

Theorem on Alternating Series Involving Binomial Coefficients, Exponentiated Integers and the Factorial

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Abstract: The expression for alternating series of some integers along with Binomial coefficients or Pascal's identity whose solution forms a notion of factorial n .

Keywords: Factorials, Pascal identity, Binomial coefficients, Alternating series.

Introduction:

The factorial is a quantity defined for all integers greater than or equal to zero. Factorials in addition to binomial coefficients are normally defined in a rather narrow structure. So-called Pascal's Triangle with the study of factorials has always been a focus of need so referring the reader to [5] for more information. Furthermore, a sequence is an enumerated collection of objects in which repetitions are allowed and order does matter and the sum of the sequence to a certain number of terms is known as series. Some special types of series are Harmonic series, Arithmetic series, Geometric series, Alternating series etc. This paper develops a new generalized expression involving positive as well as negative integers, comprised of alternating series and binomial coefficients, that leads to simple factorial of a number.

Here are some basic concepts related to the topic.

Preliminary Results:

Definition 1: [5]

Let X be a nonempty set, then a function $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow X$ whose domain is a set of natural numbers, is called an infinite sequence in X . If the domain of f is the finite set of numbers $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$ then it is called a finite sequence in X .

Definition 2: [3]

Mathematical notation uses a symbol that compactly represents summation of many similar terms: the summation symbol, Σ , an enlarged form of the upright capital Greek letter Sigma.

This is defined as:

$$\sum_{i=m}^n a_i = a_m + a_{m+1} + a_{m+2} + \dots + a_{n-1} + a_n$$

where i represents the index of summation; a_i is an indexed variable representing each successive term in the series; m is the lower bound of summation, and n is the upper bound of summation.

Definition 3: [4]

"A combination is any selection of objects where the order of the objects is immaterial (of no concern).

Using the letter C for combination, we have "the number of combinations of " r " objects from " n " different objects as nC_r .

In general, to permute " r " objects from n different objects, we could first select the " r " objects in nC_r ways and then arrange these ' r ' objects in $r!$ ways.

Hence:

$$T_x^n = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i {}^n C_i (x-i)^n = n! \quad \forall x < n, n \in N, x \in N$$

Proof:-Using mathematical induction

For $x = n$

$$T_n^n = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i {}^n C_i (n-i)^n \quad (1.2)$$

$$T_n^n = n \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (-1)^i {}^{n-1} C_i (n-1-i+1)^{n-1}$$

$$T_n^n = n \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (-1)^i {}^{n-1} C_i \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} {}^{n-1} C_l (n-1-i)^{n-1-l}$$

$$T_n^n = n \left[{}^{n-1} C_0 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (-1)^i {}^{n-1} C_i (n-1-i)^{n-1} + {}^{n-1} C_1 (0) + {}^{n-1} C_2 (0) + \dots + {}^{n-1} C_{n-1} (0) \right] \quad \text{by Lemma 1}$$

$$T_n^n = n \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (-1)^i {}^{n-1} C_i (n-1-i)^{n-1}$$

$$T_n^n = n(n-1) \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} (-1)^i {}^{n-2} C_i (n-2-i)^{n-2}$$

and so on generalizing

$$T_n^n = n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3) \dots 2 \sum_{i=0}^1 (-1)^i {}^1 C_i (1-i)^1$$

$$T_n^n = n!$$

For $x = n+1$

$$T_{n+1}^n = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \frac{n!}{i!(n-i)!} \frac{1}{(n+1-i)} (n+1-i)^{n+1}$$

$$T_{n+1}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i {}^{n+1} C_i (n+1-i)^{n+1}$$

$$T_{n+1}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^i {}^{n+1} C_i (n+1-i)^{n+1}$$

$$T_{n+1}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} (n+1)!$$

$$T_{n+1}^n = n!$$

For $x = n+2$

$$T_{n+2}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i {}^{n+1}C_i (n+2-i)^n (n+1-i)$$

$$T_{n+2}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i {}^{n+1}C_i (n+2-i)^n (n+1-i)$$

$$T_{n+2}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^i {}^{n+1}C_i (n+2-i)^n (n+2-i-1)$$

$$T_{n+2}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^i {}^{n+1}C_i (n+2-i)^{n+1} - 0 \right\}$$

Put $n+1 = m$ within summation in the expression

$$T_{n+2}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^i {}^m C_i (m+1-i)^m \right\}$$

$$T_{n+2}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} m!$$

$$T_{n+2}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} (n+1)!$$

$$T_{n+2}^n = n!$$

Suppose equation holds for $x = n + k$.

Now for $x = n + k + 1$

$$T_{n+k+1}^n = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i {}^n C_i (n+k+1-i)^n$$

$$T_{n+k+1}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^i {}^{n+1}C_i (n+k+1-i)^n (n+1-i)$$

$$T_{n+k+1}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^i {}^{n+1}C_i (n+k+1-i)^n (n+k+1-i-k)$$

$$T_{n+k+1}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (-1)^i {}^{n+1}C_i (n+k+1-i)^{n+1}$$

Put $n+1 = m$ within summation in the expression

$$T_{n+k+1}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} T_{m+k}^m$$

$$T_{n+k+1}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} m! \quad \text{as it holds for } k$$

$$T_{n+k+1}^n = \frac{1}{n+1} (n+1)! \quad \text{back substitution}$$

$$T_{n+k+1}^n = n!$$

Hence, completes the induction.

Conclusion:

This can be applicable to a number of theory problems. There is much more to be discovered by moving this work forward.

References

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