



**The Abdus Salam  
International Centre for Theoretical Physics**



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**School on Stochastic Geometry, the Stochastic Lowener Evolution, and  
Non-Equilibrium Growth Processes**

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**Background information ON Conformal invariance  
in the 2D Ising model (further notes)**

Stanislav SMIRNOV  
*Universite' de Geneve  
Section de Mathematiques  
CH-1211 Geneve  
Switzerland*

# Fortuin-Kasteleyn random cluster model at criticality

Collections of **blue edges**, clusters are max subgraphs connected by **blue edges**

Dobrushin-type boundary conditions:

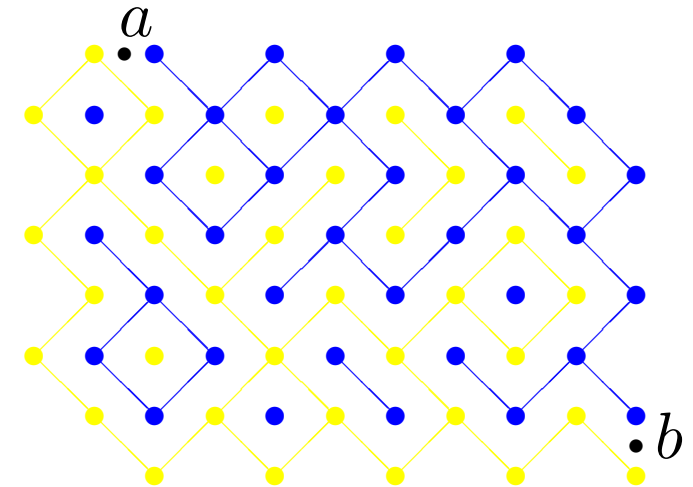
arc  $ba$  **wired**, arc  $ab$  **dual-wired**

$$\text{Prob} \asymp \left(\frac{1-x}{x}\right)^{\# \text{ blue edges}} q^{\# \text{ clusters}}$$

For  $x = x_c(q) = 1/(\sqrt{q} + 1)$  self-dual

Random cluster representation of  $q$ -state Potts model:  $q = 2$  **FK Ising model**,  
 $q = 1$  bond percolation on the square lattice,  $q = 0$  uniform spanning tree.

**Conjecture [Rohde-Schramm,...].** *Interface has conformally invariant SLE as a scaling limit for  $q \in [0, 4]$  and  $x = x_c(q)$ .*



## Fortuin-Kasteleyn random cluster model at criticality: loop representation

Draw loops on the medial lattice, separating  
clusters from dual clusters

Dobrushin-type boundary conditions

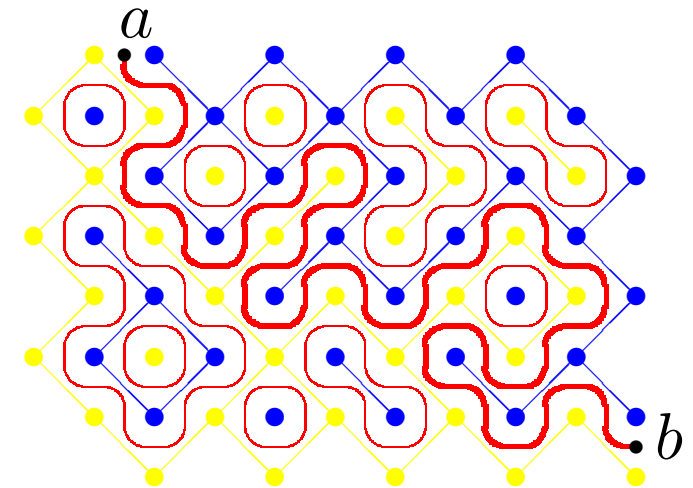
lead to an interface  $\gamma : a \leftrightarrow b$

$$\text{Prob} \asymp \left(\frac{1-x}{x}\right)^{\# \text{ blue edges}} q^{\# \text{ clusters}}$$

For  $x = x_c(q) = 1/(\sqrt{q} + 1)$  self-dual and  $\text{Prob} \asymp (\sqrt{q})^{\# \text{ loops}}$

Random cluster representation of  $q$ -state Potts model:  $q = 2$  FK Ising model,  
 $q = 1$  bond percolation on the square lattice,  $q = 0$  uniform spanning tree.

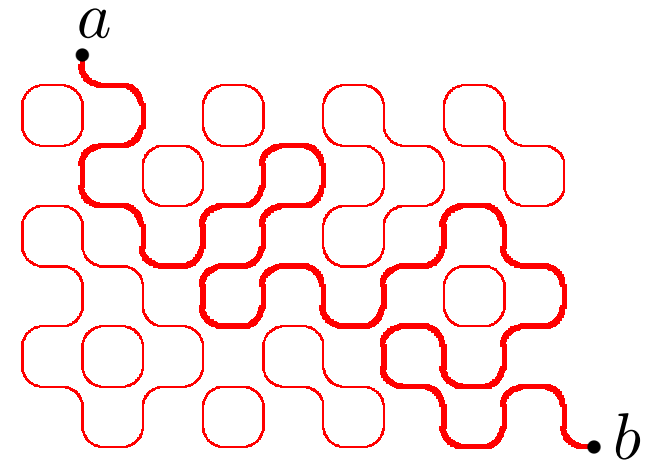
**Conjecture [Rohde-Schramm,...].** *Interface has conformally invariant SLE as a scaling limit for  $q \in [0, 4]$  and  $x = x_c(q)$ .*



## Fortuin-Kasteleyn random cluster model at criticality: loop representation

Dense **loop** collections on  
the square lattice

Dobrushin-type boundary conditions:  
besides loops an interface  $\gamma : a \leftrightarrow b$



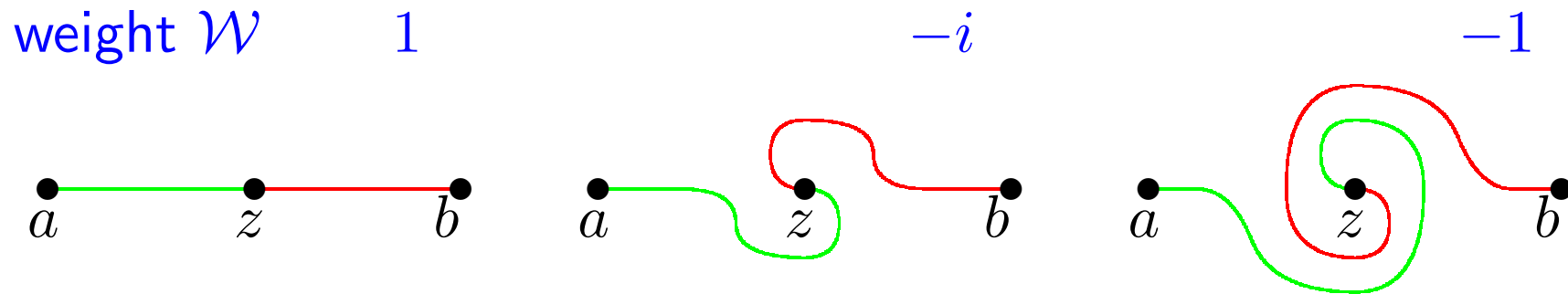
For self-dual  $x$  (conjecturally critical) **Prob**  $\asymp (\sqrt{q})^{\# \text{ loops}}$

Random cluster representation of  $q$ -state Potts model:  $q = 2$  **FK Ising model**,  
 $q = 1$  bond percolation on the square lattice,  $q = 0$  uniform spanning tree.

**Conjecture [Rohde-Schramm,...].** *Interface has conformally invariant SLE as a scaling limit for  $q \in [0, 4]$ .*

FK Ising preholomorphic observable:  $F(z) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\delta}} \mathbb{E} \chi_{z \in \gamma} \cdot \mathcal{W}$

- Fermionic weight  $\mathcal{W} := \exp\left(-i \frac{1}{2} \text{winding}(\gamma, b \rightarrow z)/2\right)$



Note: through a given edge interface always goes in the same direction, so complex weight is uniquely defined up to sign.

**Theorem.** For FK Ising when lattice mesh  $\delta \rightarrow 0$

$$F(z) \Rightarrow \sqrt{\Phi'(z)} \text{ inside } \Omega,$$

where  $\Phi$  maps conformally  $\Omega$  to a horizontal width 1 strip,  $a, b \mapsto$  ends. The limit is conformally covariant.

## Where complex weights come from? [cf. Baxter]

Set  $2 \cos(2\pi k) = \sqrt{q}$ . Orient loops  
 $\Leftrightarrow$  height function changing by  $\pm 1$   
 whenever crossing a loop (*think of a geographic map with contour lines*)

New  $\mathbb{C}$  partition function (local!):

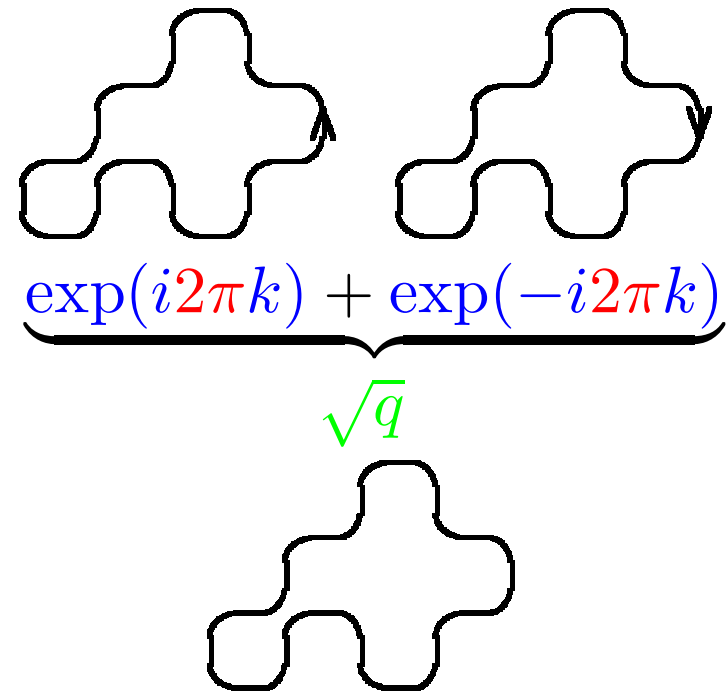
$$Z^{\mathbb{C}} = \sum \prod_{\text{sites}} \exp(i \text{winding} \cdot k)$$

Forgetting orientation projects onto  
 the original model:  $\text{Proj}(Z^{\mathbb{C}}) = Z$

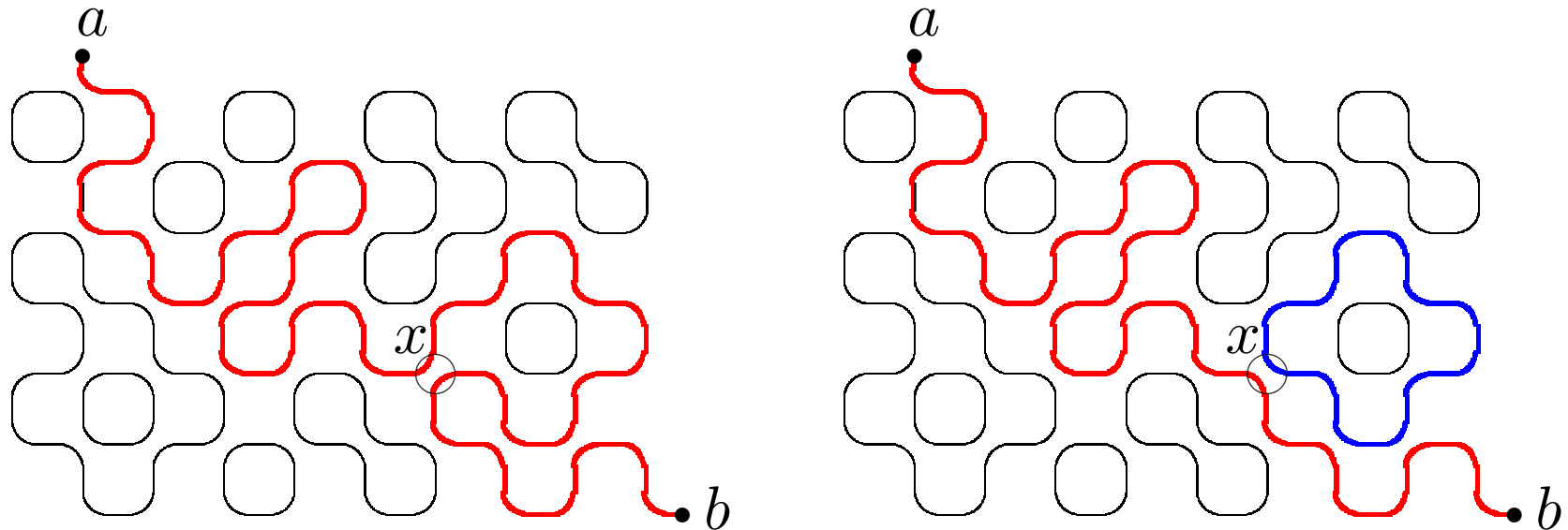
Orient interface  $b \rightarrow z$  and  $a \rightarrow z \Leftrightarrow +2$  monodromy at  $z$

Can rewrite our observable as  $F(z) = Z_{+2 \text{ monodromy at } z}$

Note: being attached to  $\partial\Omega$ ,  $\gamma$  is weighted differently from loops



## Proof: discrete analyticity by local rearrangement

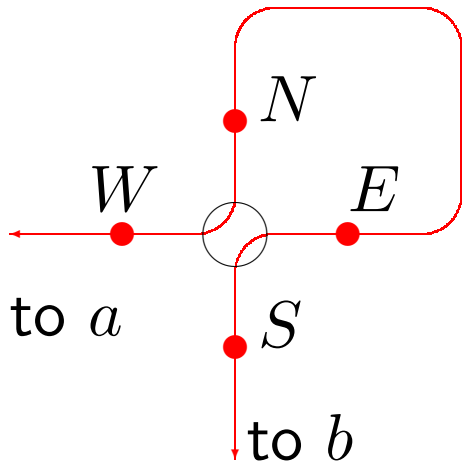


If  $a$ - $b$  **interface** passes through  $x$ ,

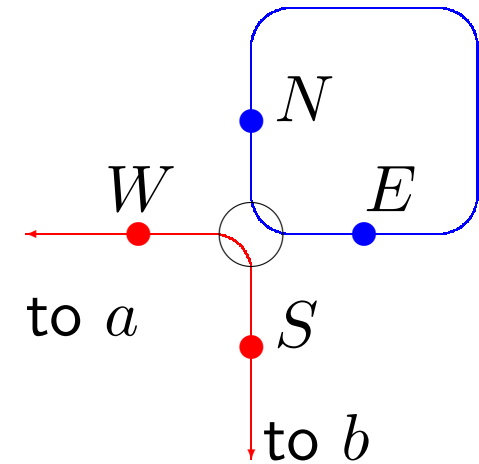
changing connections at  $x$  creates two configurations.

Additional **loop** on the right  $\Rightarrow$  weights differ by a factor of  $\sqrt{q} = \sqrt{2}$

**Proof: discrete relation  $F(N) + F(S) = F(E) + F(W)$**



$X\lambda^2$	$F(N)$	0
$X$	$F(S)$	$X\sqrt{2}$
$X\lambda$	$F(W)$	$X\lambda\sqrt{2}$
$X\bar{\lambda}$	$F(E)$	0



$\lambda = \exp(-i\pi/4)$  is the weight per  $\pi/2$  turn. Two configurations together contribute equally to both sides of the relation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 X\lambda^2 + X + X\sqrt{2} &= X\bar{\lambda} + X\lambda + X\lambda\sqrt{2} \\
 i + 1 + \sqrt{2} &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\sqrt{2} \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$



**Proof:**  $F(N) + F(S) = F(E) + F(W) \Rightarrow$  s-Hol

Interface always passes an edge always in the same direction, so complex weight is uniquely defined up to sign.

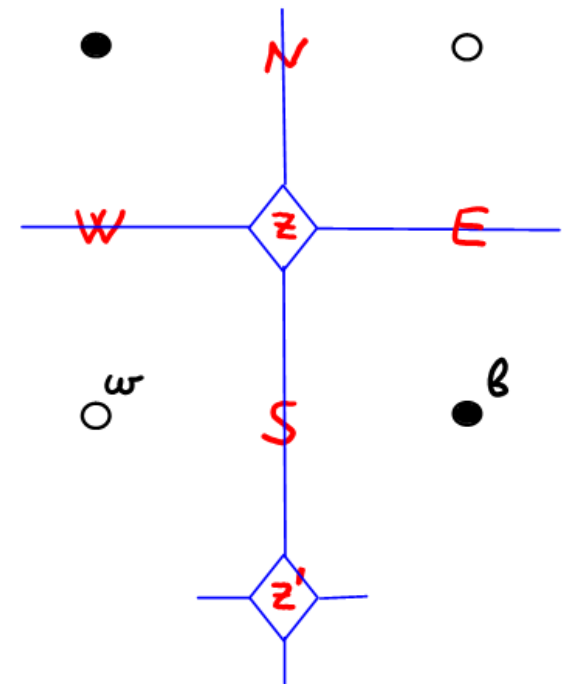
For example  $\mathcal{W}(S)$  is proportional to

$$\pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{(z-S)}} = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{i(w-b)}}$$

Thus  $F(E) \perp F(W)$  and  $F(N) \perp F(S)$  and they give the same complex number, which we denote by  $F(z)$ , in two orthogonal bases.

**Conclusion:** (same for isoradial)

$$F(S) = \text{Proj} \left( F(z), \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{i(w-b)}} \right) = \text{Proj} \left( F(z'), \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{i(w-b)}} \right)$$



## Proof: Riemann-(Hilbert-Privalov) boundary value problem

When  $z$  is on the boundary, winding of the interface  $b \rightarrow z$  is uniquely determined, same as for  $\partial\Omega$ . So weight  $\mathcal{W} = \tau^{-1/2}$ .

Thus  $F$  solves the discrete version of the covariant Riemann BVP

$$\operatorname{Im} \left( F(z) \cdot \tau^{1/2} \right) = 0, \quad \text{where } \tau \text{ is the tangent to } \partial\Omega.$$

Plus the interface **always** passes through  $a$  and  $b$ , winding is unique, so  $|F(a)| = |F(b)| = 1/\sqrt{2\delta}$ .

The continuum case is solved by  $F = \sqrt{\Phi'}$ ,  
where  $\Phi : \Omega \rightarrow$  infinite horizontal strip,  $a, b \mapsto$  ends.

Check: on  $\partial\Omega$

$$\operatorname{Im}\Phi = \text{const} \Rightarrow d\Phi \in \mathbb{R}_+ \Rightarrow \Phi' \cdot dz \in \mathbb{R}_+ \Rightarrow \operatorname{Im} \left( \sqrt{\Phi'} \cdot \tau^{1/2} \right) = 0$$