

MA 12 LG 15 (Combinatorics)

1.1. The Fundamental Counting Principle

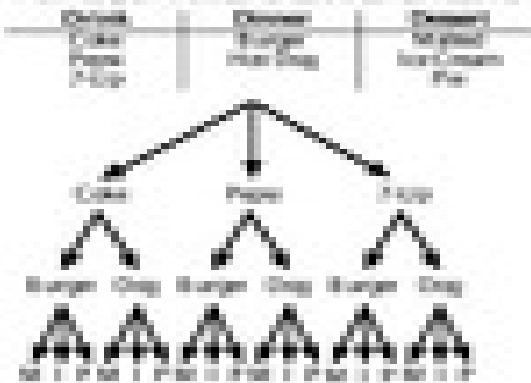
If P and Q are disjoint sets, then

where $n(P)$, $n(Q)$ are the number of items in each category.

Example No. 1.1

Draw a tree diagram to list all the possibilities for the following:

How many different combinations can be made from



Total possibilities = $3 \times 2 \times 2 = 12$ combinations.

1.2. Permutations

General: $n! = n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(2)(1) = n \times (n-1) \dots 1$

Permutations (order is important) are different from sets.

Permutations = $\frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$ n = total # objects
 r = # to be selected

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

Example No. 1.2

3 objects in factorial notation:

the $3!$ = $3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6 = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$

Example No. 1.3

3 objects in a product of factorial $n!$ or combinations:

$$\begin{aligned} 3! &= 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6 \\ {}^3 P_3 &= \frac{3!}{(3-3)!} = \frac{3!}{0!} \\ &= \frac{3!}{1} = 3! \\ &= 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6 \end{aligned}$$

Example No. 1.4

3 objects, 2 in 1st & 2 in 2nd = ${}^3 P_2$

$$\begin{aligned} {}^3 P_2 &= \frac{3!}{(3-2)!} \\ 2 \text{ in } 1^{\text{st}} \text{ & } 2 \text{ in } 2^{\text{nd}} &= \frac{3!}{1!} = \frac{3!}{1} = 3! \\ &= 3 \times 2 = 6 \end{aligned}$$

1.3. Combinations

General: $n! = n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(2)(1) = n \times (n-1) \dots 1$

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

Combinations (order not important) are different from sets.

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

Example No. 1.5

3 objects in a product of factorial notation:

$$\begin{aligned} {}^3 P_3 &= \frac{3!}{(3-3)!} = \frac{3!}{0!} \\ &= \frac{3!}{1} = 3! \\ &= 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} {}^3 C_3 &= \frac{3!}{3!(3-3)!} = \frac{3!}{3! \cdot 0!} \\ &= \frac{3!}{3! \cdot 1} = \frac{3!}{3!} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$