

1. HHM §2.6, exercise 4.
2. HHM §2.6, exercise 6.
3. The  $n$ th Motzkin number  $M_n$  ( $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) is the number of paths from  $(0, 0)$  to  $(n, 0)$  in which
  - one can move either one unit to the right from  $(x, y)$  to  $(x + 1, y)$ , diagonally up to the right from  $(x, y)$  to  $(x + 1, y + 1)$ , or diagonally down to the right from  $(x, y)$  to  $(x + 1, y - 1)$ , and
  - the path can not go below the  $x$ -axis.

By convention, we define  $M_0 = 1$ .

- (a) Draw the allowed Motzkin paths for  $n = 1, 2, 3, 4$ , and verify that  $M_1 = 1, M_2 = 2, M_3 = 4, M_4 = 9$ .
- (b) It can be shown that for integers  $n \geq 2$ , the Motzkin numbers satisfy the recursion

$$M_n = M_{n-1} + \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} M_k M_{n-k-2}.$$

Use this to show that the generating function

$$M(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} M_n x^n$$

for the Motzkin numbers has the following closed form:

$$M(x) = \frac{1 - x - \sqrt{1 - 2x - 3x^2}}{2x^2}$$

4. How many different necklaces having five beads can be formed using three different kinds of beads if we discount:
  - (a) Both flips and rotations? (It may be helpful to consult the description of the dihedral group  $D_5$  on p. 194 of the textbook)
  - (b) Rotations only?
  - (c) Just one flip?
5. The dihedral group  $D_6$  encodes all rotations and reflections of a hexagon.
  - (a) List the 12 elements of the dihedral group  $D_6$  in cycle notation.
  - (b) How many necklaces of 6 beads can be made from beads of  $n$  different colors? Answer as a polynomial in  $n$ . Note that a necklace is “the same” if it is rotated or flipped over (reflected). (Use Burnside’s lemma)
  - (c) How many distinct necklaces of 6 beads can be made from 2 red beads, 2 blue beads, and 2 green beads? (Use Burnside’s lemma; you will find that you’ll have to compute  $C_\pi$  in a different way than in part (b). It is okay to take shortcuts in your computation, e.g. by saying things like “the following several permutations all behave the same way.”)