

### F3, Binomial thm & Induction

Last time :

Thm. (Binomial theorem.)

For any real numbers  $x$  and  $y$ , for every  $n \geq 0$ .

$$(x+y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^{n-k} y^k. \quad \text{binomial coefficients.}$$

e.g.  $(x+y)^3 = (x+y)(x+y)(x+y)$  how many different ways to get  
 $= \binom{3}{0} x^3 + \binom{3}{1} x^2 y + \binom{3}{2} x y^2 + \binom{3}{3} y^3$  1  $x$  and 2  $y$ 's?

Prf. Look at  $(x+y)^n = \underbrace{(x+y)(x+y) \dots (x+y)}$   
 $n$  terms.

If we multiply everything out, we have  $\{x, y\}$ -strings of length  $n$  as the terms of expansion, where each term is determined by choosing  $x$  or  $y$  in each factor.

$$(x+y)(x+y) \dots (x+y) \rightarrow \{xx \dots y\}.$$

For every  $k$ , every string with  $k$   $y$ 's (and thus  $(n-k)$   $x$ 's) simplifies to  $x^{n-k} y^k$ . There are  $\binom{n}{k}$  ways to choose  $k$   $y$ 's, so the coefficient is  $\binom{n}{k}$ . This holds for all  $k$ . □

E.X. 3.1. Give 2 different proofs that

$$3^n = \binom{n}{0} 2^0 + \binom{n}{1} 2^1 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n} 2^n.$$

Prf 1. We count ternary strings ( $\{0, 1, 2\}$ -strings) of length  $n$ .

- For each position there are 3 choices. so  $3^n$  in total.
- For  $k$  between 0 and  $n$ , we count ternary strings with exactly  $k$  2's, and every other position has 2 possibilities: 0 or 1.

So the number of strings with exactly  $k$  2's:

$$\binom{n}{k} 2^{\underbrace{n-k}_{\text{rest of the positions}}} = \binom{n}{n-k} 2^{n-k} =$$

summing over all  $k$ :

$$3^n = \binom{n}{0} 2^0 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n} 2^n$$

$\uparrow$   
 $n-k=0$

□

Prf 2. By the binomial thm,

$$3^n = (1+2)^n = \sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n}{k} 1^{n-k} 2^k$$

$$= \binom{n}{0} 2^0 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n} 2^n.$$

□

## Thm 3.2 (Multinomial thm)

For any real numbers  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r$ , and any positive integer  $n$ ,

$$(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_r)^n = \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_r \geq 0 \\ k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_r = n}} \binom{n}{k_1, \dots, k_r} x_1^{k_1} x_2^{k_2} \dots x_r^{k_r}$$

Constraints on  $k_i$ 's.

where  $\binom{n}{k_1, \dots, k_r} := \frac{n!}{k_1! k_2! \dots k_r!}$  is the multinomial coefficients.

(Recall Mississippi rule), representing the number of "rearrangements",

## Review of three principles.

### Thm 3.3 Principle of mathematical induction

Let  $S(n)$  be an open statement involving the positive integer  $n$ . If:

we don't know if it's true or not

Base case :  $S(1)$  is true.

Induction step : For all  $k \geq 1$ , if  $S(k)$  is true, so is  $S(k+1)$ .

Then  $S(n)$  is true for all  $n \geq 1$ .

To prove this, we need the following lemma.

Lemma 3.4. (The well-ordering principle.)

Every non-empty set of positive integers has a least element  
↓  
Smallest.

Prf : Suppose  $S(n)$  satisfies the base case and the induction

step. Let set  $F = \{ k \geq 1 : S(k) \text{ is false} \}$ , the  
↓  
collection of k's.

set of positive integers where  $S(k)$  fails. Want :  $F = \emptyset$

Suppose  $F$  is not empty, then by Lemma 2.8,  $F$  has a

least element  $m$ .

The base case holds :  $1 \notin F$

$m$  is the smallest :  $m-1 \notin F$ .

$\Rightarrow S(m-1)$  is true.

By Induction step, so is  $S(m)$ .  $\Rightarrow m \notin F$

This contradicts  $F$  having a least element, so  $F$  must be empty. [proof by contradiction]. □

E.X. 3.5. Let  $S(n)$  be:  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 2^i = 2^n - 1$ .

Show that  $S(n)$  is true for all  $n \geq 1$ .

Pf. Base case:  $n = 1$ .

$$\sum_{i=0}^0 2^i = 2^0 = 1 = 2^1 - 1. \quad \checkmark$$

Induction step, Let  $k \geq 1$ , and assume  $S(k)$  is true.

(This is called the "Induction Hypothesis").

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} 2^i = 2^k - 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } \sum_{i=0}^k 2^i &= \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} 2^i + 2^k = 2^k - 1 + 2^k \\ &= 2 \times 2^k - 1 \\ &= 2^{k+1} - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $S(k+1)$  holds.

By PMI,  $S(n)$  is true for all  $n \geq 1$ . □

Ex. 3.6. Use the PMI and Pascal's identity to show

the "hockey stick identity": for all non-negative integers

$$0 \leq r < n,$$

$$\sum_{k=r}^n \binom{k}{r} = \binom{n+1}{r+1}.$$

Sums of binomial coefficients.

Prf. Fix  $0 \leq r < n$ , we perform induction on  $n$ .

Base case :  $n=r$

$$\sum_{k=r}^n \binom{k}{r} = \sum_{k=r}^r \binom{k}{r} = 1 = \binom{r+1}{r+1} = \binom{n+1}{n+1}.$$

Induction step : Let  $m \geq r$ , assume.

$$\sum_{k=r}^m \binom{k}{r} = \binom{m+1}{r+1}$$

then for  $n = m+1$ :

$$\sum_{k=1}^{m+1} \binom{k}{r} = \sum_{k=1}^{m+1} \binom{k}{r} + \binom{m+1}{r}$$

$$= \binom{m+1}{r+1} + \binom{m+1}{r}$$

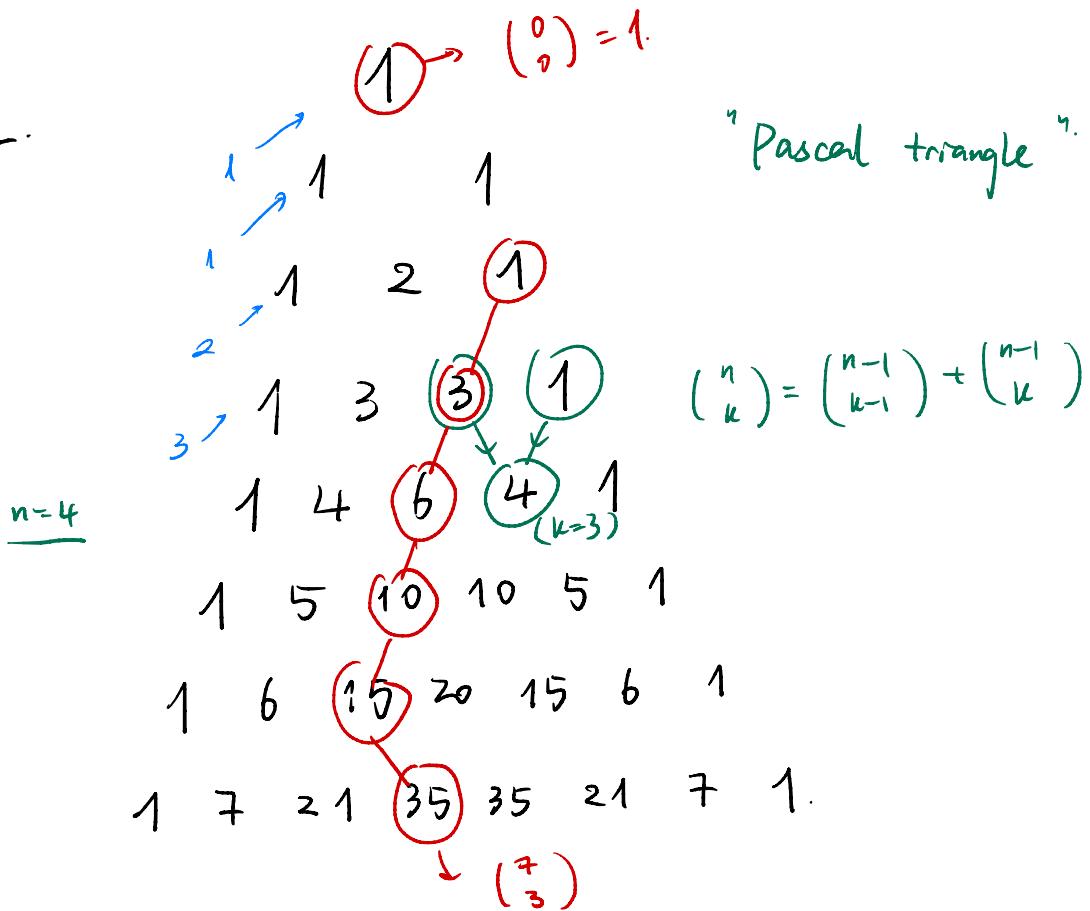
$$= \binom{m+2}{r+1}.$$

Pascal's identity:

By PMI, this holds for all  $n$ .

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Recall



- Element of  $n$ th row,  $k$ th column :  $\binom{n}{k}$  binomial coefficient.
- Pascal's identity.
- "Hockey stick identity".

$$\binom{7}{3} = \binom{2}{2} + \binom{3}{2} + \binom{4}{2} + \binom{5}{2} + \binom{6}{2}$$

$\begin{matrix} 1 \\ | \\ n=6 \\ r=2 \end{matrix}$

Looks like a Hockey stick.

- Fibonacci sequence · (later)

$$1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, \dots$$

### Thm 3.7 (The strong Induction principle)

Let  $S(n)$  be an open statement involving the positive integer  $n$ .

Let  $1 \leq n_0 \leq n_1$ . If :

Base case .  $S(n_0), S(n_0+1), \dots, S(n_1-1), S(n_1)$  are true, and

Induction step . For all  $k \geq n_1$ , if  $S(n_0), S(n_0+1), \dots, S(k-1)$ ,  
 $S(k)$  are true, then so is  $S(k+1)$ .

then  $S(n)$  is true for all  $n \geq n_0$ .

Prf. Assume the above conditions hold. Let  $P(n)$  be the statement

that "  $S(n_0), S(n_0+1), \dots, S(n_1+n-1)$  are true".

Base case :  $n=1$ .  $P(1)$  is true by own assumption.

Induction step : Let  $k \geq 1$ . assume  $P(k)$  is true. Then  
 $S(n_0), \dots, S(n_1+k-1)$  are true. By our induction step assumption, this  
implies  $S(n_1+k)$  is true, therefore,

$S(n_0), \dots, S(n_1+k-1), S(n_1+k)$  are true,

$\Rightarrow P(k+1)$  is true.

By PMI,  $P(n)$  is true for all  $n \geq 1$ .

Note that  $P(n-n_1+1)$  implies  $S(n)$ ,  $\Rightarrow S(n)$  is true for all  $n$ .

E.X. 3, 8. You can buy mozzarella sticks in bags of 3 or 5 at MAX. Show that for any  $n \geq 8$ , you can buy exactly  $n$  sticks.

Prf. Let  $S(n)$  be the statement .

" $n = 3a + 5b$  for some non-negative integers  $a, b$ ".

If  $S(n)$  is true, then you can buy exactly  $n$  sticks .

Base case .  $n = 8$  .  $n = 3(1) + 5(1)$ .

$n = 9$  .  $n = 3(3) + 5(0)$ .

$n = 10$  ,  $n = 3(0) + 5(2)$ .

So,  $S(8)$ ,  $S(9)$ ,  $S(10)$  are true .

Induction step . Let  $k \geq 10$ , and assume that  $S(8)$ ,  $S(9)$ , ...,  $S(k)$  are true. Then  $k-2 \geq 8$ , so  $S(k-2)$  is true .

Note that  $k-2 = 3a + 5b$  for some  $a, b$ . Then

$$k+1 = (k-2)+3 = 3(a+1) + 5b.$$

Therefore,  $S(k+1)$  is true.

By Strong Induction,  $S(n)$  is true for all  $n$ .

E.X. 3.9. The first few numbers in a Fibonacci sequence are

1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, ... More formally, the sequence is defined

recursively by.  $f_1 = 1$ ,  $f_2 = 1$ ,  $f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$ , for  $n \geq 2$ .

Let  $r$  be the positive root of

$$r^2 - r - 1 = 0 \quad \text{so}$$

$$r = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.618.$$

Show that for  $n \geq 2$ ,  $f_n \geq r^{n-2}$ .

Prf. We use Strong induction. Let  $S(n)$  be the statement,

$$f_n \geq r^{n-2}.$$

Base case. For  $n=2, 3$ .

$$\text{then } f_2 = 1 \geq 1 = r^0. \quad \checkmark$$

$$f_3 = 1+1=2 \geq 1.618 = r^1. \quad \checkmark$$

$S(2), S(3)$  are true.

Induction step. Let  $k \geq 3$ , assume that  $S(2), S(3), \dots, S(k)$

are all true, then.

$$f_{k+1} = f_k + f_{k-1}$$

$$\geq r^{k-2} + r^{k-3}$$

$$= r^{k-2}(1+r)$$

$$= r^{k-2}(r^2)$$

Since  $r$  solves

$$r^2 - r - 1 = 0$$

$$= r^{n-1}$$

Therefore.  $S(n+1)$  is true.  $\Rightarrow S(n)$  true for all  $n \geq 2$ . Q.E.D.

Remark This value  $r = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$  is called the golden ratio. It is

known that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f_{n+1}}{f_n} = r. (= \varphi)$

- How come? (sketch).

$$\text{Golden ratio, } \varphi = \frac{a+b}{a} = \frac{a}{b}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi = 1 + \frac{1}{\varphi} \Rightarrow \varphi^2 - \varphi - 1 = 0.$$

In Fibonacci: Let  $a = f_{n+1}$ ,  $b = f_n$ .

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \frac{f_{n+2}}{f_{n+1}} = \frac{f_n + f_{n+1}}{f_{n+1}} = \frac{a+b}{a}. \\ \frac{f_{n+1}}{f_n} = \frac{a}{b}. \end{array} \right]$$

equal if converges.

"Golden spiral"

