

# Homework 1: Combinations

Konstantin Miagkov

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**Problem 1.**

If  $n \geq 2$ , show that  $\binom{n}{2}$  is even if and only if  $n$  has remainder 0 or 1 when divided by 4.

**Problem 2.**

Suppose you have  $m$  indistinguishable white balls and  $n$  indistinguishable black balls, and  $m > n$ . How many ways are there to arrange the balls so that no two black balls are next to each other? Your answer may have the form  $\binom{u}{v}$  where  $u$  and  $v$  are some expressions of  $n$  and  $m$ .