

Math 131 Final
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1. How many words can you write using all the letters of ABRAKADABRA? (A must be used 5 times, B twice etc.) (10 pts.)

2. Consider the polynomial $(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n)^k$ in n variables X_1, \dots, X_n . When multiplied out, this polynomial is equal to a polynomial of the form

$$\sum_{i_1+i_2+\dots+i_n=k} a(i_1, \dots, i_n) X_1^{i_1} X_2^{i_2} \dots X_n^{i_n}$$

for some $a(i_1, \dots, i_n) \in \mathbb{N}$. Here, k runs over all natural numbers and i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n run over all natural numbers whose sum is k . Find $a(i_1, \dots, i_n)$. Applying the above formula to various values of X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n deduce some combinatorial formulas. (20 pts.)

3. Let f_n be the number of words in letters a, b and c 's of length n without the subword abc .

3a. Find a recursive formula for f_n .

3b. Compute f_6 and f_7 .

(20 pts.)

4. How many irreducible polynomials are there in $\mathbb{Z}[X]$ of the form $X^2 + aX + b$ where $a, b \in \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2\}$? (15 pts.)

5. Find all irreducible polynomials of degree 3 of $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})[X]$. (15 pts.)

($\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1\}$ is the ring with two elements where $1 + 1 = 0$.)