# A TRANSFORMATION FORMULA FOR PRODUCTS ARISING IN PARTITION THEORY<sup>1</sup>

### M. V. SUBBARAO AND V. V. SUBRAHMANYASASTRI<sup>2</sup>

ABSTRACT. We obtain a transformation formula involving Euler products. The formula can be utilized to obtain a large variety of partition-theoretic identities.

### 1. A transformation formula. Let f(a, x) be the product given by

(1.1) 
$$f(a, x) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - a^{\alpha(n)} x^n)^{g(n)/n},$$

where  $\alpha(n)$ , g(n) are totally multiplicative functions of n (that is,  $\alpha(mn) = \alpha(m)\alpha(n)$ , g(mn) = g(m)g(n) for all positive integers m and n). Then we shall prove in this note that

(1.2) 
$$\prod_{r=0}^{k-1} f(a, \omega^r x) = \prod_{d|k} \prod_{\delta|(k/d)} f(a^{(k/d)\alpha(d\delta)}, x^{k\delta})^{(g(d\delta)/\delta)\mu(\delta)},$$

 $\omega$  being a primitive *k*-th root of unity.

This result is a generalization of the identity proved earlier in [3]:

(1.3) 
$$\prod_{r=0}^{k-1} \boldsymbol{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\omega}^r \boldsymbol{x}) = \prod_{d|k} \{\boldsymbol{\phi}(\boldsymbol{x}^{kd})\}^{\sigma(k/d)\boldsymbol{\mu}(d)},$$

where

(1.4) 
$$\phi(x) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-x^n),$$

and  $\sigma(n)$  denotes the sum of the positive divisors of n. This is an important tool in deriving partition-theoretic identities such as the celebrated Ramanujan identity

<sup>1</sup>This research was supported in part by National Research Council Grant #3103. <sup>2</sup>On leave from Sri Venkateswara University, India.

- AMS (MOS) Subject classification(1970): 5A17, 5A19.
- Key words and phrases: Euler and Jacobi identitites, primitive roots of unity.

Received by the editors on June 17, 1974, and in revised form on November 4, 1974.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p(5n + 4)x^n = 5\{\phi(x^5)\}^{5/}\{\phi(x)\}^{6},$$

p(n) denoting as usual the number of unrestricted partitions of n.

The result (1.3) is easy when k is a prime and was noted by Kolberg [1], while the proof of (1.3) for general values or k was given by Subrahmanyasastri [3] by using multiplicative induction of k.

Many partition functions have generating functions of the form (1.1). For example,

(1) When  $g(n) = n^2$ , a = 1,  $f(a, x)^{-1}$  generates the plane partitions, for which an asymptotic formula was obtained by Wright [5].

(2) When  $g(n) = n \min(k, n)$ , a = 1,  $f(a, x)^{-1}$  generates  $p^{(k)}(n)$ , the number of k-rowed partitions of n. In this case g(n) is not a totally multiplicative function. However, the f(a, x) in this case can be related to the function for which g(n) = n, and n is a totally multiplicative function. Whenever the generating function is related to an f(a, x) with a totally multiplicative g(n), the formula (1.2) will be useful.

(3) When

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} n^2, \text{ if } n = 2^{\alpha}, \alpha \ge 0\\ 0, \text{ otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and a = 1, we have a simple and interesting case. Here g(n) is totally multiplicative and  $f(a, x)^{-1}$  generates P(n), the number of partitions of n into powers of 2 (including 1), with each summand occurring at most in as many different colors as the magnitude of the summand, with repetitions allowed. That is, n has representations of the form

$$n = \sum_{\alpha=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{2^{\alpha}} a_{\alpha j} (2^{\alpha})_{j}, \quad (a_{\alpha j} \ge 0),$$

 $a_{\alpha j}$  denoting the multiplicity of the summand  $2^{\alpha}$  in the color *j*. The notion of partitions with summands occurring in different colors goes back to MacMahon [2]. We can also interpret P(n) as the number of weighted partitions into summands  $2^{\alpha}$  ( $\alpha \ge 0$ ), where the weight of the summand  $2^{\alpha}$  (of multiplicity  $a_{\alpha}$ ) in a partition of

$$n = \sum_{\alpha=i_1}^{i_t} a_{\alpha} 2^{\alpha}$$

is to be taken as (the binomial coefficient)

$$\binom{2^{\alpha}+a_{\alpha}-1}{a_{\alpha}}, \quad (\alpha=i_1,i_2,\cdots,i_t).$$

In other words,

$$P(n) = \sum \left( \begin{array}{c} 2^{i_1} + a_{i_1} - 1 \\ a_{i_1} \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} 2^{i_2} + a_{i_2} - 1 \\ a_{i_2} \end{array} \right) \cdots \left( \begin{array}{c} 2^{i_t} + a_{i_t} - 1 \\ a_{i_t} \end{array} \right),$$

the summation being over all those non-negative integers  $i_r$  and  $a_{i_r}$  for which  $n = a_{i_1}2^{i_1} + a_{i_2}2^{i_2} + \cdots + a_{i_i}2^{i_i} + \cdots$ . To illustrate the applications of (1.2) we shall derive the following

simple partition-theoretic identities for p(n),  $p^{(3)}(n)$  and P(n).

(A) In the case g(n) = n, a = 1, k = 4, we derive

(1.5)  
$$\sum_{0}^{\infty} p(4n)x^{2n} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\phi(x^2)}{\phi^3(x)} \phi(x^{24}) A_1(x) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\phi^3(x)\phi^3(x^4)}{\phi^8(x^2)} \phi(x^{24}) A_2(x),$$

(1.6) 
$$\sum_{0}^{\infty} p(4n+1)x^{2n} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\phi(x^2)\phi(x^{24})}{\phi^{3}(x)} A_{3}(x)$$

$$+\frac{1}{2}\frac{\phi^{3}(x)\phi^{3}(x^{4})\phi(x^{24})}{\phi^{8}(x^{2})}A_{4}(x),$$

(1.7) 
$$\sum_{0}^{\infty} p(4n+2)x^{2n} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\phi(x^2)\phi(x^{2+1})}{\phi^3(x)} A_1(x)$$
$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{\phi^3(x)\phi^3(x^{-1})\phi(x^{2+1})}{\phi^3(x)} A_1(x)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}\frac{\boldsymbol{\phi}^{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(\boldsymbol{x})\boldsymbol{\phi}^{\boldsymbol{\beta}}(\boldsymbol{x}^{2})\boldsymbol{\phi}(\boldsymbol{x}^{2})}{\boldsymbol{\phi}^{\boldsymbol{8}}(\boldsymbol{x}^{2})}A_{2}(\boldsymbol{x}),$$

and

(1.8)  
$$\sum_{0}^{\infty} p(4n+3)x^{2n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\phi(x^2)\phi(x^{24})}{\phi^3(x)} A_3(x) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\phi^3(x)\phi^3(x^4)\phi(x^{24})}{\phi^8(x^2)} A_4(x),$$

where

$$A_1(x) = \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 + x^{24m-13})(1 + x^{24m-11})$$

$$- x \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 + x^{24m-19})(1 + x^{24m-5}),$$

$$A_2(x) = \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^{24m-13})(1 - x^{24m-11})$$

$$+ x \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^{24m-19})(1 - x^{24m-5}),$$

$$A_3(x) = \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 + x^{24m-17})(1 + x^{24m-7})$$

$$- x^2 \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 + x^{24m-23})(1 + x^{24m-1}),$$

and

$$A_4(x) = \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^{2 \cdot 4m - 17})(1 - x^{2 \cdot 4m - 7})$$
$$- x^2 \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^{2 \cdot 4m - 23})(1 - x^{2 \cdot 4m - 1}).$$

(B) In the case  $g(n) = n \min (3, n), a = 1$ , we derive

(1.9)  

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^{(3)}(3n)x^{3n} = \frac{\phi^{3}(x^{9})\phi^{6}(x)}{\phi^{12}(x^{3})}(1+2x^{3}) + \frac{6x\phi^{6}(x^{9})\phi^{3}(x)}{\phi^{12}(x^{3})}(1+2x^{3}) + \frac{9x^{2}\phi^{9}(x^{9})}{\phi^{12}(x^{3})}(1-2x+2x^{3}-x^{4}),$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^{(3)}(3n+1)x^{3n+1} = \frac{-x\phi^{3}(x^{9})\phi^{6}(x)}{\phi^{12}(x^{3})}(2+x^{3})$$

$$(1.10) \qquad \qquad + \frac{3x\phi^{6}(x^{9})\phi^{3}(x)}{\phi^{12}(x^{3})}(1-4x+2x^{3}-2x^{4})$$

$$+ \frac{9x^{2}\phi^{9}(x^{9})}{\phi^{12}(x^{3})}(1-2x+2x^{3}-x^{4}),$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^{(3)}(3n+2)x^{3n+2} = \frac{-3x^2\phi^6(x^9)\phi^3(x)}{\phi^{12}(x^3)}(2+x^3) + \frac{9x^2\phi^9(x^9)}{\phi^{12}(x^3)}(1-2x+2x^3-x^4).$$

Incidentally, we note from (1.11) that

(1.12) 
$$p^{(3)}(3n+2) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}.$$

(C) In the case

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} n^2, & \text{if } n = 2^{\alpha}, \alpha \ge 0\\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \quad a = 1,$$

we derive

(1.13) 
$$\left(\sum_{0}^{\infty} P(4n)x^{4n}\right)x = \left(\sum_{0}^{\infty} P(4n+1)x^{4n+1}\right)$$
$$= \frac{x(1+3x^4)}{f(x)(1+x^2)^3(1+x)}$$

and

(1.14)  
$$\left(\sum_{0}^{\infty} P(4n+2)x^{4n+2}\right)x = \left(\sum_{0}^{\infty} P(4n+3)x^{4n+3}\right)$$
$$= \frac{x^{3}(3+x^{4})}{f(x)(1+x^{2})^{3}(1+x)}$$

## 2. Proof of the formula (1.2). We require the following

**LEMMA** 2.1. Let A be any set of positive integers and F(k, n) any arithmetic function with values in the complex number field. Then for every positive integer k

(2.1) 
$$\prod_{\substack{n \in A \\ (n,k)=1}} F(k,n) = \prod_{\substack{d \mid k \\ md \in A}} \prod_{\substack{m \\ md \in A}} \{F(k,md)\}^{\mu(d)},$$

where  $\mu(d)$  is the Möbius function.

This is easily proved using the Möbius inversion formula by setting  $L(k, n) = \log F(k, n)$  (the principal value),  $\sum_{n \in A} \operatorname{and} (k,n) = dL(k, n) = G(k/d)$ ,  $\sum_{nd \in A} L(k, nd) = H(k/d)$  and noting that  $\sum_{d|k} G(k/d) = H(k)$ .

**Proof** of (1.2). Left side of (1.2) =

(2.2) 
$$\prod_{\substack{d|k \\ (n,k)=d}} \prod_{\substack{n=1 \\ (n,k)=d}}^{\infty} \prod_{\substack{r=0 \\ r=0}}^{k-1} (1 - a^{\alpha(n)} \omega^{rn} x^n)^{g(n)/n}$$
$$= \prod_{\substack{d|k \\ (n_1,k_1)=1}}^{\infty} F(k_1, n_1)$$

with  $k = k_1 d$ ,  $n = n_1 d$  and

$$F(k_1, n_1) = \prod_{r=0}^{k_1 d-1} (1 - a^{\alpha(n_1 d)} \omega^{rn_1 d} x^{n_1 d})^{g(n_1 d)/n_1 d}$$
  
= 
$$\prod_{r=0}^{k_1 d-1} (1 - a^{\alpha(n_1 d)} \omega_1^{n_1 r} x^{n_1 d})^{g(n_1 d)/n_1 d},$$

where  $\omega_1 = \omega^d$ , a primitive  $k_1$ -th root of unity.  $\omega_2 = \omega_1^{n_1}$  is also a primitive  $k_1$ -th root of unity, and as r runs through a complete residue system mod k once, it runs through a complete residue system (mod  $k_1$ ) d times. Hence

$$\begin{split} F(k_1, n_1) &= \prod_{r=0}^{k_1 - 1} (1 - a^{\alpha(n_1d)} \omega_2^r x^{n_1d})^{dg(n,d)/n_1d} \\ &= (1 - a^{k_1 \alpha(n_1d)} x^{k_1 n_1d})^{g(n_1d)/n_1}, \end{split}$$

so that by Lemma 2.1

$$\prod_{\substack{n_1=1\\(n_1,k_1)=1}}^{\infty} F(k_1,n_1) = \prod_{\delta \mid k_1} \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 - a^{k_1 \alpha (m \delta d)} x^{k_1 m \delta d})^{g(m d \delta \mid \mu(\delta) / m \delta}.$$

Substituting this in (2.2) and using the fact that  $\alpha(n)$  and g(n) are totally multiplicative, (1.2) follows.

COROLLARY. In the case a = 1, (1.2) takes the form

(2.3) 
$$\prod_{r=0}^{k-1} f(\boldsymbol{\omega}^r \boldsymbol{x}) = \prod_{\boldsymbol{\delta}|\boldsymbol{k}} \{f(\boldsymbol{x}^{k\boldsymbol{\delta}})\}^{h(\boldsymbol{k}/\boldsymbol{\delta})\boldsymbol{\mu}(\boldsymbol{\delta})\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{\delta})/\boldsymbol{\delta}},$$

where

(2.4) 
$$f(x) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^n)^{g(n)/n}$$

and  $h(m) = \sum_{d|m} g(d)$ .

350

We shall give a simple alternate proof in this case. It is well known ([4], theorem 5, special case) that, if  $h(n) = \sum_{d|n} g(d)$ , then

(2.5) 
$$h(kM) = \sum_{d|k,d|M} h(k/d)h(M/d)g(d)\mu(d)$$

We also recall that

(2.6) 
$$\eta(k,m) \equiv \sum_{r=0}^{k-1} \omega^{rm} = \begin{cases} 0, & k \not m \\ k, & k \mid m \end{cases}$$

and that

(2.7) 
$$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(m)x^m}{1-x^m} = \sum_{\ell=1}^{\infty} h(\ell)x^{\ell}.$$

From (2.5) and (2.6), we have

$$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} h(m)\eta(k,m)x^m = k \sum_{M=1}^{\infty} h(kM)x^{kM}$$
$$= \sum_{M=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\substack{d|k\\nd=M}} kh(k/d)\mu(d)g(d)h(n)x^{kM}$$
$$= \sum_{\substack{d|k\\d|k}} kh(k/d)\mu(d)g(d) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} h(n)x^{kdn},$$

which on using (2.6) and (2.7) can be written as

$$\sum_{r=0}^{k-1} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(m)\omega^{rm}x^m}{1-x^m \omega^{rm}} = \sum_{d|k} h(k/d)\mu(d)kg(d) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(n)x^{kdn}}{1-x^{kdn}}.$$

We now restrict x to be such that 0 < x < 1 (we can at the end extend the result to |x| < 1 by analytic continuation). Dividing both sides by x and integrating with respect to x, we obtain

$$\sum_{r=0}^{k-1} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(m)}{m} \log (1 - \omega^{rm} x^m)$$
  
=  $\sum_{d|k} h(k/d) \mu(d) \frac{g(d)}{d} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{g(n)}{n} \log (1 - x^{kdn}),$ 

the constant of integration being zero as can be seen by setting x = 0. Thus we have

$$\sum_{r=0}^{k-1} \log f(\omega^r x) = \sum_{d|k} h(k/d) \mu(d) \frac{g(d)}{d} \log f(x^{kd}),$$

which is the same as relation (2.3).

3. Proof of the identities (1.5) to (1.8). Choosing g(n) = n, a = 1, k = 4, (1.2) yields

(3.1) 
$$\boldsymbol{\phi}(x)\boldsymbol{\phi}(ix)\boldsymbol{\phi}(-x)\boldsymbol{\phi}(-ix) = \frac{\boldsymbol{\phi}^{7}(x^{4})}{\boldsymbol{\phi}^{3}(x^{8})},$$

*i* being an imaginary square root of -1. Also

(3.2) 
$$4\sum_{0}^{\infty} p(4n+\ell)x^{4n+\ell} = \frac{1}{\phi(x)} + \frac{i^{-\ell}}{\phi(ix)} + \frac{i^{-2\ell}}{\phi(-x)} + \frac{i^{-3\ell}}{\phi(-ix)} \ (\ell = 0, 1, 2, 3) \ .$$

We shall also need the well-known identity of Jacobi:

(3.3) 
$$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} y^{k} z^{k^{2}} = \phi(z^{2}) \prod_{m=1}^{\infty} (1 + y z^{2m-1})(1 + y^{-1} z^{2m-1}).$$

Using Euler's identity

(3.4) 
$$\phi(x) = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n x^{n(3n+1)/2},$$

we can write

(3.5) 
$$\phi(x) = g_0(x) + g_1(x) + g_2(x) + g_3(x),$$

where

(3.6) 
$$g_{\ell}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n \mathbf{x}^{n(3n+1)/2}, \ \ell = 0, 1, 2, 3,$$
$$n(3n+1)/2 \equiv \ell \pmod{4}.$$

Then

$$\begin{split} \phi(-\mathbf{x}) &= g_0(-\mathbf{x}) + g_1(-\mathbf{x}) + g_2(-\mathbf{x}) + g_3(-\mathbf{x}) \\ &= g_0(\mathbf{x}) - g_1(\mathbf{x}) + g_2(\mathbf{x}) - g_3(\mathbf{x}), \end{split}$$

in view of (3.6), so that on using (3.6) and (3.4),

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(\mathbf{x}) + \phi(-\mathbf{x}) &= 2\{g_0(\mathbf{x}) + g_2(\mathbf{x})\} \\ &= 2\sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{2k_1 + 1} - 2\sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^{(4k+1)(6k+2)} \\ &= 2\phi(x^{48}) \quad \left\{\prod_{1}^{\infty} (1 + x^{48m-26})(1 + x^{48m-22}) - x^2 \prod_{1}^{\infty} (1 + x^{48m-38})(1 + x^{48m-10})\right\} \\ &= 2\phi(x^{48})A_1(x^2). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

(3.8)  
$$\phi(ix) + \phi(-ix) = 2\phi(x^{48})A_1((ix)^2)$$
$$= 2\phi(x^{48})A_1(-x^2)$$
$$= 2\phi(x^{48})A_2(x^2)$$

in terms of  $A_1(x)$  and  $A_2(x)$  given in (A) of §1.

With g(n) = n, k = 2, a = 1 (1.2) yields

(3.9) 
$$\boldsymbol{\phi}(\boldsymbol{x})\boldsymbol{\phi}(-\boldsymbol{x}) = \frac{\boldsymbol{\phi}^3(\boldsymbol{x}^2)}{\boldsymbol{\phi}(\boldsymbol{x}^4)} ,$$

and so, from (3.1),

(3.10) 
$$\boldsymbol{\phi}(i\boldsymbol{x})\boldsymbol{\phi}(-i\boldsymbol{x}) = \frac{\boldsymbol{\phi}^8(\boldsymbol{x}^4)}{\boldsymbol{\phi}^3(\boldsymbol{x}^8)\boldsymbol{\phi}^3(\boldsymbol{x}^2)} \ .$$

Hence, from (3.2) and (3.7) to (3.10), we obtain

$$\sum_{0}^{\infty} p(4n)x^{4n} = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \frac{\phi(x) + \phi(-x)}{\phi(x)\phi(-x)} + \frac{\phi(ix) + \phi(-ix)}{\phi(ix)\phi(-ix)} \right\}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{\phi(x^4)}{\phi^3(x^2)} \phi(x^{48})A_1(x^2) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\phi^3(x^2)\phi^3(x^8)}{\phi^8(x^4)} \phi(x^{48})A_2(x^2),$$

which is the same as (1.5). (1.6) to (1.8) follow on similar lines.

4. Proof of the identities (1.9) to (1.11). The generating function  $\Psi(x)^{-1}$  of  $p^{(3)}(n)$  is given by

(4.1) 
$$\psi(x) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^n)^{\min(3,n)}$$

$$=\frac{\phi^{3}(x)}{(1-x)^{2}(1-x^{2})}$$

If  $\boldsymbol{\omega}$  is a primitive cube root of unity, then

(4.2)  

$$= \frac{4 \sum_{0}^{\infty} p^{(3)}(3n+\ell)x^{3n+\ell}}{\psi(\omega x)} = \frac{1}{\psi(x)} + \frac{\omega^{2\ell}}{\psi(\omega x)} + \frac{\omega^{\ell}}{\psi(\omega^2 x)}}{\psi(\omega^2 x)}$$

$$= \frac{\psi(\omega x)\psi(\omega^2 x) + \omega^{2\ell}\psi(x)\psi(\omega^2 x) + \omega^{\ell}\psi(x)\psi(\omega x)}{\psi(x)\psi(\omega x)\psi(\omega^2 x)} \quad (\ell = 0, 1, 2).$$

Also,

(4.3) 
$$\phi^{3}(x) = h_{0}(x) + h_{1}(x) + h_{2}(x)$$

with

$$h_{\ell}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (2n+1) x^{n(n+1)/2}.$$
  
$$n(n+1)/2 \equiv \ell \pmod{3},$$

so that

(4.4) 
$$\boldsymbol{\phi}^{\mathfrak{Z}}(\boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathfrak{Z}}\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{h}_0(\boldsymbol{x}) + \boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathfrak{Z}}\boldsymbol{h}_1(\boldsymbol{x}) + \boldsymbol{\omega}^{\mathfrak{Z}}\boldsymbol{h}_2(\boldsymbol{x}).$$

In fact,

$$\begin{split} h_0(x) &= \phi^3(x) + 3x\phi^3(x^9), \\ h_1(x) &= -3x\phi^3(x^9), \\ h_2(x) &= 0 \qquad \text{(See Kolberg [1] p. 82).} \end{split}$$

From (4.1) and (1.3), we obtain

(4.5) 
$$\psi(x)\psi(\omega x)\psi(\omega^2 x) = \frac{\phi^{12}(x^3)}{\phi^{3}(x^9)(1-x^3)^2(1-x^6)}.$$

Further, from (4.1) and (4.4) we obtain

$$\psi(\omega x)\psi(\omega^2 x) = \frac{(h_0^2(x) + h_1^2(x) - h_0(x)h_1(x))(1 - 2x + 2x^3 - x^4)}{(1 - x^3)^2(1 - x^6)}$$

and similar expressions for  $\psi(\omega^2 x)\psi(x)$  and  $\psi(x)\psi(\omega x)$ .

Taking l = 0 in (4.2) and using (4.5) and the above expressions for  $\psi(\omega x)\psi(\omega^2 x)$  etc., we obtain

$$3\sum_{0}^{\infty} p^{(3)}(3n)x^{3n} = 3\{h_0^2(x)(1+2x^3) - h_1^2(x)(2x+x^3)\frac{\phi^3(x^9)}{\phi^{12}(x^3)},$$

354

which yields (1.9) on substituting the above Kolberg's expressions for  $h_0(x)$  and  $h_1(x)$ . (1.10) and (1.11) follow on the same lines.

5. **Proof of** (1.13) and (1.14). Choosing

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} n^2, \text{ if } n = 2^{\alpha} \ (\alpha \ge 0), \\ 0, \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}, \text{ and } a = 1, k = 4,$$

we have from (1.2)

(5.1) 
$$f(x)f(ix)f(-x)f(-ix) = \frac{f^{21}(x^4)}{f^{10}(x^8)}.$$

We can also verify that in this case f(x) satisfies

(5.2) 
$$(1-x)f^2(x^2) = f(x)$$

or

$$f^{2}(x^{2}) = f(x)(1 + x + x^{2} + \cdots),$$

so that if we put  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ ,  $(a_0 = 1)$ , it is easily seen that the coefficients  $a_n$  are given by the recursion formulae

(5.3) 
$$a_n = -\sum_{r=0}^{n-1} a_r, \quad \text{if } n \text{ is odd},$$

and

(5.4) 
$$a_n = \sum_{j=0}^{n/2} a_j a_{(n/2)-j}, \text{ if } n \text{ is even.}$$

These equations (5.3) and (5.4) determine f(x). However, these are not required for the proof of (1.13) and (1.14).

We shall indicate the proof of the first half of (1.13). First we note that

(5.5) 
$$4\sum_{0}^{\infty} P(4n+\ell)x^{4n+\ell} = \frac{1}{f(x)} + \frac{i^{-\ell}}{f(ix)} + \frac{i^{-2\ell}}{f(-x)} + \frac{i^{-3\ell}}{f(-ix)}$$
$$(\ell = 0, 1, 2, 3)$$

From (5.2) we have  $f(-x) = (1 + x)f^2(x^2)$ , so that

(5.6) 
$$f(x) + f(-x) = 2f^2(x^2),$$

(5.7) 
$$f(x)f(-x) = f^4(x^2)(1-x^2),$$

and

(5.8) 
$$\frac{f(-x^2)}{f(x^2)} = \frac{(1+x^2)}{(1-x^2)}.$$

Taking l = 0 in (5.5), and using (5.6), (5.7), (5.1) and similarly (5.8) we obtain

$$\sum P(4n)x^{4n} = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \frac{f(x) + f(-x)}{f(x)f(-x)} + \frac{f(ix) + f(-ix)}{f(ix)f(-ix)} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \frac{(f(x) + f(-x))f(ix)f(-ix) + (f(ix) + f(-ix))f(x)f(-x)}{f(x)f(ix)f(-x)f(-ix)}$$

$$= \frac{f^{10}(x^8)}{2f^{21}(x^4)} \{f^2(x^2)f^4((ix)^2)(1 - i^2x^2)$$

$$+ f^2((ix)^2f^4(x^2)(1 - x^2)\}$$

$$= \frac{f^{10}(x^8)}{2f^{21}(x^4)} f^6(x^2) \frac{(1 + x^2)^2}{(1 - x^2)^4} \{(1 + x^2)^3 + (1 - x^2)^3\}.$$

But by repeated use of (5.2) raised to the suitable exponents, we obtain

$$\frac{f^{10}(\mathbf{x}^8)f^6(\mathbf{x}^2)}{f^{21}(\mathbf{x}^4)} = \frac{f^{10}(\mathbf{x}^8)}{f^{5}(\mathbf{x}^4)}\frac{f^8(\mathbf{x}^2)}{f^{16}(\mathbf{x}^4)}\frac{1}{f^2(\mathbf{x}^2)}$$
$$= (1-\mathbf{x}^2)^8\frac{1}{(1-\mathbf{x}^4)^5}\frac{(1-\mathbf{x})}{f(\mathbf{x})} = \frac{(1-\mathbf{x}^2)^3(1-\mathbf{x})}{(1+\mathbf{x}^2)^5f(\mathbf{x})}$$

The first half of the identity (1.13) follows on substituting this in (5.9). The other half of (1.13) and (1.14) follow on using similar arguments.

#### References

1. O. Kolberg, Some identities involving the partition function, Math. Scand. 5 (1957), 77-92.

2. P. A. MacMahon, Combinatory Analysis, Vol. II, Cambridge, 1915-1916.

3. V. V. Subrahmanyasastri, A result concerning the Euler function  $f(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^{n})$ , Math. student 35 (1967), 85-87.

4. R. Vaidyanathaswamy, The identical equation of the multiplicative function, Bull. Amer. Math. Soc. 36 (1930), 762-772.

5. E. M. Wright, Asymptotic partition formulae (I) Plane Partitions, Quart. J. Math. (Oxford) 2 (1931), 177-189.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, EDMONTON, ALBERTA