

University of California Davis
Combinatorics MAT 145

Name (Print): _____
Student ID (Print): _____

Sample Midterm Examination
Time Limit: 50 Minutes

February 8 2019

This examination document contains 6 pages, including this cover page, and 5 problems. You must verify whether there are any pages missing, in which case you should let the instructor know. **Fill in** all the requested information on the top of this page, and put your initials on the top of every page, in case the pages become separated.

You may *not* use your books, notes, or any calculator on this exam.

You are required to show your work on each problem on this exam. The following rules apply:

- (A) **If you use a lemma, proposition or theorem which we have seen in the class or in the book, you must indicate this** and explain why the theorem may be applied.
- (B) **Organize your work**, in a reasonably neat and coherent way, in the space provided. Work scattered all over the page without a clear ordering will receive little credit.
- (C) **Mysterious or unsupported answers will not receive full credit.** A correct answer, unsupported by calculations, explanation, or algebraic work will receive little credit; an incorrect answer supported by substantially correct calculations and explanations will receive partial credit.
- (D) If you need more space, use the back of the pages; clearly indicate when you have done this.

Problem	Points	Score
1	20	
2	20	
3	20	
4	20	
5	20	
Total:	100	

Do not write in the table to the right.

1. (20 points) Prove the following two statements.

(a) (10 points) Prove that for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\binom{2n}{2} = 2\binom{n}{2} + n^2.$$

(b) (10 points) Show that for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\binom{n}{0} + 2^1\binom{n}{1} + 2^2\binom{n}{2} + \dots + 2^k\binom{n}{k} + \dots + 2^n\binom{n}{n} = 3^n.$$

2. (20 points) Consider a 5×6 rectangular grid as depicted in Figure 1. A staircase walk is a path in the grid which moves only *right* or *up*.

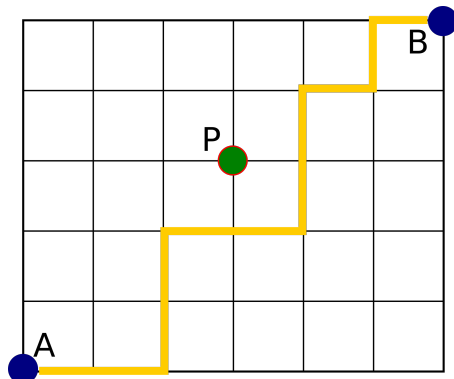


Figure 1: The 5×6 grid and a valid staircase walk from A to B avoiding P .

- (a) (10 points) Find the number of staircase walks from A to B .
- (b) (10 points) How many staircase walks from A to B avoid the point P ?

3. (20 points) Solve the following two questions.

(a) (10 points) Compute the number of positive integers $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $1 \leq n \leq 10000$, and which are **not** divisible by 6, 7, 9.

(b) (10 points) Prove that in any group of six people there are either three people who all know each other, or three people who are mutual strangers.

4. (20 points) Consider a French deck of 52 cards, containing 4 suits with 13 values

$$\{A, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, J, K, Q\}$$

in each of the four suits. We are dealt five cards from the deck. These five cards constitute our hand.

- (a) (10 points) A hand of five cards is said to be a *trio* if it contains *exactly* three cards with the same value, and the remaining two cards have distinct values amongst them. Show that the probability of having a trio is approximately 0.021128.

- (b) (10 points) A hand of five cards is said to be a *full house* if it contains *exactly* three cards with the same value, and the remaining two cards have the same value. Compute the probability of having a full house.

5. (20 points) Let us consider a die with six faces, each face with a value in $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$. Roll the die four consecutive times. Compute the probability that we will see a 3 in at least one of these four rolls.