Claim 1. The number of subsets of a set with n elements is 2^n .

Proof. Let a set S be defined as $S = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, \dots, a_n\}.$

The number of subsets of S will be formed by making a choice of whether to include the elements $(a_1, a_2, \text{ etc.})$. Therefore, the number of choices per element of S are:

a_1	a_2	a_3	 a_n
2	2	2	 2

 $=2^n$ total choices.