

We get from first principles that the count of directed labeled multigraphs including isolated vertices on m vertices and n arcs is

$$S_{n,m} = [z^n] \frac{1}{(1-z)^{m(m-1)}} = \binom{n + m(m-1) - 1}{n}.$$

Here we are simply connecting $m(m-1)$ ordered pairs of vertices by some number of edges. (Ordered pairs because these multigraphs are directed.) We then obtain for the count $T_{n,m}$ where there are no isolated vertices

$$\sum_{q=0}^m \binom{m}{q} T_{n,m-q} = \sum_{q=0}^m \binom{m}{q} T_{n,q} = S_{n,m}.$$

Here we have by inspection that for $T_{n,m}$ we must have $m \leq 2n$. Inverting the binomial transform we find

$$T_{n,m} = \sum_{q=0}^m \binom{m}{q} (-1)^{m-q} S_{n,q}.$$

We thus have for the desired quantity Q_n that it is given by

$$Q_n = \sum_{m=0}^{2n} \sum_{q=0}^m \binom{m}{q} (-1)^{m-q} S_{n,q}.$$

The goal now becomes to simplify this expression to get the formula given at this OEIS entry, which lists the matching values for Q_n

2, 27, 572, 16787, 631362, 28980861, 1570956872, 98212870233, ...

We find

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{m=0}^{2n} \sum_{q=0}^m \binom{m}{q} (-1)^{m-q} \binom{n + q(q-1) - 1}{n} \\ &= \sum_{q=0}^{2n} (-1)^q \binom{n + q(q-1) - 1}{n} \sum_{m=q}^{2n} \binom{m}{q} (-1)^m. \end{aligned}$$

We get for the inner sum,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{m=0}^{2n-q} \binom{2n-m}{q} (-1)^{2n-m} &= [z^{2n-q}] (1+z)^{2n} \sum_{m=0}^{2n-q} (-1)^m \frac{z^m}{(1+z)^m} \\ &= [z^{2n-q}] (1+z)^{2n} \frac{1 - (-1)^{2n+1-q} (z/(1+z))^{2n+1-q}}{1 + z/(1+z)} \\ &= [z^{2n-q}] (1+z)^{2n+1} \frac{1 - (-1)^{2n+1-q} (z/(1+z))^{2n+1-q}}{1 + 2z}. \end{aligned}$$

Here the coefficient extractor cancels the second summand in the fraction and we get

$$[z^{2n-q}] (1+z)^{2n+1} \frac{1}{1+2z}.$$

Making the substitution

$$Q_n = [z^{2n}](1+z)^{2n+1} \frac{1}{1+2z} \sum_{q=0}^{2n} (-1)^q \binom{n+q(q-1)-1}{n} z^q.$$

The contribution from z is

$$\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{res}_z \frac{1}{z^{2n+1-q}} (1+z)^{2n+1} \frac{1}{z+1/2}.$$

Residues sum to zero and we may evaluate using minus the residue at $z = -1/2$ and $z = \infty$. We get for the former,

$$-\frac{1}{2} (-1)^{2n+1-q} 2^{2n+1-q} \frac{1}{2^{2n+1}} = (-1)^q \frac{1}{2^{q+1}}$$

which gives the first piece

$$\sum_{q=0}^{2n} \binom{n+q(q-1)-1}{n} \frac{1}{2^{q+1}}.$$

With minus the residue at infinity we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{res}_z \frac{1}{z^2} z^{2n+1-q} (1+1/z)^{2n+1} \frac{1}{1/z+1/2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{res}_z \frac{1}{z^{q+1}} (1+z)^{2n+1} \frac{1}{1+z/2} \\ &= \sum_{p=0}^q \binom{2n+1}{p} (-1)^{q-p} \frac{1}{2^{q+1-p}}. \end{aligned}$$

Substitute into the sum in q to get

$$\sum_{q=0}^{2n} \binom{n+q(q-1)-1}{n} \frac{1}{2^{q+1}} \sum_{p=0}^q \binom{2n+1}{p} (-1)^p 2^p.$$

Now when $q \geq 2n+1$ the inner sum evaluates to -1 so this second piece is

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{q \geq 0} \binom{n+q(q-1)-1}{n} \frac{1}{2^{q+1}} \sum_{p=0}^q \binom{2n+1}{p} (-1)^p 2^p \\ &+ \sum_{q \geq 2n+1} \binom{n+q(q-1)-1}{n} \frac{1}{2^{q+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

This observation also applies concerning convergence of the first sum which starts with a finite segment up to $q = 2n+1$ and thereafter the minus one appears and the outer sum converges. Adding in the first piece to the second we get the desired

$$Q_n = \sum_{q \geq 0} \binom{n+q(q-1)-1}{n} \frac{1}{2^{q+1}}.$$

where it remains to show that

$$\sum_{q \geq 0} \binom{n + q(q-1) - 1}{n} \frac{1}{2^{q+1}} \sum_{p=0}^q \binom{2n+1}{p} (-1)^p 2^p = 0.$$

This is

$$-Q_n - \sum_{q \geq 0} \binom{n + q(q-1) - 1}{n} \frac{1}{2^{q+1}} \sum_{p=q+1}^{2n+1} \binom{2n+1}{p} (-1)^p 2^p.$$

The inner sum is zero when $q > 2n$ so we get

$$\begin{aligned} & -Q_n - \sum_{q=0}^{2n} \binom{n + q(q-1) - 1}{n} \frac{1}{2^{q+1}} \sum_{p=q+1}^{2n+1} \binom{2n+1}{p} (-1)^p 2^p \\ &= -Q_n + \sum_{q=0}^{2n} \binom{n + q(q-1) - 1}{n} \frac{1}{2^{q+1}} 2^{2n+1} \sum_{p=0}^{2n-q} \binom{2n+1}{p} (-1)^{-p} 2^{-p}. \end{aligned}$$

The inner term is

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{2n-q} [z^{2n-q}] \frac{1}{1-z} (1-z/2)^{2n+1} &= [z^{2n-q}] \frac{1}{1-2z} (1-z)^{2n+1} \\ &= (-1)^q [z^{2n-q}] \frac{1}{1+2z} (1+z)^{2n+1}. \end{aligned}$$

We have obtained $-Q_n + Q_n = 0$ as required which concludes the argument.

This was [math.stackexchange.com problem 5027154](https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/5027154/).