

Functions Z_r which map a multidimensional index ($i \leq j \leq k \dots$) corresponding to the address of an element in the upper triangle of a symmetric tensor of rank r and dimension size n to the index corresponding to the same element in the **flattened upper-triangle vector**, which is the row-wise ravelled (flattened) upper triangle of the symmetric tensor. In other words, the functions map the r -dimensional upper triangular symmetric tensor elements to the 1-dimensional vector of unique symmetric tensor elements.

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta_0 &= 1 \\
\Delta_1 &= n \\
\Delta_2 &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \\
\Delta_3 &= \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{6} \\
&\dots \\
\Delta_r &= \frac{n(n+1)(n+2) \cdots (n+(r-1))}{r!}
\end{aligned}$$

$$Z_0(n) = 0$$

$$Z_1(i, n) = Z_0(n-i) + \sum_{a=1}^i \Delta_0$$

$$Z_2(i, j, n) = Z_1(j-i, n-i) + \sum_{a=1}^i \Delta_1 - \sum_{b=1}^{a-1} \Delta_0$$

$$Z_3(i, j, k, n) = Z_2(j-i, k-i, n-i) + \sum_{a=1}^i \Delta_2 - \sum_{b=1}^{a-1} \Delta_1 + \sum_{c=1}^{b-1} \Delta_0$$

$$Z_4(i, j, k, l, n) = Z_3(j-i, k-i, l-i, n-i) + \sum_{a=1}^i \Delta_3 - \sum_{b=1}^{a-1} \Delta_2 + \sum_{c=1}^{b-1} \Delta_1 - \sum_{d=1}^{c-1} \Delta_0$$