

**Meeting:** 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP X1, MAA General Contributed Paper Session, I

1003-X1-257      **L A Szekely, H Wang\*** (hwang0@math.sc.edu) and **Y Zhang.** *Some non-existence results on Leech trees.*

More than 25 years ago John Leech posed the following beautiful problem: find, whenever possible, trees on  $n$  vertices with positive weights on the edges, such that the  $\binom{n}{2}$  weighted distances among the  $n$  vertices are exactly the numbers  $1, 2, 3, \dots, \binom{n}{2}$ .

Herbert Taylor gave a proof restricting the number of vertices on which Leech trees can exist to  $n^2$  and  $n^2 + 2$ . We prove two theorems, giving restrictions on the longest path and maximum degree in Leech trees. We also prove a computer search showing that there is no Leech tree for  $n = 9, 11$ . (Received September 03, 2004)