

Proposition: For all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, it follows that $S_n : \sum_{i=1}^n i \binom{n}{i} = n2^{n-1}$.

Proof. (Induction).

Basis step. Suppose $n = 1$. Observe that $\sum_{i=1}^1 i \binom{1}{i} = \binom{1}{1} = 1 = (1)2^{1-1}$. Thus S_1 .

Inductive step. Suppose S_k for $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

We now show S_k implies S_{k+1} . Observe that

$$(k+1)2^k = 2(k2^{k-1}) + 2^k \quad (1)$$

$$= 2 \sum_{i=1}^k i \binom{k}{i} + \sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k}{i} \quad (2)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^k i \binom{k}{i} + \left[\binom{k}{1} + 2 \binom{k}{2} + 3 \binom{k}{3} + \dots + k \binom{k}{k} \right] + \left[\binom{k}{0} + \binom{k}{1} + \binom{k}{2} + \dots + \binom{k}{k} \right] \quad (3)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^k i \binom{k}{i} + \binom{k}{0} + \left[\binom{k}{1} + \binom{k}{1} \right] + \left[2 \binom{k}{2} + \binom{k}{2} \right] + \dots + \left[k \binom{k}{k} + \binom{k}{k} \right] \quad (4)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^k i \binom{k}{i} + \binom{k}{0} + (1+1) \binom{k}{1} + (2+1) \binom{k}{2} + (3+1) \binom{k}{3} + \dots + (k+1) \binom{k}{k} \quad (5)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^k i \binom{k}{i} + \binom{k}{1-1} + 2 \binom{k}{2-1} + 3 \binom{k}{3-1} + 4 \binom{k}{4-1} + \dots + (k+1) \binom{k}{(k+1)-1} \quad (6)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^k i \binom{k}{i} + \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i \binom{k}{i-1} \quad (7)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i \binom{k}{i} - (k+1) \binom{k}{k+1} + \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i \binom{k}{i-1} \quad (8)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i \binom{k}{i} + \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i \binom{k}{i-1} \quad (9)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} i \binom{k+1}{i}. \quad (10)$$

Thus S_{k+1} .

It follows by mathematical induction that S_n for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. ■