several bounds and consistency results, e. g. the consistency of  $\mathfrak{s} < \mathfrak{s}_{1/2}$  and  $\mathfrak{s}_{1/2} < \text{non}(\mathcal{N})$ , as well as several results about possible values of  $\mathfrak{i}_{1/2}$ . Most proofs are of a combinatorial nature; one of the more sophisticated proofs utilises a creature forcing poset already introduced in Chapter B.

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ARI MEIR BRODSKY, *A Theory of Stationary Trees and the Balanced Baumgartner–Hajnal–Todorcevic Theorem for Trees*, University of Toronto, Canada, 2014. Supervised by Stevo Todorcevic. MSC: Primary 03E02, Secondary 03C62, 05C05, 05D10, 06A07. Keywords: combinatorial set theory, nonspecial trees, stationary trees, stationary subtrees, partial orders, diagonal union, regressive function, normal ideal, Pressing-Down Lemma, balanced partition relation, partition calculus, Erdős–Rado Theorem, Baumgartner–Hajnal–Todorcevic Theorem, elementary submodels, nonreflecting ideals, very nice collections.

## **Abstract**

Building on early work by Stevo Todorcevic, we develop a theory of stationary subtrees of trees of successor-cardinal height. We define the diagonal union of subsets of a tree, as well as normal ideals on a tree, and we characterize arbitrary subsets of a nonspecial tree as being either stationary or nonstationary.

We then use this theory to prove the following partition relation for trees:

MAIN THEOREM. Let  $\kappa$  be any infinite regular cardinal, let  $\xi$  be any ordinal such that  $2^{|\xi|} < \kappa$ , and let k be any natural number. Then

non-
$$(2^{<\kappa})$$
-special tree  $\to (\kappa + \xi)_k^2$ .

This is a generalization to trees of the Balanced Baumgartner–Hajnal–Todorcevic Theorem, which we recover by applying the above to the cardinal  $(2^{<\kappa})^+$ , the simplest example of a non- $(2^{<\kappa})$ -special tree.

An additional tool that we develop in the course of proving the Main Theorem is a generalization to trees of the technique of nonreflecting ideals determined by collections of elementary submodels.

As a corollary of the Main Theorem, we obtain a general result for partially ordered sets:

THEOREM. Let  $\kappa$  be any infinite regular cardinal, let  $\xi$  be any ordinal such that  $2^{|\xi|} < \kappa$ , and let k be any natural number. Let P be a partially ordered set such that  $P \to (2^{<\kappa})^1_{2^{<\kappa}}$ . Then

$$P \to (\kappa + \xi)_k^2$$
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