

2008 PUMaC C8

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2 Sep 2018

How many SET-preserving automorphisms are there of the SET deck?

Since the SET deck is isomorphic to \mathbb{F}_3^4 with SETs being equivalent to $x + y + z = 0$, we are looking for the number of invertible affine transformations from \mathbb{F}_{3^4} to itself, which is $3^4 (3^4 - 1) (3^4 - 3) (3^4 - 3^2) (3^4 - 3^3) = \boxed{1965150720}$ as desired. ■