

# On Lévy and Markov additive friendships

Mathematics Department Seminar – University of Siegen

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based on joint works with [Leif Döring](#), [Mladen Savov](#) and [Alex Watson](#)

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## **Theory of friends for Lévy processes**

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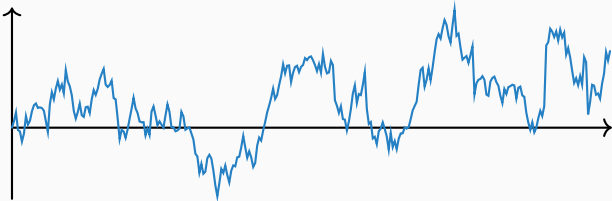
## Lévy processes and their ladder height processes

- a (killed) Lévy process  $\xi$  is a càdlàg process with stationary, independent increments
- characteristic exponent  $\psi$  characterised via  $\mathbb{E}[e^{i\theta\xi_t}] = e^{t\psi(\theta)}$
- Lévy–Khintchine formula:

$$\psi(\theta) = -\dagger + iax - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2\theta^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} (e^{i\theta x} - 1 - i\theta x\mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x))\Pi(dx), \quad \theta \in \mathbb{R}$$

- $\dagger$  is the killing rate,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  is the centre,  $\sigma \geq 0$  the Gaussian coefficient,  $\Pi$  is the Lévy measure that controls size and frequency of jumps of the process
- $(a, \sigma, \Pi)$  is called the characteristic triplet of  $\psi$

# Wiener–Hopf factorisation (path picture)



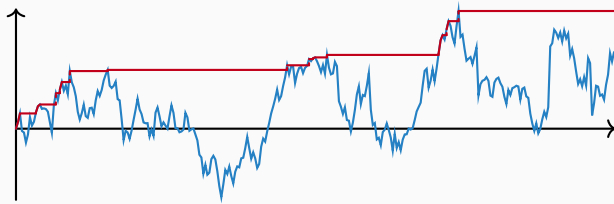
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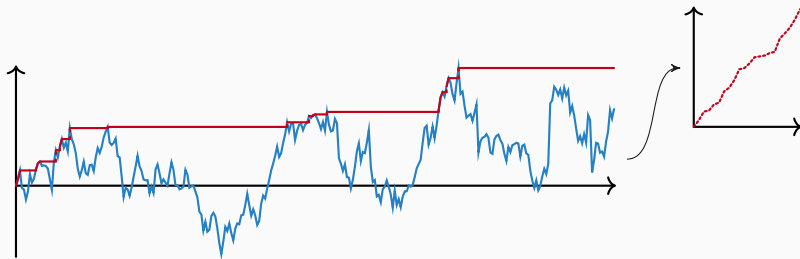
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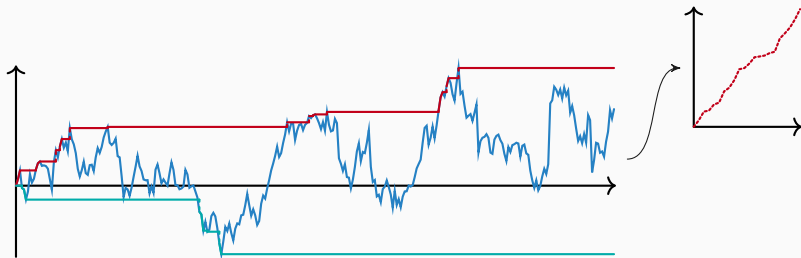
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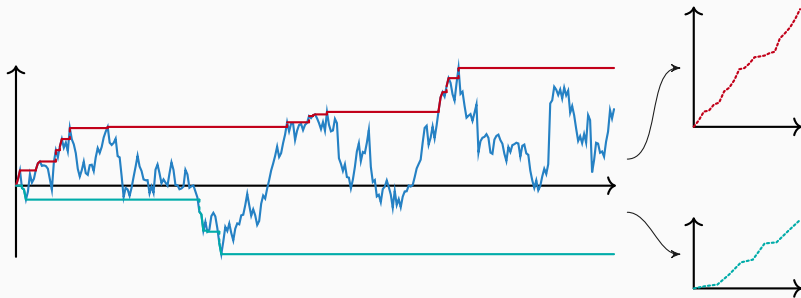
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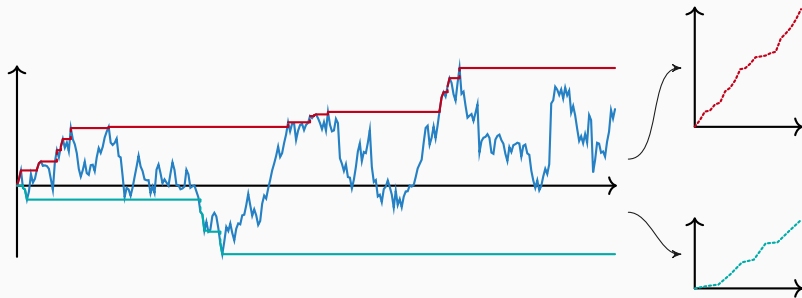
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$H^\pm$  are subordinators (increasing Lévy processes).

# Spatial Wiener–Hopf factorisation

Let  $\psi^\pm$  denote the characteristic exponents of  $H^\pm$  (for some specific scaling of local times at the supremum and infimum)

## Theorem

- (i) For an independent  $\text{Exp}(q)$ -distributed random time  $e_q$  it holds that  $\bar{\xi}_{e_q}$  and  $\bar{\xi}_{e_q} - \xi_{e_q}$  are infinitely divisible and independent, where  $\bar{\xi}_{e_q} - \xi_{e_q} \stackrel{d}{=} -\underline{\xi}_{e_q}$ .
- (ii) For appropriate scalings of local times at the supremum and infimum, it holds that

$$\psi(\theta) = -\psi^-(-\theta)\psi^+(\theta), \quad \theta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

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$$\psi(\theta) = -\psi^-(-\theta)\psi^+(\theta), \quad \theta \in \mathbb{R}.$$

### Problem

Given a LK exponent  $\psi$ , only in rare special cases can the Wiener–Hopf factors be explicitly determined.

## The inverse problem

- start with two subordinators  $H^\pm$  having LK exponents  $\psi^\pm$
- is there a Lévy process  $\xi$  with LK exponent  $\psi$  such that  $\psi = -\psi^-(-\cdot)\psi^+$ ?
- when such  $\xi$  exists, we call  $H^\pm$  **friends** and  $\xi$  the **bonding process**

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### Vigon's powerful idea

Let

$$\langle \Gamma^2 \Pi, \varphi \rangle := \int_{\mathbb{R}} (\varphi(x) - \varphi(0) - \varphi'(x) \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x)) \Pi(dx), \quad \langle \Gamma \Pi^\pm, \varphi \rangle := \int_{\mathbb{R}} (\varphi(x) - \varphi(0)) \Pi^\pm(dx), \quad \varphi \in \mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}).$$

Then, in the sense of **tempered distributions**

$$\psi = \mathcal{F} \left\{ \underbrace{-\dagger \delta - a \delta' + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \delta'' + \Gamma^2 \Pi}_{=: G} \right\}, \quad \psi^\pm = \mathcal{F} \left\{ \underbrace{-\dagger^\pm \delta - d^\pm \delta' + \Gamma \Pi^\pm}_{=: G^\pm} \right\},$$

and the Wiener–Hopf factorisation becomes the convolution equality

$$G = -\tilde{G}^- * G^+.$$

## The Theorem of friends

- $d^\pm$  drift of  $H^\pm$
- $\Pi^\pm$  Lévy measure of  $H^\pm$
- $H^\pm$  are **compatible** if  $d^\mp > 0$  implies that  $\Pi^\pm$  has a càdlàg density  $\partial\Pi^\pm$  that can be expressed as the tail of a signed measure

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**Theorem** (Vigon, 2002)<sup>1,2</sup>

$H^+$  and  $H^-$  are friends if, and only if, they are compatible and the function

$$Y(x) = \begin{cases} \int_{x^+}^{\infty} (\Pi^-(y-x, \infty) - \psi^-(0)) \Pi^+(dy) + d^- \partial\Pi^+(x), & x > 0, \\ \int_{(-x)^+}^{\infty} (\Pi^+(y+x, \infty) - \psi^+(0)) \Pi^-(dy) + d^+ \partial\Pi^-(-x), & x < 0, \end{cases}$$

is a.e. increasing on  $(0, \infty)$  and a.e. decreasing on  $(-\infty, 0)$ .

If they are friends, then  $Y$  is a.e. the right/left tail of the Lévy measure of the bonding process.

<sup>1</sup>V. Vigon (2002). Votre Lévy rampe-t-il? *J. Lond. Math. Soc.*

<sup>2</sup>V. Vigon (2002). Simplifiez vos Lévy en titillant la factorisation de Wiener-Hopf. *PhD Thesis.*

# Philanthropy

- a subordinator  $H^+$  is called **philanthropist** if its Lévy measure admits a **decreasing density**
  - equivalently, philanthropists are subordinators that are friends with pure drift subordinators  
 $H_t^- = d^- t$
- ↪ spectrally negative Lévy processes that do not drift to  $-\infty$  can be factorised into a philanthropist and a pure drift



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**Example** (Kuznetsov, Kyprianou, Pardo, van Schaik, 2011)<sup>3</sup>

For  $\beta_{\pm} \geq 0, \gamma_{\pm} \in (0, 1)$ , the exponents

$$\psi^{\pm}(\theta) = \frac{\Gamma(\beta_{\pm} + \gamma_{\pm} - i\theta)}{\Gamma(\beta_{\pm} - i\theta)},$$

are philanthropists and their bonding process is called a **hypergeometric Lévy process**.

<sup>3</sup>Kuznetsov, A., Kyprianou, A.E., Pardo, J.C. and K. van Schaik (2011). A Wiener-Hopf Monte-Carlo simulation technique for Lévy processes. *Ann. Appl. Probab*

# Probabilistic interpretation of friendships

- construction of friendships has a clear goal: generate Lévy processes with explicit Wiener–Hopf factorisation
- this requires **uniqueness** of the Wiener–Hopf factors in the following sense:

$$\psi = -\psi(-\cdot)\psi^+ = -\check{\psi}^-(\cdot)\check{\psi}^+ \implies \check{\psi}^+ = c\psi^+ \text{ and } \check{\psi}^- = c^{-1}\psi^- \text{ for some } c > 0,$$

where different choices of  $c$  then correspond to different scalings of local times at the supremum/infimum

**Theorem** (Döring, Savov, T., Watson, 2024)<sup>4</sup>

The Wiener–Hopf factorisation of a Lévy process is unique. In particular, if two subordinators are friends, they are equal in law to the ladder height processes of their bonding Lévy process.

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<sup>4</sup>L. Döring, M. Savov, L. Trottner, A.R. Watson (2024). The uniqueness of the Wiener–Hopf factorisation of Lévy processes and random walks. *Bull. Lond. Math. Soc.*

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Proof idea: for  $\eta\mathbb{Z}$  the minimal lattice support ( $\eta = \infty$  if non-lattice support), set

$$\mathbb{C} \setminus \frac{2\pi}{\eta}\mathbb{Z} \ni z \mapsto F(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{\psi^+(z)}{\check{\psi}^+(z)}, & \Im z \geq 0 \\ \frac{\psi^-(-z)}{\check{\psi}^-(-z)}, & \Im z \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

Assertion equivalent to  $F \equiv c$  for some  $c > 0$ . Formally, for  $z \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \frac{2\pi}{\eta}\mathbb{Z}$ :

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{F}\{G^+ * \check{U}^+\}}_{\text{supported on } [0, \infty)}(z) = \underbrace{\mathcal{F}\{\check{G}^- * U^-(-\cdot)\}}_{\text{supported on } (-\infty, 0]}(z).$$

$$\implies G^+ * \check{U}^+ \text{ has support } \{0\} \stackrel{!}{\implies} G^+ * \check{U}^+ = c\delta \implies \frac{\psi^+(z)}{\check{\psi}^+(z)} = \mathcal{F}\{G^+ * \check{U}^+\}(z) = c.$$

## **Markov additive friendships**

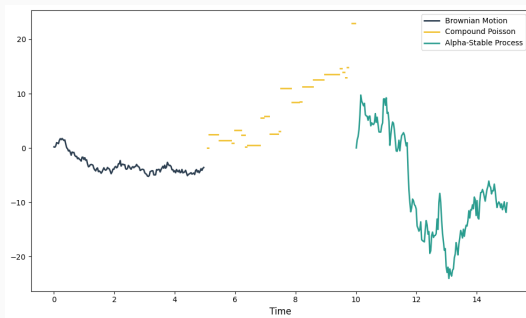
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# Markov additive processes

- a Feller process  $(\xi, J)$  is a MAP on  $\mathbb{R} \times \{1, \dots, n\}$  if

$$\mathbb{E}^{0,i}[f(\xi_{t+s} - \xi_t, J_{t+s}) \mid \mathcal{F}_t] \mathbf{1}_{\{t < \zeta\}} = \mathbb{E}^{0,J_t}[f(\xi_s, J_s)] \mathbf{1}_{\{t < \zeta\}}$$

- **equivalently**, a MAP can be characterised as a **regime-switching Lévy process**
  - $\xi^{(i)}$  is a Lévy process for any phase  $i \in [n]$
  - $J$  is a Markov chain with transition matrix  $Q$
  - when  $J$  is in state  $i$ , run an independent copy of  $\xi^{(i)}$
  - phase switches from  $i$  to  $j$  trigger an additional jump with distribution  $F_{i,j}$



## Analytic characterisation of MAPs

- $\psi_i$  LK exponent of  $\xi^{(i)}$
- $\Pi_i$  Lévy measure of  $\xi^{(i)}$  and denote  $\Pi_{i,j} := q_{i,j}F_{i,j}$
- call  $\mathbf{\Pi} = (\Pi_{i,j})_{i,j \in [n]}$  Lévy measure matrix of  $\xi$
- we have  $\mathbb{E}^{0,i}[e^{i\theta\xi} \mathbf{1}_{\{J_t=j\}}] = (\exp(t\Psi(\theta)))_{i,j}$  with **characteristic matrix exponent**

$$\begin{aligned}\Psi(\theta) &= \text{diag}((\psi_i(\theta))_{i \in [n]}) + \mathbf{Q} \odot (\widehat{F}_{i,j}(\theta))_{i,j \in [n]} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \psi_1(\theta) + q_{1,1} & \widehat{\Pi}_{1,2}(\theta) & \cdots & \widehat{\Pi}_{1,n}(\theta) \\ \widehat{\Pi}_{2,1}(\theta) & \psi_2(\theta) + q_{2,2} & \cdots & \widehat{\Pi}_{2,n}(\theta) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \widehat{\Pi}_{n,1}(\theta) & \widehat{\Pi}_{n,2}(\theta) & \cdots & \psi_n(\theta) + q_{n,n} \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

## MAP Wiener–Hopf factorisation

- ascending/descending ladder height MAPs ( $H^\pm, J^\pm$ ): ordinator  $H^\pm$  tracks new suprema/infima of  $\xi$  and  $J^\pm$  tracks phases during which they occur
- they are MAP subordinators (increasing ordinator) with matrix exponents  $\Psi^\pm$
- we always assume that  $J$  is irreducible and hence has an invariant distribution represented by a vector  $\pi$

**Theorem** (Dereich, Döring, Kyprianou (2017)<sup>4</sup>; Ivanovs (2017)<sup>5</sup>; Döring, T., Watson (2024)<sup>6</sup>)

$$\Psi(\theta) = -\Delta_\pi^{-1} \Psi^-( -\theta)^\top \Delta_\pi \Psi^+(\theta),$$

where  $\Delta_\pi$  is the diagonal matrix containing  $\pi$ .

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<sup>4</sup>S. Dereich, L. Döring and A.E. Kyprianou (2017). Reals self-similar processes started from the origin. *Ann. Probab.*

<sup>5</sup>J. Ivanovs (2017). Splitting and time-reversal for Markov additive processes. *Stochastic Process. Appl.*

<sup>6</sup>L. Döring, L. Trottner and A.R. Watson (2024). Markov additive friendships. *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.*



## The inverse problem

- we call a MAP subordinator  $(H^+, J^+)$  a  $\pi$ -friend of  $(H^-, J^-)$  if
  1.  $\Psi := -\Delta_\pi^{-1} \Psi^- (-\cdot)^\top \Delta_\pi \Psi^+$  is a characteristic MAP exponent
  2.  $\pi^\top \Psi(0) \leq \mathbf{0}^\top$
- then, a MAP  $(\xi, J)$  with matrix exponent  $\Psi$  is called **bonding MAP**
- the second condition ensures that
  - $\pi$  is a valid candidate for an invariant distribution of  $J$
  - $(H^+, J^+)$  is a  $\pi$ -friend of  $(H^-, J^-)$  iff  $(H^-, J^-)$  is a  $\pi$ -friend of  $(H^+, J^+)$   $\rightsquigarrow$  **symmetric relation** and the bonding MAP between  $(H^-, J^-)$  and  $(H^+, J^+)$  is the **dual MAP** of  $(\xi, J)$

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### Questions

1. Are there necessary and sufficient conditions for  $\pi$ -friendship generalising Vigon's characterisation of Lévy friendships?
2. Is there a concept of **MAP philanthropy**?

## $\pi$ -compatibility

$(H^+, J^+)$  and  $(H^-, J^-)$  are called  $\pi$ -compatible if

1. if  $d_i^\mp > 0$ , then  $\Pi_{i,j}^\pm$  restricted to  $(0, \infty)$  has a càdlàg density  $\partial\Pi_{i,j}^\pm$  and  $\partial\Pi_{i,j}^\pm$  can be expressed as the tail of a signed measure
2. **balance conditions** on the characteristics that in particular require

- $q_{i,j}^+ d_i^- F_{i,j}^+(\{0\}) = \frac{\pi(j)}{\pi(i)} q_{j,i}^- d_i^+ F_{j,i}^-(\{0\})$
- the function

$$x \mapsto q_{i,j}^+ \left( \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}_{\{y>x\}} \bar{\Pi}_i^-(y-x) F_{i,j}^+(dy) + d_i^- f_{i,j}^+(x) \right) \\ - \frac{\pi(j)}{\pi(i)} q_{j,i}^- \left( \int_0^\infty \mathbf{1}_{\{-x<y\}} \bar{\Pi}_j^+(x+y) F_{j,i}^-(dy) + d_j^+ f_{j,i}^-(-x) \right)$$

is a.e. equal to a right-continuous, bounded variation function converging to 0 at  $\pm\infty$

3. the vectors  $-\Delta_\pi^{-1} \Psi^-(0)^\top \Delta_\pi \Psi^+(0) \mathbf{1}$  and  $-\pi^\top \Delta_\pi^{-1} \Psi^-(0)^\top \Delta_\pi \Psi^+(0)$  are nonnegative

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$\pi$ -compatibility is **necessary** for  $\pi$ -friendship  $\rightsquigarrow$  There are **no** MAP philanthropists!

## The Theorem of friends

**Theorem** (Döring, T. and Watson, 2024)

$(H^+, J^+)$  and  $(H^-, J^-)$  are  $\pi$ -friends **if, and only if**, they are  $\pi$ -compatible and the matrix-valued function

$$\mathbf{Y}(x) = \begin{cases} \left( \int_{x^+}^{\infty} \Delta_{\pi}^{-1} \left( \bar{\Pi}^-(y-x) - \Psi^-(0) \right)^{\top} \Delta_{\pi} \Pi^+(dy) + \Delta_d^- \partial \Pi^+(x) \right), & x > 0, \\ \left( \int_{(-x)^+}^{\infty} \Delta_{\pi}^{-1} \left( \Pi^-(dy) \right)^{\top} \Delta_{\pi} \left( \bar{\Pi}^+(y+x) - \Psi^+(0) \right) + \Delta_{\pi}^{-1} \left( \Delta_d^+ \partial \Pi^-(-x) \right)^{\top} \Delta_{\pi} \right), & x < 0, \end{cases}$$

is a.e. equal to a function decreasing on  $(0, \infty)$  and increasing on  $(-\infty, 0)$ .

If they are  $\pi$ -friends, then  $\mathbf{Y}$  is a.e. the right/left tail of the Lévy measure matrix of the bonding MAP.

## Fellowship

We call  $(H^+, J^+)$  and  $(H^-, J^-)$   $\pi$ -fellows if they have decreasing Lévy density matrices  $\partial\Pi^+$  and  $\partial\Pi^-$  on  $(0, \infty)$ , and the matrix functions

$$-\Delta_\pi^{-1}\Psi^-(0)^\top\Delta_\pi\bar{\Pi}^+(x) + \Delta_d^-\partial\Pi^+(x), \quad x > 0,$$

and

$$-\Delta_\pi^{-1}\Psi^+(0)^\top\Delta_\pi\bar{\Pi}^-(x) + \Delta_d^+\partial\Pi^-(x), \quad x > 0,$$

are decreasing.

**Note:** Any two Lévy fellows are Lévy philanthropists and therefore friends.

## Properties of fellowship

**Recall:**  $H^+$  Lévy philanthropist  $\iff H^+$  has a decreasing Lévy density  $\iff H^+$  is friends with any pure drift

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A MAP subordinator  $(H^+, J^+)$  with decreasing Lévy density matrix is a  $\pi$ -friend of a pure drift MAP  $(H^-, J^-)$  (that is,  $H_t^- = \int_0^t dJ_s^-$ ) if, and only if, they are  $\pi$ -compatible  $\pi$ -fellows.



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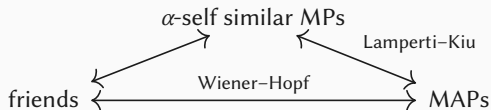
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**Theorem** (Döring, T. and Watson, 2024)

Any two  $\pi$ -compatible  $\pi$ -fellows are  $\pi$ -friends.

## Examples

- only known MAP WH-factorisation is from Kyprianou's [deep factorisation of the stable process](#)<sup>7</sup>



- to generate explicit friendships it is crucial to find manageable criteria for  $\pi$ -compatibility
- we develop such criteria in two cases
  - at least one of the putative friends is a pure drift
  - both candidates have zero drift parts and no transitional atoms (i.e.,  $q_{i,j}^{\pm}; F_{i,j}^{\pm}(\{0\}) = 0$ )
- the first case allows us to give a general construction principle for spectrally one-sided MAPs and modulated Brownian motions starting from the WH-factors
- combining the compatibility criteria from both cases, we construct MAPs jumping in both directions ([Markov modulated double exponential jump diffusions](#))

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<sup>7</sup>A.E. Kyprianou (2016). Deep factorisation of the stable process. *Electron. J. Probab.*

# Uniqueness of the Wiener–Hopf factorisation

- $\mathcal{A}_0$  is the class of matrix exponents of **irreducible and finite mean** MAP subordinators
- $\mathcal{A}_\infty$  is the class of MAP subordinator exponents  $\Psi$  such that for any  $i$

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow \pm\infty} |\psi_i(\theta)| = \infty$$

**Theorem** (Döring, T. and Watson (2024))

Let  $(H^\pm, J^\pm)$  be irreducible  $\pi$ -friends s.t.

- the bonding MAP is irreducible, and
- $\Psi^\pm \in \mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_\infty$ , and the exponents of the ladder height processes of the bonding MAP belong to  $\mathcal{A}_0 \cap \mathcal{A}_\infty$ .

Then  $(H^\pm, J^\pm)$  are versions of the ladder height processes of their bonding MAP.

## Some open questions

- Vigon's analysis for Lévy processes demonstrates that if at least one of the factors is unkilld,

$$-\psi^-(-\theta)\psi^+(\theta) = ia\theta - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2\theta^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} (e^{i\theta x} - 1 - i\theta x\mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x)) \nu(dx),$$

where  $\nu$  is a **signed** measure without atom at 0 such that  $|\nu|$  integrates  $x \mapsto 1 \wedge x^2$

- $X \sim \mu$  is called **quasi-infinitely divisible**<sup>8</sup> if  $\exists$  infinitely divisible and independent r.v.  $Y$  s.t.  $X + Y$  is infinitely divisible.
- then  $\hat{\mu} = e^\psi$  with  $\psi$  in Lévy–Khintchine form with **signed** measure. Conversely,  $e^\psi$  is not necessarily a characteristic function  $\rightsquigarrow$  sufficient conditions for  $-\psi^-(-\cdot)\psi^+$  to generate a quasi-infinitely divisible distribution?
- MAP-analogue to hypergeometric Lévy processes?
- Friendships from inverted WH-factorisations

$$\underbrace{\Psi(\theta)^{-1}}_{\text{'=' } \mathcal{F}U(\theta)} = - \underbrace{\Psi^+(\theta)^{-1}}_{\text{'=' } \mathcal{F}U^+(\theta)} \Delta_\pi^{-1} \underbrace{(\Psi^-(-\theta)^\top)^{-1}}_{\text{'=' } \mathcal{F}U^-(-\theta)^\top} \Delta_\pi$$

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<sup>8</sup>A. Lindner, K. Pan, K. Sato (2018). On quasi-infinitely divisible distributions. *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.*

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**Thank you for your attention!**

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