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Statistics & Probability Letters



Volume 11, Issue 3, March
1991, Pages 225-231

On the 'problème des ménages' from a probabilistic viewpoint

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Available online 26 March 2002

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doi:10.1016/0167-7152(91)90147-J

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Abstract

In this paper a straightforward solution of the classical ménage problem is given. Explicit expressions for the distribution and moments of the number of couples sitting next to each other are obtained.

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Approximations of the distribution are discussed.

MSC

Primary 60C05; Secondary 05A15

Keywords

Ménage problem; Poisson approximation; binomial approximation; random permutations

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