Computer Algebra for Functional Equations in Combinatorics and Physics



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Partition identities, functional equations and computer algebra by Jehanne Dousse

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A partition of a positive integer n is a non-increasing sequence of positive integers whose sum is n. A partition identity is a theorem stating that for all n, the number of partitions of n satisfying some conditions equals the number of partitions of n satisfying some other conditions. In this talk, we will show how functional equations and computer algebra can be used to prove such identities. In particular we will discuss a semi-automatic method using recurrences and q-difference equations, and what would be needed to make it fully automatic.