

## Tutorial 7

Recall the following principles which we encountered in the class (which you might know already from school, but maybe not under these names).

1. **Product principle.** The Product Rule gives the size of a product of sets. Recall that if  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n$  are sets, then  $P_1 \times P_2 \times \dots \times P_n$  is the set of all sequences whose first term is drawn from  $P_1$ , second term is drawn from  $P_2$  and so forth. The product principle says that if  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n$  are finite sets, then:  $|P_1 \times P_2 \times \dots \times P_n| = |P_1| \times |P_2| \times \dots \times |P_n|$ .

We saw a few examples where we could use the product principle: *How many length  $k$ -bit strings are there? How many length  $n$ -bit strings are there whose first two bits are the same? How many permutations of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  are there?, How many 4 digit numbers are there whose first two digits must be even, and the last two digits must be odd? How many 4 digit numbers are there whose first two digits sum to 9?*

We also saw an example where we couldn't use it directly: *How many 4 digit numbers are there whose first two digits sum to less than or equal to 3?, How many 10-length bit strings are there with no three consecutive 0s?* However these can be handled via the following:

2. **Sum principle and Inclusion Exclusion.** If  $A, B$  are disjoint sets (i.e.,  $|A \cap B| = \emptyset$ ), then  $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B|$ . Now we can use this to answer questions like: *How many 4 digit numbers are there whose first two digits sum to less than or equal to 3? or How many bit strings of length  $L$  are there with exactly 1 one?*

In case, we have  $|A \cap B| \neq \emptyset$ , we can use the principle of inclusion-exclusion which says,  $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$ . More generally, we have  $S = A_1 \cup A_2 \dots \cup A_n$ , then

$$|S| = \sum_{i=1}^n |A_i| - \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} |A_i \cap A_j| + \sum_{1 \leq i < j < k \leq n} |A_i \cap A_j \cap A_k| + \dots (-1)^{n+1} |A_1 \cap A_2 \dots \cap A_n|$$

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You can use this to now solve questions like: *How many numbers between 1 and 100 (both inclusive) are divisible by either 2, 3 or 5?* If you are unsure how - think about this now!

Finally, we saw how bijection between two sets lets you reduce counting elements of one set by counting another (e.g. *The number of ways to pick 12 drinks out of an available 5 types of drinks is the same as the number of 16-bit sequences with exactly 4 ones*). Here is a generalisation of this rule:

3. **Division principle.** A  $k$ -to-1 function maps exactly  $k$  elements of the domain to every element of the codomain. If  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is  $k$ -to-1, then  $|A| = k|B|$ . For example, if I wanted to count the number of people a room, I could count the number of ears and divide by 2. We can use this principle to answer questions such as: *Given a string of length  $n$  over a  $k$ -letter*

*alphabet, how many different arrangements of the string are there? How many anagrams are there of the letters in GOOD? How many different ways can we line up 5 red balls, 4 blue balls, and 3 green balls?*

## Practice Problems

1. How many sequences can be formed by permuting the letters in the 10-letter word BOOK-KEEPER?
2. How many strings of length  $n$  can you form from the characters  $\{A, C, G, T\}$  such that no two consecutive characters are same?
3. How many bit vectors of length 10 contain at least five consecutive 0s?
4. How many ways can you arrange 5 different people in a circular table? Note that two arrangements which read the same clockwise are the same?
5. How many 5 digit numbers are there with all digits even? 0 is even and the 5-digit number cannot start with 0.
6. You are given 10 books with different titles. 6 of them are large and 4 of them small. How many ways can you stack these books up such that a large book is never stacked over a small book?
7. How many 5 digit numbers are there such that there is at least one digit less than or equal to 3, at least one digit from the set  $\{4, 5, 6\}$ , and at least one digit greater than or equal to 7?
8. How many four letter (not necessarily dictionary) words can you make which have at least one vowel? A vowel is a letter from the set  $\{a, e, i, o, u\}$  (so  $y$  is not a vowel.)  
How many non-negative integer solutions are there to the equation  $a + b + c \leq 100$ ?
9. Let  $A$  be a set of  $n \geq 1$  elements. Let  $a \in A$  be an arbitrary element. What is the number of subsets of  $A$  which contain  $a$ ?
10. In a certain population of  $m$  people, there are  $n$  groups. Each group contains exactly  $q$  people and every person is in exactly  $d$  groups. What is the relation between the numbers  $n, m, d$  and  $q$ ?
11. Problem 15.7, 15.11, in [LLM Book](#)