

# Lecture 21

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Example ( permutations with repetition )

There are ~~26~~  $26^8$  different strings of length 8  
of distinct English upper-case letters.

Example ( combinations with repetition )

Choosing fruits : Apples (A), Oranges (O), Pears (P).

4A	4O	4P	#A   #O   #P
****	***	****	
3A, 1O	3A, 1P	3O, 1A	
** ** **	* ** ** *	* * ***	
3O, 1P	3P, 1A	3P, 1O	
*** *	* ** ** *	* ***	
2A, 2O	2A, 2P	2O, 2P	
.. .. ..	.. .. ..	.. ..	
2A, 1O, 1P	2O, 1A, 1P	2P, 1A, 1O	
.. .. ..	. .. ..	- .. ..	

There are as many ways as there are strings consisting  
of 4 \* and 2 |, i.e.

$$\binom{6}{2} = \binom{6}{4} = \frac{6!}{2!4!} = 15 .$$

Alternative definition: If  $S$  has  $n$  elements, then

an  $r$ -combination is an assignment of variables

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \{0, 1\}^S \text{ s.t. } \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = r.$$

An  $r$ -combination with repetition is an assignment of variables

$$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \{0, 1, \dots, r\} \text{ s.t. } \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = r.$$

An  $r$ -combination with repetition corresponds to  $(n-1+r)$  strings with  $r$  \*'s and  $n-1$  1's:

the number of \*'s in the  $i$ 'th compartment is the number of objects of the  $i$ 'th type (this is the value of  $x_i$ ).

Therefore, the number of  $r$ -combinations with repetition is

$$\binom{n-1+r}{r}.$$

Example (bills) there are  $n=5$  bills and I have  $r=5$  bills in my pockets, so there are  $\binom{9}{5}$  possibilities.

### Permutations with indistinguishable objects

- **UNCOPYRIGHTABLE** : all unique letters, so any permutation will produce a distinct string:  $P(15, 15) = 15!$
- **COOKIE** :  $P(6, 6) = 6!$  permutations, but 2 O's with  $P(2, 2) = 2$  internal permutations, so  $\frac{6!}{2} = 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 = 360$  different permutations.
- **INDISTINGUISHABILITY** ( $6: I, 2: N, 2: S, 2: T$ , 8 distinct letters)  

$$\frac{20!}{6! 2! 2! 2!}$$
 different permutations.

Example (dealing cards)

The number of ways to deal is

$$C(52, 5) \cdot C(47, 5) \cdot C(42, 5) \cdot C(37, 5)$$

$$= \frac{52!}{47! 5!} \cdot \frac{47!}{42! 5!} \cdot \frac{42!}{37! 5!} = \frac{37!}{32! 5!}$$

$$= \frac{52!}{5! 5! 5! 32!}, \text{ by the product rule.}$$

Note that this may be viewed as permutations of 52 cards with 4 types each containing 5 indistinguishable objects, and a 5th type with 32 objects.

Example (Santa's problem)

This corresponds to 10-combinations of a set of 8 elements with repetition, so

$$C(8-1+10, 10) = \frac{17!}{10! 7!}.$$

Example (4 distinguishable balls into 3 indistinguishable bins)

One bin filled :  $\{ \{A,B,C,D\} \}$

So there are 14 such ways.

Two bins :  $\{ \{A,B,C\}, \{D\} \}, \{ \{A,B,D\}, \{C\} \}$

$\{ \{A,C,D\}, \{B\} \}, \{ \{B,C,D\}, \{A\} \}$

$\{ \{ABC\}, \{C,D\} \}, \{ \{AC,D\}, \{B\} \}$

$\{ \{ACD\}, \{B,C\} \}, \#$

Three bins:  $\{ \{ABC\}, \{C\}, \{D\} \}, \{ \{AC\}, \{BC\}, \{D\} \}, \{ \{ACD\}, \{B\}, \{C\} \}$

$\{ \{B,D\}, \{AC\}, \{CD\} \}, \{ \{C,AD\}, \{A\}, \{BD\} \}, \{ \{B,CD\}, \{A\}, \{AD\} \}$ .

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Indistinguishable objects into  
Indistinguishable boxes.

Example ( Books into boxes )

6,

5, 1

4, 2      4, 1, 1

3, 3      3, 2, 1 ,    3, 2, 1, 1

2, 2, 2      2, 2, 1, 1

Total number of 9 ways .