

# Symbolic Computation in Combinatorics: Recent Developments at RISC

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## Symbolic Computation in Combinatorics

### ■ What does it mean?

- Doing heuristics with computer algebra.
- Developing algorithms (and software) relevant to combinatorics.
- Combining algorithms to new methods.
- Other aspects: e.g., electronic tables for special function identities (DLMF), databases for geometrical objects, integer sequences (N. Sloane), etc.

## The RISC Castle



## JSC Special Issues: Symbolic Computation in Combinatorics

- PP and D. Zeilberger (eds.), [Symbolic Computation in Combinatorics](#), Special Issue of the J. of Symbolic Computation 14 (1992).
- PP and V. Strehl (eds.), [Symbolic Computation in Combinatorics  \$\Delta\_1\$](#) , Special Issue of the J. of Symbolic Computation 20

(1995). (Proceedings of the ACSyAM Workshop  
Sept. 21–24, 1993, Mathematical Sciences Institute,  
Cornell University; advising editors: G.E. Andrews,  
Ph. Flajolet, and D. Zeilberger.)

## **Some Packages of my RISC Combinatorics Group**

```
SetDirectory[  
  "/home/ppaule/RISC_Comb_Software  
  _Sep05.dir/SumRISC"]  
  
/home/ppaule/RISC_Comb  
_Software_Sep05.dir/SumRISC
```

## << SumRISC.m

Fast Zeilberger Package by Peter Paule and Markus Schorn (enhanced by Axel Riese) – © RISC Linz – V 3.53 (02/22/05)

q-Zeilberger Package by Axel Riese – © RISC Linz – V 2.42 (02/18/05)

Bibasic Telescope Package by Axel Riese – © RISC Linz – V 2.24 (12/11/03)

MultiSum Package by Kurt Wegschaider (enhanced by Axel Riese and Burkhard Zimmermann) – © RISC Linz – V 2.02 $\beta$  (02/21/05)

qMultiSum Package by Axel Riese – © RISC Linz – V 2.51 (06/30/04)

GeneratingFunctions Package by Christian Mallinger – © RISC Linz – V 0.68 (07/17/03)

SumRISC – Bundled on  
Tue Feb 22 09:37:48 CET 2005

## Further Packages of my RISC Combinatorics Group

- **Sigma**; see e.g.: [C. Schneider](#), "Symbolic Summation Assists Combinatorics", Sem. Lothar. Combin. 56 (2007), 1–36, B56b.
- **SumCracker**; see e.g.: [M. Kauers](#), "A Package for Manipulating Symbolic Sums and Related Objects", Report 2005–21, SFB F013, 2005.

- **Omega**; by A. Riese (in cooperation with G.E. Andrews and PP), an implementation of an algorithmic version of **MacMahon's partition analysis**. See [G.E. Andrews and PP, "MacMahon's Partition Analysis XI: Broken Diamonds and Modular Forms", Acta Arithm. 126 (2007), 281–294] for further references.

## ■ Software

Freely available at:

<http://www.risc.uni-linz.ac.at/research/combinat/software>

## ■ Input Forms

### *Binomials*

$$\binom{n}{k}_* := \text{Binomial}[n, k]$$

$$\binom{a}{3}_*$$

$$\frac{1}{6} (-2 + a) (-1 + a) a$$

## Recent Progress at RISC

### ■ Various achievements

E.g., in collaboration with colleagues from numerical analysis (FEM):

$$\sum_{j=0}^n (4j + 1) (2n - 2j + 1) P_{2j}(0) P_{2j}(\mathbf{x}) \geq 0$$

for  $-1 \leq x \leq 1$  and  $n \geq 0$ . **Conjectured** by J. Schoeberl,  
**proved** by V. Pillwein.

■ **Two case studies**

- **A Computer-Assisted Proof of Moll's Log-Concavity Conjecture**  
(**MultiSum** + **SumCracker**; M. Kauers and PP;  
to appear: Proc. of the AMS)
- **MacMahon's Dream Has Come True** (**Omega**;  
G.E. Andrews and PP, "MacMahon's  
PA XII: Plane Partitions";  
to appear: J. London Math. Soc.)

## **From V. Moll's Personal Story**

See: Victor Moll, "The evaluation of integrals:  
A personal story", Notices of the AMS 49 (2002),  
311–317.

**NOTE:** See also Moll's book (joint with George  
Boros): "Irresistible Integrals" [Cambridge, 2004].

Starting point: Some integrals for the quartic:

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x^4 + 6x^2 + 1)^1} dx = \frac{\pi}{4\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x^4 + 6x^2 + 1)^2} dx = \frac{9\pi}{64\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x^4 + 6x^2 + 1)^3} dx = \frac{219\pi}{2048\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x^4 + 6x^2 + 1)^4} dx = \frac{2933\pi}{32768\sqrt{2}}$$

*Higher orders take quite a while!*

$$\text{Timing} \left[ \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x^4 + 6x^2 + 1)^{11}} dx \right]$$

$$\left\{ 61.56 \text{ Second}, \frac{57143600607093\pi}{1125899906842624\sqrt{2}} \right\}$$

## ■ Definite integrals and Mathematica

V. Moll: "... Thus it is not entirely clear what *Mathematica* is doing to compute these integrals..."

NOTE. E.g, *MMA* leaves unevaluated

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x^4 + 2ax^2 + 1)^{m+1}} dx$$

■ A double sum representation for the quartic

**Theorem**

Let  $a > -1$  and let  $m$  be a natural number. Then

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{(x^4 + 2ax^2 + 1)^{m+1}} dx = \frac{2^{m+3/2}}{(a+1)^{m+1/2}} * P_m(a)$$

where

$$P_m(a) = \sum_{j, k} \binom{2m+1}{2j} \binom{m-j}{k} \binom{2k+2j}{k+j} \frac{(a+1)^j (a-1)^k}{2^{3(k+j)}}$$

**PROOF**

‘The proof is elementary and employs Wallis’ integral formula.’

*Do we know anything about the polynomials  $P_m(a)$ ?*

■ 1st Observation : The coefficients of  $P_m(a)$  seem to be positive

$$P_m(a) = \sum_{l=0}^m d[l, m] a^l$$



$d[1_, m_] :=$

$$\sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{k=0}^{m-j} \sum_{i=0}^1 \binom{2m+1}{2j}_* * \binom{m-j}{k}_* \binom{2k+2j}{k+j}_* \frac{(-1)^{k+1+i}}{2^{3(k+j)}} \binom{j}{i}_* \binom{k}{1-i}_*$$

Map[d[# , 8] &, Range[0, 8]]

$$\left\{ \frac{4023459}{32768}, \frac{3283533}{4096}, \frac{9804465}{4096}, \frac{8625375}{2048}, \frac{9695565}{2048}, \frac{1772199}{512}, \frac{819819}{512}, \frac{109395}{256}, \frac{6435}{128} \right\}$$

**POSITIVITY CONJECTURE:**

$$d[1, m] > 0$$

- Moll et al. succeeded to derive **positivity** from Ramanujan's Master Theorem

The derivation takes several **non-trivial steps**:

*Step 1 (a consequence from the Theorem)*

$$\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{b x^4 + 2 a x^2 + 1} dx = \frac{\pi}{2 \sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{a + \sqrt{b}}}$$

*Step 2 (V.Moll et al. connected the  $P_m(a)$  to Taylor series  $h(c)$ )*

The Taylor series expansion of  $h(x) = \sqrt{a + \sqrt{1+x}}$ , for  $x$  in a neighborhood of the origin, is given by:

$$h(x) =$$

$$\sqrt{a+1} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k-1}}{k} \frac{P_{k-1}(a)}{2^k (a+1)^k} x^k \right)$$

**Step 3 (Ramanujan's Master Theorem; see e.g. B. Berndt, R's Notebooks Part I)**

$$\text{If } F(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{f(k)}{k!} x^k$$

$$\text{then } f(-n) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n)} \int_0^{\infty} x^{n-1} F(x) dx.$$

In other words,

$$\int_0^{\infty} x^{n-1} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{f(k)}{k!} x^k dx = \Gamma(n) f(-n).$$

Define

$$B_m(a) := \int_0^{\infty} \frac{x^{m-1}}{(a + \sqrt{1+x})^{2m+1/2}} dx$$

**Step 4 (applying Ramanujan's Master Theorem to a suitable derivative of  $h(c)$  yields a useful integral transform)**

$$B_m(a) = \frac{2^{5m}}{(a+1)^{m+1/2}} \left( m \binom{4m}{2m} \binom{2m}{2m} \right)^{-1} P_m(a)$$

**Step 5:  $P_m(a)$  can be expressed as a binomial single sum**

$$P_m(a) = 2^{-2m} \sum_{k=0}^m 2^k \binom{2m-2k}{m-k} \binom{m+k}{m} (a+1)^k$$

REMARK: (i) A concise version of Ramanujan's Master Theorem is due to G. H. Hardy. (ii) The conditions that make the Master Theorem applicable are **non-trivial** to check.

SUMMARY:

$$P_m(a) = 2^{-2m} \sum_{k=0}^m 2^k \binom{2m-2k}{m-k} \binom{m+k}{m} (a+1)^k$$

implies **POSITIVITY**. Also, this **SUM** can be found in tables (e.g., DLMF); it is a special instance of the Jacobi family.

BUT we shall see:

*With COMPUTER ALGEBRA, positivity and much more can be proved in a straightforward manner!*

- **Positivity derived with MULTISUM [M. Kauers & PP, 2006]**

Recall that

$$P_m(a) = \sum_{l=0}^m d[l, m] a^l$$

where

$$d[l_, m_] := \sum_{j=0}^m \sum_{k=0}^{m-j} \sum_{i=0}^1 \binom{2m+1}{2j}_* \binom{m-j}{k}_* \binom{2k+2j}{k+j}_* \frac{(-1)^{k+1+i}}{2^{3(k+j)}} \binom{j}{i}_* \binom{k}{1-i}_*$$

$$\text{summand} = \binom{2m+1}{2j}_* \binom{m-j}{k}_* \binom{2k+2j}{k+j}_* \frac{(-1)^{k+1+i}}{2^{3(k+j)}} * \binom{j}{i}_* * \binom{k}{1-i}_* ;$$

```
SetOfShifts =
  FindStructureSet[summand, {1, m},
    {1, 0}, {k, j, i}, {0, 1, 0}, 1];
StructSet = SetOfShifts[[2]];
```

```
FindRecurrence[summand, {l, m},
  {k, j, i}, StructSet, 1, WZ -> True]
```

$$\begin{aligned} & \{-4(1+m)F[-1+l, m, -1+k, \\ & \quad -1+j, -1+i] - 2(3+2l+4m) \\ & \quad F[l, m, -1+k, -1+j, -1+i] + 4 \\ & \quad (1+m)F[l, 1+m, -1+k, -1+j, -1+i] = \\ \Delta_i & [(-7+6j+2k)F[-1+l, m, -1+k, \\ & \quad -1+j, -1+i] + 2(3+2l+4m)F[l, \\ & \quad m, -1+k, -1+j, -1+i] - 4(1+m) \\ & \quad F[l, 1+m, -1+k, -1+j, -1+i]] + \\ \Delta_j & [(-7+6j+2k)F[-1+l, m, -1+k, \\ & \quad -1+j, i] + (-1+2j+2k+4m) \\ & \quad F[l, m, -1+k, -1+j, i] - \\ & \quad 4(1+m)F[l, 1+m, -1+k, -1+j, i]] + \\ \Delta_k & [(7-6j-2k+4l+4m) \\ & \quad F[-1+l, m, -1+k, -1+j, -1+i] - \\ & \quad 4(j+k-1)F[-1+l, m, k, -1+j, \\ & \quad -1+i] + (7-2j-2k+4l+4m) \\ & \quad F[l, m, -1+k, -1+j, i] + \\ & \quad 4(2j+k+m)F[l, m, -1+k, j, i] - \\ & \quad 4(k-1)F[l, m, k, -1+j, i] - \\ & \quad 4(1+m)F[l, 1+m, -1+k, j, i]] \} \end{aligned}$$

```
SumCertificate[%]
```

$$\begin{aligned} & \{-2(1+m)\text{SUM}[-1+l, m] + \\ & \quad (-3-2l-4m)\text{SUM}[l, m] + \\ & \quad 2(1+m)\text{SUM}[l, 1+m] = 0\} \end{aligned}$$

In other words, the RISC package MULTISUM found that for  $0 \leq l \leq m+1$ :

$$d[l, m+1] = \frac{4m+2l+3}{2(m+1)} d[l, m] + \frac{m+1}{m+1} d[l-1, m]$$

This recurrence implies **POSITIVITY** of all the  $d[l, m]$ !  
(NOTE:  $d[0, 0] = 1$ .)

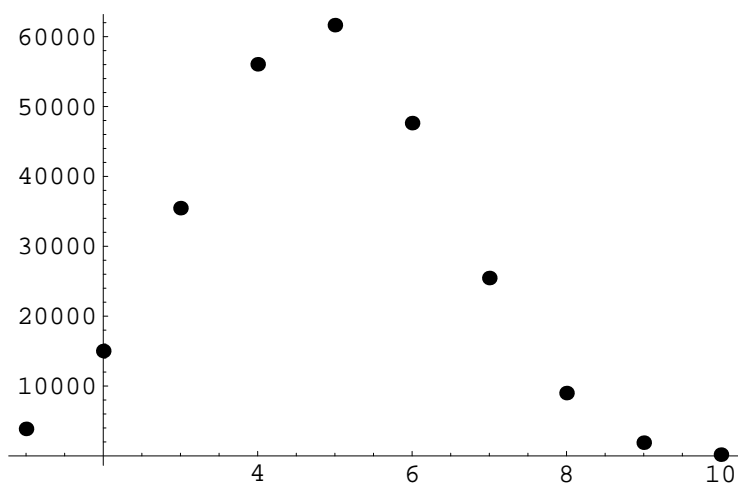
## Moll's Log-Concavity Conjecture

### ■ 2nd Observation :

The coefficients of  $P_m(a)$  seem to be **unimodal**

```
Coeffs = Map[N[d[#, 10]] &, Range[10]];
```

```
ListPlot[Coeffs,  
PlotStyle → PointSize[0.02]];
```

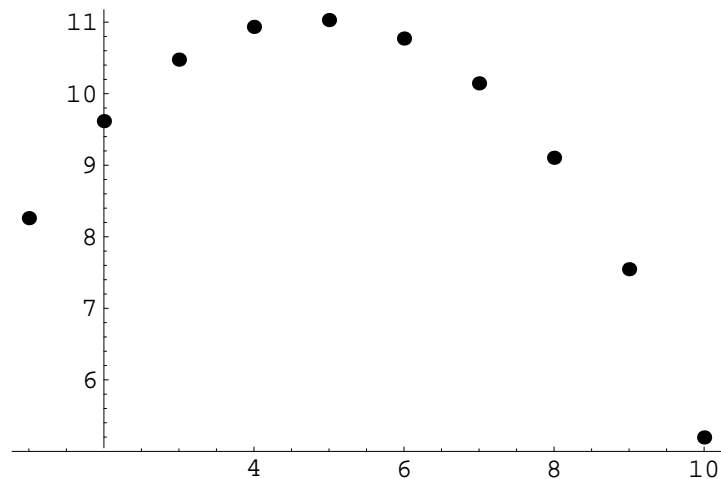


**NOTE.** Boros & Moll (1999) proved **unimodality** of the  $d[1, m]$  based on the Jabobi single sum representation of  $P_m(a)$ .

■ 3rd Observation :

The coefficients of  $P_m(a)$  seem to be also **log – concave**

```
ListPlot[N[Log[Coeffs]],
PlotStyle -> PointSize[0.02]];
```



CONCAVITY: For  $D[l, m] := \text{Log}(d[l, m])$ ,

$$\frac{D[l-1, m] + D[l+1, m]}{2} \leq D[l, m]$$

CONCAVITY: For  $D[l, m] := \text{Log}(d[l, m])$ ,

$$\frac{D[l-1, m] + D[l+1, m]}{2} \leq D[l, m]$$

Recall :

$$P_m(a) = \sum_{l=0}^m d[l, m] a^l$$

**LOG-CONCAVITY CONJECTURE:** For  $0 < l < m$ ,

$$d[l-1, m] d[l+1, m] \leq d[l, m]^2$$

NOTE 1:

$$\text{LOG-CONCAVITY} \Rightarrow \text{UNIMODALITY}$$

**NOTE 2.** The conjecture was raised by Victor Moll (~ 1998); all know classical approaches failed.

## The Proof

We need the following ingredients:

- (0) positivity  $d[l, m] > 0$ ;
- (1) Collins' [Cylindrical Algebraic Decomposition \(CAD\)](#);
- (2) Kauers' package [SumCracker](#) applied to inequalities – based on an algorithm by Gerhold/Kauers (ISSAC'05);
- (3) recurrences delivered by Wegschaider's package [MultiSum](#); namely,

$$\text{Rec}_1 = \text{Rec}_1 (d[l-1, m], d[l, m], d[l, m+1])$$

(the positivity recurrence from above),

$$\text{Rec}_2 = \text{Rec}_2 (d[l, m], d[l, m+1], d[l+1, m]),$$

**NOTE.**  $d[l-1, m] d[l+1, m] \leq d[l, m]^2$

$$\text{Rec}_3 = \text{Rec}_3 (d[l, m], d[l, m+1], d[l, m+2])$$

Invoking  $\text{Rec}_1$  and  $\text{Rec}_2$  one obtains: For  $0 < l < m$  the

**LOG - CONCAVITY CONJECTURE**

is equivalent to

$$q_1 * d[l, m]^2 + q_2 * d[l, m] + q_3 * d[l, m+1]^2 \leq 0,$$

where the  $q_i = q_i[l, m]$  are polynomials in  $l$  and  $m$ .

Invoking [CAD](#) one obtains: If  $0 < l < m$ , then



$$q_1 * d[l, m]^2 + q_2 * d[l, m] + q_3 * d[l, m+1]^2 \leq 0,$$

is violated at points  $(l, m)$  if and only if

$$\frac{p_1 - \sqrt{p_2}}{p_3} * d[l, m] < d[l, m+1] < \frac{p_1 + \sqrt{p_2}}{p_3} * d[l, m]$$

where the  $p_i = p_i[l, m]$  are polynomials in  $l$  and  $m$ .

HENCE TO COMPLETE THE PROOF IT SUFFICES TO SHOW THAT

$$d[l, m+1] \geq \frac{p_1 + \sqrt{p_2}}{p_3} * d[l, m]$$

FOR  $0 < l < m$ .

FURTHER PROBLEM SIMPLIFICATION:

Suppose

$u = u[l, m]$  is a poly in  $l$  and  $m$  such that  $u[l, m] \geq 0$  for  $0 < l < m$ , then to show

$$d[l, m+1] \geq \frac{p_1 + \sqrt{p_2}}{p_3} * d[l, m],$$

it suffices to show

$$d[l, m+1] \geq \frac{p_1 + \sqrt{p_2 + u}}{p_3} * d[l, m]$$

CHOOSING  $u := l^2 (2l + 1)^2 - p_2$

turns the last inequality into the following condition:

$$d[1, m+1] \geq \frac{4m^2 + 7m + 1 + 3}{2(m+1-1)(m+1)} * d[1, m].$$

SUMMARIZING: The log-concavity conjecture is equivalent to

$$d[1, m+1] \geq \frac{4m^2 + 7m + 1 + 3}{2(m+1-1)(m+1)} * d[1, m] \quad (0 < 1 < m).$$

This can be proved **automatically** by Kauers' [SumCracker](#) package.

**NOTE:** As additional input, **Rec<sub>3</sub>** (being with respect to **m** only) is given to serve as the defining relation for the **d[1, m]**. Q.E.D.

## MacMahon's Partition Analysis and the Omega Package

### ■ Loading the Omega Package

```
SetDirectory[
  "/home/ppaule/RISC_Comb_Software
  _Sep05.dir/Omega/"]

/home/ppaule/RISC_Comb
_Software_Sep05.dir/Omega
```

## &lt;&lt; Omega2.m

Omega Package by Axel Riese (in cooperation with George E. Andrews and Peter Paule) – © RISC Linz – V 2.47 (06/21/05)

### ■ Triangles with sides of integer length

**PROBLEM** (e.g., R.Stanley, 1986): Let  $t(n)$  be the number of non-congruent triangles with sides of integer length and with perimeter  $n$ . **Find**

$$T(q) := \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} t(n) q^n$$

Example:  $t(9) = 3$  corresponding to  $1+4+4$ ,  $2+3+4$ ,  $3+3+3$ ,

$$T(q) = \sum_{\substack{a,b,c \geq 1 \\ a \leq b \leq c, a+b > c}} q^{a+b+c} = ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(q) &= \sum_{\substack{a,b,c \geq 1 \\ a \leq b \leq c, a+b > c}} q^{a+b+c} = \\ &= \underset{\geq}{\Omega} \sum_{a,b,c \geq 1} \lambda_1^{b-a} \lambda_2^{c-b} \lambda_3^{a+b-c-1} q^{a+b+c} \\ &= \underset{\geq}{\Omega} \frac{q^3}{\left(1 - \frac{q \lambda_2}{\lambda_3}\right) \left(1 - \frac{q \lambda_3}{\lambda_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{q \lambda_1 \lambda_3}{\lambda_2}\right)} \end{aligned}$$

In such situations MacMahon eliminated the  $\lambda$  by applying successively basic **elimination rules** such as

$$\underset{\geq}{\Omega} \frac{1}{(1 - x \lambda) \left(1 - \frac{y}{\lambda}\right)} = \frac{1}{(1 - x) (1 - x y)}.$$

REMARK: MacMahon's **Omega Operator**  $\Omega_{\geq}$ :

$$\Omega_{\geq} \sum_{s_1=-\infty}^{\infty} \cdots \sum_{s_r=-\infty}^{\infty} A_{s_1, \dots, s_r} \lambda_1^{s_1} \cdots \lambda_r^{s_r} := \sum_{s_1=0}^{\infty} \cdots \sum_{s_r=0}^{\infty} A_{s_1, \dots, s_r}.$$

Recall:

$$\Omega_{\geq} \frac{1}{(1-x\lambda)\left(1-\frac{y}{\lambda}\right)} = \frac{1}{(1-x)(1-xy)}.$$

This way one finds that

$$\begin{aligned} T(q) &= \Omega_{\geq} \frac{q^3}{\left(1 - \frac{q\lambda_2}{\lambda_3}\right) \left(1 - \frac{q\lambda_3}{\lambda_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{q\lambda_1\lambda_3}{\lambda_2}\right)} \\ &= \Omega_{\geq} \frac{q^3}{\left(1 - \frac{q}{\lambda_3}\right) \left(1 - \frac{q\lambda_3}{\lambda_1}\right) (1 - q^2\lambda_1)} \\ &= \Omega_{\geq} \frac{q^3}{\left(1 - \frac{q}{\lambda_3}\right) (1 - q^3\lambda_3) (1 - q^2)} \\ &= \frac{q^3}{(1 - q^4) (1 - q^3) (1 - q^2)} \end{aligned}$$

With the package **Omega** all steps are carried out automatically:

`OSum[qa+b+c, {1 ≤ a, 1 ≤ b, 1 ≤ c, a ≤ b, b ≤ c, a + b > c}, λ]`

$$\Omega_{\geq, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3} \frac{q^3}{\left(1 - \frac{q\lambda_2}{\lambda_3}\right) \left(1 - \frac{q\lambda_3}{\lambda_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{q\lambda_1\lambda_3}{\lambda_2}\right)}$$

OR [%]

Eliminating  $\lambda_2 \dots$

Eliminating  $\lambda_3 \dots$

Eliminating  $\lambda_1 \dots$

$$\frac{q^3}{(1 - q^2) (1 - q^3) (1 - q^4)}$$

## ■ REMARKS

- Omega (resp. Partition Analysis) has been used extensively for mathematical discovery; e.g., [k-gons](#), [partition diamonds](#), [magic squares](#), etc.
- Extensions, related combinatorial studies, [Maple software](#):  
S. Corteel, G. Han, C. Savage, G. Xin, and others.
- Alternative approaches with similar goals: [J. Stembridge's posets package](#); based on R. Stanley's work ("Ordered Structures and Partitions", *Memoirs AMS* 119, 1972); [LattE](#) (J.A. DeLoera, R. Hemmecke, R. Tanzer, R. Yoshida), an implementation of work of A. Barvinok and J. Pommersheim ("An algorithmic theory of lattice points in polyhedra", *MSRI Publ.* 38, 1999).