

Tutorial Sheet 2 - 14.10.2024

Exercise 1. By using generating functions compute,

(a) $\sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \binom{n}{i} \binom{n}{n-i},$

(b) $\sum_{k=0}^n k \cdot 2^k,$

(c) $\sum_{k=0}^n k \binom{n}{k}$

(d) $\sum_{k=0}^n k^2 \binom{n}{k}.$

Exercise 2. [MN-12.2] A box contains 30 red, 40 blue, and 50 white balls; balls of the same color are indistinguishable. How many ways are there of selecting a collection of 70 balls from the box?

Exercise 3. [MN-12.2] Find sequences for these generating functions:

(a) $(1+x)(1+x^2)(1+x^4)\dots(1+x^{2^k})$

(b) x^5 in $(1-2x)^{-2}$

(c) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-2x}}$

(d) x^4 in $(x^2-5x+6)^{-1}$

Exercise 4. [MN-12.2-3] Find generating functions for the following sequences (express them a closed form, without infinite series!):

(a) $0, 0, 0, 0, -6, 6, -6, 6, -6, \dots$

(b) $1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, \dots$

(c) $1, 2, 1, 4, 1, 8, \dots$

(d) $1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, \dots$

Exercise 5. [MN-12.2-6] Let a_n be the number of ordered r -tuples (i_1, \dots, i_r) of nonnegative integers with $i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_r = n$; here r is some fixed natural number.

(a) Find the generating function of the sequence (a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots) .

(b) Find a formula for a_n . (This has been solved by a different method in the first tutorial.)

Exercise 6. [MN-12.3-1]* Determine the number of n -term sequences of 0s and 1s containing no two consecutive 0s.

Exercise 7. [MN-12.3-9*] m is an arbitrary integer, Show that the number $\frac{1}{2} [(1 + \sqrt{m})^n + (1 - \sqrt{m})^n]$ is an integer for all $n \geq 1$.

Exercise 8. (Bonus) Determine:

$$\sum_{a,b,c \in N, a+b+c=20} a \cdot b \cdot c$$

Notes:

Note 1. Dictionary for translating between sequences and their generating functions:

Generating function	Sequence
$a(x) + b(x)$	$(a_0 + b_0, a_1 + b_1, a_2 + b_2, \dots)$
$\alpha a(x)$	$(\alpha a_0, \alpha a_1, \alpha a_2, \dots)$
$x^n a(x)$	$\left(\underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_n, a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots \right)$
$\frac{a(x) - a_0 - \dots - a_{n-1}x^{n-1}}{x^n}$	$(a_n, a_{n+1}, a_{n+2}, \dots)$
$a(\alpha x)$	$(a_0, \alpha a_1, \alpha^2 a_2, \dots, \alpha^i a_i, \dots)$
$a(x^n)$	$\left(\underbrace{a_0, 0, \dots, 0}_n, a_1, 0, \dots \right)$
$a'(x)$	$(a_1, 2a_2, 3a_3, \dots, i a_i, \dots)$
$\int_0^x a(t) dt$	$\left(0, a_0, \frac{a_1}{2}, \frac{a_2}{3}, \dots, \frac{a_i}{i+1}, \dots \right)$
$a(x)b(x)$	$(c_0, c_1, c_2, \dots), c_n := \sum_{i=0}^n a_i b_{n-i}$

Note 2. Suppose $p(x)$ and $q(x)$ are polynomials with complex coefficients such that $\deg p(x) < \deg q(x)$. Next, suppose that $q(x)$ can be factored as

$$q(x) = c(x - \alpha_1)^{\beta_1} \dots (x - \alpha_t)^{\beta_t}$$

where c is a non-zero complex number, $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_t$ are pairwise distinct complex numbers, and β_1, \dots, β_t are positive integers. ³ In this case ⁷ there exist complex numbers $A_{1,1}, \dots, A_{1,\beta_1}, \dots, A_{t,1}, \dots, A_{t,\beta_t}$ such that

$$\frac{p(x)}{q(x)} = \frac{A_{1,1}}{x - \alpha_1} + \dots + \frac{A_{1,\beta_1}}{(x - \alpha_1)^{\beta_1}} + \dots + \frac{A_{t,1}}{x - \alpha_t} + \dots + \frac{A_{t,\beta_t}}{(x - \alpha_t)^{\beta_t}}.$$

Example:

$$\frac{1}{x^2(x-1)} = -\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x-1}.$$

Note 3. Taylor series formula:

$$f(x) = f(0) + f'(0)\frac{x}{1!} + f''(0)\frac{x^2}{2!} + f^{(3)}(0)\frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$$

So we have this Taylor expansion and this definition:

$$(1+x)^r = 1 + rx + \frac{r(r-1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{r(r-1)(r-2)}{3!}x^3 + \dots := \binom{r}{0} + \binom{r}{1}x + \binom{r}{2}x^2 + \binom{r}{3}x^3 + \dots$$