

## Overpartition function modulo powers of 2

Xue Yang<sup>1</sup> · Su-Ping Cui<sup>1</sup> · Bernard L. S. Lin<sup>2</sup>

Received: 8 October 2015 / Accepted: 11 February 2016 / Published online: 21 April 2016  
© Springer Science+Business Media New York 2016

**Abstract** Let  $\bar{p}(n)$  denote the number of overpartitions of  $n$ . Recently, congruences modulo powers of 2 for  $\bar{p}(n)$  were widely studied. In this paper, we prove several new infinite families of congruences modulo powers of 2 for  $\bar{p}(n)$ . For example, for  $\alpha \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\bar{p}(8 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+4}n + 5 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+3}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^8}.$$

**Keywords** Partition · Overpartition · Congruence

**Mathematics Subject Classification** 05A17 · 11P83

---

The first author was supported by Research and Practice of Improving the Teaching Effectiveness of Higher Mathematics in Private College[Gh14662]. The third author was supported by the Training Program Foundation for Distinguished Young Scholars and Research Talents of Fujian Higher Education (No. JA14171).

---

✉ Su-Ping Cui  
jiayoucui@163.com

Xue Yang  
yangxueedu@163.com

Bernard L. S. Lin  
linlsjmu@163.com

<sup>1</sup> Department of Basic Subjects Teaching, Changchun Architecture & Civil Engineering College, Changchun 130607, Jilin, People's Republic of China

<sup>2</sup> School of Science, Jimei University, Xiamen 361021, People's Republic of China

### 1 Introduction

A partition of a positive integer  $n$  is a nonincreasing sequence of positive integers whose sum is  $n$ . An overpartition of  $n$  is a partition of  $n$  in which the first occurrence of a number may be overlined. Let  $\overline{p}(n)$  denote the number of overpartitions of  $n$ , and we assume that  $\overline{p}(0) = 1$ . From [6], we know that the generating function for  $\overline{p}(n)$  is given by

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \overline{p}(n)q^n = \frac{(-q; q)_{\infty}}{(q; q)_{\infty}}, \tag{1.1}$$

where

$$(a; q)_{\infty} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - aq^{n-1}), \quad |q| < 1.$$

The arithmetic properties of  $\overline{p}(n)$  were widely studied in the literature. Fortin, Jacob and Mathieu [9], and Hirschhorn and Sellers [10] established the 2-, 3-, and 4-dissections of the generating function for  $\overline{p}(n)$ , from which some congruences modulo 4 and 8 are obtained. In particular, they obtained the following three Ramanujan type identities:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \overline{p}(2n + 1)q^n = 2 \frac{(q^2; q^2)_{\infty}^2 (q^8; q^8)_{\infty}^2}{(q; q)_{\infty}^4 (q^4; q^4)_{\infty}}, \tag{1.2}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \overline{p}(4n + 3)q^n = 8 \frac{(q^2; q^2)_{\infty} (q^4; q^4)_{\infty}^6}{(q; q)_{\infty}^8}, \tag{1.3}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \overline{p}(8n + 7)q^n = 64 \frac{(q^2; q^2)_{\infty}^{22}}{(q; q)_{\infty}^{23}}. \tag{1.4}$$

Hirschhorn and Sellers [10] also conjectured that if  $p$  is an odd prime and  $r$  is a quadratic nonresidue modulo  $p$ ,

$$\overline{p}(pn + r) \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{4} & \text{if } p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}, \\ 0 \pmod{8} & \text{if } p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

The above conjecture later was confirmed by Kim [14]. Mahlburg [16] conjectured that for all positive integers  $k$ ,  $\overline{p}(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^k}$  holds for a set of integers of arithmetic density 1 and proved the case  $k = 6$ . In [13], Kim confirmed the case  $k = 7$ , and the conjecture is still open. Recently, Ramanujan type congruences modulo 16 and 32 have been considered by several authors, see [5,20,21], for example. For congruences modulo 5 for  $\overline{p}(n)$ , we refer the reader to [3,4,8,15,17,18]. For modulo powers of 3, see [11,19,21].

The aim of this paper is to derive infinite families of congruences for  $\overline{p}(n)$  modulo powers of 2. Here we list our main results in the following theorems.

**Theorem 1.1** For  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $n \geq 0$ , we have

$$\overline{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+2}n + 31 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^5}, \tag{1.5}$$

$$\overline{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+2}n + 39 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^5}, \tag{1.6}$$

$$\overline{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+4}n + 31 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^6}, \tag{1.7}$$

$$\overline{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+4}n + 39 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^6}, \tag{1.8}$$

$$\overline{p}\left(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+8}n + (8i + 7) \cdot 5^{8\alpha+7}\right) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^6}, \tag{1.9}$$

where  $i = 0, 2, 3, 4$ .

**Theorem 1.2** For  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $n \geq 0$ , we have

$$\overline{p}(8 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+2}n + (8i + 5)7^{4\alpha+1}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^5}, \tag{1.10}$$

where  $i = 3, 4, 6$ , and

$$\overline{p}(8 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+4}n + (8i + 5)7^{4\alpha+3}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^5}, \tag{1.11}$$

where  $i = 0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6$ .

**Theorem 1.3** For  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $n \geq 0$ , we have

$$\overline{p}(8 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+4}n + 5 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+3}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^8}, \tag{1.12}$$

$$\overline{p}(8 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+4}n + 13 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+3}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^8}. \tag{1.13}$$

## 2 Preliminaries

Let  $f(a, b)$  be Ramanujan’s general theta function given by

$$f(a, b) := \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} b^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}}, \quad |ab| < 1.$$

Jacobi’s triple product identity can be stated in Ramanujan’s notation as follows:

$$f(a, b) = (-a; ab)_{\infty}(-b; ab)_{\infty}(ab; ab)_{\infty}.$$

Thus,

$$\psi(q) := f(q, q^3) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}} = \frac{(q^2; q^2)_{\infty}^2}{(q; q)_{\infty}}.$$

In order to prove our results, we need the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.1** [7] *For any odd prime  $p$ ,*

$$\psi(q) = \sum_{k=0}^{\frac{p-3}{2}} q^{\frac{k^2+k}{2}} f\left(q^{\frac{p^2+(2k+1)p}{2}}, q^{\frac{p^2-(2k+1)p}{2}}\right) + q^{\frac{p^2-1}{8}} \psi(q^{p^2}).$$

Furthermore, we claim that for  $0 \leq k \leq (p - 3)/2$ ,

$$\frac{k^2 + k}{2} \not\equiv \frac{p^2 - 1}{8} \pmod{p}.$$

In particular, setting  $p = 5, 7$  in Lemma 2.1, we have

$$\psi(q) = f(q^{10}, q^{15}) + qf(q^5, q^{20}) + q^3\psi(q^{25}), \tag{2.1}$$

$$\psi(q) = f(q^{21}, q^{28}) + qf(q^{14}, q^{35}) + q^3f(q^7, q^{42}) + q^6\psi(q^{49}). \tag{2.2}$$

For convenience, we rewrite (2.1) as the following simple form

$$\psi(q) = A_0 + qA_1 + q^3A_3, \tag{2.3}$$

where  $A_0 = f(q^{10}, q^{15})$ ,  $A_1 = f(q^5, q^{20})$ ,  $A_3 = \psi(q^{25})$ .

**Lemma 2.2** [1, p. 26, (1.6.7)]

$$\psi^2(q) - q\psi^2(q^5) = f(q, q^4)f(q^2, q^3).$$

From (2.3) and Lemma 2.2, we see that

$$\psi^2(q^5) - q^5\psi^2(q^{25}) = A_0A_1. \tag{2.4}$$

**Lemma 2.3** *For integer  $n \geq 1$ , we have*

$$(q^n; q^n)_\infty^4 \equiv (q^{2n}; q^{2n})_\infty^2 \pmod{4},$$

$$(q^n; q^n)_\infty^8 \equiv (q^{2n}; q^{2n})_\infty^4 \pmod{8}.$$

### 3 Proof of Theorem 1.1

To prove Theorem 1.1, we first need to establish following lemma.

**Lemma 3.1** For  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $n \geq 0$ , we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p} \left( 8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha} n + 3 \cdot 5^{8\alpha} \right) q^n \equiv 8\psi^3(q) \pmod{64}, \tag{3.1}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p} \left( 8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1} n + 7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1} \right) q^n \equiv 24q\psi^3(q^5) - 16\psi(q^5)\psi^2(q) \pmod{64}, \tag{3.2}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p} \left( 8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3} n + 7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3} \right) q^n \equiv 40q\psi^3(q^5) + 32\psi(q^5)\psi^2(q) \pmod{64}, \tag{3.3}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p} \left( 8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+7} n + 7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+7} \right) q^n \equiv 8q\psi^3(q^5) \pmod{64}. \tag{3.4}$$

*Proof* From (1.3), we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(4n + 3)q^n \equiv 8 \frac{(q^2; q^2)_{\infty} (q^4; q^4)_{\infty}^6}{(q^2; q^2)_{\infty}^4} \pmod{64},$$

and

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8n + 3)q^n \equiv 8\psi^3(q) \pmod{64}. \tag{3.5}$$

Define  $a(n)$  as follows:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(n)q^n = \psi^3(q). \tag{3.6}$$

Thus,

$$\bar{p}(8n + 3) \equiv 8a(n) \pmod{64}. \tag{3.7}$$

Applying (2.3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(n)q^n &= A_0^3 + 3qA_0^2A_1 + 3q^2A_0A_1^2 + q^3A_1^3 + 3q^3A_0^2A_3 \\ &\quad + 6q^4A_0A_1A_3 + 3q^5A_1^2A_3 + 3q^6A_0A_3^2 + 3q^7A_1A_3^2 + q^9A_3^3. \end{aligned}$$

Applying (2.4), it can be seen that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(5n + 4)q^{5n+4} &= q^9\psi^3(q^{25}) + 6q^4\psi(q^{25})f(q^5, q^{20})f(q^{10}, q^{15}) \\ &= q^9\psi^3(q^{25}) + 6q^4\psi(q^{25})\left(\psi^2(q^5) - q^5\psi^2(q^{25})\right) \\ &= -5q^9\psi^3(q^{25}) + 6q^4\psi(q^{25})\psi^2(q^5), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(5n + 4)q^n \equiv 3q\psi^3(q^5) - 2\psi(q^5)\psi^2(q) \pmod{8}. \tag{3.8}$$

Using (2.3) and (2.4) again, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(5(5n + 1) + 4)q^{5n+1} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(25n + 9)q^{5n+1} \\ &\equiv 3q\psi^3(q^5) - 2\psi(q^5)\left(q^6A_3^2 + 2qA_0A_1\right) \\ &\equiv 3q\psi^3(q^5) - 2\psi(q^5)\left(q^6\psi^2(q^{25}) + 2q\psi^2(q^5) - 2q^6\psi^2(q^{25})\right) \\ &\equiv -q\psi^3(q^5) + 2q^6\psi^2(q^{25})\psi(q^5) \pmod{8}. \end{aligned}$$

That is,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(25n + 9)q^n \equiv -\psi^3(q) + 2q\psi^2(q^5)\psi(q) \pmod{8}.$$

Applying (2.1) and (3.8), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a\left(5^2(5n + 4) + 9\right)q^n &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a\left(5^3n + \frac{7 \cdot 5^3 - 3}{8}\right)q^n \\ &\equiv 5q\psi^3(q^5) + 2\psi(q^5)\psi^2(q) + 2\psi^2(q)\psi(q^5) \pmod{8} \\ &= 5q\psi^3(q^5) + 4\psi(q^5)\psi^2(q). \end{aligned} \tag{3.9}$$

Using (2.3) and (2.4), we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^3(5n + 1) + \frac{7 \cdot 5^3 - 3}{8} \right) q^{5n+1} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^4n + \frac{3 \cdot (5^4 - 1)}{8} \right) q^{5n+1} \\ &\equiv 5q\psi^3(q^5) + 4\psi(q^5) \left( q^6 A_3^2 + 2q A_0 A_1 \right) \\ &\equiv 5q\psi^3(q^5) + 4q^6\psi^2(q^{25})\psi(q^5) \pmod{8}, \end{aligned}$$

namely,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^4n + \frac{3 \cdot (5^4 - 1)}{8} \right) q^n \equiv 5\psi^3(q) + 4q\psi^2(q^5)\psi(q) \pmod{8}.$$

Based on (2.1) and (3.8), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^4(5n + 4) + \frac{3 \cdot (5^4 - 1)}{8} \right) q^n &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^5n + \frac{7 \cdot 5^5 - 3}{8} \right) q^n \\ &\equiv -25q\psi^3(q^5) - 10\psi^2(q)\psi(q^5) + 4\psi^2(q)\psi(q^5) \\ &\equiv -q\psi^3(q^5) + 2\psi^2(q)\psi(q^5) \pmod{8}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^5(5n + 1) + \frac{7 \cdot 5^5 - 3}{8} \right) q^{5n+1} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^6n + \frac{3 \cdot (5^6 - 1)}{8} \right) q^{5n+1} \\ &\equiv -q\psi^3(q^5) + 2\psi(q^5) \left( q^6 A_3^2 + 2q A_0 A_1 \right) \\ &\equiv 3q\psi^3(q^5) - 2q^6\psi(q^5)\psi^2(q^{25}) \pmod{8}, \end{aligned}$$

so it follows that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^6n + \frac{3 \cdot (5^6 - 1)}{8} \right) q^n \equiv 3\psi^3(q) - 2q\psi(q)\psi^2(q^5) \pmod{8}.$$

From (2.1) and (3.8), it can be seen that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^6(5n + 4) + \frac{3 \cdot (5^6 - 1)}{8} \right) q^n \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^7n + \frac{7 \cdot 5^7 - 3}{8} \right) q^n \\ &\equiv -15q\psi^3(q^5) - 6\psi(q^5)\psi^2(q) - 2\psi(q^5)\psi^2(q) \\ &\equiv q\psi^3(q^5) \pmod{8}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^7(5n + 1) + \frac{7 \cdot 5^7 - 3}{8} \right) q^n &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^8n + \frac{3 \cdot (5^8 - 1)}{8} \right) q^n \\ &\equiv \psi^3(q) \pmod{8}. \end{aligned}$$

So we have the following useful relation:

$$a \left( 5^8n + \frac{3 \cdot (5^8 - 1)}{8} \right) \equiv a(n) \pmod{8}.$$

By induction, we have

$$a \left( 5^{8\alpha}n + \frac{3 \cdot (5^{8\alpha} - 1)}{8} \right) \equiv a(n) \pmod{8}. \tag{3.12}$$

Using (3.6), (3.8), (3.9), (3.11) and (3.12), we deduce that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^{8\alpha}n + \frac{3 \cdot (5^{8\alpha} - 1)}{8} \right) q^n \equiv \psi^3(q) \pmod{8}, \tag{3.13}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^{8\alpha+1}n + \frac{7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1} - 3}{8} \right) q^n \equiv 3q\psi^3(q^5) - 2\psi(q^5)\psi^2(q) \pmod{8}, \tag{3.14}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^{8\alpha+3}n + \frac{7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3} - 3}{8} \right) q^n \equiv 5q\psi^3(q^5) + 4\psi(q^5)\psi^2(q) \pmod{8}, \tag{3.15}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a \left( 5^{8\alpha+7}n + \frac{7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+7} - 3}{8} \right) q^n \equiv q\psi^3(q^5) \pmod{8}. \tag{3.16}$$

Using the above relations and (3.7), we can easily get the desired results. □



*Proof of Theorem 1.1* Applying (2.3) and (3.2), we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1}n + 7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1})q^n \\ & \equiv -40q\psi^3(q^5) - 16\psi(q^5) \\ & \quad \times \left( A_0^2 + q^2A_1^2 + q^6A_3^2 + 2qA_0A_1 + 2q^3A_0A_3 + 2q^4A_1A_3 \right) \pmod{64}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1}(5n + 3) + 7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1})q^{5n+3} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+2}n + 31 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1})q^{5n+3} \\ &\equiv -16\psi(q^5)(2q^3A_0A_3) \pmod{64}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1}(5n + 4) + 7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1})q^{5n+4} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+2}n + 39 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+1})q^{5n+4} \\ &\equiv -16\psi(q^5)(2q^4A_1A_3) \pmod{64}. \end{aligned}$$

This yields the first two congruences of the theorem. In addition, applying (2.3) and (3.3), we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3}n + 7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3})q^n \\ & \equiv 40q\psi^3(q^5) + 32\psi(q^5) \\ & \quad \times \left( A_0^2 + q^2A_1^2 + q^6A_3^2 + 2qA_0A_1 + 2q^3A_0A_3 + 2q^4A_1A_3 \right) \pmod{64}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3}(5n + 3) + 7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3})q^{5n+3} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+4}n + 31 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3})q^{5n+3} \\ &\equiv 32q^3\psi(q^5)(2A_0A_3) \\ &\equiv 0 \pmod{64}, \end{aligned} \tag{3.17}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3}(5n+4) + 7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3})q^{5n+4} \\
 &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+4}n + 39 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+3})q^{5n+4} \\
 &\equiv 32q^4\psi(q^5)(2A_1A_3) \\
 &\equiv 0 \pmod{64}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{3.18}$$

From (3.4), we see that for  $i = 0, 2, 3, 4$ ,

$$\bar{p}\left(8 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+7}(5n+i) + 7 \cdot 5^{8\alpha+7}\right) \equiv 0 \pmod{64}.$$

Therefore, we finish the proof. □

### 4 Proof of Theorem 1.2

**Lemma 4.1** For  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $n \geq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 7^{4\alpha}n + 3 \cdot 7^{4\alpha})q^n \equiv 8\psi^3(q) \pmod{32}, \\
 & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+1}n + 5 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+1})q^n \equiv 16f_1f_{14} + 8q^2\psi^3(q^7) \pmod{32},
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+2}n + 3 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+2})q^n \equiv 16f_2f_7 + 8\psi^3(q) \pmod{32}, \\
 & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+3}n + 5 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+3})q^n \equiv 8q^2\psi^3(q^7) \pmod{32},
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{4.2}$$

where  $f_n := (q^n; q^n)_{\infty}$ .

*Proof* From (3.5), we have

$$\bar{p}(8n+3) \equiv 8a(n) \pmod{32}.
 \tag{4.3}$$

Recalling the generating function (3.6) of  $a(n)$  and the following fact

$$f(q, q^6)f(q^2, q^5)f(q^3, q^4) = \frac{f_2f_7^4}{f_1f_{14}},$$

it is not hard to see that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(7n + 4)q^n &\equiv 2 \frac{f_2 f_7^4}{f_1 f_{14}} + q^2 \psi^3(q^7) \pmod{4} \\ &\equiv 2 f_1 f_{14} + q^2 \psi^3(q^7) \pmod{4}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.4}$$

From [2, p. 303, Entry 17(v)], we have the 7-dissection

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= f_{49} \frac{f(-q^{14}, -q^{35})}{f(-q^7, -q^{42})} - q f_{49} \frac{f(-q^{21}, -q^{28})}{f(-q^{14}, -q^{35})} \\ &\quad - q^2 f_{49} + q^5 f_{49} \frac{f(-q^7, -q^{42})}{f(-q^{21}, -q^{28})}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.5}$$

Thanks to (4.5), we obtain that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(7(7n + 2) + 4)q^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(49n + 18)q^n \equiv -2 f_7 f_2 + \psi^3(q) \pmod{4}. \tag{4.6}$$

Then in view of (4.4) and (4.5), it can be seen that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(49(7n + 4) + 18)q^n &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(7^3 n + 214)q^n \\ &\equiv -2 f_1 f_{14} + 2 f_1 f_{14} + q^2 \psi^3(q^7) \pmod{4} \\ &= q^2 \psi^3(q^7), \end{aligned} \tag{4.7}$$

and

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(7^3(7n + 2) + 214)q^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(7^4 n + 900)q^n \equiv \psi^3(q) \pmod{4}. \tag{4.8}$$

Thus, from (3.6) and (4.8), we see that

$$a(7^4 n + 900) \equiv a(n) \pmod{4}. \tag{4.9}$$

Using (3.6), (4.4), (4.6), (4.7), (4.9) and (4.3), by induction, it is easy to establish the desired results. □

We are now in a position to prove Theorem 1.2.

*Proof of Theorem 1.2* From (4.1) and (4.5), we deduce that

$$\bar{p}(8 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+1}(7n + i) + 5 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+1}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^5},$$

where  $i = 3, 4, 6$ . In view of (4.2), we obtain

$$\bar{p}(8 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+3}(7n+i) + 5 \cdot 7^{4\alpha+3}) \equiv 0 \pmod{2^5},$$

for  $i = 0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

## 5 Proof of Theorem 1.3

From Lemma 2.1, we have

$$\psi(q) = B_0 + B_1, \quad (5.1)$$

where  $B_0 = f(q^3, q^6)$ ,  $B_1 = q\psi(q^9)$ .

To prove Theorem 1.3, we need the following three lemmas.

**Lemma 5.1** [12, Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2]

$$\frac{1}{\psi(q)} = \frac{\psi(q^9)}{\psi^4(q^3)} \left( B_0^2 - B_0 B_1 + B_1^2 \right), \quad (5.2)$$

$$B_0^3 = \frac{\psi^4(q^3)}{\psi(q^9)} - q^3 \psi^3(q^9). \quad (5.3)$$

**Lemma 5.2** Let  $c(n)$  be defined by

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c(n)q^n = \psi^4(q).$$

Then we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c(3n+1)q^{3n+1} \equiv q^4 \psi^4(q^9) \pmod{4}.$$

*Proof* Using (5.1), we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c(n)q^n = (B_0 + B_1)^4.$$

Then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c(3n+1)q^{3n+1} = B_1^4 + 4B_0^3 B_1 \equiv q^4 \psi^4(q^9) \pmod{4}.$$

$\square$

**Lemma 5.3** Let  $d(n)$  be defined by

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d(n)q^n = \psi^8(q).$$

We have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d(3n + 2)q^{3n+2} \equiv q^8 \psi^8(q^9) \pmod{4}.$$

*Proof* Since

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d(n)q^n = (B_0 + B_1)^8,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d(3n + 2)q^{3n+2} &= B_1^8 + \frac{8!}{3!5!} B_1^5 B_0^3 + \frac{8!}{2!6!} B_1^2 B_0^6 \\ &\equiv q^8 \psi^8(q^9) \pmod{4}. \end{aligned}$$

□

*Proof of Theorem 1.3* From (1.4), we see that

$$\frac{1}{64} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8n + 7)q^n \equiv \psi^7(q) = (B_0 + B_1)^7 \pmod{4}.$$

Setting

$$\frac{1}{64} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8n + 7)q^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(n)q^n, \tag{5.4}$$

we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(3n + 1)q^{3n+1} \equiv 7B_0^6 B_1 + 35B_0^3 B_1^4 + B_1^7 \pmod{4}.$$

Applying (5.3), we see that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(3n + 1)q^{3n+1} \equiv q^4 \psi^3(q^9) \psi^4(q^3) + q^7 \psi^7(q^9) - q \frac{\psi^8(q^3)}{\psi(q^9)} \pmod{4}, \tag{5.5}$$

and

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(3n+1)q^n \equiv q\psi^3(q^3)\psi^4(q) + q^2\psi^7(q^3) - \frac{\psi^8(q)}{\psi(q^3)} \pmod{4}.$$

From Lemmas 5.2 and 5.3, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(3(3n+2)+1)q^{3n+2} &\equiv q\psi^3(q^3) \cdot q^4\psi^4(q^9) + q^2\psi^7(q^3) \\ &\quad - \frac{q^8\psi^8(q^9)}{\psi(q^3)} \pmod{4}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(9n+7)q^n \equiv q\psi^3(q)\psi^4(q^3) - \frac{q^2\psi^8(q^3)}{\psi(q)} + \psi^7(q) \pmod{4}.$$

Employing (5.1), (5.5) and Lemma 5.1, it can be seen that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(9(3n+1)+7)q^{3n+1} &\equiv q(B_0^3 + B_1^3)\psi^4(q^3) - q^2\psi^8(q^3) \frac{q^2\psi^3(q^9)}{\psi^4(q^3)} \\ &\quad + q^4\psi^3(q^9)\psi^4(q^3) + q^7\psi^7(q^9) - q \frac{\psi^8(q^3)}{\psi(q^9)} \pmod{4} \\ &= q^7\psi^7(q^9), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(27n+16)q^n \equiv q^2\psi^7(q^3) \pmod{4}. \quad (5.6)$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(27(3n+2)+16)q^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(3^4n+70)q^n \equiv \psi^7(q) \pmod{4}.$$

Thus, we have

$$f(n) \equiv f(3^4n+70) \pmod{4}.$$

Based on the above relation, by induction, we obtain that for  $\alpha \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f\left(3^{4\alpha}n + \frac{7 \cdot 3^{4\alpha} - 7}{8}\right) q^n \equiv \psi^7(q) \pmod{4}.$$

Combining the above relation and (5.6), we find that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f\left(3^{4\alpha+3}n + \frac{5 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+3} - 7}{8}\right) q^n \equiv q^2 \psi^7(q^3) \pmod{4}. \quad (5.7)$$

From (5.4) and (5.7), we see that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+3}n + 5 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+3}) q^n \equiv q^2 \psi^7(q^3) \pmod{2^8}. \quad (5.8)$$

Since there are no terms on the right of (5.8) in which the powers of  $q$  are congruent to 0, 1 modulo 3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{p}(8 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+3}(3n) + 5 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+3}) &\equiv 0 \pmod{2^8}, \\ \bar{p}(8 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+3}(3n+1) + 5 \cdot 3^{4\alpha+3}) &\equiv 0 \pmod{2^8}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

## References

1. Andrews, G.E., Berndt, B.C.: Ramanujan's Lost Notebooks, Part I. Springer, New York (2005)
2. Berndt, B.C.: Ramanujan's Notebooks, Part III. Springer, New York (1991)
3. Chen, W.Y.C., Xia, E.X.W.: Proof of a conjecture of Hirschhorn and Sellers on overpartitions. *Acta Arith.* **163**, 59–69 (2014)
4. Chen, W.Y.C., Sun, L.H., Wang, R.H., Zhang, L.: Ramanujan-type congruences for overpartitions modulo 5. *J. Number Theory* **148**, 62–72 (2015)
5. Chen, W.Y.C., Hou, Q.-H., Sun, L.H., Zhang, L.: Ramanujan-type congruences for overpartitions modulo 16. *Ramanujan J.* doi:10.1007/s11139-015-9689-5 (to appear)
6. Corteel, S., Lovejoy, J.: Overpartitions. *Trans. Am. Math. Soc.* **356**, 1623–1635 (2004)
7. Cui, S.-P., Gu, N.S.S.: Arithmetic properties of  $\ell$ -regular partitions. *Adv. Appl. Math.* **51**, 507–523 (2013)
8. Dou, D.Q.J., Lin, B.L.S.: New Ramanujan type congruences modulo 5 for overpartitions. *Ramanujan J.* (2016). doi:10.1007/s11139-016-9782-4
9. Fortin, J.-F., Jacob, P., Mathieu, P.: Jagged partitions. *Ramanujan J.* **10**, 215–235 (2005)
10. Hirschhorn, M.D., Sellers, J.A.: Arithmetic relations for overpartitions. *J. Comb. Math. Comb. Comput.* **53**, 65–73 (2005)
11. Hirschhorn, M.D., Sellers, J.A.: An infinite family of overpartitions modulo 12. *Integers* **5**, A20 (2005)
12. Hirschhorn, M.D., Sellers, J.A.: Arithmetic properties of partitions with odd parts distinct. *Ramanujan J.* **22**, 273–284 (2010)
13. Kim, B.: The overpartition function modulo 128. *Integers* **8**, A38 (2005)
14. Kim, B.: A short note on the overpartition function. *Discret. Math.* **309**, 2528–2532 (2009)
15. Lin, B.L.S.: A new proof of a conjecture of Hirschhorn and Sellers on overpartitions. *Ramanujan J.* **38**, 199–209 (2015)

16. Mahlburg, K.: The overpartition function modulo small powers of 2. *Discret. Math.* **286**, 263–267 (2004)
17. Treeneer, S.: Congruences for coefficients of weakly holomorphic modular forms. *Proc. Lond. Math. Soc.* **93**, 304–324 (2006)
18. Wang, L.: Another proof of a conjecture of Hirschhorn and Sellers on overpartitions. *J. Integer Seq.* **17**, 3 (2014), Article 14.9.8
19. Xia, E.X.W.: Congruences modulo 9 and 27 for overpartitions. *Ramanujan J.* doi:[10.1007/s11139-015-9739-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11139-015-9739-z) (to appear)
20. Xiong, X.-H.: Overpartition function modulo 16 and some binary quadratic forms, *Int. J. Number Theory*. doi:[10.1142/S1793042116500731](https://doi.org/10.1142/S1793042116500731) (to appear)
21. Yao, O.X.M., Xia, E.X.W.: New Ramanujan-like congruences modulo powers of 2 and 3 for overpartitions. *J. Number Theory* **133**, 1932–1949 (2013)