

# Discrete Math — Homework 5 Solutions

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## Q1

How many 6-element RNA sequences

**Solution:**

RNA sequences consists of A,U,C,G.

- (a) do not contain U? **Ans** =  $3^6 = 729$ .
- (b) end with GU? **Ans** =  $4^4 = 256$ .
- (c) start with C ? **Ans** =  $4^5 = 1024$ .
- (d) contain only A or U? **Ans** =  $2^6 = 64$ .

## Q2

Find the value of each of these quantities.

- (a)  $P(6, 4) = 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 = 360$ .  
 $P(7, 5) = 7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 = 2520$ .
- (b)  $C(6, 4) = \frac{P(6,4)}{4!} = 15$ .  
 $C(7, 5) = \frac{P(7,5)}{5!} = 21$ .
- (c)  $C(6, 2) = C(6, 4) = 15$ .  
 $C(7, 2) = C(7, 5) = 21$ .

## Q3

How many permutations of the letters ABCDEFG contain

- (a) string BCD? **Ans** =  $P(5, 5) = 120$ .
- (b) strings BA and GF? **Ans** =  $P(5, 5) = 120$ .

(c) strings ABC and CDE? **Ans** =  $P(3, 3) = 6$ .

(d) strings CBA and BED? **Ans** = 0.

## Q4

A multiple-choice test contains 10 questions. There are four possible answers for each question.

(a) In how many ways can a student answer the questions on the test if the student answers every question?

$$\mathbf{Ans} = 4^{10} = 1048576.$$

(b) In how many ways can a student answer the questions on the test if the student can leave answers blank?

$$\mathbf{Ans} = 5^{10} = 9765625.$$

## Q5

How many positive integers less than 1000

(a) have distinct digits

Considering enumerate the digits by cases.

I. integers within 10. In total,  $\text{Ans}_{10} = 9$ .

II. integers from 10 to 99. In total,  $\text{Ans}_{100} = 9 \times 9 = 81$ .

III. integers from 100 to 999. In total,  $\text{Ans}_{1000} = 9 \times 9 \times 8 = 648$ .

Thus,  $\mathbf{Ans} = \text{Ans}_{10} + \text{Ans}_{100} + \text{Ans}_{1000} = 738$ .

(b) have distinct digits and are even

It's believed that the odd cases have the same capacity with the even ones. Thus,  $\mathbf{Ans} = 738/2 = 369$ .

## Q6

How many bit strings of length 10 contain

(a) exactly four 1s?  $\mathbf{Ans} = \frac{P(10,10)}{4! \cdot 6!} = 210$ .

(b) at most four 1s?  $\mathbf{Ans} = \sum_{i=0}^4 \frac{P(10,10)}{i! \cdot (10-i)!} = 386$ .

(c) at least four 1s?  $\mathbf{Ans} = 2^{10} - 386 + 210 = 848$ .

(d) an equal number of 0s and 1s?  $\mathbf{Ans} = \frac{P(10,10)}{5! \cdot 5!} = 252$ .

**Q7**

Find the number of elements in  $A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3$  if there are 100 elements in each set and if

- (a) the sets are pairwise disjoint

Pairwise disjoint means  $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset, \forall i \neq j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ . Thus,  $|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3| = 300$ .

- (b) there are 50 common elements in each pair of sets and no elements in all three sets

According to Inclusion-Exclusion Principle,

$$|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3| = \sum |A_i| - \sum |A_i \cap A_j| + |A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3| = 300 - 50 \cdot 3 + 0 = 150$$

- (c) there are 50 common elements in each pair of sets and 25 elements in all three sets.

According to Inclusion-Exclusion Principle,

$$|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3| = \sum |A_i| - \sum |A_i \cap A_j| + |A_1 \cap A_2 \cap A_3| = 300 - 50 \cdot 3 + 25 = 170$$

- (d) the sets are equal

$$|A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3| = |A_1| = 100.$$

**Q8**

How many derangements are there of a set with seven elements?

**Solution:** Let  $P_i$  be “ $i$  is at its place”, then our objective is to solve  $\left| \bigcap_{i=1}^7 \overline{P_i} \right| = \left| \overline{\bigcup_{i=1}^7 P_i} \right|$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \bigcup_{i=1}^7 P_i \right| &= \sum |P_i| - \sum |P_i \cap P_j| + \sum |P_i \cap P_j \cap P_k| + \cdots + \sum_{|\lambda|=\#} (-1)^{1+\#} \cdot \left| \bigcap_{i \in \lambda} P_i \right| + \cdots + \left| \bigcap_{i=1}^7 P_i \right| \\ &= \binom{7}{1} \cdot 6! - \binom{7}{2} \cdot 5! + \binom{7}{3} \cdot 4! + \cdots + \binom{7}{7} \cdot 0! \\ &= \frac{7!}{1! \cdot 6!} \cdot 6! - \frac{7!}{2! \cdot 5!} \cdot 5! + \cdots + \frac{7!}{7! \cdot 0!} \cdot 0! \\ &= 7! \cdot \left( \frac{1}{1!} - \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{3!} + \cdots + \frac{1}{7!} \right) \\ &= 3186 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\left| \overline{\bigcup_{i=1}^7 P_i} \right| = P(7, 7) - \left| \bigcup_{i=1}^7 P_i \right| = 1854$ .

**Q9**

How many positive integers less than 200 are

- (a) either odd or the square of an integer;

Let  $A$  be the odd positive integers within 200, and  $B$  be the square numbers within 200.

Then, we have  $|A| = 100$ ,  $|B| = 14$ ,  $|A \cap B| = 7$ . Therefore,

$$\mathbf{Ans} = |A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B| = 107$$

(b) second or higher powers of integers?

Let  $P_i = \{x: \exists t \in [2, 200) \cap \mathbb{Z} \text{ s.t. } x = t^i\}$ .

Since,  $\lfloor \log_2 199 \rfloor = 7$ , we conclude that  $\forall i \geq 8, P_i = \emptyset$ . And, obviously we get

$$\text{i. } |P_i| = \lfloor 199^{1/i} \rfloor - 1.$$

$$\text{ii. } d \mid n \implies P_n \subseteq P_d$$

$$\text{iii. } \gcd(i, j) = 1 \implies P_i \cap P_j = \emptyset$$

By calculation, we have  $(P_2, P_3, P_4, P_5, P_6, P_7) = (13, 4, 2, 1, 1, 1)$ . Therefore,  $\left| \bigcup_{i=2}^7 P_i \right| = |P_2 \cup P_3 \cup P_5 \cup P_7| = 13 + 4 + 1 + 1 = 19$ .

But, for the answer, we should take 1 into account. Thus, **Ans** = 20.

(c) either primes or second or higher powers of integers?

Let  $A$  be set of all primes within 200 and  $B$  be set of second or higher powers of integers within 200. Since, all primes cannot be a power of other integer, thus  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .

Therefore, **Ans** =  $|A \cup B| = |A| + |B| - |A \cap B| = 46 + 20 = 66$ .

(d) not divisible by the square of an integer greater than 1?

Square of integers within 200 are listed as

$$S = \{4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81, 100, 121, 144, 169, 196\}$$

Let  $P_i = \{x: i \mid x, x \in [1, 199] \cap \mathbb{Z}\}$ , and  $S' = \{4, 9, 25, 49, 121, 169\}$ . Then, we have

$$\text{i. } |P_i| = \lfloor 199/i \rfloor$$

$$\text{ii. } d \mid n \implies P_n \subseteq P_d$$

$$\text{iii. } \gcd(i, j) = 1 \implies P_i \cap P_j = \emptyset$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Ans} &= 199 - \left| \bigcup_{i \in S} P_i \right| = 199 - \left| \bigcup_{i \in S'} P_i \right| \\ &= 199 - \sum_{i \in S'} |P_i| = 199 - \sum_{i \in S'} \left\lfloor \frac{199}{i} \right\rfloor \\ &= 199 - 49 - 22 - 7 - 4 - 1 - 1 \\ &= 115 \end{aligned}$$

## Q10

How many ways are there to choose eight coins from a piggy bank containing 100 identical pennies and 80 identical nickels?

**Solution:** Since the pennies and nickels are identical, the answer should be 9, which correspond to pairs:  $(8, 0), (7, 1), \dots, (1, 7), (0, 8)$ .

## Q11

How many solutions are there to the equation

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 17 \quad (1)$$

**Solution:** For equation

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = m$$

where  $x_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , the cardinality of solution set is  $\binom{m-1}{n-1}$ .

(a) if  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  and  $x_4$  are nonnegative integers?

Rewrite (1) as  $(x_1 + 1) + (x_2 + 1) + (x_3 + 1) + (x_4 + 1) = 21$ , then **Ans** =  $\binom{20}{3} = 1140$ .

(b) if  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  and  $x_4$  are positive integers?

It is trivial that **Ans** =  $\binom{16}{3} = 560$ .

(c) if  $x_1 \geq 2, x_2 \geq 3, x_3 \geq 4$  and  $x_4$  are positive integers?

Rewrite (1) as  $(x_1 - 1) + (x_2 - 2) + (x_3 - 3) + x_4 = 11$ , then **Ans** =  $\binom{10}{3} = 120$ .

## Q12

How many solutions are there to the equation

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \leq 17 \quad (2)$$

**Solution:** For inequation

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i \leq m$$

where  $x_i \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , the cardinality of solution set is  $\sum_{i=n}^m \binom{i-1}{n-1}$ .

(a) if  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  and  $x_4$  are nonnegative integers?

Rewrite (2) as  $(x_1 + 1) + (x_2 + 1) + (x_3 + 1) + (x_4 + 1) = 21$ , then **Ans** =  $\sum_{i=4}^{21} \binom{i-1}{3} = 5985$ .

(b) if  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  and  $x_4$  are positive integers?

It is trivial that **Ans** =  $\sum_{i=4}^{17} \binom{i-1}{3} = 2380$ .

**Q13**

Find the next larger permutation in lexicographic order after each of these permutations.

- (a) 1432; **Ans** = 2134.
- (b) 54123; **Ans** = 54213.
- (c) 12453; **Ans** = 12534.
- (d) 31528764. **Ans** = 31542678.

**Q14**

Find the next larger 5-combination of the set  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$  after each of these 5-combinations

- (a)  $\{1, 2, 4, 5, 7\}$ ; **Ans** =  $\{1, 2, 4, 6, 7\}$ .
- (b)  $\{1, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$ ; **Ans** =  $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ .

**Q15**

Write the pseudo-code for generating the next permutation in a reverse lexicographic order.

**Solution:**

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**Algorithm 1** generate the next permutation in a reverse lexicographic order

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procedure NEXT PERMUTATION( $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$  : permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  not equal to
1 2  $\cdots n - 1$   $n$ )
     $j \leftarrow n - 1$ 
    while  $a_j < a_{j+1}$  do ▷ find the max suffix that is well ordered
         $j \leftarrow j - 1$ 
     $k \leftarrow n$ 
    while  $a_k > a_j$  do ▷ find the first number that is smaller than  $a_j$ 
         $k \leftarrow k - 1$ 
    INTERCHANGE( $a_j, a_k$ )
     $r \leftarrow n$ 
     $l \leftarrow j + 1$ 
    while  $r > l$  do ▷ sort the rest part in descending order
        INTERCHANGE( $a_l, a_r$ )
         $l \leftarrow l + 1$ 
         $r \leftarrow r - 1$  ▷  $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$  is now the next permutation

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**Q16**

Given set  $\{n, n-1, \dots, 1\}$ , write the pseudo-code for generating the next  $r$ -combination in a reverse lexicographic order.

**Solution:**

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**Algorithm 2** generate the next  $r$ -combination in a reverse lexicographic order

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procedure NEXT  $r$ -COMBINATION( $a_1 a_2 \dots a_r$  : proper subset of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  not equal to
 $\{r, r-1, \dots, 2, 1\}$  with  $a_1 > a_2 > \dots > a_r$ )
     $i \leftarrow r$  ▷ iterate from the last digit
    while  $a_i = r - i + 1$  do ▷ find the first digit that can be modified
         $i \leftarrow i - 1$ 
     $a_i \leftarrow a_i - 1$ 
    for  $j \leftarrow i + 1$  to  $r$  do ▷ follow closely to the digit
         $a_j \leftarrow a_i - j + i$ 
         $j \leftarrow j + 1$  ▷  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_r$  s now the next combination

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**Q17**

Show that among any group of five (not necessarily consecutive) integers, there are two with the same remainder when divided by 4.

**Solution:** 5 numbers have 5 remainders, but the range of remainders is  $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ , and according to Pigeonhole Principle, there must be 2 remainders be the same.

**Q18**

Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Show that in any set of  $n$  consecutive integers there is exactly one divisible by  $n$ .

**Solution:** It's obvious that  $n$  consecutive integers have  $n$  different remainders when divided by  $n$ , but, the remainders generated by dividing  $n$  has exactly  $n$  elements. Therefore, there exists exactly one 0 among the remainders, which means it is divisible by  $n$ .

**Q19**

Show that whenever 25 girls and 25 boys are seated around a circular table there is always a person both of whose neighbors are boys.

**Solution:** Denote the 50 positions as  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{50}$ , and then divide the group into two sub-groups:  $\{a_1, a_3, \dots, a_{49}\}$  and  $\{a_2, a_4, \dots, a_{50}\}$ . According to Pigeonhole Principle, either the odd or the even group will have at least  $\lceil \frac{25}{2} \rceil = 13$  boys. And this ensures that at least 2 boys are adjacent to each other in this sub-group, which means they are neighbors to a person in the whole circle.