

Solution to Mid-Semester Examination

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1. (a) (2 points) Is the *complement* of a set unique? Justify.
- (b) (8 points) Count the numbers of *equivalence* relations and *partial order* relations on the set $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$
- (c) (4 points) Does \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{C} have the same *cardinality*? Prove your claim.

Solution:

- (a) Complement of a set is not unique as the universal set is not defined. So if \mathbb{N} is the set concerned, then its complement is $\mathbb{R} - \mathbb{N}$ if \mathbb{R} is the universal set, whereas, $\mathbb{Z} - \mathbb{N}$ is the complement when \mathbb{Z} is the universal set.
- (b) The number of equivalence relation on set with cardinality n is the number of ways we can partition n . Here, $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$. The number of ways we can partition 3 is $3, 2 + 1, 1 + 1 + 1$. We can partition to 3 in 1 way, in $2 + 1$ in 3 ways and $1 + 1 + 1$ in 1 way. Hence the total number of equivalence relation is 5.
- For the number of partial orders, we just list all the possible cases
1. no pair related: just one way to do that,
 2. $1 < 2$, with 3 incomparable: 3 ways to choose the small element, 2 ways to choose the large, 6 orders all told,
 3. a linear order, like $1 < 2 < 3$: 6 orders like this,
 4. one element larger than the other two, those two being incomparable: 3 orders like this, from the 3 ways to choose the big element, and
 5. one element smaller than the other two, those two being incomparable: 3 orders like this, from the 3 ways to choose the small element.
- All told, that's $1 + 6 + 6 + 3 + 3 = 19$.
- (c) Consider $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$, such that $f(a + ib) = (a, b)$, $\forall (a + ib) \in \mathbb{C}$. Clearly this is a bijective function. Hence, we can conclude that \mathbb{C} and \mathbb{R}^2 are equivalent, i.e. $\mathbb{C} \sim \mathbb{R}^2$. Let, $g : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, be a function such that $g(x) = \tan(\pi x - \frac{\pi}{2})$. $g(x)$ takes all values of \mathbb{R} , and hence is an onto function. $\pi x - \frac{\pi}{2}$ takes values $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ in the interval $(0, 1)$. As $\tan x$ is one one function in $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ we have $g(x)$ to be a bijective function. Thus $\mathbb{R} \sim (0, 1)$. Hence, $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^2 \sim (0, 1) \times (0, 1) = (0, 1)^2$. Consider, $p : (0, 1) \times (0, 1) \rightarrow (0, 1)$ such that $g(0.x_1x_2x_3 \dots, 0.y_1y_2y_3 \dots) = 0.x_1y_1x_2y_2x_3y_3 \dots$. Note that p is an injective function. Hence, $(0, 1)$ dominates $(0, 1) \times (0, 1)$. Again consider $q : (0, 1) \rightarrow$

$(0, 1) \times (0, 1)$ such that $q(x) = (x, \frac{1}{2})$. This is also an injection and hence $(0, 1) \times (0, 1)$ dominates $(0, 1)$. So, $(0, 1)^2 \sim (0, 1)$. Hence,

$$\mathbb{C} \sim \mathbb{R}^2 \sim (0, 1)^2 \sim (0, 1) \sim \mathbb{R}$$

So, \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{C} have same cardinality.

2. (a) (2 points) Is the *least* element in a POSET necessarily unique? Justify.
- (b) (3 points) Can there exist a POSET with multiple *minimal* elements, but only one *least* element? Justify.
- (c) (3 points) Find the fallacy in the following application of *strong induction*. Claim: Given $a \in \mathbb{R}^+$, one has that $a^n = 1$, $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ (assume that \mathbb{N} includes 0). In the proof, show that base case for $n = 0$. Assume that $\forall k \leq n$, it holds. And now show that $a^{n+1} = \frac{a^n \cdot a^n}{a^{n-1}} = \frac{1 \cdot 1}{1} = 1$.
- (d) (2 points) If a *logical theory* is *inconsistent*, what can we say about its *completeness*?

Solution:

- (a) Suppose the least element is not unique. Say, x and y are two least elements in the POSET, say A . According to definition of least element, $x \leq a \forall a \in A$ and $y \leq a \forall a \in A \implies x \leq y$ and $y \leq x \implies x = y$. Thus we conclude that the least element is unique.
- (b) Let the POSET be A . A minimal element say m in a POSET is such that $\nexists a \in A$ such that $a < m$. Now let us assume there are multiple minimal elements, say m_1, m_2, \dots, m_p and a least element x . Now from the definition of least element, we get, $x \leq m_i \forall i = 1(1)p$ but from the definition of minimal elements we have $x \not\leq m_i \forall i = 1(1)p \implies x = m_i \forall i = 1(1)p$, which is a contradiction as m_i 's are unique. Hence, there cannot be a POSET with multiple minimum elements but one least element.
- (c) Given $a \in \mathbb{R}^+$ one has to show that $a^n = 1 \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ (assuming that \mathbb{N} includes 0). To use strong induction, we start with base condition. When $n = 0$, $a^0 = 1$ which is true. But for $n = 1$, we get $a^1 = a \neq 1 \forall a \in \mathbb{N} - \{1\}$. Thus we cannot use strong induction in this problem.
- (d) A logical theory is inconsistent when any statement in the theory and its negation can be proved using the axioms of the theory. A logical theory is complete when every true statements in the theory can be proved using the axioms. Thus completeness contains inconsistency. Thus if a logical theory is inconsistent then it is also complete.

3. (a) (4 points) Count the number of *arrangements* of n distinct letters in n distinct envelopes so that exactly one letter goes to the correct envelope.
 (b) (12 points) Count the number of integral solutions of the equation

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 18,$$

that satisfy

$$1 \leq x_1 \leq 5, \quad -2 \leq x_2 \leq 4, \quad 0 \leq x_3 \leq 5, \quad 3 \leq x_4 \leq 9$$

using two methods : *inclusion-exclusion* principle and the method of *generating functions*.

Solution:

- (a) Suppose that there are n letters numbered $1, 2, \dots, n$. Let there be n envelopes also numbered $1, 2, \dots, n$. We have to find the number of ways in which no letter goes to the envelope having same number as its number. Such an arrangement is known as a *derangement*. Suppose we want to count D_n , the number of derangements of $\{1, \dots, n\}$.

Let S be the set of all permutations of $\{1, \dots, n\}$, and

let T_i be the set of permutations which leave letter i in its natural position.

Then $D_n = |T_1^c \cap \dots \cap T_n^c|$

$$\begin{aligned} &= |S| - \sum_i |T_i| + \sum_{i < j} |T_i \cap T_j| - \sum_{i < j < k} |T_i \cap T_j \cap T_k| + \dots + (-1)^n |T_1 \cap \dots \cap T_n| \\ &= n! - \binom{n}{1}(n-1)! + \binom{n}{2}(n-2)! - \binom{n}{3}(n-3)! + \dots + (-1)^n \binom{n}{n}(n-n)! \\ &= n! - \frac{n!}{1!} + \frac{n!}{2!} - \frac{n!}{3!} + \dots + (-1)^n \frac{n!}{n!} = n! \left[1 - \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} - \frac{1}{3!} + \dots + (-1)^n \frac{1}{n!} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Now in this problem, we can choose 1 letter to go to the correct envelope in n ways. Then we use derangement on the remaining $n-1$ letters. Hence the solution is :

$$n \cdot D_{n-1} = n! \left[1 - \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} - \frac{1}{3!} + \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1}{n-1!} \right]$$

- (b)

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 18$$

$$1 \leq x_1 \leq 5, \quad -2 \leq x_2 \leq 4, \quad 0 \leq x_3 \leq 5, \quad 3 \leq x_4 \leq 9$$

We take $y_1 = x_1 - 1$; $y_2 = x_2 + 2$ $y_3 = x_3$; $y_4 = x_4 - 3$. Thus,

$$0 \leq y_1 \leq 4, \quad 0 \leq y_2 \leq 6, \quad 0 \leq y_3 \leq 5, \quad 0 \leq y_4 \leq 6$$

$$y_1 + y_2 + y_3 + y_4 = 16$$

Using **Inclusion Exclusion Principle**:

$A : (y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4)$ satisfying $y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4 \geq 0$

$P_1 : (y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4)$ satisfying and $y_1 \geq 5$

$P_2 : (y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4)$ satisfying and $y_2 \geq 7$

$P_3 : (y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4)$ satisfying and $y_3 \geq 6$

$P_4 : (y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4)$ satisfying and $y_4 \geq 7$

We want, $|P_1^c \cap P_2^c \cap P_3^c \cap P_4^c|$

$$\begin{aligned} &= |A| - \sum_i |P_i| + \sum_{i < j} |P_i \cap P_j| - \sum_{i < j < k} |P_i \cap P_j \cap P_k| + |P_1 \cap P_2 \cap P_3 \cap P_4| \\ &= \binom{19}{3} - \binom{14}{3} - \binom{13}{3} - 2\binom{12}{3} + \binom{8}{3} + 2\binom{7}{3} + 2\binom{6}{3} + \binom{5}{3} = 55 \end{aligned}$$

Using **Generating Functions**:

To find the coefficient of x^{16} in

$$\begin{aligned} &(1 + x + \dots + x^4)(1 + x + \dots + x^5)(1 + x + \dots + x^6)^2 \\ &= \frac{(1 - x^5)(1 - x^6)(1 - x^7)^2}{(1 - x)^4} = (1 - x^5 - x^6 + x^{11})(1 - 2x^7 + x^{14})(1 - x)^{-4} \\ &= (1 - x^5 - x^6 - 2x^7 + x^{11} + 2x^{12} + 2x^{13} + x^{14} + \dots)(1 - x)^{-4} \\ &= \binom{19}{3} - \binom{14}{3} - \binom{13}{3} - 2\binom{12}{3} + \binom{8}{3} + 2\binom{7}{3} + 2\binom{6}{3} + \binom{5}{3} = 55 \end{aligned}$$

4. Use *generating functions* to

- (4 points) count the number of n -bit sequences where both zeroes and ones appear even number of times.
- (6 points) evaluate $2 + 8 + 24 + 64 + 160 + 384 + \dots$ upto n terms.

Solution:

- Let $f(n)$ denote the number of n -bit sequences where both zeroes and ones appear even number of times. Clearly note that if n is odd, then there cannot be such a sequence as either number of zeroes or ones must be odd. Thus, $f(2n+1) = 0 \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$. Now, the generating function for number of 0 should be

$$\left(1 + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots\right)$$

The above generating function is like that because the number of 0 must be even and for k zeroes all the $k!$ permutations are identical, so we need to divide by $k!$. Similarly, the generating function for 1 is same. Thus $f(n)$ will be the coefficient of $\frac{x^n}{n!}$ in

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots\right)^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{2 + e^{2x} + e^{-2x}}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{e^{2x} + e^{-2x}}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

The coefficient of $\frac{x^n}{n!}$ is $\frac{1}{2} \cdot 2^n = 2^{n-1}$.

- (b) Let a_k be the k -th term of the above sum and S_n be the n -th partial sum. With some observation we can get that $a_k = k2^k$. Let $F(x)$ be the generating function of the terms, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) &= \sum_{k \geq 0} a_k x^k = \sum_{k \geq 0} k(2x)^k \\ &= 2x + 2 \cdot (2x)^2 + 3 \cdot (2x)^3 + \dots \\ &= 2x(1 + 2 \cdot (2x) + 3 \cdot (2x)^2 + \dots) = 2x(1 - 2x)^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

Now let $G(x)$ be the generating function of the partial sums S_n i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} G(x) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} S_n x^n \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (a_0 + a_1 + \dots + a_n) x^n = F(x)(1 + x + x^2 + \dots) \\ &= F(x)(1 - x)^{-1} = \frac{2x}{(1 - 2x)^2(1 - x)} \end{aligned}$$

Breaking the LHS into partial fractions we get ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2x}{(1 - 2x)^2(1 - x)} &= \frac{2}{(1 - 2x)^2} - \frac{4}{(1 - 2x)} + \frac{2}{1 - x} \\ &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (n + 1)2^{n+1}x^n - \sum_{n \geq 0} 2^{n+2}x^n + \sum_{n \geq 0} 2x^n \\ &\implies \sum_{n \geq 0} S_n x^n = \sum_{n \geq 0} [(n - 1)2^{n+1} + 2]x^n \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $S_n = (n - 1)2^{n+1} + 2$.

5. (a) (8 points) Solve the following *recurrence* relation:

$$a_n = 6a_{n-1} - 9a_{n-2} + (n^2 + 1)3^n, \quad \forall n \geq 2,$$

where $a_0 = 0, a_1 = 1$.

- (b) (6 points) A *divide and conquer* algorithm works on an integer array of size n . For $n \geq 2$, it divides the array into two almost equal halves and recursively processes each part. After the *recursive calls* return, it takes constant time 1 (i.e, just one elementary operation) to combine the solutions on the parts. Formulate a recurrence for the time complexity function $t(n)$ and use *induction* on n to show that $t(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$. Note that n is any positive integer $n \geq 2$ and not necessarily a power of 2.

Solution:

- (a) Let us first solve the homogeneous equation $a_n = 6a_{n-1} - 9a_{n-2}$ which gives,

$$x^2 = 6x - 9 \implies (x - 3)^2 = 0$$

Thus the homogeneous solution is $a_n = c_1 3^n + c_2 n 3^n$. Now for the particular solution we take $a_n = n^2(an^2 + bn + c)3^n$ as the root 3 has multiplicity 2. Putting the value in the given recurrence relation, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & n^2(an^2 + bn + c)3^n \\ = & 6(n-1)^2(a(n-1)^2 + b(n-1) + c)3^{n-1} - 9(n-2)^2(a(n-2)^2 + b(n-2) + c)3^{n-2} \\ & + (n^2 + 1)3^n \end{aligned}$$

Simplyfying the above equation we get

$$(1 - 12a)n^2 + (24a - 6b)n + (-14a + 6b - 2c + 1) = 0$$

Comparing the coefficients we get, $a = \frac{1}{12}$; $b = \frac{1}{3}$; $c = \frac{11}{12}$. Hence, the general solution is

$$a_n = c_1 3^n + c_2 n 3^n + n^2 \left(\frac{n^2}{12} + \frac{n}{3} + \frac{11}{12} \right) 3^n$$

Given, $a_0 = 0$ and $a_1 = 1$, we get $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = -1$. Hence,

$$a_n = n^2 \left(\frac{n^2}{12} + \frac{n}{3} + \frac{11}{12} \right) 3^n - n 3^n.$$

- (b) $t(n)$ denotes the time complexity function of array size n . It takes 1 constant time to combine the solutions of the parts. The algorithm divides the array into almost two equal halves and recursively progresses. clearly $t(2) = 1$. Thus the recurrence relation is,

$$t(n) = t\left(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor\right) + t\left(\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil\right) + 1$$

(the two near equal halves and 1 time for combining them)

When , $n = 2^k$, we have $t(2^k) = 2t(2^{k-1}) + 1$. If $t(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$ then

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t(n)}{n} < \infty$$

Since, $t(2) = 1$, $t(2) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$.Thus the base case is true. So if $t(2^k) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} t(2^{k+1}) &= 2t(2^k) + 1 \\ \implies \frac{t(2^{k+1})}{2^{k+1}} &= \frac{t(2^k)}{2^k} + \frac{1}{2^k} \\ \implies \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t(2^{k+1})}{2^{k+1}} &= \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{t(2^k)}{2^k} + \frac{1}{2^k} \right] \\ \implies \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t(2^{k+1})}{2^{k+1}} &< \infty \text{ (since } t(2^k) \in \mathcal{O}(n)) \\ \implies t(2^{k+1}) &\in \mathcal{O}(n) \end{aligned}$$

Now, if $2^k < n < 2^{k+1}$, then $t(2^k) < t(n) < t(2^{k+1})$. By Sandwich Theorem, we get $t(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n)$. Thus, $t(n) \in \mathcal{O}(n) \forall n$.

6. (a) (4 points) Let $T(r, n)$ be the number of onto *functions* from a set with cardinality r to a set with cardinality n . Prove the following recurrence using *combinatorial argument*:

$$T(r, n) = nT(r - 1, n - 1) + nT(r - 1, n).$$

Algebraic derivation using any explicit formula would lead to zero credit.

- (b) (4 points) Prove that the number of p -partitions of a positive integer n is equal to the number of partitions of $n + \binom{p}{2}$ into p distinct parts.

Solution:

- (a) $T(r, n)$ is the number of onto functions from a set with cardinality r to a set with cardinality n . Choose an element from the set with cardinality r say a . Now, if a goes to an element say b then either (1) no other elements goes to b , or (2) atleast one other element goes to b . For (1) the total number of onto functions are $T(r - 1, n - 1)$ and for (2) the total number of onto functions are $T(r - 1, n)$. Now we can choose b in n ways, hence we get the following recursion,

$$T(r, n) = n \cdot (T(r - 1, n - 1) + T(r - 1, n))$$

(b) Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_p$ be a partition of n such that $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_p$. Then, $\lambda_1 + 1 > \lambda_2$; $\lambda_2 + 1 > \lambda_3$; \dots ; $\lambda_{p-1} + 1 > \lambda_p$.

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_1 + (p-1) &> \lambda_2 + (p-2) > \dots > \lambda_{p-1} + 1 > \lambda_p \\ &= \beta_1 > \beta_2 > \dots > \beta_p.\end{aligned}$$

We have, $\sum_{i=1}^p \beta_i = n + 1 + 2 + \dots + (p-1) = n + \binom{p}{2}$. Hence, $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_p$ is a partition of $n + \binom{p}{2}$ into p distinct parts. Proved.