

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The basic principle of counting
- 3 Permutations
- 4 Combinations
- 5 Multinomial coefficients

# Basic principle of counting

## Theorem 1.

Suppose 2 experiments to be performed and

- For Experiment 1, we have  $m$  possible outcomes
- For each outcome of Experiment 1  
     $\hookrightarrow$  We have  $n$  outcomes for Experiment 2

Then

Total number of possible outcomes is  $m \times n$

# Proof

Sketch of the proof: Set

$(i, j) \equiv$  Outcome  $i$  for Experiment 1 & Outcome  $j$  for Experiment 2

Then enumerate possibilities

# Application of basic principle of counting

**Example:** Small community with

- 10 women
- Each woman has 3 children

We have to pick one pair as mother & child of the year

**Question:**

How many possibilities?

## Mother and child example

Experiment 1: pick a mother

# outcomes is  $m = 10$

Experiment 2: pick a child

# outcomes is  $n = 3$

total # of outcomes:  $m \times n = 10 \times 3$   
 $= 30$

# Generalized principle of counting

## Theorem 2.

Suppose  $r$  experiments to be performed and

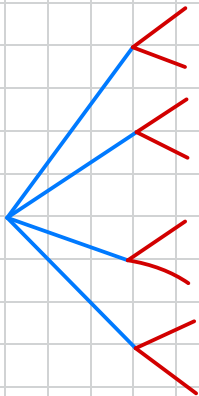
- For Experiment 1, we have  $n_1$  possible outcomes
- For each outcome of Experiment  $i$   
     $\hookrightarrow$  We have  $n_{i+1}$  outcomes for Experiment  $i + 1$

Then total number of possible outcomes is

$$\prod_{i=1}^r n_i = n_1 \times n_2 \times \cdots \times n_r$$

## Illustration with tree

Take  $r=2$  ,  $n_1=4$  ,  $n_2=2$



$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{ of outcomes} &= 8 \\ &= 4 \times 2 \end{aligned}$$

# Application of basic principle of counting

**Example 1:** Find # possible 7 place license plates if

- First 3 places are letters
- Final 4 places are numbers

Answer: 175,760,000

**Example 2:** Find # possible 7 place license plates if

- First 3 places are letters
- Final 4 places are numbers
- No repetition among letters or numbers

Answer: 78,624,000



## License plate example

- Experiment 1 to 3: pick a letter

$$\rightarrow n_1 = 26 \quad n_2 = 26 \quad n_3 = 26$$

- Experiment 4 to 7: pick a number

$$\rightarrow n_4 = 10 \quad n_5 = 10 \quad n_6 = 10 \quad n_7 = 10$$

Total # of outcomes

$$= \prod_{i=1}^7 n_i = 26^3 \times 10^4 = 175,760,000$$

## License plate example - no repetition

- Experiment 1 to 3: pick a letter

$$\rightarrow n_1 = 26 \quad n_2 = 25 \quad n_3 = 24$$

- Experiment 4 to 7: pick a number

$$\rightarrow n_4 = 10 \quad n_5 = 9 \quad n_6 = 8 \quad n_7 = 7$$

Total # of outcomes

$$\begin{aligned} &= \prod_{i=1}^7 n_i = 26 \times 25 \times 24 \times 10 \times 9 \times 8 \times 7 \\ &= 78,624,000 \end{aligned}$$

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# Permutations

## Definition:

A permutation of  $n$  objects is an ordered sequence of those  $n$  objects.

## Property:

Two permutations only differ according to the order of the objects

## Counting:

Let  $P_n$  be the number of permutations for  $n$  objects. Then

$$P_n = n! = n \times (n - 1) \cdots \times 2 = \prod_{j=1}^n j$$

# Basic example of permutation (1)

Example: 3 balls, Red, Black, Green

Can we enumerate the permutations?

Permutations of R B G

$n=3$

R B G	B R G	G R B
R G B	B G R	G B R

# of permutations:

$$P_3 = 3! = 3 \times 2 = 6 \text{ possibilities}$$

OK

## Basic example of permutation (2)

Example: 3 balls, Red, Black, Green

Permutations: RBG, RGB, BRG, BGR, GBN, GBR  
 $\leftrightarrow$  6 possibilities

Formula:  $P_3 = 3! = 6$

# Proof for the counting number $P_n$

Sketch of the proof:

Direct application of Theorem 2



# Example of permutation (1)

Problem:

Count possible arrangements of letters in PEPPER

Permutations of PEPPER  $n=6$

Version 1:  $\neq$  letters,  $P_1 E_1 P_2 P_3 E_2 R_1$

Then # permutations =  $P_6 = 6! = 720$

Version 2: P's and E's cannot be distinguished

Then # permutations

$$= \frac{6!}{\underbrace{3!}_{\# P's} \underbrace{2!}_{\# E's}} = 60$$

## Example of permutation (2)

### Solution 1:

Consider all letters as distinct objects

$$P_1 E_1 P_2 P_3 E_2 R$$

Then

$$P_6 = 6! = 720 \text{ possibilities}$$

## Example of permutation (3)

Solution 2:

Do not distinguish P's and E's.

Then

$$\frac{P_6}{P_3 P_2} = \frac{6!}{3! 2!} = 60 \text{ possibilities}$$

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# Combinations

## Definition:

A combination of  $p$  objects among  $n$  objects is non ordered subset of  $p$  objects.

## Property:

Two combinations only differ according to nature of their objects

## Counting:

The number of combinations of  $p$  objects among  $n$  objects is

$$\binom{n}{p} = \frac{n!}{p! (n - p)!}$$

# Basic example of combination

Example: 4 balls, Red, Black, Green, Purple

We pick 2 balls in this group

Can we enumerate the combinations?

Example of combination: R B G P  $\rightarrow n=4$   
Pick  $p=2$  of them

Version 1: we do care about the order

R B	BR $\nearrow$	GR $\nearrow$	PR $\nearrow$	12 outcomes = 12
R G	BG $\nearrow$	GB $\nearrow$	PB $\nearrow$	
R P	BP $\nearrow$	GP $\nearrow$	PG $\nearrow$	

$= \frac{4!}{2!}$

This called arrangement, # arr. =  $\frac{n!}{(n-p)!}$

Version 2: order does not matter  $\rightarrow$  combination

$$\# \text{ combination} = \frac{n!}{p! \cdot (n-p)!} = \frac{4!}{2! \cdot 2!} = 6 \rightarrow \text{OK}$$