

**Math 221 Winter 2023 (Darij Grinberg): midterm 3**

due date: Monday 2023-03-20 at 11:59PM on gradescope (  
<https://www.gradescope.com/courses/487830> ).

Please solve only **4 of the 6 exercises**.

**NO collaboration allowed – this is a midterm!**

(But you can still ask me questions.)

Recall that  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

**Exercise 1. (a)** How many 7-digit numbers are there? (A “ $k$ -digit number” means a nonnegative integer that has  $k$  digits when written in the decimal system (without leading zeroes). For example, 3902 is a 4-digit number, not a 5-digit number.)

**(b)** How many 7-digit numbers are there that have no two equal digits?

**(c)** How many 7-digit numbers have an even sum of digits?

**(d)** How many 7-digit numbers are palindromes? (A “**palindrome**” is a number such that reading its digits from right to left yields the same number. For example, 5 and 1331 and 49094 are palindromes.)

[If your answer is a product or power, **you do not need to simplify it to a number.**]

Recall the notion of a “left inverse” of a map (as defined in Exercise 2 on homework set #5).

**Exercise 2.** Let  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $X$  be an  $n$ -element set. Let  $Y$  be an  $m$ -element set. Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be an injective map. Prove that  $f$  has exactly  $n^{m-n}$  many left inverses.

If  $S$  is any set, and  $n$  is any nonnegative integer, then the Cartesian product  $\underbrace{S \times S \times \dots \times S}_{n \text{ times}}$  is denoted by  $S^n$ . For example,  $S^3 = S \times S \times S$ .

Recall that a  $k$ -tuple  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k)$  is called **injective** if its  $k$  entries  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k$  are all distinct (i.e., if  $i_a \neq i_b$  for all  $a \neq b$ ).

**Exercise 3.** Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . How many injective  $(2n)$ -tuples  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{2n}) \in [2n]^{2n}$  are there such that all of the first  $n$  entries  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n$  are even?

(For instance, for  $n = 2$ , there are 4 such tuples:  $(2, 4, 1, 3)$ ,  $(2, 4, 3, 1)$ ,  $(4, 2, 1, 3)$  and  $(4, 2, 3, 1)$ .)

**Exercise 4.** Let  $n \geq 2$  be an integer.

**(a)** How many injective  $n$ -tuples  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n) \in [n]^n$  begin with the entry 2?

**(b)** How many injective  $n$ -tuples  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n) \in [n]^n$  contain the entry 1 before the entry 2? (“Before” means “somewhere to the left of”, not necessarily “immediately before”. For instance, for  $n = 4$ , the 4-tuple  $(1, 3, 2, 4)$  qualifies, but the 4-tuple  $(2, 3, 1, 4)$  does not.)

(c) How many injective  $n$ -tuples  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n) \in [n]^n$  contain the entry 1 immediately preceding the entry 2? (Here,  $(1, 3, 2, 4)$  no longer qualifies, but  $(4, 1, 2, 3)$  does.)

If  $h : S \rightarrow S$  is any map from a set to itself, then a **fixed point** of  $h$  means an element  $s \in S$  satisfying  $h(s) = s$ . The set of all fixed points of  $h$  will be called  $\text{Fix } h$ .

**Exercise 5.** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two finite sets (not necessarily of the same size).

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $g : Y \rightarrow X$  be two maps. Prove that

$$|\text{Fix}(f \circ g)| = |\text{Fix}(g \circ f)|.$$

[Hint: Show that  $f(x) \in \text{Fix}(f \circ g)$  for each  $x \in \text{Fix}(g \circ f)$ . Thus, there is a map

$$\begin{aligned} f' : \text{Fix}(g \circ f) &\rightarrow \text{Fix}(f \circ g), \\ x &\mapsto f(x). \end{aligned}$$

Construct a similar map  $g'$  in the opposite direction. Prove that these two maps  $f'$  and  $g'$  are inverse to each other.]

Now, recall Exercise 5 on homework set #5. In that exercise, we decided to call a set  $S$  of integers **pseudolacunar** if no two elements  $s, t$  of  $S$  satisfy  $|s - t| = 2$ . We denoted the # of pseudolacunar subsets of  $[n]$  (for a given  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ) by  $p_n$ .

Recall also the Fibonacci sequence  $(f_0, f_1, f_2, \dots)$  that we introduced in Lecture 2. It is defined recursively by  $f_0 = 0$  and  $f_1 = 1$  and  $f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$  for each  $n \geq 2$ .

Finally, recall the floor notation (see Definition 3.3.12 in Lecture 8).

**Exercise 6.** Prove that

$$p_n = f_{\lfloor (n+1)/2 \rfloor + 2} \cdot f_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 2} \quad \text{for each } n \geq 2.$$

[Hint: What does the pseudolacunarity of a set  $S$  mean for the even elements of  $S$ ? What does it mean for the odd elements of  $S$ ?]