On the forest fires that Bálint ignited

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Figure: Piero di Cosimo: The forest fire (c. 1505)



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- Kiss, Manolescu, Sidoravicius (2015): nonexistence of planar forest-fire model

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 - $\lambda(n) \rightarrow 0$: the fire does no harm small components
 - $n\lambda(n) \to \infty$: giant components burn very fast

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} v_k(t) &= -k v_k(t) + \frac{k}{2} \sum_{l=1}^{k-1} v_l(t) v_{k-l}(t), \quad k \ge 2, \\ v_k(0) &= \mathbb{1}[k = 1], \\ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} v_k(t) &\equiv 1. \end{aligned}$$

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Controlled Smoluchowski equations Well-posed system of ODEs!

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- If t ≤ 1 then v_k(t) is the same as the Erdős-Rényi v_k(t)
 For t ≥ 1 we have v_k(t) ≍ k^{-3/2}
- ► The functions v_k(·) do not depend on the exact decay rate of λ(n), i.e., we do not have to fine-tune the model to see permanent criticality in the limit: S.O.C.

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}v_{k}(t) = -kv_{k}(t) + \frac{k}{2}\sum_{l=1}^{k-1}v_{l}(t)v_{k-l}(t), \quad k \ge 2,$$
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Open question (up to this day): do we have

$$\lim_{t\to\infty} v_k(t) = v_k(\infty)?$$

Generating function / Laplace transform:

$$(\mathbf{v}_k(t))_{k=1}^\infty \mapsto \mathbf{V}(t, \mathbf{x}) := \sum_{k=1}^\infty \mathbf{v}_k(t) \mathbf{e}^{-k\mathbf{x}}$$

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Controlled Smoluchowski \mapsto Controlled Burgers' eq:

$$\partial_t V(t,x) = \partial_x V(t,x) - \frac{1}{2} \partial_x V^2(t,x) + \varphi(t) e^{-x},$$

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Erdős-Rényi → Burgers' equation giant component → shockwave

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Other supercritical branching processes initiated by Bálint?



Many happy returns of the day, Bálint!