

• More formally,

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{n lineages coalesce to } n-1) = \int_0^\infty u \binom{n}{2} e^{-\binom{n}{2}u} du \stackrel{\text{exponential}}{=} \frac{1}{\binom{n}{2}} = \frac{2}{n(n-1)}$$

Theorem: Under the Kingman coalescent model, given n lineages in a population, the expected time to the next coalescent event is

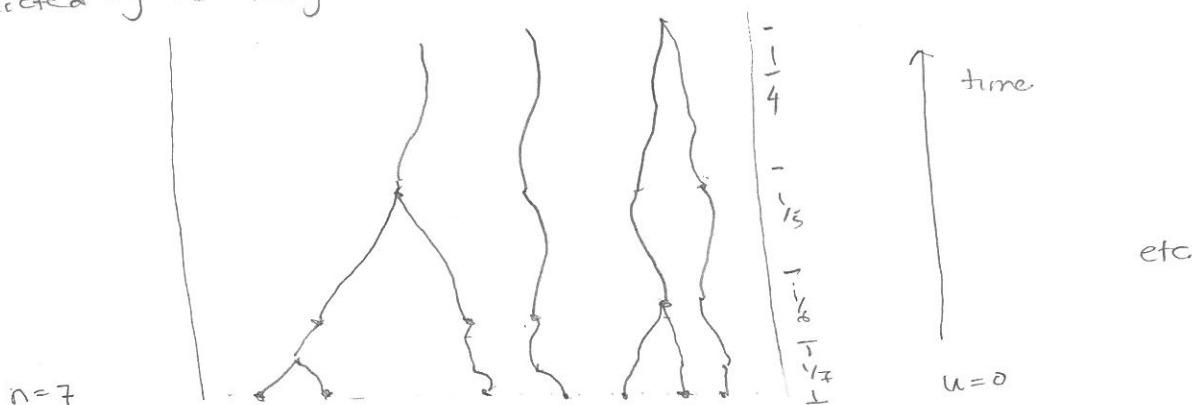
$$\mathbb{E}(\text{n lineages coalesce to } n-1 \text{ lineages}) = \frac{2}{n(n-1)}$$

n	2	3	4	5	6	...
$\frac{2}{n(n-1)}$	1	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{15}$	$\frac{1}{24}$ etc.

1
1 1
1 2 1
1 3 3 1
1 4 6 4 1

This has a profound effect on the types of gene trees

predicted by the Kingman coalescent model.



i.e. Coalescence events are more numerous near the present

R example.

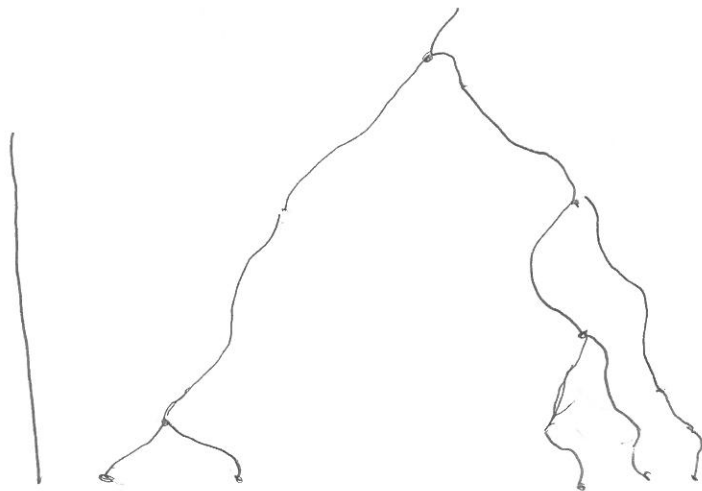
Finally, given n lineages then the expected time for them to coalesce down to one lineage is

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{gene tree w/ } n \text{ lineages formed}) = \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\binom{i}{2}} = \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{2}{i(i-1)} \stackrel{\text{partial fractions}}{=} 2 \sum_{i=2}^n \left[\frac{1}{i-1} - \frac{1}{i} \right] = 2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{1}{n} \right)$$

$$= 2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{n} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{n} \right) = 2 \quad \text{coalescent units}$$

It follows that modeling the process of n gene lineages coalescing to form a gene tree (down to 1 lineage) is a piecewise process

Demo:



\top	rate $\binom{2}{2} = 1$	$\mathbb{E}(\text{time to } c) = 1$
\vdash	rate $\binom{3}{2} = \frac{1}{3}$	$\mathbb{E}(\text{time to } c) = \frac{1}{3}$
\vdash	rate $\binom{4}{2} = \frac{1}{6}$	$\mathbb{E}(\text{time to } c) = \frac{1}{6}$
\vdash	rate $\binom{5}{2} = \frac{1}{10}$	$\mathbb{E}(\text{time to } c) = \frac{1}{10}$
\perp		

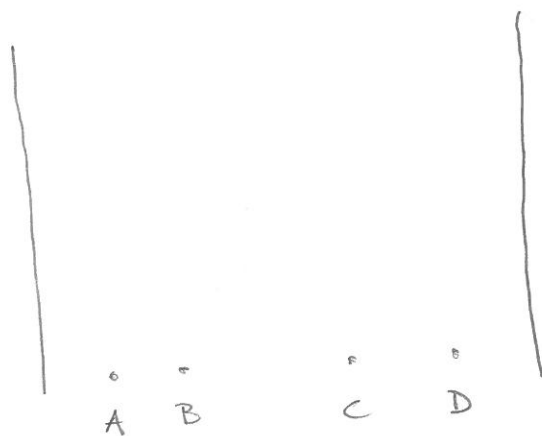
Computing gene tree probabilities under the Coalescent Model

Example: 4-taxon TOPOLOGICAL gene trees in a single population

General case: Degnan and Kubatko, 2005

[Pamilo + Nei, Rosenberg, Tavaré]

Label the gene lineages A, B, C, D



All rooted RANKED gene trees are equally probable under the coalescent model

Shapes:



caterpillar
or pectinate
single ranking

12 total

balanced



6 total

2 rankings

Thus $\mathbb{P}(\text{shape}) = \frac{1}{18}$

ABCD

$\mathbb{P}(\text{any caterpillar}) = \frac{1}{18}$

$\mathbb{P}(\text{shape}) = \frac{2}{18}$

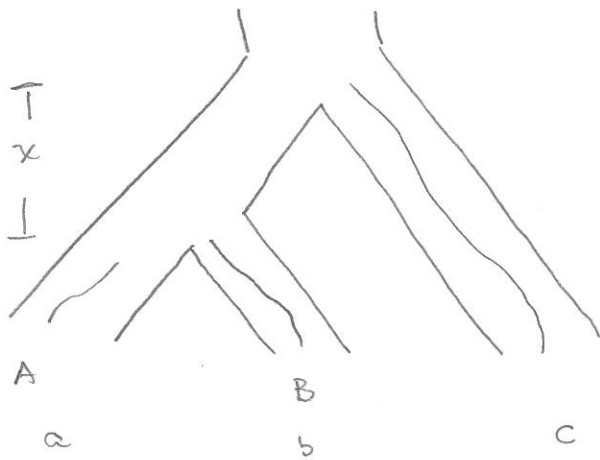
ABCD

2 since two ranked versions of shape

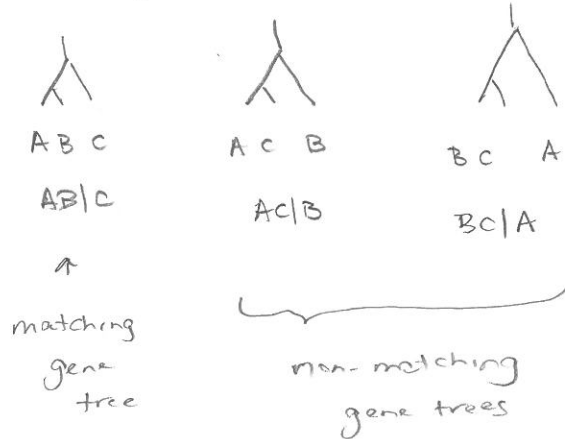
Example 2: Probability of gene tree topologies on a 3-taxon

9.

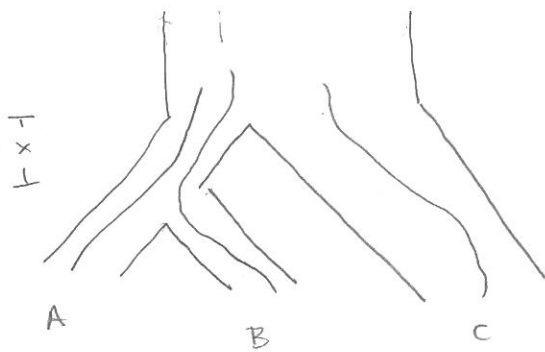
Species tree:



Find the probabilities of the gene trees



Easiest to compute $P(AC|B)$ (non-matching gene tree first)



The only way $AC|B$ can form in \mathcal{T} is if A, B do not coalesce in the immediately ancestral population, i.e. all three lineages enter the "above the root" population

$$P(AB|C) = \frac{1}{3} e^{-x}$$

\hookrightarrow A, B did not coalesce before time x

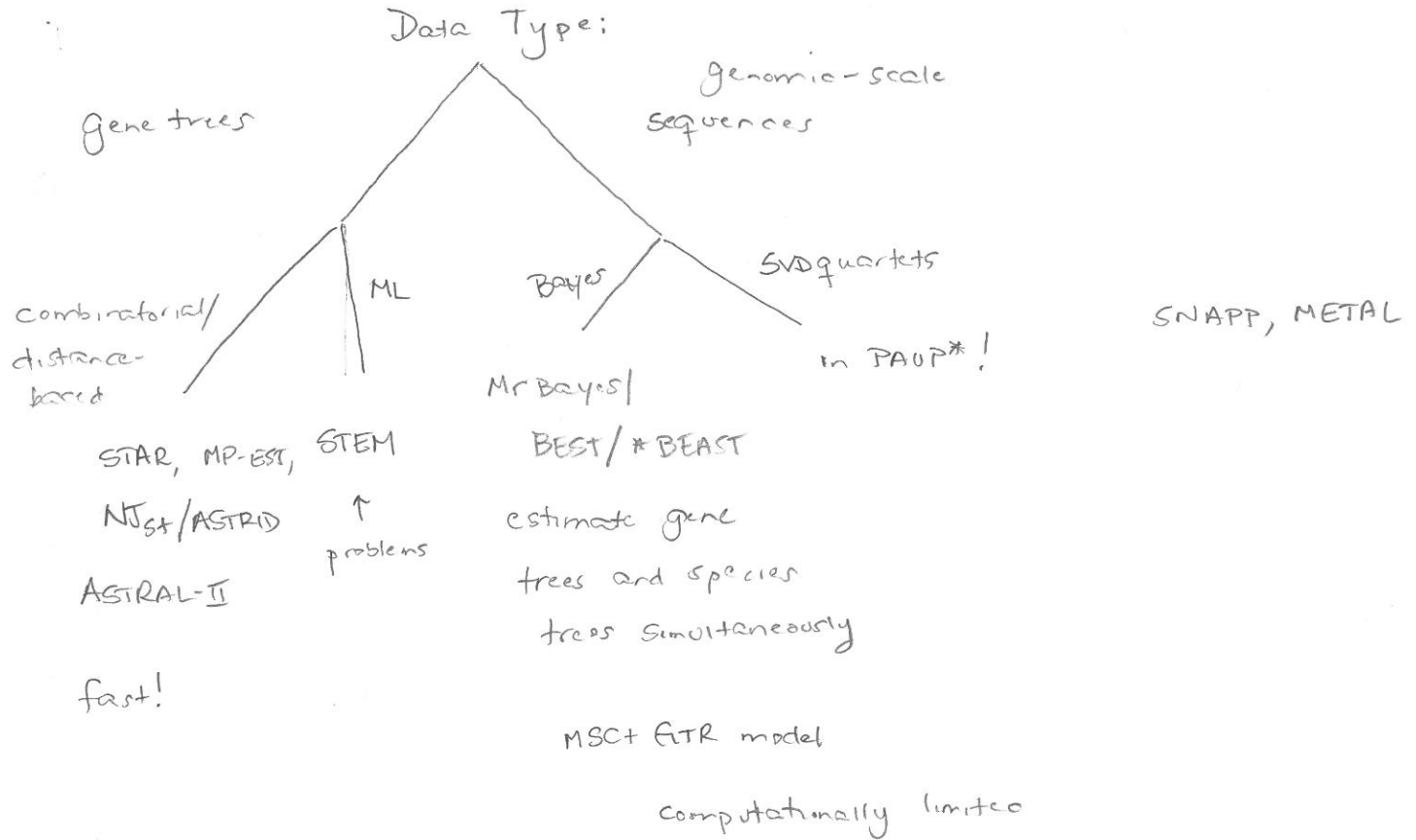
Each of the 3 topologies are equally likely by exchangeability once they enter the population above the root

$$\sigma: ((a, b):x, c)$$

$$P(AB|C) = 1 - 2e^{-x} \quad P(AC|B) = P(BC|A) = e^{-x} \quad !$$

This has been used to estimate divergence times (Australian finches; HG, G)

Inference of Species Trees:



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