

21001241



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Reg. No.....

Name.....

**M.Sc. DEGREE (C.S.S.) EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2021**

**Fourth Semester**

Faculty of Science

Branch I (A)–Mathematics

MT 04 E02—COMBINATORICS

(2012 to 2018 Admissions—Supplementary/Mercy Chance)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum Weight : 30

**Part A**

*Answer any five questions.  
Each question has weight 1.*

1. Show that  $(4n)!$  is a multiple of  $2^{3n} \cdot 3^n$  for each natural number  $n$ .
2. Find the number of ways to choose a pair  $\{a, b\}$  of distinct numbers from the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, 50\}$  such that  $|a - b| = 5$ .
3. Define Ramsey's numbers.
4. Show that among any group of 7 people, there must be atleast 4 of the same sex.
5. Show that  $\phi(mn) = \phi(m)\phi(n)$  where  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $(m, n) = 1$ .
6. Find the number of leap years between 1,000 and 3,000 inclusive.
7. Each of the 3 boys tosses a die once. Find the number of ways for them to get a total of 14.
8. Let  $(a_r)$  denote the number of  $r$ -permutations of the multi-set  $\{\infty \cdot b_1, \infty \cdot b_2, \dots, \infty \cdot b_k\}$ . Find the exponential generating function of  $(a_r)$ .

(5 × 1 = 5)

**Part B**

*Answer any five questions.  
Each question has weight 2.*

9. Prove that  $\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r}$  both algebraically and combinatorially.
10. Let A be a  $2n$ -element set where  $n \geq 1$ . Find the number of different pairings of A.

**Turn over**





11. Show that for any set of 10 points chosen within a square whose sides are of length 3 units, there are two points in the set whose distance apart is at most  $\sqrt{2}$ .
12. Let  $X \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, 99\}$  and  $|X| = 10$ . Show that it is possible to select two disjoint non-empty proper subsets  $Y, Z$  of  $X$  such that  $\sum(y | y \in Y) = \sum(z | z \in Z)$ .
13. Find the number of integer solutions to the equation  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 20, 1 \leq x_1 \leq 5, 0 \leq x_2 \leq 7, 4 \leq x_3 \leq 8, 2 \leq x_4 \leq 6$ . For any  $q$  finite sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_q, q \geq 1$ , prove that  $|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_q| = \sum_{i=1}^q |A_i| - \sum_{i < j} |A_i \cap A_j| + \sum_{i < j < k} |A_i \cap A_j \cap A_k| - \dots + (-1)^{q+1} |A_1 \cap A_2 \dots \cap A_q|$ .
14. Find the number of integer solutions to the equation  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 28, 3 \leq x_1 \leq 9, 0 \leq x_2 \leq 8, 7 \leq x_3 \leq 17$ .
15. Prove that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the number of partitions of  $n$  into parts each of which appears at most twice, is equal to the number of partitions of  $n$  into parts the sizes of which are not divisible by 3.
16. Solve  $a_n = 3a_{n-1} - 2a_{n-2}$  given that  $a_0 = 2, a_1 = 3$ .

 $(5 \times 2 = 10)$ **Part C**

*Answer any three questions.  
Each question has weight 5.*

17. Let  $S$  be the set of natural numbers whose digits are chosen from  $\{1, 3, 5, 7\}$  such that no digits are repeated. Find (i)  $|S|$ ; (ii)  $\sum_{n \in S} n$ .
18. (a) For all integers  $p, q \geq 2$  show that  $R(p, q) \leq R(p-1, q) + R(p, q-1)$ .
- (b) Prove that for all integers  $p, q \geq 2$  if  $R(p-1, q)$  and  $R(p, q-1)$  are even then :

$$R(p, q) \leq R(p-1, q) + R(p, q-1) - 1.$$





19. Let  $n$  and  $k$  be positive integers and let  $S$  be a set of  $n$  points in the plane such that :
- no three points of  $S$  are collinear and
  - for any point  $P$  of  $S$ , there are atleast  $K$  points of  $S$  equidistant from  $P$ . Prove that :

$$k < \frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{2n}.$$

20. (a) Let  $F(n, m), n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  denote the number of surjective mappings from  $N_n$  to  $N_m$ . Show that :

$$F(n, m) = \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} (m-k)^n$$

- (b) Show that  $\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} (m-k)^n = 0$  if  $n < m$ .

- (c) Show that  $\sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} (n-k)^n = n!$

21. Solve the recurrence relation :

$$a_n - 3a_{n-1} + 2a_{n-2} = 2^n, a_0 = 3, a_1 = 8.$$

22. (a) Show that for integers  $n, r, k$  such that  $n \geq r \geq k \geq 0$  and

$$r \geq 1 \quad D(n, r, k) = \frac{\binom{r}{k}}{(n-r)!} \sum_{i=0}^{r-k} (-1)^i \binom{r-k}{i} (n-k-i)!$$

- (b) Show that for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  :

$$D_n = n! \left( 1 - \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} - \frac{1}{3!} + \dots + (-1)^n \frac{1}{n!} \right).$$

(3 × 5 = 15)

