

# M E T U

## Department of Mathematics

Discrete Mathematics			
Midterm II			
Code : Math 112	Last Name :	Student No :	
Acad. Year : 2017-2018	Name :		
Semester : Spring	Department :		
Instructor : Finashin, Emelyanov	Signature :		
Date : 03.05.2018	5 Questions on 4 Pages SHOW YOUR WORK!		
Time : 17.40			
Duration : 100 minutes			
1	2	3	4

1. (8+12 pts.) Suppose that  $a_n$  is a sequence which satisfies a linear homogeneous recurrence relation with constant coefficients. Assume that the characteristic equation of this recurrence relation is

$$(r-2)^2(r-3) = 0.$$

a) Find the recurrence relation of  $a_n$ .

Characteristic Equation:  $(r-2)^2(r-3) = 0$   
 $(r^2 - 4r + 4)(r-3) = 0$   
 $r^3 - 4r^2 + 4r - 3r^2 + 12r - 12 = 0$   
 $r^3 - 7r^2 + 16r - 12 = 0$

Therefore,  $a_n$  satisfies  $r^3 - 7r^2 + 16r - 12 = 0$

$$a_n = 7a_{n-1} - 16a_{n-2} + 12a_{n-3}$$

b) Find an explicit formula for  $a_n$  if  $a_0 = 7$ ,  $a_1 = 25$ ,  $a_2 = 77$ .

Roots of the characteristic equation are  $r=2$  with multiplicity 2,  
 $r=3$  with multiplicity 1.

General solution of this recurrence relation is then:

$$a_n = A \cdot 2^n + B \cdot n \cdot 2^n + C \cdot 3^n \text{ for constants } A, B \text{ and } C.$$

$$n=0 \Rightarrow a_0 = 7 = A \cdot 2^0 + B \cdot 0 \cdot 2^0 + C \cdot 3^0 \Rightarrow 7 = A + C \quad (\text{Eq 1})$$

$$n=1 \Rightarrow a_1 = 25 = A \cdot 2^1 + B \cdot 1 \cdot 2^1 + C \cdot 3^1 \Rightarrow 25 = 2A + 2B + 3C \quad (\text{Eq 2})$$

$$n=2 \Rightarrow a_2 = 77 = A \cdot 2^2 + B \cdot 2 \cdot 2^2 + C \cdot 3^2 \Rightarrow 77 = 4A + 8B + 9C \quad (\text{Eq 3})$$

Eq 2 & Eq 3 give

$$\begin{cases} 100 = 8A + 8B + 12C \\ 77 = 4A + 8B + 9C \end{cases} \Rightarrow 100 - 77 = 4A + 3C \Rightarrow 23 = 4A + 3C$$

Using Eq 1 now,

$$\begin{cases} 7 = A + C \\ 23 = 4A + 3C \end{cases} \Rightarrow 2 = A, C = 5 \Rightarrow 25 = 2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot B + 3 \cdot 5 \Rightarrow B = 3$$

Therefore,

$$a_n = 2 \cdot 2^n + 3 \cdot n \cdot 2^n + 5 \cdot 3^n \text{ for all } n \geq 0, n \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

2. (15+5 pts.) Let  $a_n$  be the number of strings of length  $n$  consisting of the letters A, B, C, D, or E that do not contain two consecutive A's. (Note that these strings may not contain some of the 5 letters.)

a) Find a recurrence relation that  $a_n$  satisfies.

Case 1: The last letter is not A

1st 2nd 3rd ...  $n^{\text{th}}$  letter

B, C, D or E (4 choices)

string of length  $n-1$  with no consecutive A's  
( $a_{n-1}$  choices)

Case 2:  $n^{\text{th}}$  letter is A, so  $(n-1)^{\text{st}}$  letter cannot be an A.

1st 2nd ...  $(n-1)^{\text{st}}$   $n^{\text{th}}$

4 choices (B, C, D or E)

First  $n-2$  letters  
form a length  $n-2$  string  
with no consecutive A's.

Case 1 and Case 2 are all possible cases, and are disjoint, thus:

$$a_n = 4a_{n-1} + 4a_{n-2} \text{ for all } n \geq 3 \quad (a_n \text{ is defined for } n \geq 1, \text{ so } n-2 \geq 1 \text{ } n \geq 3)$$

b) Compute  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4$  and  $a_5$ .

$$a_1: 1 \text{ letter words with no consecutive A's} \Rightarrow a_1 = 5$$

$$a_2 = 5 \cdot 5 - 1 = 24 \quad (\text{All 2 letter words minus 1 for excluding AA})$$

$$a_3 = 4a_2 + 4a_1 = 4 \cdot 24 + 4 \cdot 5 = 116$$

$$a_4 = 4a_3 + 4a_2 = 4 \cdot 116 + 4 \cdot 24 = 464 + 96 = 560$$

$$a_5 = 4a_4 + 4a_3 = 4 \cdot 560 + 4 \cdot 116 = 2240 + 464 = 2704$$

3. (10+10 pts.) a) A monkey types up a random word of length 3 on a keyboard with 26 letters.

Find the probability that the word contains an odd number of vowels (Vowels are A, E, I, O and U).

Number of 3 letter words with 1 vowel:  $\binom{3}{1} \binom{5}{1} \cdot 21 \cdot 21 = 15 \cdot 441 = 6615$

Probability is  $\frac{6615 + 125}{26^3} = \frac{6740}{26^3}$

all 3 letter words

3.b) Another monkey picks randomly 3 letters from a box containing the 26 letters, without replacement (i.e. once a letter is picked, it is not returned into the box). Find the probability that these letters contain an even number (including 0) of vowels. (e.g. {A, B, E} is such a selection).

Number of ways of choosing 3 letters including no vowels:  $\binom{21}{3} = \frac{21 \cdot 20 \cdot 19}{7 \cdot 2} = 7 \cdot 10 \cdot 19 = 1330$

$$\text{Probability} = \frac{1330 + 210}{\binom{26}{3}} = \frac{1540 \cdot 3 \cdot 2}{26 \cdot 25 \cdot 24} = \frac{1540}{2600} = \frac{77}{130}$$

2 vowels:  $\binom{5}{2} \binom{21}{1} = \frac{5 \cdot 4}{2} \cdot 21 = 210$

4. (10+10 pts.) Suppose that a box contains 3 white and 1 black balls, and a second box contains 2 white and 3 black balls. Suppose also that a person chooses at random one of the boxes, then chooses one of the balls in it.

a) Find the probability that the chosen ball is black.

Probability of choosing 1st box = Probability of choosing the second box =  $\frac{1}{2}$

Probability of choosing a black ball from box 1 is  $\frac{1}{3+1} = \frac{1}{4}$

Probability of choosing a black ball from 2nd box is  $\frac{3}{2+3} = \frac{3}{5}$

$$\text{Answer: } \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{5} = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{10} = \frac{17}{40}$$

Probability that 1st box is chosen and a black ball is chosen from it.

Probability that 2nd box is chosen and a black ball is chosen from it.

b) Suppose that the chosen ball turned out to be black. Find the probability that this black ball has been selected from the first box.

Let E be the event that chosen ball is black, and F be the event that the first box has been chosen in the procedure.

$$P(E) = \frac{17}{40} \text{ from part a. } P(F) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(E \cap F) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$P(F|E) = \frac{P(E \cap F)}{P(E)} = \frac{\frac{1}{8}}{\frac{17}{40}} = \frac{5}{17}$$

Probability that 1st box has been chosen in the procedure given that the chosen ball is black (conditional probability)

5. (10+10 pts.) A die is biased such that its outcomes have the following probabilities:

$$P(1) = P(2) = P(4) = P(5) = P(6), \text{ and } P(3) = \frac{1}{4}.$$

a) Suppose that this biased die is rolled six times consecutively. What is the probability that in exactly four of these six rolls an even number comes up?

$$P(1) + P(2) + P(3) + P(4) + P(5) + P(6) = 1 \Rightarrow 5 \cdot P(1) + \frac{1}{4} = 1 \Rightarrow P(1) = 3/20$$

Let  $p$  = Probability of getting an even number when the die is rolled once,  
 " " " " " " " "

$$p = P(2) + P(4) + P(6) = 3 \frac{3}{20} = 9/20, q = 1 - p = \frac{11}{20} \quad (q = P(1) + P(3) + P(5))$$

6 rolls, results can be seen as 6 letter strings consisting of E or O (E for even, O for odd). The number of such strings with 4 E's and 2 O's is  $\binom{6}{4}$ .

Having 1 such result has probability  $p^4 \cdot q^2 = \left(\frac{9}{20}\right)^4 \cdot \left(\frac{11}{20}\right)^2$

Since there are  $\binom{6}{4} = 15$  distinct outcomes with 4 even and 2 odd numbers,

$$\text{Answer} = \binom{6}{4} \cdot \left(\frac{9}{20}\right)^4 \cdot \left(\frac{11}{20}\right)^2 = \frac{15 \cdot 81 \cdot 81 \cdot 121}{64 \cdot 10^6}$$

If these 2 dice are rolled once

b) Suppose that together with this biased die a second die, which is fair, is also rolled. What is the probability that the two numbers that come up are 3 and 6? (Outcome is 3, and the other is 6).

case 1 biased die's outcome is 3, fair die's outcome is 6

Probability of case 1 is  $P(3) \cdot \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{24}$

Case 2, Biased die's outcome is 6, fair die's outcome is 3

Probability of case 2 is  $P(6) \cdot \frac{1}{6} = \frac{3}{20} \cdot \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{40}$

Answer:  $\frac{1}{24} + \frac{1}{40} = \frac{5+3}{120} = \frac{8}{120} = \frac{1}{15}$