

# Weakly exponential measures and time changes of the Brownian motion

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**Our space:**  $K = [0, 1]^2$

$\mu$ : a Borel regular probability measure on  $K$ .

$\mu$  has weak exponential decay  $\stackrel{\text{def}}{\Leftrightarrow}$

$\exists c_1, c_2, \alpha_1, \alpha_2 > 0, \forall x \in [0, 1]^2, \forall r \in (0, 1]$

$$c_1 r^{\alpha_1} \leq \mu(B_*(x, r)) \leq c_2 r^{\alpha_2}, \quad (0.1)$$

where  $B_*(x, r) = \{y | y \in [0, 1]^2, |x - y| < r\}$ .

### Examples

- (1) Liouville measure (or Liouville quantum gravity) associated with Gaussian free field
- (2) Random self-similar measures

## Gaussian Free Field: a very short introduction based on [9, 2]

**First Ingredient:**  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ : a probability space

$\{\varphi_i\}_{i \geq 1}$ : independent random variables satisfying  $\forall i \geq 1, \varphi_i \in L^2(\Omega, P)$ ,

$$\int_{\Omega} \varphi_i dP = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{\Omega} (\varphi_i)^2 dP = 1.$$

$\{\varphi_i\}_{i \geq 1}$ : independent  $\Rightarrow \{\varphi_i\}_{i \geq 1}$  is an orthonormal system of  $L^2(\Omega, P)$ .

**Second Ingredient:**  $(H, (\cdot, \cdot))$ : a real Hilbert space,

$\{e_i\}_{i \geq 1}$ : a complete orthonormal base of  $(H, (\cdot, \cdot))$ .

Define  $\Phi : H \rightarrow L^2(\Omega, P)$  as,  $\forall \{\alpha_i\}_{i \geq 1} \in \ell^2(\mathbb{R})$ ,

$$\Phi\left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_i e_i\right) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_i \varphi_i$$

$$\Phi \xrightarrow[\text{isometry}]{} \overline{\langle \varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots \rangle} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad (h, h) = \int_{\Omega} (\Phi(h))^2 dP.$$

Formally if  $X_{\omega} = \sum_{i \geq 1} \varphi_i(\omega) e_i$ , then

$$\Phi(h)(\omega) = (X_{\omega}, h).$$

Note that  $X_{\omega} \notin H!!$

## Additional Setting 1: Gaussian

Assume that the distribution of  $\varphi_i$  = the **centered normal Gaussian**;

$\forall$  Borel set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$P((\varphi_i)^{-1}(A)) = \int_A \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx.$$

$\Downarrow$

$$P(\Phi(h)^{-1}(A)) = \int_A \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(h, h)}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2(h, h)}} dx.$$

**the distribution of  $\Phi(h)$**

## Additional Setting 2: Dirichlet energy

$U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ : a bounded domain,  $\mu_*$ : the Lebesgue measure

$H_0^1(U)$ : the collection of  $H^1$  functions with 0-boundary conditions.

$(\cdot, \cdot)_D$ : the Dirichlet energy defined by

$$(f, g)_D \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_U (\nabla f, \nabla g) d\mu_*$$

Fact:  $(H_0^1(U), (\cdot, \cdot)_D)$  is a Hilbert space.

$\exists$  a complete orthonormal system  $\{f_i\}_{i \geq 1}$  of  $L^2(U, \mu_*)$  and  $\{\lambda_i\}_{i \geq 1}$  such that  $0 < \lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_3 \leq \dots$ ,  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_i = +\infty$ ,  $\forall i \geq 1$ ,

$$f_i \in H_0^1(U) \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta f_i = -\lambda_i f_i$$

$\Downarrow$

$\left\{ e_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{f_i}{\sqrt{\lambda_i}} \right\}_{i \geq 1}$  : an orthonormal base of  $(H_0^1(U), (\cdot, \cdot)_D)$

**Definition 0.1.**  $\Phi(H)$  is called the **Gaussian free field** over  $U$  associated with  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  and  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \geq 1}$ .

Formally

$$X_\omega(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i \geq 1} \varphi_i(\omega) e_i(x) : \text{Gaussian random variable for each } x \in U$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} E_P[X_\omega(x)X_\omega(y)] &= \int_{\Omega} X_\omega(x)X_\omega(y)P(d\omega) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} e_i(x)e_i(y) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{f_i(x)f_i(y)}{\lambda_i} = G_U(x, y), \end{aligned}$$

where  $G_U(x, y)$  is the Green function of the domain  $U$ .



## Gaussiann free field to Liouville measure

Assume  $n = 2$ .

$\Phi(H)$ : Gaussiann free field over  $U$  associated with  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$  and  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \geq 1}$ .

Define

$$X_{N,\omega}(z) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^N \varphi_i(\omega) e_i(z).$$

$\Rightarrow \forall \omega \in \Omega, X_{N,\omega} \in H_0^1(U)$  and  $\forall z \in U, X_{N,\omega}(z) \in L^2(\Omega, P)$ .

In  $L^2(\Omega, P)$ ,

$$\Phi(h) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} (X_{N,\omega}, h)_D (= (X_\omega, h)_D, \text{formally})$$

$X_{N,\omega}$ : regularization of  $X_\omega$ .

For  $\gamma \geq 0$ , define

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_{N,\gamma,\omega}(z) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \gamma X_{N,\omega}(z) - \frac{\gamma^2}{2} E_P[X_{N,\omega}(z)^2] \\ &= \gamma X_{N,\omega}(z) - \frac{\gamma^2}{2} \int_{\Omega} X_{N,\omega}(z)^2 P(d\omega) \\ &= \gamma \sum_{i=1}^N \varphi_i(\omega) e_i(z) - \frac{\gamma^2}{2} G_U^{(N)}(z, z),\end{aligned}$$

where  $G_U^{(N)}(z, w) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f_i(z) f_i(w)}{\lambda_i}$ .

Define

$$M_{\gamma,N,\omega}(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_A e^{\lambda_{N,\gamma,\omega}(z)} \mu_*(dz)$$

for any Borel set  $A \subseteq U$ . Then

**Theorem 0.2** (Duplantier and Sheffield[2]).  $\forall \gamma \in [0, 2)$ ,  $P$ -a.s  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,

$$\boxed{M_{\gamma,N,\omega} \xrightarrow{\text{weakly}} M_{\gamma,\omega} \text{ as } N \rightarrow \infty.}$$

Formally,

$$M_{\gamma,\omega}(dz) = e^{\lambda_{\gamma,\omega}(z)} \mu_*(dz), \text{ where } \lambda_{\gamma,\omega}(z) = \gamma X_\omega(z) - \frac{\gamma^2}{2} E_P[X_\omega(z)^2]$$

$M_{\gamma,\omega}$ : the **Liouville measure**, or, the **Liouville quantum gravity**

There is another way to construct the Liouville measure by means of **Gaussian multiplicative chaos** originated by Kahane[5] and recently developed by Robert and Vargas[8]. See also [7].

## Liouville Brownian motion

By Garban, Rodes and Vargas [4, 3]

Time change of the Brownian motion with respect to  $M_{\gamma,\omega}$  is possible.

$\exists p_{\gamma,\omega}(t, z_1, z_2)$ : associated heat kernel which is jointly continuous

The time changed process is called **the Liouville Brownian motion**.

**Asymptotic behavior of  $p_{\gamma,\omega}(t, z_1, z_2)$ :**

Maillard, Rhodes, Vargas and Zeitouni [6] and Andres and Kajino[1].

By Andres and Kajino,  $P$ -a.e.  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,  $M_{\gamma,\omega}$ -a.e.  $z \in U$ ,

$$\lim_{t \downarrow 0} - \frac{\log p_{\gamma,\omega}(t, z, z)}{\log t} = 1 + \text{rough off-diagonal estimate}$$

**Notable fact on the Liouville measure:**

**Proposition 0.3** ([4] + [1]). *Let  $V$  be a bounded subset of  $U$ . Then for  $P$ -a.e.  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,  $\exists c_1, c_2, \alpha_1, \alpha_2 > 0, \exists R > 0, \forall x \in V, \forall r \in (0, R]$ ,*

$$c_1 r^{\alpha_1} \leq M_{\gamma, \omega}(B_*(x, r)) \leq c_2 r^{\alpha_2}.$$

**Self-similarity of  $K$ :**  $q_1 = (0, 0)$ ,  $q_2 = (1, 0)$ ,  $q_3 = (1, 1)$ ,  $q_4 = (0, 1)$  and

$$F_i(x) = \frac{x - q_i}{2} + q_i$$

for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ .

$$W_m = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}^m = \{w_1 \dots w_m \mid w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}\}$$

$$W_* = \bigcup_{m \geq 0} W_m$$

$$F_{w_1 \dots w_m} = F_{w_1} \circ F_{w_2} \circ \dots \circ F_{w_m}$$

$$K_{w_1 \dots w_m} = F_{w_1 \dots w_m}(K)$$

$|w|$ : length of  $w \in W_*$   $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} m$  such that  $w \in W_m$ .

## Random self-similar measure

$$\Delta = \{(p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4) \mid 0 < p_i < 1, p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 = 1\}$$

$\nu$  is a Bore regular probability measure on  $\Delta$ .

Let  $\{(\Delta_w, \nu_w)\}_{w \in W_*}$  be independent copies of  $(\Delta, \nu)$  and define  $(\Omega, \mathbb{P}_\nu)$  as

$$\Omega = \prod_{w \in W_*} \Delta_w \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{P}_\nu = \prod_{w \in W_*} \nu_w.$$

**Fact:**  $\mathbb{P}_\nu$ -a.e.  $\omega = \prod_{w \in W_*} (p_1(w, \omega), p_2(w, \omega), p_3(w, \omega), p_4(w, \omega))$ ,  
 $\exists$  Borel regular probability measure  $P_\omega^\nu$  such that

$$P_\omega^\nu(K_{w_1 \dots w_m}) = p_{w_1}(\phi, \omega) p_{w_2}(w_1, \omega) \cdots p_{w_m}(w_1 \dots w_{m-1}, \omega)$$

$P_\omega^\nu$ : a random self-similar measure on  $K$ .

**Theorem 0.4.** *Assume that  $\exists q > 0$  such that  $\forall i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ ,*

$$\int_{\Delta} (p_i)^{-q} d\nu < +\infty.$$

*Then for  $\mathbb{P}_\nu$ -a.e.  $\omega$ ,  $P_\omega^\nu$  has weak exponential decay.*



the reflected Brownian motion on the square  $K = [0, 1]^2$

$$\mathcal{E}(u, v) = \int_K \sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i} dx : \text{Dirichlet energy}$$

for  $u, v \in H^{1,2}(K)$ : the Sobolev space.

$$\mathcal{E}(u, v) = - \int_K u(Lv) dx,$$

where  $Lv = \sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x_i^2} : \text{Laplacian.}$

## Time Change = Inhomogeneous media

Introduce  $\mu$ : **Density of the media**, a Radon measure on  $K$ .

Assume that  $\mu(A) = 0$  whenever  $\text{Cap}(A) = 0$ .

$\mu$  need **not** to be **absolutely continuous** to  $dx$

Then by taking a proper modification  $\mathcal{F}_\mu$  of the original domain  $H^{1,2}(K)$ ,

$(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F}_\mu)$ : a local regular Dirichlet form on  $L^2(K, \mu)$

→ same paths but different speeds

Define

$$h(x, y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \max\{-\log|x - y|, 1\}$$

$$h_\mu(w) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sup_{x \in K_w} \int_{K_w} h(x, y) \mu(dy)$$

$h(x, y) \asymp$  the 0-Green function

**Proposition 0.5.**  $\mu$ : weakly exponential decay  $\Rightarrow \exists C > 0, \forall w \in W_*$ ,

$$h_\mu(w) \leq C|w|^2 \mu(K_w).$$

Furthermore, time change is possible with respect to  $\mu$ .

$\mu$ : the volume doubling property  $\Rightarrow \exists C > 0, \forall w \in W_*$

$$h_\mu(w) \leq C|w| \mu(K_w).$$

## Poincaré inequality

Classical Poincaré inequality:

$$Cr^2 \int_{B_*(x,r)} \sum_{i=1}^2 \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right)^2 dx \geq \int_{B_*(x,r)} |u(y) - u|_{B_*(x,r)}|^2 dy,$$

where  $B_*(x, r) = \{y \mid |x - y| < r\}$ .

⇒ Estimate of the second eigenvalue of the Neumann Laplacian  $\lambda_2$ , i.e.

$$\lambda_2 \geq \frac{C}{r^2}.$$

## Poincaré inequality in general

$(X, d)$ : a metric space,  $\mu$ : a Radon measure on  $X$ .

$(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F})$ : a local regular Dirichlet form on  $L^2(X, \mu)$ .

$U, V$ : open subsets of  $X$ ,  $\bar{V} \subseteq U \subseteq X$ .

$g_U(x, y)$ : 0-order Green function associated with  $\mathcal{E}$  on  $U$ .

**Assumption 0.6.**  $\exists \alpha > 0, \forall x, y \in V, z \in U$  with  $d(x, z) \geq d(x, y)/2$ ,

$$g_U(x, z) \leq \alpha g_U(x, y)$$

The following result is an adaptation/modification of that in  
R. Bass, A stability theorem for elliptic Harnack inequalities, J. Eur. Math.  
Soc. 17(2013), 856–876

**Theorem 0.7.** *Under Assumption 0.6,  $\forall f \in \mathcal{F}$ ,*

$$\mathcal{E}(f, f) \geq \frac{1}{2^6} \frac{\mu(V) \inf_{x, y \in V} g_U(x, y)}{\alpha^2 \left( \sup_{x \in V} \int_U g_U(x, z) \mu(dz) \right)^2} \int_V (f(x) - (f)_V)^2 \mu(dx)$$

*Remark.*

$$E_x(\tau_U) = \int_U g_U(x, z) \mu(dz) : \text{Exit time form } U$$

**Theorem 0.8.**  $\exists C > 0$  such that  $\mu$ : Time change is possible  $\Rightarrow$   
 $\lambda_2(\mu) \geq \frac{C}{h_\mu(\phi)^2}$ , i.e.

$$\mathcal{E}(u, u) \geq \frac{C}{h_\mu(\phi)^2} \int_K (u(x) - (u)_\mu)^2 \mu(dx),$$

where  $(u)_\mu \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_K u(x) \mu(dx)$ .

Note that

$$\mathcal{E}(u, u) = \int_K \left( \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right) dx dy$$

Weak exponential decay + Poincaré inequality  $\Rightarrow$  Nash inequality

Define  $\mu_w$  as  $\mu_w(A) = \mu(F_w(A))/\mu(K_w)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{E}(u, u) &= \sum_{w \in \Lambda} \mathcal{E}(u \circ F_w, u \circ F_w) \\ &\geq \sum_{w \in \Lambda} \frac{C}{h_{\mu_w}(\phi)^2} \int_K \left( u \circ F_w - (u \circ F_w)_{\mu_w} \right)^2 d\mu_w \\ &= \sum_{w \in \Lambda} \frac{C}{h_{\mu_w}(\phi)^2} \left( \frac{1}{\mu(K_w)} \int_{K_w} u^2 d\mu - \frac{1}{\mu(K_w)^2} \left( \int_{K_w} u d\mu \right)^2 \right),\end{aligned}$$

where  $\Lambda$  is a **partition**.

Note that if  $\mu$  is **volume doubling** or **self-similar**, then  $h_{\mu_w}(\phi) \leq C'$



By the weak exponential property,

$$h_{\mu_w}(\phi)^2 \leq c_1(\log \mu(K_w))^4 + c_2.$$

Set

$$\varphi(t) = t(c_1(\log t)^4 + c_2).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}(u, u) &\geq \sum_{w \in \Lambda} \frac{C}{h_{\mu_w}(\phi)^2} \left( \frac{1}{\mu(K_w)} \int_{K_w} u^2 d\mu - \frac{1}{\mu(K_w)^2} \left( \int_{K_w} u d\mu \right)^2 \right) \\ &\geq \sum_{w \in \Lambda} \frac{C}{\varphi(\mu(K_w))} \left( \int_{K_w} u^2 d\mu - \frac{1}{\mu(K_w)} \left( \int_{K_w} u d\mu \right)^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\mathcal{E}(u, u) + C \sum_{w \in \Lambda} \frac{1}{\mu(K_w) \varphi(\mu(K_w))} \left( \int_{K_w} u d\mu \right)^2 \geq C \sum_{w \in \Lambda} \frac{1}{\varphi(\mu(K_w))} \int_{K_w} u^2 d\mu$$

Let  $\Lambda$  is the partition of  $W_*$  where  $\varphi(\mu(K_w)) \approx t$ . (**Cheating!!**)

Set  $\xi = \varphi^{-1}$ . Then  $\forall t \in (0, 1]$ ,

$$\boxed{\mathcal{E}(u, u) + \frac{C_1}{t\xi(t)} \|u\|_1^2 \geq \frac{C_2}{t} \|u\|_2^2} \quad - \text{Nash type inequality.}$$

$\Rightarrow \forall t \in (0, 1]$ ,

$$\boxed{\|T_t u\|_\infty \leq C \max\{1, \xi(t)^{-1}\} \|u\|_1}$$

where  $T_t$  is the semigroup associated with the time change.

Note that if  $\mu$  is **voulme doubling** or **self-similar**, then  $\xi(t) = t$ .

Consequently,

**Theorem 0.9.** *If  $\mu$  has weak exponential decay, then*

- (1)  $H_\mu$  = associated self-adjoint operator: *compact resolvent*
- (2) The associated semigroup  $\{T_t\}_{t>0}$ : *ultracontractive*
- (3)  $\exists$  *jointly continuous* heat kernel  $p_\mu(t, x, y)$  and  $\exists \alpha, c > 0$

$$p_\mu(t, x, x) \leq ct^{-\alpha}$$

for  $t \in (0, 1]$ .

Assuem that  $\mu$  has weak exponential decay.

**General lower heat kernel estimate:**

$\exists \gamma > 0$ ,  $\mu$ -a.e.  $x \in K$ ,  $\exists T_x > 0$ ,  $\forall t \in (0, T_x]$ ,

$$\frac{c}{t|\log t|^9} \leq p_\mu(t, x, x)$$

**With a weak doubling condition:**

$\exists f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow [1, \infty)$ : non-increasing,  $\forall x \in K, r > 0$

$$\mu(B_*(x, 2r)) \leq f(r)\mu(B_*(x, r)) \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{\log f(r)}{\log r} = 0.$$

Then  $\forall x \in K$ ,

$$\lim_{t \downarrow 0} -\frac{\log p_\mu(t, x, x)}{\log t} = 1$$

## Volume doubling case:

Assume that  $\mu$  has the volume doubling property with respect to the Euclidean metric, i.e.

$$\mu(B_*(x, 2r)) \leq C\mu(B_*(x, r)).$$

**Theorem 0.10** (Sub-Gaussian). -

$\mu$  has the volume doubling property with respect to the Euclidean metric

$\Leftrightarrow$

$\exists d_\mu$ : a metric quasisymmetric to the Euclidean metric,  $\exists \beta \geq 2$ ,

$\exists c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4 > 0, \forall x, y, t$ ,

$$p_\mu(t, x, y) \leq \frac{c_1}{t} \exp \left( -c_2 \left( \frac{d_\mu(x, y)^\beta}{t} \right)^{\frac{1}{\beta-1}} \right).$$

and if  $d_\mu(x, y) \leq c_4 t$ , then

$$\frac{c_3}{t} \leq p_\mu(t, x, y).$$

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