

# $\mu$ - Games

## Mathematics Utrecht

Utrecht University

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# Problem 1: Bread Mania

- ▶ Start by finding a triangulation (or planar surface graph) of a sphere and torus.
- ▶ Inductively construct other surfaces by pasting torus onto a graph.
- ▶ Notice a pattern:  $\chi(S) = 2 - 2g$ , where  $g$  is the number of holes.



$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{\oplus} &= F_1 + F_2 - 2 \\
 E_{\oplus} &= E_1 + E_2 - 3 \\
 V_{\oplus} &= V_1 + V_2 - 3
 \end{aligned}
 \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \chi(X_1 \oplus X_2) = \chi(X_1) \\ + \chi(X_2) - 2 \end{array}$$

## Problem 2: Weierstrass Fixed Point

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a^n \cos(b^n \pi x)$$

- ▶ Uniform convergence, so  $f$  is continuous.
- ▶ When computing  $f$  numerically, ensure left over sum  $\sum a^n < \epsilon$ .

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- ▶ Reformulate the problem:  $g(x) = f(x) - x = 0$ .
- ▶  $g(0) = f(0) > 0$  and  $g(\pi) = f(\pi) - \pi < 0$ .
- ▶ Start with  $a = 0$  and  $b = \pi$ .
- ▶ IVT states  $g$  has a zero somewhere between  $a$  and  $b$ .

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- ▶ Binary search!
- ▶ Inductively:  $c = \frac{a+b}{2}$
- ▶ If  $|g(c)| < \epsilon$ , we are done.
- ▶ If  $g(c) > 0$ , set  $a = c$ .
- ▶ If  $g(c) < 0$ , set  $b = c$ .
- ▶ Shape of  $f$  ensures convergence.

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## Exercise 3:

The first pirate takes:  $m \cdot \frac{p}{q}$ .

Then the second pirate takes  $(m - m \cdot \frac{p}{q}) \cdot \frac{p}{q}$ .

Then what is left is  $m - m \cdot \frac{p}{q} - (m - m \cdot \frac{p}{q}) \cdot \frac{p}{q} = m(1 - \frac{p}{q})^2$ .

The  $i$ -th time a pirate gets money, he/she will get  $(m - (1 - \frac{p}{q})^{i-1}) \frac{p}{q}$ . The  $j$ -th pirate (call the first pirate pirate 0) will get:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (m(1 - \frac{p}{q})^{n \cdot i + j}) \frac{p}{q}$$

This is a geometric series, so it equals

$$\frac{\frac{mp}{q} \cdot (1 - \frac{p}{q})^j}{1 - (1 - \frac{p}{q})^n}.$$

We can rewrite:

$$\frac{mp(q - p)^{n-(j+1)}}{q^n - (q - p)^n}$$

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## Problem 4: Sturm-Liouville

$$L = \frac{d}{dx} \left( (1-x)^2 \frac{d}{dx} \right)$$

- ▶ The eigenfunctions are polynomials of different degrees i.e.  $p_n$ .
- ▶ Use  $x^n$  to find eigenvalue of  $p_n$ .

$$Lx^n = -n(n+1)x^n + n(n-1)x^{n-2}$$

- ▶ So, we must have  $Lp_n = -n(n+1)p_n$ .
- ▶ Comparing the  $x^d$  terms on both sides, we see

$$-d(d+1)a_d + (d+2)(d+1)a_{d+2} = -n(n-1)a_d$$

- ▶ Thus, we get  $a_d = \frac{(d+2)(d+1)}{d(d+1)-n(n-1)} a_{d+2}$

## Exercise 5: Be Squareful

- Find two squareful numbers  $< 2 \cdot 10^6$  that differ by  $k$ .
- Brute forcing all  $a < 2 \cdot 10^6$  does not work; testing for squarefulness is slow.
- Solving a Pell-equation also does not work; note that the given Pell equation does not find all pairs of consecutive squareful numbers.

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## Exercise 5: Be Squareful

- ▶ Instead: Iteratively construct squareful numbers using a priority queue.
- ▶ Pushing to an array does not work as we need the *smallest* solution.
- ▶ For each element  $n$ , add  $pn$  if  $p \mid n$  and  $p^2n$  if  $p \nmid n$ .
- ▶ From unique factorization, we get each squareful number exactly once.
- ▶ Keep track of squareful numbers and for each  $n$ , check if  $n - k$  was squareful.
- ▶ Many other potential solutions, such as sieving all squareful numbers  $< \cdot 10^6$  or writing each squareful number as  $a^2b^3$  and using this decomposition in a priority queue.
- ▶ Cheese: Precomputing all squareful numbers locally and storing them in an array.

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## Exercise 6: Mischievous Moles

- ▶ Find the expected time  $T$  before some random process returns to its initial state.
- ▶ Finding the pattern is hard. Either do a lot of small cases (by programming a simulation), or
- ▶ Use theory on Markov chains.

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- ▶ Define the problem as a Markov chain.
- ▶ States are all possible carrot permutations.
- ▶ Transitions are all possible carrot switches by a mole.
- ▶ A stationary distribution is  $\pi = (\frac{1}{|S|}, \frac{1}{|S|}, \dots, \frac{1}{|S|})$ .

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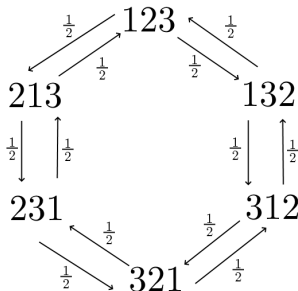


Figure: Example for tunnels (1, 2) and (2, 3).

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- ▶ A stationary distribution is  $\pi = (\frac{1}{|S|}, \frac{1}{|S|}, \dots, \frac{1}{|S|})$ .
- ▶ Theorem: Expected return time to  $x$  is given by  $\frac{1}{\pi_x} = |S|$ .
- ▶ Only have to find  $|S|$ . This is the total number of possible carrot permutations that the moles can create.
- ▶ It could be that not all permutations are possible, for instance if we have tunnels  $(1, 2)$  and  $(3, 4)$ .
- ▶ All different connected components are independent. If we have connected components of sizes  $C_1, \dots, C_k$ , we have  $|S| = C_1! \cdots C_k!$ .
- ▶ Find connected components with your favorite algorithm.

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