
Exercise 10

Calculating the binomial coefficients we find out that if k is an odd number then the coefficient is 0. If k is even number between -50 and 50, then the coefficient is $\text{Binomial}[100, (100-k)/2]$. Test

$$\left\{ \text{Coefficient}\left[\text{Expand}\left[\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^{100}\right], x^4\right], \text{Binomial}[100, (100 - 4) / 2] \right\}$$

{93 206 558 875 049 876 949 581 681 100, 93 206 558 875 049 876 949 581 681 100}

$$\left\{ \text{Coefficient}\left[\text{Expand}\left[\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^{100}\right], x^{18}\right], \text{Binomial}[100, (100 - 18) / 2] \right\}$$

{20 116 440 213 369 968 050 635 175 200, 20 116 440 213 369 968 050 635 175 200}

To verify all the coefficients I use

Expand $\left[\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^{100}\right]$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 100\,891\,344\,545\,564\,193\,334\,812\,497\,256 + \frac{1}{x^{100}} + \frac{100}{x^{98}} + \frac{4950}{x^{96}} + \frac{161\,700}{x^{94}} + \frac{3\,921\,225}{x^{92}} + \frac{75\,287\,520}{x^{90}} + \\
 & \frac{1\,192\,052\,400}{x^{88}} + \frac{16\,007\,560\,800}{x^{86}} + \frac{186\,087\,894\,300}{x^{84}} + \frac{1\,902\,231\,808\,400}{x^{82}} + \frac{17\,310\,309\,456\,440}{x^{80}} + \\
 & \frac{141\,629\,804\,643\,600}{x^{78}} + \frac{1\,050\,421\,051\,106\,700}{x^{76}} + \frac{7\,110\,542\,499\,799\,200}{x^{74}} + \frac{44\,186\,942\,677\,323\,600}{x^{72}} + \\
 & \frac{253\,338\,471\,349\,988\,640}{x^{70}} + \frac{1\,345\,860\,629\,046\,814\,650}{x^{68}} + \frac{6\,650\,134\,872\,937\,201\,800}{x^{66}} + \\
 & \frac{30\,664\,510\,802\,988\,208\,300}{x^{64}} + \frac{132\,341\,572\,939\,212\,267\,400}{x^{62}} + \frac{535\,983\,370\,403\,809\,682\,970}{x^{60}} + \\
 & \frac{2\,041\,841\,411\,062\,132\,125\,600}{x^{58}} + \frac{7\,332\,066\,885\,177\,656\,269\,200}{x^{56}} + \frac{24\,865\,270\,306\,254\,660\,391\,200}{x^{54}} + \\
 & \frac{79\,776\,075\,565\,900\,368\,755\,100}{x^{52}} + \frac{242\,519\,269\,720\,337\,121\,015\,504}{x^{50}} + \frac{699\,574\,816\,500\,972\,464\,467\,800}{x^{48}} + \\
 & 1\,917\,353\,200\,780\,443\,050\,763\,600 / x^{46} + 4\,998\,813\,702\,034\,726\,525\,205\,100 / x^{44} + \\
 & 12\,410\,847\,811\,948\,286\,545\,336\,800 / x^{42} + 29\,372\,339\,821\,610\,944\,823\,963\,760 / x^{40} + \\
 & 66\,324\,638\,306\,863\,423\,796\,047\,200 / x^{38} + 143\,012\,501\,349\,174\,257\,560\,226\,775 / x^{36} + \\
 & 294\,692\,427\,022\,540\,894\,366\,527\,900 / x^{34} + 580\,717\,429\,720\,889\,409\,486\,981\,450 / x^{32} + \\
 & 1\,095\,067\,153\,187\,962\,886\,461\,165\,020 / x^{30} + 1\,977\,204\,582\,144\,932\,989\,443\,770\,175 / x^{28} + \\
 & 3\,420\,029\,547\,493\,938\,143\,902\,737\,600 / x^{26} + 5\,670\,048\,986\,634\,686\,922\,786\,117\,600 / x^{24} + \\
 & 9\,013\,924\,030\,034\,630\,492\,634\,340\,800 / x^{22} + 13\,746\,234\,145\,802\,811\,501\,267\,369\,720 / x^{20} + \\
 & 20\,116\,440\,213\,369\,968\,050\,635\,175\,200 / x^{18} + 28\,258\,808\,871\,162\,574\,166\,368\,460\,400 / x^{16} + \\
 & 38\,116\,532\,895\,986\,727\,945\,334\,202\,400 / x^{14} + 49\,378\,235\,797\,073\,715\,747\,364\,762\,200 / x^{12} + \\
 & 61\,448\,471\,214\,136\,179\,596\,720\,592\,960 / x^{10} + 73\,470\,998\,190\,814\,997\,343\,905\,056\,800 / x^8 + \\
 & 84\,413\,487\,283\,064\,039\,501\,507\,937\,600 / x^6 + 93\,206\,558\,875\,049\,876\,949\,581\,681\,100 / x^4 + \\
 & 98\,913\,082\,887\,808\,032\,681\,188\,722\,800 / x^2 + 98\,913\,082\,887\,808\,032\,681\,188\,722\,800 x^2 + \\
 & 93\,206\,558\,875\,049\,876\,949\,581\,681\,100 x^4 + 84\,413\,487\,283\,064\,039\,501\,507\,937\,600 x^6 + \\
 & 73\,470\,998\,190\,814\,997\,343\,905\,056\,800 x^8 + 61\,448\,471\,214\,136\,179\,596\,720\,592\,960 x^{10} + \\
 & 49\,378\,235\,797\,073\,715\,747\,364\,762\,200 x^{12} + 38\,116\,532\,895\,986\,727\,945\,334\,202\,400 x^{14} + \\
 & 28\,258\,808\,871\,162\,574\,166\,368\,460\,400 x^{16} + 20\,116\,440\,213\,369\,968\,050\,635\,175\,200 x^{18} + \\
 & 13\,746\,234\,145\,802\,811\,501\,267\,369\,720 x^{20} + 9\,013\,924\,030\,034\,630\,492\,634\,340\,800 x^{22} + \\
 & 5\,670\,048\,986\,634\,686\,922\,786\,117\,600 x^{24} + 3\,420\,029\,547\,493\,938\,143\,902\,737\,600 x^{26} + \\
 & 1\,977\,204\,582\,144\,932\,989\,443\,770\,175 x^{28} + 1\,095\,067\,153\,187\,962\,886\,461\,165\,020 x^{30} + \\
 & 580\,717\,429\,720\,889\,409\,486\,981\,450 x^{32} + 294\,692\,427\,022\,540\,894\,366\,527\,900 x^{34} + \\
 & 143\,012\,501\,349\,174\,257\,560\,226\,775 x^{36} + 66\,324\,638\,306\,863\,423\,796\,047\,200 x^{38} + \\
 & 29\,372\,339\,821\,610\,944\,823\,963\,760 x^{40} + 12\,410\,847\,811\,948\,286\,545\,336\,800 x^{42} + \\
 & 4\,998\,813\,702\,034\,726\,525\,205\,100 x^{44} + 1\,917\,353\,200\,780\,443\,050\,763\,600 x^{46} + \\
 & 699\,574\,816\,500\,972\,464\,467\,800 x^{48} + 242\,519\,269\,720\,337\,121\,015\,504 x^{50} + \\
 & 79\,776\,075\,565\,900\,368\,755\,100 x^{52} + 24\,865\,270\,306\,254\,660\,391\,200 x^{54} + \\
 & 7\,332\,066\,885\,177\,656\,269\,200 x^{56} + 2\,041\,841\,411\,062\,132\,125\,600 x^{58} + 535\,983\,370\,403\,809\,682\,970 x^{60} + \\
 & 132\,341\,572\,939\,212\,267\,400 x^{62} + 30\,664\,510\,802\,988\,208\,300 x^{64} + 6\,650\,134\,872\,937\,201\,800 x^{66} + \\
 & 1\,345\,860\,629\,046\,814\,650 x^{68} + 253\,338\,471\,349\,988\,640 x^{70} + 44\,186\,942\,677\,323\,600 x^{72} + \\
 & 7\,110\,542\,499\,799\,200 x^{74} + 1\,050\,421\,051\,106\,700 x^{76} + 141\,629\,804\,643\,600 x^{78} + \\
 & 17\,310\,309\,456\,440 x^{80} + 1\,902\,231\,808\,400 x^{82} + 186\,087\,894\,300 x^{84} + 16\,007\,560\,800 x^{86} + \\
 & 1\,192\,052\,400 x^{88} + 75\,287\,520 x^{90} + 3\,921\,225 x^{92} + 161\,700 x^{94} + 4\,950 x^{96} + 100 x^{98} + x^{100}
 \end{aligned}$$

However, to get coefficients I have to turn the expression into a polynomial. Here is a smaller example

Expand $\left[x^{10} \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^{10}\right]$

$1 + 10 x^2 + 45 x^4 + 120 x^6 + 210 x^8 + 252 x^{10} + 210 x^{12} + 120 x^{14} + 45 x^{16} + 10 x^{18} + x^{20}$

CoefficientList $\left[x^{10} \text{Expand}\left[\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^{10}\right], x\right]$

{1, 0, 10, 0, 45, 0, 120, 0, 210, 0, 252, 0, 210, 0, 120, 0, 45, 0, 10, 0, 1}

Table $\left[\left\{\text{CoefficientList}\left[\text{Expand}\left[x^{100} \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^{100}\right], x\right][[2 (j + 50 + 1) - 1]], \text{Binomial}[100, 50 - j]\right\}, \{j, -50, 50\}\right]$

{1, 1}, {100, 100}, {4950, 4950}, {161700, 161700}, {3921225, 3921225},
 {75287520, 75287520}, {1192052400, 1192052400}, {16007560800, 16007560800},
 {186087894300, 186087894300}, {1902231808400, 1902231808400},
 {17310309456440, 17310309456440}, {141629804643600, 141629804643600},
 {1050421051106700, 1050421051106700}, {7110542499799200, 7110542499799200},
 {44186942677323600, 44186942677323600}, {253338471349988640, 253338471349988640},
 {1345860629046814650, 1345860629046814650},
 {6650134872937201800, 6650134872937201800},
 {30664510802988208300, 30664510802988208300},
 {132341572939212267400, 132341572939212267400},
 {535983370403809682970, 535983370403809682970},
 {2041841411062132125600, 2041841411062132125600},
 {7332066885177656269200, 7332066885177656269200},
 {24865270306254660391200, 24865270306254660391200},
 {79776075565900368755100, 79776075565900368755100},
 {242519269720337121015504, 242519269720337121015504},
 {699574816500972464467800, 699574816500972464467800},
 {1917353200780443050763600, 1917353200780443050763600},
 {4998813702034726525205100, 4998813702034726525205100},
 {12410847811948286545336800, 12410847811948286545336800},
 {29372339821610944823963760, 29372339821610944823963760},
 {66324638306863423796047200, 66324638306863423796047200},
 {143012501349174257560226775, 143012501349174257560226775},
 {294692427022540894366527900, 294692427022540894366527900},
 {580717429720889409486981450, 580717429720889409486981450},
 {1095067153187962886461165020, 1095067153187962886461165020},
 {1977204582144932989443770175, 1977204582144932989443770175},
 {3420029547493938143902737600, 3420029547493938143902737600},
 {5670048986634686922786117600, 5670048986634686922786117600},
 {9013924030034630492634340800, 9013924030034630492634340800},
 {13746234145802811501267369720, 13746234145802811501267369720},
 {20116440213369968050635175200, 20116440213369968050635175200},
 {28258808871162574166368460400, 28258808871162574166368460400},
 {38116532895986727945334202400, 38116532895986727945334202400},
 {49378235797073715747364762200, 49378235797073715747364762200},
 {61448471214136179596720592960, 61448471214136179596720592960},
 {73470998190814997343905056800, 73470998190814997343905056800},
 {84413487283064039501507937600, 84413487283064039501507937600},
 {93206558875049876949581681100, 93206558875049876949581681100},
 {98913082887808032681188722800, 98913082887808032681188722800},
 {100891344545564193334812497256, 100891344545564193334812497256},
 {98913082887808032681188722800, 98913082887808032681188722800},

First check the first few terms.

```
Table[{Binomial[n, Floor[n/2]], Binomial[n, Ceiling[n/2]]}, {n, 1, 20}]
{{1, 1}, {2, 2}, {3, 3}, {6, 6}, {10, 10}, {20, 20}, {35, 35}, {70, 70}, {126, 126},
 {252, 252}, {462, 462}, {924, 924}, {1716, 1716}, {3432, 3432}, {6435, 6435},
 {12870, 12870}, {24310, 24310}, {48620, 48620}, {92378, 92378}, {184756, 184756}}
```

If n is even, then $n = 2k$ for some positive integer k . In this case $\text{Floor}[n] = \text{Ceiling}[n] = k$.

If n is odd, then $n = 2k - 1$ for some positive integer k . In this case $\text{Floor}[n] = k-1$ and $\text{Ceiling}[n] = k$. Since for every j $\text{Binomial}[n, j] = \text{Binomial}[n, n-j]$, we have $\text{Binomial}[n, k-1] = \text{Binomial}[n, n-k+1] = \text{Binomial}[n, 2k-1-k+1] = \text{Binomial}[n, k]$.

Next, let $1 \leq k < \text{Floor}[n/2]$. Then $2k < 2 \text{Floor}[n/2]$. Consequently, $2k+1 \leq 2 \text{Floor}[n/2]$. Since these two numbers can not be equal (one is even, the other odd), we have $2k+1 < 2 \text{Floor}[n/2]$. Clearly $2 \text{Floor}[n/2] \leq n$, and thus $2k+1 < n$. This yields, $k+1 < n-k$, and hence

$$\frac{1}{k+1} > \frac{1}{n-k}.$$

Multiplying both sides by $\frac{n!}{k!(n-k-1)!}$ we get $\frac{n!}{(k+1)!(n-k-1)!} > \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$, that is $\text{Binomial}[n, k+1] > \text{Binomial}[n, k]$.

Exercise 15

The number $\text{Binomial}[n, k]$ represents the number of bit strings of length n with exactly k zeros. The number 2^n represents the number of all bit strings of length n . Thus the inequality.

Exercise 16

Table[{N[Binomial[n, Floor[n/2]], 2], N[2^n / (n), 2]}, {n, 2, 100}]

```
{ {2.0, 2.0}, {3.0, 2.7}, {6.0, 4.0}, {10., 6.4}, {20., 11.}, {35., 18.}, {70., 32.},
  {1.3 × 102, 57.}, {2.5 × 102, 1.0 × 102}, {4.6 × 102, 1.9 × 102}, {9.2 × 102, 3.4 × 102},
  {1.7 × 103, 6.3 × 102}, {3.4 × 103, 1.2 × 103}, {6.4 × 103, 2.2 × 103}, {1.3 × 104, 4.1 × 103},
  {2.4 × 104, 7.7 × 103}, {4.9 × 104, 1.5 × 104}, {9.2 × 104, 2.8 × 104}, {1.8 × 105, 5.2 × 104},
  {3.5 × 105, 1.0 × 105}, {7.1 × 105, 1.9 × 105}, {1.4 × 106, 3.6 × 105}, {2.7 × 106, 7.0 × 105},
  {5.2 × 106, 1.3 × 106}, {1.0 × 107, 2.6 × 106}, {2.0 × 107, 5.0 × 106}, {4.0 × 107, 9.6 × 106},
  {7.8 × 107, 1.9 × 107}, {1.6 × 108, 3.6 × 107}, {3.0 × 108, 6.9 × 107}, {6.0 × 108, 1.3 × 108},
  {1.2 × 109, 2.6 × 108}, {2.3 × 109, 5.1 × 108}, {4.5 × 109, 9.8 × 108}, {9.1 × 109, 1.9 × 109},
  {1.8 × 1010, 3.7 × 109}, {3.5 × 1010, 7.2 × 109}, {6.9 × 1010, 1.4 × 1010}, {1.4 × 1011, 2.7 × 1010},
  {2.7 × 1011, 5.4 × 1010}, {5.4 × 1011, 1.0 × 1011}, {1.1 × 1012, 2.0 × 1011}, {2.1 × 1012, 4.0 × 1011},
  {4.1 × 1012, 7.8 × 1011}, {8.2 × 1012, 1.5 × 1012}, {1.6 × 1013, 3.0 × 1012}, {3.2 × 1013, 5.9 × 1012},
  {6.3 × 1013, 1.1 × 1013}, {1.3 × 1014, 2.3 × 1013}, {2.5 × 1014, 4.4 × 1013}, {5.0 × 1014, 8.7 × 1013},
  {9.7 × 1014, 1.7 × 1014}, {1.9 × 1015, 3.3 × 1014}, {3.8 × 1015, 6.6 × 1014}, {7.6 × 1015, 1.3 × 1015},
  {1.5 × 1016, 2.5 × 1015}, {3.0 × 1016, 5.0 × 1015}, {5.9 × 1016, 9.8 × 1015}, {1.2 × 1017, 1.9 × 1016},
  {2.3 × 1017, 3.8 × 1016}, {4.7 × 1017, 7.4 × 1016}, {9.2 × 1017, 1.5 × 1017}, {1.8 × 1018, 2.9 × 1017},
  {3.6 × 1018, 5.7 × 1017}, {7.2 × 1018, 1.1 × 1018}, {1.4 × 1019, 2.2 × 1018}, {2.8 × 1019, 4.3 × 1018},
  {5.6 × 1019, 8.6 × 1018}, {1.1 × 1020, 1.7 × 1019}, {2.2 × 1020, 3.3 × 1019}, {4.4 × 1020, 6.6 × 1019},
  {8.7 × 1020, 1.3 × 1020}, {1.7 × 1021, 2.6 × 1020}, {3.4 × 1021, 5.0 × 1020}, {6.9 × 1021, 9.9 × 1020},
  {1.4 × 1022, 2.0 × 1021}, {2.7 × 1022, 3.9 × 1021}, {5.4 × 1022, 7.7 × 1021}, {1.1 × 1023, 1.5 × 1022},
  {2.1 × 1023, 3.0 × 1022}, {4.2 × 1023, 5.9 × 1022}, {8.4 × 1023, 1.2 × 1023}, {1.7 × 1024, 2.3 × 1023},
  {3.3 × 1024, 4.6 × 1023}, {6.6 × 1024, 9.0 × 1023}, {1.3 × 1025, 1.8 × 1024}, {2.6 × 1025, 3.5 × 1024},
  {5.2 × 1025, 7.0 × 1024}, {1.0 × 1026, 1.4 × 1025}, {2.1 × 1026, 2.7 × 1025}, {4.1 × 1026, 5.4 × 1025},
  {8.1 × 1026, 1.1 × 1026}, {1.6 × 1027, 2.1 × 1026}, {3.2 × 1027, 4.2 × 1026}, {6.4 × 1027, 8.3 × 1026},
  {1.3 × 1028, 1.6 × 1027}, {2.5 × 1028, 3.2 × 1027}, {5.0 × 1028, 6.4 × 1027}, {1.0 × 1029, 1.3 × 1028}}
```

First notice that for $n \geq 2$ we have $\text{Binomial}[n, \text{Floor}[n/2]] \geq \text{Binomial}[n, 0] + \text{Binomial}[n, 1]$. Therefore

$$2^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} = \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{n} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \binom{n}{k} \leq \binom{n}{\text{Floor}[n/2]} + (n-1) \binom{n}{\text{Floor}[n/2]} = n \binom{n}{\text{Floor}[n/2]}$$

Exercise 22

This is counting number of committees with a subcommittees. For example the university faculty elects the faculty senate, then the senate elects its executive committee. If there are n faculty members, the senate has r members and the executive committee of the senate has k members count number of different ways of forming the senate with its executive committee.

One way of counting: Choose the senate, then choose the executive committee from the senate. By the product rule there are $\text{Binomial}[n, r] * \text{Binomial}[r, k]$ ways to do this.

Another way of counting is: choose the executive committee from the whole faculty, then choose the remaining members of the senate. By the product rule there are $\text{Binomial}[n, k] * \text{Binomial}[n-k, r-k]$ ways to do this.

Since we count the same set these two numbers must be equal.

Exercise 25

A combinatorial way to prove this identity is to look at a class of $2n$ males and 2 females and count the number of committees of $n+1$ members that can be formed. There are $\text{Binomial}[2n+2, n+1]$ such committees.

Now we count the number of committees based on number of female members.

There are $\text{Binomial}[2n, n+1]$ committees with no female members, there are $2 \text{Binomial}[2n, n]$ with one female member and there are $\text{Binomial}[2n, n-1]$ committees with two female members. Since $\text{Binomial}[2n, n-1] = \text{Binomial}[2n, n+1]$, the formula follows.

Exercise 26

Consider the formula

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

Each side counts the number of committees with $n+1$ members from a class of $2n$ people. In the sum we assume that there are n males and n females and then count the committees with $1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ males.

Now we need to prove

$$\binom{2n}{n+1} + \binom{2n}{n} = \binom{2n+2}{n+1} / 2$$

or, simpler,

$$\binom{2n+2}{n+1} = 2 \binom{2n}{n+1} + 2 \binom{2n}{n}$$

This can be proved by using Pascal's identity twice

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{2n+2}{n+1} &= \binom{2n+1}{n+1} + \binom{2n+1}{n} = \\ &= \binom{2n}{n+1} + \binom{2n}{n} + \binom{2n}{n} + \binom{2n}{n-1} = \binom{2n}{n+1} + 2 \binom{2n}{n} + \binom{2n}{2n-(n-1)} = 2 \binom{2n}{n+1} + 2 \binom{2n}{n} \end{aligned}$$

The identity

$$\binom{2n+2}{n+1} = 2 \binom{2n}{n+1} + 2 \binom{2n}{n}$$

can be proved using counting. (This kind of a proof is called a combinatorial proof.) The number

$$\binom{2n+2}{n+1}$$

counts the number of committees of $n+1$ people selected from a group of $2n+2$ people. Assume that the number 2 in $2n+2$ represents **me** and **my brother**. Now count the number of committees of $n+1$ people selected from a group of $2n+2$ people which have **me** and **my brother** on the committee, the number is

$$\binom{2n}{n-1} = \binom{2n}{2n-n+1} = \binom{2n}{n+1},$$

the number of committees of $n+1$ people selected from a group of $2n+2$ people which have **me** but not **my brother** on the committee, the number is

$$\binom{2n}{n},$$

the number of committees of $n + 1$ people selected from a group of $2n + 2$ people which do not have **me** but do have **my brother** on the committee, the number is

$$\binom{2n}{n},$$

the number of committees of $n + 1$ people selected from a group of $2n + 2$ people which neither have **me**, nor **my brother** on the committee, the number is

$$\binom{2n}{n+1}.$$

These four kinds of committees constitute all the committees. This proves the identity

$$\binom{2n+2}{n+1} = \binom{2n}{n-1} + 2\binom{2n}{n} + \binom{2n}{n+1} = 2\binom{2n}{n+1} + 2\binom{2n}{n}.$$

Exercise 27

Prove

$$\sum_{k=0}^r \binom{n+k}{k} = \binom{n+r+1}{r}$$

```
In[20]:= nn = 7; rr = 5; Sum[Binomial[nn + k, k], {k, 0, rr}] - Binomial[nn + rr + 1, rr]
```

```
Out[20]= 0
```

```
In[25]:= nn = 17; rr = 45; Sum[Binomial[nn + k, nn], {k, 0, rr}] - Binomial[nn + rr + 1, nn + 1]
```

```
Out[25]= 0
```

We are counting bit strings with $n+1$ ones and r zeros. Those that start with

1 are $\text{Binomial}[nn+rr,nn]$

01 are $\text{Binomial}[nn+rr-1,nn]$

001 are $\text{Binomial}[nn+rr-2,nn]$

0001 are $\text{Binomial}[nn+rr-3,nn]$

...

0 rr 01 are $\text{Binomial}[nn+rr-rr,nn]$