



# COMP170 – Fall 2007

## Midterm 1 Review



## Question 1

$n$  guests are arranged seats in a row facing the audience

- a) How many different ways are there to seat the  $n$  guests at  $n$  seats?



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$$n!$$

Note that the order is important since the guests could be listed from left to right from the audience's perspective



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Treating the two people as one indivisible group, there are  $(n - 1)!$  different ways of seating the guests.

*Within* the two-person group, there are 2 ways to sit them.

*# ways sitting together =  $2(n - 1)!$*

*# ways not sitting together =  $n! - 2(n - 1)! = (n - 2)(n - 1)!$*



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Treat each couple as an indivisible group, and others as individual groups.

There are  $(n - 5)!$  ways to seat  $n - 5$  groups.

For each couple (group),  
there are 2 ways to seat husband and wife.

$$\# \text{ ways to seat guests} = 2^5 (n - 5)!$$



## Question 2

$$Z_n = \{0, \dots, n - 1\}$$

a) How many 5-element subsets of  $Z_{10}$  contain at least one element in  $Z_3$ ?

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$$\# \text{ 5-element sets of } Z_{10} = \binom{10}{5}$$

$$\# \text{ 5-element sets of } Z_{10} \text{ not containing elements of } Z_3 = \binom{7}{5}$$

$$\# \text{ 5-element sets of } Z_{10} \text{ containing at least one element of } Z_3$$

$$= \binom{10}{5} - \binom{7}{5}$$



## Question 2

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$$Z_{10} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$$

$\binom{5}{2}$  ways to choose 2 numbers from  $\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$

$\binom{5}{3}$  ways to choose 3 numbers from  $\{0, 2, 4, 6, 8\}$

By the product principle, we have

$$\binom{5}{2} \cdot \binom{5}{3}$$



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$$\text{Let } O_n = \{1, 3, 5, \dots, n\}$$

$$E_n = \{0, 2, 4, \dots, n-1\}$$

$f(k) = n - k$  defines a bijection between  $O_n$  and  $E_n$

Since  $\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n}{n-k}$ , we have

$$\sum_{k \in O_n} \binom{n}{k} = \sum_{k \in O_n} \binom{n}{n-k} = \sum_{k \in E_n} \binom{n}{k}$$

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c) Let  $n$  be positive and odd. Show that # of even-sized subsets of  $Z_n$  equals # of odd-sized subsets of  $Z_n$

Alternatively:

$$2^n = (1 + 1)^n = \sum_{0 \leq i \leq n} \binom{n}{i} \quad \text{and} \quad 0 = (1 - 1)^n = \sum_{0 \leq i \leq n} (-1)^i \binom{n}{i}$$

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$$\Rightarrow 2 \sum_{i \in E_n} \binom{n}{i} = \sum_{0 \leq i \leq n} \binom{n}{i} + \sum_{0 \leq i \leq n} (-1)^i \binom{n}{i} = 2^n$$



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$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i \in E_n} \binom{n}{i} = 2^{n-1} = \sum_{i \in O_n} \binom{n}{i}$$

**Note: This works for all  $n$ , not just even  $n$ .**

## Question 3

Our office door has a lock whose keypad contains only the 8 digits  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$ . For technical reasons, legal key-codes should satisfy the following three requirements:

- (i) They are 4 digits long with all of the digits being different.
- (ii) They must end with an even digit.
- (iii) They cannot have their first digit equal to 0.

For example, 1350 and 5432 are legal key-codes, while 1150, 1357 and 0536 are not legal key-codes.

How many legal key-codes are there?

## Question 3

We split the set of legal key-codes into two sets; those that end with a 0 and those that don't.

Those that end with a 0 have 7 possible first digits, 6 possible second ones and 5 possible third ones. So the total number is  $7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 = 210$ .

Those that do not end with a 0 have 3 possible last digits, 6 possible first ones, 6 possible second ones and 5 possible third ones. So the total number is  $3 \cdot 6 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 = 540$ .

Adding the two gives  $210 + 540 = 750$ .



## Question 4

a) How many surjections are there from  $S_7$  to  $S_6$ ?

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2 elements in  $S_7$  map to the same element in  $S_6$

Remaining 5 elements in  $S_7$  map to the remaining 5 elements in  $S_6$ .

View the 2 elements as a group, and other elements as individual groups. Then we map 6 groups from  $S_7$  to 6 elements in  $S_6$ .

# ways to choose 2 elements from  $S_7 = \binom{7}{2} = 21$ .

# ways to map the groups from  $S_7$  to  $S_6 = 6! = 720$ .

By product principle, we have  $\binom{7}{2} 6! = 15,120$ .



## Question 4

b) How many surjections are there from  $S_8$  to  $S_6$ ?

Separate the surjections into 2 types:

*Type 1*

- Map 3 elements in  $S_8$  to the same element in  $S_6$
- Map remaining 5 elements in  $S_8$  to remaining 5 elements in  $S_6$ .

*Type 2*

- Map a pair of elements in  $S_8$  to the same element in  $S_6$
- Map another pair in  $S_8$  to the same element in  $S_6$ .
- Map remaining 4 elements in  $S_8$  to remaining 4 elements in  $S_6$ .

## Question 4

b) How many surjections are there from  $S_8$  to  $S_6$ ?

Count *Type 1*

# ways to choose 3 elements in  $S_8 = \binom{8}{3}$ .

Treat the 3 elements as 1 group, other elements as individual groups. Then we map 6 groups in  $S_8$  to 6 elements in  $S_6$ .

# ways to map 6 groups to 6 elements =  $6!$

So # *Type 1* surjections is  $\binom{8}{3} \cdot 6!$



## Question 4

b) How many surjections are there from  $S_8$  to  $S_6$ ?

Count *Type 2*

# ways to choose 2 pairs in  $S_8 = \frac{1}{2} \binom{8}{2} \cdot \binom{6}{2}$ .

Treat the each pair as 1 group, other elements as individual groups. Then we map 6 groups in  $S_8$  to 6 elements in  $S_6$ .

# ways to map 6 groups to 6 elements =  $6!$

So # *Type 2* surjections is  $\frac{1}{2} \binom{8}{2} \cdot \binom{6}{2} \cdot 6!$

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Count *Type 2*

**Note: Many students forgot this  $\frac{1}{2}$**

# ways to choose 2 pairs in  $S_8 = \frac{1}{2} \binom{8}{2} \cdot \binom{6}{2}.$

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So # *Type 2* surjections is  $\frac{1}{2} \binom{8}{2} \cdot \binom{6}{2} \cdot 6!$

## Question 4

b) How many surjections are there from  $S_8$  to  $S_6$ ?

The 2 types of surjections form a partition of the set of all surjections from  $S_8$  to  $S_6$ .

By the sum principle, number of surjections from  $S_8$  to  $S_6$  is

$$\begin{aligned} & \# \text{ Type 1} + \# \text{ Type 2} \\ &= \binom{8}{3} \cdot 6! + \frac{1}{2} \binom{8}{2} \binom{6}{2} \cdot 6! \\ &= 266 \cdot 6! \\ &= 191,520 \end{aligned}$$



## Question 5

Consider a Cartesian Coordinate system.

- a) Each step we move either 1 unit to the right or 1 unit down. How many different paths are there from  $(0,0)$  to  $(20,-10)$ ?

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Every path consists of 30 steps - 20 “right steps” and 10 “down steps”. So # different paths is

$$\binom{30}{10} = \binom{30}{20}$$



## Question 5

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Each step, we have 2 choices - to the right or down. So # different 10-step paths is

$$2 \times 2 \times \dots \times 2 = 2^{10}$$



## Question 5

c) We start from  $(0,0)$  and walk  $k$  steps without a predetermined destination. Each step we move 1 unit either up, down, left or right. How many different paths of  $k$  steps are there?



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c) We start from  $(0,0)$  and walk  $k$  steps without a predetermined destination. Each step we move 1 unit either up, down, left or right. How many different paths of  $k$  steps are there?

Each step, we have 4 choices - left, right, up or down. So # different  $k$ -step paths is

$$4 \times 4 \times \dots \times 4 = 4^k$$



## Question 6

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- a) If the three groups are of sizes 3, 4 and 5, how many different groupings are there?

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a) If the three groups are of sizes 3, 4 and 5, how many different groupings are there?

Since the groups are of *different* sizes, this is equivalent to # ways of labeling 12 objects with three different colors. The answer is the trinomial coefficient

$$\binom{12}{3 \ 4 \ 5} = \frac{12!}{3! 4! 5!}$$



## Question 6

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b) If the three groups are of the same size (4 people each), how many different groupings are there?

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b) If the three groups are of the same size (4 people each), how many different groupings are there?

Since the groups are of the *same* sizes, we need to be aware of double counting. For each grouping, there are  $3!$  possible ways of rearranging the given groups. So the answer is

$$\frac{1}{3!} \binom{12}{4 \ 4 \ 4} = \frac{12!}{3! 4! 4! 4!}$$

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**Note:** Many students forgot the  $\frac{1}{3!}$

## Question 7

Consider the following modular equation

$$a \cdot_n \bar{x} = b,$$

where  $n$  is a positive integer and  $a, b, \bar{x} \in Z_n$ . Given  $n, a, b$ , the equation has a solution if we can find  $\bar{x} \in Z_n$  that satisfies the equation.

## Question 7

Consider the following modular equation

$$a \cdot_n \bar{x} = b,$$

where  $n$  is a positive integer and  $a, b, \bar{x} \in Z_n$ . Given  $n, a, b$ , the equation has a solution if we can find  $\bar{x} \in Z_n$  that satisfies the equation.

a) One way to check whether  $a$  has a multiplicative inverse in  $Z_n$  is to try to find integers  $x, y$  satisfying some equation that involves  $x, y, a, n$ . What is the equation?



## Question 7

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a) One way to check whether  $a$  has a multiplicative inverse in  $Z_n$  is to try to find integers  $x, y$  satisfying some equation that involves  $x, y, a, n$ . What is the equation?

$$ax + ny = 1$$

## Question 7

b) Suppose  $a$  has a multiplicative inverse in  $Z_n$ . Consider the equation that you wrote down in part (a). Are the integers  $x, y$  that satisfy that equation unique?

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Not unique.

Let  $n = 12$  and  $a = 5$ .

Then the two pairs  $x = -7, y = 3$  and  $x = -19, y = 8$  both satisfy the equation

$$ax + ny = 5x + 12y = 1.$$

## Question 7

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Then the two pairs  $x = -7, y = 3$  and  $x = -19, y = 8$  both satisfy the equation

$$ax + ny = 5x + 12y = 1.$$

**Note:** The question was about uniqueness of integers  $x, y$  not uniqueness of  $x, y$  in  $Z_n$ .



## Question 7

c) Find a solution  $\bar{x}$  in  $Z_{12}$  for the following equation:

$$5 \cdot_{12} \bar{x} = 8.$$

Is the solution unique?

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c) Find a solution  $\bar{x}$  in  $Z_{12}$  for the following equation:

$$5 \cdot_{12} \bar{x} = 8.$$

Is the solution unique?

We proved in class that if  $a$  has a multiplicative inverse  $a'$  in  $Z_n$ , then the *unique* solution to the equation is  $\bar{x} = a' \cdot_n b$ .

If  $ax + ny = 1$  then  $a' = x \bmod n$ . From (b),

$$a' = -7 \bmod 12 = -19 \bmod 12 = 5.$$

So the unique solution is  $\bar{x} = 5 \cdot_{12} 8 = 4$ .

## Question 8

a) Does there exist an  $x$  in  $Z_{99}$  that solves

$$123 \cdot_{99} x = 5?$$

If yes, give the value of  $x$ . If no, prove the fact.

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If yes, give the value of  $x$ . If no, prove the fact.

No. Suppose there was a solution  $x$ . Then there is some integer  $q$  such that

$$123x = 99q + 5$$

$$123x - 99q = 5.$$

But the left hand side of this equation is divisible by 3 and the right hand side is not. Contradiction. So such an  $x$  does not exist.





## Question 8

b) Does there exist an  $x$  in  $Z_{100}$  that solves

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b) Does there exist an  $x$  in  $Z_{100}$  that solves

$$123 \cdot_{100} x = 5?$$

If yes, give the value of  $x$ . If no, prove the fact.

Yes.  $x = 35$ . Using extended GCD algorithm, we have

$$123 \cdot (-13) + 100 \cdot 16 = 1.$$

So  $87 = (-13) \bmod 100$  is the multiplicative inverse of 123 in  $Z_{100}$ . So the unique solution to the problem is

$$87 \cdot_{100} 5 = (87 \cdot 5) \bmod 100 = 435 \bmod 100 = 35.$$