

QUANTUM GRAVITY HOMEWORK 3

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1. By direct analogy with the number of ways to write down a finite number as a sum of 1's and 2's,

$$p(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} p_n z^n = \frac{1}{1-z} \cdot \frac{1}{1-z^5} \cdot \frac{1}{1-z^{10}}$$

2. To find the number of different ways to make change for \$10 using only pennies, nickels, and dimes, we use the following Mathematica code:

$$\text{In[6]:= } p[z_]:= \text{Series} \left[\frac{1}{1-z} \frac{1}{1-z^5} \frac{1}{1-z^{10}}, \{z, 0, 1000\} \right]$$

$$\text{In[7]:= } \text{SeriesCoefficient} [p[z], 1000]$$

$$\text{Out[7]= } 10201$$

3. If p_n is the number of ways to write n as a sum of positive natural numbers chosen from some set $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}^+$, then

$$p(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} p_n z^n = \prod_{s \in S} \frac{1}{1-z^s}$$

4. Let $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{N}^+$. A P -structure consists of chopping a set A into $k = |S|$ parts, totally ordering each, then chopping the first into blocks of length s_1 , the second into blocks of length s_2 , etc.

Now we obtain the isomorphism

$$P \cong \frac{1}{1-Z^{s_1}} \cdot \frac{1}{1-Z^{s_2}} \cdots \frac{1}{1-Z^{s_k}},$$

because each term $(1 - Z^{s_j})^{-1}$ corresponds to the structure type of totally ordering a set and chopping it into blocks of length s_j .

5. If q_n is the number of ways to write n as a sum of positive numbers (chosen from $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}^+$), where each number can be used only once, then

$$q_n = \sum_{n \geq 0} q_n z^n = \prod_{s \in S} (1 + z^s).$$

The justification for this comes by decategorifying 6.

6. Let $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k\} \subseteq \mathbb{N}^+$, where all the s_j are distinct. A Q -structure on a set A consists of chopping A into $k = |S|$ parts. The first part is either empty or else it gets totally ordered and endowed with the structure of “being an s_1 -element set”. The second part is treated similarly, etc. This leads to the isomorphism

$$Q \cong (1 + Z^{s_1})(1 + Z^{s_2}) \dots (1 + Z^{s_k}).$$

7. The number of ways of writing n as a sum of odd numbers is

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{1 - z^{2n+1}} &= \frac{1}{1 - z^1} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - z^3} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - z^5} \cdots \\ &= \frac{1 - z^2}{1 - z} \cdot \frac{1 - z^4}{1 - z^2} \cdot \frac{1 - z^6}{1 - z^3} \cdot \frac{1 - z^8}{1 - z^4} \cdots \\ &= (1 + z) \cdot (1 + z^2) \cdot (1 + z^3) \cdot (1 + z^4) \cdots \\ &= \prod_{n \geq 0} (1 + z^n), \end{aligned}$$

which is the number of ways of writing n as a sum of distinct numbers.