

## ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE RANK STATISTIC FOR STRONGLY CONCAVE COMPOSITIONS

NIAN HONG ZHOU

(Received 3 November 2018; accepted 31 December 2018; first published online 13 February 2019)

### Abstract

A strongly concave composition of  $n$  is an integer partition with strictly decreasing and then increasing parts. In this paper we give a uniform asymptotic formula for the rank statistic of a strongly concave composition introduced by Andrews *et al.* [*Modularity of the concave composition generating function*, *Algebra Number Theory* **7**(9) (2013), 2103–2139].

2010 *Mathematics subject classification*: primary 11P82; secondary 05A16, 05A17.

*Keywords and phrases*: concave composition, partitions, rank, asymptotics.

### 1. Introduction

A partition of a positive integer  $n$  is a sequence of nonincreasing positive integers whose sum equals  $n$ . Let  $p(n)$  be the number of integer partitions of  $n$ . To explain Ramanujan's famous partition congruences with modulus 5, 7 and 11, the rank and crank statistic for integer partitions was introduced and investigated by Dyson [9] and Andrews and Garvan [2, 11]. Let  $N(m, n)$  and  $M(m, n)$  be the number of partitions of  $n$  with rank  $m$  and crank  $m$ , respectively. It is well known that

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} N(m, n)q^n = \frac{1}{(q; q)_\infty} \sum_{n \geq 1} (-1)^{n-1} q^{n(3n-1)/2+|m|n} (1 - q^n)$$

and

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} M(m, n)q^n = \frac{1}{(q; q)_\infty} \sum_{n \geq 1} (-1)^{n-1} q^{n(n-1)/2+|m|n} (1 - q^n),$$

where  $(a; q)_\infty = \prod_{j \geq 0} (1 - aq^j)$  for any  $a \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $|q| < 1$ .

In [10], Dyson conjectured an asymptotic formula for the crank statistic for integer partitions:

$$M(m, n) \sim \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{6n}} \operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{\pi m}{2\sqrt{6n}}\right) p(n), \quad n \rightarrow +\infty. \quad (1.1)$$

This research was supported by the National Science Foundation of China (Grant No. 11571114).

© 2019 Australian Mathematical Publishing Association Inc.

Bringmann and Dousse [4] proved that (1.1) holds for all  $|m| \leq (\sqrt{n} \log n)/(\pi \sqrt{6})$ . In [8], Dousse and Mertens proved the same result for  $N(m, n)$ . For more results on the asymptotics of the rank and crank statistic for integer partitions, see [6, 7, 13, 14].

A concave composition  $\lambda$  of  $n$  is a nonnegative integer sequence  $\{a_r\}_{r=1}^s$  of the form

$$a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq a_{k-1} > a_k < a_{k+1} \leq \dots \leq a_{s-1} \leq a_s$$

and with sum  $n$  for some  $s \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Here  $a_k$  is called the central part of  $\lambda$ . If all the ‘ $\geq$ ’ and ‘ $\leq$ ’ are replaced by ‘ $>$ ’ and ‘ $<$ ’, respectively, we refer to a strongly concave composition. The rank of  $\lambda$  is defined as  $\text{rk}(\lambda) := s - 2k + 1$ ; it is the analogue of the rank statistic for integer partitions and measures the position of the central part.

Let  $\mathcal{V}(n)$  and  $\mathcal{V}_d(n)$  be the sets of all concave compositions and all strongly concave compositions, respectively, of the nonnegative integer  $n$ . Also, let  $V(n) = \#\mathcal{V}(n)$  and  $V_d(n) = \#\mathcal{V}_d(n)$  be the numbers of concave compositions and strongly concave compositions of  $n$ , respectively. Andrews [1] found the generating functions

$$v(q) := \sum_{n \geq 0} V(n)q^n = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{q^n}{(q^{n+1}; q)_\infty^2}$$

and

$$v_d(q) := \sum_{n \geq 0} V_d(n)q^n = \sum_{n \geq 0} (-q^{n+1}; q)_\infty^2 q^n.$$

Andrews *et al.* [3] proved that  $v(q)$  is a mixed mock modular form. More precisely, they established the following modularity properties.

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $q = e^{2\pi i \tau}$  with  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\Im(\tau) > 0$ . Define  $f(\tau) = q(q; q)_\infty^3 v(q)$  and*

$$\hat{f}(\tau) = f(\tau) - \frac{i}{2} \eta(\tau)^3 \int_{-\bar{\tau}}^{i\infty} \frac{\eta(z)^3}{(-i(z + \tau))^{1/2}} dz + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2\pi i} \eta(\tau) \int_{-\bar{\tau}}^{i\infty} \frac{\eta(z)}{(-i(z + \tau))^{3/2}} dz,$$

where the Dedekind  $\eta$ -function is given by  $\eta(\tau) = q^{1/24} (q; q)_\infty$ . Then the function  $\hat{f}$  transforms as a modular form of weight 2 for  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ .

For  $v_d(q)$ , Andrews [1] proved that

$$v_d(q) = 2(-q; q)_\infty^2 \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{-12}{n} \right) q^{(n^2-1)/24} - \sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n q^{n(n+1)/2},$$

where  $(\cdot)$  is the Kronecker symbol, that is,  $v_d(q) + \sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n q^{n(n+1)/2}$  is essentially a modular function multiplied by a false theta function. So, we may expect  $V_d(n)$  to be simpler to study than  $V(n)$ , but not to yield such precise results. For example, Andrews *et al.* [3] obtained an asymptotic formula with a polynomial error for  $V(n)$  by using the circle method of Bringmann and Mahlburg [5]. They also gave an asymptotic expansion for  $V_d(n)$  which is technically easier to establish:<sup>1</sup>

$$V_d(N) \sim 2^{-1/4} 3^{-5/4} N^{-3/4} e^{2\pi \sqrt{N}/6} \left( 1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} c_n N^{-n/2} \right) \tag{1.2}$$

for  $N \rightarrow +\infty$ , where the  $c_n \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , are computable constants.

<sup>1</sup>Note that the leading coefficient of the asymptotic expansion (1.2) is  $2^{-1/4} 3^{-5/4}$  rather than  $2 \cdot 2^{-1/4} 3^{-5/4}$  as stated in [3, Theorem 1.5].

Let  $V_d(m, n)$  be the number of strongly concave compositions of  $n$  with rank equal to  $m$ . Andrews *et al.* [3] proved that<sup>1</sup>

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{m \in \mathbb{Z}} V_d(m, n) x^m q^n = - \sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n q^{n(n+1)/2} x^{2n+1} + (-x; q)_\infty (-x^{-1}q; q)_\infty \sum_{n \geq 0} \left(\frac{-12}{n}\right) x^{(n-1)/2} q^{(n^2-1)/24}. \tag{1.3}$$

In this paper we investigate the asymptotics of  $V_d(m, n)$  as  $n$  tends to infinity with arbitrary  $m$ , motivated by the questions in [3, pages 2108–2109] for the more complex behaviour of the distribution of concave compositions.

The first result of this paper is the following proposition.

**PROPOSITION 1.2.** *Let  $p(n)$  be the number of integer partitions of a nonnegative integer  $n$  and let  $p(-\ell) = 0$  for  $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ . Then, for  $N, \ell \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,*

$$V_d\left(\ell, N + \frac{|\ell|(|\ell| + 1)}{2}\right) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{-3}{2n+1} p\left(N - \frac{2n(n+1)}{3} - n|\ell|\right). \tag{1.4}$$

In particular, for  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $0 \leq n < \frac{1}{2}|m|(|m| + 5) + 4$ ,

$$V_d(m, n) = p\left(n - \frac{|m|(|m| + 1)}{2}\right). \tag{1.5}$$

From Proposition 1.2, we derive the following uniform asymptotics for  $V_d(m, n)$  as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ .

**THEOREM 1.3.** *Uniformly for all  $\ell \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $N \rightarrow +\infty$ ,*

$$V_d\left(\ell, N + \frac{|\ell|(|\ell| + 1)}{2}\right) = p(N)F\left(\frac{\pi|\ell|}{\sqrt{6N}}\right)(1 + O(N^{-1/10})), \tag{1.6}$$

where the implied constant is absolute and

$$F(\alpha) = \frac{1 + e^{-\alpha}}{1 + e^{-\alpha} + e^{-2\alpha}}.$$

In particular, if the integer  $m$  satisfies  $m = o(N^{3/8})$ , then

$$\frac{V_d(m, N)}{V_d(N)} \sim \frac{1}{(24N)^{1/4}} \exp\left(-\frac{\pi m^2}{\sqrt{24N}}\right). \tag{1.7}$$

Finally, we give a limiting distribution for the rank statistic for strongly concave compositions. Define the real function  $\Psi_d(x)$  by

$$\Psi_d(x) = \lim_{N \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{V_d(N)} \#\left\{\lambda \in \mathcal{V}_d(N) : \frac{\text{rk}(\lambda)}{(6N/\pi^2)^{1/4}} \leq x\right\} \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

<sup>1</sup>We correct some sign errors in the statement of (1.3) in [3].

It is clear that

$$\Psi_d(x) = \lim_{N \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{V_d(N)} \sum_{\substack{m \in \mathbb{Z} \\ m \leq (6N/\pi^2)^{1/4}x}} \sum_{\substack{\lambda \in V_d(N) \\ \text{rk}(\lambda) = m}} 1 = \lim_{N \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_{\substack{m \in \mathbb{Z} \\ m \leq (6N/\pi^2)^{1/4}x}} \frac{V_d(m, N)}{V_d(N)}$$

and that  $\Psi_d(-\infty) = 0$  and  $\Psi_d(+\infty) = 1$ . Hence, by using (1.7) and the fact that  $V_d(m, N) = V_d(|m|, N)$ , it is easy to deduce the following corollary by Abel's summation formula.

**COROLLARY 1.4.** *The distribution function  $\Psi_d(x)$  is the standard normal distribution on  $\mathbb{R}$ , that is,*

$$\Psi_d(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-x^2/2} dx.$$

## 2. Proofs of the results

**2.1. The proof of Proposition 1.2.** By the Jacobi triple product formula,

$$(q; q)_\infty (-xq; q)_\infty (-x^{-1}; q)_\infty = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} q^{n(n+1)/2} x^n,$$

the basic properties of the Kronecker symbol and (1.3),

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ m \in \mathbb{Z}}} V_d(m, n) x^m q^n &= - \sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n q^{n(n+1)/2} x^{2n+1} \\ &+ \frac{1}{(q; q)_\infty} \sum_{\ell \in \mathbb{Z}} q^{\ell(\ell+1)/2} x^{-\ell} \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{-12}{2n+1} \right) x^n q^{n(n+1)/6}. \end{aligned}$$

This yields, for integer  $r \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \geq 0} V_d(-r, n) q^n &= \frac{1}{(q; q)_\infty} \sum_{\substack{\ell - n = r \\ \ell \in \mathbb{Z}, n \geq 0}} \left( \frac{-3}{2n+1} \right) \left( \frac{2}{2n+1} \right)^2 q^{(1/6)n(n+1) + (1/2)\ell(\ell+1)} \\ &= \sum_{k \geq 0} p(k) q^k \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{-3}{2n+1} \right) q^{(1/6)n(n+1) + (1/2)(n+r)(n+r+1)} \\ &= \sum_{N \geq 0} q^N \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{-3}{2n+1} \right) p\left(N - \frac{2n(n+1)}{3} - rn - \frac{r(r+1)}{2}\right), \end{aligned}$$

which means that

$$V_d\left(-\ell, N + \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{2}\right) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{-3}{2n+1} \right) p\left(N - \frac{2n(n+1)}{3} - n\ell\right)$$

for all integers  $\ell \geq 0$ . Since  $V_d(-m, n) = V_d(m, n)$ , we have proved (1.4) in Proposition 1.2. Further, if  $2\ell + 4 > N$ , then

$$V_d\left(\ell, N + \frac{|\ell|(|\ell|+1)}{2}\right) = p(N),$$

which gives (1.5) in Proposition 1.2.

**2.2. Asymptotic results for  $p(n)$ .** We need the following asymptotic result for  $p(n)$  proved by Hardy and Ramanujan in [12].

**LEMMA 2.1.** For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ ,

$$p(n) - \hat{p}(n - 1/24) = O(n^{-1} e^{B\sqrt{n}/2}),$$

where  $B = 2\pi/\sqrt{6}$  and

$$\hat{p}(x) = \frac{e^{B\sqrt{x}}}{4\sqrt{3}x} \left(1 - \frac{1}{B\sqrt{x}}\right).$$

(These definitions for  $B$  and  $\hat{p}(x)$  are used throughout this section.)

We also need the following approximation for  $p(X + r)$  with  $r = o(X^{3/4})$ .

**LEMMA 2.2.** For  $r = o(X^{3/4})$  and  $X$  sufficiently large,

$$\frac{p(X + r)}{p(X)} = e^{Br/2\sqrt{X}} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{1}{X} + \frac{|r|}{X} + \frac{|r|^2}{X^{3/2}}\right)\right).$$

**PROOF.** From Lemma 2.1, it is clear that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\hat{p}(X + r)}{\hat{p}(X)} &= e^{B(\sqrt{X+r} - \sqrt{X})} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{|r|}{X}\right)\right) \\ &= e^{Br/2\sqrt{X} + O(r^2/X^{3/2})} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{|r|}{X}\right)\right) \\ &= e^{Br/2\sqrt{X}} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{|r|}{X} + \frac{|r|^2}{X^{3/2}}\right)\right) \end{aligned}$$

by the generalised binomial theorem. Since

$$\frac{p(N)}{\hat{p}(N)} = 1 + O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right)$$

for all  $N \geq 1$ ,

$$\frac{p(X + r)}{p(X)} = e^{Br/2\sqrt{X}} \left(1 + O\left(\frac{1}{X} + \frac{|r|}{X} + \frac{|r|^2}{X^{3/2}}\right)\right),$$

which completes the proof of the lemma. □

**2.3. The proof of Theorem 1.3.**

2.3.1. Case  $|\ell| > \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2$ . Define

$$F(\ell, N) := V_d\left(\ell, N + \frac{|\ell|(|\ell| + 1)}{2}\right). \tag{2.1}$$

For  $N/2 \geq |\ell| > \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2$ , from Proposition 1.2 and Lemma 2.2,

$$\begin{aligned} F(\ell, N) &= \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ 2n(n+1)/3+n|\ell| \leq N}} \left(\frac{-3}{2n+1}\right) p\left(N - \frac{2n(n+1)}{3} - n|\ell|\right) \\ &= p(N) + O\left(\sum_{\substack{n \geq 2 \\ 2n(n+1)/3+n\ell \leq N}} p(N - n|\ell|\right) \\ &= p(N) + O(\sqrt{N}p(N - 2|\ell|)) = p(N) + O(\sqrt{N}p(N - \lfloor \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2 \rfloor)) \\ &= p(N)\left(1 + O\left(\sqrt{N} \exp\left(-\frac{B\lfloor \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2 \rfloor}{2\sqrt{N}}\right)\right)\right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  is the greatest integer function. Hence, for  $N/2 \geq |\ell| > \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2$ ,

$$F(\ell, N) = p(N)(1 + O(N^{-\sqrt{\log N}})). \tag{2.2}$$

2.3.2. Case  $|\ell| \leq \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2$ . Since

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

for  $0 \leq \ell \leq \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} F(\ell, N) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \left(\frac{-3}{2n+1}\right) p\left(N - \frac{2n(n+1)}{3} - n\ell\right) \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} [p(N - Q_1(n, \ell)) - p(N - Q_2(n, \ell))], \end{aligned}$$

where

$$Q_1(n, \ell) = 2n(3n + 1) + 3n\ell \quad \text{and} \quad Q_2(n, \ell) = Q_1(n, \ell) + (8n + 4 + 2\ell).$$

We split the sum into two parts:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{F(\ell, N)}{p(N)} &= \frac{1}{p(N)} \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ n^2+n\ell > \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2}} [p(N - Q_1(n, \ell)) - p(N - Q_2(n, \ell))] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{p(N)} \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ n^2+n\ell \leq \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2}} [p(N - Q_1(n, \ell)) - p(N - Q_2(n, \ell))] =: R + I. \end{aligned}$$

Noting that  $Q_2(n, \ell) \geq Q_1(n, \ell) \geq n^2 + n\ell$  for all  $n \geq 0$ , we can estimate  $R$  by

$$\begin{aligned} |R| &\leq \frac{2}{p(N)} \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ n^2+n\ell > \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2}} p(N - Q_1(n, \ell)) \\ &\leq \frac{2}{p(N)} \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ n^2+n\ell > \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2}} p(N - (n^2 + n\ell)) \leq 2\sqrt{N} \frac{p(N - \lfloor \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2 \rfloor)}{p(N)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, from Lemma 2.2,

$$R \ll \sqrt{N}e^{-B\lfloor \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2 \rfloor / 2 \sqrt{N}} \ll N^{-\sqrt{\log N}}.$$

To estimate  $I$ , we note that

$$0 \leq Q_1(n, \ell) \leq Q_2(n, \ell) \leq 16(n^2 + n\ell) + 2\ell + 4 = O(\sqrt{N}(\log N)^2)$$

for  $n \geq 0$  and  $n^2 + n\ell \leq \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2$ . By Lemma 2.2,

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (e^{-BQ_1(n, \ell)/2 \sqrt{N}} - e^{-BQ_2(n, \ell)/2 \sqrt{N}}) \\ &\quad - \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ n^2 + n\ell > \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2}} (e^{-BQ_1(n, \ell)/2 \sqrt{N}} - e^{-BQ_2(n, \ell)/2 \sqrt{N}}) \\ &\quad + O\left(\sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ n^2 + n\ell \leq \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2}} e^{-BQ_i(n, \ell)/2 \sqrt{N}} \left(\frac{1}{N} + \frac{Q_i(n, \ell)}{N} + \frac{Q_i(n, \ell)^2}{N^{3/2}}\right)\right) = I_M + I_R \end{aligned}$$

with

$$I_M = \sum_{n \geq 0} (e^{-BQ_1(n, \ell)/2 \sqrt{N}} - e^{-BQ_2(n, \ell)/2 \sqrt{N}})$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} I_R &\ll \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ n^2 + n\ell > \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2}} e^{-B(n^2 + n\ell)/\sqrt{N}} + \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ n^2 + n\ell \leq \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2}} \frac{(\log N)^4}{N^{1/2}} e^{-B(n^2 + n\ell)/2 \sqrt{N}} \\ &\ll N^{-\sqrt{\log N}} + N^{-1/2}(\log N)^4 \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ n^2 + n\ell \leq \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2}} 1 \ll N^{-1/4}(\log N)^5. \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that

$$F(\ell, N)/p(N) = I_M + O(N^{-1/5}) \tag{2.3}$$

for  $0 \leq \ell \leq \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2$ . To estimate  $I_M$ , we need the following lemma.

**LEMMA 2.3.** *Let  $0 \leq \ell = o(\alpha^{-1})$ . Then, as  $\alpha \rightarrow 0^+$ ,*

$$f(\alpha) := \alpha \sum_{n \geq 0} (4n + \ell)e^{-2\alpha n^2 - \alpha n \ell} = 1 + O(\sqrt{\alpha} + |\alpha \ell|).$$

**PROOF.** By Abel’s summation formula, or integration by parts for a Riemann–Stieltjes integral,

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(\alpha) &= 4\alpha \sum_{n \geq 0} (n + \ell/4) e^{-2\alpha(n+\ell/4)^2 + \alpha \ell^2/8} \\
 &= 4\alpha e^{\alpha \ell^2/8} \int_{0-}^{\infty} e^{-2\alpha(x+\ell/4)^2} d\left(\sum_{0 \leq n \leq x} (n + \ell/4)\right) \\
 &= 4\alpha e^{\alpha \ell^2/8} \left( \int_0^{\infty} e^{-2\alpha(x+\ell/4)^2} d\left(\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x\ell}{4}\right) + O\left(\alpha \int_0^{\infty} (x + \ell/4)^2 e^{-2\alpha(x+\ell/4)^2} dx\right) \right) \\
 &= 4\alpha e^{\alpha \ell^2/8} \left( \int_{\ell/4}^{\infty} x e^{-2\alpha x^2} dx + O\left(\alpha \int_{\ell/4}^{\infty} x^2 e^{-2\alpha x^2} dx\right) \right) \\
 &= e^{\alpha \ell^2/8} \int_{\alpha \ell^2/8}^{\infty} e^{-x} dx + O\left(\sqrt{\alpha} e^{\alpha \ell^2/8} \int_{\alpha \ell^2/8}^{\infty} x^{1/2} e^{-x} dx\right) = 1 + O(\sqrt{\alpha} + |\alpha \ell|),
 \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of the lemma. □

We now evaluate  $I_M$ . By the definitions of  $F(\alpha)$  and  $I_M$ , for  $\ell \geq N^{3/8}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_M &= \sum_{0 \leq n \leq N^{1/5}} (e^{-BQ_1(n,\ell)/2\sqrt{N}} - e^{-BQ_2(n,\ell)/2\sqrt{N}}) + O(N^{-\sqrt{\log N}}) \\
 &= \sum_{0 \leq n \leq N^{1/5}} e^{-B(3n+1)n/\sqrt{N}} (1 - e^{-B(\ell+4n)/\sqrt{N}}) e^{-3Bn\ell/2\sqrt{N}} + O(N^{-\sqrt{\log N}}) \\
 &= (1 + O(N^{-1/10})) \sum_{0 \leq n \leq N^{1/5}} (1 - e^{-B(\ell+4n)/\sqrt{N}}) e^{-3Bn\ell/2\sqrt{N}} + O(N^{-\sqrt{\log N}}) \\
 &= (1 + O(N^{-1/10})) \frac{1 - e^{-B\ell/\sqrt{N}}}{1 - e^{-3B\ell/2\sqrt{N}}} = (1 + O(N^{-1/10})) F\left(\frac{B\ell}{2\sqrt{N}}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

and, for  $0 \leq \ell \leq N^{3/8}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_M &= \sum_{0 \leq n \leq N^{2/5}} (e^{-Bn/\sqrt{N}} - e^{-B(5n+\ell)/\sqrt{N}}) e^{-B(6n^2+3n\ell)/2\sqrt{N}} + O(N^{-\sqrt{\log N}}) \\
 &= (1 + O(N^{-1/10})) \sum_{0 \leq n \leq N^{2/5}} \frac{B(4n + \ell)}{\sqrt{N}} e^{-B(6n^2+3n\ell)/2\sqrt{N}} + O(N^{-\sqrt{\log N}}) \\
 &= (1 + O(N^{-1/10})) \frac{B}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{n \geq 0} (4n + \ell) e^{-B(6n^2+3n\ell)/2\sqrt{N}} + O(N^{-\sqrt{\log N}}) \\
 &= \frac{2}{3} (1 + O(N^{-1/10})) (1 + O(N^{-1/4} + \ell N^{-1/2})) = (1 + O(N^{-1/10})) F\left(\frac{B\ell}{2\sqrt{N}}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

by the use of Lemma 2.3. Thus, for  $0 \leq \ell \leq \sqrt{N}(\log N)^2$ ,

$$F(\ell, N) = p(N) F\left(\frac{\pi \ell}{\sqrt{6N}}\right) (1 + O(N^{-1/10})) \tag{2.4}$$

from (2.3) and the definition  $B = 2\pi/\sqrt{6}$ .

Finally, by using (2.1), (2.2), (2.4) and the fact that  $V_d(m, n) = V_d(|m|, n)$ , we finish the proof of (1.6). By using (1.2), (1.6) and Lemma 2.1, we obtain the proof of (1.7), which completes the proof of Theorem 1.3.



### Acknowledgement

The author would like to thank the referee for very helpful and detailed comments and suggestions which prompted Corollary 1.4 and greatly improved the paper.

### References

- [1] G. E. Andrews, ‘Concave and convex compositions’, *Ramanujan J.* **31**(1–2) (2013), 67–82.
- [2] G. E. Andrews and F. G. Garvan, ‘Dyson’s crank of a partition’, *Bull. Amer. Math. Soc. (N.S.)* **18**(2) (1988), 167–171.
- [3] G. E. Andrews, R. C. Rhoades and S. P. Zwegers, ‘Modularity of the concave composition generating function’, *Algebra Number Theory* **7**(9) (2013), 2103–2139.
- [4] K. Bringmann and J. Dousse, ‘On Dyson’s crank conjecture and the uniform asymptotic behavior of certain inverse theta functions’, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* **368**(5) (2016), 3141–3155.
- [5] K. Bringmann and K. Mahlburg, ‘An extension of the Hardy–Ramanujan circle method and applications to partitions without sequences’, *Amer. J. Math.* **133**(4) (2011), 1151–1178.
- [6] K. Bringmann and J. Manschot, ‘Asymptotic formulas for coefficients of inverse theta functions’, *Commun. Number Theory Phys.* **7**(3) (2013), 497–513.
- [7] K. Byungchan, K. Eunmi and S. Jeehyeon, ‘Asymptotics for  $q$ -expansions involving partial theta functions’, *Discrete Math.* **338**(2) (2015), 180–189.
- [8] J. Dousse and M. H. Mertens, ‘Asymptotic formulae for partition ranks’, *Acta Arith.* **168**(1) (2015), 83–100.
- [9] F. J. Dyson, ‘Some guesses in the theory of partitions’, *Eureka* **8** (1944), 10–15.
- [10] F. J. Dyson, ‘Mappings and symmetries of partitions’, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A* **51**(2) (1989), 169–180.
- [11] F. G. Garvan, ‘New combinatorial interpretations of Ramanujan’s partition congruences mod 5, 7 and 11’, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* **305**(1) (1988), 47–77.
- [12] G. H. Hardy and S. Ramanujan, ‘Asymptotic formulae in combinatory analysis’, *Proc. Lond. Math. Soc. (2)* **17** (1918), 75–115.
- [13] R. Mao, ‘Asymptotic inequalities for  $k$ -ranks and their cumulation functions’, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **409**(2) (2014), 729–741.
- [14] D. Parry and R. C. Rhoades, ‘On Dyson’s crank distribution conjecture and its generalizations’, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.* **145**(1) (2017), 101–108.

**NIAN HONG ZHOU**, School of Mathematical Sciences,  
East China Normal University, Shanghai 200241, PR China  
e-mail: [nianhongzhou@outlook.com](mailto:nianhongzhou@outlook.com)