

A conjecture on simultaneous cores

There has been extensive recent literature counting core partitions with various constraints. Recall that an integer partition is an s -core if it has no hooks of length s . Given a list (finite or infinite) of integers s_1, s_2, \dots , an (s_1, s_2, \dots) -core means a partition which is an s_i -core for every i . It is well-known that the number of such partitions is finite if and only if the integers s_1, s_2, \dots are coprime, and there are several results giving an exact enumeration in certain cases. One of these is a recent paper [CHS] of Cho, Huh and Sohn, which considers the set of $(s, s + d, \dots, s + pd)$ -cores for given positive integers s, d, p with s and d coprime. They show that these cores are in bijection with rational Motzkin paths satisfying certain conditions, and use this to give a (quite complicated) formula [CHS, Theorem 1.5] for the number of $(s, s + d, \dots, s + pd)$ -cores.

Here we consider the limit as $p \rightarrow \infty$; that is, we consider the number of $(s, s + d, s + 2d, \dots)$ -cores. We conjecture a particular form for the number of such partitions, as follows.

Conjecture 0.1. *Suppose $d \geq 1$. Then there is a monic polynomial f_d of degree $d - 1$ with non-negative integer coefficients such that for any $s \geq 1$ coprime to d the number of $(s, s + d, s + 2d, \dots)$ -cores is*

$$\frac{2^{s-d} f_d(s)}{d!}.$$

The constant term of f_d is $(2^d - 1)(d - 1)!$, and if $d \geq 2$ then $f_d(s)$ is divisible by $s + d + (-1)^d$.

If this conjecture is true, then the first few $f_d s$ are as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(s) &= 1, \\ f_2(s) &= s + 3, \\ f_3(s) &= (s + 2)(s + 7), \\ f_4(s) &= (s + 5)(s^2 + 13s + 18), \\ f_5(s) &= (s + 4)(s^3 + 26s^2 + 171s + 186), \\ f_6(s) &= (s + 7)(s^4 + 38s^3 + 419s^2 + 1342s + 1080), \\ f_7(s) &= (s + 6)(s + 3)(s^4 + 54s^3 + 931s^2 + 5454s + 5080), \\ f_8(s) &= (s + 9)(s^6 + 75s^5 + 1999s^4 + 23169s^3 + 115768s^2 + 232284s + 142800), \\ f_9(s) &= (s + 8)(s^7 + 100s^6 + 3778s^5 + 68056s^4 \\ &\quad + 606961s^3 + 2543284s^2 + 4524300s + 2575440), \\ f_{10}(s) &= (s + 11)(s^8 + 124s^7 + 5986s^6 + 143944s^5 + 1836529s^4 \\ &\quad + 12358156s^3 + 42005484s^2 + 64730736s + 33747840), \\ f_{11}(s) &= (s + 10)(s^9 + 155s^8 + 9670s^7 + 314150s^6 + 5748073s^5 \\ &\quad + 59986235s^4 + 347628480s^3 + 1057047300s^2 + 1502341776s + 742815360). \end{aligned}$$

Please let me know if you manage to prove this!

References

[CHS] H. Cho, J. Huh & J. Sohn, ‘The $(s, s + d, \dots, s + pd)$ -core partitions and the rational Motzkin paths’, arXiv:2001.06651. [1]