

IDMA 2025: WEEK 4

COMBINATORICS, COUNTING & PROBABILITY

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Combinatorics

Counting: number of objects, outcomes,
possibilities

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How many ways to choose r objects from

$$S = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}?$$

REPETITIONS ALLOWED

NO REPETITIONS

ORDER
MATTERS

SEQUENCE

PERMUTATION

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DOESN'T
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MULTISET

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$$\binom{n-1+r}{r} = \binom{n-1+r}{n-1}$$

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Combinatorial proof for Multisets

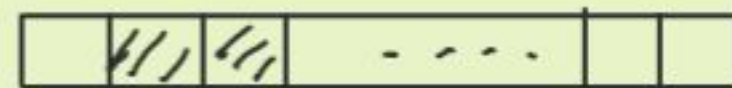
Size r multisets

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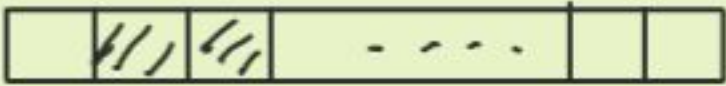


Row of $n-1+r$ boxes
with r coloured boxes
& $n-1$ uncoloured boxes

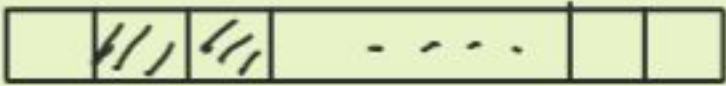
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Size r multisets from $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$ \longleftrightarrow Row of $n-1+r$ boxes with r coloured boxes & $n-1$ uncoloured boxes

1-1 correspondence



Combinatorial proof for Multisets

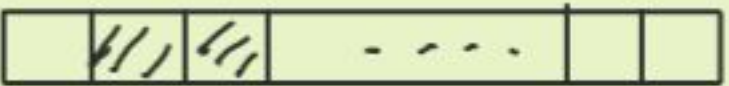
Size r multisets \longleftrightarrow 

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correspo- with r coloured boxes
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$$\left[\binom{n-1+r}{r} \text{ many} \right]$$

Combinatorial proof for Multisets

Size 6 multisets from $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_7\}$ \longleftrightarrow Row of 12 boxes
1-1 correspondence with 6 coloured boxes & 6 uncoloured boxes



Combinatorial proof for Multisets

Size 6 multisets \longleftrightarrow Row of 12 boxes
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Correspondence

$$\{s_2, s_2, s_3, s_5, s_5, s_7\} = A$$

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→ $\boxed{//}$ = A has another copy of current element

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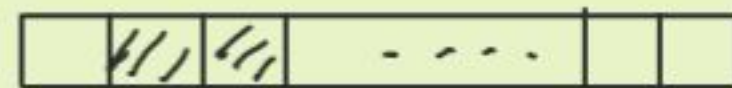
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→ Can recover A from coloured boxes.

Combinatorial proof for Multisets

Size r multisets \longleftrightarrow
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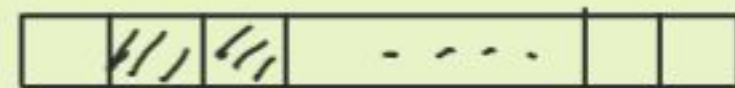


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"Combinatorial proof" of $|\mathcal{C}_1| = |\mathcal{C}_2|$

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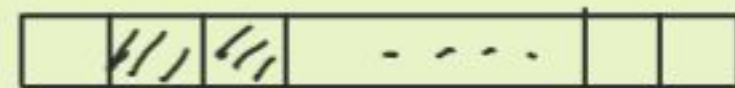
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- \rightarrow For each object in \mathcal{E}_1 , find an object in \mathcal{E}_2 .
- \rightarrow For each object in \mathcal{E}_2 , there is a unique corresponding object in \mathcal{E}_1 .

Another combinatorial identity

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$$B \cup \{s_n\}, \text{ if } |B| = k-1$$

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$$B$$

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Random Experiment : Set of Outcomes,
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Eg A Fair die



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Unfair die

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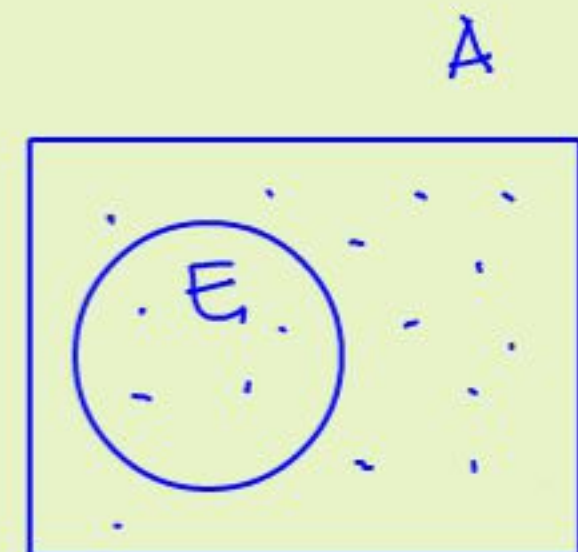
$$p(a) \geq 0, \quad \sum_{a \in A} p(a) = 1.$$

(p, A) - Probability Space

Events (p, A) : probability space

Event: Subset of possible outcomes

$$E \subseteq A$$



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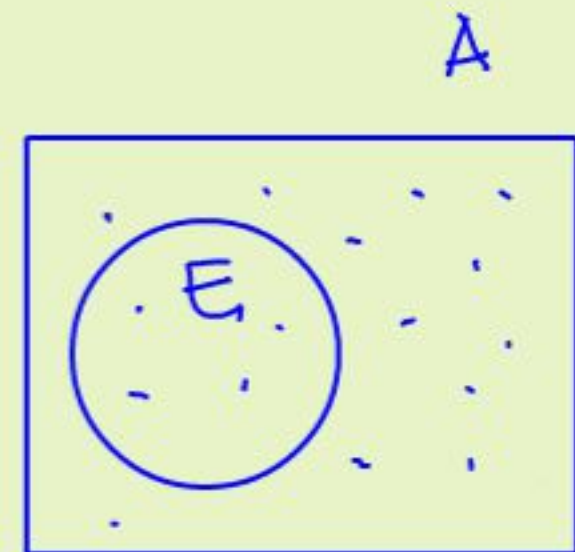
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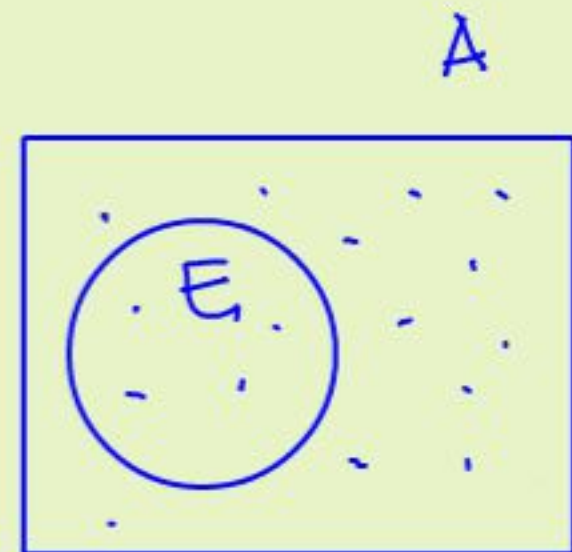
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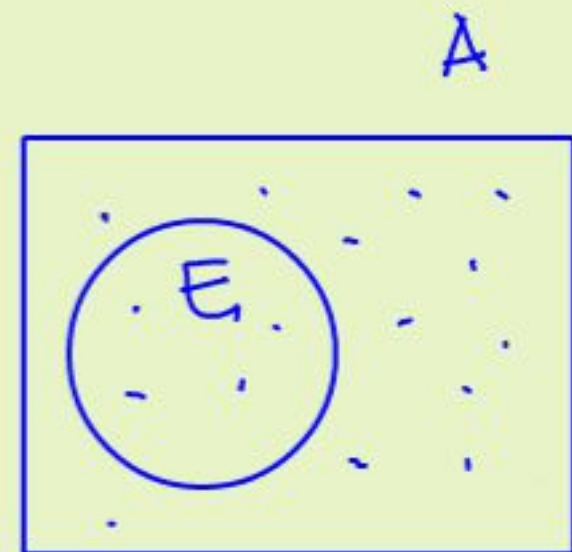
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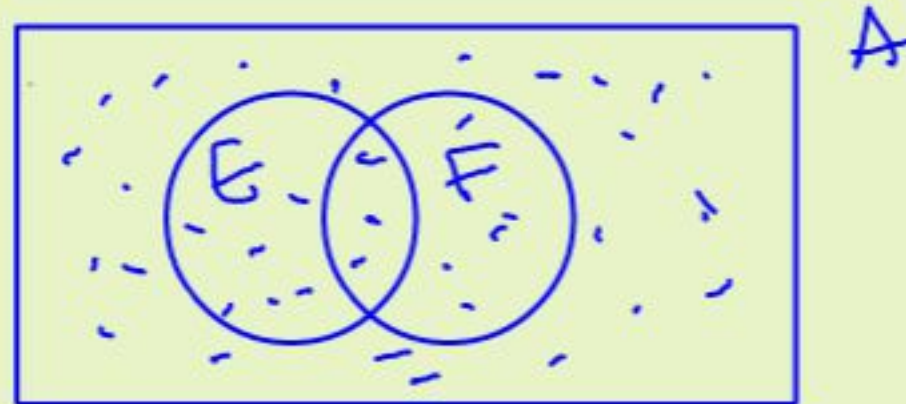
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In general, $P_r[E] = \sum_{a \in A} P_r[a]$

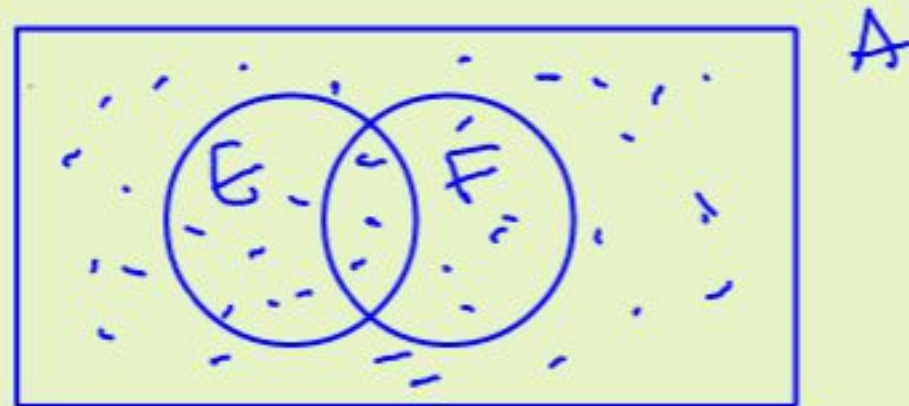


Unions, Intersections, Complements



E, F - events

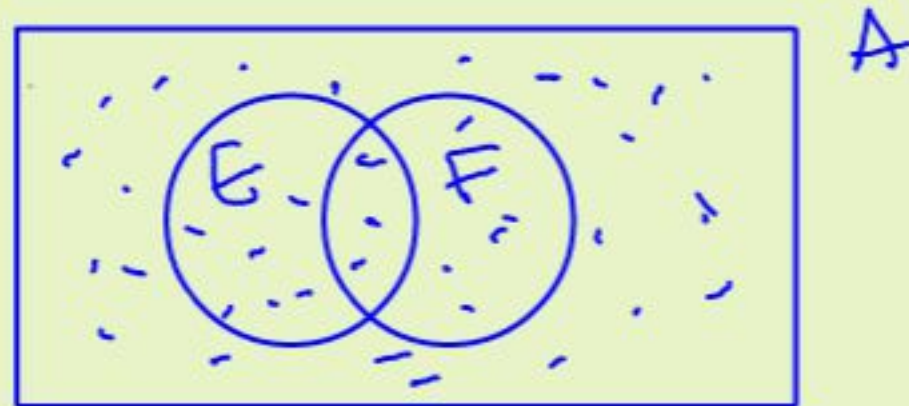
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Other events: $E \cup F$, $E \cap F$, \overline{E} or E^c

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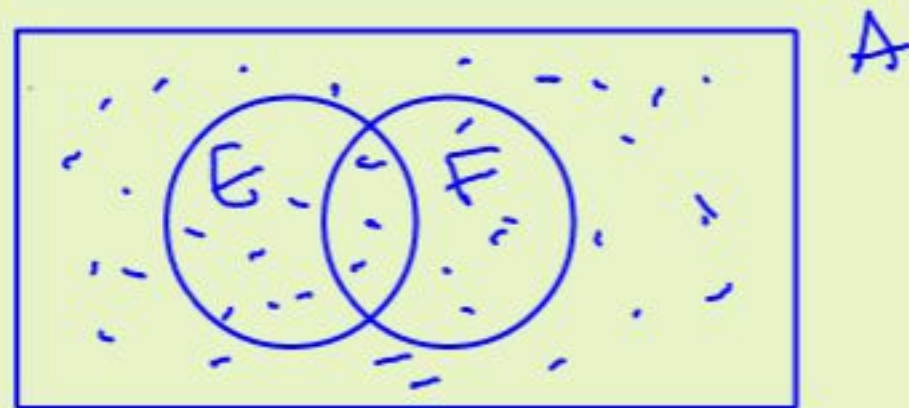


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$$Pr[\bar{E}] = \sum_{a \notin E} p(a) = 1 - \sum_{a \in E} p(a) = 1 - Pr[E]$$

Unions, Intersections, Complements



E, F - events

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$$Pr[\overline{E}] = \sum_{a \notin E} p(a) = 1 - \sum_{a \in E} p(a) = 1 - Pr[E]$$

$$Pr[E \cup F] = \sum_{a \in E \cup F} p(a) = Pr[E] + Pr[F] - Pr[E \cap F]$$

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We can compute the probability of E by counting to compute the size of E .

Poker hands

Standard deck of 52 cards

4 suits: Spades Clubs Hearts Diamonds
   

13 cards per suit: A, 2-10, J, Q, K (ranks)

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$$A = \{ \text{Set of 5 cards} \}, \quad |A| = \binom{52}{5} = \frac{52!}{5! 47!} \\ \downarrow \\ \text{Poker Hands} \quad = 2,598,960$$

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$$p(a) = \frac{1}{\binom{52}{5}}$$

↓
Poker Hands

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Choose ranks appearing twice Choose rank appearing once Suits of first rank Suits of second rank Suit of last rank

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$$Pr[\text{Two Pairs}] = \frac{|\text{Two Pairs}|}{|A|} = \frac{123.552}{\binom{52}{5}}$$

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