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**UGLY PROOFS**  
  
**and**  
  
**BOOK PROOFS**

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Tournament  $T$  on  $n$  players

Ranking  $\sigma$

$\text{fit} = \text{NonUpsets} - \text{Upsets}$

Erdős-Moon (1965): There exists  $T$  for all  $\sigma$

$$\text{fit}(T, \sigma) \leq n^{3/2} \sqrt{\ln n}$$

Proof: *Random* Tournament

JS (1972, thesis!): For all  $T$  there exists  $\sigma$

$$\text{fit}(T, \sigma) \geq cn^{2/3}$$

Proof: Random Sequential

Rank on Top or Bottom

JS (1980): For random  $T$  for all  $\sigma$

$$\text{fit}(T, \sigma) \leq cn^{3/2}$$

Proof: Ugly

de la Vega (1983): Gem

Level 1: Top half against bottom half.

$\binom{n}{n/2}$  “different”  $\sigma$ ;  $n^2/4$  games

All 1-fit  $\leq c_1 n^{3/2}$

Level 2: 1 – 2 or 3 – 4 quartile games.

$< 4^n$  “different”  $\sigma$ ;  $n^2/8$  games

All 2-fit  $\leq c_2 n^{3/2}$

Level 3: 1 – 2, 3 – 4, 5 – 6, 7 – 8 octile games.

All 3-fit  $\leq c_3 n^{3/2}$

...  $\sum c_i$  converges

# Six Standard Deviations Suffice

$$A_1, \dots, A_n \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$\chi : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{-1, +1\}, \chi(A) := \sum_{a \in A} \chi(a)$$

JS (1985): There exists  $\chi$

$$|\chi(A_i)| \leq 6\sqrt{n}, \text{ all } 1 \leq i \leq n$$

$b_i :=$  roundoff of  $\chi(A_i)$  to nearest  $20\sqrt{n}$

$$\vec{b}(\chi) = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$$

(Boppana)  $b_i$  has low *entropy*

Subadditivity:  $\vec{b}$  has low  $(n\epsilon)$  entropy

$\Rightarrow$  Some  $\vec{b}$  appears  $1.99^n$  times

$\vec{b}(\chi_1) = \vec{b}(\chi_2)$  and differ in  $\Omega(n)$  places

On the shoulders of Hungarians:

$$\text{Set } \chi = (\chi_1 - \chi_2)/2$$

$\Omega(n)$  colored,  $|\chi(A_i)| \leq 10\sqrt{n}$

Iterate ...

## ASYMPTOTIC PACKING

$k + 1$ -uniform hypergraph (e.g.  $k = 2$ )

$N$  vertices

$\deg(v) = D$

Any two  $v, w$  have  $o(D)$  common hyperedges.

$N, D \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $k$  fixed

Conjecture (Erdős-Hanani) There exists a packing  $P$  with  $|P| \sim N/(k + 1)$

Rödl (1985): Yes!

JS (1995): Random Greedy Works

Continuous Time

Birthtime  $b(e) \in [0, D]$

Packing  $P_t$ , Surviving  $S_t$

$$\Pr[v \in S_t] \rightarrow f(t) = (1 + kt)^{-1/k}$$

History  $H = H(v, t)$ :

- $v \in e, b(e) \leq t \Rightarrow e \in H$
- $e \in H, e \cap f \neq \emptyset, b(f) < b(e) \Rightarrow f \in H$

History determines if  $v \in S_t$

History is whp treelike and bounded

## History $\sim$ Birth Process

Time backward  $t$  to 0

Start with root "Eve" ( $v$ )

Birth to  $k$ -tuplets Poisson intensity one

Children born fertile

Survival determined bottom up

Menendez Rule: If all  $k$  of birth survive, mother is killed

$$f(t) := \Pr[\text{EveSurvives}]$$

$$f(t + dt) - f(t) \sim -f(t) \cdot dt \cdot f^k(t)$$

$$f'(t) = -f^{k+1}(t)$$

$$f(t) = (1 + kt)^{-1/k}$$