

21-301 Combinatorics  
Homework 10  
Due: Wednesday, December 5

1. How many ways are there to 3-color an  $n \times n$  chessboard when  $n$  is odd. The group  $G$  is the usual 8 element group  $e, a, b, c, p, q, r, s$ .
2. A necklace is made of 8 beads strung together in a cycle. Find the pattern inventory for the two colourings of the necklace. when the group  $G$  is the group of rotations.
3. A necklace is made of 8 beads strung together in a cycle. Find the pattern inventory for the two colourings of the necklace when the group  $G$  is the dihedral group  $D_8$ .

The *dihedral* group  $D_n$  is the group of symmetries of a regular  $n$ -gon under rotations  $R_0, R_1, \dots, R_{n-1}$  and reflections  $S_1, S_1 \dots, S_n$ . Here, assuming  $n$  is even, the permutations are

- (i)  $e = R_0, R_1, \dots, R_{n-1}$  where  $R_i$  is a rotation through  $i\pi/4$ ,
- (ii)  $S_1, S_1, S_2, \dots, S_{n/2}$  where  $S_i$  is a rotation about an axis joining two opposite vertices,
- (iii)  $S_{n/2+1}, S_{n/2+2}, \dots, S_n$  where  $S_{n/2+i}$  is a rotation about an axis joining the midpoints of two opposite edges.