

Quiz # 10 for Dr. Z.'s Number Theory Course for Dec. 5, 2013

NAME: (print!) _____

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1. An *extremely distinct* partition of n is a sequence of integers

$$(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_t) \quad ,$$

such that

$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_t = n \quad ,$$

and

$$\lambda_1 - \lambda_2 \geq 2 \quad \lambda_2 - \lambda_3 \geq 2 \quad , \dots \quad , \lambda_{t-1} - \lambda_t \geq 2$$

and

$$\lambda_t > 0 \quad ,$$

Let $q(n)$ be the number of partitions of n , and $q(n, k)$ be the number of extremely distinct partitions of n whose largest part is k .

(i) (5 points) Explain why

$$q(n, k) = \sum_{r=1}^{k-2} q(n - k, r) \quad ,$$

and, of course

$$q(n, n) = 1 \quad .$$

(ii) Use the above recurrence, and

$$q(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n q(n, k)$$

to compute $q(n)$ for $1 \leq n \leq 5$.