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**Aaron Abrams\*** ([abrams.aaron@gmail.com](mailto:abrams.aaron@gmail.com)), Mathematics Department, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA 24450. *Some germ-maximal 1-dimensional discrete packings*. Preliminary report.

We investigate some packing problems and distance-avoiding problems in the natural numbers. For a finite set  $D \subset \mathbf{N}$  (of distances), a  $D$ -avoiding set is a set  $S \subseteq \mathbf{N}$  such that if  $j, k \in S$  then  $j - k \notin D$ . J. Propp has defined a partial order on subsets of natural numbers, the *germ order*, that refines both cardinality (for finite sets) and density (in the usual sense); Propp showed that if there exists a germ-maximal  $D$ -avoiding set  $S$ , then  $S$  must be eventually periodic.

We give a collection of  $D$ 's for which there is a unique germ-maximal  $S$  which in addition is periodic (including e.g. any  $D$  with  $|D| = 2$ ). We also give examples of  $D$  for which there is a unique germ-maximal  $S$  which is not periodic; local improvements near the boundary cause only eventual periodicity. It is not known whether every  $D$  has a germ-maximal  $S$ . (Received February 20, 2018)