#### Spatial Extent of Branching Brownian Motion

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# Presentation Outline

#### Introduction

- Extreme Value Statistics
- Branching Brownian Motion

Backward Fokker-Planck Equations

Solving the Equations

#### Results

- Asymptotic behavior of  $p(\zeta)$  for  $\zeta \to 0$
- Asymptotic behavior of  $p(\zeta)$  for  $\zeta \to \infty$
- 5 Monte Carlo Simulations

#### Extreme Value Statistics

#### Extreme Value Statistics

- Extreme value statistics has been growing in prominence.
- In many real world examples the extreme value is not independent of the rest of the set and there are **strong correlations between near-extreme values**.
- Examples include **extreme temperatures** as part of heat or cold waves, **earthquakes and financial crashes** where extreme fluctuations are accompanied by foreshocks and aftershocks.
- Particularly important in **disordered systems** where energy levels near the ground state become important at low but finite temperature.
- Although EVS of independent identically distributed (i.i.d.) variables are fully understood, very few analytical results for strongly correlated random variables.

# Branching Brownian Motion

At each time step  $[t, t + \Delta t]$  the particle can:

- A) die with probability  $a\Delta t$
- B) split into two independent particles with probability  $b\Delta t$
- C) diffuse by a distance  $\Delta x = \eta(t)\Delta t$ , with probability  $1 (a+b)\Delta t$ .

$$\langle \eta(t) \rangle = 0, \quad \langle \eta(t_1)\eta(t_2) \rangle = 2D\delta(t_1 - t_2)$$
 (1)

# Branching Brownian Motion



Figure: A realization of the dynamics of branching Brownian motion with death (left) in the supercritical regime (b > a) and (right) in the critical regime (b = a). The particles are numbered sequentially from right to left as shown in the inset.

#### The Backward Fokker-Planck Approach

We look at the contribution from the first time step [0, Δt] to the final time step t + Δt



#### Number of Particles in the system

- P(n, t) = Probability there are exactly *n* particles at time *t*.
- Using the Backward Fokker-Planck approach

$$P(n, t + \Delta t) = [1 - (a + b)\Delta t]P(n, t) + b\Delta t \sum_{m=0}^{n} P(m, t)P(n - m, t) + a\Delta t \,\delta_{n,0} \,. \quad (2)$$

• In the  $\Delta t 
ightarrow 0$  we have

$$\frac{\partial P(n,t)}{\partial t} = -(a+b)P(n,t) + b\sum_{m=0}^{n}P(m,t)P(n-m,t) + a\,\delta_{n,0} \ . \ (3)$$

• We can solve this using standard generating functions.

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#### Number of Particles in the system

The solutions are

$$P(0,t) = \frac{a(e^{bt} - e^{at})}{be^{bt} - ae^{at}}, \qquad P(n \ge 1,t) = (b-a)^2 e^{(a+b)t} \frac{b^{n-1}(e^{bt} - e^{at})^{n-1}}{(be^{bt} - ae^{at})^{n+1}}.$$
(4)

• In the critical regime (b = d) this reduces to

$$P(0,t) = rac{bt}{1+bt}, \qquad P(n \ge 1,t) = rac{(bt)^{n-1}}{(1+bt)^{n+1}}.$$
 (5)

• The average number of particles is

$$\langle N(t) \rangle = e^{(b-a)t}.$$
 (6)

#### The Maximum of BBM

- $Q(X, t) = Probability that X_{max} \le X$  at time t
- PDF of X<sub>max</sub>:

$$P_{\text{marg}}(X,t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial X}Q(X,t).$$
 (7)

The initial condition is

$$Q(X,0) = \theta(X) \tag{8}$$

The boundary conditions are

$$Q(X,t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for} \quad X \to \infty \\ 0 & \text{for} \quad X < 0. \end{cases}$$
(9)

# The Maximum of BBM (Cont.)

• Using the backward Fokker-Planck approach, we have

$$Q(X, t + \Delta t) = (1 - (a + b)\Delta t) \langle Q(X - \eta(0)\Delta t, t) \rangle_{\eta(0)} + b\Delta t Q^2(X, t) + a\Delta t .$$
(10)

• In the  $\Delta t 
ightarrow 0$  we have

$$\frac{\partial Q(X,t)}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 Q(X,t)}{\partial X^2} - (a+b)Q(X,t) + bQ^2(X,t) + a \quad (11)$$

• In terms of R(X, t) = 1 - Q(X, t):

$$\frac{\partial R(X,t)}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 R(X,t)}{\partial X^2} + (b-a) R(X,t) - b R^2(X,t), \quad (12)$$

• Non-linear equation with no known general solution (*a* = 0 is the famous **Fisher-Kolmogorov-Pertrovski-Piscounov Equation**).

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#### **Dimensionless Variables**

It is natural to consider the evolution equations in terms of dimensionless variables as follows

$$x = \frac{X}{\sqrt{D/b}}, \qquad \left(y = \frac{Y}{\sqrt{D/b}}, \quad s = \frac{\zeta}{\sqrt{D/b}}\right),$$
  

$$\tau = bt,$$
  

$$\Delta = \frac{a}{b} - 1. \qquad (13)$$

In terms of these dimensionless variables Eq. (12) takes the simpler form

$$\frac{\partial R(x,\tau)}{\partial \tau} = \frac{\partial^2 R(x,t)}{\partial x^2} - \Delta R(x,y,\tau) - R^2(x,y,\tau).$$
(14)

For  $\Delta > 0$ : expected to approach a **stationary limit** as  $\tau \to \infty$ :

$$\mathcal{R}(x) = \mathcal{R}(x, y, \tau \to \infty). \tag{15}$$

#### The Maximum of BBM: Stationary Critical Solution

In the critical case  $\Delta=0$  (S. Sawyer and J. Fleischman, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 76(2), 87 (1979)):

$$\mathcal{R}(x) = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{x}{\sqrt{6}}\right)^2} \,. \tag{16}$$

Consequently,  $p_{
m marg}(x) = -d\mathcal{R}(x)/dx$  has the asymptotic behaviors

$$p_{
m marg}(x) \sim egin{cases} p_{
m marg}(0) = \sqrt{rac{2}{3}} \ , \ x 
ightarrow 0 \ rac{12}{x^3} \ , \ x 
ightarrow \infty \ . \end{cases}$$

#### The Maximum of BBM: Stationary subcritical Solution

In the subcritical case  $\Delta > 0$  (S. Sawyer and J. Fleischman, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 76(2), 87 (1979)):

$$\mathcal{R}(x) = \frac{3\Delta}{2} \operatorname{csch}^2\left(\frac{\sqrt{\Delta}}{2}x + \sinh^{-1}\sqrt{\frac{3\Delta}{2}}\right).$$
(18)

Consequently,  $p_{
m marg}(x) = -d\mathcal{R}(x)/dx$  has the asymptotic behaviors

$$p_{\text{marg}}(x) \sim \begin{cases} p_{\text{marg}}(0) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3} + \Delta} , \ x \to 0 \\ \\ 6\Delta^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-2\sinh^{-1}\sqrt{\frac{3\Delta}{2}}} \exp\left(-\sqrt{\Delta}x\right), \ x \to \infty . \end{cases}$$
(19)

#### Joint Distribution of the Maximum and Minimum



Figure: Schematic representation of a trajectory of the BBM confined in the box [-Y, X]. Note that  $X_{max}$  and  $X_{min}$  denote respectively the maximum and the minimum of the process *up to time t*. The process starts with a single particle at the origin at time t = 0 and hence  $X_{max} \ge 0$  while  $X_{min} \le 0$ .

#### Joint Distribution of the Maximum and Minimum

- Q(X, Y, t) = Joint probability that  $X_{max} \le X$  AND  $X_{min} \ge -Y$  at time t
- Using the backward Fokker-Planck approach, we have

$$Q(X, Y, t + \Delta t) = b\Delta t \ Q^{2}(X, Y, t) + a\Delta t + (1 - (b + a)\Delta t) \langle Q(X - \Delta x, Y + \Delta x, t) \rangle_{\eta(0)}, \qquad (20)$$

• In the limit  $\Delta t 
ightarrow$  0, we arrive at the exact BFP evolution equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}Q(X,Y,t) = D\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial X} - \frac{\partial}{\partial Y}\right)^2 Q(X,Y,t) + a$$
$$-(b+a) Q(X,Y,t) + b Q^2(X,Y,t).$$
(21)

• The initial condition is

$$Q(X, Y, 0) = \Theta(X)\Theta(Y) , \qquad (22)$$

• The boundary conditions are

$$Q(X, Y, t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for} & X < 0, \\ 0 & \text{for} & Y < 0. \end{cases}$$
(23)

In terms of the complimentary probability R(X, Y, t) = 1 - Q(X, Y, t), we have

$$\frac{\partial R(X,Y,t)}{\partial t} = D\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial X} - \frac{\partial}{\partial Y}\right)^2 R(X,Y,t) + (b-a) R(X,Y,t) - b R^2(X,Y,t),$$
(24)

with the initial conditions

$$R(X, Y, 0) = \Theta(-X)\Theta(-Y).$$
<sup>(25)</sup>

and the boundary conditions

$$R(X,Y,t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for} & X < 0, \\ 1 & \text{for} & Y < 0. \end{cases}$$
(26)



Figure: The solutions R(s, v, t) at different times obtained by numerical integration, with dx = 0.1, dt = 0.001, D = 1 and b = 0.5. We find that at large times this converges to a stationary bivariate function  $\mathcal{R}(s, v)$ .

#### Distribution of the Span

• The distribution of the span  $s = X_{max} - X_{min}$  is given by

$$P(s,t) = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty dX dY \delta(X+Y-s) P(X,Y,t).$$
(27)

In terms of the dimensionless variables

$$P(\zeta,\tau) = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty dx dy \,\delta(x+y-\zeta) P(x,y,\tau). \tag{28}$$

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$$p_{\text{uncorr}}(\zeta) = \int_0^{\zeta} p_{\text{marg}}(x) p_{\text{marg}}(\zeta - x) dx . \qquad (29)$$

# Change of Variables



Figure: The change of variables  $\{x, y\} \rightarrow \{\zeta, v\}$ .

Next, it is convenient to make a change of variables

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta &= x + y, \\ v &= x - y, \end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

with  $\zeta \in [0, \infty)$  and  $v \in [-\zeta, \zeta]$ .  $\zeta$  represents the dimensionless span of the process.

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Figure: Graph depicting the stationary joint cumulative probability  $\mathcal{R}(x, y)$ . The limiting distributions correspond to the marginal probabilities of the maximum and minimum  $\mathcal{R}(x) = \mathcal{R}(x, y \to \infty)$  and  $\mathcal{R}(y) = \mathcal{R}(x \to \infty, y)$  respectively.

In terms of these new variables Eq. (24) becomes

$$4\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v}\right)^2 \mathcal{R}(\zeta, v) - \Delta \mathcal{R}(\zeta, v) - \mathcal{R}^2(\zeta, v) = 0, \qquad (31)$$

valid in the regime  $v \in [-\zeta, +\zeta]$  and  $\zeta \in [0, +\infty)$ .

- For a fixed ζ, Monotonically decreasing v ∈ [-ζ, 0], Monotonically increasing v ∈ [0, ζ].
- Assuming analyticity around the minimum at v = 0 gives the condition

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{R}(\zeta, \nu)}{\partial \nu}\Big|_{\nu=0} = 0.$$
(32)



Figure:  $\mathcal{R}(\zeta, v)$  as a function of  $v \in [-\zeta, +\zeta]$  for different values of  $\zeta$ . For fixed  $\zeta$ ,  $\mathcal{R}(\zeta, v)$  is a smooth non-monotonic function, symmetric around v = 0 in  $-\zeta \leq v \leq +\zeta$ , and has a minimum at v = 0.

• Fortunately, Eq. (31) can be integrated with respect to v upon multiplying by a factor  $2\frac{\partial \mathcal{R}(\zeta, v)}{\partial v}$ , yielding

$$\left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{R}(\zeta, \nu)}{\partial \nu}\right)^2 = \frac{\Delta}{4} \,\mathcal{R}^2(\zeta, \nu) + \frac{1}{6} \,\mathcal{R}^3(\zeta, \nu) + \kappa(\zeta), \qquad (33)$$

where  $\kappa(\zeta)$  is a yet unknown integration constant.

• To fix  $\kappa(\zeta)$ , we use the condition in Eq. (32) and arrive at

$$\left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{R}(\zeta, \nu)}{\partial \nu}\right)^2 = \frac{\Delta}{4} \left(\mathcal{R}^2(\zeta, \nu) - \mathcal{R}^2(\zeta, 0)\right) + \frac{1}{6} \left(\mathcal{R}^3(\zeta, \nu) - \mathcal{R}^3(\zeta, 0)\right)$$
(2)

This equation can be conveniently expressed as

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathcal{R}(\zeta,0)}}\mathcal{G}\left(\frac{3\Delta/2}{\mathcal{R}(\zeta,0)},\frac{\mathcal{R}(\zeta,\nu)}{\mathcal{R}(\zeta,0)}\right) = \frac{\nu}{\sqrt{6}},\tag{35}$$

where the bivariate function  ${\mathcal{G}}$  is defined by the integral

$$\mathcal{G}(\gamma, z) = \int_{1}^{z} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{(x^{3} - 1) + \gamma (x^{2} - 1)}},$$
 (36)

• The above function  $\mathcal{G}(\gamma, z)$  can then be expressed as

$$\mathcal{G}(\gamma, z) = \frac{1}{(3+2\gamma)^{1/4}} \mathbf{F}\left[\tan^{-1}\sqrt{\frac{z-1}{\sqrt{3+2\gamma}}}, \frac{2\sqrt{3+2\gamma}-(3+\gamma)}{4\sqrt{3+2\gamma}}\right],$$
(37)

where  $z \ge 1$ ,  $\gamma \ge 0$  and **F** is the elliptic integral of the first kind.

$$\mathbf{F}(\phi, k) = \int_0^{\phi} \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{1 - k \sin^2 \theta}}$$
(38)

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• Next, inserting the boundary condition  $\mathcal{R}(\zeta, \pm \zeta) = 1$  in the above equation we have

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathcal{R}(\zeta,0)}}\mathcal{G}\left(\frac{3\Delta/2}{\mathcal{R}(\zeta,0)},\frac{1}{\mathcal{R}(\zeta,0)}\right) = \frac{\zeta}{\sqrt{6}}.$$
(39)

 This is an implicit equation for R(ζ, 0), the solution of which can then be injected in Eq. (35) to solve for R(ζ, ν) for all ζ and ν. Results



Figure: The function  $\mathcal{G}(\gamma, z)$  for different values of  $\gamma$ . For large z,  $\mathcal{G}(\gamma, z)$  saturates to a  $\gamma$  dependent constant  $\mathcal{C}(\gamma)$ . The case  $\gamma = 0$  corresponds to the function  $\mathcal{G}(0, z)$  analyzed in the critical case. The limiting behaviors are  $\mathcal{G}(0, z) \to 0$  as  $z \to 1$  and  $\mathcal{G}(0, z) \to \mathcal{C}^* = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{3} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{6})}{\Gamma(\frac{2}{3})} \approx 2.4286$  as  $z \to \infty$ .

#### Results



Figure: The function  $\mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0)$  versus  $\zeta$  in the critical regime, showing the limiting behaviors  $\mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0) \to 1$  as  $\zeta \to 0$  and  $\mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0) \to \frac{\mathcal{B}}{\zeta^2}$  as  $\zeta \to \infty$  (dashed line).  $\mathcal{B} \approx 35.3901$ . **Inset**: Plot of  $1 - \mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0)$  showing the limiting behavior  $1 - \mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0) \sim (\frac{1}{8}) \zeta^2$  as  $\zeta \to 0$  (dashed line).

#### Results



Figure: Asymptotic behavior of  $\mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0)$  in the subcritical regime. The plot shows  $\mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0)$  for different values of  $\Delta$ . The dashed lines representing the asymptotic exponential behavior  $\mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0) \sim A \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{\Delta}}{2}\zeta\right)$  as  $\zeta \to \infty$  are indistinguishable from the theoretically obtained curves as they match exactly. **Inset**: Plot of  $1 - \mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0)$  showing the limiting behavior  $1 - \mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0) \sim \frac{1}{8} (1 + \Delta) \zeta^2$  as  $\zeta \to 0$  (dashed lines).

# $\zeta \rightarrow {\rm 0}$ Asymptotics

• To leading order in  $\zeta$  we have

$$\mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0) = 1 - \frac{1}{8}(1 + \Delta)\zeta^2 + \mathcal{O}(\zeta^4).$$
 (40)

Therefore

$$\mathcal{R}(\zeta, \mathbf{v}) = 1 - \frac{1}{8} (1 + \Delta) (\zeta^2 - \mathbf{v}^2) + \mathcal{O}(\zeta^4, \mathbf{v}^4).$$
 (41)

And hence

$$p(\zeta, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \nu^2} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \zeta^2} \right) \mathcal{R}(\zeta, \nu) = \frac{1}{4} (1 + \Delta) + \mathcal{O}(\zeta^2, \nu^2).$$
(42)

And finally

$$p(\zeta) = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \Delta) \zeta + \mathcal{O} (\zeta^3) , \qquad (43)$$

• To be compared with

$$p_{\mathrm{uncorr}}(\zeta) \sim \left(\frac{2}{3} + \Delta\right) \zeta \text{ , when } \zeta \to 0 \text{ .}$$
 (44)

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# $\zeta \rightarrow \infty$ Asymptotics: Critical

• we obtain

$$\mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0) = \frac{\mathcal{B}}{\zeta^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\zeta^4}\right),\tag{45}$$

where

$$\mathcal{B} = 6 \ \mathcal{C}^{*2} \approx 35.3901, \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{C}^* = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{3} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{6})}{\Gamma(\frac{2}{3})}.$$
 (46)

 $\bullet\,$  Hence, in the scaling limit  $\zeta \to \infty, \, \nu \to \infty$  keeping  $\zeta/\nu$  fixed

$$\mathcal{G}\left(0,\frac{\mathcal{R}(\zeta,\nu)}{\mathcal{R}(\zeta,0)}\right) = \mathcal{C}^*\frac{\nu}{\zeta} .$$
(47)

• Inverting the above Eq. (47), we get

$$\frac{\mathcal{R}(\zeta, \mathbf{v})}{\mathcal{R}(\zeta, 0)} = \mathcal{F}\left(\mathcal{C}^* \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\zeta}\right),\tag{48}$$

where  $\mathcal{F}(z)$  is defined as the inverse function of  $\mathcal{G}(0, z)$ .

$$\mathcal{R}(\zeta, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{\mathcal{B}}{\zeta^2} \mathcal{F}\left(\mathcal{C}^* \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\zeta}\right).$$
(49)

Inserting this expression into the expression for  $p(\zeta, v)$  yields

$$p(\zeta, \mathbf{v}) = -\frac{\mathcal{B}}{2} \left[ \frac{6}{\zeta^4} \mathcal{F} \left( \mathcal{C}^* \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\zeta} \right) + 6\mathcal{C}^* \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\zeta^5} \mathcal{F}' \left( \mathcal{C}^* \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\zeta} \right) + \mathcal{C}^{*2} \left( \frac{\mathbf{v}^2}{\zeta^6} - \frac{1}{\zeta^4} \right) \mathcal{F}'' \left( \mathcal{C}^* \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\zeta} \right) \right].$$
(50)

• The span distribution is then

$$p(\zeta) = -\frac{1}{\zeta^3} \left(\frac{\mathcal{B}}{\mathcal{C}^*}\right) \int_0^{\mathcal{C}^*} dz \Big[ 6\mathcal{F}(z) + 6z\mathcal{F}'(z) + \left(z^2 - \mathcal{C}^{*2}\right) \mathcal{F}''(z) \Big].$$
(51)

Hence, we obtain

$$p(\zeta) \sim rac{\mathcal{A}}{\zeta^3}$$
 for large  $\zeta$ , (52)

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• We can integrate this exactly!

$$\mathcal{A} = 8\pi\sqrt{3} = 43.53118\dots$$
 (53)

• Thus the leading asymptotic behavior for large  $\zeta$  is

$$p(\zeta) \sim \frac{8\pi\sqrt{3}}{\zeta^3} \,. \tag{54}$$

• To be compared with

$$p_{\mathrm{uncorr}}(\zeta) \sim \frac{24}{\zeta^3}.$$
 (55)



Figure: Theoretical stationary PDF of the dimensionless span  $p(\zeta)$  (solid line) in the critical regime.

# $\zeta \rightarrow \infty$ Asymptotics: Subcritical

#### • Here we get

$$p(\zeta) \sim \frac{A^2}{2} \zeta \exp\left(-\sqrt{\Delta} \zeta\right), \quad \zeta \to \infty.$$
 (56)

where 
$$A = 12 \Delta \exp \left[-2 \sinh^{-1} \left(\sqrt{3\Delta/2}\right)\right]$$
.

To be compared with

$$p_{\rm uncorr}(\zeta) \sim \frac{\Delta}{4} A^2 \zeta \exp\left(-\sqrt{\Delta} \zeta\right).$$
 (57)



Figure: Theoretical stationary PDF of the dimensionless span  $p(\zeta)$  in the subcritical regime.

#### Monte Carlo Simulations



Figure: **a.** Probability distribution function of the dimensionless span  $p(\zeta)$  extracted from Monte Carlo simulations (open circles) in the critical case ( $\Delta = 0$ ). Here t = 100, D = 1, a = b = 1, and dt = 0.0001. The data is averaged over  $5 \times 10^7$  realizations. **b.** Probability distribution function of the dimensionless span  $p(\zeta)$  extracted from Monte Carlo simulations (open circles) in the subcritical regime. Here t = 100, D = 1, a = 2, b = 1 (i.e.  $\Delta = 1$ ), and dt = 0.0001.



Figure: Finite time span PDF P(s, t) obtained from Monte Carlo simulations at different times with dt = 0.0001, D = 1 and b = 0.5. The data is averaged over  $5 \times 10^7$  realizations. The bold lines represent the PDFs obtained from our numerical integration of the two dimensional non-linear partial differential equation. We find a perfect agreement between the PDFs obtained by both techniques.

#### Conclusion

- We obtained exact analytical results for the span distribution of one dimensional BBM.
- This was possible by looking at the stationary regime.
- We found that correlations between the maximum and minimum persist in the stationary regime.
- It will be interesting to extend our analysis to **convex hulls in higher dimensional BBM**.

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