

Dependent percolation: some examples and multi-scale tools

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I. Motivation

Classical Ising model (spins ± 1) in two dimensions

$$H(\sigma) = - \sum_{|x-y|=1} J_{\{x,y\}} \sigma_x \sigma_y$$

$\sigma \in \{-1, +1\}^\Lambda$; $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$ (finite)

$J_{\{x,y\}} \equiv J > 0$ ferromagnetic interaction; $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^2$

$$\mu_\Lambda(\sigma) = \frac{1}{Z_\Lambda} \exp \{-\beta H_\Lambda(\sigma)\} \quad (\text{probability measure})$$

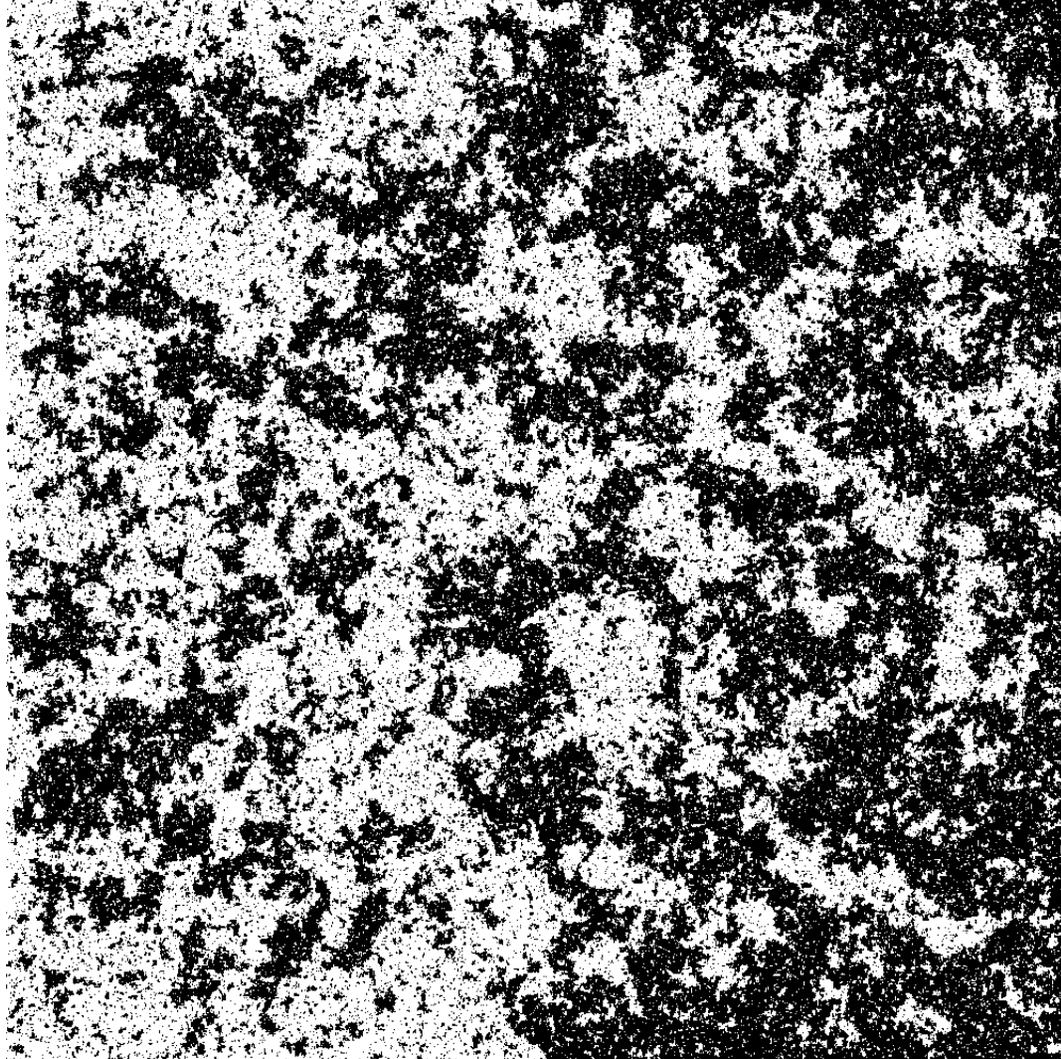
Phase transition at sufficiently low temperature

$$\beta_c = \frac{1}{2J} \log(1 + \sqrt{2})$$

multiple limits of μ_Λ as $\Lambda \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2$ if $\beta > \beta_c$.

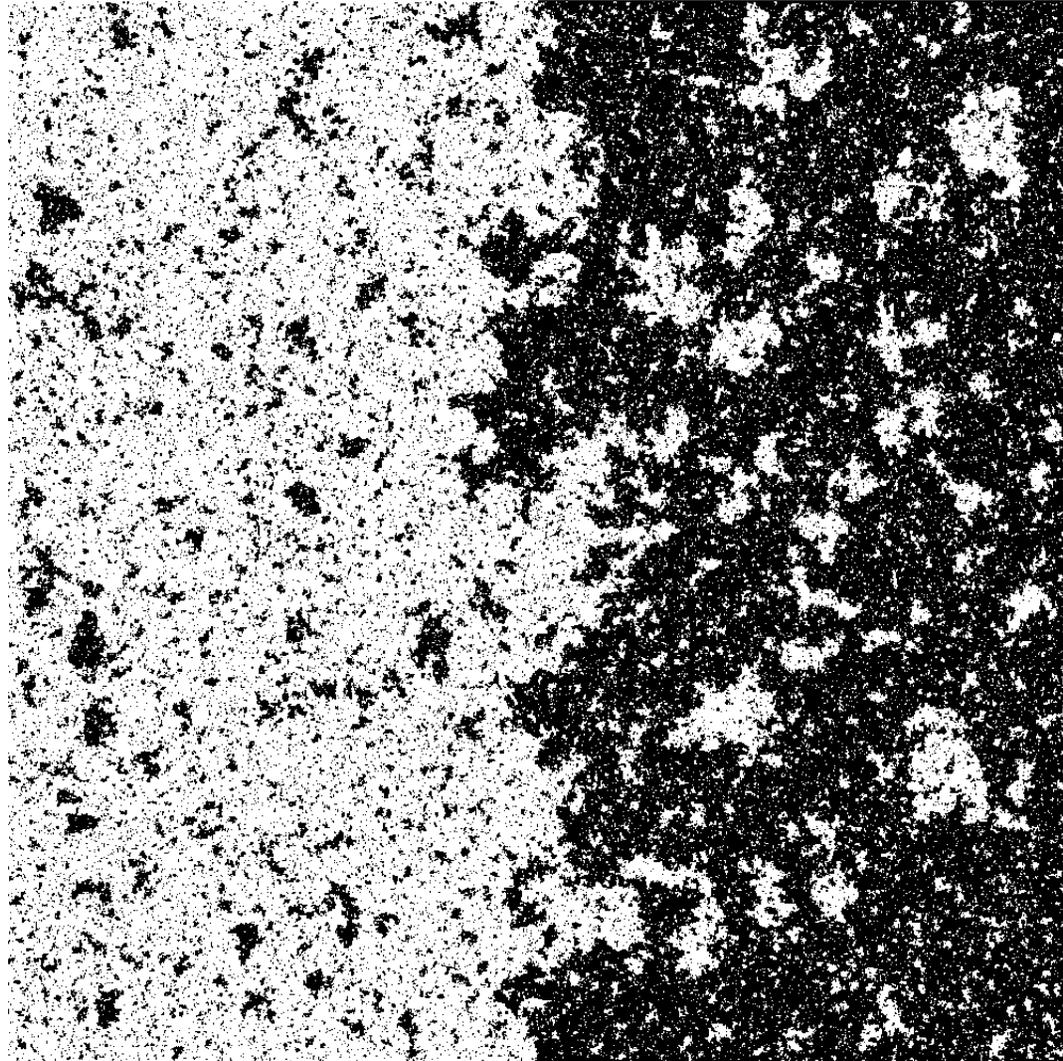
Peierls (1936); Onsager (1944); Yang (1952)

I. Motivation



Simulations by Vincent Beffara

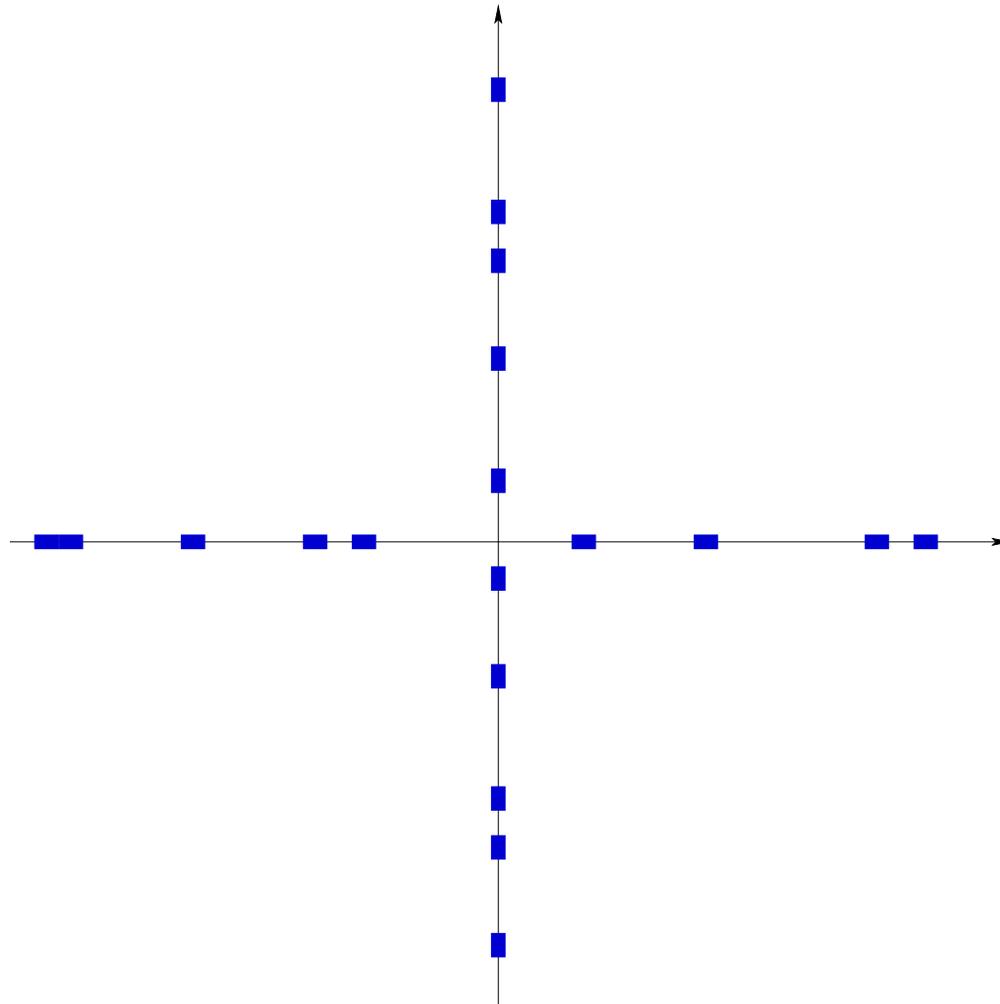
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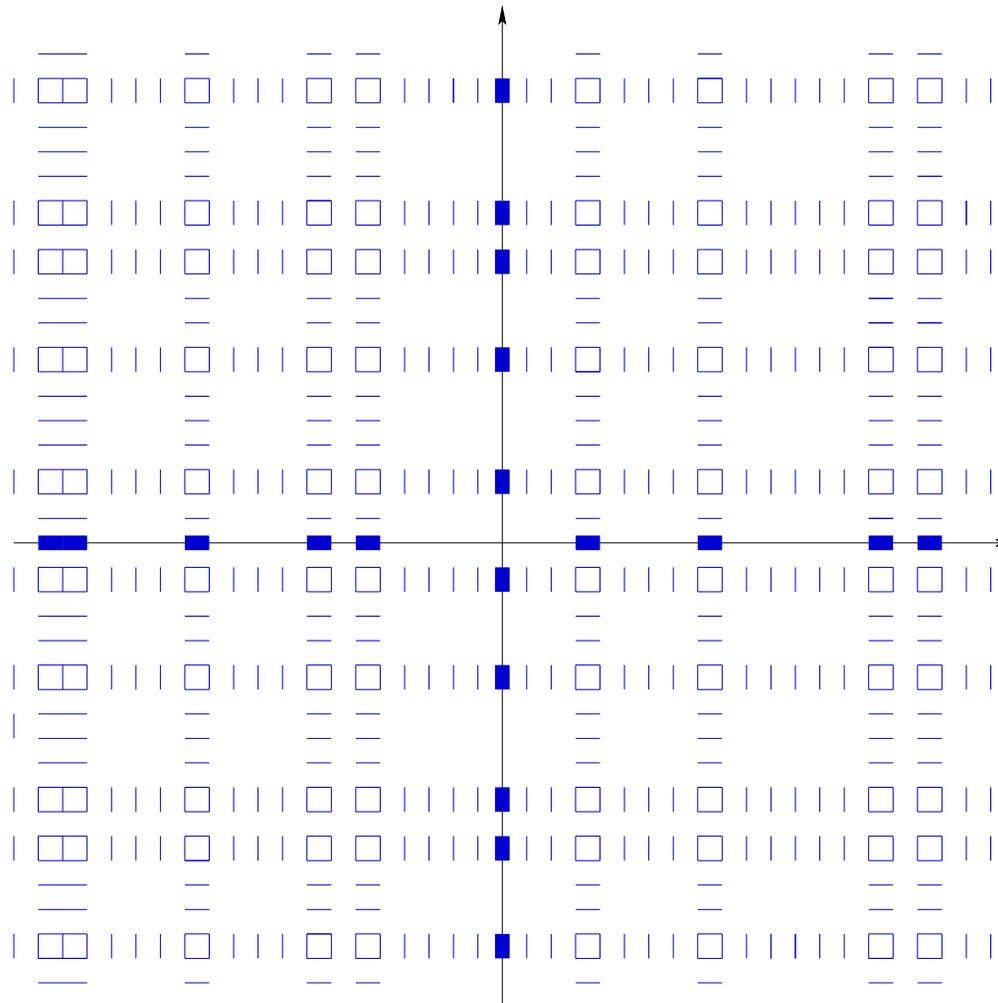
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McCoy and Wu (1968) investigated the effect of random impurities



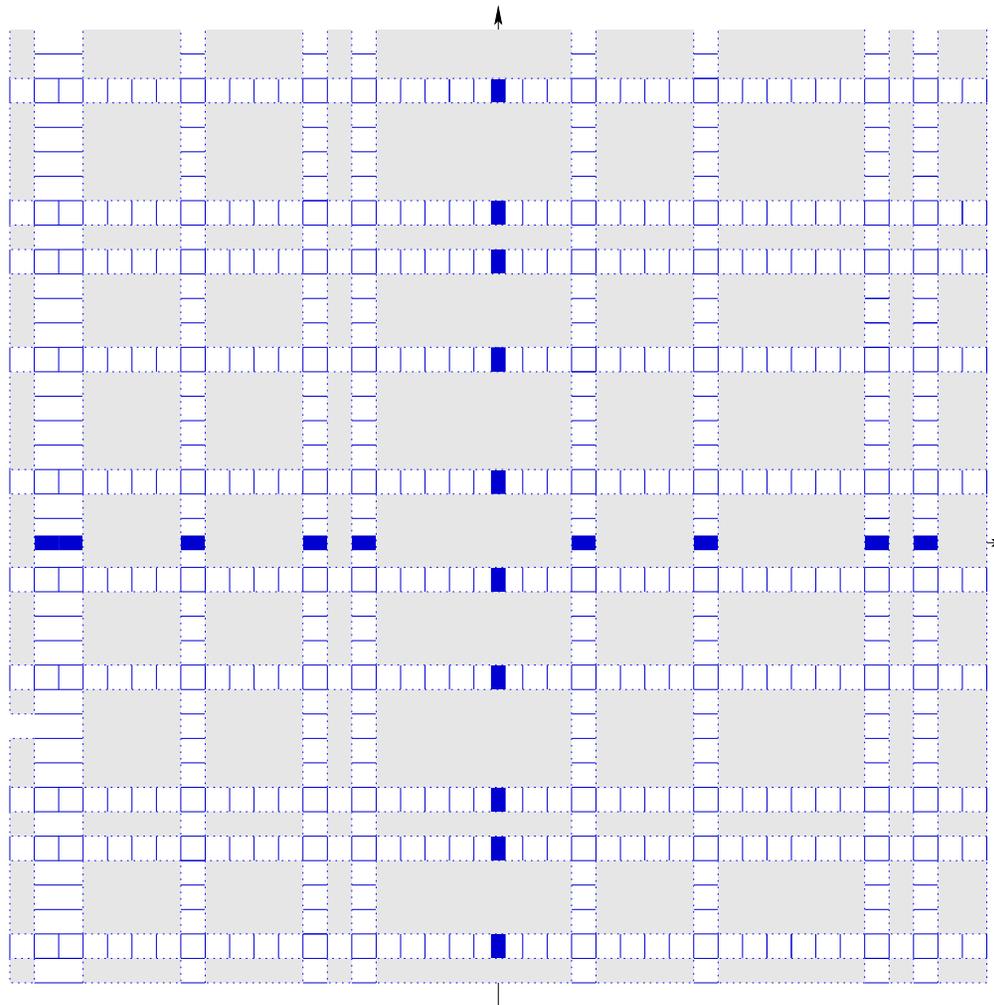
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Disordered ferromagnets – randomly layered environment

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Phase transitions for systems in a (randomly) layered environment

- Growth processes in random environment
- Some forms of coordinate percolation. Winkler's compatibility problem.

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- Some forms of coordinate percolation. Winkler's compatibility problem.

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Based on joint results with H. Kesten, B. Lima, V. Sidoravicius

II. Oriented percolation in a randomly layered environment

On $\tilde{\mathbb{Z}}_+^2 := \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_+ : x + y \text{ is even}\}$

consider the following oriented (NW, NE) site percolation model:

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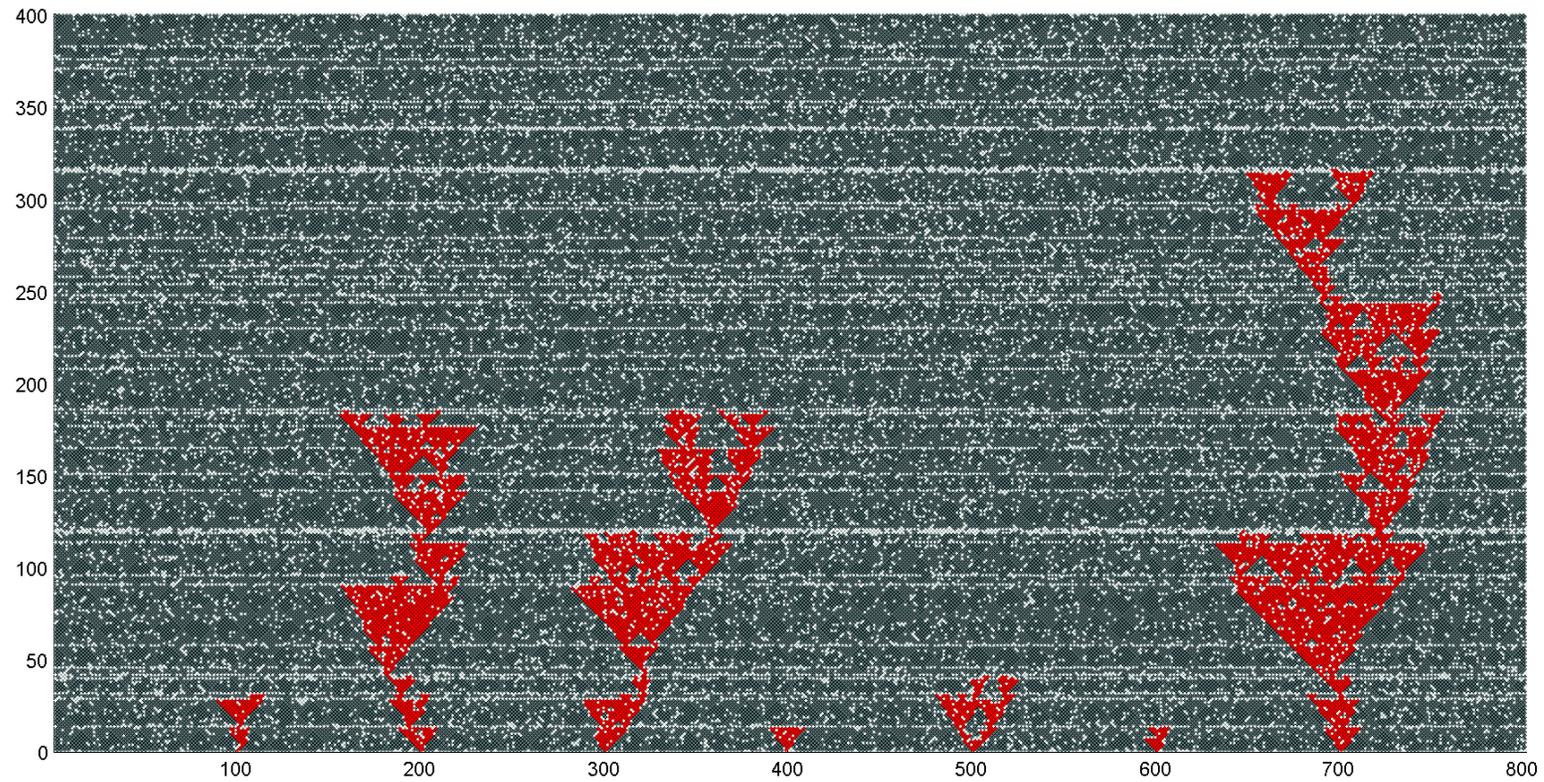
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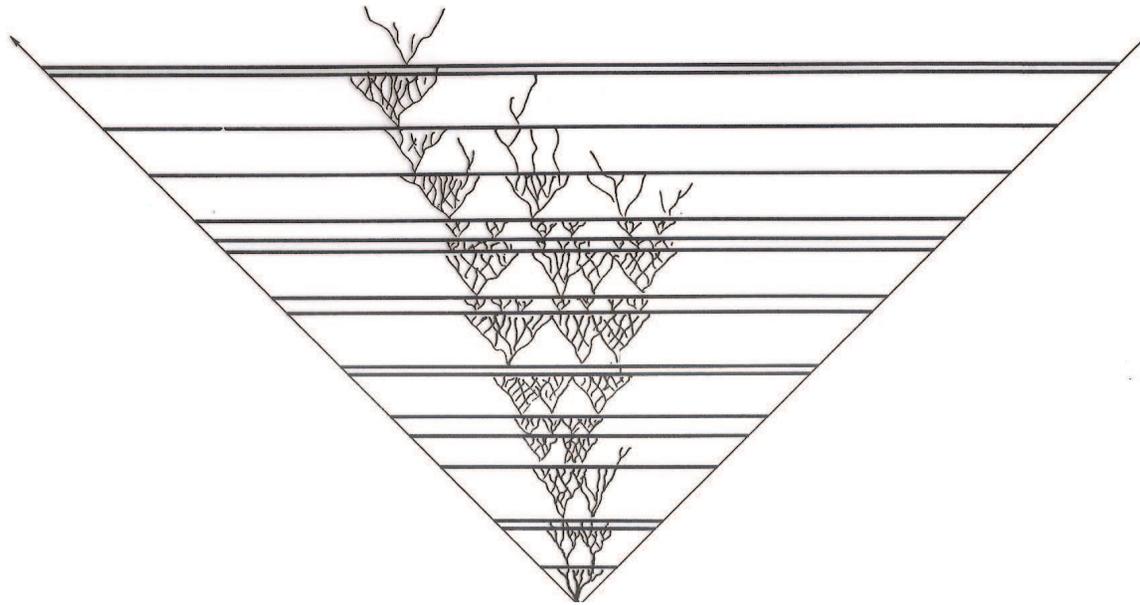
δ large \Rightarrow no percolation (easy)

δ small \Rightarrow percolation

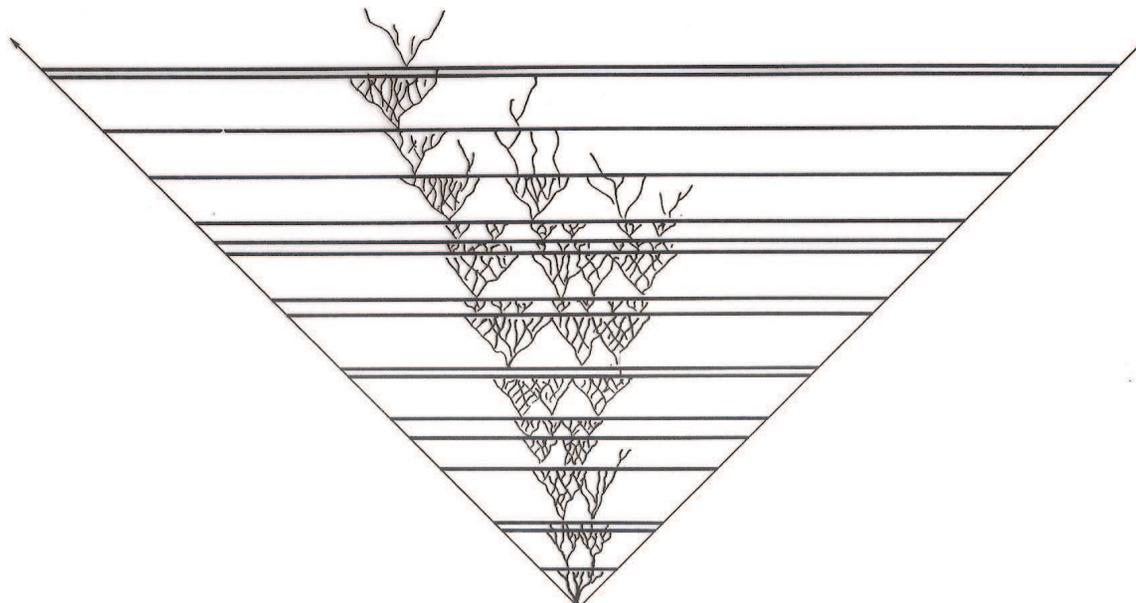
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$$C^+(\mathbf{0}) = \{v : \exists \text{ open oriented path from } 0 \text{ to } v\}$$

Let $\Theta(p_G, p_B, \delta) = \mathbb{P}(C^+(\mathbf{0}) \text{ is infinite})$.

Theorem (Kesten, Sidoravicius, V.)

$\forall p_G > p_c, \forall p_B > 0, \exists \delta_0 > 0$ so that $\Theta(p_G, p_B, \delta) > 0$ if $\delta \leq \delta_0$. In fact

$$\mathbb{P}(C^+(\mathbf{0}) \text{ is infinite} \mid \xi) > 0 \text{ a.s. in } \xi \quad (\xi \text{ configuration of lines})$$

Basic tool: multi-scale analysis

Get started with a **very simple situation**:

hierarchical model, L large (depending on p_G, p_B),

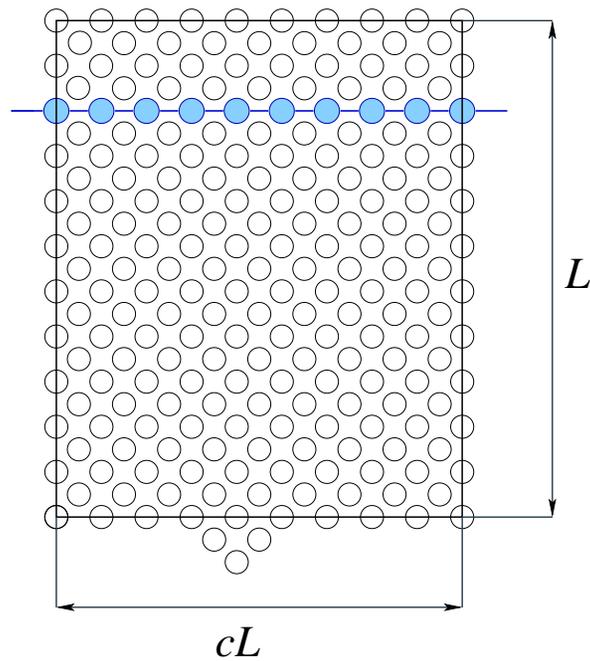
$$\zeta_j := \begin{cases} k, & \text{if } L^k | j \text{ but } L^{k+1} \nmid j, \\ 0, & \text{if } L \nmid j. \end{cases}$$

Replace each entry $\zeta_j = k$ by k consecutive bad lines (shift the rest to the right)

- bad walls of thickness k : k consecutive bad lines;
- such bad walls at distance of order L^k from each other.

Basic tool: multi-scale analysis

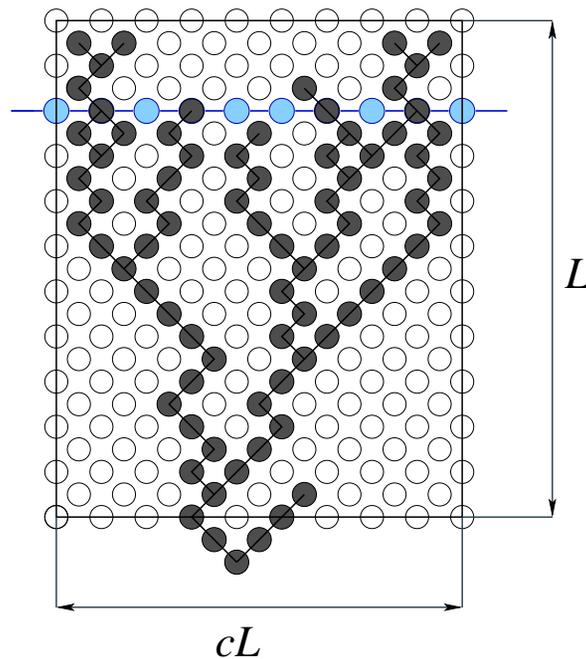
This immediately calls to the consideration of rescaled lattices, all similar to the original one, and adapted to deal with bad lines of thickness k .



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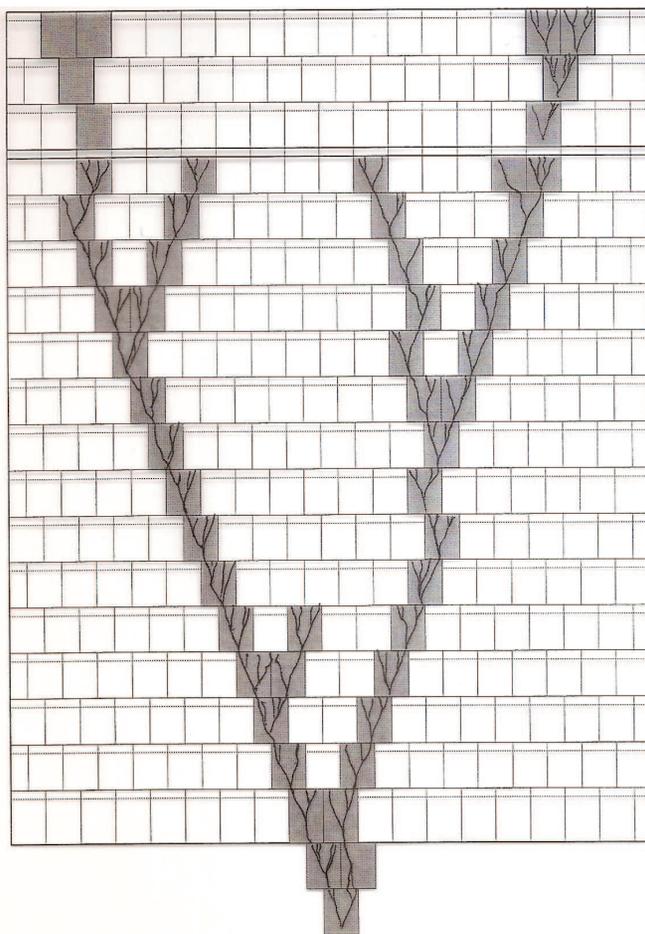


(c suitable, depending on p_G)

$$p_G > p^* \text{ so that } \mathbb{P}(\text{event in the picture} | \text{seed}) \geq 1 - (1 - p_G)^2$$

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Renormalized k -sites $S_{(i,j)}^k$, $(i, j) \in \tilde{\mathbb{Z}}_+^2$.

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It should:

- (a) guarantee the existence of open oriented paths that cross it from bottom to top
- (b) produce new $(k - 1)$ -seeds on the top,

so that

the existence of oriented k -passable paths implies the existence of open oriented paths at scale 0, and can essentially be compared with independent site percolation.

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$$p_k \leq P \left(S^k \text{ is } s\text{-passable} \mid (k - 1) \text{ - seed} \right), \quad k \geq 1, \quad (*)$$

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Proposition. Given $p_B > 0$ and $p_G > p^*$, there exists L large enough such that $(*)$ holds with $p_k = 1 - q_k$ and

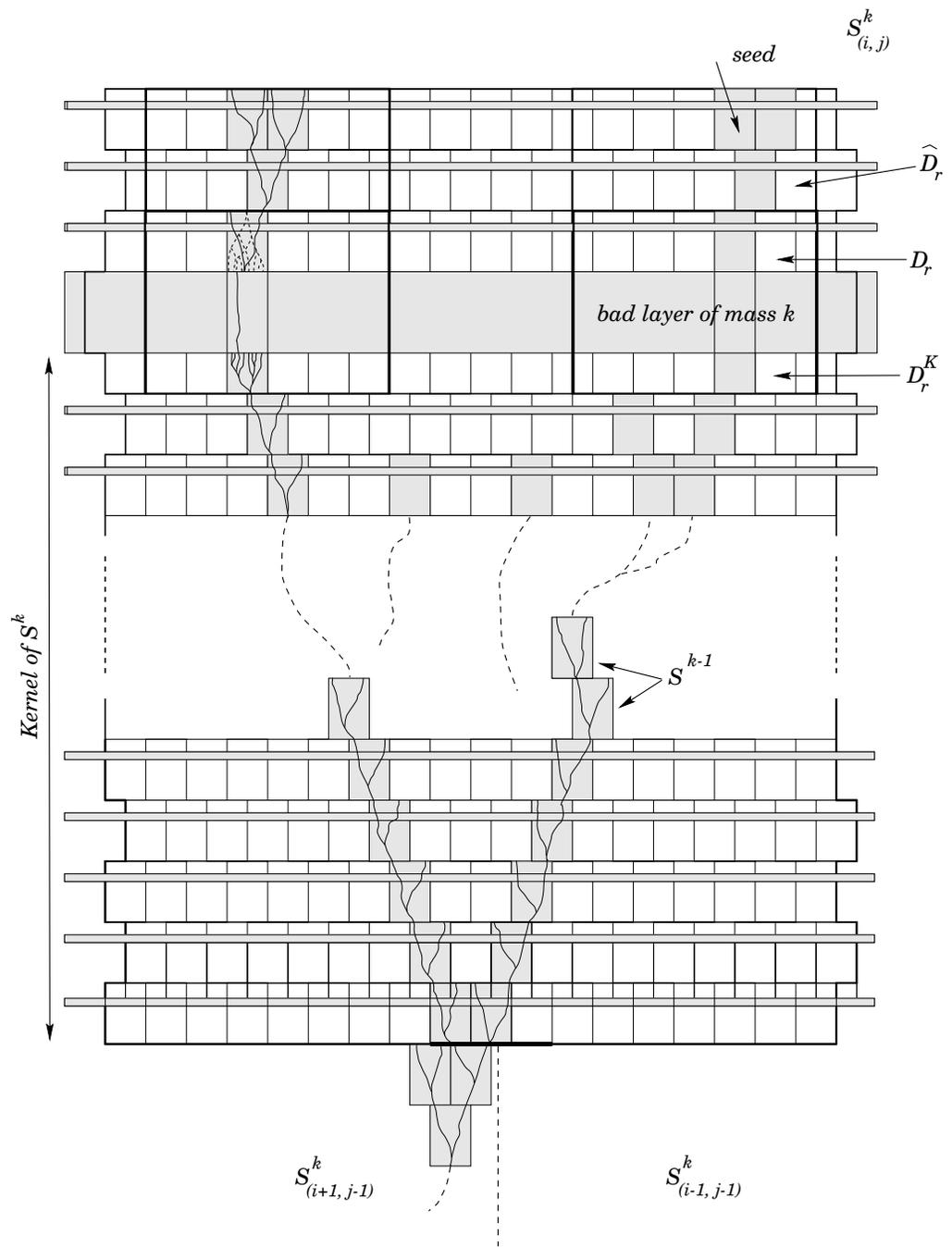
$$q_k \leq q_{k-1}^2 \quad \text{for all } k \geq 1,$$

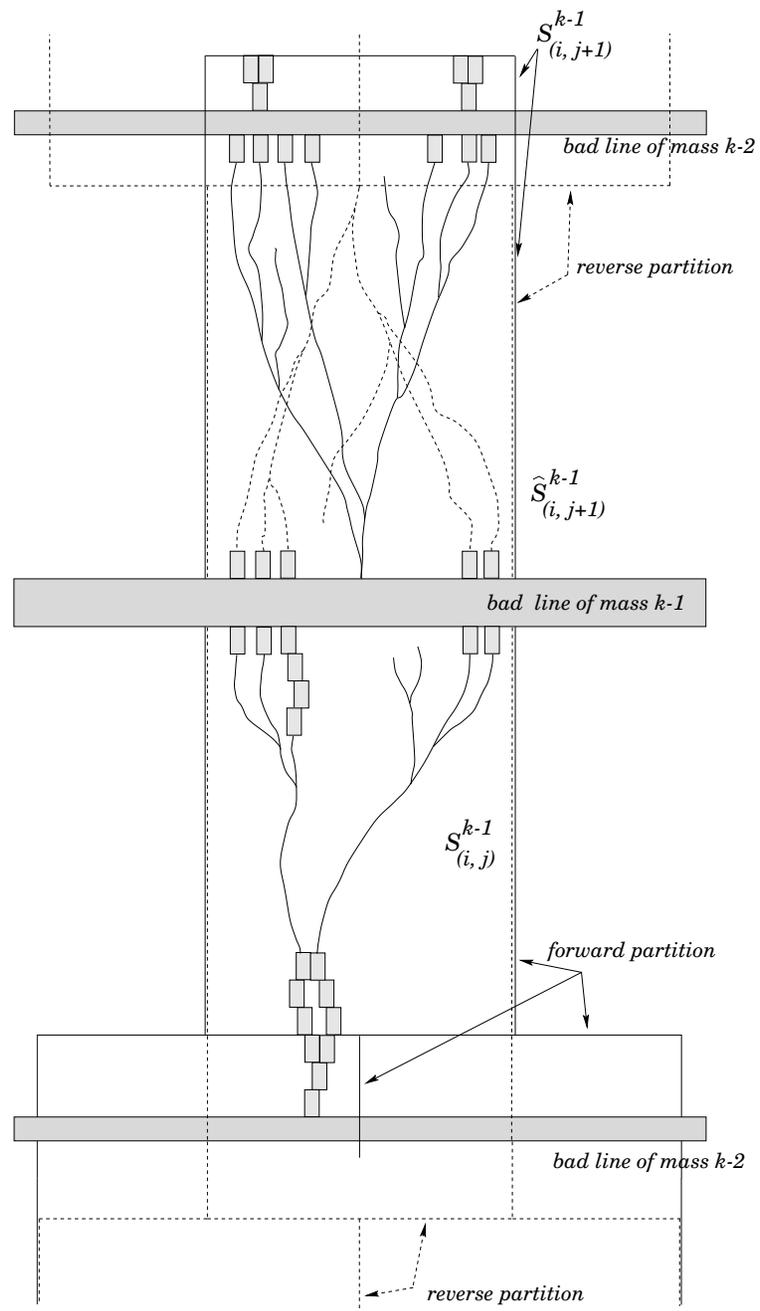
and where $q_0 = 1 - p_G$.

The above estimate clearly implies that for L large enough

$$P(\text{there exists an infinite cluster starting from the origin}) \geq \prod_{k=0}^{+\infty} p_k^3 > 0.$$

- The main difficulty in pushing the estimate at each step is when one faces the bad wall of larger mass.
- Planarity plays important role in these arguments.
- Enlarging the seeds and taking some extra care replace p^* by p_c .

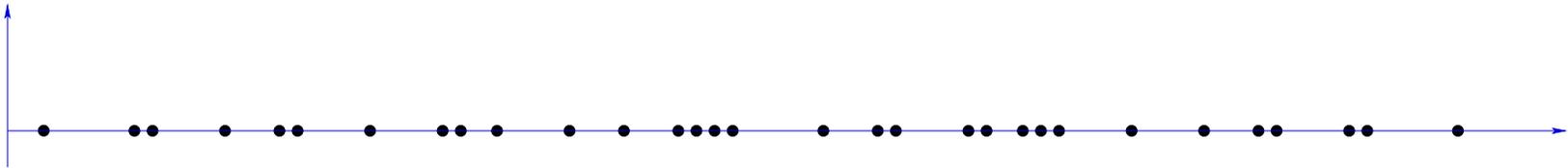




Dealing with random layers

- Step 1: Devise a suitable grouping procedure
- Step 2: Perform the recursive (**much more involved!**) estimates

Step 1: Grouping procedure

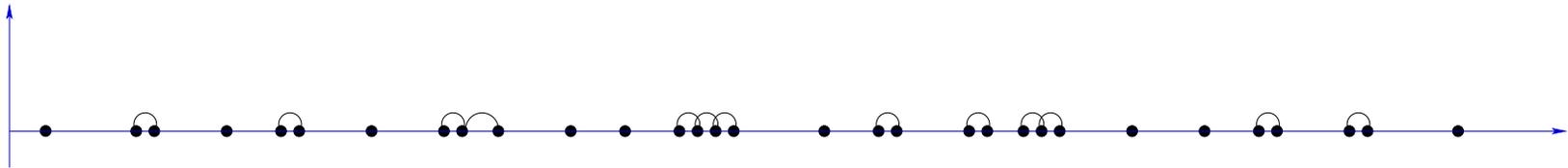


$\xi \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ sampled from the Bernoulli distribution \mathbb{P}_δ with low density δ .

$\Gamma = \{i : \xi_i = 1\}$ - correspond to the “bad lines” (of level 0):

$L \geq 3$ integer.

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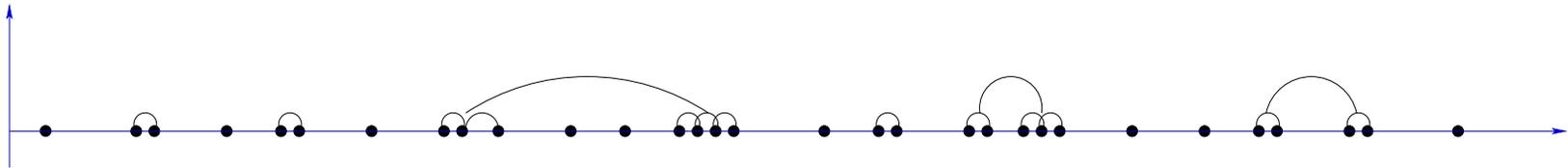


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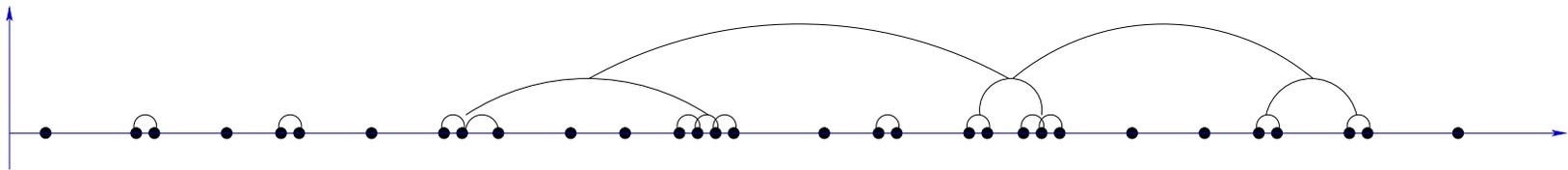


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Assuming $64\delta L^2 < 1$ the procedure converges:

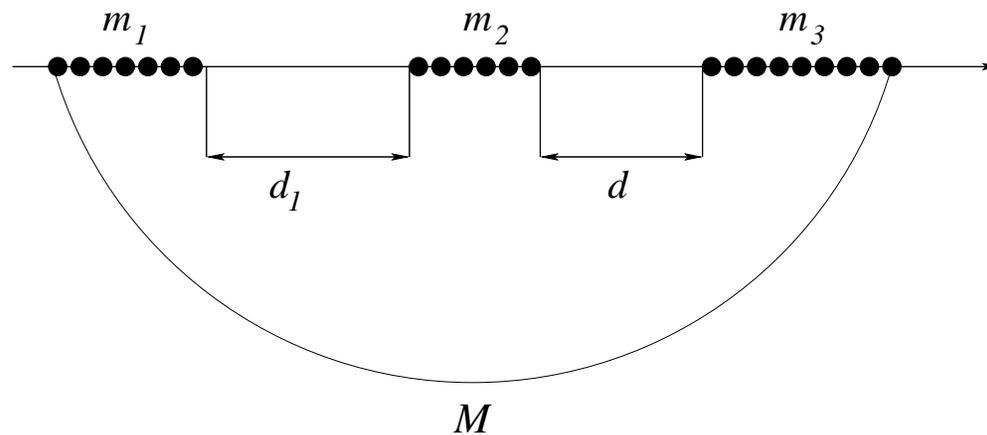
Each $x \in \Gamma$ will be “re-incorporated” finitely many times a.s.; the final partition is well defined.

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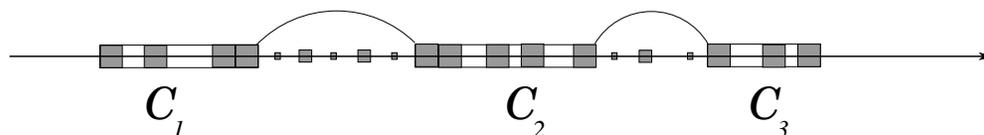
On a set $\Xi(\delta)$ of full measure we can decompose Γ into sets \mathcal{C}_i , called *clusters*, to which an \mathbb{N} -valued mass $m(\mathcal{C}_i)$ is attributed ($m(\mathcal{C}_i) \leq |\mathcal{C}_i|$) in a way that

$$d(\mathcal{C}_i, \mathcal{C}_j) \geq L^{\min\{m(\mathcal{C}_i), m(\mathcal{C}_j)\}}, \quad \text{for all } i, j$$

The $\mathcal{C}_i := \mathcal{C}_{\infty, i}$ are obtained by the (limiting) recursive procedure outlined above. Each constructed cluster has a **level** (the step when it was born!) and a **mass**.



$$M = m_1 + m_2 + m_3 - \lfloor \log_L d_1 \rfloor - \lfloor \log_L d_2 \rfloor$$



Step 2: Multi-scale analysis for fixed realization of good/bad lines

Assume $3 \leq L$, $64\delta L^2 < 1$.

$$\chi(\xi) := \inf\{k \geq 0 : d(\mathcal{C}, 0) \geq M^{m(\mathcal{C})} \text{ for all } \mathcal{C} \in \mathbf{C}_\infty \text{ with } m(\mathcal{C}) > k\}$$

with $\chi(\xi) = \infty$ if the above set is empty or $\xi \notin \Xi(\delta)$

Then:

$$\mathbb{P}_\delta\{\xi : \chi(\xi) < \infty\} = 1 \text{ and } \mathbb{P}_\delta\{\xi : \chi(\xi) = 0\} > 0.$$

We prove

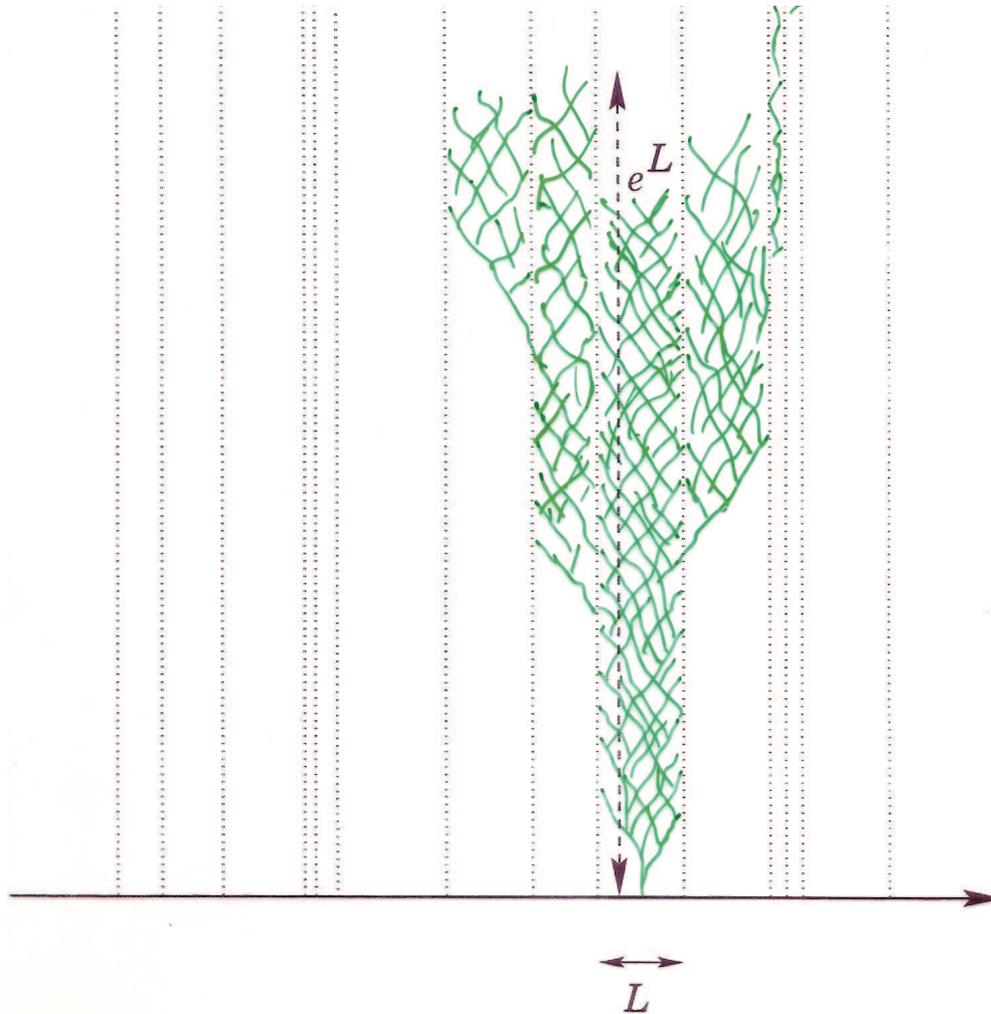
$$\mathbb{P}\left(C^+(0) \text{ is infinite} \mid \chi(\xi) < \infty\right) > 0.$$

Conceptually, the structure is similar to that in the simple hierarchical situation, but:

- rescaled lattices depend also on ξ ;
- main estimate (drilling through the higher mass) within a good k -site S^k is much more involved; our estimates require L somehow larger ($L \geq 192$ suffices);
- $p_k \nearrow 1$ exponentially in k .

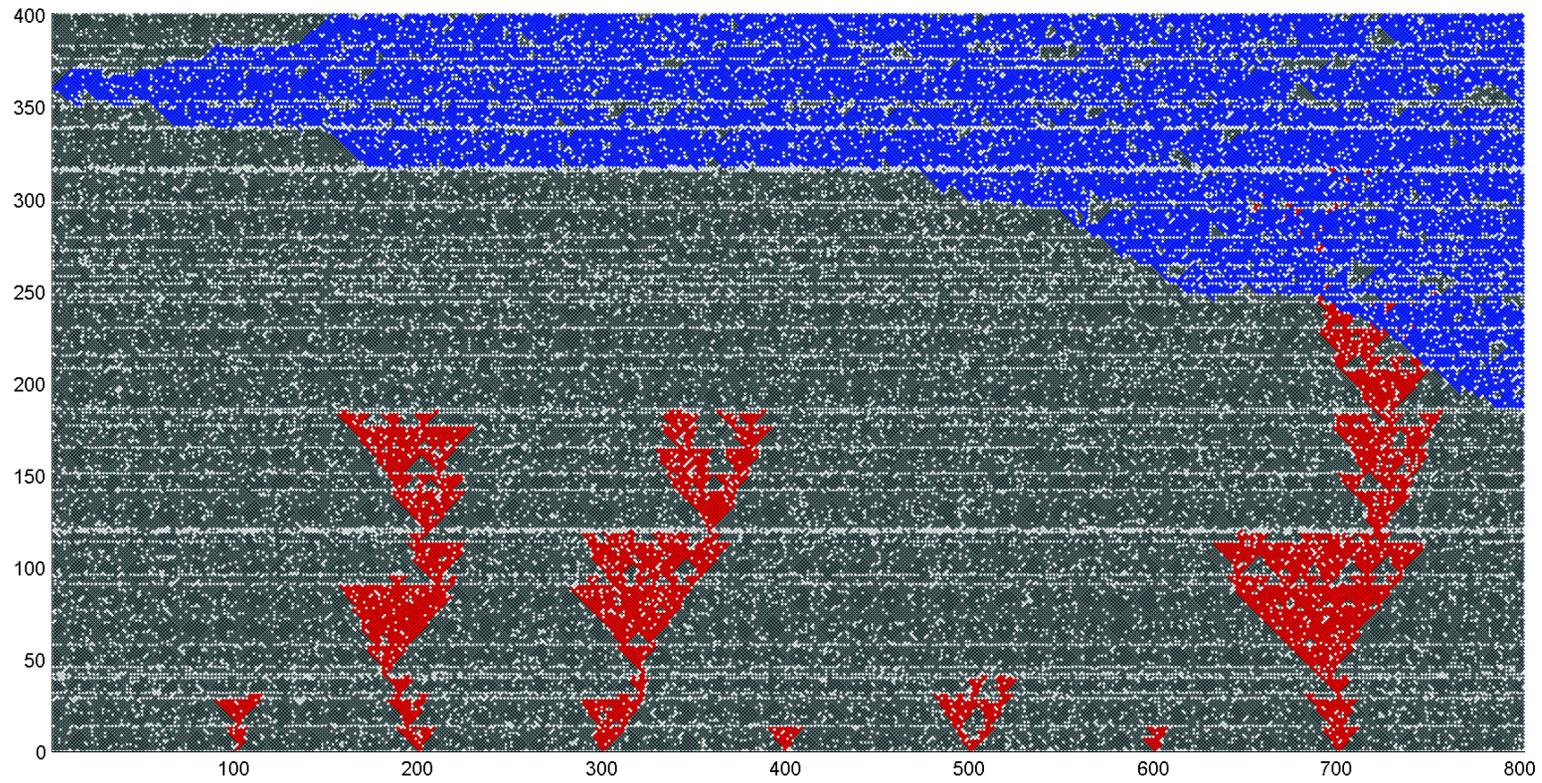
III. Some related results

Bramson, Durrett, Schonmann (1991)



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IV. Coordinate percolation. Winkler's compatibility

(η, ξ) a pair of sequences in $\Xi = \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$

Allowed to: remove ones from η ; remove zeros from ξ

Can one map both sequences to the same semi-infinite sequence?

If **YES**, say that (η, ξ) is **compatible**.

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Winkler's compatibility question:

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$$\mathbb{P}_{p'} \otimes \mathbb{P}_p \{ (\eta, \xi) \in \Xi \times \Xi : (\eta, \xi) \text{ are compatible} \} > 0 ?$$

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Let $p \in (0, 1)$. Say that $\eta \in \Xi$ is p -compatible if

$$\mathbb{P}_p \{\xi \in \Xi : (\eta, \xi) \text{ is compatible}\} > 0.$$

IV. Coordinate percolation. Winkler's compatibility

Theorem (Kesten, Lima, Sidoravicius, V.)

For every $\epsilon > 0$ there exist $0 < p_\epsilon < 1$ and a binary sequence $\eta \equiv \eta_\epsilon \in \Xi$, such that $\mathcal{Z}_{\eta_\epsilon}$ is a discrete fractal with Hausdorff dimension $d_H(\mathcal{Z}_\eta) \geq 1 - \epsilon$, and such that

$$\mathbb{P}_p\{\xi \in \Xi: (\eta, \xi) \text{ is compatible}\} > 0$$

for any $p < p_\epsilon$.

Notation: $\mathcal{Z}_\eta = \{i \geq 1: \eta_i = 0\}$

For the proof

- exploit a representation as coordinate oriented percolation;
- essential ingredient: the grouping procedure mentioned before.

Move from ξ to $\psi \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\mathbb{N}}$: $\psi_i \geq 1$ representing the length of the corresponding run of 1s.

$$\Psi = \{\psi \in \mathbb{Z}_+^{\mathbb{N}}: \psi_i \geq 1 \text{ implies } \psi_{i+1} = 0\}.$$

IV. Coordinate percolation. Winkler's compatibility

Coordinate percolation process.

Oriented graph $\mathcal{G} = (\mathbb{V}, \mathbb{E})$, where

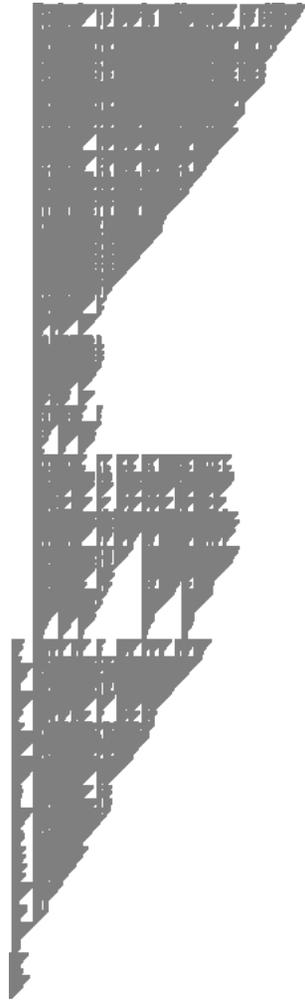
$$\mathbb{V} = \mathbb{Z}_+^2 \quad \mathbb{E} = \{ \text{vertical n.n., northeast diagonals} \} \quad \text{oriented upwards}$$

Given $\zeta, \psi \in \Psi$, define the site configuration $\omega_{\zeta, \psi}$ on \mathcal{G} : for $v = (v_1, v_2)$ with $v_1, v_2 \geq 1$

$$\omega_{\zeta, \psi}(v) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \zeta_{v_1} \geq \psi_{v_2}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$v \in \mathbb{V} \text{ open iff } \omega_{\zeta, \psi}(v) = 1$$

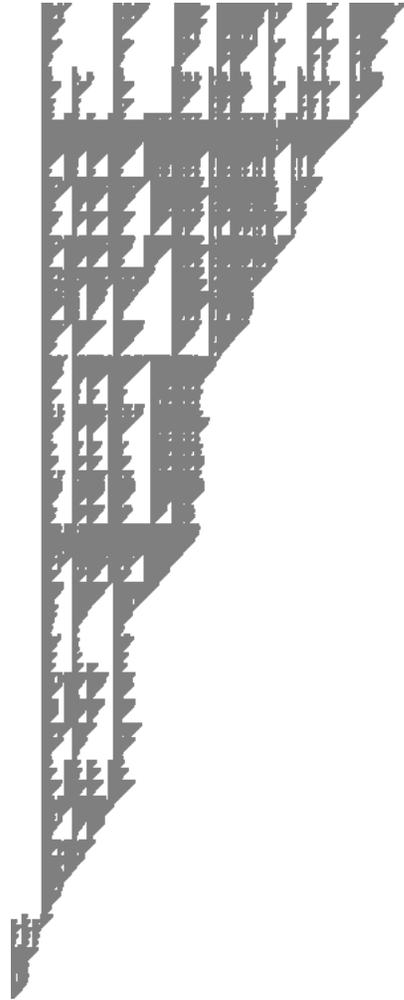
$$(\omega_{\zeta, \psi}(0, 0) = 1, \quad \omega_{\zeta, \psi}(v) = 0 \text{ if } v_1 \wedge v_2 = 0)$$



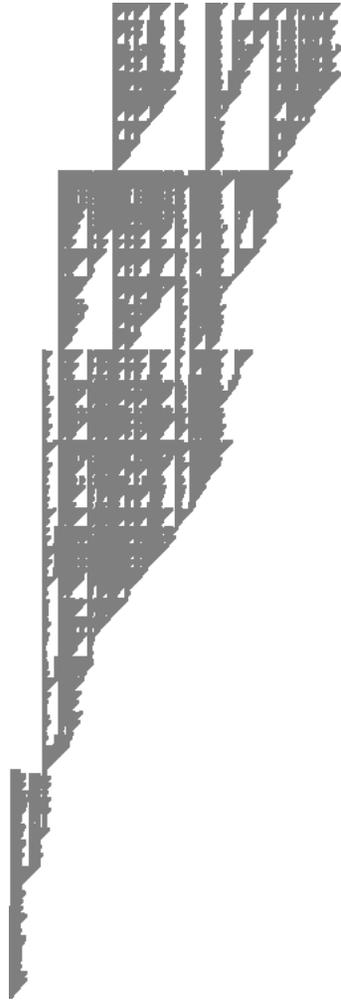
Simulations of coordinate percolation (by Lionel Levine)



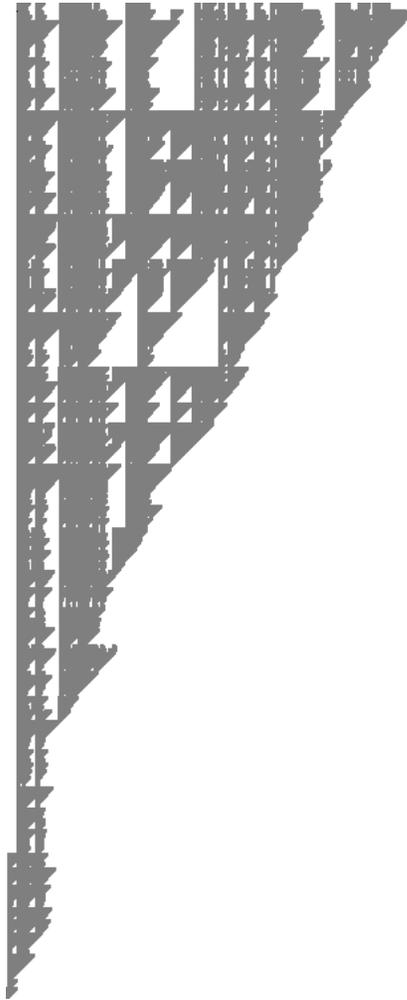
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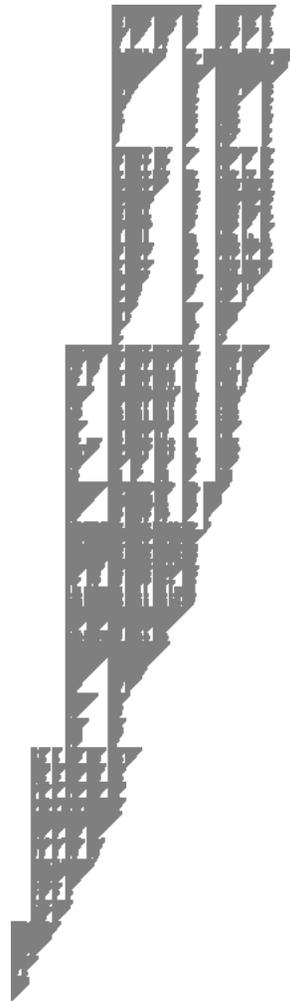
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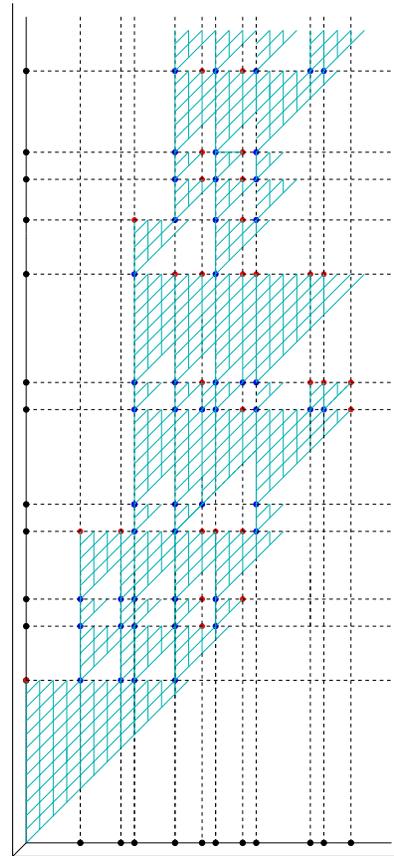


Figure 1: oriented cluster of the origin

For the compatibility question, we need more than an open oriented path.

A vertex $v = (v_1, v_2)$ with $v_1, v_2 \geq 1$ is heavy if $\psi_{v_2} \geq 1$.

IV. Coordinate percolation. Winkler's compatibility

Permitted path: does not cross two heavy vertices with the same first coordinate.

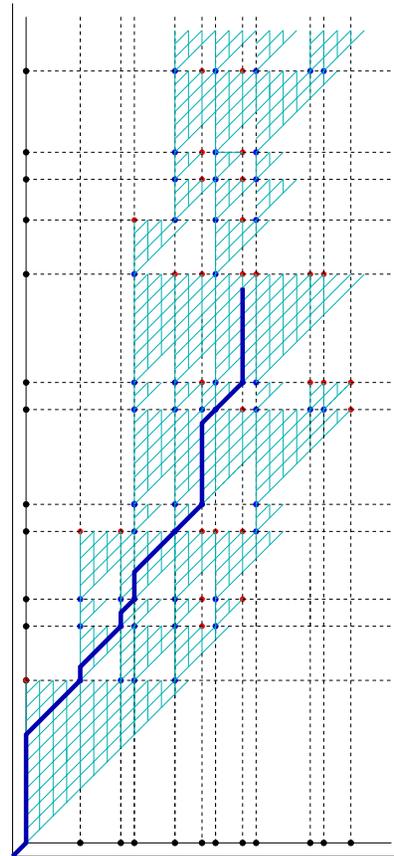


Figure 2: open permitted path from the origin

IV. Coordinate percolation. Winkler's compatibility

Lemma

Let $\zeta, \psi \in \Psi$. If there exists an infinite open permitted path π starting from the origin for the percolation configuration $\omega_{\zeta, \psi}$, then the pair (ζ, ψ) is compatible.

IV. Coordinate percolation. Winkler's compatibility

M -spaced sequences

$M \geq 2$ integer. A sequence $\psi \in \Psi$ is M -spaced if:

a) $i_j(\psi) \geq M^j$ for all $j \geq 1$, where

$$i_j(\psi) = \inf\{n \in \mathbb{N} : \psi_n \geq j\} \quad (+\infty \text{ if } \{ \} = \emptyset)$$

b) $j - i \geq M^{\min\{\psi_i, \psi_j\}}$, for all $1 \leq i < j$.

$$\Psi_M := \{\xi \in \Psi : \xi \text{ is } M\text{-spaced}\}$$

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Theorem

Let $L \geq 2$ and $M \geq 3(L + 1)$ be integers, $\zeta(L)$ the hierarchical sequence as before, and $\psi \in \Psi_M$. Then the configuration $\omega_{\zeta(L), \psi}$ has an infinite open permitted path π starting from the origin.

Corollary

If $\psi \in \Psi_M$ with $M = 3(L + 1)$ the pair $(\zeta(L), \psi)$ is compatible.

IV. Coordinate percolation. Winkler's compatibility

Using this and the grouping lemma discussed before, one gets:

Theorem

Let $L \geq 2$ and $M = 3(L + 1)$. If $p < \frac{1}{64M^2}$, $\tilde{\zeta}(L) \in \Psi$ is given by

$$(\tilde{\zeta}(L))_j = \begin{cases} 3M^{k-1}, & \text{if } L^k | j \text{ and } L^{k+1} \nmid j, \\ 0, & \text{if } L \nmid j, \end{cases}$$

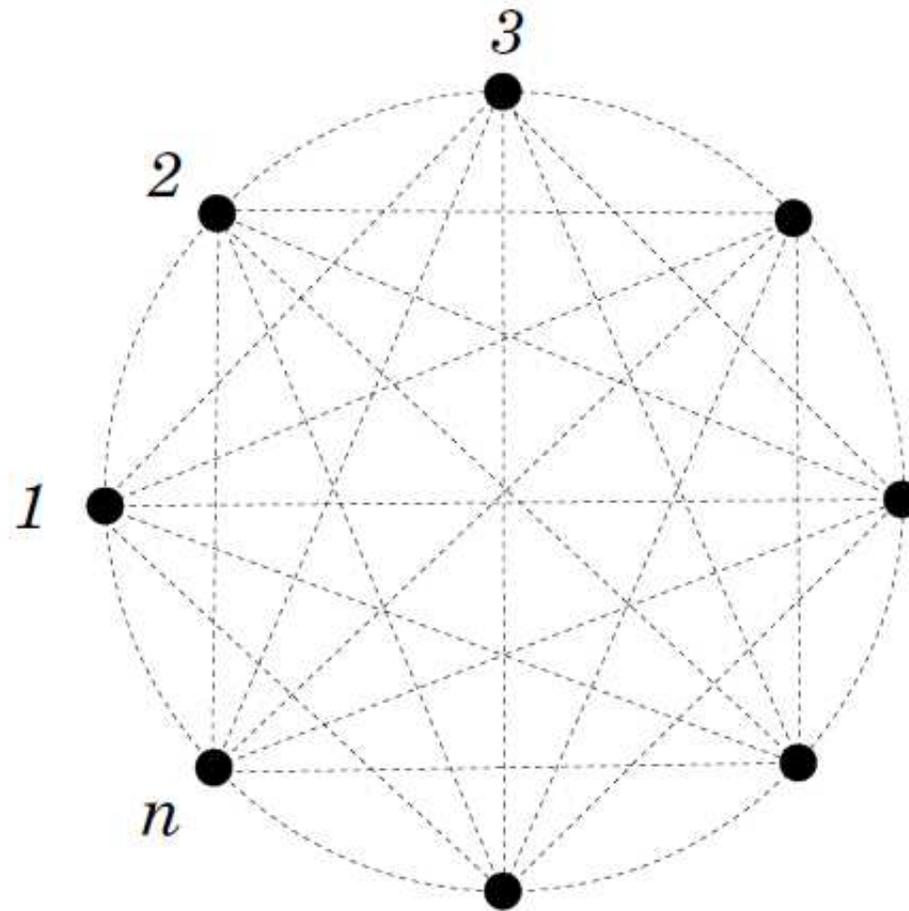
and $\eta(L)$ is the corresponding binary sequence, then

$$\mathbb{P}_p\{\xi \in \Xi: (\eta(L), \xi) \text{ is compatible}\} > 0.$$

Remark. The statement about the zero set of $\eta(L)$ is simple to verify, by classical results (Barlow and Taylor).

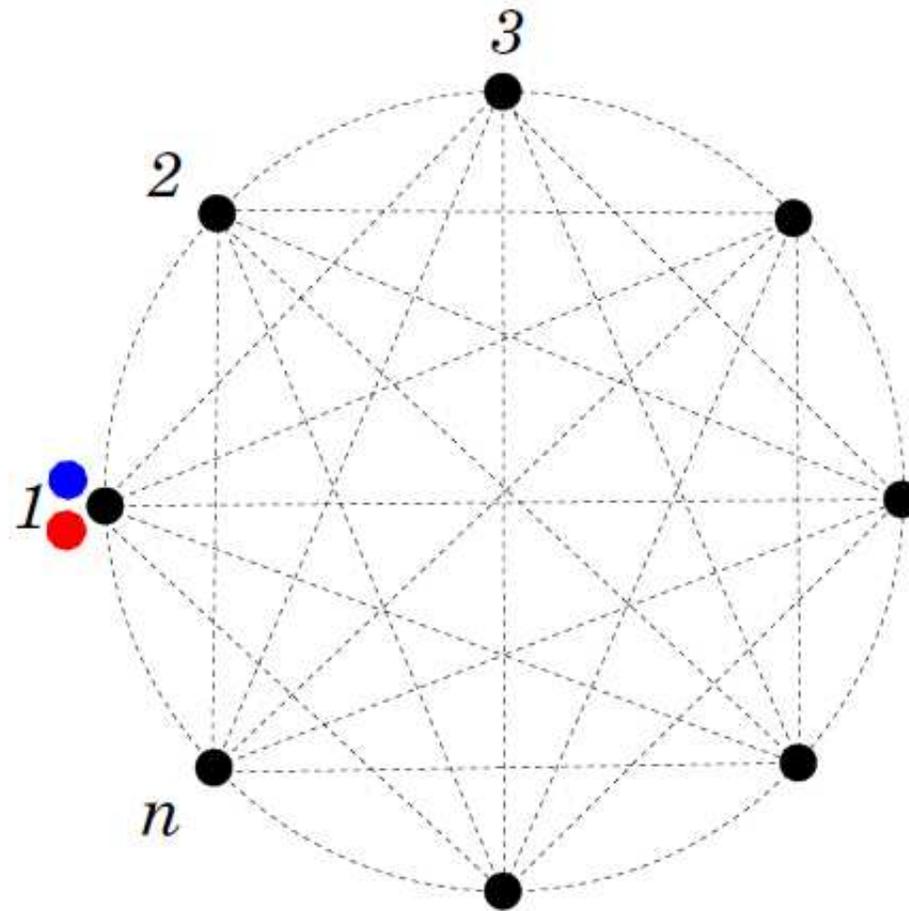
V. Related problems

Winkler's Clairvoyant Demon problem



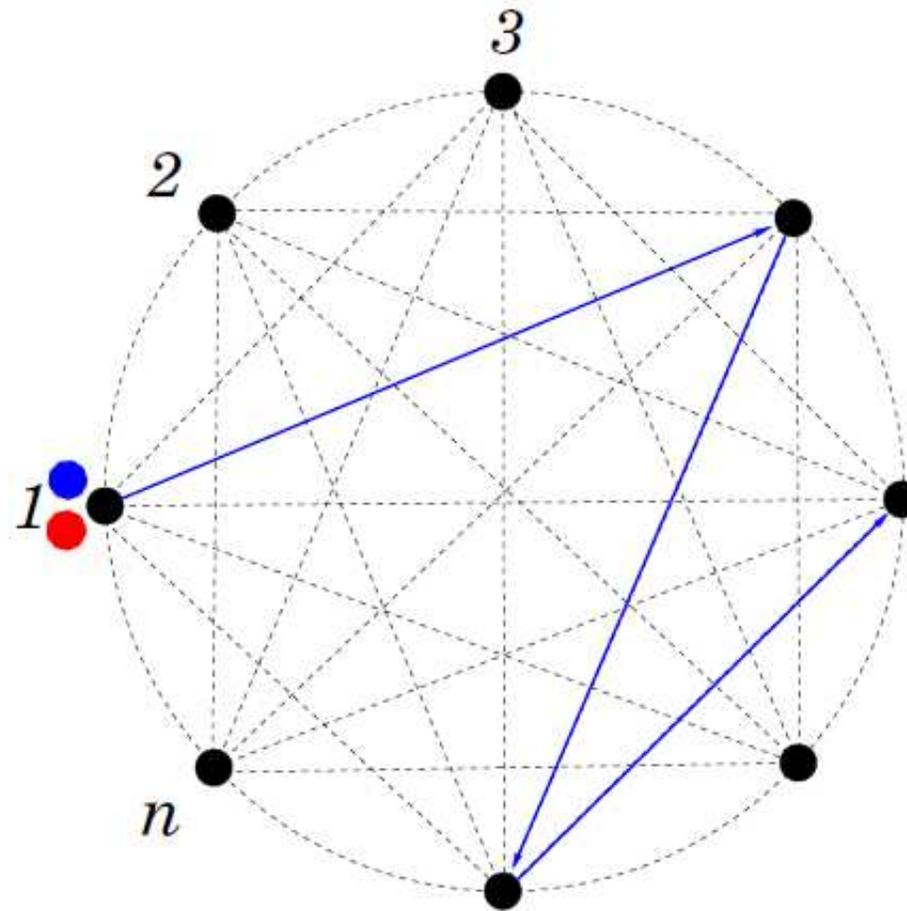
V. Related problems

Winkler's Clairvoyant Demon problem



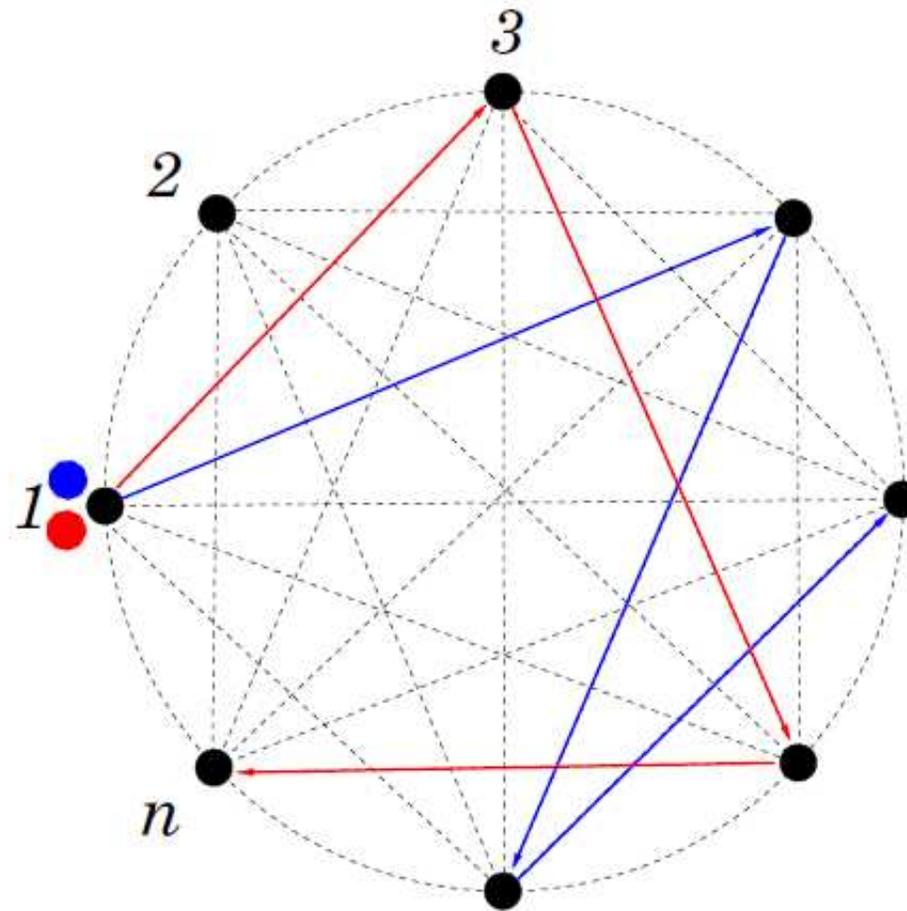
V. Related problems

Winkler's Clairvoyant Demon problem



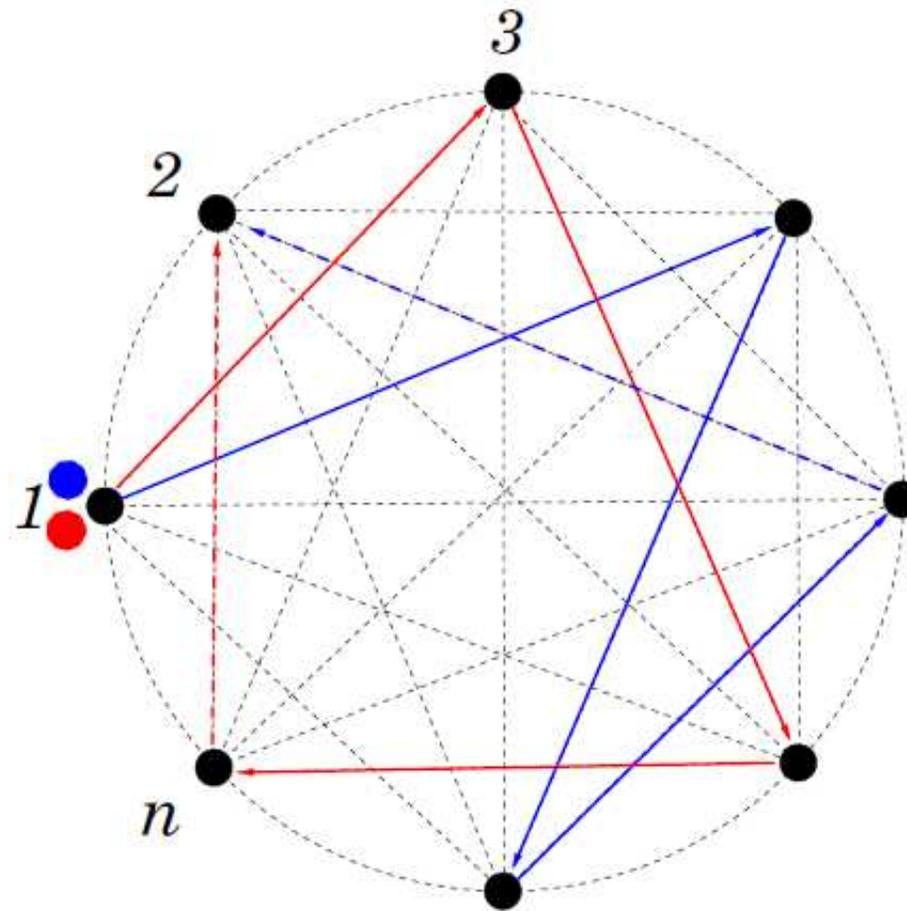
V. Related problems

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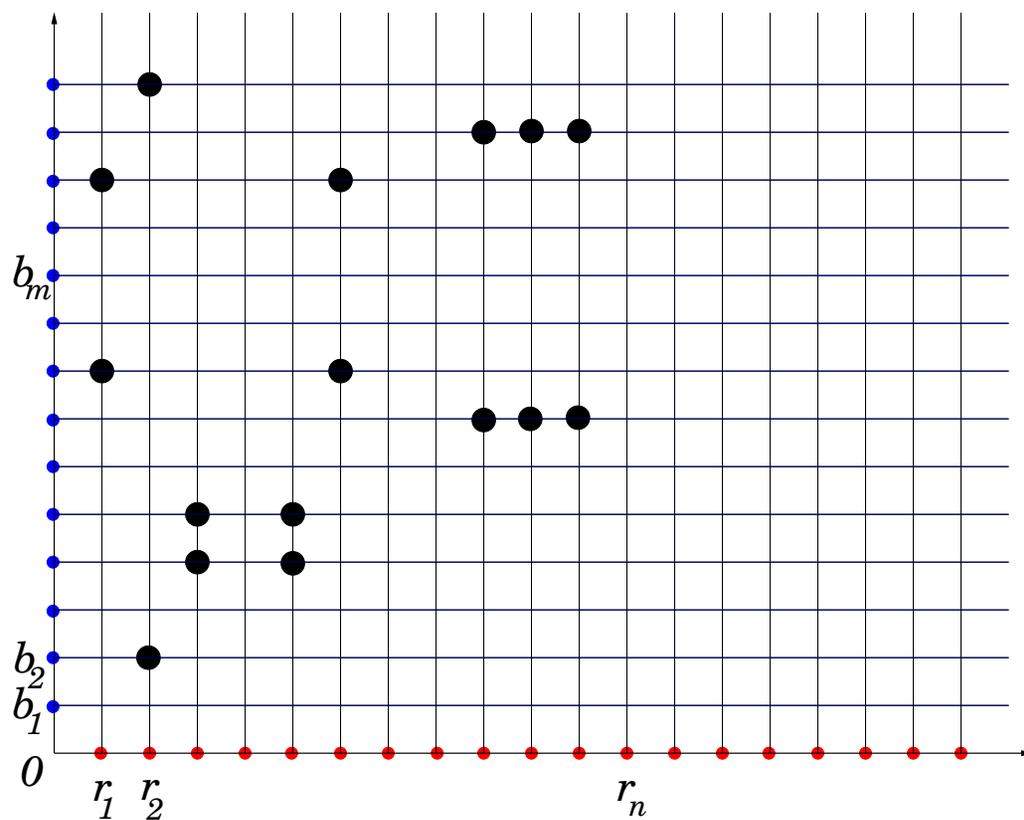
V. Related problems

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V. Related problems

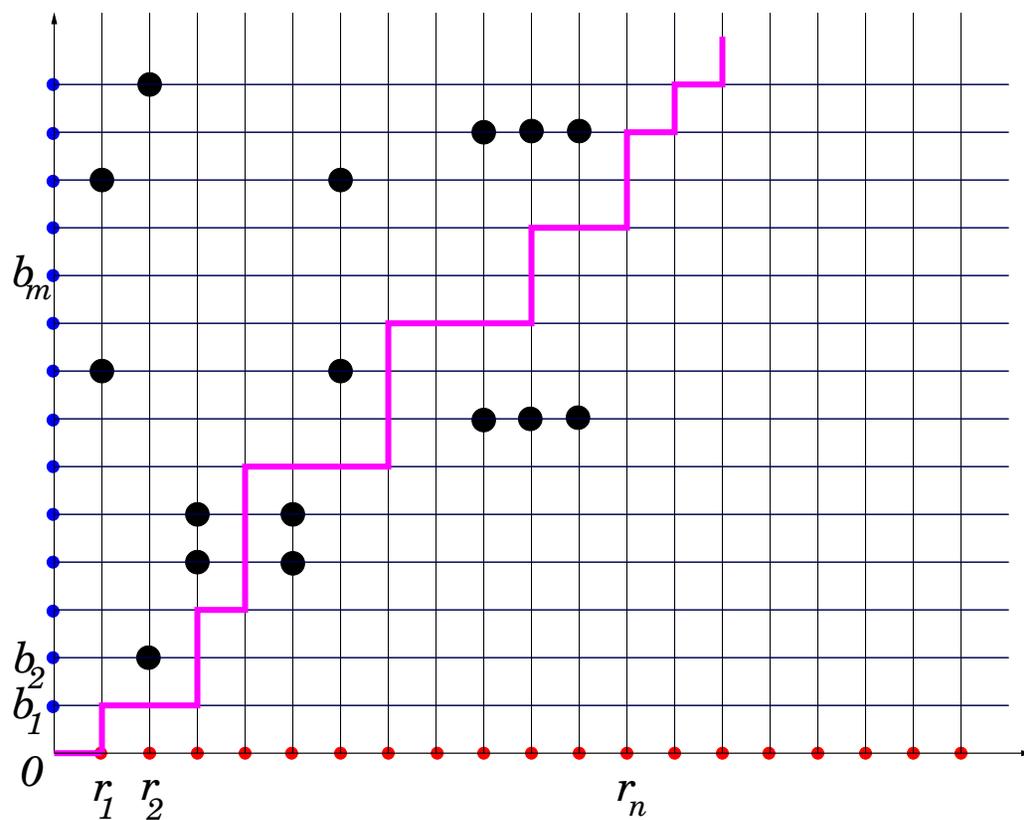
Winkler's Clairvoyant Demon problem



Formulation as oriented percolation problem - [Noga Alon](#)

V. Related problems

Winkler's Clairvoyant Demon problem



Formulation as oriented percolation problem - [Noga Alon](#)

V. Related problems

Winkler's Clairvoyant Demon problem

Negative answer if $n = 2$ or $n = 3$;

$n \geq 4$ - open question

Positive answer in the unoriented case for $n \geq 4$: P Winkler (2000); Balister, Bollobas, Stacey (2000)

For the oriented model: Gács (2000): The Clairvoyant Demon has a hard task ...

V. Related problems

- Stretched lattices: Jonasson, Mossel, Peres ; Hoffman
- Unoriented percolation; Potts model: Kesten, Lima, Sidoravicius, V.
- Percolation of words: Grimmett, Liggett, Richthammer (2008), Lima (2008, 2009)
- Rough isometries: Peled (2010), recent work: Basu, Sly, Sidoravicius.

References

On the compatibility of binary sequences. H. Kesten, B. Lima, V. Sidoravicius, M.E. Vares. (preprint on arXiv)

Oriented percolation in a random environment. H. Kesten, V. Sidoravicius, M.E. Vares. (preprint on arXiv)

Dependent percolation on \mathbb{Z}^2 . H. Kesten, B. Lima, V. Sidoravicius, M.E. Vares. (preprint)

Lipschitz embeddings of random sequences. R. Basu, A. Sly. (preprint on arXiv)