

# COUNTING PRINCIPLES, PERMUTATION AND COMBINATION

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# OUTLINE

In this presentation, we are going to discuss about,

## ① **Four Basic Counting Principles**

- ① Addition
- ② Multiplication
- ③ Subtraction
- ④ Division

## ② **Permutation**

- ① Permutation of Multiset

## ③ **Combination**

- ① Combination of multiset

# Four Basic Counting Principles

There are **FOUR** basic counting principles. They are,

- 1 **Addition**
- 2 **Multiplication**
- 3 **Subtraction**
- 4 **Division**

# Four Basic Counting Principles

**ADDITION PRINCIPLE :** *Suppose that a set  $S$  is partitioned into parts  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m$ . The number of objects in  $S$  can be determined by finding the number of objects in each parts, and adding the numbers so obtained:*

$$|S| = |S_1| + |S_2| + \dots + |S_m|$$

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**Example :** A student wishes to take either a mathematics course or a biology course, but not both. If there are 4 mathematics courses and 3 biology courses for which the student has the necessary prerequisites, then the student can choose a course to take in  $4+3=7$  ways.

# Four Basic Counting Principles

**MULTIPLICATION PRINCIPLE :** *Let  $S$  be a set of ordered pair  $(a, b)$  of objects, where the first object  $a$  comes from a set of size  $p$ , and for each choice of  $a$  there are  $q$  choices for object  $b$ . Then the size of  $S$  is  $p \times q$  :*

$$|S| = p \times q.$$

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$$|S| = p \times q.$$

The multiplication principle is actually a consequence of the addition principle. Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p$  be the  $p$  different choices for the object  $a$ . We partition  $S$  into parts  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_p$  where  $S_i$  is the set of ordered pairs in  $S$  with first object  $a_i$ , ( $i=1, 2, \dots, p$ ). The size of each  $|S_i|$  is  $q$ ; hence, by the addition principle,

$$\begin{aligned} |S| &= |S_1| + |S_2| + \dots + |S_p| \\ &= q + q + \dots + q \\ &= p \times q \end{aligned}$$

# Four Basic Counting Principles

**Example 1:** A student is to take two courses. The first meets at any one of 3 hours in the morning, and the second at any one of 4 hours in the afternoon. The number of schedules that are possible for the student is  $3 \times 4 = 12$ .



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**Example 2:** Chalk comes in three different length, 8 different colors, and 4 different diameters. How many different kind of chalk are there ?

**Ans.** To determine a piece of chalk we carry out 3 different task : choose a length, choose a color, choose a diameter. By the multiplication principle, there are  $3 \times 8 \times 4 = 96$  different kinds of chalk.

**SUBTRACTION PRINCIPLE :** *Let  $A$  be a set and let  $U$  be a larger set containing  $A$ . Let*

$$\bar{A} = \{x \in U : x \notin A\}$$

*be the complement of  $A$  in  $U$ . Then the number  $|A|$  of objects in  $A$  is given by the rule*

$$|A| = |U| - |\bar{A}|.$$

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In applying the subtraction principle, the set  $U$  is usually some natural set consisting of all the objects under discussion (the so-called universal set). Using the subtraction principle makes sense only if it is easier to count the number of objects in  $U$  and  $|\bar{A}|$  than to count the number of objects in  $A$ .

# Four Basic Counting Principles

**Example 1:** Count the number of integers between 1 and 600, which are not divisible by 6.

**Ans .** Here  $U$  = the whole set = 600

$A = \{x : x \text{ is between 1 and 600 and not divisible by 6} \}$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{A} &= \{x : x \notin A\} \\ &= \{x : x/6\} \\ &= 600/6 \\ &= 100\end{aligned}$$

*therefore,*

$$\begin{aligned}|A| &= |U| - |\bar{A}| \\ &= 600 - 100 \\ &= 500\end{aligned}$$

# Four Basic Counting Principles

**DIVISION PRINCIPLE :** *Let  $S$  be a finite set that is partitioned into  $k$  parts in such a way that each part contains the same number of objects. Then the number of parts in the partition is given by the rule*

$$k = \frac{|S|}{\text{number of objects in a part}}$$

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$$k = \frac{|S|}{\text{number of objects in a part}}$$

Thus, we can determine the number of parts if we know the number of objects in  $S$  and the common value of the number of objects in the parts.

**Example :** There are 740 pigeons in a collection of pigeonholes. If each pigeonhole contains 5 pigeons, the number of pigeonholes equals

$$740/5 = 148$$

# Permutations

Let  $r$  be a positive integer. By an  $r$ -permutation of a set  $S$  of  $n$  elements, we understand an ordered arrangement of  $r$  of the  $n$  elements.

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the six 3-permutations of  $S$  are

$abc$      $acb$      $bac$      $bca$      $cab$      $cba$

**Theorem 1** : For  $n$  and  $r$  positive integers with  $r \leq n$ .

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

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**Results** : For a non-negative integer  $n$ , we define  $n!$  by

$$n! = n \times (n - 1) \times \dots \times 2 \times 1$$

with the convention that  $0! = 1$ . We may then write

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

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**Example 1 :** The number of 4-letter “words” that can be formed by using each of letters  $a, b, c, d, e$  at most once is  $P(5, 4)$ , and this equals  $5! / (5 - 4)! = 120$ . The number of 5-letter words equals  $P(5, 5)$ , which is also 120 .

**Theorem 2:** The number of circular  $r$ -permutations of a set of  $n$  elements is given by

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

In particular, the number of circular permutations of  $n$  elements is  $(n - 1)!$

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**Example :**

# Permutations

There are some results in permutation. they are

- 1  $P(n, n) = n!$
- 2  $P(n, 0) = \frac{n!}{(n-0)!} = 1$
- 3  $P(n, 1) = 1$
- 4  $P(n, n - 1) = n!$



# Permutation of Multiset

If  $S$  is a multiset, an  $r$ -permutation of  $S$  is an ordered arrangement of  $r$  of the objects of  $S$ . If the total number of objects of  $S$  is  $n$  (counting repetitions), then an  $n$ -permutation of  $S$  will also be called a permutation of  $S$ .

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$acbc$

$cbcc$

are 4-permutations of  $S$ , while

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**Remark :** The multiset  $S$  has no 7-permutations since 7 is greater than  $2+1+3=6$ , the number of objects of  $S$ .

# Permutation of Multiset

We count the number of  $r$ -permutations of a multiset  $S$

- 1 each of whose repetition number is infinite.

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- ① each of whose repetition number is infinite.
- ② each of whose repetition number is finite.

# Permutation of Multiset

**Theorem 1:** Let  $S$  be a multiset with objects of  $k$  different types, where each has an infinite repetition number. Then the number of  $r$ -permutations of  $S$  is  $k^r$ .

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**Example 1:** What is the number of ternary numerals with at most 4 digits.

**Ans.** The answer to this question is the number of 4-permutations of the multiset  $\{\infty.0, \infty.1, \infty.2\}$  or of the multiset  $\{4.0, 4.1, 4.2\}$ . By previous Theorem, this number equals  $3^4 = 81$ .

# Permutation of Multiset

**Theorem 2:** Let  $S$  be a multiset with objects of  $k$  different types with finite repetition numbers  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k$ , respectively. Let the size of  $S$  be  $n = n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_k$ . Then the number of permutations of  $S$  equals

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



# Permutation of Multiset

**Theorem 2:** Let  $S$  be a multiset with objects of  $k$  different types with finite repetition numbers  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k$ , respectively. Let the size of  $S$  be  $n = n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_k$ . Then the number of permutations of  $S$  equals

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

**Example 2:** The number of permutation of the letters in the word MISSISSIPPI is

$$\frac{11!}{1!4!4!2!}$$

since this number equals the number of permutations of the multiset  $\{1.M, 4.I, 4.S, 2.P\}$

# Combinations

Let  $r$  be a non negative integer. By an  $r$ -combination of a set  $S$  of  $n$  elements, we understand an unordered selection of  $r$  of the  $n$  objects of  $S$ .

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$$\{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, d\}, \{a, c, d\}, \{b, c, d\}$$

are the four 3-combination of  $S$ . We denote by  $\binom{n}{r}$  the number of  $r$ -combinations of an  $n$ -element set.

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are the four 3-combination of  $S$ . We denote by  $\binom{n}{r}$  the number of  $r$ -combinations of an  $n$ -element set. Obviously,

$$\binom{n}{r} = 0 \quad \text{if } r > n.$$

also,

$$\binom{0}{r} = 0 \quad \text{if } r > 0.$$

# Combinations

the following additional facts are readily seen to be true for each non-negative integer  $n$ :

①  $\binom{n}{0} = 1$

②  $\binom{n}{1} = n$

③  $\binom{n}{n} = 1$

④  $\binom{0}{0} = 1$

# Combinations

**Theorem :** For  $0 \leq r \leq n$ ,

$$P(n, r) = r! \binom{n}{r}.$$

Hence,

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

# Combinations

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**Example :** Twenty-five points are chosen in the plane so that no three of them are collinear. How many straight lines do they determine?

**Ans.** Since no three of the points lie on a line, every pair of points determines a unique straight line. Thus, the number of straight lines determined equals the number of 2-combinations of a 25-element set, and this is given by

$$\binom{25}{2} = \frac{25!}{2!23!} = 300.$$

# Combinations of Multiset

If  $S$  is a multiset, then an  $r$ -combination of  $S$  is an unordered selection of  $r$  of the objects of  $S$ . Thus, an  $r$ -combination of  $S$  is itself a multiset, a submultiset of  $S$ .

- 1 If  $S$  has  $n$  objects, then there is only one  $n$ -combination of  $S$ , namely,  $S$  itself.
- 2 If  $S$  contains objects of  $k$  different types, then there are  $k$  1-combinations of  $S$ .



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**Example :** If  $S = \{2.a, 1.b, 3.c\}$ , then the 3-combinations of  $S$  are

$$\begin{aligned} &\{2.a, 1.b\}, & \{2.a, 1.c\}, & \{1.a, 1.b, 1.c\}, \\ &\{1.a, 2.c\}, & \{1.b, 2.c\}, & \{3.c\}. \end{aligned}$$

# Combinations of Multiset

**Theorem** : Let  $S$  be a multiset with objects of  $k$  types, each with an infinite repetition number. Then the number of  $r$ -combinations of  $S$  equals

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

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**Example :** A bakery boasts 8 varieties of doughnuts. If a box of doughnuts contain 1 dozen, how many different options are there for a box of doughnuts?

**Ans.** It is assumed that the bakery has on hand a large number (at least 12) of each variety. This is a combination problem, since we assume the order of the doughnuts in a box is irrelevant for the purchaser's purpose. The number of different options for boxes equals the number of 12-combinations of a multiset with objects of 8 types, each having an infinite repetition number. This number equals




$$\binom{12+8-1}{12} = \binom{19}{12}$$

# Conclusion

We have discuss these following topics :

- ① Using the Counting Principles
- ② Finding the simple way of permutation
- ③ Solving the Problem of Permutation
- ④ Finding the simple way of permutation of Multiset
- ⑤ Finding the simple way of Combinations
- ⑥ Solving the Problem of Combinations

# References

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# Counting principle, Permutation and Combination

