Generalized Stern polynomials: Their recursions and continued fractions

Larry Ericksen

Number Theory Seminar

Dalhousie University

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Moritz Abraham Stern at the University of Göttingen: the first Jewish full professor at a German university.

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 Stern numbers count the number of representations of an integer n: as the sum of powers of 2, with no power used more than 2 times.

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 The Stern Diatomic Sequence can be created by recursion equations or by generating functions.

Generalized Stern numbers count the number of representations of an integer *n*:
 as the sum of powers of any *b* ≥ 2,
 with no power used more than *b* times.

Stern sequence $\{a(n)\}_{n\geq 0}$ at b = 2 is defined by $a(0) = 0, \ a(1) = 1$, and for $n \geq 1$, a(2n) = a(n), a(2n+1) = a(n) + a(n+1).

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Sequence: 0, 1, 1, 2, 1, 3, 2, 3, 1, 4, 3, 5, 2, 5, 3, 4, 1, 5, 4, 7, 3, 8, 5, 7, 2, 7, 5, 8, 3, 7, 4, 5, 1, ... Properties: $a(2^k) = 1$, and *bimodal* between 1's.

Definition. A hyperbinary expansion (HBE) of an integer $n \ge 1$ is an expansion of *n* as a sum of powers of 2, each power being used at most 2 times.

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Example: The HBEs of n = 12 are

$$8+4,$$

 $8+2+2,$
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 $4+4+2+2,$
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Theorem (Reznick)

The number of HBEs of an integer $n \ge 1$ is a(n+1).

Indeed, a(12 + 1) = 5.

Polynomial analogues

Two types of polynomials $a_{\ell,t}(n; z)$ at $\ell \in \{1, 2\}$ for $t \ge 1$. Recursions:

$$\begin{array}{lll} a_{1,t}(2n;z) &= z \ a_{1,t}(n;z^t), \\ a_{1,t}(2n+1;z) &= a_{1,t}(n;z^t) + a_{1,t}(n+1;z^t), \\ a_{2,t}(2n;z) &= a_{2,t}(n;z^t), \\ a_{2,t}(2n+1;z) &= z \ a_{2,t}(n;z^t) + a_{2,t}(n+1;z^t). \end{array}$$

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Generating functions:

$$x \prod_{j \ge 0} \left(1 + z^{t^{j}} x^{2^{j}} + x^{2^{j+1}} \right) = \sum_{n \ge 0} a_{1,t}(n; z) x^{n},$$

$$x \prod_{j \ge 0} \left(1 + x^{2^{j}} + z^{t^{j}} x^{2^{j+1}} \right) = \sum_{n \ge 0} a_{2,t}(n; z) x^{n}.$$

Originators - polynomials

Type 1 at t = 1



Sandi Klavžar

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Originators - polynomials

Type 1 at t = 1



Sandi Klavžar

Type 2 at t = 2



Ken Stolarsky

n	$a_{1,t}(n;z)$	$a_{2,t}(n;z)$
1	1	1
2	Z	1
3	$1 + z^t$	1 + <i>z</i>
4	Z^{t+1}	1
5	$1 + z^t + z^{t^2}$	$1+z+z^t$
6	$z + z^{t^2 + 1}$	$1 + z^t$
7	$1 + z^{t^2} + z^{t^2+t}$	$1 + z + z^{t+1}$
8	z^{t^2+t+1}	1
9	$1 + z^{t^2} + z^{t^2+t} + z^{t^3}$	$1 + z + z^t + z^{t^2}$
10	$z + z^{t^2 + 1} + z^{t^3 + 1}$	$1+z^t+z^{t^2}$
11	$1 + z^t + z^{t^2} + z^{t^3} + z^{t^3+t}$	$1 + z + z^{t+1} + z^{t^2} + z^{t^2+1}$

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4	<i>z</i> ^{<i>t</i>+1}	1
5	$1 + z^t + z^{t^2}$	$1+z+z^t$
6	$z+z^{t^2+1}$	$1 + z^t$
7	$1 + z^{t^2} + z^{t^2+t}$	$1 + z + z^{t+1}$
8	z^{t^2+t+1}	1
9	$1 + z^{t^2} + z^{t^2+t} + z^{t^3}$	$1 + z + z^t + z^{t^2}$
10	$z + z^{t^2 + 1} + z^{t^3 + 1}$	$1+z^t+z^{t^2}$
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Proposition

For $t \ge 2$, polynomial coefficients are only 0 or 1,

n	$a_{1,t}(n;z)$	$a_{2,t}(n;z)$
1	1	1
2	Z	1
3	$1 + z^t$	1 + <i>z</i>
4	<i>Z</i> ^{<i>t</i>+1}	1
5	$1 + z^t + z^{t^2}$	$1 + z + z^t$
6	$z + z^{t^2 + 1}$	$1+z^t$
7	$1 + z^{t^2} + z^{t^2+t}$	$1 + z + z^{t+1}$
8	z^{t^2+t+1}	1
9	$1 + z^{t^2} + z^{t^2+t} + z^{t^3}$	$1 + z + z^t + z^{t^2}$
10	$z + z^{t^2 + 1} + z^{t^3 + 1}$	$1+z^t+z^{t^2}$
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Proposition

For $t \ge 2$, polynomial coefficients are only 0 or 1, and the exponent coefficients are also only 0 or 1.

Let \mathcal{P}_{n+1} be the set of exponents of *z* in expansion:

$$a_{2,t}(n+1;z) = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_{n+1}} z^{p(t)}.$$

Then each HBE of n corresponds to exactly one polynomial in \mathcal{P}_{n+1} , as follows:

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$$\boldsymbol{\rho}(t)=t^{\alpha_1}+\cdots+t^{\alpha_r}\in\mathcal{P}_{n+1},$$

then exactly the powers $2^{\alpha_1}, \ldots, 2^{\alpha_r}$ are repeated.

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Example. $a_{2,t}(n+1; z)$ at n = 12, $\mathcal{P}_{13} = \{1, t, 1+t^2, t+t^2\}$.

Last HBEs are characterized by repeated powers of 2:

• 2^1 and 2^2 , so 12 = 2 + 2 + 4 + 4.

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then exactly the powers $2^{\alpha_1}, \ldots, 2^{\alpha_r}$ are not repeated.

Example. $a_{1,t}(n+1;z)$ at n = 12, $\mathcal{P}_{13} = \{t, t^3, t+t^3, t^2+t^3\}$.

Last HBEs are characterized by non-repeated powers of 2:

- 2^1 and 2^3 , so 12 = 1 + 1 + 2 + 8;
- 2³ and 2², so 12 = **4** + **8**.

Polynomial extension

Polynomials $\omega_{s,t}(n; y, z)$ in two variables y, z with $s, t \ge 1$. Recursion:

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Generating function:

$$x\prod_{j\geq 0} \left(1+y^{s^{j}}x^{2^{j}}+z^{t^{j}}x^{2^{j+1}}\right)=\sum_{n\geq 0}\omega_{s,t}(n;y,z)x^{n}.$$

Polynomial extension

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$$\begin{split} \omega_{s,t}(2n;y,z) &= y \, \omega_{s,t}(n;y^s,z^t), \\ \omega_{s,t}(2n+1;y,z) &= z \, \omega_{s,t}(n;y^s,z^t) + \omega_{s,t}(n+1;y^s,z^t). \end{split}$$

Generating function:

$$x\prod_{j\geq 0} \left(1+y^{s^{j}}x^{2^{j}}+z^{t^{j}}x^{2^{j+1}}\right)=\sum_{n\geq 0}\omega_{s,t}(n;y,z)x^{n}.$$

n	$\omega_{s,t}(n;y,z)$	n	$\omega_{s,t}(n; y, z)$
1	1	5	$y^s z + z^t + y^{s^2}$
2	У	6	$yz^t + y^{1+s^2}$
3	$z + y^s$	7	$z^{1+t} + y^{s^2}z + y^{s+s^2}$
4	<i>y</i> ^{1+<i>s</i>}	8	y^{1+s+s^2}

Explicit formula

Definition: Let $n = \sum_{j \ge 0} c_j 2^j$, then set $d_t(n) := \sum_{j \ge 0} c_j t^j$.

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Proposition

An explicit formula with $\binom{n}{k}^* \equiv \binom{n}{k} \pmod{2}$ becomes

$$\omega_{s,t}(n+1;y,z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} {\binom{n-k}{k}}^* y^{d_s(n-2k)} z^{d_t(k)}.$$

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Example: At n = 5, then $\omega_{s,t}(6; y, z) = y^{1+s^2} + yz^t$ as

k	$\binom{n-k}{k}$	$d_s(n-2k)$	$d_t(k)$	term
0	1	1 + <i>s</i> ²	0	y^{1+s^2}
2	3	s^0	t ¹	yz ^t

Continued fractions

A continued fraction with limit $c = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{5})$ is

$$c := 1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \cdots}}$$

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We use "K" notation as

$$b_{0} + \frac{a_{1}}{b_{1} + \frac{a_{2}}{b_{2} + \frac{a_{3}}{b_{3} + \cdots}}} = b_{0} + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_{j}}{b_{j}} = b_{0} + \frac{a_{1}}{b_{1} + \frac{a_{2}}{b_{2} + \frac{a_{3}}{b_{3} + \cdots}}} \cdots$$

The Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction in modified form is

$$R^{-1}(z) := 1 + \frac{z}{1+} \frac{z^2}{1+} \frac{z^3}{1+} \frac{z^4}{1+} \dots$$

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We study continued fractions in extended forms at $t \ge 1$ like

$$c_t(z) := 1 + \frac{z^t}{1+} \frac{z^{t^2}}{1+} \frac{z^{t^3}}{1+} \frac{z^{t^4}}{1+} \dots$$
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$$c_{p,t}(z) := p_0(z) + rac{z^t}{p_1(z)+} rac{z^{t^2}}{p_2(z)+} rac{z^{t^3}}{p_3(z)+} \dots$$

Continued fractions

Lehmer showed row maximums are F_n occurring at

$$\alpha_n := \frac{1}{3} \left(2^n - (-1)^n \right) \text{ and } \beta_n := \frac{1}{3} \left(5 \cdot 2^{n-2} + (-1)^n \right).$$

n	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
αn	1	1	3	5	11	21	43	85	171	341
β_n		2	3	7	13	27	53	107	213	427

Continued fractions

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$$\begin{array}{c|ccccc} n & a_{1,t}(\alpha_n; z) & a_{1,t}(\beta_n; z) \\ \hline 2 & 1 & z \\ 3 & 1+z^t & 1+z^t \\ 4 & 1+z^t+z^{t^2} & 1+z^{t^2}+z^{t^2+t} \\ 5 & 1+z^t+z^{t^2}+z^{t^3}+z^{t^3+t} & 1+z^t+z^{t^3}+z^{t^3+t}+z^{t^3+t^2} \end{array}$$

Polynomials have recurrences like Fibonacci numbers.

Definition

For a fixed integer $t \ge 1$ we have

$$a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n+1}; z) = a_{1,t}(\alpha_n; z^t) + z^t a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n-1}; z^{t^2}),$$

$$a_{1,t}(\beta_{n+1}; z) = a_{1,t}(\beta_n; z^t) + z^t a_{1,t}(\beta_{n-1}; z^{t^2}).$$

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Proposition

For integers $t \ge 1$ and $n \ge 3$ we have

$$\frac{a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n+1};z)}{a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n};z^{t})} = 1 + \frac{z^{t}}{1 + \frac{z^{t^{2}}}{1 + \frac{z^{t^{3}}}{1 + \frac{z^{t^{3}}}{1 + \dots z^{t^{n-1}}}}}}$$
$$= 1 + \frac{z^{t}}{1 + \frac{z^{t^{2}}}{1 + \frac{z^{t^{2}}}{1 + \frac{z^{t^{3}}}{1 + \dots z^{t^{n-2}}}}} \frac{z^{t^{n-1}}}{1 + \frac{z^{t^{n-1}}}{1 +$$

Proposition

There is a unique function, analytic for |z| < 1, defined by

$$F_{1,t}(z) := \lim_{n \to \infty} a_{1,t}(\alpha_n; z) = \lim_{n \to \infty} a_{1,t}(\beta_n; z)$$

= 1 + z^t + z^{t²} + z^{t³} + z^{t³+t} + z^{t⁴} + z^{t⁴+t} + z^{t⁴+t²} + ...

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= 1 + z^t + z^{t²} + z^{t³} + z^{t³+t} + z^{t⁴} + z^{t⁴+t} + z^{t⁴+t²} + ...

Proposition

For every integer $t \ge 2$ we have for $z \in \mathbb{C}$ with |z| < 1,

$$\frac{F_{1,t}(z)}{F_{1,t}(z^t)} = 1 + \frac{z^t}{1+} \frac{z^{t^2}}{1+} \frac{z^{t^3}}{1+} \frac{z^{t^4}}{1+} \dots$$

When
$$t = 1$$
 we get $1 + \frac{z}{1+} \frac{z}{1+} \frac{z}{1+} \frac{z}{1+} \cdots = (1 + \sqrt{1+4z})/2$.
When $z = 1$ we get $1 + \frac{1}{1+} \frac{1}{1+} \frac{1}{1+} \frac{1}{1+} \cdots = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2 = \Phi$.

Continued fractions by index runs

Graham, Knuth, Patashnik consider when positive integer *n* has the binary representation

$$n = (1^{r_1}0^{r_2}\cdots 1^{r_\ell})_2, \quad r_j > 0, \quad 2^k \le n < 2^{k+1},$$

where 1^{r_1} indicates the binary digit 1 is repeated r_1 -times.

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where 1^{r_1} indicates the binary digit 1 is repeated r_1 -times.

Theorem (GKP)

Stern number a(n) is the numerator of the continued fraction

$$r_1 + \frac{1}{r_2 + \frac{1}{\ddots + \frac{1}{r_\ell}}}$$

Originators - continued fractions

 $a_{1,s}(n; y)$ at s = 1



Andrzej Schinzel

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Originators - continued fractions

 $a_{1,s}(n; y)$ at s = 1



Andrzej Schinzel

$\omega_{s,t}(n; y, z)$ at s, t = 1



Toufik Mansour

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Continued fractions

Mansour extended the Stern number case to polynomials $\omega_{s,t}(n; y, z)$ at s = t = 1.

Theorem (Mansour)

Polynomial $\omega_{1,1}(n; y, z)$ is the numerator of continued fraction

$$[r_{1}]_{y,z} + \frac{y^{r_{1}}}{z[r_{2}]_{y,1} + \frac{y^{r_{2}}z^{r_{3}}}{[r_{3}]_{y,z} + \frac{y^{r_{3}}}{z[r_{4}]_{y,1} + \frac{y^{r_{4}}z^{r_{5}}}{\vdots}}}, \quad [r]_{y,z} := \frac{y^{r} - z^{r}}{y - z}.$$

We extend numerators to polynomials $\omega_{s,t}(n; y, z)$ for $s, t \ge 1$ and identify denominators as polynomials $\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(n; y, z)$.

Definition

At fixed integers $s, t \ge 1$, we define polynomials $\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(n; y, z)$ by

$$\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(2n; y, z) = y \,\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(n; y^s, z^t),$$

$$\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(2n+1; y, z) = \begin{cases} \overline{\omega}_{s,t}(n; y^s, z^t) + z \,\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(n+1; y^s, z^t), & n \neq 2^{\nu}, \\ z^{t^{\nu+1}} \overline{\omega}_{s,t}(n; y^s, z^t) + z \,\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(n+1; y^s, z^t), & n = 2^{\nu}, \end{cases}$$

where $\nu \geq 0$ is some integer.

Theorem

We obtain the quotient of polynomials for $2^k \le n < 2^{k+1}$ as

$$rac{\omega_{s,t}(n;y,z)}{\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(2^{k+1}-n;y,z)}$$

with the required continued fraction expansion.

Theorem

We obtain the quotient of polynomials for $2^k \le n < 2^{k+1}$ as

$$rac{\omega_{m{s},t}(m{n};m{y},m{z})}{\overline{\omega}_{m{s},t}(2^{k+1}-m{n};m{y},m{z})}$$

with the required continued fraction expansion.

Example 4. Let $n = 27 = (11011)_2$, so $r_1 = 2$, $r_2 = 1$, $r_3 = 2$. Then the continued fraction is

$$(y^{s^4} + z^{t^3}) + \frac{y^{s^3 + s^4}}{z^{t^2} + \frac{y^{s^2} z^{1+t}}{y^s + z}}$$

Expanding this, we get numerator polynomial as $\omega_{s,t}(27; y, z)$ and denominator with index 32 - 27 = 5 as

$$\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(5; y, z) = y^{s^2} z^{1+t} + y^s z^{t^2} + z^{1+t^2}$$

Corollary

At
$$n = (1^r 0^r \cdots 1^r)_2$$
 for fixed r and $\omega_{s,t}(n; y, 1) = a_{1,s}(n; y)$, then

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{\omega_{s,t}(\alpha_{n+1}(r); y, 1)}{\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(\alpha_n(r); y, 1)} = a_{1,s}(2^r - 1; y) + \bigvee_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_{1,s}(2^r; y^{s^{jr}})}{a_{1,s}(2^r - 1; y^{s^{jr}})}.$$

Corollary

At
$$n = (1^r 0^r \cdots 1^r)_2$$
 for fixed r and $\omega_{s,t}(n; y, 1) = a_{1,s}(n; y)$, then

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{\omega_{s,t}(\alpha_{n+1}(r); y, 1)}{\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(\alpha_n(r); y, 1)} = a_{1,s}(2^r - 1; y) + \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_{1,s}(2^r; y^{s^{jr}})}{a_{1,s}(2^r - 1; y^{s^{jr}})}.$$

Example. At r = 2 with $a_{1,s}(3; y) = 1 + y^s$, $a_{1,s}(4; y) = y^{1+s}$, then we get

$$1 + y^{s} + \bigvee_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{y^{s^{2j} + s^{2j+1}}}{1 + y^{s^{2j+1}}},$$

Corollary

At
$$n = (1^r 0^r \cdots 1^r)_2$$
 for fixed r and $\omega_{s,t}(n; y, 1) = a_{1,s}(n; y)$, then

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{\omega_{s,t}(\alpha_{n+1}(r); y, 1)}{\overline{\omega}_{s,t}(\alpha_n(r); y, 1)} = a_{1,s}(2^r - 1; y) + \bigvee_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_{1,s}(2^r; y^{s^{jr}})}{a_{1,s}(2^r - 1; y^{s^{jr}})}.$$

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$$1 + y^{s} + \overset{\infty}{\underset{j=1}{\mathsf{K}}} \frac{y^{s^{2j} + s^{2j+1}}}{1 + y^{s^{2j+1}}},$$

which at y = 1 becomes

$$2 + \mathop{\mathsf{K}}\limits_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} = 2.414... = 1 + \sqrt{2},$$

as the limit ratio of Pell numbers.

Extend to Lucas sequence

Recall: If

$$\alpha_n := \frac{1}{3} \left(2^n - (-1)^n \right) \text{ and } \beta_n := \frac{1}{3} \left(5 \cdot 2^{n-2} + (-1)^n \right)$$

Then

$$a(\alpha_n) = a(\beta_n) = F_n \qquad (n \ge 2),$$

where $\{a(m)\}$ is Stern's diatomic sequence (Lehmer, 1929).

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This is a special case of a more general relation:

For a fixed $k \in \mathbb{N}$ define the Lucas function $U_n(k) = U_n(k, -1)$ by $U_0(k) = 0, U_1(k) = 1$, and

$$U_{n+1}(k) = k U_n(k) + U_{n-1}(k)$$
 $(n \ge 1).$

$$\alpha_n(k) := rac{2^{nk} - (-1)^n}{2^k + 1} \qquad (n \ge 0),$$

$$\beta_n(k) := \frac{(2^k+3)2^{nk-k-1}+(-1)^n}{2^k+1} \qquad (n \ge 2).$$

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In particular:

$$\alpha_n(1) = \alpha_n, \qquad \beta_n(1) = \beta_n.$$

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Further properties include

$$\alpha_{n+1}(k) = 2^k \alpha_n(k) + (-1)^n, \qquad \beta_{n+1}(k) = 2^k \beta_n(k) - (-1)^n.$$

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Proposition

For all $k \ge 1$ and $n \ge 2$,

$$a(\alpha_n(k)) = a(\beta_n(k)) = U_n(k).$$

$$a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n+1}; z) = a_{1,t}(\alpha_n; z^t) + z^t a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n-1}; z^{t^2})$$
(1)

was used to obtain one of our continued fractions.

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Generalization:

Lemma

With fixed $t, k \in \mathbb{N}$ we have for all $n \geq 1$,

$$a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n+1}(k);z) = a_{1,t}(2^{k}-1;z)a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n}(k);z^{t^{k}}) + a_{1,t}(2^{k};z^{t^{k}})a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n-1}(k);z^{t^{2k}}).$$
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$$a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n+1}; z) = a_{1,t}(\alpha_n; z^t) + z^t a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n-1}; z^{t^2})$$
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Note:

$$a_{1,t}(2^{k}-1;z) = 1 + z^{t+\dots+t^{k-1}} + z^{t^{2}+\dots+t^{k-1}} + \dots + z^{t^{k-1}},$$

$$a_{1,t}(2^{k};z) = z^{1+t+\dots+t^{k-1}}.$$

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$$a_{1,t}(2^{k};z) = z^{1+t+\dots+t^{k-1}}.$$

Therefore (1) is indeed a special case of (2).

As before, the Lemma leads to a finite continued fraction (for simplicity, write a(m; z) for $a_{1,t}(m; z)$):

Proposition

$$\frac{a(\alpha_{n+1}(k);z)}{a(\alpha_n(k);z^{t^k})} = a(2^k - 1;z) + \frac{a(2^k;z^{t^k})}{a(2^k - 1;z^{t^k}) +} \frac{a(2^k;z^{t^{2k}})}{a(2^k - 1;z^{t^{2k}}) +} \cdots \frac{a(2^k;z^{t^{(n-2)k}})}{a(2^k - 1;z^{t^{(n-2)k}}) +} \frac{a(2^k;z^{t^{(n-1)k}})}{a(2^k - 1;z^{t^{(n-1)k}})}.$$

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Example k = 1. For $a(2^k - 1; z) = 1$, $a(2^k; z) = z$, then

$$\frac{a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n+1};z)}{a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n};z^{t})} = 1 + \frac{z^{t}}{1+} \frac{z^{t^{2}}}{1+} \frac{z^{t^{3}}}{1+} \dots \frac{z^{t^{n-2}}}{1+} \frac{z^{t^{n-1}}}{1}$$

$$\frac{a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n+1}(2);z)}{a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n}(2);z^{t^{2}})} = (1+z^{t}) + \frac{z^{t^{2}+t^{3}}}{(1+z^{t^{3}})+} \frac{z^{t^{4}+t^{5}}}{(1+z^{t^{5}})+} \cdots$$
$$\cdots \frac{z^{t^{2n-4}+t^{2n-3}}}{(1+z^{t^{2n-3}})+} \frac{z^{t^{2n-2}+t^{2n-1}}}{(1+z^{t^{2n-1}})}.$$

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• Just as before, we can define an analytic limit function, now depending on *t* and on *k*.

$$\frac{a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n+1}(2);z)}{a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n}(2);z^{t^{2}})} = (1+z^{t}) + \frac{z^{t^{2}+t^{3}}}{(1+z^{t^{3}})+} \frac{z^{t^{4}+t^{5}}}{(1+z^{t^{5}})+} \cdots \\ \cdots \frac{z^{t^{2n-4}+t^{2n-3}}}{(1+z^{t^{2n-3}})+} \frac{z^{t^{2n-2}+t^{2n-1}}}{(1+z^{t^{2n-1}})}.$$

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• This can then be used to obtain an infinite version of this last general continued fraction.

$$\frac{a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n+1}(2);z)}{a_{1,t}(\alpha_{n}(2);z^{t^{2}})} = (1+z^{t}) + \frac{z^{t^{2}+t^{3}}}{(1+z^{t^{3}})+} \frac{z^{t^{4}+t^{5}}}{(1+z^{t^{5}})+} \cdots \\ \cdots \frac{z^{t^{2n-4}+t^{2n-3}}}{(1+z^{t^{2n-3}})+} \frac{z^{t^{2n-2}+t^{2n-1}}}{(1+z^{t^{2n-1}})}.$$

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• This can then be used to obtain an infinite version of this last general continued fraction.

• All this can also be done with $a_{1,t}(\beta_n(k); z)$ and for the type-2 case; we get different continued fractions of a similar nature.

• Ternary case (b = 3)

Polynomials $\omega_T(n; Z)$ have Z = (x, y, z), T = (r, s, t).

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Recursion: With $\omega(0; Z) = 0$, $\omega(1; Z) = 1$, then for $n \ge 1$:

$$\begin{split} &\omega(3n-1;x,y,z) = x \,\omega(n;x^r,y^s,z^t) \\ &\omega(3n+0;x,y,z) = y \,\omega(n;x^r,y^s,z^t) \\ &\omega(3n+1;x,y,z) = z \,\omega(n;x^r,y^s,z^t) + \omega(n+1;x^r,y^s,z^t). \end{split}$$

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n	$\omega_T(n;Z)$	n	$\omega_T(n;Z)$
2	x	6	x ^r y
3	у	7	$y^s + x^r z$
4	$x^r + z$	8	x y ^s
5	<i>x</i> ^{1+<i>r</i>}	9	<i>y</i> ^{1+<i>s</i>}

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Any integer base $b \ge 2$, polynomials $\omega_T^b(n; Z)$ have $Z = (z_1, \ldots, z_b), T = (t_1, \ldots, t_b).$

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Recursions: With $\omega_T(0; Z) = 0, \omega_T(1; Z) = 1$, then for $n \ge 1$:

$$\omega_T(b(n-1)+j+1;Z) = \mathbf{z}_j \,\omega_T(n;Z^T) \quad (1 \le j \le b-1),$$

$$\omega_T(b\,n+1;Z) = \mathbf{z}_b \,\omega_T(n;Z^T) + \omega_T(n+1;Z^T).$$

Polynomials encode each hyper *b*-ary expansion *h* in $\mathbb{H}_{b,n}$ as

$$\omega_{\mathcal{T}}(n+1;z_1,\ldots,z_b) = \sum_{h\in\mathbb{H}_{b,n}} z_1^{p_{h,1}(t_1)}\cdots z_b^{p_{h,b}(t_b)}$$

If we write exponent polynomials as

$$p_{h,j}(t_j) = t_j^{\tau_j(1)} + t_j^{\tau_j(2)} + \cdots + t_j^{\tau_j(\nu_j)},$$

the powers used exactly *j* times in the representation of *n* are $b^{\tau_j(1)}, b^{\tau_j(2)}, \dots, b^{\tau_j(\nu_j)}$.

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Example: For b = 3, n = 36, then

$$\omega_T(37; x, y, z) = x^{r^2 + r^3} + x^{r^3} y^s z^1 + x^{r^3} z^t + y^s z^{1+t^2} + z^{t+t^2}.$$

$h\in\mathbb{H}_{3,36}$	$p_{h,1}(r)$	$p_{h,2}(s)$	$p_{h,3}(t)$
$3^3 + 3 + 3 + 1 + 1 + 1$	r ³	s ¹	t ⁰
$3^3 + 3 + 3 + 3$	r ³	0	t ¹

Stern *b*-ary maxima

If $b \ge 2$, there are 2(b-1) locations of Fibonacci numbers F_n being maxima *m* in row *n* with $b^{n-2} \le m \le b^{n-1}$.

At $1 \le j \le b - 1$, those indices α_n^b , β_n^b are given in base *b*:

$$\alpha_{n,j}^{b} = \begin{cases} (j0(10)^{\ell-2}1)_{b} & \text{if } n = 2\ell, \\ (j0(10)^{\ell-2}11)_{b} & \text{if } n = 2\ell+1. \end{cases}$$

$$\beta_{n,j}^{b} = \begin{cases} (j(10)^{\ell-2}11)_{b} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd,} \\ (j(10)^{\ell-1}1)_{b} & \text{if } n \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

Lucas sequences

Recall the Lucas function at $U_0(k) = 0$, $U_1(k) = 1$,

$$U_{n+1}(k) = k U_n(k) + U_{n-1}(k) \quad (n \le 1).$$

For $b \ge 2$, Stern numbers a(n) at indices $\alpha_{n,j}^{b}(k)$, $\beta_{n,j}^{b}(k)$ are

$$a(\alpha_{n,j}^{b}(k)) = a(\beta_{n,j}^{b}(k)) = U_{n}(k),$$

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At $1 \le j \le b - 1$, indices $\alpha_n^b(k)$, $\beta_n^b(k)$ are given in base *b*:

$$\alpha_{n,j}^{b}(k) = \begin{cases} (j^{1}1^{k-1}0^{k}1^{k}0^{k}\cdots 1^{k}0^{k-1}1^{1})_{b} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd,} \\ (j^{1}1^{k-1}0^{k}1^{k}0^{k}\cdots 1^{k}0^{k}1^{k})_{b} & \text{if } n \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

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• Recursions for b = 3

Recursions for b = 3 with Z = (x, y, z), T = (r, s, t) at $\alpha_{n,j}^{b}(k)$:

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At k = 2, polynomial recursions with $\alpha_{2n,j}^b = \alpha_{2n,j}^b(k)$ are $\omega_T(\alpha_{2n,j}^b; Z) = (y^s z + z^t) \cdot \omega_T(\alpha_{2n-1,j}^b; Z^{T^k}) + x^{r^2(1+r)} \cdot \omega_T(\alpha_{2n-2,j}^b; Z^{T^{2k}}),$ $\omega_T(\alpha_{2n+1,j}^b; Z) = (x^r + z) \cdot \omega_T(\alpha_{2n,j}^b; Z^{T^k}) + y^{s^2(1+s)} z^{1+t} \cdot \omega_T(\alpha_{2n-1,j}^b; Z^{T^{2k}}).$

• Recursions consolidated for *b* ≥ 2:

Definition: For an integer $b \ge 2$ we have sets with cardinality *b* for parameters *T*, *S* and variables *Z*, *Y* given by

$$T = (t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{b-1}, t_b), \qquad S = (s, s, \dots, s, t),$$

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Proposition

Polynomial recursions with $\alpha_{2n,j}^{b} = \alpha_{2n,j}^{b}(k)$ are $\omega_{T}(\alpha_{2n+2,j}^{b}; Z) = z \, \omega_{S}(\frac{b^{k}-1}{b-1}; Y) \cdot \omega_{T}(\alpha_{2n+1,j}^{b}; Z^{T^{k}})$ $+ x^{r^{k}(\frac{r^{k}-1}{r-1})} \cdot \omega_{T}(\alpha_{2n,j}^{b}; Z^{T^{2k}}),$ $\omega_{T}(\alpha_{2n+1,j}^{b}; Z) = \omega_{T}(\frac{b^{k}-1}{b-1}; Z) \cdot \omega_{T}(\alpha_{2n,j}^{b}; Z^{T^{k}})$ $+ y^{s^{k}(\frac{s^{k}-1}{s-1})} z^{\frac{t^{k}-1}{t-1}} \cdot \omega_{T}(\alpha_{2n-1,j}^{b}; Z^{T^{2k}}).$

Example: At
$$b = 3$$
, $k = 1$, and $\omega_T^3(\frac{b^k-1}{b-1}; Z) = 1$, then

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} \frac{\omega_T(\alpha_{2n+1}^3; Z)}{\omega_T(\alpha_{2n}^3; Z^T)} = 1 + \mathop{\mathsf{K}}_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{y^{s^{2j+1}} z^{t^{2j}}}{z^{t^{2j}} + \frac{x^{r^{2j+1}}}{1}},$$



Thank you

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