

On the phase diagram of Euclidean Random Assignment Problems at low dimensions

Franco-Dutch meeting “Bézout-Eurandom”

CNRS International Research Project « Random Graphs, Statistical Mechanics and Networks »

Amphithéâtre Hermite, Institut Henri Poincaré, Paris

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Matteo D'Achille



UNIVERSITÉ
PARIS-EST CRÉTEIL
VAL DE MARNE



Based on several works in collaboration with:

- Dario Benedetto (Rome La Sapienza)
- Emanuele Caglioti (Rome La Sapienza)
- Sergio Caracciolo (Milan University, INFN)
- Vittorio Erba (Milan University, INFN)
- Gabriele Sicuro (London King's College)
- Andrea Sportiello (CNRS, Université Paris 13)

Main references: (here and afterwards all paper references are clickable) [preprint at](#)

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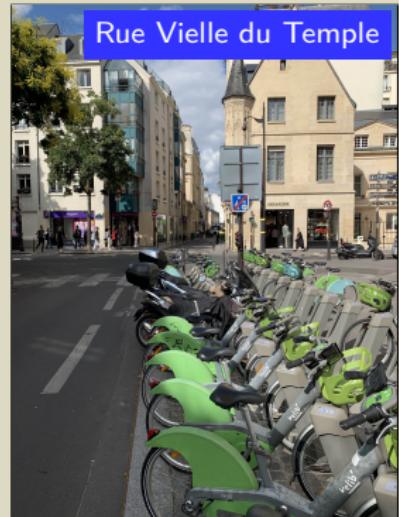
The assignment problem



Rue d'Ulm



Quai de l'Hôtel de Ville



Rue Vieille du Temple



Rue des Francs Bourgeois



bd Lefebvre



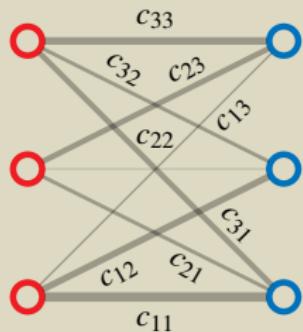
Prom. Signoret-Montand

The assignment problem

Definition (assignment problem). Consider a $n \times n$ real matrix c (cost matrix). For any n -permutation $\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n$, define the energy

$$E(\pi) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_{i\pi(i)}. \text{ Find } \pi_{\text{opt}} := \arg \min_{\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n} E(\pi).$$

Example at $n = 3$:



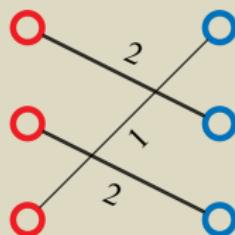
$$c = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 3.5 & 1 \\ 2 & 1.2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

The assignment problem

Definition (assignment problem). Consider a $n \times n$ real matrix c (cost matrix). For any n -permutation $\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n$, define the energy $E(\pi) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_{i\pi(i)}$. Find $\pi_{\text{opt}} := \arg \min_{\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n} E(\pi)$.

Example at $n = 3$:

$$\pi_{\text{opt}} = (3 \ 1 \ 2), E_{\text{opt}} := E(\pi_{\text{opt}}) = 5$$



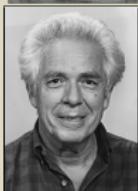
$$c = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 3.5 & \textcircled{1} \\ \textcircled{2} & 1.2 & 3 \\ 3 & \textcircled{2} & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Optimization of a linear function over the **convex Birkhoff polytope**;
- **P-complete** with $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ complexity (Munkres 1957);
- Equivalent to a two player zero-sum game (von Neumann 1953, 1954).

Assignment problem: Some historical remarks



von
Neumann
1953



Kuhn
1955



König
1916

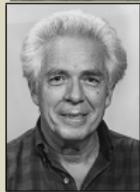


Egérvary
1931

Assignment problem: Some historical remarks



von
Neumann
1953



Kuhn
1955

König
1916



Egérvary
1931

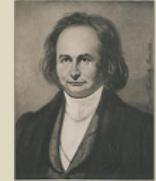


Canon simplicissimus.							
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
I	25*	21	20	18	20	18	25
II	21	22*	21	21	13	21	22
III	16	19	23*	22	17	14	16
IV	21	12	18	27*	18	14	24
V	25	22	22	27	31*	16	31
VI	10	18	23	21	19	23*	21
VII	5	14	10	27	31	20	40*

“De investigando ordine systematis aequationum differentialium vulgarium cuiuscunque”

See also (Ollivier 2009).

Jacobi
1860



The Random Assignment Problem I

Here c is a random matrix, E_{opt} a **(non-trivial) random variable**.

- Pioneered in Physics in the 80s by Mézard–Parisi and Orland;
- Entered Probability mostly through Aldous in the 90s.

For $(c_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$ i.i.d. r.v. of probability density $\rho(l) = l^r + o(l^r)$, then

$$\mathbb{E}[E_{\text{opt}}]_n \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} c_r n^{1 - \frac{1}{r+1}}.$$

Result: in the graph theory interpretation, only “short” edges are relevant for large n : r is a **“universal exponent”**.

Nice fact: at $r = 0$ (i.e. ρ is e.g. **uniform** or $\text{Exp}(\lambda)$ distribution),

$$c_0 = \zeta(2) = \frac{\pi^2}{6}.$$

The Random Assignment Problem II

If $c_{ij} \sim \text{Exp}(1)$, Parisi conjectured (1998):

$$\mathbb{E}[E_{\min}]_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{6} - \frac{1}{n} + o\left(\frac{1}{n}\right).$$

- Extension to rectangular cost matrices (Coppersmith-Sorkin 1998)
- Proof of $\zeta(2)$ limit (among other things) (Aldous 2001)
- Proof of Parisi conjecture (Nair–Prabhakar–Sharma 2001)
- Extension to k -colors (which is **NP-hard** for $k \geq 3$) (Martin–Mézard–Rivoire 2004,2005)
- Prof of $\exists!$ of Mézard–Parisi order parameter $\forall r \geq 0$ (Wästlund 2012, Larsson 2014, Salez 2015)

NOT discussed today...

Euclidean Random Assignment Problems (ERAPs)

Let $\mathcal{B} = (B_1, \dots, B_n)$ be blue points and $\mathcal{R} = (R_1, \dots, R_n)$ be red ones: n -samples of i.i.d. r.v. with pdf $v_{\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R})} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (**disorder**). Let (Ω, \mathcal{D}) be a metric space (mostly an **Euclidean** space with \mathcal{D} **Euclidean** distance). For $p \in \mathbb{R}$ and an assignment (n -permutation) $\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n$, consider the *Hamiltonian*

$$\mathcal{H}(\pi) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{D}^p(B_i, R_{\pi(i)})$$

and the random variable “**ground state energy**”

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt},(n,d)}^{(p)} = \min_{\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n} \mathcal{H}(\pi) \quad (\pi_{\text{opt}} = \arg \min_{\pi \in \mathcal{S}_n} \mathcal{H}(\pi)).$$

Definition (Euclidean Random Assignment Problem).

Understand the statistical properties of $\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt},(n,d)}^{(p)}$ (exact or asymptotic law, moments, etc.) depending on (Ω, p, d) and $v_{\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R})}$.

Three motivations for ERAPs

- **Spin Glasses.** ERAP provides a toy-model of **spin-glass in finite dimension**. Besides disorder, the assignment constraint provides **frustration**. But the model is numerically simpler than e.g. Edwards–Anderson spin glass (Mézard–Parisi 1988).
- **Optimal Transport.** ERAP = **Monge-Kantorovitch** transportation problem on Ω ($\dim(\Omega) = d$) associated to the empirical measures $\rho_{\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{R})} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_j \delta_{B_j(R_j)}$. In particular

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt},(n,d)}^{(p)} = n W_p^p(\rho_{\mathcal{B}}, \rho_{\mathcal{R}}),$$

where W_p is the **p -Wasserstein distance** (Villani 2009, Brezis 2018).

- **Computational Complexity Theory.** ERAPs are small modifications of random TSPs. But TSP is **NP-complete**.

ERAPs: the phase diagram

We shall put $v_{\mathcal{B}} = v_{\mathcal{R}} := v$. We can start studying

$$E_{p,d}(n) := \mathbb{E}_{v^n \otimes v^n} [\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt},(n,d)}^{(p)}] \stackrel{?}{=} K_{p,d} n^{\gamma_{p,d}} (\ln n)^{\gamma_{p,d}} (1 + o(1)),$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, depending on (p, d) and the choice of v .

Phase diagram: $(\gamma_{p,d}, \gamma'_{p,d})$ are expected to be **largely insensitive** on the choice of v (which may alter the constant $K_{p,d}$).

Remark: Non-uniform disorder v is more subtle!

Example: Take $v = \text{standard Gaussian}$ and $(p, d) = (2, 1)$. Then

$$E_{2,1}(n) \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} 2 \ln \ln n \quad (\text{i.e. } \gamma_{2,1} = \gamma'_{2,1} = 0).$$

(Caracciolo–D’A–Sicuro 2019, Bobkov–Ledoux 2019, Berthet–Fort 2020)

See (Benedetto–Caglioti 2020) for non-uniform case at $d = 2$.

$d \geq 3, p \geq 1, \Omega = \text{a bounded domain}$

“Simple”: Solution is realized at the scale of nearest-neighbors

$$E_{p,d}(n) \Big|_{d \geq 3, p \geq 1} \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} K_{p,d} n^{\gamma_{LB}},$$

where

$$\gamma_{p,d} = \gamma_{LB} := 1 - \frac{p}{d}, \quad \gamma'_{p,d} = 0 \quad (\text{Mézard--Parisi 1988})$$

(if the disorder v is uniform on Ω , otherwise **unknown**).

Remark: The constants $K_{p,d}$ are **universal** (Barthe--Bordenave 2013 and refs. therein for $p < \frac{d}{2}$, and Goldman--Trevisan 2020 for an extension to $p \geq 1$) but **unknown explicitly**. Upper and lower bounds on some $K_{p,d}$ for $\Omega = [0, 1]^d$ are in (Talagrand 1992), numerical estimates for $\Omega = [0, 1]^d, \mathbb{T}^d$ are in (Caracciolo--Sicuro 2015, D'A MSc Thesis 2016).

$d = 2$: A challenge for both mathematicians and physicists

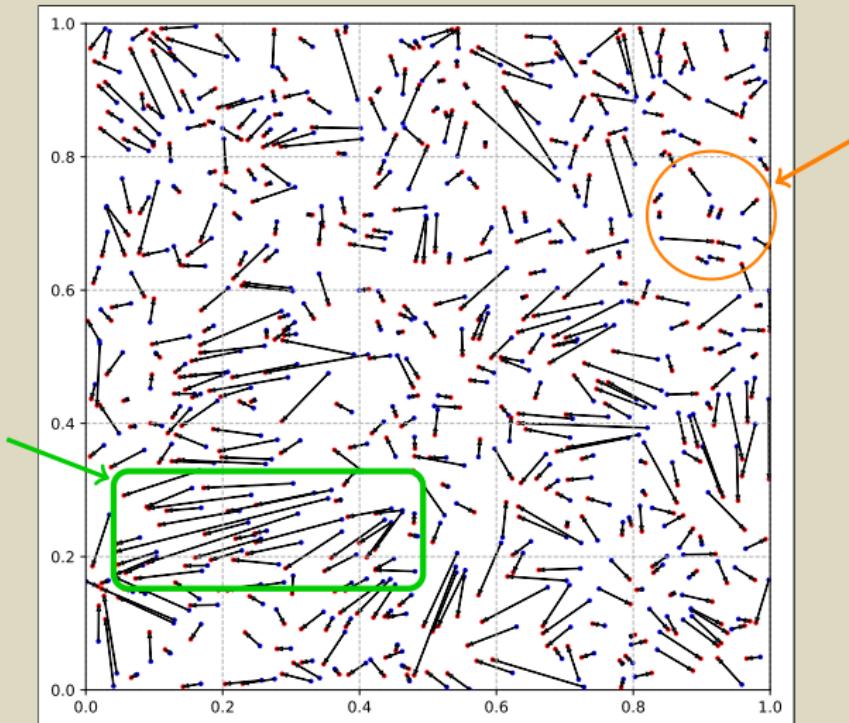
Example: $\Omega = [0, 1]^2$, $\mathcal{D} = |\cdot|$. A solution at $p = 2$:

The solution π_{opt} connects typically $O(\ln n)$ -nearest-neighbors.

$$\gamma_{p,d} = \gamma_{LB} = 1 - \frac{p}{2}$$

$$\gamma_{p,d} = \frac{p}{2}$$

(Ajtai–Komlós–Tusnády 1984)

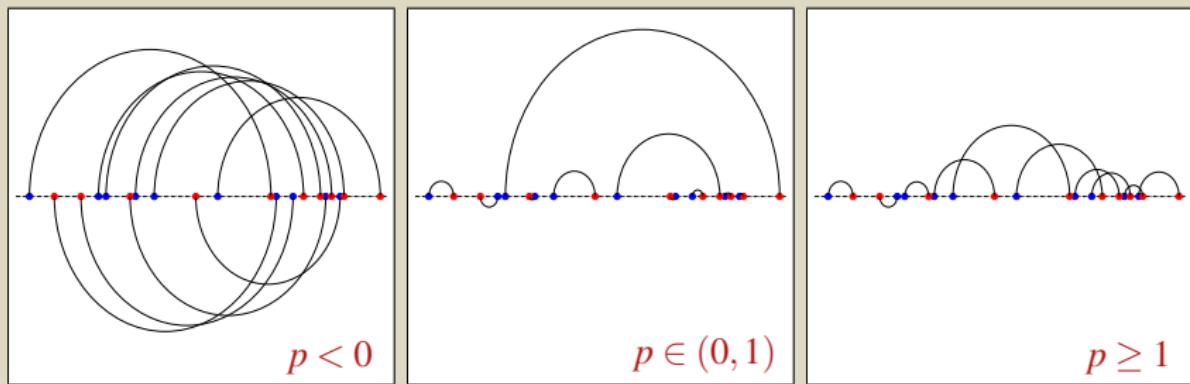


A few recent developments at $(p,d) = (2,2)$

- 2014 Caracciolo–Lucibello–Parisi–Sicuro (Phys. Rev. E): Using a **classical field-theoretical approach**, first predicted $K_{2,2} = \frac{1}{2\pi}$.
- 2019 Ambrosio–Stra–Trevisan (PTRF): **Proof** of $K_{2,2} = \frac{1}{2\pi}$ (among other things) via PDE methods.
- 2020 Ambrosio–Glaudo (JEP): Refinement on the remainder term (among other things).
- 2021 Benedetto–Caglioti–Caracciolo–D’A–Sicuro–Sportiello (J. Stat. Phys.): Among other things, **exact formula** for $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [E_\Omega(n) - E_{\Omega'}(n)]$, where Ω, Ω' are two manifolds (see [this video contribution](#) for a discussion of the latter results in the light of **Weyl’s law**).
- 2021 Caracciolo *et al.*: Excitations are compatible with a loop-erased self-avoiding random walk process.

$d = 1$: Properties of the solution

For any v , $p = 0$ and $p = 1$ separate **three qualitative regimes**:



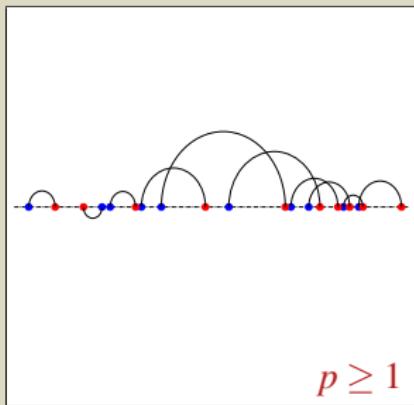
If (b_1, \dots, b_n) and (r_1, \dots, r_n) are sorted in natural order π_{opt} is:

- **Cyclical** for $p < 0$: $\pi_{\text{opt}} = i + k \pmod{n}$ (Caracciolo–D’A–Sicuro 2017);
- **Non-crossing** for $p \in (0, 1)$: Intervals “covered by edges” are either disjoint or one is included into the other (McCann 1999);
- **Ordered** for $p \geq 1$: π_{opt} is the identity permutation.

$$\Omega = [0, 1] \text{ (or } \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^+, \dots\text{)}, \mathcal{D} = || \text{ and } p \geq 1$$

Take $B_{j+1} \geq B_j$, $R_{j+1} \geq R_j$, for $j = 1, \dots, n-1$.

Optimality + **(strict) convexity** + (strict) monotonicity of \mathcal{D}^p



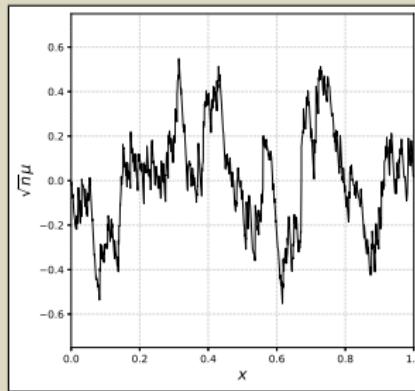
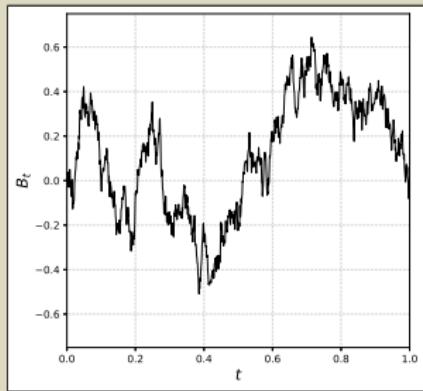
$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt},(n,p)}|_{p \geq 1} = \sum_{i=1}^n |B_i - R_i|^p.$$

\implies stairway to the **Brownian world!**

Brownian Bridge for $\Omega = [0, 1]$, $\mathcal{D} = |\cdot|$, $p \geq 1$.

Let the **transport field** be $\mu_i := b_i - r_i$, for $i = 1, \dots, n$ and put $i = nt + \frac{1}{2}$. Then by **Donsker's Theorem**,

$\sqrt{n} \mu_i \xrightarrow{\text{weakly}} B_t$, the Brownian Bridge.



Recall $\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt},(n,p)} = \sum_{i=1}^n |\mu_i|^p$. Then $E_{p,1}(n)|_{p \geq 1} \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \mathbb{E}[B_t^p] n^{1-\frac{p}{2}}$.

(Boniolio–Caracciolo–Sportiello 2014, Caracciolo–Sicuro 2014, Caracciolo–D’A–Sicuro 2017)

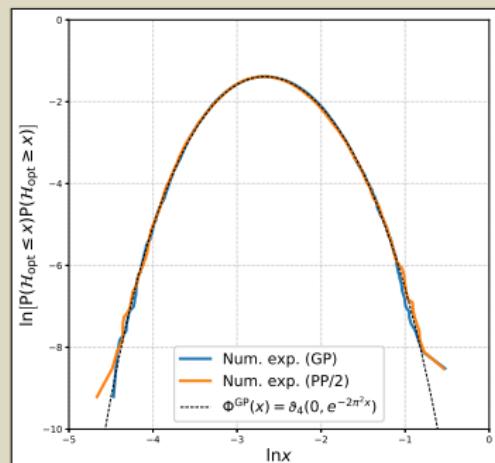
$\Omega = \mathbb{S}_1$, \mathcal{D} = arc-distance, $p = 2$: The limit distribution of \mathcal{H}_{opt}

The cdf of $\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt},(n,2)}$ on \mathbb{S}_1 is **explicit**. This is because:

1. at $p = 2$ we have **Parseval identity** for μ ;
2. the mgf $\mathbb{E} \left[e^{-w \sum_{s \neq 0} |\hat{\mu}_s|^2_s} \right] = \prod_{s \geq 1} \frac{1}{1 + \frac{w}{2\pi^2 s^2}}$ can be inverse-Laplace transformed (Watson 1961)!

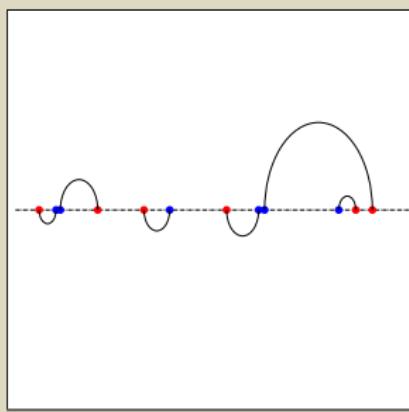
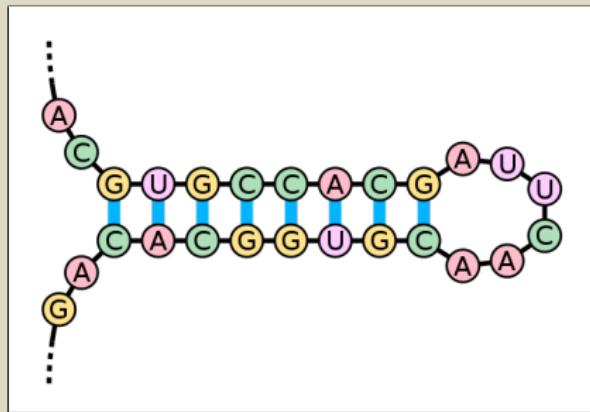
We have (D'A, 2020):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}[\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt},(n,2)} \leq x] &\xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} \vartheta_4(0, e^{-2\pi^2 x}) \\ &:= \sum_{s \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{i\pi s} e^{-2\pi^2 s^2 x}. \end{aligned}$$



ERAPs at $p \in (0, 1)$: Further motivation in biology

Besides economics, interest due to the non-crossing property of the solution: Toy-model for the **secondary structure of RNA** (discarding pseudo-knots).

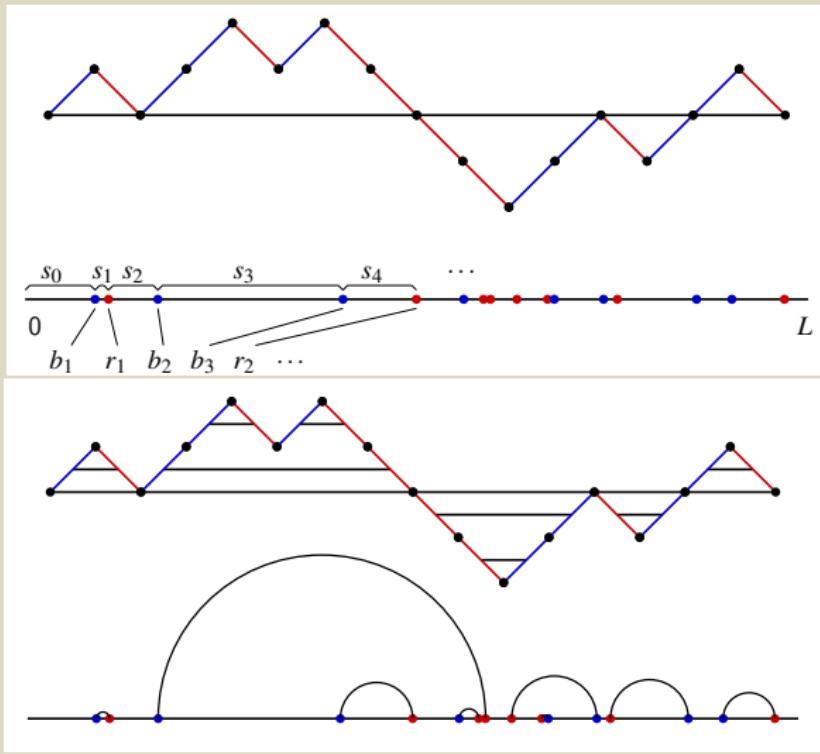


Despite this, poorly understood (McCann 1999).

IDEA: Try a canonical construction, an approximate solution sharing non-crossing property with $\pi_{\text{opt}} \rightarrow$ Dyck matchings!

The Dyck matching (Caracciolo–D’A–Erba–Sportiello 2020)

Construction:



The Dyck Conjecture at $p \in (0,1)$

Expected energy of Dyck matchings grows asymptotically as

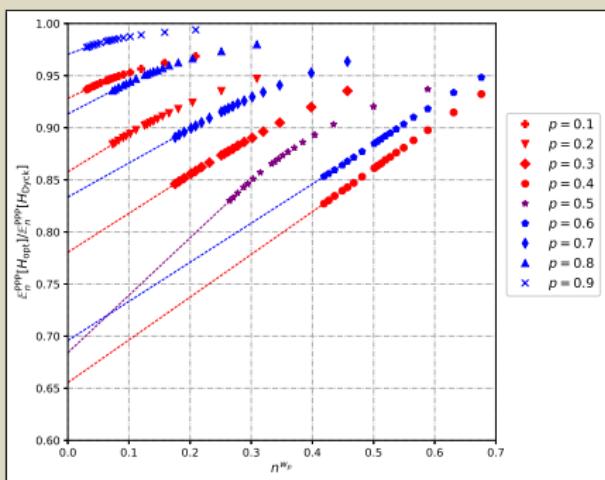
$$\mathbb{E}_n(\mathcal{H}_{\text{Dyck}}) \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \begin{cases} n^{1-p} & \text{if } 0 \leq p < \frac{1}{2} \\ \sqrt{n} \ln n & \text{if } p = \frac{1}{2} \\ n^{\frac{1}{2}} & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} < p \leq 1 \end{cases}.$$

Conjecture (Caracciolo–D’A–Erba–Sportiello 2020):

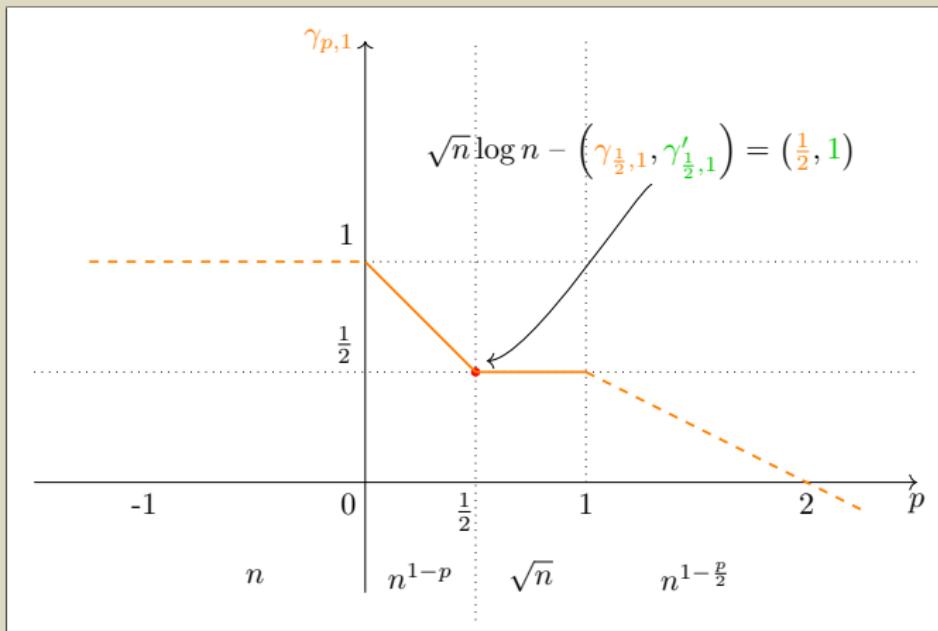
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbb{E}_n(\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt}})}{\mathbb{E}_n(\mathcal{H}_{\text{Dyck}})} = k_p,$$

for some $k_p \in (0,1)$.

Upper bound implied by (Fournier–Guillin 2014).



Section of the Phase Diagram at $d = 1$



Product formula for number of solutions at $d = p = 1$ (Caracciolo–Erba–Sportiello 2021).

Beyond uniform disorder: Bulk and anomalous scaling

Recall that for $\nu = \mathbf{1}_{[0,1]}$ and $p \geq 1$ (Caracciolo *et al.* 2019):

$$\begin{aligned} E_{p,1}^U(n) &= n \frac{\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{p}{2}\right)}{p+1} \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma\left(n+1 + \frac{p}{2}\right)} \\ &= c_p n^{1 - \frac{p}{2}} (1 + o(1)) = c_p n^{\gamma_{p,1}} (1 + o(1)). \end{aligned}$$

Thus $E_{p,1}^U(n)$ exhibits **bulk scaling**.

What if ν is non-uniform?

Definition. If $\gamma_{p,1} \neq 1 - \frac{p}{2}$ or if $\gamma'_{p,1} \neq 0$, we say that $E_{p,1}(n)$ exhibits an **anomalous scaling**.

“Reduction to quadratures” in the bulk scaling

For R the cdf of v , let $\Psi^{(v)} := v \circ R_v^{-1}$. Bobkov–Ledoux 2019 get

$$E_{p,1}^{(v)}(n) = \frac{2^p}{\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \int_0^1 \left[\frac{\sqrt{s(1-s)}}{\Psi^{(v)}(s)} \right]^p ds n^{1-p/2} + o(n^{1-p/2}).$$

Caracciolo–D’A–Sicuro 2018: **Regularize the integral** inspired by cutoff regularization in Quantum Field Theory.

Example: $v(x) = e^{-x}$, $\Psi^{\exp}(s) = 1 - s$.

Cutoff method: Stop integration at distance $\frac{c}{n}$ away from the singularity:

$$E_{p,1}^{\exp}(n) = \frac{2^p}{\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma\left(\frac{p+1}{2}\right) \int_0^{1-c/n} \left(\frac{s}{1-s}\right)^{\frac{p}{2}} ds.$$

At $p = 2$, this gives:

$$E_{2,1}^{\exp}(n) = 2 \ln n - 2 \log c - 2 + o(1).$$

Exact result, $p = 2$ (Beta integrals):

$$\begin{aligned} E_{2,1}^{\exp}(n) &= 2 \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} \\ &= 2 \ln n + 2\gamma_E + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

Rigorous approach to anomalous scaling

(D'A-Sportiello 2020-)

Guiding principle: Only the local properties of v in a neighbourhood of the zero will determine the leading anomalous behaviour. So we decided to estimate contrib. of k -th edge at **fixed n** in

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt},(n,1)}^{(p)}|_{p \geq 1} = \sum_{k=1}^n |b_k - r_k|^p.$$

The general strategy:

1. **Binomial expand** $\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt},(n,1)}^{(p)}|_{p \geq 1}$ for $p > 1$ even and fixed n ;
2. Use **linearity** to compute expected contrib. of k -th edge;
3. **Asymptotic analysis** for $n \rightarrow \infty$ (\implies local properties of v);
4. **Analytic continuation** of result $\forall p \geq 1$.

More details on the general strategy

More precisely for a disorder v , we have for Step 1-2:

$$E_{p,1}^{(v)}(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n \mathbb{E}[(b_k - r_k)^p] = \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{q=0}^p \binom{p}{q} (-1)^{p-q} M_{n,k,q}^{(v)} M_{n,k,p-q}^{(v)},$$

where the ℓ -moment of the quantile function is

$$M_{n,k,\ell}^{(v)} = \langle R_v^{-1}(u)^\ell \rangle_{P_{n,k}}$$

and $\langle \dots \rangle_{P_{n,k}}$ denotes expectation w.r.t. $\text{Beta}(k, n-k+1)$:

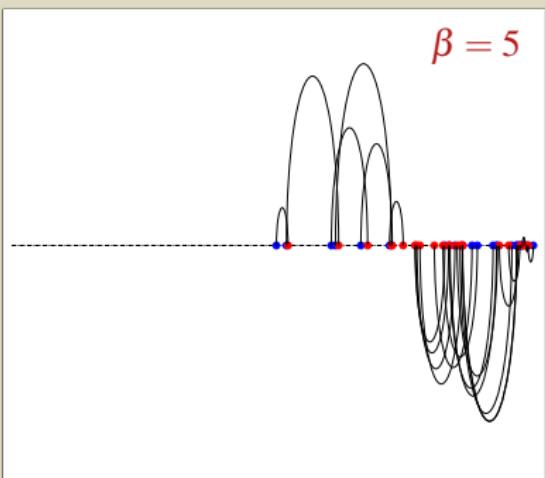
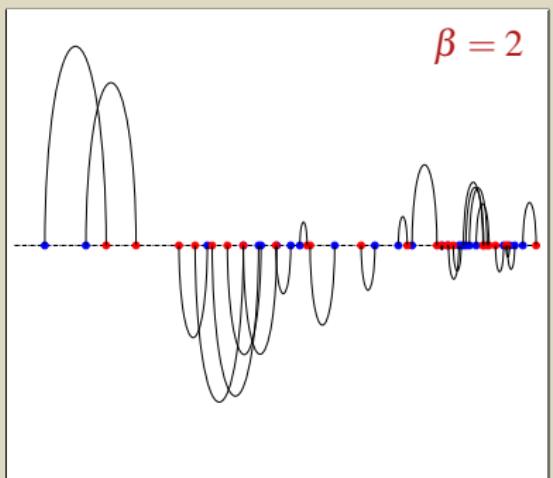
$$P_{n,k}(u)du := \frac{n!}{(k-1)!(n-k)!} u^{k-1} (1-u)^{n-k} du.$$

Example: Internal endpoint, algebraic zero $v_{fa,\beta}$

Consider the following pdf:

$$v_{fa,\beta}(x) = \beta x^{\beta-1}, \quad x \in [0, 1].$$

Example: Solutions at $n = 25$:



$$\text{Thus } R_{fa,\beta}(x) = x^\beta \implies R_{fa,\beta}^{-1}(u) = u^{\frac{1}{\beta}}.$$

A useful Lemma in asymptotic analysis

$$2 \quad M_{k,n;\ell}^{(\text{fa}),\beta} = \left\langle (u^{\frac{1}{\beta}})^\ell \right\rangle_{P_{n,k}} = \frac{\Gamma(k+\frac{\ell}{\beta})\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(k)\Gamma(n+1+\frac{\ell}{\beta})}.$$

Lemma (see e.g. Whittaker–Watson, Tricomi)

As $n \rightarrow \infty$, for β finite, the function $\psi_n(\beta) := \ln \left[\frac{n^\beta \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(n+\beta)} \right]$ has the series expansion

$$\psi_n(\beta) = \sum_{\substack{k \geq 1 \\ 0 \leq \ell \leq k}} A_{k,\ell} n^{-k} \beta^{\ell+1} = \frac{\beta - \beta^2}{2n} + \frac{\beta - 3\beta^2 + 2\beta^3}{12n^2} + \dots,$$

where

$$A_{k,\ell} = (-1)^k \textcolor{red}{B_{k-\ell}} \frac{\Gamma(k)}{\Gamma(\ell)\Gamma(k-\ell+1)}, \quad k \geq 1, \quad 0 \leq \ell \leq k,$$

for B_s the *s-th Bernoulli number*.

Separation of bulk and anomalous regimes

At leading order in $\frac{1}{n}$ the coefficient of β^p in

$$e^{\psi_n(\beta)} = \exp \left(-\frac{\beta^2}{2n} \sum_{\substack{k \geq 1 \\ 0 \leq l \leq k}} (-2A_{k,l}) \left(\frac{\beta}{n}\right)^{2k-l-1} \left(\frac{\beta^2}{n}\right)^{-(k-l)} \right)$$

concentrates around the term with $k=l=1$ for large n (the minimum of $2k-l-1$ within the range $k \geq 1, 0 \leq l \leq k$).

This gives **two regimes** according to the magnitude of k/n (i.e. distance from the region of low density of points):

$$M_{k,n;\ell}^{(\text{fa}),\beta} \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \begin{cases} \frac{\Gamma(k+\frac{\ell}{\beta})}{\Gamma(k)} n^{-\ell/\beta} & k \text{ small (**anomalous**)} \\ \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2n} \left(\frac{\ell^2}{\beta}\right) (1-x^{-1})\right) x^{\ell/\beta} & k = xn' \text{ (**bulk**)} \end{cases}$$

Leading asymptotics in the bulk regime

Result

Lemma 1 (bulk regime, D'A-Sportiello 2020)

For the family of distributions $v_{fa,\beta} = \beta x^{\beta-1}$, $\beta \geq 1$,

$$E_p^\beta(n) \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} b_{\beta,p} n^{1-p/2}, \quad 2\beta + 2p - p\beta > 0,$$

with

$$b_{\beta,p} = \frac{1}{\beta^p} \frac{\Gamma(1+p)\Gamma\left(1 - \frac{p(\beta-2)}{2\beta}\right)}{\Gamma\left(2 + \frac{p}{\beta}\right)}.$$

Preliminaries: a useful (simple) Lemma

Lemma 0 (see D'A-Sportiello 2020)

Let $p \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $A(q) = a_p q^p + a_{p-1} q^{p-1} + \dots + a_0$ be a polynomial of degree at most p . Then

$$\sum_{q=0}^p \binom{p}{q} (-1)^{p-q} A(q) = p! a_p.$$

Proof. 1. $A(q) = \sum_{k=0}^p b_k q(q-1)\cdots(q-k+1)$ ($\implies b_p = a_p$).

$$\begin{aligned} 2. \sum_{q=0}^p \binom{p}{q} (-1)^{p-q} A(q) &= \sum_{k=0}^p b_k \sum_{q=k}^p \frac{p!}{q!(p-q)!} (-1)^{p-q} q(q-1)\cdots(q-k+1) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^p \frac{b_k p!}{(p-k)!} \sum_{r=0}^{p-k} \frac{(p-k)!}{r!(p-k-r)!} (-1)^{(p-k)-r} = \sum_{k=0}^p \frac{b_k p!}{(p-k)!} \delta_{p,k} = p! b_p. \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Leading asymptotics in the bulk regime

Sketch of proof

1. Lemma 0 implies

$$E_{(\beta,p),n}(k) \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \frac{1}{\Gamma(p/2+1)} x^{p/\beta} \left(\frac{-1+x^{-1}}{n\beta^2} \right)^{p/2}, \quad k = xn' \text{ (bulk)}.$$

2. Put $\Lambda = \mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$. Then $E_p^{\beta,\text{bulk}}(n) = \sum_{k=\Lambda}^n E_{(\beta,p),n}(k)$ can be transformed into an integral **without affecting the leading asymptotics**. This gives

$$E_p^{\beta,\text{bulk}}(n) \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \int_{\Lambda/n}^1 dx x^{\frac{p}{\beta} - \frac{p}{2}} P(x) n^{1-p/2},$$

for a polynomial $P(x)$. **Remark:** convergence if $2\beta + 2p - p\beta > 0$;

3. Change of variables + standard Beta- Γ identity.

Leading asymptotics in the anomalous regime

Result

Lemma 2 (anomalous regime, D'A–Sportiello 2020).

For the family of distributions $v_{fa,\beta} = \beta x^{\beta-1}$, for $\beta \geq 1$,

$$E_p^{\beta, \text{anom}}(n) \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} a_{\beta,p} n^{-p/\beta},$$

with

$$a_{\beta,p} = \Gamma(-1 - p/\beta) \sum_{q=0}^p \binom{p}{q} (-1)^q \frac{\Gamma(1 + \frac{q}{\beta}) \Gamma(1 + \frac{p-q}{\beta})}{\Gamma(-\frac{q}{\beta}) \Gamma(-\frac{p-q}{\beta})}.$$

Leading asymptotics in the anomalous regime

Sketch of proof

- Recall that for $k = o(\sqrt{n})$ (**anomalous regime**)

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\Lambda} E_{(\beta,p),n}(k) \sim n^{-p/\beta} \sum_{k=1}^{\Lambda} \frac{1}{\Gamma^2(k)} \sum_{q=0}^p \binom{p}{q} (-1)^q \Gamma\left(k + \frac{q}{\beta}\right) \Gamma\left(k + \frac{p-q}{\beta}\right);$$

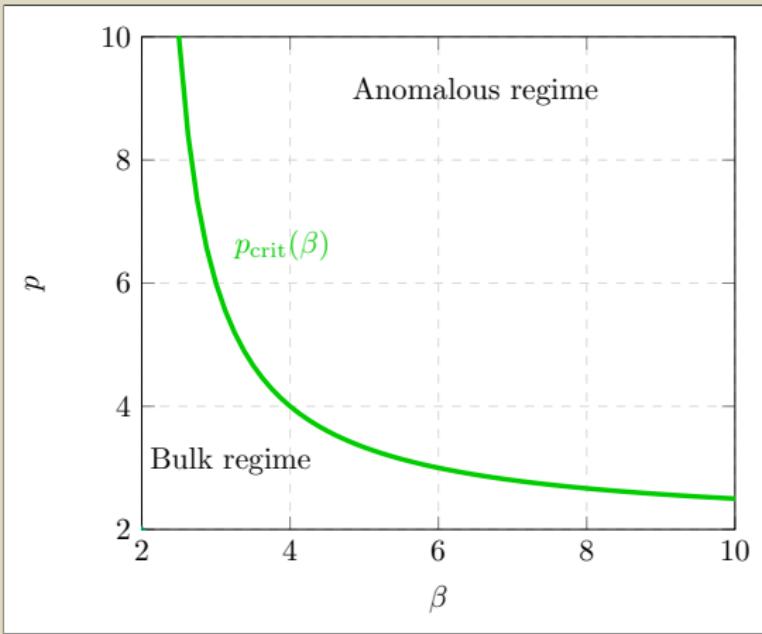
- Remark:** \sum_k^{Λ} converges if $2\beta + 2p - p\beta < 0$. In this case we can take $\Lambda \rightarrow \infty$ (we “remove the infrared cutoff”);
- Recall the hypergeometric identity

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma(k+a)\Gamma(k+b)}{\Gamma^2(k)} = \Gamma(-1-a-b) \frac{\Gamma(a+1)}{\Gamma(-a)} \frac{\Gamma(b+1)}{\Gamma(-b)}.$$

Bulk meets anomalous: The critical hyperbola

Equating leading exponents gives **the critical hyperbola**:

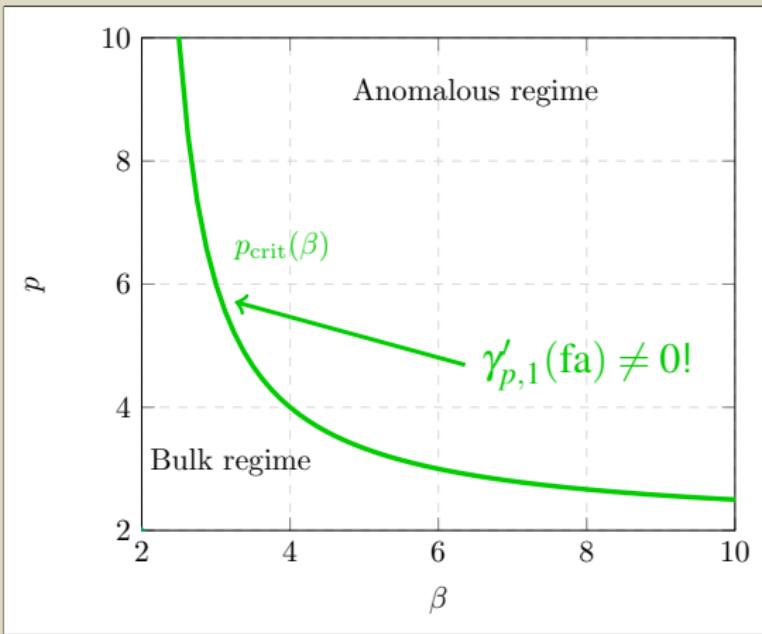
$$2\beta + 2p = p\beta, \quad p \geq 1, \beta \geq 1.$$



Bulk meets anomalous: The critical hyperbola

Equating leading exponents gives **the critical hyperbola**:

$$2\beta + 2p = p\beta, \quad p \geq 1, \beta \geq 1.$$



$\gamma'_{p,1} \neq 0$ along the critical hyperbola

Main result

Theorem 1 (D'A-Sportiello 2020)

For the family of distributions $v_{fa,\beta}(x) = \beta x^{\beta-1}$, for $\beta \geq 1$,

$$E_p^\beta(n) \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \frac{p!}{(p/2)!} \left(\frac{p-2}{2p} \right)^p n^{1-p/2} \log n, \quad 2\beta + 2p = p\beta.$$

Thus along the critical hyperbola:

$$\gamma_{p,1} = 1 - \frac{p}{2}, \quad \gamma'_{p,1} = 1$$

independently on β !

$\gamma'_{p,1} \neq 0$ along the critical hyperbola

Sketch of proof

1. Here $E_{(n,p)} \sim E_{(n,p)}^{\text{bulk}} + E_{(n,p)}^{\text{anom}}$ at leading order in n . We need to keep a **finite cutoff** $1 \ll \Lambda(n) \ll n$ throughout the calculation.

2.

$$E_{(n,p)}^{\text{bulk}} = \int_{\Lambda/n}^1 dx \frac{1+xR(x)}{x} \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \int_{\Lambda/n}^1 dx \frac{1}{x} + \int_0^1 dx R(x) ,$$

where $R(x)$ is a polynomial;

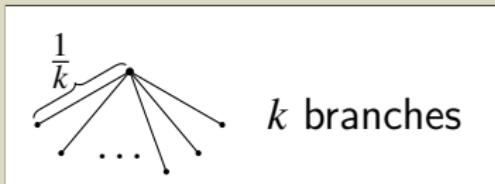
3. One proves (after some work involving several hypergeometric identities and the Gauss digamma theorem) that

$$E_{(n,p)}^{\text{anom}} = o(n^{1-p/2} \log n).$$

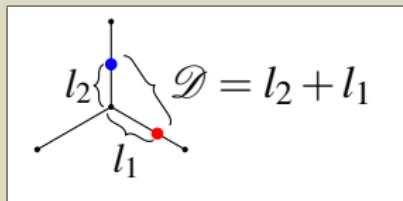
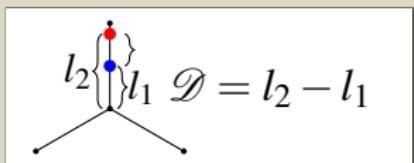
1. ERAPs on the k -star graph (W.i.p. with Caracciolo, Liu and Sportiello, 2021-)

How we choose $((\Omega, \mathcal{D}), (v_{\mathcal{B}}, v_{\mathcal{R}}), p)$:

- $\Omega = \mathbb{K}_{1,k}$ (i.e. “star” with k branches)



with distance \mathcal{D} :

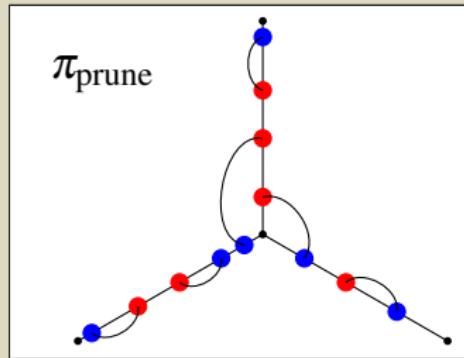
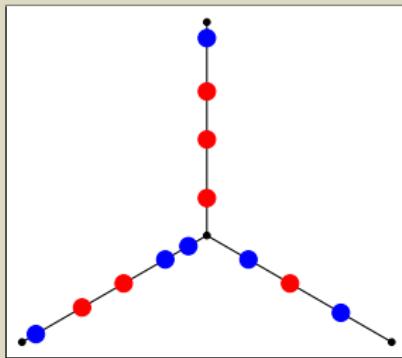


- $v_{\mathcal{B}} = v_{\mathcal{R}} = v$, $v \sim U[0, \frac{1}{k}] \otimes \mathcal{U}\{1, k\}$;
- $p \geq 1$.

On the configuration π_{prune}

IDEA: Try a canonical construction, an approximate solution sharing local ordering property with $\pi_{\text{opt}} \rightarrow \underline{\pi_{\text{prune}}}$!

Example: $k = 3$ and $n = 6$



On the configuration π_{prune}

Conjecture : $\mathbb{E}_v \left[\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt}}^{(p)} \right]_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sim \mathbb{E}_v \left[\mathcal{H}_{\text{prune}}^{(p)} \right], \quad p \geq 1.$

Consequence: $\gamma_{p,1}^{(k)} = 1 - \frac{p}{2}, \quad \gamma'_{p,1}^{(k)} = 0.$

And also explicit (and simple) formulas for limit constants!

Example: At $p = 2$

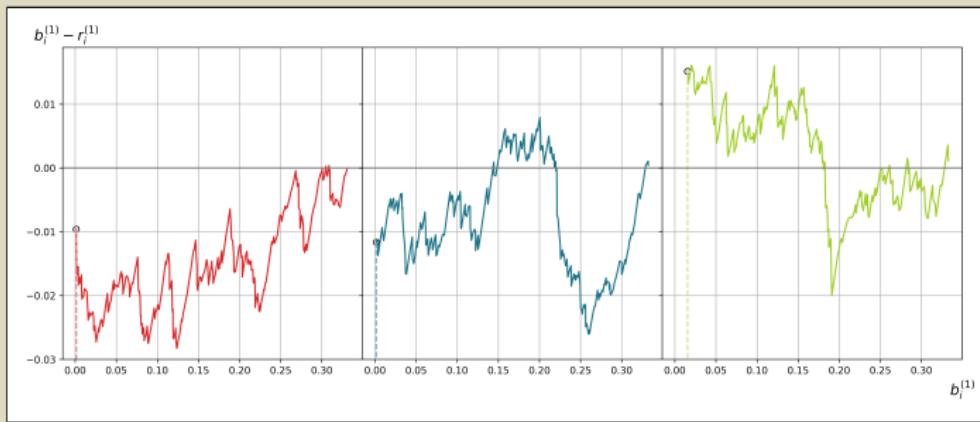
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathbb{E} \left[\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt}}^{(2)} \right] = \frac{3k - 2}{3k^2}.$$

On the configuration π_{prune}

Example: At $p = 2$, $\forall k \geq 1$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \mathbb{E} \left[\mathcal{H}_{\text{opt}}^{(2)} \right] = \frac{3k - 2}{3k^2}.$$

Sketch of proof: k independent Brownian Bridges (stopped at $\frac{1}{k}$).



2. Further implications of the Generalised Selberg Integral connection

Take $\Omega = [0, 1]$, $\mathcal{D} = |\cdot|$ and $v_{\mathcal{B}} = v_{\mathcal{R}} := v = \mathbf{1}_{[0,1]}(x)$.
 (Caracciolo *et al.* 2019) has shown, for integer ℓ ,

$$\mathbb{E}[|b_k - r_k|^\ell] = \frac{\Gamma^2(n+1)\Gamma(k + \frac{\ell}{2})\Gamma(n-k+1 + \frac{\ell}{2})\Gamma(1+\ell)}{\Gamma(k)\Gamma(n-k+1)\Gamma(n+1 + \frac{\ell}{2})\Gamma(n+1+\ell)\Gamma(1 + \frac{\ell}{2})}.$$

This implies the exact formula for $E_{p,1}|_{p \geq 1}(n)$ for $f = |\cdot|^p$.

Problem*: What other choices of $f = f(|\cdot|)$ imply a “nice expression” for $E(n)$ (i.e. not necessarily involving hypergeometric functions) after resummation?

*Question raised by N. Enriquez during a talk given that I delivered at CIRM Marseilles - Luminy in March 2021.

Thank you for your attention!