CROSSING PROBABILITIES FOR PLANAR PERCOLATION



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Oxford Discrete Mathematics and Probability Seminar

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Percolation: how does a fluid propagate in a random medium?

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Is there an infinite cluster?

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Phase transition

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
0 & p < p_c & p_c \\
\hline P_p[\text{All clusters are finite}] = 1.
\end{array}$$

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Phase transition









































Interactions with other fields

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Motivations for robust results:

- → New results in other fields.
- → New methods for Bernoulli percolation.

ROBUST THEORY OF CROSSING PROBABILITIES IN DIMENSION 2.





1. RSW THEORY FOR BERNOULLI PERCOLATION ON \mathbb{Z}^2 .



Phase transition in dimension 2

Theorem [Kesten 80]

For Bernoulli percolation on $\mathbb{Z}^2,$ we have

$$p_c = \frac{1}{2}$$























Conjecture: critical behavior of the crossing probabilities

Fix $\lambda \ge 1$. For critical Bernoulli percolation on \mathbb{Z}^2 , we have



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• Cardy's formula and conformal invariance. [Smirnov 01]

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• Cardy's formula and conformal invariance. [Smirnov 01] • Critical exponents $P_{p_c}\left[\begin{array}{c}n\\ p_{p_c}\left[\begin{array}{c}n\\ p_{p_c}\end{array}\right] = n^{-5/48 + o(1)}.$ [Lawler Schramm Werner 02]

Consider Bernoulli percolation on \mathbb{Z}^2 at $p_c = 1/2$.

RSW theorem [Russo 78] [Seymour Welsh 78]

Fix $\lambda \ge 1$. There exists $c(\lambda) > 0$ such that for every $n \ge 1$,



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Applications:

• Bounds on critical exponents:

$$\Rightarrow n^{-c_1} \leqslant \mathbb{P}_{p_c}\left[\boxed{\begin{array}{c} & n \\ & & \\ \end{array}} \right] \leqslant n^{-c_2}, c_1, c_2 > 0.$$

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- Study of near-critical regime $(p = p_c \pm \varepsilon)$.
- Tightness arguments for the scaling limit.
















































Bernoulli percolation: an independent percolation model



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 $\mathbf{P}_p[e, f \text{ open}] = p^2$

Bernoulli percolation: an independent percolation model



 $P_p[e, f \text{ open}] = p^2 = P_p[e \text{ open}]P_p[f \text{ open}].$

1. RSW theory for Bernoulli percolation on \mathbb{Z}^2

[Russo '78][Seymour Welsh '78]



Symmetries:

 P_p is invariant under translations, reflections and $\pi/2$ -rotation.



Positive correlations [Harris 60]:



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Two important properties of P_p

Symmetries:

 P_p is invariant under translations, reflections and $\pi/2$ -rotation.



Positive correlations [Harris 60]: Crossing events are positively correlated.



Goal: For
$$\lambda \ge 1$$
 and $n \ge 1$, $P\left[\begin{array}{c} \lambda n \\ \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare \\ n \end{array} \right] \ge c(\lambda).$

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$$P\left[\prod_{n=1}^{n} n \right] = 1/2.$$

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Step 1 (**RSW Lemma**):
$$P\left[\underbrace{n}_{n} \right] \ge c \Rightarrow P\left[\underbrace{2n}_{n} \right] \ge c'.$$

Step 2 (
$$\lambda = 2$$
 suffices):

$$P\left[\begin{array}{c}2n & \text{positive}\\ \hline n\end{array}\right] \ge c \xrightarrow{\text{correlations}} P\left[\begin{array}{c}3n\\ \hline n\end{array}\right] \ge c^{3}.$$

"Proof" of the RSW lemma

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Known:
$$P_p\left[\begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} n \right] \ge c.$$

"Proof" of the RSW lemma Known: $P_p\left[\boxed{n} n \right] \ge c.$ Goal: $P_p\left[\boxed{n} n \right] \ge c' > 0.$







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Difficulty: "rule out" tortuous path.



The proof of RSW theorem: The key lemma

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 \mathbf{P} =general percolation process in the plane.



Bernoulli percolation

[Broadbent Hammersley, 57]



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where c' = f(c) independent of n.
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All the proofs use Symmetries + Positive correlations + "something else".

General RSW Lemma.

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RSW Lemma for symmetric positively correlated measures

[Köhler-Schindler T. 20+]

Let ${\bf P}$ be a planar percolation measure satisfying

- Symmetries,
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Then

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- → Not reflection invariant.

Why are positive correlations important?



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→ Squares always crossed, long horizontal rectangles never crossed,

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→ Squares always crossed, long horizontal rectangles never crossed,
 → No positive correlation.

Sketch of proof

$$H_{yp}: P\left[\frac{n}{m}\right] \ge c + n$$

 $Gaol: P\left[\frac{n}{m}\right] \ge c'$

Sketch of proof

$$H_{yp}: P\left[\bigcap_{3n/2}^{n}\right] \ge c \quad \forall n$$

$$Gaal: P\left[\bigcap_{3n/2}^{n}\right] \ge c'$$

$$Assumption: P\left[\bigcap_{3n/2}^{n}\right] \le \varepsilon \quad \left(\underset{cst}{\varepsilon} > 0 \right)$$











_ the path is "tertuous" up to k





K

key lemma.



Def:
$$k = \min \{ m \le n : P[m] \\ 3m/2 \} \le \mathcal{E} \} - 1$$



_ the path is "tertuous" up to k







key lemma.

Conclusion :





_ the path is "tertuous" up to k





 $\geqslant \frac{c}{10}$

٩

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Conclusion :



Critical behavior of Bernoulli percolation

✓ Robust RSW theory:

$$c(\lambda) \leq P_{p_c} \left[\underbrace{\overset{\lambda n}{\overbrace{}}_{n}}_{n} \right] \leq 1 - c(\lambda).$$

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Perspectives:

• RSW for non positively correlated models.

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- Prove Cardy's formula for some specific models.

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