

# Discrete Calculus

$$f'(x) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+\varepsilon) - f(x)}{\varepsilon} \quad \text{discrete } \varepsilon=1$$

$$\Delta f(x) = f(x+1) - f(x)$$

replace  $x$  by  $n$

$$\Delta f(n) = f(n+1) - f(n)$$

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

$0! = 1$

$$\binom{n}{0} = 1$$

$$x^0 \quad n^0$$

$$\binom{n}{1} = \frac{n}{1} = n$$

$$x^1 \quad n^1$$

$$\binom{n}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} = \frac{n^2 - n}{2} \quad \text{like } x^2 \text{ not quite}$$

$$\binom{n}{k} = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n \text{ choose } k \text{ of them}$$

$\begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ \searrow \end{matrix}$ 
 $\begin{matrix} 1, \dots, 1, \underbrace{2, 3, \dots, n}_{n-1} \text{ left choose } k-1 \\ \dots \underbrace{2, 3, \dots, n}_{n-1} \text{ left choose } k \end{matrix}$ 
 $\begin{matrix} \binom{n-1}{k-1} \\ \binom{n-1}{k} \end{matrix}$

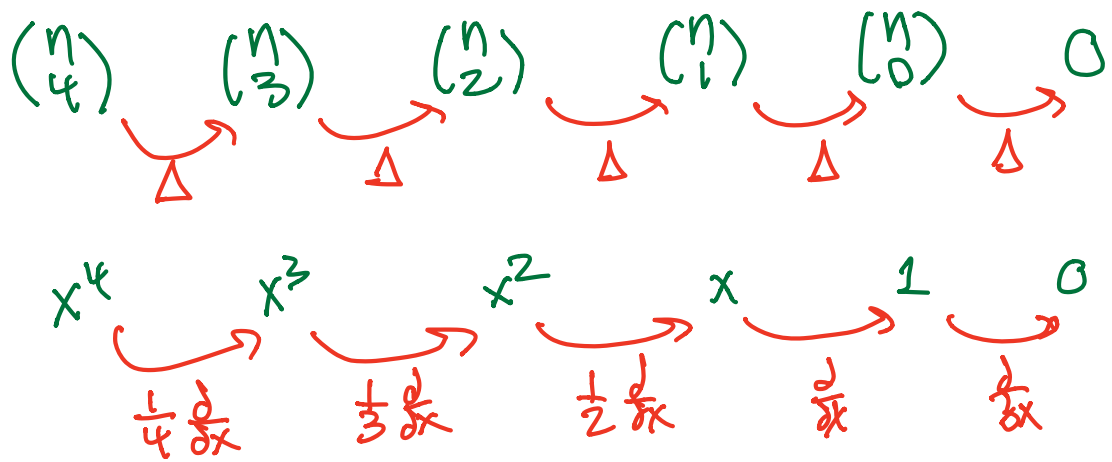
$$\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k} + \binom{n-1}{k-1} \quad \text{same thing}$$

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

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

if  $f(n) = \binom{n}{k}$  then  $\Delta f(n) = f(n+1) - f(n)$   
 $= \binom{n+1}{k} - \binom{n}{k}$  by definition

$$\Delta f(n) = \binom{n}{k}$$



application:

$$g(n) = 1 + 2 + \dots + n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \Delta g(n) &= g(n+1) - g(n) \\ &= \cancel{1+2+\dots+n} + n+1 - \cancel{(1+2+\dots+n)} \\ &= n+1 \end{aligned}$$

discrete "integration" problem

What  $g(n)$  has discrete derivative  $n+1$ ?

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$$\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta \binom{n}{0} &= 1 \\ \Delta \binom{n}{1} &= n \\ \Delta \binom{n}{2} &= \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$g(n) = \binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{1} + C$$

$$\Delta g(n) = \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{0}$$

have

$$g(n) = \binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{1} + C \quad \text{figure out } C=0$$

$$1+2 = g(2) = 1 + 2 + 0$$

$$g(n) = \binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{1} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

$$= \binom{n+1}{2}$$

apply this

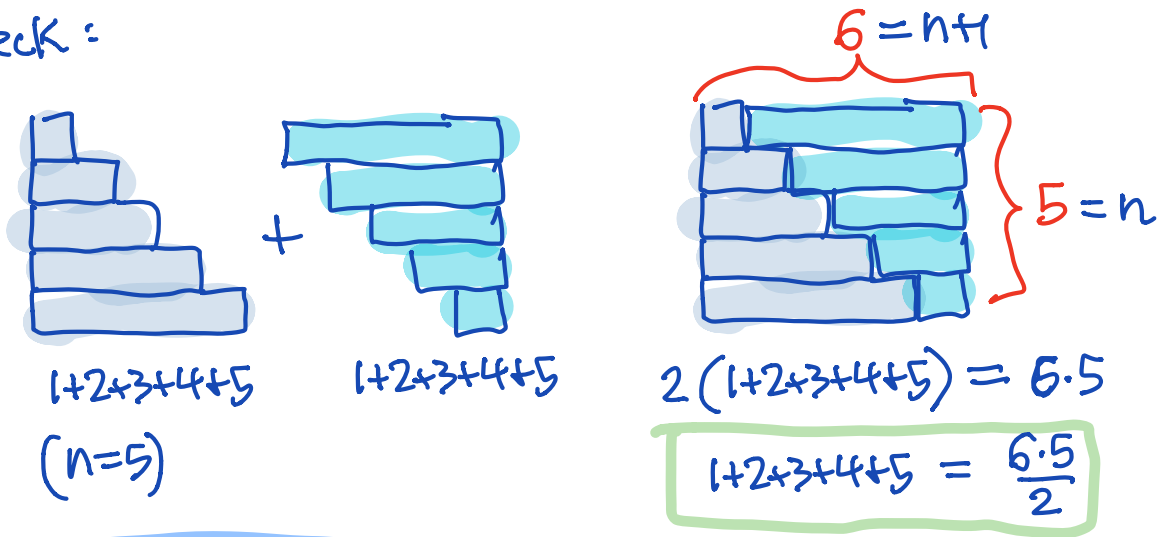
$$\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k} + \binom{n-1}{k-1}$$

use  $n$  for  $n-1$   
use  $2$  for  $k$

nice form of answer:

$$1+2+\dots+n = g(n) = \binom{n+1}{2} = \frac{(n+1)n}{2}$$

check:



$$h(n) = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2$$

$$\Delta h(n) = h(n+1) - h(n) = (n+1)^2 - n^2 = n^2 + 2n + 1$$

$$\cancel{1^2 + \dots + n^2} + (n+1)^2 - \cancel{1^2 + \dots + n^2}$$

$$\binom{n}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$$

$$2\binom{n}{2} = n(n-1) = n^2 - n$$

$$\underbrace{(n^2 + 2n + 1)}_{\Delta h(n)} - \underbrace{(n^2 - n)}_{2\binom{n}{2}} = \underbrace{3n}_{3\binom{n}{1}} + \underbrace{1}_{\binom{n}{0}}$$

$$\Delta h(n) = 2\binom{n}{2} + 3\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{0}$$

check:  $\Delta h(2) = 2\binom{2}{2} + 3\binom{2}{1} + \binom{2}{0} = 2 + 6 + 1 = 9$

$$\Delta h(2) = (2+1)^2 = 9 \quad \checkmark$$

$$h(n) = 2\binom{n}{3} + 3\binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{0} \quad h(1) = 1^2 = 1$$

$\Delta \downarrow \quad \Delta \downarrow \quad \Delta \downarrow \quad \Delta \downarrow \quad \Delta \downarrow$

$$\Delta h(n) = 2\binom{n}{2} + 3\binom{n}{1} + \binom{n}{0}$$

answer

$$h(n) = 2\binom{n}{3} + 3\binom{n}{2} + \binom{n}{1}$$

$$= 1^2 + 2^2 + \dots + n^2$$

$$\frac{2n(n-1)(n-2)}{6} + \frac{3n(n-1)}{2} + n$$

check:  
n=4

$$1 + 4 + 9 + 16 = 30$$

$$2\binom{4}{3} + 3\binom{4}{2} + \binom{4}{1}$$

$$2 \cdot 4 + 3 \cdot 6 + 4$$

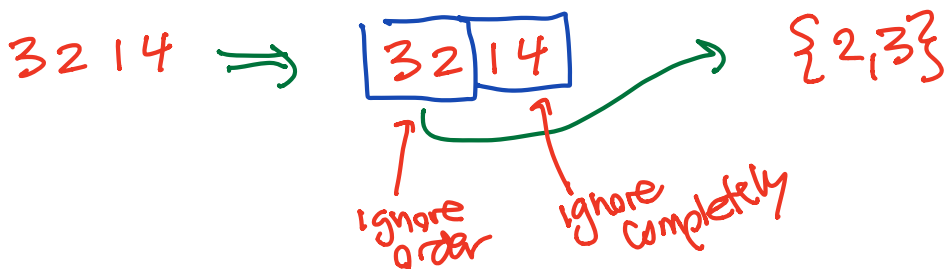
$$8 + 18 + 4 = 30 \quad \checkmark$$

12		13		14	
12 34	21 34	13 24	31 24	14 23	41 23
12 43	21 43	13 42	31 42	14 32	41 32
23		24		34	
23 14	32 14	24 13	42 13	34 12	43 12
23 41	32 41	24 31	42 31	34 21	43 21

want formula for  $\binom{4}{2}$

have formula for all permutations  $4! = 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$

rule given a permutation, grab first two elements as our subset



How many permutations give {2,3} as subset?

23	
23 14	32 14
23 41	32 41

(2! orders first part) (2! orders 2nd part)

$$\binom{7}{3} \quad \boxed{4 \ 1 \ 6 \ 2 \ 5 \ 3 \ 7} \rightarrow \{1, 4, 6\}$$

( $\uparrow$  permutations)  $\left( \begin{array}{c} \text{divide by} \\ 3! \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{divide} \\ 4! \end{array} \right)$

$$\binom{7}{3} = \frac{7!}{3!4!} = \frac{7 \cdot \cancel{6} \cdot \cancel{5} \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{\cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot 1 \cdot \cancel{4} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot 1} = 35$$

1 2 3	1 3 5	1 5 6	2 3 7	2 6 7
1 2 4	1 3 6	1 5 7	2 4 5	3 4 5
1 2 5	1 3 7	1 6 7	2 4 6	3 4 6
1 2 6	1 4 5	2 3 4	2 4 7	3 4 7
1 2 7	1 4 6	2 3 5	2 5 6	3 5 6
1 3 4	1 4 7	2 3 6	2 5 7	3 5 7
3 6 7	4 5 6	4 5 7	4 6 7	5 6 7