

Math 55, Handout 12.

PERMUTATIONS AND COMBINATIONS.

1.1. A **permutation** of a set of distinct objects is an ordered arrangement of these objects.

An r -permutation is an ordered arrangement of r elements of a set

1.2. [Theorem]. The number $P(n, r)$ of r -permutations of a set with n elements is an integer $1 \leq r \leq n$, then there are

$$P(n, r) = n(n-1)(n-2) \dots (n-r+1)$$

r -permutations of a set with n distinct elements

Q1. A group contains n men and n women. How many ways are there to arrange these people in a row for picture so that the men and the women alternate?

women $n=n$
 $r=n$
 $P(n, n) = \frac{n!}{(n-n)!} = \frac{n!}{0!} = n!$

men $n=n$
 $r=n$
 $P(n, n) = \frac{n!}{(n-n)!} = \frac{n!}{0!} = n!$

$WMWMW \dots M$ 2 possible combos
 $MWMWM \dots W$
 use product rule! for both
 $n! * n! = (n!)^2$ combos

$(n!)^2 + (n!)^2 = 2(n!)^2$ ways to arrange men & women

2.1. An r -combination of elements of a set is an unordered selection of r elements from the set

2.2. [Theorem]. The number $C(n, r)$ of r -combinations of a set with n elements is a nonnegative integer and r is an integer with $0 \leq r \leq n$, equals:

$$C(n, r) = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$$

Q2. A coin is flipped eight times, and each flip comes up heads or tails. How many possible outcomes

(a) are there in total? 2 possible outcomes $\rightarrow 2^8 = 256$

(b) contain at most three tails?

0 tails: $C(8, 0) = 1$ 2 tails: $C(8, 2) = 28$ 1 + 8 + 28 + 56 = 93
 1 tails: $C(8, 1) = 8$ 3 tails: $C(8, 3) = 56$

THE BINOMIAL THEOREM.

3.1. [Binomial Theorem]. Let x and y be variables and let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} x^{n-j} y^j = \binom{n}{0} x^n + \binom{n}{1} x^{n-1} y + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} x y^{n-1} + \binom{n}{n} y^n$$

3.2. [Corollary]. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

$$2^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}$$

3.3. [Corollary]. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

$$0 = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n}{k}$$

3.4. [Corollary]. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

$$3^n = \sum_{k=0}^n 2^k \binom{n}{k}$$

BINOMIAL IDENTITIES.

4.1. [Pascal's Identity]. Let $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$, with $n \geq k$. Then

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

Q3. Derive Pascal's identity from the formula for $C(n, r)$.

Pascal's identity states:

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

If $k > n$ then $\binom{n}{k} = 0 = \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k} \longrightarrow$ result is trivial

If $k \leq n$ then:

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k} &= \frac{(n-1)!}{(k-1)!(n-k)!} + \frac{(n-1)!}{k!(n-k-1)!} \\ &= (n-1)! \left(\frac{k}{k!(n-k)!} + \frac{n-k}{k!(n-k)!} \right) \\ &= (n-1)! \left(\frac{n}{k!(n-k)!} \right) \\ &= \binom{n}{k} \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

4.2. [Vandermonde's Identity]. Let $n, m, k \in \mathbb{N}$, with $k \leq m, k \leq n$. Then

$$\binom{m+n}{k} = \sum_{r=0}^r \binom{m}{r-k} \binom{n}{k}$$

4.3. [Corollary]. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

$$\binom{2n}{n} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2$$

Q4. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, derive the following identity using algebra and (basic) calculus:

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \sum_{k=0}^n k \binom{n}{k} = \sum_{k=0}^n (n-k) \binom{n}{n-k} \\ 2S &= \sum_{k=0}^n \left(k \binom{n}{k} + (n-k) \binom{n}{n-k} \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \left(k \binom{n}{k} + (n-k) \binom{n}{k} \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \left(n \binom{n}{k} \right) \\ &= n \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} = n 2^{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

4.4. [Unnamed Identity]. Let $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$, with $k \leq n$. Then

$$\binom{n+1}{k+1} = \sum_{j=r}^n \binom{j}{r}$$

Q5. Draw a diagram within Pascal's triangle as a memo for the last identity.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & & 1 & & \\ & & & 1 & & 1 & \\ & & 1 & & 2 & & 1 \\ & 1 & & 3 & & 3 & & 1 \\ & 1 & 4 & & 6 & & 4 & & 1 \\ & 1 & 5 & 10 & & 10 & 5 & & 1 \\ & 1 & 6 & 15 & 20 & & 15 & 6 & & 1 \end{array}$$

