

# Some new $q$ -supercongruences arising from a quadratic summation of Gasper and Rahman

Victor J. W. Guo and Xin Zhao\*

School of Mathematics, Hangzhou Normal University, Hangzhou 311121, People's Republic of China  
jwguo@hznu.edu.cn, zhaoxin1@stu.hznu.edu.cn

**Abstract.** Employing Gasper and Rahman's quadratic summation, the method of "creative microscoping" developed by the first author and Zudilin, and the Chinese remainder theorem for coprime polynomials, we prove some new  $q$ -supercongruences modulo the third and fourth powers of a cyclotomic polynomial. As a conclusion, we obtain some new supercongruences, such as: for primes  $p \geq 13$  with  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3p+1)/4} (6k+1) \frac{(\frac{1}{2})_k^3 (-\frac{1}{4})_k}{(k+1)! k!^3 4^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^4},$$

where  $(a)_0 = 1$  and  $(a)_k = a(a+1) \cdots (a+k-1)$  for  $k \geq 1$ .

*Keywords:* supercongruence;  $p$ -adic Gamma function; cyclotomic polynomials; creative microscoping; Gasper and Rahman's summation

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## 1 Introduction

In 1914, Ramanujan [16] discovered some series for  $1/\pi$  (see also [1, p. 352]), such as

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (6k+1) \frac{(\frac{1}{2})_k^3}{k!^3 4^k} = \frac{4}{\pi}, \tag{1.1}$$

where  $(a)_k = a(a+1) \cdots (a+k-1)$  is the *Pochhammer symbol*. The formula (1.1) was first proved by J.M. Borwein and P.B. Borwein in their monograph [2, pp. 177–187]. In 1997, Van Hamme [17] proposed 13  $p$ -adic analogues of Ramanujan-type series. For example, he conjectured that the following supercongruence holds for primes  $p > 3$ :

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} (6k+1) \frac{(\frac{1}{2})_k^3}{k!^3 4^k} \equiv (-1)^{(p-1)/2} p \pmod{p^4},$$

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\*Corresponding author.

which was later confirmed by Long [14]. In 2017, He [10] gave the following two similar supercongruences: for any odd prime  $p$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (6k+1) \frac{(\frac{1}{2})_k^3 (\frac{1}{4})_k}{k!^4 4^k} \equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{(p+3)/4} p \Gamma_p(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma_p(\frac{1}{4})^2 \pmod{p^2}, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2}, & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases} \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\Gamma_p(x)$  is Morita's  $p$ -adic Gamma function [15], and conjectured that (1.2) also holds modulo  $p^4$  for  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . Liu and Wang [13] observed that the supercongruence (1.2) modulo  $p^3$  is a consequence of the following  $q$ -supercongruence: for any positive odd integer  $n$ , modulo  $[n]\Phi_n(q)^2$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q; q^4)_k q^{k^2+k}}{(q^2; q^2)_k (q^4; q^4)_k^3} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{(q^2; q^4)_{(n-1)/4}}{(q^4; q^4)_{(n-1)/4}} [n] q^{(1-n)/4} & \text{if } n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 0 & \text{if } n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

which is just the  $(a, b) = (1, q)$  case of [8, Theorem 4.5]. Applying the “creative microscoping” method introduced by the first author and Zudilin [8], Wei [18] extended the above  $q$ -supercongruence to the modulus  $[n]\Phi_n(q)^3$ , thus confirming He's conjecture. Here and in what follows, for all complex numbers  $x, q$  and nonnegative integers  $n$ , the  $q$ -shifted factorials are defined as

$$(x; q)_\infty = \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 - xq^k), \quad \text{and} \quad (x; q)_n = \frac{(x; q)_\infty}{(xq^n; q)_\infty}.$$

For simplicity, we shall also adopt the compact notation  $(x_1, \dots, x_m; q)_n = (x_1; q)_n \cdots (x_m; q)_n$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , or  $n = \infty$ . Moreover, let  $[n] = (1 - q^n)/(1 - q)$  be the  $q$ -integer, and let  $\Phi_n(q)$  denote the  $n$ -th cyclotomic polynomial, which can be written as

$$\Phi_n(q) = \prod_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq n \\ \gcd(k, n) = 1}} (q - \zeta^k),$$

where  $\zeta$  is an  $n$ -th primitive root of unity.

Inspired by the aforementioned work, we shall establish the following  $q$ -supercongruence.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $n$  be an integer with  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $n \geq 9$ . Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^4; q^2)_k (q^4; q^4)_k^3} q^{k^2+3k} \equiv 0 \pmod{[n]\Phi_n(q)^3}. \quad (1.3)$$

Note that the  $q$ -supercongruence (1.3) modulo  $[n]\Phi_n(q)^2$  follows from the  $(a, b) = (1, q^{-1})$  case of [8, Theorem 4.5]. For  $n$  prime, letting  $q \rightarrow 1$  in (1.3), we arrive at the following result: for any prime  $p \geq 13$  with  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3p+1)/4} (6k+1) \frac{(\frac{1}{2})_k^3 (-\frac{1}{4})_k}{(k+1)! k!^3 4^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^4}.$$

We shall also give a variation of Theorem 1.1 as follows.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $n$  be an integer with  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $n \geq 5$ . Then, modulo  $[n]\Phi_n(q)^3$ ,*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^4; q^2)_k (q^4; q^4)_k^3} q^{k^2+3k} \equiv -\frac{[n]^3 [3n] (1+q)}{[2n]} q^{(9n^2-5n)/4+1}. \quad (1.4)$$

Similarly as before, we can deduce the following conclusion from (1.4): for any prime  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (6k+1) \frac{(\frac{1}{2})_k^3 (-\frac{1}{4})_k}{(k+1)! k!^3 4^k} \equiv -3p^3 \pmod{p^4}. \quad (1.5)$$

We have the following  $q$ -supercongruence, which is a companion of (1.3).

**Theorem 1.3.** *Let  $n$  be a positive integer with  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^4; q^2)_k (q^4; q^4)_k^3} q^{k^2+3k} \\ & \equiv -[n] q^{(n+5)/4} \frac{(q^{-2}; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(q^4; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} \left( 1 - [n]^2 \sum_{j=1}^{(n+1)/4} \frac{q^{4j}}{[4j]^2} \right) \pmod{[n]\Phi_n(q)^3}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.6)$$

For  $n$  prime, letting  $q \rightarrow 1$  in (1.6), we get the following conclusion: for any prime  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} (6k+1) \frac{(\frac{1}{2})_k^3 (-\frac{1}{4})_k}{(k+1)! k!^3 4^k} \equiv -p \frac{(-\frac{1}{2})_{(p+1)/4}}{(1)_{(p+1)/4}} \left( 1 - \frac{p^2}{16} \sum_{j=1}^{(p+1)/4} \frac{1}{j^2} \right) \pmod{p^4}. \quad (1.7)$$

It seems that the following generalization of (1.5) modulo  $p^3$  is true.

**Conjecture 1.4.** *Let  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  be a prime and  $r \geq 1$ . Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p^r-1} (6k+1) \frac{(\frac{1}{2})_k^3 (-\frac{1}{4})_k}{(k+1)! k!^3 4^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{3r}}. \quad (1.8)$$

The supercongruence (1.8) may be regarded as a reduced Dwork-type supercongruence (see [3]). A number of Dwork-type supercongruences are proved in [5, 9] by an upgraded version of the creative microscoping method. Perhaps the method therein can be utilized to tackle the above conjecture.

He [10] also proved the following supercongruence:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (6k+1) \frac{(\frac{1}{2})_k^3 (\frac{1}{4})_k^2}{k!^5} \equiv \begin{cases} -p \Gamma_p(\frac{1}{4})^4 \pmod{p^2}, & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2}, & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases} \quad (1.9)$$

and conjectured that it is also true modulo  $p^3$  for  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . Liu [12] confirmed this conjecture of He. Wei [18] further generalized He's supercongruence (1.9) to the modulus  $p^5$  case by establishing a  $q$ -analogue of it.

Motivated by Wei's work, we shall build the following  $q$ -supercongruences.

**Theorem 1.5.** *Let  $n$  be an integer with  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $n \geq 9$ . Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}, q; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^2, q^{-1}; q^2)_k (q^4; q^4)_k^2} q^{2k} \equiv 0 \pmod{[n]\Phi_n(q)^2}. \quad (1.10)$$

Likewise, we may derive the following supercongruence from (1.10): for any prime  $p \geq 13$  with  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3p+1)/4} (6k+1) \frac{(\frac{1}{2})_k^3 (-\frac{1}{4})_k (\frac{1}{4})_k}{(k+1)! k!^3 (-\frac{1}{2})_k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^3}.$$

We believe that the following extension of Theorem 1.5 should be true.

**Conjecture 1.6.** *Let  $n$  be an integer with  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $n \geq 9$ . Then, modulo  $[n]\Phi_n(q)^3$ ,*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}, q; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^2, q^{-1}; q^2)_k (q^4; q^4)_k^2} q^{2k} \equiv 0, \quad (1.11)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}, q; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^2, q^{-1}; q^2)_k (q^4; q^4)_k^2} q^{2k} \equiv -\frac{[n]^3 [3n] (1+q)}{[2n]} q^{(n^2-n)/2+1}. \quad (1.12)$$

Furthermore, can we generalize the  $q$ -supercongruences (1.11) and (1.12) to the modulus  $[n]\Phi_n(q)^4$  case? Note that there exists a  $q$ -supercongruence modulo  $[n]\Phi_n(q)^4$  in [18], which is also deduced from Gasper and Rahman's summation (1.13).

Recall that a quadratic summation of Gasper and Rahman (see [4, eq. (3.8.12)]) can be stated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1 - aq^{3k}}{1 - a} \frac{(a, b, q/b; q)_k (d, f, a^2q/df; q^2)_k q^k}{(aq/d, aq/f, df/a; q)_k (q^2, aq^2/b, abq; q^2)_k} \\ & + \frac{(aq, f/a, b, q/b; q)_{\infty} (d, a^2q/df, fq^2/d, df^2q/a^2; q^2)_{\infty}}{(a/f, fq/a, aq/d, df/a; q)_{\infty} (aq^2/b, abq, fq/ab, bf/a; q^2)_{\infty}} \\ & \times \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(f, bf/a, fq/ab; q^2)_k q^{2k}}{(q^2, fq^2/d, df^2q/a^2; q^2)_k} \\ & = \frac{(aq, f/a; q)_{\infty} (aq^2/bd, abq/d, bdf/a, dfq/ab; q^2)_{\infty}}{(aq/d, df/a; q)_{\infty} (aq^2/b, abq, bf/a, fq/ab; q^2)_{\infty}}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.13)$$

Gasper and Rahman's summation (1.13) is very important in the investigate of  $q$ -congruences. See [7, 11, 18]. We shall prove Theorem 1.1–1.5 by applying Gasper and Rahman's summation (1.13) in Sections 2–5.

## 2 Proof of Theorem 1.1

To prove Theorem 1.1, we first give the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $n > 1$  be an odd integer. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1}/b^3; q^4)_k q^{(k^2+3k)} b^{3k}}{(q^4, q^4/a, aq^4; q^4)_k (b^3 q^4; q^2)_k} \equiv 0 \pmod{\Phi_n(q)}. \quad (2.1)$$

*Proof.* Putting  $d = q^{-2n}$  and then taking  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (1.13), we obtain

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1 - aq^{3k}}{1 - a} \frac{(a, b, q/b; q)_k (f; q^2)_k q^{(k^2+k)/2}}{(q^2, aq^2/b, abq; q^2)_k (aq/f; q)_k} \left(\frac{a}{f}\right)^k = \frac{(aq, aq^2, aq^2/bf, abq/f; q^2)_{\infty}}{(aq/f, aq^2/f, aq^2/b, abq; q^2)_{\infty}}, \quad (2.2)$$

which was already noticed by [18, eq. (2.2)]. Letting  $q \mapsto q^2$ ,  $a = q^{1-n}$ ,  $b = aq$ , and  $f = q^{-1}/b^3$  in (2.2), we find that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} \frac{1 - q^{6k+1-n}}{1 - q^{1-n}} \frac{(q^{1-n}, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1}/b^3; q^4)_k q^{(k^2+k)}}{(q^4, q^{4-n}/a, aq^{4-n}; q^4)_k (b^3 q^{4-n}; q^2)_k} (b^3 q^{2-n})^k \\ &= \frac{(q^{3-n}, q^{5-n}, b^3 q^{5-n}/a, ab^3 q^{5-n}; q^4)_{\infty}}{(aq^{4-n}, q^{4-n}/a, b^3 q^{4-n}, b^3 q^{6-n}; q^4)_{\infty}} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

because of the factor  $(q^{3-n}, q^{5-n}; q^4)_{\infty} = 0$  in the numerator. The proof then follows from the fact  $q^n \equiv 1 \pmod{\Phi_n(q)}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $n > 1$  be an odd integer. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^M [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^4; q^4)_k^3 (q^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} \equiv 0 \pmod{[n]}, \quad (2.3)$$

where  $M = (3n+1)/4$  if  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , and  $M = (n-1)/2$  if  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .

*Proof.* For  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , let  $c_q(k)$  be the  $k$ -th term on the left-hand side of (2.1) with  $a = b = 1$ , i.e.,

$$c_q(k) = [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^4; q^4)_k^3 (q^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k}.$$

Let  $\zeta \neq 1$  be an  $n$ -th root of unity. Namely,  $\zeta$  is a primitive root of unity of degree  $m \mid n$ . The  $a = b = 1$  case of  $q$ -congruence (2.1) with  $n = m$  indicates that: if  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{m-1} c_{\zeta}(k) = \sum_{k=0}^{(3m+1)/4} c_{\zeta}(k) = 0.$$

In terms of the relation

$$\frac{c_\zeta(jm + k)}{c_\zeta(jm)} = \lim_{q \rightarrow \zeta} \frac{c_q(jm + k)}{c_q(jm)} = c_\zeta(k),$$

we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} c_\zeta(k) = \sum_{j=0}^{(3n/m-7)/4} c_\zeta(jm) \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} c_\zeta(k) + \sum_{k=0}^{(3m+1)/4} c_\zeta(k + 3(n-m)/4) = 0. \quad (2.4)$$

If  $m \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{m-1} c_\zeta(k) = \sum_{k=0}^{(m+1)/4} c_\zeta(k) = 0,$$

and so

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} c_\zeta(k) = \sum_{j=0}^{(3n/m-5)/4} c_\zeta(jm) \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} c_\zeta(k) + \sum_{k=0}^{(m+1)/4} c_\zeta(k + (3n-m)/4) = 0. \quad (2.5)$$

The identities (2.4) and (2.5) imply that  $\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} c_q(k)$  is divisible by the cyclotomic polynomials  $\Phi_m(q)$ . Since this is true for all divisors  $m \geq 1$  of  $n$ , we conclude that it is divisible by  $\prod_{m|n, m>1} \Phi_m(q) = [n]$ . This proves (2.3) for the first case.

Similarly we can prove (2.3) for the second case.  $\square$

We now present a parametric extension of Theorem 1.1.

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $n > 1$  be an integer with  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Then modulo  $\Phi_n(q)(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)(b - q^n)$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1}/b^3; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^4/a, aq^4; q^4)_k (b^3q^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} b^{3k} \\ & \equiv \frac{(b - q^n)(ab - 1 - a^2 + aq^n)}{(a - b)(1 - ab)} \frac{(q^5, b^{-3}; q^4)_{(n-1)/4} (b^3q)^{(n-1)/4}}{(b^3q^6, q; q^4)_{(n-1)/4}} \\ & + \frac{(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)}{(a - b)(1 - ab)} \frac{(q^5, q^3; q^4)_{(3n+1)/4}}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_{(3n+1)/4}}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

*Proof.* For  $a = q^n$  or  $a = q^{-n}$ , the left-hand side of (2.6) can be written as

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q, q^{1-n}, q^{1+n}; q^2)_k (q^{-1}/b^3; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^{4+n}, q^{4-n}; q^4)_k (b^3q^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} b^{3k}, \quad (2.7)$$

where we used  $(q^{1-n}; q^2)_k = 0$  for  $k > (n-1)/2$ . Letting  $q \mapsto q^2$ , and taking  $a = q$ ,  $b = q^{1-n}$ ,  $f = q^{-1}/b^3$  in (2.2), the expression (2.7) is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(q^3, q^5, b^3 q^{5+n}, b^3 q^{5-n}; q^4)_\infty}{(b^3 q^4, b^3 q^6, q^{4+n}, q^{4-n}; q^4)_\infty} &= \frac{(b^3 q^{5-n}; q^4)_{(n-1)/4} (q^5; q^4)_{(n-1)/4}}{(q^{4-n}; q^4)_{(n-1)/4} (b^3 q^6; q^4)_{(n-1)/4}} \\ &= \frac{(q^5, b^{-3}; q^4)_{(n-1)/4} (b^3 q)^{(n-1)/4}}{(b^3 q^6, q; q^4)_{(n-1)/4}}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $1 - aq^n$  and  $a - q^n$  are coprime polynomials, we deduce that, modulo  $(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1}/b^3; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^4/a, aq^4; q^4)_k (b^3 q^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} b^{3k} \equiv \frac{(q^5, b^{-3}; q^4)_{(n-1)/4} (b^3 q)^{(n-1)/4}}{(b^3 q^6, q; q^4)_{(n-1)/4}}. \quad (2.8)$$

For  $b = q^n$ , the left-hand side of (2.6) can be written as

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1-3n}; q^4)_k q^{k^2+3k+3nk}}{(q^4, aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_k (q^{4+3n}; q^2)_k}. \quad (2.9)$$

Putting  $q \mapsto q^2$ ,  $a = q$ ,  $b = aq$ , and  $f = q^{-1-3n}$  in (2.2), the summation (2.9) is equal to

$$\frac{(q^3, q^5, q^{5+3n}/a, aq^{5+3n}; q^4)_\infty}{(q^{4+3n}, q^{6+3n}, q^4/a, aq^4; q^4)_\infty} = \frac{(q^5, q^3; q^4)_{(3n+1)/4}}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_{(3n+1)/4}}.$$

This establishes the  $q$ -congruence: modulo  $b - q^n$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1}/b^3; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^4/a, aq^4; q^4)_k (b^3 q^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} b^{3k} \equiv \frac{(q^5, q^3; q^4)_{(3n+1)/4}}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_{(3n+1)/4}}. \quad (2.10)$$

It is clear that  $\Phi_n(q)(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)$  is coprime with  $b - q^n$ . Noting the relations

$$\frac{(b - q^n)(ab - 1 - a^2 + aq^n)}{(a - b)(1 - ab)} \equiv 1 \pmod{(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)}, \quad (2.11)$$

$$\frac{(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)}{(a - b)(1 - ab)} \equiv 1 \pmod{(b - q^n)}, \quad (2.12)$$

and employing the Chinese remainder theorem for coprime polynomials, we obtain (2.6) from (2.1), (2.8) and (2.10).  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.* The  $b = 1$  case of (2.6) produces the  $q$ -congruence: modulo  $\Phi_n(q)^2(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^4/a, aq^4; q^4)_k (q^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} \\ &\equiv -\frac{(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)}{(1 - a)^2} \frac{(q^5, q^3; q^4)_{(3n+1)/4}}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_{(3n+1)/4}}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

Clearly, the  $q$ -shifted factorial  $(q^3, q^5; q^4)_{(3n+1)/4}$  contains the factor  $(1 - q^{3n})(1 - q^n)$ . The right-hand side of (2.13) vanishes modulo  $\Phi_n(q)^2(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)$ .

Letting  $a \rightarrow 1$  in (2.13), we see that (1.3) holds modulo  $\Phi_n(q)^4$ . By (2.3), the  $q$ -congruence (1.3) also holds modulo  $[n]$ . Thus, the proof follows from the fact that the least common multiple of  $\Phi_n(q)^4$  and  $[n]$  is  $[n]\Phi_n(q)^3$ .  $\square$

### 3 Proof of Theorem 1.2

It is easy to check that Theorem 1.2 is true for  $n = 5$ . We now assume that  $n \geq 9$ . Consider the summation

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-2} [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^4; q^2)_k (q^4; q^4)_k^3} q^{k^2+3k}. \quad (3.1)$$

For  $(3n+1)/4 < k \leq n-2$ , the numerator  $(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_k$  has the factor  $(1 - q^n)^3 (1 - q^{3n})$ , and the denominator  $(q^4; q^2)_k (q^4; q^4)_k^3$  is coprime with  $\Phi_n(q)$ . It follows that

$$\sum_{k=(3n+5)/4}^{n-2} [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^4; q^2)_k (q^4; q^4)_k^3} q^{k^2+3k} \equiv 0 \pmod{\Phi_n(q)^4}.$$

This, together with (1.3), implies that (3.1) is congruent to 0 modulo  $\Phi_n(q)^4$ , and therefore the left-hand side of (1.4) is congruent to

$$[6n-5] \frac{(q; q^2)_{n-1}^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_{n-1}}{(q^4; q^2)_{n-1} (q^4; q^4)_{n-1}^3} q^{n^2+n-2} \pmod{\Phi_n(q)^4}.$$

It is easy to see that

$$\begin{aligned} (q^{-1}; q^4)_{n-1} &= (-1)^{(3n+1)/4} q^{(3n-5)(3n+1)/8} (q^{4-3n}; q^4)_{(3n+1)/4} (1 - q^{3n}) (q^{3n+4}; q^4)_{(n-9)/4}, \\ (q; q^2)_{n-1} &= (q; q^2)_{(n-1)/2} (1 - q^n) (q^{n+2}; q^2)_{(n-3)/2}, \\ (q^4; q^4)_{n-1} &= (q^2; q^2)_{(n-1)/2} (q^{n+1}; q^2)_{(n-1)/2} (-q^2; q^2)_{n-1}, \\ (q^4; q^2)_{n-1} &= (q^2; q^2)_{n-1} [n]_{q^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by making use of  $q^n \equiv 1 \pmod{\Phi_n(q)}$  and the following two  $q$ -congruences (see [6, eq. (2.3)]):

$$(q; q)_{n-1} \equiv n \pmod{\Phi_n(q)}, \quad \text{and} \quad (-q; q)_{n-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{\Phi_n(q)},$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} [6n-5] \frac{(q; q^2)_{n-1}^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_{n-1}}{(q^4; q^2)_{n-1} (q^4; q^4)_{n-1}^3} q^{n^2+n-2} &\equiv \frac{(1 - q^n)^3 (1 - q^{3n}) (1 + q)}{(1 - q^{-1})^3 (1 - q^{2n})} q^{(9n^2-5n)/4-2} \\ &\equiv \frac{-[n]^3 [3n] (1 + q)}{[2n]} q^{(9n^2-5n)/4+1} \pmod{\Phi_n(q)^4}. \end{aligned}$$

This proves that (1.4) is true modulo  $\Phi_n(q)^4$ . Similarly as before, we can prove it is true modulo  $[n]$ .



## 4 Proof of Theorem 1.3

We first construct a parametric version of Theorem 1.3.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $n$  be a positive integer with  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . Then modulo  $\Phi_n(q)(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)(b - q^n)$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1}/b; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^4/a, aq^4; q^4)_k (bq^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} b^k \\ & \equiv \frac{(b - q^n)(ab - 1 - a^2 + aq^n)}{(a - b)(1 - ab)} \frac{(q^3, 1/bq^2; q^4)_{(n+1)/4} (bq)^{(n+1)/4}}{(bq^4, q^{-1}; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} \\ & \quad + \frac{(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)}{(a - b)(1 - ab)} \frac{(q^5, q^3; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

*Proof.* Letting  $q \mapsto q^2$ , and taking  $a = q$ ,  $b = q^{1-n}$ , and  $f = q^{-1}/b$  in (2.2), we obtain the following identity:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} [6k+1] \frac{(q, q^{1-n}, q^{1+n}; q^2)_k (q^{-1}/b; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^{4+n}, q^{4-n}; q^4)_k (bq^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} b^k = \frac{(q^3, 1/bq^2; q^4)_{(n+1)/4} (bq)^{(n+1)/4}}{(bq^4, q^{-1}; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}.$$

This means that, modulo  $(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1}/b; q^4)_k}{(q^4, aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_k (bq^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} b^k \equiv \frac{(q^3, 1/bq^2; q^4)_{(n+1)/4} (bq)^{(n+1)/4}}{(bq^4, q^{-1}; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}. \quad (4.2)$$

On the other hand, putting  $q \mapsto q^2$ ,  $a = q$ ,  $b = aq$ , and  $f = q^{-1-n}$  in (2.2), we get

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1-n}; q^4)_k}{(q^4, aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_k (q^{4+n}; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k+nk} = \frac{(q^3, q^5; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}.$$

In other words, we have the  $q$ -congruence: modulo  $b - q^n$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1-n}/b; q^4)_k}{(q^4, aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_k (q^{4+n}; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} b^k \equiv \frac{(q^3, q^5; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}. \quad (4.3)$$

Applying (2.11), (2.12), and the Chinese remainder theorem for polynomials, we conclude (4.1) from (2.1), (4.2), and (4.3).  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.3.* Letting  $b = 1$  in (4.1), we obtain the  $q$ -congruence: modulo  $\Phi_n(q)^2(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^4, aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_k (q^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} \\
& \equiv -[n] q^{(n+5)/4} \frac{(q^{-2}; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(q^4; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} \\
& \quad + \frac{(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)}{(1 - a)^2} \left( \frac{(q^3, q^{-2}; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(q^4, q^{-1}; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} q^{(n+1)/4} - \frac{(q^3, q^5; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} \right) \\
& \equiv -[n] q^{(n+5)/4} \frac{(q^{-2}; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(q^4; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} \\
& \quad + \frac{(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)}{(1 - a)^2} \left( \frac{(q^3, q^5; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(q^4, q^4; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} - \frac{(q^3, q^5; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} \right). \tag{4.4}
\end{aligned}$$

By the L'Hôpital rule, there holds

$$\begin{aligned}
& \lim_{a \rightarrow 1} \frac{(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)}{(1 - a)^2} \left( \frac{(q^3, q^5; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(q^4, q^4; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} - \frac{(q^3, q^5; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} \right) \\
& = -[n]^2 \frac{(q^3, q^5; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(q^4, q^4; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} \sum_{j=1}^{(n+1)/4} \frac{q^{4j}}{[4j]^2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Letting  $a \rightarrow 1$  in (4.4) and using the above limit, we obtain the  $q$ -congruence: modulo  $\Phi_n(q)^4$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{k=0}^{(n-1)/2} [6k+1] \frac{(q; q^2)_k^3 (q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^4, q^4)_k^3 (q^4; q^2)_k} q^{k^2+3k} \\
& \equiv -[n] q^{(n+5)/4} \frac{(q^{-2}; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(q^4; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} - [n]^2 \frac{(q^3, q^5; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(q^4, q^4; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} \sum_{j=1}^{(n+1)/4} \frac{q^{4j}}{[4j]^2} \\
& \equiv -[n] q^{(n+5)/4} \frac{(q^{-2}; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}}{(q^4; q^4)_{(n+1)/4}} \left( 1 - [n]^2 \sum_{j=1}^{(n+1)/4} \frac{q^{4j}}{[4j]^2} \right).
\end{aligned}$$

In light of (2.3), we complete the proof the theorem.  $\square$

## 5 Proof of Theorem 1.5

We have the following parametric version of Theorem 1.5.

**Theorem 5.1.** *Let  $n$  be a positive integer with  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $n \geq 9$ . Then modulo  $\Phi_n(q)(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)$ ,*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q, q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(aq^4, q^4/a; q^4)_k (q^4, q^2, q^{-1}; q^2)_k} q^{2k} \equiv 0. \quad (5.1)$$

*Proof.* Letting  $a = q^{1-n}$ ,  $b = aq$ ,  $d = q$ ,  $f = q^{-1}$ , and  $q \mapsto q^2$  in (1.13), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} \frac{1 - q^{1+6k-n}}{1 - q^{1-n}} \frac{(q^{1-n}, aq, q/a; q^2)_k (q^{4-2n}, q, q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(aq^{4-n}, q^{4-n}/a, q^4; q^4)_k (q^{4-n}, q^{2-n}, q^{n-1}; q^2)_k} q^{2k} \\ &= \frac{(q^{3-n}, q^{n-2}; q^2)_\infty (q^{3-n}/a, aq^{3-n}, aq^n, q^n/a; q^4)_\infty}{(q^{2-n}, q^{n-1}; q^2)_\infty (q^{4-n}/a, aq^{4-n}, aq^{n-1}, q^{n-1}/a; q^4)_\infty} \\ &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that  $(q^{3-n}; q^2)_\infty = 0$ . Since  $q^n \equiv 1 \pmod{\Phi_n(q)}$ , we conclude that (5.1) is true modulo  $\Phi_n(q)$ . On the other hand, taking  $a = q$ ,  $b = q^{1+n}$ ,  $d = q$ ,  $f = q^{-1}$  and  $q \mapsto q^2$  in (1.13), we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(3n+1)/4} [6k+1] \frac{(q, q^{1+n}, q^{1-n}; q^2)_k (q, q^{-1}; q^4)_k}{(q^{4+n}, q^{4+n}; q^4)_k (q^4, q^2, q^{-1}; q^2)_k} q^{2k} = 0.$$

This proves the truth of (5.1) modulo  $(1 - aq^n)(a - q^n)$ . Therefore, the  $q$ -congruence (5.1) holds.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.5.* Letting  $a = 1$  in (5.1), we see that (1.10) holds modulo  $\Phi_n(q)^3$ . Along the same lines of the proof of Lemma 2.2, we can prove that it also holds modulo  $[n]$ .  $\square$

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## 6 Declarations

**Conflicts of interest:** No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

**Availability of data and material:** Not applicable.

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