

Lecture 4

March 13, 16

10 N.T. Dollars : How many ways to combine coins ?

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \textcircled{1} & \textcircled{5} & \textcircled{10} \\ x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \end{array}$$

$$x_1 + 5x_2 + 10x_3 = 10$$

Find all integer-solutions for (x_1, x_2, x_3) .

We can simply list the answers : $(0, 0, 1), (0, 2, 0), (5, 1, 0), (10, 0, 0)$.

(*) But, it is not easy to combine coins for 10 U.S. dollars.

(We may assume that we don't have half-dollar and one-dollar coins, in fact, they do exist.)

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \textcircled{1} & \textcircled{5} & \textcircled{10} & \textcircled{25} \\ \text{penny} & \text{nickle} & \text{dime} & \text{quarter} \end{array}$$

So, we have an equation to solve

$$x_1 + 5x_2 + 10x_3 + 25x_4 = 1000, \quad (\text{Not easy to list the answers!})$$

(*) By using combinatorial selections, we can consider the product

$$\text{of } (1+x+x^2+\dots) (1+x^5+x^{10}+x^{15}+\dots) (1+x^{10}+x^{20}+x^{30}+\dots) (1+x^{25}+x^{50}+x^{75}+\dots)$$

and the answer is going to be the coefficient of x^{1000} .

Again, this is not an easy problem to solve at all.

Definition (Generating function)

Let $\langle a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots \rangle$ be a sequence. Then, the function

$f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{+\infty} a_i x^i$ associate with the sequence is called the generating function for the sequence.

It is not difficult to realize that $f(x)$ is in fact a power series with one indeterminate x . If $f(x)$ has an explicit form, then solving a complicate solution may turn to ^{be} a simpler one.

Example 1 Let $f(x) = (1+x+\dots) \cdot (1+x^5+x^{10}+\dots) \cdot (1+x^{10}+x^{20}+\dots)$.

Then, $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \cdot \frac{1}{1-x^5} \cdot \frac{1}{1-x^{10}}$. Let $\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} A_i x^i$, $\frac{1}{(1-x)(1-x^5)} =$

$\sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} B_i x^i$ and $\sum_{i=1}^{+\infty} C_i x^i = f(x)$. We are aiming at finding C_{100} .

Hence, $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i x^i = (1-x^5) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i x^i \Rightarrow A_n = B_n - B_{n-5}$, i.e.,

$$\begin{cases} B_n = A_n + B_{n-5}, & \text{Similarly} \\ C_n = B_n + C_{n-10}. & A_0 = B_0 = C_0 = 1. \end{cases}$$

Now, $A_n = 1$ for all n . $C_{100} = B_{100} + C_{90} = B_{100} + B_{90} + C_{80} = \dots$

$$= B_{100} + B_{90} + \dots + B_{10} + C_0 = A_{100} + B_{95} + B_{90} + \dots + B_{10} + C_0$$

$$= A_{100} + A_{95} + 2B_{90} + B_{85} + \dots = A_{100} + A_{95} + 2A_{90} + 2B_{85} + B_{80} + \dots = 121.$$

Example 2 Suppose that we have n collection of distinguished items. If we are allowed to choose the ^{items from the} same collection, then the number of different combination is denoted by H_r^n provided r items are selected from n items. (可重複組合)

Now, we let $f(x) = (1+x+x^2+\dots)^n = \left(\frac{1}{1-x}\right)^n$ and H_r^n is equal to the coefficient of x^r in the expansion. For completeness, we provide the details in what follows.

$$f(x) = (1-x)^{-n} = (1+(-x))^{-n} = \sum_k \binom{-n}{k} (-x)^k = \sum_k \binom{-n}{k} (-1)^k x^k.$$

By the definition* of $\binom{-n}{k}$, we have

$$H_r^n = \binom{-n}{r} (-1)^r = \frac{(-n)(-n-1)\dots(-n-r+1) \cdot (-1)^r}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot r} = \frac{(n+r-1)!}{r!(n-1)!} = \binom{n+r-1}{r}.$$

Exercise 1 Find the explicit form of $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (i+1)x^i$.

Exercise 2 Find the number of partitions of 101 into ^{positive} odd integers.

Exercise 3 Find the number of partitions of n into mutually distinct positive integers.

(*) $\binom{x}{k} = \frac{x(x-1)\dots(x-k+1)}{k!}$ for each $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

1. Find ^{the # of} non-negative integer solutions of $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_m = n$. 4-4

Use G.F. Let

$f(x) = (1 + x + x^2 + \dots)^m$ and find the coefficient of x^n .

$$f(x) = \left[\frac{1}{(1-x)} \right]^m = (1-x)^{-m}$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{-m}{k} (x)^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{-m}{k} (-1)^k x^k$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-m)(-m-1)\dots(-m-k+1)(-1)^k}{k!} x^k$$

The coefficient of x^n is equal to

$$\frac{(+m)(m+1)\dots(m+n-1)}{n!} = \binom{m+n-1}{n}.$$

2. Find the # of positive integer solutions of $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_m = n$.

Use G.F.

$$g(x) = (x + x^2 + \dots + x^m + \dots)^m$$

$$= x^m (1 + x + \dots)^m = x^m \cdot (1-x)^{-m}$$

$$= x^m \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{m+k-1}{k} x^k$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{m+k-1}{k} x^{m+k} \quad \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Let } n = m+k. \\ \Rightarrow k = n-m. \end{array} \right]$$

Hence, the coefficient of x^n is $\binom{n-1}{n-m} = \binom{n-1}{m-1}$.

(*) Use $x_i' = x_i - 1$, solve $x_1' + x_2' + \dots + x_m' = n - m$. (Another method!)

3. Applications on partitions $p(n)$.

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

$$= (1+x)(1+x^2)(1+x^4) \dots (1+x^{2^r}) \dots$$

$$= (1+x+\dots+x^9)(1+x^{10}+x^{20}+\dots+x^{90})(1+x^{100}+x^{200}+\dots+x^{900}) \dots$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad (1+x)(1+x^2)(1+x^3) \dots (1+x^m) \dots \quad \text{分成不相等的整数和.}$$

$$= \frac{1-x^2}{1-x} \cdot \frac{1-x^4}{1-x^2} \cdot \frac{1-x^6}{1-x^3} \cdot \frac{1-x^8}{1-x^4} \dots \frac{1-x^{2m}}{1-x^m} \dots$$

$$= \frac{1}{(1-x)(1-x^3)(1-x^5) \dots}$$

$$= (1+x+x^2+\dots)(1+x^3+x^6+\dots)(1+x^5+x^{10}+\dots)$$

分成奇数项的和

Example

$$7 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 7 \\ 6+1, 4+2+1, \\ 5+2 \\ 4+3 \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 7 \\ 5+1+1 \\ 3+3+1 \\ 3+1+1+1+1 \\ 1+1+1+1+1+1+1 \end{array} \right. \quad \parallel \quad p_0(7) = 5$$

(*) Find some exercises to work on, good luck!

4. An interesting generating function.

4-6

$$(1-4x)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{-\frac{1}{2}}{k} \cdot (-4x)^k$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-\frac{1}{2})(-\frac{3}{2})(-\frac{5}{2})\dots(-\frac{1}{2}-k+1)}{k!} (-4)^k \cdot x^k$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^k \cdot (1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots \cdot (2k-1))}{k!} x^k$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^k \cdot k! \cdot (1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots \cdot (2k-1))}{k! \cdot k!} x^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(2 \cdot 4 \cdot \dots \cdot 2k)(1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots \cdot (2k-1))}{k! \cdot k!} x^k$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{2k}{k} x^k$$

(oo) We shall use this G.F. later in various counting problems.

Instead of using the power series $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i x^i$ to represent the generating function for the sequence $\langle a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots \rangle$, we may use a more general form to describe the generating function.

Definition (General GF) Let $\mu_k(x)$ be a function satisfying

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k \mu_k(x) \neq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k \mu_k(x) \text{ provided } \langle a_0, a_1, \dots \rangle \text{ and } \langle b_0, b_1, \dots \rangle \text{ are}$$

two distinct sequences (non-equal sequences). Then, $F(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k \mu_k(x)$

is a generating function of the sequence $\langle a_0, a_1, \dots \rangle$ and $\mu_k(x)$ is called the indicator function for a_k .

Note that in previous definition for generating function, we choose $\mu_k(x) = x^k$. In what follows, we consider $\mu_k(x) = x^k/k!$.

Definition (Exponential Generating Functions)

$F(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k/k!$ is called the exponential generating function of the sequence $\langle a_0, a_1, \dots \rangle$.

The notion "exponential" comes from the fact that e^x is the exponential generating function of the sequence $\langle 1, 1, \dots \rangle$. Another important fact shows that we have permutation of items into our counting.

Examples (E.G.F.)

1. Let $P(n, k)$ denote the number of permutations of k objects selected from a set of n objects.

e.g. $n=4, k=3, S = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$.

$$P(n, k) = \binom{n}{k} \cdot k!$$

6 permutations for each 3-subset of S .

$\{123, 213, 321, 132, 231, 312\}$ for $\{1, 2, 3\}$.

$$(1+x)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k = \sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{k!}_{\text{in}} \cdot \underbrace{\binom{n}{k}}_{\text{in}} \frac{x^k}{k!}$$

↓
E.G.F. of $P(n, k)$.

2. In DNA (sequences), we use A, T, G, C four letters to form a sequence. Suppose that we construct a length k sequence

by using at most 3 A, 3 T, 1 G and 2 C. How many ways we can have if $k=4$.

By the idea of E.G.F. $g(x) = \left(1 + \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!}\right)^2 \left(1 + \frac{x}{1!}\right) \left(1 + \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!}\right)$

We are looking for the coefficient of $\frac{x^4}{4!}$.

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{a}{k} \frac{x^k}{k!}$$

Again, let $k=6$.

4-9

If we choose 2A, 2T and 2C, then we shall have

$$\frac{x^2}{2!} \cdot \frac{x^2}{2!} \cdot \frac{x^2}{2!}.$$

∴ A, A, T, T, C, C form a sequence with $\frac{6!}{2!2!2!}$ ways.

Similarly, 3A, 2T, 1C, we have

$$\frac{x^3}{3!} \cdot \frac{x^2}{2!} \cdot \frac{x}{1!}, \text{ with } \frac{6!}{3!2!1!} \text{ ways}$$

(*) 由於 a_6 為 $\frac{x^6}{6!}$ 的係數, 所以

乘開來之後, 分子就多了 $6!$, 剛好是有相同物件的排列數。

Now, we consider the # of surjective functions from a set $A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ onto a set $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m\}$. Since the image of a function has order, we use exponential G.F.

$$G(x) = \left(\frac{x}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots \right)^m \text{ and try to find } a_n \text{ in } \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k \frac{x^k}{k!}.$$

$$G(x) = (-1 + e^x)^m$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} (-1)^k (e^x)^{m-k} \rightarrow e^{(m-k)x}$$

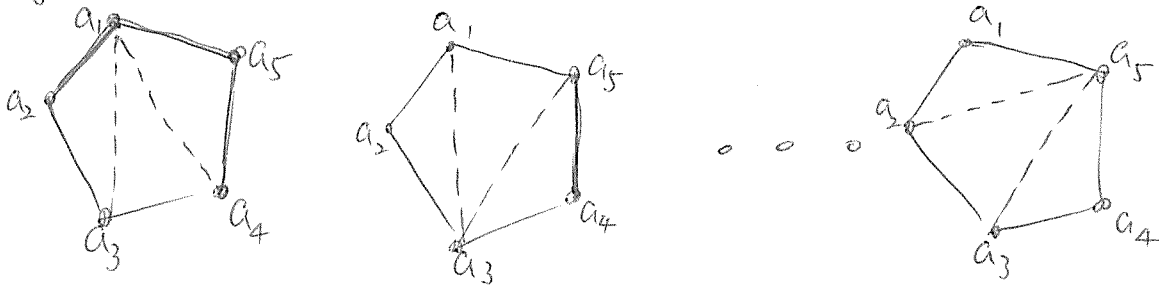
$$= \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} (-1)^k \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{[(m-k)x]^j}{j!} = \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} (-1)^k \left(\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (m-k)^j \frac{x^j}{j!} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \left[\sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} (-1)^k (m-k)^j \right] \frac{x^j}{j!} \Rightarrow j=n \text{ 時 } \frac{1}{3} \frac{1}{6} \frac{1}{6}$$

Example Triangulate a convex n -gon.

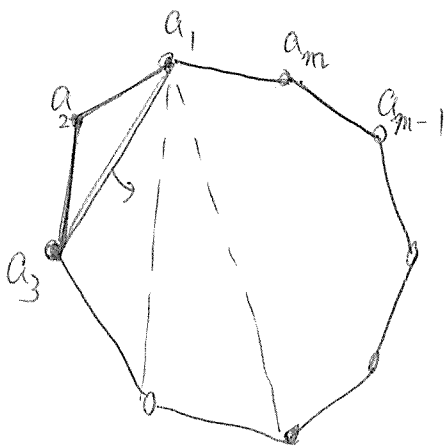
(How many ways)

e.g. $n=5$

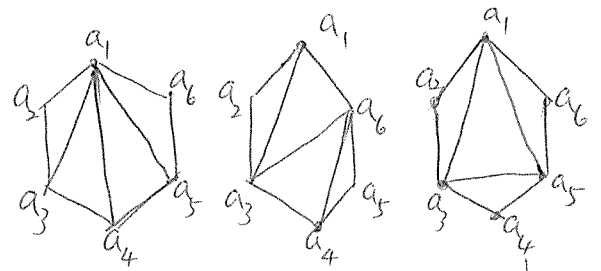


Five ways.

How about n in general?



$n=6$



There are 11 other ways
 ↓
 5 5 1
 more

For convenience, we consider the triangulation of an $(n+2)$ -gon. So, how many ways? (Recommended Exercise!)

Let d_n be the number of ways in triangulating an $(n+2)$ -gon.

Then, by using G.F., we may let $g(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} d_k x^k$.

⋮
 ⋮
 ⋮ To be continued next week!