

HW7, Due: Friday, March 8

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Question 1 Use the Calculus method to find

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k^2} \binom{n}{k}.$$

Question 2 Let m, n be positive integers. Show that

$$\sum_{\substack{0 \leq k_1, k_2 \leq n \\ l_1 + l_2 = m}} (-1)^{l_2} \binom{n}{k_1} \binom{2k_1}{l_1} \binom{n}{k_2} \binom{2k_2}{l_2} = \begin{cases} \binom{n}{m/4} 4^{n-m/4} & 4 \mid m. \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Here are some steps.

1. Show that

$$(x^4 + 4)^n = ((x+1)^2 + 1)^n ((x-1)^2 + 1)^n. \quad (1)$$

2. Show that

$$((x+1)^2 + 1)^n ((x-1)^2 + 1)^n = \left(\sum_{k_1, l_1} \binom{n}{k_1} \binom{2k_1}{l_1} x^{l_1} \right) \left(\sum_{k_2, l_2} \binom{n}{k_2} \binom{2k_2}{l_2} (-x)^{l_2} \right).$$

3. Compare the coefficients of x^m on both sides of (1).

Question 3 Problems 1, 4, 7 in textbook Chapter 6.