What are...multiplicative compositions?

Or: Additive < multiplicative

## Partitions and compositions



► (Integer) partition = an ordered way of writing an integer as a sum of positive integers, e.g. 4 = 2 + 1 + 1

• (Integer) compositions = the same but without order, e.g. 4 = 1 + 2 + 1

• Counting them is a classical topic in mathematics

## Lets count them!



• Proof without words (above): the number of compositions of n is  $2^{n-1}$ 

More difficult : the number of partitions p(n) is

$$p(n) \sim rac{1}{4n\sqrt{3}} \exp\left(\pi \sqrt{rac{2n}{3}}
ight)$$
 as  $n 
ightarrow \infty$  Like it!

In 1937, Hans Rademacher found a way to represent the partition function p(n) by the convergent series

$$\begin{split} p(n) &= \frac{1}{\pi\sqrt{2}}\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}A_k(n)\sqrt{k}\cdot \frac{d}{dn}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n-\frac{1}{24}}}\sinh\left[\frac{\pi}{k}\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}\left(n-\frac{1}{24}\right)}\right]\right)\\ \text{where} & \text{Do we like this one?}\\ & \text{Well.}. \end{split}$$

 $A_k(n) = \sum_{0 \le m < k, \ (m,k) = 1} e^{\pi i (s(m,k) - 2nm/k)}.$ 

We like the asymptotic  $\sim$  formula!

$$f(n) \sim g(n)$$
 if  $\lim_{n \to \infty} f(n)/g(n) = 1$ 

and s(m, k) is the Dedekind sum.

**Enter: Multiplication** 



Multiplicative partition = an ordered way of writing an integer as a product of positive integers ≥ 2, e.g. 12 = 3 · 2 · 2

• Multiplicative compositions = the same but without order, e.g.  $12 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 2$ 

## Enter, the theorem



• m(n) = mult. partitions, M(n) = mult. compositions

▶ The exponent  $\rho \approx 1.7286472389$  is the unique solution of  $\zeta(x) = 2$  with x > 1

## Where are they?

We know a lot about bacteria that grow nicely in a Petri plate; what about the rest?



- ► Additive partitions/compositions are everywhere in mathematics
- ► Multiplicative partitions/compositions are where precisely ?

Thank you for your attention!

I hope that was of some help.