

# Combinatorial Proofs

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2.6.22:

- (a) Give a combinatorial proof that if  $n$  is an odd integer, then the number of ways to select an even number of objects from a set of  $n$  objects is equal to the number of ways to select an odd number of objects.
- (b) Give a combinatorial proof of Vandermonde's identity: For positive integers  $m$  and  $n$  and an integer  $r$  such that  $0 \leq r \leq n + m$ ,  $\binom{n+m}{r} = \binom{n}{0}\binom{m}{r} + \binom{n}{1}\binom{m}{r-1} + \binom{n}{2}\binom{m}{r-2} + \cdots + \binom{n}{r}\binom{m}{0}$ .
- (c) Prove that  $\binom{2n}{n} + \binom{2n}{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}\binom{2n+2}{n+1}$ .

2.6.23: Give a combinatorial argument that  $n^2 = 2\binom{n}{2} + n$ .