

Binomial Theorem

If a and x are two real numbers and n is a positive integer then

$$(a+x)^n = \binom{n}{0}a^n + \binom{n}{1}a^{n-1}x^1 + \binom{n}{2}a^{n-2}x^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1}ax^{n-1} + \binom{n}{n}x^n$$

Proof

We will use mathematical induction to prove this so let $S(n)$ be the given statement.

Put $n=1$

$$S(1): (a+x)^1 = \binom{1}{0}a^1 + \binom{1}{1}a^{1-1}x^1 = (1)a + (1)(1)x \Rightarrow a+x = a+x$$

$S(1)$ is true so condition I is satisfied.

Now suppose that $S(n)$ is true for $n=k$.

$$S(k): (a+x)^k = \binom{k}{0}a^k + \binom{k}{1}a^{k-1}x^1 + \binom{k}{2}a^{k-2}x^2 + \dots + \binom{k}{k-1}ax^{k-1} + \binom{k}{k}x^k \dots \dots (i)$$

The statement for $n=k+1$

$$\begin{aligned} S(k+1): (a+x)^{k+1} &= \binom{k+1}{0}a^{k+1} + \binom{k+1}{1}a^{k+1-1}x^1 + \binom{k+1}{2}a^{k+1-2}x^2 + \dots \\ &\quad + \binom{k+1}{k+1-1}ax^{k+1-1} + \binom{k+1}{k+1}x^{k+1} \\ &\Rightarrow (a+x)^{k+1} = \binom{k+1}{0}a^{k+1} + \binom{k+1}{1}a^kx^1 + \binom{k+1}{2}a^{k-1}x^2 + \dots \\ &\quad + \binom{k+1}{k}ax^k + \binom{k+1}{k+1}x^{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying both sides of equation (i) by $(a+x)$

$$\begin{aligned} (a+x)^k(a+x) &= \left(\binom{k}{0}a^k + \binom{k}{1}a^{k-1}x^1 + \binom{k}{2}a^{k-2}x^2 + \dots + \binom{k}{k-1}ax^{k-1} + \binom{k}{k}x^k \right)(a+x) \\ \Rightarrow (a+x)^{k+1} &= \left(\binom{k}{0}a^k + \binom{k}{1}a^{k-1}x^1 + \binom{k}{2}a^{k-2}x^2 + \dots + \binom{k}{k-1}ax^{k-1} + \binom{k}{k}x^k \right)(a) \\ &\quad + \left(\binom{k}{0}a^k + \binom{k}{1}a^{k-1}x^1 + \binom{k}{2}a^{k-2}x^2 + \dots + \binom{k}{k-1}ax^{k-1} + \binom{k}{k}x^k \right)(x) \\ \Rightarrow (a+x)^{k+1} &= \binom{k}{0}a^{k+1} + \binom{k}{1}a^kx^1 + \binom{k}{2}a^{k-1}x^2 + \dots + \binom{k}{k-1}a^2x^{k-1} + \binom{k}{k}ax^k \\ &\quad + \binom{k}{0}a^kx + \binom{k}{1}a^{k-1}x^2 + \binom{k}{2}a^{k-2}x^3 + \dots + \binom{k}{k-1}ax^k + \binom{k}{k}x^{k+1} \\ \Rightarrow (a+x)^{k+1} &= \binom{k}{0}a^{k+1} + \left(\binom{k}{1} + \binom{k}{0} \right)a^kx^1 + \left(\binom{k}{2} + \binom{k}{1} \right)a^{k-1}x^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \left(\binom{k}{k} + \binom{k}{k-1} \right) a x^k + \binom{k}{k} x^{k+1}$$

Since $\binom{n}{0} = \binom{n+1}{0}$, $\binom{n}{r} + \binom{n}{r-1} = \binom{n+1}{r}$ and $\binom{n}{n} = \binom{n+1}{n+1}$

$$\Rightarrow (a+x)^{k+1} = \binom{k+1}{0} a^{k+1} + \binom{k+1}{1} a^k x^1 + \binom{k+1}{2} a^{k-1} x^2 + \dots + \binom{k+1}{k} a x^k + \binom{k+1}{k+1} x^{k+1}$$

Thus $S(k+1)$ is true when $S(k)$ is true so condition II is satisfied and $S(n)$ is true for all

positive integral value of n .

Question # 1

Using binomial theorem, expand the following:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{(i)} (a+2b)^5 & \text{(ii)} \left(\frac{x}{2} - \frac{2}{x^2} \right)^6 & \text{(iii)} \left(3a - \frac{x}{3a} \right)^4 \\ \text{(iv)} \left(2a - \frac{x}{a} \right)^7 & \text{(v)} \left(\frac{x}{2y} - \frac{2y}{x} \right)^8 & \text{(vi)} \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} - \sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^6 \end{array}$$

Solution

(i)

$$\begin{aligned} (a+2b)^5 &= \binom{5}{0} a^5 + \binom{5}{1} a^{5-1} (2b)^1 + \binom{5}{2} a^{5-2} (2b)^2 + \binom{5}{3} a^{5-3} (2b)^3 + \binom{5}{4} a^{5-4} (2b)^4 + \binom{5}{5} a^{5-5} (2b)^5 \\ &= (1)a^5 + (5)a^4(2b) + (10)a^3(4b^2) + (10)a^2(8b^3) + (5)a^1(16b^4) + (1)a^0(32b^5) \\ &= a^5 + 10a^4b + 40a^3b^2 + 80a^2b^3 + 80ab^4 + 32b^5 \quad \therefore a^0 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \left(\frac{x}{2} - \frac{2}{x^2} \right)^6 &= \binom{6}{0} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^6 + \binom{6}{1} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^{6-1} \left(-\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^1 + \binom{6}{2} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^{6-2} \left(-\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^2 + \binom{6}{3} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^{6-3} \left(-\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^3 \\ &\quad + \binom{6}{4} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^{6-4} \left(-\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^4 + \binom{6}{5} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^{6-5} \left(-\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^5 + \binom{6}{6} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^{6-6} \left(-\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^6 \\ &= (1) \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^6 - (6) \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^5 \left(\frac{2}{x^2} \right) + (15) \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^4 \left(\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^2 - (20) \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^3 \left(\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^3 \\ &\quad + (15) \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^2 \left(\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^4 - (6) \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^1 \left(\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^5 + (1)(1) \left(\frac{2}{x^2} \right)^6 \\ &= \left(\frac{x^6}{64} \right) - 6 \left(\frac{x^5}{32} \right) \left(\frac{2}{x^2} \right) + 15 \left(\frac{x^4}{16} \right) \left(\frac{4}{x^4} \right) - 20 \left(\frac{x^3}{8} \right) \left(\frac{8}{x^6} \right) \\ &\quad + 15 \left(\frac{x^2}{4} \right) \left(\frac{16}{x^8} \right) - 6 \left(\frac{x}{2} \right) \left(\frac{32}{x^{10}} \right) + \left(\frac{64}{x^{12}} \right) \\ &= \frac{x^6}{64} - \frac{3x^5}{8} + \frac{15}{4} - \frac{20}{x^3} + \frac{60}{x^6} - \frac{96}{x^9} + \frac{64}{x^{12}} \end{aligned}$$

(iii) *Do yourself*(iv) *Do yourself*(v) *Do yourself*

$$(vi) \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} - \sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^6 = \binom{6}{0} \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^6 + \binom{6}{1} \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{6-1} \left(-\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^1 + \binom{6}{2} \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{6-2} \left(-\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^2 + \binom{6}{3} \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{6-3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(-\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^3 + \binom{6}{4} \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{6-4} \left(-\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^4 + \binom{6}{5} \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{6-5} \left(-\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^5 + \binom{6}{6} \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{6-6} \left(-\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^6 \\ &= (1) \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^6 - (6) \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^5 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^1 + (15) \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^4 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^2 - (20) \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^3 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^3 - \\ & \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^3 + (15) \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^2 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^4 - (6) \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^1 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^5 + (1) \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^0 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^6 = \\ & \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^6 - 6 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^5 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{-1} + 15 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^4 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{-2} - 20 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^3 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{-3} \\ & + 15 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^{-2} \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^4 - 6 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^{-1} \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^5 + 1(1) \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^6 \\ &= \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^6 - 6 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{5-1} + 15 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{4-2} - 20 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^{3-3} + 15 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^{-2+4} - 6 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^{-1+5} + 1 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^6 \\ &= \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^6 - 6 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^4 + 15 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^2 - 20 \left(\sqrt{\frac{a}{x}} \right)^0 + 15 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^2 - 6 \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^4 + \left(\sqrt{\frac{x}{a}} \right)^6 \\ &= \left(\frac{a}{x}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^6 - 6 \left(\frac{a}{x}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^4 + 15 \left(\frac{a}{x}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^2 - 20(1) + 15 \left(\frac{x}{a}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^2 - 6 \left(\frac{x}{a}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^4 + \left(\frac{x}{a}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^6 \\ &= \left(\frac{a}{x} \right)^3 - 6 \left(\frac{a}{x} \right)^2 + 15 \left(\frac{a}{x} \right) - 20 + 15 \left(\frac{x}{a} \right) - 6 \left(\frac{x}{a} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{x}{a} \right)^3 \\ &= \frac{a^3}{x^3} - 6 \frac{a^2}{x^2} + 15 \frac{a}{x} - 20 + 15 \frac{x}{a} - 6 \frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{x^3}{a^3} \end{aligned}$$

Question # 2

Calculate the following by means of binomial theorem:

(i) $(0.97)^3$ (ii) $(2.02)^4$ (iii) $(9.98)^4$ (iv) $(2.1)^5$

Solution (i) $(0.97)^3 = (1 - 0.03)^3$

$$= \binom{3}{0} (1)^3 + \binom{3}{1} (1)^2 (-0.03) + \binom{3}{2} (1)^1 (-0.03)^2 + \binom{3}{3} (-0.03)^3$$

$$= (1)(1) + 3(1)(-0.03) + 3(1)(0.0009) + (1)(-0.000024) \\ = 1 - 0.09 + 0.0027 - 0.000027 = 0.912673$$

$$(ii) \quad (2.02)^4 = (2 + 0.02)^4 \quad \text{Now do yourself.}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(iii)} \quad (9.98)^4 &= (10 - 0.02)^4 \\
 &= \binom{4}{0}(10)^4 + \binom{4}{1}(10)^3(-0.02) + \binom{4}{2}(10)^2(-0.02)^2 + \binom{4}{3}(10)^1(-0.02)^3 \\
 &\quad + \binom{4}{4}(10)^0(-0.02)^4 \\
 &= (1)(10000) + 4(1000)(-0.02) + 6(100)(0.0004) + 4(10)(-0.000008) \\
 &\quad + (1)(1)(0.00000016) \\
 &= 10000 - 80 + 0.24 - 0.00032 + 0.00000016 = 9920.23968
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(iv) \quad (2.1)^5 = (2 + 0.1)^5 \quad \text{Now do yourself.}$$

Question # 3

Expand and simplify the following:

$$(i) \left(a + \sqrt{2}x\right)^4 + \left(a - \sqrt{2}x\right)^4 \quad (ii) \left(2 + \sqrt{3}\right)^5 + \left(2 - \sqrt{3}\right)^5$$

$$(iii) (2+i)^5 - (2-i)^5 \quad (iv) \left(x + \sqrt{x^2 - 1}\right)^3 + \left(x - \sqrt{x^2 - 1}\right)^3$$

$$\text{Solution (i)} \quad \left(a + \sqrt{2}x\right)^4 + \left(a - \sqrt{2}x\right)^4$$

We take

Replacing $\sqrt{2}$ by $-\sqrt{2}$ in eq. (i)

$$\begin{aligned} (a - \sqrt{2}x)^4 &= a^4 + 4(-\sqrt{2})a^3x + 12a^2x^2 + 8(-\sqrt{2})ax^3 + 4x^4 \\ &= a^4 - 4\sqrt{2}a^3x + 12a^2x^2 - 8\sqrt{2}ax^3 + 4x^4 \quad \dots \dots \dots \text{(iii)} \end{aligned}$$

Adding (i) & (ii)

$$(a + \sqrt{2}x)^4 + (a - \sqrt{2}x)^4 = 2a^4 + 24a^2x^2 + 8x^4$$

(ii) *Do yourself.*

(iii) Since

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2+i)^5 &= \binom{5}{0} 2^5 + \binom{5}{1} 2^{5-1} i + \binom{5}{2} 2^{5-2} i^2 + \binom{5}{3} 2^{5-3} i^3 + \binom{5}{4} 2^{5-4} i^4 + \binom{5}{5} 2^{5-5} i^5 \\
 &= (1)2^5 + (5)2^4 i + (10)2^3 i^2 + (10)2^2 i^3 + (5)2^1 i^4 + (1)2^0 i^5 \\
 &= 32 + 80i + 80i^2 + 40i^3 + 10i^4 + i^5 \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{(i)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Replacing i by $-i$ in eq. (i)

Subtracting (i) & (ii)

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2+i)^5 - (2-i)^5 &= 160i + 80i^3 + 2i^5 \\
 &= 160i + 80(-1) \cdot i + 2(-1)^2 \cdot i \\
 &= 160i - 80i + 2i = 82i
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(iv) \quad \left(x + \sqrt{x^2 - 1} \right)^3 + \left(x - \sqrt{x^2 - 1} \right)^3$$

Suppose $t = \sqrt{x^2 - 1}$ then

$$\left(x + \sqrt{x^2 - 1}\right)^3 + \left(x - \sqrt{x^2 - 1}\right)^3 = (x + t)^3 + (x - t)^3$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left((x)^3 + 3(x)^2(t) + 3(x)(t)^2 + (t)^3 \right) + \left((x)^3 + 3(x)^2(-t) + 3(x)(-t)^2 + (-t)^3 \right) \\
&= x^3 + 3x^2t + 3xt^2 + t^3 + x^3 - 3x^2t + 3xt^2 - t^3 \\
&= 2x^3 + 6xt^2 \\
&= 2x^3 + 6x\left(\sqrt{x^2 - 1}\right)^2 \quad \because t = \sqrt{x^2 - 1} \\
&= 2x^3 + 6x(x^2 - 1) = 2x^3 + 6x^3 - 6x = 8x^3 - 6x
\end{aligned}$$

Question # 4

Expand the following in ascending powers of x :

$$(i) (2+x-x^2)^4 \quad (ii) (1-x+x^2)^4 \quad (iii) (1-x-x^2)^4$$

Solution (i) $(2 + x - x^2)^4$

Put $t = 2 + x$ then

$$(2+x-x^2)^4 = (t-x^2)^4$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned}
t^4 &= (2+x)^4 = \binom{4}{0}(2)^4 + \binom{4}{1}(2)^3(x) + \binom{4}{2}(2)^2(x)^2 + \binom{4}{3}(2)^1(x)^3 + \binom{4}{4}(2)^0(x)^4 \\
&= (1)(16) + (4)(8)(x) + (6)(4)(x^2) + (4)(2)(x^3) + (1)(1)(x^4) \\
&= 16 + 32x + 24x^2 + 8x^3 + x^4
\end{aligned}$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} t^3 &= (2+x)^3 = (2)^3 + (3)(2)^2(x) + (3)(2)^1(x)^2 + (x)^3 \\ &= 8 + 12x + 6x^2 + x^3 \\ t^2 &= (2+x)^2 = 4 + 4x + x^2 \end{aligned}$$

Putting values of t^4, t^3, t^2 and t in equation (i)

$$\begin{aligned} (2+x-x^2)^4 &= (16+32x+24x^2+8x^3+x^4) - 4(8+12x+6x^2+x^3)x^2 \\ &\quad + 6(4+4x+x^2)x^4 - 4(2+x)x^6 + x^8 \\ &= 16+32x+24x^2+8x^3+x^4 - 32x^2 - 48x^3 - 24x^4 - 4x^5 \\ &\quad + 24x^4 + 24x^5 + 6x^6 - 8x^6 + 4x^7 + x^8 \\ &= 16+32-8x^2-40x^3+x^4+20x^5-2x^6-4x^7-x^8 \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Suppose $t=1-x$ Do yourself

(iii) Suppose $t=1-x$ Do yourself

Question # 5

Expand the following in descending powers of x :

$$(i) (x^2 + x - 1)^3 \qquad (ii) \left(x - 1 - \frac{1}{x}\right)^3$$

Solution (i) Suppose $t = x - 1$ Do yourself

$$(ii) \left(x - 1 - \frac{1}{x}\right)^3$$

Suppose $t = x - 1$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \left(t - \frac{1}{x}\right)^3 &= (t)^3 + 3(t)^2\left(-\frac{1}{x}\right) + 3(t)\left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)^2 + \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)^3 \\ &= t^3 - 3t^2 \cdot \frac{1}{x} + 3t \cdot \frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{1}{x^3} \dots \dots \dots \text{(i)} \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} t^3 &= (x-1)^3 = (x)^3 + 3(x)^2(-1) + 3(x)(-1)^2 + (-1)^3 \\ &= x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$t^2 = (x-1)^2 = x^2 - 2x + 1$$

Putting values of t^3, t^2 and t in equation (i)

$$\begin{aligned} \left(x - 1 - \frac{1}{x}\right)^3 &= (x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1) - 3(x^2 - 2x + 1) \cdot \frac{1}{x} + 3(x-1) \cdot \frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{1}{x^3} \\ &= x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1 - 3x + 6 - 3\frac{1}{x} + 3\frac{1}{x} - 3\frac{1}{x^2} - \frac{1}{x^3} \\ &= x^3 - 3x^2 + 5 - \frac{3}{x^2} - \frac{1}{x^3} \end{aligned}$$

Question # 6

Find the term involving:

- (i) x^4 in the expansion of $(3-2x)^7$ (ii) x^{-2} in the expansion of
 $\left(x-\frac{2}{x^2}\right)^{13}$
- (iii) a^4 in the expansion of $\left(\frac{2}{x}-a\right)^9$ (iv) y^3 in the expansion of
 $(x-\sqrt{y})^{11}$

Solution (i) Since

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r$$

Here $a=3$, $x=-2x$, $n=7$ so

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{7}{r} (3)^{7-r} (-2x)^r = \binom{7}{r} (3)^{7-r} (-2)^r (x)^r$$

For term involving x^4 we must have

$$x^r = x^4 \Rightarrow r = 4$$

So

$$T_{4+1} = \binom{7}{4} (3)^{7-4} (-2)^4 (x)^4$$

$$\Rightarrow T_5 = (35)(3)^3 (-2)^4 (x)^4 = (35)(27)(16)(x)^4 \\ = 15120x^4$$

- (ii) Since $T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r$

Here $a=x$, $x=-\frac{2}{x^2}$, $n=13$ so

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{13}{r} (x)^{13-r} \left(-\frac{2}{x^2}\right)^r = \binom{13}{r} (x)^{13-r} (-2)^r (x)^{-2r} \\ = \binom{13}{r} (x)^{13-r-2r} (-2)^r = \binom{13}{r} (x)^{13-3r} (-2)^r$$

For term involving x^{-2} we must have

$$x^{13-3r} = x^{-2} \Rightarrow 13-3r = -2 \Rightarrow -3r = -2-13 \\ \Rightarrow -3r = -15 \Rightarrow r = 5$$

So

$$T_{5+1} = \binom{13}{5} (x)^{13-3(5)} (-2)^5$$

$$\Rightarrow T_6 = (1287)(x)^{13-15} (-32) = -41184x^{-2}$$

- (iii) Since

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r$$

Here $a = \frac{2}{x}$, $x = -a$, $n = 9$ so

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{9}{r} \left(\frac{2}{x} \right)^{9-r} (-a)^r = \binom{9}{r} \left(\frac{2}{x} \right)^{9-r} (-1)^r (a)^r$$

For term involving a^4 we must have

$$a^r = a^4 \Rightarrow r = 4$$

$$\text{So } T_{4+1} = \binom{9}{4} \left(\frac{2}{x} \right)^{9-4} (-1)^4 (a)^4$$

$$\Rightarrow T_5 = (126) \left(\frac{2}{x} \right)^5 (1) a^4 = (126) \left(\frac{32}{x^5} \right) a^4 = 4032 \frac{a^4}{x^5}$$

(iv) Here $a = x$, $x = -\sqrt{y}$, $n = 11$ so

Since

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_{r+1} &= \binom{11}{r} (x)^{11-r} (-\sqrt{y})^r = \binom{11}{r} (x)^{11-r} \left(-y^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^r \\ &= \binom{11}{r} (x)^{11-r} (-1)^r \left(y^{\frac{r}{2}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

For term involving y^3 we must have

$$y^{\frac{r}{2}} = y^3 \Rightarrow \frac{r}{2} = 3 \Rightarrow r = 6$$

$$\text{So } T_{6+1} = \binom{11}{6} (x)^{11-6} (-1)^6 \left(y^{\frac{6}{2}}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow T_7 = (462) (x)^5 (1) (y^3) = 462 x^5 y^3$$

Question # 7

Find the coefficient of;

$$(i) x^5 \text{ in the expansion of } \left(x^2 - \frac{3}{2x}\right)^{10} \quad (ii) x^n \text{ in the expansion of } \left(x^2 - \frac{1}{x}\right)^{2n}$$

Solution (i) Here $a = x^2$, $x = -\frac{3}{2x}$, $n = 10$ so

Since

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_{r+1} &= \binom{10}{r} (x^2)^{10-r} \left(-\frac{3}{2x}\right)^r = \binom{10}{r} (x)^{2(10-r)} (-1)^r \frac{(3)^r}{(2)^r (x)^r} \\ &= \binom{10}{r} (x)^{20-2r} (-1)^r (3)^r (2)^{-r} (x)^{-r} = \binom{10}{r} (x)^{20-2r-r} (-1)^r (3)^r (2)^{-r} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \binom{10}{r} (x)^{20-3r} (-1)^r (3)^r (2)^{-r}$$

For term involving x^5 we must have

$$\begin{aligned} x^{20-3r} &= x^5 \Rightarrow 20 - 3r = 5 \Rightarrow -3r = 5 - 20 \\ \Rightarrow -3r &= -15 \Rightarrow r = 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } T_{5+1} = \binom{10}{5} (x)^{20-3(5)} (-1)^5 (3)^5 (2)^{-5}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_6 = 252(x)^{20-15} (-1)^5 (3)^5 \frac{1}{2^5} = -252(x)^5 (243) \frac{1}{32}$$

$$= -\frac{61236}{32} x^5 = -\frac{15309}{8} x^5$$

$$\text{Hence coefficient of } x^5 = -\frac{15309}{8}$$

$$(ii) \quad \text{Here } a = x^2, \quad x = -\frac{1}{x}, \quad n = 2n \quad \text{so}$$

Since

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_{r+1} &= \binom{2n}{r} (x^2)^{2n-r} \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)^r = \binom{2n}{r} (x)^{2(2n-r)} (-1)^r \frac{1}{x^r} \\ &= \binom{2n}{r} (x)^{4n-2r} (-1)^r x^{-r} = \binom{2n}{r} (x)^{4n-2r-r} (-1)^r \\ &= \binom{2n}{r} (x)^{4n-3r} (-1)^r \end{aligned}$$

For term involving x^n we must have

$$\begin{aligned} x^{4n-3r} &= x^n \Rightarrow 4n - 3r = n \Rightarrow -3r = n - 4n \\ \Rightarrow -3r &= -3n \Rightarrow r = n \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } T_{n+1} = \binom{2n}{n} (x)^{4n-3n} (-1)^n$$

$$= \frac{(2n)!}{(2n-n)! \cdot n!} (x)^n (-1)^n = \frac{(2n)!}{n! \cdot n!} (x)^n (-1)^n$$

$$= (-1)^n \frac{(2n)!}{(n!)^2} x^n$$

$$\text{Hence coefficient of } x^n = (-1)^n \frac{(2n)!}{(n!)^2}$$

Question # 8

Find 6th term in the expansion of $\left(x^2 - \frac{3}{2x}\right)^{10}$

Solution Here $a = x^2$, $x = -\frac{3}{2x}$, $n = 10$ and $r+1=6 \Rightarrow r=5$ so

Since

$$\begin{aligned} T_{r+1} &= \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r \\ T_{5+1} &= \binom{10}{5} (x^2)^{10-5} \left(-\frac{3}{2x}\right)^5 \\ \Rightarrow T_6 &= 252 (x^2)^5 \left(-\frac{3^5}{(2x)^5}\right) = 252 x^{10} \left(-\frac{243}{32x^5}\right) \\ &= -\frac{61236}{32} x^{10-5} = -\frac{15309}{8} x^5 \end{aligned}$$

Question # 9

Find the term independent of x in the following expansions..

$$(i) \left(x - \frac{2}{x}\right)^{10} \quad (ii) \left(\sqrt{x} - \frac{1}{2x^2}\right)^{10} \quad (iii) \left(1 + x^2\right)^3 \left(1 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right)^4$$

Solution (i) *Do yourself as Q # 9 (ii)*

(ii) Here $a = \sqrt{x}$, $x = \frac{1}{2x^2}$, $n = 10$ so

Since

$$\begin{aligned} T_{r+1} &= \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r \\ T_{r+1} &= \binom{10}{r} \left(\sqrt{x}\right)^{10-r} \left(\frac{1}{2x^2}\right)^r = \binom{10}{r} \left(x^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^{10-r} \left(\frac{1}{2^r x^{2r}}\right) \\ &= \binom{10}{r} \left(x^{\frac{1}{2}(10-r)}\right) \frac{1}{2^r} x^{-2r} = \binom{10}{r} \left(x^{5-\frac{r}{2}}\right) \frac{1}{2^r} x^{-2r} \\ &= \binom{10}{r} \left(x^{5-\frac{r}{2}-2r}\right) \frac{1}{2^r} = \binom{10}{r} \left(x^{5-\frac{5r}{2}}\right) \frac{1}{2^r} \end{aligned}$$

For term independent of x we must have

$$\begin{aligned} x^{5-\frac{5r}{2}} &= x^0 \Rightarrow 5 - \frac{5r}{2} = 0 \Rightarrow -\frac{5r}{2} = -5 \\ \Rightarrow r &= (-5) \left(-\frac{2}{5}\right) \Rightarrow r = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } T_{2+1} = \binom{10}{2} \left(x^{5-\frac{5(2)}{2}}\right) \frac{1}{2^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_3 = 45 \left(x^{5-5}\right) \frac{1}{4} = 45 x^0 \frac{1}{4}$$

$$= 45 (1) \frac{1}{4} = \frac{45}{4}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(iii)} \quad (1+x^2)^3 \left(1+\frac{1}{x^2}\right)^4 &= (1+x^2)^3 \left(\frac{x^2+1}{x^2}\right)^4 \\
 &= (1+x^2)^3 \frac{(x^2+1)^4}{(x^2)^4} = (1+x^2)^3 \frac{(1+x^2)^4}{x^8} \\
 &= x^{-8}(1+x^2)^{3+4} = x^{-8}(1+x^2)^7
 \end{aligned}$$

Now $T_{r+1} = x^{-8} \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r$

Where $n=7, a=1, x=x^2$

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_{r+1} &= x^{-8} \binom{7}{r} (1)^{7-r} (x^2)^r = x^{-8} \binom{7}{r} (1) x^{2r} \\
 &= \binom{7}{r} x^{2r-8}
 \end{aligned}$$

For term independent of x we must have

$$x^{2r-8} = x^0 \Rightarrow 2r-8=0 \Rightarrow 2r=8 \Rightarrow r=4$$

So

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_{4+1} &= \binom{7}{4} x^{2(4)-8} \\
 \Rightarrow T_5 &= 35 x^{8-8} = 35 x^0 = 35
 \end{aligned}$$

Question # 10

Determine the middle term in the following expansions:

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 \text{(i)} \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{x^2}{2}\right)^{12} & \text{(ii)} \left(\frac{3}{2}x - \frac{1}{3x}\right)^{11} & \text{(iii)} \left(2x - \frac{1}{2x}\right)^{2m+1}
 \end{array}$$

Solution (i) $\left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{x^2}{2}\right)^{12}$

Since $n=12$ is an even so middle terms is $\frac{n+2}{2} = \frac{12+2}{2} = 7$

Therefore $r+1=7 \Rightarrow r=7-1=6$

And $a=\frac{1}{x}, x=-\frac{x^2}{2}$ and $n=12$

Now

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_{r+1} &= \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r \\
 \Rightarrow T_{6+1} &= \binom{12}{6} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^{12-6} \left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)^6
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_7 = 924 \frac{1}{x^6} \frac{x^{12}}{64} = \frac{924}{64} x^{12-6} \\ = \frac{231}{16} x^6$$

Thus the middle terms of the given expansion is $\frac{231}{16} x^6$.

(ii) Since $n=11$ is odd so the middle terms are $\frac{n+1}{2} = \frac{11+1}{2} = 6$ and

$$\frac{n+3}{2} = \frac{11+3}{2} = 7$$

So for first middle term

$$a = \frac{3}{2}x, \quad x = -\frac{1}{3x}, \quad n=11 \text{ and } r+1=6 \Rightarrow r=5$$

Now

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r \Rightarrow T_{5+1} = \binom{11}{5} \left(\frac{3}{2}x\right)^{11-5} \left(-\frac{1}{3x}\right)^5$$

Now simplify yourself.

Now for second middle term

$$r+1=7 \Rightarrow r=6$$

$$\text{so } T_{6+1} = \binom{11}{6} \left(\frac{3}{2}x\right)^{11-6} \left(-\frac{1}{3x}\right)^6 \quad \text{Now simplify yourself.}$$

(iii) Since $n=2m+1$ is odd so there are two middle terms

$$\text{First middle term} = \frac{n+1}{2} = \frac{2m+1+1}{2} = \frac{2m+2}{2} = m+1$$

$$\text{Second middle terms} = \frac{n+3}{2} = \frac{2m+1+3}{2} = \frac{2m+4}{2} = m+2$$

$$\text{Here } a=2x, \quad x=-\frac{1}{2x} \text{ and } n=2m+1$$

For first middle term $r+1=m+1 \Rightarrow r=m$.

Since

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r \\ \Rightarrow T_{m+1} = \binom{2m+1}{m} (2x)^{2m+1-m} \left(-\frac{1}{2x}\right)^m = \frac{(2m+1)!}{(2m+1-m)! \cdot m!} (2x)^{m+1} \left(-\frac{1}{2x}\right)^m \\ = \frac{(2m+1)!}{(m+1)! \cdot m!} (2)^{m+1} (x)^{m+1} (-1)^m \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^m \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^m \\ = \frac{(2m+1)!}{(m+1)! \cdot m!} (2)^{m+1} (x)^{m+1} (-1)^m (2)^{-m} (x)^{-m}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{(2m+1)!}{(m+1)! \cdot m!} (2)^{m+1-m} (x)^{m+1-m} (-1)^m = \frac{(2m+1)!}{(m+1)! \cdot m!} (2)^1 (x)^1 (-1)^m \\
&= \frac{(2m+1)!}{(m+1)! \cdot m!} 2x(-1)^m
\end{aligned}$$

For second middle term

$$r+1 = m+2 \Rightarrow r = m+2-1 \Rightarrow r = m+1$$

As $T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r$

$$\Rightarrow T_{m+1+1} = \binom{2m+1}{m+1} (2x)^{(2m+1)-(m+1)} \left(-\frac{1}{2x}\right)^{m+1}$$

Now simplify yourself

Question # 11

Find $(2n+1)$ th term of the end in the expansion of $\left(x - \frac{1}{2x}\right)^{3n}$

Solution Here $a = x$, $x = -\frac{1}{2x}$,

Number of term from the end $= 2n+1$

To make it from beginning we take $a = -\frac{1}{2x}$, $x = x$ and $r+1 = 2n+1$

$$\Rightarrow r = 2n$$

As $T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Rightarrow T_{2n+1} &= \binom{3n}{2n} \left(-\frac{1}{2x}\right)^{3n-2n} (x)^{2n} = \frac{(3n)!}{(3n-2n)! \cdot (2n)!} \left(-\frac{1}{2x}\right)^n x^{2n} \\
&= \frac{(3n)!}{(n)! \cdot (2n)!} (-1)^n \frac{1}{2^n \cdot x^n} x^{2n} = \frac{(3n)!}{n! \cdot (2n)!} (-1)^n \frac{1}{2^n} x^{2n-n} \\
&= \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n} \frac{(3n)!}{n! \cdot (2n)!} x^n \quad \text{Answer}
\end{aligned}$$

Note: If there are p term in some expansion and q th term is from the end then the term from the beginning will be $= p - q + 1$.

So in above you can use term from the end $= (3n+1) - (2n+1) + 1 = n+1$

Question # 12

Show that the middle term of $(1+x)^{2n}$ is $\frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots (2n-1)}{n!} 2^n x^n$

Solution Since $2n$ is even so the middle term is $\frac{2n+2}{2} = n+1$ and

$$a = 1, \quad x = x, \quad n = 2n, \quad r+1 = n+1 \Rightarrow r = n$$

Now $T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} a^{n-r} x^r$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Rightarrow T_{n+1} &= \binom{2n}{n} (1)^{2n-n} x^n \\
\Rightarrow T_{n+1} &= \frac{(2n)!}{(2n-n)! \cdot n!} (1)^n x^n = \frac{(2n)!}{n! \cdot n!} x^n \\
&= \frac{2n(2n-1)(2n-2)(2n-3)(2n-4) \cdots 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{n! \cdot n!} x^n \\
&= \frac{[2n(2n-2)(2n-4) \cdots 4 \cdot 2][(2n-1)(2n-3) \cdots 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 1]}{n! \cdot n!} x^n \\
&= \frac{2^n [n(n-1)(n-2) \cdots 2 \cdot 1][(2n-1)(2n-3) \cdots 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 1]}{n! \cdot n!} x^n \\
&= \frac{2^n n! [(2n-1)(2n-3) \cdots 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 1]}{n! \cdot n!} x^n \\
&= \frac{2^n [1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n-1)]}{n!} x^n \\
&= \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n-1)}{n!} 2^n x^n
\end{aligned}$$

Question # 13

Show that:

$$\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{5} + \cdots + \binom{n}{n-1} = 2^{n-1}$$

Solution Consider

$$(1+x)^n = \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1}x + \binom{n}{2}x^2 + \binom{n}{3}x^3 + \binom{n}{4}x^4 + \binom{n}{5}x^5 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n-1}x^{n-1} + \binom{n}{n}x^n \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

Put $x=1$

$$\begin{aligned}
(1+1)^n &= \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1}(1) + \binom{n}{2}(1)^2 + \binom{n}{3}(1)^3 + \binom{n}{4}(1)^4 + \binom{n}{5}(1)^5 + \cdots + \binom{n}{n-1}(1)^{n-1} + \binom{n}{n}(1)^n \\
\Rightarrow 2^n &= \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{4} + \binom{n}{5} + \cdots + \binom{n}{n-1} + \binom{n}{n} \\
\Rightarrow 2^n &= \left[\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{4} + \cdots + \binom{n}{n} \right] + \left[\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{5} + \cdots + \binom{n}{n-1} \right] \quad \dots \text{(ii)}
\end{aligned}$$

Now put $x=-1$ in equation (i)

$$\begin{aligned}
(1-1)^n &= \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1}(-1) + \binom{n}{2}(-1)^2 + \binom{n}{3}(-1)^3 + \binom{n}{4}(-1)^4 + \binom{n}{5}(-1)^5 + \cdots \\
&\quad \cdots + \binom{n}{n-1}(-1)^{n-1} + \binom{n}{n}(-1)^n
\end{aligned}$$

If we consider n is even then

$$\Rightarrow (0)^n = \binom{n}{0} - \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{2} - \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{4} - \binom{n}{5} + \cdots - \binom{n}{n-1} + \binom{n}{n}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \left[\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{4} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} \right] - \left[\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{5} + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \left[\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{5} + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} \right] = \left[\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{4} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} \right]$$

Using it in equation (ii)

$$2^n = \left[\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{5} + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} \right] + \left[\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{4} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^n = 2 \left[\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{5} + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2^n}{2} = \left[\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{5} + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^{n-1} = \left[\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{5} + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{3} + \binom{n}{5} + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} = 2^{n-1}$$

Question # 14

Show that:

$$\binom{n}{0} + \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{1} + \frac{1}{3} \binom{n}{2} + \frac{1}{4} \binom{n}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{n}{n} = \frac{2^{n+1} - 1}{n+1}$$

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \text{L.H.S} &= \binom{n}{0} + \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{1} + \frac{1}{3} \binom{n}{2} + \frac{1}{4} \binom{n}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{n}{n} \\ &= \left[\binom{n}{0} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{n!}{(n-1)! \cdot 1!} \right) + \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{n!}{(n-2)! \cdot 2!} \right) + \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{n!}{(n-3)! \cdot 3!} \right) + \dots + \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{n}{n} \right] \\ &= \frac{n+1}{n+1} \left[1 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{n!}{(n-1)! \cdot 1!} \right) + \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{n!}{(n-2)! \cdot 2!} \right) + \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{n!}{(n-3)! \cdot 3!} \right) + \dots + \frac{1}{n+1} \cdot 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n+1} \left[(n+1) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{(n+1)n!}{(n-1)! \cdot 1!} \right) + \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{(n+1)n!}{(n-2)! \cdot 2!} \right) + \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{(n+1)n!}{(n-3)! \cdot 3!} \right) + \dots + \frac{n+1}{n+1} \cdot 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n+1} \left[(n+1) + \left(\frac{(n+1)!}{(n-1)! \cdot 2 \cdot 1!} \right) + \left(\frac{(n+1)!}{(n-2)! \cdot 3 \cdot 2!} \right) + \left(\frac{(n+1)!}{(n-3)! \cdot 4 \cdot 3!} \right) + \dots + 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n+1} \left[(n+1) + \left(\frac{(n+1)!}{(n+1-2)! \cdot 2!} \right) + \left(\frac{(n+1)!}{(n+1-3)! \cdot 3!} \right) + \left(\frac{(n+1)!}{(n+1-4)! \cdot 4!} \right) + \dots + 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n+1} \left[\binom{n+1}{1} + \binom{n+1}{2} + \binom{n+1}{3} + \binom{n+1}{4} + \dots + \binom{n+1}{n+1} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n+1} \left[-1 + 1 + \binom{n+1}{1} + \binom{n+1}{2} + \binom{n+1}{3} + \binom{n+1}{4} + \dots + \binom{n+1}{n+1} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{n+1} \left[-1 + \binom{n+1}{0} + \binom{n+1}{1} + \binom{n+1}{2} + \binom{n+1}{3} + \binom{n+1}{4} + \dots + \binom{n+1}{n+1} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{n+1} \left[-1 + 2^{n+1} \right] \\
 &= \frac{2^{n+1} - 1}{n+1} = \text{R.H.S}
 \end{aligned}$$

Remember

$$\binom{n+1}{0} = 1, \quad \binom{n+1}{1} = n+1 \quad \text{and} \quad \binom{n+1}{n+1} = 1$$

If you found any error, please report us at www.mathcity.org/error

Book: **Exercise 8.2**

*Text Book of Algebra and Trigonometry Class XI
Punjab Textbook Board, Lahore.*

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