

Math 1050 ~ College Algebra

30 Binomial Expansion

Learning Objectives

$$\begin{aligned} -3x + 4y &= 5 \\ 2x - y &= -10 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 4 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -10 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^m k = \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n z^k = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z}$$

- Expand binomial powers using
 - Pascal's Triangle
 - Binomial Theorem
- Find an indicated term in the expansion of a binomial.

Binomial Expansion

binomial: two-termed expression

The square and cube of a binomial are used so frequently, we may want to memorize them.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Ex 1: } (a+b)^2 &= (a+b)(a+b) \\ &= a^2 + 2ab + b^2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(a+b)^3 &= (a+b)(a+b)(a+b) \\ &= a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3\end{aligned}$$

$$(\heartsuit + \star)^2 = \heartsuit^2 + 2\heartsuit\star + \star^2$$

Given these, it is possible to determine the square or cube of more complicated binomials.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Ex 2: } (x-2y)^2 &= x^2 + 2(x)(-2y) \\ &+ (-2y)^2 \\ &= x^2 - 4xy + 4y^2\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}a &= 3x, \quad b = 2y \\ (3x+2y)^3 &= (3x)^3 + 3(3x)^2(2y) \\ &+ 3(3x)(2y)^2 + (2y)^3 \\ &= 27x^3 + 54x^2y \\ &+ 36xy^2 + 8y^3\end{aligned}$$

Pascal's Triangle

$$(a+b)^0 = 1$$

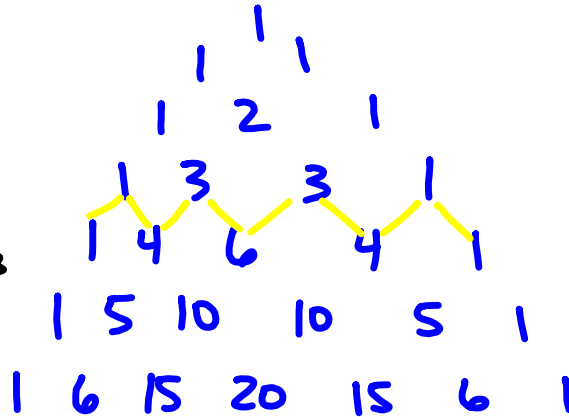
$$(a+b)^1 = 1a + 1b$$

$$(a+b)^2 = 1a^2 + 2ab + 1b^2$$

$$(a+b)^3 = 1a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + 1b^3$$

$$(a+b)^4 = 1a^4 + 4a^3b$$

$$+ 6a^2b^2 + 4ab^3 + 1b^4$$



Ex 3: Using the pattern above, expand these.

a) $(x-y)^5 = (x+(-y))^5$ $a=x$
 $b=-y$

$$= 1x^5 + 5x^4(-y) + 10x^3(-y)^2 + 10x^2(-y)^3 + 5x(-y)^4 + 1(-y)^5$$

$$= x^5 - 5x^4y + 10x^3y^2 - 10x^2y^3 + 5xy^4 - y^5$$

b) $(2x-3y)^4$

$$a=2x$$
$$b=-3y$$

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

$$= 16x^4 - 96x^3y + 216x^2y^2 - 216xy^3 + 81y^4$$

The Binomial Theorem

To get to this theorem, we need to introduce a new notation.

Factorial

The factorial of a non-negative integer is defined as:

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} 0! = 1 \quad (\text{by defn}) \\ n! = 1(2)(3)\dots(n) \end{array} \right.$$

Ex 4: Evaluate the factorials of the integers 1 through 6.

$$\begin{array}{lll} 1! = 1 & 3! = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 6 & 5! = 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 120 \\ 2! = 2 \cdot 1 = 2 & 4! = 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 24 & 6! = 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 720 \end{array}$$

Ex 5: Evaluate

a) $\frac{5!}{3!}$ b) $(8-5)!$ c) $(8-3)!$ d) $\frac{17!}{14!}$ e) $\frac{100!}{96!4!}$

Handwritten notes: Factorials do NOT distribute through addition. $3! = 6$.

$$\begin{array}{lllll} \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} & = 5 \cdot 4 & = 5! & = 17 \cdot 16 \cdot 15 \cdot \cancel{14!} & = 100 \cdot 99 \cdot 98 \cdot 97 \cdot \cancel{96!} \\ = \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot \cancel{3!}}{\cancel{3!}} & = 5 \cdot 4 & = 120 & = \frac{\cancel{14!}}{\cancel{14!}} & = \frac{\cancel{96!} \cdot (4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1)}{\cancel{96!} \cdot (4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1)} \\ & = 20 & & = 17(16)(15) & = 25(33)(49)(97) \\ & & & = 4080 & = 3921225 \end{array}$$

The Binomial Coefficient

defn

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

$\binom{n}{k}$ n, k are nonnegative integers
 $n \geq k$

read as "n choose k"
 also notate as nC_k or $\binom{n}{k}$

Ex 6: Evaluate these binomial coefficients.

a) $\binom{5}{0}$ b) $\binom{10}{6}$ c) $\binom{8}{3}$ d) $\binom{8}{5}$ e) $\binom{8}{8}$

$$= \frac{5!}{0!(5-0)!} = \frac{5!}{5!} = 1$$

$$= \frac{10!}{6!4!} = \frac{10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6}{6 \cdot (4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2)} = \frac{10 \cdot 3 \cdot 7}{1} = 210$$

$$= \frac{8!}{3!5!} = \frac{8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5!}{(3 \cdot 2)5!} = 8 \cdot 7 = 56$$

$$= \frac{8!}{5!(3!)} = 56$$

$$= \frac{8!}{8!0!} = 1$$

Ex 7: Show that $(a+b)^4 = \sum_{k=0}^4 \binom{4}{k} a^{4-k} b^k$ $a, b \neq 0$

$$\sum_{k=0}^4 \binom{4}{k} a^{4-k} b^k = \binom{4}{0} a^4 b^0 + \binom{4}{1} a^3 b + \binom{4}{2} a^2 b^2 + \binom{4}{3} a b^3 + \binom{4}{4} a^0 b^4$$

$$= \frac{4!}{0!4!} a^4 + \frac{4!}{1!3!} a^3 b + \frac{4!}{2!2!} a^2 b^2 + \frac{4!}{3!1!} a b^3 + \frac{4!}{4!0!} b^4$$

$$= a^4 + 4a^3 b + \frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2}{2 \cdot 2} a^2 b^2 + 4ab^3 + b^4$$

$$= a^4 + 4a^3 b + 6a^2 b^2 + 4ab^3 + b^4$$

$$= (a+b)^4$$

The Binomial Theorem

$$(a+b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} a^{n-k} b^k$$

NOTE: The $\binom{n}{k}$ are exactly the numbers in Pascal's Δ .

Ex 8: Use this theorem to expand $(3x-2)^5$. $a=3x, b=-2$

$$\begin{aligned}(3x-2)^5 &= \binom{5}{0}(3x)^5 + \binom{5}{1}(3x)^4(-2)^1 + \binom{5}{2}(3x)^3(-2)^2 \\ &\quad + \binom{5}{3}(3x)^2(-2)^3 + \binom{5}{4}(3x)(-2)^4 + \binom{5}{5}(-2)^5 \\ &= 1(3^5 x^5) + 5(3^4 x^4)(-2) + 10(3^3 x^3)(4) + 10(3^2 x^2)(8) \\ &\quad + 5(3x)(16) + 1(-32) \\ &= \boxed{243x^5 - 810x^4 + 1080x^3 + 720x^2 + 240x - 32}\end{aligned}$$

Ex 9: Consider $(2x-y)^8$. Find the term that contains x^3 and the term that contains y^4 .

$$a=2x, b=-y$$

$$\begin{aligned}1) x^3 \text{ term: } \binom{8}{3}(2x)^3(-y)^5 &= \frac{8!}{3!5!}(8x^3)(-y^5) \\ &= \frac{8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5!}{(32)5!}(-8x^3 y^5) \\ &= -448x^3 y^5\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}2) y^4 \text{ term: } \binom{8}{4}(2x)^4(-y)^4 &= \frac{8!}{4!4!}(2^4 x^4 y^4) = \frac{8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4!}{(4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2)4!}(16x^4 y^4) \\ &= 1120x^4 y^4\end{aligned}$$