

**Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani**  
**Second Semester 2022-2023**

**Online B.Sc. Computer Science Programme**  
**Comprehensive Make-up Exam**

**Question & Answers:**

Question 1:

Suppose  $n=m^2$ , so that  $n$  and  $m$  are integers and  $n$  is an even number. Prove that  $m$  is also an even number.

Answer:

For the sake of contradiction,

Let  $n=m^2$ , so that  $n$  and  $m$  are integers and  $n$  is an even number. Let us assume that  $m$  is odd.

Therefore,  $m$  can be expressed as

$m = 2k + 1$ , where  $k$  is an integer.

Therefore,

$$n = m^2$$

$$= (2k+1)^2$$

$$= 4k^2 + 4k + 1$$

$$= 2(2k^2+2k) + 1 \text{ ---(i)}$$

We know,

Any number which can be expressed in the form of  $2x+1$  (where  $x$  is an integer) is odd.

Therefore, from (i)

$$n = 2p + 1 \text{ (where } p=2k^2+2k)$$

$= n$  is odd.

This contradicts our assumption that  $n$  is even.

Hence,  $m$  must be even.

Hence proved.

## Question 2:

Provide a counterexample to the following statement:

If  $f \circ g$  is one-to-one, then  $f$  is one-to-one.

Answer:

$$f(x) = x^2$$

$$x \text{ belongs to } \mathbb{R} \quad g(x) = x^{3/2}$$

$$\text{Therefore } f(g(x)) = x^3$$

Proving  $f(g(x))$  is one-to-one:

Let  $f(g(x))$  be  $h(x)$

To prove, let  $h(x_1) = h(x_2)$ , where  $x_1, x_2$  belongs to the domain of  $h(x)$

Therefore,

$$h(x_1) = h(x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1^3 = x_2^3$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1^3 - x_2^3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x_1 - x_2)(x_1^2 + x_1x_2 + x_2^2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x_1 - x_2) = 0 \text{ (as } x_1^2 + x_1x_2 + x_2^2 \text{ has no real roots)}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2$$

$$\Rightarrow h(x) \text{ is one-to-one}$$

Proving  $f(x)$  is not one-to-one:

To prove, let  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$

Therefore,

$$f(x_1) = f(x_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1^2 = x_2^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1^2 - x_2^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x_1 + x_2)(x_1 - x_2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x_1 + x_2) = 0 \text{ or } (x_1 - x_2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = x_2, -x_2$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) \text{ is not one-to-one}$$

Hence this is a perfect counter example.

**Question 3:**

Give an example of two uncountably infinite sets A and B, such that A - B is

- (a) Finite
- (b) Countably infinite
- (c) Uncountably infinite

Answer:

(a)

Let A and B be the set of real numbers (R).

Here,  $A - B = \{\}$  (nullset), which is finite.

(b)

Let A be the set of real numbers (R) and B be the set of irrational numbers.

Here,  $A - B = \text{set of all real numbers} - \text{set of all irrational numbers}$

$= C$ , where C is the set of all rational numbers.

We know, rational numbers are countably infinite.

Hence, here  $A - B$  is countably infinite.

(c)

Let  $A$  be the set of real numbers ( $\mathbb{R}$ ) and  $B = \{x \mid x \text{ belongs to } [0,1]\}$

Here,  $A - B = \mathbb{R} - [0,1]$

$= (-\infty, 0) \cup (1, \infty)$

which is uncountably infinite.

#### Question 4:

Consider the vertex set  $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ .

How many distinct directed graphs exist that have  $V$  as their vertex set?

Answer:

Let  $a, b$  belongs to  $V$ .

Each pair  $(a, b)$  is a possible edge.

There are  $n$  choices for  $a$  and  $(n-1)$  choices for  $b$ .

So, the total number of possible edges are  $n(n-1)$ .

Now for each edge, it may be there in the graph or it may be not there.

So, for each edge, there are 2 possibilities.

Hence, for  $n(n-1)$  edges, the total number of possible distinct edges are  $2^{n(n-1)}$

Question 5:

Given an undirected graph, its degree sequence is the monotonic nonincreasing sequence of the degrees of the vertices of the graph. For example, the cycle  $C_4$  has the degree sequence 2, 2, 2, 2 and the wheel  $W_4$  has the degree sequence 4, 3, 3, 3, 3.

(a) What is the degree sequence of the complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are positive integers. Briefly justify.

(b) Provide a counterexample to the following statement:

If two simple undirected graphs have the same degree sequence, then they are isomorphic.

Answer:

(a)

Let  $K_{m,n}$  be a bipartite graph with two disjoint set of vertices  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ , where  $|v_1| = m$  and  $|v_2| = n$

For each vertex  $v$  belongs to  $v_1$ ,

Each can connect to  $n$  vertices of  $v_2$ .

For each vertex  $v$  belongs to  $v_2$ ,

Each can connect to  $m$  vertices of  $v_1$ .

Case 1: (when  $m \leq n$ )

The degree sequence of the complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$  is

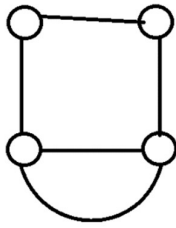
$\{ n, n, n, \dots, n, m, m, m, \dots, m \}$   
( $m$  times)      ( $n$  times)

Case 2: (when  $m > n$ )

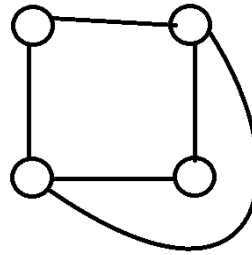
The degree sequence of the complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$  is

$\{ m, m, m, \dots, m, n, n, n, \dots, n \}$   
( $n$  times)      ( $m$  times)

(b)



Graph  $G_1$



Graph  $G_2$

Degree sequence of  $G_1 = \{2, 2, 3, 3\}$

Degree sequence of  $G_2 = \{2, 2, 3, 3\}$

The degree sequences of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is same. But if we see both the graphs, they can't be isomorphic. In the graph  $G_1$  the vertices of degree 3 are consecutive, while in graph  $G_2$  they are not.

Hence, this is a proper counterexample of the statement.

#### Question 6:

Show that all vertices visited in a directed path connecting two vertices in the same strongly connected component of a directed graph are also in that strongly connected component.

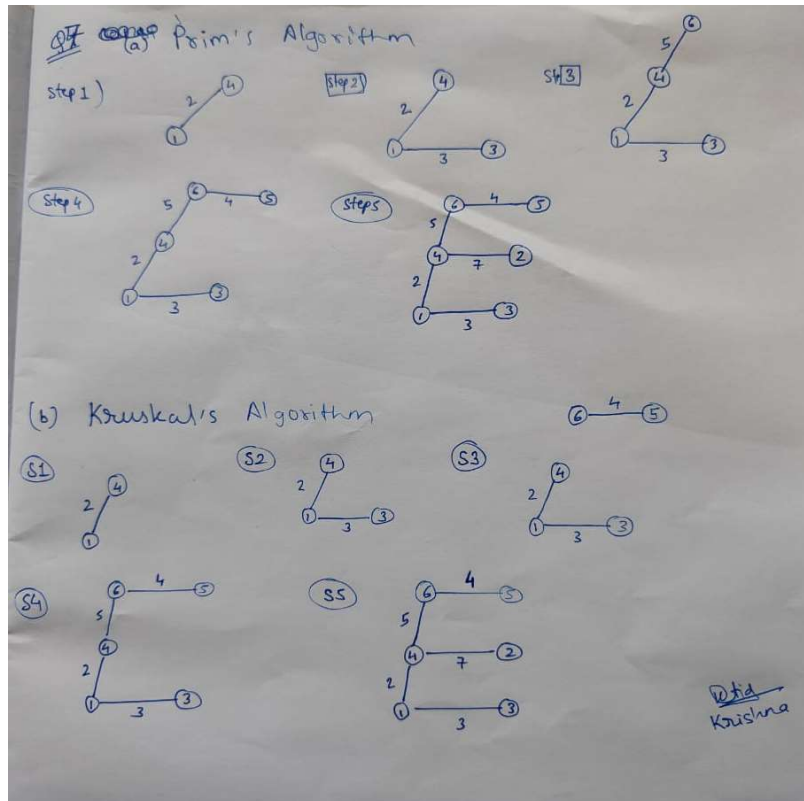
Answer:

Let  $a, b, c, \dots, z$  be the directed path. Since  $z$  and  $a$  are in the same strongly connected component, there is a directed path from  $z$  to  $a$ . This path appended to the given path gives us a circuit. We can reach any vertex on the original path from any other vertex on that path by going around this circuit.

Question 7:

For the following weighted undirected graph, briefly trace the steps taken by the following algorithms in determining the minimum spanning tree: (a) Prim's Algorithm (b) Kruskal's Algorithm.

Answer:



**Question 8:**

**Prove that the union of two subgroups of a group need not necessarily be a subgroup.**

Answer:

Seeking a contradiction, let us assume that the union  $H_1 \cup H_2$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

Since  $H_1 \subsetneq H_2$ , there exists an element  $a \in H_1$  such that  $a \notin H_2$ .

Similarly, as  $H_2 \subsetneq H_1$ , there exists an element  $b \in H_2$  such that  $b \notin H_1$ .

As we are assuming  $H_1 \cup H_2$  is a group, we have  $ab \in H_1 \cup H_2$ .

It follows that either  $ab \in H_1$  or  $ab \in H_2$ .

If  $ab \in H_1$ , then we have

$$b = a^{-1}(ab) \in H_1$$

as both  $a^{-1}$  and  $ab$  are elements in the subgroup  $H_1$ .

This contradicts our choice of the element  $b$ .

If  $ab \in H_2$ , then we have

$$a = (ab) b^{-1} \in H_2$$

as both  $b^{-1}$  and  $ab$  are elements in the subgroup  $H_2$ .

This contradicts our choice of the element  $b$ .

In either case, we reached a contradiction.

Thus, we conclude that the union  $H_1 \cup H_2$  is not a subgroup of  $G$ .



**Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani**  
**Second Semester 2022-2023**

**Online B.Sc. Computer Science Programme**  
**Comprehensive Regular Exam**

Course No. : BCS ZC219  
Course Title : Discrete Mathematics  
Nature of Exam : Open Book  
Weightage : 50%, 150 marks  
Duration : 2 Hours 30 Minutes  
Date of Exam : 18 Feb 23

No. of Pages	= 2
No. of Questions	= 9

---

**Note to Students:**

1. All parts of a question should be answered consecutively. Each answer should start from a fresh page.
  2. Assumptions made if any, should be stated clearly at the beginning of your answer.
- 

Q.1. Is the implication operation in Propositional Logic associative? That is, is it always the case that  $(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow r = p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$ ? Prove or disprove.

[15 Marks]

Q.2. It is convenient to have a new kind of existential quantifier, which we will call  $\exists!$  quantifier ("there exists one" quantifier). Specifically  $\exists! x P(x)$  is true if and only if there exists exactly one element  $x$  in the universe for which  $P(x)$  is true. Write down a predicate logic formula for  $\exists! x P(x)$  -- i.e. a formula for  $\exists! x P(x)$  that involves only the standard existential/universal quantifiers and logical connectives in Predicate Logic. (You do not need to explain why the formula is correct.)

[15 Marks]

Q.3. Prove, using mathematical induction, that  $2n \geq n + 12$  for all natural numbers  $n \geq 4$ .

[15 Marks]

Q.4.

Consider the set  $S = \{2, 6, 8, 16, 18, 32, 36\}$

- (a) [10 marks] Draw the Hasse Diagram corresponding to the "divides" partial ordering relation on this set, i.e.  $(a, b)$  is in the relation iff  $a$  divides  $b$ .
- (b) [5 marks] Write down the maximal and minimal element(s) of this poset.
- (c) [5 marks] Is this poset a lattice? Briefly justify.

[20 Marks]

Q.5. I assign an individual C programming assignment to class wherein the character limit for the program is 100 characters. If C has a character set of size 128, and everyone submits a non-empty program of 100 characters or less (which may or may not be a valid C program), what is the minimum number of students my class must have, to guarantee that two submitted assignments are identical, character-by-character? Briefly justify your answer.

[15 Marks]

Q.6. Is every graph whose chromatic number is at most 4, planar? Prove or disprove.

[20 Marks]

Q.7.

Solve the recurrence relation  $f(0) = 2$ ,  $f(n) = f(n-1) + 2$ .

[15 Marks]

Q.8.

Show that an edge in a simple graph is a cut edge if and only if this edge is not part of any simple circuit in the graph.

[20 Marks]

Q.9. Let  $(S, *)$  be a group, with  $e \in S$  being the identity element. Suppose for  $a, b \in S$ , we have  $a * b = a$ . Prove that  $b = e$ .

[15 Marks]

\*\*\*\*\*

$$1. (p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow r = p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$$

p	q	r	Q = $p \rightarrow q$	LHS = $Q \rightarrow r$	P = $q \rightarrow r$	ans = $p \rightarrow P$
0	0	0	1	0	1	1
0	0	1	1	1	1	1
0	1	0	1	0	0	1
0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	1	1	1
1	0	1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Implication is not associative as  $LHS \neq RHS$

OR

If all p, q and r are false

$\rightarrow p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$  is true as p is false

But  $p \rightarrow q \rightarrow r$  is false

but  $p \rightarrow q$  is true

$\Rightarrow$  if p and r are false but q is true

then  $p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$  is true because p is false

but  $p \rightarrow q$  is true, r false so  $(p \rightarrow q) \rightarrow r$  false

They have different values, these statements are not equivalent

$\therefore \rightarrow$  is not associative

2.  $\exists x(P(x) \wedge \forall y(P(y) \rightarrow (x=y))) \rightarrow$  There exists  $x$  such that  $P(x)$  is true, and  
for all  $y$ , if  $P(y)$  is true, then  $y=x$

This ensures that there is exactly one element  $x$  in the universe for which  $P(x)$  is true.

3. First prove that the inequality holds for smallest value of  $n=4$   
for  $n=4$

$$2n = 2 * 4 = 8$$

$$n+12 = 4+12 = 16$$

$$2(n) \geq n+12$$

Assume inequality holds for  $k$  and  $k+1$

$$2(k+1) \geq (k+1) + 12 \quad (\text{Inductive Step})$$

$$2k \geq k+12$$

add 2 both sides

$$2k+2 \geq k+12+2$$

Simplify

$$2(k+1) \geq k+14$$

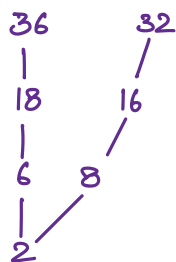
By mathematical induction

$2k \geq k+12$  holds for some integer  $k$ , then  
it holds for  $k+1$

if base case  $n=4$  holds true, it holds for  
all natural numbers  $n \geq 4$

4.  $a$  divides  $b \longrightarrow \{2, 6, 8, 16, 18, 32, 36\}$

Hasse-diagram



(b) Maximal element

36, 32

Minimal elements

2

(c) Is this poset a lattice?

meet semilattice

$$\forall x, y \in S, \text{GLB}(x, y) \neq \emptyset$$

join semilattice

$$\forall x, y \in S, \text{LUB}(x, y) \neq \emptyset$$

Consider the incomparable pairs

$$\text{GLB}(18, 16) = 2$$

$$\text{LUB}(18, 16) = \emptyset$$

Hence this is not a lattice, as it's a meet semilattice but not join semilattice

5. Total number of distinct programs of 100 characters or less:

No. of possibilities for each char (128)  $\wedge$  No. of char (100)

$$\text{Total distinct programs} \Rightarrow 128^{100}$$

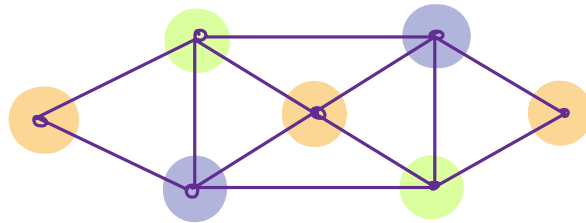
According to Pigeonhole Principle, at least one pigeonhole must contain more than one pigeon.

$$\Rightarrow (128^{100} + 1) \text{ students}$$

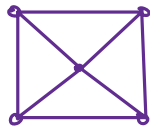
6. The 4 color theorem states that  
chromatic number of a planar graph is no greater than 4

If the regions of a planar graph are colored so that adjacent regions have different colors, then no more than 4 colors are required

$$\chi(G) \leq 4$$



Euler's formula  $\rightarrow v - e + f = 2$   
 $\downarrow$   
 faces



1 face : 3 edges

$$e = 8$$

$$3 \geq 3(1)$$

$$f = 5$$

$$\therefore e \geq 3f$$

$$2e \geq 3f$$

$$\therefore f = 2 - v + e$$

$$3f = 6 - 3v + 3e$$

We know,  $2e \geq 3f$

$$\therefore 2e \geq 6 - 3v + 3e$$

$$e \leq 3v - 6$$

7.  $f(0) = 2, f(n) = f(n-1) + 2$

Using iterative method

$$f(1) = f(0) + 2 = 2 + 2 = 4$$

$$f(3) = f(2) + 2 = 6 + 2 = 8$$

$$f(2) = f(1) + 2 = 4 + 2 = 6$$

In General

$$f(n) = 2n + n$$

8. Given a simple undirected connected graph  $G = (V, E)$   
 $e \in E$  is a cut edge if  $G' = (V, E - \{e\})$  has at least 2 non-empty connected components  
Theorem:  $e \in E$  is a cut edge  $\iff e$  doesn't belong to a circuit in  $G$

Suppose:  $e \in E$  belongs to a circuit in  $G$

circuit  $\rightarrow e_1, \dots, e_k$  with  $e = e_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$

Removal of  $e_i$  still allows traversal

hence  $G$  is still connected  $\rightarrow e$  can't be cut edge  $\rightarrow$  Proof by contradiction

9.  $(S, *)$  is a group  
 $e \in S \rightarrow$  identity element  
Suppose  $a, b \in S \implies a * b = a$

$$b * e = e * b = b \quad (\text{property of identity element})$$

given  $a * b = a$

Multiply both sides with  $a^{-1}$

$$a^{-1} * (a * b) = a * a^{-1} \quad (a * a^{-1} = e \text{ Inverse element})$$

$$(a^{-1} * a) * b = e * a \quad (\text{Associative Property})$$

$$e * b = a \quad (a * a^{-1} = e \text{ Inverse element})$$

$$e = \text{identity} \quad (a * e = a \text{ Identity element})$$

$$e * b = b$$

$$b = a$$

hence if  $a * b = a$ ,  $b$  must be identity

**Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani**  
**Second Semester 2022-2023**

**Online B.Sc. Computer Science Programme**  
**Comprehensive Make-up Exam**

Course No. : BCS ZC219  
Course Title : Discrete Mathematics  
Nature of Exam : Open Book  
Weightage : 50%, 150 marks  
Duration : 2 Hours 30 Minutes  
Date of Exam : 03 Mar 23

No. of Pages	= 2
No. of Questions	= 8

---

**Note to Students:**

1. All parts of a question should be answered consecutively. Each answer should start from a fresh page.
  2. Assumptions made if any, should be stated clearly at the beginning of your answer.
- 

Q.1. Suppose  $n=m^2$ , so that  $n$  and  $m$  are integers and  $n$  is an even number. Prove that  $m$  is also an even number.

[20 Marks]

Q.2. Provide a counterexample to the following statement:  
If  $f \circ g$  is one-to-one, then  $f$  is one-to-one.

[20 Marks]

Q.3. Give an example of two uncountably infinite sets  $A$  and  $B$ , such that  $A - B$  is

- (a) Finite
- (b) Countably infinite
- (c) Uncountably infinite

[15 Marks]

Q.4. Consider the vertex set  $V=\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ .  
How many distinct directed graphs exist that have  $V$  as their vertex set?

[15Marks]

Q.5. Given an undirected graph, its degree sequence is the monotonic nonincreasing sequence of the degrees of the vertices of the graph. For example, the cycle  $C_4$  has the degree sequence 2, 2, 2, 2 and the wheel  $W_4$  has the degree sequence 4, 3, 3, 3, 3.

(a) What is the degree sequence of the complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are positive integers. Briefly justify. [5 Marks]

(b) Provide a counterexample to the following statement:

If two simple undirected graphs have the same degree sequence, then they are isomorphic.

[20 Marks]

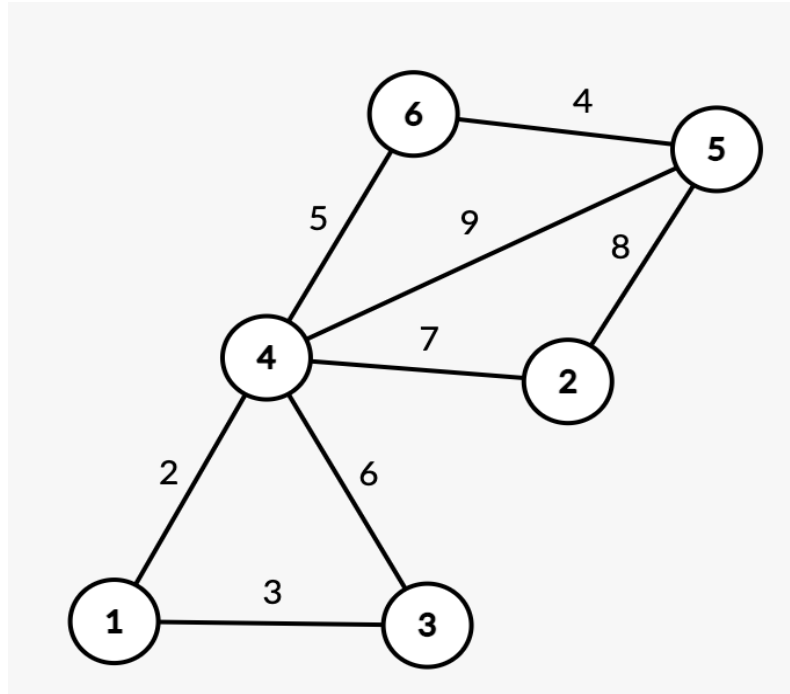


Q.6. Show that all vertices visited in a directed path connecting two vertices in the same strongly connected component of a directed graph are also in that strongly connected component

[15 Marks]

Q.7. For the following weighted undirected graph, briefly trace the steps taken by the following algorithms in determining the minimum spanning tree: (a) Prim's Algorithm (b) Kruskal's Algorithm.

[20 Marks]



Q.8. Prove that the union of two subgroups of a group need not necessarily be a subgroup.

[20 Marks]

\*\*\*\*\*

1

Assume  $n = m^2$ ,  $n$  is even

By definition  $n = 2k$

$$\Rightarrow 2k = m^2 \quad \text{--- ①}$$

$$\text{①} / 2$$

$$k = \frac{m^2}{2}$$

$m^2$  and  $k$  are integers

(Parity of squares) Since  $m^2$  is integer and  $2k$  is even,  $m$  must be even

2.

Let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$f(x) = x^2$$

$g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$g(x) = x$$

$$f \circ g \Rightarrow (f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x)) = f(x) = x^2$$

$$(f \circ g)(x) = x^2 \neq y^2 = (f \circ g)(y) \quad (\text{injective})$$

however  $f(x) = x^2$  is not one to one

because it maps to  $x$  &  $-x$

$$f(2) = f(-2) = 4$$

Hence  $f \circ g$  is one to one but  $f$  is not

3.

①  $A - B$  is finite:  $A \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ,  $B \rightarrow$  even natural  
 $\downarrow$   
 natural

$A - B$  all odd numbers  $\rightarrow$  finite

②  $A - B$  is countably infinite:  $A \rightarrow$  integers,  $B \rightarrow$  +ve integers

$A - B \rightarrow$  all -ve integers  $\rightarrow$  infinite

③  $A-B$  is uncountably infinite:

$$A = \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \text{Real}$$

$$B = \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \text{Rational}$$

$$A-B \rightarrow \text{irrational numbers} \\ \downarrow \\ \text{uncountable set}$$

4.

Each edge between two vertices can exist or not

$$\text{No. of possible edges} = n(n-1)$$

$$\text{No. of distinct directed graph} = 2^{(n(n-1)/2)}$$

5. <https://www.chegg.com/homework-help/questions-and-answers/subjective-question-hence-write-answer-text-field-given--given-undirected-graph-degree-seq-q109487972>

8.

Let  $G = (\mathbb{Z}, +)$  be a group

$$H_1 = 3\mathbb{Z} = \{ 0, \pm 3, \pm 6, \pm 9, \dots \}$$

$$H_2 = 2\mathbb{Z} = \{ 0, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 6, \dots \}$$

$$H_1 \cup H_2 = \{ 0, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 9, \dots \}$$

$$(2, 3) \in H_1 \cup H_2$$

$$2 + 3 = 5$$

$$5 \notin H_1 \cup H_2$$

Hence  $H_1 \cup H_2$  does not hold closure property

which is essential for subgroup

Hence  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are not subgroups