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## Important Note

**Have you read the important note on the front of the exam?**

True/False

1. [Law of the excluded middle](10 pts.) **For each of the following statements, circle T if it is true and F otherwise. You do not need to justify or explain your answers.**

**T F**  $(\forall n \in \mathbf{N}) \left( (2n)! = \binom{2n}{n} (n!)^2 \right)$

**T F**  **$\mathbf{Q}$  and  $\mathbf{N}^3$  have the same cardinality.** (Note:  $\mathbf{N}^3$  is the set of triples of natural numbers, e.g.  $(5, 0, 17) \in \mathbf{N}^3$ .)

**T F** **If you throw  $n^2$  balls into  $n^3$  bins uniformly at random, the probability that at least one bin will have more than one ball will be less than 0.1 (for large enough  $n$ ).**

**Consider the following instance of the stable marriage problem.**

Woman	Preferences	Man	Preferences
A	1 2 3	1	B A C
B	1 2 3	2	C B A
C	3 1 2	3	B A C

**T F** **In the above stable marriage instance,  $(1, B), (2, A), (3, C)$  is a stable pairing.**

**T F** **In the above stable marriage instance, 1 is A's optimal man.**

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## Short Answer

2. [U mod?](4 pts.) **Find an integer  $x$  such that  $8x \equiv 20 \pmod{22}$ .**  
(Warning:  $\gcd(22, 8) \neq 1$ .)

3. [Come Together](4 pts.) **The code to open your secret club's treasure chest is 15. Your club has 4 other members, named John, Paul, George and Ringo. What information can you give each of them so that any 3 of them can discover that the secret is 15, but if only 2 of them share their information, they cannot discover the secret? Fill in the boxes below.**

(If you need any random numbers, feel free to just use 0 if it makes your calculations easier.)

*Scratch work:*

*Answer:*

**Tell all of them:** " $P(x)$  is a polynomial of degree at most . The secret is  $P(\text{})$ ."

**Tell John:**  $P(\text{}) \equiv \text{} \pmod{\text{}}$ .

**Tell Paul:**

**Tell George:**

**Tell Ringo:**

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## Short Answer (continued)

4. [Connect the dots](3 pts.) **Find a polynomial  $p(x)$  such that  $p(1) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$ ,  $p(4) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$  and  $p(5) \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$ . You do not need to simplify your answer.**

(Hint: This shouldn't take very long.)

5. [What do you expect?](4 pts.) **Suppose  $X$  is a random variable with the following distribution:**  
 $\Pr[X = 1] = \frac{1}{12}$ ,  $\Pr[X = 2] = \frac{1}{6}$ ,  $\Pr[X = 3] = \frac{3}{4}$ . **What is the expected value of  $\frac{1}{X^2}$ ?**

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## Short Answer (continued)

6. [He is a Cook after all. . .](4 pts.) **James is baking cakes. Every cake he bakes is rated one of E, O or T (for Excellent, just Okay, or Terrible). We record the sequence of ratings his cakes get.**

**The cakes are rated randomly: E with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$ , O with probability  $\frac{1}{4}$  and T with probability  $\frac{1}{4}$ . The ratings are independent.** (For example, if he bakes 7 cakes, one possible sequence is EOETOOE, which occurs with probability  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 2^{-10}$ .)

**If James bakes 20 cakes, what is the probability that he gets 7 Es, 4 Os and 9 Ts?**

7. [Dicey stuff](3 pts.) **Suppose you roll a standard fair die 100 times. Let  $X$  be the sum of the numbers that appear over the 100 rolls. Give a bound on the probability that  $X$  is between 300 and 400.**

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## Short Answer (continued)

8. [Probably Fun?](4 pts.) **Show that if  $A$  and  $B$  are events, then  $\Pr[A \cap B] \geq \Pr[A] + \Pr[B] - 1$ .**

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You won't believe what these numbers sum to!

9. (8 pts.) **Prove that for every  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ ,**

$$\sum_{k=0}^n 3^k = \frac{3^{n+1} - 1}{2}.$$

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## Variation on a Theme

10. (10 pts.) Ziva has a set of 10 magical dice named  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{10}$ . When she rolls all 10 dice, the number 1 always appears at least once. Notice that there are  $6^{10} - 5^{10}$  possible outcomes when she rolls the dice. Every one of these outcomes appears with probability  $\frac{1}{6^{10} - 5^{10}}$  (so the dice follow the uniform distribution).

Leave your answers below as unevaluated expressions like  $\frac{5!}{6^{100}}$ .

(a) (2 pts.) What is the probability that  $D_1 = 1$ ? (The answer is not  $\frac{1}{6}$ .)

(b) (2 pts.) Let  $X$  be the number of dice that show 1. What is  $E(X)$ ?

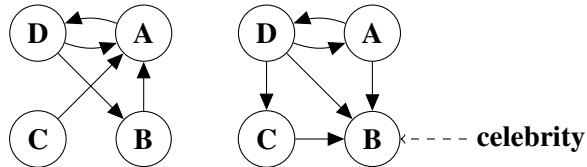
(c) (6 pts.) What is  $\text{Var}(X)$ ?



## Party at Ajay's House

11. (23 pts.) Ajay's thinking of having a party at his house. He has invited  $n$  guests ( $n \geq 2$ ). To keep track of which guests know which other guests, he's drawn a directed graph  $G$  with  $n$  nodes (one per guest), with an edge from guest  $x$  to guest  $y$  whenever  $x$  knows  $y$ .

A guest  $x$  is called a *celebrity* if every other guest knows  $x$ , but  $x$  does not know any other guest. For example, below are two parties. The party on the left has no celebrities. In the other party,  $B$  is a celebrity.



- (a) (4 pts.) If the party has a celebrity, can  $G$  have an Eulerian cycle (one that visits every edge once)? Can it have a Hamiltonian cycle (one that visits every node once)? Justify your answers.

For the remaining questions, suppose that  $G$  is generated randomly as follows. For every two guests  $x$  and  $y$ ,  $x$  knows  $y$  with probability  $p$ , and all such events are independent. (Examples: The probability that  $x$  knows  $y$  and  $y$  also knows  $x$  is  $p^2$ . The probability that  $w$  knows  $x$  and  $y$  but doesn't know  $z$  is  $p^2(1 - p)$ .)

- (b) (4 pts.) What is the probability that every guest knows every other guest?

Continued on the next page!

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Party at Ajay's House (continued)

- (c) (3 pts.) Let's pick a particular guest  $u$ . What's the probability that  $u$  is a celebrity?
- (d) (4 pts.) Let's pick a second guest  $v$ . What's the probability that  $u$  knows  $v$  given that  $u$  is not a celebrity?
- (e) (4 pts.) What's the probability that one of  $u$  and  $v$  is a celebrity? (*Hint: a party cannot have more than one celebrity.*)
- (f) (4 pts.) What's the probability that there are no celebrities?

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## Your Basic Geometric Distribution

12. (9 pts.) **Hao has a computer with two speakers. Every day, each speaker fails with probability  $p$  independently. Let  $L$  and  $R$  be the number of days the left and right speakers last until failing. So  $L \sim \text{Geom}(p)$ ,  $R \sim \text{Geom}(p)$ , and  $L$  and  $R$  are independent random variables. (For example, if both speakers fail on the first day, then  $L = R = 1$ .)**

**In the below questions, simplify your answers as much as possible.**

- (a) (3 pts.) **For an integer  $k \geq 1$ , what is  $\Pr[L \geq k]$ ?** (In other words, the probability that the left speaker fails on day  $k$  or later.)

- (b) (3 pts.) **Let  $X$  be the number of days until both speakers have failed: in other words,  $X$  is the larger of  $L$  and  $R$ . For an integer  $k \geq 1$ , what is  $\Pr[X < k]$ ?**

- (c) (3 pts.) **For an integer  $k \geq 1$ , what is  $\Pr[X = k]$ ?**

## Binomial Process

13. (16 pts.) **Three wise men, named  $W_1$ ,  $W_2$  and  $W_3$ , are flipping coins independently at each timestep until the end of time. Specifically,  $W_1$  flips a coin with bias  $p_1$  at every timestep,  $W_2$  flips his coin with bias  $p_2$  every timestep,  $W_3$  flips his coin with bias  $p_3$  every timestep, and all coin flips are independent.** (The *bias* of a coin is the probability that it comes up heads when you flip it.) **You are a lonely wanderer who comes upon the three wise men and starts observing them.**

Here is an example outcome:

Timestep	1	2	3	4	5	6	...
Wise Man $W_1$	T	H	T	T	T	T	...
Wise Man $W_2$	T	T	T	T	T	T	...
Wise Man $W_3$	H	H	T	H	T	T	...

- (a) (2 pts) **Let  $X$  be the number of timesteps it takes for Wise Man  $W_1$  to flip his first heads.** (In the example outcome above,  $X = 2$ .) **Give the probability distribution of  $X$ , along with any parameters necessary to describe it.**

- (b) (3 pts.) **Let  $B$  be the probability that, on a given timestep, at least one of the coins comes up heads. Find  $B$ .**

**Continued on the next page!**

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## Binomial Process (continued)

- (c) (2 pts.) If you look at the first 20 timesteps, let  $Y$  be the number of those timesteps where only tails were flipped. Give the probability distribution of  $Y$ , along with any parameters necessary to describe it.
- (d) (3 pts.) On a particular timestep, you notice one wise man flipped heads, and the other two flipped tails. Given that, what's the probability that Wise Man  $W_1$  was the one who flipped heads?

**Continued on the next page!**

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## Binomial Process (continued)

(e) (3 pts.) Let  $Z$  be the number of timesteps it takes to see 2 timesteps in a row with no heads (including those two time steps). (In the example outcome,  $Z = 6$ .) Find  $E(Z)$ .

(f) (3 pts.) Let  $R$  be the event that the first time heads is flipped, it was Wise Man  $W_1$  that flipped heads, and neither of the other wise men flip heads on that time step. (In the example outcome,  $R$  does not happen, since Wise Man  $W_3$  flips heads first.) Find  $\Pr[R]$ .

**Note:** This problem corresponds to a very real thing called a Binomial process, which you just derived several of the key properties of! The all-too-important continuous analog is called a Poisson process (see EE 126), which is used to handle queues, hits on a website, traffic, and many other real-life problems!

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[Doodle page! Draw us something if you want or give us suggestions or complaints.]