

# Random Trees and Their Applications: Metric Trees

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collaboration with

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**What is similar between the following  
two dynamics ?**

**Model #1.** Ballistic annihilation:  $A + A \longrightarrow 0$

- *Y. Elkens and H. L. Frisch, Phys. Rev. A (1985)*
- *E. Ben-Naim and S. Redner, PRL (1993)*
- *R. A. Blythe, M. R. Evans, and Y. Kafri, PRL (2000)*



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**Model #1.** Ballistic annihilation:  $A + A \rightarrow 0$



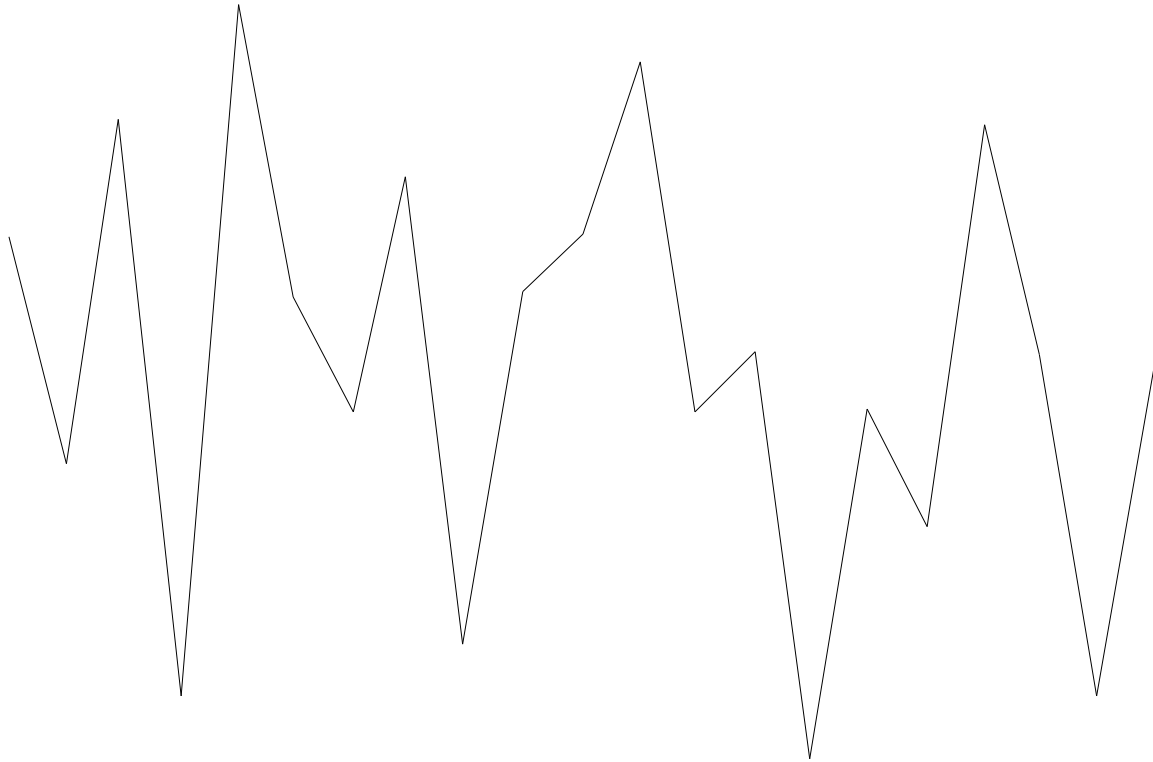
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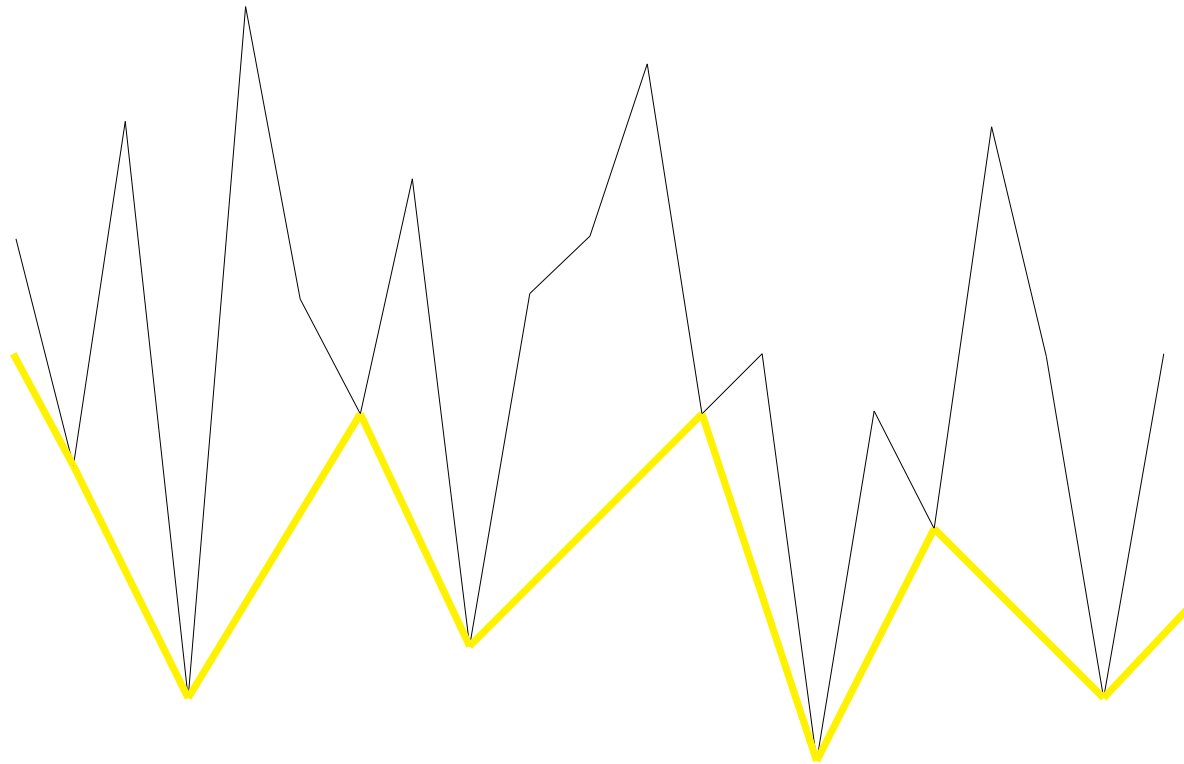
**Model #1.** Ballistic annihilation:  $A + A \rightarrow 0$

**STOP!!!**

**Model #2.** Extreme values.

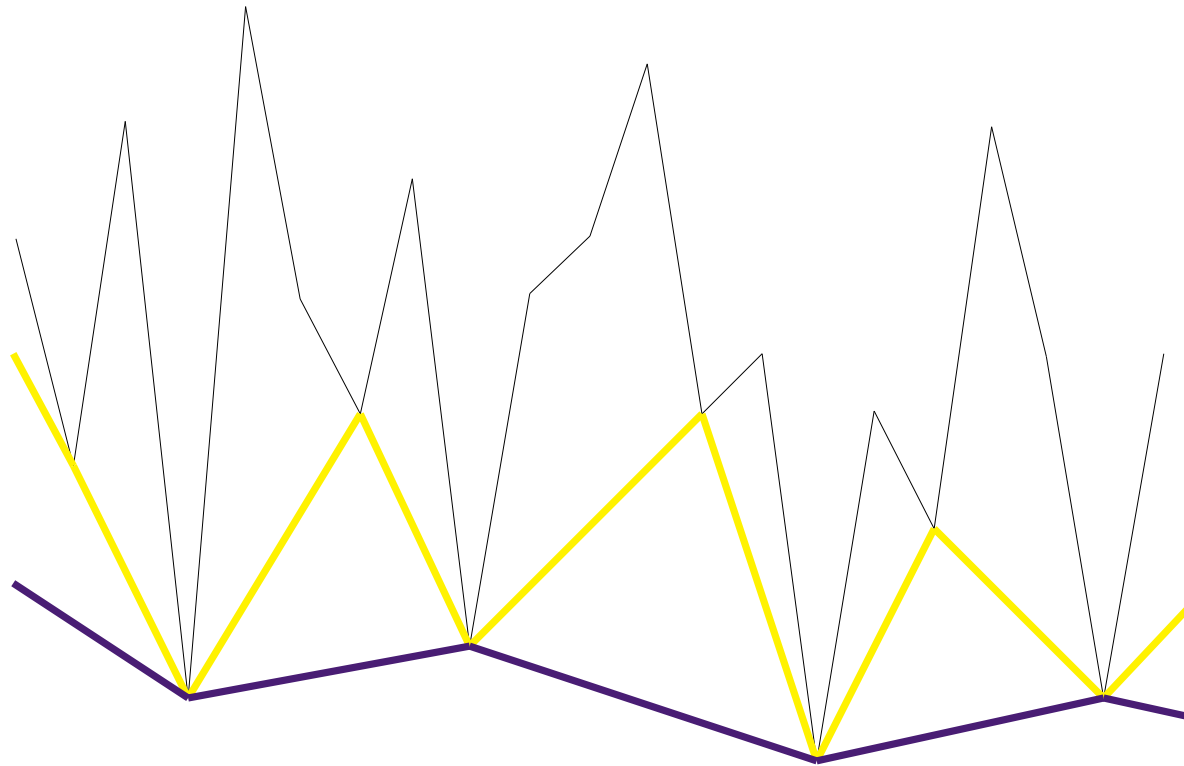


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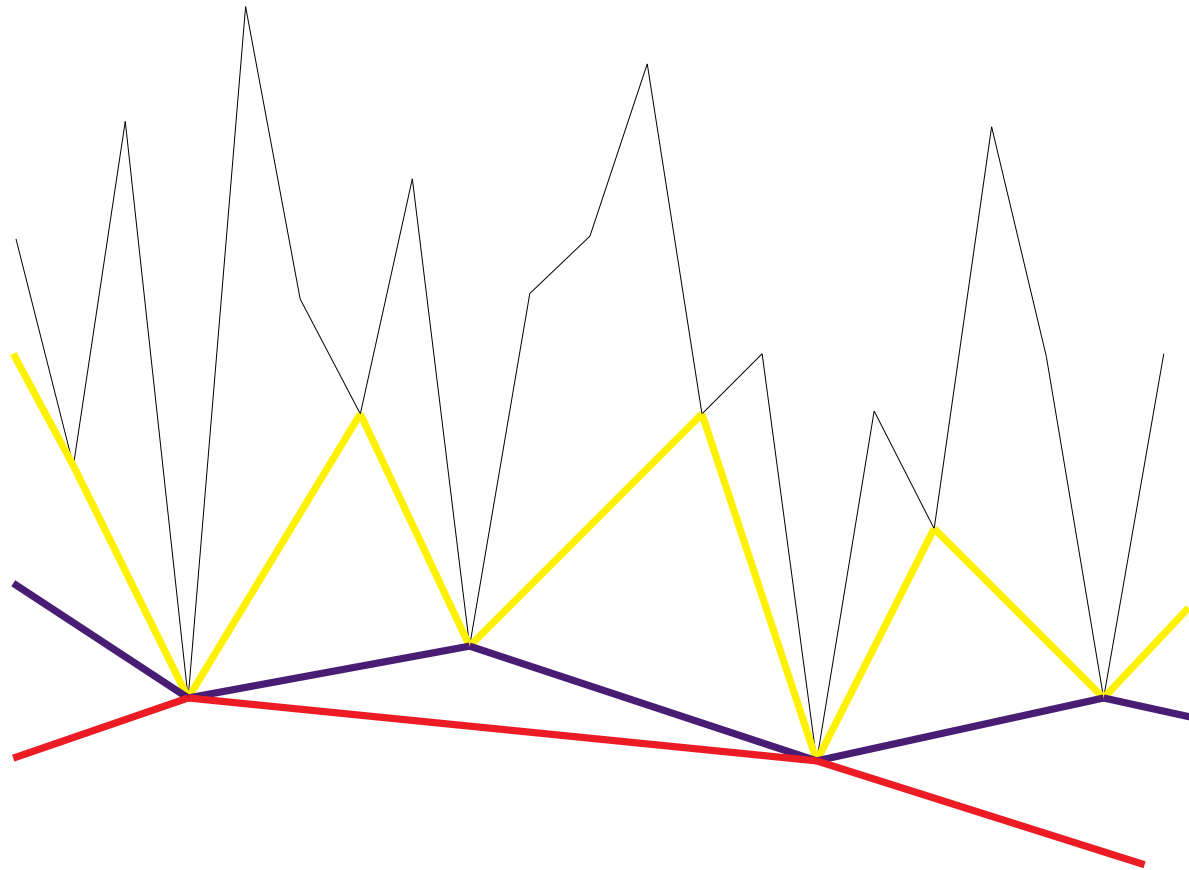




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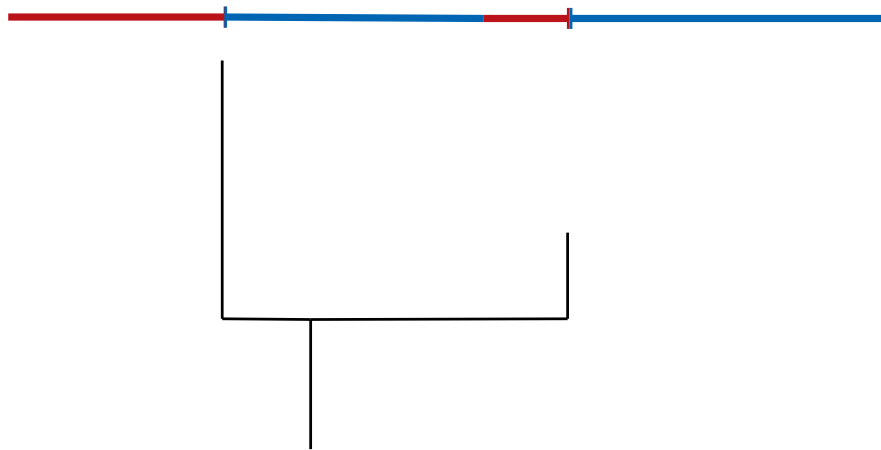


## Tree pruning

Tree pruning: **YK and I. Zaliapin (2018)**

*arXiv:1707.01984*

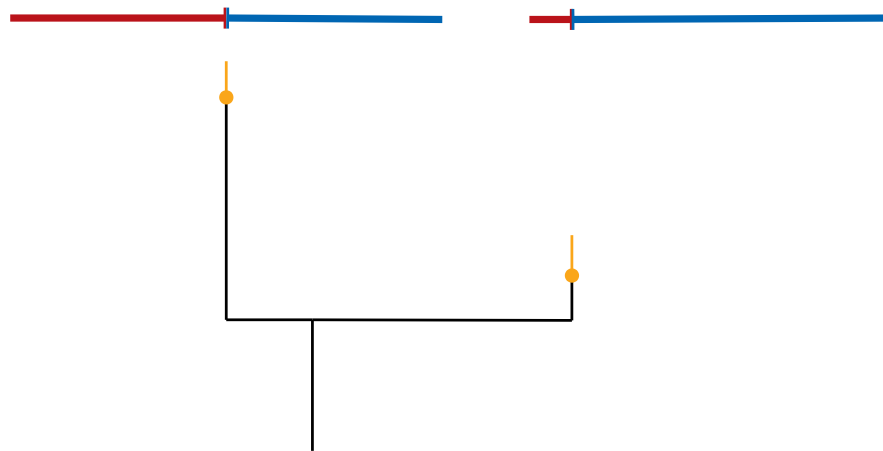
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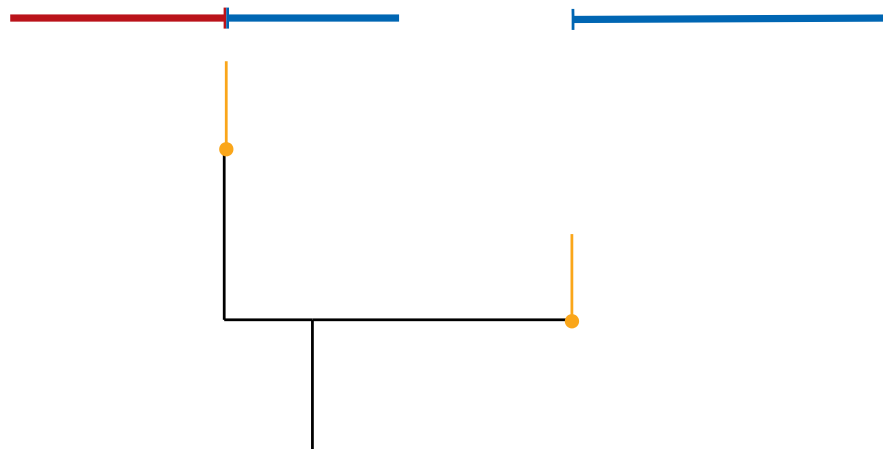
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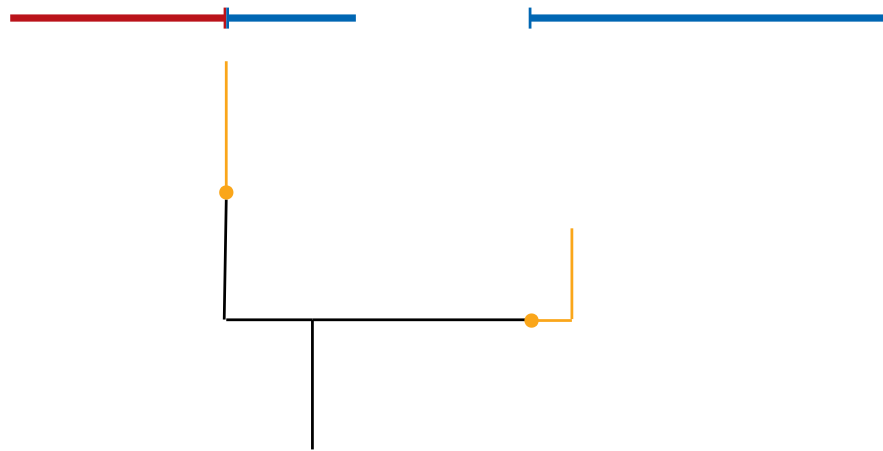
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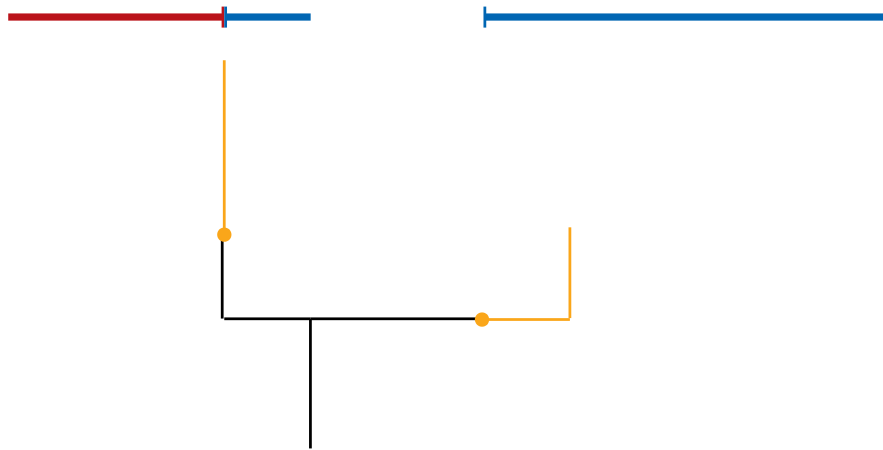
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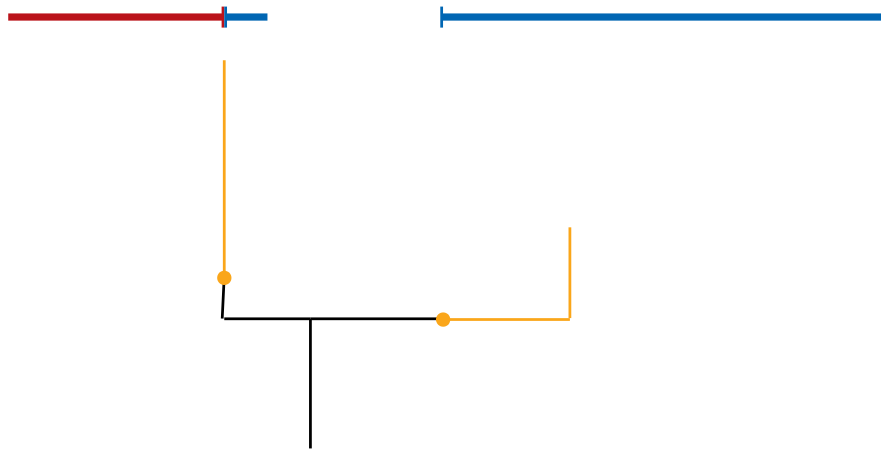




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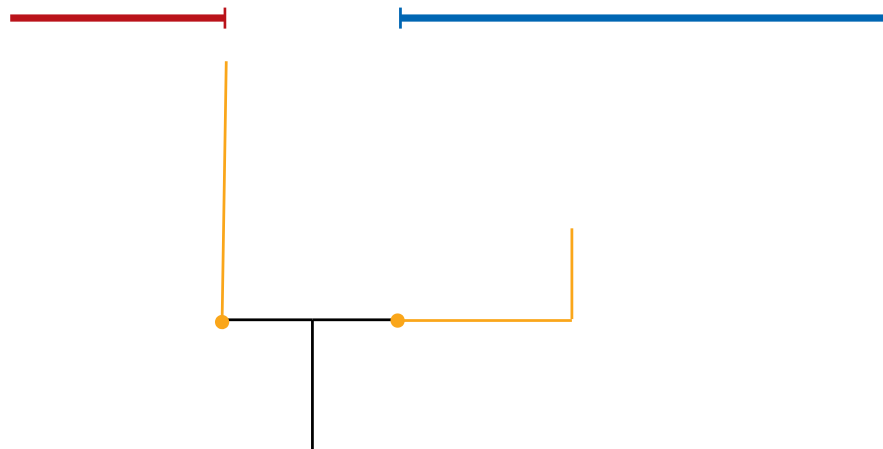
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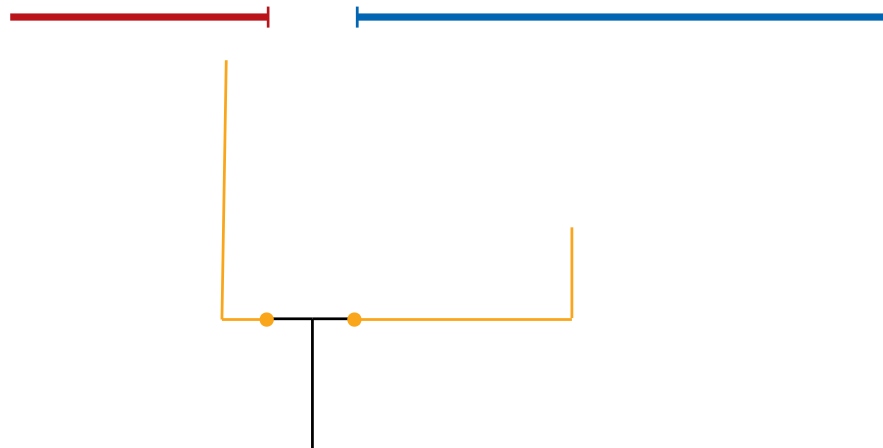
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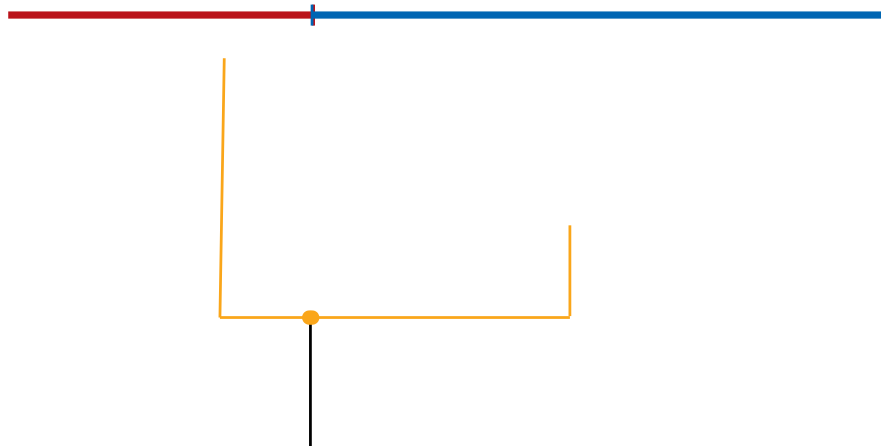
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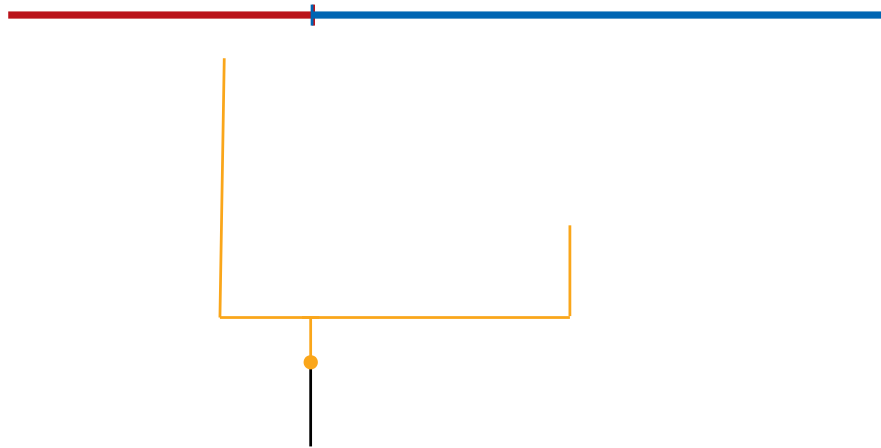
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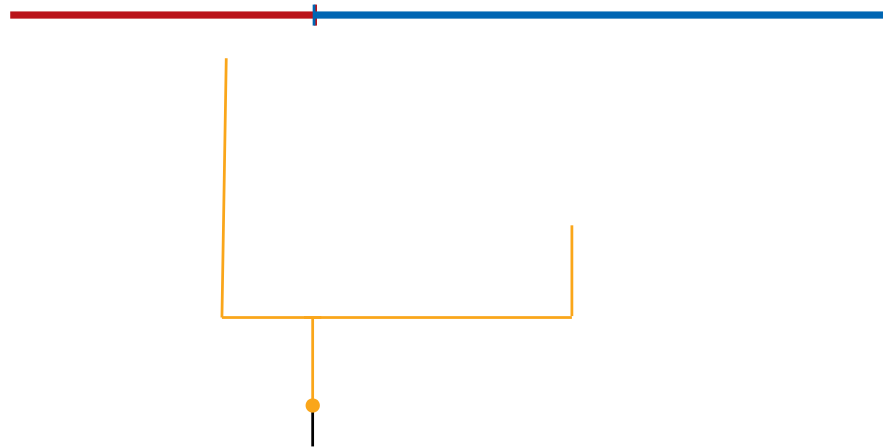
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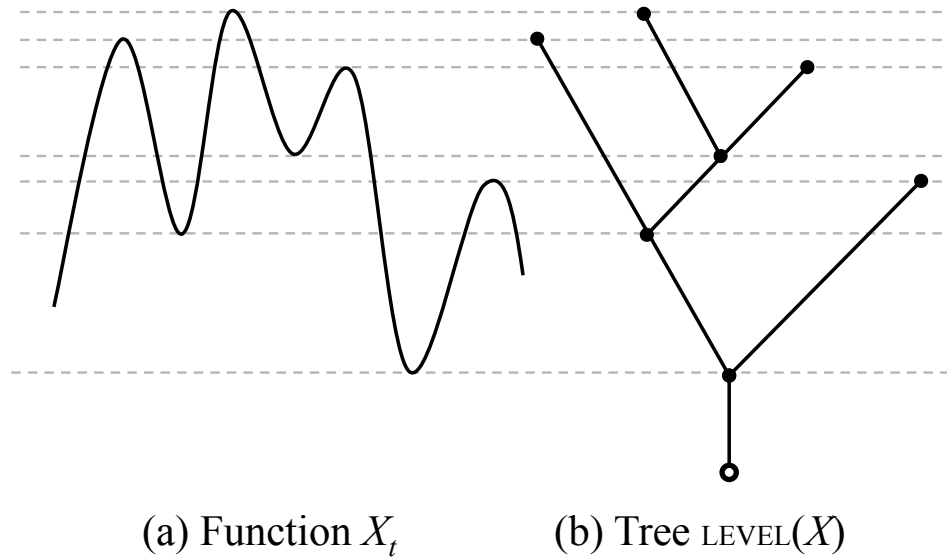


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**Level-set tree of a function.**

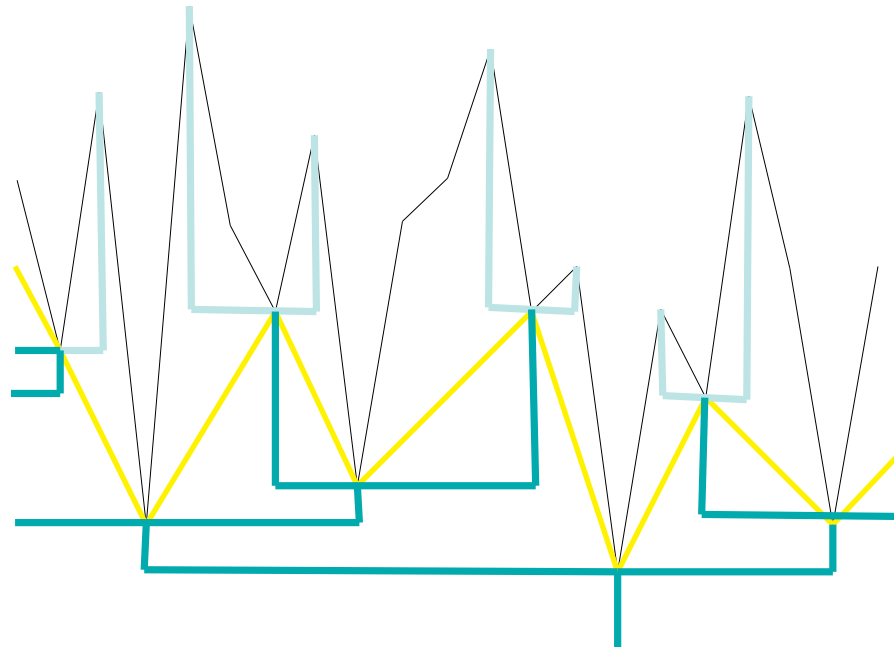
Function  $X_t$  (panel a) with a finite number of local extrema and its level-set tree  $\text{level}(X)$  (panel b).





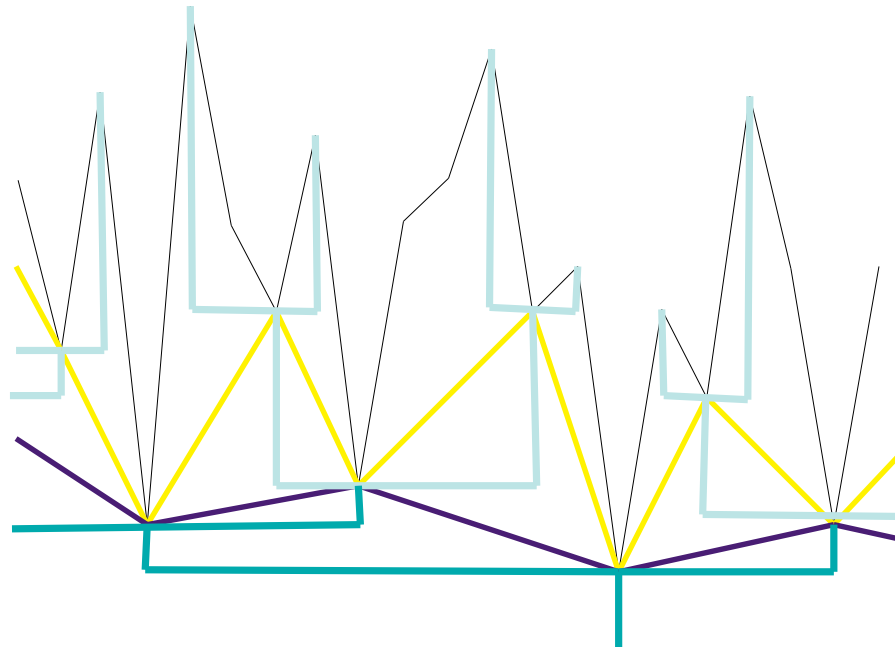
Tree pruning: Zaliapin and YK, (2012)

Model #2. Extreme values.



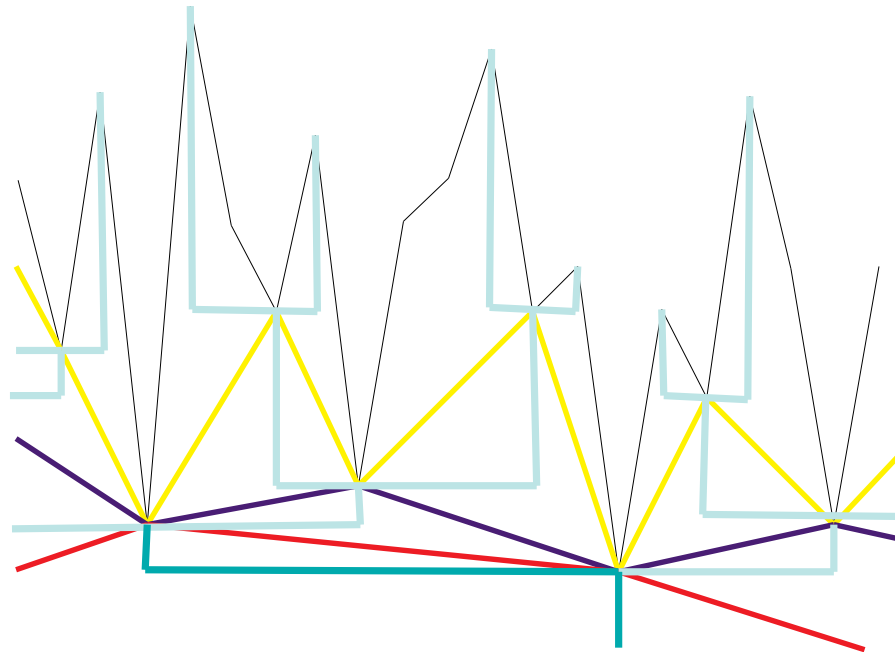
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Tree pruning: Zaliapin and YK, (2012)

Model #2. Extreme values.



## Trees.

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}}$  - space of finite unlabeled **rooted reduced binary trees with edge lengths** and planar embedding.

The space  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}}$  includes the **empty tree**  $\phi = \{\rho\}$  comprised of a root vertex  $\rho$  and no edges.

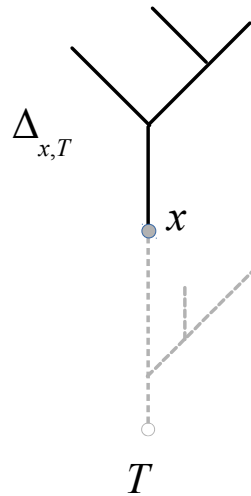
$d(x, y)$ : the length of the minimal path within  $T$  between  $x$  and  $y$ .

The **length** of a tree  $T$  is the sum of the lengths of its edges:

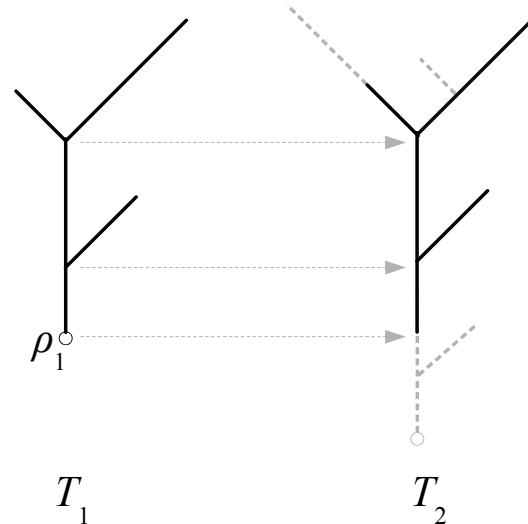
$$\text{length}(T) = \sum_{i=1}^{\#T} l_i.$$

The **height** of a tree  $T$  is the maximal distance between the root and a vertex:

$$\text{height}(T) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq \#T} d(v_i, \rho).$$

**Partial ordering.**

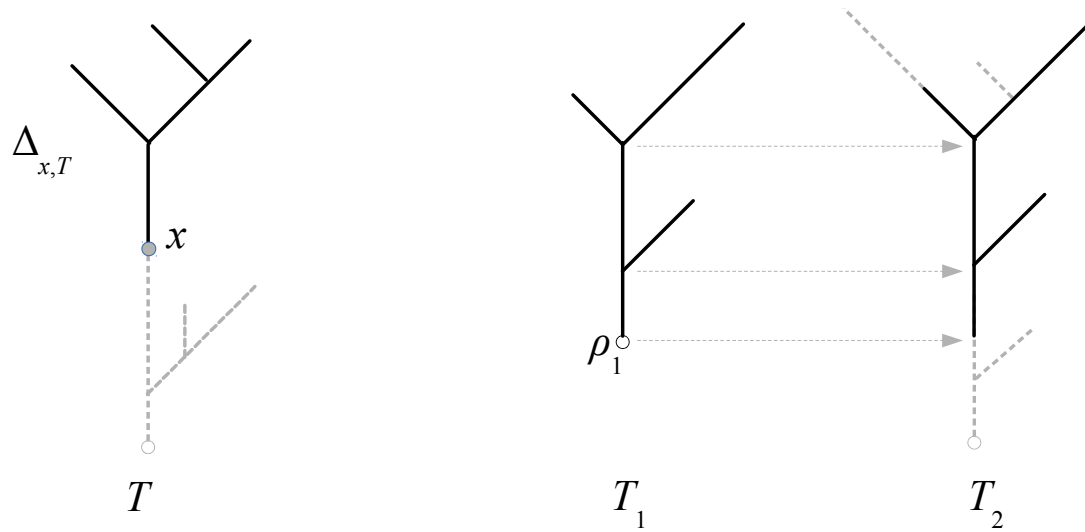
(a) Descendant tree



(b) Isometry

Consider a tree  $T \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}}$  and a point  $x \in T$ . Let  $\Delta_{x,T}$  denote all points of  $T$  descendant to  $x$ , including  $x$ . Then  $\Delta_{x,T}$  is itself a tree in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}}$  with root at  $x$ .

**Partial ordering.** Let  $(T_1, d)$  and  $(T_2, d)$  be two metric rooted trees, and let  $\rho_1$  denote the root of  $T_1$ .

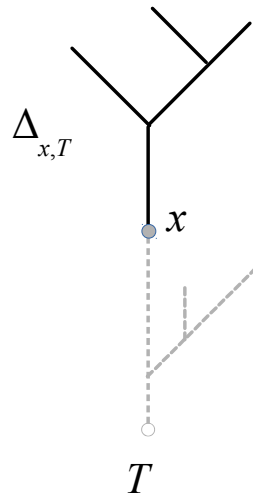


(a) Descendant tree

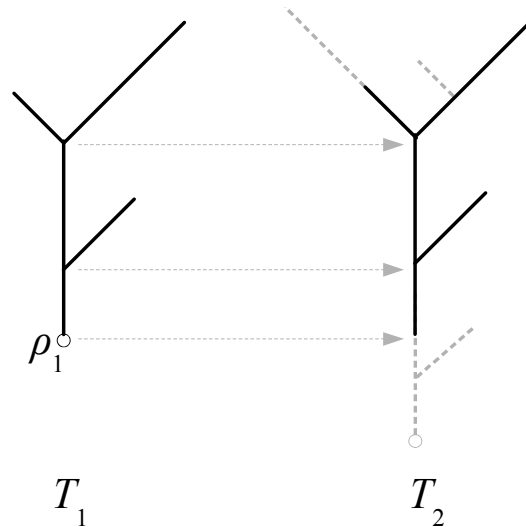
(b) Isometry

$f : (T_1, d) \rightarrow (T_2, d)$  is an **isometry** if  $\text{Image}[f] \subseteq \Delta_{f(\rho_1), T_2}$  and  $\forall x, y \in T_1, d(f(x), f(y)) = d(x, y)$ .

**Partial ordering.**



(a) Descendant tree



(b) Isometry

**Partial order:**  $T_1 \preceq T_2$  if and only if  $\exists$  an isometry  $f : (T_1, d) \rightarrow (T_2, d)$ .

**Generalized dynamical pruning.**

Consider a **monotone non-decreasing**

$$\varphi : \mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+,$$

i.e.  $\varphi(T_1) \leq \varphi(T_2)$  whenever  $T_1 \preceq T_2$ .

**Generalized dynamical pruning** operator

$$\mathcal{S}_t(\varphi, T) : \mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}}$$

induced by  $\varphi$  at any  $t \geq 0$ :

$$\mathcal{S}_t(\varphi, T) := \rho \cup \left\{ x \in T \setminus \rho : \varphi(\Delta_{x,T}) \geq t \right\}.$$

$\mathcal{S}_t$  cuts all subtrees  $\Delta_{x,T}$  for which the value of  $\varphi$  is below threshold  $t$ . Here,

$$\mathcal{S}_s(T) \preceq \mathcal{S}_t(T)$$

whenever  $s \geq t$ .



**Example: Tree height.**

Recall:  $\mathcal{S}_t(\varphi, T) := \rho \cup \left\{ x \in T \setminus \rho : \varphi(\Delta_{x,T}) \geq t \right\}$ .

Let the function  $\varphi(T)$  equal the **height** of  $T$ :

$$\varphi(T) = \text{height}(T).$$

**Continuous semigroup property:**  $\mathcal{S}_t \circ \mathcal{S}_s = \mathcal{S}_{t+s}$  for any  $t, s \geq 0$ .

It coincides with the **tree erasure Neveu (1986)**.

**Neveu (1986):** established invariance of a critical and sub-critical binary Galton-Watson processes with i.i.d. exponential edge lengths with respect to the tree erasure.

**Example: Total tree length.**

Recall:  $\mathcal{S}_t(\varphi, T) := \rho \cup \left\{ x \in T \setminus \rho : \varphi(\Delta_{x,T}) \geq t \right\}$ .

Let the function  $\varphi(T)$  equal the **total lengths** of  $T$ :

$$\varphi(T) = \text{length}(T).$$

**No semigroup property!**

In this case the pruning operator  $\mathcal{S}_t$  coincides with the potential dynamics of **1D ballistic annihilation**

**YK and I. Zaliapin (2018) - arXiv:1707.01984**

**Example: Horton pruning.**

Let

$$\varphi(T) = k(T) - 1,$$

where the **Horton-Strahler order**  $k(T)$  is the minimal number of **Horton prunings**  $\mathcal{R}$  (cutting the tree leaves and applying series reduction) necessary to eliminate all points in tree  $T$  except  $\rho$ .

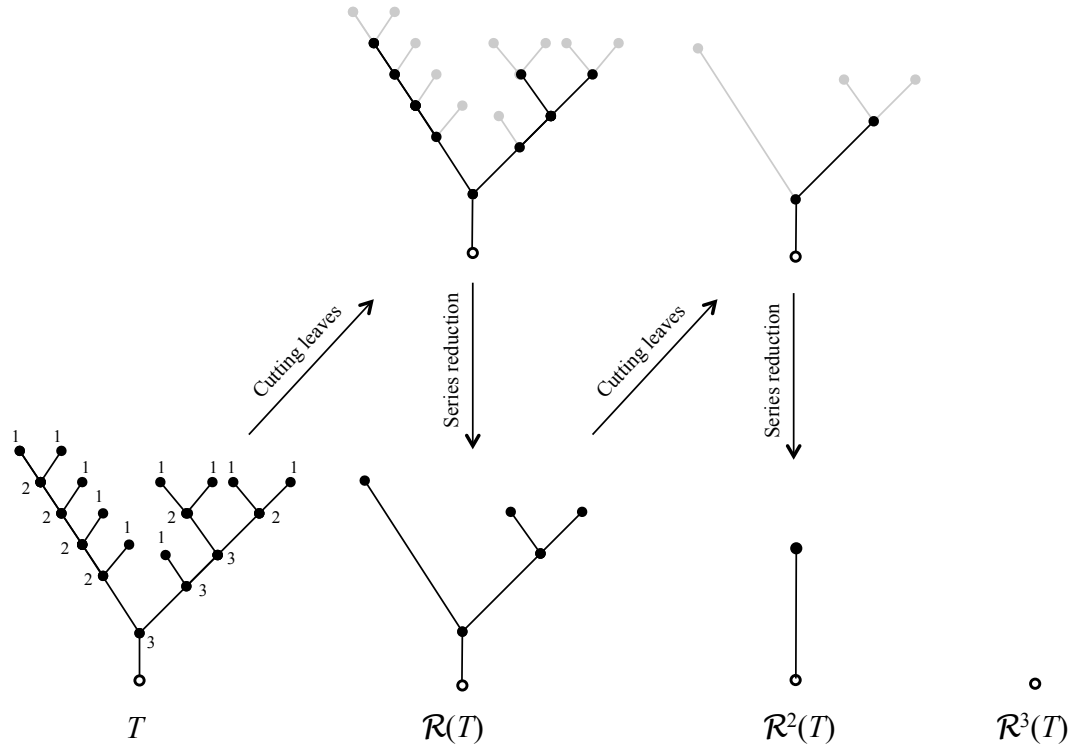
**Burd, Waymire, and Winn 2000.**

Here,

$$\mathcal{S}_t = \mathcal{R}^{\lfloor t \rfloor}.$$

**Discrete semigroup property:**  $\mathcal{S}_t \circ \mathcal{S}_s = \mathcal{S}_{t+s}$  for any  $t, s \in \mathbb{N}$ .

## Pruning of a tree mod series reduction

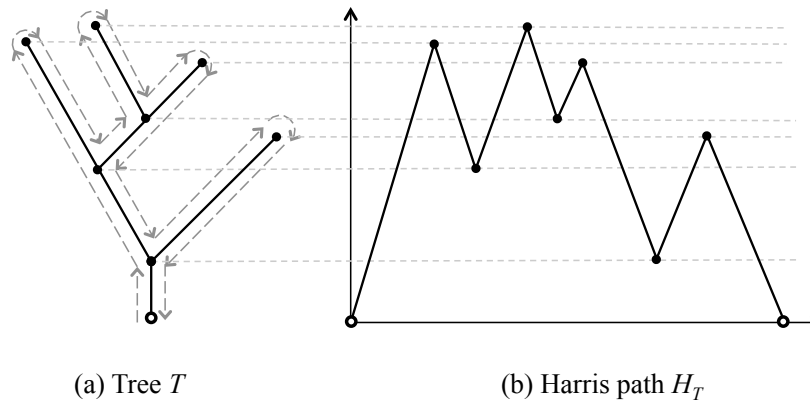


## Exponential critical binary Galton-Watson tree

We say that a random tree  $T \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}}$  is an **exponential critical binary Galton-Watson tree** with parameter  $\lambda > 0$ , and write  $T \stackrel{d}{=} \text{GW}(\lambda)$ , if

- (i) **shape**( $T$ ) is a critical binary Galton-Watson tree;
- (ii) the orientation for every pair of siblings in  $T$  is uniformly random and symmetric;
- (iii) given **shape**( $T$ ), the edges of  $T$  are sampled as independent exponential random variables with parameter  $\lambda$ .

## Exponential critical binary Galton-Watson tree



The level set tree  $\text{level}(X_t)$  is an exponential critical binary Galton-Watson tree  $\text{GW}(\lambda)$  if and only if the rises and falls of  $X_t$ , excluding the last fall, are distributed as independent exponential random variables with parameter  $\lambda/2$ .

**J. Neveu and J. Pitman (1989), J. F. Le Gall (1993)**

## Invariance under pruning

**Theorem. [YK and I. Zaliapin, 2018]**

Let  $T \stackrel{d}{=} \text{GW}(\lambda)$  be an exponential critical binary Galton-Watson tree with parameter  $\lambda > 0$ .

Then, for any monotone non-decreasing function  $\varphi : \mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  we have

$$T^t := \{\mathcal{S}_t(\varphi, T) \mid \mathcal{S}_t(\varphi, T) \neq \phi\} \stackrel{d}{=} \text{GW}(\lambda p_t(\lambda, \varphi)),$$

where  $p_t(\lambda, \varphi) = \text{P}(\mathcal{S}_t(\varphi, T) \neq \phi)$ .

That is, the pruned tree  $T^t$  conditioned on surviving is an exponential critical binary Galton-Watson tree with parameter

$$\mathcal{E}_t(\lambda, \varphi) = \lambda p_t(\lambda, \varphi).$$

**Invariance under pruning****Theorem. [YK and I. Zaliapin, 2018]**

**(a)** If  $\varphi(T)$  equals **the total length** of  $T$  ( $\varphi = \text{length}(T)$ ), then

$$\mathcal{E}_t(\lambda, \varphi) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} [I_0(\lambda t) + I_1(\lambda t)].$$

**(b)** If  $\varphi(T)$  equals **the height** of  $T$  ( $\varphi = \text{height}(T)$ ), then

$$\mathcal{E}_t(\lambda, \varphi) = \frac{2\lambda}{\lambda t + 2}.$$

**(c)** If  $\varphi(T) + 1$  equals the **Horton-Strahler** order of the tree  $T$ , then

$$\mathcal{E}_t(\lambda, \varphi) = \lambda 2^{-\lfloor t \rfloor}.$$



## Distributional prune-invariance

**Definition.** Consider a probability measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}}$  such that  $\mu(\phi) = 0$ . Let

$$\nu(T) = \mu \circ \mathcal{S}_t^{-1}(T) = \mu(\mathcal{S}_t^{-1}(T)).$$

Measure  $\mu$  is called **invariant** with respect to the pruning operator  $\mathcal{S}_t(\varphi, T)$  if for any tree  $T \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}}$  we have

$$\mu(T) = \nu(T|T \neq \phi).$$

Also need the invariance of the distribution of edge lengths in the pruned tree  $T_t := \mathcal{S}_t(\varphi, T)$ .

**YK and I. Zaliapin, SPA 2019**

**Open question:** finding and classifying all the invariant probability measures  $\mu$  on  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{plane}}$ .

**Poisson distributed initial conditions.**

Consider the following **initial conditions**:

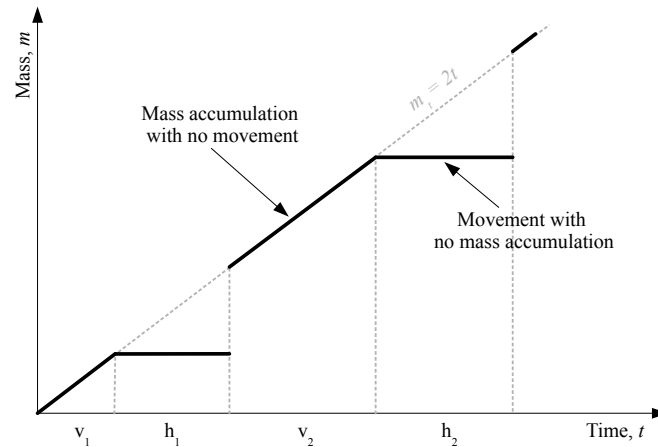
- a Poisson point process on  $\mathbb{R}$  with rate  $\lambda/2$ ;
- $v(x, 0)$  alternates between the values  $\pm 1$ .

**Theorem. [YK and I. Zaliapin, 2018]** The absorbed mass of a random sink at instant  $t > 0$  has distribution with the p.d.f.

$$\mu_t(a) = \mathbf{1}_{(0,2t)}(a) \cdot \frac{\lambda}{2} e^{-\lambda t} \left[ I_0(\lambda(t - a/2)) + I_1(\lambda(t - a/2)) \right] \cdot I_0(\lambda a/2) \\ + e^{-\lambda t} I_0(\lambda t) \delta_{2t}(a),$$

where  $\delta_{2t}$  denotes Dirac delta function (point mass) at  $2t$ .

## Poisson distributed initial conditions.



**Theorem. [YK and I. Zaliapin, 2018]** The mass of a random sink at instant  $t > 0$  has distribution with the p.d.f.

$$\mu_t(a) = \mathbf{1}_{(0,2t)}(a) \cdot \frac{\lambda}{2} e^{-\lambda t} \left[ I_0(\lambda(t - a/2)) + I_1(\lambda(t - a/2)) \right] \cdot I_0(\lambda a/2) + e^{-\lambda t} I_0(\lambda t) \delta_{2t}(a).$$

**Other generalization of pruning.**

- **T. Duquesne and M. Winkel (2012)** *arXiv:1211.2179*

There, the requirement for sets

$$A_t = \{T : \varphi(T) \geq t\}$$

to be Borel with respect to a topology induced by the Gromov-Hausdorff distance leads to semigroup property.

In our generalization, when  $\varphi(T) = \text{length}(T)$ , the semigroup is not satisfied.

## Root-Horton law for the Kingman's coalescent

**YK & Zaliapin, AIHP (2017):**

- Established the [root-Horton law](#) for the Kingman's coalescent.
- Showed that the tree for Kingman's coalescent is combinatorially equivalent to the level-set tree of iid time series (the two measures are **one pruning apart**).
- Numerical experiments that suggest stronger Horton laws: ratio, geometric.

## Root-Horton law for the Kingman's coalescent.

In **YK & Zaliapin, AIHP (2017)**, we prove the limit law (in probability) for the asymptotics of the number  $N_k$  of branches of Horton-Strahler order  $k$  in Kingman's  $N$ -coalescent process with constant collision kernel:

$$\mathcal{N}_k = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} N_k/N$$

We show that

$$\mathcal{N}_k = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty g_k^2(x) dx,$$

where the sequence  $g_k(x)$  solves:

$$g'_{k+1}(x) - \frac{g_k^2(x)}{2} + g_k(x)g_{k+1}(x) = 0, \quad x \geq 0$$

with  $g_1(x) = 2/(x+2)$ ,  $g_k(0) = 0$  for  $k \geq 2$ .

**Root-Horton law for the Kingman's coalescent.**

**Theorem (YK & Zaliapin, AIHP 2017).** The asymptotic Horton ratios  $\mathcal{N}_k$  exist and finite and satisfy the convergence

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (\mathcal{N}_k)^{-\frac{1}{k}} = R$$

with  $2 \leq R \leq 4$ .

**Conjecture.** The tree associated with Kingman's coalescent process is Horton self-similar with

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathcal{N}_k}{\mathcal{N}_{k+1}} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (\mathcal{N}_k)^{-\frac{1}{k}} = R \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (\mathcal{N}_k R^k) = \text{const.},$$

where  $R = 3.043827 \dots$

## Hierarchical Branching Processes.

**YK and Zaliapin, SPA (2019):** Consider a **multi-type branching process** originating from a root of Horton-Strahler order  $K$  with probability  $p_K$ . For a given Tokunaga sequence  $T_k \geq 0$ , we have

- Each branch of order  $j$  branches out an offspring of order  $i < j$  with rate  $\lambda_j T_{j-i}$ .
- The branch of order  $j$  terminates with rate  $\lambda_j$ , at which moment,
  - (i) the branch of order  $j \geq 2$  splits into two branches, each of order  $j - 1$
  - (ii) the branch of order  $j = 1$  terminates without leaving offsprings.



## Hierarchical Branching Processes.

Suppose  $L = \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} T_k^{1/k} < \infty$ .

Let the coordinates of  $x(s)$  represent the frequency of branches of respective orders at time  $s$  in a tree.

Initial distribution is  $x(0) = \pi := \sum_{K=1}^{\infty} p_K e_K$ , and

$$x(s) = e^{\mathbb{G}\Lambda s} \pi, \quad \text{where } \Lambda = \text{diag}\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots\}$$

and

$$\mathbb{G} := \begin{bmatrix} -1 & T_1 + 2 & T_2 & T_3 & \dots \\ 0 & -1 & T_1 + 2 & T_2 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & T_1 + 2 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}.$$

## Hierarchical Branching Processes.

Consider the **width function** at time  $s \geq 0$

$$C(s) = \langle \mathbf{1}, x(s) \rangle = \langle \mathbf{1}, e^{\mathbb{G}\Lambda s} \pi \rangle.$$

For  $\mu$  to be **distributionally self-similar** under pruning, need

- $\{p_K\}$  to be geometric:  $p_K = p(1 - p)^{K-1}$
- the sequence  $\lambda_j$  to be geometric:  $\lambda_j = \gamma c^{-j}$

## Hierarchical Branching Processes.

Recall:

$$\hat{t}(z) = -1 + 2z + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} z^j T_j$$

and  $w_0 = 1/R$  is the only real root within the radius of convergence.

Suppose  $\{p_K\}$  is geometric with parameter  $p$  and  $\lambda_j = \gamma c^{-j}$ , then

$$x(s) = e^{\mathbb{G}\Lambda s} \pi = \pi + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} s^m \left[ \prod_{j=1}^m \hat{t}(c^{-j}(1-p)) \right] \Lambda^m \pi.$$

The convergence requirement here is that  $c \geq 1$ .

**Criticality:**  $p_c = 1 - \frac{c}{R}$ , i.e.  $C(s) = \langle \mathbf{1}, x(s) \rangle = 1$ .

## Hierarchical Branching Processes.

The following two conditions are equivalent.

- The process is **critical**, i.e.,

$$C(t) = \langle \mathbf{1}, x(s) \rangle = 1 \quad t \geq 0.$$

- The process has the **time invariance property at criticality**: the frequencies of trees in the forest produced by the process dynamics are time-invariant

$$x(t) = \exp \{ \mathbb{G} \wedge t \} \pi = \pi, \quad \text{where } x(0) = \pi.$$

## Hierarchical Branching Processes.

$$p_c = 1 - \frac{c}{R}$$

Observe that for a hierarchical branching process with  $\lambda_j = \lambda 2^{1-j}$  and  $T_k = 2^{k-1}$ , the critical probability is

$$p_c = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Therefore,  $R = \frac{c}{1-p_c} = 4$ .

Recall that the **critical binary Galton-Watson** tree exhibits both Horton and Tokunaga self-similarities (**Burd, Waymire, and Winn, 2000**) with parameters  $R = 4$ ,  $(a, c) = (1, 2)$  and

$$T_k = a \cdot c^{k-1} = 2^{k-1}.$$

**Critical binary Galton-Watson tree.**

**Theorem (YK and Zaliapin, SPA 2019).** The tree of a hierarchical branching process with parameters

$$\lambda_j = \lambda 2^{1-j}, \quad p_K = 2^{-K}, \quad \text{and} \quad T_k = 2^{k-1}$$

for any  $\lambda > 0$  is equivalent to the critical binary Galton-Watson tree **GW**( $\lambda$ ).

### **Hierarchical Branching Processes.**

- Invariant under pruning (from the leafs).
- Satisfies the time invariance property at criticality.
- Is it self-similar under other types of *pruning*?