

Euler's Pentagonal Number Theorem

For $|q| < 1$,

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n) = 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^m q^{\frac{1}{2}m(3m-1)} (1 + q^m)$$

$$= \sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^m q^{\frac{1}{2}m(3m-1)}$$

Proof:

$$\sum_{m=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^m q^{\frac{1}{2}m(3m-1)}$$

$$= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (-1)^m q^{\frac{1}{2}m(3m-1)} + \sum_{m=-1}^{-\infty} (-1)^m q^{\frac{1}{2}m(3m-1)}$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^m q^{\frac{1}{2}m(3m-1)} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{-k} q^{\frac{1}{2}(-k)(-3k-1)}$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^m q^{\frac{1}{2}m(3m-1)} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^m q^{\frac{1}{2}m(3m+1)}$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^m q^{\frac{1}{2}m(3m-1)} (1 + q^m)$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (p_e(D, n) - p_o(D, n)) q^n$$

$$\prod_{n=1}^m (1 - q^n) = (1 + (-1)q)(1 + (-1)q^2) \cdots (1 + (-1)q^m)$$

$$= \left(\sum_{a_1=0}^1 (-1)^{a_1} q^{a_1} \right) \left(\sum_{a_2=0}^1 (-1)^{a_2} q^{2a_2} \right) \cdots \left(\sum_{a_m=0}^1 (-1)^{a_m} q^{a_m} \right)$$