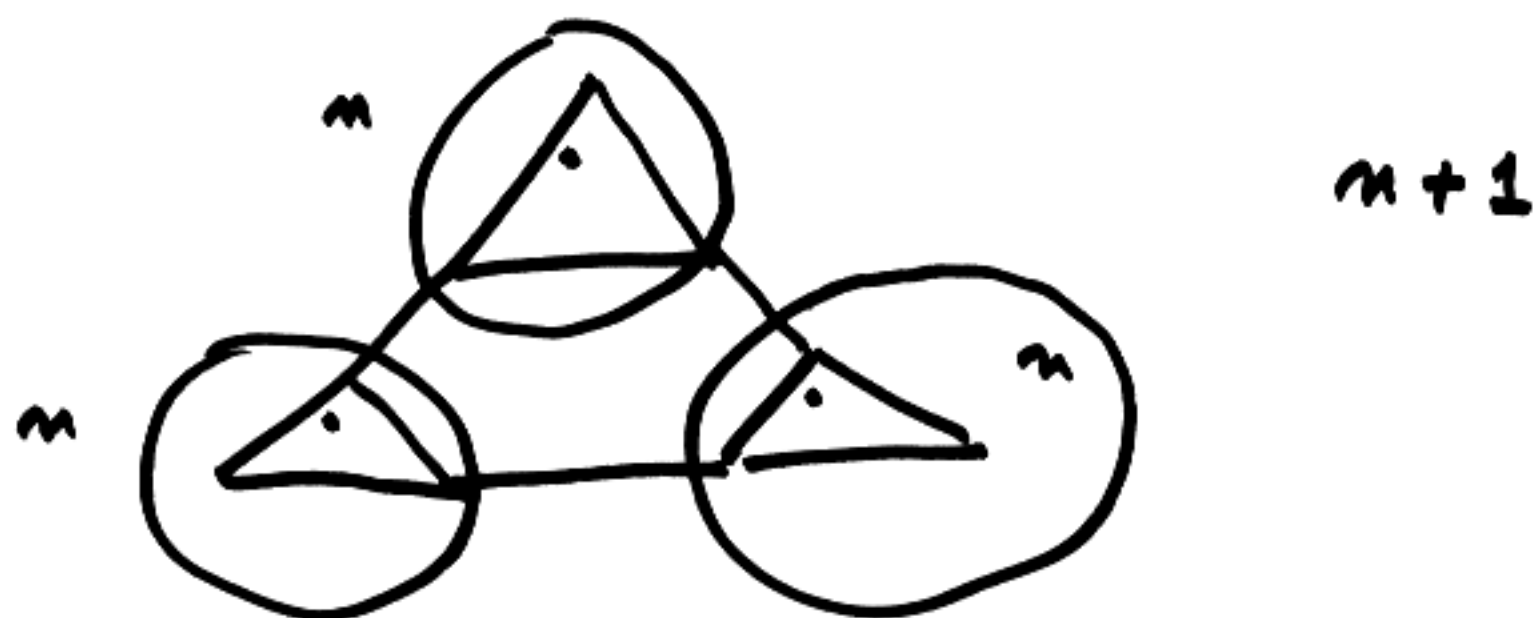


Feb 06, 2007

①



positions in case  $n+1$

$= 3 \times$  positions in case  $n$

$C_n := \#$  positions in case  $n$

$$\begin{cases} C_{n+1} = 3 C_n \\ C_1 = 3 \end{cases}$$

$$3, 3^2, 3^3, \dots$$

Claim

$$C_n = 3^n$$

$$C_{n+1} = 3^{n+1} = 3 \times C_n$$

positions  $\longleftrightarrow (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n)$  (2)

$$p_i = 0, 1, 2$$

= peg # where  
disk  $i$  is

$$\underline{n=1}$$

$(0), (1), (2)$

$$\underline{n=2}$$

$(0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 0)$

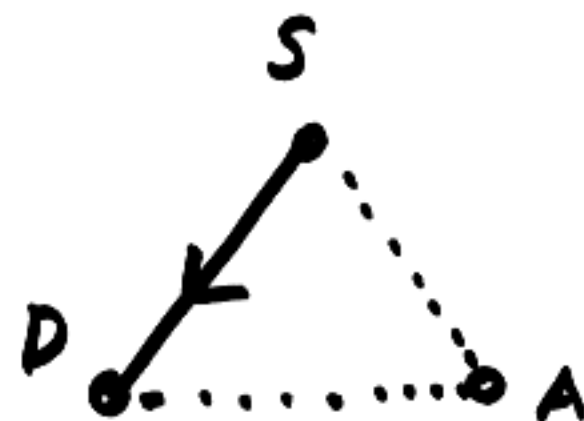
$(0, 1), (1, 1), (2, 1)$

$(0, 2), (1, 2), (2, 2)$

$$\underline{n=3} \quad (0, 0, *), (1, 0, *), (2, 0, *)$$

$\vdots$

Solving puzzle optimally  
What happens with last  
disk,  $n$ ?



Disk  $n$  just moves  
from  $S \rightarrow D$ ?

③



$n=7$

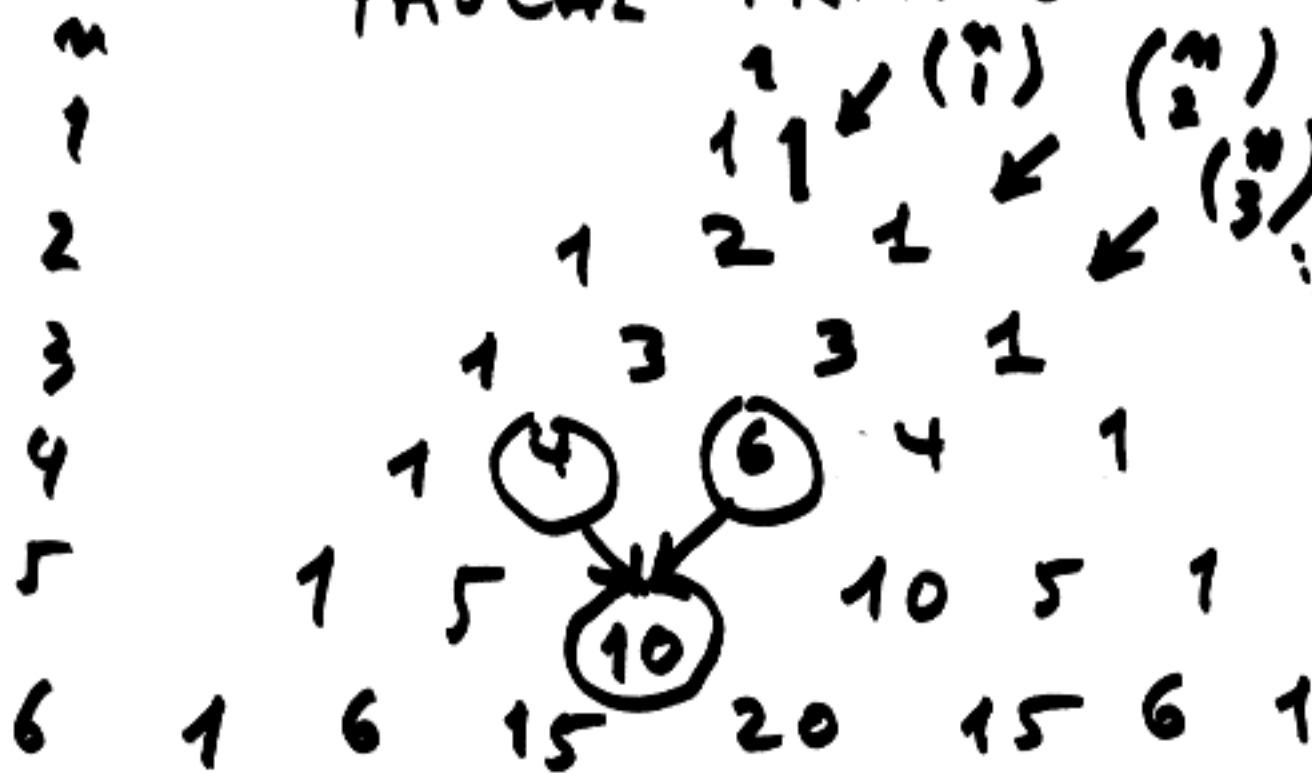
↻ 7

$\Rightarrow$

disk # 1 ↻

—u—

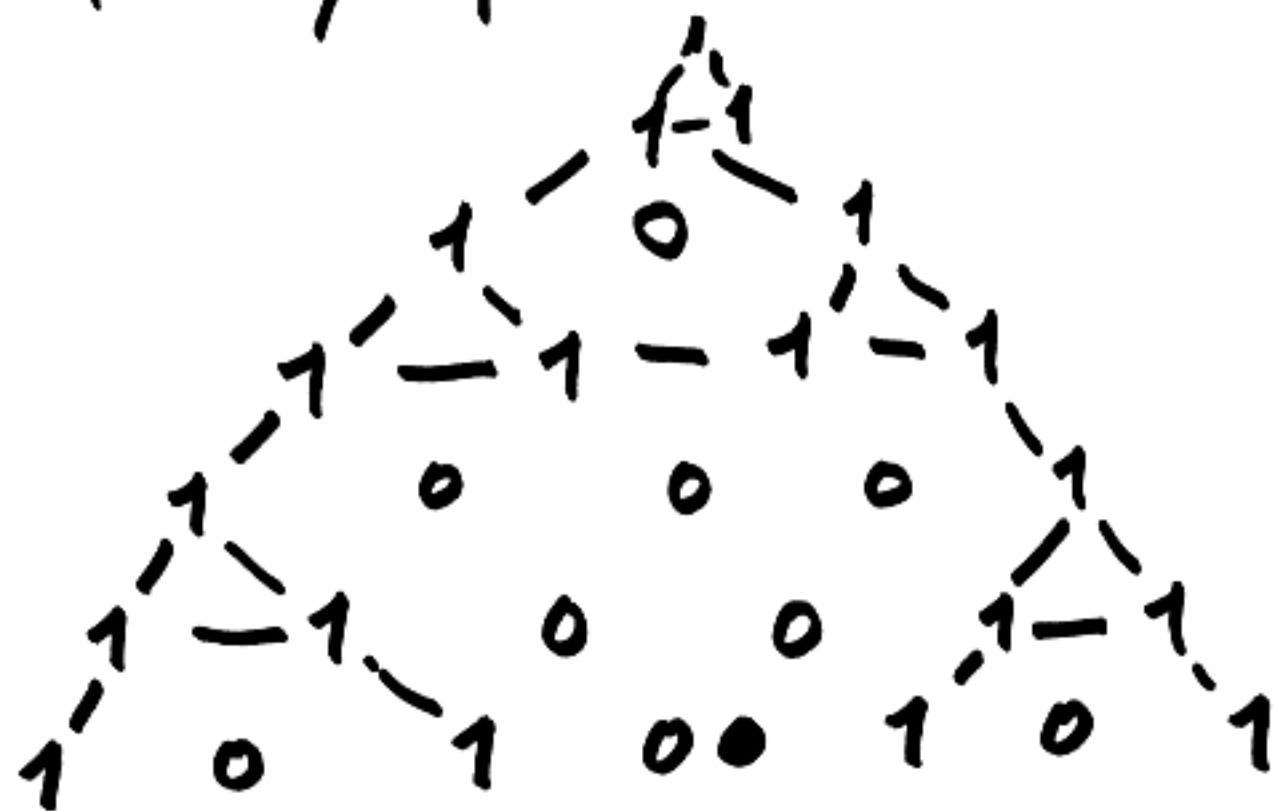
PASCAL TRIANGLE



$\binom{n}{k}$

"n choose k"  
 $0 \leq k \leq n$

# Parity of the Pascal triangle (4)



$$(1+x)^3 = 1 + 3x + 3x^2 + x^3$$

$$(1+x)^4 = 1 + 4x + 6x^2 + 4x^3 + x^4$$

⋮

$$\binom{n}{k} = \# \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ways to choose } k \text{ things} \\ \text{out of } n \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\binom{n}{1} = n$$

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

⑤

$$n = 4$$

1, 2, 3, 4

1, 2  
1, 3  
1, 4

2, 3  
2, 4

3, 4

$$\binom{4}{2} = 6$$

$$\binom{n}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{1st choice}}}{n} \times \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{2nd choice}}}{(n-1)}$$

account for the order

otherwise we are double counting.

$$\underline{n=4}$$

1, 2  
1, 3  
1, 4

2, 1  
2, 3  
2, 4

3, 1  
3, 2  
3, 4

4, 1  
4, 2  
4, 3

$$\binom{n}{2} = \frac{n \times (n-1)}{2}$$

$$\binom{4}{2} = \frac{4 \times 3}{2} = 6$$

⑥

$$\underline{n=5} \quad \binom{5}{2} = 10$$

1, 2	2, 3	3, 4	4, 5
1, 3	2, 4	3, 5	
1, 4	2, 5		
1, 5			

$$\frac{n \times (n-1)}{2} = \frac{5 \times 4}{2} = 10$$

$$\binom{n}{3} = \frac{1}{6} n (n-1) (n-2)$$

$\uparrow$  1st       $\uparrow$  2nd       $\uparrow$  3rd

overcounting e.g. {1, 2, 3}

6 times

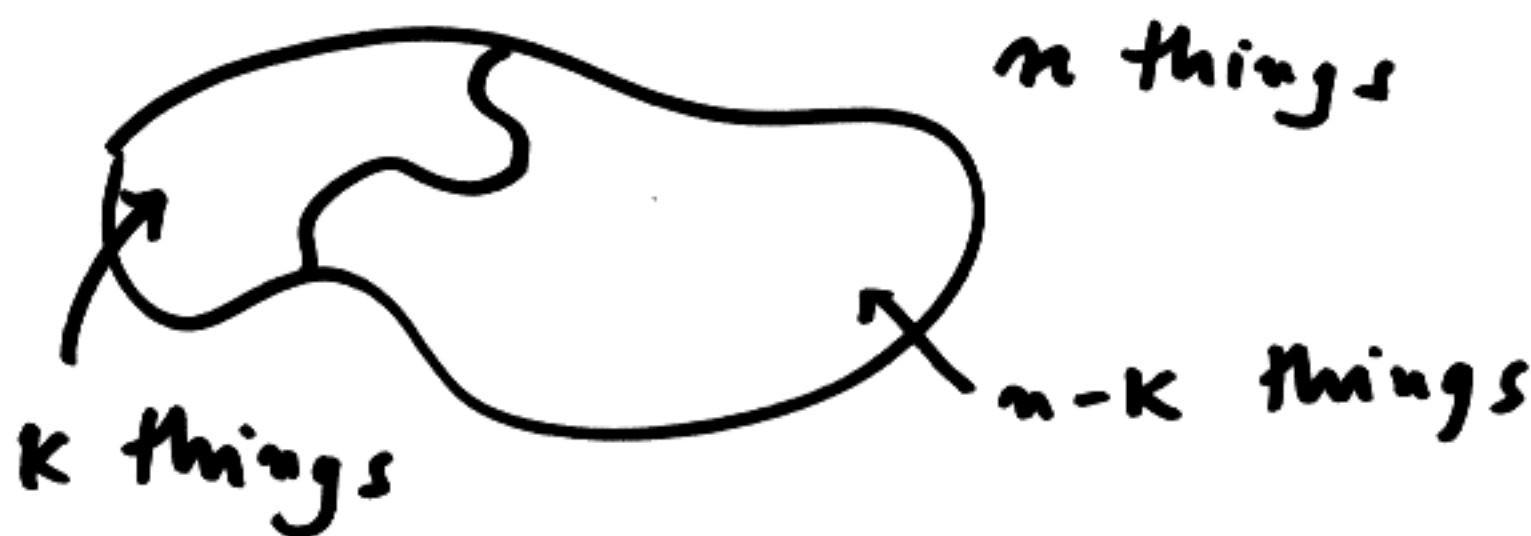
- 1, 2, 3
- 1, 3, 2
- 2, 1, 3
- 2, 3, 1
- 3, 1, 2
- 3, 2, 1

$$\binom{n}{4} = \frac{1 \cdot n (n-1) (n-2) (n-3)}{4!}$$

⑦

$$\bullet \binom{5}{3} = \frac{5 \times 4 \times 3}{3 \times 2 \times 1} = 10$$

Symmetry in Pascal's triangle



Picking  $k \leftrightarrow$  Picking  $n-k$

E.g.  $n=5$

Pick two things

$$\binom{5}{2} = 10$$



Pick 3 things

$$\binom{5}{3} = \frac{5 \times 4 \times 3}{3 \times 2 \times 1} = 10$$

⑧

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n(n-1) \cdots (n-k+1)}{k!}$$

$$= \frac{n(n-1) \cdots \cdots 2 \cdot 1}{k! (n-k)!}$$

$$\binom{7}{4} = \frac{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4}{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = \frac{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot \overbrace{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}}{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot \underbrace{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}} = \frac{7!}{4! 3!}$$

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k! (n-k)!}$$

$$k \leftrightarrow n-k$$

$$k \mapsto n-k$$

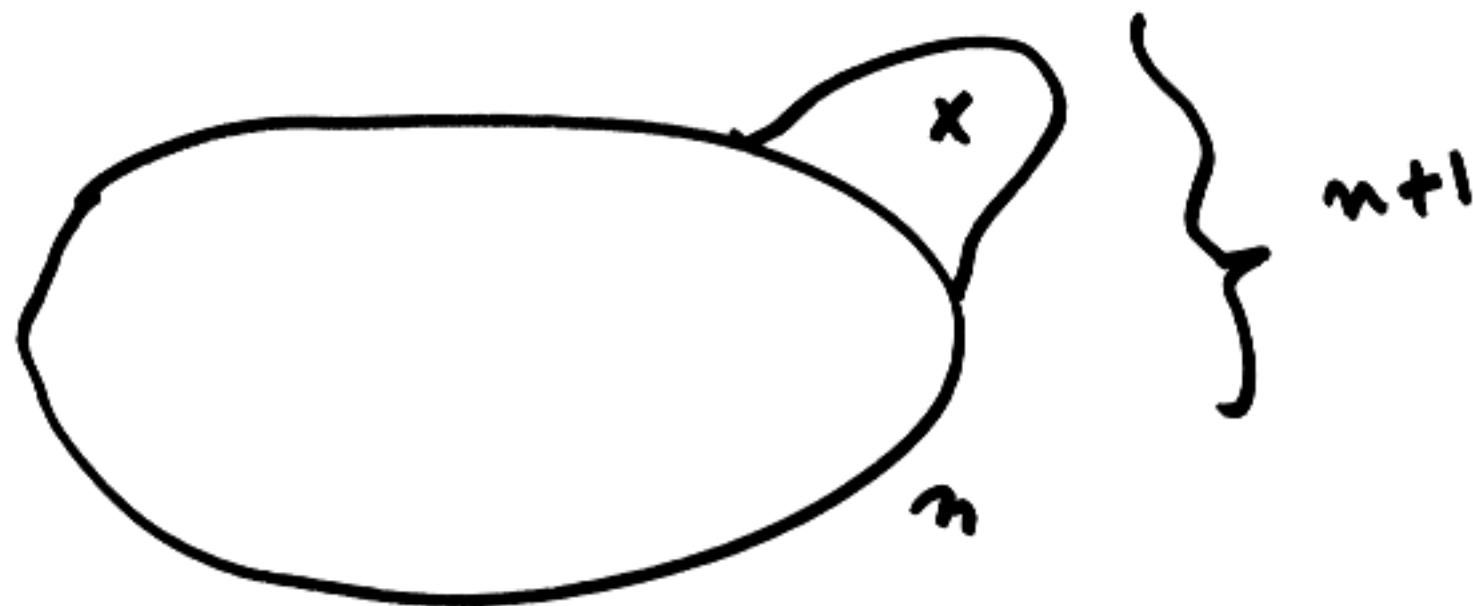
$$n-k \mapsto n - (n-k) = k$$

$$\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n}{n-k}$$

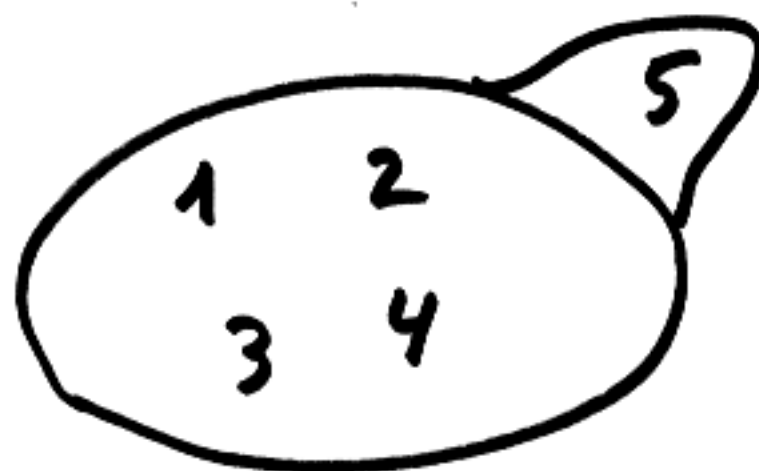


$$\binom{n}{k} + \binom{n}{k-1} = \binom{n+1}{k}$$

⑨



$n=4$



Excluding 5

1, 2    2, 3    3, 4  
1, 3    2, 4  
1, 4  
 $\binom{4}{2}$

Including 5

5, 1  
5, 2  
5, 3  
5, 4  
↑  $\binom{4}{1}$

$$\binom{5}{2} = \binom{4}{2} + \binom{4}{1}$$

## 15 - puzzle

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	

5. Lloyd

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	15	14	

cannot be done!

Feb 8, 2007

①

## Nim

Two piles

o o | o o  
o o

good move → o o | o o

Strategy: achieve same number  
in both piles.

How does this extend to more  
piles?

Ch. Bouton 1901

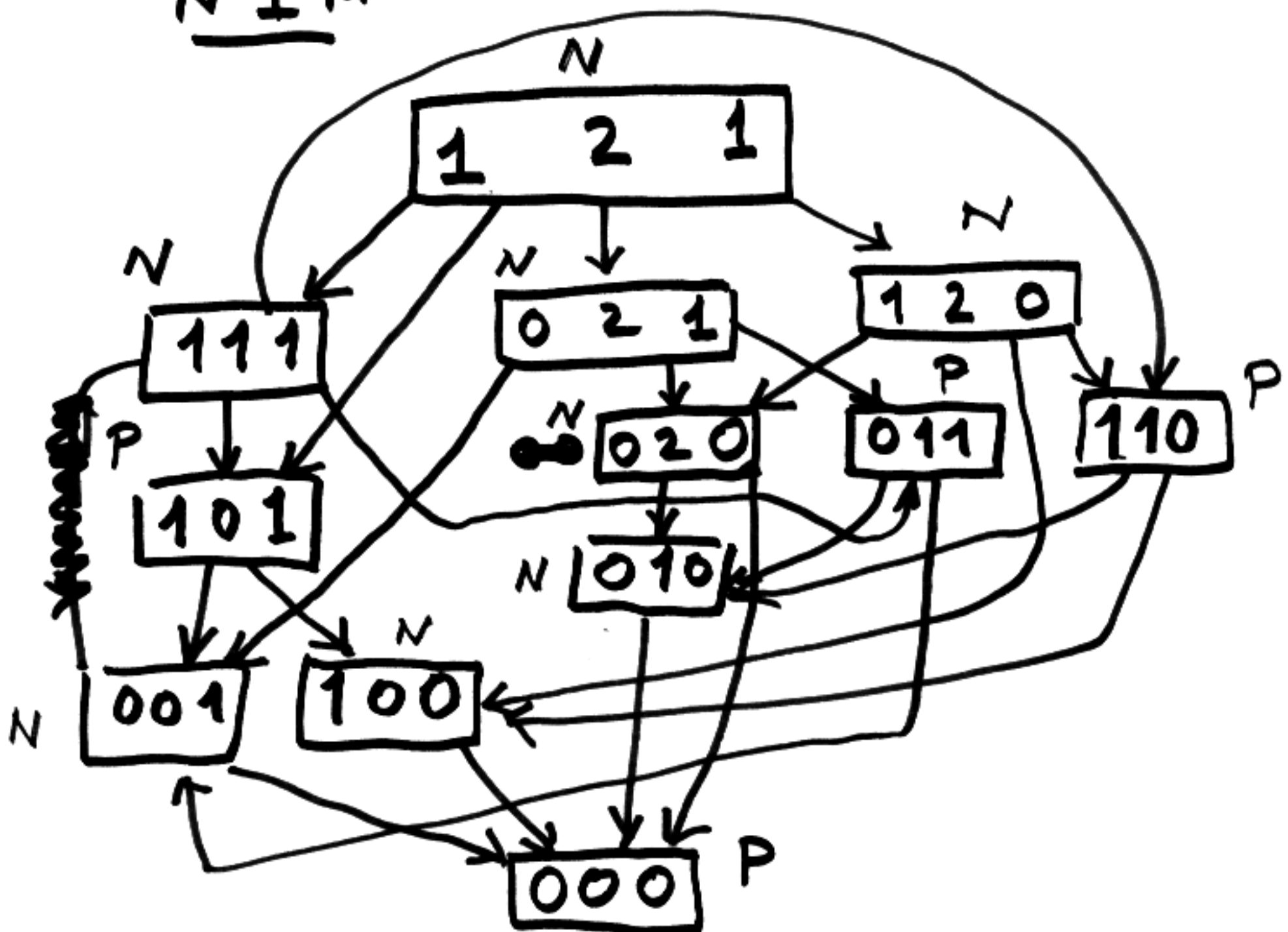
Theory applies to impartial  
games.

graph: vertices  $\leftrightarrow$  position (2)  
 edge  $\leftrightarrow$  move




$P_1 \rightsquigarrow P_2$

NIM



## Strategy

3

- 
- Reach P
  - opponent moves to N

## Impartial game

- Two players, alternate
- same moves
- No chance
- complete information
- no ties / endgame

Player unable to move loses.  
(Normal play)

(opposite "wins")  
misère play

# Subtraction games

one pile

you take  $s$  objects from  
the pile where  
 $s \in S$

E.g.  $S = \{2, 3\}$



positions labels  
repeat in the

P P N N N  
pattern

E.g. if pile has 22 things

P P N N N  
20 21 (22) 23 24

take 2 to reach a P position

# Nim addition (Nimbers)

$$n \oplus m$$

write  $n, m$  in binary

E.g.  $n = 3, m = 5$

$$\begin{array}{r} n \\ m \\ \hline 101 \\ 011 \\ \hline 110 \end{array} \leftarrow n \oplus m = 6$$

$$3 \oplus 5 = 6$$

$$n = m \iff n \oplus m = 0$$

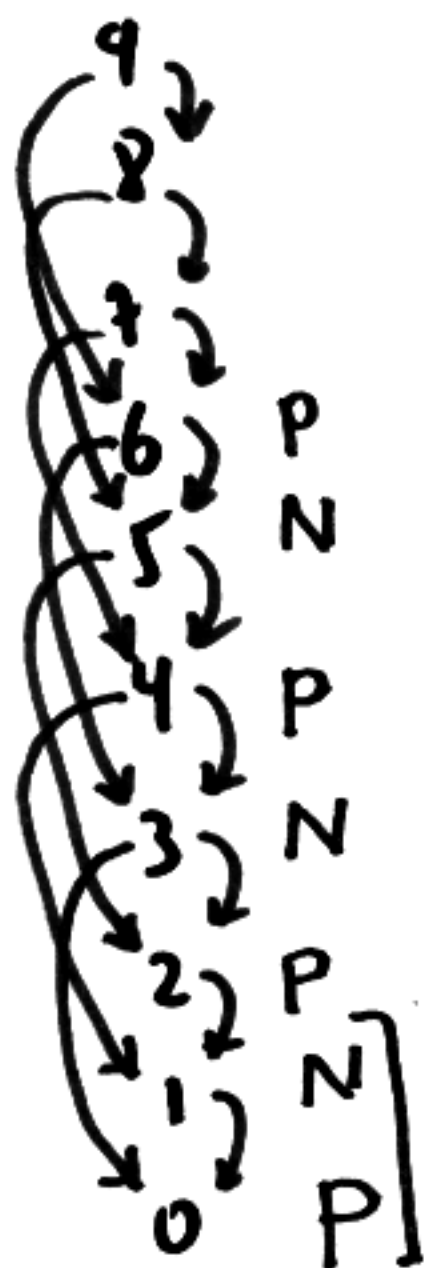
$$\begin{array}{r} 1101 \\ a b c d \\ \hline 0000 \end{array} \iff \begin{array}{l} d=1 \\ c=0 \\ b=1 \\ a=1 \end{array}$$

$$(n_1, \dots, n_k) \text{ P-position} \iff n_1 \oplus \dots \oplus n_k = 0$$

E.g.

$$S = \{1, 3\}$$

⑤



PN  
pattern repeats

What are the P positions  
in NIM?

two piles:

$$(n, m)$$

$$n = m$$

$\longleftrightarrow$  P position

More piles