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Partition Theoretic Interpretation of Two Identities of Euler

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Abstract:

In this paper we have derived generating function for a restricted partition function. This is in conjunction two identities of Euler provides new partition theoretic interpretation of two identities of Euler.

1. Introduction , Definition and the Main Results

The following two " Sum –Product" Identities are known as Rogers – Ramanujan identities :

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2}}{(q; q)_n} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1 - q^{5n-1})(1 - q^{5n-4})}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2+n}}{(q; q)_n} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1 - q^{5n-2})(1 - q^{5n-3})}$$

Where $|q| < 1$ and $(q; q)_n$ is a rising factorial defined by

$$(a; q)_n = \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{1 - aq^i}{1 - aq^{n+i}}$$

If n is a positive integer , then obviously

$$(a; q)_n = (1 - a)(1 - aq)(1 - aq^2) \dots (1 - aq^{n-1})$$

$$(a; q)_{\infty} = (1 - a)(1 - aq)(1 - aq^2) \dots$$

In this paper we give the partition theoretic interpretation of the following two identities of Euler :

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2}}{(q^2; q^2)_n} = (-q; q^2)_{\infty} \dots \dots (1)$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n(n+1)}}{(q^2; q^2)_n} = (-q^2; q^2)_{\infty} \dots \dots (2)$$

Theorem1 : For a positive integer k , let $A_k(n)$ denote the number of partition of n such that the smallest part (or the only part) is $\equiv k \pmod{2}$ and the difference between any two parts is

$\equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_k(n) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n(n+k-1)}}{(q^2; q^2)_n}$$



Proof : Let $A_k(m, n)$ denote the number of partitions of n enumerated by $A_k(n)$ into m parts. We shall first show that

$$A_k(m, n) = A_k(m - 1, n - k - 2(m - 1)) + A_k(m, n - 2m) \quad \dots \quad (3)$$

To prove the identity (4) we split the partitions enumerated by $A_k(m, n)$ into two classes :

- (i) those who have least part k
- (ii) those who have least part greater than k

For those whose smallest part is equal to k , we delete k and then subtract 2 from all the remaining parts. This produces a partition of $n - k - 2(m - 1)$ into exactly $m - 1$ parts.

Those who have smallest part greater than k , we subtract 2 from each part that produced a partition of $n - 2m$ into m parts. The transformations are invertible and thus we have

$$A_k(m, n) = A_k(m - 1, n - k - 2(m - 1)) + A_k(m, n - 2m)$$

For $|q| < 1$ and $|zq| < 1$, let

$$f_k(z, q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} A_k(m, n) z^m q^n \quad \dots \quad (4)$$

Substituting $A_k(m, n)$ from (4) in (3) and then simplifying, we get

$$f_k(z, q) = zq^k f_k(zq^2, q) + f_k(zq^2, q) \quad \dots \quad (5)$$

Setting

$$f_k(z, q) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha(n, k; q) z^n \quad \text{and then comparing the coefficients of } z^n \text{ on both sides of (6) we}$$

see that

$$\alpha(n, k; q) = \frac{q^{2n-1+k}}{1 - q^{2n}} \alpha(n - 1, k; q) \quad \dots \quad (6)$$

Iterating (6), n times and observing that $\alpha(0, k; q) = 1$, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(n, k; q) &= \frac{q^{n(n+k-1)}}{(q^2; q^2)_n} \\ \therefore f_k(z, q) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha(n, k; q) z^n \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n(n+k-1)}}{(q^2; q^2)_n} z^n \\ &= f_k(1, q) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n(n+k-1)}}{(q^2; q^2)_n} \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

Particular Cases :

For $k = 1$, theorem 1 reduces to the identity (1)

For $k = 2$, theorem reduces to the identity (2)

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