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Abstract

Let S(n,k) denote the Stirling numbers of the second kind. We prove that the *p*-adic limit of $S(p^ea + c, p^eb + d)$ as $e \to \infty$ exists for any integers *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d* with $0 < b \leq a$. We call the limiting *p*-adic integer $S(p^{\infty}a + c, p^{\infty}b + d)$. When $a \equiv b \mod (p-1)$ or $d \leq 0$, we express them in terms of *p*-adic binomial coefficients $\binom{p^{\infty}\alpha-1}{p^{\infty}\beta}$ introduced in a recent paper.