

1. Prove Pascal's Formula  $\binom{\alpha}{k} = \binom{\alpha-1}{k-1} + \binom{\alpha-1}{k}$  for any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . (Note: You will need to use the falling factorial definition.)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \binom{\alpha}{k} &= \binom{\alpha-1}{k-1} + \binom{\alpha-1}{k} \\
 &= \frac{(\alpha-1)!}{((\alpha-1)-(k-1))!(k-1)!} + \frac{(\alpha-1)!}{((\alpha-1)-k)!k!} \\
 &= \frac{(\alpha-1)!}{(\alpha-k)!(k-1)!} + \frac{(\alpha-1)!}{(\alpha-1-k)!k!} \\
 &= \frac{(\alpha-1)!}{(\alpha-k)!(k-1)!} + \frac{(\alpha-1)!(\alpha-k)^{\frac{1}{k}}}{(\alpha-k)!(k-1)!} \\
 &= \frac{(\alpha-1)! + (\alpha-1)!(\alpha-k)^{\frac{1}{k}}}{(\alpha-k)!(k-1)!} \\
 &= \frac{k(\alpha-1)! + (\alpha-1)!(\alpha-k)}{(\alpha-k)!k!} \\
 &= \frac{\alpha(\alpha-1)!}{(\alpha-k)!k!} \\
 &= \frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha-k)!k!}
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Determine the generating function for each of the following sequences:

a.  $1, r, r^2, r^3, \dots$

$$1 + rx + r^2x^2 + \dots \longrightarrow \frac{1}{1-rx}$$

b.  $1, -1, 1, -1, \dots$

$$1 - x + x^2 - x^3 + \dots \longrightarrow \frac{1}{1+x}$$

c.  $\binom{\alpha}{0}, -\binom{\alpha}{1}, \binom{\alpha}{2}, -\binom{\alpha}{3}, \dots$

$$\binom{\alpha}{0} - \binom{\alpha}{1}x + \binom{\alpha}{2}x^2 - \binom{\alpha}{3}x^3 + \dots$$

$$1 - \alpha x + \frac{\alpha(\alpha-1)}{2*1}x^2 - \frac{\alpha(\alpha-1)(\alpha-2)}{3*2*1}x^3 + \dots$$

$$1 - \alpha x + \frac{[\alpha]_{(2)}}{[2]_{(2)}}x^2 - \frac{[\alpha]_{(3)}}{[3]_{(3)}}x^3 + \dots$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \binom{\alpha}{k} x^k$$

$$(1-x)^{\alpha}$$

d.  $1, \frac{1}{1!}, \frac{1}{2!}, \frac{1}{3!}, \dots$

$$1 + \frac{1}{1!}x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

$$e^x$$

e.  $1, \frac{-1}{1!}, \frac{1}{2!}, \frac{-1}{3!}, \frac{1}{4!}, \dots$

$$1 - \frac{1}{1!}x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 - \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

$$1 + \frac{1}{1!}x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dots - 2\left(\frac{1}{1!}x + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dots\right)$$

$$e^x - \sinh x$$

f.  $\binom{0}{2}, \binom{1}{2}, \binom{2}{2}, \binom{3}{2}, \dots$

$$\binom{0}{2} + \binom{1}{2}x + \binom{2}{2}x^2 + \binom{3}{2}x^3 + \dots$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} + 0x + \frac{[2]_{(2)}}{[2]_{(2)}}x^2 + \frac{[3]_{(2)}}{[2]_{(2)}}x^3 + \dots$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} + 0x + \frac{[2]_{(2)}}{2}x^2 + \frac{[3]_{(2)}}{2}x^3 + \dots$$

Is this the right process? How do you know when to use EGF vs GF?

3. Given the Fibonacci sequence  $f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$  with initial conditions  $f_0 = 0$  and  $f_1 = 1$ ,
- a. Solve the recursion by writing it as a linear homogenous recursion and finding the characteristic polynomial. Write your answer in the form  $c_1 q_1^n + c_2 q_2^n$ . (Note: we have already solved this up to finding the constants in class. Finish the problem.)

$$f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$$

$$0 = f_n - f_{n-1} - f_{n-2}$$

$$q^n - q^{n-1} - q^{n-2} = 0$$

$$q^{n-2}(q^2 - q^1 - 1) = 0$$

Thus, the solution has the form  $f_n = c_1(?)^n + c_2(?)^n$ .

$$q = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$f_n = c_1 \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}^n + c_2 \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}^n$$

$$f_0 = c_1 + c_2$$

$$f_1 = c_1 \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^1 + c_2 \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^1$$

Let  $f_0 = 0$ ,  $f_1 = 1$ . Solving for  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  gives us  $c_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$ ,  $c_2 = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{5}}$

$$\text{Thus, } f_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n$$

- b. Solve the recursion by using generating functions. (Note: Use a partial fraction decomposition to finish the problem.)

$$f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$$

$$h_n = h_{n-1} + h_{n-2}$$

$$0 = h_n - h_{n-1} - h_{n-2}$$

$$\text{Let } g(x) = h_0 + h_1 x^1 + h_2 x^2 + \dots$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) &= h_0 + h_1 x^1 + h_2 x^2 + \dots \\ -xg(x) &= -h_0 x^1 - h_1 x^2 - h_2 x^3 + \dots \\ -x^2 g(x) &= -h_0 x^2 - h_1 x^3 - h_2 x^4 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$(1 - x - x^2)g(x) = h_0 + (h_1 - h_0)x^1 + (h_2 - h_1 - h_0)x^2 + (h_3 - h_2 - h_1)x^3 + \dots$$

But since  $0 = h_n - h_{n-1} - h_{n-2}$ ,

$$(1 - x - x^2)g(x) = h_0 + (h_1 - h_0)x^1$$

$$g(x) = \frac{h_0 + (h_1 - h_0)x}{(1 - x - x^2)}$$

Plugging in  $h_0 = 0$  and  $h_1 = 1$ ,

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

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

$$g(x) = \frac{x}{(x + (-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}))(x - (-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}))}$$

$$g(x) = \frac{A}{(x + (-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}))} + \frac{B}{(x - (-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}))}$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1/2}{(x + (-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}))} + \frac{1/2}{(x - (-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}))}$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{2(x + (-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}))} + \frac{1}{2(x - (-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}))}$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{((-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}) + x)} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{((-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}) - x)}$$

**At this point, I'm not sure how to convert to Power Series**

$$f_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n + \frac{-1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n$$

4. Prove that the Fibonacci number  $f_n$  is even if, and only if, divisible by 3.

**Wait.. 2 is a fibonacci number that is even and not divisible by 3.. So is 8.**

→

**Assume:**  $f_n$  is even (i.e.  $\exists t \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $f_n = 2t$ )

←

**Assume:** 3 divides  $f_n$  (i.e.  $\exists t \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $f_n = 3t$ )

5. Consider a 1-by- $n$  chessboard. Suppose we color each square of the chessboard with one of the colors red, white, or blue. Let  $h_n$  be the number of colorings in which there is an even number of red squares (the example from class).
- Reproduce the exponential generating function solution from class.
  - Solve this by using a standard generating function and partial fractions.
  - Reproduce the associated recursion for  $h_n$ .
  - Using your answer from part c, solve the recursion using the generating function method for non-homogeneous recursions.
6. Consider a 1-by- $n$  chessboard. Suppose we color each square of the chessboard with one of the colors red or blue. Let  $h_n$  be the number of colorings in which no two squares that are colored red are adjacent. Find a recurrence relation that  $h_n$  satisfies, then derive a formula for  $h_n$ .
7. Determine the generating function for the number  $h_n$  of bags of fruit of apples, oranges, bananas, and pears in which apples  $\% 2 = 0$ , oranges  $\leq 2$ , bananas  $\% 3 = 0$ , and pears  $\leq 1$ . Then find a formula for  $h_n$  from the generating function.
8. Determine the exponential generating function for the following sequence:
- $0!, 1!, 2!, \dots$

$$g^{(e)}(x) = \frac{0!}{0!} + \frac{1!}{1!}x + \frac{2!}{2!}x^2 \dots$$

$$g^{(e)}(x) = 1 + x + x^2 \dots$$

- $[\alpha]_{(0)}, [\alpha]_{(1)}, [\alpha]_{(2)}, [\alpha]_{(3)}, \dots$  (Note:  $[\alpha]_{(n)}$  is the falling factorial.)

$$g^{(e)}(x) = \frac{\alpha}{0!} + \frac{\alpha(\alpha-1)}{1!}x + \frac{\alpha(\alpha-1)(\alpha-2)}{2!}x^2 \dots$$

$$g^{(e)}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha-n-1)!n!}$$

9. Let  $h_n$  denote the number of ways to color the square of a 1-by- $n$  board with the colors red, white, blue, and green in such a way that the numbers of squares colored red is even and the number of squares colored white is odd. Determine the exponential generating function for the sequence, then find a simple formula for  $h_n$ .

Colors: RWBG. R is even, W is odd.

EGF:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} \dots\right) \left(x + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} \dots\right) \left(1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} \dots\right)^2 \\ & \frac{1}{2}(e^x + e^{-x}) * \frac{1}{2}(e^x - e^{-x}) * e^x * e^x \\ & \frac{1}{4}(e^{2x} - e^{-2x}) * e^{2x} \\ & \frac{1}{4}(e^{4x} - 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{4}(e^{4x} - 1) \rightarrow f'(x) = \frac{1}{4}(4e^{4x}) \rightarrow f''(x) = \frac{1}{4}16e^{4x} \rightarrow f'''(x) = \frac{1}{4}64e^{4x} \rightarrow f^{(n)}(x) = \frac{1}{4}(4^n e^{4x})$$

So,

$$h_n = \frac{4^n}{4n!} \text{ Which doesn't seem right since } n! \text{ grows faster than } 4^n. \text{ Also, where goes } -1?$$

10. Determine the number of ways to color the squares of a 1-by- $n$  board using the colors red, blue, green, and orange if an even number of squares is to be colored red and an even number is to be colored green.

Colors: RGBO. R, G are even.

GF:

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + x^2 + x^4 \dots)^2 (1 + x + x^2 + x^3 \dots)^2 \\ & \frac{1}{1-x^2} \frac{1}{1-x^2} \frac{1}{1-x} \frac{1}{1-x} \\ & \frac{1}{(1-x)^4 (1+x)^2} \\ & \frac{A}{(1-x)} + \frac{B}{(1-x)^2} + \frac{C}{(1-x)^3} + \frac{D}{(1-x)^4} + \frac{E}{(1+x)} + \frac{F}{(1+x)^2} \\ & A \sum x^n + E \sum (-1)^n x^n \end{aligned}$$

11. Determine the number of  $n$ -digit numbers with all digits odd, such that 1 and 3 each occur a nonzero, even number of times.

12. Solve the recurrence relation:

a.  $h_n = 4h_{n-2}$ ,  $h_0 = 0$ ,  $h_1 = 1$ , and  $n \geq 2$ .

$$0, 1, 0, 4, 0, 16, 0, 64, \dots$$

$$h_n - 4h_{n-2} = 0$$

$$q^{n-2}(q^2 - 4) = 0$$

$$h_n = a(2)^n + b(-2)^n$$

$$0 = a + b \text{ and } 1 = 2a - 2b$$

$$b = -\frac{1}{4}, a = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$h_n = \frac{1}{4}2^n - \frac{1}{4}(-2)^n$$

- b.  $h_n = h_{n-1} + 9h_{n-2} - 9h_{n-3}$ ,  $h_0 = 0$ ,  $h_1 = 1$ , and  $h_2 = 2$ .  $n \geq 3$ .

$$q^{n-3}(q^3 - q^2 - 9q - 9) = 0$$

$$(q^2 - 9)(q + 1) = 0$$

$$(q - 3)(q + 3)(q + 1) = 0$$

$$h_n = a(3)^n + b(-3)^n + c(-1)^n$$

$$\text{So, } 0 = a + b + c, 1 = 3a - 3b - c, 2 = 9a + 9b + c$$

$$\text{Hence, } a = \frac{1}{4}, b = 0, c = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$h_n = \frac{1}{4}(3)^n + -\frac{1}{4}(-1)^n$$

- c.  $h_n = 4h_{n-1} + 4^n$ ,  $h_0 = 3$  and  $n \geq 1$ .

$$3, 16, 80, 384, \dots$$

13. Let  $h_n$  = the number of ternary strings of length  $n$  made up of 0's, 1's, and 2's, such that the substrings 00, 01, 10, and 11 never occur. Prove that

$$h_n = h_{n-1} + 2h_{n-2}$$

with  $h_0 = 1$ ,  $h_1 = 3$ , and then find a formula for  $h_n$ .

14. Compute the Stirling numbers of the first and second kind up to  $n = 6$  using their recursive formulas.

**But stirling numbers take 2 parameters:  $s(p, k)$ ; where does  $n$  fit?**

15. Prove the Stirling numbers of the second kind satisfy:

$$\text{Recall: } S(p, k) = k S(p - 1, k) + S(p - 1, k - 1)$$

a.  $S(n, 1) = 1$

b.  $S(n, 2) = 2^{n-1} - 1$

c.  $S(n, n - 1) = \binom{n}{2}$

16. Prove the Stirling numbers of the first kind satisfy:

a.  $s(n, 1) = (n - 1)!$

b.  $s(n, n - 1) = \binom{n}{2}$

17. Write  $[n]_{(k)}$  as a polynomial in  $n$  for  $k = 5, 6, 7$ . (Do not use distribution!)

$$[n]_{(k)} = n(n - 1)(n - 2) \dots (n - k)$$

$$[n]_{(k)} = \sum_{p=0}^k (-1)^{k-p} s(k, p) n^p$$

$$[n]_{(5)} = \sum_{p=0}^5 (-1)^{5-p} s(5, p) n^p$$

$$[n]_{(5)} = -s(5, 0) + s(5, 1)n - s(5, 2)n^2 + s(5, 3)n^3 - s(5, 4)n^4 + s(5, 5)n^5$$

$$[n]_{(5)} = 4!n - s(5, 2)n^2 + s(5, 3)n^3 - \binom{5}{2}n^4 + n^5$$

$$s(5, 2) = 4s(4, 2) + 3! \text{ and } s(5, 3) = 4\binom{4}{2} + s(4, 2)$$

18. Find a closed formula for the sequence: 1, 6, 15, 28, 45, 66, 91, ... (Use a difference table.)

	1	6	15	28	45	66	91
		5	9	13	17	21	25
			4	4	4	4	4
				0	0	0	0

$$h_n = 1\binom{n}{0} + 5\binom{n}{1} + 4\binom{n}{2}$$