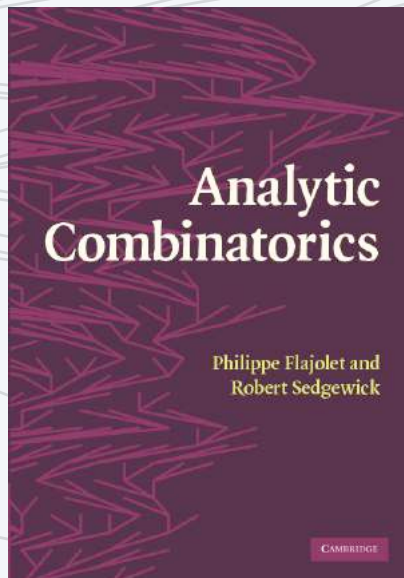


ANALYTIC COMBINATORICS

PART TWO



<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs



*Attention:* Much of this lecture is a *quick review* of material in *Analytic Combinatorics, Part I*

One consequence: it is a bit longer than usual

To: Students who took *Analytic Combinatorics, Part I*

Bored because you understand it all?

GREAT! Skip to the section on labelled trees and do the exercises.

To: Students starting with *Analytic Combinatorics, Part II*

Moving too fast? Want to see details and motivating applications?

No problem, watch Lectures 5, 6, and 8 in Part I.

Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- **Symbolic method**
- Trees and strings
- Powersets and multisets
- Compositions and partitions
- Substitution

## Analytic combinatorics overview

---

To analyze properties of a large combinatorial structure:

### 1. Use the **symbolic method**

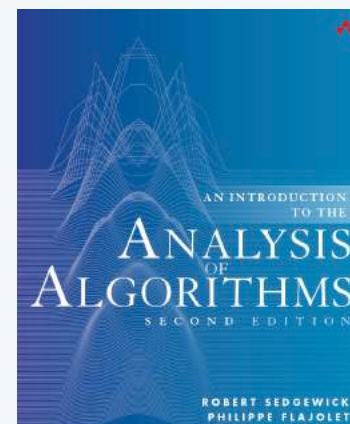
- Define a *class* of combinatorial objects
- Define a notion of *size* (and associated generating function)
- Use standard operations to develop a *specification* of the structure

Result: A direct derivation of a **GF equation** (implicit or explicit)

Classic next steps:

- Extract coefficients
- Use classic asymptotics to estimate coefficients

Result: **Asymptotic estimates** that quantify the desired properties



<http://aofa.cs.princeton.edu>

See *An Introduction to the Analysis of Algorithms* for a gentle introduction

## Analytic combinatorics overview

---

To analyze properties of a large combinatorial structure:

1. Use the **symbolic method**

- Define a *class* of combinatorial objects.
- Define a notion of *size* (and associated generating function)
- Use standard operations to develop a *specification* of the structure.

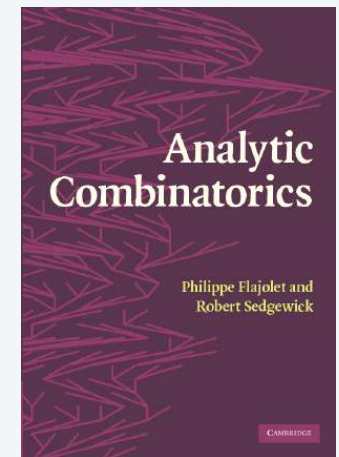
Result: A direct derivation of a **GF equation** (implicit or explicit).

2. Use **complex asymptotics** to estimate growth of coefficients.

- [no need for explicit solution]
- [stay tuned for details]

Result: **Asymptotic estimates** that quantify the desired properties

See *Analytic Combinatorics* for a rigorous treatment



<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

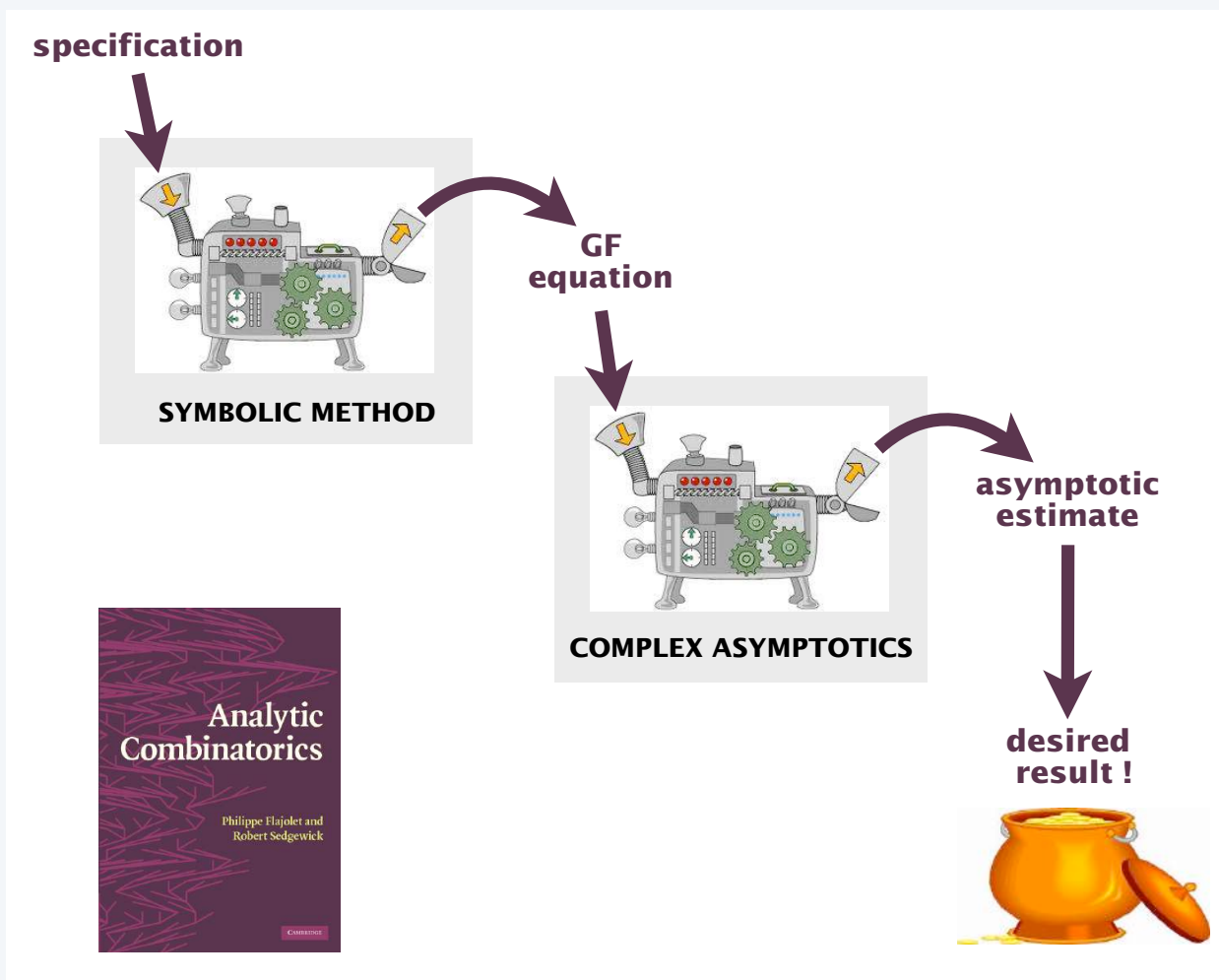
# Analytic combinatorics overview

## A. SYMBOLIC METHOD

- ➔ 1. OGFs
- 2. EGFs
- 3. MGFs

## B. COMPLEX ASYMPTOTICS

- 4. Rational & Meromorphic
- 5. Applications of R&M
- 6. Singularity Analysis
- 7. Applications of SA
- 8. Saddle point



## The symbolic method

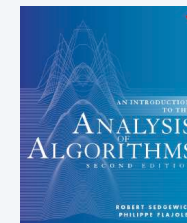
---

An approach for *directly* deriving GF equations.

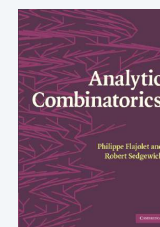
- Define a *class* of combinatorial objects.
- Define a notion of *size* (and associated generating function)
- Define *operations* suitable for constructive definitions of objects.
- Prove *correspondences* between operations and GFs.

Result: A **GF equation** (implicit or explicit).

See *An Introduction to the Analysis of Algorithms* for a gentle introduction



See *Analytic Combinatorics* for a rigorous treatment



**This lecture:** An overview that assumes *some* familiarity.

← Ex: Part I of this course

## Basic definitions

**Def.** A *combinatorial class* is a set of combinatorial objects and an associated *size function*.

**Def.** The *ordinary generating function* (OGF) associated with a class is the formal power series  $A(z) = \sum_{a \in A} z^{|a|}$  ← size function

object name ↗ ↖ class name

Fundamental (elementary) identity

$$A(z) \equiv \sum_{a \in A} z^{|a|} = \sum_{N \geq 0} A_N z^N$$

**Q.** How many objects of size  $N$ ?

**A.**  $A_N = [z^N]A(z)$

*Fantasy:*  
Different letter for each class

*Reality:*  
Only 26 letters!

*Usual conventions*

class name	roman	$A$
OGF name	roman with arg	$A(z)$
object variable	lowercase	$a$
coefficient	subscripted	$A_N$
size	$N$ or $n$	

With the symbolic method, we specify the class *and at the same time* characterize the OGF



## Unlabeled classes: cast of characters

---

### TREES

*Recursive structures*

$$T_N = [\text{Catalan \#s}]$$

### STRINGS

*Sequences of characters*

$$S_N = N^M$$

### INTEGERS

*N objects*

$$I_N = 1$$

### COMPOSITIONS

*Positive integers sum to N*

$$C_N = 2^{N-1}$$

### LANGUAGES

*Sets of strings*

[REs and CFGs]

### PARTITIONS

*Unordered compositions*

[enumeration not elementary]

## The symbolic method (basic constructs)

---

Suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are classes of unlabeled objects with enumerating OGFs  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$ .

operation	notation	semantics	OGF
<i>disjoint union</i>	$A + B$	disjoint copies of objects from $A$ and $B$	$A(z) + B(z)$
<i>Cartesian product</i>	$A \times B$	ordered pairs of copies of objects, one from $A$ and one from $B$	$A(z)B(z)$
<i>sequence</i>	$SEQ(A)$	sequences of objects from $A$	$\frac{1}{1 - A(z)}$

Stay tuned for other constructs

## Proofs of correspondences

$A + B$

$$\sum_{c \in A+B} z^{|c|} = \sum_{a \in A} z^{|a|} + \sum_{b \in B} z^{|b|} = A(z) + B(z)$$

$A \times B$

$$\sum_{c \in a \times b} z^{|c|} = \sum_{a \in A} \sum_{b \in B} z^{|a|+|b|} = \left( \sum_{a \in A} z^{|a|} \right) \left( \sum_{b \in B} z^{|b|} \right) = A(z)B(z)$$

$SEQ(A)$	construction	OGF
	$SEQ_k(A) \equiv A^k$	$A(z)^k$
	$SEQ_T(A) \equiv A^{t_1} + A^{t_2} + A^{t_3} + \dots$ where $T \equiv t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots$ is a subset of the integers	$A(z)^{t_1} + A(z)^{t_2} + A(z)^{t_3} + \dots$
	$SEQ(A) \equiv \epsilon + A + A^2 + A^3 + \dots$	$1 + A(z) + A(z)^2 + A(z)^3 + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - A(z)}$

Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- **Symbolic method**
- Trees and strings
- Powersets and multisets
- Compositions and partitions
- Substitution

Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

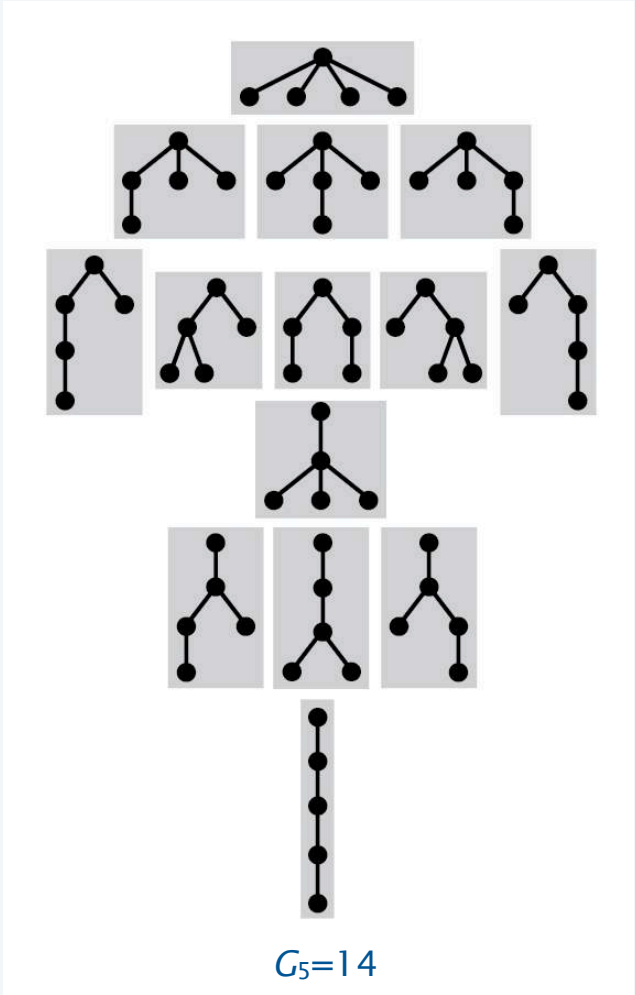
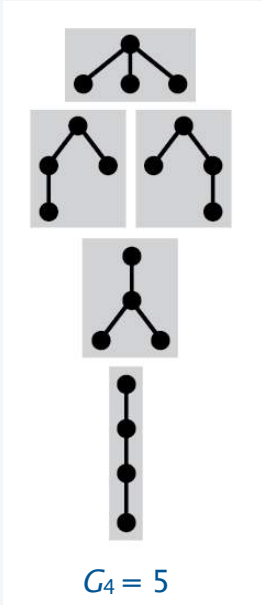
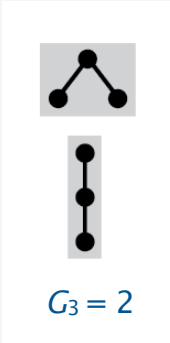
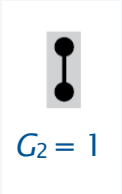
<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- Symbolic method
- **Trees and strings**
- Powersets and multisets
- Compositions and partitions
- Substitution

# Classic example of the symbolic method

Q. How many **trees** with  $N$  nodes?



# Analytic combinatorics: How many trees with $N$ nodes?

## Symbolic method

Combinatorial class

$G$ , the class of all trees

Construction

$$G = \bullet \times \text{SEQ}(G)$$

"a tree is a node and a sequence of trees"

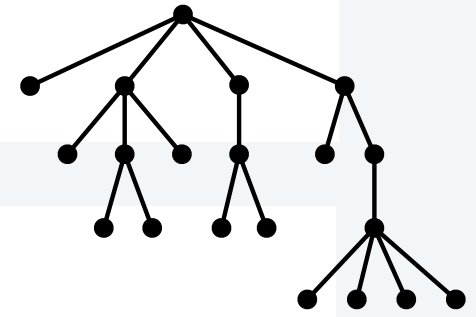
OGF equation

$$G(z) = z(1 + G(z) + G(z)^2 + G(z)^3 + \dots) = \frac{z}{1 - G(z)}$$

$$G(z) - G(z)^2 = z$$

Quadratic equation

$$G(z) = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - 4z}}{2}$$



## Classic next steps

Binomial theorem

$$G(z) = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{N \geq 1} \binom{\frac{1}{2}}{N} (-4z)^N$$

Extract coefficients

$$G_N = -\frac{1}{2} \binom{\frac{1}{2}}{N} (-4)^N = \frac{1}{N} \binom{2N-2}{N-1} = \frac{1}{4N-2} \binom{2N}{N}$$

Stirling's approximation

$$\sim \frac{1}{4N} \exp(2N \ln(2N) - 2N + \ln \sqrt{4\pi N} - 2(N \ln(N) - N + \ln \sqrt{2\pi N}))$$

detailed calculations omitted

Simplify

$$G_N \sim \frac{4^{N-1}}{\sqrt{\pi N^3}}$$

# Analytic combinatorics: How many trees with $N$ nodes?

## Symbolic method

Combinatorial class

$G$ , the class of all trees

Construction

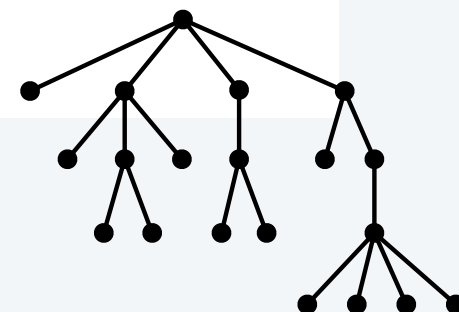
$$G = \bullet \times \text{SEQ}(G)$$

"a tree is a node and a sequence of trees"

OGF equation

$$G(z) = z(1 + G(z) + G(z)^2 + G(z)^3 + \dots) = \frac{z}{1 - G(z)}$$

$$G(z) - G(z)^2 = z$$



## Complex asymptotics

Singularity analysis

$$G_N = [z^N]G(z) \sim \frac{4^N}{\Gamma(1/2)\sqrt{N}} = \frac{4^N}{\sqrt{\pi N}}$$

GF equation *directly* implies asymptotics

**This lecture:** Focus on symbolic method for deriving OGF equations (stay tuned for asymptotics).

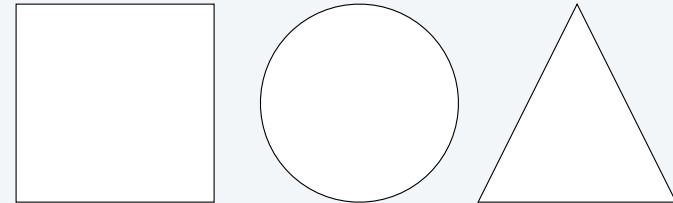


## A standard paradigm for the symbolic method

---

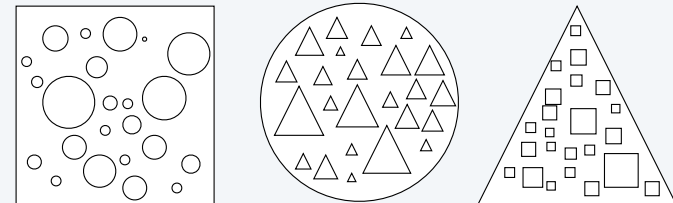
### Fundamental constructs

- elementary or trivial
- confirm intuition



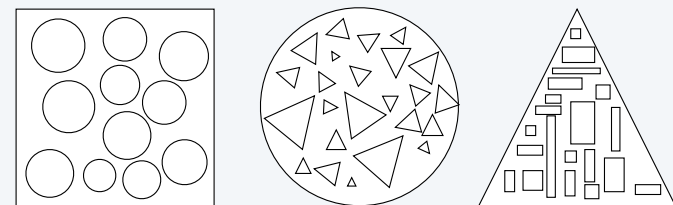
### Compound constructs

- many possibilities
- classical combinatorial objects
- expose underlying structure
- one of many paths to known results



### Variations

- unlimited possibilities
- *not* easily analyzed otherwise



## Variations on a theme 1: Trees

### Fundamental construct

Combinatorial class

$G$ , the class of all trees

"a tree is a node and a sequence of trees"

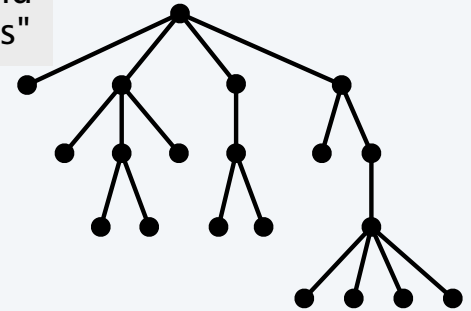
Construction

$$G = \bullet \times \text{SEQ}(G)$$

OGF equation

$$G(z) = z(1 + G(z) + G(z)^2 + G(z)^3 + \dots) = \frac{z}{1 - G(z)}$$

$$G(z) - G(z)^2 = z$$



### Variation on the theme: *restrict each node to 0 or 2 children*

Combinatorial class

$T$ , the class of binary trees

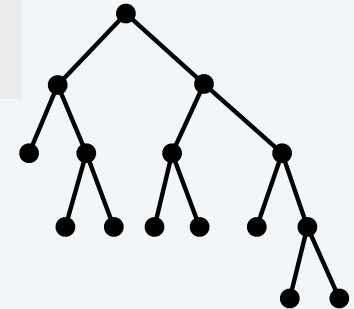
"a binary tree is a node and a sequence of 0 or 2 binary trees"

Construction

$$T = \bullet \times \text{SEQ}_{0,2}(T)$$

OGF equation

$$T(z) = z(1 + T(z)^2)$$



## Variations on a theme 1: Trees (continued)

Variation on the theme: multiple node types

Combinatorial class

$T^\bullet$ , binary trees, *enumerated by internal nodes*

Atoms

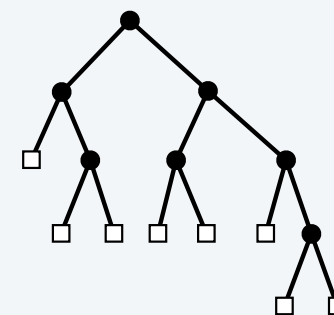
type	class	size	GF
external node	□	0	1
internal node	●	1	$z$

Construction

$$T = \square + T \times \bullet \times T$$

OGF equation

$$T^\bullet(z) = 1 + zT^\bullet(z)^2$$



Combinatorial class

$T^\square$ , binary trees, *enumerated by external nodes*

OGF equation

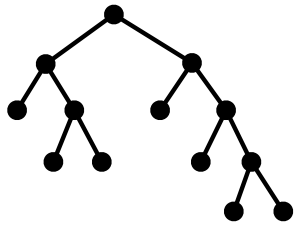
$$T^\square(z) = z + T^\square(z)^2$$

More variations: unary-binary trees, ternary trees, ...

Still more variations: gambler's ruin sequences, context-free languages, triangulations, ...

# Some variations on ordered (rooted plane) trees

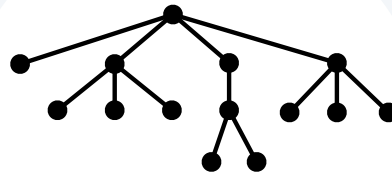
Binary



$$T = \bullet \times SEQ_{0,2}(T)$$

$$T(z) = z(1 + T(z)^2)$$

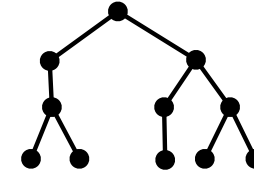
Ordered



$$G = \bullet \times SEQ(G)$$

$$G(z) = \frac{z}{1 - G(z)}$$

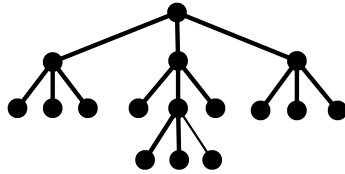
Unary-binary



$$M = \bullet \times SEQ_{\leq 2}(M)$$

$$M(z) = z(1 + M(z) + M(z)^2)$$

Ternary



$$T = \bullet \times SEQ_{0,3}(T)$$

$$T(z) = z(1 + T(z)^3)$$

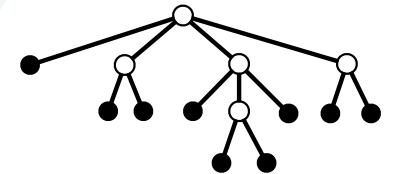
Arbitrary restrictions

$$T = \bullet \times SEQ_{\Omega}(T)$$

$$T^{\Omega}(z) = z\phi(T^{\Omega}(z))$$

$$\phi(u) \equiv \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} u^{\omega}$$

Bracketings



$$S = \bullet + SEQ_{\geq 2}(S)$$

$$S(z) = z + \frac{S(z)^2}{1 - S(z)}$$

## Variation on a theme 2: Strings

---

### Fundamental construct

**Combinatorial class**  $B$ , the class of all binary strings

**Construction**  $B = E + (Z_0 + Z_1) \times B$

“a binary string is empty or a bit followed by a binary string”

**OGF equation**  $B(z) = 1 + 2zB(z)$

### Variation on the theme: *disallow sequences of $P$ or more 0s*

**Combinatorial class**  $B_P$ , the class of all binary strings with no  $0^P$

**Construction**  $B_P = Z_{<P}(E + Z_1 B_P)$

“a string with no  $0^P$  is a string of 0s of length  $<P$  followed by an empty string or a 1 followed by a string with no  $0^P$ ”

**OGF equation**  $B_P(z) = (1 + z + \dots + z^{P-1})(1 + zB_P(z))$

More variations: disallow any pattern (autocorrelation), REs, CFGs ...

## Some variations on strings

---

*M*-ary

$$B = \text{SEQ}(Z_0 + \dots + Z_{M-1})$$

$$B(z) = \frac{1}{1 - Mz}$$

Binary

$$B = E + (Z_0 + Z_1) \times B$$

$$B = \text{SEQ}(Z_0 + Z_1)$$

$$B(z) = \frac{1}{1 - 2z}$$

Exclude  $0^P$

$$B_P = Z_{<P}(E + Z_1 \times B_P)$$

$$B_P(z) = \frac{1 - z^P}{1 - 2z + z^{P+1}}$$

Regular languages

[Rational OGFs]

Context-free languages

[Algebraic OGFs]

Exclude pattern  $p$

$$S_p(z) = \frac{c_p(z)}{z^P + (1 - 2z)c_p(z)}$$

[See Part I, Lecture 8]

Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- Symbolic method
- **Trees and strings**
- Powersets and multisets
- Compositions and partitions
- Substitution

Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- Symbolic method
- Trees and strings
- **Powersets and multisets**
- Compositions and partitions
- Substitution



## The symbolic method (two additional constructs)

---

Suppose that  $A$  is a class of unlabeled objects with enumerating OGF  $A(z)$ .

operation	notation	semantics	OGF
<i>powerset</i>	$PSET(A)$	finite sets of objects from $A$ (no repetitions)	[stay tuned]
<i>multiset</i>	$MSET(A)$	finite sets of objects from $A$ (with repetitions)	[stay tuned]

## Powersets

Def. The *powerset* of a class A is the class consisting of all subsets of A.

PSET {a}

{  
{a}

$$P_1 = 2$$

PSET {a, b}

{  
{a  
{b  
{a, b}

$$P_2 = 4$$

PSET {a, b, c}

{  
{a  
{b  
{a, b  
{c  
{a, c  
{b, c  
{a, b, c}

$$P_3 = 8$$

PSET {a, b, c, d}

{  
{a  
{b  
{a, b  
{c  
{a, c  
{b, c  
{a, b, c  
{d  
{a, d  
{b, d  
{a, b, d  
{c, d  
{a, c, d  
{b, c, d  
{a, b, c, d}

↑  
subsets  
without d

↑  
same subsets  
with d

$$P_4 = 16$$

Lemma:  $\text{PSET } \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_M\} = \text{PSET } \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{M-1}\} \times (\{\} + \{a_M\})$

# Powersets

## Atoms

notation	size	GF
$a_k$	1	$z$

**Combinatorial class**  $P_M$ , the powerset class for  $M$  atoms

**Example**  $\{a, c, f, g, h\}$

**OGF**  $P_M(z) = \sum_{p \in P_M} z^{|p|} = \sum_{N \geq 0} P_{MN} z^N$  ←  $P_{MN}$  is the # of subsets of size  $N$  (no repetitions)

**Construction**  $P_M = ( \{ \} + \{a_1\} ) \times ( \{ \} + \{a_2\} ) \times \dots \times ( \{ \} + \{a_M\} )$

**OGF equation**  $P_M(z) = (1 + z)^M$

**Expansion**  $P_{MN} = \binom{M}{N} \checkmark$

$$P_M(1) = 2^M \checkmark$$

↑  
total # subsets  
of  $M$  atoms

# Multisets

Def. The *multiset* of a class A is the class consisting of all subsets of A *with repetitions allowed*.

	MSET {a, b}	MSET {a, b, c}		
MSET {a}	<pre> {} {a} {a, a} {a, a, a} </pre>	<pre> {} {a} {a, a} {a, a, a} </pre>	<pre> {c} {a, c} {a, a, c} {a, a, a, c} </pre>	<pre> {c, c} {a, c, c} {a, a, c, c} {a, a, a, c, c} </pre>
	<pre> {} {a} {a, a} {a, a, a} ... </pre>	<pre> {b} {a, b} {a, a, b} {a, a, a, b} </pre>	<pre> {b, c} {a, b, c} {a, a, b, c} {a, a, a, b, c} </pre>	<pre> {b, c, c} {a, b, c, c} {a, a, b, c, c} {a, a, a, b, c, c} </pre>
	<pre> {b, b} {a, b, b} {a, a, b, b} {a, a, a, b, b} </pre>	<pre> {b, b} {a, b, b} {a, a, b, b} {a, a, a, b, b} </pre>	<pre> {b, b, b, c} {a, b, b, b, c} {a, a, b, b, b, c} {a, a, a, b, b, b, c} </pre>	<pre> {b, b, c, c} {a, b, b, c, c} {a, a, b, b, c, c} {a, a, a, b, b, c, c} </pre>

Lemma:  $\text{MSET } \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_M\} = \text{MSET } \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{M-1}\} \times \text{SEQ } \{a_M\}$

# Multisets

## Atoms

notation	size	GF
$a_k$	1	$z$

**Combinatorial class**  $S_M$ , the multiset class for  $M$  atoms

**Example**  $\{a, a, a, b, b, b, c\}$

**OGF**  $S_M(z) = \sum_{s \in S_M} z^{|s|} = \sum_{N \geq 0} S_{MN} z^N$  ←  $S_{MN}$  is the # of subsets of size  $N$  (with repetitions)

**Construction**  $S_M = SEQ(a_1) \times SEQ(a_2) \times \dots \times SEQ(a_M)$

**OGF equation**  $S_M(z) = \frac{1}{(1-z)^M}$

**Expansion**  $S_{MN} = \binom{N+M-1}{M-1} \checkmark$

## The symbolic method (two additional constructs)

Suppose that  $A$  is a class of unlabeled objects with enumerating OGF  $A(z)$ .

operation	notation	semantics	OGF
<i>powerset</i>	$PSET(A)$	finite sets of objects from $A$ (no repetitions)	$\prod_{n \geq 1} (1 + z^n)^{A_n} = \exp\left(-\sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^k A(z^k)}{k}\right)$
<i>multiset</i>	$MSET(A)$	finite sets of objects from $A$ (with repetitions)	$\prod_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{(1 - z^n)^{A_n}} = \exp\left(\sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{A(z^k)}{k}\right)$

## Proof of correspondences for powersets

$PSET(A)$

construction

OGF

$$PSET(\{a, b\}) = (\{\} + \{a\}) \times (\{\} + \{b\})$$

$$(1 + z^{|a|})(1 + z^{|b|})$$

$$PSET(A) \equiv \prod_{a \in A} (\{\} + \{a\})$$

$$\prod_{a \in A} (1 + z^{|a|}) = \prod_{N \geq 0} (1 + z^N)^{A_N}$$

exp-log version

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{N \geq 0} (1 + z^N)^{A_N} &= \exp\left(\sum_{N \geq 0} A_N \ln(1 + z^N)\right) \\ &= \exp\left(-\sum_{N \geq 0} A_N \sum_{k \geq 1} (-1)^k \frac{z^{Nk}}{k}\right) \\ &= \exp\left(-\sum_{k \geq 1} (-1)^k \frac{A(z^k)}{k}\right) \\ &= \exp\left(A(z) - \frac{A(z^2)}{2} + \frac{A(z^3)}{3} - \dots\right) \end{aligned}$$

## Proof of correspondences for multisets

$MSET(A)$

construction

OGF

$$MSET(\{a, b\}) = SEQ(\{a\}) \times SEQ(\{b\})$$

$$\frac{1}{(1 - z^{|a|})(1 - z^{|b|})}$$

$$MSET(A) \equiv \prod_{a \in A} SEQ(\{a\})$$

$$\prod_{a \in A} \frac{1}{(1 - z^{|a|})} = \prod_{N \geq 0} \frac{1}{(1 - z^N)^{A_N}}$$

exp-log version

$$\prod_{N \geq 0} \frac{1}{(1 - z^N)^{A_N}} = \exp\left(\sum_{N \geq 0} A_N \ln \frac{1}{1 - z^N}\right)$$

$$= \exp\left(\sum_{N \geq 0} A_N \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{z^{Nk}}{k}\right)$$

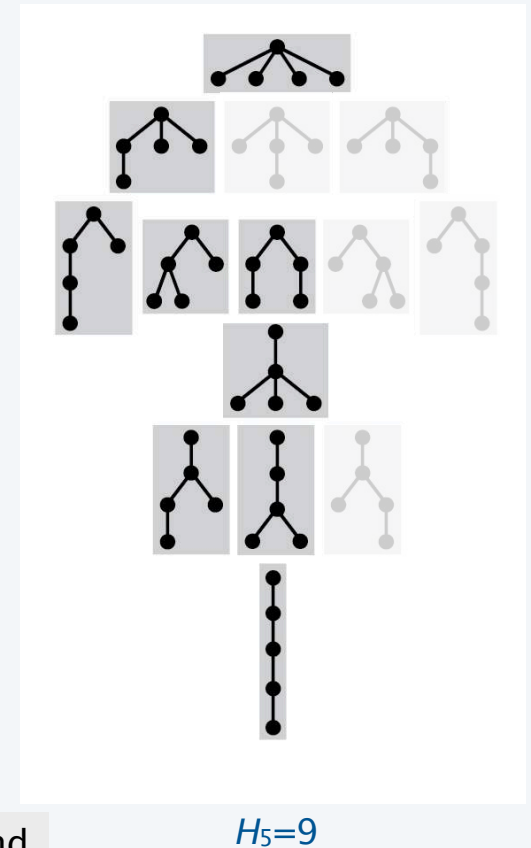
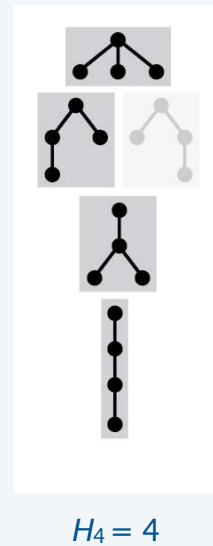
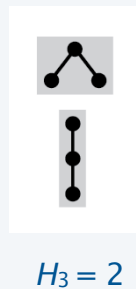
$$= \exp\left(\sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{A(z^k)}{k}\right)$$

$$= \exp\left(A(z) + \frac{A(z^2)}{2} + \frac{A(z^3)}{3} + \dots\right)$$



# Multiset application example

Q. How many **unordered** trees with  $N$  nodes?



**Combinatorial class**  $H$ , the class of all unordered trees

**Construction**

$$H = \bullet \times MSET(H)$$

"a tree is a node and a multiset of trees"

**OGF equation**

$$H(z) = z \exp(H(z) + H(z^2)/2 + H(z^3)/3 + \dots)$$

Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- Symbolic method
- Trees and strings
- **Powersets and multisets**
- Compositions and partitions
- Substitution

Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- Symbolic method
- Trees and strings
- Powersets and multisets
- **Compositions and partitions**
- Substitution

## Compositions

Q. How many ways to express  $N$  as a sum of positive integers?

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ l_1 = 1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 + 1 \\ 2 \\ l_2 = 2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 + 1 + 1 \\ 1 + 2 \\ 2 + 1 \\ 3 \\ l_3 = 4 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 \\ 1 + 1 + 2 \\ 1 + 2 + 1 \\ 1 + 3 \\ 2 + 1 + 1 \\ 2 + 2 \\ 3 + 1 \\ 4 \\ l_4 = 8 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 \\ 1 + 1 + 1 + 2 \\ 1 + 1 + 2 + 1 \\ 1 + 1 + 3 \\ 1 + 2 + 1 + 1 \\ 1 + 2 + 2 \\ 1 + 3 + 1 \\ 1 + 4 \\ 2 + 1 + 1 + 1 \\ 2 + 1 + 2 \\ 2 + 2 + 1 \\ 2 + 3 \\ 3 + 1 + 1 \\ 3 + 2 \\ 4 + 1 \\ 5 \\ l_5 = 16 \end{array}$$

$$A. l_N = 2^{N-1}$$

# Integers as a combinatorial class

Atom	notation	size	GF
	•	1	$z$

Combinatorial class  $I$ , the class of all positive integers

Example  $\bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \leftarrow$  unary notation for 7

OGF 
$$I(z) = \sum_{i \in I} z^{|i|} = \sum_{N \geq 0} I_N z^N$$

Construction 
$$I = SEQ_{>0}(\bullet)$$

OGF equation 
$$I(z) = \frac{z}{1 - z}$$

Expansion 
$$I_N = 1 \text{ for } N > 0 \quad \checkmark$$

# Compositions

Combinatorial class  $C$ , the class of all compositions

Example  $\bullet \mid \bullet \bullet \bullet \mid \bullet \mid \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \mid \bullet \bullet = \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$

← unary notation for  $1+3+1+5+2=12$

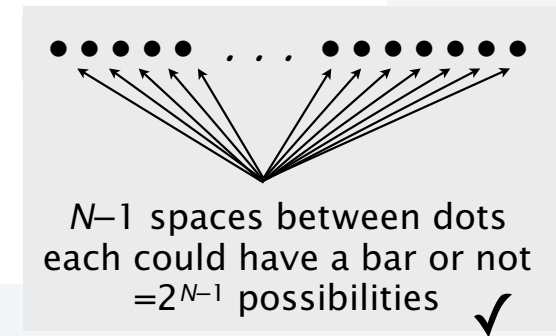
OGF 
$$C(z) = \sum_{c \in C} z^{|c|} = \sum_{N \geq 0} C_N z^N$$

Construction  $C = \text{SEQ}(I)$  ← "a composition is a sequence of positive integers"

OGF equation 
$$C(z) = \frac{1}{1 - I(z)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - \frac{z}{1-z}} = \frac{1-z}{1-2z}$$

Expansion 
$$C_N = 2^N - 2^{N-1} = 2^{N-1} \text{ for } N > 0$$



# Partitions

Q. How many ways to express  $N$  as a sum of *unordered* positive integers?

$$1$$

$P_1 = 1$

$$1 + 1$$
$$2$$

$P_2 = 2$

$$1 + 1 + 1$$
$$1 + 2$$
$$2 + 1$$
$$3$$

$P_3 = 3$

$$1 + 1 + 1 + 1$$
$$1 + 1 + 2$$
$$1 + 2 + 1$$
$$1 + 3$$
$$2 + 1 + 1$$
$$2 + 2$$
$$3 + 1$$
$$4$$

$P_4 = 5$

$$1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1$$
$$1 + 1 + 1 + 2$$
$$1 + 1 + 2 + 1$$
$$1 + 1 + 3$$
$$1 + 2 + 1 + 1$$
$$1 + 2 + 2$$
$$1 + 3 + 1$$
$$1 + 4$$
$$2 + 1 + 1 + 1$$
$$2 + 1 + 2$$
$$2 + 2 + 1$$
$$2 + 3$$
$$3 + 1 + 1$$
$$3 + 2$$
$$4 + 1$$
$$5$$

representations of the same partition

keep the one whose parts are nonincreasing

$P_5 = 7$

A. *Not so obvious!*

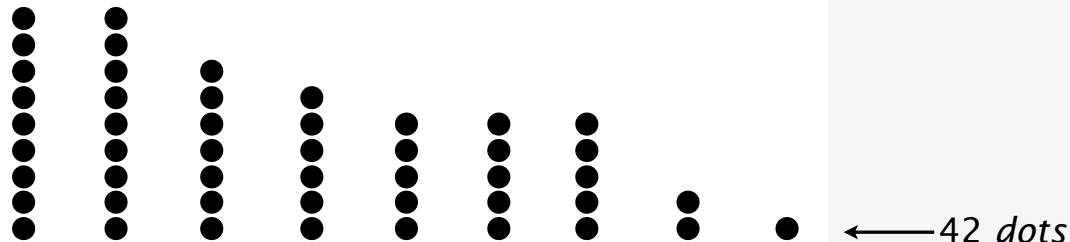
## Ferrers diagrams

Def. A *Ferrers diagram* is a 2D representation of a partition: one column of dots per part.

partition

$$8 + 8 + 6 + 5 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 2 + 1 = 42$$

Ferrers  
diagram



Q. How many Ferrers diagrams with  $N$  dots?

A. *Not so obvious* [need symbolic method plus saddle-point asymptotics—stay tuned]

Applications. AofA, representation theory, Lie algebras, particle physics, . . .



# Partitions

Combinatorial class  $\mathcal{P}$ , the class of all partitions

Example



Ferrers diagram for  
 $5+3+2+1+1=12$

OGF

$$P(z) = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} z^{|p|} = \sum_{N \geq 0} P_N z^N$$

Construction

$$\mathcal{P} = \text{MSET}(I)$$

"a partition is a *multiset* of positive integers"

OGF equation

$$P(z) = \frac{1}{(1-z)(1-z^2)(1-z^3)\dots}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MSET}(A) &\equiv \prod_{a \in A} \text{SEQ}(\{a\}) \\ \prod_{a \in A} \frac{1}{(1-z^{|a|})} &= \prod_{N \geq 0} \frac{1}{(1-z^N)^{A_N}} \end{aligned}$$

Expansion

$$P_N \sim \frac{e^{\pi\sqrt{2N/3}}}{4N\sqrt{3}}$$

Classic result of Hardy and Ramanujan  
(need saddle-point asymptotics)

## Some variations on compositions and partitions

---

### Restricted compositions

$T = \{ \text{any subset of } I \}$

$$C^T = \text{SEQ}(\text{SEQ}_T(Z))$$

$$C^T(z) = \frac{1}{1 - T(z)}$$

### Compositions

$$C = \text{SEQ}(I)$$

$$C(z) = \frac{1 - z}{1 - 2z}$$

### Compositions into $M$ parts

$$C_M = \text{SEQ}_M(I)$$

$$C_M(z) = \frac{z^M}{1 - z^M}$$

### Partitions into distinct parts

$$Q = \text{PSET}(I)$$

$$Q(z) = (1 + z)(1 + z^2)(1 + z^3) \dots$$

### Partitions

$$P = \text{MSET}(I)$$

$$P_N \sim \frac{e^{\pi\sqrt{2N/3}}}{4N\sqrt{3}}$$

### Restricted partitions

$T = \{ \text{any subset of } I \}$

$$P^T = \text{MSET}(\text{SEQ}_T(Z))$$

$$P^T(z) = \prod_{N \in T} \frac{1}{1 - z^N}$$

## In-class exercises

---

Q. OGF for compositions into parts less than or equal to  $R$  ?

Q. How many partitions into parts that are powers of 2?

A. 1

$$\begin{aligned}\prod_{j \geq 0} (1 + z^{2^j}) &= (1 + z)(1 + z^2)(1 + z^4)(1 + z^8) \dots \\ &= (1 + z + z^2 + z^3)(1 + z^4)(1 + z^8) \dots \\ &= (1 + z + z^2 + z^3 + z^4 + z^5 + z^6 + z^7)(1 + z^8) \dots \\ &= 1 + z + z^2 + z^3 + z^4 + z^5 + z^6 + z^7 + z^8 + z^9 + z^{10} + \dots\end{aligned}$$

Q. How many ways to represent an integer as a sum of powers of 2?

A. 1

$$\prod_{j \geq 0} (1 + z^{2^j}) = \frac{1}{1 - z}$$

## How many ways to change a dollar?

---

Q. How many ways to change a dollar with quarters ?

A. **1** 
$$[z^{100}] \frac{1}{1 - z^{25}} = [z^{100}] (1 + z^{25} + z^{50} + \dots) = 1$$



Q. How many ways to change a dollar with quarters *and* dimes?

A. **3** 
$$\begin{aligned} [z^{100}] \frac{1}{1 - z^{25}} \frac{1}{1 - z^{10}} &= [z^{100}] (1 + z^{25} + z^{50} + \dots)(1 + z^{10} + z^{20} + \dots) \\ &= [z^{100}] (1 + z^{50} + z^{100})(1 + z^{50} + z^{100}) \end{aligned}$$



## How many ways to change a dollar?

---

Q. How many ways to change a dollar with quarters ?

A. **1**  $[z^{100}] \frac{1}{1 - z^{25}} = [z^{100}] (1 + z^{25} + z^{50} + \dots) = 1$

Q. How many ways to change a dollar with quarters *and dimes* ?

A. **3**  $[z^{100}] \frac{1}{1 - z^{25}} \frac{1}{1 - z^{10}} = [z^{100}] (1 + z^{25} + z^{50} + \dots)(1 + z^{10} + z^{20} + \dots)$

Q. How many ways to change a dollar with quarters, dimes *and nickels* ?

A. ?  $[z^{100}] \frac{1}{1 - z^{25}} \frac{1}{1 - z^{10}} \frac{1}{1 - z^5}$  ← need a computer?

Q. How many ways to change a dollar with quarters, dimes, nickels *and pennies* ?

A. ?  $[z^{100}] \frac{1}{1 - z^{25}} \frac{1}{1 - z^{10}} \frac{1}{1 - z^5} \frac{1}{1 - z}$  ← need a computer?

## How many ways to change a dollar?

Key insight (Pólya): If  $b(z) = a(z) \frac{1}{1 - z^M}$  then  $b(z)(1 - z^M) = a(z)$  and therefore  $b_n = b_{n-M} + a_n$

Gives an easy way to compute small values by hand.

	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	100	
$[z^n] \frac{1}{1-z}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$[z^n] \frac{1}{1-z} \frac{1}{1-z^5}$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
$[z^n] \frac{1}{1-z} \frac{1}{1-z^5} \frac{1}{1-z^{10}}$	1	2	4	6	9	12	16	20	25	30	36	42	49	56	64	72	81	90	100	110	121	
$[z^n] \frac{1}{1-z} \frac{1}{1-z^5} \frac{1}{1-z^{10}} \frac{1}{1-z^{25}}$	1					13					49					121						242

## In-class exercise

For whatever reason, the government switches to 20-cent pieces instead of dimes.

How many ways to change a dollar?

	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	100	
$[z^n] \frac{1}{1-z}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$[z^n] \frac{1}{1-z} \frac{1}{1-z^5}$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
$[z^n] \frac{1}{1-z} \frac{1}{1-z^5} \frac{1}{1-z^{10}}$	1	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	15	18	21	24	28	32	36	40	45	50	55	60	66	
$[z^n] \frac{1}{1-z} \frac{1}{1-z^5} \frac{1}{1-z^{10}} \frac{1}{1-z^{25}}$	1					9					30				70						136	

Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- Symbolic method
- Trees and strings
- Powersets and multisets
- **Compositions and partitions**
- Substitution



Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- Symbolic method
- Trees and strings
- Powersets and multisets
- Compositions and partitions
- **Substitution**

## The symbolic method for unlabeled objects (summary)

operation	notation	semantics	OGF
<i>disjoint union</i>	$A + B$	disjoint copies of objects from $A$ and $B$	$A(z) + B(z)$
<i>Cartesian product</i>	$A \times B$	ordered pairs of copies of objects, one from $A$ and one from $B$	$A(z)B(z)$
<i>sequence</i>	$SEQ(A)$	sequences of objects from $A$	$\frac{1}{1 - A(z)}$
<i>powerset</i>	$PSET(A)$	finite sets of objects from $A$ (no repetitions)	$\prod_{n \geq 1} (1 + z^n)^{A_n} = \exp\left(-\sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{(-1)^k A(z^k)}{k}\right)$
<i>multiset</i>	$MSET(A)$	finite sets of objects from $A$ (with repetitions)	$\prod_{n \geq 1} \frac{1}{(1 - z^n)^{A_n}} = \exp\left(\sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{A(z^k)}{k}\right)$

Additional constructs are available (and still being invented)—one example to follow

## Another construct for the symbolic method: substitution

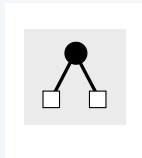
---

Suppose that  $A$  and  $B$  are classes of unlabeled objects with enumerating OGFs  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$ .

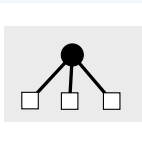
operation	notation	semantics	OGF
<i>substitution</i>	$A \circ [ B ]$	replace each object in an instance of $A$ with an object from $B$	$A(B(z))$

## Substitution application example

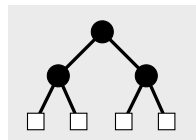
Q. How many 2-3 trees with  $N$  nodes?



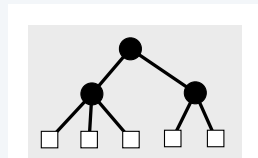
$$W_2 = 1$$



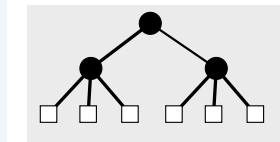
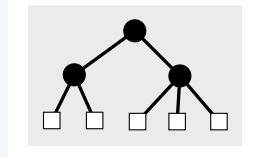
$$W_3 = 1$$



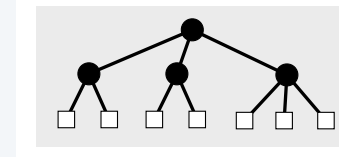
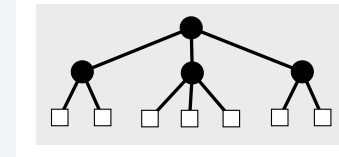
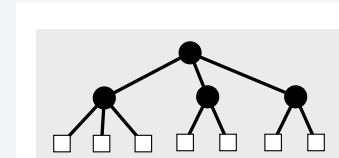
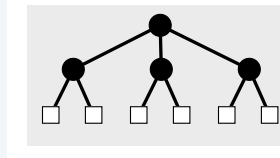
$$W_4 = 1$$



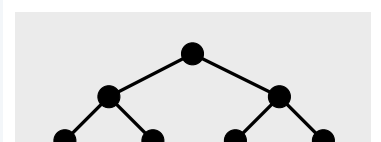
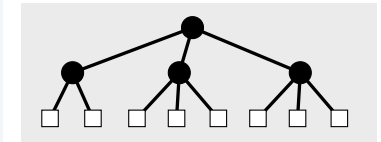
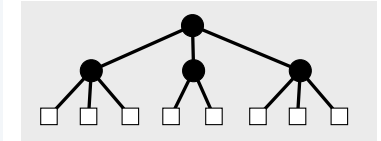
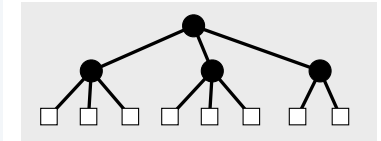
$$W_5 = 2$$



$$W_6 = 2$$



$$W_7 = 3$$



$$W_8 = 4$$

## Substitution application example

Q. How many 2-3 trees with  $N$  nodes?

Combinatorial class  $W$ , the class of all 2-3 trees

Construction  $W = Z + W \circ [ (Z \times Z) + (Z \times Z \times Z) ]$

← “a 2-3 tree is a 2-3 tree with each external node replaced by a 2-node or a 3-node”

OGF equation  $W(z) = z + W(z^2 + z^3)$

$$W(z) = z^2 + z^3 + z^4 + 2z^5 + 2z^6 + 3z^7 + 4z^8 + \dots$$

$$W(z^2 + z^3) = z^2 + z^3 + (z^2 + z^3)^2 + (z^2 + z^3)^3 + (z^2 + z^3)^4 + \dots$$

$$= z^2 + z^3 + (z^4 + 2z^5 + z^6) + (z^6 + 3z^7 + 3z^8 + z^9) + z^8 + \dots \checkmark$$

Coefficient asymptotics are complicated (oscillations in the leading term).

See A. Odlyzko, *Periodic oscillations of coefficients of power series that satisfy functional equations*, Adv. in Mathematics (1982).

## Two French mathematicians on the utility of GFs

---



*“A property... is understood better, when one constructs a bijection... than when one calculates the coefficients of a polynomial whose variables have no particular meaning. **The method of generating functions, which has had devastating effects for a century, has fallen into obsolescence, for this reason.***

— Claude Bergé, 1968



*“**Generating functions are the central objects of the theory, rather than a mere artifact to solve recurrences, as it is still often believed.**”*

— Philippe Flajolet, 2007

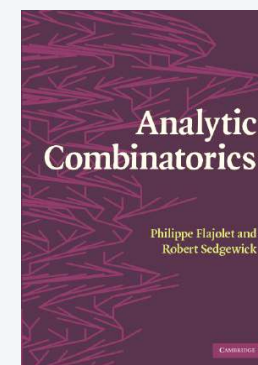
## Analytic combinatorics overview

To analyze properties of a large combinatorial structure:

### 1. Use the **symbolic method**

- Define a *class* of combinatorial objects.
- Define a notion of *size* (and associated generating function)
- Use standard operations to develop a *specification* of the structure.

Result: A direct derivation of a **GF equation** (implicit or explicit).



*Important note: GF equations vary widely in nature*

$$\begin{aligned} P(z) &= \frac{1}{(1-z)(1-z^2)(1-z^3)\dots} & C(z) &= \frac{1}{1-I(z)} & T(z) &= z + T(z^2 + z^3) & B(z) &= \frac{1}{1-2z} \\ S_M(z) &= \frac{1}{(1-z)^M} & H(z) &= z \exp(H(z) + H(z^2)/2 + H(z^3)/3 + \dots) \\ B_P(z) &= \frac{1-z^P}{1-2z+z^{P+1}} & G(z)^2 - G(z) + z &= 0 & Q(z) &= (1+z)(1+z^2)(1+z^3)\dots \end{aligned}$$

### 2. Use **complex asymptotics** to estimate growth of coefficients (stay tuned).

Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- Symbolic method
- Trees and strings
- Powersets and multisets
- Compositions and partitions
- **Substitution**



Analytic  
Combinatorics

Philippe Flajolet and  
Robert Sedgewick

CAMBRIDGE

<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

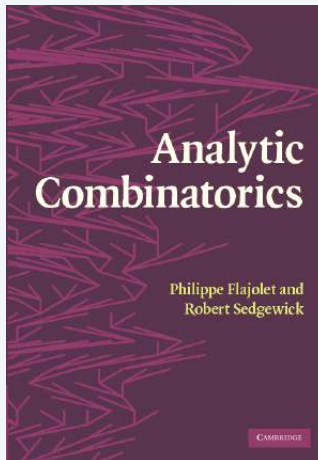
# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs

- Symbolic method
- Trees and strings
- Powersets and multisets
- Compositions and partitions
- Substitution
- **Exercises**

## Note 1.23

---

### Alice, Bob, and coding bounds



▷ **I.23.** *Alice, Bob, and coding bounds.* Alice wants to communicate  $n$  bits of information to Bob over a channel (a wire, an optic fibre) that transmits **0,1**-bits but is such that any occurrence of **11** terminates the transmission. Thus, she can only send on the channel an encoded version of her message (where the code is of some length  $\ell \geq n$ ) that does not contain the pattern **11**.

Here is a first coding scheme: given the message  $m = m_1 m_2 \cdots m_n$ , where  $m_j \in \{0, 1\}$ , apply the substitution: **0**  $\mapsto$  **00** and **1**  $\mapsto$  **10**; terminate the transmission by sending **11**. This scheme has  $\ell = 2n + O(1)$ , and we say that its *rate* is  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Can one design codes with better rates? with rates arbitrarily close to 1, asymptotically?

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the class of allowed code words. For words of length  $n$ , a code of length  $L \equiv L(n)$  is achievable only if there exists a one-to-one mapping from  $\{0, 1\}^n$  into  $\bigcup_{j=0}^L \mathcal{C}_j$ , i.e.,  $2^n \leq \sum_{j=0}^L C_j$ . Working out the OGF of  $\mathcal{C}$ , one finds that necessarily

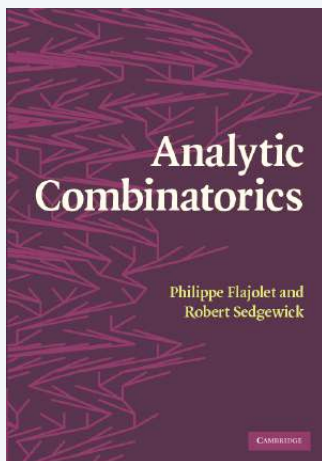
$$L(n) \geq \lambda n + O(1), \quad \lambda = \frac{1}{\log_2 \varphi} \doteq 1.440420, \quad \varphi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}.$$

Thus no code can achieve a rate better than 1.44; i.e., a loss of at least 44% is unavoidable.

## Note 1.43

---

### Calculating Cayley numbers and partition numbers



▷ **I.43.** *Fast determination of the Cayley–Pólya numbers.* Logarithmic differentiation of  $H(z)$  provides for the  $H_n$  a recurrence by which one computes  $H_n$  in time polynomial in  $n$ . (Note: a similar technique applies to the partition numbers  $P_n$ ; see p. 42.) ◁

## Assignments

---

1. Read pages 15-94 in text.



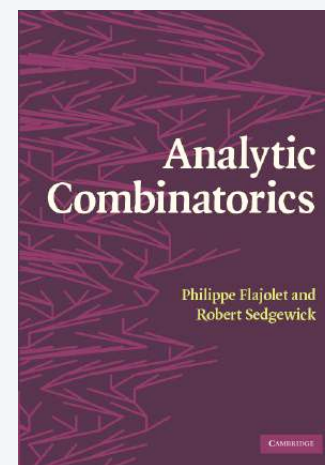
2. Write up solutions to Notes 1.23 and 1.43.

3. Programming exercises.



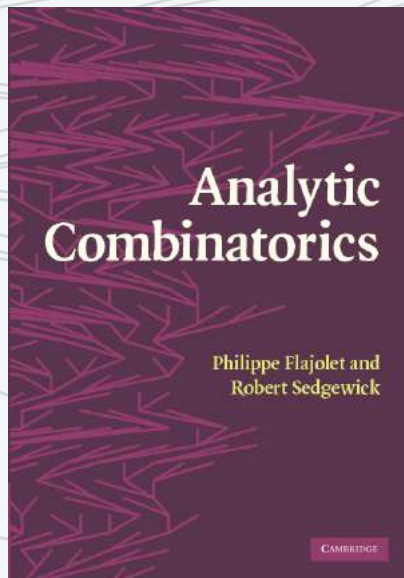
**Program I.1.** Determine the choice of four coins that maximizes the number of ways to change a dollar.

**Program I.2.** Write programs that estimate the rate of growth of the Cayley numbers and the partition numbers ( $H_n/H_{n-1}$  and  $P_n/P_{n-1}$ ). See Note 1.43.



ANALYTIC COMBINATORICS

PART TWO



<http://ac.cs.princeton.edu>

# 1. Combinatorial structures and OGFs