

Created by T. Madas

BINOMIAL EXPANSIONS PRACTICE

Created by T. Madas

Question 1

Find, without using a calculator, the binomial expansion of

a) $(3x+4)^3$

b) $(2x+3)^4$

c) $\left(x + \frac{2}{x}\right)^3$

$27x^3 + 108x^2 + 144x + 64$, $16x^4 + 96x^3 + 216x^2 + 216x + 81$, $x^3 + 6x + \frac{12}{x} + \frac{8}{x^3}$

Handwritten solutions for the binomial expansions:

(a) $(3x+4)^3 = \binom{3}{0}(3x)^3(4)^0 + \binom{3}{1}(3x)^2(4)^1 + \binom{3}{2}(3x)^1(4)^2 + \binom{3}{3}(3x)^0(4)^3$
 $= (1 \times 27x^3 \times 1) + (3 \times 9x^2 \times 4) + (3 \times 3x \times 16) + (1 \times 1 \times 64)$
 $= 27x^3 + 108x^2 + 144x + 64$

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

(c) $\left(x + \frac{2}{x}\right)^3 = \binom{3}{0}\left(x\right)^3\left(\frac{2}{x}\right)^0 + \binom{3}{1}\left(x\right)^2\left(\frac{2}{x}\right)^1 + \binom{3}{2}\left(x\right)^1\left(\frac{2}{x}\right)^2 + \binom{3}{3}\left(x\right)^0\left(\frac{2}{x}\right)^3$
 $= (1 \times x^3 \times 1) + (3 \times x^2 \times \frac{2}{x}) + (3 \times x \times \frac{4}{x^2}) + (1 \times 1 \times \frac{8}{x^3})$
 $= x^3 + 6x + \frac{12}{x} + \frac{8}{x^3}$

Question 2

Find the binomial expansion of

a) $(2+4x)^5$

b) $(3-4x)^4$

c) $\left(2x + \frac{3}{x}\right)^6$

$$1024x^5 + 2560x^4 + 2560x^3 + 1280x^2 + 320x + 32, \quad 256x^4 - 768x^3 + 864x^2 - 432x + 81,$$

$$64x^6 + 576x^4 + 2160x^2 + 4320 + \frac{4860}{x^2} + \frac{2916}{x^4} + \frac{729}{x^6}$$

(a) $(2+4x)^5 = \binom{5}{0} \binom{5}{0} (2)^5 + \binom{5}{1} \binom{5}{1} (2)^4 (4x) + \binom{5}{2} \binom{5}{2} (2)^3 (4x)^2 + \binom{5}{3} \binom{5}{3} (2)^2 (4x)^3$
 $+ \binom{5}{4} \binom{5}{4} (2) (4x)^4 + \binom{5}{5} \binom{5}{5} (4x)^5$
 $= (1 \times 32 \times 1) + (5 \times 16 \times 4) + (10 \times 8 \times 16 \times 2) + (10 \times 4 \times 64 \times 4)$
 $+ (5 \times 2 \times 256 \times 4) + (1 \times 1 \times 1024 \times 32)$
 $= 32 + 320 \times 2 + 1280 \times 2^2 + 2560 \times 2^3 + 2560 \times 4^2 + 1024 \times 2^5$

(b) $(3-4x)^4 = \binom{4}{0} \binom{4}{0} (3)^4 + \binom{4}{1} \binom{4}{1} (3)^3 (-4x) + \binom{4}{2} \binom{4}{2} (3)^2 (-4x)^2 + \binom{4}{3} \binom{4}{3} (3) (-4x)^3$
 $+ \binom{4}{4} \binom{4}{4} (-4x)^4$
 $= (1 \times 81 \times 1) + [4 \times 27 \times (-4)] + (6 \times 9 \times 16 \times 2) + [4 \times 3 \times (-64)] + (1 \times 1 \times 256)$
 $= 81 - 432 + 864 - 768 + 256$

(c) $\left(2x + \frac{3}{x}\right)^6 = \binom{6}{0} \binom{6}{0} (2x)^6 + \binom{6}{1} \binom{6}{1} (2x)^5 \left(\frac{3}{x}\right) + \binom{6}{2} \binom{6}{2} (2x)^4 \left(\frac{3}{x}\right)^2 + \binom{6}{3} \binom{6}{3} (2x)^3 \left(\frac{3}{x}\right)^3$
 $+ \binom{6}{4} \binom{6}{4} (2x)^2 \left(\frac{3}{x}\right)^4 + \binom{6}{5} \binom{6}{5} (2x) \left(\frac{3}{x}\right)^5 + \binom{6}{6} \binom{6}{6} \left(\frac{3}{x}\right)^6$
 $= (1 \times 64 \times 1) + (6 \times 32 \times \frac{3}{x}) + (15 \times 16 \times \frac{9}{x^2}) + (20 \times 8 \times \frac{27}{x^3})$
 $+ (15 \times 4 \times \frac{81}{x^4}) + (6 \times 2 \times \frac{243}{x^5}) + (1 \times 1 \times \frac{729}{x^6})$
 $= 64x^6 + 576x^4 + 2160x^2 + 4320 + \frac{4860}{x^2} + \frac{2916}{x^4} + \frac{729}{x^6}$

Question 3

Find, without using a calculator, the binomial expansion of

a) $(7x-2)^3$

b) $(5x+2)^5$

c) $(3x-2)^4$

$$343x^3 - 294x^2 + 84x - 8, \quad 3125x^5 + 6250x^4 + 5000x^3 + 2000x^2 + 400x + 32, \quad 81x^4 - 216x^3 + 216x^2 - 96x + 16$$

(a) $(7x-2)^3 = 1 \binom{3}{0} (7x)^3 + 3 \binom{3}{1} (7x)^2 (-2) + 3 \binom{3}{2} (7x) (-2)^2 + \binom{3}{3} (-2)^3$
 $= (1 \times 343x^3) + (3 \times 49x^2 \times (-2)) + (3 \times 7x \times 4) + (1 \times (-8))$
 $= 343x^3 - 294x^2 + 84x - 8$

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

(c) $(5x+2)^5 = 1 \binom{5}{0} (5x)^5 + 5 \binom{5}{1} (5x)^4 (2) + 10 \binom{5}{2} (5x)^3 (2)^2 + 10 \binom{5}{3} (5x)^2 (2)^3 + 5 \binom{5}{4} (5x) (2)^4 + \binom{5}{5} (2)^5$
 $= (1 \times 3125x^5) + (5 \times 625x^4 \times 2) + (10 \times 125x^3 \times 4) + (10 \times 25x^2 \times 8) + (5 \times 5x \times 16) + (1 \times 32)$
 $= 3125x^5 + 6250x^4 + 5000x^3 + 2000x^2 + 400x + 32$

Question 4

Find the binomial expansion of

a) $(2+5x)^4$

b) $(2x-2)^5$

c) $(4+9x)^3$

$$\boxed{625x^4 + 1000x^3 + 600x^2 + 160x + 16}, \quad \boxed{32x^5 - 160x^4 + 320x^3 - 320x^2 + 160x - 32},$$

$$\boxed{729x^3 + 972x^2 + 432x + 64}$$

$$\text{a) } (2+5x)^4 = \binom{4}{0} \binom{4}{0} (2)^4 (5x)^0 + \binom{4}{1} \binom{4}{1} (2)^3 (5x)^1 + \binom{4}{2} \binom{4}{2} (2)^2 (5x)^2 + \binom{4}{3} \binom{4}{3} (2)^1 (5x)^3 + \binom{4}{4} \binom{4}{4} (2)^0 (5x)^4$$

$$= (1 \times 16 \times 1) + (4 \times 8 \times 5x) + (6 \times 4 \times 25x^2) + (4 \times 2 \times 125x^3) + (1 \times 1 \times 625x^4)$$

$$= 16 + 160x + 600x^2 + 1000x^3 + 625x^4$$

$$\text{b) } (2x-2)^5 = \binom{5}{0} \binom{5}{0} (2x)^5 (-2)^0 + \binom{5}{1} \binom{5}{1} (2x)^4 (-2)^1 + \binom{5}{2} \binom{5}{2} (2x)^3 (-2)^2 + \binom{5}{3} \binom{5}{3} (2x)^2 (-2)^3 + \binom{5}{4} \binom{5}{4} (2x)^1 (-2)^4 + \binom{5}{5} \binom{5}{5} (2x)^0 (-2)^5$$

$$= (1 \times 32x^5 \times 1) + (5 \times 16x^4 \times (-2)) + (10 \times 8x^3 \times 4) + (10 \times 4x^2 \times (-8)) + (5 \times 2x \times 16) + (1 \times 1 \times (-32))$$

$$= 32x^5 - 160x^4 + 320x^3 - 320x^2 + 160x - 32$$

$$\text{c) } (4+9x)^3 = \binom{3}{0} \binom{3}{0} (4)^3 (9x)^0 + \binom{3}{1} \binom{3}{1} (4)^2 (9x)^1 + \binom{3}{2} \binom{3}{2} (4)^1 (9x)^2 + \binom{3}{3} \binom{3}{3} (4)^0 (9x)^3$$

$$= (1 \times 64 \times 1) + (3 \times 16 \times 9x) + (3 \times 4 \times 81x^2) + (1 \times 1 \times 729x^3)$$

$$= 64 + 432x + 972x^2 + 729x^3$$

Question 5

Find the first **five** terms, in ascending order of x , of the binomial expansion of

a) $(1+2x)^{12}$

b) $(1-3x)^{10}$

c) $(1+\frac{1}{2}x)^8$

$$1+24x+264x^2+1760x^3+7920x^4+\dots, \quad 1-30x+405x^2-3240x^3+17010x^4-\dots,$$

$$1+4x+7x^2+7x^3+\frac{35}{8}x^4+\dots$$

(a) $(1+2x)^{12} = 1 + \binom{12}{1}(2x)^1 + \frac{\binom{12}{2}}{1 \times 2}(2x)^2 + \frac{\binom{12 \times 11 \times 10}{3 \times 2 \times 1}(2x)^3 + \frac{\binom{12 \times 11 \times 10 \times 9}{4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1}(2x)^4 + \dots$
 $= 1 + 24x + 264x^2 + 1760x^3 + 7920x^4 + \dots$
 (b) $(1-3x)^{10} = 1 + \binom{10}{1}(-3x)^1 + \frac{\binom{10 \times 9}{2 \times 1}(-3x)^2 + \frac{\binom{10 \times 9 \times 8}{3 \times 2 \times 1}(-3x)^3 + \frac{\binom{10 \times 9 \times 8 \times 7}{4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1}(-3x)^4 + \dots$
 $= 1 - 30x + 405x^2 - 3240x^3 + 17010x^4 + \dots$
 (c) $(1+\frac{1}{2}x)^8 = 1 + \binom{8}{1}(\frac{1}{2}x)^1 + \frac{\binom{8 \times 7}{2 \times 1}(\frac{1}{2}x)^2 + \frac{\binom{8 \times 7 \times 6}{3 \times 2 \times 1}(\frac{1}{2}x)^3 + \frac{\binom{8 \times 7 \times 6 \times 5}{4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1}(\frac{1}{2}x)^4 + \dots$
 $= 1 + 4x + 7x^2 + 7x^3 + \frac{35}{8}x^4 + \dots$

Question 6

Find, without using a calculator, the first four terms in ascending order of x in the binomial expansion of

a) $(1+2x)^6$

b) $(1+3x)^5$

c) $(1-2x)^7$

$1+12x+60x^2+160x^3+\dots$, $1+15x+90x^2+270x^3+\dots$, $1-14x+84x^2-280x^3+\dots$

(a) $(1+2x)^6 = 1 + \frac{6}{1!}(2x)^1 + \frac{6 \times 5}{2!}(2x)^2 + \frac{6 \times 5 \times 4}{3!}(2x)^3 + \dots$
 $= 1 + 12x + \frac{6 \times 5}{2} \times 4x^2 + \frac{6 \times 5 \times 4}{6} \times 8x^3 + \dots$
 $= 1 + 12x + 60x^2 + 160x^3 + \dots$

(b) $(1+3x)^5 = 1 + \frac{5}{1!}(3x)^1 + \frac{5 \times 4}{2!}(3x)^2 + \frac{5 \times 4 \times 3}{3!}(3x)^3 + \dots$
 $= 1 + 15x + \frac{5 \times 4}{2} \times 9x^2 + \frac{5 \times 4 \times 3}{6} \times 27x^3 + \dots$
 $= 1 + 15x + 90x^2 + 270x^3 + \dots$

(c) $(1-2x)^7 = 1 + \frac{7}{1!}(-2x)^1 + \frac{7 \times 6}{2!}(-2x)^2 + \frac{7 \times 6 \times 5}{3!}(-2x)^3 + \dots$
 $= 1 - 14x + \frac{7 \times 6}{2} \times 4x^2 + \frac{7 \times 6 \times 5}{6} \times (-8x^3) + \dots$
 $= 1 - 14x + 84x^2 - 280x^3 + \dots$

Question 8

Find the first **four** terms, in ascending order of x , of the binomial expansion of

a) $(1+2x)^{11}$

b) $(1-3x)^7$

c) $(1-4x)^8$

$$1 + 22x + 220x^2 + 1320x^3 + \dots, \quad 1 - 21x + 189x^2 - 945x^3 + \dots, \\ 1 - 32x + 448x^2 - 3584x^3 + \dots$$

(a) $(1+2x)^{11} = 1 + \frac{11}{1}(2x)^1 + \frac{11 \times 10}{1 \times 2}(2x)^2 + \frac{11 \times 10 \times 9}{1 \times 2 \times 3}(2x)^3 + \dots$
 $= 1 + 22x + (55 \times 4x^2) + (165 \times 8x^3) + \dots$
 $= 1 + 22x + 220x^2 + 1320x^3 + \dots$

(b) $(1-3x)^7 = 1 + \frac{7}{1}(-3x)^1 + \frac{7 \times 6}{1 \times 2}(-3x)^2 + \frac{7 \times 6 \times 5}{1 \times 2 \times 3}(-3x)^3 + \dots$
 $= 1 - 21x + (21 \times 9x^2) + (35 \times (-27x^3)) + \dots$
 $= 1 - 21x + 189x^2 - 945x^3 + \dots$

(c) $(1-4x)^8 = 1 + \frac{8}{1}(-4x)^1 + \frac{8 \times 7}{1 \times 2}(-4x)^2 + \frac{8 \times 7 \times 6}{1 \times 2 \times 3}(-4x)^3 + \dots$
 $= 1 - 32x + (28 \times 16x^2) + (56 \times (-64x^3)) + \dots$
 $= 1 - 32x + 448x^2 - 3584x^3 + \dots$

Question 9

Find the value of the constant n in each of the following binomial expansions

a) $(1+3x)^n$, if the coefficient of x^2 is 54.

b) $(1+x)^n$, if the coefficient of x^2 is 55.

$n = 4, n \neq -3$, $n = 11, n \neq -10$

$(1+3x)^n = 1 + \binom{n}{1}(3x)^1 + \frac{\binom{n}{2}(3x)^2}{1 \times 2} + \dots$
 $\dots + \frac{\binom{n}{2}(3x)^2}{2} + \dots$
 $\dots + \frac{\binom{n}{2}(9x^2)}{2} + \dots$
 $\dots + \frac{9n(n-1)}{2}x^2 + \dots$
 $\frac{9n(n-1)}{2} = 54$
 $n(n-1) = 12$
 $n^2 - n - 12 = 0$
 $(n-4)(n+3) = 0$
 $n = 4$

$(1+x)^n = 1 + \binom{n}{1}x^1 + \frac{\binom{n}{2}(x)^2}{1 \times 2} + \dots$
 $\dots + \frac{\binom{n}{2}(x)^2}{2} + \dots$
 $\dots + \frac{n(n-1)}{2}x^2 + \dots$
 $\frac{n(n-1)}{2} = 55$
 $n(n-1) = 110$
 $n^2 - n - 110 = 0$
 $(n+10)(n-11) = 0$
 $n = 11$