

# Elementary Combinatorics:-

Basics of Counting, Combinations & permutations  
 Enumeration of combinations & permutations,  
 Enumeration of combinations & permutations with Repetition,  
 Enumerating permutations with constrained repetitions  
 $P^r = \frac{n!}{n-r}!$   
 Binomial coefficients  
 Binomial & multinomial theorems,  
 The principles of Inclusion-Exclusion

## Basics of Counting:-

The following are two basic counting principles.

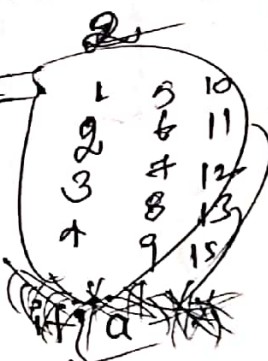
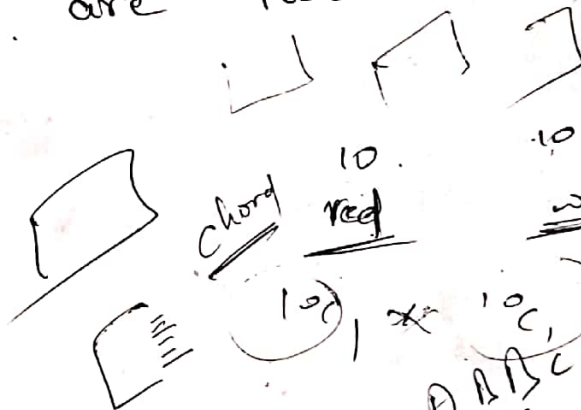
- ① Product rule.
- ② Sum rule.

### Product rule.

The product rule states that if a procedure can be broken down into a sequence of two tasks such that the first task can be done in  $m$  ways and the second task can be done in  $n$  ways after the first task has been done, then there are  $mn$  ways of carrying out the procedure.

### Sum rule:-

According to Sum rule, if a procedure can be broken down into a sequence of two



tasks such that the first task can be done in  $n$  ways & the second task can be done in  $m$  ways & if these tasks cannot be done at the same time, then there are  $(n+m)$  ways of doing one of these tasks.

① There are 150 mathematics major student and 200 Computer Science students at a College.

① How many ways are there to select two representatives so that one is a mathematics major and the other is a computer science major.

Sol:  $\textcircled{1} \underline{150} \times \underline{200} = \underline{30,000}$ .

② How many ways are there to pick one representative who is either a mathematics or a computer science?

So I:  $\underline{150} + \underline{200} = \underline{(350)}$

② How many different bit strings are there of length 9?

sol: Since each bit is either 1 or 0, each bit can be chosen in two ways.

[illegible]

- ③ The chairs of an auditorium are to be labelled with a letter and a positive integer not exceeding 100. what is the largest number of chairs that can be labelled differently.

so: no of ways of labelling a chair with a letter = 26.

number not exceeding 100 = 100.

The largest number of chairs labeled differently =  $26 \times 100 = 2600$ .

- ④ How many different license plates are available if each plate contains a sequence of two letters followed by four digits.

$$\begin{array}{r} 26 \times 26 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 6,760,000 \end{array}$$

$$26 \times 26 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 6,760,000$$

- ⑤ A student can choose a computer project from one of five lists. The five lists contain 15, 12, 9, 10 and 20 projects respectively. How many possible projects are there to choose from?

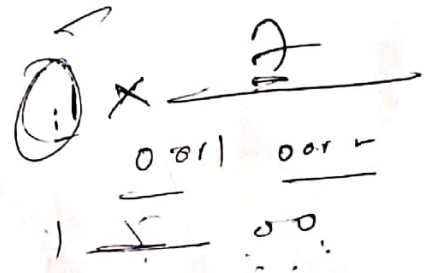
$$15 + 12 + 9 + 10 + 20 = 66$$



5) How many bit strings of length 8 either start with bit 1 or end with the two bits 00?

Task 1: Starts with bit 1  
first bit can be chosen in only one way. and each of the other seven bits can be chosen in two ways.

$$1 \times 2^7 = 128 \text{ ways.}$$



Task 2:

$$2^6 \times 1 \times 1 = 64 \text{ ways.}$$

Both the tasks (T1, T2) represent the construction of a bit string of length 8 beginning with bit 1 & ending with 00. is  $2^5 = 32$  ways.

Hence the number of bit string of length 8 that begin with 1 or end with 00.

$$\begin{aligned} |A \cup B| &= |A| + |B| - |A \cap B| \\ &= 128 + 64 - 32 \\ &= 160 \end{aligned}$$

$$1 \quad 2^5 \quad 00$$

## Permutations and Combinations:-

An ordered arrangement of objects from a set of distinct objects is called a permutation.

The number of  $r$ -permutations of a set with  $n$  distinct elements is

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

$$= \frac{n!}{(n-r)!} = n \times (n-1) \times \dots \times (n-r+1)$$

eg: ① Find the number of 5-permutations of a set with nine elements.

$$P(9, 5) = \frac{9!}{(9-5)!} = \frac{9!}{4!} = 9 \times 8 \times 7 \times 6 \times 5 = 15,120$$

② How many permutations of  $\{a, b, c, d, e, f, g\}$  end with  $a$ ?

So! The number of distinct objects in the given set without  $a = 6$ .

$\therefore$  The no. of permutations  $= 6! = 720$ .

③ Consider the six digits 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7. Assuming that repetitions are not permitted, answer the following.

① How many four digit numbers can be formed from the six digits 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7?

- ② How many of these numbers are less than 4000?
- ③ How many of the numbers in (i) are even?
- ④ How many of the numbers in (i) are odd?
- ⑤ How many of the numbers in (i) are a multiple of 5.

(i)  $\cdot P(6, 4)$   
 $= 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3$   
 $= 360.$

6 py

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

$\begin{pmatrix} 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 \end{pmatrix}$

(ii) The first digit can be  $\underline{1, 2, 3}.$

$3 \times \frac{5 \times 4 \times 3}{2} = 6 \times 3 \times 3$   
 $3 \times P(5, 3) \rightarrow$

remaining three places is from 5 numbers.

(iii) even means 4 digit number end with  $\underline{2, 4, 6}$   
 $\underline{2 \text{ or } 6}.$   
 $5P_3 \times 2 = 2 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3$   
 $= 120.$

(iv) odd  
 $= 4 \times P(5, 3) = 240.$

(v)  $1 \times P(5, 3)$   
 $= 1 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 = 60.$

$\begin{pmatrix} 4000 \\ 3559 \end{pmatrix}$

1) In how many ways can six men & four women sit in a row?

sol:  $10!$

② In how many ways can they sit in a row if all the men sit together and all the women sit together?

women and men are 2 categories.

$2!$   
The men can be arranged among themselves in  $6!$  way.

women in  $4!$  way

The required number of ways  
 $= 2! \times 6! \times 4! = 34,560.$

④ There are four bus lines between A & B and three bus lines between B and C.

In how many ways can a man travel.

① by bus from A to C via B?

② round trip by bus from A to C via B?

③ round trip by bus from A to C via B if he does not want to use a bus line more than once.



Sol: ①  $4 \times 3 = 12$  ways.

3

② 12 ways to go & 12 ways to return  
 $12 \times 12 = 144$ .

③

A  $\xrightarrow{4}$  B

B  $\xrightarrow{3}$  C

C  $\xrightarrow{2}$  B

B  $\xrightarrow{3}$  A

$$4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 3 = 72.$$

$$\frac{n!}{(n-4)!} = \frac{n!}{(n-2)!}$$

④ Find n if

①  $P(n, 2) = 72.$

$$\frac{n(n-1)(n-2)!}{(n-2)!}$$

$$P(n, 2) = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)!}{(n-2)!} = n(n-1) = 72$$

$$n^2 - n = 72$$

$$n^2 - n - 72 = 0$$

$$n^2 - 9n + 8n - 72 = 0$$

$$n(n-9) + 8(n-9) = 0$$

$$n+8=0 \quad n-9=0$$

$$n=-8 \quad n=9.$$

Since n must be +ve.  
 $n=9.$

(ii)  $P(n, 4) = 42 P(n, 2)$

$$n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3) = 42 n(n-1)$$

$$(n-2)(n-3) = 42$$

$$n^2 - 3n - 2n + 6 = 42$$

$$n^2 - 5n - 36 = 0$$

$$(n-9)(n+4) = 0$$

$$n=9$$



$$③ \quad 2P(n, 2) + 50 = P(2n, 2)$$

$$2(n(n-1)) + 50 = \frac{2n \cdot 2n-1 \cdot (2n-2)!}{(2n-2)!}$$

$$2(n^2 - n) + 50 = 2n(2n-1)$$

$$2n^2 - 2n + 50 = 4n^2 - 2n$$

$$2n^2 - 2n + 2n - 50 = 0$$

$$2n^2 - 50 = 0$$

$$2n^2 = 50$$

$$n^2 = 25$$

$$n = 5$$

$$2n P_2$$

$$\frac{2n!}{(2n-2)!}$$

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

### Combinations

Permutation deals with arrangement of objects of a particular set.

Combinations deals with selection only.

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

$$nCr = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!} \quad (25)$$

① A club has 25 members. How many ways are there to choose four members of the club to serve on an executive Committee?

$$\text{Sol.} \quad {}^{25}C_4 = \frac{25!}{4!(21)!} = \frac{25 \times 24 \times 23 \times 22}{4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1} = 506 \times 25 = 12650$$

① How many bit strings of length 8 contain

$\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ =$

(i) exactly five 1s?

(ii) an equal number of 0s and 1s.

PC5

③ at least four 1s?

④ at least three 1s and at least three 0s?

A bit string of length 8 have eight positions

①

$${}^8C_5 = \frac{8!}{5!3!} = \frac{8!}{(8-5)!5!} = \frac{8!}{3!5!}$$

$$= \frac{8 \times 7 \times 6}{3 \times 2 \times 1} = 56.$$

②

$$\frac{8!}{4!4!} = \frac{8 \times 7 \times 6 \times 5}{4 \times 3 \times 2} = 35$$

PC4

$$\frac{8!}{(8-4)!4!}$$

③

These eight positions can be filled up with four 1s & four 0s.

five 1s & 3 0's

6 1s & 2 0's

7 1s & 1 0's.

8 1s.

$${}^8C_4 + {}^8C_5 + {}^8C_6 + {}^8C_7 + {}^8C_8$$

$$= 163.$$

④ 8 bit string can be

3 1's & 5 0's

4 1's & 4 0's

5 1's & 3 0's

$${}^8C_3 + {}^8C_4 + {}^8C_5 = 182.$$

⑤ Suppose a department consists of 10 men & 15 women. How many ways are there to form a committee with six members if it must have three men & three women?

so!

$${}^{10}C_3 \times {}^{15}C_3 = 54,600.$$

⑥ Suppose a department consists of eight men & nine women. In how many ways can we select a committee of

(i) three men & four women,

$${}^8C_3 \times {}^9C_4 = 7056$$

(ii) four persons that has at least one woman

$${}^9C_1 \times {}^8C_3 + {}^9C_2 \times {}^8C_2 + {}^9C_3 \times {}^8C_1 + {}^9C_4$$
$$= 2,310$$



③ four persons that has at most one man?  
 so the committee must have at most one man.

Therefore

possibilities are

4 w and 0 man

3 w and 1 man

$${}^8C_4 + {}^8C_3 \times 8C_1 \\ = 798$$

④ four persons that has persons of both sexes?

$${}^8C_3 \times {}^9C_1 + {}^8C_2 \times {}^9C_2 + {}^8C_1 \times {}^9C_3$$

$$= 2184$$

⑤ four persons so that two specific numbers are not included.

① 2 specific members can be selected in  ${}^{15}C_2$  way.

∴ The number of selections not including these two members =

$${}^{17}C_4 - {}^{15}C_2 \\ = \frac{17!}{4!13!} - \frac{15!}{2!13!}$$

$$= 2,275$$

$$\frac{17}{4} \times \frac{15}{2 \cdot 13!}$$

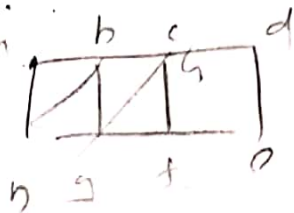
$${}^{15}C_2$$

→ Binomial theorem  $\leftarrow$  as

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be any two variables  
and let  $n$  be a non-negative integer then

$$(x+y)^n = \sum_{r=0}^n {}^nC_r x^r y^{n-r}$$

~~$$(2+y)^n = \sum_{r=1}^n nCr x^r y^{n-r}$$~~



① Find the expansion of  $(x+y)^6$ .


$$(x+y)^6 = \sum_{i=0}^6 {}^6C_i x^i y^{6-i}$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^6 C_i x^i y^{n-i} = C_0 x^0 y^6 + C_1 x^1 y^5 + C_2 x^2 y^4 + C_3 x^3 y^3 + C_4 x^4 y^2 + C_5 x^5 y^1 + C_6 x^6 y^0$$

$$= 6C_0 x^6 y^0 + 6C_1 x^5 y^1 + 6C_2 x^4 y^2 + 6C_3 x^3 y^3 + 6C_4 x^2 y^4 + 6C_5 x y^5 + 6C_6 x^0 y^6$$

$$= x^6 + 6x^5y + 15x^4y^2 + 20x^3y^3 + 15x^2y^4 + 6xy^5 + y^6$$

② Find the co-efficient of  $x^5 y^8$  in  $(x+y)^{13}$ .

$$= 13 \text{ C } =$$

$$= \frac{13!}{8!8!} = 1287$$

$$\sum m_i c_i x^i y^{n-i}$$

$$\frac{13!}{(13-5)! \cdot 5!}$$

AG

$$n \cdot \frac{1}{n} = 1$$

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

③ What is the coefficient of  $x^{101}y^{99}$  in the expansion of  $(2x-3y)^{200}$ ,  $n=200$   
 $x=101$

$$= {}^{200}C_{101} (2x)^{101} (-3y)^{99}$$

$$= \frac{200!}{101!99!} 2^{101} (-3)^{99} x^{101} y^{99}$$

④ If  $n$  is a non-negative integer; show that  $\sum_{i=0}^n {}^nC_i = 2^n$

$$2^n = (1+1)^n$$

$$= {}^nC_0 (1)^0 (1)^{n-0} + {}^nC_1 (1)^1 (1)^{n-1} + {}^nC_2 (1)^2 (1)^{n-2} + \dots$$

$$= {}^nC_0 + {}^nC_1 + {}^nC_2 + {}^nC_3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + {}^nC_1 (1)^{n-1} + \dots$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^n {}^nC_i$$

⑤ If  $n$  is a non-negative integer show that  $\sum_{i=0}^n 2^i {}^nC_i = 3^n$

$$3^n = (2+1)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n {}^nC_i (2)^i (1)^{n-i}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^n {}^nC_i 2^i$$



## Permutation with Repetition

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① The number of  $r$  permutations of a set of  $n$  objects with repetition allowed is  $n^r$ . *(like color balls)*

② If there are  $n_1$  indistinguishable objects of type 1,  $n_2$  indistinguishable objects of type 2, and  $n_k$  indistinguishable objects of type  $k$ , then the number of different permutations of  $n$  objects is

$$\frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_k!}$$

where  $n_1 + n_2 + n_3 + \dots + n_k = n$

*diff comes in one block*

## ③ Combinations with Repetition:

→ If repetition of elements is allowed, then the number of  $r$ -combinations from a set with  $n$  elements is

$$\frac{n+r-1}{r} C_r$$

① How many strings of six letters are there?

26

$n = 26$  letters.

$r = 6$  letters.

The strings of six letters

~~26~~

$$= n^r$$

$$= 26^6 = 26 \times 26 \times 26 \times 26 \times 26 \times 26.$$

② How many ways are there to assign three jobs to five employees if each employee can be given more than one job.

$n = 5$

$r = 3$

|||||  
|||

$n = 5$  jobs

$r = 3$

The number of ways to assign three jobs to the five employees (when repetition is allowed).

$$= 5^3 = 5 \times 5 \times 5 = 125$$

③ How many ways are there to select three unordered elements from a set of five elements when repetition is allowed?

Sol: we have to select three unordered elements from a set of five elements. repetition is allowed

$$n+r-1 C_r$$

$$= (5+3-1) C_3$$

$${}^nC_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)! r!} = \frac{7!}{(7-3)! 3!} = \frac{7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4!}{4! \times 3 \times 2 \times 1} = 35$$

④ How many different strings can be made from the letters of the word "SUCCESS" using all the letters?

Sol. SUCCESS = 7 ; s = 3  
e = 2

$$= \frac{7!}{2! 3! 1! 1! 1!} = 420$$

⑤ How many different strings can be made from the letters in ABRACADABRA using all the letters?



$$= \frac{11!}{5! 2! 2! 1! 1!}$$

$$= 83,160.$$

→ There are three boxes of identical red, blue & white balls, where each box contains at least 10 balls, how many ways are there to select 10 balls if

① there is no restriction.

$$(3+10-1)C_{10}$$

$$= 12C_{10} = 66.$$

② at least one white ball must be selected

$$1 \times (3+9-1)C_9 = 11C_9 = 55$$

③ at least one red ball, at least two blue balls & at least three white balls must be selected

1 - red  
2 - blue  
3 - white } 6 remaining

$$\begin{matrix} 3 & + & 4 & - & 1 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{color} & & \text{value} \end{matrix} C_4 = 6C_4 = 15$$

## Circular permutations! —

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If objects of a given set are arranged in a line, we obtain a linear permutation. If objects are arranged in a circle or any closed curve, we get a circular permutation.

The number of circular permutations will be different from number of linear permutations.



Note: The number of different circular arrangements of  $n$  objects =  $(n-1)!$

① Find the number of different circular arrangements of five elements a, e, i, o and u.

So! we fix one of the elements,

Say a at the top of the circle.

The other four elements e, i, o and u can be arranged in a circle in  $4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 4! = 20$  ways. —

$$(n-1)! = (5-1)! = 4! = 20 \text{ ways.}$$

Note: If the number of clockwise circular arrangements is equal to the number of counter-clockwise circular arrangements, then the number of different circular arrangements =  $\frac{1}{2}(n-1)!$

→ If eight people P, Q, R, S, T, U, V and W are seated around a round table.

(1) How many different circular arrangements are possible, if arrangements are considered the same when one can be obtained from the other by rotation.

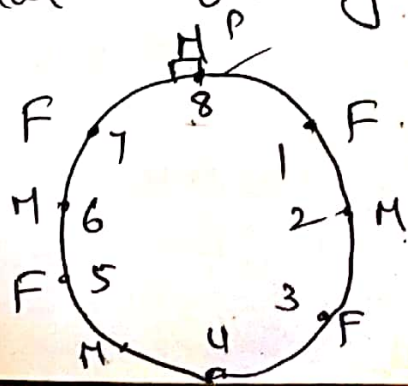
(2) If P, Q, R and S are males and T, U, V and W are females, in how many arrangements do the sexes alternate.

Sol.

(1) Since the rotation does not alter the circular arrangements,

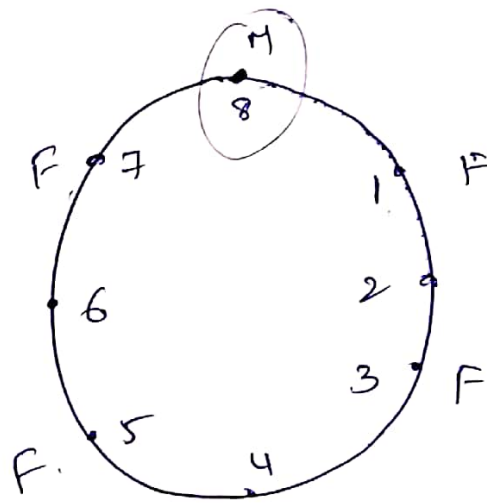
The required number of different circular arrangements =  $(8-1)! = 7! = 5040.$

(2)





Since the rotation does not alter the circular arrangements, we can assume that P occupies the top position.



The remaining positions 1, 3, 5 and 7 must be occupied by four females.

The number of permutations =  $4P_4 = 4! = 24$  ways

The places 2, 4 and 6 must be occupied by the remaining three males.

$\therefore 3P_3 = 6$  ways. 24 ways

The total number of required circular arrangements =  $24 \times 6 = 144$

$$n! \times r! =$$

## Multinomial Coefficient Theorem:

Given non negative integers  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m$   
and  $n = k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_m$ , the multinomial  
Coefficient  $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m \end{bmatrix}$  is defined by

$$\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m \end{bmatrix} = \frac{n!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_m!}$$

$$n = n_1 + n_2 + \dots$$

eg: Compute  $\begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 3, 2, 5 \end{bmatrix}$

$$n_1 + n_2 + n_3 = 7$$

$$= \frac{10!}{3! 2! 5!} = 2520$$

Note: Given nonnegative integers  $k_1, k_2, k_3, \dots, k_m$   
and  $n = k_1 + k_2 + k_3 + \dots + k_m$ . The multinomial  
Coefficient  $\begin{bmatrix} n \\ k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m \end{bmatrix}$  Counts the number  
of ways to split  $n$  distinct items into  
 $m$  distinct categories, of sizes  $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_m$

## Multinomial theorem:

Let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $n \geq 1$  then.

$$(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_m)^n = \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_m!} \left[ x_1^{n_1} x_2^{n_2} \dots x_m^{n_m} \right]$$

when  $n_1 + n_2 + n_3 + \dots + n_m = n$ .

① Find the term which contains  $x^1$  and  $y^4$  in the expansion of  $(2x^3 - 3xy^2 + z^2)^6$

sol:

$$\begin{aligned} & \binom{6}{n_1, n_2, n_3} (2x^3)^{n_1} (-3xy^2)^{n_2} (z^2)^{n_3} \\ &= \binom{6}{n_1, n_2, n_3} 2^{n_1} (-3)^{n_2} (x)^{3n_1+n_2} y^{2n_2} z^{2n_3} \end{aligned}$$

$$n_1 + n_2 + n_3 = 6$$

$\therefore$  For the term containing  $x^1$  and  $y^4$  we should have

$$3n_1 + n_2 = 1$$

$$2n_2 = 4$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2n_2 &= 4 \\ n_2 &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and } 3n_1 + 2 = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3n_1 &= -1 \\ n_1 &= -\frac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$n_1 + n_2 + n_3 = 6$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3 + 2 + n_3 &= 6 \\ n_3 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

∴ the term containing  $x^{11}$  and  $y^4$  is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 3, 2, 1 \end{bmatrix} 2^3 (-3)^2 x^{11} y^4 z^2 = 4320 x^{11} y^4 z^2.$$

→ Determine the coefficient of  $a^2 b^3 c^2 d^5$  in the expansion of  $(a+2b-3c+2d+5)^{16}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4, n_5 \end{bmatrix} (a)^{n_1} (2b)^{n_2} (-3c)^{n_3} (2d)^{n_4} (5)^{n_5}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ n_1, n_2, n_3, n_4, n_5 \end{bmatrix} a^{n_1} (2)^{n_2} (b)^{n_2} (-3)^{n_3} (c)^{n_3} (2)^{n_4} (d)^{n_4} (5)^{n_5}$$

$$\begin{aligned} n_1 &= 2 & n_3 &= 2 & n_5 &= 16 - (2+3+2+5) \\ n_2 &= 3 & n_4 &= 5 & &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 16 \\ 2, 3, 2, 5, 4 \end{bmatrix} a^2 (2)^3 b^3 (-3)^2 (c)^3 (2)^5 d^5 5^4$$

The required coefficient is  $\frac{16!}{2! \times 3! \times 2! \times 5! \times 4!} (2)^3 (-3)^2 (2)^5 (5)^4$



→ Determine the coefficient of  ~~$xyz^2$~~  in the expansion of  $(2x - y - z)^4$ .

