## On Reductions of Rooted Plane Trees

## Benjamin Hackl

joint work in progress with
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## 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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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
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- Branching complexity of river networks (e.g. Danube: 9)



## "What?" and "How?"

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- Coefficient extraction; Parameter distribution


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\Rightarrow T(z, t)=\frac{1-(z-t)-\sqrt{1-2(z+t)+(z-t)^{2}}}{2}
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Proof. Symbolic equation

translates into

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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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- Linear extension of $\Phi_{L}$ proves the proposition.


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and $X_{n, r}$ is asymptotically normally distributed.

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- Asymptotic normality: $X_{n, r}$ is a tree parameter with small toll function, limit law by Wagner (2015)

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

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Observation. This is the BGF for leaf reductions

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with $r \mapsto 2^{r+1}-2$.


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- Proof: subsequence of RV's from cutting leaves
- Introduced by Chen, Deutsch, Elizalde (2006)



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

- Introduced by Chen, Deutsch, Elizalde (2006)

Old leaves

- Remove all leaves that are leftmost children



## Old paths

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## Preliminaries

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and there are $C_{k-1}\binom{n-2}{n-2 k} 2^{n-2 k}$ trees of size $n$ with $k$ old leaves.
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translation; Lagrange inversion.

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- Functional equation degenerates / simplifies:

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Theorem (H.-Kropf-Prodinger, 2016)

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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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Note. Via Flajolet, Odlyzko (1982):

$$
B_{r}(1 / 4)=2-\frac{4}{r}-\frac{4 \log r}{r^{2}}+O\left(r^{-3}\right), \quad r \rightarrow \infty
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$\mathbb{V}=\Theta(n)$
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