

Recap: Algebraic functions to represent sequences:

$f_0, f_1, f_2, \dots$

$$F(x) = f_0 + f_1x + f_2x^2 + \dots$$

Sequence:  $s_k = \#$  ways to select a  $k$ -set of items from a particular set.

Infinite set of one variety:  $s_k = 1, 1, 1, \dots$

$$F(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

Finite # of one variety.  
(e.g.  $m$  apples)

$1, 1, \dots, 1$  ( $m+1$ ) times.

$$F(x) = 1 + x + \dots + x^m = \frac{1-x^{m+1}}{1-x}$$

Infinite supply of two varieties:

$1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$F(x) = 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + \dots = \frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$$

Infinite supply of items, bundled into groups of  $k$

$1, \underbrace{0, 0, \dots, 0}_{k-1 \text{ 0's}}, 1, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 1, \dots$

$$F(x) = 1 + x^k + x^{2k} + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x^k}$$

From last time:

- 1 Banana
- 2 Apples

$$F(x) = 1 + 2x + 2x^2 + x^3$$

Two apples  
Two bananas.

S<sub>0</sub>

1

S<sub>1</sub>

2

S<sub>2</sub>

3

S<sub>3</sub>

2

S<sub>4</sub>

1

AA

AB

BB

AAB

ABB



$$1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 2x^3 + x^4$$

3 apples:  $A(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3$

(then add 3-pick  
of oranges).

2 Bananas:  $B(x) = 1 + x + x^2$

Pool 3 apples + 2 Bananas into one set.

How many ways to select  $k$  items from the pooled set.

$S_0$     $S_1$     $S_2$     $S_3$     $S_4$     $S_5$

$$A(x)B(x) = (1 + x + x^2)(1 + x + x^2 + x^3)$$

$S_1(x)$  : generating function for selecting from set  $S_1$ .

$S_2(x)$  : generating function for selecting from set  $S_2$

If  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  have no common variables then:

$S_1(x) \cdot S_2(x)$  is the generating function for selecting from  $S_1 \cup S_2$ .

Select from:

- 3 apples.  $\rightarrow 1+x+x^2+x^3 = \frac{1-x^4}{1-x}$
- 1 banana.  $\rightarrow 1+x$
- 4 packs of oranges.  $\rightarrow 1+x^4+x^8+\dots$
- 2 packs of kiwi.  $\rightarrow 1+x^2+x^4+\dots = \frac{1}{1-x^2}$

$$\frac{\cancel{1-x^4}}{1-x} \cdot (1+x) \cdot \frac{1}{\cancel{1-x^4}} \cdot \frac{1}{1-x^2} = \frac{(1+x)}{(1-x)(1-x^2)}$$

$$= \frac{\cancel{1+x}}{(1-x)\cancel{(1+x)}(1-x)} = \frac{1}{(1-x)^2} = 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + \dots$$

# ways of putting to get  $n$  cents worth of  
stamps from an inf<sup>y</sup> collection of

3¢ stamps →  
11¢ stamps.  
7¢ stamps.

$$3 \text{ cents: } 1 + x^3 + x^6 + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x^3}$$

$$7 \text{ cents: } \frac{1}{1-x^7} \quad 11 \text{ cents: } \frac{1}{1-x^{11}}$$

$$S(x) = \frac{1}{(1-x^3)(1-x^7)(1-x^{11})}$$

# ways to select seven donuts from 3 varieties if

- No more than four of any variety is chosen?

$$(1+x+x^2+x^3+x^4)^3 \rightsquigarrow \text{coefficient of } x^7.$$

# Binomial Theorem (alternative view).

Pick subset of  $k$  from

$$\{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n\}$$

Generating function for ways to select subsets  
for  $\{a_i\}$

$$\rightarrow G_i(x) = 1+x$$

$$\{a_1\} \quad \{a_2\} \quad \dots \quad \{a_n\}$$



$$\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\} = G_1(x) G_2(x) \dots G_n(x)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k = (1+x)^n$$

$$\binom{n}{0} 1 + \binom{n}{1} x + \binom{n}{2} x^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} x^n = (1+x)^n$$

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$$\binom{n+m-1}{m-1}$$

$$\frac{n!}{(r_1)! (r_2)! \dots (r_k)!}$$