

Combinatorics Review

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The rule of sum extends to any number of tasks, as long as no two tasks can be performed simultaneously.

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1. The number of ways to perform a task does not depend on the outcome of the other tasks.
2. If we use this to count final outcomes, we must have
 - If any one task is done differently, the final outcome is different.
 - All final outcomes are produced by some way of performing the sequence of tasks.

Permutations

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Definition: $P(n, k)$ stands for the number of permutations possible when choosing k elements from a set of size n .

$$P(n, k) = \frac{n!}{(n - k)!}$$

There is a one-to-one correspondence between permutations of k things from an n -set and one-to-one functions from any k -set A into and n -set B . that is, $P(n, k)$ is the number of one-to-one functions from A to B .

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If we arrange these and record the resulting string we are guaranteed to get one with the substring "DOG". Since there are 6 objects with 2 of them identical, there are $6!/2!$ arrangements.

Note that we can subtract to get the number of arrangements that do not have the substring "DOG": $8!/2 - 6!/2$.

Selections without order

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Definition: $C(n, k)$ stands for the number of combinations possible when choosing k elements from a set of size n . It has the formula

$$C(n, k) = \frac{n!}{k!(n - k)!}$$

Combinations with repetition

If we are selecting k times with repetition from a set of size n , then number of ways to do this is

$$C(k + n - 1, k) = \frac{(k + n - 1)!}{k!(n - 1)!}.$$

Examples of this: giving k identical prizes to a set of n contestants, with no limit on what each contestants may get, is like selecting k times, with repetition allowed, from a set of size n .

Since all that matters is how many prizes each contestant gets, thus is equivalent to the solutions of the equation

$$p_1 + p_2 + \cdots + p_n = k$$

where each p_j is the number of prizes the j th contestant receives.

Inclusion-exclusion

Suppose we have a set with N elements and these elements might or might not satisfy some conditions $c_1, c_2, c_3, \dots, c_r$. If we let $N(c_j)$ be the number that satisfy c_j , then we let $S_1 = \sum_{j=1}^r N(c_j)$.

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If $N(c_j c_k)$ be the number that satisfy c_j and c_k , then we let $S_2 = \sum_{1 \leq j < k \leq r} N(c_j c_k)$. And $S_3 = \sum_{1 \leq j < k < m \leq r} N(c_j c_k c_m)$.

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Then the number of elements that satisfy none of the conditions is

$$E_0 = N - S_1 + S_2 - S_3 + \dots \pm S_r$$

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The number of elements that satisfy exactly one of the conditions is

$$E_1 = S_1 - 2S_2 + 3S_3 - \cdots \mp rS_r$$

If L_k is the number that satisfy at least k conditions and E_k is the number that satisfy exactly k conditions, the book has formulas for these as well

It is useful to know that the number of terms in each sum S_k is $C(r, k)$ if there are r conditions.