

BINOMIAL THEOREM

BINOMIAL

A binomial is a polynomial with two terms. e.g

$$\begin{array}{c} 5y^3 - 3 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ 2 \text{ terms} \end{array}$$

THE BINOMIAL THEOREM

Helps us expand binomials to any given power without direct multiplication.

General formula for $(x+y)^n$

$$(x + y)^n = {}^n C_0 x^n y^0 + {}^n C_1 x^{n-1} y + {}^n C_2 x^{n-2} y^2 + \dots + {}^n C_r x^{n-r} y^r + \dots + {}^n C_n x^0 y^n = \sum_{r=0}^n {}^n C_r x^{n-r} y^r$$

PROPERTIES OF THE BINOMIAL EXPANSION $(x + y)^n$

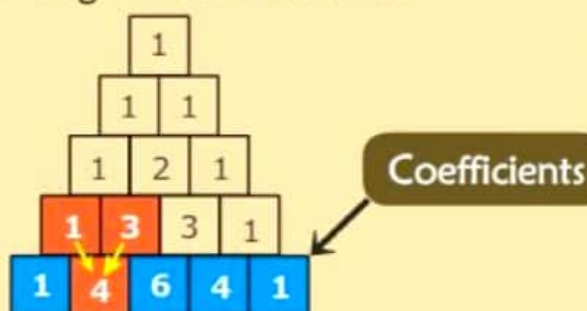
- ➔ There are $n + 1$ terms.
- ➔ The first term is x^n and the final term is y^n
- ➔ The exponent of x decreases by 1 while the exponent of y increases by 1.

BINOMIAL COEFFICIENTS

Expanding $(x+y)^n$, the binomial coefficients are simply the number of ways of choosing x from a number of brackets and y from the rest and are found using pascal's triangle.

PASCAL'S TRIANGLE

Assuming $n = 4$, We have $(a+b)^4$ and pascal's triangle would look like



$$(a + b)^4 = a^4 + 4a^3b + 6a^2b^2 + 4ab^3 + b^4$$

Formula for the coefficient from pascal's Triangle.

$$\binom{n}{k} = {}^n C_k = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

It is commonly called " n choose k ".

IN THE EXPANSION OF $(x+y)^n$

- **GENERAL TERM** : $T_{r+1} = {}^n C_r x^{n-r} \cdot y^r$
- **MIDDLE TERM** : $T_{(n+2)/2} = {}^n C_{n/2} \cdot x^{n/2} \cdot y^{n/2}$; when n is even
 $T_{(n+1)/2}$ & $T_{[(n+1)/2]+1}$; when n is odd
- **NUMERICALLY GREATEST TERM** : $T_{r+1} \geq T_r \Rightarrow \frac{T_{r+1}}{T_r} \geq 1 \Rightarrow \frac{n-r+1}{r} \left| \frac{a}{x} \right| \geq 1 \Rightarrow r \leq \frac{(n+1)}{\left(\left| \frac{x}{a} \right| + 1 \right)}$
- **TERM INDEPENDENT OF x** : Term independent of x contains no x; Hence find the value of r for which the exponent of x is zero.

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SOME RESULTS ON BINOMIAL COEFFICIENTS

- $C_0 + C_1 + C_2 + \dots + C_n = 2^n$
- $C_0 + C_2 + C_4 + \dots = C_1 + C_3 + C_5 + \dots = 2^{n-1}$
- $C_0^2 + C_1^2 + \dots + C_n^2 = 2^n C_n = \frac{(2n)!}{n!n!}$
- $C_0 \cdot C_r + C_1 \cdot C_{r+1} + \dots + C_{n-r} C_n = \frac{(2n)!}{(n+r)!(n-r)!}$

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SOME IMPORTANT EXPANSIONS

EXPONENTIAL SERIES

- $e^x = 1 + \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots \infty$; where x may be any real or complex number.
- $a^x = 1 + \frac{x}{1!} \ln a + \frac{x^2}{2!} \ln^2 a + \frac{x^3}{3!} \ln^3 a + \dots \infty$ where $a > 0$.
- $e = 1 + \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{3!} + \dots \infty$

LOGARITHMIC SERIES

- $\ln(1+x) = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots \infty$ where $-1 < x \leq 1$
- $\ln(1-x) = -x - \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} - \dots \infty$ where $-1 \leq x < 1$

APPROXIMATIONS

- $(1+x)^n = 1 + nx + \frac{n(n-1)}{1.2} x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{1.2.3} x^3 + \dots$
 if x be very small, then $(1+x)^n = 1 + nx$, approximately.

FOLLOWING EXPANSION SHOULD BE REMEMBERED ($|x| < 1$)

- $(1+x)^{-1} = 1 - x + x^2 - x^3 + x^4 - \dots \infty$
- $(1-x)^{-1} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots \infty$
- $(1+x)^{-2} = 1 - 2x + 3x^2 - 4x^3 + \dots \infty$
- $(1-x)^{-2} = 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 4x^3 + \dots \infty$