

Task

Let $D(n, m)$ be the number of ways to move from the point $(0, 0)$ to the point (n, m) moving each time one step upwards or one step rightwards. Give a closed form for the generating function

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, y) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} D(n, m) x^n y^m = \\ &= 1 + x + y + x^2 + y^2 + 2xy + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Solution

It is known that

$$(x + y)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k y^{n-k}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \binom{n}{m} x^{n-m} y^m &= \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{m=0}^n \binom{n}{m} x^{n-m} y^m \right) &= \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} x^k y^{n-k} \right) &= \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^n (x + y)^n &= \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{n}{0} x^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{n+1}{1} x^n y + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{n+2}{2} x^n y^2 + \dots &= \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{n}{0} x^n + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \binom{n}{1} x^{n-1} y + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} y^2 + \dots &= \\ 1 + (x + y) + (x + y)^2 + \dots &= \\ 1 + x + y + x^2 + y^2 + 2xy + \dots \end{aligned}$$