

Combinatorics and Probability from Foundations of Computer Science by Aho and Ullman, Chap 4 and other notes. The bucket distribution notes are largely from <https://math.berkeley.edu/~evans/Combinatorics> which are 2013 lecture notes by Lior Pachter and Lawrence C. Evans, UC, Berkeley, "Methods Of Mathematics: Calculus, Statistics And Combinatorics" Also see <https://dlmf.nist.gov/26> Not used directly here, but frequently referenced in the material that is: "The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences", http://oeis.org/wiki/Main_Page

A **multiset** (or **bag**, or **mset**) is a modification of the concept of a **set** that, unlike a set, allows for multiple instances for each of its **elements**.

A **partition** of an integer n is a multiset (or bag) of positive integers whose elements sum to n . This is an additive representation of n . A part in a partition is sometimes also called a **summand**. **The set of partitions of n is denoted by $P(n)$** . The partition function **$p(n)$ gives the number of partitions of n** , that is $p(n)$ is the cardinality of $P(n)$.

The set of partitions of 0 is an empty bag: $P(0) = \{\emptyset\} = \{\{\}\}$, $p(0) = 1$.

The set of partitions of a negative integer is the empty set, since neg. Integers are not the sum of positive. for $n < 0$: $P(n) = \emptyset = \{\}$, $p(n) = 0$.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partition_\(number_theory\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partition_(number_theory))

No **closed-form expression** for the partition function is known, but it has both **asymptotic expansions** that accurately approximate it and **recurrence relations** by which it can be calculated exactly. It grows as an **exponential function** of the **square root** of its argument.^[3]

The **multiplicative inverse** of its **generating function** is the **Euler function**; by Euler's **pentagonal number theorem** this function is an alternating sum of **pentagonal number** powers of its argument.

$p_k(n)$ denotes the number of permutations of n into at most **(arbitrary)** k parts:

$$p_k(n) = p_{k-1}(n-1) + p_k(n-k)$$

$$p_k(n) = 0 \text{ if } k > n$$

$$p_1(n) = p_n(n) = 1; p_k(n=0) = 1; p_0(n=0)=1; p_1(n)=1; p_0(n \geq 1)=0$$

e.g. $n=4, k=3$:

$$\begin{aligned} p_3(4) &= p_2(3) + p_3(1) \\ &= (p_1(2) + p_2(1)) + (p_2(0) + 0) \\ &= p_0(1) + p_1(1) + p_1(0) + p_2(0) \\ &= 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

arbitrary k

Table 26.9.1: Partitions $p_k(n)$.

n	k										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	0	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	0	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	0	1	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
5	0	1	3	5	6	7	7	7	7	7	7
6	0	1	4	7	9	10	11	11	11	11	11
7	0	1	4	8	11	13	14	15	15	15	15
8	0	1	5	10	15	18	20	21	22	22	22
9	0	1	5	12	18	23	26	28	29	30	30
10	0	1	6	14	23	30	35	38	40	41	42

<https://dlmf.nist.gov/26.9#T1>

A **lattice path** in the plane is a curve made up of line segments that either go from a point (i, j) to the point $(i + 1, j)$ or from a point (i, j) to the point $(i, j + 1)$ where i and j are integers. (Thus lattice paths always move either up or to the right.)

https://www.math.toronto.edu/balazse/2019_Summer_MAT344/Lec_4.pdf

A **permutation** is an ordered arrangement of n distinct objects.

A **combination** is an unordered selection of r objects from a set of n objects.

— The number of ways to arrange n distinct items is $n!$

— The number of assignments of n values to k objects is n^k
(e.g. 5 slots of 0 or 1 is $2^5 = 32$ possible assignments)

This is ordered, w/ replacement.

— For ordered, w/o replacement:

The number of ways to select a sequence (not a set) of k items out of n distinct items for a fixed length of k , i.e. k -permutations of n , i.e. such that $[a, b]$ and $[b, a]$ are counted instead of only $\{a, b\}$:

$$n! / (n - k)!$$

— The number of ways to arrange n indistinct items is estimated using product rule:

permutation of distinct objects =

permutations considering some are indistinct \times permutations of only indistinct objects

\Rightarrow permutations considering some are indistinct =

permutation of distinct / permutations of only indistinct

$$= n! / k!$$

Permutation of Indistinct Objects when there are n objects and n_1 are the same (indistinguishable), n_2 are the same, ... and n_r are the same, then there are

$$n! / (n_1! * n_2! * n_3! * \dots * n_r!) \text{ distinct permutations of the objects.}$$

This is also called a **partition rule**. **multisite permutations** can also be estimated this way (i.e. misspelt mississippi = $11! / ((3!)(2!)(2!))$).

— The number of ways to select k subsets out of n distinct objects, is $\binom{n}{k} = n! / (k!(n - k)!)$

also stated as: select k unordered objects from a set of n objects. This is **k-combinations**, **C(n, k)**.

-- The number of multisets of cardinality k , with elements taken from a finite set of cardinality n , is called the multiset coefficient or multiset number. This could be pronounced "n multichoose k" to

resemble "n choose k", or **k-combination with repetitions**, or **k-multicombination**. The value of multiset coefficients is

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

The distribution of objects into containers:

Adapted from <https://math.berkeley.edu/~evans/Combinatorics>

Given a collection of containers and a number of objects to put in them:

there are 3 different rules for mapping/assigning the objects to containers:

- injective: at most 1 object in each container
- subjective: at least 1 object in each container
- no restrictions on the number of objects per container

there are 2 possibilities regarding the collection of objects

- **distinct** or **indistinct** from each other

there are 2 possibilities regarding the containers

- **distinct** or **indistinct** from each other

Therefore, $3 \times 2 \times 2 = 12$ different types of counting problems.

table summarizing the methods, from <https://dlmf.nist.gov/26.17>

Table 26.17.1: The twelvefold way.

<i>n</i> objects	<i>k</i> containers	arbitrary <i>k</i>	injective $k \leq 1$	subjective $k \geq 1$
elements of <i>N</i>	elements of <i>K</i>	<i>f</i> unrestricted	<i>f</i> one-to-one	<i>f</i> onto
labeled	labeled	k^n	$(k - n + 1)_n$	$k! S(n, k)$
unlabeled	labeled	$\binom{k+n-1}{n}$	$\binom{k}{n}$	$\binom{n-1}{n-k}$
labeled	unlabeled	$S(n, 1) + S(n, 2) + \dots + S(n, k)$	$\begin{cases} 1 & n \leq k \\ 0 & n > k \end{cases}$	$S(n, k)$
unlabeled	unlabeled	$p_k(n)$	$\begin{cases} 1 & n \leq k \\ 0 & n > k \end{cases}$	$p_k(n) - p_{k-1}(n)$

^Where $(k)_n$ is Pochhammer's symbol $= k(k+1) \dots (k+n-1)$.

^Where $S(n, k)$ is the Stirling numbers of the second kind $S(n, k)$ count the number of ways to partition a set of n objects into k nonempty (and indistinct) subsets. The Stirling numbers satisfy the recurrence $S(n+1, k) = kS(n, k) + S(n, k-1)$, (1) with $S(0, 0) = 1$ and $S(n, 0) = S(0, k) = 0$.

$$S(n, k) = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^{k-j} \binom{k}{j} j^n.$$

<https://dlmf.nist.gov/26.8>

^Where $p_k(n)$ is the partition function. $p_k(n)$ counts the number of partitions of n into k parts (the number of distinct ways to write n as the sum of k positive integers). Note that

$$p_k(n) = p_{k-1}(n-1) + p_k(n-k)$$

where $p_1(n) = p_n(n) = 1$ and $p_k(n) = 0$ if $k > n$.

$$p_k(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n p_k(n-t) \sum_{\substack{j|t \\ j \leq k}} j,$$

Bucketing **n distinct objects** into **distinct k containers**:

— The number of ways = k^n

Bucketing **n distinct objects** into **distinct k containers, with no more than 1 object per container (injective)**:

— The number of ways = $k \cdot (k-1) \cdots (k-n+1)$

(NLK: does this assume $k > n$? Full formula = $k!/n!$ before simplification)

Bucketing **n indistinct objects** into **distinct k containers, with no more than 1 object per container (injective)**: uses the product rule.

— The number of ways = $k \cdot (k-1) \cdots (k-n+1) / n!$

Which can be expressed with combinatorial symbol $C(k, n)$.

(NLK: similar to the above, but “indistinct objects” reduces the permutation to unique set, i.e. (a,b) and (b,a) are only {a,b} so the number of ways is smaller. Smaller by the amount of n subsets out of k distinct containers)

Bucketing **n indistinct objects** into **distinct k containers, with no restrictions on distribution**:

— The number of ways = $C(k+n-1, n)$

Bucketing **n indistinct objects** into **distinct k containers, with at least one object in each container (subjunctive)**

— The number of ways = $C(n-1, n-k)$

Bucketing **n distinct objects** into **indistinct k containers, with at least one object in each container (subjunctive)**

— The number of ways = $S(n, k)$

Bucketing **n distinct objects** into **indistinct k containers, with no more than 1 object per container**

— The number of ways = 1 if $n \leq k$ and 0 if $n > k$

Bucketing **n distinct objects** into **indistinct k containers, with no restrictions on distribution**

— The number of ways = $\sum_{i=1, k} S(n, i)$

n **indistinct** objects in the k **indistinct** containers?

As the objects and containers are indistinct, this is equivalence partitioning of a natural number n into a sum of k natural numbers.

Bucketing **n indistinct objects** into **indistinct k containers, with at least one object in each container (subjunctive)**.

— The number of ways = $p_k(n)$

Also phrased as Partition n into a sum of k positive integers.

Bucketing **n indistinct objects** into **indistinct k containers, with no more than 1 object per container**

— The number of ways = 1 if $n \leq k$ and 0 if $n > k$

Bucketing n indistinct objects into indistinct k containers, with no restrictions on distribution

— The number of ways = $\sum_{i=1,k} p_k(n)$

Also phrased as Partition n into a sum of at most k positive integers.

More partitions:

— The number of ways to place n indistinct objects into k containers where the n items are of m classes

$(n + k - 1)! / ((k - 1)! * \text{products of each size class})$

— The length of a lattice path from $(0, 0)$ to $(m, n) = m + n$

— The number of possible lattice paths from $(0, 0)$ to (m, n) of the shortest length, $m + n$,

Is to choose m from the $m+n = C(m+n, m)$

— The number of possible lattice paths from (i, j) to (m, n) , assuming i, j, m, n are integers:

If $i > m$ or $j > n$ then we can not go from (i, j) to (m, n) , since we can only travel up and right.

Otherwise we have to make $m - i$ right and $n - j$ up steps = $C(m-i+n-j, m-i)$

Combinatorics and Probability (cont.)

— **Bayes Rule:**

$$P(B|A) = P(B) * P(A|B) / P(A)$$

prior is $P(B)$

posterior is $P(B|A)$

likelihood is $P(A|B)$

normalizing constant is $P(A)$

— **MAP (maximum-a-Posteriori estimation):**

Choose θ (== parameters) that maximizes the posterior probability of θ

MLE estimation of a parameter leads to unregularized solutions.

MAP estimation of a parameter leads to regularized solutions.

The prior distribution acts as a regularizer in MAP estimation

Note: For MAP, different prior distributions lead to different regularizers

Gaussian prior on w regularizes the ℓ_2 norm of w

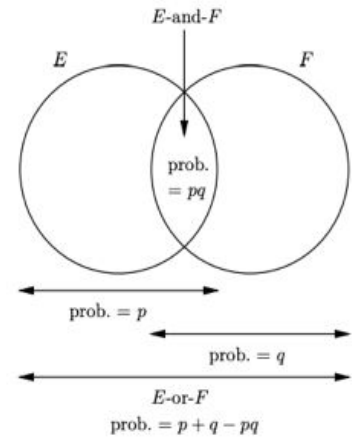
Laplace prior $\exp(-C||w||_1)$ on w regularizes the ℓ_1 norm of w

Combinatorics and Probability (cont.)

Summary of Rules Involving Several Events

The following summarizes rules of this section and rules about independent events from the last section. Suppose E and F are events with probabilities p and q , respectively. Then

- ◆ The probability of event $E\text{-or-}F$ (i.e., at least one of E and F) is at least $\max(p, q)$ and at most $p + q$ (or 1 if $p + q > 1$).
- ◆ The probability of event $E\text{-and-}F$ (i.e., both E and F) is at most $\min(p, q)$ and at least $p + q - 1$ (or 0 if $p + q < 1$).
- ◆ If E and F are independent events, then the probability of $E\text{-and-}F$ is pq .
- ◆ If E and F are independent events, then the probability of $E\text{-or-}F$ is $p + q - pq$.



The geometric and binomial distributions:

Bernoulli Trials have only success or failure as the possible outcome.

p is the probability of success.

q is the probability of failure. $q = 1 - p$.

The number of trials before a success is k .

The geometric probability distribution is

$$P[X=k] = q^{k-1} * p = (1-p)^{k-1} * p$$

$$\text{It has } E[X] = 1/p$$

$$\text{And } \text{Var}[X] = q / p^2$$

The binomial probability distribution estimates the number of successes for n Bernoulli Trials.

$$P[X=k] = C(n, k) * p^k * (1-p)^{n-k}$$

$$\text{It has } E[X] = n * p$$

$$\text{And } \text{Var}[X] = n * p * q$$