

Math 239 - Lecture #6

Coefficient Rule

$$[x^n] x^k A(x)$$

$$A(x) = 1 + 3x + 7x^2$$

coeff x

$$\Rightarrow x^3 A(x) = x^3 + 3x^4 + 7x^5$$

coeff x^4

$$\begin{cases} [x^{n-k}] A(x) & \text{if } n \geq k \\ 0 & \text{if } n < k \end{cases}$$

Example:

$$\text{Let } A(x) = 1 + 3x^2, \quad B(x) = 1 + 2x + 4x^2 + 8x^3 + \dots = \sum_{i \geq 0} 2^i x^i$$

$$[x^n] A(x) B(x) = [x^n] (1 + 3x^2) B(x)$$

$$= [x^n] B(x) + [x^n] 3x^2 B(x)$$

$$= 2^n + 3[x^{n-2}] B(x) = 2^n + 3 \cdot 2^{n-2} \quad \text{for } n \geq 2.$$

Calculate $n=0,1$ cases separately. $1+2x$

$$A(x)B(x) = 1 + 2x + \sum_{n \geq 2} (2^n + 3 \cdot 2^{n-2}) x^n$$

Inverse:

The inverse of a power series $A(x)$ is another power series $B(x)$ where: $A(x)B(x) = 1$.

Example:

$A(x) = 1 - x$. Suppose $B(x)$ is the inverse of $A(x)$.

$$\text{Let } B(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} b_n x^n. \quad B(x)(1-x) = 1$$

$$= B(x) - xB(x)$$

$$= b_0 + b_1 x + b_2 x^2 + b_3 x^3 + \dots - b_0 x - b_1 x^2 - b_2 x^3 - \dots = b_0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} (b_n - b_{n-1}) x^n$$

*This is equal to 1

*They have the same coefficients, so compare coefficients on both sides.

$$n=0 \text{ constant: } b_0 = 1$$

$$n=1 \quad x^1: b_1 - b_0 = 0 \quad \therefore b_1 = b_0 = 1.$$

$$n=2 \quad x^2: b_2 - b_1 = 0 \quad \therefore b_2 = b_1 = b_0 = 1.$$

$$\vdots$$

$$b_n = 1 \text{ for all } n \geq 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } b_0 = 1, \quad b_n - b_{n-1} = 0 \text{ for } n \geq 1 \Rightarrow b_n = b_{n-1} \text{ for all } n \geq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow B(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x} \quad (\text{inv of } A(x))$$

"Geometric Series"

Example: $A(x) = x$. Suppose $B(x)$ is its inverse,

$$B(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} b_n x^n \quad \text{so} \quad B(x) \cdot x = 1$$

$$B(x) \cdot x = b_0 x + b_1 x^2 + b_2 x^3 + \dots = 1$$

- Constant term tells us $0 = 1$, but this is not possible. Hence, x has no inverse.

So when $A(x)$ has a constant term 0, then $B(x)A(x)$ has constant term 0, which cannot equal 1.

Theorem: $A(x)$ has an inverse if and only if the constant term of $A(x)$ is not 0.

Finding coefficients of $\frac{A(x)}{B(x)}$ through a recurrence.

Example: Let $A(x) = \frac{1+x}{1-2x-3x^2}$ Suppose $A(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^n$

Multiply both sides by $(1-2x-3x^2)$: $A(x)(1-2x-3x^2) = 1+x$

$$A(x)(1-2x-3x^2) = A(x) - 2xA(x) - 3x^2A(x)$$

$$= a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + \dots$$

$$- 2a_0 x - 2a_1 x^2 - 2a_2 x^3 - \dots$$

$$- 3a_0 x^2 - 3a_1 x^3 - \dots$$

$$= a_0 + (a_1 - 2a_0)x + \sum_{n \geq 2} (a_n - 2a_{n-1} - 3a_{n-2})x^n$$

This equals $1+x$ from before; Compare Coeff.

$n=0$ constant: $a_0 = 1$

$n=1$ x^1 : $a_1 - 2a_0 = 1$, $\therefore a_1 = 3$ } initial conditions

$n \geq 2$ x^n : $a_n - 2a_{n-1} - 3a_{n-2} = 0 \Rightarrow a_n = 2a_{n-1} + 3a_{n-2}$ } recurrence

i.e. $a_2 = 6 + 3 = 9$, $a_3 = 2a_2 + 3a_1 = 27, \dots$

$$A(x) = 1 + 3x + 9x^2 + 27x^3 + \dots$$

Use the recurrence to generate the series!