

Derivation of explicit formulas

$a(n)$: Number of ways of making change for n cents using coins of $1=c(1) < c(2) < \dots < c(k)$ cents.

General recurrence (explanation in [A187243](#)):

$$f(n, 1) = 1$$

$1 < j \leq k$: $f(0, j) = 1$ or, for $n > 0$:

$$(a) \quad f(n, j) = \sum_{m=0}^{n \operatorname{div} c(j)} f(n - m * c(j), j - 1)$$

$$(b) \quad = \sum_{m=0}^{n \operatorname{div} c(j)} f(n \operatorname{mod} c(j) + m * c(j), j - 1) \quad , \text{ transformation } m \rightarrow n \operatorname{div} c(j) - m$$

$$a(n) = f(n, k)$$

Integer division: $a \operatorname{div} b = (a - a \operatorname{mod} b)/b = \operatorname{floor}(a/b)$.

[A187243](#), $c(1) = 1, c(2) = 5, c(3) = 10$:

$$a(n) = (q+1) \cdot (q+1+s) \text{ with } q = n \operatorname{div} 10 \text{ and } s = (n \operatorname{mod} 10) \operatorname{div} 5$$

Derivation:

Let $q = n \operatorname{div} 10$ and $r = n \operatorname{mod} 10$, i.e. $n = 10q + r$ with $0 \leq r \leq 9$.

$$f(n, 3) = \sum_{m=0}^q f(r + 10m, 2) \quad , \text{ see recurrence (b)}$$

$$= \sum_{m=0}^q f(r' + 5 * (2m + s), 2) \text{ with } s = r \operatorname{div} 5 \text{ and } r' = r \operatorname{mod} 5$$

$$f(5 \cdot (r' + 2m + s), 2) = \sum_{\mu=0}^{2m+s} f(r' + 5\mu + s, 1) = \sum_{\mu=0}^{2m+s} 1 = 2m + 1 + s$$

$$a(n) = f(n, 3) = \sum_{m=0}^q (2m + 1 + s) = q(q+1) + (q+1)(1+s) = (q+1)(q+1+s), \text{ q.e.d.}$$

Another formula:

$$a(n) = f(n, 3) = \operatorname{floor}\left(\frac{(x+10)^2}{100}\right) \text{ with } x = n - n \operatorname{mod} 5$$

[A001299](#), $c(1) = 1, c(2) = 5, c(3) = 10, c(4) = 25$

$$a(n) = \operatorname{round}((100x^3 + 135x^2 + 53x)/6) + 1 \text{ with } x = \operatorname{floor}(n/5)/10$$

Derivation:

1) $n = 50x$ (note that $50 = \operatorname{LCM}(5, 10, 25)$):

$$f(n, 3) = (q+1) \cdot (q+1+s) \text{ with } q = n \operatorname{div} 10 \text{ and } s = (n \operatorname{mod} 10) \operatorname{div} 5$$

$$f(n, 4) = \sum_{m=0}^{n \operatorname{div} 25} f(25m, 3)$$

$$a) \quad m=2\mu, f(50\mu) = (5\mu+1)^2$$

$$b) \quad m=2\mu+1, f(25+50\mu) = (5\mu+3)(5\mu+4)$$

$$f(n, 4) = \sum_{\mu=0}^x f(50\mu, 3) + \sum_{\mu=0}^{x-1} f(25 + 50\mu, 3)$$

$$= \sum_{\mu=0}^x (25\mu^2 + 10\mu + 1) + \sum_{\mu=0}^{x-1} (25\mu^2 + 35\mu + 12)$$

$$= \sum_{\mu=0}^{x-1} (50\mu^2 + 45\mu + 13) + 25x^2 + 10x + 1$$

$$= \frac{50}{6}x(x-1)(2x-1) + \frac{45}{2}x(x-1) + 13x + 25x^2 + 10x + 1$$

$$= \frac{1}{6}(100x^3 + 135x^2 + 53x + 6) \quad (1)$$

2) Other cases:

Obviously: $a(n_1) = a(n_2)$ when $n_1 \operatorname{div} 5 = n_2 \operatorname{div} 5$ because $\operatorname{GCD}(5, 10, 25) = 5$.

Or let $n=5y+z$ with $z= n \bmod 5$. When the change for 5y cents is done the change for the remaining z cents is fixed.

As a special result, formula (1) holds for $n = 50x + r$ with $0 \leq r \leq 4$:

$$a(n) = \frac{1}{6}(100x^3 + 135x^2 + 53x + 6) \text{ with } x = \text{floor}(n/5)/10 \text{ instead of } x=n/50 \quad (2)$$

3) Remaining cases:

$$n = 50x + 5y, 1 \leq y \leq 9$$

The analysis of these cases is straightforward but arduous. The deviations from formula (2) are small and can be compensated by the round-function.

[A000008](#), $c(1) = 1, c(2) = 2, c(3) = 5, c(4) = 10$.

$$a(n) = (q + 1) \left(\text{round} \left(\frac{(n+4)^2}{20} \right) - \frac{1}{6}q(3n - 10q + 7) \right)$$

$$f(n, 3) = \text{round} \left(\frac{(n+4)^2}{20} \right), \text{ see A000115}$$

$$f(n, 4) = \sum_{m=0}^q f(n - 10m, 3), q = n \text{ div } 10, \text{ see recurrence (a)}$$

$$f(n-10m, 3) = \text{round} \left(\frac{(n+4-10m)^2}{20} \right) = f(n, 3) - (n+4)m + 5m^2$$

$$f(n, 4) = (q+1) \cdot f(n, 3) - \frac{n+4}{2}q(q+1) + \frac{5}{6}q(q+1)(2q+1)$$

$$f(n, 4) = (q + 1) \left(\text{round} \left(\frac{(n+4)^2}{20} \right) - \frac{1}{6}q(3n - 10q + 7) \right)$$