Exam 1

Combinatorics, Dave Bayer, February 11-14, 2021

[1] Moving up or over, for the grid on the left there are four paths between the corners that avoid the obstacle. For the grid on the right, how many paths avoid both obstacles?



[2] Let f(n) be the number of n step paths from w to itself on the directed graph below. What is f(12)?



[3] Let f(n) be the number of ways of making change for n cents, using 2 cent and 3 cent coins. As shown below, f(6) = 2, f(9) = 2, and f(12) = 3. What is f(18)?



Let $g(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f(n)t^n$ be the generating function for f(n). Find a closed form expression for g(t).

[4] A *Young tableau* is a way of filling in a staircase-shaped grid with the integers from 1 to n, so every row and every column is in ascending order. Let f(n) be the number of Young tableaus for a $2 \times n$ grid. As shown below, f(2) = 2 and f(3) = 5. What is f(5)? What can you say about f(n)?



[5] Let f(n) be the number of ways of arranging 1×2 bricks in a $3 \times 2n$ grid. As shown below, f(1) = 3 and f(2) = 11. Find f(3) and f(4). What can you say about f(n)?



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Exam 2

Combinatorics, Dave Bayer, March 18-21, 2021

To receive full credit for correct answers, please show all work.

[1] How many ways can we choose three edges of a regular tetrahedron, up to rotational symmetry? Confirm your answer by finding all patterns up to symmetry.



[2] How many ways can we k-color the six sides of a regular hexagon, up to rotational and flip symmetries? Confirm your answer for k = 2, by finding all patterns up to symmetry.



[3] How many ways can we choose two squares of a 4×4 board, up to rotational and flip symmetries? Confirm your answer by finding all patterns up to symmetry.

[4] How many ways can we choose 2 or 3 faces of a regular dodecahedron up to rotational symmetry? Confirm your answers by finding all patterns up to symmetry.



[5] How many ways can we choose two cubes from a $3 \times 3 \times 3$ array of 27 cubes, up to rotational symmetry? (This is not a *Rubik's Cube*. The symmetries are the 24 rotations we have studied of a solid cube.)



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$$\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{k=2} & \frac{1}{60} \left(66 + 15 \cdot 6 + 20 \cdot 0 + 24 \cdot 1 \right) = 180_{60} = 3 \\ \mathsf{k=3} & \frac{1}{60} \left(220 + 15 \cdot 0 + 20 \cdot 4 + 24 \cdot 0 \right) = 300_{60} = 5 \end{array}$$









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 $\frac{1}{24}(351+9.15+14.3) = 528/24 = 22$ ways to pick two cubes

Check:



3 ways ta Choose two corners



3 ways to choose middle



G ways left to choose one corner



5 ways tə Choose two Edges

(as we saw before)



3 ways to choose one edge, one face



2 ways to choose two faces

Final Exam

Combinatorics, Dave Bayer, April 20-23, 2021

To receive full credit for correct answers, please show all work.

[1] How many ways can we dissect an octagon using 2 cuts? Provide a check of your answer. (You may solve the problem two different ways, or classify the possibilities, or draw every possibility.)



[2] For each of the following Young tableaux, find the dissection of an n-gon given by Stanley's correspondence.



[3] Identify each of the following surfaces from their gluing diagrams, computing their Euler characteristic and deciding whether or not they are orientable. Which two surfaces are homeomorphic (topologically equivalent)?



[4] How many ways can we properly color the vertices of a hexagon using n colors, up to rotational symmetry? Confirm your answer by drawing each of the possibilities for n = 3. (For a proper coloring, adjacent vertices have distinct colors. You need not use every color.)

[5] How many ways can we dissect an octagon using 4 cuts, up to dihedral (rotations and flips) symmetry? Confirm your answer by drawing each of the possibilities. Which patterns are not chiral?



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1	2	3		1	5	7	1	2	4
4	5	6		2	ഴ	8	3	5	8
7			-	3			6		
8				4			7		

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Check: Classify by position of first wit in sorting order:



Check: Find up to rotational symmetry, and multiply by orbit sizes.



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K Second and fourth surfaces are the same.

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$$f(3) = \frac{1}{6} [64+8+2.4+2.2] = 84/6 = 14$$



What does f(n) look like expanded out? $f(n) = \frac{1}{6} [(n-1)^{6} + (n-1)^{3} + 2(n-1)^{2} + 2(n-1)]$ $= \frac{1}{6} [n^{6} - 6n^{5} + 15n^{4} - 19n^{3} + 14n^{2} - 5n]$



```
In[1]:= Try[f_, d_] := Module[{},
         Print[f/. m \rightarrow n - 1 / / Expand];
         Print[f /. n \rightarrow m + 1 / / Expand];
         Print[Table[f/d/. n \rightarrow k/. m \rightarrow k-1, {k, 5}]];]
\ln[2] = \operatorname{Try}[m^{6} + m^{3} + 2m^{2} + 2m, 6]
      -5 n + 14 n^{2} - 19 n^{3} + 15 n^{4} - 6 n^{5} + n^{6}
      2 m + 2 m^2 + m^3 + m^6
      \{0, 1, 14, 130, 700\}
\ln[3] = \operatorname{Try}[nm(m^4 - m^3 + m^2 + 2), 6]
      -5 n + 14 n^{2} - 19 n^{3} + 15 n^{4} - 6 n^{5} + n^{6}
      2\ m\ +\ 2\ m^2\ +\ m^3\ +\ m^6
      \{0, 1, 14, 130, 700\}
\ln[4] = \text{Try}[nm^{5} - nm(m^{3} - m^{2} + m - 1) + nm(n - 2) + 2nm, 6]
      -5 n + 14 n^{2} - 19 n^{3} + 15 n^{4} - 6 n^{5} + n^{6}
      2 m + 2 m^2 + m^3 + m^6
      \{0, 1, 14, 130, 700\}
\ln[5]:= Try [m<sup>6</sup> + m + 2 nm + nm (n - 2), 6]
      -5 n + 14 n^{2} - 19 n^{3} + 15 n^{4} - 6 n^{5} + n^{6}
      2 m + 2 m^2 + m^3 + m^6
      \{0, 1, 14, 130, 700\}
\ln[6]:= Try[(n<sup>2</sup> - n + 1) nm (n<sup>2</sup> - 4 n + 5), 6]
      -5 n + 14 n^2 - 19 n^3 + 15 n^4 - 6 n^5 + n^6
      2 m + 2 m^2 + m^3 + m^6
      \{0, 1, 14, 130, 700\}
\ln[7] = \operatorname{Try}[n(n-1)((n-1)^{4} - (n-1)^{3} + (n-1)^{2} - (n-2)), 1]
      -5 n + 15 n^{2} - 20 n^{3} + 15 n^{4} - 6 n^{5} + n^{6}
      m + m^6
      \{0, 2, 66, 732, 4100\}
In[8]:= Try[2m^3-m, 1]
      -1 + 5 n - 6 n^2 + 2 n^3
      -m + 2 m^3
      \{0, 1, 14, 51, 124\}
```

[5] How many ways can we dissect an octagon using 4 cuts, up to dihedral (rotations and flips) symmetry? Confirm your answer by drawing each of the possibilities. Which patterns are not chiral?





The following 5 dissections are not chiral:

