

F3: Binomial thm & Induction

Last time,

Thm. (Binomial theorem.)

For any real numbers x and y , for every $n \geq 0$.

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

→ binomial coefficients.

e.g. $(x+y)^3 = (x+y)(x+y)(x+y)$ how many different ways to get 1 x and 2 y 's?

$$= \binom{3}{0} x^3 + \binom{3}{1} 3x^2y + \binom{3}{2} 3xy^2 + \binom{3}{3} y^3.$$

Prf. Look at $(x+y)^n = \underbrace{(x+y)(x+y)\dots(x+y)}_{n \text{ terms}}$

If we multiply everything out, we have $\{x, y\}$ -strings of length

n as the terms of expansion, where each term is determined by choosing

x or y in each factor.

$$(x+y)(x+y)\dots(x+y) \rightarrow \{xx\dots y\}$$

For every k , every string with k y 's (and thus $(n-k)$ x 's) simplifies

to $x^{n-k}y^k$. There are $\binom{n}{k}$ ways to choose k y 's, so the

coefficient is $\binom{n}{k}$. This holds for all k . □

E.X. 3.1. Give 2 different proofs that

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

Prf 1. We count ternary strings ($\{0, 1, 2\}$ -strings) of length n .

• For each position there are 3 choices, so 3^n in total.

• For k between 0 and n , we count ternary strings with exactly

k 2's, and every other position has 2 possibilities: 0 or 1.

So the number of strings with exactly k 2's:

$$\binom{n}{k} \underbrace{2^{n-k}}_{\text{rest of the positions}} = \binom{n}{n-k} 2^{n-k} =$$

summing over all k :

$$3^n = \binom{n}{0} 2^0 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} 2^n$$

\uparrow
 $n-k=0$

□

Prf 2. By the binomial thm,

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

□

Thm 3.2 (Multinomial thm)

For any real numbers x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r , and any positive integer n ,

$$(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_r)^n = \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_r \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_r = n}} \binom{n}{k_1, \dots, k_r} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \dots x_r^{k_r}$$

Constraints on k_i 's.

where $\binom{n}{k_1, \dots, k_r} = \frac{n!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_r!}$ is the multinomial coefficient.

(Recall Mississippi rule), representing the number of "rearrangements".

Review of three principles.

Thm 3.3 Principle of mathematical induction

Let $S(n)$ be an open statement involving the positive integer n . If:

↳ we don't know if it's true or not

Base case : $S(1)$ is true.

Induction step : For all $k \geq 1$, if $S(k)$ is true, so

is $S(k+1)$.

Then $S(n)$ is true for all $n \geq 1$.

To prove this, we need the following lemma.

Lemma 3.4. (The well-ordering principle.)

Every non-empty set of positive integers has a least element
↓
Smallest.

prf: Suppose $S(n)$ satisfies the base case and the induction

step. Let set $F = \{ k \geq 1 : S(k) \text{ is false} \}$, the

↓
collection of k 's.

set of positive integers where $S(k)$ fails. Want: $F = \emptyset$

Suppose F is not empty, then by Lemma 2.8, F has a

least element m .

The base case holds: $1 \notin F$

m is the smallest: $m-1 \notin F$.

$\Rightarrow S(m-1)$ is true.

By induction step, so is $S(m)$. $\Rightarrow m \notin F$

This contradicts F having a least element, so F must be empty. (proof by contradiction). \square

Ex. 3.5. Let $S(n)$ be: $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 2^i = 2^n - 1$.

Show that $S(n)$ is true for all $n \geq 1$.

Prf. Base case: $n = 1$.

$$\sum_{i=0}^0 2^i = 2^0 = 1 = 2^1 - 1. \quad \checkmark$$

Induction step: Let $k \geq 1$, and assume $S(k)$ is true.

(This is called the "Induction Hypothesis").

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} 2^i = 2^k - 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } \sum_{i=0}^k 2^i &= \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} 2^i + 2^k = 2^k - 1 + 2^k \\ &= 2 \times 2^k - 1 \\ &= 2^{k+1} - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $S(k+1)$ holds.

By PMI, $S(n)$ is true for all $n \geq 1$. \square

Ex. 3.6. Use the PMI and Pascal's identity to show

the "hockey stick identity": for all non-negative integers

$$0 \leq r < n,$$

$$\sum_{k=r}^n \binom{k}{r} = \binom{n+1}{r+1}.$$

sums of binomial coefficients.

prf. Fix $0 \leq r < n$, we perform induction on n .

Base case: $n=r$

$$\sum_{k=r}^n \binom{k}{r} = \sum_{k=r}^n \binom{n}{r} = 1 = \binom{n+1}{r+1} = \binom{n+1}{n+1}.$$

Induction step: let $m \geq r$, assume.

$$\sum_{k=r}^m \binom{k}{r} = \binom{m+1}{r+1}$$

then, for $n = m+1$:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{m+1} \binom{k}{r} = \sum_{k=1}^{m+1} \binom{k}{r} + \binom{m+1}{r}$$

$$= \binom{m+1}{r+1} + \binom{m+1}{r}$$

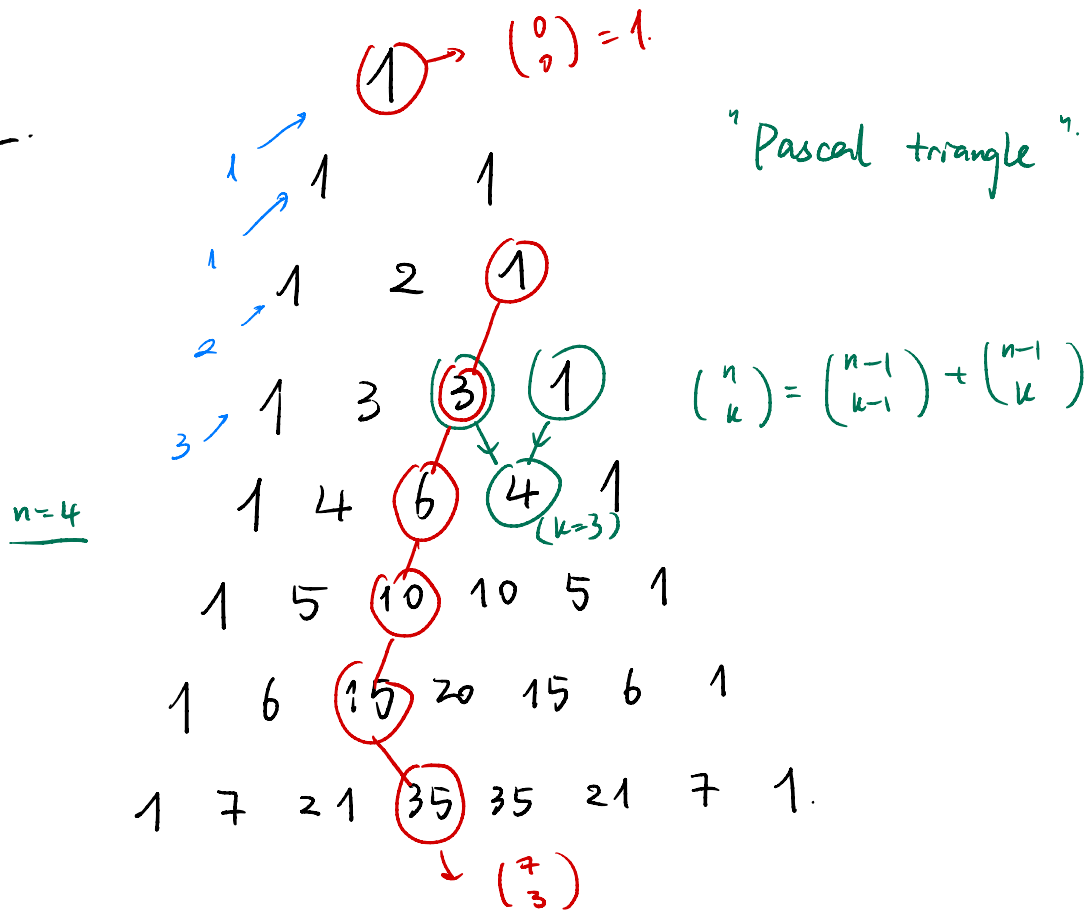
$$= \binom{m+2}{r+1}.$$

Pascal's identity.

By PMI, this holds for all n .

□

Recall



- Element of n th row, k th column: $\binom{n}{k}$ binomial coefficient.
- Pascal's identity.
- "Hockey stick identity".

$$\binom{7}{3} = \binom{2}{2} + \binom{3}{2} + \binom{4}{2} + \binom{5}{2} + \binom{6}{2}$$

$n=6$
 $r=2$

Looks like a Hockey stick.

- Fibonacci sequence (later)

1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ...

Thm 3.7 (The strong Induction principle)

Let $S(n)$ be an open statement involving the positive integer n .

Let $1 \leq n_0 \leq n_1$. If :

Base case, $S(n_0), S(n_0+1), \dots, S(n_1-1), S(n_1)$ are true, and

Induction step. For all $k \geq n_1$, if $S(n_0), S(n_0+1), \dots, S(k-1), S(k)$ are true, then so is $S(k+1)$.

then $S(n)$ is true for all $n \geq n_0$.

Prf, Assume the above conditions hold, Let $P(n)$ be the statement

that " $S(n_0), S(n_0+1), \dots, S(n_1+n-1)$ are true".

Base case : $n=1$. $P(1)$ is true by our assumption.

Induction step : Let $k \geq 1$, assume $P(k)$ is true. Then

$S(n_0), \dots, S(n_1+k-1)$ are true. By our induction step assumption, this implies $S(n_1+k)$ is true, therefore,

$S(n_0), \dots, S(n_1+k-1), S(n_1+k)$ are true,

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true.

By PMI, $P(n)$ is true for all $n \geq 1$.

Note that $P(n-n_1+1)$ implies $S(n)$, $\Rightarrow S(n)$ is true for all n .



E.X. 3.8. You can buy mozzarella sticks in bags of 3 or 5 at MAX. Show that for any $n \geq 8$, you can buy exactly n sticks.

Prf. Let $S(n)$ be the statement

" $n = 3a + 5b$ for some non-negative integers a, b ".

If $S(n)$ is true, then you can buy exactly n sticks.

Base case $n = 8$, $n = 3(1) + 5(1)$.

$n = 9$. $n = 3(3) + 5(0)$.

$n = 10$, $n = 3(0) + 5(2)$.

So, $S(8), S(9), S(10)$ are true.

Induction step : Let $k \geq 10$, and assume that $S(8), S(9),$

$\dots, S(k)$ are true. Then $k-2 \geq 8$, so $S(k-2)$ is true.

Note that $k-2 = 3a + 5b$ for some a, b . Then

$$k+1 = (k-2) + 3 = 3(a+1) + 5b.$$

Therefore, $S(k+1)$ is true.

By Strong Induction, $S(n)$ is true for all n .

E.x. 3.9. The first few numbers in a Fibonacci sequence are

1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, ... More formally, the sequence is defined

recursively by. $f_1 = 1$, $f_2 = 1$, $f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$, for $n \geq 2$.

Let r be the positive root of.

$$r^2 - r - 1 = 0. \quad \text{so}$$

$$r = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.618.$$

Show that for $n \geq 2$, $f_n \geq r^{n-2}$.

Prf. We use Strong induction. Let $S(n)$ be the statement,

$$f_n \geq r^{n-2}.$$

Base case. For $n=2, 3$.

$$\text{then } f_2 = 1 \geq 1 = r^0. \quad \checkmark$$

$$f_3 = 1+1=2 \geq 1.618 = r^1. \quad \checkmark$$

$S(2), S(3)$ are true.

Induction step. Let $k \geq 3$, assume that $S(2), S(3), \dots, S(k)$

are all true, then.

$$\begin{aligned} f_{k+1} &= f_k + f_{k-1} \\ &\geq r^{k-2} + r^{k-3} \\ &= r^{k-2} (1+r) \\ &= r^{k-2} (r^2) \end{aligned}$$

since r solves
 $r^2 - r - 1 = 0$.

$$= r^{k-1}$$

Therefore, $S(k+1)$ is true. $\Rightarrow S(n)$ true for all $n \geq 2$. \square

Remark This value $r = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ is called the golden ratio. It is

Known that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f_{n+1}}{f_n} = r. (= \varphi)$

• How come? (Sketch).

Golden ratio, $\varphi = \frac{a+b}{a} = \frac{a}{b}$.

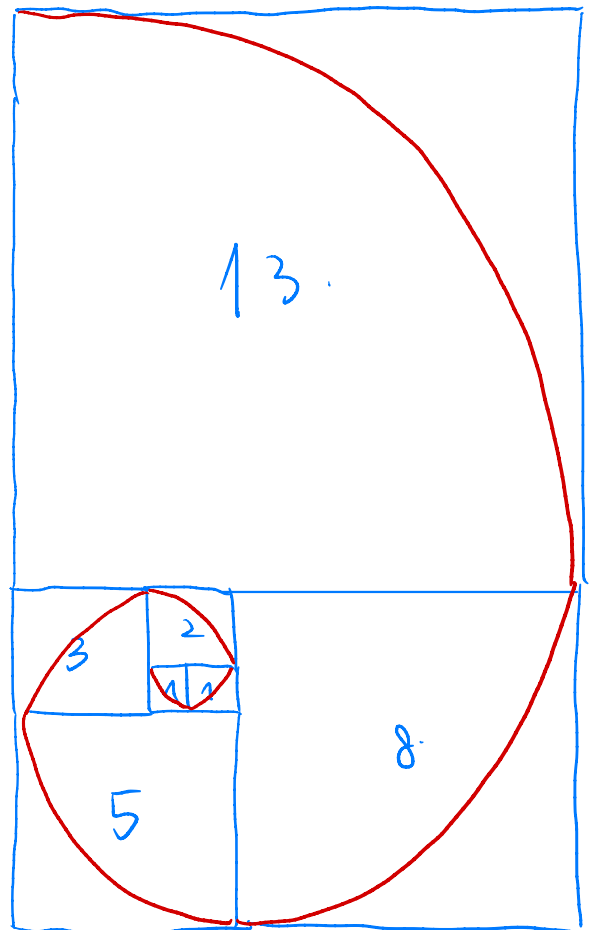
$$\Rightarrow \varphi = 1 + \frac{1}{\varphi} \Rightarrow \varphi^2 - \varphi - 1 = 0.$$

In Fibonacci: let $a = f_{n+1}$, $b = f_n$.

$$\frac{f_{n+2}}{f_{n+1}} = \frac{f_n + f_{n+1}}{f_{n+1}} = \frac{a+b}{a}$$

$$\frac{f_{n+1}}{f_n} = \frac{a}{b}$$

equal if converges



Golden spiral