

4.

(a) $\sum_{k=0}^l \binom{n}{k} \binom{m}{l-k} = \binom{n+m}{l}$

Proof. (TODO)

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1+x)^{n+m} &= (1+x)^n (1+x)^m \\
 \sum_{i=0}^{n+m} \binom{n+m}{i} x^i &= \left[\sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} x^i \right] \left[\sum_{j=0}^m \binom{m}{j} x^j \right] && \text{(By the binomial theorem)} \\
 &= \sum_{i=0}^n \left[\binom{n}{i} \sum_{j=0}^m \binom{m}{j} x^{i+j} \right] && \text{(Distributive property)} \\
 &= \sum_{l=0}^{n+m} \left[x^l \binom{n}{l} \sum_{j=0}^m \binom{m}{j} \right] && \left(\binom{n}{l} = 0 \text{ for } l > n \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) $\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 = \binom{2n}{n}$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n}{k} \\
 &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n}{n-k} && \left(\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} = \frac{n!}{(n-(n-k))!(n-k)!} = \binom{n}{n-k} \right) \\
 &= \binom{n+n}{n} && \text{By Proposition 4.a} \\
 \therefore \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}^2 &= \binom{2n}{n}.
 \end{aligned}$$