

Proposition: For all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, it follows that

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

Proof. (Induction).

Basis step. Suppose $n = 1$. Observe that $\binom{1}{0}^2 + \binom{1}{1}^2 = 1 + 1 = 2 = \binom{2}{1}$, thus S_1 .

Inductive step. Suppose S_n for $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Note that we will use the equation $\sum_{i=0}^p \binom{m}{i} \binom{n}{p-i} = \binom{m+n}{p}$ (Ch. 10 Exercise 38).

We will now show S_n implies S_{n+1} . Observe that

$$\binom{2(n+1)}{n+1} = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{i} \binom{n+1}{n-i+1} \quad (\text{Ch. 10 Exercise 38}) \quad (1)$$

$$= \binom{n+1}{0} \binom{n+1}{n+1} + \binom{n+1}{1} \binom{n+1}{n} + \dots + \binom{n+1}{n+1} \binom{n+1}{n-(n+1)+1} \quad (2)$$

$$= \binom{n+1}{0}^2 + \binom{n+1}{1}^2 + \binom{n+1}{3}^2 + \dots + \binom{n+1}{n+1}^2 \quad (\text{Apply } \binom{a}{b} = \binom{a}{a-b} \text{ property}). \quad (3)$$

Thus S_{n+1} .

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