

1. Reading: K. Rosen *Discrete Mathematics and Its Applications*, 4.6
2. The main message of this lecture:

**More counting tools covering possible repetitions.**

**Theorem 22.1.** *The number of  $r$ -permutations of  $n$  objects with repetitions is  $n^r$ .*

**Proof.** Here we are having  $r$  positions to fill,  $n$  variants to choose from for each of those positions. By the Product Rule, the total number of variants equals  $\underbrace{n \cdot n \cdot \dots \cdot n}_{r \text{ times}} = n^r$ .

**Example 22.2.** 0-1 strings of length  $r$ : the total number is  $2^r$ . The number of words of length 3 in English (case insensitive) is  $26^3$ .

**Example 22.3.** Sampling with replacement. An urn contains 3 blue balls and 5 red ones. What is the probability of drawing 4 blues balls in a row if a ball is put back into the urn after it is drawn? Solution (not the optimal one): there are 8 balls total, 3 of them blue, in the urn. Assume the balls distinguishable. By 22.1, there are  $8^4$  possible outcomes (4-permutations with repetitions out of 8),  $3^4$  of them successful (4-permutations with repetitions out of 3 blue balls). Therefore,  $p = 3^4/8^4 = (3/8)^4$ . A bit more intelligent solution: each drawing is a Bernoulli trial with the probability of success  $3/8$ . In four independent trials the probability of four successes is  $(3/8)^4$ .

**Example 22.4.** Combinations with repetitions. Imagine an unlimited supply of apples, oranges and pears. How many different servings of 4 fruits are there. All apples are indistinguishable (otherwise the number of different servings would be unlimited), the same holds for oranges and pears. Let us try the brute force first: 4A, 4O, 4P, 3A1O, 3A1P, 3O1A, 3O1P, 3P1A, 3P1O, 2A2O, 2A2P, 2O2P, 2A1O1P, 2O1A1P, 2P1A1O, the total number is 15. A general method: each combination can be represented by a string of four \*'s and two |'s as shown below.

$$\underbrace{\dots * \dots}_{\# \text{ of apples}} \mid \underbrace{\dots * \dots}_{\# \text{ of oranges}} \mid \underbrace{\dots * \dots}_{\# \text{ of pears}}$$

For example, the combination 4A will be represented as \*\*\*\*||, 2A1O1P as \*\*|\*|\*. A string \*||\*\*\* encodes the combination 1A3P. The total length of a string of \*'s and |'s (here it is 6) is the sum of the length of a combination (here it is 4) and the number of types of objects to choose from minus one (here it is  $3 - 1 = 2$ ). Each combination is totally determined when the exact locations of |'s (or, equivalently, the location of \*'s) is fixed. Here it is  $C(4 + 2, 2) = C(6, 2) = 6!/(4! 2!) = (6 \cdot 5)/2 = 15$ .

**Theorem 22.5.** *There are  $C(n + r - 1, r)$   $r$ -combinations from  $n$  elements with repetitions.*

**Proof.** Each such combination is represented by a string of  $r$  stars and  $n - 1$  bars. There are  $C(n - 1 + r, r)$  such strings.

**Example 22.6.** What is a total number of possible combinations of five bills out of \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100? Apply the formula from 22.5 for the number of 5-combinations with repetitions (the length of a sample) from 6 elements (the number of types of bills at our disposal).  $C(6 + 5 - 1, 5) = C(10, 5) = 10!/(5! 5!) = 252$ .

**Example 22.7.** Find the total number of solutions of  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 100$  in nonnegative integers  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ . Surprisingly enough, this number theoretical question is governed by the same scheme of combinations with repetitions. Indeed, think of  $x_1$  as a number of apples,  $x_2$  a number of oranges and  $x_3$  as a number of pears out of total 100. Each solution of this equation can be represented by a string of 100 \*'s and two |'s:

$$\underbrace{\dots * \dots}_{x_1} | \underbrace{\dots * \dots}_{x_2} | \underbrace{\dots * \dots}_{x_3}$$

Therefore, we apply the formula from 22.5 for the number of 100-combinations of 3 elements with repetitions ( $n = 3, r = 100$ ):  $C(3 + 100 - 1, 100) = C(102, 100) = C(102, 2) = (102 \cdot 101)/2 = 5151$ .

**Example 22.8.** What is the total number of different permutations of the letters of the word *ILLINOIS*? If all the letters in this word were distinct then the total number of permutations would be  $8!$ . In our situation, however, there are three indistinguishable *I*'s and two indistinguishable *L*'s. Therefore, real permutation corresponds to  $2! \cdot 3! = 12$  distinguishable permutations. For example, the original string *ILLINOIS* is counted 12 times as  $I_1 L_1 L_2 I_2 N O I_3 S$ ,  $I_1 L_2 L_1 I_2 N O I_3 S$ ,  $I_1 L_1 L_2 I_3 N O I_3 S$ , etc. The final count is  $8!/(2! 3!) = 3360$ .

**Theorem 22.9.** The number of different permutations on  $n$  objects with  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k$  indistinguishable objects is

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

**Proof.** If all objects were distinct then we'd have  $n!$  permutations. Since  $n_i$  objects of type  $i$  are indistinguishable we counted each permutation  $n_i!$  times for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . The total count is  $n!/(n_1! \cdot n_2! \cdot \dots \cdot n_k!)$ .

**Example 22.10.** Distributing objects into boxes. Find the total number of hands of 5 cards to each of 4 players from the standard deck of 52 cards. Note that all 52 cards are distinct here. Hand one has  $C(52, 5)$  possible variants. Hand two should be considered under the condition that hand one is chosen:  $C(47, 5)$ . Hand three (provided hands one and two are chosen) has  $C(42, 5)$  variants. Finally, hand four (provided hands one, two and three are chosen) has  $C(37, 5)$  variants. By the Product Rule, the total number of four hands is

$$C(52, 5) \cdot C(47, 5) \cdot C(42, 5) \cdot C(37, 5) = \frac{52!}{5! \cdot 5! \cdot 5! \cdot 5! \cdot 32!}$$

The second solution: count the number of 52-permutations with 5, 5, 5, 5, 32 indistinguishable objects. Indeed, we can start counting not from the deck of 52 cards, but from 52 imaginary positions: 5 in each of the four hands, and 32 remaining ones:  $(I, 1), (I, 2), \dots, (IV, 5), (R, 1), \dots, (R, 32)$ . Each distribution of hands may be regarded as an assignment of one of 52 pairs above to 52 individual cards, i.e. the number of 52-permutations of 52 elements with 5, 5, 5, 5, 32 indistinguishable objects

$$\frac{52!}{5! \cdot 5! \cdot 5! \cdot 5! \cdot 32!}$$

**Theorem 22.11.** The number of ways to distribute  $n$  distinct objects into  $k$  distinct boxes  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k$  objects each is

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

**Homework assignments.** (The first installment due Friday 03/30)

22A:Rosen4.6-10ac; 22B:Rosen4.6-16ad; 22C:Rosen4.6-34; 22D:Rosen4.6-38.