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Pure Maths - 1

Binomial Theorem
Revised Notes

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Binomial Theorem

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§ Factorial notation:

consider the product:

$$5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 5! \text{ (Five factorial)}$$

$$4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 4!$$

$$6! = 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6 \times 5!$$

$$\text{Now } \frac{7!}{5!} = \frac{7 \times 6 \times 5!}{5!} = 7 \times 6 = 42$$

Note (i) $1! = 1$

(ii) $0! = 1$ (By definition).

In General: Factorial n ;

$$n! = n(n-1)(n-2)\dots \times 2 \times 1.$$

Binomial Coefficient:

n is a positive Integer

$$\binom{n}{r} \text{ or } {}^n C_r = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} \quad ; \quad 0 \leq r \leq n$$

$${}^n C_0 = 1 \quad ; \quad {}^n C_1 = n \quad ; \quad {}^n C_2 = \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}, \dots, \quad {}^n C_n = 1$$

Example: (i) ${}^1 C_0 = 1$ and ${}^1 C_1 = 1$ (for $n=1$)

(ii) ${}^2 C_0 = 1$; ${}^2 C_1 = 2$; ${}^2 C_2 = 1$ (for $n=2$)

(iii) ${}^3 C_0 = 1$; ${}^3 C_1 = 3$; ${}^3 C_2 = 3$; ${}^3 C_3 = 1$ (for $n=3$)

(iv) ${}^4 C_0 = 1$; ${}^4 C_1 = 4$; ${}^4 C_2 = 6$; ${}^4 C_3 = 4$; ${}^4 C_4 = 1$ (for $n=4$)

(v) ${}^5 C_0 = 1$; ${}^5 C_1 = 5$; ${}^5 C_2 = 10$; ${}^5 C_3 = 10$; ${}^5 C_4 = 5$; ${}^5 C_5 = 1$

(vi) ${}^6 C_0 = 1$; ${}^6 C_1 = 6$; ${}^6 C_2 = 15$; ${}^6 C_3 = 20$; ${}^6 C_4 = 15$; ${}^6 C_5 = 6$; ${}^6 C_6 = 1$

Example:

Note: ${}^n C_r = {}^n C_{n-r}$

(i) ${}^6 C_0 = {}^6 C_6 = 1$; ${}^6 C_1 = {}^6 C_5 = 6$; ${}^6 C_2 = {}^6 C_4 = 15$; ${}^6 C_3 = {}^6 C_3 = 20$

Binomial Theorem:

(i) $(x+a)^1 = x+a = {}^1C_0 x^1 + {}^1C_1 x^0$

(ii) $(x+a)^2 = x^2 + 2xa + a^2 = {}^2C_0 x^2 + {}^2C_1 x^{2-1} a^1 + {}^2C_2 a^2$

(iii) $(x+a)^3 = x^3 + 3x^2a + 3xa^2 + a^3$
 $= {}^3C_0 x^3 + {}^3C_1 x^{3-1} a^1 + {}^3C_2 x^{3-2} a^2 + {}^3C_3 a^3$

(iv) $(x+a)^4 = x^4 + 4x^3a + 6x^2a^2 + 4xa^3 + a^4$
 $= {}^4C_0 x^4 + {}^4C_1 x^{4-1} a^1 + {}^4C_2 x^{4-2} a^2 + {}^4C_3 x^{4-3} a^3 + {}^4C_4 a^4$

(v) $(x+a)^5 = x^5 + 5x^4a + 10x^3a^2 + 10x^2a^3 + 5xa^4 + a^5$
 $= {}^5C_0 x^5 + {}^5C_1 x^{5-1} a^1 + {}^5C_2 x^{5-2} a^2 + {}^5C_3 x^{5-3} a^3 + {}^5C_4 x^{5-4} a^4 + {}^5C_5 a^5$

§ Binomial Theorem:

$$(x+a)^n = {}^nC_0 x^n + {}^nC_1 x^{n-1} a + {}^nC_2 x^{n-2} a^2 + \dots + \dots + \dots + {}^nC_r x^{n-r} a^r + \dots + {}^nC_n a^n$$

Note (i) General Term = ${}^nC_r x^{n-r} a^r$ ($r=0, 1, 2, \dots, n$)

(ii) Number of terms in the expansion of $(x+a)^n$ is $(n+1)$

(iii) Coefficient of first term = Coeff of last term = 1
 Coeff of second term = Coeff of second last term = n

(iv) (a) if n is even then the number of terms $(n+1)$ is odd.

(b) if n is odd then the number of terms $(n+1)$ is even

(v) The sum of the exponents of x and $a = n$

§ Binomial Theorem (Particular case):

$$(1+x)^n = {}^nC_0 + {}^nC_1 x + {}^nC_2 x^2 + \dots + {}^nC_r x^r + \dots + {}^nC_n x^n$$

1.(i) Find the first three terms in the expansion of $(2-x)^6$ in the ascending powers of x . --- [2]

(ii) Find the value of k for which there is no term in x^2 in the expansion of $(1+kx)(2-x)^6$. --- [3]

S-05/01/Q4

Solution (i) $(a+x)^n = {}^n C_0 a^n + {}^n C_1 a^{n-1} x + {}^n C_2 a^{n-2} x^2 + \dots$
 $\therefore (2-x)^6 = {}^6 C_0 2^6 + {}^6 C_1 2^5 (-x) + {}^6 C_2 2^4 (-x)^2 + \dots$
 $= 1 \times 64 + 6 \times 32 (-x) + 15 \times 16 x^2 + \dots$
 $= 64 - 192x + 240x^2 \dots$ ✓ --- (1)

(ii) Now $(1+kx)(2-x)^6 = (1+kx)(64 - 192x + 240x^2 \dots)$ --- (2)

from (2) the terms containing $x^2 = 1 \times 240x^2 + kx \cdot (-192x)$
 $= (240 - 192k)x^2 \dots$ --- (3)

Given that there is no term in (2) containing x^2 ,
 \therefore from (3) $240 - 192k = 0 \Rightarrow k = 240/192 = 1.25$ ✓

2. The coefficient of x^2 in the expansion of $(2+x/2)^6 + (a+x)^5$ is 330. Find the value of a . --- [5]

S-18/12/Q1

Solution: $(a+x)^n = {}^n C_0 a^n + {}^n C_1 a^{n-1} x + {}^n C_2 a^{n-2} x^2 + \dots + {}^n C_n x^n$

$\therefore (a+x)^5 = ({}^5 C_0 a^5 + {}^5 C_1 a^4 x + {}^5 C_2 a^3 x^2 + \dots)$
 $= (a^5 + 5a^4 x + 10a^3 x^2 + \dots)$ --- (1)

and $(2+x/2)^6 = {}^6 C_0 2^6 + {}^6 C_1 2^5 (x/2) + {}^6 C_2 2^4 (x/2)^2 + \dots$
 $= 64 + 96x + 60x^2 + \dots$ --- (2)

from (1) & (2) $\therefore (2+x/2)^6 + (a+x)^5 = (64 + 96x + 60x^2 + \dots) + (a^5 + 5a^4 x + 10a^3 x^2 + \dots)$ --- (3)

\therefore coefficient of x^2 in (3) = $60 + 10a^3 = 330$ given.

$\Rightarrow 10a^3 = 270$

$\Rightarrow a^3 = 27$

$\Rightarrow a = 3$ ✓

3. (i) Find the coefficients of x^2 and x^3 in the expansion of $(1-2x)^7$ --- [3]
 (ii) Hence find the coefficient of x^3 in the expansion of:
 $(2+5x)(1-2x)^7$ --- [2]

M-18/12/Q2

Solution: $(1+x)^n = 1 + {}^nC_1x + {}^nC_2x^2 + {}^nC_3x^3 + \dots$
 $\therefore (1-2x)^7 = 1 + {}^7C_1(-2x) + {}^7C_2(-2x)^2 + {}^7C_3(-2x)^3 + \dots$
 $= 1 + 7(-2x) + 21 \cdot (4x^2) + 35(-8x^3) + \dots$
 $= 1 - 14x + 84x^2 - 280x^3 + \dots$ --- (1)

\therefore In the expansion of $(1-2x)^7$ { Coeff of $x^2 = 84 \checkmark$
 { Coeff of $x^3 = -280 \checkmark$

(ii) Consider $(2+5x)(1-2x)^7$
 from (1) $= (2+5x)(1-14x+84x^2-280x^3+\dots)$ --- (2)
 \therefore Coefficient of x^3 in (2) $= 2 \times (-280) + 5 \times 84$
 $= -560 + 420 = -140 \checkmark$

- 4 (i) Find the first three terms in the expansion of $(1+ax)^5$ in ascending powers of x .
 (ii) Given that there is no term in x in the expansion of $(1-2x)(1+ax)^5$, find the value of the constant a .
 (iii) For this value of a , find the coefficient of x^2 in the expansion of $(1-2x)(1+ax)^5$.

S-10/12/Q6

Solution: (i) $(1+ax)^5 = 1 + {}^5C_1(ax) + {}^5C_2(ax)^2 + \dots$ [$(1+x)^n = 1 + {}^nC_1x + {}^nC_2x^2 + \dots$]
 $= 1 + 5ax + 10a^2x^2 + \dots$ --- (1) \checkmark

(ii) $(1-2x)(1+ax)^5 = (1-2x)(1+5ax+10a^2x^2+\dots)$ --- (2) from (1)
 from (2) Term in $x = 1 \times 5ax - 2x \times 1 = (5a-2)x$
 But given that there is no term in x in (2) $\Rightarrow 5a-2=0 \Rightarrow a = \frac{2}{5} \checkmark$ --- (3)

(iii) from (2) term in $x^2 = 1 \times 10a^2x^2 + (-2x)(5ax)$
 $= (10a^2 - 10a)x^2$
 \therefore Coeff. of $x^2 = 10a^2 - 10a = 10a(a-1)$ (from (3) $a = \frac{2}{5}$)
 $= 10 \times \frac{2}{5} \times (\frac{2}{5} - 1) = 4 \times (-0.6) = -2.4 \checkmark$

5. The coefficient of x^4 in the expansion of $(2x^2 + \frac{k^2}{x})^5$ is a.
 The coefficient of x^2 in the expansion of $(2kx - 1)^4$ is b.

- (a) Find a and b in terms of the constant k. --- [3]
 (b) Given that $a+b=216$, find the possible values of k. --- [3]

[S-22/11/Q3]

Solution: $(2x^2 + \frac{k^2}{x})^5 = {}^5C_0 (2x^2)^5 + {}^5C_1 (2x^2)^4 (\frac{k^2}{x}) + {}^5C_2 (2x^2)^3 (\frac{k^2}{x})^2 + {}^5C_3 (2x^2)^2 (\frac{k^2}{x})^3 + \dots$

(a) Term with $x^4 = {}^5C_2 \times 8x^6 \times \frac{k^4}{x^2} = 10 \times 8 \times x^6 \times \frac{k^4}{x^2} = 80k^4 \cdot x^4$
 \therefore Coeff of $x^4 = a = 80k^4$ --- (1)

Again, $(2kx - 1)^4 = {}^4C_0 (2kx)^4 + {}^4C_1 (2kx)^3 (-1) + {}^4C_2 (2kx)^2 (-1)^2 + \dots$

Term with $x^2 = {}^4C_2 \cdot (2kx)^2 (-1)^2 = 6 \cdot 4k^2 x^2 \cdot 1$
 \therefore Coeff of $x^2 = b = 24k^2$ --- (2)

(b) Given $a+b=216 \Rightarrow 80k^4 + 24k^2 = 216$ [from (1) & (2)]
 $\Rightarrow 80k^4 + 24k^2 - 216 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow 10k^4 + 3k^2 - 27 = 0 \Rightarrow (2k^2 - 3)(5k^2 + 9) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow k^2 = \frac{3}{2}$ or $k^2 = -\frac{9}{5}$

$\therefore k = \pm \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$

6. The coefficient of x^4 in the expansion of $(3+x)^5$ is equal to the coefficient of x^2 in the expansion of $(2x + \frac{a}{x})^6$.

Find the value of the positive constant a. --- [4]

[S-22/12/Q1]

Solution: $(3+x)^5 = {}^5C_0 \cdot 3^5 + {}^5C_1 \cdot 3^4 \cdot x + {}^5C_2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot x^2 + {}^5C_3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot x^3 + {}^5C_4 \cdot 3 \cdot x^4 + \dots$

Coeff of x^4 in $(3+x)^5 = {}^5C_4 \cdot 3 = 5 \times 3 = 15$ --- (1)

Now $(2x + \frac{a}{x})^6 = (2x)^6 + {}^6C_1 (2x)^5 (\frac{a}{x}) + {}^6C_2 (2x)^4 (\frac{a}{x})^2 + \dots$

Term of x^2 in $(2x + \frac{a}{x})^6 = {}^6C_2 (2x)^4 (\frac{a}{x})^2 = 15 \times 16 x^4 \times \frac{a^2}{x^2} = 240 x^2 a^2$
 \therefore Coeff of $x^2 = 240a^2$ --- (2)

Given Coeff of x^4 in $(3+x)^5 =$ Coeff of x^2 in $(2x + \frac{a}{x})^6$
 $\Rightarrow 15 = 240a^2$ (from (1) & (2))

$\Rightarrow a^2 = \frac{15}{240} = \frac{1}{16}$

$\Rightarrow a = \frac{1}{4}$ (a > 0)

7. The coefficient of x^3 in the expansion of $(p + \frac{1}{p}x)^4$ is 144.
Find the possible values of the constant p . --- [4]

S-22/13/Q1

Solution: $(p + \frac{1}{p}x)^4 = {}^4C_0 \cdot p^4 + {}^4C_1 \cdot p^3 \cdot (\frac{1}{p}x) + {}^4C_2 \cdot p^2 \cdot (\frac{1}{p}x)^2 + {}^4C_3 \cdot p \cdot (\frac{1}{p}x)^3 + \dots$

Term containing $x^3 = {}^4C_3 \cdot p \cdot \frac{1}{p^3} \cdot x^3 = \frac{4}{p^2} \cdot x^3$
 is coefficient of x^3 ; $\frac{4}{p^2} = 144$ (Given)
 $\Rightarrow p^2 = \frac{4}{144} = \frac{1}{36}$

$\Rightarrow p = \pm \frac{1}{6} \checkmark$

8. (i) Find the term independent of x in the expansion of $(\frac{2}{x} - 3x)^6$ --- [2]
 (ii) Find the value of a for which there are no term independent of x in the expansion of $(1 + ax^2)(\frac{2}{x} - 3x)^6$ --- [3]

W-17/13/Q3

Solution (i) $(\frac{2}{x} - 3x)^6 = {}^6C_0 (\frac{2}{x})^6 + {}^6C_1 (\frac{2}{x})^5 (-3x) + {}^6C_2 (\frac{2}{x})^4 (-3x)^2 + {}^6C_3 (\frac{2}{x})^3 (-3x)^3 + \dots$

The term independent of $x = {}^6C_3 \cdot (\frac{2}{x})^3 \cdot (-3x)^3$
 $= 20 \times \frac{8}{x^3} \cdot -27x^3 = -4320 \checkmark$

(ii) $(1 + ax^2)(\frac{2}{x} - 3x)^6$
 $= (1 + ax^2) [{}^6C_0 (\frac{2}{x})^6 + {}^6C_1 (\frac{2}{x})^5 (-3x) + {}^6C_2 (\frac{2}{x})^4 (-3x)^2 + {}^6C_3 (\frac{2}{x})^3 (-3x)^3 + \dots]$

Term independent of x in (1) = 0
 $\Rightarrow 1 \times {}^6C_3 \cdot (\frac{2}{x})^3 \cdot (-3x)^3 + ax^2 \times {}^6C_2 (\frac{2}{x})^4 (-3x)^2 = 0$ (1) (2)

$\Rightarrow 20 \times \frac{8}{x^3} \cdot -27x^3 + ax^2 \times 15 \times \frac{16}{x^4} \cdot 9x^2 = 0$

$\Rightarrow -4320 + 2160a = 0$

$a = \frac{4320}{2160} = 2$

$\therefore a = 2 \checkmark$

(2) Remove the terms independent of x

9. Find the term independent of x in the expansion of:

(i) $(x - \frac{2}{x})^6$ --- [2]

(ii) $(2 + \frac{3}{x^2})(x - \frac{2}{x})^6$ --- [4]

S-16/12/Q4

Solution (i) $(x - \frac{2}{x})^6 = {}^6C_0 x^6 + {}^6C_1 x^5 \cdot (-\frac{2}{x}) + {}^6C_2 x^4 \cdot (-\frac{2}{x})^2 + {}^6C_3 x^3 \cdot (-\frac{2}{x})^3 + \dots$

The term independent of $x = {}^6C_3 \cdot x^3 \cdot (-\frac{2}{x})^3 = 20 \cdot x^3 \cdot \frac{(-8)}{x^3} = \frac{-160}{x^0}$ --- (1)

(ii) $(2 + \frac{3}{x^2})(x - \frac{2}{x})^6$
 $= (2 + \frac{3}{x^2}) \cdot ({}^6C_0 x^6 + {}^6C_1 x^5 \cdot (-\frac{2}{x}) + {}^6C_2 x^4 \cdot (-\frac{2}{x})^2 + {}^6C_3 x^3 \cdot (-\frac{2}{x})^3 + \dots$

The term independent of $x = 2 \cdot {}^6C_3 x^3 \cdot (-\frac{2}{x})^3 + \frac{3}{x^2} \cdot {}^6C_2 x^4 \cdot \frac{4}{x^2}$
 $= 2 \cdot (-160) + \frac{3}{x^2} \cdot 15 \cdot x^4 \cdot \frac{4}{x^2}$
 $= -320 + 180 = -140$

10. In the expansion of $(3-2x)(1+x/2)^n$, the coefficient of x is 7. Find the value of the constant n , and hence find the coefficient of x^2 . --- [6]

W-16/12/Q4

Solution: $(3-2x)(1+x/2)^n = (3-2x)(1 + n \cdot x/2 + \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \cdot \frac{x^2}{4} + \dots)$ --- (1)

Term in $x = 3 \times n \cdot x/2 - 2x \times 1 = (\frac{3n}{2} - 2)x$

\therefore Coefficient of $x = \frac{3n}{2} - 2 = 7$ (Given)
 $\Rightarrow \frac{3n}{2} = 9 \Rightarrow n = 6$ ✓

from (1)

Now terms of $x^2 = 3 \times \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \cdot \frac{x^2}{4} - 2x \times n \cdot \frac{x}{2}$
 $= 3 \times 6 \times 5 \cdot \frac{x^2}{4} - 6 \cdot x^2$ [for $n=6$]
 $= (\frac{45}{4} - 6) x^2$

\therefore Coefficient of $x^2 = \frac{45}{4} - 6$
 $= \frac{21}{4}$ ✓