

Let's denote  $D(i)$  as the number of passes played in  $i$ -th passing moves between Defenders.  $M(i)$  and  $A(i)$  will denote the same for midfielders and attackers respectively. Let us assume that the move string  $S$  is DMADADMA with  $L = 8$ . Let,  $a, b, c$  denote the number of passing moves between Defenders, Midfielders and Attackers respectively. In  $S$  there are 3  $D$ s, 2  $M$ s and 3  $A$ s. So,  $a=3, b=2, c=3$ . The constraints are  $P, M, N$  and  $Q$ . Now, as per definition and consideration of passing from Defenders to Midfielders or Attackers without loss of generality, we can write for  $S$ ,

$**D(1)+1+M(1)+1+A(1)+1+D(2)+1+A(2)+1+D(3)+1+M(2)+1+A(3)=P**$  or,  $D(1)+D(2)+D(3)+M(1)+M(2)+A(1)+A(2)+A(3)=P-(L-1)$ , as there will be  $L-1$  transition passes between different positions. Now, for each  $D(i)$ ,  $D(i) \geq M$  so  $D(i)-M \geq 0$  or  $d(i) \geq 0$  when  $D(i)=d(i)-M$ . In same manner,  $m(i)=M(i)-N$ ,  $a(i)=A(i)-Q$ ,  $m(i) \geq 0$ ,  $a(i) \geq 0$ . Now,  $D(1)+D(2)+D(3)+M(1)+M(2)+A(1)+A(2)+A(3)=P-(L-1) \Rightarrow D(1)-M+D(2)-M+D(3)-M+M(1)-N+M(2)-N+A(1)-Q+A(2)-Q+A(3)-Q=P-(L-1)-3*M-2*N-3*Q \Rightarrow d(1)+d(2)+d(3)+m(1)+m(2)+a(1)+a(2)+a(3)=P-(L-1)-aM-bN-cQ$ , where all  $d(i), m(i), (i) \geq 0$ .

So, now the problem is converted to finding the number of ways  $P-(L-1)-aM-bN-cQ$  can be written as sum of  $L$  non-negative integers.

The number of ways of writing  $r$  as sum of  $n$  non-negative integers is  $(r+n-1)C(n-1)$ .

Here,  $r=P-(L-1)-aM-bN-cQ, n=L$ . So, the answer is  $(r+n-1)C(n-1) = (P-(L-1)-aM-bN-cQ+L-1)C(L-1)$  or  $(P-aM-bN-cQ)C(L-1)$