

# The arithmetic of Borcherds' exponents

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## 1. Introduction and statement of results

Recently, Borcherds [B] provided a striking description for the exponents in the naive infinite product expansion of many modular forms. For example, if  $E_k(z)$  denotes the usual normalized weight  $k$  Eisenstein series, let  $c(n)$  denote the integer exponents one obtains by expressing  $E_4(z)$  as an infinite product:

$$\begin{aligned} E_4(z) &= 1 + 240 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{d|n} d^3 q^n \\ &= (1-q)^{-240} (1-q^2)^{26760} \cdots = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-q^n)^{c(n)} \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

( $q := e^{2\pi iz}$  throughout). Although one might not suspect that there is a precise description or formula for the exponents  $c(n)$ , Borcherds provided one. He proved that there is a weight  $1/2$  meromorphic modular form

$$G(z) = \sum_{n \geq -3} b(n)q^n = q^{-3} + 4 - 240q + 26760q^4 + \cdots - 4096240q^9 + \cdots$$

with the property that  $c(n) = b(n^2)$  for every positive integer  $n$ .

It is natural to examine other methods for studying such exponents. Here we point out a  $p$ -adic method which is based on the fact that the logarithmic derivative of a meromorphic modular form is often a weight two  $p$ -adic modular form.

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To illustrate our result, use (1.1) to define the series  $C(q)$

$$\begin{aligned} C(q) &= 6 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{d|n} c(d) dq^n \\ &= -1440q + 319680q^2 - 73733760q^3 + \cdots \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

If  $\eta(z) = q^{1/24} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)$  denotes Dedekind's eta-function, then it turns out that

$$C(q) \equiv q + 9q^2 + 10q^3 + 2q^4 + q^5 + \cdots \equiv \eta^2(z)\eta^2(11z) \pmod{11}.$$

Therefore, if  $p \neq 11$  is prime, then  $a_E(p) \equiv 1 + 6c(p)p \pmod{11}$ , where  $a_E(p)$  is the trace of the  $p$ th Frobenius endomorphism on  $X_0(11)$ . This example illustrates our general result.

Let  $K$  be a number field and let  $O_v$  be the completion of its ring of integers at a finite place  $v$  with residue characteristic  $p$ . Moreover, let  $\lambda$  be a uniformizer for  $O_v$ . Following Serre [S2], we say that a formal power series

$$f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(n)q^n \in O_v[[q]]$$

is a  $p$ -adic modular form of weight  $k$  if there is a sequence  $f_i \in O_v[[q]]$  of holomorphic modular forms on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ , with weights  $k_i$ , for which  $\text{ord}_{\lambda}(f_i - f) \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $\text{ord}_{\lambda}(k - k_i) \rightarrow +\infty$ .

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $F(z) = q^h (1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a(n)q^n) \in O_K[[q]]$  be a meromorphic modular form on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ , where  $O_K$  is the ring of integers in a number field  $K$ . Moreover, let  $c(n)$  denote the numbers defined by the formal infinite product*

$$F(z) = q^h \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^{c(n)}.$$

*If  $p$  is prime and  $F(z)$  is good at  $p$  (see §3 for the definition), then the formal power series*

$$B = h - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{d|n} c(d) dq^n$$

*is a weight two  $p$ -adic modular form.*

Here we present cases where  $F(z)$  is good at  $p$ . As usual, let  $j(z)$  be the modular function

$$j(z) = q^{-1} + 744 + 196884q + 21493760q^2 + \cdots.$$

Let  $\mathbb{H}$  be the upper half of the complex plane. We shall refer to any complex number  $\tau \in \mathbb{H}$  of the form  $\tau = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$  with  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\gcd(a, b, c) = 1$

and  $b^2 - 4ac < 0$  as a *Heegner point*. Moreover, we let  $d_\tau := b^2 - 4ac$  be its discriminant. The values of  $j$  at such points are known as *singular moduli*, and it is well known that these values are algebraic integers. A meromorphic modular form  $F(z)$  on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  has a *Heegner divisor* if its zeros and poles are supported at the cusp at infinity and Heegner points.

Although we shall emphasize those forms  $F(z)$  which have Heegner divisors, we stress that Theorem 1 holds for many forms which do not have a Borcherds product. For example,  $E_{p-1}(z)$  is good at  $p$  for every prime  $p \geq 5$ . The next result describes some forms with Heegner divisors which are good at a prime  $p$ .

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $F(z) = q^h (1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a(n)q^n) \in \mathbb{Z}[[q]]$  be a meromorphic modular form on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  with a Heegner divisor whose Heegner points  $\tau_1, \tau_2, \dots, \tau_s \in \mathbb{H}/SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  have fixed discriminant  $d$ . The following are true.*

(1) *If  $p \geq 5$  is a prime for which  $\left(\frac{d}{p}\right) \in \{0, -1\}$  and*

$$\prod_{i=1}^s j(\tau_i)(j(\tau_i) - 1728) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p},$$

*then  $F(z)$  is good at  $p$ .*

(2) *If  $s = 1$  and  $\tau_1 = (-1 + \sqrt{-3})/2$  (resp.  $\tau_1 = i$ ), then  $F(z)$  is good at every prime  $p \equiv 2, 3, 5, 11 \pmod{12}$  (resp.  $p \equiv 2, 3, 7, 11 \pmod{12}$ ).*

(3) *If  $p = 2$  (resp.  $p = 3$ ) and  $|d| \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$  (resp.  $|d| \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ ), then  $F(z)$  is good at  $p$ .*

(4) *Suppose that  $p \geq 5$  is a prime for which  $\left(\frac{d}{p}\right) \in \{0, -1\}$  and*

$$\prod_{i=1}^s j(\tau_i) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

*If  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}) \neq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$  or  $\left(\frac{d}{p}\right) = -1$ , then  $F(z)$  is good at  $p$ .*

(5) *Suppose that  $p \geq 5$  is a prime for which  $\left(\frac{d}{p}\right) \in \{0, -1\}$  and*

$$\prod_{i=1}^s (j(\tau_i) - 1728) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

*If  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}) \neq \mathbb{Q}(i)$  or  $\left(\frac{d}{p}\right) = -1$ , then  $F(z)$  is good at  $p$ .*

*Remarks.* (1) Since  $j(i) = 1728$  (resp.  $j((-1 + \sqrt{-3})/2) = 0$ ), Theorem 2 (2) applies to the modular form  $j(z) - 1728$  (resp.  $j(z)$ ), as well as the Eisenstein series  $E_6(z)$  (resp.  $E_4(z)$ ).

- (2) By the theory of complex multiplication, the singular moduli  $j(\tau_1), \dots, j(\tau_s)$ , associated to the points in Theorem 2, form a complete set of Galois conjugates over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and the multiplicities of each  $\tau_i$  is fixed in the divisor of  $F(z)$ .
- (3) For fundamental discriminants  $d$ , the work of Gross and Zagier [G-Z] provides a simple description of those primes  $p$  which do not satisfy the condition in Theorem 2 (1).
- (4) Theorem 2 admits a generalization to those forms with algebraic integer coefficients and Heegner divisors. In particular, it can be modified to cover such forms where the multiplicities of the  $\tau_i$  in the divisor of  $F(z)$  are not all equal.

Theorem 2 has interesting consequences regarding class numbers of imaginary quadratic fields. If  $0 < D \equiv 0, 3 \pmod{4}$ , then let  $H(-D)$  be the Hurwitz class number for the discriminant  $-D$ . For each such  $D$  there is a unique meromorphic modular form of weight  $1/2$  on  $\Gamma_0(4)$ , which is holomorphic on the upper half complex plane, whose Fourier expansion has the form [B, Lemma 14.2]

$$f(D; z) = q^{-D} + \sum_{1 \leq n \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}} c_D(n) q^n \in \mathbb{Z}[[q]]. \quad (1.3)$$

Borcherds' theory implies that

$$F(D; z) = q^{-H(-D)} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^{c_D(n^2)} \quad (1.4)$$

is a weight zero modular function on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  whose divisor is a Heegner divisor consisting of a pole of order  $H(-D)$  at  $z = \infty$  and a simple zero at each Heegner point with discriminant  $-D$ . At face value, to compute this correspondence one needs the coefficients of  $f(D; z)$  and the class number  $H(-D)$ . Here we obtain, in many cases, a  $p$ -adic class number formula for  $H(-D)$  in terms of the coefficients of  $f(D; z)$ . Therefore, in these cases the correspondence is uniquely determined by the coefficients of  $f(D; z)$ .

**Corollary 3.** *If  $0 < D \equiv 0, 3 \pmod{4}$  and  $-D$  is fundamental, then the following are true.*

- (1) *If  $D \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$ , then as 2-adic numbers we have*

$$H(-D) = \frac{1}{24} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_D(4^n) 2^n.$$

- (2) *If  $D \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , then as 3-adic numbers we have*

$$H(-D) = \frac{1}{12} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_D(9^n) 3^n.$$

(3) If  $D \equiv 0, 2, 3 \pmod{5}$ , then as 5-adic numbers we have

$$H(-D) = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_D(25^n) 5^n.$$

(4) If  $D \equiv 0, 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}$ , then as 7-adic numbers we have

$$H(-D) = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_D(49^n) 7^n.$$

## 2. Preliminaries

We recall essential facts regarding meromorphic modular forms on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  and the arithmetic of infinite products. If  $F(q) = \sum_{n \geq n_0} a(n)q^n$ , then let  $\Theta$  be the standard differential operator on formal  $q$ -series defined by

$$\Theta(F(q)) = \sum_{n \geq n_0} na(n)q^n. \quad (2.1)$$

Throughout, let  $F(q)$  be a formal power series of the form

$$F(q) = q^h \left( 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a(n)q^n \right), \quad (2.2)$$

and let the  $c(n)$  be the numbers for which

$$F(q) = q^h \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^{c(n)}. \quad (2.3)$$

**Proposition 2.1.** *If  $F(q)$  and the numbers  $c(n)$  are as in (2.2) and (2.3), then*

$$\frac{\Theta(F(q))}{F(q)} = h - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{d|n} c(d)dq^n.$$

*Proof.* For convenience, let  $H(q)$  be the series defined by

$$H(q) = - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c(n)q^n. \quad (2.4)$$

As formal power series, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \log(F(q)) &= \log(q^h) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c(n) \log(1 - q^n) = \log(q^h) - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c(n) \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{mn}}{m} \\ &= \log(q^h) - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{H(q^m)}{m}. \end{aligned}$$

By logarithmic differentiation, with respect to  $q$ , we obtain

$$\frac{qF'(q)}{F(q)} = \frac{\Theta(F(q))}{F(q)} = h - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} H'(q^m)q^m = h - \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c(n)nq^{mn}.$$

□

Following Ramanujan, let  $P(z)$  denote the nearly modular Eisenstein series

$$P(z) = 1 - 24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{d|n} dq^n. \quad (2.5)$$

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $F(z) = F(q)$  be a weight  $k$  meromorphic modular form on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  satisfying (2.2). If the numbers  $c(n)$  are as in (2.3), then there is a weight  $k + 2$  meromorphic modular form  $\tilde{F}(z)$  on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  for which*

$$\frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{\tilde{F}(z)}{F(z)} + kP(z) \right) = h - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{d|n} c(d)dq^n.$$

*If  $F(z)$  is a holomorphic modular (resp. cusp) form, then  $\tilde{F}(z)$  is a holomorphic modular (resp. cusp) form. Moreover, the poles of  $\tilde{F}(z)$  are supported at the poles of  $F(z)$ .*

*Proof.* It is well known [O, p. 17] that the function  $\tilde{F}(z)$  defined by

$$\tilde{F}(z) := 12\Theta(F(z)) - kP(z)F(z)$$

is a meromorphic modular form of weight  $k + 2$  on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ . Moreover, if  $F(z)$  is a holomorphic modular (resp. cusp) form, then  $\tilde{F}(z)$  is a holomorphic modular (resp. cusp) form. The result now follows immediately from Proposition 2.1. □

The remaining results in this section are useful for computing explicit examples of Theorem 1, and for proving Theorems 2 and 3. As usual, if  $k \geq 4$  is an even integer, then let  $E_k(z)$  denote the Eisenstein series

$$E_k(z) := 1 - \frac{2k}{B_k} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sigma_{k-1}(n)q^n. \quad (2.6)$$

Throughout, let  $\omega$  be the cube root of unity

$$\omega := \frac{-1 + \sqrt{-3}}{2}. \quad (2.7)$$

**Lemma 2.3.** *Suppose that  $k \geq 4$  is even.*

- (1) *We have  $E_k(z) \equiv 1 \pmod{24}$ .*
- (2) *If  $p \geq 5$  is prime and  $(p-1) \mid k$ , then  $E_k(z) \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .*

- (3) If  $k \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ , then  $E_k(\omega) = 0$ .  
 (4) If  $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , then  $E_k(i) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Since  $z = i$  (resp.  $z = \omega$ ) is fixed by the modular transformation  $Sz = -1/z$  (resp.  $Az = -(z + 1)/z$ ), the definition of a modular form implies that  $E_k(i) = 0$  whenever  $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , and  $E_k(\omega) = 0$  whenever  $k \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . The claimed congruences follows immediately from (2.6) and the von Staudt-Clausen theorem on the divisibility of denominators of Bernoulli numbers [I-R, p. 233].  $\square$

### 3. Proofs of the main results

We begin by defining what it means for a modular form to be “good at  $p$ ”.

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $F(z) = q^h (1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a(n)q^n) \in O_K[[q]]$  be a meromorphic modular form on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  whose zeros and poles, away from  $z = \infty$ , are at the points  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_s$ . We say that  $F(z)$  is good at  $p$  if there is a holomorphic modular form  $\mathcal{E}(z)$  with  $p$ -integral algebraic coefficients for which the following are true:

- (1) We have the congruence  $\mathcal{E}(z) \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ .  
 (2) For each  $1 \leq i \leq s$  we have  $\mathcal{E}(z_i) = 0$ .

*Proof of Theorem 1.* By Lemma 2.2, there is a weight  $k + 2$  meromorphic modular form  $\tilde{F}(z)$  on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ , whose poles are supported at the poles of  $F(z)$ , for which

$$\frac{1}{12} \left( \frac{\tilde{F}(z)}{F(z)} + kP(z) \right) = h - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{d|n} c(d)dq^n.$$

Since Serre [S2] proved that  $P(z)$  is a weight two  $p$ -adic modular form, it suffices to prove that  $\tilde{F}(z)/F(z)$  is a weight 2  $p$ -adic modular form. For every  $j \geq 0$ , we have

$$\mathcal{E}(z)^{p^j} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^{j+1}}. \quad (3.1)$$

Since  $\tilde{F}(z)/F(z)$  has weight two, it follows that  $\mathcal{E}(z)^{p^j} \tilde{F}(z)/F(z)$ , for sufficiently large  $j$ , is a holomorphic modular form of weight  $p^j b + 2$ , where  $b$  is the weight of  $\mathcal{E}(z)$ . If  $\mathcal{E}(z)^{p^j} \tilde{F}(z)/F(z)$  does not have algebraic integer coefficients, then multiply it by a suitable integer  $t_{j+1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^{j+1}}$  so that the resulting series does. Therefore by (3.1), the sequence  $\mathfrak{F}_{j+1}(z) := t_{j+1} \mathcal{E}(z)^{p^j} \tilde{F}(z)/F(z)$  defines a sequence of holomorphic modular forms which  $p$ -adically converges to  $\tilde{F}(z)/F(z)$  with weights which converge  $p$ -adically to 2. In other words,  $\tilde{F}(z)/F(z)$  is a  $p$ -adic modular form of weight 2.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 2.* In view of Definition 3.1, it suffices to produce a holomorphic modular form  $\mathcal{E}(z)$  on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  with algebraic  $p$ -integral coefficients for which  $\mathcal{E}(\tau_i) = 0$ , for each  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , which satisfies the congruence

$$\mathcal{E}(z) \equiv 1 \pmod{p}.$$

First we prove (1). For each  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , let  $A_i$  be the elliptic curve

$$A_i : y^2 = x^3 - 108j(\tau_i)(j(\tau_i) - 1728)x - 432j(\tau_i)(j(\tau_i) - 1728)^2. \quad (3.2)$$

Each  $A_i$  is defined over the number field  $\mathbb{Q}(j(\tau_i))$  with  $j$ -invariant  $j(\tau_i)$ . A simple calculation reveals that if  $\mathfrak{p}$  is a prime ideal above a prime  $p \geq 5$  in the integer ring of  $\mathbb{Q}(j(\tau_i))$  for which

$$j(\tau_i)(j(\tau_i) - 1728) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\mathfrak{p}}, \quad (3.3)$$

then  $A_i$  has good reduction at  $\mathfrak{p}$ . Suppose that  $p \geq 5$  is a prime which is inert or ramified in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$  satisfying (3.3) for every prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  above  $p$ . By the theory of complex multiplication [L, p. 182], it follows that  $j(\tau_i)$  is a supersingular  $j$ -invariant in  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ .

A famous observation of Deligne (see, for example [S1], [K-Z, Th. 1]) implies that every supersingular  $j$ -invariant in characteristic  $p$  is the reduction of  $j(Q)$  modulo  $p$  for some point  $Q$  which is a zero of  $E_{p-1}(z)$ . Therefore, there are points  $Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_s$  in the fundamental domain of the action of  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  (not necessarily distinct) for which  $E_{p-1}(Q_i) = 0$ , for all  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , with the additional property that

$$\prod_{i=1}^s (X - j(Q_i)) \equiv \prod_{i=1}^s (X - j(\tau_i)) \pmod{p} \quad (3.4)$$

in  $\mathbb{F}_p[X]$ . Now define  $\mathcal{E}(z)$  by

$$\mathcal{E}(z) := \prod_{i=1}^s \left( E_{p-1}(z) \cdot \frac{j(z) - j(\tau_i)}{j(z) - j(Q_i)} \right). \quad (3.5)$$

By Lemma 2.3 (2), (3.4) and (3.5), it follows that  $\mathcal{E}(\tau_i) = 0$  for each  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , and also satisfies the congruence  $\mathcal{E}(z) \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . Moreover,  $\mathcal{E}(z)$  is clearly a holomorphic modular form, and so  $F(z)$  is good at  $p$ . This proves (1).

Since  $j(i) = 1728$  (resp.  $j(\omega) = 0$ ), Lemma 2.3 shows that  $F(z)$  is good at every prime  $p \equiv 2, 3, 7, 11 \pmod{12}$  (resp.  $p \equiv 2, 3, 5, 11 \pmod{12}$ ). This proves (2).

To prove (3), one argues as in the proof of (1) and (2) using Lemma 2.3 (1, 3, 4), and the Gross and Zagier congruences [G-Z, Cor. 2.5]

$$\begin{aligned} |d| \equiv 3 \pmod{8} &\implies j(\tau_i) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{15}}, \\ |d| \equiv 1 \pmod{3} &\implies j(\tau_i) \equiv 1728 \pmod{3^6}. \end{aligned}$$



In view of (2), to prove (4) and (5) we may assume that

$$\prod_{i=1}^s j(\tau_i)(j(\tau_i) - 1728) \neq 0.$$

We use a classical theorem of Deuring on the reduction of differences of singular moduli modulo prime ideals  $\mathfrak{p}$ . In particular, if  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}) \notin \{\mathbb{Q}(i), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})\}$ , then since  $\{j(\tau_1), \dots, j(\tau_s)\}$  forms a complete set of Galois conjugates over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , Deuring's result implies that (see [C, Th. 13.21], [D])

$$\prod_{i=1}^s j(\tau_i) \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \implies p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \quad (3.6)$$

$$\prod_{i=1}^s (j(\tau_i) - 1728) \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \implies p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \quad (3.7)$$

The same conclusion in (3.6) (resp. (3.7)) holds if  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$  (resp.  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d}) = \mathbb{Q}(i)$ ) provided that  $p \nmid d$ . A straightforward modification of the proof of (1), using Lemma 2.3 (2, 3, 4), now proves that  $F(z)$  is good at  $p$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Corollary 3.* Since  $-D$  is fundamental, Theorem 2 shows that  $F(D; z)$  is good at the primes  $p$  as dictated by the statement of Corollary 3. Define integers  $A_D(n)$  by

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_D(n)q^n := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{d|n} c_D(d^2) dq^n. \quad (3.8)$$

Therefore, by the conclusion of Theorem 1 it follows that

$$-H(-D) - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_D(n)q^n \quad (3.9)$$

is a weight two  $p$ -adic modular form for the relevant primes  $p \leq 7$ .

Serre proved [S2, Th. 7], for certain  $p$ -adic modular forms, that the constant term of the Fourier expansion is essentially the  $p$ -adic limit of its Fourier coefficients at exponents which are  $p^{th}$  powers. In these cases we obtain

$$H(-D) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{24} \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} A_D(2^n) & \text{if } D \equiv 3 \pmod{8}, \\ \frac{1}{12} \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} A_D(3^n) & \text{if } D \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ \frac{1}{6} \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} A_D(5^n) & \text{if } D \equiv 0, 2, 3 \pmod{5}, \\ \frac{1}{4} \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} A_D(7^n) & \text{if } D \equiv 0, 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}$$

$\square$

#### 4. Some examples

*Example 4.1.* Let  $f(7; z) = \sum_{n=-7}^{\infty} c_7(n)q^n$  be the weight  $1/2$  modular form on  $\Gamma_0(4)$  defined in (1.3). Its  $q$ -expansion begins with the terms

$$f(z) = q^{-7} - 4119q + 8288256q^4 - 52756480q^5 + \cdots.$$

By the Borcherds isomorphism [B, Th. 14.1], there is a modular form of weight 0 on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  with a simple pole at  $\infty$  and a simple zero at  $z = (1 + \sqrt{-7})/2$  with the Fourier expansion

$$\begin{aligned} F(7; z) &= q^{-1} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^{c_7(n^2)} \\ &= \frac{1}{q} + 4119 + 196884q + 21493760q^2 + 864299970q^3 + \cdots \end{aligned}$$

Since  $j((1 + \sqrt{-7})/2) = -15^3 \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ , by the proof of Theorem 2 (4), there is a weight 6 holomorphic modular form on  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  which is congruent to

$$-1 - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{d|n} c_7(d^2) dq^n \equiv 4 + 4q + 2q^2 + q^3 + \cdots \pmod{5}.$$

This is  $4E_6(z) \pmod{5}$ , and so  $c_7(n^2) \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$  if  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ .

*Example 4.2.* Here we illustrate the class number formulas stated in Corollary 3. If  $D = 59$ , then we have that

$$\begin{aligned} f(59; z) &= q^{-59} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_{59}(n)q^n \\ &= q^{-59} - 30197680312q + 455950044005404355712q^4 + \cdots. \end{aligned}$$

By Corollary 3 (1), we have

$$H(-59) = 3 = \frac{1}{24} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_D(4^n) 2^n.$$

One easily checks that the first two terms satisfy

$$H(-59) = 3 \equiv \frac{1}{24} (-30197680312 + 455950044005404355712 \cdot 2) \pmod{2^9}.$$

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