

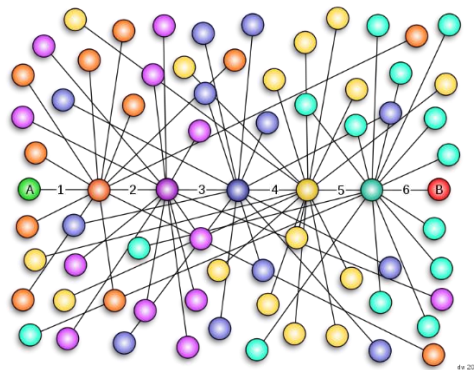
Week #3 Fall 2024



Problem of the Week

Six degrees of separation is the idea that everyone is six or fewer steps away from any other person in the world, so that a chain of "a friend of a friend" statements can be made to connect any two people in a maximum of six steps. For example: if my friend has a friend (who is not my friend), who is friends with George Ezra, then George Ezra is 3 steps away from me.

If you have two friends who are not friends with each other; one of them is 5 steps away from Tarik Skubal and the other is only 4 steps away from Tarik Skubal, how many steps are you away from Tarik Skubal?



Undergraduates may submit solutions to the Mathematics Department office, 1150 FAB **or** by email to mathpow@wayne.edu by noon 10/8/2024. Include your name, ID number, and whether you have completed Math 2030 (or higher). For more information go to <https://clas.wayne.edu/math>. Solutions will be posted online and throughout the math department after the deadline.