MATEMATIKA, 2016, Volume 32, Number 1, 31–42 ©UTM Centre for Industrial and Applied Mathematics

# Supercobalancing numbers

<sup>1</sup>Ravi Kumar Davala and <sup>2</sup>G. K. Panda National Institute of Technology, Rourkela, India e-mail: <sup>1</sup>davalaravikumar@gmail.com, <sup>2</sup>gkpandanit@rediffmail.com

**Abstract** A natural number n is called cobalancing number (with cobalancer r) if it satisfies the Diophantine equation  $1+2+\cdots+n = (n+1)+(n+2)+\cdots+(n+r)$ . However, if for some pair of natural numbers  $(n, r), 1+2+\cdots+n > (n+1)+(n+2)+\cdots+(n+r)$  and equality is achieved after adding a natural number D to the right hand side then we call n a D-supercobalancing number with D-supercobalancer number r. In this paper, such numbers are studied for certain values of D.

**Keywords** Balancing numbers, Lucas-balancing numbers, cobalancing numbers, Pell numbers, associated Pell numbers

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification 11B39, 11B83

### 1 Introduction

A natural number n is called a balancing number with balancer r [1] if

$$1 + 2 + \dots + (n - 1) = (n + 1) + (n + 2) + \dots + (n + r).$$

The  $k^{th}$  balancing number is denoted by  $B_k$  and  $C_k = \sqrt{8B_k^2 + 1}$  is called the  $k^{th}$  Lucasbalancing number [2]. The balancing and Lucas-balancing numbers satisfy the recurrence relations  $B_1 = 1, B_2 = 6, B_{n+1} = 6B_n - B_{n-1}$  and  $C_1 = 3, C_2 = 17, C_{n+1} = 6C_n - C_{n-1}, n \ge$ 2. On other hand, n is called a cobalancing number with cobalancer r [3] if

$$1 + 2 + \dots + n = (n + 1) + (n + 2) + \dots + (n + r).$$

The  $n^{th}$  cobalancing number is denoted by  $b_n$  and cobalancing numbers satisfy the nonhomogeneous recurrence  $b_1 = 0, b_2 = 2, b_{n+1} = 6b_n - b_{n-1} + 2$ . The Binet forms of  $B_n, C_n$  and  $b_n$  are respectively

$$B_n = \frac{\alpha^{2n} - \beta^{2n}}{4\sqrt{2}}, \ C_n = \frac{\alpha^{2n} + \beta^{2n}}{2}, \ b_n = \frac{\alpha^{2n-1} - \beta^{2n-1}}{4\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{2}$$

where  $\alpha = 1 + \sqrt{2}$  and  $\beta = 1 - \sqrt{2}$ . The  $k^{th}$  Pell and associated Pell numbers are denoted by  $P_k$  and  $Q_k$  respectively and are defined by means of the recurrence relations  $P_1 = 1, P_2 = 2, P_{n+1} = 2P_n + P_{n-1}$  and  $Q_1 = 1, Q_2 = 3, Q_{n+1} = 2Q_n + Q_{n-1}, n \ge 2$ . The Binet forms of  $P_n, Q_n$  are

$$P_n = \frac{\alpha^n - \beta^n}{2\sqrt{2}}, \ Q_n = \frac{\alpha^n + \beta^n}{2}$$

The following identities will be useful during the proof of some results in the later sections. To prove the following identities, the readers are advised to refer to [4, 5].

- (i)  $B_{n\pm 1} = 3B_n \pm C_n$
- (ii)  $C_n 1 = 2B_n + 2b_n$
- (iii)  $b_{n+1} b_n = 2B_n$
- (iv)  $C_n = Q_{2n}$
- (v)  $2P_{2n}^2 + 1 = Q_{2n}^2$ .

**Definition 1** For a fixed positive integer D, we call a positive integer n, a D-supercobalancing number if

$$1 + 2 + \dots + n = (n+1) + (n+2) + \dots + (n+r) + D \tag{1}$$

for some natural number r, which we call the *D*-supercobalancer corresponding to n. If D is a negative integer, say D = -R, we call n a *R*-subcobalancing number and r, a *R*-subcobalancer corresponding to n.

Since, without D, the right hand side of (1) is less than the left hand side, we prefer the name supercobalancing number for n. A similar justification applies when D is negative. Observe that when D = 0, the above definition coincides with that of cobalancing numbers and hence, we prefer to exclude the case D = 0 from the above definition.

Simplifying the equation (1), we get

$$n(n+1) = \frac{(n+r)(n+r+1)}{2} + D \tag{2}$$

solving the above equation for r, we get

$$r = \frac{1}{2} \left[ -(1+2n) + \sqrt{8n^2 + 8n - 8D + 1} \right].$$
(3)

Observe that the value of n will generally depend on the choice of D and the existence of n is not ascertained for each value of D, e.g., if D = 4,  $8n^2 + 8n - 8D + 1 = 8n^2 + 8n - 31$ is not a perfect square for any natural number n. Hence, the choice of D plays a crucial role in the definition of supercobalancing numbers. The definition of balancing numbers ensures a solution to the Diophantine equation (1) when D is restricted to balancing number. It is clear from (3) that when D is a balancing number, then  $8n^2 + 8n - 8D + 1$  is a perfect square at least for D = n. This motivates us to study D-supercobalancing numbers corresponding to  $D = B_n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, \cdots$ .

## 2 $B_k$ -Supercobalancing numbers

#### 2.1 Computation of B<sub>1</sub>-Supercobalancing numbers

By Definition 1, a natural number n is a  $B_1$ -supercobalancing number if

$$1 + 2 + \dots + n = (n+1) + (n+2) + \dots + (n+r) + 1$$
(4)

for some natural number r, which is the  $B_1$ -supercobalancer corresponding to n. Solving the above equation for r, we get

$$r = \frac{1}{2} [-(1+2n) + \sqrt{8n^2 + 8n - 7}]$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} [-(1+2n) + \sqrt{2(2n+1)^2 - 9}].$$

**Example 1** The following examples suggests that 1, 7, 43 and 253 are  $B_1$ -supercobalancing numbers with 0, 3, 18 and 105 as corresponding  $B_1$ -supercobalancers.

(i) 
$$1 = 1$$

- (ii)  $1 + 2 + \dots + 7 = 8 + 9 + 10 + 1$
- (iii)  $1 + 2 + \dots + 43 = 44 + 45 + \dots + 61 + 1$
- (iv)  $1 + 2 + \dots + 253 = 254 + 255 + \dots + 358 + 1$

In [5], Behera and Panda accepted 1 as a balancing number with balancer 0. In the same way, we accept 1 as a  $B_1$ -supercobalancing number with  $B_1$ -supercobalancer 0.

A natural number is said to be pronic number if it is of the form x(x + 1). Note that, l is a pronic number if and only if 4l + 1 is perfect square. A natural number is said to be triangular number if it is of the form  $\frac{y(y+1)}{2}$ . Note that m is a triangular number if and only if 8m + 1 is perfect square. We use the above properties of pronic and triangular numbers to explore all  $B_1$ -supercobalancing numbers.

**Theorem 1** For  $m \ge 0$ ,  $9B_m B_{m+1} + 2 = (3b_{m+1} + 1)(3b_{m+1} + 2)$ .

**Proof** Since

$$4[9B_m B_{m+1} + 2] + 1 = 36B_m B_{m+1} + 9$$
  
=  $36B_m (3B_m + C_m) + 9$   
=  $108B_m^2 + 36B_m C_m + 9$   
=  $36B_m^2 + 36B_m C_m + 9(8B_m^2 + 1)$   
=  $36B_m^2 + 36B_m C_m + 9C_m^2$   
=  $(6B_m + 3C_m)^2$ .

 $9B_mB_{m+1} + 2$  is a pronic number. Moreover,

$$9B_m B_{m+1} + 2 = \frac{(6B_m + 3C_m)^2 - 1}{4}$$
$$= \left(\frac{6B_m + 3C_m - 1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{6B_m + 3C_m - 1}{2} + 1\right)$$

Since,  $C_n = 2B_n + 2b_n + 1$  and  $b_{n+1} - b_n = 2B_n$  substituting in the above equation, we get

$$9B_m B_{m+1} + 2 = (3b_{m+1} + 1)(3b_{m+1} + 2).$$

**Theorem 2** For  $m \ge 0$ ,  $9B_m B_{m+1} + 1 = \frac{1}{2}(3B_m + 3b_{m+1} + 1)(3B_m + 3b_{m+1} + 2)$ .

**Proof** Since

$$8[9B_m B_{m+1} + 1] + 1 = 72B_m B_{m+1} + 9$$
  
=  $72B_m (3B_m + C_m) + 9$   
=  $216B_m^2 + 72B_m C_m + 9$   
=  $144B_m^2 + 72B_m C_m + 9(8B_m^2 + 1)$   
=  $144B_m^2 + 72B_m C_m + 9C_m^2$   
=  $(12B_m + 3C_m)^2$ ,

 $9B_mB_{m+1} + 1$  is a triangular number. Moreover,

$$9B_m B_{m+1} + 1 = \frac{(12B_m + 3C_m)^2 - 1}{8} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{12B_m + 3C_m - 1}{2}\right) \left(\frac{12B_m + 3C_m - 1}{2} + 1\right).$$

Since,  $C_n = 2B_n + 2b_n + 1$  and  $b_{n+1} - b_n = 2B_n$ , we have

$$9B_m B_{m+1} + 1 = \frac{1}{2}(3B_m + 3b_{m+1} + 1)(3B_m + 3b_{m+1} + 2).$$

It follows from Theorems 1 and 2 that for each natural number m,  $9B_mB_{m+1} + 1$  is a triangular number while  $9B_mB_{m+1} + 2$  is a pronic number. Hence we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 3** For each  $m \ge 0$ ,  $(x, y) = (3b_{m+1} + 1, 3B_m + 3b_{m+1} + 1)$  satisfies the Diophantine equation  $x(x + 1) = \frac{y(y+1)}{2} + 1$ .

Indeed,  $\{3b_{m+1} + 1, 3B_m + 3b_{m+1} + 1 : m \ge 0\}$  is the complete solution set of the Diophantine equation  $x(x+1) = \frac{y(y+1)}{2} + 1$ . The interested readers can verify this claim by writting  $x(x+1) = \frac{y(y+1)}{2} + 1$  as  $y^2 - 2(2x+1)^2 = -9$  and solving the later as a generalized Pell's equation.

In view of Theorem 3 and equations (2) and (4), one can conclude that for  $m \ge 0$ , the numbers of the form  $3b_{m+1}+1$  and  $3B_m$  are  $B_1$ -supercobalancing numbers and corresponding  $B_1$ -supercobalancers respectively.

#### 2.2 Computation of B<sub>2</sub>-supercobalancing numbers

By Definition 1, a natural number n is a  $B_2$ -supercobalancing number if

$$1 + 2 + \dots + n = (n+1) + (n+2) + \dots + (n+r) + 6$$
(5)

for some natural number r, which is a  $B_2$ -supercobalancer corresponding to n.

**Example 2** The following examples suggests that 3, 6 and 8 are  $B_2$ -supercobalancing numbers with 0, 2 and 3 as corresponding  $B_2$ -supercobalancers.

(i) 1+2+3=6

(ii) 
$$1 + 2 + \dots + 6 = 7 + 8 + 6$$

(iii)  $1 + 2 + \dots + 8 = 9 + 10 + 11 + 6$ 

It follows from equations (3) and (5) that if n is a  $B_2$ -supercobalancing number then the corresponding  $B_2$ -supercobalancer is

$$r = \frac{-(2n+1) + \sqrt{8n^2 + 8n - 47}}{2}$$

We thus conclude that, if n is a  $B_2$ -supercobalancing number then  $2x^2 - 49$  is a perfect square, where x = 2n + 1. One can easily check that there are three classes of solutions corresponding to the positive values of x satisfying the equation  $2x^2 - 49 = y^2$ . One class of solution corresponds to the case  $x \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$  and then, of course,  $y \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$  and the equation  $2x^2 - 49 = y^2$  can be written as

$$\left(\frac{y}{7}\right)^2 - 2\left(\frac{x}{7}\right)^2 = -1$$

which is a Pell's equation. It's solutions are given by  $(y, x) = (7Q_{2l-1}, 7P_{2l-1}), l \ge 1$ . Hence the set

$$\left\{\frac{7P_{2l-1}-1}{2}:\ l=1,2,\ldots\right\}$$
(6)

lists a class of  $B_2$ -supercobalancing numbers. For finding the other two classes of solutions, we consider the congruence

$$x^2 \equiv 25(2x^2 - 49) \pmod{49}$$

which implies

$$x \equiv \pm 5\sqrt{2x^2 - 49} \pmod{49}.$$

Thus,

$$\frac{x+5\sqrt{2x^2-49}}{49}$$
 or  $\frac{x-5\sqrt{2x^2-49}}{49}$ 

is a natural number. Since

$$2\left[\frac{x\pm5\sqrt{2x^2-49}}{49}\right]^2 + 1 = \left[\frac{10x\pm\sqrt{2x^2-49}}{49}\right]^2,$$

it follows that either

$$\frac{10x + \sqrt{2x^2 - 49}}{49} \text{ or } \frac{10x - \sqrt{2x^2 - 49}}{49}$$

is an even ordered associated Pell number. Since  $C_n = Q_{2n}$ , letting

$$C = \frac{10x \pm \sqrt{2x^2 - 49}}{49},$$

we obtain

$$(49C - 10x)^2 = 2x^2 - 49,$$

which leads to the quadratic equation

$$2x^2 - 20Cx + 49C^2 + 1 = 0$$

whose solutions are  $x = 5C \pm 2B$ , (C is the Lucas-balancing number associated with B). We further observe that

$$2(5C \pm 2B)^2 - 49 = (C \pm 20B)^2.$$

Thus, the  $B_2$ -supercobalancing numbers are of the form  $\frac{1}{2}[5C \pm 2B - 1]$ . Hence the set

$$\left\{\frac{7P_{2l-1}-1}{2}, \frac{5C_l+2B_l-1}{2}, \frac{5C_l-2B_l-1}{2}: l=1,2,\dots\right\}$$

lists all the  $B_2$ -supercobalancing numbers.

#### 2.3 Computation of B<sub>4</sub>-supercobalancing numbers

In view of the Definition 1, a natural number n is a  $B_4$ -supercobalancing number if

$$1 + 2 + \dots + n = (n+1) + (n+2) + \dots + (n+r) + 204$$
(7)

for some natural number r, which is the  $B_4$ -supercobalancer corresponding to n.

**Example 3** The following examples suggests that 29, 36, 50 and 63 are  $B_4$ -supercobalancing numbers with 7, 11, 18 and 24 as corresponding  $B_4$ -supercobalancers.

- (i)  $1 + 2 + \dots + 29 = 30 + 31 + \dots + 36 + 204$
- (ii)  $1 + 2 + \dots + 36 = 37 + 38 + \dots + 47 + 204$
- (iii)  $1 + 2 + \dots + 50 = 51 + 52 + \dots + 68 + 204$
- (iv)  $1 + 2 + \dots + 63 = 64 + 65 + \dots + 87 + 204$

It is easy to see that if n is a  $B_4$ -supercobalancing number then the corresponding  $B_4$ -supercobalancer is

$$r = \frac{-(2n+1) + \sqrt{8n^2 + 8n - 1631}}{2}.$$

Thus, if n is a  $B_4$ -supercobalancing number then  $2x^2 - 1633$  is a perfect square, where x = 2n + 1. Therefore, computation of  $B_4$ -supercobalancing numbers reduces to solving the Diophantine equation

$$2x^2 - 1633 = y^2. ag{8}$$

To find all the  $B_4$ -supercobalancing numbers one needs to solve the generalized Pell's equation  $y^2 - 2x^2 = -1633$ . The bounds for x corresponding to the fundamental solutions are given by  $\sqrt{1633/2} \le x \le \sqrt{1633}$ , that is 28 < x < 40, [see [6]]. Thus, we need to find those integers x in the interval (28, 40) such that  $2x^2 - 1633$  is a perfect square. This happens for  $(x, y) = (29, \pm 7)$  and  $(31, \pm 17)$  from which it is easy to see that there are four fundamental solutions  $-7 + 29\sqrt{2}$ ,  $7 + 29\sqrt{2}$ ,  $-17 + 31\sqrt{2}$  and  $17 + 31\sqrt{2}$  respectively.

#### Supercobalancing numbers

Further, Corresponding to each fundamental class there is a class of solutions for x and one can easily get the solutions as

$$\{29C_l + 14B_l, 29C_l - 14B_l, 31C_l + 34B_l, 31C_l - 34B_l\}$$

where  $l \geq 1$ . Hence the following set

$$\left\{\frac{29C_l+14B_l-1}{2}, \frac{29C_l-14B_l-1}{2}, \frac{31C_l+34B_l-1}{2}, \frac{31C_l-34B_l-1}{2}\right\}$$

lists all the  $B_4$ -supercobalancing numbers.

We will provide a different method which uses modular arithmetic for obtaining these classes of solutions. During the process we use the fact that  $ax \equiv \pm b \pmod{m}$  implies  $a^2x^2 \equiv b^2 \pmod{m}$  for any positive integer m. Thus, any solution of the congruence  $ax \equiv \pm b \pmod{m}$  is also a solution of the congruence  $a^2x^2 \equiv b^2 \pmod{m}$ .

Since  $2x^2 - 1633$  is a perfect square, the congruence

$$(7x)^2 \equiv 29^2(2x^2 - 1633) \pmod{1633}$$

holds and is implied by the pair of congruences (but need not imply since 1633 is not a prime)

$$7x \equiv \pm 29\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633} \pmod{1633}.$$
(9)

Thus, if x is any solution of (8) then  $2x^2 - 1633$  is a perfect square. In view of (9), either

$$\frac{7x + 29\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{7x - 29\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633}$$

is a natural number. Since

$$2\left[\frac{7x\pm29\sqrt{2x^2-1633}}{1633}\right]^2 + 1 = \left[\frac{58x\pm7\sqrt{2x^2-1633}}{1633}\right]^2,$$

it follows that either

$$\frac{58x + 7\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{58x - 7\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633}$$

is an even ordered associated Pell number. Since  $C_n = Q_{2n}$ , letting

$$C = \frac{58x \pm 7\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633},$$

we obtain

$$(1633C - 58x)^2 = 49(2x^2 - 1633),$$

which leads to the quadratic equation

$$2x^2 - 116Cx + 1633C^2 + 49 = 0$$

whose solutions are  $x = 29C \pm 14B$ . We further observe that

$$2(29C \pm 14B)^2 - 1633 = (7C \pm 116B)^2.$$

Thus, the numbers of the form  $\frac{1}{2}[29C\pm 14B-1]$  constitutes two classes of  $B_4$ -supercobalancing numbers.

The other two classes of solutions are obtained by using a similar modular arithmetic technique. Since  $2x^2 - 1633$  is a perfect square, the congruence

$$(17x)^2 \equiv 31^2(2x^2 - 1633) \pmod{1633}$$

holds and is implied by the pair of congruences

$$17x \equiv \pm 31\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633} \pmod{1633}.$$

Thus, either

$$\frac{17x + 31\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{17x - 31\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633}$$

is a natural number. Since

$$2\left[\frac{17x \pm 31\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633}\right]^2 + 1 = \left[\frac{62x \pm 17\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633}\right]^2$$

it follows that either

$$\frac{62x + 17\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{62x - 17\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633}$$

is a even ordered associated Pell number. Since  $C_n = Q_{2n}$ , letting

$$C = \frac{62x \pm 17\sqrt{2x^2 - 1633}}{1633}$$

leads to

$$(1633C - 62x)^2 = 289(2x^2 - 1633).$$

which can be rearranged to form the quadratic equation

$$2x^2 - 124Bx + 1633C^2 + 289 = 0$$

whose solutions are  $x = 31C \pm 34B$ . We further observe that

$$2(31C \pm 34B)^2 - 1633 = (17C \pm 124B)^2.$$

Thus, these numbers of the form  $\frac{1}{2}[31C \pm 34B - 1]$  constitute the other two classes of  $B_4$ -supercobalancing numbers. Hence the set

$$\left\{\frac{29C_l + 14B_l - 1}{2}, \frac{29C_l - 14B_l - 1}{2}, \frac{31C_l + 34B_l - 1}{2}, \frac{31C_l - 34B_l - 1}{2}\right\}$$

where  $l \ge 1$ , lists all the  $B_4$ -supercobalancing numbers.

From the above discussion, it is clear that, for some values of k, there can be more than two classes of  $B_k$ -supercobalancing numbers. Obtaining all such classes for an arbitrary kis a difficult task. However, for all values of k, we manage to explore two classes of  $B_k$ supercobalancing numbers using modular arithmetic. The following lemma will be useful while proving subsequent theorems.

**Lemma 1** For  $m, l \in \mathbb{Z}$ 

- (i)  $(B_{m+1} B_m)C_l + 2(B_{m-1} + B_m)B_l 1 = 2[B_{l+m} B_{l-m} + b_{l+m}]$
- (ii)  $(B_{m+1} B_m)C_l 2(B_{m-1} + B_m)B_l 1 = 2[B_{l+m} + B_{l-m} + b_{l-m}]$
- (iii)  $(2B_m + C_{m-1})C_l + 2(C_m 4B_{m-1})B_l 1 = 2[B_{l+m} + B_{l-m+1} + b_{l-m+1}]$
- (iv)  $(2B_m + C_{m-1})C_l 2(C_m 4B_{m-1})B_l 1 = 2[B_{l+m-1} B_{l-m} + b_{l+m-1}]$

**Proof** We will prove (i) only. Other proofs are similar. Since,

$$(B_{m+1} - B_m)C_l + 2(B_{m-1} + B_m)B_l = (2B_m + C_m)C_l + 2(4B_m - C_m)B_l$$
  
=  $-2(B_lC_m - C_lB_m) + (C_lC_m + 8B_lB_m)$   
=  $-2B_{l-m} + C_{l+m}$   
=  $-2B_{l-m} + 2B_{l+m} + 2b_{l+m} + 1$ ,

the proof of (i) follows.

**Theorem 4** For m > 0, the values of n satisfying the Diophantine equation

$$1 + 2 + \dots + n = (n + 1) + (n + 2) + \dots + (n + r) + B_{2m}$$

for suitable natural numbers r may result in multiple classes. Two such classes are  $B_{l+m} - B_{l-m} + b_{l+m}$  and  $B_{l+m} + B_{l-m} + b_{l-m}$  for  $l \ge 1$ .

**Proof** In view of (3),  $2x^2 - 8B_{2m} - 1$  is perfect square, where x = 2n + 1. Since,

$$(B_{m-1} + B_m)^2 - 2(B_{m+1} - B_m)^2 = -[8B_{2m} + 1]$$

we have,

$$(B_{m-1} + B_m)^2 x^2 \equiv (B_{m+1} - B_m)^2 (2x^2 - 8B_{2m} - 1) \pmod{8B_{2m} + 1}.$$
 (10)

Hence the values of x satisfying the following congruences

$$(B_{m-1} + B_m) x \equiv \pm (B_{m+1} - B_m) \sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m} - 1} \pmod{8B_{2m} + 1}$$
(11)

is also a solution of the congruence (10). To obtain two classes of  $B_{2m}$ -supercobalancing number we solve the congruences (11) which are also solutions of the congruence (10). It is clear from (11) that either

$$\frac{(B_{m-1}+B_m)x + (B_{m+1}-B_m)\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m} - 1}}{8B_{2m} + 1}$$

or

$$\frac{(B_{m-1}+B_m)x - (B_{m+1}-B_m)\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m} - 1}}{8B_{2m} + 1}$$

is a natural number. Since

$$2\left[\frac{(B_{m-1}+B_m)x\pm(B_{m+1}-B_m)\sqrt{2x^2-8B_{2m}-1}}{8B_{2m}+1}\right]^2+1$$
$$=\left[\frac{2(B_{m+1}-B_m)x\pm(B_{m-1}+B_m)\sqrt{2x^2-8B_{2m}-1}}{8B_{2m}+1}\right]^2$$

it follows that either

$$\frac{2(B_{m+1} - B_m)x + (B_{m-1} + B_m)\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m} - 1}}{8B_{2m} + 1}$$

or

$$\frac{2(B_{m+1} - B_m)x - (B_{m-1} + B_m)\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m} - 1}}{8B_{2m} + 1}$$

is an even ordered associated Pell number. Since  $C_n = Q_{2n}$ , letting

$$C = \frac{2(B_{m+1} - B_m)x \pm (B_{m-1} + B_m)\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m} - 1}}{8B_{2m} + 1}$$

we get

$$\left[2(B_{m+1} - B_m)x - (8B_{2m} + 1)C\right]^2 = (B_{m-1} + B_m)^2(2x^2 - 8B_{2m} - 1)$$

which can be transformed to the quadratic equation

$$2x^{2} - 4(B_{m+1} - B_{m})Cx + (8B_{2m} + 1)C^{2} + (B_{m-1} + B_{m})^{2} = 0$$

whose solutions are  $x = (B_{m+1} - B_m)C \pm 2(B_{m-1} + B_m)B$ . We further observe that  $2[(B_{m+1} - B_m)C \pm 2(B_{m-1} + B_m)B]^2 - 8B_{2m} - 1 = [(B_{m-1} + B_m)C \pm 4(B_{m-1} - B_m)B]^2$ . Thus two classes of  $B_{2m}$ -supercobalancing numbers are

$$\frac{1}{2}[(B_{m+1} - B_m)C_l + 2(B_{m-1} + B_m)B_l - 1], \frac{1}{2}[(B_{m+1} - B_m)C_l - 2(B_{m-1} + B_m)B_l - 1]$$

for  $l \ge 1$ . In view of Lemma 1 (i) and (ii), the conclusion of the theorem follows.

**Theorem 5** For m > 1, the values of n satisfying the Diophantine equation

$$1 + 2 + \dots + n = (n+1) + (n+2) + \dots + (n+r) + B_{2m-1}$$

for some natural number r may result in multiple classes. Two such classes are  $B_{l+m} + B_{l-m+1} + b_{l-m+1}$  and  $B_{l+m-1} - B_{l-m} + b_{l+m-1}$  for  $l \ge 1$ .

### Supercobalancing numbers

**Proof** In view of (3),  $2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1$  is perfect square (where x = 2n + 1) and hence the congruence

$$(C_m - 4B_{m-1})^2 x^2 \equiv (2B_m + C_{m-1})^2 (2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1) \pmod{8B_{2m-1} + 1},$$

holds and is implied by the pair of congruences

$$(C_m - 4B_{m-1}) x \equiv \pm (2B_m + C_{m-1})\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1} \pmod{8B_{2m-1} + 1}.$$

Any solution of the latter congruence is a solution of the former. In view of the latter congruence

$$\frac{(C_m - 4B_{m-1})x + (2B_m + C_{m-1})\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1}}{8B_{2m-1} + 1}$$

or

$$\frac{(C_m - 4B_{m-1})x - (2B_m + C_{m-1})\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1}}{8B_{2m-1} + 1}$$

is a natural number. Since

$$2\left[\frac{(C_m - 4B_{m-1})x \pm (2B_m + C_{m-1})\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1}}{8B_{2m-1} + 1}\right]^2 + 1$$
$$= \left[\frac{2(2B_m + C_{m-1})x \pm (C_m - 4B_{m-1})\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1}}{8B_{2m-1} + 1}\right]^2$$

it follows that either

$$\frac{2(2B_m + C_{m-1})x + (C_m - 4B_{m-1})\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1}}{8B_{2m-1} + 1}$$

or

$$\frac{2(2B_m + C_{m-1})x - (C_m - 4B_{m-1})\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1}}{8B_{2m-1} + 1}$$

is an even ordered associated-pell number. Since  $C_n = Q_{2n}$ , letting

$$C = \frac{2(2B_m + C_{m-1})x \pm (C_m - 4B_{m-1})\sqrt{2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1}}{8B_{2m-1} + 1}$$

we get

$$\left[2(2B_m + C_{m-1})x - (8B_{2m-1} + 1)C\right]^2 = (C_m - 4B_{m-1})^2(2x^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1)$$

which can be transformed to the quadratic equation

$$2x^{2} - 4(2B_{m} + C_{m-1})Cx + (8B_{2m-1} + 1)C^{2} + (C_{m} - 4B_{m-1})^{2} = 0$$

whose solutions are  $x = (2B_m + C_{m-1})C \pm 2(C_m - 4B_{m-1})B$ . We further observe that  $2[(2B_m + C_{m-1})C \pm 2(C_m - 4B_{m-1})B]^2 - 8B_{2m-1} - 1 = [(C_m - 4B_{m-1})C \pm 4(2B_m + C_{m-1})]^2$ . Thus two classes of  $B_{2m-1}$ -supercobalancing numbers are

$$\frac{1}{2}[(2B_m + C_{m-1})C_l + 2(C_m - 4B_{m-1})B_l - 1], \frac{1}{2}[(2B_m + C_{m-1})C_l - 2(C_m - 4B_{m-1})B_l - 1]]$$

for  $l \ge 1$ . In view of Lemma 1 (iii) and (iv), the conclusion of the theorem follows.

## 3 Conclusion

In this paper, we have defined *D*-supercobalancing numbers n and *D*-supercobalancer numbers r as solutions of the Diophantine equation  $1 + 2 + \cdots + n = (n + 1) + (n + 2) + \cdots + (n + r) + D$ . Since there are infinitely many choices of D, one has ample scope for exploring *D*-supercobalancing numbers for many other values of D.

Acknowledgemnt: The authors are thankful to the anonymous referee for his/her valuable comments and suggestions which improved the presentation of the paper to a great extent.

### References

- Behera, A. and Panda, G. K.On the square roots of triangular numbers. *Fib. Quart.* 1999. 37(2): 98–105.
- [2] Panda, G. K. Some fascinating properties of balancing numbers. In Proc. of Eleventh Internat. Conference on Fibonacci Numbers and Their Applications, Cong. Numerantium. 2009. 194: 185–189.
- [3] Panda, G. K. and Ray, P. K. Cobalancing numbers and cobalancers. Int. J. Math. Math. Sci. 2005. 8: 1189-1200.
- [4] Ray, P. K., Balancing and cobalancing numbers. National Institute of Technology, Rourkela: Ph.D. Thesis. 2009.
- [5] Ray, P. K. Certain matrices associated with balancing and Lucas-balancing numbers. *Matematika*. 2012. 28(1): 15–22.
- [6] Nagel, T. Introduction to Number Theory. New York: Wiley, 1951.