

**Proposition:** For all  $n, k \in \mathbb{Z}$  where  $n, k \geq 0$ , it follows that

$$S_k : \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n+1}{1} + \binom{n+2}{2} + \dots + \binom{n+k}{k} = \binom{n+k+1}{k}.$$

*Proof.* (Induction).

**Basis step.** Suppose  $k = 0$ . Observe that  $\binom{n}{0} = 1 = \binom{n+(0)+1}{0}$ , thus  $S_0$ .

**Inductive step.** Suppose  $S_k$  for  $n, k \in \mathbb{Z}$  where  $n, k \geq 0$ .

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

$$\binom{n+(k+1)+1}{k+1} = \binom{n+k+1}{k} + \binom{n+k+1}{k+1} \quad (\text{Def. of Pascal's triangle}) \quad (1)$$

$$= \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n+1}{1} + \binom{n+2}{2} + \dots + \binom{n+k}{k} + \binom{n+(k+1)}{k+1} \quad (\text{Inductive hypothesis}). \quad (2)$$

Thus  $S_{k+1}$ .

It follows by mathematical induction that  $S_k$  for all  $n, k \in \mathbb{Z}$  where  $n, k \geq 0$ . ■