

1. Suppose we have an unlimited supply of 4-cent and 15-cent stamps.

(a) Prove that we can't make 41 cents postage.

Suppose we can make 41¢ from  $s$  4¢ stamps and  $t$  15¢ stamps.

Then  $41 = 4s + 15t$  (where  $s, t \in \mathbb{N}$ ).

If  $t=0$ , then  $s = \frac{41}{4} \notin \mathbb{N}$ , a contradiction.

If  $t=1$ , then  $s = \frac{26}{4} \notin \mathbb{N}$ , " "

If  $t=2$ , then  $s = \frac{11}{4} \notin \mathbb{N}$ , " "

If  $t \geq 3$ , then  $4s + 15t \geq 45 > 41$ , also a contradiction.

Thus we cannot make 41¢.

(b) Prove that we can make  $n$  cents postage for all integers  $n \geq 42$ .

We argue by strong induction.

We can make  $n = 42, 43, 44, 45$  as follows:

$$42 = 3(4) + 2(15)$$

$$43 = 7(4) + 1(15)$$

$$44 = 11(4) + 0(15)$$

$$45 = 0(4) + 3(15)$$

Suppose we can make  $n = 42, 43, \dots, k-1$ , where  $k \geq 46$ .

Then, in particular, we can make  $k-4$  cents postage. By adding a 4-cent stamp, we can then make  $k$  cents.

We conclude by strong induction that we can make  $n$  cents postage for all integers  $n \geq 42$ .

2. 60% of all e-mail Mira receives is spam. If a message is spam, there's a 3% probability that it contains the word "opportunity". If a message is not spam, there's a 0.5% probability that it contains the word "opportunity".

What is the probability that a message containing the word "opportunity" is spam?

Let  $E$  be the event "is spam". Let  $O$  be the event "contains 'opportunity'". Then we are given that  $p(E)=0.6$ ,  $p(O|E)=0.03$ , and  $p(O|\bar{E})=0.005$ . The probability we are seeking is  $p(E|O)$ .

By Bayes' Theorem,

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(E|O) &= \frac{p(E)p(O|E)}{p(E)p(O|E)+p(\bar{E})p(O|\bar{E})} = \frac{(0.6)(0.03)}{(0.6)(0.03)+(0.4)(0.005)} = \frac{0.018}{0.018+0.002} \\
 &= \boxed{\frac{9}{10}} \text{ or } \boxed{0.9} \text{ or } \boxed{90\%}
 \end{aligned}$$

3. In a standard deck of 52 cards, there are 13 *ranks* (labeled 2, 3, ..., 10, J, Q, K, A) and 4 *suits* ( $\clubsuit$ ,  $\diamondsuit$ ,  $\heartsuit$ ,  $\spadesuit$ ). There is one card of each rank-suit combination (e.g.,  $Q\heartsuit$  is a card). A hand is a subset of the deck; the order of cards in a hand does not matter.

(a) How many 5-card hands are there in which no rank is repeated?

There are  $\binom{13}{5}$  ways to choose 5 distinct ranks and  $4^5$  ways to choose the suit associated with each rank, for

$$\boxed{\binom{13}{5} \cdot 4^5} = \frac{52 \cdot 48 \cdot 44 \cdot 40 \cdot 36}{5!} \text{ possible hands.}$$

- (b) In total, how many 1- to 13-card hands are there in which no rank is repeated? Express your answer in as simple a form as possible.

#### Method 1

By the reasoning in (a), there are  $\binom{13}{k} \cdot 4^k$   $k$ -card hands with no repeated ranks. Summing over all  $k$  from 1 to 13 yields

$\sum_{k=1}^{13} \binom{13}{k} \cdot 4^k$  hands; by the binomial theorem, this sum equals

$$\boxed{5^{13} - 1}.$$

#### Method 2

For each rank, we can choose one of 5 options: include the club, diamond, heart, spade, or no card of that rank. Thus we can form  $\underbrace{5 \times 5 \times 5 \times \dots \times 5}_{13 \text{ 5's}}$  hands, one of which is the empty hand.

The number of 1- to 13-card hands is  $\boxed{5^{13} - 1}$ .

(Continued.)

(c) What is the probability that a random 5-card hand contains at least one heart (♥)?

All  $\binom{52}{5}$  hands are equally probable;  $\binom{39}{5}$  of them have no hearts, so the probability of getting at least one heart is

$$1 - \frac{\binom{39}{5}}{\binom{52}{5}}.$$

(d) What is the expected number of different suits in a random 5-card hand?

Let  $X_1 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if we draw at least one } \heartsuit \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ .

Let  $X_2, X_3, X_4$  be similarly defined for the other suits.

Then  $E(X_1) = 1 - \frac{\binom{39}{5}}{\binom{52}{5}}$  by part (c), and  $E(X_2), E(X_3), E(X_4)$

are the same.

If  $X$  is the number of different suits drawn, then  $X = X_1 + X_2 + X_3 + X_4$ .

By linearity of expectation,  $E(X) = E(X_1) + E(X_2) + E(X_3) + E(X_4)$

$$= 4 \left( 1 - \frac{\binom{39}{5}}{\binom{52}{5}} \right).$$

4. Prove the identity  $k \binom{n}{2} + \binom{k}{2} n^2 = \binom{kn}{2} \dots$

(a) ... algebraically.

$$\begin{aligned}
 k \binom{n}{2} + \binom{k}{2} n^2 &= k \cdot \frac{n(n-1)}{2} + \frac{k(k-1)}{2} \cdot n^2 \\
 &= \frac{kn[n-1+(k-1) \cdot n]}{2} \\
 &= \frac{kn[n-1+kn-n]}{2} \\
 &= \frac{kn(kn-1)}{2} \\
 &= \binom{kn}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) ... by a combinatorial argument.

Suppose we have  $kn$  balls of  $k$  colors, with  $n$  in each color.

Then there are  $k \binom{n}{2}$  ways to choose two balls of the same color (because we can choose the color in  $k$  ways and the balls of that color in  $\binom{n}{2}$  ways).

There are  $\binom{k}{2} n^2$  ways to choose two balls of different colors (because we can choose the two colors in  $\binom{k}{2}$  ways, the ball of the first color in  $n$  ways, and the ball of the second color in  $n$  ways).

Two balls are either the same color or different colors, so we have a total of  $k \binom{n}{2} + \binom{k}{2} n^2$  ways to choose any two balls—but we also have  $\binom{kn}{2}$  ways to do that, by definition. So  $k \binom{n}{2} + \binom{k}{2} n^2 = \binom{kn}{2}$ .

5. For integers  $n \geq 1$ , let  $a_n$  be the number of subsets of  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  that do not contain two consecutive integers. (Include the empty set.)

Determine sufficient initial values and a recurrence relation for the sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ . Justify your answer.

Let us call a subset of  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  good if it does not contain two consecutive integers.

Then a good subset of  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  either does or does not contain  $n$ . If it does contain  $n$ , then it cannot contain  $n-1$ ; such sets are of the form  $A \cup \{n\}$ , where  $A$  is a good subset of  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n-2\}$ . (assuming  $n \geq 3$ )

If it does not contain  $n$ , then it is a good subset of  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1\}$ .

There are  $a_{n-2}$  good subsets of  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  that contain  $n$  and  $a_{n-1}$  good subsets of  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  that do not contain  $n$ . Thus

$$a_n = a_{n-2} + a_{n-1} \text{ for } n \geq 3.$$

The recurrence is of order 2, so we need two initial values.

The good subsets of  $\{1\}$  are  $\emptyset$  and  $\{1\}$ , so  $a_1 = 2$ .

The good subsets of  $\{1, 2\}$  are  $\emptyset$ ,  $\{1\}$ , and  $\{2\}$ , so  $a_2 = 3$ .

Remark:  $a_n$  is the  $(n+2)^{\text{th}}$  Fibonacci number, but stating this was not required.

## Rubric

#1 10 pts. each part.

On (a): 9 pts. for exhaustion/cases with no justification for  $\leq 2$  15¢ stamps.  
7 pts. for exhaustion/cases with missing cases.  
 $\leq 5$  pts. for unsupported claim of exhaustion.

On (b): Valid strong induction, weak induction, and non-inductive proofs were seen.

5 to 8 pts. for hand-wavey style or inappropriate presentation

(e.g. undefined " $P(n)$ ", misstated inductive hypothesis, misuse of variables)

5 pts. for strong induction with only one base case (if not sufficient)

5 pts. for "turn 15¢ into  $4 \times 4\phi$ " arguments that ignore possibility of no 15¢ stamps

2 pts. for just base case(s)

#2 20 pts.

17 pts. for correct setup w/ arithmetic error or misplaced decimal point

10 pts. for correct setup w/ some probabilities wrong (other than misplaced decimal)

$\leq 5$  pts. for incorrect setup of Bayes or for finding wrong probability, e.g.  $p(\text{spam} \wedge \text{"opp."})$

#3 5 pts. each part; generous PC as follows:

(a) 3 pts. for counting ordered hands, i.e.  $P(13,5) \cdot 4^5$

2 pts. for choosing only one suit, i.e.  $4 \cdot \binom{13}{5}$

No credit for both mistakes

(b) 4 pts. for  $4^k \binom{13}{k}$  or  $\sum_{k=1}^{13} 4^k \binom{13}{k}$  (unsimplified)

4 pts. for  $5^{13}$  (includes empty hand)

$3/2$  pts. for mistakes analogous to those in (a)

(c) 2 pts. for treating cards as independent/drawn with replacement, i.e.  $1 - (\frac{3}{4})^5$

2 pts. for  $\frac{\binom{13}{1}\binom{51}{4}}{\binom{52}{5}}$  (some hands are overcounted)

(d) 5 pts. for correct answer even if done the long, painful way (i.e.  $p(X=1) + 2p(X=2) + 3p(X=3) + 4p(X=4)$ )

4 pts. for long, painful answer with a mistake in one case

2 pts. for  $E(X) = p(X=1) + 2p(X=2) + 3p(X=3) + 4p(X=4)$  with poor attempt to compute probabilities

No credit for claiming # of suits is geometrically distributed or for  $E(X) = 5 \cdot \frac{1}{4}$

#4 10 pts. each part.

On (a): 9 pts. if steps are logically reversed.

On (b): Range of scores for proofs lacking clarity/detail.

#5 20 pts.

17 pts. for listing 1- and 2-element sets but not stating  $a_1=2, a_2=3$ .

15 pts. for correct result with poor justification.

10 pts. for correct result with no justification other than apparent pattern for small  $n$ .

$\leq 5$  pts. for serious misunderstanding of problem.