# MA2214 Combinatorics and Graphs I

# AY2021/22 Semester 1

# Chapter 1 – Permutations and Combinations

- *r*-permutations of *n* distinct objects:  $P_r^n = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$
- *r*-circular permutations of *n* distinct objects:  $Q_r^n = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!} \cdot \frac{1}{r}$ •
- *r*-combinations of *n* distinct objects:  $\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$ •
- r-permutations of n distinct objects with repetition allowed:  $n^r$ •
- *r*-permutations of  $M = \{r_1 \cdot a_1, r_2 \cdot a_2, \dots, r_n \cdot a_n\}$ :  $P(r:r_1,r_2,...,r_n) = \frac{r!}{r_1!r_2!...r_n!}$
- Number of *r*-element multi-subsets of  $M = \{\infty \cdot a_1, \infty \cdot$  $a_2, \ldots, \infty \cdot a_n$ }:  $H_r^n = \binom{r+n-1}{r}$ 
  - Number of non-negative solutions of  $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n = r$ :  $H^n_r = \binom{r+n-1}{r}$
- Identities:

  - $\circ \binom{n}{r} = \binom{n}{n-r}$  $\circ \binom{n}{r} = \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r}$

$$(r) (r-1) (r-1)$$

$$\binom{r}{r} = \frac{r}{r} \binom{r-1}{r-1}$$

 $\circ \binom{n}{r} = \frac{n-r+1}{r} \binom{n}{r-1}$  $\circ \binom{n}{r} \binom{m}{r-r} \binom{n-r}{r-r}$ 

$$\circ \binom{n}{m}\binom{m}{r} = \binom{n}{r}\binom{n-r}{m-r}$$

• Number of shortest routes from X(0,0) to Y(m,n):  $\binom{m+n}{n}$ 



# Chapter 2 - Binomial and Multinomial Coefficients

- (Binomial Theorem)  $(x + y)^n = \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} x^{n-r} y^r$ 
  - $\circ \quad \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} = 2^n$
  - $\circ \quad \sum_{r=0}^{n} (-1)^r \binom{n}{r} = 0$
  - $\circ \quad \sum_{r=1}^{n} r\binom{n}{r} = n \cdot 2^{n-1}$
  - $\sum_{r=1}^{n} r^{2} \binom{n}{r} = n(n+1)2^{n-2}$
  - (Vandermonde's Identity)  $\sum_{i=0}^{r} \binom{m}{i} \binom{n}{r-i} = \binom{m+n}{r}$  $(n)^2$  (2n)

• 
$$\sum_{r=0}^{n} \binom{n}{r} = \binom{2n}{n}$$

- Pascal's Triangle ٠
- (Chu Shih-Chieh Identity) (i)  $\binom{r}{r} + \binom{r+1}{r} + \dots + \binom{n}{r} = \binom{n+1}{r+1}$ (ii)  $\binom{r}{0} + \binom{r+1}{1} + \dots + \binom{r+k}{k} = \binom{r+k+1}{k}$ • (Multinomial Theorem)  $(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_m)^n = \sum_{n_1+n_2+\dots+n_m=n} \binom{n}{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m} x_1^{n_1} x_2^{n_2} \dots x_m^{n_m}$

### Chapter 3 – Pigeonhole Principle

- (*Pigeonhole Principle*) Let k and n be any two positive integers. If at least kn + 1 objects are distributed among nboxes, then one of the boxes must contain at least k + 1objects. In particular, if at least n + 1 objects are to be put into n boxes, then one of the boxes must contain at least two obiects.
- (Generalised Pigeonhole Principle) Let  $n, k_1, k_2, ..., k_n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_n - (n-1)$  or more objects are put into n boxes, then either
  - the first box contains at least  $k_1$  objects; OR
  - the second box contains at least  $k_2$  objects; OR
  - 0
  - the *n*-th box contains at least  $k_n$  objects.
- (Ramsey Number) Let R(p,q) denote the smallest natural number n such that for any colouring of the edges of an n-

clique by 2 colours, blue and red, there exists either a "blue pclique" or a "red q-clique".

- 0 R(p,q) = R(q,p)
- R(1,q) = 10

0

- R(2,q) = qR(3,3) = 6
- (Theorem 23.1)  $R(p,q) \le R(p-1,q) + R(p,q-1)$ 0
- (Theorem 23.2) If R(p-1,q) and R(p,q-1) are even, then  $R(p,q) \le R(p-1,q) + R(p,q-1) - 1$



# Chapter 4 – Principle of Inclusion and Exclusion

- (Principle of Inclusion and Exclusion) |A<sub>1</sub> ∪ A<sub>2</sub> ∪ ... ∪ A<sub>q</sub>| =  $\sum_{i=1}^{q} |A_i| - \sum_{i < j} |A_i \cap A_j| + \sum_{i < j < k} |A_i \cap A_j \cap A_k| - \dots +$  $(-1)^{q+1} | A_1 \cap A_2 \cap ... \cap A_q |$
- (Generalised Principle of Inclusion and Exclusion) Number of elements of S that possesses exactly m of the q properties:

$$E(m) = \sum_{k=m}^{q} (-1)^{k-m} {\binom{k}{m}} \omega(k), \text{ where } \omega(k) =$$

- $\sum \omega(p_{i1}p_{i2}\dots p_{ik})$ • Number of elements without any properties:  $E(0) = \omega(0) - \omega(0)$  $\omega(1) + \dots + (-1)^q \omega(q)$
- (Stirling Number) Number of ways to distribute r distinct objects into n identical boxes so that no box is empty:  $S(r,n) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} (-1)^{k} \binom{n}{k} (n)$  $k)^r$

$$S(r,n) = \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{k=0}^{n} (-1)^{k} {n \choose k} (n - 1)^{k} (n -$$

$$\circ S(0,0) = 1$$

- $\circ S(r,0) = S(0,n) = 0$
- $\circ S(r,n) > 0$  if  $r \ge n \ge 1$  $\circ$  S(r,n) = 0 if  $n > r \ge 1$
- $\circ S(r, 1) = 1$
- $\circ S(r,r) = 1$
- $\circ$   $S(r,r-1) = \binom{r}{2}$
- $\circ S(r, r-2) = \binom{r}{3} + 3\binom{r}{4}$
- S(r,n) = S(r-1,n-1) + nS(r-1,n)
- Number of partitions of  $\{1, 2, ..., r\}$ :  $\sum_{n=1}^{r} S(r, n)$
- (*Theorem 27.1*) Number of surjective mappings from  $\mathbb{N}_r$  to 0  $\mathbb{N}_{n}$ :  $F(r,n) = n! S(r,n) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} (-1)^{k} {n \choose k} (n-k)^{r}$
- (Theorem 28.2) Number of r-permutations of n distinct objects
  - with k fixed points:  $D(r, n, k) = \frac{\binom{k}{k}}{(n-r)!} \sum_{i=0}^{r-k} (-1)^i \binom{r-k}{i} (n-r)^{i-1} \sum_{i=0}^{r-k} (n-r)^{i-1$ (k-i)!
  - Number of derangements of  $\mathbb{N}_n$ :  $D_n = D(n, n, 0) =$  $n! \sum_{i=0}^{n} \frac{(-1)^i}{i!}$
- Number of integers between 1 and *n* which are coprime to *n*:  $\varphi(n) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_2}\right) \dots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_k}\right)$

Distribution Problems	
r distinct objects	n distinct boxes
<ul> <li>Each box can hold at most one object: P<sup>n</sup><sub>r</sub></li> </ul>	
• Each box can hold any number of objects: <i>n<sup>r</sup></i>	
<ul> <li>Each box can hold any number of objects and the</li> </ul>	
orderings of objects inside each box count: $n(n + 1) \dots (n + 1)$	
(r-1))	
r identical objects	n distinct boxes
<ul> <li>Each box can hold at most one object: <sup>n</sup>/<sub>r</sub></li> </ul>	
• Each box can hold any number of objects: $H_r^n$	
• Each box holds at least one object: $\binom{r-1}{r-n}$	
r distinct objects	n identical boxes
• Each box holds at least one object: <i>S</i> ( <i>r</i> , <i>n</i> )	
r identical objects	n identical boxes

#### Cheatsheet **Chapter 5 – Generating Functions**

Generalised binomial expansion:  $(1 \pm x)^{\alpha} = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} {\alpha \choose r} (\pm x)^{r}$ 

$$\circ \frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^{2} + x^{3} + \cdots$$
  

$$\circ \frac{1}{(1-x)^{2}} = 1 + 2x + 3x^{2} + 4x^{3} + \cdots$$
  

$$\circ (1-x)^{-n} = 1 + \binom{1+n-1}{1}x + \binom{2+n-1}{2}x^{2} + \cdots + \binom{r+n-1}{x}x^{r} + \cdots$$

- Ordinary generating function of  $(a_r) = \{a_0, a_1, \dots, a_r, \dots\}$ : •  $A(x) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} a_r x^r = a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_r x^r + \dots$ 
  - Generating function of  $(a_r) = \{0, 0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots\}$ , where  $a_n =$ 1:  $A(x) = x^n$
  - Generating function of  $(a_r) = \{\binom{n}{0}, \binom{n}{1}, \dots, \binom{n}{n}, 0, 0, \dots\}$ : 0  $A(x) = (1+x)^n$
  - Generating function of  $(a_r) = \{1, 1, ...\}$ :  $A(x) = \frac{1}{1-x}$
  - Generating function of  $(a_r) = \{1, k, k^2, ...\}$ :  $A(x) = \frac{1}{1-kx}$ 0
  - 0 Generating function of  $(a_r) = \{1, 2, 3, ...\}$ :  $A(x) = \frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$
  - Generating function of  $(a_r) =$  $\{\binom{n-1}{0}, \binom{1+n-1}{1}, \binom{2+n-1}{2}, \ldots\}: A(x) = (1-x)^{-n}$
  - (Theorem 31.1) Power series operations:  $A(x) + B(x) = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + \cdots$ , where  $c_r = a_r + b_r$  $A(x)B(x) = d_0 + d_1x + d_2x^2 + \cdots$ , where  $d_r = a_0b_r + a_1b_{r-1} + d_1x + d_2x^2 + \cdots$
  - $\cdots + a_r b_0$
  - Generating function of  $(c_r)$ , where  $c_r = \alpha a_r + \beta b_r$ : C(x) =0  $\alpha A(x) + \beta B(x)$
  - Generating function of  $(c_r)$ , where  $c_r = a_0 b_r + a_1 b_{r-1} + a_1 b_{r-1}$ 0  $\cdots + a_r b_0$ : C(x) = A(x)B(x)
  - 0 Generating function of  $(c_r)$ , where  $c_r = a_0 a_r + a_1 a_{r-1} + a_$  $\dots + a_r a_0 : C(x) = A^2(x)$
  - Generating function of  $(c_r) = \{0, 0, \dots, 0, a_0, a_1, \dots\}$ , where 0 there are *m* 0s:  $C(x) = x^m A(x)$
  - Generating function of  $(c_r)$ , where  $c_r = k^r a_r$ : C(x) = A(kx)0
  - Generating function of  $(c_r) = \{a_0, a_1 a_0, a_2 a_1, ...\}$ : C(x) = (1 - x)A(x)
  - Generating function of  $(c_r) = \{a_0, a_0 + a_1, a_0 + a_1 + a_2, ...\}$ :  $C(x) = \frac{A(x)}{1-x}$
  - Generating function of  $(c_r) = \{a_1, 2a_2, 3a_3, ...\}$ : C(x) = A'(x)0
  - Generating function of  $(c_r) = \{0, a_1, 2a_2, ...\}$ : C(x) = xA'(x)
  - Generating function of  $(c_r) = \{0, a_0, \frac{a_1}{2}, \frac{a_2}{3}, ...\}$ : C(x) = $\int_0^x A(t) dt$
- OGF of *r*-combinations from the multiset  $M = \{n_1 \cdot b_1, n_2 \cdot b_2, n_2 \cdot$  $b_2, ..., n_k \cdot b_k$ }:  $\prod_{i=1}^k (\sum_{j=0}^{n_i} x^j)$ 
  - $\circ$  Number of partitions of *r* into parts of size 1, 2 or 3:  $(1 + x + x^{2} + \cdots)(1 + x^{2} + (x^{2})^{2} + \cdots)(1 + x^{3} + (x^{3})^{2} + \cdots)$
  - Number of partitions of r into distinct parts of arbitrary size:  $(1+x)(1+x^2)(1+x^3) \dots$

Note that 
$$1 + x = \frac{1 - x^2}{1 - x}$$
.

 $\circ$  Number of partitions of *r* into odd parts:

$$(1 + x + x^2 + \cdots)(1 + x^3 + (x^3)^2 + \cdots)$$
..

- o (Euler) Number of partitions of r into distinct parts is equal to number of partitions of r into odd parts.
- Exponential generating function of  $(a_r) = \{a_0, a_1, \dots, a_r, \dots\}$ :  $\begin{array}{l} A(x) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} a_r \frac{x^r}{r!} = a_0 + a_1 \frac{x}{1!} + a_2 \frac{x^2}{2!} + \cdots \\ \circ \quad \text{Generating function of } (a_r) = \{1, 1, \ldots\} \colon e^x \end{array}$ 

  - Generating function of  $(a_r) = \{0!, 1!, 2!, ...\}$ :  $\frac{1}{1-x}$ 0
  - Generating function of  $(a_r) = \{0, k, k^2, ...\}$ :  $e^{kx}$ 0
  - Generating function of  $(a_r) = \{P_0^n, P_1^n, P_2^n, ...\}$ :  $(1 + x)^n$ 0
  - EGF of *r*-permutations from the multiset  $M = \{n_1 \cdot b_1, n_2 \cdot b_3, n_3 \cdot b_3, n_3 \cdot b_3, n_3 \cdot b_3, n_2 \cdot b_3, n_3 \cdot$
  - $b_2, \ldots, n_k \cdot b_k$ }:  $\prod_{i=1}^k (\sum_{j=0}^{n_i} \frac{x^j}{j!})$
  - $\circ$  EGF of *r*-permutations of *p* blue identical balls and *q* red identical balls:  $(1 + \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{x^p}{p!})(1 + \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{x^q}{q!})$
- Exponential operations

•

• 
$$e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots + \frac{x^r}{r!} + \dots$$

$$\circ e^{-x} = 1 - x + \frac{x^2}{2!} - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^r x^r}{r!} + \circ \frac{1}{2} (e^x + e^{-x}) = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots \circ \frac{1}{2} (e^x - e^{-x}) = x + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} + \dots$$

### Chapter 6 – Recurrence Relations

Solution to linear homogenous recurrence relations: If  $\alpha 1, \alpha 2, ..., \alpha_k$  are the distinct characteristic roots such that  $\alpha_i$ is of multiplicity  $m_i$ , then the general solution is given by

$$a_n = \sum_{i=1}^{k} (A_{11} + A_{12}n + \dots + A_{1,m_i}n^{m_i-1})(\alpha_i)^n$$

- Complex roots
  - $\alpha = a + ib = r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$  where  $r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$  and  $\theta =$  $\tan^{-1}\left|\frac{b}{a}\right|$ .
  - (De Moivre's Theorem)  $(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)^n = \cos n\theta + i \sin n\theta$

# Chapter 7 – Basic Concepts of Graphs

- Order: Number of vertices •
- Size: Number of edges
- Neighbourhood ( $N(v_i)$ ): Set of all neighbours of  $v_i$
- Closed neighbourbood ( $N[v_i]$ ): Set of all neighbours union  $v_i$
- (Handshaking Lemma) Sum of order of every vertex in any graph is even.
- Maximum size of a graph of order  $n: \binom{n}{2}$
- Sum of degree of vertices: 2e
- Subgraph: *H* is a subgraph of *G* if  $V(H) \subseteq V(G)$  and  $E(H) \subseteq$ E(G).
- Spanning subgraph: *H* is a subgraph of *G* and V(H) = V(G).
- Induced subgraph:  $E(H) = \{uv \in E(G) \mid u \in V(H), v \in V(H)\}$
- Subgraph via deletion: When a set of edge is deleted, the subgraph is always a spanning graph; when a set of vertices is deleted, the subgraph is always an induced graph.
- (*Theorem*) Let G be a graph.
  - If  $A \subseteq V(G)$ , then G A = [V(G) A].
  - $\circ$  Let *H* be a subgraph of *G*. *H* is an induced subgraph of *G* if and only if H = G - (V(G) - V(H)).
- Walk: Vertices and edges need not be distinct.
- A walk is open if source is distinct from destination, otherwise closed.
- Trail: Vertices need not be distinct while edges are distinct.
- Path  $(P_n)$ : Vertices are distinct, hence edges are distinct.
- Circuit: A closed trail of length at least 2
- Cycle  $(C_n)$ : A closed path of length at least 2
- (*Theorem*) If a graph contains a u-v walk of length k, then it contains a u-v path of length at most k.
- Complement:  $V(G) = V(\overline{G})$  and  $\forall u, v, uv \in E(G) \Leftrightarrow uv \notin E(\overline{G})$
- (*Theorem*) If G is disconnected, then  $\overline{G}$  is connected.
- Distance between u and v: Length of shortest u-v path
- Eccentricity:  $e_G(u) = \max_{v \in V(G)} \{d(u, v)\}$
- Diameter: diam(G) =  $\max_{u \in V(G)} e(u) = \max_{u, v \in V(G)} \{d(u, v)\}$
- Radius:  $rad(G) = \min_{u \in V(G)} e(u)$ , where such *u* is a central vertex. The centre of G is the subgraph of G induced by the set of central vertices.
- (Triangle Inequality)  $d(u, v) \le d(u, w) + d(w, v)$
- (*Theorem*) For any connected graph G,  $rad(G) \le diam(G) \le$ 2rad(G)
- v is a cut vertex in G if and only if G v is connected.
- Isomorphism: Two graphs are isomorphic if there exists a bijection  $f: V(G) \to V(H)$  such that  $uv \in E(G) \Leftrightarrow f(u)f(v) \in$ E(H).
- (*Theorem*)  $G \cong H$  if and only if  $\overline{G} \cong \overline{H}$ .
- If  $G \cong H$ , then:
  - G and H must have the same order and size;
  - $\delta(G) = \delta(H)$  and  $\Delta(G) = \Delta(H)$ ;
  - G and H must have the same degree sequence.

#### Cheatsheet

- (*Theorem*) Let d = (d<sub>1</sub>, d<sub>2</sub>, ..., d<sub>n</sub>) be a non-increasing degree sequence. Denote d\* = (d<sub>2</sub> 1, d<sub>3</sub> 1, ..., d<sub>d1+1</sub> -
  - 1,  $d_{d_1+2}$ , ...,  $d_n$ ). Then *d* is graphic if and only of  $d^*$  is graphic.
- Self-complementary:  $G \cong \overline{G}$ , the order n = 4k or 4k + 1.
- Adjacency matrix (A): row set of vertices; column set of vertices
  - A is symmetric.
  - Entries in A are either 0 or 1.
  - Sum of entries in the *i*-th row is  $d(v_i)$ .
  - The *i*-*j* entry of  $A^k$  is the number of different  $v_i$ - $v_j$  walks of length k in G.
- Incidence matrix (M): row set of vertices; column set of edges
  - $\circ~$  Each column contains exactly 2 1s.
  - Sum of entries in the *i*-th row is  $d(v_i)$ .

# Chapter 8 – Bipartite Graphs and Trees

- Bipartite graph: A graph G is bipartite if its vertex set V(G) can be partitioned into two disjoint subsets V<sub>1</sub> and V<sub>2</sub> such that each edge of G joins a vertex of V<sub>1</sub> to a vertex of V<sub>2</sub>.
- Sum of degree of vertices in each partition is equal.
- Complete bipartite graph  $(K_{p,q})$
- Join:  $V(G_1 + G_2) = V(G_1) \cup V(G_2)$ ;  $E(G_1 + G_2) = E(G_1) \cup E(G_2) \cup \{uv \mid u \in V(G_1), v \in V(G_2)\}$
- (*Lemma*) Every closed walk of odd length *p* in a graph always contains an odd cycle.
- (*Theorem*) A graph is bipartite if and only if it contains no odd cycles.
- Tree: A connected graph is a tree if it contains no cycles.
   Every two distinct vertices are joined by a unique path.
  - $\circ$  size = order 1

- Forest: Each component is a tree.
- (*Theorem*) Let *T* be a tree and  $\Delta(T) = k$ . For i = 1, 2, ..., k, let  $n_i$  be number of vertices in *T* of degree *i*. Then  $n_1 = 2 + n_3 + 2n_4 + \cdots + (k-2)n_k$ .
- Number of non-isomorphic trees: 1, 1, 1, 2, 3, 6, 11, 23, 47, 106, 235, 551, ...
- Spanning tree: A spanning subgraph that is a tree.
- Finding spanning tree: DFS, BFS
- (*Theorem*) A graph is connected if and only if it contains a spanning tree.
- (Corollary) If a graph is connected, then  $e(G) \ge n 1$ .
- Goe: The multigraph of order n 1 obtained from G by deleting all edges joining u and v, and by identifying u and v.
- Number of spanning trees: τ(G) = τ(G e) + τ(Goe)
   Cycles: τ(C<sub>n</sub>) = n
  - $G_1$  and  $G_2$  connected via a cut vertex/bridge:  $\tau(G) = \tau(G_1)\tau(G_2)$
  - Two cycles sharing one common edge: (p + q 2) + (p 1)(q 1)
  - Duplicate one edge of  $C_n: 2n-1$
  - Two cycles sharing one common edge which is duplicated: (p + q 2) + 2(p 1)(q 1)
- (*Matrix Tree Theorem*) Let *G* be a multigraph with *V*(*G*) = {*v*<sub>1</sub>, *v*<sub>2</sub>, ..., *v*<sub>n</sub>}. Let *A* be the adjacency matrix of *G* and *C* be the *n* × *n* diagonal matrix defined by

$$c_{ij} = \begin{cases} d(v_i) & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

- Then  $\tau(G)$  is equal to the cofactor of any entry in C A.
- (*Theorem*) For  $n \ge 2$ ,  $\tau(K_n) = n^{n-2}$ .
- Finding minimum spanning tree: Kruskal's and Prim's
- Computing distance: Dijkstra's