

37. Let $(f_n)_{n \geq 0}$ and $(g_n)_{n \geq 0}$ be sequences. Prove that the difference operator satisfies the product rule

$$\Delta_n(f_n g_n) = (\Delta_n f_n) g_n + f_{n+1} (\Delta_n g_n), \quad n \geq 0.$$

Use this law to deduce the formula for summation by parts,

$$\sum_{k=0}^n f_k (\Delta_k g_k) = f_{n+1} g_{n+1} - f_0 g_0 - \sum_{k=0}^n (\Delta_k f_k) g_{k+1}.$$

38. Suppose $a(x)$ is an algebraic formal power series and $b(x)$ is a formal power series with $a(b(x)) = x$. Show that $b(x)$ is also algebraic.

39. Let T_n be the number of tilings of a $3 \times n$ rectangle with straight trominoes (i.e., 1×3 and 3×1 pieces).

(a) Determine a recurrence relation for T_n .

(b) Express the partial sum $s_n = \sum_{k=0}^n T_k$ in terms of T_n .

40. Express $s_n = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k$ in terms of a_n, a_{n+1}, \dots , where the sequence $(a_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is given by the recurrence

$$a_{n+3} = 5a_{n+1} - 4a_n, \quad a_0 = a_1 = 1, \quad a_2 = 2.$$

The set of difference operators $\mathbb{K}[n]\langle S_n \rangle$ consists of elements $\sum_{i=0}^r p_i(n) S_n^i$ with $p_0, \dots, p_r \in \mathbb{K}[n]$. We define the addition of two such operators elementwise (as for polynomials $\mathbb{K}[n][S_n]$) and the multiplication as

$$\left(\sum_{i=0}^r p_i(n) S_n^i \right) \left(\sum_{j=0}^s q_j(n) S_n^j \right) = \sum_{i=0}^{r+s} \sum_{j=0}^i p_j(n) q_{i-j}(n+j) S_n^i.$$

The set $\mathbb{K}[n]\langle S_n \rangle$ together with this addition and multiplication forms a non-commutative ring. Such an operator $A = \sum_{i=0}^r p_i(n) S_n^i$ can act on a sequence $a = (a_n)_{n \geq 0} \in \mathbb{K}^{\mathbb{N}}$ as $A \cdot a = (\sum_{i=0}^r p_i(n) a_{n+i})_{n \geq 0}$.

41. Let $A, B \in \mathbb{K}[n]\langle S_n \rangle$ and $a \in \mathbb{K}^{\mathbb{N}}$. Show that

$$(AB) \cdot a = A \cdot (B \cdot a).$$

42. Show that a sequence $(a_n)_{n \geq 0}$ is holonomic if and only if there exist polynomials $p_0, \dots, p_r \in \mathbb{K}[x]$ and a holonomic sequence $(b_n)_{n \geq 0}$ such that

$$p_r(n) a_{n+r} + \dots + p_1(n) a_{n+1} + p_0(n) a_n = b_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Hint: You can use that a is holonomic if and only if there is a non-zero operator $A \in \mathbb{K}[n]\langle S_n \rangle$ with $A \cdot a = 0$.