

1. Honour code.
2. Given finite sets of integers A, B and an onto function $f : A \rightarrow B$, let $g : B \rightarrow A$ be defined as follows:

$$g(b) = \min\{a \mid f(a) = b\}$$

Indicate which of the following statements are true (select false if not guaranteed to be true):

- (a) $f \circ g \circ f = f$
 - (b) $g \circ f \circ g = g$
 - (c) $g \circ f : A \rightarrow A$ is the identity function.
 - (d) $f \circ g : B \rightarrow B$ is the identity function.
3. Given finite sets of integers A, B , indicate which of the following statements are true (select false if not guaranteed to be true):

- (a) $|A - B| + |B - A| = |A \cap B| \leftrightarrow |A| + |B| = 3|A \cap B|$.
- (b) Let $A + B$ be defined as the set

$$A + B = \{a + b \mid a \in A, b \in B\}$$

Then, $|A + B| \geq |A \cup B|$.

- (c) $|A - B| = |B| \rightarrow |A| = 2|B|$.
 - (d) $|A \cap B| = \min\{|A|, |B|\} \leftrightarrow |A \cup B| = \max\{|A|, |B|\}$.
4. Suppose T_1, \dots, T_n are finite sets. For each $J \subseteq [n]$, let $S_J = \bigcap_{k \in J} T_k$.

- (a) Let $\alpha_J = |S_J|$. Then express $|\bigcup_{k \in [n]} T_k|$ in terms of α_J .

Solution: By the inclusion-exclusion principle, we have that

$$|\bigcup_{k \in [n]} T_k| = \sum_{J \subseteq [n], J \neq \emptyset} (-1)^{|J|+1} \alpha_J$$

- (b) Let $R_J = \bigcup_{k \in J} T_k$. Let $\beta_J = |S_J - R_{[n]-J}|$. Then express $|\bigcup_{k \in [n]} T_k|$ in terms of β_J .

Solution: It can be shown that

$$|\bigcup_{k \in [n]} T_k| = \sum_{J \subseteq [n], J \neq \emptyset} \beta_J$$

5. Let $N(k, n)$ denote the number of onto functions from $[k]$ to $[n]$. Show that for all $k, n > 1$,

$$N(k, n) = n(N(k-1, n) + N(k-1, n-1)).$$

Solution: For defining an onto function, we will first fix a mapping for the element $1 \in [k]$. There are n possibilities for this mapping. It is easy to see that the rest of the function (i.e., ignoring the mapping of 1) is either an onto function from $[k] \setminus \{1\}$ to $[n]$ or to $[n] \setminus \{a\}$, where a denotes the mapping of 1 chosen earlier. Note that the remaining function cannot be an onto function of both kinds. There can thus be $N(k-1, n) + N(k-1, n-1)$ possibilities for the remaining function. Hence, the total number of onto functions are given by the right hand side of the equation in the description.

6. Suppose 4 students A, B, C and D are to be assigned to 3 hostel rooms, Room-1, Room-2 and Room-3. Each room can accommodate upto 3 students. A rule requires that Room-3 can have a student only if the other two rooms are not empty. How many different assignments are possible?

Solution: Let us first count the number of assignments with no student in Room-3. The goal here is to divide 4 students into 2 rooms so that each room can occupy upto 3 students. There are 3 cases:

- Room-1 has 3 and Room-2 has 1 student. Such an assignment is completely determined by choosing a student for Room-2, which can be done in 4 ways.
- Both rooms have 2 students each. This can be done in $\binom{4}{2} = 6$ ways.
- Room-1 has 1 while Room-2 has 3 students. Since this is symmetric to case 1, there will be 4 such assignments.

Now let us consider the cases when Room-3 is non-empty. For this to happen, both Room-1 and Room-2 should have at least 1 student. There are 3 possibilities such that two rooms will have a single student while one room will have 2 students. Such a division can be done in $\binom{4}{2} \binom{2}{1} = 12$ ways, irrespective of the case. Therefore, the total number of such assignments are $3 * 12 = 36$.

Overall, there are $6 + 4 + 4 + 36 = 50$ such assignments.

7. Let n, d be positive integers.

- (a) How many solutions does the equation $x + y + z = n$ have in which x, y, z are all integers greater than or equal to $-d$? Show your reasoning. <<<<< HEAD

Solution: Since x, y and z are integers greater than or equal to $-d$, we can write

$$x = x' - d, y = y' - d, z = z' - d$$

such that x', y' and z' are greater than or equal to 0. Then the equation becomes

$$x' + y' + z' = 3d + n$$

in which x', y' and z' are integers greater than or equal to 0.

This is exactly like the “stars and bars” problem. There are $3d + n$ ones (similar to balls) which need to be placed into the 3 integers (similar to bins). If V ones are placed into a variable x , then the value of the variable becomes V .

This problem can be formulated as a “stars and bars” problem with $3d + n$ stars and 2 bars representing the boundaries between the integers. The total number of such combinations can be counted by choosing the positions for the 2 bars in $\binom{3d+n+2}{2}$ ways and the rest of the positions will be occupied by stars.

- (b) How many solutions does the equation $x + y + z = n$ have in which x, y, z are all integers in the range $[0, d]$ (inclusive)? You may assume $2(d + 1) \leq n \leq 3d$. Show your reasoning.

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- (c) How many solutions does the equation $x + y + z = n$ have in which x, y, z are all integers in the range $[0, d]$ (inclusive)? You may assume $2(d + 1) \leq n \leq 3d$. Show your reasoning.

»»»»> dc81a0b0ffe8b6f38e7dd0d011e55a0855dc27a0 Further, confirm your answer by enumerating all the solutions for the case of $n = 10, d = 4$.

Solution: The total number of solutions when $x, y, z \geq 0$ are given by $\binom{n+2}{2}$. Let us denote by S_x the solutions where $x \geq d + 1$ and $y, z \geq 0$ i.e.,

$$S_x = \{(x, y, z) \mid x + y + z = n, x \geq d + 1, y, z \geq 0\}$$

It is easy to see that $|S_x| = \binom{n-(d+1)+2}{2}$. Similarly, we can define S_y and S_z . Note that $|S_x| = |S_y| = |S_z|$ due to symmetry. It can be seen that the undesired solutions are given by $S_x \cup S_y \cup S_z$. Therefore, the desired number of solutions are given by $\binom{n+2}{2} - |S_x \cup S_y \cup S_z|$. Using the inclusion-exclusion principle, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} |S_x \cup S_y \cup S_z| &= |S_x| + |S_y| + |S_z| - |S_x \cap S_y| - |S_y \cap S_z| - |S_x \cap S_z| + |S_x \cap S_y \cap S_z| \\ &= 3 \binom{n - (d + 1) + 2}{2} - 3 \binom{n - 2(d + 1) + 2}{2} + 0 \\ &= 3 \left[\binom{n - d + 1}{2} - \binom{n - 2d}{2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

where $|S_x \cap S_y \cap S_z| = 0$ because $n \leq 3d$. Therefore, the desired number of solutions are given by

$$\binom{n + 2}{2} - 3 \left[\binom{n - d + 1}{2} - \binom{n - 2d}{2} \right]$$

For $n = 10$ and $d = 4$, the answer comes out to be

$$\binom{12}{2} - 3 \left[\binom{7}{2} - \binom{2}{2} \right] = 66 - 3[21 - 1] = 6$$

Note that for the sum to be 10, at least one of the variables will have to be 4; otherwise the sum would have been at most 9. For the remaining values, there are two possibilities - both variables are 3 or one is 4 and another is 2. Therefore, the possible values of the variables are (4, 4, 2) and (4, 3, 3). For the ordering, there are 3 possibilities in both cases which implies that overall there are 6 solutions.

8. Let S and T be two finite sets of integers, with $|S| = m$ and $|T| = n$. Let f be some arbitrary function from S to T .

Define a relation \preceq over S , so that $x \preceq y$ iff $f(x) < f(y)$ or $x = y$.

(a) Argue that (S, \preceq) is a poset.

Solution: We need to argue 3 properties:

- Reflexive: for all $x \in S$, $x \preceq x$ because $x = x$.
- Anti-symmetric: for any $x, y \in S$ s.t. $x \neq y$, $x \preceq y \implies f(x) < f(y)$ and $y \preceq x \implies f(y) < f(x)$. Thus both these being true leads to a contradiction.
- Transitive: for any $x, y, z \in S$, $x \preceq y \implies f(x) < f(y)$ and $y \preceq z \implies f(y) < f(z)$. Combining the two, we get that $f(x) < f(z)$ and hence $x \preceq z$.

(b) What is the smallest possible value (for fixed S and T , over all choices of f) for the maximum size of an antichain in this poset? Justify your answer.

Solution: Using Dilworth's theorem, we can say that the size of the largest antichain is exactly the least number of chains needed to partition S . Note that in any chain C , the elements are ordered based on their images i.e., if $C = (x_1, \dots, x_l)$ then $f(x_1) < \dots < f(x_l)$. Since there can only be at most $|T| = n$ different possible values for these images, we can say that $|C| \leq n$. Therefore, the least number of chains needed to partition S are $|S|/n = m/n$.

9. Let (S, \preceq) be a finite poset and let f be a function from S to itself such that $x \preceq f(x)$ for all $x \in S$. Let f^k denote f composed with itself k times (i.e., $f^1 = f$, and recursively, $f^k = f \circ f^{k-1}$).

(a) For each $x \in S$, define the set

$$K(x) = \{ y \mid \exists k, f^k(x) = y \}$$

Show that $K(x)$ is a chain in the poset.

Solution: Consider any $y, z \in K(x)$ s.t. $y \neq z$, which means that there exist m, n s.t. $m \neq n$, and $f^m(x) = y$ and $f^n(x) = z$. WLOG we can assume that $m < n$. Therefore,

$$y = f^m(x) \sqsubseteq f^{m+1}(x) \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq f^n(x) = z$$

Since \sqsubseteq is a transitive relation (by definition of a poset), we have that $y \sqsubseteq z$.

(b) Let h be the size of the largest chain in the poset. Characterize the image of f^h . Briefly justify your answer. (A full proof is not required.)

Solution: Note that any chain in the poset must involve applications of the function f to the same original element x . Therefore, chains of the type $K(x)$, for all $x \in S$, are the largest chains in the poset. Such chains end in fixed points of f i.e., $y \in S$ s.t. $f(y) = y$. Therefore, starting from an element x , such a chain consists of application of the function f a total of h times until a fixed point y is reached. Hence, the image of f^h is some fixed point of f .