

A Combinatorial Proof for the Aftermath of a Party

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Definition

aftermath

/'æftə, mæθ/

- ▶ the consequences of an event, especially a catastrophic event.
- ▶ (analogous to afterparty) the math that happens after a party.

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- ▶ “This card is for University identification and must be carried by the named individual at all times.” (**existence**)

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- ▶ Given that there is no fake ID (**uniqueness**)
- ▶ What is the expected number of people who grab their own ID?

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- ▶ This talk:
We got a longer proof!

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- ▶ **Read like a writer**

To actually count this

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$$\frac{\sum_{k=1}^n k(\# \text{ of permutations s.t. exactly } k \text{ people get their own IDs})}{n!}$$

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- ▶ $\frac{\sum_{k=1}^n k(\# \text{ of permutations s.t. exactly } k \text{ people get their own IDs})}{n!}$
- ▶ That # is $\binom{n}{k}(\# \text{ s.t. for the rest } n - k \text{ people no one gets their own ID})$

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- ▶ $f(n) = (f(n-1) + f(n-2))(n-1)$, here we go

for 7 sure brute force but what about for n

► we want

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k \binom{n}{k} f(n-k)$$

to be $n!$

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- ▶ we want

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k \binom{n}{k} f(n-k)$$

to be $n!$

- ▶ We know this

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} f(n-k)$$

is $n!$

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► Observe:

$$f(n) = \sum_{k=2}^m (k-1) \binom{n}{k} f(n-k) + \binom{n-1}{m} f(n-m) \\ + (n-m) \binom{n-1}{m-1} f(n-m-1)$$

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- ▶ In short, we are “stretching it out, do some ransom stuff, and try to fold everything in again”.
- ▶ The details are messing with combinatorial identities that no one wants to see.

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- ▶ **Hey! 21 and 15**

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- ▶ $= 21f(5) + 15f(5) + 30f(4)$
- ▶ **Hey! 21 and 15**
- ▶ (we got to split into stuff from Pascal's triangle)

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