

## Exercises from Section 1.2.9

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1. [M12] What is the generating function for the sequence  $2, 5, 13, 35, \dots = \langle 2^n + 3^n \rangle$ ?

Let  $G(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} (2^n + 3^n) z^n$  be the generating function for the sequence  $\langle 2^n + 3^n \rangle$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} G(z) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (2^n + 3^n) z^n \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} 2^n z^n + \sum_{n \geq 0} 3^n z^n && \text{by Eq. (2)} \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (2z)^n + \sum_{n \geq 0} (3z)^n \\ &= \frac{1}{1-2z} + \frac{1}{1-3z}. && \text{by Eq. (5)} \end{aligned}$$

- 2. [M13] Prove Eq. (11).

**Proposition.**  $\left( \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{a_n}{n!} z^n \right) \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{b_n}{n!} z^n \right) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \binom{n}{k} a_k b_{n-k}}{n!} z^n$ .

*Proof.* Let  $n$  be an arbitrary nonnegative integer, and  $\langle a_n/n! \rangle, \langle b_n/n! \rangle$  two arbitrary sequences. We must show that

$$\left( \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{a_n}{n!} z^n \right) \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{b_n}{n!} z^n \right) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \binom{n}{k} a_k b_{n-k}}{n!} z^n.$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{a_n}{n!} z^n \right) \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{b_n}{n!} z^n \right) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \frac{a_k}{k!} \frac{b_{n-k}}{(n-k)!} z^n && \text{by Eq. (6)} \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \frac{1}{n!} \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} a_k b_{n-k} z^n \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \frac{1}{n!} \binom{n}{k} a_k b_{n-k} z^n \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \binom{n}{k} a_k b_{n-k}}{n!} z^n \end{aligned}$$

as we needed to show. □

3. [HM21] Differentiate the generating function (18) for  $\langle H_n \rangle$ , and compare this with the generating function for  $\langle \sum_{k=0}^n H_k \rangle$ . What relation can you deduce?

If we differentiate the generating function for the harmonic numbers  $\langle H_n \rangle$ , Eq. (18),

$$G(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} H_n z^n = \frac{1}{1-z} \ln \frac{1}{1-z},$$

we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dz} G(z) &= \frac{d}{dz} \left( \frac{1}{1-z} \ln \frac{1}{1-z} \right) \\ &= \frac{d}{dz} \left( \frac{1}{1-z} \right) \ln \frac{1}{1-z} + \frac{1}{1-z} \frac{d}{dz} \left( \ln \frac{1}{1-z} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-z)^2} \ln \frac{1}{1-z} + \frac{1}{1-z} \frac{d}{dz} \left( \ln \frac{1}{1-z} \right) && \text{by Eq. (16)} \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-z)^2} \ln \frac{1}{1-z} + \frac{1}{1-z} \frac{\frac{d}{dz} (1/(1-z))}{1/(1-z)} \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-z)^2} \ln \frac{1}{1-z} + \frac{1-z}{1-z} \frac{1}{(1-z)^2} && \text{by Eq. (16)} \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-z)^2} \ln \frac{1}{1-z} + \frac{1}{(1-z)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

The generating function for  $\langle \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} H_k \rangle$  is

$$\begin{aligned}
H(z) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} H_k z^n \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} H_k \cdot 1 \right) z^n \\
&= \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} H_n z^n \right) \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} 1 \cdot z^n \right) && \text{by Eq. (6)} \\
&= \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} H_n z^n \right) \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} z^n \right) \\
&= G(z) \frac{1}{1-z} && \text{by Eq. (5)} \\
&= \frac{1}{1-z} \ln \left( \frac{1}{1-z} \right) \frac{1}{1-z} \\
&= \frac{1}{(1-z)^2} \ln \frac{1}{1-z} \\
&= \frac{d}{dz} G(z) - \frac{1}{(1-z)^2} \\
&= \frac{d}{dz} G(z) - \frac{d}{dz} \frac{1}{1-z} && \text{by Eq. (16)} \\
&= \frac{d}{dz} G(z) - \sum_{n \geq 0} (n+1) z^n && \text{by Eq. (16)} \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} (n+1) H_{n+1} z^n - \sum_{n \geq 0} (n+1) z^n && \text{by Eq. (14)} \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} ((n+1) H_{n+1} - (n+1)) z^n \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} ((n+1) H_{n+1} - 1 - n) z^n \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( (n+1) H_{n+1} - \frac{n+1}{n+1} - n \right) z^n \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( (n+1) \left( H_{n+1} - \frac{1}{n+1} \right) - n \right) z^n \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} ((n+1) H_n - n) z^n \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} (n H_n + H_n - n) z^n.
\end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} H_k &= nH_n + H_n - n \\
 \iff \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} H_k - H_n &= nH_n - n \\
 \iff \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} H_k &= nH_n - n \\
 \iff \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} H_k - 0 &= nH_n - n \\
 \iff \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} H_k - H_0 &= nH_n - n \\
 \iff \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n-1} H_k &= nH_n - n,
 \end{aligned}$$

in agreement with Eq. 1.2.7-(8).

4. [M01] Explain why Eq. (19) is a special case of Eq. (21).

Eq. (19),

$$(1+z)^r = \sum_{k \geq 0} \binom{r}{k} z^k,$$

is a special case of Eq. (21),

$$x^r = \sum_{k \geq 0} \binom{r-kt}{k} \frac{r}{r-kt} z^k,$$

for  $t = 0$ . Then, since  $x^{t+1} = x^t + z = x = 1 + z$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 x^r &= (1+z)^r \\
 &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \binom{r-kt}{k} \frac{r}{r-kt} z^k \\
 &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \binom{r}{k} \frac{r}{r} z^k \\
 &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \binom{r}{k} z^k.
 \end{aligned}$$

5. [M20] Prove Eq. (23) by induction on  $n$ .

**Proposition.**  $(e^z - 1)^n = n! \sum_k \left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ n \end{matrix} \right\} \frac{z^k}{k!}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $n$  be an arbitrary nonnegative integer. We must show that

$$(e^z - 1)^n = n! \sum_k \left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ n \end{matrix} \right\} \frac{z^k}{k!}.$$

If  $n = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (e^z - 1)^0 &= 1 \\
 &= z^0 \\
 &= \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^0}{0!} \\
 &= \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!} \\
 &= 0! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ 0 \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then, assuming

$$(e^z - 1)^n = n! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!},$$

we must show

$$(e^z - 1)^{n+1} = (n+1)! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n+1 \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!}.$$

But

$$\begin{aligned}
 (e^z - 1)^{n+1} &= (e^z - 1)(e^z - 1)^n \\
 &= (e^z - 1)n! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!} \\
 &= \left( \left( \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{k!} z^k \right) - 1 \right) n! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!} && \text{by Eq. (22)} \\
 &= \left( \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{k!} z^k \right) \left( n! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!} \right) - n! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!} \\
 &= n! \left( \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{k!} z^k \right) \left( \sum_{k \geq 0} \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} \frac{1}{k!} z^k \right) - n! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!} \\
 &= n! \sum_k \frac{1}{k!} \sum_j \binom{k}{j} \begin{Bmatrix} j \\ n \end{Bmatrix} z^k - n! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!} && \text{by Eq. (11)} \\
 &= n! \sum_k \frac{1}{k!} \begin{Bmatrix} k+1 \\ n+1 \end{Bmatrix} z^k - n! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!} && \text{by Eq. 1.2.6-(52)} \\
 &= n! \sum_k \left( \begin{Bmatrix} k+1 \\ n+1 \end{Bmatrix} - \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} \right) \frac{z^k}{k!} \\
 &= n! \sum_k (n+1) \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n+1 \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!} && \text{by Eq. 1.2.6-(46)} \\
 &= (n+1)! \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n+1 \end{Bmatrix} \frac{z^k}{k!}
 \end{aligned}$$

as we needed to show. □

► 6. [HM15] Find the generating function for

$$\left\langle \sum_{0 < k < n} \frac{1}{k(n-k)} \right\rangle;$$

differentiate it and express the coefficients in terms of harmonic numbers.

The generating function for

$$\left\langle \sum_{0 < k < n} \frac{1}{k(n-k)} \right\rangle$$

is

$$\begin{aligned} G(z) &= \sum_{n>0} \sum_{0<k<n} \frac{1}{k(n-k)} z^n \\ &= \sum_{n>0} \sum_{0<k<n} \frac{1}{k} \frac{1}{n-k} z^n \\ &= \left( \sum_{n>0} \frac{1}{n} z^n \right) \left( \sum_{n>0} \frac{1}{n} z^n \right) && \text{by Eq. (6)} \\ &= \left( \sum_{n>0} \frac{1}{n} z^n \right)^2 \\ &= \left( \ln \frac{1}{1-z} \right)^2. && \text{by Eq. (17)} \end{aligned}$$

Differentiating, we find

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dz} G(z) &= \frac{d}{dz} \left( \ln \frac{1}{1-z} \right)^2 \\ &= 2 \ln \frac{1}{1-z} \frac{d}{dz} \ln \frac{1}{1-z} \\ &= 2 \ln \frac{1}{1-z} (1-z) \frac{d}{dz} \frac{1}{1-z} \\ &= 2 \ln \frac{1}{1-z} (1-z) \frac{1}{(1-z)^2} && \text{by Eq. (16)} \\ &= 2 \frac{1}{1-z} \ln \frac{1}{1-z} \\ &= 2 \sum_{n \geq 0} H_n z^n. && \text{by Eq. (18)} \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} G(z) &= \int_0^z \frac{d}{dt} G(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^z 2 \sum_{n \geq 0} H_n t^n dt \\ &= 2 \int_0^z \sum_{n \geq 0} H_n t^n dt \\ &= 2 \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{n} H_{n-1} z^n && \text{by Eq. (15)} \\ &= \sum_{n > 0} \frac{2}{n} H_{n-1} z^n. \end{aligned}$$

And so,

$$\sum_{0 < k < n} \frac{1}{k(n-k)} = 2H_{n-1}/n$$

for  $n > 0$ .

7. [M15] Verify all the steps leading to Eq. (38).

Suppose that we have  $n$  numbers  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and we want the sum

$$h_m = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq n} x_{j_1} \sum_{j_1 \leq j_2 \leq n} x_{j_2} \cdots \sum_{j_{m-1} \leq j_m \leq n} x_{j_m} = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_m},$$

expressed in terms of  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m$ , where

$$S_j = \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} x_k^j,$$

the sum of  $j$ th powers. First, we establish the identity

$$\sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_m} = \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_n = m}} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n}. \quad (7.1)$$

If  $n = 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq 1} x_{j_1} &= x_1 \\ &= x_1^1 \\ &= \sum_{\substack{k_1 \geq 0 \\ k_1 = 1}} x_1^{k_1}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, assuming

$$\sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_m} = \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_n = m}} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n},$$

we must show

$$\sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_{m+1} \leq n+1} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_{m+1}} = \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_{n+1} \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_{n+1} = m+1}} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_{n+1}^{k_{n+1}}.$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_{m+1} \leq n+1} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_{m+1}} &= \sum_{1 \leq j_{m+1} \leq n+1} x_{j_{m+1}} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m \leq j_{m+1}} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_m} \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq j_{m+1} \leq n+1} x_{j_{m+1}} \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_n = j_{m+1}}} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{k_1+1, k_2, \dots, k_n, 0 \geq 0 \\ k_1+1+k_2+\dots+k_n+0=n+1}} x_1^{k_1+1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n} x_{n+1}^0 \\ &\quad + \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2+1, \dots, k_n, 0 \geq 0 \\ k_1+k_2+1+\dots+k_n+0=n+1}} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2+1} \cdots x_n^{k_n} x_{n+1}^0 \\ &\quad + \cdots + \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n+1, 0 \geq 0 \\ k_1+k_2+\dots+k_n+1=n+1}} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n+1} x_{n+1}^0 \\ &\quad + \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n, 1 \geq 0 \\ k_1+k_2+\dots+k_n+1=n+1}} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n} x_{n+1}^1 \\ &= \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_{n+1} \geq 0 \\ k_1+k_2+\dots+k_{n+1}=n+1}} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_{n+1}^{k_{n+1}}, \end{aligned}$$

as we needed to show. Now let

$$G(z) = \sum_{k \geq 0} h_k z^k.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} G(z) &= \sum_{k \geq 0} h_k z^k \\ &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_k \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_k} z^k \\ &= \sum_{k \geq 0} z^k \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_k \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_k} \\ &= \sum_{k \geq 0} z^k \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_n = k}} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \cdots x_n^{k_n} && \text{by (7.1)} \\ &= \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{k \geq 0} x_j^k z^k && \text{by Eq. (9)} \\ &= \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{k \geq 0} (x_j z)^k \\ &= \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} \frac{1}{1 - x_j z} && \text{by Eq. (5)}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the logarithm yields

$$\begin{aligned} \ln G(z) &= \ln \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} \frac{1}{1 - x_j z} \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} \ln \frac{1}{1 - x_j z} \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{1}{k} (x_j z)^k && \text{by Eq. (17)} \\ &= \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{\sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} x_j^k z^k}{k} \\ &= \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{S_k z^k}{k}. \end{aligned}$$



Finally,

$$\begin{aligned}
G(z) &= e^{\ln G(z)} \\
&= \exp\left(\sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{S_k z^k}{k}\right) \\
&= \prod_{k \geq 1} e^{S_k z^k / k} \\
&= \prod_{k \geq 1} \sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{1}{j!} \left(\frac{S_k z^k}{k}\right)^j && \text{by Eq. (22)} \\
&= \prod_{k \geq 1} \sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{S_k^j (z^k)^j}{k^j j!} \\
&= \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{S_j^k}{j^k k!} (z^j)^k \\
&= \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{S_j^k}{j^k k!} z^{jk} \\
&= \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k/j \geq 0} \frac{S_j^{k/j}}{j^{k/j} (k/j)!} z^k \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} z^n \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_n = n}} \frac{S_1^{k_1/1}}{1^{k_1/1} (k_1/1)!} \frac{S_2^{k_2/2}}{2^{k_2/2} (k_2/2)!} \cdots \frac{S_n^{k_n/n}}{n^{k_n/n} (k_n/n)!} && \text{by Eq. (9)} \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} z^n \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + nk_n = n}} \frac{S_1^{k_1}}{1^{k_1} k_1!} \frac{S_2^{k_2}}{2^{k_2} k_2!} \cdots \frac{S_n^{k_n}}{n^{k_n} k_n!},
\end{aligned}$$

and hence Eq. (38).

8. [M23] Find the generating function for  $p(n)$ , the number of partitions of  $n$ .

The number of partitions  $p(n)$  corresponds to the number of solutions of the equation  $k_1 + 2k_2 +$

$\cdots + nk_n = n$ , where  $k_j \geq 0$  is the number of  $j$ s in the partition. For example, for  $n = 5$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(5) &= \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_5 \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + 5k_5 = 5}} 1 \\
 &= (1 \cdot 5 + 2 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0)/5 \\
 &\quad + (1 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0)/5 \\
 &\quad + (1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0)/5 \\
 &\quad + (1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0)/5 \\
 &\quad + (1 \cdot 0 + 2 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0)/5 \\
 &\quad + (1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot 0)/5 \\
 &\quad + (1 \cdot 0 + 2 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot 1)/5 \\
 &= (1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1)/5 \\
 &\quad + (1 + 1 + 1 + 2)/5 \\
 &\quad + (1 + 2 + 2)/5 \\
 &\quad + (1 + 1 + 3)/5 \\
 &\quad + (2 + 3)/5 \\
 &\quad + (1 + 4)/5 \\
 &\quad + (5)/5 \\
 &= 7.
 \end{aligned}$$

The generating function for  $p(n)$  is therefore obtained by making all possible combinations from 1 to  $n$  available through multiplication, so that the coefficient is the sum count of these combinations, as

$$G(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} p(n)z^n = \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k \geq 0} z^{jk}.$$

For example, for  $n = 5$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
[z^5]G(z) &= [z^5] \sum_{n \geq 0} p(n) z^n \\
&= [z^5] \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k \geq 0} z^{jk} \\
&= [z^5] \dots + z^{1 \cdot 5 + 2 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0} \\
&\quad + z^{1 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0} \\
&\quad + z^{1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0} \\
&\quad + z^{1 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0} \\
&\quad + z^{1 \cdot 0 + 2 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0} \\
&\quad + z^{1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot 0} \\
&\quad + z^{1 \cdot 0 + 2 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot 1} + \dots \\
&= [z^5] \dots + z^{1+1+1+1+1} \\
&\quad + z^{1+1+1+2} \\
&\quad + z^{1+2+2} \\
&\quad + z^{1+1+3} \\
&\quad + z^{2+3} \\
&\quad + z^{1+4} \\
&\quad + z^5 + \dots \\
&= [z^5] 7z^5 \\
&= 7.
\end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned}
G(z) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + nk_n = n}} z^n \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} z^n \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + nk_n = n}} 1^{k_1} 1^{k_2} \dots 1^{k_n} \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} z^n \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_n = n}} 1^{k_1/1} 1^{k_2/2} \dots 1^{k_n/n} \\
&= \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k/j \geq 0} 1^{k/j} z^k && \text{by Eq. (9)} \\
&= \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k \geq 0} z^{jk} \\
&= \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k \geq 0} (z^j)^k \\
&= \prod_{j \geq 1} \frac{1}{1 - z^j} && \text{by Eq. (5)} \\
&= \frac{1}{\prod_{n \geq 1} (1 - z^n)}.
\end{aligned}$$

That is,

$$\begin{aligned} G(z) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} p(n) z^n \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + nk_n = n}} z^n \\ &= \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k \geq 0} z^{jk} \\ &= \frac{1}{\prod_{n \geq 1} (1 - z^n)}. \end{aligned}$$

[G. Pólya, *Induction and Analogy in Mathematics* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1954), Chapter 6]

9. [M11] In the notation of Eqs. (34) and (35), what is  $h_4$  in terms of  $S_1, S_2, S_3,$  and  $S_4$ ?

Suppose that we have  $n$  numbers  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and we want the sum

$$h_m = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq n} x_{j_1} \sum_{j_1 \leq j_2 \leq n} x_{j_2} \cdots \sum_{j_{m-1} \leq j_m \leq n} x_{j_m} = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq \dots \leq j_m \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_m},$$

expressed in terms of  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m,$  where

$$S_j = \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} x_k^j,$$

the sum of  $j$ th powers. In particular,  $h_4$ . But

$$[z^4]G(z) = [z^4] \sum_{k \geq 0} h_k z^k \quad \text{by Eq. (35)}$$

$$= [z^4] \sum_{n \geq 0} z^n \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + nk_n = n}} \frac{S_1^{k_1}}{1^{k_1} k_1!} \frac{S_2^{k_2}}{2^{k_2} k_2!} \cdots \frac{S_n^{k_n}}{n^{k_n} k_n!} \quad \text{by Eq. (38)}$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4 \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + 3k_3 + 4k_4 = 4}} \frac{S_1^{k_1}}{1^{k_1} k_1!} \frac{S_2^{k_2}}{2^{k_2} k_2!} \frac{S_3^{k_3}}{3^{k_3} k_3!} \frac{S_4^{k_4}}{4^{k_4} k_4!}$$

$$= \frac{S_1^4}{1^4 4!} \frac{S_2^0}{2^0 0!} \frac{S_3^0}{3^0 0!} \frac{S_4^0}{4^0 0!}$$

$$+ \frac{S_1^2}{1^2 2!} \frac{S_2^1}{2^1 1!} \frac{S_3^0}{3^0 0!} \frac{S_4^0}{4^0 0!}$$

$$+ \frac{S_1^1}{1^1 1!} \frac{S_2^0}{2^0 0!} \frac{S_3^1}{3^1 1!} \frac{S_4^0}{4^0 0!}$$

$$+ \frac{S_1^0}{1^0 0!} \frac{S_2^2}{2^2 2!} \frac{S_3^0}{3^0 0!} \frac{S_4^0}{4^0 0!}$$

$$+ \frac{S_1^0}{1^0 0!} \frac{S_2^0}{2^0 0!} \frac{S_3^0}{3^0 0!} \frac{S_4^1}{4^1 1!}$$

$$= \frac{S_1^4}{1^4 4!} + \frac{S_1^2}{1^2 2!} \frac{S_2^1}{2^1 1!} + \frac{S_1^1}{1^1 1!} \frac{S_3^1}{3^1 1!} + \frac{S_2^2}{2^2 2!} + \frac{S_4^1}{4^1 1!}$$

$$= \frac{S_1^4}{24} + \frac{S_1^2 S_2}{2 \cdot 2} + S_1 \frac{S_3}{3} + \frac{S_2^2}{8} + \frac{S_4}{4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{24} S_1^4 + \frac{1}{4} S_1^2 S_2 + \frac{1}{8} S_2^2 + \frac{1}{3} S_1 S_3 + \frac{1}{4} S_4.$$

► 10. [M25] An elementary symmetric function is defined by the formula

$$e_m = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_m \leq n} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_m}.$$

(This is the same as  $h_m$  of Eq. (33), except that equal subscripts are not allowed.) Find the generating function for  $e_m$ , and express  $e_m$  in terms of the  $S_j$  in Eq. (34). Write out the formulas for  $e_1$ ,  $e_2$ ,  $e_3$ , and  $e_4$ .

Suppose that we have  $n$  numbers  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and we want the elementary symmetric function

$$e_m = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq n} x_{j_1} \sum_{j_1 < j_2 \leq n} x_{j_2} \dots \sum_{j_{m-1} < j_m \leq n} x_{j_m} = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_m \leq n} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_m},$$

expressed in terms of  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m$ , where

$$S_j = \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} x_k^j,$$

the sum of  $j$ th powers. First, we establish the identity

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_k} z^k = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} (1 + x_j z). \quad (10.1)$$

If  $n = 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 \leq 1} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_k} z^k &= \sum_{k \geq 0} x_1 \dots x_{j_k} z^k \\ &= z^0 + x_1 z^1 \\ &= 1 + x_1 z \\ &= \prod_{1 \leq j \leq 1} (1 + x_j z). \end{aligned}$$

Then, assuming

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_k} z^k = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} (1 + x_j z),$$

we must show

$$\sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_{k+1} \leq n+1} x_{j_1} \dots x_{j_{k+1}} z^{k+1} = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n+1} (1 + x_j z).$$

But

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_{k+1} \leq n+1} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_{k+1}} z^{k+1} \\
&= \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_{k+1} \leq n+1} x_{j_{k+1}} z \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k < j_{k+1}} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_k} z^k \\
&= \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_{k+1} < n+1} x_{j_{k+1}} z \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k < j_{k+1}} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_k} z^k \\
&\quad + \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{j_{k+1} = n+1} x_{j_{k+1}} z \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k < j_{k+1}} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_k} z^k \\
&= \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_k} z^k + \sum_{k \geq 0} x_{n+1} z \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_k} z^k \\
&= (1 + x_{n+1} z) \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_k} z^k \\
&= (1 + x_{n+1} z) \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} (1 + x_j z) \\
&= \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n+1} (1 + x_j z),
\end{aligned}$$

as we needed to show. Now let

$$G(z) = \sum_{k \geq 0} e_k z^k.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
G(z) &= \sum_{k \geq 0} e_k z^k \\
&= \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_k \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_k} z^k \\
&= \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} (1 + x_j z). \qquad \text{by (10.1)}
\end{aligned}$$

Taking the logarithm yields

$$\begin{aligned}
\ln G(z) &= \ln \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} (1 + x_j z) \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} \ln(1 + x_j z) \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k} (x_j z)^k \qquad \text{by Eq. (24)} \\
&= \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} \sum_{1 \leq j \leq n} x_j^k z^k}{k} \\
&= \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} S_k z^k}{k}.
\end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned}
G(z) &= e^{\ln G(z)} \\
&= \exp \left( \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{k+1} S_k z^k}{k} \right) \\
&= \prod_{k \geq 1} e^{(-1)^{k+1} S_k z^k / k} \\
&= \prod_{k \geq 1} \sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{1}{j!} \left( \frac{(-1)^{k+1} S_k z^k}{k} \right)^j && \text{by Eq. (22)} \\
&= \prod_{k \geq 1} \sum_{j \geq 0} \frac{((-1)^{k+1} S_k)^j (z^k)^j}{k^j j!} \\
&= \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{((-1)^{j+1} S_j)^k}{j^k k!} (z^j)^k \\
&= \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{((-1)^{j+1} S_j)^k}{j^k k!} z^{jk} \\
&= \prod_{j \geq 1} \sum_{k/j \geq 0} \frac{((-1)^{j+1} S_j)^{k/j}}{j^{k/j} (k/j)!} z^k \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} z^n \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_n = n}} \frac{((-1)^{1+1} S_1)^{k_1/1}}{1^{k_1/1} (k_1/1)!} \frac{((-1)^{2+1} S_2)^{k_2/2}}{2^{k_2/2} (k_2/2)!} \\
&\quad \dots \frac{((-1)^{n+1} S_n)^{k_n/n}}{n^{k_n/n} (k_n/n)!} && \text{by Eq. (9)} \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} z^n \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + nk_n = n}} \frac{S_1^{k_1}}{1^{k_1} k_1!} \frac{(-S_2)^{k_2}}{2^{k_2} k_2!} \dots \frac{((-1)^{n+1} S_n)^{k_n}}{n^{k_n} k_n!},
\end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned}
G(z) &= \sum_{k \geq 0} e_k z^k \\
&= \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < \dots < j_m \leq n} x_{j_1} \cdots x_{j_m} z^k \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} z^n \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + nk_n = n}} \frac{S_1^{k_1}}{1^{k_1} k_1!} \frac{(-S_2)^{k_2}}{2^{k_2} k_2!} \dots \frac{((-1)^{n+1} S_n)^{k_n}}{n^{k_n} k_n!}.
\end{aligned}$$

We then have

$$\begin{aligned}
e_1 &= \sum_{\substack{k_1 \geq 0 \\ k_1 = 1}} \frac{S_1^{k_1}}{1^{k_1} k_1!} \\
&= \frac{S_1^1}{1^1 1!} \\
&= S_1,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
e_2 &= \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2 \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 = 2}} \frac{S_1^{k_1}}{1^{k_1} k_1!} \frac{(-S_2)^{k_2}}{2^{k_2} k_2!} \\
&= \frac{S_1^2}{1^2 2!} \frac{(-S_2)^0}{2^0 0!} + \frac{S_1^0}{1^0 0!} \frac{(-S_2)^1}{2^1 1!} \\
&= \frac{S_1^2}{2} + \frac{-S_2}{2} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} S_1^2 - \frac{1}{2} S_2,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
e_3 &= \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, k_3 \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + 3k_3 = 3}} \frac{S_1^{k_1}}{1^{k_1} k_1!} \frac{(-S_2)^{k_2}}{2^{k_2} k_2!} \frac{S_3^{k_3}}{3^{k_3} k_3!} \\
&= \frac{S_1^3}{1^3 3!} \frac{(-S_2)^0}{2^0 0!} \frac{S_3^0}{3^0 0!} + \frac{S_1^1}{1^1 1!} \frac{(-S_2)^1}{2^1 1!} \frac{S_3^0}{3^0 0!} + \frac{S_1^0}{1^0 0!} \frac{(-S_2)^0}{2^0 0!} \frac{S_3^1}{3^1 1!} \\
&= \frac{S_1^3}{3!} + S_1 \frac{-S_2}{2} + \frac{S_3}{3} \\
&= \frac{1}{6} S_1^3 - \frac{1}{2} S_1 S_2 + \frac{1}{3} S_3,
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
e_4 &= \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4 \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + 3k_3 + 4k_4 = 4}} \frac{S_1^{k_1}}{1^{k_1} k_1!} \frac{(-S_2)^{k_2}}{2^{k_2} k_2!} \frac{S_3^{k_3}}{3^{k_3} k_3!} \frac{(-S_4)^{k_4}}{4^{k_4} k_4!} \\
&= \frac{S_1^4}{1^4 4!} \frac{(-S_2)^0}{2^0 0!} \frac{S_3^0}{3^0 0!} \frac{(-S_4)^0}{4^0 0!} + \frac{S_1^2}{1^2 2!} \frac{(-S_2)^1}{2^1 1!} \frac{S_3^0}{3^0 0!} \frac{(-S_4)^0}{4^0 0!} \\
&\quad + \frac{S_1^1}{1^1 1!} \frac{(-S_2)^0}{2^0 0!} \frac{S_3^1}{3^1 1!} \frac{(-S_4)^0}{4^0 0!} + \frac{S_1^0}{1^0 0!} \frac{(-S_2)^2}{2^2 2!} \frac{S_3^0}{3^0 0!} \frac{(-S_4)^0}{4^0 0!} + \frac{S_1^0}{1^0 0!} \frac{(-S_2)^0}{2^0 0!} \frac{S_3^0}{3^0 0!} \frac{(-S_4)^1}{4^1 1!} \\
&= \frac{S_1^4}{4!} + \frac{S_1^2}{2} \frac{-S_2}{2} + S_1 \frac{S_3}{3} + \frac{S_2^2}{4 \cdot 2!} + \frac{-S_4}{4} \\
&= \frac{1}{24} S_1^4 - \frac{1}{4} S_1^2 S_2 + \frac{1}{3} S_1 S_3 + \frac{1}{8} S_2^2 - \frac{1}{4} S_4.
\end{aligned}$$

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[Isaac Newton, *Arithmetica Universalis* (1707); D. J. Struik, *Source Book in Mathematics* (Harvard University Press, 1969), 94–95]

► **11.** [M25] Equation (39) can also be used to express the  $S$ 's in term of the  $h$ 's: We find  $S_1 = h_1$ ,  $S_2 = 2h_2 - h_1^2$ ,  $S_3 = 3h_3 - 3h_1 h_2 + h_1^3$ , etc. What is the coefficient of  $h_1^{k_1} h_2^{k_2} \dots h_m^{k_m}$  in this representation of  $S_m$ , when  $k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + mk_m = m$ ?

From Eq. (39),

$$h_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} S_k h_{n-k}$$



for  $n \geq 1$ ; or equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned}
 h_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} S_k h_{n-k} &\iff nh_n = \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} S_k h_{n-k} \\
 &\iff nh_n = S_n h_0 + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n-1} S_k h_{n-k} \\
 &\iff S_n h_0 = nh_n - \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n-1} S_k h_{n-k} \\
 &\iff S_n = nh_n - \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n-1} S_k h_{n-k}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that for  $G(z) = \sum_{k \geq 0} h_k z^k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{S_k z^k}{k} &= \ln G(z) && \text{by Eq. (37)} \\
 &= \ln \sum_{k \geq 0} h_k z^k \\
 &= \ln \left( h_0 z^0 + \sum_{k \geq 1} h_k z^k \right) \\
 &= \ln \left( 1 + \sum_{k \geq 1} h_k z^k \right) \\
 &= \sum_{m \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{m} \left( \sum_{k \geq 1} h_k z^k \right)^m && \text{by Eq. (24)} \\
 &= \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{k} \left( \sum_{m \geq 1} h_m z^m \right)^k.
 \end{aligned}$$

By the *multinomial theorem*<sup>1</sup>, Eqs. 1.2.6-(42) and 1.2.6-(41),

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{m \geq 1} \frac{S_m z^m}{m} \\
&= \sum_{m \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{m} \left( \sum_{k \geq 1} h_k z^k \right)^m \\
&= \sum_{m \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{m} \left( \sum_{1 \leq k \leq m} h_k z^k \right)^m \\
&= \sum_{m \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{m} \left( \sum_{1 \leq k \leq m} h_k z^k \right)^m \\
&= \sum_{m \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{m} \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m = m}} \binom{m}{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq m} (h_j z^j)^{k_j} \\
&= \sum_{m \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{m} \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m = m}} \frac{m!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_m!} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq m} (h_j z^j)^{k_j} \\
&= \sum_{m \geq 1} \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m = m}} \frac{(-1)^{m-1} (m-1)!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_m!} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq m} h_j^{k_j} z^{j k_j} \\
&= \sum_{m \geq 1} \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m = m}} \frac{(-1)^{k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m - 1} (k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m - 1)!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_m!} \\
&\quad h_1^{k_1} h_2^{k_2} \dots h_m^{k_m} z^{k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + mk_m} \\
&= \sum_{m \geq 1} \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + mk_m = m}} \frac{(-1)^{k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m - 1} (k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m - 1)!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_m!} h_1^{k_1} h_2^{k_2} \dots h_m^{k_m} z^m.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{m \geq 1} S_m z^m \\
&= \sum_{m \geq 1} \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + mk_m = m}} \frac{(-1)^{k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m - 1} m (k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m - 1)!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_m!} h_1^{k_1} h_2^{k_2} \dots h_m^{k_m} z^m.
\end{aligned}$$

That is, the coefficient of  $h_1^{k_1} h_2^{k_2} \dots h_m^{k_m}$  in this representation of  $S_m$ , when  $k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + mk_m = m$  is

$$(-1)^{k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m - 1} m (k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m - 1)! / k_1! k_2! \dots k_m!.$$

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[Albert Girard, *Invention Nouvelle en Algèbre* (Amsterdam: 1629)]

► **12.** [M20] Suppose we have a doubly scripted sequence  $\langle a_{mn} \rangle$  for  $m, n = 0, 1, \dots$ ; show how this double sequence can be represented by a *single* generating function of two variables, and determine the generating function for  $\langle \binom{n}{m} \rangle$ .

<sup>1</sup>See H. Richter, Ein einfacher Beweis der Newtonschen und der Waringschen Formel für die Potenzsummen, *Archiv der Mathematik* **2** (1949) 1–4.

Given a sequence  $\langle a_{m,n} \rangle = \langle \binom{n}{m} \rangle$  for  $m, n \geq 0$ , we find the generating function to be

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{m,n \geq 0} a_{m,n} w^m z^n &= \sum_{m,n \geq 0} \binom{n}{m} w^m z^n \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{m \geq 0} \binom{n}{m} w^m z^n \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (1+w)^n z^n && \text{by Eq. (19)} \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (z+wz)^n \\
 &= 1/(1-(z+wz)) && \text{by Eq. (5)} \\
 &= 1/(1-z-wz).
 \end{aligned}$$

**13.** [HM22] The *Laplace transform* of a function  $f(x)$  is the function

$$\mathbf{L}f(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt.$$

Given that  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  is an infinite sequence having a convergent generating function, let  $f(x)$  be the step function  $\sum_k a_k [0 \leq k \leq x]$ . Express the Laplace transform of  $f(x)$  in terms of the generating function  $G$  for this sequence.

Given the step function  $f(x) = \sum_{0 \leq k \leq x} a_k$  and generating function  $G(z)$  of  $\langle a_n \rangle$  as

$$G(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n z^n,$$

we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{L}f(s) &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t) dt \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} \int_n^{n+1} e^{-st} f(t) dt \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} \int_n^{n+1} f(t) e^{-st} dt \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} \int_n^{n+1} \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} a_k e^{-st} dt \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \int_n^{n+1} a_k e^{-st} dt \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} a_k \int_n^{n+1} e^{-st} dt \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n) \int_n^{n+1} e^{-st} dt \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n) \left. \frac{-1}{s} e^{-st} \right|_n^{n+1} \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n) \left( \frac{-1}{s} e^{-s(n+1)} - \frac{-1}{s} e^{-sn} \right) \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n) (e^{-sn} - e^{-s(n+1)}) / s \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n) e^{-sn} / s - \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n) e^{-s(n+1)} / s \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n) e^{-sn} / s - \sum_{n \geq 1} f(n-1) e^{-sn} / s \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n) e^{-sn} / s - \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n-1) e^{-sn} / s \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} (f(n) - f(n-1)) e^{-sn} / s \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n e^{-sn} / s \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n (e^{-s})^n / s \\
&= G(e^{-s}) / s.
\end{aligned}$$

14. [HM21] Prove Eq. (13).

We may prove Eq. (13).

**Proposition.**  $\sum_{n \bmod m=r} a_n z^n = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{0 \leq k < m} \omega^{-kr} G(\omega^k z)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $m$  and  $r$  be arbitrary integers such that  $0 \leq r < m$ , and let  $\omega = e^{2\pi i/m} = \cos(2\pi/m) + i \sin(2\pi/m)$ . If  $G(z)$  is the generating function for  $\langle a_n \rangle = a_0, a_1, \dots$ , we

must show that

$$\sum_{\substack{n>0 \\ n \bmod m=r}} a_n z^n = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{0 \leq k < m} \omega^{-kr} G(\omega^k z).$$

But given  $\omega = e^{2\pi i/m}$  and the sum of the geometric progression for  $n$  restricted such that  $n \bmod m = r$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{n>0 \\ n \bmod m=r}} a_n z^n &= \sum_{\substack{n>0 \\ n-r \equiv 0 \pmod{m}}} a_n z^n \\ &= \sum_{n>0} [n-r \equiv 0 \pmod{m}] a_n z^n \\ &= \frac{m}{m} \sum_{n>0} [n-r \equiv 0 \pmod{m}] a_n z^n \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{n>0} a_n z^n [n-r \equiv 0 \pmod{m}] m \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{n>0} a_n z^n [n-r \equiv 0 \pmod{m}] \sum_{0 \leq k < m} 1^k \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{n>0} a_n z^n \sum_{0 \leq k < m} (1^{(n-r)/m})^k \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{n>0} a_n z^n \sum_{0 \leq k < m} ((-1)^{2(n-r)/m})^k \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{n>0} a_n z^n \sum_{0 \leq k < m} (e^{2\pi i(n-r)/m})^k \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{n>0} a_n z^n \sum_{0 \leq k < m} (\omega^{n-r})^k \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{n>0} a_n z^n \sum_{0 \leq k < m} \omega^{k(n-r)} \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{n>0} a_n z^n \sum_{0 \leq k < m} \omega^{kn-r} \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{n>0} a_n z^n \sum_{0 \leq k < m} \omega^{-kr} \omega^{kn} \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{0 \leq k < m} \omega^{-kr} \sum_{n>0} a_n \omega^{kn} z^n \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{0 \leq k < m} \omega^{-kr} \sum_{n>0} a_n (\omega^k z)^n \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{0 \leq k < m} \omega^{-kr} G(\omega^k z), \end{aligned}$$

and hence the result. □

15. [M28] By considering  $H(w) = \sum_{n \geq 0} G_n(z)w^n$ , find a closed form for the generating function

$$G_n(z) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n-k}{k} z^k = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{2k-n-1}{k} (-z)^k.$$

In the case that  $n > 0$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} G_n(z) &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \binom{n-k}{k} z^k \\ &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \left( \binom{n-k-1}{k} + \binom{n-k-1}{k-1} \right) z^k && \text{by 1.2.6-(9)} \\ &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \binom{n-k-1}{k} z^k + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \binom{n-k-1}{k-1} z^k \\ &= \binom{n-n-1}{n} z^n + \binom{n-n-1}{n-1} z^n \\ &\quad + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} z^k + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k-1} z^k \\ &= 0 + 0 \\ &\quad + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} z^k + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k-1} z^k \\ &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} z^k + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k-1} z^k \\ &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} z^k + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k-1} z^k + \binom{n-1}{-1} z^0 \\ &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} z^k + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k-1} z^k + 0 \\ &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} z^k + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k-1} z^k \\ &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} z^k + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-2} \binom{n-k-2}{k} z^{k+1} \\ &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{(n-1)-k}{k} z^k + z \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-2} \binom{(n-2)-k}{k} z^k \\ &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{(n-1)-k}{k} z^k + z \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-2} \binom{(n-2)-k}{k} z^k + \delta_{n,0}; \\ &= G_{n-1}(z) + zG_{n-2}(z) + \delta_{n,0}; \end{aligned}$$

and in the case that  $n = 0$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
G_n(z) &= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq 0} \binom{0-k}{k} z^k \\
&= \binom{0-0}{0} z^0 \\
&= \binom{0}{0} z^0 \\
&= 1 \\
&= \delta_{n,0} \\
&= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-1} \binom{(n-1)-k}{k} z^k + z \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n-2} \binom{(n-2)-k}{k} z^k + \delta_{n,0} \\
&= G_{n-1}(z) + zG_{n-2}(z) + \delta_{n,0}.
\end{aligned}$$

That is, in either case,

$$G_n(z) = G_{n-1}(z) + zG_{n-2}(z) + \delta_{n,0}.$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
H(w) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} G_n(z) w^n \\
&= G_0(z) + G_1(z)w + G_2(z)w^2 + \cdots, \\
wH(w) &= G_0(z)w + G_1(z)w^2 + G_2(z)w^3 + \cdots, \\
zw^2H(w) &= zG_0(z)w^2 + zG_1(z)w^3 + zG_2(z)w^4 + \cdots;
\end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned}
H(w) - wH(w) - zw^2H(w) &= H(w)(1 - w - zw^2) \\
&= G_0(z) + (G_1(z) - G_0(z))w + (G_2(z) - (G_1(z) + zG_0(z)))w^2 + \cdots \\
&= G_0(z) + (G_1(z) - G_0(z))w + (G_2(z) - (G_1(z) + zG_0(z) + \delta_{2,0}))w^2 + \cdots \\
&= G_0(z) + (G_1(z) - G_0(z))w + (G_2(z) - G_2(z))w^2 + \cdots \\
&= G_0(z) + (G_1(z) - G_0(z))w \\
&= G_0(z) + G_1(z)w - G_0(z)w \\
&= G_0(z) + (G_0(z) + zG_{-1}(z) + \delta_{1,0})w - G_0(z)w \\
&= G_0(z) + G_0(z)w - G_0(z)w \\
&= G_0(z), \\
&= 1,
\end{aligned}$$

or equivalently, so that

$$H(w) = 1/(1 - w - zw^2).$$

Then, if  $z \neq -\frac{1}{4}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
H(w) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} G_n(z) w^n \\
&= 1/(1 - w - zw^2) \\
&= \frac{1}{1 - \frac{2}{2}w - \frac{\sqrt{1+4z}}{2}w + \frac{\sqrt{1+4z}}{2}w - \frac{4z}{4}w^2} \\
&= \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}w - \frac{\sqrt{1+4z}}{2}w - \frac{1}{2}w + \frac{\sqrt{1+4z}}{2}w + \frac{1-1-4z}{4}w^2} \\
&= \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})w - \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})w + \frac{1}{4}(1 + \sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z} - (1+4z))w^2} \\
&= \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})w - \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})w + \frac{1}{4}(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})w^2} \\
&= \frac{4x^2}{4x^2 - 2x^2(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})w - 2x^2(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})w + x^2(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})w^2} \\
&= \frac{(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})(2\sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z}(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})w)}{(2\sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z}(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})w)(2\sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z}(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})w)} \\
&\quad - \frac{(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})(2\sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z}(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})w)}{(2\sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z}(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})w)(2\sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z}(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})w)} \\
&= \frac{1 + \sqrt{1+4z}}{2\sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z}(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})w} - \frac{1 - \sqrt{1+4z}}{2\sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z}(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})w} \\
&= \frac{1 + \sqrt{1+4z}}{2\sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z}(1 + \sqrt{1+4z})w} - \frac{1 - \sqrt{1+4z}}{2\sqrt{1+4z} - \sqrt{1+4z}(1 - \sqrt{1+4z})w} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+4z}} \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right) \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1+\sqrt{1+4z}}{2}w} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+4z}} \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right) \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1-\sqrt{1+4z}}{2}w} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+4z}} \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right) \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right)^n w^n \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+4z}} \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right) \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right)^n w^n \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+4z}} \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right)^{n+1} w^n - \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right)^{n+1} w^n \right) \\
&= \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+4z}} \left( \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right)^{n+1} - \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right)^{n+1} \right) w^n
\end{aligned}$$

by Eq. (5)

if and only if

$$G_n(z) = \left( \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right)^{n+1} - \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right)^{n+1} \right) / \sqrt{1+4z};$$



and if  $z = -\frac{1}{4}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{n \geq 0} G_n \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right) w^n &= 1 / \left(1 - w + \frac{1}{4}w^2\right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\frac{1}{4}w^2 - \frac{1}{2}w - \frac{1}{2}w + 1} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\left(\frac{w}{2} - 1\right)^2} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\left(1 - \frac{w}{2}\right)^2} \\
 &= \left(\frac{1}{1 - \frac{w}{2}}\right)^2 \\
 &= \left(\sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{2^n} w^n\right)^2 && \text{by Eq. (5)} \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \frac{1}{2^k} w^k \frac{1}{2^{n-k}} w^{n-k} && \text{by Eq. (6)} \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} \frac{1}{2^n} w^n \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{2^n} w^n \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} 1 \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{2^n} w^n (n+1) \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{(n+1)}{2^n} w^n,
 \end{aligned}$$

so that for  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$G_n \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right) = (n+1)/2^n.$$

Hence, for  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$G_n(z) = \begin{cases} \left( \left( \frac{1+\sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right)^{n+1} - \left( \frac{1-\sqrt{1+4z}}{2} \right)^{n+1} \right) / \sqrt{1+4z} & \text{if } z \neq -\frac{1}{4} \\ (n+1)/2^n & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**16.** [M22] Give a simple formula for the generating function  $G_{nr}(z) = \sum_k a_{nkr} z^k$ , where  $a_{nkr}$  is the number of ways to choose  $k$  out of  $n$  objects, subject to the condition that each object may be chosen at most  $r$  times. (If  $r = 1$ , we have  $\binom{n}{k}$  ways, and if  $r \geq k$ , we have the number of combinations with repetitions as in exercise 1.2.6-60.)

We want to find  $a_{n,k,r}$ , the number of ways to choose  $k$  out of  $n$  objects, subject to the condition that each object may be chosen at most  $r$  times.

Letting  $z$  be the formal parameter of our generating function  $G_{n,r}(z)$ , the number of ways to choose an object zero times is  $[z^0]G_{1,0}(z) = 1$ ; the number of ways to choose an object one time is  $[z^1]G_{1,1} = 1$ ; and the number of ways to choose an object  $r$  times is  $[z^r]G_{1,r} = 1$ . That is,  $G_{1,r}(z) = 1 + z + \cdots + z^r$ . For  $n$  classes of objects, this is then given by the generating function

$$G_{n,r}(z) = (1 + z + \cdots + z^r)^n = \left( \frac{1 - z^{r+1}}{1 - z} \right)^n.$$

In the case that  $r = 1$ , we have that

$$G_{n,1}(z) = (1+z)^n = \sum_k \binom{n}{k} z^k,$$

or equivalently that  $a_{n,k,1} = \binom{n}{k}$ ; and in the case that  $r \geq k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} G_{n,r}(z) &= (1+z+\cdots)^n \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{1-z}\right)^n \\ &= (1-z)^{-n} \\ &= \sum_k \binom{-n}{k} (-z)^k \\ &= \sum_k (-1)^k \binom{k-(n+k-1)-1}{k} z^k \\ &= \sum_k \binom{n+k-1}{k} z^k \end{aligned} \quad \text{by Eq. 1.2.6-(17)}$$

as shown in exercise 1.2.6-60, or equivalently that  $a_{n,k,r} = \binom{n+k-1}{k}$  for  $r \geq k$ ,  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

[exercise 1.2.6-60]

**17.** [M25] What are the coefficients of  $1/(1-z)^w$  if this function is expanded into a *double* power series in terms of both  $z$  and  $w$ ?

We have

$$\begin{aligned} 1/(1-z)^w &= 1/(1-z)^{(w-1)+1} \\ &= \sum_k \binom{-(w-1)-1}{k} (-z)^k && \text{by Eq. (20)} \\ &= \sum_k \binom{-w}{k} (-z)^k \\ &= \sum_k (-1)^k \binom{-w}{k} z^k \\ &= \sum_k (-1)^k ((-w)^{\underline{k}}/k!) z^k && \text{by Eq. 1.2.6-(3)} \\ &= \sum_k (-1)^k (-w)^{\underline{k}} z^k / k! \\ &= \sum_k w^{\bar{k}} z^k / k! && \text{by Eq. 1.2.5-(20)} \\ &= \sum_k \prod_{0 \leq n \leq k-1} (w+n) z^k / k! && \text{by Eq. 1.2.5-(19)} \\ &= \sum_k \sum_n \begin{bmatrix} k \\ n \end{bmatrix} w^n z^k / k! && \text{by Eq. (27)} \\ &= \sum_{k,n} \begin{bmatrix} k \\ n \end{bmatrix} w^n z^k / k!. \end{aligned}$$

► 18. [M25] Given positive integers  $n$  and  $r$ , find a simple formula for the value of the following sums: (a)  $\sum_{1 \leq k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_r \leq n} k_1 k_2 \dots k_r$ ; (b)  $\sum_{1 \leq k_1 \leq k_2 \leq \dots \leq k_r \leq n} k_1 k_2 \dots k_r$ . (For example, when  $n = 3$  and  $r = 2$  the sums are, respectively,  $1 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 3$  and  $1 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 3$ .)

We may find simple formulas for the sums, given positive integers  $n$  and  $r$ .

a) For  $\sum_{1 \leq k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_r \leq n} k_1 k_2 \dots k_r$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_n(z) &= \sum_{j \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq k_1 < \dots < k_r \leq n} k_1 \dots k_r z^j \\
 &= \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} (1 + jz) && \text{by exercise 10} \\
 &= z^{n+1} \prod_{0 \leq j \leq (n+1)-1} \left( \frac{1}{z} + j \right) \\
 &= z^{n+1} \sum_k \begin{bmatrix} n+1 \\ k \end{bmatrix} \left( \frac{1}{z} \right)^k && \text{by Eq. (27)} \\
 &= z^{n+1} \sum_k \begin{bmatrix} n+1 \\ k \end{bmatrix} z^{-k} \\
 &= \sum_k \begin{bmatrix} n+1 \\ k \end{bmatrix} z^{n+1-k} \\
 &= \sum_r \begin{bmatrix} n+1 \\ n+1-r \end{bmatrix} z^r,
 \end{aligned}$$

so that the formula is given by

$$\sum_{1 \leq k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_r \leq n} k_1 k_2 \dots k_r = \begin{bmatrix} n+1 \\ n+1-r \end{bmatrix}.$$

b) For  $\sum_{1 \leq k_1 \leq k_2 \leq \dots \leq k_r \leq n} k_1 k_2 \dots k_r$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_n(z) &= \sum_{j \geq 0} \sum_{1 \leq k_1 \leq \dots \leq k_r \leq n} k_1 \dots k_r z^j \\
 &= \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} \frac{1}{1 - jz} && \text{by exercise 7} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} (1 - jz)} \\
 &= z^{-n} \frac{z^n}{\prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} (1 - jz)} \\
 &= z^{-n} \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} z^k && \text{by Eq. (28)} \\
 &= \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ n \end{Bmatrix} z^{k-n} \\
 &= \sum_r \begin{Bmatrix} n+r \\ n \end{Bmatrix} z^r,
 \end{aligned}$$

so that the formula is given by

$$\sum_{1 \leq k_1 \leq k_2 \leq \dots \leq k_r \leq n} k_1 k_2 \dots k_r = \begin{Bmatrix} n+r \\ n \end{Bmatrix}.$$

19. [HM32] (C. F. Gauss, 1812.) The sums of the following infinite series are well known:

$$1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \cdots = \ln 2; \quad 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \cdots = \frac{\pi}{4};$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{7} - \frac{1}{10} + \cdots = \frac{\pi\sqrt{3}}{9} + \frac{1}{3} \ln 2.$$

Using the definition

$$H_x = \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+x} \right)$$

found in the answer to exercise 1.2.7-24, these series may be written respectively as

$$1 - \frac{1}{2} H_{1/2}; \quad \frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{4} H_{1/4} + \frac{1}{4} H_{3/4}; \quad \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{6} H_{1/6} + \frac{1}{6} H_{2/3}.$$

Prove that, in general,  $H_{p/q}$  has the value

$$\frac{q}{p} - \frac{\pi}{2} \cot \frac{p}{q} \pi - \ln 2q + 2 \sum_{0 < k < q/2} \cos \frac{2pk}{q} \pi \cdot \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi,$$

where  $p$  and  $q$  are integers with  $0 < p < q$ . [Hint: By Abel's limit theorem the sum is

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+p/q} \right) x^{p+nq}.$$

Use Eq. (13) to express this power series in such a way that the limit can be evaluated.]

**Proposition.**  $H_{p/q}$  has the value

$$H_{p/q} = \frac{q}{p} - \frac{\pi}{2} \cot \frac{p}{q} \pi - \ln 2q + 2 \sum_{0 < k < q/2} \cos \frac{2pk}{q} \pi \cdot \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi,$$

when  $p$  and  $q$  are integers with  $0 < p < q$ .

*Proof.* As a preliminary identity, observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(1 - e^{i\theta}) &= \ln \left( 2e^{i(\theta-\pi)/2} \frac{e^{i\theta/2} - e^{-i\theta/2}}{2i} \right) \\ &= \ln 2 + \ln \left( e^{i(\theta-\pi)/2} \right) + \ln \frac{e^{i\theta/2} - e^{-i\theta/2}}{2i} \\ &= \ln 2 + \frac{1}{2}i(\theta - \pi) + \ln \frac{e^{i\theta/2} - e^{-i\theta/2}}{2i} \\ &= \ln 2 + \frac{1}{2}i(\theta - \pi) + \ln \sin \frac{\theta}{2}. \end{aligned} \tag{19.1}$$

Let  $p, q$  be arbitrary integers such that  $0 < p < q$ , and define  $H_x$  as

$$H_x = \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+x} \right)$$

for any nonnegative rational number  $x$ . We must show that

$$H_{p/q} = \frac{q}{p} - \frac{\pi}{2} \cot \frac{p}{q} \pi - \ln 2q + 2 \sum_{0 < k < q/2} \cos \frac{2pk}{q} \pi \cdot \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi.$$

We have

$$H_{p/q} = \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n + p/q} \right).$$

By Abel's limit theorem,

$$\sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n + p/q} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n + p/q} \right) x^{p+nq}.$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n + p/q} \right) x^{p+nq} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \left( \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{n} x^{p+nq} - \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{n + p/q} x^{p+nq} \right). \end{aligned}$$

For the left sum,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{n} x^{p+nq} \\ &= x^p \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{n} (x^q)^n \\ &= -x^p \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{2n+1}}{n} (x^q)^n \\ &= -x^p \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} (-x^q)^n \\ &= -x^p \ln(1 - x^q). \end{aligned} \qquad \text{by Eq. (24)}$$

For the right sum with  $\omega = e^{2\pi i/q}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& - \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{n + p/q} x^{p+nq} \\
&= - \sum_{\substack{n > 0 \\ p+nq \bmod q = p}} \frac{q}{p+nq} x^{p+nq} \\
&= \frac{q}{p} x^p - \sum_{\substack{n \geq 0 \\ p+nq \bmod q = p}} \frac{q}{p+nq} x^{p+nq} \\
&= \frac{q}{p} x^p - \frac{1}{q} \sum_{0 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{q}{n} \omega^{kn} x^n && \text{by Eq. (13)} \\
&= \frac{q}{p} x^p - \sum_{0 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{n} (\omega^k x)^n \\
&= \frac{q}{p} x^p + \sum_{0 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{2n+1}}{n} (\omega^k x)^n \\
&= \frac{q}{p} x^p + \sum_{0 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} (-\omega^k x)^n \\
&= \frac{q}{p} x^p + \sum_{0 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln(1 - \omega^k x). && \text{by Eq. (24)}
\end{aligned}$$

That is,

$$H_{p/q} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \left( \sum_{0 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln(1 - \omega^k x) - x^p \ln(1 - x^q) + \frac{q}{p} x^p \right).$$

Continuing in the limit as  $x \rightarrow 1^-$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{0 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln(1 - \omega^k x) - x^p \ln(1 - x^q) + \frac{q}{p} x^p \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln(1 - \omega^k x) + \ln(1 - x) - x^p \ln(1 - x^q) + \frac{q}{p} x^p \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln(1 - \omega^k x) + \ln(1 - x) + \frac{q}{p} x^p - x^p \ln(1 - x^q) + x^p \ln(1 - x) - x^p \ln(1 - x) \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln(1 - \omega^k x) + (1 - x^p) \ln(1 - x) + \frac{q}{p} x^p - x^p \ln \frac{1 - x^q}{1 - x}. \quad (19.2)
\end{aligned}$$

The limit of the first term is

$$\begin{aligned}
& \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln(1 - \omega^k x) \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln(1 - \omega^k) \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \left( \ln 2 + \frac{1}{2}i(2\pi k/q - \pi) + \ln \sin \frac{2\pi k/q}{2} \right) && \text{by (19.1)} \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \left( \ln 2 + \frac{i\pi k}{q} - \frac{i\pi}{2} + \ln \sin \frac{k}{q}\pi \right) \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \left( \ln 2 + \frac{i\pi k}{q} - \frac{i\pi}{2} \right) + \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln \sin \frac{k}{q}\pi,
\end{aligned}$$

and the limit of the remaining terms of (19.2) is

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (1 - x^p) \ln(1 - x) + \frac{q}{p} x^p - x^p \ln \frac{1 - x^q}{1 - x} = \frac{q}{p} - \ln q;$$

but

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \left( \ln 2 + \frac{i\pi k}{q} - \frac{i\pi}{2} \right) \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln 2 + \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \frac{i\pi k}{q} - \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \frac{i\pi}{2} \\
&= \frac{\ln 2(\omega^{-p(q-1)} - 1)}{\omega^p - 1} + \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \frac{i\pi k}{q} - \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \frac{i\pi}{2} \\
&= \frac{\ln 2(\omega^{-p(q-1)} - 1)}{\omega^p - 1} + \frac{i\pi \omega^{-p(q-1)}(q(-\omega^p) + \omega^{pq} + q - 1)}{q(\omega^p - 1)^2} - \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \frac{i\pi}{2} \\
&= \frac{\ln 2(\omega^{-p(q-1)} - 1)}{\omega^p - 1} + \frac{i\pi \omega^{-p(q-1)}(q(-\omega^p) + \omega^{pq} + q - 1)}{q(\omega^p - 1)^2} - \frac{i\pi(\omega^{-p(q-1)} - 1)}{2(\omega^p - 1)} \\
&= \frac{-\ln 2(\omega^p - 1)}{\omega^p - 1} + \frac{i\pi \omega^{-p(q-1)}(q(-\omega^p) + \omega^{pq} + q - 1)}{q(\omega^p - 1)^2} - \frac{i\pi(\omega^{-p(q-1)} - 1)}{2(\omega^p - 1)} \\
&= -\ln 2 + \frac{i\pi \omega^{-p(q-1)}(q(-\omega^p) + \omega^{pq} + q - 1)}{q(\omega^p - 1)^2} - \frac{i\pi(\omega^{-p(q-1)} - 1)}{2(\omega^p - 1)} \\
&= -\ln 2 + \frac{i\pi \omega^{-p(q-1)}(q(-\omega^p) + \omega^{pq} + q - 1)}{q(\omega^p - 1)^2} + \frac{i\pi(\omega^p - 1)}{2(\omega^p - 1)} \\
&= -\ln 2 + \frac{i\pi \omega^{-p(q-1)}(q(-\omega^p) + \omega^{pq} + q - 1)}{q(\omega^p - 1)^2} + \frac{i\pi}{2} \\
&= -\ln 2 + \frac{i\pi}{2} + \frac{i\pi \omega^{-p(q-1)}(q(-\omega^p) + \omega^{pq} + q - 1)}{q(\omega^p - 1)^2} \\
&= -\ln 2 + \frac{i\pi}{2} + \frac{i\pi \omega^{-p(q-1)}(q(-\omega^p) + q)}{q(\omega^p - 1)^2} \\
&= -\ln 2 + \frac{i\pi}{2} + \frac{i\pi \omega^{-p(q-1)}(-\omega^p + 1)}{(\omega^p - 1)^2} \\
&= -\ln 2 + \frac{i\pi}{2} - \frac{i\pi \omega^p(\omega^p - 1)}{(\omega^p - 1)^2} \\
&= -\ln 2 + \frac{i\pi}{2} - \frac{i\pi \omega^p}{\omega^p - 1} \\
&= -\ln 2 + \frac{i\pi}{2} - \frac{i\pi}{-\omega^{-p} + 1} \\
&= -\ln 2 + \frac{i\pi}{2} + \frac{i\pi}{\omega^{-p} - 1},
\end{aligned}$$



and

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{1 \leq k < q} \omega^{-kp} \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k < q/2} \left( \omega^{-kp} + \omega^{-(q-k)p} \right) \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k < q/2} 2\omega^{-pq/2} \cos \left( \frac{\pi p(q-2k)}{q} \right) \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi \\
&= 2 \sum_{1 \leq k < q/2} \cos \left( \frac{\pi p(q-2k)}{q} \right) \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi \\
&= 2 \sum_{1 \leq k < q/2} \cos \left( \frac{2\pi pq}{2q} - \frac{2\pi pk}{q} \right) \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi \\
&= 2 \sum_{1 \leq k < q/2} \cos \left( -\frac{2\pi pk}{q} \right) \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi \\
&= 2 \sum_{0 < k < q/2} \cos \frac{2pk}{q} \pi \cdot \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi.
\end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{i}{2} + \frac{i}{\omega^{-p} - 1} \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \cot \frac{p}{q} \pi.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$H_{p/q} = \frac{q}{p} - \frac{\pi}{2} \cot \frac{p}{q} \pi - \ln 2q + 2 \sum_{0 < k < q/2} \cos \frac{2pk}{q} \pi \cdot \ln \sin \frac{k}{q} \pi,$$

as we needed to show. □

[exercise 1.2.7-24; C. F. Gauss, §33 of his monograph on hypergeometric series, Eq. [75]; Abel, *Crelle* **1** (1826), 314–315]

**20.** [M21] For what coefficients  $c_{mk}$  is  $\sum_{n \geq 0} n^m z^n = \sum_{k=0}^m c_{mk} z^k / (1-z)^{k+1}$ ?

First, observe that multiplying both sides of Eq. (20) by  $z^n$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{z^n}{(1-z)^{n+1}} &= z^n \sum_{k \geq 0} \binom{n+k}{n} z^k \\ &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \binom{n+k}{n} z^{n+k} \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{n}{k} z^n. \end{aligned}$$

We then have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \geq 0} n^m z^n &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_k \left\{ \begin{matrix} m \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} n^k z^n && \text{by Eq. 1.2.6-(45)} \\ &= \sum_k \left\{ \begin{matrix} m \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} \sum_{n \geq 0} n^k z^n \\ &= \sum_k k! \left\{ \begin{matrix} m \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{n^k}{k!} z^n \\ &= \sum_k k! \left\{ \begin{matrix} m \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{n}{k} z^n \\ &= \sum_k k! \left\{ \begin{matrix} m \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} \frac{z^n}{(1-z)^{n+1}}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$c_{m,k} = k! \left\{ \begin{matrix} m \\ k \end{matrix} \right\}.$$

**21.** [HM30] Set up the generating function for the sequence  $\langle n! \rangle$  and study properties of this function.

Let  $G(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} n! z^n$  be the generating function for the sequence  $\langle n! \rangle$ . Given the recurrence

$$n! = n(n-1)! + [n=0]$$

we have that

$$\begin{aligned}
 G(z) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} n! z^n \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} n(n-1)! z^n + \sum_{n=0} z^n \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} n(n-1)! z^n + 1 \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (n+1)n! z^{n+1} + 1 \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (n)n! z^{n+1} + \sum_{n \geq 0} n! z^{n+1} + 1 \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (n)n! z^{n+1} + z \sum_{n \geq 0} n! z^n + 1 \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (n)n! z^{n+1} + zG(z) + 1 \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (n+1)(n+1)! z^{n+2} + zG(z) + 1 \\
 &= z^2 \sum_{n \geq 0} (n+1)(n+1)! z^n + zG(z) + 1 \\
 &= z^2 G'(z) + zG(z) + 1.
 \end{aligned}$$

by Eq. (14)

This is the ordinary differential equation

$$z^2 G'(z) + (z-1)G(z) + 1 = 0,$$

satisfied by

$$G(z) = \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} (E_1(-1/z) + C),$$

for the *exponential integral*  $E_1(z) = \int_z^\infty \frac{1}{te^t} dt$  and constant  $C$ ; that is,

$$G(z) = \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \left( \int_{-1/z}^\infty \frac{1}{te^t} dt + C \right),$$

since

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dz}G(z) &= \frac{d}{dz} \left( \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} (E_1(-1/z) + C) \right) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{d}{dz} (E_1(-1/z) + C) + \frac{d}{dz} \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} (E_1(-1/z) + C) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{d}{dz} (E_1(-1/z) + C) + \frac{\frac{d}{dz}(-e^{-1/z})z + e^{-1/z} \frac{d}{dz}z}{z^2} (E_1(-1/z) + C) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{d}{dz} (E_1(-1/z) + C) + \frac{-e^{-1/z} \frac{d}{dz}(-1/z)z + e^{-1/z}}{z^2} (E_1(-1/z) + C) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{d}{dz} (E_1(-1/z) + C) + \frac{-e^{-1/z} (1/z^2)z + e^{-1/z}}{z^2} (E_1(-1/z) + C) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{d}{dz} (E_1(-1/z) + C) + \frac{-e^{-1/z} (1/z) + e^{-1/z}}{z^2} (E_1(-1/z) + C) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{d}{dz} (E_1(-1/z) + C) + \frac{-e^{-1/z} + ze^{-1/z}}{z^3} (E_1(-1/z) + C) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{d}{dz} (E_1(-1/z) + C) + \frac{(z-1)e^{-1/z}}{z^3} (E_1(-1/z) + C) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{d}{dz} (E_1(-1/z) + C) - \frac{z-1}{z^2} \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} (E_1(-1/z) + C) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{d}{dz} (E_1(-1/z) + C) - \frac{z-1}{z^2} G(z) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{d}{dz} \left( \int_{-1/z}^{\infty} \frac{1}{te^t} dt + C \right) - \frac{z-1}{z^2} G(z) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} ze^{1/z} \frac{d}{dz} \frac{-1}{z} - \frac{z-1}{z^2} G(z) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} ze^{1/z} \frac{1}{z^2} - \frac{z-1}{z^2} G(z) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} e^{1/z} \frac{1}{z} - \frac{z-1}{z^2} G(z) \\
&= \frac{-e^{-1/z}}{z} \frac{e^{1/z}}{z} - \frac{z-1}{z^2} G(z) \\
&= -\frac{1}{z^2} - \frac{z-1}{z^2} G(z) \\
&= -\frac{1}{z^2} (1 + (z-1)G(z))
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
&z^2 G'(z) + (z-1)G(z) + 1 \\
&= z^2 \left( -\frac{1}{z^2} (1 + (z-1)G(z)) \right) + (z-1)G(z) + 1 \\
&= -(1 + (z-1)G(z)) + (z-1)G(z) + 1 \\
&= -1 - (z-1)G(z) + (z-1)G(z) + 1 \\
&= 0.
\end{aligned}$$

This generating function diverges, as may be verified using the root test, since for positive  $n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[n]{n!} &\leq \sqrt[n]{\frac{n^{n+1}}{e^{n-1}}} && \text{by exercise 1.2.5-24} \\ &\approx \sqrt[n]{\frac{n^n}{e^n}} \\ &= \frac{n}{e} \end{aligned}$$

is unbounded.

[K. Knopp, *Infinite Sequences and Series* (Dover, 1956), Section 66 [sic]]

**22.** [M21] Find a generating function  $G(z)$  for which

$$[z^n]G(z) = \sum_{k_0+2k_1+4k_2+8k_3+\dots=n} \binom{r}{k_0} \binom{r}{k_1} \binom{r}{k_2} \binom{r}{k_3} \cdots$$

As a preliminary, observe that if  $z$  is an arbitrary complex number such that  $|z| < 1$ , we have that

$$\prod_{i \geq 0} (1 + z^{2^i}) = \frac{1}{1 - z},$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - z) \prod_{i \geq 0} (1 + z^{2^i}) &= (1 - z) \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{i=0}^j (1 + z^{2^i}) \\ &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} (1 - z) \prod_{i=0}^j (1 + z^{2^i}) \\ &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} (1 - z)(1 + z) \prod_{i=1}^j (1 + z^{2^i}) \\ &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} (1 - z^2) \prod_{i=1}^j (1 + z^{2^i}) \\ &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} (1 - z^2)(1 + z^2) \prod_{i=2}^j (1 + z^{2^i}) \\ &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} (1 - z^{2^2}) \prod_{i=2}^j (1 + z^{2^i}) \\ &= \dots \\ &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} (1 - z^{2^j}) (1 + z^{2^j}) \\ &= \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} 1 - z^{2^{j+1}} \\ &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Now, for the given sum,

$$\sum_{2^0 k_0 + 2^1 k_1 + 2^2 k_2 + \dots = n} \binom{r}{k_0} \binom{r}{k_1} \binom{r}{k_2} \dots,$$

we may generate the  $\binom{r}{k_i}$  terms for all  $i \geq 0$  using the binomial theorem as

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k_i \geq 0} \binom{r}{k_i} z^{2^i k_i} &= \sum_{k_i \geq 0} \binom{r}{k_i} (z^{2^i})^{k_i} \\ &= (1 + z^{2^i})^r, \end{aligned}$$

and then multiply them together to arrive at the equivalence

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{2^0 k_0 + 2^1 k_1 + 2^2 k_2 + \dots = n} \binom{r}{k_0} \binom{r}{k_1} \binom{r}{k_2} \dots \\ &= (1 + z^{2^0})^r (1 + z^{2^1})^r (1 + z^{2^2})^r \dots \\ &= \prod_{i \geq 0} (1 + z^{2^i})^r \\ &= \left( \prod_{i \geq 0} (1 + z^{2^i}) \right)^r \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{1 - z} \right)^r \\ &= \frac{1}{(1 - z)^r} \\ &= (1 - z)^{-r}. \end{aligned}$$

That is, the generating function is

$$G(z) = (1 - z)^{-r}.$$

Incidentally,

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - z)^{-r} &= (-z + 1)^{-r} \\ &= \sum_n \binom{-r}{n} (-z)^n 1^{-r-n} && \text{by Eq. 1.2.6-(13)} \\ &= \sum_n (-1)^n \binom{-r}{n} z^n \\ &= \sum_n \binom{n - (-r) - 1}{n} z^n && \text{by Eq. 1.2.6-(17)} \\ &= \sum_n \binom{r + n - 1}{n} z^n. \end{aligned}$$

**23.** [M33] (L. Carlitz.) (a) Prove that for all integers  $m \geq 1$  there are polynomials  $f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  and  $g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  such that the formula

$$\sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^{k_m} = f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^{n-r} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^r$$

is an identity for all integers  $n \geq r \geq 0$ .

(b) Generalizing exercise 15, find a closed form for the sum

$$S_n(z_1, \dots, z_m) = \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \binom{k_2}{n-k_3} \cdots \binom{k_m}{n-k_1} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^{k_m}$$

in terms of the functions  $f_m$  and  $g_m$  in part (a).

(c) Find a simple expression for  $S_n(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  when  $z_1 = \cdots = z_m = z$ .

The answers to exercise 23 follow below.

(a) We may prove the identity.

**Proposition.** For all integers  $m \geq 1$  there are polynomials  $f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  and  $g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  such that for all integers  $n \geq r \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^{k_m} \\ = f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^{n-r} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^r. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Let  $m$  be an arbitrary positive integer. We must show that there are polynomials  $f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  and  $g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  such that for all integers  $n \geq r \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^{k_m} \\ = f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^{n-r} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^r. \end{aligned}$$

We proceed with a proof by induction on  $m$ .

In the case that  $m = 1$ , let  $f_1(z_1) = z_1$  and  $g_1(z_1) = z_1 + 1$ . Then we must show in this case that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k_1 \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} z_1^{k_1} &= f_1(z_1)^{n-r} g_1(z_1)^r \\ &= z_1^{n-r} (z_1 + 1)^r. \end{aligned}$$

If  $r = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k_1 \geq 0} \binom{0}{n - k_1} z_1^{k_1} &= \sum_{k_1 = n} \binom{0}{n - k_1} z_1^{k_1} \\ &= \binom{0}{0} z_1^n \\ &= z_1^n \\ &= z_1^{n-0} (z_1 + 1)^0. \end{aligned}$$

Then, assuming

$$\sum_{k_1 \geq 0} \binom{r}{n - k_1} z_1^{k_1} = z_1^{n-r} (z_1 + 1)^r,$$

we must show that

$$\sum_{k_1 \geq 0} \binom{r+1}{n - k_1} z_1^{k_1} = z_1^{n-(r+1)} (z_1 + 1)^{r+1}.$$

But

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k_1 \geq 0} \binom{r+1}{n - k_1} z_1^{k_1} &= \sum_{k_1 \geq 0} \binom{r}{n - k_1} z_1^{k_1} + \sum_{k_1 \geq 0} \binom{r}{n - k_1 - 1} z_1^{k_1} \\ &= \sum_{k_1 \geq 0} \binom{r}{n - k_1} z_1^{k_1} + \sum_{k_1 \geq 0} \binom{r}{(n-1) - k_1} z_1^{k_1} \\ &= z_1^{n-r} (z_1 + 1)^r + z_1^{(n-1)-r} (z_1 + 1)^r \\ &= \left( z_1^{n-r} + z_1^{(n-1)-r} \right) (z_1 + 1)^r \\ &= \left( z_1^{n-r} + z_1^{n-(r+1)} \right) (z_1 + 1)^r \\ &= \left( z_1 z_1^{n-(r+1)} + z_1^{n-(r+1)} \right) (z_1 + 1)^r \\ &= z_1^{n-(r+1)} (z_1 + 1) (z_1 + 1)^r \\ &= z_1^{n-(r+1)} (z_1 + 1)^{r+1}. \end{aligned}$$

As our inductive hypothesis, we assume that there are polynomials  $f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  and  $g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  such that for all integers  $n \geq r \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{r}{n - k_1} \binom{k_1}{n - k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n - k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^{k_m} \\ = f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^{n-r} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^r. \end{aligned}$$



We must show that there are polynomials  $f_{m+1}(z_1, \dots, z_{m+1})$  and  $g_{m+1}(z_1, \dots, z_{m+1})$  such that for all integers  $n \geq r \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_{m+1} \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{(m+1)-1}}{n-k_{m+1}} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}} \\ &= f_{m+1}(z_1, \dots, z_{m+1})^{n-r} g_{m+1}(z_1, \dots, z_{m+1})^r. \end{aligned}$$

But, set  $z_m \leftarrow z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1})$ , and let

$$\begin{aligned} f_{m+1}(z_1, \dots, z_{m+1}) &= z_{m+1} f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1})), \\ g_{m+1}(z_1, \dots, z_{m+1}) &= z_{m+1} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1})). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & f_{m+1}(z_1, \dots, z_{m+1})^{n-r} g_{m+1}(z_1, \dots, z_{m+1})^r \\ &= (z_{m+1} f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1})))^{n-r} (z_{m+1} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1})))^r \\ &= z_{m+1}^n f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1}))^{n-r} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1}))^r \\ &= z_{m+1}^n \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots (z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1}))^{k_m} \\ &= z_{m+1}^n \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^{k_m} (1 + z_{m+1}^{-1})^{k_m} \\ &= z_{m+1}^n \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^{k_m} \\ & \quad \cdot \sum_{k_{m+1} \geq 0} \binom{k_m}{k_{m+1}} 1^{k_m - k_{m+1}} z_{m+1}^{-k_{m+1}} \\ &= \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^{k_m} \\ & \quad \cdot \sum_{k_{m+1} \geq 0} \binom{k_m}{k_{m+1}} z_{m+1}^{n-k_{m+1}} \\ &= \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^{k_m} \\ & \quad \cdot \sum_{k_{m+1} \geq 0} \binom{k_{(m+1)-1}}{n-k_{m+1}} z_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}} \\ &= \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_{m+1} \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{(m+1)-1}}{n-k_{m+1}} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_{m+1}^{k_{m+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

This is what we needed to show.  $\square$

Note that  $f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  obeys the recurrence

$$f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m < 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } m = 0 \\ z_m f_{m-1} + z_{m-1} f_{m-2} & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

since  $f_1(z_1) = z_1 = z_1 f_0 + z_0 f_{-1}$ , and if  $f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m) = z_m f_{m-1} + z_{m-1} f_{m-2}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_{m+1}(z_1, \dots, z_{m+1}) &= z_{m+1} f_m(z_1, \dots, z_{m-1}, z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1})) \\
 &= z_{m+1}(z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1})f_{m-1} + z_{m-1}f_{m-2}) \\
 &= z_{m+1}(z_m z_{m+1}^{-1} f_{m-1} + z_m f_{m-1} + z_{m-1} f_{m-2}) \\
 &= z_{m+1}(z_m z_{m+1}^{-1} f_{m-1} + f_m) \\
 &= z_m z_{m+1} z_{m+1}^{-1} f_{m-1} + z_{m+1} f_m \\
 &= z_{m+1} f_m + z_m f_{m-1};
 \end{aligned}$$

and similarly  $g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)$  the recurrence

$$g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } m \leq 0 \\ z_m g_{m-1} + z_{m-1} g_{m-2} & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

since  $g_1(z_1) = z_1 + 1 = z_1 g_0 + z_0 g_{-1}$ , and if  $g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m) = z_m g_{m-1} + z_{m-1} g_{m-2}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
 g_{m+1}(z_1, \dots, z_{m+1}) &= z_{m+1} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_{m-1}, z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1})) \\
 &= z_{m+1}(z_m(1 + z_{m+1}^{-1})g_{m-1} + z_{m-1}g_{m-2}) \\
 &= z_{m+1}(z_m z_{m+1}^{-1} g_{m-1} + z_m g_{m-1} + z_{m-1} g_{m-2}) \\
 &= z_{m+1}(z_m z_{m+1}^{-1} g_{m-1} + g_m) \\
 &= z_m z_{m+1} z_{m+1}^{-1} g_{m-1} + z_{m+1} g_m \\
 &= z_{m+1} g_m + z_m g_{m-1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) We want to find a closed form for the sum

$$S_n(z_1, \dots, z_m) = \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{k_1}{n - k_2} \binom{k_2}{n - k_3} \cdots \binom{k_m}{n - k_1} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^{k_m}$$

in terms of the functions  $f_m$  and  $g_m$  of part (a). But

$$\begin{aligned}
S_n(z_1, \dots, z^{m-1}, z) &= \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \binom{k_2}{n-k_3} \cdots \binom{k_m}{n-k_1} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z^{k_m} \\
&= \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{k_m}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z^{k_m} \\
&= [z_m^n] \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{k_m}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z^{k_m} z_m^n \\
&= [z_m^n] \sum_{\substack{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0 \\ r=k_m}} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z^r z_m^{n-r+k_m} \\
&= [z_m^n] \sum_{\substack{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq r \leq n}} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z^r z_m^{n-r+k_m} \\
&= [z_m^n] \sum_{\substack{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0 \\ 0 \leq r \leq n}} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^k z^r z_m^{n-r} \\
&= [z_m^n] \sum_{r=0}^n z^r z_m^{n-r} \sum_{k_1, \dots, k_m \geq 0} \binom{r}{n-k_1} \binom{k_1}{n-k_2} \cdots \binom{k_{m-1}}{n-k_m} z_1^{k_1} \cdots z_m^k \\
&= [z_m^n] \sum_{r=0}^n z^r z_m^{n-r} f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^{n-r} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^r.
\end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
S_n(z_1, \dots, z_m) &= [z_m^n] \sum_{r=0}^n z_m^r z_m^{n-r} f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^{n-r} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^r \\
&= [z_m^n] \sum_{r=0}^n f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^{n-r} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^r z_m^n \\
&= \sum_{r=0}^n f_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^{n-r} g_m(z_1, \dots, z_m)^r \\
&= \sum_{r=0}^n (z_m f_{m-1} + z_{m-1} f_{m-2})^{n-r} (z_m g_{m-1} + z_{m-1} g_{m-2})^r \\
&= \sum_{r=0}^n \left( \sum_{0 \leq s \leq n-r} \binom{n-r}{s} (z_m f_{m-1})^s (z_{m-1} f_{m-2})^{n-r-s} \sum_{0 \leq s \leq n} \binom{r}{s} (z_{m-1} g_{m-2})^s (z_m g_{m-1})^{r-s} \right) \\
&= \sum_{0 \leq s \leq r \leq n} \binom{r}{s} \binom{n-r}{s} (z_m g_{m-1})^{r-s} (z_{m-1} g_{m-2})^s (z_m f_{m-1})^s (z_{m-1} f_{m-2})^{n-r-s};
\end{aligned}$$

and, by Eq. (20),

$$\begin{aligned}
S_n(z_1, \dots, z_m) &= \sum_{0 \leq s \leq r \leq n} \binom{r}{s} \binom{n-r}{s} (z_m g_{m-1})^{r-s} (z_{m-1} g_{m-2})^s (z_m f_{m-1})^s (z_{m-1} f_{m-2})^{n-r-s} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} \sum_{r \geq s} \sum_{n \geq r} \binom{r}{s} \binom{n-r}{s} (z_m g_{m-1} z)^{r-s} (z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s (z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{n-r-s} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} (z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s \sum_{r \geq s} \binom{r}{s} (z_m g_{m-1} z)^{r-s} \sum_{n \geq r} \binom{n-r}{s} (z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{n-r-s} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} (z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s \sum_{r \geq s} \binom{r}{s} (z_m g_{m-1} z)^{r-s} \sum_{n-r \geq 0} \binom{n-r}{s} (z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{n-r-s} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} (z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s \sum_{r \geq s} \binom{r}{s} (z_m g_{m-1} z)^{r-s} \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{n}{s} (z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{n-s} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} (z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s \sum_{r \geq s} \binom{r}{s} (z_m g_{m-1} z)^{r-s} (z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{-s} \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{n}{s} (z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^n \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} (z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s \sum_{r \geq s} \binom{r}{s} (z_m g_{m-1} z)^{r-s} (z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{-s} \frac{(z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^s}{(1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{s+1}} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} \frac{(z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s}{(1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{s+1}} \sum_{r \geq s} \binom{r}{s} (z_m g_{m-1} z)^{r-s} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} \frac{(z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s}{(1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{s+1}} \sum_{r-s \geq 0} \binom{s+r-s}{s} (z_m g_{m-1} z)^{r-s} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} \frac{(z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s}{(1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{s+1}} \sum_{r \geq 0} \binom{s+r}{s} (z_m g_{m-1} z)^r \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} \frac{(z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s}{(1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{s+1}} \frac{1}{(1 - z_m g_{m-1} z)^{s+1}} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} \frac{(z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z)^s (z_m f_{m-1} z)^s}{(1 - z_m g_{m-1} z)^{s+1} (1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)^{s+1}} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{s \geq 0} \frac{1}{1 - z_m g_{m-1} z} \frac{1}{1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z} \left( \frac{z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z_m f_{m-1} z^2}{(1 - z_m g_{m-1} z)(1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z)} \right)^s \\
&= [z^n] \frac{1}{1 - z_m g_{m-1} z} \frac{1}{1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z} \frac{1}{1 - z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z_m f_{m-1} z^2 / ((1 - z_m g_{m-1} z)(1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z))} \\
&= [z^n] \frac{1}{z_m g_{m-1} z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z^2 - z_m g_{m-1} z - z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z_m f_{m-1} z^2 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z + 1} \\
&= [z^n] \frac{1}{(1 - z_m g_{m-1} z)(1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z) - z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z_m f_{m-1} z^2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Let

$$h_m = z_m g_{m-1} + z_{m-1} f_{m-2}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(1 - \rho z)(1 - \sigma z) &= 1 - h_m z + (-1)^m z_1 \cdots z_m z^2 \\
\iff 1 - \rho z - \sigma z + \rho \sigma z^2 &= 1 - h_m z + (-1)^m z_1 \cdots z_m z^2 \\
\iff 1 - (\rho + \sigma)z + \rho \sigma z^2 &= 1 - h_m z + (-1)^m z_1 \cdots z_m z^2 \\
\iff \rho + \sigma = h_m \wedge \rho \sigma &= (-1)^m z_1 \cdots z_m.
\end{aligned}$$

Then, since

$$\begin{aligned}
& z_m g_{m-1} z_{m-1} f_{m-2} - z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z_m f_{m-1} \\
&= z_{m-1} z_m (g_{m-1} f_{m-2} - g_{m-2} f_{m-1}) \\
&= z_{m-1} z_m ((z_{m-1} g_{m-2} + z_{m-2} g_{m-3}) f_{m-2} - g_{m-2} (z_{m-1} f_{m-2} + z_{m-2} f_{m-3})) \\
&= z_{m-1} z_m (z_{m-1} g_{m-2} f_{m-2} + z_{m-2} g_{m-3} f_{m-2} - g_{m-2} z_{m-1} f_{m-2} - g_{m-2} z_{m-2} f_{m-3}) \\
&= z_{m-1} z_m (z_{m-2} g_{m-3} f_{m-2} - g_{m-2} z_{m-2} f_{m-3}) \\
&= (-1) z_{m-2} z_{m-1} z_m (g_{m-2} f_{m-3} - g_{m-3} f_{m-2}) \\
&\quad \vdots \\
&= (-1)^m z_1 \cdots z_m
\end{aligned}$$

we find

$$\begin{aligned}
S_n(z_1, \dots, z_m) &= [z^n] \frac{1}{(1 - z_m g_{m-1} z)(1 - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z) - z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z_m f_{m-1} z^2} \\
&= [z^n] \frac{1}{1 - z_m g_{m-1} z - z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z + z_m g_{m-1} z_{m-1} f_{m-2} z^2 - z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z_m f_{m-1} z^2} \\
&= [z^n] \frac{1}{1 - (z_m g_{m-1} + z_{m-1} f_{m-2})z + (z_m g_{m-1} z_{m-1} f_{m-2} - z_{m-1} g_{m-2} z_m f_{m-1})z^2} \\
&= [z^n] \frac{1}{1 - h_m z + (-1)^m z_1 \cdots z_m z^2} \\
&= [z^n] \frac{1}{(1 - \rho z)(1 - \sigma z)} \\
&= [z^n] \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho - \sigma} \frac{1}{1 - \rho z} + \frac{\sigma}{\sigma - \rho} \frac{1}{1 - \sigma z} \right) \\
&= [z^n] \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho - \sigma} \sum_{n \geq 0} \rho^n z^n + \frac{\sigma}{\sigma - \rho} \sum_{n \geq 0} \sigma^n z^n \right) \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho - \sigma} \rho^n + \frac{\sigma}{\sigma - \rho} \sigma^n \right) z^n \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( \frac{\rho^{n+1}}{\rho - \sigma} - \frac{\sigma^{n+1}}{\rho - \sigma} \right) z^n \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\rho^{n+1} - \sigma^{n+1}}{\rho - \sigma} z^n \\
&= \frac{\rho^{n+1} - \sigma^{n+1}}{\rho - \sigma}.
\end{aligned}$$

(c) When  $z_1 = \cdots = z_m = z$ , we may simplify  $S_n(z, \dots, z)$ . In the case  $m = 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\rho_1 + \sigma_1 &= h_1 = z_1 = z, \\
\rho_1 \sigma_1 &= (-1)^1 z_1 = -z_1 = -z,
\end{aligned}$$

satisfied by

$$\begin{aligned}
\rho_1 &= \frac{z + \sqrt{z^2 + 4z}}{2}, \\
\sigma_1 &= \frac{z - \sqrt{z^2 + 4z}}{2};
\end{aligned}$$

and in the case  $m \geq 1$ , since

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_m + \sigma_m &= h_m \\
 &= zg_{m-1} + zf_{m-2} \\
 &= z(g_{m-1} + f_{m-2}) \\
 &= z(zg_{m-2} + zg_{m-3} + zf_{m-3} + zf_{m-4}) \\
 &= z^2(g_{m-2} + g_{m-3} + f_{m-3} + f_{m-4}) \\
 &= \vdots \\
 &= z^m \\
 &= (\rho_1 + \sigma_1)^m
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_m \sigma_m &= (-1)^m z^m \\
 &= (-z)^m \\
 &= (\rho_1 \sigma_1)^m,
 \end{aligned}$$

we find in general that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_m &= \rho_1^m, \\
 \sigma_m &= \sigma_1^m.
 \end{aligned}$$

That is,

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_n(z, \dots, z) &= \frac{\rho_m^{n+1} - \sigma_m^{n+1}}{\rho_m - \sigma_m} \\
 &= \frac{\rho_1^{m(n+1)} - \sigma_1^{m(n+1)}}{\rho_1^m - \sigma_1^m} \\
 &= \frac{((z + \sqrt{z^2 + 4z})/2)^{m(n+1)} - ((z - \sqrt{z^2 + 4z})/2)^{m(n+1)}}{((z + \sqrt{z^2 + 4z})/2)^m - ((z - \sqrt{z^2 + 4z})/2)^m} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2^{mn}} \frac{(z + \sqrt{z^2 + 4z})^{m(n+1)} - (z - \sqrt{z^2 + 4z})^{m(n+1)}}{(z + \sqrt{z^2 + 4z})^m - (z - \sqrt{z^2 + 4z})^m}.
 \end{aligned}$$

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[exercise 1.2.8-30; L. Carlitz, *Collectanea Math.* **27** [sic] (1965), 281–296]

**24.** [M22] Prove that, if  $G(z)$  is any generating function, we have

$$\sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}]G(z)^k = [z^n](1 + zG(z))^m.$$

Evaluate both sides of this identity when  $G(z)$  is (a)  $1/(1-z)$ ; (b)  $(e^x - 1)/z$ .

**Proposition.**  $\sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] G(z)^k = [z^n] (1 + zG(z))^m.$

*Proof.* Suppose  $G(z)$  is an arbitrary generating function,

$$G(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} g_n z^n.$$

We must show that

$$\sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] G(z)^k = [z^n] (1 + zG(z))^m.$$

But by a rule of the *coefficient of operator*<sup>2</sup>,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] G(z)^k &= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^n] z^k G(z)^k \\ &= [z^n] \sum_k \binom{m}{k} G(z)^k z^k \\ &= [z^n] \sum_k \binom{m}{k} (zG(z))^k \\ &= [z^n] (1 + zG(z))^m, \end{aligned}$$

as we needed to show. □

(a) For  $G(z) = \frac{1}{1-z}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] G(z)^k &= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] \left( \frac{1}{1-z} \right)^k \\ &= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] \frac{1}{(1-z)^k} \\ &= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{k+n-1}{n} z^n \\ &= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] \sum_{n-k \geq 0} \binom{k+n-k-1}{n-k} z^{n-k} \\ &= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] \sum_{n-k \geq 0} \binom{n-1}{n-k} z^{n-k} \\ &= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} \binom{n-1}{n-k} \end{aligned}$$

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<sup>2</sup>D. E. Knuth, *A Classical Mind* (Prentice-Hall, 1994), 248.



and

$$\begin{aligned}
[z^n](1 + zG(z))^m &= [z^n] \left(1 + z \frac{1}{1-z}\right)^m \\
&= [z^n] \sum_k \binom{m}{k} \left(z \frac{1}{1-z}\right)^k \\
&= [z^n] \sum_k \binom{m}{k} z^k \frac{1}{(1-z)^k} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_k \binom{m}{k} z^k \sum_n \binom{k+n-1}{n} z^n \\
&= [z^n] \sum_k \binom{m}{k} z^k \sum_{n-k} \binom{n-1}{n-k} z^{n-k} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_k \binom{m}{k} z^k \sum_k \binom{n-1}{k} z^k \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^m (1+z)^{n-1} \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^{m+n-1} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{m+n-1}{n} z^n \\
&= \binom{m+n-1}{n}.
\end{aligned}$$

(b) For  $G(z) = \frac{e^z - 1}{z}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] G(z)^k &= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^{n-k}] \left(\frac{e^z - 1}{z}\right)^k \\
&= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^n] z^k \left(\frac{e^z - 1}{z}\right)^k \\
&= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^n] z^k \frac{(e^z - 1)^k}{z^k} \\
&= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^n] (e^z - 1)^k \\
&= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} [z^n] k! \sum_n \left\{ \begin{matrix} n \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} \frac{z^n}{n!} && \text{by Eq. (23)} \\
&= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} k! [z^n] \sum_n \left\{ \begin{matrix} n \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} \frac{z^n}{n!} \\
&= \sum_k \binom{m}{k} k! \left\{ \begin{matrix} n \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} / n! \\
&= \sum_k \frac{m^k}{k!} k! \left\{ \begin{matrix} n \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} / n! \\
&= \sum_k m^k \left\{ \begin{matrix} n \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} / n!
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 [z^n](1 + zG(z))^m &= [z^n] \left( 1 + z \frac{e^z - 1}{z} \right)^m \\
 &= [z^n] (e^z)^m \\
 &= [z^n] e^{mz} \\
 &= [z^n] \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{(mz)^n}{n!} \\
 &= [z^n] \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{m^n}{n!} z^n \\
 &= m^n / n!,
 \end{aligned}$$

since

$$\sum_k m^k \left\{ \begin{matrix} n \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} = m^n.$$

► **25.** [M23] Evaluate the sum  $\sum_k \binom{n}{k} \binom{2n-2k}{n-k} (-2)^k$  by simplifying the equivalent formula  $\sum_k [w^k](1 - 2w)^n [z^{n-k}](1 + z)^{2n-2k}$ .

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_k [w^k] (1-2w)^n [z^{n-k}] (1+z)^{2n-2k} \\
&= \sum_k [w^k] (1-2w)^n [z^n] z^k (1+z)^{2n-2k} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_k [w^k] (1-2w)^n z^k (1+z)^{2n-2k} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_k [w^k] (1-2w)^n z^k (1+z)^{2n} (1+z)^{-2k} \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^{2n} \sum_k [w^k] (1-2w)^n z^k (1+z)^{-2k} \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^{2n} \sum_k [w^k] (1-2w)^n z^k (1/(1+z)^2)^k \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^{2n} \sum_k [w^k] (1-2w)^n (z/(1+z)^2)^k \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^{2n} \sum_k [w^k] (z/(1+z)^2)^k (1-2w)^n \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^{2n} \sum_k [w^k] (z/(1+z)^2)^k \sum_j \binom{n}{j} (-2w)^j \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^{2n} \sum_k [w^k] (z/(1+z)^2)^k \sum_j (-2)^j \binom{n}{j} w^j \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^{2n} \sum_k (z/(1+z)^2)^k (-2)^k \binom{n}{k} \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^{2n} \sum_k \binom{n}{k} (-2z/(1+z)^2)^k \\
&= [z^n] (1+z)^{2n} (1-2z/(1+z)^2)^n \\
&= [z^n] ((1+z)^2 (1-2z/(1+z)^2))^n \\
&= [z^n] ((1+z)^2 - 2z)^n \\
&= [z^n] (1+z^2)^n \\
&= [z^n] \sum_k \binom{n}{k} (z^2)^k \\
&= [z^n] \sum_k \binom{n}{k} z^{2k} \\
&= [z^n] \sum_{\substack{k/2 \\ k \text{ even}}} \binom{n}{k/2} z^k \\
&= \binom{n}{n/2} [n \text{ even}].
\end{aligned}$$

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[G. P. Egorychev, *Integral Representation and the Computation of Combinatorial Sums* (Amer. Math. Soc., 1984)]

**26.** [ $M_40$ ] Explore a generalization of the notation (31) according to which we might write, for example,  $[z^2 - 2z^5]G(z) = a_2 - 2a_5$  when  $G(z)$  is given by (1).

n.a.

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[D. E. Knuth, *A Classical Mind* (Prentice-Hall, 1994), 247–258]