_3 f_7 f_{21} - 2f_3 f_7 f_{21} - 9q^2 f_7 f_{21} = 0.
\]

\[
10 f_3 f_{21} + 1323 f_4 f_7 f_{21} + 189q^2 f_3 f_7 f_{21} + 49q^4 f_3^2 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
q_3 f_4 f_2 f_7 f_{21} + 4q^3 f_3 f_7 f_{21} + f_3^3 f_{21}^2 + 10q^4 f_3 f_7 f_{21} + 3q f_3^2 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
f_3^3 f_{21} + f_3 f_{21}^2 + 13q f_3 f_7 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
13 f_3 f_{21} + 1323 q^3 f_3 f_{21} + 14f_3 f_7 f_{21} + 196q^4 f_7 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
f_3 f_4 f_{21} + 14q f_3 f_7 f_{21} + 14q^3 f_3 f_7 f_{21} + 28q^2 f_3 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
+9q^5 f_3 f_{21} - f_3 f_7 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
147 q^4 f_3 f_4 f_{21}^2 + 3 f_3^2 f_{21}^2 + 4q f_3 f_7 f_{21} - 42q^3 f_3 f_7 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
-7 f_3^2 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
q f_3 f_4^2 f_{21} + 2 f_3^3 f_2 f_{21} + 9q^2 f_3 f_7 f_{21} - 2 f_3 f_3 f_7 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
-63q^4 f_3 f_7 f_{21} - f_3^3 f_7 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
f_3 f_3 f_7^2 + 3q f_3 f_7 f_{21} + 6q f_3 f_7 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
-3q f_3 f_7 f_{21} - 42q^4 f_3 f_7 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
f_3^3 f_{21} + 2q f_3^2 f_{21} + 9q f_3 f_7 f_{21} - f_3^3 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
-14q f_3 f_7 f_{21} - 9q^3 f_3 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
7 f_3 f_{21} + 21q^3 f_3 f_7 f_{21} + 6 f_3 f_7 f_{21} - 3q f_3 f_{21} = 0
\]

\[
-6q f_3^2 f_{21} - 7 f_3 f_{21} = 0.
\]
Proof. The first three identities are equivalent to (1)–(3) respectively. Let us prove the identity (5).

We shall set \( P = \frac{f_1}{q^{7/14}f_7} \), \( Q = \frac{f_3}{q^{3/14}f_7} \), \( A = \frac{f_2}{q^{7/14}f_3} \) and \( B = \frac{f_2}{q^{7/14}f_3} \). Dividing (5) throughout by \( f_3^2 f_7^2 \), we find that

\[
\frac{P}{Q} + 2 - 2 \frac{P}{Q} + \frac{9}{34} \left( 4 \frac{P}{Q} - P^3 \right) = 0 \text{ or } (AB)^3 = \frac{9(Q^3P^3-4P^4)}{Q^2(P^3-Q^2)^2}.
\]

Using the equation above in (2) and factoring, we obtain

\[
C(P, Q)D(P, Q) = 0,
\]

where \( C(P, Q) = P^4 + Q^4 - P^3Q^3 - 3P^2Q^2 - 7PQ \) and \( D(P, Q) = P^4Q^4 - 4P^7Q^3 - P^5Q^2 + P^4Q^3 + 28P^6Q + 9P^3Q^3 - 52P^4 + 16P^2Q^2 - 3Q^4 + 28PQ \). From Theorem 1.1 (i) we have, \( C(P, Q) = 0 \). This implies that (6) holds, which verifies (5).

We shall omit the proof of the remaining identities as the proofs are similar to the previous one.

\[ \square \]

3. Application to partitions

As usually, for complex numbers \( a \) and \( q \) set \( (a;q)_\infty = \prod_{n=0}^\infty (1-aq^n), \ |q| < 1 \), and

\[
(q^{a_1};q)_{\infty}, (q^{a_2};q)_{\infty}, \ldots, (q^{a_n};q)_{\infty} = (q^{a_1};q)_{\infty} \times (q^{a_2};q)_{\infty} \times \cdots \times (q^{a_n};q)_{\infty}
\]

\[
= (q^{y-x};q)_{\infty} \times (q^{y-x};q)_{\infty} \times \cdots \times (q^{y-x};q)_{\infty}.
\]

Color partition was introduced by S.-S. Haung [2]. In the context of partitions, we say that a positive integer \( n \) has \( k \) colors if there are \( k \) copies of \( n \) available and all of them are viewed as distinct objects. Partitions of positive integers into parts with colors are called colored partitions. For example, if 1 is allowed to have 2 colors, then all the (colored) partitions of 2 are 2, 1 + 1, \( 1 + 1 \) and \( 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 \), where we use the indices’s \( r \) (red) and \( g \) (green) to distinguish the two colors of 1. The generating function is given by

\[
\frac{1}{(q^r-q^g)_{\infty}},
\]

where all the parts are congruent to \( a \mod b \). Through this section we shall set

\[
q^n = q^{1r}, q^{2r}, q^{4r}, q^{5r}, q^{8r}, q^{10r}, \quad q^f = q^{3r}, q^{6r}, q^{9r} \quad \text{and} \quad q^s = q^{7r},
\]

where

\[
(q^{1r}; q^{21})_{\infty} = (q^{14}, q^{20}; q^{21})_{\infty}, \quad (q^{2r}; q^{21})_{\infty} = (q^{7}, q^{10}; q^{21})_{\infty},
\]

\[
(q^{3r}; q^{21})_{\infty} = (q^{3}, q^{18}; q^{21})_{\infty}, \quad (q^{4r}; q^{21})_{\infty} = (q^{4}, q^{17}; q^{21})_{\infty},
\]

\[
(q^{5r}; q^{21})_{\infty} = (q^{5}, q^{16}; q^{21})_{\infty}, \quad (q^{6r}; q^{21})_{\infty} = (q^{6}, q^{15}; q^{21})_{\infty},
\]

\[
(q^{7r}; q^{21})_{\infty} = (q^{7}, q^{14}; q^{21})_{\infty}, \quad (q^{8r}; q^{21})_{\infty} = (q^{8}, q^{13}; q^{21})_{\infty},
\]

\[
(q^{9r}; q^{21})_{\infty} = (q^{9}, q^{12}; q^{21})_{\infty} \quad \text{and} \quad (q^{10r}; q^{21})_{\infty} = (q^{10}, q^{11}; q^{21})_{\infty}.
\]

Definition 3.1. Let \( P(n, a, b, c) \) denote the number of partition of \( n \) into parts not congruent to 0(mod 21) having \( a \) colors and parts congruent to 0(mod 7) having \( b \) colors and parts not congruent to 0(mod 3) or 0(mod 7) having \( c \) colors.
Using the definition of $P$ Somos’s identities

**Theorem 3.2**. If $q^2 f_1^2 f_2^2 + f_3^2 f_1^2 - f_3^2 f_r f_2^2 - 3q f_3^2 f_2 f_1 f_2^2 - 7q^2 f_1 f_3 f_2 f_2^2 = 0$, then for $n \geq 2$

$$P(n - 2, 2, 0, 0) + P(n, 2, 0, 4) - P(n, 0, 0, 1)$$

$$- 3P(n - 1, 2, 0, 2) - 7P(n - 2, 4, 0, 3) = 0,$$

where $P(0) = 1$.

**Proof.** Dividing (4) throughout by $f_1^4$, we find that

$$q^2 f_1^4 + f_3^4 f_1^4 - f_3^4 f_r f_2^4 - 3q f_3^4 f_2 f_1 f_2^4 - 7q^2 f_1 f_3 f_2 f_2^4 = 0.$$

Using (7) in the equation above gives

$$\frac{q^2}{(q_1^m, q_2^m; q^4)_\infty} + \frac{1}{3q} - \frac{1}{(q_1^m, q_2^m; q^4)_\infty} - \frac{1}{(q_1^m, q_2^m; q^4)_\infty} = 0.$$

Multiplying the equation above with $(q_4^m, q_2^m; q^4)_\infty$ gives

$$\frac{q^2}{(q_2^m; q^4)_\infty} - \frac{1}{(q_1^m, q_2^m; q^4)_\infty} - \frac{1}{(q_1^m, q_2^m; q^4)_\infty} = 0.$$

Using the definition of $P(n, a, b, c)$ in the equation above, we obtain

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P(n - 2, 2, 0, 0)q^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P(n, 2, 0, 4)q^n - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P(n, 0, 0, 1)q^n$$

$$- 3\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P(n - 1, 2, 0, 2)q^n - 7\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P(n - 2, 4, 0, 3)q^n = 0.$$

Comparing the coefficients of $q^n$ in the above equation, we obtain the required result. □

As the proof of the remaining identities is similar to the one proved, we shall only state the results. The following identities are equivalent to the identities from Theorem 2.1.

**Theorem 3.3.** The following identities hold.

For $n \geq 4$

$$P(n - 4, 0, 6, 0) + P(n, 0, 0, 1) + 27P(n - 4, 0, 12, 7) + 7P(n - 1, 0, 6, 6)$$

$$- P(n, 0, 6, 8) - 7P(n - 3, 0, 6, 2) = 0.$$

For $n \geq 4$

$$P(n - 1, 2, 0, 2) + P(n, 4, 0, 0) + 49P(n - 4, 8, 6, 5) - P(n, 0, 6, 1)$$

$$- 27P(n - 4, 4, 12, 6) - 7P(n - 3, 6, 6, 4) = 0.$$

For $n \geq 4$

$$P(n, 0, 1, 0) + P(n, 4, 1, 6) + 36P(n - 4, 4, 0, 5)$$

$$+ 7P(n, 2, 1, 3) - 9P(n, 2, 7, 6) = 0.$$

For $n \geq 3$

$$10 + 1323P(n - 3, 4, 6, 7) + 189P(n - 2, 2, 6, 6) + 49P(n - 1, 4, 0, 4)$$

$$+ 81P(n, 0, 6, 7) - 343P(n, 0, 6, 7) - 91P(n, 2, 6, 3) = 0.$$

For $n \geq 5$

$$P(n - 1, 2, 0, 1) + P(n - 2, 1, 6, 3) + 1 + 3P(n - 1, 4, 0, 4)$$

$$+ P(n - 2, 2, 6, 6) + 10P(n, 0, 6, 7) - 343P(n, 0, 6, 7) - 91P(n, 2, 6, 3) = 0.$$
\[+10P(n - 5, 4, 6, 3) + P(n, 4, 0, 4) - 13P(n - 3, 2, 6, 4) = 0.\]

For \(n \geq 5\)
\[13 + P(n - 5, 6, 6, 6) + 14P(n, 2, 0, 3) + 1 + 196P(n - 1, 4, 0, 4)\]
\[+1 + 14P(n - 1, 4, 0, 4) + 14P(n - 3, 4, 6, 7) + 28P(n - 2, 3, 7, 7)\]
\[+1 + 14P(n - 1, 4, 0, 4) + 14P(n - 3, 4, 6, 7) + 28P(n - 2, 3, 7, 7)\]
\[+91P(n - 5, 6, 6, 6) - P(n, 0, 6, 7) - 7P(n - 1, 6, 0, 7) = 0.\]

For \(n \geq 4\)
\[147P(n - 4, 5, 7, 6) + 3P(n, 1, 7, 8) + 4\]
\[-42P(n - 2, 3, 7, 7) - 7P(n, 1, 3, 6) = 0.\]

For \(n \geq 4\)
\[P(n - 1, 2, 0, 1) + 2P(n, 2, 0, 3) + 9P(n - 2, 2, 6, 6)\]
\[-63P(n - 4, 4, 6, 5) - 7P(n - 1, 4, 0, 4) = 0.\]

For \(n \geq 4\)
\[P(n, 2, 0, 3) + 3P(n - 3, 2, 6, 5) + 6P(n - 2, 2, 6, 4) - 1\]
\[-3P(n - 1, 0, 1, 5) - 49P(n - 4, 4, 6, 5) = 0.\]

For \(n \geq 4\)
\[P(n - 1, 0, 2) + 2P(n - 1, 0, 0) + 9P(n - 1, 2, 6, 4)\]
\[-P(n - 1, 0, 0, 1) + 14P(n - 1, 3, 0, 3) - 9P(n - 5, 1, 5, 3) = 0.\]

For \(n \geq 2\)
\[P(n, 2, 0, 0) + 21P(n - 3, 4, 6, 4) + 6P(n, 0, 6, 4) - 3P(n - 1, 2, 6, 3)\]
\[-6P(n - 2, 2, 2, 3) - 7P(n, 4, 0, 3) = 0.\]

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References


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