

# LEMMAS FOR “RAMANUJAN’S FUNCTION ON SMALL PRIMES”.

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## 1. LEMMAS

The first lemma appears in (we believe) an erroneous form on page 119 of Adams’ reference work [A22]. Entry 0.313 of Gradshteyn’s and Ryzhik’s reference work [GR88] propagates Adams’ version. Neither book provides a proof or a citation to one. Both give the denominator of the fraction  $c_n$  as  $a_0^n$ , instead of what we think is the correct  $a_0^{n+1}$ . (We note that there is another formulation of the coefficient  $c_n$  in terms of a different determinant in Gholami’s article [Gh11].)

**Lemma 1.1** (corrected version of Adams [A22], entry 6.360). *Let  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k$  and  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k x^k$  be power series with  $a_0 \neq 0$ . If*

$$\left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k x^k \right) \Bigg/ \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k \right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k x^k,$$

*then  $c_n = (-1)^n |M_n| / a_0^{n+1}$ , where  $M_n$  is the  $n \times n$  matrix*

$$M_n = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 b_0 - a_0 b_1 & a_0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_2 b_0 - a_0 b_2 & a_1 & a_0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_3 b_0 - a_0 b_3 & a_2 & a_1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_n b_0 - a_0 b_n & a_{n-1} & a_{n-2} & \cdots & a_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

*Proof.* From the hypothesis,

$$(1) \quad \sum_{k=0}^j a_k c_{j-k} = b_j$$

for each  $j$ . Since  $c_0 = b_0/a_0$ ,

$$a_0 c_j + a_1 c_{j-1} + \cdots + a_{j-1} c_1 = (a_0 b_j - a_j b_0)/a_0,$$

so, for  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$(2) \quad \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_1 & a_0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_2 & a_1 & a_0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n-1} & a_{n-2} & a_{n-3} & \cdots & a_0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} (a_1 b_0 - a_0 b_1)/a_0 \\ (a_2 b_0 - a_0 b_2)/a_0 \\ (a_3 b_0 - a_0 b_3)/a_0 \\ \vdots \\ (a_n b_0 - a_0 b_n)/a_0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let

$$(3) \quad A_n = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_1 & a_0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_2 & a_1 & a_0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n-1} & a_{n-2} & a_{n-3} & \cdots & a_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and let

$$(4) \quad B_n = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -(a_1 b_0 - a_0 b_1)/a_0 \\ a_1 & a_0 & 0 & \cdots & -(a_2 b_0 - a_0 b_2)/a_0 \\ a_2 & a_1 & a_0 & \cdots & -(a_3 b_0 - a_0 b_3)/a_0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n-1} & a_{n-2} & a_{n-3} & \cdots & -(a_n b_0 - a_0 b_n)/a_0 \end{pmatrix},$$

so that

$$(5) \quad c_n = \frac{|B_n|}{|A_n|} = \frac{|B_n|}{a_0^n}.$$

Let

$$D_n = \begin{pmatrix} -(a_1 b_0 - a_0 b_1)/a_0 & a_0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ -(a_2 b_0 - a_0 b_2)/a_0 & a_1 & a_0 & \cdots & 0 \\ -(a_3 b_0 - a_0 b_3)/a_0 & a_2 & a_1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -(a_n b_0 - a_0 b_n)/a_0 & a_{n-1} & a_{n-2} & \cdots & a_1 \end{pmatrix},$$

so  $|D_n| = -|M_n|/a_0$  and  $|B_n| = (-1)^{n-1}|D_n|$ . Finally,

$$(6) \quad c_n = \frac{|B_n|}{a_0^n} = \frac{(-1)^{n-1}|D_n|}{a_0^n} = \frac{(-1)^{n-1}(-|M_n|/a_0)}{a_0^n} = \frac{(-1)^n}{a_0^{n+1}} |M_n|.$$

□

**Lemma 1.2.** *The equations below are equivalent. (We will refer to both of them as equation (D) in the sequel.) Let  $h_0 = 1$  and*

$$(D1) \quad nh_n = \sum_{r=1}^n j_r h_{n-r}$$

for  $n \geq 1$ . With  $H(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} h_n t^n$  and  $J(t) = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} j_r t^r$ ,

$$(D2) \quad t \frac{d}{dt} H(t) = H(t) J(t).$$

Claim: Equation (D1) implies equation (D2).

*Proof.* From equation (D1),

$$t \frac{d}{dt} H(t) = \sum_{n \geq 1} n h_n t^n = \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \sum_{r=1}^n j_r h_{n-r} \right) t^n,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{while } H(t)J(t) &= \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} h_k t^k \right) \left( \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} j_r t^r \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{\substack{k=n-r \\ k \geq 0 \\ r \geq 1}} h_k j_r \right) t^n = \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{\substack{n-r \geq 0 \\ r \geq 1}} h_{n-r} j_r \right) t^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{1 \leq r \leq n} h_{n-r} j_r \right) t^n. \end{aligned}$$

□

Claim: (D2) implies (D1).

*Proof.* Re-ordering some of the equations from the proof of the first claim, we have

$$\sum_{n \geq 1} n h_n t^n = t \frac{d}{dt} H(t) = H(t)J(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{1 \leq r \leq n} h_{n-r} j_r \right) t^n,$$

and the claim follows by equating coefficients. □

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