



## Some Remarks on Regular Integers Modulo $n$

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**Abstract.** An integer  $k$  is called regular (mod  $n$ ) if there exists an integer  $x$  such that  $k^2x \equiv k \pmod{n}$ . This holds true if and only if  $k$  possesses a weak order (mod  $n$ ), i.e., there is an integer  $m \geq 1$  such that  $k^{m+1} \equiv k \pmod{n}$ . Let  $\rho(n)$  denote the number of regular integers (mod  $n$ ) in the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . This is an analogue of Euler's  $\phi$  function. We introduce the multidimensional generalization of  $\rho$ , which is the analogue of Jordan's function. We establish identities for the power sums of regular integers (mod  $n$ ) and for some other finite sums and products over regular integers (mod  $n$ ), involving the Bernoulli polynomials, the Gamma function and the cyclotomic polynomials, among others. We also deduce an analogue of Menon's identity and investigate the maximal orders of certain related functions.

### 1. Introduction

Throughout the paper we use the notations:  $\mathbb{N} := \{1, 2, \dots\}$ ,  $\mathbb{N}_0 := \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}$  is the set of integers,  $[x]$  is the integer part of  $x$ ,  $\mathbf{1}$  is the function given by  $\mathbf{1}(n) = 1$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ),  $\text{id}$  is the function given by  $\text{id}(n) = n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ),  $\phi$  is Euler's totient function,  $\tau(n)$  is the number of divisors of  $n$ ,  $\mu$  is the Möbius function,  $\omega(n)$  stands for the number of prime factors of  $n$ ,  $\Lambda$  is the von Mangoldt function,  $\kappa(n) := \prod_{p|n} p$  is the largest squarefree divisor of  $n$ ,  $c_n(t)$  are the Ramanujan sums defined by  $c_n(t) := \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n, \gcd(k,n)=1} \exp(2\pi ikt/n)$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}, t \in \mathbb{Z}$ ),  $\zeta$  is the Riemann zeta function. Other notations will be fixed inside the paper.

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $k$  is called regular (mod  $n$ ) if there exists  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $k^2x \equiv k \pmod{n}$ . This holds true if and only if  $k$  possesses a weak order (mod  $n$ ), i.e., there is  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $k^{m+1} \equiv k \pmod{n}$ . Every  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  is regular (mod 1). If  $n > 1$  and its prime power factorization is  $n = p_1^{v_1} \cdots p_r^{v_r}$ , then  $k$  is regular (mod  $n$ ) if and only if for every  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$  either  $p_i \nmid k$  or  $p_i^{v_i} | k$ . Also,  $k$  is regular (mod  $n$ ) if and only if  $\gcd(k, n)$  is a unitary divisor of  $n$ . We recall that  $d$  is said to be a unitary divisor of  $n$  if  $d | n$  and  $\gcd(d, n/d) = 1$ , notation  $d || n$ . Note that if  $n$  is squarefree, then every  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  is regular (mod  $n$ ). See the papers [1, 14, 15, 20] for further discussion and properties of regular integers (mod  $n$ ), and their connection with the notion of regular elements of a ring in the sense of J. von Neumann.

An integer  $k$  is regular (mod  $n$ ) if and only if  $k + n$  is regular (mod  $n$ ). Therefore, it is justified to consider the set

$$\text{Reg}_n := \{k \in \mathbb{N} : 1 \leq k \leq n, k \text{ is regular (mod } n)\}$$

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and the quantity  $\varrho(n) := \#\text{Reg}_n$ . For example,  $\text{Reg}_{12} = \{1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12\}$  and  $\varrho(12) = 9$ . If  $n$  is squarefree, then  $\text{Reg}_n = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and  $\varrho(n) = n$ . Note that  $1, n \in \text{Reg}_n$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The arithmetic function  $\varrho$  is an analogue of Euler's  $\phi$  function, it is multiplicative and  $\varrho(p^\nu) = \phi(p^\nu) + 1 = p^\nu - p^{\nu-1} + 1$  for every prime power  $p^\nu$  ( $\nu \in \mathbb{N}$ ). Consequently,

$$\varrho(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} \phi(d) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}). \tag{1}$$

See, e.g., [13] for general properties of unitary divisors, in particular the unitary convolution of the arithmetic functions  $f$  and  $g$  defined by  $(f \times g)(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} f(d)g(n/d)$ . Here  $f \times g$  preserves the multiplicativity of the functions  $f$  and  $g$ . We refer to [20] for asymptotic properties of the function  $\varrho$ .

The function

$$\bar{c}_n(t) := \sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \exp(2\pi ikt/n) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, t \in \mathbb{Z}),$$

representing an analogue of the Ramanujan sum  $c_n(t)$  was investigated in the paper [8]. We have

$$\bar{c}_n(t) = \sum_{d \parallel n} c_d(t) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, t \in \mathbb{Z}).$$

It turns out that for every fixed  $t$  the function  $n \mapsto \bar{c}_n(t)$  is multiplicative,  $\bar{c}_n(0) = \varrho(n)$  and  $\bar{c}_n(1) = \bar{\mu}(n)$  is the characteristic function of the squarefull integers  $n$ .

The gcd-sum function is defined by  $P(n) := \sum_{k=1}^n \gcd(k, n) = \sum_{d \mid n} d \phi(n/d)$ , see [22]. The following analogue of the gcd-sum function was introduced in the paper [21]:

$$\tilde{P}(n) := \sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \gcd(k, n).$$

One has

$$\tilde{P}(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} d \phi(n/d) = n \prod_{p \mid n} \left(2 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}),$$

the asymptotic properties of  $\tilde{P}(n)$  being investigated in [10, 22, 26, 27].

In the present paper we discuss some further properties of the regular integers (mod  $n$ ). We first introduce the multidimensional generalization  $\varrho_r$  ( $r \in \mathbb{N}$ ) of the function  $\varrho$ , which is the analogue of the Jordan function  $\phi_r$ , where  $\phi_r(n)$  is defined as the number of ordered  $r$ -tuples  $(k_1, \dots, k_r) \in \{1, \dots, n\}^r$  such that  $\gcd(k_1, \dots, k_r)$  is prime to  $n$  (see, e.g., [13, 18]). Then we consider the sum  $S[\text{reg}]_r(n)$  of  $r$ -th powers of the regular integers (mod  $n$ ) belonging to  $\text{Reg}_n$ . In the case  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  we deduce an exact formula for  $S[\text{reg}]_r(n)$  involving the Bernoulli numbers  $B_m$ . For a positive real number  $r$  we derive an asymptotic formula for  $S[\text{reg}]_r(n)$ . We combine the functions  $\bar{c}_n(t)$  and  $\tilde{P}(n)$  defined above and establish identities for sums, respectively products over the integers in  $\text{Reg}_n$  concerning the Bernoulli polynomials  $B_m(x)$ , the Gamma function  $\Gamma$ , the cyclotomic polynomials  $\Phi_m(x)$  and certain trigonometric functions. We point out that for  $n$  squarefree these identities reduce to the corresponding ones over  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . We also deduce an analogue of Menon's identity and investigate the maximal orders of some related functions.

## 2. A Generalization of the Function $\varrho$

For  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $\varrho_r(n)$  be the number of ordered  $r$ -tuples  $(k_1, \dots, k_r) \in \{1, \dots, n\}^r$  such that  $\gcd(k_1, \dots, k_r)$  is regular (mod  $n$ ). If  $r = 1$ , then  $\varrho_1 = \varrho$ . The arithmetic function  $\varrho_r$  is the analogue of the Jordan function  $\phi_r$ , defined in the Introduction and verifying  $\phi_r(n) = n^r \prod_{p \mid n} (1 - 1/p^r)$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ).

**Proposition 2.1.** *i) For every  $r, n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,*

$$\varrho_r(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} \phi_r(d).$$

*ii) The function  $\varrho_r$  is multiplicative and for every prime power  $p^v$  ( $v \in \mathbb{N}$ ),*

$$\varrho_r(p^v) = p^{rv} - p^{r(v-1)} + 1.$$

*Proof.* i) The integer  $\gcd(k_1, \dots, k_r)$  is regular (mod  $n$ ) if and only if  $\gcd(\gcd(k_1, \dots, k_r), n) \parallel n$ , that is  $\gcd(k_1, \dots, k_r, n) \parallel n$  and grouping the  $r$ -tuples  $(k_1, \dots, k_r)$  according to the values  $\gcd(k_1, \dots, k_r, n) = d$  we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \varrho_r(n) &= \sum_{\substack{(k_1, \dots, k_r) \in \{1, \dots, n\}^r \\ \gcd(k_1, \dots, k_r) \text{ regular (mod } n)}} 1 = \sum_{d \parallel n} \sum_{\substack{(k_1, \dots, k_r) \in \{1, \dots, n\}^r \\ \gcd(k_1, \dots, k_r, n) = d}} 1 \\ &= \sum_{d \parallel n} \sum_{\substack{(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_r) \in \{1, \dots, n/d\}^r \\ \gcd(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_r, n/d) = 1}} 1, \end{aligned}$$

where the inner sum is  $\phi_r(n/d)$ , according to its definition.

ii) Follows at once by i).  $\square$

More generally, for a fixed real number  $s$  let  $\phi_s(n) = \sum_{d \mid n} d^s \mu(n/d)$  be the generalized Jordan function and define  $\varrho_s$  by

$$\varrho_s(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} \phi_s(d) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}). \tag{2}$$

The functions  $\phi_s$  and  $\varrho_s$  (which will be used in the next results of the paper) are multiplicative and for every prime power  $p^v$  ( $v \in \mathbb{N}$ ) one has  $\phi_s(p^v) = p^{sv} - p^{s(v-1)}$  and  $\varrho_s(p^v) = p^{sv} - p^{s(v-1)} + 1$ . Note that  $\phi_{-s}(n) = n^{-s} \prod_{p^v \parallel n} (1 - p^s)$  and  $\varrho_{-s}(n) = n^{-s} \prod_{p^v \parallel n} (p^{sv} - p^s + 1)$ .

**Proposition 2.2.** *If  $s > 1$  is a real number, then*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \varrho_s(n) = \frac{x^{s+1}}{s+1} \prod_p \left( 1 - \frac{1}{p^{s+1}} + \frac{p-1}{p(p^{s+1}-1)} \right) + O(x^s). \tag{3}$$

*Proof.* We need the following asymptotics. Let  $s > 0$  be fixed real number. Then uniformly for real  $x > 1$  and  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\phi_s(x, t) := \sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ \gcd(n, t) = 1}} \phi_s(n) = \frac{x^{s+1}}{(s+1)\zeta(s+1)} \cdot \frac{t^s \phi(t)}{\phi_{s+1}(t)} + O(x^s 2^{\omega(t)}). \tag{4}$$

To show (4) use the known estimate, valid for every fixed  $s > 0$  and  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\sum_{\substack{n \leq x \\ \gcd(n, t) = 1}} n^s = \frac{x^{s+1}}{s+1} \cdot \frac{\phi(t)}{t} + O(x^s 2^{\omega(t)}). \tag{5}$$

We obtain

$$\phi_s(x, t) = \sum_{\substack{de = n \leq x \\ \gcd(n, t) = 1}} \mu(d) e^s = \sum_{\substack{d \leq x \\ \gcd(d, t) = 1}} \mu(d) \sum_{\substack{e \leq x/d \\ \gcd(e, t) = 1}} e^s$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{\substack{d \leq x \\ \gcd(d,t)=1}} \mu(d) \left( \frac{(x/d)^{s+1}}{s+1} \cdot \frac{\phi(t)}{t} + O\left((x/d)^s 2^{\omega(t)}\right) \right) \\
 &= \frac{x^{s+1}}{s+1} \cdot \frac{\phi(t)}{t} \sum_{\substack{d=1 \\ \gcd(d,t)=1}}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(d)}{d^{s+1}} + O\left(x^{s+1} \sum_{d>x} \frac{1}{d^{s+1}}\right) + O\left(x^s 2^{\omega(t)}\right),
 \end{aligned}$$

giving (4). Now from (2) and (4),

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{n \leq x} \varrho_s(n) &= \sum_{\substack{de=n \leq x \\ \gcd(d,e)=1}} \phi_s(e) = \sum_{d \leq x} \sum_{\substack{e \leq x/d \\ \gcd(e,d)=1}} \phi_s(e) = \sum_{d \leq x} \phi_s(x/d, d) \\
 &= \frac{x^{s+1}}{(s+1)\zeta(s+1)} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{\phi(d)}{d\phi_{s+1}(d)} + O\left(x^{s+1} \sum_{d>x} \frac{\phi(d)}{d\phi_{s+1}(d)}\right) + O\left(x^s \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{2^{\omega(d)}}{d^s}\right),
 \end{aligned}$$

and for  $s > 1$  this leads to (3).  $\square$

Compare (3) to the corresponding formula for the Jordan function  $\phi_s$ , i.e., to (4) with  $t = 1$ .

**Remark 2.3.** For the function  $\varrho$  one has

$$\sum_{n \leq x} \varrho(n) = \frac{1}{2} \prod_p \left( 1 - \frac{1}{p^2(p+1)} \right) x^2 + R(x),$$

where  $R(x) = O(x \log^3 x)$  can be obtained by the elementary arguments given above. This can be improved into  $R(x) = O(x \log x)$  using analytic methods. See [20] for references.

### 3. A General Scheme

In order to give exact formulas for certain sums and products over the regular integers (mod  $n$ ) we first present a simple result for a general sum over  $\text{Reg}_n$ , involving a weight function  $w$  and an arithmetic function  $f$ . It would be possible to consider a more general sum, namely over the ordered  $r$ -tuples  $(k_1, \dots, k_r) \in \{1, \dots, n\}^r$  such that  $\gcd(k_1, \dots, k_r)$  is regular (mod  $n$ ), but we confine ourselves to the following result. See [24] for another similar scheme concerning weighted gcd-sum functions.

**Proposition 3.1.** *i) Let  $w : \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  and  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be arbitrary functions and consider the sum*

$$R_{w,f}(n) := \sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} w(k, n) f(\gcd(k, n)).$$

Then

$$R_{w,f}(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} f(d) \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ \gcd(j,n/d)=1}}^{n/d} w(dj, n) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}). \tag{6}$$

*ii) Assume that there is a function  $g : (0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  such that  $w(k, n) = g(k/n)$  ( $1 \leq k \leq n$ ) and let*

$$\bar{G}(n) = \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n g(k/n) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}).$$

Then

$$R_{w,f}(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} f(d) \bar{G}(n/d) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}). \tag{7}$$

*Proof.* i) Using that  $k$  is regular (mod  $n$ ) if and only if  $\gcd(k, n) \parallel n$  and grouping the terms according to the values of  $\gcd(k, n) = d$  and denoting  $k = dj$  we have at once

$$R_{w,f}(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} f(d) \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=d}}^n w(k, n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} f(d) \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ \gcd(j,n/d)=1}}^{n/d} w(dj, n).$$

ii) Now

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n/d} w(dj, n) = \sum_{j=1}^{n/d} g(j/(n/d)) = \bar{G}(n/d).$$

□

**Remark 3.2.** For the function  $g$  given above let

$$G(n) := \sum_{k=1}^n g(k/n).$$

Then we have

$$\bar{G}(n) = \sum_{d \mid n} \mu(d) G(n/d) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}). \tag{8}$$

Indeed, as it is well known,  $\bar{G}(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n g(k/n) \sum_{d \mid \gcd(k,n)} \mu(d)$ , giving (8).

#### 4. Power Sums of Regular Integers (mod $n$ )

In this section we investigate the sum of  $r$ -th powers ( $r \in \mathbb{N}$ ) of the regular integers (mod  $n$ ). Let  $B_m$  ( $m \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ) be the Bernoulli numbers defined by the exponential generating function

$$\frac{t}{e^t - 1} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} B_m \frac{t^m}{m!}.$$

Here  $B_0 = 1, B_1 = -1/2, B_2 = 1/6, B_4 = -1/30, B_m = 0$  for every  $m \geq 3, m$  odd and one has the recurrence relation

$$B_m = \sum_{j=0}^m \binom{m}{j} B_j \quad (m \geq 2). \tag{9}$$

It is well known that for every  $n, r \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} S_r(n) &:= \sum_{k=1}^n k^r = \frac{1}{r+1} \sum_{m=0}^r (-1)^m \binom{r+1}{m} B_m n^{r+1-m} \\ &= \frac{n^r}{2} + \frac{1}{r+1} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r+1}{2m} B_{2m} n^{r+1-2m}. \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

From here one obtains, using the same device as that given in Remark 3.2 that for every  $n, r \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$S[\text{relpr}]_r(n) := \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n k^r = \frac{n^r}{r+1} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r+1}{2m} B_{2m} \phi_{1-2m}(n), \tag{11}$$

where  $\phi_{1-2m}(n) = n^{1-2m} \prod_{p|n} (1 - p^{2m-1})$ . Formula (11) was given in [19]. Here we prove the following result.

**Proposition 4.1.** For every  $n, r \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$S[\text{reg}]_r(n) := \sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} k^r = \frac{n^r}{2} + \frac{n^r}{r+1} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r+1}{2m} B_{2m} \varrho_{1-2m}(n), \tag{12}$$

where

$$\varrho_{1-2m}(n) = n^{1-2m} \prod_{p^v \parallel n} (p^{(2m-1)v} - p^{2m-1} + 1)$$

is the generalized  $\varrho$  function, discussed in Section 2.

*Proof.* Applying (6) for  $w(k, n) = k^r$  and  $f = 1$  we have

$$S[\text{reg}]_r(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ \gcd(j,n/d)=1}}^{n/d} (dj)^r = \sum_{d \parallel n} d^r S[\text{relpr}]_r(n/d).$$

Now by (11) we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} S[\text{reg}]_r(n) &= n^r + \sum_{\substack{d \parallel n \\ d < n}} d^r \left( \frac{(n/d)^r}{r+1} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r+1}{2m} B_{2m} \phi_{1-2m}(n/d) \right) \\ &= n^r + \frac{n^r}{r+1} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r+1}{2m} B_{2m} \sum_{\substack{d \parallel n \\ d < n}} \phi_{1-2m}(n/d) \\ &= n^r + \frac{n^r}{r+1} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r+1}{2m} B_{2m} \sum_{\substack{d \parallel n \\ d > 1}} \phi_{1-2m}(d) \\ &= n^r - \frac{n^r}{r+1} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r+1}{2m} B_{2m} + \frac{n^r}{r+1} \sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r+1}{2m} B_{2m} \sum_{d \parallel n} \phi_{1-2m}(d). \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\sum_{d \parallel n} \phi_{1-2m}(n) = \varrho_{1-2m}(n)$  by (2). Also, by (9),

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r+1}{2m} B_{2m} = \frac{r+1}{2}$$

and this completes the proof.  $\square$

For example, in the cases  $r = 1, 2, 3, 4$  we deduce that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$S[\text{reg}]_1(n) = \frac{n(\varrho(n) + 1)}{2}, \tag{13}$$

$$S[\text{reg}]_2(n) = \frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{n^2 \varrho(n)}{3} + \frac{n}{6} \prod_{p^v \parallel n} (p^v - p + 1), \tag{14}$$

$$S[\text{reg}]_3(n) = \frac{n^3}{2} + \frac{n^3 \varrho(n)}{4} + \frac{n^2}{4} \prod_{p^v \parallel n} (p^v - p + 1),$$

$$S[\text{reg}]_4(n) = \frac{n^4}{2} + \frac{n^4 \varrho(n)}{5} + \frac{n^3}{3} \prod_{p^v \parallel n} (p^v - p + 1) - \frac{n}{30} \prod_{p^v \parallel n} (p^{3v} - p^3 + 1).$$

The formula (13) was obtained in [20, Th. 3] and [3, Sec. 2], while (14) was given in a different form in [3, Prop. 1]. Note that if  $n$  is squarefree, then (12) reduces to (10).

For a real number  $s$  consider now the slightly more general sum

$$S[\text{reg}]_s(n, x) := \sum_{\substack{k \leq x \\ k \text{ regular (mod } n)}} k^s.$$

**Proposition 4.2.** *Let  $s \geq 0$  be a fixed real number. Then uniformly for real  $x > 1$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,*

$$S[\text{reg}]_s(n, x) = \frac{x^{s+1}}{s+1} \cdot \frac{\varrho(n)}{n} + O(x^s 3^{\omega(n)}).$$

*Proof.* Similar to the proof of Proposition 3.1,

$$S[\text{reg}]_s(n, x) = \sum_{\substack{k \leq x \\ \gcd(k, n) \parallel n}} k^s = \sum_{d \parallel n} d^s \sum_{\substack{j \leq x/d \\ \gcd(j, n/d)=1}} j^s.$$

Now using the estimate (5) we deduce

$$S[\text{reg}]_s(n, x) = \sum_{d \parallel n} d^s \left( \frac{(x/d)^{s+1} \phi(n/d)}{(s+1)(n/d)} + O((x/d)^s 2^{\omega(n/d)}) \right)$$

$$= \frac{x^{s+1}}{(s+1)n} \sum_{d \parallel n} \phi(n/d) + O\left( x^s \sum_{d \parallel n} 2^{\omega(n/d)} \right),$$

and using (1) the proof is complete.  $\square$

## 5. Identities for other Sums and Products Over Regular Integers (mod $n$ )

### 5.1. Sums Involving Bernoulli Polynomials

Let  $B_m(x)$  ( $m \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ) be the Bernoulli polynomials defined by

$$\frac{te^{xt}}{e^t - 1} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} B_m(x) \frac{t^m}{m!}.$$

Here  $B_0(x) = 1$ ,  $B_1(x) = x - 1/2$ ,  $B_2(x) = x^2 - x + 1/6$ ,  $B_3(x) = x^3 - 3x^2/2 + x/2$ ,  $B_m(0) = B_m$  ( $m \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ) are the Bernoulli numbers already defined in Section 4 and one has the recurrence relation

$$B_m(x) = \sum_{j=0}^m \binom{m}{j} B_j x^{m-j} \quad (m \in \mathbb{N}_0).$$

It is well known (see, e.g., [5, Sect. 9.1]) that for every  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m \geq 2$ ,

$$T_m(n) := \sum_{k=1}^n B_m(k/n) = \frac{B_m}{n^{m-1}}. \tag{15}$$

Furthermore, applying (8) one obtains from (15) that for every  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}, m \geq 2$ ,

$$T[\text{relpr}]_m(n) := \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n B_m(k/n) = B_m\phi_{1-m}(n), \tag{16}$$

where  $\phi_{1-m}(n) = n^{1-m} \prod_{p|n} (1 - p^{m-1})$ . See [5, Sect. 9.9, Ex. 7]. We now show the validity of the next formula:

**Proposition 5.1.1** For every  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}, m \geq 2$ ,

$$T[\text{reg}]_m(n) := \sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} B_m(k/n) = B_m\varrho_{1-m}(n), \tag{17}$$

where  $\varrho_{1-m}(n) = n^{1-m} \prod_{p^v || n} (p^{(m-1)v} - p^{m-1} + 1)$ .

*Proof.* Choosing  $g(x) = B_m(x)$  and  $f = \mathbf{1}$  we deduce from (7) by using (16) that

$$\begin{aligned} T[\text{reg}]_m(n) &= \sum_{d||n} T[\text{relpr}]_m(d) \\ &= B_m \sum_{d||n} \phi_{1-m}(d) = B_m\varrho_{1-m}(n), \end{aligned}$$

according to (2).  $\square$

**Remark 5.1.2** In the case  $m = 1$  a direct computation and (13) show that  $T[\text{reg}]_1(n) = 1/2$ . Also, (17) can be put in the form

$$\sum_{\substack{k=0 \\ k \text{ regular (mod } n)}}^{n-1} B_m(k/n) = B_m\varrho_{1-m}(n),$$

which holds true for every  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ , also for  $m = 1$ .

### 5.2. Sums Involving gcd's and the exp Function

Consider in what follows the function

$$P[\text{reg}]_{f,t}(n) := \sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} f(\gcd(k, n)) \exp(2\pi ikt/n) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, t \in \mathbb{Z}),$$

where  $f$  is an arbitrary arithmetic function. For  $t = 0$  and  $f(n) = n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) we reobtain the function  $\widetilde{P}(n)$  and for  $f = \mathbf{1}$  we have  $\bar{c}_n(t)$ , the analogue of the Ramanujan sums, both given in the Introduction. We have

**Proposition 5.2.1** For every  $f$  and every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,

$$P[\text{reg}]_{f,t}(n) = \sum_{d||n} f(d)c_{n/d}(t).$$

If  $f$  is integer valued and multiplicative (in particular, if  $f = \text{id}$ ), then  $n \mapsto P[\text{reg}]_{f,t}(n)$  also has these properties.

*Proof.* Choosing  $g(x) = \exp(2\pi itx)$  from (7) we deduce at once that

$$P[\text{reg}]_{f,t}(n) = \sum_{d||n} f(d) \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ \gcd(j,n/d)=1}}^{n/d} \exp(2\pi ijt/(n/d)) = \sum_{d||n} f(d)c_{n/d}(t).$$

$\square$



For  $t = 1$  and  $f = \text{id}$  this gives the multiplicative function

$$P[\text{reg}]_{\text{id},1}(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} d\mu(n/d),$$

not investigated in the literature, as far as we know. Here  $P[\text{reg}]_{\text{id},1}(p^\nu) = p - 1$  for every prime  $p$  and  $P[\text{reg}]_{\text{id},1}(p^\nu) = p^\nu$  for every prime power  $p^\nu$  with  $\nu \geq 2$ .

**Proposition 5.2.2** *We have*

$$\sum_{n \leq x} P[\text{reg}]_{\text{id},1}(n) = \frac{x^2}{2} \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^2} + \frac{1}{p^3}\right) + O(x \log^2 x).$$

*Proof.* Using (5) for  $s = 1$  we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \leq x} P[\text{reg}]_{\text{id},1}(n) &= \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \sum_{\substack{\delta \leq x/d \\ \gcd(\delta,d)=1}} \delta \\ &= \sum_{d \leq x} \mu(d) \left( \frac{\phi(d)(x/d)^2}{2d} + O((x/d)2^{\omega(d)}) \right) \\ &= \frac{x^2}{2} \sum_{d=1}^{\infty} \frac{\mu(d)\phi(d)}{d^3} + O\left(x^2 \sum_{d>x} \frac{1}{d^2}\right) + O\left(x \sum_{d \leq x} \frac{2^{\omega(d)}}{d}\right), \end{aligned}$$

giving the result.  $\square$

### 5.3. An Analogue of Menon’s Identity

Our next result is the analogue of Menon’s identity ([12], see also [23])

$$\sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n \gcd(k-1, n) = \phi(n)\tau(n) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}). \tag{18}$$

**Proposition 5.3.1** *For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,*

$$\sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \gcd(k-1, n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} \phi(d)\tau(d) = \prod_{p^\nu \parallel n} (p^{\nu-1}(p-1)(\nu+1) + 1).$$

*Proof.* Applying (6) for  $w(k, n) = \gcd(k-1, n)$  and  $f = 1$  we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} S_n &:= \sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \gcd(k-1, n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ \gcd(j,n/d)=1}}^{n/d} \gcd(dj-1, n) \\ &= \sum_{d \parallel n} \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ \gcd(j,n/d)=1}}^{n/d} \gcd(dj-1, n/d), \end{aligned}$$

since  $\gcd(dj-1, d) = 1$  for every  $d$  and  $j$ . Now we use the identity

$$\sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n \gcd(ak-1, n) = \phi(n)\tau(n) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}),$$

valid for every fixed  $a \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $\gcd(a, n) = 1$ , see [23, Cor. 14] (for  $a = 1$  this reduces to (18)). Choose  $a = d$ . Since  $d \parallel n$  we have  $\gcd(d, n/d) = 1$  and obtain

$$S_n = \sum_{d \parallel n} \phi(n/d)\tau(n/d) = \sum_{d \parallel n} \phi(d)\tau(d).$$

□

#### 5.4. Trigonometric Sums

Further identities for sums over  $\text{Reg}_n$  can be derived. As examples, consider the following known trigonometric identities. For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2$ ,

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \cos^2\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = \frac{n}{2};$$

furthermore, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  odd number,

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \tan^2\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = n^2 - n;$$

and also for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  odd,

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \tan^4\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = \frac{1}{3}(n^4 - 4n^2 + 3n).$$

See, for example, [4] for a discussion and proofs of these identities. See [16, Appendix 3] for other similar identities. By the approach given in Remark 3.2 we deduce that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n \cos^2\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = \frac{\phi(n) + \mu(n)}{2};$$

for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  odd number,

$$\sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n \tan^2\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = \phi_2(n) - \phi(n);$$

and for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  odd,

$$\sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n \tan^4\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = \frac{1}{3}(\phi_4(n) - 4\phi_2(n) + 3\phi(n)).$$

This gives the next results. The proof is similar to the proofs given above.

**Proposition 5.4.1** *For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,*

$$\sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \cos^2\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = \frac{\varrho(n) + \bar{\mu}(n)}{2},$$

where  $\bar{\mu}(n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} \mu(d)$  is the characteristic function of the squarefull integers  $n$ , given in the Introduction.

**Proposition 5.4.2** For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  odd number,

$$\sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \tan^2\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = \varrho_2(n) - \varrho(n),$$

$$\sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \tan^4\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = \frac{1}{3}(\varrho_4(n) - 4\varrho_2(n) + 3\varrho(n)).$$

**5.5. The product of numbers in  $\text{Reg}_n$**

It is known (see, e.g., [16, p. 197, Ex. 24]) that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$Q[\text{relpr}](n) := \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n k = n^{\phi(n)} A(n), \tag{19}$$

where

$$A(n) = \prod_{d|n} (d!/d^d)^{\mu(n/d)}.$$

We show that

**Proposition 5.5.1** For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$Q[\text{reg}](n) := \prod_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} k = n^{\varrho(n)} \prod_{d|n} A(d).$$

*Proof.* Choosing  $w(k, n) = \log k$  and  $f = \mathbf{1}$  in Proposition 3.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \log Q[\text{reg}](n) &= \sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \log k = \sum_{d|n} \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ \gcd(j,n/d)=1}}^{n/d} \log(dj) \\ &= \sum_{d|n} (\phi(n/d) \log d + \log Q[\text{relpr}](n/d)) \\ &= \sum_{d|n} (\phi(d) \log(n/d) + \log Q[\text{relpr}](d)) \\ &= (\log n) \sum_{d|n} \phi(d) - \sum_{d|n} \phi(d) \log d + \sum_{d|n} \log Q[\text{relpr}](d). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$Q[\text{reg}](n) = n^{\varrho(n)} \prod_{d|n} \frac{Q[\text{relpr}](d)}{d^{\phi(d)}}.$$

Now the result follows from the identity (19).  $\square$

### 5.6. Products Involving the Gamma Function

Let  $\Gamma$  be the Gamma function defined for  $x > 0$  by

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty e^{-t} t^{x-1} dt.$$

It is well known that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$R(n) := \prod_{k=1}^n \Gamma(k/n) = \frac{(2\pi)^{(n-1)/2}}{\sqrt{n}}, \tag{20}$$

which is a consequence of Gauss' multiplication formula. For the  $q$ -analogs of the Gamma and Beta functions and the multiplication formula see the recent papers [6, 7] published in this journal. Furthermore, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$R[\text{relpr}](n) := \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n \Gamma(k/n) = \frac{(2\pi)^{\phi(n)/2}}{\exp(\Lambda(n)/2)}, \tag{21}$$

see [11, 17].

**Proposition 5.6.1** For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$R[\text{reg}](n) := \prod_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \Gamma(k/n) = \frac{(2\pi)^{(\varrho(n)-1)/2}}{\sqrt{\kappa(n)}}. \tag{22}$$

*Proof.* Choosing  $g = \log \Gamma$  and  $f = 1$  in (7) and using (21) we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} \log R[\text{reg}](n) &= \sum_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \log \Gamma(k/n) = \sum_{d \parallel n} \log R[\text{relpr}](d) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{d \parallel n \\ d > 1}} \left( \frac{\log 2\pi}{2} \phi(d) - \frac{1}{2} \Lambda(d) \right) \\ &= \sum_{d \parallel n} \left( \frac{\log 2\pi}{2} \phi(d) - \frac{1}{2} \Lambda(d) \right) - \frac{\log 2\pi}{2} = \frac{\log 2\pi}{2} (\varrho(n) - 1) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{d \parallel n} \Lambda(d), \end{aligned}$$

where the last sum is  $\log \kappa(n)$ .  $\square$

For squarefree  $n$  (22) reduces to (20).

### 5.7. Identities Involving Cyclotomic Polynomials

Let  $\Phi_n(x)$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) stand for the cyclotomic polynomials (see, e.g., [9, Ch. 13]) defined by

$$\Phi_n(x) = \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n (x - \exp(2\pi i k/n)).$$

Consider now the following analogue of the cyclotomic polynomials  $\Phi_n(x)$ :

$$\Phi[\text{reg}]_n(x) = \prod_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} (x - \exp(2\pi i k/n)).$$

The application of Proposition 3.1 gives the following result.

**Proposition 5.7.1** For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\Phi[\text{reg}]_n(x) = \prod_{d \parallel n} \Phi_d(x).$$

Here the degree of  $\Phi[\text{reg}]_n(x)$  is  $\varrho(n)$ . If  $n$  is squarefree, then  $\Phi[\text{reg}]_n(x) = x^n - 1$  and for example,  $\Phi[\text{reg}]_{12}(x) = \Phi_1(x)\Phi_3(x)\Phi_4(x)\Phi_{12}(x) = x^9 - x^6 + x^3 - 1$ .

It is well known that for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$U(n) := \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n \sin\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = \frac{\Phi_n(1)}{2^{\phi(n)}}, \tag{23}$$

where

$$\Phi_n(1) = \begin{cases} p, & n = p^v, v \geq 1, \\ 1, & \text{otherwise, i.e., if } \omega(n) \geq 2, \end{cases}$$

and for  $n \geq 3$ ,

$$V(n) := \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}}^n \cos\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right) = \frac{\Phi_n(-1)}{(-4)^{\phi(n)/2}}, \tag{24}$$

where

$$\Phi_n(-1) = \begin{cases} 2, & n = 2^v, \\ p, & n = 2p^v, p > 2 \text{ prime}, v \geq 1, \\ 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\prod_{k \in \text{Reg}_n} \sin(k\pi/n) = 0$ , since  $n \in \text{Reg}_n$ . This suggests to consider also the modified products

$$U[\text{regmod}](n) := \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \text{ regular (mod } n)}}^{n-1} \sin\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right),$$

$$V[\text{regmod}](n) := \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \text{ regular (mod } n)}}^{n-1} \cos\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right).$$

We show that  $U[\text{regmod}](n)$  is nonzero for every  $n \geq 2$ . More precisely, define the modified polynomials

$$\Phi[\text{regmod}]_n(x) = (x - 1)^{-1} \Phi[\text{reg}]_n(x) = \prod_{\substack{d \parallel n \\ d > 1}} \Phi_d(x).$$

Here, for example,  $\Phi[\text{regmod}]_{12}(x) = \Phi_3(x)\Phi_4(x)\Phi_{12}(x) = x^8 + x^7 + x^6 + x^2 + x + 1$ . All of the polynomials  $\Phi[\text{regmod}]_n(x)$  have symmetric coefficients. By arguments similar to those leading to the formulas (23) and (24) we obtain the following identities.

**Proposition 5.7.2** For every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,

$$U[\text{regmod}](n) = \frac{\Phi[\text{regmod}]_n(1)}{2^{\varrho(n)-1}} = \frac{\kappa(n)}{2^{\varrho(n)-1}},$$

and for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq 3$  odd,

$$V[\text{regmod}](n) = \frac{\Phi[\text{regmod}]_n(-1)}{(-4)^{(\varrho(n)-1)/2}} = (-1/4)^{(\varrho(n)-1)/2}.$$

Note that  $\varrho(n)$  is odd for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  odd.

### 6. Maximal Orders of Certain Functions

Let  $\sigma(n)$  be the sum of divisors of  $n$  and let  $\psi(n) = n \prod_{p|n} (1 + 1/p)$  be the Dedekind function. The following open problems were formulated in [2]: What are the maximal orders of the functions  $\varrho(n)\sigma(n)$  and  $\varrho(n)\psi(n)$ ? The answer is the following:

**Proposition 6.1.**

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varrho(n)\sigma(n)}{n^2 \log \log n} = \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varrho(n)\psi(n)}{n^2 \log \log n} = \frac{6}{\pi^2} e^\gamma,$$

where  $\gamma$  is the Euler-Mascheroni constant.

*Proof.* Apply the following general result, see [25, Cor. 1]: If  $f$  is a nonnegative real-valued multiplicative arithmetic function such that for each prime  $p$ ,

- i)  $\rho(p) := \sup_{v \geq 0} f(p^v) \leq (1 - 1/p)^{-1}$ , and
  - ii) there is an exponent  $e_p = p^{o(1)} \in \mathbb{N}$  satisfying  $f(p^{e_p}) \geq 1 + 1/p$ ,
- then

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{\log \log n} = e^\gamma \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right) \rho(p).$$

Take  $f(n) = \varrho(n)\sigma(n)/n^2$ . Here  $f(p) = 1 + 1/p$  and  $f(p^v) = 1 + 1/p^v + 1/p^{v+2} + 1/p^{v+3} + \dots + 1/p^{2v} < 1 + 1/p$  for every prime  $p$  and every  $v \geq 2$ . This shows that  $\rho(p) = 1 + 1/p$  and obtain that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{\log \log n} = e^\gamma \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{p^2}\right) = \frac{6}{\pi^2} e^\gamma.$$

The proof is similar for the function  $g(n) = \varrho(n)\psi(n)/n^2$ . In fact,  $g(p) = f(p) = 1 + 1/p$  and  $g(p^v) \leq f(p^v)$  for every prime  $p$  and every  $v \geq 2$ , therefore the result for  $g(n)$  follows from the previous one.  $\square$

**Remark 6.2.** Let  $\sigma_s(n) = \sum_{d|n} d^s$ . Then for every real  $s > 1$ ,

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varrho_s(n)\sigma_s(n)}{n^{2s}} = \frac{\zeta(s)}{\zeta(2s)}.$$

This follows by observing that for  $f_s(n) = \varrho_s(n)\sigma_s(n)/n^{2s}$ ,  $f_s(p) = 1 + 1/p^s$  and  $f_s(p^v) = 1 + 1/p^{sv} + 1/p^{s(v+2)} + 1/p^{s(v+3)} + \dots + 1/p^{2sv} < 1 + 1/p^s$  for every prime  $p$  and every  $v \geq 2$ . Hence, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$f_s(n) \leq \prod_{p|n} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p^s}\right) < \prod_p \left(1 + \frac{1}{p^s}\right) = \frac{\zeta(s)}{\zeta(2s)},$$

and the lim sup is attained for  $n = n_k = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq k} p_j$  with  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $p_j$  is the  $j$ -th prime.

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