

Choose and answer two questions from each of the sections and completely solve the two extra problems to increase your grade on MT1 to a 2.7. So you should turn in **eight** total answers.

Section 1.5 24, 30, 36, 51

Section 2.5 9, 12, 34, 45

Section 3.5 8, 12, 32

1. A bacteria colony is multiplying. It starts with a single bacterium. Each bacterium takes $\text{Ber}(p)$ minutes with $p = 1/30^2$ to split into three (yes, usually it takes 0 minutes). The children then take an independent $\text{Ber}(p)$ minutes to split in three and so on.

A biologist is interested in studying all of the bacteria in G_n , the n th generation of this colony (i.e. the bacteria formed after n splits). So there are 3^n of them, each with an ancestry of n splits back to the original.

- Let T_1, \dots, T_{3^n} be the time it took for each bacterium in G_n to be born starting from the first bacterium. Explain why each T_i is a $\text{Bin}(n, p)$ random variable.
 - Are the T_i independent? Briefly explain.
 - Let $E_{i,n,k}$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, 3^n$ be the event that the i th bacteria from G_n took k minutes to be born. What is $P(E_{i,n,k})$?
 - Let $E_{n,k}$ be the event that there exists a bacterium from G_n that is k minutes old. Use a union bound to upper bound $P(E_{n,k})$.
 - Use the bound $C_{n,k} \leq 2^n$ and $1 - p \leq 1$ to give an upper bound on $P(E_{n,k})$ that only involves p^k .
 - Let E_n be the event that there exists a bacterium from G_n that is at least $n/2$ minutes old. Use the previous part and the bound $k \geq n/2$ and $n/2 \leq n$ to show that $P(E_n) \leq n(6\sqrt{p})^n$.
 - Let E be the event that there exists an n such that a bacterium from G_n is at least $n/2$ minutes old. Write E in terms of the E_n and apply a union bound to upper bound $P(E)$. Simplify by using the formula $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} na^n = \frac{a}{(1-a)^2}$.
2. There are one hundred 20, 30, and 40 year olds in a study on car accidents. So, three hundred people in total. The probability, p_x , that an x -year old gets in an accident the next year are: $p_{20} = 5/1000$, $p_{30} = 3/1000$ and $p_{40} = 2/1000$.
- Write the mean of a Poisson random variable that predicts the total number of car accidents for these 300 people over the next year. Simplify as much as you can.
 - Use Poisson approximation to estimate the probability there is at least one accident in the next year.
 - A car accident is fatal with probability 10^{-2} . Use Poisson thinning and Poisson approximation to estimate the probability that no one in the study is in a fatal car accident.