

We know,

$$\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{r! \times (n-r)!}, \quad 1 < r < n \dots (i)$$

We have to prove,

$$\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r}, \quad 1 < r < n$$

Let,

$$\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r} \dots (ii).$$

From (i),

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

$$\Rightarrow \binom{n+1}{r} = \frac{(n+1)!}{r! \times (n+1-r)!}$$

$$= \frac{(n+1) n!}{r! \times (n-r+1) (n-r)!}$$

$$= \frac{(n+1)}{(n-r+1)} \times \frac{n!}{r! (n-r)!}$$

$$= \frac{(n+1)}{(n-r+1)} \times \binom{n}{r}.$$

$$= \frac{(n+1)}{(n-r+1)} \times \left[ \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r} \right] \text{ [From (i)]}$$

$$= \frac{(n+1)}{(n-r+1)} \times \left[ \frac{(n-1)!}{(r-1)!(n-r-2)!} + \frac{(n-1)!}{r!(n-r-1)!} \right]$$

$$= \frac{(n+1) \cdot n \cdot (n-1)!}{(r-1)! \cdot (n+1-r)(n-r)(n-1-r)(n-2-r)!} +$$

$$\frac{(n+1) \cdot n \cdot (n-1)!}{r! \cdot (n+1-r)(n-r)(n-1-r)!}$$

$$= \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r}; \quad 1 < r < n$$

$$\therefore \binom{n}{r} = \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r}; \quad 1 < r < n$$

(proved).