

Random growth  
and

determinantal processes

MSRI, Sept. 02

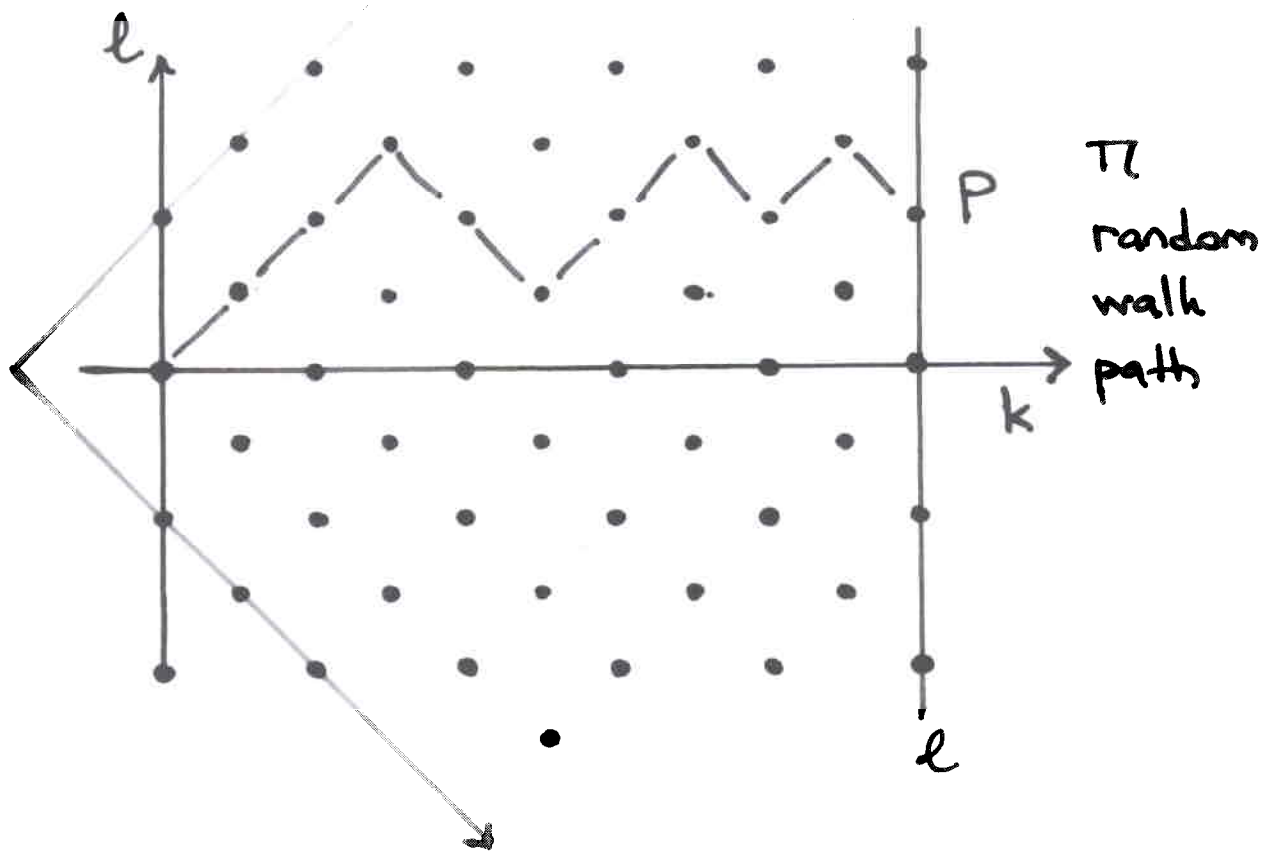
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# Directed polymer at zero temperature



$\omega(k,l)$  random energy at  $(k,l)$   
 (random environment)

$$F = \min_{\pi} \left( \sum_{(i,j) \in \pi} \omega(i,j) \right)$$

minimum over all paths from  $(0,0)$  to  $l$  (point to line) or from  $(0,0)$  to  $P$ , some fixed point on  $l$  (point to point)

Conjecture:

$$\text{Fluctuations in } F \sim N^{1/3} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Fluctuations in the endpoint} \sim N^{2/3} \quad (2)$$

(point to line) (superdiffusive)

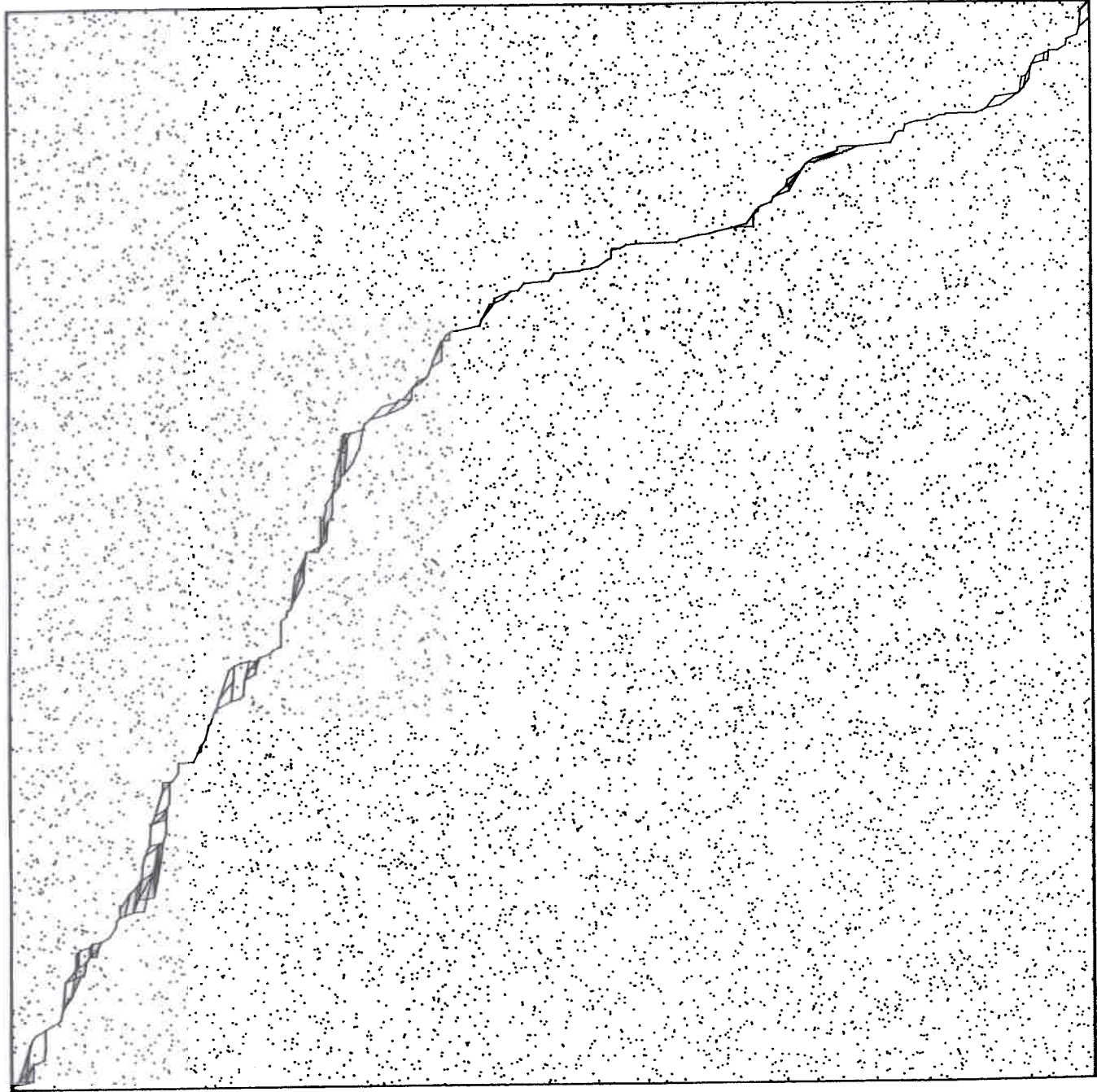
$\ell$  has  $k = 2N$

The results of Baik-Deift-J. on longest increasing subsequences in random permutations establishes (1) for a special random environment.

Also gives law of the fluctuations.

10000 random points ; N = 10000

B



A

(Franz Merkl)

Up/right paths through the random points between A and B. Pick up as many as possible.

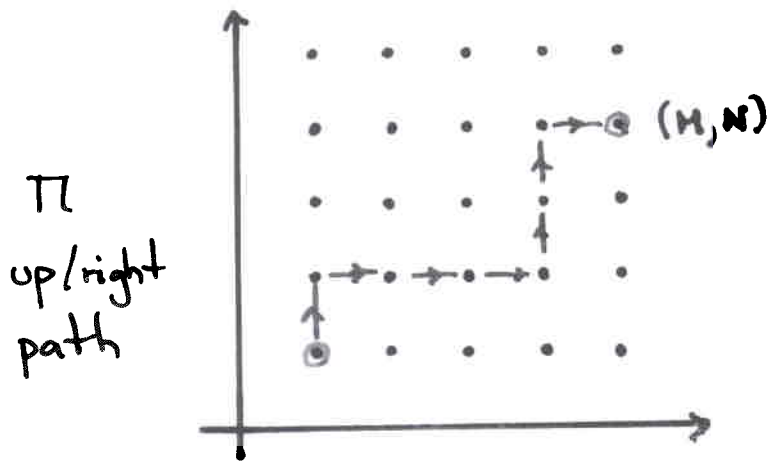
$$\text{Mean} \sim 2\sqrt{N} \quad ; \quad \text{SD} \sim (\sqrt{N})^{1/3}$$

# A directed last-passage percolation model

$w(i,j)$  independent geometric random variables

$$P[w(i,j) = m] = (1-q)q^m, \quad m \geq 0,$$

$$(i,j) \in \mathbb{Z}_+^2$$



point to point

$$G(M,N) = \max_{\pi} \sum_{(i,j) \in \pi} w(i,j)$$

$$q = \alpha/N^2$$

$$G(N,N) \xrightarrow{D} L(\alpha),$$

the length of the longest increasing subsequence  
in a random permutation from  $S_M$ ,  $M \in \text{Po}(\alpha)$ .

(Ullman's problem)

Thm. (J. '99)

$$P \left[ \frac{G(N, N) - \omega N}{\sigma N^{1/2}} \leq \xi \right] \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} F_2(\xi)$$

(point to point)

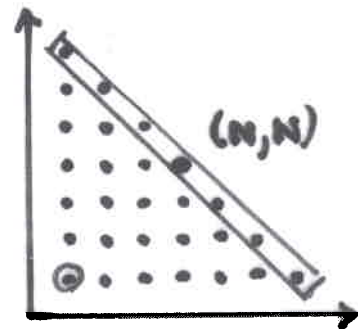
Tracy-Widom  
distribution  
(GUE,  $\beta=2$ )

Consider all the variables

$$G(N+k, N-k), \quad -N < k < N,$$

a process

(point to line)



Thm. (Baik-Rains, '00)

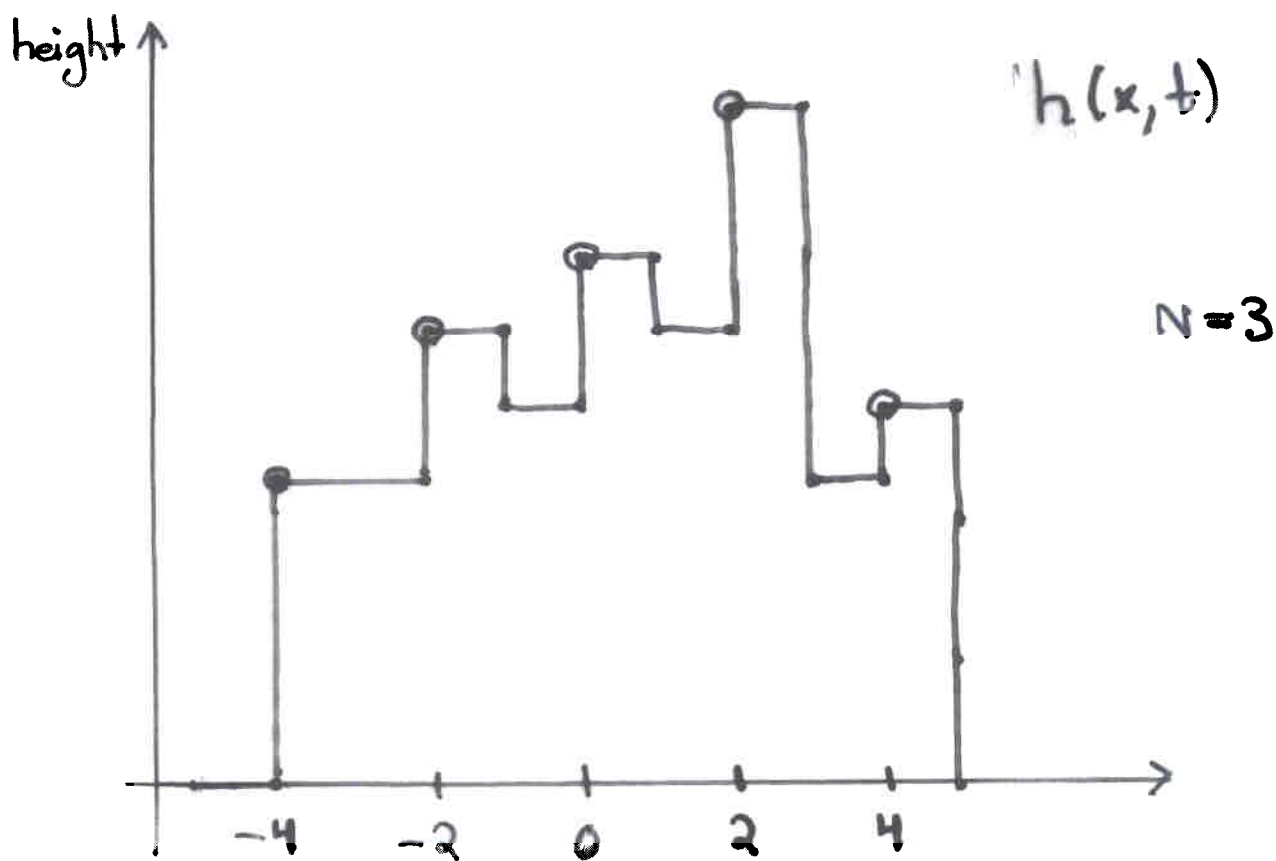
$$G_{pl}(N) = \max_{|k| < N} G(N+k, N-k)$$

$$P \left[ \frac{G_{pl}(N) - \omega N}{\sigma N^{1/2}} \leq \xi \right] \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} F_1(\xi)$$

TW-distr.

# Random growth

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$$G(N+K, N-K) = h(2K, 2N-1)$$

Growth rule based on

$$G(M, N) = \max(G(M-1, N), G(M, N-1)) + w(M, N)$$

Polynuclear growth model

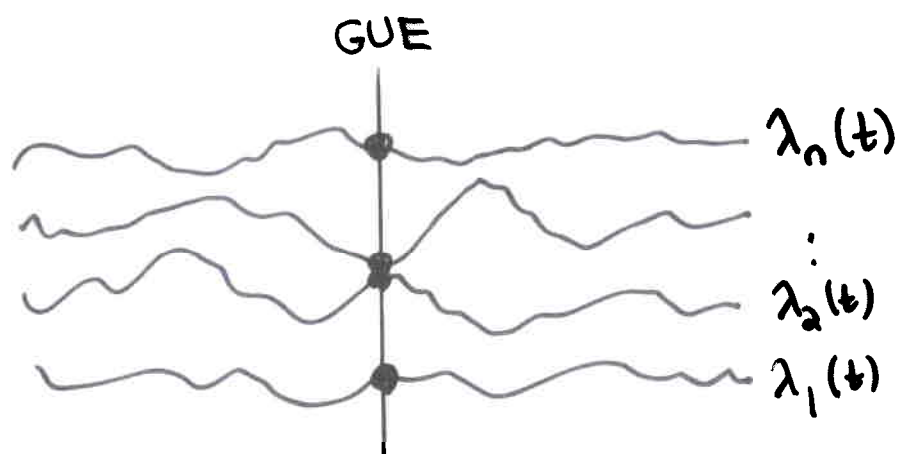
(Prähofer-Spohn in the permutation limit)

Introduce the rescaled process

$$H_N(cN^{-2/3}K) = \frac{1}{bN^{1/3}} (G(N+K, N-K) - aN);$$

extend to  $t \rightarrow H_N(t)$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , by linear interpolation.

Dyson's GUE Brownian motion



Airy process (Prähofer-Spohn)

$$A(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{2} n^{1/6} (\lambda_n(n^{-1/3}t) - \sqrt{2n})$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_n(t) = \sqrt{2n} \lambda_n(t/n); \text{ exponents } 1/3, 2/3.$$



Finite dimensional distributions

$$\mathbb{P} [ A(\tau_1) \leq \xi_1, \dots, A(\tau_m) \leq \xi_m ]$$

$$= \det \left( \mathbb{I} + \int_{\xi_1, \dots, \xi_m} K^{\text{ext. Airy}} \right)_{L^2(\{\tau_1, \dots, \tau_m\} \times \mathbb{R})}$$

where

$$\int_{\xi_1, \dots, \xi_m} K^{\text{ext. Airy}}(\tau_j, x) = -\chi_{(\xi_j, \infty)}(x)$$

Note

$$\mathbb{P} [ A(\tau) \leq \xi ] = F_2(\xi) \quad \text{TW-distribution}$$

Extension of the Tracy-Widom distribution.

Thm. (J. '02) (Functional limit theorem)

$$H_N(t) \Rightarrow A(t) - t^2$$

as  $N \rightarrow \infty$  in  $C(-T, T)$ , any  $T > 0$ .

Together with the Baik-Rains result this implies:

Thm. (J. '02)

$$F_1(\xi) = \mathbb{P} \left[ \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} (A(t) - t^2) \leq \xi \right].$$

Let  $K_N$  be the leftmost point where  $H_N(t)$  assumes its maximum, and  $K$  the same thing for  $A(t) - t^2$ .

Thm (J. '02) If  $A(t) - t^2$  has a unique global maximum almost surely, then

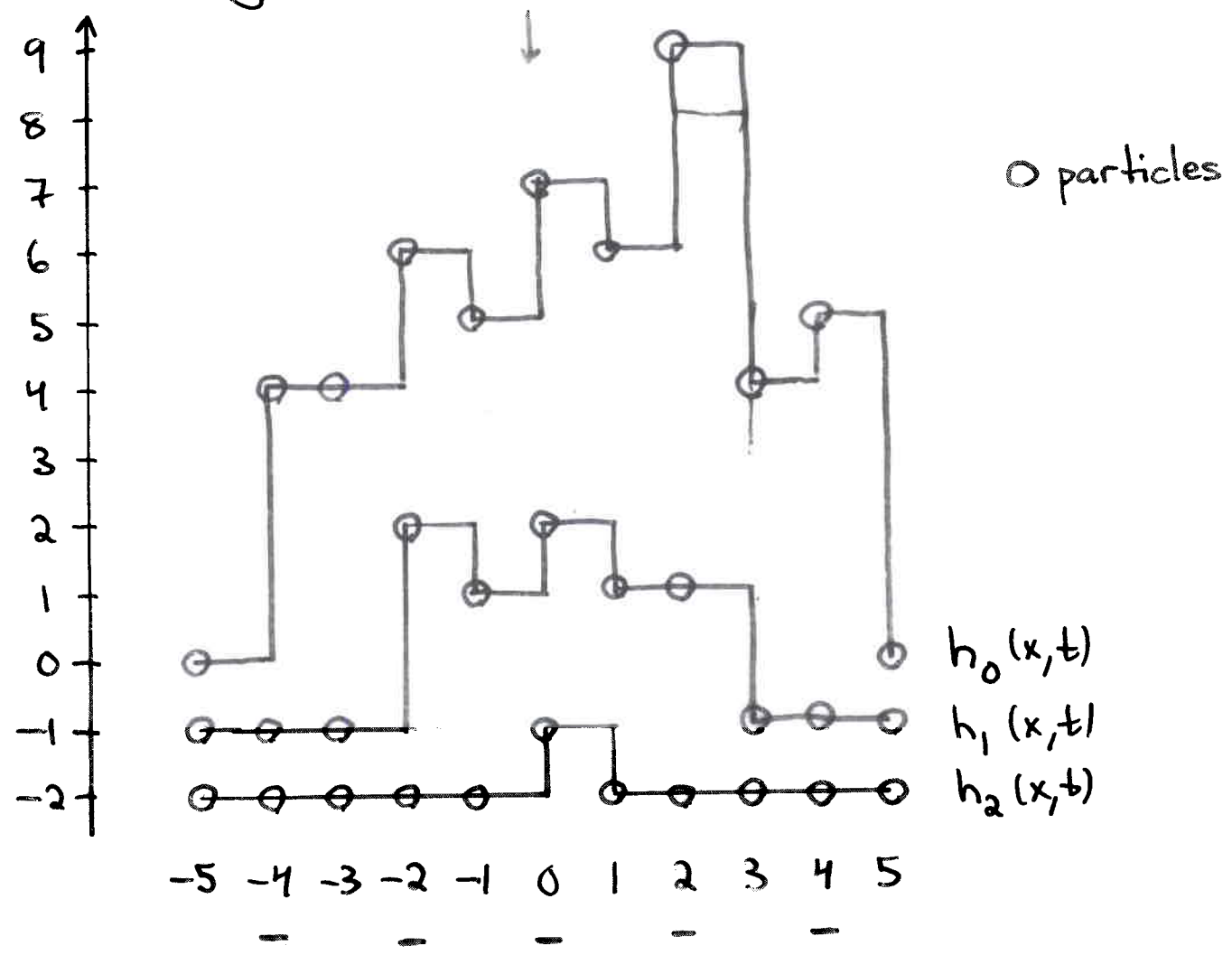
$$K_N \xrightarrow{D} K \quad \text{as } N \rightarrow \infty$$

Law of  $K$  = Law of Transversal Fluctuations

0  
 1 1  
 0 1 1  
 1 1 2 → 3  
 ↑  
 1 → 2 → 1 0 1

$N = 3$   
 $M = 2 \cdot 3 - 1 = 5$

There is a 1-1 - correspondence which maps this into a family of non-intersecting paths:



$G(N+k, N-k) = h_0(2k, 2N-1)$

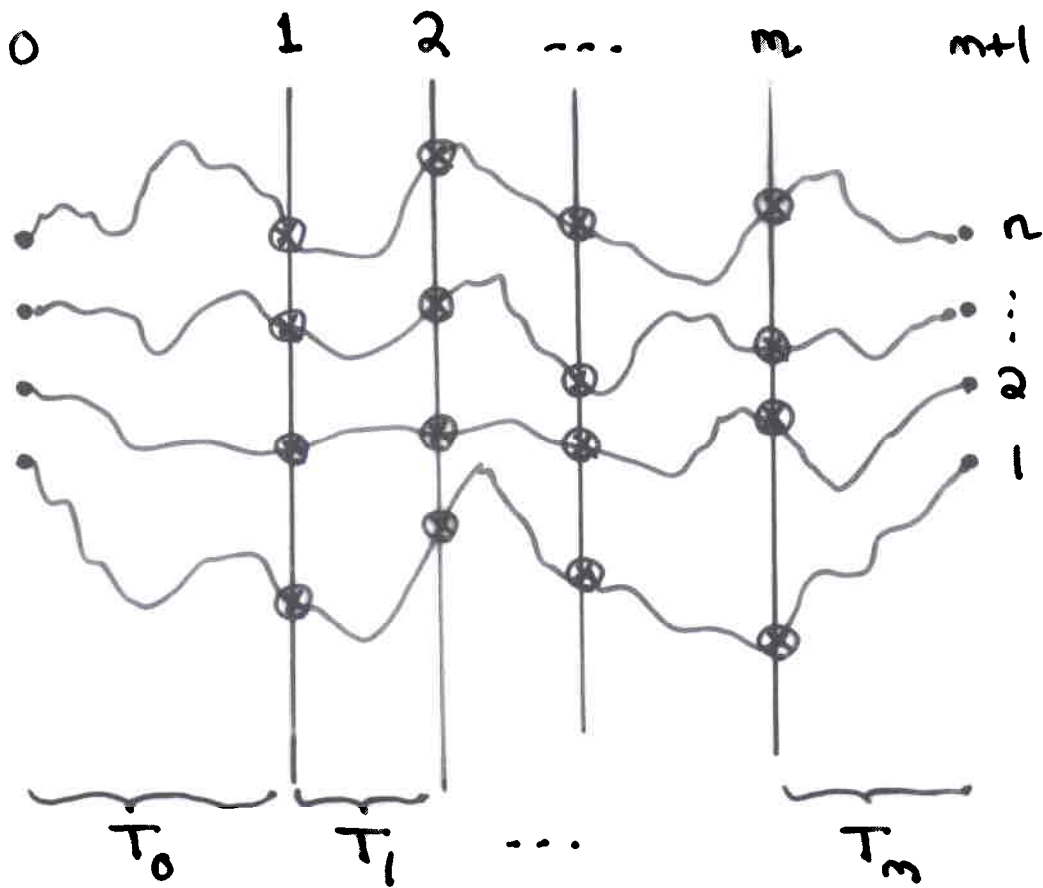
The measure on the particle configuration is given by a product of determinants by the Karlin-McGregor thm. / Lindström-Gessel-Viennot method.

Fits into the Schur process introduced by Okounkov-Reshetikhin.

Determinantal process, i.e. the correlation functions are determinants with a certain kernel as in  $\beta=2$  RMT.

There is an explicit double integral formula for the kernel.

Eynard-Mehta analysis of coupled matrices



Measure

$$\frac{1}{Z} \prod_{j=0}^m \det \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi T_j}} e^{-\frac{(x_{\sigma}^{j+1} - x_{\tau}^j)^2}{2T_j}} \right)_{\substack{1 \leq r, s \leq n}} \underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\varphi_{j,j+1}(x_{\tau}^j, x_{\sigma}^{j+1})}$$

(Karlin-McGregor thm.)

Determinantal correlation functions  
with kernel

$$K(j, x; k, y) = \tilde{K}(j, x; k, y) - \varphi_{j, k}(x, y) \\ = 0 \text{ if } j \geq k$$

$$\tilde{K}(j, x; k, y) = \sum_{r, s=1}^n \varphi_{r, m+1}(x, x_r^{m+1}) (A^{-1})_{rs} \varphi_{0, s}(x_s^0, y)$$

where

$$A = (\varphi_{0, m+1}(x_r^0, x_s^{m+1}))_{r, s=1, \dots, n}$$

(Proved using ideas from Eynard-Mehta)

Scaling limit

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$$T_j = t_j T, \quad x_r^j = \sqrt{s_j T} \lambda_r^j$$

let  $T \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\frac{1}{Z'} \prod_{r=1}^n \prod_{j=1}^m e^{-V_j(\lambda_r^j)} \Delta_n(\lambda^1) \Delta_n(\lambda^m) \cdot \prod_{j=1}^{m-1} \det(e^{c_j \lambda_r^j \lambda_s^{j+1}})_{1 \leq r, s \leq n} \quad (*)$$

where

$$V_j(\xi) = s_j \left( \frac{1}{t_{j-1}} + \frac{1}{t_j} \right) \xi^2$$

$$c_j = \frac{1}{t_j} \sqrt{s_j s_{j+1}}$$

(\*) corresponds to the coupled matrix model:

$$\frac{1}{Z} e^{-\sum_{j=1}^m \text{tr} V_j(A_j) + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} c_j \text{tr}(A_j A_{j+1})}$$

In this case the correlation kernel can be written as a double integral formula.

$$S_j = 2(t_0 + \dots + t_{j-1}) \quad , \quad t_m \rightarrow \infty$$

$$S_j = e^{2(\tau_1 + \dots + \tau_{j-1})} \quad , \quad S_1 = 1$$

The matrix  $A_j = H(\tau_j)$ , where  $\tau \rightarrow H(\tau)$  is Dyson's GUE Brownian motion (independent matrix elements evolve according to Ornstein-Uhlenbeck processes).



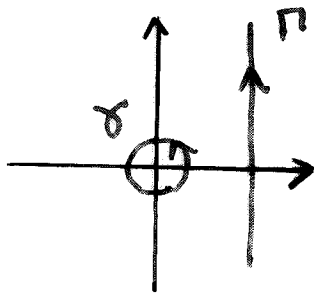
For Dyson's BM we get the correlation kernel (Forrester-Nagao-Honner)

$$K(\tau_1, \lambda; \tau_2, \mu) = \tilde{K}(\tau_1, \lambda; \tau_2, \mu) - \Psi_{\tau_1, \tau_2}(\lambda, \mu)$$

where

$$\tilde{K}(\tau_1, \lambda; \tau_2, \mu) = \frac{\sqrt{2} e^{(\tau_1 - \tau_2)/2}}{(2\pi i)^2} e^{n(\tau_1 - \tau_2)}$$

$$\times \int_{\gamma} dz \int_{\Gamma} dw \frac{w^n}{z^n} \frac{1}{we^{\tau_1 - \tau_2 - z}} e^{-z^2/2 + \sqrt{2}\lambda z + w^2/2 - \sqrt{2}\mu w}$$



(Can be expanded in terms of Hermite polynomials.)

$$\Psi_{\tau_1, \tau_2}(\lambda, \mu) = \frac{\sqrt{2} e^{(\tau_1 - \tau_2)/2}}{\sqrt{2\pi(1 - e^{2(\tau_1 - \tau_2)})}} e^{-\frac{1}{1 - e^{2(\tau_1 - \tau_2)}} (e^{\tau_1 - \tau_2} \lambda - \mu)^2}$$

if  $\tau_1 \leq \tau_2$ ; = 0 otherwise.

The Airy process is a natural limit process

Extension of the Tracy-Widom distribution

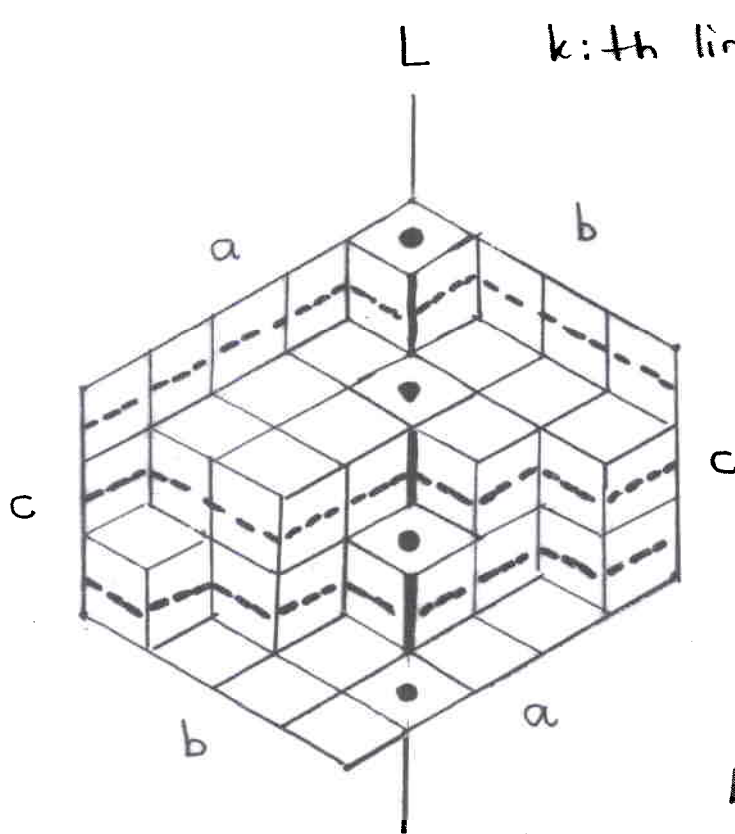
Are there differential equations for the joint distribution function?

$$F(\tau, \xi_1, \xi_2) = \mathbb{P}[A(0) \leq \xi_1, A(\tau) \leq \xi_2]$$

$F(0, \xi, \xi)$  related to  $P_{II}$ .

Connection with integrable systems?

- Random rhombus tilings of a hexagon



$k$ :th line from the left,  
 $0 \leq k \leq a+b$

$$a \geq b$$

$$\alpha = |a-k|$$

$$\beta = |b-k|$$

$$N = n + c$$

random walk paths

Lock step model

- marks the position of the "vertical rhombi" that the line  $L$  intersects.

Let their positions, counting from the bottom and starting with zero, be  $h_1, \dots, h_n$ . The probability of having vertical rhombi at these positions is

$$\frac{1}{Z} \Delta_n(h)^2 \prod_{j=1}^n \frac{(N+\alpha-h_j)! (\beta+h_j)!}{h_j! (N-h_j)!}$$

Hahn  
ensemble

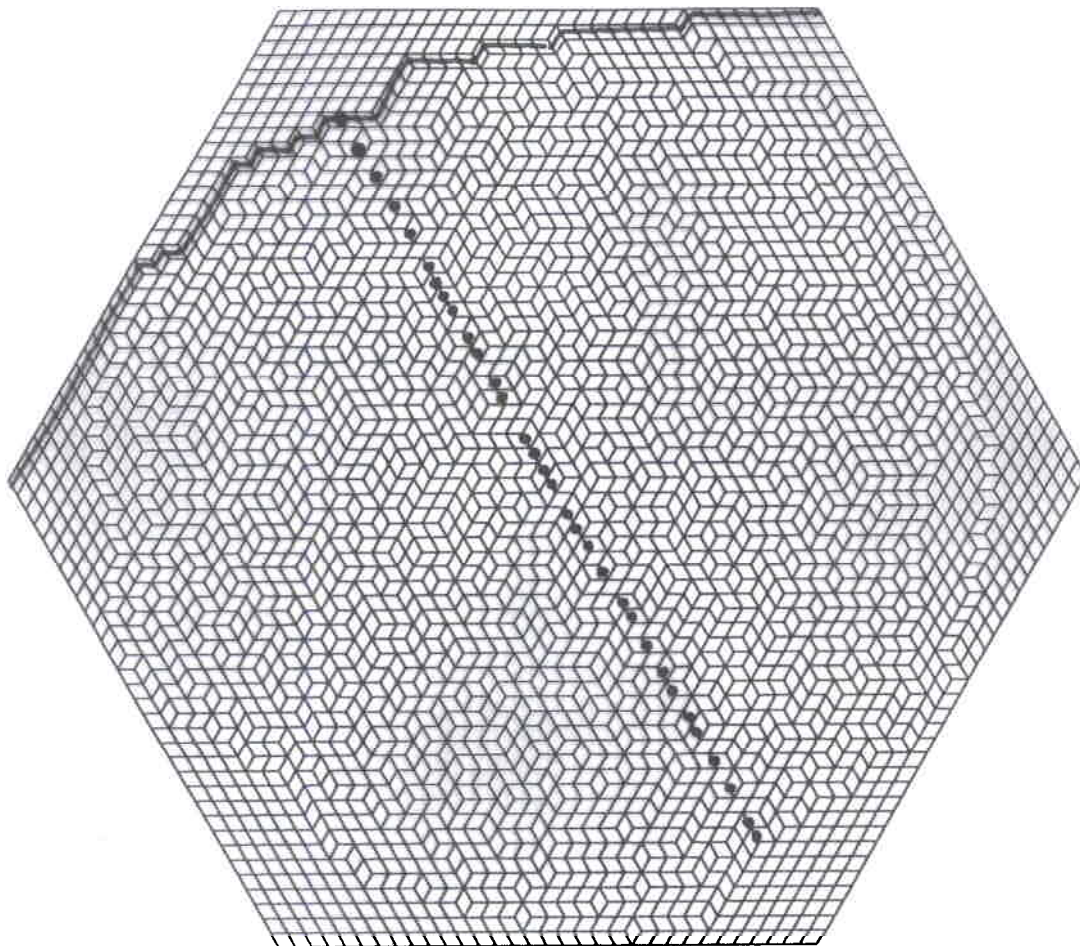


FIGURE 2. A random lozenge tiling of a 32, 32, 32 hexagon.