

Some More Combinatorics

250H

How many solutions are there to $x_1 + \dots + x_k = n$, where x_1, \dots, x_k in $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$?

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 + x_5 = 40$$

Balls and Lines \ Stars and Bars

How many ways there are to put n indistinguishable balls into k distinguishable bins?

*|***|**

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We can view this as permutations of $k-1$ lines and n balls.

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$$\frac{(n+k-1)!}{n!(k-1)!} = \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} = \binom{n+k-1}{n}$$

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$$\frac{(n+k-1)!}{n!(k-1)!} = \frac{(40+5-1)!}{40!(5-1)!} = 135751$$

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$$\frac{((n-k) + (k-1) - 1)!}{(n-k)!((k-1) - 1)!} = \frac{n-2!}{(n-k)!(k-2)!}$$