

1. A jigsaw puzzle is put together by successively joining pieces that fit together into blocks. A move is made each time a piece is added to a block, or when two blocks are joined. Use strong induction to prove that no matter how the moves are carried out, exactly  $n - 1$  moves are required to assemble a puzzle with  $n$  pieces.

2. Find the flaw with the following “proof” that  $a^n = 1$  for all nonnegative integers  $n$ , whenever  $a$  is a nonzero real number.

*Basis step:*  $a^0 = 1$  is true by the definition of  $a^0$ .

*Inductive step:* Assume that  $a^j = 1$  for all nonnegative integers  $j$  with  $j \leq k$ . Then note that  $a^{k+1} = \frac{a^k \cdot a^k}{a^{k-1}} = \frac{1 \cdot 1}{1} = 1$ .

3. We will use the definition of a bipartite graph in this question:

**Definition 1.0.1 (Bipartite graph)** *A bipartite graph is a graph where the vertices can be partitioned into two non-empty disjoint sets  $X, Y$  such that there are no edges between two vertices of  $X$  or two vertices of  $Y$  (i.e., all edges are between a vertex in  $X$  and a vertex in  $Y$ ). Bipartite graphs are typically defined as  $(X, Y, E)$ , where  $X$  and  $Y$  denote the partitions and  $E$  denote the set of edges.*

Given a Bipartite graph  $G = (X, Y, E)$ , a matching in  $G$  is defined to be a subset of  $M \subseteq E$  such that for any  $(x, y) \in M$ , both  $x$  and  $y$  do not appear as the end vertex of any edge in  $M$ . Given  $|X| = |Y| = n$ , a perfect matching of  $G$  is a matching of size  $n$ . Show the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.0.2 (Hall’s Theorem)** *Given a bipartite graph  $G = (X, Y, E)$  such that  $n = |X| = |Y|$ , there is a perfect matching in  $G$  if and only if for every subset of vertices  $S \subseteq X$ ,  $|N(S)| \geq |S|$ , where  $N(S)$  denotes the set of neighboring vertices of  $S$ .*

4. Let  $S$  be the subset of the set of ordered pairs of integers defined recursively by:

Basis step:  $(0, 0) \in S$

Recursive step: If  $(a, b) \in S$ , then  $(a, b + 1) \in S$ ,  $(a + 1, b + 1) \in S$ , and  $(a + 2, b + 1) \in S$ .

- (a) List the elements of  $S$  produced by the first four applications of the recursive definition.
- (b) Use strong induction on the number of applications of the recursive step of the definition to show that  $a \leq 2b$  whenever  $(a, b) \in S$ .
- (c) Use structural induction to show that  $a \leq 2b$  whenever  $(a, b) \in S$ .

5. Solve the following recurrence relation and write the exact value of  $T(n)$ .

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} T(n-1) & \text{if } n > 1 \text{ and } n \text{ is odd} \\ 2 \cdot T(n/2) & \text{if } n > 1 \text{ and } n \text{ is even} \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \end{cases}$$

(*Hint: Unrolling may be tricky. You may want to guess the bound and then use induction to confirm your guess.*)