


**Mathematics for Computer Science**  
 MIT 6.042J/18.062J

# Counting


 Albert R Meyer, April 9, 2010 lec 9F.1


**Counting in Gambling**

What *fraction* of poker hands are "a pair of Jacks?"







Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.


(*probability* of a pair of Jacks)


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**Counting in Algorithms**


- # ops to update a data structure (# comparisons needed to sort  $n$  items)
- # steps in a computation (# multiplies to compute  $d^n$ )



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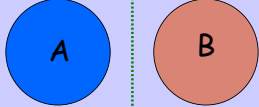

**Counting in Cryptography**

# possible passwords

# possible keys



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**Sum Rule**




If sets  $A$  and  $B$  are **disjoint**, then

$$|A \cup B| = |A| + |B|$$


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**The Sum Rule**

- Class has 43 women, 54 men so total enrollment =  $43 + 54 = 97$
- 26 lower case letters, 26 upper case letters, and 10 digits, so # characters =  $26+26+10 = 62$


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### The Product Rule

If there are 4 boys and 3 girls, there are  
 $4 \cdot 3 = 12$   
 different boy/girl couples



### Product Rule

If  $|A| = m$  and  $|B| = n$ , then  
 $|A \times B| = m \cdot n$

$$A = \{a, b, c, d\}, \quad B = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$A \times B = \{(a,1),(a,2),(a,3), \\ (b,1),(b,2),(b,3), \\ (c,1),(c,2),(c,3), \\ (d,1),(d,2),(d,3)\}$$



### Product Rule: Counting Strings

# length-4 binary strings  
 $= |B \times B \times B \times B|$   
 $= |B^4|$  where  $B ::= \{0,1\}$   
 $= 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 2^4$



### Product Rule: Counting Strings

# length  $n$  strings  
 from an alphabet of  
 size  $m$  is  
 $m^n$



### Example: Counting Passwords

Password conditions:

- characters are digits & letters
- between 6 & 8 characters long
- starts with a letter
- case sensitive



### Counting Passwords

$$L ::= \{a,b,\dots,z,A,B,\dots,Z\}$$

$$D ::= \{0,1,\dots,9\}$$

$P_n ::=$  length  $n$  words  
 starting w/letter

$$= L \times (L \cup D)^{n-1}$$



**Counting Passwords**

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |L \times (L \cup D)^{n-1}| \\
 &= |L| \cdot |(L \cup D)|^{n-1} \\
 &= |L| \cdot (|L| + |D|)^{n-1} \\
 &= 52 \cdot (52 + 10)^{n-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

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**Counting Passwords**  
set of passwords:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P &::= P_6 \cup P_7 \cup P_8 \\
 |P| &= |P_6| + |P_7| + |P_8| \\
 &= 52 \cdot (62^5 + 62^6 + 62^7) \\
 &\approx 19 \cdot 10^{14}
 \end{aligned}$$

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**# 4-digit nums w/  $\geq$  one 7**  
cases by 1st occurrence of 7:

x: any digit    o: any digit  $\neq$  7

7xxx or o7xx or oo7x or ooo7

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 10^3 + 9 \cdot 10^2 + 9^2 \cdot 10 + 9^3 \\
 &= 3439
 \end{aligned}$$

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at least one 7: another way

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |4\text{-digit nums w/ } \geq \text{one } 7| \\
 &= |4\text{-digit nums}| \\
 &\quad - |\text{those w/ no } 7| \\
 &= 10^4 - 9^4 = 3439
 \end{aligned}$$

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**Mapping Rule: Bijections**

If  $f$  is a bijection from  $A$  to  $B$ ,  
then  $|A| = |B|$

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**Counting Doughnut Selections**

From 5 kinds of doughnuts  
select a dozen.

let  $A ::=$  all selections of  
12 doughnuts

oo (none) oooooo oo oo  
chocolate lemon sugar glazed plain

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### Counting Doughnut Selections

$B ::=$  16-bit words with four 1's

00 1 (none) 1000000 100 100  
 chocolate lemon sugar glazed plain



### Counting Doughnut Selections

$B ::=$  16-bit words with four 1's

00 1 1000000 1 00100  
 00 (none) 000000 00 00  
 chocolate lemon sugar glazed plain



### Counting Doughnut Selections

$B ::=$  16-bit words with four 1's

0011000000100100  
 a bijection:  $|A| = |B|$   
 00 (none) 000000 00 00  
 chocolate lemon sugar glazed plain



### Team Problems

Problems  
 1-4



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