

Limits of permutations and graphs avoiding substructures

Mathilde Bouvel

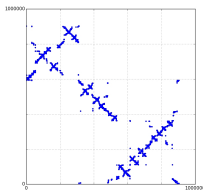
Loria, CNRS and Univ. Lorraine (Nancy, France).

talk based on joint works with
Frédérique Bassino, Jacopo Borga, Valentin Féray,
Lucas Gerin, Michael Drmota, Mickaël Maazoun,
Adeline Pierrot and Benedikt Stufler

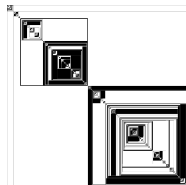
On-line Copenhagen-Jerusalem Combinatorics Seminar, June 2022.

The problem:

- Consider a class \mathcal{C} of **permutations or graphs** defined by the **avoidance of substructures** (patterns or induced subgraphs).
- For any n , let σ_n or \mathbf{G}_n be an object of size n in \mathcal{C} , taken **uniformly at random** among objects of size n in \mathcal{C} .
- We would like to describe the **typical global behavior** of σ_n or \mathbf{G}_n as n tends to ∞ , through its **permuton or graphon limit**.



Permutation matrix of a typical large permutation avoiding 2413 and 3142



Adjacency matrix of typical large graph with no induced P_4

The proof strategy:

- Permutons and graphons describe **global limits** of permutations and graphs. But **permuton and graphon** convergence are characterized by convergence of the **densities of substructures**.
- Using the **substitution or modular decomposition**, we can represent permutations or graphs by **trees** (decorated on their internal nodes).
- **Substructures** in permutations or graphs correspond to **induced subtrees** in these trees (subtrees induced by a set of leaves).
- We write functional equations for the **generating functions** counting decomposition trees, possibly with specified induced subtrees.
- Using **analytic combinatorics**, we derive the **limiting densities** of substructures in our permutations or graphs, proving permuton or graphon convergence.

A caveat

- Only **some** classes of permutations or graphs are amenable to the presented strategy:
when the **substitution/modular decomposition** is “nice”.
- These represent very **few cases** in the whole landscape of permutation classes/hereditary families of graphs.
- But it still covers **quite many classes** compared to what was previously known (especially in the permutation case).

The talk will mainly discuss the simplest case in the graph setting: the family of **cographs**, avoiding an induced P_4 (the path on 4 vertices).

We will also discuss its permutation analogue: the family of **separable permutations**, avoiding the patterns 2413 and 3142, as well as hint at some **generalizations**.

**Induced substructures
in permutations and graphs,
and a biased view of
graphon and permuton convergence**

Induced subgraphs and hereditary families of graphs

- g is an **induced subgraph** of G when



In words, the **subgraph** of $G = (V, E)$ **induced by** $V' \subset V$ is the graph with vertex set V' and edge set $E \cap (V' \times V')$.

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- A **hereditary family of graphs** is a set of graphs \mathcal{C} such that for every $G \in \mathcal{C}$, if g is an induced subgraph of G , then $g \in \mathcal{C}$.
- Examples include the families of **cographs**, comparability graphs, permutation graphs, circle graphs, parity graphs, ...
- Equivalently, hereditary families of graphs are characterized as sets of graphs whose **induced subgraphs avoid** a prescribed set (which may be finite or infinite).

Densities of induced subgraphs

- **Definition:** The density of an induced subgraph g in G is

$$\text{Dens}(g, G) = \mathbb{P}(\text{SubGraph}_k(G) = g)$$

where k is the number of vertices of g and $\text{SubGraph}_k(G)$ is the (random) subgraph of G induced by a k -tuple of i.i.d. uniform random vertices of G .

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- **Variant:** The “injective density” is defined by

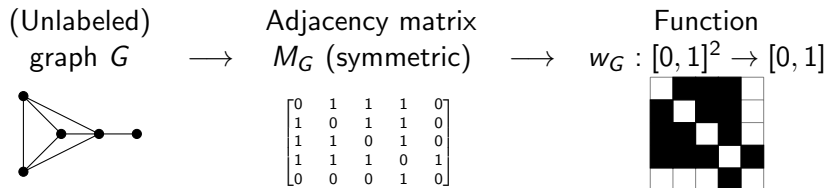
$$\text{Dens}^{inj}(g, G) = \mathbb{P}(\text{SubGraph}_k^{inj}(G) = g),$$

where $\text{SubGraph}_k^{inj}(G)$ is the (random) subgraph of G induced by a uniform random k -tuple of distinct vertices of G .

- **Fact:** For \mathbf{G}_n a sequence of random graphs of size tending to infinity, $\mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}(g, \mathbf{G}_n)] \rightarrow \Delta_g$ iff $\mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}^{inj}(g, \mathbf{G}_n)] \rightarrow \Delta_g$.

What is (informally) a graphon?

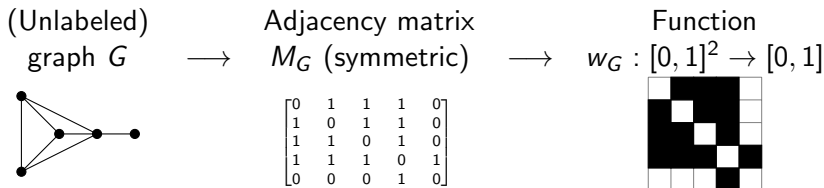
In the discrete setting:



The **graphon** W_G associated with G is the equivalence class of w_G under the action of permuting rows and columns of M_G .

What is (informally) a graphon?

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Continuous extension:

In general, a graphon is obtained **as above**, from a symmetric matrix M , possibly with **a continuum of rows and columns**, and with values in $[0, 1]$.

It is an equivalence class of symmetric functions from $[0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$ under the action of permuting rows and columns of M .

Subgraph densities in graphons

Fix g a graph with k vertices, unlabeled.

- **Reminder of the discrete case:**

For a graph G , $\text{Dens}(g, G) = \mathbb{P}(\text{SubGraph}_k(G) = g)$,
where $\text{SubGraph}_k(G)$ is the (random) subgraph of G
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- **Continuous generalization:**

For a graphon W , $\text{Dens}(g, W) = \mathbb{P}(\text{Sample}_k(W) = g)$,
where $\text{Sample}_k(W)$ is the (random) graph with k vertices v_1, \dots, v_k
such that v_i and v_j are connected with probability $w(x_i, x_j)$,
for x_1, \dots, x_k i.i.d. uniform random variables in $[0, 1]$
and $w : [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$ a representative of W .

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Remark: For any graph G , $\text{Dens}(g, W_G) = \text{Dens}(g, G)$.

Characterization of (deterministic) graphon convergence

(Non-)definition:

The space of graphons is (up to technicalities) **metric**, for the **cut-distance** (and in addition is compact).

So, it makes sense to study **convergence** of a sequence of graphons $(W_n)_{n \geq 0}$ to a graphon W (for this cut-distance). We write $W_n \rightarrow W$.

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Typically, $W_n = W_{G_n}$, the graphon associated to a graph G_n , with the sequence of graphs (G_n) such that the **size of G_n grows to infinity** with n . In this case, we also write $G_n \rightarrow W$.

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Combinatorial characterization of convergence:

For (W_n) a sequence of graphons and W a graphon, $W_n \rightarrow W$ iff for any (finite) graph g , $\text{Dens}(g, W_n) \rightarrow \text{Dens}(g, W)$.

Characterization of graphon convergence: the random case

Reminder: $G_n \rightarrow W$ iff $\text{Dens}(g, G_n) \rightarrow \text{Dens}(g, W)$ for all g , for (G_n) a sequence of (deterministic) graphs and W a (deterministic) graphon.

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What if we take (\mathbf{G}_n) random? ($\text{Dens}(g, \mathbf{G}_n)$ being then a real r.v.)

Theorem [Diaconis-Janson, 2008]:

The distribution of a random graphon \mathbf{W} is characterized by all expected subgraph densities $\mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}(g, \mathbf{W})]$ (for all g).

Theorem [Diaconis-Janson, 2008]:

Let (\mathbf{G}_n) be a sequence of random graphs. TFAE:

- \mathbf{G}_n tends in distribution to some random graphon, \mathbf{W} .
- For all g , $\mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}(g, \mathbf{G}_n)]$ converges to some value $\Delta_g \in [0, 1]$.

If this holds, in addition we have:

for all g , $\mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}(g, \mathbf{W})] = \Delta_g$, so that $(\Delta_g)_g$ characterizes \mathbf{W} .

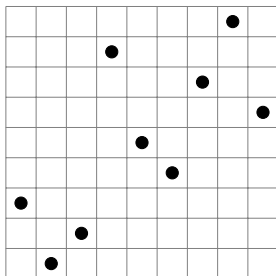
Graphs:

- Definition of **induced subgraphs**
- Definition of **hereditary classes of graphs**
- Notion of **graphon** as a “rescaled adjacency matrix”
- Combinatorial characterization of graphon convergence:
by the convergence of the **densities of induced subgraphs**
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Next: permutations

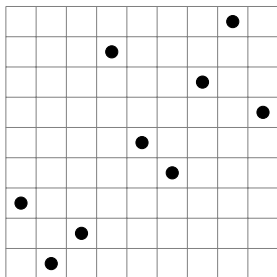
Patterns and permutation classes

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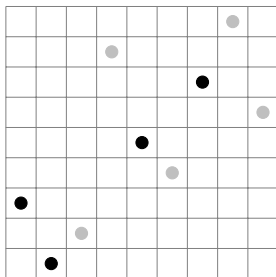


A permutation π of size k is a **pattern** of a permutation σ of size n if there exist $1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq n$ such that $\sigma(i_1) \dots \sigma(i_k)$ is in the **same relative order** (\equiv) as π .

Example: 2134 is a pattern of **312854796** since $3157 \equiv 2134$.

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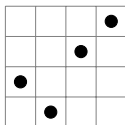


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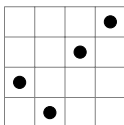


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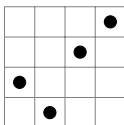


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Permutation classes are sets of permutations closed downwards for the pattern partial order relation.

They are equivalently characterized by the **avoidance** of patterns.

Permutons

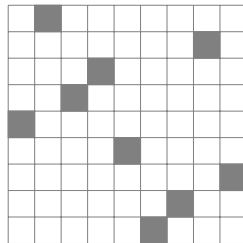
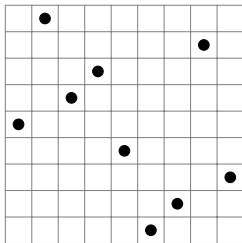
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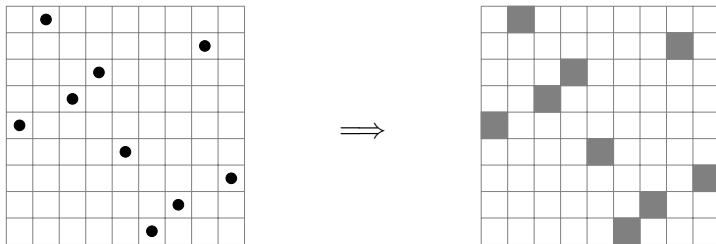


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Informally, permuton can represent permutations of finite size, but also “permutations of infinite size”.

Permuton convergence

We say that a sequence of permutations (σ_n) **converges to** a permuton μ when the sequence of permutons (μ_{σ_n}) converges to μ (for the weak convergence of measures).

This extends to sequences of **random** permutations (σ_n) , converging (in distribution) to a (*a priori random*) permuton μ .

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Theorem: Permuton convergence is characterized by the **convergence of frequencies of all patterns** (in expectation in the random setting).

- $\widetilde{\text{occ}}(\pi, \sigma)$ = frequency of occurrence of the pattern π in σ
- $\widetilde{\text{occ}}(\pi, \mu)$ = frequency of occurrence of the pattern π in μ

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- $\widetilde{\text{occ}}(\pi, \sigma) =$ frequency of occurrence of the pattern π in σ
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- (σ_n) converges in distribution to some permuton $\mu \Leftrightarrow$ for every pattern π , $\mathbb{E}[\widetilde{\text{occ}}(\pi, \sigma_n)]$ converges to some value $\Delta_\pi \in [0, 1]$.
- If this holds, $\mathbb{E}[\widetilde{\text{occ}}(\pi, \mu)] = \Delta_\pi$ for all π and $(\Delta_\pi)_\pi$ characterizes μ .

Graphs:

- Definition of **induced subgraphs**
- Definition of **hereditary classes of graphs**
- Notion of **graphon** as a “rescaled adjacency matrix”
- Combinatorial characterization of graphon convergence:
by the convergence of the **densities of induced subgraphs**
(in expectation in the random case)

Permutations:

- Definition of **patterns**
- Definition of **permutation classes**
- Notion of **permuton** as a “rescaled diagram”
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by the convergence of the **frequencies of patterns**
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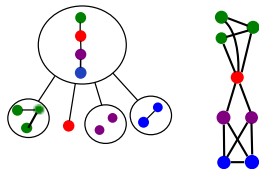
Decomposition trees

Modular decomposition of graphs

- A **module** in a graph $G = (V, E)$ is a set $S \subseteq V$ of vertices which cannot be distinguished by vertices outside of S :

*for every $v \in V \setminus S$, either $\{v, s\} \in E$ for all $s \in S$
or $\{v, s\} \notin E$ for all $s \in S$*

- Given a partition of V into modules, G can be described
 - the subgraph induced keeping exactly one vertex in each module (sometimes called **quotient**)
 - the subgraph induced by each module (sometimes called **factors**)



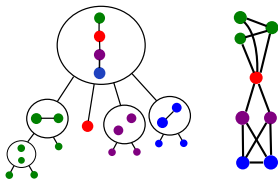
- Repeating this construction inside the modules, we obtain a **modular decomposition tree** of G (which is rooted, non planar, with internal vertices labeled by quotient graphs, and leaves corresponding to V).

Modular decomposition trees

- The **trivial** modules of G are \emptyset , V , and $\{v\}$ for any $v \in V$.
- A graph G is **prime** if it contains no non-trivial module.

Theorem: Every graph has a **unique modular decomposition tree** whose vertices are either cliques (denoted 1), or independent sets (denoted 0), or prime graphs (denoted P), and with no $0 - 0$ nor $1 - 1$ edges.

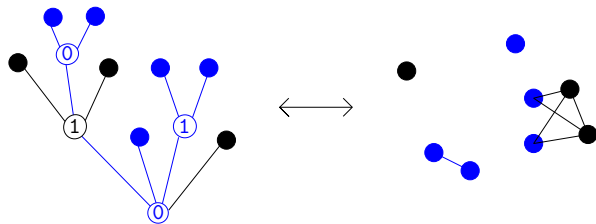
We call it **canonical** and denote it $T(G)$.



$T(G)$ is obtained considering recursively the quotients resulting from the partition of V into maximal modules different from V (in the prime case, with special cases for cliques and independent sets).

Induced subgraphs in decomposition trees

- Let G be a graph. Let S be a subset of its vertices.
- Consider the subgraph of G induced by S .
- Let $T(G)$ be its canonical modular decomposition tree.

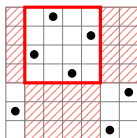


Fact: A decomposition tree for the **induced subgraph** of G corresponding to S is obtained considering the **subtree** of $T(G)$ **induced by** the set of **leaves** corresponding to S .

Remark: The induced tree is not necessarily the **canonical** tree of the induced subgraph (e.g. it may contain 0 – 0 edges).

Substitution decomposition of permutations

Analogue of module: An **interval** of a permutation σ is an interval $[i, j]$ of integers such that $\{\sigma(i), \dots, \sigma(j)\}$ is also an interval.



Quotient and factors: Given a partition of the points of σ into intervals, we can describe σ as a **quotient permutation** whose points have been inflated by **factor permutations**.

$$214653 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & \\ \hline & & & & & \\ \hline & & & & & \\ \hline & & & & & \\ \hline & & & & & \\ \hline & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = 132[21, 132, 1]$$

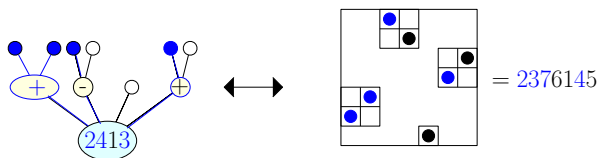
Analogue of prime graph: A **simple** permutation is a permutation σ whose only intervals are the trivial ones (those of size 0, 1, and $|\sigma|$).

Substitution decomposition trees, and patterns

Theorem: Every permutation admits a **unique (substitution) decomposition tree** whose internal vertices are labeled by \oplus (for increasing permutations), \ominus (for decreasing permutations) and simple permutations, with no $\oplus - \oplus$ nor $\ominus - \ominus$ edges. We call it **canonical** and denote it $T(\sigma)$.

Remarks:

- The leaves of $T(\sigma)$ correspond to the elements of σ .
- **Patterns** in σ correspond to **subtrees** of $T(\sigma)$ **induced by leaves** (although not giving canonical trees in general).

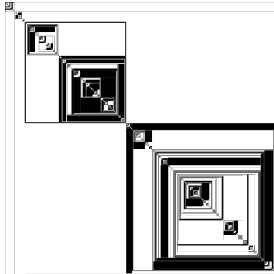


A summary highlighting similarities and differences

- Using substitution/modular decomposition, permutations and graphs can be encoded by “decorated” trees.
- However, the trees associated with permutations are planar, while those associated with graphs are non-planar.
- Patterns/induced subgraphs correspond to subtrees induced by leaves.
- For a permutation σ , consider its inversion graph G . Up to planarity and adapting the decorations, it holds that $T(\sigma) = T(G)$.
- However, the number of permutations realizing a certain (permutation) graph G varies; as a consequence, the uniform distribution on a set of permutations does not translate to the uniform distribution on the set of corresponding graphs.

Next: How to use these trees to prove permuton/graphon convergence for uniform permutations/graphs avoiding substructures.

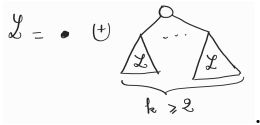
Graphon limit of (labeled) cographs



Cographs and their modular decomposition trees

- Cographs are defined by the **avoidance of P_4** (induced path on 4 vertices, which is the smallest prime graph).
- Equivalently, cographs are all graphs whose modular decomposition trees involve **only 0 (indep. set) and 1 (clique) nodes** (no prime node). We call **cotrees** their modular decomposition trees.
- Therefore, labeled¹ cographs can be described from the **combinatorial specification**:

$$\mathcal{L} = \bullet \uplus \text{Set}_{\geq 2}(\mathcal{L}) \quad \text{i.e.,}$$



Indeed, *via* its **canonical modular decomposition tree**, a cograph correspond to a tree of \mathcal{L} with a label 0 or 1 on the root (propagating labels alternating between 0 and 1 along each edge).

¹meaning vertices are labeled by the integers from 1 to n ; in the unlabeled case, we need to consider Multiset, and hence later Polya operators for the GF

Expressing $\mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}^{inj}(g, \mathbf{G}_n)]$

Notation:

Let \mathbf{G}_n be a uniform random labeled cograph with n vertices.

Reminder:

Knowing $\mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}^{inj}(g, \mathbf{G}_n)]$ for all g characterizes the graphon limit of \mathbf{G}_n .

Notation:

for all n , and all $k \leq n$,

$\mathbf{t}^{(n)}$ is a uniform random labeled canonical cotree of size n , and

$\mathbf{t}_k^{(n)}$ is the subtree of $\mathbf{t}^{(n)}$ induced by a uniform k -tuple of distinct leaves.

Observation:

For any cograph g , we have:

$$\mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}^{inj}(g, \mathbf{G}_n)] = \mathbb{P}(\text{SubGraph}_k^{inj}(\mathbf{G}_n) = g) = \sum \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{t}_k^{(n)} = t_0),$$

where the sum runs over all cotrees t_0 corresponding to g .

Expressing $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{t}_k^{(n)} = t_0)$

Observation: $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{t}_k^{(n)} = t_0) = \frac{n![z^n]M_{t_0}(z)}{n![z^n]M(z) \times n(n-1)\dots(n-k+1)}$, where

- \mathcal{M} is the set of labeled **canonical cotrees**
- for any cotree t_0 with k leaves, \mathcal{M}_{t_0} is the set of labeled canonical cotrees with a **marked** k -tuple of distinct **leaves**, which **induce** t_0 ,
- $M(z)$ and $M_{t_0}(z)$ are the corresponding **exponential generating functions**
- as usual, $[z^n]F(z)$ denotes the coefficient of z^n in the generating function $F(z)$

Next: Use **symbolic and analytic combinatorics** to compute the asymptotic behavior of the numerator and the denominator in

$$\frac{n![z^n]M_{t_0}(z)}{n![z^n]M(z) \times n(n-1)\dots(n-k+1)}.$$

Estimating the denominator

- Recall that $\mathcal{L} = \bullet \uplus \text{Set}_{\geq 2}(\mathcal{L})$.
- Let $L(z)$ be the exponential generating function of \mathcal{L} .
- From [Flajolet-Sedgewick] (rather a variant on trees counted by leaves), $L(z)$ satisfies $L(z) = z + \exp(L(z)) - 1 - L(z)$.
- The generating function of cographs is $M(z) = 2L(z) - z$.
- $L(z)$ and $M(z)$ have the same radius of convergence $\rho = 2 \log(2) - 1$ and are Δ -analytic.
- Near $z = \rho$, $L(z) = \log(2) - \sqrt{\rho} \sqrt{1 - z/\rho} + \mathcal{O}(1 - z/\rho)$ and $M(z) = 1 - 2\sqrt{\rho} \sqrt{1 - z/\rho} + \mathcal{O}(1 - z/\rho)$.
- From the [transfer theorem](#),

$$n(n-1)\dots(n-k+1)[z^n]M(z) \underset{n \rightarrow +\infty}{\sim} \frac{n^{k-3/2}}{\rho^{n-1/2} \sqrt{\pi}}.$$

Estimating the numerator

Prop.: If t_0 with k leaves has n_v internal vertices, $n_=\$ edges of the form $0 - 0$ or $1 - 1$, and n_{\neq} edges of the form $0 - 1$ or $1 - 0$, then

$$M_{t_0} = (L')(\exp(L))^{n_v} (L^\bullet)^k (L^{\text{odd}})^{n_=} (L^{\text{even}})^{n_{\neq}},$$

these series being variations on $L(z)$ whose singular behavior results from that of $L(z)$.

Proof:



Corollary: Like before, we obtain

- the behavior at ρ of $M_{t_0}(z)$,
- and the asymptotic estimate of $[z^n]M_{t_0}(z)$.

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Proof:



Corollary: Like before, we obtain

- the behavior at ρ of $M_{t_0}(z)$,
- and the asymptotic estimate of $[z^n]M_{t_0}(z)$.

More precisely, we have

$$[z^n]M_{t_0}(z) \underset{n \rightarrow +\infty}{\sim} \frac{(k-1)!}{(2k-2)!} \frac{n^{k-3/2}}{\rho^{n-1/2} \sqrt{\pi}},$$

if t_0 is binary (which implies $n_v = k - 1$ and $n_ + n_{\neq} = k - 2$).

Conclusion of the proof

Notation (reminder):

- $\mathbf{t}^{(n)}$: uniform random labeled canonical cotree of size n
- $\mathbf{t}_k^{(n)}$: subtree of $\mathbf{t}^{(n)}$ induced by a uniform k -tuple of distinct leaves
- t_0 : cotree with k leaves

What we proved: If t_0 is **binary**, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{t}_k^{(n)} = t_0) = \frac{(k-1)!}{(2k-2)!}$.

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Remark: $\frac{(k-1)!}{(2k-2)!} = \frac{1}{\text{number of binary cotrees with } k \text{ leaves}}$.

Consequence: If t_0 is **not binary**, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{t}_k^{(n)} = t_0) = 0$.

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Remark/reminder:

Summing over all t_0 encoding a cograph g , this gives $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}(g, \mathbf{G}_n)]$.

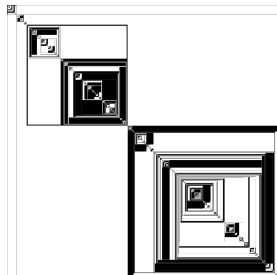
These quantities characterize the **graphon limit of cographs**.

The Brownian cographon

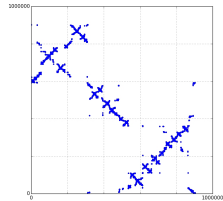
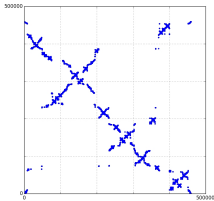
- Starting from a **Brownian excursion**, whose **local minima** receive unbiased decorations by 0 and 1, we can build the **Brownian cographon** of parameter $1/2$, denoted $\mathbf{W}^{1/2}$.
- We can compute $\Delta_g = \mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}(g, \mathbf{W}^{1/2})]$ for all cographs g .

But this is a story for another time...

- We observe that
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[\text{Dens}(g, \mathbf{G}_n)] = \Delta_g \text{ for all } g.$$
- Therefore, not only do we prove existence of a graphon limit for uniform random cographs, but we also provide a **construction of this limit**.
- The limiting graphon is a **genuinely random and fractal** object.



Permuton limit of separable permutations



Decomposition trees of separable permutations

- Separable permutations are those **avoiding the patterns 2413 and 3142** (the two smallest simple permutations).
- Equivalently, it is the family of all permutations whose decomposition trees involve **only \oplus and \ominus nodes** (no simple permutations).
- Separable permutations are therefore the **permutation analogue of cographs**.
- From a **combinatorial specification** for the **decomposition trees** of separable permutations, and using **analytic combinatorics** as before, we obtain the **limiting behavior of $\mathbb{E}[\widetilde{\text{occ}}(\pi, \sigma_n)]$** for π any pattern, and σ_n a uniform random separable permutation of size n . These quantities characterize the **permuton limit** of separable permutations.
- Again, we have an **explicit construction** of the limiting object $\mu^{1/2}$ (called the **Brownian separable permuton** of parameter $1/2$) from a Brownian excursion with decorations.

More classes of permutations

Transposing the proof strategy to a more general setting

Idea of the method:

- Assume that you know a **combinatorial specification for the decomposition trees** of permutations in some class \mathcal{C} .
- It translates into a **system of equations for the GF** of \mathcal{C} .
- We can in addition **“track patterns”** in these equations.
- **IF** the method of analytic combinatorics goes through, we obtain **convergence to a certain permuton**, as for separable permutations.

Some results:

- Convergence to **Brownian separable permutons** of parameters $p \in [0, 1]$ for **substitution-closed classes**, under some analytic condition on the GF of the simple permutations in the class.
- Dichotomy for classes for which **a specification is known** (in particular: whenever they contain **finitely many simple** permutations): (random) **Brownian permutons** VS (deterministic) **X-permutons**.

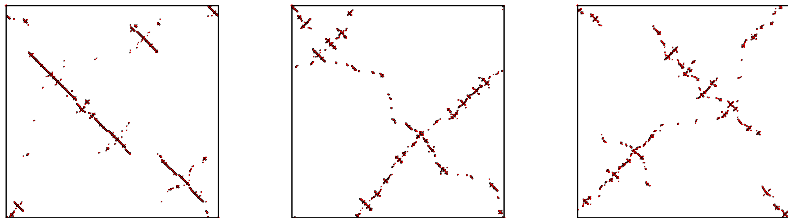
Substitution-closed classes

- Their specification **adds some simple permutations** to that of separable permutations. We denote by \mathcal{S} the set of allowed simple permutations.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 \mathcal{T} = \{\bullet\} \uplus \begin{array}{c} \oplus \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \mathcal{T}_{\text{not}\oplus} \quad \mathcal{T} \end{array} \uplus \begin{array}{c} \ominus \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \mathcal{T}_{\text{not}\ominus} \quad \mathcal{T} \end{array} \uplus \begin{array}{c} \oplus \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \mathcal{T} \quad \dots \quad \mathcal{T} \end{array} \uplus \dots \uplus \begin{array}{c} \pi \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \mathcal{T} \quad \dots \quad \mathcal{T} \end{array} ; \\
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 \end{array} \right.$$

Substitution-closed classes

- Their specification **adds some simple permutations** to that of separable permutations. We denote by \mathcal{S} the set of allowed simple permutations.
- Limit permutons are **(biased) Brownian separable permutons**.

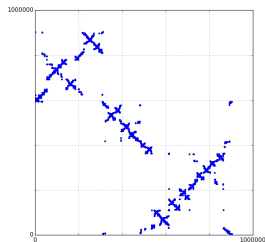
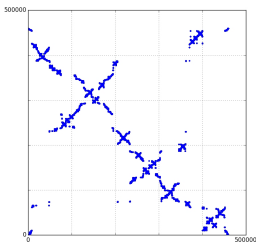


simulations of μ_p for $p = 0.2, 0.45, 0.5$.

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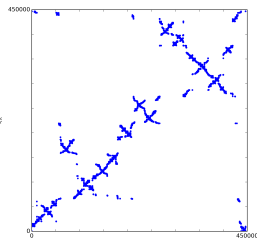
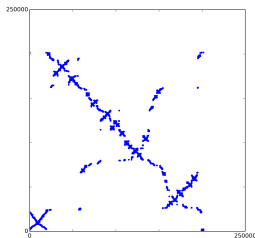
Example 1: Separable permutations, *i.e.* $\mathcal{S} = \emptyset$, $\Rightarrow p = 0.5$



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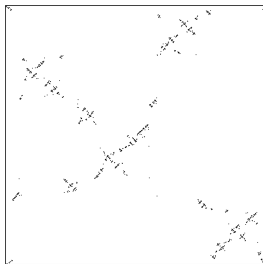
Example 2: $\mathcal{S} = \{2413, 3142, 24153\}$, $\Rightarrow p = 0.5$



Substitution-closed classes

- Their specification **adds some simple permutations** to that of separable permutations. We denote by \mathcal{S} the set of allowed simple permutations.
- Limit permutons are **(biased) Brownian separable permutons**.

Example 3: $\mathcal{S} = Av(321) \cap \{\text{Simples}\}$ (infinite), $\Rightarrow p \in [0.577, 0.622]$



Brownian case of the dichotomy

When the specification contains a **product** of **critical families**.

⇒ The limiting permuton of the class is a biased **Brownian separable permuton** (of parameter p possibly 0 or 1).

Brownian case of the dichotomy

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Example 1: $Av(132)$, with critical families in **blue**.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{T} = \{\bullet\} \uplus \mathcal{T}_{\text{not}\oplus}^{\oplus} \mathcal{T}_{\langle 21 \rangle} \uplus \mathcal{T}_{\text{not}\ominus}^{\ominus} \mathcal{T} \\ \mathcal{T}_{\text{not}\oplus}^{\oplus} = \{\bullet\} \uplus \mathcal{T}_{\text{not}\ominus}^{\ominus} \mathcal{T} \\ \mathcal{T}_{\text{not}\ominus}^{\ominus} = \{\bullet\} \uplus \mathcal{T}_{\text{not}\oplus}^{\oplus} \mathcal{T}_{\langle 21 \rangle} \\ \mathcal{T}_{\langle 21 \rangle} = \{\bullet\} \uplus \mathcal{T}_{\langle 21 \rangle}^{\oplus} \mathcal{T}_{\langle 21 \rangle} \\ \mathcal{T}_{\langle 21 \rangle}^{\oplus} = \{\bullet\}. \end{array} \right.$$

The limit is the Brownian separable permuton of parameter $p = 0$.

Brownian case of the dichotomy

When the specification contains a **product** of **critical families**.

⇒ The limiting permuton of the class is a biased **Brownian separable permuton** (of parameter p possibly 0 or 1).

Example 2: $Av(2413, 31452, 41253, 41352, 531246)$, with critical families in **blue**.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{T}_0 = \{\bullet\} \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_0] \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{T}_0] \uplus 3142[\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_3, \mathcal{T}_3, \mathcal{T}_0] \\ \mathcal{T}_1 = \{\bullet\} \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{T}_0] \uplus 3142[\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_3, \mathcal{T}_3, \mathcal{T}_0] \\ \mathcal{T}_2 = \{\bullet\} \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_0] \uplus 3142[\mathcal{T}_0, \mathcal{T}_3, \mathcal{T}_3, \mathcal{T}_0] \\ \mathcal{T}_3 = \{\bullet\} \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_4, \mathcal{T}_3] \\ \mathcal{T}_4 = \{\bullet\} \end{array} \right.$$

The limit is the Brownian separable permuton of parameter $p \approx 0.4748692376\dots$ (only real root of a certain polynomial of degree 9).

X case of the dichotomy

When the specification contains **no product** of **critical families**.

⇒ The limiting permutation of the class has a **deterministic X shape** (not necessarily centered, possibly missing some of the 4 branches).

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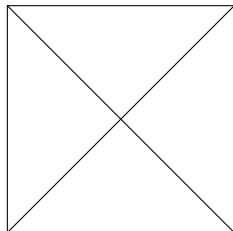
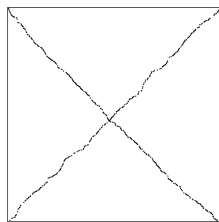
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X case of the dichotomy

When the specification contains **no product** of **critical families**.

⇒ The limiting permuton of the class has a **deterministic X shape** (not necessarily centered, possibly missing some of the 4 branches).

Example 1: $Av(2413, 3142, 2143, 3412)$, a.k.a. the X-class, with critical families in **blue**.



The limit is the centered X-permuton.

X case of the dichotomy

When the specification contains **no product** of **critical families**.

⇒ The limiting permutation of the class has a **deterministic X shape** (not necessarily centered, possibly missing some of the 4 branches).

Example 2: $Av(2413, 3142, 2143, 34512)$, with critical families in **blue**.

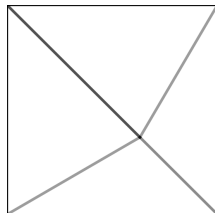
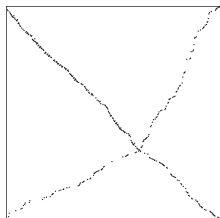
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X case of the dichotomy

When the specification contains **no product** of **critical families**.

⇒ The limiting permuton of the class has a **deterministic X shape** (not necessarily centered, possibly missing some of the 4 branches).

Example 2: $Av(2413, 3142, 2143, 34512)$, with critical families in **blue**.



The limit is a non-centered X-permuton.

X case of the dichotomy

When the specification contains **no product** of **critical families**.

⇒ The limiting permutation of the class has a **deterministic X shape** (not necessarily centered, possibly missing some of the 4 branches).

Example 3: $Av(2413, 1243, 2341, 531642, 41352)$, with critical families in blue.

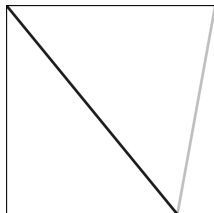
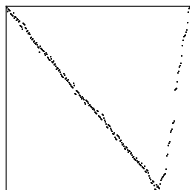
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{T}_0 = \{\bullet\} \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2] \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_3] \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_4, \mathcal{T}_2] \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_5, \mathcal{T}_6] \uplus 3142[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_6] \\ \mathcal{T}_1 = \{\bullet\} \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_7, \mathcal{T}_1] \\ \mathcal{T}_2 = \{\bullet\} \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_7, \mathcal{T}_2] \\ \mathcal{T}_3 = \oplus[\mathcal{T}_8, \mathcal{T}_2] \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_9, \mathcal{T}_6] \\ \mathcal{T}_4 = \ominus[\mathcal{T}_{10}, \mathcal{T}_{11}] \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_{10}, \mathcal{T}_1] \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_7, \mathcal{T}_{11}] \uplus 3142[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_6] \\ \mathcal{T}_5 = \{\bullet\} \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1] \uplus 3142[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1] \\ \mathcal{T}_6 = \{\bullet\} \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_{12}, \mathcal{T}_2] \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_9, \mathcal{T}_6] \\ \mathcal{T}_7 = \{\bullet\} \\ \mathcal{T}_8 = \ominus[\mathcal{T}_9, \mathcal{T}_6] \\ \mathcal{T}_9 = \{\bullet\} \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_7] \\ \mathcal{T}_{10} = \oplus[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1] \uplus 3142[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1] \\ \mathcal{T}_{11} = \oplus[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2] \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_3] \uplus \oplus[\mathcal{T}_4, \mathcal{T}_2] \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_{10}, \mathcal{T}_{11}] \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_{10}, \mathcal{T}_1] \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_7, \mathcal{T}_{11}] \uplus 3142[\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_6] \\ \mathcal{T}_{12} = \{\bullet\} \uplus \ominus[\mathcal{T}_9, \mathcal{T}_6] \end{array} \right.$$

X case of the dichotomy

When the specification contains **no product** of **critical families**.

⇒ The limiting permuton of the class has a **deterministic X shape** (not necessarily centered, possibly missing some of the 4 branches).

Example 3: $Av(2413, 1243, 2341, 531642, 41352)$, with critical families in blue.



The limit is a degenerate X-permuton.

Concluding remarks

Towards more classes of graphs

- As in the permutation case, we can extend the study of cographs to families of graphs whose **modular decomposition trees** are described by a **combinatorial specification**.
- Our **analytic approach** can only work with GF having **positive radius of convergence**. This was necessary in permutation classes, but is an additional requirement for hereditary graph classes.
- This is the PhD topic of **Théo Lenoir**, who started working in September 2021, supervised by Frédérique Bassino and Lucas Gerin.
- The classes that he studied are the **P_4 -blah graphs**, where **blah** \in {reducible, sparse, lite, extensible, tidy}. All converge to the Brownian cograpon.
- Recall that cographs are P_4 -free graphs.

An alternative proof strategy

Consider a class of graphs/permutations \mathcal{C} , seen as [trees](#).

For any n , let \mathbf{G}_n be a uniform random object of size n in \mathcal{C} .

Goal: Describe the graphon/permuton limit of \mathbf{G}_n as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

The strategy I presented (in part):

- Build the limiting graphon/permuton from a [Brownian excursion](#)
- Compute the [densities](#) $(\Delta_g)_g$ [of substructures](#) in it.
- $(\Delta_g)_g$ [characterizes](#) the graphon/permuton limit
- Use a [combinatorial specification](#) for \mathcal{C} and [analytic combinatorics](#) to compute, for any g , the [limiting behavior](#) for $n \rightarrow \infty$ of the [density of \$g\$ in \$\mathbf{G}_n\$](#) . Observe that it coincides with Δ_g .

The “random trees” strategy

- Compute [densities of induced subtrees](#) directly on the random tree of \mathbf{G}_n , using techniques from the random trees literature.

A nice consequence of permuton/graphon limits

Results:

- The size of the **largest independent set** of a uniform random cograph is **sublinear**.
(hence P_4 does not have the asymptotic linear Erdős-Hajnal property, answering a question of Kang, McDiarmid, Reed and Scott in 2014)
- The length of the **longest increasing subsequence** of a uniform random separable permutations is **sublinear**.

Main proof ingredients:

- Convergence to the **Brownian cographon**
- The independence number of the Brownian cographon $\mathbf{W}^{1/2}$ is 0

Bonus: The sublinearity result applies to **all classes** with graphon/permuton limit \mathbf{W}^p or a Brownian separable permuton.

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Thank you for being there!