

**NUMBER OF MAXIMAL ROOTED TREES IN UNIFORM  
ATTACHMENT MODEL VIA STOCHASTIC APPROXIMATION<sup>1</sup>**

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We study the asymptotic behavior of the number of maximal trees in a uniform attachment model. In our model, we consider a sequence of graphs built by the following recursive rule. We start with the complete graph on  $m + 1$  vertices,  $m > 1$ . Then on the  $n + 1$  step, we add vertex  $n + 1$  and draw  $m$  edges from it to different vertices, chosen uniformly from  $1, \dots, n$ . We prove the convergence speed for the number of maximal trees in such a model using the stochastic approximation technique.

**Keywords:** random graphs, uniform attachment, stochastic approximation.

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## Introduction

The number of subgraphs of a graph is important in the understanding of the local structure and properties of the graph and was studied for various graph models (see, e.g., [2, 3]). In the present paper, we are focused on the number of maximal subtrees (a subtree is *maximal* in  $G_n$  if all its non-leaf vertices are adjacent only to vertices of that tree) for a uniform attachment model. While the expected number of subgraphs is often obtained using combinatorial arguments (see, e.g., [4]) we would use stochastic approximation (see [1, 6] for more details on stochastic approximation processes) to obtain result about the convergence rate.

Let us describe the model of graphs  $G_n = G_n(m)$  that we consider in the paper. We start with a complete graph  $G_m$  on  $m$  vertices. Then on each step, we construct a graph  $G_n$  by adding to  $G_{n-1}$  a new vertex and drawing  $m$  edges from it to different vertices, chosen uniformly among vertices of  $G_n$ .

For a rooted tree  $T$ , let  $N_T(n)$  be the number of vertices that are roots of maximal subtrees of  $G_n$  isomorphic to  $T$ . Note that the set  $\mathcal{T}_{N,b}$  of all isomorphism classes of rooted trees with at most  $N$  vertices of depth  $b$  is finite. We would refer to a maximal subtree of  $G_n$  isomorphic to a tree  $T$  from that set as *having the type  $T$*  (i.e. when we

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talk about the type of a tree in  $G_n$  we assume it is rooted and maximal). Also, we call a tree  $T$  *max-admissible* if it could be a maximal subtree of  $G_n$  for large enough  $n$ . Let us formulate our main result.

**Theorem 1.** *For max-admissible tree  $T$  there is a constant  $\rho_T \in (0, 1)$ , such that for any  $\delta > 0$*

$$N_T(n) = \rho_T n + o(n^{1/2+\delta}) \quad a.s.$$

We would prove this result by induction over  $b$  using results about stochastic approximation processes.

Let us first describe these results. An  $r$ -dimensional process  $Z(n)$  with the corresponding filtration  $\mathcal{F}_n$  is called a stochastic approximation process if it could be written in the following way

$$Z(n+1) - Z(n) = \frac{1}{n+1} (F(Z(n)) + E_{n+1} + R_{n+1}), \quad (1)$$

where  $E_n$ ,  $R_n$ , and the function  $F$  satisfy the following conditions (we would provide stronger conditions that are needed for [1, Theorem 3.1.1] to hold). There exists  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^r$  such that  $Z_n \in U$  for all  $n$  almost surely and

- A1 The function  $F : \mathbb{R}^r \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r$  has a unique root  $\theta$  in  $U$ , and its components are twice continuously differentiable in some neighborhood of  $U$ .
- A2 The derivative matrix of  $F(x)$  exists, and its biggest eigenvalue does not exceed  $-1/2$ .
- A3  $E_n$  is a martingale difference with respect to  $\mathcal{F}_n$ ,  $\sup_n \mathbb{E}(|E_{n+1}|^2 | \mathcal{F}_n) < \infty$  almost surely and for some  $\delta \in (0, 1/2)$ ,  $R_n = O(n^{-\delta})$  almost surely (i.e. there exists a non-random constant  $C$ , such that  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|R_n|}{n^{-\delta}} \leq C$  almost surely).

We need the following result:

**Theorem 2.** *[1, Theorem 3.1.1] Under the above conditions,  $Z(n) \rightarrow \theta$  a.s. with the convergence rate*

$$|Z(n) - \theta| = o(n^{-\delta}) \quad \text{almost surely} \left( \text{i.e. } \frac{|Z(n) - \theta|}{n^{-\delta}} \rightarrow 0 \text{ almost surely} \right).$$

## 1. Number of vertices of fixed degree

First, let prove the case  $b = 1$ , which corresponds to the number  $N_k(n)$  of vertices with degree  $k$  at time  $n$  for  $k \geq m$  (the tree of depth 1 is a star and defined by the degree of its root). In our model at step  $n + 1$  probability to draw an edge to a given vertex equals to

$$1 - \frac{\binom{n-1}{m}}{\binom{n}{m}} = 1 - \frac{n-m}{n} = \frac{m}{n}. \quad (2)$$

Let fix  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $N \geq m$ . Let  $X_k(n) := N_k(n)/n$ ,  $m \leq k \leq N$ . Let define

$$\rho_k := \frac{m^{k-m}}{(m+1)^{k-m+1}}, \quad k = m, \dots, N. \quad (3)$$

For  $b = 1$ , Theorem 1 could be formulated as follow.

**Lemma 1.**  $X_k(n) \rightarrow \rho_k$  with rate  $|X_k(n) - \rho_k| = o(n^{-1/2+\delta})$  for any  $\delta > 0$  a.s.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{F}_n$  be the filtration that corresponds to the graphs  $G_n$ . We get

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(N_m(n+1) - N_m(n)|\mathcal{F}_n) &= 1 - \frac{m}{n}N_m(n), \\ \mathbb{E}(N_k(n+1) - N_k(n)|\mathcal{F}_n) &= \frac{m}{n}(N_{k-1}(n) - N_k(n)), \quad k = m+1, \dots, N.\end{aligned}$$

For  $X_k(n)$  we get

$$\mathbb{E}(X_k(n+1) - X_k(n)|\mathcal{F}_n) = \frac{1}{n+1}(\mathbb{E}(N_k(n+1) - N_k(n)|\mathcal{F}_n) - X_k(n)). \quad (4)$$

Hence, if we define functions

$$\begin{aligned}f_m(x_m, \dots, x_N) &= 1 - (m+1)x_m, \\ f_k(x_m, \dots, x_N) &= mx_{k-1} - (m+1)x_k, \quad k = m+1, \dots, N,\end{aligned}$$

we would get that for all  $k \in [m, N]$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}(X_k(n+1) - X_k(n)|\mathcal{F}_n) = \frac{1}{n+1}f_k(X_m(n), \dots, X_N(n)). \quad (5)$$

For the vector  $Z(n) := (X_m(n), \dots, X_N(n))$  we have the following representation

$$Z(n+1) - Z(n) = \frac{1}{n+1}(F(Z(n)) + (n+1)(Z(n+1) - \mathbb{E}(Z(n+1)|\mathcal{F}_n))),$$

where  $F(x_m, \dots, x_N) = (f_m(x_m, \dots, x_N), \dots, f_N(x_m, \dots, x_N))^t$ . Set

$$E_{n+1} = (n+1)(Z(n+1) - \mathbb{E}(Z(n+1)|\mathcal{F}_n)), \quad R_{n+1} = 0.$$

Let us find nulls of the system  $F(x_m, \dots, x_N) = 0$ , i.e. the system

$$\begin{cases} 1 - mx_m &= x_m, \\ m(x_{k-1} - x_k) &= x_k, \quad k = m+1, \dots, N. \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

We get

$$\begin{aligned}x_m &= \frac{1}{m+1}, \\ x_k &= \frac{m}{m+1}x_{k-1}, \quad k = m+1, \dots, N.\end{aligned}$$

Hence for  $k = m+1, \dots, N$

$$x_k = \frac{m^{k-m}}{(m+1)^{k-m+1}}.$$

Therefore the system (6) has a unique solution  $x_k = \rho_k$ ,  $k = m, \dots, N$ . Let us check the conditions of Theorem 2. For non-zero partial derivatives of functions  $f_k$ ,  $k = m, \dots, N$ , we would get:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_m}(x_m, \dots, x_N) &= -m-1, \\ \frac{\partial f_k}{\partial x_{k-1}}(x_m, \dots, x_N) &= m, \quad k = m+1, \dots, N, \\ \frac{\partial f_k}{\partial x_k}(x_m, \dots, x_N) &= -m-1, \quad k = m+1, \dots, N. \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

Hence, the largest real part of the eigenvalues of the derivative matrix equals  $-1$ . Therefore the process  $Z(n)$  satisfies the conditions A1, A2 of Theorem 2. To check condition A3 we first recall that  $R_{n+1} = 0$ . At each step, we draw  $m$  edges, so we change degrees of exactly  $m$  vertices while adding one new vertex. Hence,  $|N_k(n+1) - N_k(n)| \leq m+1$  and  $|X_k(n+1) - X_k(n)| \leq \frac{m+1}{n}$ . Therefore, for  $E_{n+1}$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} |E_{n+1}| &\leq (n+1)(|Z(n+1) - Z(n)| + |\mathbb{E}(Z(n+1) - Z(n)|\mathcal{F}_n)|) \\ &\leq 2 \frac{(n+1)(m+1)(N-m+1)}{n}, \end{aligned}$$

which results in condition A3. By Theorem 2, we get statement of Lemma 1.  $\square$

## 2. Number of rooted trees

Now we prove Theorem 1 using induction over tree depth.

*Proof.* Let us fix  $b > 1$  and large enough  $N$  and consider variables  $X_T(n) := N_T(n)/n$  and vector  $Z_b(n) := (X_{T_i}(n))$  over all rooted trees  $T_i \in \mathcal{T}_{N,b}$  that could be maximal subtrees of  $G_n$  (there are only finitely many such trees). Note that the case  $b = 1$  refers to the number of stars and was already considered in Lemma 1. The order of the elements of  $Z_b(n)$  (or, in other words, the order on the set of all max-admissible trees of depth  $b$ ) is defined in a way such that the addition of new branches (that preserves the depth of the tree) increases the order.

Note that

$$\mathbb{E}(X_T(n+1) - X_T(n)|\mathcal{F}_n) = \frac{1}{n+1} (\mathbb{E}(N_T(n+1) - N_T(n)|\mathcal{F}_n) - X_T(n)).$$

There are two ways to change  $N_T(n)$  at time  $n+1$ . We could draw an edge to a tree of type  $T$  or we could create a new copy of  $T$  rooted at  $n+1$ . Recall that due to equation (2) for each given vertex probability to draw an edge to it is  $\frac{m}{n}$ . In a rooted tree  $T$ , fix a non-leaf vertex  $u$ . Then the expected number (conditioned on  $G_n$ ) of trees  $T'$  in  $G_n$  of type  $T$  such that an edge is drawn from  $n+1$  to a vertex  $u'$  of  $T'$  and there exists an isomorphism of rooted trees  $T \rightarrow T'$  sending  $u$  to  $u'$  equals

$$Cm \frac{N_T(n)}{n} = Cm X_T(n),$$

where the constant  $C = C(T, u)$  corresponds to the number of vertices that belong to the orbit of  $u$  under the action of the automorphism group.

The type of the maximal tree with root  $n+1$  is defined by the types of trees of depth  $b-1$ , to which roots we draw  $m$  edges from vertex  $n+1$ . Note that, due to Lemma 5 of [5], the (conditional) probability to draw edges to trees that share a non-leaf vertex (thus creating a cycle) is  $O(\frac{\ln^2 n}{n})$  almost surely and does not affect our argument. Hence, drawing a given edge to the root of a given tree does not impact (up to  $O(\frac{\ln^2 n}{n})$  error term) probabilities to draw other edges to roots of other trees. Therefore, probability to create a tree of type  $T$  in the vertex  $n+1$  is polynomial of

$X_{T_i}(n)$  up to  $O(\frac{\ln^2 n}{n})$  error term, where  $T_i$  are max-admissible trees of depth  $b - 1$ . To change a type of a given maximal tree in  $G_n$  (to another given type) of depth  $b$  we need to draw an edge to one of its vertices and draw the rest of the edges to the roots of trees of depth at most  $b - 2$  of given types (that depends on the given tree type). Such probability is polynomial of  $X_{T_i}(n)$  up to a term  $O(\frac{\ln^2 n}{n})$ , where  $T_i$  are max-admissible trees of depth  $b - 2$ .

Therefore

$$\mathbb{E}(Z_b(n+1) - Z_b(n)|\mathcal{F}_n) = \frac{1}{n+1} \left( A_b Z_b(n) - Z_b(n) + Y_b + O\left(\frac{\ln^2 n}{n}\right) \right)$$

where  $A_b = A_b(Z_1(n), \dots, Z_{b-2}(n))$  is a lower-triangular matrix with negative elements on the diagonal and non-negative under the diagonal and  $Y_b = Y_b(Z_{b-1}(n))$  is a vector, such that the elements of both  $A_b$  and  $Y_b$  are polynomials of  $X_{T_i}(n)$ , where  $T_i$  are trees of depth at most  $b - 2$  (for  $A_b$ ) or exactly  $b - 1$  (for  $Y_b$ ). Let consider  $F_b(Z_1, \dots, Z_b) := A_b Z_b(n) - Z_b(n) + Y_b$  (note that  $A_b$  and  $Y_b$  are functions of  $Z_1, \dots, Z_{b-1}$  itself). Note that  $F_b$  is deterministic. We would use induction over  $b$  to prove that there is a unique solution of the system  $F_i(z_1, \dots, z_i) = 0, i = 1, \dots, b$ . We already established the existence of the unique (non-zero) root for the case  $b = 1$ . Assume there are unique non-zero solutions  $z_1^*, \dots, z_{b-1}^*$  of the systems  $F_i(z_1, \dots, z_i) = 0, i = 1, \dots, b - 1$ . If we define  $H_b(z_b) = F_b(z_1^*, \dots, z_{b-1}^*, z_b)$ , then  $H_b(z_b) = 0$  is a system of linear equations with the unique root  $z_b^*$  since  $A_b$  is lower-triangular with negative elements on the diagonal. Now let us show that all components of  $z_b^*$  are positive. Recall that all elements under the diagonal of  $A_b$  are non-negative and each (except the first) row has at least one positive element outside the diagonal (if a tree is not the smallest possible, we could remove one vertex with its children from it to make it smaller). All components of  $Y_b(z_{b-1}^*, \rho_d)$  are non-negative as well. Hence it is enough to show that the first element of  $Y_b$  is positive. It follows from the fact that the smallest max-admissible tree of depth  $b$  (which corresponds to the first coordinate of  $z_b$ ) could be obtained by drawing edges from a new vertex to the smallest max-admissible trees of depth  $b - 1$  and the first coordinate of  $z_{b-1}^*$  is positive by the induction hypothesis.

Let us consider the vector  $W_b(n) = (Z_1(n), \dots, Z_b(n))$ . We get that

$$\mathbb{E}(W_b(n+1) - W_b(n)|\mathcal{F}_n) = \frac{1}{n+1} \left( (F_1, \dots, F_b) + O\left(\frac{\ln^2 n}{n}\right) \right).$$

The derivative matrix of function  $(F_1, \dots, F_b)(z_1, \dots, z_b)$  is of following form. Around the diagonal, it has clusters of derivatives of  $F_i$  with respect to  $z_i$ , which are lower-triangular (since  $F_i = A_i z_i - z_i + Y_i$ ) with diagonal elements at most  $-1$ . Since  $F_i$  depends only on  $z_1, \dots, z_i$ , all elements above diagonal clusters are 0. Therefore the highest eigenvalue of the derivative matrix of  $(F_1, \dots, F_b)$  is  $-1$  (for all possible process values). Hence  $W_b(n)$  satisfies condition A2 of Theorem 2. Since functions  $(F_1, \dots, F_b)$  have second-order derivatives, condition A1 is satisfied as well. To check condition A3 note that if we take

$$E_{n+1} = (n+1)(W_b(n+1) - \mathbb{E}(W_b(n+1)|\mathcal{F}_n)),$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} R_{n+1} &:= (n+1)(W_b(n+1) - W_b(n)) - (F_1, \dots, F_b) - E_{n+1} \\ &= (n+1)\mathbb{E}(W_b(n+1) - W_b(n)|\mathcal{F}_n) - (F_1, \dots, F_b) = O\left(\frac{\ln^2 n}{n}\right) \quad \text{a.s.} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$|E_{n+1}| \leq (n+1)|W_b(n+1) - W_b(n)| + (n+1)|\mathbb{E}(W_b(n+1) - W_b(n)|\mathcal{F}_n)| \leq C$$

for some constant  $C$  since the number of maximal trees (on at most  $N$  vertices) of depth  $b$  that the vertex  $n+1$  could impact is bounded from above by a constant, which results in condition A3. Therefore, due to Theorem 2  $W_b(n)$  converges a.s. to  $(z_1^*, \dots, z_b^*)$  with the rate  $o(n^{-1/2+\delta})$  for any  $\delta > 0$  almost surely.  $\square$

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# ИССЛЕДОВАНИЕ ЧИСЛА МАКСИМАЛЬНЫХ ДЕРЕВЬЕВ В МОДЕЛИ РАВНОМЕРНОГО ПРИСОЕДИНЕНИЯ С ПОМОЩЬЮ СТОХАСТИЧЕСКОЙ АППРОКСИМАЦИИ

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В статье исследуется асимптотическое поведение числа максимальных деревьев в модели графов равномерного присоединения. В предлагаемой модели рассматривается последовательность графов, которая строится по следующему рекурсивному правилу. Мы начинаем построение с полного графа на  $m + 1$  вершине,  $m > 1$ . Затем на  $n + 1$ -ом шаге мы добавляем вершину  $n + 1$  и проводим из нее  $m$  ребер в разные вершины, выбранные равномерно из вершин  $1, \dots, n$ . В статье получен результат о скорости сходимости числа максимальных деревьев в указанной модели с помощью стохастической аппроксимации.

**Ключевые слова:** случайные графы, равномерное присоединение, стохастическая аппроксимация.

## Образец цитирования

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