Counting and Probability Knowledge

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1.

In a competition between players A and B, the first player to win 5 games in a row, or a total of 6 games, wins. How may ways can the competition be played if A wins the first game and B withs the second and third games?

121 ways.

2.

If p, q, and r are distinct prime numbers, and a, b, and c are positive integers, how many distinct positive divisors does

$$p^a \cdot q^b \cdot r^c$$

have?

$$By\ multiplication\ the\ number\ of\ divisors\ are\ (a+1)(b+1)(c+1)$$

3.

At a certain university, passwords must be from 15 to 20 symbols long, and composed of the 26 letters of the alphabet, the ten digits 0 - 9, and 14 special symbols (for a total of 50 possible symbols). How many passwords contain no repeated symbols?

$$\sum_{i=15}^{30} p(50, y) = 1184786831363353209629039001600000\ passwords$$

4.

What is the probability that a randomly chosen string of 7 hexadecimal digits has at least one repeated digit? Assume equal likelihood.

$$\frac{16!}{16^7 \cdot (16-7)!} \approx 79\%$$

5.

Let S be the set of all strings of length 12 over the set w, x, y, z. In other words, S consists of all strings of length 12 composed of these characters. What is the probability that a randomly chosen element of S contains at least 1 pair of adjacent characters that are the same? In other words, what is the probability a string will contain a "ww" sequence, or "xx" sequence, or "yy" sequence or "zz" sequence?

No repetition:

$$\frac{11^4 - \frac{11^4}{11-4)!}}{11^4} \approx 45.9\%$$

Repetition:

$$100\% - 46\% = 54\%$$

6.

Consider the infinite decimal 12.112211122211112222..., where each group of 1s and 2s becomes longer in each repetition. Is this number rational or irrational? Explain your reasoning (no formal proof is needed).
The number is irrational, the pattern is non repeating.

7.

Suppose that 5 computers in a production run of 65 are defective. A sample of seven computers is checked for defects. (a)How many samples contain a defective computer? (b)What is the probability that a randomly chosen sample contains at least 1 defective computer?

$$\frac{65!}{7!(65-7)!} - \frac{60!}{7!(60-7} = 309983640 \textit{ with at least } 1$$

$$1 - \frac{60^p7}{65^p7} \approx 44.5\%$$