

Combinatorics 2017 Fall

week1 note

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Reference:

Extremal Combinatorics with applications in Computer Science.
2nd Edition. Stasys Jukna, Springer.

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Notation:

- (1) A set X (a collection of distinct elements)
 $|X| := \#$ elements of X
- (2) for integer $n > 0$ $[n] := \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
- (3) A vector (or string) of length n over X
 $(x_1, \dots, x_n). x_i \in X, i \in [n]$
- (4) i.e. that is.

\exists exist.

\Rightarrow imply.

s.t. such that.

! unique.

Counting:

Function. For sets A, B . a function $A \rightarrow B$ is a relation between A and B . $(a, f(a))$ s.t. for each $a \in A, \exists b \in B$ satisfying $b = f(a)$

Injection(one to one function): if $a \neq a'$, then $f(a) \neq f(a')$.

Surjection(onto) $\forall b \in B, \exists a \in A, s.t. f(a) = b$.

Bijection(one to one correspondence) Injection & Surjection.

Proposition 1. For sets A, B

- (1) if \exists injection $f : A \rightarrow B$ then $|A| \leq |B|$.
- (2) if \exists surjection $f : A \rightarrow B$ then $|A| \geq |B|$.
- (3) if \exists bijection $f : A \rightarrow B$ then $|A| = |B|$.

proof:

- (1) Assume $|B| < |A|$ since \exists function $f : A \rightarrow B$ by definition $\forall a \in A, \exists! b \in B$ s.t. $f(a) = b$. since $|B| < |A|$ then $\exists a \neq a'$ s.t. $f(a) = f(a')$ (by pigeonhole principle) This is contradiction with the fact that f is a injection.
- (2) Assume $|B| > |A|$ since \exists function $f : A \rightarrow B$ by definition $\forall a \in A, \exists! b \in B$ s.t. $f(a) = b$. $\exists b \in B$ s.t. there does not exist $a \in A$ satisfying $f(a) = b$ This is contradiction with the fact that f is a surjection.
- (3) (1)&(2) \Rightarrow (3). □

Proposition 2:

For sets X, Y . $|X| = n, Y = [r]$. Let $X^Y := \{\text{all functions } f : Y \rightarrow X\}$. Then $|X^Y| = n^r$.

proof: Let $B = \{\text{all vectors of length } r \text{ over } X\}$. define a function

$$g : X^Y \rightarrow B. f \mapsto (f(1), \dots, f(r))$$

g is a injection since $f \neq f' \Rightarrow (f(1), \dots, f(r)) \neq (f'(1), \dots, f'(r))$.
 g is a surjection. since $\forall (b_1, \dots, b_r) \in B$. define $f : Y \rightarrow X, i \mapsto b_i$ (i.e. $f(i) = b_i$) That is easy to get $g(f) = (b_1, \dots, b_r)$.
 $\Rightarrow g$ is a bijection. $\Rightarrow |X^Y| = |B| = n^r$. \square

Proposition 3:

Let $Y = [r], 2^Y := \{\text{all subsets of } Y\}$. then $|2^Y| = 2^r$

proof: Let $B = \{\text{all vectors of length } r \text{ over } \{0,1\}\}$. define function

$$f : 2^Y \rightarrow B, A \mapsto f(A) = (b_1, \dots, b_r)$$

$$\text{where } b_i = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } i \notin A; \\ 1, & \text{if } i \in A. \end{cases}$$

claim: f is a injection.

$\forall A \neq A', \Rightarrow \exists i \in [r] \text{ s.t. } i \in A, i \notin A' \text{ or } i \notin A, i \in A'.$
 $\Rightarrow f(A) \neq f(A')$.

claim: f is a surjection.

$\forall (b_1, \dots, b_r) \in B$ define $A = \{i | b_i = 1\}$

$$\Rightarrow f(A) = (b_1, \dots, b_r)$$

$\Rightarrow f$ is a bijection. $\Rightarrow |Y| = |B| = 2^r$.

[f is called as indicator(characteristic function) A is called as support of $f(A) = (b_1, \dots, b_r)$]. \square

Binomial Coefficient:

- $\binom{n}{k} := \#k\text{-elements subsets of an } n \text{ elements set.}$
- $a|X| = n, \binom{X}{k} := \{\text{all } k\text{-subsets of } X\}. \left| \binom{X}{k} \right| = \binom{n}{k}.$
- $n! = n(n-1) \cdots 2 \cdot 1.$

$$(n)_r := n(n-1) \cdots (n-r+1).$$

$$0! = 1.$$

$$\binom{n}{0} = 1.$$

$$\binom{n}{k} = 0 \text{ if } k > n.$$

Proposition 4: $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}.$

proof: Let $B = \{\text{all vectors of length } k \text{ over } [n] \text{ consisting of } k \text{ different elements.}\}$

(Double Counting)

Way 1: just directly count the number of vectors. $|B| = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}.$

Way 2: There are $\binom{n}{k}$ ways to choose k -subset of X . For each k -subset, there are $k!$ ways to order it to a vector.

$$\Rightarrow |B| = \binom{n}{k} k!$$

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

□

Porposition5:

$$(1) \binom{n}{k} = \binom{n}{n-k}.$$

$$(2) \text{ (Pascal Triangle) } \binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k}.$$

proof:

(1) trivial.(Hint: you can construct a bijection.)

(2) Separating $\binom{X}{k}$ into two parts. and find a fixed element $t \in X$.

- $\#\{\text{all } k\text{-subsets containing } t\} = \binom{n-1}{k-1}.$
- $\#\{\text{all } k\text{-subsets avoiding } t\} = \binom{n-1}{k}.$

Combinating the two situations.then we prove (2).

□

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Slections with repetition

Porposition6: $\# \{ \text{integer solutions to } x_1 + \cdots + x_n = k. \text{ where } x_i > 0 \} = \binom{k-1}{n-1}.$

proof: The question is equivalent to How many ways of distributing k sweets to n children. Such that each child has at least one sweet.

Lay out the sweets in a single row of length k , cut it into n pieces. then given yhe sweets in the i th piece to child i . So we need $n-1$ cuts from $k-1$ possibles.

$$\Rightarrow \binom{k-1}{n-1}.$$

□

$\# \{ \text{integer solutions to } x_1 + \cdots + x_n = k. \text{ where } x_i \geq 0 \} = \binom{n+k-1}{n-1}.$

proof: Let $A = \{ \text{integer solutions } x_1 + \cdots + x_n = k, x_i \geq 0 \}$
 $B = \{ \text{integer solutions } y_1 + \cdots + y_n = n+k, y_i > 0 \}$

Define $f : A \rightarrow B, (x_1, \cdots, x_n) \mapsto (y_1, \cdots, y_n)$ by $y_i = x_i + 1, i \in [n]$.
 Show: f is a bijection.

- (1) f is well defined. if $(x_1, \cdots, x_n) \in A$ then $(y_1, \cdots, y_n) \in B$.
- (2) injection.
- (3) surjection.

$$\Rightarrow |A| = |B| = \binom{n+k-1}{n-1} \quad \square$$

Porposition7: $X = [n], A = \{ \{a_1, \cdots, a_r\} \subseteq X, 1 \leq a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \cdots \leq a_r \leq n, \text{ and } a_{i+1} - a_i \geq k+1, i \in [r-1] \}.$

proof: Let $B = \{\text{integers set } b_1 + \dots + b_{r+1} = n - 1, \text{ where } b_1 \geq 0, b_i \geq k + 1, i = 2, \dots, r, b_{r+1} \geq 0.\}$

$$f : A \rightarrow B, (a_1, \dots, a_r) \mapsto (b_1, \dots, b_{r+1})$$

By

$$b_1 = a_1 - 1 \geq 0.$$

$$b_i = a_i - a_{i-1} \geq k + 1, i = 2, \dots, r.$$

$$b_{r+1} = n - a_r \geq 0.$$

Easy to check f is a bijection. And construct a function.

$$g : B \rightarrow C$$

$C = \{\text{integers set } c_1 + \dots + c_{r+1} = n - 1 - (k + 1)(r - 1), \text{ where } c_1, \dots, c_{r+1} \geq 0,\}$

$$\text{and } c_1 = b_1, c_i = b_i - (k + 1), i = 2, \dots, r, c_{r+1} = b_{r+1}.$$

Also, check g is a bijection. Hence,

$$|A| = |B| = |C| = \binom{n - 1 - (k + 1)(r - 1) + (r + 1) - 1}{r} = \binom{n - k(r - 1)}{r}. \square$$

Arrangements with Repetition

Proposition 8: $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$. $B = \{\text{all vectors of length } r \text{ over } X \text{ s.t. } x_i \text{ occurs } a_i \text{ times.}\}$ Then, $|B| = \frac{r!}{a_1! a_2! \dots a_n!}$.

proof: just double counting. □

Corollary: (Polynomial Theorem)

$$(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)^r = \sum_{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n = r} \frac{r!}{a_1! a_2! \dots a_n!} x_1^{a_1} \dots x_n^{a_n}.$$

proof:

$$(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)^r = \sum_{1 \leq i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r \leq n} x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_r}$$

the coefficient of $x_1^{a_1} \dots x_n^{a_n}$ is equal to the number of vectors (i_1, \dots, i_r) over $[n]$, s.t. i occur a_i times. by proposition 8, we get this theorem. □

Remark:

- (1) if $n = 2, x_1 = a, x_2 = b$, then $(a + b)^r = \sum_{i=0}^r \binom{r}{i} a^i b^{r-i}$.
- (2) if $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n = 1$ then $n^r = \sum_{a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n = r} \frac{r!}{a_1! a_2! \dots a_n!}$.

Partition: $X = R_1 \cup R_2 \cup \dots \cup R_n$. there are two cases:
unordered partition $\{R_1, \dots, R_n\}$, and ordered partition (R_1, \dots, R_n) .

Proposition 9: $|X| = r, A = \{\text{ordered partitions of } X \text{ into } n \text{ parts s.t. } i\text{th block has size } a_i\}$. Then $|A| = \frac{r!}{a_1! a_2! \dots a_n!}$.

proof: Let $X = x_1, \dots, x_n$. Let $B = \{\text{all vectors of length } r \text{ over } [n] \text{ s.t. } i \text{ occurs } a_i \text{ times. } i \in [n], \sum_{i=1}^n i a_i = r\}$
define $f: A \rightarrow B, (R_1, \dots, R_n) \mapsto (b_1, \dots, b_r)$. [by $b_i = j$ if $i \in R_j$]
check that f is a bijection. then $|A| = |B| = \frac{r!}{a_1! a_2! \dots a_n!}$. \square

Proposition 9: [Exercise] $|X| = r, S = \{\text{unordered partitions of } X, \text{ s.t. there are } k_i \text{ blocks of size } i, i \in [r], \sum_{i=1}^r i k_i = r\}$. Then,

$$|S| = \frac{r!}{(1!)^{k_1} (2!)^{k_2} \dots (r!)^{k_r} k_1! k_2! \dots k_r!}.$$

Stirling Number of 2nd kind.

Def: Let $S(r, n)$ be the number of partitions of $[r]$ into n unordered non-empty sets.

$$S(r, n) = \sum_{\substack{\sum_{i=1}^r k_i = n \\ \sum_{i=1}^r i k_i = r}} \frac{r!}{(1!)^{k_1} (2!)^{k_2} \dots (r!)^{k_r} k_1! k_2! \dots k_r!}.$$

[Exercise] $S(r, 2) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{r-1} \binom{r}{i}$.

Binomial Theorem $n \geq 0$, for all x and y .

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k y^{n-k}.$$

Thm.(Vandermonder's Identity) $\forall m, n, r \geq 0$

$$(1) \quad \binom{m+n}{r} = \sum_{i=0}^r \binom{n}{i} \binom{m}{r-i} = \sum_{i+j=r} \binom{n}{i} \binom{m}{j}.$$

$$(2) \quad \binom{m+n}{r+m} = \sum_{i-j=r} \binom{n}{i} \binom{m}{j}.$$

proof:

(1)

$$\begin{aligned} (1+x)^{m+n} &= (1+x)^m (1+x)^n \\ &\Rightarrow \sum_{r=0}^{m+n} \binom{m+n}{r} x^r = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} x^i \sum_{j=0}^m \binom{m}{j} x^j \end{aligned}$$

compute coefficient of x^r for both side.

$$\binom{m+n}{r} = \sum_{i+j=r} \binom{n}{i} \binom{m}{j} = \sum_{i=0}^r \binom{n}{i} \binom{m}{r-i}.$$

(2)

$$\sum_{i-j=r} \binom{n}{i} \binom{m}{j} = \sum_{i-j=r} \binom{n}{i} \binom{m}{m-j} = \sum_{i+(m-j)=m+r} \binom{n}{i} \binom{m}{m-j} = \binom{m+n}{r+m}. \square$$

[Exercise]

$$(1) \quad \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 = \binom{2n}{n}.$$

$$(2) \quad \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{m}{k} \binom{n}{p+k} = \binom{n+m}{p+m}.$$

$$(3) \quad \sum_{k=1}^m \binom{m}{k} \binom{n-1}{k-1} = \binom{n+m-1}{n}.$$

$$(4) \quad \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{m} = \binom{n}{m} \binom{n-m}{k-m} \quad (n \geq k \geq m).$$

$$(5) \quad \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{m} = \binom{n}{m} 2^{n-m}.$$