

# Lecture 12

## MATH-42021/52021 Graph Theory and Combinatorics.

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Finally what about ranking all  $n$  people?

$$P(n, n) = \frac{n!}{(n-n)!} = \frac{n!}{0!} = n!.$$

NOTE WE AGREE THAT  $0! = 1$ .



## An interesting example and $k$ -combinations

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Let us compute  $(x + y)^n$  we know that

$$(x + y)^n = \underbrace{(x + y) \times (x + y) \times (x + y) \times \cdots \times (x + y)}_{n\text{-times}}$$

Now we need to multiply, we need to pick ONE element from each of multipliers  $(x + y)$  it can be  $x$  or  $y$  if we pick  $k$  times -  $x$ , then we must pick  $(n - k)$  -  $y$ , and the outcome is  $x^k y^{n-k}$ . But in how many ways we can pick a place from which we pick  $k$  of  $x$ 's?????

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Easy (now) question, there are 5 letters, any arrangement will create a different sequence so  $P(5, 5) = 5!$ .

# Examples!

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There is another way to see it. Forget about problematic letters for a moment, start with  $y$ , there are 7 positions for  $y$ , next  $t$  - there are 6 positions, and 5 for  $e$ , finally there are 4 places for  $m$  and we can put  $s$  on places which were left open. Using multiplicative principle we get that the answer is

$$7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 = \frac{7!}{3!}$$

How many ways there are to arrange 11 letters in the word MISSISSIPPI?

# Very VERY Famous Example

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There is nothing to be scared about this famous problem! There are 11 letters, but, yes, there is a problem: 4 of them are repeated "I", 4 of them repetitions of S and there are 2 repetitions of P so if we would answer  $P(11, 11)$  we will over-calculate (much over-calculate).

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$$\frac{P(11, 11)}{P(4, 4) \times P(4, 4) \times P(2, 2)}$$