

Forbidden Positions

Daniel H. Luecking

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So, $S_1 = 1 \cdot P(6, 3) + 2 \cdot P(6, 3) + 3 \cdot P(6, 3) + 1 \cdot P(6, 3)$ or $S_1 = 7 \cdot P(6, 3)$.

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and $S_4 = 2P(3, 0)$, where

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Note that if $k = 8$ this equals $1 \cdot 8!$. And if $k = 0$ this equals $1 \cdot 1$.

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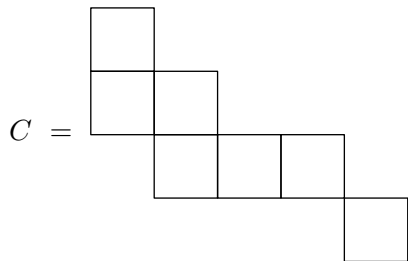
We define a *chessboard* to be any collection of squares fitted to a rectangular grid (example picture on the next slide). We give a chess board a name like C and then define $r_k(C)$ to be the number of ways to place k rooks in C with no two in the same row, and no two in the same column.

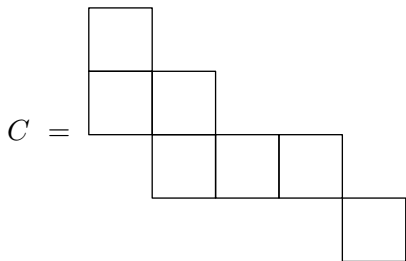
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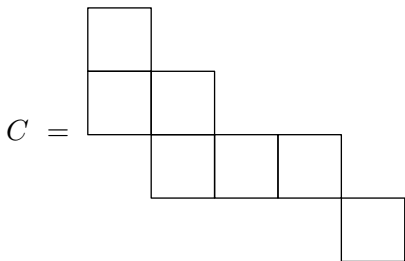
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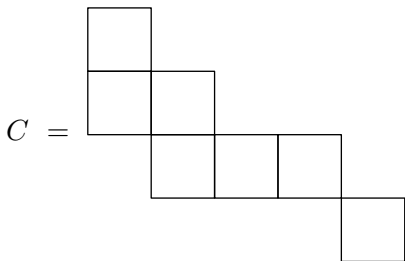


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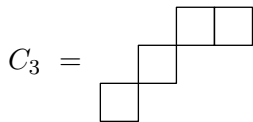
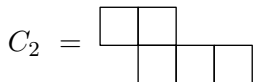
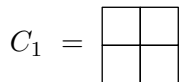
Thus we have seen that $r_1(C) = 7$, $r_2(C) = 15$, $r_3(C) = 11$, and $r_4(C) = 2$. To be complete $r_0(C) = 1$ and $r_k(C) = 0$ for all $k \geq 5$.



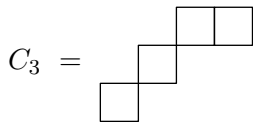
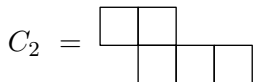
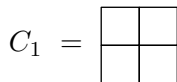
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Some examples:



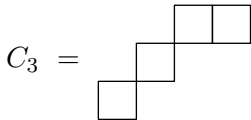
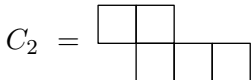
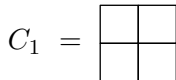
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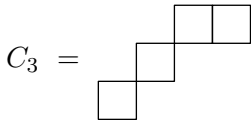
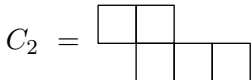
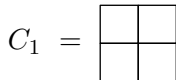
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Rook polynomials. If C is any chessboard, the the rook polynomial for C is

$$r(C, x) = r_0 + r_1x + r_2x^2 + \dots$$

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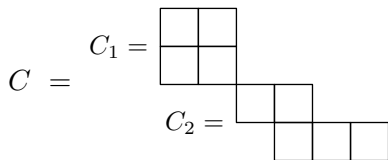
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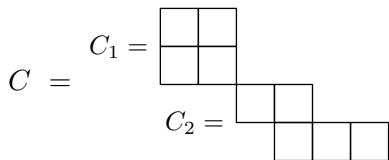
Thus, each power x^k is multiplied by $r_k(C) = r_k$. Since there are only finitely many terms, this is always a polynomial. For example

$$r(C_3, x) = 1 + 4x + 5x^2 + 2x^3$$

Consider this chessboard:

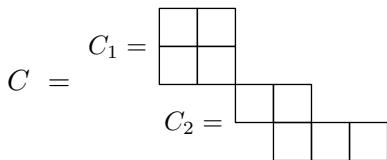


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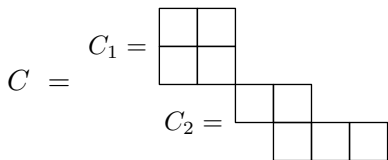
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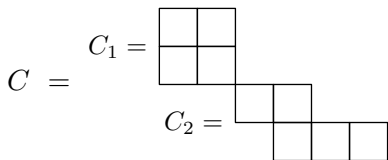
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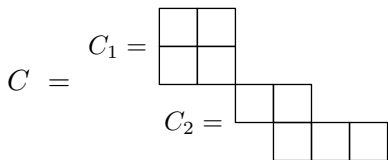
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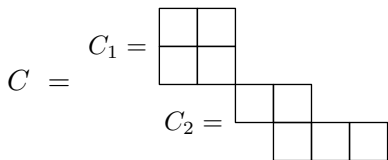
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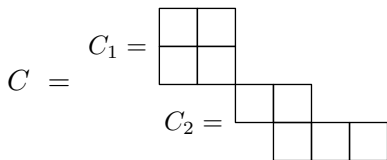
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3. 2 rooks in C_1 and 0 rooks in C_2 : $r_2(C_1)r_0(C_2)$ ways.

By the rule of sum,

$$r_2(C) = r_0(C_1)r_2(C_2) + r_1(C_1)r_1(C_2) + r_2(C_1)r_0(C_2).$$

Consider this chessboard:



We will be able to produce the rook numbers for C from those for C_1 and C_2 . Consider the rook number $r_2(C)$. We break down the possibilities for the 2 rooks into 3 mutually exclusive cases,

1. 0 rooks in C_1 and 2 rooks in C_2 : $r_0(C_1)r_2(C_2)$ ways.
2. 1 rook in C_1 and 1 rook in C_2 : $r_1(C_1)r_1(C_2)$ ways.
3. 2 rooks in C_1 and 0 rooks in C_2 : $r_2(C_1)r_0(C_2)$ ways.

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This is the formula for the x^2 term in $r(C_1, x)r(C_2, x)$. In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} r(C, x) &= r(C_1, x)r(C_2, x) = (1 + 4x + 2x^2)(1 + 5x + 5x^2) \\ &= 1 + 9x + 27x^2 + 30x^3 + 10x^4 \end{aligned}$$

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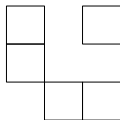
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When all 3 of these are satisfied, then $r(C, x) = r(C_1, x)r(C_2, x)$.

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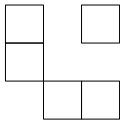


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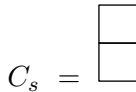
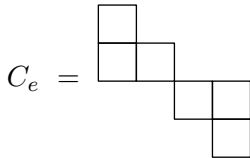
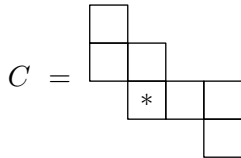
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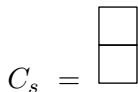
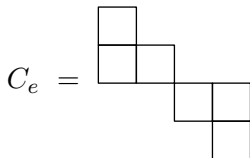
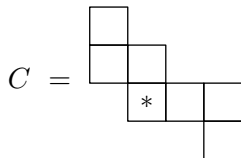


This is useful by itself, when applicable, but we need another tool for computing $r(C, x)$ that is applicable even when this one is not.

Consider the following chessboards:

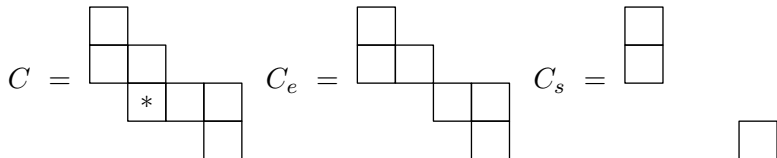


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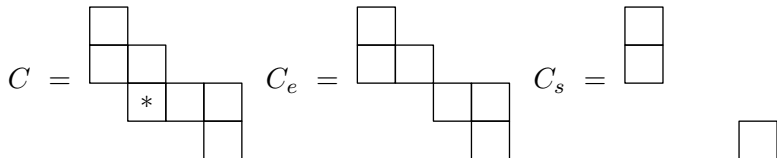
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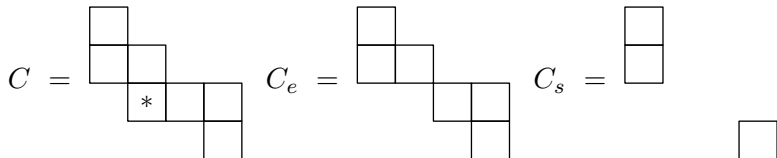
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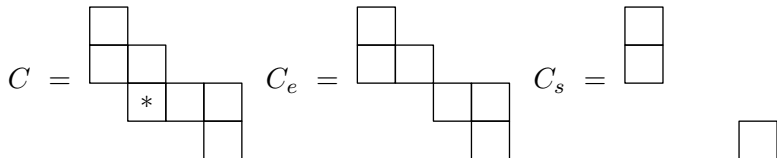


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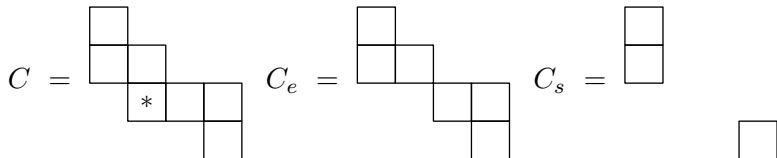
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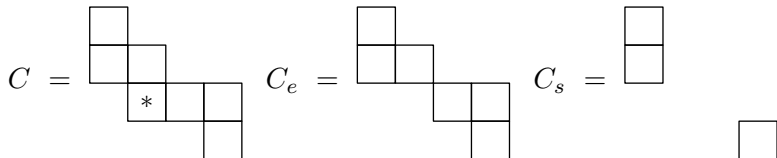
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Adding these we get the formula for $r(C, x)$:

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So that,

$$\begin{aligned} r(C, x) &= r(C_e, x) + x \cdot r(C_s, x) \\ r(C, x) &= (1 + 3x + x^2)^2 + x(1 + 2x)(1 + x) \\ &= 1 + 7x + 14x^2 + 8x^3 + x^4 \end{aligned}$$