

We claim that with  $n \geq m \geq 0$

$$2^{n-m} 3^m = (-1)^n \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{m+3k}{k} \binom{n+2k}{n-k}.$$

Start by observing that the second binomial coefficient enforces the upper range so that with the usual integrals we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{|w|=\gamma} \frac{(1+w)^m}{w} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|z|=\varepsilon} \frac{(1+z)^n}{z^{n+1}} \\ & \times \sum_{k \geq 0} (-1)^k z^k (1+z)^{2k} (1+w)^{3k} w^{-k} dz dw. \end{aligned}$$

For the sum to converge we require  $|z(1+z)^2| < |w/(1+w)^3|$ . With  $\varepsilon < 1/2$  we have  $|z(1+z)^2| < 9\varepsilon/4$  and with  $\gamma < 1/2$  we have  $|w/(1+w)^3| > 8\gamma/27$  thus we require  $\varepsilon \leq 32\gamma/243$ . We may take  $\gamma = 1/3^Q$  and  $\varepsilon = 32/3^{Q+5}$  with  $Q$  large. Continuing,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{|w|=\gamma} \frac{(1+w)^m}{w} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|z|=\varepsilon} \frac{(1+z)^n}{z^{n+1}} \frac{1}{1+z(1+z)^2(1+w)^3/w} dz dw \\ & = \frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{|w|=\gamma} (1+w)^m \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|z|=\varepsilon} \frac{(1+z)^n}{z^{n+1}} \frac{1}{w+z(1+z)^2(1+w)^3} dz dw. \end{aligned}$$

Now put  $z = v/(1+w)$  so that  $dz = dv/(1+w)$  to get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{|w|=\gamma} (1+w)^m \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|v|=\rho(w)} \frac{(1+v/(1+w))^n}{v^{n+1}} (1+w)^{n+1} \\ & \times \frac{1}{w+v(1+v/(1+w))^2(1+w)^3/(1+w)} \frac{1}{1+w} dv dw \\ & = \frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{|w|=\gamma} (1+w)^m \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|v|=\rho(w)} \frac{(1+w+v)^n}{v^{n+1}} \\ & \times \frac{1}{w+v(1+w+v)^2} dv dw. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $|v| = \rho(w)$  is the image of scaling  $|z| = \varepsilon$  by  $1+w$  which is a circle of radius  $\varepsilon|1+w|$  and is therefore contained in an annulus with inner radius  $\varepsilon(1-\gamma)$  and outer radius  $\varepsilon(1+\gamma)$ . Factorizing,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{|w|=\gamma} (1+w)^m \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|v|=\rho(w)} \frac{(1+w+v)^n}{v^{n+1}} \\ & \times \frac{1}{(v+w)(vw+(1+v)^2)} dv dw. \end{aligned}$$

We see that with  $\gamma \ll 1$  the circle  $|v| = \rho(w)$  approximates the contour  $|v| = \varepsilon$ . The poles in  $v$  other than  $v = 0$  are outside this contour, with the first one requiring that  $|v| = \gamma$  whereas  $|v|$  approximates  $\varepsilon$  and the other two becoming arbitrarily close to  $-1$  as  $Q$  grows large. Therefore we are justified deforming the contour for  $v$  to the circle  $|v| = \varepsilon$  independent of  $w$  since we do not pick up or lose any poles. Switching integrals with Fubini yields

$$\frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{|v|=\varepsilon} \frac{1}{v^{n+1}} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{|w|=\gamma} (1+w)^m (1+w+v)^n \times \frac{1}{(v+w)(vw+(1+v)^2)} dw dv.$$

With the inner integral in  $w$  we clearly have the pole at  $w = -v$  inside the contour by construction of  $\varepsilon$  and  $\gamma$ . On the other hand the pole at  $w = -(1+v)^2/v$  goes to infinity as  $Q$  is large and is therefore outside the contour. Therefore the inner integral is the residue at  $w = -v$  which yields for the remaining outer integral

$$\frac{(-1)^n}{2\pi i} \int_{|v|=\varepsilon} \frac{1}{v^{n+1}} (1-v)^m \frac{1}{1+2v} dv.$$

This is

$$(-1)^n \sum_{q=0}^n (-1)^q \binom{m}{q} (-1)^{n-q} 2^{n-q} = 2^n \sum_{q=0}^n \binom{m}{q} 2^{-q}.$$

Recall that we said  $n \geq m$  which yields at last

$$2^n \left(1 + \frac{1}{2}\right)^m = 2^{n-m} 3^m.$$

We have the claim and may conclude. We may use the sum that appeared last as a natural way to extend a closed form to the case when  $m > n$ .

This identity was found by a computer search which pointed to [OEIS A036561](https://oeis.org/A036561), Nicomachus triangle.