

1. A function  $\varphi : \llbracket k \rrbracket^s \rightarrow \llbracket k \rrbracket^d$  is the same as a tuple  $\varphi = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_d)$  of functions  $\varphi_j : \llbracket k \rrbracket^s \rightarrow \llbracket k \rrbracket$ . Such a function  $\varphi$  is called a *combinatorial mapping* if every component  $\varphi_j$  is either a constant function or a coordinate function, i.e.  $\varphi_j(x_1, \dots, x_s) = x_i$  for some  $i$ . An  *$s$ -dimensional combinatorial subspace* of  $\llbracket k \rrbracket^d$  is the image of a combinatorial mapping  $\varphi : \llbracket k \rrbracket^s \rightarrow \llbracket k \rrbracket^d$  which is furthermore injective.

- (a) Prove that a 1-dimensional combinatorial subspace is the same as a combinatorial line, and convince yourself that this is a reasonable generalization of combinatorial lines for  $s \geq 2$ .
- (b) Show that  $s$ -dimensional combinatorial subspaces of  $\llbracket k \rrbracket^d$  are in bijection with  *$s$ -roots*, which are words  $\rho \in \{1, \dots, k, *_1, \dots, *_s\}^d$  in which each star symbol  $*_i$  appears at least once.
- (c) Prove that for every  $k, s, q \geq 1$ , there exists some  $d$  such that any  $q$ -coloring of  $\llbracket k \rrbracket^d$  contains a monochromatic  $s$ -dimensional combinatorial subspace.  
*Hint:* Prove that  $d = s \cdot \text{HJ}(k^s; q)$  suffices.
2. (a) Suppose that there is a coloring  $\chi : \llbracket N \rrbracket^t \rightarrow \llbracket q \rrbracket$  with no homothetic copy of

$$S := \{(1, 0, \dots, 0), (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0), \dots, (0, \dots, 0, 1)\}.$$

Using  $\chi$ , construct a protocol for  $t$  players to compute the exactly- $N$  function using at most  $t \lceil \log q \rceil$  bits of communication in the number-on-the-forehead model.

- (b) Reinterpret the result of (a) as saying the following: If the Gallai–Witt theorem is false for this choice of  $S$ , then there *is* a protocol to compute the exactly- $N$  function using only a constant number of bits of communication.  
In other words, we proved in Theorem 9.4.1 that the Gallai–Witt theorem implies a super-constant lower bound for this communication complexity, and (a) gives a converse: a super-constant lower bound for this communication complexity implies the Gallai–Witt theorem for this choice of  $S$ .
- (c) Improve your protocol in (a) to one using only  $t + \lceil \log q \rceil$  bits of communication.
3. Prove the density Hales–Jewett theorem for  $k = 2$ . In other words, prove that for every  $\delta > 0$  and every sufficiently large  $d$ , every subset  $A \subseteq \llbracket 2 \rrbracket^d$  with  $|A| \geq \delta 2^d$  contains a combinatorial line.
4. Prove that there is no density version of Schur’s theorem.
5. Let us say that a graph  $H$  has the *density Ramsey property* if for every  $\delta > 0$  and every sufficiently large  $N$ , any  $N$ -vertex graph  $G$  with at least  $\delta \binom{N}{2}$  edges has a copy of  $H$ .

- (a) Show that if  $H$  has the density Ramsey property, then  $r(H; q)$  is finite for all  $q$ , by applying the definition with  $\delta = \frac{1}{q}$ .

[This exercise is of course a bit silly, since we already know that  $r(H; q)$  is finite—the point is just to understand how such density results are stronger than the

corresponding coloring results, just as Szemerédi's theorem is stronger than van der Waerden's theorem.]

- (b) Prove that if  $H$  is bipartite, then  $H$  has the density Ramsey property.
- (c) Prove that if  $H$  is not bipartite, then  $H$  does not have the density Ramsey property.
6. The *finite unions theorem* states the following. For every  $m, q \geq 2$ , there exists some  $N$  such that in any  $q$ -coloring of  $2^{\llbracket N \rrbracket}$  (that is, every subset of  $\llbracket N \rrbracket$  receives some color), there exist disjoint sets  $S_1, \dots, S_m \subseteq \llbracket N \rrbracket$  such that all of the unions  $\bigcup_{i \in I} S_i$ , for  $\emptyset \neq I \subseteq \llbracket m \rrbracket$ , receive the same color.
- (a) Prove that the finite unions theorem implies Theorem 9.3.1.
- ★(b) Prove the finite unions theorem.
7. For a bipartite graph  $H$  and a number  $\delta > 0$ , let  $r_d(H; \delta)$  denote the minimum integer  $N$  such that every  $N$ -vertex graph with at least  $\delta \binom{N}{2}$  edges has a copy of  $H$ . (Note that this is a well-defined quantity, by problem 5(b).)
- (a) By examining your solution to problem 5(b), show that for every bipartite graph  $H$ , there exists some  $C > 0$  such that

$$r_d(H; \delta) \leq \left(\frac{1}{\delta}\right)^C$$

for all  $0 < \delta \leq \frac{1}{2}$ .

- (b) Let  $H$  be a graph, and suppose  $G$  is an  $N$ -vertex graph with  $\delta \binom{N}{2}$  edges and with no copy of  $H$ . Prove that if  $q$  is an integer satisfying  $(1 - \delta)^q \binom{N}{2} < 1$ , then

$$r(H; q) > N.$$

*Hint:* Randomly permute the vertices of  $G$  to obtain  $q$  copies  $G_1, \dots, G_q$ . Show that with positive probability, every edge of  $K_N$  appears in at least one  $G_i$ .

- (c) Fix a bipartite graph  $H$ , and let  $C$  be the constant from part (a). Show that

$$r_d\left(H; \frac{2C \ln q}{q}\right) \leq r(H; q) \leq r_d\left(H; \frac{1}{q}\right),$$

where the lower bound uses part (b) and the upper bound uses your solution to problem 5(a). This shows that  $r(H; q)$  and  $r_d(H; 1/q)$  are closely related for bipartite  $H$ .

- ★(d) Let  $\text{Sz}(k; \delta)$  denote the least  $N$  such that every  $A \subseteq \llbracket N \rrbracket$  with  $|A| \geq \delta N$  contains a  $k$ -AP. Using similar arguments, try to relate  $W(k; q)$  to  $\text{Sz}(k; \delta)$ , proving both upper and lower bounds involving  $\delta \approx 1/q$ .

*Hint:* It may be helpful to work in  $\mathbb{Z}/N$  rather than in  $\llbracket N \rrbracket$ .