

Inclusion-Exclusion and the Möbius Function

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$$|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B|$$

$$|A \cup B \cup C| = |A| + |B| + |C| - |A \cap B| - |A \cap C| - |B \cap C| + |A \cap B \cap C|$$

What is the general case?

Thm: (Inclusion-Exclusion) Let $A_1, \dots, A_n \subseteq S$. For $0 \leq K \leq n$, we define $\Sigma_K = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_K \leq n} |A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2} \cap \dots \cap A_{i_K}|$.

Also, $\Sigma_0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} |S|$.

Then $|A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n| = \Sigma_1 - \Sigma_2 + \Sigma_3 - \Sigma_4 + \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \Sigma_n$

and $|S - (A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n)| = \Sigma_0 - \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2 - \Sigma_3 + \dots + (-1)^n \Sigma_n$

Proof: Consider $x \in S$. Case 1: $x \notin A_1, \dots, A_n$. Then x is only counted once in Σ_0 , and not counted in any other Σ_K .

Case 2: $x \in A_{i_1}, \dots, A_{i_m}$. Then it is counted $1 - \binom{m}{1} + \binom{m}{2} - \binom{m}{3} + \dots + (-1)^m \binom{m}{m} = (1-1)^m = 0$. \square

Defn: d_n is defined to be the number of permutations on $[n]$ with no fixed points.

Ex: $d_1 = 0$, $d_2 = 1$. Let's find d_3 :

- 123
- 132
- 213
- 231 ✓
- 312 ✓
- 321

So $d_3 = 2$.

Let S be the set of all permutations on $[n]$. $|S| = n!$.

Let A_i be the set of all permutations that fix i , for $1 \leq i \leq n$.

Then $d_n = |S - (A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_n)| = \Sigma_0 - \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2 - \dots$.

$$\Sigma_K = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_K \leq n} |A_{i_1} \cup \dots \cup A_{i_K}| = \binom{n}{K} \cdot (n-K)!$$

$$d_n = \binom{n}{0} n! - \binom{n}{1} (n-1)! + \binom{n}{2} (n-2)! - \dots = \frac{n!}{0!} - \frac{n!}{1!} + \frac{n!}{2!} - \dots = n! \cdot \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{0!} - \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} - \dots + \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} \right)}_{\approx e^{-1}}$$

So $d_n \approx \frac{n!}{e}$

Ex: $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\varphi(n) = |\{1 \leq i \leq n : \gcd(i, n) = 1\}|$

- $\varphi(1) = 1$
- $\varphi(2) = 1$
- $\varphi(3) = 2$
- $\varphi(4) = 2$
- $\varphi(5) = 4$
- $\varphi(6) = 2$

If n is prime, then $\varphi(n) = n - 1$.

If p, q prime, then $\varphi(p \cdot q) = (p \cdot q) - p - q + 1 = (p - 1)(q - 1)$

If p_1, \dots, p_n prime, then $\varphi(p_1 \cdots p_n) = n - \sum_i \frac{n}{p_i} + \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{n}{p_i p_j} - \cdots = (p_1 - 1)(p_2 - 1) \cdots (p_n - 1)$

If p_1, \dots, p_n prime, then $\varphi(p_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots p_n^{\alpha_n}) = (p_1 - 1)p_1^{\alpha_1 - 1} \cdot (p_2 - 1)p_2^{\alpha_2 - 1} \cdots = n \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_n}\right)$

Proof: Let $S = \{1, \dots, n\}$ and $A_i = \{1 \leq x \leq n : p_i \mid x\}$ (for $1 \leq i \leq n$).

Then $\varphi(n) = |S - (A_1 \cup \cdots \cup A_n)| = \Sigma_0 - \Sigma_1 + \cdots$

$|A_{i_1} \cap \cdots \cap A_{i_k}| = ?$

$x \in A_{i_1} \cap \cdots \cap A_{i_k} \Leftrightarrow p_{i_1} p_{i_2} \cdots p_{i_k} \mid x \Leftrightarrow x = (p_{i_1} \cdots p_{i_k}) \cdot y$ for $1 \leq x \leq n$; $1 \leq y \leq \frac{n}{p_{i_1} \cdots p_{i_k}}$.

So $|A_{i_1} \cup \cdots \cup A_{i_k}| = \frac{n}{p_{i_1} \cdots p_{i_k}} \rightarrow \Sigma_k = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \cdots < i_k \leq n} \frac{n}{p_{i_1} \cdots p_{i_k}}$

$\rightarrow \varphi(n) = \Sigma_0 - \Sigma_1 + \Sigma_2 - \cdots = n - \sum_i \frac{n}{p_i} + \sum_{i_1 \neq i_2} \frac{n}{p_{i_1} p_{i_2}} - \cdots = n \left(1 - \sum_i \frac{1}{p_i} + \sum_{i_1 \neq i_2} \frac{1}{p_{i_1} p_{i_2}} - \cdots\right) = n \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_1}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_n}\right). \square$

Thm: For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\sum_{\{d: d|n\}} \varphi(d) = n$.

Proof: The idea is to assign each $1 \leq x \leq n$ into some class $S_d = \{x : d \mid x\}$ so that $|S_d| = \varphi(d)$.

Let $y = \gcd(x, n)$. ($y \mid n$, $n = y \cdot d$).

Let $S_d = \{1 \leq x \leq n : \gcd(x, n) = \frac{n}{d}\}$. So $S_1 = \{n\}$, and $S_n = \{x : x, n \text{ coprime}\}$.

In general, $S_d = \{1 \leq x \leq n : x = y \cdot u \wedge \gcd(u, d) = 1\}$

So we have $\{1, \dots, n\} = \bigsqcup_{\{d: d|n\}} S_d$, and so $n = \sum_{\{d: d|n\}} |S_d| = \sum_{\{d: d|n\}} \varphi(d). \square$

Ex: $n = 10$, then $d = 1, 2, 5, 10$.

$\varphi(1) + \varphi(2) + \varphi(5) + \varphi(10) = 1 + 1 + 4 + 4 = 10$.

Ex: For p, q prime,

$\varphi(1) + \varphi(p) + \varphi(q) + \varphi(p \cdot q) = 1 + (p - 1) + (q - 1) + (p - 1)(q - 1) = p \cdot q$

$n = \sum_{\{d: d|n\}} \varphi(d)$. Then $\varphi(n) = \sum_{\{d: d|n\}} d \cdot \mu\left(\frac{n}{d}\right)$. μ is called the Möbius function.