

# A Note on $G_a$ Partitions of $n$

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**Abstract:** Andrews derived generating function for the number of smallest parts of *partitions* of positive integer  $n$ . Hanumareddy and Manjusri [5] derived generating function for the number of smallest parts of *partitions* of  $n$  by using  $r$  – *partitions* of  $n$ . In this chapter we defined the partitions of  $n$  with smallest parts of the form  $a^{k-1}$  where  $a, k$  are natural numbers, defined as  $G_a$  partitions of  $n$ . In this chapter we derive generating function for  $G_a spt(n)$  by using  $r - G_a$  partitions of  $n$ . We also derive generating function for  $sum G_a spt(n)$ .

**Keywords:** Partition, r-partition,  $G_a$  partition, Smallest part of the  $G_a$  partition.

**Subject classification:** 11P81 Elementary theory of Partitions.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Let  $G_a \xi(n)$  be denote the set of all *partitions* of  $n$  with smallest parts are of the form  $a^{k-1}$ . Let  $G_a p(n)$  be the cardinality of  $G_a \xi(n)$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $G_a p(0) = 1$ . If  $1 \leq r \leq n$ , write  $G_a p_r(n)$  for the number of *partitions* of  $n$  in  $G_a \xi(n)$  each consisting of exactly  $r$  parts, i.e  $r$  – *partitions* of  $n$  in  $G_a \xi(n)$ . If  $r \leq 0$  or  $r \geq n$ , we write  $G_a p_r(n) = 0$ . Let  $G_a p(k, n)$  represent the number of *partitions* of  $n$  in  $G_a \xi(n)$  using natural numbers at least as large as  $k$  only. Let the *partitions* in  $G_a \xi(n)$  be denoted by  $G_a$  partitions.

Let  $G_a spt(n)$  be denotes the number of smallest parts including repetitions in all *partitions* of  $n$  in  $G_a \xi(n)$  and  $sum G_a spt(n)$  be denotes the sum of the smallest parts. For  $i \geq 1$ , let us adopt the following notation on the lines of [3].

$G_a m_s(\lambda)$  = number of smallest parts of  $\lambda$  in  $G_a \xi(n)$ .

$$G_a spt(n) = \sum_{\lambda \in \xi(n)} G_a m_s(\lambda)$$

For example :  $G_a \xi(8)$ :  $G_a p(8) = 21$   $G_a spt(8) = 56$

$8, 7+1, 6+2, 4+4, 6+1+1, 5+2+1, 4+3+1, 4+2+2, 3+3+2, 5+1+1+1,$   
 $4+2+1+1, 3+3+1+1, 3+2+2+1, 2+2+2+2, 4+1+1+1+1, 3+2+1+1+1,$   
 $2+2+2+1+1, 3+1+1+1+1+1, 2+2+1+1+1+1, 2+1+1+1+1+1+1, 1+1+1+1+1+1+1.$

Existing generating functions are given below

Function	Generating function
$p_r(n)$	$\frac{q^r}{(q)_r}$
$p_r(n-k)$	$\frac{q^{r+k}}{(q)_r}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{number of divisors of the form } a^{k-1} & \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}}}{(1-q^{a^{k-1}})} \\ \text{sum of divisors of the form } a^{k-1} & \sum_{b=1}^{\infty} \frac{a^{k-1} q^{a^{k-1}}}{(1-q^{a^{k-1}})} \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $(q)_k = \prod_{n=1}^k (1-q^n)$  for  $k > 0$ ,  $(q)_k = 1$  for  $k = 0$  and  $(q)_k = 0$  for  $k < 0$ .

$$\text{and } (a)_n = (a; q)_n = (1-a)(1-aq)(1-aq^2)\dots(1-aq^{n-1}) \quad [2]$$

## II. GENERATING FUNCTION FOR $G_a spt(n)$

The generating function for the number of smallest parts of all partitions of positive integer  $n$  is derived by Andrews. By utilizing  $r$  – partitions of  $n$ , we propose a formula for finding the number of smallest parts of the form  $a^{k-1}$ .

2.1 Theorem:

$$G_a spt(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} p(a^{k-1}, n-t.a^{k-1}) + \{d(n) \mid \text{divisors of form } a^{k-1}\}$$

**Proof:** Let  $n = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_r) = (\mu_1^{\alpha_1}, \mu_2^{\alpha_2}, \dots, \mu_{l-1}^{\alpha_{l-1}}, (a^{k-1})^{\alpha_l})$  be any  $r$  –  $G_a$  partition of  $n$  with  $l$  distinct parts and

$$\mu_i = a^{i-1} \forall i.$$

**Case 1:** Let  $r > \alpha_l = t$  which implies  $\lambda_{r-t} > a^{k-1}$

$$\text{Subtract all } a^{k-1} \text{ 's, we get } n-t.a^{k-1} = (\mu_1^{\alpha_1}, \mu_2^{\alpha_2}, \dots, \mu_{l-1}^{\alpha_{l-1}})$$

Hence  $n-t.a^{k-1} = (\mu_1^{\alpha_1}, \mu_2^{\alpha_2}, \dots, \mu_{l-1}^{\alpha_{l-1}})$  is a  $(r-t)$  –  $G_a$  partition of  $n-t.a^{k-1}$  with  $l-1$  distinct parts and each part is greater than or equal to  $a^{k-1} + 1$ .

**Case 2:** Let  $r > \alpha_l > t$  which implies  $\lambda_{r-t} = a^{k-1}$

$$\text{Omit } a^{k-1} \text{ 's from last } t \text{ places, we get } n-t.a^{k-1} = (\mu_1^{\alpha_1}, \mu_2^{\alpha_2}, \dots, \mu_{l-1}^{\alpha_{l-1}}, (a^{k-1})^{\alpha_l-t})$$

Hence  $n-t.a^{k-1} = (\mu_1^{\alpha_1}, \mu_2^{\alpha_2}, \dots, \mu_{l-1}^{\alpha_{l-1}}, (a^{k-1})^{\alpha_l-t})$  is a  $(r-t)$  – partition of  $n-t.a^{k-1}$  with  $l$  distinct parts and the least part is  $a^{k-1}$ .

Now we get the number of  $r-G_a$  partitions with smallest part  $a^{k-1}$  that occurs more than  $t$  times among all  $r-G_a$  partitions of  $n$  is  $f_{r-t}(a^{k-1}, n-t.a^{k-1})$ .

**Case 3:** Let  $r = \alpha_l = t$  which implies all parts in the partition are equal.

The number of  $G_a$  partitions of  $n$  with equal parts is equal to the number of divisors of  $n$  which are of form  $a^{k-1}$ . Since the number of divisors of  $n$  which are of form  $a^{k-1}$  is  $\{d(n) \mid \text{which are of form } a^{k-1}\}$  the number of  $G_a$  partitions of  $n$  with

all parts are equal and is of form  $a^{k-1}$  is  $\{d(n) \mid \text{divisors of form } a^{k-1}\}$  where  $\beta = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \frac{n}{r} = a^{k-1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ .

From cases (1), (2) and (3) we get  $r-G_a$  partitions of  $n$  with smallest part  $a^{k-1}$  that occurs  $t$  times is

$$f_{r-t}(a^{k-1}, n-t.a^{k-1}) + p_{r-t}(a^{k-1} + 1, n-t.a^{k-1}) + \beta$$

$$= p_{r-t}(a^{k-1}, n-t.a^{k-1}) + \beta \quad \text{where } \beta = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \frac{n}{r} = a^{k-1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Hence the number of smallest parts in  $G_a$  partitions of  $n$  is

$$G_a spt(n) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} p(a^{k-1}, n-t.a^{k-1}) + \{d(n) \mid \text{divisors of form } a^{k-1}\} \blacksquare$$

**2.2. Theorem:**  $p_r(a^{k-1} + 1, n) = p_r(n - a^{k-1}.r)$

**Proof:** Let  $n = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_r), \lambda_i > a^{k-1} \forall i$  be any  $r$ -partition of  $n$ .

Subtracting  $a^{k-1}$  from each part, we get  $n - a^{k-1}.r = (\lambda_1 - a^{k-1}, \lambda_2 - a^{k-1}, \dots, \lambda_r - a^{k-1})$

Hence  $n - a^{k-1}.r = (\lambda_1 - a^{k-1}, \lambda_2 - a^{k-1}, \dots, \lambda_r - a^{k-1})$  is a  $r-G_a$  partition of  $n - a^{k-1}.r$

Therefore the number of  $r-G_a$  partitions of  $n$  with parts greater than or equal to  $a^{k-1} + 1$  is  $p_r(n - a^{k-1}.r)$ .  $\blacksquare$

**2.3. Theorem:**  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_a spt(n) q^n = \frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^n (q)_{n-1}}{(1-q^n)}$ .

**Proof:** From theorem (2.1) we have

$$G_a spt(n) = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} p(a^{k-1}, n - t.a^{k-1}) + \{d(n) \mid \text{divisors of form } a^{k-1}\}$$

first replace  $a^{k-1} + 1$  by  $a^{k-1}$  then replace  $n$  by  $n - t.a^{k-1}$  in theorem (2.2.) where

$$= \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_r(n - t.a^{k-1} - r(a^{k-1} - 1)) + \{d(n) \mid \text{divisors of form } a^{k-1}\}$$

$\{d(n) \mid \text{divisors of form } a^{k-1}\}$  is the number of positive divisors of  $n$  which are form  $a^{k-1}$ .

From (1.1)

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{r+t.a^{k-1}+r(a^{k-1}-1)}}{(q)_r} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}}}{1-q^{a^{k-1}}} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{t.a^{k-1}+r.a^{k-1}}}{(q)_r} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}}}{1-q^{a^{k-1}}} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} q^{t.a^{k-1}} \left[ \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{(q^{a^{k-1}})^r}{(q)_r} \right] + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}}}{1-q^{a^{k-1}}} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}}}{(1-q^{a^{k-1}})} \left[ \left( 1 + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{(q^{a^{k-1}})^r}{(q)_r} \right) - 1 \right] + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}}}{1-q^{a^{k-1}}} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}}}{(1-q^{a^{k-1}})} \left( 1 + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{(q^{a^{k-1}})^r}{(q)_r} \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}}}{(1-q^{a^{k-1}})} \prod_{r=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{1-q^r q^{a^{k-1}}} \right) \quad \text{from [2]} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}}}{(1-q^{a^{k-1}})} \prod_{r=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{1-q^{r+a^{k-1}}} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}} (q)_{a^{k-1}-1}}{(1-q^{a^{k-1}})} \\ &= \frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{a^{k-1}} (q)_{a^{k-1}-1}}{(1-q^{a^{k-1}})} \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

2.4. *Corollary:* The generating function for  $A_c(n)$ , the number of smallest parts of the  $G_a$  partitions of  $n$  which are multiples of  $c$  is

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_c(n) q^n = \frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{c \cdot a^{n-1}} (q)_{c \cdot a^{n-1} - 1}}{(1 - q^{c \cdot a^{n-1}})}$$

2.5. *Theorem:* The generating function for the sum of smallest parts of the  $G_a$  partitions of  $n$  is

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{sum } G_a \text{ spt}(n) q^n = \frac{1}{(q)_{\infty}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{a^{n-1} q^{a^{n-1}} (q)_{a^{n-1} - 1}}{(1 - q^{a^{n-1}})}$$

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