

Properties related to nC_r :

(i) ${}^nC_r = {}^nC_{n-r}$

Note : If ${}^nC_x = {}^nC_y \Rightarrow$ Either $x = y$ or $x + y = n$

(ii) ${}^nC_r + {}^nC_{r-1} = {}^{n+1}C_r$

(iii) $\frac{{}^nC_r}{{}^nC_{r-1}} = \frac{n-r+1}{r}$

(iv) ${}^nC_r = \frac{n}{r} {}^{n-1}C_{r-1} = \frac{n(n-1)}{r(r-1)} {}^{n-2}C_{r-2} = \dots = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(n-(r-1))}{r(r-1)(r-2)\dots2\cdot1}$

(v) If n and r are relatively prime, then nC_r is divisible by n . But converse is not necessarily true.

Some standard expansions :

(i) Consider the expansion

$$(x+y)^n = \sum_{r=0}^n {}^nC_r x^{n-r} y^r = {}^nC_0 x^n y^0 + {}^nC_1 x^{n-1} y^1 + \dots + {}^nC_r x^{n-r} y^r + \dots + {}^nC_n x^0 y^n \dots \text{(i)}$$

(ii) Now replace $y \rightarrow -y$ we get

$$(x-y)^n = \sum_{r=0}^n {}^nC_r (-1)^r x^{n-r} y^r = {}^nC_0 x^n y^0 - {}^nC_1 x^{n-1} y^1 + \dots + {}^nC_r (-1)^r x^{n-r} y^r + \dots + {}^nC_n (-1)^n x^0 y^n \dots \text{(ii)}$$

(iii) Adding (i) & (ii), we get

$$(x+y)^n + (x-y)^n = 2[{}^nC_0 x^n y^0 + {}^nC_2 x^{n-2} y^2 + \dots]$$

(iv) Subtracting (ii) from (i), we get

$$(x+y)^n - (x-y)^n = 2[{}^nC_1 x^{n-1} y^1 + {}^nC_3 x^{n-3} y^3 + \dots]$$