Solving NP-hard problems exactly is ... unlikely

- Number of (unrooted) binary trees on *n* leaves is (2n-5)!!
- If each tree on 1000 taxa could be analyzed in 0.001 seconds, we would find the best tree in

2890 millennia

#leaves	#trees
4	3
5	15
6	105
7	945
8	10395
9	135135
10	2027025
20	2.2×10^{20}
100	4.5 x 10 ¹⁹⁰
1000	2.7 x 10 ²⁹⁰⁰