Handout MATH / Van Tuyl
3U03 Combinatorics
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Objectives:

1. Students will know where and how to find open problems in Combinatorics
2. Students will be able to discover related papers via citations
3. Students will understand what information is available on MathSciNet and how it is different from other databases
4. Students will become more familiar with citing in AMS style

Resources:

Open Problem Garden - http://www.openproblemgarden.org/

- Read the various open problems in combinatorics
- Take note of the bibliography for the problem; this can point you to at least the origin of the problem (usually marked with *), and possibly some related references.
- Some bibliography items are linked some are not. You may need to copy and paste a title into MathSciNet

MathSciNet – access through library.mcmaster.ca, search under Articles/Databases tab (or access directly from the following URL:
http://libaccess.mcmaster.ca/login?url=http://www.ams.org/mathscinet/)

- MathSciNet is our largest database in Mathematics. This is how you will access the articles.
- You can also use this database to locate more open problems or conjectures. Search, using quotes to keep phrases together: "open problem" or "open conjecture".
- Rather than abstracts, MathSciNet has *Reviews* – these are independent summaries prepared by non-author mathematicians (includes some interpretation)
- Leverage the included references and times cited to find related articles
- To access the full-text, click on the "Get It!" link.

American Mathematical Society Citation Style

- AMS Author Resource Centre
  o AMS LaTeX Version 2

- Citation Manager (Suggested: Zotero)
  o AMS equivalent: Elsevier (numeric, with titles, sorted alphabetically)