

A note on Kyle Petersen's conjecture ([3])

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It is well known (cf. [1]) that the Fibonacci polynomials $F_n(x, s) = \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor} \binom{n-1-j}{j} s^j x^{n-1-2j}$ satisfy

$$F_n(x+y, -xy) = \frac{x^n - y^n}{x-y}$$

and the Lucas polynomials $L_n(x, s) = \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \frac{n}{n-j} \binom{n-j}{j} s^j x^{n-2j}$ with $L_0(x, s) = 2$ satisfy

$$L_n(x+y, -xy) = x^n + y^n.$$

Consider the Kyle map $K\left(\sum_j (-1)^j \gamma_j q^j (1+q)^{n-2j}\right) = \sum_j \gamma_j$ which (as Richard Stanley [2] observed) satisfies $K(f(q)g(q)) = K(f(q))K(g(q))$.

Since $K\left(\frac{1-q^n}{1-q}\right) = K(F_n(1+q, -q)) = F_n(1, 1) = F_n$ the above mentioned result

$$K([n]!) = \prod_{j=1}^n F_j \text{ follows.}$$

In the same way $K(1+q^n) = K(L_n(1+q, -q)) = L_n(1, 1) = L_n$ where $(L_n) = (2, 1, 3, 4, 7, 11, 18, \dots)$ is the sequence of Lucas numbers.

$$\text{Thus } K\left(\prod_{j=1}^n (1+q^j)\right) = \prod_{j=1}^n L_j.$$

References

[1] H. W. Gould, A Fibonacci formula of Lucas and its subsequent manifestations and rediscoveries, Fib. Quart. 15 (1977), 25-29

[2] R. Stanley, Email message ,
<http://www.math.rutgers.edu/~zeilberg/mamarim/mamarimhtml/kylefb.html>

[3] D. Zeilberger, Proof of Kyle Petersen's amazing conjecture relating the q- and Fibonacci analogs of n!, <http://www.math.rutgers.edu/~zeilberg/mamarim/mamarimhtml/kylefb.html>