Uniformization and percolation

Itai Benjamini

October 2015
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Riemann’s theorem and probability

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How does surface uniformization manifest itself in the context of percolation?
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A discrete uniformization theorem

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He and Schramm (1995): Let $G$ be the 1-skeleton of a triangulation of an open disk. If the random walk on $G$ is recurrent, then $G$ is circled packed in the Euclidean plane. Conversely, if the degrees of the vertices in $G$ are bounded and the random walk on $G$ is transient, then $G$ is circle packed in the unit disc.

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The square tiling and the circle packing of the 7-regular hyperbolic triangulation
Using discrete uniformization, with Oded (1995) we showed: A bounded degree transient planar graph admits non constant bounded harmonic functions.

Corollary: $\mathbb{Z}^3$ is not planar.

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Discrete uniformization and random walks

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Carmesin and Georgakopoulos (2015) relaxed the condition of bounded degree in several natural cases. E.g. for non amenable planar graphs.
Moreover the Poisson boundary of a planar graph coincides with the boundary of its square tiling and with the boundary of its circle packing. Recent works by Georgakopoulos and by Angel, Barlow, Gurel-Gurevich and Nachmias respectively.
Uniformization and percolation?

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Conjecture

Assume $G$ is transient, then $1/2$-Bernoulli site percolation on $G$ admits an infinite cluster a.s.

Start by showing it for some fixed $p > 1/2$. 
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**Conjecture**

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One reason to be skeptical about the conjecture is that for critical percolation on the triangular lattice, the probability the cluster of the origin reaches distance $r$ decays polynomially in $r$, while there are transient triangulations of volume growth $r^2 \log^3 r$. 
Motivation for the conjecture, a short detour

Tile the unit square with (possibly infinity number) of squares of varying sizes so that at most three squares meet at corners. Color each square black or white with equal probability independently.

Conjecture

Show that there is a universal $c > 0$, so that the probability of a black left right crossing is bigger than $c$. And as the size of the largest square goes to 0, the crossing probability goes to $1/2$. 
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Comments on the tiling conjecture

If true, the same should hold for a tiling, or a packing of a triangulation, with a set of shapes that are of bounded Hausdorff distance to circles.

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Comments on the tiling conjecture

Behind the tiling conjecture is a rough version of conformal invariance. That is, the crossing probability is balanced if the tiles are of uniformly bounded distance to circles (rotation invariance), and the squares can be of different sizes, (dilation invariance).
Let $G$ the 1-skeleton of bounded degree transient triangulation of an open disk. By *discrete uniformization* it admits a circle packing with similar properties as the tiling in *conjecture*. And if the conformal invariance heuristic holds, we will a.s. see macroscopic crossings for $1/2$-Bernoulli site percolation.
Non uniqueness at 1/2

Moreover by same reasoning we will see unboundedly many macroscopic clusters for 1/2-Bernoulli percolation, suggesting that if $G$ is a 1-skeleton of bounded degree transient a triangulation of an open disk, then there are a.s. infinitely many infinite clusters for 1/2-Bernoulli site percolation?

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We believe that $p_c \geq 1/2$ for polynomial growth triangulations of the open disk. Note that if all degrees are at least 6, polynomial growth implies that vertices of higher degrees are polynomially sparse, this suggests that their critical probability for percolation is 1/2, as of the triangular lattice. For nonamenable transitive or sofic triangulations $p_c < 1/2$, remove the transitivity assumption?
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