

Maximum Stirling Numbers of the Second Kind

Abstract

Say an integer n is exceptional if the maximum Stirling number of the second kind $S(n, k)$ occurs for two (of necessity consecutive) values of k . We prove that the number of exceptional integers less than or equal to x is $O(x^{1/2+\epsilon})$, for any $\epsilon > 0$. We derive a similar result for partitions of n into exactly k integers.