

Group A: Use inclusion-exclusion to provide a combinatorial proof to the following.

$$\sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \binom{k}{i} (k-i)^n = \begin{cases} n! & \text{if } k = n; \\ 0 & \text{if } k > n. \end{cases}$$

Hint: Let S be a set of m elements. Then m^n is the number of ways to assign numbers $1, \dots, n$ to the elements in S . In other words, m^n is the number of mappings from $\{1, \dots, n\}$ to S .

Group B: Use inclusion-exclusion to provide a combinatorial proof to the following.

$$\sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \binom{n}{i} \binom{m+n-i}{k-i} = \begin{cases} \binom{m}{k} & \text{if } m \geq k; \\ 0 & \text{if } m < k. \end{cases}$$

Group C: Let Euler's ϕ function $\phi(n)$ be defined as the number of integers from 1 to n that are relatively prime to n . If n is an integer whose unique prime factorization is

$$n = p_1^{e_1} p_2^{e_2} \cdots p_r^{e_r},$$

then use inclusion-exclusion to prove that

$$\phi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_r}\right).$$