

On Proofs of Generalized Knuth's Old Sum

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Introduction

For non-negative integers n , the Reed-Dawson identity is given by

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \binom{n}{k} \binom{2k}{k} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2^n} \binom{n}{n/2} & \text{for } n \text{ even,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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- Notation: For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $(x)_n := x(x+1) \cdots (x+n-1)$ and $(x)_0 := 1$.

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2\nu} (-1)^k \binom{2\nu+i}{k+i} \binom{2k}{k} 2^{-k}$$

$$= \pi (2\nu+1)_i \frac{2^{2i} i!}{(2i)!} \sum_{r=0}^i \frac{2^{-r} \binom{i}{r} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}(i-r)\right)_\nu}{(i-r)! \Gamma^2\left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}(r-i)\right) \left(1 + \frac{1}{2}(i-r)\right)_\nu} \quad (1)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2\nu+1} (-1)^k \binom{2\nu+1+i}{k+i} \binom{2k}{k} 2^{-k}$$

$$= 2\pi (2\nu+2)_i \frac{2^{2i} i!}{(2i)!} \sum_{r=0}^i \frac{2^{-r} \binom{i}{r} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2}(i-r)\right)_\nu}{(i-r+1)! \Gamma^2\left(\frac{1}{2}(r-i)\right) \left(\frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2}(i-r)\right)_\nu} \quad (2)$$

Applying the basic properties of rising factorials, the Gamma function and the identity

$$\Gamma(z)\Gamma(1-z) = \frac{\pi}{\sin(\pi z)},$$

Rathie-Kim-Paris identities can be formulated as follows.

Main Results

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Identity 1

For all $m, n \in \mathbb{N}_0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{2n} (-1)^k \binom{4m+2}{2m+1} \binom{2n+2m+1}{k+2m+1} \binom{2k}{k} 2^{2n-k} \\ = \sum_{i=0}^m \binom{2n+2m+1}{2n} \binom{2m+1}{2i+1} \binom{2n+2m-2i}{n+m-i} 2^{2i+1}. \end{aligned}$$

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Identity 2

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Identity 3

For all $m, n \in \mathbb{N}_0$,

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For a fixed $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let S_n be the set of all words in the alphabet $\{a, b, c, d\}$ of length n such that $\#a\text{'s} = \#b\text{'s}$. Then $|S_n| = \binom{2n}{n}$.

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Proof

Let T_n be a set of bit strings of length $2n$ such that $\#0\text{'s} = \#1\text{'s}$. Then, $|T_n| = \binom{2n}{n}$. Define a bijection f between S_n and T_n as follows. For w in S_n , read w from left to right and replace a by 00 , b by 11 , c by 01 and d by 10 . Thus, $|S_n| = \binom{2n}{n}$.

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2n} (-1)^k \binom{4m+2}{2m+1} \binom{2n+2m+1}{k+2m+1} \binom{2k}{k} 2^{2n-k} = \sum_{i=0}^m \binom{2n+2m+1}{2n} \binom{2m+1}{2i+1} \binom{2n+2m-2i}{n+m-i} 2^{2i+1}.$$

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For fixed $n, m \in \mathbb{N}_0$, consider a set S of words in the alphabet

$$\{a, b, c, d, C, D, ?, ., !, *\}$$

such that w is in S if and only if the following conditions all hold:

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Example: Let $n = 3, m = 1$.

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Example: Let $n = 3$, $m = 1$. Then the word $w = ab?!adbC.$ is in S .

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For $w \in S$, define the weight of w , $Wt(w)$, by

$$Wt(w) = (-1)^{L(w)},$$

where $L(w) = \#$ lower case letters in w .

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$$\sum_{w \in S} Wt(w) = \sum_{k=0}^{2n} L_k(w) Wt(w) = \sum_{k=0}^{2n} L_k(w) (-1)^k = \sum_{k=0}^{2n} U_{2n-k}(w) (-1)^k,$$

where $U_{2n-k}(w) = \#$ w 's with $2n - k$ **uppercase letters**.

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$$U_{2n-k}(w) = 2^{2n-k} \binom{2n+2m+1}{2n-k} \binom{2k}{k} \binom{2(2m+1)}{2m+1}$$

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Now define a **sign reversing involution** σ on S as follows:

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w	$\sigma(w)$	$Wt(w)$	$Wt(\sigma(w))$
$ab?!adbC.$	$ab?!aDbC.$	-1	1

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Let T be the set of all w in S such that w has only lowercase letters a, b , and the special characters $., ?, !, *$. Then,

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$$\sum_{w \in S \setminus T} Wt(w) = 0.$$

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To find $|T|$, we condition on the number of $!$'s and $*$'s in a word $w \in T$. Consequently, we get

$$|T| = \sum_{i=0}^m \binom{2n+2m+1}{2m+1} \binom{2m+1}{2i+1} \binom{2(n+m-i)}{n+m-i} 2^{2i+1}.$$

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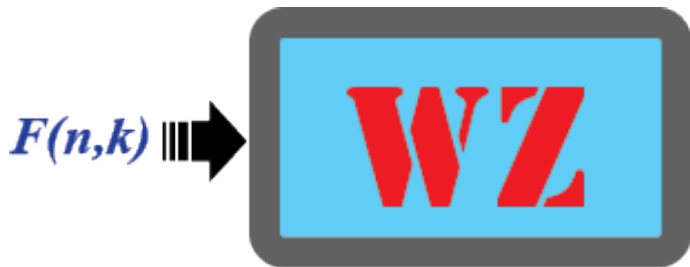
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- The production of the recurrences is done by applying the Wilf-Zeilberger (WZ) Algorithm on $F(n, k)$ and $H(n, k)$.

Computerized Proof: The WZ Style



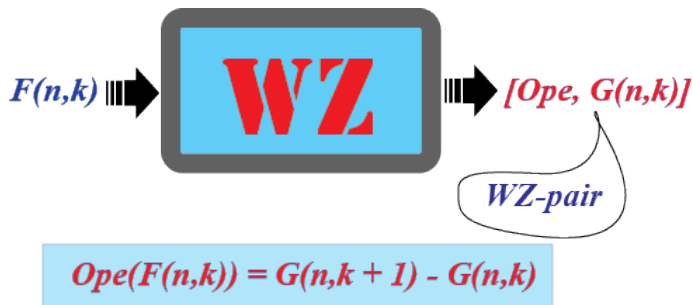
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Proof of Identity 3

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$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{2n+1} (-1)^k \binom{4m}{2m} \binom{2n+2m+1}{k+2m} \binom{2k}{k} 2^{2n-k} \\ = \sum_{i=0}^m \binom{2n+2m+1}{2n+1} \binom{2m}{2i+1} \binom{2n+2m-2i}{n+m-i} 2^{2i}. \end{aligned}$$

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Denote the **summands** of the left and right sides of the equation in Identity 3 by $F_1(n, m, k)$ and $F_2(n, m, i)$, respectively.

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Since $F_1(n, m, k) = 0$ for $k > 2n+1$ and $F_2(n, m, i) = 0$ for $i \geq m$, the equation in Identity 3 is equivalent to

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Denote the left and right sides of Equation (3) by $S(n, m)$ and $T(n, m)$, respectively.

To show that $S(n, m) = T(n, m)$ for all $m, n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, it suffices to show that both $S(n, m)$ and $T(n, m)$ satisfy the same recurrence relation with the same initial conditions.

Proof of Identity 3

Applying the **WZ** algorithm on $F_1(n, m, k)$ we get the WZ-equation

$$p_2(n, m)F_1(n+2, m, k) + p_1(n, m)F_1(n+1, m, k) + p_0(n, m)F_1(n, m, k) \\ = G_1(n, m, k+1) - G_1(n, m, k), \quad (4)$$

where

$$p_2(m, n) = 2n^2 + 9n + 10,$$

$$p_1(n, m) = -(16n^2 + (16m + 56)n + 8m^2 + 28m + 50),$$

$$p_0(n, m) = 32n^2 + (64m + 80)n + 32m^2 + 80m + 48,$$

$$G_1(n, m, k) = (-1)^k 2^{2n+2-k} \binom{4m}{2m} \binom{2n+2m+4}{k+2m-1} \binom{2k}{k} R_1(n, m, k),$$

$$R_1(n, m, k) = \frac{k(k^2 + (2m - 4n - 9)k + (-8m + 2)n - 18m + 4)}{n + m + 2}.$$

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Moreover,

$$S(0, m) = 2m \binom{4m}{2m} \quad \text{and} \quad S(1, m) = \binom{4m}{2m} \frac{4m(4m^2 + 6m + 5)}{3}.$$

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By applying the above procedure to $F_2(n, m, k)$ and $T(m, n)$, we get the same result.

Problem:

Generalized Knuth's old sum

$$S(m, n, i) := \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n+i}{k+i} \binom{mk}{k} m^{-k} = ? \text{Nice}(m, n, i).$$

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