

### The Number Permutation of $n$ Objects taken $k$ at a Time

The number of permutations of a set of  $n$  objects taken  $k$  at a time denoted  ${}_nP_k$  is given by

$$(1) \quad {}_nP_k = \underbrace{n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots \{n-(k-1)\}}_{k \text{ factors}}$$

$$(2) \quad = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$$

For a set of  $n$  objects in which  $n_1$  are of one kind,  $n_2$  are of another kind, ..., and  $n_k$  are of a  $k^{th}$  kind, the number of distinguishable permutations is

$$\frac{n!}{n_1! \cdot n_2! \cdot n_k!}$$