## Counting, Permutations, and Combinations

STAT 50 - Prof. Fitzgerald

$$n! = n(n-1)(n-2)...(3)(2)(1)$$
  $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$ 

- 1. A group of 5 students are flying from Sacramento to New York for a programming competition. Each can choose to take one of 6 different flights.
  - (a) How many ways can the students travel on the flights?
  - (b) How many ways can the students all be on the same flight?
  - (c) If each student randomly chooses a flight, what's the probability they are all on the same flight?
  - (d) The students decide to all take the same flight, and they're all waiting in line together for security. How many ways can they line up?
- 2. You're packing your luggage for the flight.
  - (a) You have 12 different shirts, and you want to bring 3. How many different collections of shirts can you bring?
  - (b) You have 8 different pants, and you want to again bring 3. How many different collections of pants can you bring?
  - (c) How many different collections of shirts and pants can you bring?
- 3. There are 4 different keys, and 4 matching locks. The problem is, you don't know which key goes into which lock.
  - (a) How many ways could the keys match the locks?
  - (b) You start trying to unlock the locks, and you keep trying until you find a matching lock. What's the minimum number of times you need to try?
  - (c) What's the probability that you try the minimum number of times?
  - (d) What's the maximum number of times you need to try?
  - (e) What's the probability that you try the maximum number of times?

- 4. Recall that a standard deck of playing cards has 13 cards with 4 suits for 52 total cards. In the popular poker game Texas hold'em, all players share 5 community cards laying face up on the table, and hold 2 cards privately in their hand. From this collection of 7 cards, each player tries to form the best 5 card hand.
  - (a) How many ways are there to make a 5 card hand from the 7 cards?
  - (b) How many hands are possible in Texas hold'em, if we consider both the community cards and the private cards?
- 5. In Texas hold'em, bets happen after each of the following steps:
  - 1. Each player receives their two private cards.
  - 2. 3 community common cards are laid down (the flop).
  - 3. Another community common card is laid down (the turn).
  - 4. The final community common card (the river).
  - (a) How many ways are there for the 5 community cards to be dealt?
  - (b) The 4th community card is laid down, and all 4 cards are hearts. You hold a 2 of hearts and a jack of diamonds in your hand, so you have the lowest possible flush.
  - (c) What's the probability that the river card is a heart?
  - (d) The river card is a spade. You're betting against one other player. What's the probability they hold a heart? (Meaning they will win with a higher flush than yours)
  - (e) Change the previous question, so that instead of 1 player, you're betting against 4 players. What's the probability another player will beat you with a higher flush?