



Instructions: Ordinary calculators are allowed.

Answer the following questions:

Question 1 [3+2+3=8 marks]

- (a) How many ways are there to arrange the letters in DIFFERENTITION with no pair of consecutive I's?
- (b) How many bit strings of length 12 that contain at least three ones?
- (c) Find a closed form for the generating function for the sequence $a_n = n^2 - 1$.

Question 2 [3+4=7 marks]

- (a) How many ways are there to distribute six identical oranges and four distinct apples (each a different variety) into five distinct boxes? How many ways are there to distribute two objects in each box?
- (b) Prove that the number of onto (surjective) functions from a set of m elements to a set of n elements is given by
$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (-1)^k \binom{n}{k} (n-k)^m.$$

Question 3 [3+4=7 marks]

(a) Find a recurrence relation for the number of ternary strings of length n that contain two consecutive 0s.

(b) Use the exponential generating functions to solve the recurrence relation

$$d_n = nd_{n-1} + 2^n, \quad n \geq 1, \text{ subject to } d_0 = 1.$$

Question 4 [2+2+4=8 marks]

(a) Use the identity $2\binom{n}{2} + 2\binom{n}{1} = n^2 + n$ to evaluate the sum $\sum_{k=1}^n k(k+1)$.

(b) How many nonnegative integer solutions are there to the equation $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 15$ such that $x_1 \leq 5$.

(c) Solve the recurrence relation $a_n = a_{n-1} + 2a_{n-2} + 2^n$ with initial conditions $a_0 = 4$ and $a_1 = 12$.

Extra question (bonus) [3 marks]

How many ways are there to pay a bill of 101 dollars using a currency with bills of values of 1 dollar, 2 dollars, and 5 dollars?

(End Questions & Good Luck)