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Example. Find the coefficient of x^{30} in $(x^2 + x^4 + x^6 + \dots)^5$.

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$$\begin{aligned} & (x^2 + x^4 + x^6 + \dots)^5 \\ &= x^{10}(1 + x^2 + x^4 + \dots)^5 \end{aligned}$$

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Definition. Given a sequence (a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots) , its generating function is the power series,

$$A(x) := a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots$$

Example. Sequence: $(1, 1, 1, \dots)$
Generating function:

$$\frac{1}{1 - x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots$$

Example. Sequence: $(1, 2, 3, \dots)$
Generating function:

$$\frac{1}{(1 - x)^2} = 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 4x^3 + \dots$$

Example. Sequence: $((\binom{n}{0}), (\binom{n}{1}), (\binom{n}{2}), \dots, (\binom{n}{n}), 0, 0, \dots)$
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Example. Find the coefficient of x^{30} in $(x^2 + x^4 + x^6 + \dots)^5$.

Solution.

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$$\frac{2}{(1-x)^3}$$

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$$(x^2 + x^4 + x^6 + \dots)^5 \\ = x^{10}(1 + x^2 + x^4 + \dots)^5 \\ = x^{10} \frac{1}{(1-x^2)^5} \\ = x^{10} \left(1 + \binom{5}{1}x^2 + \dots + \binom{5+k-1}{k}x^{2k} + \dots \right)$$

Answer: $\binom{14}{10}$

$$(a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 \dots) + (b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 \dots) \\ = (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + (a_2 + b_2)x^2 \dots$$

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Example. Find the generating function for the sequence $(1^2, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, n^2, \dots)$

Solution.

$$\frac{1}{(1-x)^2} = 1 + x + 2x^2 + 3x^3 + \dots$$

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Example. Sequence: $(1, \binom{n}{1}, \binom{n+1}{2}, \binom{n+2}{3}, \dots, \binom{n+k-1}{k}, \dots)$
Alternatively, $(1, n, \frac{n(n+1)}{2!}, \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3!}, \dots)$

Generating function:

$$\frac{1}{(1-x)^n} = 1 + nx + \frac{n(n+1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

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Example. Find the number of ways to distribute m identical objects in n distinct boxes.

$$\begin{aligned} & (a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 \cdots) + (b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 \cdots) \\ &= (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + (a_2 + b_2)x^2 \cdots \end{aligned}$$

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i.e. there exists m_1 and m_2

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Given any two $x, y \in A_i$, either $x|y$ or $y|x$.

So by pigeonhole principle, if we choose at least $k + 1$ numbers

then there will exist an x, y so that $x|y$

There exists $a_i \in A_i$ so that $\{a_1, \dots, a_k\}$ so that a_i does not divide a_j for any $i \neq j$

What is the right choice of A_i s?

$A_1 := \{1, 2, 4, 8, \dots, 2^s\}$, where s is such that $2^{s+1} > 60$
If it contained $2^r m$, where m is odd, then 2^{r+1} would not divide it

$$A_3 := \{3, 2 \times 3, 2^2 \times 3, \dots, 2^? \times 3\}$$

$$A_m := \{m, 2 \times m, 2^2 \times m, \dots, 2^? \times m\}$$

where m is odd

Given the set A_{m_1} and A_{m_2} , $m_1 \neq m_2$
choose $a_{m_1} \in A_{m_1}$ and $a_{m_2} \in A_{m_2}$
so that it has the highest power of 2

i.e. there exists m_1 and m_2 odd and k_1 and k_2

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If $2^{k_1} m_1 | 2^{k_2} m_2$ (m_1 and m_2 are odd)

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If $k_2 \geq k_1$, then $2^{k_2} m_2 \geq 2^{k_1+1} m_1 > 60$.

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which contradicts the choice of k_2

□