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Lecture 1

Introduction to probability

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Aims

- Understand the concepts of probability
- Recognise terms used in probability
- Enumerate simple events
- Construct sample spaces
- Summing and product rules
- Consider methods of counting

Definition

- **Probability**
- A scaled measurement of the likelihood of an event happening
- Scale 0-1
 - 0: never happens
 - 0.5: equally as likely not to happen as to happen
 - 1: certain to happen
- A probability is calculated as follows:
$$P(\text{event}) = \frac{\text{Number of outcomes that result in a favorable event}}{\text{Total number of outcomes}}$$
- e.g. 0.05
- Alternative expressions:
 - Percentage 5%
 - Fraction e.g. 1/20

Terms

- **Statistical Experiment**

Any procedure which produces a random outcome

- **Elementary event**

One of the possible outcomes of an experiment

- **Sample Space (S / Ω)**

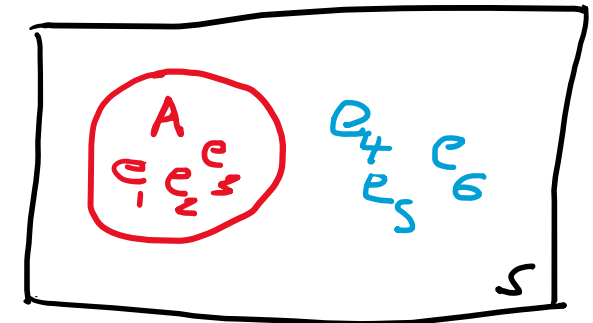
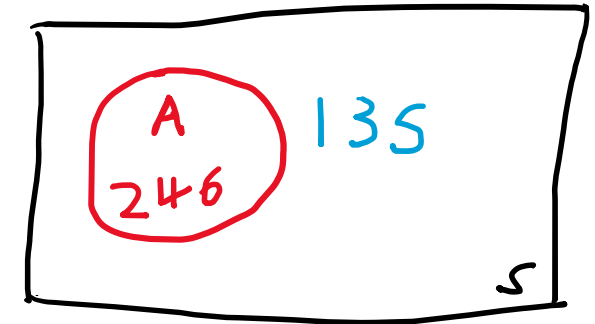
The set of all elementary events

- **Event**

A set of elementary events which have a common feature

Events / elementary events / sample space

- Event $A = \{\text{throw an even number}\}$
- $= 2, 4, 6$
- $= e_1, e_2, e_3$
- In sample space S
- $P(A) = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$
- $\sum_{e_i \text{ in } A} P(e_i) = P(e_1) + P(e_2) + P(e_3)$
- Events not A are A^c or \bar{A}
- $A + A^c = S = 1$



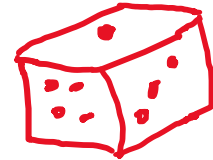
Terms

- **Mutually exclusive events**

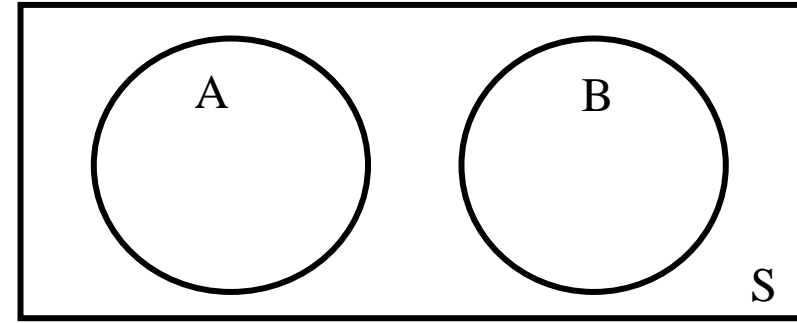
If one event happens the others cannot happen

- **Independent events**

One event does not affect the other



Summing rule (**or**)



- If we have A ways of doing something and B ways of doing something else...
- ...and can not do both at the same time (**mutually exclusive**).
- A and B are disjoint
- $P(A \cap B) = 0$
- A or B can be done in $A + B$ ways
- $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$

Summing rule

Example

The probability of being blood group A is 40%, the probability of blood group B is 11%.

What is the probability of being blood group A **or** B

- $A = p(\text{blood group A}) = 0.40$
- $B = p(\text{blood group B}) = 0.11$
- $A+B = 0.51$

Product rule (**and**)

- Two events are independent i.e. A does not affect B
- The probability of getting A and B is $A \cdot B$

Example

What is the probability of rolling > 4 on a 6 sided die **and** flipping a tail

- $2/6 \cdot 1/2 = 2/12 = 1/6$
- $2/6 = (P(5) = 1/6) + (P(6) = 1/6)$

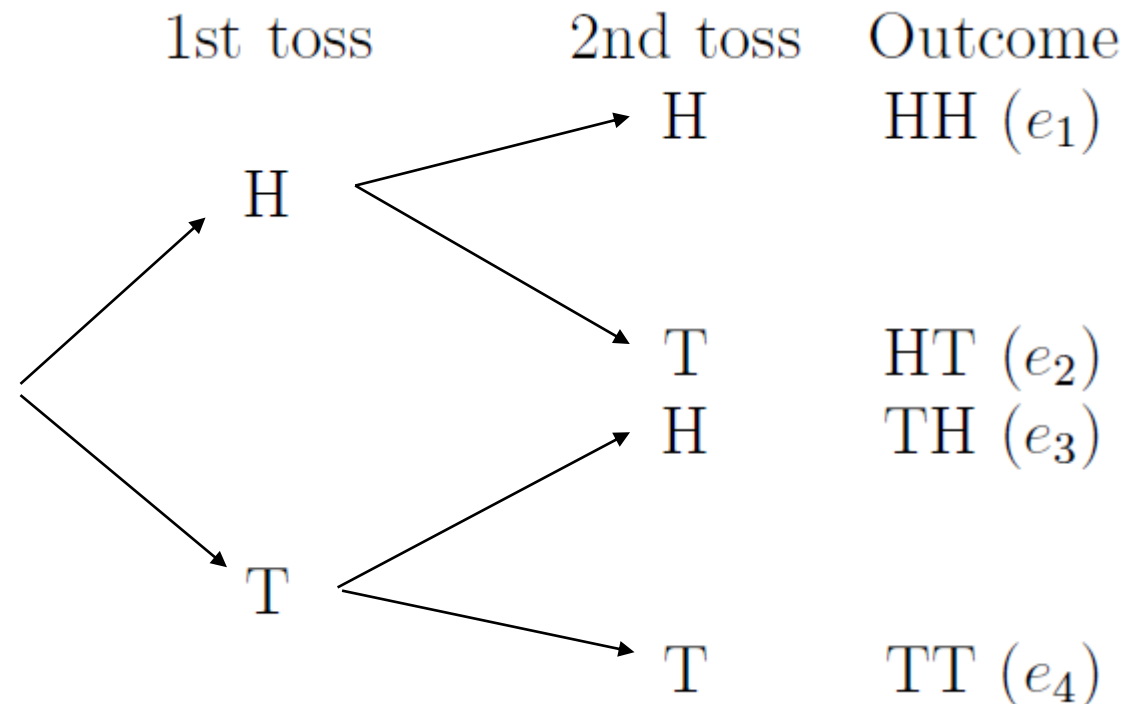
Coin toss example

- Likelihood of getting a head?
 - 0.5
- Therefore, Likelihood of getting tail
 - $1 - 0.5 = 0.5$
- Each event is independent and mutually exclusive

Coin toss example

- For considering a string of events, a tree diagrams are useful
- E.g. Model the tossing of a fair coin twice
- $S = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$
- $S = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4\}$

Tree Diagram



Coin toss example

- What is the probability of getting exactly one head?

- $A = \{\text{exactly one head}\}$

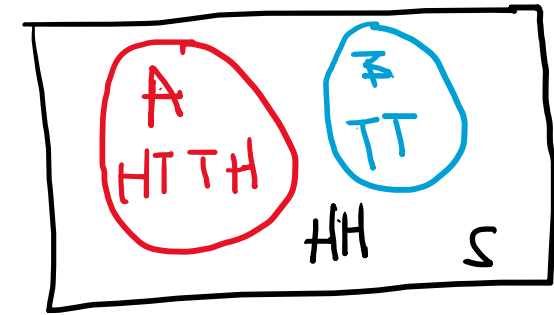
- $P(A) = \frac{\text{number of elementary events in } A}{\text{number of elementary events in } S}$

- $A = \{HT, TH\} = \{e_2, e_3\} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$

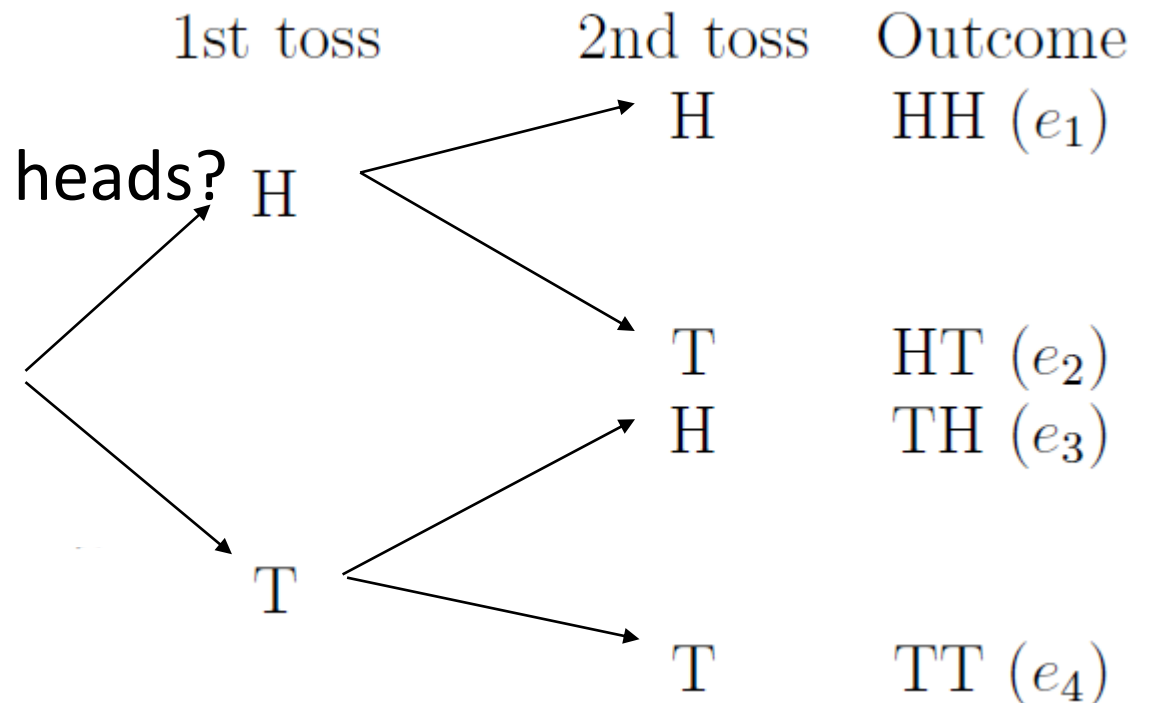
- What is the probability of getting no heads?

- $B = \{\text{no heads}\}$

- $B = \{TT\} = \{e_4\} = \frac{1}{4}$

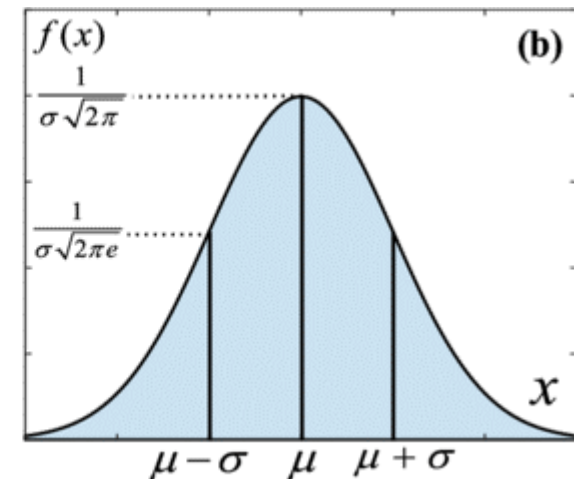
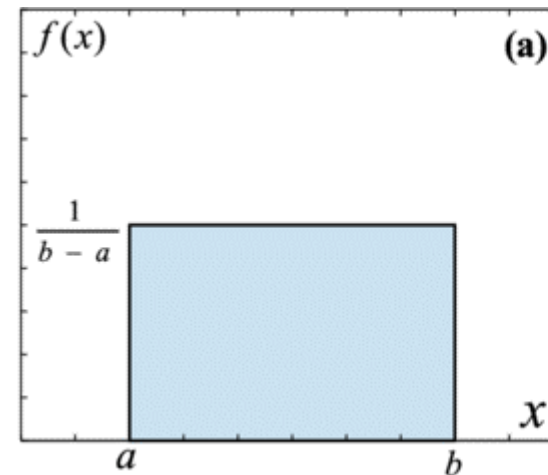


Tree Diagram



Use what we know


- $P(A) = \frac{\text{number of elementary events in } A}{\text{number of elementary events in } S}$
- $0 \leq P(A) \leq 1$ for all events A
- Uniform distribution



Use what we know

- A fair die should have a uniform distribution
- i.e. every outcome equally as likely
- $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5, e_6\}$
- $P(e_i) = \frac{1}{6} = \mathbf{0.167}$
- $A = \{\text{Throw even number}\} = \{e_2, e_4, e_6\} = p(A) = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$
- $B = \{\text{Throw number} > 4\} = \{e_5, e_6\} = p(B) = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$

Test for loaded die

- Expect a uniform distribution
- $S = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5, e_6\} = p(e_i) = \frac{1}{6}$
- Empirically we test the die
- We find even numbers are twice as likely as odd numbers 

$$A = \{\text{Throw even number}\} = \{e_2, e_4, e_6\}$$

$$= p(A) = \frac{2}{9} + \frac{2}{9} + \frac{2}{9} = \frac{6}{9} = \frac{2}{3} \neq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$B = \{\text{Throw number} > 4\} = \{e_5, e_6\}$$

$$= p(B) = \frac{1}{9} + \frac{2}{9} = \frac{3}{9} = \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

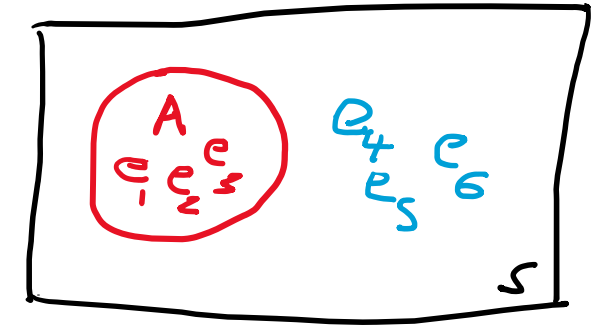
| Number | Occurrence |
|--------|------------|
| 1 | I |
| 2 | II |
| 3 | I |
| 4 | II |
| 5 | I |
| 6 | II |
| Total | 9 |

Complimentary events

- $A^c = 1 - A \therefore P(A^c) = 1 - P(A)$
- $A = 1 - A^c \therefore P(A) = 1 - P(A^c)$
- Complement can provide a quick shortcut
- Q. a multiple choice test three questions, each with two choices, what is the probability of getting at least one correct; $P(\text{at least one correct})$
- let **c** = correct and **w** = wrong
 - a) Could count up all correct answers (frequent event)
 $\frac{7}{8}$
 - b) Or use the compliment event (less frequent)

$$P(\text{at least one correct}) = 1 - P(\text{all wrong})\left(\frac{1}{8}\right)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$$



| Q1 | Q2 | Q3 |
|----|----|----|
| W | W | W |
| W | W | C |
| W | C | C |
| C | C | C |
| C | C | W |
| C | W | W |
| W | C | W |
| C | W | C |

Contingency table

- Census taken to ascertain modes of travel to work, classified on where they live
- P(live in Rural area)?
 - $\frac{35}{100} = 0.35$
- P(travel by bus)?
 - $\frac{30}{100} = 0.3$
- P(travel by car and live in town)?
 - $\frac{40}{100} = 0.4$
- P(travel by bus and live in the countryside)?
 - $\frac{5}{100} = 0.05$

Contingency Table

| | Live | | |
|-------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| | Town | Rural | Total |
| Car | 40 | 30 | 70 |
| Bus | 25 | 5 | 30 |
| Total | 65 | 35 | 100 |

Contingency table

Summing rule

$$P(A + B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

$$P(A) + P(A^c) = 1$$

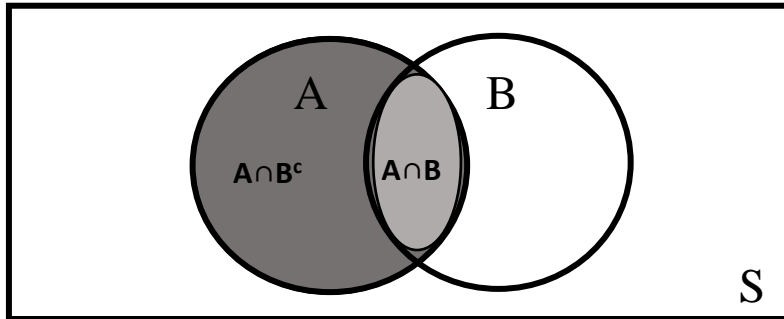
$$P(B) + P(B^c) = 1$$

$$P(A) = 1 - P(A^c)$$

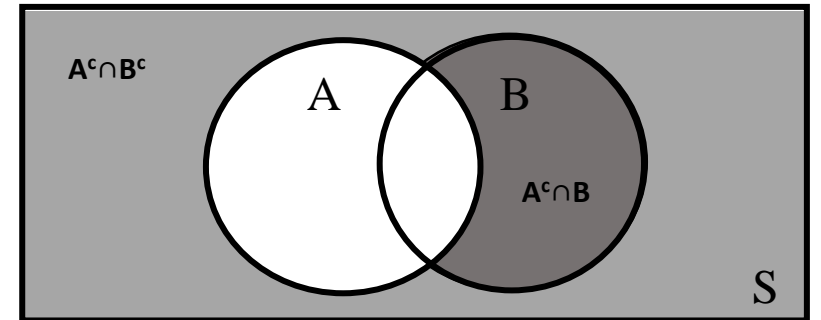
$$P(B) = 1 - P(B^c)$$

| | A | A ^c | Total |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------|
| B | $P(A \cap B)$ | $P(A^c \cap B)$ | $P(B)$ |
| B ^c | $P(A \cap B^c)$ | $P(A^c \cap B^c)$ | $P(B^c)$ |
| Total | $P(A)$ | $P(A^c)$ | 1 |

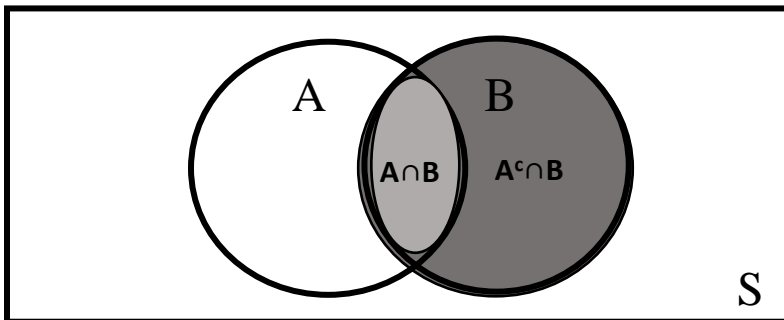
$P(A)$



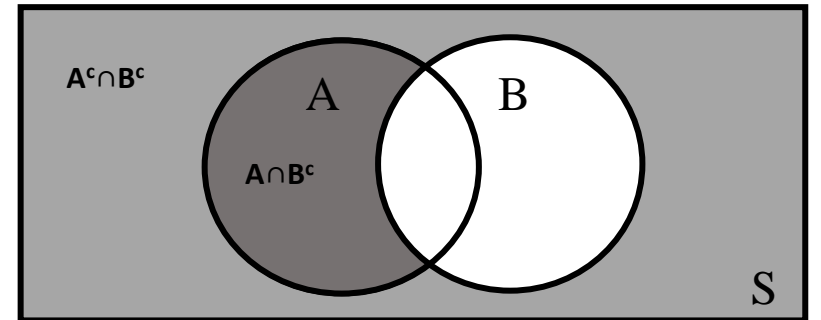
$P(A^c)$



$P(B)$



$P(B^c)$



Counting methods

- Up until now we have taken the manual approach to counting.
- This is fine for small numbers, e.g. how many ways can you combine 3 letters?
- But falls down when we get to larger numbers
- **Powers**
- **Factorial**
- **Permutations**
- **Combinations**

Counting methods

- Easiest way to think of this is drawing from a bag, with or without replacement
- Q. How many ways of arranging the 3 letters {DAN}, with replacement?
- $3.3.3 = 3^3 = 27$
- $6^6 = 46,656$
- Q. How many ways of arranging the 3 letters {DAN} without replacement?
- 3
- 2
- 1
- $3.2.1 = 6$
- $= 3!$

| | |
|-----|-----|
| DDD | DDD |
| DDA | DDA |
| DDN | DDN |
| DAD | DAD |
| DAA | DAA |
| DAN | DAN |
| DND | DND |
| DNA | DNA |
| DNN | DNN |
| ADD | ADD |
| ADA | ADA |
| ADN | ADN |
| AAD | AAD |
| AAA | AAA |
| AAN | AAN |
| AND | AND |
| ANA | ANA |
| ANN | ANN |
| NDD | NDD |
| NDA | NDA |
| NDN | NDN |
| NAD | NAD |
| NAA | NAA |
| NAN | NAN |
| NND | NND |
| NNA | NNA |
| NNN | NNN |

Factorial

- $3! = 3.2.1 = 6$
- $4! = 4.3.2.1 = 24$
- $0! = 1$
- $n! = n.(n - 1).(n - 2) \dots 1$
- $4! = 4.3! = 4.6 = 24$
- $\frac{4!}{2!} = \frac{4.3.\cancel{2.1}}{\cancel{2.1}} = \frac{4.3}{1} = 12$
- You can find ! on your scientific calculator



Permutations (order is important)



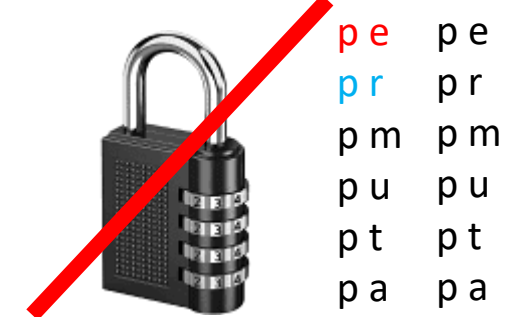
- Q. How many ways of arranging {permutation}?
- $11^{11} = 285,311,670,611$ (replacement)
- or $11! = 39,916,800$ (without replacement)
- Q. How many ways of choosing 2 letters from {permutation} where the order is important?
- with replacement?
- ${}^nP_r = n^r = 11^2 = 121$ Where n = total, r = # sample
- without replacement?

$${}^nP_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$$

$${}^{11}P_2 = \frac{11!}{(11-2)!} = \frac{11!}{9!} = \frac{11 \cdot 10 \cdot \cancel{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}}{\cancel{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}} = \frac{11 \cdot 10}{1} = 110$$



pp pp
pe pe
pr pr
pm pm
pu pu
pt pt
pa pa
pt pt
pi pi
po po
pn pn
ep ep
ee ee
er er
em em
eu eu
et et
ea ea
et et
ei ei
eo eo
en en
rp rp
re re
rr rr
rm rm
ru ru
rt rt
ra ra
rt rt
ri ri
ro ro



Combinations (order is not important)

- Q. How many ways of choosing 2 letters from {permutation} where the order is not important, without replacement?

$$\bullet {}^nP_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$$

$$\bullet {}^nC_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!}$$

Ways of
ranging r
item

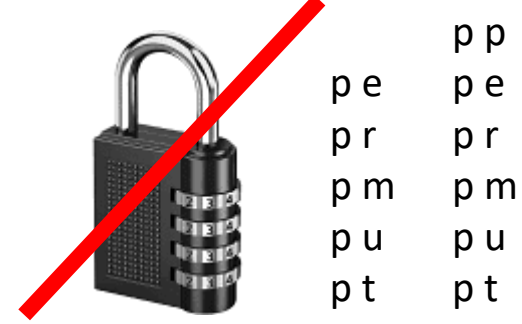
$$\bullet {}^{11}C_2 = \frac{11!}{(11-2)!2!} = \frac{11!}{9!2!}$$

$$\bullet = \frac{11 \cdot 10 \cdot \cancel{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}}{(\cancel{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}) \cdot (2 \cdot 1)} = \frac{11 \cdot 10}{2} = 55$$

$$\bullet {}^{11}P_2 = \frac{11!}{(11-2)!} = \frac{11!}{9!} = \frac{11 \cdot 10 \cdot \cancel{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}}{\cancel{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}} = \frac{11 \cdot 10}{1} = 110$$

- N.B if n and r are the same then the answer is 1

Combinations (order is not important)



- Q. How many ways of choosing 2 letters from {permutation} where the order is not important, with replacement?

$$\bullet {}^nC_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!}$$

$$\bullet {}^nC_r = \frac{(n+r-1)!}{(n-r)!r!}$$

$$\bullet {}^{11}C_2 = \frac{(11+2-1)!}{(11-1)!2!} = \frac{12!}{9!2!}$$

$$\bullet = \frac{12 \cdot 11 \cdot \cancel{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}}{(\cancel{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}) \cdot (2 \cdot 1)} = \frac{12 \cdot 11}{2} = 66$$

$$\bullet = \frac{11 \cdot 10 \cdot \cancel{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}}{(\cancel{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}) \cdot (2 \cdot 1)} = \frac{11 \cdot 10}{2} = 55$$



| | |
|----|----|
| pe | pe |
| pr | pr |
| pm | pm |
| pu | pu |
| pt | pt |
| pa | pa |
| pt | pt |
| pi | pi |
| po | po |
| pn | pn |
| | ee |
| er | er |
| em | em |
| eu | eu |
| et | et |
| ea | ea |
| et | et |
| ei | ei |
| eo | eo |
| en | en |
| | rr |
| rm | rm |
| ru | ru |
| rt | rt |
| ra | ra |
| rt | rt |
| ri | ri |

Summing up

- **If you want to know the number of ways to arrange n items?**
 - Power - if you are replacing the items
 - Factorial - if you are not relacing the items
- **If you want to know the arrangement of a subset of n items**
 - Permutations – if the order is important i.e. “DAN” \neq “AND”
 - Combinations – if the order is not important i.e. “DAN” = “AND”

Examples

a) A supermarket stocks 4 brands of beans and 3 brands of peas. In how many ways can they be arranged on a shelf?

ii. How many ways of arranging **In any arrangement?**

7 6 5 4 3 2 1

— — — — — — —
4 + 3 = 7!

= 5040

ii. How many ways of arranging **beans and peas in contiguous blocks?**

4 3 2 1 3 2 1

— — — — — — —

The beans can be ordered 4!, the peas 3!. However, the positions can swap so

4!.3!.2

= 288

Examples

b) In how many ways can 6 people be seated on a sofa if there are only 3 seats?

- The arrangement of people is distinct, i.e. $1,2,3 \neq 3,2,1 \therefore$ we use a permutation
- 6P_3
- = 120

Examples

c) In the main National lottery draw, six numbers are chosen from 49. What is the probability of winning the jackpot?

The arrangement of numbers is not important

i.e. 1,2,3,4,5,6 = 6,5,4,3,2,1 \therefore we use a combination

- ${}^{49}C_6 = 13983816 = \frac{1}{13983816} = 0.0000000715112384$
- What is the probability that you get 3 winning numbers?
- The 3 winning numbers can be any of the 6 numbers drawn
- $= {}^6C_3 = 20$
- The non-winning number can be any of the other numbers
- ${}^{49-6}C_3 = {}^{43}C_3$
- $\therefore P(3 \text{ winning numbers}) = \frac{{}^6C_3 * {}^{43}C_3}{{}^{49}C_6}$
- $= \frac{20 * 12341}{13983816} = 0.0177 = \frac{1}{56}$