



*Creativity is intelligence having fun  
- Albert Einstein*

# 206 Discrete Structures II

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# What we will cover today

## Combinatorics

- Recap
  - Counting (Partition, Difference, Product Rule)
- Today
  - Counting
    - Product Rule
    - Bijection Rule
  - Permutations/Combinations (Intro...)
- Next
  - Pigeonhole Principle

# Course Outline

- Part I
  - ~~Recap of basics – sets, function, proofs, induction~~
  - Basic counting techniques
  - Pigeonhole principle
  - Generating functions
- Part II
  - Sample spaces and events
  - Basics of probability
  - Independence, conditional probability
  - Random variables, expectation, variance
  - Moment generating functions
- Part III
  - Graph Theory
  - Machine learning and statistical inference

Counting



# Counting

- In the next few lectures
    - Fundamental tools and techniques for counting
    - Sum Rule
    - Product Rule
    - Difference Method
    - Bijection Method
    - Permutations/Combinations
    - Inclusion Exclusion
    - Binomial/Multinomial coefficients
- Fundamental  
Blocks*
- Intermediate*
- Advanced*

# Product Rule $A \times B$

- Elements of  $A \times B$  are ordered pairs:

$$A \times B = \{(x, y) : x \in A, y \in B\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Product Rule:} \\ |A \times B| = |A| \cdot |B| \end{array}$$

- To create  $A \times B$  elements, we choose one element from A and also one element from B.

e.g., If there are 4 types of coffee

{espresso, americano, cappuccino, latte}

and 3 types of sugar

{raw sugar, white sugar, and brown sugar}

then there are  $12 = 4 \times 3$  ways to make a coffee.

# Product Method: Creating Pairs

- If I roll a white and black die, how many possible outcomes do I see?

$A =$  all outcomes of black die  
 $B =$  all outcomes of white die

$$\text{all outcomes} = |A \times B| = |A| \cdot |B| = 36$$

**Question: Can you make the above question not solvable with the product rule?**

*Remember: Now we are leaving behind us our ability to count elements and start developing skills that help us count sets without explicitly counting their elements*



# Product Rule: Creating Sequences

- A restaurant has a menu with 5 Appetizers, 6 Entrees, 3 Salads, and 7 Desserts.
  - How many ways to choose a complete meal?

$$A = \text{all possible complete meals}$$

$$= \left\{ (App, Entree, Salad, Dessert) \right\}$$

$$|A| = 5 \times 6 \times 3 \times 7$$

5 choices for Appetizers

6 " " Entree

3 " " Salad

7 " " Dessert



# Product Rule

- A restaurant has a menu with 5 Appetizers, 6 Entrees, 3 Salads, and 7 Desserts
- How many ways to choose a meal if I'm allowed to skip some (or all) the courses?

$$A = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (APP, Entree, Salad, Dessert) \\ (APP) \\ (Entree) \\ \vdots \end{array} \right\}$$

Step 1: Make all elements the same length by including a null option. For ex: (Entree) becomes (null, Entree, null, null)

Step 2: 6 choices for Appetizer, 7 for Entree, 4 for Salad, 8 Dessert

$$\text{Answer} = 6 \times 7 \times 4 \times 8$$

# When to use Partition vs. Product Rule?



- Key: Do you have to choose an arrangement of a set A AND an arrangement of set B, or an arrangement of A OR an arrangement of B?
- If you choose arrangements **for both**, you use the **product rule**: The set of all possible choices is the cartesian product of the choices for one, and the choices for the other.
- If you choose an arrangement from one **OR** from the other, you use the **sum rule**: *The set of all possible choices is the sum (disjoint union) of the choices for one and the choices for the other.*

# Practice: Counting Passwords...

- You are signing up for an account on FlixBiz.com. The password has the following requirements
  - The password must be 6 to 8 characters long.
  - Each password is an uppercase letter or digit.
  - Each password must contain **at least** one digit.

## Partition Method

Q: How many possible passwords?

$A_6 \rightarrow$  all passwords with length 6

$A_7 \rightarrow$  " 7

$A_8 \rightarrow$  " 8

all passwords =  $|A_6| + |A_7| + |A_8|$

# Practice: Counting Passwords...

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**Partition Method**

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$A_6 \rightarrow$  all passwords with length 6  
 $A_7 \rightarrow$  " " 7  
 $A_8 \rightarrow$  " " 8

all passwords =  $|A_6| + |A_7| + |A_8|$

# Exercise: Counting Passwords...

$A_6 =$  all <sup>valid</sup> passwords of length 6

$S =$  all passwords of length 6

$$B = S \setminus A_6$$

$B =$  all passwords of length 6  
with no digits

**Partition Method**

**Difference Method**

$\Rightarrow$

**Find Contrapositive**

(see Hint on next slide)

$$|A_6| = |S| - |B|$$

$$|S| = 36^6$$

$$|B| = 26^6$$

$$\Rightarrow |A_6| = 36^6 - 26^6$$

$$|A_7| = 36^7 - 26^7$$

$$|A_8| = 36^8 - 26^8$$

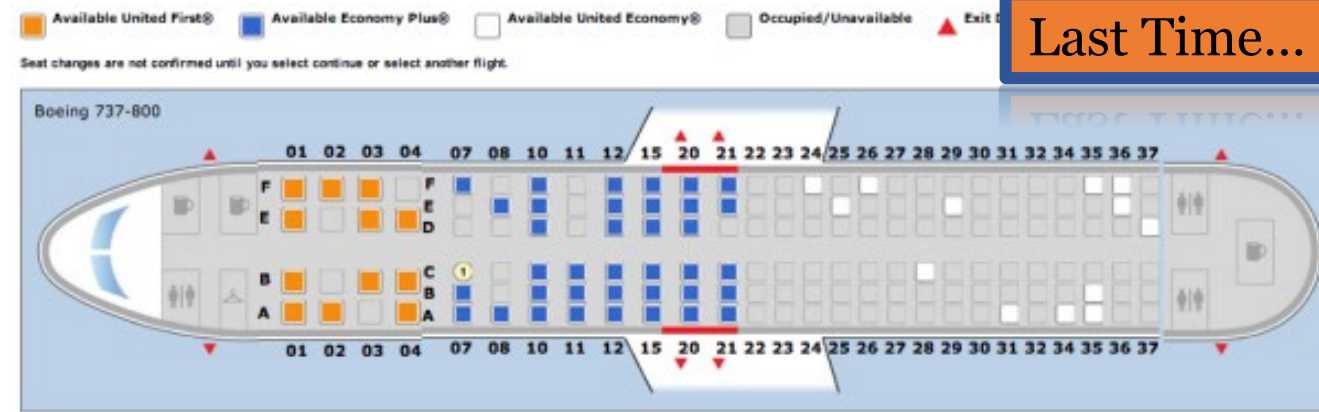
# Hint: When to use Difference Method

When you are asked to count something that exists in  
“at least” one place, consider counting the opposite  
(that is “nowhere”)

Which means: You need to be able to find the  
“contrapositive argument”.



# Generalized Product Rule



- How many ways to assign 100 passengers to 100 seats?

Let  $P_1, \dots, P_{100}$  be the passengers.

100 choices for seat of  $P_1$

99 choices for seat of  $P_2$

$\vdots$

1 choices for seat of  $P_{100}$

$\Rightarrow$  answer =  $100 \cdot 99 \cdot 98 \cdot 97 \cdots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$

# Generalized Product Rule – Order is important

- Suppose every object of a set  $S$ , can be constructed by a sequence of  $n$  choices with  $P_1$  possibilities for the first choice,  $P_2$  possibilities for the second choice, and so on
- **IF**
  - Each sequence of choices constructs an object in  $S$ .
  - No two different sequences create the same object
- **THEN**
  - $|S| = P_1 \times P_2 \times \cdots P_n$



# Generalized Product Rule

- How many subsets of a 100 element set?  
(revising the first problem we ever saw...)

2 choices for each element (include it or not)

$$\text{answer} = 2^{100}$$

# Counting Pitfalls – and how to avoid them

- You are signing up for an account on FlixBiz.com. The password has the following requirements
  - The password must be 6 to 8 characters long.
  - Each password is an uppercase letter or digit.
  - Each password must contain at least one digit.

Can I use the  
Generalized  
Product Rule?

$A_6 \rightarrow$  all valid passwords of length 6

⊙  
↑

— Pick position of first digit  $\rightarrow$  6 ways  
— Pick value  $\rightarrow$  10 ways  $\rightarrow$  wrong  
— Pick remaining values  $\rightarrow 36^5$

$|A_6| = 6 \times 10 \times 36^5 \neq 36^6 - 26^6$

We are overcounting... Why?

# Counting Pitfalls

process 1

- pick position →
- pick value →
- pick remaining

$S$  = all valid passwords

AB4CDE ✓  
A64BGZ  
⋮  
|

→ every choice sequence in process 1 maps to a unique element of set

Can I use the

Generalized

Product Rule?

→ Given element of  $S$ , must be able uniquely decode how we got to it

⊖ In process 1 multiple ways to reach A64BGZ

# Hint! Counting Pitfalls when...

- ...Many choice sequences lead to the same element.
  - This is when the elements can be **interchangeable**, e.g., when we deal with two white dices, which are the same when it comes to counting their value
- ...Imposing an ordering when the problems does not have any.

# Product Rule – Counting Pitfalls cont'd

- How many binary strings of length 8 with exactly two 0's?

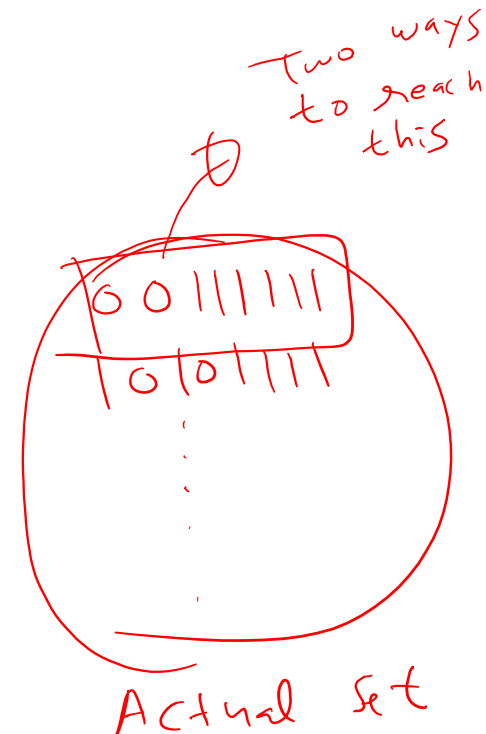
Pick location of 1<sup>st</sup> 0  $\rightarrow$  8 ways  $\rightarrow$

Pick location of 2<sup>nd</sup> 0  $\rightarrow$  7 ways

$$\text{answer} = 8 \cdot 7 = 56$$

Pick location of 1<sup>st</sup> 0  
Pick location of 2<sup>nd</sup> 0

Choice Sequence



# Product Rule

- How many binary strings of length 8 with exactly two 0's?

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$A_1 =$  all strings with 2 0's such that 1<sup>st</sup> zero from left appears at position 1.

$A_2 =$  1<sup>st</sup> zero is at position 2

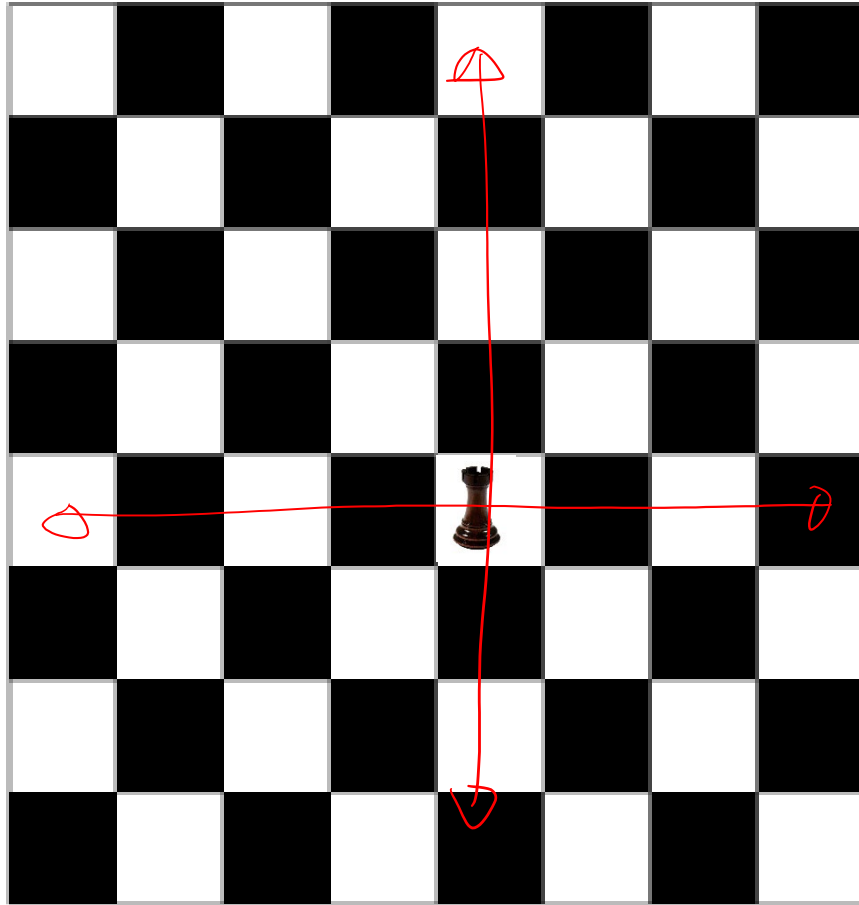
$A_3 =$  1<sup>st</sup> zero is at position 3

$\vdots$

$A_8 =$  1<sup>st</sup> zero is at position 8

$ A_1  = 7$	} 28
$ A_2  = 6$	
$ A_3  = 5$	
$ A_4  = 4$	
$ A_5  = 3$	
$ A_6  = 2$	
$ A_7  = 1$	
$ A_8  = 0$	

# Generalized Product Rule

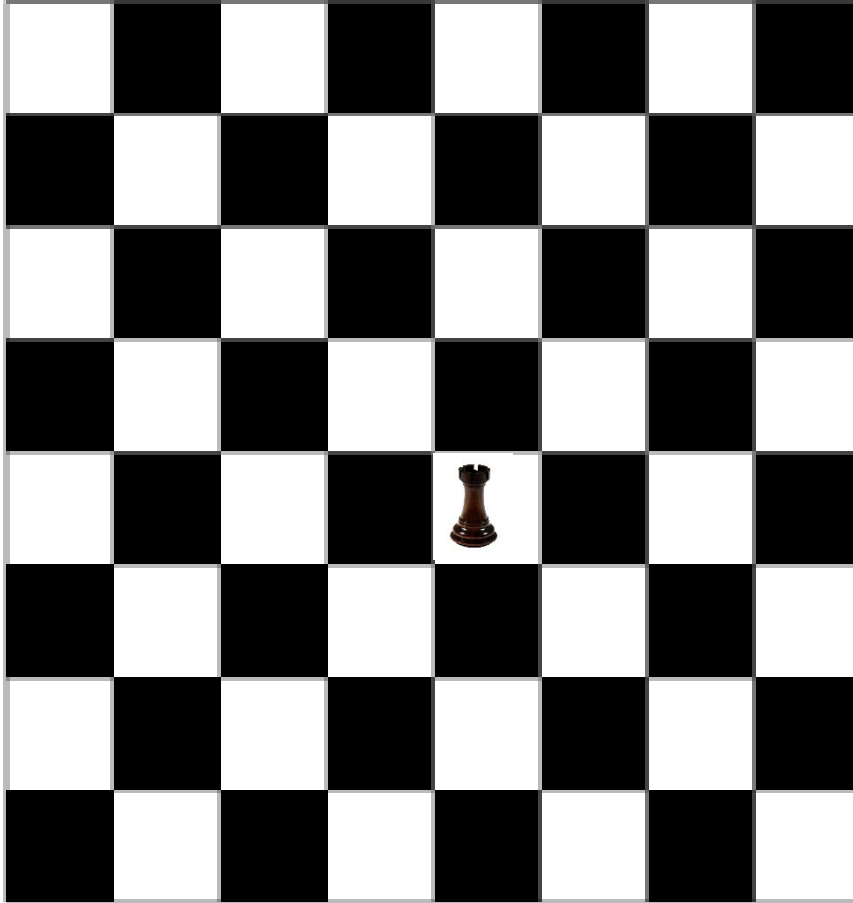


- Given two rooks labeled 1 and 2
- How many ways to place them so that they don't threaten each other?

— 64 choices for first rook  
—  $(64-15)$  choices for second rook

answer  $(64-49)$

# Generalized Product Rule



$B = S \setminus A$   
= all ways where they threaten

$$|S| = 64 \cdot 63$$
$$|B| = 64 \cdot 14$$

How many ways to place two rooks so that they don't threaten each other?

$S$  = all ways

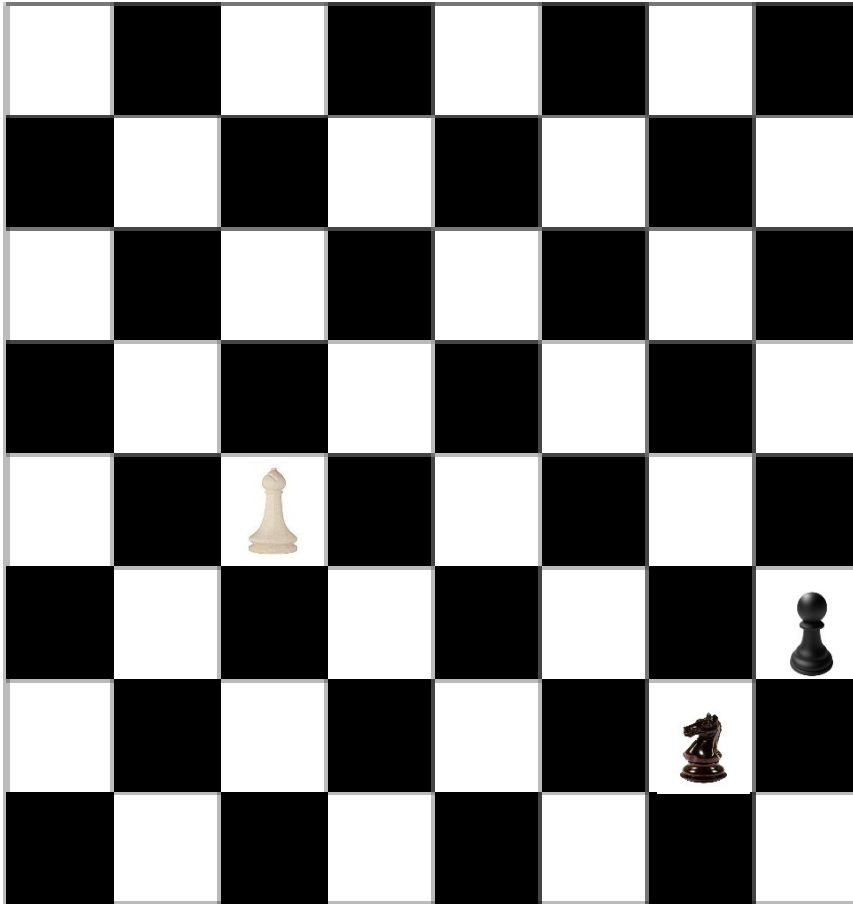
$A$  = all ways such that they don't threaten

$\Rightarrow |A| = |S| - |B| = 64 \cdot 49$



# Generalized Product Rule

Potential Pitfall????



**YES! If we had two (interchangeable) knights!!!**

How many ways to place a knight, bishop, and pawn so that no two share a row or column?

Pick row for bishop  $\rightarrow 8$   
Pick column for bishop  $\rightarrow 8$   
Pick row for knight  $\rightarrow 7$  ways  
Pick col for knight  $\rightarrow 7$  ways  
Pick row for pawn  $\rightarrow 6$  ways  
Pick col for pawn  $\rightarrow 6$  ways  
$$\text{ans} = 8^2 7^2 6^2$$