

# CS6350: Topics in Combinatorics

## Assignment 10

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1. Let A, B be two even-sized subsets of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ . The set B bisects the set A if  $|B \cap A| = \frac{|A|}{2}$ . A family  $F = \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m\}$  of even-sized subsets of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  is bisection closed if for every  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, m\}, i \neq j$ , either  $A_i$  bisects  $A_j$  or  $A_j$  bisects  $A_i$ . Prove that  $m \leq n^2$ .

- A. Let  $\Omega = \{0, 1\}^n$  and  $V_i \in \Omega$  be the incident vector of  $A_i$ .  
For Example, if  $n = 6, A_i = \{1, 2, 4, 5\}$  then  $V_i = [1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0]$ .  
Now Let us Consider the following function,

$$f_{A_i}(x) = \left( \langle x, V_i \rangle - \frac{\langle x, x \rangle}{2} \right) \left( \langle x, V_i \rangle - \frac{\langle V_i, V_i \rangle}{2} \right)$$

Now if we consider,

$$f_{A_i}(A_j) = \left( \langle V_j, V_i \rangle - \frac{\langle V_j, V_j \rangle}{2} \right) \left( \langle V_j, V_i \rangle - \frac{\langle V_i, V_i \rangle}{2} \right)$$

Here we can see that  $\langle V_j, V_i \rangle = |A_j \cap A_i|$ .

For Example, if  $n=6$ ,

$$A_i = \{1, 2, 4, 5\} \Rightarrow V_i = [1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0]$$

$$A_j = \{5, 6\} \Rightarrow V_j = [0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1]$$

$$\text{Then, } A_i \cap A_j = \{5\} \Rightarrow |A_i \cap A_j| = 1$$

$$\text{And, } \langle V_j, V_i \rangle = [1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0] \cdot [0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1] = 1 = |A_i \cap A_j|$$

So, our equation will be,

$$f_{A_i}(A_j) = \left( |A_i \cap A_j| - \frac{|A_j|}{2} \right) \left( |A_i \cap A_j| - \frac{|A_i|}{2} \right)$$

After Applying the given conditions, we can observe that  $f$  is a bijection closed under

$$f_{A_i}(A_j) = \begin{cases} \neq 0, & \text{if } i = j \\ = 0, & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

From the independent criterion,  $A_i$  is independent under vector space  $R^\Omega$ . If we expand  $f_{A_i}(A_j) = c_1 x_1 x_1 + c_2 x_1 x_2 + \dots + c_{n^2} x_n x_n$ , has  $n^2$  vectors that span the space.

As, Number of linearly independent vectors  $\leq$  Number of vectors spanning the space,

$$\boxed{\therefore m \leq n^2}$$

Hence Proved.