

Math Circles - Intro to Combinatorics - Winter 2024

Problem Set 2

February 14th, 2024

1. Find the expansion of $(x + 4y)^3$.
2. Find the expansion of $(x + \frac{1}{x})^5$.
3. Find the coefficient of x^4y^2 in $(x + 2y)^6$.
4. Find the coefficient of x^6 in $(x^2 + 1)^5$.
5. Find the coefficient of x^6y^3 in $(x^3 - 2y)^5$.
6. Expand $(x - \sqrt{2})^4$.
7. Pattern Investigation
 - (a) Write down any patterns you have noticed in the coefficients of $(x + y)^n$?
 - (b) How do the coefficients of $(x + y)^n$ compare to the coefficients of $(x + y)^{n+1}$?
 - (c) How many different terms does $(x + y)^n$ have for any n ? Why do you think it has this many terms?
 - (d) Can you explain how the number of terms changes as n changes? Can you write down an argument for why this is true?