

# Great Theoretical Ideas In Computer Science

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CS 15-251

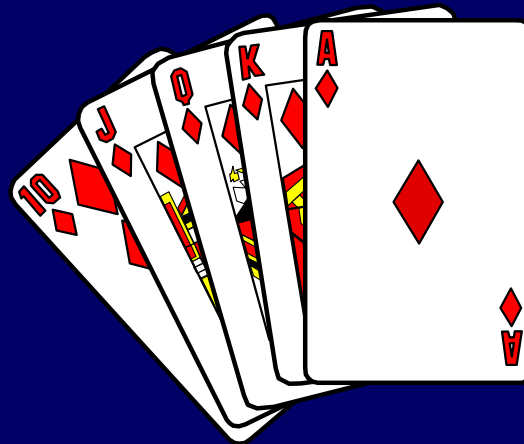
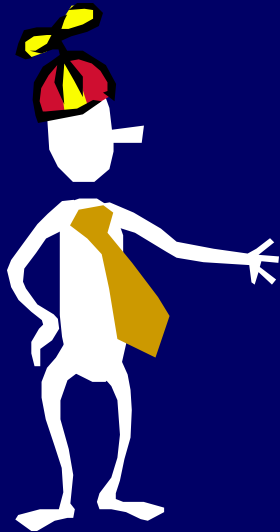
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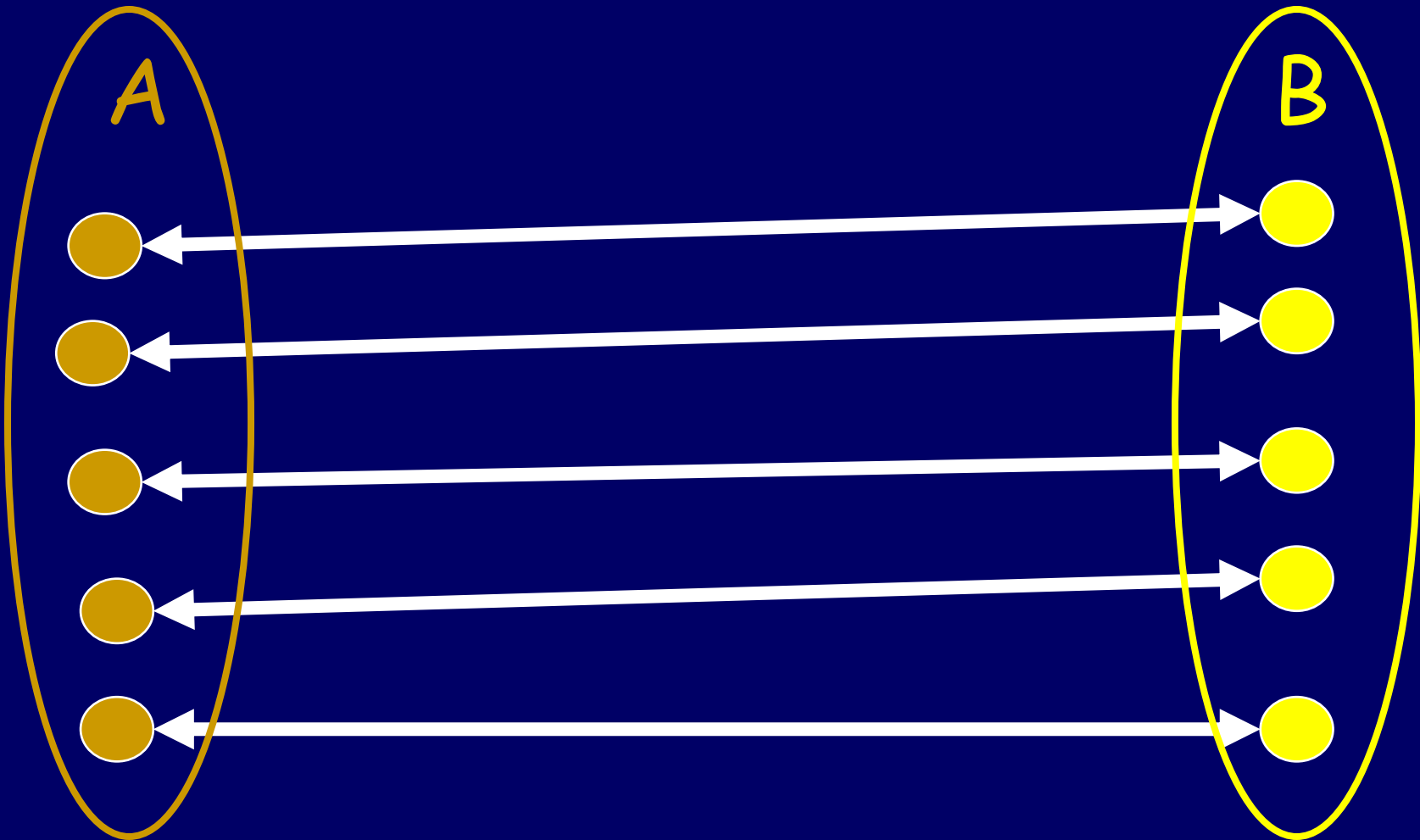
Carnegie Mellon University

## Counting II: Recurring Problems and Correspondences



$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{red and yellow hat} \\ \text{yellow hat} \\ \text{yellow hat} \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{yellow tie} \\ \text{yellow tie} \end{array} \right) = ?$$

# 1-1 onto Correspondence (just "correspondence" for short)



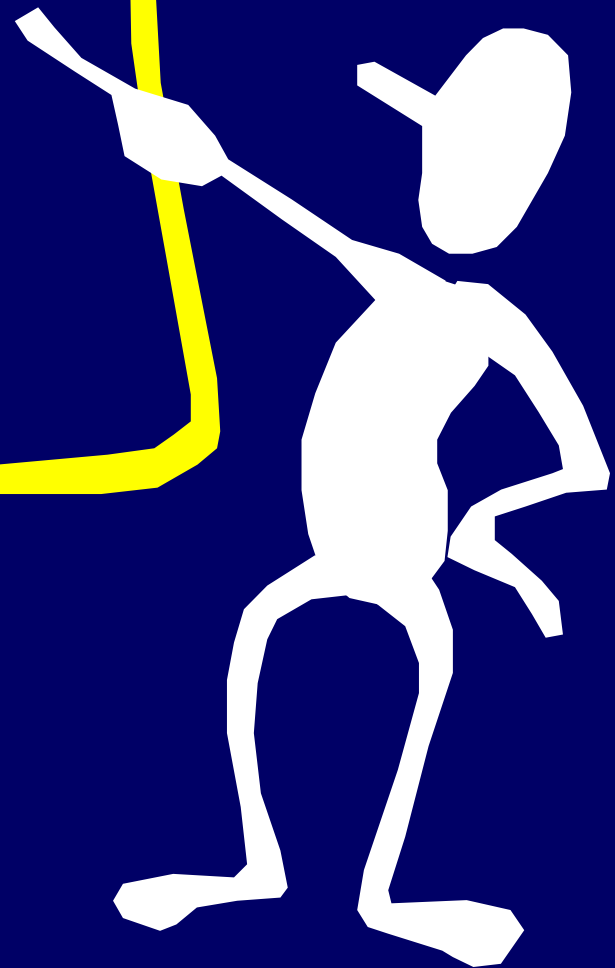
# Correspondence Principle

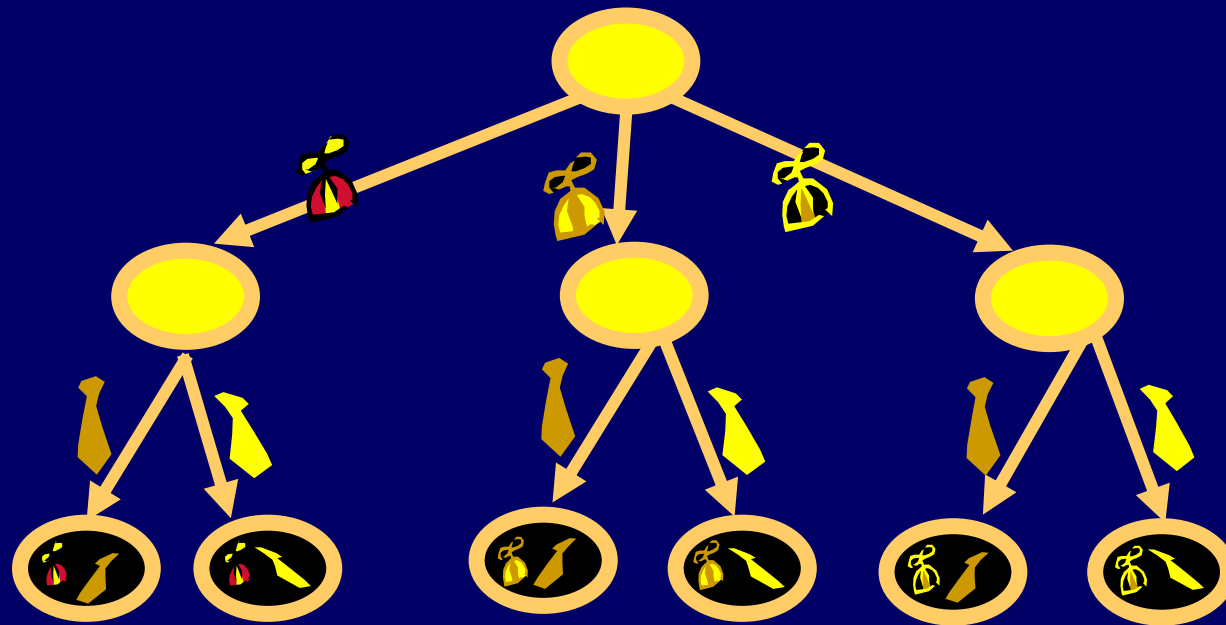
If two finite sets can be placed into 1-1 onto correspondence, then they have the same size.

If a finite set  $A$   
has a  $k$ -to-1  
correspondence  
to finite set  $B$ ,  
then  $|B| = |A|/k$



The number  
of subsets of  
an  $n$ -element  
set is  $2^n$ .

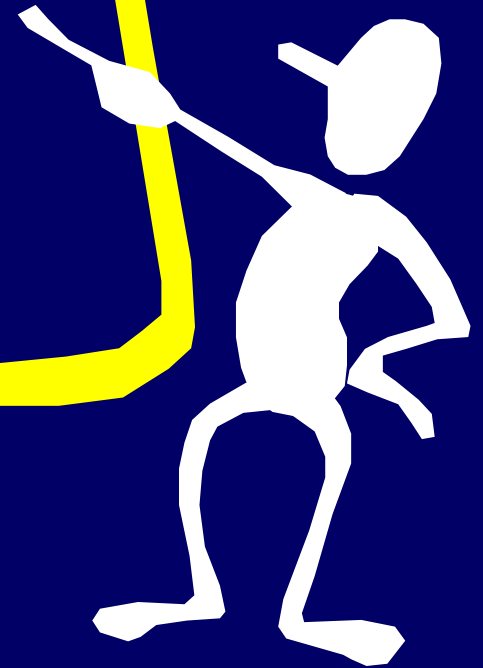




A choice tree provides a "choice tree representation" of a set  $S$ , if

- 1) Each leaf label is in  $S$ , and each element of  $S$  is some leaf label
- 2) No two leaf labels are the same

Sometimes it is easiest to count the number of objects with property  $Q$ , by counting the number of objects that do not have property  $Q$ .



The number of subsets of size  $r$  that can be formed from an  $n$ -element set is:

$$\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!}$$





# Product Rule (rephrased)

Suppose every object of a set  $S$  can be constructed by a sequence of choices with  $P_1$  possibilities for the first choice,  $P_2$  for the second, and so on.

IF 1) Each sequence of choices constructs an object of type  $S$ , AND

2) No two different sequences create the same object

THEN

there are  $P_1 P_2 P_3 \dots P_n$  objects of type  $S$ .

# How many different orderings of deck with 52 cards?

What type of object are we making?

Ordering of a deck

Construct an ordering of a deck by a sequence of 52 choices:

52 possible choices for the first card;

51 possible choices for the second card;

50 possible choices for the third card;

...

1 possible choice for the 52<sup>nd</sup> card.

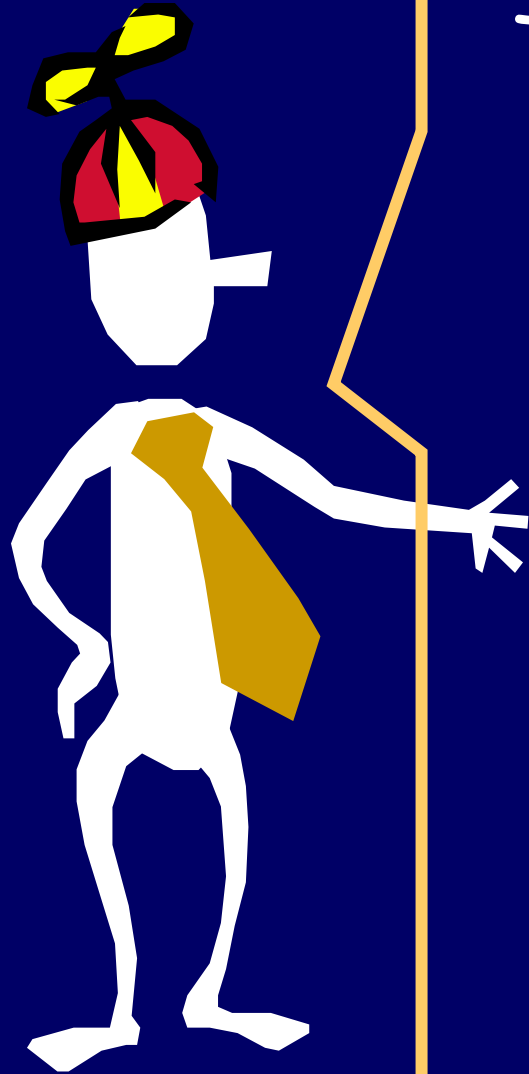
**By the product rule:  $52 \times 51 \times 50 \times \dots \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 52!$**

# The Sleuth's Criterion

There should be a unique way to create every object in  $S$ .

in other words:

For any object in  $S$ , it should be possible to reconstruct the (unique) sequence of choices which lead to it.



The three big mistakes people make in associating a choice tree with a set  $S$  are:

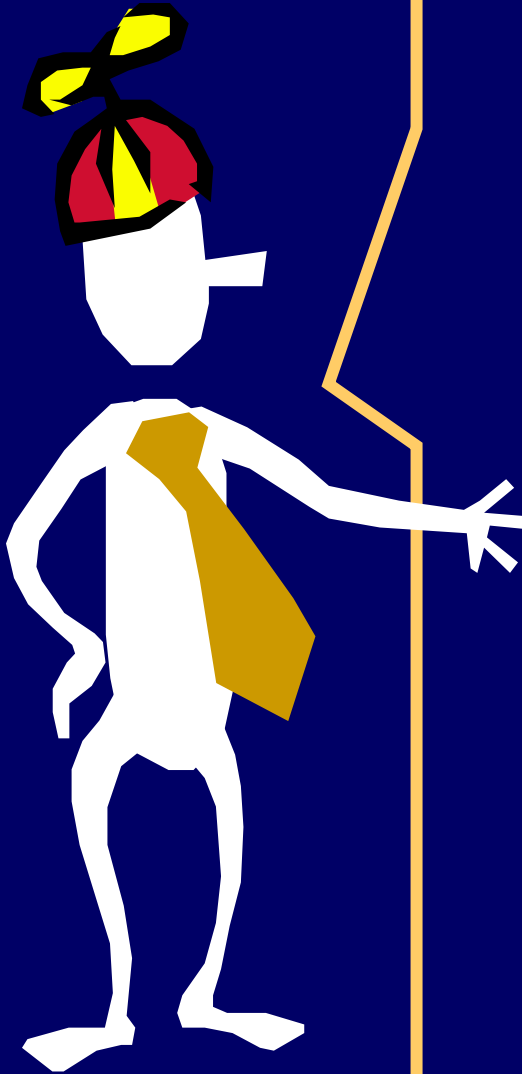
- 1) Creating objects not in  $S$
- 2) Missing out some objects from the set  $S$
- 3) Creating the same object two different ways

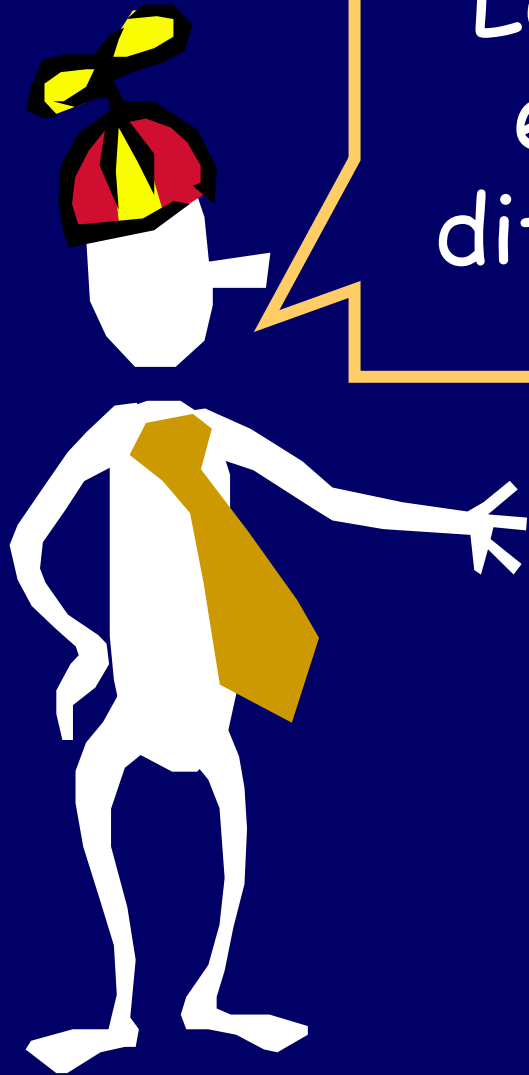
# DEFENSIVE THINKING

ask yourself:

Am I creating all objects  
of the right type?

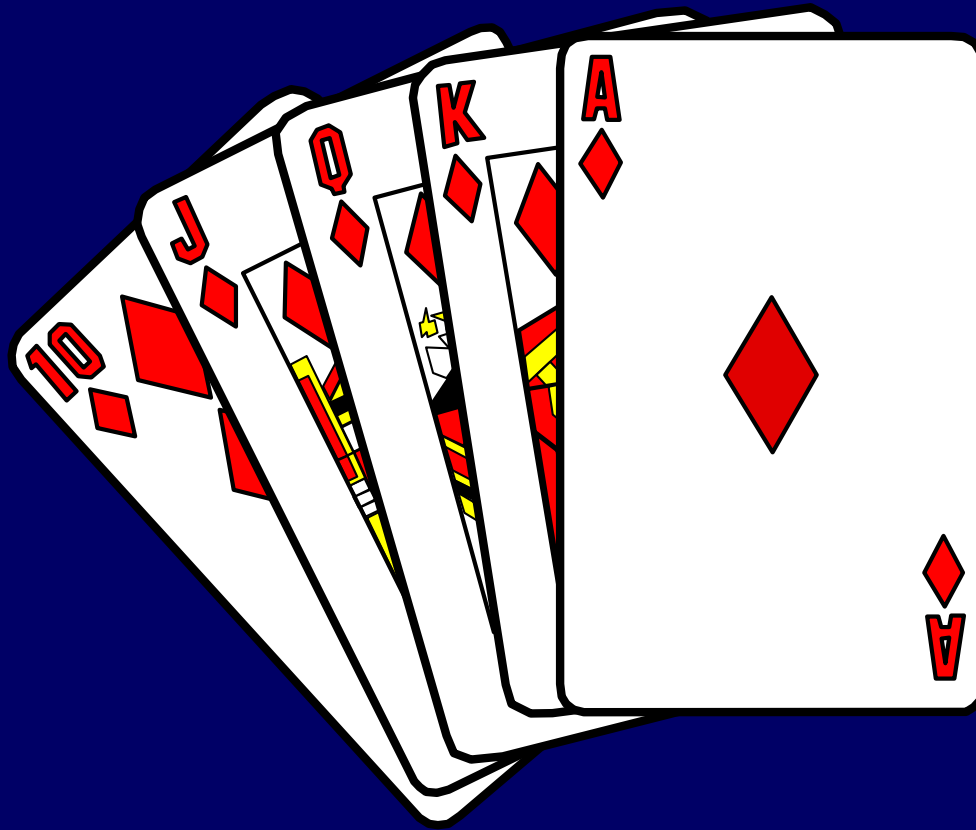
Can I reverse engineer my  
choice sequence from any  
given object?





Let's use our principles to extend our reasoning to different types of objects.

# Counting Poker Hands...



# 52 Card Deck, 5 card hands

4 possible **suits**:



13 possible **ranks**:

2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,J,Q,K,A

Pair: set of two cards of the same rank

Straight: 5 cards of consecutive rank

Flush: set of 5 cards with the same suit



# Ranked Poker Hands

## Straight Flush

A straight and a flush

## 4 of a kind

4 cards of the same rank

## Full House

3 of one kind and 2 of another

## Flush

A flush, *but not a straight*

## Straight

A straight, *but not a flush*

## 3 of a kind

3 of the same rank, *but not a full house or 4 of a kind*

## 2 Pair

2 pairs, *but not 4 of a kind or a full house*

## A Pair

# Straight Flush

9 choices for rank of lowest card at the start of the straight.

4 possible suits for the flush.

$$9 \times 4 = 36$$

$$\frac{36}{\binom{52}{5}} = \frac{36}{2598960} = 1 \text{ in } 72,193.33\dots$$

## 4 Of A Kind

13 choices of rank

48 choices for remaining card

$$13 \times 48 = 624$$

$$\frac{624}{\binom{52}{5}} = \frac{624}{2598960} = \frac{1}{4165}$$

# Flush

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 4 \text{ choices of suit} \\ \binom{13}{5} \text{ choices of cards} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} 4 \times 1287 \\ = 5148 \end{array}$$

"but not a straight flush..."

- 36 straight  
flushes

---

5112 flushes

$$\frac{5112}{\binom{52}{5}} = \frac{1}{508.4\dots}$$

# Straight

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 9 \text{ choices of lowest card in straight} \\ 4^5 \text{ choices of suits for 5 cards} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} 9 \times 2148 \\ = 9216 \end{array}$$

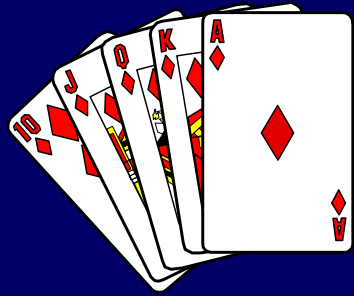
"but not a straight flush..."

- 36 straight  
flushes

---

9180 flushes

$$\frac{9180}{\binom{52}{5}} = \frac{1}{283.11\dots}$$



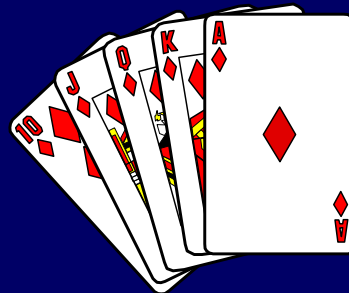
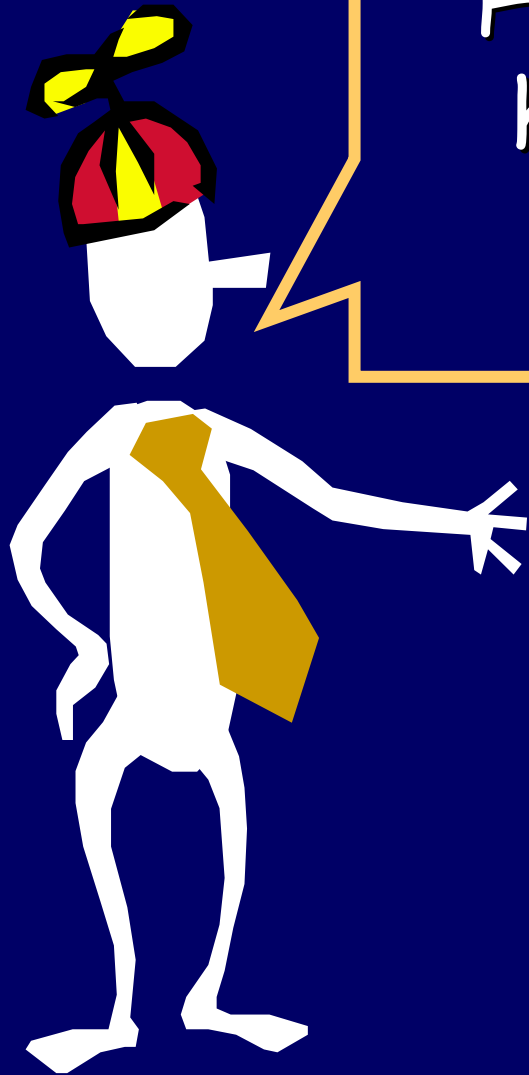
## Storing Poker Hands How many bits per hand?

I want to store a 5 card poker hand using the smallest number of bits (space efficient).

each card :    2 bits    suit  
                  4 bit    rank  
                  -----  
                  6 bits    per card

5 cards  $\Rightarrow$  30 bits    (saved ~~2~~ 2 bits)

How can we store a poker hand without storing its order?



Order the 2,598,560 Poker hands  
lexicographically [or in any fixed manner]

To store a hand all I need is to store its  
index of size  $\lceil \log_2(2,598,560) \rceil = 22$  bits.

Hand 000000000000000000000000000000

Hand 000000000000000000000000000001

Hand 000000000000000000000000000010

.

.

.



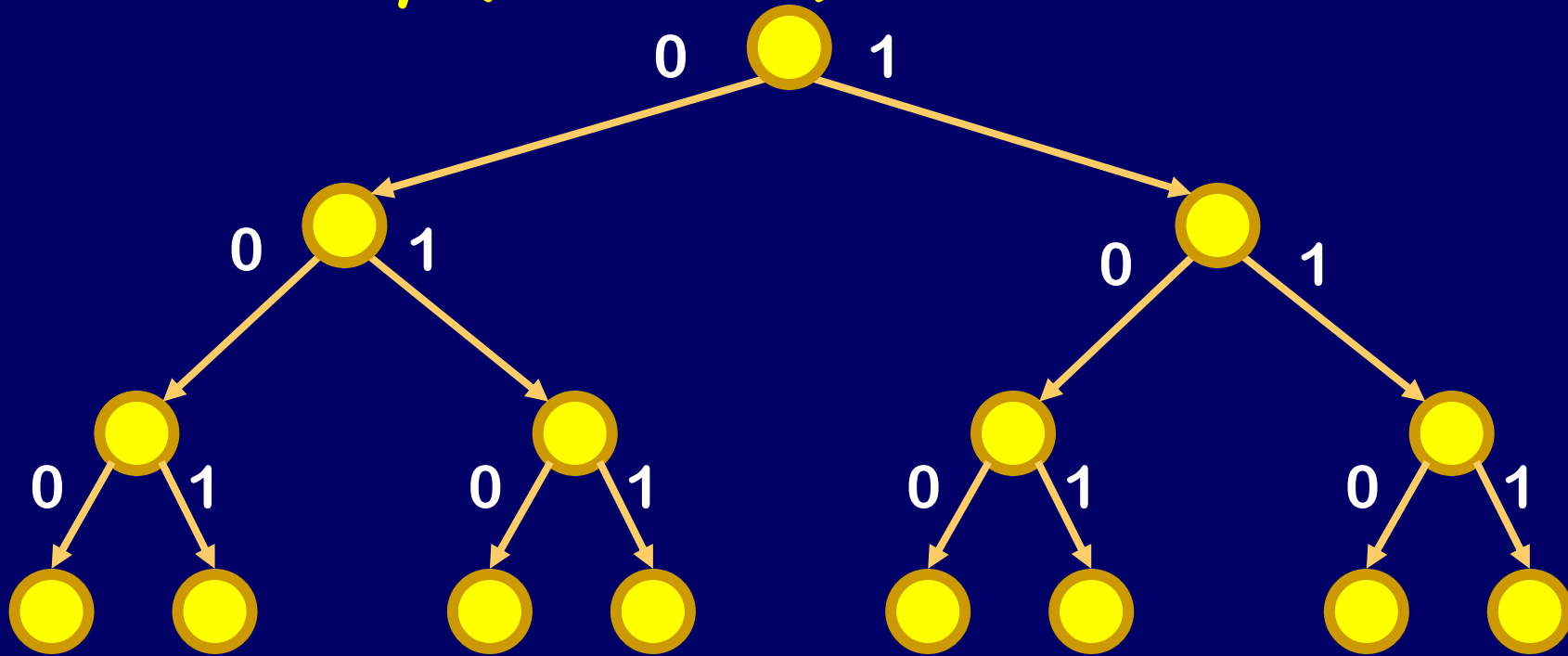
## 22 Bits Is OPTIMAL

$$2^{21} = 2,097,152 < 2,598,560$$

Thus there are more poker hands than there are 21-bit strings.

Hence, you can't have a 21-bit string for each hand.

# Binary (Boolean) Choice Tree



A binary (Boolean) choice tree is a choice tree where each internal node has degree 2.

Usually the choices are labeled 0 and 1.

## 22 Bits Is OPTIMAL

$$2^{21} = 2097152 < 2,598,560$$

A binary choice tree of depth 21 can have at most  $2^{21}$  leaves.

Hence, there are not enough leaves for all 5-card hands.

An  $n$ -element set can be stored so that each element uses  $\lceil \log_2(n) \rceil$  bits.

Furthermore, any representation of the set will have **some** string of at least that length.



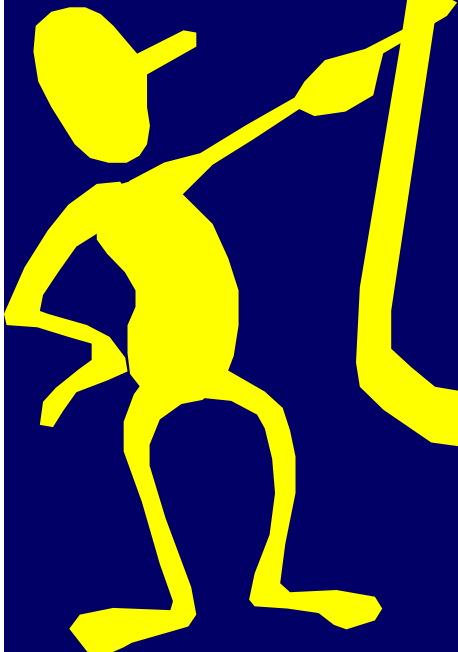
## Information Counting Principle:

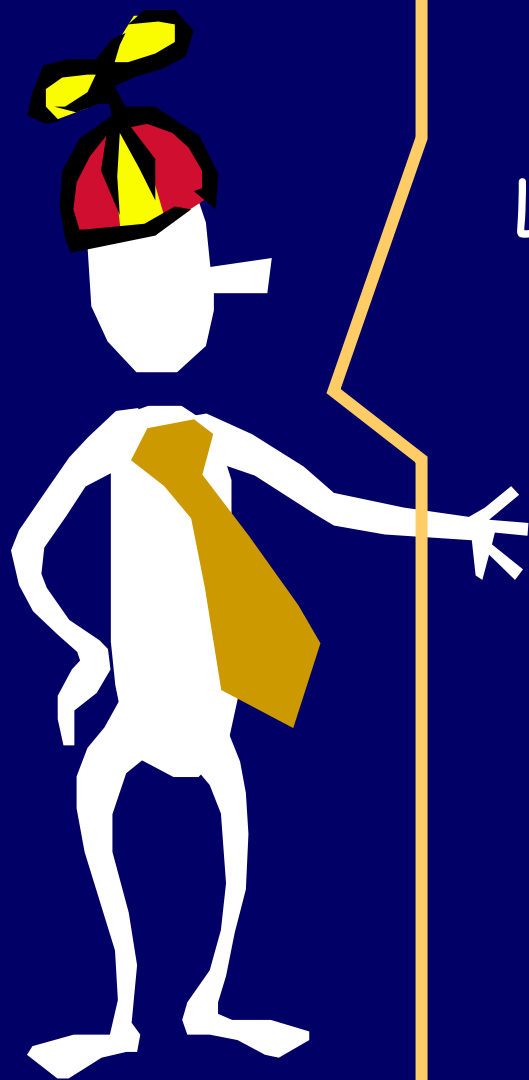
If each element of a set  
can be represented using  
 $k$  bits, the size of the set  
is bounded by  $2^k$



## Information Counting Principle:

Let  $S$  be a set represented  
by a depth- $k$  binary choice  
tree, the size of the set is  
bounded by  $2^k$





## ONGOING MEDITATION:

Let  $S$  be any set and  $T$  be a binary choice tree representation of  $S$ .

We can think of each element of  $S$  being encoded by the binary sequences of choices that lead to its leaf.

We can also start with a binary encoding of a set and make a corresponding binary choice tree.



Now, for something completely different...

How many ways to rearrange  
the letters in the word  
**"SYSTEMS"**?



# SYSTEMS

- 1) 7 places to put the Y,  
6 places to put the T,  
5 places to put the E,  
4 places to put the M,  
and the S's are forced.

$$7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 = 840$$

$\binom{7}{3}$  ways of placing the S's

4 ways of placing Y

3 \_\_\_\_\_ T  
2 \_\_\_\_\_ E

$$\binom{7}{3} \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 840.$$

# SYSTEMS

2) Let's pretend that the S's are distinct:

$S_1 Y S_2 T E M S_3$

There are  $7!$  permutations of  $S_1 Y S_2 T E M S_3$

But when we stop pretending we see that we have counted each arrangement of SYSTEMS  $3!$  times, once for each of  $3!$  rearrangements of  $S_1 S_2 S_3$ .

$$\frac{7!}{3!} = 840$$

$S_1 Y S_2 T E M S_3$   
 $S_3 Y S_2 T E M S_1$

Arrange  $n$  symbols  
 $r_1$  of type 1,  $r_2$  of type 2, ...,  $r_k$  of type  $k$

$$\binom{n}{r_1} \binom{n-r_1}{r_2} \binom{n-r_1-r_2}{r_2} \cdots \binom{r_k}{r_k}$$

$$= \frac{n!}{\cancel{(n-r_1)!} r_1!} \cdot \frac{\cancel{(n-r_1)!}}{\cancel{(n-r_1-r_2)!} r_2!}$$

$$= \frac{n!}{r_1! r_2! \cdots r_k!}$$



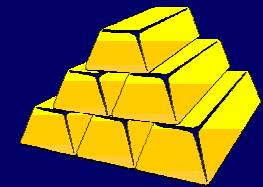
Remember:

The number of ways to arrange  $n$  symbols with  $r_1$  of type 1,  $r_2$  of type 2, ...,  $r_k$  of type  $k$  is:

$$\frac{n!}{r_1!r_2!\cdots r_k!}$$



5 distinct pirates want to divide 20 identical, indivisible bars of gold. How many different ways can they divide up the loot?



$\begin{array}{c} |G|G \\ 1 \quad 2 \\ |G|G \\ 2 \quad 1 \end{array}$

# Sequences with 20 G's and 4 /'s

$\overbrace{GG} \overbrace{G} \overbrace{GGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGGG} \overbrace{G}$

represents the following division among the pirates: 2, 1, 0, 17, 0

$\begin{array}{r} 241 \\ \hline 20 \quad 4 \end{array}$

In general, the  $i^{\text{th}}$  pirate gets the number of G's after the  $i-1^{\text{st}}$  / and before the  $i^{\text{th}}$  /.

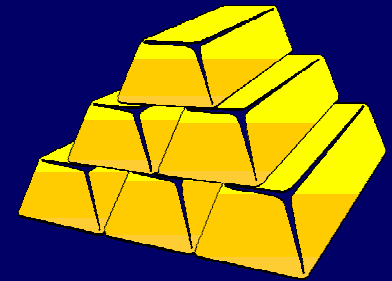
This gives a correspondence between divisions of the gold and sequences with 20 G's and 4 /'s.

|G G

How many different ways to  
divide up the loot?  
Sequences with 20 G's and 4 /'s

$$\binom{24}{4}$$





How many different ways can  $n$  distinct pirates divide  $k$  identical, indivisible bars of gold?

$$\binom{n+k-1}{n-1} = \binom{n+k-1}{k}$$

How many integer solutions to the following equations?

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 20$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5 \geq 0$$

Think of  $x_k$  as being the number of gold bars that are allotted to pirate  $k$ .

$$\binom{24}{4}$$

How many integer solutions to the following equations?

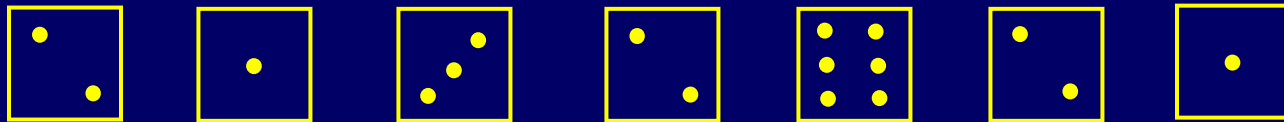
$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_{n-1} + x_n = k$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n \geq 0$$

$$\binom{n+k-1}{n-1} = \binom{n+k-1}{k}$$

# Identical/Distinct Dice

Suppose that we roll seven dice.



How many different outcomes are there, if order matters?

$$6^7$$

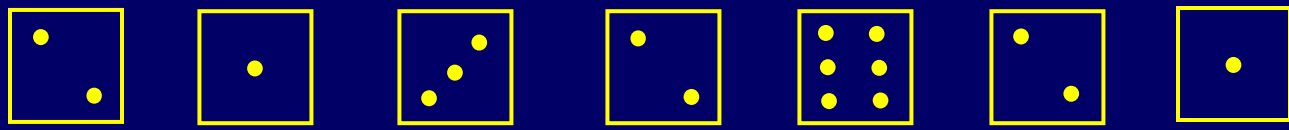
What if order doesn't matter?  
(E.g., Yahtzee)

$$\binom{12}{7}$$

# 7 Identical Dice

||||| G G G G G G G

$$\frac{12!}{7!5!}$$



How many different outcomes?  $X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_6 = 7$

Corresponds to 6 pirates and 7 bars of gold!

$X_i \geq 0$

$$\binom{6+7-1}{7}$$

Let  $X_k$  be the number of dice showing  $k$ .  
The  $k^{\text{th}}$  pirate gets  $X_k$  gold bars.

$$\binom{6+7-1}{7}$$

# Multisets

A multiset is a set of elements, each of which has a *multiplicity*.

The size of the multiset is the sum of the multiplicities of all the elements.

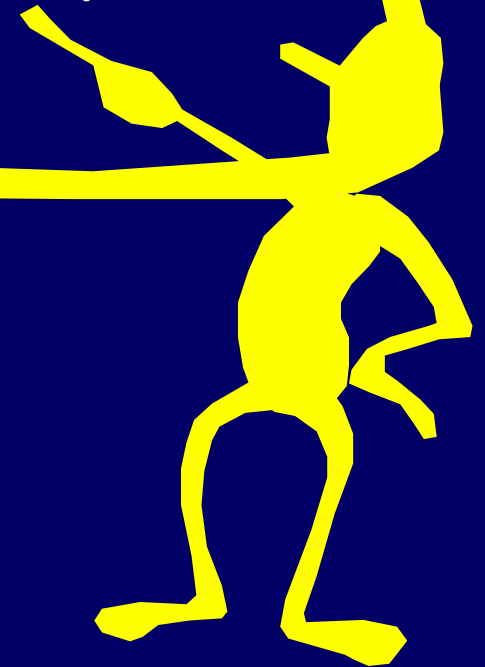
Example:

$\{X, Y, Z\}$  with  $m(X)=0$   $m(Y)=3$ ,  $m(Z)=2$

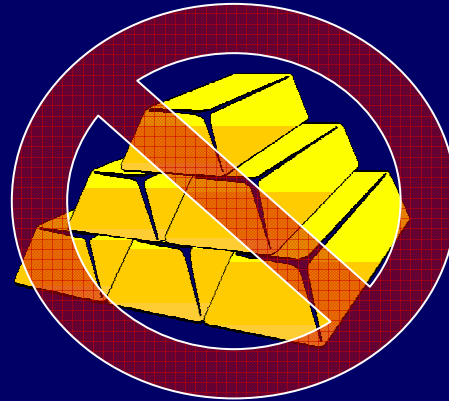
Unary visualization:  $\{Y, Y, Y, Z, Z\}$

# Counting Multisets

There are  $\binom{n+k-1}{n-1} = \binom{n+k-1}{k}$  ways  
to choose a multiset of  
size  $k$  from  $n$  types of  
elements



# Back to the pirates



How many ways are there of choosing 20 pirates from a set of 5 pirates, with repetitions allowed?

$$\binom{5+20-1}{20} = \binom{24}{20} = \binom{24}{4}$$



$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_{n-1} + x_n = k$$

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n \geq 0$$

has  $\binom{n+k-1}{n-1} = \binom{n+k-1}{k}$  integer solutions.



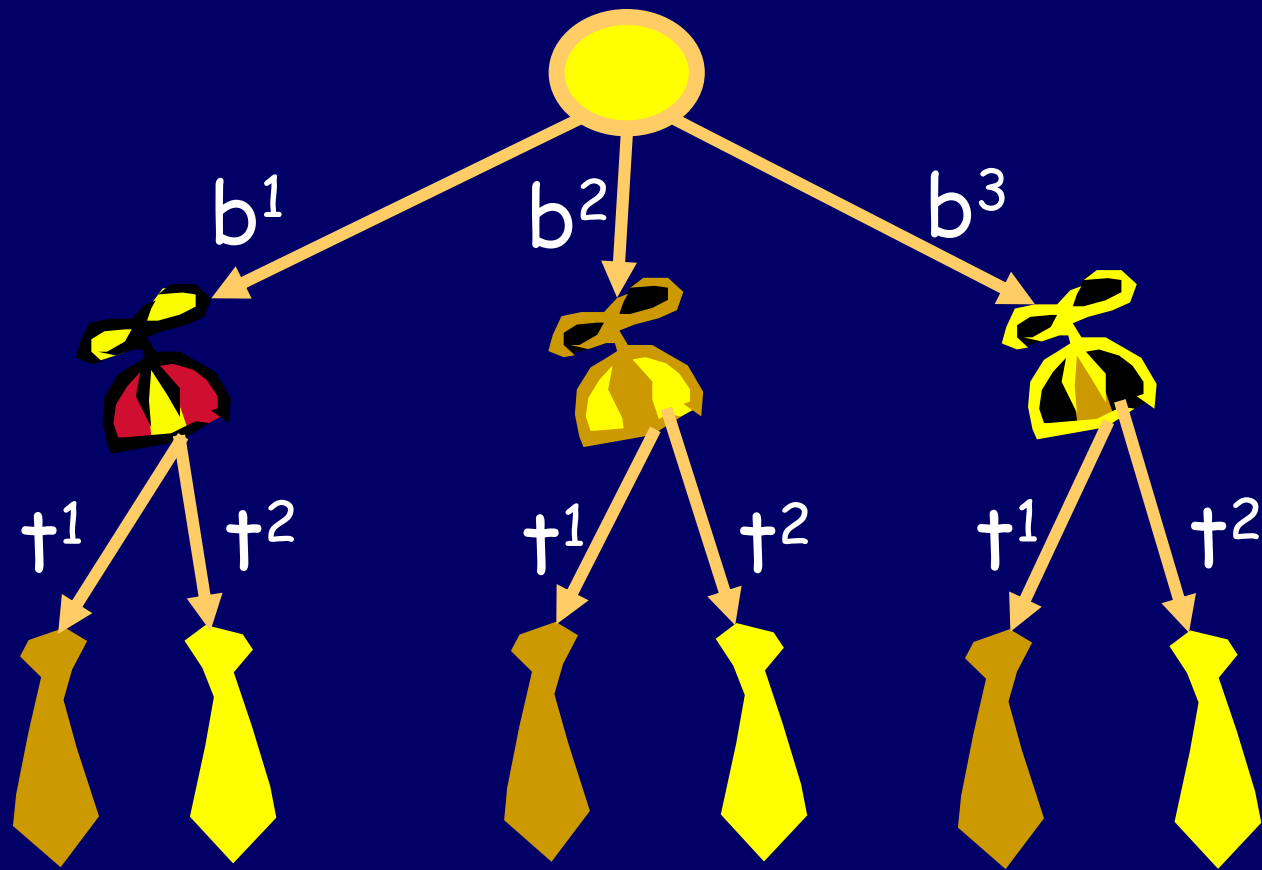


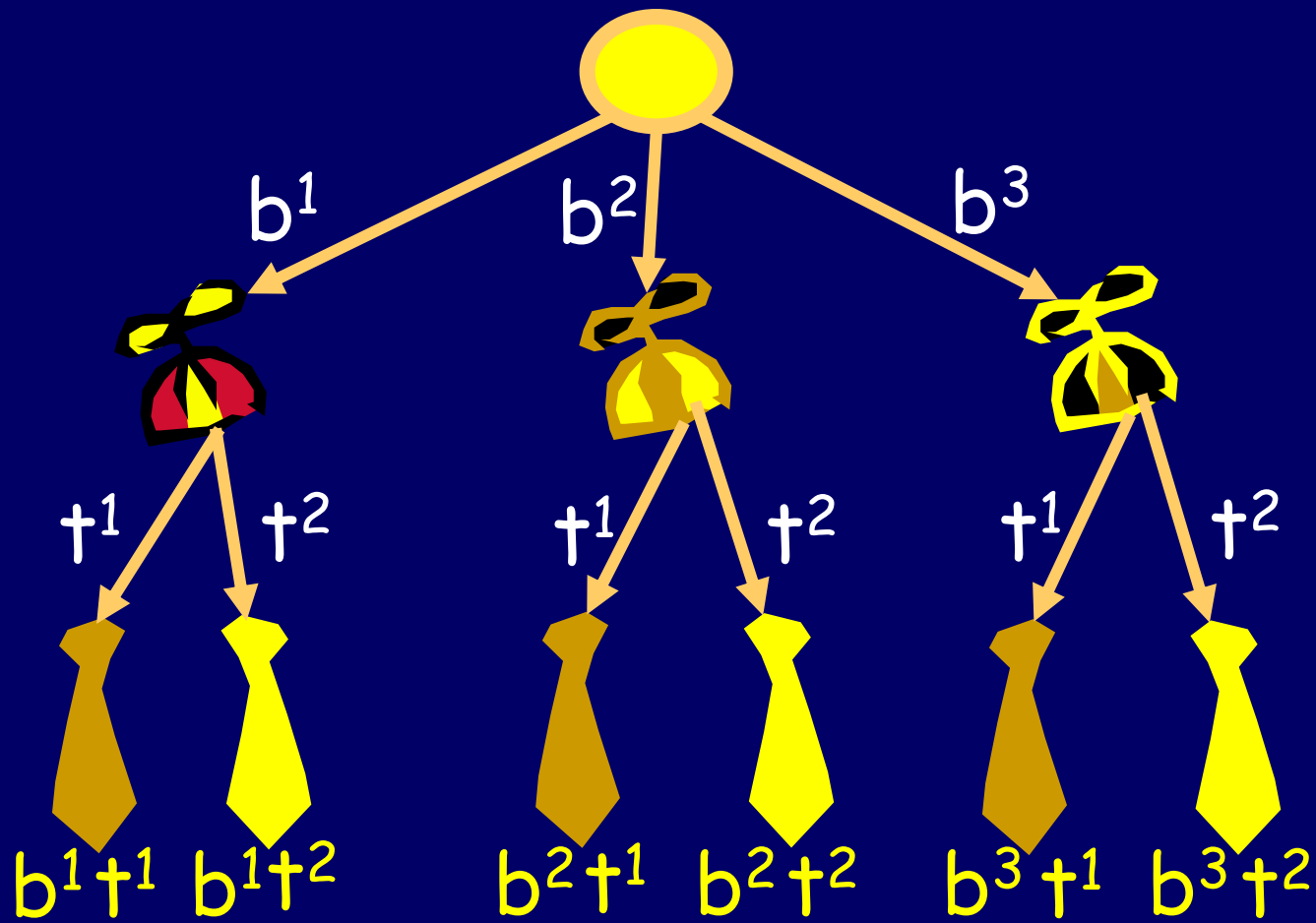
# POLYNOMIALS EXPRESS CHOICES AND OUTCOMES

Products of Sum = Sums of Products

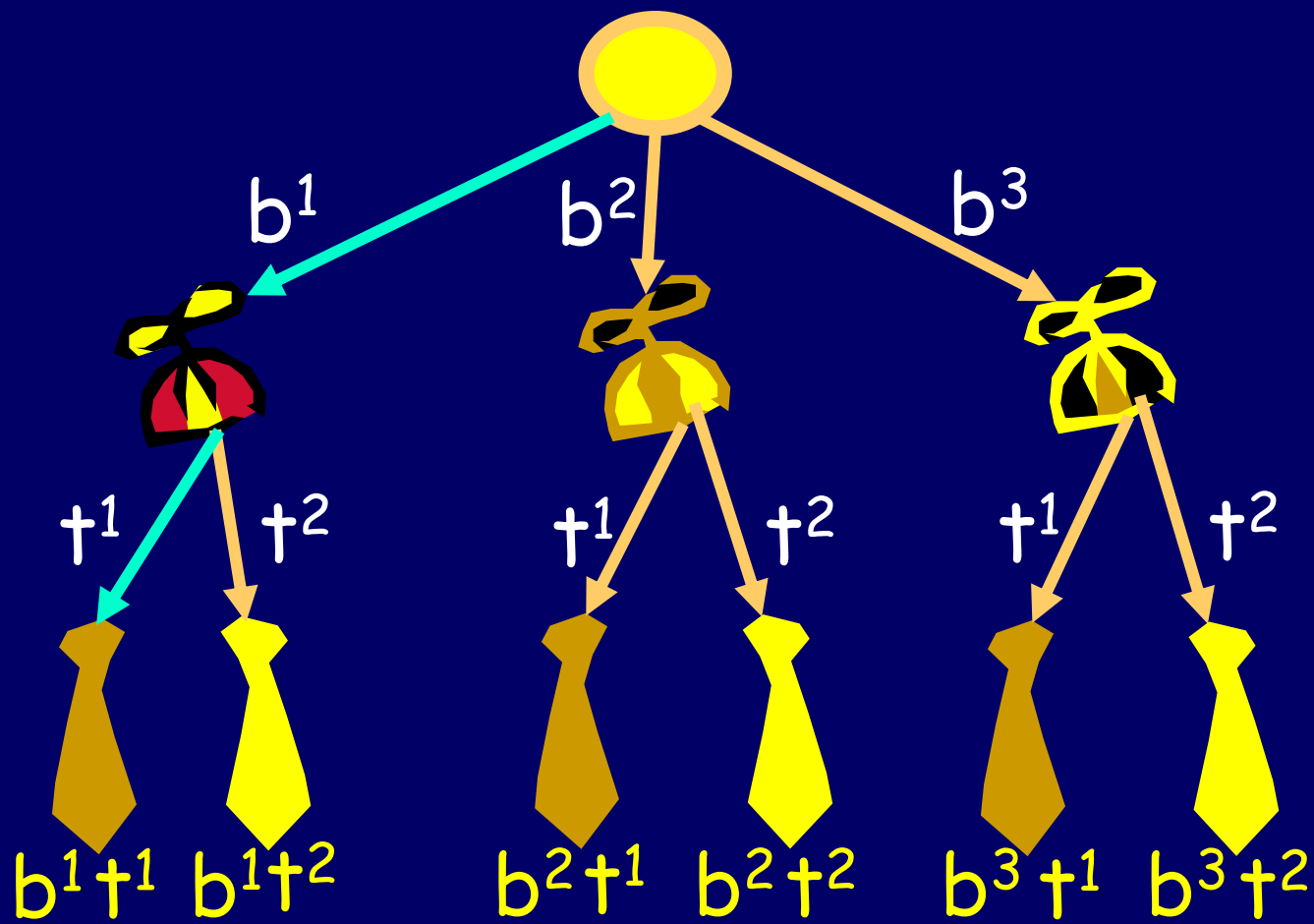
$$\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{hat} \\ \text{hat} \\ \text{hat} \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{tie} \\ \text{tie} \end{array} \right) =$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{hat} \text{tie} \\ + \text{hat} \text{tie} \\ + \text{hat} \text{tie} \\ + \text{hat} \text{tie} \\ + \text{hat} \text{tie} \\ + \text{hat} \text{tie} \end{array}$$

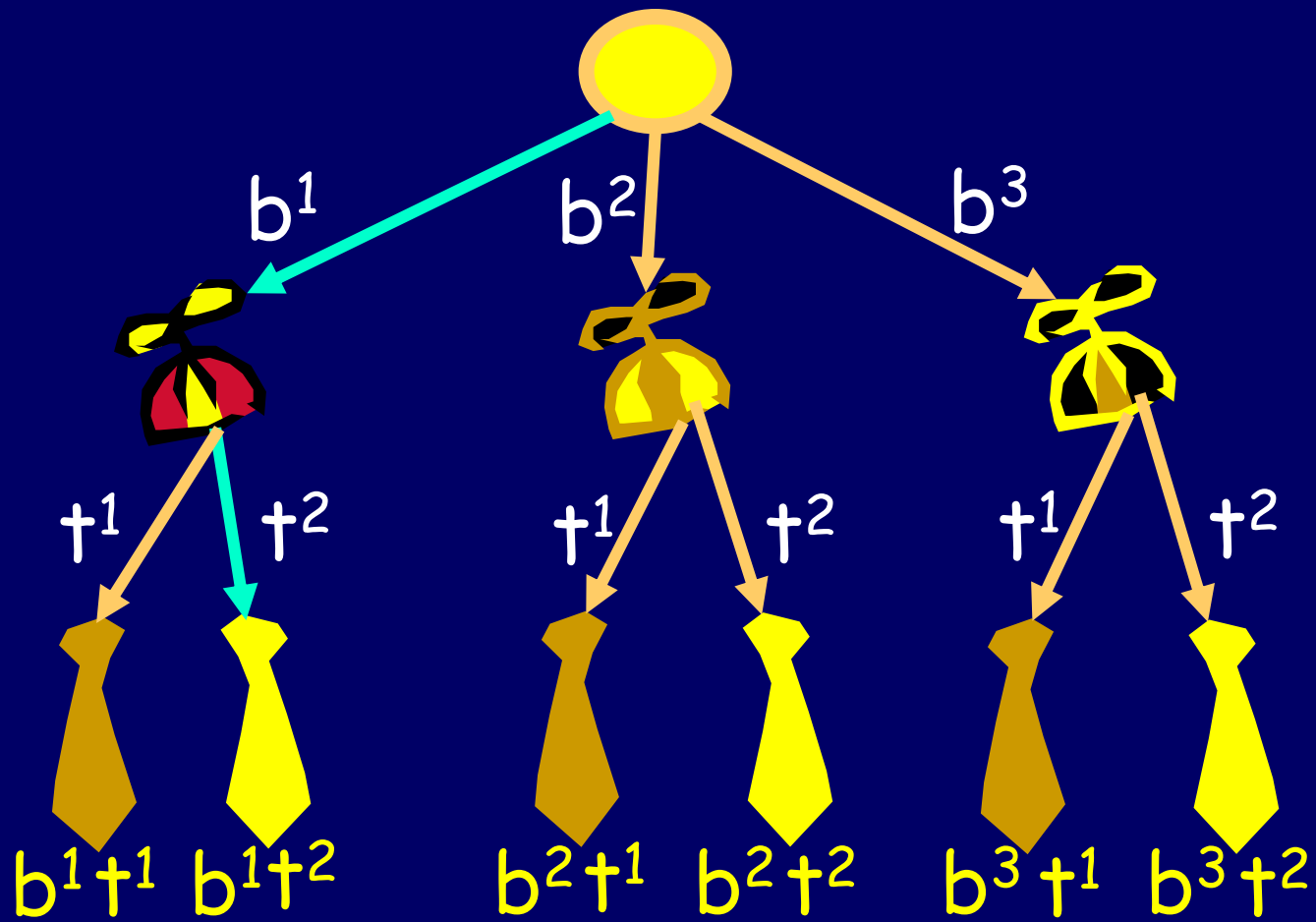




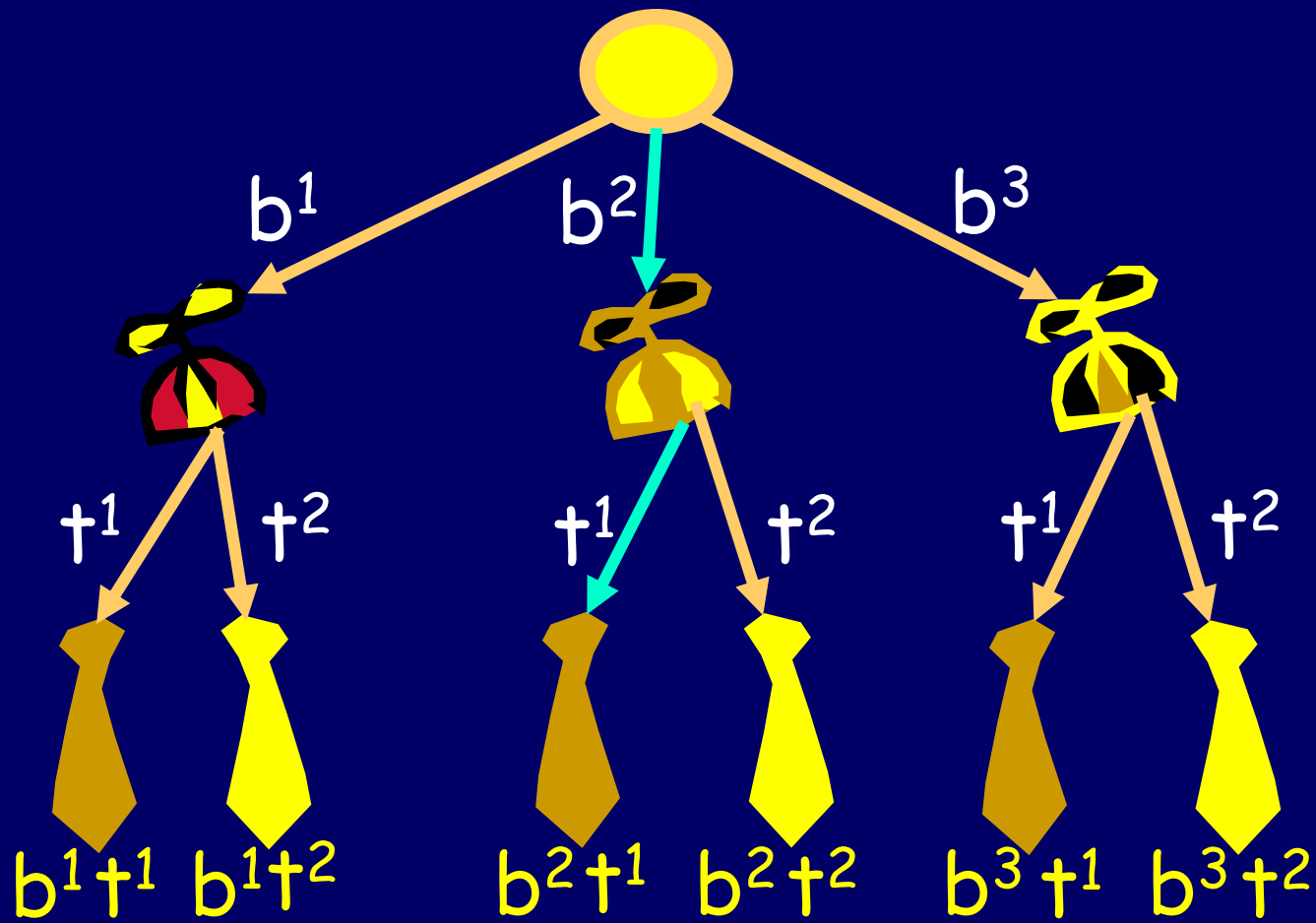
$$(b^1 + b^2 + b^3)(t^1 + t^2) =$$



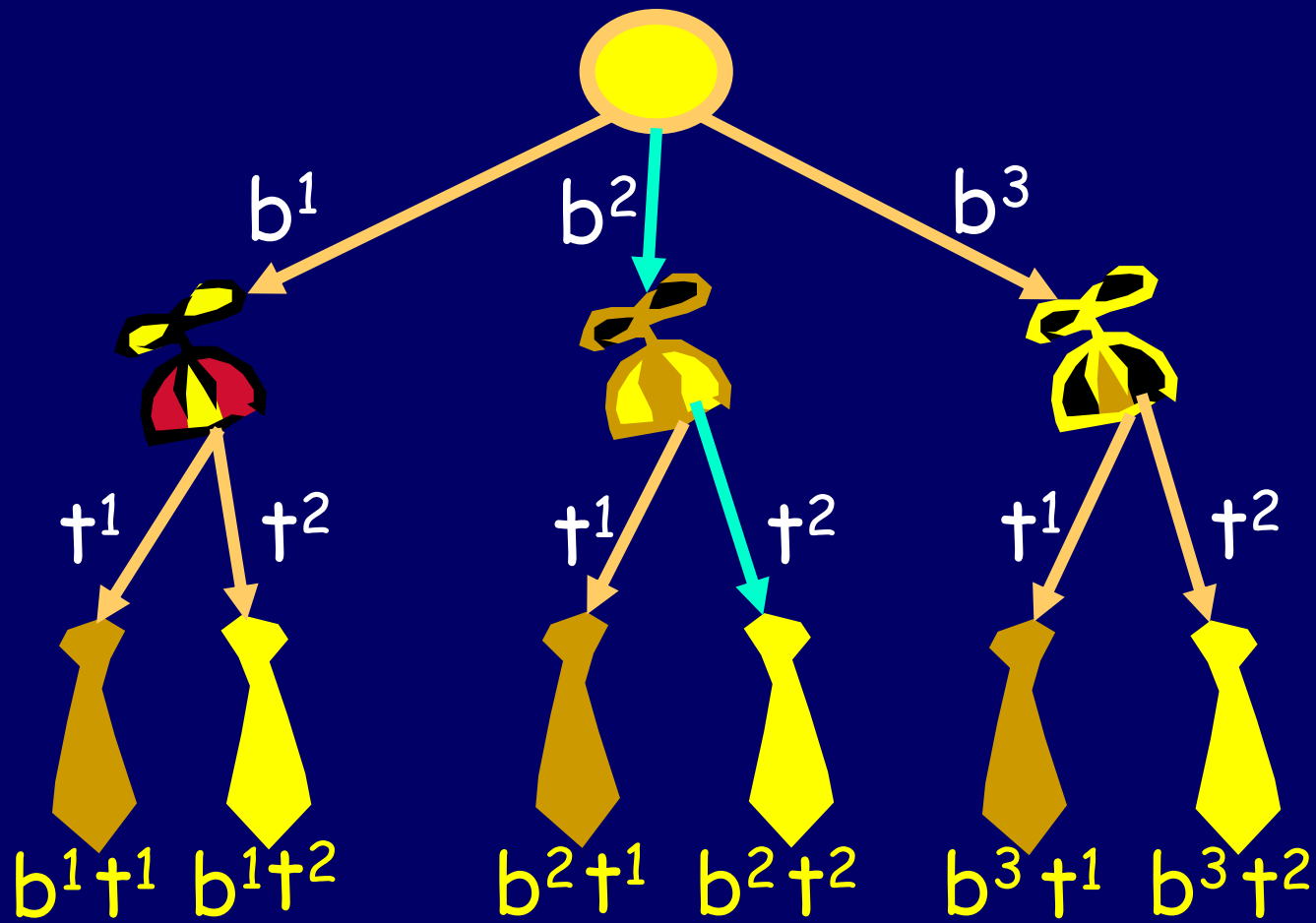
$$(b^1 + b^2 + b^3)(t^1 + t^2) = b^1t^1 +$$



$$(b^1 + b^2 + b^3)(t^1 + t^2) = b^1t^1 + b^1t^2 +$$

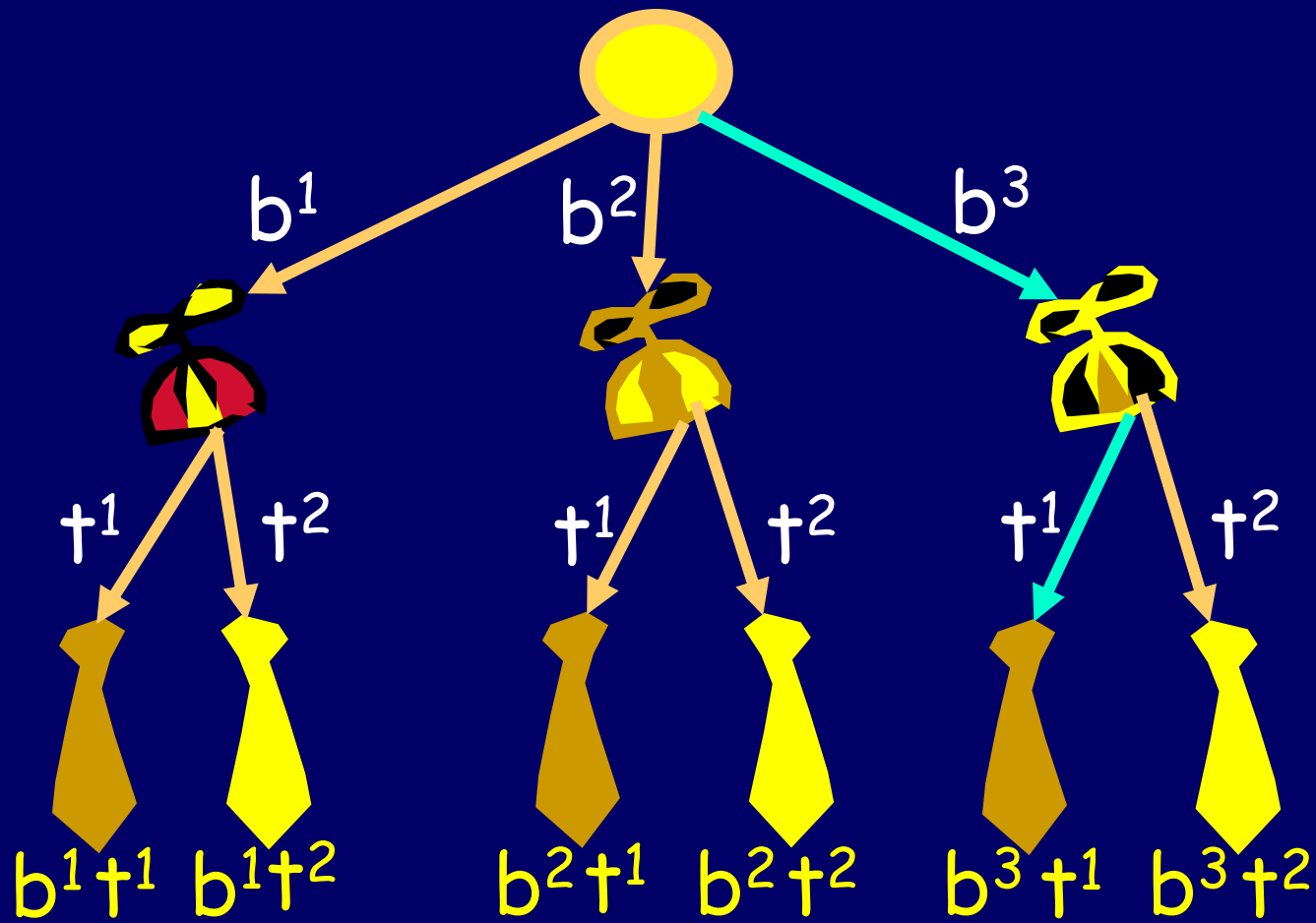


$$(b^1 + b^2 + b^3)(t^1 + t^2) = b^1t^1 + b^1t^2 + b^2t^1 +$$

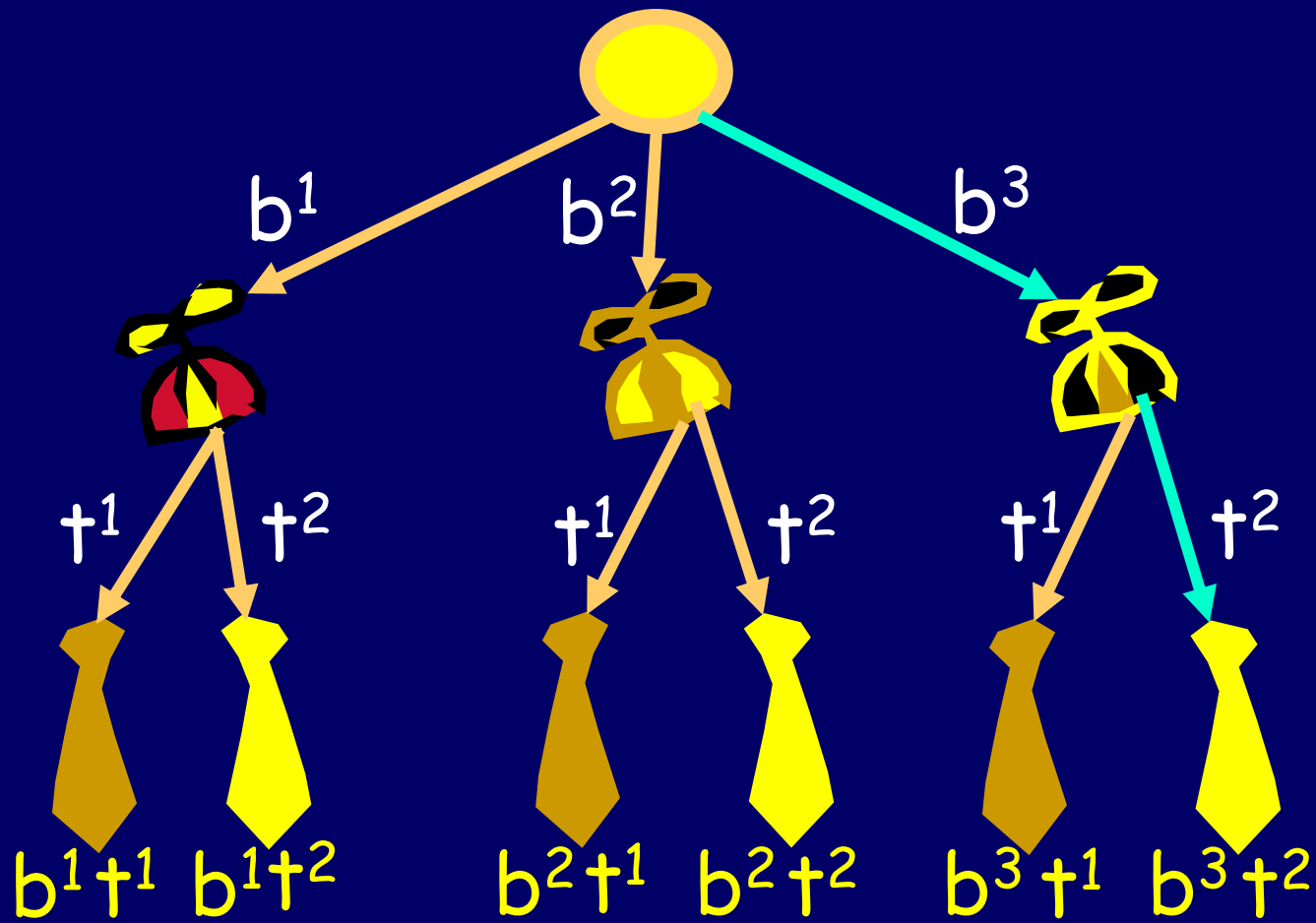


$$(b^1 + b^2 + b^3)(t^1 + t^2) = b^1t^1 + b^1t^2 + b^2t^1 + b^2t^2 +$$



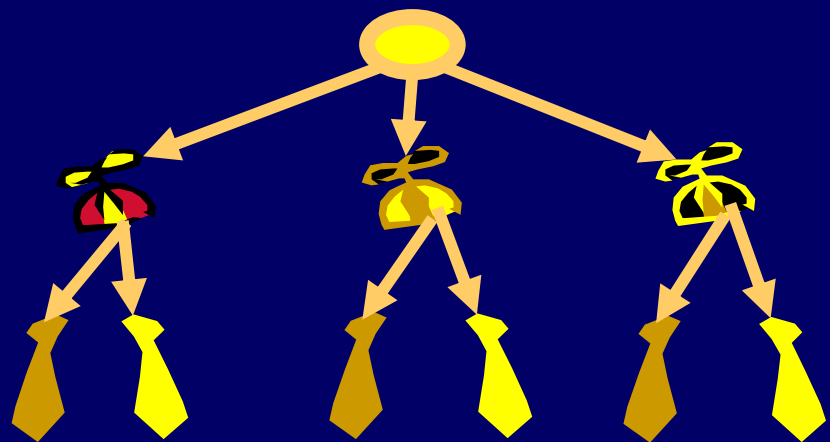
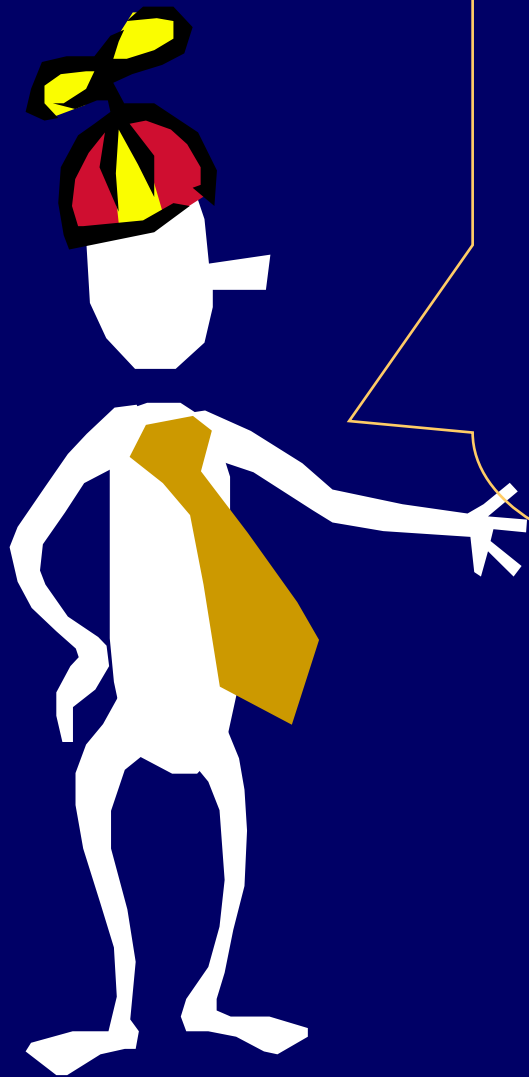


$$(b^1 + b^2 + b^3)(t^1 + t^2) = b^1t^1 + b^1t^2 + b^2t^1 + b^2t^2 + b^3t^1 +$$



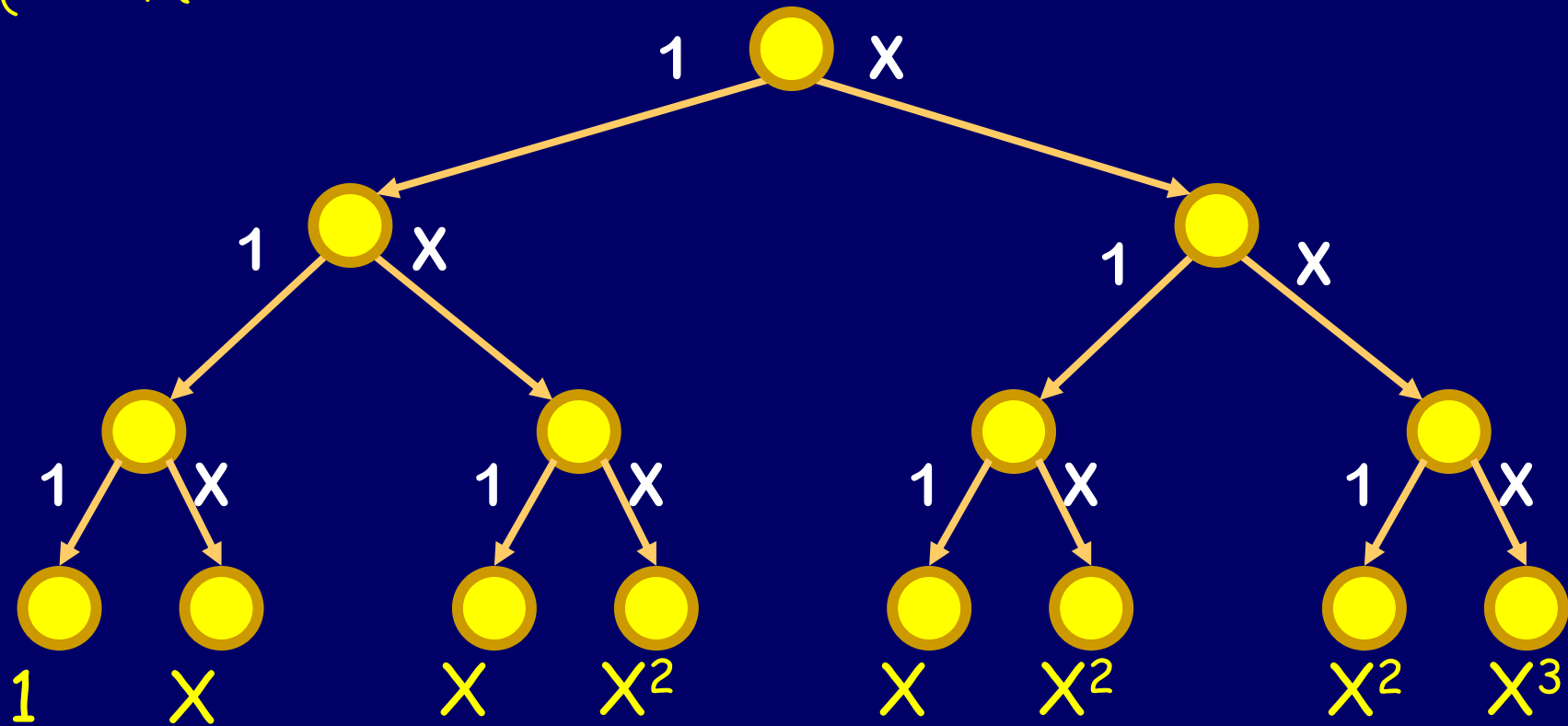
$$(b^1 + b^2 + b^3)(t^1 + t^2) = b^1t^1 + b^1t^2 + b^2t^1 + b^2t^2 + b^3t^1 + b^3t^2$$

There is a  
correspondence between  
paths in a choice tree  
and the cross terms of  
the product of  
polynomials!



# Choice tree for terms of $(1+X)^3$

$$(1+X)(1+X)(1+X)$$



Combine like terms to get  $1 + 3X + 3X^2 + X^3$

What is a closed form expression for  $c_k$ ?

$$(1 + X)^n = c_0 + c_1 X + c_2 X^2 + \dots + c_n X^n$$

What is a closed form expression for

$c_n?$

$$(1 + X)^n$$

$n$  times

"choose"  $k$   $(1+X)$   
from which you pick  
up an  $X$

$$= \underbrace{(1 + \cancel{X})(1 + X)(1 + \cancel{X})(1 + \cancel{X}) \dots (1 + X)}$$

After multiplying things out, but *before combining like terms*, we get  $2^n$  cross terms, each corresponding to a path in the choice tree.

$c_k$ , the coefficient of  $X^k$ , is the number of paths with *exactly*  $k$   $X$ 's.

$$c_k = \binom{n}{k}$$

# The Binomial Formula

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

Binomial Coefficients



binomial  
expression



# The Binomial Formula

$$(1+X)^0 = 1$$

$$(1+X)^1 = 1 + 1X$$

$$(1+X)^2 = 1 + 2X + 1X^2$$

$$(1+X)^3 = 1 + 3X + 3X^2 + 1X^3$$

$$(1+X)^4 = 1 + 4X + 6X^2 + 4X^3 + 1X^4$$

↓

$$(1 + 3X + 3X^2 + 1X^3)(\textcircled{1} + \textcircled{X})$$



# The Binomial Formula

$$(X + Y)^n$$

$$= \binom{n}{0} X^0 Y^n + \binom{n}{1} X^1 Y^{n-1} + \binom{n}{2} X^2 Y^{n-2} + \dots + \binom{n}{k} X^k Y^{n-k} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} X^n Y^0$$

$$(X+Y)^n = X^n \left(1 + \frac{Y}{X}\right)^n$$

$$= X^n \left[ \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} \left(\frac{Y}{X}\right)^1 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} \left(\frac{Y}{X}\right)^n \right]$$

$$= \binom{n}{0} X^n Y^0 + \binom{n}{1} X^{n-1} Y^1 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} Y^n X^0$$


# The Binomial Formula

$$(X + Y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^{k=n} \binom{n}{k} X^k Y^{n-k}$$



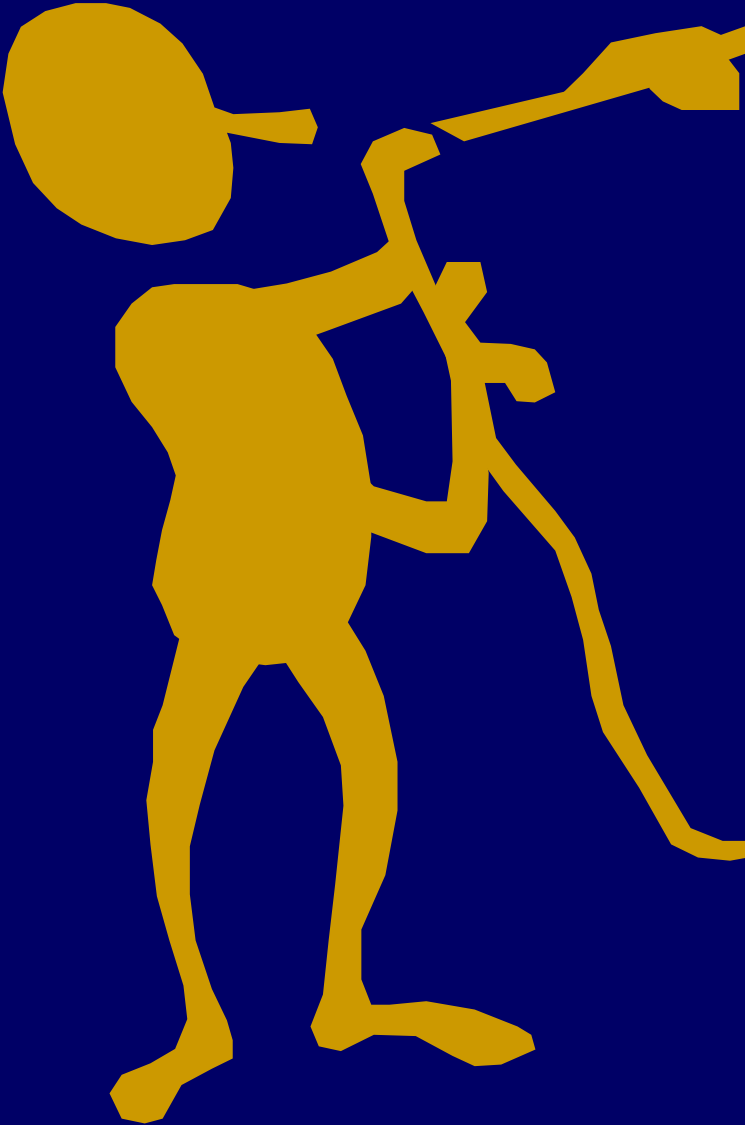
What is the coefficient of EMSTY in the expansion of  $(E + M + S + T + Y)^5$ ?

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \underbrace{(E + M + S + T + Y)}_{\checkmark} \cdot \underbrace{(E + M + S + T + Y)}_{\text{brace}} \cdot \dots \cdot \underbrace{(E + M + S + T + Y)}_{\text{brace}} \\
 & = \underline{\hspace{10em}} + \underbrace{5}_{\checkmark} \text{EMSTY}
 \end{aligned}$$



What is the  
coefficient of  
 $EMS^3TY$  in the  
expansion of  
 $(E + M + S + T + Y)^7$ ?

The number of  
ways to rearrange  
the letters in the  
word SYSTEMS.



What is the coefficient of  $BA^3N^2$  in the expansion of  $(B + A + N)^6$ ?

The number of ways to rearrange the letters in the word BANANA.



What is the  
coefficient of  
 $X_1^{r_1} X_2^{r_2} X_3^{r_3} \dots X_k^{r_k}$   
in the expansion of  
 $(X_1 + X_2 + X_3 + \dots + X_k)^n$ ?

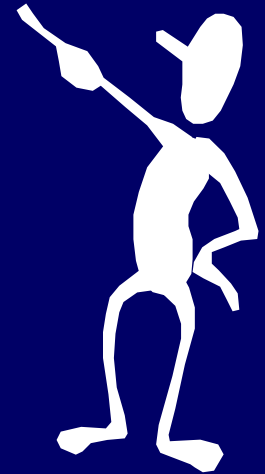
$$\frac{n!}{r_1! r_2! r_3! \dots r_k!}$$

# Multinomial Coefficients

$$\binom{n}{r_1; r_2; \dots; r_k} \equiv \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_k \neq n \\ \frac{n!}{r_1! r_2! \dots r_k!} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\binom{n}{k; n-k} = \binom{n}{k}$$

# The Multinomial Formula

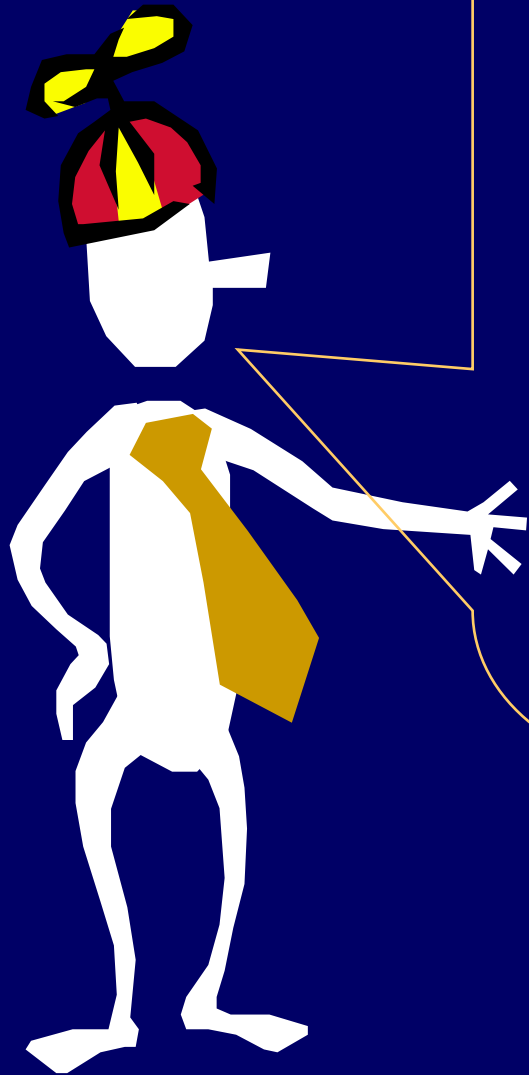


$$(X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_k)^n$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k \\ \sum r_i = n}} \binom{n}{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k} X_1^{r_1} X_2^{r_2} X_3^{r_3} \dots X_k^{r_k}$$

*multinomial coefficient.*





There is much,  
much more to be  
said about how  
polynomials  
encode counting  
questions!

# References

*Applied Combinatorics*, by Alan Tucker