



*Any fool can know. The point is to  
understand — Albert Einstein*

# 206 Discrete Structures II

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# Course Outline

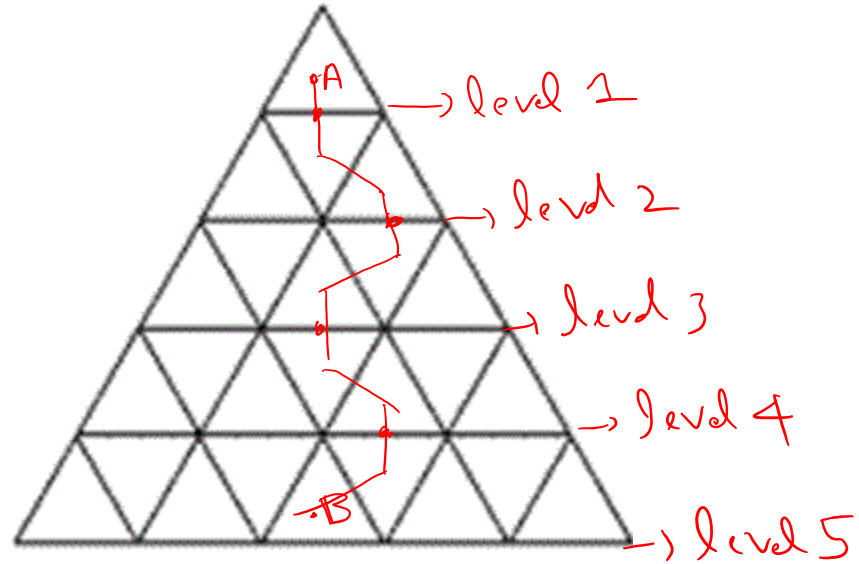
- Part I
  - ~~Recap of basics – sets, function, proofs, induction~~
  - Basic counting techniques
  - Pigeonhole principle
  - Generating functions
- Part II
  - Sample spaces and events
  - Basics of probability
  - Independence, conditional probability
  - Random variables, expectation, variance
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

# So Far

- ~~Sets / Functions~~
- ~~Proofs~~
- ~~Sum Rule~~
- ~~Partition Method~~
- ~~Difference Method~~
- ~~Bijection Method~~
- ~~Product Rule~~
- ~~Generalized product rule~~
- **Permutation/Combinations**
- Inclusion-Exclusion / Pigeonhole Principle
- Combinatorial Proofs and Binomial Coefficients

# Revisiting an Exercise

Bijective  
Method

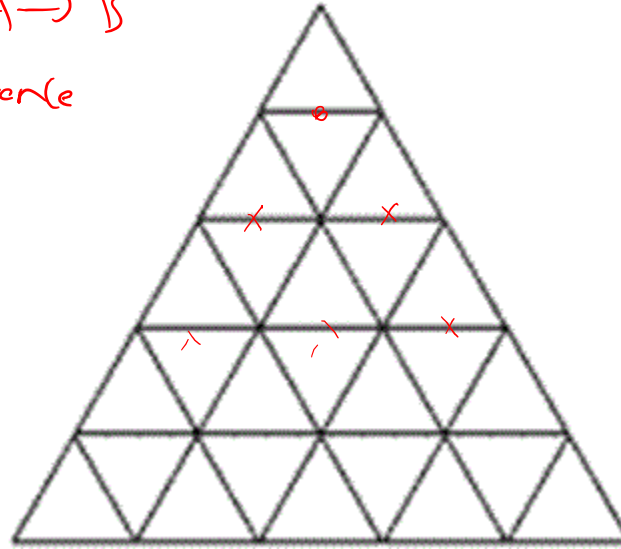


- Consider an equilateral triangle of side length 5, divided into unit length triangle. How many paths from point A to B?
- Adjacent triangles in a valid path have to share a common edge.
- A path can never go upwards or revisit a triangle.

How many paths from A to B?

# Revisiting an Exercise

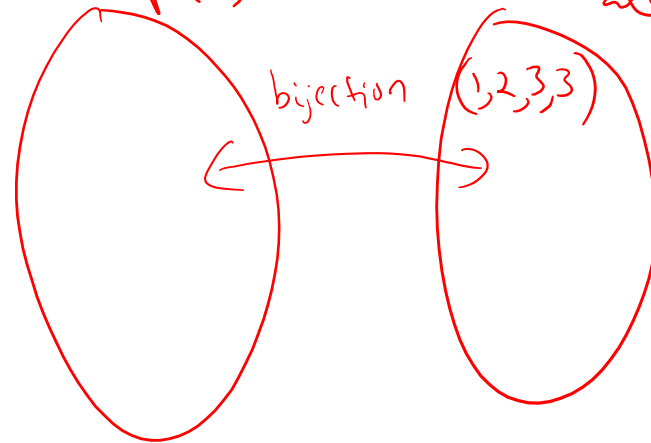
Each path from  $A \rightarrow B$   
has an exit sequence  
 $(1, 2, 3, 3)$



all valid exit  
sequences  
 $= 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4$   
 $= 24$

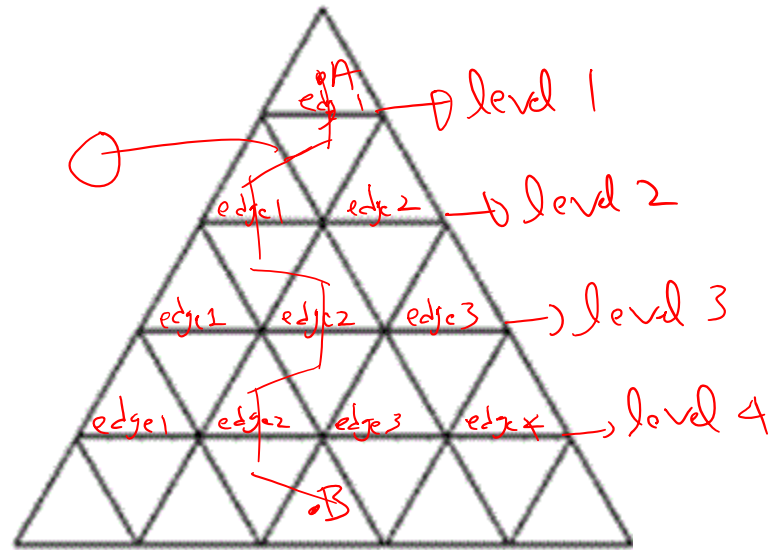
all valid  
paths

all exit sequences



# Revisiting an Exercise

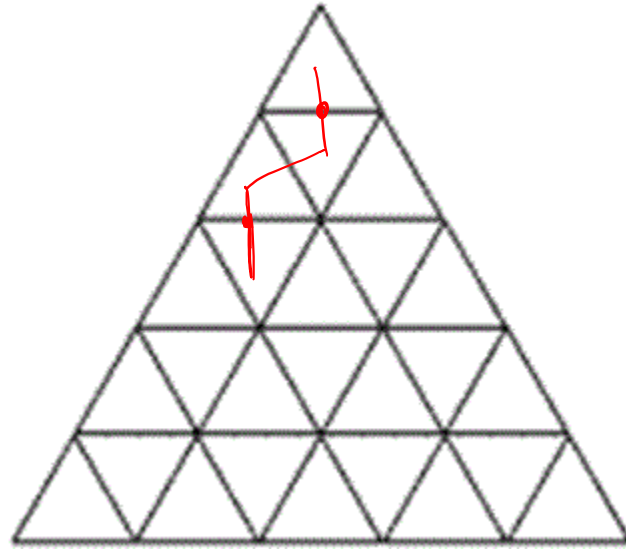
exit  
sequence =  $(1, 1, 2, 2)$



Each path  
has an exit  
sequence and  
vice versa

- Consider an equilateral triangle of side length 5, divided into unit length triangle. How many paths from point A to B?
  - Adjacent triangles in a valid path have to share a common edge.
  - A path can never go upwards or revisit a triangle.

# Revisiting an Exercise



$$\begin{aligned}\# \text{ valid paths} &= \# \text{ exit sequences} \\ &= 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 = 24 \text{ paths}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } n \text{ levels} \\ \text{answer} = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdots (n-1) = (n-1)!$$

# Product Rule

## Recap

- If one event can occur in  $m$  ways, a second event in  $n$  ways and a third event in  $r$ , then the three events can occur in  $m \times n \times r$  ways.

- Example

Erin has 5 tops, 6 skirts and 4 caps from which to choose an outfit. In how many ways can she select one top, one skirt and one cap?

**Solution:**  $\text{Ways} = 5 \times 6 \times 4$



# Product Rule – with Repetition

If one event with  $n$  outcomes occurs  $r$  times with repetition allowed, then the number of ordered arrangements is  $n^r$

- Example

What is the number of arrangements if a die is rolled

(a) 2 times?  $6 \times 6$

(b) 3 times?  $6 \times 6 \times 6$

(c)  $r$  times?  $6 \times 6 \times 6 \times 6 \times \dots = 6^r$

# Product Rule – Adv'd Repetition Problems

- How many different car number plates are possible with 3 letters followed by 3 digits?

**Solution:**  $26 \times 26 \times 26 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 26^3 \times 10^3$

- How many of these number plates begin with ABC

**Solution:**  $1 \times 1 \times 1 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 10^3$

- In how many ways can 6 people be arranged in a row?

**Solution :**  $6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6!$

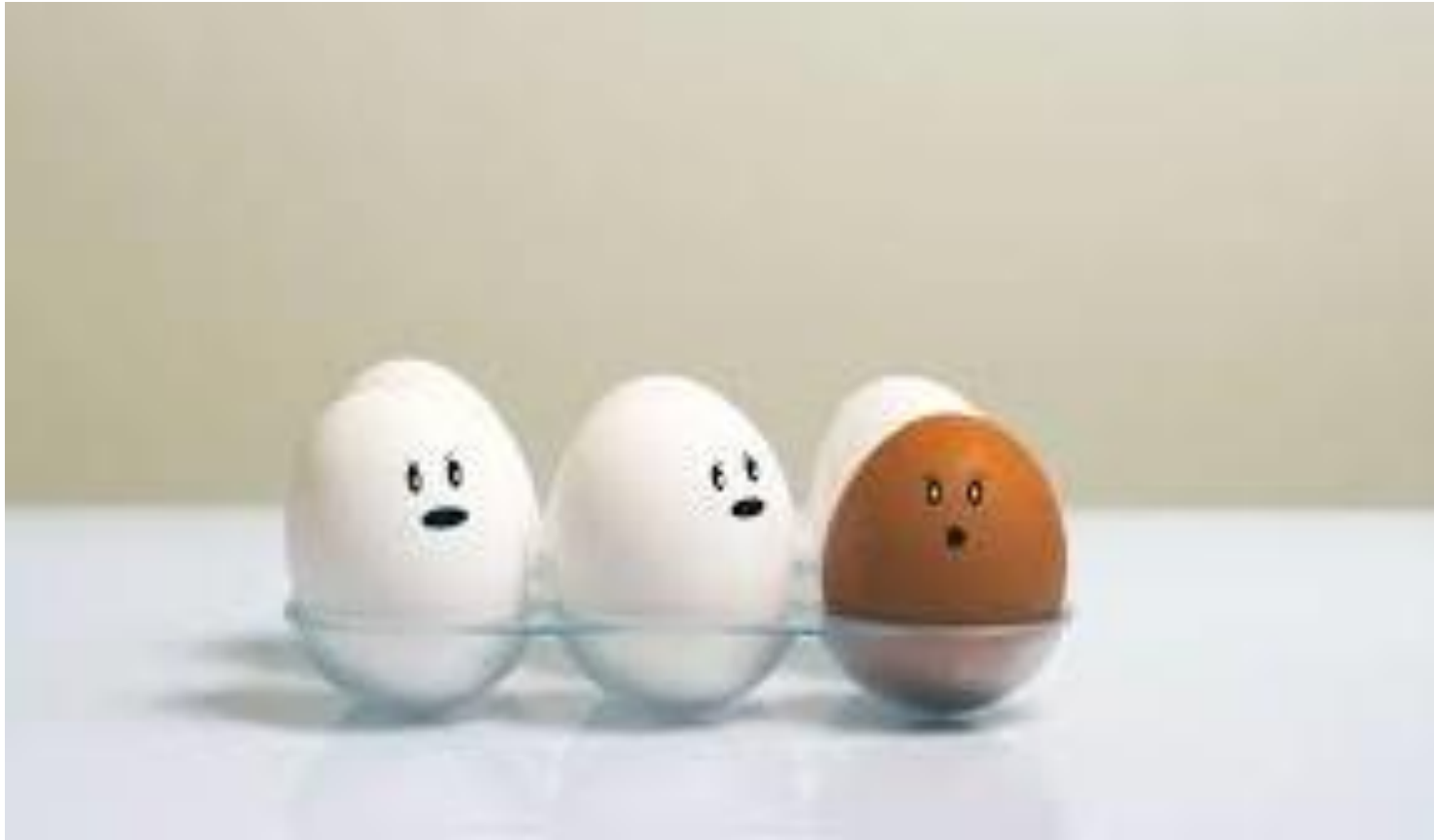
- How many arrangements are possible if only 3 of them are chosen?

**Solution:**  $6 \times 5 \times 4 = 120$

# Permutations – Question Example

- How many ways to assign 100 passengers to 20 first class seats?



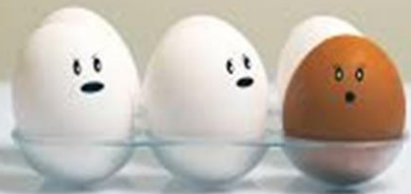


It's all about different  
elements folks...

Permutations  
vs.  
Combinations

# Permutations and Combinations

- Many counting problems can be solved by finding the number of ways to arrange a specified number of distinct elements of a set of a particular size, **where the order of these elements matters**.



- Many other counting problems can be solved by finding the number of ways to select a particular number of elements from a set of a particular size, **where the order of the elements selected does not matter**.

The **difference between combinations and permutations** is in

**ordering**

# Difference between Permutations and Combinations

- With **permutations** we care about the order of the elements, whereas with **combinations** we don't care.

Examples:

- **Permutation:** Find a locker “combo” is 12345; Cellphone PIN is 5432
- **Combination:** Pick 5 students from a 180-student audience



# Find 4-digit Permutations

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of the numbers 2,3,4,5

$$4! = 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 24$$

# Permutations **with Repetition**



- What if I now want to find the total number of permutations involving the numbers 2, 3, 4, and 5
- but want to include orderings such as 5555 or 2234 **where not all of the numbers are used, and some are used more than once?**



# Permutations with Repetition


$$\underline{4} \cdot \underline{4} \cdot \underline{4} \cdot \underline{4} = 4^4 = 256$$

- What if I now want to find the total number of permutations involving the numbers 2, 3, 4, and 5
- but want to include orderings such as 5555 or 2234 *where not all of the numbers are used, and some are used more than once?*

# Choosing a subset (a.k.a. Combinations)



- How many *different* 5-card hands can be made from a standard deck of cards?
- In this problem **the order is irrelevant** since it doesn't matter what order we pick the cards.
- We'll begin with five lines to represent our 5-card hand.

# Choosing a subset

$$\underline{52} \cdot \underline{51} \cdot \underline{50} \cdot \underline{49} \cdot \underline{48}$$

311,875,200 *permutations*

- How many ***different*** 5-card hands can be made from a standard deck of cards?
- In this problem **the order is irrelevant** since it doesn't matter what order we select the cards.
- We'll begin with five lines to represent our 5-card hand.

# Choosing a subset

$$\underline{52} \cdot \underline{51} \cdot \underline{50} \cdot \underline{49} \cdot \underline{48}$$

- *How many different 5-card hands can be made from a standard deck of cards?*
- In this problem **the order is irrelevant** since it doesn't matter what order we select the cards.
- We'll begin with five lines to represent our 5-card hand.
- **That's permutations, not combinations**
- To fix this we need to **divide by the number of hands that are different permutations but the same combination**

# Choosing a subset

$$5! = 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

- That's permutations, not combinations.
- To fix this we need to divide by the number of hands that are different permutations but the same combination.
- This is the same as saying *how many different ways can I arrange 5 cards?*

Why not subtraction?

*We actually do repeated subtraction, a method that subtracts the equal number of items from a group, also known as division.*

# Choosing a subset - Combinations

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

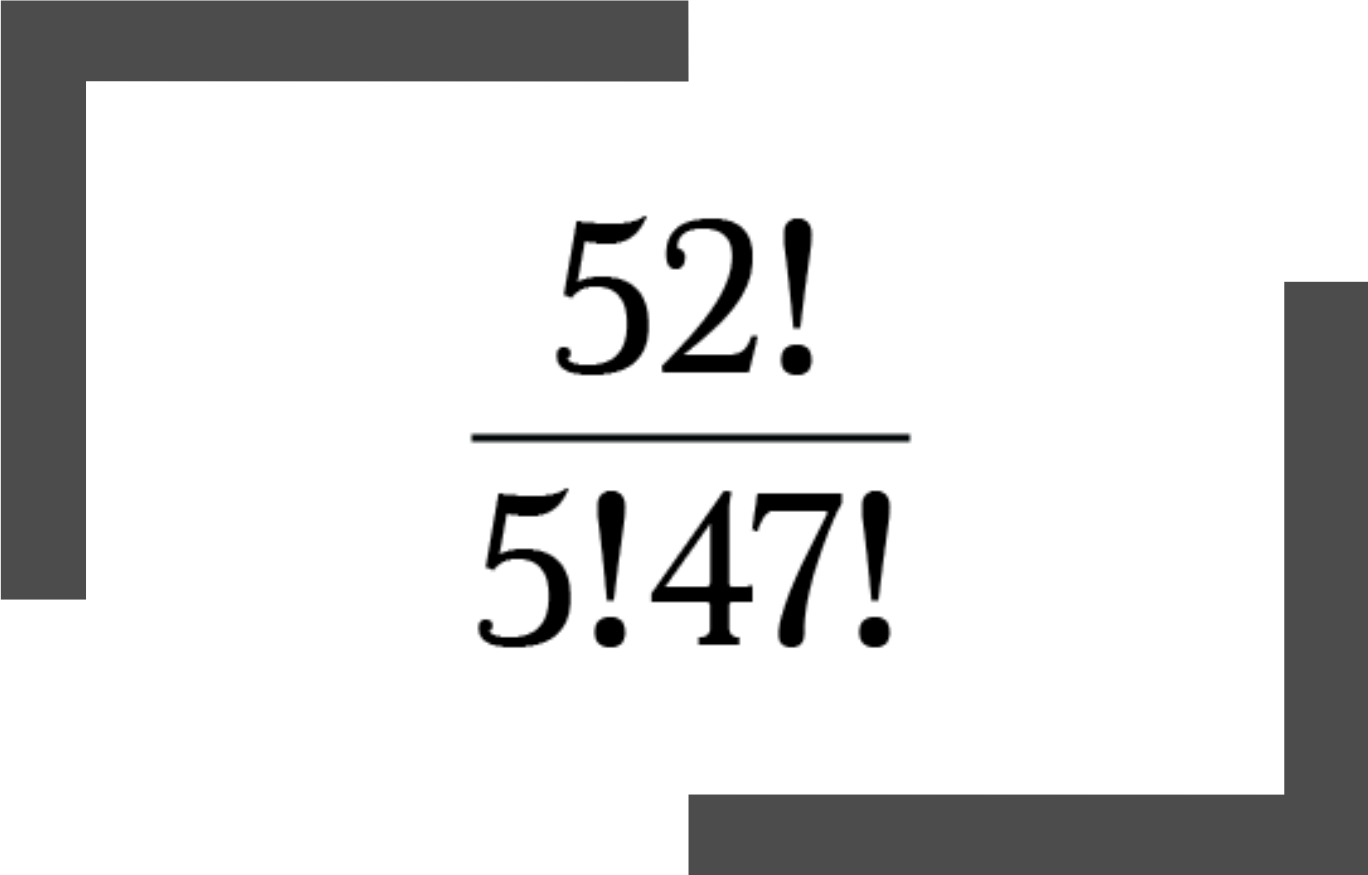
- So the number of five-card hands combinations is:

# Rewriting with Factorials

$$\frac{52!}{47!} = \frac{52 \cdot 51 \cdot 50 \cdot 49 \cdot 48 \cdot \cancel{47} \cdot \cancel{46} \cdot \dots \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot \cancel{1}}{\cancel{47} \cdot \cancel{46} \cdot \dots \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot \cancel{1}}$$

- With a little ingenuity we can rewrite the above calculation using factorials.
- We know  $52! = 52 \cdot 51 \cdot 50 \cdot \dots \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$ , but we only need the products of the integers from 52 to 48. How can we isolate just those integers?
- We'd like to divide out all the integers except those from 48 to 52. To do this divide by  $47!$  since it's the product of the integers from 47 to 1.

# Rewriting with Factorials


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

- Make sure to divide by **5!** to get rid of the extra permutations:

There we go!



# Combinations Formula

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

- If we have  $n$  objects and we want to choose  $k$  of them, we can find the total number of combinations by using the formula on the left

# Combinations Formula

$$\binom{n}{k} = C_k^n = {}_nC_k$$

- Different Annotations

# Permutations Formula

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

- The formula for permutations is similar to the combinations formula, except we needn't divide out the permutations, so we can remove  $k!$  from the denominator:

**Take a Break**

**2 min**



# Combinations – Permutations Better explained

- Choosing  $r$  out of  $n$  elements in **no specific order**.  $\binom{n}{r}$

$r=1$ , choose 1 out of  $n$  elements,  $n$  ways

*easy... order is not important here*

# Combinations – Permutations Better explained

- Choosing  $r$  out of  $n$  elements in **no specific order**.  $\binom{n}{r}$

$r=2$ , (choose 2 out of  $n$  elements)

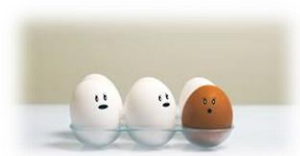
Let  $A$  = all ways to choose 2 out of  $n$  elements

Let  $B$  = all ways to permute 2 out of  $n$  elements

**Order is important**

We know  $|B| = {}^n P_2 = n(n-1)$

How to go from  $|B|$  to  $|A|$ ?



# Combinations – Permutations Better explained

- Choosing  $r$  out of  $n$  elements in no specific order.  $\binom{n}{r}$   
 $r=2$ , (choose 2 out of  $n$  elements)

Associated choice sequence for counting  $|B|$



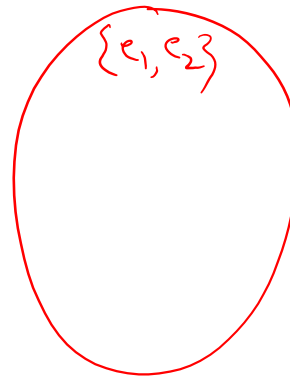
Pick 1st element

Pick 2nd element

Hence  $n(n-1)$  ways

Consider a pair  $\{e_1, e_2\}$  in  $A$ . In  $B$   $\{e_1, e_2\}$  is counted twice. Either  $e_1$  can be picked as 1st element and  $e_2$  as second, or vice versa

$A$



**Order is important**



# Combinations – Permutations Better explained

- Choosing  $r$  out of  $n$  elements in no specific order.  $\binom{n}{r}$

$r=2$ , (choose 2 out of  $n$  elements)

Associated choice sequence for counting  $|B|$

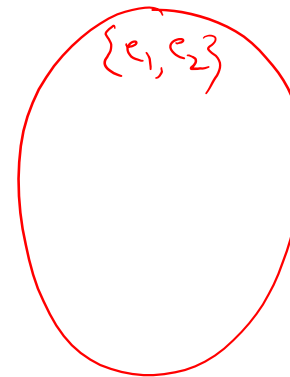


Pick 1st element

Pick 2nd element

Hence  $n(n-1)$  ways

A



**Order is important**

In other words, for each element of  $A$  there are 2 choice sequences in  $B$  that generate the same outcome.





# Combinations – Permutations Better explained

- Choosing  $r$  out of  $n$  elements in no specific order.  $\binom{n}{r}$   
 $r=2$ , (choose 2 out of  $n$  elements)

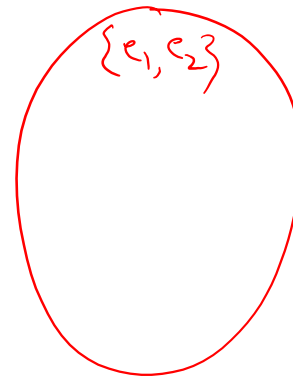
Associated choice sequence for counting  $|B|$



Pick 1st element

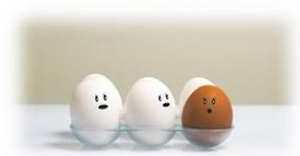
Pick 2nd element

Hence  $n(n-1)$  ways



**Order is important**

$$\text{Hence, } |A| = \frac{|B|}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} = \binom{n}{2} \leftarrow n \text{ choose } 2$$



# Combinations – Permutations Better explained

- Choosing  $r$  out of  $n$  elements in no specific order.  $\binom{n}{r}$

$r=3$ , Choose 3 out of  $n$  elements

A = all ways to choose 3 out of  $n$  elements

B = all ways to permute 3 out of  $n$  elements

$$|B| = n(n-1)(n-2)$$

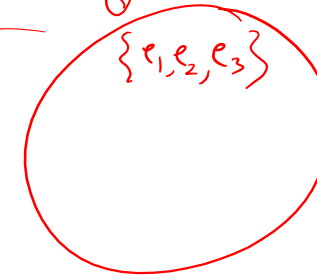
choice sequence

Pick 1st element

Pick 2nd element

Pick 3rd element

3! ways to reach



**Order is important**

Every element in A can be reached via  
3! choice sequences in B



# Combinations – Permutations Better explained

- Choosing  $r$  out of  $n$  elements in no specific order.  $\binom{n}{r}$

$r=3$ , Choose 3 out of  $n$  elements

$A$  = all ways to choose 3 out of  $n$  elements

$B$  = all ways to permute 3 out of  $n$  elements

$$|B| = n(n-1)(n-2)$$

choice sequence

Pick 1st element

Pick 2nd element

Pick 3rd element

3! ways to search



**Order  
is important**

$$\text{Hence, } |A| = \frac{|B|}{3!} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3!} = \binom{n}{3}$$



# Permutations

- A permutation of  $n$  objects is an **ordering** of the objects.
- The number of permutations of  $n$  distinct elements  
 $= n \cdot (n - 1) \cdot (n - 2) \cdots (1) = n!$

# Permutations

- A permutation of  $n$  objects is an **ordering** of the objects.
- How many different permutations of a deck of **52** cards?

$$\text{answer} = 52 \cdot 51 \cdot 50 \cdots 1 = 52!$$



# Permutations

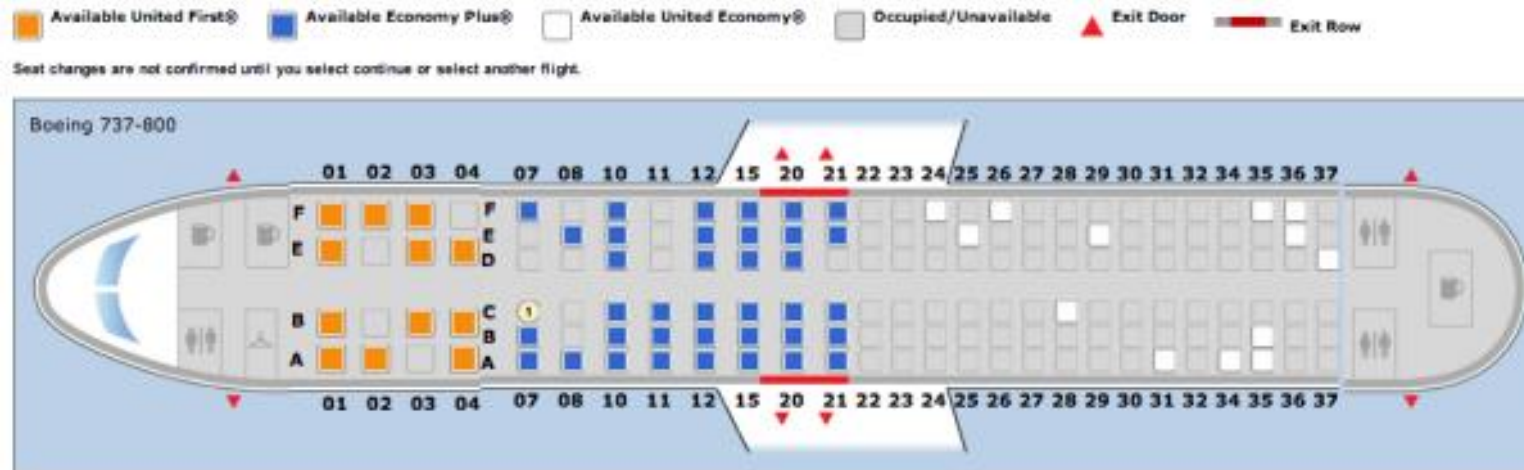
- How many ways to assign 100 passengers to 100 seats?

answer =  $100!$

# Permuting **r out of n objects**

- How many ways to assign 100 passengers to 20 first class seats?

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \frac{100}{s_1} & \frac{99}{s_2} & \frac{98}{s_3} & \dots & \dots & \dots & \frac{81}{s_{20}} \\ \text{answer} = (100 - 99 - 98 - \dots - 81) = \frac{100!}{80!} \end{array}$$



# Permutations Formula – One more time..

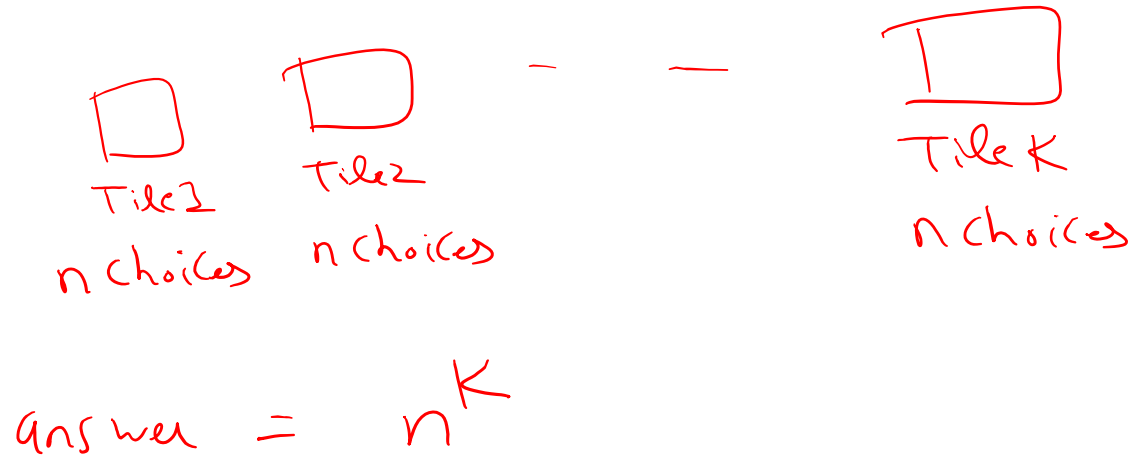
- Permuting  $r$  out of  $n$  distinct objects.  ${}^n P_r = \underline{\underline{\quad}}$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \frac{n}{P_1} & \frac{n-1}{P_2} & \frac{n-2}{P_3} & \dots & \frac{n-r+1}{P_r} & & \\ \text{answer} = & n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdot & \dots & (n-r+1) = & \frac{n!}{(n-r)!} \end{array}$$



# Repetitions

- Have  $n$  colors. Want to paint  $k$  tiles. How many ways?
- Can reuse colors any number of times.



# Permutations - Formulas

- Permuting  $r$  out of  $n$  distinct objects.

- Without repetition

$$\rightarrow {}^n P_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$$

- With repetition

$$\rightarrow n^r$$

# Exercise

- How many sequences of 7 letters are there?

$\overline{26} \quad \_ \quad \_ \quad \_ \quad \_ \quad \_ \quad \overline{26}$   
choices

$$\text{answer} = 26^7$$

# Exercise

- If 10 horses race, how many orderings of the top 3 finishers are there?

$$\frac{10!}{7!} = {}^{10}P_3$$

# Permutations

- **Distinctly ordered sets** are called permutations (arrangements). The number of permutations of  $n$  objects taken  $k$  at a time is given by:

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

$N$  = number of objects

$K$  = number of positions

# Permutations Formula

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

- The formula for permutations is similar to the combinations formula, except we needn't divide out the permutations, so we remove  $k!$  from the denominator:

# Combinations Formula

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

- If we have  $n$  objects and we want to choose  $k$  of them, we can find the total number of combinations by using the formula on the left