

# Logarithmic correlations in geometrical critical phenomena

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## Two possibilities for logarithms

- 1 Marginally irrelevant operator:  
Gives logs upon **approach** to fixed point theory.
- 2 Dilatation operator not diagonalisable:  
Logs **directly in** the fixed point theory.

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- Happens when dimensions of two operators collide
- Resonance phenomenon produces a log from two power laws

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## Where do such logarithms appear?

- CFT with  $c = 0$  [Gurarie, Gurarie-Ludwig, Cardy, ...]
  - Percolation, self-avoiding polymers ( $c \rightarrow 0$  catastrophe)
  - Quenched random systems (replica limit catastrophe)

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  - Quenched random systems (replica limit catastrophe)
- Logarithmic minimal models [Pearce-Rasmussen-Zuber, Read-Saleur]
- For any  $d \leq$  upper critical dimension

## Standard unitary CFT

- Expand local density  $\Phi(r)$  on sum of scaling operators  $\varphi(r)$

$$\langle \Phi(r)\Phi(0) \rangle \sim \sum_{ij} \frac{A_{ij}}{r^{\Delta_i + \Delta_j}}$$

- $A_{ij} \propto \delta_{ij}$  by conformal symmetry [Polyakov 1970]
- $A_{ij} \geq 0$  by reflection positivity
- Hence only power laws appear

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## The non-unitary case

- Cancellations may occur
- Suppose  $A_{ij} \sim -A_{ji} \rightarrow \infty$  with  $A_{ii}(\Delta_i - \Delta_j)$  finite
- Then leading term is  $r^{-2\Delta_i} \log r$



## Q-state Potts model

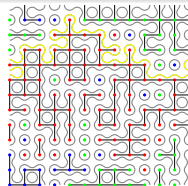
- Hamiltonian  $H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \delta(\sigma_i, \sigma_j)$  with  $\sigma_i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$
- Reformulation in terms of Fortuin-Kasteleyn clusters

$$Z = \sum_{A \subseteq \langle ij \rangle} Q^{k(A)} (e^K - 1)^{|A|}$$

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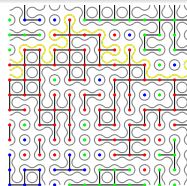


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- Here shown for  $Q = 3$
- The limit  $Q \rightarrow 1$  is percolation
- Surrounding loops (**grey**) satisfy the Temperley-Lieb algebra



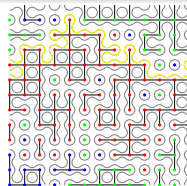
# Application to geometrical models

## Q-state Potts model

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## Continuum limit described by (L)CFT or $SLE_{\kappa}$

- Critical exponent in two dimensions exactly computable

## Reminders

- 2 and 3-point functions fixed in any  $d$  by global conformal invariance alone [Polyakov 1970]
- Extra discrete symmetries **must** be taken into account as well
- Physical operators are irreducible under such symmetries [Cardy 1999]
  - $O(n)$  symmetry for polymers ( $n \rightarrow 0$ )
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## Correlators in bulk percolation in *any dimension*

- Two and three-point functions in bulk percolation
- Limit  $Q \rightarrow 1$  of Potts model with  $S_Q$  symmetry
- Structure for any  $d$ ; but universal prefactors only for  $d = 2$

## Potts model

- Hamiltonian  $H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \delta(\sigma_i, \sigma_j)$  with  $\sigma_i = 1, 2, \dots, Q$
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## Operators acting on one spin

- Most general one-spin operator:  $\mathcal{O}(r_i) \equiv \mathcal{O}(\sigma_i) = \sum_{a=1}^Q \mathcal{O}_a \delta_{a,\sigma_i}$

$$\underbrace{\delta_{a,\sigma_i}}_{\text{reducible}} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{Q}}_{\text{invariant}} + \underbrace{\left( \delta_{a,\sigma_i} - \frac{1}{Q} \right)}_{\varphi_a(\sigma_i)}$$

- Dimensions of representations:  $(Q) = (1) \oplus (Q-1)$ 
  - Identity operator  $1 = \sum_a \delta_{a,\sigma_i}$
  - Order parameter  $\varphi_a(\sigma_i)$  satisfies the constraint  $\sum_a \varphi_a(\sigma_i) = 0$



## Operators acting on two spins

- $Q \times Q$  matrices  $\mathcal{O}(r_i) \equiv \mathcal{O}(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) = \sum_{a=1}^Q \sum_{b=1}^Q \mathcal{O}_{ab} \delta_{a, \sigma_i} \delta_{b, \sigma_j}$
- The  $Q$  operators with  $\sigma_i = \sigma_j$  decompose as before:  $(1) \oplus (Q - 1)$
- Other  $\frac{Q(Q-1)}{2}$  operators with  $\sigma_i \neq \sigma_j$ :  $(1) + (Q - 1) + \left(\frac{Q(Q-3)}{2}\right)$

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## Easy representation theory exercise

$$E = \delta_{\sigma_i \neq \sigma_j} = 1 - \delta_{\sigma_i, \sigma_j}$$

$$\phi_a = \delta_{\sigma_i \neq \sigma_j} (\varphi_a(\sigma_i) + \varphi_a(\sigma_j))$$

$$\hat{\psi}_{ab} = \delta_{\sigma_i, a} \delta_{\sigma_j, b} + \delta_{\sigma_i, b} \delta_{\sigma_j, a} - \frac{1}{Q-2} (\phi_a + \phi_b) - \frac{2}{Q(Q-1)} E$$

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- Scalar  $E$  (energy), vector  $\varphi_a$  (order parameter) and tensor  $\hat{\psi}_{ab}$
- Highest-rank tensor obtained from symmetrised combinations of  $\delta$ 's by subtracting suitable multiples of lower-rank tensors
- Constraint  $\sum_{a=1}^Q \phi_a = 0$  and  $\sum_{a(\neq b)} \hat{\psi}_{ab} = 0$

## Switch to simpler notation

- $t^{(k,N)}$  is the rank- $k$  tensor acting on  $N$  spins  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_N$ .  
By definition it vanishes if any two spins coincide.

$$t^{(1,1)} = (1\delta) - \frac{1}{Q} \left( 1t^{(0,1)} \right)$$

$$t^{(1,2)} = (2\delta) - \frac{2}{Q} \left( 1t^{(0,2)} \right) ,$$

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## Extension to rank- $k$ tensors for all $k \leq N$

$$t^{(k,N)} = (\alpha_k \delta) - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \gamma_{k,i} (\beta_{k,i} t^{(i,N)})$$

$$\alpha_k = \frac{N!}{(N-k)!}, \quad \beta_{k,i} = \frac{k!}{(k-i)! i!}, \quad \gamma_{k,i} = \frac{(N-i)! (Q-i-k)!}{(N-k)! (Q-2i)!}.$$

## One-spin results

$$\langle t^{(0,1)} t^{(0,1)} \rangle = 1,$$

$$\langle t_a^{(1,1)} t_b^{(1,1)} \rangle = \frac{1}{Q} \left( \delta_{a,b} - \frac{1}{Q} \right) \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array} \right).$$

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- In general we do not know the probability  $\mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array} \right)$  that the two spins belong to the same Fortuin-Kasteleyn cluster.
- But its **large-distance asymptotics** is predicted from CFT.

## Two-spin results

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mathbf{t}^{(0,2)} \mathbf{t}^{(0,2)} \rangle &= \left( \frac{Q-1}{Q} \right)^2 \left( \mathbb{P} \begin{pmatrix} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix} + \mathbb{P} \begin{pmatrix} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix} \right) + \frac{Q-1}{Q} \mathbb{P} \begin{pmatrix} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix}, \\ \langle \mathbf{t}_a^{(1,2)} \mathbf{t}_b^{(1,2)} \rangle &= \frac{Q-2}{Q^2} \left( \delta_{a,b} - \frac{1}{Q} \right) \left( \frac{Q-2}{Q} \mathbb{P} \begin{pmatrix} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix} + 2 \mathbb{P} \begin{pmatrix} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix} \right), \\ \langle \mathbf{t}_{ab}^{(2,2)} \mathbf{t}_{cd}^{(2,2)} \rangle &= \frac{2}{Q^2} \left( \delta_{ac} \delta_{bd} + \delta_{ad} \delta_{bc} - \frac{1}{Q-2} (\delta_{ac} + \delta_{bd} + \delta_{ad} + \delta_{bc}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{2}{(Q-2)(Q-1)} \right) \mathbb{P} \begin{pmatrix} \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet \end{pmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$



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## Physical interpretation

- For  $k = N$ , the operator  $t^{(k,N)}$  makes  $k$  clusters propagate
- In 2D equivalent to **2k-leg watermelon operator**

Energy operator  $\varepsilon_j = E - \langle E \rangle$ , with  $E = \delta_{\sigma_j \neq \sigma_{j+1}}$  invariant

$$\langle \varepsilon(r) \varepsilon(0) \rangle = (Q - 1) \tilde{A}(Q) r^{-2\Delta_\varepsilon(Q)},$$

- All correlators of  $\varepsilon_j$  **vanish at  $Q = 1$**  (true already on the lattice)
- In 2D: exponent  $\Delta_\varepsilon(Q) = d - \nu^{-1}$  known exactly

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Two-cluster operator  $\hat{\psi}_{ab}(\sigma_i, \sigma_{i+1})$

$$\langle \hat{\psi}_{ab}(r) \hat{\psi}_{cd}(0) \rangle = \frac{2A(Q)}{Q^2} \left( \delta_{ac} \delta_{bd} + \delta_{ad} \delta_{bc} - \frac{1}{Q-2} (\delta_{ac} + \delta_{ad} + \delta_{bc} + \delta_{bd}) + \frac{2}{(Q-1)(Q-2)} \right) \times \underbrace{r^{-2\Delta_2(Q)}}_{\text{CFT part}}$$

- In 2D: exponent  $\Delta_2 = \frac{(4+g)(3g-4)}{8g}$  known from Coulomb gas

## Avoiding the $Q \rightarrow 1$ catastrophe

- The “scalar” part of  $\langle \hat{\psi}_{ab}(r) \hat{\psi}_{cd}(0) \rangle$  diverges
- But  $\Delta_2 = \Delta_\varepsilon = \frac{5}{4}$  at  $Q = 1$  in 2D
  - And actually  $\Leftrightarrow d_{\text{red bonds}}^F = \nu^{-1}$  for all  $2 \leq d \leq d_{\text{u.c.}}$  [Coniglio 1982]
- So we can cure the divergence by mixing the two operators:

$$\tilde{\psi}_{ab}(r) = \hat{\psi}_{ab}(r) + \frac{2}{Q(Q-1)} \varepsilon(r).$$

# Percolation limit $Q \rightarrow 1$

## Avoiding the $Q \rightarrow 1$ catastrophe

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## Using $\langle \hat{\psi}_{ab} \varepsilon \rangle = 0$ , we find a finite limit at $Q = 1$

$$\langle \tilde{\psi}_{ab}(r) \tilde{\psi}_{cd}(0) \rangle = 2A(1)r^{-5/2} (\delta_{ac} + \delta_{ad} + \delta_{bc} + \delta_{bd} + \delta_{ac}\delta_{bd} + \delta_{ad}\delta_{bc}) \\ + 4A(1) \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\pi} r^{-5/2} \times \log r,$$

where we assumed that  $A(1) = \tilde{A}(1)$ .

## Where does the log come from?

$$\frac{1}{Q-1} \left( r^{-2\Delta_\varepsilon(Q)} - r^{-2\Delta_2(Q)} \right) \sim 2 \left. \frac{d(\Delta_2 - \Delta_\varepsilon)}{dQ} \right|_{Q=1} r^{-5/2} \log r$$

- We need 2D **only** to compute this derivative (universal prefactor)

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## Geometrical interpretation of this logarithmic correlator?

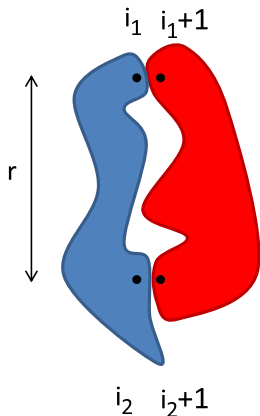
- Idea: Translate the spin expressions into FK cluster formulation
- In addition to the above results, it follows from the representation theory that

$$\langle \varepsilon \hat{\psi}_{ab} \rangle = \langle \varepsilon \phi_a \rangle = \langle \hat{\psi}_{ab} \phi_c \rangle = 0, \text{ and also } \langle \hat{\psi}_{ab} \rangle = \langle \phi_a \rangle = \langle \varepsilon \rangle = 0.$$

- All correlators take a simple form in terms of FK clusters

For example we find:

$$\langle \hat{\psi}_{ab}(\sigma_{i_1}, \sigma_{i_1+1}) \hat{\psi}_{cd}(\sigma_{i_2}, \sigma_{i_2+1}) \rangle \propto \mathbb{P}_2(r = r_1 - r_2).$$



$$\mathbb{P}_2(r_1 - r_2) = \mathbb{P} \left[ \begin{array}{l} (i_1, i_1 + 1) \notin \text{same cluster} \\ (i_2, i_2 + 1) \notin \text{same cluster} \\ \text{two clusters } 1 \rightarrow 2 \end{array} \right].$$

This probability should thus behave as  $r^{-2\Delta_2}$



- Just like in the CFT limit, we introduce

$$\tilde{\psi}_{ab}(r_i) \equiv \tilde{\psi}_{ab}(\sigma_i, \sigma_{i+1}) = \hat{\psi}_{ab}(\sigma_i, \sigma_{i+1}) + \frac{2}{Q(Q-1)} \varepsilon(\sigma_i, \sigma_{i+1})$$

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- Exact discrete expression for  $\langle \tilde{\psi}_{ab}(r_1) \tilde{\psi}_{cd}(r_2) \rangle$  at  $Q = 1$
- Expression in terms of simple percolation probabilities

$$\mathbb{P}_2 = \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \end{array} \right), \mathbb{P}_1 = \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \\ | \\ \bullet \bullet \end{array} \right), \mathbb{P}_0 = \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \bullet \\ \bullet \bullet \end{array} \right), \text{ and } \mathbb{P}_{\neq}$$

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### Exact two-point function of $\tilde{\psi}_{ab}$ at $Q = 1$

$$\langle \tilde{\psi}_{ab}(r_1) \tilde{\psi}_{cd}(r_2) \rangle = 2 (\delta_{ac} + \delta_{ad} + \delta_{bc} + \delta_{bd} + \delta_{ac}\delta_{bd} + \delta_{ad}\delta_{bc}) \times \mathbb{P}_2(r) + 4 \left[ \mathbb{P}_0(r) + \mathbb{P}_1(r) - 2\mathbb{P}_2(r) - \mathbb{P}_{\neq}^2 \right].$$

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# Putting it all together

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## Reminder: CFT Expression

$$\langle \tilde{\psi}_{ab}(r) \tilde{\psi}_{cd}(0) \rangle = 2A(1)r^{-5/2} (\delta_{ac} + \delta_{ad} + \delta_{bc} + \delta_{bd} + \delta_{ac}\delta_{bd} + \delta_{ad}\delta_{bc}) + 4A(1) \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\pi} r^{-5/2} \times \log r,$$

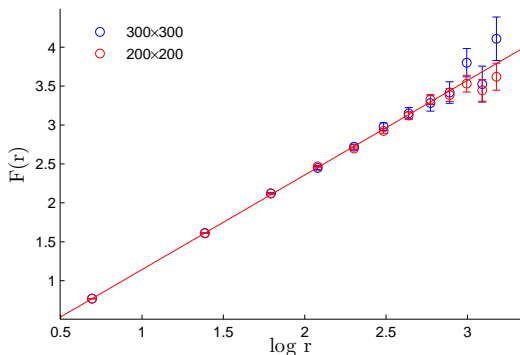
Comparison with the CFT expression yields geometrical interpretation

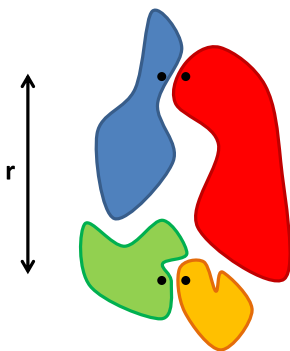
$$F(r) \equiv \frac{\mathbb{P}_0(r) + \mathbb{P}_1(r) - \mathbb{P}_2^{\neq}}{\mathbb{P}_2(r)} \sim \underbrace{\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\pi}}_{\text{universal}} \log r,$$

# Numerical check

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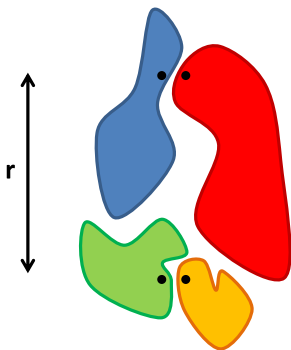
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- Log is in the *disconnected* part  $\mathbb{P}_0(r)$
- Also true for polymers and disordered systems [Cardy 1999]
- Should hold for  $2 \leq d \leq d_{u.c.}$ , but prefactor depends on  $d$
- Compute universal prefactor in  $\epsilon = 6 - d$  expansion?





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## Other interesting logarithmic limits

- $Q \rightarrow 0$  (spanning trees, dense polymers, resistor networks ...)
- $Q \rightarrow 2$  (Ising model)
- Logarithms for **any** integer  $Q$ .

# Three-point functions on two spins (for $Q = 1$ )

Just example, but we have complete results...  $\left( \delta = \lim_{Q \rightarrow 1} \frac{\Delta_{\hat{\psi}} - \Delta_{\varepsilon}}{Q-1} \right)$

$$\mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet & & \bullet \\ / & & \backslash \\ \bullet & \text{---} & \bullet \\ | & & | \\ \bullet & \text{---} & \bullet \end{array} \right) \sim \frac{F_1(1)}{(r_{12} r_{23} r_{31})^{\Delta_{\hat{\psi}}(1)}}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \vdots \quad \vdots \end{array} \right) + \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \vdots \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \right) + \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \right) + \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \hline \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \right) \\ & - \mathbb{P}_{\neq} \left[ \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \bullet \quad \bullet \end{array} \right) + \mathbb{P} \left( \begin{array}{c} \bullet \quad \bullet \\ \vdots \quad \bullet \end{array} \right) \right] + 2\mathbb{P}_{\neq}^3 \\ & \sim \frac{F_1(1) - F_2(1)}{(r_{12}r_{23}r_{31})^{\Delta_{\hat{\psi}}(1)}} \left[ \text{cst} - \delta^2 \log \left( \frac{r_{12}r_{23}r_{31}}{a^3} \right)^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

# Conclusion

- Logarithmic observables specific to percolation ( $Q = 1$ )  
⇒ LCFT as limits of ordinary CFT
- Completion of [Polyakov 1970]'s program, here only for percolation
- Logarithms tend to appear in *disconnected* observables
- Logarithmic dependence can be checked numerically
- Universal prefactor in front of the log closely related to  $\beta$  in LCFT
- In 2D: operator mixing between a primary and a descendent.  
In  $d > 2$ :  $S_Q$  repr. theory predicts mixing between two primaries.
- In 2D: Extremely fertile link to representation theory of non-semisimple algebras, both on the lattice (Temperley-Lieb algebra) and in the continuum limit (Virasoro algebra).

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