

MATH 481: HOMEWORK 1

- (1) (a) How many possible outcomes are there if we roll a six-sided die two times or flip a coin three times?
- (b) How many ways are there to flip a coin ten times and get heads at least six times?
- (2) Sec. 2.1 #2.
- (3) Given a real number x , prove the following formula:

$$\binom{x+2}{3} - \binom{x}{3} = x^2$$

- (4) Let a and b be positive integers. How many paths are there from $(0, 0)$ to (a, b) if we are only allowed to increase one of the coordinates by one at each step? For example, there are two paths from $(0, 0)$ to $(1, 1)$: either $(0, 0) \rightarrow (0, 1) \rightarrow (1, 1)$ or $(0, 0) \rightarrow (1, 0) \rightarrow (1, 1)$.

Hint: Such a path can be represented as a sequence of x 's and y 's.

- (5) Draw the following graph: the vertices are the binary sequences of length 4, and we draw an edge between any two sequences that are related by changing a zero to a one. All the edges in your drawing should be straight lines of the same length.