

3) Find the coefficient of x^k in $1 + (1+x) + (1+x)^2 + \dots + (1+x)^n$
($0 \leq k \leq n$).

solution:

The expression being in G.P., we have

$$E = 1 + (1+x) + (1+x)^2 + \dots + (1+x)^n \quad (0 \leq k \leq n)$$

$$= \frac{(1+x)^{n+1} - 1}{(1+x) - 1} = x^{-1} [(1+x)^{n+1} - 1]$$

Therefore, the coefficient of x^k in E is equal to the coefficient of x^{k+1} in $[(1+x)^{n+1} - 1]$, which is given by $\boxed{{}^{n+1}C_{k+1}}$