

Solution (#335) Let $n \geq r \geq 0$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{k=r}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{k}{r} &= \sum_{k=r}^n \frac{n!}{k! (n-k)!} \times \frac{k!}{r! (k-r)!} \\
 &= \frac{n!}{r!} \sum_{k=r}^n \frac{1}{(n-k)! (k-r)!} \\
 &= \frac{n!}{r! (n-r)!} \sum_{l=0}^{n-r} \frac{(n-r)!}{(n-r-l)! l!} \quad [k = l + r] \\
 &= \frac{n!}{r! (n-r)!} (1+1)^{n-r} \quad [\text{by the binomial theorem}] \\
 &= 2^{n-r} \binom{n}{r}.
 \end{aligned}$$