1 Farmer's Market

Note 10 Suppose you want k items from the farmer's market. Count how many ways you can do this, assuming:

(a) There are pumpkins and apples at the market.

(b) There are pumpkins, apples, oranges, and pears at the market.

(c) There are n kinds of fruits at the market, and you want to end up with at least two different types of fruit.

Solution:

This is a classic "balls and bins" (also known as "stars and bars") problem.

(a) $k+1$. We can have 0 pumpkins and k apples, or 1 pumpkin and $k-1$ apples, etc. all the way to k pumpkins and 0 apples. We can equivalently think about this as k balls and 2 bins, or k stars and 1 bar, giving us $\binom{k+1}{1} = \binom{k+1}{k}$.

(b) $\binom{k+3}{3}$. We have k balls and 4 bins, or k stars and 3 bars.

(c) There are $\binom{n+k-1}{n-1} = \binom{n+k-1}{k}$ ways to choose k fruits of n types with no additional restrictions (i.e. k balls and n bins, or k stars and $n-1$ bars). n of these combinations, however, contain only one variety of fruit, so we subtract them for a total of $\binom{n+k-1}{n-1} - n = \binom{n+k-1}{k} - n$.

2 Inclusion and Exclusion

Note 10 What is the total number of positive integers strictly less than 100 that are also coprime to 100?

Solution: It is sufficient to count the opposite: what is the total number of positive integers strictly less than 100 and *not* coprime to 100?

If a number is not coprime to 100, this means that the number is either a multiple of 2 or a multiple of 5. In this case, we have:

- 49 multiples of 2
- 19 multiples of 5

- 9 multiples of both 2 and 5

By inclusion-exclusion, the total number of positive integers not coprime to 100 is $49+19-9=59$, and there are 99 positive integers strictly less than 100.

As such, in total there are $99-59=40$ different positive integers strictly less than 100 that are coprime to 100.

3 CS70: The Musical

Note 10

Edward, one of the previous head TA's, has been hard at work on his latest project, *CS70: The Musical*. It's now time for him to select a cast, crew, and directing team to help him make his dream a reality.

(a) First, Edward would like to select directors for his musical. He has received applications from $2n$ directors. Use this to provide a combinatorial argument that proves the following identity:

$$\binom{2n}{2} = 2\binom{n}{2} + n^2.$$

(b) Edward would now like to select a crew out of n people. Use this to provide a combinatorial argument that proves the following identity: (this is called Pascal's Identity)

$$\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k}.$$

(c) There are n actors lined up outside of Edward's office, and they would like a role in the musical (including a lead role). However, he is unsure of how many individuals he would like to cast. Use this to provide a combinatorial argument that proves the following identity:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} k\binom{n}{k} = n2^{n-1}$$

(d) Generalizing the previous part, provide a combinatorial argument that proves the following identity:

$$\sum_{k=j}^{n} \binom{n}{k}\binom{k}{j} = 2^{n-j}\binom{n}{j}.$$

Solution:

(a) Say that we would like to select 2 directors.

LHS: This is the number of ways to choose 2 directors out of the $2n$ candidates.

RHS: Split the $2n$ directors into two groups of n; one group consisting of experienced directors, or inexperienced directors (you can split arbitrarily). Then, we consider three cases: either we choose:

(a) Both directors from the group of experienced directors,

(b) Both directors from the group of inexperienced directors, or

(c) One experienced director and one inexperienced director.

The number of ways we can do each of these things is $\binom{n}{2}$, $\binom{n}{2}$, and n^2, respectively. Since these cases are mutually exclusive and cover all possibilities, it must also count the total number of ways to choose 2 directors out of the $2n$ candidates. This completes the proof.

(b) Say that we would like to select k crew members.

LHS: This is simply the number of ways to choose k crew members out of n candidates.

RHS: We select the k crew members in a different way. First, Edward looks at the first candidate he sees and decides whether or not he would like to choose the candidate. If he selects the first candidate, then Edward needs to choose $k-1$ more crew members from the remaining $n-1$ candidates. Otherwise, he needs to select all k crew members from the remaining $n-1$ candidates.

We are not double counting here - since in the first case, Edward takes the first candidate he encounters, and in the other case, we do not.

(c) In this part, Edward selects a subset of the n actors to be in his musical. Additionally, assume that he must select one individual as the lead for his musical.

LHS: Edward casts k actors in his musical, and then selects one lead among them (note that $k = \binom{k}{1}$). The summation is over all possible sizes for the cast - thus, the expression accounts for all subsets of the n actors.

RHS: From the n people, Edward selects one lead for his musical. Then, for the remaining $n-1$ actors, he decides whether or not he would like to include them in the cast. 2^{n-1} represents the amount of (possibly empty) subsets of the remaining actors. *(Note that for each actor, Edward has 2 choices: to include them, or to exclude them.)*

(d) In this part, Edward selects a subset of the n actors to be in the musical; additionally he must select j lead actors (instead of only 1 in the previous part).

LHS: Edward casts $k \geq j$ actors in his musical, then selects the j leads among them. Again, the summation is over all possible sizes for the cast (note that any cast that has $< j$ members is invalid, since Edward would be unable to select j lead actors) - thus, the expression accounts for all valid subsets of the n actors.

RHS: From the n people, Edward selects j leads for his musical. Then, for the remaining $n-j$ actors, he decides whether or not he would like to include them in the cast. Then, for the remaining $n-j$ actors, he decides whether or not he would like to include them in the cast. 2^{n-j} represents the amount of ways that Edward can do this.