

STATISTICS 251 SECTION 2 (LALLEY)
HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT 1
DUE FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 29

Problem 1. An urn contains 8 red balls, 10 white balls, and 12 blue balls, all identical except for color. If 3 balls are selected at random from the urn *without replacement*, what is the probability that

- (a) all 3 balls are of the same color?
- (b) no two balls in the sample have the same color?

Problem 2. Cards are dealt one at a time (without replacement) from a well-shuffled deck of 52 cards until the first heart ♡ appears.

- (A) What is the probability that the first heart appears on the 4th card?
- (B) What is the probability that 5 or fewer cards are drawn?
- (C) What is the probability that no spades ♠ are drawn?

Problem 3. Urn 1 contains 10 red balls and 10 black balls. Urn 2 contains 10 red balls and 20 black balls. A fair coin is tossed. If it comes up Heads, then 2 balls are drawn at random from Urn 1, without replacement. If the coin comes up Tails then 2 balls are drawn at random from Urn 2, without replacement.

- (A) Find an appropriate probability space to describe this experiment.
- (B) Calculate the probability that of the two balls selected, one will be red, and the other black.

Problem 4. A ballroom dancing class has 20 men and 24 women. Five pairs are to be chosen, each consisting of one man and one women¹ (no individual can be included in more than one pair, as this would make the dancing too complicated). How many different ways can the 5 pairs be chosen?

Challenge Problem. (*Optional*) How many perfect riffle shuffles of a deck with $2N$ cards are needed to return it to its original configuration? HINT: Label the cards $0, 1, 2, \dots, 2N - 1$ from top to bottom. With each perfect shuffle, the top card 0 and the bottom card $2N - 1$ remain fixed. Show that the other cards $k = 1, 2, \dots, 2N - 2$ move according to the rule

$$k \mapsto 2k \pmod{2N - 1}.$$

¹This restriction is dictated by the rules of competitive ballroom dancing, and is not meant to imply that other sorts of pairing might not lead to interesting dancing.