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In this file, we verify that  $\mu(T) - \mu(T \setminus e)$  is at least  $11/20$  when  $e=AB$  is an edge in a series-reduced tree  $T$  of order at least 19, where  $T_A$  (the component of  $T \setminus e$  containing  $A$ ) is a  $P_3$  whose center is  $A$ .

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Here we denote  $\overline{N_A}$  as  $Na2$  etc

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &:= (Ra, Na, Ra2, Na2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2) \rightarrow \frac{(Ra \cdot Nb + Rb \cdot Na + Ra + Ra2 + Rb + Rb2)}{Na \cdot Nb + Na + Nb + Na2 + Nb2} \\ \mu &:= (Ra, Na, Ra2, Na2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2) \mapsto \frac{Nb \cdot Ra + Rb \cdot Na + Ra + Ra2 + Rb + Rb2}{Na \cdot Nb + Na + Nb + Na2 + Nb2} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu e &:= ((Ra, Na, Ra2, Na2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2)) \rightarrow \frac{(Ra \cdot Nb + Rb \cdot Na - Na \cdot Nb + Ra2 + Rb2)}{Na \cdot Nb + Na2 + Nb2} \\ \mu e &:= (Ra, Na, Ra2, Na2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2) \mapsto \frac{Nb \cdot Ra + Rb \cdot Na - Na \cdot Nb + Ra2 + Rb2}{Na \cdot Nb + Na2 + Nb2} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Pos &:= (Ra, Na, Ra2, Na2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2) \rightarrow \text{simplify} \left( 2 \cdot (Na \cdot Nb + Na2 + Nb2) \cdot (Na \cdot Nb \right. \\ &\quad \left. + Na + Nb + Na2 + Nb2) \cdot \left( \mu(Ra, Na, Ra2, Na2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2) - \mu e(Ra, Na, Ra2, \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. Na2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2) - \frac{11}{20} \right) \right) \\ Pos &:= (Ra, Na, Ra2, Na2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2) \mapsto \text{simplify} \left( (2 \cdot Na \cdot Nb + 2 \cdot Na2 + 2 \cdot Nb2) \cdot (Na \cdot Nb \right. \\ &\quad \left. + Na + Nb + Na2 + Nb2) \cdot \left( \mu(Ra, Na, Ra2, Na2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2) - \mu e(Ra, Na, Ra2, \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. Na2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2) - \frac{11}{20} \right) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

We verify that the function is increasing in  $Rb$ .

$$\begin{aligned} &collect(\text{simplify}(\text{expand}(Pos(8, 4, 2, 2, Rb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2))), Rb) \\ &(2 Nb2 - 28) Rb + \frac{14}{5} - \frac{11 Nb2^2}{10} + \frac{(-19 Nb + 72) Nb2}{10} + 2 Nb^2 + \frac{(33 - 10 Rb2) Nb}{5} \\ &- 8 Rb2 \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

It is thus sufficient to consider a lowerbound for  $Rb$ .

We use that  $R_b \geq N_b + N_b \cdot Rb2 / Nb2$

$$\begin{aligned} G(Nb, Rb2, Nb2) &:= \text{simplify} \left( \text{expand} \left( Pos \left( 8, 4, 2, 2, \frac{Rb2 \cdot Nb}{Nb2} + Nb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2 \right) \right) \right) \\ G &:= (Nb, Rb2, Nb2) \mapsto \text{simplify} \left( \text{expand} \left( Pos \left( 8, 4, 2, 2, \frac{Rb2 \cdot Nb}{Nb2} + Nb, Nb, Rb2, Nb2 \right) \right) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

$$\text{diff}(G(Nb, Rb2, Nb2), Rb2)$$

$$-\frac{28 Nb}{Nb2} - 8 \quad (6)$$

The function G is thus decreasing in Rb2, so it is sufficient to consider an upper bound.  
One upperbound is Rb2 <= Nb2\*mu\_b, where mu\_B <= 3/2\*log\_2(N\_b)-1

$$\begin{aligned} &> F(Nb, Nb2) := G\left(Nb, \left(\frac{3}{2} \cdot \log_2(Nb) - 1\right) \cdot Nb2, Nb2\right) \\ &F := (Nb, Nb2) \mapsto G\left(Nb, \left(\frac{3 \cdot \log_2(Nb)}{2} - 1\right) \cdot Nb2, Nb2\right) \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &> collect(F(Nb, Nb2), Nb2) \\ &-\frac{11 Nb2^2}{10} + \left(-12 \log_2(Nb) + \frac{Nb}{10} + \frac{76}{5}\right) Nb2 + \frac{14}{5} - 42 Nb \log_2(Nb) + 2 Nb^2 \\ &+ \frac{33 Nb}{5} \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

The minima of this parabola are attained when Nb2 is at one of its boundaries.  
Now the conclusion follows as the following two expressions are always positive as Nb ≥ 2^9 (the number of leaves of T\_B is at least 9)

$$\begin{aligned} &> \\ &> F(Nb, Nb) \\ &Nb^2 - 54 Nb \log_2(Nb) + \frac{109 Nb}{5} + \frac{14}{5} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &> F(Nb, 1) \\ &2 Nb^2 - 42 Nb \log_2(Nb) + \frac{67 Nb}{10} - 12 \log_2(Nb) + \frac{169}{10} \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

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