HW #1

Solutions must be typeset in LATEX. Collaboration and use of external sources are permitted, but must be fully acknowledged and cited. Any collaboration should involve only discussion; all writing **must** be done individually. You are free to use the result from any problem on this (or previous) assignment as a part of your solution to a different problem even if you have not solved the former problem.

Problem 1. What are you most excited to learn in this class?

Problem 2. Prove that $e^{-\frac{x}{1-x}} \leq 1-x \leq e^{-x}$. You should establish the upper-bound for all values of x (both positive and negative) and establish the lower-bound for all x < 1.

Problem 3. For $1 \le k \le n$, prove the inequalities

$$\left(\frac{n}{k}\right)^k \le \binom{n}{k} \le \frac{n^k}{k!} \le \left(\frac{en}{k}\right)^k.$$

Problem 4. Let G be a graph with n vertices and m edges. Let t be the smallest integer for which K_n can be written as the union of t isomorphic copies of G (not necessarily edge-disjoint). Prove that

$$\Omega\left(\frac{n^2}{m}\right) \le t \le O\left(\frac{n^2 \log n}{m}\right).$$

Problem 5. Let G be a graph and $t \ge 2$ be an integer. Prove that G contains a subgraph H (not necessarily induced) with $\chi(H) \le t$ and $e(H) \ge \frac{t-1}{t}e(G)$.

Problem 6. Let G be any fixed graph and let $G_{1/2}$ be a random subgraph of G formed by including each edge of G independently with probability 1/2. Prove that

$$\mathbb{E}\,\chi(G_{1/2}) \ge \sqrt{\chi(G)}.$$

N.b. It is conjectured that $\mathbb{E}\chi(G_{1/2}) \ge \Omega(\frac{\chi(G)}{\log \chi(G)})$, which would be best-possible if true. Hint: Consider a random 2-coloring of E(G).

Problem 7. Prove that if there is some $p \in [0, 1]$ such that

$$\binom{n}{s}p^{\binom{s}{2}} + \binom{n}{t}(1-p)^{\binom{t}{2}} < 1,$$

then R(s,t) > n.

Use this to show that

$$R(4,t) \ge \Omega\left(\left(\frac{t}{\log t}\right)^{3/2}\right).$$