



02_combin...

a fancy way to say
counting



02: Combinatorics

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Adapted from slides by Lisa Yan

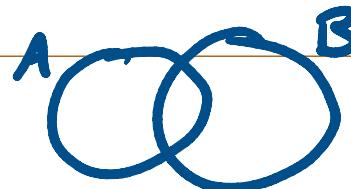
Takeaways from last time

Review

Inclusion-Exclusion Principle (generalized Sum Rule)

If the outcome of an experiment can be either from Set A **or** set B , where A and B may overlap, then the total number of outcomes of the experiment is

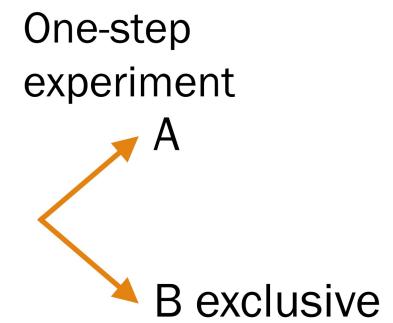
$$|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|.$$



General Principle of Counting (generalized Product Rule)

If an experiment has r **steps**, such that step i has n_i outcomes for all $i = 1, \dots, r$, then the total number of outcomes of the experiment is

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

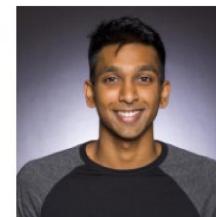
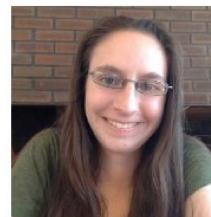


Essential information

Website

cs109.stanford.edu

Teaching Staff



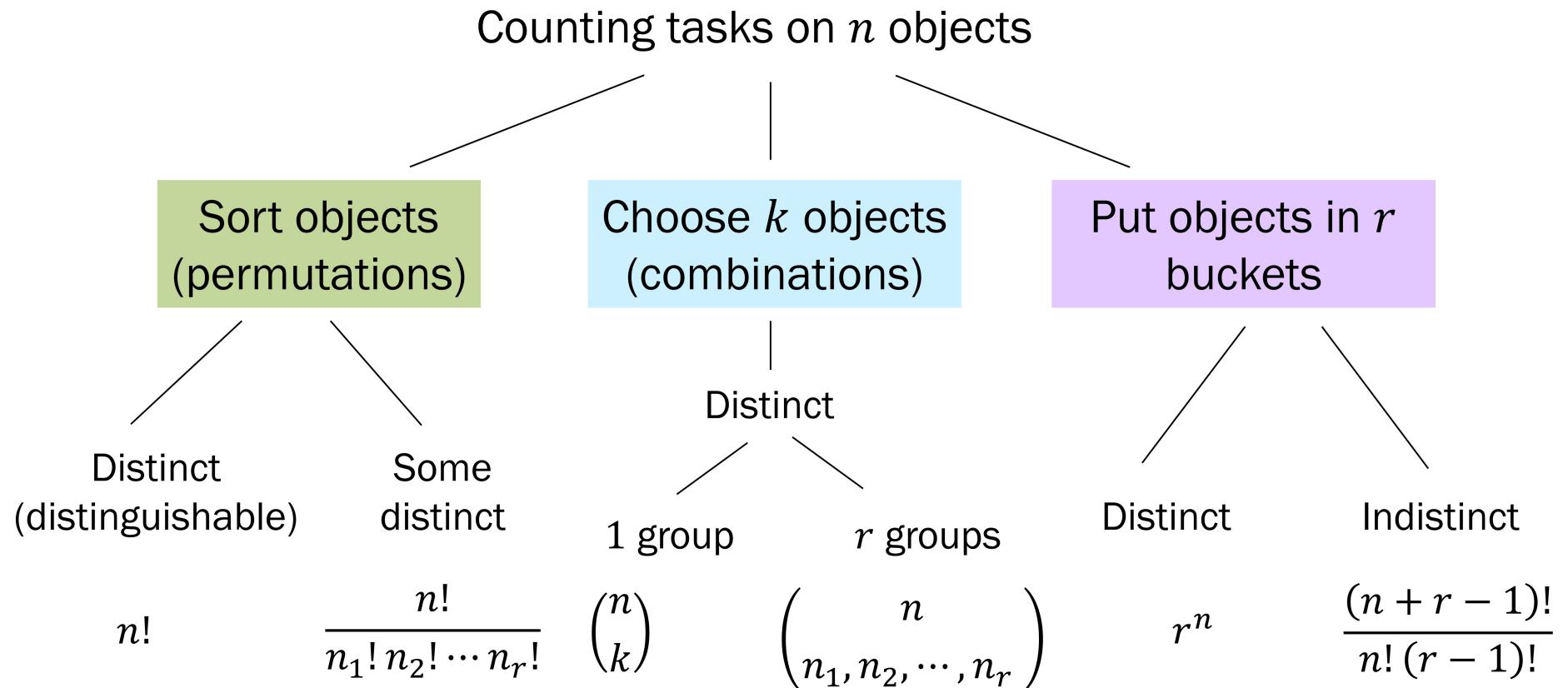
Today's plan

Permutations (sort objects)

Combinations (choose objects)

Put objects into buckets

Summary of Combinatorics



Today's plan

→ Permutations (sort objects)

Combinations (choose objects)

Put objects into buckets

Summary of Combinatorics

Counting tasks on n objects

Sort objects
(permutations)

Choose k objects
(combinations)

Put objects in r
buckets

Distinct
(distinguishable)



Sort n indistinct objects



DOESN'T WORK

2 choices 2 choices depends

A red wavy line starts at the first can, goes up to the second, down to the third, up to the fourth, and down to the fifth. Blue horizontal bars are placed above each can. The text "DOESN'T WORK" is written in red above the line. Below the line, the words "2 choices", "2 choices", and "depends" are written in blue, corresponding to the first three cans.

Sort n distinct objects



Ayesha



Tim



Irina



Joey



Waddie

5

x

4

x

3

x

2

x

1

Permutations

A **permutation** is an ordered arrangement of distinct objects.

The number of unique orderings (**permutations**) of n distinct objects is

$$n! = n \times (n - 1) \times (n - 2) \times \cdots \times 2 \times 1.$$

Sort semi-distinct objects

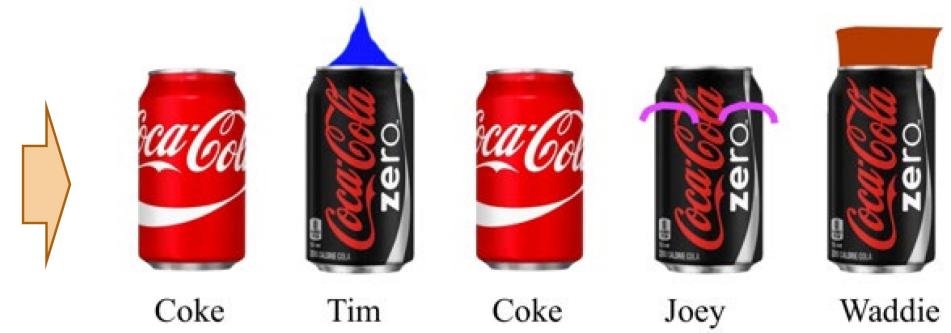
Order n
distinct objects

$n!$

All distinct



Some indistinct



$$5! = 120$$

$$\frac{5!}{2!} = \frac{120}{2} = 60$$

Sort semi-distinct objects

How do we find the number of permutations considering some objects are indistinct?

By the product rule, permutations of distinct objects is a two-step process:

$$\text{permutations of distinct objects} = \text{permutations considering some objects are indistinct} \times \text{Permutations of just the indistinct objects}$$

Sort semi-distinct objects

How do we find the number of permutations considering some objects are indistinct?

By the product rule, permutations of distinct objects is a two-step process:

$$\frac{\text{permutations of distinct objects}}{\text{Permutations of just the indistinct objects}} = \text{permutations considering some objects are indistinct}$$

A blue checkmark is drawn next to the word "indistinct" in the denominator.

General approach to counting permutations

When there are n objects such that

n_1 are the same (indistinguishable or **indistinct**), and

n_2 are the same, and

...

n_r are the same,

The number of unique orderings (**permutations**) is

$$\frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_r!}$$

For each group of indistinct objects,
Divide by the overcounted permutations

Sort semi-distinct objects

Order n semi-distinct objects $\frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_r!}$

How many permutations?



Coke



Coke0



Coke



Coke0



Coke0

$$\frac{5!}{2! 3!} = 10$$

Strings

Order n semi-distinct objects $\frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_r!}$

How many orderings of letters are possible for the following strings?

1. BOBA

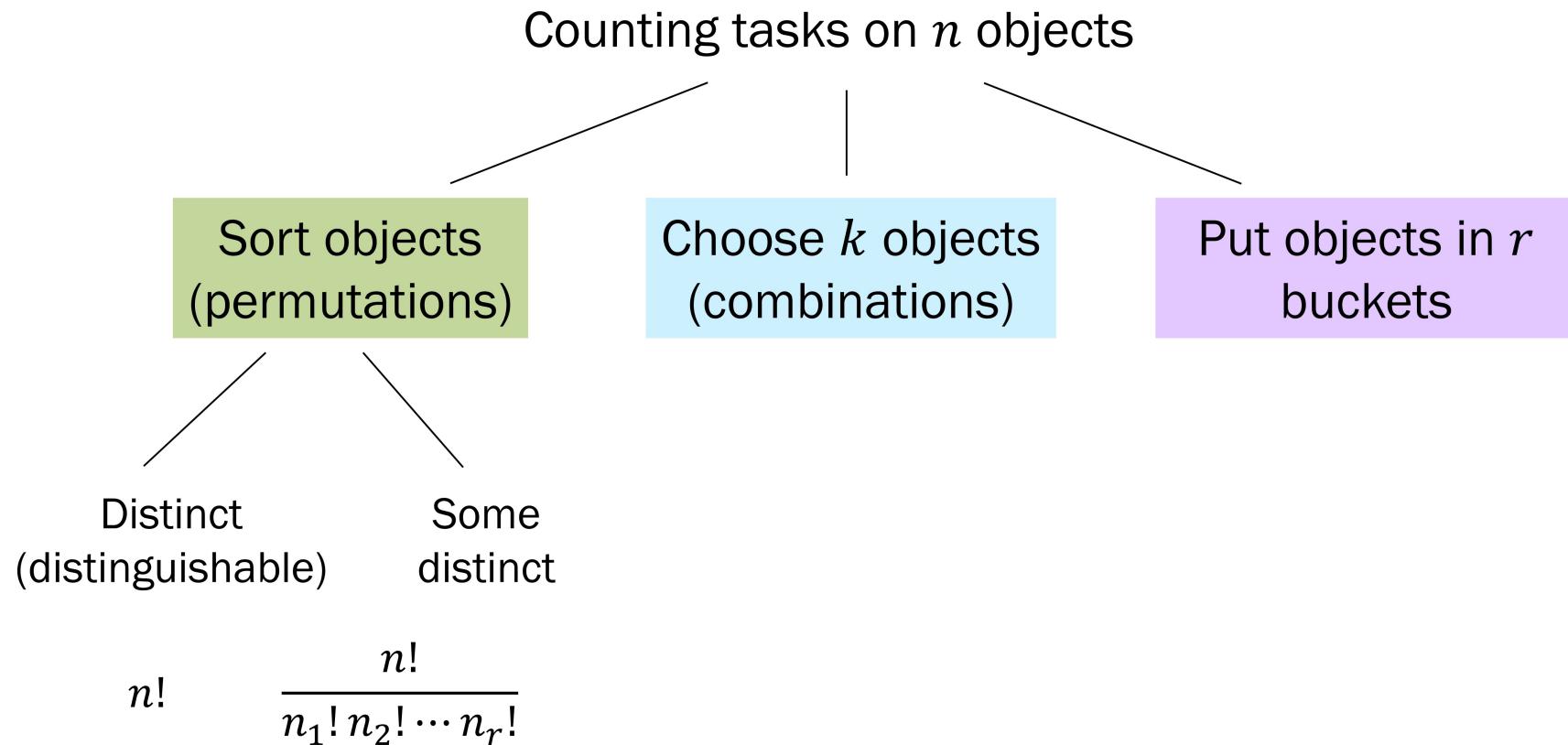
BAOB
BOBA;
ABOB

$$\frac{4!}{2! 1! 1!} = 12$$

2. MISSISSIPPI

$$\frac{11!}{1! 4! 4! 2!} = 34650$$

Summary of Combinatorics



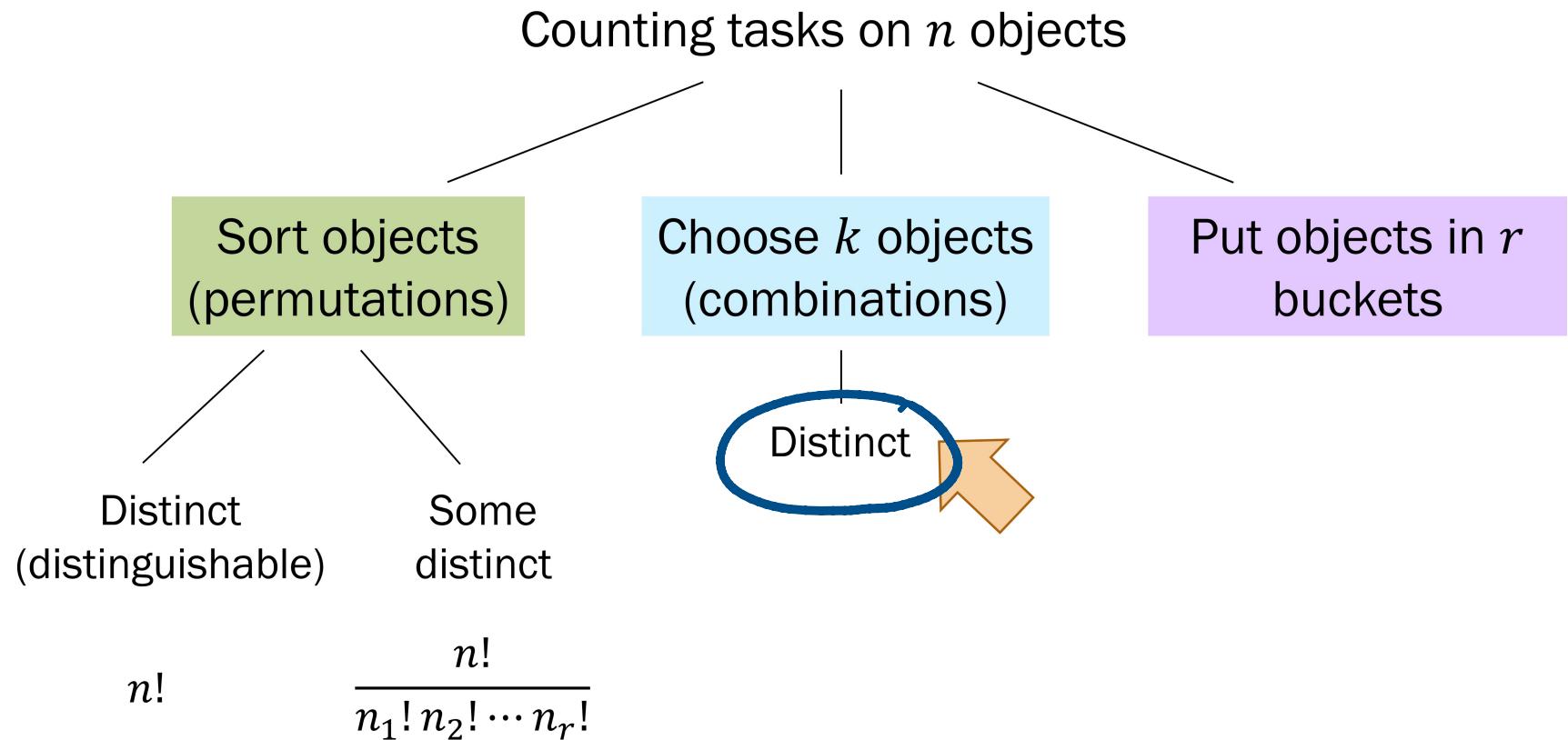
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Permutations (sort objects)

→ Combinations (choose objects)

Put objects into buckets

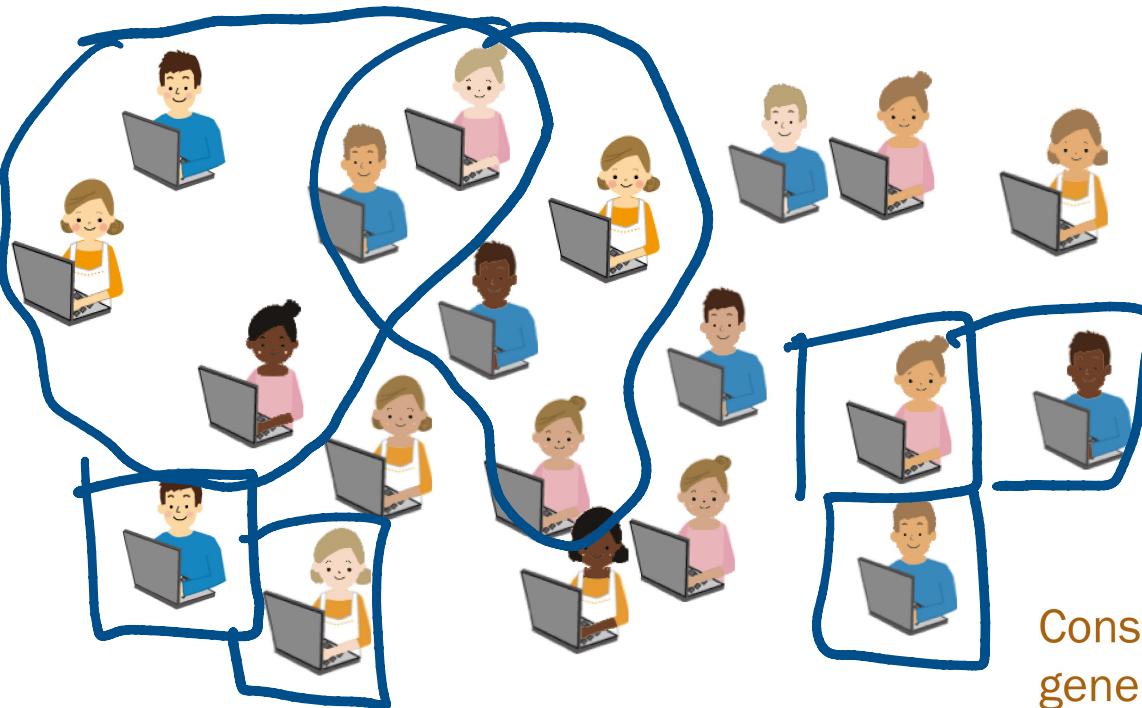
Summary of Combinatorics



Combinations with cake

There are $n = 20$ people.

How many ways can we choose $k = 5$ people to get cake?

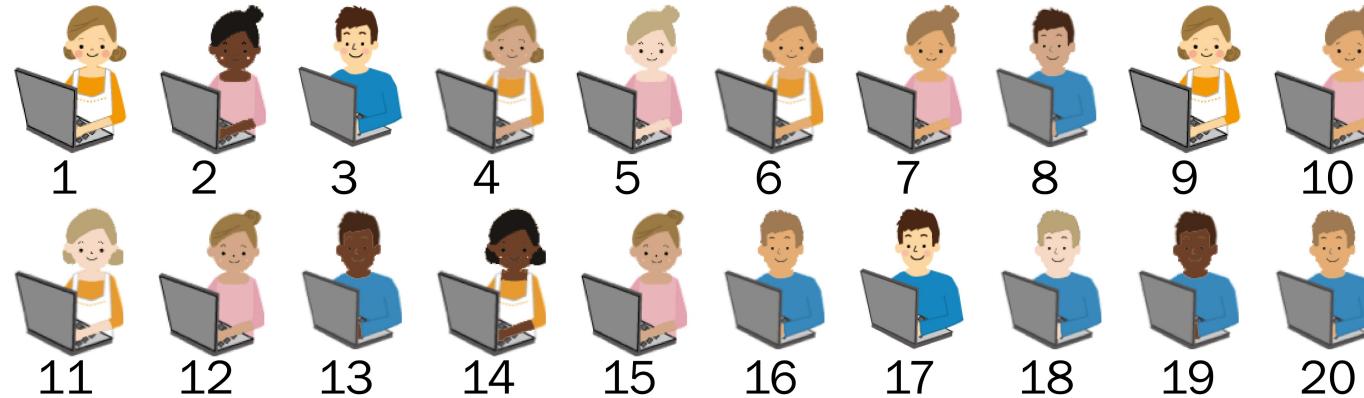


Consider the following
generative process...

Combinations with cake

There are $n = 20$ people.

How many ways can we choose $k = 5$ people to get cake?



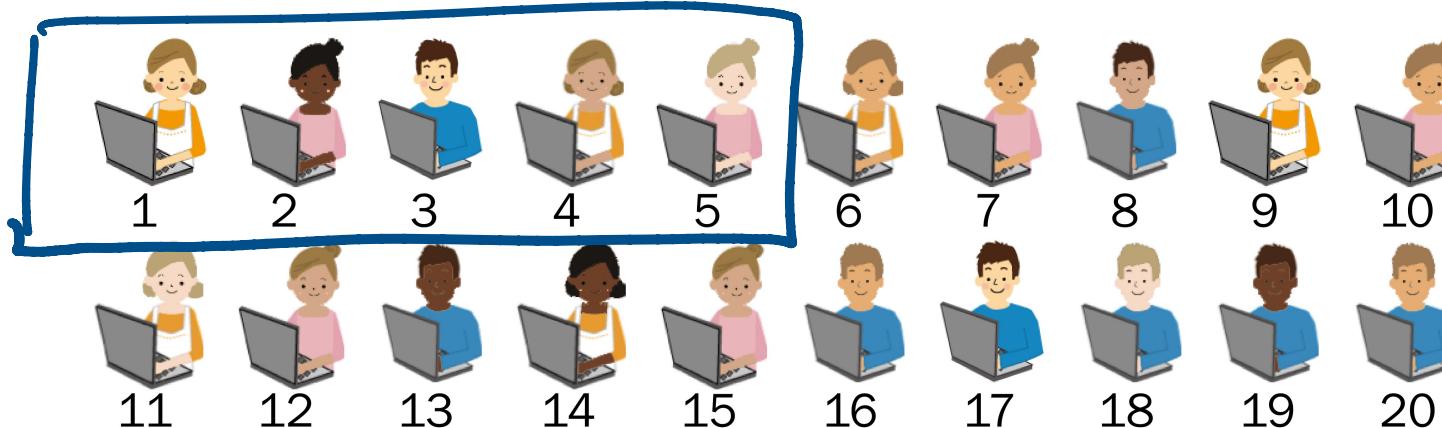
1. n people
get in line

$n!$ ways

Combinations with cake

There are $n = 20$ people.

How many ways can we choose $k = 5$ people to get cake?



1. n people get in line

$n!$ ways

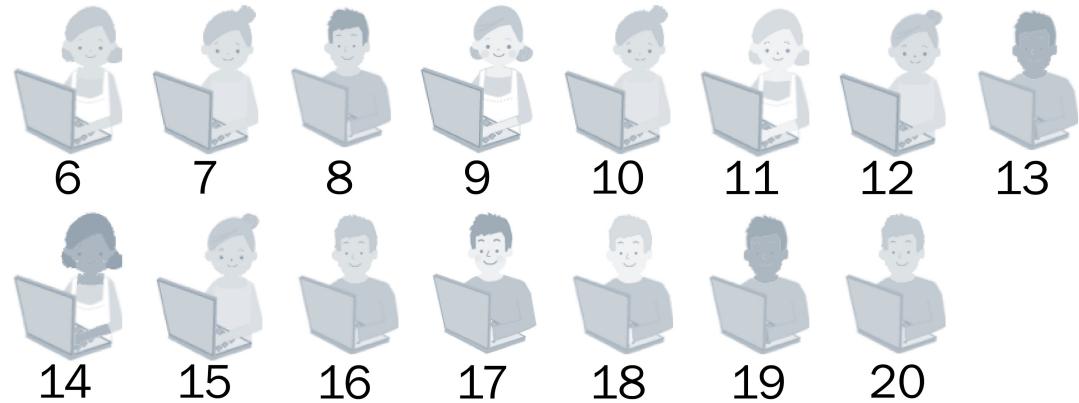
2. Put first k in cake room

1 way

Combinations with cake

There are $n = 20$ people.

How many ways can we choose $k = 5$ people to get cake?



1. n people
get in line
2. Put first k
in cake room

$n!$ ways

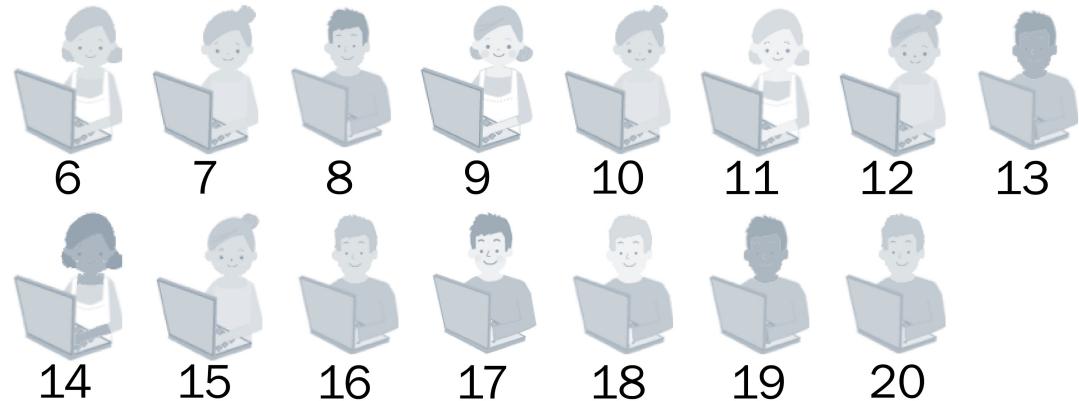
1 way

overcounting
 $5!$

Combinations with cake

There are $n = 20$ people.

How many ways can we choose $k = 5$ people to get cake?



1. n people get in line

$n!$ ways

2. Put first k in cake room

1 way

3. Allow cake group to mingle

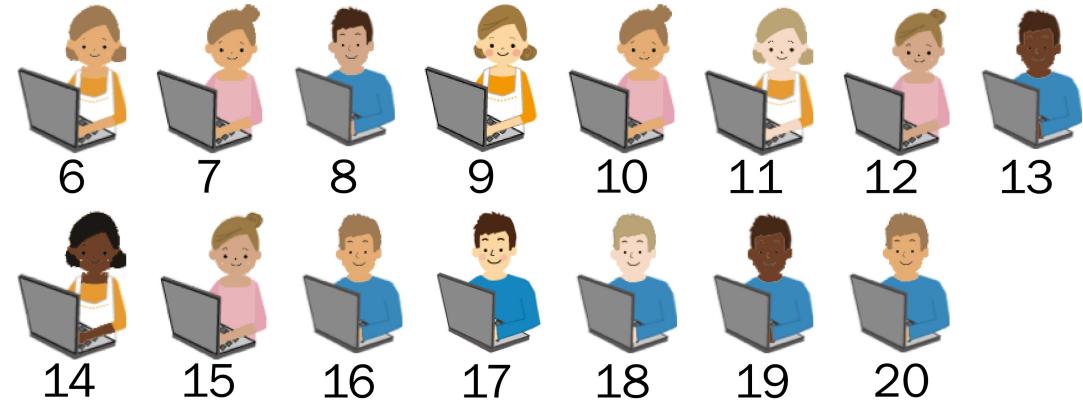
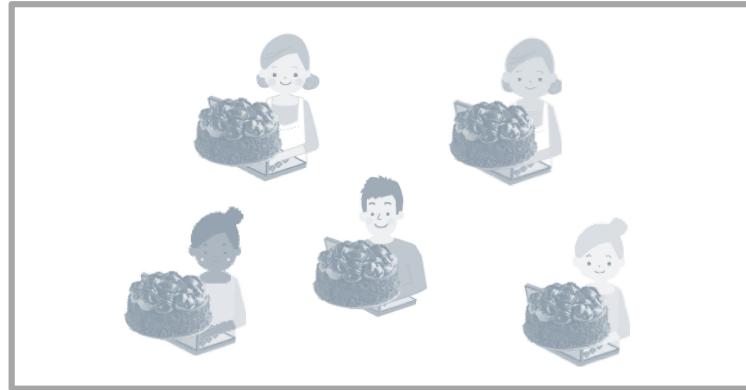
$k!$ different permutations lead to the same mingle

Combinations with cake

There are $n = 20$ people.

How many ways can we choose $k = 5$ people to get cake?

overcounting
by 15!



1. n people get in line
 2. Put first k in cake room
 3. Allow cake group to mingle
 4. Allow non-cake group to mingle
- $n!$ ways

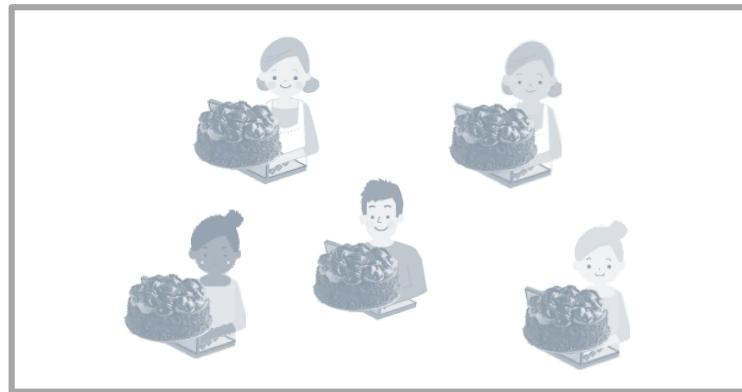
- 1 way

$k!$ different permutations lead to the same mingle

Combinations with cake

There are $n = 20$ people.

How many ways can we choose $k = 5$ people to get cake?



1. n people get in line
 $n!$ ways

2. Put first k in cake room
1 way



3. Allow cake group to mingle
 $k!$ different permutations lead to the same mingle

4. Allow non-cake group to mingle
 $(n - k)!$ different permutations lead to the same mingle

Combinations

A combination is an unordered selection of k objects from a set of n distinct objects.

$$(x+y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k y^{n-k}$$

The number of ways of making this selection is

$$n! \times 1 \times \frac{1}{k!} \times \frac{1}{(n-k)!} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

$\binom{n}{k}$ Binomial Coefficient

Introducing

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

Probability textbooks

Choose k of
 n distinct objects $\binom{n}{k}$

1. How many ways are there to choose 3 books from a set of 6 distinct books?

$$\binom{6}{3} = \frac{6!}{3!3!} = 20$$

Probability textbooks

Choose k of
 n distinct objects $\binom{n}{k}$

1. How many ways are there to choose 3 books from a set of 6 distinct books?

$$\binom{6}{3} = \frac{6!}{3! 3!} = 20 \text{ ways}$$

2. What if we do not want to read both the 9th and 10th edition of Ross?

Case 1 : 9th ed + 2 other of 4

$$\binom{4}{2} = 6$$

Case 2 : 10th ed + 2 other of 4

$$\binom{4}{2} = 6$$

Case 3 : 3 other of 4

$$\binom{4}{3} = 4$$

16

Probability textbooks (solution 2)

Choose k of
 n distinct objects $\binom{n}{k}$

1. How many ways are there to choose 3 books from a set of 6 distinct books?

$$\binom{6}{3} = \frac{6!}{3! 3!} = 20 \text{ ways}$$

2. What if we do not want to read both the 9th and 10th edition of Ross?

Forbidden case: 9th ed + 10th ed + 1 other book of 4

$$\binom{4}{1} = 4$$

So answer = $20 - 4 = 16$

Sometimes easier to exclude forbidden cases

Break

Announcements

PS#1

Out: today
Due: Friday 1/17, 1:00pm
Covers: through Friday

Staff help

Piazza policy: student discussion
Office hours: start today
cs109.stanford.edu/staff.html

Python tutorial

When: Friday 3:30-4:20pm
Location: 420-041
Recorded? maybe
Notes: to be posted online

Section sign-ups

Preference form: today
Due: Saturday 1/11
Results: latest Monday

Handout: Calculation Reference

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
1	JAN 6 1: Counting Slides Lecture Notes Administrivia Read: Ch 1.1-1.2	JAN 8 2: Permutations and Combinations Lecture Notes Calculation Ref Read: Ch 1.3-1.6 Out: PSet #1	JAN 10 3: Axioms of Probability Lecture Notes Python for Probability Serendipity Demo Read: Ch 2.1-2.5, 2.7
2	JAN 13 4: Conditional Probability and Bayes Lecture Notes Medical Bayes Demo	JAN 15 5: Independence Lecture Notes	JAN 17 6: Random Variables and Expectation Lecture Notes



Geometric series:

$$\sum_{i=0}^n x^i = \frac{1-x^{n+1}}{1-x}$$

$$\sum_{i=m}^n x^i = \frac{x^{n+1}-x^m}{x-1}$$

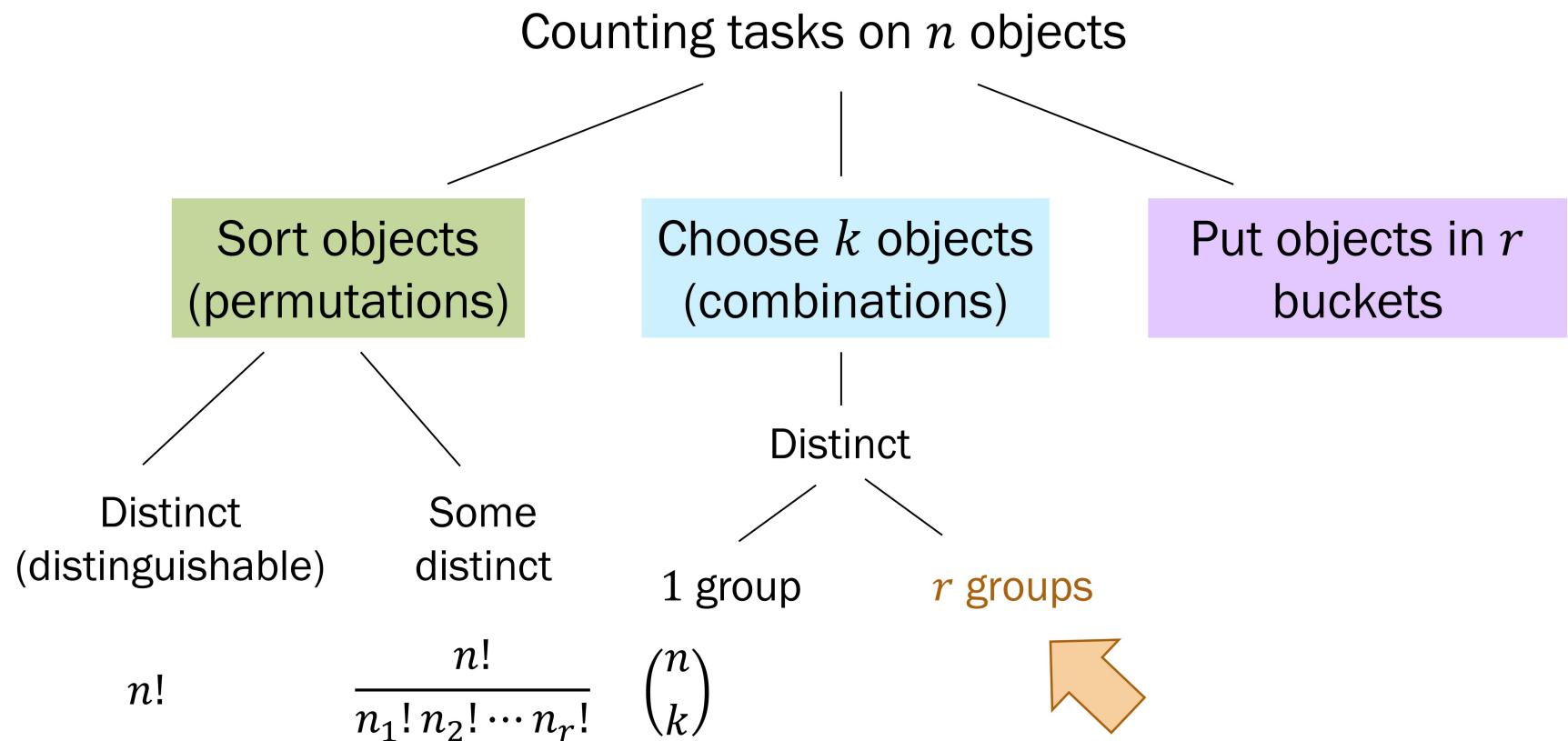
$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} x^i = \frac{1}{1-x} \text{ if } |x| < 1$$

Integration by parts (everyone's favorite!):

Choose a suitable u and dv to decompose the integral of interest:

$$\int u \cdot dv = u \cdot v - \int v \cdot du$$

Summary of Combinatorics



General approach to combinations

The number of ways to choose r groups of n distinct objects such that

For all $i = 1, \dots, r$, group i has size n_i , and

$\sum_{i=1}^r n_i = n$ (all objects are assigned), is

$$\frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_r!} = \binom{n}{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r}$$

Multinomial Coefficient

Datacenters

Choose k of n distinct objects
into r groups of size n_1, \dots, n_r $\binom{n}{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r}$

13 different computers are to be allocated to
3 datacenters as shown in the table:

How many different divisions are possible?

Datacenter	# machines
A	6
B	4
C	3

$$\binom{13}{6, 4, 3} = \frac{13!}{6! 4! 3!} = 60\ 060$$

Datacenters (solution 2)

Choose k of n distinct objects
into r groups of size n_1, \dots, n_r $\binom{n}{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r}$

13 different computers are to be allocated to 3 datacenters as shown in the table:

How many different divisions are possible?

Datacenter	# machines
A	6
B	4
C	3

Steps:

1. Choose 6 computers for A

$$\binom{13}{6}$$

$$\binom{13}{6} \binom{7}{4} \binom{3}{3}$$

2. Choose ~~4~~ 7 computers for B

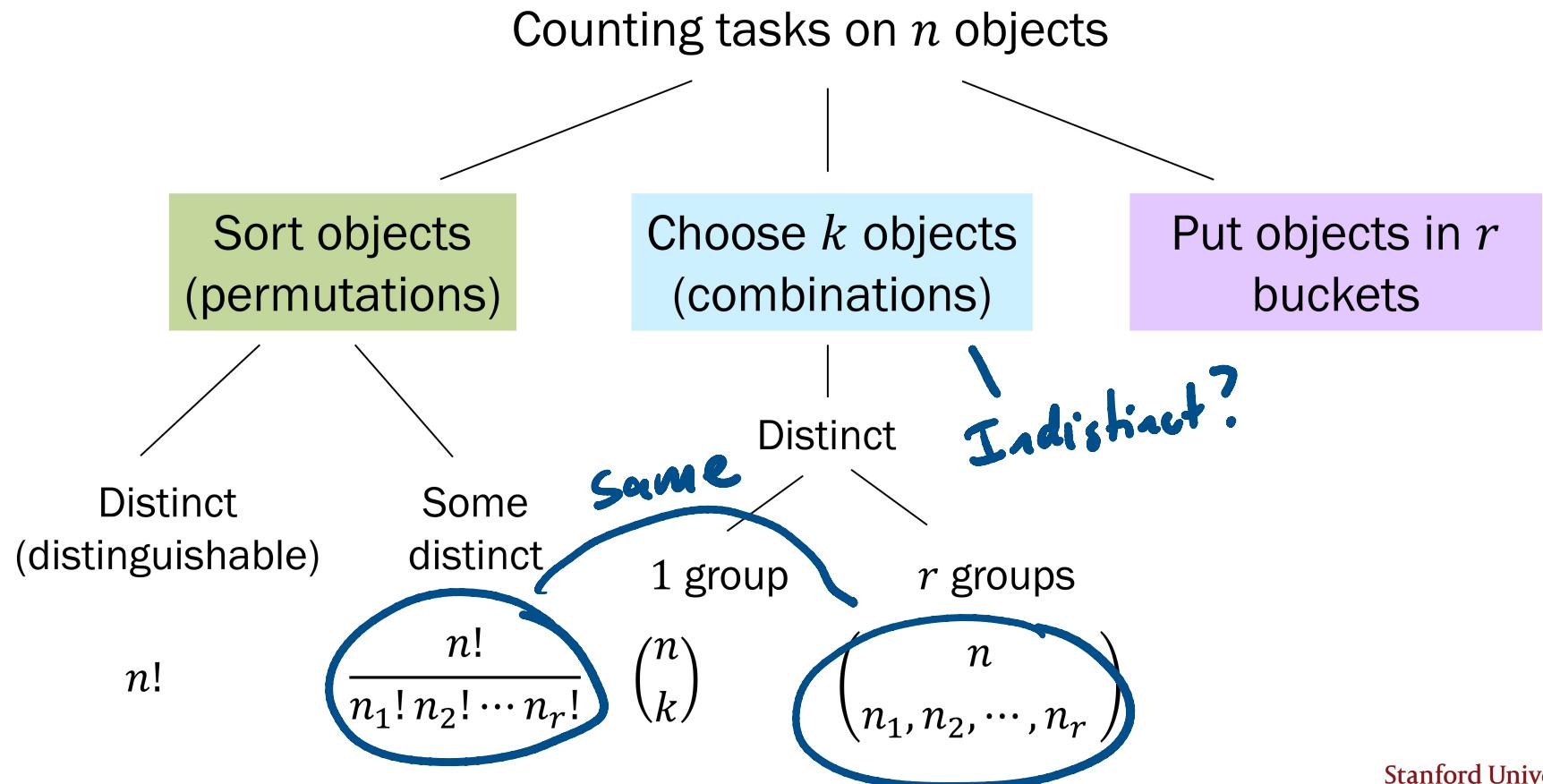
$$\binom{7}{4}$$

$$= 60\,060$$

3. Choose 3 computers for C

$$\binom{3}{3}$$

Summary of Combinatorics



A trick question

Choose k of n distinct objects
into r groups of size n_1, \dots, n_r $\binom{n}{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r}$

How many ways are there to group 6 indistinct (indistinguishable) objects into 3 groups, where group A, B, and C have size 1, 2, and 3, respectively?



Only 1



A (fits 1)



B (fits 2)



C (fits 3)

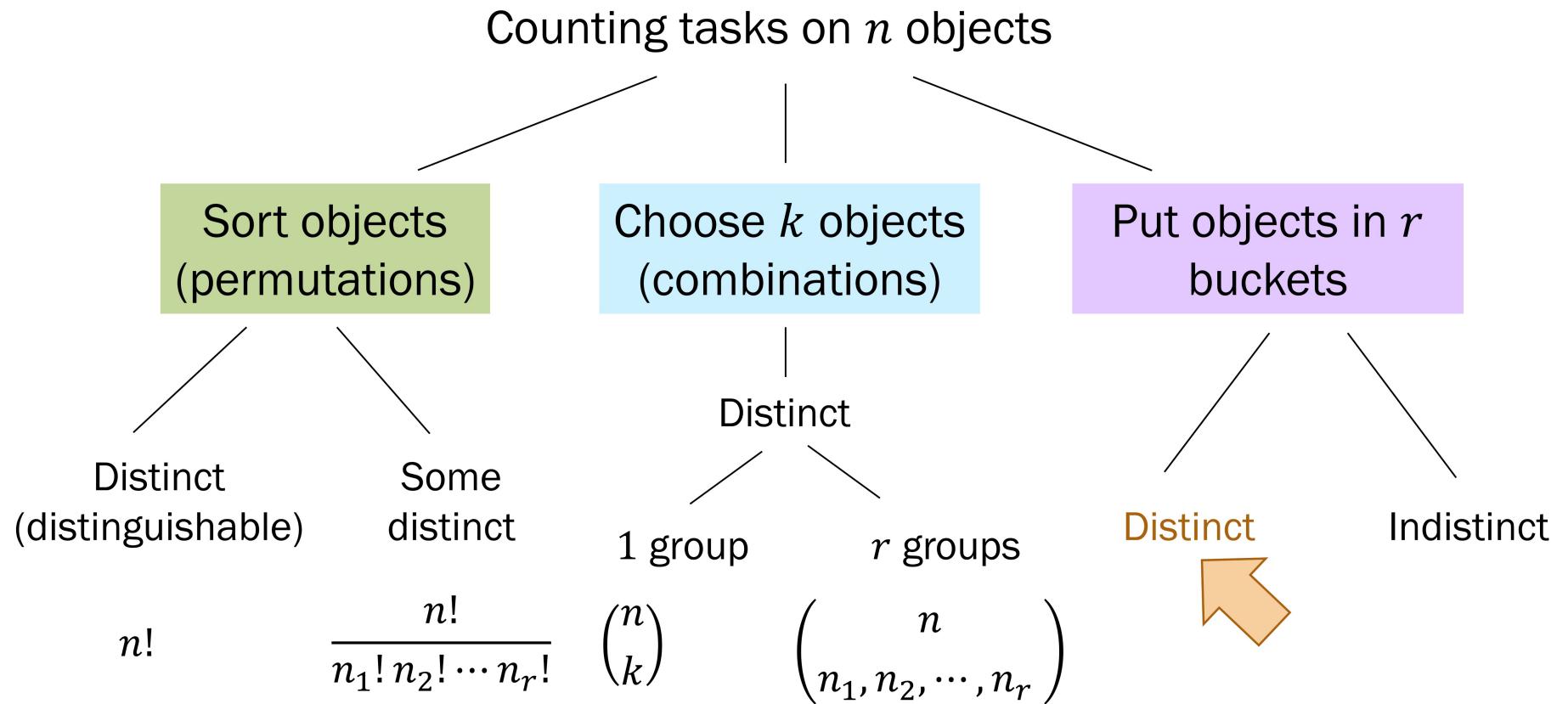
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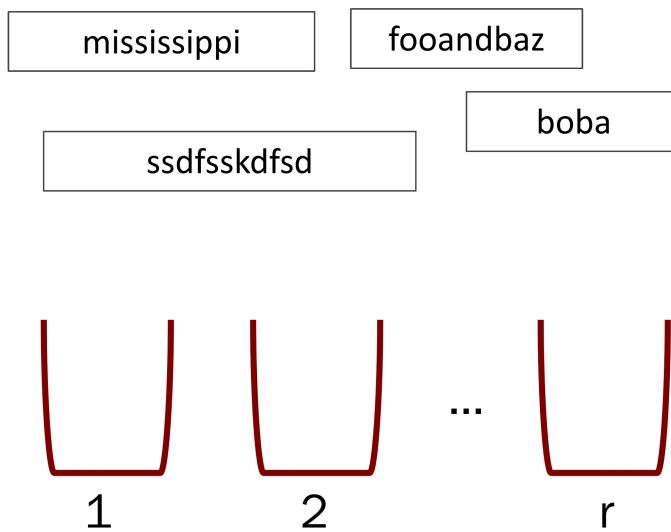
→ Put objects into buckets

Summary of Combinatorics



Hash tables and **distinct** strings

How many ways are there to hash n **distinct** strings to r buckets?



Steps:

1. Bucket 1st string

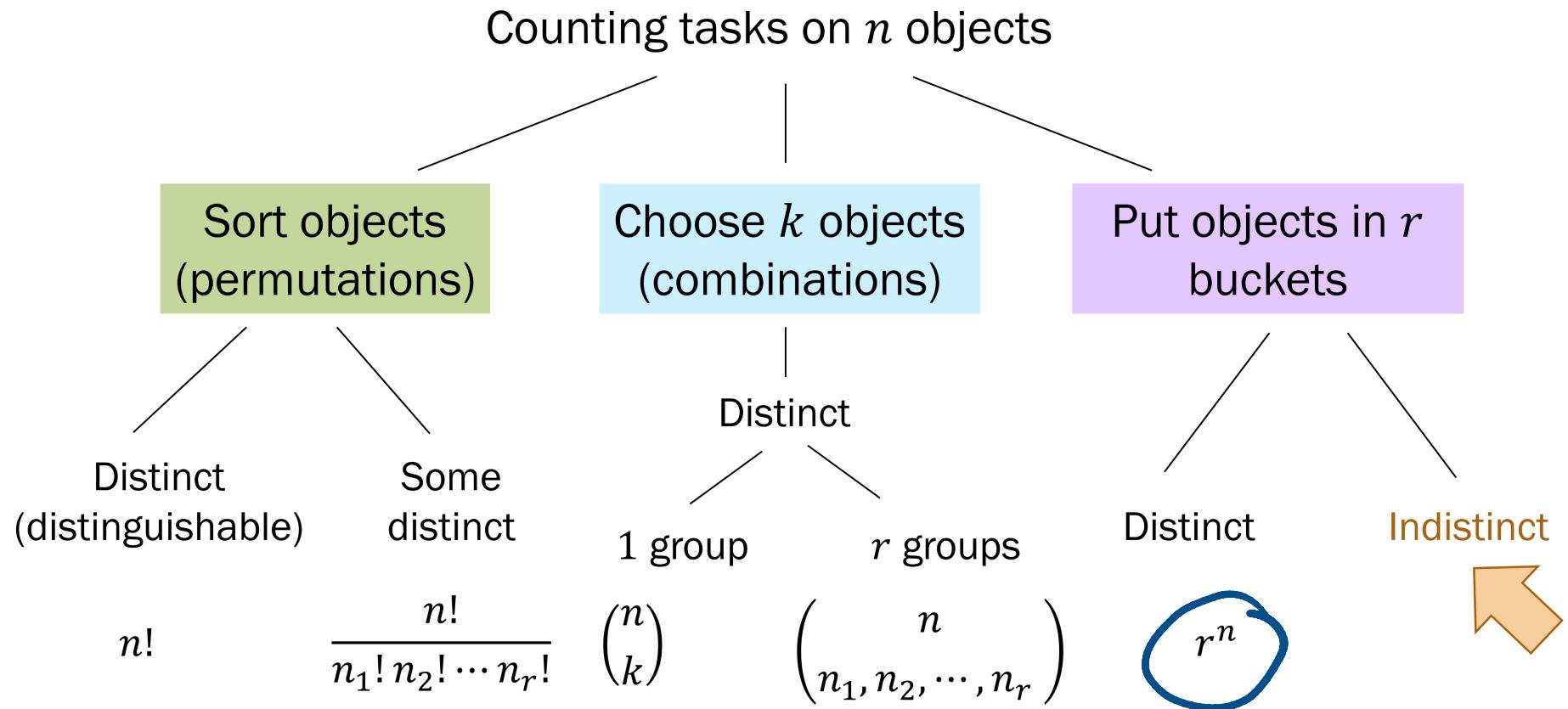
2. Bucket 2nd string

n . Bucket n^{th} string

$$\text{Total} = r^n$$

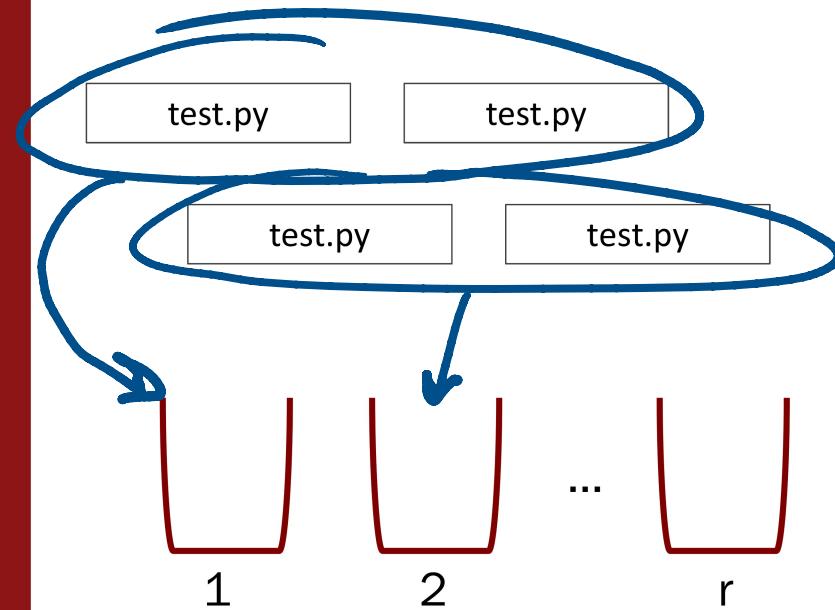
r
r
:
r

Summary of Combinatorics



Hash tables and **indistinct** strings

How many ways are there to distribute n **indistinct** strings to r buckets?



Goal

Bucket 1 has x_1 strings,
Bucket 2 has x_2 strings,

...

Bucket r has x_r strings (the rest)

How many different sets of counts are possible?

Simple example: $n = 3$ strings and $r = 2$ buckets

\underline{sss} $\swarrow \searrow$

\underline{ss} $\swarrow \searrow$ \underline{s}

\underline{s} $\swarrow \searrow$ \underline{ss}

$\swarrow \searrow$ $\underline{\underline{sss}}$

SIMPLIFY DRAWING

\underline{sss} |

\underline{ss} | s

s | \underline{ss}

| \underline{sss}

All permutations
of three S
and one
divider

$$\frac{4!}{3!1!} = \binom{4}{1} = 4$$

Bicycle helmet sales

How many ways can we assign $n = 5$ indistinguishable children to $r = 4$ distinct bicycle helmet styles?



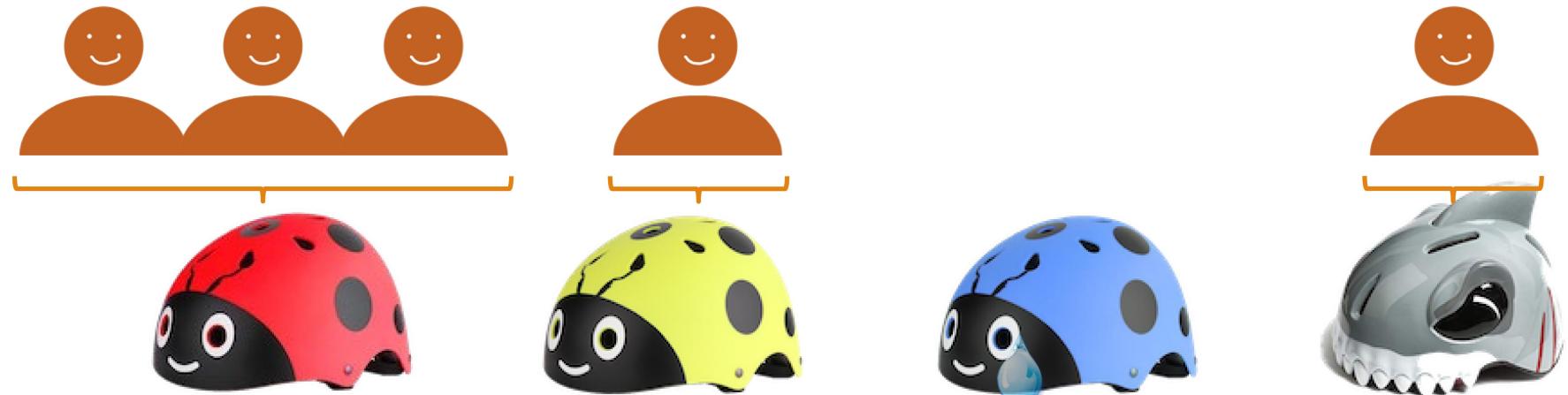
Consider the following generative process...

Bicycle helmet sales: 1 possible assignment outcome

How many ways can we **assign** $n = 5$ indistinguishable children to $r = 4$ distinct bicycle helmet styles?

$n = 5$ indistinct objects

$r = 4$ distinct buckets



Bicycle helmet sales: 1 possible assignment outcome

How many ways can we assign $n = 5$ indistinguishable children to $r = 4$ distinct bicycle helmet styles?

$n = 5$ indistinct objects



$r = 4$ distinct buckets



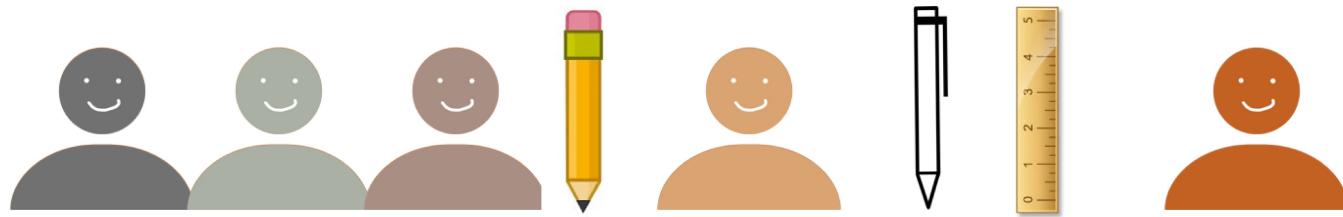
Goal Order n indistinct objects and $r - 1$ indistinct dividers.

Bicycle helmet sales: A generative proof

How many ways can we assign $n = 5$ indistinguishable children to $r = 4$ distinct bicycle helmet styles?

Goal Order n indistinct objects and $r - 1$ indistinct dividers.

0. Make objects and dividers distinct

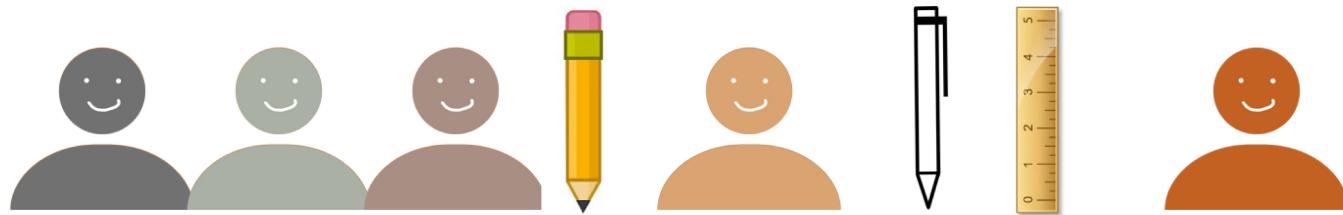


Bicycle helmet sales: A generative proof

How many ways can we assign $n = 5$ indistinguishable children to $r = 4$ distinct bicycle helmet styles?

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1. Order n distinct objects and $r - 1$ distinct dividers

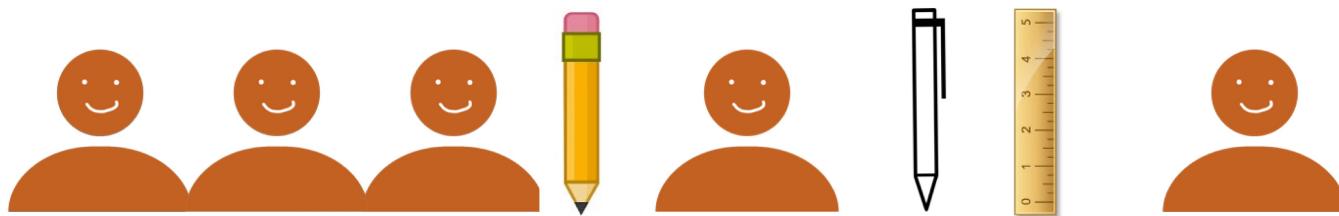
$$(n + r - 1)!$$

Bicycle helmet sales: A generative proof

How many ways can we **assign** $n = 5$ indistinguishable children to $r = 4$ distinct bicycle helmet styles?

Goal Order n **indistinct** objects and $r - 1$ **indistinct** dividers.

0. Make objects and dividers distinct



1. Order n distinct objects and $r - 1$ distinct dividers

$$(n + r - 1)!$$

2. Make n objects indistinct

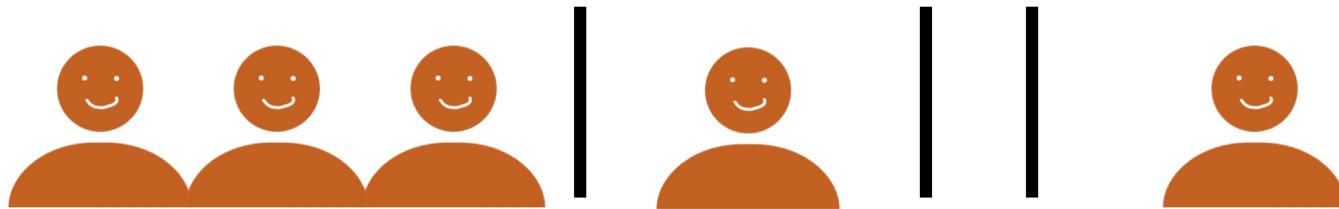
$$\frac{1}{n!}$$

Bicycle helmet sales: A generative proof

How many ways can we assign $n = 5$ indistinguishable children to $r = 4$ distinct bicycle helmet styles?

Goal Order n indistinct objects and $r - 1$ indistinct dividers.

0. Make objects and dividers distinct



1. Order n distinct objects and $r - 1$ distinct dividers

$$(n + r - 1)!$$

2. Make n objects indistinct

$$\frac{1}{n!}$$

3. Make $r - 1$ dividers indistinct

$$\frac{1}{(r - 1)!}$$

Divider method

The number of ways to distribute n indistinct objects into r buckets is equivalent to the number of ways to permute $n + r - 1$ objects such that n are indistinct objects, and $r - 1$ are indistinct dividers:

$$\text{Total} = (n+r-1)! \times \frac{1}{n!} \times \frac{1}{(r-1)!} = \binom{n+r-1}{r-1}$$

Summary of Combinatorics

