

# Colored partitions of a convex polygon by non-intersecting diagonals<sup>1</sup>

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(joint work with D. Birmajer and J. Gil)

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<sup>1</sup>Preprint [arXiv:1503.05242](https://arxiv.org/abs/1503.05242), March 2015

Over one hundred years ago Arthur Cayley considered the following problem:

“The partitions are made by non-intersecting diagonals; the problem which have been successively considered are

- 1 to find the number of partitions of an  $r$ -gon into triangles,
- 2 to find the number of partitions of an  $r$ -gon into  $k$  parts, and
- 3 to find the number of partitions of an  $r$ -gon into  $p$ -gons,  $r$  of the form  $n(p - 2) + 2$ .”

[Cayley, On the partition of a polygon, March 12, 1891]



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(1821-1895)

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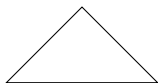
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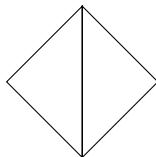
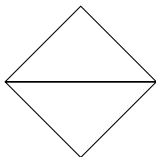
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# Triangulations of an $(r + 2) - gon$

$r = 1$ : a triangle can be partitioned into exactly one triangle.

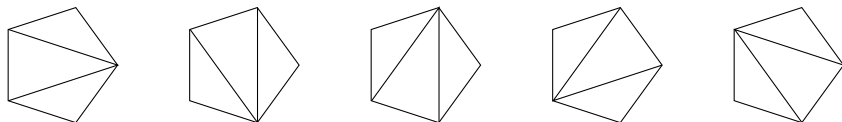


$r = 2$ : a quadrilateral can be partitioned into two triangles in two different ways.



# Triangulations of an $(r + 2) - gon$

$r = 3$ : a pentagon can be partitioned into three triangles in five different ways.



# Triangulations of an $(r + 2) - gon$

And so on...

Table : Number of Dissections

$r =$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
$\hat{p}(r, r) =$	1	2	5	14	42	132	429	1430	4862

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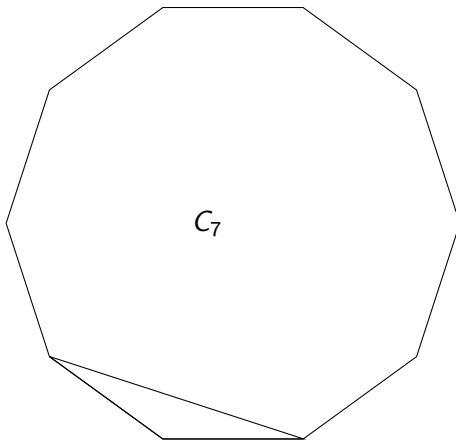
These are the Catalan numbers (A000108):

$$C_n = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n}, \quad C_{n+1} = \sum_{i=0}^n C_i C_{n-i}$$



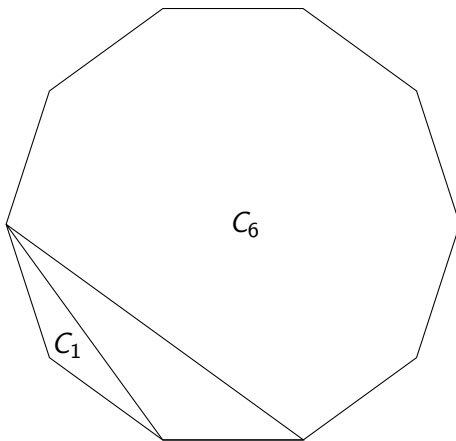
Eugene Charles Catalan  
(1814-1894)

$$C_8 = C_0 C_7 + \dots$$

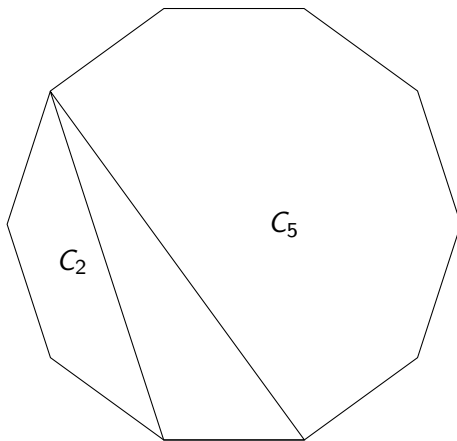




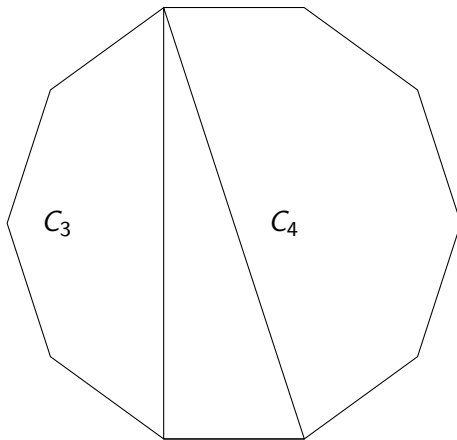
$$C_8 = C_0 C_7 + C_1 C_6 + \dots$$



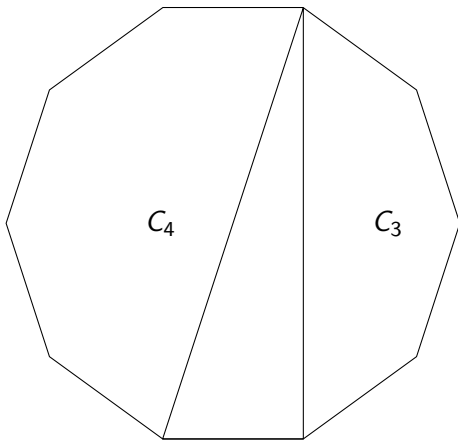
$$C_8 = C_0 C_7 + C_1 C_6 + C_2 C_5 + \dots$$



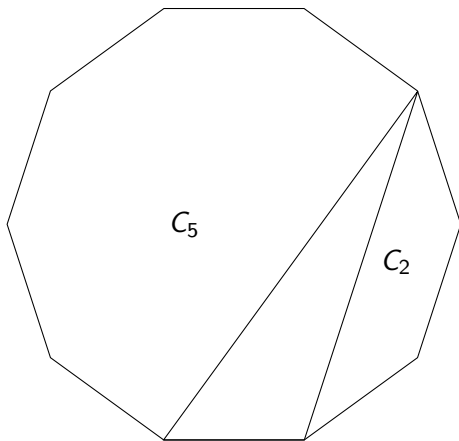
$$C_8 = C_0C_7 + C_1C_6 + C_2C_5 + C_3C_4 \dots$$



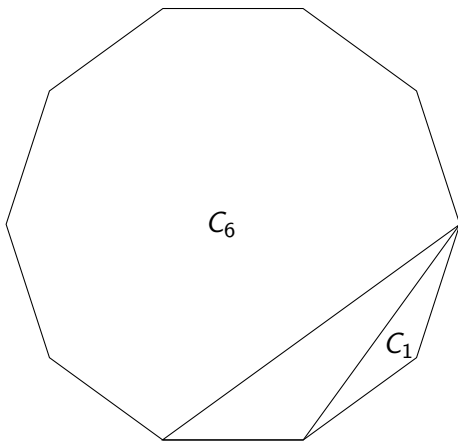
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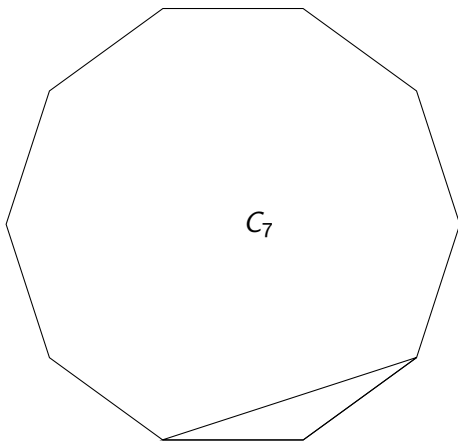
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A binary tree is a tree data structure in which each node has at most two children. Let's try to count the number of rooted binary trees with  $n + 1$  total nodes.



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Example ( $n = 4$ ,  $t(4) = 9$ )



# Rooted binary trees with $(n + 1)$ nodes

Table : Number of Trees

$n$	=	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$t(n)$	=	1	1	2	4	9	21	51	127	323

# Rooted binary trees with $(n + 1)$ nodes

Table : Number of Trees

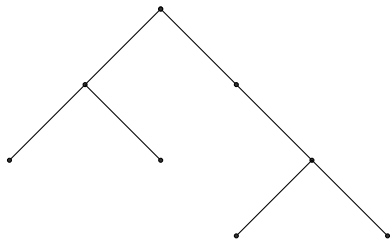
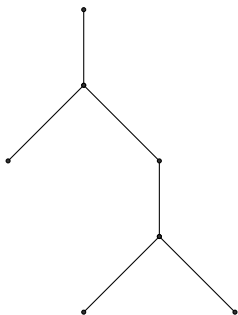
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These are the Motzkin numbers (A001006):

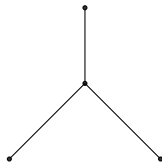
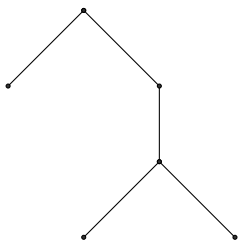
$$M_{n+2} = M_{n+1} + \sum_{i=0}^n M_i M_{n-i}$$



Theodore Motzkin  
(1908-1970)



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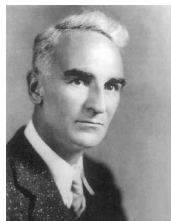
# Partial Bell Polynomials

$$B_{n,k}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-k+1}) = \sum_{\alpha} \frac{n!}{\alpha_1! \alpha_2! \cdots \alpha_{n-k+1}!} \prod_{\ell=1}^{n-k+1} \left( \frac{x_{\ell}}{\ell!} \right)^{\alpha_{\ell}},$$

where the sum runs over all multi-indices

$\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n-k+1}$  such that

$$\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \cdots = k \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_1 + 2\alpha_2 + 3\alpha_3 + \cdots = n.$$



Eric Temple Bell  
(1883-1960)

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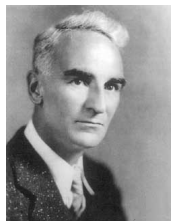
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Complete Bell Polynomials (Exponential Polynomials):

$$B_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{k=1}^n B_{n,k}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-k+1}).$$



Eric Temple Bell  
(1883-1960)



# Combinatorial Meaning

## Example

$$B_{4,2}(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 4x_1x_3 + 3x_2^2$$

looks at partitions of a four element set  $\{a, b, c, d\}$  into two parts:

$$\{a, b, c\}, \{d\} \quad \{a, b, d\}, \{c\} \quad \{a, c, d\}, \{b\} \quad \{b, c, d\}, \{a\}$$

$$\{a, b\}, \{c, d\} \quad \{a, c\}, \{b, d\} \quad \{a, d\}, \{b, c\}$$

# Bell Identities

$$B_{n,0}(x_1, x_2, \dots) = 0 \quad \text{except} \quad B_{0,0}(x_1, x_2, \dots) = 1,$$

$$B_{n,k}(x_1, 0, 0, \dots) = 0 \quad \text{except} \quad B_{n,n}(x_1, 0, 0, \dots) = x_1^n,$$

$$B_{n,k}\left(\frac{x_2}{2}, \frac{x_3}{3}, \dots\right) = \frac{n!}{(n+k)!} B_{n+k,k}(0, x_2, x_3, \dots),$$

$$B_{n,k}(0, \dots, 0, x_j, 0, \dots) = 0, \quad \text{except} \quad B_{jk,k} = \frac{(jk)!}{k!(j!)^k} x_j^k,$$

$$B_{n,k}(x_1 + x'_1, x_2 + x'_2, \dots) = \sum_{\substack{\kappa \leq k \\ \nu \leq n}} \binom{n}{\nu} B_{\nu,\kappa}(x_1, x_2, \dots) B_{n-\nu, k-\kappa}(x'_1, x'_2, \dots).$$

# Specific Partial Bell Values

$$B_{n,k}(1, 1, 1, \dots) = S(n, k), \quad (\text{Stirling number of the 2nd kind})$$

$$B_{n,k}(1!, 2!, 3!, \dots) = \binom{n-1}{k-1} \frac{n!}{k!}, \quad (\text{Lah number})$$

$$B_{n,k}(0!, 1!, 2!, \dots) = |s(n, k)|, \quad (\text{signless Stirling number of the 1st kind})$$

$$B_{n,k}(1, 2, 3, \dots) = \binom{n}{k} k^{n-k}, \quad (\text{idempotent number})$$

$$B_{n,k}(c_1, 2c_2, 0, 0, \dots) = \frac{n!}{k!} \binom{k}{n-k} c_1^{2k-n} c_2^{n-k}.$$

# Convolution Formulas

For any sequence  $(c_j)$ , and  $r, k \in \mathbb{N}$ , define

$$q(r, k) = \frac{1}{(r - k + 1)!} B_{r, k}(1!c_1, 2!c_2, \dots),$$

and let

$$y_r = \sum_{k=0}^r q(r, k).$$

## Theorem

For  $r, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{k-1} \sum_{m=\ell}^{r-1} q(r - m, k - \ell) q(m, \ell) = \frac{2(k - 1)}{r - k + 2} q(r, k).$$

# Convolution Formulas

## Corollary

Similarly, for any  $d, r, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\sum_{\substack{\ell_1 + \dots + \ell_d = k \\ m_1 + \dots + m_d = r}} q(m_1, \ell_1) \dots q(m_d, \ell_d) = d \frac{\binom{r+d-1}{d-1}}{\binom{r-k+d}{d-1}} q(r, k)$$

and

$$\sum_{m_1 + \dots + m_d = r} y_{m_1} \dots y_{m_d} = d \sum_{i=1}^r \binom{r+d-1}{i-1} \frac{(i-1)!}{r!} B_{r,i}(\mathbf{c})$$

# Convolution Formulas

## Example

Choosing  $c_j = 1$  for all  $j$ , gives  $y_r = C_r$  which, with  $d = 2$ , gives the convolution formula

$$\sum_{i=0}^r y_i y_{r-i} = y_{r+1}.$$

Similarly, choosing  $c_1 = 1$ ,  $c_2 = 1$  and  $c_j = 0$  for all  $j > 2$ , gives  $y_r = M_r$  which, with  $d = 2$ , gives the convolution formula

$$\sum_{i=0}^r y_i y_{r-i} = y_{r+2} - y_{r+1}.$$

# Convolution Formulas

For any  $a$  and  $b$ , and any sequence  $(c_j)$ , define

$$q(r, k) = \frac{\binom{ar+(b-1)k+1}{k}}{ar + (b-1)k + 1} \cdot \frac{k!}{r!} B_{r,k}(1!c_1, 2!c_2, \dots),$$

and let

$$y_r = \sum_{k=0}^r q(r, k).$$

## Theorem

For  $r, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{k-1} \sum_{m=\ell}^{r-1} q(r-m, k-\ell)q(m, \ell) = \frac{2(k-1)}{ar + (b-2)k + 2} q(r, k).$$

# Convolution Formulas

## Corollary (BGW<sup>3</sup>)

Similarly, for any  $d, r, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

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and

$$\sum_{m_1 + \dots + m_d = r} y_{m_1} \dots y_{m_d} = d \sum_{i=0}^r \frac{\binom{ar+(b-1)i+d}{i}}{ar+(b-1)i+d} \cdot \frac{i!}{r!} B_{r,i}(\mathbf{c})$$

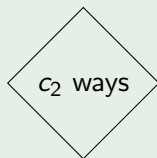
<sup>3</sup>Birmajer, Gil and Weiner, *Some convolution identities and an inverse relation involving partial Bell polynomials*, Electron. J. Combin. **19** (2012), no. 4, Paper 34, 14 pp.



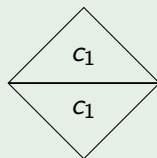
# Colored partitions of $(r + 2)$ -gon into $k$ parts

For  $\mathbf{c} = (c_1, c_2, \dots)$  with  $c_j \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , we are interested in the set  $\mathcal{P}^{\mathbf{c}}(r, k)$  of colored partitions of a convex  $(r + 2)$ -gon made by  $k - 1$  non-intersecting diagonals into  $(j + 2)$ -gons colored in  $c_j$  possible ways.

Example ( $r = 2$ , quadrilaterals)



$$|\mathcal{P}^{\mathbf{c}}(2, 1)| = c_2$$



$$|\mathcal{P}^{\mathbf{c}}(2, 2)| = 2c_1^2.$$

Remember  $\sum_{\ell=1}^{k-1} \sum_{m=\ell}^{r-1} q(r-m, k-\ell)q(m, \ell) = \frac{2(k-1)}{ar + (b-2)k + 2} q(r, k)$ ?

## Theorem

Given  $\mathbf{c}$ , and  $k > 0$ , let  $\hat{p}(r, k) = |\mathcal{P}^{\mathbf{c}}(r, k)|$ . Then

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{k-1} \sum_{m=\ell}^{r-1} \hat{p}(r-m, k-\ell)\hat{p}(m, \ell) = \frac{2(k-1)}{r+2} \hat{p}(r, k),$$

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or equivalently,

$$(r+2) \sum_{\ell=1}^{k-1} \sum_{m=\ell}^{r-1} \hat{p}(r-m, k-\ell)\hat{p}(m, \ell) = 2(k-1)\hat{p}(r, k).$$

# Colored partitions of $(r + 2)$ -gon into $k$ parts

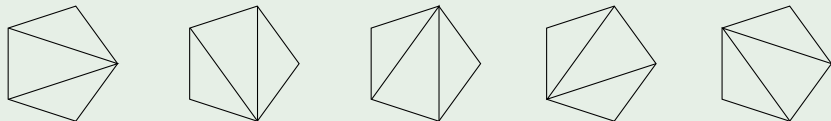
Proof: Let  $k > 1$  and consider the set  $\mathcal{P}^c(r, k)$  of colored partitions in  $\mathcal{P}^c(r, k)$  with the additional structure of a specified diagonal with one of its vertices labeled.

# Colored partitions of $(r + 2)$ -gon into $k$ parts

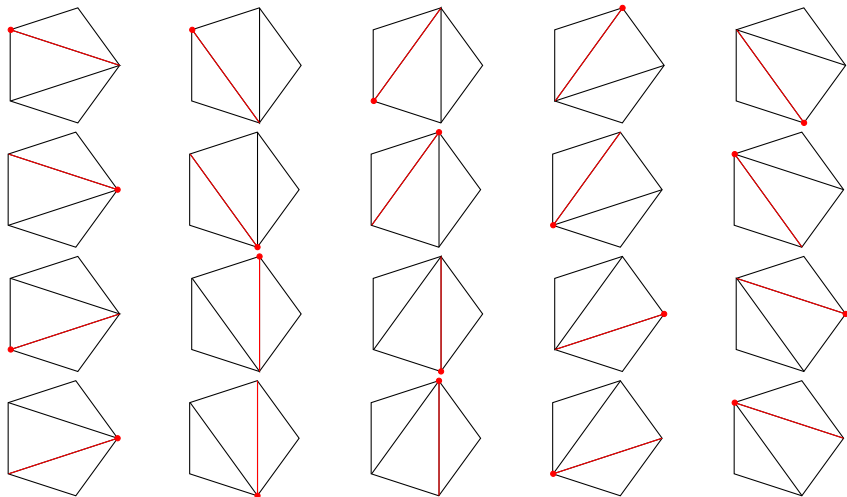
Proof: Let  $k > 1$  and consider the set  $\mathcal{S}^c(r, k)$  of colored partitions in  $\mathcal{P}^c(r, k)$  with the additional structure of a specified diagonal with one of its vertices labeled.

## Example

Let's look at  $\mathcal{S}^c(3, 3)$  in terms of  $\mathcal{P}^c(3, 3) \dots$



(Remember there are 5 different triangulations of a pentagon so  $|\hat{\rho}(3, 3)| = 5c_1^3$ .)



On the one hand, since every partition by  $k - 1$  diagonals has  $2(k - 1)$  possibilities to label a vertex, we have

$$|\mathcal{S}^c(r, k)| = 2(k - 1)|\mathcal{P}^c(r, k)| = 2(k - 1)\hat{p}(r, k).$$

### Example (continued)

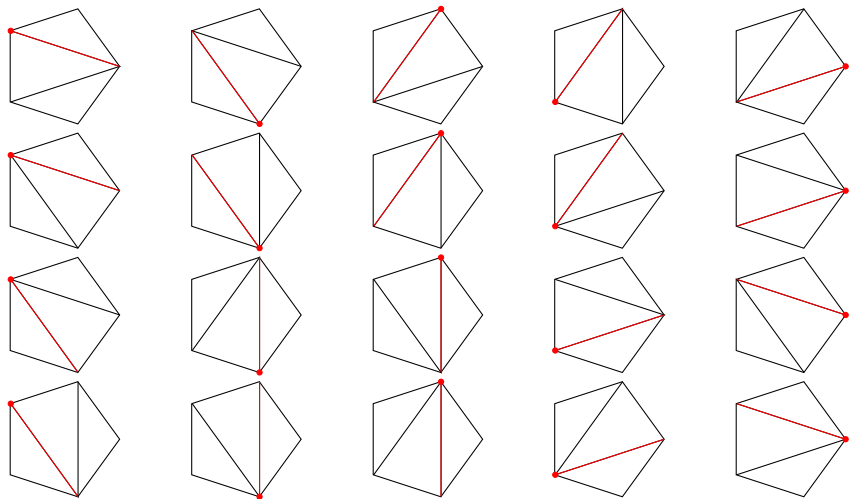
$$|\mathcal{S}^c(3, 3)| = 4 \times 5c_1^3 = 20c_1^3$$

On the other hand, for any  $(r + 2)$ -gon we can write  $\mathcal{S}^c(r, k)$  as a disjoint union

$$\mathcal{S}^c(r, k) = \bigsqcup_v S_v(r, k)$$

over all vertices  $v$  of the polygon, where  $S_v(r, k)$  is the subset of partitions having  $v$  as their labeled vertex.





Since  $|S_v(r, k)|$  is independent of  $v$ , we have

$$|\mathcal{S}^c(r, k)| = (r + 2)|S_v(r, k)|.$$

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Let  $v$  be an arbitrary labeled vertex. Any partition in  $S_v(r, k)$  has a distinguished diagonal (containing  $v$ ) which dissects the  $(r + 2)$ -gon into two polygons, one with  $\ell - 1$  diagonals ( $0 < \ell < k$ ) and the other with  $k - \ell$  diagonals.

Summing over all possible admissible values of  $\ell$  and  $m$  (namely,  $1 \leq \ell \leq k - 1$  and  $1 \leq m \leq n - 1$ ) gives

$$|S_v(r, k)| = \sum_{\ell=1}^{k-1} \sum_{m=\ell}^{n-1} \hat{p}(n - m, k - \ell) \hat{p}(m, \ell).$$

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$$|S_V(r, k)| = \sum_{\ell=1}^{k-1} \sum_{m=\ell}^{n-1} \hat{p}(n - m, k - \ell) \hat{p}(m, \ell).$$

Finally, putting these parts together gives

$$(r + 2) \sum_{\ell=1}^{k-1} \sum_{m=\ell}^{r-1} \hat{p}(r - m, k - \ell) \hat{p}(m, \ell) = 2(k - 1) \hat{p}(r, k).$$

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^{k-1} \sum_{m=\ell}^{r-1} \hat{p}(r-m, k-\ell) \hat{p}(m, \ell) = \frac{2(k-1)}{r+2} \hat{p}(r, k).$$

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Bringing back our Bell convolution we can choose  $a = 1$  and  $b = 2$  to give

$$\hat{p}(r, k) = q(r, k) = \frac{\binom{r+k+1}{k}}{r+k+1} \cdot \frac{k!}{r!} B_{r,k}(1!c_1, 2!c_2, \dots).$$

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Notice that summing over  $k$  is now counted by  $y_r$ .

### Remark

*We can choose our sequence of parameters,  $\mathbf{c}$ , to get the partition of our choice. If we choose  $c_1 = 1$  and  $c_k = 0$  for all  $k > 1$  we can reduce to Cayley's triangulation problem:  $\hat{p}(r, k) = \delta_{r,k} C_r$ .*



## Example

( $a = 1$ ,  $b = 2$ ,  $c_1 = 1$ ,  $c_2 = 1$ ,  $c_j = 0$ ,  $j > 2$ ) For this case,  $y_r$  is counting the number of dissections of convex polygons with  $r + 2$  sides into triangles and quadrilaterals by nonintersecting diagonals.

$$y_r = \sum_{k=1}^r \binom{r+k}{k-1} \frac{(k-1)!}{r!} B_{r,k}(1, 2, 0, 0, \dots) = \sum_{k=1}^r \binom{r+k}{k-1} \binom{k}{r-k} \frac{1}{k}.$$

$y_r$  is the OEIS sequence A001002,  $\{1, 3, 10, 38, 154, 654, 2871, \dots\}$ .

### Example

( $a = 1, b = 2, c_1 = 1, c_2 = 1, c_j = 0, j > 2$ ) For this case,  $y_r$  is counting the number of dissections of convex polygons with  $r + 2$  sides into triangles and quadrilaterals by nonintersecting diagonals.

$$y_r = \sum_{k=1}^r \binom{r+k}{k-1} \frac{(k-1)!}{r!} B_{r,k}(1, 2, 0, 0, \dots) = \sum_{k=1}^r \binom{r+k}{k-1} \binom{k}{r-k} \frac{1}{k}.$$

$y_r$  is the OEIS sequence A001002,  $\{1, 3, 10, 38, 154, 654, 2871, \dots\}$ .

### Example

( $a = 1, b = 2, c_1 = 0, c_j = 1, j > 1$ ) For this case,  $y_r$  is counting the number of dissections of convex polygons with  $r + 2$  sides so as to create no triangles.

$$y_r = \sum_{k=1}^r \binom{r+k}{k-1} \frac{(k-1)!}{r!} B_{r,k}(0, 2!, 3!, 4!, \dots) = \sum_{k=1}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r+k}{k-1} \binom{r-k-1}{k-1} \frac{1}{k}.$$

$y_r$  is the OEIS sequence A046736,  $\{0, 1, 1, 4, 8, 25, 64, 191, 540, \dots\}$ .

Let  $T_n$  be the set of rooted trees with  $n + 1$  nodes such that the edges connecting a node with its  $k$  children may be colored in  $c_k$  different ways. Let  $t_n$  count the number of colored trees in  $T_n$ .

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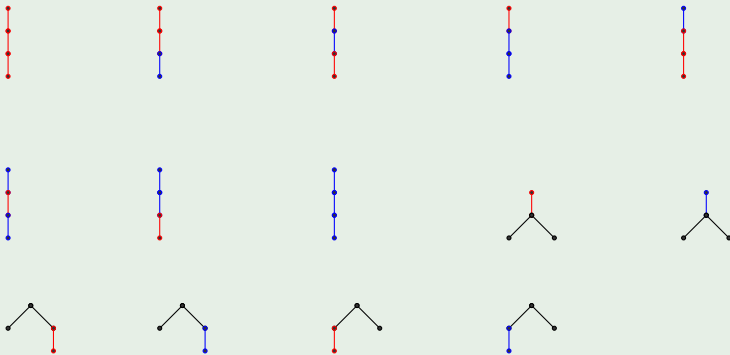
## Example

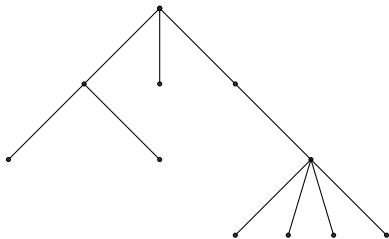
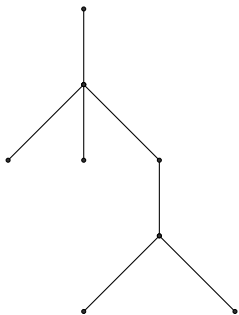
Setting  $c_1 = 1$ ,  $c_2 = 1$ , and  $c_k = 0$  for all  $k > 2$ , we retrieve our binary tree example and therefore  $t_n = M_n$ . For  $n=3$ , four trees:

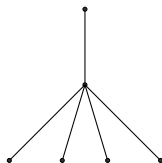
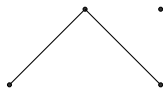
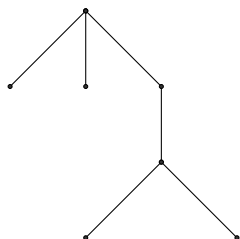


## Example

Setting  $c_1 = 2$ ,  $c_2 = 1$ , and  $c_k = 0$  for all  $k > 2$ , we again allow at most two children but have two different colors (weights) available for single child edges. These are the (shifted) Catalan numbers with  $t_n = C_{n+1}$ . Below we have for  $n = 3$ , fourteen trees:







## Proposition

*If we choose  $a = 1$  and  $b = 1$ , then  $t_n = y_n$ .*



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## Proof.

Using our Bell convolution we can inductively see, for  $r > 0$ ,

$$t_r = \sum_{d=1}^r c_d \sum_{m_1 + \dots + m_d = r-d} t_{m_1} \cdots t_{m_d}$$



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$$\begin{aligned}
 t_r &= \sum_{d=1}^r c_d \sum_{m_1 + \dots + m_d = r-d} y_{m_1} \cdots y_{m_d} = \sum_{d=1}^r c_d d \sum_{i=0}^{r-d} \frac{\binom{r}{i}}{r} \frac{i!}{(r-d)!} B_{r-d,i}(\mathbf{c}) \\
 &= c_r + \sum_{i=2}^r \binom{r-1}{i-2} \frac{(i-2)!}{(r-1)!} \left[ \sum_{d=i-1}^{r-1} \binom{r-1}{d} (r-d)! c_{r-d} B_{d,i-1}(\mathbf{c}) \right] \\
 &= c_r + \sum_{i=2}^r \frac{1}{r+1} \binom{r+1}{i} \frac{i!}{r!} B_{r,i}(\mathbf{c}) = y_r.
 \end{aligned}$$



### Example

( $c_{2j} = 1$ ,  $c_{2j-1} = 0$ ,  $j > 0$ ) For this case,  $y_r$  is counting the number of rooted trees consisting of nodes with only an even number of children.

$$y_{2r} = \sum_{k=1}^{2r} \binom{2r}{k-1} \frac{(k-1)!}{(2r)!} B_{2r,k}(0, 2!, 0, 4!, 0, 6!, \dots) = \frac{1}{2r+1} \binom{3r}{r}.$$

$y_{2r}$  is the OEIS sequence A001764,  $\{1, 3, 12, 55, 273, 1428, 7752, \dots\}$ .

### Example

( $c_1 = 0$ ,  $c_2 = 1$ ,  $c_3 = 1$ , and  $c_j = 0$ ,  $j > 3$ ) For this case,  $y_r$  is counting the number of rooted trees consisting of nodes with either zero, two, or three children.

$$y_r = \sum_{k=1}^r \binom{r}{k-1} \frac{(k-1)!}{r!} B_{r,k}(0, 2!, 3!, 0, 0, \dots) = \sum_{k=1}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \binom{r}{k-1} \binom{k}{r-2k} \frac{1}{k}.$$

$y_r$  is the OEIS sequence A001005,  $\{0, 1, 1, 2, 5, 8, 21, 42, 96, 222, 495, \dots\}$ .

For any  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , and any sequence  $(c_j)$ ,

$$q(r, k) = \frac{\binom{\alpha r + \beta k + 1}{k}}{\alpha r + \beta k + 1} \cdot \frac{k!}{r!} B_{r,k}(1!c_1, 2!c_2, \dots)$$

counts the number of:

- (a) colored partitions of polygons with  $\alpha r + (\beta - 1)k + 2$  sides into  $k$  “blocks” with allowable blocks  $(\alpha j + \beta + 1)$ -gons,  $c_j$  colors.

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- (b) weighted trees with  $(\alpha + \beta)r + 1$  nodes made from  $k$  “blocks” with allowable blocks as subtrees with  $(\alpha + \beta)j + 1$  nodes,  $\alpha j + \beta$  leaves and weight  $c_j$ .

For any  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , and any sequence  $(c_j)$ ,

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counts the number of:

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- (b) weighted trees with  $(\alpha + \beta)r + 1$  nodes made from  $k$  “blocks” with allowable blocks as subtrees with  $(\alpha + \beta)j + 1$  nodes,  $\alpha j + \beta$  leaves and weight  $c_j$ .
- (c) colored Dyck paths of length  $2(\alpha + \beta)r$  having  $k$  peaks made from blocks of the form  $U^{(\alpha + \beta)j} D^{\beta(j-1) + 1}$  w/ $c_j$  colors, &  $D$

## Question

*How many ways can we dissect a convex dodecagon (12 sided polygon) by non-intersecting diagonals into only pentagons and hexagons?*

## Question

*How many 11-node rooted trees are there if each non-leaf node can only have either 1 child or 4 children and there are exactly 4 nodes with children? What if exactly 7 nodes have children?*

## Question

*How many Dyck paths of semi-length 10 have exactly 3 peaks but no maximal ascent sequences of odd length?*

Using  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\beta = 1$ ,  $c_3 = 1$ ,  $c_4 = 1$ , and  $c_j = 0$  for all other  $j$ ,

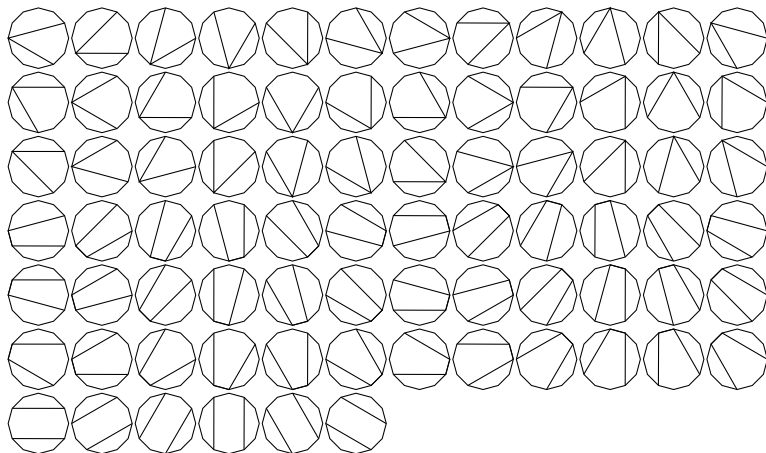
$$\begin{aligned} y_r &= \sum_{i=0}^r \frac{\binom{r+i+1}{i}}{r+i+1} \cdot \frac{i!}{r!} B_{r,i}(0, 0, 3!, 4!, 0, \dots) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^r \frac{\binom{r+i+1}{i}}{r+i+1} \cdot \frac{i!}{(r-2i)!} B_{r-2i,i}(1!, 2!, 0, 0, \dots) \\ &= \frac{1}{r+1} \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor r/3 \rfloor} \binom{r+i}{i} \binom{i}{r-3i}, \end{aligned}$$

so  $y_{10} = 78$ .

$\{0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 4, 9, 5, 22, 78, 91, 175, 680, 1224, 1938, 6270, 14630, 24794, 63756, 166980, \dots\}$

{This sequence is currently not in the OEIS.}





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Using  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\beta = 0$ , (weighted trees with  $r + 1$  nodes),  $c_1 = 1$ ,  $c_4 = 1$ , and  $c_j = 0$  for all other  $j$ , our building blocks become:

 $c_1$  $c_4$ 

Example trees w/4 blocks



$$r = 10, k = 4$$

Using  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\beta = 0$ ,  $c_1 = 1$ ,  $c_4 = 1$ , and  $c_j = 0$  for all other  $j$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} q(r, k) &= \frac{\binom{r+1}{k}}{r+1} \cdot \frac{k!}{r!} B_{r,k}(1!, 0, 0, 4!, 0, \dots) \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{r+1} \binom{r+1}{k} \binom{k}{\frac{1}{3}(r-k)}, & \frac{r-k}{3} \in \mathbb{Z} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and therefore  $q(10, 4) = 180$  and  $q(10, 7) = 210$ .

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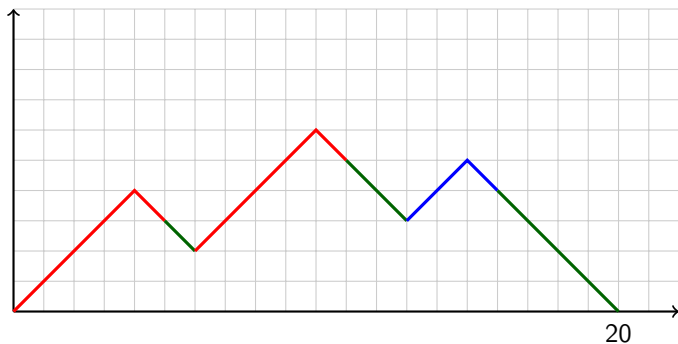
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Dyck path example:  $\alpha = 2, \beta = 0, r = 5, k = 3$ 

$$(U^4 D) D (U^4 D) D^2 (U^2 D) D^4$$

$$(c_2) D (c_2) D^2 (c_1) D^4$$



Using  $\alpha = 2$ ,  $\beta = 0$ , and  $c_j = 1$  for all  $j$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}q(r, k) &= \frac{\binom{2r+1}{k}}{2r+1} \cdot \frac{k!}{r!} B_{r,k}(1!, 2!, 3!, 4!, 5!, \dots) \\ &= \frac{1}{r} \binom{r}{k} \binom{2r}{k-1}\end{aligned}$$

so  $q(10, 3) = 90$ .

Using  $\alpha = 2$ ,  $\beta = 0$ , and  $c_j = 1$  for all  $j$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} q(r, k) &= \frac{\binom{2r+1}{k}}{2r+1} \cdot \frac{k!}{r!} B_{r,k}(1!, 2!, 3!, 4!, 5!, \dots) \\ &= \frac{1}{r} \binom{r}{k} \binom{2r}{k-1} \end{aligned}$$

so  $q(10, 3) = 90$ .

Note: Letting  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\beta = 0$ , and  $c_j = 1$  for all  $j$  recovers the **Narayana** numbers:

$$\begin{aligned} q(r, k) &= \frac{\binom{r+1}{k}}{r+1} \cdot \frac{k!}{r!} B_{r,k}(1!, 2!, 3!, 4!, 5!, \dots) \\ &= \binom{r}{k-1} \binom{r}{k} \frac{1}{r} = N(r, k). \end{aligned}$$



Thank You

# References

Some of the material presented here can be found in:

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- 2 E. T. Bell, *Exponential polynomials*, Ann. of Math., 35:258–277, 1934.
- 3 J. Riordan, *An Introduction to Combinatorial Analysis*, Wiley, New York, 1958.
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- 5 P. Hilton, J. Pedersen, *Catalan Numbers, Their Generalization, and Their Uses*, The Mathematical Intelligencer, Vol 13 (1991), no. 2.
- 6 C.A. Charalambides, *Enumerative Combinatorics*, Chapman and Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, 2002.
- 7 D. Birmajer, J. Gil and M. Weiner, *Some convolution identities and an inverse relation involving partial Bell polynomials*, Electron. J. Combin. 19 (2012), no. 4, Paper 34, 14 pp.
- 8 D. Birmajer, J. Gil and M. Weiner, *Convolutions of tribonacci, Fuss-Catalan, and Motzkin sequences*, Fibonacci Quart. accepted December 2014.
- 9 D. Birmajer, J. Gil and M. Weiner, *Colored partitions of a convex polygon by noncrossing diagonals*, Submitted for publication.
- 10 OEIS Foundation Inc. (2011), The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences, <http://oeis.org>.

# Bell Convolution Formula

## Corollary (BGW 2012<sup>4</sup>)

Let  $\alpha(\ell, m)$  be a polynomial in  $\ell$  and  $m$  of degree at most one. For any sequence  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$  and any  $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\ell=0}^k \sum_{m=\ell}^n \frac{\tau \binom{\alpha(\ell, m)}{k-\ell} \binom{\tau - \alpha(\ell, m)}{\ell} \binom{n}{m}}{\alpha(\ell, m) (\tau - \alpha(\ell, m)) \binom{k}{\ell}} B_{m, \ell}(x) B_{n-m, k-\ell}(x) \\ &= \frac{\tau - \alpha(0, 0) + \alpha(k, n)}{\alpha(k, n) (\tau - \alpha(0, 0))} \binom{\tau}{k} B_{n, k}(x). \end{aligned}$$

where  $B_{i, j}(x) = B_{i, j}(x_1, x_2, \dots)$  for any fixed sequence  $x_1, x_2, \dots$ .

<sup>4</sup>Birmajer, Gil and Weiner, *Some convolution identities and an inverse relation involving partial Bell polynomials*, Electron. J. Combin. **19** (2012), no. 4, Paper 34, 14 pp.