

L10 Binomial Theorem

§3.1 LVP

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

Ex $(x+y)^0 = 1$

$$(x+y)^1 = 1 \cdot y + 1 \cdot x$$

$$(x+y)^2 = 1 \cdot y^2 + 2 \cdot xy + 1 \cdot x^2$$

$$(x+y)^3 = 1 \cdot y^3 + 3 \cdot xy^2 + 3 \cdot x^2y + 1 \cdot x^3$$

Pf #1 Induction:

True for $n=0$

Suppose true for n .

Consider

$$(x+y)^{n+1} = (x+y)(x+y)^n$$

$$= (x+y) \cdot \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k y^{n-k}$$

$$= \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^{k+1} y^{n-k}}_{\sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \binom{n}{k-1} x^k y^{n-k+1}} + \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k y^{n-k+1}}_{\binom{n}{0} x^0 y^{n+1} + \sum_{k=1}^n \dots}$$

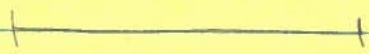
$$= \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \binom{n}{k-1} x^k y^{n-k+1} + \binom{n}{n} x^n y^1 + \binom{n}{0} x^0 y^{n+1}$$

Thus

$$(x+y)^{n+1} = \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \left[\binom{n}{k-1} + \binom{n}{k} \right] x^k y^{(n+1)-k} + \binom{n}{n} x^n y^1 + \binom{n}{0} x^0 y^{n+1}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n+1}{k} x^k y^{n+1-k} + \binom{n+1}{n+1} x^{n+1} y^0 + \binom{n+1}{0} x^0 y^{n+1}$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} x^k y^{n+1-k}$$



Consider

$$(x+y)^3 = (x+y)(x+y)(x+y)$$

How do we get the final expansion:

$$x^3 + 3x^2y + 3xy^2 + y^3 ?$$

Start w/ the highest power of x: x^3 . How many ways to do it:

$$\underbrace{(x+y)(x+y)(x+y)}$$

⇒ just one way

How about x^2y ?

$$\underbrace{(x+y)(x+y)}(x+y) \rightarrow x^2y$$

$$(x+y)\underbrace{(x+y)(x+y)} \rightarrow xyx$$

$$(x+y)(x+y)\underbrace{(x+y)} \rightarrow yx^2$$

⇒ 3 ways

Do you see the pattern? Each term of the expansion is $\alpha x^k y^{n-k}$, where α is the # ways of choosing k x 's from $\{x, x, \dots, x\}$, where order doesn't matter.

Pf #2

This argument can be applied in general to conclude that

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



Special cases of the Binomial Theorem

$$x=1, y=1$$

$$2^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}$$

$$x=2, y=1$$

$$3^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} 2^k$$

⋮

$$x=-1, y=1$$

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

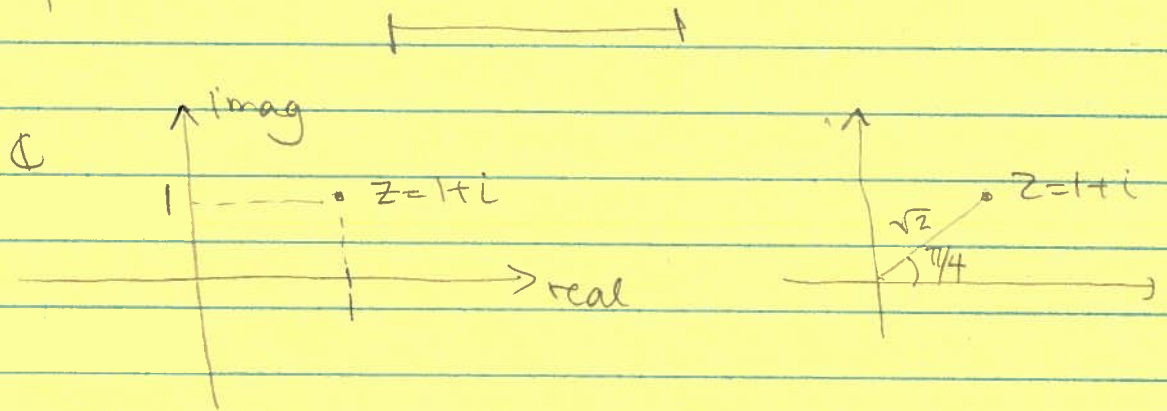
"alternating coeffs" in a row of Pascal's triangle

But what happens if we only alternate even terms in a row?

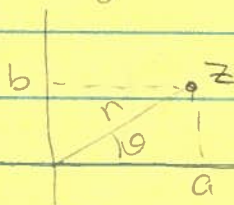
To answer that question, we need

Complex numbers...

Quick Review of Complex Numbers



In general: $z = a + bi = r e^{i\theta} = r(\cos\theta + i\sin\theta)$



$$\Rightarrow a = r \cos\theta, b = r \sin\theta$$

$$\text{and } |z| = r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

Multiplying complex numbers: $i^2 = -1$

$$\Rightarrow (a+bi)(c+di) = ac - bd + (bc+ad)i$$

$$r_1 e^{i\theta_1} \cdot r_2 e^{i\theta_2} = r_1 r_2 e^{i(\theta_1 + \theta_2)}$$

$x=i, y=1$

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

But:

$$\text{LHS} = (\sqrt{2} e^{i\pi/4})^n = 2^{n/2} e^{in\pi/4}$$

$$= 2^{n/2} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{4}\right) + i 2^{n/2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{4}\right)$$

Now break up RHS into real & imag parts by examining i^k :

k	0	1	2	3	4	...
i^k	1	i	-1	$-i$	1	...
						
	cycle.				cycle.	

Clearly, for even k , i^k alternates between $+1$ and -1 , while for odd k , i^k alternates between i and $-i$.

Equating real (LHS) and real (RHS) yields:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \binom{n}{2k} (-1)^k = 2^{n/2} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{4}\right)$$

and equating imag (LHS) and imag (RHS) \Rightarrow

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor} \binom{n}{2k+1} (-1)^k = 2^{n/2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{4}\right)$$

When n is even:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\frac{n}{2}} \binom{2n}{2k} (-1)^k = 2^n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \binom{2n}{2k+1} (-1)^k = 2^n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right)$$

Here is another special case of the Binomial Thm:

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

Take derivative of both sides w.r.t. x :

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

Plug in $x=1$:

$$n 2^{n-1} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} k$$



Recall Vandermonde identity:

$$\binom{m+n}{r} = \sum_{k=0}^r \binom{m}{k} \binom{n}{r-k}$$

Binomial We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{PF} \quad \sum_{r=0}^{m+n} \binom{m+n}{r} x^r & \stackrel{\text{binomial thm}}{=} (1+x)^{m+n} = (1+x)^m (1+x)^n \\ & \stackrel{\text{binomial thm}}{=} \sum_{\alpha=0}^m \binom{m}{\alpha} x^\alpha \cdot \sum_{\beta=0}^n \binom{n}{\beta} x^\beta \end{aligned} \quad (*)$$

But:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\alpha} a_{\alpha} x^{\alpha} \sum_{\beta} b_{\beta} x^{\beta} \\ & = (a_0 x^0 + a_1 x^1 + \dots) (b_0 x^0 + b_1 x^1 + \dots) \end{aligned}$$

Consider the x^2 term in the expansion:

$$a_0 x^0 b_2 x^2 + a_1 x^1 b_1 x^1 + a_2 x^2 b_0 x^0$$

$$= \left[\sum_{k=0}^2 a_k b_{2-k} \right] x^2$$

In general, the x^r term in the expansion is:

$$\left[\sum_{k=0}^r a_k b_{r-k} \right] x^r$$

which in the case of (a) is:

$$\binom{m+n}{r} x^r = \left[\sum_{k=0}^r \binom{m}{k} \binom{n}{r-k} \right] x^r$$

ie.

$$\binom{m+n}{r} = \sum_{k=0}^r \binom{m}{k} \binom{n}{r-k}.$$



§2.3 HM Multinomial Coefficients

Q. How many anagrams of BANANAS?

A. There are $7!$ permutations of the letters, but many of them yield the same word since we can't distinguish the 3 A's or the 2 N's. Thus there are

$$\frac{7!}{3! \cdot 2!}$$

distinct anagrams.

Alternative answer Imagine constructing an anagram

First place the A's: $\binom{7}{3}$ ways, eg

$$\underline{A}_1 \underline{A}_2 \underline{A}_3 = \underline{A}_3 \underline{A}_2 \underline{A}_1$$

Then place the N's: $\binom{4}{2}$ ways, eg

$$\underline{A} \underline{N}_1 \underline{A} \underline{N}_2 \underline{A} = \underline{A} \underline{N}_2 \underline{A} \underline{N}_1 \underline{A}$$

Then place B: $\binom{2}{1}$ ways

Then place S: $\binom{1}{1}$ ways.

$$\text{Total \#ways} = \binom{7}{3} \binom{4}{2} \binom{2}{1} \binom{1}{1}$$

This leads us to a proposition:

Prop The #ways of dividing n objects into groups of size k_1, k_2, \dots, k_t where $k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_t = n$ is given by

$$\frac{n!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_t!} = \binom{n}{k_1} \binom{n-k_1}{k_2} \binom{n-k_1-k_2}{k_3} \dots \binom{n-k_1-k_2-\dots-k_{t-1}}{k_t}$$

[Expand RHS to see how it reduces to LHS!]

$\frac{n!}{k_1! \dots k_t!}$ is #ways of painting n labelled balls with t colors where k_i are of color i , and $k_1 + \dots + k_t = n$.

To see this, think of the slots in the BANANAS example as the balls, the distinct letters $\{A, N, B, S\}$ as the colors and $k_1 = 3, k_2 = 2, k_3 = 1, k_4 = 1$.

Defⁿ Multinomial coefficient is $\frac{n!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_t!}$ and denoted

$$\binom{n}{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_t}$$