



Research article

# Supercongruences involving Apéry-like numbers and binomial coefficients

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**Abstract:** Let  $\{S_n\}$  be the Apéry-like sequence given by  $S_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{2n-2k}{n-k}$ . We show that for any odd prime  $p$ ,  $\sum_{n=1}^{p-1} \frac{nS_n}{8^n} \equiv (1 - (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}})p^2 \pmod{p^3}$ . Let  $\{Q_n\}$  be the Apéry-like sequence given by  $Q_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-8)^{n-k} \sum_{r=0}^k \binom{k}{r}^3$ . We establish many congruences concerning  $Q_n$ . For an odd prime  $p$ , we also deduce congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^3 \frac{1}{64^k} \pmod{p^3}$ ,  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^3 \frac{1}{64^{k(k+1)^2}} \pmod{p^2}$  and  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^3 \frac{1}{64^{k(2k-1)}} \pmod{p}$ , and pose lots of conjectures on congruences involving binomial coefficients and Apéry-like numbers.

**Keywords:** congruence; binomial coefficient; Apéry-like number; Euler number; binary quadratic form  
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## 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathbb{Z}$  be the set of integers. In 2009, Zagier [36] studied the Apéry-like numbers  $\{u_n\}$  satisfying

$$u_0 = 1, u_1 = b \quad \text{and} \quad (n + 1)^2 u_{n+1} = (an(n + 1) + b)u_n - cn^2 u_{n-1} \quad (n \geq 1),$$

where  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $c \neq 0$  and  $u_n \in \mathbb{Z}$  for  $n \geq 1$ . Let

$$\begin{aligned} A'_n &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{k}, & f_n &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^3 = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{2k}{n}, \\ S_n &= \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{n}{2k} 4^{n-2k} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{2n-2k}{n-k}, \\ a_n &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{2k}{k}, & Q_n &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-8)^{n-k} f_k, \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

$$W_n = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/3 \rfloor} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{n}{3k} (-3)^{n-3k},$$

where  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  is the greatest integer not exceeding  $x$ . According to [2,36],  $\{A'_n\}$ ,  $\{f_n\}$ ,  $\{S_n\}$ ,  $\{a_n\}$ ,  $\{Q_n\}$  and  $\{W_n\}$  are Apéry-like sequences with  $(a, b, c) = (11, 3, -1), (7, 2, -8), (12, 4, 32), (10, 3, 9), (-17, -6, 72), (-9, -3, 27)$ , respectively. The sequence  $\{f_n\}$  is called Franel numbers. In [22–25], the author systematically investigated congruences for sums involving  $S_n$ ,  $f_n$  and  $W_n$ . For  $\{A'_n\}$ ,  $\{f_n\}$ ,  $\{S_n\}$ ,  $\{a_n\}$ ,  $\{Q_n\}$  and  $\{W_n\}$  see A005258, A000172, A081085, A002893, A093388 and A291898 in Sloane's database "The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences".

Let  $p$  be an odd prime. In [29], Z. W. Sun posed many congruences modulo  $p^2$  involving Apéry-like numbers. In [24,25], the author conjectured many congruences modulo  $p^3$  involving Apéry-like numbers. In Section 2, we show that for any odd prime  $p$ ,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{p-1} \frac{nS_n}{8^n} \equiv (1 - (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}})p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \quad (1.2)$$

and obtain a congruence for  $\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{A'_n}{4^n} \pmod{p}$ . In Section 3, we establish some transformation formulas for congruences involving Apéry-like numbers and obtain some congruences involving  $a_n$  and  $Q_n$ . For example, for any prime  $p > 3$  we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-8)^n} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-9)^n} \equiv \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \pmod{p^2}, \quad (1.3)$$

where  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$  is the Legendre symbol. We also pose some conjectures on congruences involving  $Q_n$  and  $a_n$ .

For positive integers  $a, b$  and  $n$ , if  $n = ax^2 + by^2$  for some integers  $x$  and  $y$ , we briefly write that  $n = ax^2 + by^2$ . Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. In 1987, Beukers [4] conjectured a congruence equivalent to

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \\ 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 4y^2. \end{cases} \quad (1.4)$$

This congruence was proved by several authors including Ishikawa [8] ( $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ), Van Hamme [7] ( $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ) and Ahlgren [1]. Actually, (1.4) follows immediately from the following identity due to Bell (see [5, (6.35)], [17]):

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{2k} \frac{1}{(-4)^k} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd,} \\ \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \binom{n}{n/2}^2 & \text{if } n \text{ is even.} \end{cases} \quad (1.5)$$

In 2003, Rodriguez-Villegas [14] posed 22 conjectures on supercongruences modulo  $p^2$ . In particular, the following congruences are equivalent to conjectures due to Rodriguez-Villegas:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{108^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{256^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases}$$

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{12^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases} \quad (1.6)$$

These conjectures have been solved by Mortenson [13] and Zhi-Wei Sun [28]. Since  $\frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{k+1} = \binom{2k}{k} - \binom{2k}{k+1}$ , from (1.4), (1.6) and [28], one may deduce that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -(2p+2-2^{p-1})\binom{(p-1)/2}{(p+1)/4} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-8)^k(k+1)} \equiv 6x^2 - 4p \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{for } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{108^k(k+1)} \equiv 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{for } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{256^k(k+1)} \equiv 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{for } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8},$$

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{12^{3k}(k+1)} \equiv 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{for } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}. \quad (1.7)$$

Let  $p$  be an odd prime, and let  $m$  be an integer such that  $p \nmid m$ . In [27, 29], Z. W. Sun posed many conjectures for congruences modulo  $p^2$  involving the sums

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{m^k}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{m^k}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{m^k}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m^k}.$$

For 13 similar conjectures see [16]. Most of these congruences modulo  $p$  were proved by the author in [17–19]. In [25, 26], the author conjectured many congruences modulo  $p^3$  involving the above sums. For instance, for any prime  $p \neq 2, 7$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^3 \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 7y^2, \\ -\frac{11}{4} p^2 \binom{3\lfloor p/7 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/7 \rfloor}^{-2} \equiv -11 p^2 \binom{\lfloor 3p/7 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/7 \rfloor}^{-2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 7 \mid p-3, \\ -\frac{99}{64} p^2 \binom{3\lfloor p/7 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/7 \rfloor}^{-2} \equiv -\frac{11}{16} p^2 \binom{\lfloor 3p/7 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/7 \rfloor}^{-2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 7 \mid p-5, \\ -\frac{25}{176} p^2 \binom{3\lfloor p/7 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/7 \rfloor}^{-2} \equiv -\frac{11}{4} p^2 \binom{\lfloor 3p/7 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/7 \rfloor}^{-2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 7 \mid p-6. \end{cases}$$

Let  $p$  be an odd prime. In Section 4, we deduce congruences for

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k} \pmod{p^3}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(k+1)^2} \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(2k-1)} \pmod{p}.$$

In Section 5, based on calculations by Maple, we pose lots of challenging conjectures on congruences modulo  $p^3$  for the sums

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{m^k(k+1)}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{m^k(2k-1)}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{m^k(2k-1)^2}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{m^k(2k-1)^3}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{m^k(k+1)}, \\ & \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{m^k(2k-1)}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{m^k(k+1)}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{m^k(2k-1)}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m^k(k+1)}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m^k(2k-1)}, \end{aligned}$$

and congruences modulo  $p^2$  for the sums

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{m^k(k+1)^2}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{m^k(2k-1)^2}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{m^k(k+1)^2}, \\ & \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{m^k(k+1)^2}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{m^k(k+1)^2}, \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m^k(k+1)^2}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $m$  is an integer not divisible by  $p$ . As two typical conjectures, if  $p$  is an odd prime with  $p \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}$  and so  $p = x^2 + 7y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{1}{k+1} \binom{2k}{k}^3 \equiv -44y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^3};$$

if  $p \equiv 1, 3, 4, 5, 9 \pmod{11}$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 11y^2$ , then

$$\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) \left(p^2 + \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-32)^{3k} (k+1)}\right) \equiv -26y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^3}.$$

In Section 6, we pose many conjectures on  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} u_k}{m^k(2k-1)}$  modulo  $p^2$ , where  $u_n \in \{A'_n, f_n, S_n, a_n, Q_n, W_n\}$ .

In addition to the above notation, throughout this paper we use the following notations. For a prime  $p$ , let  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  be the set of rational numbers whose denominator is not divisible by  $p$ . For  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ , let  $q_p(a) = (a^{p-1} - 1)/p$  and  $\langle a \rangle_p$  be determined by  $\langle a \rangle_p \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$  and  $a \equiv \langle a \rangle_p \pmod{p}$ . Let  $H_0 = 0$ ,  $H_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}$  ( $n \geq 1$ ) and let  $\{E_n\}$  be the Euler numbers given by

$$E_{2n-1} = 0, \quad E_0 = 1, \quad E_{2n} = - \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{2n}{2k} E_{2n-2k} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots).$$

## 2. Two congruences involving $S_n$ and $A'_n$

Let  $\{S_n\}$  be the Apéry-like sequence given by (1.1). In this section, we prove the congruence (1.2). Z. W. Sun stated the identity

$$S_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{k}{n-k} (-4)^{n-k} \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots), \quad (2.1)$$

which can be easily proved by using WZ method, see [34]. Using this identity we see that for any positive integer  $p$  and a give sequence  $\{c_n\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} c_n \frac{S_n}{8^n} &= \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{c_n}{8^n} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{2k}{k} \binom{k}{n-k} (-4)^{n-k} = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{(-4)^k} \sum_{n=k}^{p-1} \frac{c_n}{(-2)^n} \binom{k}{n-k} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{(-4)^k} \sum_{r=0}^{p-1-k} \frac{c_{k+r}}{(-2)^{k+r}} \binom{k}{r} = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{8^k} \sum_{r=0}^{p-1-k} \binom{k}{r} \frac{c_{k+r}}{(-2)^r}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, for  $p \in \{1, 3, 5, \dots\}$ ,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} c_n \frac{S_n}{8^n} = \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{8^k} \sum_{r=0}^k \binom{k}{r} \frac{c_{k+r}}{(-2)^r} + \sum_{k=(p+1)/2}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{8^k} \sum_{r=0}^{p-1-k} \binom{k}{r} \frac{c_{k+r}}{(-2)^r}. \quad (2.2)$$

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then*

$$\sum_{n=1}^{p-1} \frac{nS_n}{8^n} \equiv (1 - (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}})p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

*Proof.* Clearly,

$$\sum_{r=0}^k \binom{k}{r} \frac{k+r}{(-2)^r} = k \sum_{r=0}^k \binom{k}{r} \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^r - \frac{k}{2} \sum_{r=1}^k \binom{k-1}{r-1} \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{r-1} = \frac{k}{2^k} - \frac{k}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{k-1}} = 0.$$

Thus, taking  $c_n = n$  in (2.2) and then applying the above gives

$$\sum_{n=1}^{p-1} \frac{nS_n}{8^n} = \sum_{k=(p+1)/2}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{8^k} \sum_{r=0}^{p-1-k} \binom{k}{r} \frac{k+r}{(-2)^r} = \sum_{s=1}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2(p-s)}{p-s}^2}{8^{p-s}} \sum_{r=0}^{s-1} \binom{p-s}{r} \frac{p-s+r}{(-2)^r}.$$

Observe that  $p \mid \binom{2k}{k}$  for  $\frac{p}{2} < k < p$ . By [27, Lemma 2.1],

$$\frac{\binom{2(p-s)}{p-s}}{p} \equiv -\frac{2}{s \binom{2s}{s}} \pmod{p} \quad \text{for } s = 1, 2, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}.$$

Now, from the above we deduce that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{p-1} \frac{nS_n}{8^n} \equiv p^2 \sum_{s=1}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{4 \cdot 8^{s-1}}{s^2 \binom{2s}{s}^2} \sum_{r=0}^{s-1} \binom{-s}{r} \frac{r-s}{(-2)^r} \pmod{p^3}. \quad (2.3)$$

By [5, (1.79)],  $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+k}{k} / 2^k = 2^n$ . Since  $\binom{-x}{r} = (-1)^r \binom{x-1+r}{r}$ , we see that for  $s \geq 1$ ,

$$\sum_{r=0}^{s-1} \binom{-s}{r} \frac{1}{(-2)^r} = \sum_{r=0}^{s-1} \binom{s-1+r}{r} \frac{1}{2^r} = 2^{s-1}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{r=0}^{s-1} \binom{-s}{r} \frac{r}{(-2)^r} &= \sum_{r=1}^{s-1} \frac{-s}{r} \binom{-s-1}{r-1} \frac{r}{(-2)^r} = s \sum_{r=1}^{s-1} \binom{s+r-1}{r-1} \frac{1}{2^r} \\ &= \frac{s}{2} \sum_{t=0}^{s-2} \binom{s+t}{t} \frac{1}{2^t} = \frac{s}{2} \left( \sum_{t=0}^s \binom{s+t}{t} \frac{1}{2^t} - \binom{2s}{s} \frac{1}{2^s} - \binom{2s-1}{s-1} \frac{1}{2^{s-1}} \right) \\ &= \frac{s}{2} \left( 2^s - \binom{2s}{s} \frac{1}{2^s} \right) = s \left( 2^{s-1} - \binom{2s}{s} \frac{1}{2^s} \right). \end{aligned}$$

It then follows that

$$\sum_{r=0}^{s-1} \binom{-s}{r} \frac{r-s}{(-2)^r} = s \left( 2^{s-1} - \binom{2s}{s} \frac{1}{2^s} \right) - s \cdot 2^{s-1} = -s \binom{2s}{s} \frac{1}{2^s}.$$

Substituting into (2.3) yields

$$\sum_{n=1}^{p-1} \frac{nS_n}{8^n} \equiv p^2 \sum_{s=1}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{4 \cdot 8^{s-1}}{s^2 \binom{2s}{s}^2} \cdot (-s) \binom{2s}{s} \frac{1}{2^s} = -\frac{p^2}{2} \sum_{s=1}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{4^s}{s \binom{2s}{s}} \pmod{p^3}.$$

By [12,(25)],

$$2 \sum_{s=1}^n \frac{4^{s-1}}{s \binom{2s}{s}} = \frac{4^n}{\binom{2n}{n}} - 1.$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{s=1}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{4^s}{s \binom{2s}{s}} = 2 \left( \frac{4^{\frac{p-1}{2}}}{\binom{p-1}{\frac{p-1}{2}}} - 1 \right) \equiv 2((-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} - 1) \pmod{p}$$

and so

$$\sum_{n=1}^{p-1} \frac{nS_n}{8^n} \equiv -\frac{p^2}{2} \sum_{s=1}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{4^s}{s \binom{2s}{s}} \equiv (1 - (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}) p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

which completes the proof.

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 11$ , then*

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{A'_n}{4^n} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 11y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* For nonnegative integers  $k, m$  and  $n$  with  $k \leq n \leq m$ , it is known that  $\binom{m}{n} \binom{n}{k} = \binom{m}{k} \binom{m-k}{n-k}$ . Thus, applying Vandermonde's identity we see that

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{n=0}^m \binom{m}{n} (-1)^{m-n} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{k} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^m \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{m}{k} \binom{m-k}{n-k} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{n+k}{2k} (-1)^{m-n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} \binom{2k}{k} (-1)^{m-k} \sum_{n=k}^m \binom{m-k}{n-k} \binom{n+k}{2k} (-1)^{n-k} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} \binom{2k}{k} (-1)^{m-k} \sum_{r=0}^{m-k} \binom{m-k}{r} \binom{2k+r}{r} (-1)^r \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} \binom{2k}{k} (-1)^{m-k} \sum_{r=0}^{m-k} \binom{m-k}{m-k-r} \binom{-2k-1}{r} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} \binom{2k}{k} (-1)^{m-k} \binom{m-3k-1}{m-k} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{2k}{m-k} = \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} \binom{2(m-k)}{m-k} \binom{2m-2k}{k}.
\end{aligned}$$

Note that  $p \mid \binom{2k}{k}$  for  $\frac{p}{2} < k < p$  and  $\binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{k} \equiv \binom{-\frac{1}{2}}{k} = \frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{(-4)^k} \pmod{p}$  for  $k < \frac{p}{2}$ . Taking  $m = \frac{p-1}{2}$  in the above, we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{A'_n}{4^n} &\equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{n=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{n} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}-n} A'_n \\
&= (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{k} \binom{2(\frac{p-1}{2}-k)}{\frac{p-1}{2}-k} \binom{p-1-2k}{k} \\
&\equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-1}{2}-k} (-4)^{\frac{p-1}{2}-k} \binom{-2k-1}{k} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{k}^2 4^{\frac{p-1}{2}-k} \binom{3k}{k} \\
&\equiv \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k} \pmod{p}.
\end{aligned}$$

Now applying [18, Theorem 4.4], we deduce the result.

**Remark 2.1.** In [29], Z. W. Sun conjectured that for any odd prime  $p$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} A'_k}{4^k} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 11y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

### 3. Congruences involving $a_n$ and $Q_n$

In this section, we establish some transformation formulas for congruences involving Apéry-like numbers, obtain some congruences involving  $a_n$  and  $Q_n$ , and pose ten conjectures on related congruences.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $n$  be a nonnegative integer, then*

$$f_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^{n-k} a_k = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} 8^{n-k} Q_k,$$

$$Q_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-9)^{n-k} a_k, \quad a_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} f_k = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} 9^{n-k} Q_k.$$

*Proof.* By [15, (38)],  $a_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} f_k$ . Applying the binomial inversion formula gives  $f_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^{n-k} a_k$ . Since  $\frac{Q_n}{(-8)^n} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^k \frac{f_k}{8^k}$ , applying the binomial inversion formula gives  $\frac{f_n}{8^n} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \frac{Q_k}{8^k}$ . Also,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-9)^{n-k} a_k \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^{n-k} a_k \sum_{r=0}^{n-k} \binom{n-k}{r} 8^r = \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} (-8)^r \sum_{k=0}^{n-r} \binom{n-r}{k} (-1)^{n-r-k} a_k \\ &= \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} (-8)^r f_{n-r} = Q_n. \end{aligned}$$

Applying the binomial inversion formula yields  $a_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} 9^{n-k} Q_k$ , which completes the proof.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then*

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-8)^n} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-9)^n} \equiv \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

*Proof.* It is well known that  $\sum_{n=k}^{p-1} \binom{n}{k} = \binom{p}{k+1}$  and  $\binom{p-1}{k} \equiv (-1)^k \pmod{p}$  for  $0 \leq k \leq p-1$ . Since  $Q_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-8)^{n-k} f_k$ , we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-8)^n} &= \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \frac{f_k}{(-8)^k} = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{f_k}{(-8)^k} \sum_{n=k}^{p-1} \binom{n}{k} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{f_k}{(-8)^k} \binom{p}{k+1} = \frac{f_{p-1}}{(-8)^{p-1}} + \sum_{k=0}^{p-2} \frac{f_k}{(-8)^k} \cdot \frac{p}{k+1} \binom{p-1}{k} \\ &\equiv \frac{f_{p-1}}{8^{p-1}} + p \sum_{k=0}^{p-2} \frac{f_k}{(k+1)8^k} = \frac{f_{p-1}}{8^{p-1}} + p \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{f_{p-1-k}}{(p-k)8^{p-1-k}} \\ &\equiv \frac{f_{p-1}}{8^{p-1}} - p \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} \frac{8^k f_{p-1-k}}{k} \pmod{p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

By [11],  $f_k \equiv (-8)^k f_{p-1-k} \pmod{p}$ . Thus,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-8)^n} \equiv \frac{f_{p-1}}{8^{p-1}} - p \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} (-1)^k \frac{f_k}{k} \pmod{p^2}.$$



By [30, Theorem 1.1 and Lemma 2.5],

$$f_{p-1} \equiv 1 + 3pq_p(2) \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} (-1)^k \frac{f_k}{k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-8)^n} \equiv \frac{f_{p-1}}{8^{p-1}} \equiv \frac{1 + 3pq_p(2)}{(1 + pq_p(2))^3} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Using Lemma 3.1,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-9)^n} &= \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \frac{a_k}{(-9)^k} = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{a_k}{(-9)^k} \sum_{n=k}^{p-1} \binom{n}{k} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{a_k}{(-9)^k} \binom{p}{k+1} = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{a_k}{(-9)^k} \cdot \frac{p}{k+1} \binom{p-1}{k} \\ &\equiv \frac{a_{p-1}}{(-9)^{p-1}} + \sum_{k=0}^{p-2} \frac{a_k}{9^k} \cdot \frac{p}{k+1} = \frac{a_{p-1}}{9^{p-1}} + \sum_{r=1}^{p-1} \frac{a_{p-1-r}}{9^{p-1-r}} \cdot \frac{p}{p-r} \\ &\equiv \frac{a_{p-1}}{9^{p-1}} - p \sum_{r=1}^{p-1} \frac{9^r a_{p-1-r}}{r} \pmod{p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

By [11] or [25, Theorem 3.1],  $a_r \equiv \binom{p}{3} 9^r a_{p-1-r} \pmod{p}$ . By [32, Lemma 3.2],  $a_{p-1} \equiv \binom{p}{3} (1 + 2pq_p(3)) \equiv \binom{p}{3} 9^{p-1} \pmod{p^2}$ . Taking  $x = 1$  in [32, (3.6)] gives  $\sum_{r=1}^{p-1} \frac{a_r}{r} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Now, from the above we deduce that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-9)^n} \equiv \frac{a_{p-1}}{9^{p-1}} - p \sum_{r=1}^{p-1} \frac{9^r a_{p-1-r}}{r} \equiv \binom{p}{3} - p \binom{p}{3} \sum_{r=1}^{p-1} \frac{a_r}{r} \equiv \binom{p}{3} \pmod{p^2}.$$

This completes the proof.

**Lemma 3.2.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime and  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  with  $m \not\equiv 0, 1 \pmod{p}$ . Suppose that  $u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{p-1} \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $v_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} u_k$  ( $n \geq 0$ ). Then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{v_k}{m^k} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{u_k}{(m-1)^k} \pmod{p}.$$

*Proof.* It is clear that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{v_k}{m^k} &= \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{1}{m^k} \sum_{s=0}^k \binom{k}{s} u_s = \sum_{s=0}^{p-1} \sum_{k=s}^{p-1} \frac{1}{m^k} \binom{-1-s}{k-s} (-1)^{k-s} u_s \\ &= \sum_{s=0}^{p-1} \frac{u_s}{m^s} \sum_{k=s}^{p-1} \binom{-1-s}{k-s} \frac{1}{(-m)^{k-s}} = \sum_{s=0}^{p-1} \frac{u_s}{m^s} \sum_{r=0}^{p-1-s} \binom{-1-s}{r} \left(-\frac{1}{m}\right)^r \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\equiv \sum_{s=0}^{p-1} \frac{u_s}{m^s} \sum_{r=0}^{p-1-s} \binom{p-1-s}{r} \left(-\frac{1}{m}\right)^r = \sum_{s=0}^{p-1} \frac{u_s}{m^s} \left(1 - \frac{1}{m}\right)^{p-1-s} \\ &\equiv \sum_{s=0}^{p-1} \frac{u_s}{(m-1)^s} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

This proves the lemma.

**Theorem 3.2.** Suppose that  $p$  is an odd prime,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $m \not\equiv 0, 1 \pmod{p}$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{a_k}{m^k} \equiv \begin{cases} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{((m-3)^3/(m-1))^k} \pmod{p} & \text{if } m \not\equiv 3 \pmod{p}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{((m+3)^3/(m-1)^2)^k} \pmod{p} & \text{if } m \not\equiv -3 \pmod{p} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_k}{(-8m)^k} \equiv \begin{cases} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{((4m-3)^3/(m-1))^k} \pmod{p} & \text{if } m \not\equiv \frac{3}{4} \pmod{p}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{(-2m-3)^3/(m-1)^2)^k} \pmod{p} & \text{if } m \not\equiv \frac{3}{2} \pmod{p}. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.1,  $a_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} f_k$ . From Lemma 3.2,  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{a_k}{m^k} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{f_k}{(m-1)^k} \pmod{p}$ . Now applying [23, Theorem 2.12 and Lemma 2.4 (with  $z = \frac{1}{m-1}$ )] yields the first result. Since  $\frac{Q_n}{(-8)^n} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \frac{f_k}{(-8)^k}$ , applying Lemma 3.2 gives  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_k}{(-8m)^k} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{f_k}{(-8(m-1))^k} \pmod{p}$ . From [23, Theorem 2.12 and Lemma 2.4 (with  $z = \frac{1}{-8(m-1)}$ )] we deduce the remaining part.

**Theorem 3.3.** Suppose that  $p$  is a prime with  $p > 3$ , then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-6)^n} \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-12)^n} \equiv \begin{cases} 2x \pmod{p} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1, p = x^2 + 3y^2 \text{ and } 3 \mid x-1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Putting  $m = \frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{2}$  in Theorem 3.2 yields

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-6)^n} \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-12)^n} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{54^k} \pmod{p}.$$

Now applying [20, Theorem 3.4] yields the result.

**Lemma 3.3.** [31, Theorem 2.2] Let  $p$  be an odd prime,  $u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{p-1} \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $v_n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^k u_k$  for  $n \geq 0$ . For  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  with  $m \not\equiv 0, 4 \pmod{p}$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{v_k}{m^k} \equiv \left(\frac{m(m-4)}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{u_k}{(4-m)^k} \pmod{p}.$$

**Theorem 3.4.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $m \not\equiv \pm 2 \pmod{p}$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{a_k}{(m+2)^k} \equiv \left(\frac{(m+2)(m-2)}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{f_k}{(m-2)^k} \pmod{p}, \quad (3.1)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{Q_k}{(-8(m+2))^k} \equiv \left( \frac{(m+2)(m-2)}{p} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{f_k}{(-8(m-2))^k} \pmod{p}, \quad (3.2)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{Q_k}{(-9(m+2))^k} \equiv \left( \frac{(m+2)(m-2)}{p} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{a_k}{(-9(m-2))^k} \pmod{p}, \quad (3.3)$$

and for  $9m - 14 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{Q_k}{(-9(m+2))^k} \equiv \left( \frac{(m+2)(9m-14)}{p} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{f_k}{(-9m+14)^k} \pmod{p}. \quad (3.4)$$

*Proof.* We first note that  $p \mid \binom{2k}{k}$  for  $\frac{p+1}{2} \leq k \leq p-1$ . By Lemma 3.1, taking  $u_k = (-1)^k f_k$  and  $v_k = a_k$  in Lemma 3.3 gives (3.1). Since  $\frac{Q_n}{(-8)^n} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \frac{f_k}{(-8)^k}$ , taking  $u_k = \frac{f_k}{8^k}$  and  $v_k = \frac{Q_k}{(-8)^k}$  in Lemma 3.3 gives (3.2). By Lemma 3.1, taking  $u_k = \frac{a_k}{9^k}$  and  $v_k = \frac{Q_k}{(-9)^k}$  in Lemma 3.3 yields (3.3). Combining (3.3) with (3.1) yields (3.4).

**Theorem 3.5.** *Suppose that  $p$  is a prime with  $p > 5$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{54^n} &\equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{18^n} \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-36)^n} \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 3y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Taking  $m = 52$  in (3.1) and then applying [23, Theorem 2.2], we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{54^n} &\equiv \left( \frac{3}{p} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{f_k}{50^k} \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} 4x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 3y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Taking  $m = -4$  in (3.3) gives  $\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{18^n} \equiv \left( \frac{3}{p} \right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{54^n} \pmod{p}$ . Taking  $m = 2$  in (3.4) and applying the congruence for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{f_k}{(-4)^k} \pmod{p}$  (see [23, p.124]) yields

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-36)^n} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{f_k}{(-4)^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 3y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Now combining the above proves the theorem.

**Theorem 3.6.** *Suppose that  $p$  is a prime such that  $p \equiv 1, 19 \pmod{30}$  and so  $p = x^2 + 15y^2$ , then*

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{9^n} \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{(-45)^n} \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-27)^n} \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-81)^n} \equiv 4x^2 \pmod{p}.$$

*Proof.* Taking  $m = 7$  in (3.1) and then applying [23, Theorem 2.5] gives

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{9^n} \equiv \left(\frac{5}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{f_k}{5^k} \equiv 4x^2 \pmod{p}.$$

Putting  $m = -47$  in (3.1) and then applying [23, Theorem 2.4] gives

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{(-45)^n} \equiv \left(\frac{5}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{f_k}{(-49)^k} \equiv 4x^2 \pmod{p}.$$

Taking  $m = 1, 7$  in (3.3) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-27)^n} &\equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{a_k}{9^k} \pmod{p}, \\ \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-81)^n} &\equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{a_k}{(-45)^k} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Now combining the above proves the theorem.

**Theorem 3.7.** *Suppose that  $p$  is a prime with  $p > 3$ , then*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-32)^n} &\equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{64^n} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{20^n} &\equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-16)^n} \equiv 4x^2 \pmod{p} \quad \text{for } p = x^2 + 5y^2 \equiv 1, 9 \pmod{20}, \\ \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-48)^n} &\equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 9y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{12}, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{12}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Taking  $m = \frac{14}{9}, -\frac{82}{9}$  in (3.3) yields

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-32)^n} &\equiv \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{4^n} \pmod{p}, \\ \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{64^n} &\equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{100^n} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Now applying [23, Theorem 2.14] and [21, Theorem 5.6] yields the first congruence. Taking  $m = 0$  in (3.2),  $m = 18$  in (3.1) and then applying [23, Theorem 2.10] yields the second congruence. Taking  $m = \frac{10}{3}$  in (3.3) and then applying [21, Theorem 4.3] gives the third congruence.

Based on calculations by Maple, we pose the following conjectures.

**Conjecture 3.1.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then*

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{(n+3)Q_n}{(-8)^n} \equiv \begin{cases} 3p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -15p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{(n-2)Q_n}{(-9)^n} \equiv \begin{cases} -2p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 14p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 3.2.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ .

(i) If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  and so  $p = x^2 + 3y^2$  with  $3 \mid x - 1$ , then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-6)^n} \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-12)^n} \equiv 2x - \frac{p}{2x} \pmod{p^2}.$$

(ii) If  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ , then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-6)^n} \equiv -2 \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{Q_n}{(-12)^n} \equiv -\frac{p}{\binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-5)/6}} \pmod{p^2}.$$

**Conjecture 3.3.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ .

(i) If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  and so  $p = x^2 + 3y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{18^n} \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-36)^n} \equiv 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3}.$$

(ii) If  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ , then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{18^n} \equiv -2 \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-36)^n} \equiv \frac{p^2}{\binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-5)/6}^2} \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 3.4.** Let  $p > 5$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-27)^n} \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-81)^n} \equiv \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{(-45)^n} \equiv \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{9^n} \pmod{p^2}.$$

(i) If  $p \equiv 1, 17, 19, 23 \pmod{30}$ , then

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{9^n} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 19 \pmod{30} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 15y^2, \\ 2p - 12x^2 + \frac{p^2}{12x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 17, 23 \pmod{30} \text{ and so } p = 3x^2 + 5y^2. \end{cases}$$

(ii) If  $p \equiv 7, 11, 13, 29 \pmod{30}$ , then

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{9^n} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{31}{16} p^2 \cdot 5^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/15 \rfloor}^{-2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{30}, \\ \frac{31}{4} p^2 \cdot 5^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/15 \rfloor}^{-2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{30}, \\ \frac{31}{256} p^2 \cdot 5^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/15 \rfloor}^{-2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 13 \pmod{30}, \\ \frac{31}{64} p^2 \cdot 5^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/15 \rfloor}^{-2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 29 \pmod{30}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 3.5.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{54^n} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 3.6.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-32)^n} \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{64^n} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 3.7** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 5$ , then

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{20^n} \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-16)^n} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 9 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 5y^2, \\ 2x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 7 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 5y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 13, 17, 19 \pmod{20}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 3.8.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(-48)^n} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p - 1 \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 9y^2, \\ 2p - 2x^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p - 5 \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 9y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 3.9.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ . If  $m \in \{-7, -25, -169, -1519, -70225, 20, 56, 650, 2450\}$  and  $p \nmid m(m-2)$ , then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{Q_n}{(16(m-2))^n} \equiv \left(\frac{m(m-2)}{p}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{f_n}{(16m)^n} \pmod{p^2}.$$

**Conjecture 3.10.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ . If  $m \in \{-112, -400, -2704, -24304, -1123600\}$  and  $p \nmid m(m+4)$ , then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{a_n}{(m+4)^n} \equiv \left(\frac{m(m+4)}{p}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \binom{2n}{n} \frac{f_n}{m^n} \pmod{p^2}.$$

#### 4. Congruences involving $\binom{2k}{k}^3$

For an odd prime  $p$  and  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ , the  $p$ -adic Gamma function  $\Gamma_p(x)$  is defined by

$$\Gamma_p(0) = 1, \quad \Gamma_p(n) = (-1)^n \prod_{k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1, p \nmid k\}} k \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

and

$$\Gamma_p(x) = \lim_{n \in \{0,1,\dots\}, |x-n|_p \rightarrow 0} \Gamma_p(n).$$

**Theorem 4.1.** [25, Conjecture 4.10] *Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{p^2}{4} \binom{(p-3)/2}{(p-3)/4}^{-2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$

and

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-512)^k} \equiv 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3} \quad \text{for } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

*Proof.* From [10, Theorems 3 and 29],

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k} \equiv \begin{cases} -\Gamma_p\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^4 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{p^2}{16} \Gamma_p\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^4 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$

and

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-512)^k} \equiv -\Gamma_p\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^4 \pmod{p^3} \quad \text{for } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

By [35, (9)],

$$\Gamma_p\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^4 \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{2^{p-1}} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-1}{4}}^2 \left(1 - \frac{p^2}{2} E_{p-3}\right) \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1, \\ 2^{p-3} (16 + 32p + (48 - 8E_{p-3})p^2) \binom{\frac{p-3}{2}}{\frac{p-3}{4}}^{-2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-3. \end{cases} \quad (4.1)$$

By [24, Theorem 2.8], for  $p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,

$$\frac{1}{2^{p-1}} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-1}{4}}^2 \left(1 - \frac{p^2}{2} E_{p-3}\right) \equiv 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3}. \quad (4.2)$$

Combining (4.1) with (4.2) gives

$$-\Gamma_p\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^4 \equiv 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3} \quad \text{for } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}. \quad (4.3)$$

Now combining all the above proves the theorem.

**Theorem 4.2.** *Suppose that  $p$  is an odd prime, then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} 8x^2 - 5p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -6R_1(p) - p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k (k+1)^3} \equiv \begin{cases} 1 + 6(2^{p-1} - p) + \frac{6p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 1 + 6(2^{p-1} - p) - 24R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

where  $R_1(p) = (2p + 2 - 2^{p-1}) \binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-3)/4}^2$ .

*Proof.* By [35], for any positive integer  $n$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{n+k}{2k}}{(-4)^k (k+1)^2} = \begin{cases} 2 \binom{2\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil}{\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil}^2 \cdot 16^{-\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil} & \text{if } 2 \mid n, \\ \frac{2n^2 + 2n - 1}{(n+1)^2} \binom{2\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil}{\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil}^2 \cdot 16^{-\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil} & \text{if } 2 \nmid n. \end{cases} \quad (4.4)$$

From [16],

$$\binom{\frac{p-1}{2} + k}{2k} \equiv \frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{(-16)^k} \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}. \quad (4.5)$$

Now, taking  $n = \frac{p-1}{2}$  in (4.4) and then applying (4.5) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} + k}{2k}}{(-4)^k (k+1)^2} \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} 2 \binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-1)/4}^2 16^{-\frac{p-1}{4}} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1, \\ \frac{\frac{p^2-1}{2} - 1}{(\frac{p+1}{2})^2} \binom{(p-3)/2}{(p-3)/4}^2 16^{-\frac{p-3}{4}} = \frac{2p^2-6}{2^{p-1}(p-1)^2} \binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-3)/4}^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-3. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

For  $p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , from [17, Lemma 3.4],

$$4x^2 - 2p \equiv \frac{1}{2^{p-1}} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-1}{4}}^2 \pmod{p^2}. \quad (4.6)$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \frac{2}{2^{p-1}} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-1}{4}}^2 \equiv 8x^2 - 4p \pmod{p^2}.$$

For  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , we see that

$$\frac{2p^2 - 6}{2^{p-1}(p-1)^2} \equiv \frac{-6}{(1+2^{p-1}-1)(1-2p)} \equiv \frac{-6}{1+(2^{p-1}-1-2p)} \equiv -6(2p+2-2^{p-1}) \pmod{p^2}$$

and so

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k (k+1)^2} \equiv -6(2p+2-2^{p-1}) \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-3}{4}}^2 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Note that  $p \mid \binom{2k}{k}$  for  $\frac{p}{2} < k < p$  and

$$\frac{1}{p^2} \binom{2(p-1)}{p-1}^3 = p \binom{(2p-2)(2p-3) \cdots (p+1)}{(p-1)!}^3 \equiv -p \pmod{p^2}.$$

Then we get

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \frac{\binom{2p-2}{p-1}^3}{64^{p-1} \cdot p^2} + \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k (k+1)^2} \equiv -p + \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k (k+1)^2} \pmod{p^2}.$$



Now, combining all the above proves the congruence for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(k+1)^2} \pmod{p^2}$ . By [35],

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(k+1)^3} \equiv \begin{cases} 8 - \frac{24p^2}{\Gamma_p(\frac{1}{4})^4} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 8 - \frac{384}{\Gamma_p(\frac{1}{4})^4} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

This together with (4.1) and (4.3) yields

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(k+1)^3} \equiv \begin{cases} 8 + \frac{6p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 8 - \frac{96}{2^{p-1}(1+2p)} \left(\frac{p-3}{4}\right)^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

For  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  we see that  $\binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-3)/4} = \frac{2^{(p-1)} \binom{(p-3)/2}}{p+1} \pmod{p}$  and so

$$\left(\frac{p-3}{4}\right)^2 \equiv \left(\frac{p+1}{2(p-1)}\right)^2 \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2 \equiv \frac{(p+1)^4}{4} \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2 \equiv \frac{4p+1}{4} \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(k+1)^3} &\equiv 8 - \frac{96}{(1+(2^{p-1}-1))(1+2p)} \left(\frac{p-3}{4}\right)^2 \equiv 8 - \frac{96}{1+2^{p-1}-1+2p} \cdot \frac{4p+1}{4} \left(\frac{p-1}{2}\right)^2 \\ &\equiv 8 - 24(1-(2^{p-1}-1+2p))(4p+1) \left(\frac{(p-1)/2}{(p-3)/4}\right)^2 \equiv 8 - 24R_1(p) \pmod{p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

It is well known that  $\binom{2^{p-1}}{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2}$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\binom{2^{p-1}}{p-1}^3}{64^{p-1}p^3} &= \frac{\binom{2^{p-1}}{p-1}^3}{(1+2^{p-1}-1)^6(2p-1)^3} \equiv -\frac{1}{(1+6(2^{p-1}-1))(1-6p)} \\ &\equiv -(1-6(2^{p-1}-1))(1+6p) \equiv -(1-6(2^{p-1}-1)+6p) \\ &= 3 \cdot 2^p - 6p - 7 \pmod{p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $p \mid \binom{2k}{k}$  for  $\frac{p}{2} < k < p$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(k+1)^3} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(k+1)^3} + \frac{\binom{2^{p-1}}{p-1}^3}{64^{p-1}p^3} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(k+1)^3} + 3 \cdot 2^p - 6p - 7 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Now combining all the above proves the theorem.

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(2k-1)} \equiv \left(\frac{p}{2} - \frac{1}{2p}\right) \left(\frac{p-1}{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor}\right)^2 - p \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(2k-1)^2} \pmod{p^2}$$

and so

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(2k-1)} \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor}^2 \pmod{p}.$$

*Proof.* Using (4.5),

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} + 1 + k}{2k} &= \frac{\frac{p-1}{2} + 1 + k}{\frac{p-1}{2} + 1 - k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} + k}{2k} = \left( \frac{2(p+1)}{p - (2k-1)} - 1 \right) \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} + k}{2k} \\ &\equiv \left( \frac{2(p+1)(p+2k-1)}{-(2k-1)^2} - 1 \right) \frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{(-16)^k} \equiv \left( -2 \frac{2k-1 + (2k-1)p + p}{(2k-1)^2} - 1 \right) \frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{(-16)^k} \\ &= -\left( 1 + \frac{2}{2k-1} + \frac{2p}{2k-1} + \frac{2p}{(2k-1)^2} \right) \frac{\binom{2k}{k}}{(-16)^k} \pmod{p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} + 1 + k}{2k} \frac{1}{(-4)^k} \equiv -\sum_{k=0}^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k} \left( 1 + \frac{2}{2k-1} + \frac{2p}{2k-1} + \frac{2p}{(2k-1)^2} \right) \pmod{p^2}$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} &-2 \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k} \left( \frac{1}{2k-1} + \frac{p}{2k-1} + \frac{p}{(2k-1)^2} \right) \\ &\equiv \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k} + \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} + 1 + k}{2k} \frac{1}{(-4)^k} \pmod{p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

By (1.5),

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} + 1 + k}{2k} \frac{1}{(-4)^k} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{(p+1)/2} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{\frac{p+1}{2} + k}{2k} \frac{1}{(-4)^k} - \binom{p+1}{\frac{p+1}{2}} \frac{1}{(-4)^{\frac{p+1}{2}}} \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \frac{1}{2^{p+1}} \binom{(p+1)/2}{(p+1)/4}^2 = \frac{1}{2^{p-1}} \binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-3)/4}^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

From the above, (1.4) and (4.6),

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k} \left( \frac{1}{2k-1} + \frac{p}{2k-1} + \frac{p}{(2k-1)^2} \right) \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{2}(4x^2 - 2p) \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{p-1}} \binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-1)/4}^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{p-1}} \binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-3)/4}^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(2k-1)} \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor}^2 \pmod{p}$$

and so

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(2k-1)} - \frac{p}{2} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor}^2 + p \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(2k-1)^2} \equiv -\frac{1}{2^p} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor}^2 \pmod{p^2}.$$

To see the result, we recall that  $p \mid \binom{2k}{k}$  for  $\frac{p}{2} < k < p$ .

## 5. Conjectures on congruences involving binomial coefficients

For  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , it is clear that

$$\frac{1}{2k-1} \binom{2k}{k} = 2 \left( \binom{2k-2}{k-1} - \binom{2k-2}{k} \right) = \frac{2}{k} \binom{2k-2}{k-1} = 2C_{k-1} \in \mathbb{Z},$$

where  $C_k = \frac{1}{k+1} \binom{2k}{k}$  is the  $k$ -th Catalan number. For an odd prime  $p$ , let

$$R_1(p) = (2p+2-2^{p-1}) \binom{(p-1)/2}{\lfloor p/4 \rfloor}^2, \quad (5.1)$$

$$R_2(p) = (5-4(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}) \left( 1 + (4+2(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}})p - 4(2^{p-1}-1) - \frac{p}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{\lfloor p/8 \rfloor} \frac{1}{k} \right) \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\lfloor \frac{p}{8} \rfloor}^2, \quad (5.2)$$

$$R_3(p) = \left( 1 + 2p + \frac{4}{3}(2^{p-1}-1) - \frac{3}{2}(3^{p-1}-1) \right) \binom{(p-1)/2}{\lfloor p/6 \rfloor}^2. \quad (5.3)$$

Calculations with Maple suggest the following challenging conjectures.

**Conjecture 5.1.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-192)^k (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{3}{2}x^2 - 4p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 27y^2, \\ 2(2p+1) \binom{\lfloor 2p/3 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor}^2 + p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-192)^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4}x^2 - 3p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 27y^2, \\ 13(2p+1) \binom{\lfloor 2p/3 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor}^2 + \frac{p}{2} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-192)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{3}{4}x^2 + \frac{9p}{8} + \frac{3p^2}{8x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 27y^2, \\ -\frac{1}{2}(2p+1) \binom{\lfloor 2p/3 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor}^2 + \frac{3}{8}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.2.** *Let  $p > 5$  be a prime, then*

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left(\frac{10}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-12288000)^k (k+1)} \\
& \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{26082}{5}y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{10}{p}\right)p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 27y^2, \\ 1280(2p+1) \binom{[2p/3]}{[p/3]}^2 + \frac{1922}{5}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\
& \left(\frac{10}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-12288000)^k (k+1)^2} \\
& \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{112604}{25}x^2 + \left(\frac{293656}{25} - \left(\frac{10}{p}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 27y^2, \\ 11776(2p+1) \binom{[2p/3]}{[p/3]}^2 - \left(\frac{68448}{25} + \left(\frac{10}{p}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\
& \left(\frac{10}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-12288000)^k (2k-1)} \\
& \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{177}{200}x^2 + \frac{53199}{32000}p + \frac{56157}{64000x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 27y^2, \\ -\frac{1}{20}(2p+1) \binom{[2p/3]}{[p/3]}^2 + \frac{3441}{32000}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

**Remark 5.1.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 5$ . In [25], the author conjectured that if  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 27y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-192)^k} \equiv \left(\frac{10}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-12288000)^k} \equiv x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3};$$

if  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-192)^k} \equiv \frac{800}{161} \left(\frac{10}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-12288000)^k} \equiv \frac{3}{4} p^2 \binom{[2p/3]}{[p/3]}^{-2} \pmod{p^3}.$$

The congruence for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-192)^k} \pmod{p^2}$  was conjectured by Z. W. Sun [27] earlier.

Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. In [27,29], Z. W. Sun conjectured congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^3 / m^k \pmod{p^2}$  with  $m = 1, -8, 16, -64, 256, -512, 4096$ . Such conjectures were proved by the author in [17]. In [25], the author conjectured congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^3 / m^k \pmod{p^3}$  in the cases  $m = 1, -8, 16, -64, 256, -512, 4096$ .

**Conjecture 5.3.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-8)^k (k+1)} & \equiv \begin{cases} -24y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \frac{1}{2}R_1(p) + p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases} \\
\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-8)^k (k+1)^2} & \equiv \begin{cases} -32y^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 3R_1(p) + 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-8)^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -4x^2 - \frac{5}{4x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 2p - 2R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-8)^k(2k-1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} -4x^2 + 2p + \frac{19}{4x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 6R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-8)^k(2k-1)^3} \equiv \begin{cases} 48y^2 + \frac{33}{16y^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -6p - 12R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.4.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(k+1)} \equiv -16y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^3} \quad \text{for } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -2x^2 + p + \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{1}{2}R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(2k-1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} 2x^2 - p - \frac{p^2}{2x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \frac{3}{2}R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{64^k(2k-1)^3} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{3}{4x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -3R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.5.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$(-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-512)^k(k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -32y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -4R_1(p) - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$(-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-512)^k(k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} -16x^2 + (8 - (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor})p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -24R_1(p) - (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$(-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-512)^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -3x^2 + \frac{5}{4}p + \frac{5}{32x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{p}{4} + \frac{1}{4}R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$(-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-512)^k(2k-1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} 2x^2 - \frac{5}{8}p - \frac{p^2}{32x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{3}{4}R_1(p) + \frac{3}{8}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$(-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-512)^k(2k-1)^3} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{3}{2}x^2 + \frac{3}{8}p - \frac{3}{32x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \frac{3}{2}R_1(p) - \frac{3}{8}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.6.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{648^k(k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{40}{3}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{3}{2}R_1(p) - \frac{p}{3} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{648^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{112}{9}x^2 - \frac{64}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -11R_1(p) - \frac{10}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{648^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{76}{27}x^2 + \frac{104}{81}p + \frac{67}{324x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{2}{9}R_1(p) + \frac{10}{81}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.7.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{12^{3k} (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -16y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{p}{3}\right)p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \frac{3}{5}R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{12^{3k} (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} 8x^2 - (4 + \left(\frac{p}{3}\right))p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \frac{138}{25}R_1(p) - \left(\frac{p}{3}\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{12^{3k} (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{26}{9}x^2 + \frac{13}{9}p + \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \frac{1}{6}R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.8.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 11$ , then

$$\left(\frac{33}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{66^{3k} (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 104y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{33}{p}\right)p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{363}{10}R_1(p) - 15p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\left(\frac{33}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{66^{3k} (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} 488x^2 - (295 + \left(\frac{33}{p}\right))p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{8349}{25}R_1(p) + (51 - \left(\frac{33}{p}\right))p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\left(\frac{33}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{66^{3k} (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{3716}{1089}x^2 + \frac{18848}{11979}p + \frac{1121}{5324x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{2}{33}R_1(p) + \frac{530}{3993}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.9.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{16^k (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -16y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -\frac{4}{3}R_3(p) - \frac{2}{3}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{16^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} -24y^2 + p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -8R_3(p) - 3p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{16^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 4y^2 - \frac{p^2}{4y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -\frac{8}{3}R_3(p) + \frac{2}{3}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{16^k (2k-1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} -12y^2 + 2p + \frac{3p^2}{4y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 8R_3(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{16^k (2k-1)^3} \equiv \begin{cases} -12y^2 - \frac{5}{4y^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -16R_3(p) - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.10.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{256^k(k+1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} -8y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ \frac{16}{3}R_3(p) + \frac{2}{3}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{256^k(k+1)^2} &\equiv \begin{cases} 16x^2 - (8 + (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}})p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 32R_3(p) - (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{256^k(2k-1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} 8y^2 - \frac{3}{2}p - \frac{p^2}{16y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ \frac{2}{3}R_3(p) - \frac{p}{6} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{256^k(2k-1)^2} &\equiv \begin{cases} 2x^2 - \frac{3}{4}p - \frac{3}{16x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -2R_3(p) + \frac{p}{4} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{256^k(2k-1)^3} &\equiv \begin{cases} -x^2 + \frac{p}{4} + \frac{3}{16x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 4R_3(p) - \frac{p}{4} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{256^k(2k-1)} \equiv -\frac{1}{4} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{16^k(2k-1)} \pmod{p^3} \quad \text{for } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.11.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{108^k(k+1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} -12y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -2R_3(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{108^k(k+1)^2} &\equiv \begin{cases} 8x^2 - 5p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -13R_3(p) - p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{108^k(k+1)^3} &\equiv \begin{cases} 9 - 2x^2 + p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ 9 - \frac{115}{2}R_3(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{108^k(2k-1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{5}{9}(4x^2 - 2p) + \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -\frac{8}{9}R_3(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 5.12.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-144)^k(k+1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} -16y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ \frac{4}{3}R_3(p) + \frac{2}{3}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-144)^k(k+1)^2} &\equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{40}{3}y^2 - \frac{p}{3} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ \frac{88}{9}R_3(p) + \frac{5}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-144)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{28}{9}x^2 + \frac{8}{9}p - \frac{p^2}{36x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -\frac{8}{9}R_3(p) + \frac{2}{3}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.13.** Let  $p > 5$  be a prime, then

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{54000^k (k+1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} \frac{48}{5}y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{p}{5}\right)p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -20R_3(p) - \frac{18}{5}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{54000^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv \begin{cases} \frac{2504}{25}x^2 - \left(\frac{1414}{25} + \left(\frac{p}{5}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -184R_3(p) + \left(\frac{162}{25} - \left(\frac{p}{5}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{54000^k (2k-1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{748}{225}x^2 + \frac{1708}{1125}p + \frac{103}{500x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -\frac{8}{45}R_3(p) + \frac{18}{125}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 5.14.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{1458^k (k+1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} 2(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -12R_3(p) + 2(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{1458^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv \begin{cases} 42x^2 - (22 + 2(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}})p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -78R_3(p) - (1 + 2(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}})p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{1458^k (2k-1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{61}{81}(4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2}) - \frac{44}{243}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}p \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -\frac{32}{81}R_3(p) - \frac{44}{243}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 5.15.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-64)^k (k+1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} -12y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{1}{2}R_2(p) - p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases} \\ (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-64)^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 5p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ 4x^2 - 3p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -3R_2(p) - (2 + (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}})p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases} \\ (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-64)^k (2k-1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} p - 3x^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ \frac{1}{4}R_2(p) - \frac{p}{2} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases} \\ (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-64)^k (2k-1)^2} &\equiv \begin{cases} x^2 + \frac{p^2}{2x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{3}{4}R_2(p) + \frac{p}{2} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases} \\ (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(-64)^k (2k-1)^3} &\equiv \begin{cases} -2x^2 + p - \frac{p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ \frac{3}{2}R_2(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$



**Conjecture 5.16.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{256^k (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -8y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{1}{3}R_2(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{256^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} -16y^2 + 3p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{22}{9}R_2(p) - p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{256^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 5y^2 - \frac{5}{4}p - \frac{p^2}{8y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{1}{8}R_2(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.17.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 7$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{28^{4k} (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -284x^2 + (142 + 144(\frac{p}{3}))p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -147R_2(p) + 144(\frac{p}{3})p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{28^{4k} (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} 5576x^2 - (2789 + 864(\frac{p}{3}))p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -1078R_2(p) - (1 + 864(\frac{p}{3}))p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{28^{4k} (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{2363}{686}x^2 + \frac{16541-1224(\frac{p}{3})}{9604}p + \frac{2041p^2}{9604x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{9}{392}R_2(p) - \frac{306}{2401}(\frac{p}{3})p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.18.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{8^k (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -11y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{1}{8}R_2(p) - \frac{3}{4}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{8^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{31}{2}y^2 + \frac{p}{2} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{13}{16}R_2(p) - \frac{27}{8}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{8^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 2y^2 + \frac{5}{2}p - \frac{17}{16y^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{3}{4}R_2(p) + 3p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.19.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 5$ , then

$$\left(\frac{-5}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{20^{3k} (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{28}{5}y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{-5}{p}\right)p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ \frac{5}{6}R_2(p) + \frac{3}{5}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases}$$

$$\left(\frac{-5}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{20^{3k} (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{484}{25}x^2 - \left(\frac{244}{25} + \left(\frac{-5}{p}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ \frac{23}{3}R_2(p) - \left(\frac{2}{25} + \left(\frac{-5}{p}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases}$$

$$\left(\frac{-5}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{20^{3k} (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{79}{25}x^2 + \frac{181}{125}p + \frac{26}{125x^2}p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ \frac{1}{20}R_2(p) - \frac{33}{250}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

**Remark 5.2.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 7$  and  $p \neq 71$ . In [25], the author conjectured congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{256^k}$ ,  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{28^{4k}}$  and  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{20^{3k}}$  modulo  $p^3$ . The congruence for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{28^{4k}} \pmod{p^2}$  was conjectured by Z. W. Sun [27].

For any odd prime  $p$ , let

$$R_7(p) = \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{k+1}.$$

**Conjecture 5.20.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 7$ , then

$$R_7(p) = \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{k+1} \equiv \begin{cases} -44y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -\frac{1}{7} \binom{13p/71}{p/71}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{7}, \\ -\frac{16}{7} \binom{13p/71}{p/71}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 5 \pmod{7}, \\ -\frac{4}{7} \binom{13p/71}{p/71}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} -68y^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ 6R_7(p) + 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{2k-1} \equiv \begin{cases} -36y^2 + 14p - \frac{7}{4y^2} p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ 32R_7(p) + 48p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(2k-1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} -284y^2 + 34p + \frac{23}{4y^2} p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -96R_7(p) - 96p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{(2k-1)^3} \equiv \begin{cases} -804y^2 - 18p - \frac{39}{4y^2} p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ 192R_7(p) + 144p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.21.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 7$ , then

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{4096^k (k+1)}$$

$$\equiv \begin{cases} 72y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -64R_7(p) - 66p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases}$$

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{4096^k (k+1)^2}$$

$$\equiv \begin{cases} -1136y^2 + (64 - (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}})p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -384R_7(p) - (456 + (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}})p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{4096^k(2k-1)} \\
& \equiv \begin{cases} 22y^2 - \frac{7}{4}p - \frac{7p^2}{256y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -\frac{1}{2}R_7(p) - \frac{3}{4}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases} \\
& (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{4096^k(2k-1)^2} \\
& \equiv \begin{cases} -17y^2 + \frac{97}{64}p + \frac{5p^2}{256y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ \frac{3}{2}R_7(p) + \frac{129}{64}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases} \\
& (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{4096^k(2k-1)^3} \\
& \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{201}{16}y^2 - \frac{81}{64}p - \frac{3p^2}{256y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -3R_7(p) - \frac{243}{64}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7} \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{4096^k(2k-1)} \equiv -\frac{1}{64} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{2k-1} \pmod{p^3} \quad \text{for } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}.$$

**Conjecture 5.22.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 7$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{81^k(k+1)} & \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{100}{3}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ \frac{3}{2}R_7(p) + \frac{4}{3}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases} \\
\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{81^k(k+1)^2} & \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{436}{9}y^2 + \frac{4}{3}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ 11R_7(p) + \frac{94}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases} \\
\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{81^k(2k-1)} & \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{436}{27}y^2 - \frac{50}{81}p - \frac{23p^2}{324y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ \frac{16}{9}R_7(p) + \frac{208}{81}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 5.23.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 7$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-3969)^k(k+1)} & \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{196}{3}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -21R_7(p) - \frac{64}{3}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases} \\
\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-3969)^k(k+1)^2} & \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{356}{9}x^2 + \frac{188}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -154R_7(p) - \frac{1612}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases} \\
\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-3969)^k(2k-1)} & \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{4204}{189}y^2 - \frac{7090}{3969}p - \frac{2929p^2}{111132y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ \frac{32}{63}R_7(p) + \frac{3088}{3969}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 5.24.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 7$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{-15}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-15)^{3k} (k+1)} \\ & \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{188}{5}y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{-15}{p}\right)p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ \frac{15}{4}R_7(p) + \frac{18}{5}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases} \\ & \left(\frac{-15}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-15)^{3k} (k+1)^2} \\ & \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{172}{25}y^2 - \left(\frac{7}{5} + \left(\frac{-15}{p}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ \frac{69}{2}R_7(p) + \left(\frac{963}{25} - \left(\frac{-15}{p}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases} \\ & \left(\frac{-15}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-15)^{3k} (2k-1)} \\ & \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{5084}{225}y^2 - \frac{2138}{1125}p - \frac{11p^2}{500y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -\frac{8}{15}R_7(p) - \frac{112}{125}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 5.25.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-12288)^k (k+1)} & \equiv \begin{cases} -144y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 9y^2, \\ 72y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-5 \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 9y^2, \\ -24 \binom{[p/3]}{[p/12]}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{12}, \\ 48 \binom{[p/3]}{[p/12]}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{12}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-12288)^k (k+1)^2} & \equiv \begin{cases} -128x^2 + 75p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 9y^2, \\ 64x^2 - 77p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-5 \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 9y^2, \\ -176 \binom{[p/3]}{[p/12]}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{12}, \\ 352 \binom{[p/3]}{[p/12]}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{12}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-12288)^k (2k-1)} & \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{13}{4}x^2 + \frac{93}{64}p + \frac{25p^2}{128x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 9y^2, \\ \frac{13}{8}x^2 - \frac{93}{64}p - \frac{25p^2}{64x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-5 \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 9y^2, \\ \frac{3}{16} \binom{[p/3]}{[p/12]}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{12}, \\ -\frac{3}{8} \binom{[p/3]}{[p/12]}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{12}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 5.26.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 5$ , and  $R_{20}(p) = \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{[p/20]} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{[3p/20]}$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-1024)^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 9 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 5y^2, \\ 2p - 2x^2 + \frac{p^2}{2x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 7 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 5y^2, \\ \frac{2p^2}{R_{20}(p)} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{20}, \\ \frac{2p^2}{9R_{20}(p)} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 13 \pmod{20}, \\ \frac{6p^2}{7R_{20}(p)} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 17 \pmod{20}, \\ \frac{2p^2}{21R_{20}(p)} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 19 \pmod{20}. \end{cases}$$

**Remark 5.3.** For any prime  $p \neq 2, 5$ , the congruence for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k} (-1024)^{-k}$  modulo  $p^2$  was first conjectured by Z. W. Sun in [27]. Let  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{20}$  be a prime and so  $p = x^2 + 5y^2$ . In 1840, Cauchy proved that

$$4x^2 \equiv \binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-1)/20} \binom{(p-1)/2}{3(p-1)/20} \pmod{p},$$

see [3, p.291].

**Conjecture 5.27.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 5$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-1024)^k (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{8}{5} R_{20}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 3, 7, 9 \pmod{20}, \\ \frac{4}{5} R_{20}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{20}, \\ \frac{36}{5} R_{20}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 13 \pmod{20}, \\ \frac{28}{15} R_{20}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 17 \pmod{20}, \\ \frac{84}{5} R_{20}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 19 \pmod{20}. \end{cases}$$

Moreover, if  $\left(\frac{-5}{p}\right) = 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-1024)^k (k+1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} -32y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 9 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 5y^2, \\ 16y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 7 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 5y^2, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-1024)^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv \begin{cases} 32y^2 - 5p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 9 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 5y^2, \\ -16y^2 + 3p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 7 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 5y^2, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-1024)^k (2k-1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} \frac{31}{2}y^2 - \frac{29}{16}p - \frac{p^2}{32y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 9 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 5y^2, \\ -\frac{31}{4}y^2 + \frac{29}{16}p + \frac{p^2}{16y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 7 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 5y^2; \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

if  $\left(\frac{-5}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-1024)^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv \frac{22}{3} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-1024)^k (k+1)} + (8(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} - 1)p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-1024)^k (2k-1)} &\equiv -\frac{3}{32} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-1024)^k (k+1)} - \frac{3}{8} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} p \pmod{p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 5.28.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime with  $\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) = -1$  and  $R_{24}(p) = \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\lfloor \frac{p}{24} \rfloor} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\lfloor \frac{5p-1}{24} \rfloor}$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{48^{2k}} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{p^2}{5R_{24}(p)} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 13, 17 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{p^2}{77R_{24}(p)} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 19, 23 \pmod{24} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{7p^2}{5R_{24}(p)} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 13 \pmod{24}, \\ \frac{7p^2}{5R_{24}(p)} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 17 \pmod{24}, \\ \frac{p^2}{11R_{24}(p)} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 19 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{p^2}{11R_{24}(p)} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 23 \pmod{24}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 5.29.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{7}{8} R_{24}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 11 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{7}{8} R_{24}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{5}{8} R_{24}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 13 \pmod{24}, \\ \frac{5}{8} R_{24}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 17 \pmod{24}, \\ \frac{77}{8} R_{24}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 19 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{77}{8} R_{24}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 23 \pmod{24}. \end{cases}$$

Moreover, if  $\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) = 1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -21y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ 7x^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{43}{4}x^2 - \frac{25}{4}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ \frac{43}{2}x^2 - \frac{13}{2}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{23}{9}x^2 + \frac{7}{6}p + \frac{5p^2}{24x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{46}{9}x^2 + \frac{25}{18}p + \frac{5p^2}{48x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}; \end{cases}$$

if  $\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \frac{13}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k (k+1)} - \left(1 + \frac{3}{2} \binom{p}{3}\right) p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{2}{9} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k (k+1)} - \frac{1}{6} \binom{p}{3} p \pmod{p^2}.$$

**Conjecture 5.30.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{48^{2k}(k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3}R_{24}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 5 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{1}{3}R_{24}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7, 11 \pmod{24}, \\ \frac{5}{3}R_{24}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 13, 17 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{77}{3}R_{24}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 19, 23 \pmod{24}. \end{cases}$$

Moreover, if  $\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) = 1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{48^{2k}(k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -8y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ 4y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{48^{2k}(k+1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{280}{9}x^2 - \frac{157}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{560}{9}x^2 + \frac{139}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{48^{2k}(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{55}{18}x^2 + \frac{49}{36}p + \frac{7p^2}{36x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ \frac{55}{9}x^2 - \frac{49}{36}p - \frac{7p^2}{72x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}; \end{cases}$$

if  $\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{48^{2k}(k+1)} \equiv -\frac{8}{3} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k(k+1)} + \frac{p}{3} \left(2\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) + 4\right) \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{48^{2k}(k+1)^2} \equiv -\frac{176}{9} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k(k+1)} + \frac{p}{9} \left(35\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) - 8\right) \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{48^{2k}(2k-1)} \equiv -\frac{1}{9} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k(k+1)} + \frac{p}{36} \left(\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) - 6\right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

**Remark 5.4.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ . In [25, Conjecture 4.24], the author conjectured the congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k}$  and  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{48^{2k}}$  modulo  $p^3$  in the case  $\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) = 1$ . The corresponding congruences modulo  $p^2$  were conjectured by Z. W. Sun in [27]. In 2019, Guo and Zudilin [6] proved Z. W. Sun's conjecture:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (8k+1) \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{48^{2k}} \equiv \left(\frac{p}{3}\right)p \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.31.** Let  $p > 5$  be a prime.

(i) If  $p \equiv 1, 19 \pmod{30}$  and so  $p = x^2 + 15y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k(k+1)} \equiv -84y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv -96y^2 \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{148}{3}y^2 - \frac{26}{9}p + \frac{p^2}{36y^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{15^{3k} (k+1)} &\equiv 60y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{15^{3k} (k+1)^2} &\equiv -1320y^2 + 36p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{15^{3k} (2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{3508}{75}y^2 - \frac{1954}{1125}p - \frac{287p^2}{22500y^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) If  $p \equiv 17, 23 \pmod{30}$  and so  $p = 3x^2 + 5y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (k+1)} &\equiv 28y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv 32y^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (2k-1)} &\equiv -\frac{148}{9}y^2 + \frac{26}{9}p - \frac{p^2}{12y^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{15^{3k} (k+1)} &\equiv -20y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{15^{3k} (k+1)^2} &\equiv 440y^2 - 38p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{15^{3k} (2k-1)} &\equiv -\frac{3508}{225}y^2 + \frac{1954}{1125}p + \frac{287p^2}{7500y^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(iii) If  $\left(\frac{-15}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{2}{5} \cdot 5^{-\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}{\lfloor \frac{p}{15} \rfloor}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{30}, \\ \frac{1}{10} \cdot 5^{-\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}{\lfloor \frac{p}{15} \rfloor}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{30}, \\ \frac{32}{5} \cdot 5^{-\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}{\lfloor \frac{p}{15} \rfloor}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 13 \pmod{30}, \\ \frac{8}{5} \cdot 5^{-\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}{\lfloor \frac{p}{15} \rfloor}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 29 \pmod{30}. \end{cases}$$



Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv \frac{13}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (k+1)} + \left(3\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) - 1\right)p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (2k-1)} &\equiv -\frac{16}{9} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (k+1)} - \frac{8}{3} \left(\frac{p}{3}\right)p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{15^{3k} (k+1)} &\equiv -20 \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (k+1)} - 12 \left(\frac{p}{3}\right)p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{15^{3k} (k+1)^2} &\equiv -130 \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (k+1)} - \left(1 + 111\left(\frac{p}{3}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{15^{3k} (2k-1)} &\equiv -\frac{64}{225} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k (k+1)} - \frac{152}{375} \left(\frac{p}{3}\right)p \pmod{p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 5.32.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 5$  and

$$R_{40}(p) = \frac{\binom{(p-1)/2}{[7p/40]} \binom{(p-1)/2}{[9p/40]} \binom{[3p/40]}{[p/40]}}{\binom{[19p/40]}{[p/20]}}.$$

(i) If  $\left(\frac{-10}{p}\right) = 1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k} (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{49}{15} R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 23 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{49}{5} R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{40}, \\ \frac{7}{5} R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 9 \pmod{40}, \\ \frac{833}{195} R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{833}{285} R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 13 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{98}{555} R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 19 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{98}{55} R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 37 \pmod{40}. \end{cases}$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k} (k+1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} \frac{392}{3} y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 10y^2 \equiv 1, 9, 11, 19 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{196}{3} y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 5y^2 \equiv 7, 13, 23, 37 \pmod{40}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k} (k+1)^2} &\equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{20176}{9} y^2 + \frac{265}{3} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 10y^2 \equiv 1, 9, 11, 19 \pmod{40}, \\ \frac{10088}{9} y^2 - \frac{271}{3} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 5y^2 \equiv 7, 13, 23, 37 \pmod{40}, \end{cases} \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k} (2k-1)} &\equiv \begin{cases} \frac{883}{27} y^2 - \frac{581}{324} p - \frac{13p^2}{648y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 10y^2 \equiv 1, 9, 11, 19 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{883}{54} y^2 + \frac{581}{324} p + \frac{13p^2}{324y^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 5y^2 \equiv 7, 13, 23, 37 \pmod{40} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k}} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 9, 11, 19 \pmod{40} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 10y^2, \\ 2p - 8x^2 + \frac{p^2}{8x^2} \pmod{p^3} & \text{if } p \equiv 7, 13, 23, 37 \pmod{40} \text{ and so } p = 2x^2 + 5y^2. \end{cases}$$

(ii) If  $\left(\frac{-10}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k}(k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{21}{5}R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{4446}{155}R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 17 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{189}{5}R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 21 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{702}{5}R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 27 \pmod{40}, \\ \frac{66}{5}R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 29 \pmod{40}, \\ \frac{1026}{5}R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 31 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{462}{5}R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 33 \pmod{40}, \\ -\frac{858}{85}R_{40}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 39 \pmod{40}. \end{cases}$$

Moreover,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k}(k+1)^2} \equiv \frac{22}{3} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k}(k+1)} + \left(\frac{256}{3}\left(\frac{p}{5}\right) - 1\right)p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k}(2k-1)} \equiv \frac{1}{216} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k}(k+1)} + \frac{16}{81}\left(\frac{p}{5}\right)p \pmod{p^2}$$

and

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k}(k+1)}\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k}}\right) \equiv -\frac{49}{15}p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Remark 5.5.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. In [27], Z. W. Sun conjectured the congruence for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{12^{4k}} \pmod{p^2}$ .

**Conjecture 5.33.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 11$  and  $R_{11}(p) = \left(\frac{\binom{3p}{p}}{\binom{p}{p}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\binom{6p}{p}}{\binom{3p}{p}}\right)^2 / \left(\frac{\binom{4p}{p}}{\binom{2p}{p}}\right)^2$ .

(i) If  $p \equiv 1, 3, 4, 5, 9 \pmod{11}$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 11y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k(k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{25}{22}R_{11}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 4, 5, 9 \pmod{11}, \\ \frac{2}{11}R_{11}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{11}. \end{cases}$$

Moreover,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k(k+1)} \equiv -\frac{25}{2}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv -\frac{83}{4}y^2 + 2p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{23}{4}y^2 - \frac{7}{8}p - \frac{p^2}{8y^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-32)^{3k} (k+1)} &\equiv -26y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-32)^{3k} (k+1)^2} &\equiv 148y^2 - \left(24 + \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-32)^{3k} (2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{73}{8}y^2 - \frac{467}{256}p - \frac{37p^2}{512y^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) If  $p \equiv 2, 6, 7, 8, 10 \pmod{11}$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{50}{11}R_{11}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{11}, \\ -\frac{32}{11}R_{11}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 6 \pmod{11}, \\ -\frac{2}{11}R_{11}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{11}, \\ -\frac{72}{11}R_{11}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 8 \pmod{11}, \\ -\frac{18}{11}R_{11}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 10 \pmod{11}. \end{cases}$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv \frac{13}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)} \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{3}{4} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)} + \frac{3}{8}p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-32)^{3k} (k+1)} &\equiv \frac{128}{15} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)} - \frac{2}{5}p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-32)^{3k} (k+1)^2} &\equiv \frac{5888}{75} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)} + \left(\frac{608}{25} - \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\right)p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-32)^{3k} (2k-1)} &\equiv -\frac{1}{8} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)} - \frac{51}{256}p \pmod{p^2} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)}\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k}\right) \equiv \frac{25}{22}p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Remark 5.6.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 11$ . In [25], the author conjectured the congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k}$  and  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-32)^{3k}}$  modulo  $p^3$ . The corresponding congruences modulo  $p^2$  were conjectured by Z. W. Sun [29]. Suppose that  $p \equiv 1, 3, 4, 5, 9 \pmod{11}$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 11y^2$ . In [9], Lee and Hahn proved that

$$x \equiv \begin{cases} \binom{3n}{n} \binom{6n}{3n} \binom{4n}{2n}^{-1} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 11 \mid p-1 \text{ and } 11 \mid x-2, \\ -\binom{3n+1}{n} \binom{6n+1}{3n} \binom{4n+1}{2n}^{-1} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 11 \mid p-3 \text{ and } 11 \mid x-10, \\ \binom{3n+1}{n} \binom{6n+2}{3n+1} \binom{4n+1}{2n}^{-1} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 11 \mid p-4 \text{ and } 11 \mid x-7, \\ \binom{3n+1}{n} \binom{6n+2}{3n+1} \binom{4n+1}{2n}^{-1} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 11 \mid p-5 \text{ and } 11 \mid x-8, \\ -\binom{3n+2}{n} \binom{6n+4}{3n+2} \binom{4n+3}{2n+1}^{-1} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 11 \mid p-9 \text{ and } 11 \mid x-6, \end{cases}$$

where  $n = [p/11]$ . The case  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{11}$  is due to Jacobi.

**Conjecture 5.34.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime and

$$R_{19}(p) = \left( \frac{[8p/19]}{[p/19]} \right)^2 \left( \frac{[10p/19]}{[4p/19]} \right)^2 \left( \frac{[5p/19]}{[2p/19]} \right)^{-2}.$$

(i) If  $\left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = 1$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 19y^2$ , then

$$\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{1183}{1368} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 7, 11 \pmod{19}, \\ -\frac{1183}{342} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 4, 6 \pmod{19}, \\ -\frac{1183}{2432} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 5 \pmod{19}, \\ -\frac{1183}{18392} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 9 \pmod{19}, \\ -\frac{1183}{27702} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 16 \pmod{19}, \\ -\frac{57967}{12312} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 17 \pmod{19}. \end{cases}$$

Moreover,

$$\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{1183}{72} y^2 - \frac{4273}{2304} p - \frac{23p^2}{512y^2} \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (k+1)} \equiv -394y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (k+1)^2} \equiv 6772y^2 - \left(536 + \left(\frac{-6}{p}\right)\right) p \pmod{p^2}.$$

(ii) If  $(\frac{p}{19}) = -1$ , then

$$\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{49}{228} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{19}, \\ \frac{1}{228} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{19}, \\ \frac{27}{14896} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 8 \pmod{19}, \\ \frac{3}{19} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 10 \pmod{19}, \\ \frac{121}{57} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 12 \pmod{19}, \\ \frac{4}{57} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 13 \pmod{19}, \\ \frac{121}{228} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 14 \pmod{19}, \\ \frac{27}{76} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 15 \pmod{19}, \\ \frac{49}{57} R_{19}(p) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 18 \pmod{19}. \end{cases}$$

Moreover,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (k+1)} \equiv -\frac{9216}{5} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (2k-1)} - 270 \left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (k+1)^2} \equiv \frac{46}{5} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (k+1)} + \left(540 \left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) - 1\right) p \pmod{p^2}$$

and

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (2k-1)}\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k}}\right) \equiv -\frac{985}{87552} p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.35.** Let  $p > 5$  be a prime.

(i) If  $(\frac{p}{43}) = 1$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 43y^2$ , then

$$\left(\frac{-15}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-960)^{3k}} \equiv x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\left(\frac{-15}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-960)^{3k} (k+1)} \equiv -\frac{1867778}{5} y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{-15}{p}\right) p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\left(\frac{-15}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-960)^{3k} (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{140501}{3600} y^2 - \frac{4384321}{2304000} p - \frac{10751 p^2}{512000 y^2} \pmod{p^3}.$$

(ii) If  $(\frac{p}{43}) = -1$ , then

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-960)^{3k} (2k-1)}\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-960)^{3k}}\right) \equiv -\frac{933889}{198144000} p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.36.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 5, 11$ .

(i) If  $\left(\frac{p}{67}\right) = 1$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 67y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{-330}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-5280)^{3k}} &\equiv x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \left(\frac{-330}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-5280)^{3k}(k+1)} &\equiv -\frac{310714322}{5}y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{-330}{p}\right)p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \left(\frac{-330}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-5280)^{3k}(2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{1}{217800} \left(13501789y^2 - \frac{736842481}{1760}p - \frac{10552671p^2}{3520y^2}\right) \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) If  $\left(\frac{p}{67}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-5280)^{3k}(2k-1)}\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-5280)^{3k}}\right) \equiv -\frac{155357161}{51365952000}p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.37.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 5, 23, 29$ . If  $\left(\frac{p}{163}\right) = 1$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 163y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{-10005}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-640320)^{3k}} &\equiv x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \left(\frac{-10005}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-640320)^{3k}(k+1)} &\equiv -\frac{554179195816658}{5}y^2 + 2p - \left(\frac{-10005}{p}\right)p^2 \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

**Remark 5.7.** Suppose that  $p > 3$  is a prime. In [29], Z. W. Sun conjectured the congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m^{3k}}$  modulo  $p^2$  in the cases  $m = -32, -96, -960, -5280, -640320$ . The corresponding congruences modulo  $p$  were proved by the author in [19].

**Conjecture 5.38.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 5$ .

(i) If  $p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15}$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 75y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k} &\equiv x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k(k+1)} &\equiv -\frac{825}{2}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k(k+1)^2} &\equiv \frac{14925}{4}y^2 - 78p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k(2k-1)} &\equiv -\frac{29}{36}x^2 + \frac{517}{360}p + \frac{31p^2}{40x^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) If  $p \equiv 7, 13 \pmod{15}$  and so  $4p = 3x^2 + 25y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k} &\equiv -3x^2 + 2p + \frac{p^2}{3x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k (k+1)} &\equiv \frac{275}{2}y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv -\frac{4975}{4}y^2 + 76p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k (2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{29}{12}x^2 - \frac{517}{360}p - \frac{31p^2}{120x^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(iii) If  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ , then

$$\left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k} \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k (k+1)} \right) \equiv \frac{11}{2}p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.39.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ .

(i) If  $\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{17}\right) = 1$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 51y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k}} &\equiv x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k} (k+1)} &\equiv -\frac{249}{2}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k} (k+1)^2} &\equiv \frac{1965}{4}y^2 - 18p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k} (2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{475}{12}y^2 - \frac{127}{72}p - \frac{p^2}{72y^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) If  $\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{17}\right) = -1$  and so  $4p = 3x^2 + 17y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k}} &\equiv -3x^2 + 2p + \frac{p^2}{3x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k} (k+1)} &\equiv \frac{83}{2}y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k} (k+1)^2} &\equiv -\frac{655}{4}y^2 + 16p \pmod{p^2}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k} (2k-1)} \equiv -\frac{475}{36}y^2 + \frac{127}{72}p + \frac{p^2}{24y^2} \pmod{p^3}.$$

(iii) If  $\left(\frac{-51}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k}}\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k} (k+1)}\right) \equiv \frac{83}{34}p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.40.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ .

(i) If  $\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{41}\right) = 1$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 123y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k}} &\equiv x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k} (k+1)} &\equiv -\frac{8673}{2}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k} (k+1)^2} &\equiv \frac{280605}{4}y^2 - 792p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k} (2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{19903}{192}y^2 - \frac{8425}{4608}p - \frac{31p^2}{4608y^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) If  $\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{41}\right) = -1$  and so  $4p = 3x^2 + 41y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k}} &\equiv -3x^2 + 2p + \frac{p^2}{3x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k} (k+1)} &\equiv \frac{2891}{2}y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k} (k+1)^2} &\equiv -\frac{93535}{4}y^2 + 790p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k} (2k-1)} &\equiv -\frac{19903}{576}y^2 + \frac{8425}{4608}p + \frac{31p^2}{1536y^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(iii) If  $\left(\frac{-123}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k}}\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k} (k+1)}\right) \equiv \frac{2891}{82}p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$



**Conjecture 5.41.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ .

(i) If  $\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{89}\right) = 1$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 267y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}} &\equiv x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}(k+1)} &\equiv -\frac{2052321}{2}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}(k+1)^2} &\equiv \frac{113759157}{4}y^2 - 131490p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}(2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{8910623}{37500}y^2 - \frac{2118511}{1125000}p - \frac{3721p^2}{1125000y^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) If  $\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{89}\right) = -1$  and so  $4p = 3x^2 + 89y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}} &\equiv -3x^2 + 2p + \frac{p^2}{3x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}(k+1)} &\equiv \frac{684107}{2}y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}(k+1)^2} &\equiv -\frac{37919719}{4}y^2 + 131488p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}(2k-1)} &\equiv -\frac{8910623}{112500}y^2 + \frac{2118511}{1125000}p + \frac{3721p^2}{375000y^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(iii) If  $\left(\frac{-267}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}}\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}(k+1)}\right) \equiv \frac{684107}{178}p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Remark 5.8.** Let  $p > 5$  be a prime. In [18], the author proved the congruences modulo  $p$  for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} / m^k$  in the cases  $m = -8640, -12^3, -48^3, -300^3$ . In [29], Z. W. Sun conjectured the corresponding congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} / m^k \pmod{p^2}$  in the cases  $m = -12^3, -48^3, -300^3$ .

**Conjecture 5.42.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime.

(i) If  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{13}{p}\right) = 1$  and so  $p = x^2 + 13y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-82944)^k} \equiv 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-82944)^k (k+1)} \equiv -\frac{2272}{3}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-82944)^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \frac{96032}{9}y^2 - \frac{911}{3}p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-82944)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{2357}{54}y^2 - \frac{2365}{1296}p - \frac{41p^2}{2592y^2} \pmod{p^3}.$$

(ii) If  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{13}{p}\right) = -1$  and so  $2p = x^2 + 13y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-82944)^k} \equiv -2x^2 + 2p + \frac{p^2}{2x^2} \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-82944)^k (k+1)} \equiv \frac{1136}{3}y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-82944)^k (k+1)^2} \equiv -\frac{48016}{9}y^2 + \frac{905}{3}p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-82944)^k (2k-1)} \equiv -\frac{2357}{108}y^2 + \frac{2365}{1296}p + \frac{41p^2}{1296y^2} \pmod{p^3}.$$

(iii) If  $\left(\frac{-13}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-82944)^k}\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-82944)^k (k+1)}\right) \equiv \frac{568}{39}p^2.$$

**Conjecture 5.43.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 7$ .

(i) If  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{37}{p}\right) = 1$  and so  $p = x^2 + 37y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-199148544)^k} \equiv 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-199148544)^k (k+1)} \equiv -\frac{5044960}{3}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-199148544)^k (k+1)^2} \equiv \frac{467407904}{9}y^2 - \frac{1302671}{3}p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-199148544)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{1}{18522} \left( 2469371y^2 - \frac{5897725}{168}p - \frac{37649p^2}{336y^2} \right) \pmod{p^3}.$$

(ii) If  $\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{37}{p}\right) = -1$  and so  $2p = x^2 + 37y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-199148544)^k} \equiv -2x^2 + 2p + \frac{p^2}{2x^2} \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-199148544)^k (k+1)} \equiv \frac{2522480}{3} y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-199148544)^k (k+1)^2} \equiv -\frac{233703952}{9} y^2 + \frac{1302665}{3} p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-199148544)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{1}{37044} \left( -2469371y^2 + \frac{5897725}{84} p + \frac{37649p^2}{84y^2} \right) \pmod{p^3}.$$

(iii) If  $\left(\frac{-37}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-199148544)^k} \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-199148544)^k (k+1)} \right) \equiv \frac{1261240}{111} p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.44.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 11$ .

(i) If  $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{-11}{p}\right) = 1$  and so  $p = x^2 + 22y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{1584^{2k}} \equiv 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{1584^{2k} (k+1)} \equiv \frac{63272}{3} y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{1584^{2k} (k+1)^2} \equiv -\frac{4221712}{9} y^2 + \frac{21289}{3} p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{1584^{2k} (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{1}{297} \left( 22829y^2 - \frac{73085}{132} p - \frac{8471p^2}{2904y^2} \right) \pmod{p^3}.$$

(ii) If  $\left(\frac{2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{-11}{p}\right) = -1$  and so  $p = 2x^2 + 11y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{1584^{2k}} \equiv -8x^2 + 2p + \frac{p^2}{8x^2} \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{1584^{2k} (k+1)} \equiv -\frac{31636}{3} y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{1584^{2k} (k+1)^2} \equiv \frac{2110856}{9} y^2 - \frac{21295}{3} p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{1584^{2k} (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{1}{594} \left( -22829y^2 + \frac{73085}{66} p + \frac{8471p^2}{726y^2} \right) \pmod{p^3}.$$

(iii) If  $\left(\frac{-22}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{1584^{2k}} \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{1584^{2k} (k+1)} \right) \equiv -\frac{719}{3} p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.45.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 11$ .

(i) If  $\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{29}{p}\right) = 1$  and so  $p = x^2 + 58y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{396^{4k}} \equiv 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{396^{4k} (k+1)} \equiv \frac{622903112}{3} y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{396^{4k} (k+1)^2} \equiv -\frac{75716418640}{9} y^2 + \frac{128477449}{3} p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{396^{4k} (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{1}{323433} \left( 69026153y^2 - \frac{736357445}{1188} p - \frac{3035509p^2}{2376y^2} \right) \pmod{p^3}.$$

(ii) If  $\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{29}{p}\right) = -1$  and so  $p = 2x^2 + 29y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{396^{4k}} \equiv -8x^2 + 2p + \frac{p^2}{8x^2} \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{396^{4k} (k+1)} \equiv -\frac{311451556}{3} y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{396^{4k} (k+1)^2} \equiv \frac{37858209320}{9} y^2 - \frac{128477455}{3} p \pmod{p^2},$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{396^{4k} (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{1}{646866} \left( -69026153y^2 + \frac{736357445}{594} p + \frac{3035509p^2}{594y^2} \right) \pmod{p^3}.$$

(iii) If  $\left(\frac{-58}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{396^{4k}} \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{396^{4k} (k+1)} \right) \equiv -\frac{77862889}{87} p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.46.** Let  $p > 5$  be a prime.

(i) If  $p \equiv 1, 9 \pmod{20}$  and so  $p = x^2 + 25y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-6635520)^k} &\equiv 4x^2 - 2p - \frac{p^2}{4x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-6635520)^k (k+1)} &\equiv -\frac{168400}{3}y^2 + 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-6635520)^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv \frac{12142400}{9}y^2 - \frac{52799}{3}p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-6635520)^k (2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{19025}{216}y^2 - \frac{194161}{103680}p - \frac{45239p^2}{5184000y^2} \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) If  $p \equiv 13, 17 \pmod{20}$  and so  $2p = x^2 + 25y^2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-6635520)^k} &\equiv 2p - 2x^2 + \frac{p^2}{2x^2} \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-6635520)^k (k+1)} &\equiv \frac{84200}{3}y^2 - 2p - p^2 \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-6635520)^k (k+1)^2} &\equiv -\frac{6071200}{9}y^2 + \frac{52793}{3}p \pmod{p^2}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-6635520)^k (2k-1)} &\equiv \frac{1}{432} \left( -19025y^2 + \frac{194161}{240}p + \frac{45239p^2}{6000y^2} \right) \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

(iii) If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , then

$$\left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-6635520)^k} \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-6635520)^k (k+1)} \right) \equiv \frac{1684}{3}p^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Remark 5.9.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. The congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{m^k} \pmod{p^2}$  in the cases  $m = -82944, -199148544, 1584^2, 396^4, -6635520$  were conjectured by Z. W. Sun earlier, see [27,29] and arXiv:0911.5665v59.

**Conjecture 5.47.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime.

(i) If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and so  $p = x^2 + 4y^2$  with  $4 \mid x - 1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{32^k (2k-1)^2} \equiv x - \frac{p}{4x} \pmod{p^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{32^k (k+1)^2} \equiv 8x - 7 \pmod{p}.$$

(ii) If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{32^k(2k-1)^2} \equiv \frac{1}{2}(2p+3-2^{p-1})\binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-3}{4}} \pmod{p^2}.$$

**Conjecture 5.48.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{(-16)^k(2k-1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \frac{p}{x} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ and } 4 \mid x-1, \\ (-1)^{\frac{p+1}{4}} (2p+3-2^{p-1})\binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-3)/4} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{(-16)^k(k+1)^2} \equiv 5 \pmod{p} \quad \text{for } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

**Conjecture 5.49.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{8^k(2k-1)^2} \equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} (2x - \frac{3p}{2x}) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ and } 4 \mid x-1, \\ 2(-1)^{\frac{p+1}{4}}\binom{(p-1)/2}{(p-3)/4} \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Remark 5.10.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime. In [33], Z. W. Sun established the congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2}{m^k(2k-1)} \pmod{p^2}$  in the cases  $m = -16, 8, 32$ .

Now we present two general conjectures.

**Conjecture 5.50.** Let  $a, x \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $adx \neq 0$ , where  $\mathbb{Q}$  is the set of rational numbers. Suppose that  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{a}{k} \binom{-1-a}{k} x^k \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  for all odd primes  $p$  satisfying  $a, x \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $(\frac{d}{p}) = -1$ . Then there is a constant  $c \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that for all odd primes  $p$  with  $c \in \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $(\frac{d}{p}) = -1$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{a}{k} \binom{-1-a}{k} (x(1-x))^k \equiv c \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{a}{k} \binom{-1-a}{k} x^k \right)^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

**Conjecture 5.51.** Let  $a, m \in \mathbb{Q}$  and  $d \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $adm \neq 0$ . Suppose that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{a}{k} \binom{-1-a}{k}}{m^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$$

for all odd primes  $p$  satisfying  $a, m \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ ,  $p \nmid m$  and  $(\frac{d}{p}) = -1$ . Then there is a constant  $c \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that for all odd primes  $p$  with  $c, m \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ ,  $p \nmid m$  and  $(\frac{d}{p}) = -1$ ,

$$\left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{a}{k} \binom{-1-a}{k}}{m^k} \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{a}{k} \binom{-1-a}{k}}{(k+1)m^k} \right) \equiv cp^2 \pmod{p^3}.$$

## 6. Conjectures for congruences involving Apéry-like numbers

For an odd prime  $p$ , let  $R_1(p)$ – $R_3(p)$  be given by (5.1)–(5.3). With the help of Maple, we discover the following conjectures involving Apéry-like numbers.

**Conjecture 6.1.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} S_k}{16^k(k+1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} S_k}{16^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.2.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} S_k}{32^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \left(\frac{p}{2} - x^2\right) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ \frac{1}{4}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} R_2(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} S_k}{800^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{73}{100}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}(4x^2 - 2p) - \frac{24}{125}\left(\frac{3}{p}\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ \frac{9}{100}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} R_2(p) + \frac{24}{125}\left(\frac{3}{p}\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8} \text{ and } p \neq 5, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} S_k}{(-768)^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{73}{96}\left(\frac{3}{p}\right)(4x^2 - 2p) - \frac{11}{48}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{3}{32}\left(\frac{3}{p}\right)R_2(p) - \frac{11}{48}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.3.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} S_k}{7^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{124}{49}x^2 - \frac{46}{49}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ \frac{64}{7} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{k+1} + \frac{496}{49}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} S_k}{25^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{124}{175}x^2 + \frac{326}{875}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ \frac{448}{175} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{k+1} + \frac{2576}{875}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7} \text{ and } p \neq 5. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.4.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then*

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} S_k}{(-32)^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 22y^2 - \frac{5}{2}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ -11y^2 + \frac{5}{2}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}, \\ \frac{2}{3} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k(k+1)} + \frac{p}{2} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 13, 19 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{2}{3} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k(k+1)} - \frac{5}{6}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 17, 23 \pmod{24} \end{cases}$$

and

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} S_k}{64^k(2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 11y^2 - p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ \frac{11}{2}y^2 - p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{1}{3} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k(k+1)} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 13, 19 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{1}{3} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k(k+1)} - \frac{p}{6} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 17, 23 \pmod{24}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.5.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} W_k}{(-12)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -2(2p+1) \binom{[2p/3]}{[p/3]}^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.6.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ , then

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} W_k}{54^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{28}{9} x^2 + \frac{10}{9} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 4y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \frac{2}{3} R_1(p) - \frac{4}{9} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.7.** Let  $p$  be an odd prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} W_k}{8^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{11}{2} x^2 + \frac{5}{4} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{9}{8} R_2(p) + \frac{3}{2} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.8.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 7$ , then

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} W_k}{(-27)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{2}{3} p + \frac{76}{9} y^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -\frac{8}{3} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{k+1} - \frac{28}{9} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} W_k}{243^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{1676}{81} y^2 - \frac{142}{81} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 7y^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ -\frac{32}{27} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^3}{k+1} - \frac{44}{27} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.9.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 11$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} W_k}{(-44)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{52}{11} y^2 - \frac{116}{121} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 3, 4, 5, 9 \pmod{11} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 11y^2, \\ \frac{9}{11} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)} + \frac{39}{121} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2, 6, 7, 8, 10 \pmod{11}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.10.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 19$ , then

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} W_k}{(-108)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{100}{9} y^2 - \frac{4}{3} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 19y^2, \\ 8 \left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (2k-1)} + \frac{241}{288} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$



**Conjecture 6.11.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} f_k}{(-4)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 2p - 4x^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -8R_3(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} f_k}{50^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{13}{25}(4x^2 - 2p) - \frac{12}{125}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -\frac{32}{25}R_3(p) - \frac{12}{125}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \text{ and } p \neq 5. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.12.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} f_k}{96^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{29}{48}\left(\frac{p}{3}\right)(4x^2 - 2p) - \frac{p}{6} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ \frac{3}{16}\left(\frac{p}{3}\right)R_2(p) + \frac{p}{6} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.13.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 5$ . If  $\left(\frac{-5}{p}\right) = 1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} f_k}{16^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{7}{5}x^2 + \frac{9}{10}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 9 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 5y^2, \\ -\frac{7}{10}x^2 + \frac{9}{10}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 7 \pmod{20} \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 5y^2; \end{cases}$$

if  $\left(\frac{-5}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} f_k}{16^k (2k-1)} \equiv -6(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{4k}{2k}}{(-1024)^k (2k-1)} - \frac{11}{8}p \pmod{p^2}.$$

**Conjecture 6.14.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. If  $\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) = 1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} f_k}{32^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{7}{4}x^2 + \frac{7}{8}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{7}{2}x^2 + \frac{7}{8}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}; \end{cases}$$

if  $\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} f_k}{32^k (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{9}{4} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k (2k-1)} + \frac{1}{4}\left(\frac{p}{3}\right)p \pmod{p^2}.$$

**Conjecture 6.15.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} a_k}{54^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} \frac{52}{9}y^2 - \frac{26+2(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}}{27}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ \frac{32}{27}R_3(p) + \frac{2}{27}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.16.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} a_k}{100^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{58}{25}x^2 + \frac{145-18\left(\frac{p}{3}\right)}{125}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 2y^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, \\ -\frac{9}{50}R_2(p) - \frac{18}{125}\left(\frac{p}{3}\right)p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8} \text{ and } p \neq 5. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.17.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} a_k}{(-12)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} p - 4x^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 9y^2, \\ 2x^2 - p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-5 \text{ and so } 2p = x^2 + 9y^2, \\ 3 \binom{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/12 \rfloor}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{12}, \\ -6 \binom{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor}{\lfloor p/12 \rfloor}^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{12}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.18.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. If  $\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) = 1$ , then

$$\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} a_k}{36^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{14}{9}x^2 + \frac{7}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ -\frac{28}{9}x^2 + \frac{7}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}; \end{cases}$$

if  $\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} a_k}{36^k (2k-1)} \equiv -2 \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k (2k-1)} - \frac{2}{9}p \pmod{p^2}.$$

**Conjecture 6.19.** Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} Q_k}{(-36)^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{4}{9}x^2 + \frac{2}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -\frac{8}{9}R_3(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} Q_k}{18^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{52}{9}x^2 + \frac{26-12(-1)^{(p-1)/2}}{9}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -\frac{32}{9}R_3(p) - \frac{4}{3}(-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.20.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 11$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} A'_k}{4^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} 2p - 2y^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 3, 4, 5, 9 \pmod{11} \text{ and } 4p = x^2 + 11y^2, \\ 5 \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k (k+1)} + 3p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2, 6, 7, 8, 10 \pmod{11}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 6.21.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \neq 2, 3, 19$ . If  $\left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = 1$  and so  $4p = x^2 + 19y^2$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} A'_k}{36^k (2k-1)} \equiv \frac{74}{9}y^2 - \frac{22}{27}p \pmod{p^2};$$

if  $\left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = -1$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} A'_k}{36^k (2k-1)} \equiv -\frac{40}{3} \left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k} (2k-1)} - \frac{1397}{864}p \pmod{p^2}.$$

**Conjecture 6.22.** Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p > 3$ , then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} A'_k}{18^k (2k-1)} \equiv \begin{cases} -\frac{4}{3}x^2 + \frac{26}{27}p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1 \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 4y^2, \\ \frac{8}{27}p - \frac{10}{9}R_1(p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

**Remark 6.1.** In [29], Z. W. Sun conjectured that for any prime  $p > 3$ ,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} A'_k}{36^k} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 19y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = -1, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} A'_k}{18^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 4y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

For congruences related to Conjectures 6.1–6.18 see [21–25].

## 7. Conclusions

In Sections 2–4, we prove some congruences for the sums involving binomial coefficients and Apéry-like numbers modulo  $p^r$ , where  $p$  is an odd prime and  $r \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ . Based on calculations by Maple, in Sections 3, 5 and 6 we pose 83 challenging conjectures on congruences modulo  $p^2$  or  $p^3$ .

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## Conflict of interest

The author declares no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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