1154-05-184David Galvin* (dgalvin1@nd.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Notre Dame,
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The compositional inverse of $e^x - 1$ is $\log(1 + x)$, whose power series (about 0) is alternating. What about truncates of the power series of $e^x - 1$? The power series of the compositional inverse of the polynomial $\sum_{k=1}^{r} \frac{x^k}{k!}$ is alternating for some r, and not for others.

Somewhat surprisingly it seems easier to use a combinatorial (rather than an analytic) approach to pin down which r for which the inverse is alternating. The same combinatorial approach answers a 2006 question of Choi, Long, Ng and Smith, concerning the inverse of a matrix of certain restricted Stirling numbers.

In this talk I will attempt to make these vague statements more precise, and highlight some questions that remain in the area.

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