

CS23 Assignment Four (Counting, pt.1)

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1 For your college interview, you must wear a tie. You own 3 regular (boring) ties and 5 (cool) bow ties.

a. How many choices do you have for neckwear?

Assuming you are wearing only one tie, that gives you $5 + 3$ options. Therefore, the answer is 8.

b. You realize that the interview is for clown college, so you should probably wear both a regular tie and a bow tie. How many choices do you have now?

For each of the 3 regular ties, you have the option of 5 different bow ties to pick from. Therefore, the answer is $3 \times 5 = 15$.

c. For the rest of your outfit, you have 5 shirts, 4 skirts, 3 pants, and 7 dresses. You want to select either a shirt to wear with a skirt or pants, or just a dress. How many outfits do you have to choose from?

Let's start with the two piece outfit. You have 5 shirts that can be paired with a skirt or dress. Between the 4 skirts and 3 pants, that gives you $5 \times (4 + 3)$ options. However, our overall choice allows us to choose between a one or two piece outfit. This gives us a total of $5 \times (4 + 3) + 7 = 42$ different outfits.

2 Hexadecimal, or base 16, uses 16 distinct digits that can be used to form numbers: $\{0,1,\dots,9,A,B,C,D,E,F\}$. So for example, a 3 digit hexadecimal number might be 2B8.

- a. How many 2-digit hexadecimal numbers are there in which the first digit is E or F? Explain your answer in terms of the additive principle (using either events or sets).**

The additive property tells us that if A occurs m ways, and B occurs in n disjoint ways, then the event A or B can occur in m + n different ways. For both E and F, there are 16 different ways, respectively. Therefore, the total possibilities is equal to $16 + 16 = 32$.

- b. Explain why your answer to the previous part is correct in terms of the multiplicative principle (using either events or sets). Why do both the additive and multiplicative principles give you the same answer?**

The multiplicative principle states that if A can happen in m ways and B (when depends on the outcome of A) can happen in n ways, the total possible outcomes is $m \times n$. There are two possibilities for A (E or F), and 16 possibilities for B. Therefore, the total solutions is $2 \times 16 = 32$. The answers between parts a and b are the same because you are fundamentally calculating the same event, with two different perspectives on the relationship between A and B.

- c. How many 3-digit hexadecimal numbers start with a letter (A-F) and end with a numeral (0-9)? Explain.**

Let's call the digits A, B, C from left to right. Therefore, A has 6 possibilities (A-F), B has 16 (0-F), and C has 10 (0-9). We can now use the multiplicative property: $6 \times 16 \times 10 = 960$ possibilities.

- d. How many 3-digit hexadecimal numbers start with a letter (A-F) or end with a numeral (0-9) (or both)? Explain.

This question presents us with three cases. We can use our logic from part c to analyze them:

Case	A	B	C	Outcomes
1	6	16	16	1536
2	6	16	10	940
3	16	16	10	2560

By adding cases 1 and 3 and subtracting 2, we get the total unique possibilities: $1536 + 2560 - 940 = 3156$.

- 3 If $|M| = 100$ and $|N| = 42$, what is $|M \cup N| + |M \cap N|$?

Using the formula $|M \cup N| = |M| + |N| - |M \cap N|$ we can isolate our knowns and unknown on each side of the equation. This gives us $|M \cup N| + |M \cap N| = |M| + |N|$. So, $|M \cup N| + |M \cap N|$ is equivalent to $100 + 42 = 142$.

- 4 Consider all 5 letter “words” made from the letters a through f. (Recall, words are just strings of letters, not necessarily actual English words.)

- a. How many of these words are there total?

For each letter, there are 6 possibilities. Therefore, we can find the total number of possibilities like so: $6 \times 6 \times 6 \times 6 \times 6 = 6^5 = 7776$.

- b. How many of these words contain no repeated letters?

We can modified logic from part a, by decreasing the options in each subsequent number: $6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 = 6! = 720$.

- c. How many of these words start with the sub-word “aba”?

Since the first three letters are already determined to be aba, that leaves us with $6 \times 6 = 36$ possibilities.

- d. How many of these words either start with “abc” or end with “cba” or both?

We can use a modified logic from problem 2c to analyze this problem:

Case	A	B	Outcomes
abc—	6	6	36
—cba	6	6	36
both: abcba			1

Using the same logic as in problem 2c, we perform the operation $36 + 36 - 1$, which tells us that there are 71 unique possibilities.

- e. How many of the words containing no repeats also do not contain the sub-word “bad”?

We can, again, use a modified logic from problem 2c to analyze this problem:

Case	A	B	Outcomes
—bad	6	6	36
—bad—	6	6	36
bad—	6	6	36

Adding up the cases gives us all of the possibilities with “bad”. If we look back on part b, we see that there were 720 unique possibilities without repeats. Thus, this will give us the number of words containing no repeats also do not contain the sub-word “bad”: $720 - (36 + 36 + 36) = 612$.

5 Consider the bit strings in $B(6,2)$ (bit strings of length 6 and weight 2).

- How many of those bit strings start with 1?
- How many of those bit strings start with 01?
- How many of those bit strings start with 001?
- Are there any other strings we have not counted yet? Which ones, and how many are there?
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