

# Discrete Mathematics Set 7

**Math 435:** Complete 4 parts of the following exercises.

**Math 530:** Exercises 5, 6 and one of the remaining exercises.

1. Prove 
$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^n y^n z (1 + zx^1) \cdots (1 + zx^{n-1}) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^{\binom{n+1}{2}} y^n z^n}{(1 - yx^1) \cdots (1 - yx^n)}.$$

2. Recover Euler's pentagonal number theorem by taking  $y = -q$  and  $x = q^3$  in Jacobi's triple product

$$(1 + y) \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^n)(1 + yx^n)(1 + y^{-1}x^n) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} y^k x^{k(k-1)/2}.$$

3. Use the function  $x^2 \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - x^n)^6$  to show that the number of integer partitions of  $7n + 5$  is divisible by 7.

4. This exercise proves a finite version of Jacobi's triple product identity.

a. Prove 
$$\prod_{i=1}^n (1 + yq^{i-1})(1 + y^{-1}q^i) = \sum_{k=-n}^n y^k q^{k(k-1)/2} \begin{bmatrix} 2n \\ n+k \end{bmatrix}_q.$$

b. Take  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}$  of the above expression to find the full Jacobi triple product.

5. Suppose  $F(x, y)$  is an infinite product in two indeterminates  $y$  and  $x$ . Euler's device refers to this process of turning  $F(x, y)$  into a sum:

1. Find an equation providing a relationship between  $F(x, xy)$  and  $F(x, y)$ .
2. Assume that  $F(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(x) y^n$  and plug this into the equation found in step 1.
3. Compare coefficients of  $y^n$  to find a recursion for  $a_n(x)$ .
4. Iterate this recursion to find a formula for  $a_n(x)$ .

Show  $F(x, y) = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - yx^i}$  satisfies  $F(x, xy) = (1 - y)F(x, y)$ , thereby completing step 1 of the above process.

Continue following the next three steps outlined above to express  $F(x, y)$  as a sum using Euler's device.

6. Let  $F(x, y)$  be the function that satisfies the recursion  $F(x, y) = F(x, xy) + xyF(x, x^2y)$  and  $F(x, 0) = 1$ . An explicit formula for  $F(x, y)$  is given on the next page.

a. Use Euler's device to show 
$$F(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{y^n x^{n^2}}{(1 - x) \cdots (1 - x^n)}.$$

b. Use the result in the theorem on the next page to show 
$$F(q, 1) = \left( \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} (-1)^k q^{n(5n-1)/2} \right) \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - q^i}.$$

c. Take  $y = -q^2$  and  $x = q^5$  in Jacobi's triple product to show 
$$F(q, 1) = \prod_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1 - q^{5n+1})(1 - q^{5n+4})}.$$

d. Show that (the number of integer partitions of  $n$  with parts differing by at least 2) is equal to (the number of integer partitions of  $n$  with parts congruent to  $\pm 1 \pmod{5}$ ). (Hint:  $1 + 3 + 5 + \cdots + (2n - 1) = n^2$ .)

**Theorem.** The function

$$F(x, y) = \left( 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n y^{2n} x^{n(5n-1)/2} (1 - yx^{2n}) \frac{(1 - yx) \cdots (1 - yx^{n-1})}{(1 - x) \cdots (1 - x^n)} \right) \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - yx^i} \quad (1)$$

satisfies  $F(x, y) = F(x, xy) + xyF(x, x^2y)$  and  $F(x, 0) = 1$ .

*Proof.* Using  $(1 - yx^{2n}) = (1 - x^n) + x^n (1 - yx^n)$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, y) \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} (1 - yx^i) &= 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n y^{2n} x^{n(5n-1)/2} \frac{(1 - yx) \cdots (1 - yx^{n-1})}{(1 - x) \cdots (1 - x^{n-1})} \\ &\quad + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n y^{2n} x^{n(5n+1)/2+n} \frac{(1 - yx) \cdots (1 - yx^n)}{(1 - x) \cdots (1 - x^n)} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n y^{2n} x^{n(5n+1)/2} (1 - y^2 x^{4n+2}) \frac{(1 - yx) \cdots (1 - yx^n)}{(1 - x) \cdots (1 - x^n)}. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where we changed the first line into the second by reindexing the first infinite sum. Therefore, using (2) to simplify the first product and (1) to simplify the second product,

$$(F(x, y) - F(x, xy)) \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} (1 - yx^i) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n y^{2n} x^{n(5n+1)/2} \frac{(1 - yx) \cdots (1 - yx^n)}{(1 - x) \cdots (1 - x^n)} (1 - y^2 x^{4n+2} - x^n (1 - yx^{2n+1})).$$

Using  $(1 - y^2 x^{4n+2} - x^n (1 - yx^{2n+1})) = (1 - x^n) + yx^{3n+1} (1 - yx^{n+1})$ , the above expression is equal to

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n y^{2n} x^{(5n+1)/2} \frac{(1 - yx) \cdots (1 - yx^n)}{(1 - x) \cdots (1 - x^{n-1})} + yx \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n y^{2n} x^{n(5n+7)/2} \frac{(1 - yx) \cdots (1 - yx^{n+1})}{(1 - x) \cdots (1 - x^n)},$$

which in turn, by reindexing the first sum, is equal to

$$yx \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n y^{2n} x^{n(5n+7)/2} (1 - yx^{2n+2}) \frac{(1 - yx) \cdots (1 - yx^{n+1})}{(1 - x) \cdots (1 - x^n)} = yx \left( \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} (1 - yx^i) \right) F(x, x^2y).$$

The last step used (1) again. Thus we have proved

$$(F(x, y) - F(x, xy)) \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} (1 - yx^i) = xyF(x, x^2y) \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} (1 - yx^i),$$

which implies the desired result. □