

Combinatorics HW Generating Function and Integer Partition

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Score:

1. Integer composition: Integer 5 is partitioned into orderly partitions which are made up by numbers 1,2,3,4. Such as $(1 + 1 + 3, \text{or } 1 + 3 + 1 \text{ or } 2 + 3, 4 + 1, \dots)$. How many different ways are there?

Using $C(n - 1, r - 1)$ for $r = n, \dots, 2$, we get

$$C(4,4) + C(4,3) + C(4,2) + C(4,1) = 15$$

2. Integer partition: How many ways to partition n into several numbers that the order between numbers is ignored. Please write the corresponding generating function.

$$G(x) = (1 + x + x^2 + \dots)(1 + x^2 + x^4 + \dots) \dots (1 + x^n + x^{2n} + \dots) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{1 - x^i}$$

3. Provide proof that the partition number for integer n using **different odd numbers** (ordering is ignored), equals to the partition number of n being partitioned into the self-conjugated Ferrers Diagrams.

Let $p = \{p_1, \dots, p_m\}$ be a unique odd partition of n into m parts, listed such that $p_1 > p_2 > \dots > p_m > 0$. To construct the self-conjugating Ferrers Diagram, use the following algorithm.

for $i = 1, \dots, m$

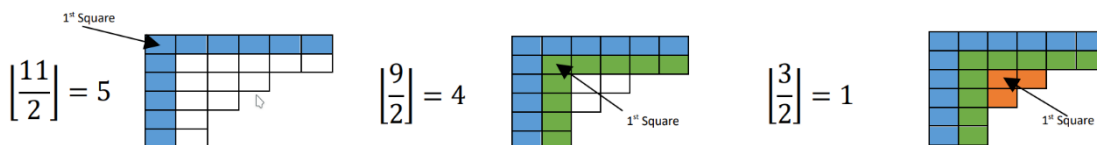
put a square in the top left corner

add $\left\lfloor \frac{p_i}{2} \right\rfloor$ squares below the first square

add $\left\lfloor \frac{p_i}{2} \right\rfloor$ squares to the left of the first square

This algorithm works because all p_i are odd, and hence can be expressed as $p_i = 2 \times \left\lfloor \frac{p_i}{2} \right\rfloor + 1$.

To see how this algorithm works, consider the following example of $n = 23$, $p = \{11, 9, 3\}$.



Now let q be a self-conjugating partition of n . Define the i th “hook”, h_i , of q to be the squares that make up the i th row and i th column, excluding the squares to the left and above the corner square. Let $|h_i|$ denote the number of squares in hook h_i . To create a unique odd partition, use the following algorithm.

let $p = \{\}$

for each hook h in q

$p = p \cup |h|$

The steps of the algorithm on the example above are: $p = \{\}$, add the blue hook: $p = \{11\}$, add the green hook: $p = \{11, 9\}$, add the orange hook: $p = \{11, 9, 3\}$.

Since there is exactly one result for each input in both algorithms, the number of partitions of n into different odd numbers is the same as the number of self-conjugating partitions. That is, we have a bijection between distinct odd partitions and self-conjugating partitions, hence the size of their sets is the same.