Counting and Proofs Tutorial 3

February 25, 2015

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***How many ways can the 11 identical horses on a cycle be painted so that three are brown, three are white and five are black? Solution: We have 10! ways to place 11 horses in a circle. For the 3 brown horses, we do not distinguish their order. Similar situation to the 3 white horses and 5 black horses. Thus the solution is 10!/(3! * 3! * 5!) ***Make up a word problem in English whose answer is

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Consider the following $0 = (1-1)^{100} = {\binom{100}{0}} - {\binom{100}{1}} + {\binom{100}{2}} - \dots + {\binom{100}{100}}$ We move all the negative item to the left side of the equation we get $\sum_{i=0}^{50} {\binom{100}{2i}} = \sum_{i=1}^{50} {\binom{100}{2i-1}}$



Use the method of direct proof to prove the following statements.

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Soppose a|b and a|cBy definition of divisibility, this means $b = ak_1$ for some integer k_1 and $c = ak_2$ for some integer k_2 Add both equation produces $b + c = ak_1 + ak_2$ which is $b + c = (k_1 + k_2)a$ By definition of divisibility, this means a|(b + c)

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Use the method of direct proof to prove the following statements. Q 20: Suppose $n \in \mathcal{N}$, then the numbers n! + 2, n! + 3, ...n! + n are all composite (i.e. has at least two factors other than 1 and the number itself). (Thus for any $n \ge 2$, one can find n consecutive composite numbers. This means there are arbitrarily large "gaps" between prime numbers)

Proof:

Suppose $n \ge 2$. For any other value of $n \ge 2$, 2 will always be a factor of n!, since n! = n * (n - 1) * ... * 2 * 1. n, n - 1, ..., 3 are also factors of n!. Any number n! + k is a composite number since $n! + k = k[(n \times (n - 1) \times ... \times (k + 1) \times (k - 1) \times ... \times 3 \times 2) + 1]$. Since each term in the sequence n! + 2, n! + 3, ...n! + n is a product of two factors (other than 1 or itself), each term is a composite number for any value of n.

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Suppose gcd(a, b) = k. Note that $gcd(a, b) \ge 0$ for any $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$. We consider the cases: c = 0 and $c \ne 0$.

Case 1: (c = 0) In this case, 0.gcd(a, b) is equal to gcd(0, 0) = 0. Case 2: $(c \neq 0)$

By the definition of divisibility, since k is a divisor of both a and b, we have a = kx and b = ky for integers x and y.

ca = ckx, cb = cky thus the greatest divisor is at least |ck|. Thus the result follows.

Consider an example where a = 2, b = 4, c = -1. gcd(2,4) = gcd(-2,-4) = 2, -1 * gcd(2,4) = -2 < gcd(-2,-4) = 2.