Admissible Functions and Asymptotics for Labelled Structures by Number of Components

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Submitted: August 19, 1996; Accepted: November 27, 1996

Abstract

Let $a(n,k)$ denote the number of combinatorial structures of size n with k components. One often has $\sum_{n,k} a(n,k)x^n y^k/n! = \exp\{yC(x)\}$, where $C(x)$ is frequently the exponential generating function for connected structures. How does $a(n,k)$ behave as a function of k when n is large and $C(x)$ is entire or has large singularities on its circle of convergence? The Flajolet-Odlyzko singularity analysis does not directly apply in such cases. We extend some of Hayman's work on admissible functions of a single variable to functions of several variables. As applications, we obtain asymptotics and local limit theorems for several set partition problems, decomposition of vector spaces, tagged permutations, and various complete graph covering problems.

1991 AMS Classification Numbers. Primary: 05A16
Secondary: 05A18, 15A03, 41A60

1. Introduction

A variety of combinatorial structures can be decomposed into components so that the generating function for all structures is the exponential of the generating function for components: $A(x) = e^{C(x)}$. (This is a single variable instance of the *exponential formula.*) In this case, $A(x,y) = e^{yC(x)}$ is the generating function for structures by number of components and is an ordinary generating function in y. For the present discussion, we assume $C(x)$ is an exponential generating function. One often wishes to study $a_{n,k} = [x^n y^k/n!]A(x,y)$, the number of k-component structures of size n. In particular, one may ask how $a_{n,k}$ varies with k for fixed large n. From a somewhat different viewpoint, one may want to study the probability distribution for the random variable X_n given by $\Pr(X_n = k) = a_{n,k} \big/ \sum_k a_{n,k}$ as $n \to \infty$.

One approach is to observe that $k!\, a_{n,k} = [x^n/n!](C(x))^k$. Such methods are useful for estimating the larger coefficients of $(C(x))^k$ as n varies and k is large, which is not the same as studying the larger values of $a_{n,k}$ for fixed n. Consequently, one may find that the method only yields estimates in the tail of the distribution of X_n. See Gardy [7] for a discussion of these methods. However, it is sometimes possible to extend the range to include the larger values of $a_{n,k}$. See Drmota [3], especially Section 3.

Working directly with $A(x,y)$ is likely to provide estimates for the larger coefficients rather than tail probabilities. Unfortunately, multivariate generating functions have proven to be recalcitrant subjects for asymptotic analysis. When $A(x,y)$ has small singularities, methods akin to Darboux's Theorem may be useful. See Flajolet and Soria [5] and Gao and Richmond [6] for examples. See Odlyzko [12] for an extensive discussion of asymptotic methods.

In order to study a variety of single-variable functions with large singularities, Hayman [10] defined a class of admissible functions in such a way that (a) class members have useful properties and (b) class membership can easily be established for a variety of functions. We refer to his functions as H-admissible. Hayman's results include:

- If p is a polynomial and the coefficients of e^p are eventually strictly positive, then e^p is H-admissible.
- If f is H-admissible, so is e^f.
- If f and g are H-admissible, so is fg.

In [2] we made a somewhat ill-considered attempt to extend his notions to multivariate generating functions. In this paper we present a simpler alternative definition which has applications to the problems described in the first paragraph and which includes H-admissible functions as a special single variable case.

The next section contains our definition for a class of admissible functions and an estimate for coefficients of such functions. Section 3 provides theorems for establishing the admissibility of a variety of functions, especially those related to counting structures by number of components of various types via the exponential formula. Applications are presented in Section 4. Proofs of the theorems are given in Section 5.

2. Definitions and Asymptotics

Let $\mathbf{x}$ be d-dimensional, let $\mathbb{R}_+$ be the positive reals, and let $\mathbf{r}e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}}$ be the vector whose kth component is $r_k e^{i\theta_k}$. Suppose $f(\mathbf{x})$ has a power series expansion $\sum a_{\mathbf{n}}\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{n}}$ where $\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{n}}$ is the product of $x_k^{n_k}$. The lattice $\Lambda_f \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d$ is the $\mathbb{Z}$-module spanned by the differences of those $\mathbf{n}$ for which $a_{\mathbf{n}} \neq 0$. We *assume* that Λ_f is d-dimensional. Let $d(\Lambda_f)$ be the absolute value of the determinant of a basis of Λ_f. In other words, $d(\Lambda_f)$ is the reciprocal of the density of Λ_f in $\mathbb{Z}^d$. The polar lattice $\Lambda_f^* \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ is the $\mathbb{Z}$-module of vectors $\mathbf{v}$ such that $\mathbf{v}\cdot\mathbf{u}$ is an integer for all $\mathbf{u} \in \Lambda_f$. If $\mathbf{v}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{v}_d$ is a $\mathbb{Z}$-basis for Λ_f^*, a *fundamental region* for f is the parallelepiped

$$\Phi(f) = \Big\{c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + \cdots + c_d\mathbf{v}_d \;\Big|\; -\pi \le c_k \le \pi \ \text{ for } \ 1 \le k \le d\Big\}.$$

Since the basis for a lattice is not unique, neither is $\Phi(f)$. If coefficients $a_{\mathbf{n}}$ are nonzero for all sufficiently large $\mathbf{n}$, then $\Lambda_f^* = \Lambda_f = \mathbb{Z}^d$, $d(\Lambda_f) = 1$, and we may take $\Phi(f) = [-\pi,\pi]^d$.

We say that $f(x) = o_{u(x)}(g(x))$ for x in some set $\mathcal{S}$ if there is a function $\lambda(t) \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$ such that $|f(x)/g(x)| \le \lambda(|u(x)|)$ for all $x \in \mathcal{S}$. The extension to equations involving little-oh expressions is done in the usual manner.

If B is a square matrix, $|B|$ denotes the determinant of B. We use $\mathbf{v}'$ and S' to denote the transpose of the vector $\mathbf{v}$ and the matrix S.

Definition of Admissibility. Let f be a d-variable function that is analytic at the origin and has a fundamental region $\Phi(f)$. When Λ_f is d-dimensional, we say that $f(\mathbf{x})$ is *admissible in* $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathbb{R}_+^d$ *with angles* Θ if there are (i) a function Θ from $\mathcal{R}$ to open subsets of $\Phi(f)$ containing $\mathbf{0}$ and (ii) functions

$$\mathbf{a} : \mathbb{C}^d \to \mathbb{C}^d \ \text{ and } \ B : \mathbb{C}^d \to \mathbb{C}^{d\times d}$$

such that

(a) $f(\mathbf{x})$ is analytic whenever $\mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{R}$ and $|x_i| \le r_i$ for all i;

(b) $B(\mathbf{r})$ is positive definite for $\mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{R}$;

(c) the diameter of $\Theta(\mathbf{r})$ is $o_u(1)$, where $u = |B(\mathbf{r})|$;

(d) for $\mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{R}$, $u = |B(\mathbf{r})|$, and $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta(\mathbf{r})$, we have

$$f(\mathbf{r}e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = f(\mathbf{r})\big(1 + o_u(1)\big)\exp\Big\{i\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{r})'\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}'B(\mathbf{r})\boldsymbol{\theta}/2\Big\}; \tag{1}$$

(e) For $\mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{R}$, $u = |B(\mathbf{r})|$, and $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ in the complement of $\Theta(\mathbf{r})$ relative to $\Phi(f)$, we have

$$f(\mathbf{r}e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = o_u\big(f(\mathbf{r})\big) \;/\; |B(\mathbf{r})|^{1/2}. \tag{2}$$

We say f is *super-admissible* if (2) can be replaced by

$$f(\mathbf{r}e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = o_u\big(f(\mathbf{r})\big) \;/\; |B(\mathbf{r})|^t \tag{3}$$

for all t, where o_u may depend on t.

Usually one can let $\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x})$ and $B(\mathbf{x})$ be the gradient and Hessian of $\log f$ with respect to $\log \mathbf{x}$; that is,

$$a_i(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{x_i \partial f}{f \partial x_i} \quad \text{and} \quad B_{i,j} = x_j \frac{\partial a_i}{\partial x_j} = B_{j,i}.$$

We call these the *gradient* $\mathbf{a}$ and B.

Since H-admissible functions satisfy $b(r) \to \infty$ as $r \to R$, it is easily verified that this definition includes H-admissible functions. The asymptotic result for H-admissible functions holds for our admissible functions:

Theorem 1. *Suppose $f(\mathbf{x})$ is admissible in $\mathcal{R}$. Let $\mathbf{k}$ be any vector such that $[\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}}]f(\mathbf{x}) \neq 0$, let $u = |B(\mathbf{r})|$, and let $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{r}) - \mathbf{n}$. Then*

$$[\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{n}}]\, f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{d(\Lambda_f) f(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{r}^{-\mathbf{n}}}{(2\pi)^{d/2} |B(\mathbf{r})|^{1/2}} \Big(\exp\big\{ -\mathbf{v}^{\mathrm{t}} B(\mathbf{r})^{-1} \mathbf{v}/2 \big\} + o_u(1) \Big) \tag{4}$$

for $\mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{R}$ and $\mathbf{n} - \mathbf{k} \in \Lambda_f$.

3. Classes of Admissible Functions

In this section we state various theorems that allow us to establish admissibility for generating functions for a variety of combinatorial structures. We begin with two theorems for multiplying admissible functions: Theorem 2 allows us to combine structures of similar size and Theorem 3 allows us to make (minor) modifications in our structures. Theorem 4 allows us to do simple multisection of admissible functions; that is, limit attention to structures with simple congruence properties. As already remarked H-admissible functions are admissible (with gradient $\mathbf{a} = a$ and $B = b$). In addition, the exponentials of polynomials considered in Theorems 2 and 3 of [2] are superadmissible. The proofs given there suffice, but the notation differs somewhat: $\Theta(\mathbf{r})$ is called $\mathcal{D}(\mathbf{r})$. It seems likely that one could extend the results in [2] to larger classes of polynomials and/or larger domains $\mathcal{R}$. In Theorems 5–7 we construct a variety of admissible functions of the form $\exp\{yC(x)\}$.

Suppose f is admissible in $\mathcal{R}$ with angles Θ. Suppose there are variables not appearing in f. We extend $\mathcal{R}$ and Θ to include these variables by forming the Cartesian product of $\mathcal{R}$ with copies of $(0, \infty)$ and the Cartesian product of Θ with copies of $[-\pi, \pi]$. We extend $\mathbf{a}$ and B by adding entries of zeroes; however, we ignore the appended coordinates when computing $|B|$ and when determining admissibility.

Theorem 2. *We assume the various objects associated with f and g are extended as described above so that they include the same set of variables. Suppose that*

- *f is super-admissible in $\mathcal{R}$ with angles Θ_f;*
- *g is super-admissible in $\mathcal{R}$ with angles Θ_g;*
- *$|B_f(\mathbf{r}) + B_g(\mathbf{r})|$ is unbounded on $\mathcal{R}$;*
- *there are constants C and k such that*

$$|B_f(\mathbf{r}) + B_g(\mathbf{r})| \le C \min\bigl(|B_f(\mathbf{r})|^k,\ |B_g(\mathbf{r})|^k\bigr) \quad \textit{for} \quad \mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{R}. \tag{5}$$

Then fg is super-admissible in $\mathcal{R}$ with angles $\Theta_{fg}(\mathbf{r}) = \Theta_f(\mathbf{r}) \cap \Theta_g(\mathbf{r})$. Furthermore, $\Lambda_{fg} = \Lambda_f + \Lambda_g$, the the set of vectors $\mathbf{u}+\mathbf{v}$ where $\mathbf{u} \in \Lambda_f$ and $\mathbf{v} \in \Lambda_g$, and we may take

$$\mathbf{a}_{fg} = \mathbf{a}_f + \mathbf{a}_g \quad \textit{and} \quad B_{fg} = B_f + B_g,$$

There are two important observations concerning Theorem 2:

- In using it, one normally chooses $\mathcal{R}$ to be as big a subset as possible of $\mathcal{R}_f \cap \mathcal{R}_g$ such that (5) holds.
- Hayman shows that, if $f(x)$ is H-admissible, then so is $f(x) + p(x)$ when $p(x)$ is a polynomial. This is not true for admissible functions. For example, if $f(x) = g(x^2)$ is admissible, $f(x) + x$ is not. This problem could be avoided if we changed the definition of Λ_f to use only sufficiently large n rather than all n. Unfortunately Theorem 2 would fail because, for example e^{x^2} and $e^{x^2} + x$ would be super-admissible but their product would not be.

Theorem 3. *Suppose that f is admissible (resp. super-admissible) in $\mathcal{R}$ with angles Θ and that $g(\mathbf{r}e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}})$ is analytic for $\mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{R}$. Let $u = |B_f(\mathbf{r})|$. Suppose that there are $\mathbf{a}_g$ and B_g such that*

(a) $\Lambda_g \subseteq \Lambda_f$;

(b) for $\mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{R}$ *and* $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta(\mathbf{r})$,

$$g(\mathbf{r}e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = g(\mathbf{r}) \exp\bigl\{i\mathbf{a}_g(\mathbf{r})'\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}' B_g(\mathbf{r})\boldsymbol{\theta} + o_u(1)\bigr\}; \tag{6}$$

(c) there is a constant C such that $|g(\mathbf{r}e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}})| \le C g(\mathbf{r})$ for $\mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{R}$;

(d) there is a constant C such that $|B_f(\mathbf{r}) + B_g(\mathbf{r})| \le C|B_f(\mathbf{r})|$ for $\mathbf{r} \in \mathcal{R}$.

Then fg is admissible (resp. super-admissible) in $\mathcal{R}$ with angles Θ and we may take

$$\mathbf{a}_{fg} = \mathbf{a}_f + \mathbf{a}_g \quad \textit{and} \quad B_{fg} = B_f + B_g,$$

There are three important observations concerning Theorem 3:

- We do not assume that g is admissible.

- One may need to extend $\mathbf{a}_g$ and B_g as described before Theorem 2. In this case, Λ_g should also be extended by adding components containing zeroes to its vectors.
- If $\mathbf{a}_g$ and B_g are so small that (6) reduces to $g(\mathbf{r}e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = g(\mathbf{r})\big(1+o_u(1)\big)$, the contribution of g to the asymptotics in Theorem 1 is simply a factor of $g(\mathbf{r})$.

Theorem 4. *Let $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum a_{\mathbf{n}}\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{n}}$ be a d-variable admissible (resp. super-admissible) function. Let Λ be a sublattice of Λ_f and suppose $\mathbf{k}$ is such that $a_{\mathbf{k}} \neq 0$. Define*

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{n}\in\Lambda} a_{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{n}}\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{k}+\mathbf{n}}.$$

We may take $\Phi(g) \subseteq \Phi(f)$. The function g is admissible (resp. super-admissible) with

$$\Lambda_g = \Lambda,\quad \mathbf{a}_g = \mathbf{a}_f,\quad B_g = B_f,\quad \mathcal{R}_g = \mathcal{R}_f,\quad \text{and}\quad \Theta_g = \Theta_f.$$

Theorem 5. *Suppose that*

- *$f(x) = \sum a_n x^n$ is an H-admissible function with $a_0 = 0$ and (possibly infinite) radius of convergence R;*
- *$\mathcal{K}$ is a subset of $\{0, 1, \ldots, m-1\}$;*
- *λ_k are nonnegative reals for $0 \le k < m$ with $\lambda_k > 0$ if and only if $k \in \mathcal{K}$.*

Define $\lambda_n = \lambda_k$ whenever $n \equiv k \pmod m$,

$$g(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda_n a_n x^n, \tag{7}$$

and $\overline{\lambda} = \left(\sum_{k=0}^{m-1}\lambda_k\right)/m$. Then:

(a) For some $R_0 < R$, the function $h(x) = e^{g(x)}$ is super-admissible in $\mathcal{R} = \{r \mid R_0 < r < R\}$ with angles

$$\Theta(r) = \left\{\theta \;\middle|\; |\theta| < 1/g(r)^{1/3+\epsilon}\right\}$$

and the gradient $\mathbf{a}$ and B, provided $\epsilon > 0$ is sufficiently small. Also

$$a_h(r) \sim \overline{\lambda} r f'(r) \quad\text{and}\quad B_h(r) \sim \overline{\lambda} r (r f'(r))'.$$

If d denotes the greatest common divisor of m and the elements of $\mathcal{K}$, then Λ_h is generated by (d); that is, $\Lambda_h = \mathbb{Z}(d)$.

(b) For some $R_0 < R$ and all $\delta > 0$, the function $h(x,y) = e^{yg(x)}$ is super-admissible in

$$\mathcal{R} = \left\{(r,s) \;\middle|\; R_0 < r < R \;\text{ and }\; g(r)^{\delta-1} < s < g(r)^{1/\delta}\right\}.$$

with angles

$$\Theta(r,s) = \left\{ \boldsymbol{\theta} \;\middle|\; |\theta_k| < 1/(sg(r))^{1/3+\epsilon} \right\}$$

and the gradient $\mathbf{a}$ *and* B*, provided* $\epsilon > 0$ *is sufficiently small. Also*

$$\mathbf{a}_h(r,s) \sim \overline{\lambda} s \begin{pmatrix} rf'(r) \\ f(r) \end{pmatrix}, \quad B_h(r,s) \sim \overline{\lambda} s \begin{pmatrix} r(rf'(r))' & rf'(r) \\ rf'(r) & f(r) \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$|B_h(r,s)| = \frac{s^2}{2} \sum_{n,k} (n-k)^2 \lambda_n a_n \lambda_k a_k r^{n+k}. \tag{8}$$

If $k \in \mathcal{K}$ *and* d *denotes the greatest common divisor of* m *and differences of pairs of elements of* $\mathcal{K}$*, then* Λ_h *is generated by* $(k,1)$ *and* $(d,0)$*; that is* $\Lambda_h = \mathbb{Z}(d,0) + \mathbb{Z}(k,1)$.

Theorem 6. *Suppose that*

- $f(x)$ *is analytic in* $|x| < 1$ *with* $f(0) = 1$ *and* $f(x) \neq 0$ *for* $|x| < 1$*;*
- $x^{-k} \log f(x)$ *has a power series expansion in powers of* x^m *for some integers* k *and* m *with* $0 \le k < m$*;*
- $C(r)$ *is a positive function on* $(0,1)$ *with*

$$(1-r)\frac{C'(r)}{C(r)} \to 0 \quad \textit{as} \quad r \to 1;$$

- *there exist positive constants* α *and* β *with* $\beta < 1$ *such that*

$$\log f(x) \sim C(|x|)(1-x)^{-\alpha} \quad \textit{as} \quad x \to 1$$

uniformly for $|\arg x| \le \beta(1-r)$ *and such that*

$$\left|\log f(re^{i\theta})\right| \le \left|\log f(re^{i\beta(1-r)})\right| \quad \textit{for} \quad \beta(1-r) \le |\theta| \le \pi/m. \tag{9}$$

Then, with $g(r) = \log f(r)$*:*

(a) For some $R_0 < 1$*, the function* $f(x)$ *is super-admissible in* $\mathcal{R} = \{r \mid R_0 < r < 1\}$ *with angles*

$$\Theta(r) = \left\{ \theta \;\middle|\; |\theta| < (1-r)/g(r)^{1/3+\epsilon} \right\}$$

and the gradient $\mathbf{a}$ *and* B*, provided* $\epsilon > 0$ *is sufficiently small. Also* $\Lambda_f = \mathbb{Z}(d)$ *where* $d = \gcd(k,m)$*.*

(b) For some $R_0 < 1$ *and all* $\delta > 0$*, the function* $h(x,y) = f(x)^y$ *is super-admissible in*

$$\mathcal{R} = \left\{ (r,s) \;\middle|\; R_0 < r < 1 \ \text{ and } \ g(r)^{\delta-1} < s < g(r)^{1/\delta} \right\}.$$

with angles

$$\Theta(r,s) = \left\{(\theta,\varphi) \;\middle|\; |\theta| < (1-r)/(sg(r))^{1/3+\epsilon} \ \text{ and } \ |\varphi| < 1/(sg(r))^{1/3+\epsilon}\right\}$$

and the gradient $\mathbf{a}$ *and* B, *provided* $\epsilon > 0$ *is sufficiently small. Also* $\Lambda_h = \mathbb{Z}(m,0) + \mathbb{Z}(1,k)$.

Theorem 7. *Suppose that* $f(x) = \sum a_n x^n$ *has radius of convergence* $R > 0$ *and that* $a_n \geq 0$ *for all* n. *Let* $\nu(r)$ *be the value of* n *such that* $a_n r^n$ *is a maximum. Suppose that, for every* $\epsilon > 0$, $\nu(r) = o(f(r)^\epsilon)$ *as* $r \to R$. *Suppose that there exist* $\rho < 1$, A, *a function* $K(m) > 0$ *and an* N *depending on* ρ, A, *and* K *such that, for all* $\nu = \nu(r) > N$ *and all* $k > 0$,

$$A\rho^k \geq \frac{a_t r^t}{a_\nu r^\nu} \quad \textit{where} \quad t = \nu \pm k \tag{10}$$

and

$$K(m) \leq \frac{a_j r^j}{a_\nu r^\nu} \quad \textit{whenever} \quad |j - \nu| \leq m. \tag{11}$$

Then $f(x)$ *is entire and the conclusions of Theorem 5 hold for it.*

4. Applications

Admissibility allows one to compute asymptotics for the coefficients of a variety of generating functions, but the accuracy of the method is limited by one's ability to estimate the solution of $\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{n}$ and then estimate $f(\mathbf{r})$ and $\mathbf{r}^\mathbf{n}$ accurately. On the other hand, admissibility allows one to establish asymptotic normality rather easily, and obtaining asymptotic estimates for the means and covariances is usually fairly easy: Suppose our generating function is of the form $f(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y})$ and is ordinary in $\mathbf{y}$. Partition all vectors and matrices into block form according the the two sets of variables $\mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{y}$. Let $a_{\mathbf{n},\mathbf{k}}$ be the coefficients of f. Set $\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{1}) = (\mathbf{n},\mathbf{k}^*)$, solve for $\mathbf{r}$ asymptotically in terms of $\mathbf{n}$ and use this to compute $\mathbf{k}^*$ and $B(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{1})$ asymptotically as functions of $\mathbf{n}$. Let $\mathbf{n}$ go to infinity in a way that $(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{1}) \in \mathcal{R}$ and $|B| \to \infty$. From Theorem 1 and the formula ([13, pp. 25–26])

$$\begin{pmatrix} B_{1,1} & B_{1,2} \\ B'_{1,2} & B_{2,2} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} A & C \\ C' & D^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where} \quad D = B_{2,2} - B'_{1,2}(B_{1,1})^{-1}B_{1,2}, \tag{12}$$

it follows that $a_{\mathbf{n},\mathbf{k}}/\sum_\mathbf{k} a_{\mathbf{n},\mathbf{k}}$ satisfies a local limit theorem with means vector and covariance matrix asymptotic to $\mathbf{k}^*$ and D, respectively. When $\mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{y}$ are 1-dimensional, $D = |B|/B_{1,1}$.

Example 1 (Stirling Numbers of the Second Kind). With multivariate situations, it is important to know the range of values of the subscripts of the coefficients (rather than the variables in the generating function) for which the asymptotics applies. We examine $\exp\{y(e^x-1)\}$, the generating function for $S(n,k)$, the Stirling numbers of the second kind. Let $|x|=r$ and $|y|=s$. Since $f(x)=e^x-1$ is H-admissible, we can apply Theorem 5(b) with $m=1$ and $\lambda_0=1$. (There is no multisection.) Then

$$\mathbf{a}(r,s)=s\begin{pmatrix} re^r \\ e^r-1 \end{pmatrix},\quad B(r,s)=s\begin{pmatrix} (r^2+r)e^r & re^r \\ re^r & e^r-1 \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$\mathcal{R}=\left\{(r,s)\;\middle|\; R_0<r \text{ and } e^{r(\delta-1)}<s<e^{r/\delta}\right\}.$$

Setting $\mathbf{a}=(n,k)$, we obtain

(i) $n/k\sim r$ and

(ii) the value of r lies between the solutions of $n=re^{r\delta}$ and $n=re^{r(1+1/\delta)}$.

Thus r is between roughly $\delta\log n$ and $\log n/\delta$. It follows from this and (i) that we have admissibility as long as $(k\log n)/n$ is bounded away from 0 and ∞. Consequently, for any positive constants c and C, Theorem 1 provides uniform asymptotics for $S(n,k)$ when

$$\frac{cn}{\log n}<k<\frac{Cn}{\log n}. \tag{13}$$

If, instead, we set $\mathbf{a}(r,1)=(n,k^*)$, we obtain the equations $n=re^r$ and $k^*=e^r-1$. Hence $r\sim\log n$ and $k^*\sim n/\log n$. Using (12), we obtain

$$D=(e^r-1)-(re^r)^2/(r^2+r)e^r\sim e^r/r\sim n/(\log n)^2$$

and so $S(n,k)$ satisfies a local limit theorem with mean and variance asymptotic to $n/\log n$ and $n/(\log n)^2$, respectively, a result obtained by Harper [9]. ∎

Example 2 (Other Set Partitions). The coefficient of $y_1^{k_1}y_2^{k_2}\cdots x^n/n!$ in

$$f(x,\mathbf{y})=\exp\left\{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}y_kx^k/k!\right\} \tag{14}$$

is the number of partitions of an n-set with exactly k_i blocks of size i. In the previous example, we set $y_i=y$ for all y. Other results are possible, particularly when one is interested in residue classes modulo m. Some illustrative examples follow.

Let $\mathcal{K}\subset\{0,1,\ldots,m-1\}$ and set $y_i=1$ when i modulo m is in $\mathcal{K}$ and 0 otherwise. Since e^x-1 is H-admissible, $g(x)=f(x,\mathbf{y})$ is admissible by Theorem 5(a). The coefficient of $x^n/n!$ is the number of set partitions of a n-set with block sizes congruent modulo m to elements in $\mathcal{K}$.

Suppose, instead, we set $y_i=y$ when i modulo m is in $\mathcal{K}$ and 0 otherwise. Then Theorem 5(b) applies and the coefficient of $x^ny^k/n!$ in $g(x,\mathbf{y})$ is the number of partitions of an n-set with exactly k blocks all of whose sizes are congruent modulo m to elements in $\mathcal{K}$. Asymptotic normality follows as it did for the Stirling numbers and the mean and variance are asymptotically the same as we found there.

If all but a finite number of $y_i = 0$ and the rest are equal to y, $f(x, \mathbf{y})$ is the exponential of a polynomial and admissibility follows by the methods in [2] unless the polynomial is a monomial.

Not every choice of which y_i are zero leads to an admissible function. For example, it can be shown that $f(x) = \exp\left\{\sum x^{n_k}/(n_k)!\right\}$ is not admissible if the n_k grow sufficiently rapidly since $f(re^{i\theta})/f(r)$ is not sufficiently small when r is near n_k and θ is a multiple of $2\pi/n_k$.

From (14), $\left[x^n y_e^{k_e} y_o^{k_o}/n!\right]\left(\exp\left\{y_e(\cosh x - 1)\right\}\exp\left\{y_o \sinh x\right\}\right)$ is the number of partitions of an n-set that have k_e blocks of even size and k_o blocks of odd size. By Theorem 5(b), $f(x, y_e) = \exp\left\{y_e(\cosh x - 1)\right\}$ and $g(x, y_o) = \exp\left\{y_o \sinh x\right\}$ are super-admissible and

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{R}_f = \mathcal{R}_g &= \left\{(r,s) \;\middle|\; R_0 < r \;\text{ and }\; e^{(\delta-1)r} < s < e^{r/\delta}\right\} \\
\Theta_f = \Theta_g &= \left\{\boldsymbol{\theta} \;\middle|\; |\theta_k| < (e^{-r}/s))^{1/3+\epsilon}\right\} \\
B_f(r, s_e) &= s_e \begin{pmatrix} r^2\cosh r + r\sinh r & r\sinh r \\ r\sinh r & \cosh r - 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
B_g(r, s_o) &= s_o \begin{pmatrix} r^2\sinh r + r\cosh r & r\cosh r \\ r\cosh r & \sinh r \end{pmatrix}.
\end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Hence

$$|B_f| = s_e^2 r(\sinh r - r)(\cosh r - 1) \sim s_e^2 r e^{2r}/4$$

and

$$|B_g| = s_o^2 r(\sinh r\cosh r - r) \sim s_o^2 r e^{2r}/4.$$

We now apply Theorem 2. Since

$$B_f + B_g = \begin{pmatrix} r(rs_e + s_o)\cosh r + r(rs_o + s_e)\sinh r & rs_e\sinh r & rs_o\cosh r \\ rs_e\sinh r & s_e(\cosh r - 1) & 0 \\ rs_o\cosh r & 0 & s_o\sinh r \end{pmatrix},$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
|B_f + B_g| &= rs_e s_o(\cosh r - 1)\big(s_e\sinh r(\sinh r - r) + s_o(\cosh r\sinh r - r)\big) \\
&\sim s_e s_o(s_e + s_o) r e^{3r}/8.
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that fg is super-admissible in

$$\mathcal{R} = \left\{(r, s_e, s_o) \;\middle|\; R_0 < r \;\text{ and }\; e^{(\delta-1)r} < s_e, s_o < e^{r/\delta}\right\}$$

with angles

$$\Theta(r, s_e, s_o) = \left\{\boldsymbol{\theta} \;\middle|\; |\theta_k| < (e^{-r}/\max(s_e, s_o)))^{1/3+\epsilon}\right\}.$$

Consequently we obtain asymptotics for the coefficients provided $k_e \log n/n$ and $k_o \log n/n$ are bounded away from 0 and ∞.

Suppose we want to count partitions by the number of non-singleton blocks. The generating function is $f(x,y)g(x)$ where

$$f(x,y) = \exp\{y(e^x - x - 1)\} \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = e^x.$$

Apply Theorem 5(b) without multisection to show that f is super-admissible with angles

$$\Theta(r,s) = \Big\{\boldsymbol{\theta} \;\Big|\; |\theta_k| < (e^{-r}/s)^{1/3+\epsilon}\Big\}.$$

Now apply Theorem 3. The conditions on g are easily checked. In particular, one must verify (6) for $|\theta| < e^{-\delta r}$. In this range

$$\exp\{re^{i\theta}\} = \exp\{r\big(1 + O(\theta)\big)\} \sim e^r.$$

Unfortunately, the theorems do not allow us to do the complementary problem—count partitions by number of singleton blocks using the generating function $e^{xy}\exp\{e^x - 1 - x\}$.

Fix integers k and m. Let $a_{n,j}$ be the number of partitions of an n-set into j blocks such that the total number of elements in blocks of odd cardinality is congruent to k modulo m. The generating function is fh where

$$f(x,y) = \exp\{y(\cosh x - 1)\}, \quad g(x,y) = \exp\{y \sinh x\},$$

and $h(x,y)$ is the sum of those terms in g for which the power of x modulo m is k. By Theorem 5, f and g are super-admissible with the $\mathcal{R}$, Θ and B given by (15). By Theorem 4 with $\Lambda = m\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$, h is super-admissible. By Theorem 2, fh is super-admissible and, furthermore, we may take $\mathcal{R}$ and B to be as in Example 1. It follows that asymptotics are obtainable for $a(n,j)$ whenever (13) holds. ∎

Example 3 (Decompositions of Vector Spaces). Let $D_{n,k}(q)$ be the number of decompositions of an n-dimensional vector space over GF(q) as a direct sum of k nonzero subspaces where the order of the subspaces is irrelevant. It follows from Example 11 of Bender and Goldman [1] that

$$h(x,y) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{D_{n,k}(q)x^n y^k}{c_n} = e^{yf(x)} \quad \text{where} \quad f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{c_n} \tag{16}$$

and $c_n = (q^n - 1)\cdots(q^n - q^{n-1})$. Let C_i stand for some positive constant. We apply Theorem 7 without multisection. Note that $c_n \sim Qq^{n^2}$ where $Q = \prod(1 - q^{-k})$. The largest term in $f(r)$ is near the solution ν of $r = q^{2\nu}$. If $m = \nu \pm t$ is a positive integer, then a simple calculation shows that

$$C_1 q^{-t^2} < \frac{r^m/c_m}{r^\nu/Qq^{\nu^2}} < C_2 q^{-t^2}.$$

Thus Theorem 7 applies. We obtain $n/k \sim \nu = (\log_q r)/2$. Since $C_3 q^{\nu^2} < f(r) < C_4 q^{\nu^2}$ and the theorem requires $f(r)^\delta < sf(r) < f(r)^{1/\delta}$, it follows that $\epsilon(\log n)^{1/2} < \nu < (\log n)^{1/2}/\epsilon$. Thus asymptotics are obtained when $k(\log n)^{1/2}/n$ is bounded away from 0 and ∞.

By solving $(n,k^*) = \mathbf{a}(r,1) = (rf'(r), f(r))$ for r and k^*, the asymptotic formula gives us a local limit theorem for $D_{n,k}(q)$ as $n \to \infty$. We now study the asymptotic mean and variance. Define ν and δ as functions of r by

$$\nu = \big[(\log_q r)/2\big] = (\log_q r)/2 - \delta.$$

Using $\nu \to \infty$, (10), (11), and (8), we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(r) &\sim \frac{1}{Q}\sum_{t=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{r^{\nu+t}}{q^{(\nu+t)^2}} = \frac{q^{\nu^2+2\delta\nu}}{Q}\sum_{t=-\infty}^{\infty}\frac{1}{q^{t^2-2\delta t}} \\ rf'(r) &\sim \frac{\nu q^{\nu^2+2\delta\nu}}{Q}\sum_{t=-\infty}^{\infty}\frac{1}{q^{t^2-2\delta t}} \sim \nu f(r) \\ r(rf'(r))' &\sim \frac{\nu^2 q^{\nu^2+2\delta\nu}}{Q}\sum_{t=-\infty}^{\infty}\frac{1}{q^{t^2-2\delta t}} \sim \nu^2 f(r) \\ |B(r,1)| &\sim \frac{q^{2\nu^2+4\delta\nu}}{2Q^2}\sum_{t,u=-\infty}^{\infty}\frac{(t-u)^2}{q^{t^2+u^2-2\delta(t+u)}} \sim \frac{q^{2\nu^2+4\delta\nu}(S_2S_0-S_1^2)}{Q^2}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$S_k = S_k(\delta,q) = \sum_{t=-\infty}^{\infty}\frac{t^k}{q^{t^2-2\delta t}}.$$

From $n = r'f(r)$ we have $\log_q n \sim \nu^2$ and so $\nu \sim \sqrt{\log_q n}$. Thus the mean k^* is asymptotic to $n/\sqrt{\log_q n}$. Since the variance is given by $|B|/B_{1,1}$, we have

$$\text{variance} \sim \frac{C(\delta,q)n}{(\log_q n)^{3/2}} \quad \text{where} \quad C(\delta,q) = \frac{S_2S_0 - S_1^2}{S_0^2}.$$

To evaluate the sums $C(\delta,q)$, one needs to know δ and this depends on more detailed knowledge of ν and r than we have obtained. However, we can say something about it:

- We have $C(\delta+1,q) = C(\delta,q) = C(-\delta,q)$ from which it follows that $C(\delta,q)$ is determined by its values on $0 \le \delta \le 1/2$.
- By using the $t=0$ and ± 1 terms in S_k we find that,

$$\text{for fixed } \delta \text{ and } q \to \infty,\ \ C(\delta,q) \sim \begin{cases} 2/q, & \text{if } \delta = 0 \\ 1/q^{1-2\delta}, & \text{if } 0 < \delta < 1/2 \\ 1/4, & \text{if } \delta = 1/2. \end{cases}$$

- Since $r \sim q^{2\nu}$ and $n = rf'(r)$, which is between $C\nu q^{\nu^2}$ and $C'\nu q^{\nu^2}$, we have $r \sim \exp\left\{2\log q\sqrt{\log_q n}\right\}$. Hence, as $n \to \infty$, $C(\delta(n), q)$ approaches a periodic function of $\exp\left\{2\log q\sqrt{\log_q n}\right\}$. Since the period of δ as a function of r is 1, its period in terms of n is about

$$n\sqrt{\log_q n}\,\exp\left\{-2\log q\sqrt{\log_q n}\right\}.$$

If we use the Eulerian generating function with $c_n = (q^n-1)\cdots(q-1)$ in (16), we obtain similar results with q replaced by $q^{1/2}$ and $D_{n,k}(q)$ counts direct sum decompositions into orthogonal subspaces. ■

Example 4 (Tagged Permutations). A *tagged permutation* is a permutation written in one-line form together with a distinguished increasing subsequence. Following Flajolet and Sedgewick [4], the generating function is given by

$$h(x,y) = \frac{1}{1-x}\exp\left\{\frac{xy}{1-x}\right\},$$

where the exponential variable x keeps track of permutation length and the ordinary variable y keeps track of distinguished subsequence length. Lifschitz and Pittel [11] and Flajolet and Sedgewick [4] obtained asymptotics for the coefficients of $h(x,1)$ using real and complex analysis, respectively. Using Theorem 6(b) with $f(x) = \frac{x}{1-x}$ and $C(r) = 1$, we see that $f(x,y) = \exp\left\{\frac{xy}{1-x}\right\}$ is super-admissible. One easily computes

$$\mathbf{a}_f(r,s) = s\begin{pmatrix}\frac{r}{(1-r)^2}\\ \frac{r}{1-r}\end{pmatrix}, \quad B_f(r,s) = s\begin{pmatrix}\frac{r(1+r}{(1-r)^3} & \frac{r}{(1-r)^2}\\ \frac{r}{(1-r)^2} & \frac{r}{1-r}\end{pmatrix},$$

and $|B_f(r,s)| = \frac{r^3s^2}{(1-r)^4}$.

We now apply Theorem 3 with $g(x,y) = \frac{1}{1-x}$ to conclude that $h(x,y)$ is super-admissible. Only (6) requires any effort. For $(\theta,\varphi) \in \Theta_f(r,s)$, where Θ_f is given by Theorem 6(b), we have

$$\log(1-re^{i\theta}) = \log(1-r) + O(\theta/(1-r)) = \log(1-r) + O\left(\left(\tfrac{1-r}{s}\right)^{1/3+\epsilon}\right).$$

Using the definition or $\mathcal{R}$ in Theorem 6 and the above formula for $|B_f(r,s)|$, one easily verifies that the big-oh is $o_u(1)$.

Let $t(n,k)$ be the number of n-long tagged permutations with tags of length k. It follows from the above work that $t(n,k)$ is asymptotically normal as $n \to \infty$, with mean and variance asymptotic to $\sqrt{n}$ and $\sqrt{n}/2$, respectively. It also follows from the formula for $\mathcal{R}$ that asymptotics can be obtained for tagged permutations whenever $(1-r)^{1-\delta} < s < (1-r)^{-1/\delta}$. Since $k \sim \frac{s}{1-r}$ and $n \sim \frac{s}{(1-r)^2}$, some algebra shows that we can obtain asymptotics whenever $n^{\delta/(1+\delta)} < k < n^{(1+\delta)/(1+2\delta)}$; that is, we can obtain asymptotics for $t(n,k)$ as $n \to \infty$ provided $n^{\epsilon} < k < n^{1-\epsilon}$ for some $\epsilon > 0$. ■

Example 5 (Covering Complete Graphs). A cover of the complete graph with graphs of some specified type is simply the number of sets of graphs of that type such that the total number of vertices is n. The exponential formula $f(x,y) = e^{yg(x)}$ applies, where $g(x)$ is the exponential generating function for graphs of the desired type. Here are some examples taken from problems 3.3.5–7 in Goulden and Jackson's text [8, p. 187].

- The generating function for coverings with complete graphs is $\exp\{y(e^x-1)\}$, which was studied in Example 1.
- The generating function for coverings with complete bipartite graphs having at least one vertex in each part of the bipartition is $\exp\{y(e^x-1)^2/2\}$ and Theorem 5(b) applies.
- The generating function for coverings with star graphs is $\exp\{y(xe^x - x^2/2)\}$ and Theorem 5(b) applies. (A star graph on $k \ge 1$ vertices is a tree consisting of one vertex of degree $k-1$ to which the remaining $k-1$ vertices are attached.)
- The generating function for coverings with paths is $\exp\left\{\frac{yx(2-x)}{2(1-x)}\right\}$ and Theorem 6(b) applies. ■

5. Proofs of Theorems

Throughout the proofs, ϵ and C stand for positive constants, *not necessarily the same at each occurrence.* The value of ϵ is intended to be small whereas C need not be. References to results in [10] have an H prefixed as in Theorem H.II.

Proof (of Theorem 1): We follow essentially the same argument as in [10] and [2]. With $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum a_{\mathbf{n}}\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{n}}$ and d the dimension of $\mathbf{x}$, we have

$$a_{\mathbf{n}}\mathbf{r}^{\mathbf{n}} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^d} \underset{[-\pi,\pi]^d}{\int \cdots \int} f(\mathbf{r}e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}}) \exp\{-i\mathbf{n}'\boldsymbol{\theta}\}\, d\boldsymbol{\theta}.$$

Suppose that $a_{\mathbf{n}} \ne 0$. Let $\mathbf{u} \in \Lambda_f^*$. The integrand is invariant when $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ is replaced by $\boldsymbol{\theta} + 2\pi\mathbf{u}$ because $\mathbf{u}'(\mathbf{m}-\mathbf{n})$ is an integer whenever $a_{\mathbf{m}} \ne 0$. It follows that we can restrict the integral to $\Phi(f)$ and multiply the result by $(2\pi)^d/\mathrm{vol}(\Phi(f)) = d(\Lambda_f)$.

Let $\Theta^*(\mathbf{r})$ be the largest set of $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ such that $c\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta(\mathbf{r})$ when $0 < c < 1$. Note the following:

- The interior of $\Theta^*(\mathbf{r})$ is contained in $\Theta(\mathbf{r})$.
- $\exp\{-\boldsymbol{\theta}'B\boldsymbol{\theta}/2\} = o_u(1)/|B(\mathbf{r})|^{1/2}$ on the boundary of $\Theta^*(\mathbf{r})$ because no points on the boundary of $\Theta^*(\mathbf{r})$ are in $\Theta(\mathbf{r})$.

- For every $\boldsymbol{\theta}$, there is an $\epsilon(\mathbf{r})$ such that $\epsilon\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta^*(\mathbf{r})$ because the origin is in the interior of $\Theta(\mathbf{r})$.

Since B is positive definite, replacing $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ by $c\boldsymbol{\theta}$ with $c > 1$ increases $\boldsymbol{\theta}' B \boldsymbol{\theta}$ and so

$$\exp\{-\boldsymbol{\theta}' B \boldsymbol{\theta}/2\} = o_u(1)/|B(\mathbf{r})|^{1/2} \quad \text{for all } \ \boldsymbol{\theta} \notin \Theta^*(\mathbf{r}). \tag{17}$$

It follows that

$$a_{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{r}^{\mathbf{n}} \ = \ \frac{d(\Lambda_f)}{(2\pi)^d} \underset{\Theta^*(r)}{\int \cdots \int} f(\mathbf{r} e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}}) \exp\{-i\mathbf{n}'\boldsymbol{\theta}\}\, d\boldsymbol{\theta} \ + \ \frac{o_u(f(\mathbf{r}))}{|B(\mathbf{r})|^{1/2}}.$$

Using (1) for $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta^*(\mathbf{r})$ gives us

$$f(\mathbf{r} e^{i\boldsymbol{\theta}}) \exp\{-i\mathbf{n}'\boldsymbol{\theta}\} = f(\mathbf{r})\big(1 + o_u(1)\big) \exp\Big\{i\mathbf{v}'\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}' B(\mathbf{r}) \boldsymbol{\theta}/2\Big\}.$$

Since B is positive definite, we can write $B = S'S$ for some real $d \times d$ matrix S. With $\mathbf{y} = S\boldsymbol{\theta}$ and $\mathbf{w}^2 = \mathbf{w}'\mathbf{w}$,

$$\begin{aligned} i\mathbf{v}'\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}' B \boldsymbol{\theta}/2 &= i\mathbf{v}' S^{-1} \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^2/2 \\ &= -\big((S')^{-1}\mathbf{v}\big)^2/2 - \big(\mathbf{y} - i(S')^{-1}\mathbf{v}\big)^2/2 \\ &= -\mathbf{v}' B^{-1} \mathbf{v}/2 - \big(\mathbf{y} - i(S')^{-1}\mathbf{v}\big)^2/2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} &\underset{\Theta^*}{\int \cdots \int} \exp\{i\mathbf{v}'\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}' B(\mathbf{r}) \boldsymbol{\theta}/2\}\, d\boldsymbol{\theta} \\ &= \frac{\exp\big\{-\mathbf{v}' B(\mathbf{r})^{-1}\mathbf{v}/2\big\}}{|B(\mathbf{r})|^{1/2}} \underset{S\Theta^*}{\int \cdots \int} \exp\big\{-\big(\mathbf{y} - i(S')^{-1}\mathbf{v}\big)^2/2\big\} d\mathbf{y} \\ &= \frac{\exp\big\{-\mathbf{v}' B(\mathbf{r})^{-1}\mathbf{v}/2\big\}}{|B(\mathbf{r})|^{1/2}} \underset{\mathbb{R}^d}{\int \cdots \int} \exp\big\{-\big(\mathbf{y} - i(S')^{-1}\mathbf{v}\big)^2/2\big\} d\mathbf{y} \\ &\quad + \frac{O(1) \exp\big\{-\mathbf{v}' B(\mathbf{r})^{-1}\mathbf{v}/2\big\}}{|B(\mathbf{r})|^{1/2}} \underset{\mathcal{T}}{\int \cdots \int} \exp\big\{-\mathbf{x}^2/2\big\} d\mathbf{x}, \end{aligned}$$

where, by (17), $\mathcal{T}$ is a set of $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ for which $\exp\big\{-\mathbf{x}^2/2\big\} = o_u(1)/|B|^{1/2}$. It follows that the integral over $\mathcal{T}$ is $o_u(1)$. The integral over $\mathbb{R}^d$ is the product of d integrals of the form

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\big\{-(y - ic)^2/2\big\}\, dy$$

and so equals $(2\pi)^{d/2}$. ■

Proof (of Theorem 2): Let $h = fg$. As already described before Theorem 2, we can extend the $\mathcal{R}$, Θ, $\mathbf{a}$ and B values for f and g to include all the variables in h. We can expand Λ as well by adding components which equal 0 to the vectors in Λ. Then Λ^* will no longer be a lattice—the corresponding components of vectors there can be any real numbers since a real number times 0 is 0.

For the function h, we must verify (a)–(d) and (3) in the definition of super-admissibility in Section 2. Property (a) is immediate.

We now prove (b). Since $\mathbf{v}'B_h\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}'B_f\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v}'B_g\mathbf{v}$ and since each summand is nonnegative by the positive semidefiniteness of the extended B_f and B_g, it follows that B_h is positive semidefinite. Suppose that $\mathbf{v}'B_h\mathbf{v} = 0$. Then $\mathbf{v}'B_f\mathbf{v} = 0$ and $\mathbf{v}'B_g\mathbf{v} = 0$. Since the original B_f is positive definite, the components of $\mathbf{v}$ associated with the variables of f must be 0. Similarly, the components of $\mathbf{v}$ associated with the variables of g must be 0. Hence $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ and so B_h is positive definite.

Using (5) and $\Theta_h = \Theta_f \cap \Theta_g$, we obtain (c) and (d).

Before proving (3), we prove the claim concerning Λ_h. Clearly $\Lambda_h \subseteq \Lambda_f + \Lambda_g$, but equality may fail due to cancellation of terms when computing fg. Note that

$$(\Lambda_f + \Lambda_g)^* = \Lambda_f^* \cap \Lambda_g^*$$

and the operator * reverses inclusion. Hence it suffices to prove that $\Lambda_h^* \subseteq \Lambda_f^* \cap \Lambda_g^*$. Suppose to the contrary that $\mathbf{v} \in \Lambda_h^*$ and $\mathbf{v} \notin \Lambda_f^* \cap \Lambda_g^*$, say $\mathbf{v} \notin \Lambda_f^*$. We may choose $\mathbf{r}$ so that $|B_h|$ is as large as we wish and hence also $|B_f|$ by (5). From (c) in the definition of admissibility, it follows that $\Theta_f + \mathbf{v}$ will be disjoint from $\Theta_f + \Lambda_f^*$ and so, by (3) for f and (5), we have $f(\mathbf{r}e^{2\pi i\mathbf{v}}) = o_u(f(\mathbf{r}))$. Since $\mathbf{v} \in \Lambda_h^*$, $h(\mathbf{r}e^{2\pi i\mathbf{v}}) = h(\mathbf{r})$, we have the contradiction

$$f(\mathbf{r})g(\mathbf{r}) = h(\mathbf{r}) = h(\mathbf{r}e^{2\pi i\mathbf{v}}) = f(\mathbf{r}e^{2\pi i\mathbf{v}})g(\mathbf{r}e^{2\pi i\mathbf{v}}) = o_u(1)f(\mathbf{r})g(\mathbf{r}).$$

This proves $\Lambda_h = \Lambda_f + \Lambda_g$ and also

$$\Lambda_h^* = \Lambda_f^* \cap \Lambda_g^*. \tag{18}$$

We now turn to (3). Since $\Lambda_f^* + \Lambda_g^*$ is a lattice, it follows that, whenever the diameters of $\Theta_f(\mathbf{r})$ and $\Theta_g(\mathbf{r})$ are sufficiently small,

$$\left(\Theta_f(\mathbf{r})+2\pi\Lambda_f^*\right)\cap\left(\Theta_g(\mathbf{r})+2\pi\Lambda_g^*\right) = \left(\Theta_f(\mathbf{r})\cap\Theta_g(\mathbf{r})\right)+2\pi\left(\Lambda_f^*\cap\Lambda_g^*\right) = \Theta_h(\mathbf{r})+2\pi\Lambda_h^*,$$

by (18) and the definition of Θ_h. Consequently, when $\min(|B_f(\mathbf{r})|, |B_g(\mathbf{r})|)$ is sufficiently small and $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ is in the complement of $\Theta_h(\mathbf{r})$ relative to $\Phi(h)$, (3) must hold for at least one of f and g. This implies (3) for h. ∎

Proof (of Theorem 3): Since $\Lambda_g \subseteq \Lambda_f$, it follows that $\Lambda_{fg} = \Lambda_f$. The remainder of the proof is straightforward and will be omitted. ∎

Proof (of Theorem 4): By multidimensional multisection of series,

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{d(\Lambda)} \sum_{\mathbf{v}\in\Lambda^*/\mathbb{Z}^d} f(\mathbf{x}e^{2\pi i\mathbf{v}})e^{-2\pi i\mathbf{v}'\mathbf{k}},$$

where the sum makes sense since $e^{-2\pi i\mathbf{v}'\mathbf{k}}$ and the vector $e^{2\pi i\mathbf{v}}$ are constant on a coset of $\Lambda^*/\mathbb{Z}^d$. Noting that, when $a_\mathbf{n} \neq 0$, the value of $e^{2\pi i\mathbf{v}'(\mathbf{n}-\mathbf{k})}$ is constant on a coset of Λ^*/Λ_f^*, we have

$$g(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{d(\Lambda)} \sum_{\mathbf{v}\in\Lambda^*/\Lambda_f^*} f(\mathbf{x}e^{2\pi i\mathbf{v}})e^{-2\pi i\mathbf{v}'\mathbf{k}}.$$

When the diameter of $\Theta_f(\mathbf{r})$ is sufficiently small it follows that, for $\arg(\mathbf{x}) \in \Theta_f(\mathbf{r})$, only the $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}+\Lambda_f^*$ term is large. Let $\Phi(g)$ be a fundamental region for Λ^* contained in $\Phi(f)$. If $\arg(\mathbf{x})$ is in the complement of $\Theta_f(\mathbf{r})$ in $\Phi(g)$, then none of $\arg(\mathbf{x})+2\pi\mathbf{v}$ is in $\Theta_f(\mathbf{r}) + \Phi(f)$. Hence $g(\mathbf{x})$ is small in this case. ■

The following two lemmas lay the foundation for proving Theorem 5.

Lemma 1. *In the notation of Theorem 5 with $F = e^f$ and $G = e^g$, we have $g(r) \sim \overline{\lambda}f(r)$,*

$$\begin{aligned} a_G(r) &= rg'(r) \sim \overline{\lambda}rf'(r) = \overline{\lambda}a_F(r) = o_u(g(r)^{1+\epsilon}),\\ B_G(r) &= r(rg'(r))' \sim \overline{\lambda}r(rf'(r))' = \overline{\lambda}B_F(r) = o_u(g(r)^{1+\epsilon}),\\ g(re^{i\theta}) &= g(r) + i\theta a_G(r) - \theta^2 B_G(r)/2 + o_u(\theta^3 g(r)^{1+\epsilon}) \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

for all $\epsilon > 0$.

Proof: Using the asymptotic formula for the coefficients of admissible functions and an argument like that in Hayman's proof of Theorem H.II, the results for a and B follow in a straightforward manner. The last equation follows from Taylor's Theorem with remainder:

$$H(\theta) = H(0) + H'(0)\theta + H''(0)\theta^2/2 + \int_0^\theta (t-\theta)^2 H'''(t)\,dt/2$$

with $H(\theta) = g(re^{i\theta})$ and the observation that for r sufficently near R,

$$|H'''(\theta)| \leq H'''(0) = O(r^3 f'''(r)) = O(f(r)^{1+\epsilon}),$$

where we used Theorem H.III for growth of derivatives. ■

Lemma 2. *Suppose f is H-admissible in $|x| < R$, g is given by (7), and $\mathcal{C}$ is a compact subset of $(0,\infty)$. Then there is an $R_1 < R$ depending on f, $\mathcal{C}$, and ϵ such that:*

(a) When d is as in Theorem 5(a),

$$\Re\big(g(re^{i\theta})\big) \leq g(r) - g(r)^{1-2c-\epsilon}$$

whenever $R_1 < r < R$, $c \in \mathcal{C}$, and $g(r)^{-c} \leq |\theta| \leq \pi/d$.

(b) When d is as in Theorem 5(b),

$$\left|g(re^{i\theta})\right| \le g(r) - g(r)^{1-2c-\epsilon}$$

whenever $R_1 < r < R$, $c \in \mathcal{C}$, and $g(r)^{-c} \le |\theta| \le \pi/d$.

Proof: To prove the existence of R_1, it suffices to consider a fixed $c \in \mathcal{C}$ since compactness of $\mathcal{C}$ allows us to take the maximum R_1.

Let $x = re^{i\theta}$. We assume that r is sufficiently near R for various asymptotic estimates given below. By H-admissibility, the coefficients of all sufficiently high powers of x in $f(x)$ are nonzero and $a_f(r) \to \infty$ as $r \to R$. Let r be so close to R that all coefficients of $f(x)$ with $n \ge a_f(r)$ are nonzero. Let t be the least integer such that $mt \ge a_f(r)$ and define $\alpha_k = a_{mt+k}x^{mt+k}$. By H-admissibility, we have

$$|\alpha_k| \sim f(r)/\sqrt{2\pi b_f(r)}.$$

Hayman proves that $b(r) = o(a(r)^2) = o(f(r)^\epsilon)$ for admissible functions. Using Lemma 1, it follows that $mt = o(g(r)^\epsilon)$ and $|\alpha_k| > Cg(r)^{1-\epsilon}$. Let θ_k be $(mt+k)\theta$ reduced modulo 2π so that $|\theta_k| \le \pi$. Then

$$|\alpha_k| - \Re\alpha_k = (1-\cos\theta_k)|\alpha_k| > Cg(r)^{1-\epsilon}\theta_k^2.$$

It suffices to show that there is some k for which $\lambda_k \ne 0$ and $|\theta_k| \ge g(r)^{-c-\epsilon}$.

Suppose there is no such k. By the gcd condition, there are integers μ and μ_k for $0 \le k < m$ such that $\mu_k = 0$ when $\lambda_k = 0$ and

$$d = \mu m + \sum_k \mu_k k.$$

Let j be such that $\lambda_j \ne 0$ and define

$$\varphi = \mu(\theta_{m+j} - \theta_j) + \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \mu_k\theta_k.$$

Since $|\theta_k| = O(g(r)^{-c-\epsilon})$, we have $|\varphi| = O(g(r)^{-c-\epsilon})$. Modulo 2π,

$$\varphi \equiv \mu(m\theta) + \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \mu_k(mt+k)\theta \equiv d\theta + \left(t\sum_{k=0}^{m-1}\mu_k\right)m\theta \equiv d\theta + \left(t\sum_{k=0}^{m-1}\mu_k\right)(\theta_{m+j}-\theta_j)$$

and so

$$d\theta \equiv \varphi - \left(t\sum_{k=0}^{m-1}\mu_k\right)(\theta_{m+j}-\theta_j) \pmod{2\pi}.$$

Since $t = o(g(r)^\epsilon)$, the right side of this congruence is $O(g(r)^{-c-\epsilon})$. Hence θ differs from a multiple of $2\pi/d$ by $O(g(r)^{-c-\epsilon})$, a contradiction to the assumption $g(r)^{-c} \le |\theta| \le \pi/d$. This proves (a).

The proof of (b) is similar to that for (a) except that we now want to estimate

$$\delta = |c_i\alpha_i| + |c_k\alpha_k| - |c_i\alpha_i + c_k\alpha_k|.$$

For two complex numbers z and w with $\beta = \arg(z\overline{w})$, we have

$$(|z| + |w|)^2 - |z+w|^2 = 2|zw|\cos\beta$$

whence

$$|z| + |w| - |z+w| = \frac{2|zw|\cos\beta}{|z|+|w|+|z+w|} \geq \frac{|zw|\cos\beta}{|z|+|w|}.$$

Hence

$$\delta \geq C\cos\bigl((i-k)\theta\bigr)g(r)^{1-\epsilon}.$$

The remainder of the proof is nearly the same as that for (a), with $(i-k)\theta$ modulo 2π in place of θ_k. ■

Proof (of Theorem 5): We begin by deriving the description of Λ_h. Let $\mathcal{S}$ be the set of indices n for which x^n has a nonzero coefficient in $g(x)$. Since f is admissible, its coefficients are positive for all sufficiently large indices. Hence, for some sufficiently large J,

$$\bigl\{k + jm \bigm| k \in \mathcal{K},\quad j \geq J\bigr\} \subseteq \mathcal{S} \subseteq \bigl\{k + jm \bigm| k \in \mathcal{K},\quad j \geq 0\bigr\}. \tag{20}$$

The powers of $h(x)$ with nonzero coefficients are precisely those which are sums of elements of $\mathcal{S}$. From this and (20), the proof that $\Lambda_h = \mathbb{Z}(d)$ is now straightforward. The powers of $h(x,y)$ which have nonzero coefficients are precisely those of the form (n,j) where n is the sum of j elements of $\mathcal{S}$. This can be rewritten as $j(k,1)+(n^*,0)$ where $k \in \mathcal{S}$ and n^* is a sum j numbers of the form $s-k$ where $s \in \mathcal{S}$. From this and (20), the formula for Λ_h is straightforward.

To prove Theorem 5(a), one need only follow Hayman's proof of Theorem H.VI with his use of Lemmas H.5 and H.6 replaced by our (19) and Lemma 2(a), respectively.

We now prove Theorem 5(b). Let $x = re^{i\theta}$, let $y = se^{i\varphi}$, and let R be the radius of convergence of g.

One easily computes $\mathbf{a}$ and B in terms of g and its derivatives and then applies Lemma 1 to obtain the asymptotics in the theorem. With $g(x) = \sum c_n x^n$, one has

$$\begin{aligned}
2|B(r,s)|/s^2 &= 2r(rg'(r))'g(r) - 2(rg'(r))^2 \\
&= \sum_{n,k=0}^{\infty} n^2 c_n c_k r^{n+k} + \sum_{n,k=0}^{\infty} c_n k^2 c_k r^{n+k} - 2\sum_{n,k=0}^{\infty} nc_n kc_k r^{n+k} \\
&= \sum_{n,k=0}^{\infty} (n-k)^2 c_n c_k r^{n+k}.
\end{aligned}$$

This proves (8).

Since B has positive diagonal entries, it will be positive definite if $|B| > 0$, which is the case for all $r < R$ if $c_n \geq 0$ for all n; however, a finite number of coefficients of the H-admissible function f may be negative. Let g^* be g with these negative terms removed. The previous argument shows that

$$\begin{aligned}
2|B^*(r,s)|/s^2 &= \sum_{n,k=0}^{\infty} (n-k)^2 c_n^* c_k^* r^{n+k} \\
&\geq \sum_{n,k=0}^{\infty} c_n^* c_k^* r^{n+k} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (c_n^* r^n)^2 \\
&\geq g^*(r)^2 - \sup_n (c^* n r^n) g^*(r) = g^*(r)^2 - O(g^*(r)/b_f(r)^{1/2}) g^*(r) \\
&= g^*(r)^2 (1 + o(1)) \quad \text{as } r \to R.
\end{aligned}$$

Since the entries in $B(r,s)/s$ and $B^*(r,s)/s$ differ by at most a polynomial in r, the determinants differ by at most a polynomial in r times the largest entry in $B(r,s)/s$. Since f is H-admissible, Lemma H.2 and Theorem H.III tell us that this difference is $O(f(r)^{1+\epsilon})$. Since $|B^*|$ grows like $g(r)^2 s^2$ and $\mathcal{R}$ requires that $s > g(r)^{\delta-1}$, it follows that $r \to R$ and $|B(r,s)| \to \infty$ are uniformly the same condition in $\mathcal{R}$. We also have $|B(r,s))| > 0$ provided r is sufficiently close to R; that is, $R_0 < r < R$ for some R_0.

By Lemma 1,

$$g(x) = g(r)\Big(1 + i\alpha(r)\theta - \beta(r)\theta^2/2 + O(g(r)^\epsilon \theta^3)\Big)$$

where $\alpha(r) = a_G(r)/g(r)$ and $\beta(r) = B_G(r)/g(r)$. Hence

$$yg(x) = sg(r)\Big(\cos\varphi + i(\alpha(r)\theta + \sin\varphi) - \beta(r)\theta^2(\cos\varphi)/2 + O(g(r)^\epsilon\theta^3)\Big) \quad (21)$$

$$= sg(r)\big(1 + i\mathbf{a}'\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}'B\boldsymbol{\theta}\big) + sg(r)^{1+\epsilon}\sum_{k=0}^{3} O\big(\varphi^{3-k}\theta^k\big) \quad (22)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\theta, \varphi)$ and ϵ is any positive number. Let η be a small positive number. When

$$|\theta| \leq (1/sg(r))^{2\eta+1/3} \quad \text{and} \quad |\varphi| \leq (1/sg(r))^{2\eta+1/3},$$

(22) establishes (1). When

$$|\theta| \leq (1/sg(r))^{\eta+1/3} \quad \text{and} \quad |\varphi| \geq (1/sg(r))^{2\eta+1/3},$$

$\alpha(r)\theta = o(\varphi)$ and so (21) gives us

$$|yg(x)| < sg(r)\big(1 - C\varphi^2\big) \leq sg(r) - C(sg(r))^{1/3-4\eta}$$

for r sufficiently near R, the radius of convergence of g. This establishes (3) in that range of $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

We finish establishing the asymptotic requirements on $\exp\{yg(x)\}$ by proving (3) for $|\theta| \geq (1/sg(r))^{\eta+1/3}$. Let $\lambda = \lambda(r) = \log s/\log f(r)$. We are given $\delta - 1 \leq \lambda \leq 1/\delta$. Let $c = 2(\lambda+1)/5$ and note that

$$g(r)^c = g(r)^{2(\lambda+1)/5} = (sg(r))^{2/5} > (sg(r))^{\eta+1/3}.$$

Apply Lemma 2(b) to obtain

$$\begin{aligned}|yf(x)| \leq |y|\Big(g(r) - g(r)^{1-2c-\epsilon}\Big) &= sg(r) - sg(r)(g(r))^{-2c-\epsilon}\\ &= sg(r) - (sg(r))^{1/5}g(r)^{-\epsilon}.\end{aligned}$$

Since ϵ is arbitrarily small and $sg(r) > g(r)^{\delta}$, condition (3) follows. ∎

Proof (of Theorem 6): This proof uses ideas from the proofs of Theorems 5 and H.XII. All conditions in the definition of super-admissibility are easily established except for (1) and (3). By (H.17.2), when $|\theta| < \frac{\beta(1-r)}{16r}$,

$$g(re^{i\theta}) = g(r) + i\theta a_f(r) - \theta^2 B_f(r)/2 + E(r,\theta) \tag{23}$$

where $|E(r,\theta)| < A(\alpha,\beta)|\theta|^3 g(r)(1-r)^{-3}$ for some function $A(\alpha,\beta)$. From this, one easily establishes (1) as in the proof of Theorem 5.

The proof of (3) for small θ and large φ is similar to the proof in Theorem 5.

The following discussion is intended for part (b) of the theorem. Setting $s = 1$ allows one to prove part (a).

Suppose $(1-r)/(sg(r))^{1/3+\epsilon} < |\theta| < \eta(1-r)$ for some small η to be specified later. Let $\rho = \theta/(1-r)$. Hayman shows that

$$\frac{a_f(r)}{g(r)} \sim \frac{\alpha}{1-r} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{B_f(r)}{g(r)} \sim \frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)}{(1-r)^2}$$

From (23),

$$\begin{aligned}\left|\frac{g(re^{i\theta})}{g(r)}\right|^2 &= \Big|1 - i\theta a_f/g - \theta^2 B_f/2g + O(\rho^3)\Big|^2\\ &= \Big(1 - \theta^2 B_f/2g + O(\rho^3)\Big)^2 + \Big(\theta a_f/g + O(\rho^3)\Big)^2\\ &= 1 - \alpha\rho^2(1+o(1)) + O(\rho^3).\end{aligned}$$

It follows that with η (and hence ρ) sufficiently small we have

$$\left|\frac{g(re^{i\theta})}{g(r)}\right|^2 < 1 - \alpha\rho^2/2.$$

Since $\rho \geq (1/sg(r))^{1/3+\epsilon}$, it follows that

$$\big|sg(re^{i\theta})\big| < |sg(r)| - |sg(r)|^{1/3-\epsilon}.$$

Next suppose that $\eta(1-r) \le |\theta| \le \beta(1-r)$. Hayman proves that $\left|g(re^{i\theta})/g(r)\right|$ is bounded above by a constant which is strictly less than 1 and so $\left|g(re^{i\theta})\right| \le g(r) - \epsilon g(r)$.

For $\beta(1-r) < |\theta| \le \pi/m$, apply the previous paragraph and (9). ∎

Proof (of Theorem 7): To prevent complexity of argument from obscuring the underlying ideas, we give a proof without multisection of f; that is, we assume $g(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x})$. The proof can be adapted for multisection by following the proof of Theorem 5.

As can be seen from the proof of Theorem 5, it suffices to establish

- some estimates of $r^k f^{(k)}(r)$ for $k = 1, 2$,
- Lemma 2 for dealing with angles outside Θ, and
- Equation (19) for dealing with angles in Θ.

Using (10), one easily has that $r^k f^{(k)}(r) = O(\nu^k f(r))$, which is $o(f(r)^{1+\epsilon})$ since we are given $\nu = o(f(r)^\epsilon)$ for all $\epsilon > 0$.

Lemma 2 is easily established using (11).

We now prove (19). Let $F = e^f$, let $H(r,\theta) = f(r) + i\theta a_F(r) - \theta^2 B_F(r)/2$, and let t be an integer to be specified later. By (10), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
f(re^{i\theta}) &= \sum_{|k|<t} a_{\nu+k} r^{\nu+k} e^{i\theta(\nu+k)} + O\Bigl(a_\nu r^\nu \sum_{k \ge t} \rho^k\Bigr) \\
&= \sum_{|k|<t} a_{\nu+k} r^{\nu+k} \Bigl(1 + i\theta(\nu+k) - \theta^2(\nu+k)^2/2 + O(\theta^3(\nu+k)^3)\Bigr) + O(f(r)\rho^t) \\
&= H(r,\theta) + \sum_{|k|\ge t} O(f(r)\rho^k)\Bigl(1 + |\theta|(\nu+k) + \theta^2(\nu+k)^2\Bigr) \\
&\quad + O\Bigl(a_\nu r^\nu \theta^3 \sum_k (\nu+k)^3 \rho^k\Bigr) + O\bigl(f(r)\rho^t\bigr) \\
&= H(r,\theta) + \sum_{j=0}^{2} O\bigl(f(r)\theta^j(\nu+t)^j\rho^t\bigr) + O(f(r)\theta^3\nu^3) + O\bigl(f(r)\rho^t\bigr) \\
&= H(r,\theta) + O\bigl(f(r)\rho^t\bigr) + O\bigl(f(r)\theta^3(\nu+t)^3\rho^t\bigr) + O\bigl(f(r)\theta^3\nu^3\bigr).
\end{aligned}$$

Using the assumption that $\nu = o(f(r)^\epsilon)$ for all $\epsilon > 0$ and setting $t = \log(f(r))/\epsilon|\log\rho|$, (19) follows. ∎

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