

The Concrete Tetrahedron

Manuel Kauers · RISC

Introduction

Recall: Quicksort

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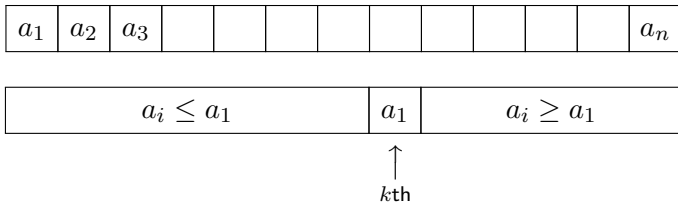
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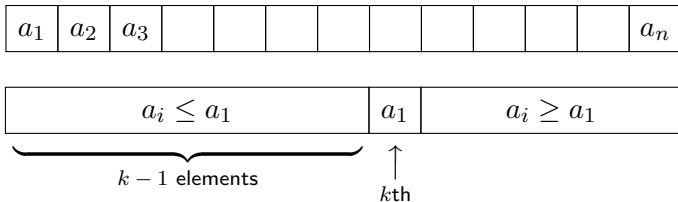
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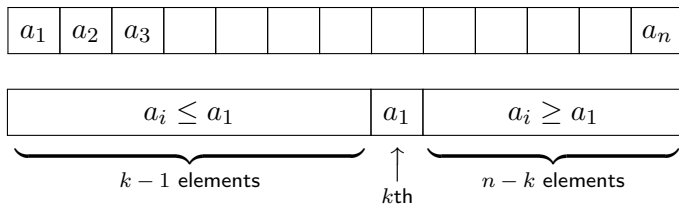
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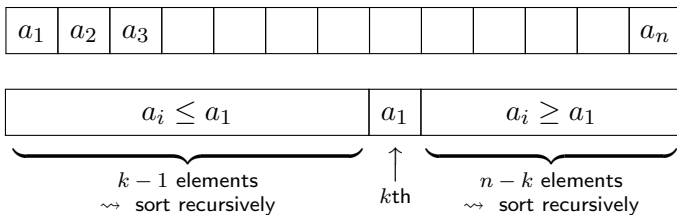
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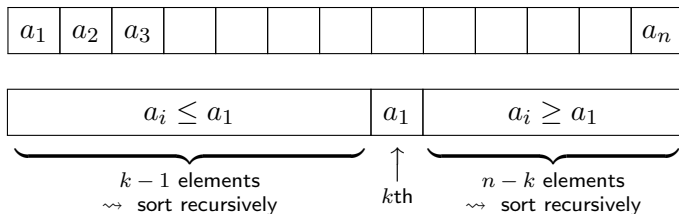
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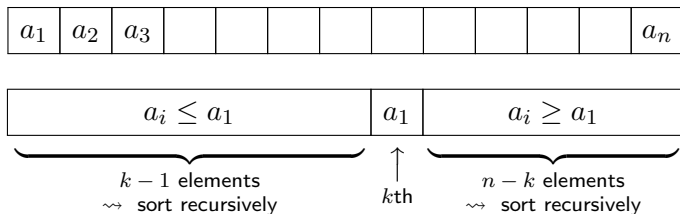
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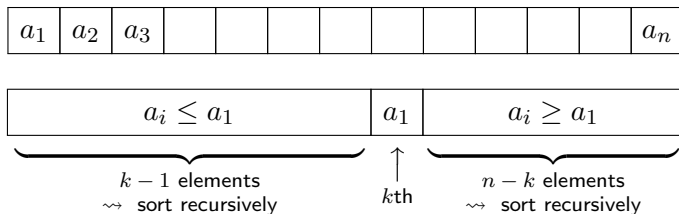
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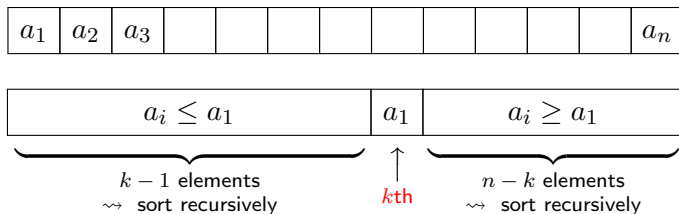
$$c_n = (n - 1) +$$

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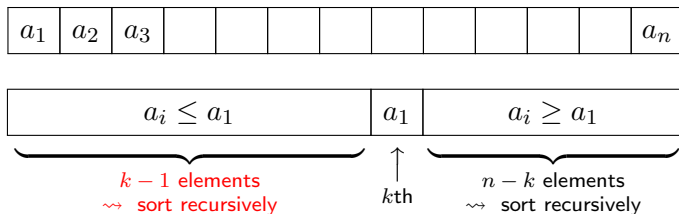
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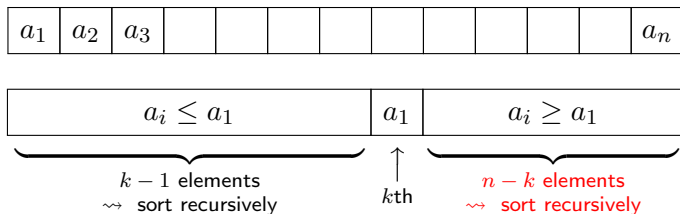
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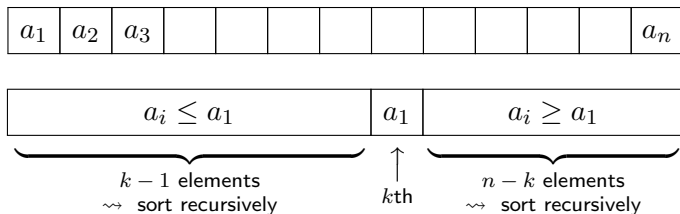
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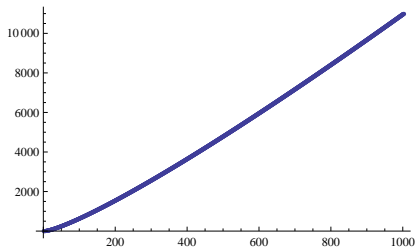
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 $\frac{2080328}{45045}$, $\frac{18358463}{360360}$, $\frac{18999103}{340340}$, $\frac{124184839}{2042040}$, $\frac{127860511}{1939938}$, $\frac{26274175}{369512}$, $\frac{8982005}{117572}$, $\frac{211524139}{2586584}$,
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 $\frac{4724140023307}{38818159380}$, $\frac{148699793966557}{1164544781400}$, $\frac{603533261726728}{4512611027925}$, $\frac{306005750313839}{2187932619600}$, $\frac{28193110155949}{193052878200}$,
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 $\frac{290325706098215417}{1422468764542800}$, $\frac{3223454611135768387}{15291539218835100}$, $\frac{3252678441642875467}{14951727236194320}$, $\frac{3281281745920812427}{14626689687581400}$,
 $\frac{155536644130160510069}{672827725628744400}$, $\frac{156826230604282270169}{658810481344812225}$, $\frac{7746413484856243587431}{31622903104550986800}$,
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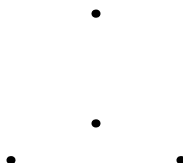
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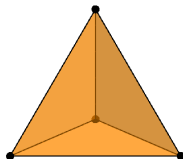
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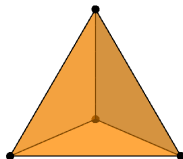


The interrelations between these four concepts form what we call *the concrete tetrahedron*.

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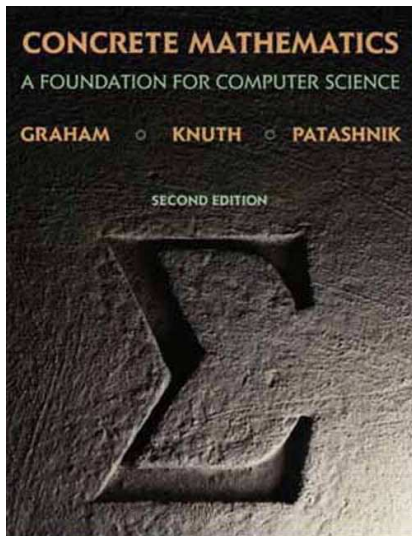
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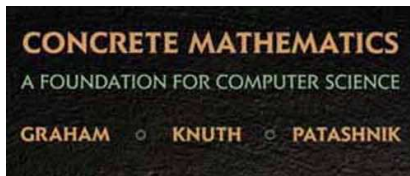
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Why “*concrete*”?





“But what exactly is Concrete Mathematics? It is a blend of CONTinuous and disCRETE mathematics. More concretely, it is the controlled manipulation of mathematical formulas, using a collection of techniques for solving problems. Once you, the reader, have learned the material in this book, all you will need is a cool head, a large sheet of paper, and a fairly decent handwriting in order to evaluate horrendous-looking sums, to solve complex recurrence equations, and to discover subtle patterns in data.”

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~~lecture~~
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(For suitably chosen meanings of “certain”.)

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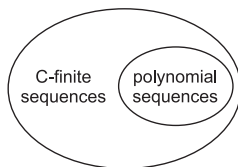
- ▶ *It should not be too big*, because the more special the elements in the class, the better we can compute with them.
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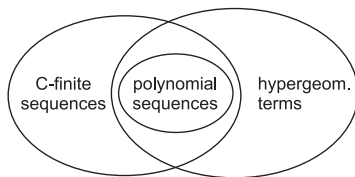
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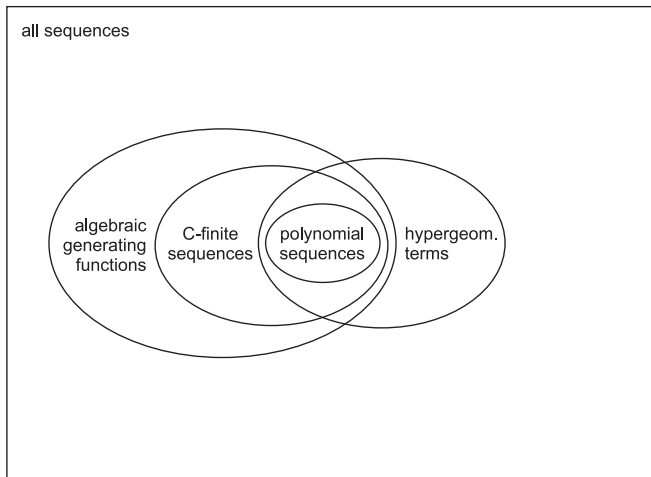
polynomial
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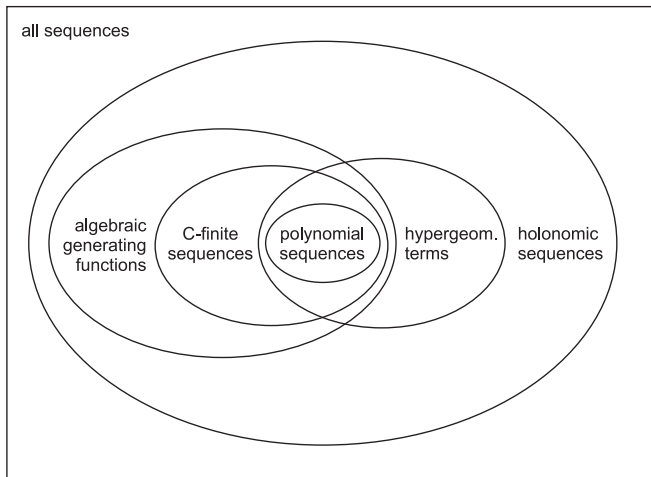
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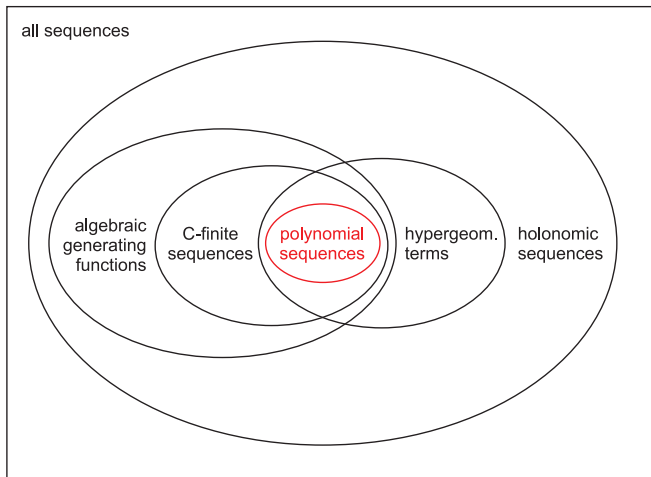


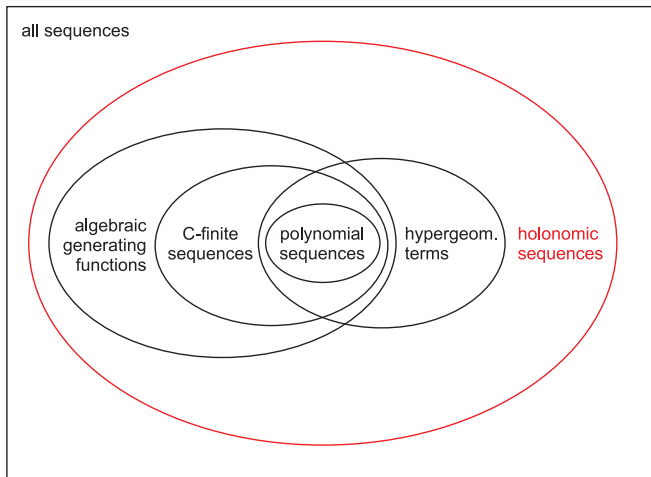
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- ▶ We want to solve problems in discrete mathematics using computer algebra.
- ▶ More precisely: We want to prove, discover, or simplify statements about infinite sequences.
- ▶ The concrete tetrahedron: ▶ Classes of infinite sequences:
 - ▶ Symbolic sums
 - ▶ Recurrence equations
 - ▶ Generating functions
 - ▶ Asymptotic estimates
 - ▶ Polynomial sequences
 - ▶ C-finite sequences
 - ▶ Hypergeometric terms
 - ▶ Algebraic generating functions
 - ▶ Holonomic sequences

Polynomial Sequences

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Examples:

- ▶ $a_n = n^6 - 7n^5 + 108n^4 - 23n^3 + \frac{432}{309}n^2 + 349n - 1923478$
- ▶ $a_n = (n - 1)^{30}$
- ▶ $a_n =$ number of 3×3 magic squares with magic constant n

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 $= \frac{1}{8}(n + 1)(n + 2)(n^2 + 3n + 4)$

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- ▶ By its generating function (“in closed form”)

Example: $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = \frac{9x^2 - 5x + 2}{(1-x)^3}$

A Conversion

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Easy: initial values by evaluation, and the recurrence for a polynomial sequence of degree d is always

$$\begin{aligned} a_n - (d+1)a_{n+1} + \binom{d+1}{2}a_{n+2} - \binom{d+1}{3}a_{n+3} \pm \cdots \\ + (-1)^i \binom{d+1}{i}a_{n+i} \pm \cdots + (-1)^{d+1}a_{n+d+1} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

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Also easy: interpolation of initial values.

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Easy: interpolate the first $d+1$ terms of the Taylor expansion.

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Or: Ansatz and coefficient comparison.

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- ▶ How to find trustworthy candidates?

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If the interpolating polynomial of the first N terms has degree $d \ll N$, then this is a strong indication for a polynomial sequence.

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If the Pade approximant of the first N terms has the form $\frac{\text{poly}(x)}{(1-x)^{d+1}}$, then this hints at a polynomial sequence of degree $\leq d$.

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If the given data matches the linear recurrence for polynomials of degree d , then this is perhaps not just a coincidence.

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If $(a_n)_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is a polynomial sequence of degree d , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(a_{n+1} - a_n)}{a_n} = d.$$

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Therefore, if $n(a_{n+1} - a_n)/a_n$ does not seem to converge to a nonnegative integer, our sequence is probably not polynomial.

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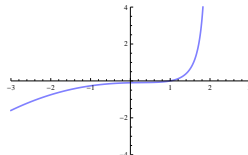
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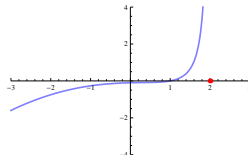
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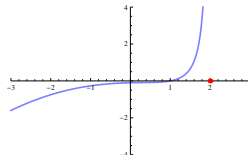
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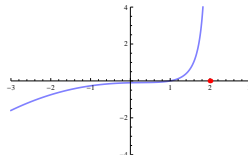


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- ▶ For polynomial sequences of degree d , it follows $a_n = O(n^d)$.

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- ▶ Polynomials expressed in this basis can be summed termwise
- ▶ Mnemonic:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} k^{\underline{d}} = \frac{1}{d+1} n^{\underline{d+1}} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \int_0^x t^{\underline{d}} dt = \frac{1}{d+1} x^{\underline{d+1}}$$

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- For $b_n = 1$ this turns into

$$\frac{1}{1-x} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k=0}^n a_k\right) x^n$$

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Given a polynomial sequence $(a_n)_{n=0}^{\infty}$, find $\sum_{k=0}^n a_k$.

2. via the generating function

- ▶ We can sum sequences by multiplying their generating function with $\frac{1}{1-x}$.

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 \downarrow \text{gfun} \\
 \hline
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 (1-x)^4
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$$\begin{array}{c} k^3 + 4k - 7 \\ \text{evaluate} \downarrow \\ -7, -2, 9, 32, 73 \end{array}$$

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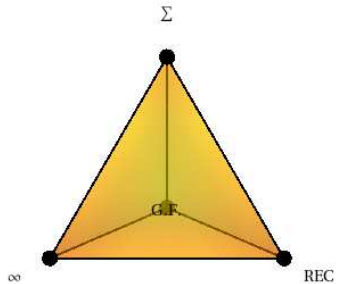
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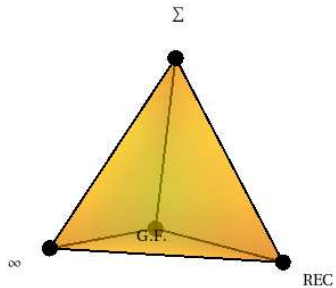
$$\sum_{k=0}^n k^d = \frac{1}{d+1} \sum_{k=0}^d B_k \binom{d+1}{k} (n+1)^{d-k+1}.$$

- ▶ This can be used to sum a polynomial termwise in the standard basis.

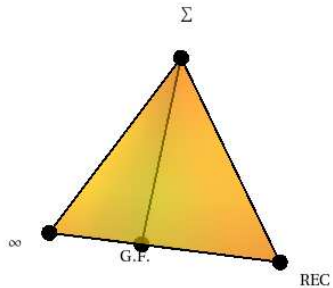
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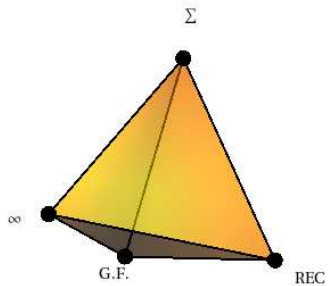
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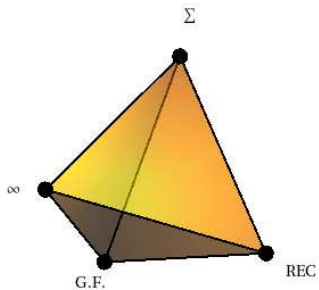
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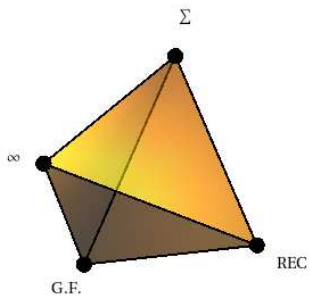
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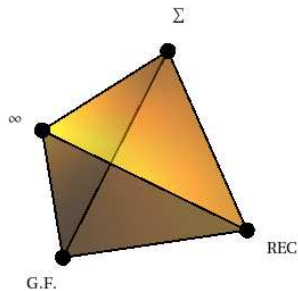
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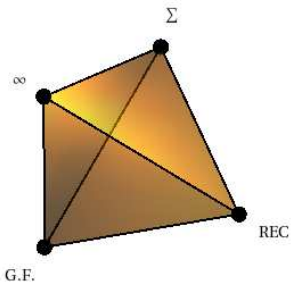
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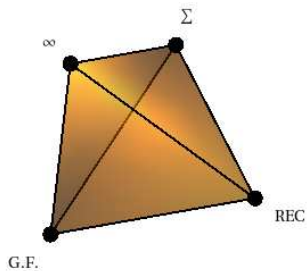
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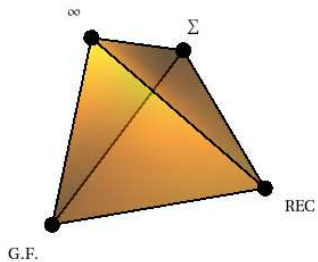
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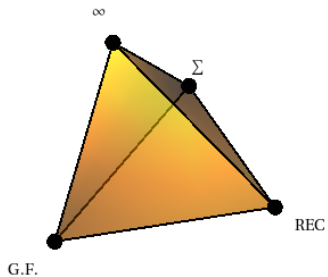
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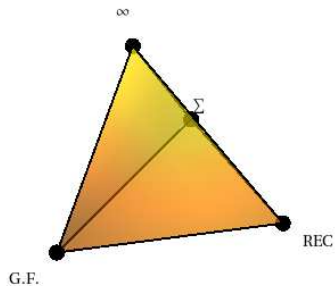


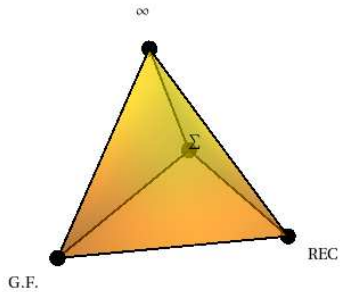
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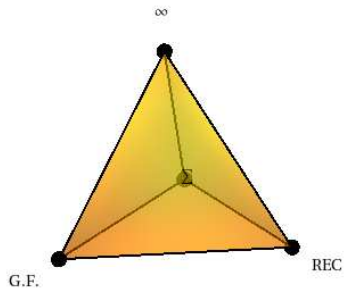


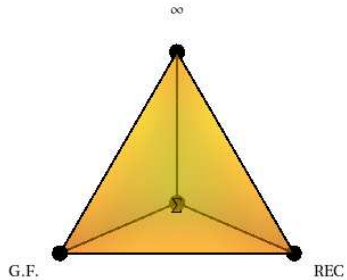
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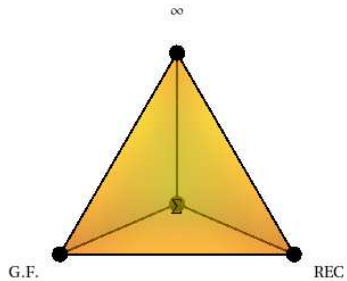


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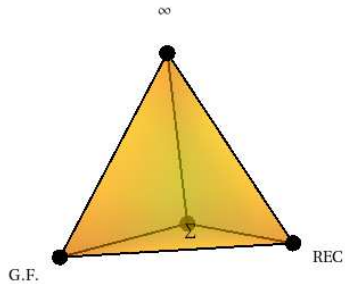
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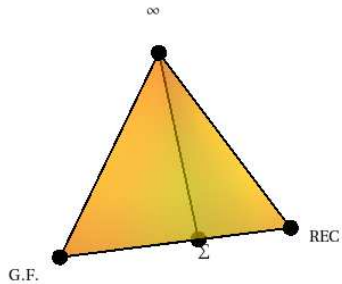
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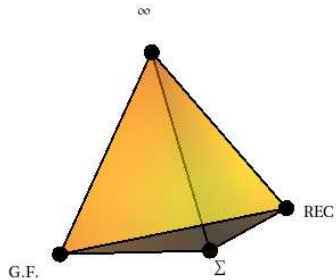
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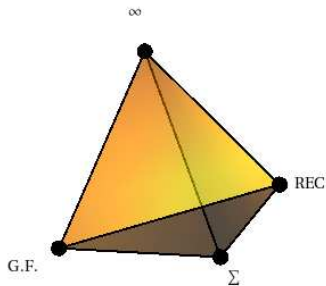
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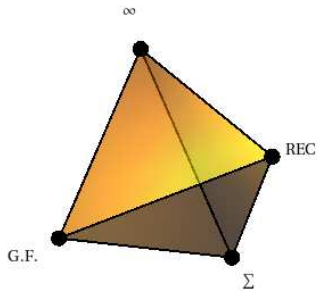
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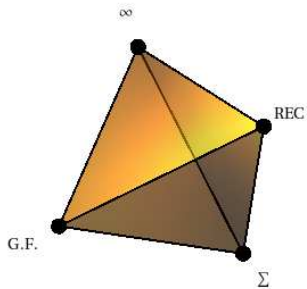
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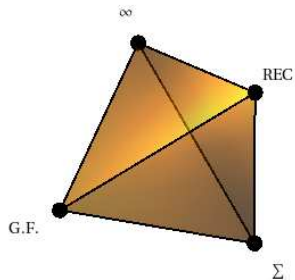
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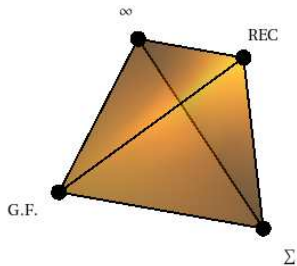
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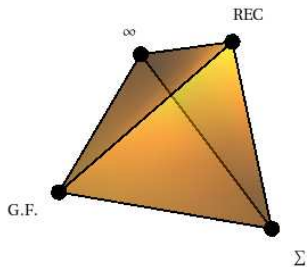
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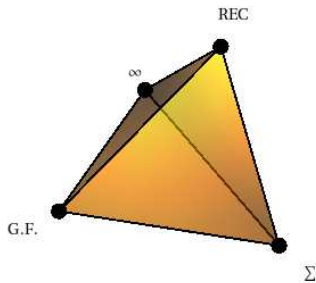
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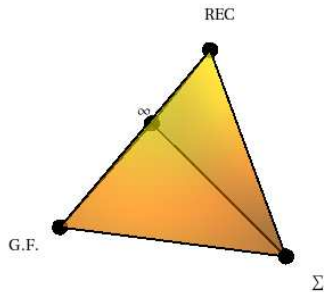
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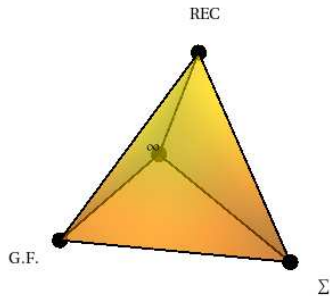
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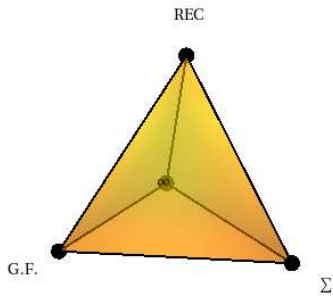
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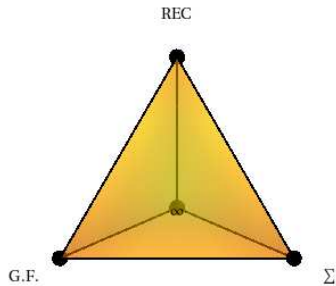


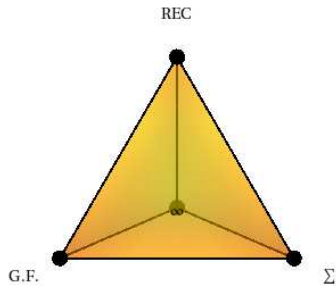
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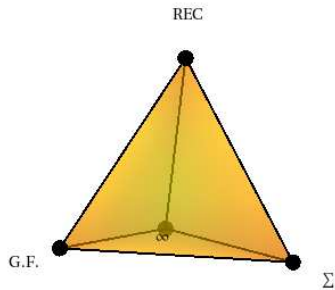
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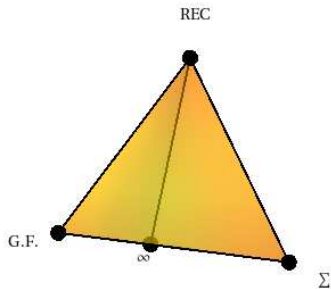


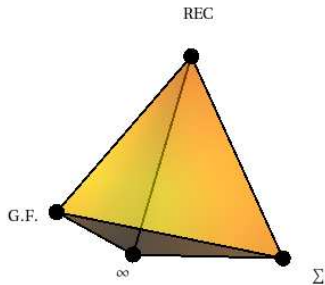
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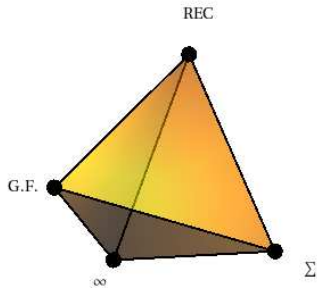
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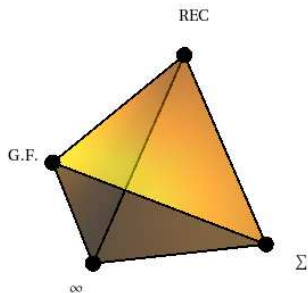


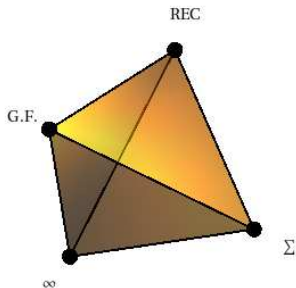
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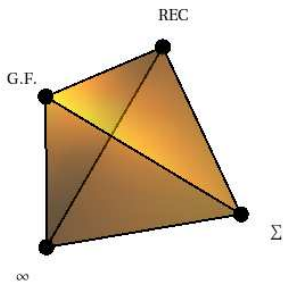
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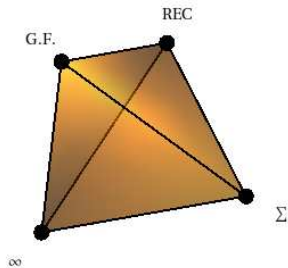
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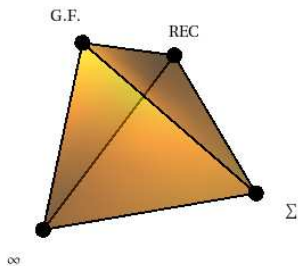
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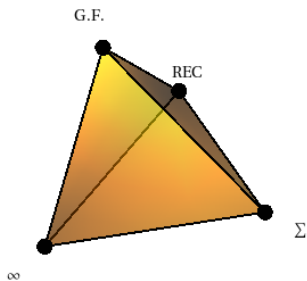
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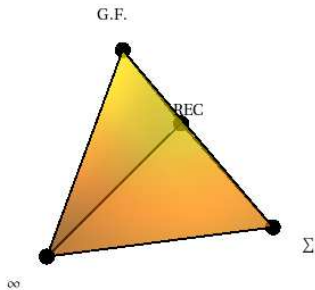
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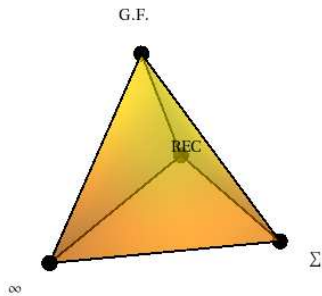
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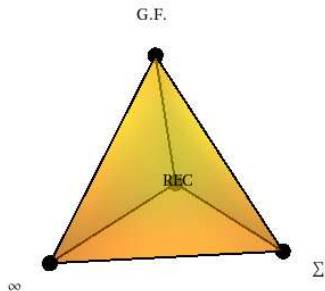


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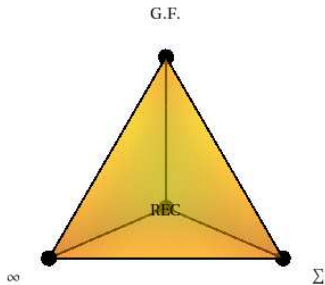


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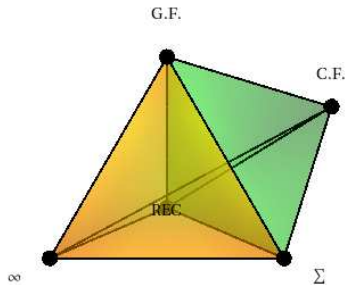


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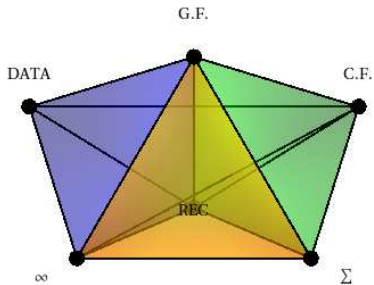
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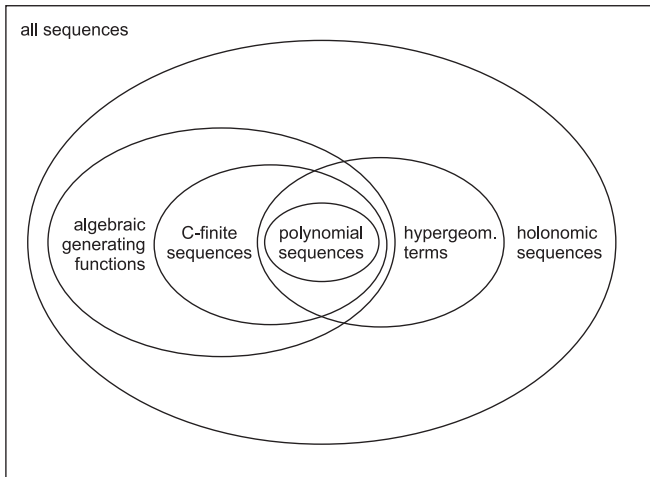


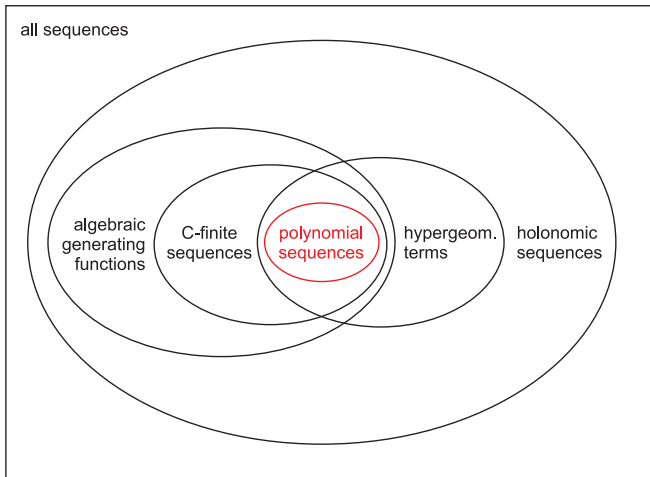
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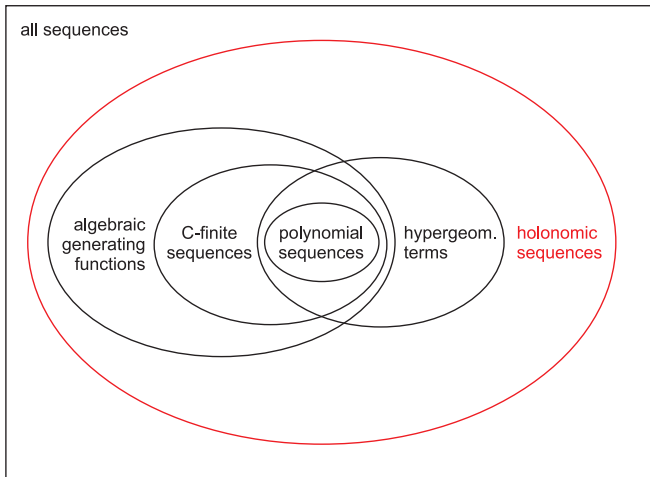


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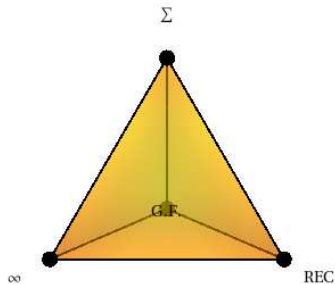




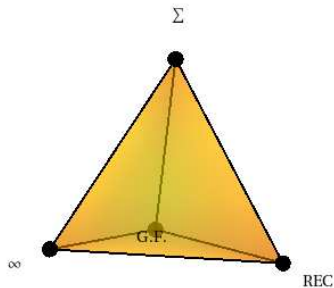


Holonomic Sequences and Power Series

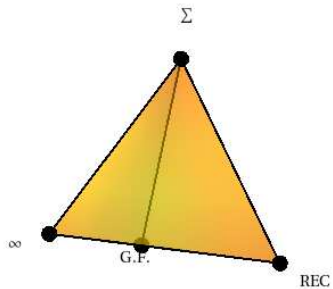
Recall:



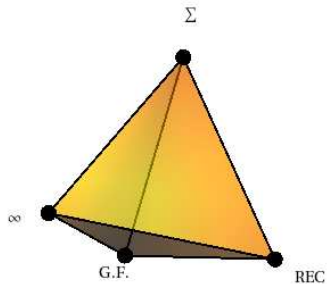
Recall:



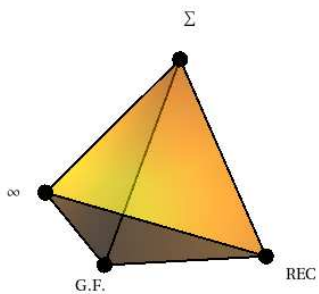
Recall:



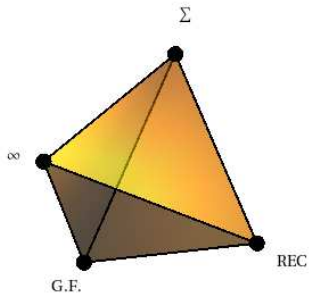
Recall:



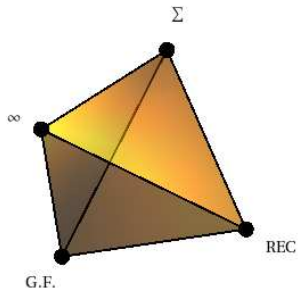
Recall:



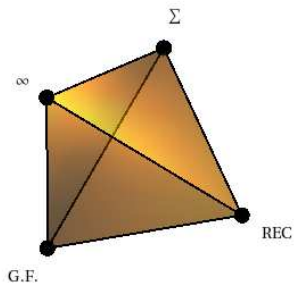
Recall:



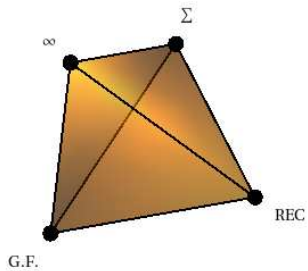
Recall:



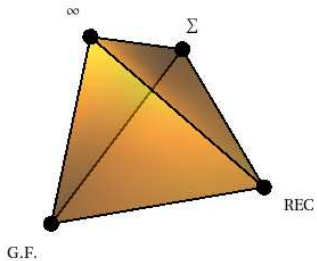
Recall:



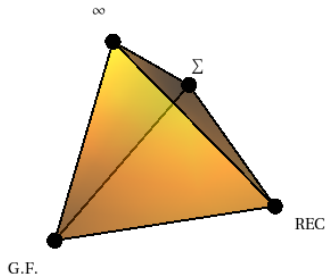
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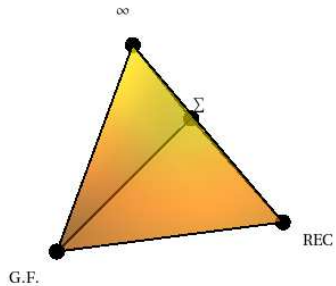
Recall:



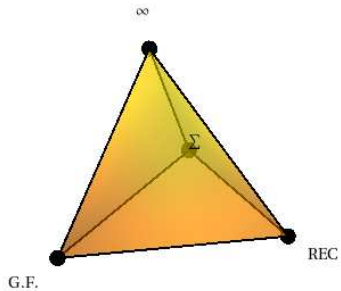
Recall:



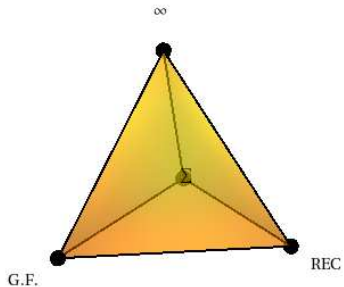
Recall:



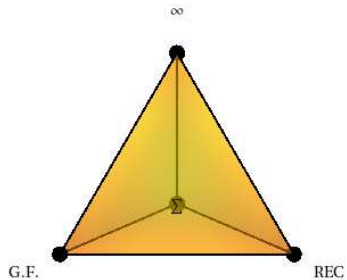
Recall:



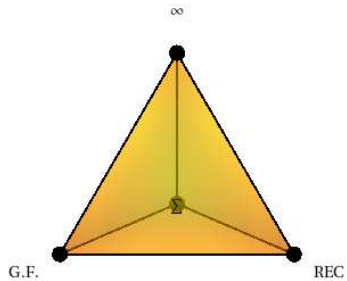
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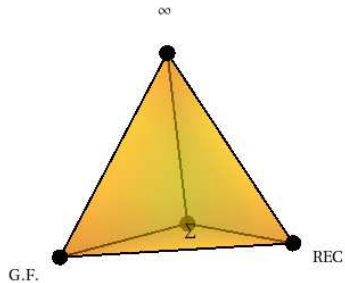
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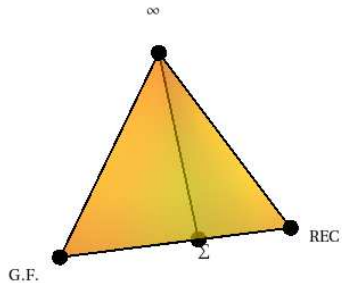
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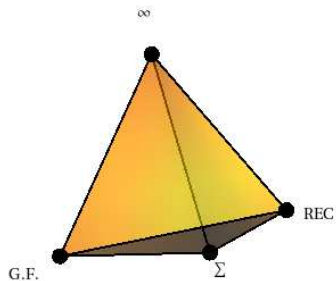
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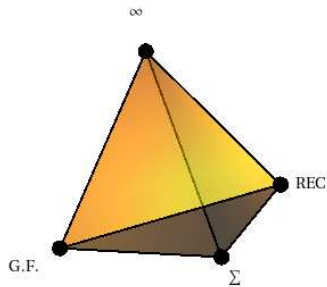
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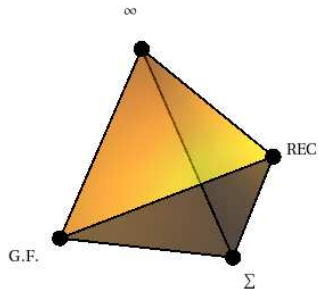
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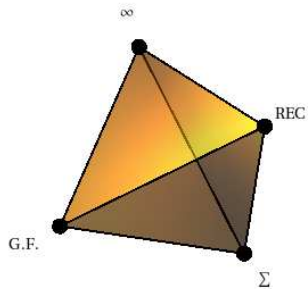
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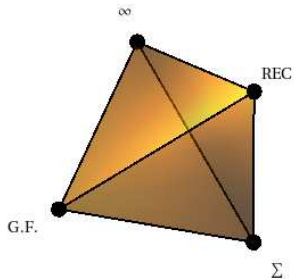
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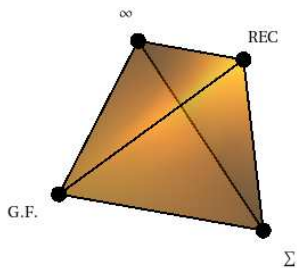
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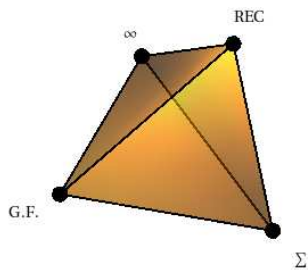
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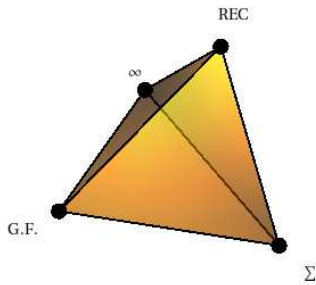
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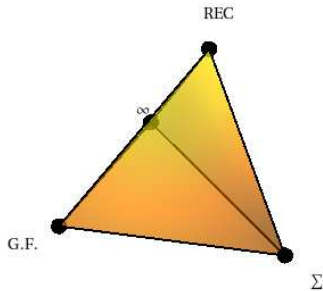
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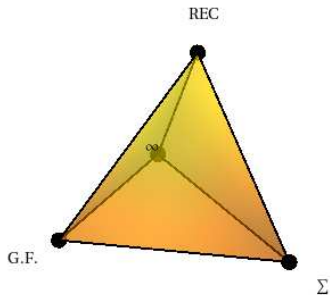
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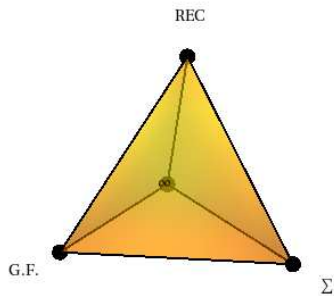
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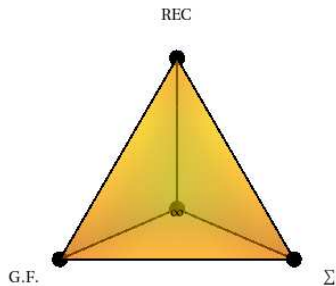
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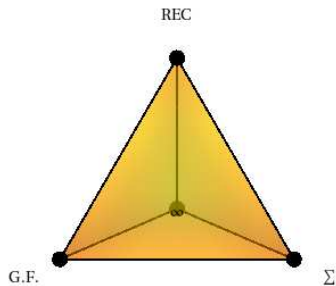
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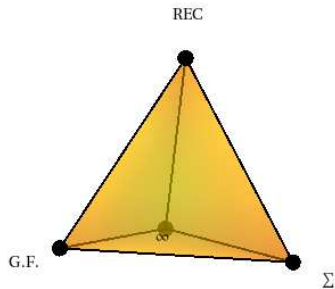
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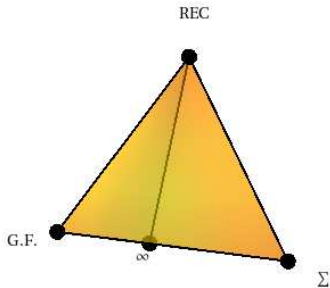
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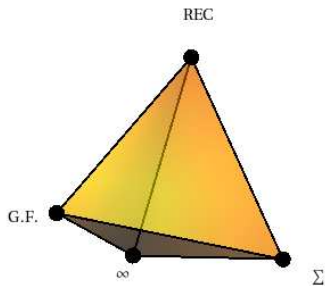
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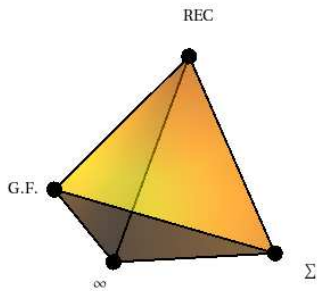
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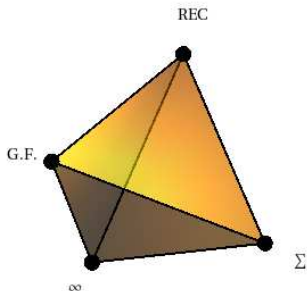
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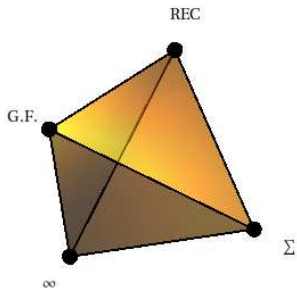
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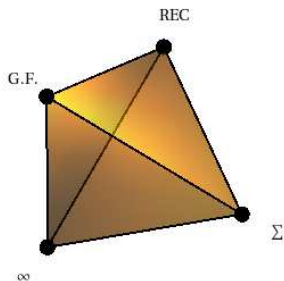
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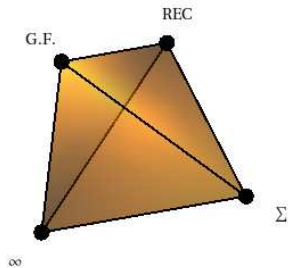
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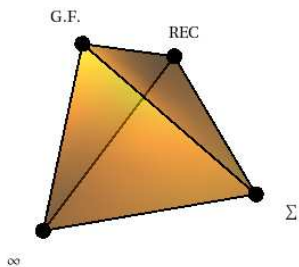
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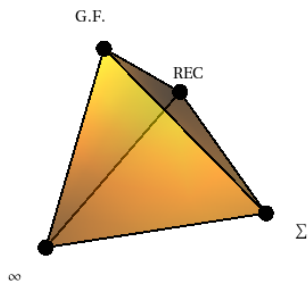
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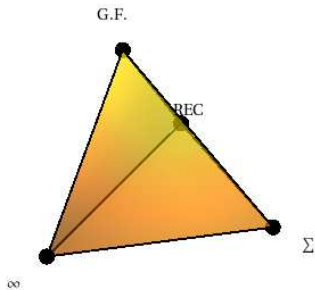
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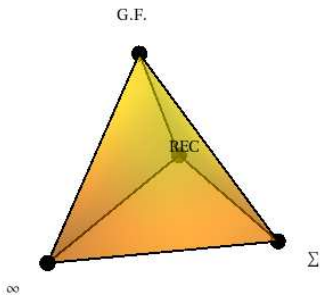
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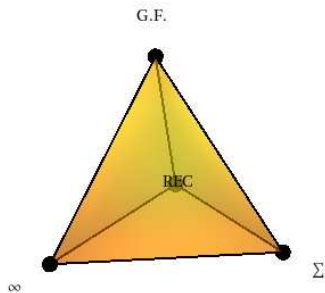
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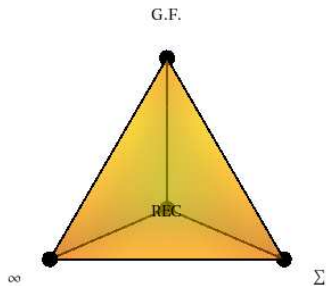
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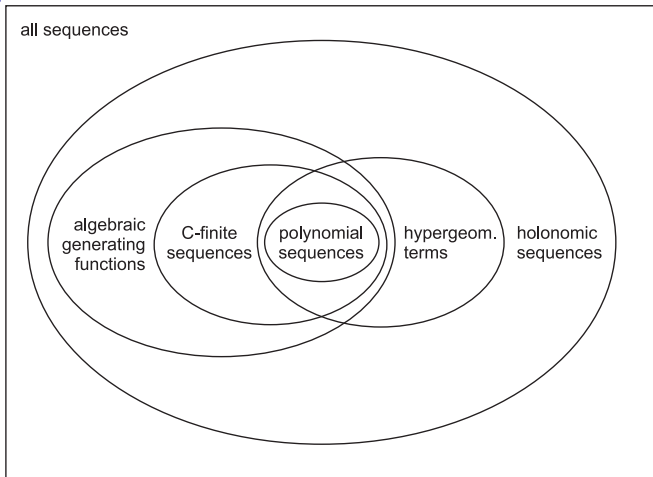
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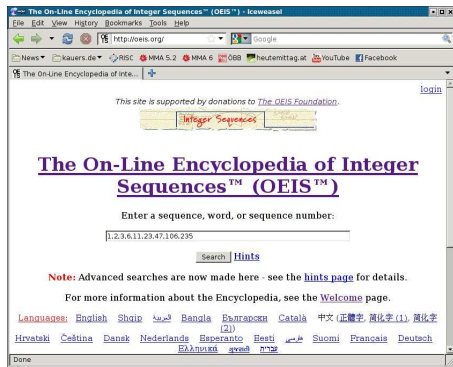
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Approximately 25% of the sequences in Sloane's Online Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences fall into this category.

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$$\begin{aligned} \blacktriangleright a_n &= 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, \dots \\ &\Longleftrightarrow (n-6)a_{n+1} - (n-5)a_n = 0, \\ &\quad a_0 = a_1 = \dots = a_6 = 0, a_7 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

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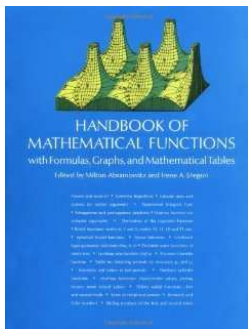
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This means that these functions can (provably) not be viewed as solutions of a linear differential equation with polynomial coefficients.

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Approximately 60% of the functions in Abramowitz and Stegun's handbook fall into this category.

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Consequence: A holonomic power series can be represented exactly by a finite amount of data.

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- ▶ $f(x) = \text{the fifth modified Bessel function of the first kind}$
 $\iff x^2 f''(x) + x f'(x) - (x^2 + 25)f(x) = 0,$
 $f(0) = f'(0) = \dots = f^{(4)}(0) = 0, f^{(5)}(0) = \frac{1}{32}$

1, 2, 14, 106, 838, 6802, 56190, 470010, 3968310,
33747490, 288654574, 2480593546, 21400729382,
185239360178, 1607913963614, 13991107041306,
122002082809110, 1065855419418690, 9327252391907790
81744134786314410, 9327252391907790, ...

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Is this a holonomic sequence?

Let's see whether the data satisfies a recurrence of the form

$$(c_{0,0} + c_{0,1}n)a_{n,n} + (c_{1,0} + c_{1,1}n)a_{n+1,n+1} + (c_{2,0} + c_{2,1}n)a_{n+2,n+2} = 0$$

where the $c_{i,j}$ are some as yet unknown numbers.

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If we won't find any recurrence of this form, we can try again with higher order and/or higher degree.

Match the recurrence template (“ansatz”) against the data.

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$$n = 0 : (c_{0,0} + c_{0,1}0)1 + (c_{1,0} + c_{1,1}0)2 + (c_{2,0} + c_{2,1}0)14 = 0$$

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$$\vdots$$

$$n = 8 : (c_{0,0} + c_{0,1}8)3968310 + (c_{1,0} + c_{1,1}8)33747490$$

$$+ (c_{2,0} + c_{2,1}8)288654574 = 0$$

Match the recurrence template (“ansatz”) against the data.

$$\begin{pmatrix}
 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 14 & 0 \\
 2 & 2 & 14 & 14 & 106 & 106 \\
 14 & 28 & 106 & 212 & 838 & 1676 \\
 106 & 318 & 838 & 2514 & 6802 & 20406 \\
 838 & 3352 & 6802 & 27208 & 56190 & 224760 \\
 6802 & 34010 & 56190 & 280950 & 470010 & 2350050 \\
 56190 & 337140 & 470010 & 2820060 & 3968310 & 23809860 \\
 470010 & 3290070 & 3968310 & 27778170 & 33747490 & 236232430 \\
 3968310 & 31746480 & 33747490 & 269979920 & 288654574 & 2309236592
 \end{pmatrix}
 \begin{pmatrix}
 c_{0,0} \\
 c_{0,1} \\
 c_{1,0} \\
 c_{1,1} \\
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 \end{pmatrix}
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 0 \\
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 0 \\
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Since there are more equations than variables, we expect **0** solutions.

Strangely enough, there happens to be a solution!

$$(c_{0,0}, c_{0,1}, c_{1,0}, c_{1,1}, c_{2,0}, c_{2,1}) = (0, 9, -14, -10, 2, 1)$$

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It follows that for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 8$ we have

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Either we witness a **veeeery** unlikely coincidence,
or we have indeed found a recurrence which has some meaning.

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Expert answer: $\text{RootOf}(_Z^5 - 3_Z + 1, \text{index} = 1),$
 $\text{RootOf}(_Z^5 - 3_Z + 1, \text{index} = 2),$
 $\text{RootOf}(_Z^5 - 3_Z + 1, \text{index} = 3),$
 $\text{RootOf}(_Z^5 - 3_Z + 1, \text{index} = 4),$
 $\text{RootOf}(_Z^5 - 3_Z + 1, \text{index} = 5).$

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A holonomist's answer: There is exactly one solution with $a_0 = 0$, $a_1 = 1$, exactly one solution with $a_0 = 1$, $a_1 = 0$, and every other solution is a K -linear combination of those two.

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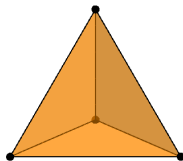
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Like before, our goal is to establish computational links between

- ▶ recurrence equations
- ▶ generating functions
- ▶ asymptotic estimates
- ▶ symbolic sums



A Recurrence equations:

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Trivial: Holonomic sequences are *given* in terms of a recurrence.

B Generating Functions

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OUTPUT: $(n+1)a_{n+1} - a_n = 0, a_0 = 1$ (i.e., $a_n = \frac{1}{n!}$)

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OUTPUT: $x^5 a^{(5)}(x) + (19x^2 + 3x - 1)x^2 a^{(4)}(x)$
 $+ 2(55x^3 + 15x^2 - 2x - 1)a^{(3)}(x) + 6(37x + 12)xa''(x)$
 $+ 12(11x + 3)a'(x) + 12a(x) = 0$

C Asymptotic Estimates

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$$a_n \sim c e^{P(n^{1/r})} n^{\gamma} \phi^n n^{\alpha} \log(n)^{\beta} \quad (n \rightarrow \infty)$$

where c is a constant, P is a polynomial, $r \in \mathbb{N}$, γ, ϕ, α are constants, and $\beta \in \mathbb{N}$.

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OUTPUT:

$$c e^{\sqrt{n} - \frac{n}{2}} n^{n/2} \left(1 - \frac{119}{1152} n^{-1} + \frac{7}{24} n^{-1/2} + \frac{1967381}{39813120} n^{-2} + O(n^{-3/2}) \right)$$

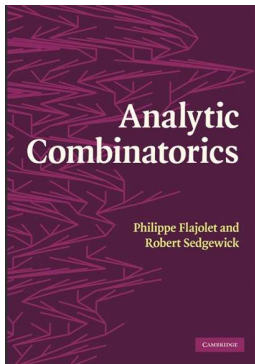
with $c \approx 0.55069531490318374761598106274964784671382 \dots$

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- ▶ $\implies 2(n+3)(n+2)^2b_n - (n+3)(n^2 - 6n - 20)b_{n+1} - (n+10)(2n^2 + 11n + 16)b_{n+2} + (n-1)(n^2 + 11n + 26)b_{n+3} + (n+4)(5n+29)b_{n+4} - (n^2 + 7n + 8)b_{n+5} - (n+6)b_{n+6} = 0$

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- ▶ There is also an algorithm due to Abramov and van Hoeij for computing “closed form” solutions of holonomic sums in terms of the summand, such as

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{2k+5}{k+2} F_k - \frac{k+4}{k+3} F_{k+1} \right) = F_n - \frac{1}{n+3} F_{n+1} - 1.$$

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- ▶ $(a_n + b_n)_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is holonomic.
- ▶ $(a_n b_n)_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is holonomic.
- ▶ $(a_{n+1})_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is holonomic.
- ▶ $(\sum_{k=0}^n a_k)_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is holonomic.
- ▶ if $u, v \in \mathbb{Q}$ are positive, then $(a_{\lfloor un+v \rfloor})_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is holonomic.

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Recurrence equations for all these sequences can be computed from given defining equations of $(a_n)_{n=0}^{\infty}$ and $(b_n)_{n=0}^{\infty}$.

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Differential equations for all these functions can be computed from given defining equations of $a(x)$ and $b(x)$.

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has a **finite dimension**.

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Therefore, $c(x), c'(x), c''(x), \dots, c^{(r)}(x)$ must be linearly dependent over $K(x)$ as soon as $r > \dim V$.

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Therefore, $c(x), c'(x), c''(x), \dots, c^{(r)}(x)$ must be linearly dependent over $K(x)$ as soon as $r > \dim V$.

In other words, $c(x)$ must be holonomic.

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The other closure properties are proved by similar arguments.

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- ▶ This gives a linear system over $K(x)$ for the coefficients $p_k(x)$ which will have a solution if r is big enough.

Packages like gfun (for Maple) or GeneratingFunctions.m (for Mathematica) do this for you.

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Basic idea: $A = B \iff A - B = 0$

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Once we have a recurrence equation for $A - B$, we can prove by induction that it is identically zero.

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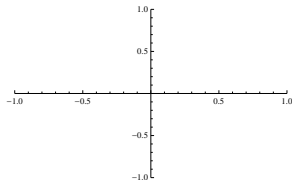
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Let's see two examples.

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

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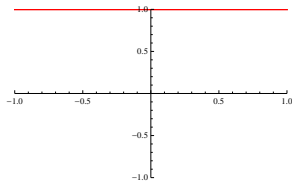
Legendre polynomials:



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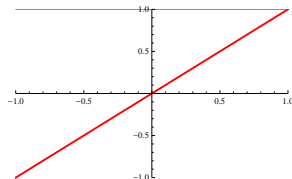
► $P_0(x) = 1$



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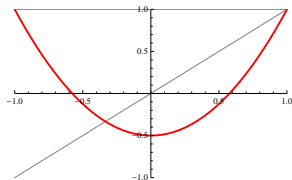
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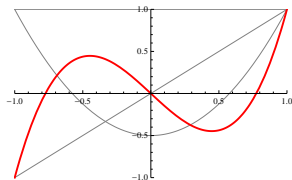
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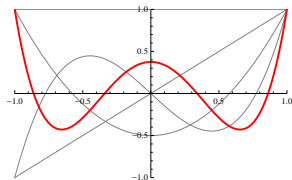
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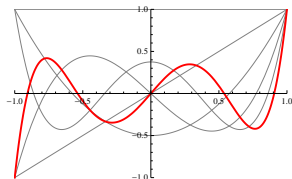
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- ▶ $P_4(x) = \frac{1}{8}(35x^4 - 30x^2 + 3)$
- ▶ $P_5(x) = \frac{1}{8}(15x - 70x^3 + 63x^5)$
- ▶ ...



$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

Legendre polynomials:

$$P_{n+2}(x) = -\frac{n+1}{n+2} P_n(x) + \frac{2n+3}{n+2} x P_{n+1}(x)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

Legendre polynomials:

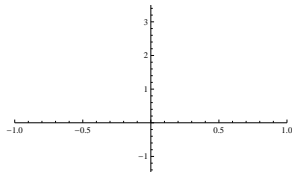
$$P_{n+2}(x) = -\frac{n+1}{n+2} P_n(x) + \frac{2n+3}{n+2} x P_{n+1}(x)$$

$$P_0(x) = 1$$

$$P_1(x) = x$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

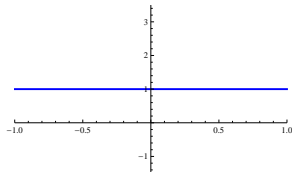
Jacobi polynomials:



$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

Jacobi polynomials:

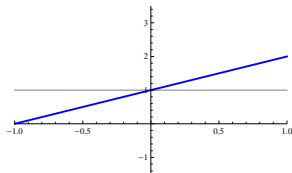
► $P_0^{(1,-1)}(x) = 1$



$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

Jacobi polynomials:

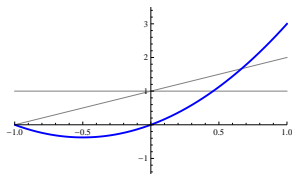
- ▶ $P_0^{(1,-1)}(x) = 1$
- ▶ $P_1^{(1,-1)}(x) = 1 + x$



$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

Jacobi polynomials:

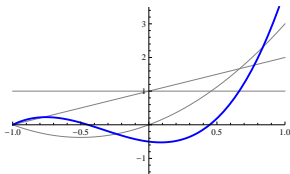
- ▶ $P_0^{(1,-1)}(x) = 1$
- ▶ $P_1^{(1,-1)}(x) = 1 + x$
- ▶ $P_2^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{3}{2}(x + x^2)$



$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

Jacobi polynomials:

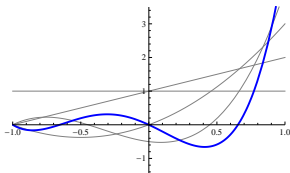
- ▶ $P_0^{(1,-1)}(x) = 1$
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- ▶ $P_3^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{2}(-1 - x + 5x^2 + 5x^3)$



$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

Jacobi polynomials:

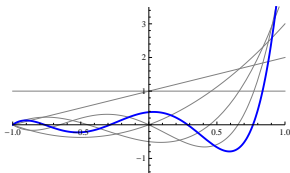
- ▶ $P_0^{(1,-1)}(x) = 1$
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- ▶ $P_3^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{2}(-1 - x + 5x^2 + 5x^3)$
- ▶ $P_4^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{5}{8}(-3x - 3x^2 + 7x^3 + 7x^4)$



$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} (2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x))$$

Jacobi polynomials:

- ▶ $P_0^{(1,-1)}(x) = 1$
- ▶ $P_1^{(1,-1)}(x) = 1 + x$
- ▶ $P_2^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{3}{2}(x + x^2)$
- ▶ $P_3^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{2}(-1 - x + 5x^2 + 5x^3)$
- ▶ $P_4^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{5}{8}(-3x - 3x^2 + 7x^3 + 7x^4)$
- ▶ $P_5^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{3}{8}(1 + x - 14x^2 - 14x^3 + 21x^4 + 21x^5)$
- ▶ ...



$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

Jacobi polynomials:

$$P_{n+2}^{(1,-1)}(x) = -\frac{n}{n+1} P_n^{(1,-1)}(x) + \frac{2n+3}{n+2} x P_{n+1}^{(1,-1)}(x)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

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$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

How to prove this identity?

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)$$

How to prove this identity? \longrightarrow By induction!

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right) = 0$$

How to prove this identity? \longrightarrow By induction!

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right) = 0$$

How to prove this identity? \longrightarrow By induction!

Compute a recurrence for the left hand side from the defining equations of its building blocks.

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{\frac{2k+1}{k+1}}_{\substack{\text{recurrence} \\ \text{of order 1}}} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right) = 0$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{\frac{2k+1}{k+1}}_{\text{recurrence of order 1}} \underbrace{P_k^{(1,-1)}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right) = 0$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{\frac{2k+1}{k+1}}_{\text{recurrence of order 1}} \underbrace{P_k^{(1,-1)}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right) = 0$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}}$

$$\underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{\frac{2k+1}{k+1}}_{\substack{\text{recurrence} \\ \text{of order 1}}} \underbrace{P_k^{(1,-1)}(x)}_{\substack{\text{recurrence} \\ \text{of order 2}}} - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right)}_{\substack{\text{recurrence of order 2}}} = 0$$

recurrence of order 5

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{\frac{2k+1}{k+1}}_{\text{recurrence of order 1}} \underbrace{P_k^{(1,-1)}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \frac{1}{1-x} \underbrace{\left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x)\right)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} = 0$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\text{recurrence of order 5}}$

$$\underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{\frac{2k+1}{k+1}}_{\text{recurrence of order 1}} \underbrace{P_k^{(1,-1)}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(\underbrace{2}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \underbrace{P_n(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \underbrace{P_{n+1}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} \right)}_{\text{recurrence of order 5}} = 0$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{\frac{2k+1}{k+1}}_{\text{recurrence of order 1}} \underbrace{P_k^{(1,-1)}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(\underbrace{2}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \underbrace{P_n(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \underbrace{P_{n+1}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} \right) = 0$$

recurrence of order 2
recurrence of order 4

recurrence of order 5

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{\frac{2k+1}{k+1}}_{\text{recurrence of order 1}} \underbrace{P_k^{(1,-1)}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(\underbrace{2}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \underbrace{P_n(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \underbrace{P_{n+1}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} \right) = 0$$

recurrence of order 2
recurrence of order 4

recurrence of order 5
recurrence of order 3

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{\frac{2k+1}{k+1}}_{\text{recurrence of order 1}} \underbrace{P_k^{(1,-1)}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(\underbrace{2}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \underbrace{P_n(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} - \underbrace{P_{n+1}(x)}_{\text{recurrence of order 2}} \right) = 0$$

recurrence of order 2

 recurrence of order 4

recurrence of order 5

 recurrence of order 3

recurrence of order 7

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{lhs}_{n+7} &= (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+6} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+5} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+4} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+3} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+2} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+1} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_n \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{2k+1}{k+1} P_k^{(1,-1)}(x) - \frac{1}{1-x} \left(2 - P_n(x) - P_{n+1}(x) \right) = 0$$

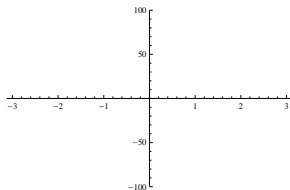
$$\begin{aligned} \text{lhs}_{n+7} &= (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+6} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+5} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+4} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+3} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+2} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_{n+1} \\ &\quad + (\cdots \text{messy} \cdots) \text{lhs}_n \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the identity holds *for all* $n \in \mathbb{N}$
 if and only if it holds *for* $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 6$.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

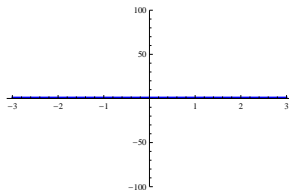
Hermite polynomials:



$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

Hermite polynomials:

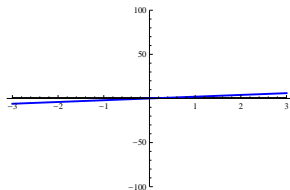
► $H_0(x) = 1$



$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

Hermite polynomials:

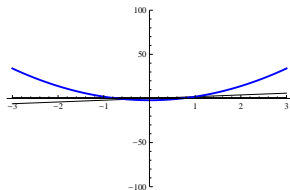
- ▶ $H_0(x) = 1$
- ▶ $H_1(x) = 2x$



$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

Hermite polynomials:

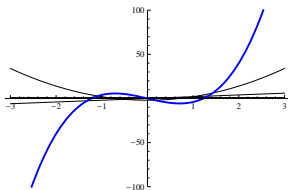
- ▶ $H_0(x) = 1$
- ▶ $H_1(x) = 2x$
- ▶ $H_2(x) = 4x^2 - 2$



$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

Hermite polynomials:

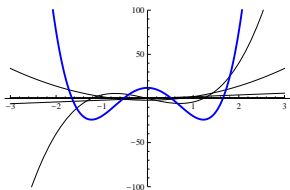
- ▶ $H_0(x) = 1$
- ▶ $H_1(x) = 2x$
- ▶ $H_2(x) = 4x^2 - 2$
- ▶ $H_3(x) = 8x^3 - 12x$



$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

Hermite polynomials:

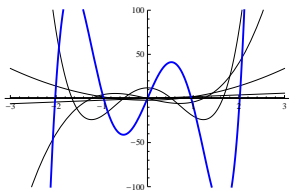
- ▶ $H_0(x) = 1$
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- ▶ $H_3(x) = 8x^3 - 12x$
- ▶ $H_4(x) = 16x^4 - 48x^2 + 12$



$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

Hermite polynomials:

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- ▶ $H_3(x) = 8x^3 - 12x$
- ▶ $H_4(x) = 16x^4 - 48x^2 + 12$
- ▶ $H_5(x) = 32x^5 - 160x^3 + 120x$
- ▶ ...



$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

Hermite polynomials:

$$H_{n+2}(x) = 2xH_{n+1}(x) - 2(n+1)H_n(x)$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

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This is an identity between power series.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

This is an identity between power series.

Consider x and y as fixed parameters.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

This is an identity between power series.

Consider x and y as fixed parameters.

Then both sides are univariate power series in t .

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right)$$

This is an identity between power series.

Consider x and y as fixed parameters.

Then both sides are univariate power series in t .

Idea: Compute a recurrence for the series coefficients of LHS – RHS

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right) = 0$$

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Idea: Compute a recurrence for the series coefficients of LHS – RHS

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right) = 0$$

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Then prove by induction that they are all zero.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right) = 0$$

This is an identity between power series.

Consider x and y as fixed parameters.

Then both sides are univariate power series in t .

Idea: Compute a recurrence for the series coefficients of LHS – RHS

Then prove by induction that they are all zero.

Then the power series is zero.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right) = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{H_n(x)H_n(y)}_{\substack{\text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 2}}} \frac{1}{n!} t^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right) = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{H_n(x) H_n(y)}_{\substack{\text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 2} \quad \text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 2}}} \frac{1}{n!} t^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right) = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{H_n(x) H_n(y)}_{\substack{\text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 2} \quad \text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 2}}} \frac{1}{n!} t^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right) = 0$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{rec. of order 4}}$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n}_{\substack{\text{rec. of} & \text{rec. of} & \text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 2} & \text{ord. 2} & \text{ord. 1}}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right) = 0$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{rec. of order 4}}$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n}_{\substack{\text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 2} \quad \text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 2} \quad \text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 1}}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right) = 0$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{rec. of order 4}}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{recurrence of order 4}}$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{H_n(x) H_n(y) \frac{1}{n!} t^n}_{\substack{\text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 2} \quad \text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 2} \quad \text{rec. of} \\ \text{ord. 1}}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4t^2}} \exp\left(\frac{4t(xy - t(x^2 + y^2))}{1-4t^2}\right) = 0$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{rec. of order 4}}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{recurrence of order 4}}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{differential equation of order 5}}$

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 differential equation of order 1
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\rightsquigarrow recurrence equation of order 4

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If we write $\text{lhs}(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \text{lhs}_n t^n$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{lhs}_{n+4} &= \frac{4xy}{n+4} \text{lhs}_{n+3} + \frac{4(2n-2x^2-2y^2+5)}{n+4} \text{lhs}_{n+2} \\ &\quad + \frac{16xy}{n+4} \text{lhs}_{n+1} - \frac{16(n+1)}{n+4} \text{lhs}_n . \end{aligned}$$

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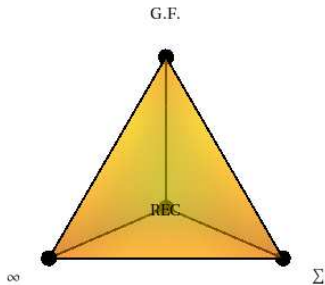
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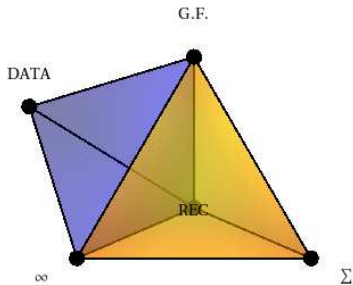
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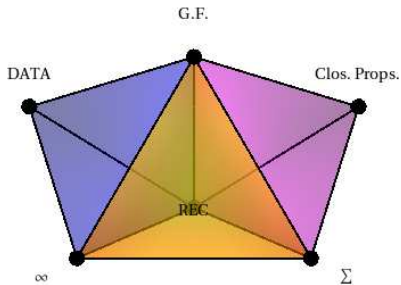
Summary.

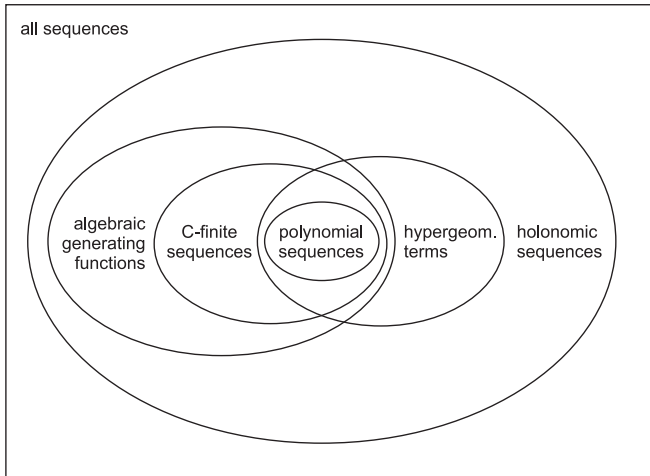


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The Case of Several Variables

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- ▶ A formal power series $a \in K[[x]]$ is called *holonomic* if there exist polynomials p_0, \dots, p_r , not all zero, such that

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It satisfies the recurrence

$$(S_n S_k + n S_n - 1) \cdot f = 0,$$

but no “pure” recurrence in S_k or S_n .

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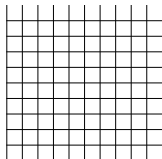
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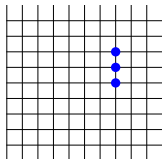
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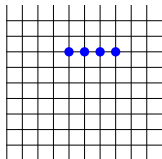
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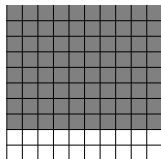
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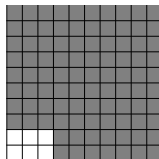
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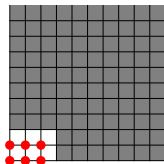
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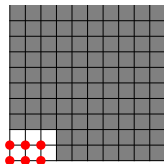
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Similarly for differential equations and for systems containing mixed equations.

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$$\begin{aligned} D_{x_i} D_{x_j} &= D_{x_j} D_{x_i}, & D_{x_i} x_i &= x_i D_{x_i} + 1, \\ S_{n_i} S_{n_j} &= S_{n_j} S_{n_i}, & S_{n_i} n_i &= (n_i + 1) S_{n_i}. \end{aligned}$$

Algebraic point of view:

Consider the operator algebra

$$A := K(x_1, \dots, x_p, n_1, \dots, n_q) \langle D_{x_1}, \dots, D_{x_p}, S_{n_1}, \dots, S_{n_q} \rangle$$

Multiplication is defined here so that it is compatible with applying operators to a function.

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Out[2]= $\left\{ (-9x^2 - \dots)D_x + (4n^2 + \dots)S_n + (13nx^4 + \dots), \right.$
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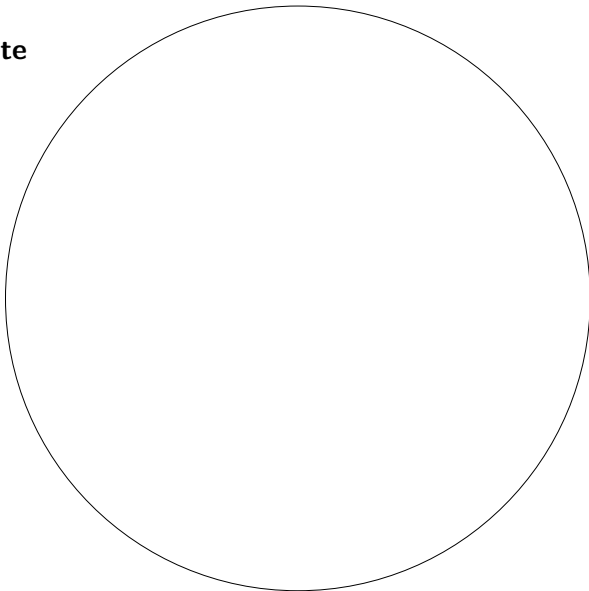
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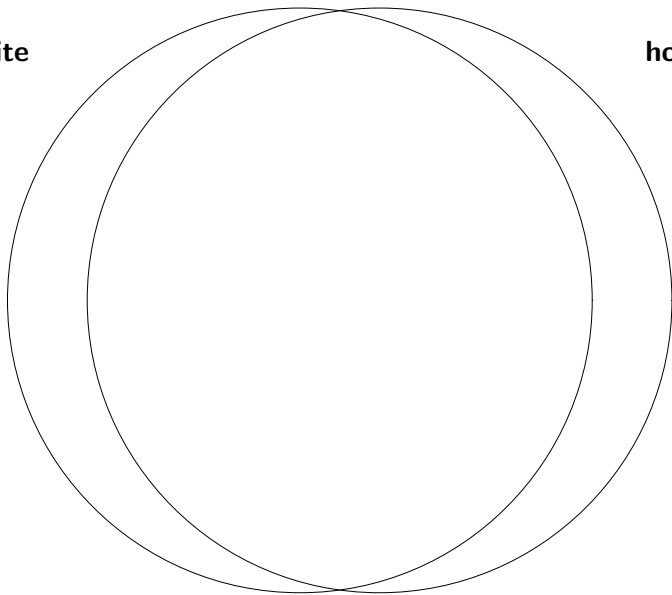
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- ▶ If there is only one discrete variable and no continuous ones ($p = 0, q = 1$), then holonomic and D-finite are the same.
- ▶ In general, holonomic and D-finite are *practically the same*.

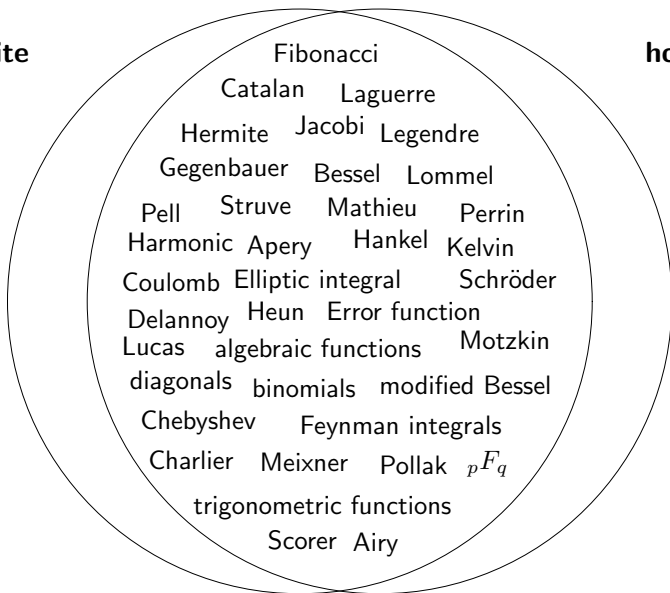
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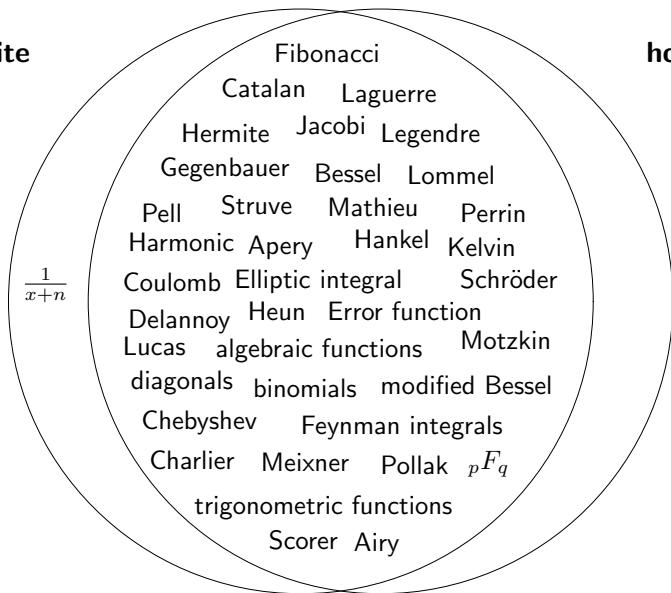


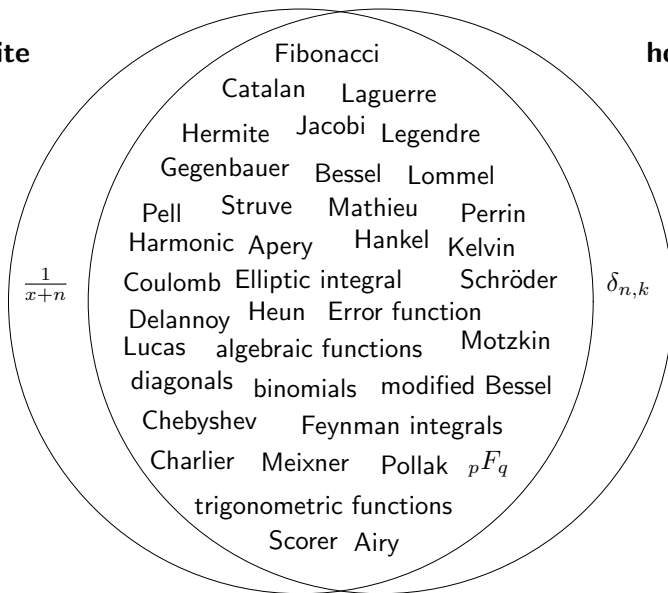
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“Telescopier”: free of t

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There are algorithms for this task.

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Depending on the problem at hand, any of these algorithms may be much more efficient than the others.

Summary and Outlook

- ▶ We want to solve problems in discrete mathematics using computer algebra.

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 - ▶ C-finite sequences
 - ▶ Hypergeometric terms
 - ▶ Algebraic generating functions
 - ▶ Holonomic sequences

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Ideally, any piece of research on one of these sides will also stimulate interesting developments on the other.

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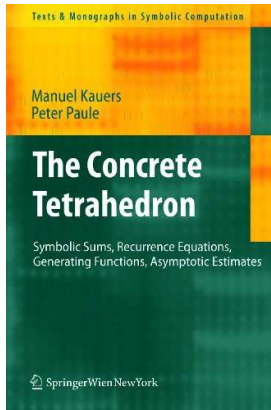
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- ▶ If you can solve a problem only with computer algebra for multivariate sequences, I will probably urge you to write an article about it.

Further reading:



Further listening:

- ▶ Peter Paule's slot on January 25 in this lecture series
- ▶ The course "Analytic Combinatorics" taught by Veronika Pillwein