
PERMUTATIONS

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1. PERMUTATIONS

1.1 Factorials

A. Explicit Definition

An explicit (or a closed-form) definition is one that gives a direct formula for calculating the value of a factorial.

1.1: Definition

Factorials can be defined as the product of the first n natural numbers, for natural number n :

$$n! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n$$

0 is not a natural number but it is useful to define

$$0! = 1$$

One reason for defining $0!$ as 1 will be seen when we do the formula for permutations and combinations.

Example 1.2

Find the factorials of the numbers from 1 to 8.

Then memorize them!!

$$1! = 1$$

$$2! = 1 \times 2 = 2$$

$$3! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 = 6$$

$$4! = \underbrace{1 \times 2 \times 3}_{3!} \times 4 = 4 \times 3! = 4 \times 6 = 24$$

$$5! = 5 \times 4! = 5 \times 24 = 120$$

$$6! = 6 \times 5! = 720$$

$$7! = 7 \times 6! = 5040$$

$$8! = 8 \times 7! = 8 \times 5040 = 40,320$$

Note: The factorials from 0 to 9 should be committed to memory.

Example 1.3

Find

A. $2! + 3! + 4!$

B. $5! + 4! - (3!)^2 - (2!)^2 - (1!)^2$

Part A

$$2! + 3! + 4! = 2 + 6 + 24 = 32$$

Part B

$$5! + 4! - (3!)^2 - (2!)^2 - (1!)^2 = 120 + 24 - 36 - 4 - 1 = 144 - 41 = 103$$

Example 1.4

A. What is the value of $(x + 1 - x)! \div (x - x + 1)!$ in simplest form? (MathCounts 2007 Chapter Countdown)

B. What is the value of $(\sqrt{4! \cdot 3!})^2$ (MathCounts 2007 State Countdown)

Part A

Simplify the given expression to get:

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$$(x + 1 - x)! \div (x - x + 1)! = (1)! \div (1)$$

Substitute $1! = 1$

$$= 1 \div 1 = 1$$

Part B

$$(\sqrt{4! \cdot 3!})^2 = 4! \cdot 3! = 24 \cdot 6 = 12 \cdot 12 = 144$$

B. Recursive Definition

A recursive definition defines a factorial in terms of factorials of smaller values.

1.5: Recursive Definition

$$n! = n(n-1)!, \quad n \geq 1$$

Base Case: $0! = 1$

$$n! = n \underbrace{(n-1)(n-2) \dots (3)(2)(1)}_{(n-1)!} = n(n-1)!$$

Recursively, $n!$ can be defined in terms of the factorial of the number one less than it. As would be expected, both the definitions are equivalent.

Example 1.6

Use the recursive definition to calculate $5!$ given that $4! = 24$

$$5! = 5 \times 4! = 5 \times 24 = 120$$

Example 1.7

Use the recursive definition to expand $100!$ till it has 5 terms

$$\begin{aligned} 100! &= 100 \cdot 99! \\ &= 100 \cdot 99 \cdot 98! \\ &= 100 \cdot 99 \cdot 98 \cdot 97! \\ &= 100 \cdot 99 \cdot 98 \cdot 97 \cdot 96! \\ &= 100 \cdot (100-1) \cdot (100-2) \cdot (100-3) \cdot (100-4)! \end{aligned}$$

Example 1.8

Use the recursive definition to write each part below in the form $n(n-1)!$, that is, as a number multiplied by a factorial:

- A. $7!$
- B. $12!$
- C. $100!$
- D. $x!$
- E. $z!$

$$\begin{aligned} 7! &= 7 \times 6! \\ 12! &= 12 \times 11! \\ 100! &= 100 \times 99! \end{aligned}$$

$$x! = x(x-1)! \\ z(z-1)!$$

Example 1.9

Use the recursive definition to write each part below in the form $n(n-1)(n-2)!$, that is, as a number multiplied by a factorial:

- A. $7!$
- B. $12!$
- C. $100!$
- D. $x!$
- E. $z!$

$$7! = 7(6)(5!) \\ 12! = 12(11)(10!) \\ x! = x(x-1)(x-2)! \\ z! = z(z-1)(z-2)!$$

1.10: Cancellation

$$\frac{x!}{(x-1)!} = x$$

Expand $x! = x(x-1)!$ using the recursive definition

$$\frac{x!}{(x-1)!} = \frac{x(x-1)!}{(x-1)!} = x$$

Note: Do not memorize the formula. Instead, do the calculation by expanding this out:

$$\frac{5!}{4!} = \frac{5 \times 4!}{4!} = \frac{5}{1} = 5$$

Example 1.11

Simplify:

- A. $\frac{8!}{7!}$
- B. $\frac{9!}{8!}$
- C. $\frac{12!}{11!}$
- D. $\frac{7!}{5!}$
- E. $\frac{6!}{3!}$

Parts A-C

We can expand the factorials using the recursive definition and then cancel:

$$\frac{8 \times \cancel{7!}}{\cancel{7!}} = 8 \\ \frac{9 \times \cancel{8!}}{\cancel{8!}} = 9 \\ \frac{12 \times \cancel{11!}}{\cancel{11!}} = 12$$

Part D

We have to use the recursive definition twice and then cancel:

$$\frac{7 \times 6 \times 5!}{5!} = 7 \times 6 = 42$$

Part E

We have to use the recursive definition thrice and then cancel:

$$\frac{6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3!}{3!} = 6 \times 5 \times 4 = 120$$

Example 1.12

$$\frac{9! \cdot 5! \cdot 2!}{8! \cdot 6!}$$

What is the value of the expression above (MathCounts 2007 State Countdown)

$$\frac{9! \cdot 5! \cdot 2!}{8! \cdot 6!}$$

Note that we can “cancel” the:

- 9! in the numerator with the 8! in the denominator
- 5! in the numerator with the 6! in the denominator

This leaves us with:

$$= \frac{9 \times 2}{6} = 3$$

C. Binomial Coefficients

Binomial coefficients are expressions that we will see when we use the formula for combinations. They occur very frequently in counting problems. And they are also important in probability and algebra.

Example 1.13

What is the value of $\frac{14!}{5!9!}$? (MathCounts 2004 State Countdown)

$$\frac{14!}{5!9!} = \frac{14 \times 13 \times 12 \times 11 \times 10 \times 9!}{5!9!} = \frac{14 \times 13 \times 12 \times 11 \times 10}{120} = 14 \times 13 \times 11$$

We can rewrite this and make use of the important calculation $7 \times 11 \times 13 = 1001$:

$$= 2 \times 7 \times 13 \times 11 = 2002$$

Example 1.14: Equations

Solve for the variable.

- A. $\frac{z!}{(z-1)!} = 7$
- B. $\frac{(x+1)!}{x!} = 6$
- C. $\frac{(y+3)!}{(y+2)!} = 11$
- D. $\frac{n!}{(n-2)!} = 110$
- E. $\frac{(a+1)!}{a+1} = 720$

Part A

$$\frac{z!}{(z-1)!} = \frac{z(z-1)!}{(z-1)!} = z = 7$$

Part B

$$\frac{(x+1)!}{x!} = \frac{(x+1)x!}{x!} = x+1 = 6 \Rightarrow x = 5$$

Part C

$$\frac{(y+3)!}{(y+2)!} = \frac{(y+3)(y+2)!}{(y+2)!} = y+3 = 11 \Rightarrow y = 8$$

Part D

$$\frac{n!}{(n-2)!} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)!}{(n-2)!} = n(n-1) = 110 = 11(10) \Rightarrow n = 11$$

Note that in the above equation, we get a quadratic but we do not need the usual method since we can solve it directly by factoring the RHS.

Part E

$$\frac{(a+1)!}{a+1} = \frac{(a+1)(a!)}{a+1} = a! = 720 \Rightarrow a = 6$$

Example 1.15

- A. $\frac{p!}{(p-2)!}$
 B. $\frac{(t-1)!}{(t+1)!}$
 C. $\frac{(m+1)!}{m}$
 D. $\frac{k!}{(k-4)!}$
 E. $\frac{x!}{(x-1)!} + \frac{y!}{(y-2)!} + \frac{z!}{(z-3)!}$
 F. $\frac{(N-1)!(N)}{(N+1)!}$ (MathCounts 1995 Warm-Up 8)

$$\frac{p!}{(p-2)!} = \frac{p(p-1)(p-2)!}{(p-2)!} = p(p-1)$$

$$\frac{(t-1)!}{(t+1)!} = \frac{(t-1)!}{(t+1)(t)(t-1)!} = \frac{1}{(t+1)(t)}$$

$$\frac{(m+1)!}{m} = \frac{(m+1)(m)(m-1)!}{m} = (m+1)(m-1)!$$

$$\frac{k!}{(k-4)!} = \frac{k(k-1)(k-2)(k-3)(k-4)!}{(k-4)!} = k(k-1)(k-2)(k-3)$$

$$\frac{x(x-1)!}{(x-1)!} + \frac{y(y-1)(y-2)!}{(y-2)!} + \frac{z(z-1)(z-2)(z-3)!}{(z-3)!} = x + y(y-1) + z(z-1)(z-2)$$

$$\frac{(N-1)!(N)}{(N+1)!} = \frac{N!}{(N+1)!} = \frac{1}{N+1}$$

D. Converting into Factorial Form

Example 1.16

$$k(k+1)$$

$$k(k+1) = (k+1)(k) \cdot \frac{(k-1)(k-2) \dots (2)(1)}{(k-1)(k-2) \dots (2)(1)} = \frac{(k+1)!}{(k-1)!}$$

Example 1.17

Write the following in factorial form as $\frac{x!}{(x-1)!}$

- A. 7
- B. 9

$$7 = 7 \times \frac{6!}{6!} = \frac{7!}{6!}$$
$$9 = \frac{9!}{8!}$$

Example 1.18

We wish to write numbers in the form $\frac{x!}{(x-2)!}$.

- A. Explain why $20 = \frac{20!}{18!}$ is not correct.
- B. Determine a way to write 20 as $\frac{x!}{(x-2)!}$.
- C. Determine a way to write 72 as $\frac{x!}{(x-2)!}$.

$$\frac{20!}{18!} = \frac{20 \times 19 \times 18!}{18!} = 20 \times 19 \neq 20$$
$$20 = 5 \times 4 = \frac{5!}{3!}$$
$$72 = 8 \times 9 = \frac{9!}{7!}$$

Example 1.19

Write the following variables in factorial form:

- A. q
- B. w
- C. a
- D. g

Write the following variables in factorial form:

- E. $j(j-1)$
- F. $x(x-1)(x-2)$
- G.

$$q = \frac{q!}{(q-1)!}$$
$$w = \frac{w!}{(w-1)!}$$
$$a = \frac{a!}{(a-1)!}$$
$$g = \frac{g!}{(g-1)!}$$
$$j(j-1) = j \cdot \frac{(j-1)!}{(j-2)!} = \frac{j!}{(j-2)!}$$

$$x(x-1)(x-2) = x(x-1)(x-2) \times \frac{(x-3)!}{(x-3)!} = \frac{x!}{(x-3)!}$$

Example 1.20

$$l^3 - l$$

$$\begin{aligned} l^3 - l &= l(l^2 - 1) = l(l+1)(l-1) = (l+1)(l)(l-1) \\ &= \frac{(l+1)(l)(l-1)(l-2)!}{(l-2)!} = \frac{(l+1)!}{(l-2)!} \end{aligned}$$

Example 1.21

Write $k(k-1)(k-2) \dots (k-18)$ in factorial form by adding a factorial for a denominator.

We “complete” the factorial by multiplying and dividing by $(k-19)!$

$$\frac{k(k-1)(k-2) \dots (k-18)(k-19)!}{(k-19)!} = \frac{k!}{(k-19)!}$$

Example 1.22: Factorial Expressions

Simplify

$$\left[\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{7!}{2!5!} \right) \right]^2 \div \left[\frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{9!}{3!6!} \right) \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{7 \times 6 \times 5!}{2 \times 5!} \right) \right]^2 &= \left[\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{7 \times 6}{2} \right) \right]^2 = 7^2 = 49 \\ \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{9 \times 8 \times 7 \times 6!}{3!6!} &= \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{9 \times 8 \times 7}{3!} = \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{9 \times 8 \times 7}{2 \times 3} = \frac{3 \times 7}{1} = 21 \\ \frac{49}{21} &= \frac{7}{3} \end{aligned}$$

1.23: Nested Factorials

Factorials can be nested one inside the other.
 Nested factorials are solved inside out.

Example 1.24

Evaluate $(1!)! + (2!)! + (3!)!$

$$(1!)! + (2!)! + (3!)!$$

Evaluate the quantities inside the brackets. Substitute $1! = 1, 2! = 2, 3! = 6$:

$$(1!)! + (2!)! + (3!)! = 1! + 2! + 6! = 1 + 2 + 720 = 723$$

Example 1.25

$$\frac{(3!)!}{3!} \text{ (AHSME 1996)}$$

Wrong Solution

$$\frac{(3!)!}{3!} = \frac{1!}{1} = 1$$

Correct Solution

$$\frac{(3!)!}{3!} = \frac{6!}{6} = 5! = 120$$

Example 1.26

$$\underbrace{(0!)!! \dots !!}_{p \text{ times } p > 0} + \underbrace{(1!)!! \dots !!}_{q \text{ times } q > 0} + \underbrace{(2!)!! \dots !!}_{r \text{ times } r > 0} + [(3!)!]!$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0! &= 1 \\ (0!)! &= 1! = 1 \\ [(0!)!]! &= [1!]! = 1! = 1 \\ (0!)!! \dots !! &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1! &= 1 \\ (1!)! &= 1! = 1 \\ (1!)!! \dots !! &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2! &= 2 \\ (2!)! &= 2! = 2 \\ [(2!)!]! &= [2!]! = 2! = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$[(3!)!]! = [6!]! = 720!$$

$$1 + 1 + 2 + 720! = 4 + 720!$$

Example 1.27: Nested Factorials

Given that $\frac{((3!)!)!}{3!} = k \cdot n!$, where k and n are positive integers and n is as large as possible, find $k + n$. (AIME I 2003/1)

$$\frac{((3!)!)!}{3!} = \frac{(6!)!}{6} = \frac{720!}{6}$$

Split the factorial using the recursive definition:

$$\frac{720 \times 719!}{6} = 120 \times 719!$$

We can identify k and n as:

$$k = 120, n = 719 \Rightarrow k + n = 839$$

E. Factoring

1.28: Factoring

$$n! + (n-1)!$$

Split the first term using the recursive definition:

$$n(n-1)! + (n-1)!$$

Factor $(n - 1)!$

$$(n - 1)! [n + 1]$$

For example:

$$4! + 5! = 4! + 4! (5) = 4! (1 + 5) = 4! (6)$$

Example 1.29

Factor out the lowest factorial in each expression:

- A. $5! - 4!$
- B. $9! + 10!$
- C. $8! + 6!$
- D. $8! - 6!$
- E. $n! + (n + 1)!$
- F. $a! + (a + 1)!$
- G. $3! + 4! + 5!$
- H. $3! - 4! + 5!$

Parts A and B

Use the recursive definition to expand and then factor:

$$5! - 4! = 5 \cdot 4! - 4! = 4! (5 - 1) = 4! (4)$$

$$9! + 10! = 9! (1 + 10) = 9! (11)$$

Parts C and D

Use the recursive definition twice to expand and then factor:

$$8! + 6! = 6! (8 \cdot 7 + 1) = 6! (56 + 1) = 6! (57)$$

$$8! - 6! = 6! (8 \cdot 7 - 1) = 6! (56 - 1) = 6! (55)$$

Parts E and F

This has variables:

$$n! + (n + 1)! = \underbrace{n! [1 + (n + 1)]}_{\text{Taking } n! \text{ common}} = n! (n + 2)$$

$$a! + (a + 1)! = \textcolor{violet}{a!} \times 1 + \textcolor{violet}{a!} (a + 1) = a! (1 + a + 1) = a! (a + 2)$$

Parts G and H

$$3! + 4! + 5! = 3! (1 + 4 + 20) = 3! (25) = 6 \times 25 = 150$$

$$3! - 4! + 5! = 3! (1 - 4 + 20) = 6(17) = 102$$

1.30: Cancellation with factoring

Just as factorials can be cancelled, they can also be cancelled after factoring.

Example 1.31

$$\frac{8! + 9!}{7! + 8!}$$

can be written in reduced form as $\frac{a}{b}$, where a and b are integers, and $HCF(a, b)$ is 1. Find $a + b$.

Factor $8!$ in the numerator and $7!$ in the denominator

$$\frac{\textcolor{violet}{8!} (1 + 9)}{\textcolor{violet}{7!} (1 + 8)} = \frac{\textcolor{violet}{8!} (10)}{\textcolor{violet}{7!} (9)} = \frac{8 \times 10}{9} = \frac{80}{9}$$

Identify:

$$a = 80, b = 9 \Rightarrow a + b = 80 + 9 = 89$$

Example 1.32

What is the simplified value of $\frac{10!+11!+12!}{10!+11!}$? (MathCounts 2005 State Countdown)

Factor $10!$ from the numerator and the denominator:

$$\frac{10!(1 + 11 + 12 \times 11)}{10!(1 + 11)} = \frac{12 \times 12}{12} = 12$$

Challenge 1.33

(MCMC): $5! + 6! + 7!$ is equal to:

- A. $5! \times 72$
- B. $6! \times \left(8 + \frac{1}{6}\right)$
- C. 5780
- D. 5880

$$\begin{aligned} 120 + 720 + 5040 &= 5880 \Rightarrow D \text{ Correct, } C \text{ Incorrect} \\ 5! + 6! + 7! &= 5!(1 + 6 + 6 \times 7) = 5!(7 + 42) = 5! \times 49 \Rightarrow A \text{ Incorrect} \\ 5! + 6! + 7! &= 6!\left(\frac{1}{6} + 1 + 7\right) = 6!\left(8 + \frac{1}{6}\right) \Rightarrow B \text{ Correct} \end{aligned}$$

1.34: Using factoring to find divisors

Factoring will convert addition into multiplication, and is one strategy that can be used to find prime divisors

Example 1.35: Divisors

- A. Find the largest prime divisor of $9! + 10!$
- B. Find the largest prime divisor of $7! + 8!$
- C. What is the largest prime factor of $5! + 6!$? (MathCounts 2009 National Countdown)

Part A

$$9! + 10! = 9!(1 + 10) = 9!(11)$$

Largest prime divisor is:

$$11$$

Part B

$$7! + 8! = 7!(1 + 8) = \underbrace{7! \times 9}_{\text{Largest prime is 7}}$$

Part C

$$5! + 6! = 5!(1 + 6) = 5!(7)$$

Largest prime will be

$$7$$

F. Multiplication

1.36: Addition versus Multiplication

Consider numbers being added:

$$3 + 6 = (3 \times 1) + (3 \times 2) = 3(1 + 2) = 3(3) = 9$$

Compare with numbers being multiplied:

$$3 \times 6 = (3 \times 1)(3 \times 2) = 3^2(1 \times 2) = 9(2) = 18$$

Hence, the three is factored out twice from the second expression.

1.37: Rearranging with multiplication

The product of consecutive multiples of a number can be written in terms of a factorial and a power:

$$n \cdot 2n \cdot 3n \cdot \dots \cdot xn = n^x x!$$

$$n \cdot 2n \cdot 3n \cdot \dots \cdot xn$$

The LHS is a product. Separate out the n from each term:

$$n \cdot (2 \cdot n) \cdot (3 \cdot n) \cdot (4 \cdot n) \dots (x \cdot n)$$

Put all the n 's together:

$$\underbrace{n \cdot n \cdot n \cdot \dots \cdot n}_{x \text{ times}} \times (2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot \dots \cdot x)$$

Substitute $n \cdot n \cdot n \cdot \dots \cdot n = n^x$ and $2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot \dots \cdot x = x!$

$$n^x x!$$

Example 1.38

Write as a single term:

$$5 \cdot 10 \cdot 15 \cdot \dots \cdot 500$$

Write each term as a multiple of 5:

$$(5 \cdot 1) \cdot (5 \cdot 2) \cdot (5 \cdot 3) \cdot \dots \cdot (5 \cdot 99) \cdot (5 \cdot 100)$$

Rearrange:

$$\underbrace{5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot 5}_{100 \text{ times}} \times (1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot 100)$$

Combine the first term as an exponent, and the second term as a factorial:

$$5^{100} \times 100!$$

Example 1.39

Simplify

$$\frac{3 \cdot 6 \cdot 9 \dots (3n - 3) \cdot 3n}{3^{n+1}}$$

Factor a 3 out of each term in the numerator:

$$\frac{[(3 \cdot 1)(3 \cdot 2)(3 \cdot 3) \dots 3(n - 1) \cdot 3n]}{3^{n+1}}$$

Multiply all the 3's together. Note that there are n 3's:

$$= \frac{3^n [1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots (n - 1)n]}{3^{n+1}}$$

Substitute $1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots (n - 1)n = n!$

$$= \frac{3^n n!}{3^{n+1}}$$

Cancel 3^n :

$$= \frac{n!}{3}$$

Example 1.40

$$\frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \dots (2n-2) \cdot 2n}{2^{n!}}$$

Factor a 2 out of each term in the numerator:

$$\frac{(2 \cdot 1) \cdot (2 \cdot 2) \cdot (2 \cdot 3) \dots (2(n-1)) \cdot (2 \times n)}{2^{n!}} = \frac{2^n (n!)}{2^{n!}}$$

Use the property $\frac{a^m}{a^n} = \frac{1}{a^{n-m}}$:

$$= \frac{n!}{2^{n!-n}}$$

1.41: Telescoping Series in Factorials

We can telescope the LHS to give us the RHS:

$$0! + 1 \cdot 1! + 2 \cdot 2! + \dots + n \cdot n! = (n+1)!$$

Collapse the series one term at a time using factoring:

$$\underbrace{0! + 1!}_{=2!} + 2 \cdot 2! + 3 \cdot 3! + \dots + n \cdot n!$$

Take $2!$ common in the second and third terms:

$$\underbrace{2! (1 + 2)}_{=2! \times 3 = 3!} + 3 \cdot 3! + \dots + n \cdot n!$$

Simplify inside the bracket and use the formula $n! = n(n-1)!$:

$$3! + 3 \cdot 3! + \dots + n \cdot n! = 3! (1 + 3) \dots + n \cdot n!$$

Repeat the above process until we finally get:

$$= (n+1)!$$

Example 1.42

- Simplify $0! + 1 \cdot 1! + 2 \cdot 2! + \dots + 50 \cdot 50!$
- What is the largest prime divisor of $0! + 1 \cdot 1! + 2 \cdot 2! + \dots + 100 \cdot 100!$
- Given that $0! + 1 \cdot 1! + 2 \cdot 2! + \dots + 25 \cdot 26! = n!$, what is the sum of digits of n ?

$$\begin{aligned} 0! + 1 \cdot 1! + 2 \cdot 2! + \dots + 100 \cdot 100! &= 101! \Rightarrow \text{Largest prime divisor is } 101. \\ 27! &\Rightarrow 2 + 7 = 9 \end{aligned}$$

G. Equations

Example 1.43

- By what integer factor must $9!$ be multiplied to equal $11!$? (**MathCounts 2006 School Countdown**)
- Find n if $2^6 \times 3^3 \times n = 9!$

- C. Find x if: $\frac{x}{5!} + \frac{x}{6!} = \frac{1}{7!}$
D. For what value of n is $5 \times 8 \times 2 \times n = 7!$? (MathCounts 2004 Warm-Up 18)
E. If $5! \cdot 3! = n!$, what is the value of n ? (MathCounts 2005 School Countdown)
F. Find n such that $2^5 \cdot 3^2 \cdot n = 8!$. (MathCounts 2001 National Countdown)

Part A

$$11! = 11 \times 10 \times 9! = 110 \times 9!$$

Part B

$$9! = 2 \times 3 \times \underbrace{4}_{2^2} \times 5 \times \underbrace{6}_{2 \times 3} \times 7 \times \underbrace{8}_{2^3} \times \underbrace{9}_{3^2} = 2^7 \times 3^4 \times 5 \times 7 \Rightarrow n = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 = 210$$

Part C

Convert all fractions on the LHS to have a denominator of $LCM(5!, 6!) = 6!$

$$\frac{6x + x}{6!} = \frac{1}{7!} \Rightarrow \frac{7x}{6!} = \frac{1}{7!} \Rightarrow 7x = \frac{1}{7} \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{49}$$

Part D

$$63$$

Part E

$$6$$

Part F

$$140$$

Example 1.44

(MCMC): If $2! + 3! + 4! = 2^x$ and $x = n! - 1$, then n is the smallest:

- A. odd natural number
- B. prime number
- C. odd prime number
- D. non-even prime number

$$2! + 3! + 4! = 2 + 6 + 24 = 32 = 2^5 \Rightarrow x = 5 = n! - 1 \Rightarrow n = 3 \Rightarrow C, D \text{ correct}$$

Example 1.45

Show that

$$(2n)! = 2(n^2)(n^2 - 1)(n^2 - 2^2) \dots [n^2 - (n - 2)^2][(n^2 - (n - 1)^2)]$$

Begin with the RHS and expand it as a factorial:

$$(2n)! = (1)(2) \dots (n - 2)(n - 1)(n)(n + 1)(n + 2) \dots (2n - 1)(2n)$$

Rewrite each term as a difference from n :

$$= [(n - (n - 1))][(n - (n - 2))] \dots (n - 2)(n - 1)(n)(n + 1)(n + 2) \dots [n + (n - 2)][(n + (n - 1))](2n)$$

Multiply from the middle:

$$= (n)(n^2 - 1)(n^2 - 2^2) \dots [n^2 - (n - 2)^2][(n^2 - (n - 1)^2)](2n)$$

Multiply the first and the last terms:

$$= 2(n^2)(n^2 - 1)(n^2 - 2^2) \dots [n^2 - (n - 2)^2][(n^2 - (n - 1)^2)]$$

1.2 Factorials: Applications

1.46: Recursive Definition (Multiple Steps)

$$n! = \underbrace{n(n-1)!}_{\text{Expanding}} = \underbrace{n(n-1)(n-2)!}_{\text{Expanding Further}} = \underbrace{n(n-1) \dots (n-k)(n-k-1)!}_{\text{Expanding to have (k+2) terms}}$$

$$\underbrace{n(n-1) \dots (n-k)}_{(k+1) \text{ terms}} \underbrace{(n-k-1)!}_{1 \text{ Term}} \Rightarrow k+2 \text{ terms}$$

Suppose $k = 1$:

$$n(n-1)(n-2)! \Rightarrow k+2 = 1+2 = 3 \text{ terms}$$

Suppose $k = 2$:

$$n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)! \Rightarrow k+2 = 2+2 = 4 \text{ terms}$$

A. Number Theory

Example 1.47

There are many four-digit positive integers in which the product of the digits is equal to $5!$. What is the sum of the largest and smallest such four-digit numbers? (MathCounts 2001 Workout 3)

9889

Example 1.48

Let

x = largest five – digit number with digital product $5!$

y = *smallest* five – digit number with digital product $5!$

$y =$

What is the digital sum of the difference of the?

$$\begin{array}{r} 85311 \\ - 11358 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} 5! = 120 = 2^3 \times 3 \times 5 \\ = 73953 \Rightarrow \text{Sum} = 27 \end{array}$$

Descending order of digits Ascending order of digits

Example 1.49: Divisibility

How many of the factorials from $1!$ to $1000!$ are divisible by 10?

$$\underbrace{1! = 1, 2! = 2, 3! = 6, 4! = 24}_{\text{Not divisible by 10}}, \underbrace{5! = 120, 6! = 6 \times 5!, 7! = 7 \times 6! \dots}_{\text{Always divisible by 10}} \Rightarrow 1000 - 4 = \underbrace{996}_{\text{Factorials divisible by 10}}$$

Example 1.50: Last Digit and Last Two Digits

$$x_n = 1! + 2! + 3! + \dots + n!$$

What is the remainder when:

- A. x_{100} is divided by 10
- B. x_{1000} is divided by 100

Strategy

Finding the remainder when dividing by

- 10 is the same as finding the Units Digit.
- 100 is the same as finding the last two digits

Part A

Factorials from 5! will not matter since

$$5! = 120 = 12 \times 10$$

And factorials larger than 5! Are automatically divisible by 10.

Hence, all we need to do is find the Units Digit of

$$1! + 2! + 3! + 4! = 1 + 2 + 6 + 24 \rightarrow \underbrace{3}_{\text{Units Digit}}$$

Part B

Factorials from 10! Onwards will not matter since they all have at least two zeros at the end of the number.

Hence, all we need to do is find the last two digits of

$$1! + 2! + 3! + 4! + 5! + 6! + 7! + 8! + 9!$$

The factorials upto 5 should be memorized. Beyond this, we only need to calculate the last two digits of the answer, dropping the digits beyond, since these do not affect the final answer:

$$1 + 2 + 6 + 24 + \underbrace{20}_{24 \times 5 = 120} + \underbrace{20}_{20 \times 6 = 120} + \underbrace{40}_{20 \times 7 = 140} + \underbrace{20}_{40 \times 8 = 320} + \underbrace{80}_{20 \times 9 = 180} \rightarrow \underbrace{13}_{\text{Last Two Digits}}$$

Example 1.51

If the sum of $1! + 2! + 3! + \dots + 49! + 50!$ is divided by 15, what is the remainder? (MathCounts 2009 National Countdown)

$$\frac{1! + 2! + 3! + \dots + 49! + 50!}{15} = \frac{1!}{15} + \frac{2!}{15} + \frac{3!}{15} + \dots + \frac{50!}{15}$$

Every term after $\frac{5!}{15}$ has remainder zero.

$$\frac{1! + 2! + 3! + 4!}{15} = \frac{1 + 2 + 6 + 24}{15} = \frac{33}{15} = 2 \frac{3}{15}$$

Example 1.52

What is the remainder when the division implied in the reciprocal of $\frac{8750}{24! + 25! + 26!}$ is carried out?

$$\text{Reciprocal of } \frac{8750}{24! + 25! + 26!} = \frac{24! + 25! + 26!}{8750} = \frac{24!(1 + 25 + 25 \times 26)}{875 \times 10} = \frac{24!(1 + 25 + 25 \times 26)}{2 \times 5^4 \times 7}$$

$24!$ will have one 2, four 5's, and one 7 in its factorization.

Hence, remainder is zero.

Example 1.53

What is the greatest perfect square that is a factor of $7!?$ (MathCounts 2009 Warm-up 2)

$$2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 \times 6 \times 7 = 2^4 \times 3^2 \times 5 \times 7 = 144 \times 35$$

$$144$$

Challenge 1.54

Find the value of k if $1! \times 2! \times \dots \times 20! = kn^2$, where n and k are natural numbers and n is as large as possible.

$$\begin{aligned} & 1! \times 2! \times \dots \times 20! \\ &= 1! \times 2 \times 1! + 3! \times 4 \times 3! + 5! \times 6 \times 5! \times \dots \times 19! \times 20 \times 19! \\ &= 2(1!)^2 \times 4(3!)^2 \times 6(5!)^2 \times \dots \times 20(19!)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Ignore the perfect squares:

$$\begin{aligned} &= 2 \times 4 \times 6 \times \dots \times 20 \\ &= 2^{20}(1 \times 2 \times \dots \times 10) \\ &= (2^{10})^2(1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 \times 6 \times 7 \times 8 \times 9 \times 10) \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} 4 &= 2^2 \\ 9 &= 3^2 \\ 2 \times 3 \times 6 &= 36 = 6^2 \\ 5 \times 8 \times 10 &= 400 = 20^2 \end{aligned}$$

The only number left is

$$7$$

Hence,

$$k = 7$$

Example 1.55

Three positive integers a , b , and c satisfy $a \cdot b \cdot c = 8!$ and $a < b < c$. What is the smallest possible value of $c - a$?

$$\begin{aligned} 30^3 &< 8! < 40^3 \\ (a,b,c) &= (32,35,36) \end{aligned}$$

Example 1.56

What three-digit integer is equal to the sum of the factorials of its digits? (**MathCounts 2007 Warm-Up 13**)

$$\begin{aligned} 7! &= 5040 \Rightarrow \text{Not Valid} \\ 6! &= 720 \end{aligned}$$

If the number contains the digit 6, then it must also contain the digit 7, which is not possible. Hence, it cannot contain the digit 6.

$$5! = 120$$

We can try with the first digit = 1

$$\begin{aligned} 125 &\Rightarrow 1 + 2 + 120 = 123 \\ 135 &\Rightarrow 1 + 6 + 120 = 127 \\ 145 &\Rightarrow 1 + 24 + 120 = 145 \end{aligned}$$

B. Counting Arguments

Example 1.57

$$(n_1)! + (n_2)! = N, \quad n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{W}, \quad n_1 \neq n_2, \quad N < 24,$$

- What are the possible values of N ?
- What is the range of N ?

- C. How many values of N are repeated more than once? What is the reason for the repetition?
 D. What is $\text{Max}(n_2) - \text{Min}(N)$?

Part A

$$4! = 24$$

We can go up to $3!$ (at max):

$$0! + 1! = 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$0! + 2! = 1 + 2 = 3$$

$$0! + 3! = 1 + 6 = 7$$

$$1! + 2! = 1 + 2 = 3$$

$$1! + 3! = 1 + 6 = 7$$

$$2! + 3! = 2 + 6 = 8$$

Part B

$$\text{Range}(N) = \text{Max}(N) - \text{Min}(N) = 8 - 2 = 6$$

Part C

Two values (3, 7)

$$0! = 1!$$

Part D

$$\text{Max}(n_2) - \text{Min}(N) = 3 - 2 = 1$$

Example 1.58

If $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $2^n \downarrow 2! + 3! + 5! + 2! \times 3! \times 4!$, then the maximum value of n is
belongs to Natural Numbers *divides*

The question is asking for the highest power of 2 that divides the given expression.

Calculate the value of the expression:

$$2! + 3! + 5! + 2! \times 3! \times 4! = 2 + 6 + 120 + 2 \times 6 \times 24 = 128 + 288 = 416$$

Write 416 as a product of its prime factors:

$$13 \times 32 = 13 \times 2^5$$

And now that the highest power of 2 that divides this expression is 5. Hence:

$$n = 5$$

Example 1.59

What is the number of prime divisors of $100!$

There are 25 primes less than 100.

These are also the prime numbers that are divisors of $100!$.

$$\text{Ans} = 25$$

C. Highest power of a number p in factorial n

Example 1.60

For how many positive integer values of n is 3^n a factor of $15!$? (MathCounts 2003 Chapter Countdown)

Expand $15!$ Using the definition. There are some numbers which are a multiple of 3. Those are the only numbers that contribute to the number being divisible by 3^n :

$$15! = 1 \times 2 \times \underbrace{3}_{3^1} \times 4 \times 5 \times \underbrace{6}_{3^1} \times 7 \times 8 \times \underbrace{9}_{3^2} \times 10 \times 11 \times \underbrace{12}_{3^1} \times 13 \times 14 \times \underbrace{15}_{3^1}$$

$$\text{No. of Values} = 1 + 1 + 2 + 1 + 1 = 6$$

Example 1.61

For how many positive integer values of n is 2^n a factor of $15!$? (MathCounts 2003 Chapter Countdown)

Expand $15!$ Using the definition. There are some numbers which are a multiple of 3. Those are the only numbers that contribute to the number being divisible by 3^n :

$$15! = 1 \times \underbrace{2}_{2^1} \times 3 \times \underbrace{4}_{2^2} \times 5 \times \underbrace{6}_{2^1} \times 7 \times \underbrace{8}_{2^3} \times 9 \times \underbrace{10}_{2^1} \times 11 \times \underbrace{12}_{2^2} \times 13 \times \underbrace{14}_{2^1} \times 15$$

$$\text{No. of Values} = 1 + 2 + 1 + 3 + 1 + 2 + 1 = 11$$

1.62: Creating a Zero

The only way to get a zero at the end of the number is when the number is a multiple of 10. The 10 can be prime factorized to get:

$$10 = 2 \times 5$$

Extending the argument, n zeroes can only result from the n^{th} power of 10. And those can also be prime factorized to get:

$$10^n = 2^n \times 5^n$$

$$\begin{aligned} 100 &= 4 \times 25 = 2^2 \times 5^2 \\ 1000 &= 8 \times 125 = 2^3 \times 5^3 \end{aligned}$$

Example 1.63

Let S be the set of prime numbers greater than or equal to 2 and less than 100. Multiply all the elements of S . With how many consecutive zeroes will the product end? (CAT 2000)

One zero means that the number is a multiple of 10.

Two zeroes means that the number is a multiple of 100.

And so on.

Factorize 10:

$$10 = 2 \times 5$$

This is the only way to get a 10.

Prime numbers from 2 to 100 will be:

$$2, 3, 5, 7, \dots, 97$$

And there is only 1 two, and 1 five among these prime numbers, which will multiply to give

One Zero

Example 1.64: Number of zeroes at the end of a factorial

How many zeroes are there at the end of $100!$?

The only way to get a zero in terms of prime numbers is 5×2 , or powers of 5×2 .

Count multiples of 5:

We count multiples of 25 separately, because counting multiples of 5 counts only one 5 from multiples of 25.

$$\left\{ \underbrace{5 \times 1}_5, \underbrace{5 \times 2}_{10}, \underbrace{5 \times 3}_{15}, \dots, \underbrace{5 \times 20}_{100} \right\} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 20\} \Rightarrow 20 \text{ 5's}$$

Count multiples of 25:

$$\left\{ \underbrace{5^2 \times 1}_{25}, \underbrace{5^2 \times 2}_{50}, \dots, \underbrace{5^2 \times 4}_{100} \right\} \Rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \Rightarrow 4 \text{ 5's}$$

$$\text{Total} = 20 + 4 = 24$$

Shortcut:

$$\frac{100}{5} + \frac{100}{5^2} = 20 + 4 = 24$$

Count Multiples of 2

$$\{2, 4, 6, 8, \dots, 100\} = 50$$

$$\text{Min}(24, 50) = 24$$

Example 1.65: Highest power of prime p in factorial n

What is the highest power of 2 that divides 100!

$$100! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \dots \cdot 100$$

Counting the multiples of different powers of 2:

$$\{2, 4, \dots, 100\} \Rightarrow \frac{100}{2} = 50$$

$$\{4, 8, \dots, 100\} \Rightarrow \frac{100}{4} = 25$$

$$\{8, 16, \dots, 96\} \Rightarrow \frac{96}{8} = 12$$

$$\{16, 32, \dots, 96\} \Rightarrow \frac{96}{16} = 6$$

$$\{32, 64, 96\} \Rightarrow \frac{96}{32} = 3$$

$$\{64\} \Rightarrow \frac{64}{64} = 1$$

$$50 + 25 + 12 + 6 + 3 + 1 = 97$$

Example 1.66: Highest power of prime p in factorial n

What is the highest power of 2 that divides 100!

$$\left\lfloor \frac{100}{2} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{100}{4} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{100}{8} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{100}{16} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{100}{32} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{100}{64} \right\rfloor$$

$$= [50] + [25] + \left[12\frac{4}{8}\right] + \left[6\frac{4}{16}\right] + \left[3\frac{4}{32}\right] + \left[1\frac{36}{64}\right]$$

$$= 50 + 25 + 12 + 6 + 3 + 1 = 97$$

Example 1.67: Using the formula

What is the greatest positive integer n such that 3^n is a factor of $200!$? (MathCounts 2003 State Team)

$$\left\lfloor \frac{200}{3} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{200}{9} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{200}{27} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{200}{81} \right\rfloor = 66 + 22 + 7 + 2 = 97$$

$n = 97$

Example 1.68

How many zeros are at the end of $(100!)(200!)(300!)$ when multiplied out? (MathCounts 2003 Chapter Team)

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\lfloor \frac{100}{5} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{100}{25} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{200}{5} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{200}{25} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{200}{125} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{300}{5} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{300}{25} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{300}{125} \right\rfloor \\ &= [20] + [4] + [40] + [8] + \left[1 \frac{75}{125}\right] + [60] + [12] + \left[2 \frac{50}{125}\right] \\ &= 20 + 4 + 40 + 8 + 1 + 60 + 12 + 2 = 147 \end{aligned}$$

1.3 Permutations

A. Arrangements

1.69: Permutation

A permutation is an arrangement or a re-arrangement of objects.

For example,

1234 can be rearranged to 1324
 $ABCD$ can be rearranged to $DACB$

Example 1.70



The seating arrangement above shows three chairs. The position of the chairs cannot be changed.

- List the ways in which three people A, B and C can be seated on the chairs. Hence, count the total number of ways.
- Separately, count the number of ways that three people A, B and C can be seated on the chairs above using the multiplication principle.

Part A

The only three possible cases are:

A sits first

ABC, ACB

B sits first

BAC, BCA

C sits first

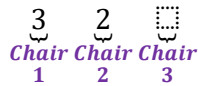
CAB, CBA

Part B

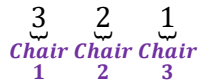
Any of the three people can sit on the first chair:



But, once someone sits on the first chair, only two people are left for the second chair:



And, we really do not have a choice with respect to the last chair, since we are left with only 1 choice for it:



And by the multiplication principle, the options for each chair are independent, and hence the total number of ways is:

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{Chair } 1} \times \underbrace{2}_{\text{Chair } 2} \times \underbrace{1}_{\text{Chair } 3} = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 3! = 6$$

Example 1.71



Four people A, B, C and D are standing in a row above in the given four positions to get a theatre ticket.

- Count the number of ways in which they can stand using casework, and the answer to the previous question.
- Count the number of ways in which they can stand using the multiplication principle.

Part A

D stands first

The remaining three people A, B , and C can stand in six ways, which we listed in the previous question:

$ABC, ACB, BAC, BCA, CAB, CBA$

A stands first

If A goes first, and D is available to stand among the three people, there is no difference between A and D . Hence, the number of ways remains

6

B stands first

By similar logic as above, the number of ways is

6

C stands first

The number of ways is

6

Total Ways

$$= 6 + 6 + 6 + 6 = 4 \times 6 = 24$$

Part B

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \underbrace{4} & \underbrace{3} & \underbrace{2} & \underbrace{1} \\ \text{Position } 1 & \text{Position } 2 & \text{Position } 3 & \text{Position } 4 \end{array} = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 4! = 24$$

Example 1.72

What is the number of ways of arranging the letters of the word EXAM?

We solved this question in the chapter on counting strategies using a different method. (It would be a good idea to go back and see that solution to compare).

Method I: Create four places, and arrange the letters in the places

We can arrange the four letters in four places. For the first letter, we have four choices. Once we have placed the first letter, we only have three choices of place for the second letter. For the third letter, we only have two choices, and we have no choice for the last letter:

$$\underbrace{4 \text{ Places}}_{\text{First Letter}} \times \underbrace{3 \text{ Places}}_{\text{Second Letter}} \times \underbrace{2 \text{ Places}}_{\text{Third Letter}} \times \underbrace{1 \text{ Place}}_{\text{Fourth Letter}} = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 4! = 24$$

Method II: Create four places, and arrange letters in each place

For the first place, we have four choices of letters. For the second place, we only have three letters to choose from. For the third place, we need to choose from the two remaining letters. And for the last place, we have no choice.

$$\underbrace{4 \text{ Letters}}_{\text{First Place}} \times \underbrace{3 \text{ Letters}}_{\text{Second Place}} \times \underbrace{2 \text{ Letters}}_{\text{Third Place}} \times \underbrace{1 \text{ Letter}}_{\text{Fourth Place}} = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 4! = 24$$

Example 1.73

Five boys want to have a photo session. For the photo session, they are going to sit in a row. What is the number of different ways in which they can get their photo clicked?

Method I (Choices for each seat)

For the first seat, we have a choice among five boys. For the second seat, since we have already chosen a boy, the number of choices comes down to four, and so on.

$$\underbrace{5}_{\text{First Seat}} \times \underbrace{4}_{\text{Second Seat}} \times \underbrace{3}_{\text{Third Seat}} \times \underbrace{2}_{\text{Fourth Seat}} \times \underbrace{1}_{\text{Fifth Seat}} = 5! = 120$$

Method II (Choices for each boy):

For the first boy, we have a choice of five seats. For the second boy, since one seat is already occupied, the number of choices comes down to four, and so on.

$$\underbrace{5}_{\text{First Boy}} \times \underbrace{4}_{\text{Second Boy}} \times \underbrace{3}_{\text{Third Boy}} \times \underbrace{2}_{\text{Fourth Boy}} \times \underbrace{1}_{\text{Fifth Boy}} = 5! = 120$$

1.74: Arranging n objects in a row (Repetition Not Allowed)

The number of ways of arranging n objects in a row, without repetition,

$$\underbrace{n}_{\text{First Location}} \times \underbrace{n-1}_{\text{Second Location}} \times \dots \times \underbrace{1}_{n^{\text{th}} \text{ Location}} = n!$$

The questions above all lead to the same formula, but use different verbs. It is critical to be able to recognize that the underlying concept remains:

Arranging Distinct Objects without repetition

Notes:

- Without repetition is very important. Later on, we will see that the number of ways to arrange n objects in r positions, with repetition is n^r .

Example 1.75

Find the number of ways of arranging the letters of the given words. Give your answer both as a factorial, and as a number. (Answer each part separately).

- DELHI
- FUJI
- PHOENIX
- CAT
- FRESNO

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Delhi: } 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 &= 5! = 120 \\ \text{Fuji: } 4! &= 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 24 \\ \text{Phoenix: } 7! &= 7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 5040 \\ \text{Cat: } 3! &= 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6 \\ \text{Fresno: } 6! &= 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 720 \end{aligned}$$

Example 1.76

What is the number of ways of

- displaying five distinct books on a shelf in a row?
- Getting six people to sit in a row on six chairs?
- Giving a gold, silver, and bronze medal to three students (one medal per student)

$$\begin{aligned} \underbrace{5}_{\substack{\text{First} \\ \text{Book}}} \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 &= 5! = 120 \\ 6! &= 720 \\ 3! &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

B. Permutations

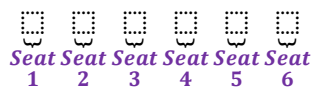
If the arrangement involves leaving some vacant positions, then we must fall back on the multiplication principle.

Example 1.77

Six boys (A, B, C, D, E, F) are going for a photo session, where they will be sitting in a row, which has six seats. How many ways are there to take a photo of:

- Three people, A, B and C , sitting in exactly three seats, and leaving the other three seats vacant
- Two people, B and C , sitting in exactly two seats, and leaving the other four seats vacant
- Four people, B, D, E, F , sitting in exactly four seats and leaving two seats vacant

Part 1



The row has six seats. We will have three seats vacant at the end of the process. The first person will have a choice of six seats to choose from.

Hence, by the multiplication principle, the final number of ways is:

$$\underbrace{6 \text{ Seats}}_{\substack{\text{First} \\ \text{Person}}} \times \underbrace{5 \text{ Seats}}_{\substack{\text{Second} \\ \text{Person}}} \times \underbrace{4 \text{ Seats}}_{\substack{\text{Third} \\ \text{Person}}} = 6 \times 5 \times 4 = 120$$

Part II

$$\underbrace{6 \text{ Seats}}_{\substack{\text{First} \\ \text{Person}}} \times \underbrace{5 \text{ Seats}}_{\substack{\text{Second} \\ \text{Person}}} = 6 \times 5 = 30$$

Part III

$$\underbrace{6 \text{ Seats}}_{\substack{\text{First} \\ \text{Person}}} \times \underbrace{5 \text{ Seats}}_{\substack{\text{Second} \\ \text{Person}}} \times \underbrace{4 \text{ Seats}}_{\substack{\text{Third} \\ \text{Person}}} \times \underbrace{3 \text{ Seats}}_{\substack{\text{Fourth} \\ \text{Person}}} = 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 = 360$$

Example 1.78

Four boys A, B, C, D are sitting for a photo session. There are six available seats. The number of ways in which they can be seated is counted as follows:

6 choices for the first empty seat.
5 choices for the second empty seat
Total choices = $6 \times 5 = 30$

Compare with the previous answer, where we got 360. Which one is correct and why?

30 does not take order into account.
The boys can sit in different orders.

$(Aarav, Arjun) \neq (Arjun, Aarav)$

Example 1.79

What is the number of ways of arranging the letters of the word EXA in four places? (One place will remain empty since we are arranging three letters in four places).

We solved a similar question previously. (It would be a good idea to go back and see that solution to compare).

Method I: Create four places, and arrange the letters in the places

We can arrange the three letters in four places. For the first letter, we have four choices. Once we have placed the first letter, we only have three choices of place for the second letter. For the third letter, we only have two choices:

$$\underbrace{4 \text{ Places}}_{\text{First Letter}} \times \underbrace{3 \text{ Places}}_{\text{Second Letter}} \times \underbrace{2 \text{ Places}}_{\text{Third Letter}} \times \underbrace{1 \text{ Place}}_{\text{Empty Space}} = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 4! = 24$$

Method II: Create four places, and arrange letters in each place

If we want to use the second method used in the previous question, we need to modify our thinking slightly. Think of the empty space as containing a blank letter.

Then, we can proceed as usual: for the first place, we have four choices of letters. For the second place, we only have three letters to choose from. For the third place, we need to choose from the two remaining letters. And for the last place, we have no choice.

$$\underbrace{4 \text{ Letters}}_{\text{First Place}} \times \underbrace{3 \text{ Letters}}_{\text{Second Place}} \times \underbrace{2 \text{ Letters}}_{\text{Third Place}} \times \underbrace{\text{Empty Space}}_{\text{Fourth Place}} = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 4! = 24$$

1.80: Arranging r out of n objects (Permutations)

As we can see from the above questions, the number of ways of arranging r distinct objects in n positions is:

$$\underbrace{n}_{\text{First Location}} \times \underbrace{n-1}_{\text{Second Location}} \times \dots \times \underbrace{n-r+1}_{\text{rth Location}} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!} = {}^n P_r$$

The above expression is common enough for it to have a concise notation. Therefore, we write:

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

Number of ways of arranging
 r out of n objects

Example 1.81

King's High School has a ten km marathon with ten participants. What is the number of ways in which the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize could be distributed (assuming there are no draws)?

Multiplication Principle

$$\underbrace{10}_{\text{First Prize}} \times \underbrace{9}_{\text{Second Prize}} \times \underbrace{8}_{\text{Third Prize}} = 720$$

Formula

We have three prizes to be distributed among ten participants.

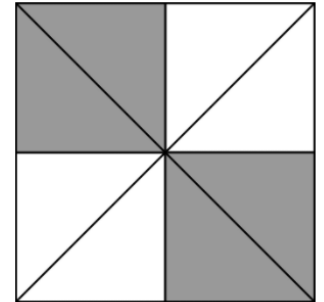
Substitute $r = 3, n = 10$ in:

$$\frac{n!}{(n-r)!} = \frac{10!}{(10-3)!} = \frac{10!}{7!} = \frac{10 \times 9 \times 8 \times 7!}{7!} = 10 \times 9 \times 8 = 720$$

Example 1.82

The integers 2 through 9 are each placed in the figure with one integer in each of the eight smallest triangles. The integers are placed so that the pairs of integers in each of the four smallest squares have the same sum.

- Determine one possible arrangement of numbers.
- Determine the number of possible arrangements.



Part A

The sum of the numbers from 2 through 9 is

$$2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 = 44$$

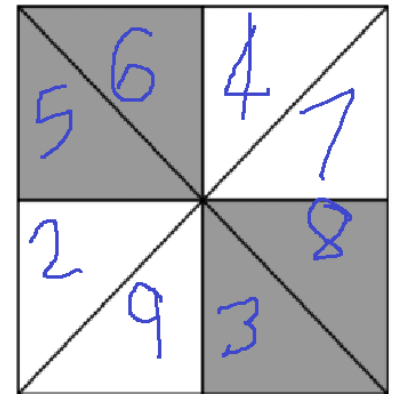
These numbers are divided into four pairs, each of which has the same total. Hence, the total must be:

$$\frac{44}{4} = 11$$

Hence, the pairs which need to be formed are:

$$(2,9)(3,8)(4,7)(5,6)$$

One possible arrangement is shown in the diagram to the right.



Part B

The number of ways to place the first number is:

8 choices

The moment the first number is placed, the number that is paired with it (the second number in the pair) is forced to go into the other box in the square, and there is no choice with respect to that number.

For the third number (1st number from the second pair), there are

6 choices

Similarly, for the fifth number (1st number from the third pair), there are

4 choices

Finally, for the seventh number (1st number from the fourth pair), there are

2 choices

$$\underbrace{8}_{\text{First Number}} \times 6 \times 4 \times 2 = 384$$

C. Permutations

Example 1.83: Writing arrangements as Permutations

Convert the number of arrangements below into factorial notation, and hence into permutation notation.

- Arranging two objects in seven positions
- Choosing three scientists out of six scientists to fill the role of Team Leader, Assistant Leader, and Coordinator for a foreign trip

$$\underbrace{7}_{\text{First Object}} \times \underbrace{6}_{\text{Second Object}} = 7 \times 6 = \frac{7!}{5!} = \frac{7!}{(7-2)!} = {}^7P_2$$

$$\underbrace{6}_{\text{Team Leader}} \times \underbrace{5}_{\text{Assistant Leader}} \times \underbrace{4}_{\text{Coordinator}} = 6 \times 5 \times 4 = \frac{6!}{3!} = {}^6P_3$$

Example 1.84: Writing factorials as Permutations

Convert the factorials given below into permutation notation. Also, interpret them as ways of arranging r out of n objects.

- $\frac{8!}{3!}$
- $\frac{10!}{2!}$
- $\frac{7!}{6!}$
- $\frac{12!}{4!}$
- $\frac{99!}{57!}$
- $\frac{23!}{12!}$
- $\frac{1000!}{998!}$

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

Part A

$$\frac{8!}{3!} = \frac{8!}{(8-5)!} = {}^8P_5$$

Arranging 5 objects in 8 positions

Part B

$$\frac{10!}{2!} = \frac{10!}{(10-2)!} = {}^{10}P_8$$

Arranging 8 out of 10 objects

Part C

$$\frac{7!}{6!} = {}^7P_1$$

Arranging 1 object out of 7 OR

Arranging 1 object in 7 places

Part D

$$\frac{12!}{4!} = {}^{12}P_8$$

Arranging 8 objects out of 12 OR

Arranging 8 objects in 12 places

Part E

$$\frac{99!}{57!} = \frac{99!}{(99-42)!} = {}^{99}P_{42}$$

Arranging 42 objects out of 99 OR
 Arranging 42 objects in 99 places

Part F

Part G

$$\left\{ \frac{23!}{12!} = {}^{23}P_{11}, \frac{1000!}{998!} = {}^{1000}P_2 \right\}$$

Example 1.85

Find the values of the permutations below.

$$\left\{ {}^{12}P_3 = \frac{12!}{9!} = 12 \times 11 \times 10 = 1320, {}^7P_2 = \frac{7!}{5!} = 7 \times 6 = 42, {}^{10}P_4 = \frac{10!}{6!} = 10 \times 9 \times 8 \times 7 = 5040 \right\}$$

Challenge 1.86

Mark all correct options

Define a *sparse* vector as a vector (row of numbers) where the entries are zero, unless specified otherwise. In how many ways can I arrange the numbers from 1 to n in a sparse vector with $n!$ entries?

- A. $(n!) \times (n! - 1) \times \dots \times [n! - (n - 1)]$
- B. $(n!) \times (n! - 1) \times \dots \times (n! - n)$
- C. ${}^{n!}P_n$
- D. ${}^{n!}P_{n+1}$

$$\underbrace{n!}_{\text{First Number}} \times \underbrace{n! - 1}_{\text{Second Number}} \times \dots \times \underbrace{n! - (n - 1)}_{n^{\text{th}} \text{ Number}} = {}^{n!}P_n \Rightarrow \text{Options A, C}$$

Example 1.87

An identity matrix with n rows and n columns has two of its zero elements changed to the values a and b , $a \neq b$. Find the number of such matrices that can be created in terms of n .

$$I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, I_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The number of elements in a $n \times n$ matrix

$$= n^2$$

Out of these there are n 1's on the diagonal, leaving:

$$n^2 - n \text{ zero elements}$$

Out of these, two are changed to a and b

$$(n^2 - n)(n^2 - n - 1) =$$

Example 1.88

A $n \times m$ matrix has each of its elements taken from the set $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, nm - 1\}$. Find the number of matrices that can be created, in terms of n and m .

(nm)!

D. Distinguishability

Example 1.89

Alice, Bob, Chang, and David need to be seated on four chairs, which have been already numbered one to four. In how many ways can they be seated if:

- A. The positions of the chairs and the people are fixed
- B. The positions of the chairs are fixed, but the positions of the people are not.
- C. The positions of the chairs are not fixed, but the positions of the people are fixed.
- D. The positions of the chairs are not fixed, and the positions of the people are also not fixed.

Chairs

Fixed

If the chairs are fixed, then you cannot move them around, and they can be arranged in only

1 Way

Not Fixed

I will have four places for the four chairs, and then they can be arranged in:

$$\underbrace{4 \text{ Places}}_{\text{First Chair}} \times \underbrace{3 \text{ Places}}_{\text{Second Chair}} \times \underbrace{2 \text{ Places}}_{\text{Third Chair}} \times \underbrace{1 \text{ Place}}_{\text{Fourth Chair}} = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 4! = 24$$

People

Fixed

If the people are fixed, then you cannot move them around, and they can be arranged in only

1 Way

Not Fixed

I will have four places for the four people, and then they can be arranged in:

$$\underbrace{4 \text{ Places}}_{\text{First Person}} \times \underbrace{3 \text{ Places}}_{\text{Second Person}} \times \underbrace{2 \text{ Places}}_{\text{Third Person}} \times \underbrace{1 \text{ Place}}_{\text{Fourth Person}} = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 4! = 24$$

Answers

Part A

$$\underbrace{1}_{\text{Chairs}} \times \underbrace{1}_{\text{People}} = 1$$

Part B

$$\underbrace{1}_{\text{Chairs}} \times \underbrace{24}_{\text{People}} = 24$$

Part C

$$\underbrace{24}_{\text{Chairs}} \times \underbrace{1}_{\text{People}} = 24$$

Part D

$$\underbrace{24}_{\text{Chairs}} \times \underbrace{24}_{\text{People}} = 576$$

Example 1.90

How many ways are there of painting the numbers from 1 to 6 on the six faces of a die using six distinct colors:

- A. If the faces are identical.
- B. If the faces have a letter from A, B, C, D, E, F marked on them beforehand.

Identical Faces

Since the faces are identical, you are only left with the choice of which color to use for which number:

$$\underbrace{6}_{\text{Choice of Colour for 1st Number}} \times \underbrace{5}_{\text{Second Number}} \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6!$$

Non-Identical Faces

If the faces are not identical, you must combine two choices.

- Choice of where to draw each number
- Choice of which colour to use for which number

$$\underbrace{6!}_{\text{Choice of face for each number}} \times \underbrace{6!}_{\text{Choice of colour for each number}} = (6!)^2$$

E. Replacement

When selecting an object from a set, the idea of replacement has great theoretical and practical importance.

Example 1.91

A class of ten students selects the individual who will be the class monitor by rotation each week. If a month has four weeks, then what is the number of possible monthly monitor rosters (MMR) if:

- A. Monitors may be repeated
- B. Monitors may not be repeated

Part A

We may repeat monitors. So, there is no restriction on the set of choices that we have for the monitor:

$$\underbrace{10}_{\text{First Week}} \times \underbrace{10}_{\text{Second Week}} \times \underbrace{10}_{\text{Third Week}} \times \underbrace{10}_{\text{Fourth Week}} = 10^4 = 10,000$$

Part B

If the monitors cannot be repeated, then every week, our choice of monitor reduces by 1:

$$\underbrace{10}_{\text{First Week}} \times \underbrace{9}_{\text{Second Week}} \times \underbrace{8}_{\text{Third Week}} \times \underbrace{7}_{\text{Fourth Week}} = 10 \times 9 \times 8 \times 7 = 5040 = 7!$$

Example 1.92

Answer as a mathematical expression, no need to simplify

Aarav has a box containing the letters of the English Alphabet. He draws three letters from the box. Find the number of ways he can do this if:

- A. He put each letter back after drawing it from the box.
- B. He does not put the letters back after drawing them from the box.
- C. He puts the first letter back, but not the second letter.
- D. He puts the second letter back, but not the first letter.

Part A

The first letter can be any of the letters of the English Alphabet. Once we select the first letter, we place it back in the box. Hence, we repeat the same process three times, and for each time, we have 26 choices:

$$26 \times 26 \times 26 = 26^3$$

Part B

Unlike Part A, we do not replace the letter after drawing it from the box. Hence, the number of available letters keeps decreasing with each draw:

$$26 \times 25 \times 24$$

Part C

You put the first letter back, so for the second draw, you have 26 options.
But you do not put the second letter back, so for the third draw, you only have 25 options.
 $26 \times 26 \times 25 = 26^2 \times 25$

Part D

You don't put the first letter back, so for the second draw, you have only 25 options.
You do put the second letter back, so for the third draw, you have 25 options, the same as before
 $26 \times 25 \times 25 = 26 \times 25^2$

1.4 More with Permutations

A. Identical Objects

We now look at arranging objects when some of the objects are identical.

The number of ways with identical objects will never be more than if the objects are distinguishable.

Example 1.93: Enumeration

What is the number of ways of arranging the letters of the words:

- A. JEE
- B. $J\textcolor{red}{E}\textcolor{blue}{E}$

In the first part, the two E 's are identical: there is no way to distinguish between them. In the second part, the E 's are colored, and hence you can distinguish the **red E** from the **blue E**.

To arrange, JEE , I can only choose the position of the J , giving three arrangements. To arrange, $J\textcolor{red}{E}\textcolor{blue}{E}$, I have more choice:

Part A	JEE		EJE		EEJ		$\frac{3!}{2!} = \frac{6}{2} = 3$
Part B	$J\textcolor{red}{E}\textcolor{blue}{E}$	$J\textcolor{blue}{E}\textcolor{red}{E}$	$\textcolor{red}{E}J\textcolor{blue}{E}$	$\textcolor{blue}{E}J\textcolor{red}{E}$	$\textcolor{red}{E}\textcolor{blue}{E}J$	$\textcolor{blue}{E}\textcolor{red}{E}J$	$3! = 6$

Example 1.94: Enumeration

What is the relation between the number of ways to arrange JEE and the number of ways to arrange $J\textcolor{red}{E}\textcolor{blue}{E}$?

$$\text{Ways}(JEE) = \frac{\text{Ways}(J\textcolor{red}{E}\textcolor{blue}{E})}{2}$$

Example 1.95: Logical Method

What is the number of ways of arranging the letters of the words:

- A. DEAR
- B. DEER

The number of ways of arranging DEAR is:

$$4! = 24$$

Imagine that the E 's are distinct:

$$DE_1E_2R \rightarrow \text{Can be arranged in } 4! = 24 \text{ ways}$$

Arrangements in which the two E 's get interchanged are indistinguishable. Therefore, we are overcounting by the number of ways in which we can arrange two E 's.

$$\text{Permutations}(DEER) = \frac{\text{Permutations}(DE_1E_2R)}{\text{Permutations}(E_1E_2)} = \frac{4!}{2!} = \frac{24}{2} = 12$$

1.96: Permutations with alike objects

The number of arrangements for alike objects is overcounted the number of times that the alike objects could have been arranged (if they were distinct).

No. of ways to arrange n objects, out of which x , y and z objects are alike is:

$$\frac{n!}{x! y! z!}$$

Example 1.97: Repetition in Letters

Find, in factorials, what is the number of ways in which we can arrange the letters of:

- A. AIIMS
- B. BANANA
- C. ALABAMA
- D. MISSISSIPPI
- E. MASSACHUSETTS

AIIMS

If the letters of AIIMS had all been distinct, we could have arranged them in $5!$ ways.

But, because the two I's are not distinct, we have to divide by the number of ways we can arrange two distinct I's among themselves:

$$\frac{5!}{2!} =$$

BANANA

If the letters of BANANA had all been distinct, we could have arranged them in $6!$ ways.

But, because the two N's are not distinct, we have to divide by the number of ways we can arrange two distinct N's among themselves = $2!$

Similarly, because the three A's are not distinct, we have to divide by the number of ways we can arrange three distinct A's among themselves = $3!$

$$\frac{\text{Arrangement of } BA_1N_1A_2N_2A_3}{\text{Arrangements of } A_1A_2A_3 \times \text{Arrangements of } N_1N_2} = \frac{6!}{3! 2!}$$

ALABAMA

$$\frac{A(A_1LA_2BA_3MA_4)}{A(A_1A_2A_3A_4)} = \frac{7!}{4!} = 7 \times 6 \times 5 = 210$$

MISSISSIPPI

Call the number of ways of arranging $MI_1S_1S_2I_2S_3S_4I_3P_1P_2I_4$ as $A(MI_1S_1S_2I_2S_3S_4I_3P_1P_2I_4)$

$$\frac{A(MI_1S_1S_2I_2S_3S_4I_3P_1P_2I_4)}{A(I_1I_2I_3I_4) \times A(S_1S_2S_3S_4) \times A(P_1P_2)} = \frac{11!}{4! 4! 2!}$$

MASSACHUSETTS

$$\frac{A(MA_1S_1S_2A_2CHUS_3ET_1T_2S_4)}{A(A_1A_2) \times A(S_1S_2S_3S_4) \times A(T_1T_2)} = \frac{13!}{2! 4! 2!}$$

Example 1.98: Arranging Games

I have seven identical copies of *Baldur's Gate I*, and ten identical copies of *Baldur's Gate II*. I want to display them on a shelf to celebrate the release of *Baldur's Gate III*. In how many ways can I do this? (Answer in factorial form).

$$\frac{17!}{7! 10!}$$

Example 1.99: Repetition in Letters

Let X be the number of ways that the letters of THIRUVANANTHAPURAM can be arranged and Y be the number of ways that the letters of TRIVANDRUM can be arranged. Find $\frac{X}{Y}$ in factorial notation.

$$\frac{A(T_1 H_1 I R_1 U_1 V A_1 N_1 A_2 N_2 T_2 H_2 A_3 P U_2 R_2 A_4 M)}{A(N_1 N_2) \times A(T_1 T_2) \times A(H_1 H_2) \times A(R_1 R_2) \times A(U_1 U_2) \times A(A_1 A_2 A_3 A_4)} : \frac{A(TR_1 IVANDR_2 UM)}{A(R_1 R_2)}$$

$$\frac{18!}{2! 2! 2! 2! 4!} : \frac{10!}{2!}$$

$$\frac{18 \times 17 \times 16 \times 15 \times 14 \times 13 \times 12 \times 11}{2! 2! 2! 2! 4!} : 1$$

$$= 18 \times 17 \times 15 \times 7 \times 13 \times 11 : 1$$

$$= 18 \times 17 \times 15 \times 1001 : 1$$

Example 1.100

I have three copies of *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich* (William Shirer), and two copies of *Les Misérables* (Victor Hugo). In how many ways can I arrange these books on a shelf if:

- The books are identical, and I cannot distinguish between them.
- The books are autographed by the author, with a distinct address to the owner of the book

If the books are identical, we must divide by the number of ways they can be arranged among themselves:

$$\frac{5!}{2! 3!}$$

If the books are autographed, and the addresses are distinct, then we can distinguish between the books, and the number of ways to arrange them is:

$$5!$$

Example 1.101

There are seven wombats in a council. Three of them are hairy-nosed wombats, while the rest are all different species. If the hairy-nosed wombats are indistinguishable but the other wombats are, how many ways can the wombats seat themselves in a row? (AOPS Alcumus, Counting and Probability, Correcting for Overcounting with Division)

The number ways to arrange seven wombats, out of three are indistinguishable, and four are distinguishable is the same as:

The number of ways to arrange seven letters, out of which three are repeated.

$$\frac{7!}{3!}$$

Example 1.102

I have five friends who are sitting in a row to get their photo taken. Two of them are twins, and three of them are triplets. Find the number of ways that they can take the photo shoot from the points of view given below:

- The photographer can tell the twins apart from the triplets, but not distinguish between them.
- The twins can distinguish between themselves, but not among the triplets.

- C. The triplets can distinguish between themselves, but not among the twins.
- D. The twin's parents, who can distinguish between the twins, and also distinguish among the triplets.

$$A: \frac{5!}{2!3!}, \quad B: \frac{5!}{3!}, \quad C: \frac{5!}{2!}, \quad D: 5!$$

Example 1.103: Painting Faces of Dice

I have a standard six-sided die, with faces numbered one to six. In how many ways can I paint two faces of the die:

- A. With no restrictions
- B. So that the sum of the numbers painted is a prime number
- C. So that the sum of the numbers painted is not 7
- D. So that the product of the numbers painted is not 6

Part A

I need to select two faces out of the six available faces. This can be done in:

$$6 \times 5 = 30 \text{ Ways}$$

But, once painted, the faces cannot be distinguished.

$$(6,1) = (1,6)$$

Hence, we need to divide by the number of faces:

$$\frac{6 \times 5}{2} = 15$$

Part B

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + 2 &= 3 \\ 1 + 4 &= 5, 2 + 3 = 5 \\ 1 + 6 &= 7, 2 + 5 = 7, 3 + 4 = 7 \\ 5 + 6 &= 11 \end{aligned}$$

7 ways in all

Part C

$$1 + 6 = 7, 2 + 5 = 7, 3 + 4 = 7 \Rightarrow 3 \text{ Ways}$$

$$= \text{Total Ways} - \text{Ways where Sum is 7} = 15 - 3 = 12$$

Part D

$$\begin{aligned} (1)(6) &= (2)(3) = 6 \Rightarrow 2 \text{ Ways} \\ \frac{6 \times 5}{2} - 2 &= 15 - 2 = 13 \end{aligned}$$

B. Choosing from Identical/Alike Objects

If objects are identical, or equivalently, alike, you cannot distinguish between them. Hence, this will reduce the number of choices available for selection.

Example 1.104: Borrowing books from a library

A library has twelve identical copies of *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, seven identical copies of the *Lord of the Rings*, and four identical copies of the *Old Man and the Sea*. What is the number of ways that:

- A. The books can be arranged

B. Three friends can each borrow distinct books?

Part A:

If we had 23 distinct books, we could have arranged them in
23! Ways

But, since the books are identical, we need to divide by the number of ways in which the books can be arranged among themselves:

$$\frac{23!}{12! 7! 4!}$$

Part B:

Since the copies are identical, we cannot distinguish between them, and hence the choice in books comes down to the choice of title.

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{First Friend}} \times \underbrace{2}_{\text{Second Friend}} \times \underbrace{1}_{\text{Third Friend}} = 3! = 6$$

Example 1.105: Borrowing books from a library

A library has four copies of *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, six copies of *The Lord of the Flies*, and three copies of *The Art of War*. What is the number of ways:

- Three friends can each borrow a book
- Three friends can each borrow distinct titles
- The books can be arranged in a row

Answer each question under two different assumptions (for two different answers):

- Copies are identical
- Copies are distinct

Part A: Three Friends borrow a book each

Assumption I: Copies are identical

If books with different but same titles look the same, then the only choice that remains is the choice of title. Because there are multiple copies of each title, the titles can be repeated. Hence, the total number of ways is:

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{First Friend}} \times \underbrace{3}_{\text{Second Friend}} \times \underbrace{3}_{\text{Third Friend}} = 3^3 = 27$$

Assumption II: Copies are distinct

The number of choices for each friend is:

$$\underbrace{13}_{\text{First Friend}} \times \underbrace{12}_{\text{Second Friend}} \times \underbrace{11}_{\text{Third Friend}} = 1716$$

Part B: Borrow distinct titles

Assumption I: Copies are identical

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{First Friend}} \times \underbrace{2}_{\text{Second Friend}} \times \underbrace{1}_{\text{Third Friend}} = 3! = 6$$

Assumption II: Copies are distinct

We first choose the title:

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{First Friend}} \times \underbrace{2}_{\text{Second Friend}} \times \underbrace{1}_{\text{Third Friend}} = 3! = 6$$

Choice of Book within Title:

$$\underbrace{4}_{\text{Decline and Fall}} \times \underbrace{6}_{\text{Lord of the Flies}} \times \underbrace{3}_{\text{Art of War}} = 72$$

Total No. of Ways

$$6 \times 72 = 432$$

Part C: Arranging books

Assumption I: Copies are identical

$$\frac{13!}{4! 6! 3!}$$

Assumption II: Copies are distinct

$$13! \text{ ways}$$

C. Always in a particular order

Example 1.106

Find the number of ways in which four people (P, Q, R, S) can be seated such that R is always to the right of P .

Enumeration

We can list out all the possible ways in which four people can be arranged *without restrictions*:

	Start with P			Start with Q			Start with R			Start with S		
	PQRS	PRQS	PSQR	QPRS	QRPS	QSPR	RPQS	RQPS	RSPQ	SPQR	SQPR	SRPQ
	PQSR	PRSQ	PSRQ	QPSR	QRSP	QSRP	RPSQ	RQSP	RSQP	SPRQ	SQRP	SRQP
Total	6			6			6			6		
Valid	6			3			0			3		

$$Total = 6 + 3 + 0 + 3 = 12$$

Overcounting

The total number of ways to arrange four letters is:

$$4! = 24$$

Every arrangement of four letters includes within it the letters R and P . These two letters, without consideration to the arrangement of the other letters can be arranged in

$$\underbrace{(R, P)}_{\text{Not Valid}}, \underbrace{(P, R)}_{\text{Valid}} \Rightarrow 2 \text{ Ways}$$

Note that for every arrangement with $\underbrace{(R, P)}_{\text{Not Valid}}$ there is an arrangement with $\underbrace{(P, R)}_{\text{Valid}}$.

Hence, the final answer is:

$$\frac{\text{Total ways}}{\text{Overcounting Factor}} = \frac{4!}{2!} = 12$$

Example 1.107

In how many ways can the letters in the word *case* be arranged so that the vowels are all in alphabetic order.

e must be to the right of a

This is the same question as the previous example:

$$12$$

Example 1.108

In how many ways can the letters in the word *facetious* be arranged so that the vowels are all in

A. alphabetic order

- B. reverse alphabetic order
- C. alphabetic order or reverse alphabetic order

The total number of ways to arrange four letters is

$$9!$$

Part A

We can internally arrange $\{a, e, i, o, u\}$ is $5!$ ways. But we only want one way out of this.

$$(a, e, i, o, u)$$

Hence, the final answer is:

$$\frac{\text{Total ways}}{\text{Overcounting Factor}} = \frac{9!}{5!}$$

Part B

We can internally arrange $\{a, e, i, o, u\}$ is $5!$ ways. But we only want one way out of this.

$$(u, o, i, e, a)$$

Hence, the final answer is:

$$\frac{\text{Total ways}}{\text{Overcounting Factor}} = \frac{9!}{5!}$$

Part C

We can internally arrange $\{a, e, i, o, u\}$ is $5!$ ways. But we only want two ways out of this.

$$(a, e, i, o, u), (u, o, i, e, a)$$

Hence, the final answer is:

$$\frac{\text{Total ways}}{\text{Overcounting Factor}} = \frac{9!}{5!} \times 2$$

D. Arranging Numbers

Example 1.109

What is the number of ways in which we can obtain unique four-digit numbers from the digits 1, 2, and 3 if any one of the digits is to be repeated twice?

The number of ways of making numbers with 1,2,3,4 is

$$4! = 24$$

The number of ways of making numbers with 1,1,2,3 (since one digit is repeated):

$$\frac{4!}{2!} = 12$$

The number of ways of making numbers with 1,2,2,3 (since one digit is repeated):

$$\frac{4!}{2!} = 12$$

The number of ways of making numbers with 1,2,3,3 (since one digit is repeated):

$$\frac{4!}{2!} = 12$$

Total number of ways

$$= 12 + 12 + 12 = 12 \times 3 = 36$$

Example 1.110

Permutations with the Multiplication Rule and Addition Rule

Sum of Numbers in Units Digits

Sum of Face Values of Digits

Sum of Place Values of Digits

E. Rank of a Permutation

1.111: Alphabetical/Dictionary Arrangement of Permutations

We can arrange the permutations

- of a set of letters the way they be arranged in a dictionary.
- Of a set of numbers in ascending or descending order

If we arrange the permutations of the letters of any word as in a dictionary (that is, alphabetically), then we can obtain the position at which the word itself would be listed.

1.112: Rank of a Permutation

Rank of a permutation is the position at which the given arrangement will occur if the permutations are arranged in alphabetical order.

Example 1.113

- A. List the permutations of $\{A, B, C\}$ in dictionary order. What is the rank of BCA ?
- B. Consider the three-digit numbers formed by 2,7,0 where all three digits are used and digits are not repeated. List these numbers in ascending order. What is the rank of 702?

Part A

$$P(ABC) = \{ABC, ACB, BAC, \textcolor{violet}{BCA}, CAB, CBA\}$$
$$\text{Rank} = 4$$

Part B

$$\{207 < 270 < 702 < 720\}$$
$$\text{Rank} = 3$$

Example 1.114: Rank of a Word

What is the *rank* of each word below:

- A. AIIMS
- B. JEE
- C. NEET
- D. WITH

AIIMS

This is arranged alphabetically.

$$\text{Rank} = 1$$

JEE

Arrangements starting with E

$$EEJ, EJE \Rightarrow 2 \text{ arrangements}$$
$$JEE \text{ has rank } 3$$

NEET

The number of arrangements starting with E are

$$3! = 6$$

NEET is 1st arrangement with N:

$$\text{Rank} = 6 + 1 = 7$$

WITH

Starting with H, I, & T

$$= 3! \text{ each} = 3! \times 3 = 18$$

Starting with WH

$$= 2! = 2$$

Starting with WIH

$$= 1$$

WITH

$$= 18 + 2 + 1 + 1 = 23\text{rd arrangement}$$

Example 1.115

If the letters of the word *MOTHER* be permuted and all the words so formed (with or without meaning) be listed as in a dictionary, then the position of the word *MOTHER* is: (JEE-M 2005, 2016, 2017, 2020)

	<i>M</i>	<i>O</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>R</i>
Remaining Letters	5	4	3	2	1	0
Letters Before M	$E, H = 2$	$E, H = 2$	$E, H, R = 3$	$E = 1$	0	0
	$2 \times 5!$	$2 \times 4!$	$3 \times 3!$	$1 \times 2!$	0	0

Number of arrangements before *MOTHER*

$$= 240 + 48 + 18 + 2 = 308$$

$$\text{MOTHER} = 308 + 1 = 309$$

Example 1.116

The letters of the word *MANKIND* are written in all possible orders and arranged in serial order as in a dictionary. Then, the serial number of the word *MANKIND* is: (JEE-M 2022)

	<i>M</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>I</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>D</i>
Remaining Letters	6	5	4	3	2	1	
Letters Before M							

The letters of *MANKIND* when arranged in alphabetical order are:

$$A, D, I, K, M, N$$

First Letter

We want the first letter to be *M*. Hence, we need to count the number of arrangements which have any of *A, D, I* or *K* as the first letter.

Suppose A is the first letter. The number of remaining letters is 6. The N occurs repeated twice. The number of words is:

$$\frac{6!}{2!}$$

If D , or I , or K are respectively the first letter, then the number of arrangements remains the same:

$$\text{Total Arrangements} = 4 \times \frac{6!}{2!} = 4 \times \frac{720}{2} = 1440$$

Second Letter

We want the second letter to be A . This is already in alphabetical order. Hence, there is nothing to count here.

Third Letter

Remaining letters are

D, I, K, N, N

The letters which come before N are D, I, K . Each of these will create

$$\frac{4!}{2!} \text{ arrangements}$$

$$\text{Total arrangement} = 3 \times \frac{4!}{2!} = 3 \times 12 = 36$$

Fourth Letter

Remaining letters are

D, I, K, N

$MANKIND$

The letters which come before K are D, I . Each of these will create

$$2 \times 3! = 2 \times 6 = 12$$

Fifth Letter

D, I, N

$MANKIND$

The letter which comes before I is only D . Each of these will create

$$1 \times 2! = 2$$

Sixth Letter

$MANKIDN, MANKIND,$

Seventh Letter

There is no choice here. The only letter left must go in the seventh position.

$$1440 + 36 + 12 + 2 = 1491$$

$$1491 + 1 = 1492$$

Example 1.117: Rank of a Number

Rank of a permutation when digits of a number are arranged

1.5 Restricted Permutations

Example 1.118

How many nonnegative n digit integers are there, n is a natural number?

We can define this piece-wise as

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 10, & n = 1 \\ 9 \times 10^{n-1}, & n > 1 \end{cases}$$

A. Positional Restrictions

Certain objects are often restricted due to given conditions to only fit into certain positions.

1.119: Prioritizing Restrictions

The rule of thumb when considering restrictions is:

- Take care of the restrictions before you do the counting.
- If there are multiple restrictions, try to take care of the most restrictive condition first.
- Questions with restrictions require large amounts of practice.
- There is no “method” that deals with all restrictions.
- Specific restrictions have specific techniques to help reduce the counting.

1.120: Specific Groups in Specific Positions

Certain groups can be restricted to specific positions

Example 1.121

Ali, Bonnie, Carlo, and Dianna are going to drive together to a nearby theme park. The car they are using has 4 seats: 1 Driver seat, 1 front passenger seat, and 2 back passenger seats. Bonnie and Carlo are the only ones who know how to drive the car. How many possible seating arrangements are there? (AMC 8 2003/16)

Take care of the restriction first. We must have someone in the driver's seat who knows how to drive the car, bringing down our choices from 4 to 2.

$$\frac{2 \text{ Choices}}{\text{Driver's Seat}}$$

Once, we have decided the driver, then there are no restrictions, and hence the remaining three people can sit in the remaining three seats in:

$$\frac{3 \text{ Choices}}{\text{Front Passenger Seat}} \times \frac{2 \text{ Choices}}{\text{Back Seat 1}} \times \frac{1 \text{ Choice}}{\text{Back Seat 2}} = 3! = 6$$

The total number of choices will be, by the multiplication rule:

$$2 \times 6 = 12$$

Complementary Counting:

If Ali is the driver, there are three people seated in three seats, which can be done in:

$$3! = 6 \text{ Ways}$$

Similarly, if Dianna is the driver, then the remaining three people can be seated in the remaining three seats, again in

$$3! = 6$$

By complementary counting, the number of ways that work is:

$$\underbrace{4!}_{\text{Total Ways}} - \underbrace{6}_{\text{Ali is Driver}} - \underbrace{6}_{\text{Dianna is Driver}} = 24 - 12 = 12$$

1.122: At One End

If a particular object out of n objects must be at the end of an arrangement with p places:

- Put the required object at the end.
- Arrange the remaining $n - 1$ objects in the remaining $p - 1$ places

1.123: At Either End

If a particular object out of n objects must be at either end of the arrangement:

- Place the particular object at an end, which can be done in 2 ways.
- Arrange the remaining $n - 1$ objects in the remaining $p - 1$ places

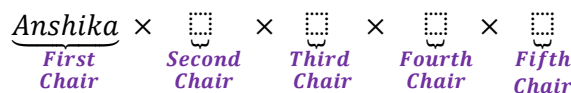
Example 1.124: Objects at the ends

Five girls, of whom Anshika is one, are seated in a row. Find the number of possible arrangements if Anshika must always:

- A. occupy the left end.
- B. be seated at one of the ends.

Part A

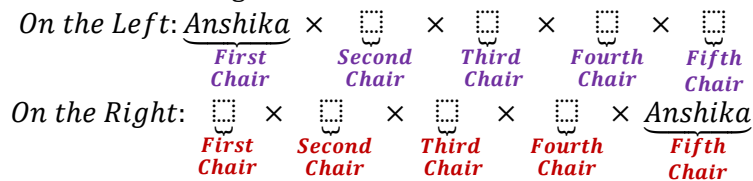
Once we fix Anshika as below:



Remaining $5 - 1 = 4$ girls to be arranged in four positions, which can be done in
 $4! = 24$ ways

Part B

Anshika can sit either on the left or on the right.



In either case, the remaining girls can be arranged in $4!$ ways

$$\text{Total ways} = 4! \times 2 = 24 \times 2 = 48$$

1.125: Even/Odd Positions

If a class of objects must always be in the odd positions, and another class in the even positions, then:

- Arrange the class of objects in odd positions among themselves in x ways
- Arrange the class of objects in even positions among themselves in y ways

Since any arrangement of the odd positions can be combined with any arrangement of the even positions, the final answer

$$= \text{Product of the two} = xy \text{ ways}$$

Example 1.126: Even and Odd Positions

Three boys and two girls are seated in a row. Find the number of possible arrangements if the boys occupy the odd positions.

Boy Girl Boy Girl Boy

Now, the boys can be internally arranged in $3!$ ways
Girls can be internally arranged in $2!$

$$\underbrace{3!}_{\text{Boys}} \times \underbrace{2!}_{\text{Girls}} = 6 \times 2 = 12$$

B. Objects never and always included

1.127: Object never included

When an object is never included, it need not be considered as a part of the analysis.
However, it must be reduced from the available list of objects.

Example 1.128

Sam has seven history books. He decides to display three of them on a bookshelf, but is not going to include *Rise and Fall of the Third Reich* by William Shirer since the copy is falling to pieces. In how many ways can he make his display?

There are in all seven books, of which for display, we have only
 $7 - 1 = 6$ Books

And then we can arrange the books in

$$6 \times 5 \times 4 = 120$$

Example 1.129: Distinguishability

Answer each part separately

At a dog show, five dogs each of Labrador Retriever, Dachshund, French Bulldog, Shih Tzu, Chihuahua, and Miniature Schnauzer are competing. The first three species are Large Dogs, while the next three are Small Dogs.

Species 1 Species 2 Species 3 Species 4 Species 5 Species 6

Dogs.

What is the number of ways in which the 1st and 2nd prizes can be distributed among Small Dogs if:

- Each dog can be distinguished using the markings on its coat.
- Individual dogs cannot be distinguished, but different species of dogs can be distinguished.
- If it is known that the dog winning the 1st prize is from a different species compared to the dog winning the second prize, how will the answers change for

- Part A
- Part B

The large dogs are not a part of the Small Dogs category, so we can just exclude them from the analysis.

The number of dogs in the small dogs category is:

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{Species of Small Dog}} \times \underbrace{5}_{\text{Dogs per Species}} = 15$$

Part A

$$\underbrace{15}_{\text{First Prize}} \times \underbrace{14}_{\text{Second Prize}} = 210$$

Part B

Since individual dogs cannot be distinguished, you only have a choice of species when distributing the prizes.

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{Three Species}} \times \underbrace{3}_{\text{Three Species}} = 9$$

Part C

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \underbrace{15}_{1\text{st Prize}} & \times & \underbrace{10}_{\text{Second Prize}} \\ \hline & & = 150 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \underbrace{3}_{1\text{st Prize}} & \times & \underbrace{2}_{2\text{nd Prize}} \\ \hline & & = 6 \end{array}$$

1.130: Object always included

Arrange

- the object which is always included
- the remaining objects in the remaining spaces.

Example 1.131

I am going to arrange three out of eleven books on a shelf. My favorite book, *Gone with the Wind*, must be included. How many ways can I arrange the books?

Step I: Gone with the Wind

$$\boxed{} \text{ , } \boxed{} \text{ , } \boxed{}$$

Place 1 Place 2 Place 2

Place it in one of the three places:

3 Ways

Step II: Arrange Remaining Two Books

Fill the remaining two places with two books from the remaining ten books:

$$\underbrace{10 \text{ Books}}_{\text{Place 1}} \times \underbrace{9 \text{ Books}}_{\text{Place 2}} = 10 \times 9 = 90$$

Multiply the Two Parts

By the multiplication principle:

$$3 \times 90 = 270$$

Example 1.132

A group has eleven students, out of whom two study chemistry and the rest study physics. At least two students of each subject must be included. Five students are to be seated on a row of chairs such that at least two students of each subject are selected. A single student studies only one subject at a time. In how many ways can this be done?

The two chemistry students must be selected. They can be seated in

$$5 \times 4 = 20 \text{ ways}$$

The number of ways to arrange the remaining three seats will be:

$$9 \times 8 \times 7 = 504$$

By the multiplication principle, the total number of ways is:

$$504 \times 20 = 10,080$$

C. Objects Always Together

Example 1.133

I have five triangles numbered 1 to 5. How many ways can I arrange the triangles in a row such that Triangle 1 and Triangle 2 are always together?

Color triangles 1 and 2 say blue. Color all other triangles green. Forget about the numbers for now.

There are four valid arrangements for the blue triangles:

 ,
Arrangement 1

 ,
Arrangement 2

 ,
Arrangement 3

 ,
Arrangement 4

Also, the blue triangles can be arranged among themselves:

$$2! = 2$$

Also, the green triangles can be arranged among themselves:

$$3! = 6$$

And, hence the final answer is

$$4 \times 2 \times 6 = 48$$

1.134: 2 Objects Always Together


To arrange n objects such that 2 objects are always together:

- Tie a string around the 2 objects
- The number of objects has reduced by 1
- Arrange the resulting $n - 1$ objects
- Arrange the 2 objects among themselves in $2!$ ways.

Example 1.135

I have five triangles numbered 1 to 5. How many ways can I arrange the triangles in a row such that Triangle 1 and Triangle 2 are always together?

Color triangles 1 and 2 say blue. Color all other triangles green. Forget about the numbers for now.

Tie a rope around the two blue triangles. They have one become object since they will only move together. We can then arrange , which is four objects in

$$4! = 24 \text{ Ways}$$

But recall that the blue triangle actually is two triangles tied together, and the two triangles can be arranged among themselves in

$$2! = 2 \text{ Ways}$$

And hence, the final answer is:

$$24 \times 2 = 48$$

Example 1.136

I have two Math books, a Physics book, and a Chemistry book. In how many ways can I pile the books so that the Math books are always together?

Note: The books are distinguishable.

Tie a rope around the two Math books, which leaves us, effectively, with

$$4 - 1 = 3 \text{ Books}$$

These three books can be arranged in:

$$3! = 6$$

And the two Math Books can be arranged among themselves, in

$$2! = 2 \text{ Ways}$$

Hence, the total number of ways is

$$6 \times 2 = 12 \text{ Ways}$$

Example 1.137

Seven dogs are to be arranged in a row for a dog show. The dogs can be distinguished from each other using their tags. If there are two beagles in the show, and they must always be adjacent, what is the number of ways in which the dogs can be arranged?

Tie a rope around the two beagles, which leaves us, effectively, with

$$7 - 1 = 6 \text{ Dogs}$$

These six dogs can be arranged in:

$$6! = 720$$

And the two beagles can be arranged among themselves, in

$$2! = 2 \text{ Ways}$$

Hence, the total number of ways is

$$720 \times 2 = 1440$$

Example 1.138

Answer each part separately

A group of 6 friends goes for a photo shoot and sit in 6 chairs. The identical twins Isabel and Mary insist on sitting next to each other in separate chairs. In how many ways can this be done if Isabel and Mary

- A. can be distinguished from each other
- B. cannot be distinguished from each other

Part B

Tie a rope around Isabel and Mary. We are left with 5 people to be seated in five positions, which can be done in

$$5! = 120 \text{ ways}$$

Part A

We can decide how Isabel and Mary sit among themselves in
 $2! = 2 \text{ Ways}$

Hence, by the multiplication principle, the final answer is:
 $120 \times 2 = 240 \text{ Ways}$

Example 1.139

A group of 6 friends goes for a photo shoot and six chairs are available. Isabel and Mary both insist on sitting on the same chair, and hence one chair has two people sitting on it. Everyone else occupies a “single” chair (as per usual). In how many ways can this be done?

Since there are five chairs that will be occupied, choose the empty chair in:
 6 Ways

We now need to arrange six people in five chairs such that Isabel and Mary are in the same chair. This is exactly what we calculated in the previous question with Isabel and Mary next to each other (but in different chairs)
 $= 240 \text{ Ways}$

By the multiplication principle, the final answer is:
 $6 \times 240 = 1440 \text{ Ways}$

Example 1.140

I have n objects to be arranged in a row, out of which two objects must always be together. In terms of n , How many ways can I arrange the objects?

Tie a rope around the two objects, which leaves us, effectively, with
 $n - 1 \text{ Objects}$

The remaining $n - 1$ objects can be arranged in:
 $(n - 1)! \text{ Ways}$

And the two objects can be arranged among themselves, in
 $2! = 2 \text{ Ways}$

Hence, the total number of ways is
 $2(n - 1)! \text{ Ways}$

1.141: 3 Objects Always Together

To arrange n objects such that 3 objects are always together:

- Tie a string around the 3 objects
- The number of objects has reduced by 2
- Arrange the resulting $n - 2$ objects
- Arrange the 3 objects among themselves in $3!$ ways.

Example 1.142

I have five triangles numbered 1 to 5. How many ways can I arrange the triangles in a row such that Triangles 1, 2 and 3 are always together?

$$(5 - 2)! = 3! = 6$$
$$3! = 6$$

$$6^2 = 36$$

Example 1.143

Seven dogs are to be arranged in a row for a dog show. The dogs can be distinguished from each other using their tags. If there are three beagles in the show, and they must always be adjacent, what is the number of ways in which the dogs can be arranged?

Tie a rope around the three beagles, which leaves us, effectively, with

$$7 - 2 = 5 \text{ Dogs}$$

These five dogs can be arranged in:

$$5! = 120$$

And the three beagles can be arranged among themselves, in

$$3! = 6 \text{ Ways}$$

Hence, the total number of ways is:

$$120 \times 6 = 6! = 720$$

Example 1.144

I have three Math books, two Physics books, and a Chemistry book. In how many ways can I pile the books so that the Math books are always together?

Note: The books are distinguishable.

Tie a rope around the three Math books, which leaves us, effectively, with

$$6 - 2 = 4 \text{ Books}$$

These four books can be arranged in:

$$4! = 24$$

And the three Math Books can be arranged among themselves, in

$$3! = 6 \text{ Ways}$$

Hence, the total number of ways is

$$24 \times 6 = 144 \text{ Ways}$$

Example 1.145

I have n objects to be arranged in a row, out of which r objects must always be together. In terms of n and r , in how many ways can I arrange the objects?

1.146: 3 Objects Always Together

To arrange n objects such that r objects are always together:

Tie a rope around the r objects, which leaves us, effectively, with

$$n - (r - 1) \text{ Objects}$$

Which can be arranged in

$$(n - r + 1)! \text{ Ways}$$

And the r objects can be arranged among themselves, in

$$r! \text{ Ways}$$

Hence, the total number of ways is:

$$r!(n - r + 1)! \text{ Ways}$$

Example 1.147

Professor Chang has nine different language books lined up on a bookshelf: two Arabic, three German, and four Spanish. How many ways are there to arrange the nine books on the shelf keeping the Arabic books together and keeping the Spanish books together? (AMC 8 2018/16)

Since the Arabic books are always together, tie a rope around them, and consider them as one book. Similarly, since the Spanish books are always together, tie a rope around them, and consider them as one book.

The number of books is then:

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{German}} + \underbrace{1}_{\text{Arabic}} + \underbrace{1}_{\text{Spanish}} = 5$$

Which can be arranged in

$$5! = 120 \text{ ways}$$

The Arabic books can be arranged among themselves in

$$2! = 2 \text{ ways}$$

The Spanish books can be arranged among themselves in

$$4! = 24 \text{ ways}$$

The total number of ways (by the multiplication principle) is:

$$120 \times 2 \times 24 = 240 \times 24 = 5760 \text{ ways}$$

1.148: Objects of a Type Always Together

Whe

Example 1.149

Four boys and two girls are seated in a row. Find the number of possible arrangements if the boys must always be together, and the girls must always be together.

There are three things to arrange here:

- Do the boys come first, or the girls come first
 - ✓ $2! = 2$ choices
- Arranging the boys among themselves
 - ✓ $4! = 24$ choices
- Arranging the girls among themselves
 - ✓ $2! = 2$ choices

Then, by the multiplication principle:

$$2 \times 24 \times 2 = 96 \text{ Ways}$$

Example 1.150

How many ways can I arrange two poodles, three bloodhounds, and four bulldogs in a row such that dogs of one type are always together. The dogs are distinguishable.

The three different breeds can be arranged in:

$$3! = 6$$

Poodles

$$= 2! = 2$$

Bloodhounds

$$= 3! = 6$$

Bulldogs

$$= 4! = 24$$

$$= 6 \cdot 2 \cdot 6 \cdot 24$$

D. Objects Never Together

Counting the number of ways in which two objects are not together is usually complicated and will require casework. But this can be avoided by using complementary counting.

1.151: 2 Objects Never Together

The number of ways that two objects in a row are never together is

$$\text{Not Together} = \text{Total} - \text{Together}$$

Note that two objects can be to

$$\text{Total} = \text{Together} + \text{Never Together}$$

Rearranging the above gives us the result that we want.

Example 1.152

A class dinner is to be arranged with six students sitting in a row. However, Alice and Betty, who are former best friends and now sworn enemies refuse to sit next to each other. In how many ways can the six students be arranged?

The total number of ways to arrange six people is:

$$6! = 720$$

Out of which, the number of ways in which Alice and Betty are together is

$$(6 - 1)! \times 2 = 5! \times 2 = 120 \times 2 = 240$$

Hence, the number of ways in which they are never together is:

$$720 - 240 = 480$$

Example 1.153

Compare the two situations below, and state the difference between the two:

- A. Ten students are to be seated in a row for an exam, and the sixth graders must never be together.
- B. Ten students are to be seated in a row for an exam, and the sixth graders must never all be together.

Part A

No two students of sixth grade must be together.

This makes sense for an exam, because students from the same grade are likely to have the same paper.

Part B

You must not have a situation where all four of the sixth graders are seated consecutively.

Example 1.154

Four boys and two girls are seated in a row. Find the number of possible arrangements if the boys are never all together.

Consider the four boys as a single object. There are then three objects to arrange. In addition, the four boys can be arranged among themselves in $4!$ ways

$$\underbrace{(6-3)!}_{\substack{2 \text{ Girls} + \\ 1 \text{ Group of Boys}}} \times \underbrace{4!}_{\substack{\text{Ways to arrange} \\ 4 \text{ Boys}}} = 6 \times 24 = 144$$

Use complementary counting. The number of ways in which the boys are never all together

$$= \underbrace{720}_{\text{Total}} - \underbrace{144}_{\text{Always Together}} = 576$$

Example 1.155

Four boys and two girls are seated in a row. Find the number of possible arrangements if the girls are never all together

$$\underbrace{5!}_{\substack{4 \text{ Boys} + \\ 1 \text{ Group of Girl}}} \times \underbrace{2!}_{\substack{\text{Ways to arrange} \\ 2 \text{ Girls}}} = 120 \times 2 = 240$$

Complementary Counting

$$720 - 240 = 480$$

1.156: Gap Method

Example 1.157

Four girls and three boys are to sit in a row. What is the number of ways in which this can be done

- A. if no two girls are together
- B. Boys and girls must alternate

Part A

For two girls not be together, a boy must be between two girls:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \underline{\text{Girl}} & \underline{\text{Boy}} & \underline{\text{Girl}} & \underline{\text{Boy}} & \underline{\text{Girl}} & \underline{\text{Boy}} & \underline{\text{Girl}} \\ \text{Position 1} & \text{Position 2} & \text{Position 1} & \text{Position 2} & \text{Position 1} & \text{Position 2} & \text{Position 1} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \underbrace{4}_{\text{Position 1}} & \underbrace{3}_{\text{Position 2}} & \underbrace{3 - \text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 1}} & \underbrace{2 - \text{Boy}}_{\text{Position 2}} & \underbrace{2 - \text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 1}} & \underbrace{1 - \text{Boy}}_{\text{Position 2}} & \underbrace{1 - \text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 1}} \\ 3! & \times & 4! & = & 6 \times 24 = 144 \\ \text{Arranging Boys} & & \text{Arranging Girls} & & & & \end{array}$$

Part B

Same as Part A

Example 1.158

Four girls and three boys are to sit in a row. What is the number of ways in which this can be done if no two boys are together?

No two boys can be together, but there is no restriction on the girls.

The number of ways to arrange the girls in four positions is $4!$, and they can be arranged as below:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \underbrace{\text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 1}} & \underbrace{\text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 2}} & \underbrace{\text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 3}} & \underbrace{\text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 4}} \end{array}$$

Now, the boys can be introduced next to the girls, in the positions marked \times below.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \times & \underbrace{\text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 1}} & \times & \underbrace{\text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 2}} & \times & \underbrace{\text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 3}} & \times & \underbrace{\text{Girl}}_{\text{Position 4}} & \times \end{array}$$

There are five positions and three boys, so we will be able to arrange them in

$$5 \times 4 \times 3 = 60 \text{ ways}$$

$$\text{Total Ways} = 4! \times 60$$

(Calc) Example 1.159

Eleven Hogwarts students are standing in a row. Harry, Hermione, and Ron must not all be together. (Two of them can be next to each other). What is the number of ways in which this can be done.

Total number of ways to arrange 11 students is

$$11! \text{ ways}$$

Tie a rope around Harry, Hermione, and Ron. They now move together, and can be considered one person.

Arrange the $11 - 2 = 9$ students in

$$9! \text{ ways} \times 3! \text{ ways}$$

Using complementary, the final answer is:

$$11! - (9! \times 6)$$

(Calc) Example 1.160

Eleven Hogwarts students are standing in a row. No two of Harry, Hermione, and Ron must stand together. What is the number of ways in which this can be done.

Let the students be $\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_8, \text{Harry}, \text{Hermione}, \text{Ron}\}$.

Get the students other than Harry, Hermione, and Ron to stand in a row, which can be done in:

$$8! \text{ ways}$$

Harry, Hermione, and Ron must have somebody in between them. Hence, they must go into the gaps marked \times

between the remaining 8 students:

$$\times s_1 \times s_2 \times s_3 \times s_4 \times s_5 \times s_6 \times s_7 \times s_8 \times$$

The number of ways that Harry, Hermione, and Ron can place themselves into the gaps (with maximum one person per gap) is:

$$9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7$$

Hence, the final answer is:

$$8! \times 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 = 20,321,280$$

(Calculator) Example 1.161

Find the number of ways of arranging four dogs and ten cats so that no three dogs are consecutive.

Arrange 10 cats in $10!$ ways

Arrange 4 dogs in $4!$ ways (separately)

Place the dogs in the 11 gaps between the cats:

Case I: (3 Dogs Consecutive + 1 Dog Isolated): $11 \cdot 10 = 110$ ways

Case II (4 Dogs Consecutive): 11

Using complementary counting, the final answer is:

$$\underbrace{14!}_{\text{Total Ways}} - [10! \times 4! \times (110 + 11)] = 14! - (10! \times 4! \times 121)$$

E. Review

Example 1.162

Find the number of ways of arranging three boys and four girls in a row if:

- A. There are no restrictions

Sitting Together

- B. The boys must be together and the girls must be together
C. The boys must be together
D. The girls must be together

Sitting at the end - Boys

- E. There must be a boy on the left end
F. There must be a boy on the right end
G. There must be a boy on both ends
H. There must be a boy on at least one end

No Restrictions

$$7! = 5040$$

Boys must be together and girls must be together

Either the boys can come first, or the girls can come first = $2 = 2!$ ways

And the boys can be arranged among themselves in $3!$ Ways

Similarly, the girls can be arranged among themselves in $4!$ Ways

$$\text{Total Ways} = \underbrace{2!}_{\text{Ways to arrange 2 Groups}} \times \underbrace{3!}_{\text{Arrange 3 Boys}} \times \underbrace{4!}_{\text{Arrange 4 Girls}}$$

Boys must be together

We can decide the starting position for the group of boys, for which we have five choices.

We can arrange the boys among themselves in $3!$ Ways

We can arrange the girls in the remaining four places in $4!$ ways

$$\text{Total Ways} = \underbrace{5}_{\text{Starting Positions for the Boys}} \times \underbrace{3!}_{\text{Arrange 3 Boys}} \times \underbrace{4!}_{\text{Arrange 4 Girls}}$$

Girls must be together

This is similar to the boys being together, except that we only have four starting positions for the girls:

$$\text{Total Ways} = \underbrace{4}_{\text{Starting Positions for the Girls}} \times \underbrace{3!}_{\text{Arrange 3 Boys}} \times \underbrace{4!}_{\text{Arrange 4 Girls}}$$

Boy sitting at the left end

We have three choices for a boy sitting at the left hand. Once the boy sits there, there are no further restrictions, and we can sit the remaining six people in $6!$ ways

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{Left End Boy}} \times \underbrace{6!}_{\text{Remaining six people}}$$

Symmetry: Boy sitting at the right end

By symmetry, the boy sitting at the right end is the same as the boy sitting at the left end. Hence, the answer will be the same.

Note: Symmetry is a very useful and very powerful concept.

Boys sitting at both ends

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{First End}} \times \underbrace{2}_{\text{Second End}} \times \underbrace{5!}_{\text{Remaining People}}$$

Boy sitting at least one end

$$\underbrace{3 \times 6!}_{\text{Boy at left end}} + \underbrace{3 \times 6!}_{\text{Boy at right end}} - \underbrace{6 \times 5!}_{\text{Boys at both end}} = 6 \times 6! - 6 \times 5! = 6(6! - 5!) = 6(720 - 120) = 6(600) = 3600$$

F. Non-Consecutive Objects

1.6 Rotational Symmetry

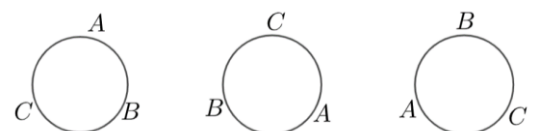
A. Circular Arrangements

1.163: n people around a Circular Table

The number of ways to arrange n people around a circular table is $(n - 1)!$

n people sitting in a row can be arranged in $n!$ ways

But, a circular table can be rotated n ways to create



n indistinguishable arrangements.

Hence, the number of ways to arrange n people around a circular table:

$$= \frac{\text{Ways to arrange } n \text{ people in a row}}{\text{No. of Rotations}} = \frac{n!}{n} = (n-1)!$$

$CAB, \quad BCA, \quad ABC$

(Alternate) 1.164: n people around a Circular Table

The number of ways to arrange n people around a circular table is
 $(n-1)!$

We can arrive at the same result by using a different line of reasoning. If the table has a distinguishing mark on it, then rotating the table creates a distinct arrangement (not an indistinguishable one)

- Create a distinguishing mark by having one person choose a seat.
- Arrange remaining $(n-1)$ people in $(n-1)!$ Ways

Example 1.165

In how many ways can

- A. six people be seated around a circular table?
- B. seven people be seated around a circular table?

$$\frac{6!}{6} = 5! = 120$$
$$(7-1)! = 6! = 720$$

Example 1.166

In how many ways can a seventh person join six people already seated around a circular table? Assume that a chair will be added for the seventh person to sit at the place that he will sit.

6 ways

Example 1.167

Alice, Beatrice, Catherine, and David are seated around a circular table. In how many distinct ways can they do this?

$$\frac{\text{Arrangements of Four People in a Row}}{\text{Overcounting Factor}} = \frac{4!}{4} = 3! = 6$$

B. Seating a selection of people

1.168: n people, sitting r at a time, around a Circular Table

The number of ways to arrange n people around a circular table is

$$\frac{{}^nP_r}{r}$$

Method I: Permutations

The number of ways to arrange r people out of n people in a row is:

nP_r

Since the table can be rotated r ways to get r identical arrangements, we are overcounting by a factor of r :

$$\frac{{}^nP_r}{r}$$

Method II: Combinations

No. of ways to select r people out of n people:

$$= \binom{n}{r}$$

No of ways of seating r people around a circular table:

$$= (r - 1)!$$

Total Ways, by the multiplication principle:

$$= \binom{n}{r} \times (r - 1)! = \frac{n!}{r!(n - r)!} \times (r - 1)! = \frac{n!}{r(n - r)!} = \frac{{}^nP_r}{r}$$

Example 1.169

In how many ways can I get four of six people invited to a party to sit

- In a row
- Around a circular table?

Part A

Number of Ways to arrange four people in a row

$$= \underbrace{6}_{\text{First Seat}} \times \underbrace{5}_{\text{Second Seat}} \times \underbrace{4}_{\text{Third Seat}} \times \underbrace{3}_{\text{Fourth Seat}} = 360$$

Part B

We use the number of ways to seat the four people in a row (calculated in Part A above), and divide that by the overcounting factor:

$$\frac{\text{Arrangements of Four out of Six People in a Row}}{\text{Overcounting Factor}} = \frac{360}{4} = 90$$

1.170: Formula versus Logic

The formula for n seated around a circular table is:

$$\frac{n!}{n} = (n - 1)!$$

In certain problems, the logic can be more important than the formula.

We divide by n because a circular table can be rotated in n ways to give the same result. Hence, we are dividing by the overcounting factor.

Example 1.171

A hotel has invited 8 guests for its anniversary commemoration. It has a row of four seats, and a circular table with four seats. In how many ways can the guests be seated if the hotel uses:

- only the row of seats
- only the table
- both the row and table

Part A: Row of Seats

$$\underbrace{8}_{\text{First Seat}} \times \underbrace{7}_{\text{Second Seat}} \times \underbrace{6}_{\text{Third Seat}} \times \underbrace{5}_{\text{Fourth Seat}} = 1680$$

Part B: Circular Table

We can arrange four out of 8 people around a circular table in:

$$\frac{\underbrace{8}_{\text{First Seat}} \times \underbrace{7}_{\text{Second Seat}} \times \underbrace{6}_{\text{Third Seat}} \times \underbrace{5}_{\text{Fourth Seat}}}{4} = 420$$

Where we have divided the

$$\text{Overcounting Factor} = 4$$

Which represents the number of ways that a table can be rotated to give the same arrangement.

Part C: Row of Seats and the Circular Table

Seat people around the circular table, which can be done in:

$$420 \text{ ways}$$

Then, out of the eight people, we have seated four people, and we are left with four people.

These four people who can be seated in a row in

$$24 \text{ ways}$$

Hence, the total number of ways is:

$$\underbrace{420}_{\text{Circular Table}} \times \underbrace{24}_{\text{Row}} = 10,080$$

C. Always Together and Never Together

Example 1.172

There are five people seated around a circular table, out of which A and B must always to be together. Count the number of ways in which this can be done.

Tie a rope around A and B , so that they are always together. Then we now have

$$5 - 1 = 4 \text{ people to arrange}$$

Arranging 4 people around a circular table can be done in

$$(4 - 1)! = 3! = 6 \text{ Ways}$$

But A and B can be arranged among themselves in

$$2! = 2 \text{ ways}$$

Hence, the total number of ways is

$$6 \times 2 = 12 \text{ Ways}$$

Example 1.173

There are six people seated around a circular table, out of which A and B must never be together. Count the number of ways in which this can be done.

Method I: Complementary Counting

Always Together

Tie a rope around A and B , so that they are always together. Then we now have:

$$6 - 1 = 5 \text{ people to arrange}$$

Arranging 5 people around a circular table can be done in

$$(5 - 1)! = 4! = 24 \text{ Ways}$$

But A and B can be arranged among themselves in

$$2! = 2 \text{ ways}$$

Hence, the total number of ways is

$$24 \times 2 = 48 \text{ Ways}$$

Total

The total number of ways to arrange six people around a table is

$$(6 - 1)! = 5! = 120$$

Complementary Counting

By complementary counting, the number of ways to arrange so that A and B are never together is:

$$120 - 48 = 72 \text{ Ways}$$

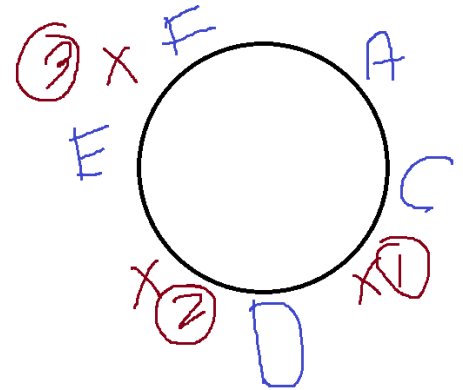
Method II: Direct Method

Let the people be $ABCDEF$. Arrange $ACDEF$ around the table in

$$(5 - 1)! = 4! = 24 \text{ ways}$$

And then B can be added in exactly three positions, making the total number of ways

$$= 3 \cdot 24 = 72 \text{ ways}$$



Example 1.174

A group of ten students includes triplets Alex, Alison and Alice wearing black, white, and yellow t-shirts respectively. They are to be seated in groups of five around two tables: one green and one red. The triplets insist on sitting together. Determine the number of seating arrangements possible. Write your answer as a prime factorization in exponent form.

Choosing the groups

The group with the triplets needs two additional people to be chosen in:

$$\frac{7 \times 6}{2} = 21 \text{ ways}$$

(because the order of choosing them does not matter).

Seating the non-triplet group

Five people can sit around a circular table in

$$(5 - 1)! = 4! = 24 \text{ Ways}$$

Seating the triplets

Since the triplets must sit together, consider them as one person:

$$5 - 2 = 3 \text{ people} \Rightarrow (3 - 1)! = 2! = 2 \text{ Ways}$$

The triplets are distinguishable and can be arranged among themselves in $3! = 6$ ways. The total number of ways of seating the triplets, by the multiplication principle is:
 $2 \times 6 = 12$

Choosing the table

We have the following two choices:

(Green: Triplet, Red: Non – triplet), (Red: Triplet, Green: Non – triplet)
2 ways

Final Answer

$$21 \times 24 \times 12 \times 2 = 2^6 \times 3^3 \times 7^1$$

Example 1.175

The Maths Club biennial meeting is attended by the Coach, the Coordinator and six students, two of whom are the President and the Vice-President. The coach, Coordinator, President and Vice President are Office Bearers.

Condition I: The coach, and the coordinator must sit next to each other

Condition II: The President and the Vice President must not sit next to each other.

Condition III: No two Office Bearers must sit next to each other.

Find the number of valid seating arrangements that satisfy:

- A. Condition I
- B. Condition II
- C. Condition I and II
- D. Condition III

Tie a rope around the teacher and the coordinator. This means they will always be next to each other. Hence, we only have seven people to be seated.

D. Alternating Objects

1.176: Types of Objects

In a seating arrangement, you may classify people into different categories (male vs female, boy vs girl, married couples, etc) and impose conditions on the seating arrangement based on those classifications.

Example 1.177

Four boys and four girls are to be seated at a circular table such that boys and girls alternate. Determine the number of possible arrangements.

For the person at A: (any gender)

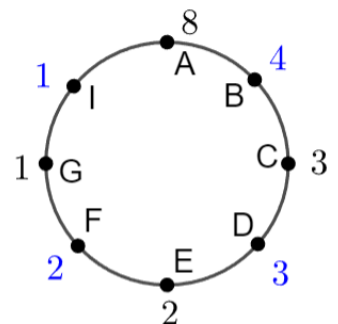
8 ways

For the person at B (opposite gender to A)

4 ways

The final answer (including dividing by the overcounting factor of 8) is:

$$\frac{8 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 2}{8} = 144 \text{ ways}$$



Example 1.178

Four boys and four girls are to be seated at a circular table such that boys and girls alternate. Alice and Darcy are of opposite gender and must sit next to each other. Determine the number of possible arrangements.

E. Paired Couples Opposite Each Other

Example 1.179

Four married couples (eight people) are to be seated at a circular table with spouses opposite each other. Determine the number of possible arrangements.

The first seat has a choice of

$$8 \text{ people} \rightarrow 8 \text{ choices}$$

The second seat has a choice of

$$6 \text{ people} \rightarrow 6 \text{ choices}$$

The third seat has a choice of

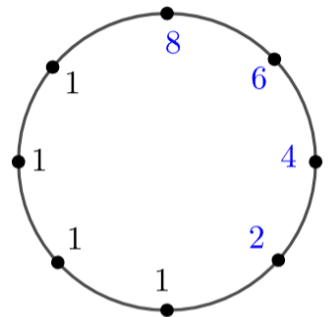
$$4 \text{ people} \rightarrow 4 \text{ choices}$$

The fourth seat has a choice of

$$2 \text{ people} \rightarrow 2 \text{ choices}$$

The final answer (including dividing by the overcounting factor of 8) is:

$$\frac{8 \cdot 6 \cdot 4 \cdot 2}{8} = 48 \text{ ways}$$



Example 1.180

n married couples ($2n$ people) are to be seated at a circular table such that spouses are opposite each other and people seated next to other are of opposite gender. Determine the number of ways this can be done if:

- A. $n = 1$
- B. $n = 2$
- C. $n = 3$

Part A

$$\frac{2!}{2} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$$

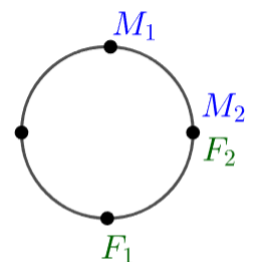
Part B

Assuming $Male = M_1, M_2$ and $Female = F_1, F_2$ the couples are:

$$\{M_1, F_1\} \{M_2, F_2\}$$

If M_1 sits at the top of the table, F_1 must sit opposite him, and then there is no valid arrangement for the other two positions. Hence,

$$\text{not possible} \Rightarrow 0 \text{ ways}$$



Part B

Assuming $Male = M_1, M_2, M_3$ and $Female = F_1, F_2, F_3$
 the couples are:

$$\{M_1, F_1\}\{M_2, F_2\}\{M_3, F_3\}$$

For the first person, you have
 6 choices

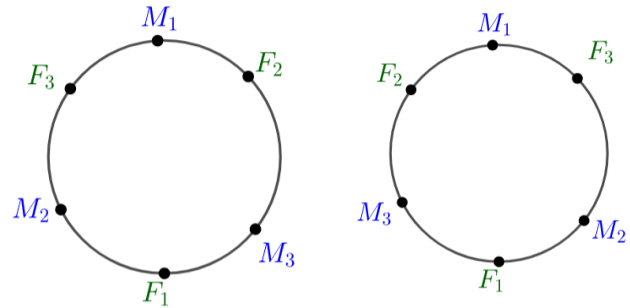
For the person next to the first person, you have
 2 choices

For the third person, onwards, you have

1 choice \Rightarrow Forced

The final answer (including dividing by the overcounting factor of 8) is:

$$\frac{6 \cdot 2}{6} = 2 \text{ ways}$$



F. Repeated Objects

Example 1.181

In how many ways can four identical blue chairs and four identical red chairs be arranged around a circular table?

$$\frac{8!}{4! \times 4!}$$

Arranging Blue Chairs Arranging Red Chairs

G. Specific Places

Example 1.182

H. Definition

1.183: Rotational Symmetry

Example 1.184

Does the object possess rotational symmetry?

1.185: Order of Rotational Symmetry

Example 1.186

Counting order for geometrical shapes

Example 1.187

Counting order for people seated around a table

Example 1.188

Counting order for table with distinguishing mark

1.7 Reflectional Symmetry

A. Definition

1.189: Reflectional Symmetry

Reflection symmetry occurs when objects can be reflected to create an arrangement that is indistinguishable from the original arrangement.

If you have people sitting in a row, reflecting the arrangement does not give you the same arrangement:

$$ABC \nleftrightarrow CBA$$

1.190: Arranging beads on a necklace

The number of ways that n distinct beads can be arranged to form a necklace is

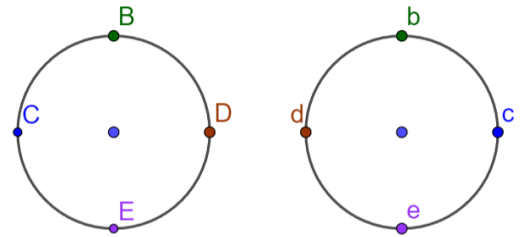
$$\frac{(n-1)!}{2}$$

n distinct beads/keys be arranged on a necklace/keychain, can be arranged in

$$(n-1)! \text{ ways}$$

However, necklaces have reflectional symmetry, so we are overcounting by a factor of two.

$$\text{Ways to arrange } n \text{ beads on a necklace} = \frac{(n-1)!}{2}$$



Example 1.191: Reflectional Symmetry

A necklace has 10 beads of different colours. To create an equivalent arrangement, in how many ways, without changing the relative position of the beads, can the necklace be

- Reflected
- Rotated
- Reflected and Rotated

$$A = 2, B = 10, C = 10 * 2 = 20$$

Example 1.192: Reflectional Symmetry

In how many ways can:

- Five distinct beads be arranged to form a necklace that includes all five?
- Five identical beads be arranged to form a necklace that includes one or more of them?

$$\frac{(5-1)!}{2} = \frac{4!}{2} = \frac{24}{2} = 12$$

Since they are identical, the only option is to include more or less of them.
So, five ways.

Concept Example 1.193

Match the columns

Type of Object	Symmetry
----------------	----------

1. Circular Table	I. Rotational
2. Necklace	II. Reflectional

- A. $1 \rightarrow I, II, 2 \rightarrow I$
- B. $1 \rightarrow I, 2 \rightarrow I, II$
- C. $1 \rightarrow I, 2 \rightarrow II$
- D. $1 \rightarrow I, II, 2 \rightarrow II$

Circular objects have rotational symmetry. Necklaces have both rotational and reflectional symmetry. Hence, option B.

B. Special Shapes

Example 1.194

Starfish

1.8 Equations and Algebra with Permutations

A. Properties of Permutations

1.195: Arranging Zero Objects

$${}_nP_0 = 1$$

The number of ways to arrange zero objects out of n objects is 1.

$${}_nP_0 = \frac{n!}{(n-0)!} = \frac{n!}{n!} = 1$$

1.196: Arranging n objects out of n

$${}_nP_n = n!$$

Number of ways to arrange n distinct objects is $n!$:

$${}_nP_n = \frac{n!}{(n-n)!} = \frac{n!}{0!} = \frac{n!}{1!} = n!$$

B. Equations and Algebra with Permutations

2. PATHS

2.1 Paths on Lattice Grids

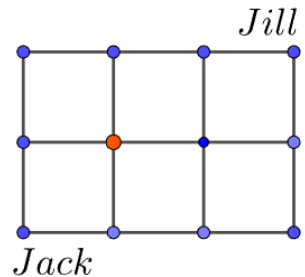
A. Summary of Shortest Path Wordings

Review this after the chapter is over (not now).

2.1: Shortest Path Language

Some ways to write that Jack must take the shortest path to Jill are:

- Jack will always move either north or east.
- Jack will always move either up or right.
- Jack takes the shortest path possible.
- Jack takes a 5-step path on the given lines with each step consisting of a movement from one dot to another dot on the path.
- Jack takes a path without backtracking.
- Jack always moves on the given lines, so that he moves closer to Jill.



B. Shortest Path

2.2: Paths on a Grid

Paths on a grid are a standard application of permutations and combinations. We list down certain assumptions that the basic varieties follow:

Arrangements

- There is a rectangular arrangement of streets.
- Streets intersect at right angles to each other.

Movement

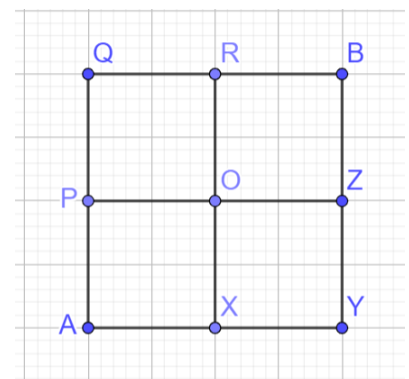
- The intersection of streets is where you can turn.
- You can move left, right, up, and down. You cannot move diagonally. You can only move towards your objective.
- You need to take the shortest route.

There are many variations on the above question, which change or relax the assumptions given, but we will address this in later questions.

Example 2.3

Consider the rectangular arrangement of streets shown at the right.

- What is the minimum number of “hops” needed to travel from A to B?
- List all the shortest routes beginning with A, and ending with B.



Part A

The minimum of number of hops is 4. For example, a route that 4 hops is:

A to P

P to Q

Q to R

R to B

In short form, we can write this as:

APQRB

Part B

Like this, we can list other routes:

APORB
 APOZB
 AXYZB
 AXORB
 AXOZB

2.4: Travelling in One Direction Only

If you can travel only right (and not left), and only up (and not down), you will need to travel via a shortest path.

Example 2.5

Listing out the ways in which you can go from A to B can get very cumbersome if you have a lot of points. Try counting the number of paths using

- Multiplication rule
- Permutations

Multiplication Rule

Paths from A (go either to P or to X)

$$= 2$$

Paths from P are:

1 path via Q, 2 paths via O

Similarly, Paths from X are:

1 path via Y, 2 paths via O

Hence, the final answer is

$$\underbrace{2}_{\text{Paths from A}} \times \underbrace{3}_{\text{Paths from Second Point}} = 6$$

2.6: Right and Up Notation

Right $\rightarrow R$
 Up $\rightarrow U$

Example 2.7

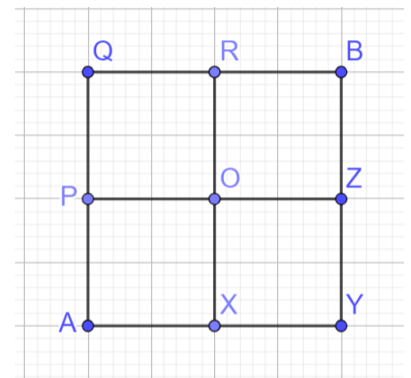
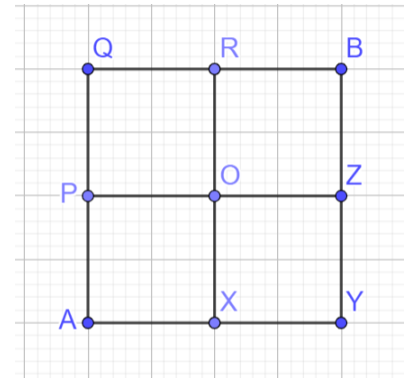
Write the path APQRB using R and U

$$APQRB \leftrightarrow UURR$$

C. Number of Shortest Paths

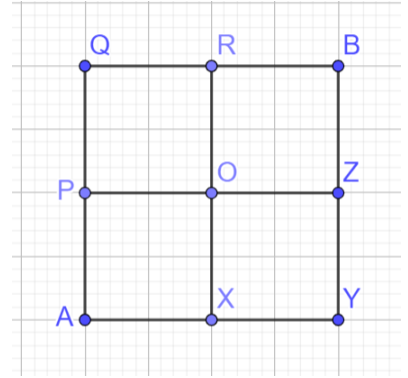
We now introduce a formula for counting the number of paths in a grid. But don't memorize. Do this based on the concept.

2.8: Number of Paths in a Grid



In a grid with a rectangular arrangement like the one shown, the number of paths with R right's and U up is

$$\frac{(R + U)!}{R! U!}$$



Example 2.9

A street layout has straight streets that intersect at right angles to each other (see diagram). What is the number of ways that Tanvi can go from the bottom left of the grid (Point A) to the top right (Point B) using the shortest path?

The shortest path has two Rights and two Ups, which we can write in short form as

$$R = \text{Right}, U = \text{Up} \Rightarrow RRUU$$

Permutations

Any valid shortest path must be a rearrangement of:

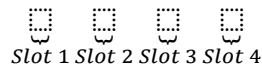
$$\underbrace{\text{two } R's}_{R=\text{Right Movement}} \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{\text{two } U's}_{U=\text{Up Movement}}$$

Which is given by

$$\frac{\text{Arrangements}(R_1 R_2 U_1 U_2)}{\text{Arrangements}(R_1 R_2) \times \text{Arrangements}(U_1 U_2)} = \frac{4!}{2! \times 2!} = \frac{24}{4} = 6$$

Combinations

We need to have four steps in our path, like this



If we place R's in any two of the four slots, then the remaining slots must automatically be occupied by the U's. Hence, the number of paths is the same as the number of ways to select two objects out of four objects, which is given by

$$\binom{4}{2} = \frac{4 \times 3}{2} = 6$$

Example 2.10

Consider a street layout like the one that Tanvi has (see question above). Find the number of ways that you can travel, if you want to go three units up, and four units to the right.

Draw a diagram (seen alongside).

Use U for Up, and R for Right.

Three Units can be represented as

$$UUU$$

Four Units right can be represented as

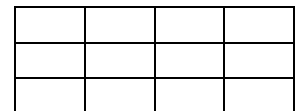
$$RRRR$$

And hence any valid path must be a rearrangement of

$$UUURRRR$$

Which is given by

$$\text{No. of ways of arranging 4 R's and 3 U's} = \frac{7!}{4! 3!} = \frac{7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4!}{4! \times 3!} = \frac{7 \times 6 \times 5}{6} = 35$$



Example 2.11

Consider a street layout like the one that Tanvi has (see question above). Find the number of ways that you can travel if you want to go:

- A. three units down, and two units to the right.
- B. Two units down, and five units to the right.
- C. One unit up and five units to the right.
- D. Ten units up and two units to the right.

Part A

There are three D's, and two R's, giving us:

$$DDDRR$$

The DDDRR can be arranged in $5!$ Ways.

But this overcounts by the number of ways in which

- the three D's can be arranged among themselves, which is:
 $3!$
- the two R's can be arranged among themselves, which is:
 $2!$

And hence the final answer is

$$\frac{5!}{3!2!} = \frac{5 \times 4}{2} = 10$$

Part B

$$\frac{7!}{2!5!} = \frac{7 \times 6}{2} = 21$$

Part C

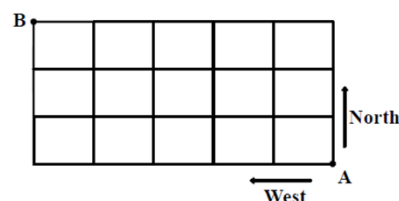
$$\frac{6!}{1!5!} = \frac{6}{1} = 6$$

Part D

$$\frac{12!}{2!10!} = \frac{12 \times 11}{2} = 66$$

Example 2.12

In the adjoining figure, the lines represent one-way roads allowing travel only northwards or only westwards. Along how many distinct routes can a car reach point B from point A? (CAT 2004/68)



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Up 3 Times} &= 3 \text{ U's} \\ \text{Left 5 Times} &= 5 \text{ L's} \end{aligned}$$

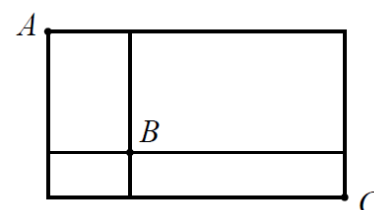
These can be arranged in $8!$ Ways. And to account for overcounting:

$$\frac{8!}{3!5!} = \frac{8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6}{6} = 56$$

D. Restrictions

Example 2.13

An ant begins its path at A, travels only right or down, and remains on the line segments shown. The number of different paths from A to C that pass through B is: (CEMC Gauss 7 2020/10)



$$\underbrace{2}_{\text{Paths from A to B}} \times \underbrace{2}_{\text{Paths from B to C}} = 4$$

Example 2.14

Zeus starts at the origin (0, 0) and can make repeated moves of one unit either up, down, left, or right, but cannot make a move in the same direction twice in a row. For example, he cannot move from (0, 0) to (1, 0) to (2, 0). What is the smallest number of moves that he can make to get to the point (1056, 1007)? (**Gauss Grade 8 2016/23**)

Note the restriction on not making a move in the same direction twice in a row:

$RR \rightarrow \text{not valid}$

$RUR \rightarrow \text{valid}$

Calculate the Minimum

To reach (1056, 1007), Zeus must make:

$$1056R, \quad 1007U$$

But, the 1056 right moves have minimum 1055 other moves in between them.

$$R - R - R - \dots - R \Rightarrow 1055 \text{ moves between the } 1056 \text{ R's}$$

Achieve the Minimum

We now show that the minimum is possible:

$$\underbrace{1056}_{\text{Right}} + \underbrace{1007}_{\text{Up}} + \underbrace{24}_{\text{Up}} + \underbrace{24}_{\text{Down}} = 2,111$$

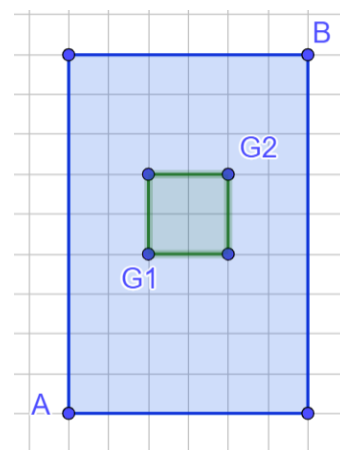
Example 2.15: Tinseltown

Read the information below and answer the questions that follow.

People in Tinseltown are guaranteed to use the shortest route possible for going from one place to another. The diagram of Tinseltown shows the rectangular layout of the streets. The **green zone** is in the middle, while the remaining area is the business district.

Note 1: Going from A to B means going up 9 times, and going right 6 times.

Note 2: Write your answers in factorial notation



- (No restrictions) Vikram wants to go from A to B. Find the number of possible shortest paths he can take.
- (Path always going through a point) Danish likes greenery. So, he wants to go through G_1 . Find the number of paths going from A to B that Danish can take.
- (Paths never going through a point) Simon likes greenery, but not the traffic that piles up at G_1 , so he does not want to go through that intersection. Find the number of shortest paths going from A to B that Simon can take.
- (Paths going through multiple points) Shannon likes greenery even more than Danish. He wants both G_1 and G_2 on his route. Find the number of shortest paths for Shannon going from A to B.

Part A

9 R's and 6 U's can be arranged in:

$$\frac{(9+6)!}{9!6!} = \frac{15!}{9!6!}$$

Part B

The number of paths:

$$\text{Going from } A \text{ to } G_1 = \frac{6!}{4!2!}, \quad \text{Going from } G_1 \text{ to } B = \frac{9!}{5!4!}$$

And, by the multiplication rule, the final answer is:

$$\frac{6!}{4!2!} \times \frac{9!}{5!4!} = \frac{6!9!}{(4!)^2 2!5!}$$

Part C

$$\frac{15!}{9!6!} - \frac{6!9!}{(4!)^2 2!5!}$$

Part D

$$\underbrace{\frac{6!}{4!2!}}_{\text{From } A \text{ to } G_1} \times \underbrace{\frac{5!}{3!2!}}_{\text{From } G_1 \text{ to } G_2} \times \underbrace{\frac{4!}{2!2!}}_{\text{From } G_2 \text{ to } B} = \frac{6!5!4!}{2^4 3!4!}$$

2.16: Questions without a Diagram

If the question does not give a diagram, then you should draw your own.

Example 2.17

Jack wants to bike from his house to Jill's house, which is located three blocks east and two blocks north of Jack's house. After biking each block, Jack can continue either east or north, but he needs to avoid a dangerous intersection one block east and one block north of his house. In how many ways can he reach Jill's house by biking a total of five blocks? (AMC 8 2014/11)

The total number of ways for Jack (including the dangerous intersection) is:

$$\frac{5!}{3!2!} = \frac{5 \cdot 4}{2} = 10 \text{ Ways}$$

The number of ways for Jack to reach the dangerous intersection is

$$2$$

The number of ways for Jack to reach Jill from the dangerous intersection

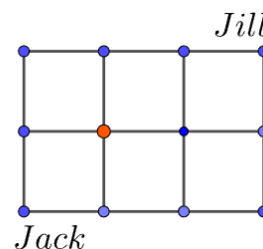
$$= \frac{3!}{2!1!} = \frac{6}{2} = 3$$

The total number of ways to reach Jill via the dangerous intersection

$$= 2 \times 3 = 6$$

Use complementary counting. The number of ways that do not go through the dangerous intersection

$$= 10 - 6 = 4$$



Example 2.18

Samantha lives 2 blocks west and 1 block south of the southwest corner of City Park. Her school is 2 blocks east and 2 blocks north of the northeast corner of City Park. On school days she bikes on streets to the southwest corner of City Park, then takes a diagonal path through the park to the northeast corner, and then bikes on streets to school. If her route is as short as possible, how many different routes can she take? (AMC 8 2013/21)

For Samantha, the number of ways

To go from her house to A:

$$= \frac{3!}{2! 1!} = \frac{3}{1} = 3$$

To go from A to B is

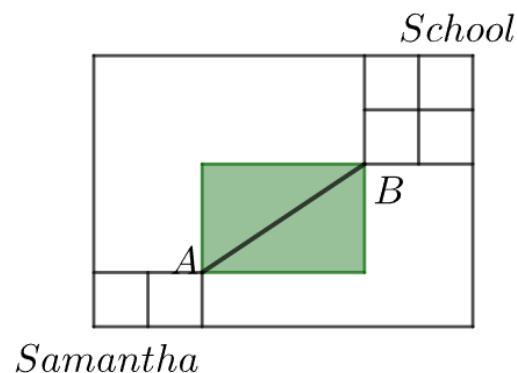
Exactly 1

To go from B to the school is

$$= \frac{4!}{2! 2!} = \frac{4 \cdot 3}{2} = 6$$

The total number of ways is:

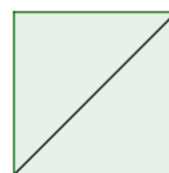
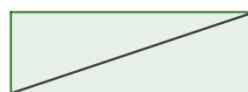
$$3 \times 6 = 18 \text{ Ways}$$



Example 2.19

In the above question, why are the dimensions of the part not important?

Irrespective of the length and the width of the park, there is one way to go through it, which is the diagonal.



Hence, the dimensions are not important.

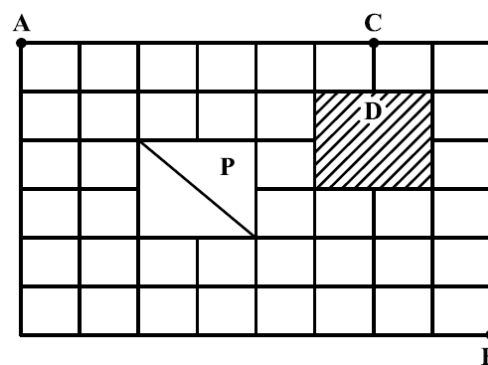
E. More Restrictions (Challenging)

Example 2.20

Read the information below, and answer the questions that follow.

The figure shows the plan of a town. The streets are at right angles to each other. A rectangular park (P) is situated inside the town with a diagonal road running through it. There is also a prohibited region (D) in the town.

- Neelam rides her bicycle from her house at A to her office at B, taking the shortest path. Then, the number of shortest paths she can choose is (CAT 2008/5)
- Neelam rides her bicycle from her house at A to her club at C, via B taking the shortest path. Then the number of possible shortest paths she can choose is: (CAT 2008/6)



Part A

By the Pythagorean Theorem, a diagonal path will be shorter than the corresponding side-paths. Hence, the diagonal path through P become mandatory. By the Multiplication Rule

$$\frac{4!}{2! 2!} \times \underbrace{1}_{\text{In the Park}} \times \frac{6!}{2! 4!} = 6 \times 15 = 90$$

A to Park *Park to B*

Part B

As before, we are interested in the shortest path. Hence

- Paths that go to the left of the prohibited region (Minimum 10 Steps) will not work
- Since they will be longer than paths that go via the right side of the prohibited region (8 Steps)

Paths from B to C

On the left side of the prohibited region, there are two choices of path for Neelam:

- $B - M - C$
- $B - N - C$

$B - M - C$

A path which goes via M, must go via K only. Neelam has to make a left turn at some point in her journey. For this, she has

6 Choices

$B - N - C$

Neelam has to make a left turn at some point in her journey. For this, she has

7 Choices

The total number of ways that Neelam can go from B to C is

$$\underbrace{6}_{B-M-C} + \underbrace{7}_{B-N-C} = 13$$

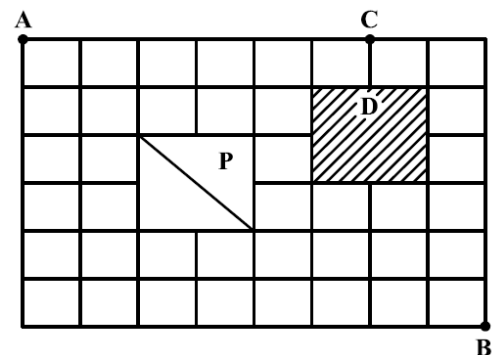
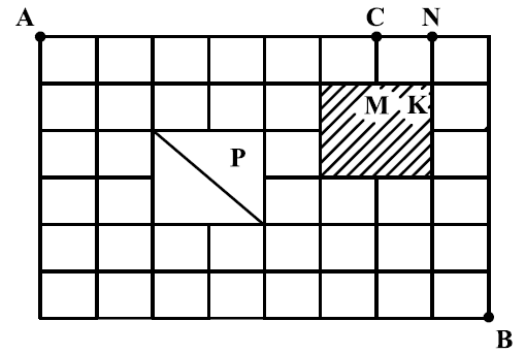
Paths from A to C

By the multiplication rule, the number of paths from A to C is given by:

$$\underbrace{90}_{\text{Paths from A to B}} \times \underbrace{13}_{\text{Paths from B to C}} = 1170$$

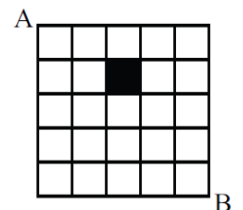
Example 2.21

Consider the same diagram as given in the original question above. Now suppose the diagonal road is blocked. Find the number of shortest paths from A to B.



Example 2.22

In the figure, each segment between two adjacent vertices has length 1 unit. How many ways are there to go from A to B along a sequence of 10 segment without touching a side or vertex of the shaded square?



Restrictions

Restriction 1

The shortest path from A to B is:

$$5 + 5 = 10 \text{ segments}$$

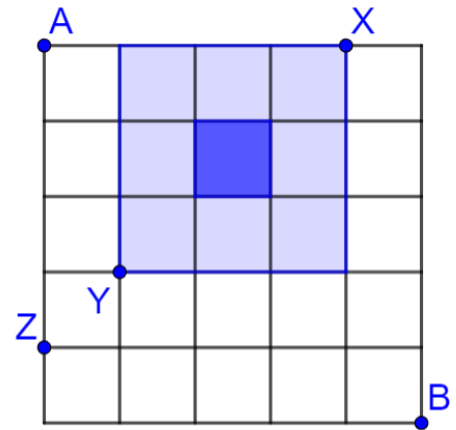
Since the question requires the shortest path, we cannot have any backtracking. We must go either right, or down.

Restriction 2

Since we cannot touch a vertex or a side of the dark shaded square, we can travel along the sides and vertices of the light shaded square.

Consider Cases

There are three distinct cases to consider:



Case I: Travel via X:

Reach X from A: 1 Way

Reach B from X: $\binom{6}{1} = 6 \text{ ways}$

Case II: Travel via Y:

Reach Y from A: $\binom{4}{1} = 4 \text{ Ways}$

Reach B from Y: $\binom{6}{2} = 15 \text{ ways}$

Case III: Travel via Z:

Reach Z from A: 1 Ways

Reach B from Z: $\binom{6}{1} = 6 \text{ ways}$

Total

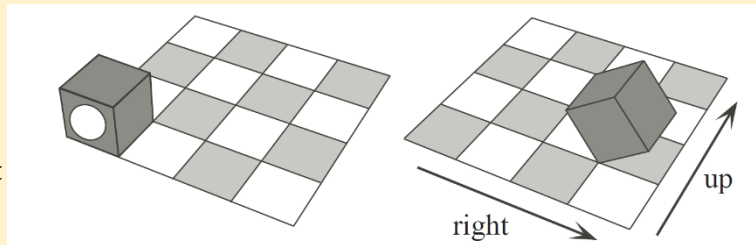
$$= 1 \cdot 6 + 4 \cdot 15 + 1 \cdot 6 = 6 + 60 + 6 = 72$$

F. Geometry

Example 2.23

One face of a cube contains a circle, as shown. This cube rolls without sliding on a four-by-four checkerboard.

The cube always begins a path on the bottom left square in the position shown and completes the path on the top right square. During each move, an edge of the cube remains in contact with the board. Each move of the cube is either to the right or up. For each path, a face of the cube contacts seven different squares on the checkerboard,



including the bottom left and top right squares. The number of different squares that will not be contacted by the face with the circle on any path is (Gauss Grade 7 2013/24)

G. Three-Dimensional Grid

2.24: Number of Shortest Paths in a 3D Grid

In a three-dimensional grid with a rectangular arrangement, the number of paths with R right's, F Forward's and U up's is

$$\frac{(R + F + U)!}{R! F! U!}$$

Example 2.25

Consider a 3D coordinate system. What is the number of shortest paths that go from the origin (0,0,0) to (2,3,4) if you can only travel one unit in any direction at a time, and you jump from one lattice point to another only.

Note: A lattice point is a point where the coordinates of the points are in integers.

Two units in the X direction: XX
Three units in the Y direction: YYY
Four in the Z direction: ZZZZ

I need to arrange the above:

XXYYYYZZZZ

$$\frac{9!}{2! 3! 4!} = \frac{5 \times 6 \times 7 \times 8 \times 9}{2 \times 6} = 5 \times 7 \times 4 \times 9 = 1260$$

Example 2.26

Consider a 3D coordinate system. What is the number of shortest paths that go from (1,2,3) to (3,5,-1) if you can only travel one unit in any direction at a time.

$3 - 1 = 2$ units in the XY direction
 $5 - 2 = 3$ units in the Y direction
 $-1 - 3 = -4$ units in the Z direction: ZZZZ

Example 2.27

A spaceship is $(x, y, z) = (0,0,0)$ in a coordinate system. It wants to reach $(x, y, z) = (2,3,4)$ in the coordinate system. At each minute, the spaceship can travel one unit in the positive x, y, or z direction. What is the number of shortest paths that the ship can take?

The ship needs to travel

And the number of paths will be the number of ways of arranging:

$$\underbrace{R_1, R_2}_{\substack{\text{Two Units} \\ \text{Right}}}, \quad \underbrace{F_1, F_2, F_3}_{\substack{\text{Three Units} \\ \text{Forward}}}, \quad \underbrace{U_1, U_2, U_3, U_4}_{\substack{\text{Four Units} \\ \text{Up}}}$$

But note that R_1 is identical to R_2 , and similarly with F_1, F_2, F_3 and U_1, U_2, U_3, U_4 .

Hence, we want to arrange

$2 + 3 + 4 = 9$ Objects with
2 Repeated of one kind
3 repeated of another kind
and 4 repeated of a third kind

$$\frac{9!}{2! 3! 4!} = \frac{9 \times 8 \times 7 \times 6 \times 5}{2 \times 6} = 1260$$

2.2 Parity/Multiple Hops(Number Line)

A. Existence of Path

Parity can be used to show the non-existence of a path.

2.28: Parity

The concept of parity (odd/even) is very important in establishing feasibility in many situations. If a situation is impossible, then

- The number of ways in which it can be done is zero
- The probability that it will happen is also zero

$$\text{Even} + \text{Even} = \text{Even}$$

$$\text{Odd} + \text{Even} = \text{Odd}$$

$$\text{Even} + \text{Odd} = \text{Odd}$$

$$\text{Odd} + \text{Odd} = \text{Even}$$

Example 2.29

A number which is even is said to have even parity. A number which is odd is said to odd parity.

Identify the parity of the following:

- A. 23
- B. 6
- C. 8134
- D. 9999

- A. Odd
- B. Even
- C. Even
- D. Odd

Example 2.30

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops one unit at a time, either left, or right. The frog hops 10 times in all (any mix of left and right). For example, it could hop 6 times right, and 4 times left. Explain why the frog cannot reach the number 3 at the end of its hopping.

Initial Position	0	0	0	0			
Right	10	9	8	7			
Left	0	1	2	3			
Final Position	10	8	6	4			

The frog starts from

$$0 \in \text{Even}$$

And hops an

$$10 \in \text{Even}$$

times.

Hence, it must end at a number that is even.

That is, a number with the same parity that it started.

Initial Position	No. of Steps	Final Position
<i>Even</i>	<i>Even</i>	<i>Even</i>

Example 2.31

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops 2025 times either left or right. In how many ways can it reach the number 100.

Initial Position	No. of Steps	Final Position
<i>Even</i>	<i>Odd</i>	<i>Odd</i>
0	2025	$\neq 100$

Since the final position must be odd while the required position (100) is even, the frog cannot reach 100.

Example 2.32: Probability

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops 2021 times either left or right. Each hop is of distance 1 unit, and the direction of the hop is chosen randomly. What is the probability that it reaches the number 100 at the end of its journey?

$$\underbrace{100}_{\substack{\text{End} \\ \text{Position}}} - \underbrace{0}_{\substack{\text{Start} \\ \text{Position}}} = 100 \text{ Right}$$

Note that 100 is an even number.

The minimum number of hops needed to reach 100 is 100.

The second smallest number of hops needed to reach 100 is 102.

In general, the number of hops needed to reach 100 is

$$100 + 2n \Rightarrow \text{Even Number}$$

The number of hops that the frog actually makes is odd.

Hence, the frog can never reach 100 after 2021 hops.

$$\text{Probability} = 0$$

Example 2.33

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops exactly 7 times either left or right. In how many ways can it reach the number 9? The order of the hops is important.

Consider the extreme position. If we have all right hops:

RRRRRRR

the frog will reach

the number 7.

It cannot reach the number 9.

B. Two Extra Hops

2.34: Notation

Indicate a right hop using

R

And a left hop using

L

Example 2.35

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops exactly 7 times either left or right. In how many ways can it reach the number 5? The order of the hops is not important.

6 Right, 1 Left \Rightarrow 1 Way

Note that the two ways below are both the same since order does not matter:

RRRRRRL, RRRRRLR, RRRRLRR, RRRLRRR,

Example 2.36

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops exactly 7 times either left or right. In how many ways can it reach the number 5? The order of the hops is important.

Consider the extreme position. If we have all right hops

RRRRRRR

the frog will reach

the number 7.

Hence, we must replace one R with one L.

RRRRRRL

This L can be placed anywhere among the seven hops, which can be done in:

7 Ways

Method using Permutations

I need to arrange 6 R's and one L in a row. This means I have seven objects, out of which one object is repeated six times, and one object occurs once.

$$= \frac{7!}{6! 1!} = 7$$

Example 2.37

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops at most 7 times either left or right. If it reaches the number 5, it stops there. In how many ways can it reach the number 5? The order of hops is important.

Consider the seven hop paths that lead to the number 5:

LRRRRRR \Rightarrow -1,0,1,2,3,4,5

RLRRRRR \Rightarrow 1,0,1,2,3,4,5

RRLRRRR \Rightarrow 1,2,1,2,3,4,5

RRRLRRR \Rightarrow 1,2,3,2,3,4,5

RRRRLRR \Rightarrow 1,2,3,4,3,4,5

*RRRRRLR \Rightarrow 1,2,3,4, **5, 4, 5***

*RRRRRL \Rightarrow 1,2,3,4, **5, 6, 5***

Two of the above paths end when the frog reaches the number 5. Hence, the final answer is

5 + 1 = 6 Ways

C. Extra Hops

Example 2.38

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops exactly 7 times either left or right. In how many ways can it reach the number 3? Order is important.

The frog needs to go right five times, and left two times. Hence, we need to arrange

5 R's and 2 L's $\Rightarrow RRRRLL$

$$\frac{7!}{2!5!} = \frac{7 \times 6 \times 5!}{2!5!} = 21 \text{ Ways}$$

Example 2.39

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops exactly 9 times either left or right. In how many ways can it reach the number 6? Order is important.

$$0 + 9 = 9 \Rightarrow \text{Odd} \neq 6 = \text{Even} \\ 0 \text{ Ways}$$

Example 2.40

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops exactly 10 times either left or right. In how many ways can it reach the number 6? Order is important.

$$\begin{array}{c} 8 \text{ R's and } 2 \text{ L's} \\ \frac{10!}{2!8!} = \frac{10 \cdot 9}{2} = 45 \end{array}$$

D. Preparing for Probability

Example 2.41

A frog on a lily pad at number zero hops exactly 9 times either left or right.

- How many distinct paths does the frog have?
- In how many of those paths does it reach the number 3?
- What is the ratio of the answers that you found in Parts A and B?

Review 2.42

A frog on a lily pad at the number zero hops exactly n times either left or right.

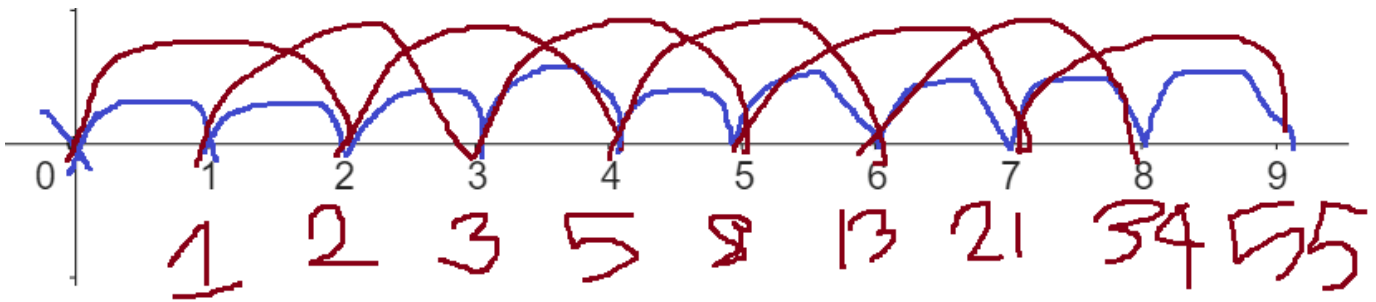
- Show that the number of distinct paths the frog has is 2^n .
- What are the numbers m that it can reach?
- If the number m is reachable, how many paths to m are there?
- What is the ratio of the answers that you found in Parts A and B

$$\frac{n!}{m! \left(\frac{n-m}{2}\right)!}$$

E. Hops of 1 and 2 Units

Example 2.43

A frog on a lily pad at number zero can hop right, either 1 unit at a time, or 2 units at a time. In how many ways can the frog reach the number 5.



The frog is currently at the position zero, and it can reach position zero in precisely one way: by remaining where it is.

	0	1	2	3	4	5
	1					

Position 1 can be reached from

- 0, in exactly one way, by taking a jump of 1 unit from 0 to 1.

Hence, total number of ways to reach 1 is 1.

	0	1	2	3	4	5
	1	1				

Position 2 can be reached from:

- 0: By taking a jump of 2 units from 0 to 2.
- 1: By taking a jump of 1 unit from 1 to 2.

Hence, total number of ways to reach 2 is:

$$\underbrace{1}_{\text{Ways to Reach 0}} + \underbrace{1}_{\text{Ways to Reach 1}} = 2$$

	0	1	2	3	4	5
	1	1	2			

Position 3 can be reached from:

- 1: By taking a jump of 2 units from 1 to 3.
- 2: By taking a jump of 1 unit from 2 to 3.

Hence, total number of ways to reach 3 is:

$$\underbrace{1}_{\text{Ways to Reach 1}} + \underbrace{2}_{\text{Ways to Reach 2}} = 3$$

	0	1	2	3	4	5
	1	1	2	3		

Position 4 can be reached from:

- 2: By taking a jump of 2 units from 2 to 4.
- 3: By taking a jump of 1 unit from 3 to 4.

Hence, total number of ways to reach 4 is:

$$\underbrace{2}_{\text{Ways to Reach 2}} + \underbrace{3}_{\text{Ways to Reach 3}} = 5$$

	0	1	2	3	4	5
	1	1	2	3	5	

Position 5 can be reached from:

- 3: By taking a jump of 2 units from 3 to 5.
- 4: By taking a jump of 1 unit from 4 to 5.

Hence, total number of ways to reach 5 is:

$$\underbrace{3}_{\text{Ways to Reach 3}} + \underbrace{5}_{\text{Ways to Reach 4}} = 8$$

	0	1	2	3	4	5
	1	1	2	3	5	8

If you have seen the Fibonacci sequence, this should look familiar, and it is exactly the same.

If you haven't then this is a very important sequence, which we will study separately in Sequence, and which occurs in many different topics.

2.44: Recursion Formula

In the example above, we encountered the number of ways to reach 5. This also be written in terms of a recursion formula.

Let $P(n)$ be the number of ways to reach n .

$$P(n) = P(n-1) + P(n-2)$$

Example 2.45

Find $P(5)$ using the above recursion formula.

The number 5 can be reached from the number 4, and the number 3. Hence,

$$P(5) = P(4) + P(3)$$

But, note that

$$P(4) = P(3) + P(2)$$

Hence,

$$P(5) = P(3) + P(2) + P(3) = 2 \times P(3) + P(2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(5) &= 2[P(2) + P(1)] + P(2) = 2P(2) + 2P(1) + P(2) = 3P(2) + 2P(1) \\ P(5) &= 3[P(1) + P(0)] + 2P(1) = 3P(1) + 3P(0) + 2P(1) = 5P(1) + 3P(0) \end{aligned}$$

But, the number of ways to reach

$$0 \text{ is } 1: P(0) = 1, \quad 1 \text{ is } 1: P(1) = 1$$

Hence,

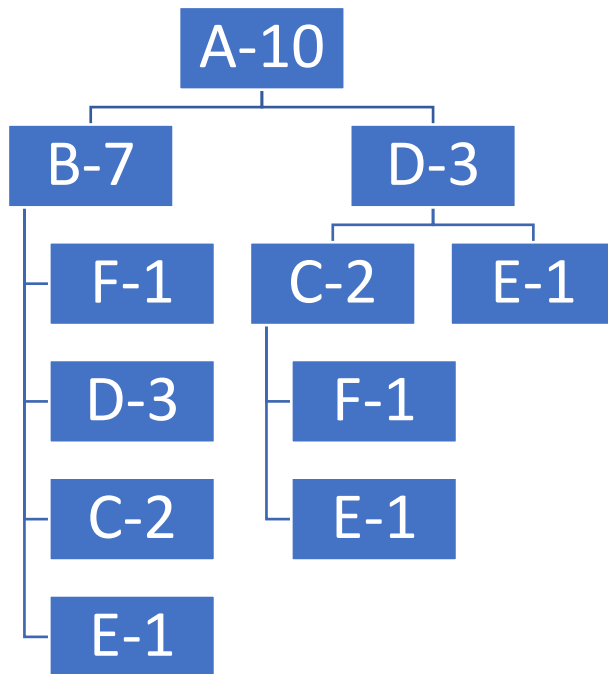
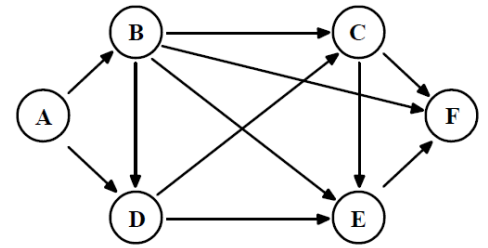
$$P(5) = 5P(1) + 3P(0) = 5 \times 1 + 3 \times 1 = 5 + 3 = 8$$

2.3 Counting Methods

A. Tree Diagram

Example 2.46

The figure shows the network connecting cities A, B, C, D, E and F . The arrows indicate the permissible direction of travel. What is the number of distinct paths from A to F . (CAT 2001/47)

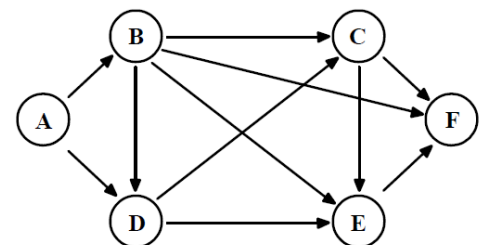


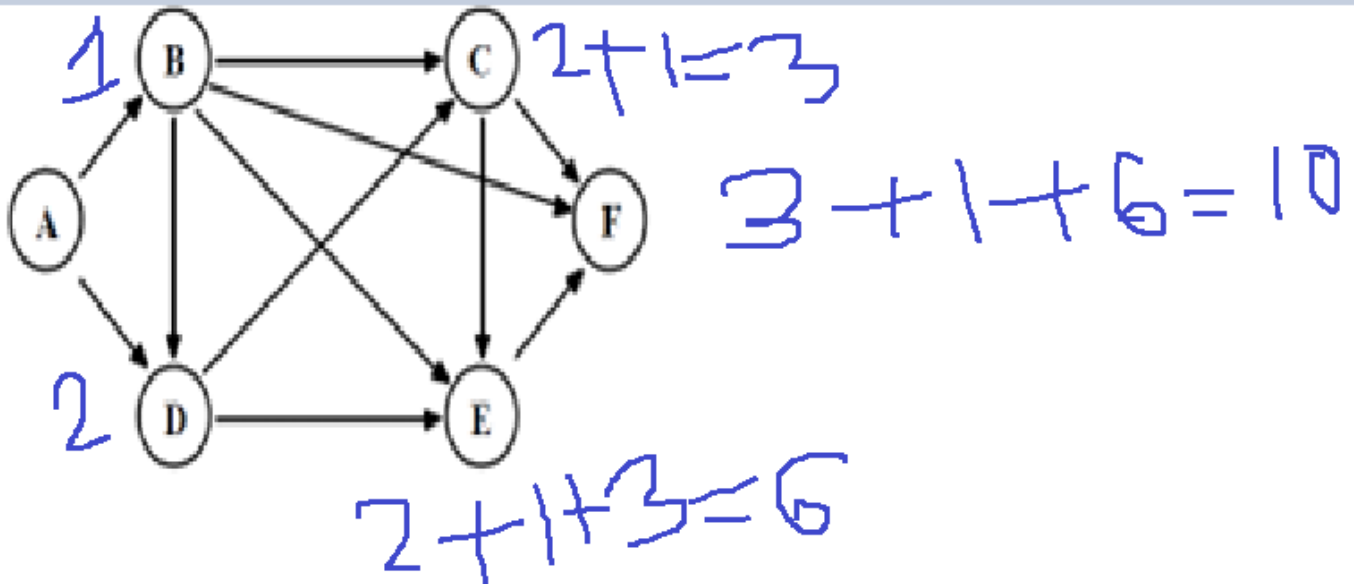
B. Working Forwards

We looked at a method of counting using permutations. Permutations give a nice formula for counting. However, the formula does not work in all cases. We look at another method that is lengthier, but does work in some cases where the formula does not.

Example 2.47: Roads to Reach

The figure shows the network connecting cities A, B, C, D, E and F . The arrows indicate the permissible direction of travel. What is the number of distinct paths from A to F . (CAT 2001/47)





2.48: Roads to Reach

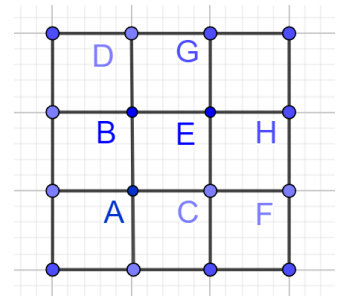
Suppose you can only

- go right one unit
- go up one unit

Then, we can use the concept of “reachability” to count the number of paths on a grid. The points on the bottom row, and the leftmost column are easy to “count” since there is only 1 way to reach them. Then, from those we work forward.

- A can only be reached via the point to its left, and the point below it.
- E can only be reached via B or C

And so on.



Consider a set of 2-by-2 points with a network of 1-by-1 roads. Use the concept of Reachability to count the number of paths reaching the top right from the bottom left of the grid.

From the bottom left, you can

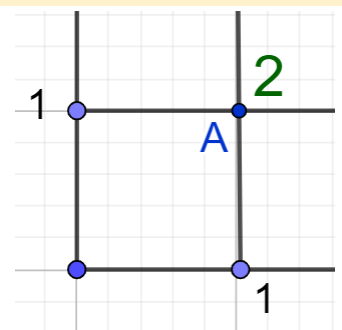
- Move up
- Move right

To reach point A, you must go through either the point below it, or the point to the left of it.

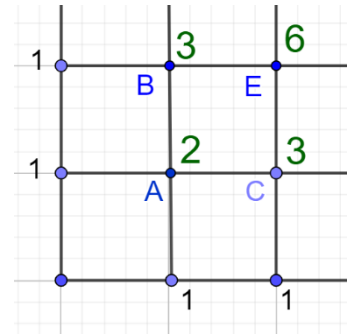
Each of those points can be reached in 1 ways.

Hence, total ways to reach

$$A = 1 + 1 = 2$$

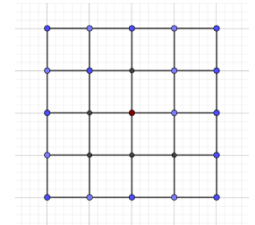
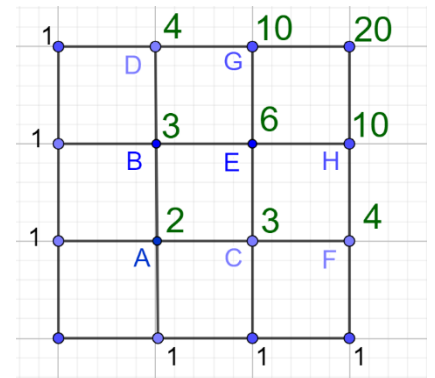


In the “Roads to Reach” diagram above, we have a set of 3-by-3 points with a network of 2-by-2 roads. Use the concept of Reachability to count the number of paths reaching the top right from the bottom left of the grid.



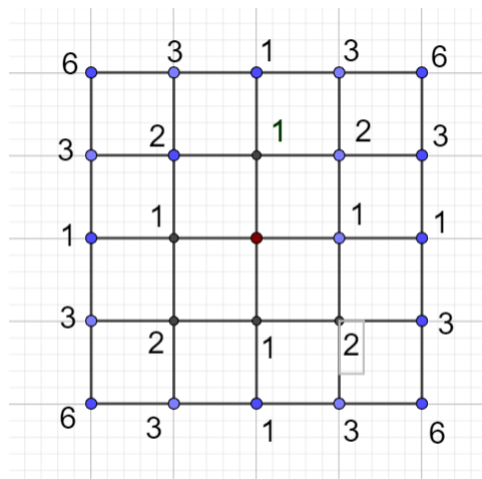
In the “Roads to Reach” diagram above, we have a set of 4-by-4 points with a network of 3-by-3 roads. Use the concept of Reachability to count the number of paths reaching the top right from the bottom left of the grid.

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 1 + 1 = 2 \\ C &= B = 2 + 1 = 3 \\ D &= F = 3 + 1 = 4 \\ E &= 3 + 3 = 6 \\ G &= H = 6 + 4 = 10 \\ \text{Top Right} &= 10 + 10 = 20 \end{aligned}$$



Example 2.49

Suppose you are at the center of the five-by-five squares shown (red dot). On each move, you can go up, down, left, or right by 1 unit. Count the number of shortest paths to reach each point on the grid.

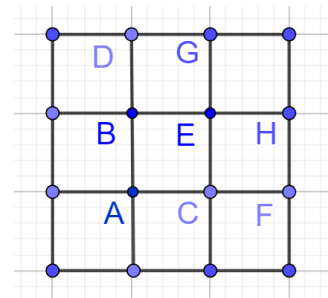


C. Recursion: Working Backwards

2.50: Roads to Reach

We can use the concept of “reachability” to count the number of paths on a grid. The points on the bottom row, and the leftmost column are easy to “count” since there is only 1 way to reach them. For the others, we count backward:

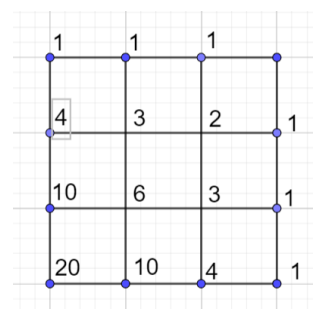
- the top right of the grid can only be reached via G or H.
- H can only be reached via E or F
- E can only be reached via B or C



Example 2.51

In the grid alongside, find the number of ways to reach the top right from the bottom left by working backwards.

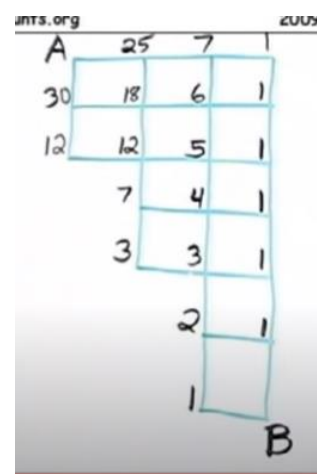
The number of ways to go from top right to bottom left is the same as the number of ways to go from bottom left to top right.



D. Asymmetry

Example 2.52

What is the number of shortest paths to go from A to B (Mathcounts 2009 State Team).



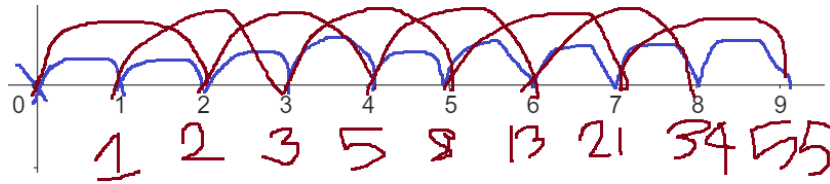
E. Hopping One or Two Units

Example 2.53

A frog is positioned at the origin of the coordinate plane. From the point (x, y) , the frog can jump to any of the points $(x + 1, y)$, $(x + 2, y)$, $(x, y + 1)$, or $(x, y + 2)$. Find the number of distinct sequences of jumps in which the frog begins at $(0, 0)$ and ends at $(4, 4)$. (AIME II 2018/8)

One Dimensional Analysis

- If the frog is restricted to the x axis, then he is on a horizontal number line, and we already answered the question above. (The diagram should feel familiar).



- If the frog is restricted to the y axis, then he is on a vertical number line, and the logic/calculations used above still hold.

Two-Dimensional Analysis

$$\begin{aligned} F(1,1) &= F(1,0) + F(0,1) = 1 + 1 = 2 \\ F(2,1) &= F(2,0) + F(0,1) + F(1,1) = 2 + 1 + 2 = 5 \\ F(3,1) &= F(3,0) + F(1,1) + F(2,1) = 3 + 2 + 5 = 10 \\ F(4,1) &= F(4,0) + F(2,1) + F(3,1) = 5 + 5 + 10 = 20 \end{aligned}$$

By symmetry (which works because the horizontal analysis has the same calculations as the vertical analysis):

$$\begin{aligned} F(1,2) &= F(2,1) = 5 \\ F(1,3) &= F(3,1) = 10 \\ F(1,4) &= F(4,1) = 20 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F(2,2) &= F(2,0) + F(2,1) + F(0,2) + F(1,2) = 2 + 5 + 2 + 5 = 14 \\ F(3,2) &= F(3,0) + F(3,1) + F(1,2) + F(2,2) = 3 + 10 + 5 + 14 = 32 \\ F(4,2) &= F(4,0) + F(4,1) + F(2,2) + F(3,2) = 5 + 20 + 14 + 32 = 71 \end{aligned}$$

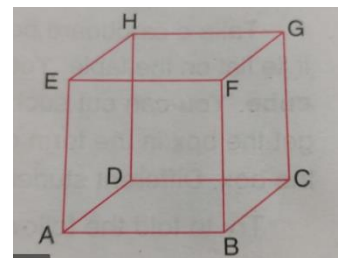
5	20	71	207	556
3	10	32	84	207
2	5	14	32	71
1	2	5	10	20
1	1	2	3	5

F. Enumeration with 3D Objects

Example 2.54

An insect at A wants to crawl via the edges of the shape drawn alongside to go to G.

- What is the length of the shortest path that the ant can take?
- List the different shortest paths can the ant take?
- Count the number of shortest paths using the multiplication principle.



Part A

$AB, BC, CG \rightarrow 3 \text{ steps}$

Part B

We can list the paths:

$ABCG, ABFG$
 $ADCG, ADHG$
 $AEHG, AEFG$

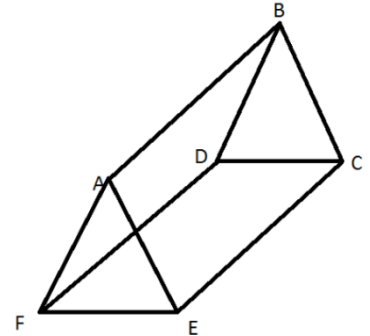
Part C

From A , there are 3 choices of vertex to visit. From each of those vertices, there are 2 choices that go in the direction of G . The final answer is:

$$\underbrace{3 \text{ choices}}_{B,D,E} \times \underbrace{2 \text{ choices}}_{\text{For each point}} = 6$$

Example 2.55

An insect at F wants to crawl via the edges of the triangular prism drawn alongside to go to C without travelling an edge more than once or backtracking. Define the length of the path as the number of distinct edges travelled. What is the number of distinct path possible of maximum length 4?



Paths of length 2

$FEC, FDC \Rightarrow 2 \text{ Ways}$

Paths of length 3

$FAEC, FABC, FDBC \Rightarrow 3 \text{ Ways}$

Paths of length 4:

$FABDC, FEABC \Rightarrow 2 \text{ Ways}$

Total

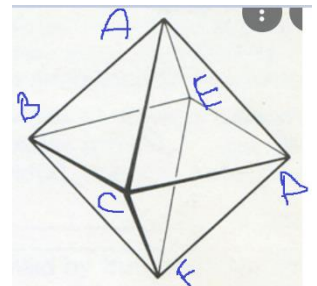
$$= 2 + 3 + 2 = 7 \text{ Ways}$$

G. Symmetry in 3D Objects

Example 2.56

What is the number of paths of length 4 or less that start from A and end at F (where length is number of edges travelled)?

Note: Backtracking is not allowed. An edge can be travelled more than once. F can be in the middle of the path.



Paths of length 2

$ABF, ACF, ADF, AEF \rightarrow 4 \text{ paths}$

Paths of length 3

$ABEF, ABCF$
 $ACDF, ACBF$
 $ADEF, ADCF$
 $AEDF, AEBF$

Each path of length 2 can be associated with two paths of length 3, by taking an extra step on the Quadrilateral $BCDE$, in either the left or the right direction.

$$= 8$$

Paths of Length 4

$ABEDF, \quad ABCDF$
 $ACDEF, \quad ACBEF$
 $ADEBF, \quad ADCBF$
 $AEDCF, \quad AEBCF$

8 Paths

Example 2.57

What is the number of paths of length 4 or less that start from A and end at F (where length is number of edges travelled)?

Note: Backtracking is allowed. An edge can be travelled more than once. F can be in the middle of the path.

Paths of Length 2

Consider paths of length 2 which we can adjust because backtracking is allowed.

$ABF, \quad ACF, \quad ADF, \quad AEF \rightarrow 4 \text{ paths}$

For example, consider ABF

backtrack over the first edge $\rightarrow ABABF$

backtrack over the second edge $\rightarrow ABFBF$

The total number of paths from modifying paths of length 2 is:

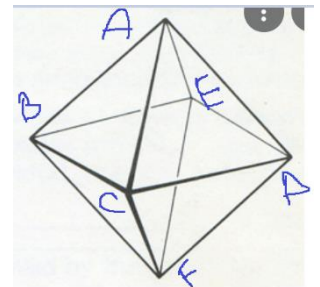
$$4 \times 2 = 8 \text{ Paths}$$

Paths of Length 3

$ABEF, \quad ABCF$
 $ACDF, \quad ACBF$
 $ADEF, \quad ADCF$
 $AEDF, \quad AEBF$

There are eight paths of length 3, of which one is:

$ABEF \Rightarrow ABEBF$



Hence, each path of length 3 can be converted into a path of length 4.

8 Paths

Paths of Length 4

$ABEDF, \quad ABCDF$
 $ACDEF, \quad ACBEF$
 $ADEBF, \quad ADCBF$
 $AEDCF, \quad AEBCF$

8 Paths

Total

$$= 8 \times 3 = 24 \text{ Paths}$$

Suppose the vertices of the octahedron are not named, so that two paths that look the same by rotation are considered the same. What is the number of paths of:

- A. Length 2
- B. Length 3

The octahedron can be rotated 4 times to look the same. Hence, the number of paths of length 2 is

$$\frac{4}{4} = 1$$

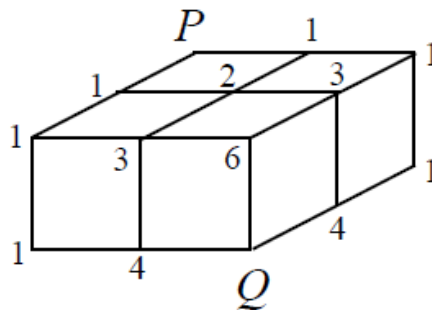
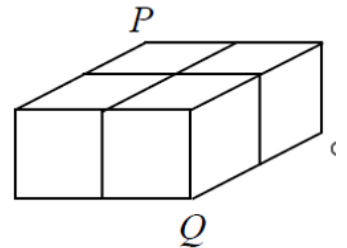
Number of paths of length 3

$$= \frac{8}{4} = 2$$

H. Counting Forward in 3D Objects

Example 2.58

Grid lines are drawn on three faces of a rectangular prism, as shown. A squirrel walks from P to Q along the edges and grid lines in such a way that she is always getting closer to Q and farther away from P . How many different paths from P to Q can the squirrel take? (CEMC Pascal 2016/21)



$$Total = 4 + 6 + 4 = 14 \text{ Paths}$$

2.4 Diagonal Paths and Delannoy Numbers

A. Pure Diagonal Paths

2.59: Diagonal Path

Diagonal paths are path that go one unit up and one unit to the right simultaneously.

We can look at paths that are diagonal, instead of rectangular. Like rectangular paths, these also generate Pascal's triangle.

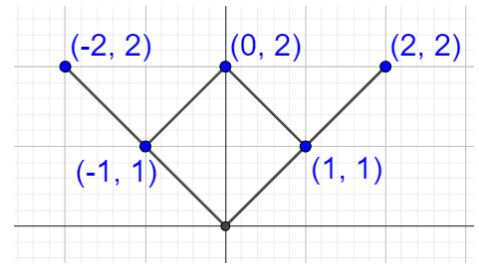
Example 2.60

You are at the center of a coordinate plane. You can take diagonal paths upwards. Determine where you can reach in

- A. One Step
- B. Two Steps

For example, if upward diagonal paths are allowed then from $(0,0)$, you can visit

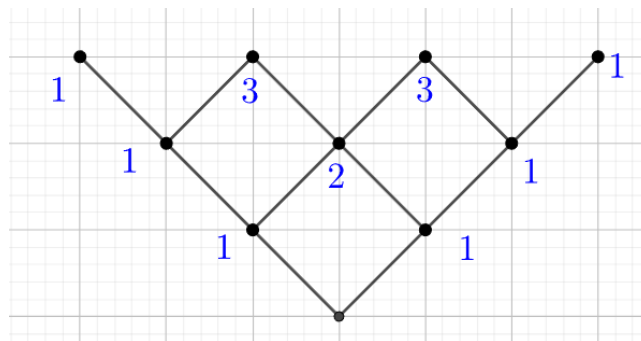
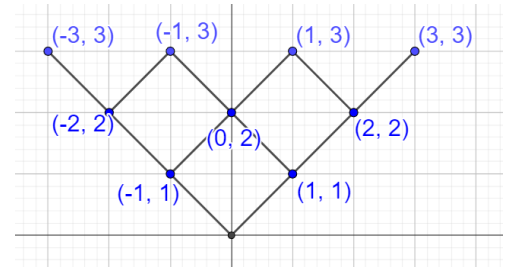
$(-1,1)$ or $(1,1)$



Beginning	$(0,0)$		
First Step	$(-1,1)$	$(1,1)$	
Second Step	$(-2,2)$	$(0,2)$	$(2,2)$

Example 2.61

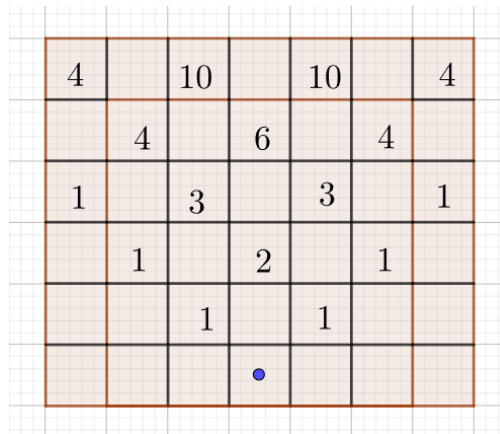
A frog at the center of a coordinate plane can jump diagonally left, or diagonally right (only upwards). He jumps a maximum of 3 times. The points that he can reach are shown in the diagram alongside. Determine the number of ways these points can be reached.



Example 2.62

6×7 board

Determine the number of ways that each square can be reached.

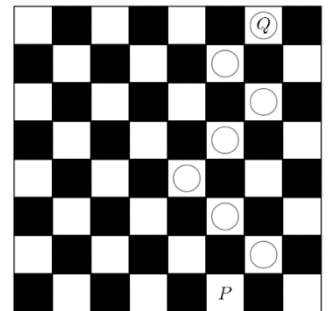


B. Asymmetry

2.63: Asymmetric Paths

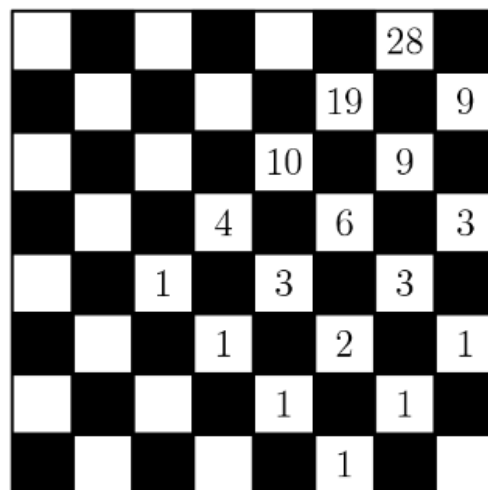
The number of steps allowed to the right does not have to be the same as the number of steps to the left. This results in asymmetry.

- We no longer get Pascal's triangle for the number of ways.



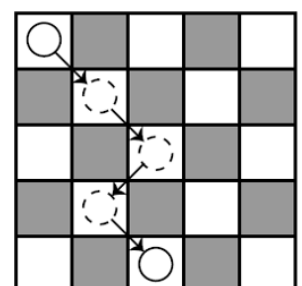
Example 2.64

A game board consists of 64 squares that alternate in color between black and white. The figure below shows square P in the bottom row, and square Q in the top row. A marker is placed at P . A step consists of moving the marker onto one of the adjoining white squares in the row above. How many 7-step paths are there from P to Q . (AMC 8 2020/21)



Example 2.65

A coin travels along a path that starts in an unshaded square in the top row of the figure, that uses only diagonal moves, and that ends in an unshaded square in the bottom row. A diagonal move takes the coin either one square down and one square left, or one square down and one square right. How many different paths from the



top row to the bottom row are possible? (CEMC Pascal 2018/21)

1		1		1
	2		2	
2		4		2
	6		6	
6		12		6

$$Total = 6 + 12 + 6 = 24$$

C. Rectangular-cum-Diagonal Paths

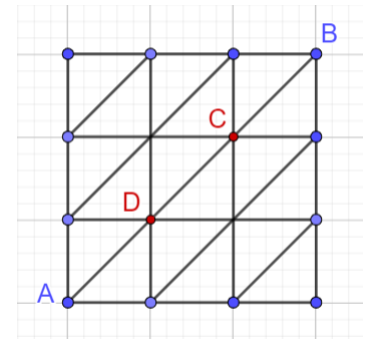
2.66: Rectangular cum Diagonal Path

These greatly increase the number of possible paths.

Example 2.67

Consider the diagram to the right. Valid movements are of three types: *up*, *right* and *up – and – right*. Each movement is from one lattice point (blue/red dot) to another lattice point.

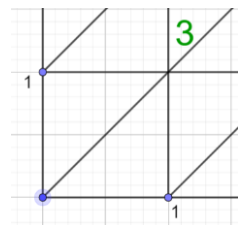
- Find the number of ways from A to D. You need only a portion of the diagram shown above.
- Find the number of ways from A to C. Use the answer to the previous question to help you. You need to extend the diagram above, to the right, and diagonally.
- Find the number of ways from A to B.



Part A

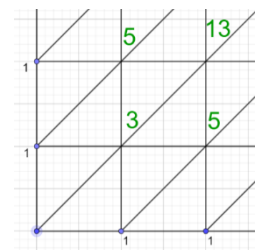
You can go from A to D in three ways:

Up
Right
Up and Right



Part B

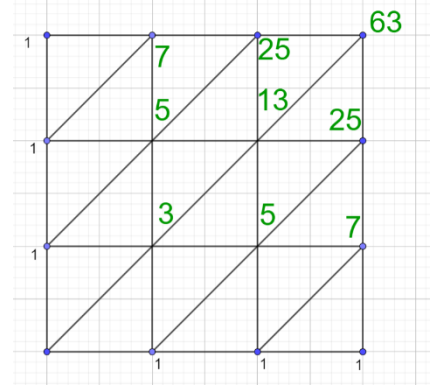
The number of ways from A to C can be calculated progressively.



Part C

The total number of ways to reach B is

$$25 + 25 + 13 = 63$$



2.68: Delannoy Numbers

The number of ways to reach (m, n) on a grid starting from $(0, 0)$ and taking steps which are up, right or *up-right* are the Delannoy Numbers.

In the example above, we calculated

$$\text{Delannoy}(3, 3) = 63$$

2.5 Hexagonal Grids and Backtracking

A. Backtracking on a Rectangular Grid

Example 2.69

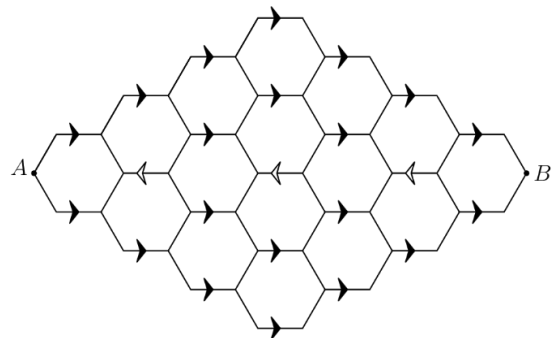
B. Hexagonal Grids

Example 2.70

C. Backtracking

Example 2.71

A bug travels from A to B along the segments in the hexagonal lattice pictured below. The segments marked with an arrow can be traveled only in the direction of the arrow, and the bug never travels the same segment more than once. How many different paths are there? (AMC 10B 2012/25)



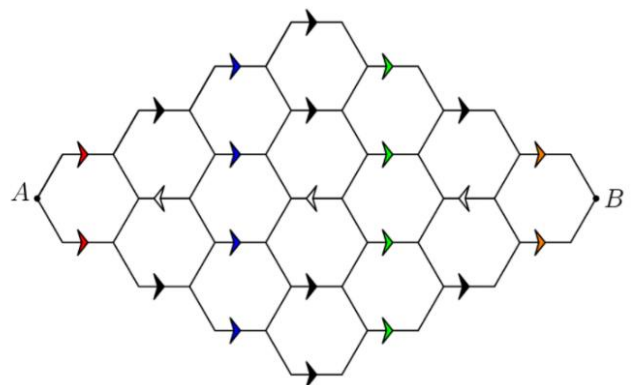
Reaching the Red Arrow

To get to each of the red arrows from A , there is

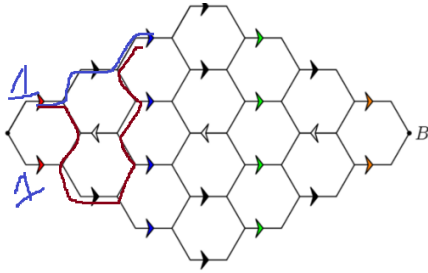
1 Way

Reaching the Blue Arrows

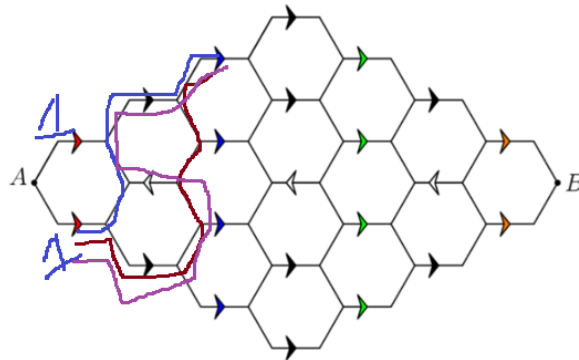
To get to the top blue arrow from the red arrows, there are



- 2 ways from the 1st(top) red arrow



- 3 ways from the 2nd(bottom) red arrow



$$\text{Total} = 5 \text{ Ways}$$

This applies to each blue arrow. (Check for yourself!).

Reaching the Green Arrows

To get to the top green arrow, there are

- 4 ways from the 1st and 2nd Blue Arrow each
- 8 ways from the 3rd and 4th Blue Arrow each

$$\text{Total} = 4 + 4 + 8 + 8 = 24 \text{ Ways}$$

This applies to each green arrow. (Check for yourself!).

Hence, the number to reach each green arrow

$$= 5 \times 24 = 120$$

Reaching the Orange Arrows

By symmetry, the number of ways to get to an orange arrow from the green arrows is the same as the number of ways to go from a red arrow to a blue arrow:

$$5 \text{ Ways}$$

Reaching B

Hence, the number of ways to reach B from a green arrow is

$$120 \times 5 = 600$$

And, finally, the number of ways to reach B in all is

Get all the files at: <https://bit.ly/azizhandouts>
Aziz Manva (azizmanva@gmail.com)

$$600 \times \underbrace{4}_{\substack{\text{No. of} \\ \text{Green Arrows}}} = 2400$$

2.6 Further Topics

A. Catalan Numbers

Example 2.72

Paths on a Grid
Parentheses
Dyck Words

73 Examples