

## CONGRUENCES INVOLVING $\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}$

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ABSTRACT. Let  $p > 3$  be a prime, and let  $m$  be an integer with  $p \nmid m$ . In this paper, based on the work of Brillhart and Morton, by using the work of Ishii and Deuring's theorem for elliptic curves with complex multiplication we solve some conjectures of Zhi-Wei Sun concerning  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} / m^k \pmod{p^2}$ .

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### 1. Introduction.

For positive integers  $a, b$  and  $n$ , if  $n = ax^2 + by^2$  for some integers  $x$  and  $y$ , we briefly say that  $n = ax^2 + by^2$ . Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. In 2003, Rodriguez-Villegas[RV] posed some conjectures on supercongruences modulo  $p^2$ . One of his conjectures is equivalent to

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

This conjecture has been solved by Mortenson[Mo] and Zhi-Wei Sun[Su4].

Let  $\mathbb{Z}$  be the set of integers, and for a prime  $p$  let  $R_p$  be the set of rational numbers whose denominator is coprime to  $p$ . Recently the author's brother Zhi-Wei Sun[Su1] posed many conjectures on  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} m^{-k} \pmod{p^2}$ , where  $p > 3$  is a prime and  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $p \nmid m$ . For example, he conjectured that (see [Su1, Conjecture A13])

$$(1.1) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 7, 11, 13, 14 \pmod{15}, \\ 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 15y^2 \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15}, \\ 20x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 5x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 2, 8 \pmod{15}. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\{P_n(x)\}$  be the Legendre polynomials given by (see [MOS, pp. 228-232], [G, (3.132)-(3.133)])

$$(1.2) \quad P_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \binom{n}{k} (-1)^k \binom{2n-2k}{n} x^{n-2k} = \frac{1}{2^n \cdot n!} \cdot \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (x^2 - 1)^n,$$

where  $[a]$  is the greatest integer not exceeding  $a$ . From (1.2) we see that

$$(1.3) \quad P_n(-x) = (-1)^n P_n(x).$$

Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. Then  $\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} = \frac{(3k)!}{k!^3} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  for  $\frac{p}{3} < k < p$ . In [S2] the author showed that

$$(1.4) \quad P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{[p/3]} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{1-t}{54}\right)^k \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{1-t}{54}\right)^k \pmod{p}.$$

In the paper, using the work of Brillhart and Morton[BM] we prove that

$$(1.5) \quad P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) \equiv -\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{p}\right) \pmod{p},$$

where  $\left(\frac{a}{p}\right)$  is the Legendre symbol. Based on (1.5) and the work of Ishii[I], we determine

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) \pmod{p} \quad \text{for} \quad t = \frac{5}{4}, \frac{5}{\sqrt{-2}}, \frac{\sqrt{-11}}{4}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \sqrt{5}, \frac{9}{20}\sqrt{5}, \frac{\sqrt{17}}{4}, \frac{5}{32}\sqrt{41}, \frac{53}{500}\sqrt{89}.$$

For instance, if  $p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{5}$  is a prime, we prove that

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(\sqrt{5}) \equiv \begin{cases} 2x\left(\frac{x}{3}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 15y^2 \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15}, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 14 \pmod{15}. \end{cases}$$

Let  $p > 3$  be a prime,  $m \in R_p$ ,  $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  and  $t = \sqrt{1 - 108/m}$ . In the paper we show that

$$(1.6) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{m^k} \equiv P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t)^2 \pmod{p}$$

and that

$$(1.7) \quad P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{implies} \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{m^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}.$$

On the basis of (1.6) and (1.7), we prove some congruences for  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} m^{-k}$  in the cases  $m = 8, 64, 216, -27, -192, -8640, -12^3, -48^3, -300^3$ . Thus we partially solve some conjectures posed by Zhi-Wei Sun in [Su1, Su2, Su3]. As a typical example, for odd primes  $p \neq 11$  we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 11y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

## 2. A general congruence modulo $p^2$ .

We begin with a useful combinatorial identity.

**Lemma 2.1.** *For any nonnegative integer  $n$  we have*

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} \binom{k}{n-k} (-27)^{n-k} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{2(n-k)}{n-k} \binom{3(n-k)}{n-k}.$$

Proof. Let  $m$  be a nonnegative integer. For  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, m\}$  set

$$F_1(m, k) = \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} \binom{k}{m-k} (-27)^{m-k},$$

$$F_2(m, k) = \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{2(m-k)}{m-k} \binom{3(m-k)}{m-k}.$$

For  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, m+1\}$  set

$$G_1(m, k) = -\frac{(27k)^2(m+2)(m-2k)(m-2k+1)}{(k+1)(k+2)} \binom{k+2}{m+2-k} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} (-27)^{m-k},$$

$$G_2(m, k) = \frac{3k^2(9m^2 - 9mk + 30m - 14k + 24)}{(m+2-k)^2}$$

$$\times \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{2(m+1-k)}{m+1-k} \binom{3(m+1-k)}{m+1-k}.$$

For  $i = 1, 2$  and  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, m\}$ , it is easy to check that

$$(2.1) \quad (m+2)^3 F_i(m+2, k) - 3(2m+3)(9m^2 + 27m + 22) F_i(m+1, k) \\ + 81(m+1)(3m+2)(3m+4) F_i(m, k) = G_i(m, k+1) - G_i(m, k).$$

Set  $S_i(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n F_i(n, k)$  for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Then

$$(m+2)^3 (S_i(m+2) - F_i(m+2, m+2) - F_i(m+2, m+1)) \\ - 3(2m+3)(9m^2 + 27m + 22) (S_i(m+1) - F_i(m+1, m+1)) \\ + 81(m+1)(3m+2)(3m+4) S_i(m) \\ = (m+2)^3 \sum_{k=0}^m F_i(m+2, k) - 3(2m+3)(9m^2 + 27m + 22) \sum_{k=0}^m F_i(m+1, k) \\ + 81(m+1)(3m+2)(3m+4) \sum_{k=0}^m F_i(m, k) \\ = \sum_{k=0}^m (G_i(m, k+1) - G_i(m, k)) = G_i(m, m+1) - G_i(m, 0) = G_i(m, m+1).$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
F_1(m+1, m+1) &= \binom{2m+2}{m+1}^2 \binom{3m+3}{m+1}, \\
F_1(m+2, m+1) &= -27(m+1) \binom{2m+2}{m+1}^2 \binom{3m+3}{m+1}, \\
F_1(m+2, m+2) &= \frac{6(2m+3)(3m+4)(3m+5)}{(m+2)^3} \binom{2m+2}{m+1}^2 \binom{3m+3}{m+1}, \\
F_2(m+1, m+1) &= \binom{2m+2}{m+1} \binom{3m+3}{m+1}, \\
F_2(m+2, m+1) &= 6 \binom{2m+2}{m+1} \binom{3m+3}{m+1}, \\
F_2(m+2, m+2) &= \frac{3(3m+4)(3m+5)}{(m+2)^2} \binom{2m+2}{m+1} \binom{3m+3}{m+1}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
G_1(m, m+1) &= 27(m+1)^3(m+2) \binom{2m+2}{m+1}^2 \binom{3m+3}{m+1}, \\
G_2(m, m+1) &= 3(m+1)^2(7m+10) \binom{2m+2}{m+1} \binom{3m+3}{m+1}.
\end{aligned}$$

From the above we deduce that for  $i = 1, 2$  and  $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
&(m+2)^3 S_i(m+2) - 3(2m+3)(9m^2 + 27m + 22) S_i(m+1) \\
&\quad + 81(m+1)(3m+2)(3m+4) S_i(m) \\
(2.2) \quad &= G_i(m, m+1) + (m+2)^3 (F_i(m+2, m+2) + F_i(m+2, m+1)) \\
&\quad - 3(2m+3)(9m^2 + 27m + 22) F_i(m+1, m+1) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $S_1(0) = 1 = S_2(0)$  and  $S_1(1) = 12 = S_2(1)$ , from (2.2) we deduce  $S_1(n) = S_2(n)$  for all  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . This completes the proof.

**Remark 2.1** We actually find (2.1) and prove Lemma 2.1 by using WZ method and Maple. The author thanks Professor Qing-Hu Hou for his help in finding (2.1). For the WZ method, see [PWZ].

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime and let  $x$  be a variable. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} (x(1-27x))^k \equiv \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} x^k \right)^2 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Proof. It is clear that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} (x(1-27x))^k \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} x^k \sum_{r=0}^k \binom{k}{r} (-27x)^r \\
&= \sum_{m=0}^{2(p-1)} x^m \sum_{k=0}^{\min\{m, p-1\}} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} \binom{k}{m-k} (-27)^{m-k}.
\end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $p \leq m \leq 2p-2$  and  $0 \leq k \leq p-1$ . If  $k > \frac{p}{2}$ , then  $p \mid \binom{2k}{k}$  and so  $p^2 \mid \binom{2k}{k}^2$ . If  $k < \frac{p}{2}$ , then  $m-k \geq p-k > k$  and so  $\binom{k}{m-k} = 0$ . Thus, from the above and Lemma 2.1 we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} (x(1-27x))^k \\
&\equiv \sum_{m=0}^{p-1} x^m \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} \binom{k}{m-k} (-27)^{m-k} \\
&= \sum_{m=0}^{p-1} x^m \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{2(m-k)}{m-k} \binom{3(m-k)}{m-k} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} x^k \sum_{m=k}^{p-1} \binom{2(m-k)}{m-k} \binom{3(m-k)}{m-k} x^{m-k} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} x^k \sum_{r=0}^{p-1-k} \binom{2r}{r} \binom{3r}{r} x^r \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} x^k \left( \sum_{r=0}^{p-1} \binom{2r}{r} \binom{3r}{r} x^r - \sum_{r=p-k}^{p-1} \binom{2r}{r} \binom{3r}{r} x^r \right) \\
&= \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} x^k \right)^2 - \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} x^k \sum_{r=p-k}^{p-1} \binom{2r}{r} \binom{3r}{r} x^r \pmod{p^2}.
\end{aligned}$$

If  $\frac{2p}{3} \leq k \leq p-1$ , then  $\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} = \frac{(3k)!}{k!^3} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$ . If  $0 \leq k \leq \frac{p}{3}$  and  $p-k \leq r \leq p-1$ , then  $\frac{2p}{3} \leq r \leq p-1$  and so  $\binom{2r}{r} \binom{3r}{r} = \frac{(3r)!}{r!^3} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$ . If  $\frac{p}{3} < k < \frac{2p}{3}$  and  $p-k \leq r \leq p-1$ , then  $r \geq p-k > \frac{p}{3}$ ,  $\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} = \frac{(3k)!}{k!^3} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  and  $\binom{2r}{r} \binom{3r}{r} = \frac{(3r)!}{r!^3} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Hence, for  $0 \leq k \leq p-1$  and  $p-k \leq r \leq p-1$  we have  $p^2 \mid \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{2r}{r} \binom{3r}{r}$  and so

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} x^k \sum_{r=p-k}^{p-1} \binom{2r}{r} \binom{3r}{r} x^r \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Thus the result follows.

**Corollary 2.1.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime and  $m \in R_p$  with  $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{m^k} \equiv \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 108/m}}{54} \right)^k \right)^2 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Proof. Taking  $x = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 108/m}}{54}$  in Theorem 2.1 we deduce the result.

**3. A congruence for  $P_{[p/3]}(t) \pmod{p}$ .**

Let  $W_n(x)$  be the Deuring polynomial given by

$$(3.1) \quad W_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 x^k.$$

It is known that ([G,(3.134)], [BM])

$$(3.2) \quad W_n(x) = (1-x)^n P_n\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right).$$

Let  $p > 3$  be a prime,  $m, n \in R_p$  and  $4m^3 + 27n^2 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . From [Mor, Theorem 3.3] we have

$$(3.3) \quad \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) \equiv -(-48m)^{\frac{1 - (\frac{p}{3})}{2}} (864n)^{\frac{1 - (\frac{-1}{p})}{2}} (-16(4m^3 + 27n^2))^{\lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor} J_p\left(\frac{2^8 \cdot 3^3 m^3}{4m^3 + 27n^2}\right) \pmod{p},$$

where  $J_p(t)$  is a certain Jacobi polynomial given by

$$(3.4) \quad J_p(t) = 1728^{\lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor} P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor}^{(-\frac{1}{3}(\frac{p}{3}), -\frac{1}{2}(\frac{-1}{p}))} \left(1 - \frac{t}{864}\right)$$

and

$$P_k^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x) = \frac{1}{2^k} \sum_{r=0}^k \binom{k+\alpha}{r} \binom{k+\beta}{k-r} (x-1)^{k-r} (x+1)^r.$$

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime and  $t \in R_p$ . Then*

$$P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}(t) \equiv -\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{p} \right) \pmod{p}.$$

Proof. It is well known that  $P_n(1) = 1$ . Since  $P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}(1) = 1$  and

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 3x - 2}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{(x+1)^2(x-2)}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x-2}{p} \right) - \left( \frac{-1-2}{p} \right) = -\left(\frac{p}{3}\right),$$

the result is true for  $t \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . As  $P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(-1) = (-1)^{[\frac{p}{3}]} P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(1) = (\frac{p}{3})$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 27x + 54}{p} \right) &= \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{(-3x)^3 - 27(-3x) + 54}{p} \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{-3}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 3x - 2}{p} \right) = -1, \end{aligned}$$

the result is also true for  $t \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ .

Now we assume  $t \not\equiv \pm 1 \pmod{p}$ . Set  $W_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 x^k$ . From [BM, Theorem 6] we know that

$$(3.5) \quad W_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left( 1 - \frac{x}{27} \right) \equiv u_p(x) (x - 27)^{[\frac{p}{12}]} J_p \left( \frac{x(x - 24)^3}{x - 27} \right) \pmod{p},$$

where  $J_p(x)$  is given by (3.4) and

$$u_p(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}, \\ -3(x - 24) & \text{if } p \equiv 5 \pmod{12}, \\ x^2 - 36x + 216 & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{12}, \\ -3(x - 24)(x^2 - 36x + 216) & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{12}. \end{cases}$$

Taking  $x = 54/(t + 1)$  in (3.5) and applying the above we obtain

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} &W_{[\frac{p}{3}]}((t - 1)/(t + 1)) \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} \left( \frac{27(1-t)}{1+t} \right)^{[\frac{p}{12}]} J_p \left( \frac{432(5-4t)^3}{(1-t)(1+t)^3} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}, \\ \frac{18(4t-5)}{t+1} \left( \frac{27(1-t)}{1+t} \right)^{[\frac{p}{12}]} J_p \left( \frac{432(5-4t)^3}{(1-t)(1+t)^3} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 5 \pmod{12}, \\ \frac{108(2t^2-14t+11)}{(t+1)^2} \left( \frac{27(1-t)}{1+t} \right)^{[\frac{p}{12}]} J_p \left( \frac{432(5-4t)^3}{(1-t)(1+t)^3} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{12}, \\ \frac{1944(4t-5)(2t^2-14t+11)}{(t+1)^3} \left( \frac{27(1-t)}{1+t} \right)^{[\frac{p}{12}]} J_p \left( \frac{432(5-4t)^3}{(1-t)(1+t)^3} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11 \pmod{12}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Taking  $x = (t - 1)/(t + 1)$  in (3.2) we get

$$(3.7) \quad P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) = \left( \frac{t + 1}{2} \right)^{[\frac{p}{3}]} W_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left( \frac{t - 1}{t + 1} \right).$$

If  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  and  $t \equiv \frac{5}{4} \pmod{p}$ , from the above we get

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) \equiv P_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left( \frac{5}{4} \right) = \left( \frac{\frac{5}{4} + 1}{2} \right)^{[\frac{p}{3}]} W_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left( \frac{\frac{5}{4} - 1}{\frac{5}{4} + 1} \right) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

On the other hand,

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + 3(4t - 5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 27/4}{p} \right) = \sum_{y=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{y - 27/4}{p} \right) = 0.$$

Thus the result is true when  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  and  $t \equiv \frac{5}{4} \pmod{p}$ . If  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  and  $2t^2 - 14t + 11 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , from (3.6) and (3.7) we deduce that

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) = \left(\frac{t+1}{2}\right)^{[\frac{p}{3}]} W_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left(\frac{t-1}{t+1}\right) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

As

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x}{p}\right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{(-x)^3 + 3(4t-5)(-x)}{p}\right) = -\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x}{p}\right),$$

we see that

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{p}\right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x}{p}\right) = 0.$$

Thus the result is true when  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  and  $2t^2 - 14t + 11 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Set  $m = 3(4t-5)$  and  $n = 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)$ . Then

$$(3.8) \quad 4m^3 + 27n^2 = -432(1-t)(1+t)^3 \quad \text{and so} \quad \frac{2^8 \cdot 3^3 m^3}{4m^3 + 27n^2} = \frac{432(5-4t)^3}{(1-t)(1+t)^3}.$$

By the above, we may assume that  $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  for  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  and  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  for  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . From (3.3) we see that

$$(3.9) \quad \begin{aligned} J_p \left(\frac{432(5-4t)^3}{(1-t)(1+t)^3}\right) &= J_p \left(\frac{2^8 \cdot 3^3 m^3}{4m^3 + 27n^2}\right) \\ &\equiv -(-48m)^{\frac{(\frac{p}{3})-1}{2}} (864n)^{\frac{(\frac{-1}{p})-1}{2}} (-16(4m^3 + 27n^2))^{-[\frac{p}{12}]} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p}\right) \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$ , from (3.6)-(3.9) we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) &= \left(\frac{t+1}{2}\right)^{[\frac{p}{3}]} W_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left(\frac{t-1}{t+1}\right) \equiv \left(\frac{1+t}{2}\right)^{\frac{p-1}{3}} \left(\frac{27(1-t)}{1+t}\right)^{\frac{p-1}{12}} J_p \left(\frac{432(5-4t)^3}{(1-t)(1+t)^3}\right) \\ &\equiv -2^{-\frac{p-1}{3}} (3(1+t))^{\frac{p-1}{4}} (1-t)^{\frac{p-1}{12}} (2^8 \cdot 3^3 (1-t)(1+t)^3)^{-\frac{p-1}{12}} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p}\right) \\ &\equiv -\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{p}\right) \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$



If  $p \equiv 5 \pmod{12}$ , from (3.6)-(3.9) we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) &= \left(\frac{t+1}{2}\right)^{[\frac{p}{3}]} W_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left(\frac{t-1}{t+1}\right) \equiv \left(\frac{t+1}{2}\right)^{\frac{p-2}{3}} \frac{18(4t-5)}{t+1} \left(\frac{27(1-t)}{1+t}\right)^{\frac{p-5}{12}} J_p \left(\frac{432(5-4t)^3}{(1-t)(1+t)^3}\right) \\
&\equiv 2^{-\frac{p-5}{3}} 3^{\frac{p+3}{4}} (4t-5)(1+t)^{\frac{p-5}{4}} (1-t)^{\frac{p-5}{12}} (144(4t-5))^{-1} \\
&\quad \times (2^8 \cdot 3^3 (1-t)(1+t)^3)^{-\frac{p-5}{12}} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p}\right) \\
&\equiv \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{p}\right) \pmod{p}.
\end{aligned}$$

If  $p \equiv 7 \pmod{12}$ , from (3.6)-(3.9) we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) &= \left(\frac{t+1}{2}\right)^{[\frac{p}{3}]} W_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left(\frac{t-1}{t+1}\right) \\
&\equiv \left(\frac{t+1}{2}\right)^{\frac{p-1}{3}} \frac{108(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{(t+1)^2} \left(\frac{27(1-t)}{1+t}\right)^{\frac{p-7}{12}} J_p \left(\frac{432(5-4t)^3}{(1-t)(1+t)^3}\right) \\
&\equiv -2^{-\frac{p-7}{3}} 3^{\frac{p+5}{4}} (2t^2 - 14t + 11)(1+t)^{\frac{p-7}{4}} (1-t)^{\frac{p-7}{12}} (2^6 \cdot 3^3 (2t^2 - 14t + 11))^{-1} \\
&\quad \times (2^8 \cdot 3^3 (1-t)(1+t)^3)^{-\frac{p-7}{12}} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p}\right) \\
&\equiv -\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{p}\right) \pmod{p}.
\end{aligned}$$

If  $p \equiv 11 \pmod{12}$ , from (3.6)-(3.9) we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) &= \left(\frac{t+1}{2}\right)^{[\frac{p}{3}]} W_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left(\frac{t-1}{t+1}\right) \\
&\equiv \left(\frac{t+1}{2}\right)^{\frac{p-2}{3}} \frac{1944(4t-5)(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{(t+1)^3} \left(\frac{27(1-t)}{1+t}\right)^{\frac{p-11}{12}} J_p \left(\frac{432(5-4t)^3}{(1-t)(1+t)^3}\right) \\
&\equiv 2^{-\frac{p-11}{3}} 3^{\frac{p-11}{4}+5} (4t-5)(2t^2 - 14t + 11)(1+t)^{\frac{p-11}{4}} (1-t)^{\frac{p-11}{12}} (48m)^{-1} (864n)^{-1} \\
&\quad \times (2^8 \cdot 3^3 (1-t)(1+t)^3)^{-\frac{p-11}{12}} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p}\right) \\
&\equiv \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{p}\right) \pmod{p}.
\end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of the theorem.

**Corollary 3.1.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime and let  $t$  be a variable. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{1-t}{54}\right)^k \\ & \equiv P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}(t) \equiv -\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11))^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. From [S2, Lemma 2.3] we have  $P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}(t) \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{1-t}{54}\right)^k \pmod{p}$ . By Theorem 3.1 and Euler's criterion, the result is true for  $t = 0, 1, \dots, p-1$ . Since both sides are polynomials in  $t$  with degree at most  $p-1$ , using Lagrange's theorem we obtain the result.

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime and  $t \in R_p$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{p} \right) \\ & = \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 3(4t+5)x + 2(2t^2 + 14t + 11)}{p} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Since  $P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}(-t) = (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor} P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}(t) = \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}(t)$ , by Theorem 3.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)}{p} \right) \\ & \equiv \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 3(4t+5)x + 2(2t^2 + 14t + 11)}{p} \right) \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

By Hasse's estimate ([C, Theorem 14.12, p.315]),

$$\left| \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 3(\pm 4t + 5)x + 2(2t^2 \pm 14t + 11)}{p} \right) \right| \leq 2\sqrt{p}.$$

For  $p \geq 17$  we have  $4\sqrt{p} < p$ , from the above we deduce the result. For  $p \in \{5, 11, 13\}$  and  $t \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$  one can easily verify that the result is also true. Thus the corollary is proved.

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. Then*

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 120x + 506}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{2}{p}\right)L & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1, 4p = L^2 + 27M^2 \text{ and } 3 \mid L-1, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Taking  $t = \frac{5}{4}$  in Corollary 3.2 we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - \frac{27}{4}}{p} \right) &= \left( \frac{p}{3} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 30x + \frac{253}{4}}{p} \right) = \left( \frac{p}{3} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^3 - 30 \cdot \frac{x}{2} + \frac{253}{4}}{p} \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{p}{3} \right) \left( \frac{2}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 120x + 506}{p} \right). \end{aligned}$$

For  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  it is clear that  $\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - \frac{27}{4}}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x - \frac{27}{4}}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x}{p} \right) = 0$ . Thus the result is true when  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ .

Now assume that  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ ,  $p = A^2 + 3B^2$ ,  $4p = L^2 + 27M^2$  and  $A \equiv L \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . It is known that  $2^{\frac{p-1}{3}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  if and only if  $3 \mid B$ . When  $3 \nmid B$  we choose the sign of  $B$  so that  $B \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . By [S1, (2.12)],  $2^{(p-1)/3} \equiv \frac{1}{2}(-1 - \frac{A}{B}) \pmod{p}$ . From [S1, (2.9)-(2.11)] we deduce that

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 27/4}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} -2A = L & \text{if } 2^{\frac{p-1}{3}} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}, \\ A + 3B = L & \text{if } 2^{\frac{p-1}{3}} \not\equiv 1 \pmod{p} \text{ and } B \equiv 1 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Thus

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 120x + 506}{p} \right) = \left( \frac{2}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 27/4}{p} \right) = \left( \frac{2}{p} \right) L.$$

This completes the proof.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime.*

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

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{(-216)^k} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{24^k} \equiv P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor} \left( \frac{5}{4} \right) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

(ii) *If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  and so  $4p = L^2 + 27M^2$  with  $L, M \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $L \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{(-216)^k} \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{24^k} \equiv P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor} \left( \frac{5}{4} \right) \equiv -L \equiv \left( \frac{-2}{p} \right) \left( \frac{\frac{2(p-1)}{3}}{\lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor} \right) \pmod{p}.$$

Proof. Putting  $t = \pm \frac{5}{4}$  in Corollary 3.1 we get

$$P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor} \left( \frac{5}{4} \right) \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{(-216)^k} \pmod{p} \quad \text{and} \quad P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor} \left( -\frac{5}{4} \right) \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{24^k} \pmod{p}.$$

This together with (1.3) yields

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{(-216)^k} \equiv \left( \frac{p}{3} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/3 \rfloor} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}}{24^k} \pmod{p}.$$

If  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ , from the proof of Theorem 3.1 we know that  $P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(\frac{5}{4}) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Thus (i) is true.

Now assume that  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ ,  $4p = L^2 + 27M^2$  and  $L \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . By Theorem 3.1 and the proof of Corollary 3.3 we have

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(\frac{5}{4}) \equiv -\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - \frac{27}{4}}{p} \right) = -L \pmod{p}.$$

On the other hand, by the proof of Theorem 3.1,

$$\begin{aligned} P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(\frac{5}{4}) &= \left( \frac{\frac{5}{4} + 1}{2} \right)^{[\frac{p}{3}]} W_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left( \frac{\frac{5}{4} - 1}{\frac{5}{4} + 1} \right) \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} \left( \frac{9}{8} \right)^{\frac{p-1}{3}} \left( \frac{27(1-\frac{5}{4})}{1+\frac{5}{4}} \right)^{\frac{p-1}{12}} J_p(0) \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{12}} 3^{-\frac{p-1}{4}} J_p(0) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}, \\ \left( \frac{9}{8} \right)^{\frac{p-1}{3}} \frac{108(2(\frac{5}{4})^2 - 14 \cdot \frac{5}{4} + 11)}{(\frac{5}{4} + 1)^2} \left( \frac{27(1-\frac{5}{4})}{1+\frac{5}{4}} \right)^{\frac{p-7}{12}} J_p(0) \\ \equiv -8(-1)^{\frac{p-7}{12}} 3^{-\frac{p-7}{4}} J_p(0) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{12}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

By (3.4),

$$\begin{aligned} J_p(0) &= 1728 \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{[\frac{p}{12}]} P_{[\frac{p}{12}]}^{(-\frac{1}{3}, -\frac{1}{2}(\frac{-1}{p}))}(1) \\ &= 1728 \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{[\frac{p}{12}]} \cdot 2^{-[\frac{p}{12}]} \sum_{r=0}^{[\frac{p}{12}]} \binom{[\frac{p}{12}] - \frac{1}{3}}{r} \binom{[\frac{p}{12}] - \frac{1}{2}(\frac{-1}{p})}{[\frac{p}{12}] - r} 0^{[\frac{p}{12}] - r} 2^r \\ &= 1728 \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{[\frac{p}{12}]} \binom{[\frac{p}{12}] - \frac{1}{3}}{[\frac{p}{12}]} = (-1728) \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{[\frac{p}{12}]} \binom{\frac{1}{3} - 1}{[\frac{p}{12}]} \\ &\equiv (-1728) \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{[\frac{p}{12}]} \binom{\frac{2(p-1)}{3}}{[\frac{p}{12}]} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(\frac{5}{4}) \equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{12}} 3^{-\frac{p-1}{4}} (-1728) \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{[\frac{p}{12}]} \binom{\frac{2(p-1)}{3}}{[\frac{p}{12}]} \equiv \left( \frac{2}{p} \right) \binom{\frac{2(p-1)}{3}}{[\frac{p-1}{12}]} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1, \\ -8(-1)^{\frac{p-7}{12}} 3^{-\frac{p-7}{4}} (-1728) \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{[\frac{p}{12}]} \binom{\frac{2(p-1)}{3}}{[\frac{p-7}{12}]} \equiv -\left( \frac{2}{p} \right) \binom{\frac{2(p-1)}{3}}{[\frac{p-7}{12}]} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-7. \end{cases}$$

Now putting all the above together we obtain the result.

**Remark 3.1** For any prime  $p > 3$ , Zhi-Wei Sun conjectured that ([Su1, Conjecture A46])

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{(3k)!}{24^k \cdot k!^3} \equiv \left( \frac{p}{3} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{(3k)!}{(-216)^k \cdot k!^3} \equiv \begin{cases} \binom{(2(p-1)/3)}{(p-1)/3} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ \binom{(2(p+1)/3)}{(p+1)/3}^{-1} p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**4. Congruences for**  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} / m^k$ .

Let  $p > 3$  be a prime and  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $p \nmid m$ . In the section we partially solve Z.W. Sun's conjectures on  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} / m^k \pmod{p^2}$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime,  $m \in R_p$ ,  $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  and  $t = \sqrt{1 - 108/m}$ . Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{m^k} \equiv P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t)^2 \equiv \left( \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11))^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \right)^2 \pmod{p}.$$

Moreover, if  $P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  or  $\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11))^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , then  $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} / m^k \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$ .

Proof. Since  $\frac{1-t}{54}(1 - 27 \cdot \frac{1-t}{54}) = \frac{1}{m}$ , by Theorem 2.1 we have

$$(4.1) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{m^k} \equiv \left( \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \left( \frac{1-t}{54} \right)^k \right)^2 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Observe that  $p \mid \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k}$  for  $[\frac{p}{3}] < k < p$ . From Corollary 3.1 we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \left( \frac{1-t}{54} \right)^k \\ & \equiv P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) \equiv - \left( \frac{p}{3} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 + 3(4t-5)x + 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11))^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

This together with (4.1) yields the result.

**Theorem 4.2 ([Su1, Conjecture A8]).** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-192)^k} \equiv \begin{cases} L^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } 4p = L^2 + 27M^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Putting  $m = -192$  and  $t = \frac{5}{4}$  in Theorem 4.1 and then applying Theorem 3.2 we obtain the result.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime and let  $a, m, n$  be algebraic numbers which are integral for  $p$ . Then*

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 + a^2mx + a^3n)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 + mx + n)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}.$$

Moreover, if  $a, m, n$  are congruent to rational integers modulo  $p$ , then

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + a^2mx + a^3n}{p} \right) = \left( \frac{a}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right).$$

Proof. For any positive integer  $k$  it is well known that (see [IR, Lemma 2, p.235])

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} x^k \equiv \begin{cases} p-1 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p-1 \mid k, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p-1 \nmid k. \end{cases}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 + a^2mx + a^3n)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \\ &= \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{(p-1)/2}{k} (x^3 + a^2mx)^k (a^3n)^{\frac{p-1}{2}-k} \\ &= \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{(p-1)/2}{k} \sum_{r=0}^k \binom{k}{r} x^{3r} (a^2mx)^{k-r} (a^3n)^{\frac{p-1}{2}-k} \\ &= \sum_{r=0}^{(p-1)/2} \sum_{k=r}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{(p-1)/2}{k} \binom{k}{r} (a^2m)^{k-r} (a^3n)^{\frac{p-1}{2}-k} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} x^{k+2r} \\ &\equiv (p-1) \sum_{r=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{(p-1)/2}{p-1-2r} \binom{p-1-2r}{r} (a^2m)^{p-1-3r} (a^3n)^{2r-\frac{p-1}{2}} \\ &= a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} (p-1) \sum_{\frac{p-1}{4} \leq r \leq \frac{p-1}{3}} \binom{(p-1)/2}{p-1-2r} \binom{p-1-2r}{r} m^{p-1-3r} n^{2r-\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}, \end{aligned}$$

we see that the congruence in Lemma 4.1 is true.

Now suppose that  $a, m, n$  are congruent to rational integers modulo  $p$ . If  $a \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , then

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + a^2mx + a^3n}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x}{p} \right) = 0 = \left( \frac{a}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right).$$

If  $a \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , then

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + a^2mx + a^3n}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{(ax)^3 + a^2m(ax) + a^3n}{p} \right) = \left( \frac{a}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right).$$

Thus the lemma is proved.

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 30x - 56}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{8} \rfloor + 1} \left( \frac{3}{p} \right) 2c & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8}, p = c^2 + 2d^2 \text{ and } 4 \mid c-1, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. From [BE, Theorems 5.12 and 5.17] we know that

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + 2x}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{8} \rfloor + 1} 2c & \text{if } p = c^2 + 2d^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8} \text{ with } 4 \mid c - 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

As  $27(x^3 - 4x^2 + 2x) = (3x - 4)^3 - 30(3x - 4) - 56$ , we see that

$$\left( \frac{3}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + 2x}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 30x - 56}{p} \right).$$

Thus the result follows.

**Lemma 4.3.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} (n^3 - (15 + 30\sqrt{-2})n - 28 + 70\sqrt{-2})^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \\ & \equiv \begin{cases} \left( \frac{2+\sqrt{-2}}{p} \right) (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{8} \rfloor + 1} \left( \frac{3}{p} \right) 2c \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = c^2 + 2d^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8} \text{ and } 4 \mid c - 1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. It is easily seen that

$$-15(1 + 2\sqrt{-2}) = -30 \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{-2}}{\sqrt{-2}} \right)^2 \quad \text{and} \quad -28 + 70\sqrt{-2} = -56 \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{-2}}{\sqrt{-2}} \right)^3.$$

Thus, by Lemmas 4.1 and 4.2 we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} (n^3 - (15 + 30\sqrt{-2})n - 28 + 70\sqrt{-2})^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \\ & \equiv \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{-2}}{\sqrt{-2}} \right)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} (n^3 - 30n - 56)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \left( \frac{2 + \sqrt{-2}}{-2} \right)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 - 30n - 56}{p} \right) \\ & \equiv \begin{cases} \left( \frac{2+\sqrt{-2}}{p} \right) (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{8} \rfloor + 1} \left( \frac{3}{p} \right) 2c \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = c^2 + 2d^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8} \text{ and } 4 \mid c - 1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

This proves the lemma.

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor}(5/\sqrt{-2}) \\ & \equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{8} \rfloor} \left( \frac{-2 - \sqrt{-2}}{p} \right) 2c \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = c^2 + 2d^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8} \text{ and } 4 \mid c - 1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and

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

Proof. From Corollary 3.1 (with  $t = 5/\sqrt{-2}$ ), Lemma 4.3 and Theorem 4.1 (with  $m = 8$  and  $t = 5/\sqrt{-2}$ ) we deduce the result.

**Remark 4.1** Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Zhi-Wei Sun conjectured that ([Su1, Conjecture A5])

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

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime with  $p \neq 11$ . Then*

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 24 \cdot 11x + 14 \cdot 11^2}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{6}{p}\right)\left(\frac{u}{11}\right)u & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = u^2 + 11v^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

Proof. It is known that (see [RP] and [JM])

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 96 \cdot 11x + 112 \cdot 11^2}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{3}{p}\right)\left(\frac{u}{11}\right)u & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and } 4p = u^2 + 11v^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

Since  $(2x)^3 - 96 \cdot 11 \cdot 2x + 112 \cdot 11^2 = 8(x^3 - 24 \cdot 11x + 14 \cdot 11^2)$ , we deduce the result.

**Lemma 4.5.** *Let  $p \neq 11$  be an odd prime. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( n^3 + 3(-5 + \sqrt{-11})n + \frac{7}{4}(11 - 4\sqrt{-11}) \right)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \\ & \equiv \begin{cases} \left(\frac{-11+\sqrt{-11}}{p}\right)\left(\frac{6}{p}\right)\left(\frac{u}{11}\right)u \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = u^2 + 11v^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. It is easily seen that

$$3(-5 + \sqrt{-11}) = -24 \cdot 11 \left( \frac{\sqrt{-11} + 1}{4\sqrt{-11}} \right)^2 \text{ and } \frac{7}{4}(11 - 4\sqrt{-11}) = 14 \cdot 11^2 \left( \frac{\sqrt{-11} + 1}{4\sqrt{-11}} \right)^3.$$

Thus, by Lemma 4.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( n^3 + 3(-5 + \sqrt{-11})n + \frac{7}{4}(11 - 4\sqrt{-11}) \right)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \\ & \equiv \left( \frac{\sqrt{-11} + 1}{4\sqrt{-11}} \right)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 - 24 \cdot 11x + 14 \cdot 11^2)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \\ & \equiv \left( \frac{-11 + \sqrt{-11}}{-11} \right)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 - 24 \cdot 11x + 14 \cdot 11^2}{p} \right) \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Now applying Lemma 4.4 we deduce the result.



**Theorem 4.4.** *Let  $p \neq 11$  be an odd prime. Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left( \frac{\sqrt{-11}}{4} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) \left(\frac{-11+\sqrt{-11}}{p}\right) \left(\frac{u}{11}\right) u \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = u^2 + 11v^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1 \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k} \equiv \begin{cases} u^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = u^2 + 11v^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

Proof. From Corollary 3.1, Lemma 4.5 and Theorem 4.1 (with  $m = 64$  and  $t = \frac{\sqrt{-11}}{4}$ ) we deduce the result.

**Remark 4.2** Let  $p$  be an odd prime such that  $p \neq 11$ . Zhi-Wei Sun conjectured that ([Su2, Conjecture 5.4])

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{64^k} \equiv \begin{cases} u^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = u^2 + 11v^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

Let  $p > 3$  be a prime and let  $\mathbb{F}_p$  be the field of  $p$  elements. For  $m, n \in \mathbb{F}_p$  let  $\#E_p(x^3 + mx + n)$  be the number of points on the curve  $E: y^2 = x^3 + mx + n$  over the field  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . It is well known that (see for example [S1, pp.221-222])

$$(4.2) \quad \#E_p(x^3 + mx + n) = p + 1 + \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right).$$

Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$  be an imaginary quadratic field and the curve  $y^2 = x^3 + mx + n$  has complex multiplication by an order in  $K$ . By Deuring's theorem ([C, Theorem 14.16],[PV],[I]), we have

$$(4.3) \quad \#E_p(x^3 + mx + n) = \begin{cases} p + 1 & \text{if } p \text{ is inert in } K, \\ p + 1 - \pi - \bar{\pi} & \text{if } p = \pi\bar{\pi} \text{ in } K, \end{cases}$$

where  $\pi$  is in an order in  $K$  and  $\bar{\pi}$  is the conjugate number of  $\pi$ . If  $4p = u^2 + dv^2$  with  $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we may take  $\pi = \frac{1}{2}(u + v\sqrt{-d})$ . Thus,

$$(4.4) \quad \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} \pm u & \text{if } 4p = u^2 + dv^2 \text{ with } u, v \in \mathbb{Z}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In [Gr], [JM] and [PV] the sign of  $u$  in (4.4) was determined for those imaginary quadratic fields  $K$  with class number 1. In [LM] and [I] the sign of  $u$  in (4.4) was determined for imaginary quadratic fields  $K$  with class number 2. For general results on the sign of  $u$  in (4.4), see [M], [St], [RS] and the survey [Si].

**Lemma 4.6.** *Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (-15 + 6\sqrt{2})n + 24 - 14\sqrt{2}}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} 2x\left(\frac{2x}{3}\right) & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 6y^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 17, 23 \pmod{24}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. From [I, p.133] we know that the elliptic curve defined by the equation  $y^2 = x^3 + (-21 + 12\sqrt{2})x - 28 + 22\sqrt{2}$  has complex multiplication by the order of discriminant  $-24$ . Since  $4p = u^2 + 24v^2$  implies  $2 \mid u$  and  $p = \left(\frac{u}{2}\right)^2 + 6v^2$ , by (4.4) and [I, Theorem 3.1] we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (-21 + 12\sqrt{2})n - 28 + 22\sqrt{2}}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} 2x\left(\frac{2x}{3}\right)\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{p}\right) & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 6y^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 17, 23 \pmod{24}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Observe that

$$\frac{-15 - 6\sqrt{2}}{-21 + 12\sqrt{2}} = (1 + \sqrt{2})^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{24 + 14\sqrt{2}}{-28 + 22\sqrt{2}} = (1 + \sqrt{2})^3.$$

Using Corollary 3.2 (with  $t = 1/\sqrt{2}$ ) and Lemma 4.1 we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (-15 + 6\sqrt{2})n + 24 - 14\sqrt{2}}{p} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 - (15 + 6\sqrt{2})n + 24 + 14\sqrt{2}}{p} \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{2}}{p}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (-21 + 12\sqrt{2})n - 28 + 22\sqrt{2}}{p} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Now putting all the above together we obtain the result.

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $p$  be a prime such that  $p \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{8}$ . Then*

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right]} \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} 2x\left(\frac{x}{3}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 17, 23 \pmod{24} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 17, 23 \pmod{24}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. From Theorem 3.1, Lemma 4.6 and Theorem 4.1 (with  $m = 216$  and  $t = \sqrt{2}/2$ ) we deduce the result.

**Remark 4.3** For any prime  $p > 3$ , Z.W. Sun conjectured that ([Su1, Conjecture A14])

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{216^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 6y^2 \equiv 1, 7 \pmod{24}, \\ 8x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = 2x^2 + 3y^2 \equiv 5, 11 \pmod{24}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 13, 17, 19, 23 \pmod{24}. \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 4.7.** *Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (-15 + 12\sqrt{5})n + 42 - 28\sqrt{5}}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} 2x\left(\frac{2x}{3}\right) & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 15y^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 14 \pmod{15}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. From [I, Proposition 3.3] we know that the elliptic curve defined by the equation  $y^2 = x^3 + (105 + 48\sqrt{5})x - 784 - 350\sqrt{5}$  has complex multiplication by the order of discriminant  $-15$ . Since  $4p = u^2 + 60v^2$  implies  $2 \mid u$  and  $p = (\frac{u}{2})^2 + 15v^2$ , by (4.4) and [I, Theorem 3.1] we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (105 + 48\sqrt{5})n - 784 - 350\sqrt{5}}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} 2x\left(\frac{2x}{3}\right)\left(\frac{(1+\sqrt{5})/2}{p}\right) & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 15y^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 14 \pmod{15}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Observe that

$$\frac{-15 + 12\sqrt{5}}{105 + 48\sqrt{5}} = (\sqrt{5} - 2)^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{42 - 28\sqrt{5}}{-784 - 350\sqrt{5}} = (\sqrt{5} - 2)^3.$$

Using Lemma 4.1 we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (-15 + 12\sqrt{5})n + 42 - 28\sqrt{5}}{p} \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{\sqrt{5} - 2}{p} \right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (105 + 48\sqrt{5})n - 784 - 350\sqrt{5}}{p} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $(\sqrt{5} - 2)\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} = \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^2$ . We then have  $\left(\frac{\sqrt{5}-2}{p}\right) = \left(\frac{(1+\sqrt{5})/2}{p}\right)$ . Now putting all the above together we obtain the result.

**Theorem 4.6.** *Let  $p$  be a prime such that  $p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{5}$ . Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(\sqrt{5}) \equiv \begin{cases} 2x(\frac{x}{3}) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 15y^2 \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15}, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 14 \pmod{15} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-27)^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 4x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = x^2 + 15y^2 \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15}, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 14 \pmod{15}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. From Theorem 3.1, Lemma 4.7 and Theorem 4.1 (with  $m = -27$  and  $t = \sqrt{5}$ ) we deduce the result.

**Lemma 4.8.** *Let  $p$  be a prime such that  $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{20n^3 + (-300 + 108\sqrt{5})n + 521 - 252\sqrt{5}}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} (\frac{x}{3})x & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 75y^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 14 \pmod{15}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. From [I, p.134] we know that the elliptic curve defined by the equation  $y^2 = x^3 + (-2160 + 408\sqrt{5})x + 42130 - 10472\sqrt{5}$  has complex multiplication by the order of discriminant  $-75$ . By (4.4) and [I, Theorem 3.1] we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (-2160 + 408\sqrt{5})n + 42130 - 10472\sqrt{5}}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} (\frac{-25-13\sqrt{5}}{p})(\frac{x}{3})x & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 75y^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 14 \pmod{15}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Observe that

$$\frac{-2160 + 408\sqrt{5}}{-300 + 108\sqrt{5}} = \left( -\frac{7 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{42130 - 10472\sqrt{5}}{-2520 + 1042\sqrt{5}} = \left( -\frac{7 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^3.$$

Using Lemma 4.1 we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (-2160 + 408\sqrt{5})n + 42130 - 10472\sqrt{5}}{p} \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{-(7 + \sqrt{5})/2}{p} \right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (-300 + 108\sqrt{5})n - 2520 + 1042\sqrt{5}}{p} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $-\frac{7+\sqrt{5}}{2}(-25 - 13\sqrt{5}) = 2\sqrt{5}(3 + 2\sqrt{5})^2$  and

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + (-300 + 108\sqrt{5})n - 2520 + 1042\sqrt{5}}{p} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{(2\sqrt{5}n)^3 + (-300 + 108\sqrt{5})(2\sqrt{5}n) - 2520 + 1042\sqrt{5}}{p} \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{2\sqrt{5}}{p} \right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{20n^3 + (-300 + 108\sqrt{5})n + 521 - 252\sqrt{5}}{p} \right), \end{aligned}$$

from the above we deduce the result.

**Theorem 4.7.** *Let  $p$  be a prime such that  $p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{5}$ . Then*

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right]} \left( \frac{9}{20} \sqrt{5} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)x \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 75y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 14 \pmod{15} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 75y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 14 \pmod{15}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. From Theorem 3.1, Lemma 4.8 and Theorem 4.1 (with  $m = -8640$  and  $t = \frac{9}{4\sqrt{5}}$ ) we deduce the result.

**Remark 4.4** Let  $p > 5$  be a prime. In [S2] the author made a conjecture equivalent to

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-8640)^k} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 75y^2, \\ 2p - 3x^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 7, 13 \pmod{15} \text{ and so } 4p = 3x^2 + 25y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Let  $b \in \{17, 41, 89\}$  and  $f(b) = -12^3, -48^3, -300^3$  according as  $b = 17, 41, 89$ . In [Su1, Conjectures A20, A22 and A23], Z.W. Sun conjectured that for any odd prime  $p \neq 3, b$ ,

$$(4.5) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{f(b)^k} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 - 2p \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{b}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 3by^2, \\ 2p - 3x^2 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{p}{b}\right) = -1 \text{ and so } 4p = 3x^2 + by^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = -\left(\frac{p}{b}\right). \end{cases}$$

Now we partially solve (4.5).

**Theorem 4.8.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime such that  $\left(\frac{17}{p}\right) = 1$ . Then*

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right]} \left( \frac{\sqrt{17}}{4} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)x \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 51y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-12)^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 51y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. From [I, p.134] we know that the elliptic curve defined by the equation  $y^2 = x^3 - (60 + 12\sqrt{17})x - 210 - 56\sqrt{17}$  has complex multiplication by the order of discriminant  $-51$ . Thus, by (4.4) and [I, Theorem 3.1] we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 - (60 + 12\sqrt{17})n - 210 - 56\sqrt{17}}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)x & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 51y^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

It then follows from (1.3) and Theorem 3.1 that

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right]} \left( \frac{\sqrt{17}}{4} \right) &= \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) P_{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right]} \left( -\frac{\sqrt{17}}{4} \right) \equiv - \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + 3(-\sqrt{17} - 5)n + \frac{17}{4} + 22 + 7\sqrt{17}}{p} \right) \\ &= - \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{\left(-\frac{n}{2}\right)^3 - 3(5 + \sqrt{17})\left(-\frac{n}{2}\right) + \frac{105+28\sqrt{17}}{4}}{p} \right) \\ &= - \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 - (60 + 12\sqrt{17})n - 210 - 56\sqrt{17}}{p} \right) \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)x \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 51y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Taking  $m = -12^3$  and  $t = \frac{\sqrt{17}}{4}$  in Theorem 4.1 and then applying the above we deduce the remaining result.

Using [I, pp.134-135] and the method in the proof of Theorem 4.8 one can similarly prove Theorems 4.9 and 4.10.

**Theorem 4.9.** *Let  $p$  be an odd prime such that  $\left(\frac{41}{p}\right) = 1$ . Then*

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right]} \left( \frac{5\sqrt{41}}{32} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)x \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 123y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-48)^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 123y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 4.10.** *Let  $p > 5$  be a prime such that  $\left(\frac{89}{p}\right) = 1$ . Then*

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right]} \left( \frac{53\sqrt{89}}{500} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)x \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 267y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}}{(-300)^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 267y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

To conclude, we pose the following conjectures.

**Conjecture 4.1.** *For any prime  $p > 5$  we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{9k+1}{(-8640)^k} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} &\equiv p \left(\frac{p}{15}\right) \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{33k+4}{15^{3k}} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} &\equiv 4p \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \pmod{p^3}, \\ \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{15k+2}{1458^k} \binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k} &\equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} 2p \pmod{p^3}. \end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 4.2.** *Let  $p$  be a prime with  $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ . Then*

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \left( \frac{n^3 + 3(-125 + 44\sqrt{5})n + 154(21 - 10\sqrt{5})}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} 2x \left(\frac{2x}{3}\right) & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 4 \pmod{15} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 15y^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 14 \pmod{15}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

**Conjecture 4.3.** *Let  $p > 3$  be a prime. Then*

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right]} \left( \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{9} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} 2x \left(\frac{x}{3}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 3y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Conjecture 4.4.** *Let  $p > 5$  be a prime. Then*

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right]} \left( \frac{11\sqrt{5}}{25} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} 2x \left(\frac{x}{3}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 19 \pmod{30} \text{ and so } p = x^2 + 15y^2, \\ -2y \left(\frac{y}{3}\right) \sqrt{5} \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 17, 23 \pmod{30} \text{ and so } p = 3x^2 + 5y^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 7, 11, 13, 29 \pmod{30}. \end{cases}$$

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