

# Zeilberger's Algorithm

How the algorithm works

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# Introduction

Overall goal:

We want to find a closed form of  $f(n)$  for given  $f(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} F(n, k)$ .

Exact form of the recurrence formula:

$$\sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j, k) = G(n, k+1) - G(n, k)$$

**First part of the algorithm:  
reshaping and rearranging terms**

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# 1: reshaping and rearranging terms

Assume order of recurrence  $J$  and fix it.

Recurrence formula:  $\sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j, k) = G(n, k+1) - G(n, k)$

$$t_k := \sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j, k)$$

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j, k+1) / F(n, k+1)}{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j, k) / F(n, k)} \cdot \frac{F(n, k+1)}{F(n, k)}$$

We define  $\frac{r_1(n, k)}{r_2(n, k)} := \frac{F(n, k+1)}{F(n, k)}$  and  $\frac{s_1(n, k)}{s_2(n, k)} := \frac{F(n, k)}{F(n-1, k)}$ .

$$\frac{F(n+j, k)}{F(n, k)} = \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} \frac{F(n+j-i, k)}{F(n+j-i-1, k)} = \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} \frac{s_1(n+j-i, k)}{s_2(n+j-i, k)}$$

# 1: reshaping and rearranging terms

Substituting  $\frac{r_1(n,k)}{r_2(n,k)} := \frac{F(n,k+1)}{F(n,k)}$  and

$$\frac{F(n+j,k)}{F(n,k)} = \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} \frac{F(n+j-i,k)}{F(n+j-i-1,k)} = \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} \frac{s_1(n+j-i,k)}{s_2(n+j-i,k)}$$

into  $\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j,k+1)/F(n,k+1)}{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j,k)/F(n,k)} \cdot \frac{F(n,k+1)}{F(n,k)}$ :

We get  $\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j \left( \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} \frac{s_1(n+j-i,k+1)}{s_2(n+j-i,k+1)} \right) \cdot r_1(n,k)}{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j \left( \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} \frac{s_1(n+j-i,k)}{s_2(n+j-i,k)} \right) \cdot r_2(n,k)}$ .

# 1: reshaping and rearranging terms

goal: expression of the form  $\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p_0(k+1)}{p_0(k)} \frac{r(k)}{s(k)}$

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j \left( \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} \frac{s_1(n+j-i, k+1)}{s_2(n+j-i, k+1)} \right) \cdot r_1(n, k)}{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j \left( \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} \frac{s_1(n+j-i, k)}{s_2(n+j-i, k)} \right) \cdot r_2(n, k)}$$
 is equal to

$$\frac{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j \left( \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} s_1(n+j-i, k+1) \prod_{r=j+1}^J s_2(n+r, k+1) \right)}{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j \left( \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} s_1(n+j-i, k) \prod_{r=j+1}^J s_2(n+r, k) \right)} \cdot \frac{r_1(n, k) \prod_{r=1}^J s_2(n+r, k)}{r_2(n, k) \prod_{r=1}^J s_2(n+r, k+1)}$$

# 1: reshaping and rearranging terms

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j \left( \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} s_1(n+j-i, k+1) \prod_{r=j+1}^J s_2(n+r, k+1) \right)}{\sum_{j=0}^J a_j \left( \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} s_1(n+j-i, k) \prod_{r=j+1}^J s_2(n+r, k) \right)} \cdot \frac{r_1(n, k) \prod_{r=1}^J s_2(n+r, k)}{r_2(n, k) \prod_{r=1}^J s_2(n+r, k+1)}$$

is now an expression of the form  $\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p_0(k+1)}{p_0(k)} \frac{r(k)}{s(k)}$ .

Where:  $p_0(k) = \sum_{j=0}^J a_j \left( \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} s_1(n+j-i, k) \prod_{r=j+1}^J s_2(n+r, k) \right)$ ,

$r(k) = r_1(n, k) \prod_{r=1}^J s_2(n+r, k)$ ,

$s(k) = r_2(n, k) \prod_{r=1}^J s_2(n+r, k+1)$ .

Remark:  $\{a_j\}_{j=0}^J$  just appear in  $p_0(k)$ .

## Example

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## 1: example

$$f(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} F(n, k) \text{ with } F(n, k) = \binom{2n}{2k}$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j, k) = G(n, k+1) - G(n, k)$$

Assume  $J=1$ .

# 1: example

$$t_k := \sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j, k) \text{ and } F(n, k) = \binom{2n}{2k}$$

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{a_0 \binom{2n}{2k+2} + a_1 \binom{2n+2}{2k+2}}{a_0 \binom{2n}{2k} + a_1 \binom{2n+2}{2k}}$$

Goal: bring this in the form  $\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p_0(k+1)}{p_0(k)} \frac{r(k)}{s(k)}$

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{a_0 \binom{2n}{2k+2} + a_1 \binom{2n+2}{2k+2}}{a_0 \binom{2n}{2k} + a_1 \binom{2n+2}{2k}} = \frac{a_0 \frac{2n!}{(2k+2)!(2n-2k-2)!} + a_1 \frac{(2n+2)!}{(2k+2)!(2n-2k)!}}{a_0 \frac{2n!}{(2k)!(2n-2k)!} + a_1 \frac{(2n+2)!}{2k!(2n-2k+2)!}}$$

$$= \frac{a_0 \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2k+2)} + a_1 \frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)}{(2k+1)(2k+2)(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k)}}{a_0 \frac{1}{(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k)} + a_1 \frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)}{(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k)(2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2)}}$$

# 1: example

$$\frac{a_0 \frac{1}{(2k+1)(2k+2)} + a_1 \frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)}{(2k+1)(2k+2)(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k)}}{a_0 \frac{1}{(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k)} + a_1 \frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)}{(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k)(2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2)}}$$

Expand with  $(2n - 2k - 1)(2n - 2k)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{a_0 \frac{(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k)}{(2k+1)(2k+2)} + a_1 \frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)}{(2k+1)(2k+2)}}{a_0 + a_1 \frac{(2n+1)(2n+2)}{(2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2)}} \\ &= \frac{a_0(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k) + a_1(2n+1)(2n+2)}{a_0(2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2) + a_1(2n+1)(2n+2)} \cdot \frac{(2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2)}{(2k+1)(2k+2)} \end{aligned}$$

## 1: example

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{a_0(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k)+a_1(2n+1)(2n+2)}{a_0(2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2)+a_1(2n+1)(2n+2)} \cdot \frac{(2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2)}{(2k+1)(2k+2)}$$

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p_0(k+1)}{p_0(k)} \frac{r(k)}{s(k)}$$

So it holds

$$p_0(k) = a_0(2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2) + a_1(2n+1)(2n+2),$$

$$r(k) = (2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2),$$

$$s(k) = (2k+1)(2k+2).$$

**Second part of the algorithm:  
use of the previous chapter  
about Gosper's algorithm**

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## 2: use of the previous chapter about Gosper's algorithm

### Theorem 5.3.1

Let  $K$  be a field of characteristic zero and  $r \in K[n]$  a nonzero rational function. Then there exist polynomials  $a, b, c \in K[n]$  such that  $b, c$  are monic and  $r(n) = \frac{a(n)}{b(n)} \frac{c(n+1)}{c(n)}$ , where

1.  $\gcd(a(n), b(n+k)) = 1$  for every nonnegative integer  $k$ ,
2.  $\gcd(a(n), c(n)) = 1$ ,
3.  $\gcd(b(n), c(n+1)) = 1$ .

So we write  $\frac{r(k)}{s(k)}$  as  $\frac{r(k)}{s(k)} = \frac{p_1(k+1)}{p_1(k)} \cdot \frac{p_2(k)}{p_3(k)}$ .

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p_0(k+1)}{p_0(k)} \frac{r(k)}{s(k)}$$

## 2: use of the previous chapter about Gosper's algorithm

Now we define  $p(k)$ :  $p(k) = p_0(k) p_1(k)$

$p_0$  was defined earlier as follows:

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p_0(k+1)}{p_0(k)} \frac{r(k)}{s(k)} \text{ with}$$

$$p_0(k) = \sum_{j=0}^J a_j \left( \prod_{i=0}^{j-1} s_1(n+j-i, k) \prod_{r=j+1}^J s_2(n+r, k) \right)$$

By the definition of  $p(k)$ ,  $\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p_0(k+1)}{p_0(k)} \frac{r(k)}{s(k)}$  and  $\frac{r(k)}{s(k)} = \frac{p_1(k+1)}{p_1(k)} \cdot \frac{p_2(k)}{p_3(k)}$  we get  $\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p(k+1)}{p(k)} \cdot \frac{p_2(k)}{p_3(k)}$ .

Remark: Coefficients of  $p_2(k)$  and  $p_3(k)$  are independent of  $\{a_j\}_{j=0}^J$  and  $p(k)$  depends on  $\{a_j\}_{j=0}^J$  only linearly.

## 2: use of the previous chapter about Gosper's algorithm

$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p(k+1)}{p(k)} \cdot \frac{p_2(k)}{p_3(k)}$  setup for Gosper's algorithm

$t_k$  is an indefinitely summable hypergeometric term if and only if the recurrence formula  $p_2(k) b(k+1) - p_3(k-1) b(k) = p(k)$  has a polynomial solution  $b(k)$ .

Remark: A hypergeometric term  $t_k$  is indefinitely summable if  $\sum_{k=0}^a t_k$  has a closed form, where  $a$  is an arbitrary upper bound.

Find an upper bound on the degree of the polynomial  $b(k)$  (page 85, chapter 5).



## 2: use of the previous chapter about Gosper's algorithm

$$z_n = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} e_k, \quad r(k) = \frac{e_{k+1}}{e_k}$$

goal:  $z_n$  such that  $z_{n+1} - z_n = e_n$  (1)

$z(n) := y(n)e_n$ ,  $y(n)$  unknown rational function

substituting  $y(n)e_n$  for  $z_n$  in (1), we get:  $r(n)y(n+1) - y(n) = 1$  (2)

$$r(n) = \frac{a(n)}{b(n)} \frac{c(n+1)}{c(n)} \quad (3)$$

we look for  $y(n)$  in the form  $y(n) = \frac{b(n-1)x(n)}{c(n)}$ ,  $x(n)$  (4) rational function of  $n$

substituting (3) and (4) into (2) leads to

$a(n)x(n+1) - b(n-1)x(n) = c(n)$  (5), theorem 5.2.1:  $x(n)$  is a polynomial

finding hypergeometric solutions of  $z_{n+1} - z_n = t_n$  equivalent to finding polynomial solution of (5), if  $x(n)$  is a nonzero polynomial solution of (5), then  $z_n = \frac{b(n-1)x(n)}{c(n)} e_n$

## 2: example

part 1:  $\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p_0(k+1)}{p_0(k)} \frac{r(k)}{s(k)}$

part 2: find the canonical form  $\frac{r(k)}{s(k)} = \frac{p_1(k+1)}{p_1(k)} \cdot \frac{p_2(k)}{p_3(k)}$

$$r(k) = (2n - 2k + 1)(2n - 2k + 2) = 4n^2 + 4k^2 + 2 - 8kn + 6n - 6k$$

$$s(k) = (2k + 1)(2k + 2) = 4k^2 + 6k + 2$$

$$\frac{r(k)}{s(k)} = \frac{1}{1} \cdot \frac{2n^2 + 2k^2 + 1 - 4kn + 3n - 3k}{2k^2 + 3k + 1}$$

So we have  $p_1(k) = 1$ ,  $p_1(k+1) = 1$ ,

$$p_2(k) = 2n^2 + 2k^2 + 1 - 4kn + 3n - 3k,$$

$$p_3(k) = 2k^2 + 3k + 1.$$

## 2: example

We write  $\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k}$  as

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p(k+1)}{p(k)} \cdot \frac{p_2(k)}{p_3(k)}$$

$$(p(k) = p_0(k) p_1(k) = a_0(2n - 2k + 1)(2n - 2k + 2) + a_1(2n + 1)(2n + 2))$$

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{a_0(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k)+a_1(2n+1)(2n+2)}{a_0(2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2)+a_1(2n+1)(2n+2)} \cdot \frac{2n^2+2k^2+1-4kn+3n-3k}{2k^2+3k+1}$$

## 2: example

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{p(k+1)}{p(k)} \cdot \frac{p_2(k)}{p_3(k)}$$

$$\frac{t_{k+1}}{t_k} = \frac{a_0(2n-2k-1)(2n-2k)+a_1(2n+1)(2n+2)}{a_0(2n-2k+1)(2n-2k+2)+a_1(2n+1)(2n+2)} \cdot \frac{2n^2+2k^2+1-4kn+3n-3k}{2k^2+3k+1}$$

$$p_2(k) b(k+1) - p_3(k-1) b(k) = p(k)$$

$$(2n^2 + 2k^2 + 1 - 4kn + 3n - 3k) b(k+1) - (2k^2 - k) b(k) =$$

$$a_0(2n - 2k + 1)(2n - 2k + 2) + a_1(2n + 1)(2n + 2)$$

By page 85 in chapter 5 of the book we find out that  $b(k)$  has degree 1, we write  $b(k)$  as  $b(k) = c + dk$ .

**Third part of the algorithm:  
solve system of linear equations**

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### 3: solve system of linear equations

A: upper bound for  $b(k)$ ,  $b(k) = \sum_{l=0}^A c_l k^l$ .

Substitute this into  $p_2(k) b(k+1) - p_3(k-1) b(k) = p(k)$ .

We get a system of linear equations (by doing coefficient comparison) with the unknown coefficients  $\{a_j\}_{j=0}^J$  and  $\{c_l\}_{l=0}^A$ .

Solve the system, we get the coefficients  $\{a_j\}_{j=0}^J$  of the recurrence formula  $\sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j, k) = G(n, k+1) - G(n, k)$ .

### 3: solve system of linear equations

Additionally, by equation (5.2.5) in chapter 5.2 we get  $G(n,k)$ :

$$\text{Equation 5.2.5: } y(n) = \frac{b(n-1)x(n)}{c(n)}.$$

$$\text{Therefore we can conclude } G(n, k) = \frac{p_3(k-1)}{p(k)} b(k) t_k.$$

Remark: The system of linear equations has usually not a unique solution but the solution is determined up to a constant.

$$\sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j, k) = G(n, k+1) - G(n, k)$$

## 2: use of the previous chapter about Gosper's algorithm

$$z_n = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} e_k, \quad r(k) = \frac{e_{k+1}}{e_k}$$

goal:  $z_n$  such that  $z_{n+1} - z_n = e_n$  (1)

$z(n) := y(n)e_n$ ,  $y(n)$  unknown rational function

substituting  $y(n)e_n$  for  $z_n$  in (1), we get:  $r(n)y(n+1) - y(n) = 1$  (2)

$$r(n) = \frac{a(n)}{b(n)} \frac{c(n+1)}{c(n)} \quad (3)$$

we look for  $y(n)$  in the form  $y(n) = \frac{b(n-1)x(n)}{c(n)}$ ,  $x(n)$  (4) rational function of  $n$

substituting (3) and (4) into (2) leads to

$a(n)x(n+1) - b(n-1)x(n) = c(n)$  (5), theorem 5.2.1:  $x(n)$  is a polynomial

finding hypergeometric solutions of  $z_{n+1} - z_n = t_n$  equivalent to finding polynomial solution of (5), if  $x(n)$  is a nonzero polynomial solution of (5), then  $z_n = \frac{b(n-1)x(n)}{c(n)} e_n$



### 3: example

$$(2n^2 + 2k^2 + 1 - 4kn + 3n - 3k) b(k + 1) - (2k^2 - k) b(k) = a_0(2n - 2k + 1)(2n - 2k + 2) + a_1(2n + 1)(2n + 2)$$

$$b(k) = c + dk$$

By doing coefficient comparison, we can create a system of linear equations:

- $2n^2c + c + 3nc + 2n^2d + d + 3nd = 4a_0n^2 + 2a_0 + 6a_0n + 4a_1n^2 + 6a_1n + 2a_1$
- $-4nkc - 3kc + 2n^2dk + dk + 3ndk - 4ndk - 3kd + kc = -8a_0kn - 6a_0k$
- $2k^2c - 4nk^2d - 3k^2d + 2k^2d - 2k^2c + dk^2 = 4a_0k^2$

When we solve this with maple, we get:

$$c = -3/2nd - d, a_0 = -nd, a_1 = nd/4, d = d$$

### 3: example

The solution is only determined up to constants. If we choose  $d=4$ , we get  $a_0 = -4n$  and  $a_1 = n$ . This leads to the recurrence

$$nF(n+1, k) - 4nF(n, k) = G(n, k+1) - G(n, k).$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^J a_j(n) F(n+j, k) = G(n, k+1) - G(n, k)$$

Scenario A (as  $J=1$ ):

$$f(n) = f(1) \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} -\frac{a_0}{a_1} = 2 \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} -\frac{-4n}{n} = 2 \cdot 4^{n-1} = 2 \cdot 2^{2n-2} = 2^{2n-1}$$

for  $n \geq 1$ .

$$f(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{2n}{2k} = 2^{2n-1}$$

**End**

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