

# SOA and CAS: Exam P, Probability<sup>1</sup>

## Chapter 2: Combinatorics

Yi Li <sup>2</sup>  
January 13, 2024

(1) Give: “event happens at random”, which is equivalent to “event has equal probability of occurring”

For example: total 20 people arriving at random  $\iff$  P(each person arriving first) =  $\frac{1}{20}$

(2) *Definition:* Probability =  $\frac{A}{B} = \frac{\# \text{ event of interest}}{\# \text{ total number of events}}$

(3) *Properties:*

(3.1)  $n! = n * (n - 1) * (n - 2) * \dots * 1$  (Recall that:  $\Gamma(n) = (n - 1) * (n - 2) * \dots * 1$ )

(3.2)  $C_n^m = \frac{n!}{(n-m)! m!}$  ;  $A_n^m = \frac{n!}{(n-m)!}$

(4) *Duplicate Elements:* number of distinct permutations =  $\frac{n!}{k_1! * k_2! * \dots * k_j!}$

For example: given a set of  $\{1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4\}$

$\iff$  A total of 7 elements: one “1”; two “2”; three “3”; two “4”

$\iff$  Number of distinct permutations =  $\frac{8!}{1! * 2! * 3! * 2!}$

DRAFT

---

<sup>1</sup>The purpose of the use is non-commercial research and/or private study. Please do not copy or distribute without permission of the author.

<sup>2</sup>Email: [liyifinhub@outlook.com](mailto:liyifinhub@outlook.com) This note was drafted when I was preparing for the exam. Please email me if you find any errors. My personal website <http://www.yilifinhub.com>