My notes on "The Strong Factorial Conjecture" by Eric Edo and Arno van den Essen. See: https://arxiv.org/abs/1304.3956

## 1 Factorial Conjecture

 $\mathbb{C}^{[m]}$  may be viewed as a vecor space over  $\mathbb{C}$  with a basis being

$$\Big\{ X_1^{l_1} \cdots X_m^{l_m} \mid l_k \in \mathbb{N}_0 \text{ for all } 1 \le k \le m \Big\}.$$

Thus any linear map is fully defined if we set a value for each basis element. Such linear map is the factorial map.

**Definition 1.** A factorial map is a linear map linear map  $\mathcal{L}: \mathbb{C}^{[m]} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined by

$$\mathcal{L}(X_1^{l_1}\cdots X_m^{l_m})=l_1!\cdots l_m!$$
 for all  $l_1,\ldots,l_m\in\mathbb{N}$ 

**Example 1.1.** Consider  $f(X) = 3X - 5XY + 7Y^2 \in \mathbb{C}^{[2]}$ . Applying the factorial map yields

$$\mathcal{L}(f(X)) = 3\mathcal{L}(X) - 5\mathcal{L}(XY) + 7\mathcal{L}(Y^2)$$
$$= 3 \cdot 1 - 5 \cdot 1 + 7 \cdot 2$$
$$= 12$$

**Example 1.2.** If we limit our selves to a polynomial with one indeterminate, such as  $f(X) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} a_k X^k \in \mathbb{C}[X]$  for a fixed  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , we have

$$\mathcal{L}(f(X)) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} a_k \mathcal{L}(X^k) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} a_k k!$$

**Theorem 2** (Conjecture 2.4). Let  $f \in \mathbb{C}^{[m]}$  be a polynomial. We have  $\mathcal{L}(f^k) = 0$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}_+$  if and only if f = 0.

Remark. The converse is trivial, hence the conjecture is about the forward implication.

## 2 Rigidity Conjecture

When we consider compositions of formal power series, we always want the constant term to be 0. The following example is taken from:

https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/1212053/defining-composition-of-two-formal-series-what-is-going-on

**Example 2.1.** Let  $f = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0} a_k X^k$  and g = 1 + X. Consider  $f \circ g$ . We have

$$f \circ g = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0} a_k (1+X)^k$$
  
=  $a_0 + a_1 + a_1 X + a_2 + 2a_2 X + a_2 X^2 + \cdots$ 

If  $f \circ g$  is again a formal power series, then we should be able to write  $f \circ g = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}_+} c_k X^k$  for some  $c_k \in \mathbb{C}$ . However, we see that  $c_0$  is the sum of all  $a_k$  and we cannot evaluate that as algebraists. Thus composition of formal power series only makes sense if the constant coefficient is 0.

**Proposition 3.** A power series  $f(X) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}_+} a_k X^k \in \mathbb{C}[[X]]$  has a compositional inverse  $f^{-1}(X)$  if and only if  $a_1 \neq 0$ , in which case  $f^{-1}(X)$  is unique.

*Proof.* Let  $g(X) = b_1 X + b_2 X^2 + \cdots \in \mathbb{C}[[X]]$  be some power series that satisfies f(g(X)) = X. We have

$$X = a_1(b_0 + b_1X + b_2X^2 + \dots) + a_2(b_0 + b_1X + b_2X^2 + \dots)^2 + \dots$$
 (1)

$$=a_1b_0 + a_2b_0 + \dots + \tag{2}$$

$$a_1b_1X \tag{3}$$

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**Theorem 4** (Conjecture 2.13). Let  $a(X) \in \mathbb{C}[X]$  be a polynomial of degree less or equal to  $m+1 \in \mathbb{N}_+$  such that  $a(X) \equiv X \mod X^2$ . If the first m consecutive coefficient of the compositional inverse  $a^{-1}(X)$  vanish, then a(X) = X.

**Theorem 5** (Conjecture 2.14). Let  $a(X) \in \mathbb{C}[X]$  be a polynomial of degree less or equal to  $m+1 \in \mathbb{N}_+$  such that  $a(X) \equiv X \mod X^2$ . If the coefficients of  $X^{n+1}, \ldots, X^{n+m}$  of the compositional inverse vanish, then a(X) = X.

**Remark.** R(m) if and only if  $R(m)_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$ .

*Proof.* Fix  $m \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and let  $f \in \mathbb{C}[X]$  be a polynomial of degree less than or equal to m+1 such that  $f(X) \equiv X \mod X^2$ . Denote the composition inverse and its coefficients of f by  $f^{-1}(X) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}_+} b_k X^k$ .

1. " $\Rightarrow$ ": Suppose R(m) holds.

*Proof.* Let R(m) be true for a  $m \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

Then 
$$R(m)_1$$
 is true, i.e. if  $\deg(a) \leq m+1$  and if the

**Remark.** If we denote the polynomial a(X) by  $\sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0} a_k X^k$  for some  $a_k \in \mathbb{C}$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , then the condition  $a(X) \equiv X \mod X^2$  amounts to  $a_0 = 0$  and  $a_1 = 1$ .

Moreover, we have this:

A power series has a compositional inverse if and only if  $a_1 \neq 0$ . In that case, the inverse is unique.

See

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00HMUGS4S

https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/2520744/finding-compositional-inverses-for-formal-power-series

My questions:

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1. What if  $a_0 \neq 0$ ? Pick  $a_0 = 3$ .

Let  $f \in \mathbb{C}[X]$  be a polynomial with  $a_0 \neq 0$ . Then we may write  $f(X) = g(X) + a_0$  where g has a compositional inverse. Thus it it

$$g^{-1}(g(X) + a_0) = g^{-1}(g(X)) + g^{-1}(a_0)$$
$$= X + g^{-1}(a_0)$$

$$h(X) = g^{-1}(X) + g^{-1}(a_0)$$
  

$$h(f(X)) = h(g(X) + a_0)$$
  

$$= g^{-1}(g(X) + a_0) + g^{-1}(a_0)$$
  

$$= X$$

Let  $f \in \mathbb{C}[X]$  be a polynomial with  $a_1 \neq 1$  and  $a_1 \neq 0$ . Then we may write f(X) =

https://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/ dgwagner/co430I.pdf proof

**Proposition 6.** 1. The polynomial a(X) is invertible for the composition.

2. For all  $i \in \{1, ..., \deg(a-1)\}$ , the coefficient  $a_i$  is nilpotent element in A. I just don't see this ...

**Lemma 7** (Lagrange Inversion Formula). Let K be a field of charateristic

**Example 7.1** (See 5.4.4).  $f(X) = Xe^{-X} = X \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k!} X^k$ 

$$[X^n]f^{-1}(X) = \frac{1}{n}[X^{n-1}]e^{nX}$$

**Lemma 8** (Lemma 2.20 (Additive Inversion Formula)). Let  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{C}$  be complex numbers. The formal inverse of  $a(X) = X(1 - (\alpha_1 X + \cdots + \alpha_m X^m))$  is given by the following formula

$$a^{-1}(X) = X \left( 1 + \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{n \ge 1} u_n X^n \right)$$

where

$$u_n = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{j_1 + 2j_2 + \dots + mj_m = n} \frac{(n + j_1 + \dots + j_m)!}{j_1! \cdots j_m!} \alpha_1^{j_1} \cdots \alpha_m^{j_m}$$

**Proposition 9** (Proposition 2.23). Let  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_m \in \mathbb{C}$  be complex numbers and let  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}_+}$  be a sequence defined by AIF in Lemma 2.20. For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$ , the Rigidity Conjecture  $R(m)_n$  is equivalent to the following implication: If  $u_n = \cdots = u_{n+m-1} = 0$  then  $\alpha_1 = \cdots = \alpha_m = 0$ .

**Theorem 10.** 1. The inclusion  $E^{[m]} \subset F_n^{[m]}$  implies  $R(m)_n$ 

Definition 11.

$$E^{[m]} = \{ X_1 \cdots X_m (\mu_1 X_1 + \cdots + \mu_m X_m) \mid \mu_1, \dots, \mu_m \in \mathbb{C} \} \subset$$

$$F_n^{[m]} = \left\{ f \in \mathbb{C}^{[m]} \setminus \{0\} \mid \mathcal{L}(f^k) \neq 0 \text{ for some } n \leq k \leq \mathcal{N}(f) - 1 \right\} \cup \{0\}$$