

Bari, September 29 - October 1, 2004

Fields for Trees and Forests



with

Jesper Lykke Jacobsen

Hubert Saleur

Alan D. Sokal

Andrea Sportiello

Physical Review Letters 93 (2004) 080601

Forests and trees



Saguaro cacti forest on hillside, West Unit.
Saguaro National Park, Arizona, USA.

Let $G=(V,E)$ be a finite undirected graph with vertex set V and edge set E .

$$Z_G(q, \mathbf{v}) = \sum_{A \subseteq E} q^{k(A)} \prod_{e \in A} v_e$$

where q and $\mathbf{v} = \{v_e\}_{e \in E}$ are commuting indeterminates, and $k(A)$ denotes the number of connected components in the subgraph (V,A)

$$Z_G(q, \mathbf{v})$$

is the multivariate **Tutte** polynomial of **G**
alias Potts model (for integer q)
 with Boltzmann weight $e^{-\beta H}$ with Hamiltonian

$$H = - \sum_{e \in E} J_e \delta \left(\sigma_{x_1(e)}, \sigma_{x_2(e)} \right)$$

$x_{1,2}(e)$ end-points of the edge

$$v_e = e^{\beta J_e} - 1 \in [-1, \infty] \quad (\text{Fortuin-Kasteleyn})$$

$$\sigma : V \mapsto \{1, 2, \dots, q\}$$

in the limit $q \rightarrow 0$ at **fixed** $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{v}/q$

$$\lim_{q \rightarrow 0} q^{-|V|} Z_G(q, q\mathbf{w}) = F_G(\mathbf{w})$$

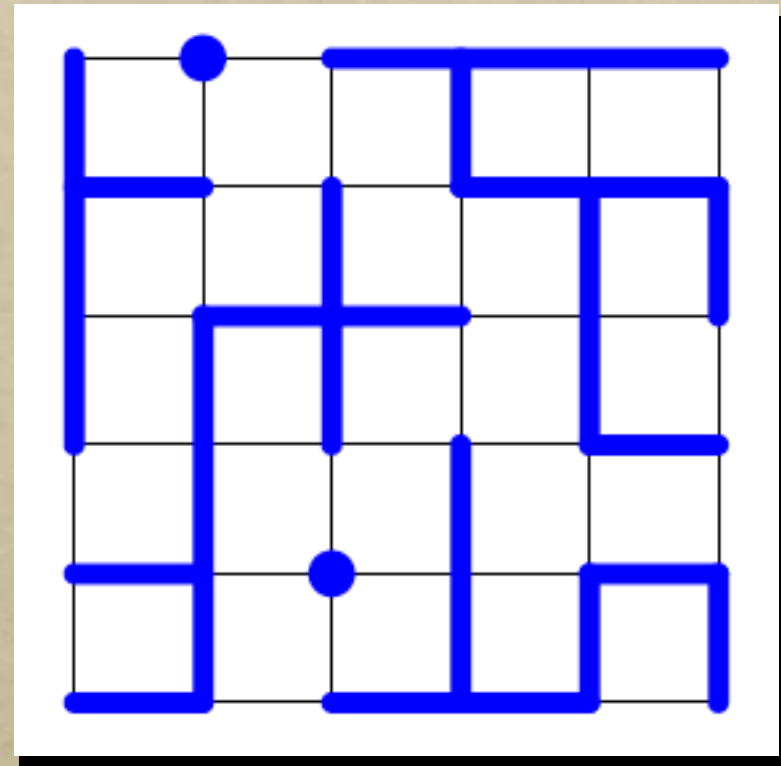
where

$$F_G(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{\substack{A \subseteq E \\ c(A)=0}} \prod_{e \in A} w_e$$

is the generating polynomial of **spanning forests**

$$c(A) = k(A) - |V| + |A|$$

is the cyclomatic number (no. of independent cycles)



A **forest** is a subgraph of G if it contains no cycles and is called **spanning** if its vertex set is exactly V

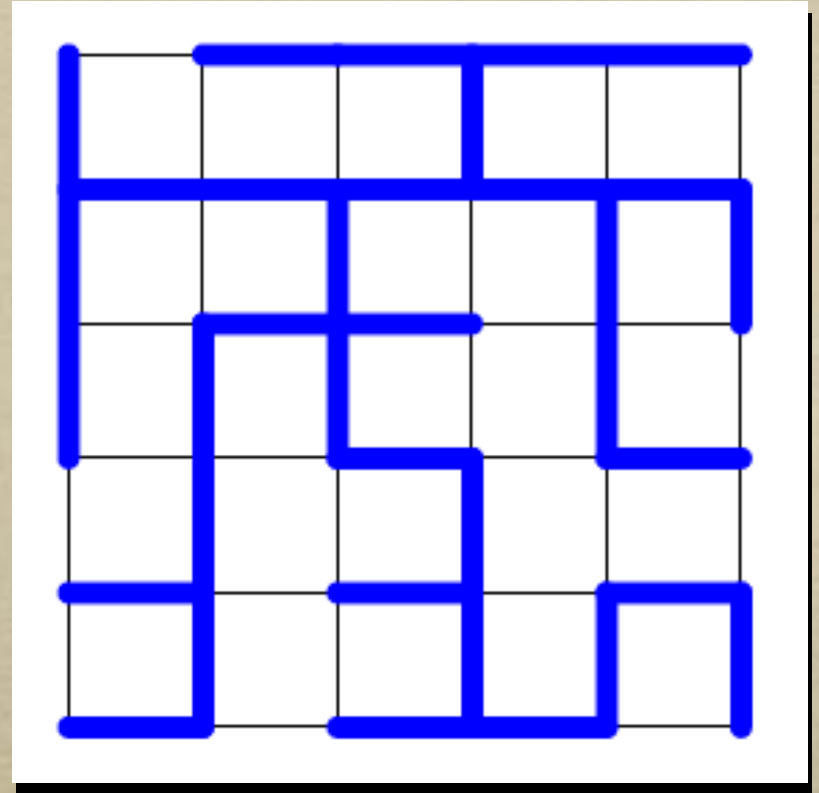
the limit

$$\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \lambda^{k(G) - |V|} F_G(\lambda \mathbf{w}) = T_G(\mathbf{w})$$

where

$$T_G(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{\substack{A \subseteq E \\ k(A) = k(G) \\ c(A) = 0}} \prod_{e \in A} w_e$$

is the generating polynomial of **spanning trees**
(spanning forests with the maximal number of
edges)



A **tree** is a subgraph of **G** if it is connected and contains no cycles, and is called **spanning** if its vertex set is exactly **V**.

The **matrix-tree** theorem (1847)

*Gustav Robert
Kirchhoff*

(electrical circuit theory)



Ann. Phys. Chem. 72, 497 (1847)

For $i \neq j$ let $w_{ij} = w_{ji}$ be the sum of w_e over all edges e that connect i to j .

The (weighted) Laplacian L matrix for the graph G is defined by

$$L_{ij} = \begin{cases} -w_{ij} & \text{for } i \neq j \\ \sum_{k \neq i} w_{ik} & \text{for } i = j \end{cases}$$

Let $L(i)$ be the matrix obtained from L by deleting the i -th row and column, then

$$\det L(i) = T_G(\mathbf{w})$$

independently from the root i (which in electrical-circuit language is the choice of the ground)

Grass field




Grassmann field

Introduce at each vertex i a pair of Grassmann variables

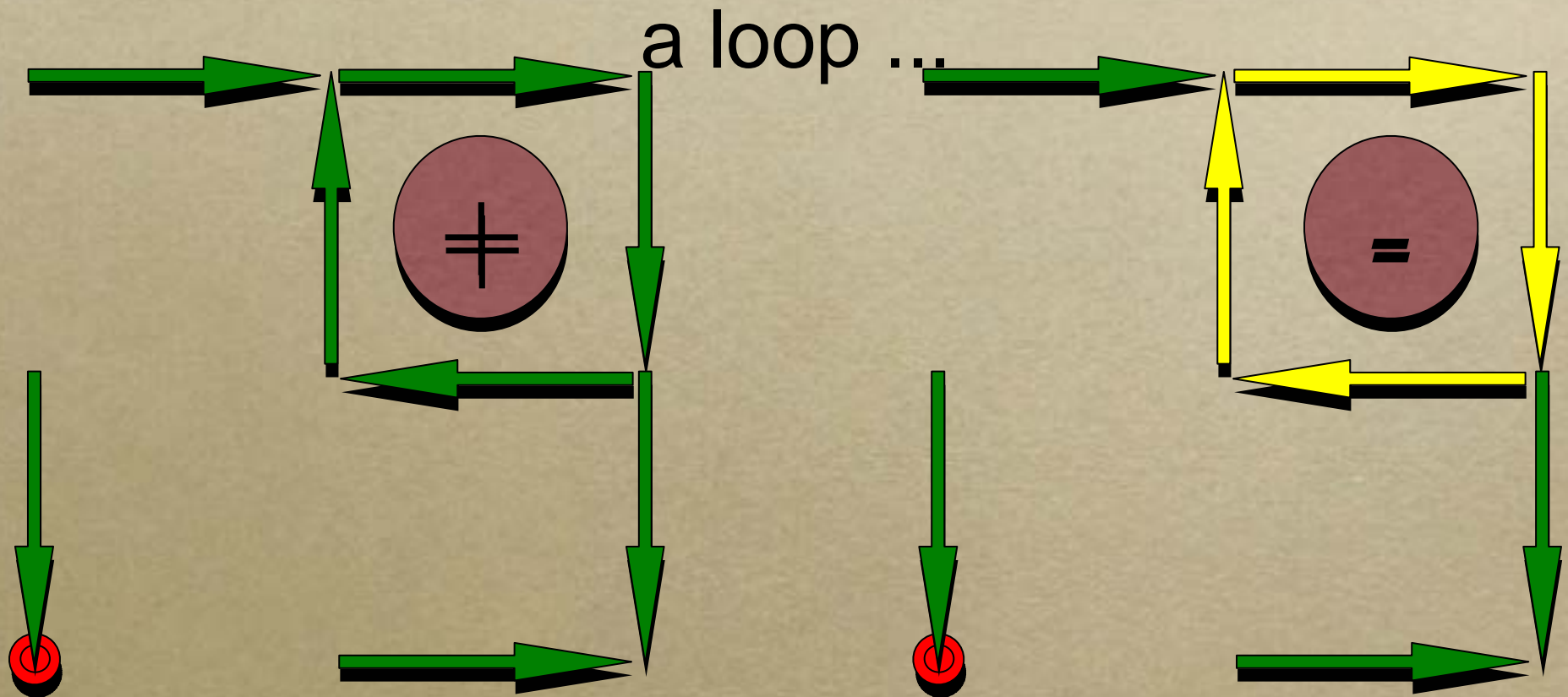
$$\psi_i, \bar{\psi}_i$$

$$\det L(i) = \int \mathcal{D}(\psi, \bar{\psi}) \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i e^{\bar{\psi} L \psi}$$

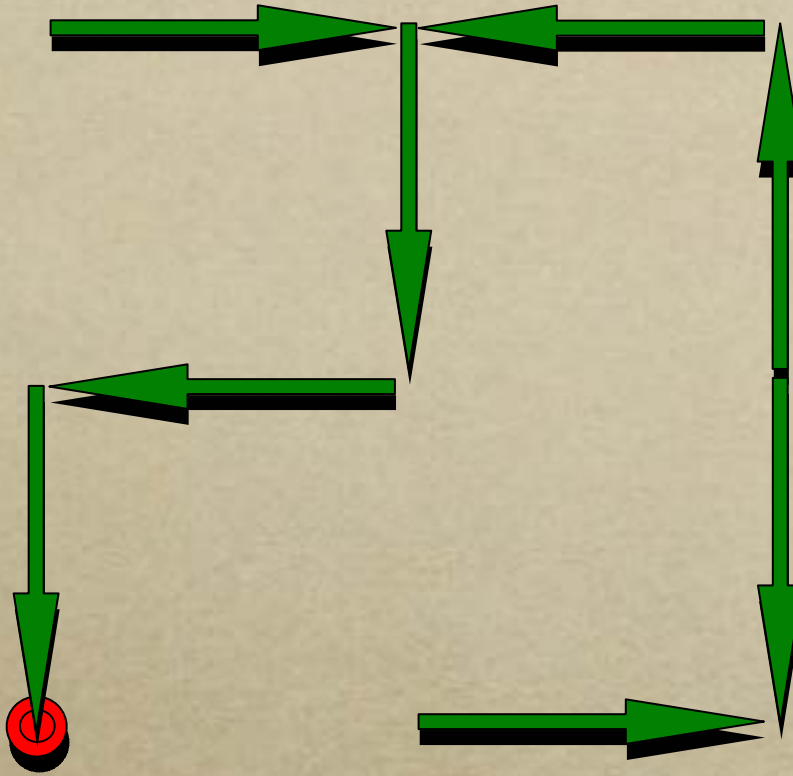
$$\mathcal{D}(\psi, \bar{\psi}) = \prod_{k \in V} d\psi_k d\bar{\psi}_k$$

$$\bar{\psi} L \psi = \sum_{i \neq j} [-\bar{\psi}_i w_{ij} \psi_j + \bar{\psi}_i w_{ij} \psi_i]$$


We must have both fields at each vertex, lines must end in a root by a green line, but if there is



$$\bar{\psi}_1 \psi_1 \bar{\psi}_2 \psi_2 \bar{\psi}_3 \psi_3 \bar{\psi}_3 \psi_3 = -\bar{\psi}_1 \psi_2 \bar{\psi}_2 \psi_3 \bar{\psi}_3 \psi_4 \bar{\psi}_4 \psi_1$$



green lines must finish somewhere: **at the root!**

Only one connected component can remain,
therefore each configuration is a tree.

Principal-minors matrix-tree theorem

$$\begin{aligned}\det L(i_1, \dots, i_r) &= \int \mathcal{D}(\psi, \bar{\psi}) \prod_{k=1}^r \bar{\psi}_{i_k} \psi_{i_k} e^{\bar{\psi} L \psi} \\ &= \sum_{F \in \mathcal{F}(i_1, \dots, i_r)} \prod_{e \in F} w_e\end{aligned}$$

where the sum runs over all spanning forests composed of **r** disjoint trees, each of which contains exactly one of the **root** vertices

$$i_1, \dots, i_r$$

A Grassmann representation for
unrooted spanning forests



Let

$$Q_{\Gamma} = \left(\prod_{e \in E_{\Gamma}} w_e \right) \left(\prod_{i \in V_{\Gamma}} \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i \right)$$

for each connected subgraph $\Gamma = (V_{\Gamma}, E_{\Gamma})$

Let us try to evaluate

$$\int \mathcal{D}(\psi, \bar{\psi}) Q_{\Gamma_1} \cdots Q_{\Gamma_l} e^{\bar{\psi} L \psi}$$

If the subgraphs have one or more vertices in common this integral vanishes

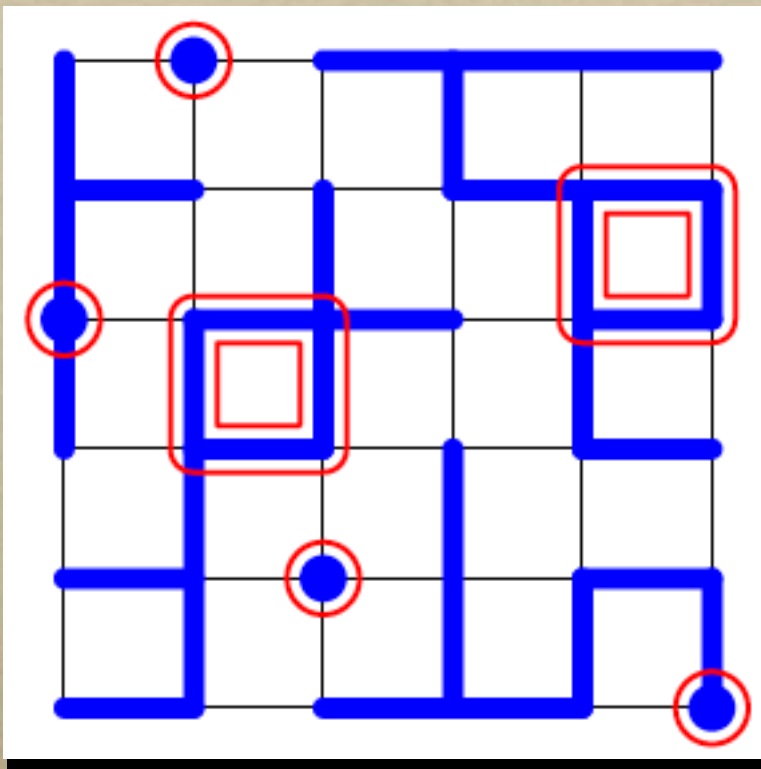
$$\left(\prod_{k=1}^l \prod_{e \in E_{\Gamma_k}} w_e \right) \int \mathcal{D}(\psi, \bar{\psi}) \left(\prod_{k=1}^l \prod_{i \in V_{\Gamma_k}} \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i \right) e^{\bar{\psi} L \psi}$$

The integral can be written as a sum over forests rooted at the vertices of

$$V_{\Gamma} = \bigcup_{k=1}^l V_{\Gamma_k}$$

All the edges of $E_{\Gamma} = \bigcup_{k=1}^l E_{\Gamma_k}$ must be absent from these forests, since otherwise two or more of the root vertices would lie in the same component.

On the other hand, by adjoining the edges of E_{Γ} , these forests can be put into one-to-one correspondence with what we shall call Γ -forests



A typical spanning \mathbf{I} -forest configuration on a portion of the square lattice.

Root subgraphs are the single-vertex graph and the square-shaped graph.

\mathbf{I} -forests are spanning subgraphs in \mathbf{G} whose edge set contains $E_{\mathbf{I}}$ and which, after deletion of the edges in $E_{\mathbf{I}}$, leaves a forest in which each tree component contains exactly one vertex from $V_{\mathbf{I}}$.

$$\int \mathcal{D}(\psi, \bar{\psi}) Q_{\Gamma_1} \cdots Q_{\Gamma_l} e^{\bar{\psi} L \psi} = \sum_{H \in \mathcal{F}_\Gamma} \prod_{e \in H} w_e$$

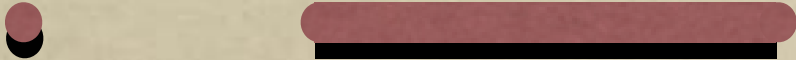
where the sum runs over all Γ -forests H . So that

$$\text{as } 1 + t_\Gamma Q_\Gamma = e^{t_\Gamma Q_\Gamma}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \mathcal{D}(\psi, \bar{\psi}) e^{\bar{\psi} L \psi + \sum_\Gamma t_\Gamma Q_\Gamma} &= \sum_\Gamma \left(\prod_{\Gamma \in \Gamma} t_\Gamma \right) \sum_{H \in \mathcal{F}_\Gamma} \prod_{e \in H} w_e \\ &= \sum_{\substack{H \text{ spanning } \subseteq G \\ H = \{H_1, \dots, H_l\}}} \left(\prod_{i=1}^l W(H_i) \right) \prod_{e \in H} w_e \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } W(H_i) = \sum_{\Gamma \prec H_i} t_\Gamma$$

Main result



$$\int \mathcal{D}(\psi, \bar{\psi}) \exp \left[\bar{\psi} L \psi + t \sum_i \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i + u \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} w_{ij} \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i \bar{\psi}_j \psi_j \right]$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{F \in \mathcal{F} \\ F = (F_1, \dots, F_l)}} \left(\prod_{i=1}^l (t |V_{F_i}| + u |E_{F_i}|) \right) \prod_{c \in F} w_c$$

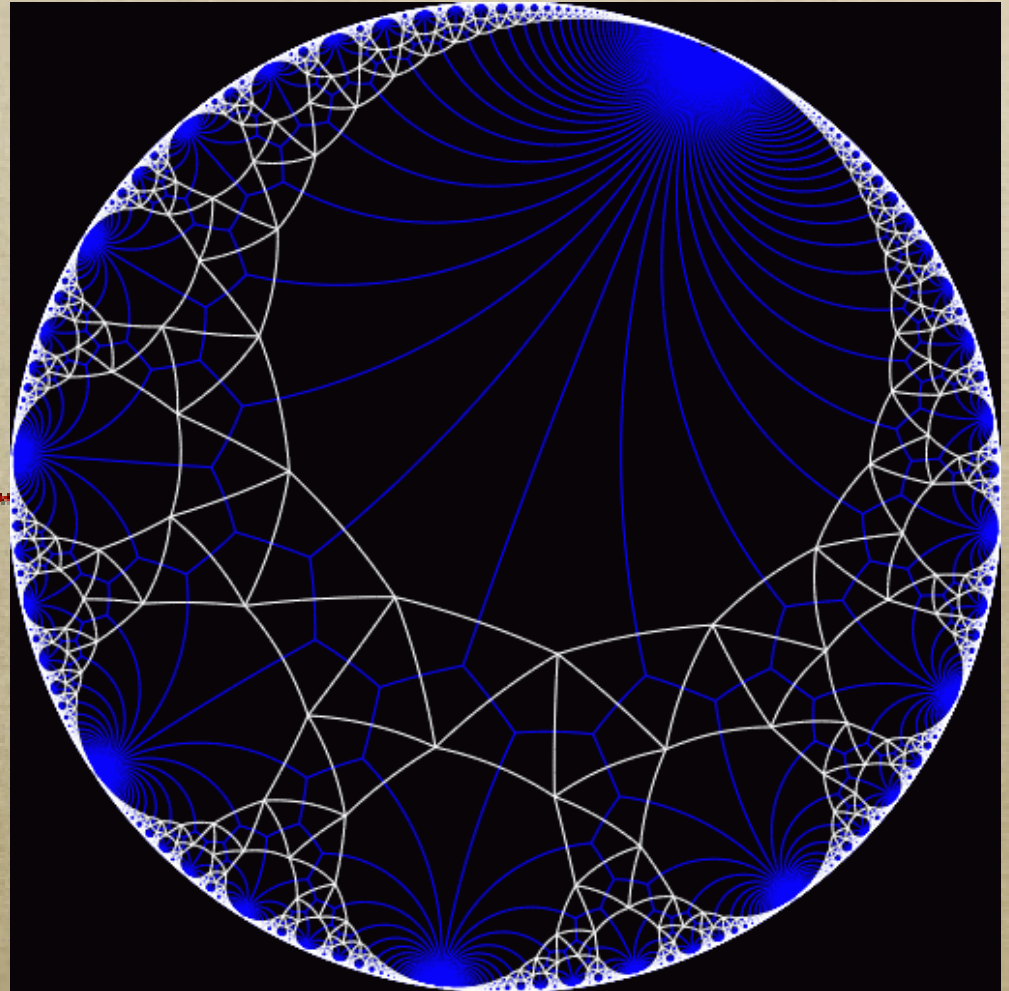
Application: $u=-t$

since for each tree $|V_{F_i}| - |E_{F_i}| = 1$

$$\int \mathcal{D}(\psi, \bar{\psi}) \exp \left[\bar{\psi} L \psi + t \sum_i \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i - t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} w_{ij} \bar{\psi}_i \psi_i \bar{\psi}_j \psi_j \right]$$
$$= t^{|V|} F_G(\mathbf{w}/t)$$

we obtain the generating function of unrooted spanning forests with a weight t for each component

Is there a symmetry to fix this
coupling constant relation?



Mapping onto Lattice σ -Models

Recall that the N -vector model consists of spins

with Boltzmann weight $\sigma_i \in \mathbb{R}^N$ $i \in V$ $|\sigma_i|^2 = 1$ where $e^{-\mathcal{H}}$

$$\mathcal{H} = -T^{-1} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} w_{ij} (\sigma_i \cdot \sigma_j - 1)$$

T is the temperature

Low-temperature **perturbation** theory is obtained by writing (and expanding in powers of π)

$$\sigma_i = \left(\sqrt{1 - T \pi_i^2}, T^{1/2} \pi_i \right)$$

Taking into account the Jacobian,
the effective Hamiltonian is

$$\mathcal{H}' = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} L_{ij} \pi_i \cdot \pi_j - \frac{T}{2} \sum_i \pi_i^2 - \frac{T}{4} \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} w_{ij} \pi_i^2 \pi_j^2 + O(\pi_i^4, \pi_j^4)$$

When $N = -1$, the bosonic field π has -2 components, and so can be replaced by a Grassmann pair if we make the substitution

$$\pi_i \cdot \pi_j \rightarrow \psi_i \bar{\psi}_j - \bar{\psi}_i \psi_j$$

Higher powers of π vanish due to the nilpotence of the Grassmann fields and we obtain the spanning-forest if we identify $t=-T, u=T$ (anti-ferromagnetic N -vector model)

Supersymmetric formulation

An alternate mapping can be obtained by introducing at each site, the superfield

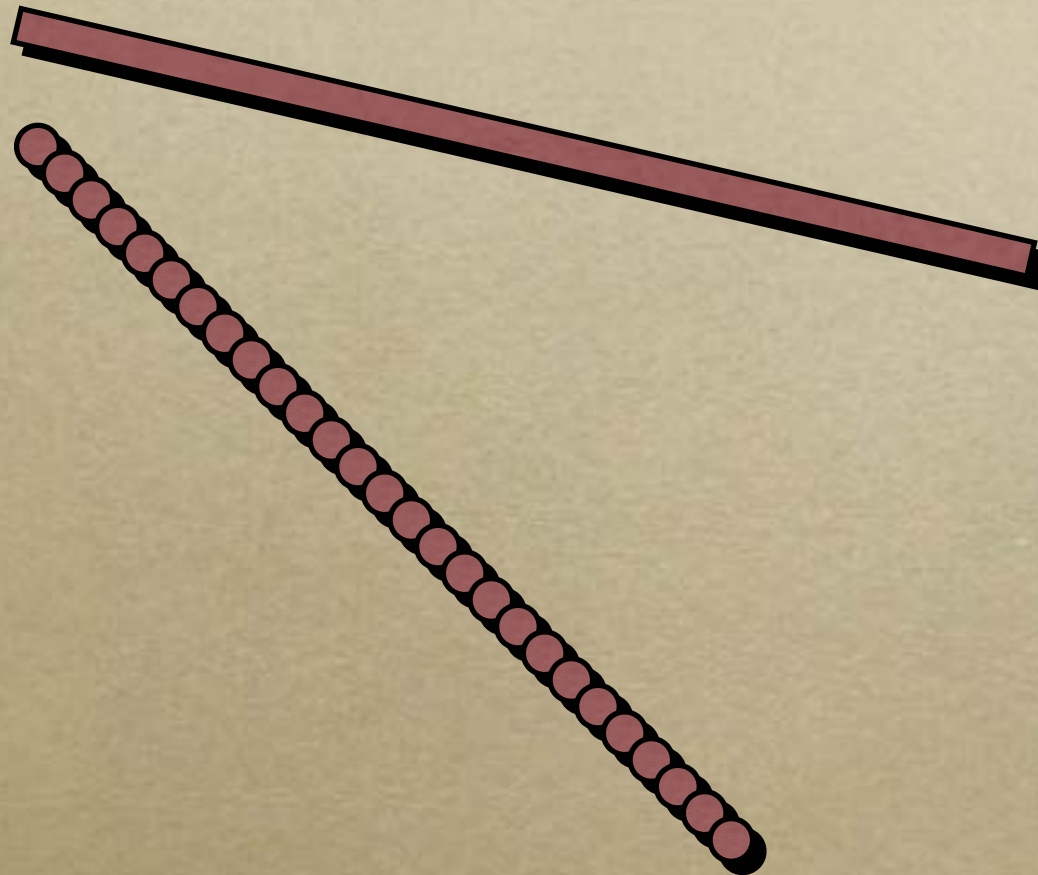
$$\vec{\sigma}_i = (\varphi_i, \psi_i, \bar{\psi}_i)$$

with scalar product

$$\vec{\sigma}_i \cdot \vec{\sigma}_j = \varphi_i \varphi_j + t(\bar{\psi}_i \psi_j - \psi_i \bar{\psi}_j)$$

This corresponding σ -model,
is invariant under the supergroup $OSP(1/2)$

Continuum limit



Suppose that the graph G is a regular $2-D$ lattice with weight w for each nearest-neighbor pair.

We can then read off,

from known results on the N -vector model the RG flow for the spanning-forest model on

\mathbf{Z}^2

$$\frac{dt}{d\ell} = \frac{3}{2\pi} \bar{t}^2 - \frac{3}{(2\pi)^2} \bar{t}^3 + \frac{2.34278457}{(2\pi)^3} \bar{t}^4 + \frac{1.43677}{(2\pi)^4} \bar{t}^5 + \dots$$

$$\bar{t} = t/w$$

- \bar{t}^2
 $t > 0$
 the positive coefficient of the \bar{t}^2 term indicates that for the model is **perturbatively** asymptotically free. It is attracted to the infinite-temperature fixed point, hence is massive and $\text{OSP}(1|2)$ -symmetric
- $t_{\text{crit}} < t < 0$
 for $t_{\text{crit}} < t < 0$ the model is attracted to the free-fermion fixed point at $t=0$, and hence is massless with central charge $c=-2$, with the $\text{OSP}(1|2)$ symmetry spontaneously broken
- $t < t_{\text{crit}}$
 for $t < t_{\text{crit}}$ we expect that the model will again be massive, with the $\text{OSP}(1|2)$ symmetry restored

More specifically, for $t > 0$ it is predicted that the correlation length diverges as

$$\xi = C_\xi e^{(2\pi/3)(w/l)} \left(\frac{2\pi}{3} \frac{w}{l} \right)^{1/3} \times \left[1 - 0.0116221204 \frac{l}{w} + 0.00446142 \frac{l^2}{w^2} + \dots \right]$$

Numerical results based on transfer matrices and finite-size scaling (for the Potts model), are consistent with the nonperturbative validity of the asymptotic-freedom predictions.

Perspectives

- *Our fermionic model could be the most viable candidate for a rigorous nonperturbative proof of asymptotic freedom*
- *We are working at a nonperturbative proof of the equivalence between the fermionic theory and the $OSP(1/2)$ sigma model*

