

Problem 3

Colour each point in the xy plane having integer coefficients Red or Blue. Then some rectangle has all its vertices the same colour.

Solution Suppose we looked at a small part of the infinite plane. A 1 by 3 tall column. This might seem like a offside tangent, but how many ways are there to colour this? There are 2^3 ways, leaving us with 8 colourings. Then by the Pigeon Hole Principle, each coloring always has two cells of the same color. This means, if we have a repeated column we effectively have our rectangle with each corner being the same colour.

For any infinite grid of of colourings on the xy plane, we can pick out a 9 by 3 tall area that will always contain a rectangle by The Pigeon Hole Principle. This is because there are only 8 possible 1 by 3 unique columns colourings each of which have 2 identical colours, but since we have 9 spaces, there has to be at least two columns of the same colouring. Giving us a rectangle.

Problem 4

You are attending a “Happy New Schoo Year” party.

At some point a person next to you says: “Do you know that at this party there must be at least two people with the exactly same number of friends among the party attendees?” You are puzzled: “How would you prove something like that?”

Solution A friendship is a two way interaction, person a is friends with b and vice versa. Then we can start to rephrase the question. Suppose we treat every party attendant as a vertex in a graph, and the friendships can be the edges. The question then is, for any simple graph G , do there exist two vertices with the same degree?

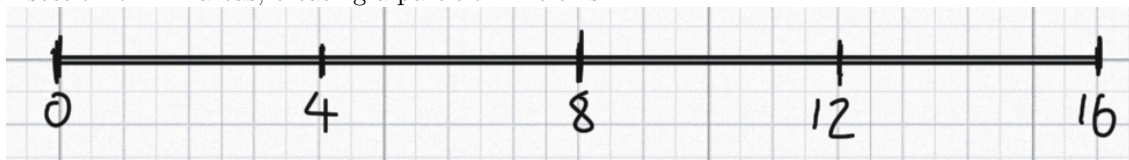
Lets look at some facts, suppose G has n vertices. Then for any vertex v , $\deg(v)$ (the number of edges connected to it) can be $[0, 1, \dots, n - 1]$. $n - 1$ since if a vertex had n or more, then it would need to be connected to n or more vertices, however v only has access to $n - 1$.

With this, we can start using the Pigeon Hole Principle, albeit a tad modified. Let G be a simple graph with n vertices, for any v in G the $\deg(v) = [0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1]$ however with one big caveat. Let v_0 be a vertex in G , if v_0 has degree $n - 1$, then there does not exist a v with degree 0, as v_0 is connected to every vertex. There are many other problems that bring the upper bound of degrees possibilities lower, but with this we can already show that there will be two with the same degree. We now have $n - 1$ degree options and n vertices, by the Pigeon Hole Principle there must be at least two vertices sharing the same degree.

Problem 5

Prove that it is impossible to seat 10 people around a circular table with the diameter of 5 meters and keep the COVID imposed rule of the minimal distance of 2 meters between any two people.

Solution Suppose we unravel the circular table's circumference to a line. Using simple circle formulas we find that the circumference is 15.7079...m, for simplicity let's say that line is no bigger than 16m. We can then section off 4m areas, creating a partition like this:



This gives us 4 spots that we can place people while keeping them 2m away from each other, however we have 10 people that need to be seated. By The Pigeon Hole Principle, we have 4 partitioned spots and 10 people, meaning there must be at least 3 people in one partitioned area.

Problem 6

Let A be a set of an odd number of consecutive positive integers. Say

$$A = \{k, k + 1, \dots, k + 2n\}$$

for some $k, n \in \mathbb{N}$

Let B be any subset of the set A that contains at least $n + 1$ elements. Prove that there must be $a, b \in B$ such that $a + b = 2k + 2n$.

Solution We can first simplify this and remove the k element of A to make $A' = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2n\}$, then in an informal way means $A = A' + k$. We can also change out our question to show for $B \subset A'$ where $|B| = n + 1$, that there exists $a, b \in B$ such that $a + b = 2n$.

Now let's build up some pairs that would add up to $2n$. Let P be the set of all 2 pairs that add up to $2n$ in A'

$$P = \{(0, 2n), (1, 2n - 1), (2, 2n - 2), \dots, (n, n)\}$$

We are left with $|P| = n + 1$ however we have a special pair at the end (n, n) . If $n \in B$ then we already have a pairing that adds up to $2n$, a and $b = n$, $a + b = 2n$, all while fitting the condition that $a, b \in B$. In terms of the Pigeon Hole principle we have n pigeon holes, plus one special pigeon hole, and $n + 1$ pigeons.

At least one pigeon hole will have two pigeons, or one pigeon will sit in the special pigeon hole. Meaning we at least pick a numbers complement that adds to $2n$ or pick n . One big glaring question is what about the k value we took out? We can simply add it back on. Each element in A' gets an additional k amount. Meaning for all a and b in our equation $a + b = 2n$ it gets an additional $2k$. Thus proving the original statement.

Problem 7

Consider the set

$$A = \{1, 11, 111, 1111, \dots\}$$

the set that contains all natural numbers whose decimal expression uses only the digit, 1.

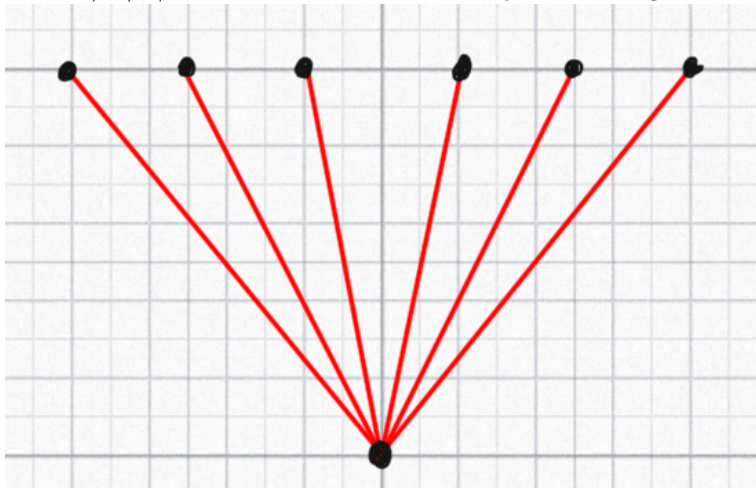
Prove that the set A contains an element that is divisible by 2021.

Solution

Problem 8

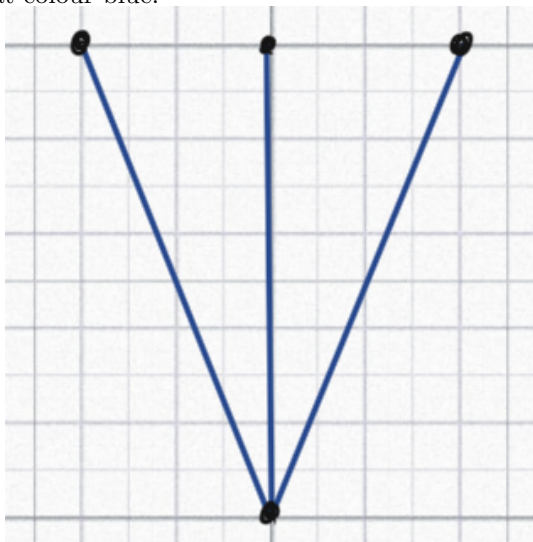
Show that $R(3, 3, 3) \leq 17$.

Solution Suppose for our $k_1 7$ we start at one vertex then colour the edges connecting it to the others using three different colours, say red, green and blue. Using the Pigeon Hole Principle, we have 16 edges and 3 colours. $\lceil 16/3 \rceil = 6$, this means we will always have 6 edges of the same colour, let's make that color red:

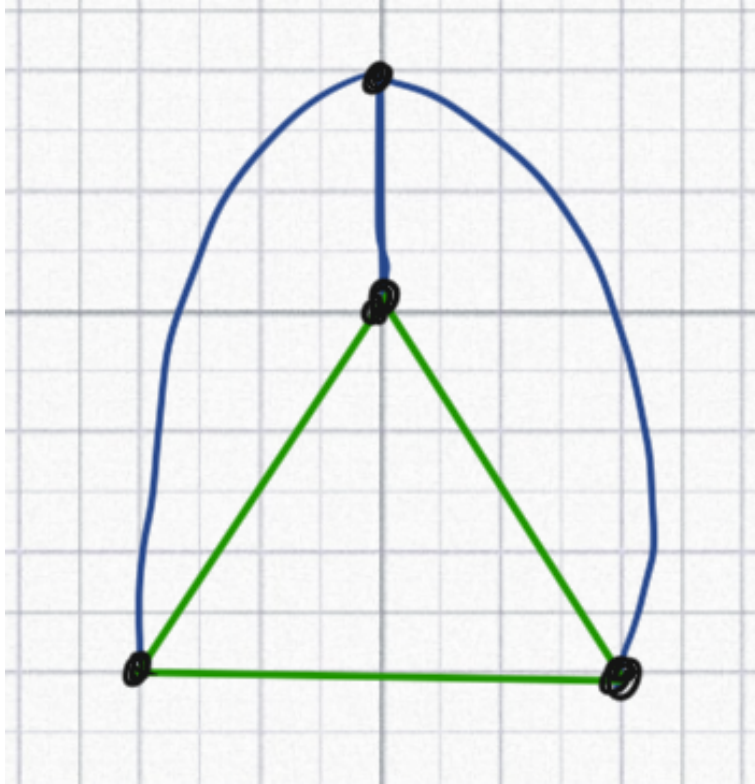


Let's group those top vertices together, into a graph called K_6 , since those vertices will have connections between each and everyone of them. If either of those connections are red, then we've formed a red triangle. However what about the other colours, blue and green?

We can apply the Pigeon Hole Principle again, if we start at one vertex and start colouring all its connections, we find that with 5 edges and 2 colours we have $\lceil 5/2 \rceil = 3$ edges of the same colour. Let's make that colour blue:



If either of those top vertices have a blue edge then we have our blue triangle, but what if they are green instead?



Then we have green triangle! Meaning no matter what we do, we will always have an k_3 of either red blue or green in k_17