

Binomial Theorem.  
Combinations with repetition.

# Permutations and combinations

Pascal's Triangle

The Binomial  
Theorem

Combinations with  
repetition

Permutations with  
repetition

Given a set with  $n$  elements.

The number of *permutations* of the elements the set:

$$P(n) = n! = n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdot \dots \cdot 1$$

The number of *r-permutations* of the set:

$$P(n, r) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!} = \underbrace{n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdot \dots \cdot (n-r+1)}_{\text{product of } r \text{ numbers}}$$

The number of unordered *r-combinations* (“ $n$  choose  $r$ ”):

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

# What are the properties of $\binom{n}{r}$ ?

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How does  $\binom{n}{r}$  change with  $r$ ?

$$\binom{0}{0} = \frac{0!}{0! 0!} = 1.$$

$$\binom{1}{0} = \frac{1!}{1! 0!} = 1, \quad \binom{1}{1} = \frac{1!}{0! 1!} = 1.$$

$$\binom{2}{0} = \frac{2!}{2! 0!} = 1, \quad \binom{2}{1} = \frac{2!}{1! 1!} = 2, \quad \binom{2}{2} = \frac{2!}{0! 2!} = 1.$$

$$\binom{3}{0} = \frac{3!}{3! 0!} = 1, \quad \binom{3}{1} = \frac{3!}{2! 1!} = 3, \quad \binom{3}{2} = \frac{3!}{1! 2!} = 3, \quad \binom{3}{3} = \frac{3!}{0! 3!} = 1.$$



# Pascal's Triangle

The numbers in Pascal's Triangle are the coefficients of the polynomials of the form  $(x + y)^n$ :

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

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

$$(x + y)^2 = x^2 + 2xy + y^2$$

$$(x + y)^3 = x^3 + 3x^2y + 3xy^2 + y^3$$

$$(x + y)^4 = x^4 + 4x^3y + 6x^2y^2 + 4xy^3 + y^4$$

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# Pascal's Triangle

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$$(x + y)^n = \binom{n}{0} \cdot x^n + \binom{n}{1} \cdot x^{n-1}y + \binom{n}{2} \cdot x^{n-2}y^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} \cdot y^n.$$

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# Pascal's Triangle

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

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# Coefficients of $(x + y)^n$

Let's prove

$$(x + y)^n = \binom{n}{0} \cdot x^n + \binom{n}{1} \cdot x^{n-1}y + \binom{n}{2} \cdot x^{n-2}y^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} \cdot y^n.$$

Example:

$$\begin{aligned}(x + y)^3 &= (x + y)(x + y)(x + y) = \\ & \quad xxx + \\ & \quad xxy + xyx + yxx + \\ & \quad xyy + yxy + yyx + \\ & \quad yyy\end{aligned}$$

$2^n = 2^3 = 8$  terms in total. The same as the number of the bit strings of length 3.

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# Coefficients of $(x + y)^n$

$$(x + y)^n = \underbrace{(x + y) \cdot (x + y) \cdot \dots \cdot (x + y)}_{n \text{ times}} = ?$$

What is happening when we multiply  $(x + y)$   $n$  times?

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# Coefficients of $(x + y)^n$

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$$(x + y)^n = \underbrace{(x + y) \cdot (x + y) \cdot \dots \cdot (x + y)}_{n \text{ times}} = ?$$

What is happening when we multiply  $(x + y)$   $n$  times?

We get the sum of

$xxxxx \dots x +$   
 $yxxxx \dots x +$   
 $xyxxx \dots x +$   
 $yyxxx \dots x +$   
 $xyyxx \dots x +$   
 $\dots +$   
 $yyyyy \dots y$

# Coefficients of $(x + y)^n$

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$$\begin{aligned}(x + y)^n &= \underbrace{(x + y) \cdot (x + y) \cdot \dots \cdot (x + y)}_{n \text{ times}} = \\ &\quad \underbrace{x \cdot x \cdot \dots \cdot x}_{=x^n} + \\ &\quad \underbrace{(x \cdot \dots \cdot x)}_{=x^{n-1}} \cdot y + \dots + y \cdot \underbrace{(x \cdot \dots \cdot x)}_{=x^{n-1}} + \\ &\quad \underbrace{(x \cdot \dots \cdot x)}_{=x^{n-2}} \cdot \underbrace{(y \cdot y)}_{=y^2} + \dots + \underbrace{(y \cdot y)}_{=y^2} \cdot \underbrace{(x \cdot \dots \cdot x)}_{=x^{n-2}} + \\ &\quad \dots + \\ &\quad \underbrace{y \cdot y \cdot \dots \cdot y}_{=y^n}\end{aligned}$$

# Coefficients of $(x + y)^n$

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$$(x + y)^n = \underbrace{(x + y) \cdot (x + y) \cdot \dots \cdot (x + y)}_{n \text{ times}} =$$
$$1 \cdot x^n +$$
$$n \cdot x^{n-1}y +$$
$$\binom{n}{2} \cdot x^{n-2}y^2 +$$
$$\dots +$$
$$1 \cdot y^n$$

# The Binomial Theorem

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$$(x + y)^n = \underbrace{(x + y) \cdot (x + y) \cdot \dots \cdot (x + y)}_{n \text{ times}} = \binom{n}{0} \cdot x^n + \binom{n}{1} \cdot x^{n-1}y + \binom{n}{2} \cdot x^{n-2}y^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} \cdot y^n.$$

Shorter notation for the same thing:

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

This result is called *The Binomial Theorem*, and this is why the coefficients,  $\binom{n}{k}$ , are also called the *binomial coefficients*.

# The Binomial Theorem

Let's prove that

$$\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} = 2^n.$$

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# The Binomial Theorem

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Let's prove that

$$\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} = 2^n.$$

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

Therefore,

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



# The Binomial Theorem

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$$\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} = 2^n.$$

Results like this are not very obvious.

Recall that

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

So,

$$\frac{n!}{n! 0!} + \frac{n!}{(n-1)! 1!} + \frac{n!}{(n-2)! 2!} + \dots + \frac{n!}{0! n!} = 2^n.$$

In this form, the result seems to be much harder to prove.

However, can you think of another way to prove this identity?  
(You can try to use double counting)

# The Binomial Theorem

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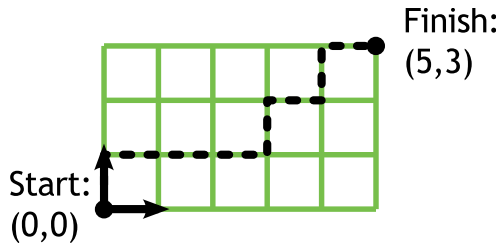
Using the binomial theorem

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

prove that

$$\sum_{k=0}^n 2^k \binom{n}{k} = \binom{n}{0} + 2\binom{n}{1} + 2^2\binom{n}{2} + \dots + 2^n\binom{n}{n} = 3^n.$$

# Counting routes



You can go only North and East.  
Count the number of paths from  $(0,0)$  to  $(5,3)$ .

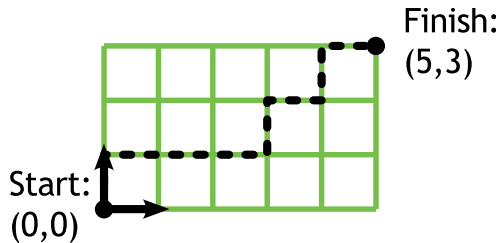
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# Counting routes



You can go only North and East.

Count the number of paths from  $(0,0)$  to  $(5,3)$ . Answer:  $\binom{5+3}{3}$ .

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# Pascal's Identity

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

Every number in Pascal's triangle is equal to the sum of the two numbers that are immediately above.

# Another Identity

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Prove that for  $r \leq n$  and  $r \leq m$ :

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

# Vandermonde's Identity

Prove that for  $r \leq n$  and  $r \leq m$ :

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

We split the initial set of  $m+n$  objects into two arbitrary subsets of  $m$  and  $n$  objects. After that, we can choose  $r$  objects from the two subsets in the following ways:

$k$	subset of size $m$	subset of size $n$
0	choose $r$	choose none
1	choose $r-1$	choose 1
2	choose $r-2$	choose 2
...		
$r$	choose 0	choose $r$

$$\begin{aligned} & \binom{m}{r} \binom{n}{0} + \binom{m}{r-1} \binom{n}{1} + \\ & + \binom{m}{r-2} \binom{n}{2} + \dots + \binom{m}{0} \binom{n}{r} \\ & = \sum_{k=0}^r \binom{m}{r-k} \binom{n}{k} \end{aligned}$$

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# $r$ -combinations without repetition

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Recall that without repetitions, this is  $\binom{n}{r}$ .

For example, you have  $n$  books, but don't have time to read all of them, and have to select only  $r$  books to read.

In how many ways can you do so?

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

There are  $\binom{n}{r}$  ways to make the choice.

# $r$ -combinations with repetition

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There is a vending machine with 3 types of drinks, \$1 each drink.

You have to spend \$5.

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$

# $r$ -combinations with repetition

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\$ | \$   \$ | \$   \$

# $r$ -combinations with repetition

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There is a vending machine with 3 types of drinks, \$1 each drink.

You have to spend \$5.

$$\underbrace{\$}_{1 \text{ drink}} \mid \underbrace{\$ \$}_{2 \text{ drinks}} \mid \underbrace{\$ \$}_{2 \text{ drinks}}$$

# $r$ -combinations with repetition

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There is a vending machine with 3 types of drinks, \$1 each drink.

You have to spend \$5.

\$ \$ | \$ \$ \$ |

# $r$ -combinations with repetition

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There is a vending machine with 3 types of drinks, \$1 each drink.

You have to spend \$5.

$$\underbrace{\$ \ \$}_{2 \text{ drink}} \mid \underbrace{\$ \ \$ \ \$}_{3 \text{ drinks}} \mid \underbrace{\quad}_{\text{none}}$$

# $r$ -combinations with repetition

So, there are  $5 + (3 - 1)$  places that stand for 5 dollars and  $(3 - 1)$  separators between the drinks' types.

— — — — —  
\$ | \$ \$ | \$ \$  
\$ \$ | \$ \$ \$ |  
\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ | |

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# $r$ -combinations with repetition

So, there are  $5 + (3 - 1)$  places that stand for 5 dollars and  $(3 - 1)$  separators between the drinks' types.

— — — — —  
\$ | \$ \$ | \$ \$  
\$ \$ | \$ \$ \$ |  
\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ | |

$$\binom{7}{5} = \binom{7}{2} = 21 \text{ ways to buy 5 drinks}$$

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# $r$ -combinations with repetition

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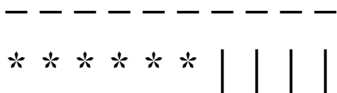
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To select  $r$  objects out of  $n$  with repetitions, there are

$$\binom{r+n-1}{r} = \binom{r+n-1}{n-1} \text{ ways.}$$



( $r$  objects and  $n - 1$  separator)

In other words, this is the number of  $r$ -combinations with repetition from the set of  $n$  objects.

# $r$ -permutations with repetition

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We know that the number of  $r$ -permutations of  $n$  objects *without repetition* is

$$n(n-1)(n-2) \cdot \dots \cdot (n-r+1) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$$

But, *if repetitions are allowed*, it is even easier, the simple product rule works just fine!

$$n \cdot n \cdot \dots \cdot n = n^r$$

# Summary

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with repetitions?

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$r$ -combination          No           $\binom{n}{r}$

$r$ -combination          Yes           $\binom{r+n-1}{r} = \binom{r+n-1}{n-1}$

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$r$ -permutation          No           $P(n, r) = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$

$r$ -permutation          Yes           $n^r$

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