

Combinatorial Probability

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Why counting is important in probability?

For a symmetric probability space (S, P) : $P(A) = \frac{N(A)}{N(S)}$.

❶ Toss a fair coin twice.

- ▶ $S = \{TT, TH, HT, HH\}$.
- ▶ $P(\text{exactly one head}) = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$.

❷ Toss a fair coin 20 times.

- ▶ $S = ??$
- ▶ $P(\text{exactly one head}) = \frac{\text{\#outcomes with exactly one head}}{N(S)} = ?$

Outline

- 1 Addition Rule
- 2 Product Rule
- 3 Number of samples
- 4 Examples: Use of combinatorics in probability

Addition Rule

When A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k are mutually exclusive events, then:

$$N\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^k A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^k N(A_i).$$

outcomes of the experiment are possible.

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Example

- At a restaurant, you can choose one of 2 starters:
 soup, salad.
- and you can choose one from 3 main dishes, namely:
 fish, meat, vegetarian.
- How many different two-course meals are possible?

Product Rule

- Suppose an experiment consists of performing k partial experiments.
- The i^{th} partial experiment has n_i possible outcomes ($i = 1, \dots, k$),
- no matter what the results of other partial experiments are.
- Then there are total

$$n_1 \times n_2 \times \cdots \times n_k$$

outcomes of the experiment are possible.

How many different ordered arrangements of the letters a , b , and c are possible?

How many different ordered arrangements of n distinct objects are possible?

Factorial

For any positive integer n we define n *factorial* as

$$n! = n \times (n - 1) \times (n - 2) \times \cdots \times 3 \times 2 \times 1.$$

Convention: $0! = 1$.

For instance:

- $1! = 1$,
- $2! = 2 \times 1 = 2$,
- $3! = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$,
- $4! = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 24$, etc.

Note, $n! = n \times (n - 1)!$.

Suppose there are 3 balls of identical shape - two of them are red (r) and one is blue (b). How many different ordered arrangements of these balls are possible?

Permutation of indistinguishable objects

- Suppose, of n objects, there are k distinct types.

- n_1 of them are of type 1.

n_2 of them are of type 2.

\vdots \vdots

n_k of them are of type k .

$$n = n_1 + n_2 + \cdots + n_k.$$

- Then there are total

$$\frac{n!}{n_1!n_2!\cdots n_k!} \quad \text{arrangements possible.}$$

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Example: How many different samples?

- Suppose we select 2 objects from the collection $\{a, b, c, d\}$.
- How many different samples are possible?

It depends on:

- whether sampling is done
 - ▶ with replacement (WR), or
 - ▶ without replacement (WOR),
- whether it is an
 - ▶ ordered sampling, or
 - ▶ unordered sampling.

How many different samples?

	Without Replacement	With Replacement
Ordered	$\frac{n!}{(n - k)!}$	n^k
Unordered	$\binom{n}{k}$	$\binom{n + k - 1}{k}$

Remark: In the “*with replacement unordered sampling scheme*”, the resulting sample space is not symmetric.

WR and Ordered sampling

- Suppose we select 2 objects from the collection $\{a, b, c, d\}$ with replacement (WR).
- How many different samples are possible if order matters?

		2nd draw			
		<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>
1st draw	<i>a</i>	(a, a)	(a, b)	(a, c)	(a, d)
	<i>b</i>	(b, a)	(b, b)	(b, c)	(b, d)
	<i>c</i>	(c, a)	(c, b)	(c, c)	(c, d)
	<i>d</i>	(d, a)	(d, b)	(d, c)	(d, d)

WR Ordered Sampling

- Suppose there are n number of distinct elements.
- A sample of k elements is to be selected with replacement.
- The number of different *ordered* samples possible is

$$n^k.$$

EXAMPLE: If we select 2 elements out of 4 with replacement, then there are

$$4^2 = 16 \text{ different ordered samples possible.}$$

WOR and Ordered sampling

- Suppose we select 2 objects from the collection $\{a, b, c, d\}$ with replacement (WR).
- How many different samples are possible if order matters?

		2nd draw			
		<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>
1st draw	<i>a</i>		(a, b)	(a, c)	(a, d)
	<i>b</i>	(b, a)		(b, c)	(b, d)
	<i>c</i>	(c, a)	(c, b)		(c, d)
	<i>d</i>	(d, a)	(d, b)	(d, c)	

WOR Ordered Sampling

- Suppose there are n number of distinct elements.
- A sample of k elements is to be selected without replacement ($k \leq n$).
- The number of different *ordered* samples possible is

$$\frac{n!}{(n - k)!}.$$

EXAMPLE: If we select 2 elements out of 4 without replacement, then there are

$$\frac{4!}{(4 - 2)!} = 12 \text{ different ordered samples possible.}$$

WOR and Unordered sampling

- Suppose we select 2 objects from the collection $\{a, b, c, d\}$ without replacement (WOR).
- How many different samples are possible if order does not matter?

		2nd draw			
		<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>
1st draw	<i>a</i>		(a, b)	(a, c)	(a, d)
	<i>b</i>	(b, a)		(b, c)	(b, d)
	<i>c</i>	(c, a)	(c, b)		(c, d)
	<i>d</i>	(d, a)	(d, b)	(d, c)	

WOR and Unordered sampling

- Suppose we select 2 objects from the collection $\{a, b, c, d\}$ without replacement (WOR).
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		2nd draw			
		<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>
1st draw	<i>a</i>		(a, b)	(a, c)	(a, d)
	<i>b</i>	(b, a)		(b, c)	(b, d)
	<i>c</i>	(c, a)	(c, b)		(c, d)
	<i>d</i>	(d, a)	(d, b)	(d, c)	

Unordered sample		
$\{a, b\}$	$\{a, c\}$	$\{a, d\}$
	$\{b, c\}$	$\{b, d\}$
		$\{c, d\}$

WOR Unordered Sampling

- Suppose there are n number of distinct elements.
- A sample of k elements is to be selected without replacement ($k \leq n$).
- The number of different *unordered* samples possible is

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

The symbol $\binom{n}{k}$ is often called n choose k .

EXAMPLE: If we select 2 elements out of 4 without replacement, then there are

$$\binom{4}{2} = \frac{4!}{2!(4-2)!} = 6 \text{ different unordered samples possible.}$$

WR and Unordered sampling

- Suppose we select 2 objects from the collection $\{a, b, c, d\}$ with replacement (WR).
- How many different samples are possible if order does not matter?

		2nd draw			
		<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>
1st draw	<i>a</i>	(<i>a, a</i>)	(<i>a, b</i>)	(<i>a, c</i>)	(<i>a, d</i>)
	<i>b</i>	(<i>b, a</i>)	(<i>b, b</i>)	(<i>b, c</i>)	(<i>b, d</i>)
	<i>c</i>	(<i>c, a</i>)	(<i>c, b</i>)	(<i>c, c</i>)	(<i>c, d</i>)
	<i>d</i>	(<i>d, a</i>)	(<i>d, b</i>)	(<i>d, c</i>)	(<i>d, d</i>)

WR and Unordered sampling

- Suppose we select 2 objects from the collection $\{a, b, c, d\}$ with replacement (WR).
- How many different samples are possible if order does not matter?

		2nd draw							
		<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	Unordered sample			
1st draw	<i>a</i>	(<i>a, a</i>)	(<i>a, b</i>)	(<i>a, c</i>)	(<i>a, d</i>)	{ <i>a, a</i> }	{ <i>a, b</i> }	{ <i>a, c</i> }	{ <i>a, d</i> }
	<i>b</i>	(<i>b, a</i>)	(<i>b, b</i>)	(<i>b, c</i>)	(<i>b, d</i>)		{ <i>b, b</i> }	{ <i>b, c</i> }	{ <i>b, d</i> }
	<i>c</i>	(<i>c, a</i>)	(<i>c, b</i>)	(<i>c, c</i>)	(<i>c, d</i>)			{ <i>c, c</i> }	{ <i>c, d</i> }
	<i>d</i>	(<i>d, a</i>)	(<i>d, b</i>)	(<i>d, c</i>)	(<i>d, d</i>)				{ <i>d, d</i> }

N.B.: Sample space is NOT symmetric.

i.e., outcomes are not equally likely.

WR Unordered Sampling

- Suppose there are n number of distinct elements.
- A sample of k elements is to be selected with replacement.
- The number of different *unordered* samples possible is

$$\binom{n + k - 1}{k}.$$

EXAMPLE: If we select 2 elements out of 4 with replacement, then there are

$$\binom{4 + 2 - 1}{2} = \binom{5}{2} = 10$$

different unordered samples possible.

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Example

If we toss a fair coin 20 times, what is the probability of getting exactly one head?

Example

If we toss a fair coin 20 times, what is the probability of getting exactly k heads?

Example

If we randomly pick two cards from a pack of cards without replacement, what is the chance that both selected cards are diamonds?

Example

If we randomly pick two cards from a pack of cards without replacement, what is the chance that one diamond and one spade are selected?

Example

If we randomly pick 2 cards from a pack of cards without replacement, what is the chance that exactly one diamond is selected?