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# On the parity of generalized partition functions, III

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Résumé. Dans cet article, nous complétons les résultats de J.-L. Nicolas [15], en déterminant tous les éléments de l'ensemble  $\mathcal{A}=\mathcal{A}(1+z+z^3+z^4+z^5)$  pour lequel la fonction de partition  $p(\mathcal{A},n)$  (c-à-d le nombre de partitions de n en parts dans  $\mathcal{A}$ ) est paire pour tout  $n\geq 6$ . Nous donnons aussi un équivalent asymptotique à la fonction de décompte de cet ensemble.

ABSTRACT. Improving on some results of J.-L. Nicolas [15], the elements of the set  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(1+z+z^3+z^4+z^5)$ , for which the partition function  $p(\mathcal{A},n)$  (i.e. the number of partitions of n with parts in  $\mathcal{A}$ ) is even for all  $n \geq 6$  are determined. An asymptotic estimate to the counting function of this set is also given.

### 1. Introduction.

Let  $\mathbb{N}$  (resp.  $\mathbb{N}_0$ ) be the set of positive (resp. non-negative) integers. If  $\mathcal{A} = \{a_1, a_2, ...\}$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $p(\mathcal{A}, n)$  is the number of partitions of n with parts in  $\mathcal{A}$ , i.e., the number of solutions of the diophantine equation

$$(1.1) a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \ldots = n,$$

in non-negative integers  $x_1, x_2, ...$  As usual we set p(A, 0) = 1. The counting function of the set A will be denoted by A(x), i.e.,

$$(1.2) A(x) = |\{n \le x, n \in \mathcal{A}\}|.$$

Let  $\mathbb{F}_2$  be the field with 2 elements,  $P = 1 + \epsilon_1 z^1 + ... + \epsilon_N z^N \in \mathbb{F}_2[z], N \ge 1$ . Although it is not difficult to prove (cf. [14], [5]) that there is a unique subset

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 $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(P)$  of  $\mathbb{N}$  such that the generating function F(z) satisfies

(1.3) 
$$F(z) = F_{\mathcal{A}}(z) = \prod_{a \in \mathcal{A}} \frac{1}{1 - z^a} = \sum_{n \ge 0} p(\mathcal{A}, n) z^n \equiv P(z) \pmod{2},$$

the determination of the elements of such sets for general P's seems to be hard.

Let the decomposition of P into irreducible factors over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  be

$$(1.4) P = P_1^{\alpha_1} P_2^{\alpha_2} ... P_l^{\alpha_l}.$$

We denote by  $\beta_i = \operatorname{ord}(P_i)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq l$ , the order of  $P_i$ , that is the smallest positive integer  $\beta_i$  such that  $P_i(z)$  divides  $1 + z^{\beta_i}$  in  $\mathbb{F}_2[z]$ . It is known that  $\beta_i$  is odd (cf. [13]). We set

$$\beta = \operatorname{lcm}(\beta_1, \beta_2, ..., \beta_l).$$

Let  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(P)$  satisfy (1.3) and  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}, n)$  be the sum of the divisors of n belonging to  $\mathcal{A}$ , i.e.,

(1.6) 
$$\sigma(\mathcal{A}, n) = \sum_{d|n, d \in \mathcal{A}} d = \sum_{d|n} d\chi(\mathcal{A}, d),$$

where  $\chi(\mathcal{A}, \cdot)$  is the characteristic function of the set  $\mathcal{A}$ , i.e,  $\chi(\mathcal{A}, d) = 1$  if  $d \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $\chi(\mathcal{A}, d) = 0$  if  $d \notin \mathcal{A}$ . It was proved in [6] (see also [4], [12]) that for all  $k \geq 0$ , the sequence  $(\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k n) \mod 2^{k+1})_{n \geq 1}$  is periodic with period  $\beta$  defined by (1.5), in other words, (1.7)

$$n_1 \equiv n_2 \pmod{\beta} \Rightarrow \forall k \geq 0, \ \sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k n_1) \equiv \sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k n_2) \pmod{2^{k+1}}.$$

Moreover, the proof of (1.7) in [6] allows to calculate  $\sigma(A, 2^k n) \mod 2^{k+1}$  and to deduce the value of  $\chi(A, n)$  where n is any positive integer. Indeed, let

$$(1.8) S_A(m,k) = \chi(A,m) + 2\chi(A,2m) + \ldots + 2^k \chi(A,2^k m).$$

If n writes  $n = 2^k m$  with  $k \ge 0$  and m odd, (1.6) implies

(1.9) 
$$\sigma(\mathcal{A}, n) = \sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k m) = \sum_{d \mid m} dS_{\mathcal{A}}(d, k),$$

which, by Möbius inversion formula, gives

(1.10) 
$$mS_{\mathcal{A}}(m,k) = \sum_{d \mid m} \mu(d)\sigma(\mathcal{A}, \frac{n}{d}) = \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}} \mu(d)\sigma(\mathcal{A}, \frac{n}{d}),$$

where  $\overline{m} = \prod_{p \mid m} p$  denotes the radical of m with  $\overline{1} = 1$ .

In the above sums,  $\frac{n}{d}$  is always a multiple of  $2^k$ , so that, from the values of  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}, \frac{n}{d})$ , by (1.10), one can determine the value of  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(m, k) \mod 2^{k+1}$  and by (1.8), the value of  $\chi(\mathcal{A}, 2^i m)$  for all  $i, i \leq k$ .

Let  $\beta$  be an odd integer  $\geq 3$  and  $(\mathbb{Z}/\beta\mathbb{Z})^*$  be the group of invertible elements modulo  $\beta$ . We denote by < 2 > the subgroup of  $(\mathbb{Z}/\beta\mathbb{Z})^*$  generated by 2 and consider its action  $\star$  on the set  $\mathbb{Z}/\beta\mathbb{Z}$  given by  $a\star x=ax$  for all  $a\in <2>$  and  $x\in \mathbb{Z}/\beta\mathbb{Z}$ . The quotient set will be denoted by  $(\mathbb{Z}/\beta\mathbb{Z})/_{<2>}$  and the orbit of some n in  $\mathbb{Z}/\beta\mathbb{Z}$  by O(n). For  $P\in \mathbb{F}_2[z]$  with P(0)=1 and  $\mathrm{ord}(P)=\beta$ , let A=A(P) be the set obtained from (1.3). Property (1.7) shows (after [3]) that if  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are in the same orbit then

(1.11) 
$$\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k n_1) \equiv \sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k n_2) \pmod{2^{k+1}}, \ \forall k \geq 0.$$

Consequently, for fixed k, the number of distinct values that  $(\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k n) \mod 2^{k+1})_{n\geq 1}$  can take is at most equal to the number of orbits of  $\mathbb{Z}/\beta\mathbb{Z}$ .

Let  $\varphi$  be the Euler function and s be the order of 2 modulo  $\beta$ , i.e., the smallest positive integer s such that  $2^s \equiv 1 \pmod{\beta}$ . If  $\beta = p$  is a prime number then  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^*$  is cyclic and the number of orbits of  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  is equal to 1+r with  $r=\frac{\varphi(p)}{s}=\frac{p-1}{s}$ . In this case, we have

$$(1.12) (\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})/_{\leq 2} = \{O(g), O(g^2), ..., O(g^r) = O(1), O(p)\},$$

where g is some generator of  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^*$ . For r=2, the sets  $\mathcal{A}=\mathcal{A}(P)$  were completely determined by N. Baccar, F. Ben Saïd and J.-L. Nicolas ([2], [8]). Moreover, N. Baccar proved in [1] that for all  $r\geq 2$ , the elements of  $\mathcal{A}$  of the form  $2^k m$ ,  $k\geq 0$  and m odd, are determined by the 2-adic development of some root of a polynomial with integer coefficients. Unfortunately, his results are not explicit and do not lead to any evaluation of the counting function of the set  $\mathcal{A}$ . When r=6, J.-L. Nicolas determined (cf. [15]) the odd elements of  $\mathcal{A}=\mathcal{A}(1+z+z^3+z^4+z^5)$ . His results (which will be stated in Section 2, Theorem 2.1) allowed to deduce a lower bound for the counting function of  $\mathcal{A}$ . In this paper, we will consider the case p=31 which satisfies r=6. In  $\mathbb{F}_2[z]$ , we have

(1.13) 
$$\frac{1-z^{31}}{1-z} = P^{(1)}P^{(2)}...P^{(6)},$$

with

$$P^{(1)} = 1 + z + z^3 + z^4 + z^5, \ P^{(2)} = 1 + z + z^2 + z^4 + z^5, P^{(3)} = 1 + z^2 + z^3 + z^4 + z^5,$$

$$P^{(4)} = 1 + z + z^2 + z^3 + z^5, P^{(5)} = 1 + z^2 + z^5, P^{(6)} = 1 + z^3 + z^5$$

In fact, there are other primes p with r=6. For instance, p=223 and p=433.

In Section 2, for  $A = A(P^{(1)})$ , we evaluate the sum  $S_A(m, k)$  which will lead to results of Section 3 determining the elements of the set A. Section 4 will be devoted to the determination of an asymptotic estimate to the counting function A(x) of A. Although, in this paper, the computations

are only carried out for  $P=P^{(1)}$ , the results could probably be extended to any  $P^{(i)}$ ,  $1 \le i \le 6$ , and more generally, to any polynomial P of order p and such that r=6.

**Notation.** We write  $a \mod b$  for the remainder of the euclidean division of a by b. The ceiling of the real number x is denoted by

$$\lceil x \rceil = \inf\{n \in \mathbb{Z}, \ x \le n\}.$$

2. The sum  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(m,k)$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(1+z+z^3+z^4+z^5)$ .

From now on, we take A = A(P) with

(2.1) 
$$P = P^{(1)} = 1 + z + z^3 + z^4 + z^5.$$

The order of P is  $\beta=31$ . The smallest primitive root modulo 31 is 3 that we shall use as a generator of  $(\mathbb{Z}/31\mathbb{Z})^*$ . The order of 2 modulo 31 is s=5 so that

(2.2) 
$$(\mathbb{Z}/31\mathbb{Z})/_{<2>} = \{O(3), O(3^2), ..., O(3^6) = O(1), O(31)\},$$

with

$$(2.3) O(3^j) = \{2^k 3^j, \ 0 \le k \le 4\}, \ 1 \le j \le 6$$

and

$$(2.4) O(31) = \{31\}.$$

For  $k \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq j \leq 5$ , we define the integers  $u_{k,j}$  by

(2.5) 
$$u_{k,j} = \sigma(A, 2^k 3^j) \mod 2^{k+1}.$$

The Graeffe transformation. Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a field and  $\mathbb{K}[[z]]$  be the ring of formal power series with coefficients in  $\mathbb{K}$ . For an element

$$f(z) = a_0 + a_1 z + a_2 z^2 + \ldots + a_n z^n + \ldots$$

of this ring, the product

$$f(z)f(-z) = b_0 + b_1 z^2 + b_2 z^4 + \dots + b_n z^{2n} + \dots$$

is an even power series. We shall call G(f) the series

(2.6) 
$$\mathcal{G}(f)(z) = b_0 + b_1 z + b_2 z^2 + \ldots + b_n z^n + \ldots$$

It follows immediately from the above definition that for  $f, g \in \mathbb{K}[[z]]$ ,

(2.7) 
$$\mathcal{G}(fg) = \mathcal{G}(f)\mathcal{G}(g).$$

Moreover if q is an odd integer and  $f(z) = 1 - z^q$ , we have  $\mathcal{G}(f) = f$ . We shall use the following notation for the iterates of f by  $\mathcal{G}$ :

$$(2.8) f_{(0)} = f, f_{(1)} = \mathcal{G}(f), \dots, f_{(k)} = \mathcal{G}(f_{(k-1)}) = \mathcal{G}^{(k)}(f).$$

More details about the Graeffe transformation are given in [6]. By making the logarithmic derivative of formula (1.3), we get (cf. [14]):

(2.9) 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sigma(\mathcal{A}, n) z^n = z \frac{F'(z)}{F(z)} \equiv z \frac{P'(z)}{P(z)} \pmod{2},$$

which, by Propositions 2 and 3 of [6], leads to

(2.10)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k n) z^n \equiv z \frac{P'_{(k)}(z)}{P_{(k)}(z)} = \frac{z}{1 - z^{31}} \left( P'_{(k)}(z) W_{(k)}(z) \right) \pmod{2^{k+1}},$$

with  $P'_{(k)}(z) = \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}z}(P_{(k)}(z))$  and

(2.11) 
$$W(z) = (1-z)P^{(2)}(z)...P^{(6)}(z).$$

Formula (2.10) proves (1.11) with  $\beta = 31$ , and the computation of the k-th iterates  $P_{(k)}$  and  $W_{(k)}$  by the Graeffe transformation yields the value of  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k n) \mod 2^{k+1}$ . For instance, for k = 11, we obtain:

$$u_{k,0} = 1183, \ u_{k,1} = 1598, \ u_{k,2} = 1554, \ u_{k,3} = 845, \ u_{k,4} = 264, \ u_{k,5} = 701.$$

A divisor of  $2^k 3^j$  is either a divisor of  $2^{k-1} 3^j$  or a multiple of  $2^k$ . Therefore, from (2.5) and (1.6),  $u_{k,j} \equiv u_{k-1,j} \pmod{2^k}$  holds and the sequence  $(u_{k,i})_{k>0}$  defines a 2-adic integer  $U_j$  satisfying for all k's:

$$(2.12) U_j \equiv u_{k,j} \; (\text{mod } 2^{k+1}), \; 0 \le j \le 5.$$

It has been proved in [1] that the  $U_i$ 's are the roots of the polynomial

$$R(y) = y^6 - y^5 + 3y^4 - 11y^3 + 44y^2 - 36y + 32.$$

Note that  $R(y)^5$  is the resultant in z of  $\phi_{31}(z) = 1 + z + ... + z^{30}$  and  $y + z + z^2 + z^4 + z^8 + z^{16}$ .

Let us set

$$\theta = U_0 = 1 + 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + 2^4 + 2^7 + 2^{10} + \dots$$

It turns out that the Galois group of R(y) is cyclic of order 6 and therefore the other roots  $U_1, ..., U_5$  of R(y) are polynomials in  $\theta$ . With Maple, by factorizing R(y) on  $\mathbb{Q}[\theta]$  and using the values of  $u_{11,j}$ , we get

$$U_0 = \theta \equiv 1183 \pmod{2^{11}}$$

$$U_1 = \frac{1}{32}(3\theta^5 + 5\theta^3 - 36\theta^2 + 84\theta) \equiv 1598 \pmod{2^{11}}$$

$$U_2 = \frac{1}{32}(-3\theta^5 - 5\theta^3 + 20\theta^2 - 100\theta) \equiv 1554 \pmod{2^{11}}$$

$$U_3 = \frac{1}{32}(-\theta^5 - 7\theta^3 + 12\theta^2 - 44\theta + 32) \equiv 845 \pmod{2^{11}}$$

$$U_4 = \frac{1}{32}(-\theta^5 + 4\theta^4 + \theta^3 + 24\theta^2 - 68\theta + 96) \equiv 264 \pmod{2^{11}}$$

(2.13)  $U_5 = \frac{1}{16}(\theta^5 - 2\theta^4 + 3\theta^3 - 10\theta^2 + 48\theta - 48) \equiv 701 \pmod{2^{11}}.$ 

For convenience, if  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we shall set

$$(2.14) U_j = U_{j \bmod 6}.$$

We define the completely additive function  $\ell: \mathbb{Z} \setminus 31\mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$  by

(2.15) 
$$\ell(n) = j \quad \text{if } n \in O(3^j),$$

so that  $\ell(n_1n_2) \equiv \ell(n_1) + \ell(n_2)$  (mod 6). We split the odd primes different from 31 into six classes according to the value of  $\ell$ . More precisely, for  $0 \le j \le 5$ ,

$$(2.16) p \in \mathcal{P}_j \iff \ell(p) = j \iff p \equiv 2^k 3^j \pmod{31}, \ k = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4.$$

We take  $L: \mathbb{N} \setminus 31\mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  to be the completely additive function defined on primes by

$$(2.17) L(p) = \ell(p).$$

We define, for  $0 \le j \le 5$ , the additive function  $\omega_j : \mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  by

(2.18) 
$$\omega_{j}(n) = \sum_{p|n, \ p \in \mathcal{P}_{j}} 1 = \sum_{p|n, \ \ell(p)=j} 1,$$

and  $\omega(n) = \omega_0(n) + ... + \omega_5(n) = \sum_{p|n} 1$ . We remind that additive functions vanish on 1.

From (2.5), (2.3), (1.11) and (2.12), it follows that if  $n = 2^k m \in O(3^j)$  (so that  $j = \ell(n) = \ell(m)$ ),

(2.19) 
$$\sigma(\mathcal{A}, n) = \sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k m) \equiv U_{\ell(m)} \pmod{2^{k+1}}.$$

We may consider the 2-adic number

(2.20)  $S(m) = S_{\mathcal{A}}(m) = \chi(\mathcal{A}, m) + 2\chi(\mathcal{A}, 2m) + ... + 2^k \chi(\mathcal{A}, 2^k m) + ...$  satisfying from (1.8),

$$(2.21) S(m) \equiv S_{\mathcal{A}}(m,k) \pmod{2^{k+1}}.$$

Then (1.10) implies for gcd(m, 31) = 1,

(2.22) 
$$mS(m) = \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}} \mu(d) U_{\ell(\frac{m}{d})}.$$

If 31 divides m, it was proved in [3, (3.6)] that, for all k's,

(2.23) 
$$\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k m) \equiv -5 \pmod{2^{k+1}}.$$

Remark 2.1. No element of A has a prime factor in  $P_0$ . This general result has been proved in [3], but we recall the proof on our example: let us assume that  $n = 2^k m \in A$ , where m is an odd integer divisible by some prime p in  $P_0$ , in other words  $\omega_0(m) \ge 1$ . (1.10) gives

$$mS_{\mathcal{A}}(m,k) = \sum_{d \mid m} \mu(d)\sigma\left(\mathcal{A}, \frac{n}{d}\right) = \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}} \mu(d)\sigma\left(\mathcal{A}, 2^{k} \frac{m}{d}\right)$$
$$= \sum_{d \mid \frac{\overline{m}}{p}} \mu(d)\sigma\left(\mathcal{A}, 2^{k} \frac{m}{d}\right) + \sum_{d \mid \frac{\overline{m}}{p}} \mu(pd)\sigma\left(\mathcal{A}, 2^{k} \frac{m}{pd}\right)$$
$$= \sum_{d \mid \frac{\overline{m}}{p}} \mu(d)\left(\sigma\left(\mathcal{A}, 2^{k} \frac{m}{d}\right) - \sigma\left(\mathcal{A}, 2^{k} \frac{m}{pd}\right)\right).$$

In the above sum, both  $\frac{m}{d}$  and  $\frac{m}{pd}$  are in the same orbit, so that from (1.11),  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k \frac{m}{d}) \equiv \sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k \frac{m}{pd}) \pmod{2^{k+1}}$  and therefore  $mS_{\mathcal{A}}(m, k) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{k+1}}$ . Since m is odd and (cf. (1.8))  $0 \leq S_{\mathcal{A}}(m, k) < 2^{k+1}$  then  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(m, k) = 0$ , so that by (1.8),  $2^h m \notin \mathcal{A}$ , for all  $0 \leq h \leq k$ .

In [15], J.-L. Nicolas has described the odd elements of A. In fact, he obtained the following:

## Theorem 2.1. ([15])

(a) The odd elements of A which are primes or powers of primes are of the form  $p^{\lambda}$ ,  $\lambda \geq 1$ , satisfying one of the following four conditions:

$$p \in \mathcal{P}_1$$
 and  $\lambda \equiv 1, 3, 4, 5 \pmod{6}$   
 $p \in \mathcal{P}_2$  and  $\lambda \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{3}$   
 $p \in \mathcal{P}_4$  and  $\lambda \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{3}$   
 $p \in \mathcal{P}_5$  and  $\lambda \equiv 0, 2, 3, 4 \pmod{6}$ .

(b) No odd element of A is a multiple of  $31^2$ . If m is odd,  $m \neq 1$ , and not a multiple of 31, then

$$m \in \mathcal{A}$$
 if and only if  $31m \in \mathcal{A}$ .

- (c) An odd element  $n \in A$  satisfies  $\omega_0(n) = 0$  and  $\omega_3(n) = 0$  or 1; in other words, n is free of prime factor in  $\mathcal{P}_0$  and has at most one prime factor in  $\mathcal{P}_3$ .
- (d) The odd elements of A different from 1, not divisible by 31, which are not primes or powers of primes are exactly the odd n's,  $n \neq 1$ , such that (where  $\overline{n} = \prod_{p|n} p$ ):
  - (1)  $\omega_0(n) = 0$  and  $\omega_3(n) = 0$  or 1.
  - (2) If  $\omega_3(n) = 1$  then  $\ell(n) + \ell(\overline{n}) \equiv 0$  or 1 (mod 3).

(3) If  $\omega_3(n) = 0$  and  $\omega_1(n) + \ell(n) - \ell(\overline{n})$  is even then

$$2\ell(n) - \ell(\overline{n}) \equiv 2 \text{ or } 3 \text{ or } 4 \text{ or } 5 \pmod{6}.$$

(4) If  $\omega_3(n) = 0$  and  $\omega_1(n) + \ell(n) - \ell(\overline{n})$  is odd then  $2\ell(n) - \ell(\overline{n}) \equiv 0 \text{ or } 4 \text{ (mod 6)}.$ 

**Remark 2.2.** Point (b) of Theorem 2.1 can be improved in the following way: No element of A is a multiple of  $31^2$ . Indeed, from (1.10), we have for m odd,  $k \ge 0$  and  $\tau \ge 2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} 31^{\tau} m S_{\mathcal{A}}(31^{\tau} m, k) &= \sum_{d \mid 31^{\tau} m} \mu(d) \sigma \left( \mathcal{A}, 2^{k} 31^{\tau} \frac{m}{d} \right) \\ &= \sum_{d \mid 31 \overline{m}} \mu(d) \sigma \left( \mathcal{A}, 2^{k} 31^{\tau} \frac{m}{d} \right) \\ &= \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}} \mu(d) \left\{ \sigma \left( \mathcal{A}, 2^{k} 31^{\tau} \frac{m}{d} \right) - \sigma \left( \mathcal{A}, 2^{k} 31^{\tau - 1} \frac{m}{d} \right) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $31^{\tau}\frac{m}{d}$  and  $31^{\tau-1}\frac{m}{d}$  are in the same orbit O(31) then (1.11) and (2.23) give  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k 31^{\tau}\frac{m}{d}) \equiv \sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^k 31^{\tau-1}\frac{m}{d}) \equiv -5 \pmod{2^{k+1}}$ , so that we get  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(31^{\tau}m, k) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{k+1}}$ . Hence, from (1.8),  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(31^{\tau}m, k) = 0$  and for all  $0 \leq h \leq k$  and all  $\tau \geq 2$ ,  $2^h 31^{\tau}m$  does not belong to  $\mathcal{A}$ .

In view of stating Theorem 2.2 which will extend Theorem 2.1, we shall need some notation. The radical  $\overline{m}$  of an odd integer  $m \neq 1$ , not divisible by 31 and free of prime factors belonging to  $\mathcal{P}_0$  will be written (2.24)

$$\overline{m} = p_1 \dots p_{\omega_1} p_{\omega_1 + 1} \dots p_{\omega_1 + \omega_2} p_{\omega_1 + \omega_2 + 1} \dots p_{\omega_1 + \omega_2 + \omega_3 + \omega_4 + 1} \dots p_{\omega_r}$$

where  $\ell(p_i) = j$  for  $\omega_1 + ... + \omega_{j-1} + 1 \le i \le \omega_1 + ... + \omega_j$ ,  $\omega_j = \omega_j(m) = \omega_j(\overline{m})$  and  $\omega = \omega(m) = \omega(\overline{m}) \ge 1$ . We define the additive functions from  $\mathbb{Z} \setminus 31\mathbb{Z}$  into  $\mathbb{Z}/12\mathbb{Z}$ :

(2.25) 
$$\alpha = \alpha(m) = 2\omega_5 - 2\omega_1 + \omega_4 - \omega_2 \mod 12,$$

(2.26) 
$$a = a(m) = \omega_5 - \omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_4 \mod 12.$$

Let  $(v_i)_{i\in\mathbb{Z}}$  be the periodic sequence of period 12 defined by

(2.27) 
$$v_i = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \cos(i\frac{\pi}{6}) & \text{if } i \text{ is odd} \\ 2\cos(i\frac{\pi}{6}) & \text{if } i \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

The values of  $(v_i)_{i\in\mathbb{Z}}$  are given by:

 $(2.28) v_{i+6} = -v_i,$ 

$$(2.20) \qquad \qquad v_{i+b} = v_i,$$

(2.29) 
$$v_i + v_{i+2} = \begin{cases} v_{i+1} & \text{if } i \text{ is odd} \\ 3v_{i+1} & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \end{cases}$$

$$(2.30) v_{2i} \equiv -2^i \pmod{3}$$

and

Note that

$$(2.31) v_i \equiv v_{i+3} \equiv v_{2i} \pmod{2}.$$

From the  $U_j$ 's (cf. (2.12) and (2.13)), we introduce the following 2-adic integers:

(2.32) 
$$E_{i} = \sum_{j=0}^{5} v_{i+2j} U_{j}, \ i \in \mathbb{Z},$$

(2.33) 
$$F_i = \sum_{j=0}^{5} v_{i+4j} U_j, \ i \in \mathbb{Z},$$

(2.34) 
$$G = \sum_{j=0}^{5} (-1)^{j} U_{j}.$$

From (2.28), we have

$$(2.35) E_{i+6} = -E_i, E_{i+12} = E_i, F_{i+6} = -F_i, F_{i+12} = F_i.$$

From (2.29), it follows that, if i is odd.

$$(2.36) E_i + E_{i+2} = E_{i+1}, F_i + F_{i+2} = F_{i+1},$$

while, if i is even,

(2.37) 
$$E_i + E_{i+2} = 3E_{i+1}, \ F_i + F_{i+2} = 3F_{i+1},$$

The values of these numbers are given in the following array:

	Y	
Z		$Z \mod 2^{11}$
$E_0 =$	$\frac{1}{32}(11\theta^5 - 8\theta^4 + 29\theta^3 - 124\theta^2 + 500\theta - 256)$	1157
$E_1 =$	$\frac{1}{16}(3\theta^5 - 2\theta^4 + 9\theta^3 - 26\theta^2 + 136\theta - 64)$	1533
$E_2 =$	$3E_1 - E_0$	1394
	$ 2E_1 - E_0 $	1909
$E_4 =$	$3E_1 - 2E_0$	237
$E_5 =$	$E_1 - E_0$	376
$F_0 =$	$\frac{1}{32}(-3\theta^5 - 21\theta^3 + 36\theta^2 - 36\theta + 64)$	1987
$ F_1 =  $	$\frac{32}{32}(-3\theta^5 - 4\theta^4 - 13\theta^3 + 24\theta^2 - 28\theta - 64)$	166
$F_2 = 1$	$3F_1 - F_0$	559
	$2F_1-F_0$	393
$F_4 =$	$3F_1 - 2F_0$	620
$F_5 =$	$F_1 - F_0$	227
G =	$\frac{1}{4}(-\theta^5 + \theta^4 - \theta^3 + 11\theta^2 - 34\theta + 20)$	1905

TABLE 1

**Lemma 2.1.** The polynomials  $(U_j)_{0 \le j \le 5}$  (cf. (2.13)) form a basis of  $\mathbb{Q}[\theta]$ . The polynomials  $E_0$ ,  $E_1$ ,  $F_0$ ,  $F_1$ , G,  $U_0$  form another basis of  $\mathbb{Q}[\theta]$ . For all i's,  $E_i$  and  $F_i$  are linear combinations of respectively  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  and  $F_0$  and  $F_1$ .

*Proof.* With Maple, in the basis  $1, \theta, \ldots, \theta^5$ , we compute determinant  $(U_0, \ldots, U_5) = \frac{1}{1024}$ . From (2.32), (2.33) and (2.34), the determinant of  $(E_0, E_1, F_0, F_1, G, U_0)$  in the basis  $U_0, U_1, \ldots, U_5$  is equal to 12. The last point follows from (2.36) and (2.37).

We have

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $m \neq 1$  be an odd integer not divisible by 31 with  $\overline{m}$  of the form (2.24). Under the above notation and the convention

(2.38) 
$$0^{\omega} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \omega = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } \omega > 0, \end{cases}$$

we have:

(1) The 2-adic integer S(m) defined by (2.20) satisfies

$$mS(m) = 2^{\omega_3 - 1} 3^{\lceil \frac{\omega_2 + \omega_4}{2} - 1 \rceil} E_{\alpha - 2\ell(m)} + \frac{0^{\omega_3}}{2} 3^{\lceil \frac{\omega}{2} - 1 \rceil} F_{a - 4\ell(m)}$$

(2.39) 
$$+ \frac{0^{\omega_2 + \omega_4}}{3} 2^{\omega - 1} (-1)^{\ell(m)} G.$$

(2) The 2-adic integer S(31m) satisfies

$$(2.40) S(31m) = -31^{-1}S(m),$$

where  $31^{-1}$  is the inverse of 31 in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ . In particular, for all  $k \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , we have

$$2^k m \in \mathcal{A} \iff 31 \cdot 2^k m \in \mathcal{A},$$

since the inverse of 31 modulo  $2^{k+1}$  is -1 for  $k \le 4$ .

Proof of Theorem 2.2 (1). From (2.22), we have

$$(2.41) mS(m) = \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}} \mu(d) U_{\ell(\frac{m}{d})} = \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}} \mu(d) U_{\ell(m) - \ell(d)}.$$

Further, (2.41) becomes

(2.42) 
$$mS(m) = \sum_{j=0}^{5} T(m,j) U_{\ell(m)-j} = \sum_{j=0}^{5} T(m,\ell(m)-j) U_{j},$$

with

(2.43) 
$$T(m,j) = T(\overline{m},j) = \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}, \ \ell(d) \equiv j \ (\text{mod } 6)} \mu(d).$$

Therefore (2.39) will follow from (2.42) and from the following lemma.  $\Box$ Lemma 2.2. The integer T(m, i) defined in (2.43) with the convention

**Lemma 2.2.** The integer T(m,j) defined in (2.43) with the convention (2.38) and the definitions (2.18) and (2.24)-(2.27), for  $m \neq 1$ , is equal to

$$T(m,j) = 2^{\omega_3 - 1} 3^{\lceil \frac{\omega_2 + \omega_4}{2} - 1 \rceil} v_{\alpha - 2j} + \frac{0^{\omega_3}}{2} 3^{\lceil \frac{\omega}{2} - 1 \rceil} v_{\alpha - 4j}$$

$$(2.44) + 0^{\omega_2 + \omega_4} \frac{(-1)^j}{3} 2^{\omega - 1}.$$

Proof of Lemma 2.2. Let us introduce the polynomial

$$(2.45) f(X) = (1-X)^{\omega_1} (1-X^2)^{\omega_2} ... (1-X^5)^{\omega_5} = \sum_{\nu \geq 0} f_{\nu} X^{\nu}.$$

If the five signs were plus instead of minus, f(X) would be the generating function of the partitions in at most  $\omega_1$  parts equal to 1, ..., at most  $\omega_5$  parts equal to 5. More generally, the polynomial

$$\widetilde{f}(X) = \prod_{i=1}^{\omega} (1 + a_i X^{b_i}) = \sum_{\nu \ge 0} \widetilde{f_{\nu}} X^{\nu}$$

is the generating function of

$$\widetilde{f_{
u}} = \sum_{\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_{\omega} \in \{0,1\}, \; \sum_{i=1}^{\omega} \epsilon_i b_i = \nu} \prod_{i=1}^{\omega} a_i^{\epsilon_i}.$$

To the vector  $\underline{\epsilon} = (\epsilon_1, ..., \epsilon_{\omega}) \in \mathbb{F}_2^{\omega}$ , we associate

$$d = \prod_{i=1}^{\omega} p_i^{\epsilon_i}, \ \mu(d) = \prod_{i=1}^{\omega} (-1)^{\epsilon_i}, \ L(d) = \sum_{i=1}^{\omega} \epsilon_i \ell(p_i)$$

where L is the arithmetic function defined by (2.17) and we get

(2.46) 
$$f_{\nu} = \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}, \ L(d) = \nu} \mu(d).$$

Consequently, by setting  $\xi = \exp(\frac{i\pi}{3})$ , (2.43), (2.45) and (2.46) give

$$T(m,j) = \sum_{\nu \equiv j \pmod{6}} \sum_{\substack{d \mid \overline{m}, \ L(d) = \nu}} \mu(d)$$

$$= \sum_{\nu \equiv j \pmod{6}} f_{\nu}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i=0}^{5} \xi^{-ij} f(\xi^{i})$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i=1}^{5} \xi^{-ij} f(\xi^{i})$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i=1}^{5} \xi^{-ij} f(\xi^{i})$$

$$(2.47) = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{i=1}^{5} \xi^{-ij} (1 - \xi^{i})^{\omega_{1}} (1 - \xi^{2i})^{\omega_{2}} (1 - \xi^{3i})^{\omega_{3}} (1 - \xi^{4i})^{\omega_{4}} (1 - \xi^{5i})^{\omega_{5}}.$$

By observing that

$$1-\xi=\xi^5,\ 1-\xi^2=\varrho=\sqrt{3}(\cos\frac{\pi}{6}-i\sin\frac{\pi}{6}),\ 1-\xi^3=2,\ 1-\xi^4=\overline{\varrho},\ 1-\xi^6=0,$$

the sum of the terms in i=1 and i=5 in (2.47), which are conjugate, is equal to

$$\frac{2}{6}\mathcal{R}(\xi^{-j}\xi^{5\omega_1}\varrho^{\omega_2}2^{\omega_3}\bar{\varrho}^{\omega_4}\xi^{\omega_5}) = \frac{2^{\omega_3}}{3}\sqrt{3}^{\omega_2+\omega_4}\cos\frac{\pi}{6}(2\omega_5 - 2\omega_1 + \omega_4 - \omega_2 - 2j).$$

Now, the contribution of the terms in i = 2 and i = 4 is

$$\frac{2}{6}\mathcal{R}(\xi^{-2j}\varrho^{\omega_1}\overline{\varrho}^{\omega_2}0^{\omega_3}\varrho^{\omega_4}\overline{\varrho}^{\omega_5}) = 0^{\omega_3}\frac{\sqrt{3}^{\omega_1+\omega_2+\omega_4+\omega_5}}{3} \times \cos\frac{\pi}{6}(\omega_2+\omega_5-\omega_1-\omega_4-4j)$$

$$= 0^{\omega_3}\frac{\sqrt{3}^{\omega}}{3}\cos\frac{\pi}{6}(\omega_2+\omega_5-\omega_1-\omega_4-4j).$$
(2.49)

Finally, the term corresponding to i = 3 in (2.47) is equal to (2.50)

$$\frac{1}{6}(-1)^{j}2^{\omega_{1}}0^{\omega_{2}}2^{\omega_{3}}0^{\omega_{4}}2^{\omega_{5}} = 0^{\omega_{2}+\omega_{4}}\frac{(-1)^{j}}{6}2^{\omega_{1}+\omega_{3}+\omega_{5}} = 0^{\omega_{2}+\omega_{4}}\frac{(-1)^{j}}{6}2^{\omega}.$$

Consequently, by using our notation (2.24)-(2.26), (2.47) becomes

$$T(m,j) = \frac{2^{\omega_3}}{3} \sqrt{3}^{\omega_2 + \omega_4} \cos \frac{\pi}{6} (\alpha - 2j) + 0^{\omega_3} \frac{\sqrt{3}^{\omega}}{3} \cos \frac{\pi}{6} (a - 4j)$$

 $(2.51) + 0^{\omega_2 + \omega_4} \frac{(-1)^j}{6} 2^{\omega_2}$ 

Observing that  $\alpha - 2j$  has the same parity than  $\omega_2 + \omega_4$  and similarly for a - 4j and  $\omega$  (when  $\omega_0 = \omega_3 = 0$ ), via (2.27), we get (2.44).

Proof of Theorem 2.2 (2). For all  $k \geq 0$ , from (1.10), we have

$$31mS_{\mathcal{A}}(31m,k) = \sum_{d \mid 31m} \mu(d)\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 31 \cdot 2^{k}\frac{m}{d}) = \sum_{d \mid 31\overline{m}} \mu(d)\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 31 \cdot 2^{k}\frac{m}{d})$$

$$= \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}} \mu(d)\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 31 \cdot 2^{k}\frac{m}{d}) - \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}} \mu(d)\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 2^{k}\frac{m}{d})$$

$$= \sum_{d \mid \overline{m}} \mu(d)\sigma(\mathcal{A}, 31 \cdot 2^{k}\frac{m}{d}) - mS_{\mathcal{A}}(m, k)$$

$$(2.52)$$

Since for all d dividing  $\overline{m}$ ,  $31 \cdot 2^k \frac{m}{d} \in O(31)$  then, from (2.23),  $\sigma(A, 31 \cdot 2^k \frac{m}{d}) \equiv \sigma(A, 31 \cdot 2^k) \equiv -5 \pmod{2^{k+1}}$ , so that (2.52) gives

(2.53) 
$$31mS_{\mathcal{A}}(31m,k) + mS_{\mathcal{A}}(m,k) \equiv -5\sum_{d\mid \overline{m}} \mu(d) \pmod{2^{k+1}}.$$

Since  $\overline{m} \neq 1$ ,  $31mS_{\mathcal{A}}(31m, k) + mS_{\mathcal{A}}(m, k) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{k+|1|}}$ . Recalling that m is odd, by using (2.20), (2.21) and their similar for S(31m), we obtain the desired result.

# 3. Elements of the set $A = A(1+z+z^3+z^4+z^5)$ .

In this section, we will determine the elements of the set  $\mathcal{A}$  of the form  $n=2^k31^\tau m$ , where  $\overline{m}\neq 1$  satisfies (2.24) and  $\tau\in\{0,1\}$ , since from Remark 2.2,  $2^k31^\tau m\notin\mathcal{A}$  for all  $\tau\geq 2$ . The elements of the set  $\mathcal{A}(1+z+z^3+z^4+z^5)$  of the form  $31^\tau 2^k$ ,  $\tau=0$  or 1, were shown in [1] to be solutions of 2-adic equations. More precisely, the following was proved in that paper.

1) The elements of the set  $\mathcal{A}(1+z+z^3+z^4+z^5)$  of the form  $2^k$ ,  $k \geq 0$ , are given by the 2-adic solution

$$\sum_{k>0} \chi(\mathcal{A}, 2^k) \, 2^k = S(1) = U_0 = 1 + 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + 2^4 + 2^7 + 2^{10} + 2^{11} + \dots$$

of the equation

$$y^6 - y^5 + 3y^4 - 11y^3 + 44y^2 - 36y + 32 = 0.$$

Note that  $S(1) = U_0$  follows from (2.22).

2) The elements of the set  $\mathcal{A}(1+z+z^3+z^4+z^5)$  of the form  $31 \cdot 2^k, k \geq 0$ , are given by the solution

$$\sum_{k>0} \chi(\mathcal{A}, 31 \cdot 2^k) \, 2^k = S(31) = y = 2^2 + 2^5 + 2^{1/4} + \dots$$

of the equation

 $31^5y^6 + 31^5y^5 + 13 \cdot 31^4y^4 + 91 \cdot 31^3y^3 + 364 \cdot 31^2y^2 + 796 \cdot 31y + 752 = 0$ , since, from (2.53) with m = 1, we have  $31S(31) = -5 - U_0$ , so that

$$S(31) = \frac{5 + U_0}{1 - 32} = (1 + 4 + U_0)(1 + 2^5 + 2^{10} + \dots) = 2^2 + 2^5 + 2^{11} + \dots$$

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $m \neq 1$  be an odd integer not divisible by any prime  $p \in \mathcal{P}_0$  (cf. (2.16)) neither by  $31^2$ . Then the sum S(m) defined by (2.20) does not vanish. So we may introduce the 2-adic valuation of S(m):

(3.1) 
$$\gamma = \gamma(m) = v_2(S(m)).$$

Then, if 31 does not divide m, we have

$$\gamma(31m) = \gamma(m).$$

Let us assume now that m is coprime with 31. We shall use the quantities  $\omega_i = \omega_i(m)$  defined by (2.18),  $\ell(m)$ ,  $\alpha = \alpha(m)$ ,  $\alpha = \alpha(m)$  defined by (2.15), (2.25) and (2.26), (3.3)

$$\alpha' = \alpha'(m) = \alpha - 2\ell(m) \mod 12 = 2\omega_5 - 2\omega_1 + \omega_4 - \omega_2 - 2\ell(m) \mod 12$$

(3.4) 
$$a' = a'(m) = a - 4\ell(m) \mod 12 = \omega_5 - \omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_4 - 4\ell(m) \mod 12$$

$$(3.5) t = t(m) = \left\lceil \frac{\omega_1 + \omega_5 + \omega_2 + \omega_4}{2} - 1 \right\rceil - \left\lceil \frac{\omega_2 + \omega_4}{2} - 1 \right\rceil$$
$$= \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} \left\lceil \frac{\omega_1 + \omega_5}{2} \right\rceil & \text{if } & \omega_1 + \omega_5 \equiv \omega_2 + \omega_4 \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\ \left\lceil \frac{\omega_1 + \omega_5}{2} - 1 \right\rceil & \text{if } & \text{not.} \end{array} \right.$$

We have:

(i) if  $\omega_3 \neq 0$  and  $\omega_2 + \omega_4 \neq 0$ , the value of  $\gamma = \gamma(m)$  is given by

$$\gamma = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \omega_3 - 1 & \text{if} \quad \alpha' \equiv 0, 1, 3, 4 \pmod{6} \\ \omega_3 & \text{if} \quad \alpha' \equiv 2 \pmod{6} \\ \omega_3 + 2 & \text{if} \quad \alpha' \equiv 5 \pmod{6}. \end{array} \right.$$

(ii) If  $\omega_2 + \omega_4 = 0$  and  $\omega_3 \ge 1$ , we set  $\alpha'' = \alpha' + 6\ell(m) \mod 12$  and  $\delta(i) = v_2(E_i + 2^{v_2(E_i)}G)$  and we have

if 
$$\omega_1 + \omega_5 < v_2(E_{\alpha''})$$
, then  $\gamma = \omega_3 - 1 + \omega_1 + \omega_5$ ,  
if  $\omega_1 + \omega_5 = v_2(E_{\alpha''})$ , then  $\gamma = \omega_3 - 1 + \delta(\alpha'')$ ,  
if  $\omega_1 + \omega_5 > v_2(E_{\alpha''})$ , then  $\gamma = \omega_3 - 1 + v_2(E_{\alpha''})$ .

(iii) If  $\omega_3 = 0$  and  $\omega_2 + \omega_4 \neq 0$ , we have

$$\gamma = -1 + v_2(E_{\alpha'} + 3^t F_{\alpha'}).$$

(iv) If 
$$\omega_3 = \omega_2 = \omega_4 = 0$$
 and  $\omega_1 + \omega_5 \neq 0$ , we have 
$$\gamma = -1 + v_2(E_{\alpha'} + 3^t F_{\alpha'} + 2^{\omega_1 + \omega_5} (-1)^{\ell(m)} G).$$

*Proof.* We shall prove that  $S(m) \neq 0$  in each of the four cases above. Assuming  $S(m) \neq 0$ , it follows from Theorem 2.2, (2) that  $S(31m) \neq 0$  and that  $\gamma(31m) = \gamma(m)$ , which sets (3.2).

Proof of Theorem 3.1 (i). In this case, formula (2.39) reduces to

$$mS(m) = 2^{\omega_3 - 1} 3^{\lceil \frac{\omega_2 + \omega_4}{2} - 1 \rceil} E_{\alpha'}.$$

Since  $E_{\alpha'} \neq 0$ , S(m) does not vanish; we have

$$\gamma = v_2(S(m)) = \omega_3 - 1 + v_2(E_{\alpha'})$$

and the result follows from the values of  $E_{\alpha'}$  modulo  $2^{11}$  given in Table 1. Proof of Theorem 3.1 (ii). If  $\omega_2 + \omega_4 = 0$  and  $\omega_3 \neq 0$ , formula (2.39) becomes (since, cf. (2.35),  $E_{i+6} = -E_i$  holds)

$$mS(m) = \frac{2^{\omega_3 - 1}}{3} \left( E_{\alpha'} + 2^{\omega_1 + \omega_5} (-1)^{\ell(m)} G \right)$$
$$= (-1)^{\ell(m)} \frac{2^{\omega_3 - 1}}{3} \left( E_{\alpha''} + 2^{\omega_1 + \omega_5} G \right)$$

As displaid in Table 1,  $E_i$  is a linear combination of  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  so that, from Lemma 2.1, S(m) does not vanish and  $\gamma = \omega_3 - 1 + v_2 (E_{\alpha''} + 2^{\omega_1 + \omega_5} G)$ , whence the result. The values of  $v_2(E_i)$  and  $\delta(i)$  calculated from Table 1 are given below.

											!	
i	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
$v_2(E_i)$	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	3
$\delta(i)$	1	1	2	1	1	8	2	2	4	2	2	4

Proof of Theorem 3.1 (iii). If  $\omega_3 = 0$  and  $\omega_2 + \omega_4 \neq 0$  it follows, from (2.39) and the definition of t above, that

$$mS(m) = \frac{1}{2} 3^{\lceil \frac{\omega_2 + \omega_4}{2} - 1 \rceil} (E_{\alpha'} + 3^t F_{\alpha'}).$$

But  $E_i$  and  $F_i$  are non-zero linear combinations of, respectively,  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  and  $F_0$  and  $F_1$ ; by Lemma 2.1,  $E_{\alpha'} + 3^t F_{\alpha'}$  does not vanish and  $\gamma = -1 + v_2(E_{\alpha'} + 3^t F_{\alpha'})$ .

Proof of Theorem 3.1 (iv). If  $\omega_3 = \omega_2 = \omega_4 = 0$  and  $m \neq 1$ , formula (2.39) gives

$$mS(m) = \frac{1}{6} \left( E_{\alpha'} + 3^t F_{\alpha'} + 2^{\omega_1 + \omega_5} (-1)^{\ell(m)} G \right)$$

From Lemma 2.1, we obtain  $E_{\alpha'} + 3^t F_{a'} + 2^{\omega_1 + \omega_5} (-1)^{\ell(m)} G \neq 0$ , which implies  $S(m) \neq 0$  and  $\gamma = -1 + v_2 \left( E_{\alpha'} + 3^t F_{a'} + 2^{\omega_1 + \omega_5} (-1)^{\ell(m)} G \right)$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** Let m be an odd integer satisfying  $m \neq 1$ , gcd(m, 31) = 1, and with  $\overline{m}$  of the form (2.24). Let  $\gamma = \gamma(m)$  as defined in Theorem 3.1 and Z(m) be the odd part of the right hand-side of (2.39), so that

$$(3.6) mS(m) = 2^{\gamma(m)}Z(m).$$

- (i) If  $k < \gamma$ , then  $2^k m \notin \mathcal{A}$  and  $2^k 31 m \notin \mathcal{A}$ .
- (ii) If  $k = \gamma$ , then  $2^k m \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $2^k 31m \in \mathcal{A}$ .
- (iii) If  $k = \gamma + r$ ,  $r \ge 1$ , then we set  $S_r = \{2^r + 1, 2^r + 3, ..., 2^{r+1} 1\}$  and we have

$$2^{\gamma+r}m \in \mathcal{A} \iff \exists l \in \mathcal{S}_r, \ m \equiv l^{-1}Z(m) \pmod{2^{r+1}},$$
$$2^{\gamma+r}31m \in \mathcal{A} \iff \exists l \in \mathcal{S}_r, \ m \equiv -(31l)^{-1}Z(m) \pmod{2^{r+1}}$$

Proof of Theorem 3.2, (i). We remind that m is odd and (cf. 2.21)  $S(m) \equiv S_{\mathcal{A}}(m,k) \pmod{2^{k+1}}$ . It is obvious from (3.6) that if  $\gamma > k$  then  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(m,k) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{k+1}}$ . So that from (1.8),  $S_{\mathcal{A}}(m,k) = 0$  and  $2^k m \notin \mathcal{A}$ , for all  $h, 0 \leq h \leq k$ . To prove that  $2^k 31m \notin \mathcal{A}$ , it suffices to use this last result and (2.40) modulo  $2^{k+1}$ .

*Proof of Theorem 3.2, (ii).* If  $\gamma = k$  then the same arguments as above show that

$$mS_{\mathcal{A}}(m,k) \equiv 2^k Z(m) \pmod{2^{k+1}}.$$

So that, by using Theorem 3.2, (i) and (1.8), we obtain

$$2^k m \chi(\mathcal{A}, 2^k m) \equiv 2^k Z(m) \pmod{2^{k+1}}.$$

Since both m and Z(m) are odd, we get  $\chi(\mathcal{A}, 2^k m) \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ , which shows that  $2^k m \in \mathcal{A}$ . Once again, to prove that  $2^k 31m \in \mathcal{A}$ , it suffices to use this last result and (2.40) modulo  $2^{k+1}$ .

Proof of Theorem 3.2, (iii). Let us set  $k = \gamma + r$ ,  $r \ge 1$ . (3.6) and (2.21) give

(3.7) 
$$mS_{\mathcal{A}}(m,k) \equiv 2^{\gamma} Z(m) \pmod{2^{\gamma+r+1}}.$$

So that, by using Theorem 3.2, (i) and (ii), we get

$$m(2^{\gamma}+2^{\gamma+1}\chi(\mathcal{A},2^{\gamma+1}m)+\ldots+2^{\gamma+r}\chi(\mathcal{A},2^{\gamma+r}m))\equiv 2^{\gamma}Z(m)\pmod{2^{\gamma+r+1}},$$
 which reduces to

$$m(1+2\chi(\mathcal{A},2^{\gamma+1}m)+\ldots+2^r\chi(\mathcal{A},2^{\gamma+r}m))\equiv Z(m) \pmod{2^{r+1}}.$$

By observing that  $2^{\gamma+r}m \in \mathcal{A}$  if and only if  $l = 1 + 2\chi(\mathcal{A}, 2^{\gamma+1}m) + \ldots + 2^r\chi(\mathcal{A}, 2^{\gamma+r}m)$  is an odd integer in  $\mathcal{S}_r$ , we obtain

$$2^{\gamma+r}m \in \mathcal{A} \iff m \equiv l^{-1}Z(m) \pmod{2^{r+1}}, \ l \in \mathcal{S}_r.$$

To prove the similar result for  $2^{\gamma+r}31m$ , one uses the same method and (2.40) modulo  $2^{k+1}$ .

## 4. The counting function.

In Theorem 4.1 below, we will determine an asymptotic estimate to the counting function A(x) (cf. (1.2)) of the set  $A = A(1+z+z^3+z^4+z^5)$ . The following lemmas will be needed.

**Lemma 4.1.** Let K be any positive integer and  $x \ge 1$  be any real number. We have

$$|\{n \leq x : \gcd(n,K) = 1\}| \leq 7\frac{\varphi(K)}{K}x,$$

where  $\varphi$  is the Euler function.

*Proof.* This is a classical result from sieve theory: see Theorems 3-5 of [11].

**Lemma 4.2.** (Mertens's formula) Let  $\theta$  and  $\eta$  be two positive coprime integers. There exists an absolute constant  $C_1$  such that, for all x > 1,

$$\pi(x;\theta,\eta) = \prod_{\substack{p \leq x, \ p \equiv \theta (\bmod \eta)}} (1 - \frac{1}{p}) \leq \frac{C_1}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{|x|(\eta)}}}.$$

*Proof.* For  $\theta$  and  $\eta$  fixed, Mertens's formula follows from the Prime Number Theorem in arithmetic progressions. It is proved in [9] that the constant  $C_1$  is absolute.

**Lemma 4.3.** For  $i \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ , let

$$K_i = K_i(x) = \prod_{p \leq x, \ \ell(p) \in \{0,i\}} p = \prod_{p \leq x, \ p \in \mathcal{P}_0 \cup \mathcal{P}_i} p,$$

where  $\ell$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_0$  and  $\mathcal{P}_i$  are defined by (2.15)-(2.16). Then for x large enough,

$$|\{n: 1 \le n \le x, \gcd(n, K_i) = 1\}| = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{3}}}\right).$$

Proof. By Lemma 4.1 and (2.16), we have

$$|\{n : n \le x, \gcd(n, K_i) = 1\}| \le 7x \frac{\varphi(K_i)}{K_i}$$

$$= 7x \prod_{0 \le j \le 4, \ \tau \in \{0, i\}} \prod_{\substack{p \le x, \\ p \equiv 2^j 3^{\gamma} (\text{ mod } 31)}} (1 - \frac{1}{p})$$

So that by Lemma 4.2, for all  $i \in \{2,3,4\}$  and x large enough,

$$\mid \{n: n \leq x, \ \gcd(n, K_i) = 1\} \mid \leq \frac{7C_1^{10}x}{(\log x)^{\frac{10}{\varphi(31)}}} = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{3}}}\right).$$

**Lemma 4.4.** Let  $r, u \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $\ell$  and  $\alpha'$  be the functions defined by (2.15) and (3.3),  $\omega_j$  be the additive function given by (2.18). We take  $\xi$  to be a Dirichlet character modulo  $2^{r+1}$  with  $\xi_0$  as principal character and we let  $\varrho$  be the completely multiplicative function defined on primes p by

(4.1) 
$$\varrho(p) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \ell(p) = 0 \text{ or } p = 31\\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If y and z are respectively some  $2^u$ -th and 12-th roots of unity in  $\mathbb{C}$ , and if x is a real number > 1, we set

(4.2) 
$$S_{y,z,\xi}(x) = \sum_{2^{\omega_3(n)} n \le x} \varrho(n) \xi(n) y^{\omega_2(n) + \omega_4(n)} z^{\alpha'(n)}.$$

Then, when x tends to infinity, we have

• If  $\xi \neq \xi_0$ ,

$$(4.3) S_{y,z,\xi}(x) = \mathcal{O}\left(x\frac{\log\log x}{(\log x)^2}\right).$$

• If  $\xi = \xi_0$ ,

$$(4.4) S_{y,z,\xi_0}(x) = \frac{x}{(\log x)^{1-f_{y,z}(1)}} \left( \frac{H_{y,z,\xi_0}(1)C_{y,z}}{\Gamma(f_{y,z}(1))} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\log\log x}{\log x}\right) \right),$$

where  $\Gamma$  is the Euler gamma function,

(4.5) 
$$f_{y,z}(s) = \frac{5}{\varphi(31)} \sum_{1 \le j \le 5} g_{j,y,z}(s),$$

(4.6) 
$$g_{1,y,z}(s) = z^8,$$
  $g_{2,y,z}(s) = yz^7,$   $g_{3,y,z}(s) = \frac{z^6}{2^s},$   $g_{4,y,z}(s) = yz^5,$   $g_{5,y,z}(s) = z^4,$ 

$$(4.7) \quad H_{y,z,\xi}(s) = \prod_{1 \le j \le 5} \prod_{p, \ \ell(p)=j} \left( 1 + \frac{g_{j,y,z}(s)\xi(p)}{p^s - z^{-2j}\xi(p)} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{\xi(p)}{p^s} \right)^{g_{j,y,z}(s)},$$

(4.8) 
$$C_{y,z} = \prod_{1 \le j \le 5} \left\{ \prod_{p, \ \ell(p) = j} (1 - \frac{1}{p})^{-g_{j,y,z}(1)} \prod_{p} (1 - \frac{1}{p})^{\frac{g_{j,y,z}(1)}{30}} \right\}.$$

*Proof.* The evaluation of such sums is based, as we know, on the Selberg-Delange method. In [7], one finds an application towards direct results on such problems. In our case, to apply Theorem 1 of that paper, one should start with expanding, for complex number s with  $\Re s > 1$ , the Dirichlet series

$$F_{y,z,\xi}(s) = \sum_{n>1} \frac{\varrho(n)\xi(n)y^{\omega_2(n) + \omega_4(n)}z^{\alpha'(n)}}{(2^{\omega_3(n)}n)^s}$$

in an Euler product given by

$$F_{y,z,\xi}(s) = \prod_{1 \le j \le 5} \prod_{p, \ \ell(p) = j} \left( 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{\xi(p^m) y^{\omega_2(p^m) + \omega_4(p^m)} z^{\alpha'(p^m)}}{(2^{\omega_3(p^m)} p^m)^s} \right)$$

$$= \prod_{1 \le j \le 5} \prod_{p, \ \ell(p) = j} \left( 1 + \frac{g_{j,y,z}(s) \xi(p)}{p^s - z^{-2j} \xi(p)} \right),$$

which can be written

$$F_{y,z,\xi}(s) = H_{y,z,\xi}(s) \prod_{1 \le j \le 5} \prod_{p, \ \ell(p)=j} \left(1 - \frac{\xi(p)}{p^s}\right)^{-g_{j,y,z}(s)},$$

where  $g_{j,y,z}(s)$  and  $H_{y,z,\xi}(s)$  are defined by (4.6) and (4.7). To complete the proof of Lemma 4.4, one has to show that  $H_{y,z,\xi}(s)$  is holomorphic for  $\Re s > \frac{1}{2}$  and, for y and z fixed, that  $H_{y,z,\xi}(s)$  is bounded for  $\Re s \geq \sigma_0 > \frac{1}{2}$ , which can be done by adapting the method given in [7] (Preuve du Théorème 2, p. 235).

**Lemma 4.5.** We keep the above notation and we let  $\mathcal{G}$  be the set of integers of the form  $n = 2^{\omega_3(m)}m$  with the following conditions:

- m odd and gcd(m, 31) = 1,
- $m = m_1 m_2 m_3 m_4 m_5$ , where all prime factors p of  $m_i$  satisfy  $\ell(p) = i$ .

If G(x) is the counting function of the set G then, when x tends to infinity,

(4.9) 
$$G(x) = \frac{Cx}{(\log x)^{1/4}} \left( 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\log\log x}{\log x}\right) \right),$$

where

(4.10) 
$$C = \frac{H_{1,1,\xi_0}(1)C_{1,1}}{\Gamma(f_{1,1}(1))} = 0.61568378...,$$

 $H_{1,1,\xi_0}(1)$ ,  $C_{1,1}$  and  $f_{1,1}(1)$  are defined by (4.7),(4.8) and (4.5).

*Proof.* We apply Lemma 4.4 with  $y=z=1,\ \xi=\xi_0$  and remark that  $G(x)=S_{1,1,\xi_0}(x)$ . By observing that  $(1+\frac{1}{p-1})(1-\frac{1}{p})=1$ , we have

$$H_{1,1,\xi_0}(1) = \prod_{p \in \mathcal{P}_3} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2(p-1)} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{1}{p} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \prod_{p \in \mathcal{P}_3} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2p} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{1}{p} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\approx 1.000479390466.$$

$$C_{1,1} = \lim_{x \to \infty} \prod_{\substack{p \in \mathcal{P}_1 \cup \mathcal{P}_2 \cup \mathcal{P}_4 \cup \mathcal{P}_5, \\ p < x}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)^{-1} \prod_{\substack{p \in \mathcal{P}_3, \\ p < x}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \prod_{\substack{p \le x}} \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)^{\frac{3}{4}}$$

 $\approx 0.75410767606$ .

The numerical value of the above Eulerian products has been computed by the classical method already used and described in [7]. Since  $\Gamma(f_{1,1}(1)) = \Gamma(\frac{3}{4}) = 1.225416702465...$ , we get (4.10).

**Lemma 4.6.** We keep the notation introduced in Lemmas 4.4 and 4.5. If  $(y, z) \in \{(1, 1), (-1, -1)\}$ , we have

$$(4.11) S_{y,z,\xi_0}(x) = \frac{Cx}{(\log x)^{1/4}} \left( 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\log\log x}{\log x}\right) \right),$$

while, if  $(y, z, \xi) \notin \{(1, 1, \xi_0), (-1, -1, \xi_0)\}$ , we have

(4.12) 
$$S_{y,z,\xi}(x) = \mathcal{O}_r\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^{1/4+2^{-2u-3}}}\right).$$

*Proof.* For y=z=1, Formula (4.11) follows from Lemma 4.5. For y=z=-1 (which does not occur for u=0), it follows from (4.4) and by observing that the values of  $g_{j,y,z}(s)$ ,  $f_{y,z}(s)$ ,  $H_{y,z,\xi}(s)$ ,  $C_{y,z}$  do not change when replacing y by -y and z by -z.

Let us define

$$M_{y,z} = \Re(f_{y,z}(1)) = \frac{1}{6}\Re(z^6(z^2+z^{-2}+\frac{1}{2}+y(z+z^{-1}))).$$

When  $\xi \neq \xi_0$ , (4.3) implies (4.12) while, if  $\xi = \xi_0$ , it follows from (4.4) and from the inequality to be proved

$$(4.13) M_{y,z} \le \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{2^{2u+3}}, (y,z) \notin \{(1,1),(-1,-1)\}.$$

To show (4.13), let us first recall that z is a twelfth root of unity.

If  $z \neq \pm 1$ ,  $6f_{y,z}(1)$  is equal to one of the numbers  $-3/2 \pm y\sqrt{3}$ ,  $-1/2 \pm y$ , 3/2 so that

$$M_{y,z} \le |f_{y,z}(1)| \le \frac{1}{6} \left(\frac{3}{2} + \sqrt{3}\right) < 0.55 \le \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{2^{2u+3}}$$

for all  $u \ge 0$ , which proves (4.13)

If z = 1 and  $y \neq 1$  (which implies  $u \geq 1$ ), we have

$$\Re y \le \cos \frac{2\pi}{2^u} = 1 - 2\sin^2 \frac{\pi}{2^u} \le 1 - 2\left(\frac{2\pi}{\pi}\frac{\pi}{2^u}\right)^2 = 1 - \frac{8\pi}{2^{2u}}$$

and

$$M_{y,1} = \frac{5}{12} + \frac{1}{3}\Re y \le \frac{3}{4} - \frac{8}{3 \cdot 2^{2u}} < \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{2^{2u+3}}$$

If z = -1 and  $y \neq -1$ , (4.13) follows from the preceding case by observing that  $f_{y,z}(1) = f_{-y,-z}(1)$ , which completes the proof of (4.13).

Lemma 4.7. Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be the set defined in Lemma 4.5,  $\omega_j$  and  $\alpha'$  be the functions given by (2.18) and (3.3). For  $0 \leq j \leq 11$ , r, u,  $\lambda$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{N}_0$  such that t is odd, we let  $\mathcal{G}_{j,r,u,\lambda,t}$  be the set of integers  $n=2^{\omega_3(m)}m$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  with the following conditions:

- $\alpha'(m) \equiv j \pmod{12}$ ,
- $\omega_2(m) + \omega_4(m) \equiv \lambda \pmod{2^u}$ ,
- $m \equiv t \pmod{2^{r+1}}$ .

If  $\rho$  is the function given by (4.1), the counting function  $G_{j,r,u,\lambda,t}(x)$  of the set  $G_{j,r,u,\lambda,t}$  is equal to

$$G_{j,r,u,\lambda,t}(x) = \sum_{\substack{2^{\omega_3(m)}m \leq x, \ m \equiv t \pmod{2^{r+1}}\\ \alpha'(m) \equiv j \pmod{12}, \ \omega_2(m) + \omega_4(m) \equiv \lambda \pmod{2^u}}} \rho(m).$$

If  $u \geq 1$  and  $\lambda \not\equiv j \pmod{2}$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_{j,r,u,\lambda,t}$  is empty while, if  $\lambda \equiv j \pmod{2}$ , when x tends to infinity, we have

$$G_{j,r,u,\lambda,t}(x) = rac{C}{6\cdot 2^{r+u}}rac{x}{(\log x)^{rac{1}{4}}}\left(1+\mathcal{O}\left(rac{1}{(\log x)^{2-2u-3}}
ight)
ight),$$

where C is the constant given by (4.10). If u = 0, then

$$G_{j,r,0,0,t}(x) = \frac{C}{12 \cdot 2^r} \frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}} \left( 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{(\log x)^{1/8}}\right) \right),$$

*Proof.* If  $u \ge 1$ , it follows from (3.3) that  $\alpha'(m) \equiv \omega_2(m) + \omega_4(m) \pmod{2}$ ; therefore, if  $j \ne \lambda \pmod{2}$ , then  $\mathcal{G}_{j,r,u,\lambda,t}$  is empty. Let us set

$$-\zeta = e^{\frac{2i\pi}{2^{11}}}, \ \mu = e^{\frac{2i\pi}{12}}.$$

By using the relations of orthogonality:

$$\sum_{j_2=0}^{11} \mu^{j_2\alpha'(m)} \mu^{-jj_2} = \begin{cases} 12 & \text{if } \alpha' \equiv j \pmod{12} \\ 0 & \text{if not,} \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{j_1=0}^{2^u-1} \zeta^{-\lambda j_1} \zeta^{j_1(\omega_2(m)+\omega_4(m))} = \begin{cases} 2^u & \text{if } \omega_2(m)+\omega_4(m) \equiv \\ 0 & \text{if not,} \end{cases} \lambda \pmod{2^u}$$

$$\sum_{\xi \bmod 2^{r+1}} \overline{\xi}(t)\xi(m) = \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} \varphi(2^{r+1}) = 2^r & \text{if } m \equiv t \pmod {2^{r+1}} \\ 0 & \text{if not,} \end{array} \right.$$

we get

$$G_{j,r,u,\lambda,t}(x) = \frac{1}{12 \cdot 2^{r+u}} \sum_{\substack{\xi \bmod 2^{r+1} \\ j_1 = 0}} \sum_{j_2 = 0}^{2^u - 1} \sum_{j_2 = 0}^{11} \overline{\xi}(t) \zeta^{-\lambda j_1} \mu^{-j} Z_{\zeta^{j_1},\mu^{j_2},\xi}(x).$$

In the above triple sums, the main contribution comes from  $S_{1,1,\xi_0}(x)$  and  $S_{-1,-1,\xi_0}(x)$ , and the result follows from (4.11) and (4.12).

If u = 0, we have

$$G_{j,r,0,0,t}(x) = \frac{1}{12 \cdot 2^r} \sum_{\ell \bmod 2^{r+1}} \sum_{j_2=0}^{11} \overline{\xi}(t) \mu^{-jj_2} S_{1,\mu^{j_2},\xi}(x)$$

and, again, the result follows from Lemma 4.6.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $A = A(1 + z + z^3 + z^4 + z^5)$  be the set given by (1.3) and A(x) be its counting function. When  $x \to \infty$ , we have

$$A(x) \sim \kappa \frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}},$$

where  $\kappa = \frac{74}{31}C = 1.469696766...$  and C is the constant of Lemma 4.5 defined by (4.10).

*Proof.* Let us define the sets  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$  and  $A_4$  containing the elements  $n = 2^k m \pmod{m}$  of A with the restrictions:

 $A_1: \omega_3(m) \neq 0 \text{ and } \omega_2(m) + \omega_4(m) \neq 0$  $A_2: \omega_3(m) \neq 0 \text{ and } \omega_2(m) = \omega_4(m) = 0$ 

 $A_3$ :  $\omega_3(m) = 0$  and  $\omega_2(m) + \omega_4(m) \neq 0$ 

 $A_4: \omega_2(m) = \omega_3(m) = \omega_4(m) = 0.$ 

We have

$$(4.14) A(x) = A_1(x) + A_2(x) + A_3(x) + A_4(x).$$

Further, for  $i=2,\ 3,\ 4$ , it follows from Lemma 4.3 that  $A_i(x)=\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{3}}}\right)$  and therefore

$$(4.15) A(x) = A_1(x) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{3}}}\right).$$

Now, we split  $A_1$  in two parts B and  $\widehat{B}$  by putting in B the elements  $n \in A_1$  which are coprime with 31 and in  $\widehat{B}$  the elements  $n \in A_1$  which are multiples of 31. Let us recall that, from Remark 2.2, no element of A is a multiple of A is a multiple of A in the reference of A is a multiple of A in the reference of A in the reference of A is a multiple of A in the reference of A in the reference of A is a multiple of A in the reference of A in

(4.16) 
$$A_1(x) = \mathcal{B}(x) + \widehat{\mathcal{B}}(x)$$

with

(4.17) 
$$\mathcal{B}(x) = \sum_{n=2^k m \in \mathcal{A}_1, \ n \le x} \rho(m), \ \widehat{\mathcal{B}}(x) = \sum_{n=2^k 31 m \in \mathcal{A}_1, \ n \le x} \rho(m).$$

Let us consider  $\mathcal{B}(x)$ ; the case of  $\widehat{\mathcal{B}}$  will be similar. We define

(4.18) 
$$\nu_i = v_2(E_i) - 1 = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if} \quad i \equiv 0, 1, 3, 4 \pmod{6} \\ 0 & \text{if} \quad i \equiv 2 \pmod{6} \\ 2 & \text{if} \quad i \equiv 5 \pmod{6} \end{cases}$$

so that, if  $\widehat{E}_i$  is the odd part of  $E_i$  (cf. (2.32) and Table 1), we have

$$\widehat{E_i} = 2^{-1-\nu_i} E_i.$$

In view of Theorem 3.1 (i), if  $i = \alpha'(m) \mod 12$  then

$$(4.20) \gamma(m) - \omega_3(m) = \nu_i.$$

Further, an element  $n=2^k m$  (m odd) belonging to  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is said of index  $r \geq 0$  if  $k=\gamma(m)+r$ . For  $r \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq i \leq 11$ , (4.21)

$$T_{r}^{(i)}(x) = \sum_{\substack{n = 2^{\gamma(m) + r} m \in \mathcal{A}_{1}, \ n \leq x \\ \alpha'(m) \equiv i \pmod{12}}} \rho(m) = \sum_{\substack{n = 2^{\gamma(m) + r} m \in \mathcal{A}_{1}, \ 2^{\omega_{3}(m)} m \leq 2^{-r - \nu_{i}} x}} \rho(m)$$

will count the number of elements of  $A_1$  up to x of index r and satisfying  $\alpha'(m) \equiv i \pmod{12}$ , so that

(4.22) 
$$\mathcal{B}(x) = \sum_{r \ge 0} \sum_{i=0}^{11} T_r^{(i)}(x).$$

Since  $\gamma(m) \geq 0$ , from the first equality in (4.21), each n counted in  $T_r^{(i)}(x)$  is a multiple of  $2^r$ , hence the trivial upper bound

(4.23) 
$$\sum_{i=0}^{11} T_r^{(i)}(x) \le \frac{x}{2^r}.$$

Since  $\nu_i \geq -1$ , the second equality in (4.21) implies

(4.24) 
$$\sum_{i=0}^{11} T_r^{(i)}(x) \le G(2^{1-r}x)$$

with G defined in Lemma 4.5. Moreover, from Lemma 4.5, there exists an absolute constant K such that, for  $x \ge 3$ ,

$$(4.25) G(x) \le K \frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}}.$$

Now, let R be a large but fixed integer; R' is defined in terms of x by  $2^{R'-1} \le \sqrt{x} < 2^{R'}$  and  $R'' = \frac{\log x}{\log 2}$ . Since  $T_r^{(i)}(x)$  is a non-negative integer,

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(4.23) implies that  $T_r^{(i)}(x) = 0$  for r > R". If x is large enough, R < R' < R'' holds. Setting

(4.26) 
$$\mathcal{B}_R(x) = \sum_{r=0}^R \sum_{i=0}^{11} T_r^{(i)}(x),$$

from (4.22), we have

$$\mathcal{B}(x) - \mathcal{B}_R(x) = S' + S$$
",

with

$$S' = \sum_{r=R+1}^{R'} \sum_{i=0}^{11} T_r^{(i)}(x), \qquad S^{\circ} = \sum_{r=R'+1}^{R^{\circ}} \sum_{i=0}^{11} T_r^{(i)}(x).$$

The definition of R' and (4.23) yield

$$S^{"} \le \sum_{r=R'+1}^{R"} \frac{x}{2^r} \le \sum_{r=R'+1}^{\infty} \frac{x}{2^r} = \frac{x}{2^{R'}} \le \sqrt{x},$$

while (4.24), (4.25) and the definition of R' give

$$S' \leq \sum_{r=R+1}^{R'} G\left(\frac{x}{2^{r-1}}\right) \leq \sum_{r=R+1}^{R'} \frac{2Kx}{2^r \left(\log \frac{x}{2^{R'-1}}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}}}$$
$$\leq \frac{2^{\frac{5}{4}}Kx}{\left(\log x\right)^{\frac{1}{4}}} \sum_{r=R+1}^{R'} \frac{1}{2^r} \leq \frac{3Kx}{2^R (\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}},$$

so that, for x large enough, we have

(4.27) 
$$0 \le \mathcal{B}(x) - \mathcal{B}_R(x) \le \sqrt{x} + \frac{3Kx}{2^R(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}}.$$

We now have to evaluate  $T_r^{(i)}(x)$ ; we shall distinguish two cases, r=0 and r>1.

Calculation of  $T_0^{(i)}(x)$ .

From (4.21), we have

$$T_0^{(i)}(x) = \sum_{\substack{n = 2^{\gamma(m)}m \in \mathcal{A}_1, \ n \leq x \\ \alpha'(m) \equiv i \pmod{12}}} \rho(m) = \sum_{\substack{n = 2^{\gamma(m)}m \in \mathcal{A}, \ n \leq x, \ \omega_3 \neq 0, \ \omega_2 + \omega_4 \neq 0 \\ \alpha'(m) \equiv i \pmod{12}}} \rho(m)$$

From Theorem 3.2, we know that  $2^{\gamma(m)}m \in \mathcal{A}$ . Hence,

$$T_0^{(i)}(x) = \sum_{\substack{2^{\gamma(m)}m \leq x, \ \omega_3 \neq 0, \ \omega_2 + \omega_4 \neq 0 \\ \alpha'(m) \equiv i \pmod{12}}} \rho(m)$$

which, by use of (4.20), gives

$$T_0^{(i)}(x) = \sum_{\substack{2^{\omega_3(m)} m \le 2^{-\nu_i} x, \ \omega_3 \ne 0, \ \omega_2 + \omega_4 \ne 0 \\ \alpha'(m) \equiv i \pmod{12}}} \rho(m).$$

But, at the cost of an error term  $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{3}}}\right)$ , Lemma 4.3 allows us to remove the conditions  $\omega_3 \neq 0$ ,  $\omega_2 + \omega_4 \neq 0$ , and to get from the second part of Lemma 4.7,

(4.28) 
$$T_0^{(i)}(x) = G_{i,0,0,0,1}\left(\frac{x}{2^{\nu_i}}\right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{3}}}\right) = \frac{C}{12} \frac{x}{2^{\nu_i}(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}} \left(1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{(\log x)^{1/12}}\right)\right).$$

Calculation of  $T_r^{(i)}(x)$  for  $r \ge 1$ .

Under the conditions  $\omega_3 \neq 0$  and  $\omega_2 + \omega_4 \neq 0$ , from (3.6), (2.39), (3.3), (4.19) and (4.20), we get

$$Z(m) = 3^{\lceil \frac{\omega_2 + \omega_4}{2} - 1 \rceil} \widehat{E}_{\alpha'(m)}$$

From (4.21), it follows that

$$T_r^{(i)}(x) = \sum_{\substack{n = 2^{\gamma(m) + r} m \in \mathcal{A}, \ n \le x, \ \omega_3 \ne 0, \ \omega_2 + \omega_4 \ne 0 \\ \alpha'(m) \equiv i \pmod{12}}} \rho(m).$$

Now, by Theorem 3.2, we know that  $2^{\gamma(m)+r}m$  belongs to A if there is some  $l \in \mathcal{S}_r = \{2^r+1,...,2^{r+1}-1\}$  such that  $m \equiv l^{-1}Z(m) \mod 2^{r+1}$ . Note that the order of 3 modulo  $2^{r+1}$  is  $2^{r-1}$  if  $r \geq 2$  and  $2^r$  if r = 1. We choose

$$u = r + 1$$

so that  $\omega_2 + \omega_4 \equiv \lambda \pmod{2^{r+1}}$  implies  $3^{\lceil \frac{\lambda}{2} - 1 \rceil} \equiv 3^{\lceil \frac{\omega_2 + \omega_4}{2} - 1 \rceil} \pmod{2^{r+1}}$ . Therefore, we have

$$T_r^{(i)}(x) = \sum_{l \in S_r} \sum_{\lambda=0}^{2^{r+1}-1} \sum_{\substack{2^{\omega_3(m)} m \leq 2^{-\nu_i - \tau} x, \ \omega_3 \neq 0, \ \omega_2 + \omega_4 \neq 0 \\ \alpha'(m) \equiv i \pmod{12}, \ \omega_2 + \omega_4 \equiv \lambda \pmod{2^{r+1}}} \rho(m).$$

As in the case r=0, we can remove the conditions  $\omega_3 \neq 0$  and  $\omega_2 + \omega_4 \neq 0$  in the last sum by adding a  $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{3}}}\right)$  error term, and we get by Lemma 4.7

for r fixed

$$T_r^{(i)}(x) = \sum_{l \in \mathcal{S}_r} \sum_{\substack{\lambda = 0 \\ \lambda \equiv i \pmod{2}}}^{2^{r+1}-1} G_{i,r,r+1,\lambda,l^{-1}3^{\lceil \frac{\lambda}{2}-1 \rceil} \widehat{E}_i} \left(\frac{x}{2^{\nu_i + r}}\right) \; + \; \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{3}}}\right)$$

$$(4.29) = \frac{C}{2^4} \frac{x}{2^{\nu_i + r} (\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}} \left( 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{(\log x)^{2^{-2r-5}}}\right) \right).$$

From (4.26), (4.28), (4.29) and (4.18), we have

$$\mathcal{B}_{R}(x) = \frac{Cx}{12(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}} \left( \left( \sum_{i=0}^{11} \frac{1}{2^{\nu_{i}}} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{r=1}^{R} \frac{1}{2^{r}} \right) + \mathcal{O}\left( \frac{1}{(\log x)^{2-2R-5}} \right) \right)$$
$$= \frac{37}{24} \frac{Cx}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}} \left( \frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{2^{R}} \right) \left( 1 + \mathcal{O}\left( \frac{1}{(\log x)^{2-2R-5}} \right) \right).$$

By making R going to infinity, the above equality together with (4.27) show that

(4.30) 
$$\mathcal{B}(x) \sim \frac{37}{16} \frac{Cx}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}}, \ x \to \infty.$$

In a similar way, we can show that  $\widehat{\mathcal{B}}(x)$  defined in (4.17) satisfies

$$\widehat{\mathcal{B}}(x) \sim \frac{1}{31} \mathcal{B}(x) \sim \frac{37}{16 \cdot 31} \frac{x}{(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}}$$

which, with (4.16) and (4.15), completes the proof of Theorem 4.1 with

$$\kappa = \frac{37}{16} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{31} \right) C = \frac{74}{31} C = 1.469696766...$$

## Numerical computation of A(x).

There are three ways to compute A(x). The first one uses the definition of  $\mathcal{A}$  and simultaneously calculates the number of partitions  $p(\mathcal{A},n)$  for  $n \leq x$ ; it is rather slow. The second one is based on the relation (1.10) and the congruences (2.19) and (2.23) satisfied by  $\sigma(\mathcal{A},n)$ . The third one calculates  $\omega_j(n)$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq 5$ , in view of applying Theorem 2.2. The two last methods can be encoded in a sieving process

The following table displays the values of A(x),  $A_1(x)$ , ...,  $A_4(x)$  as defined in (4.14) and also

$$c(x) = \frac{A(x)(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}}{x}, \ c_1(x) = \frac{A_1(x)(\log x)^{\frac{1}{4}}}{x}.$$

It seems that c(x) and  $c_1(x)$  converge very slowly to  $\kappa = 1.469696766...$ , which is impossible to guess from the table.

$\overline{x}$	A(x)	c(x)	$A_1(x)$	$c_1(x)$	$A_2(x)$	$A_3(x)$	$A_4(x)$
$10^{3}$	480	0.7782	20	0.032	44	233	183
$10^{4}$	4543	0.7914	361	0.063	532	2294	1356
$10^{5}$	43023	0.7925	5087	0.094	5361	21810	10765
$10^{6}$	411764	0.7939	60565	0.117	52344	208633	90222
$10^{7}$	3981774	0.7978	680728	0.136	506199	200716	8 787679
108	38719773	0.8022	7403138	0.153	4887357	193905	29   7038749

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