

Discrete Math. Graduation Exam, Spring 2024

1. (10 points) Prove the following identity.

$$1 \cdot n + 2 \cdot (n - 1) + 3 \cdot (n - 2) + \cdots + (n - 1) \cdot 2 + n \cdot 1 = \binom{n + 2}{3}.$$

2. Let m and n be positive integers greater than 2. Recall that the *Ramsey Number* $R(m, n)$ is the minimum number of people at a party such that there are either m mutual friends or n mutual enemies, assuming that every pair of people at the party are friends or enemies.

(a) (5 points) Show that $R(m, n) \leq R(m - 1, n) + R(m, n - 1)$.

Hint. Let $r = R(m - 1, n) + R(m, n - 1)$. Consider a party of r people. Choose any person, say A . Let M be the set of friends of A , and N be the set of enemies of A . Then either M has at least $R(m - 1, n)$ people or N has at least $R(m, n - 1)$ people.

(b) (5 points) Prove that $R(4, 4) \leq 20$. *Hint.* First find an upper bound of $R(4, 3)$.

3. (10 points) Are the two graphs below isomorphic? If so, describe the isomorphism. If not, explain why.

