ON THE POLYNOMIAL REPRESENTATION FOR THE NUMBER OF PARTITIONS WITH FIXED LENGTH

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, it is shown that the number $M(n, k)$ of partitions of a nonnegative integer n with k parts can be described by a set of $\tilde{k}$ polynomials of degree $k - 1$ in $Q_{\tilde{k}}$, where $\tilde{k}$ denotes the least common multiple of the k integers $1, 2, \dots, k$ and $Q_{\tilde{k}}$ denotes the quotient of n when divided by $\tilde{k}$. In addition, the sets of the $\tilde{k}$ polynomials are obtained and shown explicitly for $k = 3, 4, 5$, and 6 .

1. PRELIMINARIES

Let $N(n)$ and $M(n, k)$ denote the number of partitions of n and that with length k (or with k parts), respectively, where n and k are nonnegative integers. Obviously,

$$(1.1) \quad M(n, k) = 0, \quad \text{if } k > n.$$

Defining

$$(1.2) \quad N(0) = 1$$

and

$$(1.3) \quad M(0, 0) = 1$$

for convenience, we have

$$(1.4) \quad N(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n M(n, k).$$

While (1.4) allows us to express the number $N(n)$ in terms of $\{M(n, k)\}_{k=0}^n$, the number $M(n, k)$ for $k \geq \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$ can be described in terms of $\{N(n)\}_{n=0}^{n-k}$ by

$$(1.5) \quad M(n, k) = \begin{cases} N(n - k), & 2k \geq n \\ & (\text{or } \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil \leq k \leq n), \\ N(n - k) - \sum_{j=0}^{n-2k-1} N(j), & 2k < n \leq 3k + 2 \\ & (\text{or } \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor \leq k \leq \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil - 1), \end{cases}$$

Received by the editor March 9, 2007.

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 05A17; Secondary 11P81, 11P82.

Key words and phrases. Partition, polynomial representation, nonrecursive formula.

This study was supported by the National Research Laboratory (NRL) Program of Korea Science and Engineering Foundation (KOSEF), Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), under Grant R0A-2005-000-10005-0, for which the authors would like to express their thanks. The authors also wish to express their appreciation of the constructive suggestions and helpful comments from the anonymous reviewers.

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as shown in the Appendix, where $\lceil x \rceil$ and $\lfloor x \rfloor$ denote the smallest integer no smaller than x and the largest integer no larger than x , respectively. More generally, it is well known [2, 3, 4, 5, 7] that $M(n, k)$ satisfies the recursion

$$(1.6) \quad M(n, k) = M(n-1, k-1) + M(n-k, k).$$

Clearly, once n and k are given, we can evaluate $M(n, k)$ recursively with (1.6) using $M(n, 0) = 0$ for $n \geq 1$ and $M(0, 0) = 1$. In this paper we are interested in finding a polynomial representation for the evaluation of $M(n, k)$.

2. POLYNOMIAL REPRESENTATIONS

2.1. A nonrecursive formula. Let us denote by $Q_{n,k}$ and $R_{n,k}$ the quotient and remainder, respectively, of n when divided by k . Unless it is ambiguous, we use for brevity the notations Q_k and R_k for $Q_{n,k}$ and $R_{n,k}$, respectively. Now, from (1.6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(n, k) - M(n-k, k) &= M(n-1, k-1), \\ M(n-k, k) - M(n-2k, k) &= M(n-k-1, k-1), \\ &\vdots \\ M(k+R_k, k) - M(R_k, k) &= M(k+R_k-1, k-1), \end{aligned}$$

which can be added to produce

$$(2.1) \quad M(n, k) = \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{k} \rfloor} M(n+k-ki-1, k-1), \quad k \geq 1$$

since $R_k = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$, and consequently, $M(R_k, k) = 0$ from (1.1). Based on (2.1), we will show next that $M(n, k)$ can be described by a set of polynomials.

2.2. Simple examples. Let us first obtain polynomial representations for $M(n, k)$ when $k = 1, 2, 3$ using (2.1). Clearly, when $k = 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} M(n, 1) &= \sum_{i=1}^n M(n-i, 0) \\ (2.2) \quad &= 1, \quad n \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

from (2.1) using $M(0, 0) = 1$. If we write $n = 2Q_2 + R_2$ when $k = 2$, we have $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor = Q_2$. Thus, we get

$$\begin{aligned} M(n, 2) &= \sum_{i=1}^{Q_2} M(n-2i+1, 1) \\ (2.3) \quad &= Q_2 \end{aligned}$$

from (2.1) using (2.2). Next, writing $n = 6Q_6 + R_6$ when $k = 3$, we have $\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor = 2Q_6 + Q_{R_6, 3}$. Then, remembering $M(R_6-1, 2) = 0$ for $R_6 = 0, 1, 2$ from (1.1), we

obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 M(n, 3) &= \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor} M(n-3i+2, 2) \\
 &= \begin{cases} M(n-1, 2) + M(n-4, 2) + \cdots + M(R_6+2, 2), \\ R_6 = 0, 1, 2, \text{ (} 2Q_6 \text{ terms added)} \\ M(n-1, 2) + M(n-4, 2) + \cdots + M(R_6+2, 2) \\ + M(R_6-1, 2), \quad R_6 = 3, 4, 5, \text{ (} 2Q_6 + 1 \text{ terms added)} \end{cases} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{Q_6} \{M(6(i-1) + R_6 + 2, 2) + M(6(i-1) + R_6 + 5, 2)\} \\
 &\quad + M(R_6 - 1, 2) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{Q_6} \sum_{j=1}^2 M(2\{3(i-1)\} + R_6 + 2 + 3(j-1), 2) + M(R_6 - 1, 2) \\
 (2.4) \quad &= \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^{Q_6} \{(3i-2) + (3i-1)\} = 3Q_6^2, & R_6 = 0, \\ \sum_{i=1}^{Q_6} \{(3i-2) + 3i\} = 3Q_6^2 + Q_6, & R_6 = 1, \\ \sum_{i=1}^{Q_6} \{(3i-1) + 3i\} = 3Q_6^2 + 2Q_6, & R_6 = 2, \\ 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{Q_6} \{(3i-1) + (3i+1)\} = 3Q_6^2 + 3Q_6 + 1, & R_6 = 3, \\ 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{Q_6} \{3i + (3i+1)\} = 3Q_6^2 + 4Q_6 + 1, & R_6 = 4, \\ 2 + \sum_{i=1}^{Q_6} \{3i + (3i+2)\} = 3Q_6^2 + 5Q_6 + 2, & R_6 = 5, \end{cases} \\
 (2.5) \quad &= 3Q_6^2 + R_6Q_6 + c_{0,3}(R_6)
 \end{aligned}$$

using (2.3) in (2.1), where $\{c_{0,3}(r)\}_{r=0}^5 = \{0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2\}$. It is interesting to note that $M(n, 3)$ can also be expressed as ([4] p. 451)

$$(2.6) \quad M(n, 3) = \left\lfloor \frac{n^2 + 6}{12} \right\rfloor.$$

2.3. The main result. By extending the results (2.2)–(2.5) for $M(n, 1)$, $M(n, 2)$, and $M(n, 3)$, we obtain the main result in the form of a theorem below.

Theorem 2.1. *When $k \geq 1$, let us write the natural number n as $n = \tilde{k}Q_{\tilde{k}} + R_{\tilde{k}}$, where $\tilde{k}$ denotes the least common multiple of the k integers $1, 2, 3, \dots, k$. Then the number $M(n, k) = M(\tilde{k}Q_{\tilde{k}} + R_{\tilde{k}}, k)$ of partitions of n with k parts can be specified with the $\tilde{k}$ polynomials*

$$(2.7) \quad M(\tilde{k}Q_{\tilde{k}} + R_{\tilde{k}}, k) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} c_{i,k}(R_{\tilde{k}})Q_{\tilde{k}}^i, \quad R_{\tilde{k}} = 0, 1, \dots, \tilde{k} - 1$$

of degree $k-1$ in $Q_{\tilde{k}}$. In (2.7), the constant terms $c_{0,k}(r) = M(r, k)$ for $r = 0, 1, \dots, \tilde{k} - 1$, are obtained as

$$(2.8) \quad c_{0,k}(r) = \sum_{j=1}^{Q_{r,k}} M(r + k - 1 - jk, k - 1),$$

the coefficients

$$(2.9) \quad c_{k-1,k}(r) = \frac{\tilde{k}^{k-1}}{k!(k-1)!}, \quad k \geq 1$$

for $r = 0, 1, \dots, \widetilde{k} - 1$, of the highest degree term are dependent on k but not on r , the coefficients

$$(2.10) \quad c_{k-2,k}(r) = \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-2}}{4k!(k-2)!} \{4r + k(k-3)\}, \quad k \geq 3$$

for $r = 0, 1, \dots, \widetilde{k} - 1$, of the second-highest degree term are linear functions of r , and the coefficients

$$(2.11) \quad c_{1,4}(r) = \begin{cases} (r^2 + 2r)/4, & R_{r,2} = 0, \\ (r^2 + 2r - 3)/4, & R_{r,2} = 1, \end{cases}$$

and

$$(2.12) \quad c_{k-3,k}(r) = \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{288k!(k-3)!} \times \{144r^2 + 72k(k-3)r + k(9k^3 - 58k^2 + 75k - 2)\}, \quad k \geq 5$$

for $r = 0, 1, \dots, \widetilde{k} - 1$, of the third-highest degree term are quadratic functions of r .

Proof. Let us prove the theorem using mathematical induction. Obviously, (2.2)–(2.5) imply that (2.7) is true when $k = 1, 2, 3$. Assuming (2.7) is true, let us now show that $M(n, k+1)$ is described by $\widetilde{k}+1$ polynomials of degree k in $Q_{\widetilde{k+1}}$. Putting n as $n = \widetilde{k}+1Q_{\widetilde{k+1}} + R_{\widetilde{k+1}}$, we have $\lfloor \frac{n}{\widetilde{k+1}} \rfloor = \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k+1}}Q_{\widetilde{k+1}} + Q_{R_{\widetilde{k+1}}, k+1}$. Thus, denoting $v_l = R_{\widetilde{k+1}} - 1 + l(k+1)$ for convenience, we get

$$(2.13) \quad \begin{aligned} M(n, k+1) &= \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{\widetilde{k+1}} \rfloor} M(n + k - (k+1)i, k) \\ &= \begin{cases} M(n-1, k) + M(n-2-k, k) + \dots + M(R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + k, k), \\ \quad \text{when } 0 \leq R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \leq k \\ \quad (\frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k+1}}Q_{\widetilde{k+1}} \text{ terms added}) \\ M(n-1, k) + M(n-2-k, k) \\ \quad + \dots + M(R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + k, k) + M(R_{\widetilde{k+1}} - 1, k), \\ \quad \text{when } k+1 \leq R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \leq 2k+1 \\ \quad (\frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k+1}}Q_{\widetilde{k+1}} + 1 \text{ terms added}) \\ \vdots \\ M(n-1, k) + M(n-2-k, k) \\ \quad + \dots + M(R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + k, k) + M(R_{\widetilde{k+1}} - 1, k), \\ \quad + \dots + M(R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + 2k+1 - \widetilde{k}+1, k) \\ \quad \text{when } \widetilde{k}+1 - k - 1 \leq R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \leq \widetilde{k}+1 - 1 \\ \quad (\frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k+1}}Q_{\widetilde{k+1}} + \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k+1}} - 1 \text{ terms added}) \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

which can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned}
 M(n, k+1) &= \sum_{i=1}^{Q_{\widetilde{k+1}}} \sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{k+1}} M\left(\widetilde{k} \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}}(i-1) \right\} + R_{\widetilde{k+1}} - 1 + l(k+1), k\right) \\
 &\quad + D(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{Q_{\widetilde{k+1}}} \sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{k+1}} M\left(\widetilde{k} \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}}(i-1) + Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}} \right\} + (v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}}), k\right) \\
 &\quad + D(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{Q_{\widetilde{k+1}}} \sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{k+1}} \left[c_{k-1, k}(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}}) \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}}(i-1) + Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-1} \right. \\
 &\quad + c_{k-2, k}(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}}) \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}}(i-1) + Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-2} \\
 &\quad + c_{k-3, k}(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}}) \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}}(i-1) + Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-3} \\
 &\quad \left. + \cdots + c_{0, k}(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}}) \right] + D(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{Q_{\widetilde{k+1}}} \left\{ t_{k-1, k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}})(i-1)^{k-1} + t_{k-2, k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}})(i-1)^{k-2} \right. \\
 (2.14) \quad &\quad \left. + t_{k-3, k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}})(i-1)^{k-3} + \cdots + t_{0, k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \right\} + D(R_{\widetilde{k+1}})
 \end{aligned}$$

from (2.1) using (2.7) since $0 \leq v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}} \leq \widetilde{k} - 1$. Here,

$$(2.15) \quad D(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) = \sum_{j=1}^{Q_{R_{\widetilde{k+1}}, k+1}} M(R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + k - j(k+1), k)$$

is zero unless $R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \geq k+1$ since $Q_{R_{\widetilde{k+1}}, k+1} = 0$ when $R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \leq k$,

$$(2.16) \quad t_{m, k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) = \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^m \sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{k+1}} \bar{c}_{m, k}(v_l), \quad m = 0, 1, \dots, k-1,$$

and

$$(2.17) \quad \bar{c}_{m, k}(r) = \sum_{t=m}^{k-1} \binom{t}{t-m} c_{t, k}(r - \widetilde{k}Q_{r, \widetilde{k}}) Q_{r, \widetilde{k}}^{t-m}.$$

Recollecting $R_{\widetilde{k+1}} = 0, 1, \dots, \widetilde{k+1} - 1$, it is clear from (2.14) that $M(n, k+1)$ is described by $\widetilde{k+1}$ polynomials of degree k in $Q_{\widetilde{k+1}}$, proving that (2.7) holds when

k is increased by 1. In addition, we have $c_{0,k+1}(R_{k+1}) = D(R_{k+1})$ which is the same as (2.8) when $k+1$ is replaced with k . Let us show next that the coefficients of Q_{k+1}^k , Q_{k+1}^{k-1} , and Q_{k+1}^{k-2} in the polynomial representation of $M(n, k+1)$ are those obtained from (2.9), (2.10), and (2.12), respectively, by replacing $k+1$ for k . Concentrating on the terms of i^{k-1} , i^{k-2} , and i^{k-3} in (2.14), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
M(n, k+1) &= \sum_{i=1}^{Q_{k+1}} t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) i^{k-1} \\
&+ \sum_{i=1}^{Q_{k+1}} \left\{ (-1)^0 \binom{k-2}{0} t_{k-2,k}(R_{k+1}) + (-1)^1 \binom{k-1}{1} t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) \right\} i^{k-2} \\
&+ \sum_{i=1}^{Q_{k+1}} \left\{ (-1)^0 \binom{k-3}{0} t_{k-3,k}(R_{k+1}) + (-1)^1 \binom{k-2}{1} t_{k-2,k}(R_{k+1}) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (-1)^2 \binom{k-1}{2} t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) \right\} i^{k-3} + o(i^{k-3}) \\
&= t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) \{ H_{1,k-1} Q_{k+1}^k + H_{2,k-1} Q_{k+1}^{k-1} + H_{3,k-1} Q_{k+1}^{k-2} + \cdots \} \\
&+ \left\{ t_{k-2,k}(R_{k+1}) - (k-1) t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) \right\} \\
&\quad \cdot \{ H_{1,k-2} Q_{k+1}^{k-1} + H_{2,k-2} Q_{k+1}^{k-2} + H_{3,k-2} Q_{k+1}^{k-3} + \cdots \} \\
&+ \left\{ t_{k-3,k}(R_{k+1}) - (k-2) t_{k-2,k}(R_{k+1}) + \frac{(k-1)(k-2)}{2} t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) \right\} \\
&\quad \cdot \{ H_{1,k-3} Q_{k+1}^{k-2} + H_{2,k-3} Q_{k+1}^{k-3} + H_{3,k-3} Q_{k+1}^{k-4} + \cdots \} + o(Q_{k+1}^{k-2}) \\
&= H_{1,k-1} t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) Q_{k+1}^k \\
&+ \left[H_{2,k-1} t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) + H_{1,k-2} \left\{ t_{k-2,k}(R_{k+1}) \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. - (k-1) t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) \right\} \right] Q_{k+1}^{k-1} \\
&+ \left[H_{3,k-1} t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) + H_{2,k-2} \left\{ t_{k-2,k}(R_{k+1}) - (k-1) t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) \right\} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + H_{1,k-3} \left\{ t_{k-3,k}(R_{k+1}) - (k-2) t_{k-2,k}(R_{k+1}) \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + \frac{(k-1)(k-2)}{2} t_{k-1,k}(R_{k+1}) \right\} \right] Q_{k+1}^{k-2} + o(Q_{k+1}^{k-2}).
\end{aligned} \tag{2.18}$$

Here, $H_{j,k}$ denotes the coefficient of (the j -th highest degree term) n^{k+2-j} in $\sum_{i=1}^n i^k$, and can straightforwardly be shown [1] to be $H_{1,k} = \frac{1}{k+1}$ for $k \geq 0$, $H_{2,k} = \frac{1}{2}$ for $k \geq 1$, and $H_{3,k} = \frac{k}{12}$ for $k \geq 2$. Now using (2.9), (2.16), and (2.17), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
t_{k-1,k}(\widetilde{R_{k+1}}) &= \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-1} \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{k+1} c_{k-1,k}(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}}) \\
&= \begin{cases} 1, & k-1=0, \\ \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-1} \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{k+1} \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-1}}{k!(k-1)!}, & k-1 \geq 1, \end{cases} \\
(2.19) \quad &= \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^k}{(k+1)!(k-1)!}, \quad k \geq 1
\end{aligned}$$

since $c_{0,1}(r) = 1$ from (2.2). The result (2.19) can in turn be used in the coefficient of Q_{k+1}^k in (2.18) to produce

$$\begin{aligned}
c_{k,k+1}(\widetilde{R_{k+1}}) &= H_{1,k-1} t_{k-1,k}(\widetilde{R_{k+1}}) \\
&= \frac{1}{k} \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^k}{(k+1)!(k-1)!} \\
(2.20) \quad &= \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^k}{(k+1)!k!}, \quad k \geq 1.
\end{aligned}$$

Next, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
t_{0,2}(R_6) &= \sum_{l=1}^2 \{c_{0,2}(v_l - 2Q_{v_l,2}) + c_{1,2}(v_l - 2Q_{v_l,2})Q_{v_l,2}\} \\
&= Q_{R_6+2,2} + Q_{R_6+5,2} \\
(2.21) \quad &= R_6 + 3
\end{aligned}$$

after some calculations from (2.16) when $k = 2$ since $c_{0,2}(r) = 0$ from (2.3) and $c_{1,2}(r) = 1$ from (2.20), and

$$\begin{aligned}
t_{k-2,k}(\widetilde{R_{k+1}}) &= \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-2} \sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{\frac{k+1}{k+1}}} \left\{ c_{k-2,k}(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}}) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (k-1)c_{k-1,k}(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}})Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}} \right\} \\
&= \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-2} \sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{\frac{k+1}{k+1}}} \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-2}}{4k!(k-2)!} \{4(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}}) + k(k-3)\} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (k-1) \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-1}}{k!(k-1)!} Q_{v_l, \widetilde{k}} \right\} \\
&= \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-2} \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-2}}{4k!(k-2)!} \sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{\frac{k+1}{k+1}}} \{4v_l + k(k-3)\} \\
&= \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^{k-2}}{4k!(k-2)!}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \times \left[\frac{2}{k+1} \left\{ \widetilde{k+1}^2 + \widetilde{k+1} (2R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + k - 1) \right\} + \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{k+1} k(k-3) \right] \\
(2.22) \quad & = \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^{k-1}}{4(k+1)!(k-2)!} \left\{ 2\widetilde{k+1} + 4R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + (k+1)(k-2) \right\}, \quad k \geq 3
\end{aligned}$$

from (2.16) using (2.10) since

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{k+1}} 4v_l &= 4 \left\{ (R_{\widetilde{k+1}} - 1) \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{k+1} + \frac{k+1}{2} \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{k+1} \left(\frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{k+1} + 1 \right) \right\} \\
(2.23) \quad &= \frac{2}{k+1} \left\{ \widetilde{k+1}^2 + \widetilde{k+1} (2R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + k - 1) \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

As the result $R_6 + 3$ obtained in (2.21) can also be obtained from (2.22) when we put $k = 2$, we note that (2.22) holds for $k \geq 2$. Using (2.19) and (2.22), we have the coefficient of $Q_{\widetilde{k+1}}^{k-1}$ in (2.18) as

$$\begin{aligned}
c_{k-1, k+1}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) &= H_{2, k-1} t_{k-1, k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \\
&\quad + H_{1, k-2} \left\{ t_{k-2, k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) - (k-1) t_{k-1, k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \right\} \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} t_{k-1, k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) + \frac{1}{k-1} t_{k-2, k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^k}{(k+1)!(k-1)!} \\
&\quad + \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^{k-1}}{4(k+1)!(k-1)!} \left\{ 2\widetilde{k+1} + 4R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + (k+1)(k-2) \right\} \\
(2.24) \quad &= \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^{k-1}}{4(k+1)!(k-1)!} \left\{ 4R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + (k+1)(k-2) \right\}, \quad k \geq 2.
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, defining $\alpha_k = \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{2k!(k-3)!}$, $\beta_k = \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{4(k-1)!(k-4)!}$, and $\gamma_k = \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{288(k-1)!(k-3)!} (9k^3 - 58k^2 + 75k - 2)$ for convenience, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
t_{k-3,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) &= \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-3} \sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{k+1}} \left\{ c_{k-3,k}(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l,\widetilde{k}}) \right. \\
&\quad + (k-2)c_{k-2,k}(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l,\widetilde{k}})Q_{v_l,\widetilde{k}} \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{(k-1)(k-2)}{2}c_{k-1,k}(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l,\widetilde{k}})Q_{v_l,\widetilde{k}}^2 \right\} \\
&= \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-3} \sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{k+1}} \left[(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l,\widetilde{k}})^2\alpha_k + (v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l,\widetilde{k}})\beta_k + \gamma_k \right. \\
&\quad + \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-2}}{4k!(k-3)!} \{4(v_l - \widetilde{k}Q_{v_l,\widetilde{k}}) + k(k-3)\}Q_{v_l,\widetilde{k}} \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-1}}{2k!(k-3)!}Q_{v_l,\widetilde{k}}^2 \right] \\
(2.25) \quad &= \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-3} \sum_{l=1}^{\widetilde{k+1}} \{\alpha_k v_l^2 + \beta_k v_l + \gamma_k\},
\end{aligned}$$

which can further be shown to be

$$\begin{aligned}
t_{0,3}(R_{12}) &= \sum_{l=1}^3 \sum_{j=0}^2 c_{j,3}(v_l - 6Q_{v_l,6})Q_{v_l,6}^j \\
(2.26) \quad &= \begin{cases} (R_{12}^2 + 14R_{12} + 60)/4, & R_{r,2} = 0, \\ (R_{12}^2 + 14R_{12} + 57)/4, & R_{r,2} = 1, \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
t_{k-3,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) &= \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-3} \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{6(k+1)} \left[\alpha_k(\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1)(2\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1) \right. \\
&\quad + 3\{2\alpha_k(R_{\widetilde{k+1}} - 1) + \beta_k\}(\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1) \\
&\quad \left. + 6\{\alpha_k(R_{\widetilde{k+1}} - 1)^2 + \beta_k(R_{\widetilde{k+1}} - 1) + \gamma_k\} \right] \\
&= \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-3} \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{6(k+1)} \left[6\alpha_k R_{\widetilde{k+1}}^2 \right. \\
&\quad + \{6\alpha_k(\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1) - 12\alpha_k + 6\beta_k\} R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \\
&\quad + \alpha_k(\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1)(2\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1) \\
&\quad \left. + 3(\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1)(\beta_k - 2\alpha_k) + 6(\alpha_k - \beta_k + \gamma_k) \right] \\
&= \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{\widetilde{k}} \right\}^{k-3} \frac{\widetilde{k+1}}{(k+1)} \left[\frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{2k!(k-3)!} R_{\widetilde{k+1}}^2 \right.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \left\{ \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{2k!(k-3)!} (\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1) - \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{k!(k-3)!} \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{4(k-1)!(k-4)!} \right\} R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \\
& + \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{12k!(k-3)!} (\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1)(2\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1) \\
& + \frac{1}{2} (\widetilde{k+1} + k + 1) \left(\frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{4(k-1)!(k-4)!} - \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{k!(k-3)!} \right) \\
& + \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{2k!(k-3)!} - \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}}{4(k-1)!(k-4)!} \\
& + \frac{\widetilde{k}^{k-3}(9k^3 - 58k^2 + 75k - 2)}{288(k-1)!(k-3)!} \Big] \\
& = \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^{k-2}}{6(k+1)!(k-3)!} \left[3R_{\widetilde{k+1}}^2 + \frac{3}{2} \{2\widetilde{k+1} + (k+1)(k-2)\} R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \right. \\
& \quad + \widetilde{k+1}^2 + \frac{3}{4} \widetilde{k+1}(k+1)(k-2) \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{9k^4 - 22k^3 - 45k^2 + 10k + 24}{48} \right], \quad k-3 \geq 1,
\end{aligned} \tag{2.27}$$

since $\{c_{0,3}(r)\}_{r=0}^5 = \{0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2\}$, $c_{1,3}(r) = r$, and $c_{2,3}(r) = 3$ from (2.5). The results (2.26) and (2.27), together with (2.19) and (2.22), can now be used in the coefficient of $Q_{\widetilde{k+1}}^{k-2}$ in (2.18) to produce

$$\begin{aligned}
c_{k-2,k+1}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) &= \frac{k-1}{12} t_{k-1,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) + \frac{1}{2} \left\{ t_{k-2,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \right. \\
& \quad \left. - (k-1)t_{k-1,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \right\} \\
& + \frac{1}{k-2} \left\{ t_{k-3,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) - (k-2)t_{k-2,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{(k-1)(k-2)}{2} t_{k-1,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \right\} \\
&= \frac{k-1}{12} t_{k-1,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) - \frac{1}{2} t_{k-2,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) + \frac{1}{k-2} t_{k-3,k}(R_{\widetilde{k+1}}) \\
&= \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^k}{12(k+1)!(k-2)!} \\
& \quad - \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^{k-1}}{8(k+1)!(k-2)!} \left\{ 2\widetilde{k+1} + 4R_{\widetilde{k+1}} + (k+1)(k-2) \right\} \\
& \quad + \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^{k-2}}{6(k+1)!(k-2)!} \left[3R_{\widetilde{k+1}}^2 + \frac{3}{2} \{2\widetilde{k+1} + (k+1)(k-2)\} R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \right.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \widetilde{k+1}^2 + \frac{3}{4} \widetilde{k+1}(k+1)(k-2) \\
& + \frac{9k^4 - 22k^3 - 45k^2 + 10k + 24}{48} \Big] \\
& = \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^{k-2}}{6(k+1)!(k-2)!} \left\{ 3R_{\widetilde{k+1}}^2 + \frac{3}{2}(k+1)(k-2)R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{9k^4 - 22k^3 - 45k^2 + 10k + 24}{48} \right\} \\
& = \frac{\widetilde{k+1}^{k-2}}{288(k+1)!(k-2)!} \left[144R_{\widetilde{k+1}}^2 + 72(k+1)(k-2)R_{\widetilde{k+1}} \right. \\
(2.28) \quad & \left. + (k+1)\{9(k+1)^3 - 58(k+1)^2 + 75(k+1) - 2\} \right], \quad k \geq 4,
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
c_{1,4}(R_{12}) &= \frac{1}{6}t_{2,3}(R_{12}) - \frac{1}{2}t_{1,3}(R_{12}) + t_{0,3}(R_{12}) \\
&= t_{0,3}(R_{12}) - 3R_{12} - 15 \\
(2.29) \quad &= \begin{cases} (R_{12}^2 + 2R_{12})/4, & R_{R_{12},2} = 0, \\ (R_{12}^2 + 2R_{12} - 3)/4, & R_{R_{12},2} = 1. \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

The results (2.20), (2.24), (2.28), and (2.29) complete the proof of the theorem. $\square$

We would like to mention that, by writing $n = \widetilde{k}q + r$ where $0 \leq q \leq Q_{\widetilde{k}}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
M(n, k) &= \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} c_{i,k}(r - \widetilde{k}Q_{r,\widetilde{k}})(q + Q_{r,\widetilde{k}})^i \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \left\{ \binom{i}{0} c_{i,k}(r - \widetilde{k}Q_{r,\widetilde{k}}) \right. \\
&\quad + \binom{i+1}{1} c_{i+1,k}(r - \widetilde{k}Q_{r,\widetilde{k}})Q_{r,\widetilde{k}} + \binom{i+2}{2} c_{i+2,k}(r - \widetilde{k}Q_{r,\widetilde{k}})Q_{r,\widetilde{k}}^2 \\
&\quad \left. + \cdots + \binom{k-1}{k-i-1} c_{k-1,k}(r - \widetilde{k}Q_{r,\widetilde{k}})Q_{r,\widetilde{k}}^{k-i-1} \right\} q^i \\
(2.30) \quad &= \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \bar{c}_{i,k}(r)q^i,
\end{aligned}$$

from (2.7) since $Q_{\widetilde{k}} = q + Q_{r,\widetilde{k}}$ and $R_{\widetilde{k}} = r - \widetilde{k}Q_{r,\widetilde{k}}$. The result (2.30) implies that, to compute $M(n, k)$, the $\widetilde{k}$ polynomials in (2.7) can be extended by expressing the number n more generally as the sum $n = \widetilde{k}q + r$ of a multiple of $\widetilde{k}$ and a nonnegative integer, where q does not need to be $Q_{\widetilde{k}}$. For example, when $n = 42$, $M(42, 3) = 147$ can be evaluated as $M(6 \cdot 7 + 0, 3) = 3 \cdot 7^2 = 147$, $M(6 \cdot 6 + 6, 3) = 3 \cdot 6^2 + 6 \cdot 6 + 3 = 147$, or $M(6 \cdot 5 + 12, 3) = 3 \cdot 5^2 + 12 \cdot 5 + 12 = 147$, $\cdots$ from the polynomials $3m^2$ for $r = 0$, $3m^2 + 6m + 3$ for $r = 6$, and $3m^2 + 12m + 12$ for $r = 12$ (shown in (2.4) and those extended from (2.5) as in (2.30)) $\cdots$.

2.4. More examples. Let us now obtain the $\tilde{k}$ polynomials explicitly for $k = 4, 5, 6$. Writing $n = 12Q_{12} + R_{12}$ when $k = 4$, we have

$$(2.31) \quad M(n, 4) = 12Q_{12}^3 + 3(R_{12} + 1)Q_{12}^2 + c_{1,4}(R_{12})Q_{12} + c_{0,4}(R_{12})$$

after some manipulations, where $\{c_{0,4}(r)\}_{r=0}^{11} = \{0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 11\}$. For example, $M(577, 4) = M(48 \cdot 12 + 1, 4) = 12 \cdot 48^3 + 6 \cdot 48^2 = 1340928$. When $k = 5$, we similarly have

$$(2.32) \quad \begin{aligned} M(n, 5) = & 4500Q_{60}^4 + (300R_{60} + 750)Q_{60}^3 + \frac{5}{2}(3R_{60}^2 + 15R_{60} + 5)Q_{60}^2 \\ & + c_{1,5}(R_{60})Q_{60} + c_{0,5}(R_{60}), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(2.33) \quad 24c_{1,5}(r) = \begin{cases} 2r^3 + 15r^2 + 10r - 60, & R_{r,2} = 0, \\ 2r^3 + 15r^2 + 10r - 15, & R_{r,2} = 1, \end{cases}$$

and $\{c_{0,5}(r)\}_{r=0}^{59} = \{0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, \dots, 4932\}$. For example, we have $M(577, 5) = M(9 \cdot 60 + 37, 5) = 4500 \cdot 9^4 + 11850 \cdot 9^3 + \frac{23335}{2} \cdot 9^2 + \frac{10183}{2} \cdot 9 + 831 = 39154872$. Finally, when $k = 6$, we can obtain

$$(2.34) \quad \begin{aligned} M(n, 6) = & 9000Q_{60}^5 + (750R_{60} + 3375)Q_{60}^4 + \frac{25}{3}(3R_{60}^2 + 27R_{60} + 38)Q_{60}^3 \\ & + c_{2,6}(R_{60})Q_{60}^2 + c_{1,6}(R_{60})Q_{60} + c_{0,6}(R_{60}), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(2.35) \quad \frac{24}{5}c_{2,6}(r) = \begin{cases} 2r^3 + 27r^2 + 76r, & R_{r,2} = 0, \\ 2r^3 + 27r^2 + 76r - 45, & R_{r,2} = 1, \end{cases}$$

$$(2.36) \quad 288c_{1,6}(r) = \begin{cases} r^4 + 18r^3 + 76r^2 + 96, & R_{r,6} = 0, \\ r^4 + 18r^3 + 76r^2 - 90r - 629, & R_{r,6} = 1, 5, \\ r^4 + 18r^3 + 76r^2 - 224, & R_{r,6} = 2, 4, \\ r^4 + 18r^3 + 76r^2 - 90r - 309, & R_{r,6} = 3, \end{cases}$$

and $\{c_{0,6}(r)\}_{r=0}^{59} = \{0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 14, \dots, 11720\}$. For example, $M(577, 6) = M(9 \cdot 60 + 37, 6) = 9000 \cdot 9^5 + 31125 \cdot 9^4 + \frac{128600}{3} \cdot 9^3 + \frac{58765}{2} \cdot 9^2 + \frac{60125}{6} \cdot 9 + 1360 = 769373455$.

Some of the results are summarized in Tables 1–4. As shown in Table 1, the leading coefficients $c_{k-1,k}(r)$ form a new integer sequence [6] of infinite length.

TABLE 1. The leading coefficients $\{c_{k-1,k}(r)\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$.

k	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	...
$c_{k-1,k}(r)$	1	1	3	12	4500	9000	1512630000	1452124800000	...

TABLE 2. The coefficients $\{c_{j,4}(r)\}_{j=3}^0$ for $M(n, 4) = c_{3,4}(R_{12})Q_{12}^3 + c_{2,4}(R_{12})Q_{12}^2 + c_{1,4}(R_{12})Q_{12} + c_{0,4}(R_{12})$.

r	$(c_{3,4}(r), c_{2,4}(r), c_{1,4}(r), c_{0,4}(r))$	r	$(c_{3,4}(r), c_{2,4}(r), c_{1,4}(r), c_{0,4}(r))$
0	(12, 3, 0, 0)	1	(12, 6, 0, 0)
2	(12, 9, 2, 0)	3	(12, 12, 3, 0)
4	(12, 15, 6, 1)	5	(12, 18, 8, 1)
6	(12, 21, 12, 2)	7	(12, 24, 15, 3)
8	(12, 27, 20, 5)	9	(12, 30, 24, 6)
10	(12, 33, 30, 9)	11	(12, 36, 35, 11)

TABLE 3. The coefficients $\{c_{j,5}(r)\}_{j=4}^0$ for $M(n, 5) = c_{4,5}(R_{60})Q_{60}^4 + c_{3,5}(R_{60})Q_{60}^3 + c_{2,5}(R_{60})Q_{60}^2 + c_{1,5}(R_{60})Q_{60} + c_{0,5}(R_{60})$.

r	$(c_{4,5}(r), c_{3,5}(r), c_{2,5}(r), c_{1,5}(r), c_{0,5}(r))$	r	$(c_{4,5}(r), c_{3,5}(r), c_{2,5}(r), c_{1,5}(r), c_{0,5}(r))$
0	(4500, 750, 25/2, -5/2, 0)	1	(4500, 1050, 115/2, 1/2, 0)
2	(4500, 1350, 235/2, 3/2, 0)	3	(4500, 1650, 385/2, 17/2, 0)
4	(4500, 1950, 565/2, 29/2, 0)	5	(4500, 2250, 775/2, 55/2, 1)
6	(4500, 2550, 1015/2, 81/2, 1)	7	(4500, 2850, 1285/2, 123/2, 2)
8	(4500, 3150, 1585/2, 167/2, 3)	9	(4500, 3450, 1915/2, 229/2, 5)
10	(4500, 3750, 2275/2, 295/2, 7)	11	(4500, 4050, 2665/2, 381/2, 10)
12	(4500, 4350, 3085/2, 473/2, 13)	13	(4500, 4650, 3535/2, 587/2, 18)
14	(4500, 4950, 4015/2, 709/2, 23)	15	(4500, 5250, 4525/2, 855/2, 30)
16	(4500, 5550, 5065/2, 1011/2, 37)	17	(4500, 5850, 5635/2, 1193/2, 47)
18	(4500, 6150, 6235/2, 1387/2, 57)	19	(4500, 6450, 6865/2, 1609/2, 70)
20	(4500, 6750, 7525/2, 1845/2, 84)	21	(4500, 7050, 8215/2, 2111/2, 101)
22	(4500, 7350, 8935/2, 2393/2, 119)	23	(4500, 7650, 9685/2, 2707/2, 141)
24	(4500, 7950, 10465/2, 3039/2, 164)	25	(4500, 8250, 11275/2, 3405/2, 192)
26	(4500, 8550, 12115/2, 3791/2, 221)	27	(4500, 8850, 12985/2, 4213/2, 255)
28	(4500, 9150, 13885/2, 4657/2, 291)	29	(4500, 9450, 14815/2, 5139/2, 333)
30	(4500, 9750, 15775/2, 5645/2, 377)	31	(4500, 10050, 16765/2, 6191/2, 427)
32	(4500, 10350, 17785/2, 6763/2, 480)	33	(4500, 10650, 18835/2, 7377/2, 540)
34	(4500, 10950, 19915/2, 8019/2, 603)	35	(4500, 11250, 21025/2, 8705/2, 674)
36	(4500, 11550, 22165/2, 9421/2, 748)	37	(4500, 11850, 23335/2, 10183/2, 831)
38	(4500, 12150, 24535/2, 10977/2, 918)	39	(4500, 12450, 25765/2, 11819/2, 1014)
40	(4500, 12750, 27025/2, 12695/2, 1115)	41	(4500, 13050, 28315/2, 13621/2, 1226)
42	(4500, 13350, 29635/2, 14583/2, 1342)	43	(4500, 13650, 30985/2, 15597/2, 1469)
44	(4500, 13950, 32365/2, 16649/2, 1602)	45	(4500, 14250, 33775/2, 17755/2, 1747)
46	(4500, 14550, 35215/2, 18901/2, 1898)	47	(4500, 14850, 36685/2, 20103/2, 2062)
48	(4500, 15150, 38185/2, 21347/2, 2233)	49	(4500, 15450, 39715/2, 22649/2, 2418)
50	(4500, 15750, 41275/2, 23995/2, 2611)	51	(4500, 16050, 42865/2, 25401/2, 2818)
52	(4500, 16350, 44485/2, 26853/2, 3034)	53	(4500, 16650, 46135/2, 28367/2, 3266)
54	(4500, 16950, 47815/2, 29929/2, 3507)	55	(4500, 17250, 49525/2, 31555/2, 3765)
56	(4500, 17550, 51265/2, 33231/2, 4033)	57	(4500, 17850, 53035/2, 34973/2, 4319)
58	(4500, 18150, 54835/2, 36767/2, 4616)	59	(4500, 18450, 56665/2, 38629/2, 4932)

TABLE 4. The coefficients $\{c_{j,6}(r)\}_{j=5}^0$ for $M(n, 6) = c_{5,6}(R_{60})Q_{60}^5 + c_{4,6}(R_{60})Q_{60}^4 + c_{3,6}(R_{60})Q_{60}^3 + c_{2,6}(R_{60})Q_{60}^2 + c_{1,6}(R_{60})Q_{60} + c_{0,6}(R_{60})$.

r	$(c_{5,6}(r), c_{4,6}(r), c_{3,6}(r), c_{2,6}(r), c_{1,6}(r), c_{0,6}(r))$	r	$(c_{5,6}(r), c_{4,6}(r), c_{3,6}(r), c_{2,6}(r), c_{1,6}(r), c_{0,6}(r))$
0	(9000, 3375, 950/3, 0, 2/6, 0)	1	(9000, 4125, 1700/3, 25/2, -13/6, 0)
2	(9000, 4875, 2600/3, 115/2, 5/6, 0)	3	(9000, 5625, 3650/3, 200/2, 14/6, 0)
4	(9000, 6375, 4850/3, 360/2, 50/6, 0)	5	(9000, 7125, 6200/3, 525/2, 77/6, 0)
6	(9000, 7875, 7700/3, 775/2, 167/6, 1)	7	(9000, 8625, 9350/3, 1040/2, 230/6, 1)
8	(9000, 9375, 11150/3, 1400/2, 374/6, 2)	9	(9000, 10125, 13100/3, 1785/2, 515/6, 3)
10	(9000, 10875, 15200/3, 2275/2, 737/6, 5)	11	(9000, 11625, 17450/3, 2800/2, 962/6, 7)
12	(9000, 12375, 19850/3, 3440/2, 1310/6, 11)	13	(9000, 13125, 22400/3, 4125/2, 1649/6, 14)
14	(9000, 13875, 25100/3, 4935/2, 2135/6, 20)	15	(9000, 14625, 27950/3, 5800/2, 2642/6, 26)
16	(9000, 15375, 30950/3, 6800/2, 3302/6, 35)	17	(9000, 16125, 34100/3, 7865/2, 3995/6, 44)
18	(9000, 16875, 37400/3, 9075/2, 4889/6, 58)	19	(9000, 17625, 40850/3, 10360/2, 5810/6, 71)
20	(9000, 18375, 44450/3, 11800/2, 6962/6, 90)	21	(9000, 19125, 48200/3, 13325/2, 8177/6, 110)
22	(9000, 19875, 52100/3, 15015/2, 9635/6, 136)	23	(9000, 20625, 56150/3, 16800/2, 11174/6, 163)
24	(9000, 21375, 60350/3, 18760/2, 13010/6, 199)	25	(9000, 22125, 64700/3, 20825/2, 14927/6, 235)
26	(9000, 22875, 69200/3, 23075/2, 17177/6, 282)	27	(9000, 23625, 73850/3, 25440/2, 19550/6, 331)
28	(9000, 24375, 78650/3, 28000/2, 22274/6, 391)	29	(9000, 25125, 83600/3, 30685/2, 25145/6, 454)
30	(9000, 25875, 88700/3, 33575/2, 28427/6, 532)	31	(9000, 26625, 93950/3, 36600/2, 31862/6, 612)
32	(9000, 27375, 99350/3, 39840/2, 35750/6, 709)	33	(9000, 28125, 104900/3, 43225/2, 39839/6, 811)
34	(9000, 28875, 110600/3, 46835/2, 44405/6, 931)	35	(9000, 29625, 116450/3, 50600/2, 49202/6, 1057)
36	(9000, 30375, 122450/3, 54600/2, 54542/6, 1206)	37	(9000, 31125, 128600/3, 58765/2, 60125/6, 1360)
38	(9000, 31875, 134900/3, 63175/2, 66299/6, 1540)	39	(9000, 32625, 141350/3, 67760/2, 72770/6, 1729)
40	(9000, 33375, 147950/3, 72600/2, 79862/6, 1945)	41	(9000, 34125, 154700/3, 77625/2, 87287/6, 2172)
42	(9000, 34875, 161600/3, 82915/2, 95405/6, 2432)	43	(9000, 35625, 168650/3, 88400/2, 103874/6, 2702)
44	(9000, 36375, 175850/3, 94160/2, 113090/6, 3009)	45	(9000, 37125, 183200/3, 100125/2, 122717/6, 3331)
46	(9000, 37875, 190700/3, 106375/2, 133127/6, 3692)	47	(9000, 38625, 198350/3, 112840/2, 143990/6, 4070)
48	(9000, 39375, 206150/3, 119600/2, 155714/6, 4494)	49	(9000, 40125, 214100/3, 126585/2, 167915/6, 4935)
50	(9000, 40875, 222200/3, 133875/2, 181037/6, 5427)	51	(9000, 41625, 230450/3, 141400/2, 194702/6, 5942)
52	(9000, 42375, 238850/3, 149240/2, 209330/6, 6510)	53	(9000, 43125, 247400/3, 157325/2, 224549/6, 7104)
54	(9000, 43875, 256100/3, 165735/2, 240815/6, 7760)	55	(9000, 44625, 264950/3, 174400/2, 257702/6, 8442)
56	(9000, 45375, 273950/3, 183400/2, 275702/6, 9192)	57	(9000, 46125, 283100/3, 192665/2, 294395/6, 9975)
58	(9000, 46875, 292400/3, 202275/2, 314249/6, 10829)	59	(9000, 47625, 301850/3, 212160/2, 334850/6, 11720)

2.5. **Remarks.** In passing, we would like to make some remarks on several interesting issues.

Remark 1: Applying mathematical induction in (2.1) with the initial result

$$(2.37) \quad M(n, k-1) = \frac{n^{k-2}}{(k-1)!(k-2)!} + o(n^{k-3})$$

deduced from (2.2) and (2.3), we can show that

$$\begin{aligned}
 M(n, k) &= \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{k} \rfloor} \left\{ \frac{(n+k-ki-1)^{k-2}}{(k-1)!(k-2)!} + o(n^{k-3}) \right\} \\
 &= \frac{1}{(k-1)!(k-2)!} \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{k} \rfloor} \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{k-2} \binom{k-2}{j} (-ki)^j n^{k-2-j} \right\} + o(n^{k-2}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{(k-1)!(k-2)!} \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{k-2} \binom{k-2}{j} (-k)^j \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{k} \rfloor} i^j \right) n^{k-2-j} \right\} + o(n^{k-2}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{(k-1)!(k-2)!} \left\{ \sum_{j=0}^{k-2} \binom{k-1}{j+1} \frac{(-1)^j}{k(k-1)} \right\} n^{k-1} + o(n^{k-2}) \\
 (2.38) \quad &= \frac{n^{k-1}}{k!(k-1)!} + o(n^{k-2})
 \end{aligned}$$

after some calculations using $\sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{k} \rfloor} i^j = \frac{n^{j+1}}{(j+1)k^{j+1}} + o(n^j)$ and $\sum_{j=0}^{k-2} \binom{k-1}{j+1} (-1)^j = \binom{k-1}{0} = 1$. This implies that the sum of degrees in $Q_{\tilde{k}}$ and $R_{\tilde{k}}$ for any term on the right-hand side of (2.7) is $k-1$ since $n = \tilde{k}Q_{\tilde{k}} + R_{\tilde{k}}$. Consequently, the coefficient $c_{i,k}(R_{\tilde{k}})$ in (2.7) has degree $k-1-i$ in $R_{\tilde{k}}$ for $i = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$.

Remark 2: By replacing $Q_{\tilde{k}}$ with $(n - R_{\tilde{k}})/\tilde{k}$ in (2.7), the polynomial in n of (2.38) for the numbers $M(n, k)$ can be obtained explicitly. Specifically, we have

$$(2.39) \quad M(n, k) = \frac{n^{k-1}}{k!(k-1)!} + \frac{(k-3)n^{k-2}}{4(k-1)!(k-2)!} + o(n^{k-3})$$

from (2.7) using (2.9) and (2.10). For example, after some straightforward manipulations in (2.4) and (2.31), we have

$$(2.40) \quad 12M(n, 3) = \begin{cases} n^2, & R_6 = 0, \\ n^2 - 1, & R_6 = 1, 5, \\ n^2 - 4, & R_6 = 2, 4, \\ n^2 + 3, & R_6 = 3, \end{cases}$$

and

$$(2.41) \quad 144M(n, 4) = \begin{cases} n^3 + 3n^2, & R_{12} = 0, \\ n^3 + 3n^2 - 20, & R_{12} = 2, \\ n^3 + 3n^2 + 32, & R_{12} = 4, \\ n^3 + 3n^2 - 36, & R_{12} = 6, \\ n^3 + 3n^2 + 16, & R_{12} = 8, \\ n^3 + 3n^2 - 4, & R_{12} = 10, \\ n^3 + 3n^2 - 9n + 5, & R_{12} = 1, 7, \\ n^3 + 3n^2 - 9n - 27, & R_{12} = 3, 9, \\ n^3 + 3n^2 - 9n - 11, & R_{12} = 5, 11. \end{cases}$$

Remark 3: As a final remark, let us mention that we have not made use of generating functions in this paper. Recall that, for fixed k , the numbers $\{M(n, k)\}_{n=k}^{\infty}$ have the generating function

$$(2.42) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} M(n, k) x^{n-k} &= \frac{1}{(1-x)(1-x^2) \cdots (1-x^k)} \\ &= \frac{1}{(1-x^{\tilde{k}})^k} \prod_{j=1}^k \frac{1-x^{\tilde{k}}}{1-x^j}. \end{aligned}$$

It would be an interesting topic to use this generating function for a possible alternative point of view of the arguments of this paper.

APPENDIX

First, decreasing n and k by 1 until $k = 1$ in (1.6) and adding all of the resultant equations, we can obtain

$$(A.1) \quad M(n, k) = \sum_{j=0}^k M(n-k, j).$$

Since $M(n-k, j) = 0$ for $j \geq n-k+1$ from (1.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 M(n, k) &= \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} M(n-k, j) + \sum_{j=n-k+1}^k M(n-k, j) \\
 &= \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} M(n-k, j) \\
 (A.2) \qquad &= N(n-k), \quad 2k \geq n
 \end{aligned}$$

from (1.4) and (A.1) when $k \geq n-k$. Next, when $k < n-k$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 M(n, k) &= \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} M(n-k, j) - \sum_{j=k+1}^{n-k} M(n-k, j) \\
 &= N(n-k) - \sum_{j=k+1}^{n-k} M(n-k, j) \\
 (A.3) \qquad &= N(n-k) - \sum_{q=0}^{n-2k-1} M(n-k, q+k+1)
 \end{aligned}$$

from (1.4) and (A.1). Now, if $k+1 \geq (n-k) - (k+1)$, we have $q+k+1 \geq (n-k) - (q+k+1)$ when $q = 0, 1, \dots, n-2k-1$, and consequently, $M(n-k, q+k+1) = N(n-2k-1-q)$ for $q = 0, 1, \dots, n-2k-1$ from (A.2). In other words, we can rewrite (A.3) as

$$\begin{aligned}
 M(n, k) &= N(n-k) - \sum_{q=0}^{n-2k-1} N(n-2k-1-q) \\
 (A.4) \qquad &= N(n-k) - \sum_{q=0}^{n-2k-1} N(q), \quad 2k < n \leq 3k+2.
 \end{aligned}$$

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