Tropical Hurwitz spaces

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Hurwitz spaces are parameter spaces of marked rational maps that arise in the study of Thurston maps. They are algebraic objects and admit a cover to the space $M_{0,n}$ of configurations of n points on P^1 up to Möbius transformation. We use the monodromy of this cover to investigate Hurwitz spaces, and we examine how tropical geometry offers a new perspective on these objects. This is work in progress.