

MATEMATISKA INSTITUTIONEN  
STOCKHOLMS UNIVERSITET  
Avd. Matematik  
Examinator: Sofia Tirabassi

Tentamensskrivning i  
Combinatorics  
7.5 hp  
11th January 2022

**Please read carefully the general instructions:**

- During the exam any textbook, class notes, or any other supporting material is forbidden.
- In particular, calculators are not allowed during the exam.
- In all your solutions show your reasoning, explaining carefully what you are doing. Justify your answers.
- Use natural language, not just mathematical symbols.
- Use clear and legible writing. Write preferably with a ball-pen or a pen (black or dark blue ink).
- A maximum score of 30 points can be achieved. A score of at least 15 points will ensure a pass grade.

GOOD LUCK!

1. **Partitions:** (2 points)

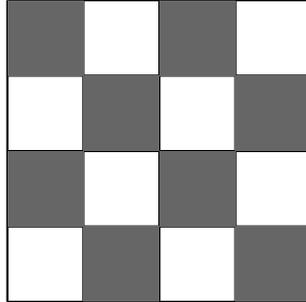
Consider  $r$  a positive integer and let  $a_r$  be the number of (unordered) partitions of  $r$  such that:

- no summand is larger than 4;
- 3 appears at least 3 times;
- 4 appears at most 2 times.

Express of the generating function of  $a_r$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ , as a quotient of polynomials.

2. **Rook polynomials:**

- (a) (2 point) Define the **rook numbers** and the **rook polynomial** of a chessboard  $C$ .  
(b) (3 points) Calculate the rook polynomial of the following  $4 \times 4$  chessboard.



- (c) (2 point) State formally how the rook polynomial of the union of two disjoint chessboards  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  can be written in terms of the rook polynomials of the  $C_i$ 's  
(d) (2 points) Prove your statement in point (c).

3. **Recursion:**

Consider the following recursion relation

$$a_{n+2} - 6a_{n+1} + 9a_n = 5$$

With boundary conditions  $a_0 = 0$  and  $a_1 = 1$ .

- (a) (3 points) Solve the relation finding a closed formula for  $a_n$ .  
(b) (2 points) Express the generating function of the sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  as a quotient of polynomials.

4. **Graphs:**

Consider the (simple and loop-free) complete bipartite graph  $K_{n,m}$ . Give conditions on  $n$  and  $m$  such that

- (a) (2 points) Give conditions on  $n$  and  $m$  such that  $K_{n,m}$  is connected.  
(b) (2 points) Give conditions on  $n$  and  $m$  such that  $K_{n,m}$  has an Euler circuit.  
(c) (2 points) Give conditions on  $n$  and  $m$  such that  $K_{n,m}$  has a Hamilton path.  
(d) (2 points) Compute the chromatic polynomial of  $K_{2,2}$ . (**Formula:** you can use that  $p(K_n, x) = x(x-1)(x-2) \cdots (x-n)$ )

5. **Latin squares:**

Let  $q = p^n$ , with  $n$  a positive integer and  $p$  a prime different from 2 and 3. Define the  $q \times q$  matrix  $A = (a_{ij})$  by  $a_{ij} \equiv 2i + j \pmod{q}$

- (a) (2 points) Write  $A$  when  $q = 5$ . Observe that it is a Latin square.  
(b) (2 points) For  $q = 5$  find a Latin square which is orthogonal to  $A$ . (**Hint:** 3 is a unit in  $\mathbb{F}_5$ )  
(c) (2 points) Show that for every  $q$ , the matrix  $A$  is a Latin square. (**Hint:** You need to show that  $a_{ij} = a_{ik}$  implies  $j = k$  and that  $a_{ij} = a_{lj}$  implies  $i = l$ .)