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Counting Partitions By Genus

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The counting of set partitions according to their genus is revisited. The case of genus 0 –non-crossing partitions –is well known. I will show how using a functional equation between generating functions, all partitions may be reconstructed from the "(semi)-primitive" ones introduced by Cori and Hetyei. This will be carried out explicitly in genus 1 and 2. Time permitting, known results and conjectures about higher genus will be reviewed (based on arxiv:2303.05875 and 2305.01100).

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