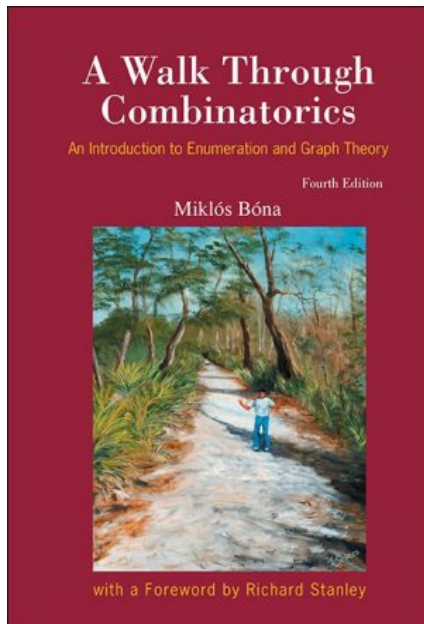


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Walk Through Combinatorics, A: An Introduction To Enumeration And Graph Theory, Fourth Edition



Author: Miklos Bona;
Foreword by Richard Stanley

Publisher: World Scientific
(Distributed exclusively by
Dev Publishers &
Distributors)

Edition: Fourth

Year: 2020 (Rep.)

Dimension: 15 x 23 cm

No. of Pages: 616

Weight: 800 gm

ISBN: 9780000987648

Binding: Softcover

Territory: South Asia

Price: Rs 1750

About the Book

This is a textbook for an introductory combinatorics course lasting one or two semesters. An extensive list of problems, ranging from routine exercises to research questions, is included. In each section, there are also exercises that contain material not explicitly discussed in the preceding text, so as to provide instructors with extra choices if they want to shift the emphasis of their course.

Just as with the first three editions, the new edition walks the reader through the classic parts of combinatorial enumeration and graph theory, while also discussing some recent progress in the area: on the one hand, providing material that will help students learn the basic techniques, and on the other hand, showing that some questions at the forefront of research are comprehensible and accessible to the talented and hardworking undergraduate. The basic topics discussed are: the twelvefold way, cycles in permutations, the formula of inclusion and exclusion, the notion of graphs and trees, matchings, Eulerian and Hamiltonian cycles, and planar graphs.

New to this edition are the Quick Check exercises at the end of each section. In all, the new edition contains about 240 new exercises. Extra examples were added to some sections where readers asked for them.

The selected advanced topics are: Ramsey theory, pattern avoidance, the probabilistic method, partially ordered sets, the theory of designs, enumeration under group action, generating functions of labeled and unlabeled structures and algorithms and complexity.

The book encourages students to learn more combinatorics, provides them with a not only useful but also enjoyable and engaging reading. The previous edition of this textbook has been adopted at various schools including UCLA, MIT, University of Michigan, and Swarthmore College. It was also translated into Korean.

About the Author

Miklós Bóna, University of Florida, USA

Review

“This is still one of the best introductions to combinatorics.”

Mathematical Association of America

Review of the 3rd Edition:

“The chapters on block designs and counting unlabeled structures have been added to the third edition, and there are also one hundred new problems in the other eighteen chapters. When I next teach a combinatorics course, this will be the text I use.”

Mathematical Reviews

Reviews of the 2nd Edition:

“Bóna’s book is an excellent choice for anyone who wants an introduction to this beautiful branch of mathematics ... Plentiful examples illustrate each of the topics included in the book. Bóna does a supreme job of walking us through combinatorics.”

CHOICE

“This book covers all of the basic results one would expect and a selection of advanced topics as well. There are many very good problems in it. The problems in this book are, as the kids say, awesome. This is a comprehensive book on combinatorics. Exposition is clear, coverage is massive, and the problems are plentiful and excellent.”

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