

## A Study of Integers Using Software Tools – II

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**Abstract.** The paper deals with a generalization of polite numbers that is of those numbers that are sums of consecutive integers.

**Keywords:** polite numbers, divisibility

### 1 Introduction

Let note for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ,  $S_{n,p} = 1^p + \dots + n^p$  and  $S_{k,n,p} = k^p + \dots + n^p = S_{n,p} - S_{k-1,p}$ ,  $k = \overline{2, n}$ .

It is well known that in order to compute the expressions:  $S_{n,p}$  we depart from the decomposition:

$$(k+1)^p = k^p + \sum_{i=1}^p C_p^i k^{p-i}, \quad k = \overline{1, n}$$

Summing for  $k = \overline{1, n}$ :

$$(n+1)^p - 1 = \sum_{k=1}^n (k+1)^p - \sum_{k=1}^n k^p = \sum_{i=1}^p C_p^i S_{n,p-i}$$

therefore:

$$S_{n,p} = \frac{(n+1)^{p+1} - 1 - \sum_{j=1}^p C_{p+1}^{j+1} S_{n,p-j}}{p+1}$$

and also:

$$S_{k,n,p} = \frac{(n+1)^{p+1} - 1 - \sum_{j=1}^p C_{p+1}^{j+1} S_{n,p-j}}{p+1} - \frac{k^{p+1} - 1 - \sum_{j=1}^p C_{p+1}^{j+1} S_{k-1,p-j}}{p+1} =$$

$$\frac{(n+1)^{p+1} - k^{p+1} - \sum_{j=1}^p C_{p+1}^{j+1} (S_{n,p-j} - S_{k-1,p-j})}{p+1} = \frac{(n+1)^{p+1} - k^{p+1} - \sum_{j=1}^p C_{p+1}^{j+1} S_{k,n,p-j}}{p+1}$$

It is easily to see that the first 10 sums are:

$$S_{n,1} = 1 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

$$S_{n,2} = 1^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

$$S_{n,3} = 1^3 + \dots + n^3 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}$$

$$S_{n,4} = 1^4 + \dots + n^4 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)(3n^2+3n-1)}{30}$$

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$$S_{n,5}=1^5 + \dots + n^5 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2(2n^2+2n-1)}{12}$$

$$S_{n,6}=1^6 + \dots + n^6 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)(3n^4+6n^3-3n+1)}{42}$$

$$S_{n,7}=1^7 + \dots + n^7 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2(3n^4+6n^3-n^2-4n+2)}{24}$$

$$S_{n,8}=1^8 + \dots + n^8 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)(5n^6+15n^5+5n^4-15n^3-n^2+9n-3)}{90}$$

$$S_{n,9}=1^9 + \dots + n^9 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2(n^2+n-1)(2n^4+4n^3-n^2-3n+3)}{20}$$

$$S_{n,10}=1^{10} + \dots + n^{10} = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)(n^2+n-1)(3n^6+9n^5+2n^4-11n^3+3n^2+10n-5)}{66}$$

We can compute these sums taking into account the symmetry after a middle term.  
We have therefore 2 cases:

**Case 1 – the sum has an odd number of terms**

Let therefore:  $SC_{s,m,p} = (m-s)^p + \dots + (m-1)^p + m^p + (m+1)^p \dots + (m+s)^p = S_{m+s,p} - S_{m-s-1,p}$ .

We have now:

$$SC_{s,m,1} = (m-s) + \dots + (m-1) + m + (m+1) \dots + (m+s) = m(2s+1)$$

$$SC_{s,m,2} = (m-s)^2 + \dots + (m-1)^2 + m^2 + (m+1)^2 \dots + (m+s)^2 = \frac{(3m^2 + s^2 + s)(2s+1)}{3}$$

$$SC_{s,m,3} = (m-s)^3 + \dots + (m-1)^3 + m^3 + (m+1)^3 \dots + (m+s)^3 = m(m^2 + s^2 + s)(2s+1)$$

$$SC_{s,m,4} = (m-s)^4 + \dots + (m-1)^4 + m^4 + (m+1)^4 \dots + (m+s)^4 = \frac{(15m^4 + 30m^2(s^2 + s) + 3s^4 + 6s^3 + 2s^2 - s)(2s+1)}{15}$$

$$SC_{s,m,5} = (m-s)^5 + \dots + (m-1)^5 + m^5 + (m+1)^5 \dots + (m+s)^5 = \frac{m(3m^4 + 10m^2(s^2 + s) + 3s^4 + 6s^3 + 2s^2 - s)(2s+1)}{3}$$

and so on.

**Case 2 – the sum has an even number of terms**

Let therefore:  $SC_{s,m,p} = (m-s+1)^p + \dots + (m-1)^p + m^p + (m+1)^p \dots + (m+s)^p = S_{m+s,p} - S_{m-s-1,p}$ .

We have now:

$$SC_{s,m,1} = (m-s+1) + \dots + (m-1) + m + (m+1) \dots + (m+s) = s(2m+1)$$

$$SC_{s,m,2} = (m-s+1)^2 + \dots + (m-1)^2 + m^2 + (m+1)^2 \dots + (m+s)^2 = \frac{s(6m^2 + 6m + 2s^2 + 1)}{3}$$

$$SC_{s,m,3} = (m-s+1)^3 + \dots + (m-1)^3 + m^3 + (m+1)^3 \dots + (m+s)^3 = s(m^2 + m + s^2)(2m+1)$$

$$SC_{s,m,4} = (m-s+1)^4 + \dots + (m-1)^4 + m^4 + (m+1)^4 \dots + (m+s)^4 = \frac{s(30m^4 + 60m^3 + 30m^2(2s^2 + 1) + 60ms^2 + 6s^4 + 10s^2 - 1)}{15}$$

$$SC_{s,m,5} = (m-s+1)^5 + \dots + (m-1)^5 + m^5 + (m+1)^5 \dots + (m+s)^5 =$$

$$\frac{s(3m^4 + 6m^3 + 2m^2(5s^2 + 1) + m(10s^2 - 1) + 3s^4)(2m+1)}{3}$$

and so on.

All over in this paper, the software presented was written in Wolfram Mathematica 9.0.

## 2 Polite numbers

A natural number  $N$  greater than 2 is called polite number if it can be written as sum of two or more consecutive natural numbers.

If  $N$  is odd it is natural that for  $N=2k+1$  we have  $N=k+(k+1)$  therefore each odd natural number is polite. Let therefore  $N=\text{even}$ ,  $N=2M$ ,  $M>2$ .

Let consider now the decomposition:  $N=2^q a$  where  $q \in \mathbf{N}^*$ ,  $a=\text{odd}$ . If the sum of integers has an odd number of terms, we have:

$$2^q a = m(2s+1) \text{ with } 1 \leq s \leq m-1$$

Because  $2s+1=\text{odd}$  we have that:  $2^q \mid m$  therefore:  $m=2^q b$ ,  $b \in \mathbf{N}^*$ . Now, from:  $2^q a = 2^q b(2s+1)$  we have:  $a=b(2s+1)$  therefore, for  $N=2^q bc$ ,  $b, c=\text{odd}$ , we have:  $m=2^q b$ ,  $2s+1=c$ .

But  $2s+1 \geq 3$  and  $2s+1 \leq 2m-1$  imply that:  $c \geq 3$  and  $c \leq 2^{q+1}b-1$ .

From  $c \leq 2^{q+1}b-1$  we have:  $c^2 \leq 2N-c$  therefore:  $3 \leq c \leq \frac{\sqrt{1+8N}-1}{2}$ ,

$$b \geq \max \left\{ 1, \frac{c+1}{2^{q+1}} \right\}$$

For example, for  $N=36$  we have:  $N=2^2 3^2$  therefore:  $3 \leq c \leq 8$ ,  $b \geq \max \left\{ 1, \frac{c+1}{8} \right\}$

from where:  $q=2$ ,  $b=3$ ,  $c=3 \Rightarrow m=12$ ,  $s=1 \Rightarrow N=36=11+12+13$ . If the sum of integers has an even number of terms, we have:

$$2^q a = s(2m+1) \text{ with } 1 \leq s \leq m$$

With the same arguments like upper, we have that for  $N=2^q bc$ ,  $b, c=\text{odd}$ , we have:  $s=2^q b$ ,  $2m+1=c$ . But  $s \geq 1$  it is obvious and  $s \leq m$  implies that:  $2^{q+1}b \leq c-1$  therefore

$$2N \leq c^2 - c \text{ that is: } c \geq \max \left\{ 3, \frac{1 + \sqrt{1+8N}}{2} \right\} \text{ and } 1 \leq b \leq \frac{c-1}{2^{q+1}}.$$

For example, for  $N=36$  we have:  $N=2^2 3^2$  therefore:  $c \geq \max \{3, 9\} = 9$  and  $1 \leq b \leq \frac{c-1}{8}$  that is:  $q=2$ ,  $c=9$ ,  $b=1 \Rightarrow m=4$ ,  $s=4$  therefore:

$N=36=1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8$ . If  $N$  is a power of 2, i.e.  $N=2^q$  we then have  $a=1$  and in each case we shall obtain  $s=0$  or  $m=0$  which will be a contradiction. After these considerations we have that no power of 2 can be expressed like a sum of consecutive natural numbers.

## 3 Almost polite numbers of order p

A natural number  $N$  greater than 2 will be called almost polite number of order  $p$  if it can be written as sum of two or more consecutive of a same power  $p$  of natural numbers. The software for determining the almost polite numbers limited to 10000 and powers less than or equal with 30 is:

```
Clear["Global*"];
limit=10000;
pmax=30;
```

```

S[0]=n;
(*The calculus of sums of powers from 1 to n*)
For[p=1,p≤pmax,p++,
  suma=0;
  For[j=1,j≤p,j++,suma=suma+Binomial[p+1,j+1]*S[p-j]];
  S[p]=Factor[((n+1)^(p+1)-1-suma)/(p+1)]
]
(*The calculus of sums of powers from k to n*)
For[p=1,p≤pmax,p++,sumpower[n_,p]=S[p]];
For[p=1,p≤pmax,p++,sumpowerkn[n_,k_,p]=Factor[Simplify[sumpower[n,p]-
sumpower[k-1,p]]]]
(*The analisis*)
For[number=2,number≤limit,number=number+1,
  For[p=2,p≤pmax,p++,
    For[n=2,n≤number^(1/p),n++,
      For[k=1,k≤n-1,k++,
        If[sumpowerkn[n,k,p]==number,
          Print[number,"=[Sum](power=",p,") from ",k," to ",n]]]]]]

```

We find (first results):

5=[Sum](power=2) from 1 to 2  
 9=[Sum](power=3) from 1 to 2  
 13=[Sum](power=2) from 2 to 3  
 14=[Sum](power=2) from 1 to 3  
 17=[Sum](power=4) from 1 to 2  
 25=[Sum](power=2) from 3 to 4  
 29=[Sum](power=2) from 2 to 4  
 30=[Sum](power=2) from 1 to 4  
 33=[Sum](power=5) from 1 to 2  
 35=[Sum](power=3) from 2 to 3  
 36=[Sum](power=3) from 1 to 3  
 41=[Sum](power=2) from 4 to 5  
 50=[Sum](power=2) from 3 to 5  
 54=[Sum](power=2) from 2 to 5  
 55=[Sum](power=2) from 1 to 5  
 61=[Sum](power=2) from 5 to 6  
 65=[Sum](power=6) from 1 to 2  
 77=[Sum](power=2) from 4 to 6  
 85=[Sum](power=2) from 6 to 7  
 86=[Sum](power=2) from 3 to 6  
 90=[Sum](power=2) from 2 to 6  
 91=[Sum](power=2) from 1 to 6  
 91=[Sum](power=3) from 3 to 4  
 97=[Sum](power=4) from 2 to 3  
 98=[Sum](power=4) from 1 to 3  
 99=[Sum](power=3) from 2 to 4  
 100=[Sum](power=3) from 1 to 4

#### 4 Almost polite numbers of order 2

Let consider now the problem of determining polite numbers of order 2. Let  $N=2^q a$  where  $q \in \mathbf{Z}$ ,  $q \geq 0$ ,  $a = \text{odd}$ . If the sum has an odd number of terms, we have:

$$2^q a = \frac{(3m^2 + s^2 + s)(2s + 1)}{3} \text{ with } 1 \leq s \leq m-1$$

The equality becomes:

$$(3m^2 + s^2 + s)(2s + 1) = 3 \cdot 2^q a$$

We have now two cases:

**Case 1:  $q \geq 1$**

Because  $2s+1=\text{odd}$  it follows that:  $2^q \mid 3m^2 + s^2 + s$ . But  $s^2 + s = s(s+1)=\text{even}$  implies that:  $2^q \mid m^2$  therefore: if  $q=\text{even}$ :  $m=2^{\frac{q}{2}} b$  and if  $q=\text{odd}$ :  $m=2^{\frac{q+1}{2}} b$ ,  $b \in \mathbf{N}^*$ .

In both cases, we can write:  $m=2^{\lfloor \frac{q+1}{2} \rfloor} b$ ,  $b \in \mathbf{N}^*$ , where  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  is the integer part. Also,  $2^q \mid 3m^2 + s^2 + s$  implies now:  $2^q \mid 3 \cdot 2^{2 \lfloor \frac{q+1}{2} \rfloor} b^2 + s^2 + s$  therefore:  $2^q \mid s(s+1)$ . Because  $(s, s+1)=1$  we have that:  $s=2^q c$  or  $s=2^q c-1$ ,  $c \in \mathbf{N}^*$ .

We have the following cases:

- $m=2^{\lfloor \frac{q+1}{2} \rfloor} b$ ,  $s=2^q c$ . Because  $s \leq m-1$  we have:  $2^q c \leq 2^{\lfloor \frac{q+1}{2} \rfloor} b - 1$ .
  - $q=\text{even}$ :  $m=2^{\frac{q}{2}} b$ ,  $s=2^q c \Rightarrow (3b^2 + 2^q c^2 + c)(2^{q+1} c + 1) = 3a$  and  $2^q c \leq 2^{\frac{q}{2}} b - 1$ .
  - $q=\text{odd}$ :  $m=2^{\frac{q+1}{2}} b$ ,  $s=2^q c \Rightarrow (6b^2 + 2^q c^2 + c)(2^{q+1} c + 1) = 3a$  and  $2^q c \leq 2^{\frac{q+1}{2}} b - 1$ .
- $m=2^{\lfloor \frac{q+1}{2} \rfloor} b$ ,  $s=2^q c-1$ . Because  $s \leq m-1$  we have:  $2^q c \leq 2^{\lfloor \frac{q+1}{2} \rfloor} b$ .
  - $q=\text{even}$ :  $m=2^{\frac{q}{2}} b$ ,  $s=2^q c-1 \Rightarrow (3b^2 + 2^q c^2 - c)(2^{q+1} c - 1) = 3a$  and  $2^q c \leq 2^{\frac{q}{2}} b$ .
  - $q=\text{odd}$ :  $m=2^{\frac{q+1}{2}} b$ ,  $s=2^q c-1 \Rightarrow (6b^2 + 2^q c^2 - c)(2^{q+1} c - 1) = 3 \cdot 2^q a$  and  $2^q c \leq 2^{\frac{q+1}{2}} b$ .

Like an example let consider  $N=140=2^2 \cdot 35$ . We have  $q=2$  therefore:

- $m=2b$ ,  $s=4c$  and  $(3b^2 + 4c^2 + c)(8c + 1) = 105 = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \Rightarrow c=13$ ,  $b \notin \mathbf{Z}$
- $m=2b$ ,  $s=4c-1$  and  $(3b^2 + 4c^2 - c)(8c - 1) = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \Rightarrow$ 
  - $c=1 \Rightarrow b=2 \Rightarrow m=4$ ,  $s=3 - N=140=1^2+2^2+3^2+4^2+5^2+6^2+7^2$ .
  - $c=2 \Rightarrow b \notin \mathbf{N}$

**Case 2:  $q=0$**

We have now:  $(3m^2 + s^2 + s)(2s + 1) = 3a$ . Because  $3a=\text{odd}$  and  $s^2+s=s(s+1)=\text{even}$  we must have  $m=\text{odd}$ .

Like an example let consider  $N=55$ . We have  $q=0$  therefore:

$$(3m^2 + s^2 + s)(2s + 1) = 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$$

- $2s+1=3 \Rightarrow s=1 \Rightarrow m \notin \mathbf{N}$
- $2s+1=5 \Rightarrow s=2 \Rightarrow m=3 \Rightarrow N=55=1^2+2^2+3^2+4^2+5^2$
- $2s+1=11 \Rightarrow s=5 \Rightarrow m \notin \mathbf{N}$
- $2s+1=15 \Rightarrow s=7 \Rightarrow m \notin \mathbf{N}$
- $2s+1=33 \Rightarrow s=16 \Rightarrow m \notin \mathbf{N}$
- $2s+1=55 \Rightarrow s=27 \Rightarrow m \notin \mathbf{N}$
- $2s+1=165 \Rightarrow s=82 \Rightarrow m \notin \mathbf{N}$

If the sum has an even number of terms, we have:

$$2^q a = \frac{s(6m^2 + 6m + 2s^2 + 1)}{3} \text{ with } 1 \leq s \leq m$$

The equality becomes:

$$s(6m^2 + 6m + 2s^2 + 1) = 3 \cdot 2^q a$$

Because  $2^q \mid s(6m^2 + 6m + 2s^2 + 1)$  and  $(6m^2 + 6m + 2s^2 + 1) = \text{odd}$  it follows that:  $s = 2^q b$ ,  $b \geq 1$ .

From  $b(6m^2 + 6m + 2^{2q+1}b^2 + 1) = 3a$  we shall find  $m$  if it exists.

For example, let  $N = 126 = 2^1 \cdot 63$  we have:  $q = 1$ ,  $a = 63$ . Therefore:  $s = 2b$  and  $b(6m^2 + 6m + 8b^2 + 1) = 3^3 \cdot 7$ . We find after all cases that:  $b = 1$ ,  $m = 5$  and finally:  $N = 126 = 4^2 + 5^2 + 6^2 + 7^2$ .

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