

(P-1-2 MATH 239, Winter 2021) Let n be a positive integer. How many binary strings of length $2n + 1$ have more 1's than 0's?

Solution: We show that there exists a bijection between the set \mathcal{P} , the set of all binary strings that have more 1's than 0's, and the set \mathcal{H} , the set of all binary strings that have more 0's than 1's. Let $f: \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ be the function which assigns for some $\alpha = a_1 \cdots a_{2n+1} \in \mathcal{P}$, $f(\alpha) = b_1 \cdots b_{2n+1}$, the string such that $a_i = 1 \implies b_i = 0$. Clearly $f(\alpha) \in \mathcal{H}$, since α was a string with more 1's than 0's, $f(\alpha)$ would be string with more 0's than 1's. It remains to show that the image of f is \mathcal{H} . Let $f^{-1}: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$ be the inverse function which assigns for each $\gamma = b_1 \cdots b_{2n+1}$ the string $f^{-1}(\gamma) = a_1 \cdots a_{2n+1}$, where $b_i = 1 \implies a_i = 0$. Applying similar reasoning from before, $f^{-1}(\gamma) \in \mathcal{P}$. Hence we have proven that $\mathcal{P} \rightleftharpoons \mathcal{H}$, which implies that $|\mathcal{H}| = |\mathcal{P}|$, since $|\mathcal{P}| + |\mathcal{H}| = |\{1, 0\}^{2n+1}| = 2^{2n+1} \implies 2|\mathcal{P}| = 2^{2n+1} \implies |\mathcal{P}| = 2^{2n}$.

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