CSE 312 Foundations II

2. Counting

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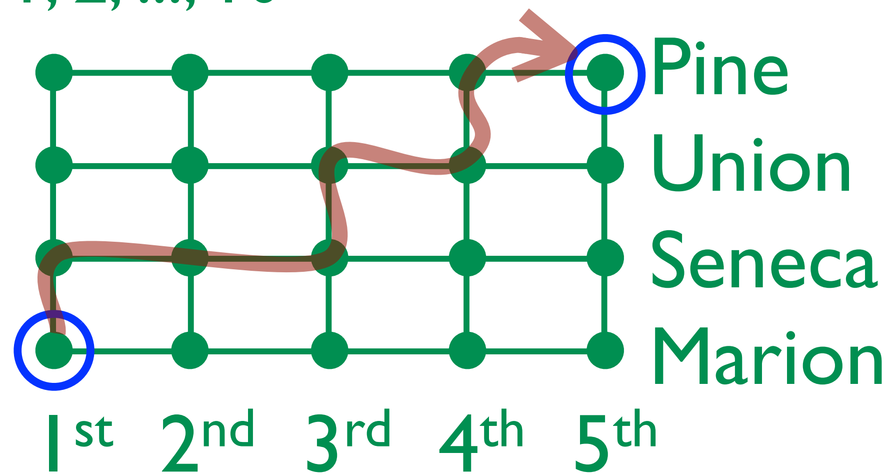
How many ways are there to do X?

E.g., X = "choose an integer 1, 2, ..., 10"

E.g., X = "Walk from 1st & Marion to 5th & Pine, going only North or East at each intersection."



The Point:

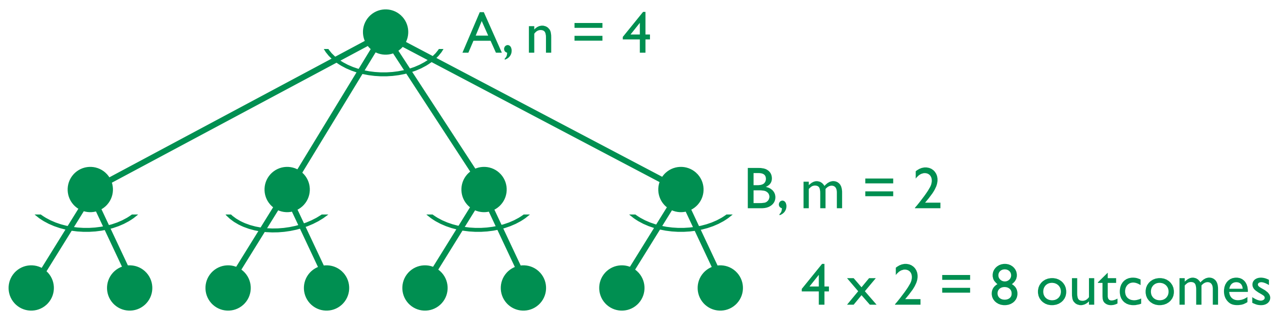
Counting gets hard when numbers are large, implicit and/or constraints are complex.

Systematic approaches help.

If there are

n outcomes for some event A,
sequentially followed by *m* outcomes for event B,

then there are $n \cdot m$ outcomes overall.



aka "The Product Rule"
Easily generalized to more events

Q. How many n-bit numbers are there?

A. 1^{st} bit 0 or 1, then 2^{nd} bit 0 or 1, then …

$$\overbrace{2 \cdot 2 \cdot \ldots \cdot 2}^{n} = 2^n$$

Q. How many subsets of a set of size n are there?

A. 1^{st} member in or out; 2^{nd} member in or out,… $\Rightarrow 2^n$

Tip: Visualize an order in which decisions are being made

Q. How many 4-character passwords are there, if each character must be one of a, b, ..., z, 0, 1, ..., 9 ?

A. $36 \cdot 36 \cdot 36 \cdot 36 = 1{,}679{,}616 \approx 1.7$ million

Q. Ditto, but no character may be repeated?

A. $36 \cdot 35 \cdot 34 \cdot 33 = 1{,}413{,}720 \approx 1.4$ million

(And a non-mathematical question: why do security experts generally prefer schemes such as the second, even though it offers fewer choices?)

Q. How many arrangements of 1, 2, 3 are possible (each used once, no repeat, order matters)?

1 2 3	2 1 3	3 1 2
1 3 2	2 3 1	3 2 1

A. 3 • 2 • 1 = 6

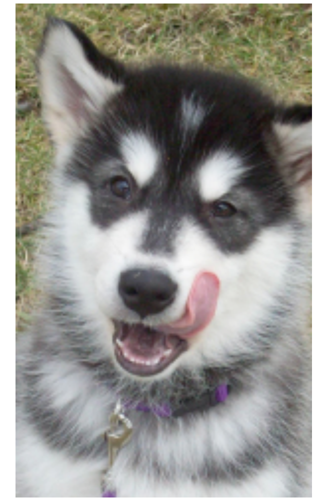
Q. More generally: How many arrangements of n distinct items are possible?

n	choices for 1st
(n-1)	choices for 2nd
(n-2)	choices for 3rd
...	...
1	choices for last

A. $\boxed{n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdot \ldots \cdot 1 = n! \quad \text{(n factorial)}}$

Q. How many permutations of DAWGY are there?

A. $5! = 120$



Q. How many of DAGGY ?

A. $5!/2! = 60$

$DAG_1G_2Y = DAG_2G_1Y$
$ADG_1YG_2 = ADG_2YG_1$
...

Q. How many of GODOGGY ?

A. $$\frac{7!}{3!2!1!1!} = 420$$

Q. Your elf-lord avatar can carry 3 objects chosen from

1. sword
2. knife
3. staff
4. water jug
5. iPad w/magic WiFi

How many ways can you equip him/her?

ordered ways in which to pick objects

A. $$\frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3}{3!} = \frac{5!}{3! \cdot 2!} = 10$$

but picking abc is equiv to acb, and bca, and ...

Combinations: number ways to choose r things from n

"n choose r" aka binomial coefficients

$$\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)\cdots(n-r+1)}{r(r-1)(r-2)\cdots 1} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$$

Important special case:

how many (unordered) pairs from n objects

$$\binom{n}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} = \Theta(n^2)$$

Many Identities. E.g.:

$$\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n}{n-r}$$ ← by symmetry of definition

$$\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r}$$ ← 1st object either in or out; disjoint cases add

$$\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n}{r}\binom{n-1}{r-1}$$ ← by definition + algebra

$$\boxed{(x+y)^n = \sum_k \binom{n}{k} x^k y^{n-k}}$$

proof 1: induction ...

proof 2: counting –

(x+y) • (x+y) • (x+y) • ... • (x+y)

pick either x or y from 1st binomial factor

pick either x or y from 2nd binomial factor

...

pick either x or y from nth binomial factor

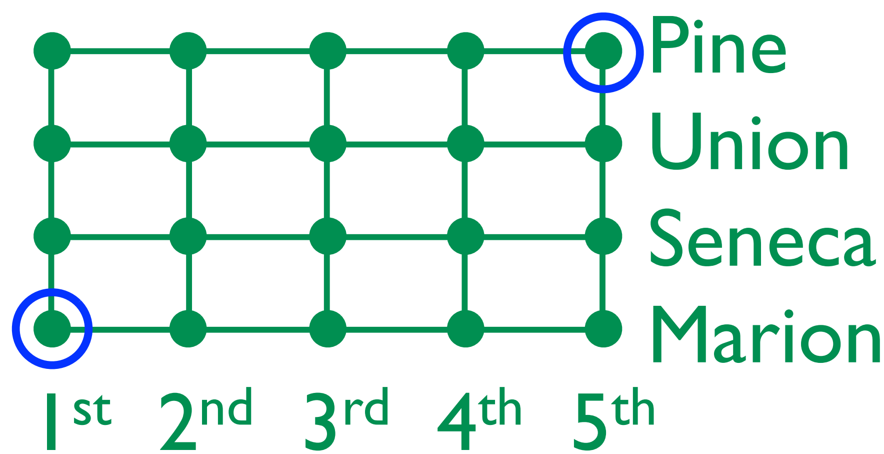
How many ways did you get exactly k x's? $\binom{n}{k}$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} = 2^n$$

Proof:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} = \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} 1^k 1^{n-k} = (1+1)^n = 2^n$$

Q. How many ways are there to walk from 1st & Marion to 5th & Pine, going only North or East?

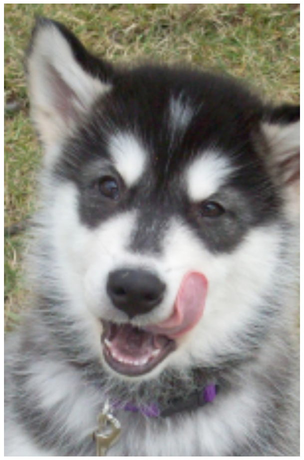


A: 7 choose 3 = 35:

Changing the visualization often helps. Instead of tracing paths on the grid above, list choices. You walk 7 blocks; at each intersection choose N or E; must choose N exactly 3 times.

NNNEEEE
NNENEEE
NNEENEE
...
EEEENNN

Q. How many permutations of GODOGGY are there?



A. $\dfrac{7!}{3!2!1!1!} = 420$

View #1: Imagine subscripts on the letters so they are different; 7! orders. But for each placement of the G's and O's, there are 3!•2! different orderings of the subscripts, all giving identical words after the subscripts are removed:

$$G_3O_1O_2DYG_1G_2 = G_3O_2O_1DYG_1G_2 = G_3O_1O_2DYG_2G_1 = \ldots$$

View #2: 7 slots: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ; 7 choose 3 slots to put G's; 4 choose 2 (remaining) slots to put O's; 2 choose 1 slots for D; 1 choose 1 slots for Y:

$$\binom{7}{3}\binom{4}{2}\binom{2}{1}\binom{1}{1} = \frac{7!}{3!4!} \cdot \frac{4!}{2!2!} \cdot \frac{2!}{1!1!} \cdot \frac{1!}{1!0!} = \frac{7!}{3!2!1!1!}$$

Try to find 2 ways to do every problem

Convince yourself that you get the same answer

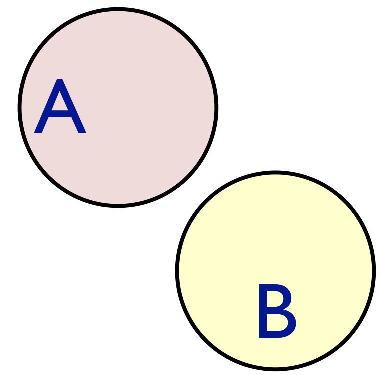
Which is easier to think of? To calculate? More general? Easier to explain? Why?

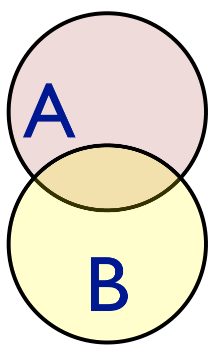
(You won't always succeed, but it's good exercise!)

another general counting rule: inclusion-exclusion

If two sets or events A and B are *disjoint*, aka *mutually exclusive*, then

$$|A \cup B| = |A| + |B|$$

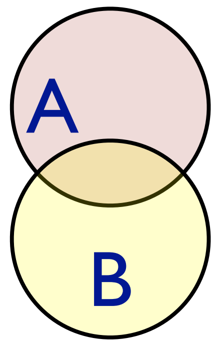


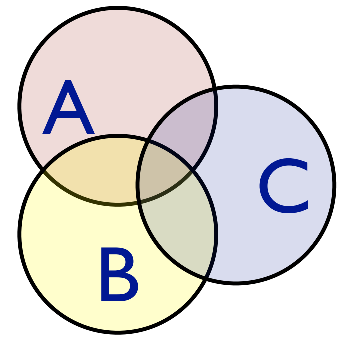


More generally, for two sets or events A and B, *whether or not they are disjoint*,

$$|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$$

inclusion-exclusion





$|A \cup B| =$
$|A|+|B|-|A \cap B|$

$|A \cup B \cup C| =$
$|A| + |B| + |C|$
$- |B \cap C| - |A \cap C| - |A \cap B|$
$+ |A \cap B \cap C|$

General: + singles - pairs + triples - quads + ...

How many of $1, 2, \ldots, 10$ are divisible by 2, 3, and/or 5?

Let

$$E_2 = \{x \mid 1 \leq x \leq 10 \wedge x \text{ is a multiple of } 2\}$$

$$E_3 = \{x \mid 1 \leq x \leq 10 \wedge x \text{ is a multiple of } 3\}$$

$$E_5 = \{x \mid 1 \leq x \leq 10 \wedge x \text{ is a multiple of } 5\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&|E_2 \cup E_3 \cup E_5| \\
&\quad = |E_2| + |E_3| + |E_5| - |E_2E_3| - |E_2E_5| - |E_3E_5| + |E_2E_3E_5| \\
&\quad = \left\lfloor \frac{10}{2} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{10}{3} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{10}{5} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{10}{2 \cdot 3} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{10}{2 \cdot 5} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{10}{3 \cdot 5} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{10}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5} \right\rfloor \\
&\quad = 5 + 3 + 2 - 1 - 1 - 0 + 0 \\
&\quad = 8
\end{aligned}$$

more counting: the pigeonhole principle

If there are n pigeons in k holes and $n > k$, then some hole contains more than one pigeon.
More precisely, some hole contains at least $\lceil n/k \rceil$ pigeons.

There are two people in London who have the same number of hairs on their head.

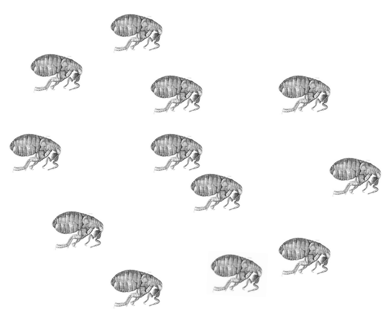
Typical head ~ 150,000 hairs

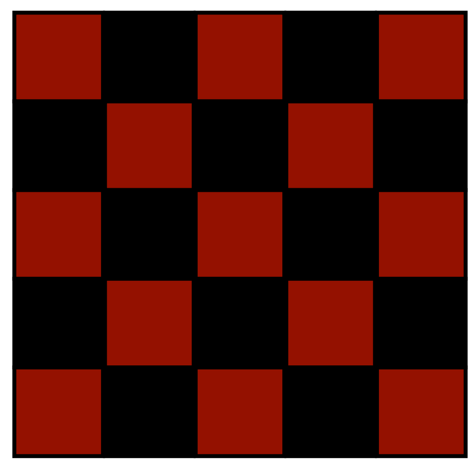
Let's say max-hairy-head ~ 1,000,000 hairs

Since there are more than 1,000,000 people in London…

Another example:

25 fleas sit on a 5 x 5 checkerboard, one per square. At the stroke of noon, all jump across an edge (not a corner) of their square to an adjacent square. Two must end up in the same square. Why?





Product Rule: n_i outcomes for A_i: $\prod_i n_i$ in total (tree diagram)

Permutations:

ordered lists of n objects, no repeats: $n(n-1)...1 = n!$

ordered lists of r objects from n, no repeats: $n!/(n-r)!$

Combinations:

"n choose r," aka binomial coefficients,

unordered lists of r objects from n $\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$

Binomial Theorem: $(x+y)^n = \sum_k \binom{n}{k} x^k y^{n-k}$

Inclusion-Exclusion: $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$

Pigeonhole Principle