

Distances associated with Liouville quantum gravity

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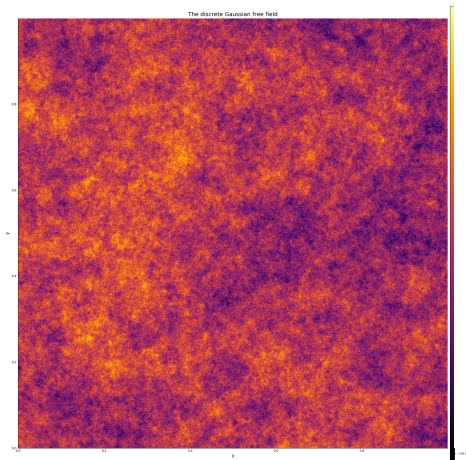
Based on joint works with
Julien Dubédat, Alex Dunlap, Hugo Falconet, Subhajit Goswami,
Ewain Gwynne, Avelio Sepúlveda, Ofer Zeitouni and Fuxi Zhang

THU-PKU-BNU Joint Probability Webinar
Oct 8, 2020

Gaussian free field

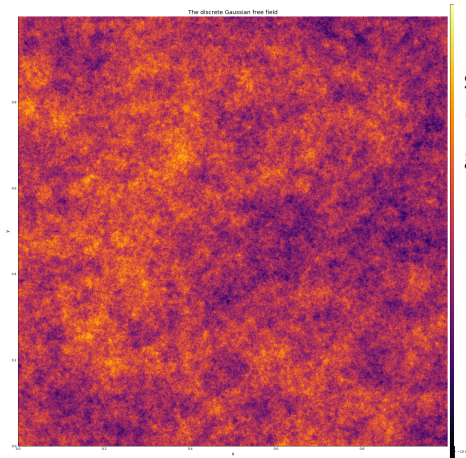
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A discrete GFF $\{\eta_v : v \in V_N\}$ on a 2D box (with Dirichlet boundary condition) is a mean zero Gaussian process with covariance $\mathbb{E}\eta_v\eta_u =$ expected number of visits (of SRW) from v to u before exiting V_N (**log-correlated**, **hierarchical**).



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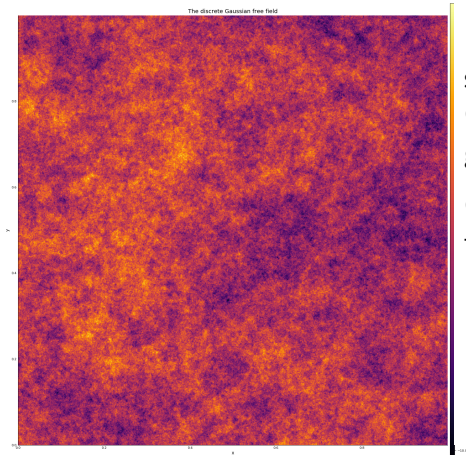
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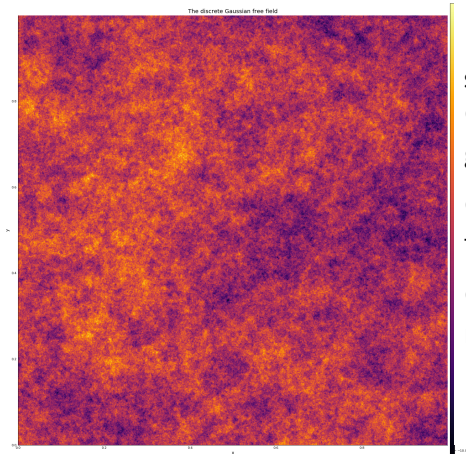


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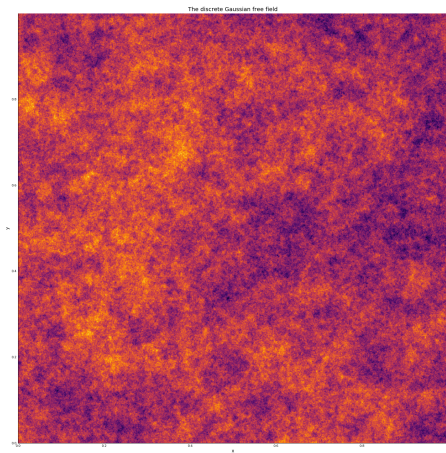
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GFF is closely related to Schramm–Loewner evolution.

Liouville quantum gravity: exponentiating GFF

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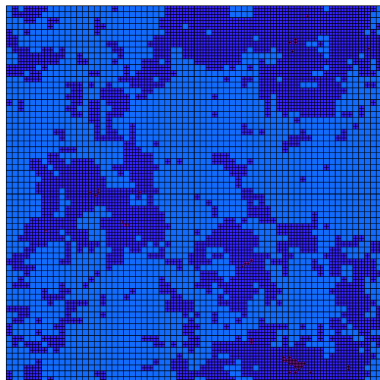
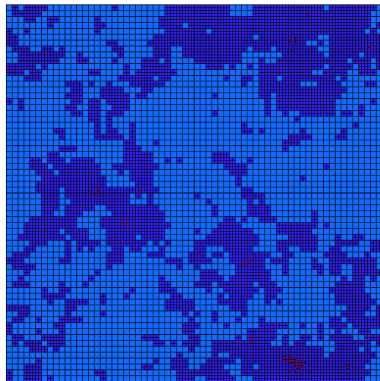


Figure: From Duplantier–Sheffield (10); $\gamma = 0.5$; the squares shown have roughly the same LQG measure

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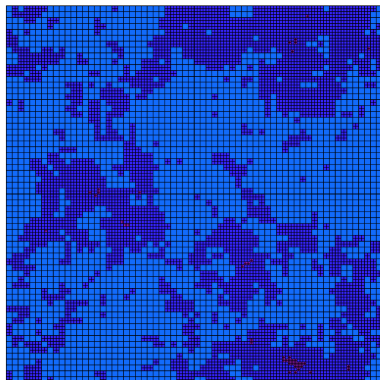


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Rhodes–Vargas (since 08);
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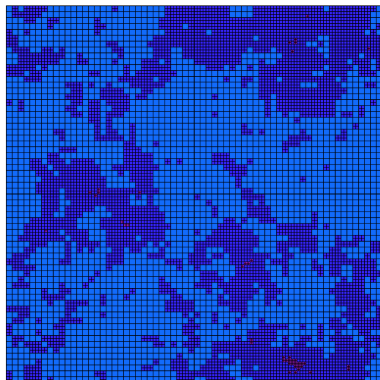


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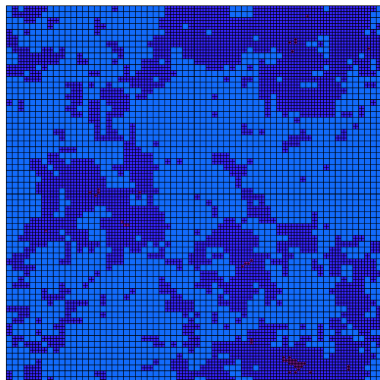
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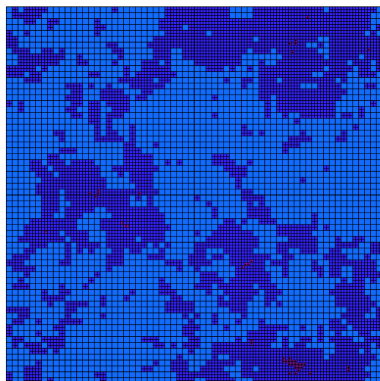
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[Distance on LQG](#): today's focus.

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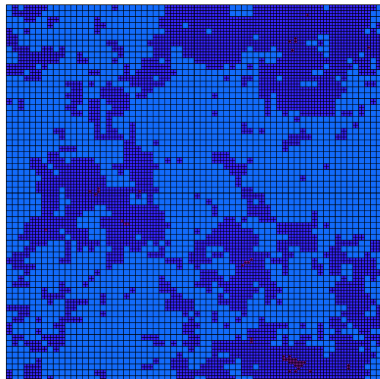
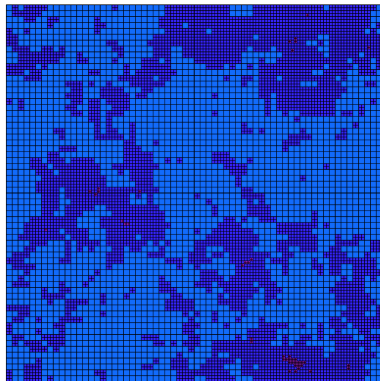


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Liouville Brownian motion
(Garban–Rhodes–Vargas 16):
Brownian motion with time change
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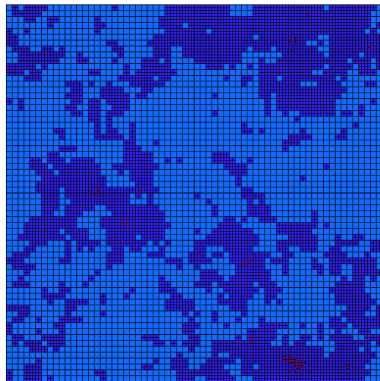


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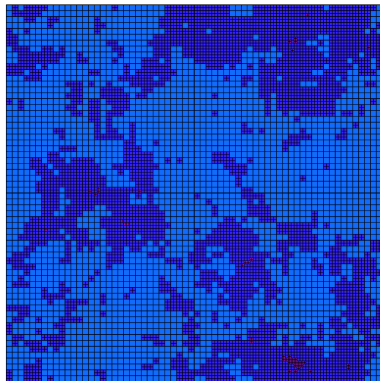


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Heat kernel of LBM in short time is another way to make sense of the LQG distance. (Varadhan 67: short time heat kernel of BM relates to geodesic distance, for uniformly elliptic generator.)

Liouville first passage percolation

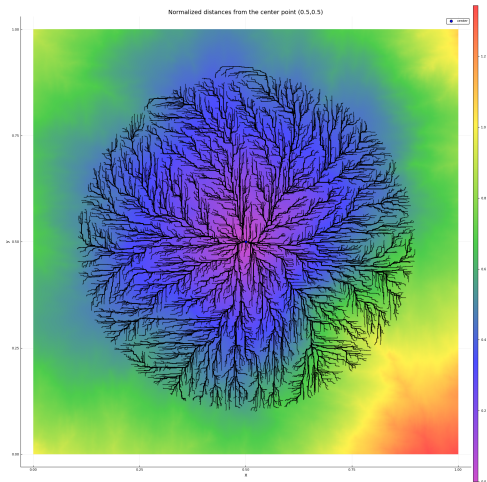
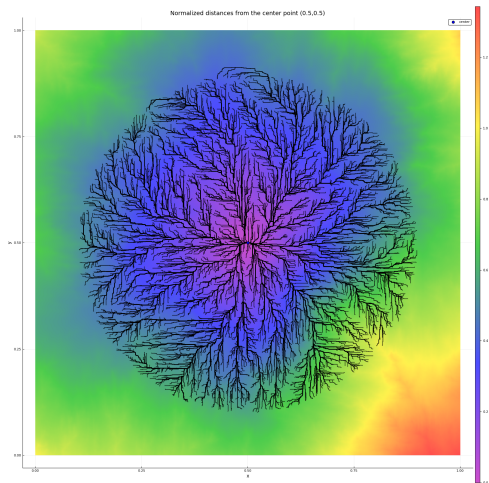


Figure: $\gamma=0.2$; color indicates distance from the center; curves are geodesics.

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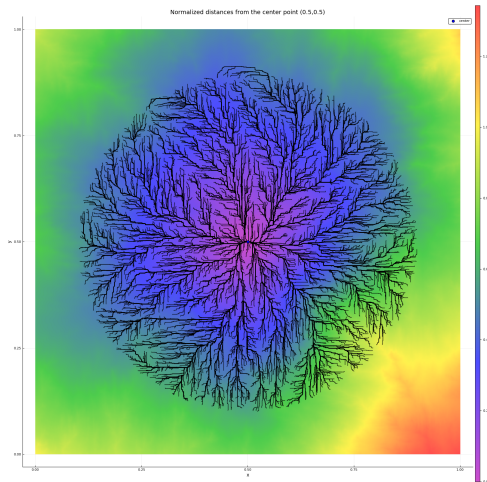


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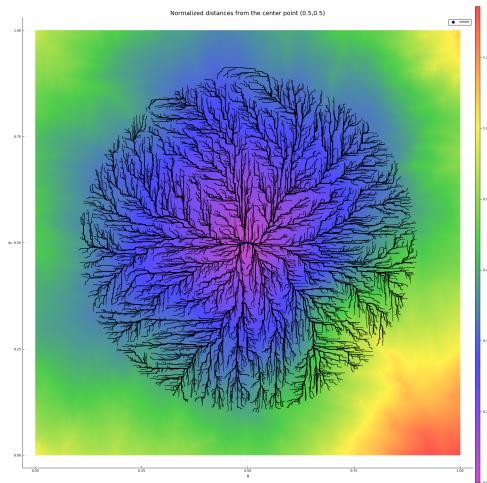


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LFPP v.s. FPP: strong correlation and hierarchical structure of the random media makes a drastic difference.

Non-universality among log-correlated fields

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May become universal if we pose regularity assumptions on covariance kernel, but most analysis of log-correlated fields do not depend on such regularity assumption.

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Theorem. (D.–Gwynne 18, Gwynne–Holden–Sun 17) For certain random planar maps (such as UIPT, mated-CRT maps,...), d_γ also describes the exponent for the graph distance of the planar map.

Remark: By known estimates for the UIPT (Angel, 2003)

$d_{\sqrt{8/3}} = 4$. New for LQG distance.

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Theorem. (D.-Zhang 16) (**discrete case**) For small but fixed $\gamma > 0$, the box-counting dimension of the geodesic is strictly larger than 1.

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Open: compute d_γ for any $\gamma \neq \sqrt{8/3}$. There were new proposals on dimension formula, but seems no convincing heuristics.

Tightness of LQG distances

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The usual two-step procedure to prove scaling limit:

- tightness, which then gives existence of scaling limit (via subsequential limit).
- uniqueness, which guarantees that all subsequential scaling limits are the same.

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D.–Dunlap–Falconet–Dubédat 19, D.–Dunlap 18

The normalized distance $\tilde{D}_{\gamma,\delta}(\cdot, \cdot)$ is tight with respect to uniform topology of continuous functions from $[0, 1]^2 \times [0, 1]^2$ to \mathbb{R}^+ . In addition, all possible (conjecturally unique) scaling limits are bi-Hölder-continuous with respect to the Euclidean distance.

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Open: uniqueness for Liouville graph distance; universality for all limits of reasonable discrete approximations of LQG distances?

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