

Contents

Series Editor's Foreword	vii
Preface	ix
Part I	1
1 Introduction	3
2 Some mathematical properties of $2^n C_n$	15
3 Other combinatorial interpretations of $2^n C_n$	25
4 Obtaining the prime factorisation of $2^n C_n$	31
5 Using integrals to estimate $2^n C_n$	37
6 Series involving $2^n C_n$	47
7 The Catalan numbers	53
8 Random processes and $2^n C_n$	65
9 Comparing coefficients	73
10 Extending the definition of $2^n C_n$	79
11 More on the Catalan numbers	85
12 Proving the same thing in different ways	95
Part II	99
13 Chebyshev's bound for $\pi(x)$	101
14 Bertrand's postulate	109
15 An interesting divisibility property of $2^p C_p - 2$	117

Appendices	127
A Proof by induction	129
B The generalised binomial theorem	133
C Expressing integers in non-decimal bases	137
D One-to-one correspondence	139
E Table of central binomial coefficients and Catalan numbers	141
Hints to the Challenges	143
Answers and hints to the Exercises	149
Bibliography	159
Index	161