

3.1.3. | Given that $f(q, m) = (1 - q^{m-1}) f(q, m-2)$,

Let $m=1$. $f(q, m) = 1 - [1] = 1 - 1 = 0$ in that case.

$f(q, m) = (1 - q^{m-1}) \cdot f(q, m-2) = (1 - q^{m-1}) \cdot 0 = 0$ if we accept the inductive hypothesis, so $f(q, m) = 0$ if m is odd.

Let $m=2$. $f(q, 2) = 1 - [1] + [2] = 1 - [1] + 1 = -[1] + 2$

$-[1] = -([2]_1 + q^{2-1}[1]_{1-1}) = -[1] - q[0] = -1 - q$, so

$f(q, 2) = -1 - q + 2 = (1 - q)$.

$f(q, m) = (1 - q^{m-1}) \cdot f(q, m-2) = (1 - q^{m-1}) \cdot ((1 - q)(1 - q^3) \dots (1 - q^{m-2-1}))$
by the inductive hypothesis, so

$f(q, m) = (1 - q)(1 - q^3) \dots (1 - q^{m-1})$, if m is even.

3.1.4. | Let k be odd. Show that $\frac{1 - \alpha^{k-j}}{1 - \alpha^j} = -\alpha^{-j}$.

Use this to prove that $[k-1]_d = (-1)^j d^{-j(j+1)/2}$,

and therefore $f(d, k-1) = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} d^{-j(j+1)/2}$.

Let k be odd. $\alpha = e^{2\pi i h/k}$ because this is the general primitive k th root of unity.

$$\frac{1 - \alpha^{k-j}}{1 - \alpha^j} = \frac{1 - (e^{2\pi i h/k})^{k-j}}{1 - (e^{2\pi i h/k})^j} = \frac{1 - e^{2\pi i h - 2\pi i h j/k}}{1 - e^{2\pi i h j/k}} = \frac{1 - e^{-2\pi i h j/k} e^{2\pi i h}}{1 - e^{2\pi i h j/k}} = \frac{-e^{-2\pi i h j/k} (e^{2\pi i h} - e^{2\pi i h j/k})}{1 - e^{2\pi i h j/k}}$$

$$= \frac{-e^{-2\pi i h j/k} (1 - e^{2\pi i h j/k})}{(1 - e^{2\pi i h j/k})} \quad \text{because the primitive 1st root of unity is always 1}$$

$$= - (e^{2\pi i h/k})^{-j} = -\alpha^{-j}$$