

***More Combinatorics  
&  
probabilities for finite  
outcome spaces with  
uniform distributions.***

***More about  
 $n$  choose  $k = C(n,k)$***

**The Combinatorial function  $C(n,r)$ :**  
**The number of ways to choose a subset**  
**of size  $r$  from a set of size  $n$ .**

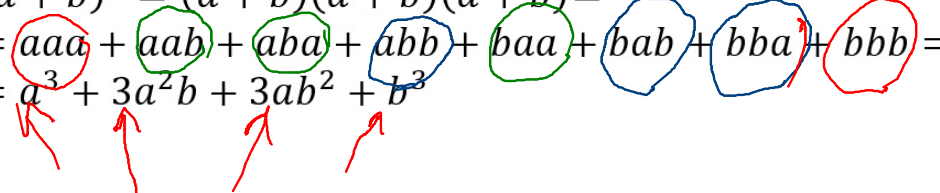
$$C(n,r) = \binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$$

**Boundry conditions**

$$n \geq 0, 0 \leq r \leq n, \quad \binom{n}{0} = \binom{n}{n} = 1$$

# Binomial Expansion

$$(a + b)^2 = (a + b)(a + b) = aa + \textcolor{red}{ab + ba} + bb \\ = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$

$$(a + b)^3 = (a + b)(a + b)(a + b) = \\ = \textcolor{red}{aaa} + \textcolor{green}{aab} + \textcolor{green}{aba} + \textcolor{blue}{abb} + \textcolor{green}{baa} + \textcolor{blue}{bab} + \textcolor{blue}{bba} + \textcolor{red}{bbb} = \\ = a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$$


The diagram illustrates the expansion of  $(a+b)^3$  by listing all possible permutations of three letters, each letter being either 'a' or 'b'. The terms are grouped by color: red for three 'a's (aaa), green for two 'a's and one 'b' (aab, aba, baa), blue for one 'a' and two 'b's (abb, bab, bba), and red for three 'b's (bbb). Red arrows point from each group of terms to the corresponding term in the simplified polynomial:  $a^3$ ,  $3a^2b$ ,  $3ab^2$ , and  $b^3$ .

$$(a + b)^{100} = ?$$

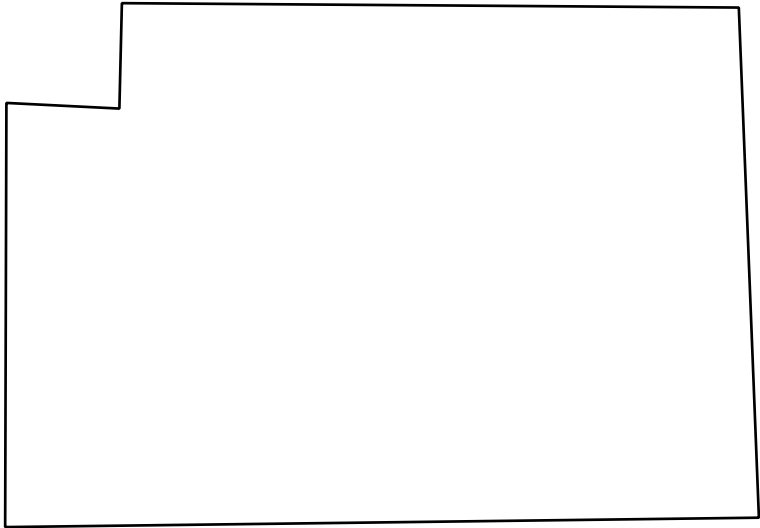
# Binomial Expansion using the combination function

$$\begin{aligned}(a+b)^3 &= (a+b)(a+b)(a+b) = \\ &= \underline{aaa + aab + aba + abb + baa + bab + bba + bbb} = \\ &= a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3\end{aligned}$$

$$(a+b)^3 = \binom{3}{0}a^3 + \binom{3}{1}a^2b + \binom{3}{2}ab^2 + \binom{3}{3}b^3$$

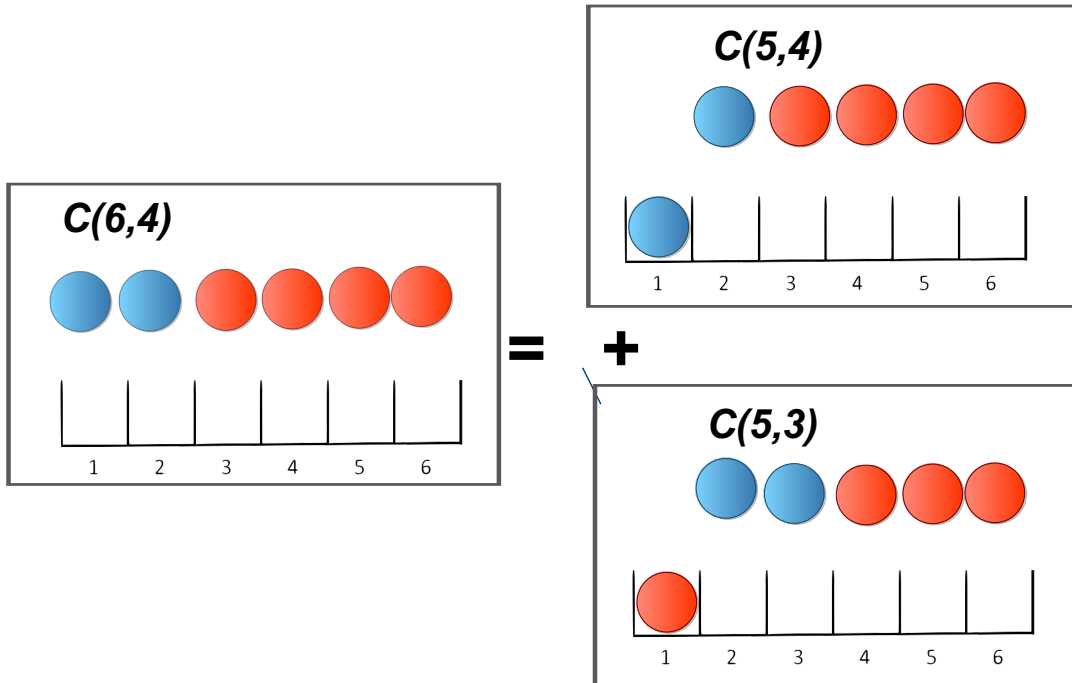
$$(a+b)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} a^{n-i} b^i$$

Binomial  
Expansion



## *Inductive computation of $C(n,r)$*

*number of different patterns of placing  
**r** red balls and **n-r** blue balls in **n** bins*



**General Formula:**

$$C(n,r) = C(n-1,r) + C(n-1,r-1)$$

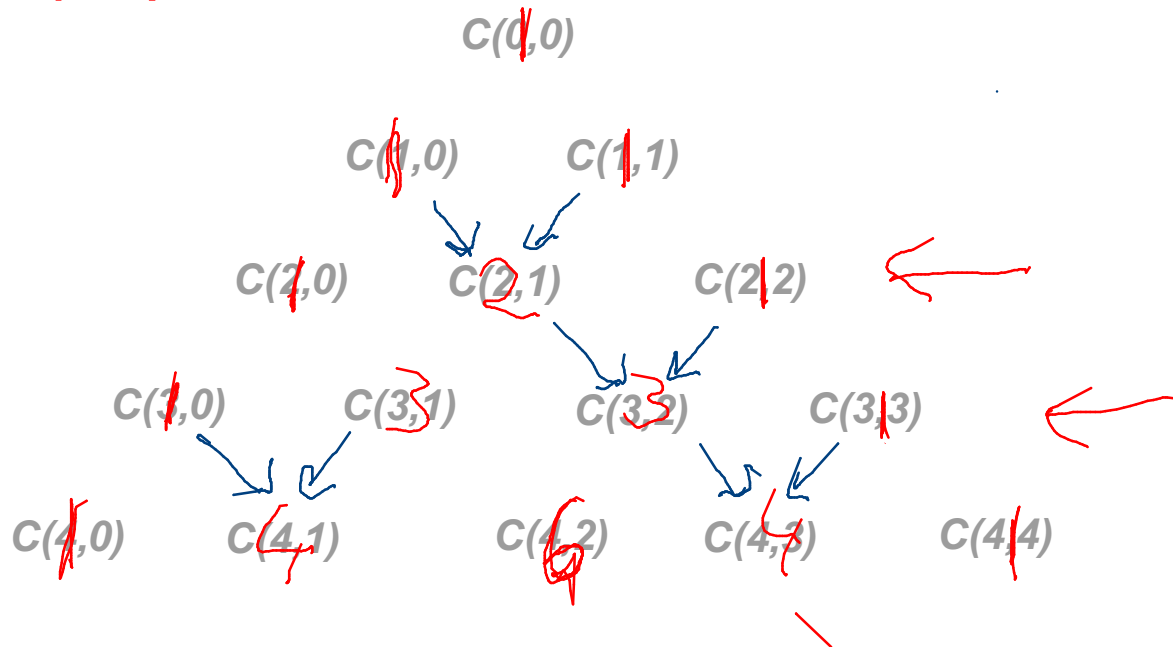
# Pascal Triangle

Calculating the binomial coefficients using the recursion

$$c(n,r)=c(n-1,r)+c(n-1,r-1)$$

~~and the boundary conditions~~

$$c(n,0)=c(n,n)=1$$

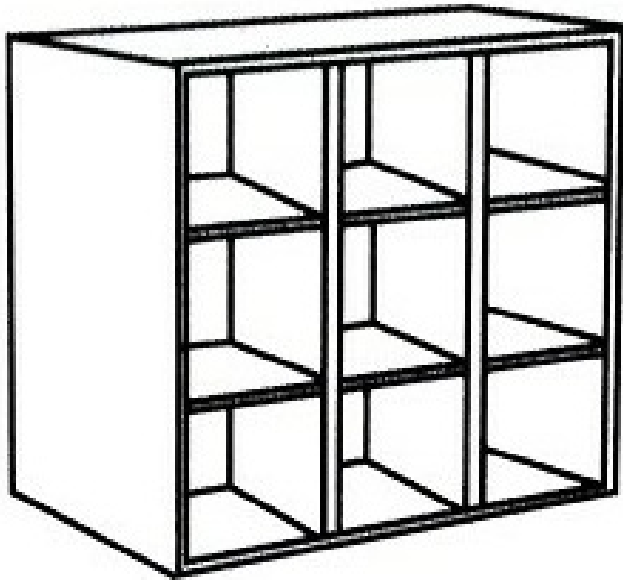


# ***The Pigeon Hole Principle***

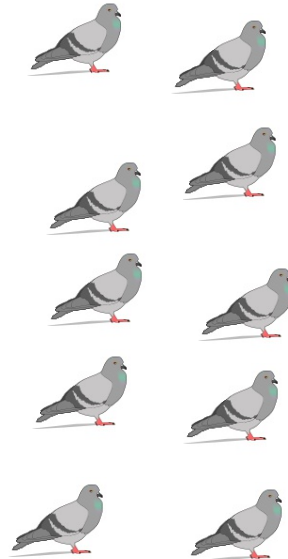


# ***Pigeon-Hole principle***

***9 holes***



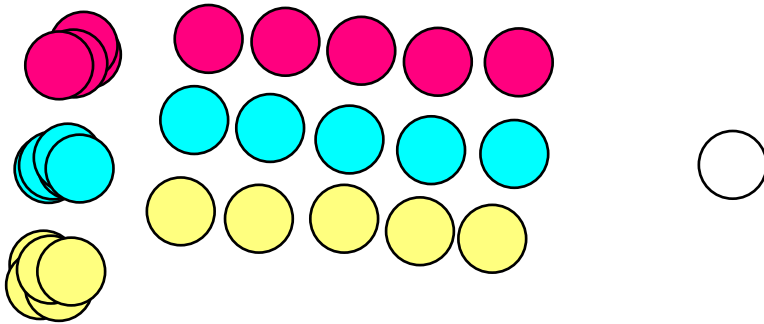
***10 pigeons***



# The Pigeon-Hole Principle / Variation

*There are 3 colors of marbles. How many marbles do we need in order to guarantee that there is at least one color for which we have at least 6 marbles?*

*Find out what is the maximal number of marbles you can have **without** having 6 marbles of the same color*



$$3 \cdot (6-1) + 1 = 16$$

# ***The birthday paradox or***

***What is the chance that at least two people in  
a room with  $n$  people have the same birthday***

## *The Birthday Paradox*

*How many people do you need in the room so that at least two of them have the same birthday?*

*For sure?*

*With probability at least 1/2?*

*Assume all days have the same probability (1/365)*

***K** = the number of people in the room.*

*We want to calculate  $P(\mathbf{A})$  for the event*

***A** = { $K$  birthdays such that at least two are the same}*

$$P(\mathbf{A}) = \frac{|\mathbf{A}|}{|\Omega|} \quad \Omega = \{1, \dots, 365\}^K \quad |\Omega| = 365^K$$

.

## The Birthday Paradox

*How many people do you need in the room so that at least two of them have the same birthday?*

For sure?  $365 + 1 = 366$

*With probability at least 1/2?*

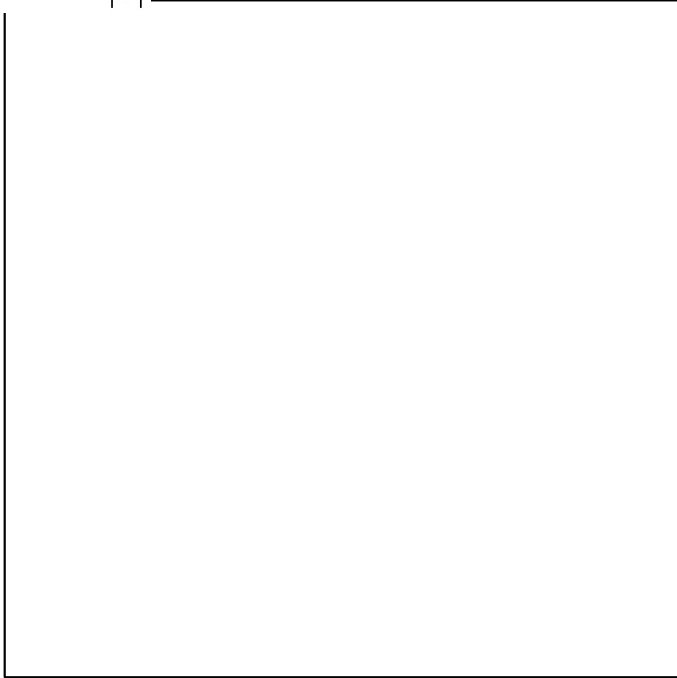
*Assume all days have the same probability (1/365)*

**K** = the number of people in the room.

*We want to calculate  $P(\mathbf{A})$  for the event*

**A** = {K birthdays such that at least two are the same}

$$P(\mathbf{A}) = \frac{|\mathbf{A}|}{|\Omega|} \quad \Omega = \{1, \dots, 365\}^K \quad |\Omega| = 365^K$$



**How many people do you need in the room so that at least two of them have the same birthday?**

$$A = \{(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_K), 1 \leq i_j \leq 365 \mid \exists 1 \leq j_1 < j_2 \leq K, i_{j_1} = i_{j_2}\}$$

**Consider the complement,  
No two people have the same birthday**

$$A^c \doteq \{x \in \Omega, x \notin A\} \quad A^c = \Omega - A$$

$$A^c = \{(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_K), 1 \leq i_j \leq 365 \mid \forall 1 \leq j_1 < j_2 \leq K, i_{j_1} \neq i_{j_2}\}$$

**A sequence of  $K$  birthdates and no 2 have the same birthday  
-> choosing for each of  $K$  people a different birthday. Order is important.**

$$|A^c| = \underbrace{P(365, K)} = \frac{365!}{(365 - K)!}$$

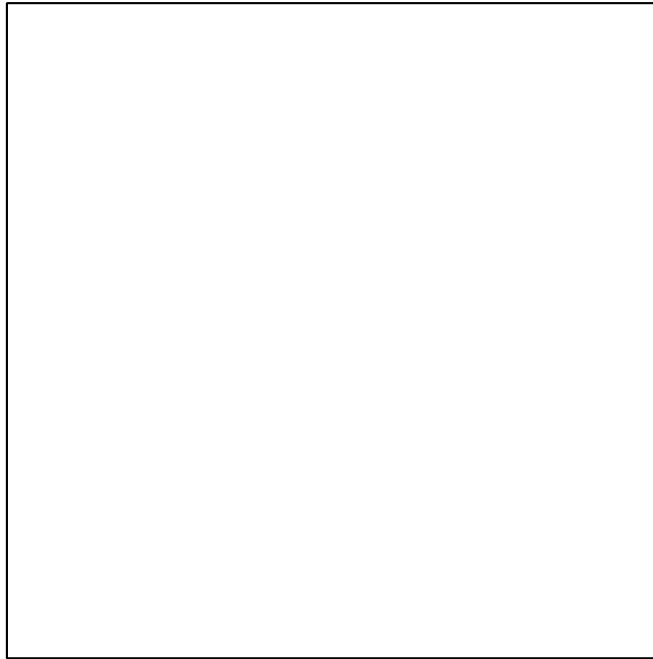
### Putting it all together

$$|\Omega| = 365^K \quad |A^c| = P(365, K) = \frac{365!}{(365 - K)!}$$

$$P(A) = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{|\Omega| - |A^c|}{|\Omega|} = 1 - \frac{|A^c|}{|\Omega|} = 1 - P(A^c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(A) &= 1 - P(A^c) = 1 - \frac{|A^c|}{|\Omega|} = 1 - \frac{P(k, 365)}{365^K} = \\ &= 1 - \frac{365}{365} \times \frac{364}{365} \times \frac{363}{365} \times \cdots \times \frac{365 - k + 1}{365} \end{aligned}$$

***This is the time to take out the computer !!***



num : probability

1	:	0.00000000
2	:	0.00273973
3	:	0.00820417
4	:	0.01635591
5	:	0.02713557
6	:	0.04046248
7	:	0.05623570
8	:	0.07433529
9	:	0.09462383
10	:	0.11694818
11	:	0.14114138
12	:	0.16702479
13	:	0.19441028
14	:	0.22310251
15	:	0.25290132
16	:	0.28360401
17	:	0.31500767
18	:	0.34691142
19	:	0.37911853
20	:	0.41143838
21	:	0.44368834
22	:	0.47569531
23	:	0.50729723
24	:	0.53834426
50	:	0.97037358
100	:	0.99999969





***A few exercises***

**How many strings contain 3 letters and two digits?**

**(digits and letters can repeat and there is no restrictions on their order)**

*d | L | L | d | L*

**Number of ways to combine 3 letters and 2 digits:  $C(5,2)$**

**Set of possible 3 letter tuples =  $\{A, \dots, Z\}^3$**

**The size of this set is**

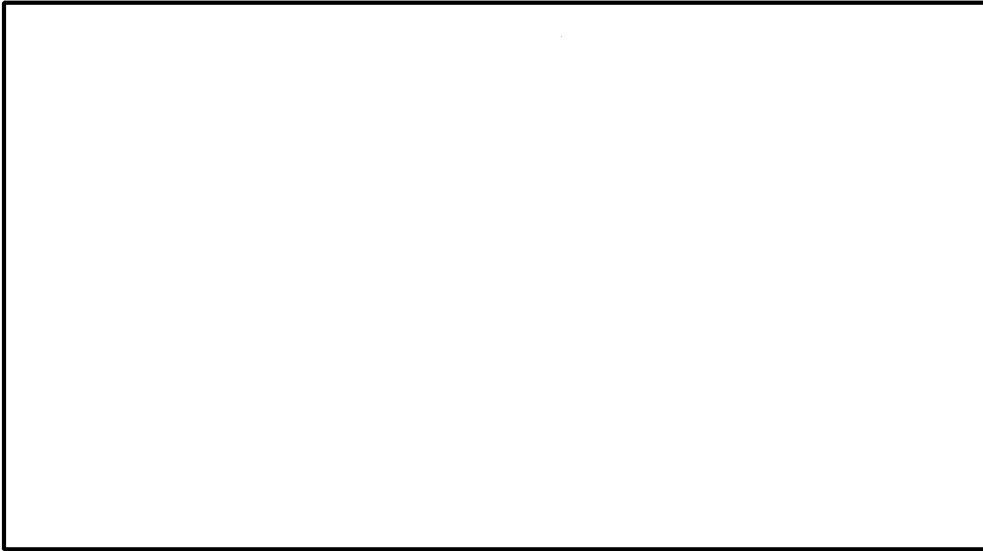
$$26 \times 26 \times 26 = 26^3$$

**Set of 2 digits, size of this set is**

$$10 \times 10 = 100$$

**Putting it all together:**

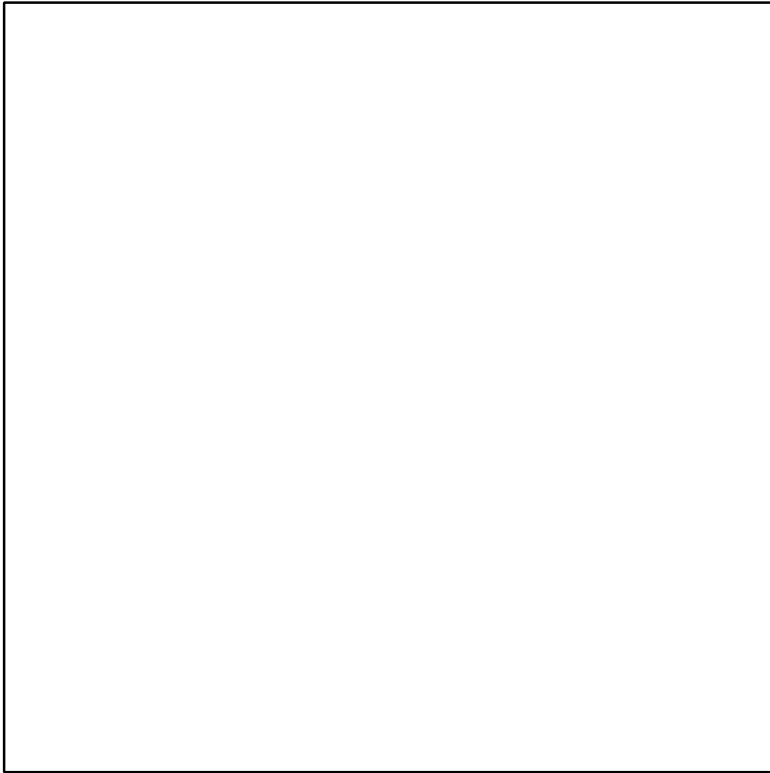
$$C(5,2) \times 26^3 \times 10^2$$



***What is the number of strings that start with  
a digit followed by 4 letters, followed by 2 digits?***

***Answer: this is a product set:***

$$10 * 26 * 26 * 26 * 26 * 10 * 10 = 26^4 * 10^3$$



***What is the probability that a random word of length 4 with distinct letters has the letters in increasing alphabetical order?***

Outcome space

$\Omega$  = the set of words with 4 distinct letters

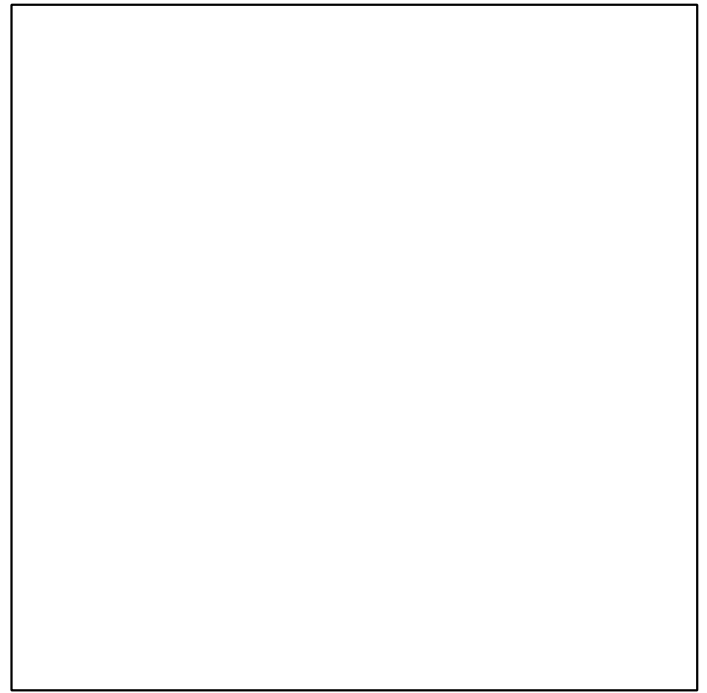
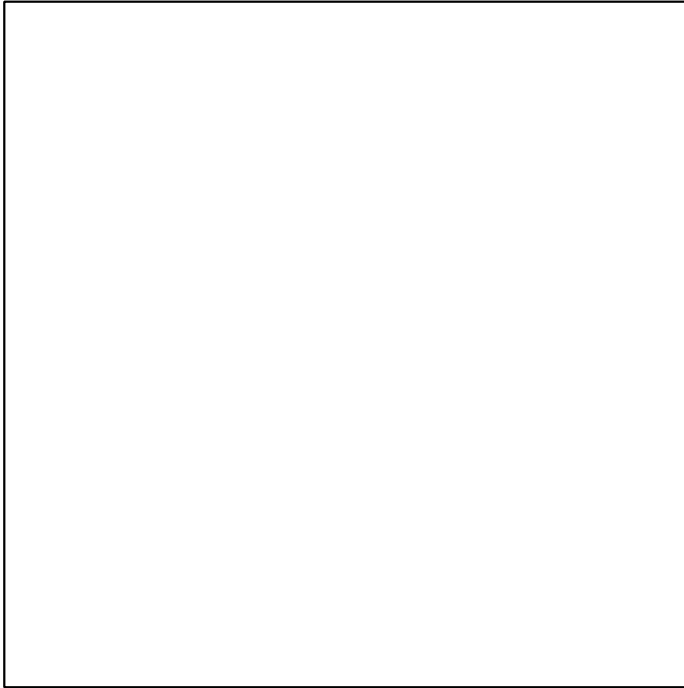
$$|\Omega| = 26 \times 25 \times 24 \times 23 = P(26,4)$$

Event

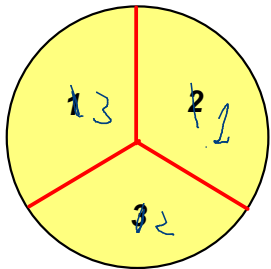
$A$  = the set of words with 4 distinct letters in increasing order

$$|A| = \frac{P(26,4)}{4!} = C(26,4)$$

$$P(A) = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{\left(\frac{P(26,4)}{4!}\right)}{P(26,4)} = \frac{1}{4!}$$



**How many ways to sit 3 out of 7 kids on a merry-go-round with three identical seats?**



**Number of ways of choosing 3 out of 7 kids when the order matters**

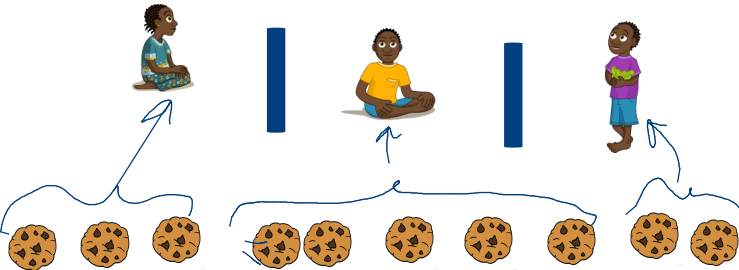
$$P(7,3)$$

**The merry-go-round can be rotated to 3 indistinguishable positions:**

$$P(7,3)/3$$



**How many ways to divide 10 cookies  
among three children?  
(the cookies are identical and cannot be broken)**



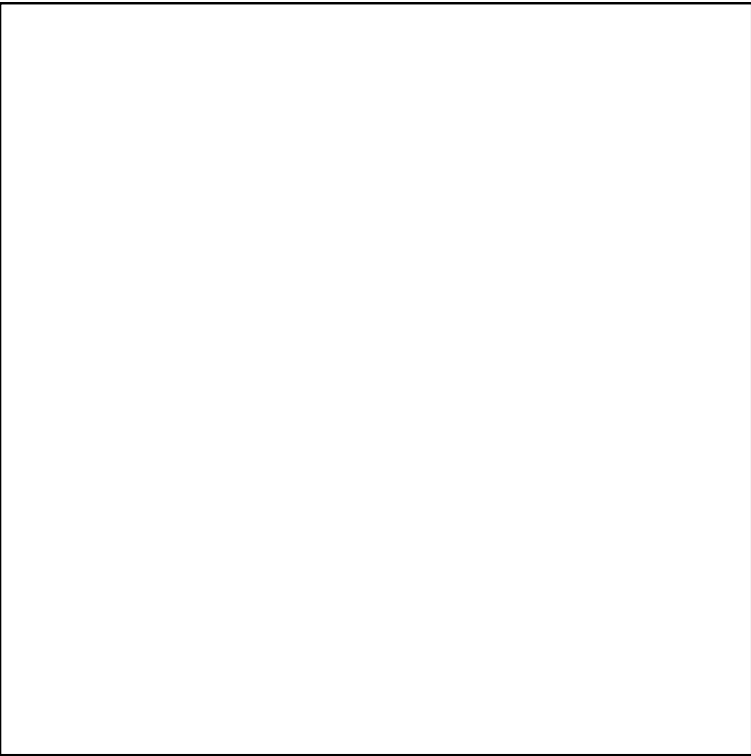
**We have one fewer vertical line than children**

$$C(10+3-1, 3-1) = C(10+3-1, 10)$$

***How many ways to split 10 cookies among 3 kids if each kid has to get at least 2 cookies?***

***First, give each kid 2 cookies, 4 cookies are left.***

***Second, divide the remaining cookies among the 3 kids.***

$$C(4+3-1, 3-1) = C(4+3-1, 4)$$


***You have a shelf with 24 books on it. You can pick any 3 books but no two picked books can be right next to each other. How many choices do you have?***





**24 books:**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2
									0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4

**Red** rectangle: chosen book

**Cyan** rectangle: "buffer" book

**Equivalent to choosing 3 out of  $24-2=22$  books:**

**If we care about order of chosen books:  $P(24-2,3)$**

**If we don't care about order of chosen books:  $C(24-2,3)$**



***If you choose 3 out of 24 books at random, what is the probability that at least 2 would be next to each other?***

***Size of sample space (Omega):***

***number of way to choose 3 out of 24 books:***

***If we care about order of chosen books:  $P(24,3)$***

***If we don't care about order of chosen books:  $C(24,3)$***

$$P(A) = 1 - \frac{|A^c|}{|\Omega|} = 1 - \frac{P(22,3)}{P(24,3)} = 1 - \frac{C(22,3)}{C(24,3)}$$

$\leftarrow 3!$   
 $\leftarrow 3!$

## ***For Thursday:***

- 1. Review class (slides will be on web site in 1 hour)***
- 2. Read chapter 4 up to (and not including) 4.5***
- 3. You should now be able to finish the HW.***

***Next time: Poker and non-uniform distributions.***