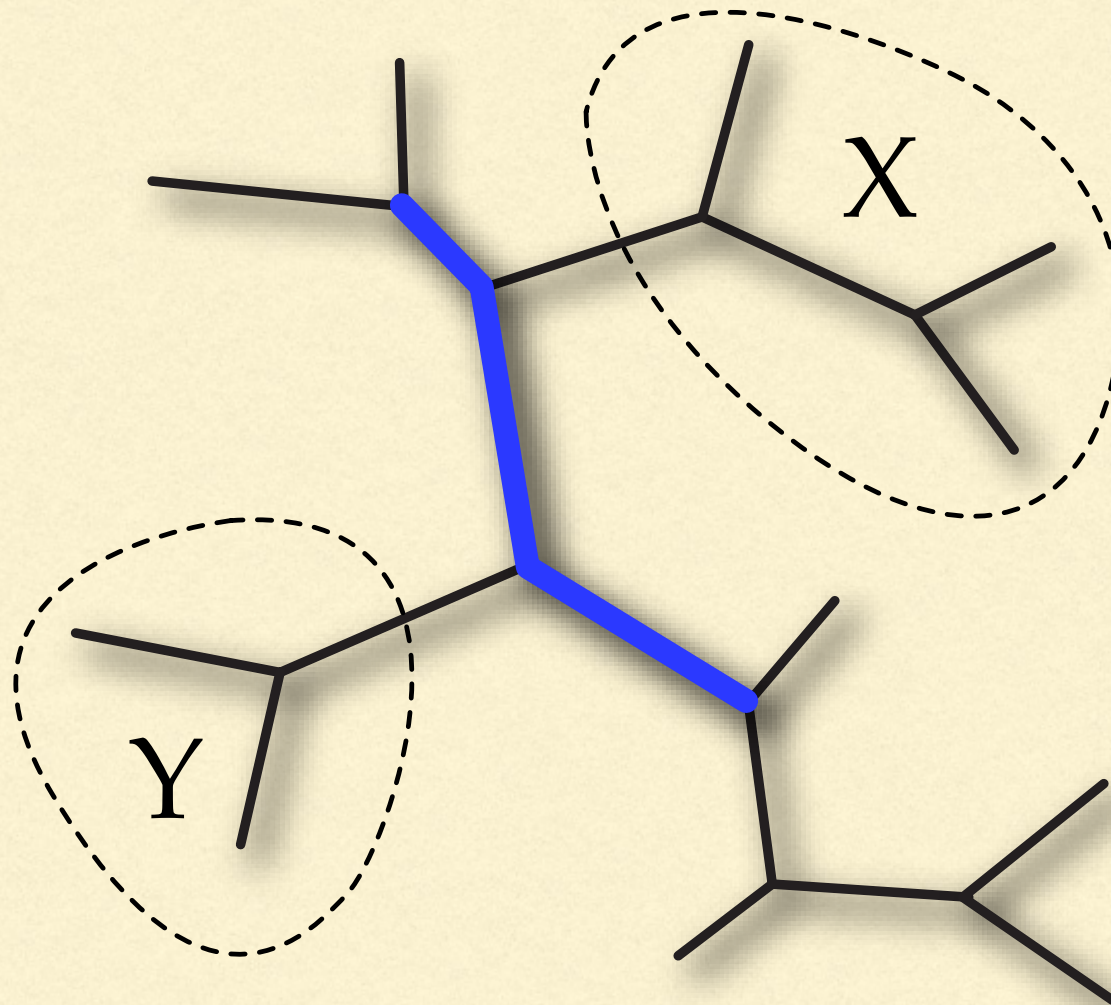


---

# MCMC proposals

---

# Moving through treespace



## The Target-Simon move

### Step 1:

Pick 3 contiguous edges randomly, defining two subtrees, X and Y

Larget, B., and D. L. Simon. 1999. Mol. Biol. Evol. 16: 750-759.  
See also: Holder et al. 2005. Syst. Biol. 54: 961-965.



# Moving through treespace

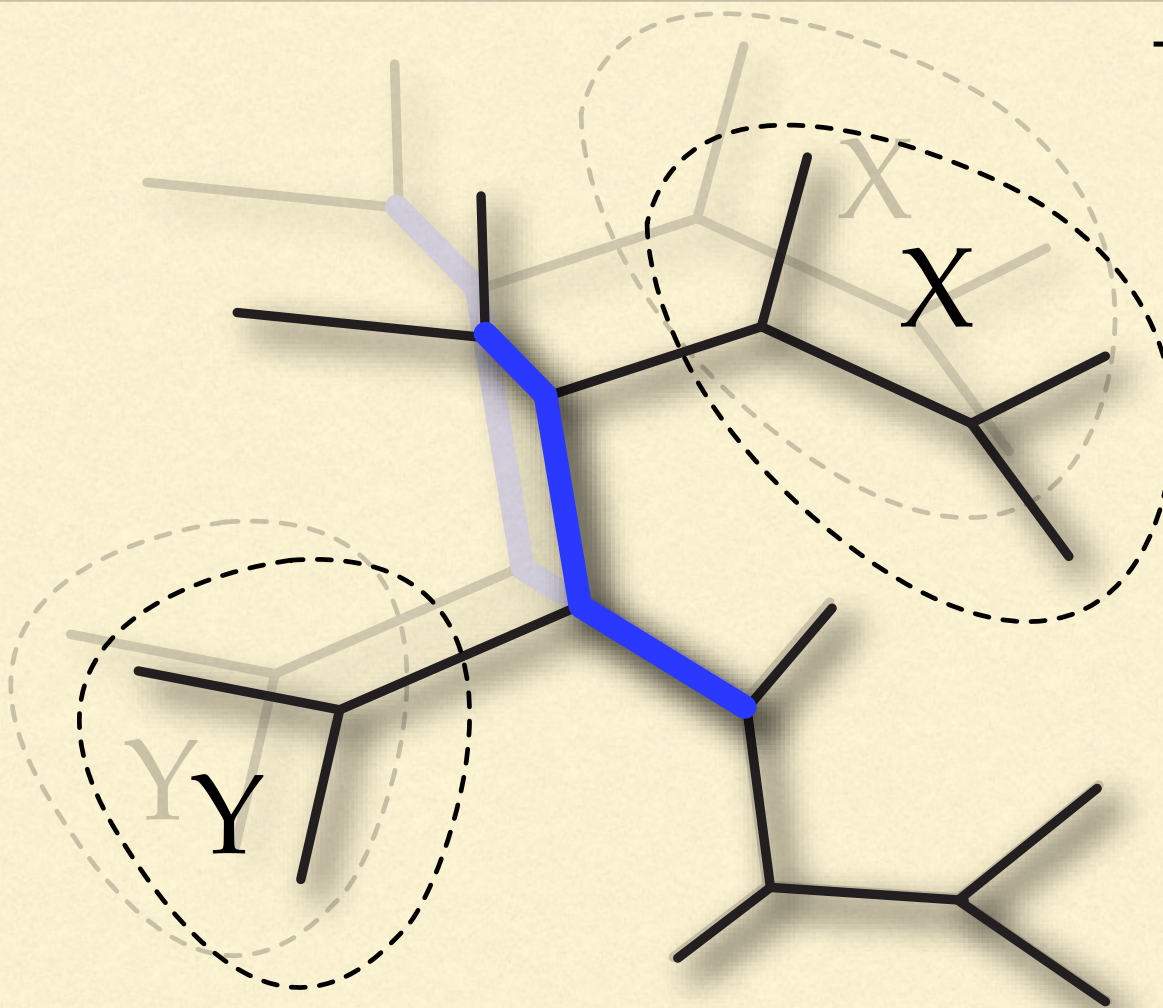
## The Larget-Simon move

### Step 1:

Pick 3 contiguous edges randomly, defining two subtrees, X and Y

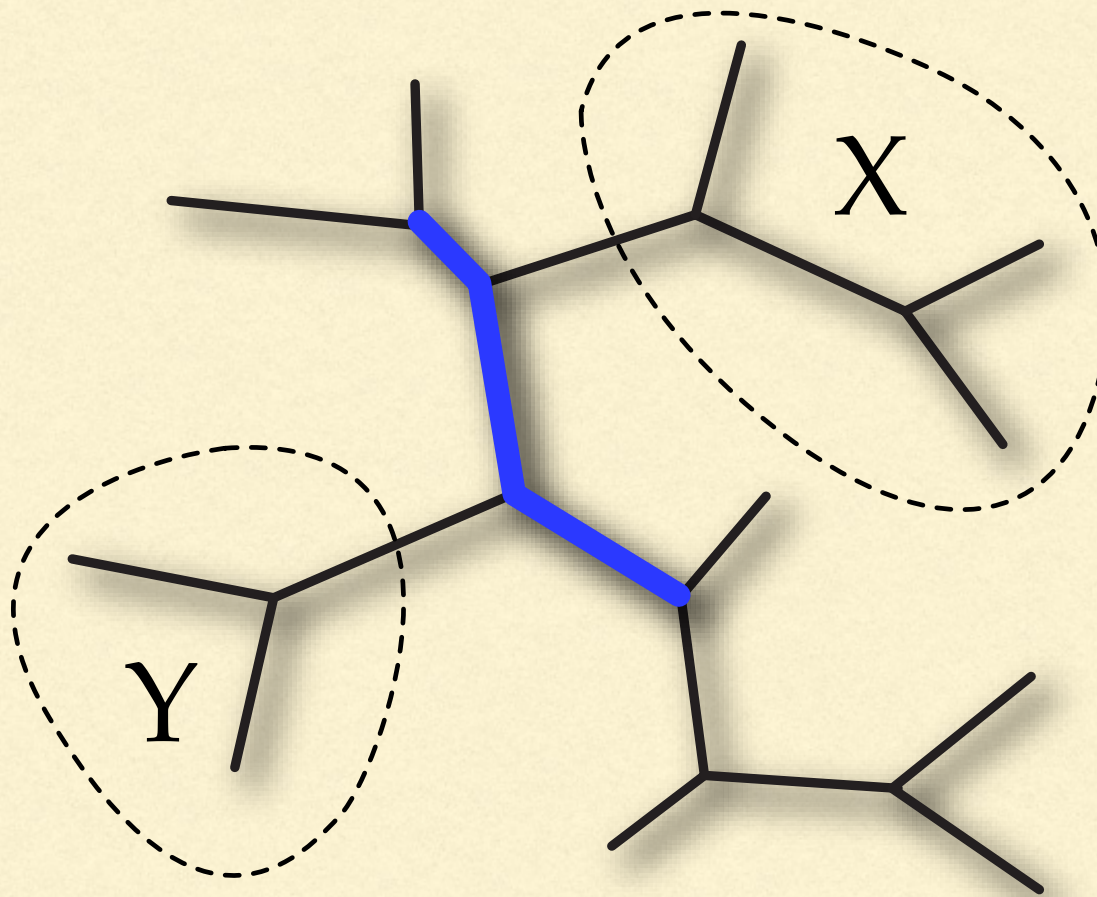
### Step 2:

Shrink or grow selected 3-edge segment by a random amount



# Moving through treespace

## The Larget-Simon move



### **Step 1:**

Pick 3 contiguous edges randomly, defining two subtrees, X and Y

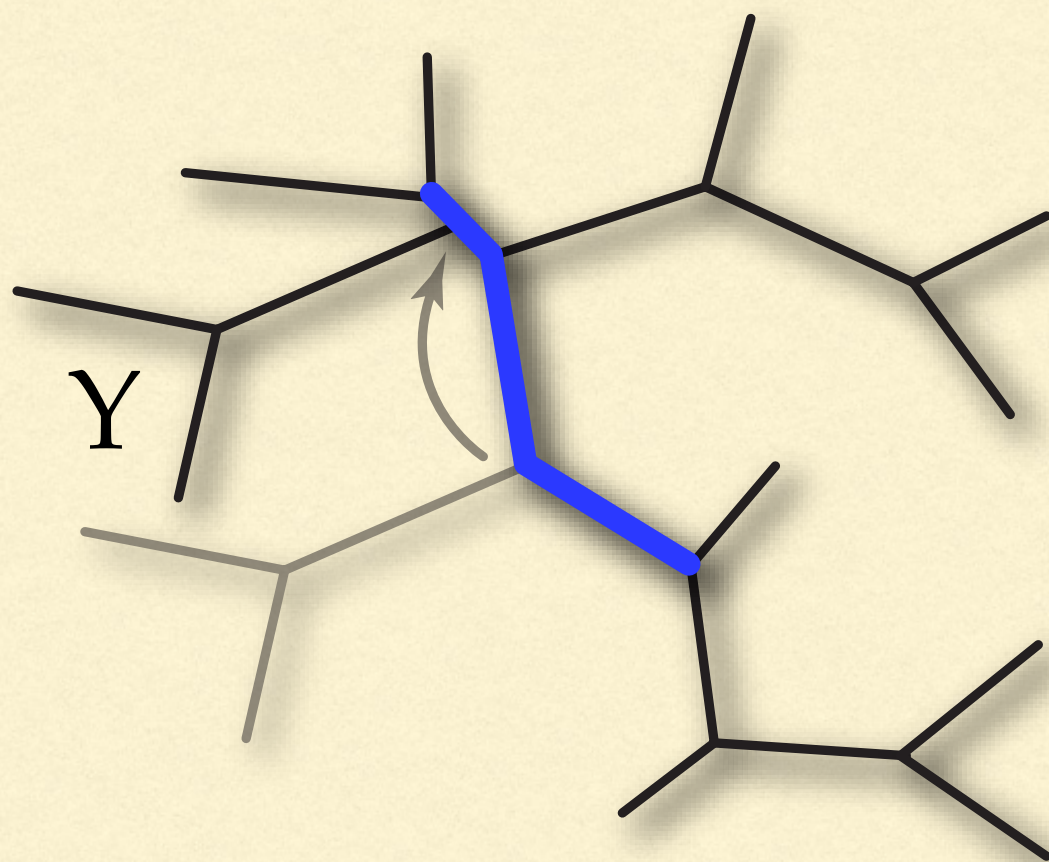
### **Step 2:**

Shrink or grow selected 3-edge segment by a random amount



# Moving through treespace

## The Larget-Simon move



### Step 1:

Pick 3 contiguous edges randomly, defining two subtrees, X and Y

### Step 2:

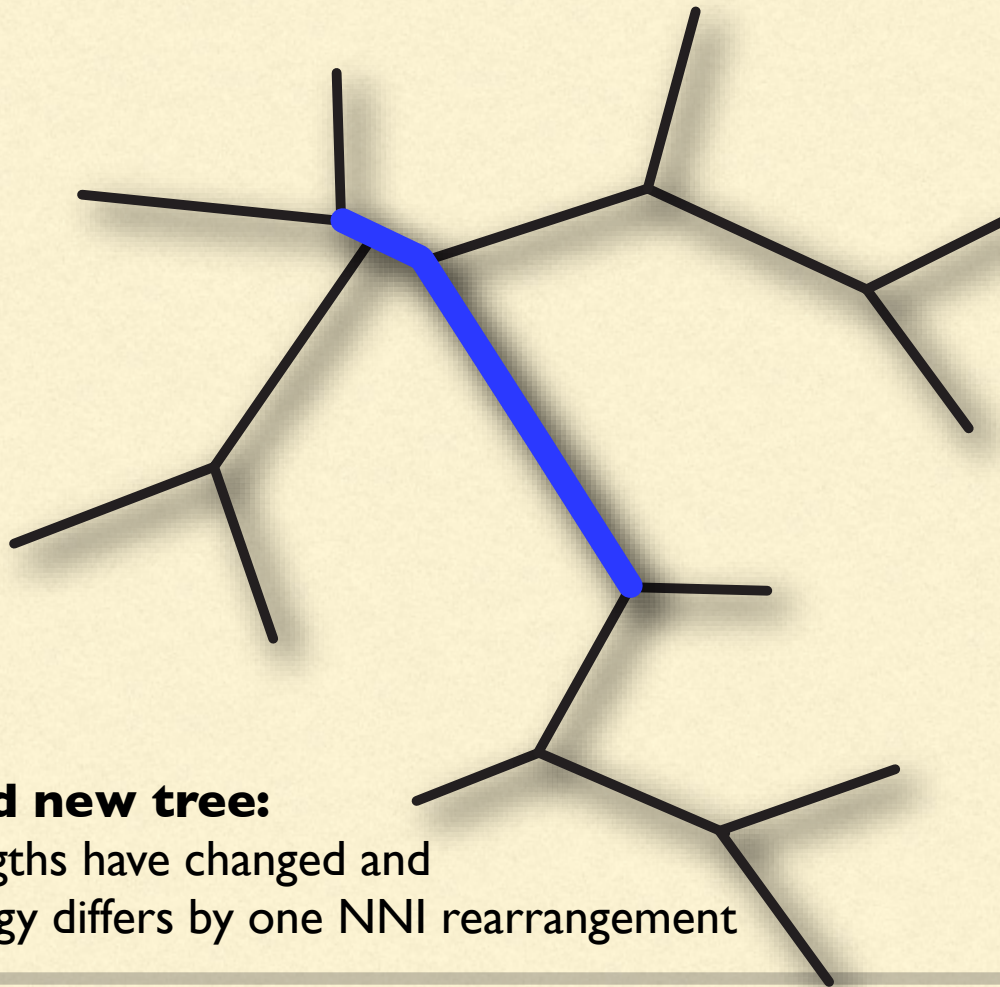
Shrink or grow selected 3-edge segment by a random amount

### Step 3:

Choose X or Y randomly, then reposition randomly

# Moving through treespace

## The Larget-Simon move



### **Proposed new tree:**

3 edge lengths have changed and the topology differs by one NNI rearrangement

### **Step 1:**

Pick 3 contiguous edges randomly, defining two subtrees, X and Y

### **Step 2:**

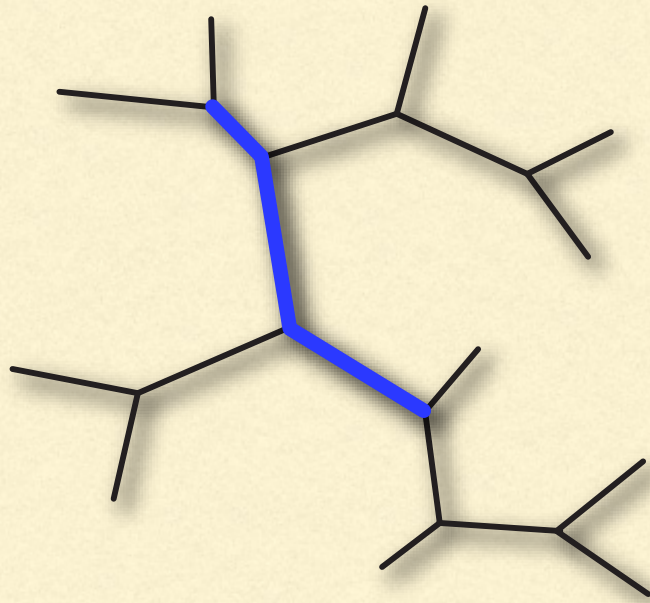
Shrink or grow selected 3-edge segment by a random amount

### **Step 3:**

Choose X or Y randomly, then reposition randomly

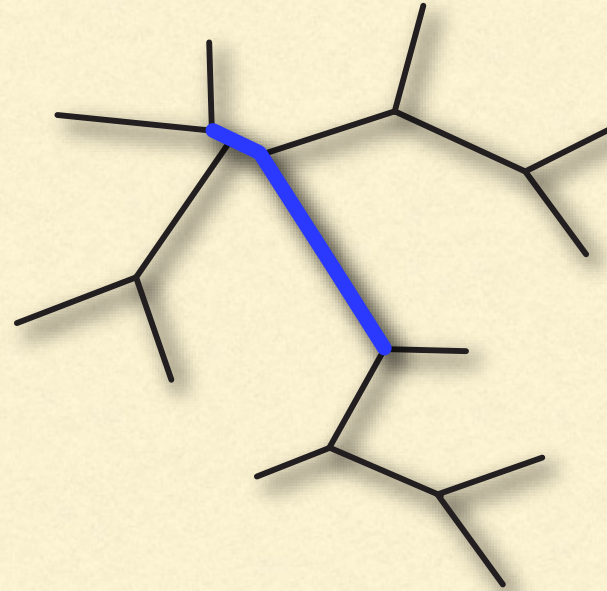


# Moving through treespace



Current tree

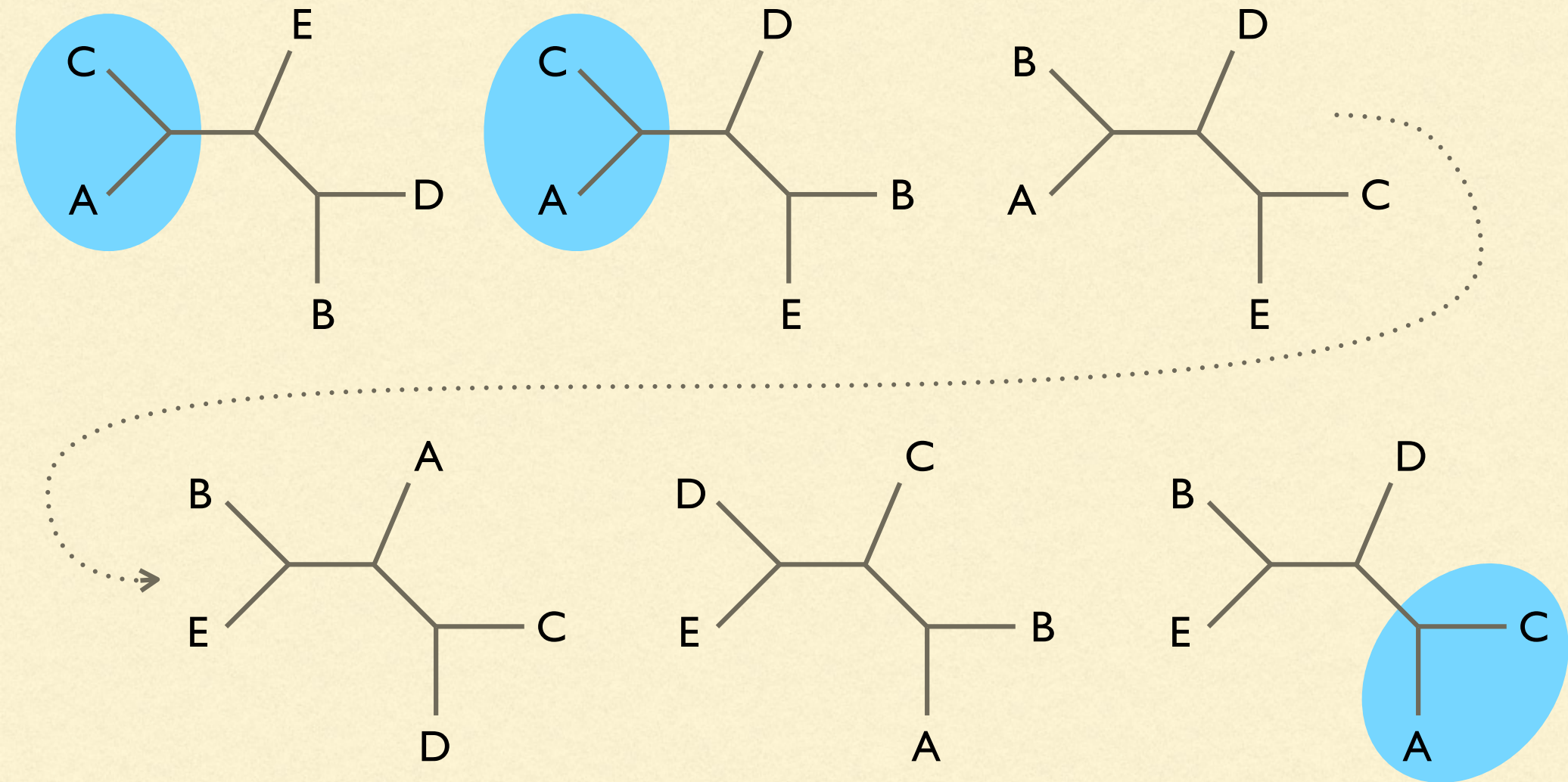
log-posterior = -34256



Proposed tree

log-posterior = -32519  
(better, so accept)

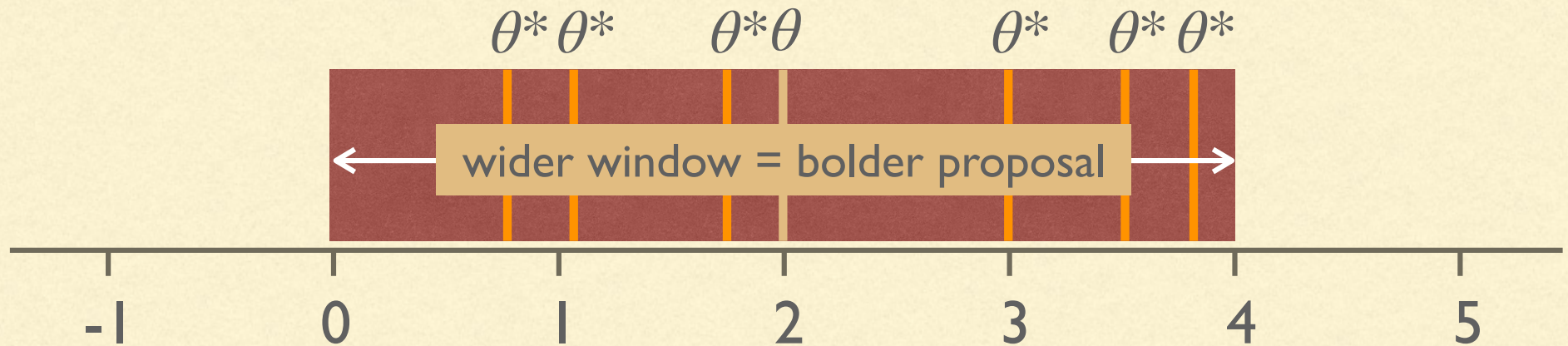
# Marginal split posterior probabilities





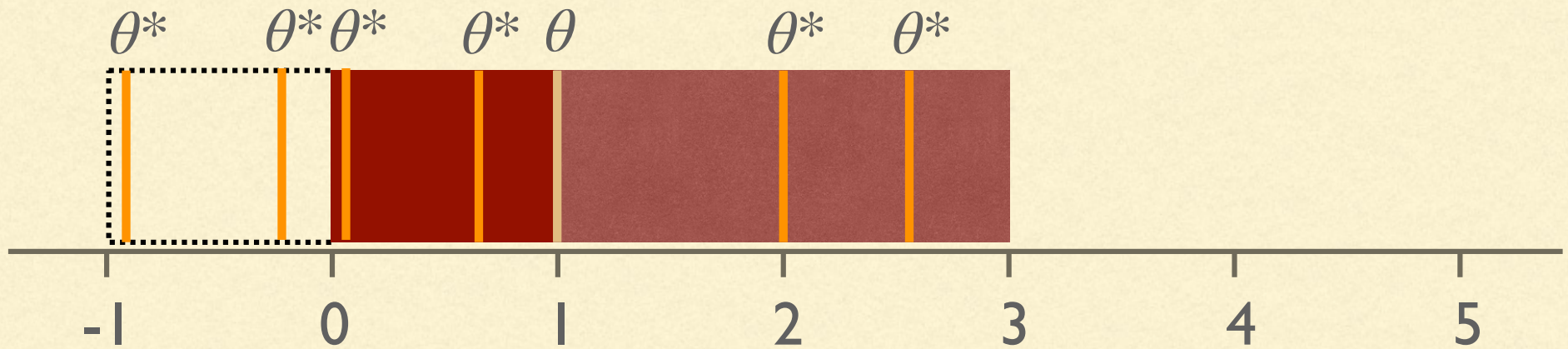
# Sliding window proposal

propose new values ( $\theta^*$ ) uniformly  
within a proposal window  
centered at current value ( $\theta$ )



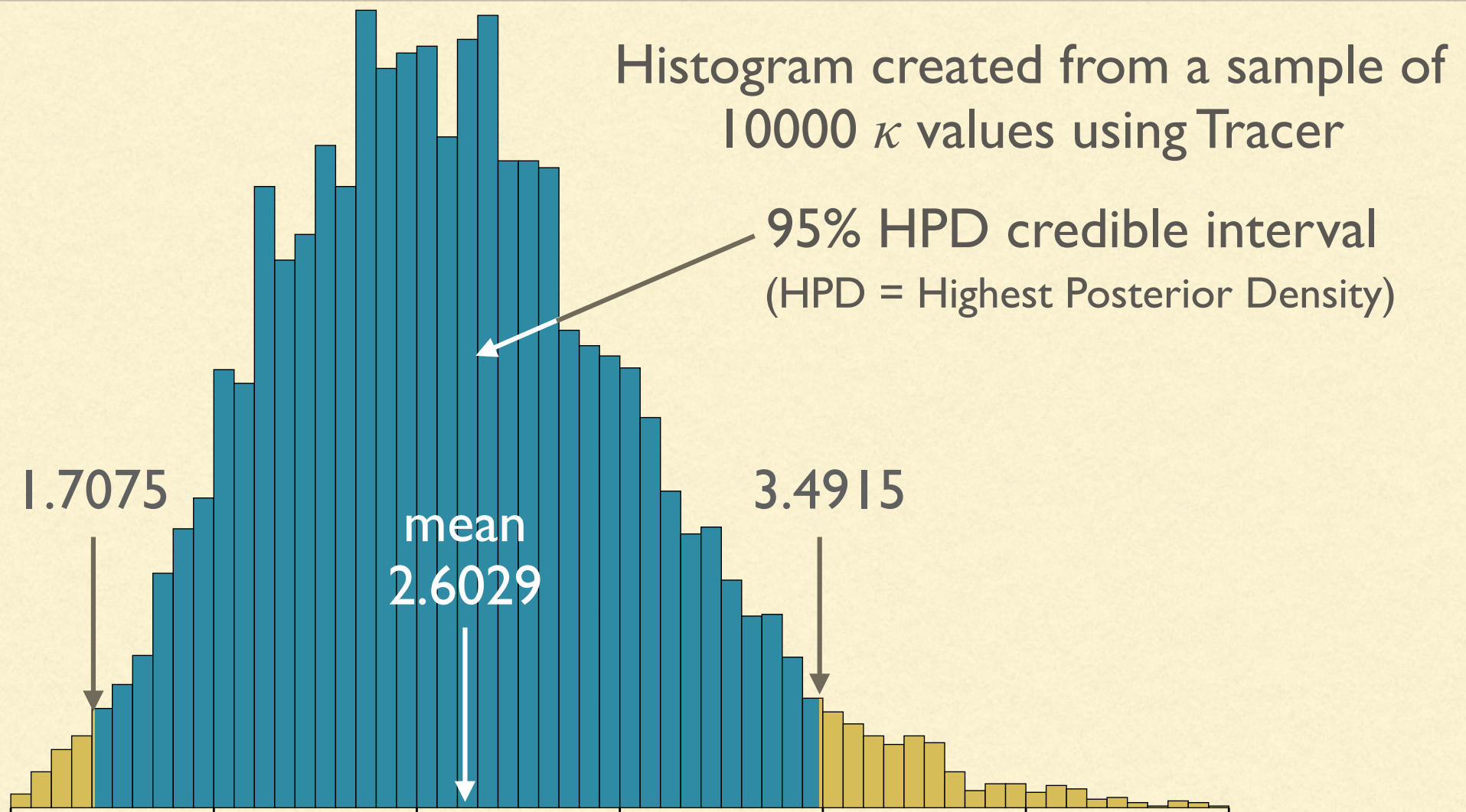
# Sliding window proposal

If proposed value is out of bounds,  
reflect it back in bounds





# Marginal distributions and credible intervals



---

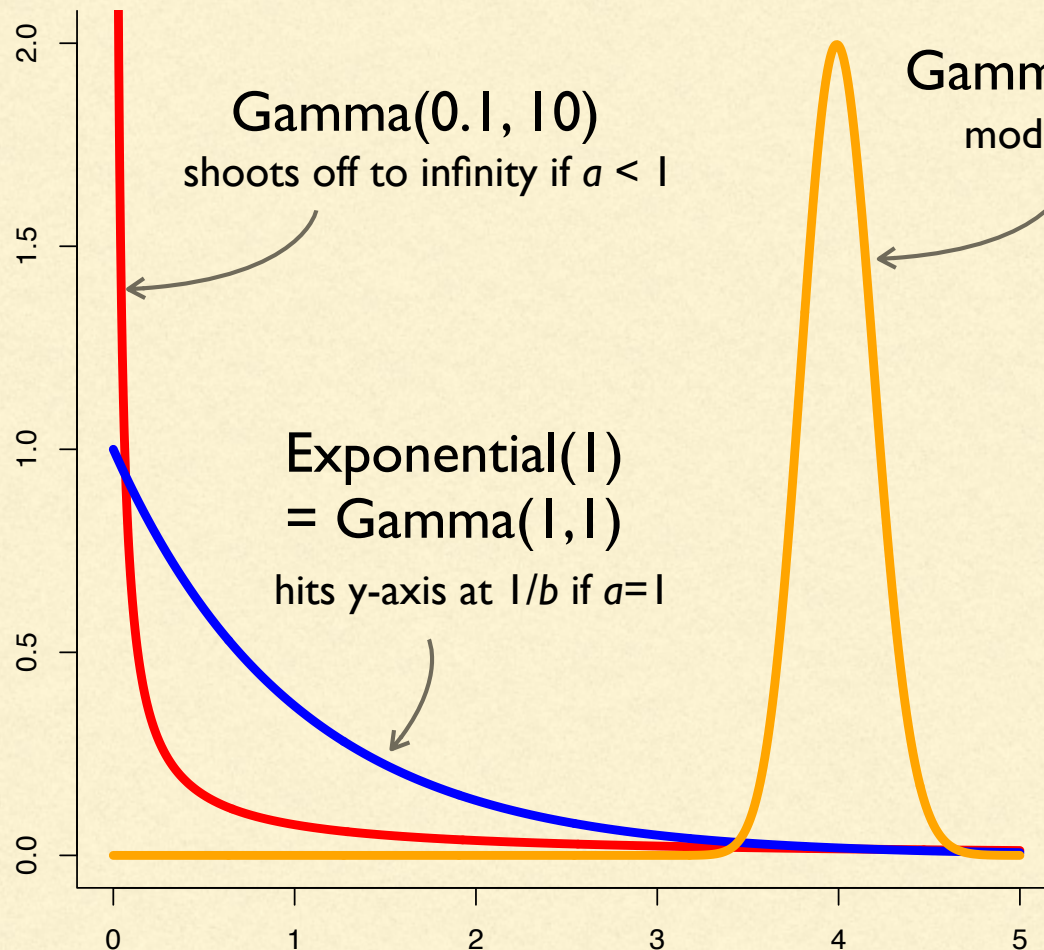
# Prior distributions

---

$$p(\theta | D) = \frac{p(D | \theta) p(\theta)}{p(D)}$$



# Gamma( $a, b$ ) distribution



**Gamma( $a, b$ )**

distributions are appropriate for parameters that range from 0 to infinity (e.g. branch lengths)

$a$  = shape

$b$  = scale\*

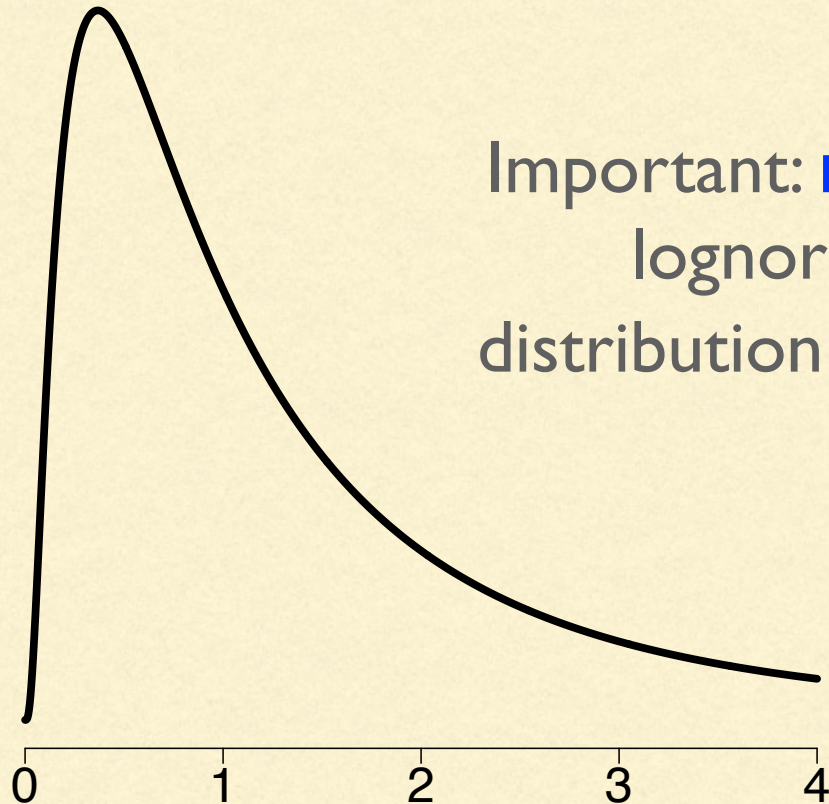
mean =  $ab$

variance =  $ab^2$

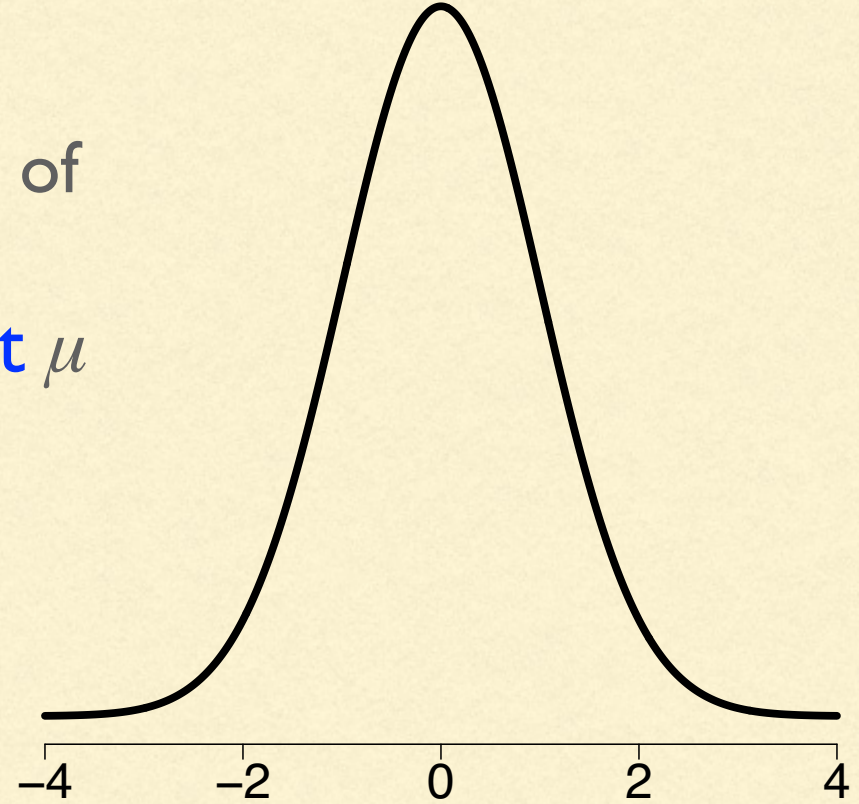
\*Note: be aware that in many papers the Gamma distribution is defined such that the second parameter is the rate (*inverse* of the scale  $b$  used in this slide) rather than the scale! In this case, the mean and variance would be  $a/b$  and  $a/b^2$ , respectively.

# Lognormal( $\mu, \sigma$ ) distribution

Lognormal( $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$ )



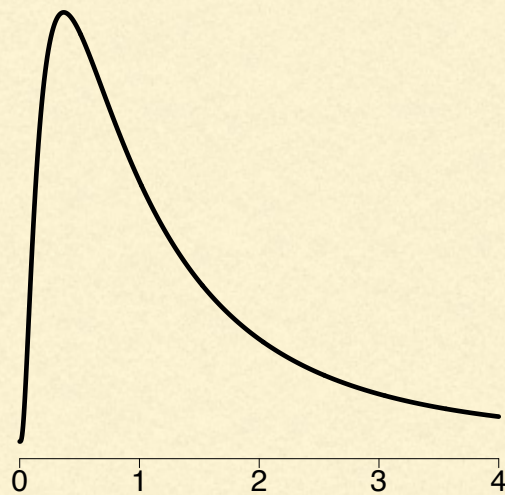
Normal( $\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$ )



Important: **mean** of  
lognormal  
distribution is **not**  $\mu$



# Lognormal( $\mu, \sigma$ ) distribution



$$\mu = 0, \sigma = 1$$

$$1.65$$

$$4.67$$

$$0.37$$

$$1.0$$

$$\text{mean} = e^{\mu + \sigma^2/2}$$

$$\text{variance} = e^{2\mu + \sigma^2}(e^{\sigma^2} - 1)$$

$$\text{mode} = e^{\mu - \sigma^2}$$

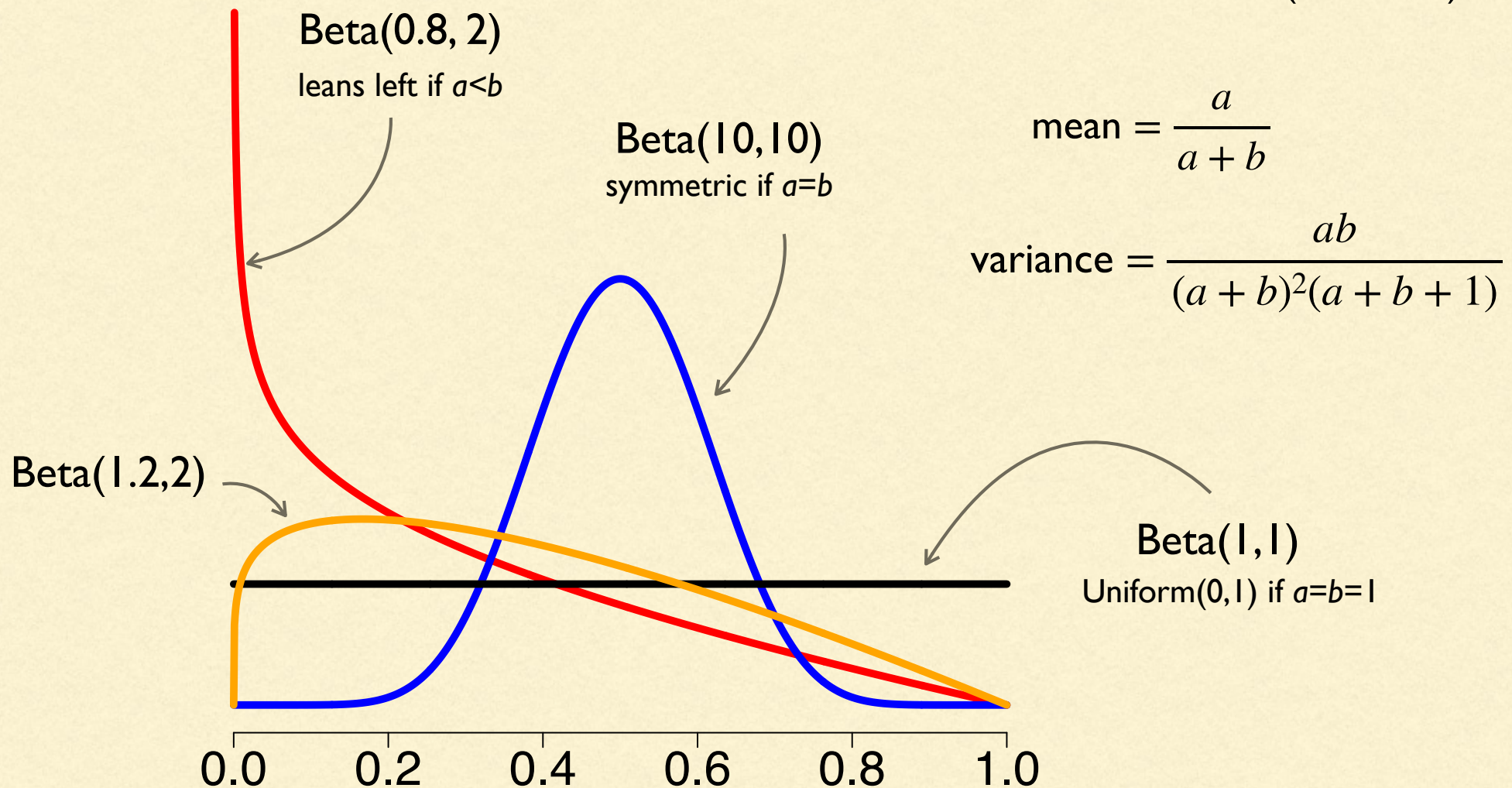
$$\text{median} = e^{\mu}$$

To choose  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  to yield a particular mean ( $m$ ) and variance ( $v$ ) for a lognormal prior, use these formulas (log is natural logarithm):

$$\sigma^2 = \log \left( 1 + \frac{v}{m^2} \right) \quad \mu = \log(m) - \sigma^2/2$$

# Beta( $a,b$ ) distribution

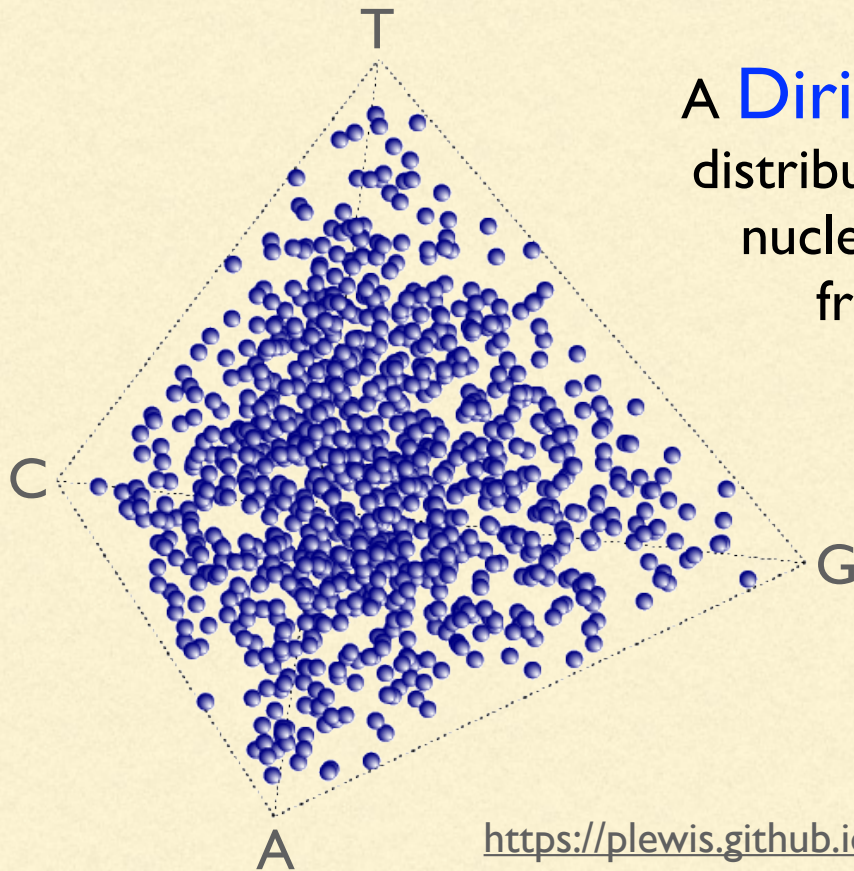
**Beta( $a,b$ )** distributions are appropriate for proportions, which must lie between 0 and 1 (inclusive).



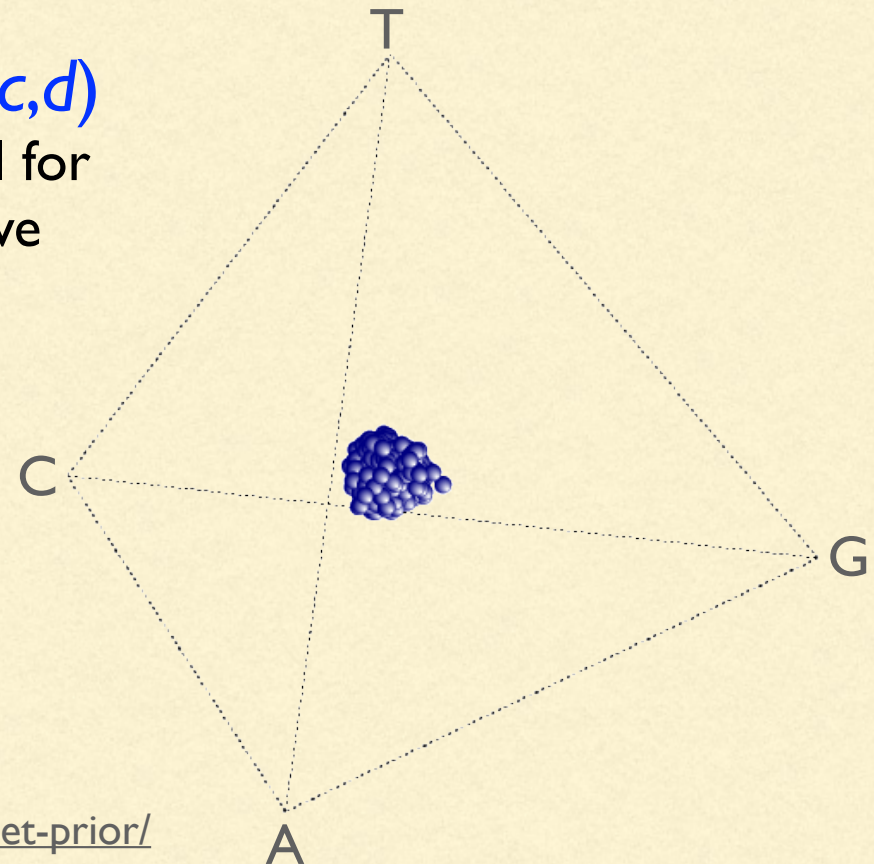


# Dirichlet( $a, b, c, d$ ) distribution

**Flat:**  $a = b = c = d = 1$   
(every combination equally probable)



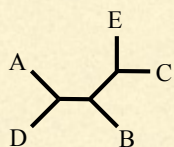
**Informative:**  $a = b = c = d = 100$   
(frequencies tend to be nearly equal)



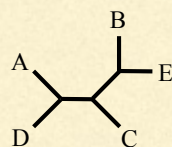
A **Dirichlet( $a, b, c, d$ )**  
distribution is ideal for  
nucleotide relative  
frequencies.

<https://plewis.github.io/applets/dirichlet-prior/>

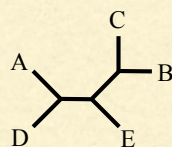
# Topology: discrete uniform



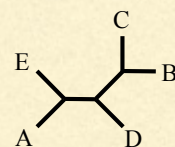
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



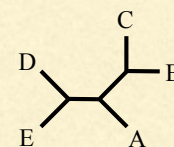
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



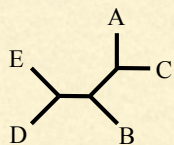
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



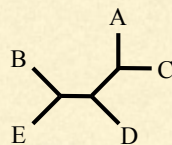
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



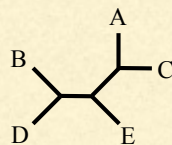
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



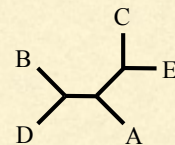
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



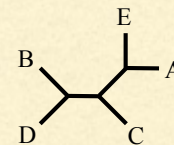
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



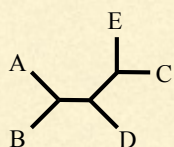
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



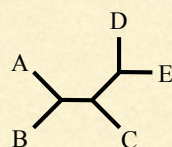
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



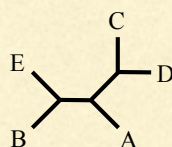
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



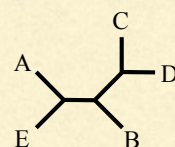
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



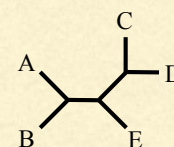
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



$$\frac{1}{15}$$



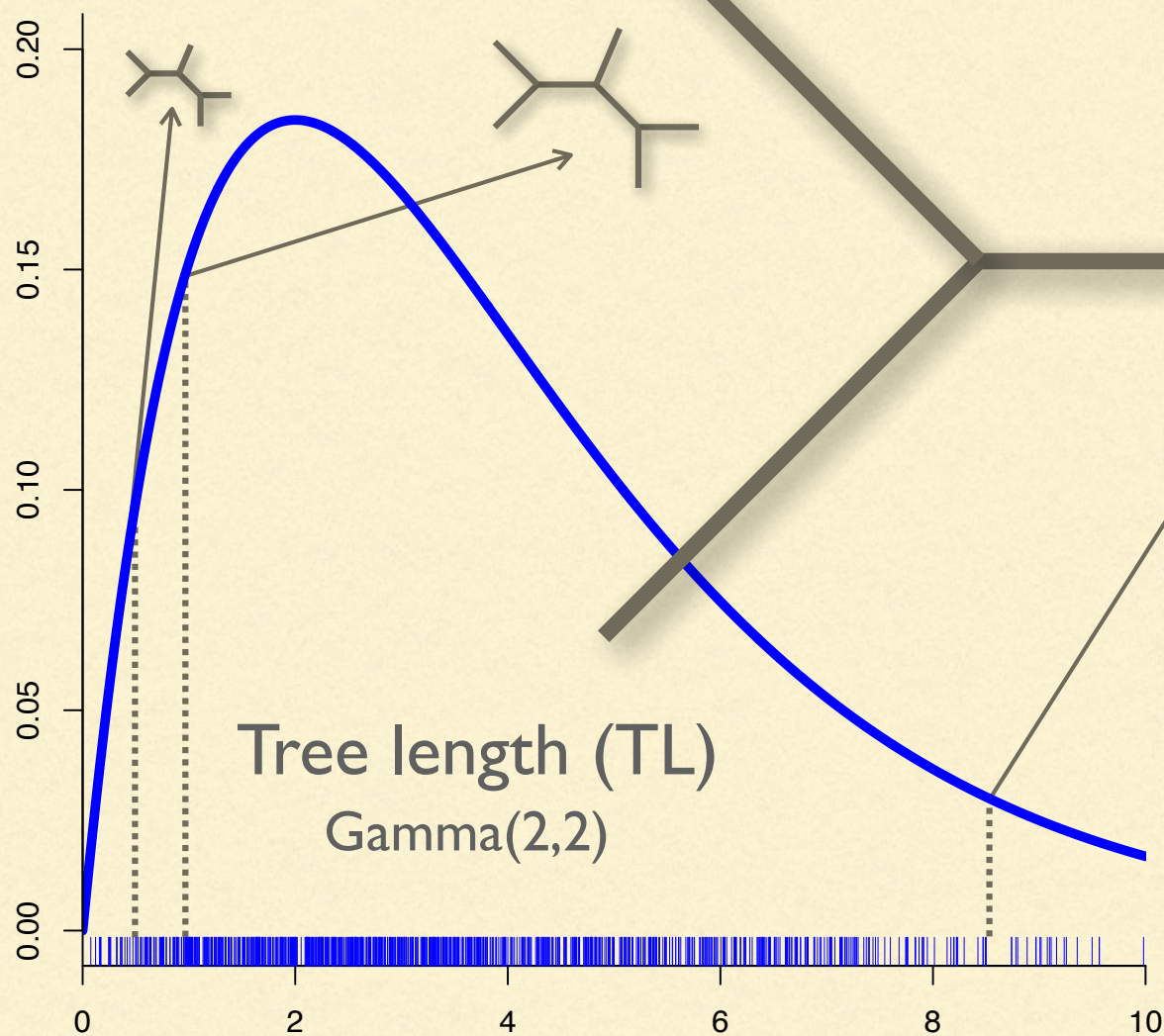
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



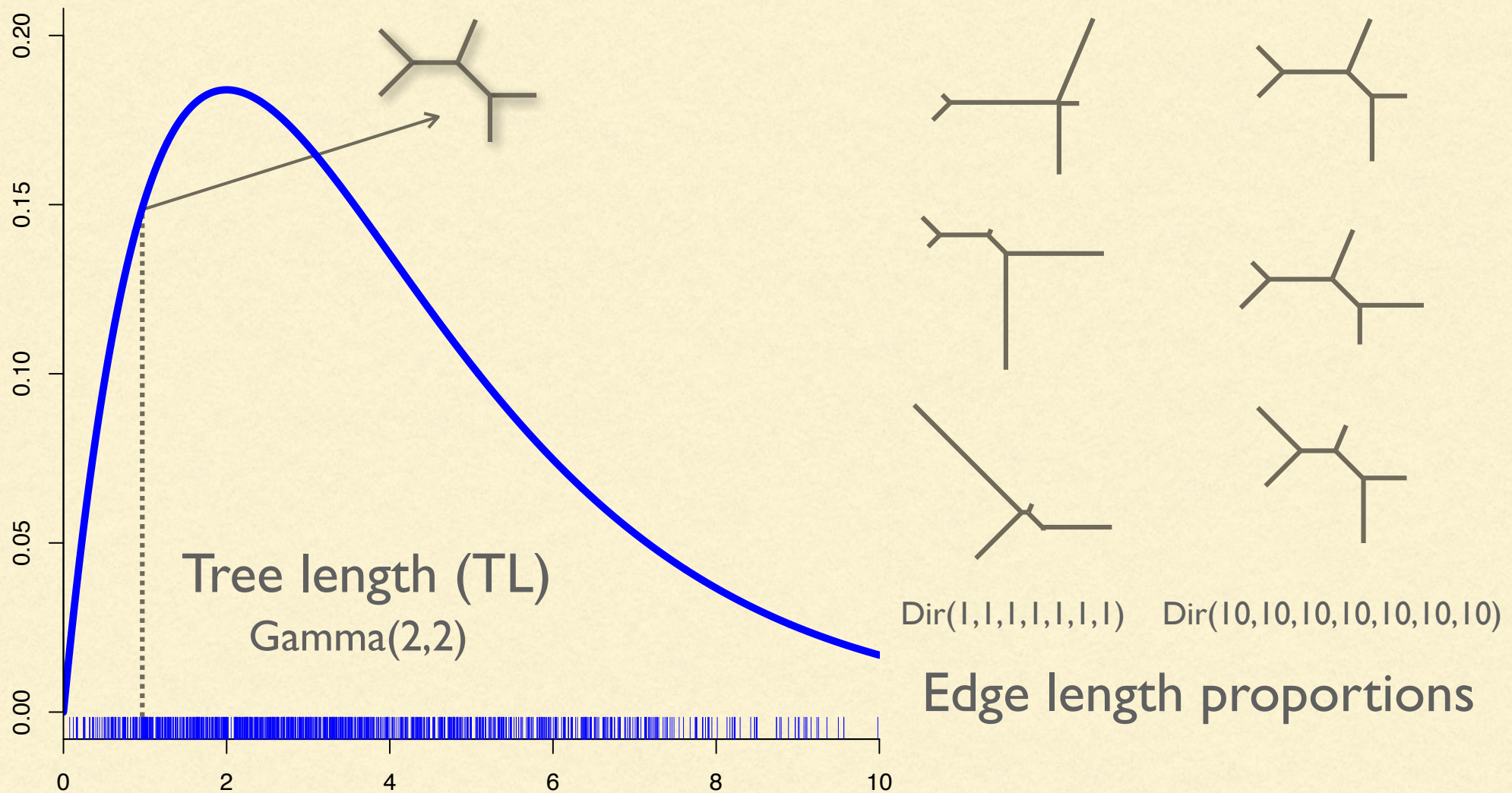
$$\frac{1}{15}$$



# Edge lengths: Gamma-Dirichlet

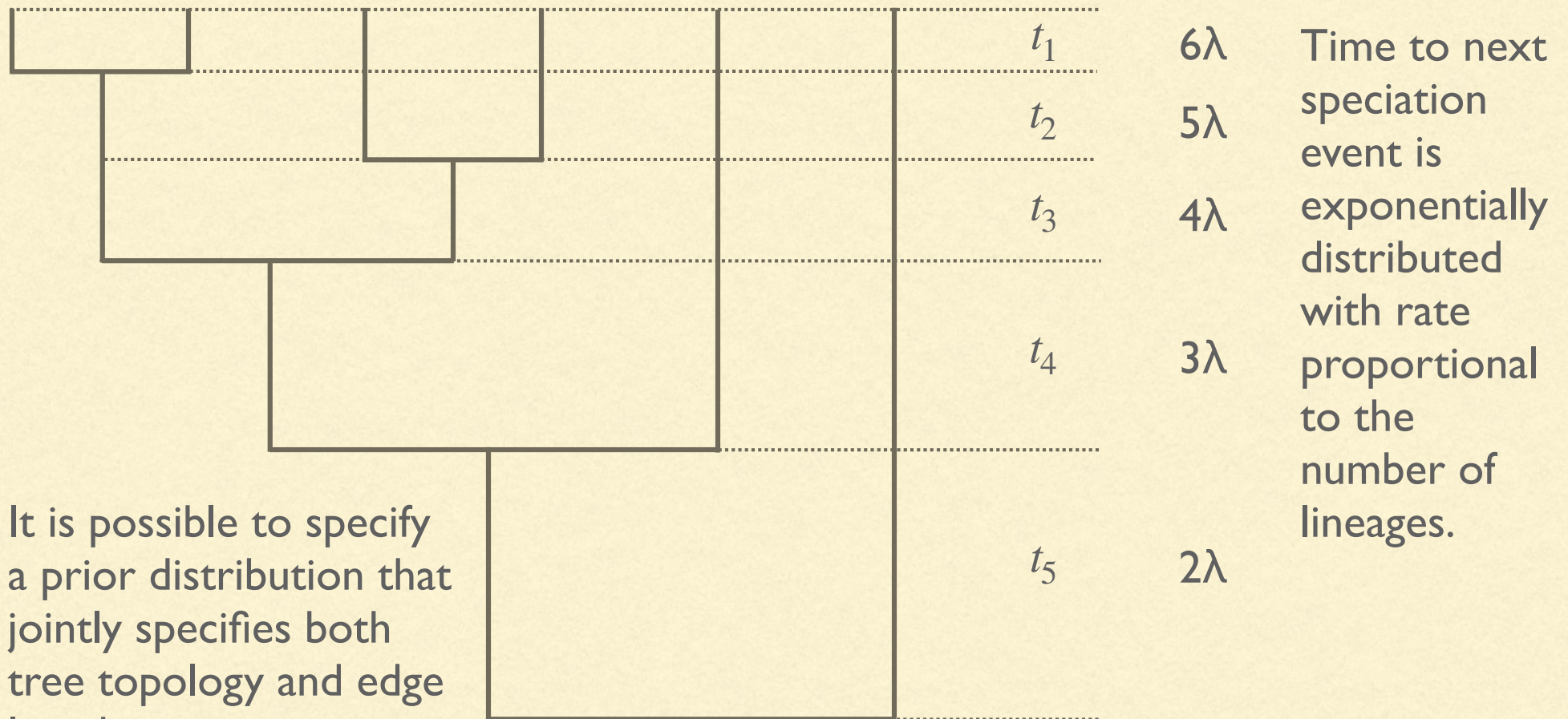


# Edge lengths: Gamma-Dirichlet





# Yule (pure birth) prior



It is possible to specify a prior distribution that jointly specifies both tree topology and edge lengths.

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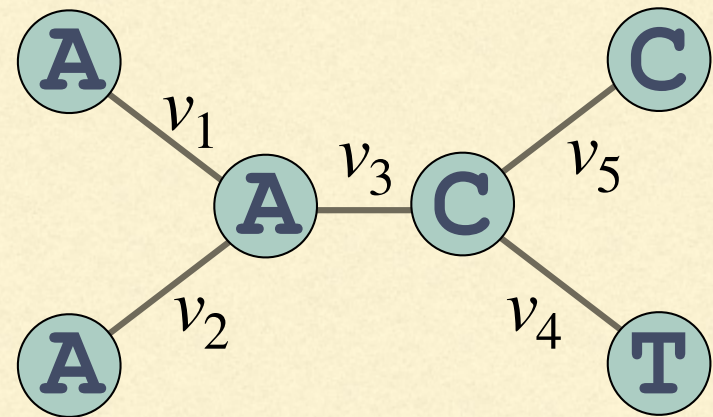
# Hierarchical models

---



# Non-hierarchical model

All model parameters can be found in the likelihood function



Prior mean 0.1

$$L_k = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} e^{-4v_1/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} e^{-4v_2/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} e^{-4v_3/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} e^{-4v_4/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} e^{-4v_5/3} \right)$$

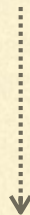
JC69 likelihood for site  $k$

# Hierarchical model

A prior for a hyperparameter is a hyperprior

$\mu$  is a hyperparameter

Hyperprior



Prior mean  $\mu$

Some model parameters (hyperparameters) are **outside** the likelihood function

$$L_k = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} e^{-4v_1/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} e^{-4v_2/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} e^{-4v_3/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} e^{-4v_4/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} e^{-4v_5/3} \right)$$

JC69 likelihood for site  $k$



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# Empirical Bayes

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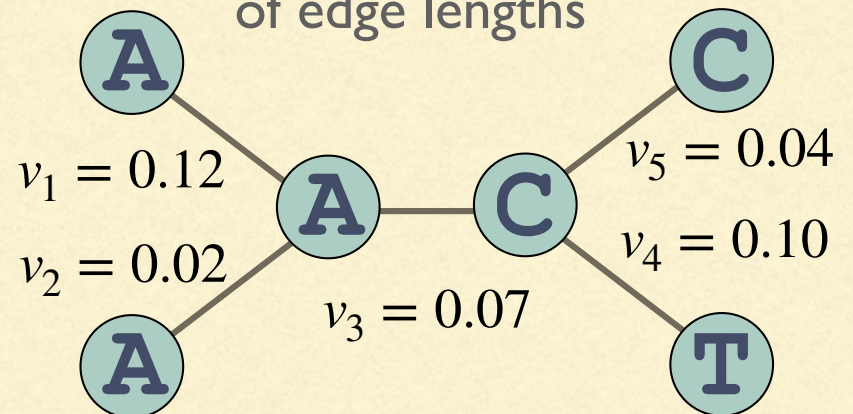
# Empirical Bayes approach

Average edge length MLE used as the mean of the prior.

$$0.07 = (0.12 + 0.02 + 0.07 + 0.04 + 0.10) / 5$$

Prior mean = 0.07

Maximum likelihood estimates (MLEs) of edge lengths



$$L_k = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} e^{-4v_1/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} e^{-4v_2/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} e^{-4v_3/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4} e^{-4v_4/3} \right) \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4} e^{-4v_5/3} \right)$$

JC69 likelihood for site  $k$



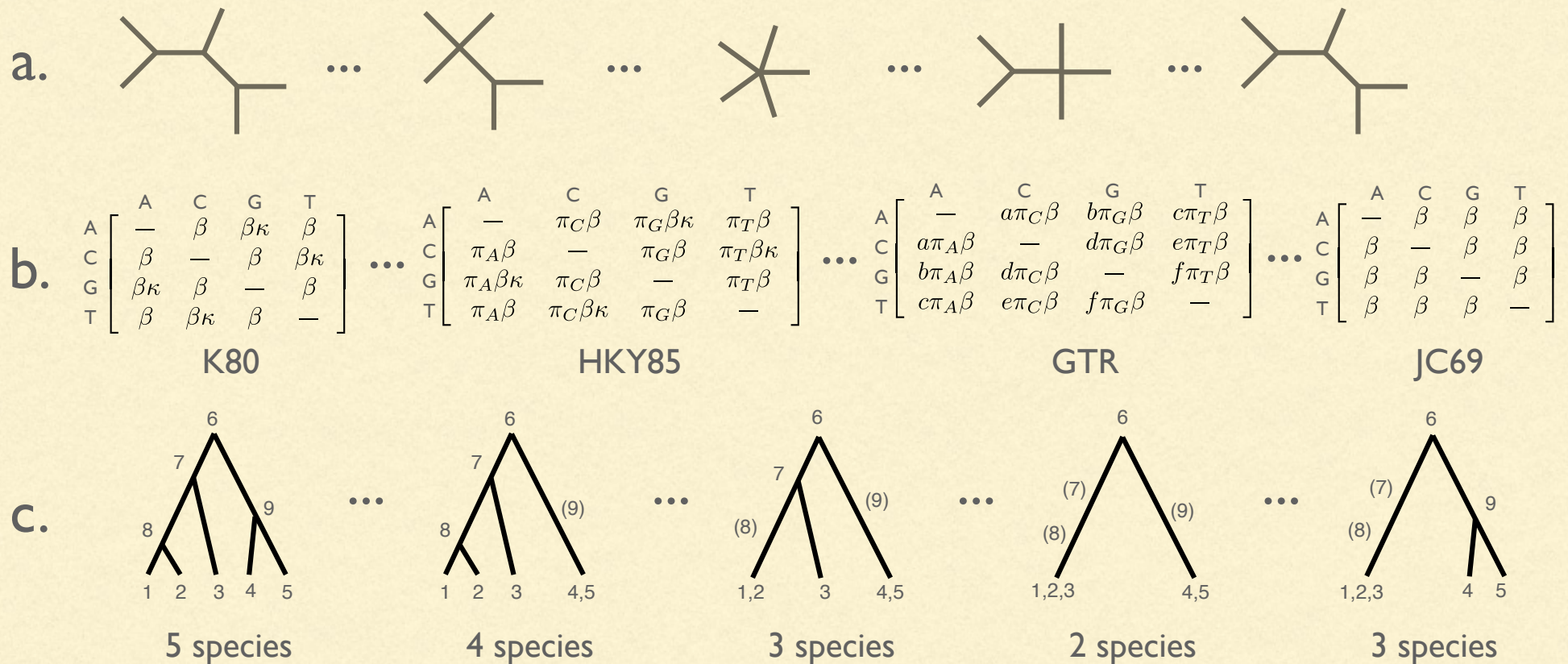
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# rjMCMC

(reversible-jump MCMC)

---

# Examples of rjMCMC analyses



a. Lewis, Holder, & Holsinger. 2005.  
Systematic Biology 54:241–253.

b. Huelsenbeck, Larget, & Alfaro. 2004.  
Molecular Biology and Evolution 21:1123–1133.

c. Rannala & Yang. 2013.  
Genetics 194:245–253.



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# Marginal likelihood and Bayes factors

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$$p(D) = \int p(D|\theta)p(\theta)d\theta$$

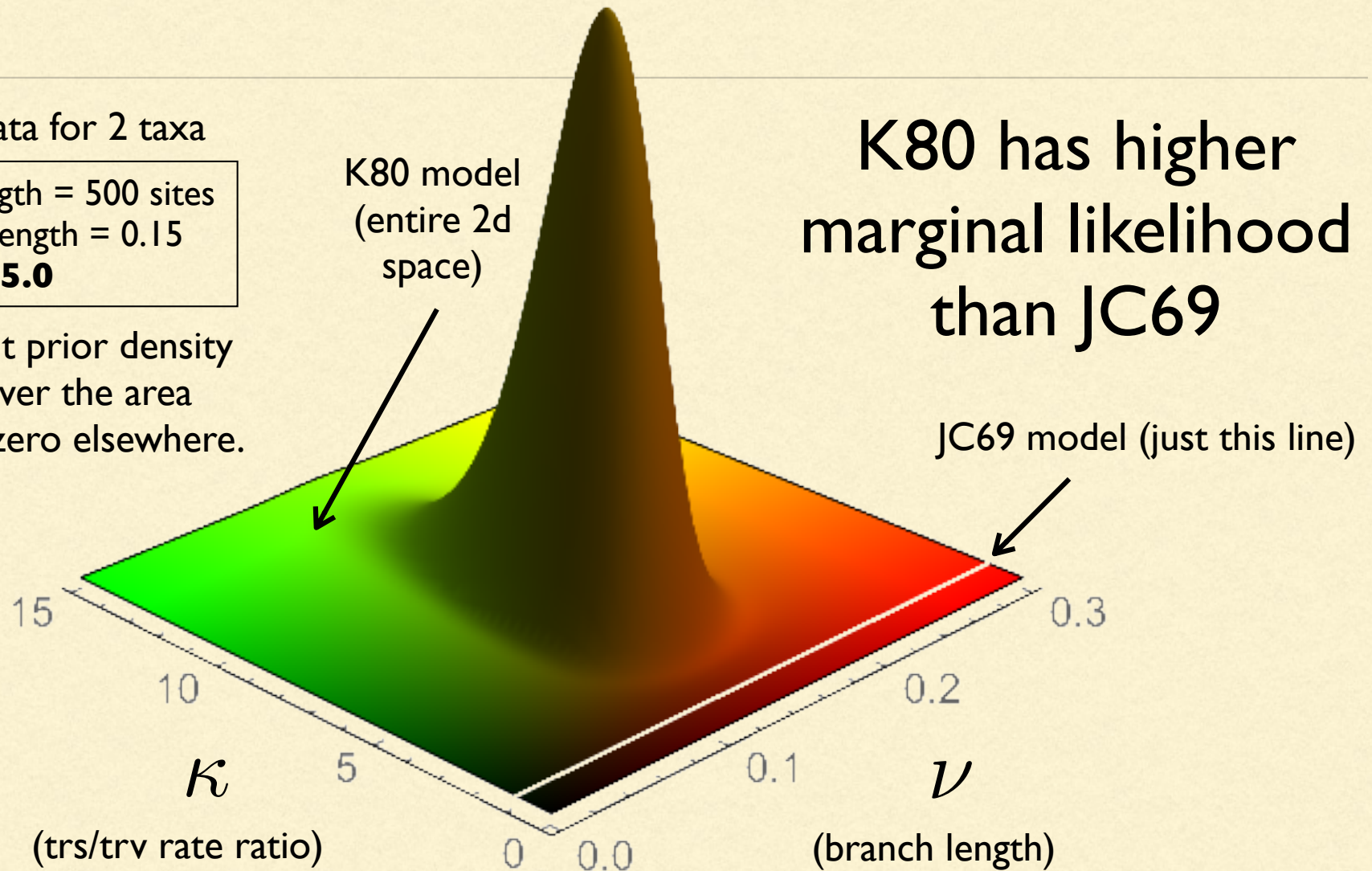
The **marginal likelihood** is a weighted **average** of the **likelihood** where the weights are provided by the prior

# Likelihood surface when K80 true

Simulated data for 2 taxa

sequence length = 500 sites  
true branch length = 0.15  
true kappa = **5.0**

Assume joint prior density  
is uniform over the area  
shown and zero elsewhere.



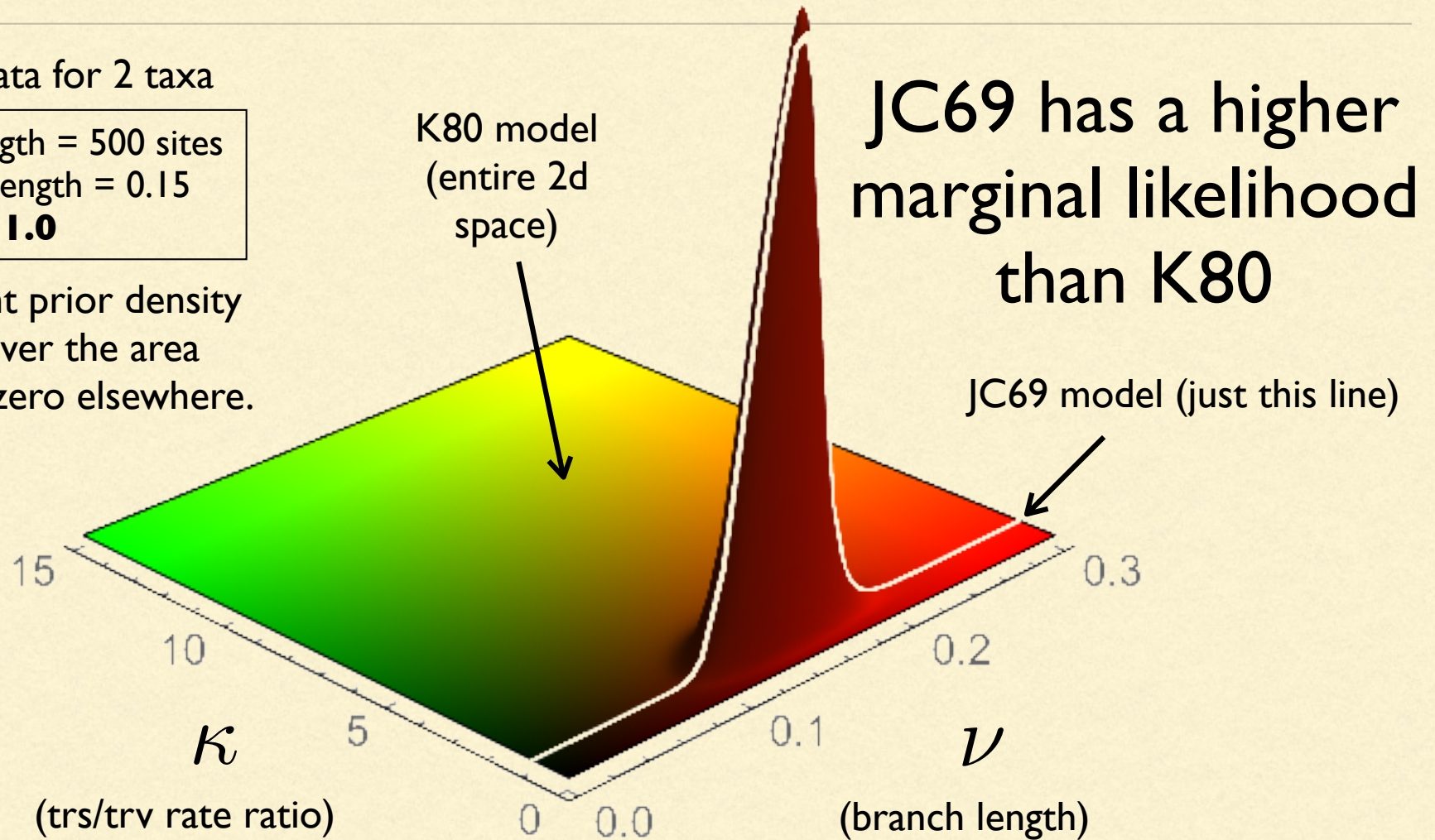


# Likelihood surface when JC69 true

Simulated data for 2 taxa

sequence length = 500 sites  
true branch length = 0.15  
true kappa = **1.0**

Assume joint prior density  
is uniform over the area  
shown and zero elsewhere.



---

# Dirichlet process (DP) prior

---



all loci share same tree topology

ABCD

ABC D

ABD C

AB CD

AB C D

ACD B

AC BD

AC B D

AD BC

A BCD

A BC D

AD B C

A BD C

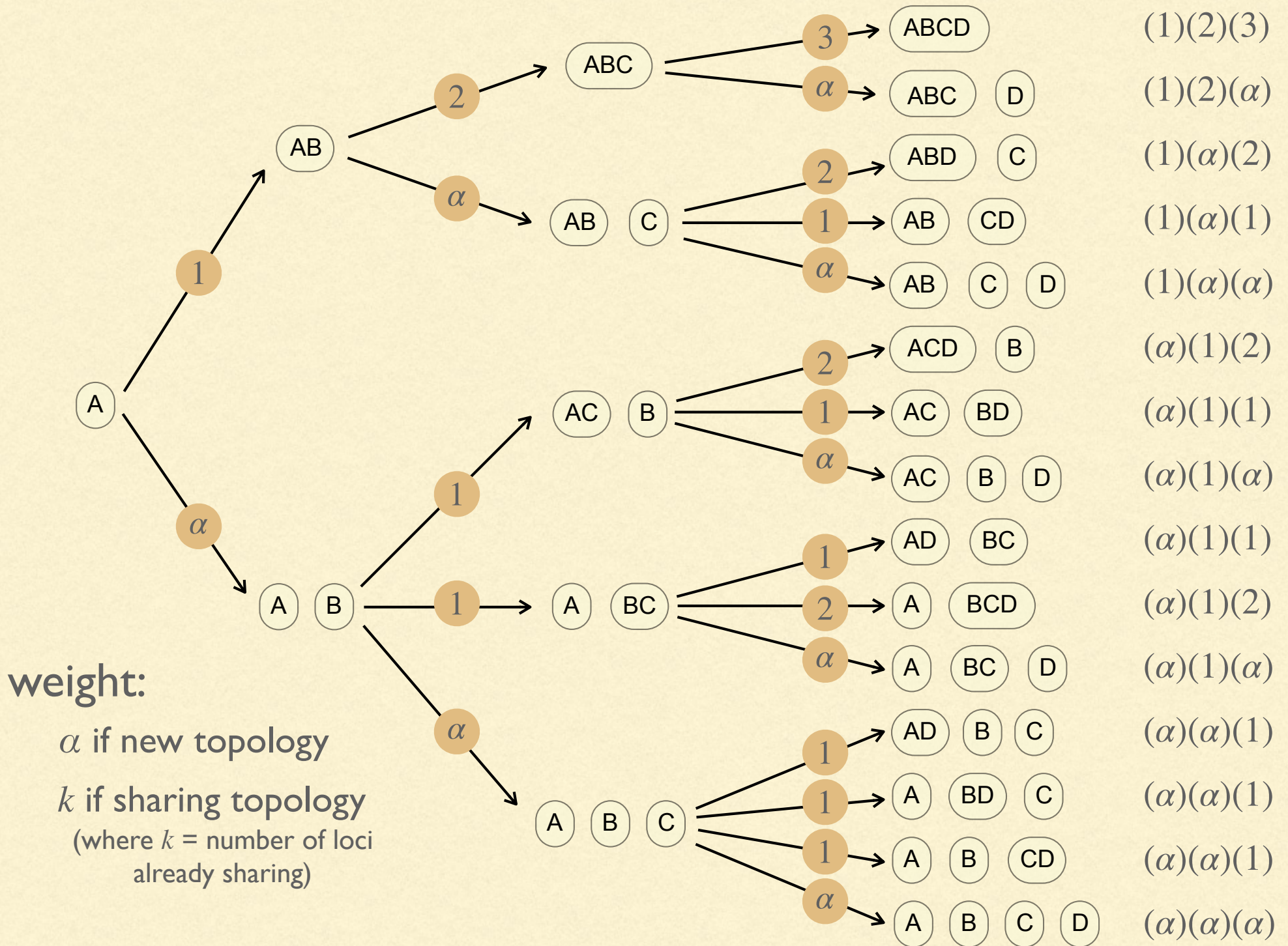
A B CD

A B C D

Suppose we have data for 4 loci:  
A, B, C, D

Would like a prior that  
encourages concordance (i.e. loci  
have same tree topology) but  
allows discordance

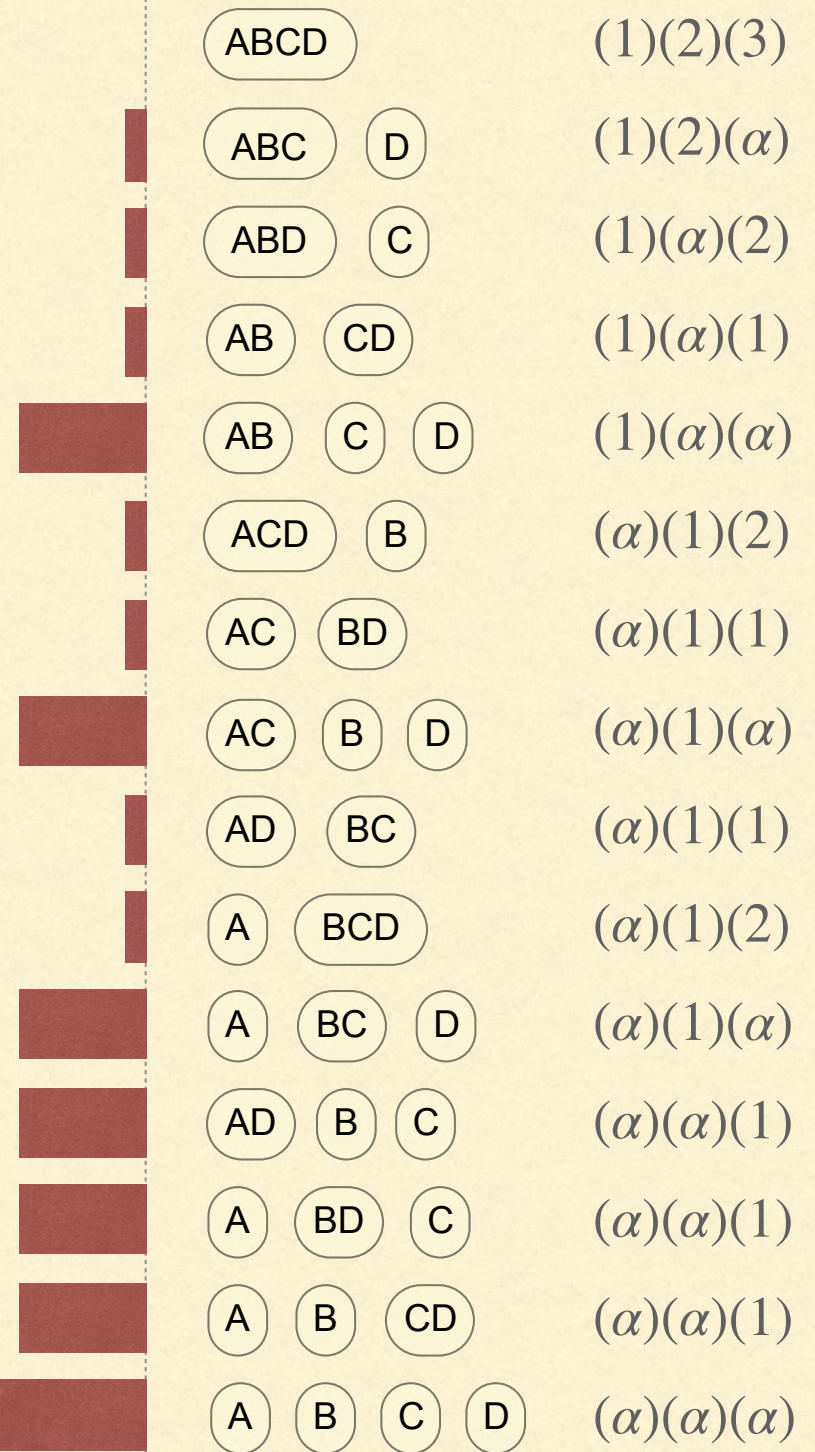
each locus has a different tree topology





$\alpha = 10$

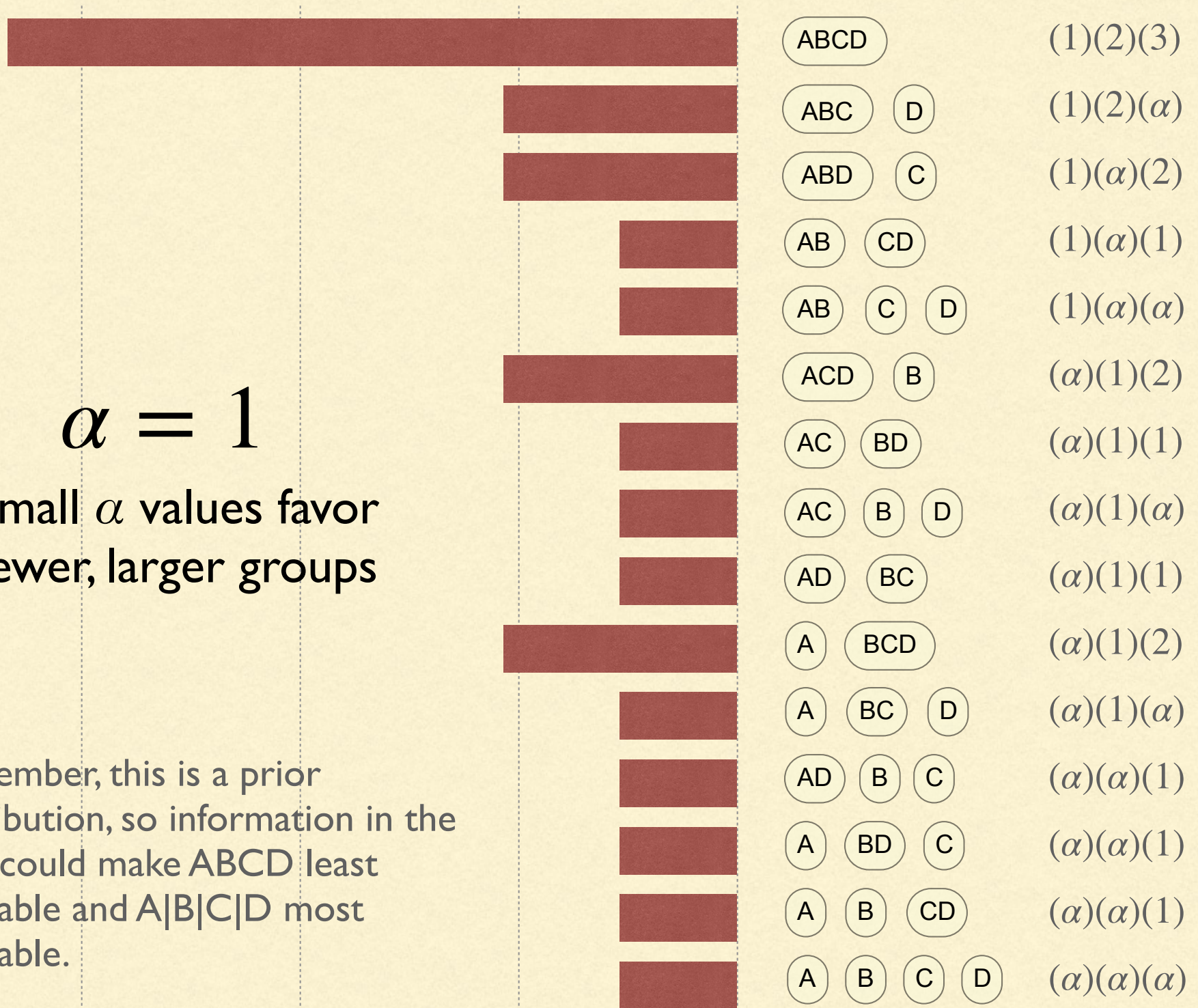
Large  $\alpha$  values favor  
more, smaller groups



$$\alpha = 1$$

Small  $\alpha$  values favor fewer, larger groups

Remember, this is a prior distribution, so information in the data could make ABCD least probable and A|B|C|D most probable.





## Dirichlet Process Prior applet

<https://plewis.github.io/applets/dpp/>