Local limits of high genus triangulations

Baptiste Louf (IRIF Paris Diderot)

joint work with Thomas Budzinski



image : N. Curien

Work supported by the grant ERC – Stg 716083 – "CombiTop"

Definition : maps and triangulations

Map = embedding up to homeomorphism of a connected multigraph (loops and multiple edges allowed) in a compact connected orientable surface.

Rooted = an oriented edge is distinguished



Definition : maps and triangulations

Map = embedding up to homeomorphism of a connected multigraph (loops and multiple edges allowed) in a compact connected orientable surface.

Rooted = an oriented edge is distinguished

Genus g of the map = genus of the surface = # of handles





Definition : maps and triangulations

Map = embedding up to homeomorphism of a connected multigraph (loops and multiple edges allowed) in a compact connected orientable surface.

Rooted = an oriented edge is distinguished

Genus g of the map = genus of the surface = # of handles

Triangulation = all faces of degree 3



What does a triangulation look like around the root ?

How similar are two triangulations locally ?

What does a triangulation look like around the root ?

How similar are two triangulations locally ?

The local distance : $d_{loc}(T, T') = (1 + \sup\{r | B_r(T) = B_r(T')\})^{-1}$



What does a (large, random) triangulation look like around the root ?

The limit (in law) w.r.t d_{loc} is called the local limit (= convergence (in law) of the balls of radius r).

Question : let (T_n) be a sequence of random triangulations, whose size $\rightarrow \infty$, is there a local limit ? What does it look like ?

[Angel, Schramm '02] : uniform planar triangulations converge to an infinite triangulation called the Uniform Infinite Planar Triangulation (UIPT). image : I. Kortchemski

Spatial Markov property : $\mathbb{P}(t \subset \mathbb{T}) = C_p \lambda_c^{|v|}$





Spatial Markov property : $\mathbb{P}(t \subset \mathbb{T}) = C_p \lambda_c^{|v|}$





 $\lambda_c = \text{rcv of the}$ series of planar triangulations !

Spatial Markov property : $\mathbb{P}(t \subset \mathbb{T}) = C_p \lambda_c^{|v|}$





 $\lambda_c = rcv of the series of planar triangulations !$

Peeling process : Discover ${\mathbb T}$ step by step, unveil triangles.



Spatial Markov property : $\mathbb{P}(t \subset \mathbb{T}) = C_p \lambda_c^{|v|}$





 $\lambda_c = rcv of the series of planar triangulations !$

Peeling process : Discover ${\mathbb T}$ step by step, unveil triangles.



Spatial Markov property : $\mathbb{P}(t \subset \mathbb{T}) = C_p \lambda_c^{|v|}$





 $\lambda_c = rcv of the series of planar triangulations !$

Peeling process : Discover ${\mathbb T}$ step by step, unveil triangles.



The **PSHIT**

Introduced by Curien in 2012

Defined in the same way as the UIPT, by with $\lambda \in]0, \lambda_c]$.

For $\lambda < \lambda_c$, has an hyperbolic flavour : the "average degree" of a vertex is higher than 6 (the value in a regular planar triangulation), the balls have exponential growth,



image : N. Curien

Question : Can the PSHITs be interpreted as local limits ?

A conjecture

Let $\frac{g_n}{n} \to \theta$ with $\theta \in [0, \frac{1}{2}[$. Let (T_n) be a sequence of random triangulations, such that T_n is drawn uniformly among all triangulations of genus g_n with 2n triangles.

Conjecture [Benjamini, Curien '12] : (T_n) has a local limit, and it is a PSHIT of parameter λ , with λ a function of θ .

For g_n constant, the limit is the UIPT (well known, but never written anywhere).



image : N. Curien

A conjecture

Let $\frac{g_n}{n} \to \theta$ with $\theta \in [0, \frac{1}{2}[$. Let (T_n) be a sequence of random triangulations, such that T_n is drawn uniformly among all triangulations of genus g_n with 2n triangles.

Conjecture [Benjamini, Curien '12] : (T_n) has a local limit, and it is a PSHIT of parameter λ , with λ a function of θ .

For g_n constant, the limit is the UIPT (well known, but never written anywhere).

A similar result [Angel, Chapuy, Curien, Ray '13] : the local limit of one-faced maps of high genus is an infinite hyperbolic tree



image : N. Curien













For fixed genus ...



In the limit we see the "tangent plane of an infinite triangulation".

For fixed genus



In the limit we see the "tangent plane of an infinite triangulation".

When the genus increases linearly with the size, in the end we don't see the genus but we still "feel the curvature"



Our result

Theorem [Budzinski, L. '18+] : the conjecture of Benjamini and Curien is true.

Let's get to (a part of) the proof !

First idea :

Obtain precise asymptotics for $\tau(n,g)$ (the number of maps of genus g with 2n triangles) as $\frac{g}{n} \to \theta$

First idea :

Obtain precise asymptotics for $\tau(n,g)$ (the number of maps of genus g with 2n triangles) as $\frac{g}{n} \to \theta$



Outline of the proof :

- 1) Tightness (+ planarity and one-endedness)
 → every subsequence has a converging subsubsequence
- 2) Every possible limit is a PSHIT with random parameter Λ
- 3) Λ is deterministic and depends only on θ

Tightness : how do we prove it ?

Two main ingredients :

• The bounded ratio lemma : for $\frac{g}{n} < \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$, there is a constant C_{ε} s.t. :

$$\frac{\tau(n,g)}{\tau(n-1,g)} < C_{\varepsilon}$$

• Planarity and one-endedness

For $\frac{g}{n} < \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$, $\frac{\tau(n,g)}{\tau(n-1,g)} < C_{\varepsilon}$

There are $n + 2 - 2g \ge 2\varepsilon n$ vertices, and the average degree is $\frac{6n}{n+2-2g} \le \frac{3}{\varepsilon}$ \rightarrow there are $\ge \varepsilon n$ vertices of degree $\le \frac{6}{\varepsilon}$

For $\frac{g}{n} < \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$, $\frac{\tau(n,g)}{\tau(n-1,g)} < C_{\varepsilon}$

There are $n + 2 - 2g \ge 2\varepsilon n$ vertices, and the average degree is $\frac{6n}{n+2-2g} \le \frac{3}{\varepsilon}$ \rightarrow there are $\ge \varepsilon n$ vertices of degree $\le \frac{6}{\varepsilon}$

Pick such a vertex v, and contract an adjacent edge



For $\frac{g}{n} < \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$, $\frac{\tau(n,g)}{\tau(n-1,g)} < C_{\varepsilon}$

There are $n + 2 - 2g \ge 2\varepsilon n$ vertices, and the average degree is $\frac{6n}{n+2-2g} \le \frac{3}{\varepsilon}$ \rightarrow there are $\ge \varepsilon n$ vertices of degree $\le \frac{6}{\varepsilon}$

Pick such a vertex v, and contract an adjacent edge



For $\frac{g}{n} < \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$, $\frac{\tau(n,g)}{\tau(n-1,g)} < C_{\varepsilon}$

```
There are n + 2 - 2g \ge 2\varepsilon n vertices,
and the average degree is
\frac{6n}{n+2-2g} \le \frac{3}{\varepsilon}
\rightarrow there are \ge \varepsilon n vertices of degree
\le \frac{6}{\varepsilon}
```

Pick such a vertex $\boldsymbol{v}\text{,}$ and contract an adjacent edge

```
Remember \deg(v) and an oriented edge ...
```



For $\frac{g}{n} < \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$, $\frac{\tau(n,g)}{\tau(n-1,g)} < C_{\varepsilon}$

```
There are n + 2 - 2g \ge 2\varepsilon n vertices,
and the average degree is
\frac{6n}{n+2-2g} \le \frac{3}{\varepsilon}
\rightarrow there are \ge \varepsilon n vertices of degree
\le \frac{6}{\varepsilon}
```

Pick such a vertex $\boldsymbol{v}\text{,}$ and contract an adjacent edge

Remember $\deg(v)$ and an oriented edge ...

... only one way to go backwards



For $\frac{g}{n} < \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$, $\frac{\tau(n,g)}{\tau(n-1,g)} < C_{\varepsilon}$

```
There are n + 2 - 2g \ge 2\varepsilon n vertices,
and the average degree is
\frac{6n}{n+2-2g} \le \frac{3}{\varepsilon}
\rightarrow there are \ge \varepsilon n vertices of degree
\le \frac{6}{\varepsilon}
```

Pick such a vertex $\boldsymbol{v}\text{,}$ and contract an adjacent edge

Remember $\deg(v)$ and an oriented edge ...

... only one way to go backwards



For $\frac{g}{n} < \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$, $\frac{\tau(n,g)}{\tau(n-1,g)} < C_{\varepsilon}$

There are $n + 2 - 2g \ge 2\varepsilon n$ vertices, and the average degree is $\frac{6n}{n+2-2g} \le \frac{3}{\varepsilon}$ \rightarrow there are $\ge \varepsilon n$ vertices of degree $\le \frac{6}{\varepsilon}$

Pick such a vertex $\boldsymbol{v}\text{,}$ and contract an adjacent edge

Remember $\deg(v)$ and an oriented edge ...

... only one way to go backwards



For $\frac{g}{n} < \frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon$, $\frac{\tau(n,g)}{\tau(n-1,g)} < C_{\varepsilon}$

There are $n + 2 - 2g \ge 2\varepsilon n$ vertices, and the average degree is $\frac{6n}{n+2-2g} \le \frac{3}{\varepsilon}$ \rightarrow there are $\ge \varepsilon n$ vertices of degree $\le \frac{6}{\varepsilon}$

Pick such a vertex $\boldsymbol{v}\text{,}$ and contract an adjacent edge

Remember $\deg(v)$ and an oriented edge ...

... only one way to go backwards

Thus $\varepsilon n\tau(n,g) \leq \frac{6}{\varepsilon} \cdot 6n\tau(n-1,g)$



One-endedness and planarity



Proven by using the Goulden–Jackson formula (and the bounded ratio lemma) :

$$(n+1)\tau(n,g) = 4n(3n-2)(3n-4)\tau(n-2,g-1) + 4(3n-1)\tau(n-1,g) +4\sum_{i+j=n-2}\sum_{g_1+g_2=g}(3i+2)(3j+2)\tau(i,g_1)\tau(j,g_2)$$

One-endedness and planarity



Proven by using the Goulden–Jackson formula (and the bounded ratio lemma) :

$$(n+1)\tau(n,g) = 4n(3n-2)(3n-4)\tau(n-2,g-1) + 4(3n-1)\tau(n-1,g) +4\sum_{i+j=n-2}\sum_{g_1+g_2=g}(3i+2)(3j+2)\tau(i,g_1)\tau(j,g_2)$$

(Tutte equation is not enough)

to be continued ...

$$\frac{\tau(n, g_n)}{\tau(n-1, g_n)} \to c(\theta)$$

$$\frac{\tau(n, g_n)}{\tau(n-1, g_n)} \to c(\theta)$$



$$\mathbb{P}(\textcircled{\bullet}) \in \mathbb{T})$$

$$= C_1 \lambda^2 \text{ in PSHITs}$$
$$= \frac{\tau(n-1,g_n)}{\tau(n,g_n)} \text{ in finite maps}$$

$$\frac{\tau(n, g_n)}{\tau(n-1, g_n)} \to c(\theta)$$





$$\frac{\tau(n, g_n)}{\tau(n-1, g_n)} \to c(\theta)$$



$$\mathbb{P}(\underbrace{\bullet} \in \mathbb{T}) = C_1 \lambda^2 \text{ in PSHITs} \\ = \frac{\tau(n-1,g_n)}{\tau(n,g_n)} \text{ in finite maps}$$
(exercise !)

$$\tau(n, g_n) = n^{2g_n} \exp(nf(\theta) + o(n))$$

What's next ?

Boltzmann maps (arbitrary face degrees)

```
\rightarrow requires a formula similar to Goulden–Jackson but for bipartite maps with prescribed degrees ([L. 18+])
```

More info on high genus triangulations (diameter, ...)

```
Maps decorated with "matter" ?
```

What happens when $\frac{g}{n} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$?

Thank you !