

# Limite locale de surfaces discrètes aléatoires

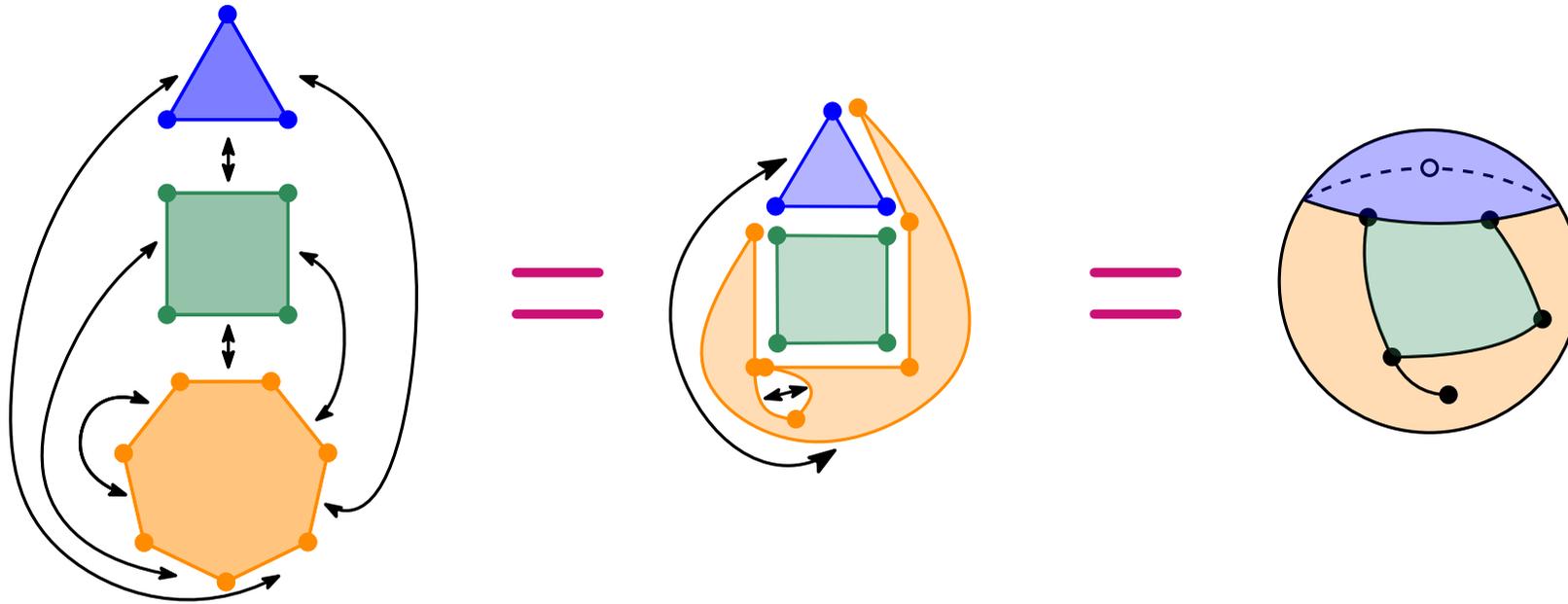
Marie Albenque (CNRS, LIX, École Polytechnique)  
GT Alea



# I - Definition of planar maps

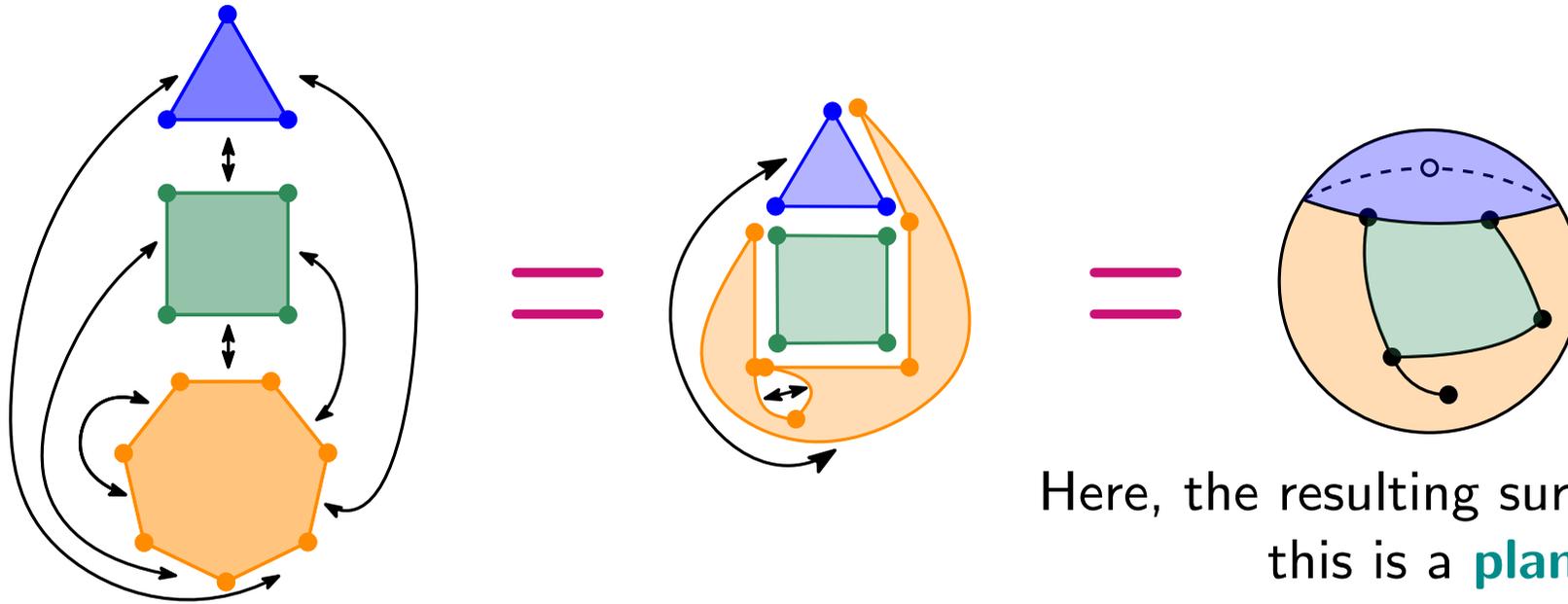
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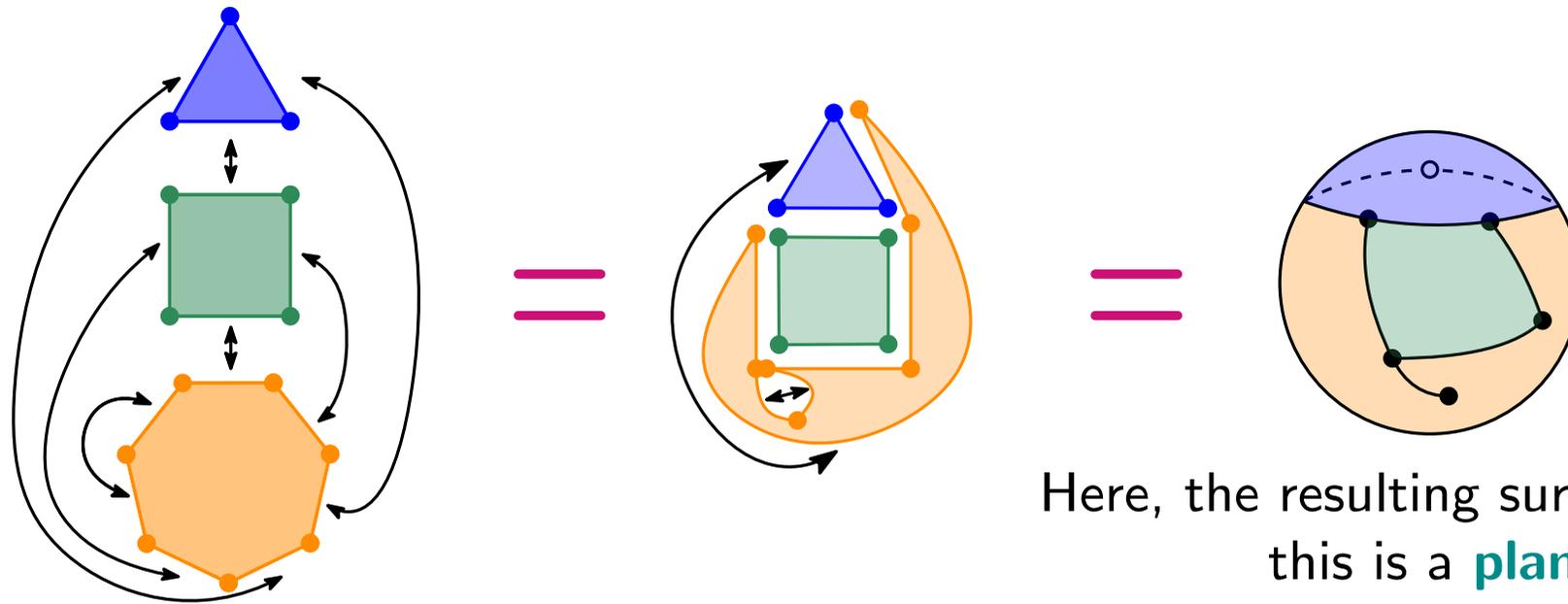
Here, the resulting surface is the sphere:  
this is a **planar map**.

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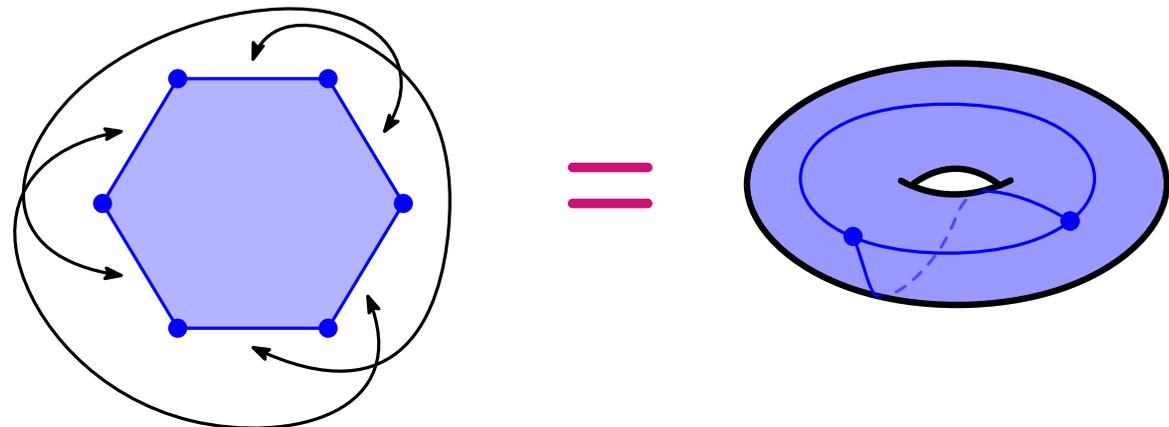


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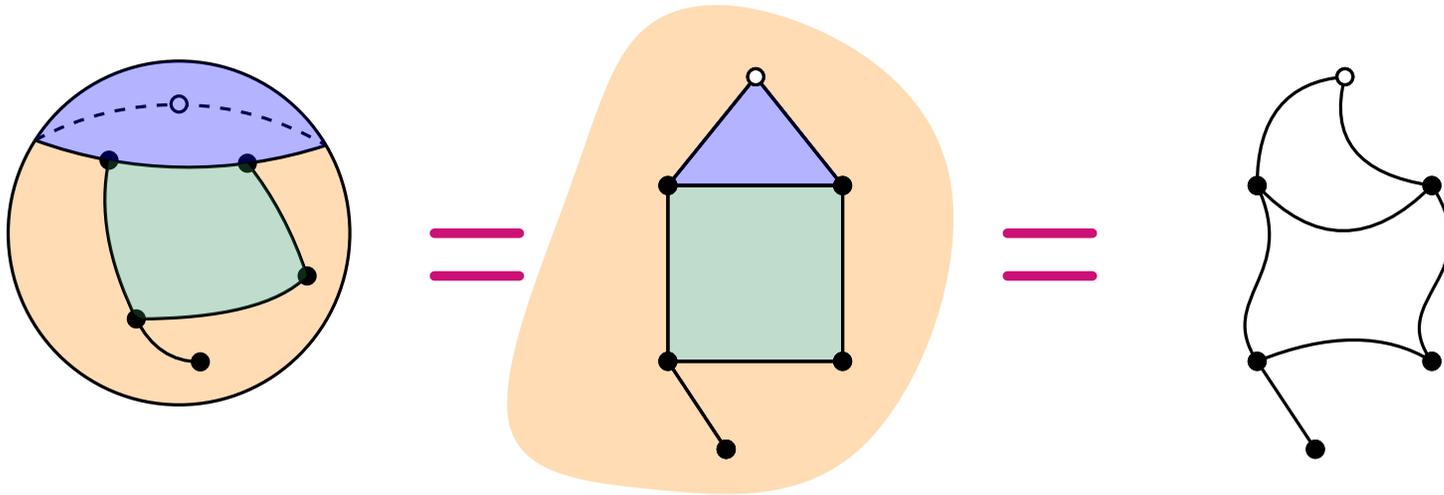
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Side remark: we could also obtain  
a surface different from the sphere  
(and even not connected !)



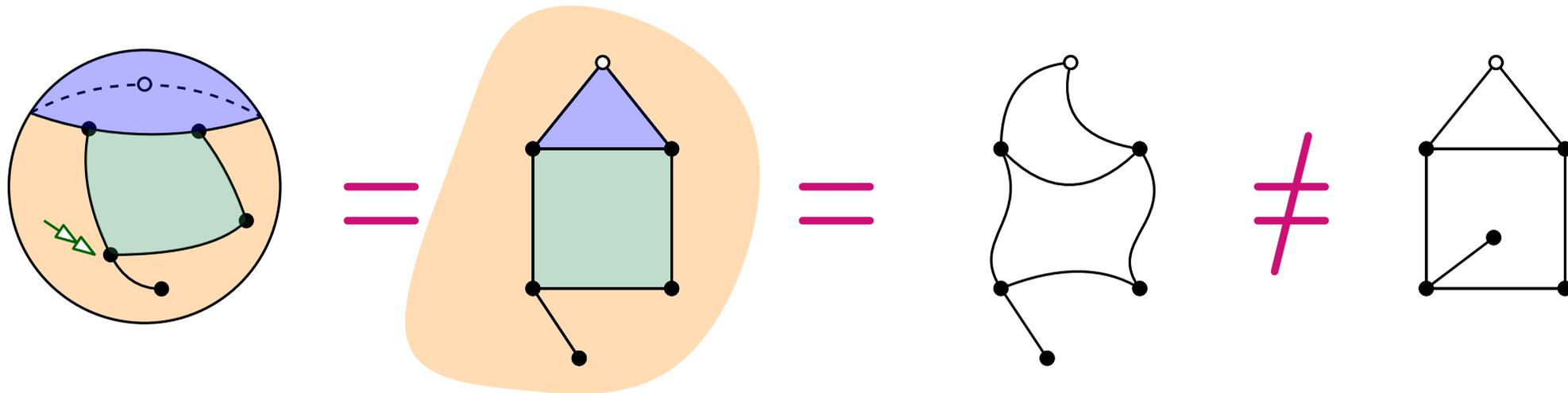
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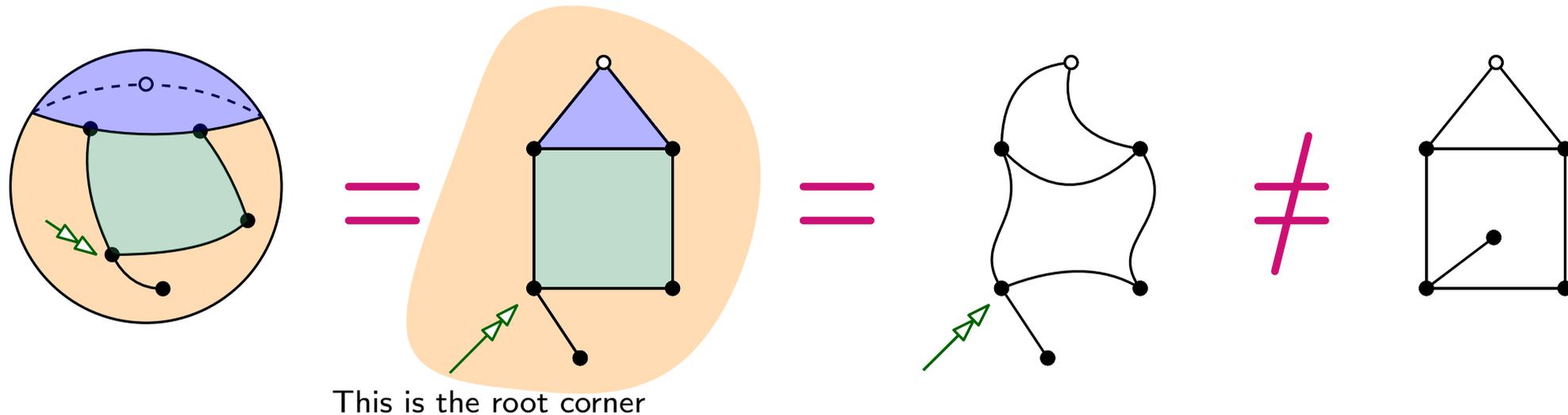
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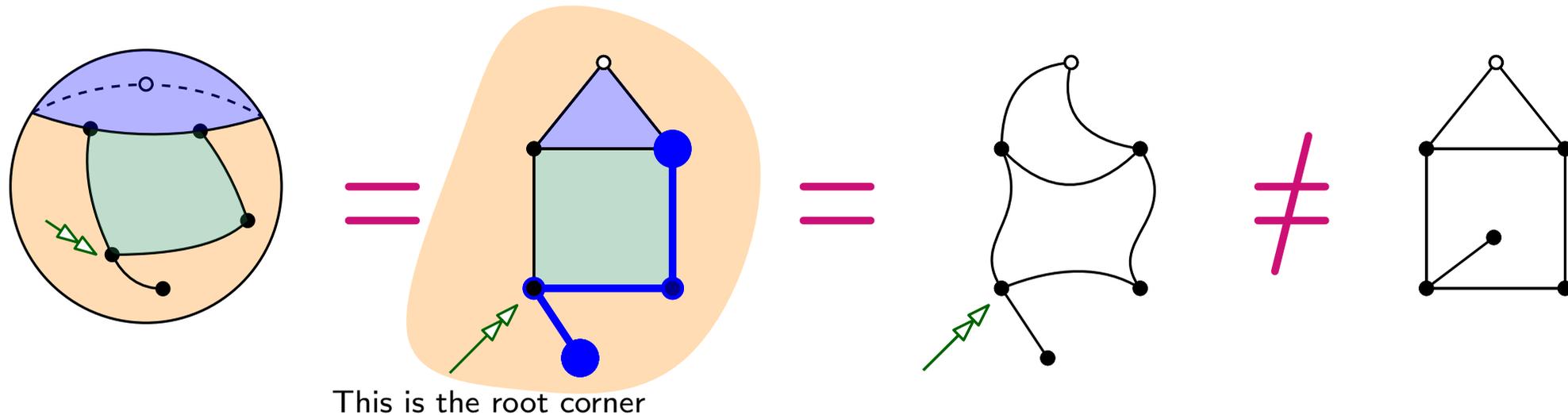
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A map  $M$  defines a discrete **metric space**:

- points: set of vertices of  $M = V(M)$ .
- distance: graph distance =  $d_{gr}$ .

## Maps – Motivations

Maps appear in various fields of mathematics, computer science and statistical physics (connections with representation theory, KP-hierarchies, topological recurrence,...).

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Today, I focus on the study of **limits of random planar maps**  
and, more precisely on **local** limits of random planar **triangulations**.

**Model:**  $\mathcal{T}_n = \{\text{Triangulations of size } n\}$   
 $= n + 2$  vertices,  $2n$  faces,  $3n$  edges

$T_n =$  **Uniform** random element of  $\mathcal{T}_n$

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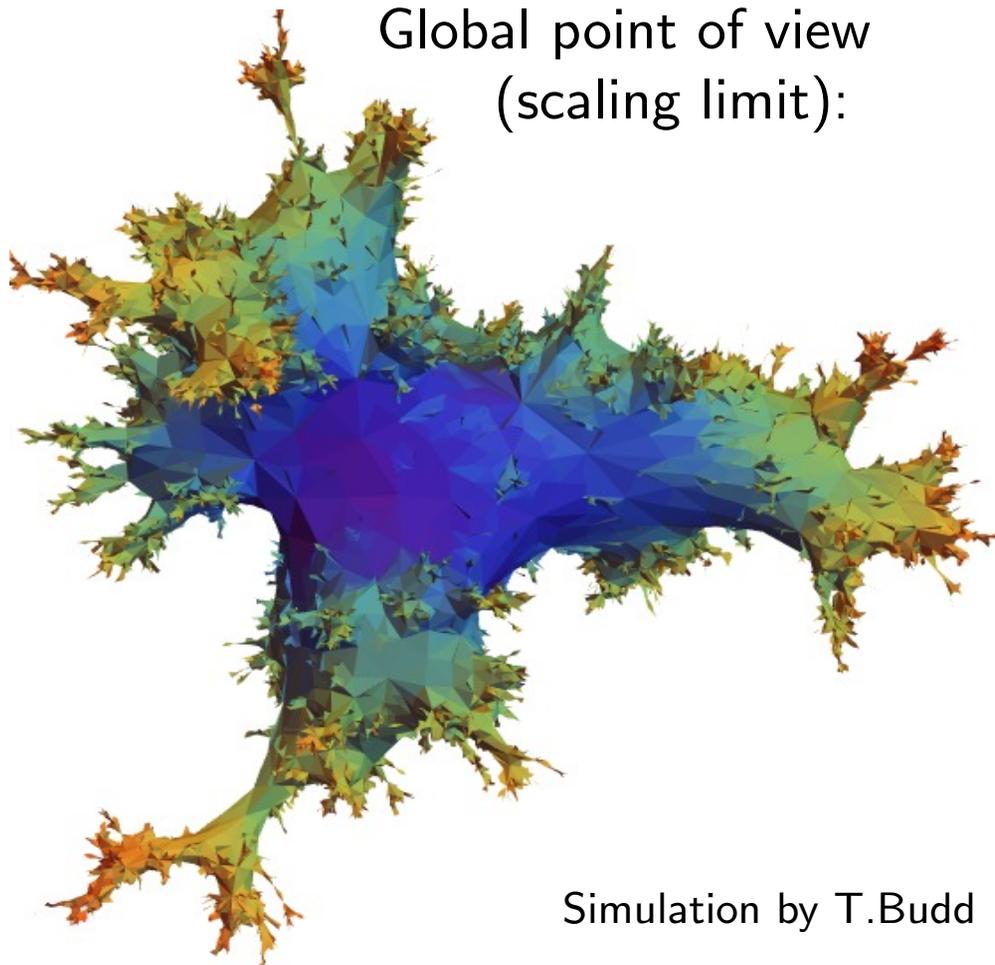
**Spoiler:** In the second half of the talk, we will change the probability distribution.

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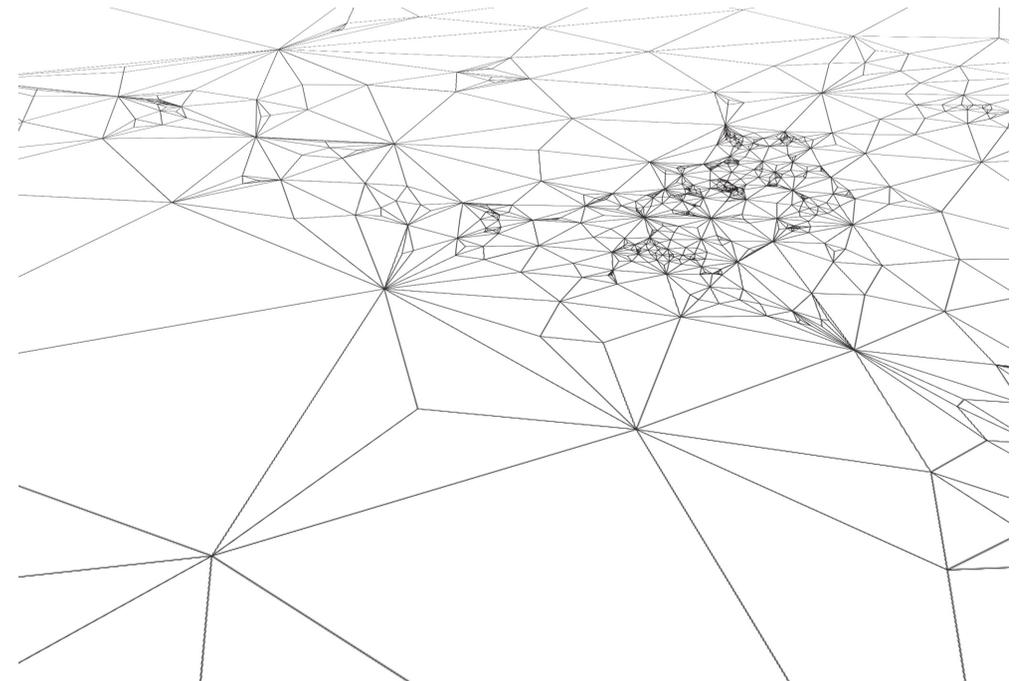
Global point of view  
(scaling limit):



Simulation by T.Budd

Local point of view

(Benjamini-Schramm topology):



Simulation by I.Kortchemski

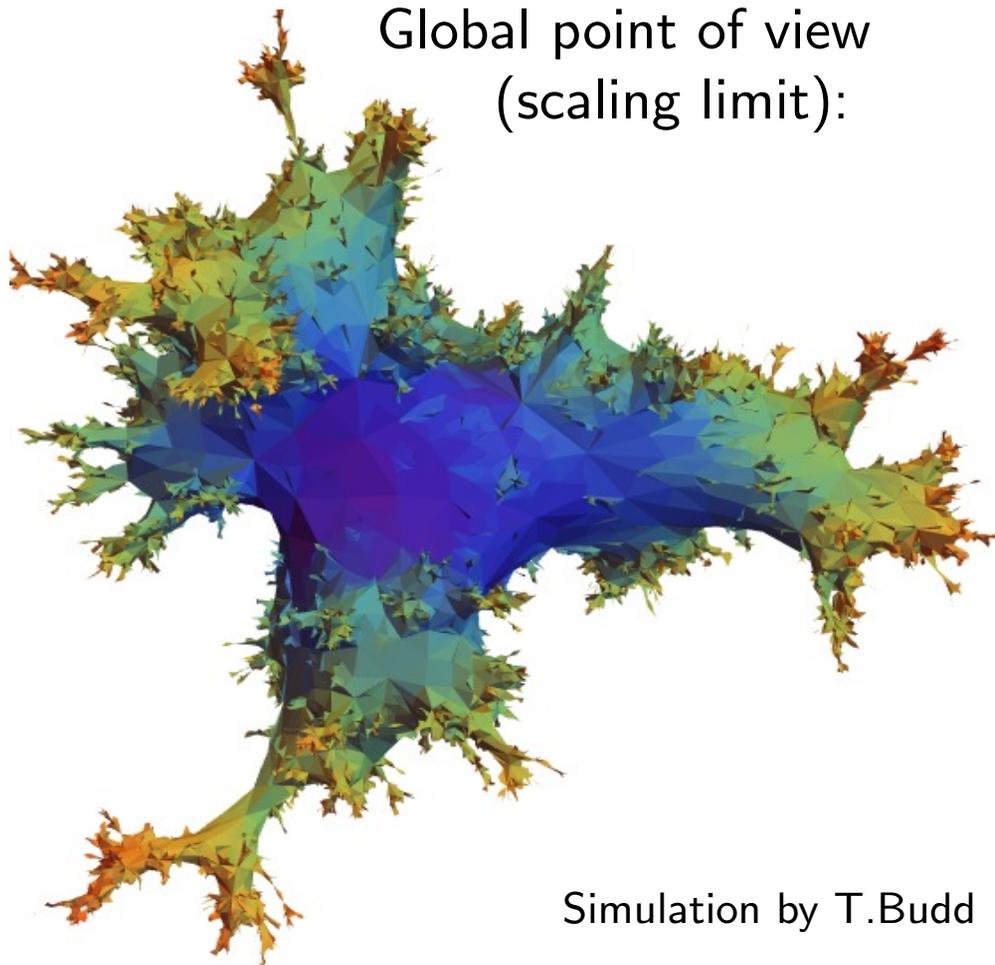
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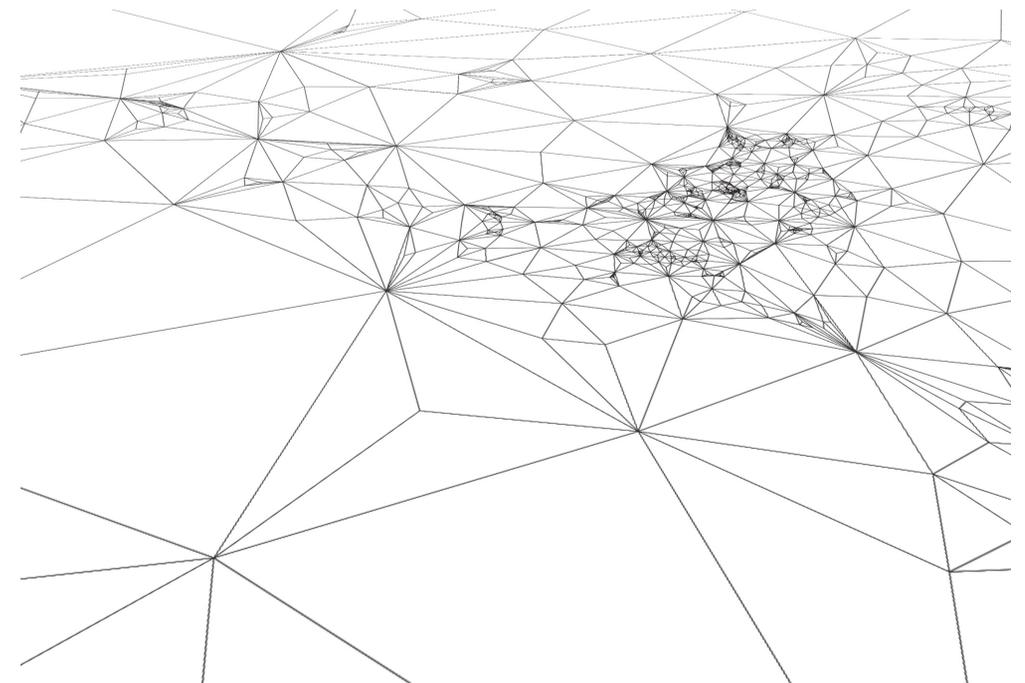
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Local point of view

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# Scaling limit of random maps

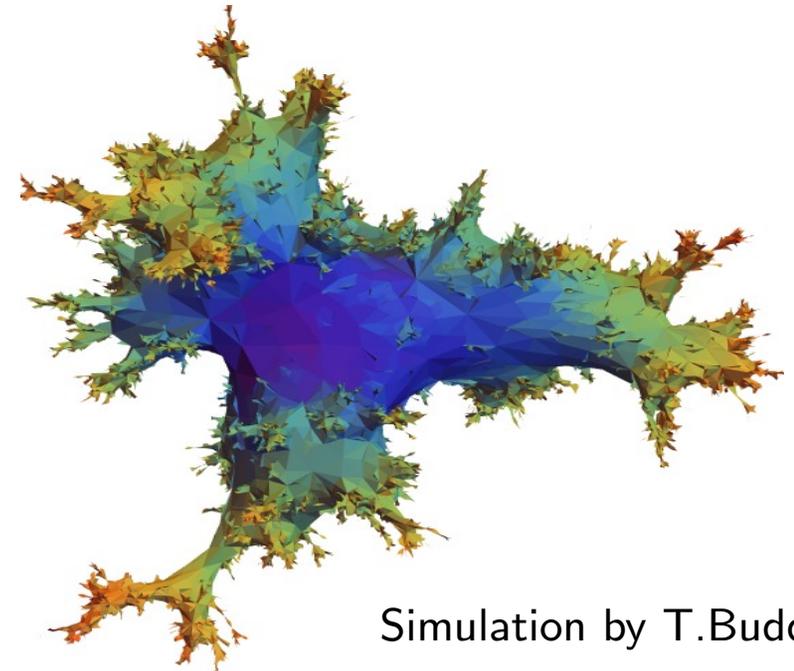
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When the size of the map goes to infinity, so does the typical distance between two vertices.

**Idea:** "scale" the map = length of edges decreases with the size of the map.

**Goal:** obtain a limiting (non-trivial) compact object



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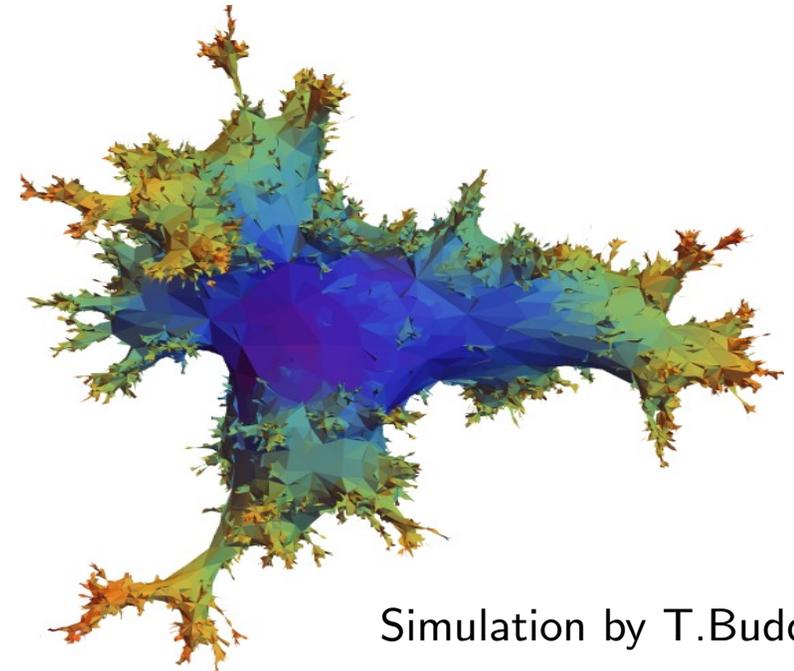
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## Motivations + Results:

- Discretization of a continuous surface.
- Construction of a 2-dim. analogue of the Brownian motion: **The Brownian Map**, homeomorphic to the sphere, Hausdorff dimension = 4 [Miermont 13],[Le Gall 13].
- Link with Liouville Quantum Gravity, (will maybe be discussed at the end of the talk) [Duplantier, Sheffield 11], [Duplantier, Miller, Sheffield 14], [Miller, Sheffield 16,16,17]
- **Universality:** the scaling is "always"  $n^{-1/4}$  + the limiting object does not depend on the precise combinatorics of the model ( $p$ -angulations, simple triangulations,...)



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# Local limits of random maps

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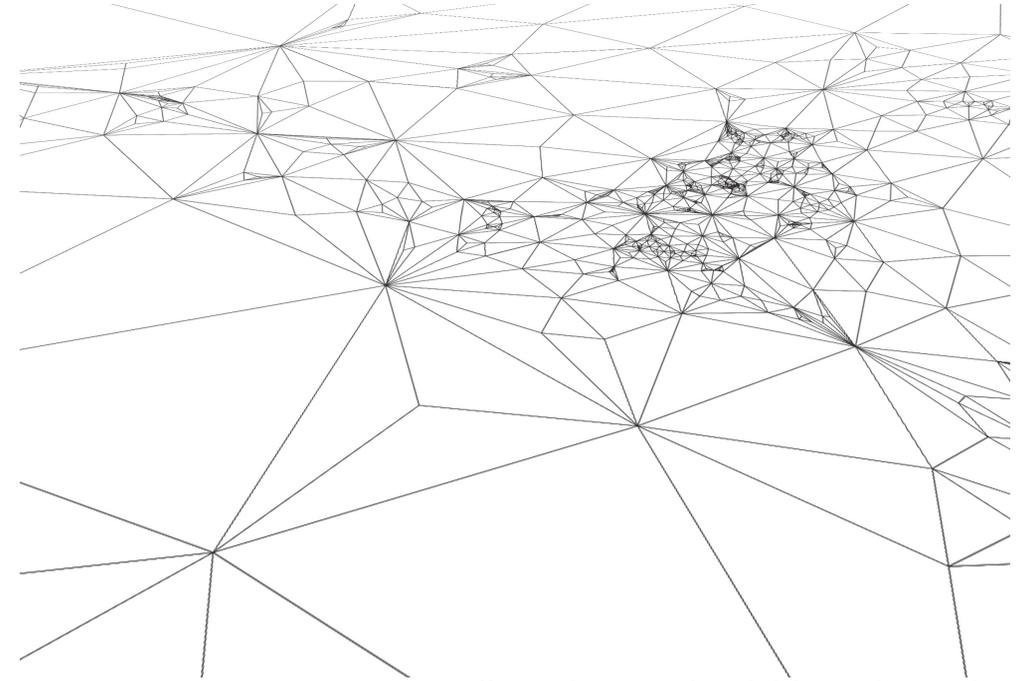
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Look at **neighborhoods of the root**

**Goal:** obtain some (probability distribution on) infinite random maps.



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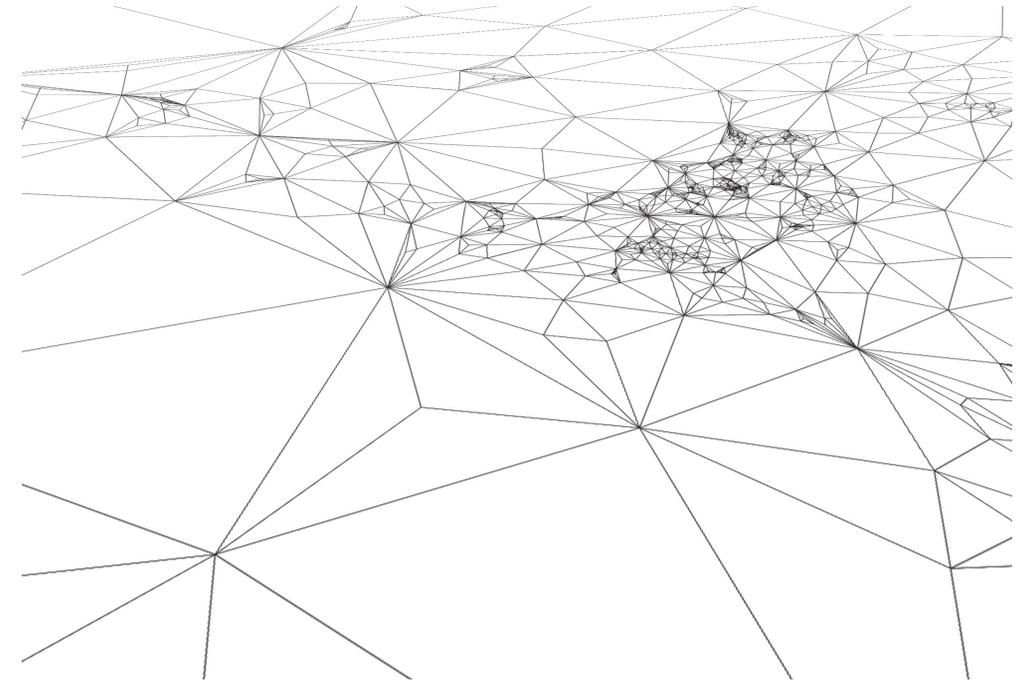
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Goal: obtain some (probability distribution on) infinite random maps.

## Motivations + Results:

- Nice model of random discrete geometry.
- Construction of the Uniform Infinite Planar Triangulation (= **UIPT**). [Angel, Schramm]
- Connection with some models on Euclidean lattices via the KPZ formula (for Knizhnik, Polyakov and Zamolodchiko), [Duplantier, Sheffield 11]
- **Universality:** the number of vertices at distance  $R$  from the root is “always” of order  $R^4$ .



Simulation by I.Kortchemski

## II - Local limits

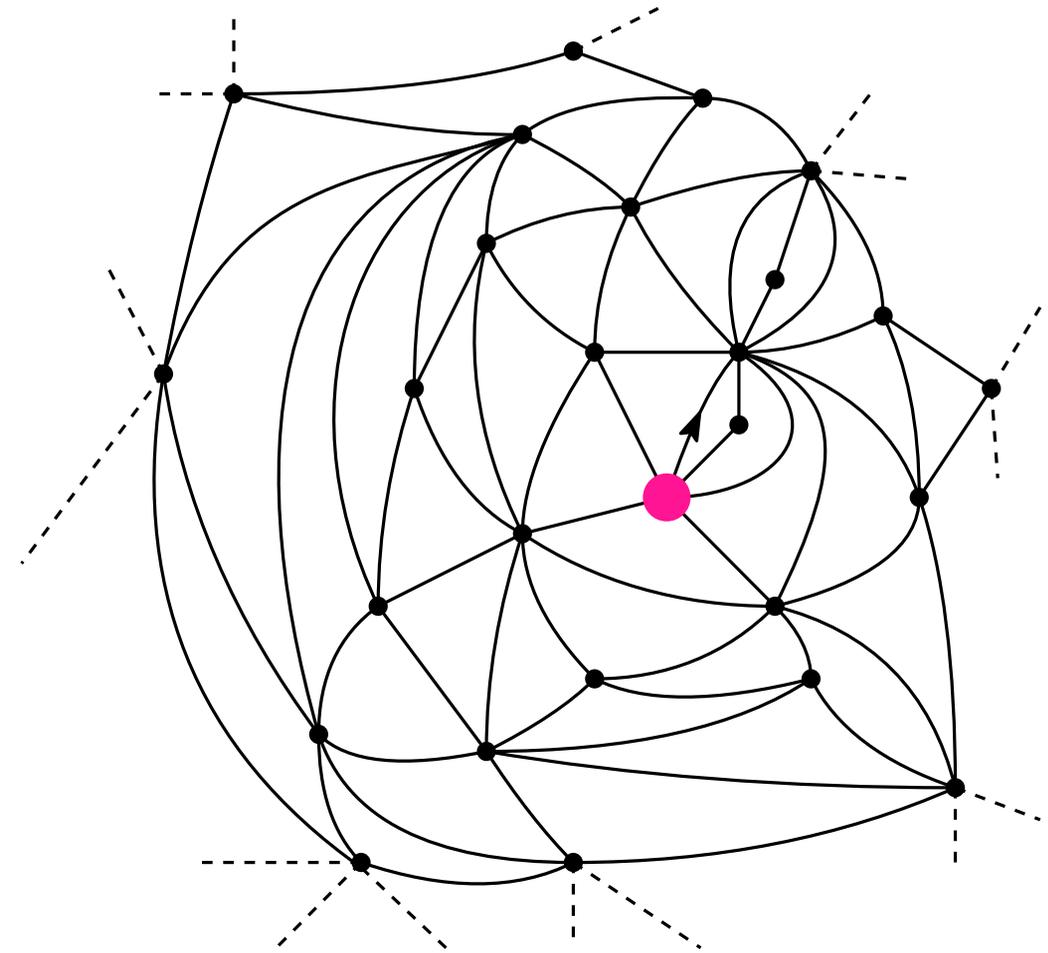
Definitions and first examples

# Local topology ( $\sim$ Benjamini–Schramm convergence)

$\mathcal{G}$  := family of (locally finite) rooted graphs

For  $g \in \mathcal{G}$  and  $R \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ,

$B_R(g)$  = ball of radius  $R$  around the root vertex of  $g$

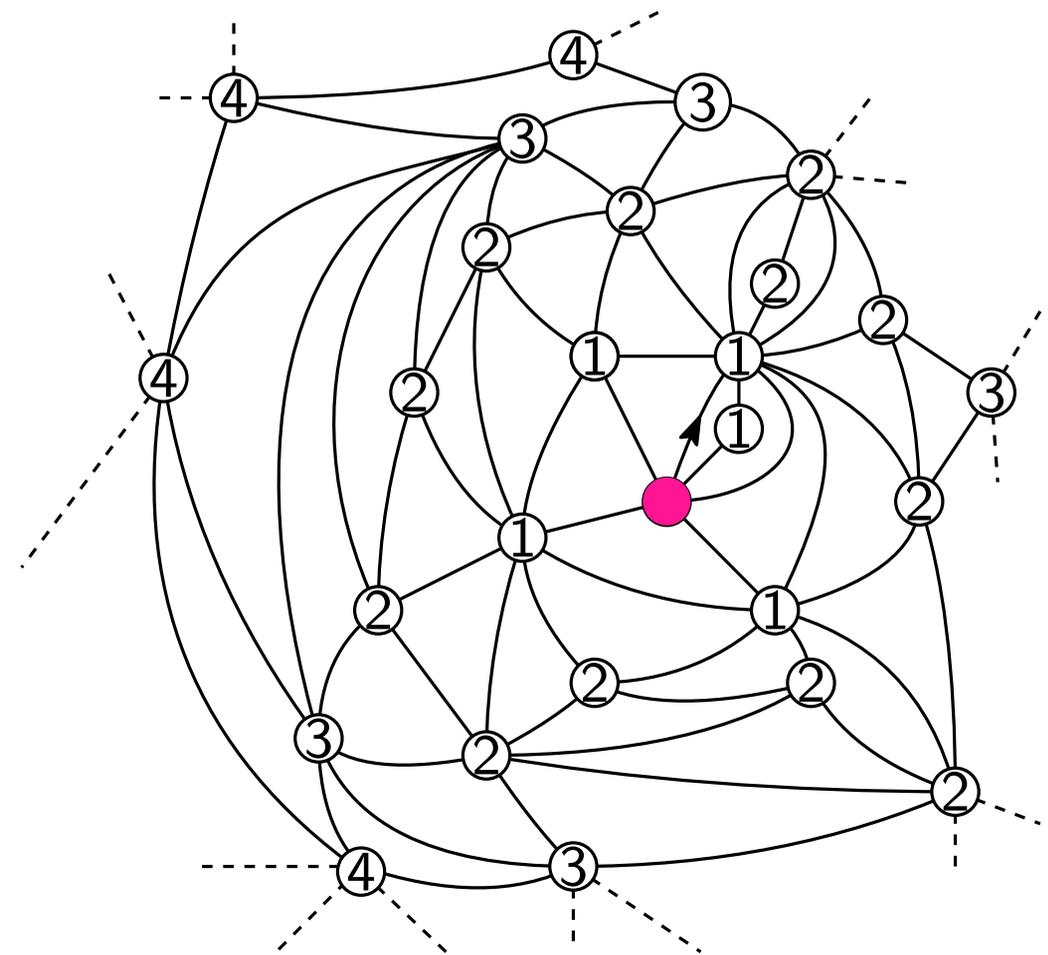


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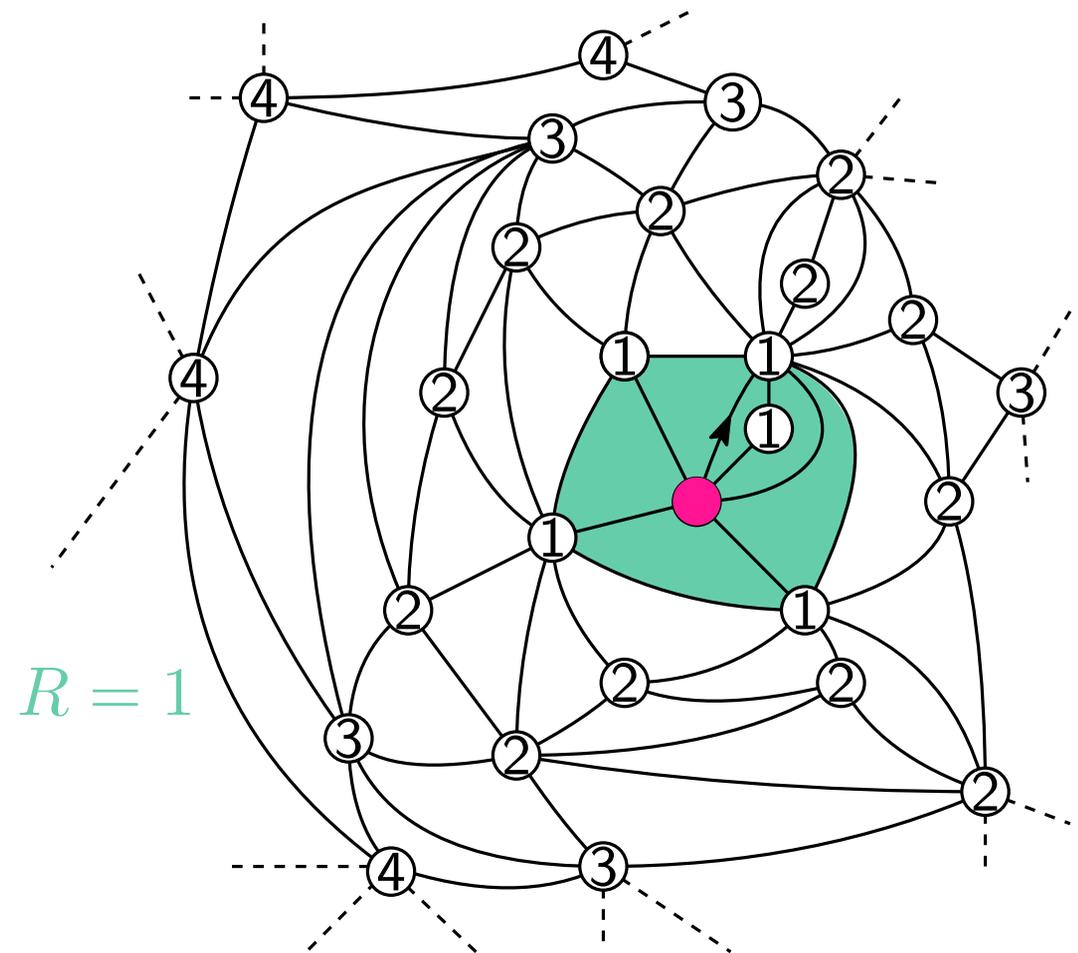


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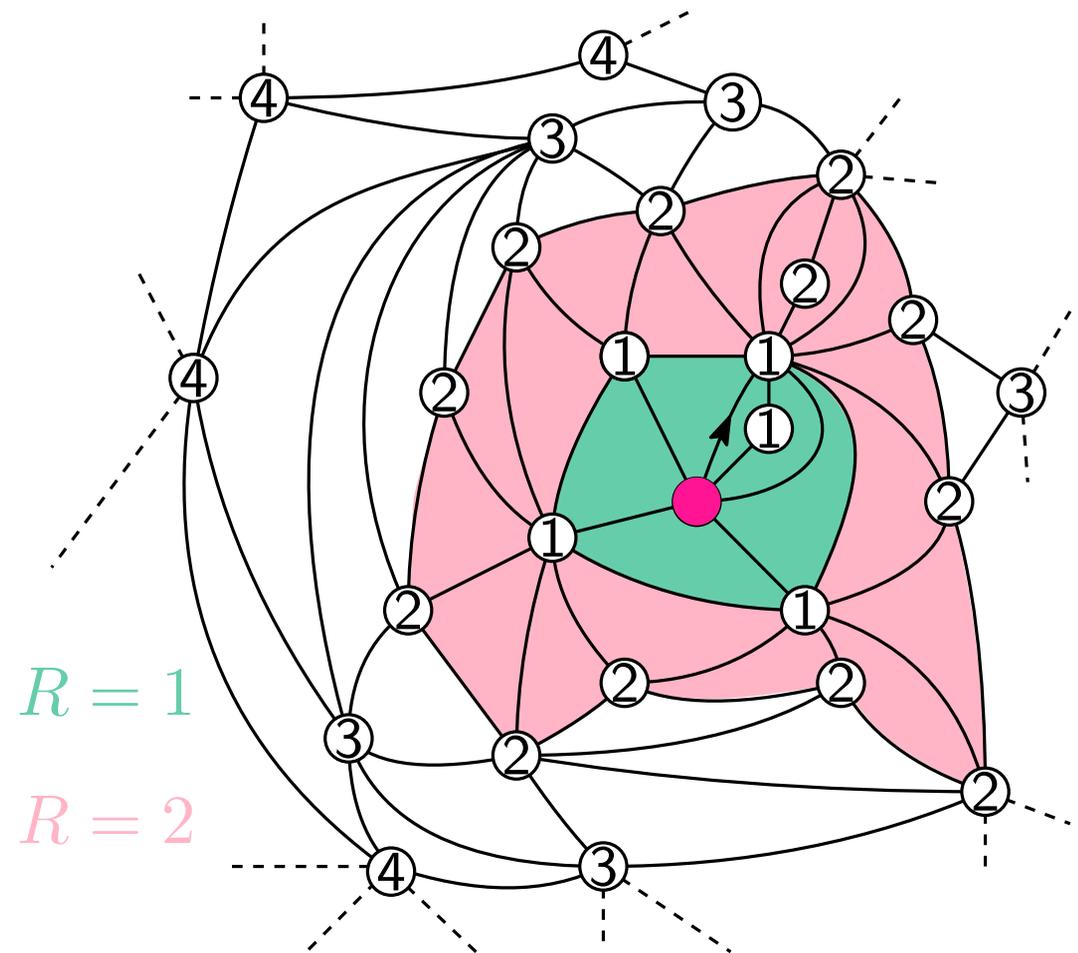


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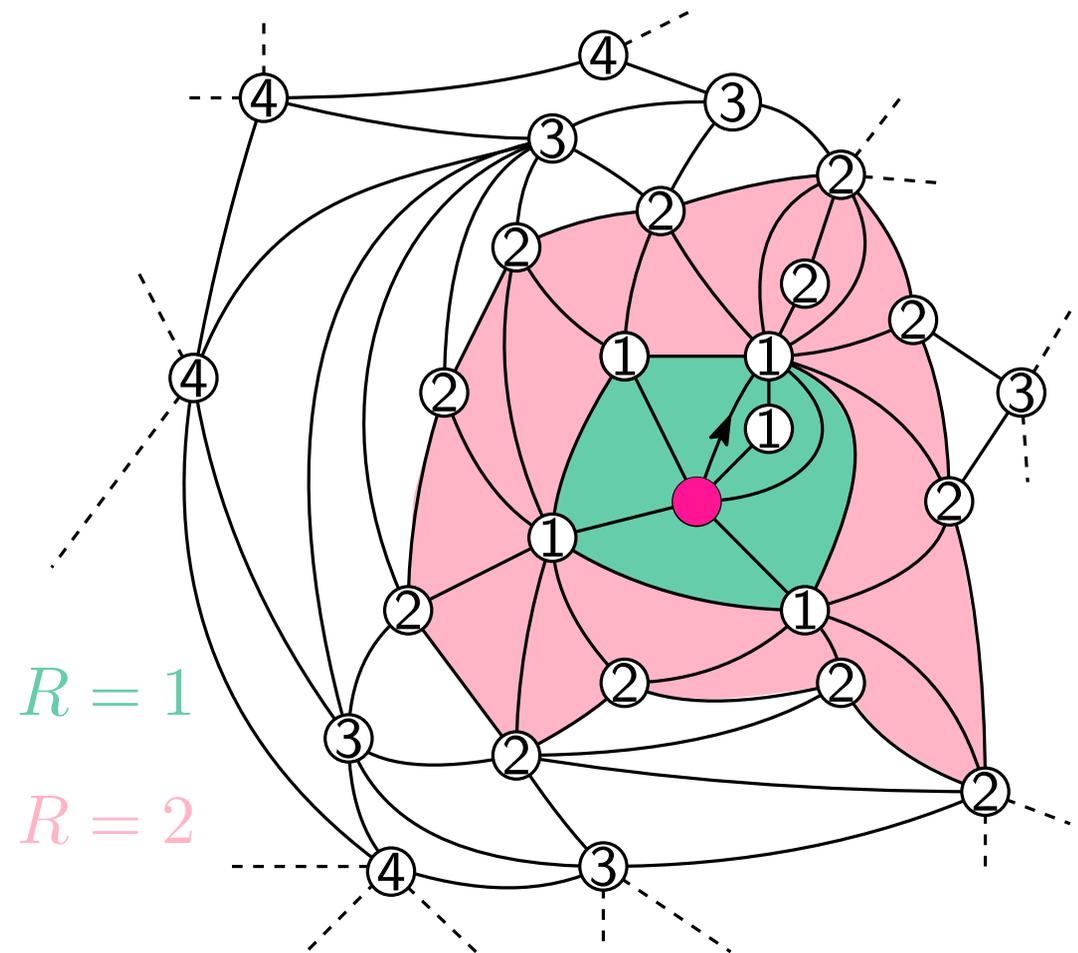
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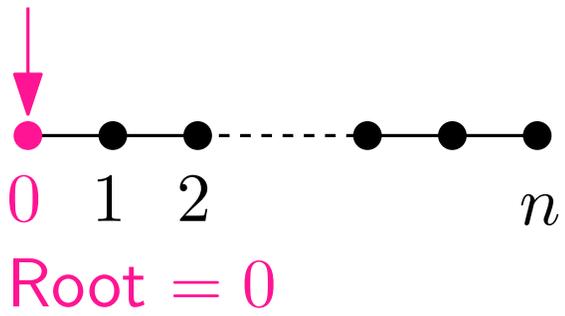
And for **random** graphs ?

$(\mu_n)$  = sequence of probability distributions on  $\mathcal{G}$  (e.g. uniform distribution on  $\mathcal{T}_n$ )

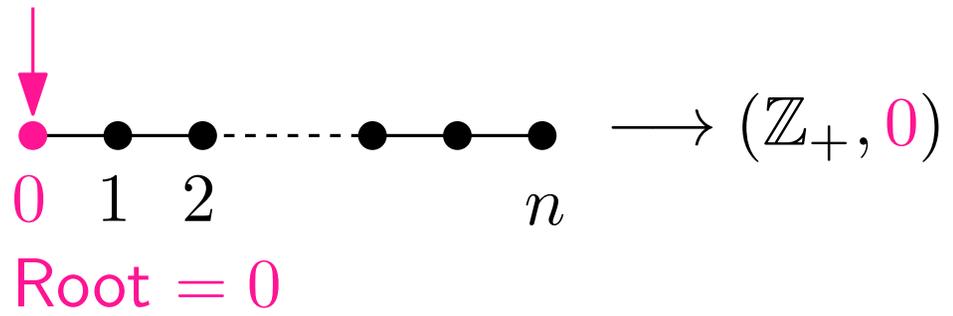
if  $\mu_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu$  in distribution for the local topology,

we say that  $\mu$  is the **local weak limit** of  $(\mu_n)$ .

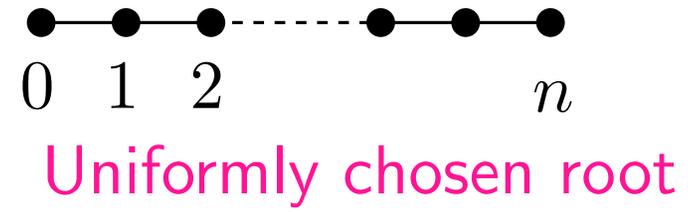
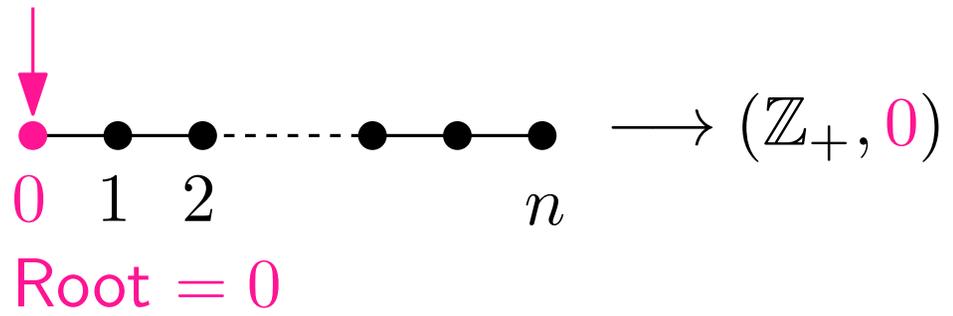
# Local convergence: simple examples



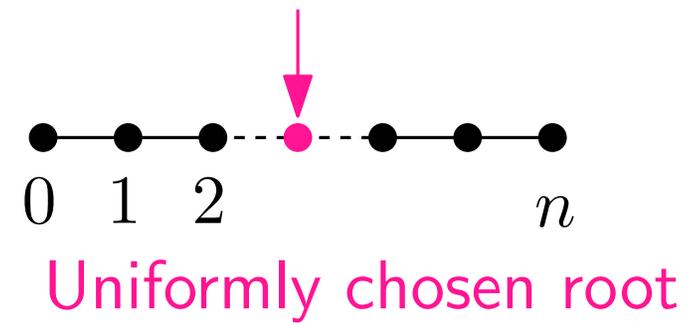
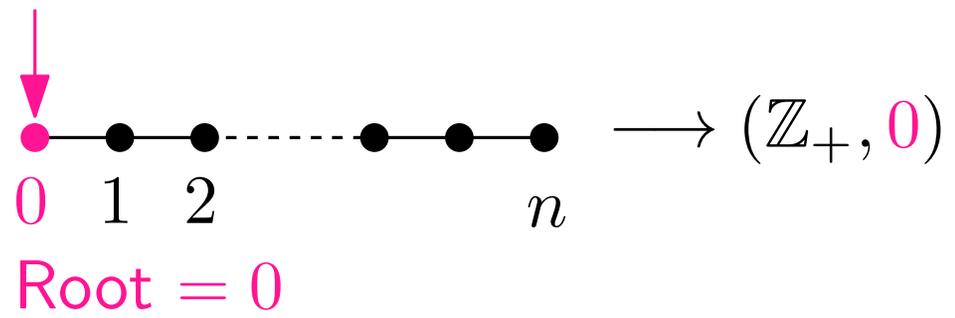
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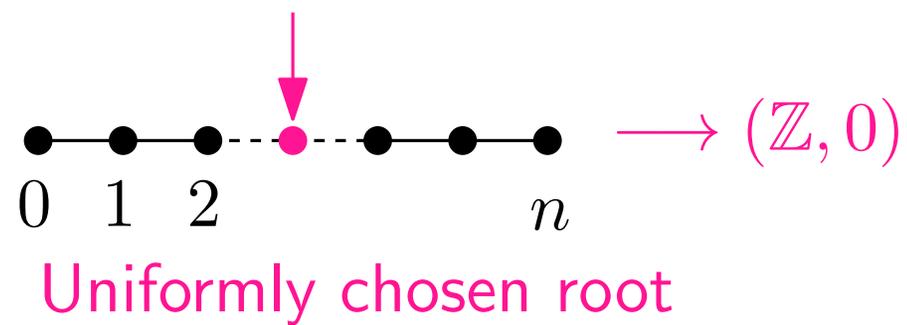
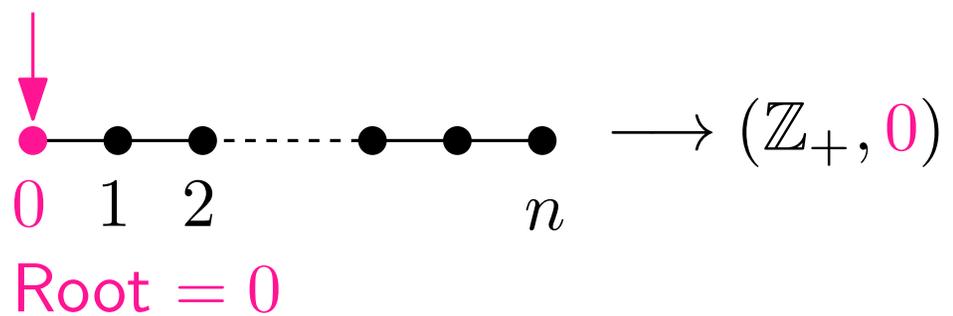
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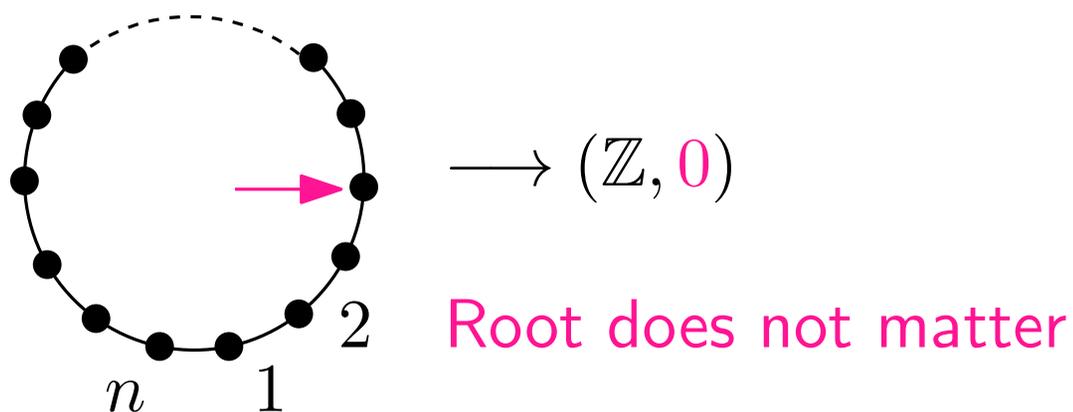
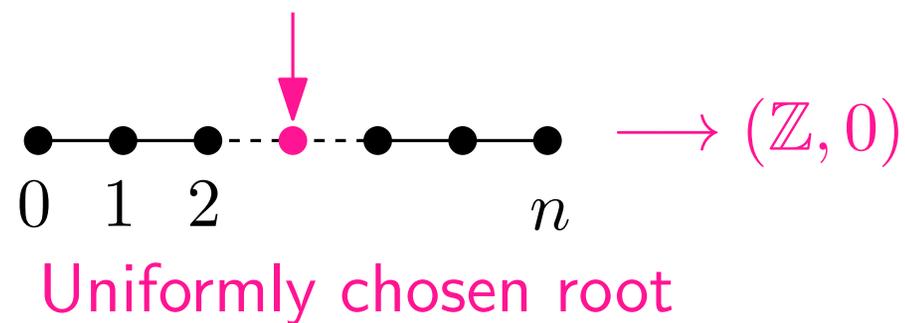
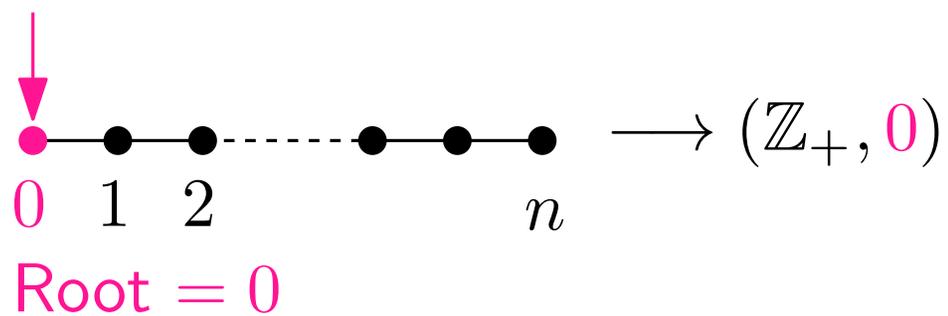
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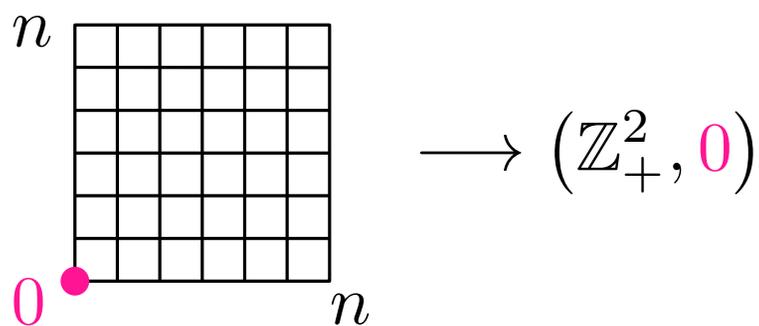
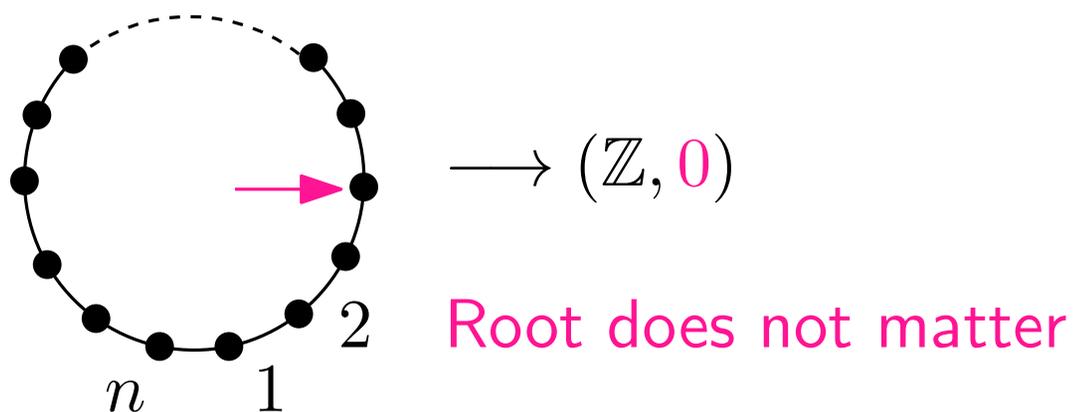
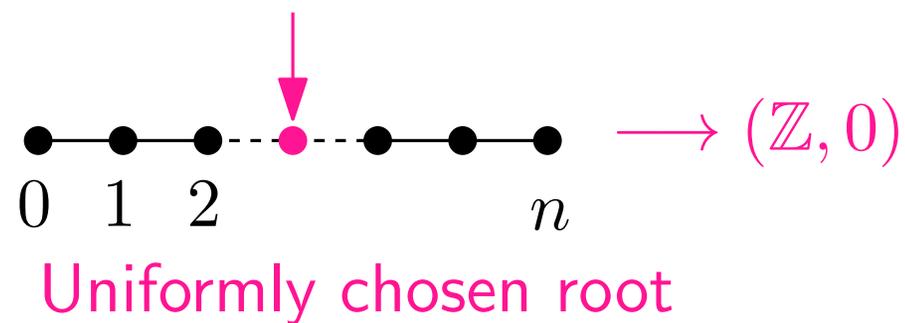
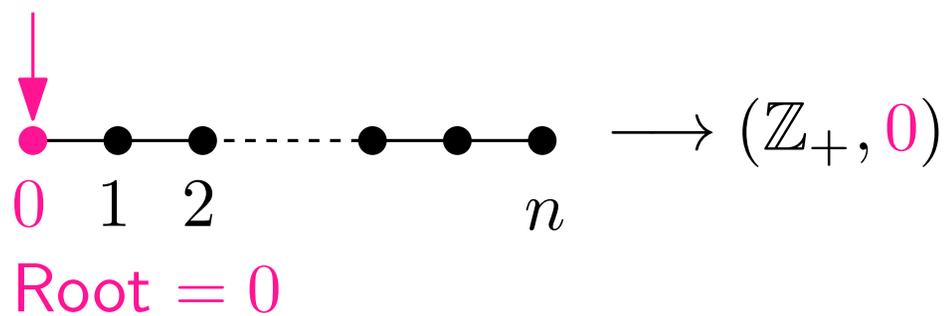
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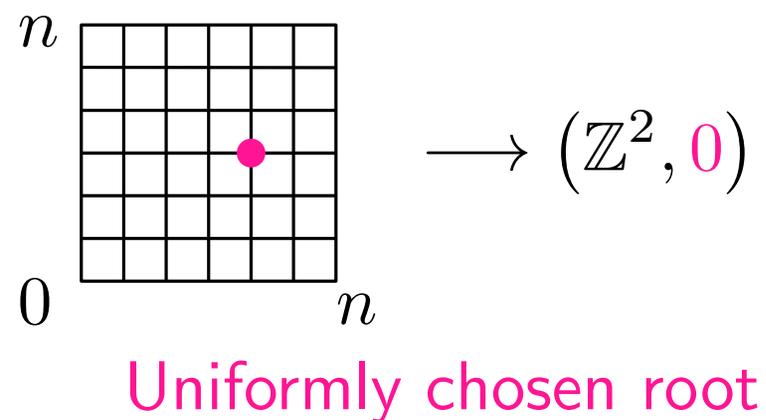
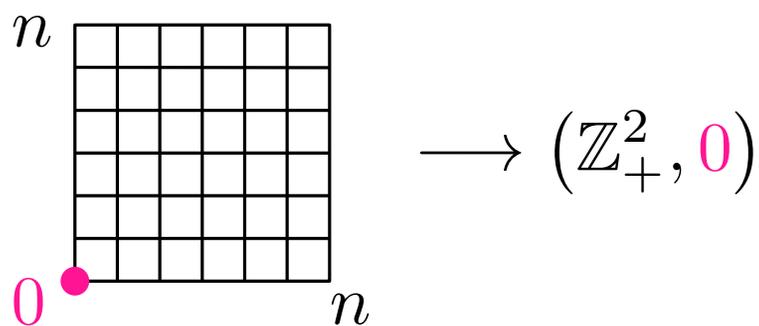
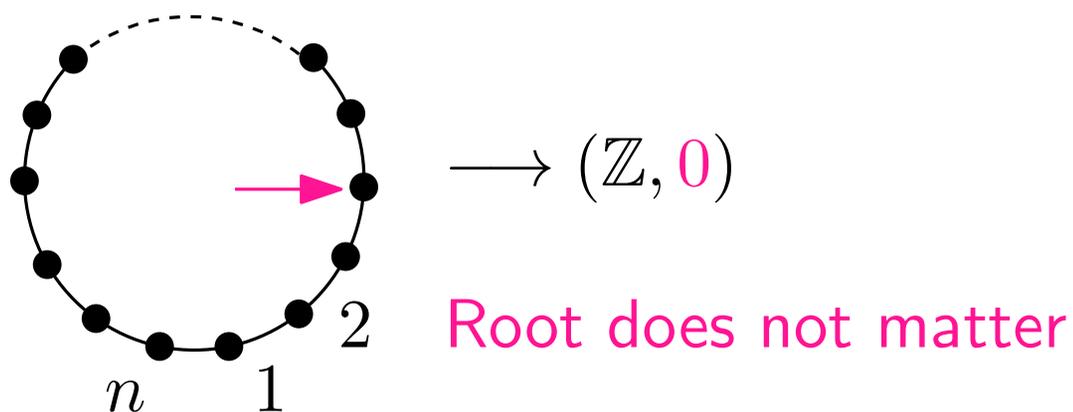
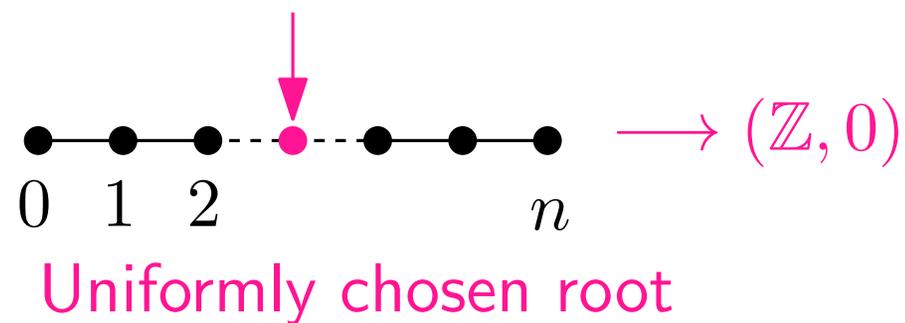
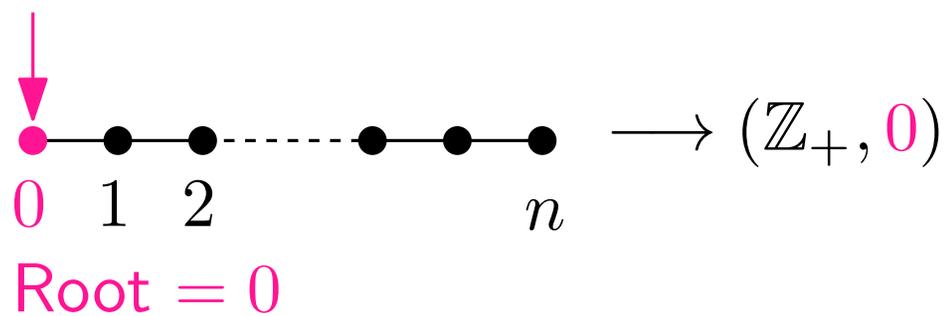
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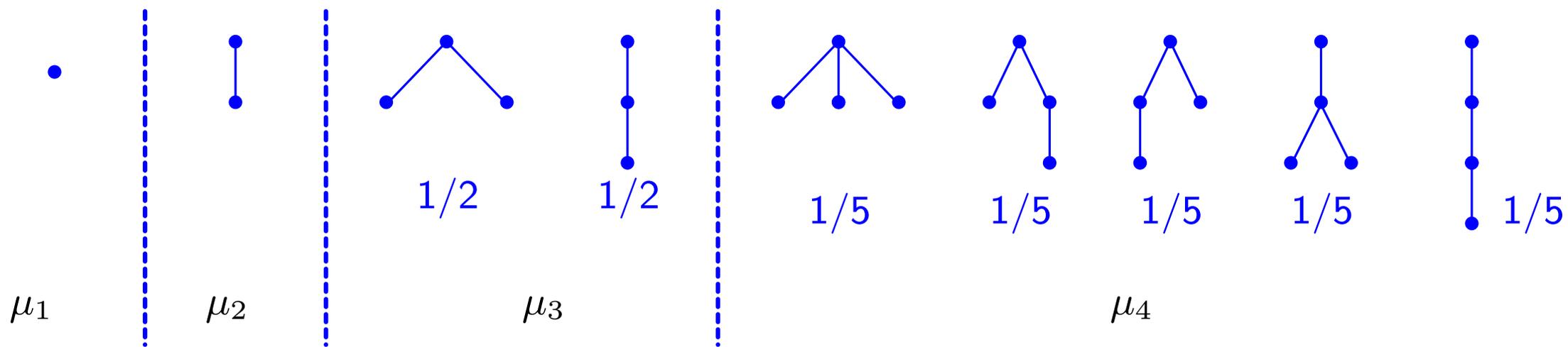
# Local convergence: simple examples



# III - Local limits of random trees and maps

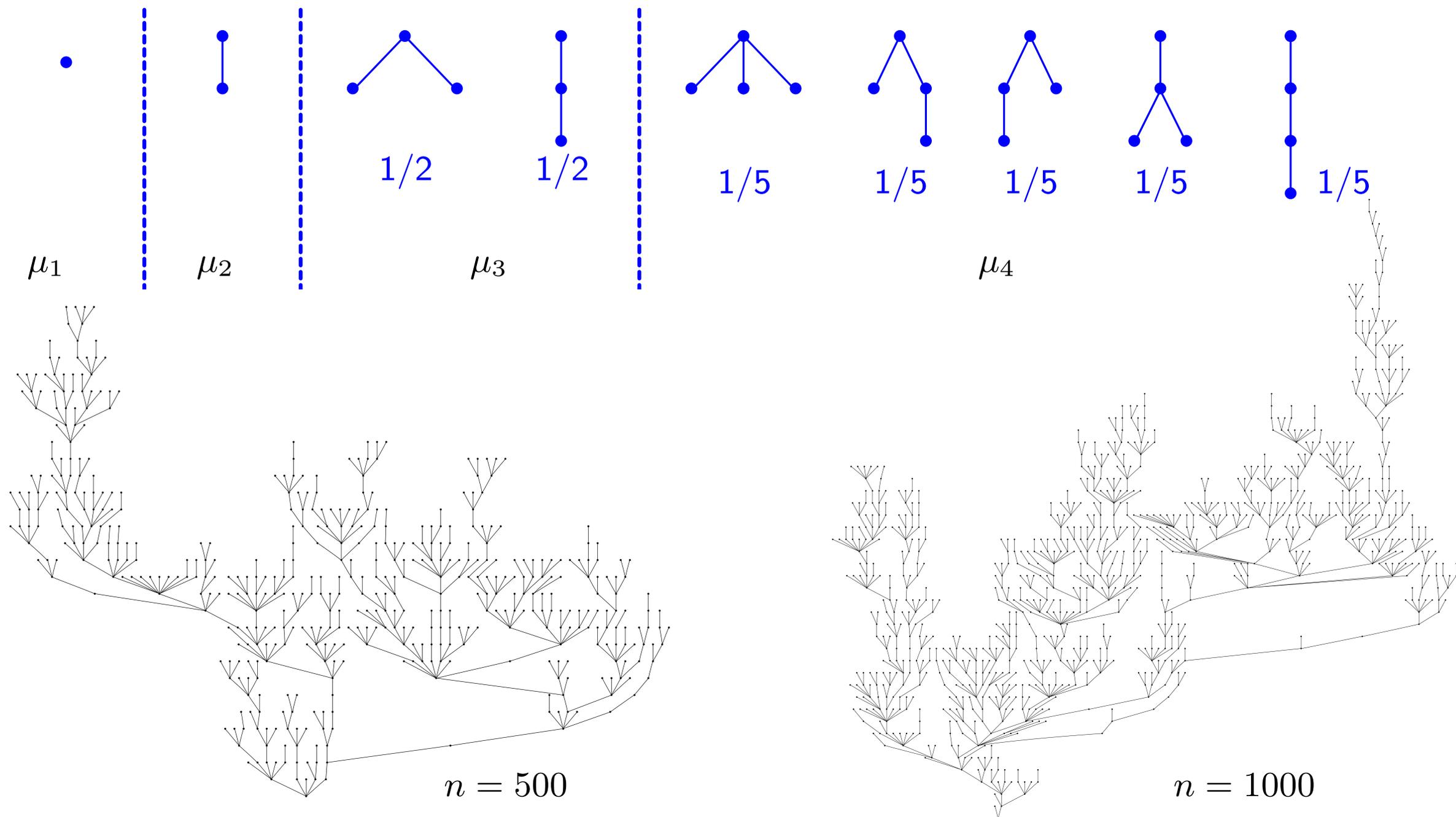
# Local convergence: more complicated examples

$\mu_n =$  uniform measure on plane trees with  $n$  vertices:



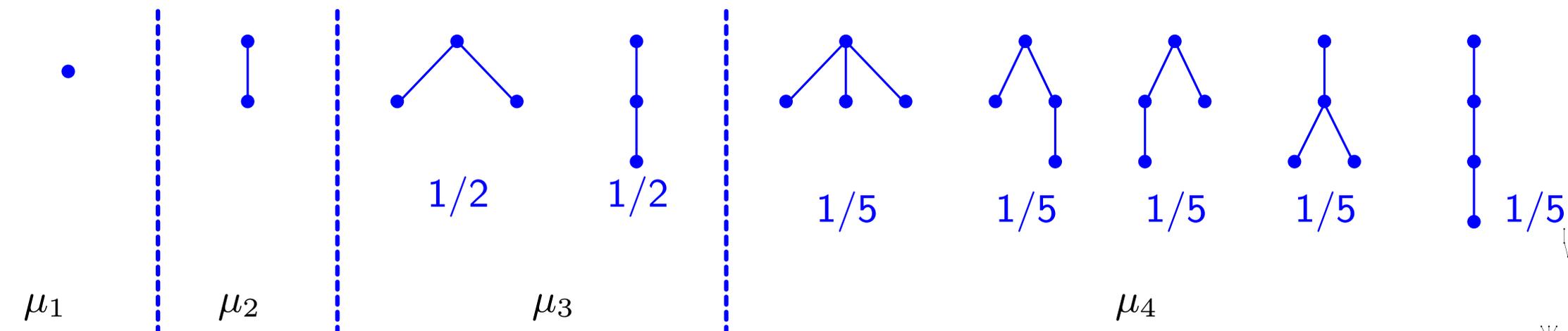
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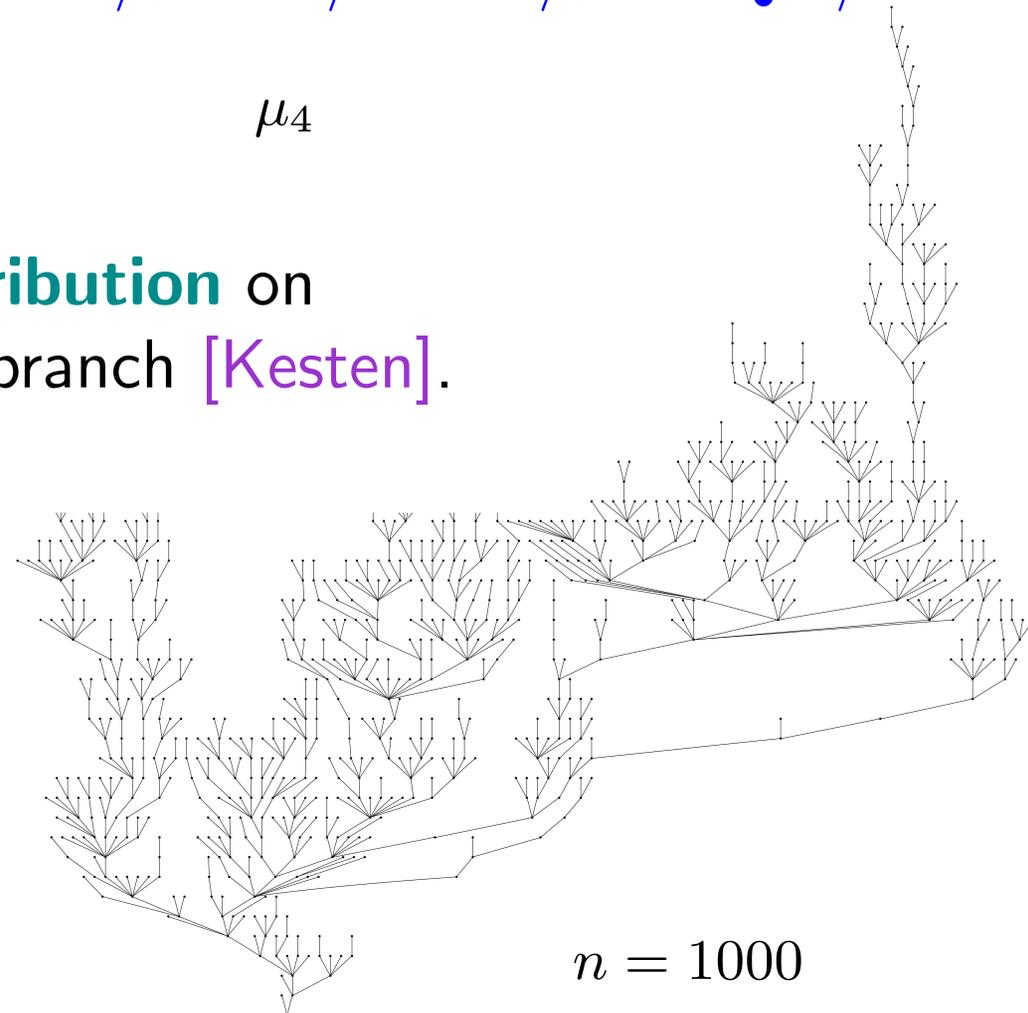
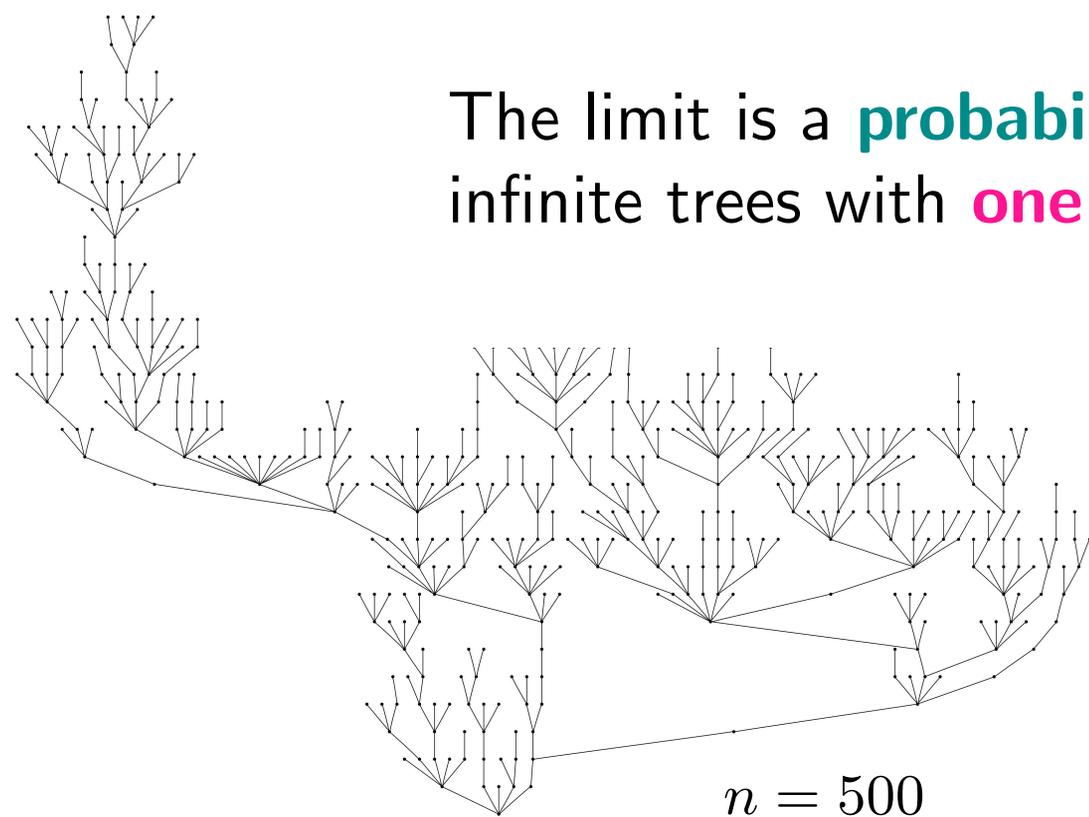


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The limit is a **probability distribution** on infinite trees with **one** infinite branch [Kesten].



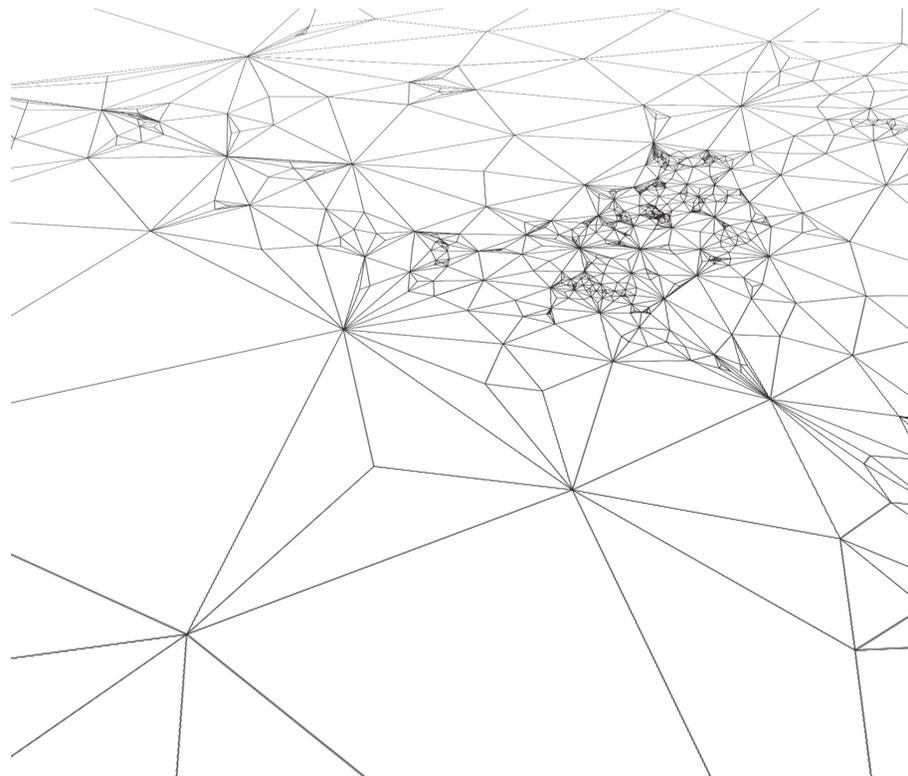
# Local limit of large uniformly random triangulations

**Theorem** [Angel – Schramm, '03]

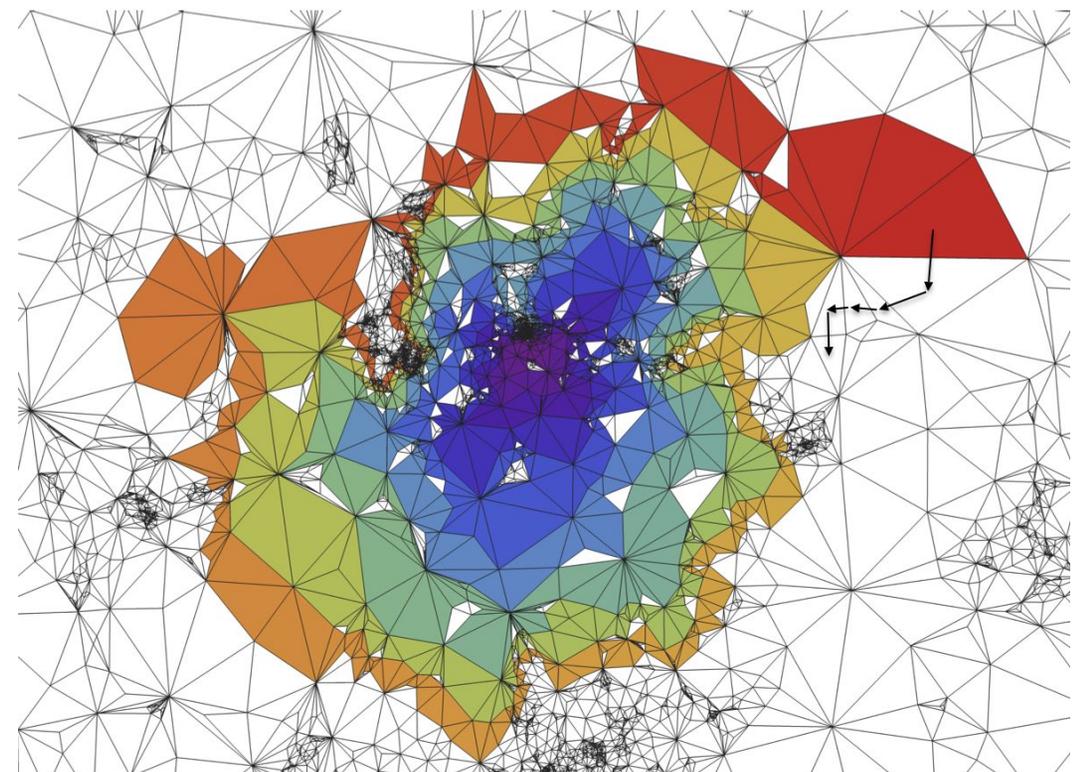
Let  $\mathbb{P}_n$  = uniform distribution on triangulations of size  $n$ .

$$\mathbb{P} \xrightarrow{(d)} \text{UIPT}, \quad \text{for the local topology}$$

UIPT = Uniform Infinite Planar Triangulation  
= measure supported on infinite planar triangulations.



Simulation by I. Kortchemski

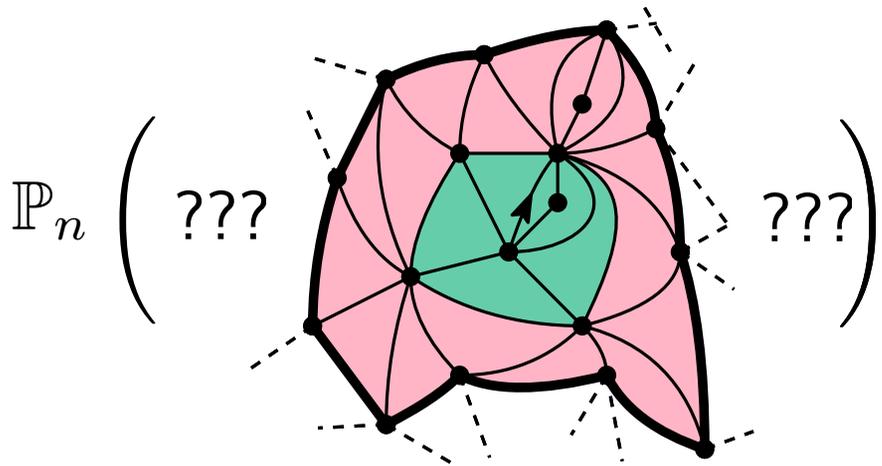


Simulation by T. Budd

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**A very short idea of the proof:**

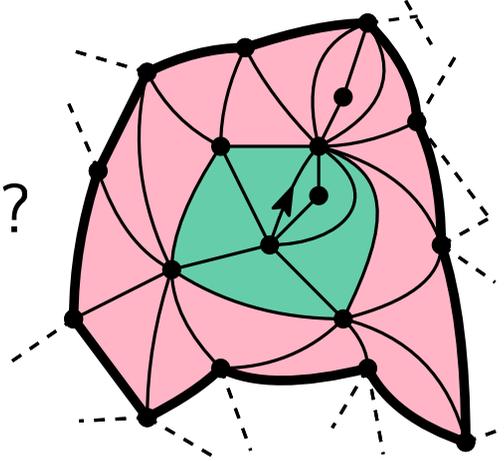
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1 / Need to evaluate the probability that a given neighborhood  $\Delta$  of the root appears:



$\ell(\Delta) = 11$

$$\mathbb{P}_n \left( \text{???} \right) = \frac{|\mathcal{T}_{3n-e(\Delta)+\ell(\Delta)}^{(k)}|}{|\mathcal{T}_n|}$$

$$\begin{cases} e(\Delta) = \#\{\text{edges of } \Delta\} \\ \ell(\Delta) = \text{perimeter of } \Delta \end{cases}$$

$\mathcal{T}_n^{(k)} = \{\text{triangulations with } n \text{ edges and perimeter } k\}$

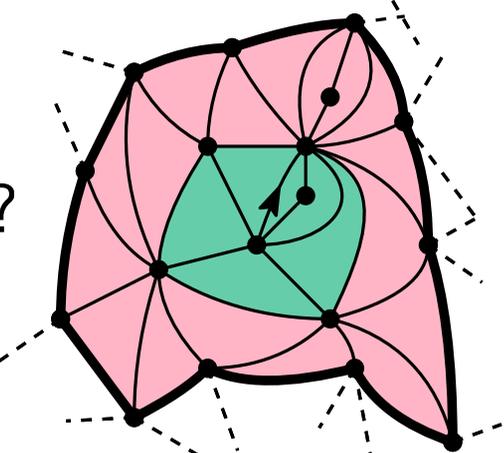
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1 / Need to evaluate the probability that a given neighborhood  $\Delta$  of the root appears:

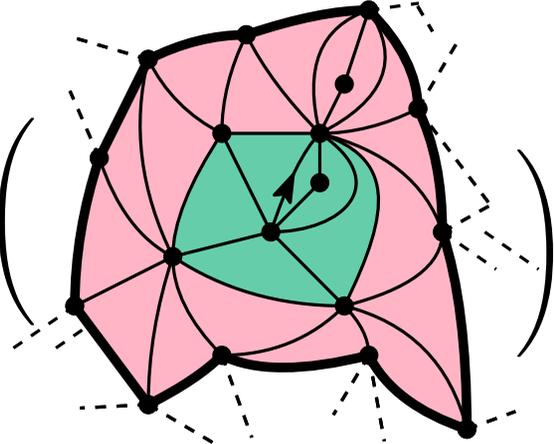
$$\mathbb{P}_n \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{???} \\ \text{Diagram of } \Delta \text{ with } l(\Delta) = 11 \\ \text{???} \end{array} \right) = \frac{|\mathcal{T}_{3n-e(\Delta)+l(\Delta)}^{(k)}|}{|\mathcal{T}_n|} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}_\infty \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Diagram of } \Delta \text{ with } l(\Delta) = 11 \\ \text{???} \end{array} \right)$$

$\mathcal{T}_n^{(k)} = \{\text{triangulations with } n \text{ edges and perimeter } k\}$



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$\begin{cases} e(\Delta) = \#\{\text{edges of } \Delta\} \\ l(\Delta) = \text{perimeter of } \Delta \end{cases}$



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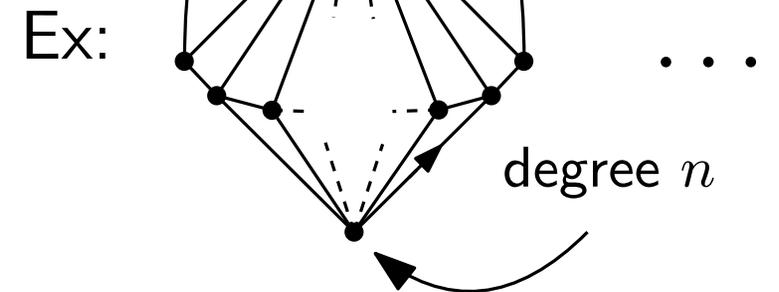
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**Problem:** the space  $(\mathcal{T}, d_{loc})$  is **not compact!**



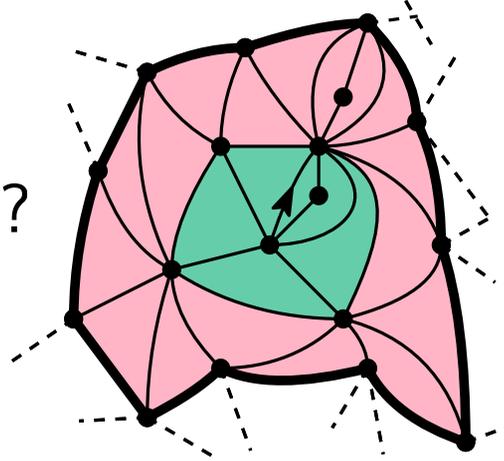
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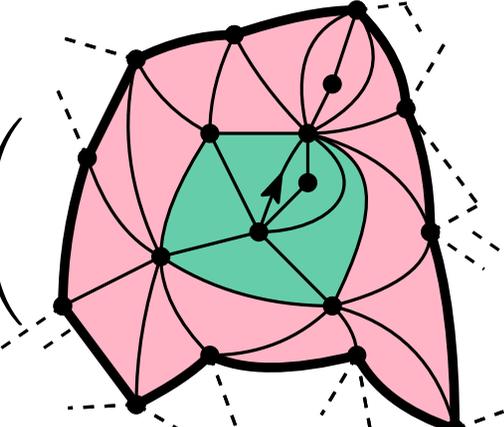
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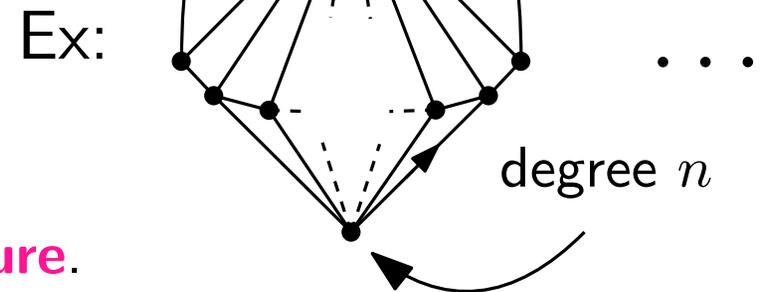
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2/ No loss of mass at the limit:

the measure  $\mathbb{P}_\infty$  defined by the limits **is a probability measure.**

$$\forall r \geq 0, \quad \sum_{r\text{-balls } \Delta} \mathbb{P}^\nu \left( \{T \in \mathcal{T}_\infty : B_r(T) = \Delta\} \right) = 1.$$

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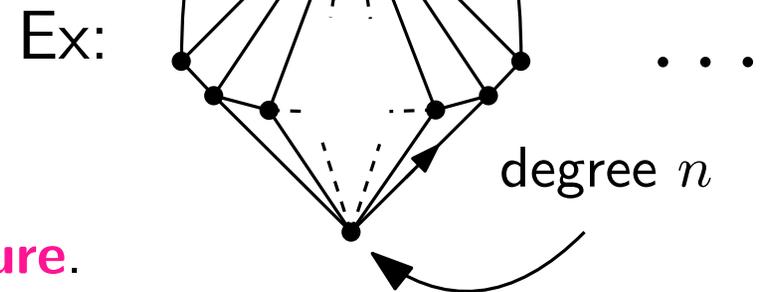
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the measure  $\mathbb{P}_\infty$  defined by the limits **is a probability measure.**

Enough to prove a **tightness** result, which amounts here to say that  $\text{deg}(\text{root})$  cannot be too big.

# Local limit of large uniformly random triangulations

## Theorem [Angel – Schramm, '03]

Let  $\mathbb{P}_n$  = uniform distribution on triangulations of size  $n$ .

$$\mathbb{P} \xrightarrow{(d)} \text{UIPT}, \quad \text{for the local topology}$$

UIPT = Uniform Infinite Planar Triangulation  
= measure supported on infinite planar triangulations.

### Some properties of the UIPT:

- The UIPT has almost surely one end [Angel – Schramm, 03]
- Volume (nb. of vertices) and perimeters of balls known to some extent.

$$\mathbb{E} [|B_R(\mathbf{T}_\infty)|] \sim \frac{2}{7} R^4 \quad [\text{Angel 04, Curien – Le Gall 12}]$$

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**Universality:** we expect the **same behavior** for other “reasonable” models of maps.

In particular, we expect the volume growth to be 4.

(proved for quadrangulations [Krikun 05], simple triangulations [Angel 04])

## Intermezzo: why should we care about local limits ?

Suppose that a sequence of random graphs  $G_n$  admits a local weak limit  $G_\infty$ ,

Then,  $f(G_n) \xrightarrow{\text{proba}} f(G_\infty)$  for any  $f$  which is continuous for  $d_{loc}$ .

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## Two example for maps:

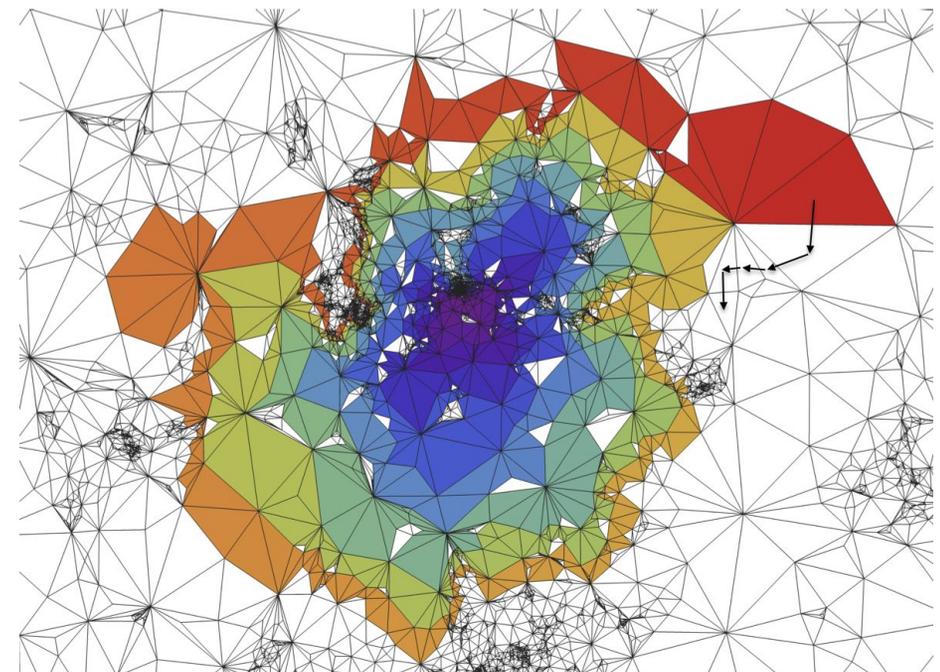
- one-endedness in the UIPT:

Allows to give an explicit description of what can happen when the map gets disconnected.

This is crucial to study a “peeling” exploration spiraling around the root, which gives the volume of the balls [Angel 03].

- spatial Markov property

Conditionally on their perimeter, the interior and exterior of a ball are independent



Simulation by T.Budd

# IV - Local limits of Ising-weighted triangulations

# Escaping universality: adding matter

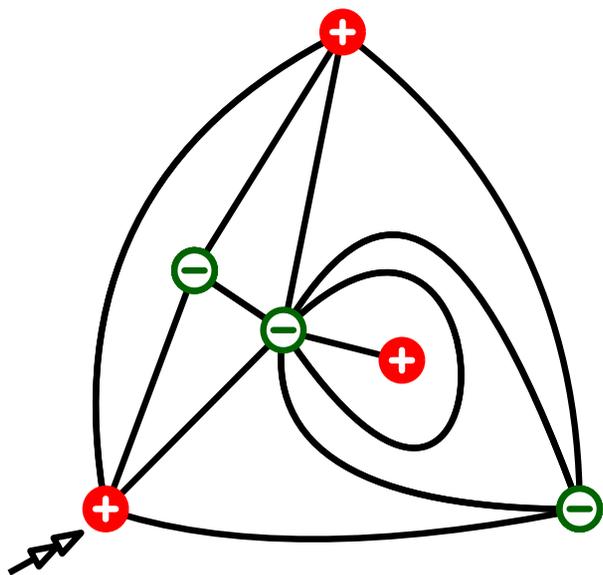
First, **Ising model** on a finite deterministic planar triangulation  $T$ :

**Spin configuration** on  $T$ :

$$\sigma : V(T) \rightarrow \{-1, +1\} = \{\ominus, \oplus\}.$$

**Ising model** on  $T$ : take a random spin configuration with probability:

$$P(\sigma) \propto e^{\beta J \sum_{v \sim v'} \mathbf{1}_{\{\sigma(v) = \sigma(v')\}}} \quad \begin{array}{l} \beta > 0: \text{ inverse temperature.} \\ J = \pm 1: \text{ coupling constant.} \\ h = 0: \text{ no magnetic field.} \end{array}$$



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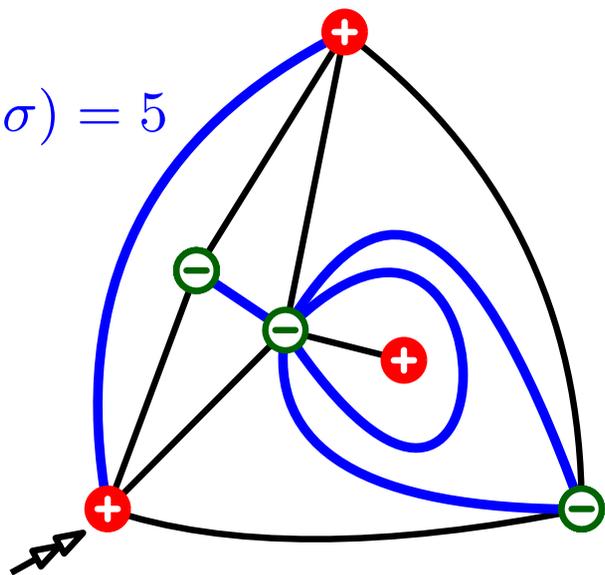
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$$m(\sigma) = 5$$



**Combinatorial formulation:**  $P(\sigma) \propto \nu^{m(\sigma)}$   
with  $m(\sigma) =$  number of monochromatic edges ( $\nu = e^{\beta J}$ ).

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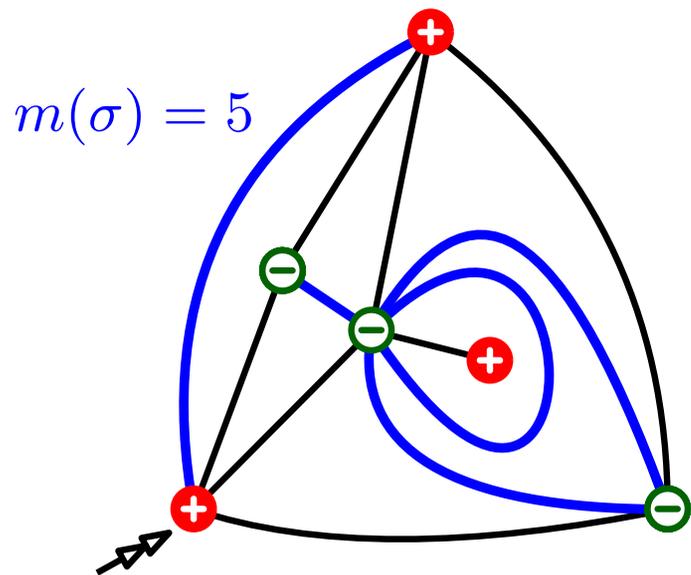
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**Next step:** Sample a triangulation of size  $n$  **together** with a spin configuration, with probability  $\propto \nu^{m(T, \sigma)}$ .

$$\mathbb{P}_n^\nu \left( \{(T, \sigma)\} \right) = \frac{\nu^{m(T, \sigma)} \delta_{|e(T)|=3n}}{\mathcal{Z}_n}.$$

$\mathcal{Z}_n =$  normalizing constant.

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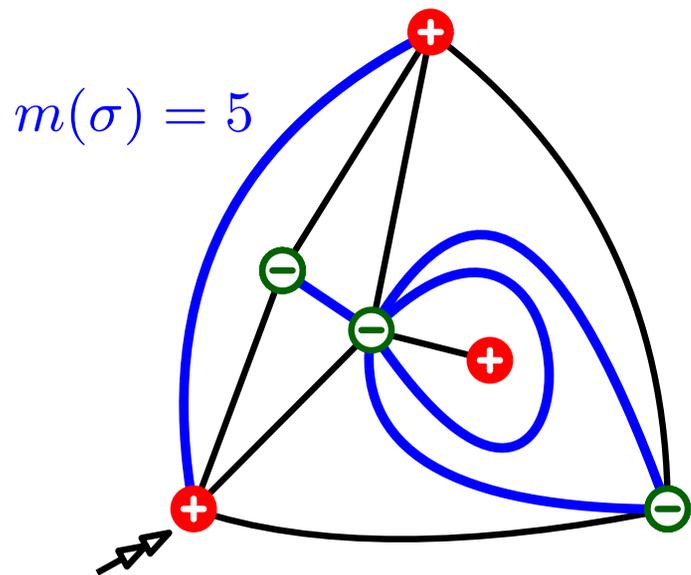
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**Remark:** This is a probability distribution on triangulations **with** spins. But, forgetting the spins gives a probability a distribution on triangulations **without** spins **different from the uniform distribution**.

# Escaping universality: new asymptotic behavior

## Counting exponent for undecorated maps:

number of (undecorated) maps of size  $n \sim \kappa \rho^{-n} n^{-5/2}$

(e.g.: triangulations, quadrangulations, general maps, simple maps,...)

where  $\kappa$  and  $\rho$  depend on the combinatorics of the model.

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## Generating series of Ising-weighted triangulations:

$$Q(\nu, t) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_f} \sum_{\sigma: V(T) \rightarrow \{-1, +1\}} \nu^{m(T, \sigma)} t^{e(T)}.$$

### Theorem [Bernardi – Bousquet-Mélou 11]

For every  $\nu > 0$ ,  $Q(\nu, t)$  is algebraic and satisfies

$$[t^{3n}]Q(\nu, t) \underset{n \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \begin{cases} \kappa \rho_{\nu_c}^{-n} n^{-7/3} & \text{if } \nu = \nu_c = 1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{7}}, \\ \kappa \rho_{\nu}^{-n} n^{-5/2} & \text{if } \nu \neq \nu_c. \end{cases}$$

See also [Boulatov – Kazakov 1987], [Bousquet-Melou – Schaeffer 03] and [Bouttier – Di Francesco – Guitter 04].

This suggests a **different behavior** of the underlying maps for  $\nu = \nu_c$ .

# Local convergence of triangulations with spins

**Theorem** [A. – Ménard – Schaeffer, 21]

Let  $\mathbb{P}_n^\nu = \nu$ -Ising weighted probability distribution for triangulations of size  $n$ :

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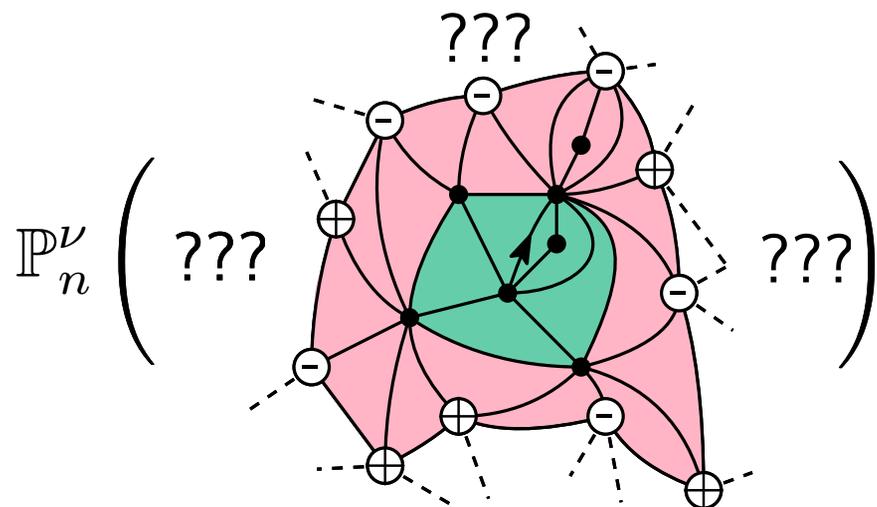
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Generating series of triangulations with boundary conditions given by  $\omega$ .

Here  $\omega = + - + - - - + - + + -$

$$\mathbb{P}_n^\nu \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{???} \\ \text{Diagram of a triangulation with spins and a central green region} \\ \text{???} \end{array} \right) = \frac{\nu^{m(\Delta) - m(\omega)} [t^{3n - e(\Delta) + |\omega|}] \mathbf{Z}_\omega(\nu, t)}{[t^{3n}] Q(\nu, t)}$$

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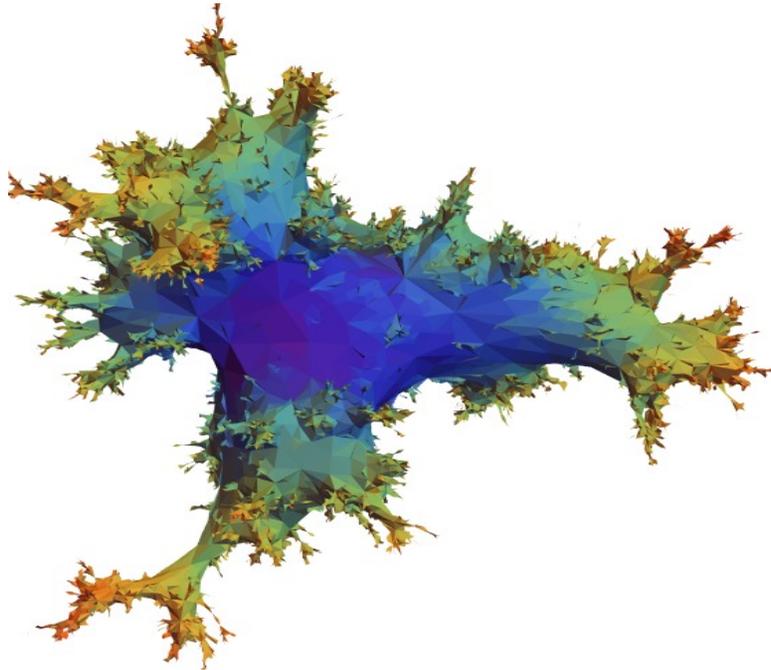
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**Non-universality**: we expect a **different** behavior for  $\nu = \nu_c$

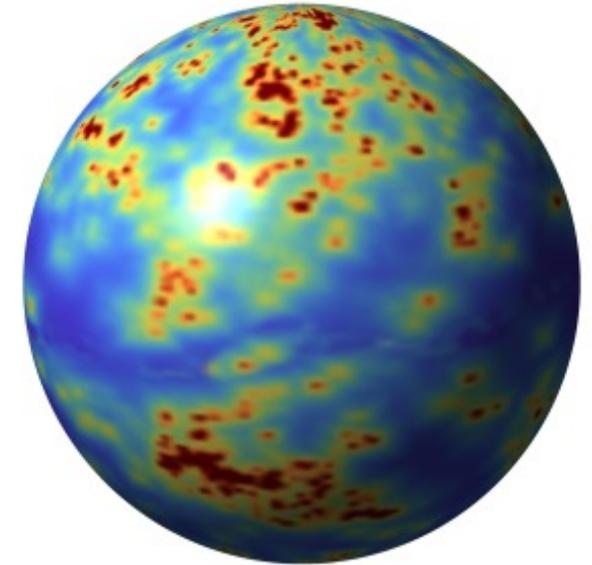
In particular, we expect the volume growth to be different from 4.

# Link with Liouville Quantum Gravity

$\gamma \in (0, 2)$ ,  $\gamma$ -Liouville Quantum Gravity = measure on a surface [Duplantier, Sheffield 11].



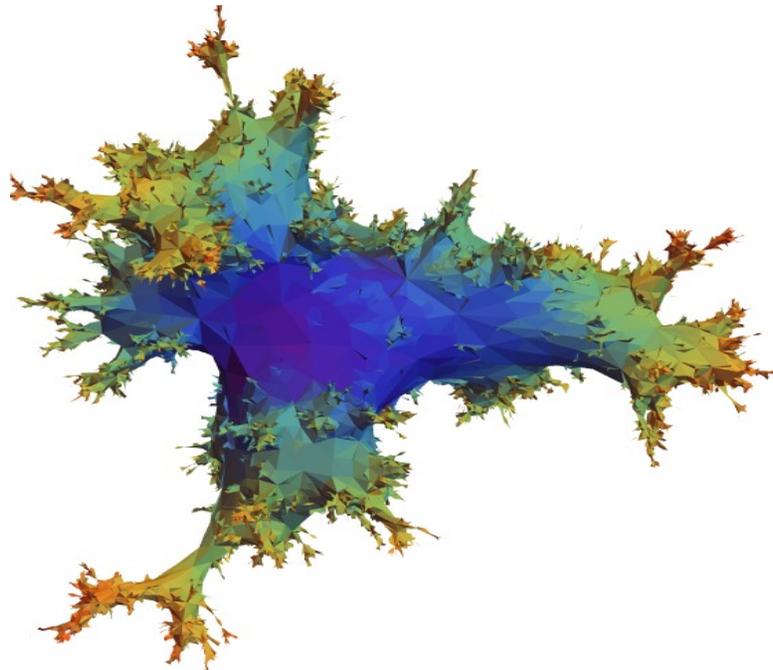
Simulation of the Brownian map by T. Budd



Simulation of  $\sqrt{\frac{8}{3}}$ -LQG by T. Budd

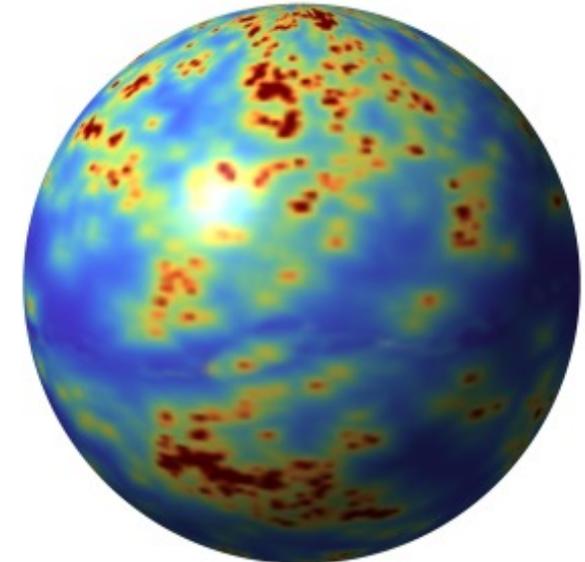
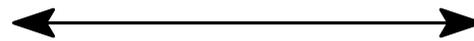
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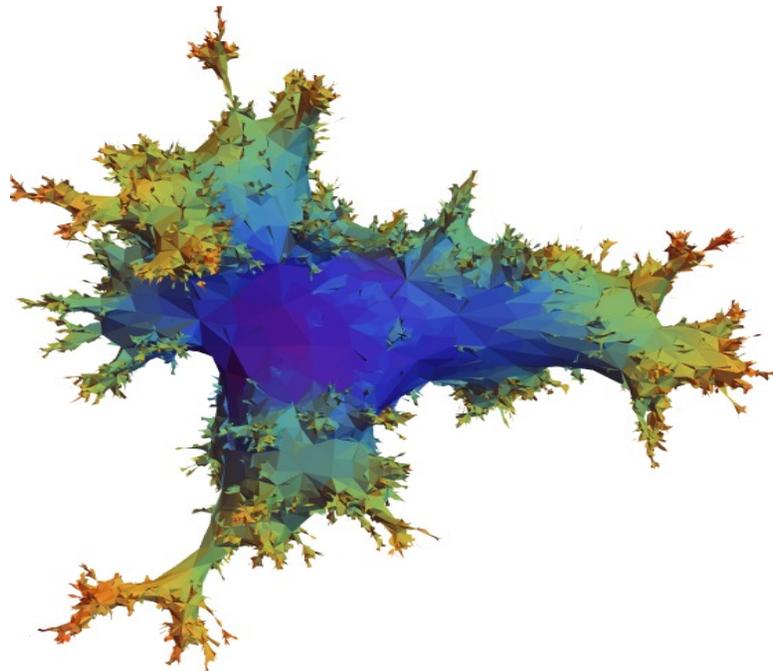
[Duplantier, Miller, Sheffield 14]  
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Construction in the continuum.



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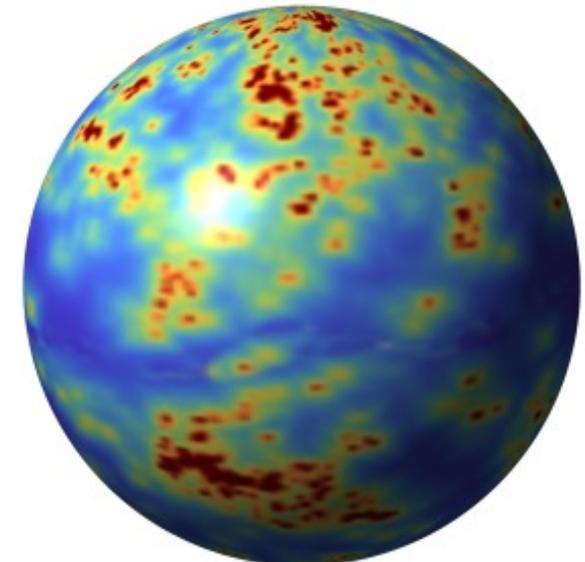
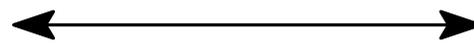


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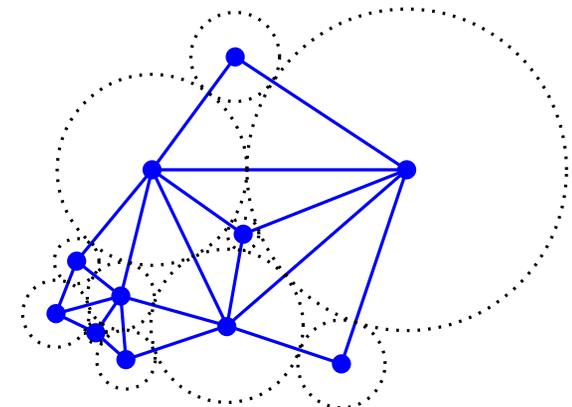
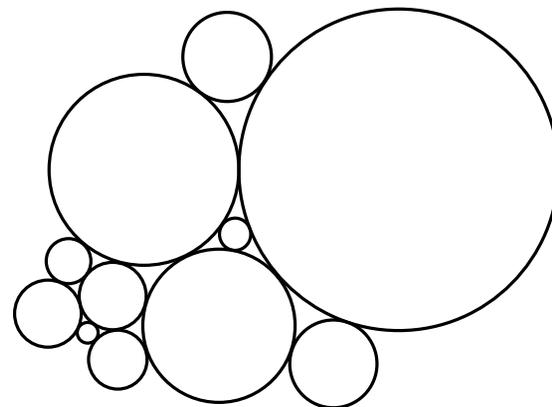


Simulation of  $\sqrt{\frac{8}{3}}$ -LQG by T. Budd

A priori , there is no canonical way to embed a planar map in the sphere.

But, for simple triangulations:  
the **circle packing theorem**  
gives a canonical embedding.

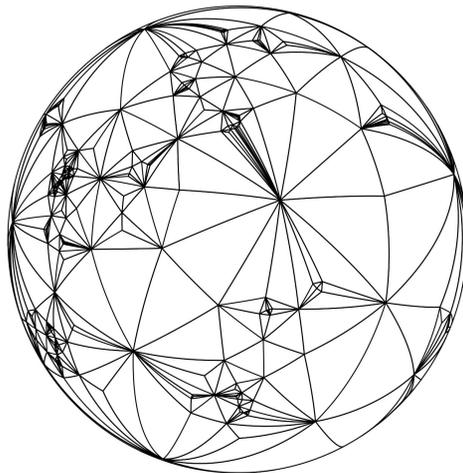
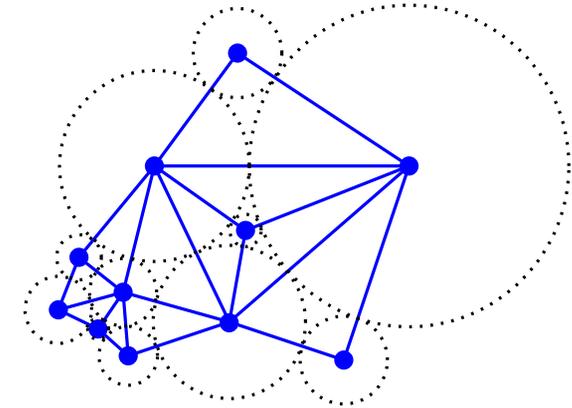
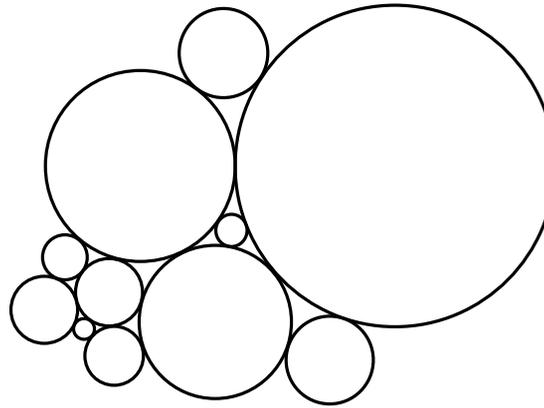
(Unique up to Möbius transformations.)



# Link with Liouville Quantum Gravity

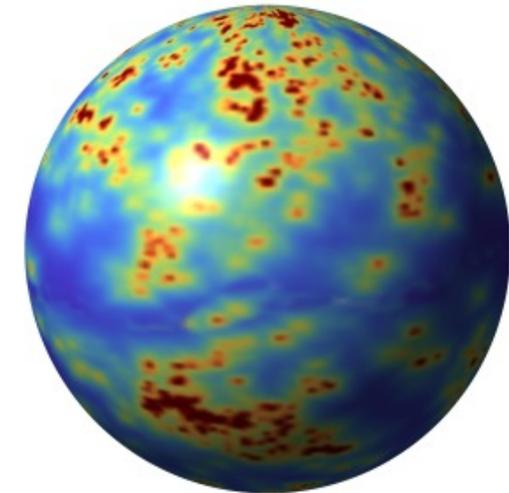
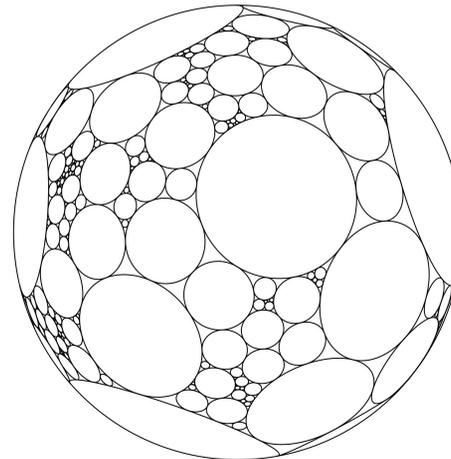
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Simulation of a large simple triangulation  
embedded in the sphere by circle packing.

Software CirclePack by K.Stephenson.



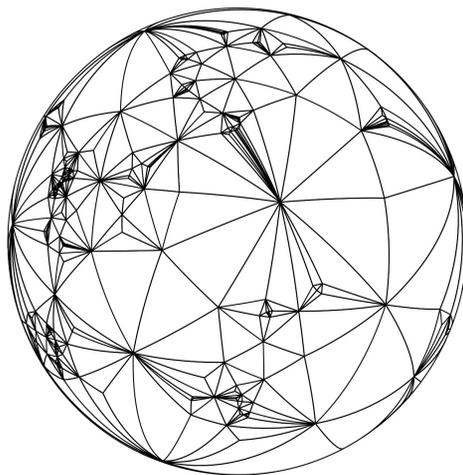
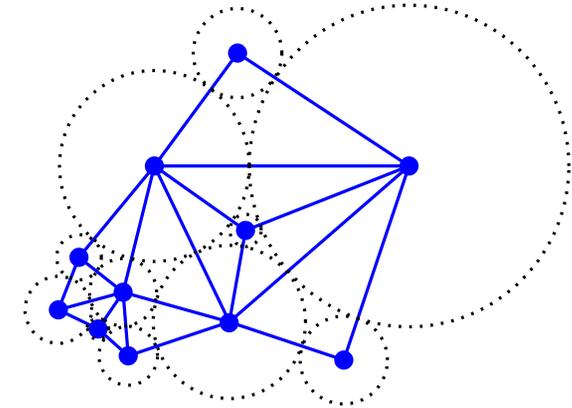
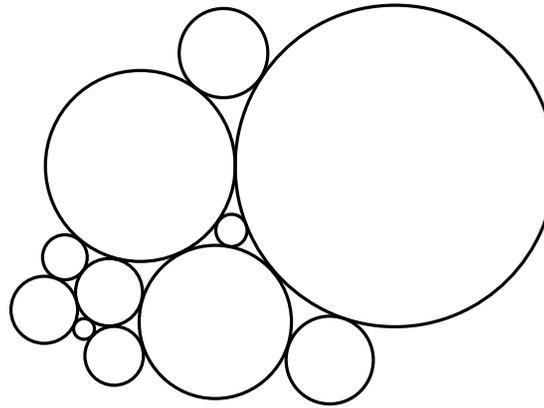
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Unknown for embedding via circle packings, but fantastic result similar  
in spirit in [\[Holden – Sun 20\]](#)

# Link with Liouville Quantum Gravity

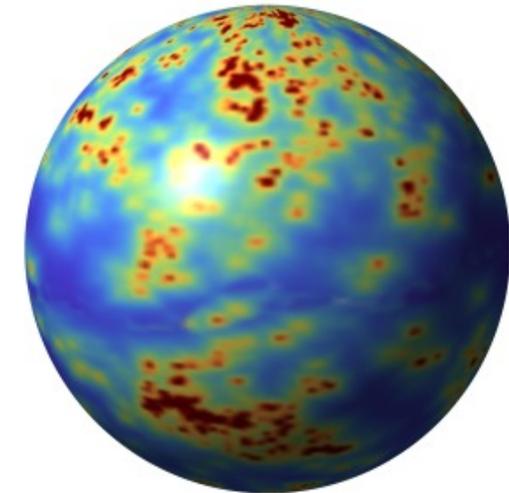
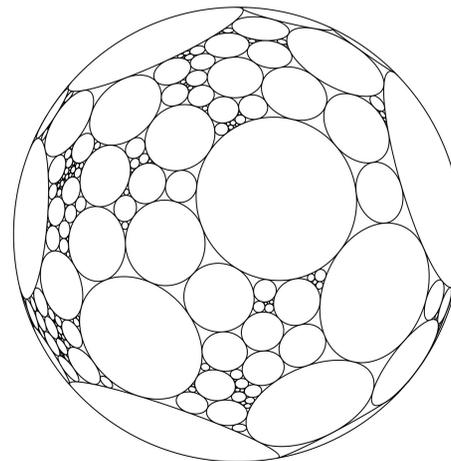
But, for simple triangulations:  
the **circle packing theorem**  
gives a canonical embedding.

(Unique up to Möbius transformations.)



Simulation of a large simple triangulation  
embedded in the sphere by circle packing.

Software CirclePack by K.Stephenson.



Simulation of  $\sqrt{\frac{8}{3}}$ -LQG by T.Budd

Unknown for embedding via circle packings, but fantastic result similar  
in spirit in [\[Holden – Sun 20\]](#)

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The critical Ising model is *believed* to converge to  $\sqrt{3}$ -LQG.

Similar statements for other models of decorated maps  
(with a spanning subtree ( $\gamma = \sqrt{2}$ ), with a bipolar orientation ( $\gamma = \sqrt{4/3}$ ),...).

For  $\gamma \in (0, 2)$ , there exists  $d_\gamma =$  “fractal dimension of  $\gamma$ -LQG”

$d_\gamma =$  ball volume growth exponent for corresponding maps ??

YES, in some cases [Gwynne, Holden, Sun '17], [Ding, Gwynne '18]

The connection is not proven for Ising, but  $d_{\sqrt{3}}$  is a good candidate for the volume growth exponent.

**What is  $d_{\sqrt{3}}$  ?**

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Watabiki's prediction:

$$d_\gamma = 1 + \frac{\gamma^2}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{(4 + \gamma^2)^2 + 16\gamma^2} \quad \text{gives} \quad d_{\sqrt{3}} \approx 4.21\dots$$

[Ding, Gwynne '18]

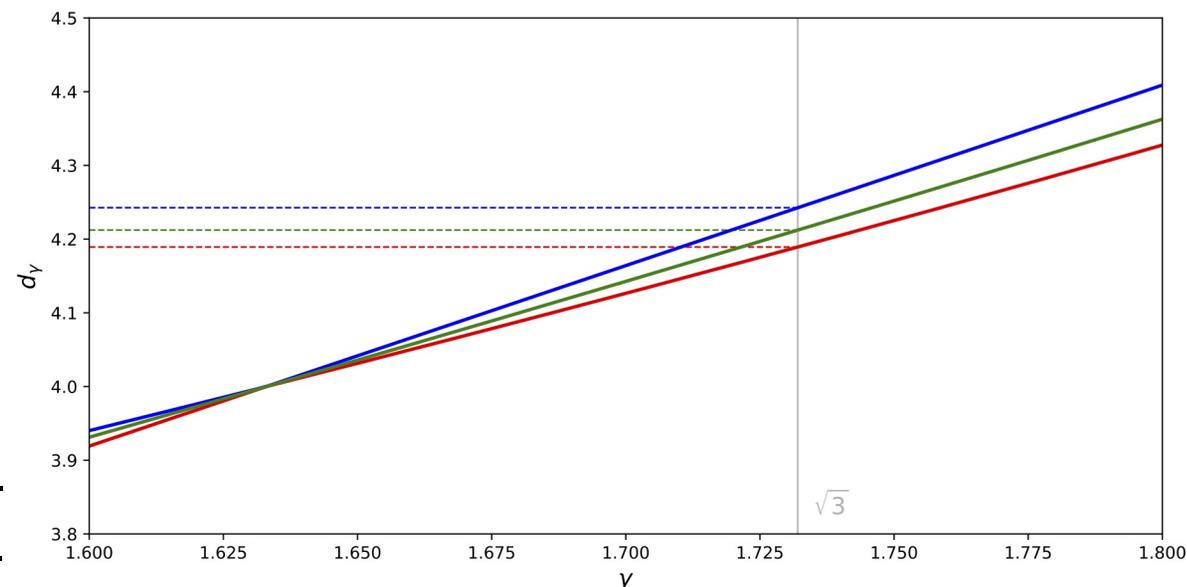
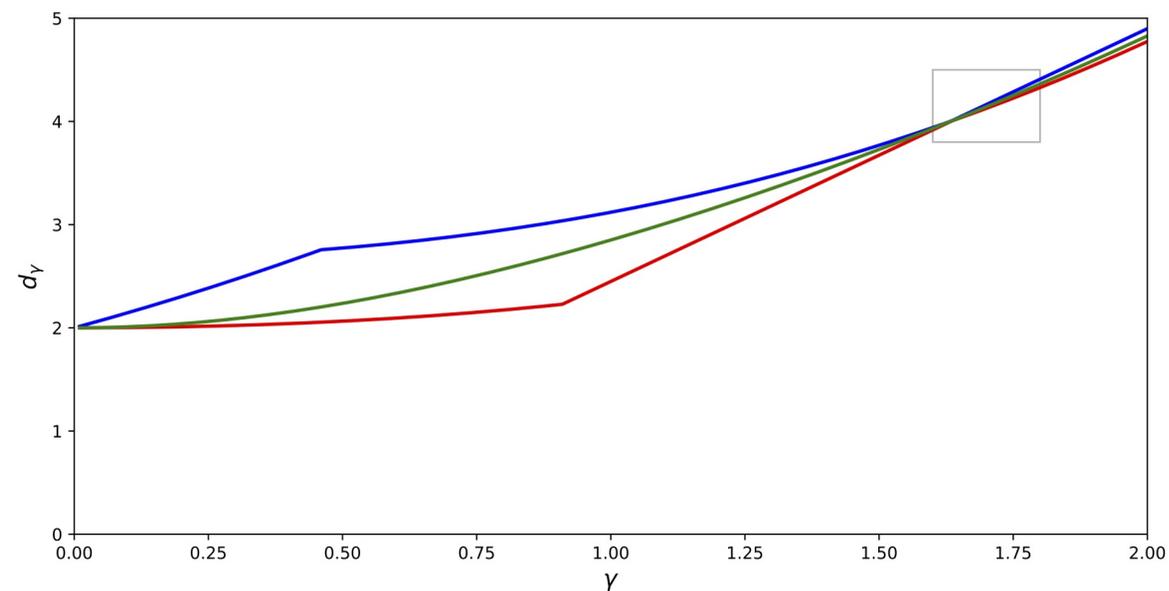
Bounds for  $d_\gamma$  which give:

$$4.18 \leq d_{\sqrt{3}} \leq 4.25.$$

In particular  $d_{\sqrt{3}} \neq 4$  and growth volume would then be different than the uniform model.

Green = Watabiki.

Blue and Red = bounds by Ding and Gwynne.



Thank you !

# Perspectives

- Compute the volume growth of the  $\nu$ -IPT  
or, at least, prove that it is different from 4 for  $\nu = \nu_c$
- Study the connected components of the  $+$  spins in the  $\nu$ -IPT  
gives some insights about the Ising model on  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  via the KPZ formula

More generally, investigate the different statistical physics models and their link with  $\gamma$ -LQG