

1. [4 marks]

a)  $9! = 362880$

b)  $5! * 4! = 120 * 24 = 2880$

c)  $5! * 5! = 120 * 120 = 14400$

d)  $5! * 4! * 2 = 5760$

2. [4 marks]

a)  $\binom{13}{2}\binom{39}{3} = 78 * 9139 = 712842$

b)  $\binom{13}{2}\binom{39}{3} + \binom{13}{1}\binom{39}{4} + \binom{13}{0}\binom{39}{5} = 78 * 9139 + 13 * 82251 + 1 * 575757 = 2357862$

c)  $\binom{13}{3}\binom{13}{2} = 286 * 78 = 22308$

d)  $\binom{12}{1}\binom{12}{2}\binom{2}{2} = 12 * 66 * 1 = 792$

3. [3 + 3 marks]

a) Let  $n$  be a positive integer with  $n > 2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\binom{n}{2} + \binom{n-1}{2} &= \frac{n!}{2!(n-2)!} + \frac{(n-1)!}{2!(n-3)!} \\&= \frac{n!}{2(n-2)!} + \frac{(n-2)(n-1)!}{(n-2)2(n-3)!} \\&= \frac{n! + (n-2)(n-1)!}{2(n-2)!} \\&= \frac{(n + (n-2))(n-1)!}{2(n-2)!} \\&= \frac{2(n-1)(n-1)!}{2(n-2)!} \\&= \frac{(n-1)(n-1)(n-2)!}{(n-2)!} \\&= (n-1)^2\end{aligned}$$

which is a perfect square for all  $n > 2$ .

b) From the binomial theorem, we know that for any real numbers  $a$  and  $b$ , and any positive integer  $n$ ,

$$(a + b)^n = \binom{n}{0}a^0b^n + \binom{n}{1}a^1b^{n-1} + \binom{n}{2}a^2b^{n-2} + \dots + \binom{n}{n}a^nb^0$$

So, if we let  $a = -x$  and  $b = 1 + x$  in the binomial theorem, then

$$\begin{aligned}(-x + (1 + x))^n &= (1)^n = 1 \\&= \binom{n}{0}(-x)^0(1 + x)^n + \binom{n}{1}(-x)^1(1 + x)^{n-1} + \binom{n}{2}(-x)^2(1 + x)^{n-2} + \dots + \binom{n}{n}(-x)^n(1 + x)^0 \\&= (1 + x)^n - \binom{n}{1}x(1 + x)^{n-1} + \binom{n}{2}x^2(1 + x)^{n-2} - \dots + (-1)^n \binom{n}{n}x^n\end{aligned}$$

4. [2 + 3 marks]

a) Here we are counting combinations with repetition where  $n = 4$  and  $r = 32$ , thus

$$\binom{4 + 32 - 1}{32} = \binom{35}{32} = \frac{35!}{32! 3!} = 6545$$

b) For this one we start with  $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = 3, x_4 = 4$ , leaving  $r = 32 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 = 22$ , thus

$$\binom{4 + 22 - 1}{22} = \binom{25}{22} = 2300$$

5. [2 + 2 + 2 marks]

Let  $(A, \mathcal{R}_1)$  and  $(B, \mathcal{R}_2)$  be two posets. By definition of partial orders we know the following to be true,

- a) For all  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ ,  $(a, a) \in \mathcal{R}_1$  and  $(b, b) \in \mathcal{R}_2$ , respectively.
- b) For all  $a, x \in A$ , if  $(a, x) \in \mathcal{R}_1$  and  $(x, a) \in \mathcal{R}_1$  then  $a = x$ .  
For all  $b, y \in B$ , if  $(b, y) \in \mathcal{R}_2$  and  $(y, b) \in \mathcal{R}_2$  then  $b = y$ .
- c) For all  $a, b, c \in A$ , if  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{R}_1$  and  $(b, c) \in \mathcal{R}_1$  then  $(a, c) \in \mathcal{R}_1$ .  
For all  $x, y, z \in B$ , if  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{R}_2$  and  $(y, z) \in \mathcal{R}_2$  then  $(x, z) \in \mathcal{R}_2$ .

Now, let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a relation on  $A \times B$  defined by

$$\mathcal{R} = \{((a, b), (x, y)) | (a, x) \in \mathcal{R}_1, (b, y) \in \mathcal{R}_2\}$$

To show that  $\mathcal{R}$  is a partial order on  $A \times B$  we must show that it is a) reflexive, b) antisymmetric, and c) transitive.

a) Let  $(a, b) \in A \times B$ . Since  $(a, a) \in \mathcal{R}_1$  and  $(b, b) \in \mathcal{R}_2$  from above, then by definition of  $\mathcal{R}$ ,  $((a, b), (a, b)) \in \mathcal{R}$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{R}$  is reflexive.

b) Let  $(a, b), (x, y) \in A \times B$  and suppose that  $((a, b), (x, y))$  and  $((x, y), (a, b))$  are in  $\mathcal{R}$ . By definition of  $\mathcal{R}$ , it is true that  $(a, x)$  and  $(x, a)$  are in  $\mathcal{R}_1$  and  $(b, y)$  and  $(y, b)$  are in  $\mathcal{R}_2$ . Because  $\mathcal{R}_1$  and  $\mathcal{R}_2$  are both antisymmetric, we may conclude that  $a = x$  and  $b = y$ , respectively. Therefore,  $(a, b) = (x, y)$  and thus  $\mathcal{R}$  is antisymmetric.

c) Let  $(a, b), (x, y), (c, d) \in A \times B$  and suppose that  $((a, b), (x, y))$  and  $((x, y), (c, d))$  are in  $\mathcal{R}$ . By definition of  $\mathcal{R}$ , it is true that  $(a, x)$  and  $(x, c)$  are in  $\mathcal{R}_1$  and  $(b, y)$  and  $(y, d)$  are in  $\mathcal{R}_2$ . Because  $\mathcal{R}_1$  and  $\mathcal{R}_2$  are both transitive, we may conclude that  $(a, c) \in \mathcal{R}_1$  and  $(b, d) \in \mathcal{R}_2$ , respectively. Therefore, by the definition of  $\mathcal{R}$ , this implies that  $((a, b), (c, d)) \in \mathcal{R}$  and thus  $\mathcal{R}$  is transitive.

By the above properties,  $\mathcal{R}$  is a partial order on  $A \times B$ .