

1. For each of the following,

EITHER give an example of the thing that is described

OR explain why none exists.

(a) A surjection from $\{1, 2, 3\}$ to $\{a, b, c, d\}$.

A. Impossible since a function from a 3-set to a 4-set cannot hit everything in the 4-set.

(b) An injection from $\{1, 2, 3\}$ to $\{a, b, c, d\}$.

A. There are 24 examples. One is $f(1) = a, f(2) = b, f(3) = c$.

(c) A permutation f of $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ such that f^{12} is NOT the identity function. The identity function is the function g such that $g(x) = x$ for all x .

Remember that $f^{12}(x)$ is $f(f(\dots f(x)))$, not $(f(x))^{12}$.

A. Impossible. The cycles of a permutation on a n -set all have lengths at most n . Hence f^k must be the identity if k is divisible by all numbers from 2 to n . When $n = 4$, this tells us that it suffices to have k a multiple of 12. (You only need to give an argument like this for $n = 4$.)

(d) An involution f of $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ with exactly 4 cycles.

A. There are 45 examples, all of which have two 1-cycles and two 2-cycles. One is $(1)(2)(3, 4)(5, 6)$. As mentioned in class, it is permissible to omit the 1-cycles, so this could be written $(3, 4)(5, 6)$.

2. How many 6 card hands contain 3 pairs?

Important: Give a careful justification of how you found your answer, not just a bunch of numbers multiplied together without explanation.

A. See Ex. 1.3.1. Here's one solution. Choose the 3 face values for the pairs and then choose the suits for each of the face values:

$$\binom{13}{3} \times \binom{4}{2} \times \binom{4}{2} \times \binom{4}{2} = \frac{13 \times 12 \times 11 \times 6^3}{6} = 61,776.$$

3. A magazine article lists 8 yes/no questions. Each question must be answered "yes," "no" or "don't know". The article says that a person is credulous if he or she answers at least 6 of the questions with a "yes". How many ways are there to answer the questions so that you receive the label "credulous?"

A. Let $A(k)$ be the number of ways to answer with exactly k "yes" answers. The solution is $A(6) + A(7) + A(8)$. To compute $A(k)$, choose k questions to answer "yes" and give non-yes answers to the remaining $8 - k$. This can be done in $\binom{8}{k} 2^{8-k}$ ways since each of the $8 - k$ questions has 2 possible answers. We obtain

$$A(6) = \binom{8}{6} 2^2 = 112 \quad A(7) = \binom{8}{7} 2^1 = 16 \quad A(8) = 1.$$

Thus the answer is 129.

4. Let S be an n -set. It was shown in the text (and in class) that the number of subsets that can be formed from S is 2^n .

Generalize this: State and prove a formula for the number of multisets that can be formed from S where *each element is repeated at most k times*.

When $k = 1$, your formula should become 2^n .

- A.** Each element can be used from 0 to k times in the multiset, thus there are $k + 1$ choices for how many times to use each element. We make a choice for the number of times to use the first element of S , and then for the second, and then for the third, and so on. The Rule of Product gives $(k + 1)^n$.

5. Let $S(n, k)$ be the Stirling numbers of the second kind; that is, $S(n, k)$ is the number of ways to partition an n -set into k unordered blocks. Prove that

$$S(n, k) = \sum_{j=1}^n \binom{n-1}{j-1} S(n-j, k-1) \quad \text{for } n > 0 \text{ and } k > 0.$$

- A.** See Ex. 1.4.6(c). We can let the set be $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Look at the block containing n . It can contain any number of additional elements. The remaining elements must be divided into $k - 1$ blocks. Let j be the number of elements in the block containing n . By the above discussion, this contributes $\binom{n-1}{j-1} S(n-j, k-1)$ different partitions to the count.