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Problem 1. Recall that a graph is a pair $G = (V, E)$ where $E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$. A vertex in G is said to be *isolated* if no edges are incident to it. Find a formula for the total number of (labeled) graphs with $V = [n]$ having no isolated vertices.

Problem 2. Recall that the Stirling numbers (of the second kind) $\left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} n \\ k \end{smallmatrix} \right\}$ count the number of ways to partition an n -element set into k non-empty pieces. Prove that

$$\left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} n \\ k \end{smallmatrix} \right\} = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \binom{k}{i} (k-i)^n = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^{k-i} \binom{k}{i} i^n.$$

Hint: Start by justifying that $k! \left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} n \\ k \end{smallmatrix} \right\}$ counts the number of surjections from $[n]$ to $[k]$.

Problem 3 (Alternative proof of the inclusion–exclusion formula). • Prove that, for any numbers¹ $x_1, \dots, x_n$,

$$\prod_{i=1}^n (1 + x_i) = \sum_{I \subseteq [n]} \prod_{i \in I} x_i$$

- Justify that for any sets A, B , we have $\mathbf{1}[\overline{A}] = 1 - \mathbf{1}[A]$ and $\mathbf{1}[A]\mathbf{1}[B] = \mathbf{1}[A \cap B]$.
- Derive the inclusion–exclusion formula by using $x_i = -\mathbf{1}[B_i]$

¹Really, any elements in a commutative ring containing 1.