

Math 300 Class 19

Friday 22nd February 2019

Strategy (Addition principle)

Let X be a finite set. In order to compute $|X|$, it suffices to find a partition U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n of X ; it then follows that $|X| = \sum_{k=1}^n |X_k|$.

Strategy (Multiplication principle)

Let X be a finite set. In order to compute $|X|$, it suffices to find a step-by-step procedure for specifying elements of X , such that:

- Each element is specified by a unique sequence of choices;
- The number of choices at each step is constant, even if the choices themselves depend on choices made in previous steps.

If there are n steps and m_k possible choices in the k^{th} step, then $|X| = \prod_{k=1}^n m_k$.

Example 1

Let $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Prove that $|\mathcal{P}([n])| = 2^n$ and $|[n]^m| = n^m$, where Y^X is the set of functions $X \rightarrow Y$.

- Procedure for specifying an element $U \in \mathcal{P}([n])$ (i.e. $U \subseteq [n]$):
 - Step 1 Decide if $1 \in U$ or $1 \notin U$ \leftarrow 2 choices
 - Step 2 Decide if $2 \in U$ or $2 \notin U$ \leftarrow 2 choices
 - \vdots
 - Step n Decide if $n \in U$ or $n \notin U$ \leftarrow 2 choices

By MP, $|\mathcal{P}([n])| = \underbrace{2 \times 2 \times \dots \times 2}_{n \text{ times}} = 2^n$

- Procedure for specifying an element $f \in [n]^m$ (i.e. $f: [m] \rightarrow [n]$):
 m steps; at step k , choose the value of $f(k) \in [n]$
There are n choices for each $k \in [m]$

\Rightarrow by MP, $|[n]^m| = \underbrace{n \times n \times \dots \times n}_{m \text{ times}} = n^m$. \square

Definition 2 — Factorials (recursive definition)

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$. The **factorial** of n is defined by

$$n! = |\{f: [n] \rightarrow [n] \mid f \text{ is a bijection}\}| \quad \leftarrow = \# \text{bijections } X \rightarrow Y \text{ for all } X, Y, \text{ where } |X|=|Y|=n$$

Example 3

Prove that $n! = \prod_{k=1}^n k$.

Procedure for specifying a bijection $f: [n] \rightarrow [n]$:

Step 1 Choose $f(1) \in [n] \leftarrow n$ choices

Step 2 Choose $f(2) \in [n] \setminus \{f(1)\} \leftarrow n-1$ choices

\vdots

$(1 \leq k \leq n)$ Step k Choose $f(k) \in [n] \setminus \{f(1), \dots, f(k-1)\} \leftarrow n-k+1$ choices

\vdots

Step n Choose $f(n) \in [n] \setminus \{f(1), \dots, f(n-1)\} \leftarrow 1$ choice

By MP,
$$n! = n \times (n-1) \times \dots \times 1 = \prod_{k=1}^n k$$

Note: $n! = |\{f: X \rightarrow Y \mid f \text{ is a bijection}\}|$ for all X, Y with $|X|=|Y|=n$.

Example 4

Let $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$. Prove that the number of injections $[k] \rightarrow [n]$ is $\binom{n}{k} \cdot k!$.

Procedure for specifying an injection $f: [k] \rightarrow [n]$:

Step 1 Since f will be injective, it will take exactly k values in $[n]$ — so choose $V \in \binom{[n]}{k}$ to be the set of values of f . $\leftarrow \binom{n}{k}$ choices.

Step 2 Choose a bijection $[k] \rightarrow V$: this will then determine an injection $[k] \rightarrow [n]$, with image V .
Since $|V|=k$, there are $k!$ choices.

By MP,
$$(\# \text{injections } [k] \rightarrow [n]) = \binom{n}{k} \cdot k!$$

Strategy (Double counting)

In order to prove that two expressions involving natural numbers are equal, it suffices to define a set X and devise two counting arguments to show that $|X|$ is equal to both expressions.

Example 5

Let $n, k, l \in \mathbb{N}$ with $l \leq n$ and $l \leq k$. Prove that $\binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l} = \binom{n}{l} \binom{n-l}{k-l}$.

Let $X = \{(A, B) \mid B \subseteq A \subseteq [n], |A|=k, |B|=l\}$

Procedure 1

- Step 1 Choose $A \in \binom{[n]}{k} \leftarrow \binom{n}{k}$ choices
- Step 2 Choose $B \in \binom{A}{l} \leftarrow \binom{k}{l}$ choices $\because |A|=k$

Then $B \subseteq A \subseteq [n]$, $|A|=k$ & $|B|=l$, so $|X| = \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l}$
by MP.

Procedure 2

- Step 1 Choose $B \in \binom{[n]}{l} \leftarrow \binom{n}{l}$ choices
- Step 2 Choose $A' \in \binom{[n] \setminus B}{k-l} \leftarrow \binom{n-l}{k-l}$ choices
 $\because |[n] \setminus B| = n-l$

This determines $(A, B) \in X$ by letting $A = A' \cup B$ — then certainly $B \subseteq A \subseteq [n]$; we have $|B|=l$ by construction, and since $A' \subseteq [n] \setminus B$, we have $A' \cap B = \emptyset$, so

$$|A| = |A'| + |B| = (k-l) + l = k$$

as required.

So by MP, $|X| = \frac{\binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l}}{\binom{n}{l} \binom{n-l}{k-l}} \Rightarrow \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l} = \binom{n}{l} \binom{n-l}{k-l}$. \square

Strategy (Double counting)

In order to prove that two expressions involving natural numbers are equal, it suffices to define a set X and devise two counting arguments to show that $|X|$ is equal to both expressions.

Example 5

Let $n, k, l \in \mathbb{N}$ with $l \leq n$ and $l \leq k$. Prove that $\binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l} = \binom{n}{l} \binom{n-l}{k-l}$.

Let X be the set of all possible appointments of a k -person committee $A \subseteq [n], |A|=k$ with an l -person executive subcommittee, $B \subseteq A, |B|=l$, from a population of size n .

Procedure 1

- Step 1 Choose k people from the population to serve on the committee $\leftarrow \binom{n}{k}$ choices
- Step 2 Choose l people from the committee to serve on the executive subcommittee $\leftarrow \binom{k}{l}$ choices

By MP, $|X| = \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l}$.

Procedure 2

- Step 1 Choose l people from the population to serve on the executive subcommittee $\leftarrow \binom{n}{l}$ choices
- Step 2 Fill the remaining $k-l$ committee positions from the remaining $n-l$ people in the population $\leftarrow \binom{n-l}{k-l}$ choices

By MP, $|X| = \binom{n}{l} \binom{n-l}{k-l}$

By double counting, ~~$\binom{n}{k} \binom{k-l}{l}$~~ $\binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{l} = \binom{n}{l} \binom{n-l}{k-l}$.

□

Example 6

Prove that $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} = 2^n$ and that $\sum_{k=0}^n k \binom{n}{k} = n \cdot 2^{n-1}$.

subsets of $[n]$ of size k ... for $0 \leq k \leq n$

subsets of $[n]$

• Let $X = \mathcal{P}([n])$.

Procedure 1 Choose $U \in X$ (i.e. $U \subseteq [n]$) $\leftarrow 2^n$ choices. Done!
So $|X| = 2^n$.

Procedure 2 Let $X_k = \{U \subseteq [n] \mid |U| = k\} = \binom{[n]}{k}$, for $0 \leq k \leq n$.

The sets X_k partition X since if $U \subseteq [n]$ then there is a unique $0 \leq k \leq n$ s.t. $|U| = k$.

By AP, $|X| = \sum_{k=0}^n |X_k| = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}$. So $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} = 2^n$.

• Let $X = \{(A, a) \mid A \subseteq [n], a \in A\}$.

Procedure 1

Split into cases based on $k = |A|$ — note $0 \leq k \leq n$.

So define $X_k = \{(A, a) \mid A \in \binom{[n]}{k}, a \in A\}$. The sets X_k partition X (as above) $\Rightarrow |X| = \sum_{k=0}^n |X_k|$, by AP.

For fixed $0 \leq k \leq n$, we can specify $(A, a) \in X_k$ by:

- Step 1 Choose $A \in \binom{[n]}{k} \leftarrow \binom{n}{k}$ choices
 - Step 2 Choose $a \in A \leftarrow k$ choices
- $\Rightarrow |X_k| = \binom{n}{k} \cdot k$ by MP

So $|X| = \sum_{k=0}^n k \binom{n}{k}$

Procedure 2

- Step 1 Choose $a \in [n] \leftarrow n$ choices
- Step 2 Choose $A' \subseteq [n] \setminus \{a\} \leftarrow 2^{|[n] \setminus \{a\}|} = 2^{n-1}$ choices

Then let $A = A' \cup \{a\}$. This determines $(A, a) \in X$

$\Rightarrow |X| = n \cdot 2^{n-1}$ by MP.

So $\sum_{k=0}^n k \binom{n}{k} = n \cdot 2^{n-1}$. \square

Example 6

Prove that $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} = 2^n$ and that $\sum_{k=0}^n k \binom{n}{k} = n \cdot 2^{n-1}$.

- Let X be the set of all possible committees (of any size) from a population of size n .

Procedure 1 Select a subset of the population to serve on the committee $\leftarrow 2^n$ choices.

Procedure 2 For $0 \leq k \leq n$, let X_k be the set of committees with exactly k members. These sets partition X , since the size k of any ctee is in the range $0 \leq k \leq n$ (\downarrow the size is uniquely determined)

$\Rightarrow |X| = \sum_{k=0}^n |X_k|$ by AP

To specify an element of X_k for fixed $0 \leq k \leq n$, just choose k people from the population to serve on the ctee $\leftarrow \binom{n}{k}$ choices.

$\Rightarrow |X_k| = \binom{n}{k}$ for all $0 \leq k \leq n \Rightarrow 2^n = |X| = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}$. \square

- Now let X be the set of committees from a population of size n , with a distinguished chairperson.

Procedure 1 : Step 1 Choose chair from population $\leftarrow n$ choices
Step 2 Fill remaining positions from the remaining $n-1$ people in the population $\leftarrow 2^{n-1}$ choices
 $\Rightarrow |X| = n \cdot 2^{n-1}$ by MP.

Procedure 2 : For $0 \leq k \leq n$, let X_k be the set of possible committees, where there are k people on the committee. As argued above, the sets $\{X_k \mid 0 \leq k \leq n\}$ partition X .

To specify an element of X_k : Step 1 Choose k people from the popⁿ to serve on ctee $\leftarrow \binom{n}{k}$ choices

Step 2 Choose chair from the k ctee members $\leftarrow k$ choices

$\Rightarrow |X_k| = \binom{n}{k} \cdot k$ by MP, so by AP, $n \cdot 2^{n-1} = |X| = \sum_{k=0}^n |X_k| = \sum_{k=0}^n k \binom{n}{k}$. \square

Example 7

Let $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$. Prove that $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$.

We prove $n! = \binom{n}{k} \cdot k! \cdot (n-k)!$ by double counting.

Let $X = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ordered lists of the numbers } 1, 2, \dots, n \\ \text{s.t. each number appears exactly once in the list} \end{array} \right\}$

Procedure 1

Choose a bijection $f: [n] \rightarrow [n]$. ($n!$ choices)

This determines such a list — for $1 \leq k \leq n$, the value $f(k)$ is exactly the k^{th} number on the list.

$$\Rightarrow |X| = n!$$

Procedure 2

- Step 1 Choose which elements of $[n]$ will be the first k to appear in the list $\leftarrow \binom{n}{k}$ choices
- Step 2 Choose the order that the first k numbers in the list appear. This amounts to specifying a bijection $[k] \rightarrow \{\text{first } k \text{ el'ts on list}\} \leftarrow k!$ choices
- Step 3 Choose the order that the last $n-k$ numbers in the list appear. This amounts to specifying a bijection $[n-k] \rightarrow \{\text{last } k \text{ el'ts on list}\} \leftarrow (n-k)!$ choices

This completely determines a list of the numbers $1, 2, \dots, n$ s.t. each el't appears exactly once.

$$\text{By MP, } |X| = \binom{n}{k} \cdot k! \cdot (n-k)!$$

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$$\Rightarrow n! = \binom{n}{k} \cdot k! \cdot (n-k)! \Rightarrow \binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \quad \square$$