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**6. Practice sheet for the lecture:  
Combinatorics (DS I)**

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<http://www.math.tu-berlin.de/~felsner/Lehre/dsI13.html>

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- (1) The  $q$ -binomials fulfill the equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \\ m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ m-k \end{bmatrix}$$

for all  $n \geq m \geq k \geq 0$ . Prove this via the model on  $\mathbb{F}_q$  subspaces for  $q$ -binomials. Can you give other proofs?

- (2) How many different chains of length  $n$  of nested subspaces of  $V_n(q)$  exist?  
(3) Show the  $q$ -analogue of the LYM inequality:

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{p_k(\mathcal{A})}{\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix}} \leq 1$$

- (4) How many pairs  $(X, Y)$  of distinct subset of  $[n]$  with  $X \subset Y \subseteq [n]$  exist?

- (a) Count the pairs.  
(b) Give a generating function of the form  $\frac{Q(z)}{P(z)}$  with polynomials  $P$  and  $Q$ .  
(c) Prove the following equation bijectively:

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (2^k - 1) = 3^n - 2^n$$

- (5) Show that every finite poset is isomorphic to the containment order on some family of sets.

- (6) Let  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \binom{[n]}{k}$ .

- (a) Show the lemmata from the lecture:

$$|\nabla \mathcal{B}| \geq \frac{n-k}{k+1} |\mathcal{B}| \quad \text{for } k < n \text{ and}$$

$$|\Delta \mathcal{B}| \geq \frac{k}{n-k+1} |\mathcal{B}| \quad \text{for } k > 0.$$

- (b) Show Sperner's theorem using (a). Especially notice that  $|\mathcal{B}| < |\nabla \mathcal{B}|$  for  $k < \frac{n-1}{2}$ .