



| Mustafa Jarrar: Lecture Notes in Discrete Mathematics. Birzeit University, Palestine, 2015 | |
|---|---|
| Counting | |
| 9.2 Possibility Trees and the Multiplication Rule | |
| | |
| In this lecture: | |
| Part 1: Possibility Trees | |
| Part 2: Multiplication Rule | |
| Part 3: Permutations | |
| , | 3 |



Possibility Trees

Teams *A* and *B* are to play each other repeatedly until one wins two games in a row or a total of three games

- *A*-*A*, *A*-*B*-*A*-*A*, *A*-*B*-*A*-*B*-*A*, *A*-*B*-*A*-*B*-*B*, *A*-*B*-*B*,
 B-*A*-*A*, *B*-*A*-*B*-*A*-*A*, *B*-*A*-*B*-*A*-*B*, *B*-*A*-*B*-*B*, and *B*-*B*.
 * In five cases *A* wins, and in the other five *B* wins.
- b. Since all the possible ways of playing the tournament listed in part (a) are assumed to be equally likely, and the listing shows that five games are needed in four different cases (A-B-A-B-A, A-B-A-B-B, B-A-B-A-B, and B-A-B-A-A), the probability that five games are needed is 4/10 = 2/5 = 40%.

Possibility Trees

We have 4 computers (A,B,C,D) and 3 printers (X,Y,Z). Each of these printers is connected with each of the computers. *Suppose you want to print something through one of the computers, How many possibilities for you have?*



Possibility Trees

A person buying a personal computer system is offered a choice of three models of the basic unit, two models of keyboard, and two models of printer. *How many distinct systems can be purchased?*

Possibility Trees

Notices that representing the possibilities in a tree structure is a useful tool for tracking all possibilities in situations in which events happen in order.

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Counting Example 3

Suppose A_1 , A_2 , A_3 , and A_4 are sets with n_1 , n_2 , n_3 , and n_4 elements, respectively.

How many elements in $A_1 \times A_2 \times A_3 \times A_4$

Solution: Each element in $A_1 \times A_2 \times A_3 \times A_4$ is an ordered 4-tuple of the form (a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4)

By the multiplication rule, there are $n_1n_2n_3n_4$ ways to perform the entire operation. Therefore, there are $n_1n_2n_3n_4$ distinct 4-tuples in $A_1 \times A_2 \times A_3 \times A_4$













Permutations

by the multiplication rule, there are $n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots 2 \cdot 1 = n!$ ways to perform the entire operation.

Theorem 9.2.2

For any integer *n* with $n \ge 1$, the number of permutations of a set with *n* elements is *n*!.

Example 1

How many ways can the letters in the word *COMPUTER* be arranged in a row?

8! = 40,320

How many ways can the letters in the word *COMPUTER* be arranged if the letters *CO* must remain next to each other (in order) as a unit?

7! = 5,040

If letters of the word *COMPUTER* are randomly arranged in a row, what is the probability that the letters *CO* remain next to each other (in order) as a unit?

When the letters are arranged randomly in a row, the total number of arrangements is 40,320 by part (a), and the number of arrangements with the letters *CO* next to each other (in order) as a unit is 5,040.

$$\frac{5,040}{40,320} = \frac{1}{8} = 12.5\%.$$











| Example 5 | |
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| Prove that for all integers $n \ge 2$, | |
| $P(n, 2) + P(n, 1) = n^2.$ | |
| | |
| $P(n,2) = \frac{n!}{(n-2)!} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)!}{(n-2)!} = n(n-1)$ | |
| and | |
| $P(n, 1) = \frac{n!}{(n-1)!} = \frac{n \cdot (n-1)!}{(n-1)!} = n.$ | |
| Hence | |
| $P(n, 2) + P(n, 1) = n \cdot (n - 1) + n = n^{2} - n + n = n^{2},$ | |
| , | 28 |