



The Symbiotic Contact Process on Trees

Joint research with
Marcel Ortgiese and
Sarah Penington

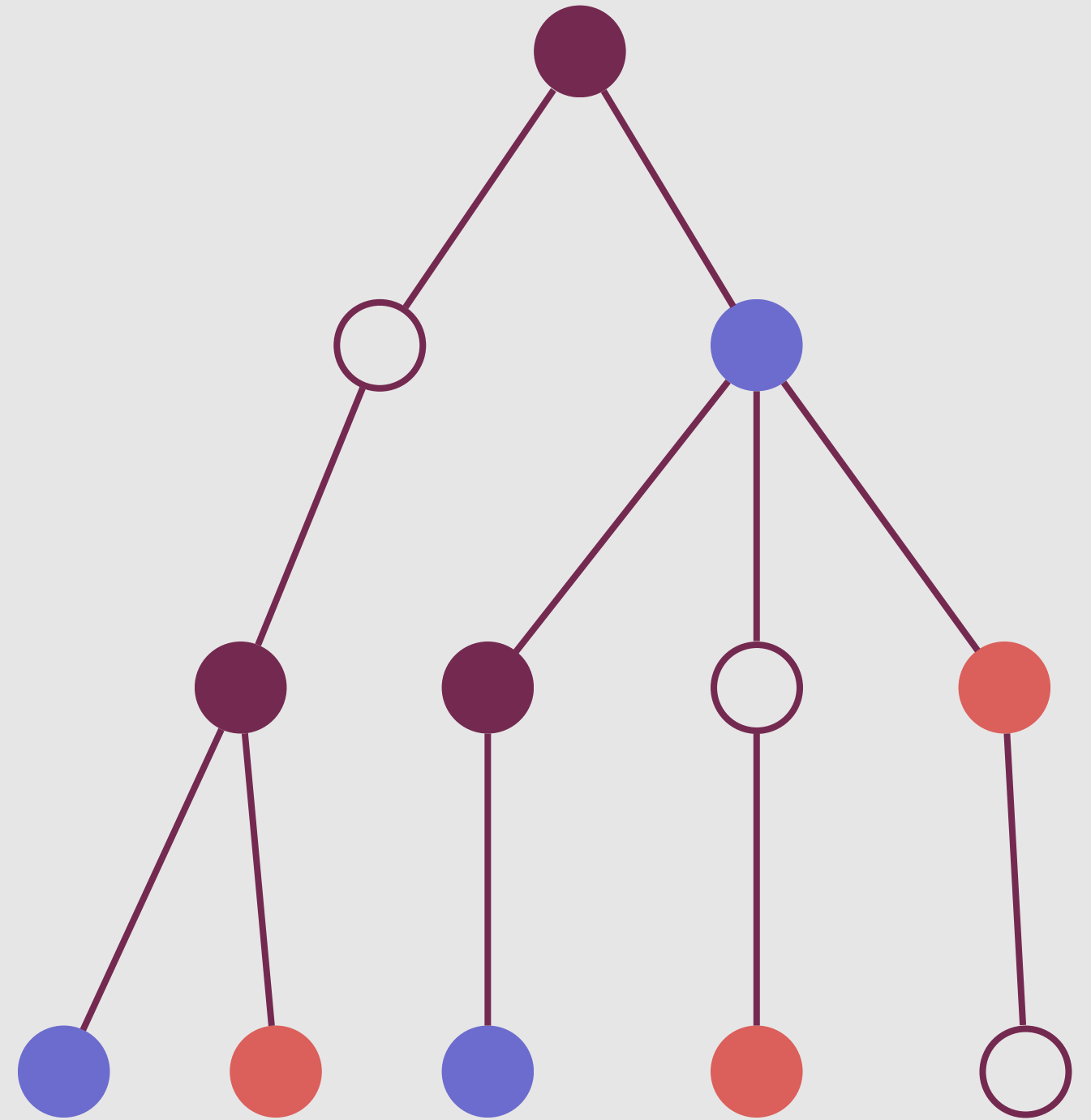




The Process

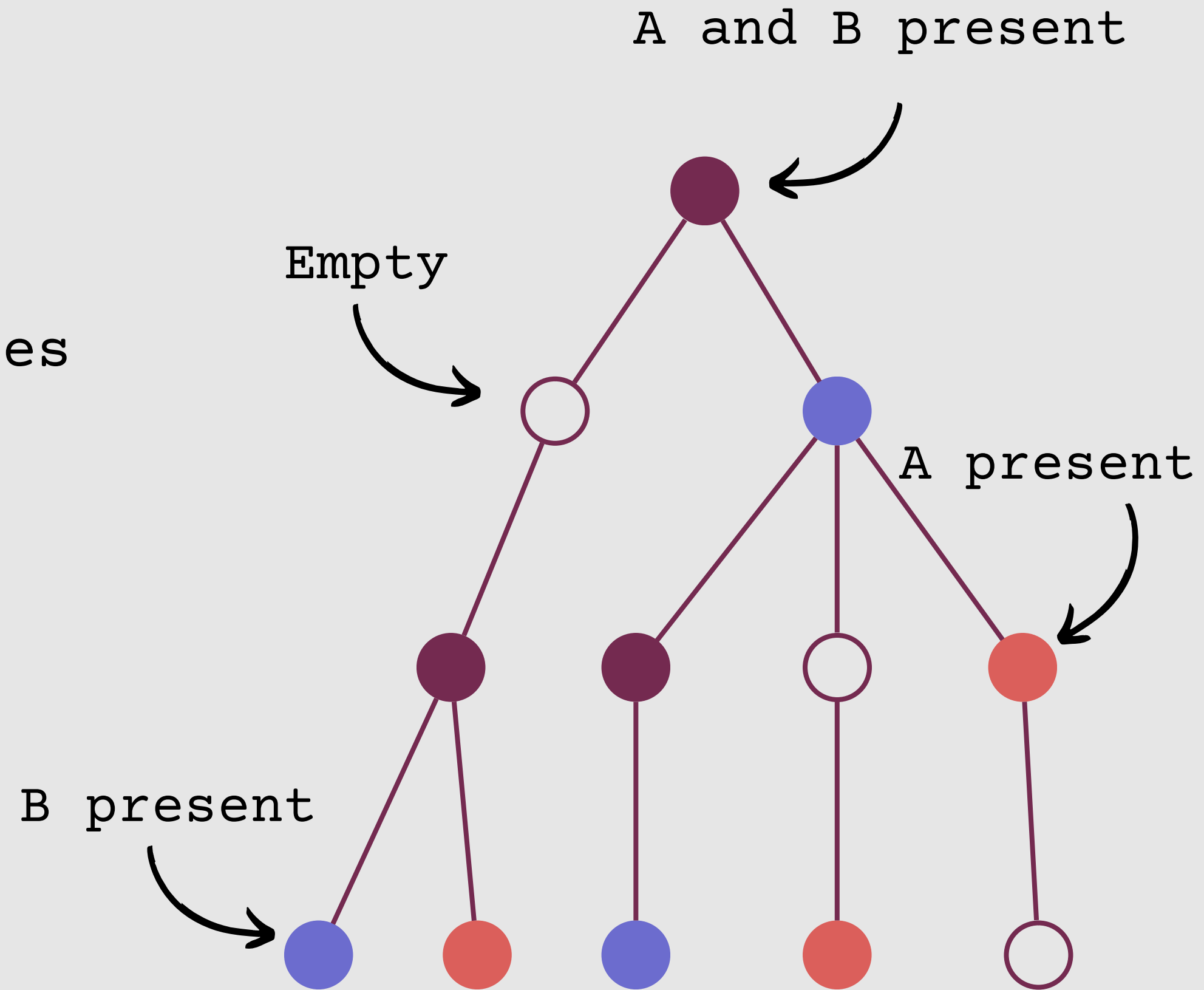
The Process

- An augmented contact process (continuous time, discrete space) that models two diseases



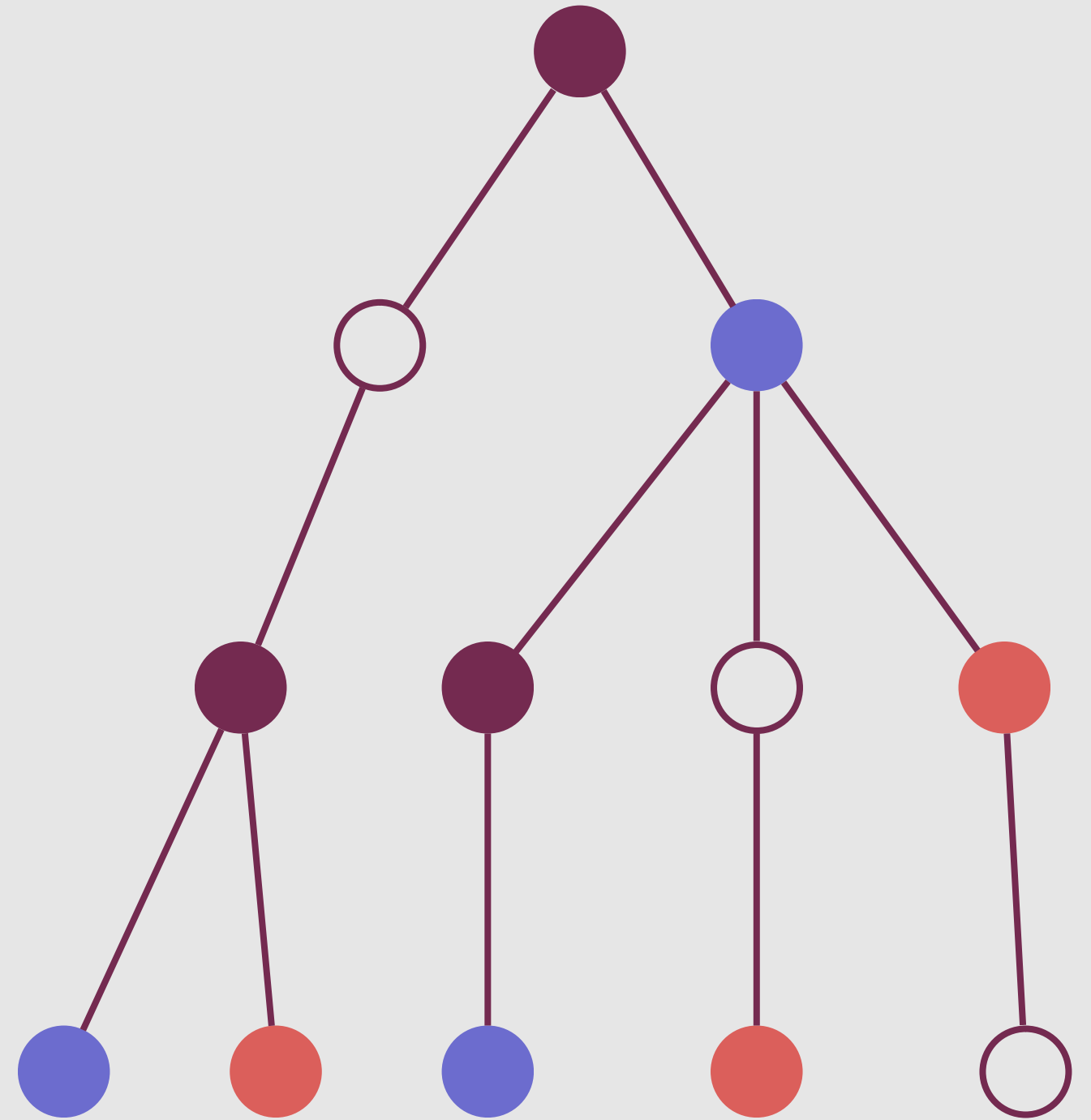
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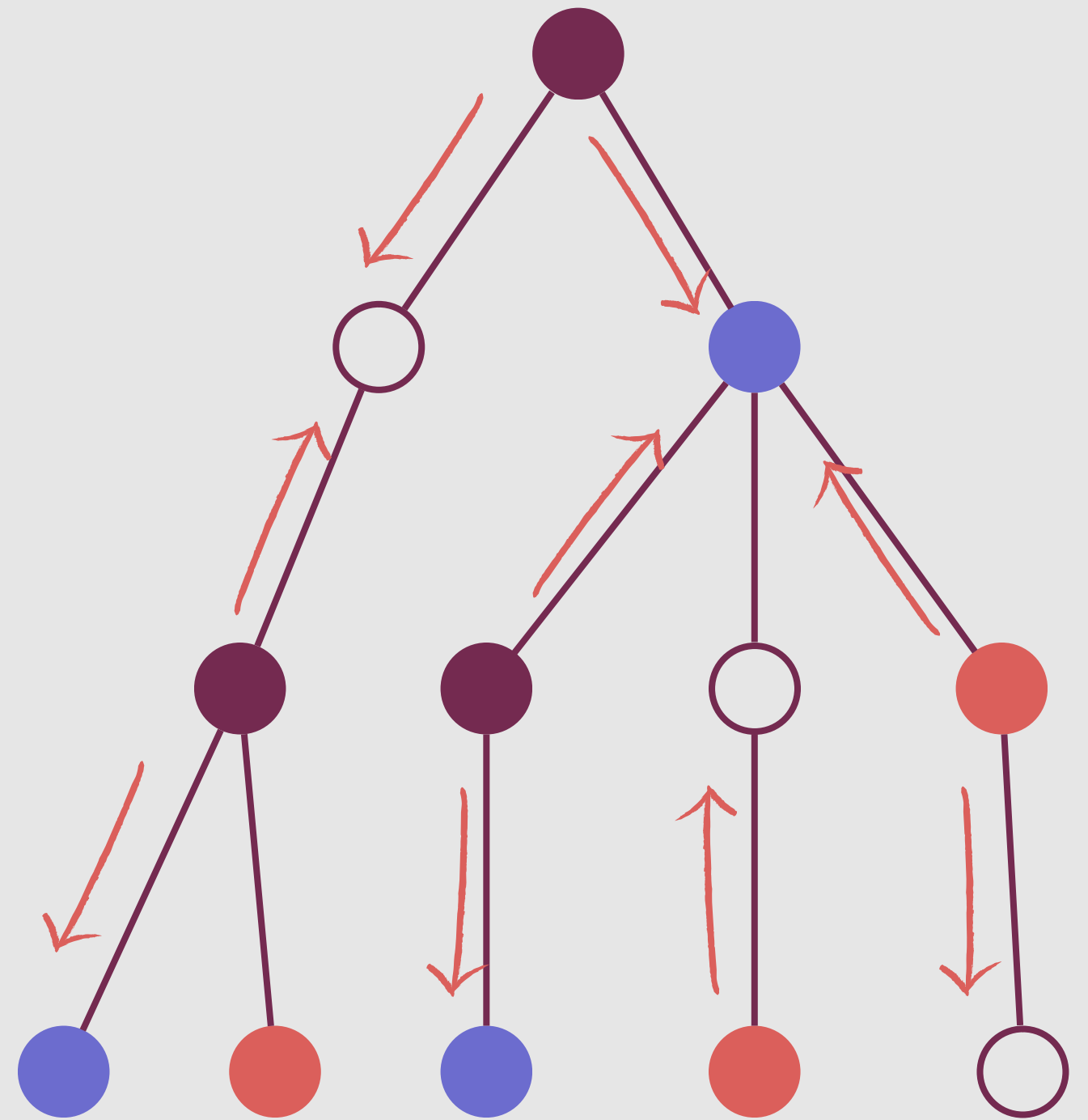
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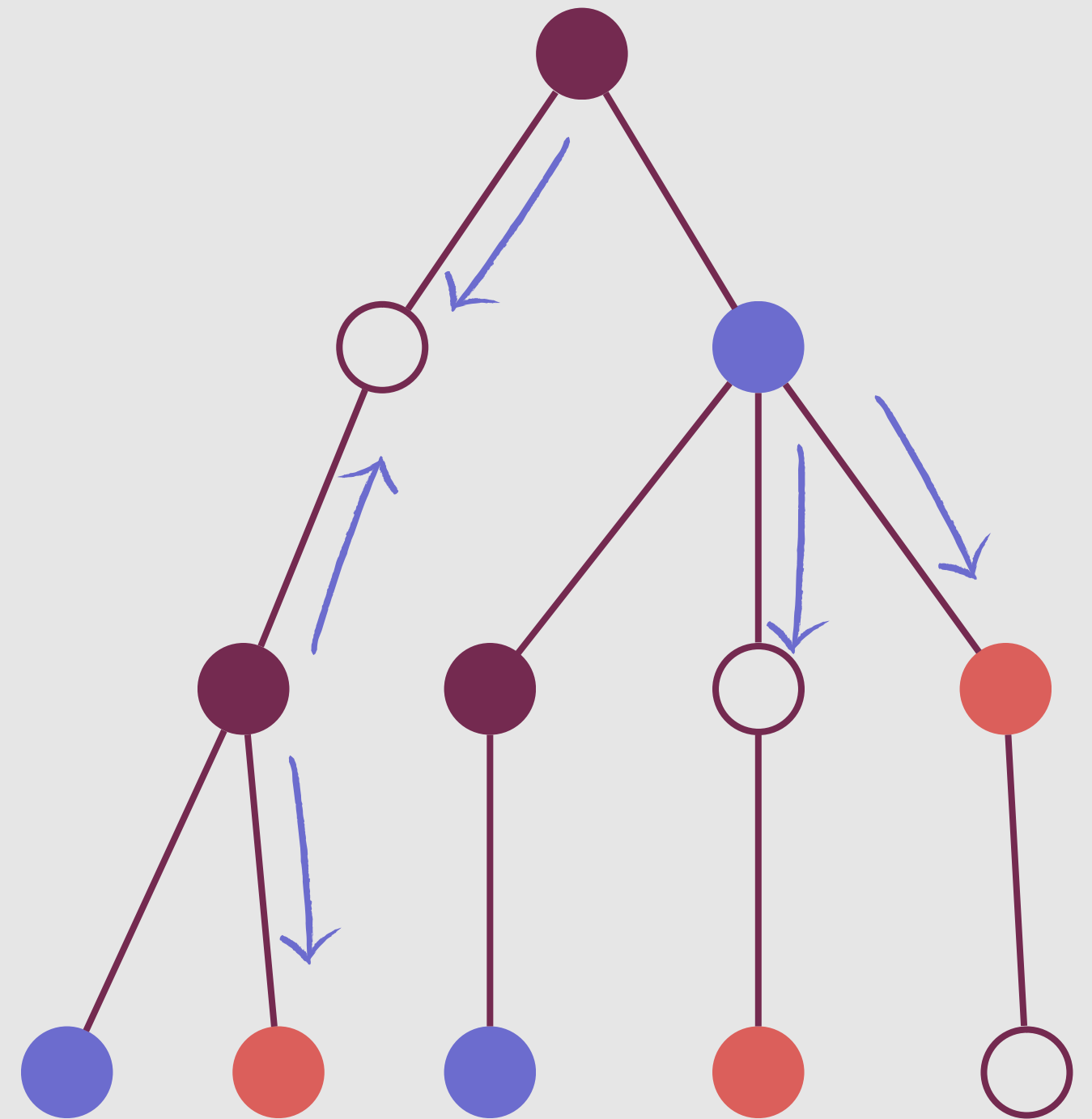
A infections



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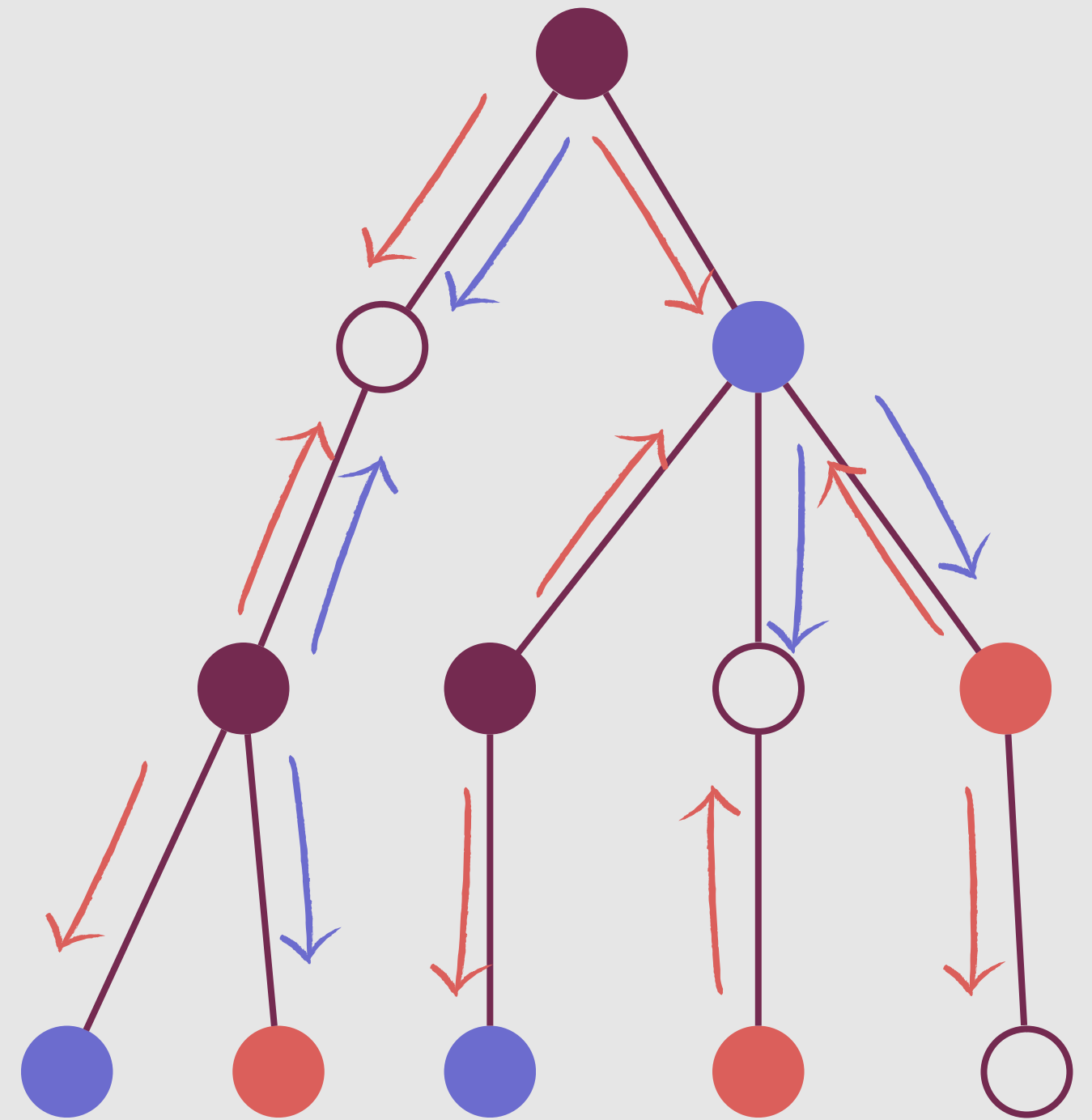
B infections



The Process

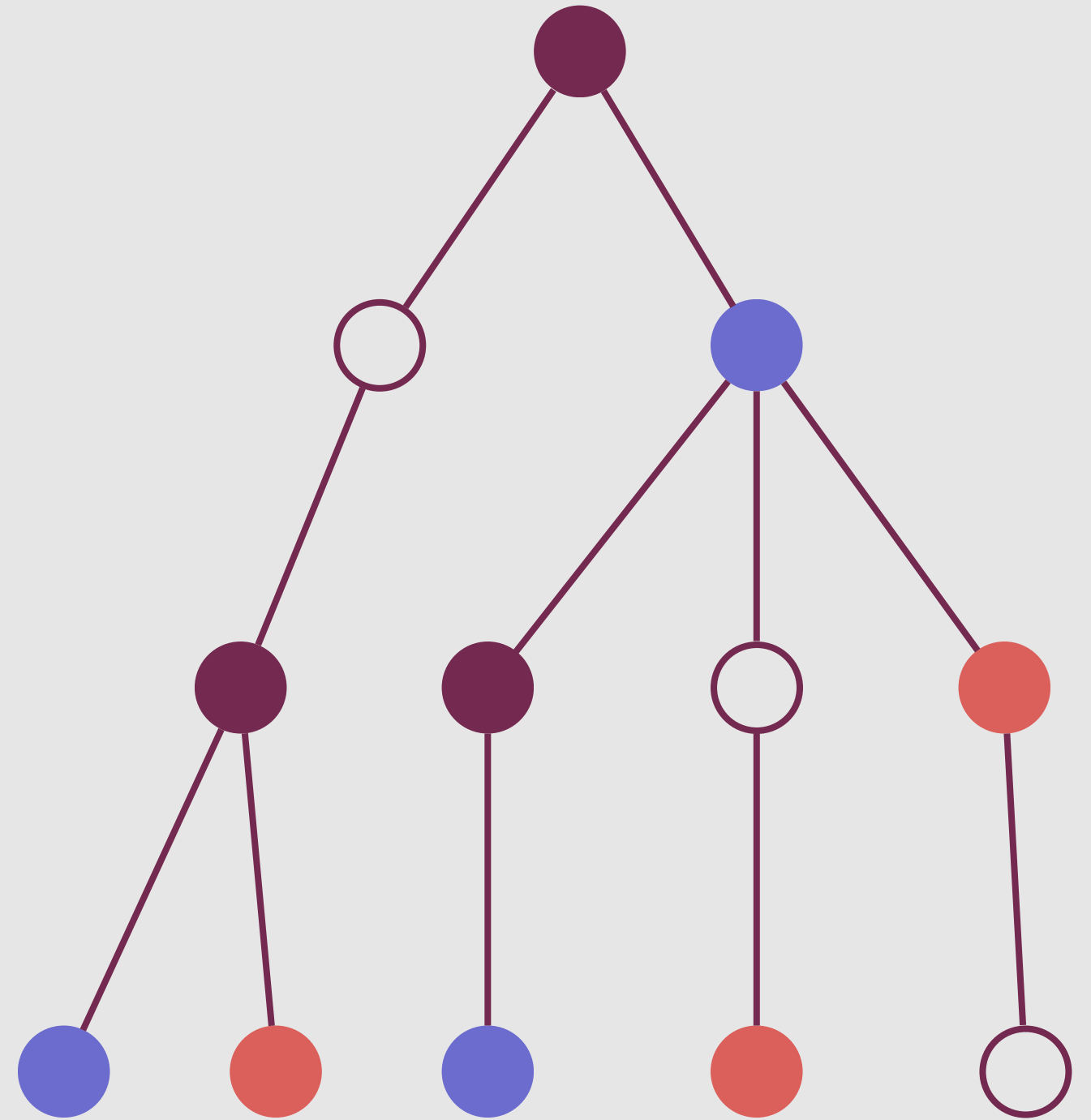
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All infections



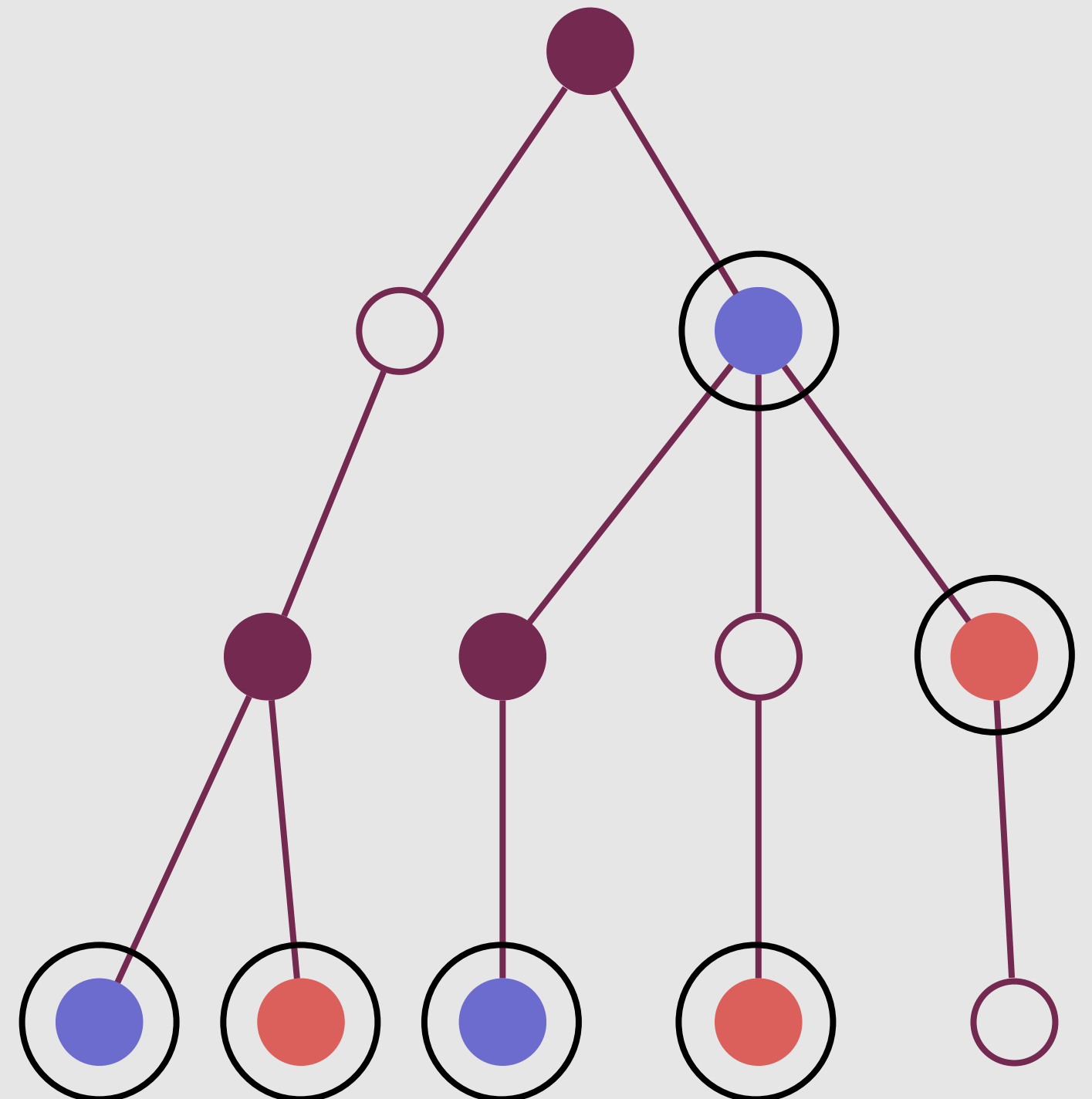
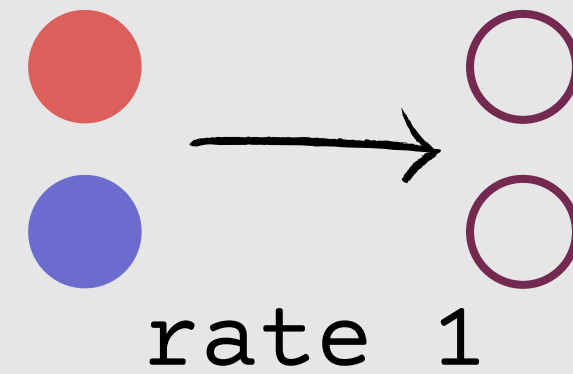
The Process

- An augmented contact process (continuous time, discrete space) that models two diseases
- Infection rate λ for both diseases
- Recoveries occur at rate 1 when a site has only 1 infection or rate μ when a site has both diseases



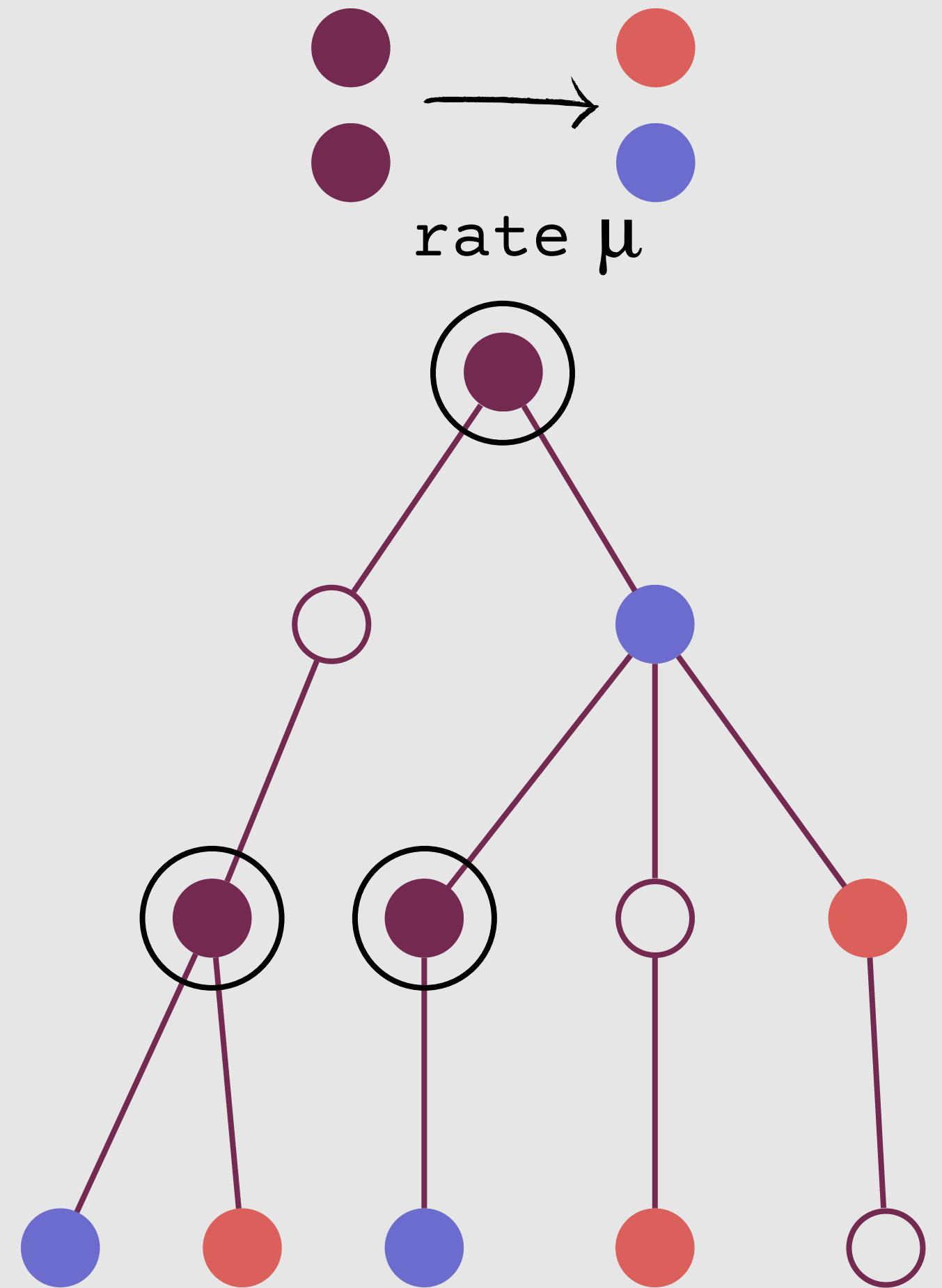
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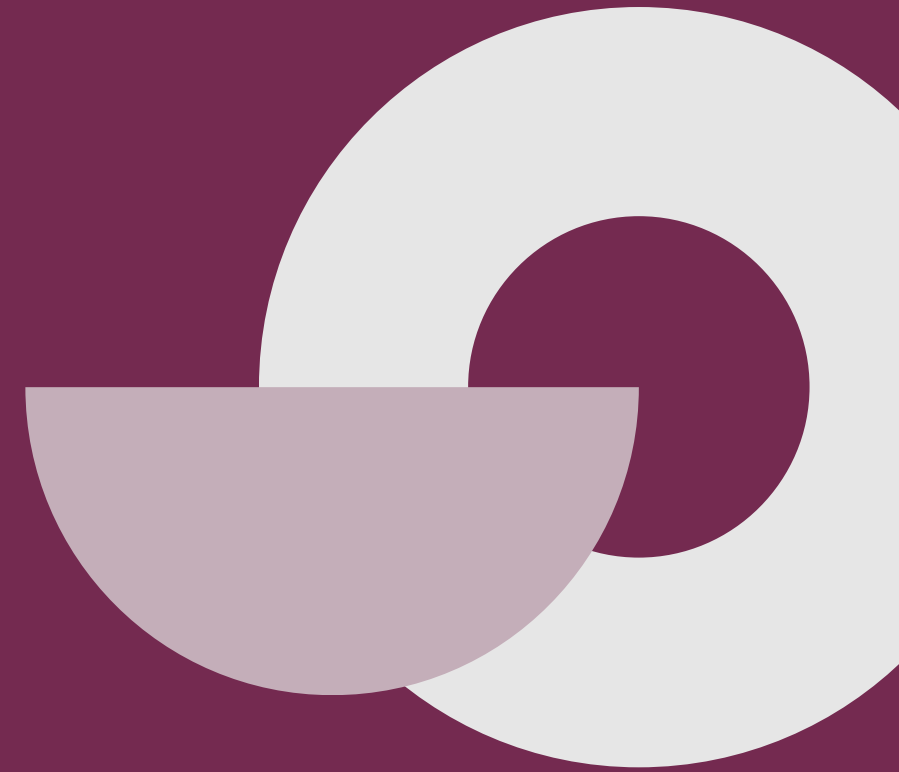
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We will be looking at the process on a Galton-Watson tree with offspring distribution ζ

**When does our process
survive?**

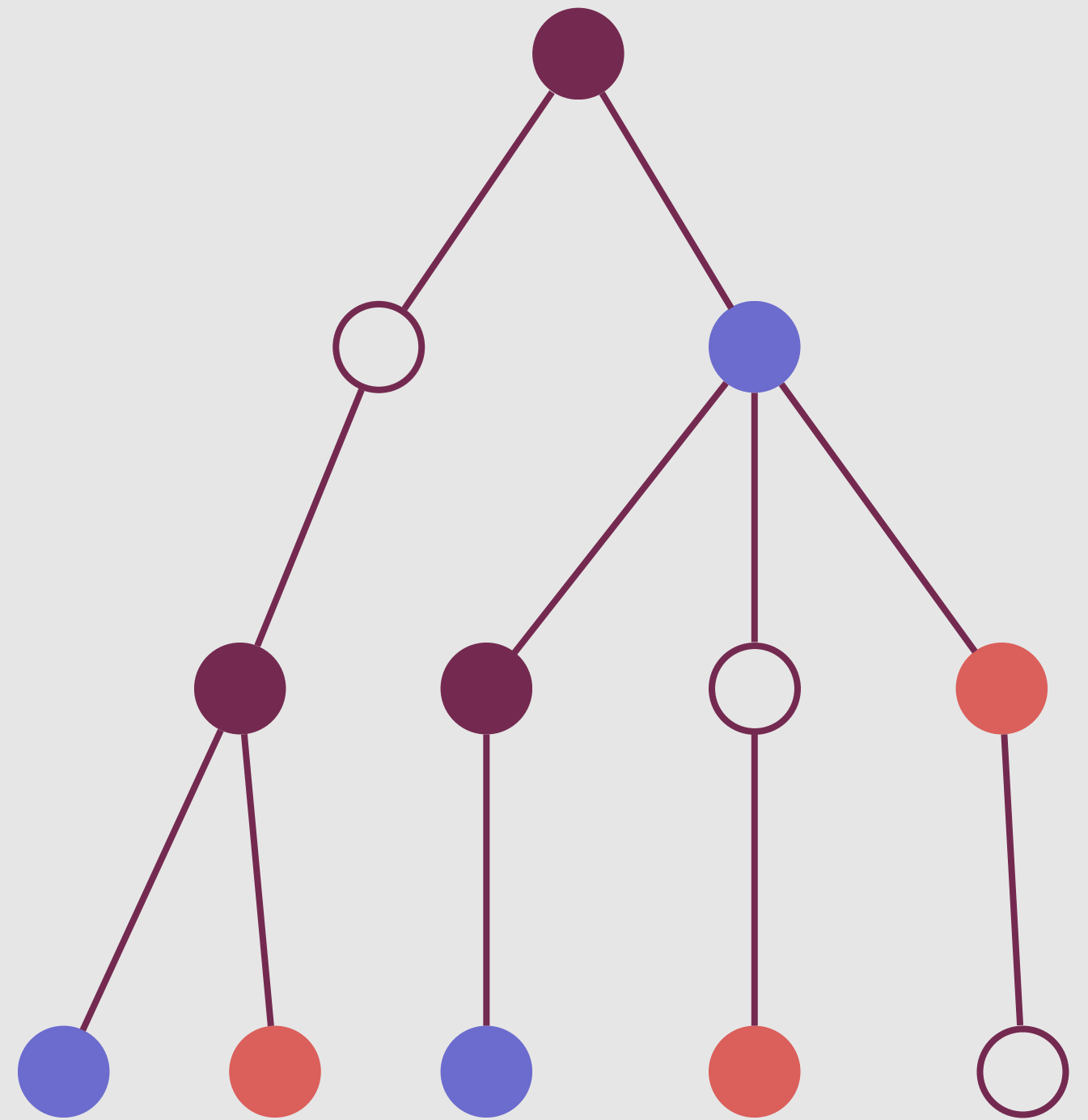




Critical Values

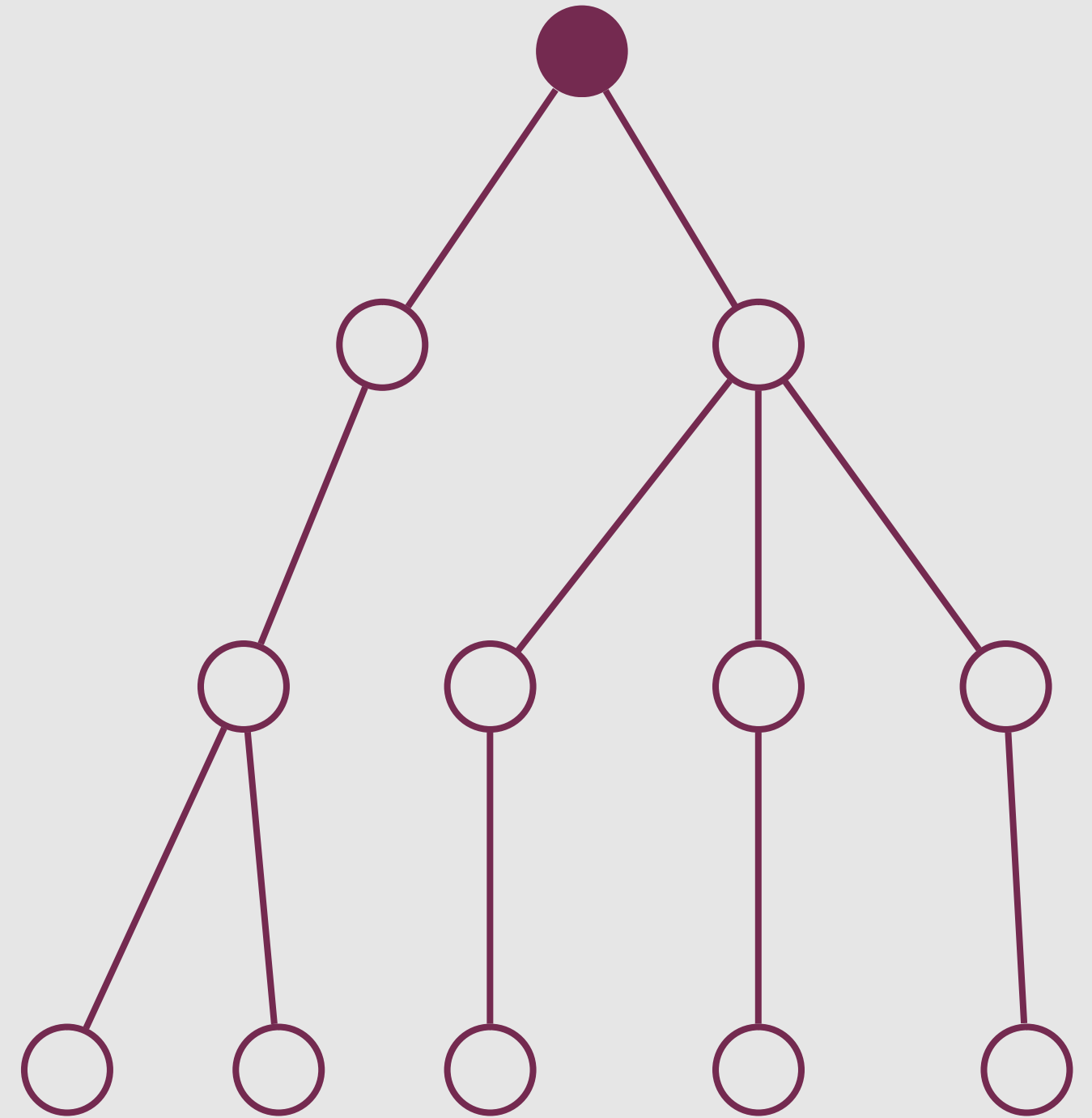
Critical Values

The symbiotic contact process has **survived weakly** if at all times there is an A infection and a B infection



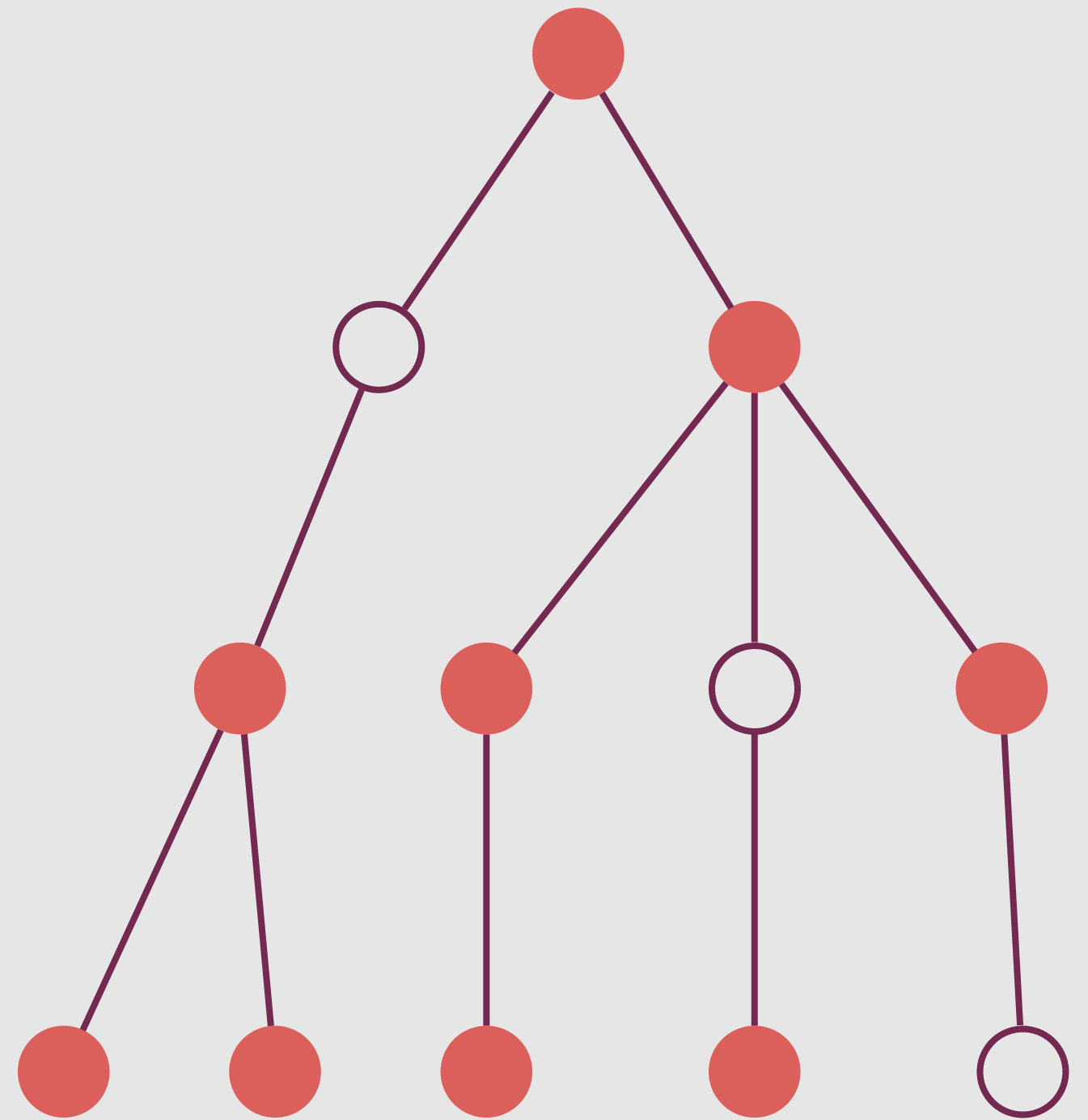
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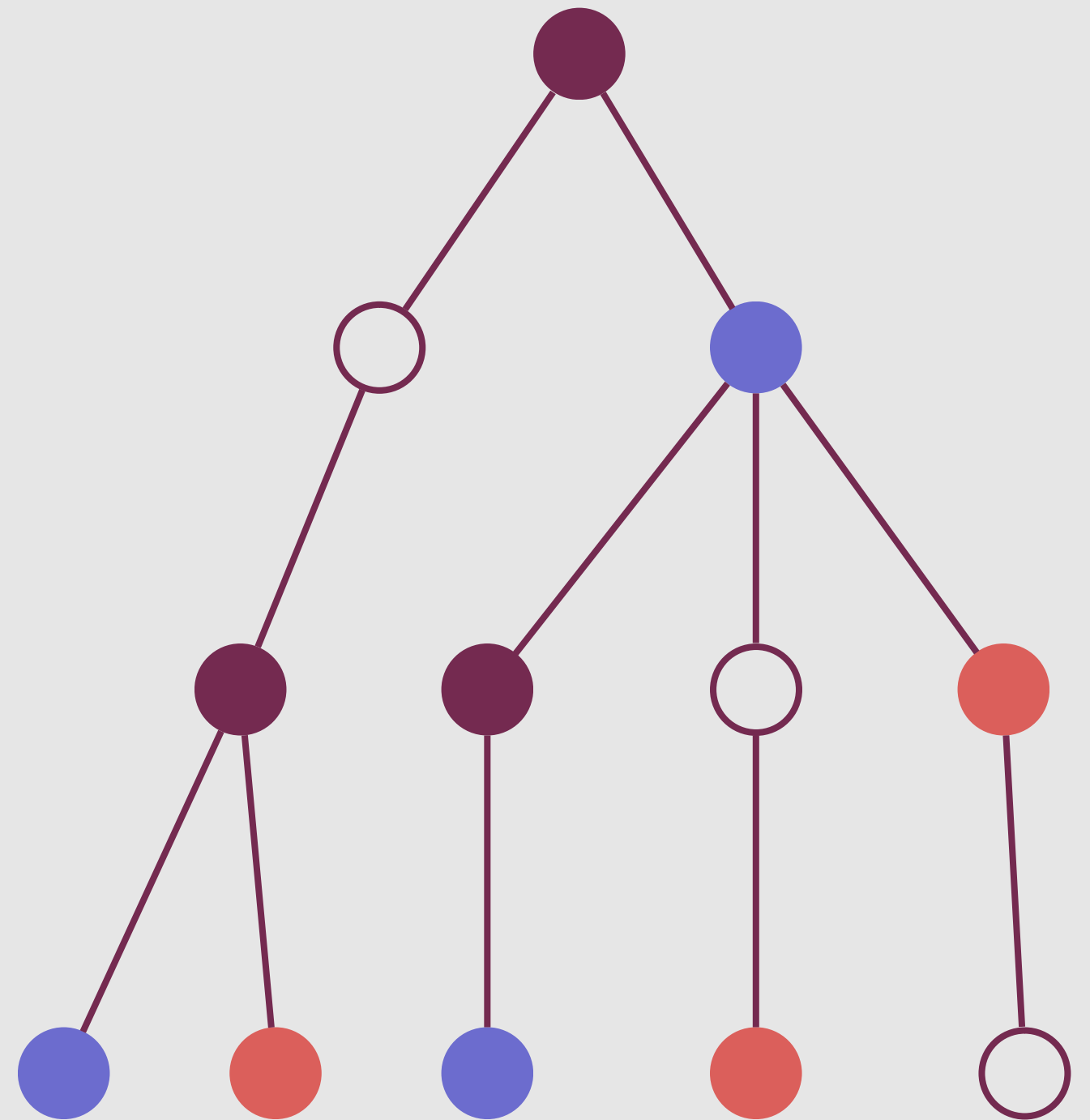
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$$\lambda_1(\mu) = \inf\{\lambda : \text{SCP}(\lambda, \mu) \text{ survives weakly}\}$$

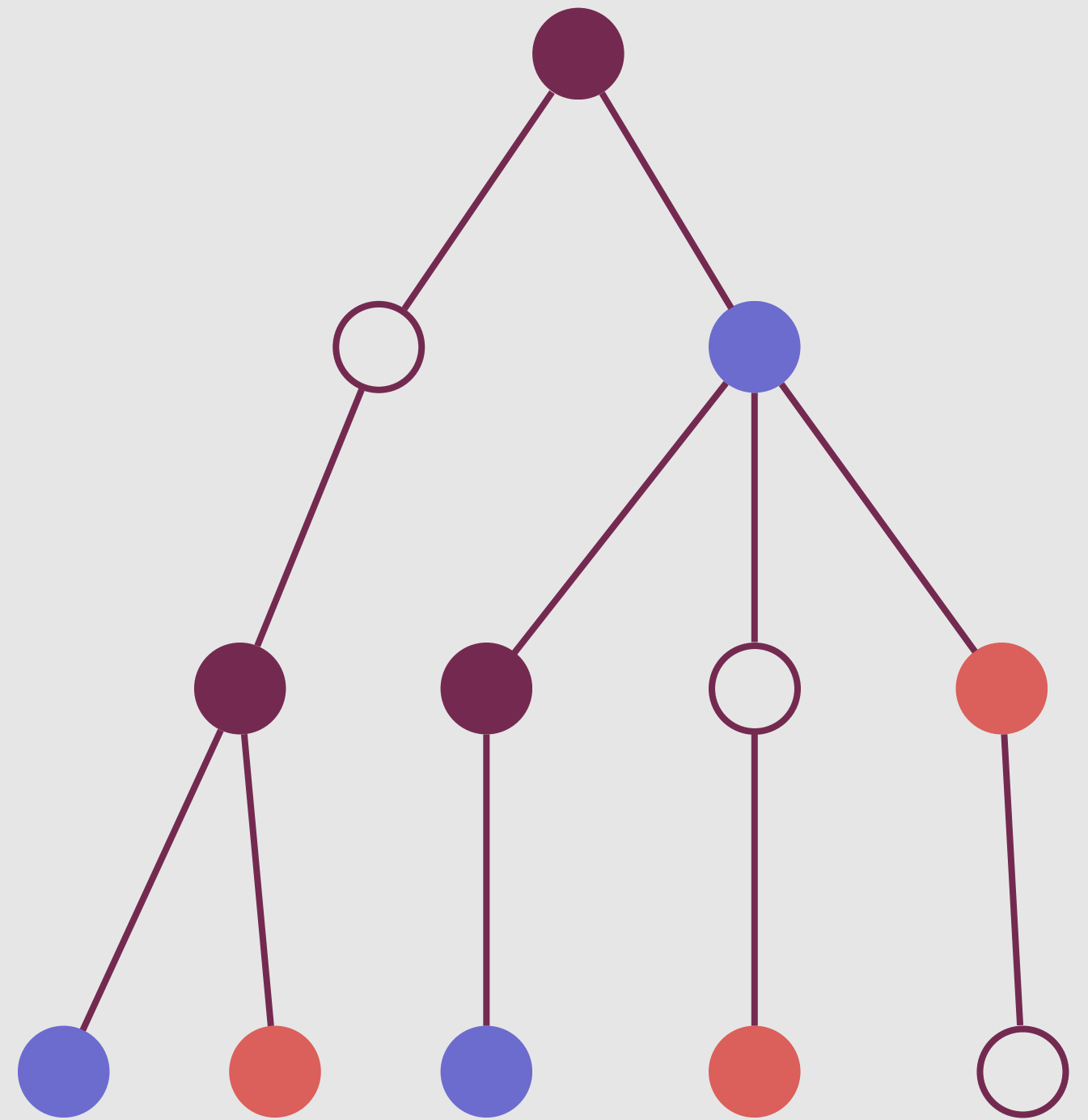


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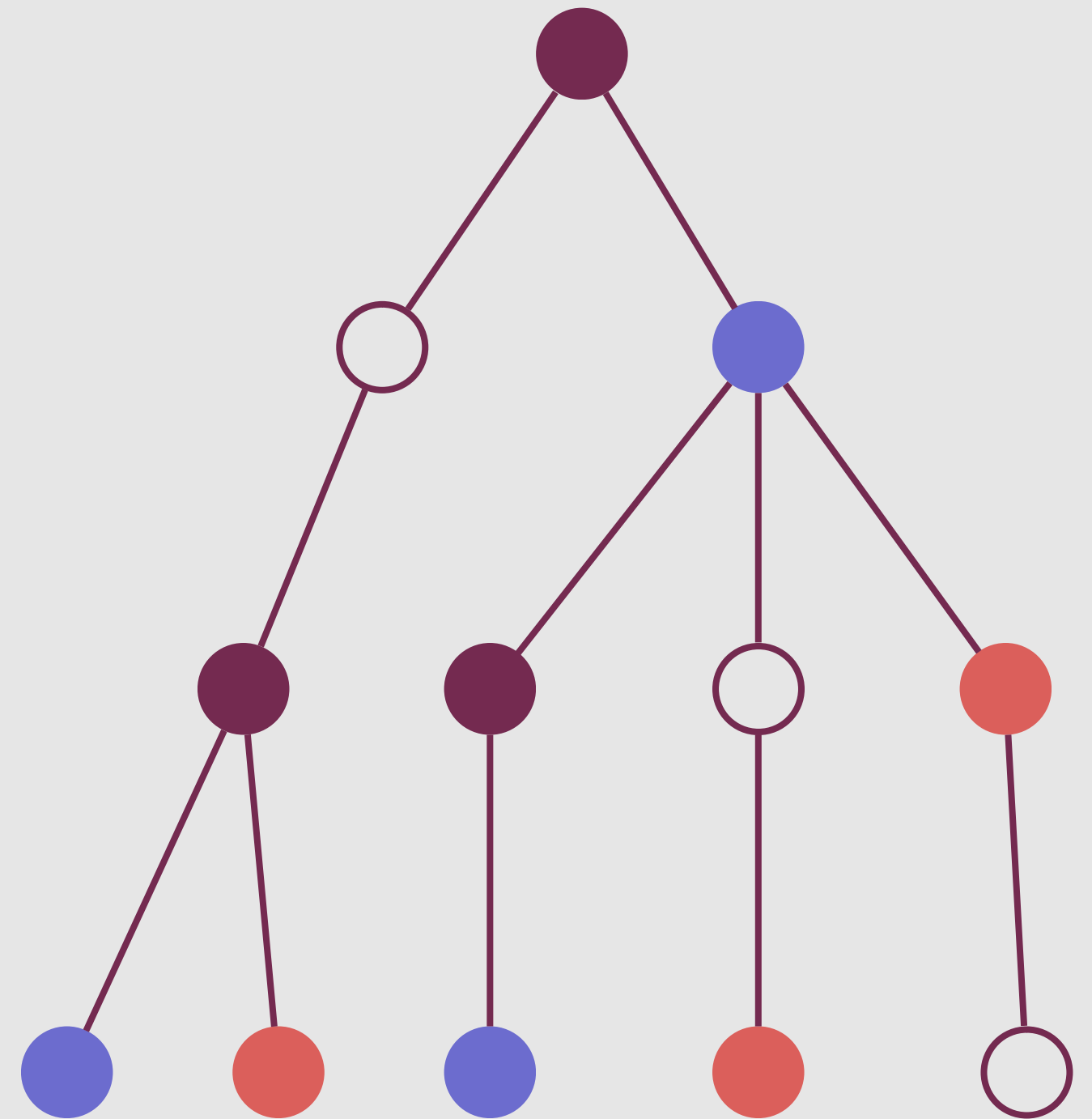
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$$\lambda_2(\mu) = \inf\{\lambda : \text{SCP}(\lambda, \mu) \text{ survives strongly}\}$$





Comparisons



Comparisons

By the Monotonicity of the process we have that

$$\lambda_1(\mu) \leq \lambda_1(1)$$



Comparisons

When $\mu = 1$ we have that the process can be split into two independent contact processes for the A particles and the B particles and thus

$$\lambda_1(\mu) \leq \lambda_1(1) = \lambda_1^{\text{CP}}$$



Comparisons

We would like to show that for $\mu < 1$

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This means that the only interesting case is when the offspring distribution has an exponential tail

Proposition



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For $\lambda, \mu > 0$ there exists a large constant C dependent on the expectation of the offspring distribution such that

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For small values of μ we have, if the offspring distribution ζ has an exponential tail

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$$\lambda_1(\mu) \leq \sqrt{C\mu} \xrightarrow{\mu \rightarrow 0} 0$$

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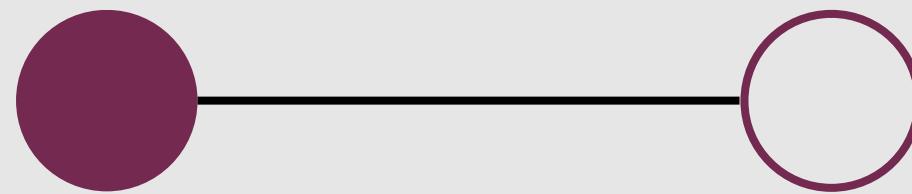
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Passing an infection

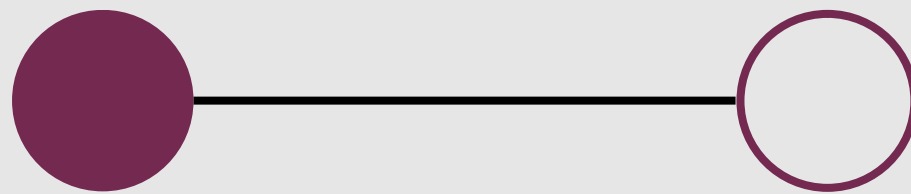


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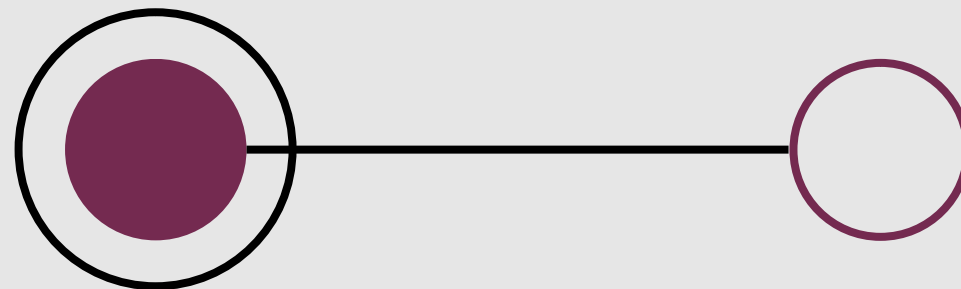
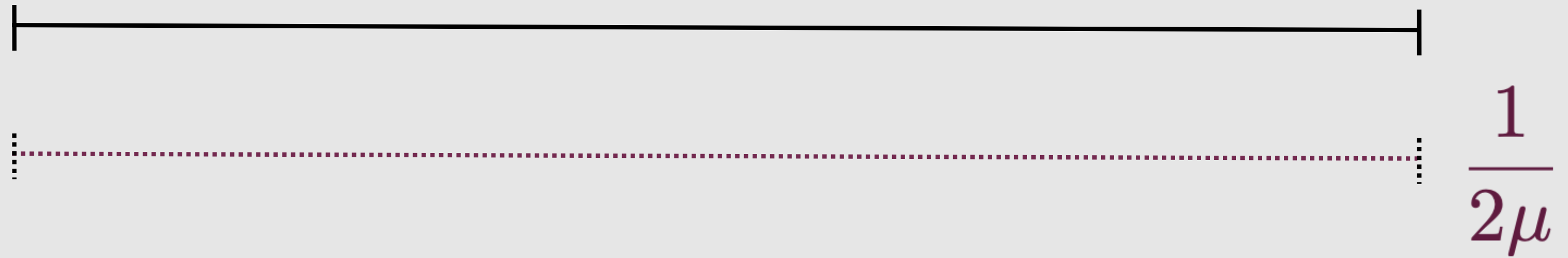


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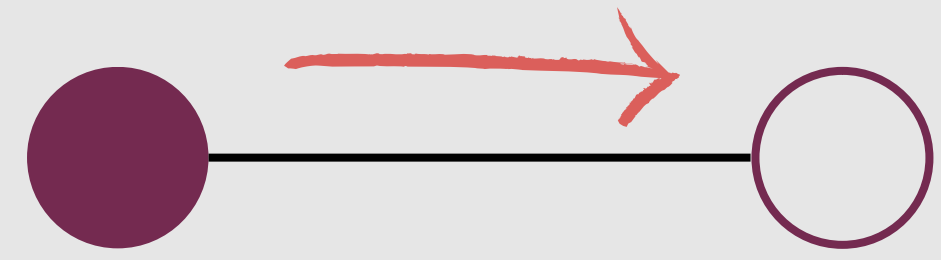
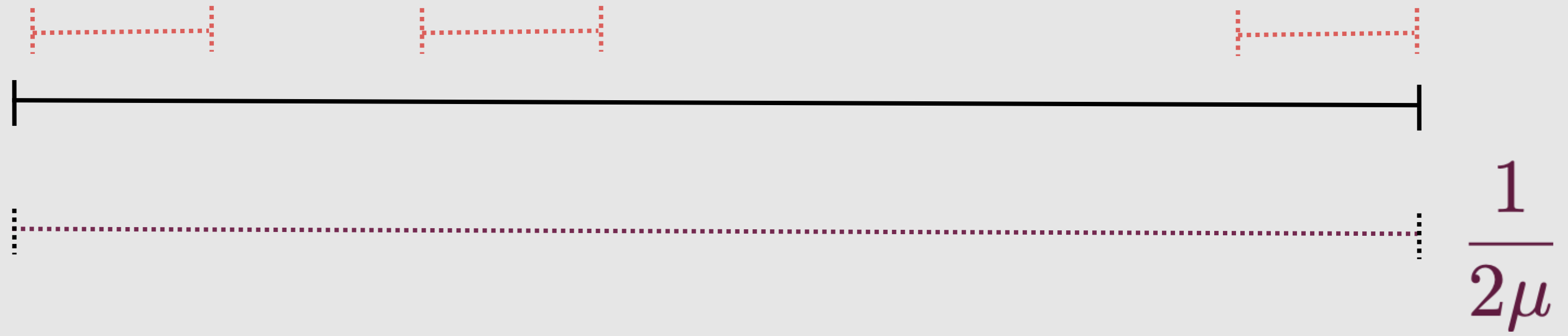


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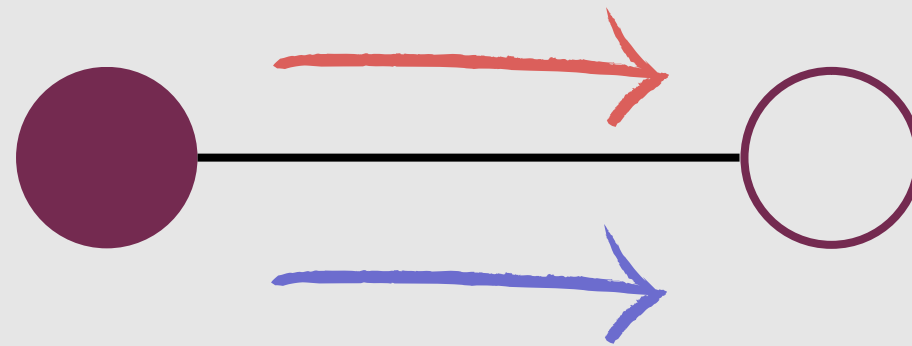
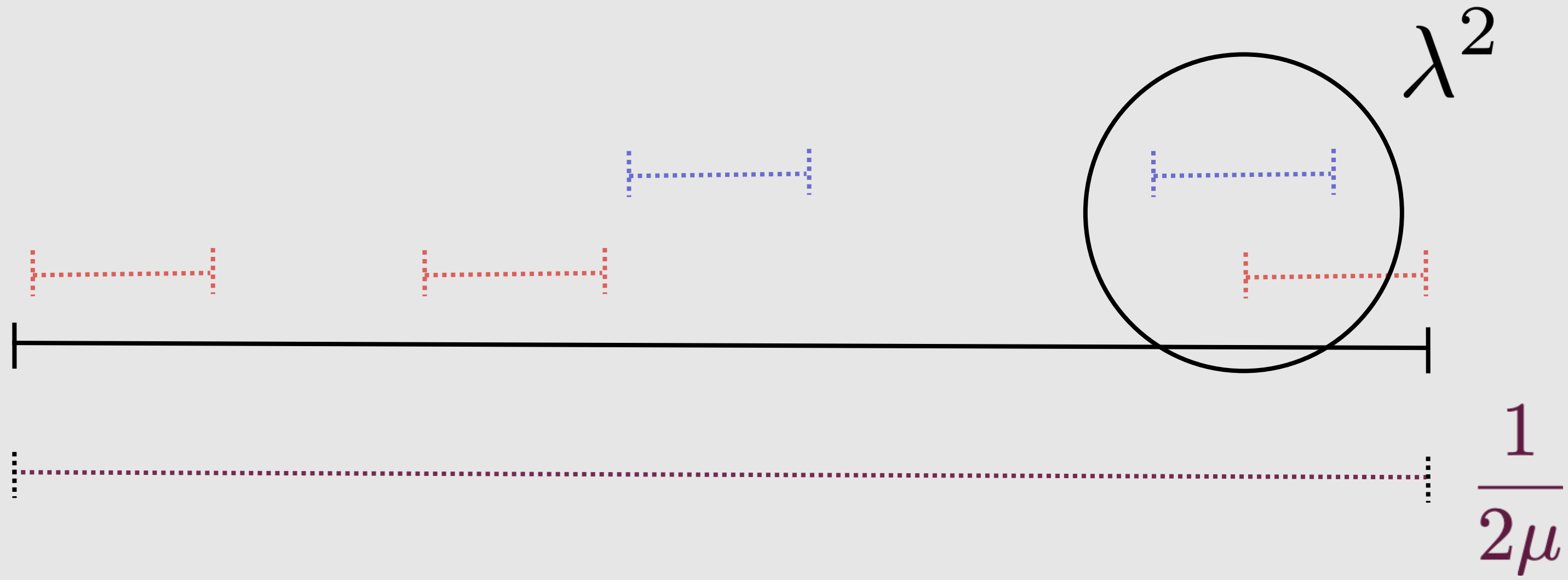


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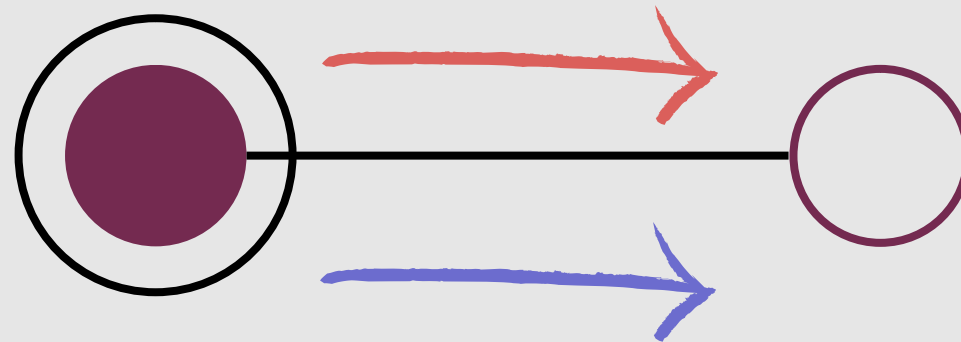


Passing an infection



Passing an infection

$$p_{\text{inf}} = \frac{2\lambda^2}{2\lambda^2 + 2\mu(1 + 3\lambda) + 4\mu^2}$$



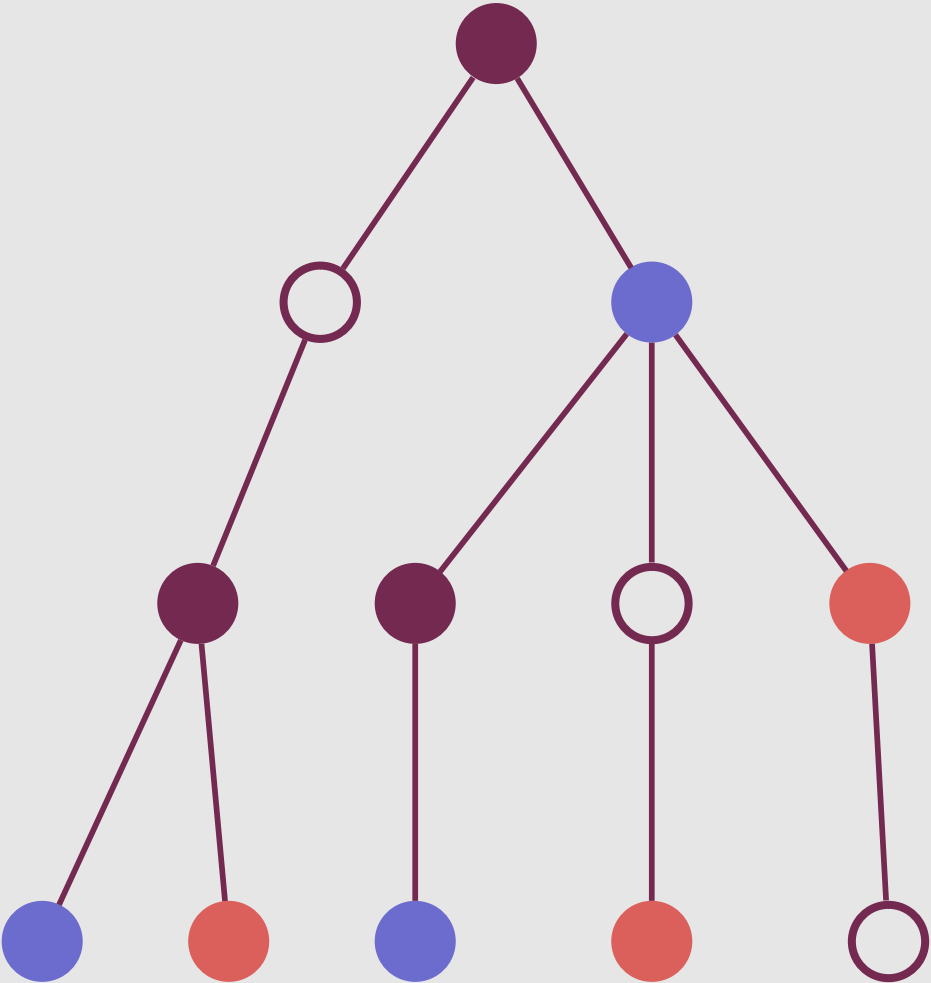
Proposition - Proof



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$$\lambda_1(\mu) \leq \sqrt{C\mu}$$

We can obtain an upper bound on λ_1 by finding any value at which the process must survive

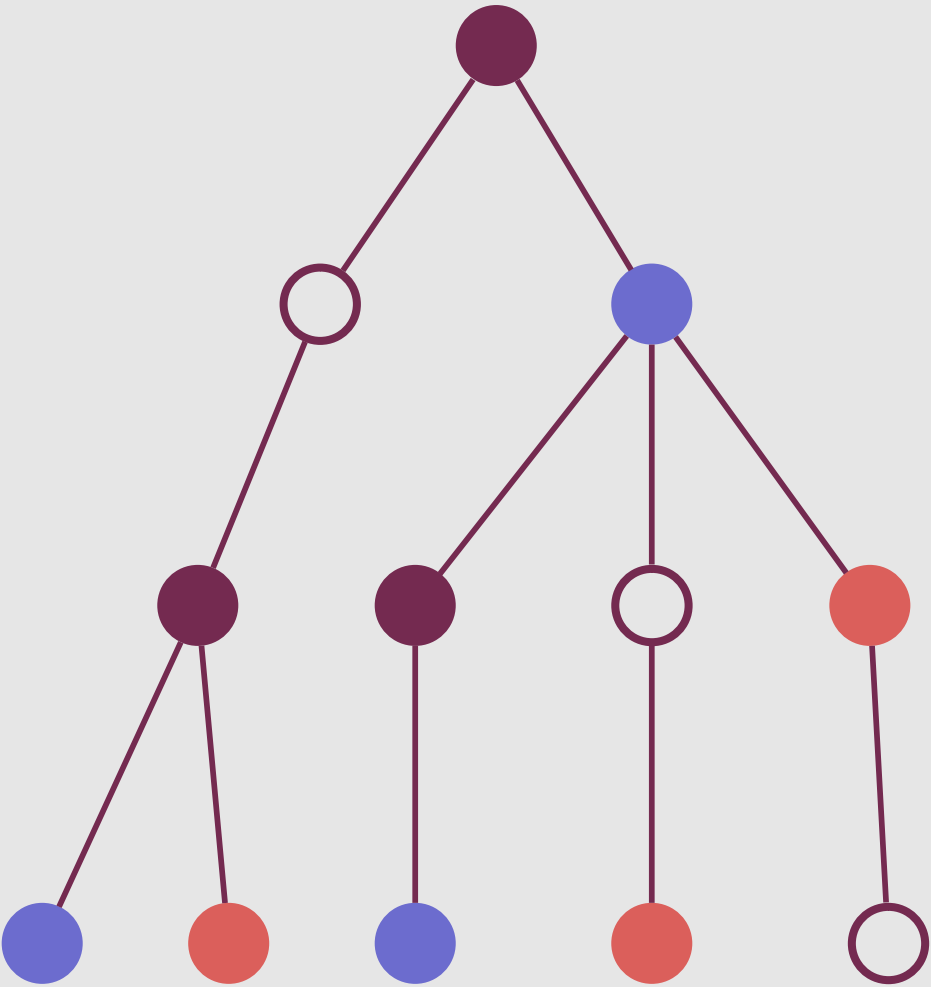


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Define a process where infections can only be passed downward



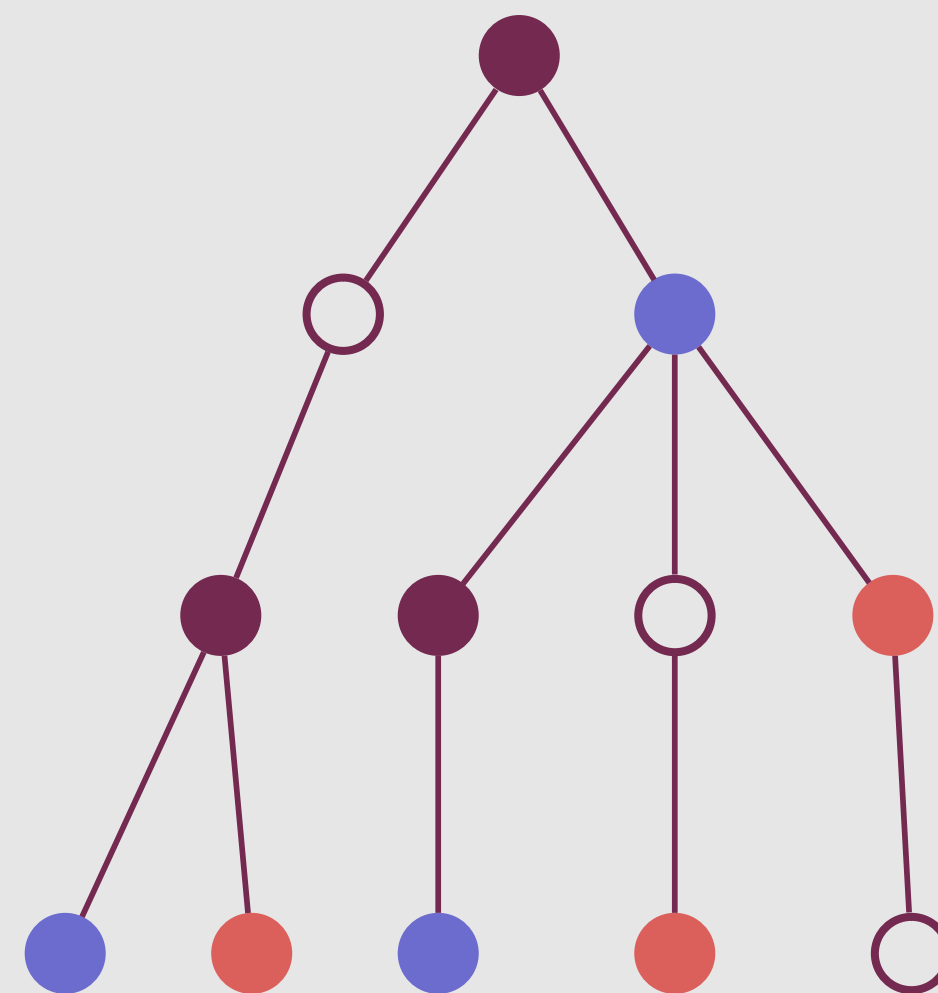
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Branching Process with parameter $p_{\text{inf}}\mathbb{E}[\zeta]$



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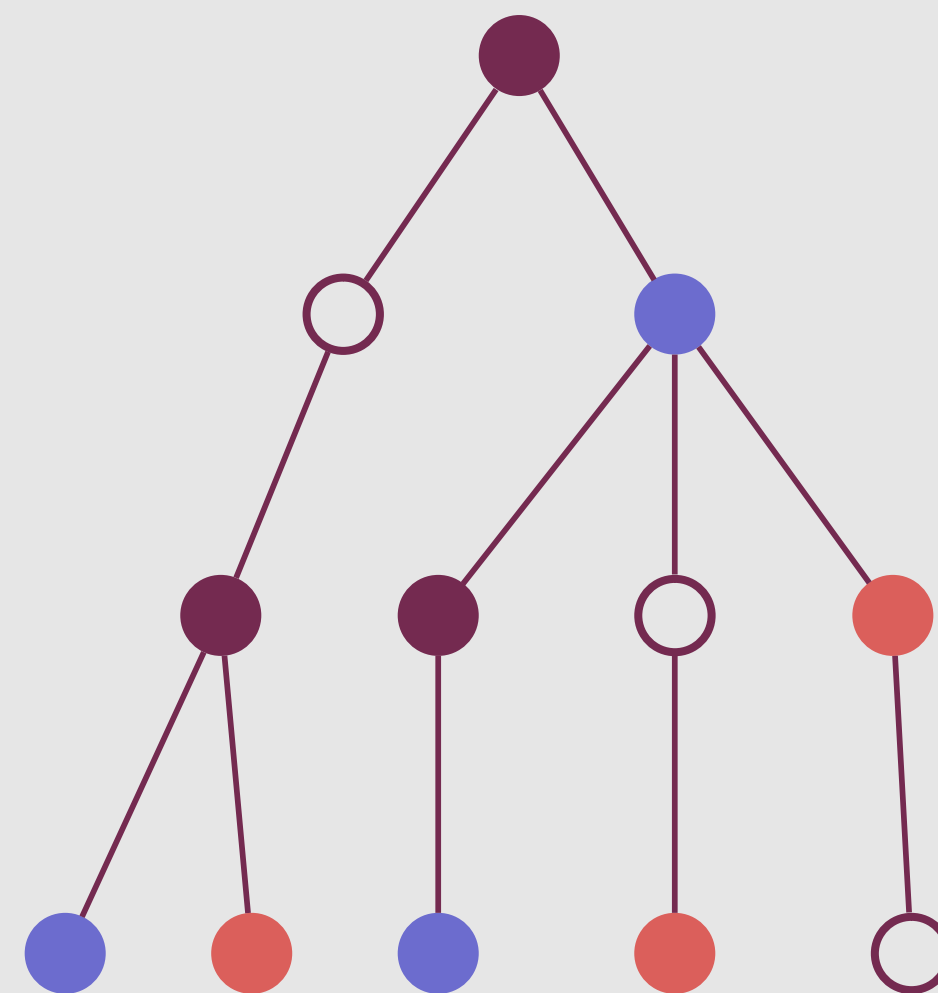
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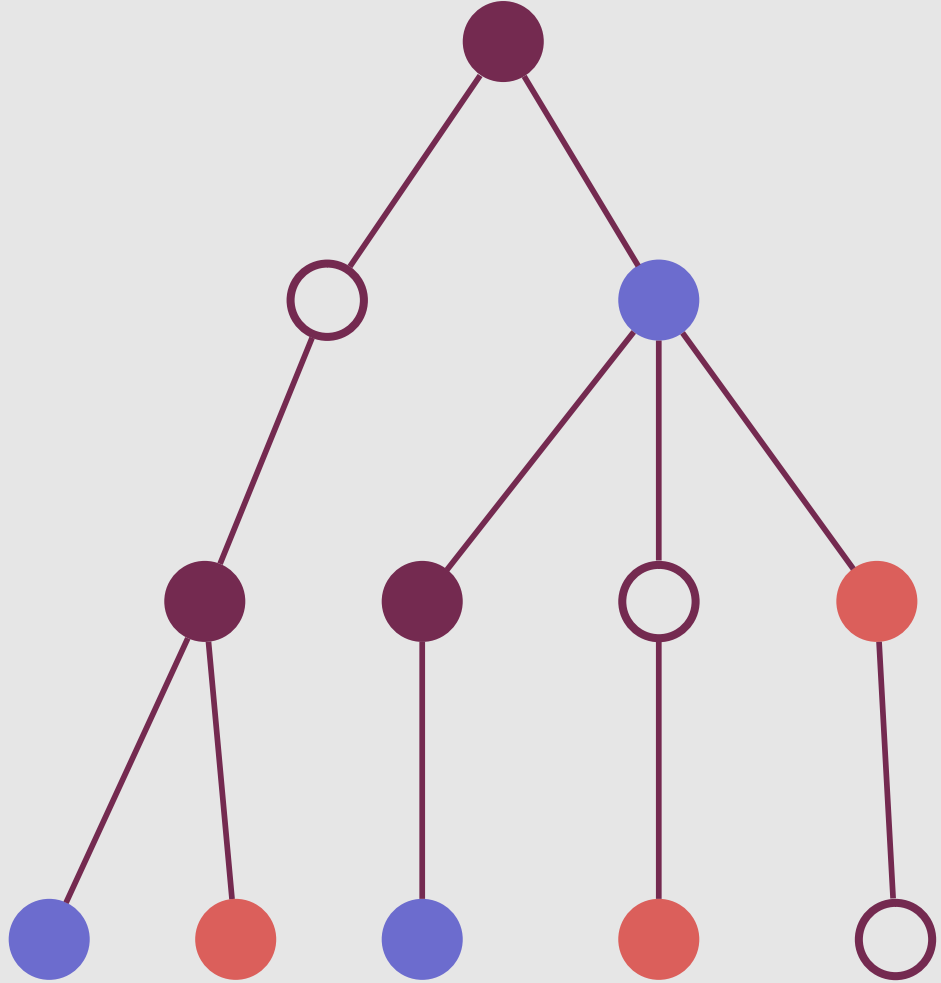
Branching Process with parameter $p_{\text{inf}}\mathbb{E}[\zeta]$

Thus we obtain survival if $p_{\text{inf}}\mathbb{E}[\zeta] > 1$



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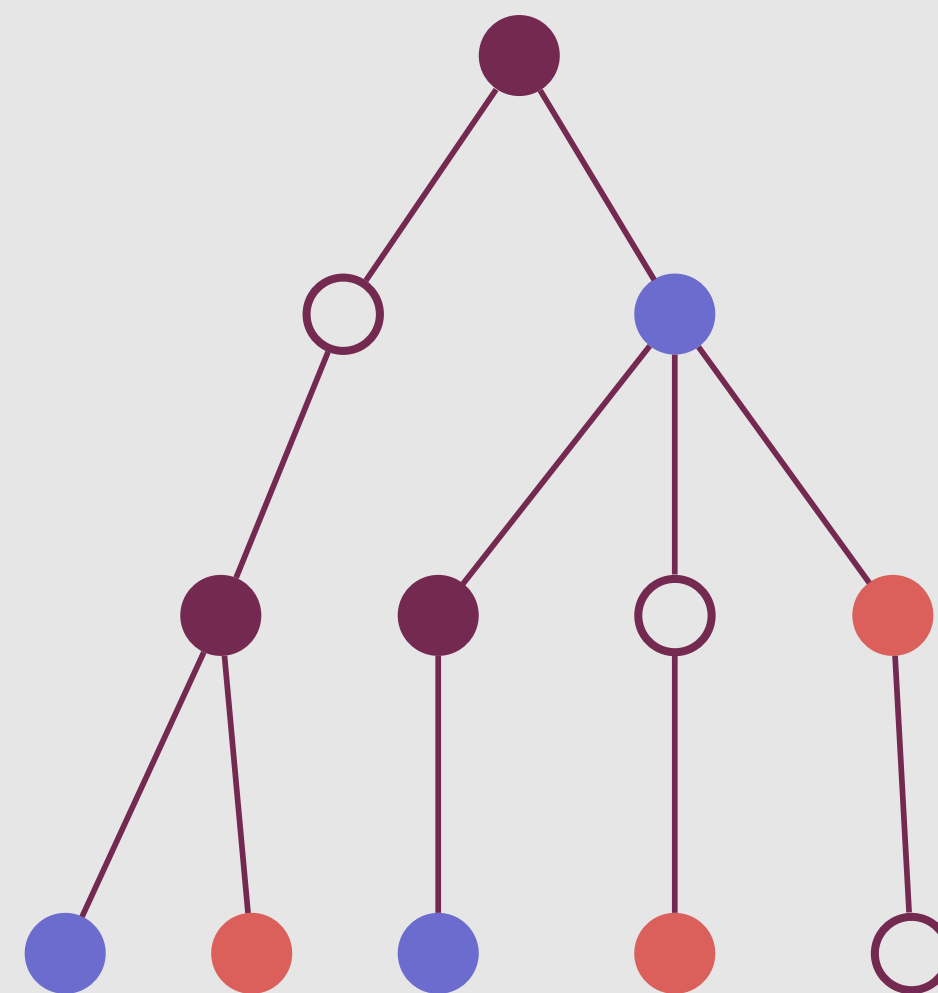
Setting $\lambda_1 = \sqrt{C\mu}$ we obtain:

$$p_{\text{inf}} = \frac{2C^2\mu^2}{2(C^2 + 2)\mu^2 + 2\mu(1 + 3\sqrt{C\mu})}$$

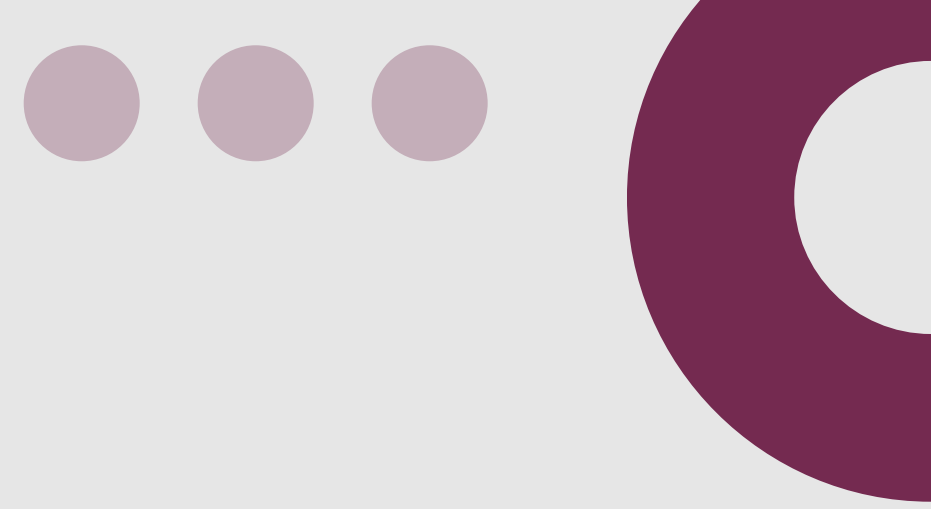
Which we can take arbitrarily close to 1 by choosing C large

Noting that $\mathbb{E}[\zeta] > 1$ implies that we can find large C such that

$$p_{\text{inf}}\mathbb{E}[\zeta] > 1$$



Strong survival



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We will do so using similar methods to those in Pemantle (1992) to bound λ_2^{CP}



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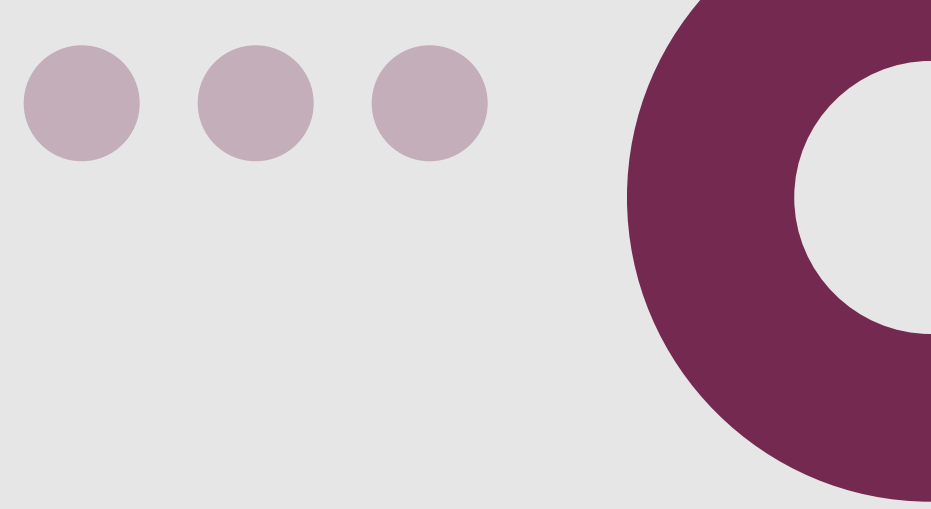
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The main idea here is to use the survival time on a star with k leaves

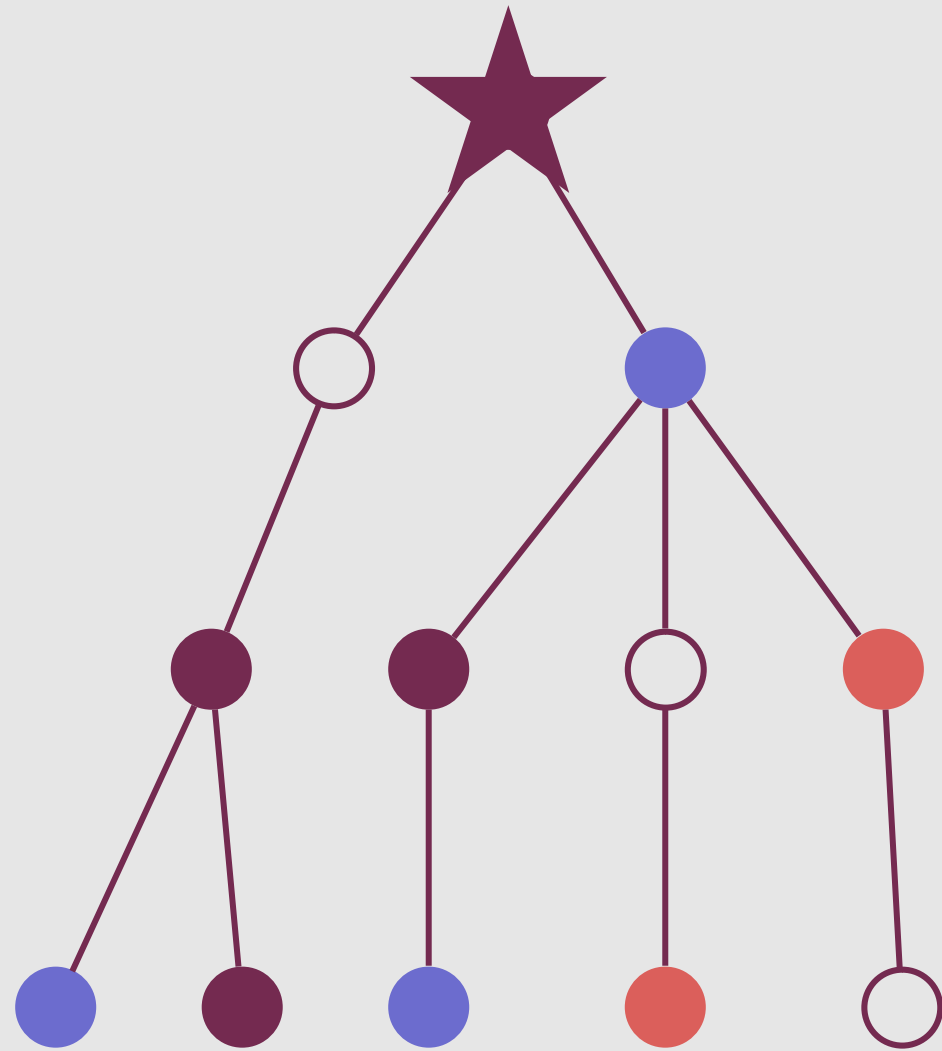
$$S \sim e^{\frac{1}{10} \frac{\lambda^2}{\mu} k} \quad \text{for } \lambda < 1, \mu < \frac{1}{20}$$

Strong survival



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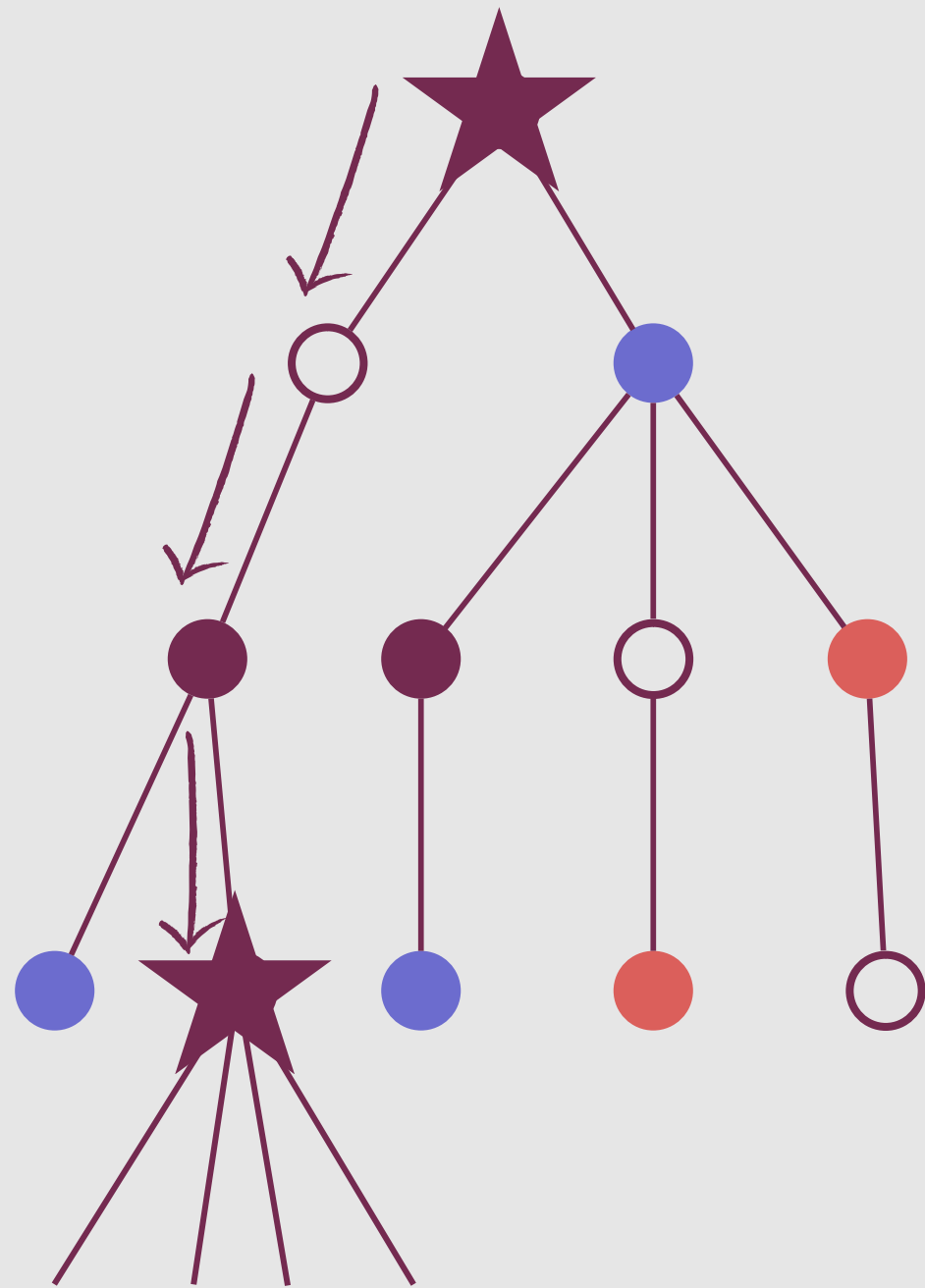
The main idea is to treat the root as a star which maintains an infection for a long time S



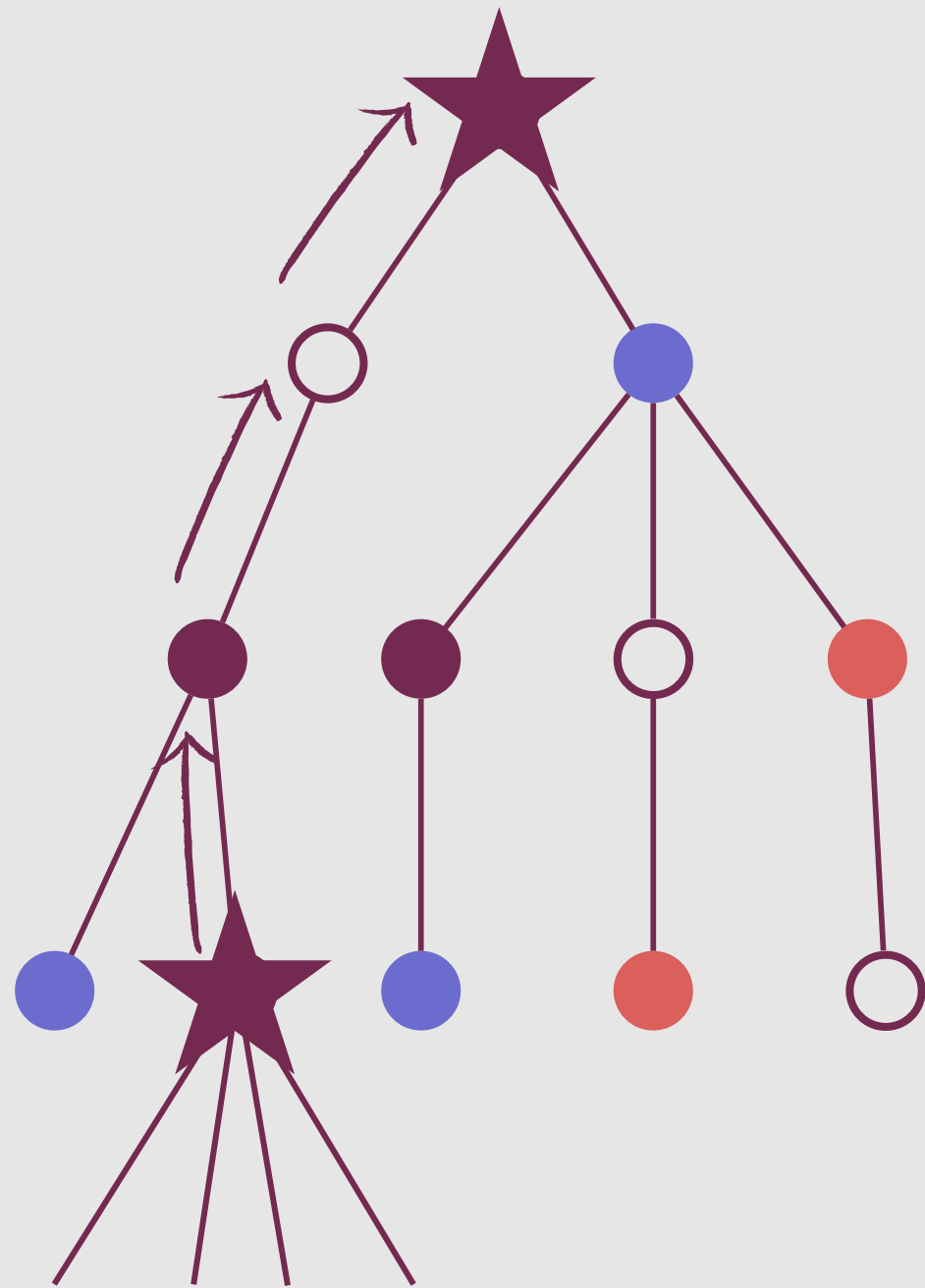
Strong survival

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The root passes this infection down to another star distance r away



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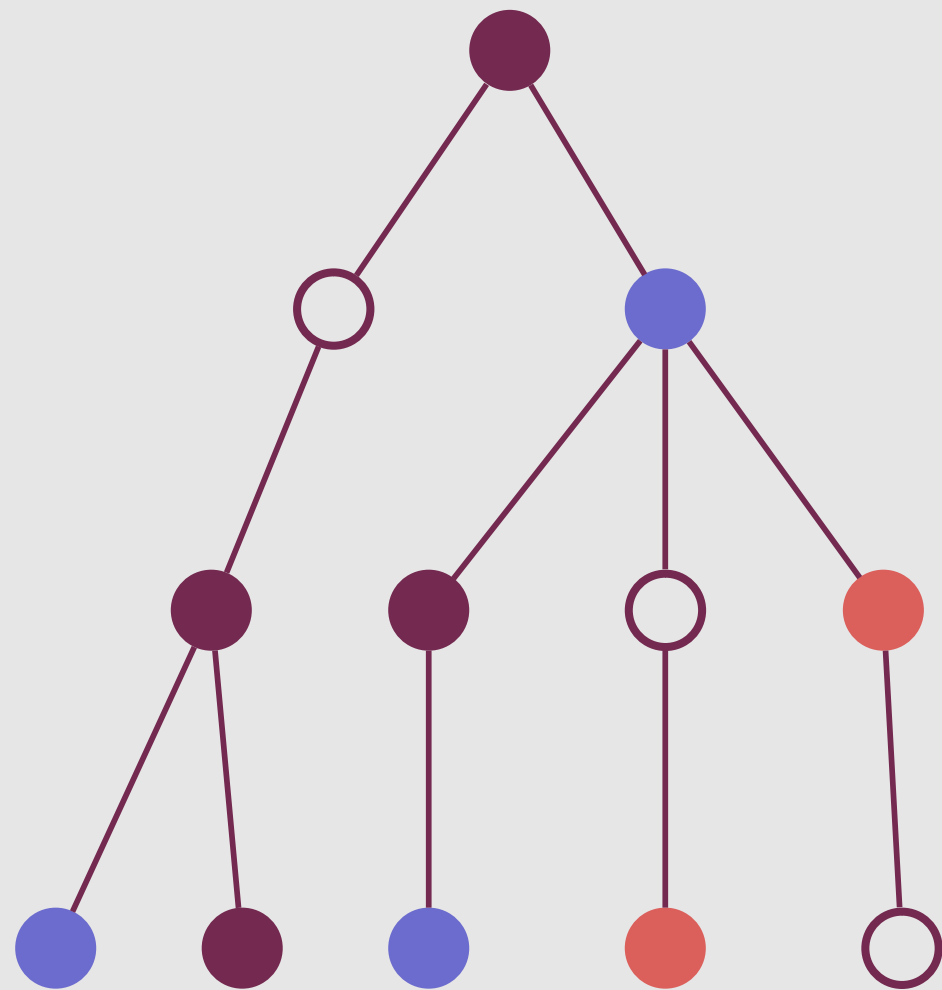


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It can be shown that strong survival occurs if

$$\log(p_{\text{inf}}) > -\frac{1}{r} \log(S)$$

Proposition



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Using this method, we have been able to show that if $\mathbb{P}(\zeta = k) = e^{-\alpha k}$ then we have that there exists C such that for $\lambda < 1$, $\mu < \frac{1}{20}$

$$\lambda_2(\mu) \leq \sqrt{C\mu}$$

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Comparison

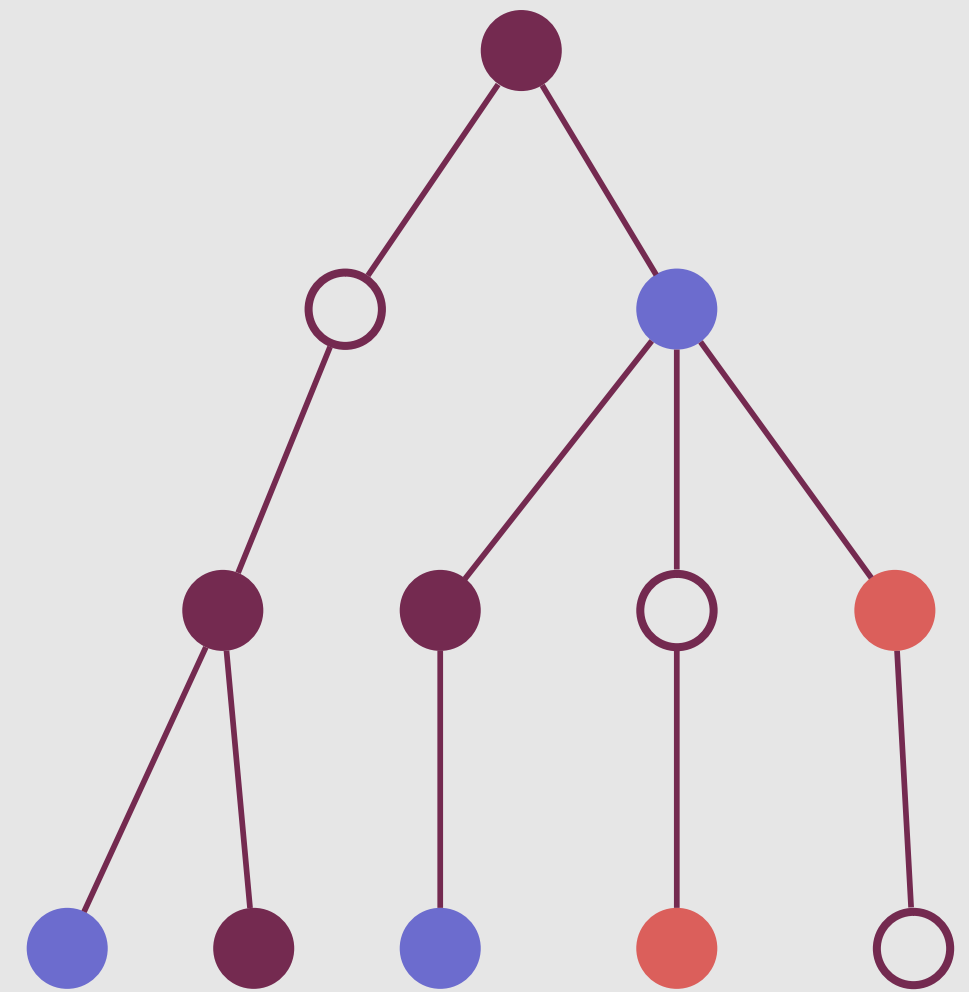
We have a similar bound for $\lambda_1^{\mathbb{Z}}(\mu)$ which holds if $\mu < 1/1600$

$$\lambda_1^{\mathbb{Z}}(\mu) \leq 40\sqrt{\mu}$$

... Summary

- Defined our process on a tree for 2 different diseases
- Weak survival:

$$\lambda_1(\mu) \leq \sqrt{C\mu}, \quad \forall \mu, \lambda > 0$$



... Summary

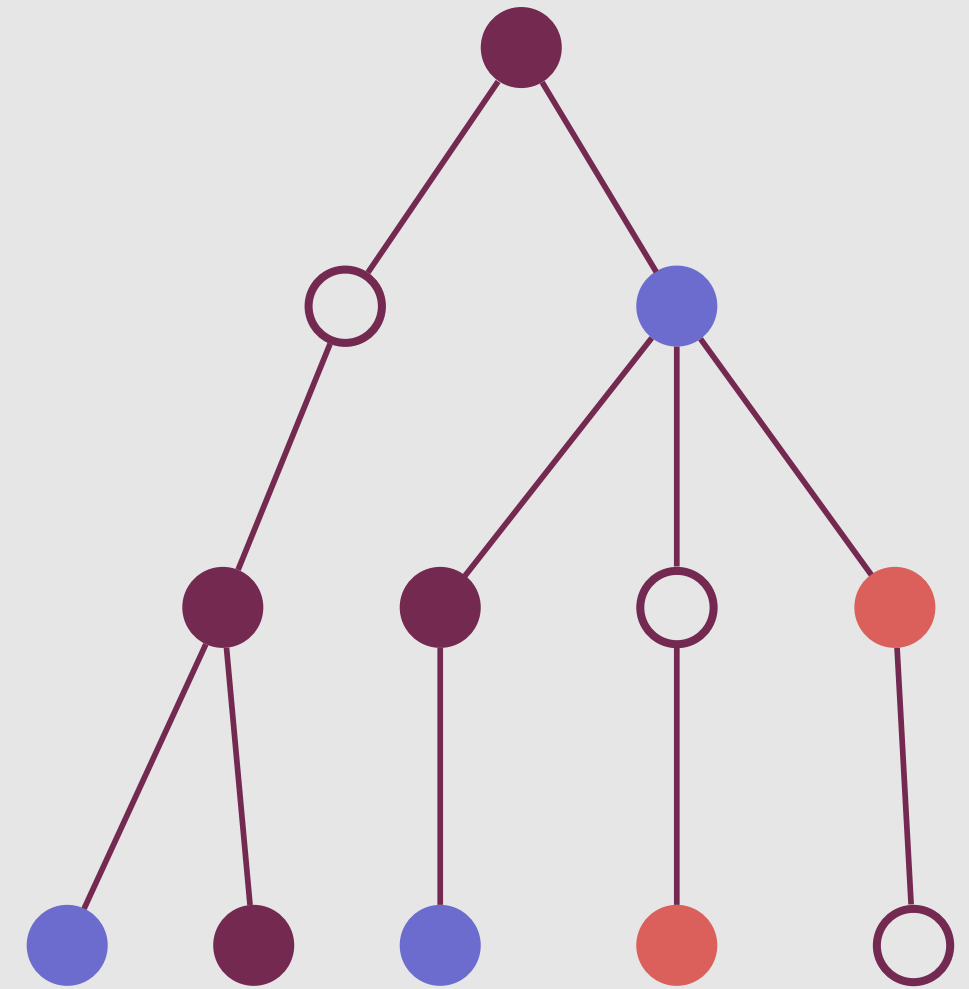
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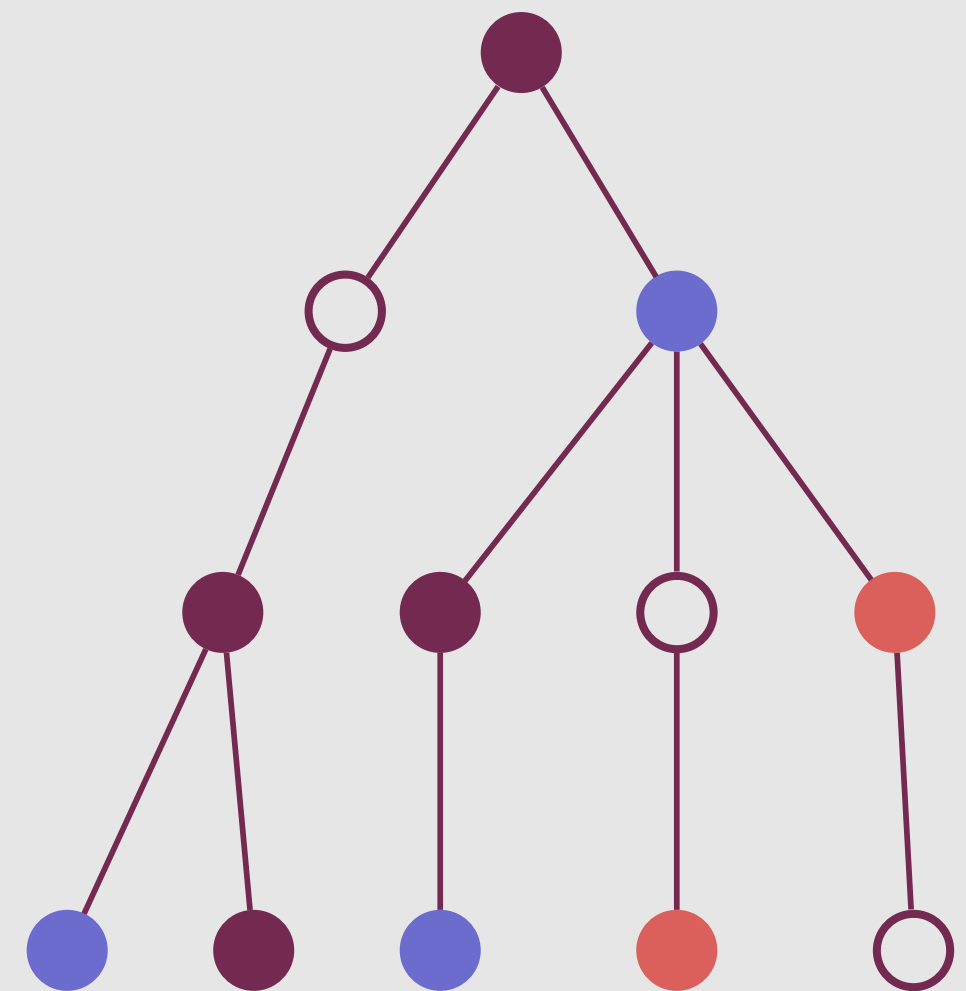
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Any Questions?



References

(Oliviera 2012) M. M. de Oliveira, R. V. Dos Santos, and R. Dickman. Symbiotic two-species contact process. Phys. Rev. E, 86:011121, Jul 2012.

(Durrett 2020) Durrett and D. Yao. The symbiotic contact process. Electronic Journal of Probability, 25(none):1 – 21, 2020.

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(Pemantle 1992) R. Pemantle. The contact process on trees. The Annals of Probability, 20(4):2089–2116, 1992.

