

ON THE COMBINATORICS OF POLYNOMIAL GENERALIZATIONS OF ROGERS-RAMANUJAN TYPE IDENTITIES

Jose Plínio O. Santos

IMECC-UNICAMP, C.P. 6065, 13083-970-Campinas-SP, Brazil

E-mail: josepli@ime.unicamp.br

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Dedicated to Professor G. E. Andrews on his seventieth birthday

Abstract: In this paper following some ideas introduced by Andrews (Combinatorics and Ramanujan's "lost" notebook, London Mathematical Society Lecture Note Series, No. 103, Cambridge University Press, London, 1985, pp. 1-23) and results given by Santos (Computer algebra and identities of the Rogers-Ramanujan type. Ph.D. Thesis, Pennsylvania State University, 1991) we give a polynomial generalization for the Fibonacci sequence from which we get new formula and combinatorial interpretation for the Fibonacci Numbers. © 2002 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved.

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1. Introduction

In [8] Lucy Slater presented a list of 130 q -series identities including the 3 listed below that are the ones of numbers 18, 14 and 20 respectively with the first two being the famous Rogers Ramanujan identities.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2}}{(q; q)_n} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1 - q^{5n-1})(1 - q^{5n-4})} \quad (1.1)$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2+n}}{(q; q)_n} = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1 - q^{5n-2})(1 - q^{5n-3})} \quad (1.2)$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n^2}}{(q^4; q^4)_n} = \frac{(-q; q^2)_{\infty}}{(q^2; q^2)_{\infty}} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^{5n-2})(1 - q^{5n-3})(1 - q^{5n}) \quad (1.3)$$

where

$$(a; q)_n = (1 - a)(1 - aq) \dots (1 - aq^{n-1}),$$