

**Problem 1.** Let  $m, n, r$  be natural numbers such that  $m \geq n \geq r$ . Prove that  $\binom{m}{r} \geq \binom{n}{r}$ .

**Problem 2.** Find a way to place 8 rooks on a regular  $8 \times 8$  chessboard in such a way that no two are attacking each other. Is it possible to place 9 rooks in such a way?

**Problem 3.** Consider a regular deck of playing cards. How many ways are there to place 4 cards from the deck on the table? How many ways are there to place 4 cards on the table if the first card needs to be a red queen?

**Problem 4.**

1. Let  $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . How many ordered pairs  $(A, B)$  can you find, where  $A, B \subseteq X$  and  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .
2. Let  $X = \{1, \dots, n\}$  for some natural number  $n$ . How many ordered pairs  $(A, B)$  can you find, where  $A, B \subseteq X$  and  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .

**Problem 5.** Give an algebraic and a combinatorial proof of the following:

1.  $\binom{n}{2} + \binom{n+1}{2} = n^2$
2.  $\forall k, n \in \mathbb{N}, k \leq n \quad k \binom{n}{k} = n \binom{n-1}{k-1}$ .

**Problem 6.** Give combinatorial proof of the following:

1.  $\binom{m+n}{k} = \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{m}{i} \binom{n}{k-i}$  **Hint: If we have a class of  $m$  girls and  $n$  boys, in how many ways can we choose a council of  $k$  people?**
2.  $\sum_{m=k}^{n-k} \binom{m}{k} \binom{n-m}{k} = \binom{n+1}{2k+1}$ . **Hint: How many subsets of size  $2k+1$  does the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n+1\}$  have?**

**Problem 7.** \* Let  $p$  be a permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and let us write it in one line, for example  $(3 \ 5 \ 7 \ 1 \ 2 \ 6 \ 9 \ 8)$ . Now mark the increasing segments in this permutation, on our example we get  $(3 \ 5 \ 7-1 \ 2 \ 6-9-8)$ . Let  $f(n, k)$  denote the number of permutations of an  $n$  element set with exactly  $k$  increasing segments. Prove that  $f(n, k) = f(n, n+1-k)$ .

**Problem 8.** (HW) Consider the  $n \times n$  grid with the bottom left point marked  $(0, 0)$  and the top right point marked  $(n-1, n-1)$ . In how many ways can we reach  $(n-1, n-1)$  from  $(0, 0)$  by only moving right or up. That is, from a point  $(i, j)$  we are only allowed to move either to  $(i+1, j)$  (moving right) or to  $(i, j+1)$  (moving up).

**Problem 9.** (HW) Let  $F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1$  and for  $n \geq 2, F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$ . Let  $C_n$  be the number of ways to write  $n$  as a sum of 1's and 2's. For example  $C_3 = 3$  since we can write  $1+1+1 = 2+1 = 1+2 = 3$ . Prove that  $C_n = F_{n+1}$ .