

# SOME NEW THETA FUNCTION IDENTITIES WITH APPLICATIONS TO SEXTENARY QUADRATIC FORMS

*Ayşe Alaca, Şaban Alaca and Kenneth S. Williams\**

Centre for Research in Algebra and Number Theory, School of Mathematics  
and Statistics, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5B6

## Abstract

The  $(p, k)$ -parametrization of theta functions introduced by the authors is used to prove some new theta function identities from which formulae for the number of representations of a positive integer by each of the sextenary quadratic forms  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2 + x_5^2 + 3x_6^2$ ,  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + 3x_4^2 + 3x_5^2 + 3x_6^2$  and  $x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 + 3x_3^2 + 3x_4^2 + 3x_5^2 + 3x_6^2$  are deduced.

**Key Words and Phrases:**  $(p, k)$ -parametrization of theta functions, representations by sextenary quadratic forms, theta function identities

**2000 Mathematics Subject Classification:** 11E25.

**1. Introduction.** Borwein, Borwein and Garvan, in their paper [6] on some cubic modular identities of Ramanujan, defined the functions

$$a(q) := \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{m^2+mn+n^2}, \quad (1.1)$$

$$b(q) := \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} \omega^{m-n} q^{m^2+mn+n^2}, \quad (1.2)$$

$$c(q) := \sum_{m,n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{(m+\frac{1}{3})^2+(m+\frac{1}{3})(n+\frac{1}{3})+(n+\frac{1}{3})^2}, \quad (1.3)$$

where  $q$  is a complex variable satisfying  $|q| < 1$ ,  $\omega = e^{2\pi i/3}$ , and in (1.3) the principal value of the cube root  $q^{1/3}$  is taken. They proved a number of beautiful identities involving the functions  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ , including [6, Theorem 2.3, p. 38]

$$a^3(q) = b^3(q) + c^3(q) \quad (1.4)$$

---

\*E-mails: aalaca@connect.carleton.ca; salaca@connect.carleton.ca; kwilliam@connect.carleton.ca. The second and third authors were supported by research grants from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

and [6, Theorem 2.6, p. 40]

$$a(q)a(q^2) = b(q)b(q^2) + c(q)c(q^2). \quad (1.5)$$

In this paper we prove in Section 2 three new identities involving the functions  $b$  and  $c$  and the theta function  $\varphi$  (Ramanujan's notation [5, p. 6]) given by

$$\varphi(q) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{n^2}. \quad (1.6)$$

**Theorem 1.1.**

$$(i) \quad \varphi^5(q)\varphi(q^3) = \frac{1}{9}b^3(-q) + \frac{8}{9}b^3(q^2) - \frac{1}{3}c^3(-q) + \frac{8}{3}c^3(q^2).$$

$$(ii) \quad \varphi^3(q)\varphi^3(q^3) = \frac{1}{9}b^3(q) + \frac{8}{9}b^3(q^4) + \frac{1}{9}c^3(q) + \frac{8}{9}c^3(q^4) \\ + 4q \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{2n})^3 (1 - q^{6n})^3.$$

$$(iii) \quad \varphi(q)\varphi^5(q^3) = \frac{1}{9}b^3(-q) + \frac{8}{9}b^3(q^2) - \frac{1}{27}c^3(-q) + \frac{8}{27}c^3(q^2).$$

We then use these three identities to give formulae for the number of representations of a positive integer by each of the three sextenary quadratic forms  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_4^2 + x_5^2 + 3x_6^2$ ,  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + 3x_4^2 + 3x_5^2 + 3x_6^2$  and  $x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 + 3x_3^2 + 3x_4^2 + 3x_5^2 + 3x_6^2$ .

Let  $\mathbb{N}$  denote the set of positive integers and  $\mathbb{Z}$  the set of all integers. Set  $\mathbb{N}_0 = \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . For  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6 \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  we set

$$N(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6; n) = \text{card}\{(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6) \in \mathbb{Z}^6 \mid \\ n = a_1x_1^2 + a_2x_2^2 + a_3x_3^2 + a_4x_4^2 + a_5x_5^2 + a_6x_6^2\}. \quad (1.7)$$

Clearly

$$N(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6; 0) = 1. \quad (1.8)$$

Also

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} N(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6; n)q^n = \prod_{r=1}^6 \varphi(q^{a_r}). \quad (1.9)$$

We prove in Section 3

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Set  $n = 2^\alpha 3^\beta N$ , where  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $\beta \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\text{gcd}(N, 6) = 1$ . Let  $N = \prod_{p|N} p^{\alpha_p}$  be the prime factorization of  $N$ . Then*

$$(i) \quad N(1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 3; n) \\ = \frac{(-1)^{2\alpha}}{5} (2^{2\alpha+2} - 9(-1)^\alpha) \left( 3^{2\beta+2} + (-1)^\alpha \left( \frac{-3}{N} \right) \right) N^2$$

$$\times \prod_{p|N} \frac{1 - \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)^{\alpha_p+1} p^{-2\alpha_p-2}}{1 - \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)p^{-2}}.$$

(ii)  $N(1, 1, 1, 3, 3, 3; n)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{10} \left( 3(2^{2\alpha+1} + 3(-1)^\alpha)(1 + (-1)^{2\alpha}) + 5(1 - (-1)^{2\alpha}) \right) \\ &\times \left( 3^{2\beta+1} - (-1)^\alpha \left(\frac{-3}{N}\right) \right) N^2 \prod_{p|N} \frac{1 - \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)^{\alpha_p+1} p^{-2\alpha_p-2}}{1 - \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)p^{-2}} + 4k(n), \end{aligned}$$

where the integers  $k(n)$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) are defined by

$$q \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{2n})^3 (1 - q^{6n})^3 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} k(n)q^n. \tag{1.10}$$

(iii)  $N(1, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3; n)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{(-1)^{2\alpha}}{5} (2^{2\alpha+2} - 9(-1)^\alpha) \left( 3^{2\beta} + (-1)^\alpha \left(\frac{-3}{N}\right) \right) N^2 \\ &\times \prod_{p|N} \frac{1 - \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)^{\alpha_p+1} p^{-2\alpha_p-2}}{1 - \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)p^{-2}}. \end{aligned}$$

The first ten values of  $k(n)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} k(1) &= 1, \quad k(2) = 0, \quad k(3) = -3, \quad k(4) = 0, \quad k(5) = 0, \\ k(6) &= 0, \quad k(7) = 2, \quad k(8) = 0, \quad k(9) = 9, \quad k(10) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly

$$k(n) = 0, \text{ if } n \equiv 0 \pmod{2}. \tag{1.11}$$

Liouville [11], [12] stated without proof formulae equivalent to (i) and (iii) of Theorem 1.2. Proofs of (i) and (iii) have been given by Kogan [10], Petersson [14] and Berkovich and Yeşilyurt [4]. Formula (ii) is due to Berkovich and Yeşilyurt [4]. We thank them for providing us with a statement of their theorem. We also thank an unknown referee for her/his suggestions for improving the first version of this paper.

**2. Proof of Theorem 1.1.** Following [1, p. 178] we set

$$p = p(q) := \frac{\varphi^2(q) - \varphi^2(q^3)}{2\varphi^2(q^3)} \quad \left( \text{so that } 1 + 2p = \frac{\varphi^2(q)}{\varphi^2(q^3)} \right) \tag{2.1}$$

and

$$k = k(q) := \frac{\varphi^3(q^3)}{\varphi(q)}. \quad (2.2)$$

Ramanujan's discriminant function  $\Delta(q)$  [15] is defined by

$$\Delta(q) := q \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^{24}. \quad (2.3)$$

In [2, p. 36] each of  $\Delta(q^r)$  ( $r = 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12$ ) was expressed in terms of  $p$  and  $k$ , namely

$$\Delta(q) = \frac{1}{16} p(1-p)^{12}(1+p)^4(1+2p)^3(2+p)^3 k^{12}, \quad (2.4)$$

$$\Delta(q^2) = \frac{1}{256} p^2(1-p)^6(1+p)^2(1+2p)^6(2+p)^6 k^{12}, \quad (2.5)$$

$$\Delta(q^3) = \frac{1}{16} p^3(1-p)^4(1+p)^{12}(1+2p)(2+p) k^{12}, \quad (2.6)$$

$$\Delta(q^4) = \frac{1}{65536} p^4(1-p)^3(1+p)(1+2p)^3(2+p)^{12} k^{12}, \quad (2.7)$$

$$\Delta(q^6) = \frac{1}{256} p^6(1-p)^2(1+p)^6(1+2p)^2(2+p)^2 k^{12}, \quad (2.8)$$

$$\Delta(q^{12}) = \frac{1}{65536} p^{12}(1-p)(1+p)^3(1+2p)(2+p)^4 k^{12}. \quad (2.9)$$

From (2.3)-(2.9) we can solve for  $\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{rn})$  ( $r = 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12$ ) to obtain the following values.

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n) = q^{-1/24} 2^{-1/6} p^{1/24} (1-p)^{1/2} (1+p)^{1/6} (1+2p)^{1/8} (2+p)^{1/8} k^{1/2}. \quad (2.10)$$

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{2n}) = q^{-1/12} 2^{-1/3} p^{1/12} (1-p)^{1/4} (1+p)^{1/12} (1+2p)^{1/4} (2+p)^{1/4} k^{1/2}. \quad (2.11)$$

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{3n}) = q^{-1/8} 2^{-1/6} p^{1/8} (1-p)^{1/6} (1+p)^{1/2} (1+2p)^{1/24} (2+p)^{1/24} k^{1/2}. \quad (2.12)$$

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{4n}) = q^{-1/6} 2^{-2/3} p^{1/6} (1-p)^{1/8} (1+p)^{1/24} (1+2p)^{1/8} (2+p)^{1/24} k^{1/2}. \quad (2.13)$$

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{6n}) = q^{-1/4} 2^{-1/3} p^{1/4} (1-p)^{1/12} (1+p)^{1/4} (1+2p)^{1/12} (2+p)^{1/12} k^{1/2}. \quad (2.14)$$

$$\prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{12n}) = q^{-1/2} 2^{-2/3} p^{1/2} (1-p)^{1/24} (1+p)^{1/8} (1+2p)^{1/24} (2+p)^{1/6} k^{1/2}. \quad (2.15)$$

It is shown in [6, Prop. 2.2, p. 37] that

$$b(q) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - q^n)^3}{1 - q^{3n}} \quad (2.16)$$

and

$$c(q) = 3q^{1/3} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - q^{3n})^3}{1 - q^n}. \quad (2.17)$$

Next for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we define

$$G_3(n) = \sum_{\substack{d \in \mathbb{N} \\ d | n}} \left( \frac{-3}{n/d} \right) d^2, \quad H_3(n) = \sum_{\substack{d \in \mathbb{N} \\ d | n}} \left( \frac{-3}{d} \right) d^2, \quad (2.18)$$

where  $\left( \frac{-3}{k} \right)$  ( $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ) is the Legendre-Jacobi-Kronecker symbol for discriminant  $-3$ , that is

$$\left( \frac{-3}{k} \right) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } k \equiv 1 \pmod{3}, \\ -1, & \text{if } k \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, \\ 0, & \text{if } k \equiv 0 \pmod{3}. \end{cases} \quad (2.19)$$

In [3, Theorems 2.2 and 2.3] we used a formula of Carlitz [7, eq. (1.3), p. 168] to prove the following two formulae

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} G_3(n)q^n = q \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - q^{3n})^9}{(1 - q^n)^3} \quad (2.20)$$

and

$$1 - 9 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} H_3(n)q^n = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - q^n)^9}{(1 - q^{3n})^3}. \quad (2.21)$$

We remark that Dobbie [8] has given an elementary proof of Carlitz's formula. Thus

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} G_3(n)q^n = \frac{1}{27}c^3(q) \quad (2.22)$$

and

$$1 - 9 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} H_3(n)q^n = b^3(q). \quad (2.23)$$

From (2.10), (2.12) and (2.20), we deduce

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} G_3(n)q^n = \frac{1}{2}p(1 + p)^4k^3 \quad (2.24)$$

and from (2.10), (2.12) and (2.21)

$$1 - 9 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} H_3(n)q^n = \frac{1}{2}(1-p)^4(1+2p)(2+p)k^3. \quad (2.25)$$

From (2.23) and (2.25) we deduce

$$b(q) = 2^{-1/3}(1-p)^{4/3}(1+2p)^{1/3}(2+p)^{1/3}k \quad (2.26)$$

and from (2.22) and (2.24)

$$c(q) = 2^{-1/3}3p^{1/3}(1+p)^{4/3}k. \quad (2.27)$$

From (2.16) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} b(-q) &= \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - (-1)^n q^n)^3}{(1 - (-1)^n q^{3n})} \\ &= \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - q^{2n})^3 (1 + q^{2n-1})^3}{(1 - q^{6n})(1 + q^{6n-3})} \\ &= \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - q^{2n})^3}{(1 - q^{6n})} \frac{(1 + q^n)^3}{(1 + q^{2n})^3} \frac{(1 + q^{6n})}{(1 + q^{3n})} \\ &= \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - q^{2n})^3}{(1 - q^{6n})} \frac{(1 - q^{2n})^3}{(1 - q^n)^3} \frac{(1 - q^{2n})^3}{(1 - q^{4n})^3} \frac{(1 - q^{12n})}{(1 - q^{6n})} \frac{(1 - q^{3n})}{(1 - q^{6n})} \\ &= \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - q^{2n})^9 (1 - q^{3n})(1 - q^{12n})}{(1 - q^n)^3 (1 - q^{4n})^3 (1 - q^{6n})^3}. \end{aligned}$$

Appealing to (2.10)-(2.15), we deduce

$$b(-q) = 2^{-1/3}(1-p)^{1/3}(1+2p)^{4/3}(2+p)^{1/3}k. \quad (2.28)$$

Similarly we deduce

$$c(-q) = -2^{-1/3}3p^{1/3}(1+p)^{1/3}k, \quad (2.29)$$

$$b(q^2) = 2^{-2/3}(1-p)^{2/3}(1+2p)^{2/3}(2+p)^{2/3}k, \quad (2.30)$$

$$c(q^2) = 2^{-2/3}3p^{2/3}(1+p)^{2/3}k, \quad (2.31)$$

$$b(q^4) = 2^{-4/3}(1-p)^{1/3}(1+2p)^{1/3}(2+p)^{4/3}k, \quad (2.32)$$

$$c(q^4) = 2^{-4/3}3p^{4/3}(1+p)^{1/3}k. \quad (2.33)$$

The values in (2.26)-(2.33) are in agreement with those in [1, pp. 178-179]. (In Theorem 8 of [1]  $2^{1/3}$  should be replaced by  $2^{-1/3}$ .) From (2.28)-(2.31), (2.1) and (2.2), we have

$$\frac{1}{9}b^3(-q) + \frac{8}{9}b^3(q^2) - \frac{1}{3}c^3(-q) + \frac{8}{3}c^3(q^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{18}(1-p)(1+2p)^4(2+p)k^3 + \frac{2}{9}(1-p)^2(1+2p)^2(2+p)^2k^3 \\
&\quad + \frac{9}{2}p(1+p)k^3 + 18p^2(1+p)^2k^3 \\
&= (1+2p)^4k^3 \\
&= \left(\frac{\varphi^2(q)}{\varphi^2(q^3)}\right)^4 \left(\frac{\varphi^3(q^3)}{\varphi(q)}\right)^3 \\
&= \varphi^5(q)\varphi(q^3),
\end{aligned}$$

which is identity (i) of Theorem 1.1. Identity (iii) follows in a similar manner using the identity

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{1}{18}(1-p)(1+2p)^4(2+p) + \frac{2}{9}(1-p)^2(1+2p)^2(2+p)^2 \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2}p(1+p) + 2p^2(1+p)^2 \\
&= (1+2p)^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Finally we prove identity (ii). By (2.26), (2.32), (2.27), (2.33), (2.11), (2.14), (2.1) and (2.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{1}{9}b^3(q) + \frac{8}{9}b^3(q^4) + \frac{1}{9}c^3(q) + \frac{8}{9}c^3(q^4) + 4q \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1-q^{2n})^3(1-q^{6n})^3 \\
&= \frac{1}{18}(1-p)^4(1+2p)(2+p)k^3 + \frac{1}{18}(1-p)(1+2p)(2+p)^4k^3 \\
&\quad + \frac{3}{2}p(1+p)^4k^3 + \frac{3}{2}p^4(1+p)k^3 + p(1-p)(1+p)(1+2p)(2+p)k^3 \\
&= (1+2p)^3k^3 \\
&= \left(\frac{\varphi^2(q)}{\varphi^2(q^3)}\right)^3 \left(\frac{\varphi^3(q^3)}{\varphi(q)}\right)^3 \\
&= \varphi^3(q)\varphi^3(q^3),
\end{aligned}$$

as required. ■

**3. Proof of Theorem 1.2.** We just prove (ii) as (i) and (iii) can be proved similarly.

Recall that the integers  $k(n)$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) are defined in (1.10). By (1.8), (1.9), Theorem 1.1(ii), (2.23), (2.22) and (1.10), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} N(1, 1, 1, 3, 3, 3; n)q^n \\
&= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} N(1, 1, 1, 3, 3, 3; n)q^n \\
&= \varphi^3(q)\varphi^3(q^3)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{9}b^3(q) + \frac{8}{9}b^3(q^4) + \frac{1}{9}c^3(q) + \frac{8}{9}c^3(q^4) + 4q \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{2n})^3 (1 - q^{6n})^3 \\
&= \frac{1}{9}(1 - 9 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} H_3(n)q^n) + \frac{8}{9}(1 - 9 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} H_3(n)q^{4n}) \\
&+ 3 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} G_3(n)q^n + 24 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} G_3(n)q^{4n} + 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} k(n)q^n \\
&= 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (3G_3(n) + 24G_3(n/4) - H_3(n) - 8H_3(n/4) + 4k(n))q^n.
\end{aligned}$$

Equating coefficients of  $q^n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ), we obtain

$$N(1, 1, 1, 3, 3, 3; n) = 3G_3(n) + 24G_3(n/4) - H_3(n) - 8H_3(n/4) + 4k(n).$$

Writing  $n = 2^\alpha 3^\beta N$ , where  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\gcd(N, 6) = 1$ , it is easy to show that

$$\begin{aligned}
G_3(n) &= \frac{1}{5}(2^{2\alpha+2} + (-1)^\alpha)3^{2\beta}G_3(N), \\
H_3(n) &= \frac{1}{5}(-1)^\alpha(2^{2\alpha+2} + (-1)^\alpha)H_3(N), \\
G_3(N) &= \left(\frac{-3}{N}\right)H_3(N).
\end{aligned}$$

Set

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \text{ or } n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}, \\ 1, & \text{if } n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
&3G_3(n) + 24G_3(n/4) - H_3(n) - 8H_3(n/4) \\
&= \left(\frac{1}{5}(2^{2\alpha+2} + (-1)^\alpha)3^{2\beta+1} + \frac{1}{5}f(n)(2^{2\alpha+1} + (-1)^\alpha 8)3^{2\beta+1}\right. \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{1}{5}(-1)^\alpha(2^{2\alpha+2} + (-1)^\alpha)\left(\frac{-3}{N}\right)\right. \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{1}{5}f(n)(-1)^\alpha(2^{2\alpha+1} + (-1)^\alpha 8)\left(\frac{-3}{N}\right)\right)G_3(N) \\
&= \frac{1}{5}\left((2^{2\alpha+2} + (-1)^\alpha) + f(n)(2^{2\alpha+1} + (-1)^\alpha 8)\right) \\
&\quad \times \left(3^{2\beta+1} - (-1)^\alpha\left(\frac{-3}{N}\right)\right)G_3(N).
\end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned}
&(2^{2\alpha+2} + (-1)^\alpha) + f(n)(2^{2\alpha+1} + (-1)^\alpha 8) \\
&= \begin{cases} 5, & \text{if } \alpha = 0, \\ 15, & \text{if } \alpha = 1, \\ 3 \cdot 2^{2\alpha+1} + 9(-1)^\alpha, & \text{if } \alpha \geq 2, \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \begin{cases} 5, & \text{if } \alpha = 0, \\ 3 \cdot 2^{2\alpha+1} + 9(-1)^\alpha, & \text{if } \alpha \geq 1, \end{cases} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}(3 \cdot 2^{2\alpha+1} + 9(-1)^\alpha)(1 + (-1)^{2\alpha}) + \frac{5}{2}(1 - (-1)^{2\alpha})
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_3(N) &= \sum_{\substack{d \in \mathbb{N} \\ d | N}} \left(\frac{-3}{N/d}\right) d^2 \\
 &= N^2 \sum_{\substack{d \in \mathbb{N} \\ d | N}} \left(\frac{-3}{d}\right) \frac{1}{d^2} \\
 &= N^2 \prod_{p|N} \left(\sum_{r=0}^{\alpha_p} \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)^r p^{-2r}\right) \\
 &= N^2 \prod_{p|N} \frac{1 - \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)^{\alpha_p+1} p^{-2\alpha_p-2}}{1 - \left(\frac{-3}{p}\right) p^{-2}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Putting these results together, we obtain part (ii) of Theorem 1.2. ■

**4. Concluding remark.** We show that the identity (1.4) of Borwein, Borwein and Garvan in conjunction with (2.22) and (2.23) gives an explicit formula for

$$\begin{aligned}
 N(n) &:= \text{card}\{(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6) \in \mathbb{Z}^6 \mid \\
 &\quad n = x_1^2 + x_1x_2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + x_3x_4 + x_4^2 + x_5^2 + x_5x_6 + x_6^2\} \quad (4.1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Appealing to (4.1), (1.1), (1.4), (2.23) and (2.22), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} N(n)q^n &= a^3(q) \\
 &= b^3(q) + c^3(q) \\
 &= 1 - 9 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} H_3(n)q^n + 27 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} G_3(n)q^n \\
 &= 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (27G_3(n) - 9H_3(n))q^n.
 \end{aligned}$$

Equating coefficients of  $q^n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) we obtain

$$N(n) = 27G_3(n) - 9H_3(n), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (4.2)$$

The formula (4.2) is given in Lomadze [13, p. 12] with a reference to Petersson [14].

## References

- [1] A. Alaca, Ş. Alaca and K. S. Williams, *On the two dimensional theta functions of the Borweins*, Acta Arith. **124** (2006), 177-195.
- [2] A. Alaca, Ş. Alaca and K. S. Williams, *Evaluation of the convolution sums  $\sum_{l+12m=n} \sigma(l)\sigma(m)$  and  $\sum_{3l+4m=n} \sigma(l)\sigma(m)$* , Advances in Theoretical and Applied Mathematics **1** (2006), 27-48.
- [3] A. Alaca, Ş. Alaca and K. S. Williams, *Some infinite products of Ramanujan type*, Canad. Math. Bull. (to appear).
- [4] A. Berkovich, *Personal communication*, 11 June 2007.
- [5] B. C. Berndt, *Number Theory in the Spirit of Ramanujan*, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, Rhode Island, 2006.
- [6] J. M. Borwein, P. B. Borwein and F. G. Garvan, *Some cubic modular identities of Ramanujan*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **343** (1994), 35-47.
- [7] L. Carlitz, *Note on some partition formulae*, Quart. J. Math. (Oxford) (2) **4** (1953), 168-172.
- [8] J. M. Dobbie, *A simple proof of some partition formulae of Ramanujan's*, Quart. J. Math. (Oxford) (2) **6** (1955), 193-196.
- [9] C. G. Jacobi, *Fundamenta nova theoriae functionum ellipticarum*, 1829, in Gesammelte Werke (Erster Band), Chelsea Publishing Co., New York, 1969, pp. 49-239.
- [10] J. A. Kogan, *The representation of integers by positive definite quadratic forms*, Izdat. "Fan" Uzbek. SSR, Tashkent, 1971, 188pp.
- [11] J. Liouville, *Sur la forme  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 + u^2 + 3v^2$* , J. Math. Pures Appl. **9** (1864), 89-104.
- [12] J. Liouville, *Sur la forme  $x^2 + 3(y^2 + z^2 + t^2 + u^2 + v^2)$* , J. Math. Pures Appl. **9** (1864), 105-114.
- [13] G. A. Lomadze, *Representation of numbers by sums of the quadratic forms  $x_1^2 + x_1x_2 + x_2^2$* , Acta. Arith. **54** (1989), 9-36.
- [14] G. H. Petersson, *Modulfunktionen und quadratische Formen*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1982.
- [15] S. Ramanujan, *On certain arithmetical functions*, Trans. Cambridge Philos. Soc. **22** (1916), 159-184.