

Date	Section	Exercises** (QC - Quick Check and CE - Class Exercises)
02/19*	-	See below.
02/21*	-	See below.
02/23*	-	See below.
03/04*	-	See below.
03/06*	Notes	1, 2 from here . Also, see below.
03/08*	Notes	3, 4, 5 from here . Also, see below.
03/11*	-	See below.
03/13*	-	See below.
03/15*	-	See below.
03/18*	-	See below.
03/20*	-	(Optional) 4 from here . Also, see below.
03/22*	16.2	QC - 3; CE - 5, 6; Also, see below.
03/25*	-	CE - 43. Also, see below.
03/27*	-	CE - 31 and read Dilworth's theorem. Also, see below.
03/29*	-	See below.
04/01*	-	CE - 5, 32-34. Also, see below.
04/03*	-	See below.
04/08*	Notes	Exercises 15 and 16 from Chapter 2 . Also, see below.
04/10*	-	See below.
04/15*	-	See below.

02/19

1. Consider the following orthogonality identity.

$$\sum_k \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ m \end{Bmatrix} (-1)^{n-k} = \delta_n(m) \quad (1)$$

- (a) There is a symmetric version of (1). State it.
- (b) Use the Stirling Inversion Theorem (Theorem 2 [here](#)) to prove (1).
- (c) In Math 481 we proved (2). See Example 5 [here](#).

$$x^n = \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} n \\ k \end{Bmatrix} x^k \quad (2)$$

We also proved the next result. See (7) [here](#).

$$x^{\bar{n}} = \sum_k \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} x^k \quad (3)$$

Now use (2) to prove the following

$$x^n = \sum_k \begin{Bmatrix} n \\ k \end{Bmatrix} (-1)^{n-k} x^{\bar{k}} \quad (4)$$

- (d) Use the identities (3) and (4) to prove (1).
- (e) Now use (1) (or part (a)) to prove the Stirling Inversion Theorem.
2. Reprove the Binomial Inversion Theorem (Equation (2) [here](#)) as indicated below.
- (a) Let $f(x) = \sum_n f_n x^n/n!$ and $g(x) = \sum_n g_n x^n/n!$ and mimic the proof of Theorem 2 shown [here](#).
- (b) Let $f(x) = \sum_n f_n x^n$ and $g(x) = \sum_n g_n x^n$ and once again mimic the proof of Theorem 2 shown [here](#).

02/21

1. Show that

$$x^{\bar{n}} = \sum_{k=0}^n \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} x^{\underline{k}} \quad (5)$$

and

$$x^{\underline{n}} = \sum_{k=0}^n \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} (-1)^{n-k} x^{\bar{k}} \quad (6)$$

2. Prove that

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} = \sum_j \begin{bmatrix} n \\ j \end{bmatrix} \left\{ \begin{matrix} j \\ k \end{matrix} \right\} \quad (7)$$

3. If
- $n \geq k \geq 1$
- , prove that

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} = \binom{n-1}{k-1} \frac{n!}{k!} \quad (8)$$

02/23

1. Find a combinatorial proof of (7) from 02/21.

Hint: $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ j \end{bmatrix}$ counts the number of ways to seat n knights at j nonempty round tables and $\left\{ \begin{matrix} j \\ k \end{matrix} \right\}$ counts the number of ways to distribute these j tables into k nonempty rooms. Both the tables and rooms are indistinguishable.

2. Find a combinatorial proof of

$$\sum_k \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} \left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ m \end{matrix} \right\} (-1)^k = (-1)^n \delta_n(m)$$

Hint: Using the hint given in the previous exercise, let \mathcal{E} contain all seating arrangements with an even number of tables and let \mathcal{O} contain all seating arrangements with an odd number of tables. Now find a bijection between \mathcal{E} and \mathcal{O} that has two exceptions.

3. Prove that

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{0 < j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_{n-k} < n} j_1 j_2 \cdots j_{n-k}$$

Hint: Divide both sides of (3) by x and notice that the left-hand side is the product $(x+1)(x+2)\cdots(x+n-1)$. Now compare the coefficient of x^{k-1} on the left and right-hand sides of the resulting identity.

4. Referring to Example 3 [here](#).

(a) Verify equations (9) and (13).

(b) Prove that

$$\frac{k}{n} \binom{n}{k} + \frac{k+1}{n} \binom{n}{k+1} = \binom{n}{k}$$

5. Use LIF to show that

$$b_n = \sum_k \binom{k}{n-k} a_k \quad \text{iff} \quad a_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_k \binom{2n-k-1}{n-k} k b_k (-1)^{n-k}$$

Hint: Follow Example 3 from [here](#).

03/04

1. Let $f(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} f_n x^n \in x\mathbb{C}[[x]]$, $f_1 \neq 0$. For any $g(x) \in \mathbb{C}((x))$, define the degree of $g(x)$ as we did for formal power series. That is, $\deg(g(x)) = \min\{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid [x^n]g(x) \neq 0\}$. Now let $k > 0$. Show that $f(x)^{-k} \in \mathbb{C}((x))$ with $\deg(f(x)^{-k}) = -k$.

2. Confirm the (***) step in the first proof of LIF from today's [lecture](#).

03/06

1. Suppose that $z = z(x)$ satisfies $z = x\phi(z)$. For $n \geq 0$, show that

$$[z^n]\phi(z)^n = [x^n] \left\{ \frac{xz'(x)}{z(x)} \right\} = [x^n] \frac{1}{1 - x\phi'(z(x))} \quad (9)$$

Solution:

The direct proof is routine. As an alternative, we have

$$\begin{aligned} [z^n]\phi(z)^n &= [z^{n-1}] \frac{1}{z} \phi(z)^n \\ &= n[x^n] \int \frac{dy}{y} \Big|_{y=z(x)} \end{aligned}$$

where we invoked the Lagrange Inversion formula backwards. And we can proceed as we did for (13) in Problem 03 below.

2. Let $g_n = [x^n](1 + x + x^2)^n$, $n \geq 0$. Use the previous exercise to show that

$$g_n = [x^n] \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - 2x - 3x^2}} \quad (10)$$

Solution:

3. Show the following. *Hint:* For (11) use the generalized Binomial theorem.

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4x}} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{2n}{n} x^n \quad (11)$$

$$\left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{1-4x}}{2x} \right)^k = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{k(2n+k-1)!}{n!(n+k)!} x^n \quad (12)$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4x}} \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{1-4x}}{2x} \right)^k = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{2n+r}{n} x^n \quad (13)$$

Solution: For (11) we have

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-4x}} = (1 + (-4x))^{-1/2} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{-1/2}{n} (-4x)^n = \dots$$

We leave the details to the student.

For (12), we let $C(x) = (1 - \sqrt{1-4x})/(2x)$ and let $z(x) = C(x) - 1$. Then as we have shown before (see [Example 2](#)),

$$z = x(1+z)^2 = x\phi(z) \quad (14)$$

Now let $W(z) = (1+z)^k$, then by the Lagrange Inversion formula

$$\begin{aligned} [x^n]C(x)^k &= [x^n]W(z(x)) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} [z^{n-1}]W'(z)\phi(z)^n \\ &= \frac{k}{n} [z^{n-1}](1+z)^{k-1}(1+z)^{2n} \\ &= \frac{k}{n} [z^{n-1}](1+z)^{2n+k-1} \\ &= \frac{k}{n} \binom{2n+k-1}{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

For (13), we once again use the Lagrange Inversion formula (step (*) below), but in the reverse direction. Let $z(x)$, $C(x)$, and $\phi(z)$ be as shown above and let $g(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{2n+r}{n} x^n$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} [x^n]g(x) &= \binom{2n+r}{n} = [z^n](1+z)^{2n+r} \\ &= [z^{n-1}] \frac{(1+z)^r}{z} (1+z)^{2n} \\ &= [z^{n-1}] \frac{(1+z)^r}{z} \phi(z)^{2n} \\ &\stackrel{*}{=} n[x^n] \int \frac{(1+y)^r}{y} dy \Big|_{y=z(x)} \\ &= [x^n] x D_x \int \frac{(1+y)^r}{y} dy \Big|_{y=z(x)} \\ &= [x^{n-1}] \frac{(1+z)^r}{z} \frac{dz}{dx} \Big|_{z=x\phi(z)} \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Now by (14),

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = \phi(z) + x\phi'(z) \frac{dz}{dx}$$

Rearranging produces

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{\phi(z)}{1 - x\phi'(z)}$$

Inserting this into (15) yields

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{2n+r}{n} &= [x^{n-1}] \frac{(1+z)^r}{z} \frac{\phi(z)}{1-x\phi'(z)} \Big|_{z=x\phi(z)} \\ &= [x^{n-1}] \frac{\phi(z)}{z} \frac{(1+z)^r}{1-x\phi'(z)} \Big|_{z=x\phi(z)} \\ &= [x^{n-1}] \frac{1}{x} \frac{(1+z)^r}{1-x\phi'(z)} \Big|_{z=x\phi(z)} \\ &= [x^n] \frac{(1+z)^r}{1-x\phi'(z)} \Big|_{z=x\phi(z)} \end{aligned}$$

Now since $\phi'(z) = 2(1+z)$ and since $1+z(x) = C(x)$, the last expression above produces

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{2n+r}{n} &= [x^n] \frac{C(x)^r}{1-2xC(x)} \\ &= [x^n] \frac{C(x)^r}{\sqrt{1-4x}} \end{aligned}$$

which is equivalent to (13).

03/08

- Let $M_0 = 1$ and for $n > 0$, suppose that

$$M_n = M_{n-1} + \sum_{k=2}^n M_{k-2} M_{n-k} \quad (16)$$

Show that if $M(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} M_n x^n$, then $M(x)$ satisfies the functional equation

$$M(x) - 1 = xM(x) + x^2M(x)^2 \quad (17)$$

03/11

- Let $\{a_n\}_{n \geq 0} \subset \mathbb{R}$ with $a_0 \neq 0$. Find a sum formula for $[z^n] \left(\sum_{k=0}^N a_k x^k \right)^n$ when $N \in \{2, 3\}$. Do you see a pattern?
- Let $\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}^\Omega$ where $\Omega = \{0, 1, 3\}$. However, this time we measure the size of each tree by the number of edges. Let $T(x)$ be the ordinary generating function for \mathcal{T} . Find a sum formula for $[x^n]T(x)$.

3. Let m_n be the Motzkin numbers as defined [here](#) and let $\{c_n\}_{n \geq 0}$ be the [Catalan numbers](#). Answer the questions below.

(a) Show that

$$c_n = m_{2n} \tag{18}$$

(b) Show that

$$m_n = \sum_k \binom{n}{2k} c_k \quad \text{and} \quad c_{n+1} = \sum_k \binom{n}{k} m_k$$

(c) Show the Motzkin's original definition (stated [here](#)) is equivalent to the one given in class by showing that the original definition satisfies the following recursion.

$$m_n = m_{n-1} + \sum_{k=2}^n m_{k-2} m_{n-k}, \quad n > 0$$

4. Find a formula t_n for the number of triangulations of an $(n + 2)$ -gon. So $t_1 = 1$ and $t_2 = 2$ since there is one triangulation of a triangle and there are two triangulations of a square.

03/13

1. Consider the *lattice of compositions*, (K_n, \leq) . Here K_n is the set of all compositions of n and $\alpha \leq \beta$ is a refinement of compositions defined by

If $[\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_p] \vDash \alpha$ and $[\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_q] \vDash \beta$, then $[\alpha_{k_1}, \alpha_{k_2}, \dots, \alpha_{k_l}] \vDash \beta_k$ for $k \in [q]$.

For example, in K_{11} , $3 + 2 + 5 + 1$ is a refinement of $5 + 5 + 1$ hence $[3, 2, 5, 1] \leq [5, 5, 1]$. On the other hand, $[3, 3, 4, 1] \not\leq [5, 5, 1]$. Sketch the Hasse diagram for K_4 .

2. The *Young lattice* (Y, \leq) is the set of all integer partitions and $\alpha \leq \beta$ if the Young diagram for α is a contained in the Young diagram for β . Sketch the Hasse diagram for Y up to integer partitions of 4.

03/15

1. Find all linear extensions (see Example 16.9 of the text) of the 5 posets shown in Figure 16.3 from the text.

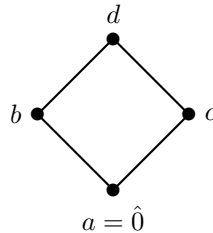
2. List all 4-element posets.

3. How many linear extensions do the posets below have?



03/18

1. Consider the poset P shown below and the linear extension $L(a) = 1, L(b) = 3, L(c) = 2, L(d) = 4$ to answer the questions that follow.



- (a) Let $Z = Z_\zeta$ be the upper-triangular matrix associated with zeta function ζ_P of P . Find Z .
- (b) Use a CAS to find the matrix $M = M_\mu$ associated with the Möbius function μ_P of P .
- (c) Now let $\mu(x) = \mu(a, x)$ and compute $\mu(x)$ for all $x \in P$. Compare to the values that we obtained in class using the linear extension $K(a) = 1, K(b) = 2, K(c) = 3, K(d) = 4$.
2. Repeat the previous exercise for the divisor lattice D_{30} . IF YOU ARE WORKING WITH A CLASSMATE, CHOOSE DIFFERENT LINEAR EXTENSIONS AND COMPARE RESULTS.

03/20

1. For each of the following posets (P, \leq) , sketch the Hasse diagram and use Theorem 16.15 from the text to compute $\mu(x) := \mu(\hat{0}, x)$ for all $x \in P$.
- (a) $P = 2^{[4]}$ and the partial order is set containment. That is, $x \leq y$ if $x \subseteq y$.
- (b) $P = \Pi_4$, the (set) partition poset. Here the partial order is “refinement”. That is, $x \leq y$ if each block in x is contained in a block in y . For example, $1/2/34 \leq 12/34$.
- (c) $P = D_{40}$, the divisor lattice with the usual partial order.
2. Construct the ζ matrix Z for the divisor lattice D_{40} and use a CAS to find the μ matrix M . Compare the first row of M with the values derived from the exercise above.

03/22 Read the proof of Theorem 7.6 in the text.

03/25

1. Use the Theorem 7.6 to re-prove [Binomial inversion](#).

2. Let P be the poset of the positive integers with $x \leq y \in P$ if $x \mid y$. Also, let p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k be k distinct primes and let $y = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdots p_k$. Show that $[1, y]$ is isomorphic to B_k .

03/27

1. Let P and Q be posets. Show that $P \times Q$ with partial order as given by Definition 16.23 is a poset.
2. Construct a poset P such that $\mu(\hat{0}, x) = n$ for any $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.
3. Let P and Q be posets and consider the following alternative (partial) orders on $P \times Q$. Is $P \times Q$ a poset under the given order? *Note:* Throughout, we assume that $[p, p'] \subset P$ and $[q, q'] \subset Q$ and, for example, we write $p \leq p'$ instead of $p \leq_P p'$, etc.
 - (a) $(p, q) \leq (p', q')$ if $p < p'$ or if $p = p'$ and $q \leq q'$.
 - (b) $(p, q) \leq (p', q')$ if $p \leq p'$.
 - (c) $(p, q) \leq (p', q')$ if $p < p'$ and $q < q'$ or $p = p'$ and $q = q'$.

03/29 The exercises below depend on the following results.

Proposition. Let $[x, y]$ be an interval in Π_n with the usual refinement (partial) order. If $y = B_1/B_2/\cdots/B_k$ and if each B_i splits into n_i blocks in x , then

$$[x, y] \cong \prod_{i=1}^k \Pi_{n_i} \quad (19)$$

In particular,

$$\mu(x, y) = \prod_{i=1}^k \mu_{\Pi_{n_i}}(\hat{0}, \hat{1}),$$

by Theorem 16.24. For example, let $x = 1/3/256/47$ and $y = 1347/256$ in Π_7 . Then $x < y$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(x, y) &= \mu_{\Pi_3}(\hat{0}, \hat{1})\mu_{\Pi_1}(\hat{0}, \hat{1}) \\ &= (-1)^2 2! \cdot (-1)^0 0! = 2 \end{aligned}$$

And the last line follows since

$$\mu(\Pi_n) := \mu_{\Pi_n}(\hat{0}, \hat{1}) = (-1)^{n-1} (n-1)! \quad (20)$$

On Monday we will prove the above proposition and (20).

1. Use the above results to compute $\mu(x, \hat{1})$ for all $x \in \left\{ \frac{4}{k} \right\}$ for $k \in [3]$. Also, compute $\mu(13/2/48/56/7, 123478/56)$ and $\mu(13/2/48/56/7, \hat{1})$ in Π_8 .

2. Let $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ where $f_n = 2C_n - n$ and C_n are the Catalan numbers. Let Π_n be the set partition poset with the usual refinement order. On Quiz 8 we defined $F : \Pi_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ by the rule $F(x) = f_{5-b(x)}$ where $b(x)$ is equal to the number of blocks in x . If we define $G(y) = \sum_{x \leq y} F(x)$, then by Möbius inversion

$$F(y) = \sum_{x \leq y} G(x) \mu(x, y) \quad (21)$$

Use (21) to show that $F(1234) = 24$.

04/01

1. Find an interval $[x, y] \subset \Pi_n$ such that

(a) $\mu(x, y) = -12$

(b) $\mu(x, y) = 96$

Note: In each case, you will need to specify the value of n . Answers will not be unique.

2. Is there a positive integer n and an interval $[x, y]$ such that $\mu(x, y) = \pm 72$? Why or why not?
3. In our textbook's definition of the *incidence algebra*, $I(P)$, it is stated that P must be a locally finite poset. Why is this?
4. Prove (19) in the proposition stated at the beginning of the assignments from 03/24.

04/03

1. Show that if $\{f(n)\}_{n \geq 1}$ is a multiplicative function, then so is

$$g(n) = \sum_{d|n} f(d)$$

2. Recall that Euler's function $\phi(n)$ counts the number of integers $1 \leq m \leq n$ such that m is relatively prime to n . Show by a counting argument that for $n \in \mathbb{P}$ one has

$$\sum_{d|n} \phi(d) = n$$

04/08

1. Let $\sigma(n) = \sum_{d|n} d$. That is, $\sigma(n)$ is the sum of the divisors of n .

(a) Show that σ is multiplicative.

(b) What does the Möbius Inversion formula say about σ ?

2. Once again, let $\phi(n)$ be the Euler's totient function (see problem 2 from 04/03).

- (a) Show that $\phi(n) = n \sum_{d|n} \mu(d)/d$.
- (b) Let p be prime and $k \in \mathbb{P}$. Show that $\phi(p^k) = p^k - p^{k-1}$.
- (c) Let $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_r$ be real numbers. Show that

$$\prod_{j=1}^r (1 - \beta_j) = 1 - \sum_i \beta_i + \sum_{i < j} \beta_i \beta_j - \sum_{i < j < k} \beta_i \beta_j \beta_k + \dots + (-1)^r \beta_1 \beta_2 \dots \beta_r$$

- (d) Use the Principle of Inclusion/Exclusion and part(c) above to prove that

$$\phi(n) = n \prod_{p|n} (1 - p^{-1})$$

04/10

- If f is multiplicative (and not identically 0) show that $f(1) = 1$.
- Prove that for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ we have

$$\sum_{d|n} \mu(d) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$

- For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ define

$$\Lambda(n) = \begin{cases} \log p & \text{if } n = p^m \text{ for some prime } p \text{ and some } m \geq 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For example, $\Lambda(6) = \Lambda(10) = 0$ and $\Lambda(3) = \Lambda(27) = \log 3$.

- (a) Show that

$$\log n = \sum_{d|n} \Lambda(d)$$

- (b) Show that

$$\Lambda(n) = - \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \log d$$

04/15

- (a) Recall that the chromatic polynomial of the house H is $\chi(x) = \chi_H(x) = x(x-1)(x-2)(x^2-3x+3)$. Notice that $\chi(3) = 18$ so that there are 18 strictly compatible pairs (ρ, c) . Here c is a proper 3-coloring of H and ρ is the induced orientation. Sketch 6 of the proper colorings using [3] and include the induced orientations, insuring that each of the 6 is acyclic.
- (b) Do they same thing for [barbell graph](#) ($n = 3$). That is, find out how many strictly compatible pairs exist using [3], but this time sketch only 2 of the proper 3-colorings and include the induced orientations. Once again, insure that both orientations are acyclic.