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Binomial Theorem Notes

Page-1

Combination (or Selection):

Combination of n different objects taken r at a time denoted by: ${}^n C_r$ $r \leq n$

$$\binom{n}{r} \text{ or } {}^n C_r = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} \quad [n \text{ is a non-negative Integer}]$$

Note:

(i) ${}^n C_n = {}^n C_0 = 1$

(ii) ${}^n C_1 = n$

(iii) ${}^n C_2 = \frac{n!}{2!(n-2)!} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2 \times 1}$

(iv) ${}^{25} C_3 = \frac{25!}{3! 22!} = \frac{25 \times 24 \times 23}{3 \times 2 \times 1}$

For Example:

(i) ${}^7 C_0 = {}^7 C_7 = 1$

(ii) ${}^7 C_1 = 7$

(iii) ${}^7 C_2 = \frac{7!}{2! 5!} = \frac{7 \times 6}{2 \times 1} = 21$ ②

Imp. Result:

$${}^n C_r = {}^n C_{n-r} \quad \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Example,} \\ {}^7 C_2 = {}^7 C_5 \end{array} \right]$$

Also: ${}^7 C_5 = \frac{7!}{5! 2!} = \frac{7!}{2! 5!} = {}^7 C_2$

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

$$(x+a)^2 = x^2 + 2x \cdot a + a^2$$

$$(x+a)^3 = x^3 + 3x^2a + 3xa^2 + a^3$$

$$(x+a)^4 = x^4 + 4x^3a + 6x^2a^2 + 4xa^3 + a^4$$

$$(x+a)^5 = x^5 + 5x^4a + 10x^3a^2 + 10x^2a^3 + 5xa^4 + a^5$$

$$(x+a)^6 = x^6 + 6x^5a + 15x^4a^2 + 20x^3a^3 + 15x^2a^4 + 6xa^5 + a^6$$

Binomial Theorem:
 $= {}^6C_0 x^6 + {}^6C_1 x^5 a + {}^6C_2 x^4 a^2 + {}^6C_3 x^3 a^3 + {}^6C_4 x^2 a^4 + {}^6C_5 x a^5 + {}^6C_6 a^6$
 for n is a non-negative integer.

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

General Term = ${}^nC_r \cdot x^{n-r} a^r$, $r \leq n$

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

General Term = ${}^nC_r \cdot x^r$

Example 1 (i) Find the term independent of x in the expansion of:

$$\left(2x^2 - \frac{3}{x^3}\right)^{25}$$

$\text{General Term} = {}^{25}C_r (2x^2)^{25-r} \left(-\frac{3}{x^3}\right)^r$	$\begin{array}{l} \text{In } (x+a)^n \\ \text{Gen. Term} = {}^nC_r x^{n-r} a^r \end{array}$
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$$= {}^{25}C_r \cdot 2^{(25-r)} \cdot (-3)^r \cdot (x^2)^{25-r} \cdot (x^{-3})^r$$

$$= (-1)^r \cdot {}^{25}C_r \cdot 2^{25-r} \cdot 3^r \cdot x^{50-2r} \cdot x^{-3r}$$

$$= (-1)^r \cdot {}^{25}C_r \cdot 2^{25-r} \cdot 3^r \cdot x^{50-5r} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Now for the term independent of x ;

Exponent of x in (1) should be zero

$$50 - 5r = 0 \Rightarrow r = 10 \checkmark$$

from (1) Req. independent x term:

~~$$= {}^{25}C_{10} \cdot 2^{15} \cdot 3^{10}$$~~

$$= (-1)^{10} \cdot {}^{25}C_{10} \cdot 2^{15} \cdot 3^{10}$$

$$= {}^{25}C_{10} \cdot 2^{15} \cdot 3^{10} \checkmark$$

(ii) Also find the coefficient of x^{15} in $\left(2x^2 - \frac{3}{x^3}\right)^{25}$
for coeff of x^{15} , put exponent of x in (1) 15,

$$50 - 5r = 15 \Rightarrow r = 7$$

$$\therefore \text{from (1) coeff of } x^{15} = {}^{25}C_7 \cdot (-1)^7 \cdot 2^{18} \cdot 3^7$$

$$= - {}^{25}C_7 \cdot 2^{18} \cdot 3^7 \checkmark \checkmark$$

Example 2:

SP-2017/01 Q1

In the expansion of $(1 - \frac{2x}{a})(a+x)^5$,

where a is a non-zero constant, show that the coeff of x^2 is zero.

Solution: $(a+x)^5 = a^5 + 5a^4x + 10a^3x^2 + \dots$ (i)

Now in $(1 - \frac{2x}{a})(a+x)^5$

$= (1 - \frac{2x}{a}) [a^5 + 5a^4x + 10a^3x^2 + \dots]$ (ii)

Terms involving $x^2 = 1 \times 10a^3x^2 - \frac{2x}{a} \times 5a^4x$
 $= 10a^3x^2 - 10a^3x^2$
 $= (10a^3 - 10a^3)x^2$
 $= 0 \cdot x^2$

\therefore Coeff of $x^2 = 0$.

Example 3

M-17/12/02

In the expansion of $(\frac{1}{ax} + 2ax^2)^5$ the coeff. of x is 5. Find the value of a .

Solution:

$(\frac{1}{ax} + 2ax^2)^5$ Gen. Term = ${}^5C_r (\frac{1}{ax})^{5-r} (2ax^2)^r$
 $= {}^5C_r \cdot (\frac{1}{a})^{5-r} \cdot (2a)^r \cdot x^{r-5} \cdot x^{2r}$
 $= {}^5C_r \cdot a^{r-5} \cdot 2^r a^r \cdot x^{3r-5}$

\therefore Coeff of $x = {}^5C_2 \cdot 2^2 \cdot a^{2 \cdot 2 - 5}$ [for Coeff of $x^1 \Rightarrow 3r - 5 = 1$
 $= 10 \times 4 \times a^{-1} = 5$ (given) $r = 2$
 $\Rightarrow a = 8 \checkmark$