

# PHONE NUMBERS

Are there two students at Georgia Tech with the same last 4 digits of their phone number?

# HAIR

Are there two non-bald people in Atlanta with the same number of hairs on their heads?

# THE PIGEONHOLE PRINCIPLE

If  $n$  objects are put into  $m$  boxes, and  $n > m$ , then at least one box will have multiple objects.



Johann Peter Gustav Lejeune Dirichlet



# PIGEONHOLE PROBLEMS

1. Show that, given 5 points in a unit square, there are two points within  $\sqrt{2}/2$  of each other.
2. Show that, given any 11 integers, there is a pair of numbers whose difference is divisible by 10.
3. Show that, at any party, there are always two people with the same number of friends.

# PIGEONHOLE PROBLEMS

4. Take a chessboard with two opposite corners removed. Can you cover it with dominos?

Hint: The dominos give a bijection between black squares and white squares.

5. On a  $5 \times 5$  chessboard, there is one flea in each square. Each flea jumps to an adjacent square. Are there now two fleas in the same square?

6. Arrange the numbers  $1, \dots, 10$  on a circle in any order. Show that there are 3 consecutive numbers that add to 17 or more.

## STRONG PIGEONHOLE

Our class has 68 students. What is the biggest  $N$  so that we know that some month has  $N$  birthdays?



The challenge with counting  
is that we aren't usually told  
in advance which rules to use

## MORE PROBLEMS

1. How many 3 digit numbers are there?
2. How many 3 digit numbers are there with no repeated digits?
3. How many 3 digit numbers are there with the  $i^{\text{th}}$  digit equal to  $i$  for some  $i$ .



## MORE PROBLEMS

4. How many functions are there  $A \rightarrow B$  if  $|A|=m, |B|=n$ ?
5. How many injective functions are there  $A \rightarrow B$  if  $|A|=m, |B|=n$ ?
6. How many subsets of  $A$  are there if  $|A|=n$ ?

## MORE PROBLEMS

7. How many even 4 digit numbers are there with no repeated digits?
8. How many odd 4 digit numbers are there with no repeated digits? (Harder!)
9. How many ways are there to place a domino on a chessboard?

## MORE PROBLEMS

10. How many bit strings are there that have length  $n$  and begin and/or end with a 1?
11. How many different dominos are there?
12. How many arrangements are there of 6 men and 4 women at a round table if no women sit together?

## MORE PROBLEMS

13. Given 20 integers, show there is a pair whose difference is divisible by 19.
14. If we want to label the chairs in a room by one letter and one number from 1 to 100, how many labels are there?
15. How many distinct alphanumeric passcodes are there if each passcode has 6-8 characters and at least one digit?
16. In how many ways can a best-of-5 series go down?
17. Given 5 points on a sphere, how many necessarily lie on the same hemisphere?