

Ejercicio resuelto 2

- Pruebe que

$$\binom{n}{0} \binom{n}{p} + \binom{n}{1} \binom{n-1}{p-1} + \cdots + \binom{n}{p} \binom{n-p}{0} = 2^p \binom{n}{p}.$$

Solución. En primer lugar, reescribimos el enunciado en forma de sumatoria:

$$\sum_{k=0}^p \binom{n}{k} \binom{n-k}{p-k} = 2^p \binom{n}{p}.$$

Ahora, consideramos $a_k = \binom{n}{k} \binom{n-k}{p-k}$ algún coeficiente de esa suma:

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{n}{k} \binom{n-k}{p-k} &= \frac{n!}{k! (n-k)!} \cdot \frac{(n-k)!}{(p-k)! (n-k-(p-k))!} \\ &= \frac{n!}{k! (p-k)! (n-p)!} \\ &= \frac{p!}{p!} \cdot \frac{n!}{k! (p-k)! (n-p)!} \\ &= \frac{n!}{p! (n-p)!} \cdot \frac{p!}{k! (p-k)!} \\ &= \binom{n}{p} \binom{p}{k}. \end{aligned}$$

Con esto tenemos que

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^p \binom{n}{k} \binom{n-k}{p-k} &= \sum_{k=0}^p \binom{n}{p} \binom{p}{k} \\ &= \binom{n}{p} \sum_{k=0}^p \binom{p}{k} = \binom{n}{p} 2^p. \end{aligned}$$