

DIPLOMA PROBLEMS

Given n people, what is the probability that your diploma's number is within 1 of the correct value? So if you are number 5, get either 4, 5 or 6; if there are n people we say 1 and n are adjacent. Answer is $3/n$ if $n \geq 3$.

Next: what is the expected number of people to get a diploma within 1 of theirs?

Linearity of expectation:

Let X_i be 1 if person i gets a diploma within 1 of theirs, and 0 else.

If X is the number of people with a diploma within 3, then $X = X_1 + \dots + X_n$. So

So $E[X] = \sum E[X_i]$ and $E[X_i] = 1 * 3/n + 0 * (n-3)/n = 3/n$

SO $E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n 3/n = 3$

```
In[54]:= thregrad[printcheck_, numiter_, n_] :=  
Module[{},  
  count = 0;  
  list = {};  
  For[j = 1, j ≤ n,  
    j++, list = AppendTo[list, j]];  
  (* creates list of numbers *)
```

```

For[i = 1, i ≤ numiter, i++,
{
  newlist = RandomSample[list, n];
  If[i == 1 && printcheck == 1,
    Print[list, " ", newlist]];
  currentcorrect = 0; (* initialize to zero,
  no one is within 1 yet *)
  For[d = 1, d ≤ n, d++,
    If[Abs[newlist[[d]] - d] ≤ 1,
      currentcorrect = currentcorrect + 1]];
  (* d statement ends *)
  (* have to handle wrap-around *)
  If[newlist[[1]] == n,
    currentcorrect = currentcorrect + 1];
  If[newlist[[n]] == 1,
    currentcorrect = currentcorrect + 1];
  If[i == 1 && printcheck == 1,
    Print["Number of matches is ",
      currentcorrect]];
  count = count + currentcorrect;
}]; (* end of i loop *)
Print[
  "The average number observed that are within
  1 is ", 1.00 count / numiter];
] (* end of module *)

```

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In[57]:= Timing[threegrad[0, 100000, 10]]
```

The average number observed
that are within 1 is 2.99995

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Out[57]:= {2.57402, Null}
```

Now consider a success if diploma is the same parity as yours; even – even or odd – odd; not even – odd or odd – even. Now what is the expected number of successes?

Recursion : if $n = 1$ expected number of successes is 1

If $n = 2$ expected number of successes is $1 = 2 * 1/2 + 0 * 1/2$

If $n = 3$: $123 = 132 = 213 = 231 = 312 = 321$ $(3 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 3) / 6 = 10 / 6 = 5 / 3$

$a(2n) = 1/2 (1 + a(2n - 1)) + 1/2 (0 + a(2n - 2))$

$a(2n + 1) = ???$

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In[72]:=
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```
paritygrad[printcheck_, numiter_, n_] :=
Module[{},
  count = 0;
  list = {};
  For[j = 1, j ≤ n, j++,
```

```

list = AppendTo[list, Mod[j, 2]];
(* creates list of numbers *)
For[i = 1, i ≤ numiter, i++,
{
newlist = RandomSample[list, n];
If[i == 1 && printcheck == 1,
Print[list, " ", newlist]];
currentcorrect = 0; (* initialize to zero,
no one is within 1 yet *)
For[d = 1, d ≤ n, d++,
If[newlist[[d]] == Mod[d, 2],
currentcorrect = currentcorrect + 1]];
(* d statement ends *)
If[i == 1 && printcheck == 1,
Print["Number of matches is ",
currentcorrect]];
count = count + currentcorrect;
}]]; (* end of i loop *)
Print[
"The average number of same parity is ",
1.00 count / numiter];
] (* end of module *)

```

```
In[74]:= Timing[paritygrad[1, 10000, 10]]
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```
{1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0} {1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1}
```

Number of matches is 6

The average number of same parity is 4.9782

```
Out[74]= {0.218401, Null}
```