

1. A **permutation** of a set of distinct objects is an *ordered* arrangement of these objects. An *ordered* arrangement of  $r$  elements of a set is called an  **$r$ -permutation**.

$P(n, r)$  = the number of  $r$ -permutations of a set with  $n$  elements.

$$\textbf{Theorem: } P(n, r) = n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots (n-r+1) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$$

*Examples:*

- (a) In how many ways can we select a chair, vice-chair, treasurer, secretary from a group of 10 people?
  - (b) How many permutations of the letters  $ABCDEFGH$  contain the string  $ABC$ ?
  - (c) Traveling salesperson problem.
2. A  **$r$ -combination** counts the number of ways  $r$  elements can be selected from a set  $A$  with  $|A| \geq r$ . It is an *unordered* selection of  $r$  elements from the set.

$C(n, r)$  = the number of  $r$ -combinations of a set with  $n$  distinct elements.

$C(n, r)$  is usually written as  $\binom{n}{r}$  which stated in English is “ $n$  choose  $r$ ”.

$$\textbf{Theorem: } C(n, r) = \binom{n}{r} = \frac{P(n, r)}{P(r, r)} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$$

*Proof:*  $P(n, r) = C(n, r) \cdot P(r, r)$ .

*Note:*  $C(n, r) = C(n, (n-r))$ .

*Example:*

- (a) How many poker hands of five cards can be dealt from a 52 card deck?
- (b) How many ways can we select a committee of two women and three men from a group of 5 women and 6 men? (Note: Consider combinations for women, then for men. Do we use sum rule or product rule?)

**Items 3-8 below are FYI and not on exam:**

3. The Binomial Theorem: Let  $x$  and  $y$  be variables, and let  $n$  be a positive integer. Then

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{j=0}^n C(n, j)x^{n-j}y^j.$$

Therefore,  $C(n, r)$  is also called a **binomial coefficient**.

Proof: Use a **combinatorial proof** (much easier than using mathematical induction).

*Example:* a) What is the coefficient of  $x^{12}y^{13}$  in the expansion of  $(x + y)^{25}$ ?

b) What is the coefficient of  $x^{12}y^{13}$  in the expansion of  $(2x - 3y)^{25}$ ?

4. A **combinatorial proof** of an identity uses counting arguments to show both sides of the identity count the same objects but in different ways.

5. Theorem:

$$\sum_{j=0}^n C(n, j) = 2^n. \quad (1)$$

*Direct proof:* Binomial theorem with  $x = 1$  and  $y = 1$ .

*Combinatorial proof:* Counting number of subsets.

6. Pascal's Identity:

$$C(n + 1, k) = C(n, k - 1) + C(n, k).$$

Proof:

- Method 1: use algebraic proof.
- Method 2: use a combinatorial proof.

7. Pascal's triangle.

8. The identity (1) shows that the row sum of the Pascals triangle is  $2^n$ .

$\binom{0}{0}$		1
$\binom{1}{0} \binom{1}{1}$		1 1
$\binom{2}{0} \binom{2}{1} \binom{2}{2}$	By Pascal's identity:	1 2 1
$\binom{3}{0} \binom{3}{1} \binom{3}{2} \binom{3}{3}$	$\binom{6}{4} + \binom{6}{5} = \binom{7}{5}$	1 3 3 1
$\binom{4}{0} \binom{4}{1} \binom{4}{2} \binom{4}{3} \binom{4}{4}$		1 4 6 4 1
$\binom{5}{0} \binom{5}{1} \binom{5}{2} \binom{5}{3} \binom{5}{4} \binom{5}{5}$		1 5 10 10 5 1
$\binom{6}{0} \binom{6}{1} \binom{6}{2} \binom{6}{3} \binom{6}{4} \binom{6}{5} \binom{6}{6}$		1 6 15 20 15 6 1
$\binom{7}{0} \binom{7}{1} \binom{7}{2} \binom{7}{3} \binom{7}{4} \binom{7}{5} \binom{7}{6} \binom{7}{7}$		1 7 21 35 35 21 7 1
$\binom{8}{0} \binom{8}{1} \binom{8}{2} \binom{8}{3} \binom{8}{4} \binom{8}{5} \binom{8}{6} \binom{8}{7} \binom{8}{8}$		1 8 28 56 70 56 28 8 1
...		...