

Length Spectrum of Random Metric Maps

A Teichmüller theory approach

ipom 26.1.2026



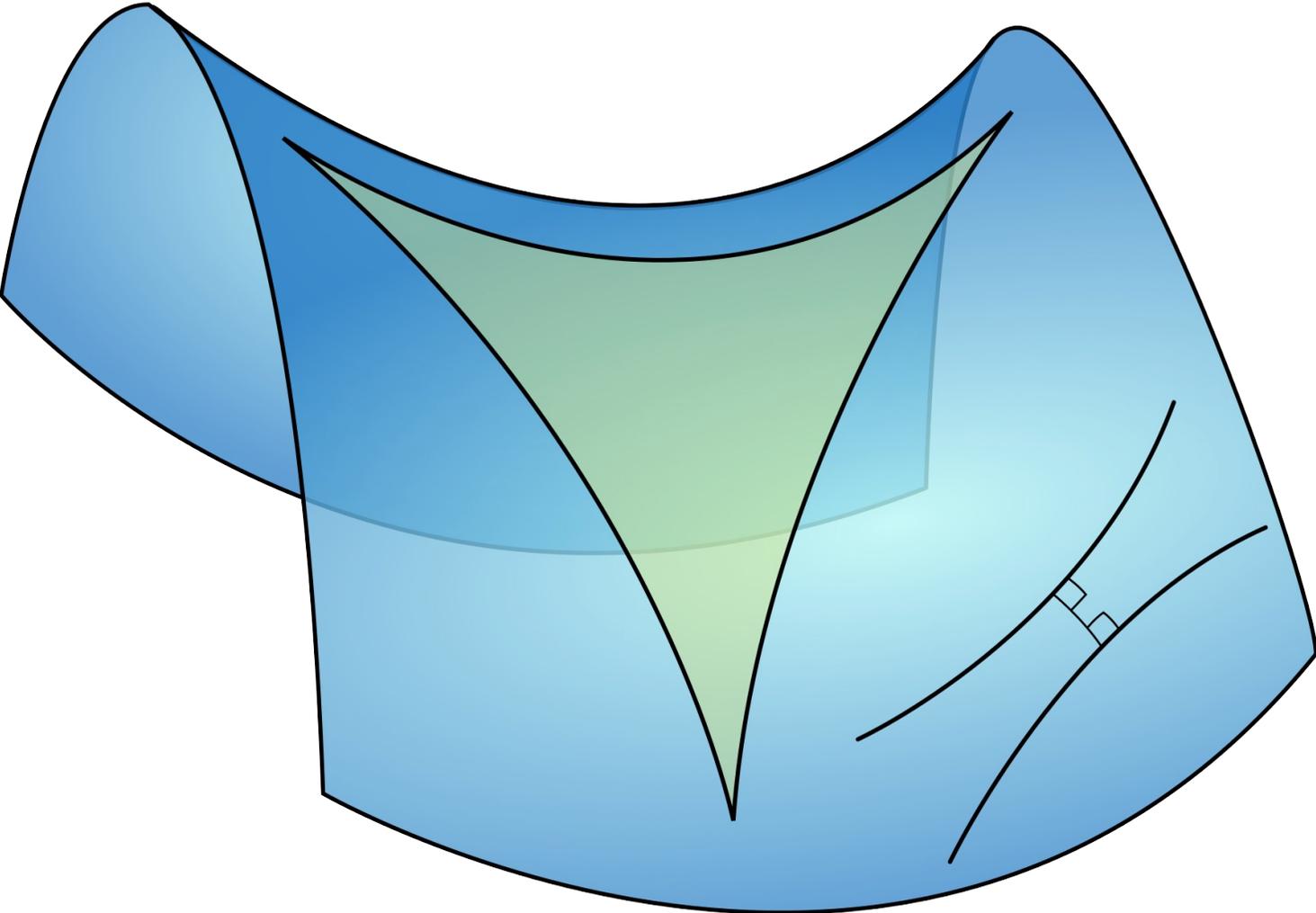
joint work with

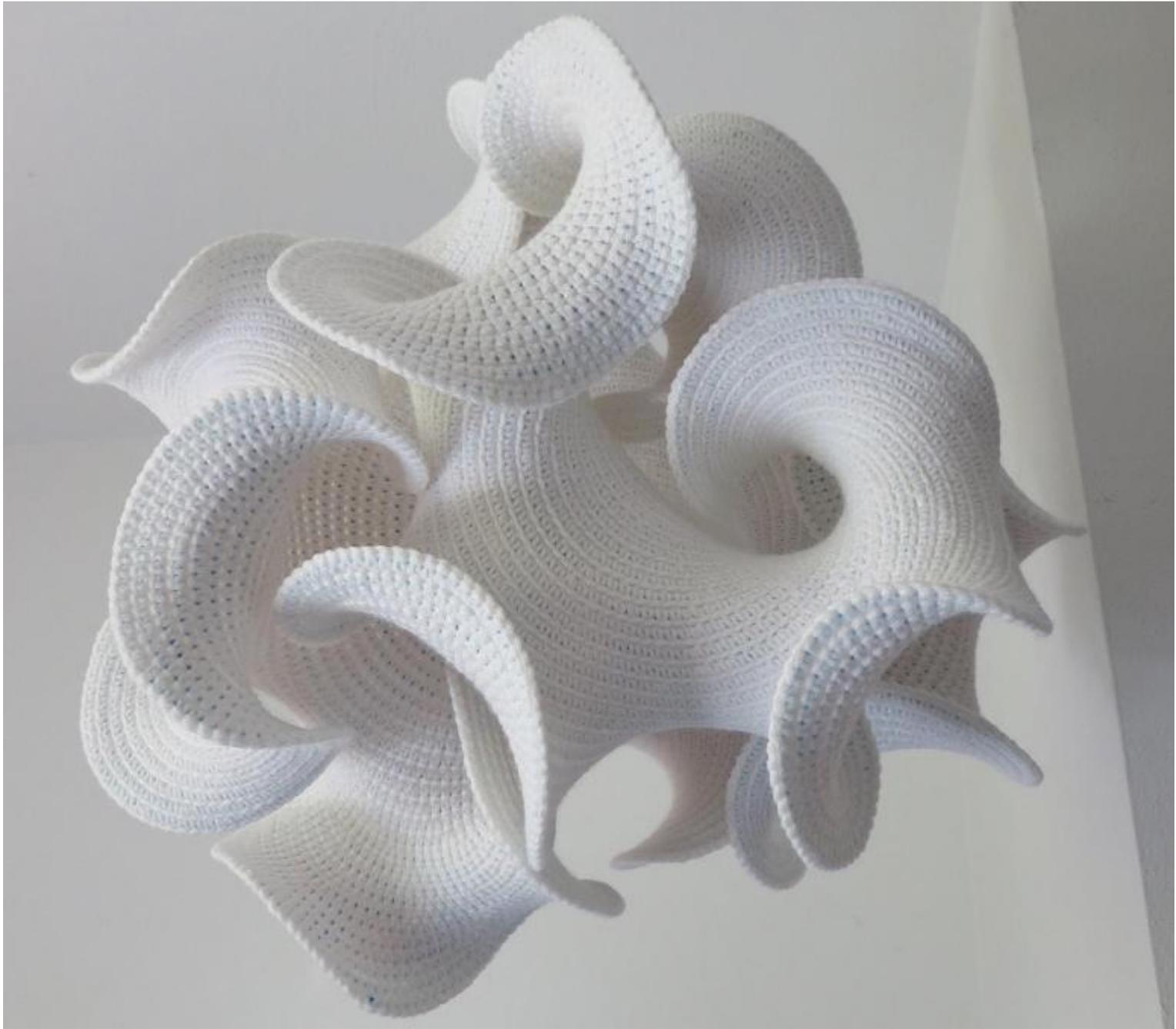
Simon
Barazer

Alessandro
Giacchetto



Definition a hyperbolic surface is a surface which locally looks like the hyperbolic plane





E. Meyer







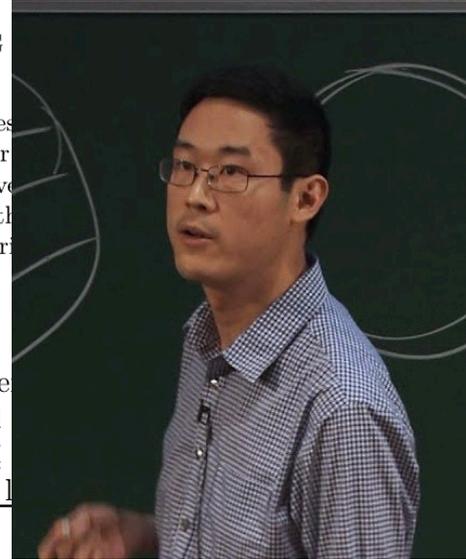






PANTS DECOMPOSITIONS OF RANDOM SURFACES

LARRY GUTH, HUGO PARLIER[†], AND ROBERT YOUNG



goal is to
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divide the surface into simp
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andom" surfaces
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The pants l

h.GT]



Growth of Weil-Petersson volumes and random hyperbolic surfaces of large genus

Maryam Mirzakhani*

December 13, 2010

1 Introduction

In this paper, we investigate the geometric properties of hyperbolic surfaces by studying the lengths of simple closed geodesics. The moduli space $\mathcal{M}_{g,n}$ of complete hyperbolic surfaces of genus $g \geq 2$ with n punctures, is equipped with a natural notion of measure, which is induced by the *Weil-Petersson* symplectic form $\omega_{g,n}$ (§2). By a theorem of Wolpert, this form is the symplectic form of a Kähler noncomplete metric on the moduli space $\mathcal{M}_{g,n}$. We describe the



What does

a random hyperbolic surface

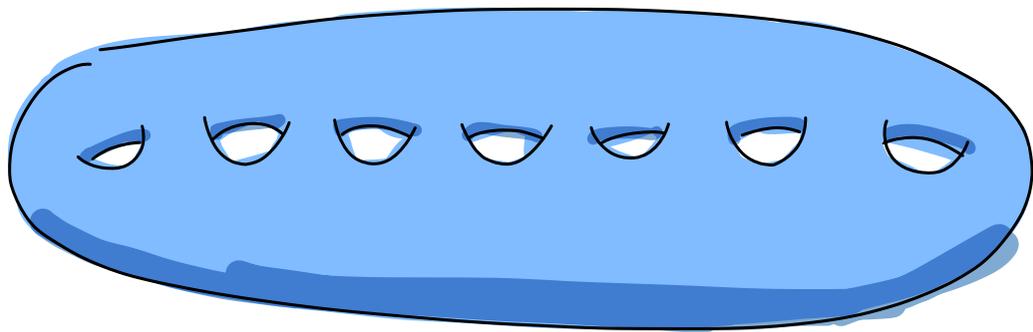
of **LARGE** genus

look like ?

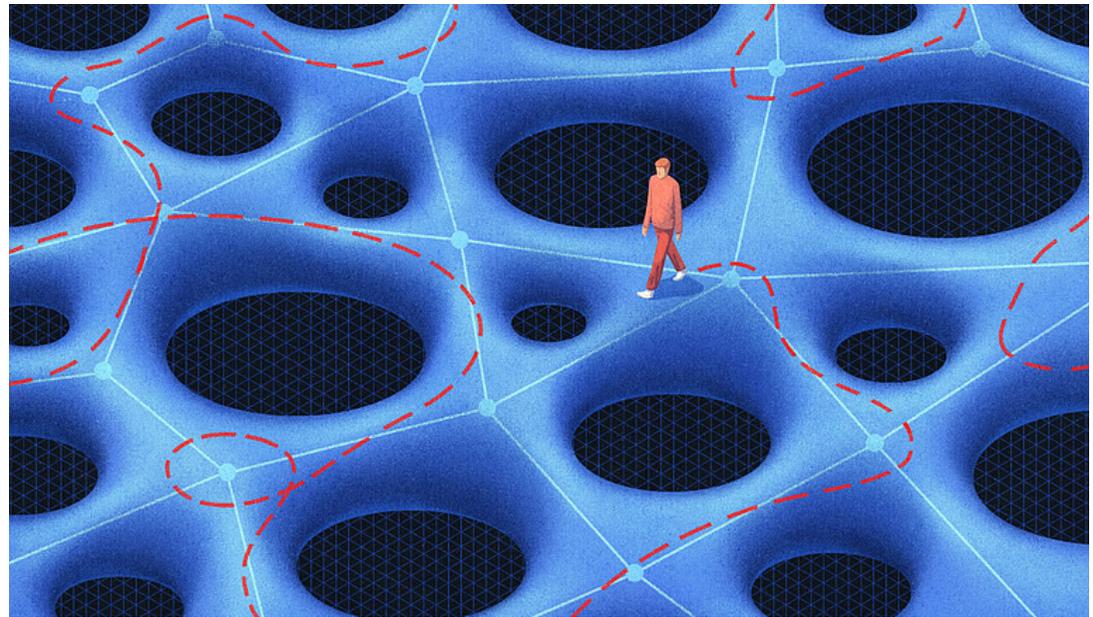
Theorem (Mirzakhani, 2010)

With proba $\rightarrow 1$ when the genus $g \rightarrow \infty$
a random WP hyperbolic surface of genus g has

1) diameter $< 40 \log g$



diam $\propto g$



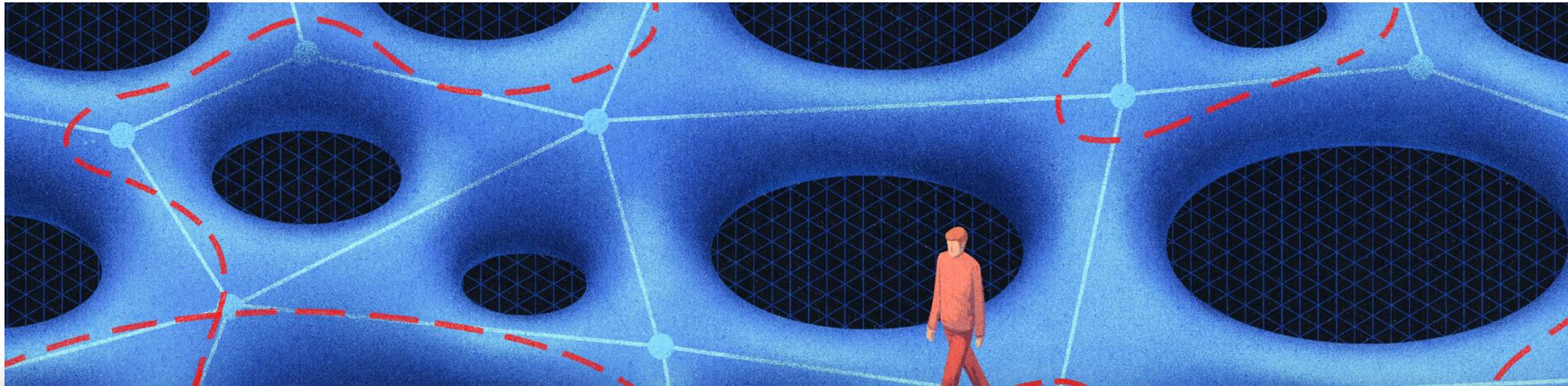
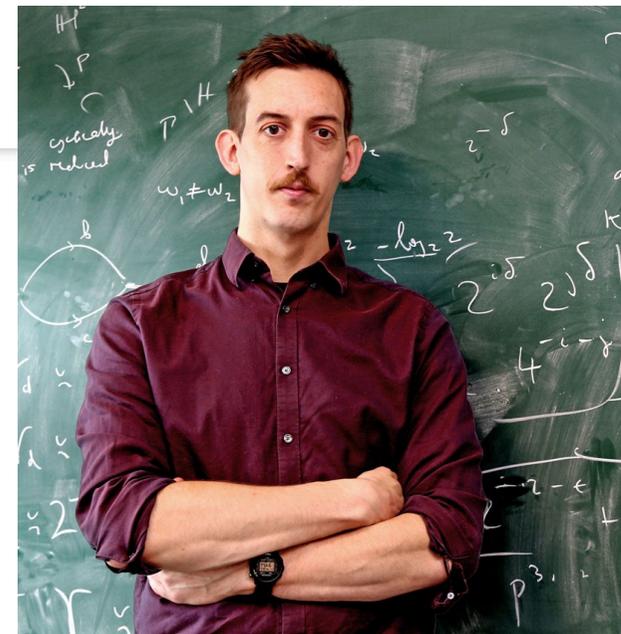


TOPOLOGY

Surfaces Beyond Imagination Are Discovered After Decades-Long Search

19 |

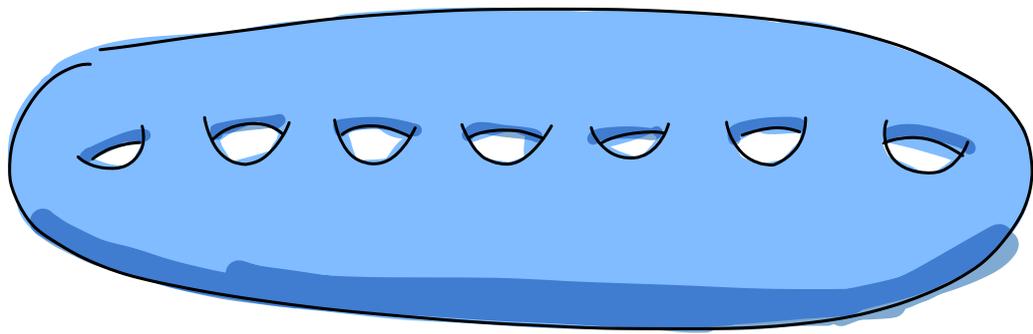
Using ideas borrowed from graph theory, two mathematicians have shown that extremely complex surfaces are easy to traverse.



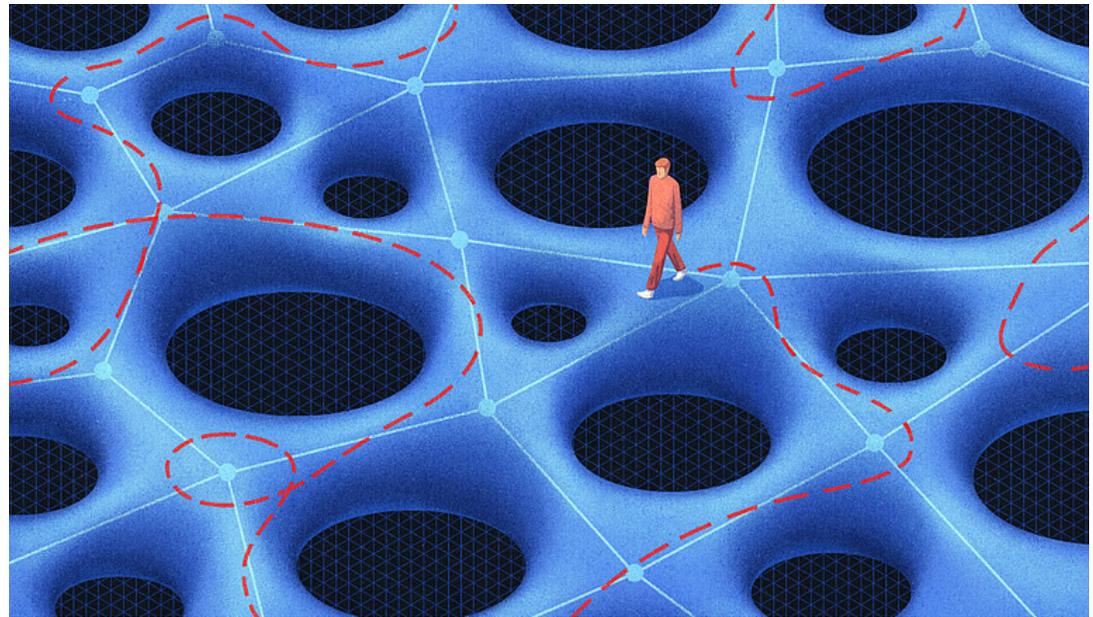
Theorem (Mirzakhani, 2010)

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diam $\propto \sqrt{g}$

Theorem (Mirzakhani, 2010)

With proba $\rightarrow 1$ when the genus $g \rightarrow \infty$
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1) diameter $< 40 \log g$

2) spectral gap λ_1

smallest > 0 eigenvalue of Δ

- Counting of closed geodesics
- Cheeger constant
- Brownian motion

Theorem (Mirzakhani, 2010)

With proba $\rightarrow 1$ when the genus $g \rightarrow \infty$
a random WP hyperbolic surface of genus g has

1) diameter $< 40 \log g$

2) spectral gap $\lambda_1 > 0.002$
smallest > 0 eigenvalue of Δ

Theorem (Mirzakhani, 2010)

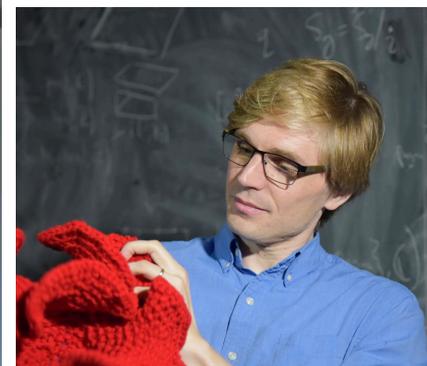
With proba $\rightarrow 1$ when the genus $g \rightarrow \infty$
a random WP hyperbolic surface of genus g has

1) diameter $< 40 \log g$ $\frac{3}{16} - \varepsilon$

2) spectral gap $\lambda_1 > \cancel{0.002}$
smallest > 0 eigenvalue of Δ



2021: Wu - Xue
Lipnowski - Wright



Theorem (Mirzakhani, 2010)

With proba $\rightarrow 1$ when the genus $g \rightarrow \infty$
a random WP hyperbolic surface of genus g has

1) diameter $< 40 \log g$ ~~$\frac{3}{16} - \varepsilon$~~ $\frac{2}{9} - \varepsilon$

2) spectral gap $\lambda_1 > \cancel{0.002}$
smallest > 0 eigenvalue of Δ



2021: Wu - Xue

Lipnowski - Wright '23

Anantharaman - Monk

Theorem (Mirzakhani, 2010)

With proba $\rightarrow 1$ when the genus $g \rightarrow \infty$
a random WP hyperbolic surface of genus g has

1) diameter $< 40 \log g$

$$\frac{3}{16} - \varepsilon$$

$$\frac{1}{4} - \varepsilon$$

 optimal

2) spectral gap $\lambda_1 > 0.002$

smallest > 0 eigenvalue of Δ



2021: Wu - Xue '25

Lipnowski - Wright '23

Anantharaman - Monk

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$$\frac{1}{4} - \varepsilon$$



optimal

2) spectral gap $\lambda_1 > 0.002$

smallest > 0 eigenvalue of Δ

a few months ago...

2021: Wu - Xue '25

Lipnowski - Wright '23 Anantharaman - Monk

Theorem (Mirzakhani, 2010)

With proba $\rightarrow 1$ when the genus $g \rightarrow \infty$
a random WP hyperbolic surface of genus g has

1) diameter $< 40 \log g$ ~~$\frac{3}{16} - \epsilon$~~ ~~$\frac{1}{4} - \epsilon$~~ $O\left(\frac{1}{g^c}\right)$  optimal

2) spectral gap λ_1 ~~> 0.002~~ Hide - Mecera - Thomas
smallest > 0 eigenvalue of Δ a few months ago

2021: Wu - Xue '25

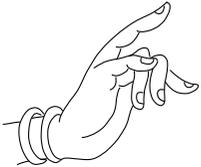
Lipnowski - Wright '23



Anantharaman - Monk

Weil-Petersson random hyperbolic surfaces

Model (Ω, \mathbb{P})

sample space  \parallel  proba measure on Ω

$\{ \text{hyperbolic surface of genus } g \} / \text{isometry}$

M_g moduli space

Moduli space M_g ^{orbifold}

😊 M_g is "almost" a manifold ($\dim_{\mathbb{R}} = 6g - 6$)

😞 It's a bit complicated ... χ Euler char

$$\chi(\text{cube}) = \chi(\text{sphere}) = 2, \quad \chi(\text{torus}) = 0$$

$$\dim 2 : \chi = \# \text{vertices} - \# \text{edges} + \# \text{faces} \stackrel{\text{Euler}}{=} 2 - 2g$$

$$\chi(M_2) = -\frac{1}{240} \approx -4.17 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\chi(M_4) \approx -6.94 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\chi(M_8) \approx -3.17 \times 10^{-2}$$

$$\chi(M_{16}) \approx -1.57 \times 10^7$$

$$\chi(M_{32}) \approx -5.28 \times 10^{34}$$

$$\chi(M_{64}) \approx -3.26 \times 10^{109}$$



universal
cover

$$\tilde{M}_g =$$

$$T_g$$

Teichmüller
space

$$M_g \parallel T_g / \pi_1(M_g)$$



$$M_g \approx T^2 \approx \mathbb{R}^2 / \mathbb{Z}^2$$

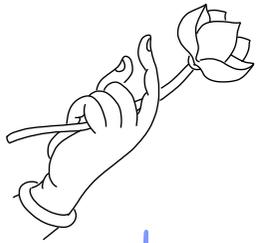
$$T_g \approx \tilde{T}^2 \approx \mathbb{R}^2$$

$$\pi_1(M_g) \approx \pi_1(T^2) \approx \mathbb{Z}^2$$

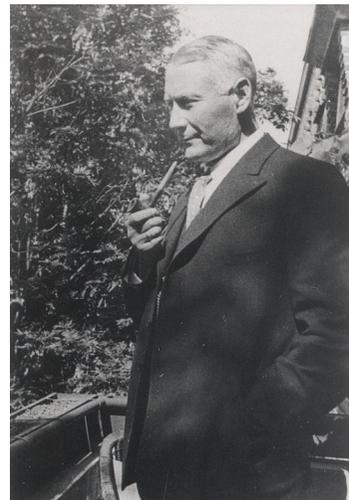
~ homeo

$$(\mathbb{R}_{>0} \times \mathbb{R})^{3g-3}$$

mapping class
group



Fenchel-Nielsen coordinates



universal cover

$$\tilde{M}_g =$$

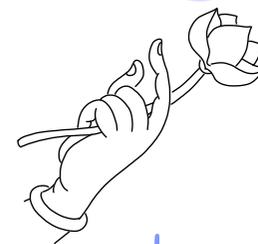
T_g Teichmüller space

$$M_g \parallel T_g / \pi_1(M_g)$$

$$M_g \approx \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{circle} \\ \text{map} \end{array} \right\}$$

\sim homeo

$$(\mathbb{R}_{>0} \times \mathbb{R})^{3g-3}$$

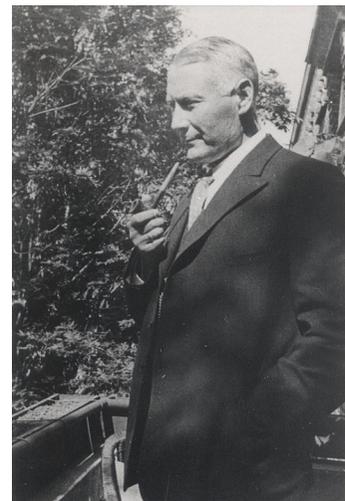


mapping class group

$$T_g \approx \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{green disk with blue map} \\ \text{green disk with blue map} \\ \text{green disk with blue map} \end{array} \right\}$$

map + embedding

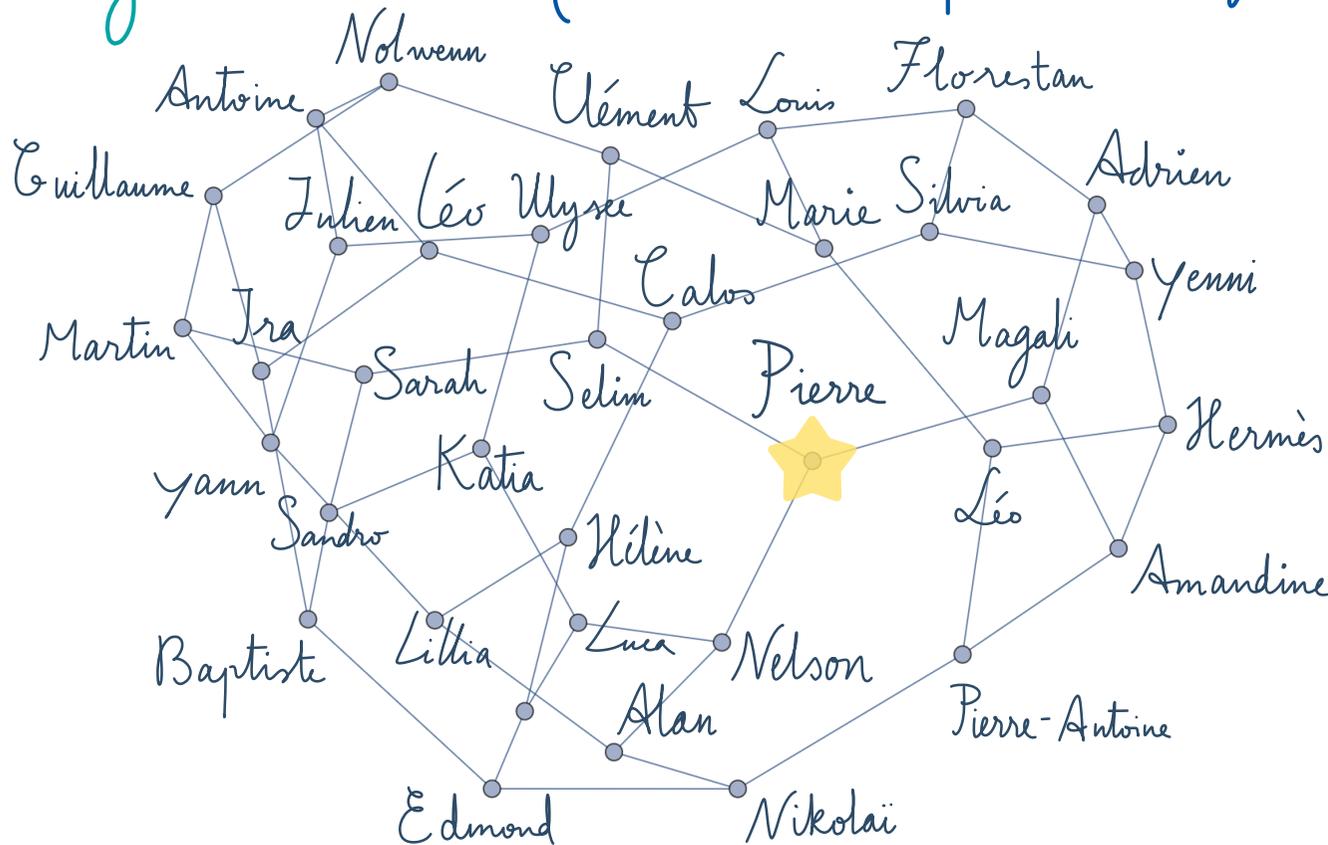
Fenchel-Nielsen coordinates



Teichmüller space : space of marked hyperbolic surfaces of genus g

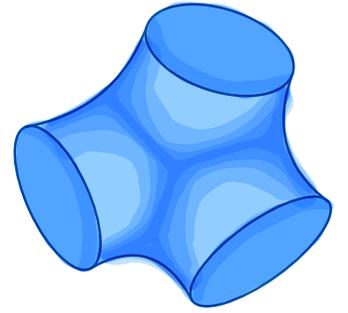
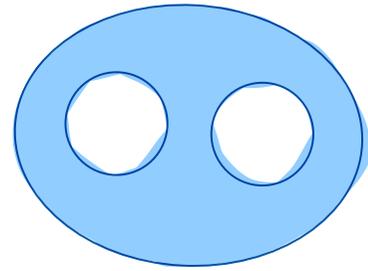
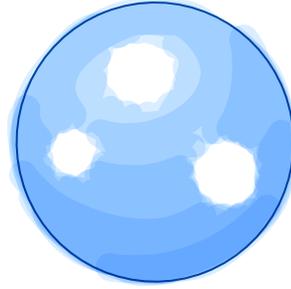
Find a topological surface Σ_g

$$T_g := \left\{ (X, \varphi) \mid \varphi: \Sigma_g \xrightarrow{\text{homeo}} X \right\} / \sim$$



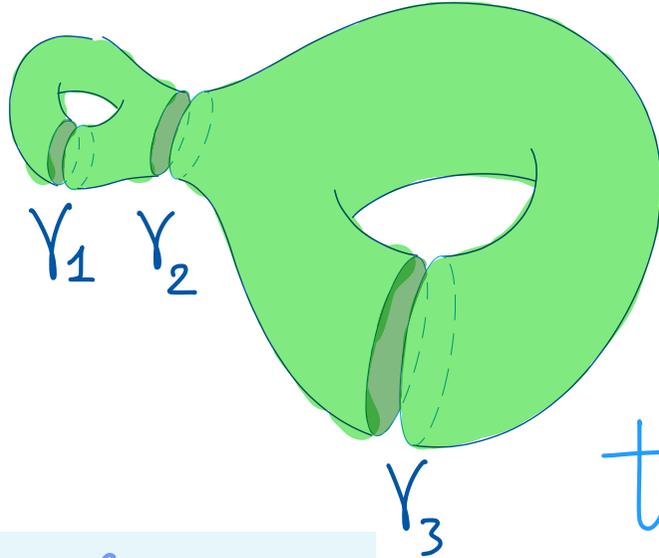
$(X, \varphi) \sim (X', \varphi')$
if $\varphi' \circ \varphi^{-1}$ is isotopic
to an isometry

pair of pants
 \parallel
 sphere with 3 holes



pants decomposition

$Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_{3g-3}$



Y_i simple

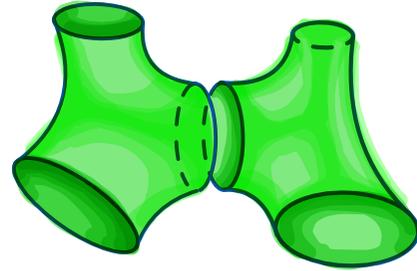
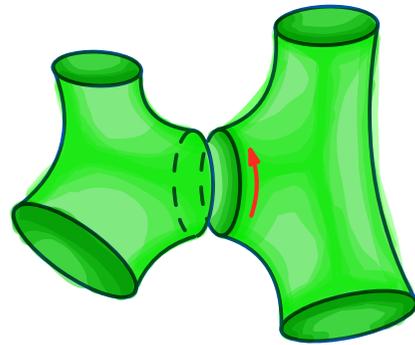
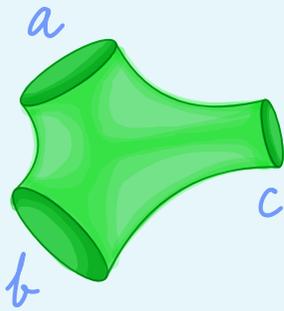
no self-intersection

$$Y_i \cap Y_j = \emptyset$$

length of $Y_i = l_i$

twist along $Y_i = T_i$

Fact $\forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$
 $\exists!$ hyperboloid

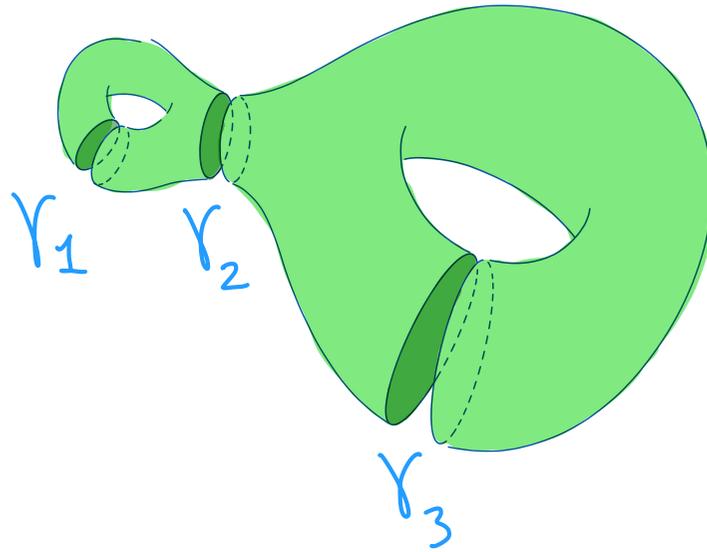
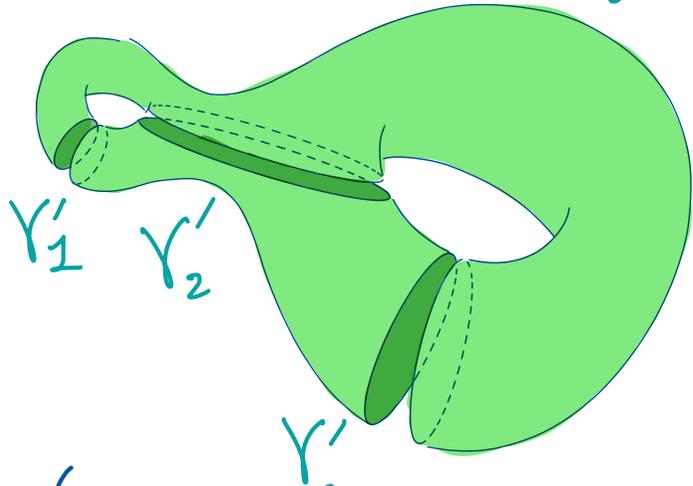


$$\left\{ (l_1, T_1, \dots, l_{3g-3}, T_{3g-3}) \mid \begin{array}{l} l_i \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \\ T_i \in \mathbb{R} \end{array} \right\}$$

$\xrightarrow{\text{Fenchel-Nielsen}}$ T_g

a pants decomposition $\mathcal{P} = \{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{3g-3}\} \Rightarrow (\mathbb{R}_{>0} \times \mathbb{R})^{3g-3}$

$\mathcal{P}' = \{\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_{3g-3}\}$



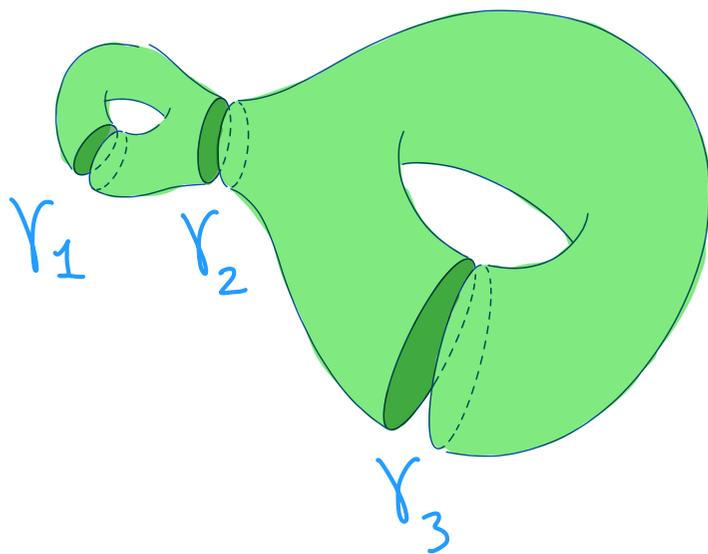
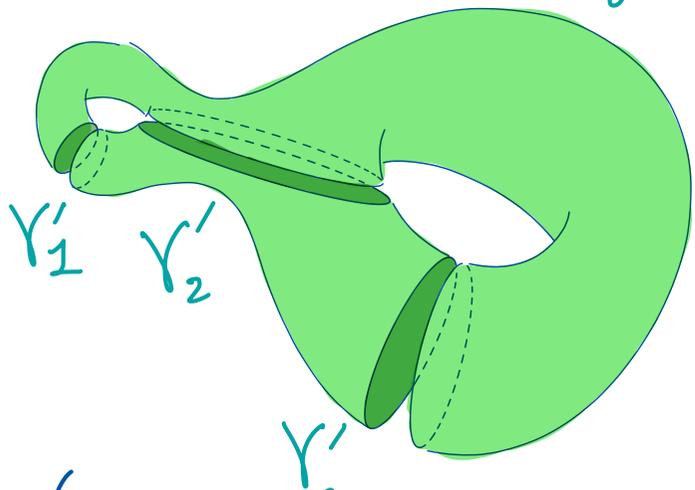
$\varphi^{\mathcal{P}} \downarrow \downarrow \varphi^{\mathcal{P}'}$
 T_g

◦ (Wolpert) $\varphi_{*}^{\mathcal{P}}(\mu_{\text{leb}}) = \varphi_{*}^{\mathcal{P}'}(\mu_{\text{leb}}) = \text{Weil-Petersson measure}$



a pants decomposition $\mathcal{P} = \{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{3g-3}\} \Rightarrow (\mathbb{R}_{>0} \times \mathbb{R})^{3g-3}$

$$\mathcal{P}' = \{\gamma'_1, \dots, \gamma'_{3g-3}\}$$



$$\begin{array}{ccc} \varphi^{\mathcal{P}} & & \varphi^{\mathcal{P}'} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathcal{T}_g & & \mathcal{T}_g \end{array}$$

◦ (Wolpert) $\varphi^{\mathcal{P}}_* (\mu_{\text{leb}}) = \varphi^{\mathcal{P}'}_* (\mu_{\text{leb}}) = \text{Weil-Petersson measure}$

◦ μ_{WP} is invariant under $\pi_1(M_g) \Rightarrow \mu_{\text{WP}}$ descends to M_g

◦ $\mu_{\text{WP}}(\overset{\text{not compact}}{M_g}) < \infty \Rightarrow \text{WP model for random hyp surf}$

Theorem (Mirzakhani 2010) Weil-Petersson measure



$$\frac{1}{\mu_{WP}(M_g)} \int_{M_g} \mathbb{1}(X) dX \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow \infty} 1$$

$\{S \in M_g \mid \text{diam}(S) < 40 \log g\}$

Notation X_g a WP random hyperbolic surface of genus g

$$\mathbb{P}(\text{diam}(X_g) < 40 \log g) \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow \infty} 1$$

LENGTHS OF CLOSED GEODESICS ON RANDOM SURFACES OF LARGE GENUS

MARYAM MIRZAKHANI AND BRAM PETRI

ABSTRACT. We prove Poisson approximation results for the bottom part of the length spectrum of a random closed hyperbolic surface of large genus. Here, a random hyperbolic surface is a surface picked at random using the Weil-Petersson volume form on the corresponding moduli space. As an application of our result, we compute the large genus limit of the expected systole.

1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper, we study the distribution of short closed geodesics on random hyperbolic surfaces. Our definition of a random surface is as follows. First of all, we consider for every $g \geq 2$ the moduli space \mathcal{M}_g of closed hyperbolic surfaces of genus g . Its universal cover, the Teichmüller space \mathcal{T}_g comes with a symplectic form ω_g , called the Weil-Petersson symplectic form. The associated volume form descends to \mathcal{M}_g and is of finite total volume. This means that we obtain a probability measure \mathbb{P}_g on \mathcal{M}_g by defining

$$\mathbb{P}_g[A] = \frac{\text{vol}_{\text{WP}}(A)}{\text{vol}_{\text{WP}}(\mathcal{M}_g)}$$

for every measurable set $A \subseteq \mathcal{M}_g$, where $\text{vol}_{\text{WP}}(A)$ denotes the Weil-Petersson volume of A . Our main goal is now to combine methods from probability theory and Weil-Petersson geometry to estimate probabilities of the form

$$\mathbb{P}_g[X \in \mathcal{M}_g \text{ has } k \text{ closed geodesics of length } \leq L].$$

Fix $0 \leq a < b$

$$N_{[a,b)}(X) := \#\{ \gamma \text{ primitive closed geodesic on } X \mid a \leq l(\gamma) < b \}$$

Theorem (Mirzakhani - Petri, 2017)



Fix $0 \leq a < b$

$Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$
if $P(Y=k) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!}, \forall k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$

$N_{[a,b)}(X) := \# \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma \text{ primitive closed} \\ \text{geodesic on } X \end{array} \mid a \leq l(\gamma) < b \right\}$

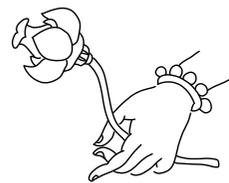
Theorem (Mirzakhani - Petri, 2017)

X_g a WP random surface of genus g

$$N_{[a,b)}(X_g) \xrightarrow[g \rightarrow \infty]{(d)} \text{Poi} \left(\int_a^b \frac{\cosh(x) - 1}{x} dx \right)$$

$\lambda(x)$
ii

Length Spectrum



a multiset

$$\Lambda(X) := \left\{ l(\gamma) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} \mid \gamma \begin{array}{l} \text{primitive closed} \\ \text{geodesic on } X \end{array} \right\}$$

Theorem (Mirzakhani - Petri, 2017)

X_g a WP random surface of genus g .

Regarded as a point process on $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$,

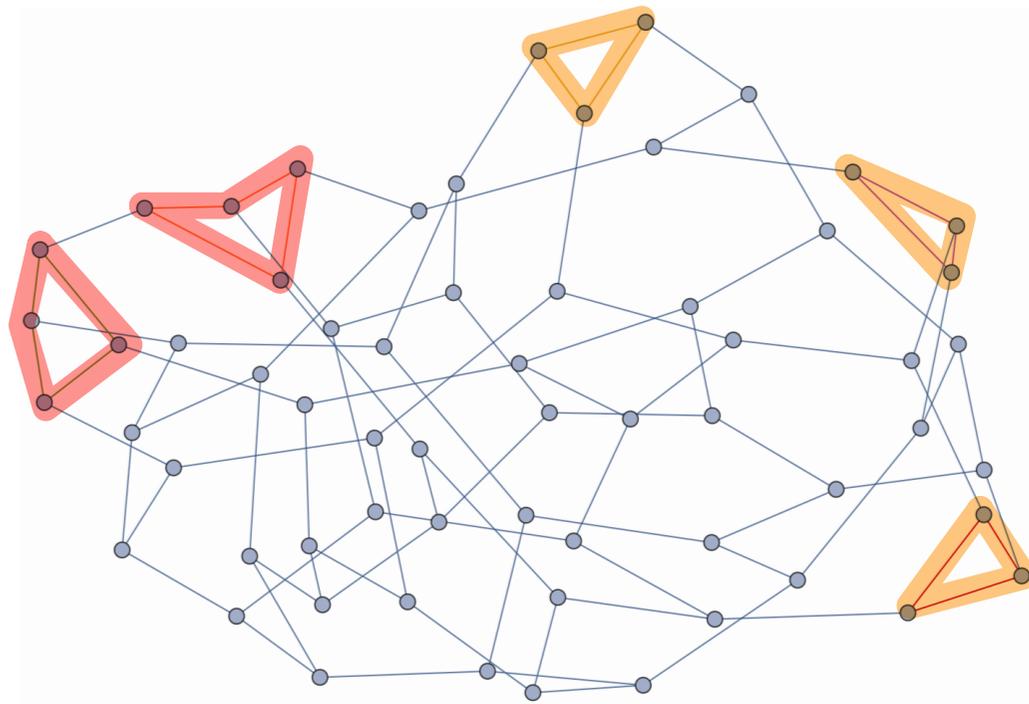
$\Lambda(X_g) \xrightarrow[g \rightarrow \infty]{(d)}$ Poisson point process with intensity λ .

$$\frac{\cosh(x) - 1}{x}$$

!!

Remark G a graph, $k \geq 1$ an integer

$$N_k(G) := \{ \gamma \text{ cycle in } G \mid l(\gamma) = k \}$$



$$k = 3, 4$$

Remark G a graph, $k \geq 1$ an integer

$$N_k(G) := \{ \gamma \text{ cycle in } G \mid l(\gamma) = k \}$$

Theorem (Bollobás, Wormald, ≈ 1980)

G_v a unig



graph with v vertices

Remark G a graph, $k \geq 1$ an integer

$$N_k(G) := \{ \gamma \text{ cycle in } G \mid l(\gamma) = k \}$$

Theorem (Bollobás, Wormald, ≈ 1980)

G_v a uniform random 3-regular graph with v vertices

For any integer $k \geq 3$,

$$N_k(G_v) \xrightarrow[v \rightarrow \infty]{(d)} \text{Poi} \left(\frac{2^k}{2k} \right)$$

Remark

$$\mathbb{E}(N_{[0,L]}(\times g)) \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^L \lambda(x) dx \underset{L \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \frac{e^L}{2L}$$

Theorem (Huber, Selberg, Margulis, ...)



Remark

$$\mathbb{E}(N_{[0,L]}(X_g)) \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^L \lambda(x) dx \underset{L \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \frac{e^L}{2L}$$

Theorem (Huber, Selberg, Margulis, ...)

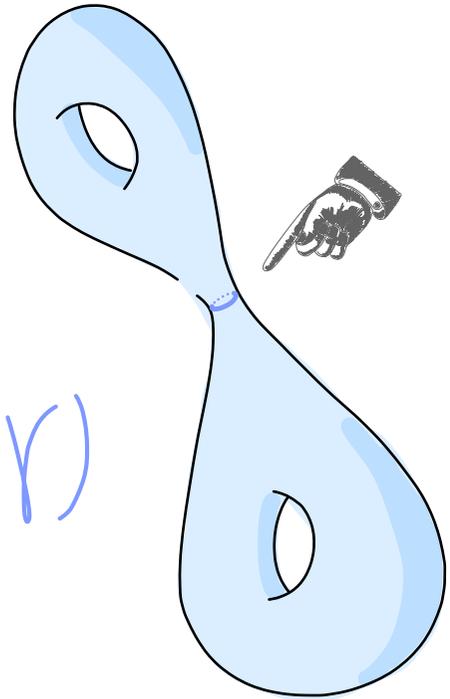
For *any* hyperbolic surface X

$$N_{[0,L]}(X) \underset{L \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \frac{e^L}{2L}$$

Corollary

$$\text{sys}(X) := \min_{\gamma \text{ geod on } X} \ell(\gamma)$$

$$\mathbb{E}(\text{sys}(X_g)) \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow \infty} 1.615\dots$$



What is a **map** ?



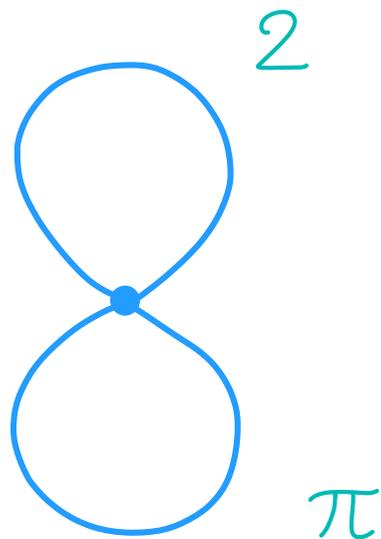
What is a **map**?

A map is a graph G drawn on a surface S such that $S \setminus G$ is a disjoint union of **polygons**

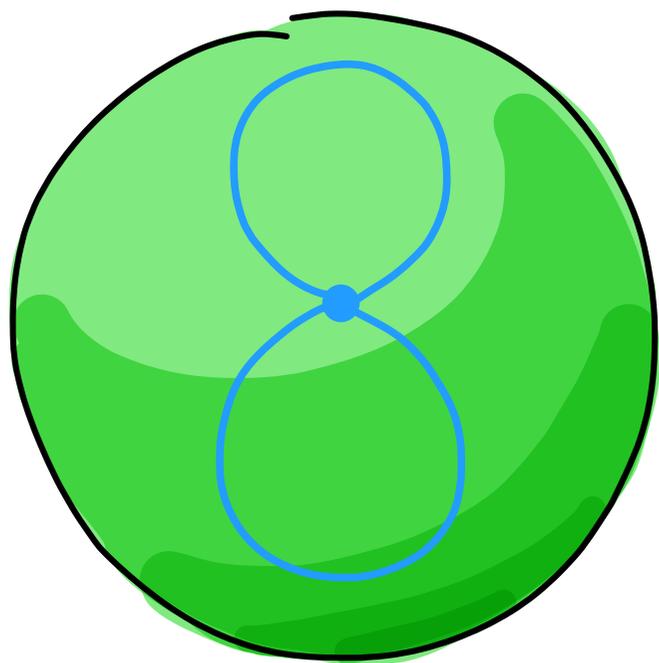
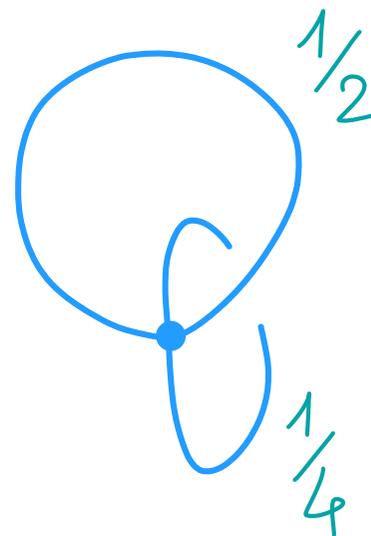


faces

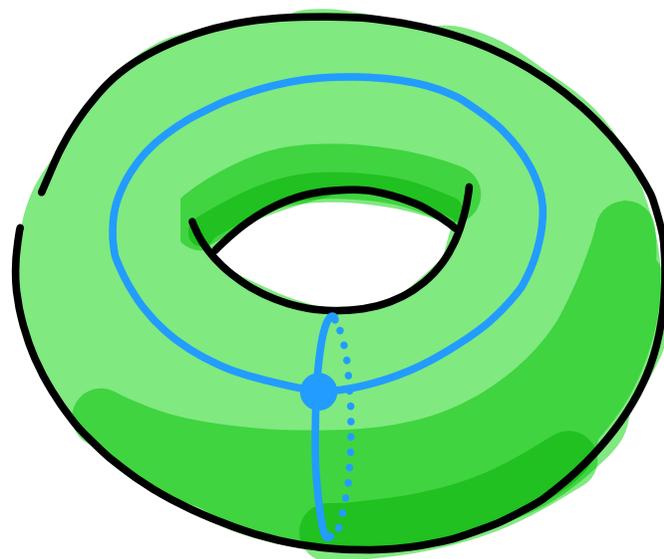
Example



metric map



$$g = 0, n = 3$$

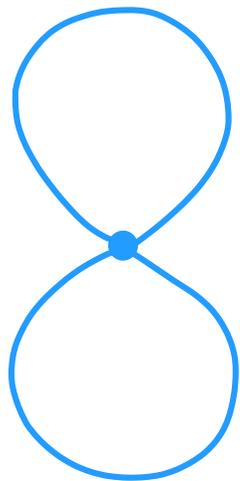


n° of faces



$$g = 1, n = 1$$

Example

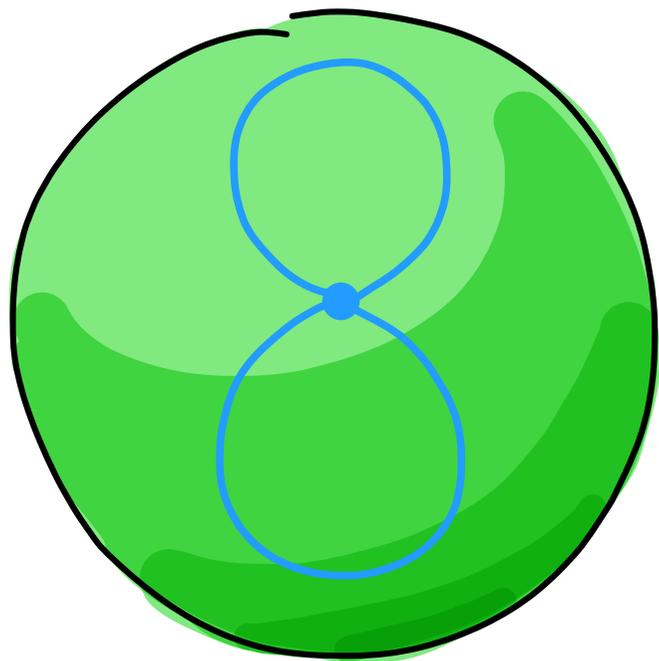


Def

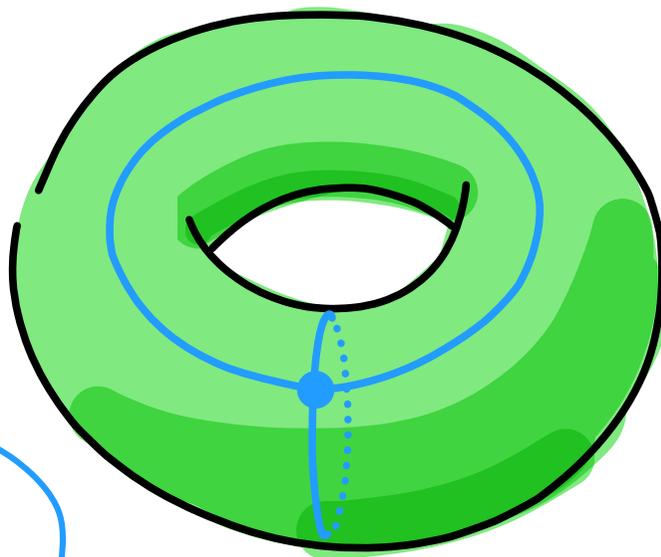
Unicellular
if $n = 1$

$$g = 0, n = 1$$

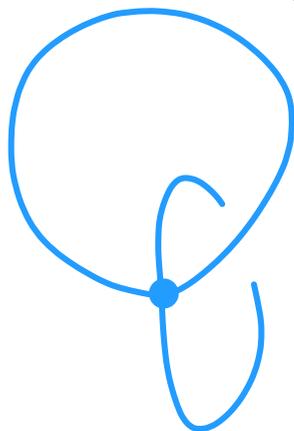
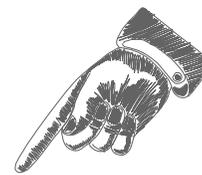
\Downarrow
plane trees



$$g = 0, n = 3$$



n° of faces



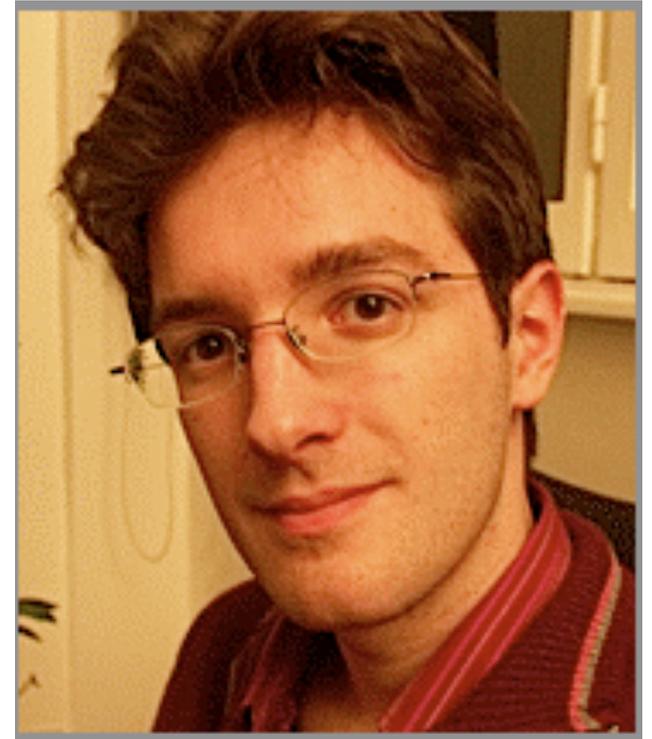
$$g = 1, n = 1$$

Tutte



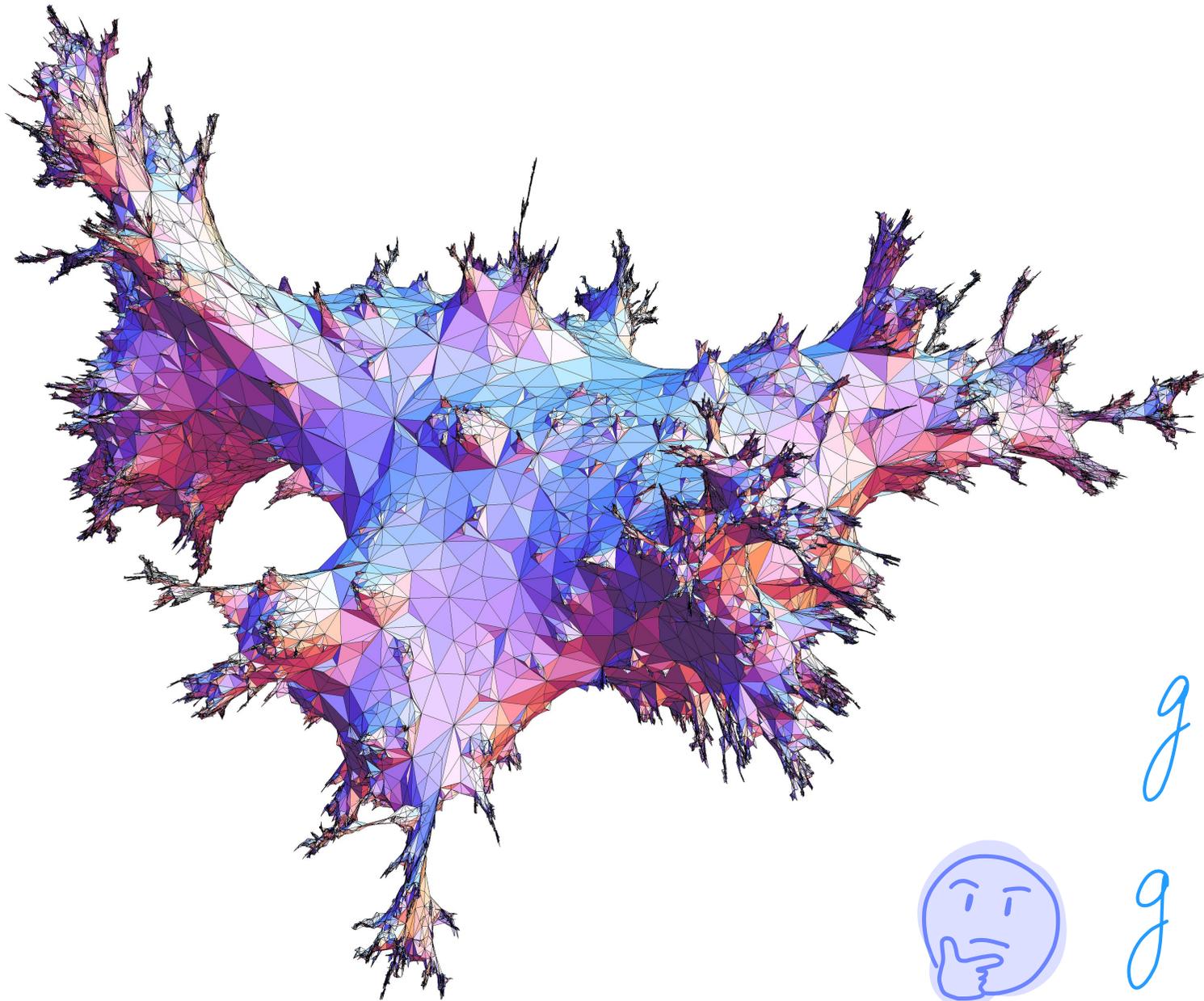
(1960s)

Le Gall, Miermont



(2011)

Brownian sphere: scaling limit of uniform random plane ~~triangulations~~ quadrangulations



$$g = 0$$



$$g \gg 0$$

arXiv:2111.11903v1 [math.PR] 23 Nov 2021

UNICELLULAR MAPS VS HYPERBOLIC SURFACES IN LARGE GENUS: SIMPLE CLOSED CURVES

SVANTE JANSON AND BAPTISTE LOUF

ABSTRACT. We study uniformly random maps with a single face, genus g , and size n , as $n, g \rightarrow \infty$ with $g = o(n)$, in continuation of several previous works on the geometric properties of “high genus maps”. We calculate the number of short simple cycles, and we show convergence of their lengths (after a well-chosen rescaling of the graph distance) to a Poisson process, which happens to be exactly the same as the limit law obtained by Mirzakhani and Petri (2019) when they studied simple closed geodesics on random hyperbolic surfaces under the Weil–Petersson measure as $g \rightarrow \infty$.

This leads us to conjecture that these two models are somehow “the same” in the limit, which would allow to translate problems on hyperbolic surfaces in terms of random trees, thanks to a powerful bijection of Chapuy, Féray and Fusy (2013).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Combinatorial maps. Maps are defined as gluings of polygons forming a (compact, connected, oriented) surface. They have been studied extensively in the past 60 years, especially in the case of planar maps, i.e., maps of the sphere. They were first approached from the combinatorial point of view, both enumeratively, starting with [32], and bijectively, starting with [30].

More recently, relying on previous combinatorial results, geometric properties of large random maps have been studied. More precisely, one can study the geometry of random maps picked uniformly in certain classes, as their size tends to infinity. In the case of planar maps, this culminated in the identification of two types of “limits” (for two well defined topologies on the set of planar maps): the local limit (the $UIPT^1$ [9]) and the scaling

$$n=1$$

U a unicellular map of genus g with v vertices

$$N_{[a,b)}(\rho \cdot U) := \#\{V_{\text{cycle in } U} \mid a \leq \rho \cdot l(V) < b\}$$

Theorem (Janson-Louf, 2021)

$$\sqrt{12g/v}$$



$n=1$
U a unicellular map of genus g with v vertices

$$N[a,b)(\rho \cdot U) := \# \{ \gamma_{\text{cycle in } U} \mid a \leq \rho \cdot l(\gamma) < b \}$$

Theorem (Janson-Louf, 2021) $\sqrt{12g/v}$

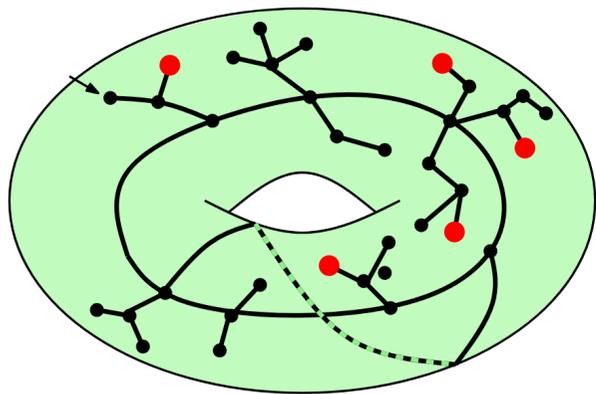
$v, g \rightarrow \infty$ with $g = o(v)$

$U_{v,g}$ a uniform unicellular map of genus g with v vertices

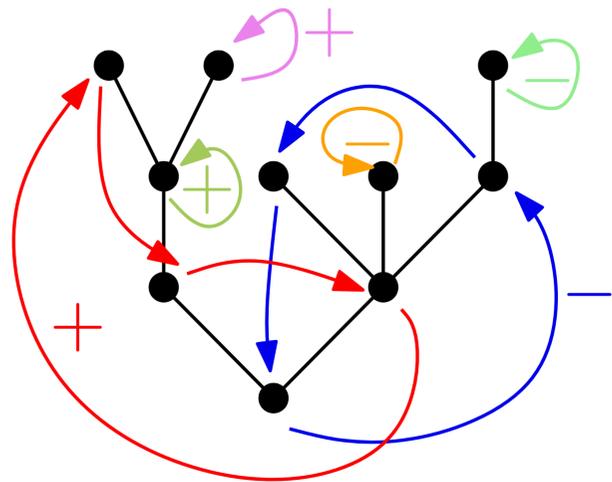
$$N[a,b)(\rho \cdot U_{v,g}) \xrightarrow[g \rightarrow \infty]{(d)} \text{Poi} \left(\int_a^b \lambda(x) dx \right)$$

One word about the proof

a magic bijection due to Chapuy - Féray - Fusy



bij
↔



unicellular map

plane tree + permutation



LENGTH SPECTRUM OF LARGE GENUS RANDOM METRIC MAPS

SIMON BARAZER, ALESSANDRO GIACCHETTO, AND MINGKUN LIU

ABSTRACT. We study the length of short cycles on uniformly random metric maps (also known as ribbon graphs) of large genus using a Teichmüller theory approach. We establish that, as the genus tends to infinity, the length spectrum converges to a Poisson point process with an explicit intensity. This result extends the work of Janson and Louf to the multi-faced case.

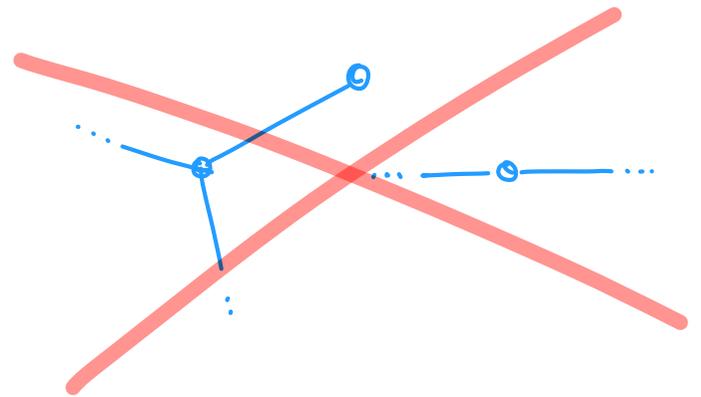
1. INTRODUCTION

A *map*, or a *ribbon graph*, is a graph with a cyclic ordering of the edges at each vertex. By substituting edges with ribbons and attaching them at each vertex in accordance with the given cyclic order, we create an oriented surface with boundaries on which the graph is drawn (see Figure 1). Since Tutte’s pioneering work [Tut63], ribbon graphs have been extensively studied, partly due to the increased interest following the realisation of their importance in two-dimensional quantum gravity.

Much attention has been devoted to the study of *metric* maps, i.e. ribbon graphs with the assignment of a positive real number to each edge. Remarkably, the moduli space parametrising metric ribbon graphs of a fixed genus g and n faces of fixed lengths is naturally isomorphic to the moduli space of Riemann surfaces of genus g with n punctures [Har86; Pen87; BE88]. This fact was employed by Harer and Zagier to compute the Euler characteristic of the moduli space of Riemann surfaces [HZ86] and by Kontsevich in his proof of Witten’s conjecture [Wit91; Kon92]. The latter is a formula that computes the “number” of metric ribbon graphs recursively on the Euler characteristic: a topological recursion. The same type of recursion applies to the “number” of hyperbolic surfaces, as discovered by Mirzakhani [Mir07]

$$\vec{L} = (L_1, \dots, L_n) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$$

$$M_{g,n}^{\text{comb}}(\vec{L}) := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{G metric map} \\ \text{genus } g \text{ with } n \text{ faces} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{l} \text{length}(\text{G's } i\text{-th face}) = L_i \\ \text{valences} \geq 3 \end{array} \right\}$$



$$\vec{L} = (L_1, \dots, L_n) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$$

$M_{g,n}^{\text{comb}}(\vec{L})$ $\{ \mathcal{G} \text{ metric space length } (\mathcal{G}' \text{ i-th face}) = L_i \}$



\exists a nat

$\mathcal{G}_{g,n}(\vec{L})$

mes ≥ 3

$n M_{g,n}^{\text{comb}}(\vec{L})$

r.t. this measure

Theorem (Barazer - Giacchetto - L)

$$\vec{L} = (L_1, \dots, L_n) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$$

$$M_{g,n}^{\text{comb}}(\vec{L}) := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{G} \text{ metric map} \\ \text{genus } g \text{ with } n \text{ faces} \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{l} \text{length}(\mathcal{G}' \text{ i-th face}) = L_i \\ \text{valences} \geq 3 \end{array} \right\}$$

\exists a natural "uniform" proba measure on $M_{g,n}^{\text{comb}}(\vec{L})$

$\mathcal{G}_{g,n}(\vec{L})$ a random map sampled w.r.t. this measure

Theorem (Barazer - Giacchetto - L)

n fixed, $g \rightarrow \infty$, $L_1 + \dots + L_n \sim 12g$.

length of
each edge ≈ 1

$$N[a,b)(\mathcal{G}_{g,n}(\vec{L})) \xrightarrow[g \rightarrow \infty]{(d)} \text{Poi}\left(\int_a^b \lambda(x) dx\right)$$

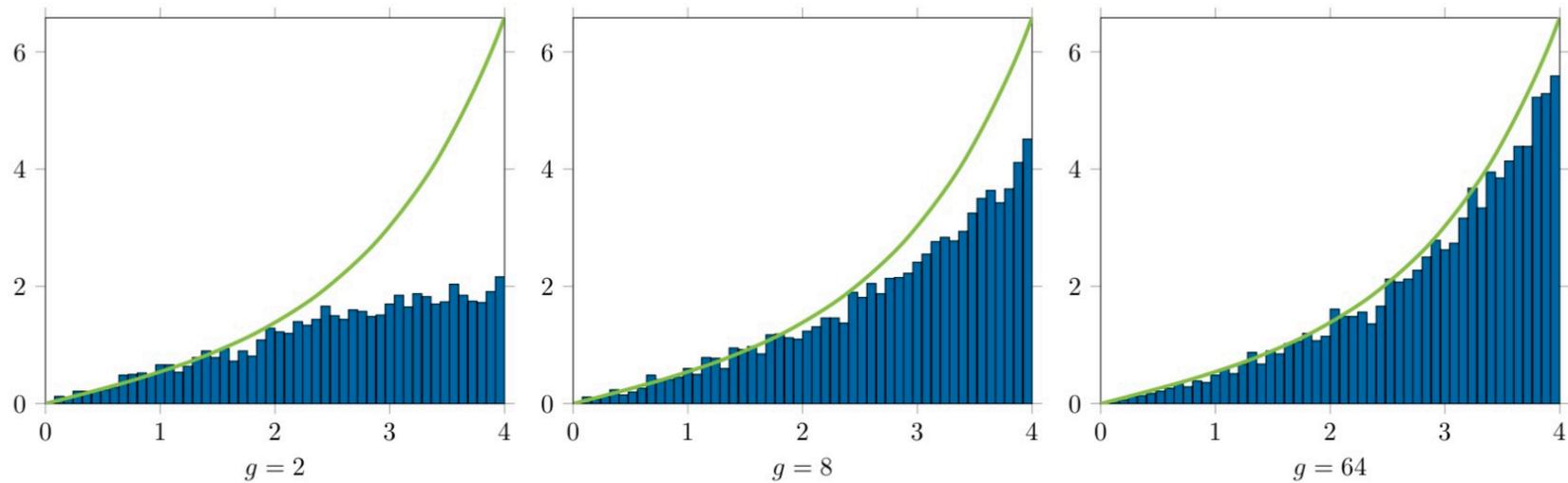


FIGURE 2. In blue, the cycle length statistics of random unicellular metric maps of genus $g = 2, 8,$ and 64 , sampled over 10^3 units and properly rescaled. The predicted intensity λ is depicted in lime.

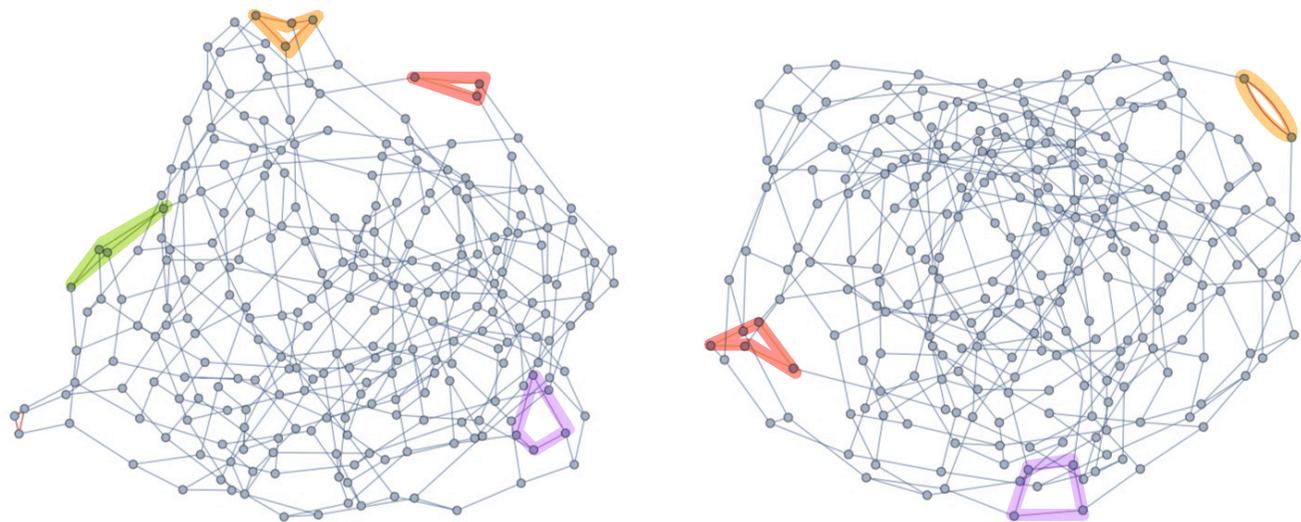


FIGURE 9. The graphs underlying two random unicellular maps of genus 64 . The highlighted cycles include all cycles with at most 4 edges.

One word about the proof



$$M_{g,n}^{\text{comb}}(\vec{L}) \xrightarrow[\text{homeo}]{\sim} M_{g,n}(\vec{L})$$

Bowditch, Epstein,
Luo, Penner

||
{ metric n

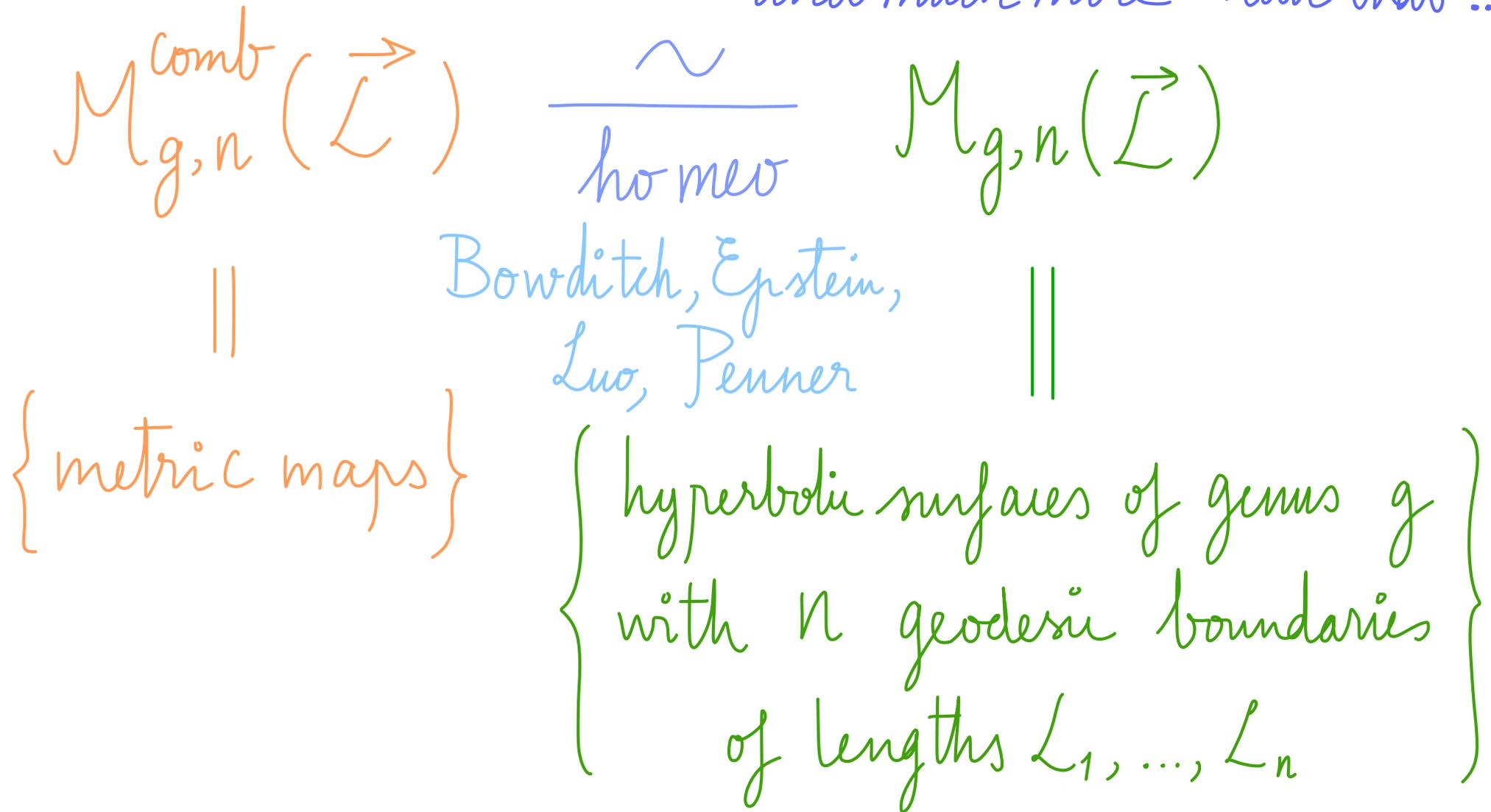


{ hyperbolic
with n
of lengths L_1, \dots, L_n
of genus g
boundaries }



One word about the proof

and much more than that ...



ON THE KONTSEVICH GEOMETRY OF THE COMBINATORIAL TEICHMÜLLER SPACE

Jørgen Ellegaard Andersen^{**}, Gaëtan Borot^{**†}, Séverin Charbonnier^{*},
Alessandro Giacchetto^{*}, Danilo Lewański^{**§}, Campbell Wheeler^{*}

Abstract

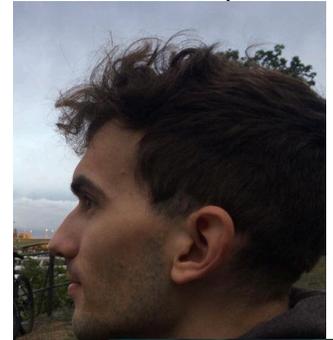
We study the combinatorial Teichmüller space and construct on it global coordinates, analogous to the Fenchel–Nielsen coordinates on the ordinary Teichmüller space. We prove that these coordinates form an atlas with piecewise linear transition functions, and constitute global Darboux coordinates for the Kontsevich symplectic structure on top-dimensional cells.

We then set up the geometric recursion in the sense of Andersen–Borot–Orantin adapted to the combinatorial setting, which naturally produces mapping class group invariant functions on the combinatorial Teichmüller spaces. We establish a combinatorial analogue of the Mirzakhani–McShane identity fitting this framework.

As applications, we obtain geometric proofs of Witten conjecture/Kontsevich theorem (Virasoro constraints for ψ -classes intersections) and of Norbury’s topological recursion for the lattice point count in the combinatorial moduli spaces. These proofs arise now as part of a unified theory and proceed in perfect parallel to Mirzakhani’s proof of topological recursion for the Weil–Petersson volumes.

We move on to the study of the spine construction and the associated rescaling flow on the Teichmüller space. We strengthen former results of Mondello and Do on the convergence of this flow. In particular, we prove convergence of hyperbolic Fenchel–Nielsen coordinates to the combinatorial ones with some uniformity. This allows us to effectively carry natural constructions on the Teichmüller space to their analogues in the combinatorial spaces. For instance, we

22 Oct 2020



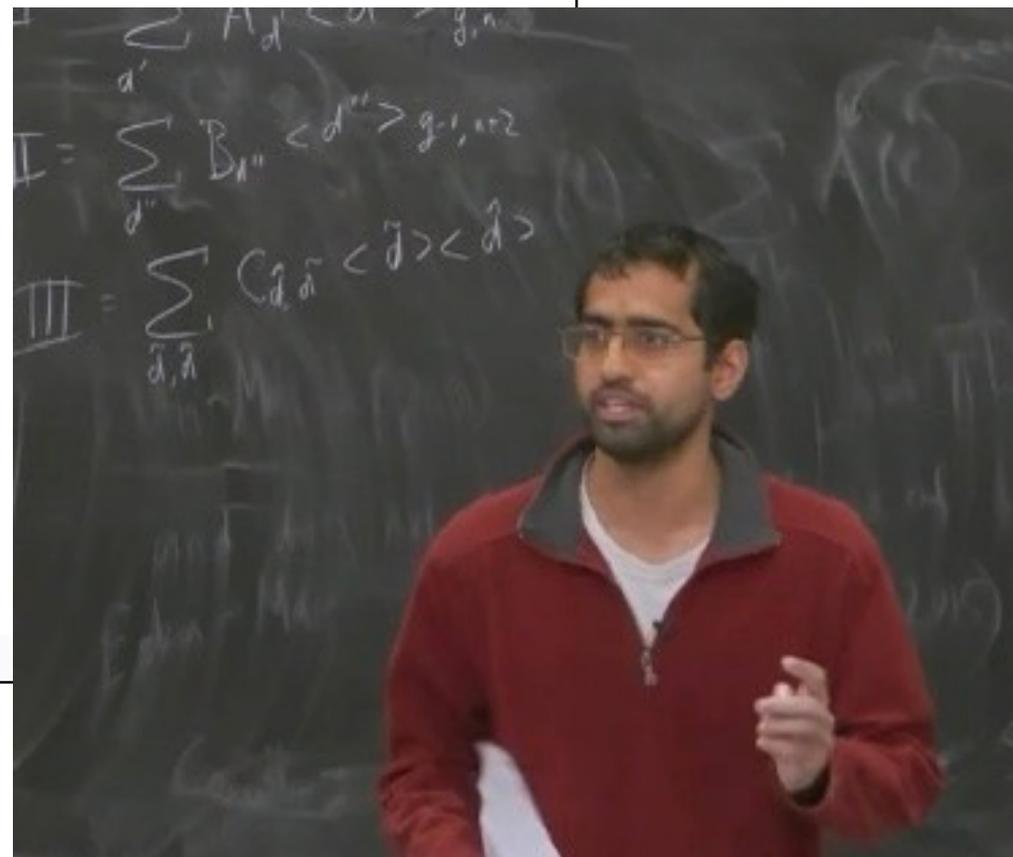
LARGE GENUS ASYMPTOTICS FOR INTERSECTION NUMBERS AND PRINCIPAL STRATA VOLUMES OF QUADRATIC DIFFERENTIALS

AMOL AGGARWAL

ABSTRACT. In this paper we analyze the large genus asymptotics for intersection numbers between ψ -classes, also called correlators, on the moduli space of stable curves. Our proofs proceed through a combinatorial analysis of the recursive relations (Virasoro constraints) that uniquely determine these correlators, together with a comparison between the coefficients in these relations with the jump probabilities of a certain asymmetric simple random walk. As an application of this result, we provide the large genus limits for Masur–Veech volumes and area Siegel–Veech constants associated with principal strata in the moduli space of quadratic differentials. These confirm predictions of Delecroix–Goujard–Zograf–Zorich from 2019.

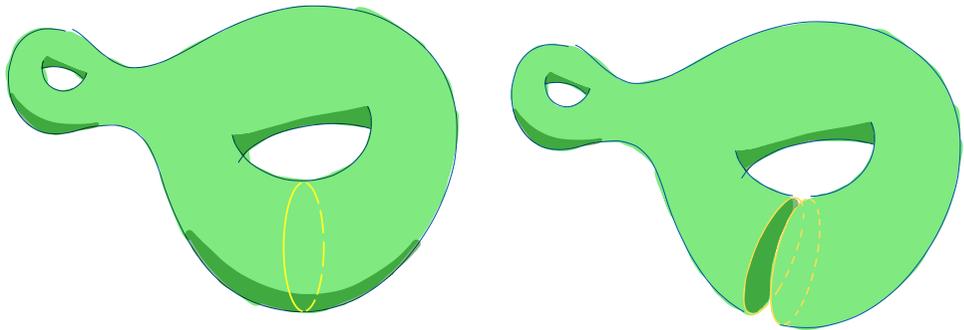
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simple, non-separating

$$\mathbb{E}(N_{[a,b]}^*(X_g))$$



simple, non-separating

$$\mathbb{E}(N_{[a,b)}^*(X_g)) = \frac{1}{\#M_g} \sum_{X \in M_g} N_{[a,b)}(X)$$

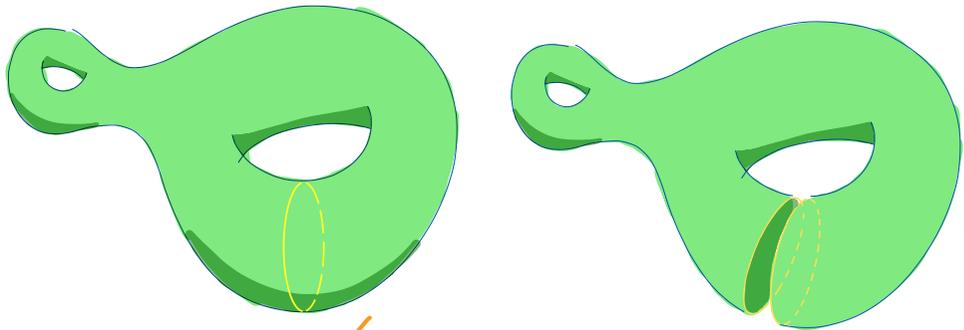
if everything was
 M_g discrete ...

$$= \frac{1}{\#M_g} \# \left\{ (X, \gamma) \mid X \in M_g, \gamma \text{ geodesic on } X \right. \\ \left. a \leq l(\gamma) < b \right\}$$

$$(X, \gamma) \rightarrow X' \in M_{g-1,2}(l,l)$$

||

{ hypersurf of genus $g-1$ }
 { with 2 geod bd of length l }



length γ

$$l(\gamma) = l \in [a, b)$$

simple, non-separating

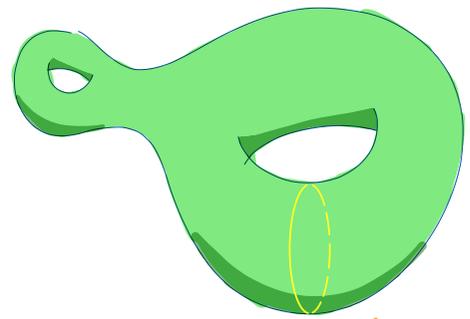
$$\mathbb{E}(N_{[a,b)}^*(X_g) = \frac{1}{\#M_g} \sum_{X \in M_g} N_{[a,b)}(X)$$

if everything was
 M_g discrete ...

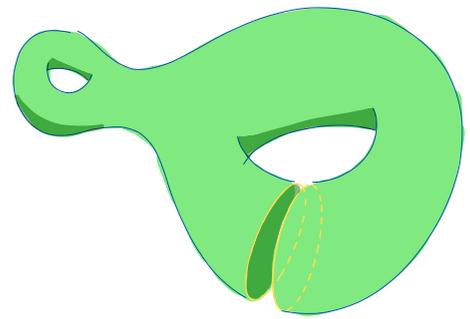
$$\Downarrow$$

$$(X, \gamma) \xleftrightarrow{1:1} (X', \tau) \parallel \frac{1}{\#M_g} \# \left\{ (X, \gamma) \mid X \in M_g, \gamma \text{ geodesic on } X \right. \\ \left. a \leq l(\gamma) < b \right\}$$

$$\frac{1}{\#M_g} \sum_{l=a}^b \# \left\{ (X', \tau) \mid X' \in M_{g_{1,2}}(l,l) \right. \\ \left. 0 \leq \tau < l \right\}$$



length γ
 $l(\gamma) = l \in [a, b)$



twist
 $0 \leq \tau < l$

$$= \frac{1}{\#M_g} \sum_{l=a}^b l \cdot \#M_{g_{1,2}}(l,l)$$

simple, non-separating

$$\mathbb{E}(N_{[a,b]}^*(X_g)) = \frac{1}{\text{vol}_{\text{WP}}(M_g)} \int_a^b l \cdot \text{vol}_{\text{WP}}(M_{g-1,2}(l,l)) dl$$

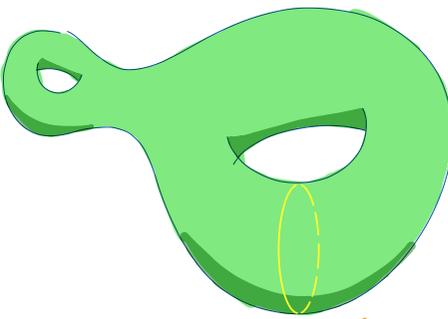
if everything was

M_g discrete ...

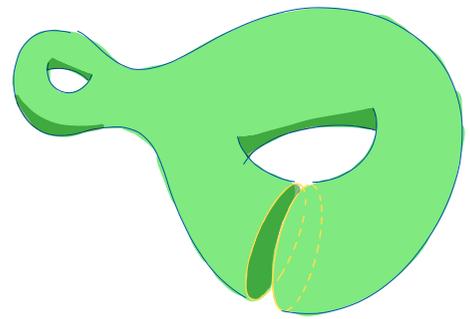


$$= \frac{1}{\#M_g} \# \left\{ (X, \gamma) \mid X \in M_g, \gamma \text{ geodesic } X \right. \\ \left. a \leq l(\gamma) < b \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\#M_g} \sum_{l=a}^b \# \left\{ (X', \tau) \mid X' \in M_{g-1,2}(l,l) \right. \\ \left. 0 \leq \tau < l \right\}$$



length γ
 $l(\gamma) = l \in [a, b)$



twist
 $0 \leq \tau < l$

$$= \frac{1}{\#M_g} \sum_{l=a}^b l \cdot \#M_{g-1,2}(l,l)$$

$$\mathbb{E}(N_{[a,b]}^*(X_g)) = \int_a^b \frac{l \cdot \text{vol}_{\text{WP}}(M_{g-1,2}(l,l))}{\text{vol}_{\text{WP}}(M_g)} dl$$

Theorem (Mirzakhani - Petri)

$$\frac{l \cdot \text{vol}_{\text{WP}}(M_{g-1,2}(l,l))}{\text{vol}_{\text{WP}}(M_g)} \xrightarrow{g \rightarrow \infty} \lambda(l) = \frac{\cosh(l) - 1}{l}$$

Theorem (BGL)

$$\frac{l \cdot \text{vol}_{\text{Kon}}(M_{g-1, n+2}^{\text{comb}}(\vec{L}, l, l))}{\text{vol}_{\text{Kon}}(M_{g, n}^{\text{comb}}(\vec{L}))} \xrightarrow[\substack{|\vec{L}| \sim 12g \\ g \rightarrow \infty}]{} \lambda(l)$$

Thank you!

