

Problem Set #43

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Problem 2

$$\begin{aligned}(x+y)^5 + (x-y)^5 &= \sum_{k=0}^5 \binom{5}{k} x^{5-k} y^k + \sum_{k=0}^5 \binom{5}{k} x^{5-k} (-y)^k \\&= \sum_{k=0}^5 \left(\binom{5}{k} x^{5-k} y^k + \binom{5}{k} x^{5-k} (-1)^k y^k \right) \\&= \sum_{k=0}^5 \binom{5}{k} x^{5-k} y^k (1 + (-1)^k) \\&= \sum_{1 \leq k \leq 5, k \text{ odd}} \binom{5}{k} x^{5-k} y^k (1 + (-1)^k) + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq 4, k \text{ even}} \binom{5}{k} x^{5-k} y^k (1 + (-1)^k) \\&= \sum_{1 \leq k \leq 5, k \text{ odd}} \binom{5}{k} x^{5-k} y^k (0) + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq 4, k \text{ even}} \binom{5}{k} x^{5-k} y^k (2) \\&= 2 \sum_{0 \leq k \leq 4, k \text{ even}} \binom{5}{k} x^{5-k} y^k \\&= 2 \left(\binom{5}{0} x^{5-0} y^0 + \binom{5}{2} x^{5-2} y^2 + \binom{5}{4} x^{5-4} y^4 \right) \\&= 2 (x^5 + 10x^3 y^2 + 5x y^4) \\&= 2x^5 + 20x^3 y^2 + 10x y^4\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(\sqrt{2}+1)^5 + (\sqrt{2}-1)^5 &= 2(\sqrt{2})^5 + 20(\sqrt{2})^3(1)^2 + 10(\sqrt{2})(1)^4 \\&= 2(\sqrt{2})^4 \sqrt{2} + 20(\sqrt{2})^2 \sqrt{2} + 10\sqrt{2} \\&= 8\sqrt{2} + 40\sqrt{2} + 10\sqrt{2} \\&= \boxed{58\sqrt{2}}\end{aligned}$$

Problem 3

Let $a = \sqrt{x+1}, b = \sqrt{x-1}$.

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x-1})^6 + (\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x-1})^6, \quad x \geq 1 \\
&= (a+b)^6 + (a-b)^6 \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^6 \left(\binom{6}{k} a^{6-k} b^k + \binom{6}{k} a^{6-k} (-1)^k b^k \right) \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^6 \binom{6}{k} a^{6-k} b^k (1 + (-1)^k) \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k \leq 5, k \text{ odd}} \binom{6}{k} a^{6-k} b^k (1 + (-1)^k) + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq 6, k \text{ even}} \binom{6}{k} a^{6-k} b^k (1 + (-1)^k) \\
&= \sum_{1 \leq k \leq 5, k \text{ odd}} \binom{6}{k} a^{6-k} b^k (0) + \sum_{0 \leq k \leq 6, k \text{ even}} \binom{6}{k} a^{6-k} b^k (2) \\
&= 2 \sum_{0 \leq k \leq 6, k \text{ even}} \binom{6}{k} a^{6-k} b^k \\
&= 2 \left(\binom{6}{0} a^{6-0} b^0 + \binom{6}{2} a^{6-2} b^2 + \binom{6}{4} a^{6-4} b^4 + \binom{6}{6} a^{6-6} b^6 \right) \\
&= 2 (a^6 + 15a^4 b^2 + 15a^2 b^4 + b^6) \\
&= 2a^6 + 30a^4 b^2 + 30a^2 b^4 + 2b^6 \\
&= 2(\sqrt{x+1})^6 + 30(\sqrt{x+1})^4 (\sqrt{x-1})^2 + 30(\sqrt{x+1})^2 (\sqrt{x-1})^4 + 2(\sqrt{x-1})^6 \\
&= 2(x+1)^3 + 30(x+1)^2(x-1) + 30(x+1)(x-1)^2 + 2(x-1)^3 \\
&= 2(x+1)^3 + 30(x+1)(x+1)(x-1) + 30(x+1)(x-1)(x-1) + 2(x-1)^3 \\
&= 2((x+1)^3 + (x-1)^3) + 30(x+1)(x-1)((x+1) + (x-1)) \\
&= 2(x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1 + x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1) + 30(x^2 - 1)(2x) \\
&= 2(2x^3 + 6x) + 60x(x^2 - 1) \\
&= 4x^3 + 12x + 60x^3 - 60x \\
&= \boxed{64x^3 - 48x, \quad x \geq 1}
\end{aligned}$$

Problem 5

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} \left(ax^2 + \frac{1}{bx}\right)^{11} &= \left(ax^2 + \frac{1}{b}x^{-1}\right)^{11} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{11} \binom{11}{k} (ax^2)^{11-k} \left(\frac{1}{b}x^{-1}\right)^k \end{aligned}$$

Let $\deg(P)$ be the degree of a polynomial P . We will find k s.t. $\deg\left(\binom{11}{k} (ax^2)^{11-k} \left(\frac{1}{b}x^{-1}\right)^k\right) = 7$.

$$\begin{aligned} \deg\left(\binom{11}{k} (ax^2)^{11-k} \left(\frac{1}{b}x^{-1}\right)^k\right) &= 7 \\ \deg\left((x^2)^{11-k} (x^{-1})^k\right) &= 7 \\ \deg(x^{22-2k} \cdot x^{-k}) &= 7 \\ \deg(x^{22-2k+(-k)}) &= 7 \\ 22 - 3k &= 7 \\ 3k &= 15 \\ k &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

The term with $k = 5$ is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{11}{5} a^{11-5} \left(\frac{1}{b}\right)^5 &= \frac{11!}{5! \cdot 6!} \cdot a^6 \cdot \frac{1}{b^5} \\ &= \frac{11 \cdot 10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7}{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2} \cdot \frac{a^6}{b^5} \\ &= 11 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 7 \cdot \frac{a^6}{b^5} \\ &= \boxed{\frac{462a^6}{b^5}} \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Let $\text{Midterm}(P)$ be the middle term of the polynomial P , and let $P = (a + b)^n$ where $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. By the binomial theorem, we have that:

$$(a + b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} a^{n-k} b^k$$

For even n , the middle term of the above sum is $\frac{n}{2}$. For odd n , there are 2 middle terms: $\frac{n-1}{2}$ and $\frac{n+1}{2}$. Thus $\text{Midterm}((a + b)^n)$ is multi-valued for odd n and single-valued for even n .

For even n :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Midterm}((a + b)^n) &= \binom{n}{\frac{n}{2}} a^{n-\frac{n}{2}} b^{\frac{n}{2}} \\ &= \frac{n!}{\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)! \left(n - \frac{n}{2}\right)!} \cdot a^{\frac{n}{2}} b^{\frac{n}{2}} \\ &= \frac{n!(ab)^{\frac{n}{2}}}{\left(\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)!\right)^2} \end{aligned}$$

For odd n :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Midterm}((a + b)^n) &= \left\{ \frac{n!}{\left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right)! \left(n - \frac{n-1}{2}\right)!} \cdot a^{n-\frac{n-1}{2}} b^{\frac{n-1}{2}}, \frac{n!}{\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)! \left(n - \frac{n+1}{2}\right)!} \cdot a^{n-\frac{n+1}{2}} b^{\frac{n+1}{2}} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \frac{n!}{\left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right)! \left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)!} \cdot a^{\frac{n+1}{2}} b^{\frac{n-1}{2}}, \frac{n!}{\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)! \left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right)!} \cdot a^{\frac{n-1}{2}} b^{\frac{n+1}{2}} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

i.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Midterm} \left(\left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2} \right)^{14} \right) &= \frac{14! \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2} \right)^{\frac{14}{2}}}{\left(\left(\frac{14}{2} \right)! \right)^2} \\ &= \frac{14! \left(-\frac{x^2}{2} \right)^7}{(7!)^2} \\ &= - \frac{14 \cdot 13 \cdot 12 \cdot 11 \cdot 10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8}{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} \cdot \frac{x^{14}}{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2^4} \\ &= - \frac{13 \cdot 11 \cdot 3 \cdot x^{14}}{16} \\ &= \boxed{-\frac{429x^{14}}{16}} \end{aligned}$$

ii.

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Midterm} \left(3a - \frac{a^3}{6} \right)^9 &= \left\{ \frac{9!}{\left(\frac{9-1}{2}\right)! \left(\frac{9+1}{2}\right)!} \cdot (3a)^{\frac{9+1}{2}} \left(-\frac{a^3}{6} \right)^{\frac{9-1}{2}}, \frac{9!}{\left(\frac{9+1}{2}\right)! \left(\frac{9-1}{2}\right)!} \cdot (3a)^{\frac{9-1}{2}} \left(-\frac{a^3}{6} \right)^{\frac{9+1}{2}} \right\} \\
&= \left\{ \frac{9!}{4! \cdot 5!} \cdot (3a)^5 \left(-\frac{a^3}{6} \right)^4, \frac{9!}{5! \cdot 4!} \cdot (3a)^4 \left(-\frac{a^3}{6} \right)^5 \right\} \\
&= \left\{ 9 \cdot 7 \cdot 2 \cdot (3a)^5 \left(\frac{a^{12}}{6^4} \right), 9 \cdot 7 \cdot 2 \cdot (3a)^4 \left(-\frac{a^{15}}{6^5} \right) \right\} \\
&= \left\{ 9 \cdot 7 \cdot 2 \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot 3 \cdot \frac{a^{17}}{\cancel{3}^2 \cdot \cancel{3}^2 \cdot \cancel{3}^2 \cdot \cancel{3}^2}, -9 \cdot 7 \cdot 2 \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \frac{a^{19}}{\cancel{3}^2 \cdot \cancel{3}^2 \cdot \cancel{3}^2 \cdot \cancel{3}^2 \cdot 6} \right\} \\
&= \left\{ 63 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot \frac{a^{17}}{2 \cdot 8}, -63 \cdot 2 \cdot \frac{a^{19}}{2 \cdot 48} \right\} \\
&= \left\{ \frac{189a^{17}}{8}, -\frac{63a^{19}}{48} \right\} \\
&= \boxed{\left\{ \frac{189a^{17}}{8}, -\frac{21a^{19}}{16} \right\}}
\end{aligned}$$

Problem 6

$$\begin{aligned}
\binom{n}{1} x^{n-1} a^1 &= 240 \implies \frac{n(\cancel{n-1})!}{1!(\cancel{n-1})!} \cdot x^{n-1} a = 240 \implies nx^{n-1} a = 240 \\
\binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} a^2 &= 720 \implies \frac{n(n-1)(\cancel{n-2})!}{2!(\cancel{n-2})!} \cdot x^{n-2} a^2 = 720 \implies n(n-1)x^{n-2} a^2 = 1440 \\
\binom{n}{3} x^{n-3} a^3 &= 1080 \implies \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)(\cancel{n-3})!}{3!(\cancel{n-3})!} \cdot x^{n-3} a^3 = 1080 \implies n(n-1)(n-2)x^{n-3} a^3 = 6480
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{lll}
\frac{n(n-1)x^{n-2}a^2}{\cancel{nx^{n-1}a}} = \frac{1440}{240} & \frac{n(\cancel{n-1})(n-2)x^{n-3}a^3}{\cancel{n(\cancel{n-1})x^{n-2}a^2}} = \frac{6480}{1440} & \frac{(n-1)a}{6} = \frac{2a(n-2)}{9} \\
\frac{a(n-1)\cancel{x^{n-2}}}{\cancel{xx^{n-2}}} = 6 & \frac{(n-2)\cancel{x^{n-3}}a}{\cancel{xx^{n-3}}} = \frac{9}{2} & 9\cancel{a}(n-1) = 12\cancel{a}(n-2) \\
\frac{a(n-1)}{x} = 6 & \frac{(n-2)a}{x} = \frac{9}{2} & 9n - 9 = 12n - 24 \\
\frac{a(n-1)}{6} = x & \frac{2a(n-2)}{9} = x & -3n = -15 \\
& & \boxed{n = 5}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
nx^{n-1}a &= 240 \implies 5x^4a = 240 \implies 25x^8a^2 = 57600 \\
n(n-1)x^{n-2}a^2 &= 1440 \implies 20x^3a^2 = 1440 \\
n(n-1)(n-2)x^{n-3}a^3 &= 6480 \implies 60x^2a^3 = 6480
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
\frac{25x^{\cancel{5}}\cancel{a^{\cancel{5}}}}{20x^{\cancel{5}}\cancel{a^{\cancel{5}}}} = \frac{57600}{1440} & 5(2)^4a = 240 \\
\frac{5}{4}x^5 = 40 & 80a = 240 \\
x^5 = 32 & \boxed{a = 3} \\
\boxed{x = 2}
\end{array}$$

Problem 8

$$\begin{aligned}
(\sqrt{2} + 1)^6 &= (1 + \sqrt{2})^6 \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^6 \binom{6}{k} 1^{6-k} (\sqrt{2})^k \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^6 \binom{6}{k} (\sqrt{2})^k \\
&= \sum_{0 \leq k \leq 6, k \text{ even}} \binom{6}{k} (\sqrt{2})^k + \sum_{1 \leq k \leq 5, k \text{ odd}} \binom{6}{k} (\sqrt{2})^k \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^3 \binom{6}{2i} (\sqrt{2})^{2i} + \sum_{i=0}^2 \binom{6}{2i+1} (\sqrt{2})^{2i+1} \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^3 \binom{6}{2i} 2^i + \sum_{i=0}^2 \binom{6}{2i+1} 2^i \sqrt{2} \\
&= \binom{6}{0} + \binom{6}{2} 2 + \binom{6}{4} 4 + \binom{6}{6} 8 + \binom{6}{1} \sqrt{2} + \binom{6}{3} 2\sqrt{2} + \binom{6}{5} 4\sqrt{2} \\
&= 1 + 15 \cdot 2 + 15 \cdot 4 + 8 + 6\sqrt{2} + 20 \cdot 2\sqrt{2} + 6 \cdot 4\sqrt{2} \\
&= 99 + 70\sqrt{2} \\
&= 99 + \sqrt{9800}
\end{aligned}$$

$\lfloor \sqrt{9800} \rfloor$ is the square root of the smallest perfect square under 9800. $99^2 = 9801$ and $98^2 = 9154$. Thus $\lfloor 9800 \rfloor = 98$, so $\lfloor 99 + \sqrt{9800} \rfloor = 99 + 98 = \boxed{197}$.