## On Reductions of Plane Trees

Benjamin Hackl<br>joint work with<br>Clemens Heuberger, Sara Kropf, Helmut Prodinger

## April 7, 2017

KARL
POPPER
KOLLEG

## Trimming binary trees

Binary trees can be "trimmed" by the following strategy:

- Remove all leaves
- Merge nodes with only one descendant



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## "Surviving" nodes

Label all nodes in the tree by the following rules:

- Leaves $\rightarrow 0$ (they do not survive a single reduction)
- val(left child) $=\operatorname{val}($ right child $) \rightarrow$ increase by 1
- Otherwise: take the maximum



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## The register function

Number in the root of the tree: Register function, a.k.a. Horton-Strahler number

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- Register function $=$ maximal number of tree trimmings
- Applications:
- Required stack size for evaluating an expression
- Branching complexity of river networks (e.g. Danube: 9)



## (Rooted) Plane trees

Characterization:

- unlabeled



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- $C_{n}=\frac{1}{n+1}\binom{2 n}{n}$ plane trees of size $n$


## Growing plane trees

- How can we grow trees?

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- Growing trees:
- grow new leaves out of current leaves and inner nodes

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## "What?" and "How?"

- Aim: analysis of tree structure under iterated reduction


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reductions

- Algorithmic description


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reductions

- Algorithmic description
- Investigation of "tree expansion" $\rightsquigarrow$ GF
- Coefficient extraction; Parameter distribution

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## BGF for plane trees

## Proposition

- $\mathcal{T}$... plane trees

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- $T(z, t) \ldots$ BGF for $\mathcal{T}$ ( $z \rightsquigarrow$ inner nodes, $t \rightsquigarrow$ leaves)


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$$
\Rightarrow T(z, t)=\frac{1-(z-t)-\sqrt{1-2(z+t)+(z-t)^{2}}}{2}
$$

Proof. Symbolic equation

translates into

$$
T(z, t)=t+z \cdot \frac{T(z, t)}{1-T(z, t)}
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which can be solved explicitly.

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## Narayana polynomials

- Generating function $T(z, t z): z \ldots$ tree size, $t \ldots$ leaves

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T(z, t z)=z t+z^{2} t+z^{3}\left(t+t^{2}\right)+z^{4}\left(t+3 t^{2}+t^{3}\right)+\ldots
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- $N_{n-1}(t) \ldots$ Narayana polynomial, counts trees of size $n$ (i.e. $n-1$ edges) w.r.t. number of leaves


## Some combinatorial results

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T(z, t z)-t z=T(t z, z)-z
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Interpretation: half of all nodes among all trees of size $n$ are leaves.

## Proof - Rotation correspondence

Construction of "Left-Child Right-Sibling"-tree:


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Observations:

- left leaves (binary tree) $\xrightarrow{*}$ leaves (plane tree)


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- right leaves (binary tree) $u \rightarrow$ inner nodes (plane tree)

Proofs:

- Proof 1: bijection: mirror binary tree, transform back

$\square$

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## Proofs:

- Proof 1: bijection: mirror binary tree, transform back
- Proof 2: symmetry: equally many left as right leaves


## How do we cut our trees?

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## Expansion operators

- F... family of plane trees; BGF $f(z, t)$

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## Leaf expansion $\Phi_{L}$

- inverse operation to leaf reduction
- attach leaves to all current leaves (necessary)
- attach leaves to inner nodes (optional)



## Leaf expansion operator $\Phi_{L}$

## Proposition

$$
\Phi_{L}(f(z, t))=(1-t) f\left(\frac{z}{(1-t)^{2}}, \frac{z t}{(1-t)^{2}}\right)
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- As $\Phi_{L}$ is linear, this proves the proposition.


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- Functional equation: $T(z, t)=\Phi_{L}(T(z, t))+t$

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\left.\Phi_{L}^{r}\left(z^{n} t^{k}\right)\right|_{t=z}=\frac{1-u^{r+2}}{\left(1-u^{r+1}\right)(1+u)}\left(\frac{u\left(1-u^{r+1}\right)^{2}}{\left(1-u^{r+2}\right)^{2}}\right)^{n}\left(\frac{u^{r+1}(1-u)^{2}}{\left(1-u^{r+2}\right)^{2}}\right)^{k}
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## Cutting leaves

## Theorem (H.-Heuberger-Kropf-Prodinger, 2016)

- r... number of reductions, fixed

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Then the expected size of the reduced tree and the corresponding variance are

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\mathbb{E} X_{n, r}=\frac{n}{r+1}-\frac{r(r-1)}{6(r+1)}+O\left(n^{-1}\right)
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and $X_{n, r}$ is asymptotically normally distributed.

## Cutting leaves - Some insights

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- We can even get all factorial moments:

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- $C_{n-1} \mathbb{E} X_{n, r}^{d}$ is extracted from $\left.\frac{\partial^{d}}{\partial v^{d}} G_{r}(z, v)\right|_{v=1}$

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\begin{aligned}
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& =c \cdot T(a(1+q), b(1+q))
\end{aligned}
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## Cutting leaves - factorial moments

- $C_{n-1} \mathbb{E} X_{n, r}^{d}$ is extracted from $\left.\frac{\partial^{d}}{\partial v^{d}} G_{r}(z, v)\right|_{v=1}$
- Problem: general derivative unknown
- Solution:

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\begin{aligned}
\left.\sum_{d \geq 0} \frac{q^{d}}{d!} \frac{\partial^{d}}{\partial v^{d}} G_{r}(z, v)\right|_{v=1} & =G_{r}(z, 1+q) \\
& =c \cdot T(a(1+q), b(1+q)) \\
& =\delta+\Delta \cdot T(\alpha q, \beta q)
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- This allows extracting the coefficient of $z^{n} q^{d}$


## How do we cut our trees?

- Remove all paths that end in a leaf!



## How do we cut our trees? (2)

- Remove all paths that end in a leaf!



## Path expansions

- Append one path to leaf $\rightsquigarrow$ longer path $\downarrow$


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## Proposition

The linear operator given by

$$
\Phi_{P}(f(z, t))=(1-p) f\left(\frac{z}{(1-p)^{2}}, \frac{z p^{2}}{(1-p)^{2}}\right)
$$

is the path expansion operator.

## Generating function for path reductions

## Proposition

BGF for size comparison ( $z \rightsquigarrow$ original size, $v \rightsquigarrow r$-fold path reduced size) is

$$
\frac{1-u^{2^{r+1}}}{\left(1-u^{2^{r+1}-1}\right)(1+u)} T\left(\frac{u\left(1-u^{2^{r+1}-1}\right)^{2}}{\left(1-u^{2^{r+1}}\right)^{2}} v, \frac{u^{2^{r+1}-1}(1-u)^{2}}{\left(1-u^{2^{r+1}}\right)^{2}} v\right),
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where $z=u /(1+u)^{2}$.

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where $z=u /(1+u)^{2}$.
Observation. This is the BGF for leaf reductions

$$
\frac{1-u^{r+2}}{\left(1-u^{r+1}\right)(1+u)} T\left(\frac{u\left(1-u^{r+1}\right)^{2}}{\left(1-u^{r+2}\right)^{2}} v, \frac{u^{r+1}(1-u)^{2}}{\left(1-u^{r+2}\right)^{2}} v\right)
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with $r \mapsto 2^{r+1}-2$.

## Cutting paths - Pruning

Theorem (H.-Heuberger-Kropf-Prodinger, 2016)

- r... number of reductions, fixed


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Then the expected size of the reduced tree and the corresponding variance are

$$
\mathbb{E} X_{n, r}=\frac{n}{2^{r+1}-1}-\frac{\left(2^{r}-1\right)\left(2^{r+1}-3\right)}{3\left(2^{r+1}-1\right)}+O\left(n^{-1}\right)
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Furthermore, $X_{n, r}$ is asymptotically normally distributed.

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- Proof: subsequence of RV's from cutting leaves


## Counting total number of paths

- Trees can be partitioned into paths ( $\rightsquigarrow$ branches)!


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- Average number of paths?


## Cutting paths - total number of paths

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- $P_{n} \ldots$ RV for number of paths in tree of size $n$


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& \alpha:=\sum_{k \geq 1} 1 /\left(2^{k}-1\right) \approx 1.606695 \\
& c \approx-0.118105 .
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- Proof: Sum of leaves in all reductions, Mellin-transform, singularity analysis.
- Introduced by Chen, Deutsch, Elizalde (2006)


## How do we cut our trees? (3)

- Introduced by Chen, Deutsch, Elizalde (2006) Old leaves
- Remove all leaves that are leftmost children



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## Preliminaries

## Proposition

- $\mathcal{L}$... plane trees

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## Preliminaries

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Proof. Symbolic equation

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translation; series expansion of the root.

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The operators for "old leaf"- and "old path"-expansions are given by

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Then the expected reduced tree size after $r$ "old leaf"-reductions and the corresponding variance are given by

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\mathbb{E} X_{n, r}=\left(2-B_{r}(1 / 4)\right) n-\frac{B_{r}^{\prime}(1 / 4)}{8}+O\left(n^{-1}\right)
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In addition, $X_{n, r}$ is asymptotically normally distributed.

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\mathbb{E} X_{n, r} \sim\left(2-B_{r}(1 / 4)\right) n
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- Note. Via Flajolet, Odlyzko (1982):

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- limit law then follows from a result by Janson (2016)



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## Summary

Leaves
$\mathbb{E} \sim \frac{n}{r+1}$
$\mathbb{V} \sim \frac{r(r+2)}{6(r+1)^{2}} n$

limit law: $\checkmark$
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## Summary

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Old leaves

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limit law: $\checkmark$

Old paths
$\mathbb{E} \sim \frac{2 n}{r+2}$
$\mathbb{V} \sim \frac{2 r(r+1)}{3(r+2)^{2}} n$
limit law: ???

