3.1 Pigeonhole Principle

Given n + 1 pigeons that we place into n pigeonholes, then there 15 at least 1 pigeonhole containing 2 or more pigeons (Theorem 3.1.1).

Example

- 1. Given 367 people, at least 2 share a birthday, suppose
 - pigeon: people
 - pigeonholes: 366 dates on the calendar
- 2. n married couples (2n people total). How many people must be selected to guarantee selection of a married couple? n+1

Why? Use pigeonhole principle.

- Pigeons: people (2n)
- Pigeonholes: each marriage as a category (n). By P.P., need n + 1 for a repeat (2 people in same marriage).
- 3. Given m integers $a_1, a_2, ..., a_n$, there exist integers k and l with $0 \le k < l \le m$ such that $a_{k+1} + a_{k+2} + ... + a_l$ is divisible by m.
 - pigeonholes: remainders upon division by m (m possibilities are 0,1,...,m-1).
 - pigeons: we will start by considering the sums

$$a_1$$
 $a_1 + a_2 + a_3$
 \vdots
 $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \ldots + a_m$

Case 1: Each of the m pigeons fits into a different pigeonhole has 1 pigeon. So "remainder 0 pigeonhole" applies to one of these sums. So, there is a sum $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \ldots + a_l$ divisible by m and we are done.

In fact, this happens any time one of these sums is divisible by m.

Case 2: No sum amongst our in m sums is divisible by m. We now have m-1 pigeonholes and m pigeons. By P.P., there exist k and l(l > k) such that $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \ldots + a_k$ and $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \ldots + a_{k+1} + \ldots + a_l$. Both have remainder r when divided by m. So, $(a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \ldots + a_l) - (a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \ldots + a_k) = a_{k+1} + a_{k+2} + \ldots + a_l$ is divisible by m.

4. Chess master has 11 weeks to prepare. The master plays at least one game a day. But no more than 12 games during any calendar week.

<u>Goal:</u> Show there is some succession of consecutive days in which exactly 21 gives are played.

Let a_i be the total number of games played from day 1 through day 2.

$$1 \le a_1 < a_2 < a_3 < \dots < a_{77} \le 132$$

 $22_1 + 21 < a_2 + 21 < \dots < a_{77} + 21 < 153$

- pigeons: integers $a_1, a_2, ..., a_{77}, a_1 + 21, a_2 + 21, ..., a_{77} + 21$
- Pigeonholes: integers 1,2,...,153

By P.P., there are two of those integers that are equal.

So, there exist i and j (where $i \neq j$) such that

$$\underbrace{a_i - a_j}_{\text{Impossible because at least}} \text{ or } a_i = a_j + 21$$

$$\underbrace{a_i - a_j}_{\text{Impossible because at least}} \text{ one game played per day}$$

So,

$$a_i = a_j + 21 \Leftrightarrow \underbrace{a_i - a_j}_{\text{# of games played from day } j + 1 \text{ through day } i} = 21$$

- 5. We choose 101 integers from 1,2,...,200. Show there are 2 such that 1 divides another.
 - pigeons: 101 integers
 - pigeonholes: Greatest odd factors of our integers.

i.e., given $1 \le n \le 200$, write $n = 2^k \cdot a$ where a is odd.

100 pigeonholes: a=1,3,5,7,9,...,199

3.2 Strong Form of Pigeonhole Principal

Theorem 3.2.1 If $q_1 q_2, \ldots, q_n$ are positive integers and $q_1 + q_2 + \ldots + q_n - n + 1$ objects are placed into n boxes then

- Box 1 has at least q_1 objects or
- Box 2 has at least q₂ objects or
 .
- Box n has at least q_n objects

Previously, we considered $q_1 = q_2 = \ldots = q_n = 2$.

Corollary 3.2.2 Let n and r be positive integers if n(r-1)+1 objects are distributed into n boxes then there is at least one box containing at least r objects.

This is Theorem 3.2.1 with $q_{=}q_{2} = \ldots = q_{n} = r$.

Example Need a basket with at

- at least 8 apples or
- at least 6 bananas or
- at least 9 oranges.

How many individual pieces of fruit do we need to achieve this?

 \Rightarrow By Theorem 3.2.1, we need 7+5+8+1=21 pieces of fruit.

3.3 Ramsey Numbers

Goal: Show that amongst any group of 6 people, there 3 people that either all know each other or all don't know each other.

Idea: We will model this by considering colorings of the edges of a complete graph.

A complete graph on n vertices (called K_n) is a collection of n vertices with one edge drawn between any given pair of vertices.

We represent 6 people as vertices of a K_6 and we draw a red edge between them if they know each other.

So, our goal boils down to showing that, if we color the edges of K_6 either red or blue, we obtain either a red K_3 or a blue K_3 within our K_6 .



Why does this happen?

Fix a vertex of our K_6 . There are 5 edges connected to this vertex. By Pigeonhole Principal, at least 3 of these edges are red or blue.



If any of the vertices connecting these edges are connected by the same color edge, there is a K_3 of that color. If not, these edges for a K_3 of the other color.

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Last time, we showed $K_6 \to K_3$, K_3 .

Theorem 3.3.1 Ramsey's Theorem

If $m, n \geq 2$ are integers then there is a positive integer p such that

$$K_p \to K_m, K_n$$

i.e., given m and n, then there is a p such that 2-coloring the edges of K_p gives a K_m of one color or a K_n of another color.

Given m and n (integers ≥ 2), there is a smallest value p such that $K_p \to K_m, K_n$. We call this p the Ramsey number of m and n, notated r(m, n).

Facts

$$r(3,3) = 6$$
 $r(2,n) = n$ $r(m,2) = m$

Proof outline We double induct on both m and n.

Base Cases: m = 2 and n = 2

Since r(m, 2) and r(2, n) exist, the theorem is true for m = 2 and n = 2.

Induction Hypothesis

Assume $m \geq 3$ and $n \geq 3$. Assume r(m, n - 1) and r(m - 1, n) both exist. Let p = r(m, n - 1) + r(m - 1, n). Suppose each edge of K_p is colored either red or blue.

Let x be a vertex of K_p .



Let R_x be the vertices connected to x with a red edge and B_x be the vertices connected to x with a blue edge.

$$|R_x| + |B_x| = p - 1 = r(m, n - 1) + r(m - 1, n) - 1$$

So,

$$|R_x| \ge r(m-1, n)$$
 or $|B_x| \ge r(m, n-1)$ If both false then
$$|R_x| \ge r(m, n-1)$$

Either way, we have a red K_m or a blue K_n .

This proof shows

$$r(m,n) \le r(m-1,n) + r(m,n-1)$$
 (m,n\ge 3)

Let

$$f(m, n) = {m+n-2 \choose m-1}$$

$${m+n-2 \choose m-1} = {m+n-3 \choose m-1} + {m+n-3 \choose m-2}$$
(m,n\ge 2)
$$(m,n \ge 2)$$
(Pascal's Formula)

So,

$$f(m,n) = f(m,n-1) + f(m-1,n)$$
$$r(m,n) \le {m+n-2 \choose m-1}$$