

# Probabilistic Proofs of Hooklength Formulas

Bruce Sagan  
Department of Mathematics  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1027  
sagan@math.msu.edu  
www.math.msu.edu/~sagan

October 26, 2009



# Outline

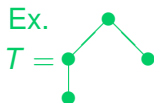
Let  $T$  be a rooted tree with  $n$  distinguishable vertices. We also use  $T$  for its vertex set.

Let  $T$  be a rooted tree with  $n$  distinguishable vertices. We also use  $T$  for its vertex set. An *increasing labeling* of  $T$  is a bijection  $L : T \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that if vertex  $v$  has a child  $w$  then  $L(v) < L(w)$ . Let

$f^T =$  number of increasing labelings of  $T$ .

Let  $T$  be a rooted tree with  $n$  distinguishable vertices. We also use  $T$  for its vertex set. An *increasing labeling* of  $T$  is a bijection  $L : T \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that if vertex  $v$  has a child  $w$  then  $L(v) < L(w)$ . Let

$f^T =$  number of increasing labelings of  $T$ .



Let  $T$  be a rooted tree with  $n$  distinguishable vertices. We also use  $T$  for its vertex set. An *increasing labeling* of  $T$  is a bijection  $L : T \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that if vertex  $v$  has a child  $w$  then  $L(v) < L(w)$ . Let

$f^T =$  number of increasing labelings of  $T$ .



Let  $T$  be a rooted tree with  $n$  distinguishable vertices. We also use  $T$  for its vertex set. An *increasing labeling* of  $T$  is a bijection  $L : T \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that if vertex  $v$  has a child  $w$  then  $L(v) < L(w)$ . Let

$f^T =$  number of increasing labelings of  $T$ .



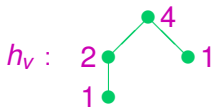
The *hooklength* of a vertex  $v$  is

$h_v =$  number of descendants of  $v$  (including  $v$ ).



Let  $T$  be a rooted tree with  $n$  distinguishable vertices. We also use  $T$  for its vertex set. An *increasing labeling* of  $T$  is a bijection  $L : T \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that if vertex  $v$  has a child  $w$  then  $L(v) < L(w)$ . Let

$f^T =$  number of increasing labelings of  $T$ .

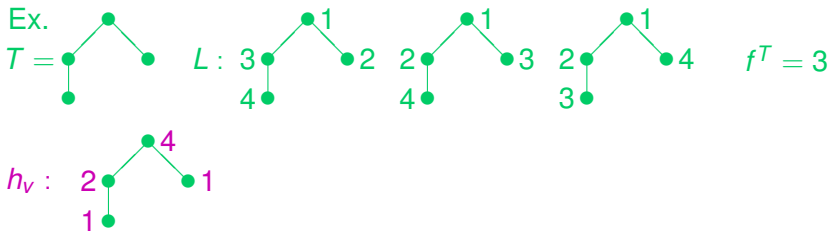


The *hooklength* of a vertex  $v$  is

$h_v =$  number of descendants of  $v$  (including  $v$ ).

Let  $T$  be a rooted tree with  $n$  distinguishable vertices. We also use  $T$  for its vertex set. An *increasing labeling* of  $T$  is a bijection  $L : T \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that if vertex  $v$  has a child  $w$  then  $L(v) < L(w)$ . Let

$f^T =$  number of increasing labelings of  $T$ .



The *hooklength* of a vertex  $v$  is

$h_v =$  number of descendants of  $v$  (including  $v$ ).

Theorem (Hooklength Formula)

If  $T$  has  $n$  vertices, then  $f^T = \frac{n!}{\prod_{v \in T} h_v}$ .

Let  $T$  be a rooted tree with  $n$  distinguishable vertices. We also use  $T$  for its vertex set. An *increasing labeling* of  $T$  is a bijection  $L : T \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that if vertex  $v$  has a child  $w$  then  $L(v) < L(w)$ . Let

$f^T =$  number of increasing labelings of  $T$ .



The *hooklength* of a vertex  $v$  is

$h_v =$  number of descendants of  $v$  (including  $v$ ).

Theorem (Hooklength Formula)

If  $T$  has  $n$  vertices, then  $f^T = \frac{n!}{\prod_{v \in T} h_v}.$

## History.

1. There are also hooklength formulas for
  - 1.1 ordinary Young tableaux (Frame-Robinson-Thrall),

## History.

1. There are also hooklength formulas for
  - 1.1 ordinary Young tableaux (Frame-Robinson-Thrall),
  - 1.2 shifted Young tableaux (Knuth), and

## History.

1. There are also hooklength formulas for
  - 1.1 ordinary Young tableaux (Frame-Robinson-Thrall),
  - 1.2 shifted Young tableaux (Knuth), and
  - 1.3  $d$ -complete posets (Proctor).

## History.

1. There are also hooklength formulas for
  - 1.1 ordinary Young tableaux (Frame-Robinson-Thrall),
  - 1.2 shifted Young tableaux (Knuth), and
  - 1.3  $d$ -complete posets (Proctor).
2. Probabilistic proofs of these formulas were given by
  - 2.1 Greene-Nijenhuis-Wilf (ordinary tableaux),

## History.

1. There are also hooklength formulas for
  - 1.1 ordinary Young tableaux (Frame-Robinson-Thrall),
  - 1.2 shifted Young tableaux (Knuth), and
  - 1.3  $d$ -complete posets (Proctor).
2. Probabilistic proofs of these formulas were given by
  - 2.1 Greene-Nijenhuis-Wilf (ordinary tableaux),
  - 2.2 S (shifted tableaux),



## History.

1. There are also hooklength formulas for
  - 1.1 ordinary Young tableaux (Frame-Robinson-Thrall),
  - 1.2 shifted Young tableaux (Knuth), and
  - 1.3  $d$ -complete posets (Proctor).
2. Probabilistic proofs of these formulas were given by
  - 2.1 Greene-Nijenhuis-Wilf (ordinary tableaux),
  - 2.2 S (shifted tableaux),
  - 2.3 S-Yeh (trees),

## History.

1. There are also hooklength formulas for
  - 1.1 ordinary Young tableaux (Frame-Robinson-Thrall),
  - 1.2 shifted Young tableaux (Knuth), and
  - 1.3  $d$ -complete posets (Proctor).
2. Probabilistic proofs of these formulas were given by
  - 2.1 Greene-Nijenhuis-Wilf (ordinary tableaux),
  - 2.2 S (shifted tableaux),
  - 2.3 S-Yeh (trees),
  - 2.4 Okamura ( $d$ -complete).

Let

$\mathcal{B}(n) =$  set of binary trees,  $T$ , on  $n$  vertices.

Let

$\mathcal{B}(n) =$  set of binary trees,  $T$ , on  $n$  vertices.

Let

$\mathcal{L}(n) =$  set of all increasing labelings,  $L$ , of trees in  $\mathcal{B}(n)$ .

Let

$\mathcal{B}(n) =$  set of binary trees,  $T$ , on  $n$  vertices.

Let

$\mathcal{L}(n) =$  set of all increasing labelings,  $L$ , of trees in  $\mathcal{B}(n)$ .

Ex.

$\mathcal{B}(3):$



Let

$\mathcal{B}(n) =$  set of binary trees,  $T$ , on  $n$  vertices.

Let

$\mathcal{L}(n) =$  set of all increasing labelings,  $L$ , of trees in  $\mathcal{B}(n)$ .

Ex.

$\mathcal{B}(3)$ :



$\mathcal{L}(3)$ :



Let

$\mathcal{B}(n) =$  set of binary trees,  $T$ , on  $n$  vertices.

Let

$\mathcal{L}(n) =$  set of all increasing labelings,  $L$ , of trees in  $\mathcal{B}(n)$ .

Ex.

$\mathcal{B}(3)$ :



$\mathcal{L}(3)$ :



Theorem (Han, 2008)

For any  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{h_v 2^{h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{n!}.$$

Let

$\mathcal{B}(n) =$  set of binary trees,  $T$ , on  $n$  vertices.

Let

$\mathcal{L}(n) =$  set of all increasing labelings,  $L$ , of trees in  $\mathcal{B}(n)$ .

Ex.

$\mathcal{B}(3)$ :



$\mathcal{L}(3)$ :



Theorem (Han, 2008)

For any  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{h_v 2^{h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{n!}.$$

Notes.

1. The hooklengths appear as exponents.



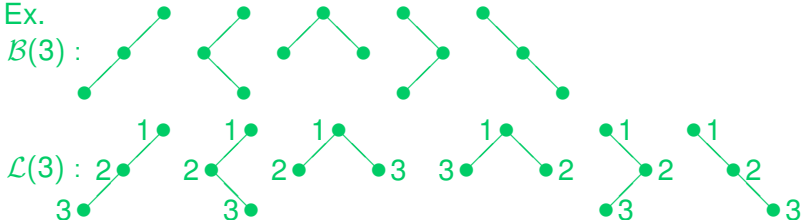
Let

$\mathcal{B}(n) =$  set of binary trees,  $T$ , on  $n$  vertices.

Let

$\mathcal{L}(n) =$  set of all increasing labelings,  $L$ , of trees in  $\mathcal{B}(n)$ .

Ex.



Theorem (Han, 2008)

For any  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{h_v 2^{h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{n!}.$$

Notes.

1. The hooklengths appear as exponents.
2. Han's proof is algebraic. Our proof is probabilistic.

# Outline

## Theorem (Han, 2008)

For any  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{h_v 2^{h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{n!}.$$

## Theorem (Han, 2008)

For any  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{h_v 2^{h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{n!}.$$

**Proof** Multiplying the above equation by  $n!$  and using the Hooklength Formula, it suffices to show

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} f^T \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{2^{h_v - 1}} = 1.$$

## Theorem (Han, 2008)

For any  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{h_v 2^{h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{n!}.$$

**Proof** Multiplying the above equation by  $n!$  and using the Hooklength Formula, it suffices to show

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} f^T \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{2^{h_v - 1}} = 1.$$

So it suffices to find an algorithm generating each  $L \in \mathcal{L}(n)$  such that

(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v - 1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and

## Theorem (Han, 2008)

For any  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{h_v 2^{h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{n!}.$$

**Proof** Multiplying the above equation by  $n!$  and using the Hooklength Formula, it suffices to show

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} f^T \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{2^{h_v - 1}} = 1.$$

So it suffices to find an algorithm generating each  $L \in \mathcal{L}(n)$  such that

- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v - 1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.



- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

**Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.

- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

**Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.

(b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .

- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

**Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.

(b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .

(c) Output  $L$ .

- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

**Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.

(b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .

(c) Output  $L$ .

Ex.  $n = 3$

- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

- Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.  
(b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .  
(c) Output  $L$ .

Ex.  $n = 3$

$L$ : 1  
●

- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

**Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.

(b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .

(c) Output  $L$ .

Ex.  $n = 3$

$L:$       1  
             ●

$\text{prob } L = 1$

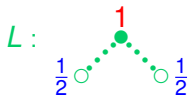
- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

- Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.  
 (b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .  
 (c) Output  $L$ .

Ex.  $n = 3$



$\text{prob } L = 1$

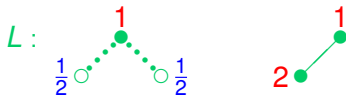
- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

- Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.  
 (b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .  
 (c) Output  $L$ .

Ex.  $n = 3$



$\text{prob } L = 1$



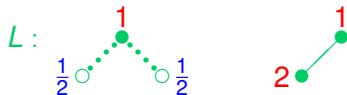
- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

- Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.  
 (b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .  
 (c) Output  $L$ .

Ex.  $n = 3$



$\text{prob } L = 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2}$

(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and

(II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

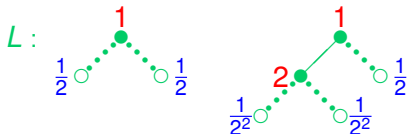
$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

**Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.

(b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .

(c) Output  $L$ .

Ex.  $n = 3$



$\text{prob } L = 1$

$\frac{1}{2}$

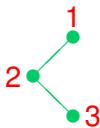
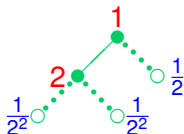
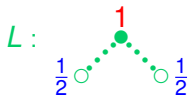
- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

- Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.  
 (b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .  
 (c) Output  $L$ .

Ex.  $n = 3$



$\text{prob } L = 1$

$\frac{1}{2}$

(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and

(II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

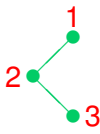
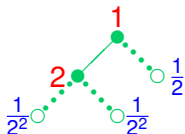
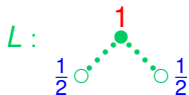
$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

**Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.

(b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .

(c) Output  $L$ .

Ex.  $n = 3$



$\text{prob } L = 1$

$\frac{1}{2}$

$\frac{1}{2^2}$

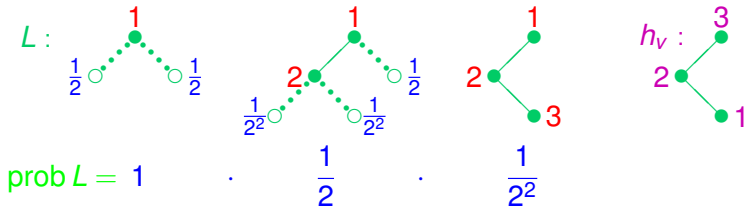
- (I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and
- (II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

- Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.  
 (b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .  
 (c) Output  $L$ .

Ex.  $n = 3$



(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ , and

(II)  $\sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}(n)} \text{prob } L = 1$ .

For  $w \in T$ , consider the *depth* of  $w$ :

$d_w =$  length of the unique root-to- $w$  path.

**Algorithm.** (a) Let  $L$  consist of a root labeled 1.

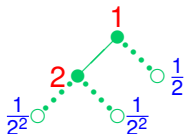
(b) While  $|L| < n$ , pick a leaf  $w$  to be added to  $L$  with label  $|L| + 1$  and  $\text{prob } w = 1/2^{d_w}$ .

(c) Output  $L$ .

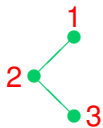
Ex.  $n = 3$



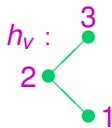
$\text{prob } L = 1$



$\frac{1}{2}$



$\frac{1}{2^2}$

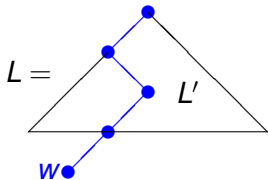


$= \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{2^{h_v-1}}$

(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ .

(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ .

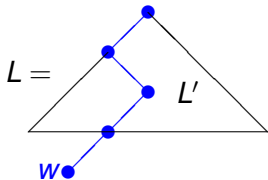
**Proof** Let  $w$  be the node labeled  $n$  in  $L$  and let  $L' = L - w$ .





(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ .

**Proof** Let  $w$  be the node labeled  $n$  in  $L$  and let  $L' = L - w$ .

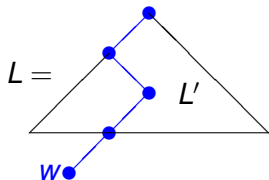


The hooklengths in  $L$  and  $L'$  are related by

$$h_v = \begin{cases} h'_v + 1 & \text{if } v \text{ is on the unique root-to-}w \text{ path } P, \\ h'_v & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ .

**Proof** Let  $w$  be the node labeled  $n$  in  $L$  and let  $L' = L - w$ .



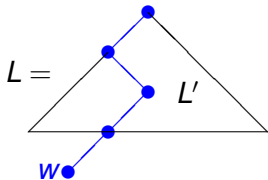
The hooklengths in  $L$  and  $L'$  are related by

$$h_v = \begin{cases} h'_v + 1 & \text{if } v \text{ is on the unique root-to-}w \text{ path } P, \\ h'_v & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Note that there are  $d_w$  vertices on  $P \cap L'$ .

(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ .

**Proof** Let  $w$  be the node labeled  $n$  in  $L$  and let  $L' = L - w$ .



The hooklengths in  $L$  and  $L'$  are related by

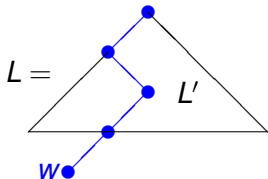
$$h_v = \begin{cases} h'_v + 1 & \text{if } v \text{ is on the unique root-to-}w \text{ path } P, \\ h'_v & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Note that there are  $d_w$  vertices on  $P \cap L'$ . So

$$\text{prob } L = \text{prob } w \cdot \text{prob } L'$$

(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ .

**Proof** Let  $w$  be the node labeled  $n$  in  $L$  and let  $L' = L - w$ .



The hooklengths in  $L$  and  $L'$  are related by

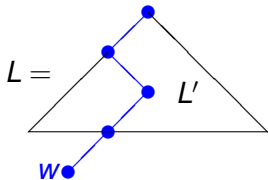
$$h_v = \begin{cases} h'_v + 1 & \text{if } v \text{ is on the unique root-to-}w \text{ path } P, \\ h'_v & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Note that there are  $d_w$  vertices on  $P \cap L'$ . So

$$\text{prob } L = \text{prob } w \cdot \text{prob } L' = \frac{1}{2^{d_w}} \prod_{v \in L'} \frac{1}{2^{h'_v-1}}$$

(I)  $\text{prob } L = \prod_{v \in T} 1/2^{h_v-1}$  if  $L$  labels  $T$ .

**Proof** Let  $w$  be the node labeled  $n$  in  $L$  and let  $L' = L - w$ .



The hooklengths in  $L$  and  $L'$  are related by

$$h_v = \begin{cases} h'_v + 1 & \text{if } v \text{ is on the unique root-to-}w \text{ path } P, \\ h'_v & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Note that there are  $d_w$  vertices on  $P \cap L'$ . So

$$\text{prob } L = \text{prob } w \cdot \text{prob } L' = \frac{1}{2^{d_w}} \prod_{v \in L'} \frac{1}{2^{h'_v-1}} = \prod_{v \in L} \frac{1}{2^{h_v-1}}. \quad \square$$

# Outline

(a) Yang generalized Han's formula to weighted ordered trees and a similar probabilistic proof works.

(a) Yang generalized Han's formula to weighted ordered trees and a similar probabilistic proof works. Let

$\mathcal{O}(n) =$  set of ordered trees on  $n$  vertices.



(a) Yang generalized Han's formula to weighted ordered trees and a similar probabilistic proof works. Let

$\mathcal{O}(n) =$  set of ordered trees on  $n$  vertices.

If  $m$  is a variable and  $c_v$  is the number of children of  $v$  in  $T$ , let

$$\text{wt}(T) = \prod_{v \in T} \binom{m}{c_v}.$$

(a) Yang generalized Han's formula to weighted ordered trees and a similar probabilistic proof works. Let

$\mathcal{O}(n) =$  set of ordered trees on  $n$  vertices.

If  $m$  is a variable and  $c_v$  is the number of children of  $v$  in  $T$ , let

$$\text{wt}(T) = \prod_{v \in T} \binom{m}{c_v}.$$

Theorem (Yang, 2008)

*For any  $n$*

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{O}(n)} \text{wt}(T) \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{h_v m^{h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{n!}. \quad \square$$

(a) Yang generalized Han's formula to weighted ordered trees and a similar probabilistic proof works. Let

$\mathcal{O}(n) =$  set of ordered trees on  $n$  vertices.

If  $m$  is a variable and  $c_v$  is the number of children of  $v$  in  $T$ , let

$$\text{wt}(T) = \prod_{v \in T} \binom{m}{c_v}.$$

Theorem (Yang, 2008)

*For any  $n$*

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{O}(n)} \text{wt}(T) \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{h_v m^{h_v-1}} = \frac{1}{n!}. \quad \square$$

Note that if  $m = 2$  then

$$\binom{m}{c_v} = \binom{2}{c_v} = \# \text{ of ways to make the children of } v \text{ binary.}$$

(a) Yang generalized Han's formula to weighted ordered trees and a similar probabilistic proof works. Let

$\mathcal{O}(n) =$  set of ordered trees on  $n$  vertices.

If  $m$  is a variable and  $c_v$  is the number of children of  $v$  in  $T$ , let

$$\text{wt}(T) = \prod_{v \in T} \binom{m}{c_v}.$$

Theorem (Yang, 2008)

*For any  $n$*

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{O}(n)} \text{wt}(T) \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{h_v m^{h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{n!}. \quad \square$$

Note that if  $m = 2$  then

$$\binom{m}{c_v} = \binom{2}{c_v} = \# \text{ of ways to make the children of } v \text{ binary.}$$

So  $\text{wt}(T)$  becomes the number of ways to make  $T$  binary and Yang's result implies Han's.

(b) One can also generalize Han's formula and the probabilistic proof by considering  $n$ -vertex subtrees of a given infinite tree.

(b) One can also generalize Han's formula and the probabilistic proof by considering  $n$ -vertex subtrees of a given infinite tree.

(c) With Carla Savage, we are considering probabilistic proofs of  $q$ -hooklength formulas of Björner and Wachs and  $q, t$ -analogues of Novelli and Thibon.

(b) One can also generalize Han's formula and the probabilistic proof by considering  $n$ -vertex subtrees of a given infinite tree.

(c) With Carla Savage, we are considering probabilistic proofs of  $q$ -hooklength formulas of Björner and Wachs and  $q, t$ -analogues of Novelli and Thibon.

(d) Han also proved the following result.

Theorem (Han, 2008)

*For any  $n$ ,*

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{(2h_v + 1)2^{2h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{(2n + 1)!}. \quad \square$$

(b) One can also generalize Han's formula and the probabilistic proof by considering  $n$ -vertex subtrees of a given infinite tree.

(c) With Carla Savage, we are considering probabilistic proofs of  $q$ -hooklength formulas of Björner and Wachs and  $q, t$ -analogues of Novelli and Thibon.

(d) Han also proved the following result.

Theorem (Han, 2008)

*For any  $n$ ,*

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{(2h_v + 1)2^{2h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{(2n + 1)!}. \quad \square$$

Is there a probabilistic proof?



(b) One can also generalize Han's formula and the probabilistic proof by considering  $n$ -vertex subtrees of a given infinite tree.

(c) With Carla Savage, we are considering probabilistic proofs of  $q$ -hooklength formulas of Björner and Wachs and  $q, t$ -analogues of Novelli and Thibon.

(d) Han also proved the following result.

Theorem (Han, 2008)

*For any  $n$ ,*

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{(2h_v + 1)2^{2h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{(2n + 1)!}. \quad \square$$

Is there a probabilistic proof? Note that if  $\hat{T}$  is the **completion** of  $T$ , i.e.,  $T$  with all possible leaves added, then

$$f^{\hat{T}} = \frac{(2n + 1)!}{\prod_{v \in T} (2h_v + 1)}.$$

(b) One can also generalize Han's formula and the probabilistic proof by considering  $n$ -vertex subtrees of a given infinite tree.

(c) With Carla Savage, we are considering probabilistic proofs of  $q$ -hooklength formulas of Björner and Wachs and  $q, t$ -analogues of Novelli and Thibon.

(d) Han also proved the following result.

Theorem (Han, 2008)

*For any  $n$ ,*

$$\sum_{T \in \mathcal{B}(n)} \prod_{v \in T} \frac{1}{(2h_v + 1)2^{2h_v - 1}} = \frac{1}{(2n + 1)!}. \quad \square$$

Is there a probabilistic proof? Note that if  $\hat{T}$  is the **completion** of  $T$ , i.e.,  $T$  with all possible leaves added, then

$$f^{\hat{T}} = \frac{(2n + 1)!}{\prod_{v \in T} (2h_v + 1)}.$$

(e) What is the analogue for tableaux of Han's formulas?