

# Four identities

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## 1 Result

We have following identities for any  $k, n \geq 1$  where the empty product is 1.

$$x^k = \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^k - x^t) \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} \quad (1)$$

$$x^k \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1 - x^i} \right) = x^n \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} \right) \quad (2)$$

$$1 + \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} = \prod_{m=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - x^m} \quad (3)$$

$$\left( \prod_{i=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - x^i} \right) \left( \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{x^j}{1 - x^j} \right) = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} \quad (4)$$

In  $q$ -Pochhammer symbols, it is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} q^k &= \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - q^k - q^t) \frac{q^{kt}}{(q^n; q)_{t-n+1}} = \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^k - q^{s+n-1}) \frac{q^{k(s+n-1)}}{(q^n; q)_s} \\ q^{kn} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n(i-1)}}{(q^k; q)_i} &= \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{q^{nj}}{(q^k; q)_{j-k+1}} = \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \frac{q^{kt}}{(q^n; q)_{t-n+1}} = q^{kn} \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{k(s-1)}}{(q^n; q)_s} \\ 1 + \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \frac{q^{kt}}{(q; q)_t} &= \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{kt}}{(q; q)_t} = \frac{1}{(q^k; q)_{\infty}} \\ \frac{1}{(q^k; q)_{\infty}} \left( \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{q^j}{1 - q^j} \right) &= \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \frac{t q^{kt}}{(q; q)_t} \end{aligned}$$

## 2 Combinatorial approach

At first, let  $\Lambda$  be the set of all integer partition  $\lambda$  with  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq 0 \geq \dots$ ,  $\lambda'$  be the conjugate of  $\lambda$  which is  $\lambda'_i = \#\{j \mid \lambda_j \geq i\}$ , and  $s(\lambda) = \sum_i \lambda_i < \infty$  so  $\lambda \vdash s(\lambda)$ . For any integer partition  $\lambda$ , define  $\lambda^{(d,r)}$  as

$$\lambda_m^{(d,r)} = \begin{cases} \lambda_m + r & \text{if } m \leq d \\ \lambda_m & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and

$$\lambda_m^{(i;j)} = \begin{cases} \lambda_{i+m-1} & \text{if } m \leq j - i + 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

so we have  $\lambda^{(i;j)}$  is  $\lambda_i \geq \dots \geq \lambda_j \geq 0 \geq \dots$ . Then, define

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_{k:t} &= \{\lambda \in \Lambda \mid \lambda_k = t\} \\ \Lambda_{k:\leq t} &= \{\lambda \in \Lambda \mid \lambda_k \leq t\} \\ \Lambda_{k:\geq t} &= \{\lambda \in \Lambda \mid \lambda_k \geq t\} \end{aligned}$$

Then, for any  $A \subseteq \Lambda$ , we may define the generating function  $P(A)$  as

$$P(A)(x) = \sum_{\lambda \in A} x^{s(\lambda)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \#\{\lambda \in A \mid s(\lambda) = n\} x^n$$

naturally. The following is well-known.

**Lemma 1.** For any  $I \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ , if we define  $\Lambda_I = \{\lambda \in \Lambda \mid \lambda_i \in I \text{ if } \lambda_i \neq 0\}$ , then

$$P(\Lambda_I) = \prod_{i \in I} \frac{1}{1 - x^i}$$

Note that  $\Lambda_{1:\leq s} = \Lambda_{\{1,2,\dots,s\}}$  since integer partitions are monotone decreasing sequences, so we have

**Corollary 2.**

(i) For any  $s \geq 1$ ,

$$P(\Lambda_{1:\leq s})(x) = \prod_{i=1}^s \frac{1}{1 - x^i} =: P_s(x)$$

(ii) For  $\Lambda$ , we have

$$P(\Lambda)(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - x^i} =: P_{\infty}(x)$$

where we define  $P_0(x) = 1$ .

Also, we have simple well-known property of the conjugation.

**Lemma 3.** The conjugation is a  $s$ -preserving bijection from  $\Lambda_{k:\geq n}$  to  $\Lambda_{n:\geq k}$  for every  $k, n \geq 1$ .

*Proof.* Note that  $\lambda'_i = \#\{j \mid \lambda_j \geq i\} = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} 1_{\lambda_j \geq i}$ . Then, we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \lambda'_i = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} 1_{\lambda_j \geq i} = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} 1_{\lambda_j \geq i} = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \lambda_j$$

since  $\lambda_j$ 's are nonnegative integers, which proves  $s(\lambda) = s(\lambda')$ . Hence, conjugating is a  $s$ -preserving operation.

Now, since  $\lambda$  is a decreasing sequence, so  $\lambda_k \geq n$  implies  $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_k \geq n$ , so  $\{1, \dots, k\} \subseteq \{j \mid \lambda_j \geq n\}$  which proves  $\lambda'_n \geq k$ . Hence, the conjugation is a map from  $\Lambda_{k:\geq n}$  to  $\Lambda_{n:\geq k}$ . Also, if  $\lambda_k < n$ , then it implies  $\{j \mid \lambda_j \geq n\} \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, k-1\}$  so  $\lambda'_n < k$ . Thus,  $\lambda'_n \geq k$  is actually equivalent to  $\lambda_k \geq n$ . Then, it gives

$$\lambda''_j = \#\{i \mid \lambda'_i \geq j\} = \#\{i \mid \lambda_i \geq j\} = \lambda_j$$

which proves  $\lambda'' = \lambda$ , so the conjugation is a bijection.  $\square$

Then, it will conclude  $\lambda_k \leq n-1$  is equivalent to  $\lambda_n \leq k-1$  also. Now, we can find out the generating function of  $\Lambda_{k:t}$ .

**Theorem 4.** For  $k \geq 1$  and  $t \geq 0$ , we have

$$P(\Lambda_{k:t})(x) = x^{kt} P_{k-1}(x) P_t(x)$$

*Proof.* We will construct the bijection  $\phi : \Lambda_{k:t} \rightarrow \Lambda_{1:\leq k-1} \times \Lambda_{1:\leq t}$  such that if  $\phi(\lambda) = (\mu, \nu)$ , then  $s(\lambda) = s(\mu) + s(\nu) + kt$ . From this, we will get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_{k:t}} x^{s(\lambda)} &= \sum_{\mu \in \Lambda_{1:\leq k-1}, \nu \in \Lambda_{1:\leq t}} x^{s(\phi^{-1}(\mu, \nu))} \\ &= \sum_{\mu \in \Lambda_{1:\leq k-1}} \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_{1:\leq t}} x^{s(\mu) + s(\nu) + kt} \\ &= x^{kt} \left( \sum_{\mu \in \Lambda_{1:\leq k-1}} x^{s(\mu)} \right) \left( \sum_{\nu \in \Lambda_{1:\leq t}} x^{s(\nu)} \right) \\ &= x^{kt} P_{k-1}(x) P_t(x) \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof.

First, if  $\lambda_k = t$ , then we have  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{k-1} \geq \lambda_k = t$ , so

$$\mu = (\lambda^{(1:k-1)})^{(k-1, -t)} = \lambda_1 - t \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{k-1} - t \geq 0 \dots$$

is well-defined integer partition. Note that if  $k = 1$ , then  $\mu$  is the zero partition. Moreover,  $\mu_k = 0$  so we have  $\mu'_1 \leq k-1$ . Thus,  $\mu' \in \Lambda_{1:\leq k-1}$ . Now,  $t = \lambda_k \geq \lambda_{k+1} \geq \dots$ , so  $\nu = \lambda^{(k+1:\infty)} \in \Lambda_{1:\leq t}$ . Hence, the map

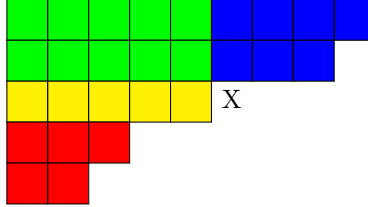
$$\phi(\lambda) = (\mu', \nu) = ((\lambda^{(1:k-1)})^{(k-1, -t)})', \lambda^{(k+1:\infty)})$$

is well-defined map from  $\Lambda_{k:t}$  to  $\Lambda_{1:\leq k-1} \times \Lambda_{1:\leq t}$ . Naturally,  $s(\mu') = s(\mu) = s(\lambda^{(1:k-1)}) - t(k-1)$  and  $s(\nu) = s(\lambda^{(k+1:\infty)})$ . Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} s(\lambda) &= s(\lambda^{(1:k-1)}) + \lambda_k + s(\lambda^{(k+1:\infty)}) \\ &= s(\mu') + t(k-1) + t + s(\nu) \\ &= s(\mu') + s(\nu) + kt \end{aligned}$$

whenever  $\phi(\lambda) = (\mu', \nu)$ . Hence, it is enough to prove that  $\phi$  is bijective. Injectivity is natural since  $\lambda^{(1:k-1)} = \kappa^{(1:k-1)}$  and  $\lambda^{(k+1:\infty)} = \kappa^{(k+1:\infty)}$  implies  $\lambda = \kappa$  since  $\lambda_k = \kappa_k = t$ . For surjectivity, you may note that  $\phi(\mu'_1 + t \geq \mu'_2 + t \geq \dots \geq \mu'_{k-1} + t \geq t \geq \nu_1 \geq \nu_2 \geq \dots) = (\mu, \nu)$  for any given  $\mu \in \Lambda_{1:\leq k-1}$  and  $\nu \in \Lambda_{1:\leq t}$ .

We can understand this proof visually.



The yellow area denotes  $\lambda_k = t$ . X denotes the position which will never be the cell of the young diagram of integer partition  $\lambda$  with  $\lambda_k = t$ . The blue area is corresponding to  $\mu$ , where X makes  $\mu'_1 \leq k-1$  so  $\mu' \in \Lambda_{1:\leq k-1}$ , so it corresponding to  $P_{k-1}$  for the generating function. The red area is corresponding to  $\nu \in \Lambda_{1:\leq t}$ , so it corresponding to  $P_t$  for the generating function. Lastly, the number of green and yellow cell is exactly  $kt$ , which makes  $x^{kt}$  in the generating function.  $\square$

Now, we can prove equation (1), (2) and (3). For convinience, define

$$P_{k,n} = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{x^k}{1-x^i} = x^{kn} P_n$$

**Theorem 5.** The following identities are true.

(i)

$$x^k = \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^k - x^t) \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s}$$

(ii)

$$x^k \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1-x^i} \right) = x^n \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} \right)$$

(iii)

$$1 + \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} = \prod_{m=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-x^m}$$

*Proof.* (i) First,  $\Lambda_{n:k} = \Lambda_{n:\geq k} \setminus \Lambda_{n:\geq k+1}$ . Hence, by **Lemma 3.**, we have

$$P(\Lambda_{n:k}) = P(\Lambda_{n:\geq k}) - P(\Lambda_{n:\geq k+1}) = P(\Lambda_{k:\geq n}) - P(\Lambda_{k+1:\geq n})$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned} x^{kn} P_{n-1} P_k &= \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} x^{kt} P_{k-1} P_t - \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} x^{(k+1)t} P_k P_t \\ &= \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} x^{kt} (1 - x^k) P_k P_t - \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} x^{(k+1)t} P_k P_t \\ &= \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} x^{kt} (1 - x^k - x^t) P_k P_t. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$x^k P_{k,n-1} = x^{kn} P_{n-1} = \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} x^{kt} (1 - x^k - x^t) P_t = \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^k - x^t) P_{k,t}$$

Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} x^k &= \frac{1}{P_{k,n-1}} \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^k - x^t) P_{k,t} \\ &= \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^k - x^t) \frac{P_{k,t}}{P_{k,n-1}} \\ &= \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^k - x^t) \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} \end{aligned}$$

□

(ii) From **Lemma 3.**, we have  $P(\Lambda_{n:\geq k}) = P(\Lambda_{k:\geq n})$ . Hence,

$$\sum_{j=k}^{\infty} x^{jn} P_{n-1} P_j = \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} x^{kt} P_{k-1} P_t$$

Divide both side by  $x^{kn-k-n} P_{n-1} P_{k-1}$ , then we get

$$\begin{aligned} x^k \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{P_{n,j}}{P_{n,k-1}} &= x^k \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{x^{jn} P_j}{x^{(k-1)n} P_{k-1}} \\ &= x^n \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \frac{x^{kt} P_t}{x^{k(n-1)} P_{n-1}} \\ &= x^n \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \frac{P_{k,t}}{P_{k,n-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$x^k \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1-x^i} \right) = x^n \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} \right)$$

□

(iii) Since  $\Lambda = \bigcup_{t=0}^{\infty} \Lambda_{k:t}$ , we have

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} x^{kt} P_{k-1} P_t = P_{\infty}$$

Hence,

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} P_{k,t} = \frac{P_{\infty}}{P_{k-1}} = \prod_{m=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-x^m} \quad \square$$

To prove (4), we need one more bijection, which is from [1].

**Lemma 6.** Suppose  $d_k(m) = \{d \mid d \geq k, d \mid m\}$  and  $p(n) = [x^n]P_{\infty}(x) = \#\{\lambda \in \Lambda \mid \lambda \vdash n\}$ . Then,

$$\sum_{\lambda \vdash n} \lambda_k = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} p(n-m) d_k(m)$$

*Proof.* For any triple  $(\lambda, d, r)$  such that  $\lambda$  is an integer partition with  $\lambda \vdash n$ ,  $d \geq k$ ,  $r \geq 1$ , and  $\lambda^{(d,-r)}$  is again an integer partition, define  $\psi(\lambda, d, r) = (dr, \lambda^{(d,-r)}, d)$ , which is a bijective to the set of triples  $(m, \kappa, d)$  such that  $m \geq 1$ ,  $\kappa$  is an integer partition with  $\kappa \vdash n-m$ ,  $d \geq k$ , and  $d$  divides  $m$  since  $(m, \kappa, d) \mapsto (\kappa^{(d,m/d)}, d, m/d)$  is the inverse map.

For fixed  $\lambda \vdash n$  and  $d \geq k$ , the number of triple  $(\lambda, d, r)$  is  $\lambda_d - \lambda_{d+1}$  since  $\lambda^{(d,-r)}$  is an integer partition if and only if  $\lambda_d - r \geq \lambda_{d+1}$ . Hence, the number of triples  $(\lambda, d, r)$  for fixed  $\lambda$  is  $\sum_{d=k}^{\infty} (\lambda_d - \lambda_{d+1}) = \lambda_k$  and thus, the number of triples  $(\lambda, d, r)$  is  $\sum_{\lambda \vdash n} \lambda_k$ . Now, for fixed  $m \geq 1$ , the number of triples  $(m, \kappa, d)$  is  $p(n-m) d_k(m)$ , so we get

$$\sum_{\lambda \vdash n} \lambda_k = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} p(n-m) d_k(m)$$

□

Also, we can get the generating function of  $d_k$ , which is defined as  $D_k(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_k(n) x^n$ , easily.

**Lemma 7.** For any  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$D_k(x) = \sum_{d=k}^{\infty} \frac{x^d}{1-x^d}$$

*Proof.* Easily,

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_k(n) x^n &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \#\{d \mid d \geq k, d \mid n\} x^n \\
&= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{d=k}^{\infty} 1_{d \mid n} x^n \\
&= \sum_{d=k}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1_{d \mid n} x^n \\
&= \sum_{d=k}^{\infty} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} x^{di} \\
&= \sum_{d=k}^{\infty} \frac{x^d}{1 - x^d}
\end{aligned}$$

□

Then, we are ready to prove (4)

**Theorem 8.** The following identity is true

$$\left( \prod_{i=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - x^i} \right) \left( \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{x^j}{1 - x^j} \right) = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s}$$

*Proof.* From above lemmas, we get

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} \lambda_k x^n = D_k(x) P_{\infty}(x)$$

Note that  $\sum_{\lambda \vdash n} \lambda_k = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t \#\{\lambda \vdash n \mid \lambda_k = t\}$ , so

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{\lambda \vdash n} \lambda_k x^n &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t \#\{\lambda \vdash n \mid \lambda_k = t\} x^n \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \#\{\lambda \vdash n \mid \lambda_k = t\} x^n \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t P(\Lambda_{k:t})(x) \\
&= \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t x^{kt} P_{k-1}(x) P_t(x)
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\frac{P_{\infty}}{P_{k-1}} D_k(x) = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t P_{k,t}$$

which is given identity.

□

### 3 Algebraic approach

In this section, we will prove given identity algebraically.

**Theorem 9.** The following identities are true.

(i)

$$x^k = \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^k - x^t) \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s}$$

(ii)

$$x^k \sum_{m=k}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{i=k}^m \frac{x^n}{1 - x^i} \right) = x^n \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \left( \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} \right)$$

*Proof.* (i) By computation,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^k - x^t) \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} &= \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^t) \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} - x^k \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} \\ &= (1 - x^t) \frac{x^k}{1 - x^t} + \sum_{t=n+1}^{\infty} x^k \prod_{s=n}^{t-1} \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} - x^k \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} \\ &= x^k \end{aligned}$$

□

(ii) By (i)

$$x^j = \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^j - x^t) \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^j}{1 - x^s}$$

Then, for  $j \geq k$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} x^k \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1 - x^i} &= \left( \frac{x^k}{x^j} \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1 - x^i} \right) \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^j - x^t) \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^j}{1 - x^s} \\ &= \frac{x^k}{x^j} \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^j - x^t) \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1 - x^i} \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^j}{1 - x^s} \\ &= \frac{x^k}{x^j} \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (1 - x^j) \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1 - x^i} \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^j}{1 - x^s} \\ &\quad - \frac{x^k}{x^j} \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} x^t \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1 - x^i} \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^j}{1 - x^s} \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} x^n \prod_{i=k}^{j-1} \frac{x^{n-1}}{1-x^i} \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^j}{1-x^s} \\
&\quad - \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} x^n \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^{n-1}}{1-x^i} \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^{j+1}}{1-x^s}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get

$$x^k \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1-x^i} = x^n \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \prod_{i=k}^{k-1} \frac{x^{n-1}}{1-x^i} \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} = x^n \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s}$$

□

To prove (3), we have to define some special polynomials.

**Definition 10.** For any  $k \geq 1, m \geq 0$ , define

$$Q_{k+1,m}(x) = Q_{k,m}(x)(1-x^k) + x^{(k-1)(m+1)}$$

with

$$Q_{1,m}(x) = 0$$

and

$$N_{k,m}(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} (1-x^i) + x^{m+1} Q_{k,m}(x)$$

**Lemma 11.** Polynomials  $Q$  and  $N$  have following properties.

(i)

$$N_{k+1,m}(x) = N_{k,m}(x)(1-x^k) + x^{k(m+1)}$$

(ii)

$$N_{k,m+1}(x) = N_{k,m}(x)(1-x^{m+1}) + x^{k(m+1)}$$

(iii)

$$N_{k,0}(x) = 1$$

(iv)

$$\sum_{t=0}^m \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} = \frac{N_{k,m}(x)}{\prod_{s=1}^m (1-x^s)}$$

*Proof.* (i) By definition,

$$\begin{aligned}
N_{k+1,m}(x) &= \prod_{i=1}^k (1-x^i) + x^{m+1} Q_{k+1,m}(x) \\
&= (1-x^k) \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} (1-x^i) + x^{m+1} Q_{k,m}(x)(1-x^k) + x^{k(m+1)} \\
&= (1-x^k) \left( \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} (1-x^i) + x^{m+1} Q_{k,m}(x) \right) + x^{k(m+1)}
\end{aligned}$$

$$= (1 - x^k)N_{k,m}(x) + x^{k(m+1)}$$

□

- (ii) We will use mathematical induction. First, from  $Q_{1,m}(x) = 0$ , we have  $N_{1,m}(x) = 1$ . Hence, it is true when  $k = 1$ . Now, assume it is true for  $k$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} N_{k+1,m+1}(x) &= N_{k,m+1}(x)(1 - x^k) + x^{k(m+2)} \\ &= N_{k,m}(x)(1 - x^{m+1})(1 - x^k) + x^{k(m+1)}(1 - x^k) + x^{k(m+2)} \\ &= N_{k,m}(x)(1 - x^k)(1 - x^{m+1}) + x^{k(m+1)} \\ &= \left( N_{k,m}(x)(1 - x^k) + x^{k(m+1)} \right) (1 - x^{m+1}) + x^{(k+1)(m+1)} \\ &= N_{k+1,m}(x)(1 - x^{m+1}) + x^{(k+1)(m+1)} \end{aligned}$$

by (i). Thus, done. □

- (iii) We have  $N_{1,0}(x) = 1$ . Now, if we have  $N_{k,0}(x) = 1$ , then by (i), we have  $N_{k+1,0}(x) = 1$ , so is done by mathematical induction. □

- (iv) From (iii), it is true when  $m = 0$ . Now, if it is true for  $m$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t=0}^{m+1} \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} &= \frac{N_{k,m}(x)}{\prod_{s=1}^m (1 - x^s)} + \frac{x^{k(m+1)}}{\prod_{s=1}^{m+1} (1 - x^s)} \\ &= \frac{N_{k,m}(x)(1 - x^{m+1}) + x^{k(m+1)}}{\prod_{s=1}^{m+1} (1 - x^s)} \\ &= \frac{N_{k,m+1}(x)}{\prod_{s=1}^{m+1} (1 - x^s)} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, done by mathematical induction. □

Then, it gives (3) and (4)

**Theorem 12.** The following identities are true.

- (i)

$$1 + \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} = \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s} = \prod_{m=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - x^m}$$

- (ii)

$$\left( \prod_{i=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 - x^i} \right) \left( \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{x^j}{1 - x^j} \right) = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1 - x^s}$$

*Proof.* (i) By previous lemma, we have  $\sum_{t=0}^m \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} = \frac{N_{k,m}}{\prod_{s=1}^m (1-x^s)}$ . Since  $N(k, m)(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} (1-x^i) + x^{m+1} Q_{k,m}(x)$ , when we consider limit, we have  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} N(k, m)(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} (1-x^i)$ . Thus, we have

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^{k-1} (1-x^i)}{\prod_{s=1}^{\infty} (1-x^s)} = \prod_{m=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-x^m}$$

□

(ii) Now, by (2) and (i),

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} t \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^{n-1} \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} \left( \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} \prod_{s=n}^t \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{x^n} \prod_{s=1}^{n-1} \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} \left( \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1-x^i} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{x^n} \prod_{s=1}^{n-1} \frac{x^k}{1-x^s} \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{x^n}{1-x^i} \\ &= \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^j \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{1}{1-x^i} \prod_{s=1}^{n-1} \frac{x^j}{1-x^s} \\ &= \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} x^j \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{1}{1-x^i} \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^{n-1} \frac{x^j}{1-x^s} \right) \\ &= \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} x^j \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{1}{1-x^i} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \prod_{s=1}^n \frac{x^j}{1-x^s} \right) \\ &= \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} x^j \prod_{i=k}^j \frac{1}{1-x^i} \prod_{m=j}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-x^m} \\ &= \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{x^j}{1-x^j} \prod_{i=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-x^i} \\ &= \left( \prod_{i=k}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-x^i} \right) \left( \sum_{j=k}^{\infty} \frac{x^j}{1-x^j} \right) \end{aligned}$$

## References

- [1] Kimmo Eriksson, *A note on the exact expected length of the  $k$ th part of a random partition*, Integers, Vol.10, 309-311 (2010).