

Great Theoretical Ideas In Computer Science		
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Counting II :
Recurring Problems And
Correspondences

+ = ?

Correspondence Principle

If two finite sets can be placed into 1-1 onto correspondence, then they have the same size.

Choice Tree

A choice tree is a rooted, directed tree with an object called a "choice" associated with each edge and a label on each leaf.

A choice tree provides a "choice tree representation" of a set S, if

- 1) Each leaf label is in S
- 2) No two leaf labels are the same

Product Rule

IF S has a choice tree representation with P_1 possibilities for the first choice, P_2 for the second, and so on,

THEN

there are $P_1 P_2 P_3 \dots P_n$ objects in S

Proof: The leaves of the choice tree are in 1-1 onto correspondence with the elements of S.

Product Rule

Suppose that all objects of a type S can be constructed by a sequence of choices with P_1 possibilities for the first choice, P_2 for the second, and so on.

IF

- 1) Each sequence of choices constructs an object of type S
- AND
- 2) No two different sequences create the same object

THEN

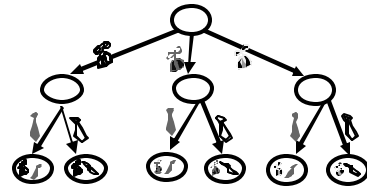
there are $P_1 P_2 P_3 \dots P_n$ objects of type S.

Condition 2 of the product rule:

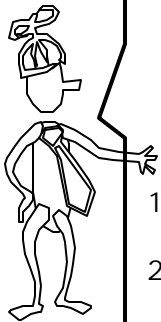
No two leaves have the same label.

Equivalently,

No object can be created in two different ways.

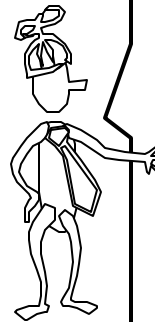


Reversibility Check:
Given an arbitrary object in S ,
can we reverse engineer the
choices that created it?



The two big mistakes
people make in
associating a choice tree
with a set S are:

- 1) Creating objects not in S
- 2) Creating the same object
two different ways

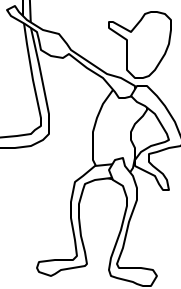


DEFENSIVE THINKING

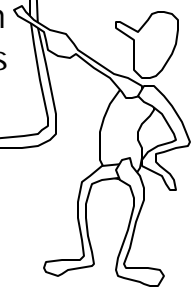
Am I creating objects of
the right type?

Can I reverse engineer my
choice sequence from any
given object?

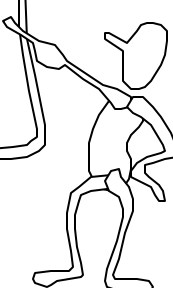
The number
of subsets of
an n -element
set is 2^n



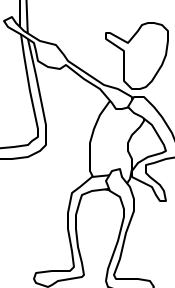
The number of
permutations of n
distinct objects is
 $n!$



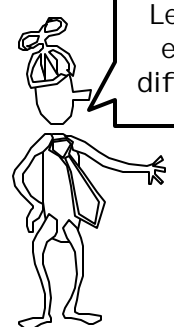
The number of subsets of size r that can be formed from an n -element set is:

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


Sometimes it is easiest to count something by counting its opposite.



Let's use our principles to extend our reasoning to different types of objects.



Counting Poker Hands...



52 Card Deck
5 card hands

4 possible suits:
• ♥ ♦ ♣ ♠

13 possible ranks:
• 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,J,Q,K,A

Pair: set of two cards of the same rank
Straight: 5 cards of consecutive rank
Flush: set of 5 cards with the same suit

Straight Flush
• A straight and a flush

4 of a kind
• 4 cards of the same rank

Full House
• 3 of one kind and 2 of another

Flush
• A flush, *but not a straight*

Straight
• A straight, *but not a flush*

3 of a kind
• 3 of the same rank, *but not a full house or 4 of a kind*

2 Pair
• 2 pairs, *but not 4 of a kind or a full house*

A Pair

Ranked
Poker
Hands

Straight Flush

4 Of A Kind

Flush

Straight



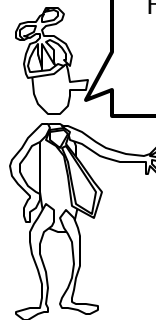
Storing Poker Hands How many bits per hand?

I want to store a 5 card poker hand using the smallest number of bits (space efficient).

Naive scheme: 2 bits for suit,
4 bits for a rank,
and hence 6 bits per card

Total: 30 bits per hand

How can I do better?



How can we store a poker hand without storing its order?



Order the 2,598,560 Poker hands lexicographically [or in any fixed manner]

To store a hand all I need is to store its index of size $\lceil \log_2(2,598,560) \rceil = 22$ bits.

Hand 0000000000000000000000
Hand 00000000000000000000001
Hand 00000000000000000000010

...

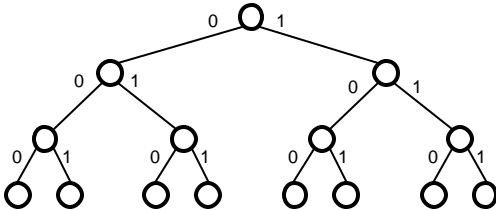
22 Bits Is OPTIMAL

$$2^{21} = 2097152 < 2,598,560$$

Thus there are more poker hands than there are 21-bit strings.

Hence, you can't have a 21-bit string for each hand.

Binary (Boolean) Choice Tree



A binary (Boolean) choice tree is a choice tree where each internal node has degree 2. Usually the choices will be labeled 0 and 1.

22 Bits Is OPTIMAL

$$2^{21} = 2097152 < 2,598,560$$

A binary choice tree of depth 21 can have at most 2^{21} leaves. Hence, there are not enough leaves for

Hence, you can't have a leaf for each hand.

An n-element set can be stored so that each element uses $\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil$ bits.

Furthermore, any representation of the set will have some string of that length.



Information Counting Principle:

If each element of a set can be represented using k bits, the size of the set is bounded by 2^k



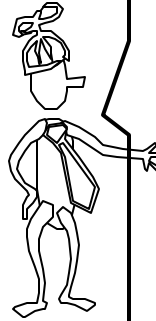
Information Counting Principle:

Let S be a set represented by a depth k binary choice tree, the size of the set is bounded by 2^k



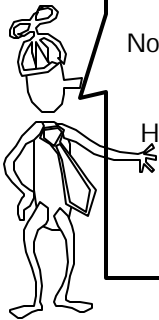
ONGOING MEDITATION:

Let S be any set and T be a binary choice tree representation of S . We can think of each element of S being encoded by the binary sequences of choices that lead to its leaf. We can also start with a binary encoding of a set and make a corresponding binary choice tree.



Now, for something completely different...

How many ways to rearrange the letters in the word **"SYSTEMS"**?



SYSTEMS

- 1) 7 places to put the Y, 6 places to put the T, 5 places to put the E, 4 places to put the M, and the S's are forced.
 $7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 = 840$
- 2)

SYSTEMS

- 3) Let's pretend that the S's are distinct:
 $S_1 Y S_2 T E M S_3$

There are $7!$ permutations of $S_1 Y S_2 T E M S_3$

But when we stop pretending we see that we have counted each arrangement of SYSTEMS $3!$ times, once for each of $3!$ rearrangements of $S_1 S_2 S_3$.

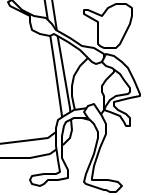
Arrange n symbols
 r_1 of type 1, r_2 of type 2, ..., r_k of type k

CARNEGIE MELLON

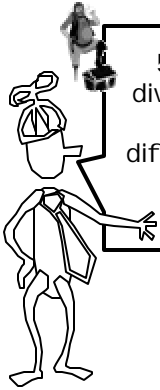
Remember:

The number of ways to arrange n symbols with r_1 of type 1, r_2 of type 2, ..., r_k of type k is:

$$\frac{n!}{r_1! r_2! r_3! \dots r_k!}$$



5 distinct pirates want to divide 20 identical, indivisible bars of gold. How many different ways can they divide up the loot?



Sequences with 20 G's and 4 /'s

GG/G//GGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG/ represents the following division among the pirates: 2, 1, 0, 17, 0

In general, the i^{th} pirate gets the number of G's after the $i-1^{\text{st}}$ / and before the i^{th} /.

This gives a correspondence between divisions of the gold and sequences with 20 G's and 4 /'s.

How many different ways to divide up the loot?
Sequences with 20 G's and 4 /'s

$$\frac{24!}{1! 4! 19!}$$



How many different ways can n distinct pirates divide k identical, indivisible bars of gold?

How many integer solutions to the following equations?

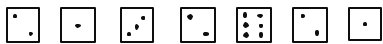
Think of X_k as being the number of gold bars that are allotted to pirate k .

$$\binom{24}{4}$$

How many integer solutions to the following equations?

Identical/Distinct Dice

Suppose that we roll seven dice.



How many different outcomes are there, if order matters?

$$6^7$$

What if order doesn't matter? (E.g., Yahtzee)

$$\binom{12}{7}$$

7 Identical Dice



How many different outcomes?

Corresponds to 6 pirates and 7 bars of gold!

Let X_k be the number of dice showing k . The k^{th} pirate gets X_k gold bars.

$$\binom{6+7-1}{7}$$

Multisets

A multiset is a set of elements, each of which has a *multiplicity*.

The size of the multiset is the sum of the multiplicities of all the elements.

Example:

$\{X, Y, Z\}$ with $m(X)=0$ $m(Y)=3$, $m(Z)=2$

Unary visualization: $\{Y, Y, Y, Z, Z\}$

Counting Multisets

There are _____ ways to choose a multiset of size k from n types of elements

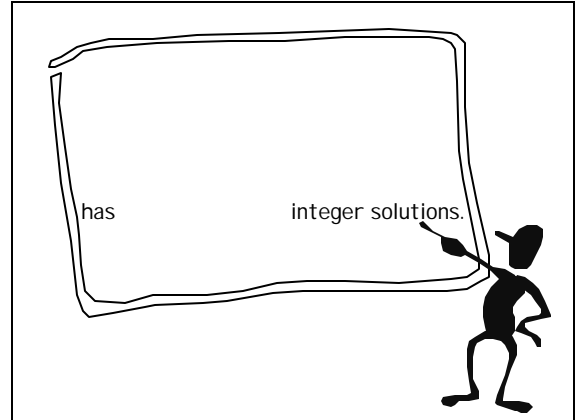


Back to the pirates



How many ways are there of choosing 20 pirates from a set of 5 pirates, with repetitions allowed?

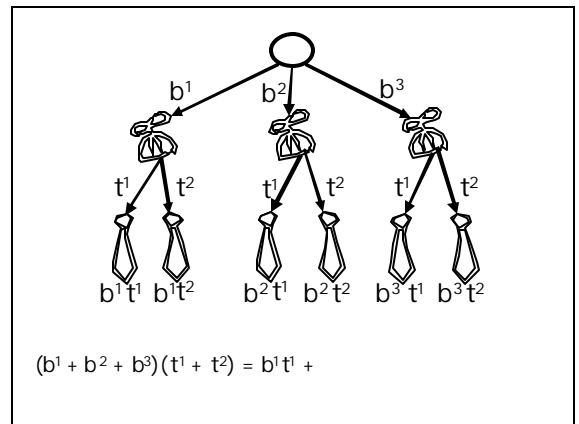
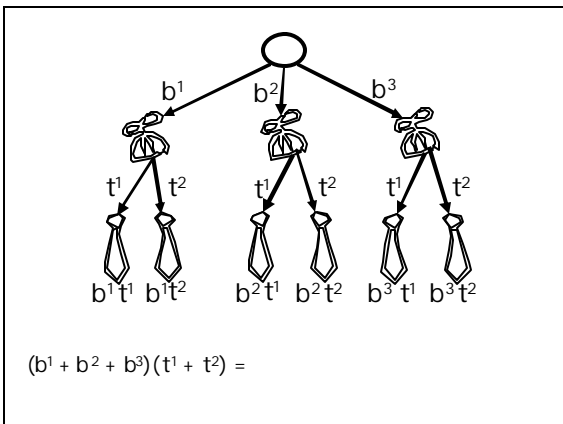
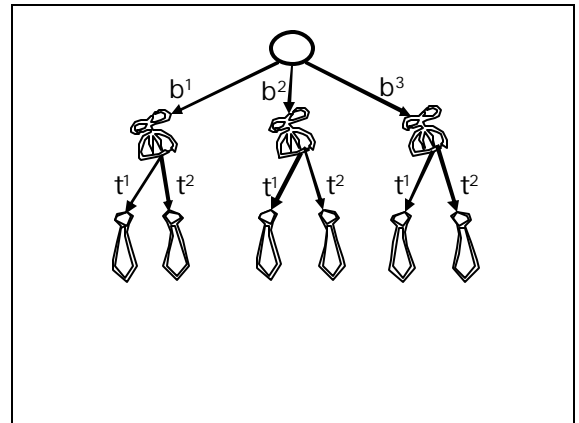
$$\binom{5+20-1}{20} = \binom{24}{20} = \binom{24}{4}$$

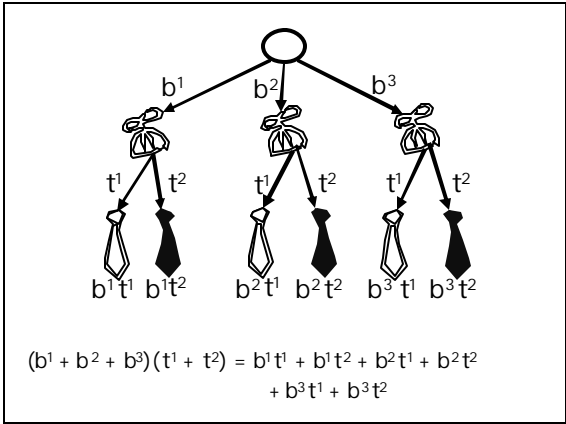
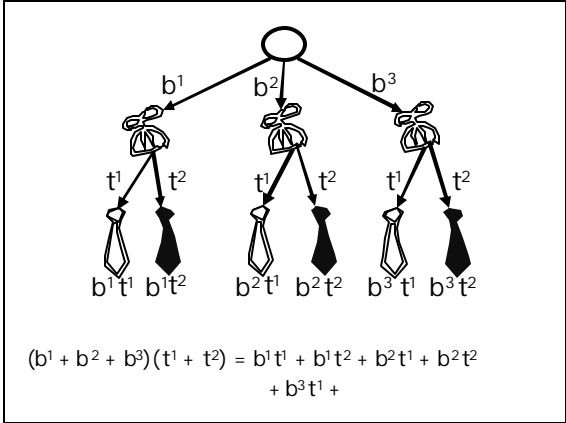
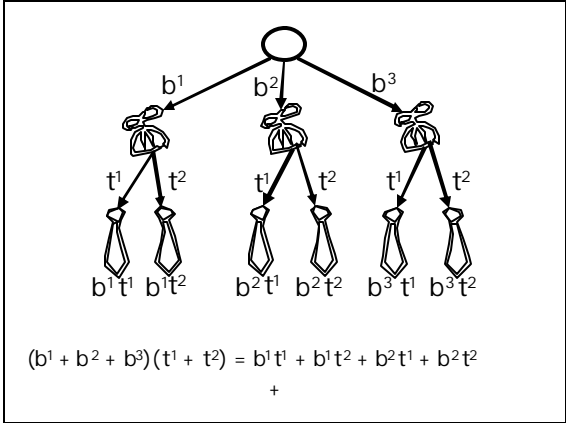
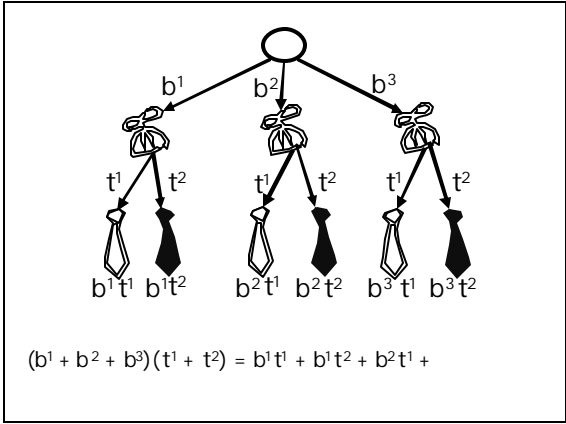
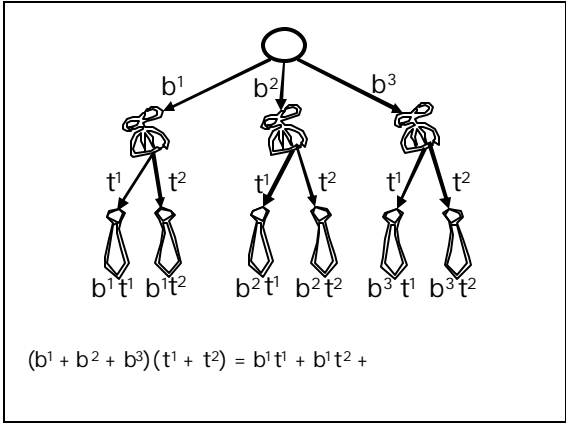


POLYNOMIALS EXPRESS CHOICES AND OUTCOMES

Products of Sum = Sums of Products

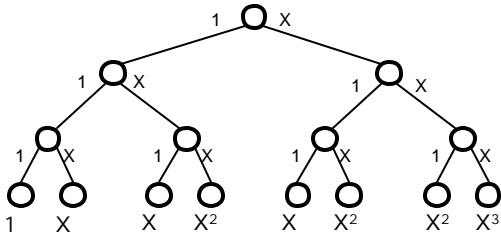
$$(b_1 + b_2 + b_3)(t_1 + t_2) =$$





There is a correspondence between paths in a choice tree and the cross terms of the product of polynomials!

Choice tree for terms of $(1+X)^3$



Combine like terms to get $1 + 3X + 3X^2 + X^3$

What is a closed form expression for c_k ?

What is a closed form expression for c_n ?

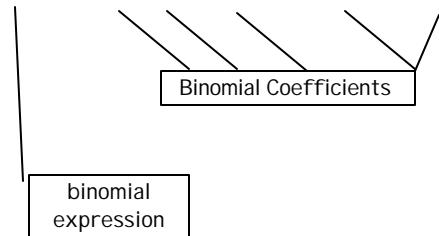
n times

After multiplying things out, but *before combining like terms*, we get 2^n cross terms, each corresponding to a path in the choice tree.

c_k , the coefficient of X^k , is the number of paths with *exactly* k X's.

$$c_k = \binom{n}{k}$$

The Binomial Formula



The Binomial Formula

$$\begin{aligned} (1+X)^0 &= 1 \\ (1+X)^1 &= 1 + 1X \\ (1+X)^2 &= 1 + 2X + 1X^2 \\ (1+X)^3 &= 1 + 3X + 3X^2 + 1X^3 \\ (1+X)^4 &= 1 + 4X + 6X^2 + 4X^3 + 1X^4 \end{aligned}$$

The Binomial Formula

The Binomial Formula

$$(X + Y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} X^k Y^{n-k}$$

What is the coefficient of EMSTY in the expansion of $(E + M + S + T + Y)^5$?

5!

What is the coefficient of EMS^3TY in the expansion of $(E + M + S + T + Y)^7$?

The number of ways to rearrange the letters in the word SYSTEMS.

What is the coefficient of BA^3N^2 in the expansion of $(B + A + N)^6$?

The number of ways to rearrange the letters in the word BANANA.

What is the coefficient of $X_1^{r_1} X_2^{r_2} X_3^{r_3} \dots X_k^{r_k}$ in the expansion of $(X_1 + X_2 + X_3 + \dots + X_k)^n$?

$$\frac{n!}{r_1! r_2! r_3! \dots r_k!}$$

Multinomial Coefficients

$$\binom{n}{r_1; r_2; \dots; r_k} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_k \neq n \\ \frac{n!}{r_1! r_2! \dots r_k!} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\binom{n}{k; n-k} = \binom{n}{k}$$

The Multinomial Formula

$$(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_k)^n$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k \\ \sum r_i = n}} \binom{n}{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k} X_1^{r_1} X_2^{r_2} X_3^{r_3} \dots X_k^{r_k}$$



There is much, much more to be said about how polynomials encode counting questions!



References

Applied Combinatorics, by Alan Tucker