

11/23/12

Example 1

A disk with n sectors. Each sector is colored Red or Blue. Disk can be rotated. How many distinct colorings.

Example 2

Chess board. Each square can be colored Red or Blue. Board can be rotated or reflected, How many distinct colorings?

$X = \{\text{set of colorings}\}$

where no rotations etc. are allowed

$|X| = 2^n$ in Example 1

$|X| = 2^{n^2}$ in Example 2.

G is a set of permutations acting on X .

$g \in G$ & $x \in X$ then $g(x)$ & x are "same"

coloring

g could mean "rotate 90° ".

1 R	2 B
4 B	3 R

X

Rotate 180°

3 R	4 B
2 B	1 R

$g(X)$

G has a group structure :

- (i) $g_1, g_2 \in G \Rightarrow g_1 \circ g_2 \in G$ composition
- (ii) Identity $1_X \in G$
- (iii) $g_1 \circ (g_2 \circ g_3) = (g_1 \circ g_2) \circ g_3$
- (iv) $g \in G \Rightarrow g^{-1} \in G$

Example 1 $X = 2^D$ where $D = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$

$G = \{e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}\}$ where $e_i * x = x + i \pmod n$
 $e_i(x)$

Example 2

$X = 2^{[n]^2}$

$G = e, a, b, c, p, q, r, s$
identity $\nearrow$ $\nearrow$ $\nearrow$ $\nearrow$
90° 180° 270°
rotate
| — / \
reflect

Orbit

$$x \in X, \quad O_x = \{ y \in X : \exists g \in G \text{ s.t. } g * x = y \}$$

Problem: How many orbits?

Lemma

Orbits partition X .

Proof

$$x = 1_x * x$$

$$x \in O_x$$

$$O_x \cap O_y \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow O_x = O_y$$

$$\Downarrow$$
$$\exists g_1, g_2 \text{ s.t.}$$

$$g_1 * x = g_2 * y \Rightarrow x = g_1^{-1} g_2 * y \Rightarrow g * x = g g_1^{-1} g_2 * y \Rightarrow O_x \subseteq O_y$$

Lemma 2 Orbit-Stabilizer Theorem

$$S_x = \{g : g * x = x\}$$

stabilizer

$$\text{If } x \in X \text{ then } |O_x| |S_x| = |G|$$

Proof

Define equivalence relation

$$g_1 \sim g_2 \text{ if } g_1 * x = g_2 * x \\ \equiv g_1^{-1} g_2 \in S_x$$

Let $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$ be the equivalence classes.

$$m = |O_x|$$

= # of colorings
obtainable from x

We just have to show that

$$|A_i| = |S_x|, \forall i$$

Fix i and $g \in A_i$

$$h \in A_i \iff h \in g \circ S_n$$

$$|A_i| = |g \circ S_n| = |S_n|$$

$$g \circ h_1 = g \circ h_2$$

$\implies$

$$g^{-1} g h_1 = g^{-1} g h_2$$

$\implies$

$$h_1 = h_2$$

$$\# \text{orbits} = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{x \in X} |S_x|$$

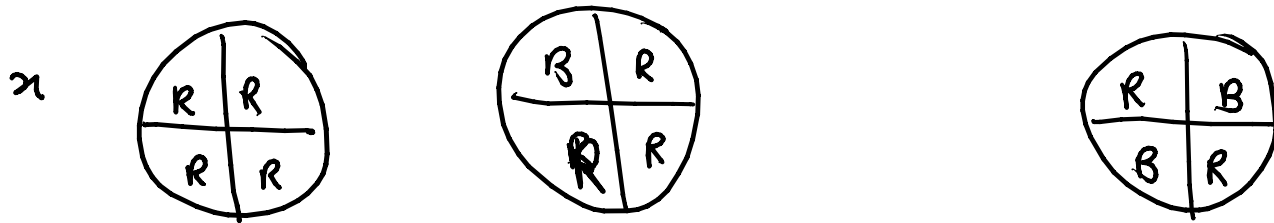
Proof

$$\# \text{orbits} = \sum_{x \in X} \frac{1}{|O_x|}$$

$$= \sum_{x \in X} \frac{|S_x|}{|G|}$$

Example 1

$$\frac{1}{4} (4 + 1 + \dots + 2 + \dots) = 6$$



Example 2

$$\frac{1}{8} (8 + 2 + \dots + 4 + \dots) = 6$$

