

# ON REAL VALUED ADDITIVE FUNCTIONS MODULO 1

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**Abstract.** We determine class of five completely additive real valued functions satisfying particular relations.

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Notations

Let  $\mathbb{G}$  be an additive commutative semigroup with identity element 0. Let  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{G}}$  and  $\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{G}}^*$  denote the set of  $\mathbb{G}$  valued additive and completely additive functions respectively.

In case  $\mathbb{G} = \mathbb{R}$ , then we simply write  $\mathcal{A}$  (respectively  $\mathcal{A}^*$ ) and when  $\mathbb{H} = \mathbb{C}$ , then we write  $\mathcal{M}$  (respectively  $\mathcal{M}^*$ ). The domain of  $f \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{G}}$  ( $\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{G}}^*$ ) can be extended to  $\mathbb{Z}$  by defining  $f(-1) = f(0) = 0$ . Then  $f(n) = f(|n|)$ , and  $f(nm) = f(n) + f(m)$  remain valid in  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}^* := \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$ . Similarly, for  $g \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{H}}$ , defining  $g(-1) = g(0) = 1$  and  $g(-n) = g(n)$ , we can extend  $g$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$  by  $g(n) = g(|n|)$ . Then  $g(nm) = g(n)g(m)$  holds, if  $(n, m) = 1$  and  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}^*$ .

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## 1.2. Regular behaviour of additive and multiplicative functions

P. Erdős [2] proved that if  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  be such that  $f(n+1) - f(n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $f(n)$  is a constant multiple of  $\log n$ . Since then this beautiful and simple assertion saw a plenty of generalizations.

It is natural to determine all  $g \in \mathcal{M}$  for which  $g(n+1) - g(n) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . It clearly holds if  $g(n) \rightarrow 0$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ), or if  $g(n) = n^s$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) and  $\Re s < 1$ . In 1984, celebrating P. Erdős's 70th anniversary in a conference, I. Kátai conjectured that no more solution exists. E. Wirsing proved this assertion and the proof was sent in a letter to I. Kátai. More than ten years later Y. Tang and S. Pintsung proved the same assertion. Finally, they wrote a joint paper together with E. Wirsing [11].

The result of Wirsing–Tang–Pintsung would imply that:

*If  $f \in \mathcal{A}$  and*

$$(1.1) \quad f(n+1) - f(n) \rightarrow 0 \pmod{1}$$

*then  $f(n) \equiv c \log n \pmod{1}$  holds for some  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .*

Let  $g(n) = e^{2\pi i f(n)}$ . From (1.1) we have  $g(n+1)\overline{g(n)} \rightarrow 1$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ), whence

$$|g(n+1) - g(n)|^2 = 2 - 2\operatorname{Re}(g(n+1)\overline{g(n)}) \rightarrow 0$$

and so, from  $|g(n)| = 1$  we have that  $g(n) = n^{i\tau}$ . Thus,

$$f(n) - \frac{\tau}{2\pi} \log n \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

It is not hard to show that:

*If  $f, g \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $g(n+1) - f(n) \rightarrow 0$  ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ), then either  $f(n) \rightarrow 0$  and  $g(n) \rightarrow 0$ , or  $f(n) = g(n) = n^{i\tau}$  holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

Thus, if  $f, g \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $g(n+1) - f(n) \rightarrow 0 \pmod{1}$ , then

$$g(n) \equiv f(n) \equiv \tau \log n \pmod{1}.$$

## 1.3. Conjectures of I. Kátai

In these directions the following conjectures are due to I. Kátai.

**Conjecture 1.** *If  $f_0, f_1, \dots, f_k \in \mathcal{A}^*$  and*

$$f_0(n) + f_1(n+1) + \dots + f_k(n+k) \pmod{1} \rightarrow 0,$$

*as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , then there are  $\tau_0, \dots, \tau_k \in \mathbb{R}$  such that*

$$\tau_0 + \dots + \tau_k = 0$$

*and*

$$f_0(n) \equiv \tau_0 \log n \pmod{1}, \dots, f_k(n) \equiv \tau_k \log n \pmod{1}$$

*for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

**Conjecture 2.** *Let  $f_0, f_1, \dots, f_k \in \mathcal{A}^*$  and,*

$$(1.2) \quad L_n = f_0(n) + f_1(n+1) + \dots + f_k(n+k).$$

*If  $L_n \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ), then*

$$(1.3) \quad f_0(n) \equiv f_1(n) \equiv \dots \equiv f_k(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

This conjecture is known for  $k = 2, 3$  (see [4] and [5]). In this paper we prove this conjecture and its variants for the case  $k = 4$  by assuming that the relation  $L_n \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . R. Styer [10] determined all those  $f_0, f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{A}$  so that,

$$f_0(n) + f_1(n+1) + f_2(n+2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}).$$

In [6] it was proved that for arbitrary  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ , all solutions  $f_1, f_2, f_3 \in \mathcal{A}^*$  of

$$f_1(n-a) + f_2(n) + f_3(n+b) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq a+1)$$

form a finite dimensional space. If  $f_j(q) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$ ) holds for all primes  $q \leq \max(3, a+b)$ , then  $f_j(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  ( $j = 1, 2, 3$ ) and for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $g_0, \dots, g_k$  be complex valued completely additive functions on  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  (the ring of Gaussian integers). Assume that  $g_j(0) = 0$  and  $g_j(\epsilon) = 0$  for  $\epsilon = \pm 1, \pm i$  and that  $g_j(\alpha\beta) = g_j(\alpha) + g_j(\beta)$  holds for every  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ . Let

$$S_k(\alpha) = \sum_{j=0}^k g_j(\alpha + j).$$

Assume that

$$(1.4) \quad S_k(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}[i] \quad (\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}[i]).$$

It is expected that (1.4) would imply  $g_j(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$  ( $j = 0, 1, \dots, k$ ). This has been proved in [9] for  $k = 3$  and in [7] for  $k = 5$ .

I. Kátai in [3] stated a weaker conjecture:

**Conjecture 3.** *If  $P(x) = 1 + A_1x + A_2x^2 + \dots + A_kx^k \in \mathbb{R}[x] \setminus \mathbb{Q}[x]$  and  $f \in \mathcal{A}^*$  satisfy*

$$f(n) + A_1f(n+1) + A_2f(n+2) + \dots + A_kf(n+k) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

*Then  $f(n) = 0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

This is true for  $k = 2$  and for  $k = 3$  (see [3, 4, 5]). It is clear that conjecture 2 implies conjecture 3. In [8] A. Kovács and B. M. Phong proved Conjecture 3 for  $k = 4$ .

#### 1.4. Our aim

Let  $A_0(n), A_1(n), \dots, A_k(n) \in \mathbb{Q}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We are interested to determine all those  $f_0, f_1, \dots, f_k \in \mathcal{A}^*$  for which

$$(1.5) \quad f_0(A_0(n)) + f_1(A_1(n)) + \dots + f_k(A_k(n)) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

holds.

The domain of  $f$  can be extended to  $\mathbb{Q}_+$  (the group of positive rationals) by defining  $f(\frac{n}{m}) = f(n) - f(m)$ . Let  $\mathbb{Q}_+^{k+1}$  be the  $(k+1)$ -fold direct product of  $\mathbb{Q}_+$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the subgroup of  $\mathbb{Q}_+^{k+1}$  generated by the elements  $(A_0(n), A_1(n), \dots, A_k(n))$ . Clearly, if  $(\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k) \in \mathcal{B}$ , then

$$f_0(\alpha_0) + f_1(\alpha_1) + \dots + f_k(\alpha_k) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

If  $\mathcal{B} = \mathbb{Q}_+^{k+1}$ , then  $f_0(\beta_0) + f_1(\beta_1) + \dots + f_k(\beta_k) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  holds for  $\beta_\ell = n$  and  $\beta_\nu = 1$  for all  $\nu \neq \ell$ , and so  $f_\ell(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  holds for all  $\ell = 0, \dots, k$ .

If  $\mathcal{B} \neq \mathbb{Q}_+^{k+1}$ , then it may occur that there exists such a solution of (1.5) for which  $f_j(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ ,  $j = 0, \dots, k$  does not hold identically.

Let  $c$  be a fixed constant and

$$\mathcal{D} = \{(\beta_0, \dots, \beta_k) \mid \beta_j = p \leq c, \beta_\nu = 1 \text{ if } \nu \neq j, p \in \mathcal{P}\}.$$

Let us assume that  $\mathcal{DB} = \mathbb{Q}_+^{k+1}$ . Then one has:

*If  $(f_0^{(h)}, \dots, f_k^{(h)})(h = 1, 2)$  are such solutions of (1.5) for which  $f_\nu^{(1)}(p) \equiv f_\nu^{(2)}(p) \pmod{1}$  for  $\nu = 0, 1, \dots, k$ ,  $p \leq K$ , then*

$$f_\nu^{(1)}(n) \equiv f_\nu^{(2)}(n) \pmod{1} \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}; \nu = 0, 1, \dots, k).$$

This is obvious, since for  $f_\nu(n) = f_\nu^{(1)}(n) - f_\nu^{(2)}(n)$  the relation

$$\sum_{j=0}^k f_j(\alpha_j) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

holds for every  $(\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_k) \in \mathbb{Q}_+^{k+1}$ .

Let  $\xi_n = (A_0(n), \dots, A_k(n))$  and assume that the group  $\mathcal{B} = \mathbb{Q}_+^{k+1}$ . Then, for any given  $(r_0, \dots, r_k) \in \mathbb{Q}_+^{k+1}$  there exist suitable  $n_1, \dots, n_t \in \mathbb{N}$  for which

$$(r_0, \dots, r_k) = \prod_{j=1}^t \xi_{n_j}^{\epsilon_j},$$

( $\epsilon_j \in \{-1, 1\}$ ) i.e. that,

$$r_\ell = \prod_{j=1}^t A_\ell(n_j)^{\epsilon_j} \quad (\ell = 0, 1, \dots, k).$$

Thus one has,

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the group generated by  $\xi_n$  ( $n = 1, 2, \dots$ ) and  $\mathcal{B} = \mathbb{Q}_+^{k+1}$ . Let  $\mathbb{G}$  be an Abelian group,  $\mathbb{G}_0$  be an arbitrary subgroup of  $\mathbb{G}$ . Let  $f_j \in \mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{G}}^*$ , and assume that*

$$t_n = \sum_{j=0}^k f_j(A_j(n)) \in \mathbb{G}_0 \quad (n = 1, 2, \dots).$$

*Then  $f_j(n) \in \mathbb{G}_0$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $j = 0, \dots, k$ .*

We recommend [1] for further study.

## 1.5. Statement of the results

We shall prove the following three theorems.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $f_0, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4 \in \mathcal{A}^*$ . Assume that*

$$\mathcal{A}_f(n) = f_0(n) + f_1(n+1) + f_2(n+2) + f_3(n+3) + f_4(n+4) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then*

$$f_0(n) \equiv f_1(n) \equiv f_2(n) \equiv f_3(n) \equiv f_4(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $f_0, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4 \in \mathcal{A}^*$ . Assume that*

$$\mathcal{B}_f(n) = f_0(n) + f_1(n+2) + f_2(n+3) + f_3(n+4) + f_4(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then*

$$f_0(n) \equiv f_1(n) \equiv f_2(n) \equiv f_3(n) \equiv f_4(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $f_0, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4 \in \mathcal{A}^*$ . Assume that*

$$\mathcal{C}_f(n) = f_0(n) + f_1(n+1) + f_2(n+3) + f_3(n+5) + f_4(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then*

$$f_0(n) \equiv f_1(n) \equiv f_2(n) \equiv f_3(n) \equiv f_4(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

## 2. Proof of Theorem 2

Firstly we prove a few lemmas.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2 \in \mathcal{A}^*$ . Assume that*

$$\mathcal{T}_0(n) + \mathcal{T}_1(n+1) + \mathcal{T}_2(n+2) - \mathcal{T}_2(n+4) - \mathcal{T}_1(n+5) - \mathcal{T}_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then*

$$\mathcal{T}_0(n) \equiv \mathcal{T}_1(n) \equiv \mathcal{T}_2(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

**Proof.** This is Theorem 1 in [7]. ■

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $a_0, a_1, a_2 \in \mathcal{A}^*$ . Assume that*

$$(2.1) \quad \mathcal{H}(n) = a_0(n) + a_1(n+1) + a_2(n+2) + a_1(n+3) + a_0(n+4) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If*

$$(2.2) \quad a_0(n) \equiv a_1(n) \equiv a_2(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for } n \leq 12.$$

*Then,*

$$(2.3) \quad a_0(n) \equiv a_1(n) \equiv a_2(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

**Proof.** Assume that the conditions (2.1) and (2.2) are satisfied and (2.3) is not true. Then there is a minimal positive integer  $n_0$  with  $n_0 > 12$  for which  $a_i(n_0) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ . Then  $n_0$  should be a prime  $p \geq 13$ . Let  $a_2(p) \equiv \xi \not\equiv 0$

(mod 1). Using  $\mathcal{H}(p-2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  we have that  $a_0(p+2) \equiv -\xi \pmod{1}$  and  $p+2 \in \mathcal{P}$ . Thus

$$(2.4) \quad p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}.$$

Using (2.4) and  $p \geq 13$ , we have  $2|p+3$ ,  $3|p+4$ ,  $2|p+5$ , consequently we infer from  $\mathcal{H}(p+2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  that  $a_0(p+6) \equiv -\xi \pmod{1}$  and  $p+6 \in \mathcal{P}$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}(p+6) &= a_0(p+6) + a_1(p+7) + a_2(p+8) + a_1(p+9) \\ &\quad + a_0(p+10) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \end{aligned}$$

and  $2|p+7$ ,  $2|p+9$ ,  $3|p+10$ , therefore  $a_2(p+8) \equiv -\xi \pmod{1}$  and  $p+8 \in \mathcal{P}$ . Thus we have proved that  $p, p+2, p+6, p+8 \in \mathcal{P}$ , which implies that

$$(2.5) \quad p \equiv 1 \pmod{5}.$$

Next, we prove the following assertion:

$$(2.6) \quad \text{if } p \in \mathcal{P}, q < 2p-3, \text{ then } a_1(q) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

This clearly holds if  $q < p$ . Let  $p \leq q < 2p-3$ . Then either  $3|q-2$  or  $3|q+2$ . Since

$$\mathcal{H}(q-1) = a_0(q-1) + a_1(q) + a_2(q+1) + a_1(q+2) + a_0(q+3) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

and

$$\mathcal{H}(q-3) = a_0(q-3) + a_1(q-2) + a_2(q-1) + a_1(q) + a_0(q+1) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

and  $2|q+\ell$ ,  $\frac{q+\ell}{2} < p$  if  $\ell = -3, -1, 1, 3$ . Thus

$$a_1(q) + a_1(q+2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{and} \quad a_1(q-2) + a_1(q) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

Since either  $a_1(q-2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  or  $a_1(q+2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ , consequently  $a_1(q) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ . Hence (2.6) is proved.

From

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}(2p+1) &= a_0(2p+1) + a_1(2p+2) + a_2(2p+3) + a_1(2p+4) \\ &\quad + a_0(2p+5) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}, \end{aligned}$$

observing from (2.4), (2.5) and (2.6) that  $4|2p+2$ ,  $5|2p+3$ ,  $3|2p+5$ , and that  $a_1(2p+4) \equiv a_1(p+2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ , we deduce that  $a_0(2p+1) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ . Therefore,  $\mathcal{H}(4p-2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  implies that

$$a_0(4p-2) + a_1(4p-1) + a_2(4p) + a_1(4p+1) + a_0(4p+2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

Since  $6|4p-2$ ,  $5|4p+1$  and  $a_0(2p+1) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ , therefore

$$a_2(p) + a_1(4p-1) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

Thus,

$$(2.7) \quad a_1(4p-1) \equiv -\xi \pmod{1}, \text{ and } 4p-1 \in \mathcal{P}.$$

Since  $\mathcal{H}(2p-3) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ ,  $4|2p-2$ ,  $3|2p-1$  and  $a_0(2p+1) \equiv a_1(p) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ , therefore  $a_0(2p-3) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ .

From  $\mathcal{H}(4p-6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  we deduce that

$$a_0(4p-6) + a_1(4p-5) + a_2(4p-4) + a_1(4p-3) + a_0(4p-2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

It is obvious that  $6|4p-2$  implies  $a_0(4p-2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ ,  $3|4p-5$ . Thus either  $4p-5 = 3q$ ,  $q \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $q < 2p-3$ , or  $\frac{4p-5}{5}$  is not a prime. In both cases we deduce from (2.6) that  $a_1(4p-5) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ . Thus we derive,

$$a_0(2p-3) + a_1(4p-3) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

Consequently,

$$(2.8) \quad a_1(4p-3) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

Finally, from  $\mathcal{H}(4p-4) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  we have

$$a_0(4p-4) + a_1(4p-3) + a_2(4p-2) + a_1(4p-1) + a_0(4p) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

Since  $a_0(p) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ ,  $8|4p-4$ ,  $6|4p-2$ , we get from (2.8) that  $a_1(4p-1) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ . This contradicts (2.7). ■

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $a_0, a_1, a_2 \in \mathcal{A}^*$  and*

$$\mathcal{H}(n) = a_0(n) + a_1(n+1) + a_2(n+2) + a_1(n+3) + a_0(n+4).$$

*If*

$$(2.9) \quad \mathcal{H}(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N},$$

*then (2.2) is true, i.e.*

$$a_0(n) \equiv a_1(n) \equiv a_2(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for } n \leq 12.$$

**Proof.** Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the subgroup of  $\mathbb{Q}_+^3$  generated by the sequences

$$L_n = \left( n(n+4), (n+1)(n+3), n+2 \right) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}).$$

It is easy to see ( by (2.9)) that,

$$(2.10) \quad a_0(a) + a_1(b) + a_2(c) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for all } (a, b, c) \in \mathcal{B}.$$

We use the following notations for a prime  $p$ :

$$a_p = (p, 1, 1), \quad b_p = (1, p, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad c_p = (1, 1, p).$$

We show that  $a_p, b_p$ , and  $c_p \in \mathcal{B}$  for all primes  $p \leq 11$ . This assertion along with (2.10) would imply (2.2).

Using a simple Maple program, for,

$$n \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 12, 7, 11, 14, 48, 9, 13, 16, 22, 23, 19, 15, 25, 26, 28, 31\},$$

we can give  $a_p, b_q, c_r$  for primes  $p, q \leq 31$ , and  $r \leq 17$  in terms of  $L_n$  and  $a_2, a_3, b_2, b_3, c_2, c_3$  and  $c_5$ .

Table 1

$n$	$L_n$	$a_p, b_q, c_r$
1	$(5, 2^3, 3)$	$a_5 = \frac{L_1}{b_3^3 c_3}$
2	$(2^2.3, 3.5, 2^2)$	$b_5 = \frac{L_2}{a_2^3 a_3 b_3 c_2^2},$
3	$(3.7, 2^3.3, 5)$	$a_7 = \frac{L_3}{a_3 b_3^3 b_3 c_5}$
4	$(2^5, 5.7, 2.3)$	$b_7 = \frac{L_4}{a_2^5 b_5 c_2 c_3} = \frac{L_4 a_3 b_3 c_2}{L_2 a_2^3 c_3}$
5	$(3^2.5, 2^4.3, 7)$	$c_7 = \frac{L_5}{a_2^3 a_5 b_3^4 b_3} = \frac{L_5 c_3}{L_1 a_2^3 b_2 b_3}$
8	$(2^5.3, 3^2.11, 2.5)$	$b_{11} = \frac{L_8}{a_2^5 a_3 b_3^2 c_2 c_5} = \frac{L_8}{a_2^5 a_3 b_3^2 c_2 c_5}$
12	$(2^6.3, 3.5.13, 2.7)$	$b_{13} = \frac{L_{12}}{a_2^6 a_3 b_3 b_5 c_2 c_7} = \frac{L_{12} L_{12} a_2^3 b_3 c_2 b_2}{L_2 L_5 a_2^3 c_3}$
7	$(7.11, 2^4.5, 3^2)$	$a_{11} = \frac{L_7}{a_7 b_3^4 b_5 c_3^2} = \frac{L_7 a_3^2 b_3^2 c_5 a_2^2}{L_3 b_2 L_2 c_3^2}$
11	$(3.5.11, 2^3.3.7, 13)$	$c_{13} = \frac{L_{11}}{a_3 a_5 a_{11} b_3^2 b_3 b_7} = \frac{L_{11}^2 L_3 L_{11} b_2 c_3^4 a_2}{L_1 L_4 L_7 a_3^4 b_3^4 c_5 c_2^3}$
14	$(2^2.3^2.7, 3.5.17, 2^4)$	$b_{17} = \frac{L_{14}}{a_2^3 a_3^2 a_7 b_3 b_5 c_4^2} = \frac{L_{14} b_2^3 b_3 c_5}{L_2 L_3 c_2^2}$
48	$(2^6.3.13, 3.7^2.17, 2.5^2)$	$a_{13} = \frac{L_{48}}{a_2^6 a_3 b_3 b_3^2 b_{17} c_2 c_5^2} = \frac{L_{48}^3 L_3 L_{48} c_2^2}{L_2^3 L_{14} a_3^3 b_3^2 b_3^4 c_3^2 c_5^3}$
9	$(3^2.13, 2^3.3.5, 11)$	$c_{11} = \frac{L_9}{a_2^3 a_{13} b_3^3 b_3 b_5} = \frac{L_2^4 L_9 L_{14} a_3^2 b_3^4 c_2^3 c_5^2 a_2^2}{L_3 L_2^2 L_{48} c_3^2}$
13	$(13.17, 2^5.7, 3.5)$	$a_{17} = \frac{L_{13}}{a_{13} b_3^3 b_7 c_3 c_5} = \frac{L_4 L_{13} L_{14} a_2^2 b_3^3 c_5^2 a_2^3}{L_2^2 L_3 L_{48} c_5^2 b_5^2}$
16	$(2^6.5, 17.19, 2.3^2)$	$b_{19} = \frac{L_{16}}{a_2^6 a_5 b_{17} c_2 c_3^2} = \frac{L_2^2 L_3 L_{16} c_2}{L_1 L_{14} a_2^6 c_3 b_3 c_5}$
22	$(2^2.11.13, 5^2.23, 2^3.3)$	$b_{23} = \frac{L_{22}}{a_2^3 a_{11} a_{13} b_5^2 c_3^2 c_3} = \frac{L_4^2 L_{14} L_{22} a_3^3 b_2^4 b_3^2 c_5^2}{L_4^2 L_7 L_{48} c_3}$
23	$(3^3.23, 2^4.3.13, 5^2)$	$a_{23} = \frac{L_{23}}{a_3^3 b_3^4 b_3 b_{13} c_5^2} = \frac{L_2 L_5 L_{23} a_2^4 c_3}{L_1 L_{12} a_2^3 b_5^2 b_2^2 c_2^2}$
19	$(19.23, 2^3.5.11, 3.7)$	$a_{19} = \frac{L_{19}}{a_{23} b_3^3 b_5 b_{11} c_3 c_7} = \frac{L_1^2 L_{12} L_{19} a_3^6 b_3^3 b_5^3 a_2^3 c_5^3}{L_2^2 L_5^2 L_8 L_{23} c_3^3}$
15	$(3.5.19, 2^5.3^2, 17)$	$c_{17} = \frac{L_{15}}{a_3 a_5 a_{19} b_2^5 b_3^2} = \frac{L_2^2 L_5^2 L_8 L_{15} L_{23} c_3^4}{L_1^3 L_{12} L_{19} a_2^4 a_3^4 b_2^2 b_3^2 c_5^3 c_3^3}$

$n$	$L_n$	$a_p, b_q, c_r$
25	$(5^2.29, 2^3.7.13, 3^3)$	$a_{29} = \frac{L_{25}}{a_5^2 b_3^2 b_7 b_{13} c_3^3} = \frac{L_2^2 L_5 L_{25} b_2^2 c_3 a_2^7}{L_1^3 L_4 L_{12} a_3^3 b_3^2 c_2^2}$
26	$(2^2.3.5.13, 3^3.29, 2^2.7)$	$b_{29} = \frac{L_{26}}{a_2^2 a_3 a_5 a_{13} b_3^3 c_2^2 c_7} = \frac{L_4^2 L_{14} L_{26} a_3^4 b_2^4 b_3^2 c_5^3}{L_2^3 L_3 L_5 L_{48} a_2^2 c_2^2 c_3^3}$
28	$(2^7.7, 29.31, 2.3.5)$	$b_{31} = \frac{L_{28}}{a_2^7 a_7 b_{29} c_2 c_3 c_5} = \frac{L_3^3 L_5 L_{28} L_{48} c_3}{L_4^2 L_{14} L_{26} a_2^5 a_3^3 b_2^4 b_3 c_5^3}$
31	$(5.7.31, 2^6.17, 3.11)$	$a_{31} = \frac{L_{31}}{a_5 a_7 b_2^6 b_{17} c_3 c_{11}} = \frac{L_2^5 L_3 L_{31} L_{48} c_3^2}{L_1 L_4^2 L_9 L_{14}^2 b_2^3 a_3 b_3^4 c_5^3 c_2 a_2^2}$

Now, by using the above relations for  $n = 6, 10, 18, 24, 32, 30, 54$  and  $n = 62$ , we will get the following 8 equations.

$$(2.11) \quad E_1 := \frac{L_2 L_6}{L_1 L_4} = \frac{a_3^2 b_3^3 c_2^4}{a_2 b_2^3 c_3^3} \in \mathcal{B},$$

$$(2.12) \quad E_2 := \frac{L_2 L_5 L_{10}}{L_1^2 L_3 L_8 L_{12}} = \frac{c_2^2}{a_2^2 b_2^5 b_3^2 c_3 c_5^2} \in \mathcal{B},$$

$$(2.13) \quad E_3 := \frac{L_1 L_2 L_{14} L_{18}}{L_4 L_7 L_{16}} = \frac{a_3^5 b_3^3 c_2^6 c_5}{a_2^5 b_2 c_3^4} \in \mathcal{B},$$

$$(2.14) \quad E_4 := \frac{L_1 L_4 L_7 L_{24}}{L_2^4 L_3^2 L_{11}} = \frac{a_2^2 c_3^4}{a_3^6 b_2^2 b_3^4 c_2^6 c_5^2} \in \mathcal{B},$$

$$(2.15) \quad E_5 := \frac{L_1^3 L_{12} L_{19} L_{32}}{L_2^2 L_4 L_5^2 L_8^2 L_{15} L_{23}} = \frac{c_3^3}{a_2^6 a_3^9 b_2^5 b_3^9 c_2^5 c_5^5} \in \mathcal{B},$$

$$(2.16) \quad E_6 := \frac{L_3 L_4 L_{26} L_{30}}{L_1 L_2 L_5 L_8 L_{13} L_{28}} = \frac{b_3 c_2^4}{a_2^5 a_3 b_2^9 c_3^2 c_5^2} \in \mathcal{B},$$

$$(2.17) \quad E_7 := \frac{L_1^5 L_4 L_{12} L_{14} L_{54}}{L_2^4 L_3 L_5^2 L_8 L_{16} L_{25}} = \frac{b_2 c_3}{a_2^4 a_3^4 b_3^3 c_2 c_5^2} \in \mathcal{B}$$

and

$$(2.18) \quad E_8 := \frac{L_4 L_5 L_9 L_{14}^2 L_{62}}{L_2^3 L_7 L_{12} L_{31} L_{48}} = \frac{a_3^4 b_3 c_2^7}{a_2^7 b_2^2 c_3^2 c_5^2} \in \mathcal{B}.$$

This system has solutions in  $a_2, a_3, b_2, b_3, c_2, c_3, c_5$ , which are given in terms of  $E_1, \dots, E_8$ . Thus  $a_2, a_3, b_2, b_3, c_2, c_3, c_5$  are elements of  $\mathcal{B}$ .

The solutions of the above equations (2.11)–(2.18) can be obtained now as follows: we express  $a_2$  from the expression of  $E_1$  in (2.11), similarly  $c_5$  from (2.13). After taking these expressions of  $a_2$  and  $c_5$  into equations (2.11)–(2.18), we get  $c_3, b_3, c_2$  and  $a_3$  from the expressions of  $\frac{E_2}{E_4^2}, \frac{E_6}{E_7}, \frac{E_4}{E_5}$  and  $\frac{E_4^{17}}{E_7^{11}}$ , respectively. Finally the solution  $b_2$  can be gotten from (2.14) and (2.18) in the expression of  $\frac{E_8^{15}}{E_4^{32}}$ . The solutions are:

$$\begin{aligned} a_2 &= \frac{E_1^{905} E_2^{151} E_3^{72} E_4^{109} E_5^{228}}{E_6^{528} E_7^{77} E_8^{75}}, & a_3 &= \frac{E_1^{11} E_2^2 E_5^6}{E_3^4 E_4^5 E_6^7 E_7^4} \\ b_2 &= \frac{E_1^{135} E_2^{25} E_3^{26} E_4^{38} E_5^{21}}{E_6^{77} E_8^{15}}, & b_3 &= \frac{E_3^{18} E_4^{25} E_6^{43} E_7^{23}}{E_1^{69} E_2^8 E_5^{37}}, \\ c_2 &= \frac{E_6^{266} E_7^{20} E_8^{45}}{E_1^{461} E_2^{82} E_3^{62} E_4^{92} E_5^{94}}, & c_3 &= \frac{E_6^{969} E_7^{109} E_8^{150}}{E_1^{1670} E_2^{287} E_3^{176} E_4^{263} E_5^{383}}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$c_5 = \frac{E_1^{898} E_2^{138} E_3^{21} E_4^{33} E_5^{274}}{E_6^{531} E_7^{118} E_8^{60}}.$$

Finally, it is obvious from Table 1 that

$$a_5, b_5, a_7, b_7, a_{11}, b_{11} \quad \text{and} \quad c_{11}$$

are elements of  $\mathcal{B}$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 3. ■

**Proof of Theorem 2.** Assume that  $f_0, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4 \in \mathcal{A}^*$  satisfy the condition

$$\mathcal{A}_f(n) := f_0(n) + f_1(n+1) + f_2(n+2) + f_3(n+3) + f_4(n+4) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$\mathcal{A}_f(-n-4) = f_4(n) + f_3(n+1) + f_2(n+2) + f_1(n+3) + f_0(n+4) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

Let

$$\varphi_0(n) = f_0(n) - f_4(n) \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi_1(n) = f_1(n) - f_3(n) \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Thus, we deduce from the above relations that,

$$\varphi_0(n) + \varphi_1(n+1) - \varphi_1(n+3) - \varphi_0(n+4) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

From Lemma 1, we have that  $\varphi_0(n) \equiv \varphi_1(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ , consequently  $f_0(n) \equiv f_4(n) \pmod{1}$  and  $f_1(n) \equiv f_3(n) \pmod{1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Hence

$$\mathcal{A}_f(n) \equiv f_0(n) + f_1(n+1) + f_2(n+2) + f_1(n+3) + f_0(n+4) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . The conditions of Lemma 2 and Lemma 3 are satisfied by taking  $a_j(n) = f_j(n)$  ( $j = 0, 1, 2$ ) and

$$\mathcal{H}(n) = f_0(n) + f_1(n+1) + f_2(n+2) + f_1(n+3) + f_0(n+4).$$

Thus

$$f_0(n) \equiv f_1(n) \equiv f_2(n) \equiv f_3(n) \equiv f_4(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . This completes the proof. ■

We can deduce an interesting result from Lemma 3.

**Theorem 5.** *If  $\mathcal{B}$  denotes the subgroup of  $\mathbb{Q}_+^3$  generated by the sequences*

$$L_n = \left( n(n+4), (n+1)(n+3), n+2 \right) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}),$$

*then we have*

$$\mathcal{B} = \mathbb{Q}_+^3.$$

### 3. Proof of Theorem 3

We follow similar strategy as in the case of Theorem 2 and prove a couple of lemmas before completing the proof of the theorem.

**Lemma 4.** *Let  $b_0, b_1, b_2 \in \mathcal{A}^*$ . Assume that*

$$\mathcal{S}(n) := b_0(n) + b_1(n+2) + b_2(n+3) + b_1(n+4) + b_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If*

$$b_0(n) \equiv b_1(n) \equiv b_2(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for } n \leq 10,$$

*then*

$$b_0(n) \equiv b_1(n) \equiv b_2(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

**Proof.** Let  $n_0$  be the minimal positive integer for which  $b_j(n_0) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  holds for some  $j \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ . It is clear that  $n_0$  should be a prime  $P$ ,  $P \geq 11$ .  $\mathcal{S}(P-6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  implies that  $b_0(P) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ ,

$S(P-3) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  similarly that  $b_2(P) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ . It remains to consider the case when  $b_1(P) \equiv \xi \pmod{1}$ . Then  $S(P-4) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  implies that  $b_0(P+2) \equiv -\xi \pmod{1}$ ,  $P+2$  is a prime, thus  $P \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ . From  $S(P-2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  we obtain that

$$b_0(P-2) + b_1(P) + b_2(P+1) + b_1(P+2) + b_0(P+4) \equiv 0 \pmod{1},$$

which, by  $3|P+4$ ,  $2|P+1$  implies that

$$b_1(P) + b_1(P+2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}, \text{ i.e. } b_1(P+2) \equiv -\xi \pmod{1}.$$

Finally, we infer from  $4|2P+2$ ,  $3|2P+5$ ,  $4|2P+6$ ,  $6|2P+8$  and  $S(2P+2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  that

$$b_0(2P+2) + b_1(2P+4) + b_2(2P+5) + b_1(2P+6) + b_0(2P+8) \equiv 0 \pmod{1},$$

and so

$$b_1(P+2) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

This contradicts to the fact that  $b_1(P+2) \equiv -\xi \pmod{1}$  and consequently the Lemma 4 is proved. ■

**Lemma 5.** *Let  $b_0, b_1, b_2 \in \mathcal{A}^*$ . If*

$$b_0(n) + b_1(n+2) + b_2(n+3) + b_1(n+4) + b_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1},$$

*for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then*

$$b_0(n) \equiv b_1(n) \equiv b_2(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \text{ for } n \leq 10.$$

**Proof.** The proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 3. Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be the subgroup of  $\mathbb{Q}_+^3$  generated by the sequences

$$D_n := (n(n+6), (n+2)(n+4), n+3) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}).$$

From (3.4) we obtain that,

$$b_0(a) + b_1(b) + b_2(c) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \text{ for all } (a, b, c) \in \mathcal{D}.$$

We shall use the following notations ( $p$  is prime):

$$A_p := (p, 1, 1) \in \mathcal{D}, \quad B_p := (1, p, 1) \in \mathcal{D} \quad \text{and} \quad C_p := (1, 1, p) \in \mathcal{D}.$$

We shall prove that  $A_p, B_p \in \mathcal{D}$  and  $C_p \in \mathcal{B}$  for all primes  $p \leq 7$ . This will prove Lemma 5.

First, by using a simple Maple program, we shall give  $A_p$ ,  $B_q$ ,  $C_\pi$  for primes  $p \leq 23$ ,  $q \leq 23$ ,  $\pi \leq 23$  in terms of  $L_n$  and  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$ ,  $B_2$ ,  $B_3$ ,  $C_2$ ,  $C_3$  and  $A_5$ .

$n$	$D_n$	$A_p, B_q, C_\pi$
2	$(2^4, 2^3.3, 5)$	$C_5 = \frac{D_2}{A_2^4 B_2^3 B_3}$
4	$(2^3.5, 2^4.3, 7)$	$C_7 = \frac{D_4}{A_2^3 A_5 B_2^3 B_3}$
6	$(2^3.3^2, 2^4.5, 3^2)$	$B_5 = \frac{D_6}{A_2^3 A_3^2 B_2^3 C_3^2}$
1	$(7, 3.5, 2^2)$	$A_7 = \frac{D_1}{B_3 B_5 C_2^2} = \frac{D_1 A_2^2 A_3^2 B_2^4 C_3^2}{D_6 B_3 C_2^2}$
3	$(3^3, 5.7, 2.3)$	$B_7 = \frac{D_3}{A_3^3 B_5 C_2 C_3} = \frac{D_3 A_2^3 B_2^4 C_3}{A_3 D_6 C_2}$
18	$(2^4.3^3, 2^3.5.11, 3.7)$	$B_{11} = \frac{D_{18}}{A_2^4 A_3^3 B_2^3 B_5 C_3 C_7} = \frac{D_{18} A_2^2 A_5 B_2^5 B_3 C_3}{D_4 D_6 A_3}$
5	$(5.11, 3^2.7, 2^3)$	$A_{11} = \frac{D_5}{A_5 B_2^3 B_7 C_2^2} = \frac{D_5 D_6 A_3}{D_3 A_2^3 A_5 B_2^3 B_7 C_2^2 C_3}$
7	$(7.13, 3^2.11, 2.5)$	$A_{13} = \frac{D_7}{A_7 B_2^3 B_{11} C_2 C_5} = \frac{D_4 D_6^2 D_7 C_2}{D_1 D_2 D_{18} A_2 A_3 A_5 B_2^6 B_3 C_3^3}$
8	$(2^4.7, 2^3.3.5, 11)$	$C_{11} = \frac{D_8}{A_4 A_7 B_2^3 B_3 B_5} = \frac{D_8 C_2^2}{D_1 A_2^4 B_3^3}$
9	$(3^3.5, 11.13, 2^2.3)$	$B_{13} = \frac{D_9}{A_3^3 A_5 B_{11} C_2^2 C_3} = \frac{D_4 D_6 D_9}{D_{18} A_2^2 A_3^2 A_5^2 B_2^5 B_3 C_2^2 C_3^2}$
10	$(2^5.5, 2^3.3.7, 13)$	$C_{13} = \frac{D_{10}}{A_5^2 A_5 B_2^3 B_3 B_7} = \frac{D_6 D_{10} A_3 C_2}{D_3 A_2^3 A_5 B_2^3 B_3 C_3}$
14	$(2^3.5.7, 2^5.3^2, 17)$	$C_{17} = \frac{D_{14}}{A_2^3 A_5 A_7 B_2^3 B_3^2} = \frac{D_6 D_{14} C_2^2}{D_1 A_2^6 A_3^2 A_5 B_3 B_2^9 C_3^2}$
11	$(11.17, 3.5.13, 2.7)$	$A_{17} = \frac{D_{11}}{A_{11} B_3 B_5 B_{13} C_2 C_7} = \frac{D_3 D_{11} D_{18} A_2^{11} A_3^4 A_5^2 B_2^7 B_3^3 C_2^3 C_3^5}{D_4^2 D_5 D_6^3 D_9}$
21	$(3^4.7, 5^2.23, 2^3.3)$	$B_{23} = \frac{D_{21}}{A_3^4 A_7 B_2^3 C_2^3 C_3} = \frac{D_{21} A_2^3 B_2^4 B_3 C_3}{D_1 D_6 A_3^2 C_2}$
16	$(2^5.11, 2^3.3^2.5, 19)$	$C_{19} = \frac{D_{16}}{A_5^2 A_{11} B_2^3 B_3^2 B_5} = \frac{D_3 D_{16} A_2 A_3 A_5 B_2^3 C_2^2 C_3^3}{D_5 D_6^2}$
20	$(2^3.5.13, 2^4.3.11, 23)$	$C_{23} = \frac{D_{20}}{A_2^3 A_5 A_{13} B_2^4 B_3 B_{11}} = \frac{D_1 D_2 D_{20} A_2^2 C_3^2}{D_6 D_7 A_2^4 A_5 B_2^3 B_3 C_2}$
30	$(2^3.3^3.5, 2^6.17, 3.11)$	$B_{17} = \frac{D_{30}}{A_2^3 A_3^3 A_5 B_2^5 C_3 C_{11}} = \frac{D_1 D_{30} A_2}{D_8 A_3^3 A_5 B_2^3 C_2^2 C_3}$
13	$(13.19, 3.5.17, 2^4)$	$A_{19} = \frac{D_{13}}{A_{13} B_3 B_5 B_{17} C_2^4} = \frac{D_2 D_8 D_{13} D_{18} A_2^3 A_3^6 A_5^2 B_2^{13} C_3^6}{D_4 D_6^3 D_7 D_{30} C_3^3}$
15	$(3^2.5.7, 17.19, 2.3^2)$	$B_{19} = \frac{D_{15}}{A_2^3 A_5 A_7 B_{17} C_2 C_3^2} = \frac{D_6 D_8 D_{15} B_3 C_2^3}{D_1^2 D_{30} A_2^2 A_3 B_2 C_3^3}$
17	$(17.23, 3.7.19, 2^2.5)$	$A_{23} = \frac{D_{17}}{A_{17} B_3 B_7 B_{19} C_2^2 C_5} = \frac{D_1^2 D_4^2 D_5 D_6^3 D_9 D_{17} D_{30}}{D_2 D_3^2 D_8 D_{11} D_{18} D_{15} A_2^6 A_3^4 A_5^2 B_2^{17} B_3^7 C_2^7 C_3^3}$

Table 2

Now, by using the above relations for  $n = 12, 19, 22, 24, 32, 42, 46$  and  $n = 48$ , we will get 8 equations.

For  $n = 12$ , we have  $D_{12} = A_2^3 A_3^3 B_2^5 B_7 C_3 C_5 = \frac{D_2 D_3 A_2^2 A_3^2 B_2^6 C_3^2}{D_6 C_2 B_3}$ . Consequently

$$(3.1) \quad F_1 := \frac{D_6 D_{12}}{D_2 D_3} = \frac{A_2^2 A_3^2 B_2^6 C_3^2}{B_3 C_2} \in \mathcal{D}.$$

For  $n = 19$ , we infer from  $A_{19}$ ,  $B_7$ ,  $B_{23}$ ,  $C_{11}$  and

$$D_{19} = A_5^2 A_{19} B_3 B_7 B_{23} C_2 C_{11} = \frac{D_2 D_3 D_8^2 D_{13} D_{18} D_2 A_5^2 A_3^3 A_5^4 B_2^{18} B_3^2 C_3^8}{D_1^2 D_4 D_6^5 D_7 D_{30} C_2^2}$$

that

$$(3.2) \quad F_2 := \frac{D_{19} D_1^2 D_4 D_6^5 D_7 D_{30}}{D_2 D_3 D_8^2 D_{13} D_{18} D_{21}} = \frac{A_2^5 A_3^3 A_5^4 B_2^{18} B_3^2 C_3^8}{C_2^2} \in \mathcal{D}.$$

As,

$$D_{22} = A_2^3 A_7 A_{11} B_2^4 B_3 B_{13} C_5^2 = \frac{D_1 D_2^2 D_4 D_5 D_6 D_9 A_3}{D_3 D_{18} A_2^7 A_5^3 B_2^7 B_3^5 C_3 C_2^6},$$

we have,

$$(3.3) \quad F_3 := \frac{D_3 D_{18} D_{22}}{D_1 D_2^2 D_4 D_5 D_6 D_9} = \frac{A_3}{A_2^7 A_5^3 B_2^7 B_3^5 C_2^6 C_3} \in \mathcal{D}.$$

Similarly, we get from  $B_7$  and  $B_{13}$  that

$$D_{24} = A_2^4 A_3^2 A_5 B_2^3 B_7 B_{13} C_3^3 = \frac{D_3 D_4 D_9 A_2^5 B_2^2 C_3^2}{D_{18} A_3 A_5 B_3 C_2^3}.$$

This implies that,

$$(3.4) \quad F_4 := \frac{D_{18} D_{24}}{D_3 D_4 D_9} = \frac{A_2^5 B_2^2 C_3^2}{A_3 A_5 B_3 C_2^3} \in \mathcal{D}.$$

For  $n = 32$ , we get from  $A_{19}$ ,  $B_{17}$ ,  $C_5$ ,  $C_7$  that

$$D_{32} = A_2^6 A_{19} B_2^3 B_3^2 B_{17} C_5 C_7 = \frac{D_1 D_2^2 D_{13} D_{18} A_2^3 A_3^3 B_2^6 C_3^5}{D_6^3 D_7 C_2^5},$$

which gives

$$(3.5) \quad F_5 := \frac{D_6^3 D_7 D_{32}}{D_{13} D_{18} D_2^2 D_1} = \frac{A_2^3 A_3^3 B_2^6 C_3^5}{C_2^5} \in \mathcal{D}.$$

For  $n = 42$ ,  $46$ , and  $48$ , we get the following equations:

$$(3.6) \quad F_6 := \frac{D_4 D_6^3 D_{42}}{D_2 D_{18} D_{21}} = \frac{A_2^9 A_3 A_5 B_2^{13} C_3^6}{C_2^3} \in \mathcal{D},$$

$$(3.7) \quad F_7 := \frac{D_2^2 D_{11} D_3^2 D_{15} D_8 D_{18}^2 D_{46}}{D_7 D_1 D_6^7 D_4^5 D_{17} D_5 D_9 D_{30}} = \frac{1}{A_2^{16} A_3^6 A_5^7 B_2^{34} B_3^6 C_2^6 C_3^{10}} \in \mathcal{D},$$

$$(3.8) \quad F_8 := \frac{D_1 D_{18} D_{48}}{D_4 D_6^4 D_9 D_{14}} = \frac{1}{A_2^9 A_3^4 A_5^3 B_2^{19} B_3^2 C_3^7} \in \mathcal{D}.$$

The solutions of the above equations (3.1)-(3.8) can be obtained now as follows: we express  $B_3$  from (3.1), similarly  $A_5$  from (3.4),  $A_3$  from (3.6). Therefore, we get  $C_2$  from (3.3) and (3.6),  $C_3$  from (3.3) and (3.5),  $B_2$  from (3.2) and (3.5). Finally the solution  $A_2$  can be gotten from (3.3) and (3.7). The solutions are:

$$\begin{aligned} A_2 &= \frac{F_1^{11} F_2^7 F_4^{17} F_7^{19}}{F_3^{10} F_5^{11} F_6^{25} F_8^{39}}, A_3 = \frac{F_1^{838} F_2^{503} F_4^{1174} F_7^{1178}}{F_3^{672} F_5^{673} F_6^{1679} F_8^{2357}}, A_5 = \frac{F_3^{1816} F_5^{1812} F_6^{4536} F_8^{6342}}{F_1^{2274} F_2^{1362} F_4^{3176} F_7^{3173}}, \\ B_2 &= \frac{F_3^{125} F_5^{127} F_6^{282} F_8^{452}}{F_1^{142} F_2^{83} F_4^{185} F_7^{228}}, B_3 = \frac{F_1^{1526} F_2^{919} F_3^{2158} F_7^{2090}}{F_3^{1203} F_5^{1199} F_6^{3055} F_8^{4186}}, \\ C_2 &= \frac{F_1^{181} F_2^{103} F_4^{222} F_7^{304}}{F_3^{165} F_5^{167} F_6^{351} F_8^{598}}, C_3 = \frac{F_1^{431} F_2^{250} F_4^{554} F_7^{684}}{F_3^{377} F_5^{380} F_6^{845} F_8^{1352}}. \end{aligned}$$

They are elements of  $\mathcal{D}$  and so Lemma 5 is proved. ■

**Proof of Theorem 3.** Let  $f_0, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4 \in \mathcal{A}^*$  and,

$$\mathcal{B}_f(n) = f_0(n) + f_1(n+2) + f_2(n+3) + f_3(n+4) + f_4(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$\mathcal{B}_f(-n-6) = f_4(n) + f_3(n+2) + f_2(n+3) + f_1(n+4) + f_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

Let  $\psi_0(n) := f_0(n) - f_4(n)$  and  $\psi_1(n) := f_1(n) - f_3(n)$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus, we have,

$$\psi_0(n) + \psi_1(n+2) - \psi_1(n+4) - \psi_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

From Lemma 1 we have that  $\psi_0(n) \equiv \psi_1(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ , consequently  $f_0(n) \equiv f_4(n) \pmod{1}$  and  $f_1(n) \equiv f_3(n) \pmod{1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Hence,

$$\mathcal{B}_f(n) \equiv f_0(n) + f_1(n+2) + f_2(n+3) + f_1(n+4) + f_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . The conditions of Lemma 4 and Lemma 5 are satisfied by taking  $b_j(n) = f_j(n)$  ( $j = 0, 1, 2$ ) and

$$\mathcal{S}(n) = b_0(n) + b_1(n+2) + b_2(n+3) + b_1(n+4) + b_0(n+6).$$

Thus

$$f_0(n) \equiv f_1(n) \equiv f_2(n) \equiv f_3(n) \equiv f_4(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and this completes the proof. ■

From Lemma 4 and Lemma 5 we obtain

**Theorem 6.** *If  $\mathcal{D}$  denotes the subgroup of  $\mathbb{Q}_+^3$  generated by the sequences*

$$D_n = \left( n(n+6), (n+2)(n+4), n+3 \right) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}),$$

*then we have*

$$\mathcal{D} = \mathbb{Q}_+^3.$$

#### 4. Proof of Theorem 4

**Lemma 6.** *Let  $c_0, c_1, c_2 \in \mathcal{A}^*$ . If*

$$(4.1) \quad c_0(n) + c_1(n+1) + c_2(n+3) + c_1(n+5) + c_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

*for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then*

$$(4.2) \quad c_0(n) \equiv c_1(n) \equiv c_2(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

**Proof.** In order to prove Lemma 6, we shall use the following fact:

$$(4.3) \quad \text{If (4.1) holds for all } n \in \mathbb{N}, \text{ then (4.2) holds for } n \leq 11.$$

This can be shown in the same way as we proved Lemma 3 and lemma 5. Let,

$$T(n) = c_0(n) + c_1(n+1) + c_2(n+3) + c_1(n+5) + c_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

Let  $n_0$  be the smallest positive integer  $n$  for which  $c_j(n) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  for at least one  $j$ . Then  $n_0$  is a prime  $p$  and  $p > 11$ . It is easily seen that  $T(p-5) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  and  $T(p-6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  imply that  $c_0(p) \equiv c_1(p) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ . Let  $c_2(p) \equiv \nu \not\equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ , then  $T(p-3) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  implies that  $c_1(p+2) \equiv -\nu \pmod{1}$ .

From  $T(p+1) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  we have that  $c_1(p+6) \equiv \nu \pmod{1}$  and from  $T(p+5) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$  we have  $c_2(p+8) \equiv -\nu \pmod{1}$ . As  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ , and so  $3|p+10$ ,  $2|p+11$  and  $\frac{p+11}{2} < p$ . It is obvious from  $p, p+2, p+6, p+8 \in \mathcal{P}$  that  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ . We have  $0 \equiv T(2p-3) \equiv c_0(2p-3) + c_2(p) \pmod{1}$ , thus  $c_0(2p-3) \equiv -\nu \pmod{1}$ .

Let us consider now

$$0 \equiv T(2p-6j-3) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

for  $j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ . Since  $2|2p - 6j - 2$ ,  $2|2p - 6j$ ,  $2|2p - 6j + 2$ , we have  
 $c_1(2p - 6j - 2) + c_2(2p - 6j) + c_1(2p - 6j + 2) + c_0(2p - 6j + 3) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ ,  
 and so

$$c_1(2p - 6j - 3) + c_1(2p - 6j - 3) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad (j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5).$$

Hence  $c_0(2p - 9) \equiv \nu \pmod{1}$ ,  $c_0(2p - 15) \equiv -\nu \pmod{1}$ ,  $c_0(2p - 21) \equiv -\nu \pmod{1}$ ,  $c_0(2p - 27) \equiv \nu \pmod{1}$ , which with  $5|2p - 27$  implies that  $\nu = 0$ . ■

**Proof of Theorem 4.** Let  $f_0, f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4 \in \mathcal{A}^*$  and,

$$\mathcal{C}_f(n) = f_0(n) + f_1(n+1) + f_2(n+3) + f_3(n+5) + f_4(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then

$$\mathcal{B}_f(-n-6) = f_4(n) + f_3(n+1) + f_2(n+3) + f_1(n+5) + f_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}.$$

Let

$$\kappa_0(n) = f_0(n) - f_4(n) \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa_1(n) := f_1(n) - f_3(n) \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Thus, we deduce from the above relations that

$$\kappa_0(n) + \kappa_1(n+1) - \kappa_1(n+5) - \kappa_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1} \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

From Lemma 1 we have  $\kappa_0(n) \equiv \kappa_1(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$ , and so  $f_0(n) \equiv f_4(n) \pmod{1}$  and  $f_1(n) \equiv f_3(n) \pmod{1}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Hence,

$$\mathcal{C}_f(n) \equiv f_0(n) + f_1(n+1) + f_2(n+3) + f_1(n+5) + f_0(n+6) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

is true for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Thus the conditions of Lemma 6 are satisfied by taking  $c_j(n) = f_j(n)$  ( $j = 0, 1, 2$ ) and

$$T(n) = c_0(n) + c_1(n+1) + c_2(n+3) + c_1(n+5) + c_0(n+6).$$

Thus

$$f_0(n) \equiv f_1(n) \equiv f_2(n) \equiv f_3(n) \equiv f_4(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{1}$$

holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . ■

Thus we obtain (from the last lemma),

**Theorem 7.** If  $\mathcal{T}$  denotes the subgroup of  $\mathbb{Q}_+^3$  generated by the sequences

$$T_n = \left( n(n+6), (n+1)(n+5), n+3 \right) \quad (n \in \mathbb{N}),$$

then we have

$$\mathcal{T} = \mathbb{Q}_+^3.$$

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