CSE 103

Chapter 1, Section 2

Problem No. 39

39. Freedonia has fifty senators. Each senator is either honest or corrupt. Suppose you know that at least one of the Freedonian senators is honest and that, given any two Freedonian senators, at least one is corrupt. Based on these facts, can you determine how many Freedonian senators are honest and how many are corrupt? If so, what is the answer?

Solution:

The given conditions imply that there cannot be two honest senators. Therefore, since we are told that there is at least one honest senator, there must be exactly 49 corrupt senators.