

## Contents of Part 1

Chapter 0: Sets, Relations

**Chapter 1: Counting problem**

Chapter 2: Existence problem

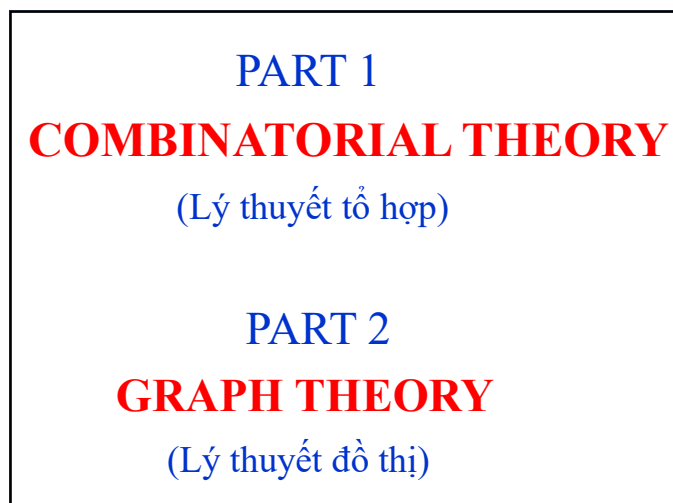
Chapter 3: Enumeration problem

Chapter 4: Combinatorial optimization problem



VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN VÀ TRUYỀN THÔNG

3



## Contents

**1. Basic counting principles**

2. Elementary combinatorial configuration

3. The inclusion-exclusion principle

4. Recurrence relation

5. Generating function



VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN VÀ TRUYỀN THÔNG

4

## 1. Basic counting principles

### 1.1. The sum rule

### 1.2. The product rule



VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN VÀ TRUYỀN THÔNG

5

### 1.1. The sum rule

Generalized sum rule: If we have tasks  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_k$  that can be done in  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_k$  ways, respectively, and any two of these tasks can not be done at the same time, then there are  $m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_k$  ways to do one of these tasks.

→ The sum rule can also be phrased in terms of *set theory*: The size of the union on  $k$  finite pair wise disjoint sets is the sum of their sizes:

- Let  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  be disjoint sets. Then the number of ways to choose any element from one of these sets is

$$|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_k| = |A_1| + |A_2| + \dots + |A_k|.$$



VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN VÀ TRUYỀN THÔNG

7

### 1.1. The sum rule

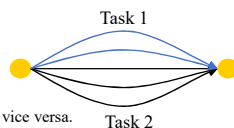
Let us consider two tasks:

$m_1$  is the number of ways to do **task 1**

$m_2$  is the number of ways to do **task 2**

Tasks are independent of each other, i.e.,

Performing **task 1** does not accomplish **task 2** and vice versa.



Sum rule: the number of ways that “**either** task 1 **or** task 2 can be done, but **not both**”, is  $m_1 + m_2$ .

Generalizes to multiple tasks ...

Things	1	2	3	...	$k$
ways	$m_1$	$m_2$	$m_3$	...	$m_k$

select one of them:  $m_1 + m_2 + m_3 + \dots + m_k$  ways



VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN VÀ TRUYỀN THÔNG

8

## 1. Basic counting principles

### 1.1. The sum rule

### 1.2. The product rule



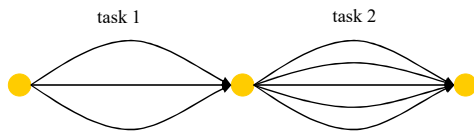
VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN VÀ TRUYỀN THÔNG

8

## The product rule

- Consider two tasks:
  - $m_1$  is the number of ways to do task 1
  - $m_2$  is the number of ways to do task 2
  - Tasks are independent of each other, i.e.,
    - Performing task 1 does not accomplish task 2 and vice versa.

Product rule: the number of ways that “both tasks 1 and 2 can be done” is  $m_1 m_2$ .



- Generalize to multiple tasks ...



## 1.2. The product rule

- If each element  $a_i$  of  $k$ -tuple  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$  has  $m_i$  number of ways to select ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ), then the number of tuples could be generated is the product of these  $m_1 m_2 \dots m_k$



## 1.2. The product rule

Generalized product rule: If we have a procedure consisting of sequential tasks  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_k$  that can be done in  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_k$  ways, respectively, then there are  $m_1 * m_2 * \dots * m_k$  ways to carry out the procedure.

→ The product rule can also be phrased in terms of *set theory*: Let  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  be finite sets. Then the number of ways to choose one element from each set in the order of  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  is

$$|A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_k| = |A_1| * |A_2| * \dots * |A_k|.$$



## Contents

1. Basic counting principles
- 2. Elementary combinatorial configuration**
3. The inclusion-exclusion principle
4. Recurrence relation
5. Generating function



## 2. Elementary combinatorial configuration

### 2.1. Permutation

### 2.2. Combination



### 2.1.1. Permutation

A **permutation** of a set  $A$  of objects is an **ordered** arrangement of the elements of  $A$  where each element appears only once

Example: If  $A = \{a, b, c\}$ , then the permutations of  $A$  are

1.  $abc$
2.  $acb$
3.  $bac$
4.  $bca$
5.  $cab$
6.  $cba$

The number of permutations of any set with  $n$  elements is

$$P(n) = n! = n(n-1) \cdot \dots \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

(Note that by definition  $0! = 1$ )



## 2. Elementary combinatorial configuration

### 2.1. Permutation

#### 2.1.1. Permutation

#### 2.1.2. Circulation permutation

#### 2.1.3. Permutation of multisets

### 2.2. Combination



## 2. Elementary combinatorial configuration

### 2.1. Permutation

#### 2.1.1. Permutation

#### 2.1.2. Circulation permutation

#### 2.1.3. Permutation of multisets

### 2.2. Combination



## 2.1.2. Circulation permutation

**Circulation permutation**  $n!/n=(n-1)!$

Example 3: 6 people A, B, C, D, E, F are seated around a round table, how many different circular arrangements are possible, if arrangements are considered the same when one can be obtained from the other by rotations?

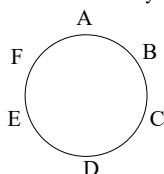
ABCDEF,  
BCDEFA,  
CDEFAB,  
DEFABC,  
EFABCD,  
FABCDE

are the same arrangements circularly

→ There are  $6!$  ways to seat 6 people around the table

For each seating, there are 6 “rotations” of the seating

Thus, the final answer is  $6!/6 = 5! = 120$



## 2.1.4. Permutations of multisets

A *multiset*  $M$  is a collection whose members need not be distinct.

Example: The collection

$$M = (a, a, a, b, b, c, d, d, d, 1, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3)$$

is a multiset; and sometimes it is convenient to write

$$M = (3a, 2b, c, 3d, 1, 3 \bullet 2, 4 \bullet 3).$$

A multiset  $M$  over a set  $S$  can be viewed as a function  $v : S \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  from  $S$  to the set  $\mathbb{N}$  of nonnegative integers; each element  $x \in S$  is repeated  $v(x)$  times in  $M$ ; we write  $M = (S; v)$ .



## 2. Elementary combinatorial configuration

### 2.1. Permutation

2.1.1. Permutation

2.1.2. Circulation permutation

**2.1.3. Permutation of multisets**

### 2.2. Combination



## 2.1.4. Permutation of multisets

Let  $M$  be a multiset and  $|M| = n$ .

**Proposition 1.** Let  $M$  be a multiset of  $r$  different types where each type has infinitely elements. Then the number of  $k$ -permutations of  $M$  equals  $r^k$

**Example 1.** What is the number of binary numerals with at most 4 digits?

**Solution:** The question is to find the number of 4-permutations of the multiset  $(\infty 0, \infty 1)$ . Thus the answer is  $2^4 = 16$ .



## 2.1.4. Permutation of multisets

**Proposition 2.** Let  $M$  be a multiset of  $r$  different types with repetition numbers  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r$  respectively. Let  $n = n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_r$ . Then the number of permutations of  $M$  equals

$$\frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_r!}$$

*Proof.*

$n_r$



## 2.2. Combination

### 2.1.1. Definitions

2.2.2. Binomial coefficients

2.2.3. Combinations of Multisets

2.2.4. Multinomial coefficients



## 2. Elementary combinatorial configuration

### 2.1. Permutation

### 2.2. Combination



### 2.2.1. Definitions

A  $k$ -combination of a set of  $n$  elements is a subset of size  $k$  of  $n$  elements.

(Note: A permutation is a sequence while a combination is a set)

Example:

The 2-permutation (sequence) of SOHN is:

SO, SH, SN, OH, ON, OS, HN, HS, HO, NS, NO, NH

The 2-combination (set) of SOHN is:

$\{S,O\}, \{S,H\}, \{S,N\}, \{O,H\}, \{O,N\}, \{H,N\}$



### 2.2.1. Definitions

The number of all  $k$ -combinations of a set of  $n$  elements denoted

$$\binom{n}{k}, C_n^k \text{ or } C(n, k)$$

and read “ $n$  choose  $k$ ”.

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \quad \text{Proof ???}$$

This number is also called a **binomial coefficient** because such numbers occur as coefficients in the expansions of powers of binomial expressions such as  $(a+b)^n$



### Binomial Coefficients

$$(a+b)^4 = (a+b)(a+b)(a+b)(a+b)$$

$$= \binom{4}{0}a^4 + \binom{4}{1}a^3b + \binom{4}{2}a^2b^2 + \binom{4}{3}ab^3 + \binom{4}{4}b^4$$

**Binomial Theorem:** Let  $x$  and  $y$  be variables, and let  $n$  be any nonnegative integer. Then

$$(x+y)^n = \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} x^{n-j} y^j$$



## 2.2. Combination

### 2.1.1. Definitions

### 2.2.2. Binomial coefficients

### 2.2.3. Combinations of Multisets

### 2.2.4. Multinomial coefficients



## 2.2. Combination

### 2.1.1. Definitions

### 2.2.2. Binomial coefficients

### 2.2.3. Combinations of Multisets

### 2.2.4. Multinomial coefficients



## 2.2.3. Combinations of multisets

Let  $M$  be a multiset  $\{\infty a_1, \infty a_2, \dots, \infty a_n\}$  ( $M$  has  $n$  distinct objects):

A  $k$ -combination of  $M$  is an unordered collection of  $k$  objects selected from  $n$  types of objects of  $M$ .

A  $k$ -combination of  $M$  is also called an  $k$ -combination with repetition allowed.

The number of  $k$ -combination of  $M$  is  $C(n+k-1, k) = C(n+k-1, n-1)$

(the number of selections, *with repetitions*, of  $k$  objects from  $n$  distinct objects)



Need to divide  $k$  candies for  $n$  kids  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$ . How many different ways to divide?

Let  $t_j$  be the number of candies for kid  $B_j, j=1, \dots, n$ . At this point, the above problem leads to the problem:

Let  $k$  and  $n$  be non-negative integers. How many non-negative integers in the following equation have?

$$t_1 + t_2 + t_3 + \dots + t_n = k$$

$$t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$



## 2.2.4. Multinomial coefficients

The number of ordered arrangements of  $n$  objects, in which there are  $k_1$  objects of type 1,  $k_2$  objects of type 2, ..., and  $k_m$  objects of type  $m$  and where  $k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m = n$ , is

$$\binom{n}{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m} = \frac{n!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_m!}$$



## 2.2. Combination

### 2.1.1. Definitions

### 2.2.2. Binomial coefficients

### 2.2.3. Combinations of Multisets

### 2.2.4. Multinomial coefficients



## 2.2.4. Multinomial coefficients

*The Multinomial Theorem:*

$$(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_m)^n = \sum \binom{n}{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \dots x_m^{k_m}$$

where the summation is over all sequences of non-negative integers  $(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m)$  such that  $k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m = n$ .





## Contents

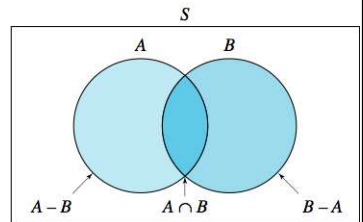
1. Basic counting principles
2. Elementary combinatorial configuration
- 3. The inclusion-exclusion principle**
4. Recurrence relation
5. Generating function

### 3.1. Inclusion-exclusion principle

The inclusion-exclusion principle is an equation relating the sizes of two sets and their union. It states that if  $A$  and  $B$  are two (finite) sets, then

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

The meaning of the statement is that the number of elements in the union of the two sets is the sum of the elements in each set, respectively, minus the number of elements that are in both.



Similarly, for three sets  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$ :

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

### 3. Inclusion-exclusion principle

#### 3.1. Inclusion-exclusion principle

#### 3.2. Derangement

### 3.1. Inclusion-exclusion principle

More generally, for finite sets  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$

$$|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_m| = N_1 - N_2 + \dots + (-1)^{m+1} N_m$$

where:

$$N_k = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k \leq m} |A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2} \cap \dots \cap A_{i_k}|, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

Note:  $N_k$  is the sum of the cardinalities of all intersections of  $k$  from  $m$  given sets. For example:

$$N_1 = |A_1| + \dots + |A_m|$$

$$N_m = |A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_m|$$

### 3. Inclusion-exclusion principle

#### 3.1. Inclusion-exclusion principle

#### 3.2. Derangement



### 3.2. Derangement

Denote  $D_n$  the number of derangements of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow D_n = ??$

Let  $S$  = set of all permutations of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow |S| = n!$

Let  $A_i$  = subset of permutations of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that the  $i$ th element =  $i$  in the permutation.

$$|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n| ???$$

$\rightarrow |A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n|$  counts the number of permutations in which at least one object  $i$  of the  $n$  objects appears in the  $i$ th position (**its original position**).

$\rightarrow D_n$ : number of permutations such that none of the  $n$  objects appears in their original positions. Therefore:

$$D_n = n! - |A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n|$$

Remember the inclusion-exclusion principle:

$$|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n| = \sum_{i=1}^n |A_i| - \sum_{i < j} |A_i \cap A_j| + \sum_{i < j < k} |A_i \cap A_j \cap A_k| - \sum_{i < j < k < l} |A_i \cap A_j \cap A_k \cap A_l| + \dots + (-1)^{n+1} |A_1 \cap A_2 \cap \dots \cap A_n|$$



### 3.2. Derangement

A **derangement** of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  is a permutation on the set such that none of elements  $i$  is placed at position  $i$ th in the permutation.

(In other words, derangement is a permutation that has no fixed points)

Example:  $n = 5$

Permutation (2,3,5,**4**,1) is not a derangement

Permutation (2,3,5,1,**4**) is a derangement

Denote  $D_n$  the number of derangements of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow D_n = ??$



## Contents

1. Basic counting principles
2. Elementary combinatorial configuration
3. The inclusion-exclusion principle
- 4. Recurrence relation**
5. Generating function



## 4. Recurrence relations

### 4.1. Recurrence relations

#### 4.2. Solve recurrence relations



## 4.1. Recurrence relations

A recurrence **without specifying any initial values (initial conditions)**.

→ can have (and usually has) **multiple solutions**.

Example:  $a_n = 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}$  for  $n = 2, 3, 4$ . It has the following sequences  $a_n$  as solution:

$$a_n = 5$$

$$a_n = 3n$$

$$a_n = n + 1$$

If **both** the initial conditions and the recurrence relation are specified, then the sequence is **uniquely** determined.

Example:  $a_n = 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}$  for  $n = 2, 3, 4$

where  $a_0 = 0; a_1 = 3$

→ The sequence  $a_n = 5$  is not the solution

→ The sequence  $a_n = 3n$  is the unique solution



## 4.1. Recurrence relations

### Definition:

A recurrence relation for the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is the equation that expresses  $a_n$  in terms of one or more of the previous terms in the sequence namely,  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}$ , for all integers  $n$  with  $n \geq n_0$ , where  $n_0$  is a nonnegative integer.

A sequence is called a **solution** to a recurrence relation if its terms satisfy the recurrence relation.

**Example:** Consider the recurrence relation

$$a_n = 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} \text{ for } n = 2, 3, 4, \dots$$

The sequence  $a_n = 3n$  is a solution of this recurrence relation?

For  $n \geq 2$  we see that:  $2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} = 2(3(n-1)) - 3(n-2) = 3n = a_n$

Therefore, the sequence  $a_n = 3n$  is a solution of the recurrence relation

The sequence  $a_n = 5$  is also a solution of the this recurrence relation?

For  $n \geq 2$  we see that:  $2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} = 2 \cdot 5 - 5 = 5 = a_n$

Therefore, the sequence  $a_n = 5$  is also a solution of the recurrence relation



## Modeling with Recurrence Relations

**Example 1:** Someone deposits \$10,000 in a savings account at a bank yielding 5% per year with interest compounded annually. How much money will be in the account after 30 years?

### Solution:

• Let  $P_n$  denote the amount in the account after  $n$  years.

How can we determine  $P_n$  on the basis of  $P_{n-1}$ ?

• We can derive the following **recurrence relation**:

$$P_n = P_{n-1} + 0.05P_{n-1} = 1.05P_{n-1}.$$

• The initial condition is  $P_0 = 10,000$ .

$$P_{30} = (1.05)^{30} \cdot 10,000 = 43,219.42$$

Then we have:

$$P_1 = 1.05P_0$$

$$P_2 = 1.05P_1 = (1.05)^2P_0$$

$$P_3 = 1.05P_2 = (1.05)^3P_0$$

• ...

$$P_n = 1.05P_{n-1} = (1.05)^nP_0$$

→ We now have a **formula** to calculate  $P_n$  for any natural number  $n$  and can avoid the iteration.



## 4. Recurrence relations

### 4.1. Recurrence relations

### 4.2. Solving recurrence relations



## 4.2. Solving Recurrence Relations

**Definition:** A linear homogeneous recurrence relation of degree  $k$  with constant coefficients is a recurrence relation of the form:

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k}$$

where  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$  are real number constants, and  $c_k \neq 0$ .

• A sequence satisfying such a recurrence relation is uniquely determined by the recurrence relation if it also satisfying  $k$  initial conditions:

$$a_0 = C_0, a_1 = C_1, a_2 = C_2, \dots, a_{k-1} = C_{k-1}$$

where  $C_0, C_1, \dots, C_{k-1}$  are constants.



## 4.2. Solving Recurrence Relations

Solving the recurrence relation for a sequence  $a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n, \dots$  is to give the **explicit formula** to compute the value for the general term  $a_n$ , i.e., to find an expression for  $a_n$  that does not involve any other  $a_i$

Example: Given the recurrence relation:

$$a_n = 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} \text{ where } n = 2, 3, 4, \dots$$

$$a_0 = 0; a_1 = 3$$

→ The explicit formula for the above recurrence relation is  $a_n = 3n$

→  $a_n = 3n$  is the solution to the above recurrence relation

- Does not exist the method to solve all types of recurrence relation.
- Consider method to solve the recurrence relation with following types:
  - A linear homogeneous recurrence relation of degree  $k$  with constant coefficients
  - A linear nonhomogeneous recurrence relation of degree  $k$  with constant coefficients



## 4.2. Solving Recurrence Relations

**Definition:** A linear homogeneous recurrence relation of degree  $k$  with constant coefficients is a recurrence relation of the form:

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k}$$

where  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$  are real number constants, and  $c_k \neq 0$ .

Explain:

- Linear: the right-hand side is the sum of the terms before the term  $a_n$  in the sequence where the coefficients ( $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$ ) are constant (not a function dependent on  $n$ )
- Homogeneous: the right-hand side has no additional terms other than the terms  $a_i$  of the sequence
- Degree  $k$ : the right hand side has the  $(n-k)$ th term of the sequence



### A linear homogeneous recurrence relation of degree $k$ with constant coefficients

- We try to find solution of the form  $a_n = r^n$ , where  $r$  is a constant.
- The sequence  $\{a_n = r^n\}$  is a solution of the recurrence relation

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k}$$

if and only if  $r$  satisfying:

$$r^n = c_1 r^{n-1} + \dots + c_k r^{n-k}, \text{ or (subtract the right-hand side from the left and } \times \text{ by } r^{k-n})$$

$$r^k - c_1 r^{k-1} - \dots - c_k = 0$$

this is called the **characteristic equation** of the recurrence relation, and its solution is called **characteristic roots** of the recurrence relation.

- We will use characteristic roots to obtain **explicit formula** for the sequence.



### Example 1

Fibonacci sequence is given by the following recurrence relation:

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}, n \geq 2,$$

$$F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1.$$

Find the explicit formula for  $F_n$ .

**Solution:** Solve the characteristic equation:

$$r^2 - r - 1 = 0,$$

its characteristic roots are:

$$r_1 = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}; \quad r_2 = \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$$



Leonardo Fibonacci  
1170-1250



### A linear homogeneous recurrence relation of degree $k$ with constant coefficients

- Theorem 1.** Let  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  be real numbers.

Suppose that  $r^2 - c_1 r - c_2 = 0$  has 2 distinct roots  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ . Then the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is a solution of the recurrence relation

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}$$

if and only if

$$a_n = \alpha_1 (r_1)^n + \alpha_2 (r_2)^n \quad (1)$$

$n = 0, 1, \dots$ , where  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  are constants.



### Example 1

- The explicit formula:

$$F_n = \alpha_1 (r_1)^n + \alpha_2 (r_2)^n$$

where  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  are constants and could be determined by using initial conditions  $F_0, F_1$ .

$$F_0 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 0$$

$$F_1 = \alpha_1 r_1 + \alpha_2 r_2 = 1$$

Solving these two equations, we have:  $\alpha_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}; \quad \alpha_2 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$

Therefore

$$F_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \left( \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n - \left( \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n \right), \quad n \geq 0.$$

Muavre formula



### The case: one characteristic root with multiplicities 2

But what happens if the characteristic equation has only one root?

**Theorem 2:** Let  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  be real numbers with  $c_2 \neq 0$ . Suppose that  $r^2 - c_1 r - c_2 = 0$  has only one root  $r_0$ . Then a sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is a solution of the recurrence relation  $a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}$

if and only if

$$a_n = \alpha_1 r_0^n + \alpha_2 n r_0^n$$

$n = 0, 1, \dots$ , where  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  are constants.



### General case

**Theorem 3.** Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$  be real numbers. Assume the characteristic equation

$$r^k - c_1 r^{k-1} - c_2 r^{k-2} - \dots - c_k = 0$$

has  $k$  distinct roots  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k$ . Then a sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is a solution of the recurrence relation:

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k}$$

if and only if

$$a_n = \alpha_1 r_1^n + \alpha_2 r_2^n + \dots + \alpha_k r_k^n$$

where  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , and  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k$  are constants



### Example 2

Solving the following recurrence relation

$$a_n = 6 a_{n-1} - 9 a_{n-2}$$

with initial conditions  $a_0 = 1$  and  $a_1 = 6$ .

**Solution:**

Characteristic equation:

$r^2 - 6r + 9 = 0$  has one root  $r = 3$ . The solution is:

$$a_n = \alpha_1 3^n + \alpha_2 n 3^n$$

To determine  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$ , using the initial conditions, we have:

$$a_0 = 1 = \alpha_1,$$

$$a_1 = 6 = \alpha_1 * 3 + \alpha_2 * 1 * 3$$

Solving these equations, we have  $\alpha_1 = 1$  and  $\alpha_2 = 1$ .

Therefore, the solution of the recurrence relation is:

$$a_n = 3^n + n 3^n$$



### Example 3

Solving the recurrence relation:

$$a_n = 6 a_{n-1} - 11 a_{n-2} + 6 a_{n-3}$$

where initial conditions

$$a_0 = 2, a_1 = 5, a_2 = 15.$$

**Solution:** Characteristic equation

$$r^3 - 6r^2 + 11r - 6 = 0$$

has 3 distinct roots  $r_1 = 1, r_2 = 2, r_3 = 3$ .

Therefore, the solution is

$$a_n = \alpha_1 1^n + \alpha_2 2^n + \alpha_3 3^n \text{ for some constants } \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$$



### Example 3

Using the initial conditions, we have following equations to determine the value for constants  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ :

$$a_0 = 2 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$$

$$a_1 = 5 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \cdot 2 + \alpha_3 \cdot 3$$

$$a_2 = 15 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \cdot 4 + \alpha_3 \cdot 9.$$

Solving above equations, we have

$$\alpha_1 = 1, \alpha_2 = -1 \text{ and } \alpha_3 = 2.$$

Therefore, the solution of the recurrence relation is

$$a_n = 1 - 2^n + 2 \cdot 3^n$$



### Example 4

Solve the following recurrence relation:

$$c_n = -4c_{n-1} + 3c_{n-2} + 18c_{n-3}, \quad n \geq 3,$$

$$c_0 = 1; c_1 = 2; c_2 = 13.$$

Solution: Characteristic equation

$$r^3 + 4r^2 - 3r - 18 = (r - 2)(r + 3)^2 = 0$$

Hence, the solution of the recurrence relation:

$$c_n = \alpha_{10} 2^n + (\alpha_{20} + \alpha_{21} n)(-3)^n$$

where  $\alpha_{10}, \alpha_{20}, \alpha_{21}$  are constants



### General case

Given linear homogeneous recurrence relation of degree  $k$  with constant coefficients

Its characteristic equation is:

$$r^k - \sum_{i=1}^k c_i r^{k-i} = 0$$

**Theorem 4:** If the characteristic equation has  $t$  distinct roots  $r_1, \dots, r_t$  with multiplicities  $m_1, \dots, m_t$  ( $m_1 + \dots + m_t = k$ ). Then:

$$a_n = (\alpha_{1,0} + \alpha_{1,1}n + \dots + \alpha_{1,m_1-1}n^{m_1-1})r_1^n + (\alpha_{2,0} + \alpha_{2,1}n + \dots + \alpha_{2,m_2-1}n^{m_2-1})r_2^n + \dots + (\alpha_{t,0} + \alpha_{t,1}n + \dots + \alpha_{t,m_t-1}n^{m_t-1})r_t^n$$

$$a_n = \sum_{i=1}^t \left( \sum_{j=0}^{m_i-1} \alpha_{i,j} n^j \right) r_i^n$$

where  $n \geq 0$ , and  $\alpha_{ij}$  are constants.



### Example 4

These constants are determined by using initial conditions:

$$0 = c_0 = \alpha_{10} 2^0 + (\alpha_{20} + \alpha_{21} \cdot 0)(-3)^0 = \alpha_{10} + \alpha_{20}$$

$$2 = c_1 = \alpha_{10} 2^1 + (\alpha_{20} + \alpha_{21} \cdot 1)(-3)^1 = 2\alpha_{10} - 3\alpha_{20} - 3\alpha_{21}$$

$$13 = c_2 = \alpha_{10} 2^2 + (\alpha_{20} + \alpha_{21} \cdot 2)(-3)^2 = 4\alpha_{10} + 9\alpha_{20} + 18\alpha_{21}$$

Solving three equations above, we have:  $\alpha_{10} = 1$ ;  $\alpha_{20} = -1$ ;  $\alpha_{21} = 1$

The solution of recurrence relation is:

$$c_n = 2^n + (-1 + n)(-3)^n$$



## Linear nonhomogeneous recurrence relation with constant coefficients

- Linear *nonhomogeneous* recurrence relation with constant coefficients) has the term  $F(n)$  dependent on  $n$  (and independent on any value of  $a_i$ ):

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k} + F(n)$$

Linear homogeneous recurrence relation

Nonhomogeneous term



VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN VÀ TRUYỀN THÔNG

## 2.5.2. Generating functions

Generating functions are a tool to solve a wide variety of counting problems and recurrence relations.

**Example 1:**

How many ways to give 12 oranges for three children: A, B and C such that: A gets at least four, and B and C gets at least two, but C gets no more than five

$a, b, c$  are the number of oranges that A, B and C gets, respectively

Find the number of integer solutions to

$$a + b + c = 12 \text{ where } a \geq 4, b \geq 2, 2 \leq c \leq 5$$



VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN VÀ TRUYỀN THÔNG

63

## 2.5. Recurrence relations and generating functions

### 2.5.1. Recurrence relations

### 2.5.2. Generating functions



VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN VÀ TRUYỀN THÔNG

62

## 2.5.2. Generating functions

**Example 1:**

Find the number of integer solutions to

$$a + b + c = 12 \text{ where } a \geq 4, b \geq 2, 2 \leq c \leq 5$$

Let

$$a: a(x) = x^4 + x^5 + x^6 + x^7 + x^8 \quad (\text{since } b + c \geq 4 \Rightarrow a \leq 8)$$

$$b: b(x) = x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + x^6 \quad (\text{since } a + c \geq 6 \Rightarrow b \leq 6)$$

$$c: c(x) = x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 \quad (\text{since } 2 \leq c \leq 5)$$

The coefficient of  $x^{12}$  in  $g(x) = a(x) \times b(x) \times c(x)$

$$= (x^4 + x^5 + x^6 + x^7 + x^8) (x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + x^6) (x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5)$$

is the solution to the problem

$g(x)$  is called a *generating function*.

Assume  $x^a, x^b, x^c$  are terms derived from  $(x^4 + x^5 + x^6 + x^7 + x^8)$ ,  $(x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + x^6)$ ,  $(x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5)$  respectively when developing the right-hand side  $\Rightarrow 4 \leq a \leq 8, 2 \leq b \leq 6, 2 \leq c \leq 5$

When developing the right-hand side, these three terms give us the term  $x^n$  where  $n = a + b + c$ :

$$g(x) = (x^4 + x^5 + x^6 + x^7 + x^8) (x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + x^6) (x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5)$$

$$= \dots + Kx^n + \dots$$

$\Rightarrow$  The coefficient of  $x^n$  in  $f(x)$  is the number of positive integer solutions to

$$a + b + c = n \text{ where } 4 \leq a \leq 8, 2 \leq b \leq 6, 2 \leq c \leq 5$$



VIỆN CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN VÀ TRUYỀN THÔNG

64



## 2.5.2. Generating functions

Example 1:

Find the number of integer solutions to

$$a + b + c = 12 \text{ where } a \geq 4, b \geq 2, 2 \leq c \leq 5$$

Let

$$a: a(x) = x^4 + x^5 + x^6 + x^7 + x^8 \quad (\text{since } b + c \geq 4 \rightarrow a \leq 8)$$

$$b: b(x) = x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + x^6 \quad (\text{since } a + c \geq 6 \rightarrow b \leq 6)$$

$$c: c(x) = x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 \quad (\text{since } 2 \leq c \leq 5)$$

The coefficient of  $x^{12}$  in  $g(x) = a(x) \times b(x) \times c(x)$

$$= (x^4 + x^5 + x^6 + x^7 + x^8) (x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + x^6) (x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5)$$

which is 14, is the solution

$g(x)$  is called a *generating function*.

1.  $x^4 * x^3 * x^5$
2.  $x^4 * x^4 * x^4$
3.  $x^4 * x^5 * x^3$
4.  $x^4 * x^6 * x^2$
5.  $x^5 * x^2 * x^5$
6.  $x^5 * x^3 * x^4$
7.  $x^5 * x^4 * x^3$
8.  $x^5 * x^5 * x^2$
9.  $x^6 * x^2 * x^4$
10.  $x^6 * x^3 * x^3$
11.  $x^6 * x^4 * x^2$
12.  $x^7 * x^2 * x^3$
13.  $x^7 * x^3 * x^2$
14.  $x^8 * x^2 * x^2$



## 2.5.2. Generating functions

Example 2: For the binomial coefficients we already know that:

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n C(n, k) x^k y^{n-k} \Rightarrow (x + 1)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n C(n, k) x^k = g(x)$$

$(x + 1)^n$  is the generating function for the sequence

$$C(n, 0), C(n, 1), \dots, C(n, k), \dots, C(n, n), 0, 0, 0, \dots$$



## 2.5.2. Generating functions

**Definition:** Let  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  be a sequence of real numbers. The function

$$g(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_kx^k + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i x^i$$

is called the *generating function* for the given sequence.

A finite sequence

$$a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$$

can be regarded as the infinite sequence

$$a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, 0, 0, \dots \text{ [set all terms higher than } n \text{ to } 0]$$

and its generating function

$$g(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n$$

is a polynomial.



## 2.5.2. Generating functions

**Definition:** Let  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  be a sequence of real numbers. The function

$$g(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_kx^k + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i x^i$$

is called the *generating function* for the given sequence.

**Some useful generating function:**

$$\text{Ex1: } (1 - x^{n+1}) = (1 - x)(1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots + x^n).$$

$$\text{So } (1 - x^{n+1})/(1 - x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots + x^n,$$

$\rightarrow (1 - x^{n+1})/(1 - x)$  is the generating function for the sequence:

$$1, 1, 1, \dots, 1, 0, 0, 0, \dots \text{ (where the first } n+1 \text{ terms are } 1)$$

$$\text{Ex2: From Ex1, If } n \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } |x| < 1, \text{ then } 1 = (1 - x)(1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots).$$

$$\text{So, } 1/(1 - x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots$$

$\rightarrow 1/(1 - x)$  where  $|x| < 1$  is the generating function for the sequence:

$$1, 1, 1, \dots, 1, \dots$$



## 2.5.2. Generating functions

Generating functions are a tool to solve a wide variety of counting problems and **recurrence relations**.

**Definition:** Let  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  be a sequence of real numbers. The function

$$g(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_kx^k + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i x^i$$

is called the **generating function** for the given sequence.



## 2.5.2. Generating functions

**Example:** Solve the recurrence relation  $a_n - 3a_{n-1} = n, n \geq 1, a_0 = 1$

$$g(x) - 1 - 3xg(x) = \frac{x}{(1-x)^2}$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{1-3x} + \frac{x}{(1-3x)(1-x)^2}$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{1-3x} + \frac{A}{(1-3x)} + \frac{B}{(1-x)} + \frac{C}{(1-x)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{3}{4}; B = -\frac{1}{4}; C = -\frac{1}{2};$$

$$g(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_kx^k + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i x^i$$

$$g(x) = \frac{7/4}{(1-3x)} + \frac{-1/4}{(1-x)} + \frac{-1/2}{(1-x)^2}$$

We find  $a_n$  by determining the coefficient of  $x^n$  in  $g(x)$

→ determining the coefficient of  $x^n$  in each of the three summands

