

# Discrete Math

Lectures 24-27

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## Counting Techniques

we'll focus on counting lists

a list a finite sequence

ex) length-3 lists of letters (cap. or lower) from the English alphabet



"multiplication principle"

# lists = product of option entries

why?

a \_ \_

b \_ \_  $\rightarrow 52^2$

c \_ \_  $\rightarrow 52^2$

$\vdots$

z \_ \_  $\rightarrow 52^2$

A \_ \_  $\rightarrow 52^2$

$\vdots$

Z \_ \_  $\rightarrow 52^2$

a a 52  
 $\uparrow$

a b \_

$\vdots$  52  
 $\uparrow$

a z \_

$\uparrow$   
52

a A \_

$\uparrow$   
52

a B 52  
 $\vdots$

a Z 52

52.52

\_\_\_\_\_

52.52<sup>2</sup>

\_\_\_\_\_

52<sup>3</sup>

**Example 3.1** A standard license plate consists of three letters followed by four digits. For example, *JRB-4412* and *MMX-8901* are two standard license plates. How many different standard license plates are possible?

digits : 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

$\begin{array}{cccc} \_ & \_ & \_ & \_ & \_ & \_ & \_ \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 26 & 26 & 26 & 10 & 10 & 10 & 10 \end{array}$

there are  $26^3 \cdot 10^4$  diff. stand. license plates.

→ we cannot repeat symbols!

**Example 3.4** A non-repetitive list of length 5 is to be made from the symbols *A, B, C, D, E, F, G*. The first entry must be either a *B, C* or *D*, and the last entry must be a vowel. How many such lists are possible?

7 symbols  
no repetitions

$\begin{array}{cccccc} \_ & \_ & \_ & \_ & \_ & \_ \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 7 & 6 & 5 & 4 & 3 & \end{array}$ 
 options

$7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3$

Set up we're using  $n$  distinct symbols

How many length- $n$  non-repeating lists are there?

ex using 5 distinct symbols (A, B, C, D, E)

How many non-repeating length-5 lists are there?

$\overline{\quad} \overline{\quad} \overline{\quad} \overline{\quad} \overline{\quad}$   
5 4 3 2 1

$$\boxed{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 5!}$$

$\overline{\quad} \overline{\quad} \overline{\quad} \overline{\quad} \dots \overline{\quad}$   
 $\uparrow \uparrow \uparrow \quad \uparrow$   
 $n-1 \ n-2 \ n-3 \ \dots \ ,$

$$n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdot \dots \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = n!$$

$n!$  can be defined as the # of  
non-repeating length- $n$  lists using  $n$  symbols

$0! = \# \text{ of length-0, non-rep lists}$   
use 0 symbols

$=$   "the empty list"  $= 1$

Binary Strings = Bit Strings

- lists of 0's and 1's

ex How many length-7 bit strings are there?

-----  
↑ ↑                    ↑  
2 2    ...            2

$$\boxed{2^7}$$

ex How many length-7 bit strings are there  
that contain at least one 0?

$$2^7 - 1$$

← throw away the one  
bit string that has NO 0's

throw away 1111111

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How many bit strings fail our condition?

$$Y = \{ \text{b. strings that fail} \}$$

How many bit strings are there?

$$U = \{ \text{all b. strings} \}$$

$$X = \{ \text{b. strings that have our property} \}$$

$$|X| = |U - Y|$$

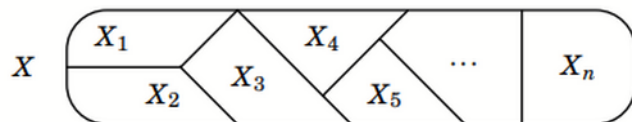
**Fact 3.3 (Subtraction Principle)**

If  $X$  is a subset of a finite set  $U$ , then  $|\overline{X}| = |U| - |X|$ .

In other words, if  $X \subseteq U$  then  $|U - X| = |U| - |X|$ .

**Fact 3.2 (Addition Principle)**

Suppose a finite set  $X$  can be decomposed as a union  $X = X_1 \cup X_2 \cup \dots \cup X_n$ , where  $X_i \cap X_j = \emptyset$  whenever  $i \neq j$ . Then  $|X| = |X_1| + |X_2| + \dots + |X_n|$ .



$X$  is partitioned into subsets  $X_i$

**Example 3.6** How many **even** 5-digit numbers are there for which no digit is 0, and the digit 6 appears exactly once? For instance, 55634 and 16118 are such numbers, but not 63304 (has a 0), nor 63364 (too many 6's), nor 55637 (not even).

$$X = \{ \text{all such lists} \}$$

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑  
9 9 9 9 4

$$X_1 = \{ 6 \text{ is in first place} \}$$

$$X_2 = \{ 6 \text{ is in 2nd place} \}$$

$$X_3 =$$

$$X_4 =$$

$$X_5 = \{ 6 \text{ is in 5th place} \}$$

6  
8 8 8 3

$8^3 \cdot 3$

6  
8 8 8 3

$8^3 \cdot 3$

6  
8 8 8 3

$8^4$

total:

$$|X_1| + |X_2| + |X_3| + |X_4| + |X_5|$$

$$= 4 \cdot 8^3 \cdot 3 + 8^4$$

## permutations

a permutation on a set  $X$   
is a (non-repeating) arrangement  
of its elements into a list

ex]  $X = \{1, 2, 3\}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 123 & 213 & 312 \\ 132 & 231 & 321 \end{array} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{ccc} 123 & 213 & 312 \\ 132 & 231 & 321 \end{array}} \right\} 3! = 6$$

$$\# \text{ permutations on } X = |X|!$$

a  $k$ -permutation on a set  $X$  is  
an arrangement of  $k$  symbols / elements from  
 $X$  into a non-repeating list

$$X = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

How many 2-permutations are there?



$$\begin{array}{ccc} 12 & 21 & 31 \\ 13 & 23 & 32 \end{array} \} 6$$

How many 1-perms are there?  $\} 3$

1      2      3

How many 3-perms are there?  $\} 6$

$3! = 6$

How many 4-perms are there?  $\} 0$

Zero!

$$|X| = n$$

How many  $k$ -permutations are there?

$$\underbrace{\overline{n} \quad \overline{n-1} \quad \overline{n-2} \quad \dots \quad \overline{n-k}}_{\text{length } k}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdots (n-k) \\ &= \frac{n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots (n-k) \cdots 2 \cdot 1}{(n-k) \cdots 2 \cdot 1} \end{aligned}$$

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

# of  $k$ -permutations

on an

$n$ -element  
set

=

$$\begin{cases} \frac{n!}{(n-k)!} & \text{if } 0 \leq k \leq n \\ 0 & \text{if } k > n \end{cases}$$

$P(n, k)$

Counting # of subsets of an  $n$ -element set

$$|X| = n$$

$$|\mathcal{P}(X)| = 2^n$$

ex  $X = \{a, b, c, d\}$

how many 2-element subsets are there?

(how many ways can we choose 2 objects from  $X$ ?)

$$\{a, b\} \quad \{b, c\} \quad \{c, d\}$$

$$\{a, c\} \quad \{b, d\}$$

$$\{a, d\}$$

$$3 + 2 + 1 = \boxed{6}$$

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If  $|X| = n$ , how many  $k$ -element subsets are there?

if  $k > n$ , answer = 0.

$$P(n, k) = k! \cdot (\text{answer})$$

$$\boxed{\frac{P(n, k)}{k!} = \text{answer}}$$

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

↑

"n choose k"

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Why do we care so much about counting?

- a lot of parts of problems require us to count these things!

- count # of operations an algorithm uses!

↳ many of these counting procedures involve recursive structure!