

## Circular Arrangements

circular arrangements are permutations in which objects are arranged in a circle.

To calculate the number of ways in which  $n$  objects can be arranged in a circle, we arbitrarily fix the position of one object, so the remaining  $(n-1)$  objects can be arranged as if they were on a straight line in  $(n-1)!$  ways.

i.e. the number of arrangements in a circle } =  $(n-1)!$

Problems :-

① Find the number of ways can 6 people be seated at a round table?

The number of ways will be  $(6-1)!$

$$= 120$$

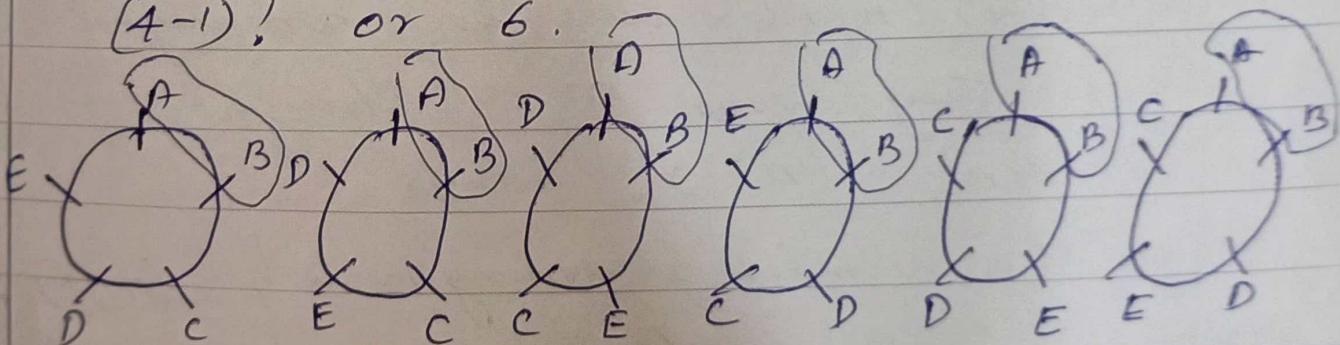
2. Find the number of ways in which 5 people A, B, C, D & E can be seated at a round table, such that

- (i) A & B always sit together.
- (ii) C & D never sit together.

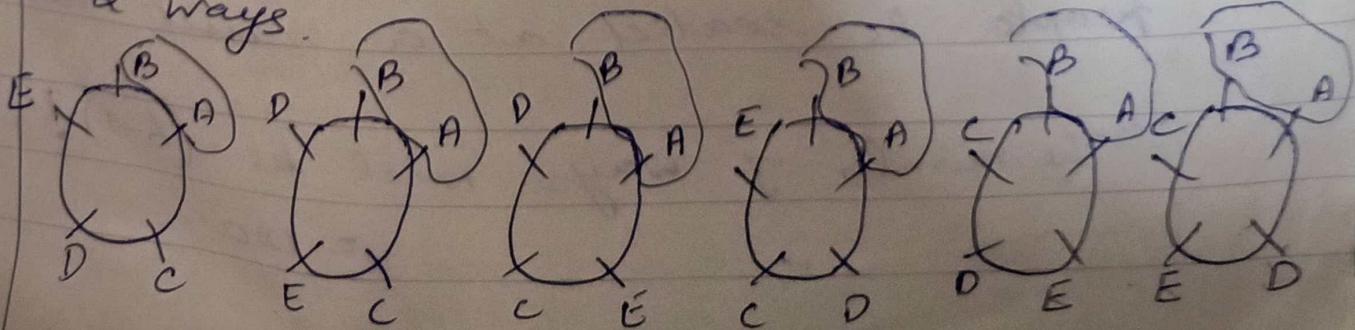
Soln If we wish to seat A & B together in all arrangements, we can consider these two as one unit, along with 3 others.

So, effectively we've to arrange 4 people in a circle, the number of ways being

$(4-1)!$  or 6.



But in each of these arrangements, A & B can themselves interchange places in 2 ways.



$\therefore$  The total number of ways will be  
 $6 \times 2$  or 12.

(ii)

The number of ways in which 5 people arranged in a table is  $(5-1)!$

$$= 4! = 24$$

The number of cases in which C + D are seated together is  $= 3! \times 2!$   
 $= 12$  ways.

$\therefore$  The required number of ways in which C + D never sit together is

$$= 24 - 12 = 12 \text{ ways.}$$

Q. In how many ways can 3 men & 3 women be seated around table such that no two men sit together?

 Since we don't want the men to be seated together, the only way to do this is to make the men & women sit alternately. We will first seat the 3 women on all female seats.

After fixing the position of the women  
 the arrangement on the remaining seats  
 is equivalent to a linear arrangement  
 so the total number of ways in this  
 case will be  $2! \times 3!$   
 or 12 ways.

- 4) In how many ways can 5 people  
 be seated around a circular table  
 if 2 people insist on sitting  
 beside each other?

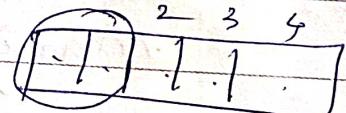
So

$$n = 4$$

$$P = (n-1)!$$

$$= 3! \times 2!$$

$$= 6 \times 2 = 12 \text{ ways.}$$



- (ii) if 2 people refuse to sit beside  
 each other.

To solve this you have to subtract  
 the number of people who insist  
 on sitting beside each other from

the number of permutations for  
no restrictions.

$$\boxed{1|2|3|45} - \boxed{\cancel{1}|3|4|5} = \boxed{\cancel{1}\cancel{2}|3}$$
$$4! - (4-1)! \cdot 2! = 24 - 12 = 12 \text{ ways.}$$

⑤ In how many ways can 7 people be arranged about a dinner table

(i) If two of the people insist on sitting next to each other, how many arrangements are possible?

$$\text{Diagram of a circle} = (7-1)! = 6! = 720$$

$$1!, 5!, 2!$$

$$= 240 \text{ ways.}$$

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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Note :- The number of circular permutations of  $n$  different objects taken  $r$  at a time.

$\frac{n P_r}{2^r}$  when clockwise & anticlockwise order are treated as different.

$\frac{n P_r}{2^r}$  when clockwise & anticlockwise order are treated as same.

The number of circular permutations of all  $n$  different objects taken  $n$  at a time (or taken all together).

$\frac{n P_n}{n} = (n-1)!$  when clockwise & anticlockwise order are treated as different.

i.e. The number of linear permutations of  $n$  things.

$\frac{n P_n}{2^n} = \frac{1}{2} (n-1)!$  taken all at a time in one direction is.

$= \frac{1}{2} [$  All possible circular arrangements  $]$

when the above two orders are treated as same.

## Important Note

- (i) The following situations leads identical nature of clockwise and anticlockwise arrangements.
- (ii) Formation of garland with flowers
- (iii) Formation of necklace with beads
- (iv) Persons sitting around a table with distinct neighbours.

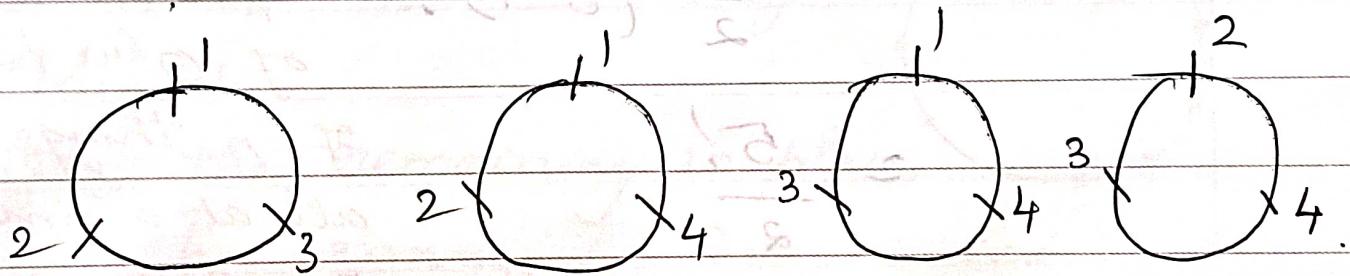
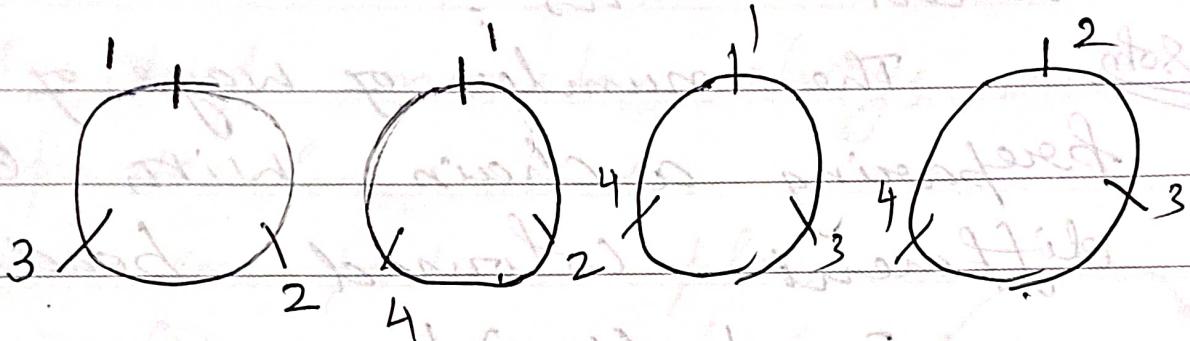
b. Write all possible circular permutations using two digits 1, 2, 3, 4 by taken three at a time

Soln By the formula, we have number of circular permutations of  $n$  different things taken  $r$  at a time

$$\frac{n P_r}{r} = \frac{4 P_3}{3} = \frac{4!}{3 \cdot 4 - 3} = \frac{24}{3 \cdot 1} = 8$$

$$= \frac{1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4}{3}$$

$$= 8$$



Thus the number of required circular permutations is 8.

Suppose when clockwise & anti-clockwise arrangements are treated as identical,

then the arrangement is

$$= \frac{n P_r}{2r} = \frac{4 P_3}{2 \times 3} = \frac{1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4}{2 \times 3}$$

$$= 4 \text{ ways.}$$

Ques.

1. Find the number of ways of preparing a chain with 6 different coloured beads?

Soln The number of ways of preparing a chain with 6 different coloured beads

$$= \frac{1}{2} (6-1)! \quad ; \text{The number of permutations of } n \text{ things taken all at a time in one direction is } \frac{1}{2} (n-1)!$$

$$= \frac{5!}{2}$$

$$= 3 \times 4 \times 5$$

$$= 60$$

8. Find the number of ways of arranging 7 persons around a table.

Soln The number of ways of arranging 7 persons around a table

$$= (7-1)!$$

$$= 6!$$

; The number of permutations of  $n$  different things taken all at a time is  $(n-1)!$

9. Find the number of ways of arranging the chief minister & 10 cabinet ministers at a ~~circle~~ table so that the chief minister always sits in a particular seat.

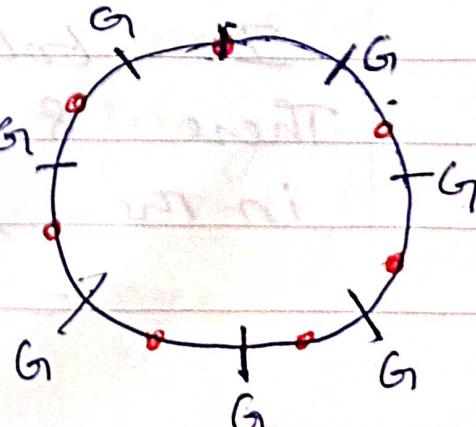
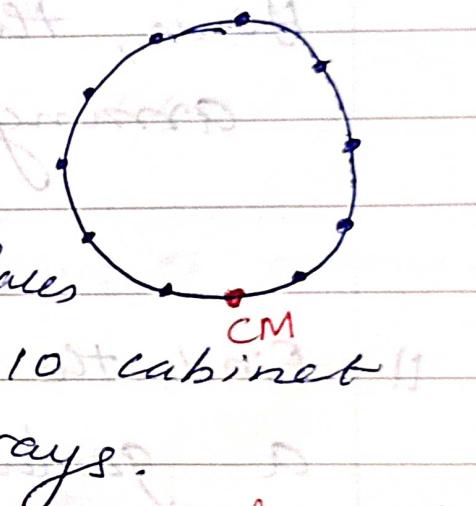
Soln. One particular place is fixed for the chief Minister.

Now, the remaining 10 places can be arranged for 10 cabinet ministers in  $10!$  ways.

$\therefore$  In a ~~circle~~ arrangement if we fix one place, then it becomes linear permutation.

10. Find the number of ways of arranging 7 gents & 4 ladies around a ~~circle~~ table if no two ladies wish to sit together.

Soln. 7 gents around G<sub>1</sub> a ~~circle~~ table can be arranged in  $(7-1)!$



$$= 6! \text{ ways}$$

In between these gents, there are 7 places.

∴ arrangements of 4 ladies in these 7 places is  $7P_4$  ways  
Hence, the required number of arrangements is

$$= 6! 7P_4$$

- ii) Find the number of ways of preparing a garland with 3 yellow, 4 pink & 2 red roses of different sizes such that the two red roses come together.

~~Solution~~ Let us treat the two red roses as one unit & the remaining 7 roses as 7 units.

In total there are 8 units. These 8 units can be arranged in the form of a garland is

$$= \frac{(8-1)!}{2} = \frac{7!}{2} \text{ ways.}$$

& the 2 red roses can be arranged among themselves in  $2!$  ways.

∴ The required number of arrangement is  $= \frac{7!}{2} \times 2!$

$$= 7! = 5040$$

Find the number of ways of arranging 6 boys & 6 girls around a circular table so that

(i) all the girls sit together.

(ii) no two girls sit together,

(iii) boys & girls sit alternately.

~~sohn~~

Let us treat 6 girls as 1 unit

& remaining 6 boys as 6 units

In total there are 7 units

These 7 units can be arranged in a circular table in  $(7-1)!$

$$= 6! \text{ ways}$$

& the 6 girls can be arranged among themselves in  $6!$  ways.

∴ The required number of arrangements  
is  $6! \times 6!$

(ii) no two girls sit together

Firstly, we arrange the 6 boys in a circle table in  $(6-1)! =$

$$= 5! \text{ ways}$$

& in between the 6 boys there are 6 places.

These 6 places can be

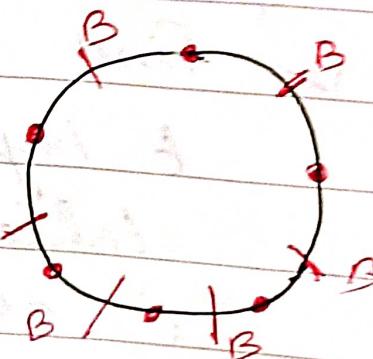
arranged by 6 girls in  $6!$  ways

∴ The required number of arrangements,

$$= 5! \times 6!$$

(iii) boys & girls sit alternately

$$= 5! \times 6!$$



13. Find the number of ways of sitting  
5 Indians, 4 Americans & 3  
Russians at a round table so  
that (i) all the Indians sit together  
(ii) no two Russians sit  
(iii) persons of no same nationality  
sit together.

~~so~~ Let us treat 5 Indians as  
1 unit & the remaining 4 Americans  
3 Russians as 7 units.  
In total there are 8 units.  
These 8 units can be arranged  
around a circle in  $(8-1)!$   
 $= 7!$  ways.

& the 5 Indians can be arranged  
among themselves in  $5!$  ways  
(i) The required number of arrangements  
 $= 7! \times 5!$

(ii) no two Russians sit together

Firstly, arrange 5 Indians &  
4 Americans in a round table  
in  $(5+4-1)! = 8!$  ways.

In between these 9 persons  
there are 9 gaps.

These 9 gaps can be filled by  
3 Russians in  ${}^9P_3$  ways.

i.e. The required number of arrangements  
 $= 8! \cdot {}^9P_3$ .

(iii) Persons of no same nationality  
sit together

Let us treat 5 Indians as  
1 unit, 4 Americans as 1 unit  
& 3 Russians as 1 unit.

In total there are 3 units.

Now, we can arrange these 3  
units in a round table in  
 $(3-1)! = 2!$  ways.

Now the 5 Indians, 4 Americans  
& 3 Russians can be arranged

among themselves in

$5! \times 4! \times 3!$  ways resp.

∴ The required number of arrangements

$$= 5! \times 4! \times 3! \times 2! = 17280$$

14. Find the number of ways of arranging 6 red roses & 3 yellow roses of different sizes in a garland. In how many of them

(i) all the yellow roses are

together.

(ii) no two yellow roses are together.

Soln The number of arrangement of

6 red roses & 3 yellow roses

in a garland is

$$\frac{(6+3-1)!}{2!} = \frac{8!}{2!}$$

$$= 20160 \text{ ways}$$

(ii) all the yellow roses are together  
 Let us treat 3 yellow roses  
 as 1 unit & 6 red roses as 6  
 units. In total there are 7 units.  
 There 7 units can be arranged  
 in the form of a garland in  
 $\frac{(7-1)!}{2} = \frac{6!}{2} = 360$  ways.

& the 3 yellow roses can be arranged  
 among themselves in  $3!$  ways

$$\therefore \text{The required number of arrangement}$$

$$= 360 \times 3!$$

$$= 2160.$$

(iii) No two yellow roses are together

Firstly, we arrange the 6 red  
 roses in the form of a garland

$$\text{in } \frac{(6-1)!}{2} = \frac{5!}{2} \text{ ways.}$$

Among these 6 red roses there  
 are 6 places.

