

# Overview

- More counting
- Permutations
- Permutations of repeated distinct objects
- Combinations

## More counting

We'll need to count the following again and again, let's do it once:

- Counting the number of ways to generate an ordered subset of size  $k$  from a set of  $n$  distinguishable objects (Permutation)
- Counting the number of ways to generate an unordered subset of size  $k$  from a set of  $n$  distinguishable objects (Combination)

We'll see that counting permutations is based on the product rule of counting and counting combinations is based on permutations.

## More counting

### Examples:

- Counting the number of distinct pizzas we can create by selecting 4 toppings from 6 available.
- How many distinct lottery numbers when choose 6 in range 1-47.
- How many ways can 3 bit errors occur in a string of 8 bits.
- How many ways can I allocate 50 servers from a pool of 100 servers.
- How many routes are there between two points in a network.

# Permutations

**Permutation:** An ordered arrangement

- Example. How many ways can we arrange the letters in the word “abc” ?

a	b	c
b	a	c
c	b	a
a	c	b
b	c	a
c	a	b

The first letter can be chosen from any of 3, the second from any of 2, the third from 1. So by the product rule there are  $3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$  possible permutations

- Recall  $n! = n(n - 1)(n - 2) \cdots 3 \times 2 \times 1$ . So  $3! = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$
- In general, number of permutations of  $n$  objects is  $n!$  – by direct application of product rule.

## Permutations

How many ways can we arrange the letters in the word “moo” ?

- Label the letters uniquely  $mo_1o_2$ . Then we have  $3! = 6$  permutations, same as “abc”.

m	$o_1$	$o_2$
m	$o_2$	$o_1$
$o_1$	m	$o_2$
$o_2$	m	$o_1$
$o_1$	$o_2$	m
$o_2$	$o_1$	m

- But if treat the two o's as the same we get only 3 distinct arrangements:

m	o	o
o	m	o
o	o	m

- Take  $mo_2o_1$ , If we permute the  $o$ 's we get  $mo_1o_2$  but it still reads *moo*. There are  $2! = 2$  ways to permute the two  $o$ 's. So we need to divide  $3!$  by  $2!$ , which gives us  $6/2 = 3$  permutations

# Permutations

A slightly harder example: “pepper”.

- Three p's, two e's and one r. Label as  $p_1 e_1 p_2 p_3 e_2 r$ .
- Consider one permutation e.g. ppeper. How many equivalent ways can we write this ?

$p_1$   $p_2$   $e_1$   $p_3$   $e_2$   $r$

$p_1$   $p_3$   $e_1$   $p_2$   $e_2$   $r$

$p_2$   $p_1$   $e_1$   $p_3$   $e_2$   $r$

$p_2$   $p_3$   $e_1$   $p_1$   $e_2$   $r$

$p_3$   $p_1$   $e_1$   $p_2$   $e_2$   $r$

$p_3$   $p_2$   $e_1$   $p_1$   $e_2$   $r$

$p_1$   $p_2$   $e_2$   $p_3$   $e_1$   $r$

$p_1$   $p_3$   $e_2$   $p_2$   $e_1$   $r$

$p_2$   $p_1$   $e_2$   $p_3$   $e_1$   $r$

$p_2$   $p_3$   $e_2$   $p_1$   $e_1$   $r$

$p_3$   $p_1$   $e_2$   $p_2$   $e_1$   $r$

$p_3$   $p_2$   $e_2$   $p_1$   $e_1$   $r$

- Can arrange  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  in  $3!$  different orders. Can arrange  $e_1, e_2$  in  $2!$  different orders. Can arrange  $r$  in  $1! = 1$  different ways (trivially)
- So  $3!2! = 12$  ways to write ppeper.
- $6!$  ways to arrange  $p_1 e_1 p_2 p_3 e_2 r$ . So  $\frac{6!}{3!2!1!} = 60$  possible letter arrangements.

# Permutations

With **permutations of repeated distinct objects** in general we have the following. Permuting  $n$  objects with  $k$  groups (first group has  $n_1$  objects, second  $n_2$  objects etc):

- Consider all of the  $n$  objects to be distinct at first and compute  $n!$
- For the first distinct group with  $n_1$  objects, divide  $n!$  by the permutations of this group  $n_1!$  Repeat for the second group with  $n_2$  objects, and so on.
- Number of permutations is

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

- In the special case when  $k = n$ ,  $n_1 = 1 = n_2 = \cdots = n_n$  then we get back to  $\frac{n!}{1!} = n!$ .

## Combinations

Interested in counting the number of different groups of  $k$  objects that can be formed from a total of  $n$  objects. Now order does not matter.

- Example: How many groups of 3 letters could be selected from the set of 5 letters  $\{A, B, C, D, E\}$  ?
- There are 5 ways to select the first letter, 4 ways to select the second letter, 3 ways to select the third letter. So  $5 \times 4 \times 3 = 60$  ways of selecting a group when the order matters.
- What about when the order doesn't matter ?
- Each group containing letters  $A, B, C$  is counted in the 60. There are 6 such groups:  $ABC, ACB, BAC, BCA, CAB$  and  $CBA$ . Lumping these together we need to divide 60 by 6 to get number of groups when don't care about letter order.
- Frame it as a repeated permutation problem ... for each group of 3 letters there are  $3! = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$  permutations, so number of unordered groups is  $\frac{5 \times 4 \times 3}{3 \times 2 \times 1}$



## Combinations

- In general there are  $n(n-1)(n-2)\cdots(n-k-1)$  ways that a group of  $k$  items can be selected from  $n$  items, when order matters.
- Each group of  $k$  items will be counted  $k!$  times in this count, so we need to divide by this to get number of unordered groups. That is, number of different groups of  $k$  objects that can be formed from a total of  $n$  objects is

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

- Notation: for  $0 \leq k \leq n$  define  $\binom{n}{k}$  by

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

We say that  $\binom{n}{k}$  is number of possible combinations of  $n$  objects taken  $k$  at a time. Say “ $n$  choose  $k$ ”.

- Note that  $0! = 1$  by convention. So  $\binom{n}{0} = 1$  and  $\binom{n}{n} = 1$ .

# Combinations

Example:

- How many ways can 3 bit errors occur in a string of 8 bits.  $\binom{8}{3} = 56$ .
- How many ways can I allocate 50 servers from a pool of 100 servers.  $\binom{100}{50} \approx 10^{29}$ .
- Number of distinct pizzas we can create by selecting 4 toppings from 6 available.  $\binom{6}{4} = 15$ .
- How many distinct lottery numbers when choose 6 in range 1-47.  $\binom{47}{6} = 10,737,573$

# Combinations

Pizza toppings:

- Gorgonzola
- Olives
- Peppers
- Mushrooms
- Artichokes
- Epoisses de Bourgogne<sup>1</sup>

How many different combinations ?  $\binom{6}{4} = 15$ . But can't use Gorgonzola and Epoisses together as just too stinky. How many different combinations now ?

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<sup>1</sup>Apparently banned from public transport in Paris, Napoleon's favourite

# Combinations

Solution 1:

- Case 1: Gorgonzola and 3 other toppings (excluding Epoisses).  $\binom{4}{3}$
- Case 2: Epoisses and 3 other toppings (excluding Gorgonzola).  $\binom{4}{3}$
- Case 3: 4 toppings that aren't Gorgonzola or Epoisses.  $\binom{4}{4}$
- Total is  $\binom{4}{3} + \binom{4}{3} + \binom{4}{4} = 9$

Solution 2:

- All combinations.  $\binom{6}{4}$
- Gorgonzola + Epoisses + 2 other toppings.  $\binom{4}{2}$
- Remainder:  $\binom{6}{4} - \binom{4}{2} = 9$

## Power Sets

- **Power set of  $S$ :** the set of all subsets of  $S$ , including the empty set and  $S$  itself. Sometimes written  $2^S$ .
- Example:  $S = \{A, B, C\}$ ,

$$2^S = \{\emptyset, \{A\}, \{B\}, \{C\}, \{A, B\}, \{A, C\}, \{B, C\}, \{A, B, C\}\}$$

- Note that in a set the elements are unordered i.e. set  $\{A, B\}$  is same as set  $\{B, A\}$

$$\begin{aligned} |2^S| &= \binom{3}{0} + \binom{3}{1} + \binom{3}{2} + \binom{3}{3} \\ &= 1 + 3 + 3 + 1 = 8 \end{aligned}$$

## Power Sets

- Let  $|S| = n$ . In general,

$$|2^S| = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}$$

- **Binomial Theorem:**  $(x + y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k y^{n-k}$  (see book for proof)
- Example:

$$|2^S| = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} 1^k 1^{n-k} = (1 + 1)^n = 2^n$$

- So  $|2^S| = 2^{|S|} = 2^n$

## Basket Data



- Basket data also called transaction data.
- Plenty of it.
- Example:

ID	apples	beer	cheese	eggs	ice cream
1	1	1			1
2			1	1	
3		1	1		
4		1			1
5				1	
6	1	1	1		
7		1			1
8				1	

## Basket Data

ID	apples	beer	cheese	eggs	ice cream
1	1	1			1
2			1	1	
3		1	1		
4		1			1
5				1	
6	1	1	1		
7		1			1
8				1	

Discovering “rules”.

- A rule is something like this: *If a basket contains beer then it also contains ice cream*
- Accuracy: when the *if* part is true, how often is the *then* part true.
- Coverage: how much of the database contains the *if* part
- 5 out of 8 entries contain beer (coverage is  $\frac{5}{8} = 0.625$ ). Of these 3 also contain ice cream (accuracy is  $\frac{3}{5} = 0.6$ ).
- Is this rule interesting/surprising i.e. do beer and ice cream appear in same basket more than we would expect by chance ?



## Basket Data

ID	apples	beer	cheese	eggs	ice cream
1	1	1			1
2			1	1	
3		1	1		
4		1			1
5				1	
6	1	1	1		
7		1			1
8				1	

- $\frac{5}{8} = 0.625$  of baskets contain beer,  $\frac{3}{8} = 0.375$  contain ice cream. So if these are independent and we pick a basket uniformly at random we expect  $0.625 \times 0.375 \approx 0.23$  of baskets to contain both.
- Is observed fraction 0.6 with beer and ice cream interestingly larger than 0.23 ?
- Depends on the amount of data (only 8 baskets, but what if had 1M baskets ? Or 100M ?). Depends on our assumptions e.g. independence.
- For large data sets, can't enumerate all possible "rules". Smart algorithms for enumerating rules with specified minimum coverage, see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apriori\\_algorithm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apriori_algorithm).

## Prediction: Regression

We have some data e.g. scores in ST3009 tutorials and in final exam:

3	7	2	9	1	75
5	8	2	9	2	85
4	1	1	1	3	25
6	8	2	1	4	55

We get some new data:

3 6 1 8 1 ?

- Can we accurately predict the final exam score with high probability ?
- E.g. picking a number between 0 and 100 uniformly at random is certainly a prediction, but hopefully a poor one.
- Expect that quality of prediction depends on the amount of data and on our assumptions

## Prediction: Classification

We have some data which is labelled  $A$  or  $B$  e.g. has passed ST3009 exam:

3	7	2	9	1	A
5	8	2	9	2	A
4	1	1	1	3	B
6	8	2	1	4	A

We get some new data:

3	6	1	8	1	?
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- Can we accurately predict the label  $A$  or  $B$  with high probability ?