

PART 2:

PERCOLATION ON

TRANSITIVE GRAPHS

CHAPTER 1 :  
DEFINITIONS AND FUNDAMENTAL PROPERTIES.

Ref: [GRIMMETT, percolation, Chap. 1-2] [LYONS-PERES, chap. 7]

$G = (V, E)$  transitive, loc. finite, connected, infinite graph.  
degree  $d$ .

1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 Percolation configurations

An element  $w \in \{0, 1\}^E$  is called a (bond) percolation configuration.

Def: Let  $w \in \{0, 1\}^E$ .

- An edge  $e$  is said to be open if  $w(e) = 1$ .
- A path  $\gamma = (\gamma_0, \dots, \gamma_l)$  is open if  $\forall i < l \quad w(\gamma_i, \gamma_{i+1}) = 1$ .
- A cluster is a connected component of  $G_w = (V, E_w)$ , where  
$$E_w = \{e \in E : w(e) = 1\}.$$

Not:  $C_x(w)$  : cluster of  $x$ .

$N(w)$  : number of infinite clusters.

1.2. Percolation measure.  $p \in [0, 1]$

We consider the probability space  $(\{0, 1\}^E, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}_p)$ , where

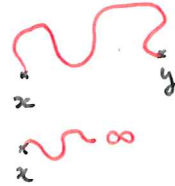
- $\mathcal{F}$  is the product  $\sigma$ -algebra.
- $\mathbb{P}_p = \prod_{e \in E} (p\delta_1 + (1-p)\delta_0)$  percolation measure with density  $p$ .

Rk: If  $X \sim \mathbb{P}_p$  then  $(X(e))_{e \in E}$  iid Bernoulli( $p$ ).

Some events:  $x, y \in V$

$(x \leftrightarrow y) = \{ \exists \text{ open path from } x \text{ to } y \}$ .

$(x \leftrightarrow \infty) = \{ x \text{ belongs to an infinite cluster} \}$ .



Ex: Check that  $x \leftrightarrow y$  and  $x \leftrightarrow \infty$  are measurable.  
Check that  $w \mapsto N(w)$  is measurable.

## 2. MONOTONICITY.

Question: How do we prove that  $P_p[x \leftrightarrow y]$  is non-decreasing in  $p$ ?

Def: Equip  $\{0, 1\}^E$  with the product ordering:

$$w \leq \gamma \iff \forall e \in E \ w(e) \leq \gamma(e).$$

A function  $f: \{0, 1\}^E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is increasing if

$$w \leq \gamma \implies f(w) \leq f(\gamma).$$

Ex:  $|C_x|$  is increasing.  $N$  is neither increasing or decreasing.

Def: An event  $A$  is increasing if  $\mathbb{1}_A$  is increasing.

Ex:  $x \leftrightarrow y$ ,  $x \leftrightarrow \infty$ .

Prop: Let  $f: \{0, 1\}^E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  increasing bounded or  $\geq 0$ . Then  
 $p \mapsto E_p[f]$  is increasing

Proof: Monotone coupling. Let  $(U_e)_{e \in E}$  be iid uniform in  $[0, 1]$ .

Define for every  $p \in [0, 1]$   $X_p(e) = \mathbb{1}_{U_e \leq p}$ .

We have  $X_p \sim P_p$  and  $p \leq p' \implies X_p \leq X_{p'}$  a.s.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence } E_p[f(X_p)] &\leq E_p[f(X_{p'})] \\ &= E_p[f] &= E_{p'}[f] \end{aligned}$$

App:  $P_p[x \leftrightarrow y]$ ,  $P_p[x \leftrightarrow \infty]$  increasing in  $p$ .

### 3. POSITIVE ASSOCIATION ( Harris-FKG inequality )

Thm: Let  $f, g : \{0,1\}^E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  increasing bounded. Then

$$E_p [f \cdot g] \geq E_p [f] E_p [g]$$

Let  $A, B$  be two increasing events. Then

$$P_p [A \cap B] \geq P_p [A] P_p [B].$$

Proof: See [Grimmett, p.34 ] or [Lyons-Penes, Sect. 5.8 ]

Rk: The second inequality can be rewritten as

$$P_p [A | B] \geq P_p [A]$$

"knowing that B occurs, A has more chance to occur"

Appl:  $P_p [x \leftrightarrow z] \geq P_p [x \leftrightarrow y] P_p [y \leftrightarrow z].$

### 4. INSERTION / DELETION TOLERANCE

Def: For  $e \in E$  and  $w \in \{0,1\}$ . Define  $\Pi^e w$  and  $\Pi_e w$  in  $\{0,1\}^E$  by

$$(\Pi^e w)(\beta) = \begin{cases} w(\beta) & \beta \neq e \\ 1 & \beta = e \end{cases} \quad \text{"put } e \text{ open"}$$

$$(\Pi_e w)(\beta) = \begin{cases} w(\beta) & \beta \neq e \\ 0 & \beta = e \end{cases} \quad \text{"put } e \text{ closed"}$$

Prop: Let  $0 < p < 1$ . Then  $\exists c > 0$  s.t. the following holds.

$$\forall A \in \mathcal{F} \quad P_p [\Pi^e A] \geq c P_p [A] \quad \text{"insertion tolerance"}$$

$$P_p [\Pi_e A] \geq c P_p [A] \quad \text{"deletion tolerance"}$$

Proof: Let  $\tilde{A} = \{w : \Pi_e w \in A \text{ or } \Pi^e w \in A\}$  (it is measurable). Using that  $\tilde{A}$  is independent of  $w(e)$  and  $\tilde{A} \supset A$ , we find

$$P_p (\Pi^e A) = P(\Pi^e A | \tilde{A}) P_p (\tilde{A}) = p P_p (\tilde{A}) \geq p P_p (A). \text{ Equivalently } P(\Pi_e A) \geq (1-p) P_p (A).$$

Application Let  $0 < p < 1$ . Let  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$ . Then  $\exists c > 0$  s.t.



$$P_p[N=1] \geq c P_p[N=k].$$

Proof: Let  $E_n = \{ \text{all the infinite clusters intersect } D_n \}$ .

Since  $P[N=k] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_p[\{N=k\} \cap E_n]$  (because  $G$  is connected),

we can pick  $n$  large enough such that

$$P_p[\{N=k\} \cap E_n] \geq \frac{P_p[N=k]}{2}.$$



the event  $\{N=1\} \cap E_n$

By insertion tolerance we can "open" all the edges intersecting  $D_n$ . We obtain

$$\begin{aligned} P_p[N=1] &\geq c^{|E(D_n)|} P_p[\{N=k\} \cap E_n] \\ &\geq \frac{c^{|E(D_n)|}}{2} P_p[N=k]. \end{aligned}$$

### 5 INVARIANCE

Rk:  $\Gamma = \text{Aut}(G)$  acts on  $V$  :  $\varphi \cdot x = \varphi(x)$

-  $E$  :  $\varphi \cdot xy = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$

-  $\{0,1\}^E$  :  $(\varphi \cdot w)(e) = w(\varphi^{-1} \cdot e)$

-  $\mathcal{F}$  :  $\varphi \cdot A = \{ \varphi \cdot w, w \in A \}$

Why do we take  $\varphi^{-1}$  in the action on the percolation configurations?

$e$  open in  $w \iff \varphi \cdot e$  open in  $\varphi \cdot w$ .

Ex If  $A = xy \leftrightarrow y$  then  $\varphi \cdot A = \varphi(x) \leftrightarrow \varphi(y)$

Prop. For every  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  and every  $\varphi \in \text{Aut}(G)$ ,

$$P_p(\varphi \cdot A) = P_p(A) \quad \text{"} P_p \text{ is invariant"}$$

Proof. True for cylinder events. Conclude with monotone class theorem.

6. MIXING PROPERTY.

Not. For every  $x \in V$ , we consider  $\varphi_x \in \text{Aut}(G)$  s.t.  $\varphi_x(o) = x$ .

Prop. [Mixing property] Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$ . Then

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} P_p(A \cap \varphi_x \cdot B) = P_p(A) P_p(B).$$

Proof. Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . Choose  $A_\epsilon, B_\epsilon$  cylinder events s.t.

$$P_p(A \Delta A_\epsilon) \leq \epsilon \quad \text{and} \quad P_p(B \Delta B_\epsilon) \leq \epsilon.$$

↑  
"sym. difference"

By independence, if  $|x|$  is large enough, we have

$$\begin{aligned} P_p(A_\epsilon \cap \varphi_x \cdot B_\epsilon) &= P_p(A_\epsilon) P_p(\varphi_x \cdot B_\epsilon) \\ &= P_p(A_\epsilon) P(B_\epsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, if  $|x|$  large enough.

$$\begin{aligned} P_p(A \cap \varphi_x \cdot B) &\leq P(A_\epsilon \cap \varphi_x \cdot B_\epsilon) + 2\epsilon \\ &= P_p(A_\epsilon) P_p(B_\epsilon) + 2\epsilon \\ &\leq P_p(A) P_p(B) + 4\epsilon \end{aligned}$$

The reverse inequality is proved the same way, and we finally get  $|P_p(A \cap \varphi_x \cdot B) - P_p(A) P_p(B)| \leq 4\epsilon$

Application Fix  $p \in (0, 1)$  let  $\theta = P_p(0 \leftrightarrow \infty)$ .

Prove that  $X_n := \frac{1}{B_n} \sum_{z \in B_n} 1_{z \leftrightarrow \infty}$  converges to  $\theta$  a.s. as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Proof: exercise.

7. ERGODICITY:

Prop. Let  $A$  be an invariant event (i.e.  $\forall \varphi \in \text{Aut}(G) \varphi \cdot A = A$ ). Then

$$P_p(A) \in \{0, 1\}. \quad \text{"}P_p \text{ is ergodic"}$$

Proof: By invariance of  $A$ ,  $P_p(A) = P_p(A \cap \varphi_x \cdot A)$ . Hence

$$P_p(A) = \lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} P_p(A \cap \varphi_x \cdot A) = P_p(A)^2$$

↑  
"mixing"

Application: The number of infinite clusters is constant a.s., and there exists  $k \in \{0, 1, \infty\}$

$$P_p[N=k] = 1.$$

Proof:  $\{N=k\}$  is invariant and therefore  $P[N=k] \in \{0, 1\}$ .

Therefore  $\exists k \in \{0, 1, \dots\} \cup \{\infty\}$  s.t.  $P[N=k] = 1$ .

Since  $P_p[N=1] > c P[N=k]$  if  $1 < k < \infty$ , we cannot

have  $P_p[N=k] = 1$  for  $1 < k < \infty$ .

CHAPTER 2  
PHASE TRANSITION

$G = (V, E)$  transitive, loc. finite, connected, infinite graph  
degree  $d$ .

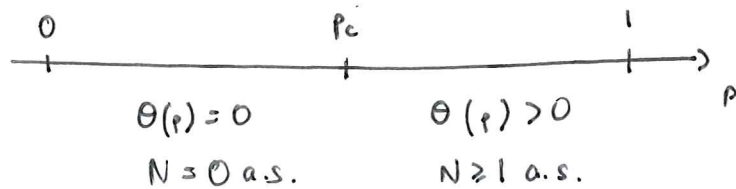
1. DEFINITION.

Not.  $\Theta(p) = \mathbb{P}_p(O \leftrightarrow \infty) = \mathbb{P}_p(|C_0| = \infty)$  (non decreasing in  $p$ )

$\Theta_n(p) = \mathbb{P}_p(O \leftrightarrow \partial_V B_n) = \mathbb{P}_p(\text{red } \textcircled{S}_n)$  where  $\partial_V B_n = B_n \setminus B_{n-1}$ .

Rk:  $\Theta(p) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Theta_n(p)$  (decreasing limit).

Def: The critical parameter for percolation is defined by  
 $p_c = p_c(G) = \sup \{ p : \Theta(p) = 0 \}$ .



Rk: If  $p < p_c$ ,  $N = 0$  q.s. If  $p > p_c$ ,  $N \geq 1$  a.s.

2. Percolation on the tree  $T^d$



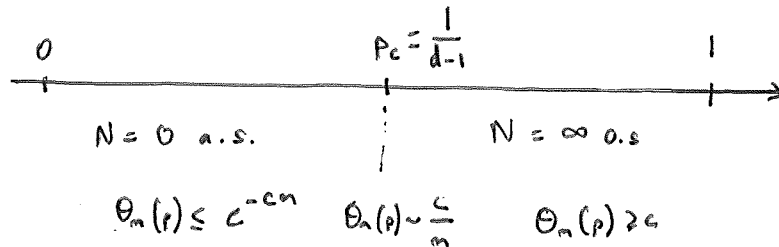
$C_0$  has the law of a Galton-Watson tree with offspring distribution  $X$  satisfying  $E_p(X) = (d-1)p$  except at the first generation



Thm. The critical parameter for percolation on  $T^d$  is

$$p_c(T^d) = \frac{1}{d-1}.$$

Using the theory of branching processes, one can prove the following behaviors for percolation on  $T^d$ .



### 3 LOWER BOUND ON $p_c$ .

Thm: We have  $p_c \geq \frac{1}{d-1}$ .

Proof: Let  $\Pi_m = \{ \text{paths of length } m \text{ starting at } 0. \}$ .

For every  $m \geq 1$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta_m(p) &\leq P_p(\exists \pi \in \Pi_m \text{ s.t. } \pi \text{ is open}) \\
 &\leq \sum_{\pi \in \Pi_m} \underbrace{P_p(\pi \text{ is open})}_{= p^m} \\
 &= |\Pi_m| p^m \\
 &\leq d_p ((d-1)p)^{m-1} \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{if } p < \frac{1}{d-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

Rk: The proof shows that  $\forall p < \frac{1}{d-1}$

$\theta_m(p)$  decays exponentially fast towards 0.

### 4. SHARPNESS OF THE PHASE TRANSITION

Thm.  $\forall p < p_c$  we have

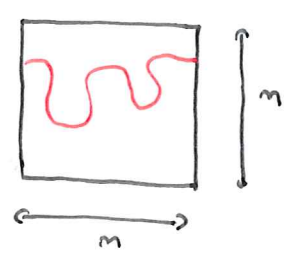
(i)  $E_p(|C_0|) < \infty$

(ii)  $\exists c > 0$  s.t.  $\forall m \geq 1 \quad \theta_m(p) \leq e^{-cm}$ .

Proof. admit.

Idea: when  $p < p_c$ , one can dominate the cluster  $C_0$  by a subcritical branching process.

Application. On  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $d \geq 2$ , consider the box  $\Lambda_m = \{0, m\}^d$



$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{If } p < p_c \quad P_p(\exists \text{ path from left to right in } \Lambda_m) &\leq \sum_{x \in \text{left side}} P_p \left[ \begin{array}{c} m \\ \boxed{x \text{ --- } \text{wavy line}} \\ m \end{array} \right] \\
 &\leq (m+1)^{d-1} e^{-cm} \\
 &\xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

### 5. UPPER BOUNDS ON $p_c$ .

Def: We say that the phase transition is non-trivial if  $p_c < 1$ .

Rk: The phase transition is trivial if  $G = \mathbb{Z}$  or  $G = \mathbb{Z} \times H$ ,  $H$  finite.

Conjecture: The phase transition is non trivial if and only if  $G$  has at least quadratic growth. I.e.

$$(p_c(G) < 1) \iff (\exists c \text{ s.t. } \forall m \geq 1 \quad B_m \geq cm^2).$$

Open question: What is  $\sup \{p_c(G) : G \text{ transitive s.t. } p_c(G) < 1\}$  ?

Rk: In order to give upper bounds on  $p_c$ , we have several possibilities

1. Prove that  $\theta(p) > 0$  for some  $p < 1$ .

→ "difficult in general" this corresponds to showing the survival of some process.

2. Use sharpness of the phase transition: Prove that

$$E_p(|C_0|) = +\infty \text{ or } \frac{-\log \theta_n(p)}{n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 \text{ for some } p < 1.$$

→ "easier in general".

Thm. If  $G$  has exponential volume growth then the phase transition is non-trivial. More precisely, we have

$$p_c \leq e^{-\nu}.$$

Rk 1. If  $G$  is non-amenable  $p_c$  can be bounded in terms of the isoperimetric constant

$$p_c \leq \frac{1}{1 + \inf_{m \geq 1} \frac{|\partial_v B_m|}{|B_m|}} \leq \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\phi}{d}}.$$

2. Together with the fact that  $p_c \geq \frac{1}{d-1}$ , the theorem

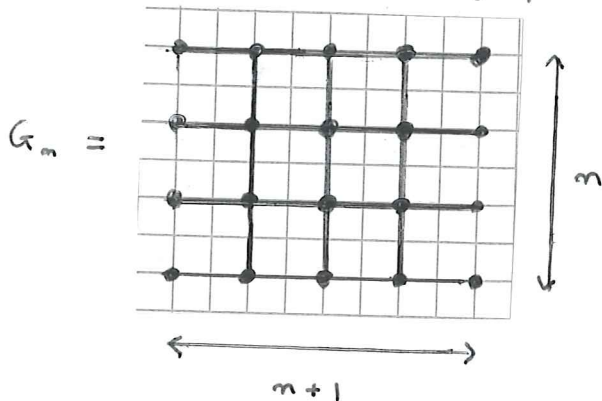
above implies  $p_c(\mathbb{T}^d) = \frac{1}{d-1}$  (in a complicated way).

Proof:  $E_p(|C_0|) \geq E_p(|C_0 \cap B_n|) = \sum_{x \in B_n} \underbrace{P_p(0 \leftrightarrow x)}_{\geq p^{1 \otimes 1}} \geq \underbrace{|B_n|}_{e^{\nu n + o(n)}} p^n.$

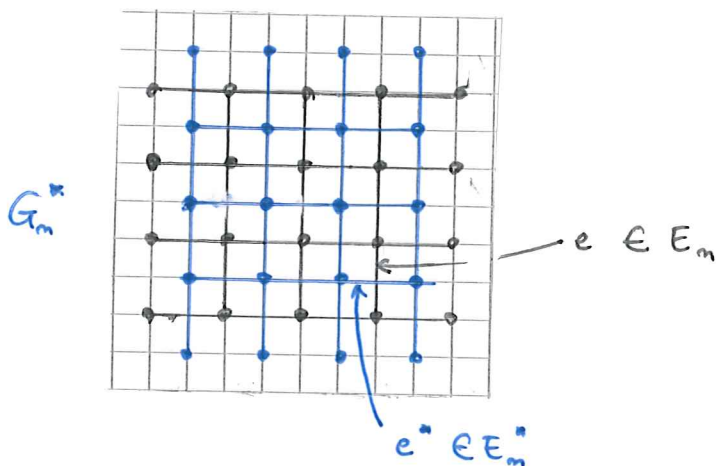
Hence  $E_p(|C_0|) = +\infty$  if  $e^{-\nu} < p < 1$ . This concludes  $p_c \leq e^{-\nu}$ . ■

$$\boxed{\text{Thm: } p_c(\mathbb{Z}^2) \leq \frac{1}{2}}$$

Proof. For  $n \geq 1$  consider the graph  $G_n = (V_n, E_n)$  defined by.



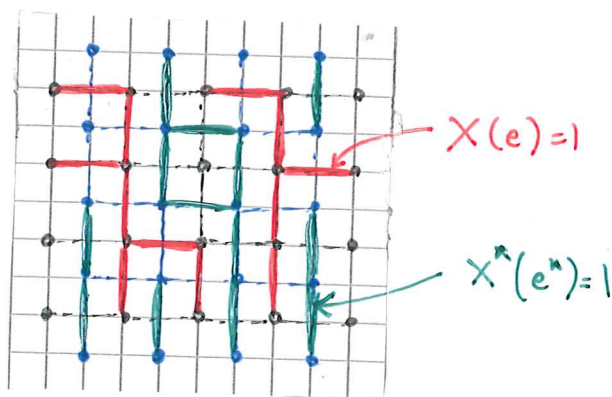
Let  $G_n^* = (V_n^*, E_n^*)$  defined by the blue graph below



Notice that, any edge  $e$  of  $E_n$  "crosses" exactly one edge  $e^* \in E_n^*$ .  
 $G_n$  and  $G_n^*$  are isomorphic.

Let  $(X(e))_{e \in E_n}$  iid  $P(X(e)=1) = p$

Define  $\forall e \in E_n$   $X^*(e^*) = 1 - X(e)$ , In particular  $P(X^*(e^*)=1) = 1-p$ .



This way, we have realized a coupling between a percolation configuration with intensity  $p$  on  $G_m$ , and a percolation configuration with intensity  $1-p$  on  $G_m^*$  in such a way that

$$(\exists \text{ left-right path in } X) \Leftrightarrow (\exists \text{ no top-down path in } X^*)$$

(we omit the proof of this combinatorial result.)

This implies

$$P \left( \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{ } \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{c} m+1 \\ \text{ } \\ m \end{array} \right) + P \left( \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{ } \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{c} m \\ \text{ } \\ m+1 \end{array} \right) = 1$$

If  $p = \frac{1}{2}$  the two probabilities above are equal and we get

$$P_{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{ } \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{c} m+1 \\ \text{ } \\ m \end{array} \right) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Therefore:

$$\frac{1}{2} \leq \sum_{x \text{ on the left side}} P_{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{ } \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{c} m+1 \\ \text{ } \\ m \end{array} \right) \leq m \theta_m \left( \frac{1}{2} \right).$$

This concludes

$$\theta_m \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \geq \frac{1}{2m}.$$

In particular  $\theta_m \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)$  does not decay exponentially, which concludes that  $\frac{1}{2} \geq p_c$ . ■

Rk: Using BK inequality (see Grimmett, Chap. 2) and choosing  $x$  on the center of the box in the last step of the proof above, one can show  $\theta_m \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \geq \frac{1}{4^m}$ .

Rk: For every  $d \geq 2$ .  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  is a subgraph of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ , hence

$$\frac{1}{d-1} \leq p_c(\mathbb{Z}^d) \leq p_c(\mathbb{Z}^2) \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

"non trivial phase transition for percolation on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $d \geq 2$ "

Thm: If  $G$  has polynomial and at least quadratic growth, then  $p_c(G) < 1$ .

Proof sketch: 1.  $p_c(\mathbb{Z}^2) \leq \frac{1}{2}$

2. If  $G$  is a Cayley graph of a nilpotent group with  $|B_n| \geq cn^2$ . Then  $G$  has  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  as a subgraph.

Therefore  $p_c(G) \leq \frac{1}{2}$ .

3. [Gromov - Trovianov] Assume  $G$  with at least quadratic growth, since  $G$  is transitive,  $G=(V,E)$  is roughly-isometric to a Cayley graph  $G'=(V',E')$  of a nilpotent group with  $|B'_n| \geq cn^2$ . I.E.  $\exists \psi: V \rightarrow V'$  and  $c$  const. s.t.

$$\forall x, y \in V \quad \frac{1}{c} d_G(x, y) - C \leq d_{G'}(\psi(x), \psi(y)) \leq C d_G(x, y) + C.$$

This can be used to conclude that  $p_c(G) < 1$ . ■

CHAPTER 3:  
PHASE TRANSITION FOR  
UNIQUENESS.

$G = (V, E)$  transitive loc. finite, connected, infinite graph.  
degree  $d$ .

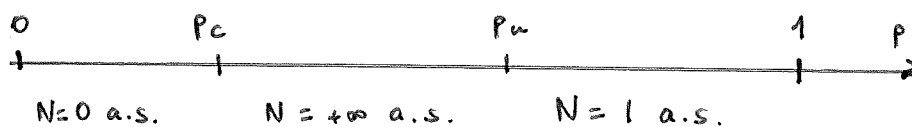
1. DEFINITION OF  $p_u$ .

Thm: Let  $p_1 \leq p_2 \leq 1$ . If  $P_{p_1}[N=1] = 1$ , then  $P_{p_2}[N=1] = 1$ .

Rk:  $\{N=1\}$  is neither increasing nor decreasing. Hence, the theorem above does not follow from a simple monotonicity argument.

Proof: see [Lyons - Penes, Section 7.5]. Later we will prove the theorem in the case where  $G$  is unimodular.

Def:  $p_u = \inf \{ p \geq 0 : P_p[N=1] = 1 \}$ .



Rk: For  $G = T_d$ ,  $d \geq 3$ , we have  $p_u = 1$ .

Def. We say that  $G$  has one end if for every  $n \geq 1$ , the graph induced by  $V \setminus B_n$  is connected.

Ex:  $T^d$ ,  $d \geq 3$ ,  $Z$  do not have one end. ( $Z$  has two ends  
 $\mathbb{T}^d$ ,  $d \geq 3$  has infinitely many ends)

$Z^d$  has one end when  $d \geq 2$ .

Exercise: prove that  $p_u = 1$  if  $G$  does not have one end.

Conjecture:  $(p_u < 1) \Leftrightarrow (G \text{ has one end})$ .

Rk: The conjecture is known for Cayley graphs of finitely presented, finitely generated groups.

One major conjecture is the following.

Conjecture:  $(p_c < p_u) \Leftrightarrow (G \text{ is non amenable})$ .

In the next section, we prove one implication.

## 2. UNIQUENESS FOR AMENABLE GRAPHS.

Thm: If  $G$  is amenable, then for every  $p \in [0, 1]$

$$p_p [N = \infty] = 0.$$

Corollary: If  $G$  is amenable then  $p_c = p_u$ .

Lemma: Let  $(T, F)$  be a finite tree (a finite connected graph with no cycle).

Let  $N_1 = |\{x \in T : \deg(x) = 1\}|$ ,  $N_{\geq 3} = |\{x \in T : \deg(x) \geq 3\}|$ .

Then

$$N_1 \geq 2 + N_{\geq 3}.$$

Proof: We have  $|T| = |F| - 1$  (by induction on  $|T|$ ).

While  $N_2 = |\{x \in T : \deg(x) = 2\}|$ .

By counting the edges of the trees in two different ways,

we find  $2|F| = \sum_{x \in T} \deg(x) \geq N_1 + 2N_2 + 3N_{\geq 3}$ .

Since  $2|F| = 2|T| + 2 = 2(N_1 + N_2 + N_{\geq 3}) + 2$ , we obtain

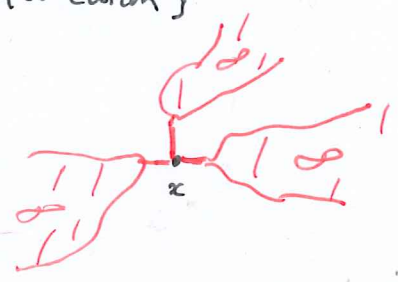
$$N_1 \geq N_{\geq 3} + 2$$



Def: Let  $w \in \{0,1\}^E$ . A vertex  $x \in V$  is called a trifurcation (in the configuration  $w$ ) if

- $x$  has exactly 3 adjacent open edges.
- $C_x$  splits into 3 disjoint infinite clusters if we close the edges adjacent to  $x$ .

Not:  $T_x = \{x \text{ is a trifurcation}\}$

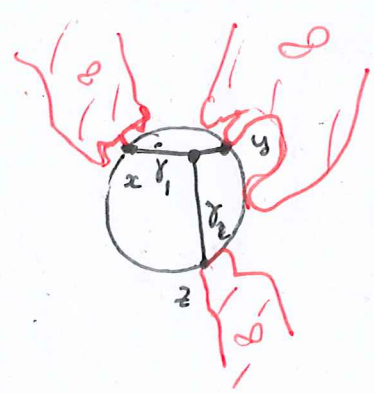


Lemma 2 Let  $p \in [0,1]$ . If  $P_p[N = \infty] = 1$ , then  $P_p(T_0) > 0$ .

Proof. Let  $k$  be large enough s.t.

$$P(E_k) \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

where  $E_k$  is the event that at least 3 disjoint infinite clusters intersect  $B_k$ . We create a trifurcation in  $B_k$  as follows



- Let  $w \in E_k$ .
- Close all the edges with both extremities in  $B_k$ .
- Consider  $x, y, z$  distinct, at distance  $k$  from  $0$ , and connected to infinity (outside  $B_k$ ).
- Consider a geodesic path  $\gamma_1$  in  $B_k$  from  $x$  to  $y$ , and a geodesic path  $\gamma_2$  in  $B_k$  from  $z$  to  $\gamma_1$ .
- Open all the edges in  $\gamma_1 \cup \gamma_2$ .

After this procedure, there exists a trifurcation in  $B_k$ . By consentation and deletion tolerance, we obtain (for some  $c > 0$ )

$$c \cdot P_p(E_k) \leq P_p \left( \bigcup_{u \in B_k} T_u \right) \stackrel{\text{invariance}}{\leq} |B_k| P(T_0) \quad \blacksquare$$

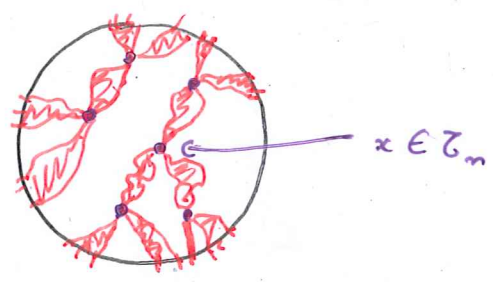
Proof of Thm:

Assume  $P_r[N = \infty] = 1$ . Let  $(K_n)$  be connected sets s.t.  $\frac{|\partial K_n|}{|K_n|} \rightarrow 0$ .

By Lemma 2, we have  $c := P(T_0) > 0$ .

Define  $\mathcal{Z}_n = \{x \in K_n : x \text{ is a trifurcation}\}$ .

By invariance  $E[\mathcal{Z}_n] = \sum_{x \in B_n} P(T_x) = c \cdot |K_n|$ .



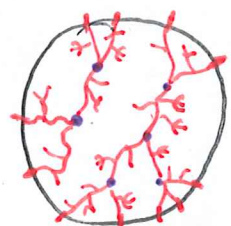
We claim that for every configuration  $\mathcal{Z}_n(\omega) \leq |\partial K_n|$ .

To see this, consider the subgraph of  $K_n$  obtained by the following peeling procedure.

Let  $F_0 = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  open edges intersecting  $B_n$ .

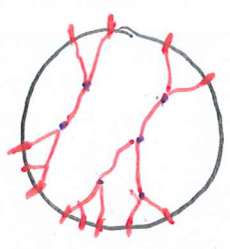
- For  $i = 1, \dots, n$  set  $F_i = \begin{cases} F_{i-1} \setminus \{e_i\} & \text{if } e_i \text{ belongs to a cycle of } F_i \\ F_{i-1} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

After this first step the graph induced by  $F_n$  has no cycle and is therefore a forest.



Then remove all the edges of degree 1 in  $F_n$  (except the ones at the boundary of  $K_n$ ). And repeat this operation until the time when there is no more edge of degree 1. ■

Consider the graph induced by the remaining edges.



Write  $N_1$  for the edges with degree 1 in this graph

$$N_{\geq 3} \text{ ————— } \geq 3 \text{ —————}$$

Notice that  $N_1 \leq |\partial K_m|$  and  $N_{\geq 3} \geq |\bar{G}_m|$  (because the trifurcation points have not been removed during the "peeling" procedure). By Applying Lemma 1 to each of the connected components of the graph above we obtain.

$$|\bar{G}_m| \leq N_{\geq 3} \leq N_1 \leq |\partial K_m|.$$

Taking the expectation, we obtain

$$c \cdot |K_m| \leq E[|\bar{G}_m|] \leq |\partial K_m|$$

which is a contradiction to  $\frac{|\partial K_m|}{|K_m|} \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} 0$ .

Corollary.

For  $G = \mathbb{Z}^d$ . If  $\theta(p) > 0$ , then

$$P_r \left[ \left[ \begin{matrix} m+1 \\ \text{wavy line} \\ m \end{matrix} \right] \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow \infty} 1 \right]$$

Not.  $\Lambda_m = \{-m, \dots, m\}^d$

Proof (sketch):

Fixe  $\epsilon > 0$ . Let  $m \geq 1$  s.t.

$$P_r \left[ \Lambda_m \text{ with a red path } \right] \geq 1 - \epsilon^{2d}.$$

$$\text{For } n \geq m \quad P \left[ \Lambda_n \text{ with a red path } \cup \Lambda_n \text{ with a red path } \cup \dots \right] \geq 1 - \epsilon^{2d}$$

" $\Lambda_m$  is connected inside  $\Lambda_n$  to one of the  $2d$  facets of  $\partial\Lambda_n$ "

The square-root trick (see exercises) and rotation invariance imply

$$P \left[ \Lambda_m \text{ with a red path } \right] \geq 1 - \epsilon$$

Let  $m$  large enough s.t.

$$P_r \left[ \exists C_1, C_2 : \Lambda_m \text{ with } C_1, C_2 \text{ disjoint in } \Lambda_m \right] \leq \epsilon$$

Conclusion:

$$P_r \left[ \Lambda_m \text{ with a red path } \right] \geq P_r \left[ \Lambda_m \text{ with a red path } \cap \Lambda_m \text{ with a red path } \cap \Lambda_m \text{ with } C \neq \emptyset \right]$$

$$\geq 1 - 3\epsilon$$

"complement"  $\downarrow$

Corollary:

$$p_c(\mathbb{Z}^2) = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta(p_c) = 0.$$

Proof: We have already proved  $p_c \leq \frac{1}{2}$ .

Since  $P_{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \boxed{\text{w}}^n \right) = \frac{1}{2} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 1$ , the corollary above gives  $\theta\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0$  hence  $p_c \geq \frac{1}{2}$ . ■

3. Graphs with  $p_c < p_u$ .

Thm: (i)  $p_c \leq \frac{1}{1+\phi}$ . ( $\phi$ : isoperimetric constant)  
 (ii)  $p_u \geq \frac{1}{e \cdot d}$ . ( $e$ : spectral radius).

Proof: Use exploration arguments:  
 (idea)

(i) uses the law of large number on the variables used for the exploration and the isoperimetric inequality at each step of exploration.

(ii) uses that the exploration of  $C_0$  is dominated by the trace of a branching random walk.

Corollary: (i) If  $\phi \geq \frac{d}{\sqrt{2}}$ , then  $p_c < p_u$ .  
 (ii) If  $e < \frac{1}{2}$ , then  $p_c < p_u$ .

Proof: (i) Remind.  $\rho^2 \leq 1 - \left(\frac{\phi}{d}\right)^2$

If  $\left(\frac{\phi}{d}\right)^2 \geq \frac{1}{2}$  then  $\rho^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \leq \left(\frac{\phi}{d}\right)^2$

ie  $d\rho \leq \phi$ .

Hence

$$\rho_c \leq \frac{1}{1+\phi} < \frac{1}{\phi} \leq \frac{1}{d\rho} \leq \rho_u$$

(ii) Remind.  $\frac{\phi}{d} \geq 1-\rho$

If  $\rho \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , then  $\frac{\phi}{d} \geq \frac{1}{2} \geq \rho$  ie  $d\rho \leq \phi$

which implies  $\rho_c < \rho_u$  (as above). ■

Application:

For  $k \geq 1$  define  $G^{[k]}$  to be the graph with:

- vertex set  $V$
- $(x, y)$  is an edge of  $G^{[k]}$  if  $\exists$  a walk of length exactly  $k$  from  $x$  to  $y$ .

Thm: If  $G$  is non-amenable then  $\exists k \geq 1$  s.t.

$$\rho_c(G^{[k]}) < \rho_u(G^{[k]})$$

Rk:  $G^{[k]}$  is roughly-isometric to  $G$ .

Proof: Let  $X_n^{[k]}$  SRW on  $G^{[k]}$  and  $X_n$  SRW on  $G$ .

$\mathbb{P}_0[X_n^{[k]} = 0] = \mathbb{P}_0[X_{kn} = 0] = \rho^{kn + o(n)}$ . Hence  $\rho(G^{[k]}) = \rho(G)^k$ . ■

(k large)  $\rightarrow \leq \frac{1}{2}$

CHAPTER 4:  
— MASS TRANSPORT PRINCIPLE —

Ref: [LYONS-PERES, chap. 8] [MARTINEAU, PhD-Thesis]

$G = (V, E)$  transitive, loc. finite, connected, infinite graph  
degree  $d$ , fixed origin  $0 \in V$ .

$P_p = \prod_{e \in E} (p \delta_e + (1-p) \delta_{e^c})$  Bernoulli-percolation measure with density  $p$ .

## 1. MASS TRANSPORT PRINCIPLE

### 1.1. UNIMODULAR TRANSITIVE GRAPHS

Def: A function  $f: V \times V \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is said to be invariant if

$$\forall \varphi \in \text{Aut}(G) \quad f(\varphi \cdot x, \varphi \cdot y) = f(x, y)$$

" $f$  is invariant under the diagonal action of  $\text{Aut}(G)$ "

Def. We say that  $G$  is unimodular if for every  $f: V \times V \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  invariant

$$\sum_{x \in V} f(0, x) = \sum_{x \in V} f(x, 0). \quad \text{"mass transport principle"}$$

Interpretation:  $f(x, y)$  = "mass sent from  $x$  to  $y$ "

$\sum_x f(0, x)$  = "mass sent from 0"

$\sum_x f(x, 0)$  = "mass received by 0"

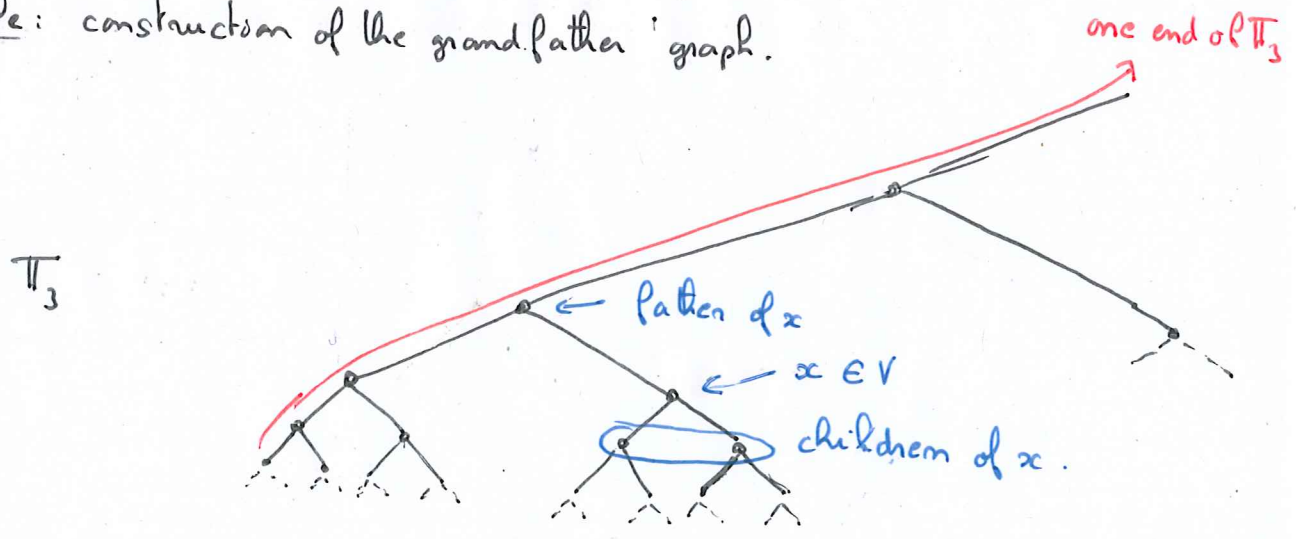
Rk: the mass transport principle is trivial if  $f$  is symmetric!

Example: If  $G = \text{Cay}(G, S)$ , then  $G$  is unimodular.

Proof: Write  $g$  an element of  $G$  and  $e$  the neutral of  $G$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x \in V} f(0, x) &= \sum_{g \in G} f(e, g) \\ &= \sum_{g \in G} f(g^{-1}, e) \quad (f \text{ invariant}) \\ &= \sum_{g \in G} f(g, e) \\ &= \sum_{x \in V} f(x, 0) \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Example: construction of the grandfather graph.



By fixing one end of  $T_3$  one can see  $T_3$  as a "genealogical" tree in which each vertex  $x$  has

- 1 father
- 2 children.

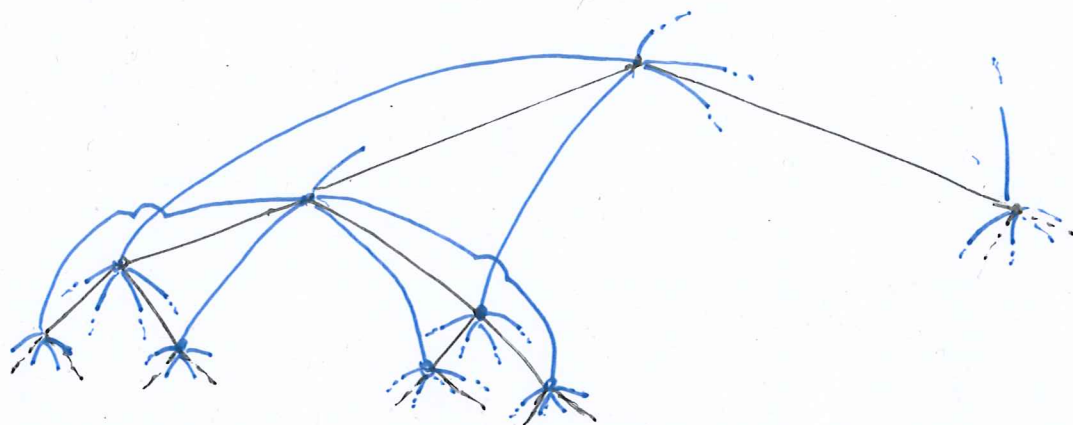


Def: The grand-father graph is obtained from  $T_3$  by fixing one end of  $T_3$  and adding edges between

- the father of  $x$
- the children of  $x$

for every  $x \in T_3$  -

"each vertex is connected to its grand father."



$\hookrightarrow$  the grand-father<sup>2</sup> graph is a transitive graph of degree 8

Prop: The grand-father graph is non-unimodular.

Proof: Consider the mass transport.  $f(x, y) = 1$  if  $x$  is the grand-father of  $y$ .  $f$  is invariant (exercise) but

$$\underbrace{\sum_{x \in V} f(0, x)}_{=4} \neq \underbrace{\sum_{x \in V} f(x, 0)}_{=1}.$$

Rk: In particular the grand-father graph is not a Cayley graph.

### 1.2 MASS-TRANSPORT FOR PERCOLATION.

To every  $x, y \in V$  we associate a random variable  $F_{x,y} : \{0,1\}^E \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ .

We say that  $F : V \times V \times \{0,1\}^E \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is invariant if  
 $(x, y, \omega) \mapsto F_{x,y}(\omega)$

$$\forall \varphi \in \text{Aut}(G) \quad F_{\varphi \cdot x, \varphi \cdot y}(\varphi \cdot \omega) = F_{x,y}(\omega).$$

Example.  $F_{x,y}(\omega) = 1_{x \rightarrow y}(\omega)$  is invariant.

$F_{x,y}(\omega) = 1_{x=0}$  is not invariant.

Prop. Assume  $G$  is unimodular.  
If  $\mathbb{P}$  invariant measure on  $(\{0,1\}^E, \mathcal{F})$ , and  $F = (F_{x,y})$  invariant, then

$$\underbrace{E \left[ \sum_{x \in V} F_{x,x} \right]}_{\text{"expected mass sent"}} = \underbrace{E \left[ \sum_{x \in V} F_{x,0} \right]}_{\text{"expected mass received"}}$$

Proof: Let  $f(x,y) = E[F_{x,y}]$

$$\text{For } \varphi \in \text{Aut}(G) \quad f(\varphi \cdot x, \varphi \cdot y) = \int_{\{0,1\}^E} F_{\varphi \cdot x, \varphi \cdot y}(\omega) dP(\omega)$$

$\mathbb{P}$  invariant  $\nearrow = \int_{\{0,1\}^E} F_{\varphi \cdot x, \varphi \cdot y}(\varphi \cdot \omega) dP(\omega)$

$F$  invariant  $\nearrow = \int_{\{0,1\}^E} F_{x,y}(\omega) dP(\omega) = f(x,y). \blacksquare$

By applying the mass-transpar principle to  $\rho$  and using Fubini theorem, we obtain the result. ■

## 2. TWO APPLICATIONS.

Assume  $G$  is unimodular.

Assume  $P_p[N = \infty] = 1$ . We have seen that

$$c := P_p(x \text{ trifurcation}) > 0.$$

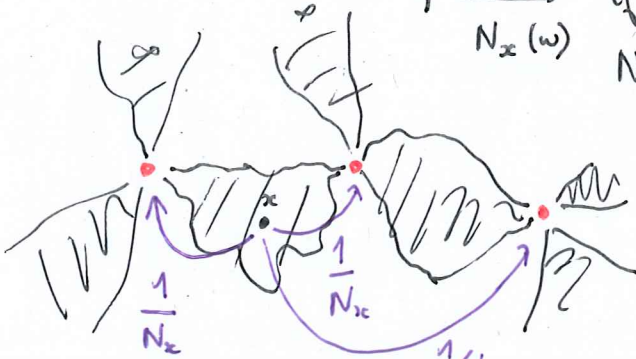
By ergodicity, there are infinitely many trifurcation in  $G$  a.s. (see exercises).

Question: What is the number of trifurcation in one infinite cluster?

Prop: If  $P$  invariant, then each cluster contains either 0 or infinitely many trifurcations.

Proof: Let  $N_x(w) =$  number of trif. in  $C_x(w)$ .

Define  $F_{x,y}(w) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } N_x(w) \in \{0, \infty\}. \\ \frac{1}{N_x(w)} & \text{if } y \text{ trif of } C_x(w) \text{ and } N_x(w) \notin \{0, \infty\}. \end{cases}$



$F$  is invariant. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[ \underbrace{\sum_{x \in V} F_{x,0}} \right] &= E \left[ \underbrace{\sum_{x \in V} F_{0,x}} \right] \\ &= +\infty \cdot \mathbb{1}_{\{0 \text{ trip.}, N_0 \notin \{0, \infty\}\}} \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

i.e.  $P(0 \text{ trip.}, N_0 \notin \{0, \infty\}) \cdot +\infty \leq 1$

Therefore  $\forall x \quad P[N_x \notin \{0, \infty\}] = 0$

Prop: Let  $P$  invariant measure on  $\{0, 1\}^E$ .  
Assume  $\min_{e \in E} P[e \text{ is open}] > 1 - \frac{\phi}{d}$ , then

$$P[0 \leftrightarrow \infty] > 0$$

Rk: • Implies  $p_c \leq 1 - \frac{\phi}{d}$ .

• No hypothesis on  $P$  except invariance!!

Proof: Assume  $P[0 \leftrightarrow \infty] = 0$ . We prove  $P[e \text{ is open}] \leq 1 - \frac{\phi}{d}$ .

Define  $\deg_w(x) = \sum_{y \sim x} \mathbb{1}_{w(xy)=1}$ .

For every  $x, y \in V$ , define

$$F_{x,y}(w) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |C_x(w)| = +\infty \\ \frac{1}{|C_x(w)|} \mathbb{1}_{C_x(w)=C_y(w)} \cdot \deg_w(x) & \text{if } |C_x(w)| < \infty \end{cases}$$

If  $C_0(\omega)$  is finite, we have

$$\bullet \sum_{x \in V} F_{0,xc}(\omega) = \deg_\omega(x)$$

$$\bullet \sum_{x \in V} F_{x,0}(\omega) = \frac{1}{|C_0(\omega)|} \sum_{x \in C_0(\omega)} \deg_x(\omega)$$

$$= \frac{1}{|C_0(\omega)|} \left( d \cdot |C_0(\omega)| - |\partial C_0(\omega)| \right)$$

$$= d - \frac{|\partial C_0(\omega)|}{|C_0(\omega)|} \leq d - \phi$$

Since  $C_0(\omega)$  is finite a.s., M.T.P. implies

$$\underbrace{E[\deg_\omega(x)]}_{\geq d \times \min_e P[e \text{ is open}]} \leq d - \phi$$

$$\geq d \times \min_e P[e \text{ is open}]$$

which gives  $\min_e P[e \text{ is open}] \leq 1 - \frac{\phi}{d}$  ■

### 3. INDISTINGUISHABILITY

Assume that  $G$  is unimodular.

Idea: If a percolation process produces infinitely many infinite clusters, is it possible that two infinite clusters "look" differently?

Def: A cluster property is a measurable function

$$\mathcal{P} : V \times \{0,1\}^E \longrightarrow \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$$

$$(x, \omega) \longmapsto \mathcal{P}_x(\omega)$$

s.t.  $\bullet \forall \varphi \in \text{Aut}(G) \quad \mathcal{P}_{\varphi \cdot x}(\varphi \cdot \omega) = \mathcal{P}_x(\omega)$  ("invariance")

$\bullet$  If  $C_{xc}(\omega) = C_{yc}(\omega)$  then  $\mathcal{P}_{xc}(\omega) = \mathcal{P}_{yc}(\omega)$  (" $\mathcal{P}$  constant on clusters")

Example:  $\mathcal{P}_x(w) =$  "the cluster of  $x$  has infinitely many trifurcations."

Non-examples:  $\mathcal{P}_x(w) =$  "all the edges adjacent to  $x$  are open in  $w$ ."

$\rightarrow$  not constant on clusters

$\mathcal{P}_x(w) = "0 \longleftrightarrow x \text{ in } w" \rightarrow$  not invariant.

Thm (Indistinguishability of infinite clusters)

Assume that  $G$  is unimodular.

Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be an invariant, insertion-tolerant measure on  $\{0,1\}^E$ .

Then, for every cluster property  $\mathcal{P}$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ (\forall x \in V_\infty \mathcal{P}_x(w) = \text{true}) \cup (\forall x \in V_\infty \mathcal{P}_x(w) = \text{false}) \right] = 1$$

where  $V_\infty = \{x \in V : x \longleftrightarrow \infty \text{ in } w\}$ .

Proof: admitted, see [Lyons-Schramm, 1999]

Application 1

Assume  $\mathbb{P}_r(N = \infty) = 1$ .

Then every infinite cluster contains infinitely many trifurcations.

Proof:

We already know that, a.s.,

- there exist infinitely many trifurcations in  $G$ .
- each infinite cluster contains either 0 or infinitely many trifurcations.

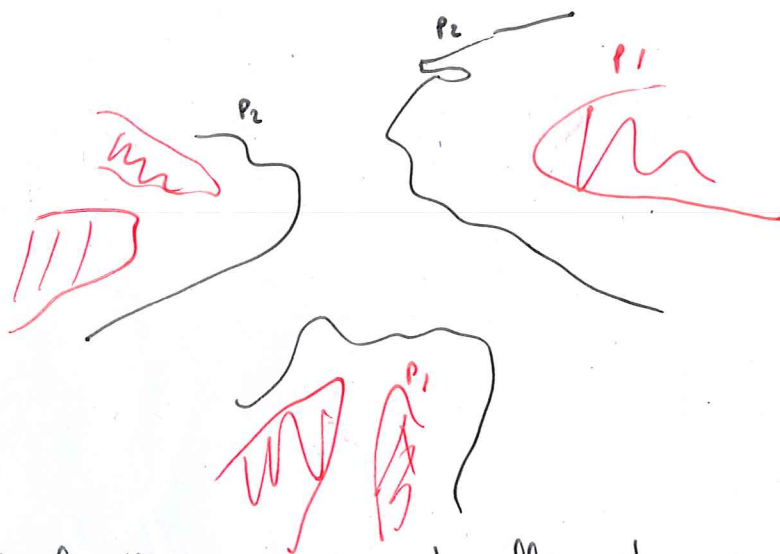
By indistinguishability, each infinite cluster contains infinitely many trifurcations.  $\blacksquare$

Appl. 2 :

Let  $p_1 < p_2$ .

(i) If  $P_{p_1}[N=1] = 1$ , then  $P_{p_2}[N=1] = 1$

(ii) If  $P_{p_1}[N \geq 1] = 1$ , then in the standard coupling, every infinite  $p_2$ -cluster contains an infinite  $p_1$ -cluster.



Proof: Since (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i), it suffices to prove (ii)  
 Consider the cluster property

$\mathcal{I}_x(w) =$  "  $\frac{p_1}{p_2}$  - percolation on  $C_x(w)$  produce an infinite cluster as "

If  $P_{p_2}(\forall x \in V_\infty \mathcal{I}_x(w) = \text{false})$  then  $P_{p_1}(N \geq 1) = 0$

(Indeed a  $p_1$ -percolation on  $G$  can be obtained by doing a  $\frac{p_1}{p_2}$ -percolation on  $(V, w)$  where  $w$  is a  $p_2$ -percolation on  $G$ . If  $\forall x \mathcal{I}_x(w) = \text{false}$ , then the resulting configuration has only finite components.)

Let  $(U_e)_{e \in E}$  iid uniform on  $[0, 1]$ . Call  $p_1$ -cluster a connected component of the graph induced by  $w = (\mathbb{1}_{U_e \leq p_1})_{e \in E}$ .

Therefore, by indistinguishability, we must have

$$\mathbb{P}_p [\forall x \in V_\infty \quad \sigma_x(\omega) = \text{true}].$$

The result follows. ■

Application 3. A criterion for non-uniqueness

Thm: Assume  $\mathbb{P}_p [N \geq 1] = 1$ . Then

$$\mathbb{P}_p [N = \infty] = 1 \iff \inf_{x \in V} \mathbb{P}_p [0 \leftrightarrow x] = 0$$

Proof (sketch) For a detailed proof, see LYONS-SCHRAMM, Thm 4.1

⊆ Assume  $\mathbb{P}_p [N = 1] = 1$ . By invariance, we have  
 $\forall x \in V \quad \mathbb{P}_p [x \leftrightarrow \infty] = \theta > 0$ .

The following computation concludes the proof

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}_p [0 \leftrightarrow x] &\geq \mathbb{P}_p [0 \leftrightarrow \infty, x \leftrightarrow \infty, N = 1] \\ &\stackrel{(N=1 \text{ a.s.})}{=} \mathbb{P}_p [0 \leftrightarrow \infty, x \leftrightarrow \infty] \\ &\stackrel{(FKG)}{\geq} \theta^2. \end{aligned}$$

⊇ Assume  $\inf_{x \in V} \mathbb{P}_p [0 \leftrightarrow x] = \zeta > 0$

Let  $(X_n)$  be a SRW from 0, independent of the percolation configuration.



We claim that  $\exists \beta \in [0, 1]$  s.t. a.s.  $\forall C$  infinite cluster

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{1}_{x_k \in C} = \beta \quad (**)$$

= "density of  $C$ "

This is proved in 2 steps:

1. Using ergodicity of  $P_\rho$  and a subadditive lemma, it is possible to prove that a.s.  $\forall C$  infinite cluster.

$$\alpha(C) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{1}_{x_k \in C} \text{ exists.}$$

2. Using the cluster property

$$\mathcal{J}_x^\beta(\omega) = \{ \alpha(C_x(\omega)) \leq \beta \}$$

and indistinguishability, we find that  $\exists \beta \in [0, 1]$  s.t.

$$\forall x \in V_\infty \quad \alpha(C_x(\omega)) = \beta \quad \text{a.s.}$$

Now, by Dominated convergence

$$\underbrace{E[\alpha(C_0)]}_{= \theta \times \beta} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \underbrace{P[x_k \in C_0]}_{\geq \bar{c}} \geq \bar{c} > 0$$

we obtain that a.s. for every  $C$  infinite cluster  $\alpha(C) = \beta \geq \frac{\bar{c}}{\theta} > 0$

Since  $\sum_{C \text{ infinite cluster}} \alpha(C) \leq 1$  a.s. we must have  $N=1$  a.s.  $\blacksquare$

Rk: This criterion provides us with an alternative proof of

$$P_{p_1}[N=1]=1 \Rightarrow P_{p_2}[N=1]=1 \quad \text{when } p_1 \leq p_2.$$

Indeed

$$P_{p_1}[N=1]=1 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} P_{p_1}[N \geq 1] = 1 \\ \inf_x P_{p_1}[0 \leftrightarrow x] > 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} P_{p_2}[N \geq 1] = 1 \\ \inf_x P_{p_2}[0 \leftrightarrow x] > 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow P_{p_2}[N=1]=1$$

Rk: We find that

$$p_u = \inf \left\{ p : \inf_x P_p[0 \leftrightarrow x] > 0 \right\}.$$

Corollary: For every  $d \geq 3$

$$p_u(T^d \times \mathbb{Z}) \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Proof: Let  $x$  be a vertex of  $T^d \times \mathbb{Z}$ . One can find a subgraph  $H$  of  $T^d$  that is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  and contains both  $0$  and  $x$ . (consider  $H = R \times \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $R \times \{0\}$  is an infinite path on  $T^d \times \{0\}$  containing  $0$  and the projection of  $x$  on  $T^d \times \{0\}$ )

Hence for every  $p > \frac{1}{2}$   $P_p[0 \leftrightarrow x] \geq \Theta_{\mathbb{Z}^2}(p)^2 > 0$  ■