

# Generating Functions

Let  $\{a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots\}$  be a sequence of real nos., then a function  $f(x)$  defined by

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots + a_n x^n + \dots$$

is called "Generating function" of the sequence.

If the sequence contains infinitely many terms, then

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n x^n)$$

Q.1. For the sequence

$c_0, c_1, c_2, c_3, \dots, c_n$  where  $c_k = {}^n C(n, k)$ , the generating function is ?

$$\rightarrow \underbrace{f(x) = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + c_3 x^3 + \dots + c_n x^n}_{\text{Generating function}}$$

= Binomial expansion of  $(1+x)^n$

$$\boxed{f(x) = (1+x)^n}$$

Q.2. For the sequence

$c_0, -c_1, c_2, -c_3, \dots, (-1)^n c_n$

→ The Generating function is

$$f(x) = c_0 - c_1 x + c_2 x^2 - c_3 x^3 + \dots + (-1)^n c_n x^n$$

= Binomial expansion of  $(1-x)^{-n}$

$$f(x) = (1-x)^{-n}$$

Q.3: For the sequence,

$\{1, 1, 1, \dots, 1\}$  ( $n$  terms)

Gen. func<sup>n</sup> = ?

→

The Generating func<sup>n</sup> is

$$f(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^{n-1}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{(1-x^n)}{(1-x)}$$

if  $n = \infty$ ,

$$f(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots$$

= Binomial expansion of  $(1-x)^{-1}$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{(1-x)}$$

Q.4. " - "

$\{1, -1, 1, -1, \dots, (-1)^n, \dots, \infty\}$

→ The generating func<sup>n</sup> is

$$f(x) = 1 - x + x^2 - x^3 + \dots + \infty = (1+x)^{-1}$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x}$$

Note  $(1-ax)^{-k} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \{c(n-1+k, n) \cdot a^n \cdot x^n\}$

where,  $(k=1, 2, 3, \dots)$

and  $a$  is any constant.

1)  $(1-x)^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots \infty$

$\uparrow$   
 $a=1, k=1$

2)  $(1+x)^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \cdot x^n$

$\uparrow$   
 $a=-1, k=1$

$= 1 - x + x^2 - x^3 + \dots \infty$

3)  $(1-ax)^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a^n \cdot x^n)$

$\uparrow$   
 $k=1$

$= 1 + ax + a^2 \cdot x^2 + a^3 \cdot x^3 + \dots + a^n \cdot x^n + \dots \infty$

4)  $(1-x)^{-2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) \cdot x^n$

$\uparrow$   
 $a=1, k=2$

\*  $\forall x \neq 0$

$= 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + \dots + (n+1)x^n + \dots + \infty$

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

$\uparrow$   
 $a=1, k=-3$

$$= 1 + 3x + 6x^2 + 10x^3 + \dots$$

$$f) (1-x)^{-4} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}{6} x^n$$

Q.5. The generating function of the sequence

$\{1, 1, 3, 1, 1, 1, \dots, \infty\}$  is what?

$$\rightarrow \text{Gen. funcn } f(x) = (1 + x + 3x^2 + x^3 + \dots + \infty)$$

$$= (1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots + \infty) + 2x^2$$

$$= (1-x)^{-1} + 2x^2$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1 + 2x^2 - 2x^3}{1-x}$$

Q.6. The generating function of the sequence

$\{1, 2, 3, 4, (n+1), \dots, \infty\}$

$$= 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 4x^3 + \dots + \infty$$

$$= (1-x)^{-2}$$

Q.7. The generating function of the sequence

$\{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, n, \dots, \infty\}$

$$= 0 + x + 2x^2 + 3x^3 + \dots + \infty$$

$$= x(1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 4x^3 + \dots + \infty) \text{ at } (1-x)^{-2} \text{ (prev)}$$

$$= x \cdot (1-x)^{-2}$$

Q.8. The generating <sup>func<sup>n</sup></sup> seq. of :

$\{0^2, 1^2, 2^2, 3^2, 4^2, \dots, n^2, \dots, \infty\}$  is

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{(1-x)^2} = 0 + 1 \cdot x + 2 \cdot x^2 + 3 \cdot x^3 + 4 \cdot x^4 + \dots$$

we know,

$$x \cdot \frac{d(f(x))}{dx} = \frac{x^2 + x}{(1-x)^3} = x \{ 0 + 1 + 4x + 9x^2 + \dots \}$$

$$= 0^2 + 1^2 \cdot x + 2^2 \cdot x^2 + 3^2 \cdot x^3 + \dots$$

∴ Required Generating function =  $\frac{x^2 + x}{(1-x)^3}$

Q.9. The Generating func<sup>n</sup> of the sequence

$\{0^3, 1^3, 2^3, \dots, n^3, \dots, \infty\}$  is ?

∴ Required G.F. =  $x \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \{ f_2(x) \}$

$$= x \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \left\{ \frac{x^2 + x}{(1-x)^3} \right\}$$

2.11.01.2013

Q.10. The generating function of the sequence

$$\{a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots\} \text{ where } a_n = (n+1) \cdot (n+2)$$

is what?

$$\rightarrow f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2} \cdot x^n$$

$$= 2 \cdot (1-x)^{-3} = \frac{2}{(1-x)^3}$$

Q.11.

$$\{a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots\} \text{ where } a_n = n \cdot (n+1) \text{ is ?}$$

$$\rightarrow f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n \cdot (n+1) x^n$$

$$= x \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n(n+1) \cdot x^{n-1}$$

Replace 'n' with 'n+1',

$$\therefore f(x) = 2 \cdot x \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2} \cdot x^n$$

$$= 2x \cdot (1-x)^{-3} = \frac{2x}{(1-x)^3}$$

Q.12. Generating function of the sequence

$$\{ a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots, \infty \}$$

where,  $a_n = (n+1)(n+2)(n+3)$  is what?

$$\rightarrow f(x) = 6 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)}{6} \cdot x^n$$

$$= 6 \cdot (1-x)^{-4} = \frac{6}{(1-x)^4}$$

$f(x) = \frac{6}{(1-x)^4}$

Q.13. Generating function of the sequence

$$\{ 1, -2, 4, -8, \dots, (-2)^n, \dots, \infty \}$$
 is ?

$$\rightarrow f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-2)^n \cdot x^n$$

$$= (1+2x)^{-1} =$$

$f(x) = \frac{1}{1+2x}$

Q.14. The coefficient of  $x^{20}$  in the expansion of

$$(x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + \dots, \infty)^5$$
 is ?

→ we know,

$$(1-ax)^{-k} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C(n-1+k, n) \cdot x^n$$

Given,  $\Rightarrow x^{15} \cdot (1+x^2+x^3+\dots \infty)^5$

$$\Rightarrow x^{15} \cdot (1-x)^{-5}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^{15} \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C(n+4, n) \cdot x^n$$

The coefficient of  $x^{20} = x^{15} \cdot C(n+4, n)$   
 taking  $n=5$   
 $= C(9, 5)$   
 $= \boxed{126}$

⊛ To find no. of nonnegative integer solutions to the equation

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_n = k$$

let the generating sol<sup>n</sup> be

$$f(x) = f_1(x) \cdot f_2(x) \cdot f_3(x) \cdot \dots \cdot f_n(x)$$

where  $f_i(x) = 1+x+x^2+\dots \infty \quad (i=1, 2, \dots, n)$   
 $= (1-x)^{-1}$

The coefficient of  $x^k$  in the expansion of  $f(x)$  is the answer to our problem.



$$(1-x)^{-n} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{C(n-1+k, k)}{V(n, k)} x^k$$

$\therefore$  coefficient of  $x^k$  in the expansion of  $f(x) =$

$$V(n, k)$$

In the above example, if we have constraints on the variables  $1 \leq x_i \leq 6$ , then we have to choose

$$f(x) = x^1 + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + x^6$$

if suppose,  $1 \leq x_1 \leq 5$

$$\text{then } f(x) = x^1 + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5$$

Q.15: No. of non-negative integer solutions to the equation

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_5 = 15$$

where  $1 \leq x_1 \leq 5$ ,  $2 \leq x_2 \leq 5$ ,  $x_3 \geq 2$ ,

$$x_4 \geq 2, \quad x_5 \geq 2.$$

$\rightarrow$  The generating function for the problem is

$$f(x) = (x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5) \cdot (x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5) \cdot (x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots)^3$$

$$= x^9 (1+x+x^2+x^3+x^4) \cdot x^2 (1+x+x^2+x^3+x^4)$$

$$(x^2)^5 \cdot (1+x+x^2+x^3+\dots\infty)^3$$

$$= x^9 \cdot \left( \frac{1-x^5}{1-x} \right)^2 \cdot (1-x)^{-3}$$

$$= x^9 \cdot (1-2x^5+x^{10}) (1-x)^{-5}$$

$$= (x^9 - 2x^{14} + x^{19}) \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (C(n+4, n) \cdot x^n)$$

$$\left( \because (1-x)^{-k} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{C(n-1+k, n) \cdot x^n}{\downarrow C(n, k)} \right)$$

Required no. of <sup>non-negative integer</sup> solutions to the given problem  
i.e. coeff of  ~~$x^9$~~   $x^{15}$  in the expansion of  $f(x)$ .

$$= C(10, 6) - 2C(5, 1)$$

$$= \boxed{200}$$

Q.16. How many ways we can choose a committee of 9 members from 9 political parties so that no party has absolute majority in the committee.

→ Required: no. of ways =

no. of non-negative integer solns to the eqn

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 9$$

where  $1 \leq x_i \leq 4$

where  $x_i \rightarrow$  no. of representatives from  $i$ th party  
 $P_i$

The generating funcn of this problem is

$$f(x) = f_1(x) * f_2(x) * f_3(x)$$

where  $f_i(x) = x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4$

$$\therefore f(x) = (x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4)^3$$

$$= x^3 (1 + x + x^2 + x^3)^3$$

$$= x^3 \cdot \left( \frac{1-x^4}{1-x} \right)^3$$

$$= x^3 \cdot (1 - 3x^4 + 3x^8 - x^{12}) \cdot (1-x)^{-3}$$

$$= (x^3 - 3x^7 + 3x^{11} - x^{15}) \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2} x^n$$

when  $x^3, n=6$   
 $x^7, n=2$

Coeff. of  $x^9$ . The required no. of ways

$$= \frac{7 \times 84}{2} - 3 \times \frac{3 \times 4}{2}$$

$$= 28 - 6 = 28 - 18$$

**10**