

Computer Science 355  
Modern Computer Algebra

Assignment 2  
*solutions*

### Problem 1 (Programming) (20 pts)

Write a program which takes an arbitrary list of integers as input, and produces a new list, which consists of {value, run-length} pairs describing the given input string. This is known as Run-Length Encoding. For example, the imput string

{ 7, 8, 8, 9, 9, 9, 9, 5, 5, 5, 5, 9, 9, 9 }

should produce the following output

{ { 7, 1 }, { 8, 2 }, { 9, 4 }, { 5, 4 }, { 9, 3 } }

```
RunLength[lst_List] :=
```

### Problem 2

Evaluate the sum using Gosper's algorithm

$$\sum_k k \frac{\left(k - \frac{1}{2}\right)!^2}{(k+1)!^2}$$

Demonstrate each step of the algorithm.

$$\begin{aligned} s[k_] &:= k \frac{\left(k - \frac{1}{2}\right)!^2}{(k+1)!^2} \\ \frac{s[k+1]}{s[k]} // \text{FunctionExpand} // \text{Simplify} \\ &\frac{(1+k)(1+2k)^2}{4k(2+k)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p[k_] &:= k \\ q[k_] &:= (-1 + 2k)^2 \\ r[k_] &:= 4(k+1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

```
Table[PolynomialGCD[q[k], r[k+j]], {j, 0, 15}]

{1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1}
```

Note that all we did is check a bunch of cases, this isn't actually a proof that q and r are relatively prime the way we need them. To actually prove the relative primality, we would note that if there was a common factor, there would be a common root. However, q[k] has a double root at  $\frac{1}{2}$  while r[k+j] has roots at  $-(j+1)$  for all nonnegative integers j. These are all integers so there are no common roots.

```
q[k + 1] f[k] - r[k] f[k - 1] - p[k] /. f[k_] → a k + b

- k - 4 (b + a (-1 + k)) (1 + k)^2 + (b + a k) (-1 + 2 (1 + k))^2
```

```
Collect[%, k]

4 a - 3 b + (-1 + 5 a - 4 b) k
```

```
CoefficientList[%, k]

{4 a - 3 b, -1 + 5 a - 4 b}
```

```
Map[Equal[#, 0] &, %]

{4 a - 3 b == 0, -1 + 5 a - 4 b == 0}
```

```
Solve[%, {a, b}]

{{a → -3, b → -4}}
```

We now know that f[k]. Let's plug it in to get z.

```
f[k_] := -3 k - 4
z[k_] := r[k]/p[k] s[k] f[k - 1]
```

We can now do the indefinite summation.

$$\sum_k k \frac{(k - \frac{1}{2})!^2}{(k + 1)!^2} = -\frac{4(1 + 3k)\Gamma(\frac{1}{2} + k)^2}{\Gamma(1 + k)^2}$$

$$\text{Sum}\left[k \frac{\left(k - \frac{1}{2}\right)!^2}{(k + 1)!^2}, k\right] // \text{FullSimplify}$$

$$-\frac{4 (1 + 3 k) \Gamma\left[\frac{1}{2} + k\right]^2}{\Gamma[1 + k]^2}$$

### Problem 3

Prove that this sum is not Gosper-summable

$$\sum_k (-4)^k \binom{n+k}{2k}$$

```
s[k_] := (-4)^k Binomial[n+k, 2 k]
s[k+1] // FunctionExpand // Simplify
2 (k - n) (1 + k + n)
(1 + k) (1 + 2 k)

p[k_] := 1
q[k_] := 2 (k + n) (k - n - 1)
r[k_] := k (2 k - 1)

Table[PolynomialGCD[q[k], r[k+j]], {j, 0, 15}]
{1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1}

p[k+1] q[k+1]
p[k] r[k+1] // FullSimplify
2 (k - n) (1 + k + n)
(1 + k) (1 + 2 k)

q[k+1] f[k] - r[k] f[k-1] == p[k]
-k (-1 + 2 k) f[-1 + k] + 2 (k - n) (1 + k + n) f[k] == 1
```

We will prove that this equation has no polynomial solution.

```
Exponent[q[k+1] + r[k], k] > Exponent[q[k+1] - r[k], k]
True
```

It falls into Case 2.

```
nn = Exponent[q[k+1] + r[k], k];
a = Coefficient[q[k+1] + r[k], k, nn];
b = Coefficient[q[k+1] - r[k], k, nn - 1];
```

$$2 \frac{b}{a}$$

$$\frac{3}{2}$$

It falls into Case 2 a)

**Exponent**[**p**[**k**] , **k**] - nn + 1

- 1

A polynomial of degree -1 does not exist. This proves that the sum is not Gosper-summable.

## Problem 4

Let  $m$  be a positive integer,  $p(k)$  a polynomial of degree  $m - 1$  and  $c$  a constant. Determine if the following sum is Gosper-summable

$$\sum_k \frac{p(k)}{\prod_{j=0}^{m-1} (k + c + j)}$$

$$\frac{s[k+1]}{s[k]} = \frac{p(k+1)}{p(k)} \frac{(k+c)}{(k+m+c)}$$

```
Clear[p, k, c, f];
q[k_] := k + c - 1
r[k_] := k + m + c - 1
q[k+1] - r[k]
```

$$1 - m$$

```
q[k+1] + r[k]
- 1 + 2 c + 2 k + m
```

It falls into Case 2):

```
n = 1; a = 2; b = 1 - m;
max[-2 b/a, (m - 1) - n + 1]
max[-1 + m, -1 + m]
```

so, degree of  $f$  is  $m - 1$

```
q[k+1] f[k] - r[k] f[k-1] /. {f[k_] :> d[m-1] k^{m-1} + d[m-2] k^{m-2}}
- (-1 + c + k + m) ((-1 + k)^{-2+m} d[-2 + m] + (-1 + k)^{-1+m} d[-1 + m]) +
(c + k) (k^{-2+m} d[-2 + m] + k^{-1+m} d[-1 + m])
% /. (k - 1)^{m-1} \rightarrow k^{m-1} - (m - 1) k^{m-2}
(c + k) (k^{-2+m} d[-2 + m] + k^{-1+m} d[-1 + m]) -
(-1 + c + k + m) ((-1 + k)^{-2+m} d[-2 + m] + (k^{-1+m} - k^{-2+m} (-1 + m)) d[-1 + m])
```

$$\% / . \quad (k - 1)^{m-2} \rightarrow k^{m-2}$$

$$(c + k) \left( k^{-2+m} d[-2 + m] + k^{-1+m} d[-1 + m] \right) - \\ (-1 + c + k + m) \left( k^{-2+m} d[-2 + m] + \left( k^{-1+m} - k^{-2+m} (-1 + m) \right) d[-1 + m] \right)$$

**Expand[%]**

$$k^{-2+m} d[-2 + m] - k^{-2+m} m d[-2 + m] + k^{-2+m} d[-1 + m] - c k^{-2+m} d[-1 + m] - \\ 2 k^{-2+m} m d[-1 + m] + c k^{-2+m} m d[-1 + m] + k^{-2+m} m^2 d[-1 + m]$$

We get a polynomial of  $m - 2$  degree, though  $p$  is of  $m - 1$  degree.

## Problem 5

Let  $a$  be a parameter and

$$p_n = \binom{2n}{n} a^n$$

Find all values of  $a$  such that  $p_k$  is Gosper-summable.

```

Clear[p, a, q, r, f];
s[k_] := Binomial[2k, k] a^k
s[k+1]
----- // FunctionExpand
s[k]

2 a (1 + 2 k)
-----
1 + k

p[k_] := 1
q[k_] := 2 a (2 k - 1)
r[k_] := k

p[k+1] q[k+1]
----- // Simplify
p[k]   r[k+1]

2 a (1 + 2 k)
-----
1 + k

Table[PolynomialGCD[q[k], r[k+j]], {j, 0, 15}]
{1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1}

```

Note, that the order of these polynomials depends on  $a$

```

Collect[q[k+1] + r[k], k]

2 a + (1 + 4 a) k

Collect[q[k+1] - r[k], k]

2 a + (-1 + 4 a) k

```

Let us assume that  $a \neq 1/4$  and  $a \neq -1/4$ , then

```
Exponent[q[k + 1] - r[k], k] ≥ Exponent[q[k + 1] + r[k], k]
```

True

It falls into Case 1, with a polynomial solution of the degree

$$\deg(f_k) = \deg(p_k) - \deg(q_{k+1} - r_k)$$

```
Exponent[p[k], k] - Exponent[q[k + 1] - r[k], k]
```

- 1

This case holds for  $a \neq -1/4$ .

Consider  $a = 1/4$ .

```
Clear[p, q, r, f];
a = 1/4;
s[k_] := Binomial[2 k, k] a^k
s[k + 1] // FunctionExpand
s[k]

$$\frac{1 + 2 k}{2 (1 + k)}$$


p[k_] := 1
q[k_] := 2 k - 1
r[k_] := 2 k

Table[PolynomialGCD[q[k], r[k + j]], {j, 0, 15}]
{1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1}

q[k + 1] f[k] - r[k] f[k - 1] == p[k] /. f[k_] → c

$$-2 c k + c (-1 + 2 (1 + k)) = 1$$


Solve[%, c]
{{c → 1}}
```

```
z[k_] :=  $\frac{r[k]}{p[k]}$  s[k] 1
```

The result of summation

**z [k]**

$2^{1-2k} k \text{Binomial}[2k, k]$