

# L22:

## Counting, Permutations, and Combinations



*"a permutation  
lock"*

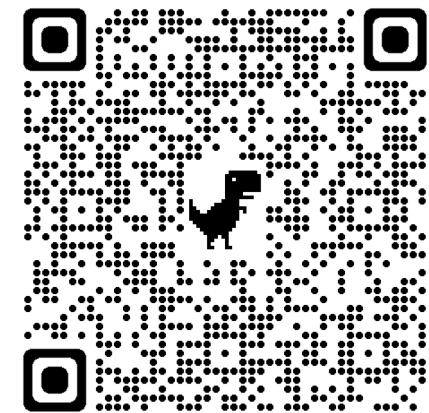


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# Learning Objectives

After today's lecture (and associated readings, discussion & homework), you should be able to:

- Product rule, sum rule, division rule for counting number of objects.
- Permutations
  - Concept/notation for counting *sequences* of things.
- Combinations
  - Concept/notation for counting *sets* of things.

# Outline:

- **Counting and Probability**
  - Product and Sum Rules for counting
- Exercises:
  - Passwords
  - Chessboard configurations
- Permutations: counting bijections
- Notation for  $k$ -permutations and  $k$ -combinations
- Counting poker hands.

# Counting

- The next few lectures are all about *counting things*, and *methods* of counting.
  - Useful inside of proofs using the pigeonhole principle.
  - Used in analysis of algorithms
  - Basis of *discrete probability* (coming soon!)

# Password Combinatorics

- Suppose a password must be ~~12, 13, or 14~~ characters
  - Each character must be a digit (0-9) or an upper- or lower-case letter (a-z, A-Z)
  - Number of unique characters =  $26 + 26 + 10 = 62$ 
    - $\uparrow$  #upper
    - $\uparrow$  #digits
- How many different passwords?

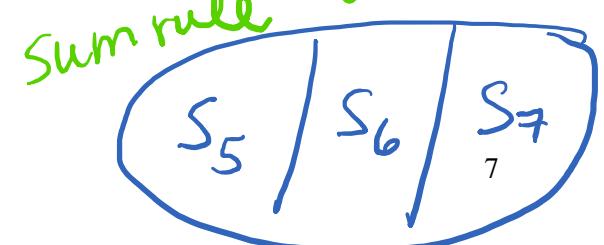
Case 1: 5 chars  $\Rightarrow 62 \cdot 62 \cdot 62 \cdot 62 \cdot 62 = \frac{62^5}{\text{choices}}$

$\overline{62} \quad \overline{62} \quad \overline{62} \quad \overline{62} \quad \overline{62}$

Case 2: 6 chars  $\Rightarrow 62^6$  choices

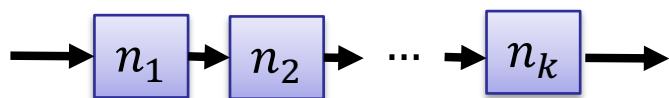
Case 3: 7 chars  $\Rightarrow 62^7$  choices

Total:  
 $62^5 + 62^6 + 62^7$

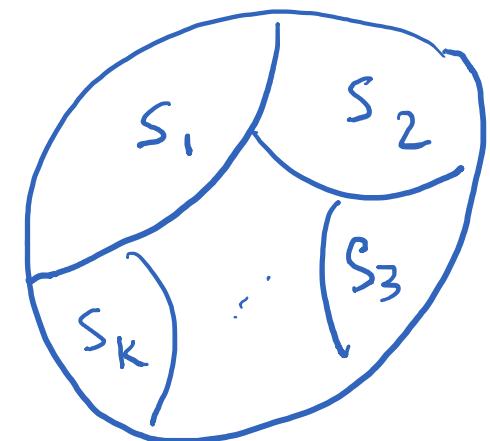


# The Basic Rules of Counting

- **Product Rule:** if an object can be chosen in  $k$  stages, with **exactly  $n_i$  choices** in stage  $i$ , and **no object can be chosen in two different ways**, there are  $n_1 \cdot n_2 \cdot n_3 \cdots n_k$  different objects.



- **Sum Rule:** If an object is in exactly one of the sets  $S_1, \dots, S_k$  and these sets are disjoint, then there are  $|S_1| + |S_2| + \cdots + |S_k|$  different objects.



- **Division Rule:** If there are  $N$  ways to choose an object, and each object can be chosen in exactly  $d$  ways, there are  $N/d$  objects.

used to adjust  
for overcounting

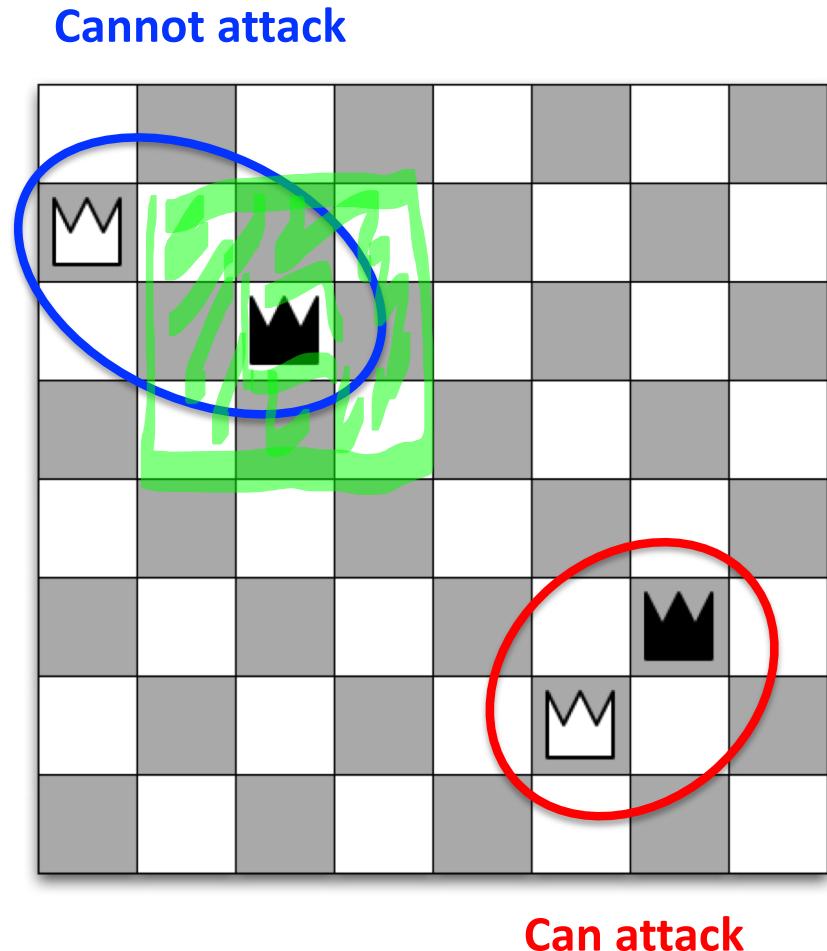
# Password Combinatorics

- Suppose a password must be 12, 13, or 14 characters
  - Each character must be a digit (0-9) or an upper- or lower-case letter (a-z, A-Z)
  - Number of unique characters:  $10+26+26 = 62$
- How many different passwords?
  - **(Product Rule)** A 12-char password can be chosen in 12 stages, 62 options per stage.  $(62)^{12}$  different 12-char passwords.
  - Similar calculations for 13- and 14-char passwords.
  - **(Sum Rule)** Passwords partitioned into 3 disjoint sets  $S_{12}, S_{13}, S_{14}$ . In total the number of passwords is:

$$|S_{12}| + |S_{13}| + |S_{14}| = (62)^{12} + (62)^{13} + (62)^{14}$$

# Chessboard Arrangements

- A king can attack any of the adjacent squares, including the diagonal ones.
- How many ways can two kings be arranged, one white, one black, such that neither is attacking the other?



# Chessboard Arrangements

- A king can attack any of the adjacent squares, including the diagonal ones.
- How many ways can two kings be arranged, one white, one black, such that neither is attacking the other?

Attempt #1:

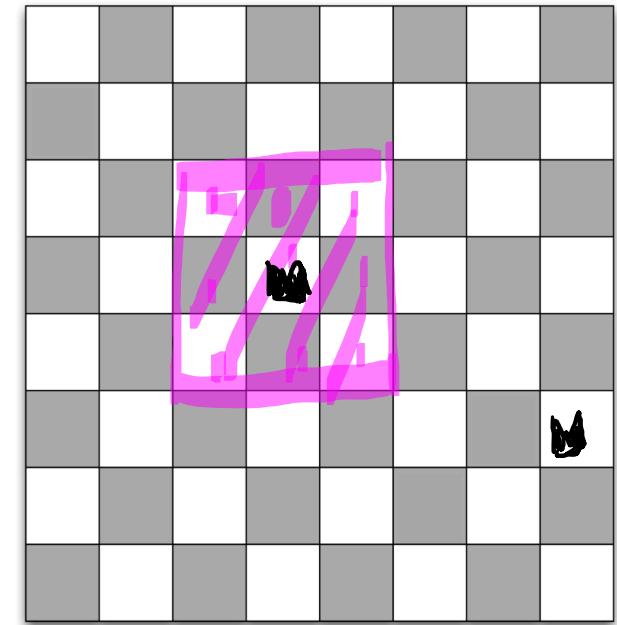
(Incorrect)

Stage 1: place Black King  
⇒ 64 choices

Stage 2: place White King

$$\Rightarrow 64 - 9 = 55$$

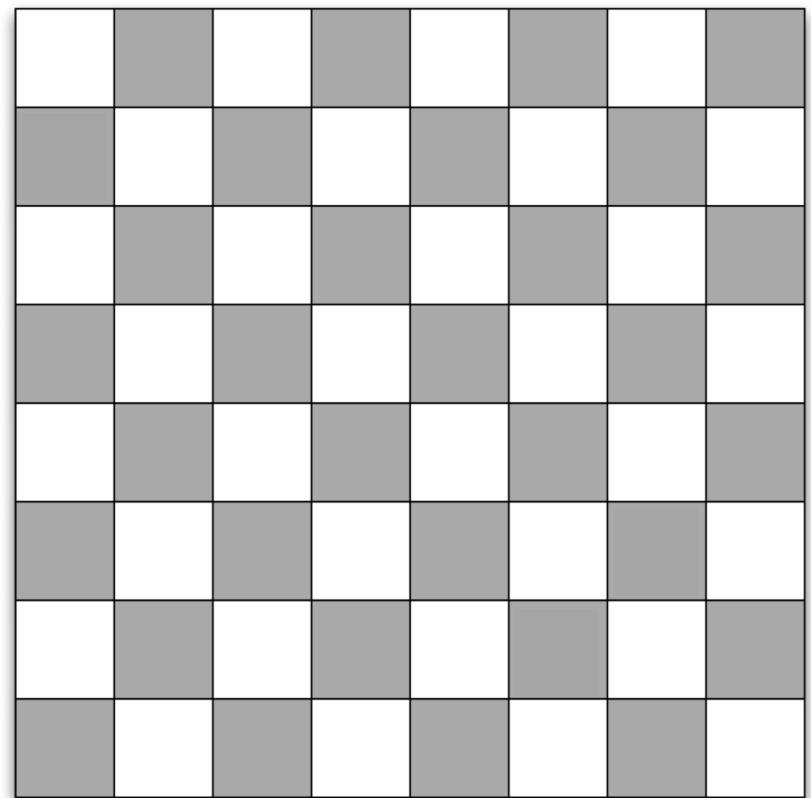
Total: 64 · 55



55 choices if  
Black K was in  
the interior,  
but if Black K  
on edge or  
in corner,  
not 55 choices  
bc not 8 neighbors.

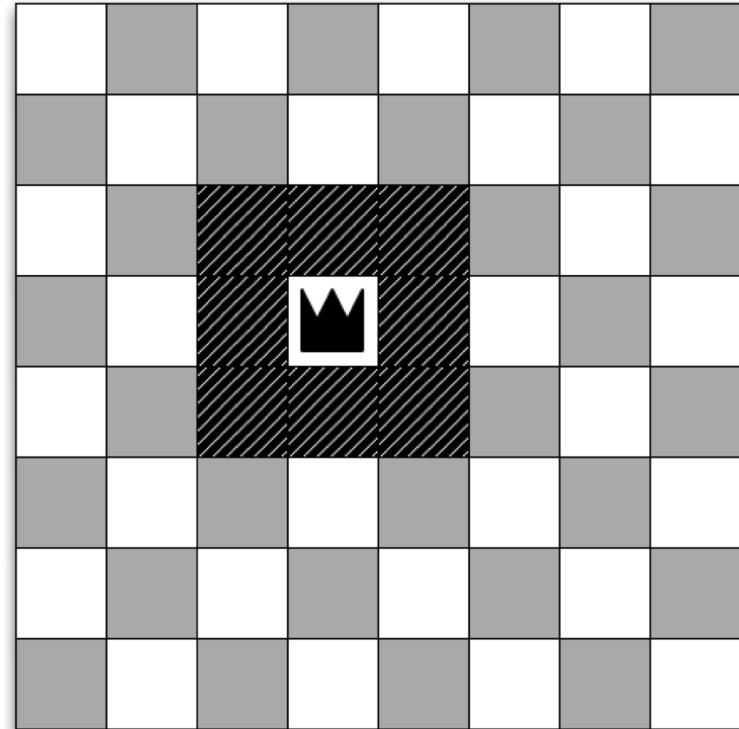
# Chessboard Arrangements

- Try choosing the arrangement in ***two stages*** (product rule).
- Stage 1: place black king.
- Stage 2: place white king.



# Chessboard Arrangements

- Try choosing the arrangement in ***two stages*** (product rule).
- Stage 1: place black king.
  - $8^2 = 64$  choices.
- Stage 2: place white king.
  - $64 - 9 = 55$  options.
- So  $(64)(55)$  is the correct answer?



No. So where did we go wrong?

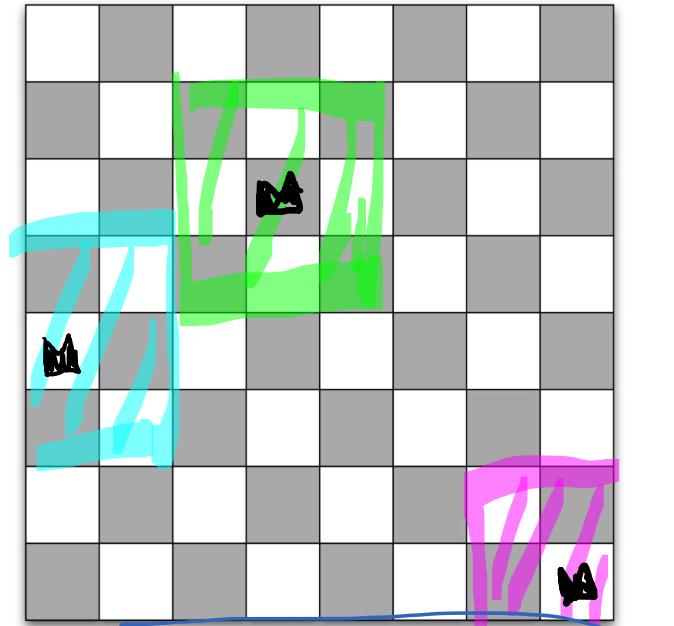
# Chessboard Arrangements

- A king can attack any of the adjacent squares, including the diagonal ones.
- How many ways can two kings be arranged, one white, one black, such that neither is attacking the other?

Case 1: Place Black K in interior  
↳ 36.55 ways  $\Rightarrow \underline{36}$  choices  
place White K  $\Rightarrow 64 - \underline{9} = \underline{55}$

Case 2: Black K in corner  
↳ 4.60 ways  $\Rightarrow \underline{4}$  choices  
place White King:  $64 - \underline{4} = \underline{60}$

Case 3: Black K on edge but not corner  
↳ 24.58 ways  $\Rightarrow \underline{24}$  choices  
place White K:  $64 - \underline{6} = \underline{58}$



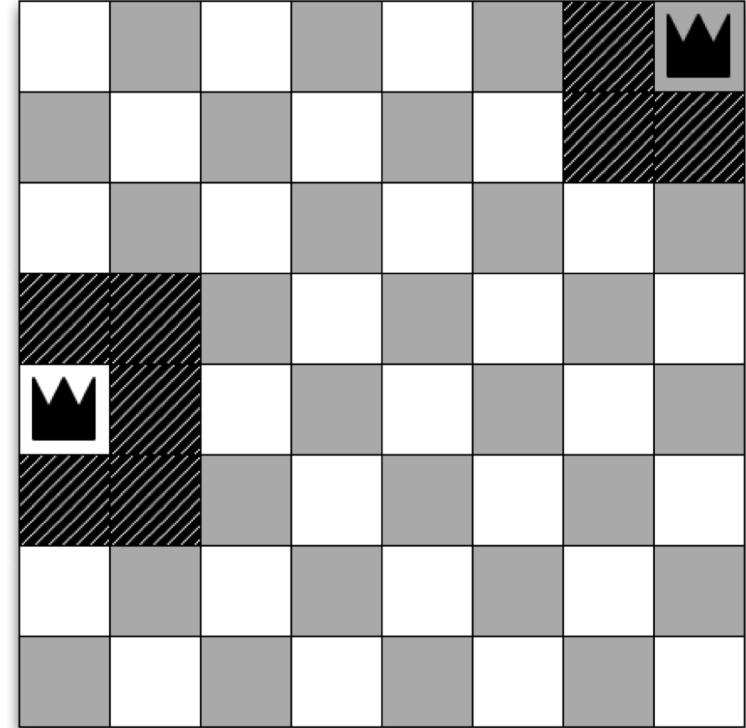
Total:

$$36.55 + 4.60 + 24.58$$

# Chessboard Arrangements

- $S_1$ : black king in interior
  - Stage 1: 36 options
  - Stage 2:  $64 - 9 = 55$  options
- $S_2$ : black king in corner
  - Stage 1: 4 options
  - Stage 2:  $64 - 4 = 60$  options
- $S_3$ : black king on side
  - Stage 1: 24 options
  - Stage 2:  $64 - 6 = 58$  options
- **(Sum Rule)**

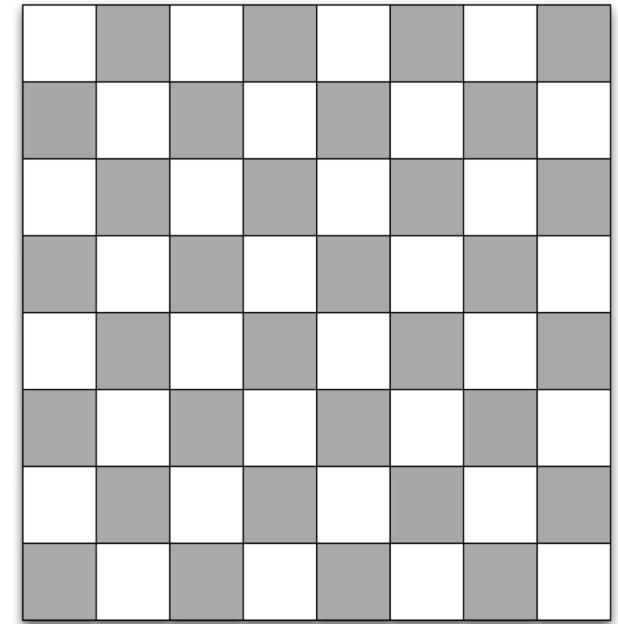
$$- |S_1| + |S_2| + |S_3| = 36 \cdot 55 + 4 \cdot 60 + 24 \cdot 58 = 3612$$



Leave YOUR answers **unsimplified**  
(unless otherwise prompted)

# Chessboard Arrangements #2

- Same rules, but what if both kings are white (instead of one white, one black).
- How many arrangements are there now?



# Chessboard Arrangements #2

- Same rules, but what if both kings are white (instead of one white, one black).
- How many arrangements are there now?
- **(Division Rule)** There are 3612 ways to place two kings *in order* (first one, then the other). When order doesn't matter (because both kings are white), each arrangement can be selected in exactly 2 ways.
- Therefore there are  $\frac{3612}{2} = 1806$  arrangements of two white kings.

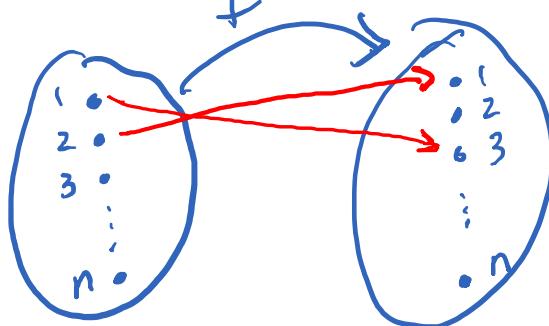
# Outline:

- Counting and Probability
  - Product and Sum Rules for counting
- Exercises:
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- **Permutations: counting bijections**
- Notation for  $k$ -permutations and  $k$ -combinations
- Counting poker hands.

# Permutations & bijections

- How many bijections are there of the form

$$f: \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$$



$$\begin{aligned}n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots (1) \\= n!\end{aligned}$$

$$f(1) = \underline{\underline{3}} \quad \leftarrow n \text{ choices}$$

$$f(2) = \underline{\underline{1}} \quad \leftarrow n-1 \text{ choices}$$

$$f(3) = \underline{\underline{\quad}} \quad \leftarrow n-2 \text{ choices}$$

$$\vdots$$
$$w22 f(n) = \underline{\underline{\quad}} \quad \leftarrow 1 \text{ choice}$$

can't map to  
 $f(1)$  because f  
is a bij. (f is 1-1)

# Permutations & Bijections

- How many bijections are there of the form  $f: \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$  ?
- **(Product Rule)**
  - Stage 1: choose  $f(1) = ?$  ( $n$  choices)
  - Stage 2: choose  $f(2) = ?$  ( $n - 1$  choices left)
  - ...
  - Stage  $n - 1$ : choose  $f(n - 1) = ?$  (2 choices left)
  - Stage  $n$ : choose  $f(n) = ?$  (1 choice left)
- Answer:  $n! = \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} i$ .

# Permutations & Combinations

- $P(n, k)$  = the number of ways to pick a **sequence** of  $k$  things from a set of size  $n$ .
  - **(Prod Rule)**  $P(n, k) = n(n - 1) \cdots (n - k + 1) = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$ .
- $C(n, k) = \binom{n}{k}$  = the number of ways to pick a **set** (unordered) of  $k$  things from a set of size  $n$ .
  - **(Division Rule)** Start by picking a **sequence** of  $k$  things, then forget the order. How many ways could you have picked that set?
    - $C(n, k) = \binom{n}{k} = \frac{P(n, k)}{k!} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$ .

# Permutations, and Combinations

$(A, B, C)$  is different from  $(B, A, C)$

$\{A, B, C\}$  same as  $\{B, A, C\}$

## Permutations

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

- # of Sequences of length  $k$ , selected from a set of  $n$  things  
*order matters*
- Repetition allowed? No

Ex: Have group of  $n$  ppl  
Take  $k$  of them and  
line them up  
7 ppl, line up 3 for a pic:

1 6 5

## Combinations

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

- # of Sets of size  $k$ , selected from a set of  $n$  things  
*order doesn't matter*
- Repetition allowed? No

Ex: Group of  $n$  ppl.  
choose  $k$  to get ice cream

Have 7 ppl,  
choose 3 to get  
ice cream:  $7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 / 3!$

$$= \frac{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}$$

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- Permutations: counting bijections
- Notation for  $k$ -permutations and  $k$ -combinations
- **Counting poker hands.**

# Poker Hands

- A deck consists of 52 cards (13 *ranks* in 4 *suits*).
- How many *5-card hands* are there?

$$f \left( \frac{52}{A\heartsuit}, \frac{51}{2\heartsuit}, \frac{50}{Q\heartsuit}, \frac{49}{3\heartsuit}, \frac{48}{10\heartsuit} \right)$$

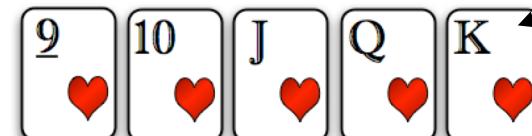
$$f \left( 2\spadesuit, Q\heartsuit, A\heartsuit, 10\heartsuit, 3\spadesuit \right)$$

$$\frac{52 \cdot 51 \cdot 50 \cdot 49 \cdot 48}{5!} = \binom{52}{5}$$

same hand

$$= \frac{52!}{47!5!}$$

STRAIGHT



STRAIGHT FLUSH

3 OF A KIND



4 OF A KIND

2 PAIR



FULL HOUSE

Lowest

PAIR



FLUSH

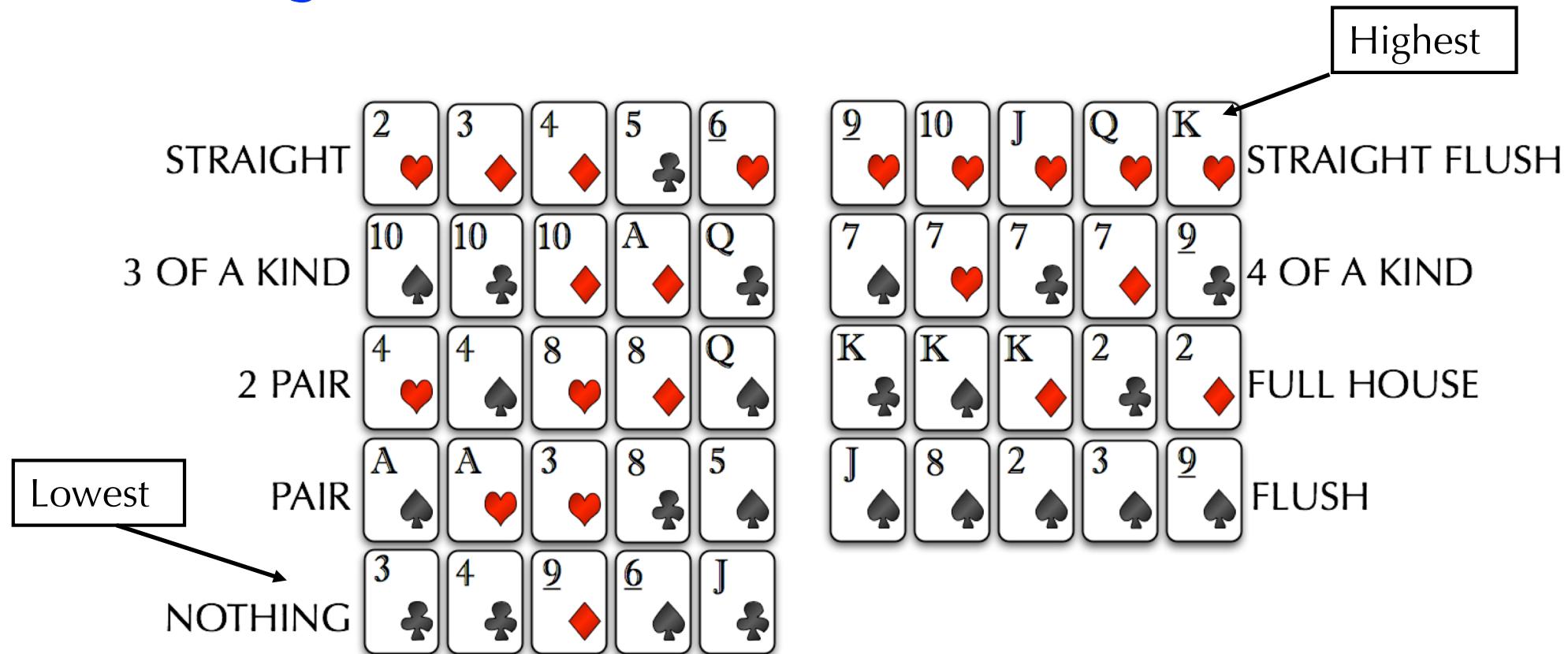
NOTHING



# Poker Hands

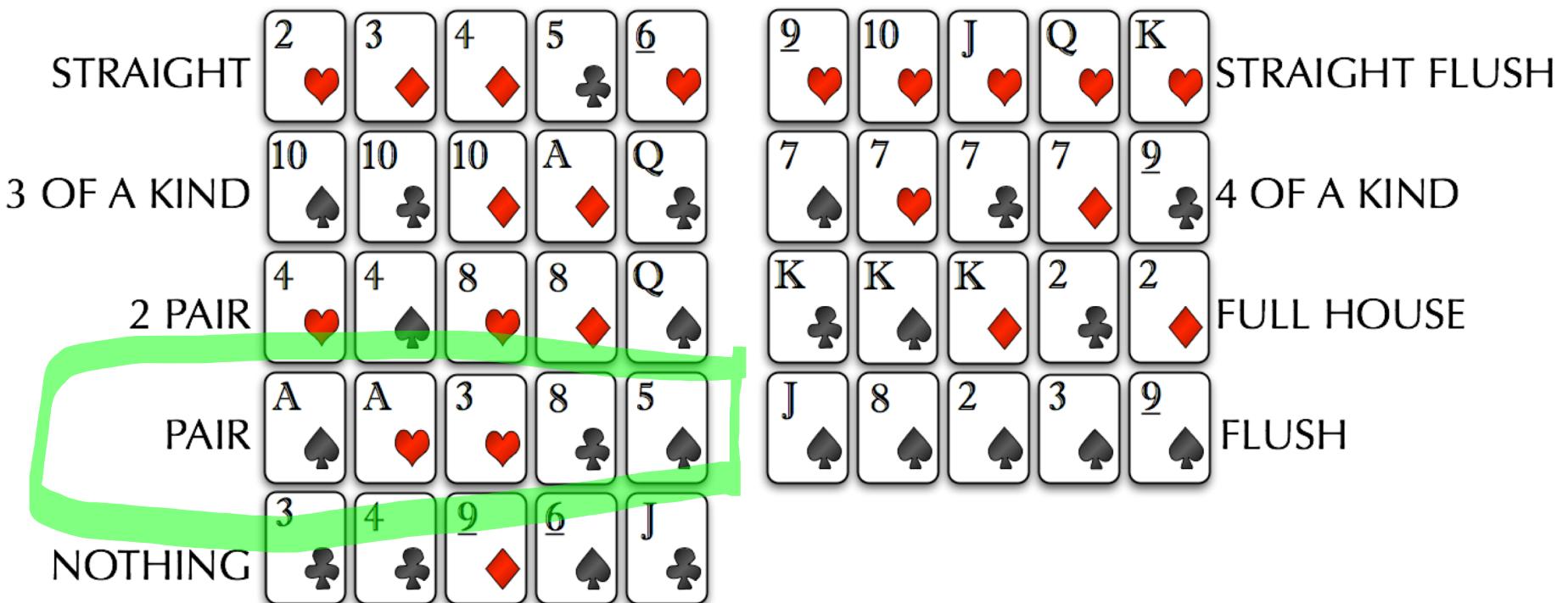
- A deck consists of 52 cards (13 *ranks* in 4 *suits*).
- How many *5-card hands* are there?

$$\binom{52}{5} = \frac{52 \cdot 51 \cdot 50 \cdot 49 \cdot 48}{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = 2,598,960$$



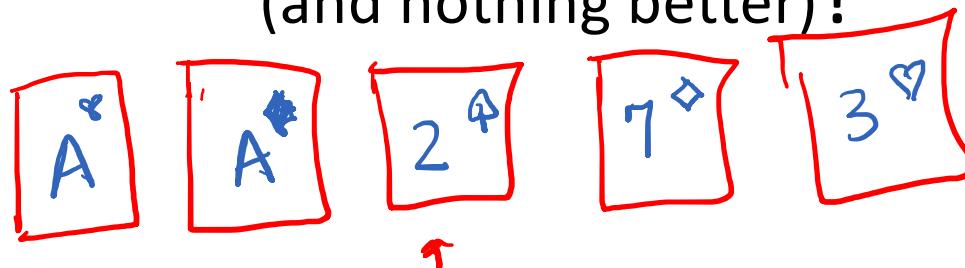
# Poker Hands

- How many ways are there to make a pair (and nothing better)?



# Exercise: How many ways to make a pair

(and nothing better)?



Total:

$$\frac{13 \cdot 48 \cdot 44 \cdot 40 \binom{4}{2}}{3!}$$

Stage 1: pick rank for the pair : 13 choices

A

Stage 2: pick 1<sup>st</sup> nonpair card :  $52 - 4 = 48$  choices

2 ♦

2 different rank than  
the pair

stage 3: pick 2<sup>nd</sup> nonpair card:  
different rank

$$52 - 8 = 44 \text{ choices}$$

7 ♦

Stage 4: pick 3<sup>rd</sup> nonpair card  
different rank

$$52 - 12 = 40 \text{ choices}$$

3 ♠

Stage 5: pick suits for the pair

$$\binom{4}{2}$$

{♦, ♣}

# Poker Hands

- How many ways are there to make a pair (and nothing better)?
- Stage 1: pick the rank of the pair
  - 13 options.
- Stage 2: pick the suits of the pair
  - $\binom{4}{2} = 6$  ways to pick 2 suits.
- Stage 3: pick the 3<sup>rd</sup> card of a **different** rank : 48 options.
- Stage 4: pick the 4<sup>th</sup> card of a **different** rank : 44 options.
- Stage 5: pick the 5<sup>th</sup> card of a **different** rank : 40 options.

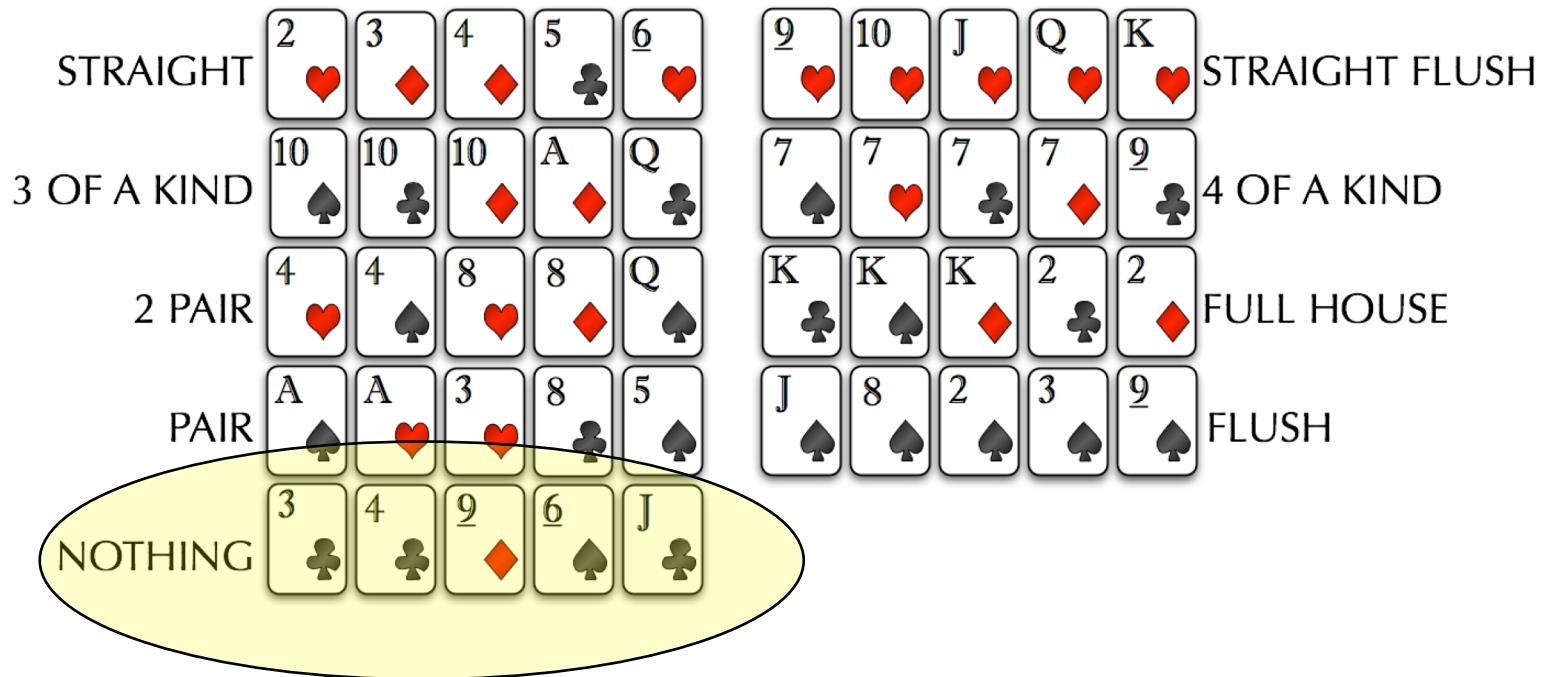
Is the number of pairs  $13 \cdot 6 \cdot 48 \cdot 44 \cdot 40$  ?

# Poker Hands

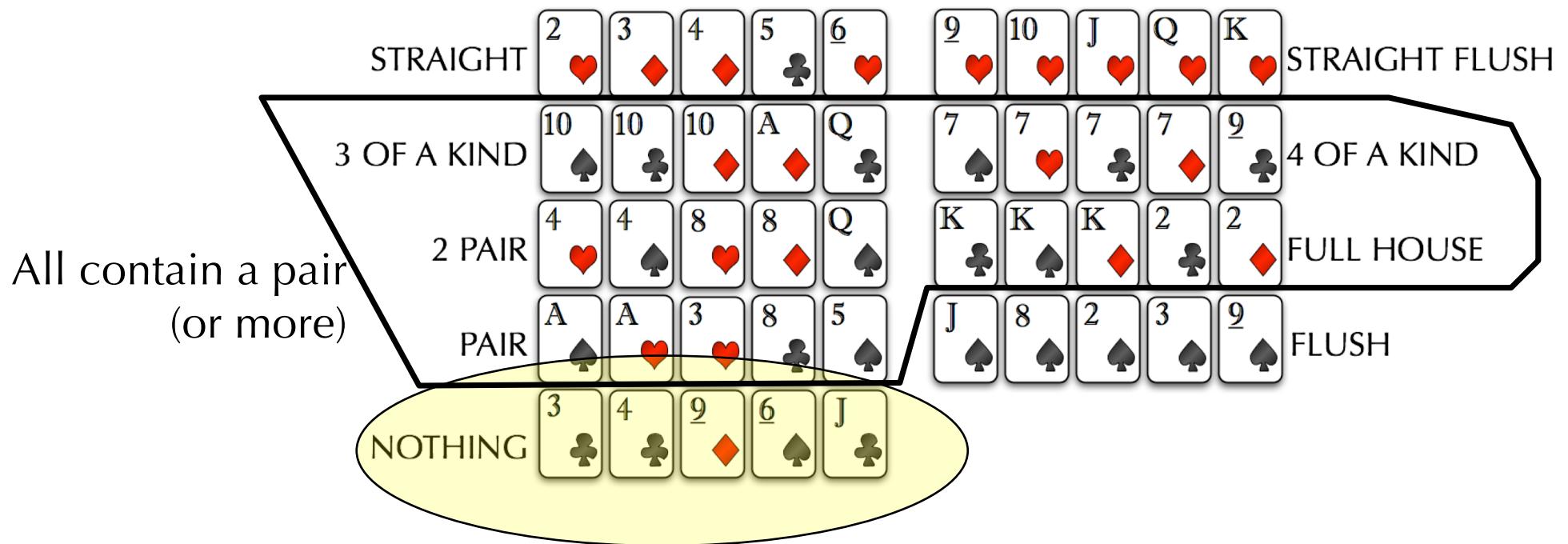
- How many ways are there to make a pair (and nothing better)?
- Stage 1: pick the rank of the pair
  - 13 options.
- Stage 2: pick the suits of the pair
  - $\binom{4}{2} = 6$  ways to pick 2 suits.
- Stage 3: pick the 3<sup>rd</sup> card of a **different** rank : 48 options.
- Stage 4: pick the 4<sup>th</sup> card of a **different** rank : 44 options.
- Stage 5: pick the 5<sup>th</sup> card of a **different** rank : 40 options.
- How many ways can the same hand be picked?
- **(Prod., Div. Rule)**  $\frac{13 \cdot 6 \cdot 48 \cdot 44 \cdot 40}{3!} = 1,098,240$  pa

These 3 cards could have been picked in any order!

# Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

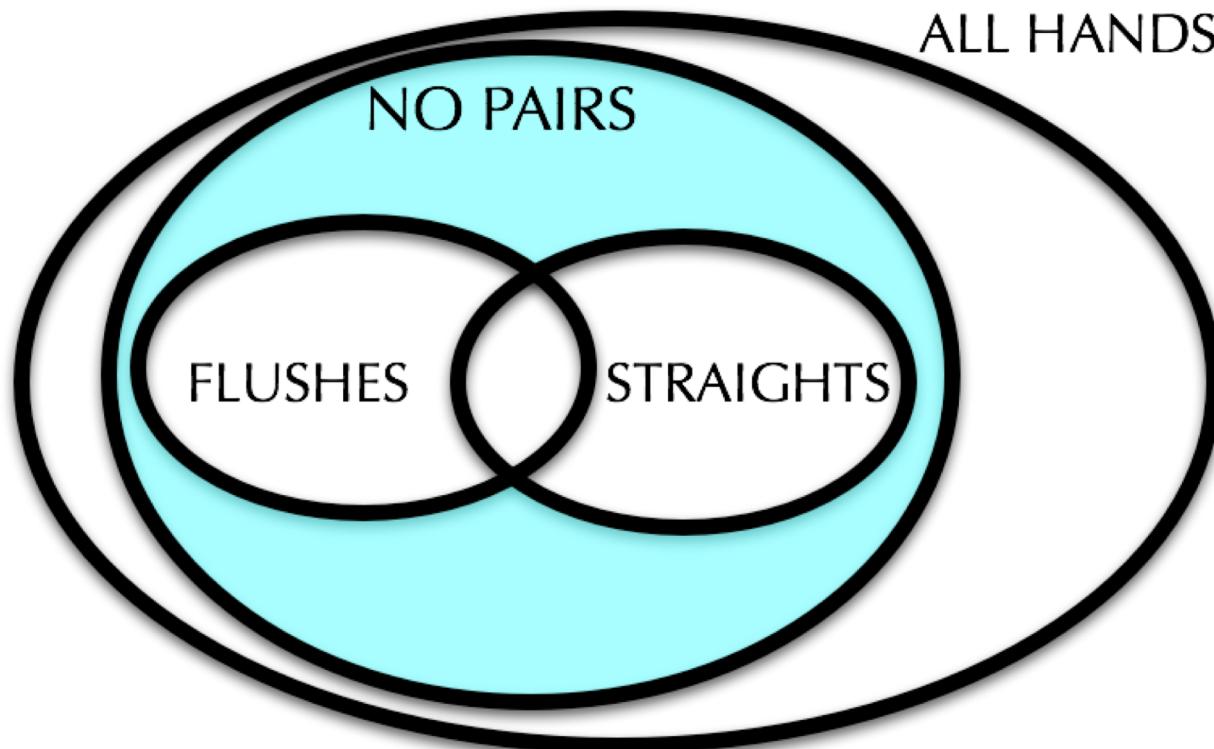


# Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?



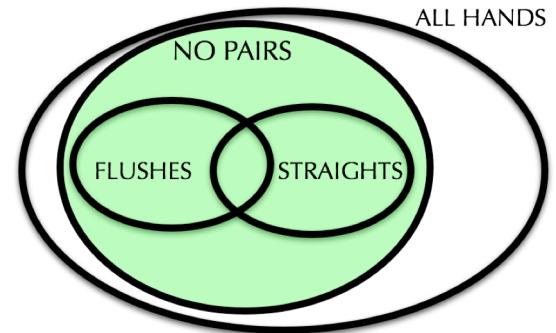
# Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

- We're counting hands:
  - (1) without pairs
  - (2) that also do not contain straights or flushes



Part of Bigger Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

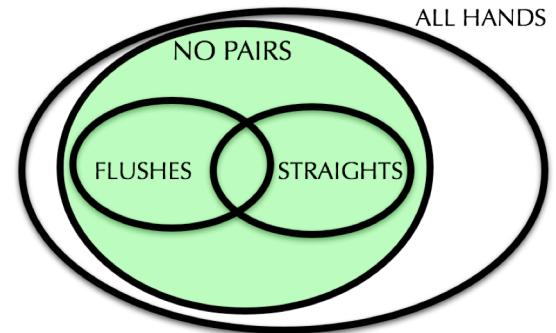
# No Pairs



- Exercise: how many ways are there to make ***no pairs*** (all 5 cards different rank). (Pick it in stages!)

Part of Bigger Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

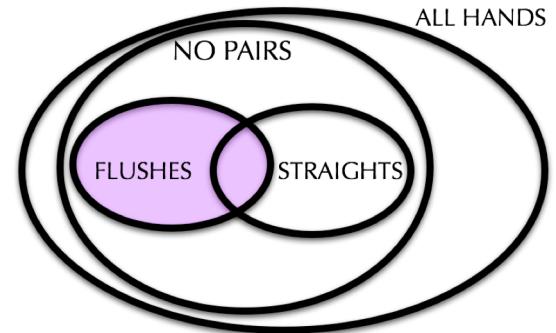
# No Pairs



- Exercise: how many ways are there to make ***no pairs*** (all 5 cards different rank). (Pick it in stages!)
- Solution:
  - Stage 1: pick any card. 52 choices.
  - Stage 2: pick any card of a new rank. 48 choices.
  - Stage 3: pick any card of a new rank. 44 choices.
  - Stage 4: pick any card of a new rank. 40 choices.
  - Stage 5: pick any card of a new rank. 36 choices.
  - Observation: every hand could have been picked in  $5!$  ways.
    - $\frac{52 \cdot 48 \cdot 44 \cdot 40 \cdot 36}{5!} = 1,317,888$  hands with no pairs.

Part of Bigger Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

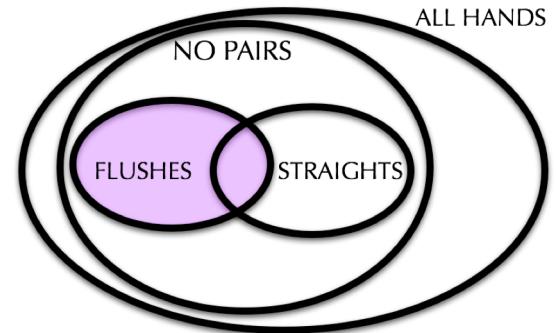
# Flushes



- Exercise: how many ways are there to make *a flush* (all 5 cards the same suit). Try 2 stages.

Part of Bigger Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

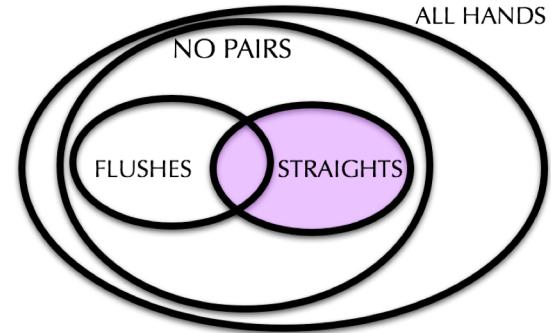
# Flushes



- Exercise: how many ways are there to make *a flush* (all 5 cards the same suit). Try 2 stages.
- Solution:
  - Stage 1: pick a suit. 4 choices.
  - Stage 2: pick a set of 5 cards in that suit.  $\binom{13}{5} = \frac{13!}{8!5!}$
  - Every hand is picked in exactly one way:  $4 \binom{13}{5} = 5,148$  flushes.

Part of Bigger Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

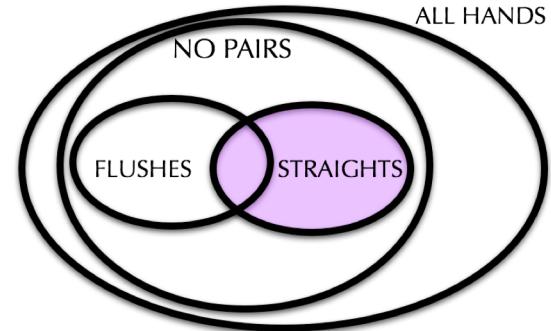
# Straights



- Exercise: how many ways are there to make ***straight*** (5 consecutive ranks; aces can be low or high).

Part of Bigger Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

# Straights



- Exercise: how many ways are there to make **straight** (5 consecutive ranks; aces can be low or high).
- Solution:
  - Stage 1: pick the lowest rank. 10 choices {A,2,3,...,10}.
  - Stage 2: pick the suit of the lowest card. 4 choices.
  - ...
  - Stage 6: pick the suit of the highest card. 4 choices.
  - Each hand picked in exactly one way.  $10 \cdot 4^5 = 10,240$  straights.

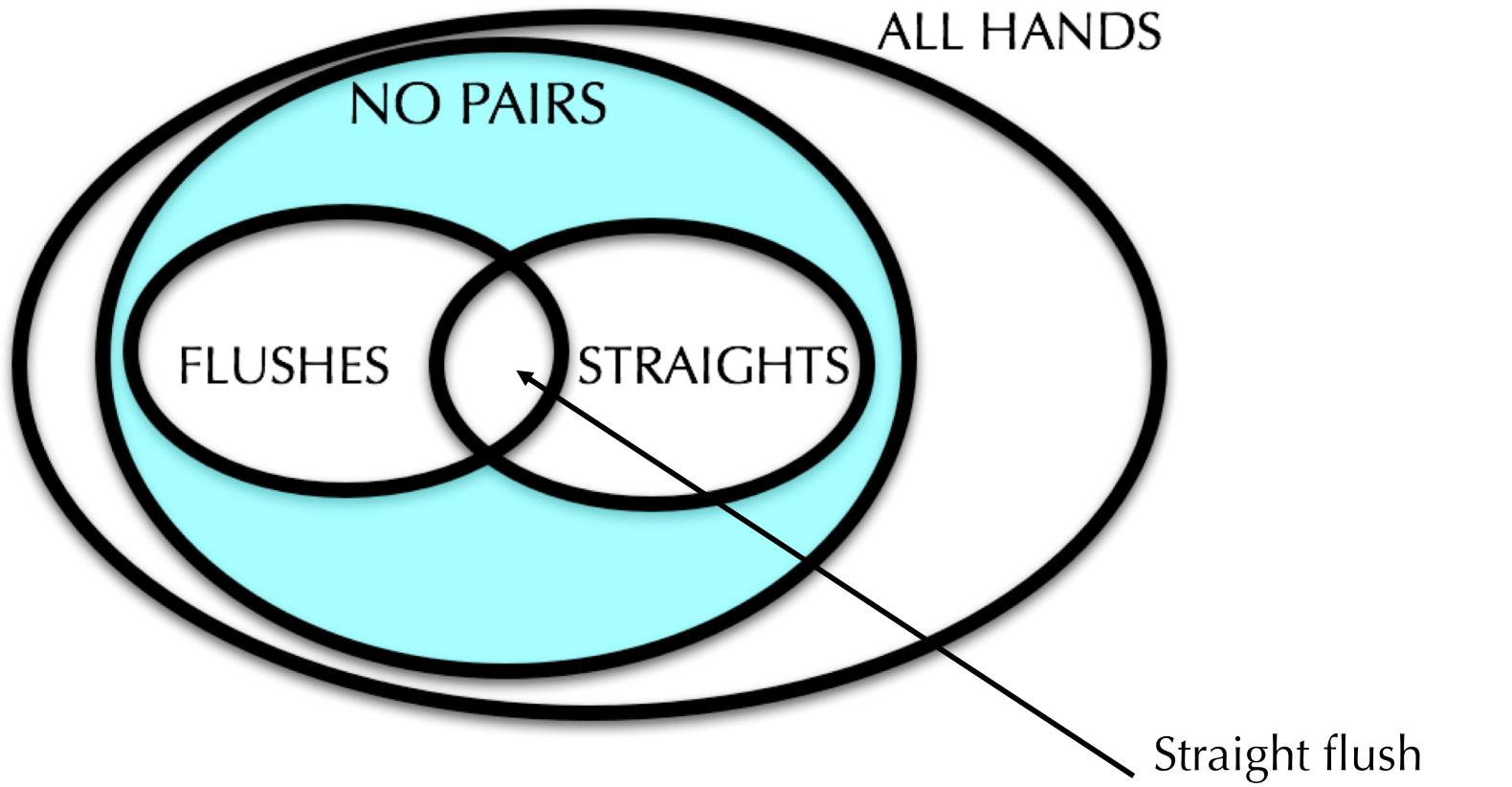
***Are we done? What is the next exercise?***

Part of Bigger Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

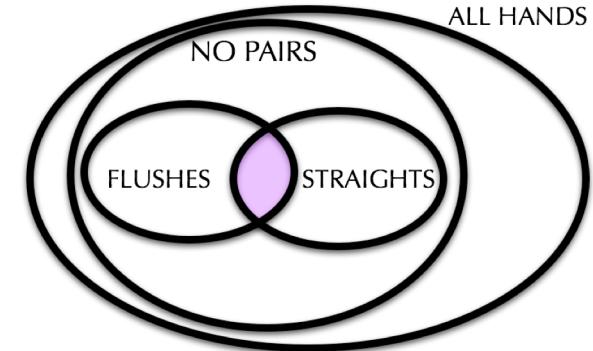
# Back to the Venn diagram

Ways to make “nothing”

$$= (\# \text{no pairs}) - (\# \text{flushes}) - (\# \text{straights}) + (\# \text{straightflushes})$$



Part of Bigger Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

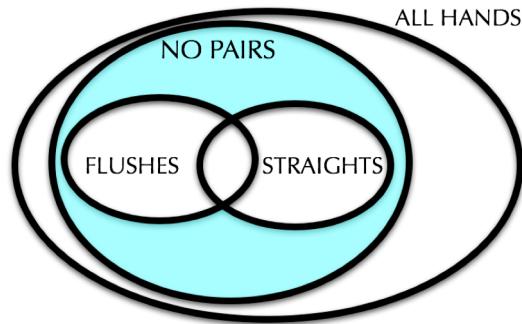


# Straight Flushes

- Exercise: how many ways are there to make a ***straight flush*** (5 consecutive rank, all the same suit).
- Solution:
  - Stage 1: pick the suit. 4 choices.
  - Stage 2: pick the lowest rank. 10 choices.
  - (Once stages 1 and 2 are done all 5 cards are determined. There is nothing more to decide.)
  - $4 \cdot 10 = 40$  straight flushes.

# Exercise: How many ways to make nothing?

- We're counting hands:
  - (1) without pairs
  - (2) that also do not contain straights or flushes



$$\begin{aligned}(\# \text{ nothing}) &= (\# \text{no pairs}) - (\#\text{straights}) - (\#\text{flushes}) + (\#\text{straight flushes}) \\&= 4 \binom{13}{5} - 10 \cdot 4^5 - 4 \binom{13}{5} + 4 \cdot 10 \\&= 1,302,540.\end{aligned}$$

# Recap

- **Product, Sum, Division** rules are applicable to all kinds of counting problems.
- Permutations and Combinations are particularly useful concepts in counting:
  - $P(n, k) = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$  : the number of ways to pick a **sequence** of  $k$  things, out of a set of  $n$  possible things.  
  
**Order matters**
  - $C(n, k) = \binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!k!}$  : the number of ways to pick a **set** of  $k$  things, out of a set of  $n$  possible things.  
  
**Order doesn't matter**