

Proof.

We can partition the numbers $2001, \dots, 2120$ into three element sets where $S = \{2001, \dots, 2120\}$. Let these three element sets be the pigeonholes:

$$P = \{ \{n_1, n_2, n_3\} : n_1 \equiv 0 \pmod{3} \wedge n_2 \equiv n_1 + 1 \wedge n_3 \equiv n_1 + 2 \}$$

Problem 1

for $n_1, n_2, n_3 \in S$. Let the 90 horses be pigeons. Since $|P| = \frac{2120 - 2000}{3} = 40$, by the generalized pigeonhole principle, at least one three element set of consecutive integers has at least $\lceil \frac{90}{40} \rceil$ pigeons = 3 pigeons; p_1, p_2, p_3 . Then p_1, p_2, p_3 are sequential. \square

Proof. We start with $n=1$: (1)

with $n=2$: (1, 2), (2, 1)

with $n=3$: (1, 2, 3), (1, 3, 2), (2, 3, 1), (2, 1, 3), (3, 1, 2), (3, 2, 1).

If f_n is the number of permutations of $1, \dots, n$ written as a_1, \dots, a_n where $a_i \leq a_{i+1} + 2$, then $f_1 = 1, f_2 = 2, f_3 = 6$. Observe that for $n=4$, there can only be two numbers that immediately succeed 4: 3, 2. Using this idea, let

$P = \{ (a_1, \dots, a_n) : a_i \leq a_{i+1} + 2, a_i \in \{1, \dots, n\} \}$ for $1 \leq i \leq n-1$. Observe that if $p \in P$, then if $n = a_{j+1}$,

$$a_{j+1} \leq a_{j+2} + 2$$

$$n \leq a_{j+2} + 2$$

~~$$a_j \leq a_{j+1} + 2$$~~

$$a_j \leq n \leq a_{j+2} + 2$$

So we can remove n from P and obtain a pretty cool permutation of $1, \dots, n-1$. Observe that there are n spaces that we can place n back into the permutation, but n can only be put before $n-1, n-2$, or at the end of the sequence. So for every $1, \dots, n-1$ pretty cool permutation, there are 3 ways to get a $1, \dots, n$ pretty cool permutation. Therefore, $f_n = (f_{n-1})3$.

$$f_4 = 18, f_5 = 18(3), f_6 = 18(3^2), f_7 = 18(3^3), f_8 = 18(3^4), f_9 = 18(3^5), f_{10} = 18(3^6).$$

Problem 2