

# Algebraic Structures on prime $m$ -Dyck paths

Muriel Livernet, IMJ-PRG, Université Paris Cité

Joint work with Maria Ronco

*Journées annuelles du GT CombAlg, 1er Juillet 2025  
38 degrés à l'ombre...*

## Section 1– $m$ -Dyck paths

- Definitions, notations
- Grafting  $m$ -Dyck paths
- Enumerating prime  $m$ -Dyck paths
- The  $m$ -Tamari lattice

## $m$ -Dyck paths of size $n$

- It is a path in  $(\mathbb{R}^+)^{\times 2}$ , starting at  $(0,0)$  and ending at  $(2nm,0)$ , consisting of up steps  $(m, m)$  and down steps  $(1, -1)$
- It is **prime** if it only meets the  $x$ -axis at these two points.



$(2, 2, 3)$ , not prime



$(2, 3, 3)$ , prime

### - Notation:

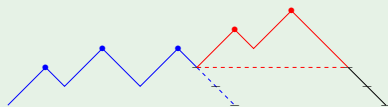
- ▶  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ : the list of heights of the summits of  $x$ . Note that  $x_1 = m$
- ▶  $\text{Dy}_n^m$ : the set of  $m$ -Dyck paths of size  $n$ ;  $d_{m,n}$  its cardinal.
- ▶  $\text{PDy}_n^m$ : the set of prime  $m$ -Dyck paths of size  $n$ ;  $p_{m,n}$  its cardinal.

## Grafting $m$ -Dyck paths

$$(x_1, \dots, x_p) \times_i (y_1, \dots, y_q) = (x_1, \dots, x_p, y_1 + i, \dots, y_q + i), \quad 0 \leq i \leq x_p$$

### Example

$$(2, 3, 3) \times_2 (2, 3) = (2, 3, 3, 4, 5)$$



The operation  $\times_0$  is associative. It corresponds to the **concatenation**. Any  $y \in \text{Dy}_n^m$  writes uniquely as

$$y = y^{(1)} \times_0 \dots \times_0 y^{(r)}$$

with  $y^{(j)} \in \text{PDy}_{n_j}^m$  and  $\sum_j n_j = n$ .

# Generalization: grafting $m$ -Dyck paths along a partition

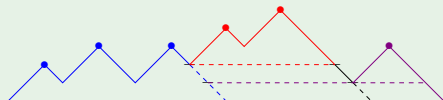
## The notation $x \times_{\mu} y$

- $x = (x_1, \dots, x_p) \in \text{Dy}_p^m$
- $y = y^{(1)} \times_0 \dots \times_0 y^{(r)}$  has  $r$  prime components, in  $\text{Dy}_q^m$
- $x_p \geq \mu_1 \geq \dots \geq \mu_r \geq 0$  an  $r$  partition **compatible with**  $x$ , denoted  $\mu$

$$x \times_{\mu} y = (\dots ((x \times_{\mu_1} y^{(1)}) \times_{\mu_2} y^{(2)}) \times \dots) \times_{\mu_r} y^{(r)}$$

## Example

$$(2, 3, 3) \times_{2 \geq 1} (2, 3; 2) = (2, 3, 3, 4, 5, 3)$$



## Enumerating prime $m$ -Dyck paths

- Fuss-Catalan numbers:  $A_s(p, r) = \frac{r}{sp+r} \binom{sp+r}{s}$
- $d_{m,n} = \frac{1}{mn+1} \cdot \binom{(m+1)n}{n} = A_{n-1}(m+1, m+1) = A_n(m+1, 1)$

### Proposition (?; L-Ronco)

For  $n, m \geq 1$

$$\rho_{m,n} = \frac{1}{n} \binom{(m+1)n-2}{n-1}$$

Idea of the proof:

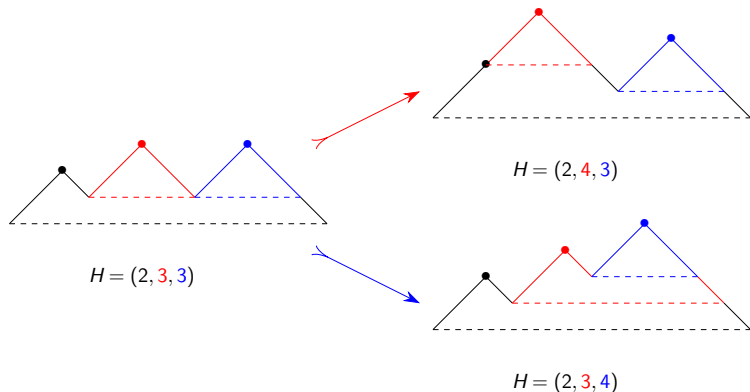
- Concatenation of prime  $m$ -Dyck paths gives  $D_m(x) = \frac{P_m(x)}{1-P_m(x)}$
- use Riordan convolution formula  
 $A_s(p, r+t) = \sum_{k=0}^s A_k(p, r) A_{s-k}(p, t)$

to get

$$\rho_{m,n} = A_{n-1}(m+1, m)$$

# The $m$ -Tamari lattice [Bergeron, Préville-Ratelle; Bousquet-Mélou, Fusy, Préville-Ratelle]

covering relations:



## Section 2– Results by Lopez, Prévaille-Ratelle, Ronco, arxiv 1508.01252+ JPAA 2020

- Split of associativity,  $\mathcal{Dyck}_m$ -algebras
- The structure of  $\mathcal{Dyck}_m$ -algebra on the vector space spanned by  $m$ -Dyck paths
  - ▶ Labeling the down steps
  - ▶ The valuation map
  - ▶ The formula

## Split of associativity

see also Novelli and the notion of  $m$ -Dendriform algebras.

### Definition

A  $\mathcal{D}yck_m$  algebra  $D$  is a vector space endowed with bilinear products  $*_i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq m$  satisfying the relations

- $x *_i (y *_j z) = (x *_i y) *_j z$ , for  $0 \leq i < j \leq m$ ,

- $$\sum_{j=0}^i x *_i (y *_j z) = \sum_{k=i}^m (x *_k y) *_i z,$$

for any elements  $x, y$  and  $z$  in  $D$ .

### Facts

- $* = \sum_{i=0}^m *_i$  is associative
- $m = 0$ ,  $*_0$  is associative
- $m = 1$ ,  $*_0$  and  $*_1$  satisfy the **dendriform relations**

# Free $\mathcal{D}yck_m$ -algebras

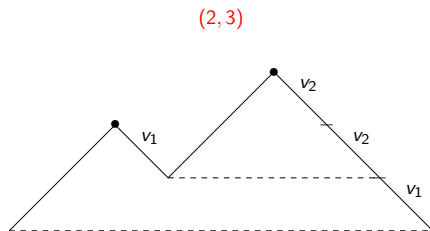
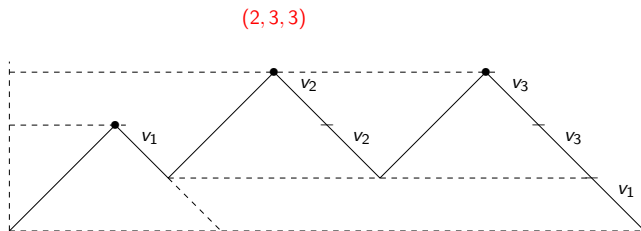
## Theorem (Lopez;Préville-Ratelle;Ronco)

*The free  $\mathcal{D}yck_m$ -algebra generated by one element has for underlying vector space the span of the set of  $m$ -Dyck paths.*

*Moreover, for  $x \in \mathcal{D}y_p^m, y \in \mathcal{D}y_q^m$ , there exists an interval  $J_i(x, y)$  in the  $m$ -Tamari lattice  $\mathcal{D}y_{p+q}^m$  such that:*

$$x *_i y = \sum_{z \in J_i(x, y)} z$$

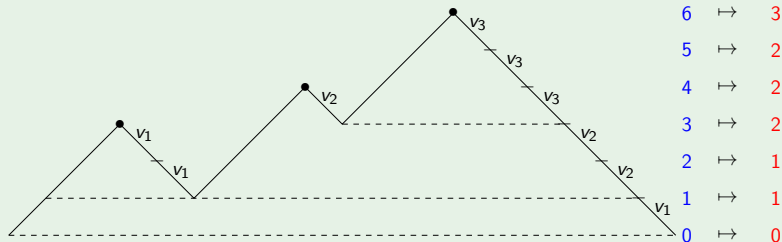
# Labeling the down steps of an $m$ -Dyck path



The valuation map of an  $m$ -Dyck path  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$\text{val}(x; -) : [x_n] \rightarrow [m] = \{0, \dots, m\}$$

Example  $(x = (3, 4, 6) \in \text{Dy}_3^3)$



Idea

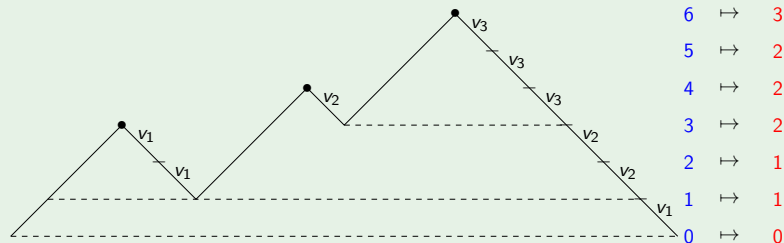
$x * y$  will involve  $x \times_j y$  with  $\text{val}(x; j) = i$ .

More complicated if  $y$  is not prime.

The valuation map of an  $m$ -Dyck path  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$\text{val}(x; -) : [x_n] \rightarrow [m] = \{0, \dots, m\}$$

Example  $(x = (3, 4, 6) \in \text{Dy}_3^3)$



Idea

$x *_i y$  will involve  $x \times_j y$  with  $\text{val}(x; j) = i$ .

More complicated if  $y$  is not prime.

# The Formula

## Theorem

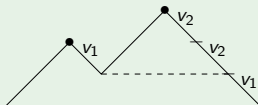
$x = (x_1, \dots, x_p) \in \text{Dy}_p^m$ ,  $y \in \text{Dy}_q^m$  with  $r$  prime components.

$$x *_i y = \sum_{\mu} x \times_{\mu} y$$

where  $x_p \geq \mu_1 \dots \geq \mu_r$  and  $\text{val}(x; \mu_r) = i$ ,  
is the sum of every elements in an  $m$ -Tamari interval.

## Example

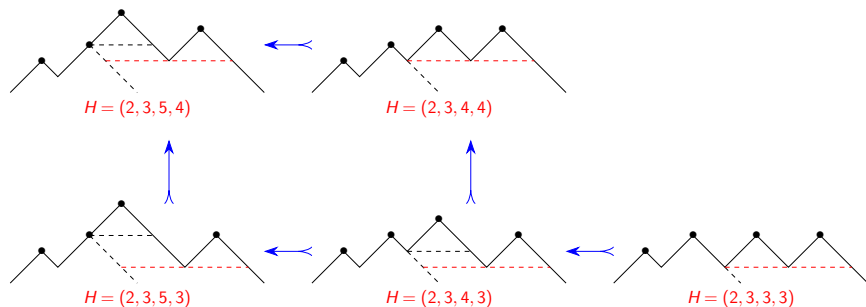
$$x = (2, 3); \text{val} : (0, 1, 2, 3) \mapsto (0, 1, 1, 2)$$



To compute  $(2, 3) *_1 (2, 2)$ , we need the partitions of the form  
 $3 \geq \mu_1 \geq \mu_2$  avec  $\mu_2 \in \{1, 2\}$ .

# Example

$$\begin{aligned}(2, 3) *_{1} (2, 2) &= (2, 3) \times_{3 \geq 2} (2, 2) + (2, 3) \times_{2 \geq 2} (2, 2) \\ &\quad + (2, 3) \times_{3 \geq 1} (2, 2) + (2, 3) \times_{2 \geq 1} (2, 2) + (2, 3) \times_{1 \geq 1} (2, 2) \\ &= (2, 3, 5, 4) + (2, 3, 4, 4) + (2, 3, 5, 3) + (2, 3, 4, 3) + (2, 3, 3, 3)\end{aligned}$$

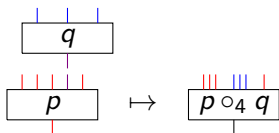


## Section 3– Operad, cooperad structures on $m$ -Dyck paths

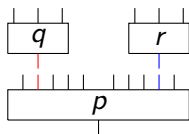
- Quick introduction to operads and co-operads
- The structure of co-operad on  $\text{Dy}^m$ .
- Reinterpreting the results by L-PR-R

## (non symmetric) operad $\mathcal{P}$

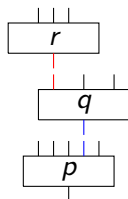
- A collection of sets (or vector spaces)  $\mathcal{P}(n)$ ,  $n \geq 1$
- Operations  $\circ_i : \mathcal{P}(n) \times \mathcal{P}(n') \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(n + n' - 1)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$



- A unit in  $\mathcal{P}(1)$
- Relations:



parallel



sequential

Keep in mind, a non-symmetric operad consists of

graded objects, that we can either

- graft, as leaves;
- or insert, as boxes;

- The endomorphism operad  $\mathcal{P}(n) = \text{Map}(X^{\times n}, X)$
- The terminal operad  $\mathcal{P}(n) = \star_n, \star_n \circ_i \star_{n'} = \star_{n+n'-1}$
- The operad on the symmetric group,  $\mathcal{P}(n) = \Sigma_n$

$$\sigma = (2, \boxed{3}, 1) \quad \circ_3 \quad \tau = (2, 3, 1) = (2, 4, 5, 3, 1)$$

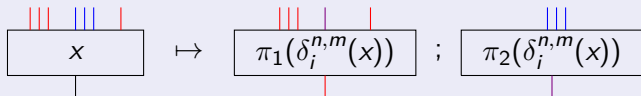
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \circ_3 \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# (non symmetric) co-operad $\mathcal{C}$

## Definition

co-operad

- A collection of sets (or vector spaces)  $\mathcal{C}(n)$ ,
- Co-operations  $\delta_i^{n,n'} : \mathcal{C}(n + n' - 1) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(n) \times \mathcal{C}(n')$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$



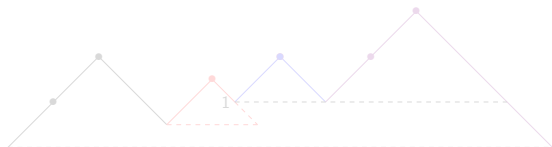
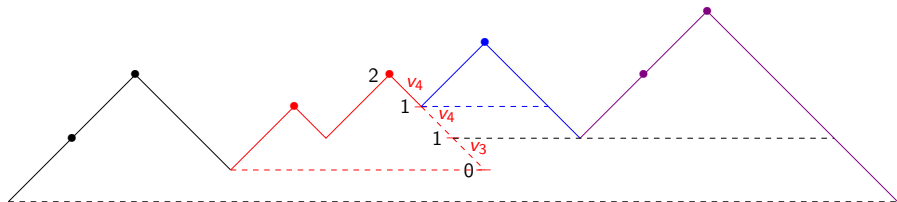
- A co-unit in  $\mathcal{C}(1)$  and Co-relations

## Remark

- Co-operad structure "excision of a sub-object"
- If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a co-operad in  $\text{Vect}$ , then  $\mathcal{P}(n) = \mathcal{C}(n)^*$  forms an operad.
- If  $\mathcal{P}$  is an operad in  $\text{Vect}$ , and  $\mathcal{P}(n)$  is finite dimensional  $\forall n$ , then  $\mathcal{C}(n) = \mathcal{P}(n)^*$  forms a co-operad.

Example:  $\delta_3^{6,2} : \text{Dy}_7^2 \rightarrow \text{Dy}_6^2 \times \text{Dy}_2^2$

$x = (2, 4, 3, 4, 5, 4, 6)$



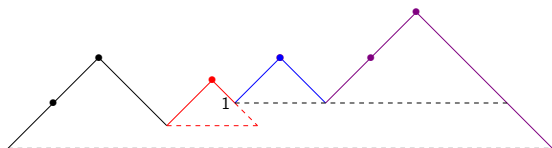
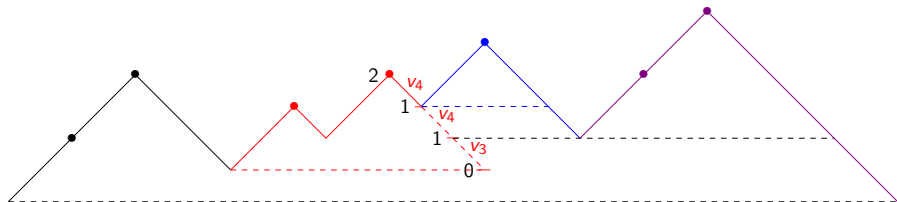
$\pi_1(\delta_3^{6,2}(x)) = (2, 4, 3, 4, 4, 6)$



$\pi_2(\delta_3^{6,2}(x)) = (2, 3)$

Example:  $\delta_3^{6,2} : Dy_7^2 \rightarrow Dy_6^2 \times Dy_2^2$

$x = (2, 4, 3, 4, 5, 4, 6)$



$\pi_1(\delta_3^{6,2}(x)) = (2, 4, 3, 4, 4, 6)$



$\pi_2(\delta_3^{6,2}(x)) = (2, 3)$

# Operadic interpretation of the results by L., P.-R. and R.

## Theorem

- For  $1 \leq i \leq p$ , the collection of maps

$$\delta_i^{n,n'} : \text{Dy}_{n+n'-1}^m \rightarrow \text{Dy}_n^m \times \text{Dy}_{n'}^m$$

endows  $\{\mathcal{C}(n) := \text{Dy}_n^m\}_{n \geq 1}$  with a co-operadic structure, in Sets

- For  $(x, y) \in \text{Dy}_n^m \times \text{Dy}_{n'}^m$  we have  $(\delta_i^{n,n'})^{-1}(x, y)$  is an interval in  $\text{Dy}_{n+n'-1}^m$  for the  $m$ -Tamari order.
- The operad  $\mathcal{C}^*$  in vector spaces is the operad  $\text{Dyck}_m$ .

## Idea of proof

There is a morphism of operads  $\text{Dyck}_m \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^*$  sending  $*_i$  to  $(m, m+i)^*$ .

# Operadic interpretation of the results by L., P.-R. and R.

## Theorem

- For  $1 \leq i \leq p$ , the collection of maps

$$\delta_i^{n,n'} : \text{Dy}_{n+n'-1}^m \rightarrow \text{Dy}_n^m \times \text{Dy}_{n'}^m$$

endows  $\{\mathcal{C}(n) := \text{Dy}_n^m\}_{n \geq 1}$  with a co-operadic structure, in Sets

- For  $(x, y) \in \text{Dy}_n^m \times \text{Dy}_{n'}^m$  we have  $(\delta_i^{n,n'})^{-1}(x, y)$  is an interval in  $\text{Dy}_{n+n'-1}^m$  for the  $m$ -Tamari order.
- The operad  $\mathcal{C}^*$  in vector spaces is the operad  $\text{Dyck}_m$ .

## Corollary

$$\sum_{x \in \text{Dy}_p^n} x * \sum_{y \in \text{Dy}_q^m} y = \sum_{z \in \text{Dy}_{p+q}^{m+n}}$$

## Section 4– Two algebraic structures on prime $m$ -Dyck paths

- Poincaré-Birkhoff-Witt Theorem
- Brace algebras
- $m$ -brace algebras
- Prime  $m$ -Dyck paths and binary planar rooted trees
- A formula

# Motivation: Poincaré Birkhoff-Witt Theorem

cas Lie

$$\text{Lie}_{\text{alg}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{U} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{[-,]} \end{array} \text{AS}_{\text{alg}}$$

$$\text{Lie}_{\text{alg}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{U} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\text{Prim}} \end{array} \text{AS}_{\text{big}}$$

$$S^c(\mathbb{L}(V)) = T(V), \quad e^{-\ln(1-x)} - 1 = \frac{x}{1-x}$$

## Definition

A **brace** algebra is a vector space  $B$  equipped with operations  $M_{1n} : B^{\otimes n+1} \rightarrow B$  for  $n \geq 0$ , satisfying  $M_{10} = \text{Id}$  and

$$M_{1n}(M_{1r}(x; y_1, \dots, y_r); z_1, \dots, z_n) = \sum M_{1u}(x; z_{(1)}, M_{1,a_2}(y_1; z_{(2)}), z_{(3)}, \dots, z_{(2r-1)}, M_{1,a_{2r}}(y_k, z_{(2r)}), z_{(2r+1)}),$$

where the sum is taking over all the words (possibly empty) such that the concatenation  $z_{(1)} \dots z_{(2r+1)} = z_1 \dots z_n$ .

## Example

$M_{11}(M_{11}(x; y_1); z_1) = M_{11}(x, M_{11}(y_1; z_1)) + M_{12}(x; y_1, z_1) + M_{12}(x; z_1, y_1)$ .  
It is in particular right symmetric (pre-Lie), thus a Lie algebra.

# Motivation: Poincaré Birkhoff-Witt Theorem

$$\text{Br}_{\text{alg}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{U} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{M} \end{array} \text{Dend}_{\text{alg}}$$

## Theorem (Ronco)

$$\text{Br}_{\text{alg}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{U} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{\text{Prim}} \end{array} \text{Dend}_{\text{big}}$$

is an equivalence of categories; furthermore,

$$T^c(\text{Br}(V)) = \text{Dend}(V)$$

It amounts to say that:  $\text{Dend}(V)$  has for basis 1-Dyck paths labelled by  $V$  and  $\text{Br}(V)$  prime 1-Dyck paths labelled by  $V$ .

## Definition

An  $m$ -**brace** algebra is a brace algebra  $B$  equipped with operations

$\bullet_i : B^{\otimes 2} \rightarrow B$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m - 1$ , satisfying some relations

- Quadratic relations involving  $\bullet_i$  and  $\bullet_j$
- Relations of the form  $M_{1n}(x \bullet_i y; z_1, \dots, z_n) = \dots$

## Towards a Poincaré-Birkhoff-Witt Theorem

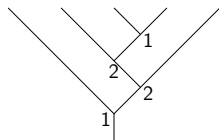
$$m - \text{Br}_{\text{alg}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{U} \\ \xleftarrow{M} \\ \perp \end{array} m - \text{Dyck}_{\text{alg}}$$

$$m - \text{Br}_{\text{alg}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{U} \\ \xleftarrow{\text{Prim}} \\ \perp \end{array} m - \text{Dyck}_{\text{big}}$$

$T^c(\text{Br}_m(V)) = \text{Dyck}_m(V)$ : there should be an  $m$ -brace structure on prime  $m$ -Dyck paths!

## prime $m$ -Dyck paths and rooted planar binary trees

There is a bijection  $\text{PDy}_n^m \rightarrow Y_n^m$ , where  $Y_n^m$  is a subset of planar binary trees with  $n$  leaves and vertices labelled by elements in  $\{1, \dots, m\}$ .  
 $s \in Y_n^m \iff \forall t \subset s, t = t' \vee_i t'', \text{ the root of } t' \text{ has label } \geq i.$



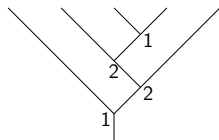
$$\mapsto (2) \times_1 [((2) \times_2 ((2) \times_1 (2))) \times_2 (2)] = (2) \times_1 (2454) = (23565)$$

### Proposition

Let  $X$  be a basis of a vector space  $V$ . Let  $Y^m(X)$  be the vector space spanned by trees in  $Y_n^m$  with leaves labelled by  $X$ . Then  $Y^m(X)$  is the  $m$ -brace algebra generated by  $V$ .

## prime $m$ -Dyck paths and rooted planar binary trees

There is a bijection  $\text{PDy}_n^m \rightarrow Y_n^m$ , where  $Y_n^m$  is a subset of planar binary trees with  $n$  leaves and vertices labelled by elements in  $\{1, \dots, m\}$ .  
 $s \in Y_n^m \iff \forall t \subset s, t = t' \vee_i t'',$  the root of  $t'$  has label  $\geq i$ .



$$\mapsto (2) \times_1 [((2) \times_2 ((2) \times_1 (2))) \times_2 (2)] = (2) \times_1 (2454) = (23565)$$

### Proposition

Let  $X$  be a basis of a vector space  $V$ . Let  $Y^m(X)$  be the vector space spanned by trees in  $Y_n^m$  with leaves labelled by  $X$ . Then  $Y^m(X)$  is the  $m$ -brace algebra generated by  $V$ .

## Exercise

Let

$$P_m(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} p_{m,n} x^n$$

Prove that

$$P_m^{-1}(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{m+1} (-1)^{k-1} \binom{m}{k-1} x^k.$$

Thanks you for your attention!

## Exercise

Let

$$P_m(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} p_{m,n} x^n$$

Prove that

$$P_m^{-1}(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{m+1} (-1)^{k-1} \binom{m}{k-1} x^k.$$

Thanks you for your attention!