



Combinatorics

Questions:

Combinatorial Arguments

Website : <https://www.goclasses.in/>



Hockey-Stick Identity

For $n, r \in \mathbb{N}, n > r$,
$$\sum_{i=r}^n \binom{i}{r} = \binom{n+1}{r+1}.$$

$$\binom{n+1}{k+1} = \binom{n}{k} + \binom{n-1}{k} + \binom{n-2}{k} + \dots + \binom{k+1}{k} + \binom{k}{k}.$$





Q:

a combinatorial proof of $k \binom{n}{k} = n \binom{n-1}{k-1}$



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Story = n people \rightarrow Make a team of k , with one of them as captain.



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Story = n people --> Make a team of k, with one of them as captain.

Side 1 = Select k people, then select one captain. $\binom{n}{k} \times k$

Side 2 = Select a captain first, then select k-1 people from remaining n-1 people. $= \binom{n}{1} \binom{n-1}{k-1}$



Ex: a, b, c, d ; $k = 3$ select 3, one of them is Captain.

side 1 →

$$\binom{4}{3} \times 3$$

✓ a, b, c

a, ✓ b, c

a, b, ✓ c

a, c, ✓ d

✓ a, c, d

side 2

✓ a, b, c

✓ a, c, d

✓ b, a, b

✓ b, a, c

$$\binom{4}{2} \binom{3}{2}$$



a combinatorial proof of $k \binom{n}{k} = n \binom{n-1}{k-1}$

To select a committee of k people with a president from a group of n people, you can

1. select the k committee members, and then select the president from the members, or
2. select the president from the n people, and the $k - 1$ remaining committee members from the remaining $n - 1$ people.

You could also choose $k - 1$ ordinary committee members from the group of n , and then a president from the remaining $n - k + 1$, so $(n - k + 1) \binom{n}{k-1}$ should also give the same value – Henry Oct 5, 2014 at

0:09 ✎





Q:

$$\text{Combinatorial Proof - } \binom{n}{r} = \frac{n}{r} \binom{n-1}{r-1}$$



$$r \binom{n}{r} = (n) \binom{n-1}{r-1}$$

$$= \boxed{\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n}{r} \binom{n-1}{r-1}}$$

~~xx~~

$$\boxed{n C_r = \frac{n}{r} \times n-1 C_{r-1}}$$

$$\binom{50}{30} = \frac{50}{30} \binom{49}{29}$$

$$\binom{48}{21} = \frac{48}{21} \binom{47}{20}$$





Prove the identity $\binom{k}{2} + \binom{k}{k-2} + k^2 = \binom{2k}{2}$, where $k \geq 2$ using a combinatorial proof.

$$\binom{2k}{2} = k^2 + 2\binom{k}{2} = k^2 + \binom{k}{2} + \binom{k}{k-2}$$



n boys, n girls

select 2

$$\binom{n}{2}$$

$$\boxed{\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n}{n-r}}$$

$$\binom{2n}{2} = \underbrace{\binom{n}{2}}_{\text{both boys}} + \underbrace{\binom{n}{n-2}}_{\text{both girls}} + \underbrace{\binom{n}{1} \binom{n}{1}}_{\text{one boy one girl}}$$

Sum of $k \binom{n}{k}$ is $n2^{n-1}$

Proof that $\sum_{k=1}^n k \binom{n}{k}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is equal to $n2^{n-1}$.

Story: make a Committee, with one of them as president.



$$\sum_{k=1}^n k \binom{n}{k} = \underline{\underline{\binom{n}{1} 2^{n-1}}}$$

↓
a subset of n people,
one of them is
president

1.2.18 Combinatory: GATE CSE 2019 | Question: 5 [top](#)<https://gateoverflow.in/302843>

Let $U = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ Let $A = \{(x, X) \mid x \in X, X \subseteq U\}$. Consider the following two statements on $|A|$.

I. $|A| = n2^{n-1}$

II. $|A| = \sum_{k=1}^n k \binom{n}{k}$

Which of the above statements is/are TRUE?

- A. Only I
- B. Only II
- C. Both I and II
- D. Neither I nor II

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- II. $|A| = \sum_{k=1}^n k \binom{n}{k}$ } same

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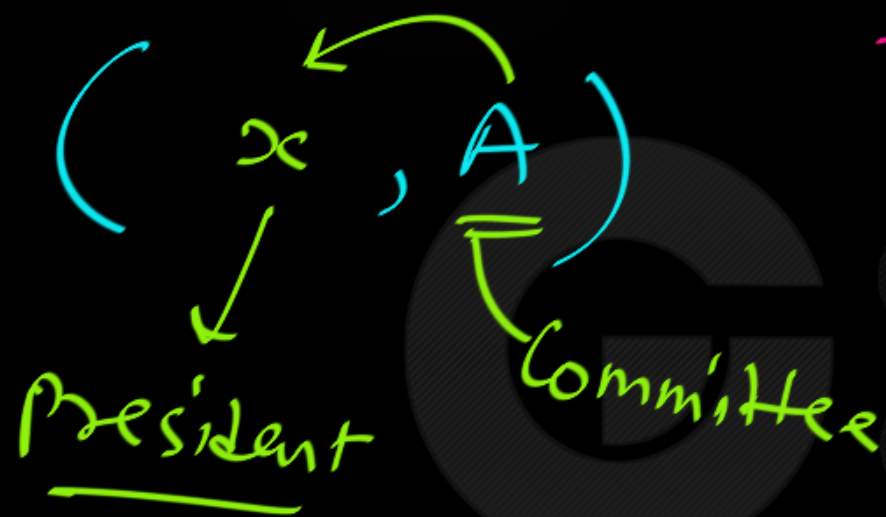
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$$U = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$$



$$A \subseteq U$$

$$x \in A$$

$$(1, \emptyset) \checkmark$$

$$(2, \{2, 3\}) \checkmark$$

$$(1, \{1\}) \checkmark$$