

Math 184, Midterm 1  
Instructor: Steven Sam  
April 25, 2023  
9:30AM – 10:45AM

Your name:

(Try to use the exact name that is in Gradescope, since it will be automatically matched.)

Student ID:

- **No books, materials, notes, cell phones, calculators, etc.** Consulting other students or any other sources is considered an **academic integrity violation** and will be treated as such.
- Pages will be separated for scanning. **Write your name at the top of each page.** Also, make sure to write **legibly** and **dark enough** and **not too close to the edges of the paper.**
- By default, write your answers only in the space provided. The extra blank sheets can be used for your solution, but **clearly indicate** in the problem if you want the extra sheets to be graded.
- Cross out / erase irrelevant scratch work. If you write incorrect statements without crossing them out, you may lose points. **Make clear what your final answer is.**
- Answers should always have explanations. **You may lose points otherwise.**
- If you finish early, double-check your work and make sure you followed the above instructions. When you're ready, you may turn it in and leave.
- To turn in exam, show your ID and make sure your name is checked off the list.

Good luck!

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1. (10 points) Write  $f(x) = -2x^2 + 3$  as a linear combination of falling factorials.

2. (10 points) How many solutions are there to the equation

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 40$$

where  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5$  are even positive integers?

3. (10 points) How many subsets of  $[9]$  contain at least one even number?

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4. (15 points) Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Below,  $A, B, C$  are subsets of  $[n]$ .

(a) How many triples  $(A, B, C)$  satisfy  $A \subseteq B \cap C$ ?

(b) How many triples  $(A, B, C)$  satisfy  $A \subsetneq B \cap C$  (here  $\subsetneq$  means “strict subset”, so  $A \subseteq B \cap C$  **and**  $A \neq B \cap C$ ).

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5. For both parts, we're talking about a standard deck of 52 cards (4 suits, 13 values).
- (a) (10 points) How many ways can we choose 6 cards so that they all have the same suit?

- (b) (10 points) How many ways can we choose 8 cards so that we have 4 pairs? For this problem **we do not require that these values are all different** (e.g., two "4 of a kinds" is allowed, along with other possibilities).

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6. (15 points) Given non-negative integers  $k, n$ , let  $M_{k,n}$  be the collection of multisets  $S$  of size  $k$  of  $[n]$  satisfying both properties:
- Every element appears  $\leq 2$  times in  $S$ , and
  - $S$  has no consecutive values: for all  $i$ , if  $S$  contains  $i$ , then it does not contain  $i + 1$ .

For example,  $M_{3,5}$  consists of the following multisets:

$$\{1, 1, 3\}, \{1, 1, 4\}, \{1, 1, 5\}, \{1, 3, 3\}, \{1, 3, 5\}, \{1, 4, 4\}, \{1, 5, 5\}, \\ \{2, 2, 4\}, \{2, 2, 5\}, \{2, 4, 4\}, \{2, 5, 5\}, \{3, 3, 5\}, \{3, 5, 5\}.$$

If  $k \geq 2$  and  $n \geq 2$ , prove the following identity:

$$|M_{k,n}| = |M_{k,n-1}| + |M_{k-1,n-2}| + |M_{k-2,n-2}|.$$

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Extra scratch paper. If you want this space graded, clearly say so in the problem that you are working on so we know to look here.

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