

## PAIRINGS ON BIT STRINGS

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A pairing on the set  $\{(10)^n\} = \{1, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 1, 0\}$  is a collection of  $n$  pairs with the property that each 1 must pair to a 0. It is known that the number of noncrossing pairings on bit strings  $\{(10)^n\}$  is equal to the  $n$ -th Catalan numbers  $c_n = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n}$ . In this paper, we study the crossings and nestings of pairings on bit strings. We construct a bijection between pairings and labeled Dyck paths. From the bijection, we obtain the symmetric distribution of crossings and nestings for pairings.