

Pascal's triangle and the Fibonacci sequence:

Consider Pascal's triangle

$n \setminus r$	0	1	2	3	4	5	=	$n \setminus r$	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	$\binom{0}{0}$							0	1					
1	$\binom{1}{0}$	$\binom{1}{1}$						1	1	1				
2	$\binom{2}{0}$	$\binom{2}{1}$	$\binom{2}{2}$					2	1	2	1			
3	$\binom{3}{0}$	$\binom{3}{1}$	$\binom{3}{2}$	$\binom{3}{3}$				3	1	3	3	1		
4	$\binom{4}{0}$	$\binom{4}{1}$	$\binom{4}{2}$	$\binom{4}{3}$	$\binom{4}{4}$			4	1	4	6	4	1	
5	$\binom{5}{0}$	$\binom{5}{1}$	$\binom{5}{2}$	$\binom{5}{3}$	$\binom{5}{4}$	$\binom{5}{5}$		5	1	5	10	10	5	1

which is defined by Pascal's laws:

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{n}{n} &= 1 && , \text{ for all } n \in \mathbf{N} \\ \binom{n}{0} &= 1 && , \text{ for all } n \in \mathbf{N} \\ \binom{n}{r} &= \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r} && , \text{ for all } n, r \in \mathbf{N}, \text{ such that } 0 < r < n \end{aligned}$$

Adding up the South-East to North-East diagonals reveals an interesting pattern:

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{0}{0} &= 1 &= 1 &= \text{fib}(0) \\ \binom{1}{0} &= 1 &= 1 &= \text{fib}(1) \\ \binom{2}{0} + \binom{1}{1} &= 1 + 1 &= 2 &= \text{fib}(2) \\ \binom{3}{0} + \binom{2}{1} &= 1 + 2 &= 3 &= \text{fib}(3) \\ \binom{4}{0} + \binom{3}{1} + \binom{2}{2} &= 1 + 3 + 1 &= 5 &= \text{fib}(4) \\ \binom{5}{0} + \binom{4}{1} + \binom{3}{2} &= 1 + 4 + 3 &= 8 &= \text{fib}(5) \end{aligned}$$

where fib is the Fibonacci sequence defined by

$$\text{fib}(0) = 1 \tag{1}$$

$$\text{fib}(1) = 1 \tag{2}$$

$$\text{fib}(n) = \text{fib}(n-2) + \text{fib}(n-1) \quad , \text{ for all } n \in \{2, 3, \dots\} \tag{3}$$

This leads to a conjecture

$$\text{fib}(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \binom{n-i}{i} \quad , \text{ for all } n \in \mathbf{N} \tag{4}$$

(remember that $\lfloor x \rfloor$ is the integer part of a real number x .)

Prove this conjecture using complete induction.