

1. Find all  $f \in \Lambda^n$  for which  $\omega f = 2f$ .
2. (a) Expand the power series  $\prod_{i \geq 1} (1 + x_i + x_i^2)$  in terms of the elementary symmetric functions. (Hint available on request.)  
 (b) For what real numbers  $a$  is the symmetric formal power series

$$F(x) = \prod_{i \geq 1} (1 + x_i + ax_i^2)$$

$e$ -positive, i.e., a nonnegative (infinite) linear combination of the  $e_\lambda$ 's?

3. Find the number  $y(n)$  of pairs  $(\lambda, \mu)$  such that  $\lambda \vdash n$  and  $\mu$  covers  $\lambda$  in Young's lattice  $\mathbb{Y}$ . Express your answer in terms of  $p(k)$ , the number of partitions of  $k$ , for certain values of  $k$ . Try to give a direct bijection, avoiding generating functions, recurrence relations, induction, etc.
4. Let  $\Omega^n$  denote the subspace of  $\Lambda^n$  consisting of all  $f \in \Lambda^n$  satisfying

$$f(x_1, -x_1, x_3, x_4, \dots) = f(x_3, x_4, \dots).$$

For instance,  $m_1 = x_1 + x_2 + \dots \in \Omega^1$ . Find a "simple" basis for  $\Omega^n$ . Express the dimension of  $\Omega^n$  in terms of the number of partitions of  $n$  with a suitable restriction.

5. Let  $f \in \Lambda^n$ , and for any  $g \in \Lambda^n$  define  $g_k \in \Lambda^{nk}$  by

$$g_k(x_1, x_2, \dots) = g(x_1^k, x_2^k, \dots).$$

Show that

$$\omega f_k = (-1)^{n(k-1)} (\omega f)_k.$$

6. Let  $\ell(\lambda) \leq m$  and  $\lambda_1 \leq n$ . Define

$$\tilde{\lambda} = (n - \lambda_m, n - \lambda_{m-1}, \dots, n - \lambda_1).$$

- (a) Give a simple (algebraic or combinatorial) proof that

$$(x_1 x_2 \cdots x_m)^n s_\lambda(x_1^{-1}, \dots, x_m^{-1}) = s_{\tilde{\lambda}}(x_1, \dots, x_m).$$

- (b) Show that

$$\prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^n (x_i + y_j) = \sum_{\lambda} s_\lambda(x) s_{\tilde{\lambda}}(y)$$

summed over all partitions  $\lambda$  with  $\ell(\lambda) \leq m$  and  $\lambda_1 \leq n$ .