

Zbl 179.02801

Erdős, Pál; Hajnal, András

On a combinatorial problem (In Hungarian)

Mat. Lapok 19, 345-348 (1968). [0025-519X]

Let S be a set of n elements. Let $f(A)$ be a set function which makes correspond to every subset A of S an element of $S - A$. Put $F(A) = \bigcup_{B \subset A} f(B)$ where B runs through all subsets of A . Let $H(n)$ be the smallest integer for which there is a function f so that for every $S_1 \subset S$, $|S_1| \geq H(n)$ we have $F(S_1) = S_1$. We prove

$$\log n / \log 2 < H(n) < \log n / \log 2 + 3 \log \log n / \log 2 + o(\log \log n).$$

We conjecture $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (H(n) - \log n / \log 2) = \infty$ but cannot even prove $H(n) > \log n / \log 2 + 1$.

Classification:

05D05 Extremal set theory

04A20 Combinatorial set theory