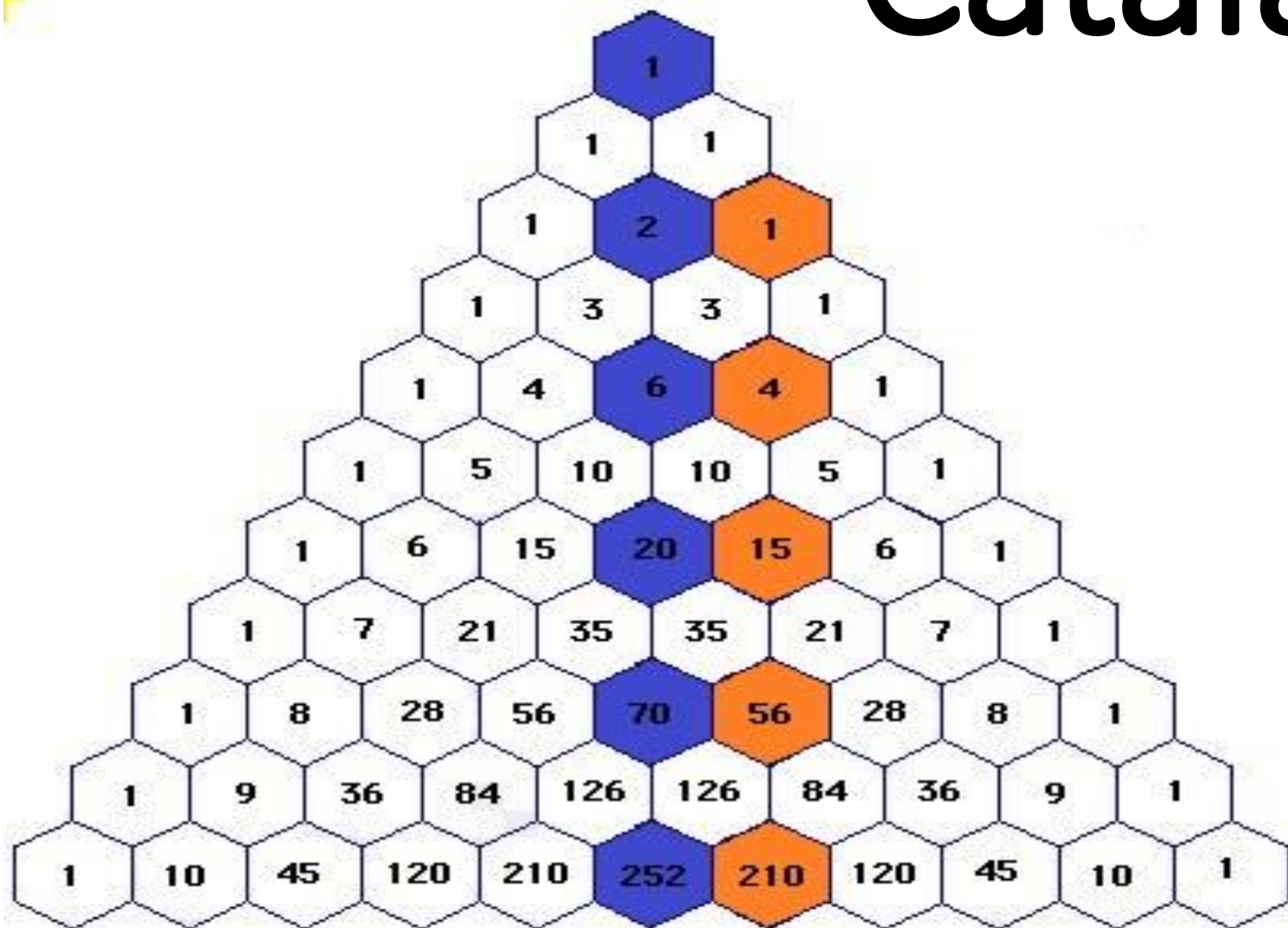
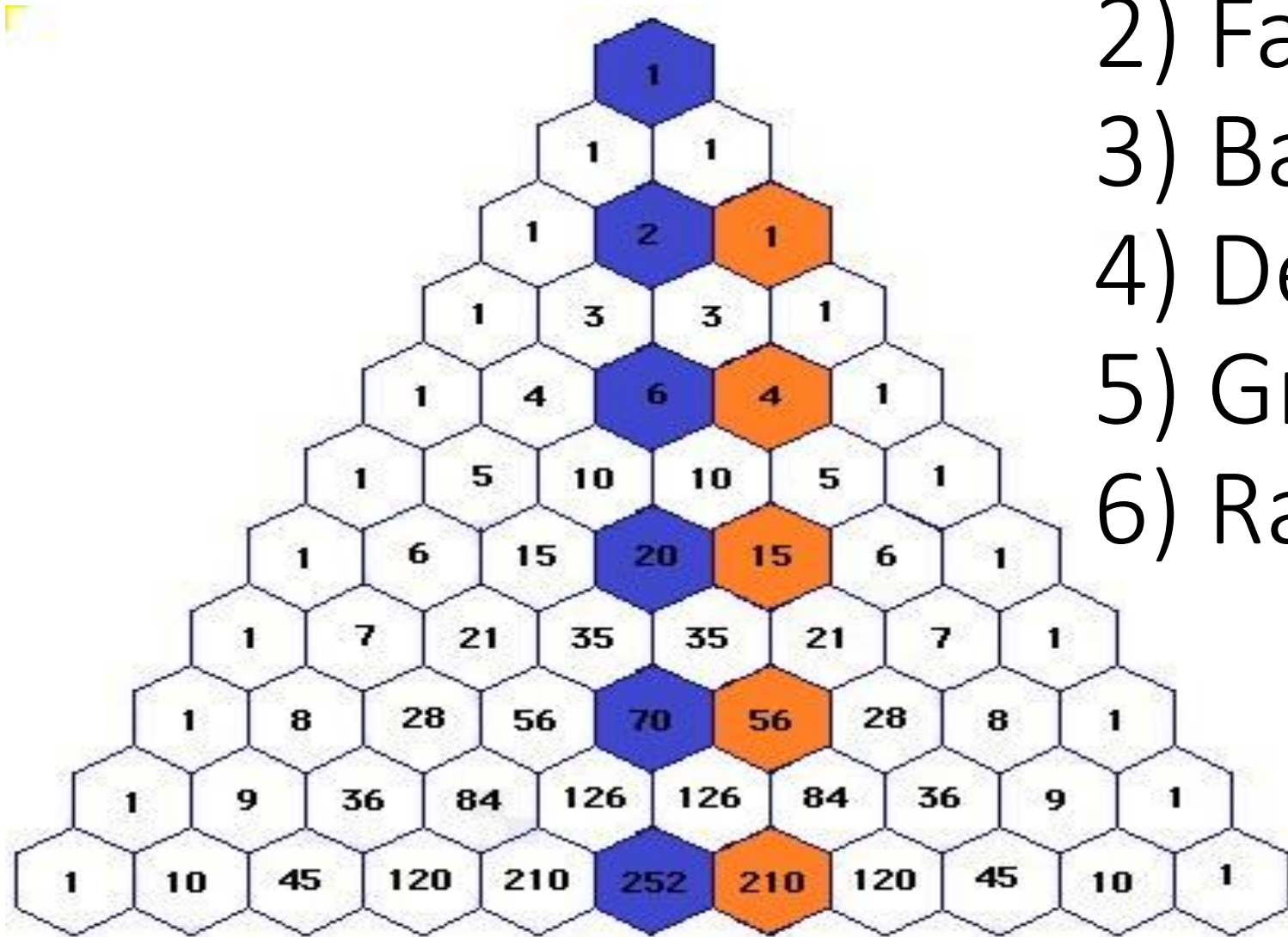


# Catalan families



Sajjad Ranjbar  
Combinatorial Algorithms  
Shahid Beheshti university of Tehran  
Fall semester 2024-2025

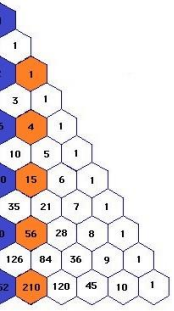


- 1) Historical documents
- 2) Famous problems
- 3) Balanced sequences
- 4) Definition of Catalans
- 5) Graphical path
- 6) Rank & Unrank

# Historical documents



Mingantu 1730



**Catalan Page: 1**

[illegible]



# Historical documents



Mingantu 1730



Euler 1751

# Historical documents



Mingantu 1730



Euler 1751

In 1751, Leonhard Euler (1707–1783) introduced and found a closed formula for what we now call the Catalan numbers. The proof of this result had eluded him, until he was assisted by Christian Goldbach (1690–1764), and more substantially by Johann Segner. By 1759, a complete proof was obtained.

# Historical documents



Mingantu 1730



Euler 1751



Désiré André 1887

# Historical documents



Mingantu 1730



Euler 1751



Désiré André 1887

He found the reflection counting trick (second proof) for Dyck words.



# Historical documents



Mingantu 1730



Euler 1751



Désiré André 1887



# Historical documents



Mingantu 1730



Euler 1751



Désiré André 1887

**Eugène Charles Catalan** (30 May 1814 – 14 February 1894)

He was a French and Belgian mathematician who worked on continued fractions, descriptive geometry, number theory and combinatorics. stating the famous Catalan's conjecture, which was eventually proved in 2002; and introducing the Catalan numbers to solve a combinatorial problem.



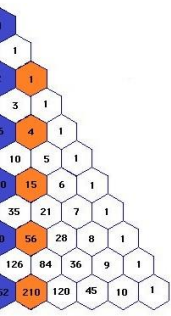


# famous problems



# famous problems

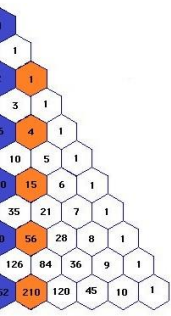
## 1. Counting Full Binary Trees





# famous problems

1. Counting Full Binary Trees
2. Counting Valid Parentheses Combinations

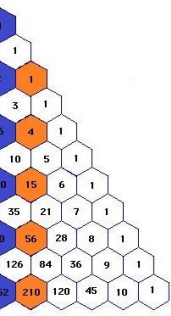






# famous problems

1. Counting Full Binary Trees
2. Counting Valid Parentheses Combinations
3. Counting Triangulations of an  $n$ -gon





# famous problems

1. Counting Full Binary Trees
2. Counting Valid Parentheses Combinations
3. Counting Triangulations of an  $n$ -gon
4. Counting Lattice Paths



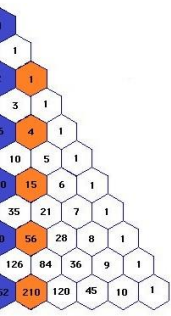
# famous problems

1. **Counting Full Binary Trees**
2. **Counting Valid Parentheses Combinations**
3. **Counting Triangulations of an  $n$ -gon**
4. **Counting Lattice Paths**
5. **Counting Binary Search Trees**



# Catalan families

Catalan numbers are a sequence of numbers.



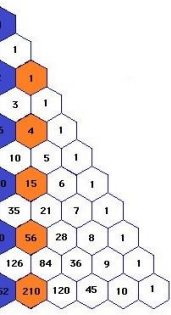


# Catalan families

Catalan numbers are a sequence of numbers.

For any  $n > 0$ :

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







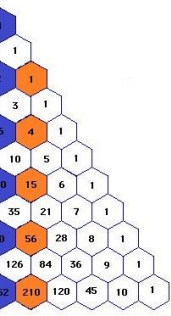
# Catalan families

Catalan numbers are a sequence of numbers.

For any  $n > 0$ :

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

[1, 2, 5, 14, 42, ...]

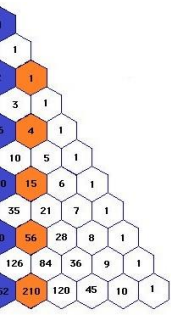


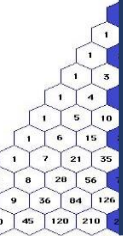


# Catalan's definition

Let  $n$  be a positive integer

Let  $a = [a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_{2n}] \in (\mathbb{Z}_2)^{2n}$



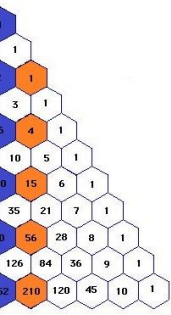


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We say that the sequence  $a$  is balanced if:





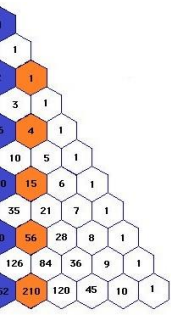
# Catalan's definition

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- $a$  contains  $n$  0s and  $n$  1s





# Catalan's definition

Let  $n$  be a positive integer

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We say that the sequence  $a$  is balanced if:

- $a$  contains  $n$  0s and  $n$  1s
- For any  $1 \leq i \leq 2n$  hold that:

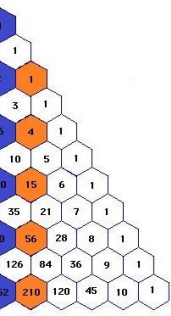
$$|\{j: 1 \leq j \leq i, a_j=0\}| \geq |\{j: 1 \leq j \leq i, a_j=1\}|$$





# Catalan's definition

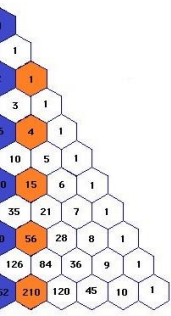
000001

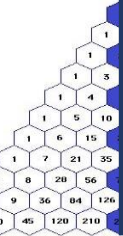




# Catalan's definition

000001 ●

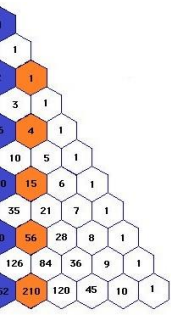




# Catalan's definition

000001 ●

010110

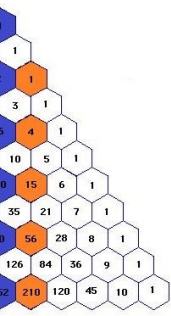




# Catalan's definition

000001 ●

010110 ●  
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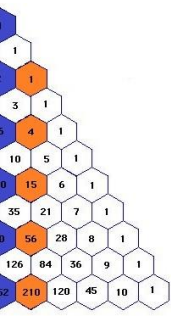


# Catalan's definition

000001 ●

010110 ●  
-----

010101





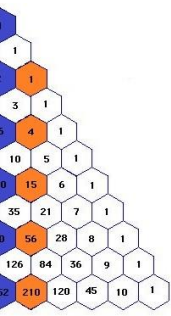


# Catalan's definition

000001 ●

010110 ●  
-----

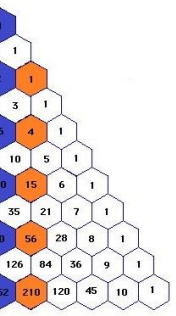
010101 ●

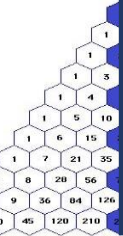




# Catalan's definition

$n=3$ :

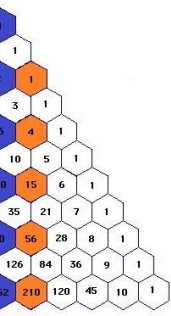




# Catalan's definition

**n=3:**

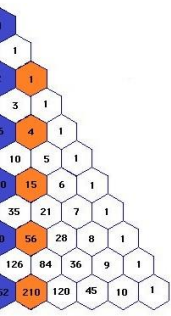
- 1. 000111
  - 2. 001011
  - 3. 001101
  - 4. 010011
  - 5. 010101
- } **a**





# Catalan's definition

Let  $\mathbf{C}_n$  denote the set of all balanced sequences in  $(\mathbb{Z}_2)^{2n}$

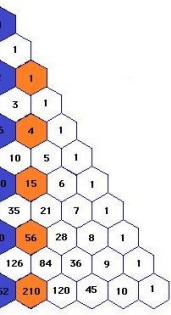


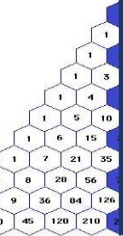


# Catalan's definition

Let  $\mathbf{C}_n$  denote the set of all balanced sequences in  $(\mathbb{Z}_2)^{2n}$

We will refer  $\mathbf{C}_n$  to the Catalan family of order  $n$ .



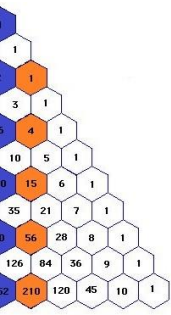


# Catalan's definition

Let  $\mathbf{C}_n$  denote the set of all balanced sequences in  $(\mathbb{Z}_2)^{2n}$

We will refer  $\mathbf{C}_n$  to the Catalan family of order  $n$ .

The Catalan number  $C_n$  is defined to be  $C_n = |\mathbf{C}_n|$



# The few first Catalan numbers

**C<sub>1</sub>=1**

$$C_2=2$$

$$C_3=5$$

**$C_4=14$**

$$C_5 = 42$$

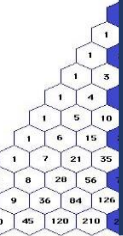
**C<sub>6</sub>=132**

**C<sub>7</sub>=429**

# C<sub>8</sub>=1430

**C<sub>9</sub>=4862**

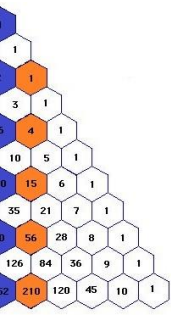
**$C_{10}=16796$**



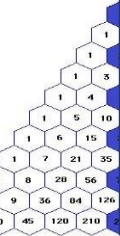
# Theorem

For any  $n > 0$ :

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

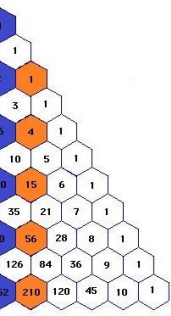






**Proof**

# Combinatorial explanation

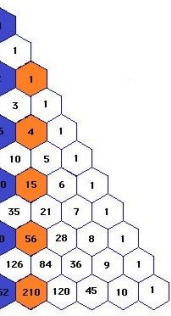


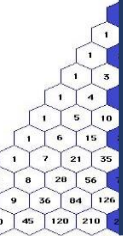


# Proof

## Combinatorial explanation

Number of string that have exactly  $n$  0s and  $n$  1s is  $\binom{2n}{n}$



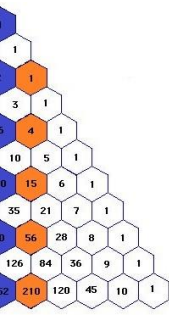


# Proof

## Combinatorial explanation

Number of string that have exactly  $n$  0s and  $n$  1s is  $\binom{2n}{n}$

$$C_n = \binom{2n}{n} - \text{sequences with length } 2n \text{ that do not satisfy second condition of balanced sequences}$$

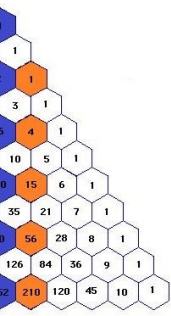




# Proof

## Graphical path

$$P = \{(0, 0), (1, y_1), \dots, (2n-1, y_{2n-1}), (2n, y_{2n})\}$$



## Graphical path

$$P = \{(0, 0), (1, y_1), \dots, (2n-1, y_{2n-1}), (2n, y_{2n})\}$$

SequenceToPath( $[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{2n}]$ )

$P = \{(0, 0)\}; y = 0;$

for  $i = 1$  to  $2n$

    if  $a_i == 0$

$y += 1$

    else  $y -= 1$

$P = P \cup (i, y)$

end for

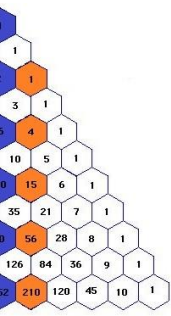


# Proof

## Graphical path example

**001101**

$$P = \{(0, 0)\}$$





# Proof

## Graphical path example



**001101**

$$P = \{(0, 0), (1, 1)\}$$



# Proof

## Graphical path example



**001101**

$$P = \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2)\}$$





# Proof

## Graphical path example



**001101**

$$P = \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 1)\}$$

## Graphical path example



**001101**

$$P = \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 1), (4, 0)\}$$

## Graphical path example



**001101**

$$P = \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 1), (4, 0), (5, 1)\}$$

## Graphical path example

**001101**



$$P = \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 1), (4, 0), (5, 1), (6, 0)\}$$



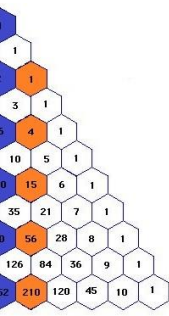
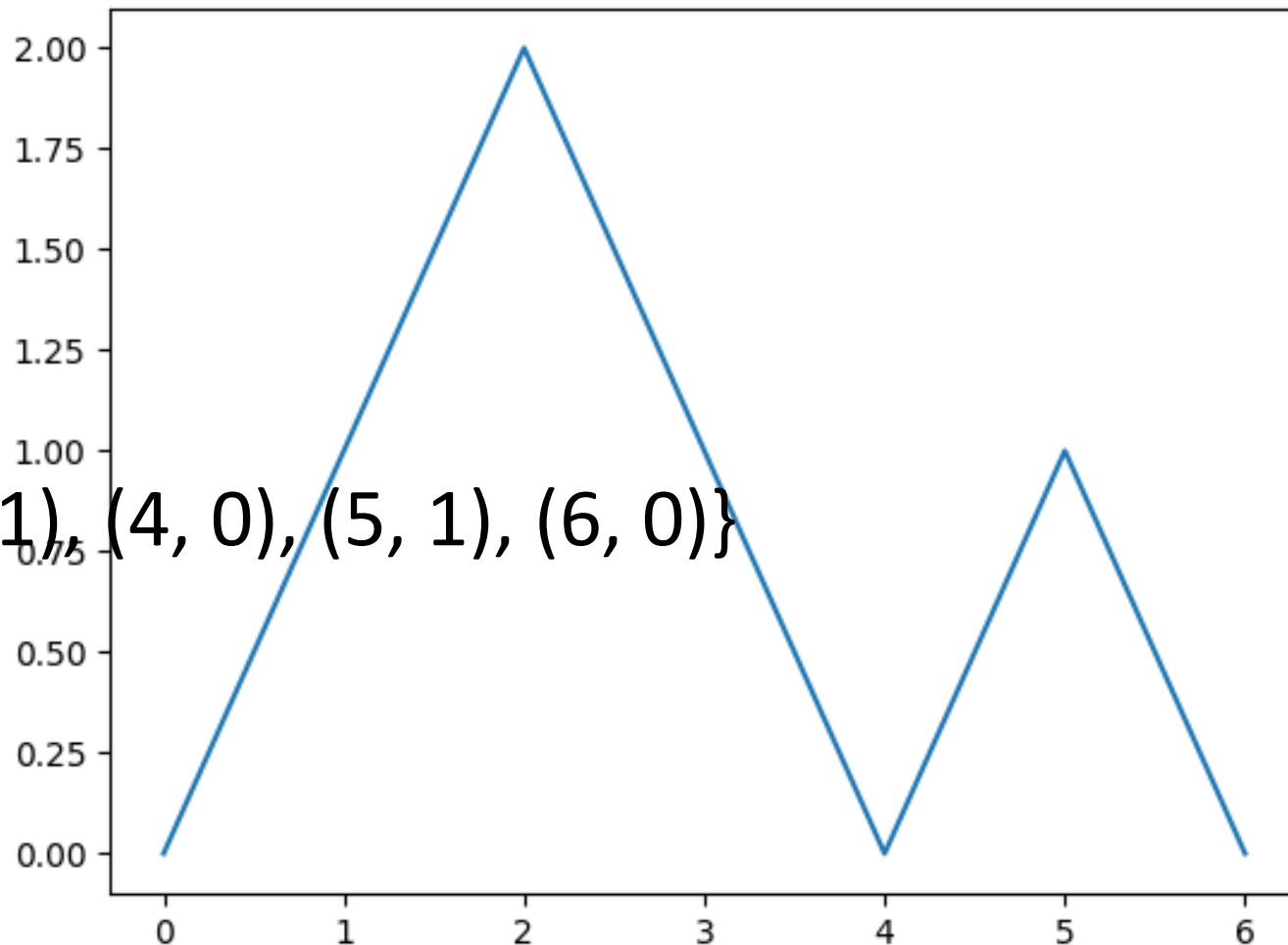
# Proof

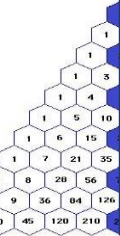
## Graphical path example

**001101**



$$P = \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 1), (4, 0), (5, 1), (6, 0)\}$$

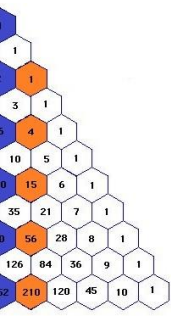




# Proof

## Graphical path

00110100110010100100111011

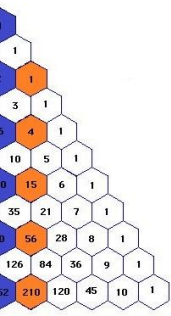
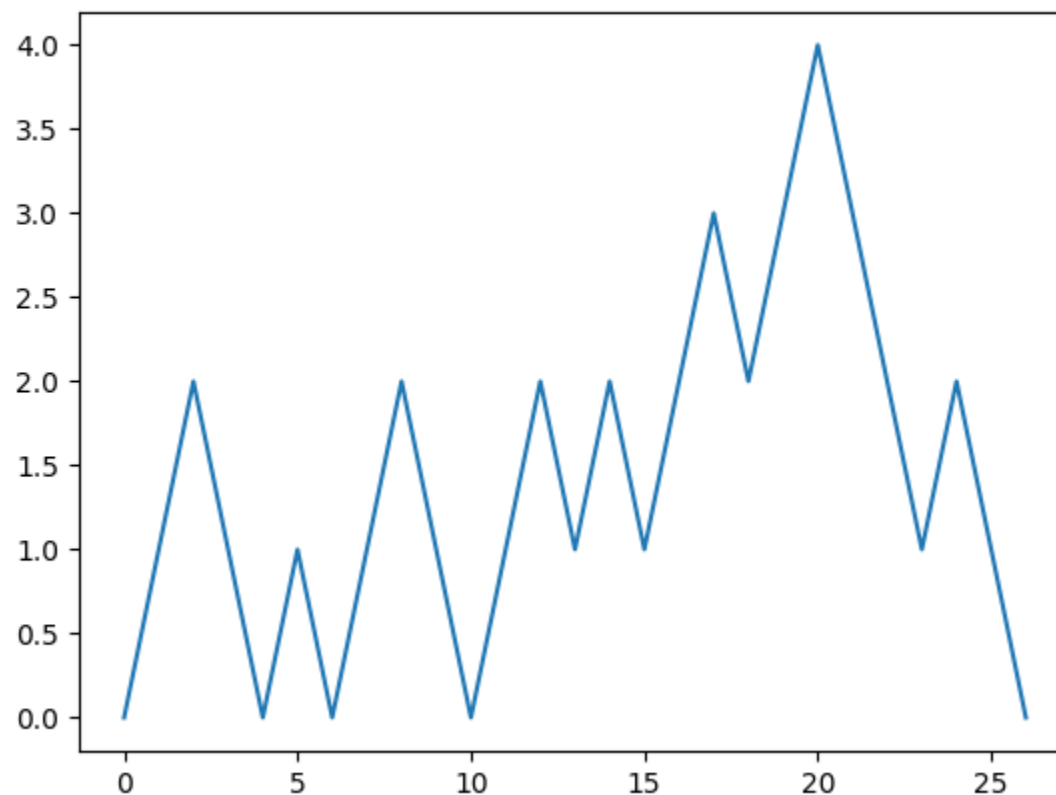


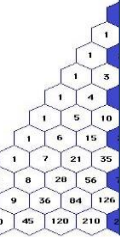


# Proof

## Graphical path

00110100110010100100111011

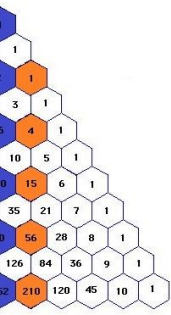




# Proof

## Graphical path

01011000110010100100111011

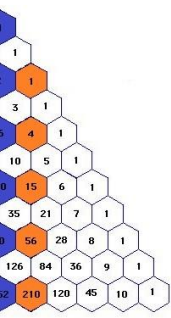
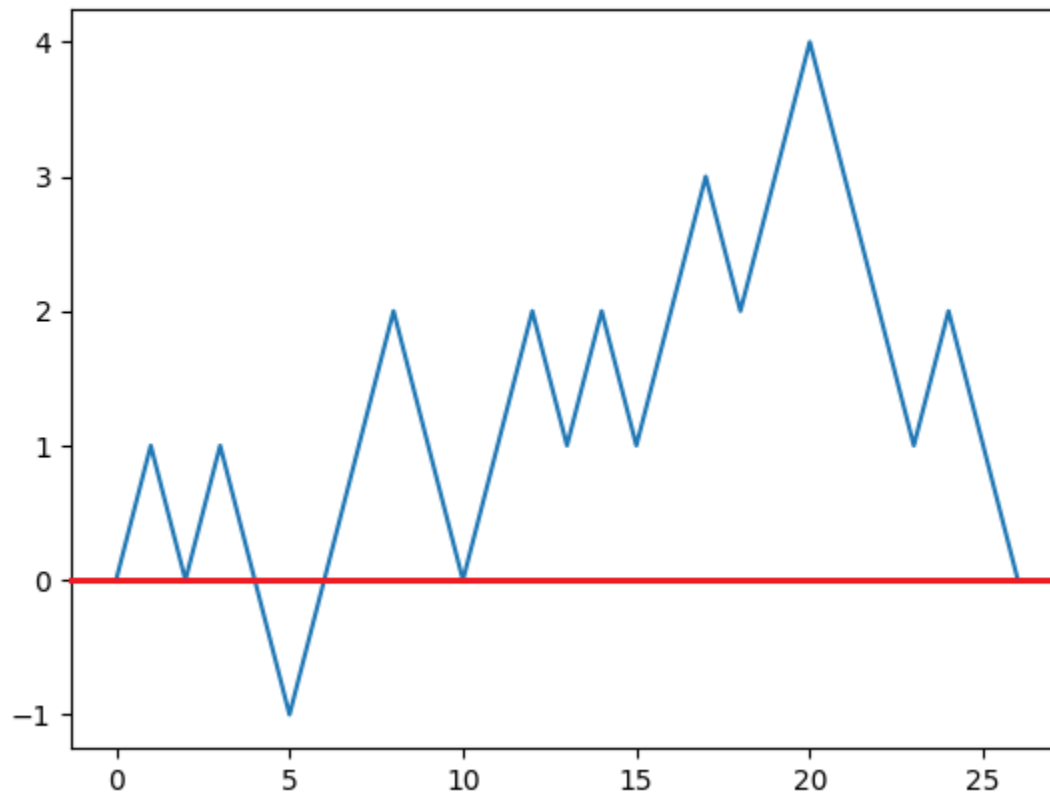






## Graphical path

01011000110010100100111011

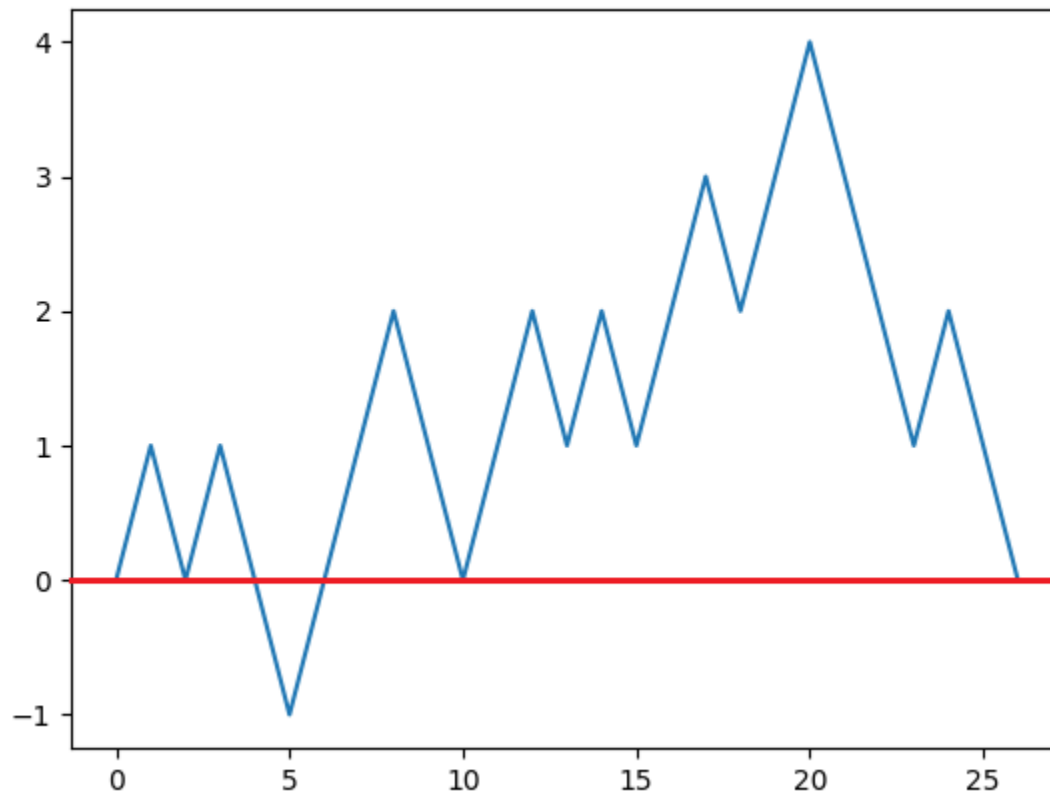




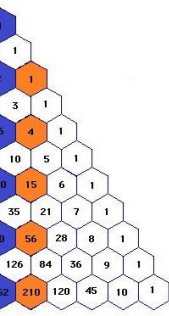
# Proof

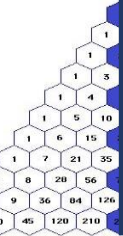
## Graphical path

01011000110010100100111011



$x_0$ : first point  
under  $y=0$

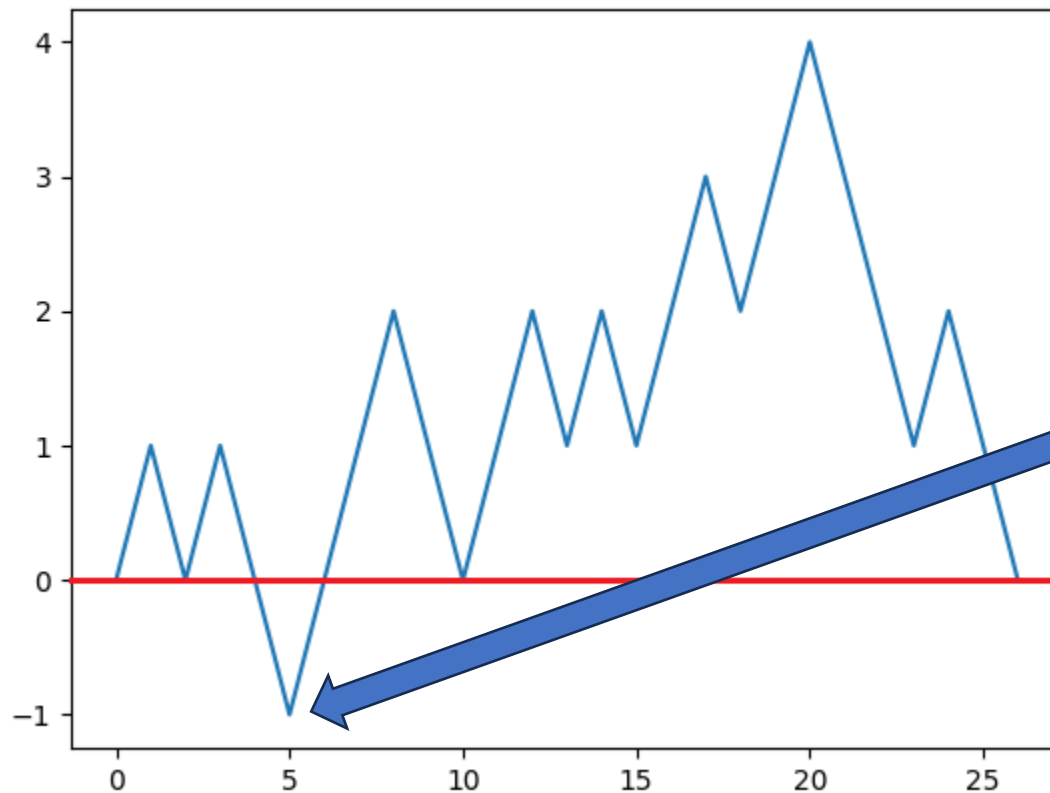




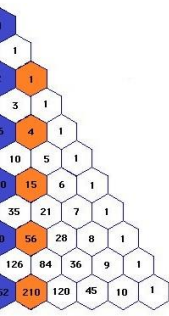
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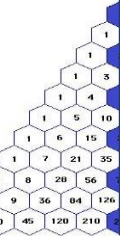
## Graphical path

01011000110010100100111011



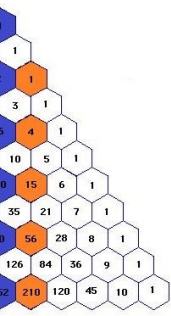
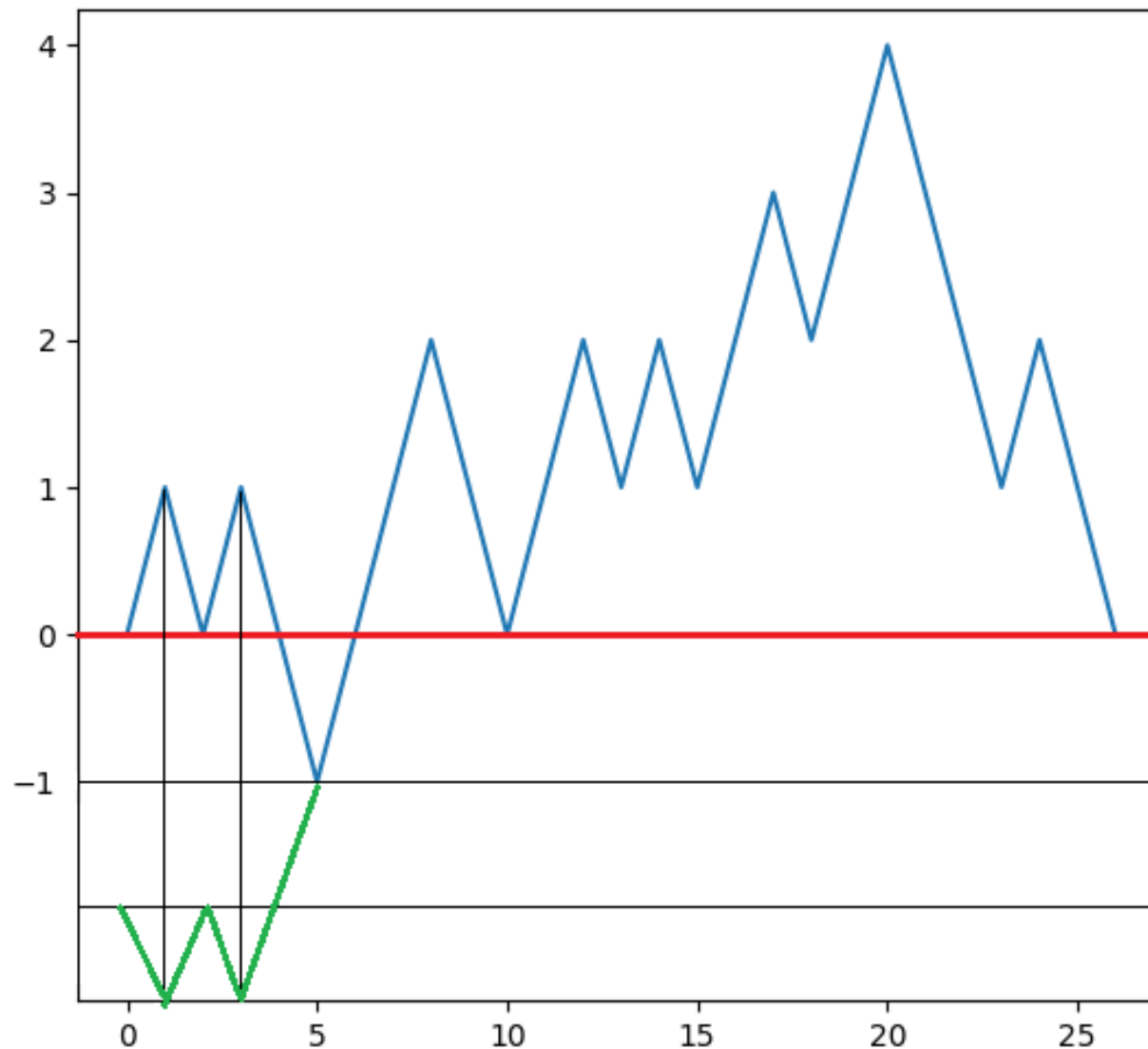
$x_0$ : first point under  $y=0$

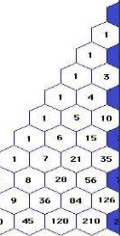




# Proof

## Graphical path



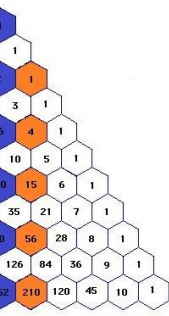
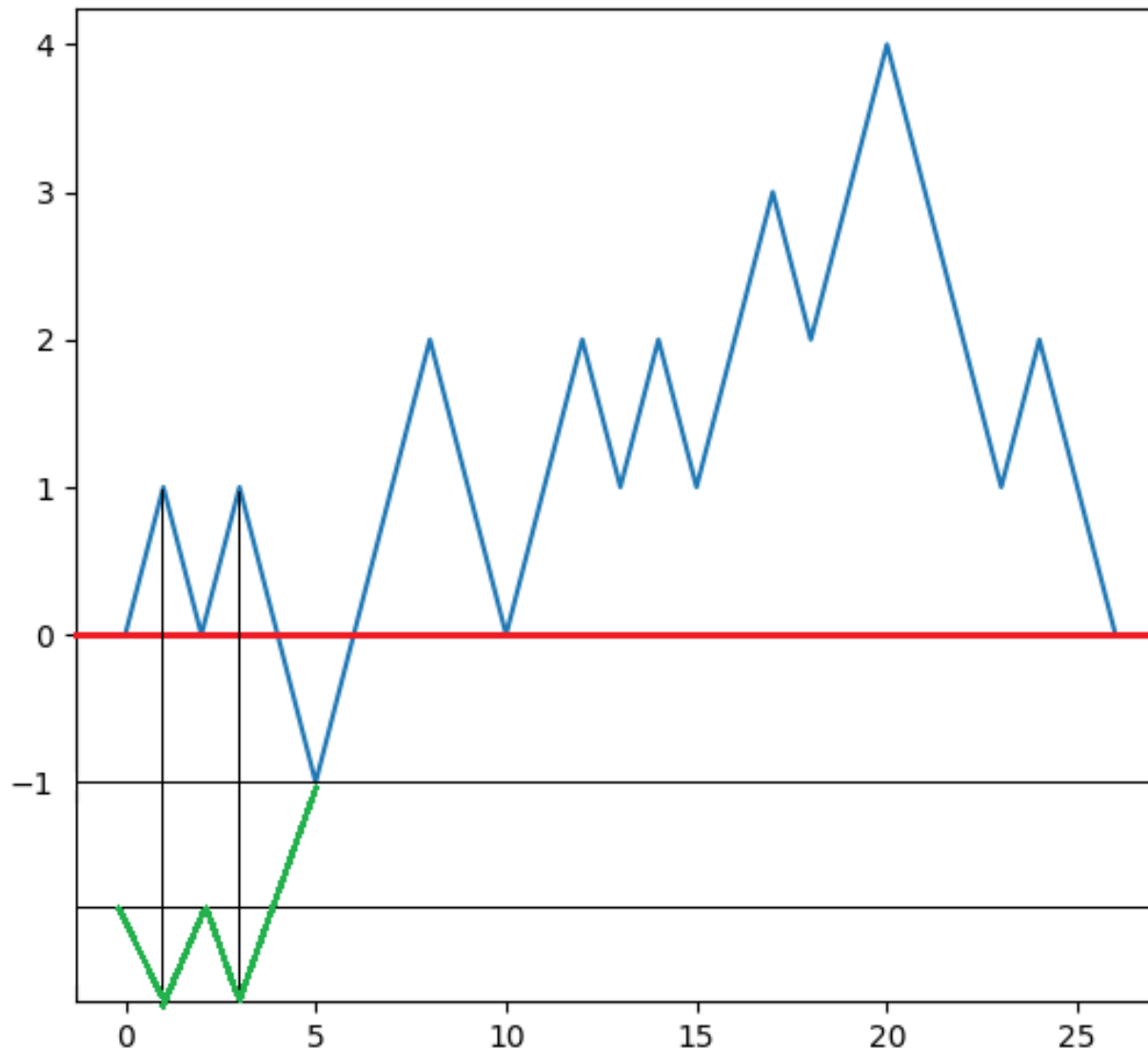


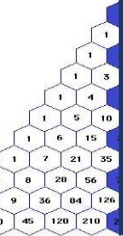
# Proof

## Graphical path

$P[(0,0), (2n,0)]$

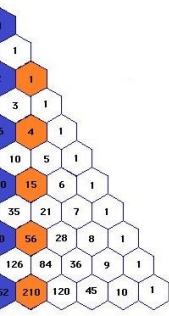
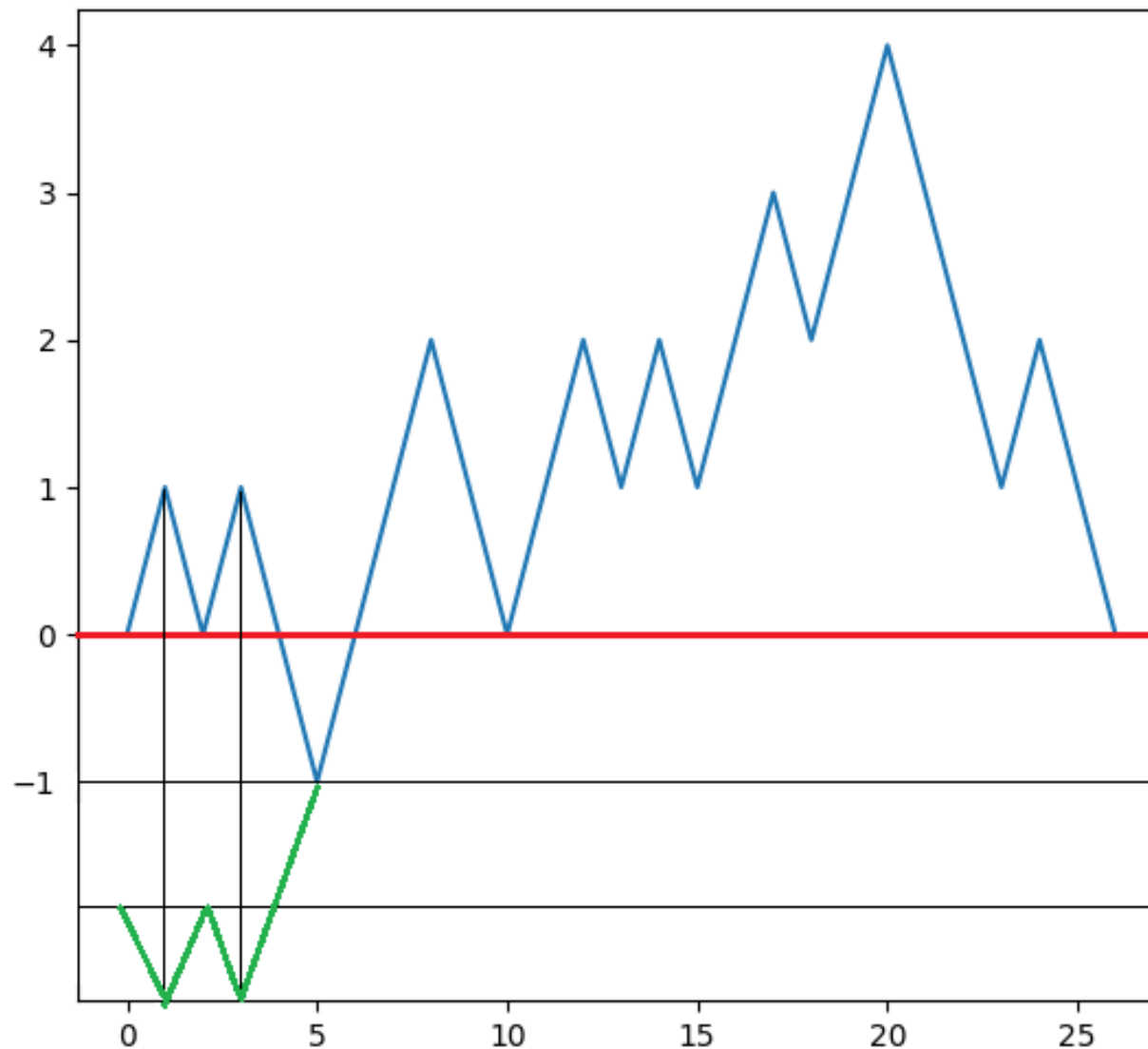
$P^*[(0,-2), (2n, 0)]$





# Proof

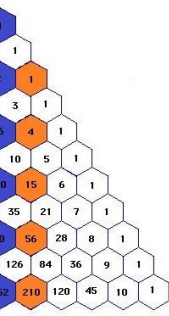
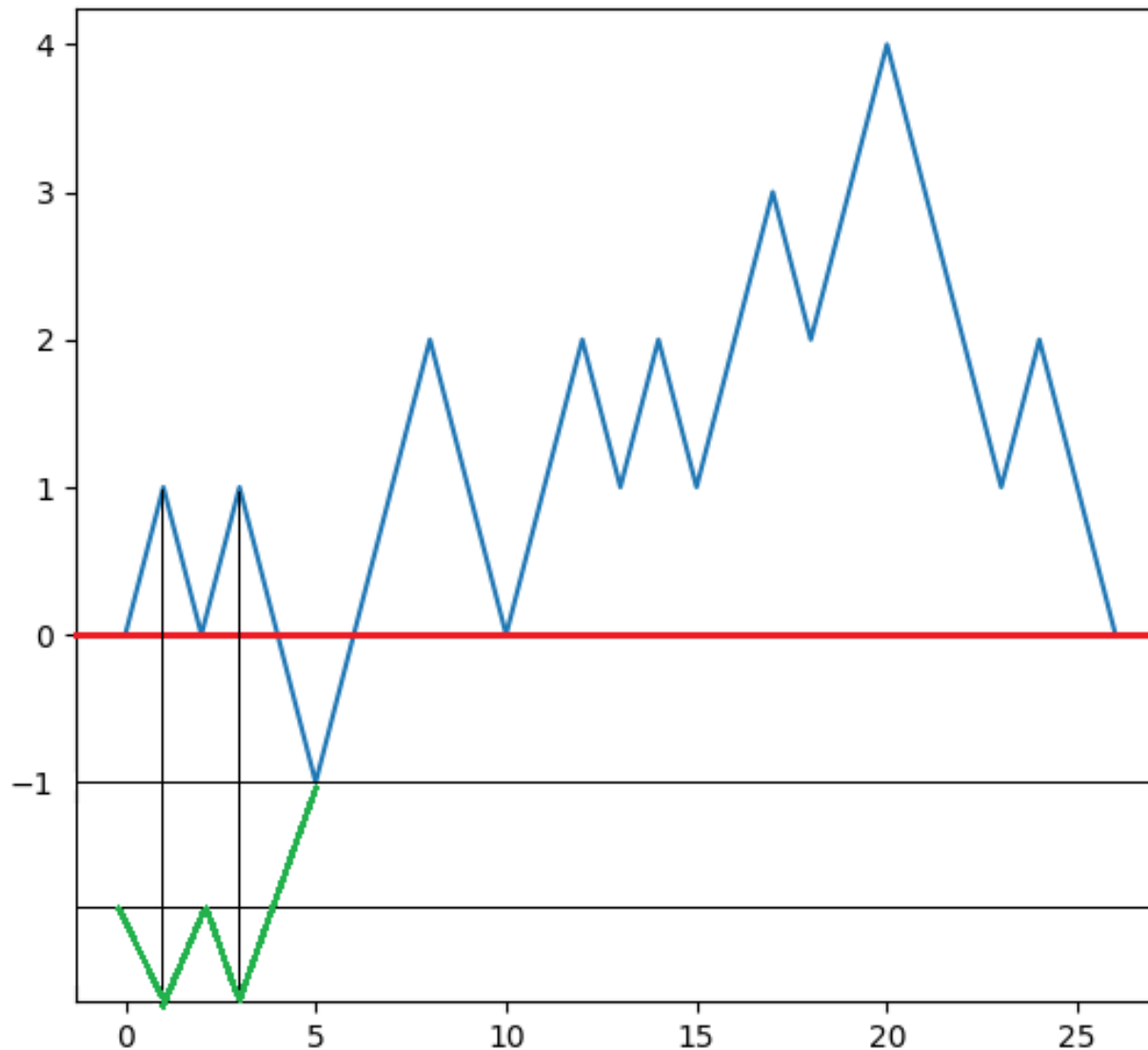
## Graphical path

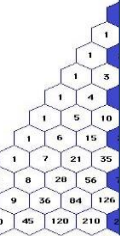




# Proof

## Graphical path



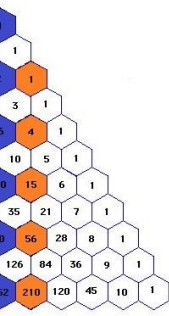
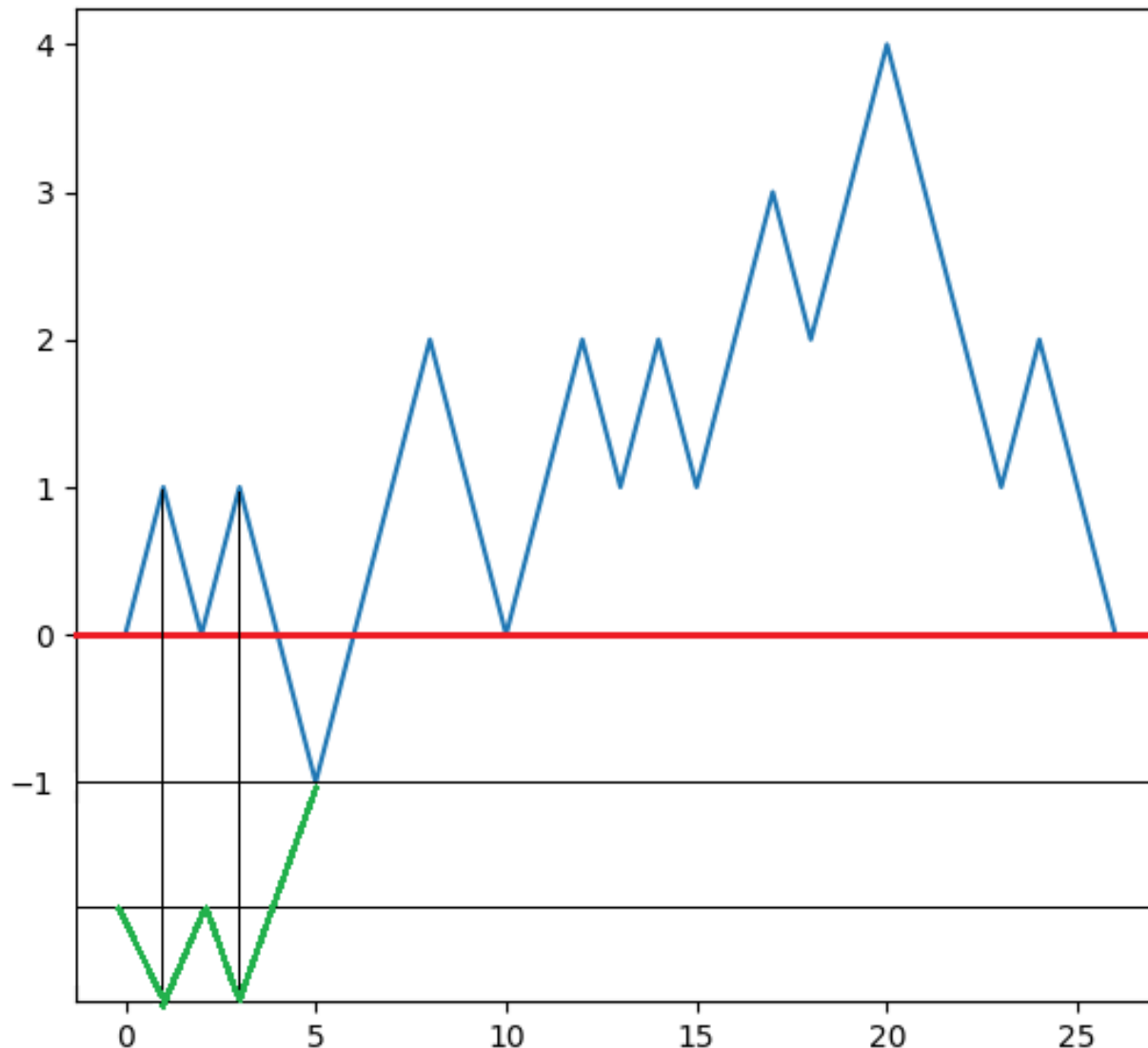


# Proof

## Graphical path

**P\***

Mountain ranges under  $y=0$





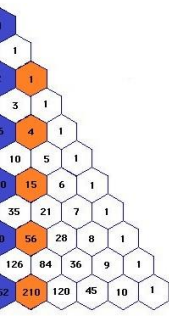
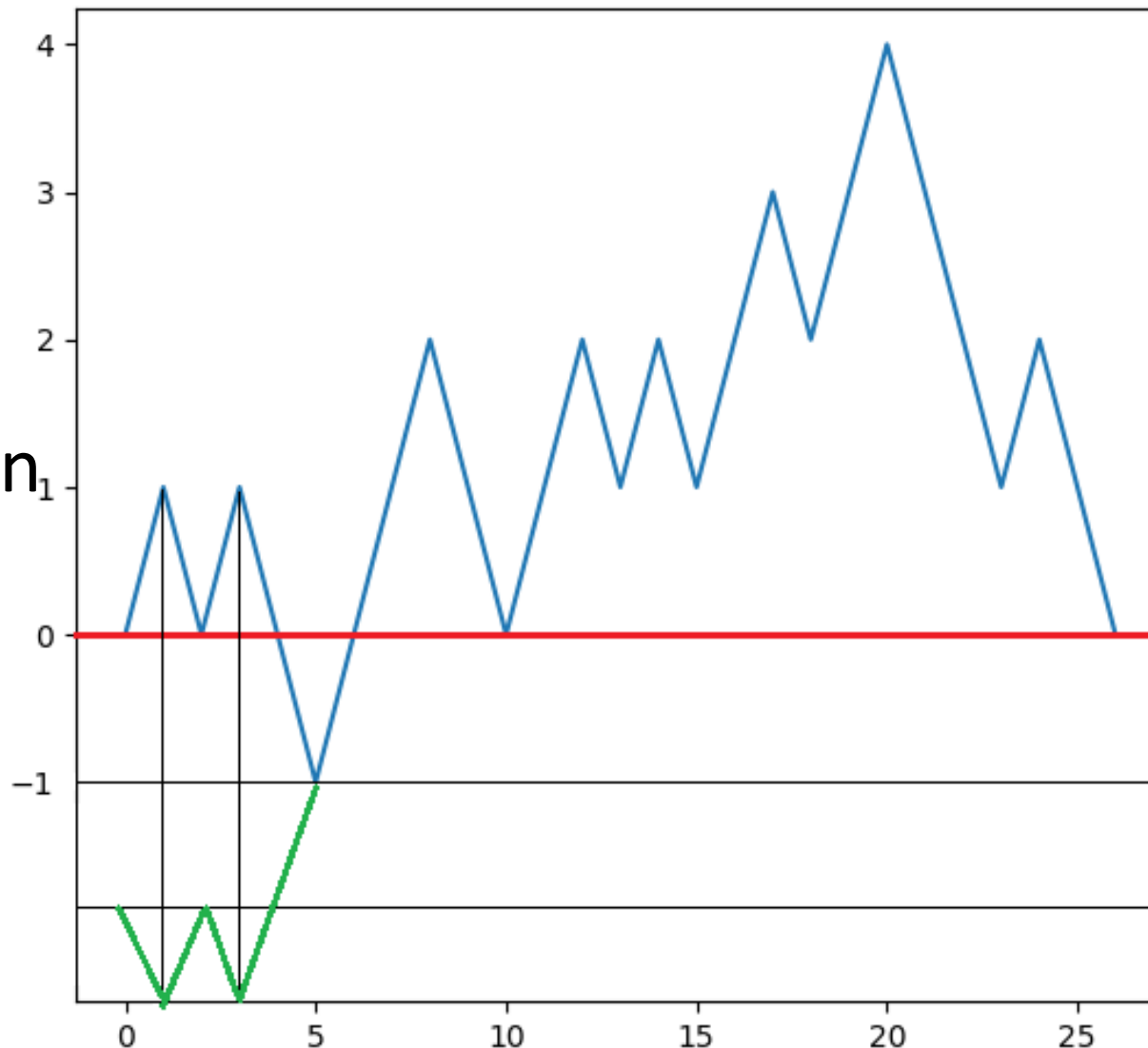


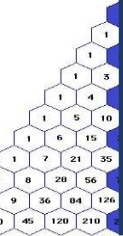
# Proof

## Graphical path

**P\***

Mountain ranges under  $y=0$   
Don't satisfy second condition  
of balanced strings.



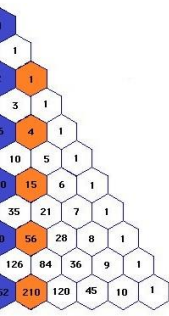
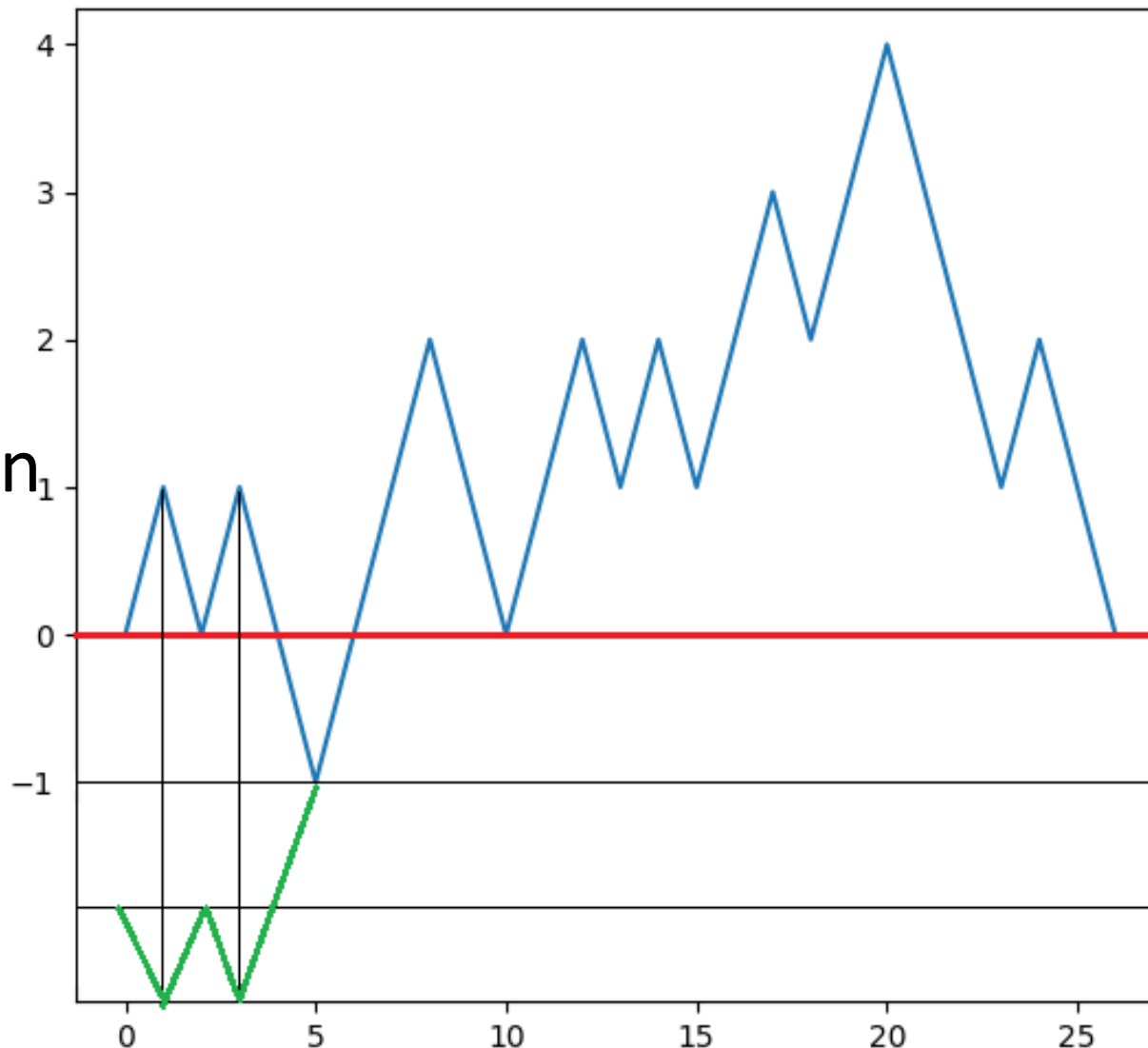


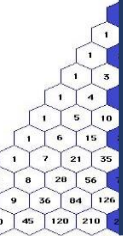
# Proof

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Strings with length  $2n$  that  
contain  $n+1$  0s and  $n-1$  1s.





# Proof

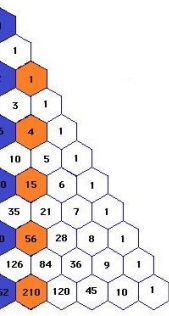
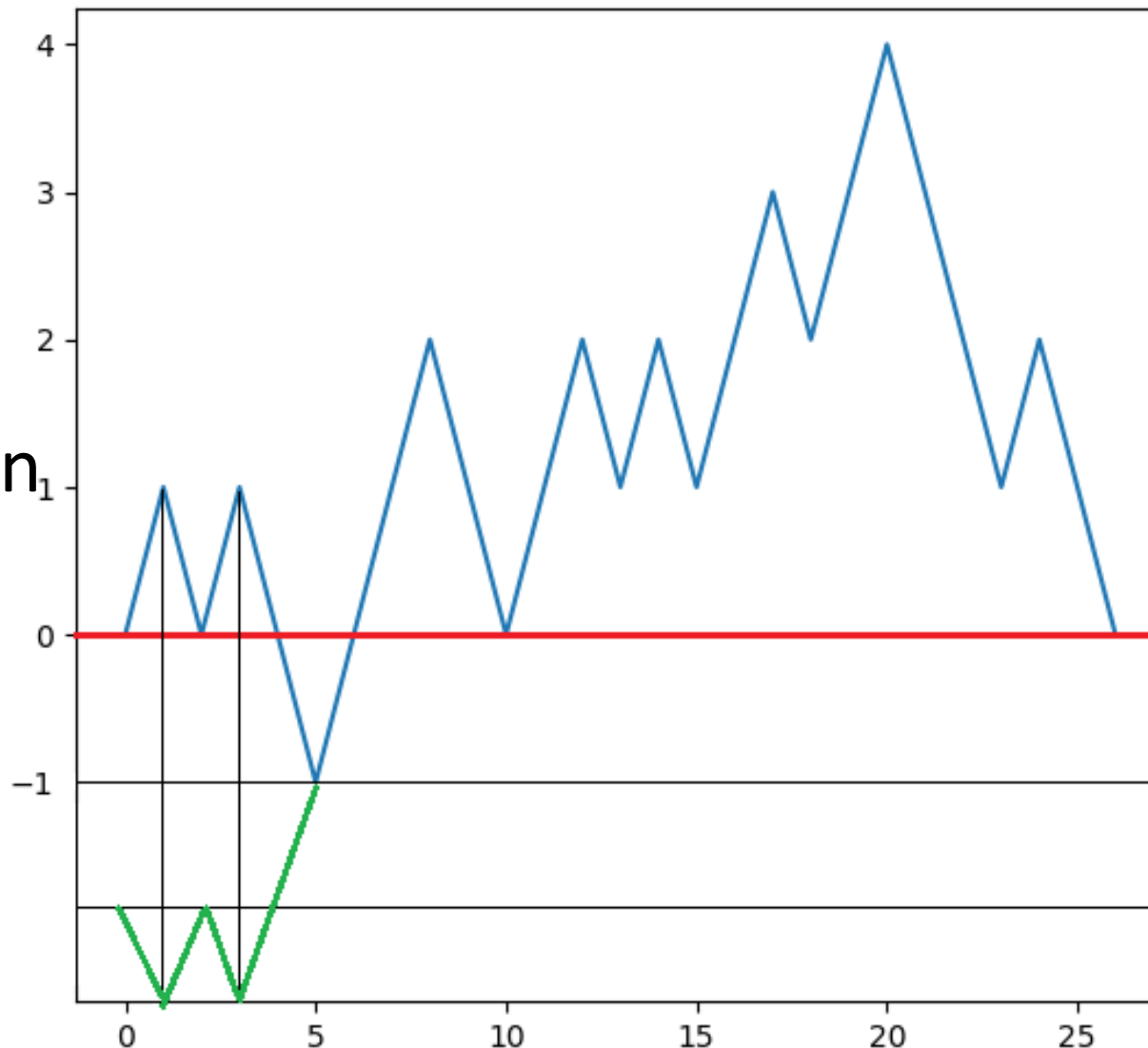
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$$\binom{2n}{n+1}$$



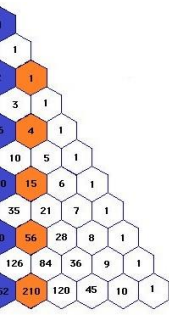


# Proof

## Combinatorial explanation

Number of string that have exactly  $n$  0s and  $n$  1s is  $\binom{2n}{n}$

$$C_n = \binom{2n}{n} - \text{sequences with length } 2n \text{ that do not satisfy second condition of balanced sequences}$$



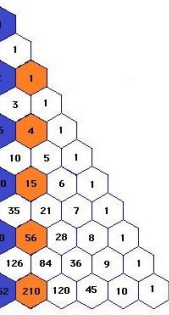


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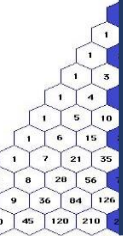
$$C_n = \binom{2n}{n} - \binom{2n}{n+1}$$



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$$\begin{aligned} C_n &= \binom{2n}{n} - \binom{2n}{n+1} \\ &= \frac{2n!}{n!n!} - \frac{2n!}{(n+1)!(n-1)!} \end{aligned}$$

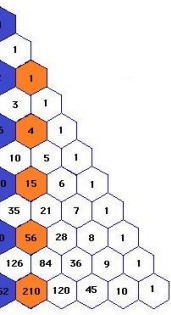


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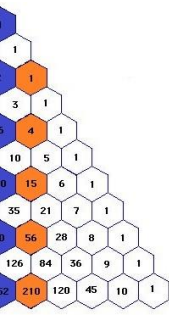




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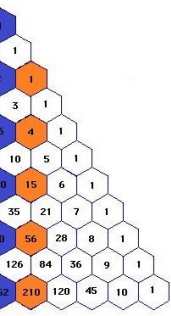
A triangular arrangement of hexagons containing the following numbers:

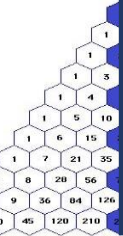
					1
				1	
			1		3
		1		4	
	1		5		10
	1	6		15	
	1	7	21		35
	8		20	56	
9		36	84		126
0	45		120	210	

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



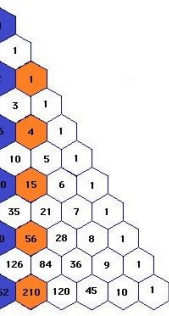
# Rank & Unrank





# Rank & Unrank

Let  $n$  be a positive integer

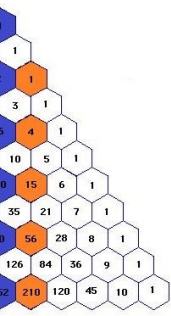




# Rank & Unrank

Let  $n$  be a positive integer

Let  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$



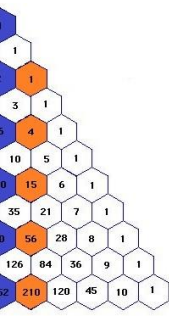


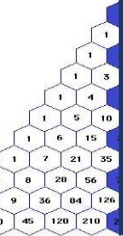
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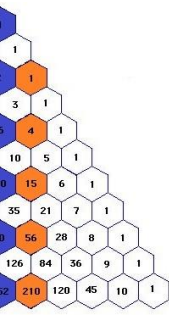
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$M_n(x, y)$  set of all mountain ranges from  $(x, y)$  to  $(2n, 0)$   
that do not drop below  $y=0$





# Rank & Unrank

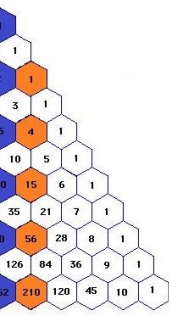
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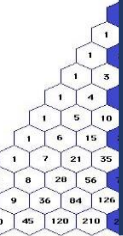
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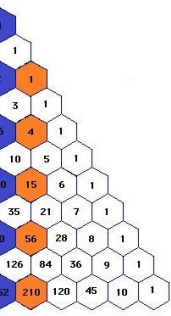
$$M_n(x, y) = |M_n(x, y)|$$





# Rank & Unrank

$$M_n(0,0) = C_n$$



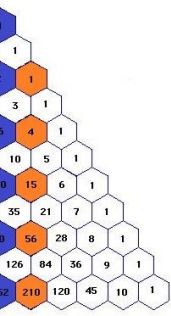




# Rank & Unrank

$$M_n(0,0) = C_n$$

$$M_n(2n,0) = 0$$



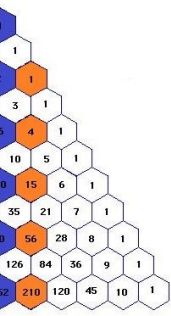


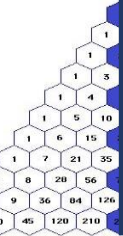
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$$M_n(0,0) = C_n$$

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$$M_n(x,y) = 0 \text{ if } y < 0$$





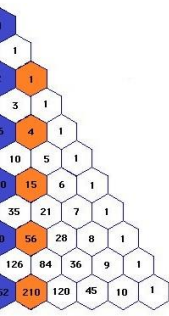
# Rank & Unrank

$$M_n(0,0) = C_n$$

$$M_n(2n,0) = 0$$

$$M_n(x,y) = 0 \text{ if } y < 0$$

$$M_n(x,y) = 0 \text{ if } x+y > 2n$$





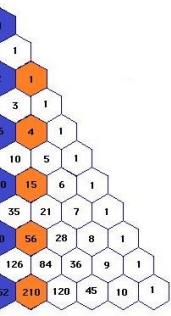
# Lemma

$$0 \leq x \leq 2n$$

$$y \geq 0$$

$x+y$  is even

$$x+y \leq 2n$$





# Lemma

$$0 \leq x \leq 2n$$

$$y \geq 0$$

$x+y$  is even

$$x+y \leq 2n$$

$$Mn(x, y) = \binom{2n - x}{n - \frac{x + y}{2}} - \binom{2n - x}{n - 1 - \frac{x + y}{2}}$$