

1 Q5

Prove for a group of 10 people there exist a group of 3 mutual friends or a group of 4 mutual strangers?

From the 10 people choose one person let's say A. Now for A by pigeonhole principle either the rest 9 people have 6 strangers or atleast 4 friends.

Case1 : For 6 people we can recall the result that there are atleast 3 mutual friends or 3 mutual strangers. So among 6 strangers of A if 3 are mutual friends exist then our work is done. Else if 3 mutual strangers exist then including A which is stranger to all 6 we have 4 mutual strangers.

Case2 : If A has atleast 4 friends then if any 2 of these 4 people are friends then 2 and A will form group of 3 mutual friends . Else if no 2 people are friends among the 4 then the 4 are mutual strangers. Hence proved.

2 Q6

Formulate a recurrence relation to count the number of subsets of $[n] = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ such that for any three consecutive numbers $i, i+1, i+2$ in $[n]$, at least two of them belong to the subset.

Clarification - "For any" in the question essentially means "for every".

Let the number be denoted by A_n . Consider such subsets for n . Then a subset might contain n or not.

Case1 : Consider the subset contains n . It still must satisfy the property for all triplets till $[n-1]$. Hence the number of subsets satisfying the property for $[n]$ containing n should be bounded by A_{n-1} . Observe any subset satisfying the property for $[n-1]$ when appended with n will satisfy for $[n]$. Hence the total number for this case is exactly A_{n-1} .

Case2 : If n is not there then $n-1, n-2$ must be present . Now repeating the same argument as above the number for this case comes out to be A_{n-3} .

Hence $A_n = A_{n-1} + A_{n-3}$.

Base cases :

$$A_3 = 4$$

$$A_4 = 6$$

$$A_5 = 9$$