

I) The product rule

$$|A_1 \times A_2| = |A_1| \times |A_2|$$

Example: How many 4-letter words are there if each letter is chosen from the English alphabet (no case)



$$26 \times 26 \times 26 \times 26 = 26^4$$

II) The sum rule

If a list L to be counted can be divided into two sublists L_1 and L_2 of size n_1 and n_2 , respectively, and L_1 and L_2 have m common elements, then the list L contains $n_1 + n_2 - m$ elements.

$$|L| = |L_1 \cup L_2| = |L_1| + |L_2| - |L_1 \cap L_2| \quad (2)$$

Rule of complement:

If a list L has n objects, and m of these have a given property P , then the number of objects in L that do not have this property P is

$$n - m.$$

$$|\bar{A}| = |D| - |A|$$

Example: How many bit strings of length 8 either start with a 1, or end with 00?

L_1 = bit strings of length 8 that start with 1

L_2 = bit strings of length 8 that end with 00

$$L = L_1 \cup L_2$$

$$|L| = |L_1| + |L_2| - |L_1 \cap L_2|$$

L_1

$1 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 2^7$

L_2

$2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 1 \times 1 = 2^6$

$L_1 \cap L_2$

$1 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 1 \times 1 = 2^5$

$$|L| = 2^7 + 2^6 - 2^5$$

④

Example 2: How many 4-letter words whose characters are taken from the English alphabet contain at least one a?

P: contains at least one a

$\neg P$: contains no a.

A: words that satisfy P

\bar{A} : words that satisfy $\neg P$

$$|\bar{A}| = |D| - |A|$$

D?

$\square \square \square \square$

$$26 \times 26 \times 26 \times 26 = 26^4$$

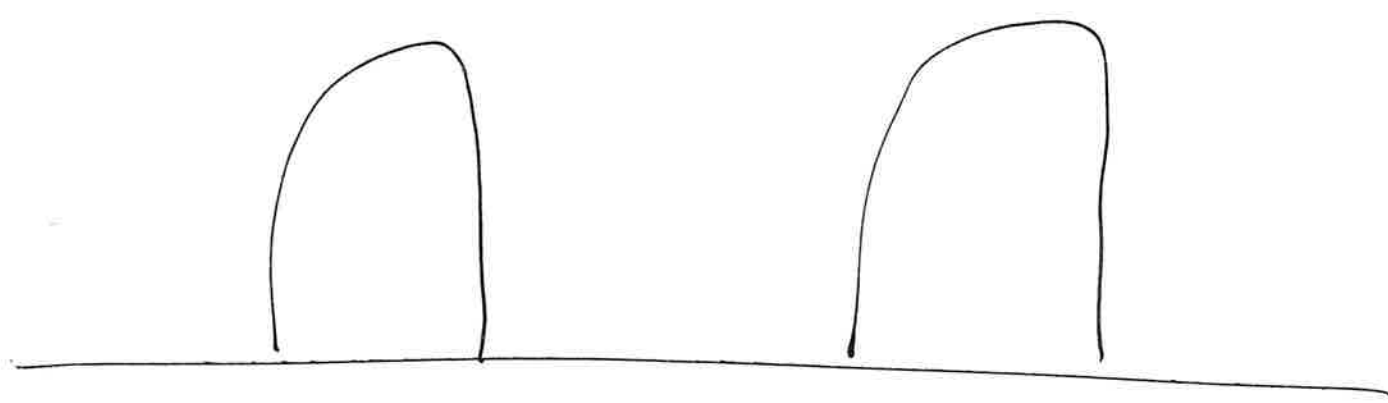
\bar{A} ?

$\square \square \square \square$

$$25 \times 25 \times 25 \times 25 = 25^4$$

$$\begin{aligned} |A| &= |D| - |\bar{A}| \\ &= 26^4 - 25^4 \end{aligned}$$

The pigeonhole principle



Property: If $k+1$ objects (a more) are placed into k boxes, then there is at least one box that contains 2 or more elements.

