

Lesson 6: Young Tableaux

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Definition 1.

The *partition number* $p(n)$ for a positive integer n is the number of partitions of n into positive parts where partitions different only in ordering of the summands are not distinguished.

Problem 1.

Compute $p(n)$ for all n from 1 to 10.

Problem 2.

You need to pack cookies into boxes. There are 10 boxes each of which can contain at most 3 cookies. How many ways are there to put 22 cookies into boxes (leaving no box empty)? The boxes are indistinguishable.

Problem 3.

Show that the number of partitions of n into at most k parts each of which is at most ℓ is equal to the number of partitions of n into at most ℓ parts each of which is at most k .

Problem 4.

Show that the number of partitions of n into k parts is equal to the number of partitions of $n + \binom{k}{2}$ into k *distinct* parts.

Problem 5.

Show that the number of partitions of n into distinct odd parts is equal to the number of partitions of n such that their Young tableaux are symmetric with respect to the diagonal.

Problem 6.

Let the side lengths of the triangle $\triangle ABC$ be a, b, c where a is the length of BC , b is the length of AC and c is the length of AB . Let M, N be points on AB and BC respectively such that $AM = BN$ and $MN \parallel AC$. Find the length of MN in terms of a, b, c .

Problem 7.

Consider points A, B, C, D on a line ℓ in that order. Draw two parallel lines through points A and B , and another pair of parallel lines through points C and D . The two pairs of parallel lines create a parallelogram. Consider the two points at which the lines containing the diagonals of this parallelogram intersect ℓ . Show that these two points do not depend on the choice of the two pairs of parallel lines.