

# Math 170A-5 Yeliussizov. Midterm 1

Exam time: 4:00-4:50 PM, Jan 31, 2018

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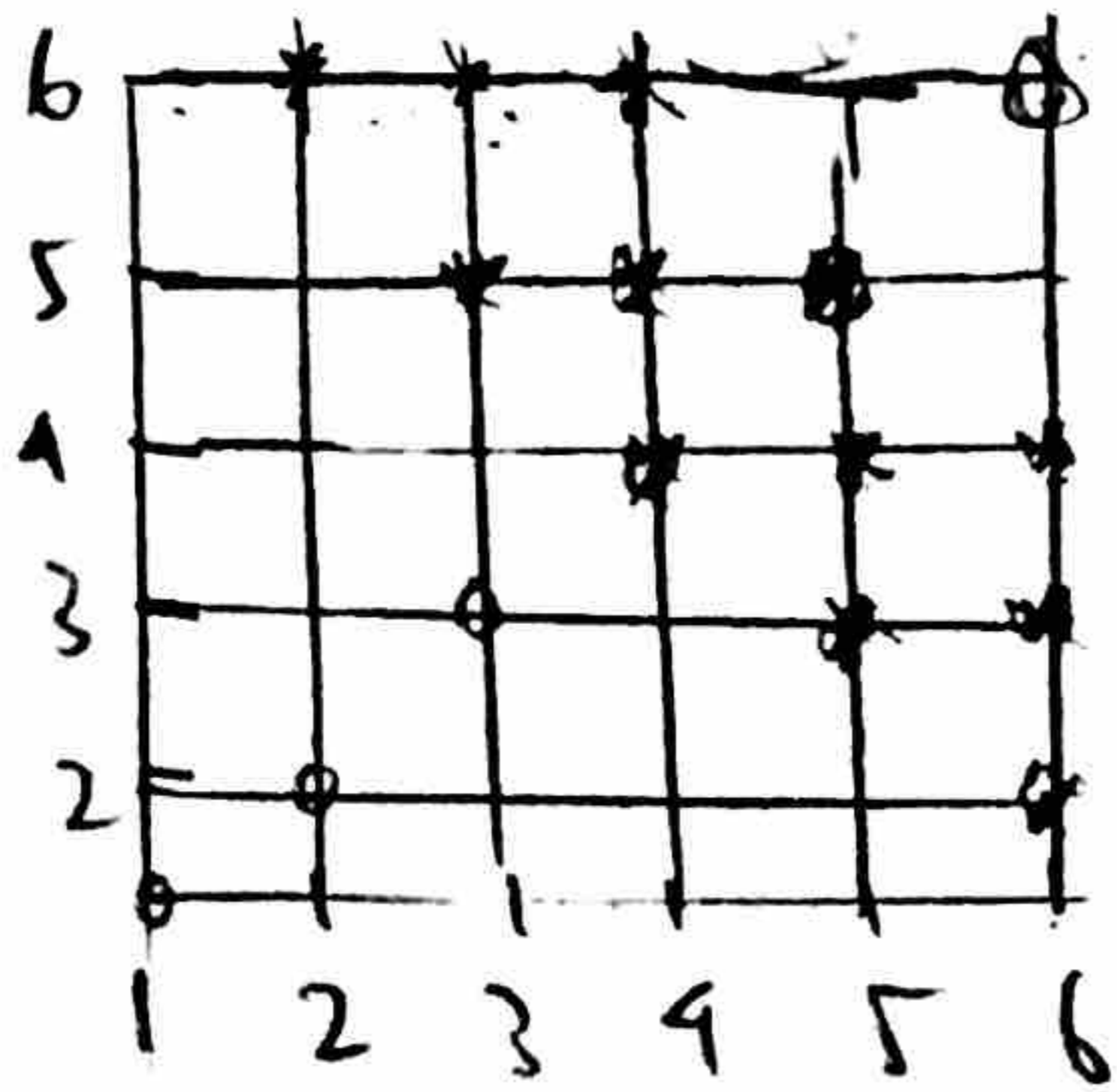
There are 5 problems.  
No books, notes, calculators, phones, conversations, etc.  
Turn off your cell phones.

P 1 (8)	P 2 (8)	P 3 (8)	P 4 (8)	P 5 (8)	Total (40 pt)
8	8	8	8	6	38

Problem 1. (8 points) Roll two fair six-sided dice.

- (a) (4 points) Find the probability that both outcomes are equal or their sum is at least 8 and at most 10.  
 (b) (4 points) Find the probability of the same event as in (a) given that at least one outcome is 6.

a)



$$P(\text{equal}) = \frac{6}{36}$$

$$P(\text{at least 8 and at most 10}) = \frac{12}{36}$$

$$P(\text{equal} \cap \text{at least 8 and at most 10}) = \frac{2}{36}$$

4

$$P(\text{equal} \cup \text{sum at least 8 and at most 10}) = P(\text{equal}) + P(\text{at least 8 and at most 10}) - P(\text{equal} \cap \text{at least 8 and at most 10})$$

$$= \frac{6}{36} + \frac{12}{36} - \frac{2}{36} = \frac{16}{36} = \frac{4}{9}$$

b)

E = equal

A = at least 8 and at most 10

B = P(E ∪ A)

C = at least one outcome is 6

we want  $P(B|C) = \frac{P(B \cap C)}{P(C)}$   $P(B \cap C) = \frac{7}{36}$   
 $P(C) = \frac{11}{36}$

4

$$P(B|C) = \frac{7/36}{11/36} = \frac{7}{11}$$

**Problem 2.** (8 points) There are  $m$  boxes and  $n$  of them contain a prize, where  $3 < n \leq m$ . You randomly choose three boxes.

(a) (4 points) Find the probability that each of the three boxes contains a prize.

(b) (4 points) Find the probability that at least one of them contains a prize.

a)

$$\text{denominator} = \binom{m}{3} = \frac{\binom{n}{3}}{\binom{m}{3}}$$

(choosing 3 boxes from all boxes)

numerator =  $\binom{n}{3}$

4

choosing 3 boxes w/ prizes from all prizes w/ prizes

b)  $A$  = at least one contains prize

$A^c$  = none contain prize

$$P(A^c) = \frac{\binom{m-n}{3}}{\binom{m}{3}}$$

← choose 3 from boxes that do not contain a prize

$$P(A) = 1 - P(A^c)$$

4

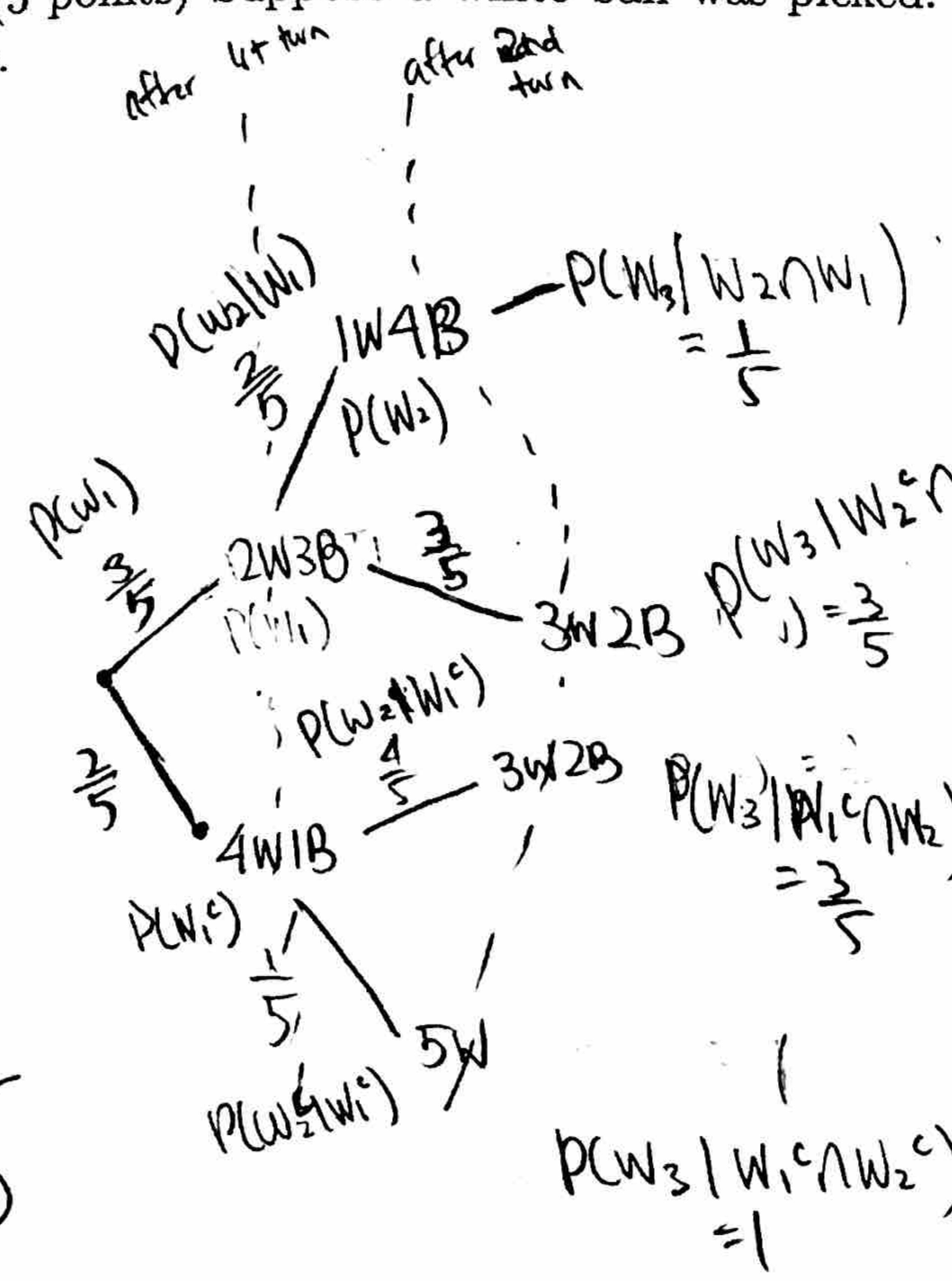
$$= 1 - \frac{\binom{m-n}{3}}{\binom{m}{3}}$$

**Problem 3.** (8 points) Consider a box with 3 white and 2 black balls. You repeat the following twice: take a random ball from the box and replace it by a ball of opposite color (i.e., exchange randomly chosen white to black, or black to white). After these exchanges, you choose a ball from the box.

- (a) (5 points) Find the probability that it is a white ball.  
 (b) (3 points) Suppose a white ball was picked. Find the probability that the box contains only white balls.

Let  $P(W_i)$  be the probability of picking white for the  $i$ th turn where each turn is taking a random box and replacing it w/ ball of opposite color.

a)



From tree and total prob,

$$P(W_3) = P(W_2)P(W_3|W_2) + P(W_2^c)P(W_3|W_2^c)$$

$$P(W_2) = P(W_1)P(W_2|W_1) + P(W_1^c)P(W_2|W_1^c)$$

$$P(W_2^c) = P(W_1)P(W_2^c|W_1) + P(W_1^c)P(W_2^c|W_1^c)$$

$$P(W_1) = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$P(W_1^c) = \frac{2}{5}$$

5

$$P(W_3) = \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{5} + \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{3}{5} + \frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{4}{5} \cdot \frac{3}{5} + \frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{5} \cdot 1$$

$$= \frac{6}{125} + \frac{27}{125} + \frac{24}{125} + \frac{2}{125} = \frac{65 + 27 + 24 + 10}{125} = \frac{67}{125}$$

b)

$$P(5W|W_3) = \frac{P(W_3|5W)P(5W)}{P(W_3)} = \frac{1 \cdot (\frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{5})}{\frac{67}{125}} = \frac{2/25}{67/125} = \frac{10}{67}$$

3

Problem 4. (8 points)

(a) (2 points) Write down the definition of independence of three events.

(b) (6 points) Suppose that  $A, B, C$  are independent events. Show that  $A \cup B$  and  $C$  are independent as well.

a) 3 events  $A, B, C$  are independent if all of the following are satisfied

1)  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$  3)  $P(B \cap C) = P(B)P(C)$

2)  $P(A \cap C) = P(A)P(C)$  4)  $P(A \cap B \cap C) = P(A)P(B)P(C)$

b)  $A \cup B$  and  $C$  are independent if

$$P((A \cup B) \cap C) = P(A \cup B)P(C)$$

RHS:  $P((A \cup B) \cap C) = P((A \cap C) \cup (B \cap C))$

from property  
that

$P(X \cup Y) = P(X) + P(Y) - P(X \cap Y) \rightarrow = P(A \cap C) + P(B \cap C) - P((A \cap C) \cap (B \cap C))$

from above:  
if  $A, B, C$   
independent

$$= P(A \cap C) + P(B \cap C) - P(A \cap B \cap C)$$

$$= P(A)P(C) + P(B)P(C) - P(A)P(B)P(C)$$

$$= P(C)(P(A) + P(B) - P(A)P(B))$$

if independent =  $P(A \cap B)$

$$= P(C)(P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B))$$

$$= P(C)P(A \cup B)$$

RHS = LHS

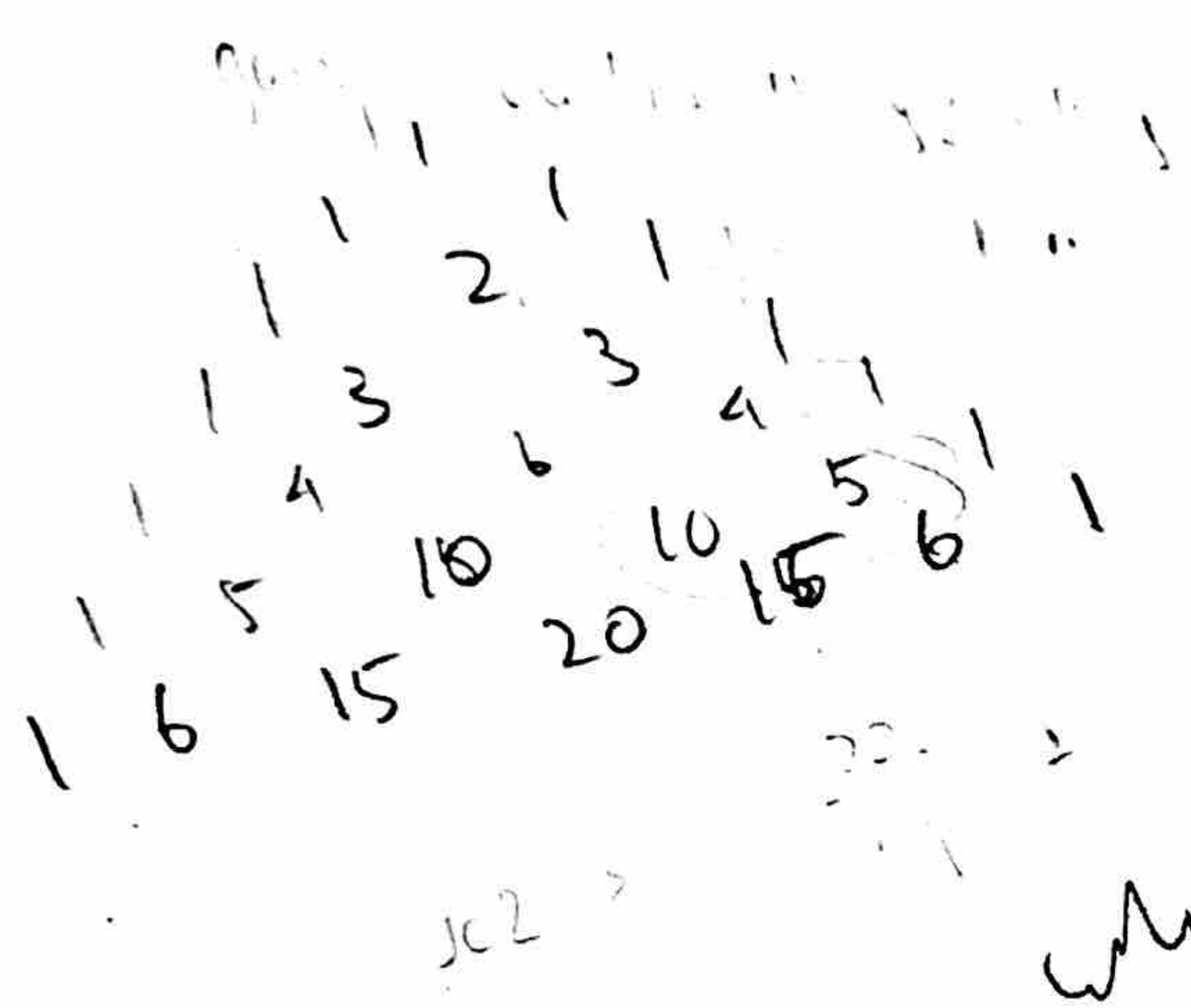
$\therefore A \cup B$  and  $C$  are independent if  $A, B, C$  are independent



Problem 5. (8 points) Toss a fair coin  $n$  times. What is the probability that the number of heads is larger than the number of tails?

let  $h$  = number of heads  
 let  $t$  = number of tails

$$p(h > t) = p(h > \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor)$$



all possibilities where greater than  $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$  heads

$$= \sum_{k=\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1}^n \binom{n}{k} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-k}$$

$$= \sum_{k=\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1}^n \binom{n}{k} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

if  $n$  = odd =  $\frac{1}{2}$   
 if  $n$  = even =  $\frac{\sum_{k=\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1}^n \binom{n}{k}}{2^n}$

Handwritten calculations for  $n=5$  and  $n=6$  showing binomial coefficients and their sums:

- For  $n=5$ :  $\binom{5}{3} + \binom{5}{4} = \frac{5!}{3!2!} + \frac{5!}{4!1!} = \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3!}{3! \cdot 2} + \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3!}{4 \cdot 1} = \frac{5 \cdot 4}{2} + \frac{5 \cdot 4}{1} = 10 + 20 = 30$ . Then  $\frac{30}{2^5} = \frac{30}{32} = \frac{15}{16}$ .
- For  $n=6$ :  $\binom{6}{4} + \binom{6}{5} = \frac{6!}{4!2!} + \frac{6!}{5!1!} = \frac{6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4!}{4! \cdot 2} + \frac{6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4!}{5 \cdot 1} = \frac{6 \cdot 5}{2} + \frac{6 \cdot 5}{1} = 15 + 30 = 45$ . Then  $\frac{45}{2^6} = \frac{45}{64}$ .