



# Daniel Litt's probability puzzle

MAURA B. PATERSON AND DOUGLAS R. STINSON

**Abstract.** In this expository note, we discuss a “balls-and-urns” probability puzzle posed by Daniel Litt.

MAURA B. PATERSON  
SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES, BIRKBECK,  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, MALET ST, LONDON WC1E 7HX, UK  
m.paterson@bbk.ac.uk

DOUGLAS R. STINSON\*  
DAVID R. CHERITON SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO  
WATERLOO ON, N2L 3G1, CANADA  
dstinson@uwaterloo.

---

\* Corresponding author

Received: 12 September 2024  
Accepted: 17 January 2025