

**题目 1.** For each of the following  $s_n$ , determine  $s_n$  and its ordinary generating function.

$$1. s_n := \sum_{k=0}^n k \binom{n}{k};$$

$$2. s_n := \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{m+k}{m};$$

$$3. s_n := \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n-k}{k}.$$

**解答.** 1.

Notice that  $k \binom{n}{k} = n \binom{n-1}{k-1}$ . Hence  $s_n = n \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{k-1} = n 2^{n-1}$ .

Let  $F(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s_n x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n (2x)^{n-1} = x D(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2x)^n) = \frac{x}{(1-2x)^2}$ .

2. Let  $F_m(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s_n x^n$ . Then  $F_m(x) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( s_{n-1} + \binom{m+n}{m} \right) x^n = x F_m(x) + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{m+n}{m} x^n$

Let  $G_m(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{m+n}{n} x^n$ .

Then  $G_m(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{m+n}{n} x^n = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \binom{m+n-1}{n} x^n + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \binom{m+m-1}{n-1} x^n = x G_m(x) + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{m-1+n}{n} x^n = x G_m(x) + G_{m-1}(x)$ .

Since  $G_0(x) = \frac{1}{1-x}$ .  $G_m(x) = \left( \frac{1}{1-x} \right)^{m+1}$ . Hence  $F_m(x) = \left( \frac{1}{1-x} \right)^{m+2}$ .

When  $n \geq 2$ ,  $s_n = 1 + \binom{m+1}{1} + \binom{m+2}{2} + \dots + \binom{m+n}{n} = \binom{m+1}{0} + \binom{m+1}{1} + \binom{m+2}{2} + \dots + \binom{m+n}{n} = \binom{m+2}{1} + \binom{m+2}{2} + \dots + \binom{m+n}{n} = \binom{m+3}{2} + \binom{m+3}{3} + \dots + \binom{m+n}{n} = \binom{m+n+1}{n}$ .

3. We use the trick of swapping the summation order.

Let  $F(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s_n x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n-k}{k} x^n = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n \geq k} \binom{n-k}{k} x^n = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} x^k \sum_{n \geq k} (n-k)(n-k-1)\dots(n-k-k+1)x^{n-k} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^{2k} D^k \left( \sum_{n \geq k} x^{n-k} \right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2k}}{(1-x)^{k+1}} = \frac{1}{1-x} \frac{1}{1-\frac{x^2}{1-x}} = \frac{1}{1-x-x^2}$ .

so  $s_n$  = the Fibonacci numbers.

**题目 2.** Let  $S$  be a *colored set*, i.e., there exists a mapping  $c: S \rightarrow C$ , where the elements of  $C$  are called *colors*. A *rainbow subset* of a colored set is a subset in which every element has a distinct color.

Note that a rainbow subset does **not necessarily** contain all colors in  $C$ . Let  $S$  be a fixed colored set, where

$$C := [k] = \{1, 2, \dots, k\}.$$

Let  $n_i := |c^{-1}(i)|$ , i.e., the number of elements of color  $i$ . Define  $f_m$  to be the number of rainbow subsets of  $S$  of size  $m$ .

1. Find the generating function of  $f_m$ . (You do not need to express it in a closed simple form, but simplify as much as possible.)
2. Suppose  $n_1 = n_2 = \dots = n_k = n$ . Find  $f_m$ .
3. Suppose  $n_1 = 1, n_2 = 2, \dots, n_k = k$ . Find  $f_m$ .

**解答.** 1.

By the question, each color has  $n_i$  choices, hence the multiplication factor should be  $(1+n_i z_i)$ . Hence the generating function should be  $\prod_{i=1}^k (1+n_i z_i)$ . And We specilazation  $z_i = z$ . Hence the answer is  $\prod_{i=1}^k (1+n_i z)$ .

2. Too silly.  $\binom{m}{k} n^k$ .

### 同一行第一类斯特林数的计算

类似第二类斯特林数，我们构造同行第一类斯特林数的生成函数，即

$$F_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \begin{bmatrix} n \\ i \end{bmatrix} x^i$$

根据递推公式，不难写出

$$F_n(x) = (n-1)F_{n-1}(x) + xF_{n-1}(x)$$

于是

$$3. F_n(x) = \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} (x+i) = \frac{(x+n-1)!}{(x-1)!}$$

[\(hlink|斯特林数 - OI Wiki|\)](#)

[\(hlink| <https://oi-wiki.org/math/combinatorics/stirling/>\)](#)

So the answer is the first stirling number.

**题目 3.** Let  $R = \mathbb{C}[x]$ , and  $E = \text{End}_{\mathbb{C}}(R)$ . Consider the following two elements in  $E$ :

$$z: p \mapsto xp, \quad D: p \mapsto \frac{d}{dx} p.$$

All the following equations are regarded as equalities in  $E$ .

1. Prove that  $Dz^k - z^k D = k z^{k-1}$ . Here  $k$  is a natural number.
2. Find  $a_{n,k}$  such that

$$(zD)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n a_{n,k} z^k D^k.$$

3. Find  $b_{n,k}$  such that

$$z^n D^n = \sum_{k=0}^n b_{n,k} (zD)^k.$$

4. Find  $c_{n,i,j}$  such that

$$(z+D)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^n c_{n,i,j} z^i D^j.$$

解答. 1.

$\forall f \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ , suppose  $f = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ .  $Dz^k(f) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+k)a_n x^{n+k-1}$ .  $z^k D(f) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n+k-1}$ .

2.  $(zD)^{n+1} = zD(\sum_{k=0}^n a_{n,k} z^k D^k) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_{n,k} z(z^k D + k z^{k-1}) D^k = \sum_{k=0}^n a_{n,k} z^{k+1} D^{k+1} + \sum_{k=0}^n a_{n,k} k z^k D^k$

Hence  $a_{n+1} = a_{n,k-1} + k a_{n,k}$ .

That is still the first stirling number.

3. By the notes (you can see it in the following) .  $(-1)^{n-k} S(n, k)$ .

**题目 4.** Let  $f(n)$  be the number of partitions if  $n$  such that for every  $k$ ,  $k$  occurs in the partition at most  $k$  times. Let  $g(n)$  be the number of partitions of  $n$  such that no part has the form  $k(k+1)$  (i.e. no parts equal 2, 6, 12, ...). Show that  $f(n) = g(n)$ .

解答. Just Let  $F(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(n)x^n$  and  $G(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g(n)x^n$ . By the question,  $G(x) = \prod_{i \neq k(k+1), i \geq 1} \frac{1}{1-x^i}$ .

$$F(x) = (1+x)(1+x^2+x^4)(1+x^3+x^6+x^9) \cdots = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1-x^{i(i+1)}}{1-x^i}.$$

## Problem 5

Let  $f_k(m, n)$  denote the number of  $m \times n$   $\{0, 1\}$ -matrices with exactly  $k$  ones such that **each row contains at least one 1**.

Let  $g_k(m, n)$  denote the number of  $m \times n$   $\{0, 1\}$ -matrices with exactly  $k$  ones such that **each row and each column contain at least one 1**.

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(i) Find the generating function of  $f_k(m, n)$  with respect to  $k$ , that is, find

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} f_k(m, n) z^k.$$

(ii) Find the generating function of  $g_k(m, n)$  with respect to  $k$ , that is, find

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} g_k(m, n) z^k.$$

(iii) Prove that

$$\sum_{m, n, k \geq 0} g_k(m, n) z^k \frac{x^m}{m!} \frac{y^n}{n!} = e^{-x-y} \sum_{i, j \geq 0} (1+z)^{ij} \frac{x^i}{i!} \frac{y^j}{j!}.$$

解答. (i)

By the question, the generating function should be written as  $F_n = \prod_{i=1}^m \left( x + \binom{n}{2} x^2 + \binom{n}{3} x^3 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n} x^n \right) = ((1+x)^n - 1)^m$ .

(ii)

We use the PIE

$$\begin{aligned} |\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i| &= \sum_{\emptyset \neq J \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}} (-1)^{|J|+1} |\bigcap_{j \in J} A_j| \\ |\bigcap_{i=1}^n \overline{A_i}| &= |S - \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i| = |S| - \sum_{i=1}^n |A_i| + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |A_i \cap A_j| - \cdots + (-1)^n |A_1 \cap \cdots \cap A_n|. \end{aligned}$$

Set  $S = \{m \times n \text{ matrices with at least one 1 in every row}\}$ .

$E_i = \{E_i \in S : E_i \text{ has no 1 in the } i \text{ column}\}$ .

Then we use the second formula.

So  $\sum_{k \geq 0} g_k(m, n) z^k = F_n + \sum_{i=1}^n \binom{n}{i} (-1)^i F_{n-i}$ .

## 注记 1. Three polynomial bases

- Ordinary powers:  $x^n$ .
- Falling factorials:

$$x^n = x(x-1)\cdots(x-n+1), x^0 = 1.$$

- Rising factorials:

$$x^{\bar{n}} = x(x+1)\cdots(x+n-1), x^{\bar{0}} = 1,$$

with the basic relation  $x^{\bar{n}} = (-1)^n(-x)^n$ .

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### 1) Ordinary powers $\leftrightarrow$ Falling factorials (Stirling numbers)

- Expand ordinary powers in the falling basis

$$x^n = \sum_{k=0}^n S(n, k) x^k$$

where  $S(n, k)$  are the **Stirling numbers of the second kind** (partitions of an  $n$ -set into  $k$  nonempty blocks).

- Expand falling factorials in ordinary powers

$$x^n = \sum_{k=0}^n s(n, k) x^k$$

where  $s(n, k)$  are the **(signed) Stirling numbers of the first kind**, and  
 $s(n, k) = (-1)^{n-k} \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}$  with  $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}$  the **unsigned** ones.

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### 2) Ordinary powers $\leftrightarrow$ Rising factorials

- Expand ordinary powers in the rising basis

$$x^n = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n-k} S(n, k) x^{\bar{k}}$$

(obtained from  $x^k = (-1)^k(-x)^{\bar{k}}$ ).

- Expand rising factorials in ordinary powers

$$x^{\bar{n}} = \sum_{k=0}^n \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} x^k$$

where  $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} = (-1)^{n-k} s(n, k)$  are the **unsigned Stirling numbers of the first kind**.

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### 3) Falling factorials $\leftrightarrow$ Rising factorials (Lah numbers)

The change of basis between the two factorial bases is governed by the **Lah numbers**

$$L(n, k) = \binom{n-1}{k-1} \frac{n!}{k!} (1 \leq k \leq n).$$

- **Rising in terms of falling**

$$x^{\bar{n}} = \sum_{k=1}^n L(n, k) x^k$$

- **Falling in terms of rising**

$$x^n = \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^{n-k} L(n, k) x^{\bar{k}}$$


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### 4) Quick table ( $n \leq 4$ )

- $x^1 = x, x^2 = x^2 - x, x^3 = x^3 - 3x^2 + 2x, x^4 = x^4 - 6x^3 + 11x^2 - 6x.$
- $x^{\bar{1}} = x, x^{\bar{2}} = x^2 + x, x^{\bar{3}} = x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x, x^{\bar{4}} = x^4 + 6x^3 + 11x^2 + 6x.$

These identities give a complete and practical conversion kit among the three bases.