

Week 9, LEC02 - November 16th
Discrete Mathematics, Fall 2018

CSCA67 - Lecture Notes

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Then, distribute the 15 sticks of gum to 5 children (indistinguishable).

4 partitions: $C(15 + (5 - 1), (5 - 1)) = C(19, 4)$

Total = $C(24, 4) \cdot C(19, 4)$

Example. How many integer solutions are there to the equation $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 12$ with $x_i \geq 0$?

Solution We must distribute 12 1s amongst 4 variables, and to distinguish the variables we need 3 partitions.

$C(12 + (4 - 1), (4 - 1)) = C(15, 3)$

However consider if we have a coefficient: $2x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 12$ with $x_i \geq 0$?

Potential assignment 2/Exam question

Q. What if we require that each $x_i \geq 1$?

A. The only that changed is that x_i cannot be 0. We can simply put a 1 in each variable, except there are no longer 12 1s to distribute, but only 8.

This is called - Preloading, we preload the variables and it then essentially becomes the same problem.

$C([12 - 4] + (4 - 1), (4 - 1)) = C(11, 3)$

Theorem. The number of ways to distribute r identical objects into n distinct boxes with at least one object in each box is $C(r-1, n-1)$. (Preload)

Proof. We need to place n of the r objects amongst the n boxes leaving us with $r - n$ objects to distribute into the n boxes.

$C(r - 1, n - 1) \equiv C([r - n] + n - 1, n - 1) = C(r - 1, n - 1)$

QED

Q. How many ways can we do this?

A.

This formula generalizes nicely. Whenever we have restrictions on the number of items in a box, we can subtract those items from the total we are choosing from.

Theorem. The number of ways to distribute r identical objects into n distinct boxes with at least r_i objects in the i^{th} box is $C((r - r_1 - r_2 - \dots - r_n) + n - 1, n - 1)$

Proof. Left as an exercise.

3 Probability

The definition we will use was first defined by the French mathematician Pierre-Simon Laplace. He is famous for his work in astronomy, statistics and physics:

- Laplace transform, Laplace's equation
- First to postulate the existence of black holes
- inductive reasoning based on probability, today called Bayesian probability which plays a large role in artificial intelligence.

Definition. An experiment is a clearly defined procedure that results in one of a possible set of outcomes or elementary events.

Definition. A sample(probability) space of a random experiment is a set S that includes all possible outcomes of the experiment.

Example. If the experiment is to throw a standard die and record the outcome then:

sample space $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ elementary events