

Participation 1

Due Thursday, June 12, at 9 AM (GMT-7)

CSc 345 – Summer 2014

Instructor: Qiyam Tung

Instructions

1. This is an individual assignment. You must do your own work.
2. If you are having difficulty and need to ask a question you can:
 - (a) Ask questions in class.
 - (b) Stop by my office hours (or make an appointment).
 - (c) Post a question on Piazza.
 - (d) Post a private question on Piazza if the question is too specific.
3. Show all work. I will be grading on whether you put effort into this problem (i.e. participation) and not correctness. Showing your work helps me identify your thought process and helps me with grading.
4. You may write your solutions by hand, or you may type them using any appropriate program such as Microsoft Word, OpenOffice Writer, L^AT_EX, etc. . . . However, the final copy should be in PDF form and formatted so that it is legible.
5. If the listed problem is only a number, refer to the online book for the description of the problem (starting at page 46).

Blue Eyes Problem (5 points)

This problem was copied from XKCD

A group of people with assorted eye colors live on an island. They are all perfect logicians – if a conclusion can be logically deduced, they will do it instantly. No one knows the color of their eyes. Every night at midnight, a ferry stops at the island. Any islanders who have figured out the color of their own eyes then leave the island, and the rest stay. Everyone can see everyone else at all times and keeps a count of the number of people they see with each eye color (excluding themselves), but they cannot otherwise communicate. Everyone on the island knows all the rules in this paragraph.

On this island there are 100 blue-eyed people, 100 brown-eyed people, and the Guru (she happens to have green eyes). So any given blue-eyed person can see 100 people with brown eyes and 99 people with blue eyes (and one with green), but that does not tell him his own eye color; as far as he knows the totals could be 101 brown and 99 blue. Or 100 brown, 99 blue, and he could have red eyes.

The Guru is allowed to speak once (let's say at noon), on one day in all their endless years on the island. Standing before the islanders, she says the following:

“I can see someone who has blue eyes.”

Who leaves the island, and on what night?

Clarifications

There are no mirrors or reflecting surfaces, nothing dumb. It is not a trick question, and the answer is logical. It doesn't depend on tricky wording or anyone lying or guessing, and it doesn't involve people doing something silly like creating a sign language or doing genetics. The Guru is not making eye contact with anyone in particular; she's simply saying “I count at least one blue-eyed person on this island who isn't me.”

And lastly, the answer is not “no one leaves.”

What to turn in

Your response should answer the question **Who leaves the island, and on what night?** AND you should give your reasoning. That is, prove that your answer is correct.