

# Introduction to Combinatorics

## Hints

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1. Let  $x_i$  denote the chosen value in  $i$ -th vertex. Try expressing fact that for every pair of adjacent vertices their values are different as the fact that some polynomial is nonzero in some point.

2. It should be a good idea to consider two cases. First one when  $|A| + |B| \geq p + 1$ , and second one when  $|A| + |B| \leq p$ . Assume by contrary that  $|A + B| \leq |A| + |B| - 2$  and try applying Combinatorial Nullstellensatz for a polynomial whose degree will be small thanks to this assumption.

3. Try using Cauchy-Davenport theorem where  $|B| = 2$ .

4. Polynomial from the problem statement looks similar to the determinant of Vandermonde's matrix...

By the way this problem doesn't have a direct connection to the Combinatorial Nullstellensatz. You may feel deceived, but it will serve its purpose when the appropriate time comes :).

5. We can express fact that  $c$  is a permutation of  $b$  in the following way:  $c_i \in \{b_1, \dots, b_k\}$  and  $c_i \neq c_j$  for  $i \neq j$ . Now, condition from statements requires  $c_i + a_i \neq c_j + a_j \pmod{p}$  for  $i \neq j$ . Can all of this be encoded in some polynomial?