

Dream (Physics): Φ is a random function on a domain Ω , such that $\forall x \in \Omega$, $\Phi(x)$ is Gaussian, mean zero, and

$$E(\Phi(x)\Phi(y)) = G_{\Omega}(x,y) - \text{Green function.}$$

$$\left(\forall x \in \Omega \quad h_x(y) := G_{\Omega}(x,y) \text{ satisfies } \right. \\ \left. \Delta h_x(y) = -\delta_x, \quad h_x|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \text{ q.e.} \right)$$

Note that if we know $E(\Phi(x)\Phi(y)) \forall x,y \in \Omega$, we know $E(\Phi(x_1)\Phi(x_2)\dots\Phi(x_n)) \forall x_1, \dots, x_n \in \Omega$, by Wick's formula:

$$E(\Phi(x_1)\Phi(x_2)\dots\Phi(x_n)) = \sum_{\substack{\text{perfect} \\ \text{pairings} \\ (i,j) \text{ of} \\ \{1,2,\dots,n\}}} E(\Phi(x_{i_k})\Phi(x_{j_k})) = \sum G(x_{i_k}, x_{j_k}).$$

In 1D: the dream is realizable!

Take $\Omega = (0,1)$.

$G(x,y) = x(1-y)$ if $0 \leq x \leq y \leq 1$ - Green function

$\Phi(x) =$ Brownian Bridge - Brownian Motion (in x) conditioned so that $\Phi(0) = \Phi(1) = 0$.

Construction: B - standard B.M.

Let $\Phi(x) = (1-x)B\left(\frac{x}{1-x}\right)$ - Gaussian, zero mean.

$$E(\Phi(x)\Phi(y)) = E\left((1-x)(1-y)B\left(\frac{x}{1-x}\right)B\left(\frac{y}{1-y}\right)\right) = E(B(s)B(t)) = \min(s,t) \\ (1-x)(1-y)\frac{x}{1-x} = x(1-y).$$

Observe: $\Phi(0) = 0$ $\Phi(1) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (1-x)B\left(\frac{x}{1-x}\right) = 0$ (since $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{B(t)}{t} = 0$).

Another construction: $\Phi(x) = B(x) - xB(1)$.

What about $\geq 2D$? Can not be a function:
 $E(\Phi(x)\Phi(x)) = G(x,x) = \infty$.

Gaussian Hilbert Space

Let H be a Hilbert space. Let it be over \mathbb{R} , for now.

Def Gaussian Hilbert space indexed by H :

$\Phi: H \rightarrow L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{P})$ - linear, such that

1) $\Phi(h)$ is a zero-mean Gaussian variable

2) $E(\Phi(h)\Phi(g)) = \langle h, g \rangle$.

In particular, Φ is an isometry.

Construction: take an orthonormal basis of H (e_n)

Take (\mathcal{L}_n) -independent standard Gaussians ($\mathcal{N}(0,1)$ distributed)

Map $\Phi: h = \sum a_n e_n \mapsto \sum a_n \mathcal{L}_n$.

Well-defined, because $\sum a_n \mathcal{L}_n$ is a Gaussian, with mean zero (1) holds) and variance $\sqrt{\sum a_n^2} = \|h\|_H$.

So it is isometry, and, by polarization, $E(\Phi(g)\Phi(h)) = \langle h, g \rangle$.

Case of finite dimension H :

$h = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k e_k$, so $\Phi(h) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \mathcal{L}_k = \langle h, \sum_{k=1}^n \mathcal{L}_k e_k \rangle$.

So $\Phi(h) = \langle \Phi, h \rangle$, where $\Phi = \sum_{k=1}^n \mathcal{L}_k e_k$ - random element of H .

Distributed with density $e^{-\|x\|_H^2/2}$ in (e_k) -coordinates.

Case of infinite dimensional H :

" $\Phi = \sum \mathcal{L}_n e_n \notin H$ a.s. Indeed,

$\sum \mathcal{L}_n^2$ diverges a.s.

Indeed, $\sum P(\mathcal{L}_n > 1) = \sum P(|\mathcal{N}(0,1)| > 1) = \infty$.

So, by Borel-Cantelli, $|\mathcal{L}_n| > 1$ infinitely often.

So, in this case, Φ becomes a random functional

on H , $\Phi(h) \stackrel{!}{=} \langle \Phi, h \rangle$.

↑
"notation"

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ (or \mathbb{R}^d) be a domain.

Consider $H = W_0^{1,2}$ - Sobolev space, with

norm $\|f\|_H = \int_{\Omega} |\nabla f|^2 dA$ - Dirichlet norm.

(Formally: closure in L^2 of smooth compactly supported functions with respect to this norm).

By Green's formula,

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{\Omega} = \int \nabla f \cdot \nabla g = - \int f \Delta g = - \int \Delta f g = - \langle f, \Delta g \rangle$$

(we denote by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ the usual L^2 scalar product)

Observe: it is conformally invariant:

if $\varphi: \Omega_1 \rightarrow \Omega_2$ - conformal, then

$$\langle f \circ \varphi, g \circ \varphi \rangle_{\Omega_2} = \int_{\Omega_1} \nabla f(\varphi) \cdot |\varphi'| \nabla g(\varphi) |\varphi'| = \int_{\Omega_2} \nabla f \nabla g = \langle f, g \rangle_{\Omega_1}$$

Notation: $H(\Omega)$

Def. Gaussian Free Field on Ω with zero boundary values is Gaussian Hilbert space

indexed by $H(\Omega)$, i.e. random functional

$$h \mapsto \langle \Phi, h \rangle_{\Omega}, \quad \Phi = \sum \alpha_j e_j \quad (\{e_j\} - \text{ONB of } H(\Omega))$$

A.s., $\Phi \notin H(\Omega)$.

Since H is conformally invariant, so is Φ :

if $\varphi: \Omega_1 \rightarrow \Omega_2$, then $\Phi_{\Omega_2} \circ \varphi = \Phi_{\Omega_1}$.

Example: $\Omega = (0, \pi)^2$ - square.

$$\text{Take the basis } e_{m,n} = \frac{\sin mx \cos ny}{\sqrt{m^2+n^2}}.$$

$$\Phi = \sum \frac{\alpha_{m,n}}{\sqrt{m^2+n^2}} \sin mx \cos ny.$$

$$\frac{\alpha_{m,n}}{\sqrt{m^2+n^2}} \text{ is Gaussian, with variance } \frac{1}{m^2+n^2}.$$

Note that $\sum \frac{1}{m^2+n^2} = \infty$, so $\sum \frac{\alpha_{m,n}}{\sqrt{m^2+n^2}} \sin mx \cos ny$ - diverges a.s.

Not a function!

But if we add any power of $\sqrt{m^2+n^2}$, then

$$\sum \frac{\alpha_{m,n}^2}{(m^2+n^2)} (\sqrt{m^2+n^2})^{-2s} \text{ converges for any } s > 0$$

$$\left(\text{since } \sum \frac{1}{(m^2+n^2)^{1+s}} < \infty \right)$$

So antiderivative of Φ of any order is an a.s. L^2 function!

So $\Phi \in W^{s,2}$ for any $s < 0$.

By conformal invariance, in any simply connected Ω ,

$$\Phi \in W_{loc}^{s,2} \text{ a.s.}$$

$$\Phi \in W_{loc}^{S,2} \text{ a.s.}$$

GF acting on test functions:

Let $\rho \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ be a test function.

Want to compute $\langle \Phi, \rho \rangle$.

Notation: $G\rho(x) = \int_{\Omega} G_{\Omega}(x,y)\rho(y)dy$ - Green potential.

$$\Delta G\rho = \int_{\Omega} \Delta G(x,y)\rho(y)dy = -\rho(x)$$

$\Delta G\rho \in H(\Omega)$, with norm

$$\|G\rho\|_{H(\Omega)}^2 = \langle G\rho, G\rho \rangle_{\nabla} = -\langle G\rho, \Delta G\rho \rangle = \langle G\rho, \rho \rangle = \iint G(x,y)\rho(x)\rho(y) \text{ Green energy.}$$

So, since $\langle \Phi, h \rangle_{\nabla} = -\langle \Phi, \Delta h \rangle$, we have

$$\langle \Phi, G\rho \rangle_{\nabla} = -\langle \Phi, \Delta G\rho \rangle = \langle \Phi, \rho \rangle.$$

So we can think of Φ as a random distribution.

For every ρ , $\langle \Phi, \rho \rangle = \langle \Phi, G\rho \rangle_{\nabla}$ is normal,

zero mean, variance is $\|G\rho\|_{H(\Omega)}^2 = \iint G(x,y)\rho(x)\rho(y)$

Also, the covariance $\overset{\text{Green potential}}{\text{Green potential}}$

$$E(\langle \Phi, \rho_1 \rangle \langle \Phi, \rho_2 \rangle) = \langle G\rho_1, G\rho_2 \rangle_{\nabla} = \iint G(x,y)\rho_1(x)\rho_2(y).$$

What about $E(\Phi(x)\Phi(y))$?

Let us compute it in the sense of distributions:

if ρ_1, ρ_2 - test functions, then

$$E(\langle \Phi, \rho_1 \rangle \langle \Phi, \rho_2 \rangle) = E\left(\int \Phi(x)\rho_1(x)dx \int \Phi(y)\rho_2(y)dy\right) =$$

Imagine Φ is a "function".

$$\iint E(\Phi(x)\Phi(y))\rho_1(x)\rho_2(y).$$

So, by above, $G(x,y) = E(\Phi(x)\Phi(y))$ in the sense of distributions.

But Φ is much more than a distribution!

If μ is a measure with finite Green energy

$$\left(\left| \iint G(x,y) d\mu(x)d\mu(y) \right| < \infty \right) \text{ then}$$

$$\langle \Phi, \mu \rangle = \int \Phi(x) d\mu(x) = \langle \Phi, G\mu \rangle_{\nabla} \text{ - normal with}$$

Variance $\iint G(x,y) d\mu(x) d\mu(y)$

So we can average Φ over intervals, any sets of positive capacity. But cannot evaluate at a point!

Restriction to a subdomain.

Let $\Omega' \subset \Omega$ - subdomain.

$$\text{Then } H(\Omega) = H(\Omega') \oplus (H(\Omega'))^\perp$$

What is $(H(\Omega'))^\perp$?

Let $f \in (H(\Omega'))^\perp$. Then $\forall g \in H(\Omega')$ we have

$$0 = \langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{D}} = -\langle \Delta f, g \rangle \quad \text{So } \Delta f \equiv 0 \text{ in } \Omega' \text{ as}$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{Distributional Laplacian.}}$ distribution, so
 f is harmonic in Ω'
 (by Poincaré Lemma)

$$(H(\Omega'))^\perp = \{ f \in H(\Omega) : f \text{ is harmonic in } \Omega' \}$$

$$\text{So for } h \in H(\Omega), \quad \text{Pr}_{(H(\Omega'))^\perp} h = \begin{cases} h(x), & x \notin \Omega' \\ \tilde{h}(x), & x \in \Omega' \end{cases}$$

where \tilde{h} - solution of Dirichlet problem with $\partial\Omega'$ boundary data h .
 \tilde{h} - harmonic in Ω' .

$$\text{Pr}_{H(\Omega')} h = h - \tilde{h}$$

Thus we can write

$$\Phi_\Omega = \Phi_{\Omega'} + \Phi_{\Omega'}^\perp, \text{ with}$$

$$\langle \Phi_{\Omega'}, h \rangle = \langle \Phi_\Omega, h - \tilde{h} \rangle$$

$$\langle \Phi_{\Omega'}^\perp, h \rangle = \langle \Phi_\Omega, \tilde{h} \rangle$$

Φ_Ω and $\Phi_{\Omega'}^\perp$ are independent

(this is the general property:

if $H = H_1 \oplus H_2$, then Φ_{H_1} is independent from Φ_{H_2} - just look at the basis!)

Moreover, if $\rho \in C_0(\Omega')$, then

$$\langle \Phi_{\Omega'}^\perp, \rho \rangle_{\nabla} = 0, \text{ so}$$

$$\langle \Delta \Phi_{\Omega'}^\perp, \rho \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow \Phi_{\Omega'}^\perp \text{ is a (random) harmonic function in } \Omega'.$$

Boundary conditions.

Φ have "zero boundary values".

Let $h \in C(\partial\Omega)$, \tilde{h} - harmonic extension (solution of Dirichlet problem).

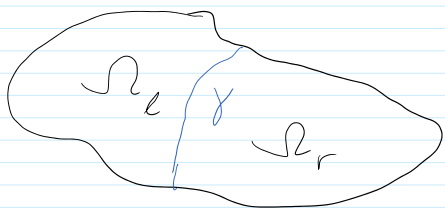
Def Gaussian Free Field in Ω with boundary data h is given by $\Phi_{\Omega}^h := \Phi_{\Omega} + \tilde{h}$.

Domain Markov Property.

Given Φ_{Ω} in $\Omega \setminus \Omega'$, $\Phi_{\Omega}|_{\Omega \setminus \Omega'} = \psi$

Φ_{Ω} is the sum of the $\tilde{\psi} := \begin{cases} \psi \text{ in } \Omega \setminus \Omega' \\ \tilde{\psi} \text{-harmonic extension of } \psi \text{ in } \Omega' \end{cases}$

and an independent (from $\tilde{\psi}$) $\Phi_{\Omega'}$.



Let γ be a crosscut in Ω , separating it into domains Ω_l and Ω_r .

For $f \in C(\gamma)$, let f_l be harmonic extensions of f to Ω_l and f_r to Ω_r with zero boundary data on $\partial\Omega$.

$$\tilde{f}(x) := \begin{cases} f_l(x), & x \in \Omega_l \\ f_r(x), & x \in \Omega_r \end{cases}$$

$$\tilde{f}(x) := \begin{cases} f_e(x), & x \in \Omega_e \\ f(x), & x \in \gamma \\ f_r(x), & x \in \Omega_r \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Let } \|f\|_N^2 := \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \tilde{f}|^2.$$

$$N := \text{Clos}_{\|\cdot\|_N} \{f \in C(\gamma)\}$$

If γ is smooth, then by Green formula

$$\|f\|_N^2 = \|\tilde{f}\|_{H^1(\Omega)}^2 = \int_{\Omega} f(\partial_n f_r - \partial_n f_e) \, d\ell$$

$f \rightarrow \partial_n f_r - \partial_n f_e$ is called Dirichlet-to-Neumann operator

If $f \in H^1(\Omega)$, we can write

$$f = \tilde{f}|_{\gamma} + (f - f_r)|_{\Omega_r} + (f - f_e)|_{\Omega_e}, \text{ all are orthogonal.}$$

$$\text{So } H^1(\Omega) = H^1(\Omega_e) \oplus N \oplus H^1(\Omega_r).$$

$$\text{So } \mathcal{P}_{\Omega} = \underbrace{\mathcal{P}_{\Omega_e} + \mathcal{P}_{\Omega_r}}_{\text{independent}} + \mathcal{P}_{\gamma}$$

As before, \mathcal{P}_{γ} is harmonic function in $\Omega_e \cup \Omega_r$

\mathcal{P}_{γ} is the restriction of \mathcal{P}_{Ω} to γ .

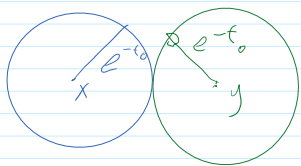
Circle Averages.

Let ℓ_t be normalized length on the circle $C_t^x := \{z: |z-x| = e^{-t}\}$.

$B_x(t) := \langle \mathcal{P}, \ell_t \rangle$ - the average of GFF over C_t^x . $D_t^x := \{z: |z-x| < e^{-t}\}$.

Well-defined, since ℓ_t has finite energy.

observe; let $t_0 := \log \frac{2}{|x-y|}$ (i.e. $2e^{-t_0} = |x-y|$).



Then for $t > t_0, s > t_0$,

$B_t^x - B_s^x$ depends only on $\mathcal{P}_{D_{t_0}^x}$ - by Markov.

$B_s^y - B_{t_0}^y$ depends only on $\mathcal{P}_{D_{t_0}^y}$ -

$$B_s^x - B_{t_0}^x \perp\!\!\!\perp B_{t_0}^y \text{ on } \mathcal{P}_{D_{t_0}^y} \perp\!\!\!\perp$$

So, since $D_{t_0}^x \cap D_{t_0}^y = \emptyset$, these increments are independent!

For fixed x , if $t > s$ then $B_t^x - B_s^x$ is independent of B_s^x (again, domain Markov Property: $B_t^x - B_s^x$ is a function of $\mathcal{P}_{D_t^x}$, B_s^x - function of $\mathcal{P}_{D_s^x}$).

$$\text{Also } \text{Var}(B_t^x - B_s^x) = \mathbb{E}((B_t^x - B_s^x)^2) = \underbrace{\| \ell_t \|_{H(D_s^x)}^2}_{\text{Markov}} = \iint G_s(x, y) d\ell_t(x) d\ell_t(y) \quad \textcircled{=}$$

$G_s(x, y)$ - Green function in D_s^x ,

$$G_s(x, y) = \log|x-y| - \log(|x| \cdot |x-y^*|) + s,$$

where y^* - reflection of y wrt C_s .

So direct computation gives

$$\textcircled{=} \sqrt{2\pi} (t-s).$$

So $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} (B_t^x - B_s^x)$ is Brownian Motion.

Let $\Lambda = (V, E)$ - graph, $\partial\Lambda \subset V$ - boundary.

$w: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ - weight funct. on.

Define $H(\Lambda, \partial\Lambda) = \{\varphi \in \mathbb{R}^V: \varphi|_{\partial\Lambda} = 0\}$.

Inner product on $H(\Lambda, \partial\Lambda)$: $\langle \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \sum_{e=\langle x,y \rangle} w(e) (\varphi_1(y) - \varphi_1(x)) (\varphi_2(y) - \varphi_2(x))$

The corresponding Gaussian Hilbert space \mathcal{G} on $H(\Lambda, \partial\Lambda)$ defines a random element of $H(\Lambda, \partial\Lambda)$.

The density (wrt Lebesgue measure on \mathbb{R}^V) is

$$\frac{1}{Z} e^{-\|\varphi\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2/2} \quad (Z - \text{normalizing factor}).$$

\mathcal{G} is called discrete GFF or harmonic crystal.

Discrete Laplacian: $\Delta \varphi(x) := \sum_{e=\langle x,y \rangle} w(e) (\varphi(x) - \varphi(y))$.

Observe:

$$\langle \varphi_1, \varphi_2 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \sum_{e=\langle x,y \rangle} w(e) (\varphi_1(y) - \varphi_1(x)) (\varphi_2(y) - \varphi_2(x)) =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in V} \varphi_1(x) \sum_{e=\langle x,y \rangle} 2(\varphi_2(y) - \varphi_2(x)) = \langle \varphi_1, \Delta \varphi_2 \rangle_{\text{usual scalar product}}.$$

Let X_n^x be weighted random walk started at some $x \in V$.

$$\text{i.e. } X_0^x = x, \quad P(X_{n+1}^x = y | X_n^x = z) = \frac{w(\langle z,y \rangle)}{\sum_{e \in E} w(e)}.$$

$N^x := \min \{n: X_n^x \in \partial\Lambda\}$ - hitting time.

Define discrete Green function G_x as

$$G_x(y) = \mathbb{E} \left(\sum_n \mathbb{1}_{\{X_n^x = y, n < N^x\}} \right) \quad - \text{expected number of visits to } y.$$

Observe: $G_x(y) = G_y(x)$

Indeed: $G_x(y) = \sum_{\gamma \text{ pass in } \Lambda \setminus \partial\Lambda \text{ from } x \text{ to } y} P(\gamma) = G_y(x)$, since each pass from x to y has corresponding pass from y to x .

Observe: 1) $G_x|_{\partial\Lambda} = 0$

2) for $y \neq x$, $\Delta G_x(y) = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{indeed, } G_x(y) &= G_y(x) = E\left(\sum_{n \geq 1} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_n^y = x, n \leq N^y\}}\right) = \\ &= E\left(\sum_{n \geq 1} \mathbb{1}_{\{X_n^y = x, n \leq N^y\}} \mid X_1^y = z\right) P(X_1^y = z) \stackrel{\text{Markov}}{=} \\ &= \sum_{z \sim y} \frac{w_{y,z}}{\sum_{y \in E} w_{y,z}} G_z(x) = \sum_{z \sim y} \frac{w_{y,z}}{\sum_{y \in E} w_{y,z}} G_x(z). \end{aligned}$$

3) for x : $\Delta G_x(x) = -1$ the same reasoning!

Discrete Green Potential: $G\rho(x) = \sum G_x(y) \rho(y)$

$$\text{Observe: } \Delta G\rho(x) = \sum \Delta_x G_x(y) \rho(y) = \sum \Delta_x G_y(x) \rho(y) = -\rho(x) \quad (= 0 \text{ if } y \neq x)$$

So we have, for any $\varphi, \rho \in H(\Lambda, \partial\Lambda)$,

$$\langle \varphi, \rho \rangle = \langle \varphi, G\rho \rangle_{\nabla}$$

and

$$\langle \varphi, G_x \rangle_{\nabla} = \langle \varphi, \delta_x \rangle = \varphi(x)$$

Apply it to discrete GFF Φ :

$$E(\Phi(x)\Phi(y)) = E(\langle \Phi, G_x \rangle, \langle \Phi, G_y \rangle) \stackrel{\text{GFF isometry}}{=} \langle G_x, G_y \rangle_{\nabla} = G_x(y).$$

As for continuous case, there is Domain Markov Property.

Let $\Lambda_1 \subset \Lambda \setminus \partial\Lambda$. $\partial\Lambda_1 = \Lambda \setminus \Lambda_1$.

Φ be dGFF on $(\Lambda, \partial\Lambda)$.

$\Phi|_{\Lambda_1}$ - dGFF on $(\Lambda_1, \partial\Lambda_1)$

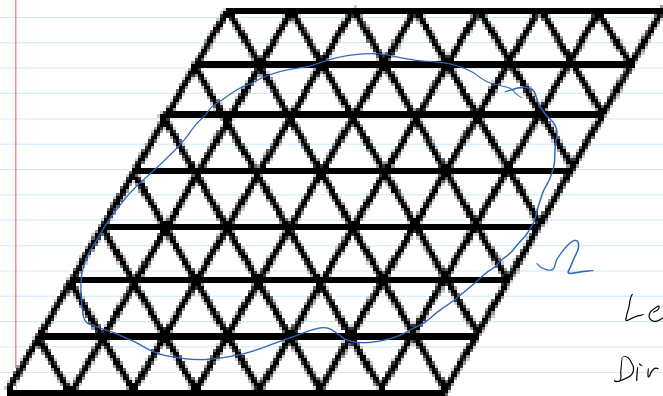
Then $\{\Phi \mid \Phi|_{\partial\Lambda_1} = \psi\} = \Phi_1 + \tilde{\Phi}$, where

$\tilde{\Phi}$ - discrete harmonic extension of ψ to Λ_1 .

$$(\varphi(x) := E(\psi(X_{N_x}^x)), N_x^! = \min \{n: X_n^x \in \Lambda_n\}).$$

Discrete approximation

Let T_n be standard triangular lattice of size $\frac{1}{n}$,



$\Lambda_n(\Omega)$ - graph with vertices $T_n \cap \Omega$, $\partial \Lambda_n$ - vertices with an edge leading outside. Put an equal weight of $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ on each edge.

Let $H_n = H(\Lambda_n(\Omega), \partial \Lambda_n)$ corresponding Dirichlet space.

Embedding in $H(\Omega)$ - extend by linearity in every triangle.

Denote the extension by the same φ .

For a triangle $[xyz]$ in T_n ,

$$\text{area of } T_n = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4n^2}, \quad |\nabla \varphi|^2 = \frac{2}{3} n^2 ((\varphi(x) - \varphi(y))^2 + (\varphi(y) - \varphi(z))^2 + (\varphi(z) - \varphi(x))^2)$$

$$\text{So } \int_{[x,y,z]} |\nabla \varphi|^2 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{6} \int_{\text{continuous}} ((\varphi(x) - \varphi(y))^2 + (\varphi(y) - \varphi(z))^2 + (\varphi(z) - \varphi(x))^2)$$

$$\text{and } \|\varphi\|_{H(\Omega)}^2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \sum_{x \sim y} (\varphi(x) - \varphi(y))^2 = \|\varphi\|_{H_n(\Omega)}^2.$$

So the LQIF Φ_n is the orthogonal projection of LIF φ to $H_n(\Omega)$, i.e.

$$\forall g \in H(\Omega), \langle \Phi_n, g \rangle = \langle \varphi, \text{Pr}_{H_n} g \rangle.$$

Easy to see: $\cup H_n(\Omega)$ is dense in $H(\Omega)$.

Thus $\forall g \in H(\Omega), \|g - \text{Pr}_{H_n} g\|_{\nabla} \rightarrow 0$.

So $\forall g \in H(\Omega), \langle \Phi_n, g \rangle \rightarrow \langle \varphi, g \rangle$.

Other lattices: can be done the same way, by selecting appropriate weights.

Connection 1: level lines of dGFF.

Works on any lattice, but will work with triangular.
 dGFF will be defined on faces of hexagonal (dual to triangular) lattice.

Take $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$ - simply connected, Ω_n - lattice approximation.
 Φ_n - dGFF on Ω_n with boundary values $\lambda > 0$ on the arc from a_n to b_n , $-\lambda$ on the arc from b_n to a_n .

Assign "+" to all hexagons with $\Phi_n > 0$,
 "-" to all hexagons with $\Phi_n < 0$ (a.s. $\Phi_n \neq 0 \forall$ face).

Then \exists unique interface between "+" and "-"
 from a_n to b_n . γ^n .

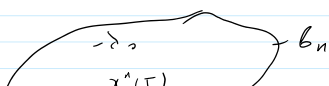
Theorem (Schramm - Schottfield).

γ^n converges to SLE $_{\kappa}$ when $\lambda_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{8}}$
 (for other λ - get other versions of SLE)

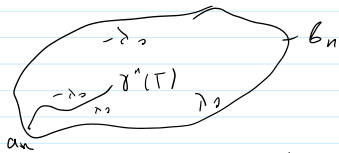
The key step:

Height-gap lemma. Let $T < \infty$, consider

F_T - solution of discrete Dirichlet problem on
 $\mathcal{L} \setminus \gamma^n_{[0, T]}$ with boundary values λ_0 on $(\gamma^n(T), b_n)$,
 $-\lambda_0$ on $(a_n, \gamma^n(0))$



$$-\lambda_0 \text{ on } (b_n, \gamma^n(i))$$



H_T - expected value of $\downarrow G(z)$

with boundary conditions:

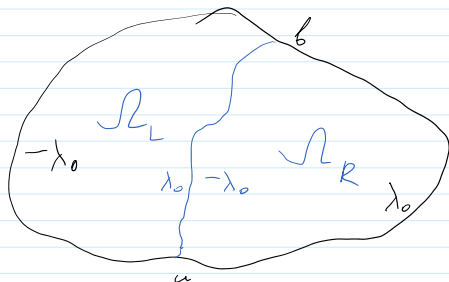
- 1) λ_0 on (a_n, b_n)
- 2) $-\lambda_0$ on (b_n, a_n)
- 3) H on hexagons next to $\gamma^n(T)$.

Then $\forall v_0 \in \Omega$, $H_T(v_0) - F_T(v_0) \xrightarrow{P} 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Remark. If $H_T(v_0) = F_T(v_0)$ - harmonic explorer

Connection 2. Conditioning on $SL\bar{E}_k$.

$$k=4$$



Let Φ - GFF on Ω with boundary conditions

λ_0 on (a, b) , $-\lambda_0$ on (b, a) .

Let γ - $SL\bar{E}_4$ from a to b , Ω_L, Ω_R - random.

Let Φ_L be GFF in Ω_L with $(-\lambda_0, \lambda_0)_{\partial \Omega_L}$

Φ_R - GFF in Ω_R with $(-\lambda_0, \lambda_0)_{\partial \Omega_R}$

$$\text{Then } \Phi_L \upharpoonright_{\Omega_L} + \Phi_R \upharpoonright_{\Omega_R} \stackrel{\text{law}}{=} \Phi.$$

Other $SL\bar{E}_k$ - more complicated boundary conditions.

$$h_{\lambda, \mu}(w) := \begin{cases} \frac{\pi}{2} \lambda + m(\pi - \text{wind}(b, w)), & w \in (a, b) \\ -\frac{\pi}{2} \lambda + m(-\pi + \text{wind}(b, w)), & w \in (b, a) \end{cases}$$

As before, wind is the winding.

Formally defined only for smooth curves, but

can be extended to arbitrary using conformal maps.

If $\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi k}}$, $\mu = \lambda(1 - \frac{k}{4})$, then the same observation as for $SL\bar{E}_4$ works for any $SL\bar{E}_k$.