

How many Binary Trees

$$C(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} C(k) \cdot C(n-k-1)$$

$$C_n = C_0 C_{n-1} + C_1 C_{n-2} + \dots + C_{n-2} C_1 + C_{n-1} C_0$$

$$(C_0 + C_1 x + \dots + C_{n-1} x^{n-1})^2 = C_n^2 x^{2n-2} + \dots + (C_0 C_{n-1} + \dots + C_{n-1} C_0) x^{2n-1} + \dots$$

Generating Functions

$$\{a_n\} \Rightarrow \text{let } F(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_n x^n + \dots$$

(convergence - later)

$$F(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_k x^k \quad (C_k = \# \text{ of B.T.s of } k \text{ nodes})$$

$$F(x)^2 = \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_k x^k \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} C_j x^j \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{i+j=n} C_i C_j \right) x^n$$

$$x(F(x))^2 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n x^n = F(x) - 1$$

$$x(F(x))^2 - F(x) + 1 = 0$$

Solve for $F(x)$

$$F(x) = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1-4x}}{2x}$$

$$F(0) = 1 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \sqrt{1-4x}}{2x} \cdot \frac{1 + \sqrt{1-4x}}{1 + \sqrt{1-4x}} = \frac{4x}{2x(1 + \sqrt{1-4x})} = 1$$

Need power series for $\sqrt{1-4x}$

$$(1+t)^p = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{p}{k} t^k$$

$$\binom{p}{k} = \frac{p!}{k!(p-k)!} = \frac{p(p-1)\dots(p-k+1)}{k!}$$

$$\text{Define } \binom{z}{k} = \frac{z(z-1)\dots(z-k+1)}{k!}$$

$$(1-4x)^{1/2} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{1/2}{k} (-4x)^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{1/2}{k} (-4)^k x^k$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \binom{1/2}{k} (-4)^k x^k$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_k x^k = - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \binom{1/2}{k} \frac{(-4)^k}{2} x^{k-1} = - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} - \binom{1/2}{k+1} \frac{(-4)^{k+1}}{2} x^k$$

$$\Rightarrow C_k = - \binom{1/2}{k+1} \frac{(-4)^{k+1}}{2} = - \binom{0.5}{k+1} \left(\frac{(-4)^{k+1}}{2} \right)$$