

Created by T. Madas

# **BINOMIAL EXPANSIONS EXAM QUESTIONS**

Created by T. Madas

**Question 1 (\*\*)**

Find, without any calculating aid, the first three terms in the expansion of  $(2-5x)^5$ , in ascending powers of  $x$ .

,

$$\begin{aligned} (2-5x)^5 &= \binom{5}{0}(2)^5(-5x)^0 + \binom{5}{1}(2)^4(-5x)^1 + \binom{5}{2}(2)^3(-5x)^2 + \dots \\ &= (1 \times 32x^0) + (5 \times 16 \times (-5x)) + (10 \times 8 \times 25x^2) + \dots \\ &= 32 - 400x + 2000x^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

**Question 2 (\*\*)**

Expand  $(3-2x)^5$  in ascending powers of  $x$ , up and including the term in  $x^3$ .

,

$$\begin{aligned} (3-2x)^5 &= \binom{5}{0}(3)^5(-2x)^0 + \binom{5}{1}(3)^4(-2x)^1 + \binom{5}{2}(3)^3(-2x)^2 + \dots \\ &= (1 \times 243x^0) + (5 \times 81 \times (-2x)) + (10 \times 27 \times 4x^2) + \dots \\ &= 243 - 810x + 1080x^2 - 720x^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

**Question 3 (\*\*)**

Find the binomial expansion of  $(1-5x)^4$  in ascending powers of  $x$ .

,

$$\begin{aligned} (1-5x)^4 &= 1 + \binom{4}{1}(-5x) + \binom{4}{2}(-5x)^2 + \binom{4}{3}(-5x)^3 + \binom{4}{4}(-5x)^4 \\ &= 1 - 20x + 6(25x^2) + 4(-125x^3) + 1(625x^4) \\ &= 1 - 20x + 150x^2 - 500x^3 + 625x^4 \end{aligned}$$

**Question 4 (\*\*)**

Find, without any calculating aid, the first three terms in the expansion of  $(2-7x)^6$ , in ascending powers of  $x$ .

$$64 - 1344x + 11760x^2 + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} (2-7x)^6 &= \binom{6}{0}(2)^6(-7)^0 + \binom{6}{1}(2)^5(-7)^1 + \binom{6}{2}(2)^4(-7)^2 + \dots \\ &= (1 \times 64 \times 1) - (6 \times 32 \times 7) + (15 \times 16 \times 49) + \dots \\ &= 64 - 1344x + 11760x^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

**Question 5 (\*\*)**

Find the binomial expansion of  $(1-2x)^6$  in ascending powers of  $x$ .

$$1 - 12x + 60x^2 - 160x^3 + 240x^4 - 192x^5 + 64x^6$$

$$\begin{aligned} (1-2x)^6 &= \binom{6}{0}(1)^6(-2x)^0 + \binom{6}{1}(1)^5(-2x)^1 + \binom{6}{2}(1)^4(-2x)^2 + \dots \\ &= 1 - 12x + 60x^2 - 160x^3 + 240x^4 - 192x^5 + 64x^6 \end{aligned}$$

**Question 6 (\*\*)**

- a) Find the first four terms, in ascending powers of  $x$ , in the binomial expansion of  $(1+3x)^8$ .
- b) Determine the coefficient of  $x^6$  in the binomial expansion of  $(1+3x)^8$ .

$$\boxed{\phantom{000}}, \boxed{1 + 24x + 252x^2 + 1512x^3 + \dots}, \boxed{20412}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad (1+3x)^8 &= 1 + \binom{8}{1}(3x) + \frac{8 \times 7}{2!}(3x)^2 + \frac{8 \times 7 \times 6}{3!}(3x)^3 + \dots \\ &= 1 + 24x + (28 \times 9x^2) + (56 \times 27x^3) + \dots \\ &= 1 + 24x + 252x^2 + 1512x^3 + \dots \\ \text{(b)} \quad (1+3x)^8 &= \dots + \frac{8 \times 7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3}{1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 \times 6}(3x)^6 + \dots \\ &= \dots + 28 \times 729x^6 + \dots \\ &= \dots + 20412x^6 + \dots \\ &\therefore 20412 \end{aligned}$$

**Question 7** (\*\*\*)

Find, without using a calculator, the coefficient of  $x^3$  in the expansion of  $(2+3x)^6$ .

4320

Handwritten solution for Question 7: The binomial expansion of  $(2+3x)^6$  is shown as  $\dots + \binom{6}{3} 2^3 (3x)^3 + \dots$ . The coefficient is calculated as  $\binom{6}{3} \times 2^3 \times 3^3 = 20 \times 8 \times 27 = 4320$ . A Pascal's Triangle is drawn to the right, with the value 20 circled at the 6th row, 3rd column.

**Question 8** (\*\*\*)

Find the coefficient of  $x^5$  in the binomial expansion of  $(2+3x)^9$ .

, 489888

Handwritten solution for Question 8: The binomial expansion of  $(2+3x)^9$  is shown as  $\dots + \binom{9}{5} 2^4 (3x)^5 + \dots$ . The coefficient is calculated as  $\binom{9}{5} \times 2^4 \times 3^5 = 126 \times 16 \times 243 = 489888$ . A note at the top says "DO NOT ACTUALLY NEED THE EXPANSION AS WE ARE ONLY BEING ASKED FOR A SINGLE TERM - THIS USES ONE".

**Question 9** (\*\*\*)

Find, without using a calculator, the coefficient of  $x^4$  in the expansion of  $(4x - \frac{1}{2})^7$ .

-1120

Handwritten solution for Question 9: The binomial expansion of  $(4x - \frac{1}{2})^7$  is shown as  $\dots + \binom{7}{4} (4x)^4 (-\frac{1}{2})^3 + \dots$ . The coefficient is calculated as  $\binom{7}{4} \times 4^4 \times (-\frac{1}{2})^3 = 35 \times 256 \times (-\frac{1}{8}) = -1120$ . A note on the right says " $\binom{7}{4} = \frac{7!}{4!3!} = 35$ ".



**Question 10** (\*\*+)

Find, without using a calculator, the coefficient of  $x^5$  in the expansion of  $(2x-3)^7$ .

6048

Handwritten solution for Question 10: The binomial expansion of  $(2x-3)^7$  is shown as  $(2x-3)^7 = \dots + \binom{7}{5}(2x)^2(-3)^5 + \dots$ . The term containing  $x^5$  is identified as  $\binom{7}{5}(2x)^2(-3)^5 = 21 \times 4x^2 \times (-243) = -10206x^2$ . The coefficient is  $-10206$ .

**Question 11** (\*\*+)

- Find the first four terms, in ascending powers of  $x$ , in the binomial expansion of  $(1-2x)^{10}$ .
- Use the answer of part (a) with a suitable value of  $x$  to find an approximate value for  $0.98^{10}$ , giving the answer correct to three decimal places.

,  $1-20x+180x^2-960x^3+\dots$ ,  $\approx 0.817$

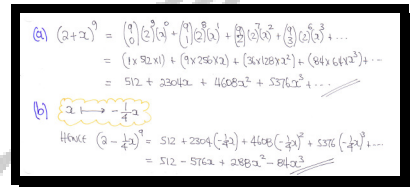
Handwritten solution for Question 11: (a)  $(1-2x)^{10} = 1 + \frac{10}{1}(-2x) + \frac{10 \times 9}{1 \times 2}(-2x)^2 + \frac{10 \times 9 \times 8}{1 \times 2 \times 3}(-2x)^3 + \dots$   
 $= 1 - 20x + (45 \times 4x^2) + (240 \times (-8x^3)) + \dots$   
 $= 1 - 20x + 180x^2 - 960x^3 + \dots$   
 (b)  $1-2x = 0.98$   
 $1-0.98 = 2x$   
 $0.02 = 2x$   
 $x = 0.01$   
 $(1-2x)^{10} \approx 1 - 20x + 180x^2 - 960x^3$   
 $(1-2(0.01))^{10} \approx 1 - 2(0.01) + 18(0.01)^2 - 96(0.01)^3$   
 $0.98^{10} \approx 1 - 0.2 + 0.018 - 0.00096$   
 $0.98^{10} \approx 0.817$  (3 d.p.)

Question 12 (\*\*+)

- a) Find, in ascending powers of  $x$ , the first four terms in the binomial expansion of  $(2+x)^9$ .
- b) By using the answer of part (a), or otherwise, find the first four terms in the binomial expansion of  $(2-\frac{1}{4}x)^9$ .

,  $(2+x)^9 = 512 + 2304x + 4608x^2 + 5376x^3 + \dots$  ,

$(2-\frac{1}{4}x)^9 = 512 - 576x + 288x^2 - 84x^3 + \dots$



a)  $(2+x)^9 = \binom{9}{0}(2)^9(x)^0 + \binom{9}{1}(2)^8(x)^1 + \binom{9}{2}(2)^7(x)^2 + \binom{9}{3}(2)^6(x)^3 + \dots$   
 $= (1 \times 512) + (9 \times 256x) + (36 \times 128x^2) + (84 \times 64x^3) + \dots$   
 $= 512 + 2304x + 4608x^2 + 5376x^3 + \dots$

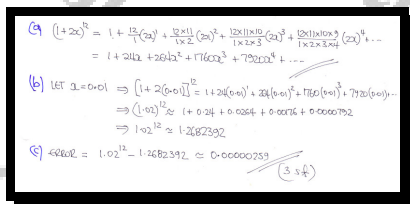
b)  $(2-\frac{1}{4}x)^9 = 512 + 2304(-\frac{1}{4}x) + 4608(-\frac{1}{4}x)^2 + 5376(-\frac{1}{4}x)^3 + \dots$   
 $= 512 - 576x + 288x^2 - 84x^3 + \dots$

Question 13 (\*\*+)

- a) Find the first **five** terms, in ascending powers of  $x$ , in the binomial expansion of  $(1+2x)^{12}$ .
- b) Use the answer of part (a) with a suitable value of  $x$  to find an approximate value for  $1.02^{12}$ .
- c) Determine the error in this approximation.

,  $1 + 24x + 264x^2 + 1760x^3 + 7920x^4 + \dots$  ,  $1.02^{12} \approx 1.2682392$  ,

error  $\approx 0.00000259$



a)  $(1+2x)^{12} = 1 + \binom{12}{1}(2x)^1 + \binom{12}{2}(2x)^2 + \binom{12}{3}(2x)^3 + \binom{12}{4}(2x)^4 + \dots$   
 $= 1 + 24x + 264x^2 + 1760x^3 + 7920x^4 + \dots$

b) Let  $x = 0.01 \Rightarrow (1+2(0.01))^{12} = 1 + 24(0.01) + 264(0.01)^2 + 1760(0.01)^3 + 7920(0.01)^4 + \dots$   
 $\Rightarrow (1.02)^{12} \approx 1 + 0.24 + 0.0066 + 0.00000259 + 0.00000002$   
 $\Rightarrow 1.02^{12} \approx 1.2682392$

c) Error =  $1.02^{12} - 1.2682392 \approx 0.00000259$  (3 sf)

Question 14 (\*\*+)

In the binomial expansion of

$$(1+kx)^6,$$

where  $k$  is constant, the coefficient of  $x^3$  is twice as large as the coefficient of  $x^2$ .

Find the value of  $k$ .

,  $k = \frac{3}{2}$

$$(1+kx)^6 = 1 + 6kx + \frac{6 \times 5}{1 \times 2}(kx)^2 + \frac{6 \times 5 \times 4}{1 \times 2 \times 3}(kx)^3 + \dots$$
$$= 1 + 6ka + 15k^2x^2 + 20k^3x^3 + \dots$$
$$\therefore 20k^3 = 2 \times 15k^2$$
$$20k^3 = 30k^2$$
$$20k^3 - 30k^2 = 0$$
$$10k^2(2k - 3) = 0$$
$$k = \frac{3}{2}$$

Question 15 (\*\*\*)

- a) Find, in ascending powers of  $x$ , the binomial expansion of  $(2+x)^5$ .
- b) By using the expression obtained in part (a), or otherwise, find the binomial expansion of  $(2-x^2)^5$ .
- c) Use the expression obtained in part (b) to estimate, correct to 3 decimal places, the value of  $1.99^5$ .

$$\boxed{\phantom{0000}}, \quad \boxed{(2+x)^5 = 32 + 80x + 80x^2 + 40x^3 + 10x^4 + x^5},$$

$$\boxed{(2-x^2)^5 = 32 - 80x^2 + 80x^4 - 40x^6 + 10x^8 - x^{10}}, \quad \boxed{1.99^5 \approx 31.208}$$

a) USING THE BINOMIAL EXPANSION FORMULA

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (2+x)^5 &= \binom{5}{0}(2^5)(x^0) + \binom{5}{1}(2^4)(x^1) + \binom{5}{2}(2^3)(x^2) + \binom{5}{3}(2^2)(x^3) \\ &\quad + \binom{5}{4}(2)(x^4) + \binom{5}{5}(x^5) \\ \Rightarrow (2+x)^5 &= (1 \times 32 \times 1) + (5 \times 16 \times x) + (10 \times 8 \times x^2) + (10 \times 4 \times x^3) \\ &\quad + (5 \times 2 \times x^4) + (1 \times 1 \times x^5) \\ \Rightarrow (2+x)^5 &= 32 + 80x + 80x^2 + 40x^3 + 10x^4 + x^5 \end{aligned}$$

b) REPLACE  $x$  WITH  $-x^2$  IN THE ABOVE EXPANSION

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow [2 + (-x^2)]^5 &= 32 + 80(-x^2) + 80(-x^2)^2 + 40(-x^2)^3 + 10(-x^2)^4 + (-x^2)^5 \\ \Rightarrow (2-x^2)^5 &= 32 - 80x^2 + 80x^4 - 40x^6 + 10x^8 - x^{10} \end{aligned}$$

c) NEED TO CHOOSE  $1.99^5$  FROM  $(2-x^2)^5$

(i.e.  $2 - x^2 = 1.99$   
 $0.01 = x^2$   
 $x = \pm 0.1$  (BOTH ARE 0.1 TO MATCH))

SUBSTITUTE INTO THE ANSWER OF PART (b)

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow [2 - (0.1)^2]^5 &= 32 - 80(0.1)^2 + 80(0.1)^4 - 40(0.1)^6 + 10(0.1)^8 - (0.1)^{10} \\ \Rightarrow 1.99^5 &= 32 - 0.8 + 0.008 - 0.0004 + \dots \\ \Rightarrow 1.99^5 &\approx 31.208 \end{aligned}$$

Question 16 (\*\*\*)

a) Find the first four terms, in ascending powers of  $x$ , of the binomial expansion of  $(1+2x)^7$ .

b) Hence determine the coefficient of  $x$  in the expansion of

$$(1+2x)^7(3+2x)^4.$$

$$\boxed{\phantom{0000}}, \boxed{1+14x+84x^2+280x^3+\dots}, \boxed{1350}$$

a) EXPAND USING THE BINOMIAL FORMULA  
 $\Rightarrow (1+2x)^7 = 1 + 7(2x) + \frac{7(6)}{2}(2x)^2 + \frac{7(6)(4)}{6}(2x)^3 + \dots$   
 $\Rightarrow (1+2x)^7 = 1 + 14x + 84x^2 + 280x^3 + \dots$

b) EXPAND (3+2x)^4 IN ASCENDING POWERS OF x UP TO x^1 (i.e. 'constant + x')  
 $(3+2x)^4 = \binom{4}{0}3^4\binom{4}{1}(2x) + \dots$   
 $= (1 \times 81 \times 4) + \dots$   
 $= 324 + \dots$

Hence we have  
 $(1+2x)^7(3+2x)^4 = (1+14x+\dots)(324+216x+\dots)$   
 $\qquad\qquad\qquad \underbrace{\qquad\qquad\qquad}_{1350x}$   
 $\qquad\qquad\qquad 1350x + 216x = 1350x$   
THE REQUIRED COEFFICIENT IS 1350

Question 17 (\*\*\*)

- a) Find the binomial expansion of  $(2x+4)^3$ , in descending powers of  $x$ .
- b) Hence determine the expansion of

$$(2x-1)(2x+4)^3.$$

$$\boxed{16x^4 + 88x^3 + 144x^2 + 32x - 64}$$

Handwritten work for Question 17:

a) EXPANDING USING PASCAL'S TRIANGLE OR CALCULATOR

$$(2x+4)^3 = 1(2x)^3(4)^0 + 3(2x)^2(4)^1 + 3(2x)(4)^2 + 1(4)^3(2x)^0$$

$$(2x+4)^3 = 8x^3 + 48x^2 + 96x + 64$$

b) USING PART (a)

$$(2x-1)(2x+4)^3 = (2x-1)(8x^3 + 48x^2 + 96x + 64)$$

$$= 16x^4 + 96x^3 + 192x^2 + 128x - 8x^3 - 48x^2 - 96x - 64$$

$$= 16x^4 + 88x^3 + 144x^2 + 32x - 64$$

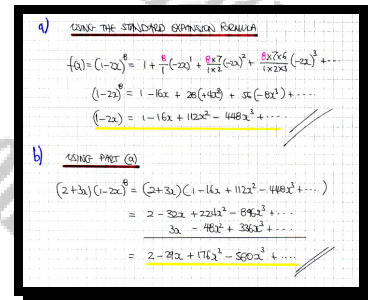
Question 18 (\*\*\*)

$$f(x) = (1 - 2x)^8$$

- a) Find the first four terms in the expansion of  $f(x)$ , in ascending powers of  $x$ .
- b) Hence determine, in ascending powers of  $x$ , the first four terms in the expansion of

$$(2 + 3x)(1 - 2x)^8.$$

$$\boxed{\phantom{0000}}, \boxed{1 - 16x + 112x^2 - 448x^3 + \dots}, \boxed{2 - 29x + 176x^2 - 560x^3 + \dots}$$



Question 19 (\*\*\*)

a) Find, in ascending powers of  $x$ , the first four terms in the binomial expansion of  $(2+x)^9$ .

b) Hence find the coefficient of  $x^3$  in the expansion of

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{8}x\right)^2 (2+x)^9.$$

$$\boxed{\phantom{000}}, \quad \boxed{(2+x)^9 = 512 + 2304x + 4608x^2 + 5376x^3 + \dots}, \quad \boxed{x^3} = 4260$$

(a)  $(2+x)^9 = \binom{9}{0}(2)^9 + \binom{9}{1}(2)^8x + \binom{9}{2}(2)^7x^2 + \binom{9}{3}(2)^6x^3 + \dots$   
 $= (1 \times 512 \times 1) + (9 \times 256 \times 2) + (36 \times 128 \times 2^2) + (84 \times 64 \times 2^3) + \dots$   
 $= 512 + 2304x + 4608x^2 + 5376x^3 + \dots$

(b)  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{8}x\right)^2 (2+x)^9 = \left[1 - 2 \times \frac{1}{8}x + \left(\frac{1}{8}\right)^2 x^2\right] (2+x)^9$   
 $= \left(1 - \frac{1}{4}x + \frac{1}{64}x^2\right) (512 + 2304x + 4608x^2 + 5376x^3 + \dots)$

$\begin{matrix} & & & +36x^2 & & \\ & & & -1152x^3 & & \\ & & & -5376x^3 & & \end{matrix}$

∴ coefficient of  $x^3$  is  $36 - 1152 + 5376 = 4260$



Question 20 (\*\*\*)

$$f(x) = (2+x)^4$$

- Find the expansion of  $f(x)$ , in ascending powers of  $x$ .
- Deduce the expansion of  $(2-3x)^4$ , also in ascending powers of  $x$ .
- Determine the coefficient of  $x$  in the expansion of

$$(2+x)^4(2-3x)^4.$$

$$f(x) = 16 + 32x + 24x^2 + 8x^3 + x^4, \quad 16 - 96x + 216x^2 - 216x^3 + 81x^4, \quad -1024$$

(a)  $(2+x)^4 = \binom{4}{0}2^4x^0 + \binom{4}{1}2^3x^1 + \binom{4}{2}2^2x^2 + \binom{4}{3}2x^3 + \binom{4}{4}x^4$   
 $= (1)(16x^0) + (4)(8x^1) + (6)(4x^2) + (4)(2x^3) + (1)(x^4)$   
 $= 16 + 32x + 24x^2 + 8x^3 + x^4$

(b)  $x \rightarrow (-3x)$   
 $\therefore (2-3x)^4 = (2+3(-3x))^4 = 16 + 32(-3x) + 24(-3x)^2 + 8(-3x)^3 + (-3x)^4$   
 $= 16 - 96x + 216x^2 - 216x^3 + 81x^4$

(c)  $(2+x)^4(2-3x)^4 = (16 + 32x + \dots)(16 - 96x + \dots)$   
 $\begin{matrix} 16 & + & 32x & + & \dots \\ \times & & 16 & - & 96x & + & \dots \\ \hline 256 & & & & & & \\ -1440x & & & & & & \\ \hline \dots & - & 1536x & & & & \end{matrix}$   
 $\therefore -1536 = -1024$

Question 21 (\*\*\*)

a) Find the first **five** terms, in ascending powers of  $x$ , in the binomial expansion of  $(1-2x)^{11}$ .

b) Use the answer of part (a) with a suitable value of  $x$  to show that

$$\left(\frac{14}{15}\right)^{11} \approx \frac{1582}{3375}$$

c) Determine the percentage error in the approximation of part (b).

$$\boxed{\phantom{00000}}, \quad \boxed{1 - 22x + 220x^2 - 1320x^3 + 5280x^4 + \dots}, \quad \boxed{\% \text{ error} \approx 0.122\%}$$

a) USING THE STANDARD BINOMIAL EXPANSION FORMULA

$$(1-2x)^{11} = 1 + \frac{11}{1}(-2x) + \frac{11 \times 10}{1 \times 2}(-2x)^2 + \frac{11 \times 10 \times 9}{1 \times 2 \times 3}(-2x)^3 + \frac{11 \times 10 \times 9 \times 8}{1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4}(-2x)^4 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - 22x + 220x^2 - 1320x^3 + 5280x^4 + \dots //$$

b) WORKING AS FOLLOWS

$$1 - 2x = \frac{14}{15}$$

$$\frac{1}{15} = 2x$$

$$x = \frac{1}{30}$$

USING  $x = \frac{1}{30}$  IN THE EXPANSION OF PART (a)

$$(1 - 2 \times \frac{1}{30})^{11} \approx 1 - 22(\frac{1}{30}) + 220(\frac{1}{30})^2 - 1320(\frac{1}{30})^3 + 5280(\frac{1}{30})^4$$

$$(\frac{14}{15})^{11} \approx 1 - \frac{11}{15} + \frac{11}{45} - \frac{11}{225} + \frac{22}{3375}$$

$$(\frac{14}{15})^{11} \approx \frac{1582}{3375} //$$

c) PERCENTAGE ERROR =  $\frac{\text{ACTUAL ERROR}}{\text{ACTUAL ANSWER}} \times 100$

$$= \frac{1582}{3375} - (\frac{14}{15})^{11} \times 100$$

$$= 0.122\%$$

**Question 22** (\*\*\*)

It is given that if  $k$  is a non zero constant, then

$$(2+kx)^6 \equiv a+bx+bx^2+cx^3+\dots$$

Determine the value of each of the constants  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ .

,  ,  ,

$(2+kx)^6 = \binom{6}{0}2^6(kx)^0 + \binom{6}{1}2^5(kx)^1 + \binom{6}{2}2^4(kx)^2 + \binom{6}{3}2^3(kx)^3 + \dots$   
 $= (1 \times 64 \times 1) + (6 \times 32 \times kx) + (15 \times 16 \times k^2 x^2) + (20 \times 8 \times k^3 x^3) + \dots$   
 $= 64 + 192kx + 240k^2x^2 + 160k^3x^3 + \dots$

$\bullet a = 64$   
 $\bullet 192k = 240k^2$   
 $192 = 240k \quad (+ \neq 0)$   
 $k = \frac{192}{240}$   
 $\therefore 192 \times \frac{4}{3} = 153.6$   
 $\bullet c = 160 \times \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^3 = 81.92$

$k = \frac{4}{3}$   
 $\therefore a = 64$   
 $b = 153.6$   
 $c = 81.92$

**Question 23** (\*\*\*)

In the binomial expansion of

$$(2x+k)^4,$$

where  $k$  is a non zero constant,

the coefficient of  $x^2$  is 12 times as large as the coefficient of  $x^3$ .

Find the value of  $k$ .

,

$(2x+k)^4 = \dots + \binom{4}{2}(2x)^2(k)^2 + \binom{4}{3}(2x)^3(k)^1 + \dots$   
 $\dots + \frac{(4 \times 3)}{(2 \times 2)} \times 4^2 \times k^2 + \frac{(4 \times 3 \times 2)}{(1 \times 2 \times 3)} \times 8x^3 \times k + \dots$   
 $\dots + 24k^2x^2 + 32kx^3 + \dots$

$[24k^2] = 12 \times [32k]$   
 $24k^2 = 12 \times 32k$   
 $2k^2 = 32k$   
 $k^2 = 16k \quad (\text{But } k \neq 0)$   
 $k = 16$

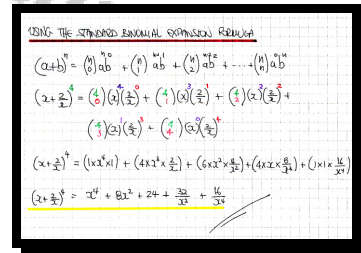
Question 24 (\*\*\*)

Find the binomial expansion of

$$\left(x + \frac{2}{x}\right)^4, \quad x \neq 0,$$

simplifying each term of the expansion.

,  $x^4 + 8x^2 + 24 + \frac{32}{x^2} + \frac{16}{x^4}$



Question 25 (\*\*\*)

- a) Determine, in ascending powers of  $x$ , the first three terms in the binomial expansion of  $(2-3x)^{10}$ .
- b) Use the first three terms in the binomial expansion of  $(2-3x)^{10}$ , with a suitable value for  $x$ , to find an approximation for  $1.97^{10}$ .
- c) Use the answer of part (b) to estimate, correct to 2 significant figures, the value of  $3.94^{10}$ .

$(2-3x)^{10} = 1024 - 15360x + 103680x^2 + \dots$ ,  $1.97^{10} \approx 880.768 \approx 881$ ,  $3.94^{10} \approx 900000$

The handwritten solution shows the following steps:

a) USING THE STANDARD EXPANSION FORMULA  
 $(2-3x)^{10} = \binom{10}{0}(2)^{10}(-3x)^0 + \binom{10}{1}(2)^9(-3x)^1 + \binom{10}{2}(2)^8(-3x)^2 + \dots$   
 $\Rightarrow (2-3x)^{10} = (1 \times 1024 \times 1) + [10 \times 512 \times (-3x)] + (45 \times 256 \times 9x^2) + \dots$   
 $\Rightarrow (2-3x)^{10} = 1024 - 15360x + 103680x^2 + \dots$

b) CREATING 1.97<sup>10</sup> OUT OF (2-3x)<sup>10</sup>  
 $\Rightarrow 1.97 = 2 - 3x$   
 $\Rightarrow 3x = 0.03$   
 $\Rightarrow x = 0.01$

USING PART (a)  
 $\Rightarrow [2 - 3(0.01)]^{10} = 1024 - 15360(0.01) + 103680(0.01)^2 + \dots$   
 $\Rightarrow 1.97^{10} \approx 1024 - 153.6 + 1036.8 + \dots$   
 $\Rightarrow 1.97^{10} \approx 880.768 \approx 881$

c) USING PART (b)  
 $3.94^{10} = (2 \times 1.97)^{10}$   
 $= 2^{10} \times 1.97^{10}$   
 $\approx 1024 \times 880.768$   
 $\approx 901906.432$   
 $\approx 900000$

Question 26 (\*\*\*)

Find the term which is independent of  $x$ , in the binomial expansion of

$$\left(4x^3 - \frac{1}{2x}\right)^8, \quad x \neq 0.$$

7

$$\left(4x^3 - \frac{1}{2x}\right)^8 = \dots + \binom{8}{2} (4x^3)^2 \left(-\frac{1}{2x}\right)^6 + \dots$$

$$\dots + \binom{8}{6} (4x^3)^2 \left(-\frac{1}{2x}\right)^6 + \dots$$

$$\dots + 7 \dots$$

$\therefore$  call it the independent of  $x$  is 7

Question 27 (\*\*\*)

$$(1 + \sqrt{2})^5 = a + b\sqrt{2}.$$

Determine the value of each of the constants  $a$  and  $b$ .

$a = 41, b = 29$

$$(1 + \sqrt{2})^5 = 1 + \binom{5}{1}(\sqrt{2}) + \binom{5}{2}(\sqrt{2})^2 + \binom{5}{3}(\sqrt{2})^3 + \binom{5}{4}(\sqrt{2})^4 + \binom{5}{5}(\sqrt{2})^5$$

$$= 1 + 5\sqrt{2} + (10 \times 2) + (10 \times 2\sqrt{2}) + (5 \times 4) + (1 \times 4\sqrt{2})$$

$$= 1 + 5\sqrt{2} + 20 + 20\sqrt{2} + 20 + 4\sqrt{2}$$

$$= 41 + 29\sqrt{2}$$

$$\frac{5\sqrt{2}}{(\sqrt{2})^2} = \frac{5\sqrt{2}}{2} = 2.5\sqrt{2}$$

$$\frac{(\sqrt{2})^3}{(\sqrt{2})^2} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{2} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\frac{(\sqrt{2})^4}{(\sqrt{2})^2} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$$

$$\frac{(\sqrt{2})^5}{(\sqrt{2})^2} = \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{2} = 2\sqrt{2}$$

**Question 28** (\*\*\*)

Find the binomial expansion of

$$\left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)^5, \quad x \neq 0,$$

simplifying each term of the expansion.

$$x^5 - 5x^3 + 10x - \frac{10}{x} + \frac{5}{x^3} - \frac{1}{x^5}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)^5 &= \binom{5}{0} \binom{5}{0} \left(x\right)^5 + \binom{5}{1} \binom{5}{1} \left(x\right)^4 \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)^1 + \binom{5}{2} \binom{5}{2} \left(x\right)^3 \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)^2 \\ &\quad + \binom{5}{3} \binom{5}{3} \left(x\right)^2 \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)^3 + \binom{5}{4} \binom{5}{4} \left(x\right)^1 \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)^4 + \binom{5}{5} \binom{5}{5} \left(x\right)^0 \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)^5 \\ &= (1 \times x^5 \times 1) + (5 \times x^4 \times \frac{1}{x}) + (10 \times x^3 \times \frac{1}{x^2}) \\ &\quad + (10 \times x^2 \times \frac{1}{x^3}) + (5 \times x \times \frac{1}{x^4}) + (1 \times 1 \times \frac{1}{x^5}) \\ &= x^5 - 5x^3 + 10x - \frac{10}{x} + \frac{5}{x^3} - \frac{1}{x^5} \end{aligned}$$

**Question 29** (\*\*\*)

In the binomial expansion of

$$\left(k - \frac{x}{2}\right)^6,$$

where  $k$  is a positive constant, one of the terms is  $960x^2$ .

- a) Find the value of  $k$ .
- b) Determine the coefficient of  $x^3$ .

$$k = 4, \quad -160$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(k - \frac{x}{2}\right)^6 &= \binom{6}{0} \binom{6}{0} \left(k\right)^6 \left(-\frac{x}{2}\right)^0 + \binom{6}{1} \binom{6}{1} \left(k\right)^5 \left(-\frac{x}{2}\right)^1 + \binom{6}{2} \binom{6}{2} \left(k\right)^4 \left(-\frac{x}{2}\right)^2 + \binom{6}{3} \binom{6}{3} \left(k\right)^3 \left(-\frac{x}{2}\right)^3 \\ &\quad + \binom{6}{4} \binom{6}{4} \left(k\right)^2 \left(-\frac{x}{2}\right)^4 + \binom{6}{5} \binom{6}{5} \left(k\right)^1 \left(-\frac{x}{2}\right)^5 + \binom{6}{6} \binom{6}{6} \left(k\right)^0 \left(-\frac{x}{2}\right)^6 \\ &= k^6 - 3k^5x + 15k^4x^2 - 20k^3x^3 + \dots \\ &\quad + \frac{15k^2x^4}{2} - \frac{5kx^5}{2} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

(a)  $\therefore 15k^4 = 960$   
 $k^4 = 256$   
 $k = 4$  (✓)

(b)  $-\frac{5}{2}(4)^3 = -160$  (✓)

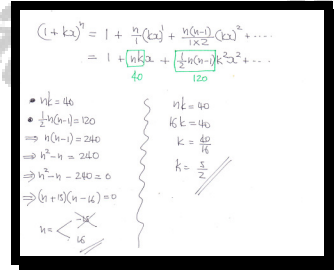
**Question 30** (\*\*\*)

Given that  $k$  is a non zero constant and  $n$  is a positive integer, then

$$(1+kx)^n \equiv 1+40x+120k^2x^2 + \dots$$

Find the value of  $k$  and the value of  $n$ .

,  $k = \frac{5}{2}$ ,  $n = 16$



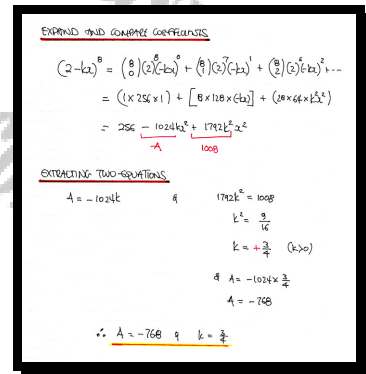
**Question 31** (\*\*\*)

Given that  $k$  and  $A$  are constants with  $k > 0$ , then

$$(2-kx)^8 \equiv 256 + Ax + 1008x^2 + \dots$$

Find the value of  $k$  and the value of  $A$ .

,  $k = \frac{3}{4}$ ,  $A = -768$





Question 32 (\*\*\*)

$$f(x) = (2-3x)^2(1+4x)^7$$

Find the coefficient of  $x^2$  in the polynomial expansion of  $f(x)$ .

1017

EXPAND UP TO  $x^2$  IN ASCENDING POWERS OF  $x$

$$f(x) = (2-3x)^2(1+4x)^7$$

$$f(x) = (4-12x+9x^2) \left[ 1 + \frac{7}{1} (4x) + \frac{7 \times 6}{2!} (4x)^2 + \dots \right]$$

$$f(x) = (4-12x+9x^2) (1 + 28x + 336x^2 + \dots)$$

Requires coefficient is

$$9 - 336 + 1344 = 1017$$

Question 33 (\*\*\*)

$$(2+x)^5 = x^5 + 10x^4 + ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + 32$$

- a) Find the value of each of the constants  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ .
- b) Hence, or otherwise, simplify  $(2-\sqrt{2})^5$ , giving the final answer in the form  $p+q\sqrt{2}$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are constants.

$a = 40, b = 80, c = 80, 232 - 164\sqrt{2}$

(a)  $(2+x)^5 = (2)(1)(1) + (5)(2)(1)(1) + (10)(2)(1)(1) + (10)(2)(1)(1) + (5)(2)(1)(1) + (1)(2)(1)(1)$

$$= (1)(1)(2^5) + (5)(2)(2^4) + (10)(4)(2^3) + (10)(8)(2^2) + (5)(16)(2) + (32)(1)$$

$$= 2^5 + 10 \cdot 2^4 + 40 \cdot 2^3 + 80 \cdot 2^2 + 80 \cdot 2 + 32$$

It  $a = 40$   
 $b = 80$   
 $c = 80$

(b) Let  $x = -\sqrt{2}$

$$(2-\sqrt{2})^5 = (2)(1)(1) + 10(2)(-\sqrt{2}) + 40(2)(-\sqrt{2})^2 + 80(2)(-\sqrt{2})^3 + 80(-\sqrt{2})^4 + 32$$

$$= 2^5 + 10(2)(-\sqrt{2}) + 40(2)(2) + 80(2)(-\sqrt{2}) + 80(4) + 32$$

$$= 2^5 - 20\sqrt{2} + 160 - 160\sqrt{2} + 320 + 32$$

$$= 232 - 164\sqrt{2}$$

Question 34 (\*\*\*)

$$f(x) = \left(2 + \frac{1}{4}x\right)^8.$$

- a) Find the first four terms in ascending powers of  $x$  in the expansion of  $f(x)$ .
- b) Use the expansion found in part (a) to find an approximation, to 3 significant figures, for  $\left(\frac{81}{40}\right)^8$ .

,  $f(x) = 256 + 256x + 112x^2 + 28x^3 + \dots$  ,  $\left(\frac{81}{40}\right)^8 \approx 283$

a) EXPANDING IN THE USUAL MANNER

$$\left(2 + \frac{1}{4}x\right)^8 = \binom{8}{0}\left(\frac{1}{4}x\right)^0 + \binom{8}{1}\left(\frac{1}{4}x\right)^1 + \binom{8}{2}\left(\frac{1}{4}x\right)^2 + \binom{8}{3}\left(\frac{1}{4}x\right)^3 + \dots$$

$$\left(2 + \frac{1}{4}x\right)^8 = (1 \times 256x^0) + (8 \times 64 \times \frac{1}{4}x) + (28 \times 16 \times \frac{1}{16}x^2) + (56 \times 4 \times \frac{1}{64}x^3) + \dots$$

$$\left(2 + \frac{1}{4}x\right)^8 = 256 + 256x + 112x^2 + 28x^3 + \dots$$

b) START BY FINDING THE VALUE OF  $x$  WHICH PROVIDES  $\frac{81}{40}$

$$\rightarrow 2 + \frac{1}{4}x = \frac{81}{40}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{4}x = \frac{1}{40}$$

$$\rightarrow x = \frac{1}{10} = 0.1$$

SUBSTITUTE  $x = \frac{1}{10}$  IN THE EXPANSION

$$\rightarrow \left(2 + \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{10}\right)^8 = 256 + 256 \times \frac{1}{40} + 112 \times \left(\frac{1}{10}\right)^2 + 28 \times \left(\frac{1}{10}\right)^3 + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{81}{40}\right)^8 = 256 + 6.4 + 1.12 + 0.028 + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{81}{40}\right)^8 = 263.548 \dots$$

$\therefore \left(\frac{81}{40}\right)^8 \approx 264$  (3 sf)

Question 35 (\*\*\*)

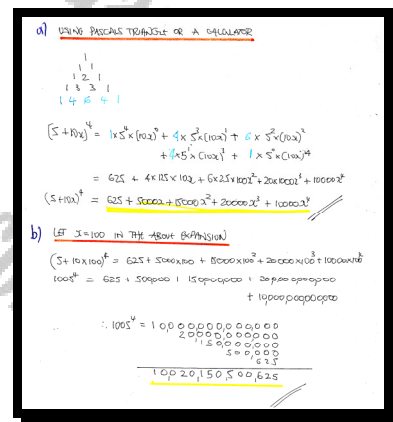
a) Find the binomial expansion of

$$(5+10x)^4.$$

b) Hence, by using the answer of part (a) with a suitable value of  $x$  find the exact value of  $1005^4$ .

*You may not give the answer in standard index form.*

,  ,



Question 36 (\*\*\*)

$$f(x) = (1-2x)^6, \quad g(x) = (2+x)^7, \quad h(x) = f(x)g(x).$$

- a) Find the first four terms in ascending powers of  $x$  in the binomial expansion of  $f(x)$  and in the binomial expansion of  $g(x)$ .
- b) Hence determine the coefficient of  $x^2$  in the binomial expansion of  $h(x)$ .

,  $f(x) = 1 - 12x + 60x^2 - 160x^3 + \dots$ ,

$g(x) = 128 + 448x + 672x^2 + 560x^3 + \dots$ ,

a) USING STANDARD BINOMIAL FORMULA

- $f(x) = (1-2x)^6 = 1 + \binom{6}{1}(-2x)^1 + \frac{6 \times 5}{2}(-2x)^2 + \frac{6 \times 5 \times 4}{6}(-2x)^3 + \dots$   
 $= 1 - 12x + 60x^2 - 160x^3 + \dots$
- $g(x) = (2+x)^7 = \binom{7}{0}(2)^7 + \binom{7}{1}(2)^6(x) + \binom{7}{2}(2)^5(x)^2 + \binom{7}{3}(2)^4(x)^3 + \dots$   
 $= (1 \times 128) + (7 \times 64x) + (21 \times 32x^2) + (35 \times 16x^3) + \dots$   
 $= 128 + 448x + 672x^2 + 560x^3 + \dots$

b) WORKING BACKWARDS

$h(x) = f(x)g(x) = (1-12x+60x^2+\dots)(128+448x+672x^2+\dots)$

Diagram showing the multiplication of terms to get the coefficient of  $x^2$ :

- $1 \times 672x^2 = 672x^2$
- $-12x \times 448x = -5376x^2$
- $60x^2 \times 128 = 7680x^2$

$\therefore$  Required coefficient of  $x^2$  is  $7680 - 5376 + 672 = 2976$

**Question 37** (\*\*\*)

Find the binomial expansion of

$$\left(x + \frac{2}{x}\right)^6, \quad x \neq 0,$$

simplifying each term of the expansion.

,  $x^6 + 12x^4 + 60x^2 + 160 + \frac{240}{x^2} + \frac{192}{x^4} + \frac{64}{x^6}$

EXPANDING IN THE 'USUAL' MANNER

$$\begin{aligned} \left(x + \frac{2}{x}\right)^6 &= \binom{6}{0}\left(x\right)^6 + \binom{6}{1}\left(x\right)^5\left(\frac{2}{x}\right) + \binom{6}{2}\left(x\right)^4\left(\frac{2}{x}\right)^2 + \binom{6}{3}\left(x\right)^3\left(\frac{2}{x}\right)^3 \\ &\quad + \binom{6}{4}\left(x\right)^2\left(\frac{2}{x}\right)^4 + \binom{6}{5}\left(x\right)\left(\frac{2}{x}\right)^5 + \binom{6}{6}\left(\frac{2}{x}\right)^6 \\ &= (1 \times x^6 \times 1) + (6 \times x^5 \times \frac{2}{x}) + (15 \times x^4 \times \frac{4}{x^2}) + (20 \times x^3 \times \frac{8}{x^3}) \\ &\quad + (15 \times x^2 \times \frac{16}{x^4}) + (6 \times x \times \frac{32}{x^5}) + (1 \times 1 \times \frac{64}{x^6}) \\ &= x^6 + 12x^4 + 60x^2 + 160 + \frac{240}{x^2} + \frac{192}{x^4} + \frac{64}{x^6} \end{aligned}$$

**Question 38** (\*\*\*)

$$f(x) = (3 - 2x)^2 (1 + 2x)^6.$$

Find the binomial expansion of  $f(x)$  in ascending powers of  $x$ , up and including the term in  $x^3$ .

,  $9 + 96x + 400x^2 + 768x^3 + \dots$

EXPANDING USING THE STANDARD BINOMIAL FORMULA

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= (3 - 2x)^2 (1 + 2x)^6 \\ f(x) &= (9 - 12x + 4x^2) \left[ 1 + \binom{6}{1}(2x) + \frac{6 \times 5}{1 \times 2} (2x)^2 + \dots \right] \\ f(x) &= (9 - 12x + 4x^2) (1 + 12x + 60x^2 + 160x^3 + \dots) \\ f(x) &= 9 + 108x + 540x^2 + 1440x^3 + \dots \\ &\quad - 12x - 144x^2 - 720x^3 + \dots \\ &\quad + 4x^2 + 48x^3 + \dots \\ f(x) &= 9 + 96x + 400x^2 + 768x^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

**Question 39** (\*\*\*)

It is given that

$$(1-2x)(2+kx)^5 \equiv A+Bx+240x^2+\dots,$$

where  $k$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  are constants.

Determine the possible values of  $k$

,  $k = -1, 3$

$(1-2x)(2+kx)^5 = (1-2x)[(5)(2^4)(k^1)x + (10)(2^3)(k^2)x^2 + \dots]$   
 $= (1-2x)(32 + 80kx + 80k^2x^2 + \dots)$   
 Now  $80k^2x^2 - 160kx^2 \equiv 240x^2$   
 $k^2 - 2k = 3$   
 $k^2 - 2k - 3 = 0$   
 $0 = (k-3)(k+1)$   
 $k = \frac{3}{-1}$

**Question 40** (\*\*\*)

a) Find the binomial expansion of  $(1 + \frac{1}{4}x)^{10}$  in ascending powers of  $x$  up and including the term in  $x^3$ , simplifying fully each coefficient.

b) Use the expansion of part (a) to show that

$$\left(\frac{41}{40}\right)^{10} \approx 1.28.$$

,  $1 + \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{45}{16}x^2 + \frac{15}{8}x^3 + \dots$

(a)  $(1 + \frac{1}{4}x)^{10} = 1 + \frac{10}{1}(\frac{1}{4}x) + \frac{10 \times 9}{1 \times 2}(4x^2) + \frac{10 \times 9 \times 8}{1 \times 2 \times 3}(\frac{1}{4}x)^3 + \dots$   
 $= 1 + \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{45}{16}x^2 + \frac{15}{8}x^3 + \dots$   
 (b)  $\frac{41}{40} = 1 + \frac{1}{40}$   
 $x = \frac{1}{40} \Rightarrow 1 + \frac{1}{40}$   
 This is similar to  $(1 + \frac{1}{4}x)^{10}$   
 $(1 + \frac{1}{40})^{10} \approx 1 + \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{45}{16}x^2 + \frac{15}{8}x^3$   
 If  $x = \frac{1}{40}$   
 $\left(\frac{41}{40}\right)^{10} \approx 1 + \frac{5}{2}\left(\frac{1}{40}\right) + \frac{45}{16}\left(\frac{1}{40}\right)^2 + \frac{15}{8}\left(\frac{1}{40}\right)^3$   
 $\left(\frac{41}{40}\right)^{10} \approx 1 + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{9}{1600} + \frac{3}{11200}$   
 $\left(\frac{41}{40}\right)^{10} \approx 1.28$

Question 41 (\*\*\*)

$$f(x) = (1 + 3x)^6.$$

- a) Find, in ascending powers of  $x$ , the binomial expansion of  $f(x)$  up and including the term in  $x^4$ .
- b) Use the expansion found in part (a) to show that

$$(1.003)^6 \approx 1.01813554122.$$

$$f(x) = 1 + 18x + 135x^2 + 540x^3 + 1215x^4 + \dots$$

(a)  $(1+3x)^6 = 1 + \binom{6}{1}(3x) + \frac{6 \times 5}{2!}(3x)^2 + \frac{6 \times 5 \times 4}{3!}(3x)^3 + \frac{6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3}{4!}(3x)^4 + \dots$   
 $= 1 + 18x + 135x^2 + 540x^3 + 1215x^4 + \dots$

(b) Let  $x = 0.001$   
 $[(1+3(0.001))]^6 \approx 1 + 6(0.001) + 135(0.001)^2 + 540(0.001)^3 + 1215(0.001)^4 + \dots$   
 $(1.003)^6 \approx 1 + 0.018 + 0.000135 + 0.0000054 + 0.0000001215$   
 $\therefore 1.003^6 \approx 1.018135541215$   
 $\approx 1.01813554122$

Question 42 (\*\*\*)

- a) Find the binomial expansion of  $(3+2x)^4$ .
- b) State the binomial expansion of  $(3-2x)^4$ .
- c) Use the answers of part (a) and (b) to find

$$(3+\sqrt{8})^4 + (3-\sqrt{8})^4.$$

No credit will be given for any other type of evaluation.

$$(3+2x)^4 = 16x^4 + 96x^3 + 216x^2 + 216x + 81,$$

$$(3-2x)^4 = 16x^4 - 96x^3 + 216x^2 - 216x + 81, \quad (3+\sqrt{8})^4 + (3-\sqrt{8})^4 = 1154$$

$(3+2x)^4 = \binom{4}{0}(3)^4(2x)^0 + \binom{4}{1}(3)^3(2x)^1 + \binom{4}{2}(3)^2(2x)^2 + \binom{4}{3}(3)(2x)^3 + \binom{4}{4}(2x)^4$   
 $= (1 \times 81 \times 1) + (4 \times 27 \times 2x) + (6 \times 9 \times 4x^2) + (4 \times 3 \times 8x^3) + (1 \times 16 \times x^4)$   
 $= 81 + 216x + 216x^2 + 96x^3 + 16x^4$

$(3-2x)^4 = 16(-2)^4 + 96(-2)^3 + 216(-2)^2 + 216(-2) + 81$   
 $= 16(16) - 96(8) + 216(4) - 432 + 81$   
 $= 256 - 768 + 864 - 432 + 81$   
 $= 1154$

$\therefore \text{Let } 2 = \sqrt{8} \Rightarrow (3+\sqrt{8})^4 + (3-\sqrt{8})^4 = 2(81 + 216x + 216x^2 + 96x^3 + 16x^4)$   
 $= 162 + 345.6x + 345.6x^2 + 153.6x^3 + 25.6x^4$   
 $= 1154$



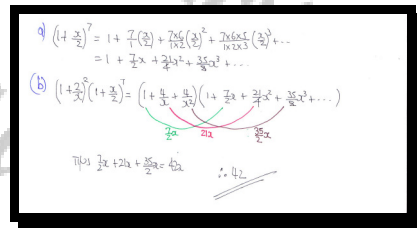
Question 43 (\*\*\*)

a) Find the first four terms, in ascending powers of  $x$ , of the binomial expansion of  $\left(1 + \frac{x}{2}\right)^7$ , giving each coefficient in exact simplified form.

b) Hence determine the coefficient of  $x$  in the expansion of

$$\left(1 + \frac{2}{x}\right)^2 \left(1 + \frac{x}{2}\right)^7.$$

$$\boxed{\phantom{000}}, \quad \boxed{1 + \frac{7}{2}x + \frac{21}{4}x^2 + \frac{35}{8}x^3 + \dots}, \quad \boxed{[x] = 42}$$



Question 44 (\*\*\*)

$$f(x) = (1 + 2x)^7$$

- a) Determine the first four terms, in ascending powers of  $x$ , in the binomial expansion of  $f(x)$ .
- b) Hence, or otherwise, find the first four terms in the expansion of

$$(3 + 4x - 4x^2)(1 + 2x)^6,$$

giving the answer in ascending powers of  $x$ .

$$\boxed{\phantom{0000}}, 1 + 14x + 84x^2 + 280x^3 + \dots, \quad \boxed{3 + 40x + 224x^2 + 672x^3 + \dots}$$

a) USING THE STANDARD BINOMIAL EXPANSION:  $(1 + 2x)^7$

$$\Rightarrow (1 + 2x)^7 = 1 + \frac{7}{1} (2x) + \frac{7 \cdot 6}{1 \cdot 2} (2x)^2 + \frac{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3} (2x)^3 + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow (1 + 2x)^7 = 1 + 7(2x) + \frac{7 \cdot 6}{2} (2x)^2 + \frac{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5}{6} (2x)^3 + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow (1 + 2x)^7 = 1 + 14x + 84x^2 + 280x^3 + \dots$$

b) IDENTIFY THE EXPRESSION GIVEN, PROCEED AS FOLLOWS

$$(3 + 4x - 4x^2)(1 + 2x)^6 = -(4x^2 - 4x - 3)(1 + 2x)^6$$

$$= -(2x + 1)(2x - 3)(1 + 2x)^6$$

$$= -(2x - 3)(2x + 1)^7$$

$$= (3 - 2x)(1 + 2x)^7$$

USING PART (a)

$$(3 + 4x - 4x^2)(1 + 2x)^6 = (3 - 2x)(1 + 14x + 84x^2 + 280x^3 + \dots)$$

$$= 3 + 42x + 252x^2 + 840x^3 + \dots$$

$$- 2x - 28x^2 - 168x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 3 + 40x + 224x^2 + 672x^3 + \dots$$

ALTERNATIVE TO PART (b)

$$(1 + 2x)^6 = 1 + 6(2x) + \frac{6 \cdot 5}{2} (2x)^2 + \frac{6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4}{6} (2x)^3 + \dots$$

$$(1 + 2x)^6 = 1 + 12x + 15(4x^2) + 20(8x^3) + \dots$$

$\Rightarrow (1 + 2x)^6 = 1 + 12x + 60x^2 + 160x^3 + \dots$

NOW MULTIPLY THE EXPRESSION BY THE GIVEN QUADRATIC

$$(3 + 4x - 4x^2)(1 + 2x)^6 = (3 + 4x - 4x^2)(1 + 12x + 60x^2 + \dots)$$

$$= 3 + 36x + 180x^2 + 480x^3 + \dots$$

$$+ 4x + 48x^2 + 240x^3 + \dots$$

$$- 4x^2 - 48x^3 - \dots$$

$$= 3 + 40x + 224x^2 + 672x^3 + \dots$$

As before

Question 45 (\*\*\*)

- a) Find the binomial expansion of  $(2-5x)^{10}$  in ascending powers of  $x$  up and including the term in  $x^3$ , simplifying fully each coefficient.
- b) Use the expansion of part (a) to show that

$$(1.99)^{10} \approx 974.$$

$$1024 - 25600x + 288000x^2 - 1920000x^3 + \dots$$

(a)  $(2-5x)^{10} = \binom{10}{0}(2)^{10}(-5x)^0 + \binom{10}{1}(2)^9(-5x)^1 + \binom{10}{2}(2)^8(-5x)^2 + \binom{10}{3}(2)^7(-5x)^3 + \dots$   
 $= (1 \times 1024 \times 1) + [10 \times 512 \times (-5)] + [45 \times 256 \times 25] + [-120 \times 128 \times (-125)] + \dots$   
 $= 1024 - 25600x + 288000x^2 - 1920000x^3 + \dots$

(b) Now  $(2-5x=1.99)$   
 $5x=0.01$   
 $x=0.002$

• This is "small"  $x$   
 $(2-5x)^{10} \approx 1024 - 25600x + 288000x^2 - 1920000x^3$

• let  $x=0.002$   
 $1.99^{10} \approx 1024 - 25600(0.002) + 288000(0.002)^2 - 1920000(0.002)^3$   
 $1.99^{10} \approx 974$   
 (3 s.f.)

Question 46 (\*\*\*\*)

$$(1+ax)^n = 1 - 30x + 405x^2 + bx^3 + \dots,$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants, and  $n$  is a positive integer.

Determine the value of  $n$ ,  $a$  and  $b$ .

$$n = 10, \quad a = -3, \quad b = -3240$$

$(1+ax)^n = 1 + \frac{n}{1}ax + \frac{n(n-1)}{1 \times 2}a^2x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{1 \times 2 \times 3}a^3x^3 + \dots$

$= 1 + \frac{n}{1}ax + \frac{n(n-1)}{2}a^2x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{6}a^3x^3 + \dots$

$na = -30 \Rightarrow a = -\frac{30}{n}$   
 $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)a^2 = 405 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}n(n-1)\left(\frac{30}{n}\right)^2 = 810$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{n(n-1) \cdot 900}{2n^2} = 810$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{n-1}{2} = 9$   
 $\Rightarrow 10n - 10 = 18n$   
 $\Rightarrow n = 10$   
 $\therefore a = -\frac{30}{10} = -3$   
 $b = \frac{1}{6} \times 10 \times 9 \times 6 \times (-3)^3 = -3240$

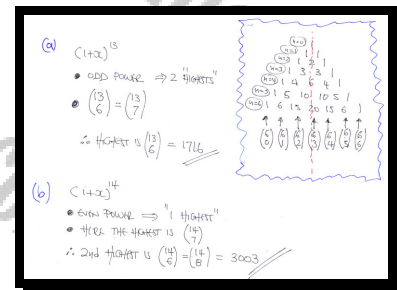
Question 47 (\*\*\*\*)

$$f(x) \equiv (1+x)^n, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Determine showing a clear complete method the coefficient ...

- a) ... of the **highest** power of  $x$  in the binomial expansion of  $f(x)$ , when  $n = 13$ .
- b) ... of the **second highest** power of  $x$  in the binomial expansion of  $f(x)$ , when  $n = 14$ .

,  1716 ,  3003

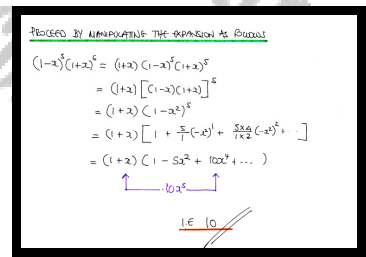


Question 48 (\*\*\*\*)

Find the coefficient of  $x^5$  in the binomial expansion of

$$(1-x)^5(1+x)^6.$$

,   $x^5$  = 10



Question 49 (\*\*\*\*)

$$f(x) = \left(4x + \frac{1}{kx}\right)^7,$$

where  $k$  is a positive constant.

Given the coefficient of  $x^3$  in the binomial expansion of  $f(x)$  is 21, determine the value of  $k$ .

,

Handwritten solution showing the binomial expansion of  $(4x + \frac{1}{kx})^7$ . The expansion is written as:

$$(4x + \frac{1}{kx})^7 = \binom{7}{0} (4x)^7 (\frac{1}{kx})^0 + \binom{7}{1} (4x)^6 (\frac{1}{kx})^1 + \dots + \binom{7}{6} (4x)^1 (\frac{1}{kx})^6 + \dots + \binom{7}{7} (4x)^0 (\frac{1}{kx})^7$$

The term containing  $x^3$  is identified as:

$$\binom{7}{6} (4x)^1 (\frac{1}{kx})^6 = \frac{7!}{1!6!} 4x \cdot \frac{1}{k^6 x^6} = \frac{7 \cdot 6!}{6!} \frac{4}{k^6} x^{-5} = \frac{7 \cdot 4}{k^6} x^{-5}$$

Setting the coefficient equal to 21:

$$\frac{28}{k^6} = 21$$

$$1024 = k^2$$

$$k = 32 \quad (k > 0)$$

Question 50 (\*\*\*\*)

$$f(x) = (1+2x)^5, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- Find the binomial expansion of  $f(x)$ .
- Hence state the binomial expansion of  $f(-x)$ .
- Find the two non zero solutions of the equation

$$f(x) - f(-x) = 64x.$$

$$\boxed{\phantom{0000}}, \quad \boxed{f(x) = 1 + 10x + 40x^2 + 80x^3 + 80x^4 + 32x^5},$$

$$\boxed{f(-x) = 1 - 10x + 40x^2 - 80x^3 + 80x^4 - 32x^5} \quad \boxed{x = \pm \frac{1}{2}}$$

$$f(x) = (1+2x)^5 = 1 + \binom{5}{1}(2x) + \binom{5}{2}(2x)^2 + \binom{5}{3}(2x)^3 + \binom{5}{4}(2x)^4 + \binom{5}{5}(2x)^5$$

$$= 1 + 10x + 40x^2 + 80x^3 + 80x^4 + 32x^5$$

$$f(-x) = (1-2x)^5 = 1 + \binom{5}{1}(-2x) + \binom{5}{2}(-2x)^2 + \binom{5}{3}(-2x)^3 + \binom{5}{4}(-2x)^4 + \binom{5}{5}(-2x)^5$$

$$= 1 - 10x + 40x^2 - 80x^3 + 80x^4 - 32x^5$$

$$f(x) - f(-x) = 64x$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 + 10x + 40x^2 + 80x^3 + 80x^4 + 32x^5 - (1 - 10x + 40x^2 - 80x^3 + 80x^4 - 32x^5) = 64x$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 + 10x + 40x^2 + 80x^3 + 80x^4 + 32x^5 - 1 + 10x - 40x^2 + 80x^3 - 80x^4 + 32x^5 = 64x$$

$$\Rightarrow 20x + 160x^3 = 64x$$

$$\Rightarrow 20x^3 + 160x^3 - 64x = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x(40x^2 + 40x^3 - 16) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 40x^2 + 40x^3 - 16 = 0 \quad (x \neq 0)$$

BY QUADRATIC FORMULA

$$x^2 = \frac{-40 \pm \sqrt{1600 + 25600}}{80} = \frac{-40 \pm 160}{80}$$

$$x^2 = \frac{-40 + 160}{80} = \frac{120}{80} = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$x = \pm \frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}$$

**Question 51** (\*\*\*\*)

In the binomial expansion of  $(1+ax)^k$ , where  $a$  and  $k$  are non zero constants, the coefficient of  $x$  is 8 and the coefficient of  $x^2$  is 30.

- Determine the value of  $a$  and the value of  $k$ .
- Find the coefficient of  $x^3$ .

,  $a = \frac{1}{2}$  ,  $k = 16$  ,

a) EXPAND UP A MODULO THE  $x^3$  TERM

$$(1+ax)^k = 1 + \frac{k}{1 \times 1}(ax) + \frac{k(k-1)}{1 \times 2}(ax)^2 + \frac{k(k-1)(k-2)}{1 \times 2 \times 3}(ax)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \frac{k}{1}ax + \frac{k(k-1)}{2}a^2x^2 + \frac{k(k-1)(k-2)}{6}a^3x^3 + \dots$$

COEFFICIENTS

$$\left. \begin{aligned} ka &= 8 \\ \frac{1}{2}k(k-1)a^2 &= 30 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} k^2a^2 &= 64 \\ k^2(k-1)a^2 &= 60k \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

MULTIPLY BY 2C

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow 6k(k-1) &= 60k \\ \rightarrow 6k - 6k &= 60k \\ \rightarrow 4k &= 64 \\ \rightarrow k &= 16 \end{aligned}$$

9 SINCE  $ka=8$  ,  $a = \frac{1}{2}$

b) TO FIND THE COEFFICIENT OF  $x^3$

$$\frac{1}{6}k(k-1)(k-2)a^3 = \frac{1}{6} \times 16 \times 15 \times 14 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 = 70$$

Question 52 (\*\*\*\*)

$$f(x) \equiv (k+x)^n, \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

where  $k$  and  $n$  are constants such that  $k \in \mathbb{R}, k \neq 0, n \in \mathbb{N}, n > 3$ .

- a) Given the coefficients of  $x^2$  and  $x^3$  in the binomial expansion of  $f(x)$  are equal, show clearly that

$$n = 3k + 2.$$

- b) Given further that  $k = 2$ , determine the coefficient of  $x^4$  in the binomial expansion of  $f(x)$ .

,  $[x^4] = 1120$

(a)  $(k+x)^n = \left[ k \left( 1 + \frac{x}{k} \right) \right]^n = k^n \left( 1 + \frac{x}{k} \right)^n$   
 $= k^n \left[ 1 + \frac{n}{k} \left( \frac{x}{k} \right) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} \left( \frac{x}{k} \right)^2 + \dots \right]$   
 $= k^n \left[ 1 + \frac{n}{k} x + \frac{n(n-1)}{2! k^2} x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3! k^3} x^3 + \dots \right]$   
 $\therefore \frac{n(n-1)}{2! k^2} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3! k^3}$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{n(n-1)(n-1)}{2! k^2} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3! k^3} \quad (n > 3)$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{n(n-1)}{2! k^2} = \frac{n(n-2)}{3! k^3}$   
 $\Rightarrow 3k = n-2 \quad (k \neq 0)$   
 $\Rightarrow n = 3k + 2$

(b) Now  $k=2, n=8$   
 $\therefore$  coefficient of  $x^4 \Rightarrow 2^8 \left[ \dots + \frac{8! \cdot 6 \cdot 5}{(2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5)} \left( \frac{x}{2} \right)^4 + \dots \right]$   
 $= 256 \left[ \dots + \frac{7! \cdot 6}{120} x^4 + \dots \right]$   
 $\therefore [x^4] = 1120$

ALTERNATIVE:  
 $(2+x)^8 = \dots + \binom{8}{4} (2^4) x^4 + \dots$   
 $= \dots + 70 \cdot 16 x^4 + \dots$   
 $= 1120 x^4$



Question 53 (\*\*\*)

- a) Find the binomial expansion of  $(3+x)^4$ , simplifying fully each coefficient.  
 b) Hence solve the equation

$$(3+x)^4 + (3-x)^4 = 386.$$

$$81 + 108x + 54x^2 + 12x^3 + x^4, \quad x = \pm\sqrt{2}$$

$$(a) (3+x)^4 = \binom{4}{0}(3^4) + \binom{4}{1}(3^3)x + \binom{4}{2}(3^2)x^2 + \binom{4}{3}(3)x^3 + \binom{4}{4}(x^4)$$

$$= (1 \times 81) + (4 \times 27x) + (6 \times 9x^2) + (4 \times 3x^3) + (1 \times x^4)$$

$$= 81 + 108x + 54x^2 + 12x^3 + x^4$$

$$(b) (3-x)^4 = 81 + 108(-x) + 54(-x)^2 + 12(-x)^3 + (-x)^4$$

$$= 81 - 108x + 54x^2 - 12x^3 + x^4$$

$$\therefore (3+x)^4 + (3-x)^4 = 81 + 108x + 54x^2 + 12x^3 + x^4 + 81 - 108x + 54x^2 - 12x^3 + x^4$$

$$= 162 + 108x^2 + 2x^4$$

Hence  $2x^4 + 108x^2 + 162 = 386$   
 $2x^4 + 108x^2 - 224 = 0$   
 $x^4 + 54x^2 - 112 = 0$   
 $x^4 + 54x^2 - 112 = 0 \quad (y = x^2)$   
 $(y + 56)(y - 2) = 0$   
 $y = -56$   
 $x^2 = 2$   
 $x = \pm\sqrt{2}$

**Question 54** (\*\*\*)

- a) Find the binomial expansion of  $(2x-4)^5$ , simplifying fully each coefficient.  
 b) Hence find the coefficient of ...

i. ...  $y^2$  in the binomial expansion of  $\left(\frac{y+16}{4}\right)^5$ .

ii. ...  $z^8$  in the binomial expansion of  $(\sqrt{2}z-2)^5(\sqrt{2}z+2)^5$ .

,  $32x^5 - 320x^4 + 1280x^3 - 2560x^2 + 2560x - 1024$  ,  $\left[y^2\right] = 40$  ,  $\left[z^8\right] = -320$

$(2x-4)^5 = \binom{5}{0}(2x)^5 + \binom{5}{1}(2x)^4(-4) + \binom{5}{2}(2x)^3(-4)^2 + \binom{5}{3}(2x)^2(-4)^3 + \binom{5}{4}(2x)(-4)^4 + \binom{5}{5}(-4)^5$   
 $= (32x^5) - (320x^4) + (1280x^3) - (2560x^2) + (2560x) - (1024)$   
 $= 32x^5 - 320x^4 + 1280x^3 - 2560x^2 + 2560x - 1024$

(b) i  $\frac{y+16}{4} = 2x+4$  Hence the coefficient of  $y^2$  must be  
 $y+16 = 4x+16$   $2560\left(\frac{y}{4}\right)^2 = 40y^2$   
 $x = \frac{y}{4}$   $\therefore 40$

(ii)  $(\sqrt{2}z-2)^5(\sqrt{2}z+2)^5 = (2z^2-4)^5$   
 $z^2 = 2$  Hence the coefficient of  $z^8$  is the same as that of  $z^4$   
 $\therefore -320$

**Question 55** (\*\*\*)

Find the coefficient of  $x^{11}$  in the binomial expansion of

$$\left(\frac{9}{2x} - \frac{2x^2}{3}\right)^{13}$$

,  $\left[x^{11}\right] = 92664$

$\left(\frac{9}{2x} - \frac{2x^2}{3}\right)^{13} = \dots + \binom{13}{5}\left(\frac{9}{2x}\right)^8\left(-\frac{2x^2}{3}\right)^5 + \dots$   
 $= \dots + 1287 \times \frac{9^8 \times 2^5 \times x^{-8+10}}{32 \times 3^5} + \dots$   
 $= \dots + 50664x^2 + \dots$   
 $\therefore \left[x^{11}\right] = 92664$

Question 56 (\*\*\*\*)

If  $k > 0$  and  $n$  is a positive integer, then

$$(1+kx)^n \equiv 1 + \frac{7}{2}x + Bx^2 + Bx^3 + \dots,$$

where  $B$  is a non zero constant.

By considering the coefficients of  $x^2$  and  $x^3$ , show that

$$nk = 2k + 3,$$

and hence find the value of  $n$  and the value of  $k$ .

$$\boxed{\phantom{000}}, \quad \boxed{n=14}, \quad \boxed{k=\frac{1}{4}}$$

EXPAND & COMPARE COEFFICIENTS

$$(1+kx)^n = 1 + \frac{n}{1}kx + \frac{n(n-1)}{1 \cdot 2}(kx)^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3}(kx)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \frac{nkx}{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)k^2x^2}{B} + \frac{\frac{1}{6}n(n-1)(n-2)k^3x^3}{B} + \dots$$

EXTRACTING TWO EQUATIONS

- $nk = \frac{7}{2}$
- $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)k^2 = \frac{1}{6}n(n-1)(n-2)k^3$

$n > 2$  &  $k \neq 0$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{6}(n-2)k$$

$$\rightarrow 3 = (n-2)k$$

$$\rightarrow 3 = nk - 2k$$

$$\rightarrow \underline{2k + 3 = nk} \quad \text{As BEFORE}$$

SOLVING SIMULTANEOUSLY YIELDS

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow 2k + 3 &= nk \\ \rightarrow 2k + 3 &= \frac{7}{2}k \\ \rightarrow 2k &= \frac{7}{2}k - 3 \\ \rightarrow k &= \frac{7}{4} - \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

a  $\frac{nk}{n} = \frac{7}{2}$

$\frac{nk}{n} = \frac{7}{2}$

$n = 14$

**Question 57** (\*\*\*\*)

Show that if  $x$  is numerically small

$$(2 + x - x^2)^5 \approx A + Bx + Cx^3$$

where  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  are integers to be found.

,  $A = 32$  ,  $B = 80$  ,  $C = -120$

EXPAND AS A BINOMIAL

$$\begin{aligned} (2+x-x^2)^5 &= [2 + (x-x^2)]^5 \\ &= \binom{5}{0} 2^5 (x-x^2)^0 + \binom{5}{1} 2^4 (x-x^2)^1 + \binom{5}{2} 2^3 (x-x^2)^2 + \dots \\ &= 32 + 80(x-x^2) + \dots \\ &= 32 + 80x - 80x^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

**Question 58** (\*\*\*\*)

It is given that

$$(1-2x)^2(2+kx)^4 \equiv A + Bx - 104x^2 + \dots,$$

where  $k$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  are non zero constants.

Determine the possible values of  $B$ .

,  $B = 32 \cup \frac{32}{3}$

EXPAND AS BINOMIAL

$$\begin{aligned} (1-2x)^2(2+kx)^4 &\equiv A + Bx - 104x^2 + \dots \\ (1-4x+4x^2) \left[ \binom{4}{0} 2^4 (kx)^0 + \binom{4}{1} 2^3 (kx)^1 + \binom{4}{2} 2^2 (kx)^2 + \dots \right] &\equiv A + Bx - 104x^2 + \dots \\ (1-4x+4x^2) (16 + 32kx + 24k^2x^2 + \dots) &\equiv A + Bx - 104x^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

MULTIPLY OUT UP TO  $x^2$

$$\begin{aligned} &\left. \begin{aligned} 16 + 32kx + 24k^2x^2 + \dots \\ -64x - 128kx^2 + \dots \\ 64x^2 + \dots \end{aligned} \right\} \equiv A + Bx - 104x^2 + \dots \\ 16 + (32k-64)x + (24k^2-128k+64)x^2 &\equiv A + Bx - 104x^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore A = 16$  (OR  $x=0$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow 24k^2 - 128k + 64 &= -104 \\ \Rightarrow 24k^2 - 128k + 168 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow 3k^2 - 16k + 21 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow (3k-7)(k-3) &= 0 \\ k &< \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$32k - 64 = 8$

$$B = \begin{cases} 32 \times 3 - 64 = 32 \\ 32 \times \frac{7}{3} - 64 = \frac{32}{3} \end{cases}$$

Question 59 (\*\*\*\*)

$$(2+ax)(1+bx)^7 = 2 - 41x + 357x^2 + \dots,$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

Show that  $b = -3$  and find the value of  $a$ .

,

$$(2+ax)(1+bx)^7 = (2+ax) \left[ 1 + 7(bx) + \frac{21}{2}(bx)^2 + \dots \right]$$

$$= (2+ax)(1 + 7bx + 21b^2x^2 + \dots)$$

$$= 2 + 14bx + 42b^2x^2 + \dots$$

$$= 2 + (14b+ax)x + (21b^2+42b^2)x^2 + \dots$$

$\bullet \begin{cases} a+14b = -41 \\ 21b+42b^2 = 357 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = -41-14b \\ b = -3 \end{cases}$

$7b(-41-14b) + 42b^2 = 357$   
 $-287b - 98b^2 + 42b^2 = 357$   
 $0 = 56b^2 + 287b + 357$   
 $0 = 4b^2 + 41b + 51$   
 $(4b+7)(b+3) = 0$

$\therefore \begin{cases} a = -41-14(-3) = 1 \\ b = -3 \end{cases}$

**Question 60** (\*\*\*\*+)

a) Find the first four terms, in ascending powers of  $x$ , of the binomial expansion of  $(6x-3)^8$ , simplifying fully each coefficient.

b) Hence find the coefficient of ...

i. ...  $y^3$  in the binomial expansion of  $\left(\frac{y+9}{3}\right)^8$ .

ii. ...  $z^6$  in the binomial expansion of  $(\sqrt{2}z-1)^8(\sqrt{2}z+1)^8$ .

,  $6561 - 104976x + 734832x^2 - 2939328x^3 + \dots$  ,  $\boxed{y^3} = 504$  ,  
 $\boxed{z^6} = -448$

a) EXPANDING BY THE STANDARD BINOMIAL FORMULA

$$(6x-3)^8 = \binom{8}{0}(6x)^8 + \binom{8}{1}(6x)^7(-3) + \binom{8}{2}(6x)^6(-3)^2 + \dots$$

$$= (1 \times 1 \times 6561) + (8 \times 6^7 \times (-243)) + (28 \times 36^3 \times 729) + \dots$$

$$= 6561 - 104976x + 734832x^2 - 2939328x^3 + \dots$$

b) PRECEDE AS FOLLOWS

$$\frac{y+9}{3} = 6x+3$$

$$y+9 = 18x+9$$

$$18x = y$$

$$x = \frac{1}{18}y$$

USE PART (a)

$$\left[6\left(\frac{y}{18}\right) - 3\right]^8 = 6561 - \dots - 2939328\left(\frac{1}{18}\right)^3 + \dots$$

$$\left[\frac{y+9}{3}\right]^8 = 6561 - \dots - 504y^3 + \dots$$

USE AS FOLLOWS

$$(\sqrt{2}z-1)^8(\sqrt{2}z+1)^8 = [(\sqrt{2}z-1)(\sqrt{2}z+1)]^8$$

$$= (2z^2-1)^8$$

$$= \frac{1}{3^8} \times 2^8 \times (2z^2-1)^8$$

$$= \frac{1}{3^8} \times [3(2z^2-1)]^8$$

$$= \frac{1}{6561} [6z^2-3]^8$$

$$= \frac{1}{6561} [6561 - 104976(2z^2) + 734832(2z^2)^2 - 2939328(2z^2)^3 + \dots]$$

$$= \frac{1}{6561} [\dots - 2939328z^6 + \dots]$$

$$= \dots - 448z^6 + \dots$$

$\therefore -448$

Question 61 (\*\*\*)

$$(2+ax)^2(1+bx)^6 = 4+44x+85x^2+\dots,$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

Find the possible values of  $a$  and the possible values of  $b$ .

$$\boxed{11}, [a,b] = [-7,3] \cup \left[\frac{25}{2}, -\frac{1}{4}\right]$$

EXPAND THE EXPRESSION UP TO  $x^2$ , IN TERMS OF  $a$  &  $b$

$$\begin{aligned} (2+ax)^2(1+bx)^6 &= (4 + 4ax + a^2x^2) \left[ 1 + 6bx + \frac{6 \times 5}{2} (bx)^2 + \dots \right] \\ &= (4 + 4ax + a^2x^2) (1 + 6bx + 15b^2x^2 + \dots) \\ &= 4 + 24bx + 60b^2x^2 + \dots \\ &\quad + 4ax + 24abx^2 + \dots \\ &= 4 + (4a+24b)x + (60b^2+24ab+a^2)x^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

COMPARE COEFFICIENTS

- $4a+24b = 44$
- $a+6b = 11$
- $a = 11-6b$

→

- $60b^2+24ab+a^2 = 85$
- $60b^2+24b(11-6b)+(11-6b)^2 = 85$
- $60b^2+264b-144b^2+121-132b+36b^2 = 85$
- $-48b^2+132b+36 = 0$
- $4b^2-11b-3 = 0$
- $(4b+1)(b-3) = 0$
- $b = \frac{3}{4}$
- $b = -\frac{1}{4}$
- $a = \frac{11-6 \times \frac{3}{4}}{1} = \frac{11-9}{1} = 2$
- $a = \frac{11-6 \times (-\frac{1}{4})}{1} = \frac{11+\frac{3}{2}}{1} = \frac{25}{2}$

FINAL:  $a=2$  &  $b=3$   
OR  $a=\frac{25}{2}$  &  $b=-\frac{1}{4}$

Question 62 (\*\*\*)

- a) Given that  $c$  is a non zero constant, determine the first four terms, in ascending powers of  $x$ , in the binomial expansion of  $(1+cx)^6$ .

It is further given that

$$\left(a + \frac{b}{x}\right)(1+cx)^6 \equiv -\frac{4}{x} + 74 - 576x + \dots,$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are non zero constants.

- b) Show that one of the two possible values of  $c$  is  $-3$ , and find the other.

$$\boxed{\phantom{000000}}, \boxed{1+6cx+15c^2x^2+20c^3x^3+\dots}, \boxed{c = -\frac{16}{7}}$$

a) EXPANDING USING THE BINOMIAL FORMULA  
 $(1+cx)^6 = 1 + 6(cx) + \frac{6 \times 5}{1 \times 2} (cx)^2 + \frac{6 \times 5 \times 4}{1 \times 2 \times 3} (cx)^3 + \dots$   
 $= 1 + 6cx + 15c^2x^2 + 20c^3x^3 + \dots$

b) PROCEED AS BEFORE  
 $\rightarrow \left(a + \frac{b}{x}\right)(1+cx)^6 \equiv 74 - \frac{4}{x} - 576x + \dots$   
 $\rightarrow \left(a + \frac{b}{x}\right)(1+6cx+15c^2x^2+20c^3x^3+\dots) \equiv 74 - \frac{4}{x} - 576x + \dots$   
 $\rightarrow a + 6acx + 15ac^2x^2 + 20ac^3x^3 + \dots \equiv 74 - \frac{4}{x} - 576x + \dots$   
 $\rightarrow \frac{b}{x} + 6ac + 15c^2x + 20c^3x^2 + \dots \equiv 74 - \frac{4}{x} - 576x + \dots$   
 $\therefore b = -4 \quad \left(\frac{b}{x} \equiv -\frac{4}{x}\right)$

ALSO USE ABOVE

$\bullet a + 6bc = 74$ $\Rightarrow a - 24c = 74$ $\Rightarrow a = 74 + 24c$	$\bullet 6ac + 15bc^2 = -576$ $\Rightarrow 6ac - 60c^2 = -576$ $\Rightarrow ac - 10c^2 = -96$ $\xrightarrow{a = 74 + 24c}$
	$\rightarrow (74+24c)c - 10c^2 = -96$ $\rightarrow 74c + 24c^2 - 10c^2 = -96$ $\rightarrow 14c^2 + 74c + 96 = 0$ $\rightarrow 7c^2 + 37c + 48 = 0$ $\rightarrow (7c+16)(c+3) = 0$ $\Rightarrow c = -\frac{16}{7}$



Question 63 (\*\*\*)

Find the coefficient of  $x^2$  in the binomial expansion of

$$(2x^2 + 3x + 1)^7.$$

B,  $[x^2] = 203$

$f(x) = (2x^2 + 3x + 1)^7$   
 $f(x) = [(2x^2 + 3x) + 1]^7$   
 $f(x) = (1 + 3x)^7 (1 + 2x)^7$   
 $f(x) = [1 + 7(3x) + \frac{7 \cdot 6}{2} (3x)^2 + \dots] [1 + 7(2x) + \frac{7 \cdot 6}{2} (2x)^2 + \dots]$   
 $f(x) = (1 + 7x + 21x^2 + \dots) (1 + 14x + 84x^2 + \dots)$   
 $\therefore [x^2] = 21 + 98 + 84 = 203$

ALTERNATIVE  
 Let  $f(x) = (3x + 2x^2 + 1)^7 = [1 + (3x + 2x^2)]^7$   
 $f(x) = 1 + 7(3x + 2x^2) + \frac{7 \cdot 6}{2} (3x + 2x^2)^2 + \dots$   
 $f(x) = 1 + 7(3x + 2x^2) + 3(9x^2 + \dots) + \dots$   
 $\therefore [x^2] = 14 + 189 = 203$

Question 64 (\*\*\*)

- a) Find the binomial expansion of  $(2+x)^5$ .  
 b) Hence solve the equation

$$(2+x)^5 + (2-x)^5 = 105.25$$

$$(2+x)^5 = 32 + 80x + 80x^2 + 40x^3 + 10x^4 + x^5, \quad x = \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

$(2+x)^5 = \binom{5}{0} 2^5 x^0 + \binom{5}{1} 2^4 x^1 + \binom{5}{2} 2^3 x^2 + \binom{5}{3} 2^2 x^3 + \binom{5}{4} 2^1 x^4 + \binom{5}{5} 2^0 x^5$   
 $= (1 \times 32) + (5 \times 16x) + (10 \times 8x^2) + (10 \times 4x^3) + (5 \times 2x^4) + (1 \times x^5)$   
 $= 32 + 80x + 80x^2 + 40x^3 + 10x^4 + x^5$   
 b)  $(2-x)^5 = 32 + 80(-x) + 80(-x)^2 + 40(-x)^3 + 10(-x)^4 + (-x)^5$   
 $= 32 - 80x + 80x^2 - 40x^3 + 10x^4 - x^5$   
 $\therefore (2+x)^5 + (2-x)^5 = 105.25$   
 $\Rightarrow (32 + 80x + 80x^2 + 40x^3 + 10x^4 + x^5) + (32 - 80x + 80x^2 - 40x^3 + 10x^4 - x^5) = 105.25$   
 $\Rightarrow 64 + 160x^2 + 20x^4 = 105.25$   
 $\Rightarrow 20x^2 + 160x^2 - 41.25 = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow$  This is a quadratic in  $x^2$   
 completing the square or quadratic formula  
 $x^2 = \frac{-160 \pm \sqrt{160^2 - 4 \times 20 \times (-41.25)}}{2 \times 20} = \frac{-160 \pm 170}{40} = \pm \frac{10}{40}$   
 $x^2 = \frac{1}{4}$   
 $\therefore x = \pm \frac{1}{2}$

Question 65 (\*\*\*)

$$(1+x-x^2)^6 = 1 + Ax + Bx^2 + Cx^3 + \dots$$

Determine the value of each of the constants  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$ .

$$\boxed{A=6}, \boxed{B=-21}, \boxed{C=-10}$$

$(1+x-x^2)^6 = [1 + (x-x^2)]^6$   
 $= 1 + 6(x-x^2) + 15(x-x^2)^2 + 20(x-x^2)^3 + \dots$   
 $= 1 + 6x - 6x^2 + 15(x^2 - 2x^3 + x^4) + 20(x^3 - 3x^4 + \dots) + \dots$   
 $= 1 + 6x - 6x^2 + 15x^2 - 30x^3 + 20x^3 + \dots$   
 $= 1 + 6x + 9x^2 - 10x^3 + \dots$   
 $A=6, B=9, C=-10$

Question 66 (\*\*\*)

It is given that if  $k$  is a constant then

$$(1 + k\sqrt{3})^4 \equiv 892 - 336\sqrt{3}.$$

Determine the value of  $k$ .

$$k = -3$$

$(1 + k\sqrt{3})^4 \equiv 892 - 336\sqrt{3}$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 + 4(k\sqrt{3}) + \frac{4 \times 3}{2!}(k\sqrt{3})^2 + \frac{4 \times 3 \times 3}{3!}(k\sqrt{3})^3 + \frac{81}{4!}(k\sqrt{3})^4 \equiv 892 - 336\sqrt{3}$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 + 4k\sqrt{3} + 18k^2 + 12\sqrt{3}k^3 + 9k^4 \equiv 892 - 336\sqrt{3}$   
 $\Rightarrow (1 + 18k^2 + 9k^4) + (4k + 12k^3)\sqrt{3} \equiv 892 - 336\sqrt{3}$

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <math>9k^4 + 18k^2 + 1 = 892</math></li> <li><math>\Rightarrow 9k^4 + 18k^2 - 891 = 0</math></li> <li><math>\Rightarrow k^4 + 2k^2 - 99 = 0</math></li> <li><math>\Rightarrow (k^2 + 11)(k^2 - 9) = 0</math></li> <li><math>\Rightarrow k^2 = 9</math></li> <li><math>\Rightarrow k = \pm 3</math></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <math>4k + 12k^3 = -336</math></li> <li><math>\Rightarrow k + 3k^3 = -84</math></li> <li><math>\Rightarrow 3k^3 + k + 84 = 0</math></li> <li>IF <math>k = 3</math></li> <li><math>3 \times 3^3 + 3 + 84 = 162</math></li> <li>IF <math>k = -3</math></li> <li><math>3(-3)^3 - 3 + 84 = 0</math></li> <li><math>\therefore k = -3</math></li> </ul>
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**Question 67** (\*\*\*\*+)

If  $A$ ,  $k$  and  $n$  are constants, with  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then

$$(1+kx)^n = 1 + Ax + 264x^2 + 1760x^3 + \dots$$

a) Show that

$$(n-2)k = 20.$$

b) Determine the value of  $A$ .

,  $A = 24$

(1+kx)^n = 1 + Ax + 264x^2 + 1760x^3 + \dots

a) EXPAND (1+kx)^n OP AND INCLUDE THE TERM IN x^2

$$(1+kx)^n = 1 + \frac{n}{1}kx + \frac{n(n-1)}{1 \times 2}k^2x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{1 \times 2 \times 3}k^3x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + nkx + \frac{1}{2}n(n-1)k^2x^2 + \frac{1}{6}n(n-1)(n-2)k^3x^3$$

COMPARING COEFFICIENTS IN x^2 & x^3

- $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)k^2 = 264$
- $\frac{1}{6}n(n-1)(n-2)k^3 = 1760$
- $\frac{1}{3}[\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)k^2](n-2)k = 1760$
- $\frac{1}{3} \times 264(n-2)k = 1760$
- $(n-2)k = 20$  (AS REQUIRED)

b) NOW WE HAVE

- $\frac{1}{2}n(n-1)k^2 = 264$
- $n(n-1)k^2 = 528$
- $(n-2)k = 20$
- $(n-2)^2k^2 = 400$

DIVIDING THE EQUATIONS SIDE BY SIDE

$$\frac{n(n-1)k^2}{(n-2)^2k^2} = \frac{528}{400}$$

FINALLY A = nk

$$A = 12 \times 2 \quad \therefore A = 24$$

**Question 68** (\*\*\*\*\*)

The binomial coefficients are given by

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

Show directly from the above definition that

$$\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k}.$$

,  proof

The handwritten proof shows the following steps:

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{n}{k} &= \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k} \\ \text{RHS} &= \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k} = \frac{(n-1)!}{(k-1)!(n-1-(k-1))!} + \frac{(n-1)!}{k!(n-1-k)!} \\ &= (n-1)! \left[ \frac{1}{(k-1)!(n-k)!} + \frac{1}{k!(n-1-k)!} \right] \quad \text{ADD FRACTIONS (SEE COMMON DENOMINATOR)} \\ &= (n-1)! \left[ \frac{k}{k!(n-k)!} + \frac{n-k}{k!(n-k)!} \right] \\ &= (n-1)! \times \frac{n}{k!(n-k)!} = \frac{n(n-1)!}{k!(n-k)!} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} = \binom{n}{k} \quad \text{Q.E.D.} \end{aligned}$$

Question 69 (\*\*\*\*)

Find the value, or possible values, of  $y$  if

$$y = 8x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} \quad \text{and} \quad 4x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2} = 12.$$

$$\boxed{y = \pm 40}$$

CONSIDER THE BINOMIAL EXPANSION  $(A+B)^2 = A^2 + 2AB + B^2$

$$\Rightarrow \left(2x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^2 = 4x^2 + 2(2x)\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + \frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(2x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^2 = 4x^2 + 4 + \frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(2x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^2 = (4x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2}) + 4$$

$$\Rightarrow (2x + \frac{1}{x})^2 = 12 + 4$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x + \frac{1}{x} = \pm 4$$

NOW CONSIDER THE BINOMIAL EXPANSION OF  $(A+B)^3$

$$\Rightarrow (A+B)^3 = A^3 + 3A^2B + 3AB^2 + B^3$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(2x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^3 = 8x^3 + 3(2x)^2\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + 3(2x)\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{x^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(2x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^3 = 8x^3 + 12x + \frac{6}{x} + \frac{1}{x^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(2x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^3 = (8x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}) + 6\left(2x + \frac{1}{x}\right)$$

AND FINALLY WE HAVE

$$\Rightarrow (\pm 4)^3 = y + 6(\pm 4)$$

$$\Rightarrow \pm 64 = y \pm 24$$

$$\Rightarrow \pm 64 - 24 = y$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \begin{cases} 64 - 24 \\ -64 + 24 \end{cases}$$

$\therefore y = \pm 40$

Question 70 (\*\*\*\*\*)

It is given that

$$f(x) = \sum_{r=0}^n \left[ \binom{n}{r} x^r (1+x+x^2)^{n-r} \right],$$

where  $n$  is a positive integer constant.

- a) Evaluate  $f(-1)$ .
- b) Find the value of  $n$  that satisfies the equation

$$f(3)f(2) = 1728^{1728}.$$

,  $f(-1) = 0$  ,  $n = 2592$

$f(x) = \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} x^r (1+x+x^2)^{n-r} = [(1+x+x^2)]^n = (1+2x+x^2)^n$   
 (a)  $\therefore f(-1) = (1-2+1)^n = 0^n = 0$  (for all  $n$ )  
 (b)  $f(3)f(2) = 1728^{1728}$   
 $\Rightarrow (1+3+9)^n (1+3+9)^n = 1728^{1728}$   
 $\Rightarrow 16^n \times 9^n = 1728^{1728}$   
 $\Rightarrow (16 \times 9)^n = 1728^{1728}$   
 $\Rightarrow 144^n = (12^2)^{1728}$   
 $\Rightarrow (2^4)^n = (2^2)^{1728}$   
 $\Rightarrow 2^{4n} = 2^{1728 \times 2}$   
 $\Rightarrow 4n = 1728 \times 2$   
 $\Rightarrow n = 1728$

**Question 71** (\*\*\*\*)

The coefficients of  $x^n$ ,  $x^{n+1}$  and  $x^{n+2}$  in the binomial expansion of  $(1+x)^{23}$  are in arithmetic progression.

Determine the possible values of  $n$ .

$$\boxed{2}, \boxed{n=8, 13}$$

$\binom{23}{n} \binom{23}{n+1} \& \binom{23}{n+2}$  ARE IN ARITHMETIC PROGRESSION  
 $\Rightarrow \binom{23}{n+2} - \binom{23}{n+1} = \binom{23}{n+1} - \binom{23}{n}$   
 $\Rightarrow \binom{23}{n+2} + \binom{23}{n} = 2 \binom{23}{n+1}$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{23!}{(n+2)!(23-n-2)!} + \frac{23!}{n!(23-n)!} = 2 \times \frac{23!}{(n+1)!(23-n-1)!}$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{(n+2)!(23-n)!} + \frac{1}{n!(23-n)!} = \frac{2}{(n+1)!(23-n)!}$   
 MULTIPLY THE EQUATION THROUGH BY  $(n+2)!$   
 $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{(23-n)!} + \frac{(n+2)(n+1)}{(23-n)!} = \frac{2(n+2)}{(23-n)!}$   
 MANIPULATE THE FRACTIONS FURTHER  
 $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{(23-n)!} + \frac{(n+2)(n+1)}{(23-n)(23-n-1)(23-n)!} = \frac{2(n+2)}{(23-n)(23-n)!}$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 + \frac{(n+2)(n+1)}{(23-n)(23-n-1)} = \frac{2(n+2)}{23-n}$   
 $\Rightarrow (23-n)(23-n) + (n+2)(n+1) = 2(n+2)(23-n)$   
 $\Rightarrow (n-23)(n-23) + (n+2)(n+1) + 2(n+2)(n-23) = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow n^2 - 45n + 25 \times 23 + n^2 + 3n + 2 + 2n^2 - 42n - 42 = 0$   
 $\quad \quad \quad \uparrow$   
 $\quad \quad \quad \frac{230}{26} = 506$

$$\begin{cases} n^2 - 45n + 506 = 0 \\ n^2 + 3n + 2 = 0 \\ 2n^2 - 42n - 42 = 0 \end{cases} = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} n^2 - 45n + 506 = 0 \\ n^2 - 21n + 104 = 0 \\ (n-8)(n-13) = 0 \end{cases} \begin{cases} 2 \times 52 \\ 4 \times 26 \\ 8 \times 13 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow n = \begin{cases} 8 \\ 13 \end{cases}$$



**Question 72** (\*\*\*\*\*)

It is given that

$$\binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{2} + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1} + \binom{n}{n} = k^n,$$

where  $n$  and  $k$  are positive integer constants.

a) By considering the binomial expansion of  $(1+x)^n$ , determine the value of  $k$ .

b) By considering the coefficient of  $x^n$  in

$$(1+x)^n (1+x)^n \equiv (1+x)^{2n},$$

simplify fully

$$\binom{n}{0}^2 + \binom{n}{1}^2 + \binom{n}{2}^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n-1}^2 + \binom{n}{n}^2.$$

,   $k = 2$

a)  $(1+x)^n = \binom{n}{0} 1^n x^0 + \binom{n}{1} 1^{n-1} x^1 + \binom{n}{2} 1^{n-2} x^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} 1^0 x^n$   
 $\Rightarrow (1+x)^n = \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} x + \binom{n}{2} x^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} x^n$   
 LET  $x=1$   
 $\Rightarrow (1+1)^n = \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{2} + \dots + \binom{n}{n}$   
 $\Rightarrow \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{2} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} = 2^n$

b)  $(1+x)^n (1+x)^n = (1+x)^{2n}$   
 $\Rightarrow \left[ \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} x + \dots + \binom{n}{n} x^n \right] \left[ \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} x + \dots + \binom{n}{n} x^n \right]$   
 $= \binom{n}{0} + \binom{n}{1} x + \binom{n}{2} x^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} x^n$   
 LOOKING AT THE COEFFICIENT OF  $x^n$  ON BOTH SIDES  
 $\binom{n}{0} \binom{n}{n} + \binom{n}{1} \binom{n}{n-1} + \binom{n}{2} \binom{n}{n-2} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} \binom{n}{0} = \binom{2n}{n}$   
 BUT FROM THE DEFINITION OF BINOMIAL COEFFICIENTS  
 $\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n}{n-r}$  e.g.  $\binom{5}{3} = \binom{5}{2}$ ,  $\binom{5}{2} = \binom{5}{3}$ ,  $\binom{5}{1} = \binom{5}{4}$ ...  
 THEREFORE  
 $\binom{n}{0}^2 + \binom{n}{1}^2 + \binom{n}{2}^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n}^2 = \binom{2n}{n}$

**Question 73** (\*\*\*\*\*)

It is given that

$$(a + bx)^n = 8192 + 6656x + 2496x^2 + \dots,$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $n$  are non zero constants.

Use algebra to determine the values of  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $n$ .

No credit will be given to solutions by inspection and/or verification

$$\boxed{\phantom{000}}, [a, b, n] = \left[ 2, \frac{1}{8}, 13 \right]$$

EXPAND IN ORDER FROM UP TO  $x^2$

$$(a + bx)^n = \binom{n}{0}(a)^n(bx)^0 + \binom{n}{1}(a)^{n-1}(bx)^1 + \binom{n}{2}(a)^{n-2}(bx)^2 + \dots$$

$$= [n a^{n-1} b x] + \left[ \frac{n(n-1)}{2} a^{n-2} b^2 x^2 \right] + \dots$$

$$= a^n + [n a^{n-1} b] x + \left[ \frac{n(n-1)}{2} a^{n-2} b^2 \right] x^2$$

↑                    ↑                    ↑  
8192                6656                2496

COLLECTING THE EQUATIONS

(1)  $a^n = 8192$

(2)  $n a^{n-1} b = 6656$  ← SQUARE

(3)  $\frac{1}{2} n(n-1) a^{n-2} b^2 = 2496$  ← DOUBLE

$$\Rightarrow \left( \frac{n^2 a^{2n-2} b^2}{n(n-1) a^{n-2} b^2} \right) = \frac{6656^2}{4992}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n^2 a^{2n-2} b^2}{n(n-1) a^{n-2} b^2} = \frac{6656^2}{4992}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{n-1} \times a^2 = \frac{26624}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{n-1} \times 8192 = \frac{26624}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{n-1} = \frac{13}{12}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x = 13x - 13$$

$$\Rightarrow 13 = n$$

↑  $n=13$

NOW USING (1)  $a^n = 8192$  (2)

$$\Rightarrow a^{13} = 8192$$

$$\Rightarrow a = \sqrt[13]{8192}$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 2$$

FINALLY USING  $n a^{n-1} b = 6656$

$$\Rightarrow 13 \times 2^{12} \times b = 6656$$

$$\Rightarrow b = \frac{6656}{13 \times 2^{12}}$$

$$\Rightarrow b = \frac{1}{8}$$

**Question 74** (\*\*\*\*\*)

It is given that

$$(a + bx)^n = 512 + 576x + 288x^2 + \dots,$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $n$  are non zero constants.

Use algebra to determine the values of  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $n$ .

No credit will be given to solutions by inspection and/or verification

$$\boxed{\phantom{000}}, [a, b, n] = \left[ 2, \frac{1}{4}, 9 \right]$$

EXPAND IN BINOMIAL FORM OF  $(a + bx)^n$

$$(a + bx)^n = \binom{n}{0} a^n (bx)^0 + \binom{n}{1} a^{n-1} (bx)^1 + \binom{n}{2} a^{n-2} (bx)^2 + \dots$$

$$= [1 \times a^n] + \left[ \frac{n}{1} \times a^{n-1} bx \right] + \left[ \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \times a^{n-2} b^2 x^2 \right] + \dots$$

$$= a^n + \frac{n(n-1)}{2} a^{n-2} b^2 x^2 + \dots$$

LOOKING AT THE EQUATIONS OBTAINED FROM THE COEFFICIENTS OF  $x^2$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n(n-1)}{2} a^{n-2} b^2 = 576 \quad \leftarrow \text{square}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n^2 a^{n-2} b^2}{n(n-1) a^{n-2} b^2} = \frac{576^2}{512^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{n-1} a^2 = \frac{576^2}{512^2}$$

BUT FROM THE CONSTANT TERM  $a^n = 512$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{n-1} \times 512 = 576$$

$$\Rightarrow 512n = 576(n-1)$$

$\Rightarrow 512n = 576n - 576$

$\Rightarrow 576 = 64n$

$\Rightarrow n = 9$

NOW USING  $a^n = 512$

$\Rightarrow a^9 = 512$

$\Rightarrow a^9 = 2^9$

$\Rightarrow a = 2$

FINALLY USING  $n a^{n-1} b = 576$

$9 \times 2^8 \times b = 576$

$9 \times 2^8 \times b = 9 \times 2^8$

$4b = 1$

$b = \frac{1}{4}$

Question 75 (\*\*\*\*\*)

Find the term independent of  $x$  in the expansion of

$$\left( \frac{x+1}{x^{\frac{2}{3}} - x^{\frac{1}{3}} + 1} - \frac{x-1}{x-x^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right)^{10}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \frac{x+1}{x^{\frac{2}{3}} - x^{\frac{1}{3}} + 1} - \frac{x-1}{x-x^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right)^{10} \\ & \frac{A^2 + B^2}{(x^{\frac{2}{3}})^2 + 1} = \frac{(x^{\frac{2}{3}})^2 + 1}{(x^{\frac{2}{3}})^2 + 1} = (x^{\frac{2}{3}})^2 + 1 \\ & = \left[ \frac{(x^{\frac{2}{3}})^2 + 1}{x^{\frac{2}{3}} - x^{\frac{1}{3}} + 1} - \frac{(x-1)(x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 1)}{x^2(x^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1)} \right]^{10} \\ & = \left[ x^{\frac{4}{3}} + 1 - \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 1}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right]^{10} = \left[ x^{\frac{4}{3}} + 1 - (1 + x^{-\frac{1}{2}}) \right]^{10} \\ & = \left[ x^{\frac{4}{3}} - x^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right]^{10} \\ & \text{By using the binomial expansion of } (a+b)^n \text{ we have:} \\ & \binom{10}{4} (x^{\frac{4}{3}})^6 (x^{-\frac{1}{2}})^4 = \binom{10}{4} x^8 (x^{-2}) \\ & = \binom{10}{4} \\ & = \frac{10 \times 9 \times 8 \times 7}{1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4} \\ & = \frac{10 \times 3}{1} \\ & = 105 \end{aligned}$$

**Question 76** (\*\*\*\*\*)

The binomial coefficients are given by

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

Show directly from the above definition that if  $n \geq r \geq m$ , then

$$\binom{n}{m} \binom{n-m}{r-m} = \binom{n}{r} \binom{r}{m}.$$

,  proof

Handwritten proof on grid paper:

Apply the definition of a combination

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{n}{m} \binom{n-m}{r-m} &= \frac{n!}{m!(n-m)!} \times \frac{(n-m)!}{(r-m)!(n-m-(r-m))!} \\ &= \frac{n!}{m!(n-m)!} \times \frac{(n-m)!}{(r-m)!(n-r)!} \\ &= \frac{n!}{m!} \times \frac{1}{(r-m)!(n-r)!} \\ &= \frac{n!}{m!(n-m)!(n-r)!} \\ &= \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} \times \frac{r!}{m!(r-m)!} \\ &= \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} \times \frac{r!}{m!(r-m)!} \\ &= \binom{n}{r} \binom{r}{m} \end{aligned}$$

//  
-A. Espinoza