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HIGHER-ORDER DIFFERENCES AND HIGHER-ORDER PARTIAL SUMS OF EULER'S PARTITION FUNCTION *

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Dedicated to Professor Mihail Megan on the occasion of his 70th anniversary

Abstract

We provide generalizations for Euler's recurrence relation for the partition function p(n) and the recurrence relation for the partial sums of the partition function p(n). As a corollary, we derive an infinite family of inequalities for the partition function p(n). We present few infinite families of determinant formulas for: the partition function p(n), the finite differences of the partition function p(n) and the higher-order partial sums of the partition function p(n).

MSC: 05A19, 05A20

keywords: partitions, finite differences, partial sums

1 Introduction

Let n be a positive integer. In order to indicate that $\lambda = [\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k]$ is a partition of n, i.e.,

$$n = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_k,$$

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