

Theorem (Ramanujan)

(24)

$$p(11n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{11} \quad \text{for } n \geq 0.$$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p(n) q^n &= \frac{1}{(q)_\infty} = \frac{(q)_{10}^{10}}{(q)_\infty^{11}} \\ &= \frac{(q)_{10}^{10}}{(q^{11}; q^{11})_\infty} \pmod{11} \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(*) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p(11n+6) q^{11n+6} \equiv \frac{1}{(q^{11}; q^{11})_\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_{10}(11n+6) q^{11n+6}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_{10}(n) q^n &= (q)_{10}^{10} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^{i+j} (2i+1)(6j+1) \\ &\quad \left[\frac{(3i+1)(3i+2)}{2} - \frac{3j(3j+1)}{2} \right] q^{3i(i+1)/2 + j(3j+1)/2} \end{aligned}$$

Suppose $3i(i+1)/2 + j(3j+1)/2 \equiv 6 \pmod{11}$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3(i^2+i) + 3j^2+j \equiv 12 \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 3(i^2+2i) + 3(j^2+4j) \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow i^2+2i + j^2+4j \equiv 4 \pmod{11}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (i^2+2i+36) + (j^2+4j+4) \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (i+6)^2 + (j+2)^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{11}$$