

Legendre polynomials and supercongruences

by

ZHI-HONG SUN (Huaian)

1. Introduction. Let $\{P_n(x)\}$ be the Legendre polynomials given by $P_0(x) = 1$, $P_1(x) = x$ and $(n+1)P_{n+1}(x) = (2n+1)xP_n(x) - nP_{n-1}(x)$ ($n \geq 1$). It is well known that (see [B, p. 151], [G, (3.132)–(3.133)])

$$(1.1) \quad P_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{k=0}^{[n/2]} \binom{n}{k} (-1)^k \binom{2n-2k}{n} x^{n-2k} = \frac{1}{2^n n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (x^2 - 1)^n,$$

where $[a]$ is the greatest integer not exceeding a . From (1.1) we see that

$$(1.2) \quad P_n(-x) = (-1)^n P_n(x), \quad P_{2m+1}(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad P_{2m}(0) = \frac{1}{(-4)^m} \binom{2m}{m}.$$

We also have the following formula due to Murphy ([G, (3.135)]):

$$(1.3) \quad \begin{aligned} P_n(x) &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{k} \left(\frac{x-1}{2}\right)^k \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{2k}{k} \binom{n+k}{2k} \left(\frac{x-1}{2}\right)^k. \end{aligned}$$

We remark that $\binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{k} = \binom{2k}{k} \binom{n+k}{2k}$.

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 not divisible by p . Let $\left(\frac{a}{m}\right)$ be the Jacobi symbol. In [S4–S6] the author showed that for any prime $p > 3$ and $t \in R_p$,

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification*: Primary 11A07; Secondary 33C45, 11E25, 11L10, 05A10, 05A19.

Key words and phrases: binomial coefficient, congruence, Legendre polynomial, character sum, binary quadratic form.

$$(1.4) \quad P_{\frac{p-1}{2}}(t) \equiv -\left(\frac{-6}{p}\right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 3(t^2 + 3)x + 2t(t^2 - 9)}{p}\right) \pmod{p},$$

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

$$(1.6) \quad P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{4} \rfloor}(t) \equiv -\left(\frac{6}{p}\right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - \frac{3(3t+5)}{2}x + 9t + 7}{p}\right) \pmod{p}.$$

In this paper, by using elementary arguments, we prove that for any prime $p > 3$ and $t \in R_p$,

$$(1.7) \quad P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}(t) \equiv -\left(\frac{3}{p}\right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 3x + 2t}{p}\right) \pmod{p}.$$

Moreover, for $m, n \in R_p$ with $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ we have

$$(1.8) \quad \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p}\right) \equiv \begin{cases} -(-3m)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{(-3m)^{\frac{p+1}{4}}}{\sqrt{-3m}} P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p}\right)\right)^2 \\ & \equiv \left(\frac{-3m}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/6 \rfloor} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{12^3 \cdot 4m^3}\right)^k \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

It is well known (see for example [S2, pp. 221–222]) that the number of points on the curve $y^2 = x^3 + mx + n$ over the field \mathbb{F}_p with p elements is given by

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

For positive integers a, b and n , if $n = ax^2 + by^2$ for some integers x and y , we briefly say that $n = ax^2 + by^2$. Recently the author’s brother Zhi-Wei Sun [Su1, Su3] and the author [S4] posed some conjectures on $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} / m^k$ modulo p^2 , where $p > 3$ is a prime and $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $p \nmid m$. For example, Zhi-Wei Sun [Su3, Conjecture 2.8] conjectured that for

any prime $p > 3$,

$$(1.9) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-96)^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = -1, \\ \left(\frac{-6}{p}\right)(x^2 - 2p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 19y^2. \end{cases}$$

Using (1.8) and known character sums we determine $P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}(x) \pmod{p}$ for 11 values of x (see Corollaries 2.1–2.7), and $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} / m^k \pmod{p^2}$ for $m = -15^3, 20^3, -32^3, 2 \cdot 30^3, 66^3, -96^3, -3 \cdot 160^3, 255^3, -960^3, -5280^3, -640320^3$. Thus we solve some conjectures in [Su1], [Su3] and [S4]. For example, we confirm (1.9) in the case $\left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = -1$ and prove it when $\left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = 1$ and the modulus is p .

Let p be a prime greater than 3. In this paper we also determine $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} / 864^k \pmod{p^2}$ and establish the general congruence

$$(1.10) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} (x(1 - 432x))^k \equiv \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} x^k \right)^2 \pmod{p^2}.$$

2. Congruences for $P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}(t) \pmod{p}$

LEMMA 2.1. *Let p be an odd prime. Then*

- (i) $\binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{k} \equiv \frac{1}{(-4)^k} \binom{2k}{k} \pmod{p}$ for $k = 0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}$,
- (ii) $\binom{\frac{p-1}{2} - k}{2k} \equiv \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{4^{2k} \binom{2k}{k}} \pmod{p}$ for $k = 0, 1, \dots, \lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor$,
- (iii) $\binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor + k}{2k} \equiv \frac{1}{(-27)^k} \binom{3k}{k} \pmod{p}$ for $p \neq 3$ and $k = 0, 1, \dots, \lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor$.

Proof. For $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-1}{2}\}$ we have $\binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{k} \equiv \binom{-\frac{1}{2}}{k} = \frac{1}{(-4)^k} \binom{2k}{k} \pmod{p}$. Thus (i) holds. Now suppose $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, \lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor\}$. It is clear that

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} - k}{2k} &= \frac{\frac{p-1-2k}{2} \frac{p-3-2k}{2} \dots \frac{p-(6k-1)}{2}}{(2k)!} \\ &\equiv \frac{(2k+1)(2k+3) \dots (6k-1)}{(-2)^{2k} \cdot (2k)!} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{(6k)!}{4^k(2k)!^2(2k+2)(2k+4)\cdots(6k)} = \frac{(6k)!}{4^k(2k)!^2 \cdot 2^{2k} \cdot \frac{(3k)!}{k!}} \\
 &= \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{4^{2k} \binom{2k}{k}} \pmod{p}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus (ii) is true. (iii) was given by the author in [S4, proof of Lemma 2.3]. The proof is now complete.

LEMMA 2.2. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime and $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, \lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor\}$. Then*

$$\binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}{k} \binom{2\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \equiv (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} 3^{3k + \frac{1 - (\frac{p}{6})}{2}} 4^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor - k} \binom{\frac{p - (\frac{p}{3})}{6} + k}{3k + \frac{1 - (\frac{p}{3})}{2}} \pmod{p}.$$

Proof. For $m, n, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $m \geq n \geq r \geq 0$ it is easily seen that $\binom{m}{n} \binom{n}{r} = \binom{m}{r} \binom{m-r}{n-r}$. Thus, using Lemma 2.1(i) we see that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}{k} \binom{2\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} &= \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k} \binom{2\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} = \binom{2(\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k)}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k}{k} \\
 &\equiv (-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k}{k} \\
 &= (-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} - k}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k} \\
 &\equiv (-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k} \binom{2k}{k} \frac{(\frac{p-1}{2} - k)!}{(\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k)! (\lfloor \frac{p+1}{3} \rfloor + k)!} \pmod{p}.
 \end{aligned}$$

If $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, using Lemma 2.1(i) we see that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-1}{3} - k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{6} + k}{3k} &= \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-1}{6} + k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{6} + k}{3k} = \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{3k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} - 3k}{\frac{p-1}{6} - 2k} \\
 &\equiv \frac{1}{(-4)^{3k}} \binom{6k}{3k} \frac{(\frac{p-1}{2} - 3k)!}{(\frac{p-1}{6} - 2k)! (\frac{p-1}{3} - k)!} \pmod{p}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, from the above and Lemma 2.1 we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}{k} \binom{2\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}}{\binom{\frac{p-1}{3} - k}{\frac{p-1}{6} - k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{6} + k}{3k}} &\equiv (-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k + 3k} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} (\frac{p-1}{2} - k)! (\frac{p-1}{3} - k)!}{(6k) (\frac{p-1}{2} - 3k)! (\frac{p-1}{3} + k)!} \\
 &= (-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor + k} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} - k}{2k}}{(6k) \binom{\frac{p-1}{3} + k}{2k}} \equiv (-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor + k} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k} / (4^{2k} \binom{2k}{k})}{(6k) \binom{3k}{k} / (-27)^k} \\
 &= (-27)^k (-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k} = (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} 3^{3k} 4^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k} \pmod{p}.
 \end{aligned}$$

If $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$, using Lemma 2.1(i) we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-2}{3}-k} \binom{\frac{p+1}{6}+k}{3k+1} &= \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p+1}{6}+k} \binom{\frac{p+1}{6}+k}{3k+1} = \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{3k+1} \binom{\frac{p-3}{2}-3k}{\frac{p-5}{6}-2k} \\ &\equiv \frac{1}{(-4)^{3k+1}} \frac{(6k+2)}{(3k+1)} \frac{\left(\frac{p-3}{2}-3k\right)!}{\left(\frac{p-5}{6}-2k\right)! \left(\frac{p-2}{3}-k\right)!} \\ &\equiv \frac{1}{(-4)^{3k}(3k+1)} \frac{(6k)}{(3k)} \frac{\left(\frac{p-1}{2}-3k\right)!}{\left(\frac{p-5}{6}-2k\right)! \left(\frac{p-2}{3}-k\right)!} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, from the above and Lemma 2.1 we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{\binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}{k} \binom{2\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}}{\binom{\frac{p-1}{2}-k}{\frac{p-2}{3}-k} \binom{\frac{p+1}{6}+k}{3k+1}} \\ &\equiv 3(-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k + 3k} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \left(\frac{p-1}{2}-k\right)! \left(\frac{p-2}{3}-k\right)!}{\binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{p-1}{2}-3k\right)! \left(\frac{p-2}{3}+k\right)!} \\ &= 3(-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor + k} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}-k}{2k}}{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{\frac{p-2}{3}+k}{2k}} \equiv 3(-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor + k} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k} / (4^{2k} \binom{2k}{k})}{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k} / (-27)^k} \\ &= 3(-27)^k (-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k} = (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} 3^{3k+1} 4^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - k} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

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

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} -(-3m)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{(-3m)^{\frac{p+1}{4}}}{\sqrt{-3m}} P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

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

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

For $k, r \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $0 \leq r \leq k \leq \frac{p-1}{2}$ we have $0 \leq k+2r \leq \frac{3(p-1)}{2}$. Thus,

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} x^{k+2r} \equiv \begin{cases} p-1 \pmod{p} & \text{if } k = p-1-2r, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } k \neq p-1-2r \end{cases}$$

and therefore

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

If $n \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, from the above we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) &\equiv \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 + mx + n)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \\
 &\equiv \begin{cases} -\binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-1}{4}} m^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-3. \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus applying (1.2) and Lemma 2.2 (with $k = \lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor$) we get

$$P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}(0) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{(-4)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor}} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}{\lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor} \equiv (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor} 3^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-1}{4}} \\ \equiv (-3)^{-\frac{p-1}{4}} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\frac{p-1}{4}} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1, \\ 0 & \text{if } 4 \mid p-3. \end{cases}$$

Hence the result is true for $n \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$.

Now we assume $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. From (2.1) we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) &\equiv \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 + mx + n)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \\ &\equiv (p-1) \frac{m^{p-1}}{n^{\frac{p-1}{2}}} \sum_{\frac{p-1}{4} \leq r \leq \frac{p-1}{3}} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{p-1-2r} \binom{p-1-2r}{r} \frac{n^{2r}}{m^{3r}} \\ &\equiv -\binom{n}{p} \sum_{\frac{p-1}{4} \leq r \leq \frac{p-1}{3}} \binom{(p-1)/2}{r} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}-r}{p-1-3r} \left(\frac{n^2}{m^3} \right)^r \\ &= -\binom{n}{p} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/12 \rfloor} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor - k} \binom{\frac{p-(\frac{p}{3})}{6} + k}{3k + \frac{1-(\frac{p}{3})}{2}} \left(\frac{n^2}{m^3} \right)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor - k} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, by (1.1),

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \right) &= 2^{-\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/12 \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}{k} (-1)^k \binom{2\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \right)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k} \\ &= 2^{-\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/12 \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}{k} (-1)^k \binom{2\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \right)^{\frac{1-(\frac{-1}{p})}{2}} \left(-\frac{27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor - k} \\ &= (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor} 2^{-\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/12 \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}{k} \binom{2\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \right)^{\frac{1-(\frac{-1}{p})}{2}} \left(\frac{27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor - k - \frac{p-(\frac{-1}{p})}{4}} \\ &\equiv \delta(m, p)^{-1} \binom{n}{p} \binom{3}{p} (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{12} \rfloor} 2^{-\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/12 \rfloor} \binom{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}{k} \binom{2\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor - 2k}{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor} \left(\frac{27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^{\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \rfloor - k} \pmod{p}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\delta(m, p) = \begin{cases} (-3m)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \frac{(-3m)^{\frac{p+1}{4}}}{\sqrt{-3m}} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

Hence, by the above and Lemma 2.2 we get

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(m, p)P_{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \right) &\equiv \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\left[\frac{p/12}{3}\right]} (-1)^{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]k} 3^{3k + \frac{1 - (\frac{p}{3})}{2}} 4^{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right] - k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right] - k} \binom{\frac{p - (\frac{p}{3})}{6} + k}{3k + \frac{1 - (\frac{p}{3})}{2}} \left(\frac{27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right] - k} \right) \\ &\times \binom{n}{p} \binom{3}{p} (-1)^{\left[\frac{p}{12}\right]} 2^{-\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{3}{p} \right) (-1)^{\left[\frac{p}{12}\right]} 2^{-\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} (-1)^{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} 3^{3\left[\frac{p}{6}\right] + \frac{1 - (\frac{p}{3})}{2}} 4^{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right] - k} \left(\frac{27}{4} \right)^{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right] - k} \\ = (-1)^{\left[\frac{p}{12}\right] + \left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \binom{3}{p} 2^{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right] - 2\left[\frac{p}{3}\right]} 3^{3\left[\frac{p}{3}\right] + (1 - (\frac{p}{3}))/2} \\ = (-1)^{\left[\frac{p}{12}\right] + \left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \binom{3}{p} 2^{-\frac{p-1}{2}} 3^{p-1} \equiv (-1)^{\left[\frac{p}{12}\right] + \left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \cdot (-1)^{\frac{p - (\frac{p}{3})}{6}} \cdot (-1)^{-\left[\frac{p+1}{4}\right]} \\ = (-1)^{2\left[\frac{p}{12}\right]} = 1 \pmod{p}, \end{aligned}$$

from the above we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(m, p)P_{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \right) &\equiv \binom{n}{p} \sum_{k=0}^{\left[\frac{p/12}{3}\right]} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2}}{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right] - k} \binom{\frac{p - (\frac{p}{3})}{6} + k}{3k + \frac{1 - (\frac{p}{3})}{2}} \left(\frac{n^2}{m^3} \right)^{\left[\frac{p}{3}\right] - k} \\ &\equiv - \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

REMARK 2.1. The congruence (2.1) was given by the author in [S5].

COROLLARY 2.1. *Let $p \neq 2, 3, 11$ be a prime. Then*

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \left(\frac{21\sqrt{33}}{121} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} \left(\frac{33}{p} \right) (-33)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} 2a \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1, p = a^2 + b^2 \text{ and } 4 \mid a-1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. By [S6, Corollary 2.1 (with $t = \frac{7}{9}$) and (2.2)],

$$\begin{aligned} (2.2) \quad \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 11x + 14}{p} \right) &= \left(\frac{2}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 4x}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{p+3}{4}} 2a & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1, p = a^2 + b^2 \text{ and } 4 \mid a-1, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, taking $m = -11$ and $n = 14$ in Theorem 2.1 we obtain the result.

COROLLARY 2.2. *Let $p > 5$ be a prime. Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{7\sqrt{10}}{25} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{d}{2}} \left(\frac{5}{p}\right) 5^{\frac{p-1}{4}} 2c \pmod{p} & \text{if } 8 \mid p-1, p = c^2 + 2d^2 \text{ and } 4 \mid c-1, \\ \left(\frac{5}{p}\right) 5^{\frac{p-3}{4}} 2d\sqrt{10} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 8 \mid p-3, p = c^2 + 2d^2 \text{ and } 4 \mid d-1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Using [S5, Lemma 4.2] we see that

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

By [S3, p. 1317],

$$2_{[\frac{p}{4}]} \equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{c^2-1}{8}} = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{8} + \frac{d}{2}} \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = c^2 + 2d^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ (-1)^{\frac{c^2-1}{8}} \frac{d}{c} = (-1)^{\frac{p-3}{8}} \frac{d}{c} \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = c^2 + 2d^2 \equiv 3 \pmod{8} \text{ with } 4 \mid c-d. \end{cases}$$

Now taking $m = -30$ and $n = 56$ in Theorem 2.1 and applying the above we deduce the result.

COROLLARY 2.3. *Let $p > 5$ be a prime. Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{11\sqrt{5}}{25} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} 5^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \left(\frac{5}{p}\right) 2A \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1, p = A^2 + 3B^2 \text{ and } 3 \mid A-1, \\ -5^{\frac{p-3}{4}} \left(\frac{5}{p}\right) 2A\sqrt{5} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-7, p = A^2 + 3B^2 \text{ and } 3 \mid A-1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. By [S2, Lemma 2.3] (or [S6, Corollary 2.1 (with $t = 5/3$) and (2.3)]) we have

$$(2.3) \quad \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 15x + 22}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} -2A & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1, p = A^2 + 3B^2 \text{ and } 3 \mid A-1, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Thus, taking $m = -15$ and $n = 22$ in Theorem 2.1 we obtain the result.

COROLLARY 2.4. *Let $p > 5$ be a prime. Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{253\sqrt{10}}{800} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{10}{p}\right) 10^{\frac{p-1}{4}} L \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1, 4p = L^2 + 27M^2 \text{ and } 3 \mid L-1, \\ \left(\frac{10}{p}\right) 10^{\frac{p-3}{4}} L\sqrt{10} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-7, 4p = L^2 + 27M^2 \text{ and } 3 \mid L-1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. From [S5, Corollary 3.3] we know that

$$(2.4) \quad \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 120x + 506}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{2}{p}\right)L & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1, 4p = L^2 + 27M^2 \text{ and } 3 \mid L-1, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Thus taking $m = -120$ and $n = 506$ in Theorem 2.1 we deduce the result.

COROLLARY 2.5. *Let $p > 7$ be a prime. Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{3\sqrt{105}}{25} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} 2\left(\frac{p}{15}\right) 15^{\frac{p-1}{4}} C \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 9, 25 \pmod{28}, p = C^2 + 7D^2 \text{ and } 4 \mid C-1, \\ 2\left(\frac{p}{15}\right) 15^{\frac{p-3}{4}} D\sqrt{105} \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 15, 23 \pmod{28}, p = C^2 + 7D^2 \text{ and } 4 \mid D-1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Since $(-x - 7)^3 - 35(-x - 7) + 98 = -(x^3 + 21x^2 + 112x)$, from [R1, R2] we see that

$$(2.5) \quad \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 35x + 98}{p} \right) = (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + 21x^2 + 112x}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{p+1}{2}} 2C\left(\frac{C}{7}\right) & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7} \text{ and so } p = C^2 + 7D^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}$$

Suppose $p \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}$ and so $p = C^2 + 7D^2$. By [S3, p. 1317],

$$(2.6) \quad 7_{[\frac{p}{4}]} \equiv \begin{cases} \left(\frac{C}{7}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 9, 25 \pmod{28} \text{ and } 4 \mid C-1, \\ -\left(\frac{C}{7}\right) \frac{D}{C} \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 11, 15, 23 \pmod{28} \text{ and } 4 \mid D-1. \end{cases}$$

Now taking $m = -35$ and $n = 98$ in Theorem 2.1 and applying all the above we deduce the result.

COROLLARY 2.6. *Let p be a prime such that $p \neq 2, 3, 5, 7, 17$.*

- (i) *If $p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}$, then $P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(\frac{171\sqrt{1785}}{85^2}) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$.*
- (ii) *If $p \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}$ and so $p = C^2 + 7D^2$ for some $C, D \in \mathbb{Z}$, then*

$$\begin{aligned}
 &P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{171\sqrt{1785}}{85^2} \right) \\
 &\equiv \begin{cases} \left(\frac{255}{p}\right) 255^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \cdot 2C \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1 \text{ and } 4 \mid C-1, \\ -\left(\frac{255}{p}\right) 255^{\frac{p-3}{4}} \cdot 2D\sqrt{1785} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-3 \text{ and } 4 \mid D-1. \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Proof. From [W, p. 296] we know that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{(x^2 + 6x + 2)(3x^2 + 16x)}{p} \right) \\
 &= \begin{cases} -2\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\left(\frac{C}{7}\right)C - \left(\frac{3}{p}\right) & \text{if } p \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7} \text{ and } p = C^2 + 7D^2, \\ -\left(\frac{3}{p}\right) & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

As $(x^2 + 6x + 2)(3x^2 + 16x) = x^4(3 + 34/x + 102/x^2 + 32/x^3)$, we see that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{(x^2 + 6x + 2)(3x^2 + 16x)}{p} \right) \\
 &= \sum_{x=1}^{p-1} \left(\frac{3 + 34/x + 102/x^2 + 32/x^3}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=1}^{p-1} \left(\frac{3 + 34x + 102x^2 + 32x^3}{p} \right) \\
 &= \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) \sum_{x=1}^{p-1} \left(\frac{6 + 17 \cdot 4x + \frac{51}{4}(4x)^2 + (4x)^3}{p} \right) \\
 &= \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + \frac{51}{4}x^2 + 17x + 6}{p} \right) - \left(\frac{12}{p}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + \frac{51}{4}x^2 + 17x + 6}{p} \right) \\
 &= \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{(x - \frac{17}{4})^3 + \frac{51}{4}(x - \frac{17}{4})^2 + 17(x - \frac{17}{4}) + 6}{p} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - \frac{595}{16}x + \frac{5586}{64}}{p} \right) = \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{\left(\frac{x}{4}\right)^3 - \frac{595}{16} \cdot \frac{x}{4} + \frac{5586}{64}}{p} \right) \\ &= \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 595x + 5586}{p} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Now combining all the above we deduce that

$$(2.7) \quad \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 595x + 5586}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{p+1}{2}} 2C\left(\frac{C}{7}\right) & \text{if } p = C^2 + 7D^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}, \\ 0 & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}$$

Taking $m = -595$ and $n = 5586$ in Theorem 2.1 and then applying (2.7) and (2.6) we deduce the result.

COROLLARY 2.7. *Let $p \neq 2, 3, 11$ be a prime.*

- (i) *If $p \equiv 2, 6, 7, 8, 10 \pmod{11}$, then $P_{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \left(\frac{7}{32} \sqrt{22} \right) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$.*
- (ii) *If $p \equiv 1, 3, 4, 5, 9 \pmod{11}$ and hence $4p = u^2 + 11v^2$ for some $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$, then*

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \left(\frac{7}{32} \sqrt{22} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} -2^{\frac{p-1}{4}} u \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1 \text{ and } 4 \mid u-1, \\ (-2)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} u \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1 \text{ and } 8 \mid u-2, \\ -2^{\frac{p-3}{4}} v \sqrt{22} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-3 \text{ and } 4 \mid v-1, \\ (-2)^{\frac{p-3}{4}} v \sqrt{22} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-3 \text{ and } 8 \mid v-2. \end{cases}$$

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

$$(2.8) \quad \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 96 \cdot 11x + 112 \cdot 11^2}{p} \right) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{3}{p}\right) \left(\frac{u}{11}\right) u & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = u^2 + 11v^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

Thus applying Theorem 2.1 we deduce that

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \left(\frac{7}{32} \sqrt{22} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) 22^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \left(\frac{u}{11}\right) u \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1, 4 \mid p-1 \text{ and } 4p = u^2 + 11v^2, \\ -\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right) 22^{\frac{p-3}{4}} \left(\frac{u}{11}\right) u \sqrt{22} \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1, 4 \mid p-3 \text{ and } 4p = u^2 + 11v^2, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1. \end{cases}$$

Now assume $\left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1$ and so $4p = u^2 + 11v^2$. If $u \equiv v \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, by [S3,

Theorem 4.3] we have

$$(-11)_{[4]}^{[p]} \equiv \begin{cases} \left(\frac{u}{11}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \left(\frac{u}{11}\right) \frac{v}{u} \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

If $u \equiv v \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$, by [S3, Corollary 4.6] we have

$$11_{[4]}^{[p]} \equiv \begin{cases} -\left(\frac{u}{11}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ and } 8 \mid u - 2, \\ -\left(\frac{u}{11}\right) \frac{v}{u} \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \text{ and } 8 \mid v - 2. \end{cases}$$

Now combining all the above we derive the result.

From [RPR], [JM] and [PV] we know that for any prime $p > 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 8 \cdot 19x + 2 \cdot 19^2}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) \left(\frac{u}{19}\right) u & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = u^2 + 19v^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{19}\right) = -1, \end{cases} \\ & \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 80 \cdot 43x + 42 \cdot 43^2}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) \left(\frac{u}{43}\right) u & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{43}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = u^2 + 43v^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{43}\right) = -1, \end{cases} \\ (2.9) \quad & \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 440 \cdot 67x + 434 \cdot 67^2}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) \left(\frac{u}{67}\right) u & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{67}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = u^2 + 67v^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{67}\right) = -1, \end{cases} \\ & \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 80 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 163x + 14 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 \cdot 127 \cdot 163^2}{p} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} \left(\frac{2}{p}\right) \left(\frac{u}{163}\right) u & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{163}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = u^2 + 163v^2, \\ 0 & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{163}\right) = -1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

So, by the method of proof of Corollary 2.7 one can determine $P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{3}{32} \sqrt{114}\right)$, $P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{63\sqrt{645}}{1600}\right)$, $P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{651}{96800} \sqrt{22110}\right)$ and $P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{557403}{26680^2} \sqrt{1630815}\right) \pmod{p}$.

LEMMA 2.3. *Let p be a prime greater than 3, and let t be a variable. Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(t) \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{[p/6]} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{1-t}{864}\right)^k \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{1-t}{864}\right)^k \pmod{p}.$$

Proof. Suppose that $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ and that $r \in \{1, 5\}$ is given by $p \equiv r \pmod{6}$. Then clearly

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right] + k}{2k} \binom{2k}{k} &= \frac{\binom{p-r}{6} + k \binom{p-r}{6} + k - 1 \dots \binom{p-r}{6} - k + 1}{k!^2} \\ &= \frac{(p + 6k - r)(p + 6k - 6 - r) \dots (p - (6k - 6) - r)}{6^{2k} \cdot k!^2} \\ &\equiv (-1)^k \frac{(6k - r)(6k - 6 - r) \dots (6 - r)r(r + 6) \dots (6k - 6 + r)}{6^{2k} k!^2} \\ &= \frac{(-1)^k \cdot (6k)!}{(2 \cdot 4 \dots 6k)(3 \cdot 9 \cdot 15 \dots (6k - 3)) \cdot 6^{2k} \cdot k!^2} \\ &= \frac{(-1)^k \cdot (6k)!}{2^{3k}(3k)! \cdot 3^k \frac{(2k)!}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \dots 2k} \cdot 36^k k!^2} = \frac{(6k)!}{(-432)^k (3k)! (2k)! k!} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(2.10) \quad \binom{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]}{k} \binom{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right] + k}{k} = \binom{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right] + k}{2k} \binom{2k}{k} \equiv \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{(-432)^k} \pmod{p}.$$

Therefore $p \mid \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{(-432)^k}$ for $\frac{p}{6} < k < p$. Now combining (2.10) with (1.3) yields the result.

THEOREM 2.2. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime and $m, n \in R_p$ with $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \left(\frac{n}{2m^3} \right) &\equiv \sum_{k=0}^{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{2m^3 - n}{12^3 m^3} \right)^k \\ &\equiv - \left(\frac{3m}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 3m^2 x + n}{p} \right) \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Replacing m by $-3m^2$ in Theorem 2.1 and then applying Lemma 2.3 we deduce the result.

COROLLARY 2.8. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime, and let $c(n)$ be given by*

$$q \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^k)^2 (1 - q^{11k})^2 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c(n) q^n \quad (|q| < 1).$$

Then

$$c(p) \equiv P_{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \left(\frac{19}{8} \right) \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{\left[\frac{p}{6}\right]} \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{256^k} \pmod{p}.$$

Proof. It is easy to see that the result holds for $p = 11$. Now assume $p \neq 11$. By the well known result of Eichler (see [KKS, Theorem 12.2]), we

have

$$|\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{F}_p \times \mathbb{F}_p : y^2 + y = x^3 - x^2\}| = p - c(p).$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} & |\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{F}_p \times \mathbb{F}_p : y^2 + y = x^3 - x^2\}| \\ &= |\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{F}_p \times \mathbb{F}_p : (y + \frac{1}{2})^2 = x^3 - x^2 + \frac{1}{4}\}| \\ &= |\{(x, y) \in \mathbb{F}_p \times \mathbb{F}_p : y^2 = x^3 - x^2 + \frac{1}{4}\}| \\ &= p + \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - x^2 + \frac{1}{4}}{p} \right) = p + \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{(x + \frac{1}{3})^3 - (x + \frac{1}{3})^2 + \frac{1}{4}}{p} \right) \\ &= p + \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - \frac{1}{3}x + \frac{19}{108}}{p} \right) = p + \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{(\frac{x}{6})^3 - \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{x}{6} + \frac{19}{108}}{p} \right) \\ &= p + \left(\frac{6}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 12x + 38}{p} \right), \end{aligned}$$

we obtain

$$(2.11) \quad c(p) = - \left(\frac{6}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 12x + 38}{p} \right).$$

Using Theorem 2.2 we see that

$$c(p) = - \left(\frac{6}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 - 12x + 38}{p} \right) \equiv P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{19}{8} \right) \pmod{p}.$$

From (1.2) and Lemma 2.3 we have

$$\begin{aligned} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{19}{8} \right) &= (-1)^{[\frac{p}{6}]} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(-\frac{19}{8} \right) \equiv (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{[p/6]} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{1 + 19/8}{864} \right)^k \\ &= (-1)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sum_{k=0}^{[p/6]} \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{256^k} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the result follows.

REMARK 2.2. Set $q = e^{2\pi iz}$ and $f(z) = q \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^k)^2 (1 - q^{11k})^2$. It is known that $f(z)$ is the unique weight 2 modular form of level 11.

THEOREM 2.3. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime, and let t be a variable. Then*

$$(2.12) \quad P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(t) \equiv - \left(\frac{3}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 - 3x + 2t)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}.$$

Proof. Taking $m = 1$ and $n = 2t$ in Theorem 2.2 and applying Euler’s criterion we see that (2.12) is true for $t = 0, 1, \dots, p - 1$. Since both sides of (2.12) are polynomials in t of degree at most $(p - 1)/2$, applying Lagrange’s theorem we conclude that (2.12) holds when t is a variable.

THEOREM 2.4. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime and let t be a variable. Then*

$$P_{\frac{p-1}{2}}(t) \equiv \begin{cases} (-t^2 - 3)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{t(t^2 - 9)\sqrt{t^2 + 3}}{(t^2 + 3)^2} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p - 1, \\ -\frac{(-t^2 - 3)^{\frac{p+1}{4}}}{\sqrt{t^2 + 3}} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{t(t^2 - 9)\sqrt{t^2 + 3}}{(t^2 + 3)^2} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p - 3, \end{cases}$$

$$P_{[\frac{p}{4}]}(t) \equiv \begin{cases} (6t + 10)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{(9t + 7)\sqrt{6t + 10}}{(3t + 5)^2} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p - 1, \\ \frac{(6t + 10)^{\frac{p+1}{4}}}{\sqrt{6t + 10}} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{(9t + 7)\sqrt{6t + 10}}{(3t + 5)^2} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p - 3. \end{cases}$$

Proof. By (1.1), both sides of the two congruences are polynomials in t of degree at most $p - 3$. By Lagrange’s theorem, it suffices to show that the congruences are true for $p - 2$ values of $t \in \{0, 1, \dots, p - 1\}$. Now combining (1.4) and (1.6) with Theorem 2.1 we deduce the result.

COROLLARY 2.9. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime and $m \in R_p$ with $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{4}]} \left(\frac{2m^2 - 5}{3} \right) \equiv \left(\frac{2m}{p} \right) P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{3m^2 - 4}{m^3} \right)$$

$$\equiv \left(\frac{-2}{p} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{[p/4]} \binom{4k}{2k} \binom{2k}{k} \left(\frac{m^2 - 1}{192} \right)^k$$

$$\equiv \left(\frac{2m}{p} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{[p/6]} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{(m + 1)(m - 2)^2}{864m^3} \right)^k \pmod{p}.$$

Proof. Taking $t = (2m^2 - 5)/3$ in Theorem 2.4 and then applying [S6, Lemma 2.2] and Lemma 2.3 we deduce the result.

THEOREM 2.5. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime and let t be a variable. Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) \equiv \begin{cases} (5 - 4t)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{2t^2 - 14t + 11}{(5 - 4t)^2} \sqrt{5 - 4t} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ -\frac{(5 - 4t)^{\frac{p+1}{4}}}{\sqrt{5 - 4t}} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{2t^2 - 14t + 11}{(5 - 4t)^2} \sqrt{5 - 4t} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. By (1.1), both sides of the congruence are polynomials in t of degree at most $p - 2$. By Lagrange's theorem, it suffices to show that the congruence is true for all $t \in R_p$ with $t \not\equiv \frac{5}{4} \pmod{p}$. Now assume $t \in R_p$ and $t \not\equiv \frac{5}{4} \pmod{p}$. Set $m = 3(4t - 5)$ and $n = 2(2t^2 - 14t + 11)$. Then

$$\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} = \frac{(2t^2 - 14t + 11)\sqrt{5 - 4t}}{(5 - 4t)^2}.$$

Thus, by (1.5) and Theorem 2.1 we have

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]}(t) \equiv -\left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p}\right) \\ \equiv \begin{cases} \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) (9(5 - 4t))^{\frac{p-1}{4}} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{2t^2 - 14t + 11}{(5 - 4t)^2} \sqrt{5 - 4t}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p - 1, \\ \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \frac{(9(5 - 4t))^{\frac{p+1}{4}}}{\sqrt{9(5 - 4t)}} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{2t^2 - 14t + 11}{(5 - 4t)^2} \sqrt{5 - 4t}\right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \nmid p - 1. \end{cases}$$

For $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ we have $9^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \equiv \left(\frac{3}{p}\right) \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = 1 \pmod{p}$. For $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ we have $9^{\frac{p+1}{4}} \cdot \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) \equiv \left(\frac{3}{p}\right) \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) = -1 \pmod{p}$. Thus the result follows.

COROLLARY 2.10. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime and $m \in R_p$ with $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left(\frac{5 - m^2}{4}\right) \equiv \left(\frac{-m}{p}\right) P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{m^4 + 18m^2 - 27}{8m^3}\right) \\ \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{[p/3]} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{m^2 - 1}{216}\right)^k \\ \equiv \left(\frac{-m}{p}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{[p/6]} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k} \left(\frac{(m + 1)(3 - m)^3}{2^8 \cdot 3^3 m^3}\right)^k \pmod{p}.$$

Proof. Taking $t = \frac{5-m^2}{4}$ in Theorem 2.5 and then applying [S4, Lemma 2.3] and Lemma 2.3 we deduce the result.

COROLLARY 2.11. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime. Then*

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left(\frac{7 \pm 3\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) \\ \equiv \begin{cases} 2a(3 \pm 2\sqrt{3})^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p - 1, p = a^2 + b^2 \text{ and } 4 \mid a - 1, \\ 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Set $t = (7 \pm 3\sqrt{3})/2$. Then $2t^2 - 14t + 11 = 0$. Thus, from Theorem 2.5 and the congruence for $P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(0)$ in the proof of Theorem 2.1 we deduce that

$$P_{[\frac{p}{3}]} \left(\frac{7 \pm 3\sqrt{3}}{2} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} (-9 \mp 6\sqrt{3})^{\frac{p-1}{4}} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(0) \equiv (3 \pm 2\sqrt{3})^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \left(\frac{p-1}{4} \right) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1, \\ -\frac{(-9 \mp 6\sqrt{3})^{\frac{p+1}{4}}}{\sqrt{-9 \mp 6\sqrt{3}}} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(0) = 0 \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-3. \end{cases}$$

It is well known that $\left(\frac{p-1}{4} \right) \equiv 2a \pmod{p}$ for $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ (see [BEW, p. 269]). Thus the corollary is proved.

THEOREM 2.6. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime and $m, n \in R_p$ with $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Then*

$$\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) \equiv \begin{cases} -(-3m)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \sum_{k=0}^{[p/12]} \binom{[p/12]}{k} \binom{[5p/12]}{k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^k \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1, \\ -\frac{3n}{2m^2} (-3m)^{\frac{p+1}{4}} \sum_{k=0}^{[p/12]} \binom{[p/12]}{k} \binom{[5p/12]}{k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^k \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-3. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Let $P_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x)$ be the Jacobi polynomial defined by

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

It is known (see [AAR, p. 315]) that

$$(2.13) \quad P_{2n}(x) = P_n^{(0, -\frac{1}{2})}(2x^2 - 1) \quad \text{and} \quad P_{2n+1}(x) = x P_n^{(0, \frac{1}{2})}(2x^2 - 1).$$

For $k = 1, 2, \dots$ let $(a)_k = a(a+1) \cdots (a+k-1)$. Then clearly $(a)_k = (-1)^k k! \binom{-a}{k}$. From [B, p. 170] we know that

$$\begin{aligned} P_n^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x) &= \binom{n+\alpha}{n} \left(1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-n)_k (n+\alpha+\beta+1)_k}{(\alpha+1)_k \cdot k!} \left(\frac{1-x}{2} \right)^k \right) \\ &= \binom{n+\alpha}{n} \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{\binom{n}{k} (-n-\alpha-\beta-1)_k}{\binom{-1-\alpha}{k}} \left(\frac{x-1}{2} \right)^k. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$(2.14) \quad P_n^{(0,\beta)}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{-n-\beta-1}{k} \left(\frac{1-x}{2}\right)^k.$$

Hence, if $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$, then $[\frac{p}{6}] = 2[\frac{p}{12}]$ and so

$$\begin{aligned} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \right) &= P_{[\frac{p}{12}]}^{(0, -\frac{1}{2})} \left(2 \cdot \frac{-27n^2}{4m^3} - 1 \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{[\frac{p}{12}]} \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{k} \binom{-\frac{1}{2} - [\frac{p}{12}]}{k} \left(1 + \frac{27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^k \\ &\equiv \sum_{k=0}^{[p/12]} \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{k} \binom{\frac{p-1}{2} - [\frac{p}{12}]}{k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^k \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{[p/12]} \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{k} \binom{[\frac{5p}{12}]}{k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^k \pmod{p}; \end{aligned}$$

if $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, then $[\frac{p}{6}] = 2[\frac{p}{12}] + 1$ and so

$$\begin{aligned} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]} \left(\frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \right) &= \frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} P_{[\frac{p}{12}]}^{(0, \frac{1}{2})} \left(2 \cdot \frac{-27n^2}{4m^3} - 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \sum_{k=0}^{[p/12]} \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{k} \binom{-\frac{3}{2} - [\frac{p}{12}]}{k} \left(1 + \frac{27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^k \\ &\equiv \frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \sum_{k=0}^{[p/12]} \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{k} \binom{\frac{p-3}{2} - [\frac{p}{12}]}{k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^k \\ &= \frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2} \sum_{k=0}^{[p/12]} \binom{[\frac{p}{12}]}{k} \binom{[\frac{5p}{12}]}{k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{4m^3} \right)^k \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Now combining the above with Theorem 2.1 we deduce the result.

For a prime p and $a \in R_p$ let $\langle a \rangle_p$ denote the unique integer $a_0 \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ such that $a \equiv a_0 \pmod{p}$.

LEMMA 2.4. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime and let $t \in R_p$ with $t \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-\frac{1}{12}}{k} \binom{-\frac{5}{12}}{k} (1-t)^k &\equiv t^{\langle -\frac{1}{12} \rangle_p} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-\frac{1}{12}}{k} \binom{-\frac{7}{12}}{k} \left(1 - \frac{1}{t} \right)^k \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(\sqrt{t}) \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, \\ \left(\frac{t}{p}\right) P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(\sqrt{t})\sqrt{t} \pmod{p} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Taking $a = -\frac{1}{12}$ in [S7, Theorem 2.2] and then applying [S7, Lemmas 2.2–2.3] we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-\frac{1}{12}}{k} \binom{-\frac{5}{12}}{k} (1-t)^k &\equiv t^{\langle -\frac{1}{12} \rangle_p} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-\frac{1}{12}}{k} \binom{-\frac{7}{12}}{k} \left(\frac{t-1}{t}\right)^k \\ &\equiv P_{2\langle -\frac{1}{12} \rangle_p}(\sqrt{t}) \\ &= \begin{cases} P_{\frac{p-1}{6}}(\sqrt{t}) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1, \\ P_{\frac{5p-1}{6}}(\sqrt{t}) \equiv P_{\frac{p-5}{6}}(\sqrt{t}) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-5, \\ P_{\frac{7p-1}{6}}(\sqrt{t}) \equiv (\sqrt{t})^p P_{\frac{p-1}{6}}(\sqrt{t}) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-7, \\ P_{\frac{11p-1}{6}}(\sqrt{t}) \equiv (\sqrt{t})^p P_{\frac{5p-1}{6}}(\sqrt{t}) \equiv (\sqrt{t})^p P_{\frac{p-5}{6}}(\sqrt{t}) \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-11. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

To see the result, we note that $(\sqrt{t})^p = t^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \sqrt{t} \equiv (\frac{t}{p}) \sqrt{t} \pmod{p}$.

THEOREM 2.7. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime and $m, n \in R_p$ with $mn \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p}\right) \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} -(-3m)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-\frac{1}{12}}{k} \binom{-\frac{5}{12}}{k} \left(\frac{4m^3+27n^2}{4m^3}\right)^k \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-1, \\ \frac{2m}{9n} \binom{-3m}{p} (-3m)^{\frac{p+1}{4}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-\frac{1}{12}}{k} \binom{-\frac{5}{12}}{k} \left(\frac{4m^3+27n^2}{4m^3}\right)^k \pmod{p} & \text{if } 4 \mid p-3, \end{cases} \\ &\equiv \begin{cases} (-1)^{\frac{p+1}{2}} \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{\frac{p-1}{6}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-\frac{1}{12}}{k} \binom{-\frac{7}{12}}{k} \left(\frac{4m^3+27n^2}{27n^2}\right)^k \pmod{p} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-1, \\ (-1)^{\frac{p+1}{2}} \frac{3}{m} \left(\frac{2}{n}\right)^{\frac{p-5}{6}} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{-\frac{1}{12}}{k} \binom{-\frac{7}{12}}{k} \left(\frac{4m^3+27n^2}{27n^2}\right)^k \pmod{p} & \text{if } 3 \mid p-2. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Set $t = -\frac{27n^2}{4m^3}$. Then $1-t = \frac{4m^3+27n^2}{4m^3}$. Since

$$t^{\langle -\frac{1}{12} \rangle_p} = \begin{cases} \left(-\frac{27n^2}{4m^3}\right)^{\frac{p-1}{12}} = \left(-\frac{3}{m}\right)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{\frac{p-1}{6}} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1, \\ \left(-\frac{27n^2}{4m^3}\right)^{\frac{5p-1}{12}} \equiv \left(-\frac{3m}{p}\right) \left(-\frac{m}{3}\right)^{\frac{p-5}{4}} \left(\frac{2}{n}\right)^{\frac{p-5}{6}} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-5, \\ \left(-\frac{27n^2}{4m^3}\right)^{\frac{7p-1}{12}} \equiv \left(-\frac{3m}{p}\right) \left(-\frac{3}{m}\right)^{\frac{p+5}{4}} \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{\frac{p+5}{6}} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-7, \\ \left(-\frac{27n^2}{4m^3}\right)^{\frac{11p-1}{12}} \equiv \left(-\frac{m}{3}\right)^{\frac{p-11}{4}} \left(\frac{2}{n}\right)^{\frac{p-11}{6}} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-11, \end{cases}$$

using Lemma 2.4 and Theorem 2.1 we deduce the result.

3. A general congruence modulo p^2

LEMMA 3.1. *For any nonnegative integer n we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{k}{n-k} (-432)^{n-k} \\ = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3(n-k)}{n-k} \binom{6(n-k)}{3(n-k)}. \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} F_1(m, k) &= \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{k}{m-k} (-432)^{m-k}, \\ F_2(m, k) &= \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3(m-k)}{m-k} \binom{6(m-k)}{3(m-k)}. \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} G_1(m, k) &= -k^2(m+2) \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{k}{m+2-k} (-432)^{m+2-k}, \\ G_2(m, k) &= \frac{12k^2(36m^2 - 36km + 129m - 62k + 114)}{(m+2-k)^2} \\ &\quad \times \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3(m+1-k)}{m+1-k} \binom{6(m+1-k)}{3(m+1-k)}. \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} (3.1) \quad (m+2)^3 F_i(m+2, k) - 24(2m+3)(18m^2 + 54m + 41) F_i(m+1, k) \\ + 20736(m+1)(3m+1)(3m+5) F_i(m, k) \\ = G_i(m, k+1) - G_i(m, k). \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} (m+2)^3 (S_i(m+2) - F_i(m+2, m+2) - F_i(m+2, m+1)) \\ - 24(2m+3)(18m^2 + 54m + 41) (S_i(m+1) - F_i(m+1, m+1)) \\ + 20736(m+1)(3m+1)(3m+5) S_i(m) \\ = \sum_{k=0}^m ((m+2)^3 F_i(m+2, k) - 24(2m+3)(18m^2 + 54m + 41) F_i(m+1, k) \\ + 20736(m+1)(3m+1)(3m+5) F_i(m, k)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{k=0}^m (G_i(m, k+1) - G_i(m, k)) \\
 &= G_i(m, m+1) - G_i(m, 0) = G_i(m, m+1).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, for $i = 1, 2$ and $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.2) \quad &(m+2)^3 S_i(m+2) - 24(2m+3)(18m^2+54m+41)S_i(m+1) \\
 &+ 20736(m+1)(3m+1)(3m+5)S_i(m) \\
 &= G_i(m, m+1) + (m+2)^3 (F_i(m+2, m+2) + F_i(m+2, m+1)) \\
 &- 24(2m+3)(18m^2+54m+41)F_i(m+1, m+1) = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $S_1(0) = 1 = S_2(0)$ and $S_1(1) = 120 = S_2(1)$, from (3.2) we deduce that $S_1(n) = S_2(n)$ for all $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. This completes the proof.

For any prime p and integer n , if $p^\alpha \mid n$ but $p^{\alpha+1} \nmid n$, we write $p^\alpha \parallel n$.

LEMMA 3.2. *Let p be an odd prime and $k, r \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ with $k+r \geq p$. Then*

$$\binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3r}{r} \binom{6r}{3r} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Proof. For any positive integer n we have $\binom{3n}{n} = 3\binom{3n-1}{n-1}$. Thus the result is true for $p = 3$. Now assume $p > 3$. By (2.10), $p \mid \binom{3n}{n} \binom{6n}{3n}$ for $\frac{p}{6} < n \leq p-1$. Thus, if $k > \frac{p}{6}$ and $r > \frac{p}{6}$, then

$$p^2 \mid \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3r}{r} \binom{6r}{3r}.$$

If $r < \frac{p}{6}$, then $k \geq p-r > \frac{5p}{6}$, $p^5 \mid (6k)!$, $p \parallel (2k)!$, $p^2 \parallel (3k)!$ and so

$$\binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} = \frac{(6k)!}{k!(2k)!(3k)!} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Similarly, if $k < \frac{p}{6}$, then $r > \frac{5p}{6}$ and so $\binom{3r}{r} \binom{6r}{3r} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$. Thus the lemma is proved.

THEOREM 3.1. *Let p be an odd prime and let x be a variable. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} (x(1-432x))^k \equiv \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} x^k \right)^2 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Proof. For $\frac{p}{2} < k < p$ we have $p \mid \binom{2k}{k}$ and $p \mid \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}$ by (2.10). Thus

$$p^2 \mid \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \quad \text{for } \frac{p}{2} < k < p.$$

Hence, using Lemma 3.1 we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} (x(1-432x))^k \\
 & \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} x^k (1-432x)^k \\
 & = \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} x^k \sum_{r=0}^k \binom{k}{r} (-432x)^r \\
 & = \sum_{m=0}^{p-1} x^m \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{k}{m-k} (-432)^{m-k} \\
 & = \sum_{m=0}^{p-1} x^m \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3(m-k)}{m-k} \binom{6(m-k)}{3(m-k)} \\
 & = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} x^k \sum_{m=k}^{p-1} \binom{3(m-k)}{m-k} \binom{6(m-k)}{3(m-k)} x^{m-k} \\
 & = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} x^k \sum_{r=0}^{p-1-k} \binom{3r}{r} \binom{6r}{3r} x^r = \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} x^k \right)^2 \\
 & \quad - \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} x^k \sum_{r=p-k}^{p-1} \binom{3r}{r} \binom{6r}{3r} x^r \pmod{p^2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 3.2, $p^2 \mid \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3r}{r} \binom{6r}{3r}$ for $0 \leq k \leq p-1$ and $p-k \leq r \leq p-1$. Thus

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} x^k \sum_{r=p-k}^{p-1} \binom{3r}{r} \binom{6r}{3r} x^r \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Now combining all the above we obtain the result.

COROLLARY 3.1. *Let p be a prime greater than 3 and $m \in R_p$ with $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m^k} \equiv \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 1728/m}}{864} \right)^k \right)^2 \pmod{p^2}.$$

Proof. Taking $x = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 1728/m}}{864}$ in Theorem 3.1 we deduce the result.

COROLLARY 3.2. *Let p be a prime greater than 3 and let t be a variable. Then*

$$t \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} k \left(\frac{1-t^2}{1728} \right)^k \equiv (t+1) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{1-t}{864} \right)^k \right) \times \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} k \left(\frac{1-t}{864} \right)^k \right) \pmod{p^2}.$$

Proof. Putting $x = \frac{1-t}{864}$ in Theorem 3.1 we see that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{1-t^2}{1728} \right)^k = \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{1-t}{864} \right)^k \right)^2 + p^2 f(t),$$

where $f(t)$ is a polynomial in t with coefficients in R_p . Taking derivatives and then multiplying by $\frac{1-t^2}{1728}$ on both sides we deduce the result.

LEMMA 3.3. *Let p be a prime of the form $4k+1$ and $p = a^2 + b^2$ ($a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$) with $a \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Then*

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{6} \right]}(0) \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \frac{p-1}{2} \\ \left[\frac{p}{12} \right] \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{cases} 2a \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1 \text{ and } 3 \nmid a, \\ -2a \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1 \text{ and } 3 \mid a, \\ 2b \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-5 \text{ and } 3 \mid a-b. \end{cases}$$

Proof. By Lemma 2.1(i) and the proof of Theorem 2.1,

$$P_{\left[\frac{p}{6} \right]}(0) = \frac{1}{(-4)^{\left[\frac{p}{12} \right]}} \begin{pmatrix} \left[\frac{p}{6} \right] \\ \left[\frac{p}{12} \right] \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \frac{p-1}{2} \\ \left[\frac{p}{12} \right] \end{pmatrix} \equiv (-3)^{-\frac{p-1}{4}} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{p-1}{2} \\ \frac{p-1}{4} \end{pmatrix} \pmod{p}.$$

By Gauss' congruence ([BEW, p. 269]), $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{p-1}{2} \\ \frac{p-1}{4} \end{pmatrix} \equiv 2a \pmod{p}$. By [S1, Theorem 2.2 and Example 2.1],

$$(-3)^{\frac{p-1}{4}} \equiv \begin{cases} 1 \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1 \text{ and } 3 \nmid a, \\ -1 \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-1 \text{ and } 3 \mid a, \\ -\frac{b}{a} \equiv \frac{a}{b} \pmod{p} & \text{if } 12 \mid p-5 \text{ and } 3 \mid a-b. \end{cases}$$

Thus the result follows.

We note that for primes $p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$, the congruence $\begin{pmatrix} (p-1)/2 \\ (p-1)/12 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \pm 2a \pmod{p}$ was given in [HW, Corollary 4.2.2].

Let $p > 3$ be a prime. By the work of Mortenson [M] and Zhi-Wei Sun [Su2],

$$(3.3) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{1728^k} \equiv \begin{cases} \left(\frac{p}{3}\right) (4a^2 - 2p) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p = a^2 + b^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ and } 2 \nmid a, \\ 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

In [Su1, Conjecture B16] Zhi-Wei Sun conjectured that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{864^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \\ (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{a}{6} \rfloor} (2a - \frac{p}{2a}) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p - 1, p = a^2 + b^2 \text{ and } 4 \mid a - 1, \\ \left(\frac{ab}{3}\right) (2b - \frac{p}{2b}) \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p - 5, p = a^2 + b^2 \text{ and } 4 \mid a - 1. \end{cases}$$

In [Su4], Zhi-Wei Sun confirmed the conjecture in the case $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$.

Now we prove the above conjecture for primes $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

THEOREM 3.2. *Let p be a prime of the form $4k + 1$ and so $p = a^2 + b^2$ with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $a \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{864^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 2a - \frac{p}{2a} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p - 1 \text{ and } 3 \nmid a, \\ -2a + \frac{p}{2a} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p - 1 \text{ and } 3 \mid a, \\ 2b - \frac{p}{2b} \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 12 \mid p - 5 \text{ and } 3 \mid a - b. \end{cases}$$

Proof. From Lemma 3.3 we have $P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(0) \equiv 2r \pmod{p}$, where

$$r = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{12} \text{ and } 3 \nmid a, \\ -a & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \pmod{12} \text{ and } 3 \mid a, \\ b & \text{if } p \equiv 5 \pmod{12} \text{ and } 3 \mid a - b. \end{cases}$$

By (2.10), $p \mid \binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}$ for $\frac{p}{6} < k < p$. Thus, applying Lemma 2.3 and the above we get

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{864^k} \equiv P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(0) \equiv 2r \pmod{p}.$$

Set $\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{864^k} = 2r + qp$. Using Corollary 3.1 we see that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{1728^k} \equiv \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{6k}{3k} \binom{3k}{k}}{864^k} \right)^2 = (2r + qp)^2 \equiv 4r^2 + 4rqp \pmod{p^2}.$$

Thus, applying (3.3) we obtain $\binom{p}{3}(4a^2 - 2p) \equiv 4r^2 + 4rqp \pmod{p^2}$. Hence $q \equiv -\frac{1}{2r} \pmod{p}$ and the proof is complete.

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

THEOREM 4.1. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime, $m \in R_p$, $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ and $t = \sqrt{1 - 1728/m}$. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m^k} \equiv P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(t)^2 \equiv \left(\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 - 3x + 2t)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \right)^2 \pmod{p}.$$

Moreover, if $P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(t) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ or $\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 - 3x + 2t)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$, then

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

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{[p/6]} \frac{k \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{for } m \not\equiv 1728 \pmod{p}.$$

Proof. For $k \in \{\frac{p+1}{2}, \dots, p-1\}$ we have $p \mid \binom{2k}{k}$ and $p \mid \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}$ by (2.10), thus $p^2 \mid \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}$. Since

$$\frac{1-t}{864} \left(1 - 432 \cdot \frac{1-t}{864} \right) = \frac{1-t^2}{1728} = \frac{1}{m},$$

by Theorem 3.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} (4.1) \quad \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m^k} &\equiv \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m^k} \\ &\equiv \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{1-t}{864} \right)^k \right)^2 \pmod{p^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 2.3 and Theorem 2.3 we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{1-t}{864} \right)^k &\equiv P_{[\frac{p}{6}]}(t) \\ &\equiv -\left(\frac{3}{p} \right) \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} (x^3 - 3x + 2t)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

This together with (4.1), Corollary 3.2 and the fact that $p \mid \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}$ for $\frac{p}{6} < k < p$ yields the result.

THEOREM 4.2. *Let $p > 3$ be a prime and $m, n \in R_p$ with $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) \right)^2 \\ & \equiv \left(\frac{-3m}{p} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{12^3 \cdot 4m^3} \right)^k \\ & \equiv \left(\frac{-3m}{p} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{[p/6]} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{12^3 \cdot 4m^3} \right)^k \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, if $\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) = 0$, then

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{12^3 \cdot 4m^3} \right)^k \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{[p/6]} k \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k} \left(\frac{4m^3 + 27n^2}{12^3 \cdot 4m^3} \right)^k \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{for } n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

Proof. We first assume that $4m^3 + 27n^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Clearly $-3m \equiv \left(\frac{9n}{2m}\right)^2 \pmod{p}$ and so $\left(\frac{-3m}{p}\right) = 1$. As $x^3 + mx + n \equiv \left(x - \frac{3n}{m}\right)\left(x + \frac{3n}{2m}\right)^2 \pmod{p}$ we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) &= \sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{\left(x - \frac{3n}{m}\right)\left(x + \frac{3n}{2m}\right)^2}{p} \right) = \sum_{\substack{x=0 \\ x \not\equiv -\frac{3n}{2m} \pmod{p}}}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x - \frac{3n}{m}}{p} \right) \\ &= \sum_{t=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{t}{p} \right) - \left(\frac{-\frac{3n}{2m} - \frac{3n}{m}}{p} \right) = - \left(\frac{-2mn}{p} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since $m \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ we have $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ and so $\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) = -\left(\frac{-2mn}{p}\right) = \pm 1$. Thus the result holds in this case.

Now we assume that $4m^3 + 27n^2 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Set $t = \frac{3n\sqrt{-3m}}{2m^2}$ and $m_1 = \frac{1728 \cdot 4m^3}{4m^3 + 27n^2}$. Then $t = \sqrt{1 - 1728/m_1}$. From Theorems 2.1 and 4.1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \left(\frac{x^3 + mx + n}{p} \right) \right)^2 \equiv (-3m)^{\frac{p-1}{2}} P_{[p/6]}(t)^2 \\ & \equiv \left(\frac{-3m}{p} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m_1^k} \pmod{p}. \end{aligned}$$

By (2.10), $p \mid \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}$ for $\frac{p}{6} < k < p$. If $\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \binom{x^3+mx+n}{p} = 0$, we must have $P_{\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \rfloor}(t) \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$. Thus, applying Theorem 4.1 we see that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m_1^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p^2}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/6 \rfloor} \frac{k \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{m_1^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{for } n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

This completes the proof.

THEOREM 4.3 (see [S4, Conjecture 2.4]). *Let p be a prime such that $p \neq 2, 3, 11$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{66^{3k}} \\ \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}, \\ \binom{p}{33} 4a^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = a^2 + b^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ and } 2 \nmid a \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/6 \rfloor} \frac{k \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{66^{3k}} \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{for } p \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \text{ with } p \neq 7.$$

Proof. Taking $m = -11$ and $n = 14$ in Theorem 4.2 and then applying (2.2) we deduce the result.

THEOREM 4.4 (see [S4, Conjecture 2.5]). *Let $p > 5$ be a prime. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{20^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8}, \\ \binom{-5}{p} 4c^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = c^2 + 2d^2 \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{8} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor p/6 \rfloor} \frac{k \binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{20^{3k}} \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{for } p \equiv 5, 7 \pmod{8} \text{ with } p \neq 7.$$

Proof. Taking $m = -30$ and $n = 56$ in Theorem 4.2 and then applying the formula for $\sum_{x=0}^{p-1} \binom{x^3-30x+56}{p}$ in the proof of Corollary 2.2 we deduce the result.

THEOREM 4.5 (see [S4, Conjecture 2.6]). *Let $p > 5$ be a prime. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{54000^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \\ \left(\frac{p}{5}\right) 4A^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = A^2 + 3B^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{[p/6]} k \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{54000^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{for } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \text{ with } p \neq 11.$$

Proof. Taking $m = -15$ and $n = 22$ in Theorem 4.2 and then applying (2.3) we deduce the result.

THEOREM 4.6 (see [S4, Conjecture 2.7]). *Let $p > 5$ be a prime. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-12288000)^k} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } 3 \mid p - 2, \\ \left(\frac{10}{p}\right) L^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } 3 \mid p - 1 \text{ and so } 4p = L^2 + 27M^2 \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{[p/6]} k \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-12288000)^k} \equiv 0 \pmod{p} \quad \text{for } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \text{ with } p \neq 11, 23.$$

Proof. Taking $m = -120$ and $n = 506$ in Theorem 4.2 and then applying (2.4) we deduce the result.

THEOREM 4.7 (see [S4, Conjectures 2.8–2.9]). *Let $p > 7$ be a prime. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-15)^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7}, \\ \left(\frac{p}{15}\right) 4C^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = C^2 + 7D^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{255^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 5, 6 \pmod{7} \text{ and } p \neq 17, \\ \left(\frac{p}{255}\right) 4C^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } p = C^2 + 7D^2 \equiv 1, 2, 4 \pmod{7}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. From (2.5), (2.7) and Theorem 4.2 we deduce the result.

THEOREM 4.8 (see [Su1, Conjecture A26]). *Let $p \neq 2, 11$ be a prime. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-32)^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = -1, \\ \left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{11}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 11y^2. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Taking $m = -96 \cdot 11$ and $n = 112 \cdot 11^2$ in Theorem 4.2 and then applying (2.8) we deduce the result.

Similarly, from (2.9) and Theorem 4.2 we have the following result.

THEOREM 4.9 (see [Su3, Conjectures 2.8–2.10]). *Let $p > 3$ be a prime. Then*

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

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-960)^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{43}\right) = -1 \text{ and } p \neq 5, \\ \left(\frac{p}{15}\right)x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{43}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 43y^2, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-5280)^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{67}\right) = -1 \text{ and } p \neq 5, 11, \\ \left(\frac{-330}{p}\right)x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{67}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 67y^2, \end{cases}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{(p-1)/2} \frac{\binom{2k}{k} \binom{3k}{k} \binom{6k}{3k}}{(-640320)^{3k}} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \pmod{p^2} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{163}\right) = -1 \text{ and } p \neq 5, 23, 29, \\ \left(\frac{-10005}{p}\right)x^2 \pmod{p} & \text{if } \left(\frac{p}{163}\right) = 1 \text{ and so } 4p = x^2 + 163y^2. \end{cases}$$

REMARK 4.1. From [O] we know that the only j -invariants of elliptic curves over the rational field \mathbb{Q} with complex multiplication are given by $0, 12^3, -15^3, 20^3, -32^3, 2 \cdot 30^3, 66^3, -96^3, -3 \cdot 160^3, 255^3, -960^3, -5280^3, -640320^3$, coinciding with the values of m in (3.3) and Theorems 4.3–4.9.

References

- [AAR] G. E. Andrews, R. Askey and R. Roy, *Special Functions*, Encyclopedia Math. Appl. 71, Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge, 1999.
- [B] H. Bateman, *Higher Transcendental Functions*, Vol. II, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1953.
- [BEW] B. C. Berndt, R. J. Evans and K. S. Williams, *Gauss and Jacobi Sums*, Wiley, New York, 1998.
- [G] H. W. Gould, *Combinatorial Identities. A Standardized Set of Tables Listing 500 Binomial Coefficient Summations*, West Virginia Univ., Morgantown, WV, 1972.
- [HW] R. H. Hudson and K. S. Williams, *Binomial coefficients and Jacobi sums*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 281 (1984), 431–505.
- [IR] K. Ireland and M. Rosen, *A Classical Introduction to Modern Number Theory*, 2nd ed., Grad. Texts in Math. 84, Springer, New York, 1990.
- [JM] A. Joux et F. Morain, *Sur les sommes de caractères liées aux courbes elliptiques à multiplication complexe*, J. Number Theory 55 (1995), 108–128.
- [KKS] N. Kurokawa, M. Kurihara and T. Saito, *Number Theory 3: Iwasawa Theory and Modular Forms*, Transl. Math. Monogr. 242, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, RI, 2012.
- [M] E. Mortenson, *Supercongruences for truncated ${}_{n+1}F_n$ hypergeometric series with applications to certain weight three newforms*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 133 (2005), 321–330.
- [O] K. Ono, *Values of Gaussian hypergeometric series*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. 350 (1998), 1205–1223.
- [PV] R. Padma and S. Venkataraman, *Elliptic curves with complex multiplication and a character sum*, J. Number Theory 61 (1996), 274–282.
- [R1] A. R. Rajwade, *The Diophantine equation $y^2 = x(x^2 + 21Dx + 112D^2)$ and the conjectures of Birch and Swinnerton-Dyer*, J. Austral. Math. Soc. Ser. A 24 (1977), 286–295.
- [R2] A. R. Rajwade, *On a conjecture of Williams*, Bull. Soc. Math. Belg. Sér. B 36 (1984), 1–4.
- [RP] A. R. Rajwade and J. C. Parnami, *A new cubic character sum*, Acta Arith. 40 (1982), 347–356.
- [RPR] D. B. Rishi, J. C. Parnami and A. R. Rajwade, *Evaluation of a cubic character sum using the $\sqrt{-19}$ division points of the curve $Y^2 = X^3 - 2^3 \cdot 19X + 2 \cdot 19^2$* , J. Number Theory 19 (1984), 184–194.
- [S1] Z. H. Sun, *Supplements to the theory of quartic residues*, Acta Arith. 97 (2001), 361–377.
- [S2] Z. H. Sun, *On the number of incongruent residues of $x^4 + ax^2 + bx$ modulo p* , J. Number Theory 119 (2006), 210–241.
- [S3] Z. H. Sun, *On the quadratic character of quadratic units*, J. Number Theory 128 (2008), 1295–1335.
- [S4] Z. H. Sun, *Congruences concerning Legendre polynomials*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 139 (2011), 1915–1929.
- [S5] Z. H. Sun, *Congruences involving $\binom{2k}{k}^2 \binom{3k}{k}$* , J. Number Theory 133 (2013), 1572–1595.
- [S6] Z. H. Sun, *Congruences concerning Legendre polynomials II*, J. Number Theory 133 (2013), 1950–1976.

- [S7] Z. H. Sun, *Congruences concerning Legendre polynomials III*, Int. J. Number Theory 9 (2013), 965–999.
- [Su1] Z. W. Sun, *Open conjectures on congruences*, arXiv:0911.5665v59.
- [Su2] Z. W. Sun, *On sums involving products of three binomial coefficients*, Acta Arith. 156 (2012), 123–141.
- [Su3] Z. W. Sun, *Conjectures and results on $x^2 \bmod p^2$ with $4p = x^2 + dy^2$* , in: Number Theory and Related Area, Y. Ouyang et al. (eds.), Higher Education Press, Beijing, and Int. Press, Boston, 2013, 147–195.
- [Su4] Z. W. Sun, *Supercongruences involving products of two binomial coefficients*, Finite Fields Appl. 22 (2013), 24–44.
- [W] K. S. Williams, *Evaluation of character sums connected with elliptic curves*, Proc. Amer. Math. Soc. 73 (1979), 291–299.

Zhi-Hong Sun
School of Mathematical Sciences
Huaiyin Normal University
Huaian, Jiangsu 223001, P.R. China
E-mail: zhihongsun@yahoo.com
<http://www.hytc.edu.cn/xsjl/szh>

*Received on 30.10.2012
and in revised form on 16.1.2013*

(7248)