# Algebraic varieties arising from phylogenetic trees 

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## phylogenetics

Phylogenetics: reconstructing historical relation between species by analyzing their present features and putting their common ancestors in a diagram which forms a tree. [e.g. Häckel, 1866]


## three (un?)related problems

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- Markov processes on a tree


## * product of functions

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If $f_{1} f_{2}:[n] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ are symmetric functions then we define their symmetric product $f_{1} \star f_{2}:[n] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ such that for $k \leq n / 2$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left(f_{1} \star f_{2}\right)(k)= & 2 \cdot\left(\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \sum_{j=0}^{i} f_{1}(i) f_{2}(k+i-2 j)\right) \\
& +\left(\sum_{i=k}^{n-k} \sum_{j=0}^{k} f_{1}(i) f_{2}(k+i-2 j)\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

## geometric interpretation of $\star$

Consider the simplex $\Delta$ as in the picture $\left(f_{1} \star f_{2}\right)(k)$ is equal to the sum of products of $f_{1}$ and $f_{2}$ counted over points of lattice spanned by $\Delta$ in $k$-th slice of $n \cdot \Delta$
$(\mathbf{1} \star \mathbf{1})(k)=(k+1)(n-$ $k+1$ ) is the number of lattice points in $k$-th slice of $n \cdot \Delta$
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## trees, sockets and networks

Consider a tree $\mathcal{T}$ which has $d+1$ leaves $\mathcal{L}, d-$
1 inner trivalent nodes
$\mathcal{N}$ and $2 d-1$ edges $\mathcal{E}$; socket is a subset of $\mathcal{L}$ which has even number of elements; path in $\mathcal{T}$ is a connected union of edges, network is a set of non-meeting paths in $\mathcal{T}$ with ends in $\mathcal{L}$

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## varieties associated to trees

[lemma] There is a bijection between the set of sockets and networks, that is for every socket $\sigma$ there exists a unique network $\mu(\sigma)$ whose end points are in $\sigma$

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For every edge $e \in \mathcal{E}$ we consider a $\mathbb{P}_{e}^{1}$ with homogeneous coordinates $\left[y_{0}^{e}, y_{1}^{e}\right]$. Moreover consider a projective space $\mathbb{P}_{\Sigma}$ of dimension $2^{d}-1$ with homogeneous coordinates $\left[z_{\sigma}\right]$ indexed by sockets of $\mathcal{T}$.

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Define rational map $\prod_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \mathbb{P}_{e}^{1} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_{\Sigma}$ such that

$$
z_{\sigma}=\prod_{e \in \mu(\sigma)} y_{1}^{e} \cdot \prod_{e \notin \mu(\sigma)} y_{0}^{e}
$$

The model of the tree, $X(\mathcal{T}) \subset \mathbb{P}_{\Sigma}$, is the closure of the image of this map, $\operatorname{dim} X(\mathcal{T})=2 d$.

## deforming $X(\mathcal{T})$ within $\mathbb{P}_{\Sigma}$

Leaves of $\mathcal{T}$ can be labeled by numbers
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These varieties can be non-isomorphic (one can check it), however [theorem 2] they are in the same connected component of the Hilbert scheme of $\mathbb{P}_{\Sigma}$, that is $X\left(\mathcal{T}_{1}\right)$ can be deformed to $X\left(\mathcal{T}_{2}\right)$ if only $\mathcal{T}_{1}$ and $\mathcal{T}_{2}$ have the same number of leaves.

## binary Markov process on tree

Fix a root $r$ in tree $\mathcal{T}$ - this implies an order $<$ on the set of vertexes $\mathcal{V}=\mathcal{L} \cup \mathcal{N}$. To each vertex $v \in \mathcal{V}$ assign a random variable $\xi_{v}$ which takes value in $\left\{\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}\right\}$.

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Variables $\xi_{v}$ determine a Markov process on $\mathcal{T}$ if (intuitively) the value of $\xi_{v}$ depends only on the value of $\xi_{u}$, where $u$ is the node immediately preceeding $v$.

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For each edge $e=\langle u, v\rangle$ bounded by vertexes $u<v$ define the transition matrix $A^{e}$ :

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A_{i j}^{e}=P\left(\xi_{v}=\alpha_{j} \mid \xi_{u}=\alpha_{i}\right)
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and set the probability of the variable $\xi_{r}$ at the root: $P_{i}^{r}=P\left(\xi_{r}=\alpha_{i}\right)$

## from Markov to phylogenetics

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For a Markov process on a rooted tree $\mathcal{T}$ as above and any function $\mathcal{V} \ni v \rightarrow \rho(v) \in\{1,2\}$

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where the sum is taken over all $\widehat{\rho}: \mathcal{V} \rightarrow\{1,2\}$ which extend $\rho$.

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Phylogenetics: understand the shape of $\mathcal{T}$ by looking at the distribution of $P\left(\bigwedge_{v \in \mathcal{L}} \xi_{v}=\alpha_{\rho(v)}\right)$, that is

## Fourier transformation

Phylogenetics wants to understand the locus of possible probability values of a Markov process on a fixed tree $\mathcal{T}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{X}(\mathcal{T}):= \\
& \left\{\zeta_{\rho}=P\left(\bigwedge_{v \in \mathcal{L}} \xi_{v}=\alpha_{\rho(v)}\right): A_{i j}^{e}, P_{i}^{r} \text { are arbitrary }\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

in the simplex with coordinates $\zeta_{\rho}$ where $\zeta_{\rho} \geq 0$,
$\sum_{\rho} \zeta_{\rho}=1$.

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then [proposition] after suitable change of coordinates (and identifying spaces) the varieties $\mathcal{X}(\mathcal{T})$ and $X(\mathcal{T})$ coincide.

## proof: working dictionary

Translate the original problem into toric geometry

## proof: working dictionary

Translate the original problem into toric geometry tree

## proof: working dictionary

Translate the original problem into toric geometry tree
variety

## proof: working dictionary

Translate the original problem into toric geometry tree
polytope
variety

## proof: working dictionary

Translate the original problem into toric geometry tree polytope
variety
understand the basic objects

## proof: working dictionary

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polytope
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## proof: working dictionary

Translate the original problem into toric geometry
tree
al
polytope
variety
$\mathbb{P}^{3}$

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## proof: working dictionary

Translate the original problem into toric geometry
tree

a leaf
polytope

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projection
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projection
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GIT quotient

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Translate the original problem into toric geometry

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GIT quotient deformation

## proof: the idea

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The mutation of a 4-leaf tree

can be explicitely written as deformation which preserves the action of $\mathbb{C}^{*}$ groups associated to leaves, thus via GIT quotient it can be extended to a mutation of any tree along any inner edge


