



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



**1952-13**

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

**7 - 18 July 2008**

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

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We saw how to show using discrete holomorphicity that in the FK Ising model at criticality, some

observables have conformally invariant scaling limits.



In the last two lectures (largely independent of the first three) we will discuss how to use  $\star$  to construct scaling limits.

- Possible objects
- single interface  $\leftarrow$  SLE
  - full interface collection
  - height functions, fields

## Löwner evolution

- a tool to study variation of domains & maps in  $\mathbb{C}$ .
  - introduced to attack Bieberbach's conjecture
- K. Löwner, Untersuchungen über schlichte konforme Abbildung des Einheitskreises, I. *Math. Ann.* 89, 103-121 (1923).
- was instrumental in its proof

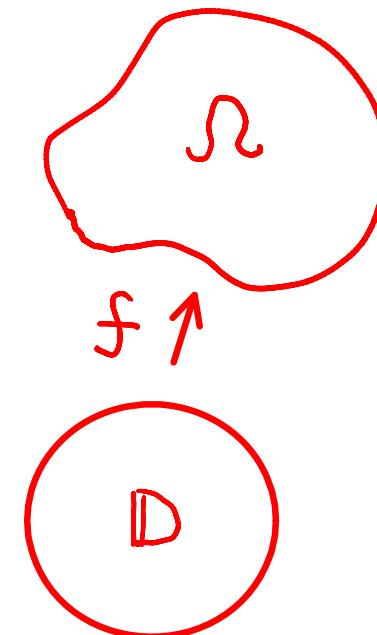
L. de Branges, A proof of the Bieberbach conjecture.  
*Acta. Math.* 154, 137-152 (1985)..

## Bieberbach's conjecture de Branges' theorem

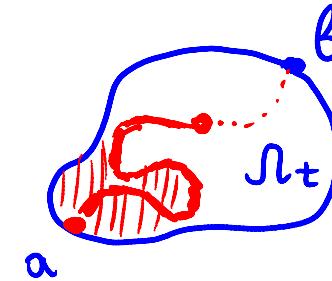
$f : D \rightarrow \Omega$  a conformal map

$$f(z) = \sum a_n z^n.$$

Then  $|a_n| \leq n |a_1|$ , attained for  $\Omega = \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}_-$



Deform domain by growing a slit  
from  $a \in \partial\Omega$  to  $b \in \Omega$  (or  $b \in \partial\Omega$ )



Map  $\Omega$  to  $\mathbb{C}_+$ , so that  $a \mapsto 0$ ,  $b \mapsto \infty$ .

Parametrize slit  $\gamma$  by time  $t$ .

Set  $\Omega_t = \mathbb{C}_+ \setminus \gamma[0, t]$ , component at  $\infty$

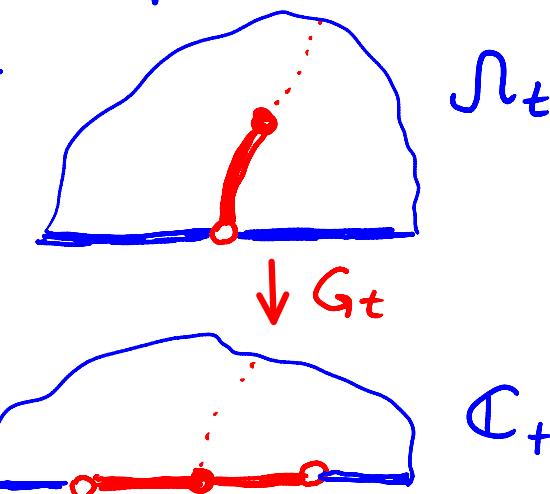
$G_t : \Omega_t \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_+$  a conformal map

with  $\infty \mapsto \infty$ ,  $G_t'(\infty) = 1$ ,  $\gamma(t) \rightarrow 0$ .

Expand at  $\infty$ :

$$G_t(z) = z + a_0(t) + \frac{a_{-1}(t)}{z} + \frac{a_{-2}(t)}{z^2} + \dots$$

Note:  $G_t : \mathbb{R} \setminus \gamma \Rightarrow a_k \in \mathbb{R}$



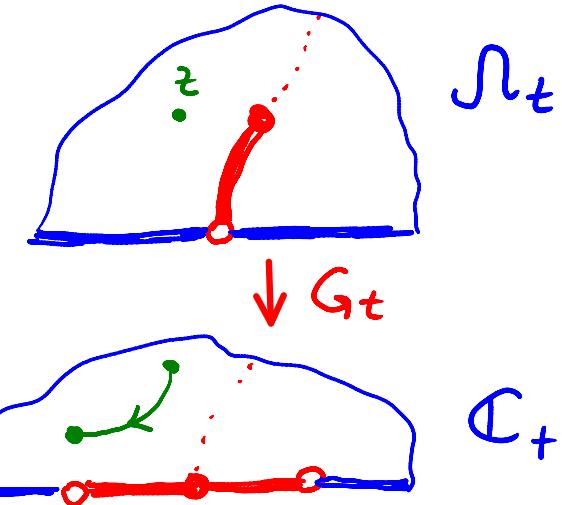
$G_t: \mathbb{N}_t \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_+$  a conformal map

$$G_t(z) = z + a_0(t) + \frac{a_{-1}(t)}{z} + \frac{a_{-2}(t)}{z^2} + \dots$$

Note:  $a_{-1}(t) = \text{cap}_{\mathbb{C}_+}(\gamma[0,t])$

$\Rightarrow$  continuously increases  $\Rightarrow$   
can change time  $a_{-1}(t) = 2t$

Denote  $w(t) := -a_0(t)$ .



Löwner equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} (G_t(z) + w(t)) = \frac{2}{G_t(z)}$$

B.C.  $G_0(z) = z$ ,  $G_t(z) = z - w(t) + \frac{2t}{z} + \dots$  at  $\infty$

gives a bijection  $\{\text{nice slits}\} \leftrightarrow \{\text{continuous } w\}$

- ODE for  $G_t(z)$  involves  $w(t)$  only!
- $\frac{d}{dt} w(t)$  = "the turning speed"

## Schramm-Löwner Evolution

deterministic  $w \leftrightarrow$  deterministic  $\gamma$

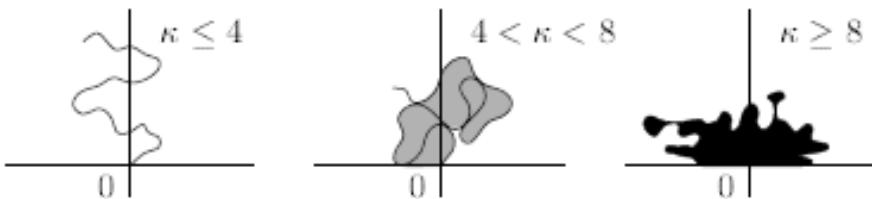
random  $w \leftrightarrow$  random  $\gamma$  ( $\rightarrow \mu \in \text{Prob}\{\text{curves}\}$ )

SLE( $\kappa$ ) is LE with  $w(t) = \sqrt{\kappa} B_t$ ,  $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}_+$

- $\gamma$  a.s. a simple curve  $0 \leq \kappa \leq 4$  [Rohde -  
a self-touching curve  $4 < \kappa < 8$   
a random Peano curve  $\kappa \geq 8$

•  $\text{HDim } (\gamma) = \min(1 + \frac{\kappa}{8}, 2)$  a.s. [Beffara]

•  $\mathfrak{A}(\text{SLE}(\kappa)) = \text{SLE}(\frac{16}{\kappa})$ ,  $\kappa > 4$  [Zhan],  
[Dubedat]



SLE computations  
=  $|t|^\kappa$  calculus

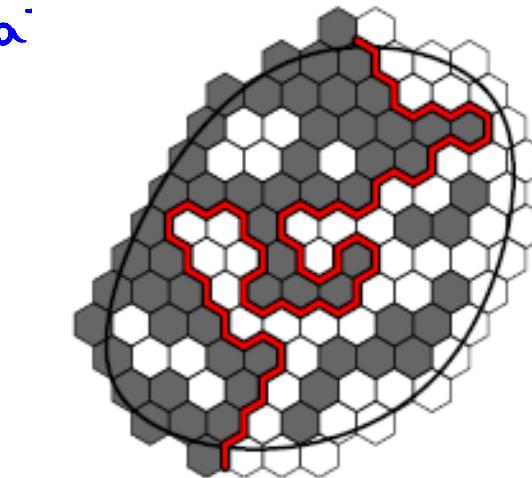
Schramm's principle Assume that an interface has a conformally invariant scaling limit.

Then it is  $SLE(\kappa)$  for some  $\kappa$ .

### Conformal invariance

same law

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mu(\Omega, a, b) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \phi(\mu(\Omega, a, b)) \\ \text{---} & & \text{---} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{circle} \\ \Omega \\ a \\ b \end{array} & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \begin{array}{c} \text{diamond} \\ \phi(\Omega) \\ \phi(a) \\ \phi(b) \end{array} \end{array}$$

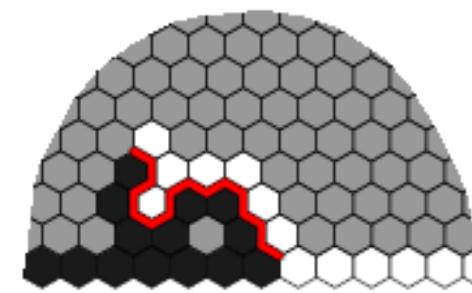
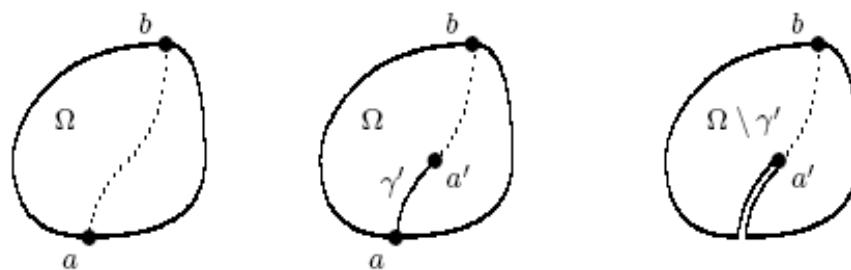


← holds in  
the limit

### Domain Markov

same law

$$\mu(\Omega, a, b) \xrightarrow{\text{condition}} \mu(\Omega, a, b) | \gamma' \quad \mu(\Omega \setminus \gamma', a', b)$$

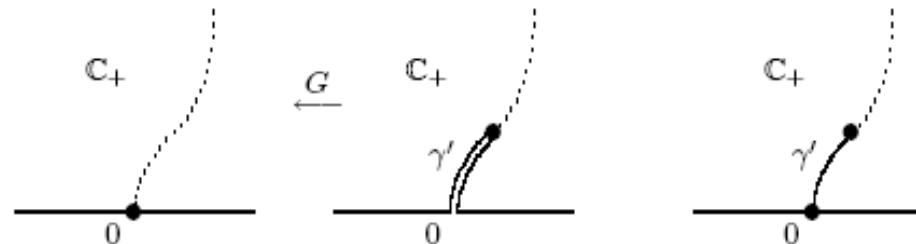


← holds on  
the lattice  
(nearest neighbour  
interaction)

Conformal invariance + domain Markov  $\Rightarrow$   
 Conformal  
 Markov  
 Property

$$G_{t+s} | G_t = G_t (G_s)$$

$$\mu(\mathbb{C}_+, 0, \infty) \xrightarrow{G^{-1}} G^{-1}(\mu(\mathbb{C}_+, 0, \infty)) \xrightarrow{\text{same law}} \mu(\mathbb{C}_+, 0, \infty) | \gamma'$$



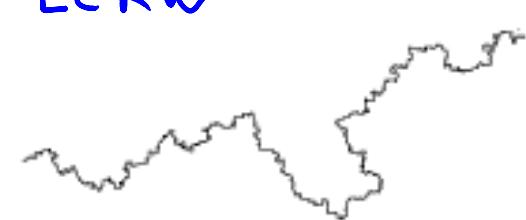
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Expanding at } \infty : z - w(t+s) + \dots | G_t &= \\ &= (z - w(t) + \dots) \circ (z - w(s) + \dots) = z - (w(t) + w(s)) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{So } w(t+s) - w(t) | G_t &= w(s) \\ w(t) \text{ a.s. continuous} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} w(t) &= \\ &\sqrt{x} B_t + \alpha t \\ x \in \mathbb{R}_+, \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

- $\alpha = 0$  by symmetry or scaling

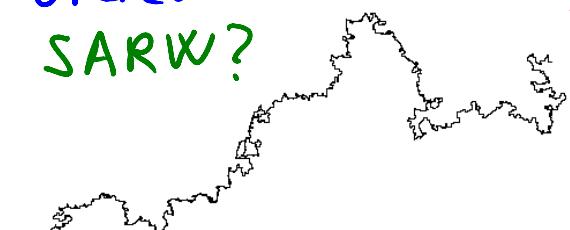
- The principle is very nice, but hard to apply:  
 need to establish conformal invariance first,  
 then evaluate some observable to find  $\alpha$ ...

LERW



2

# 2 Percolation SARW?



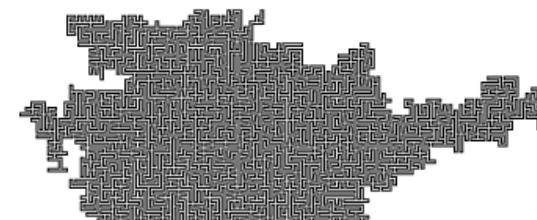
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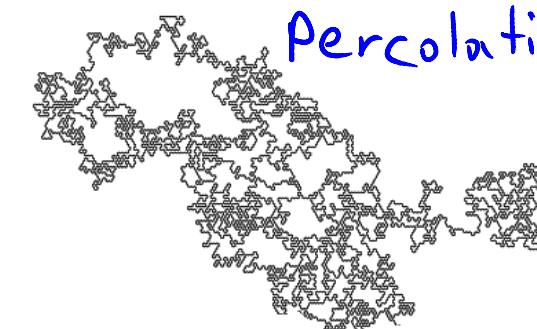
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# Percolation

6



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FKISING

## T<sub>c</sub> ISING



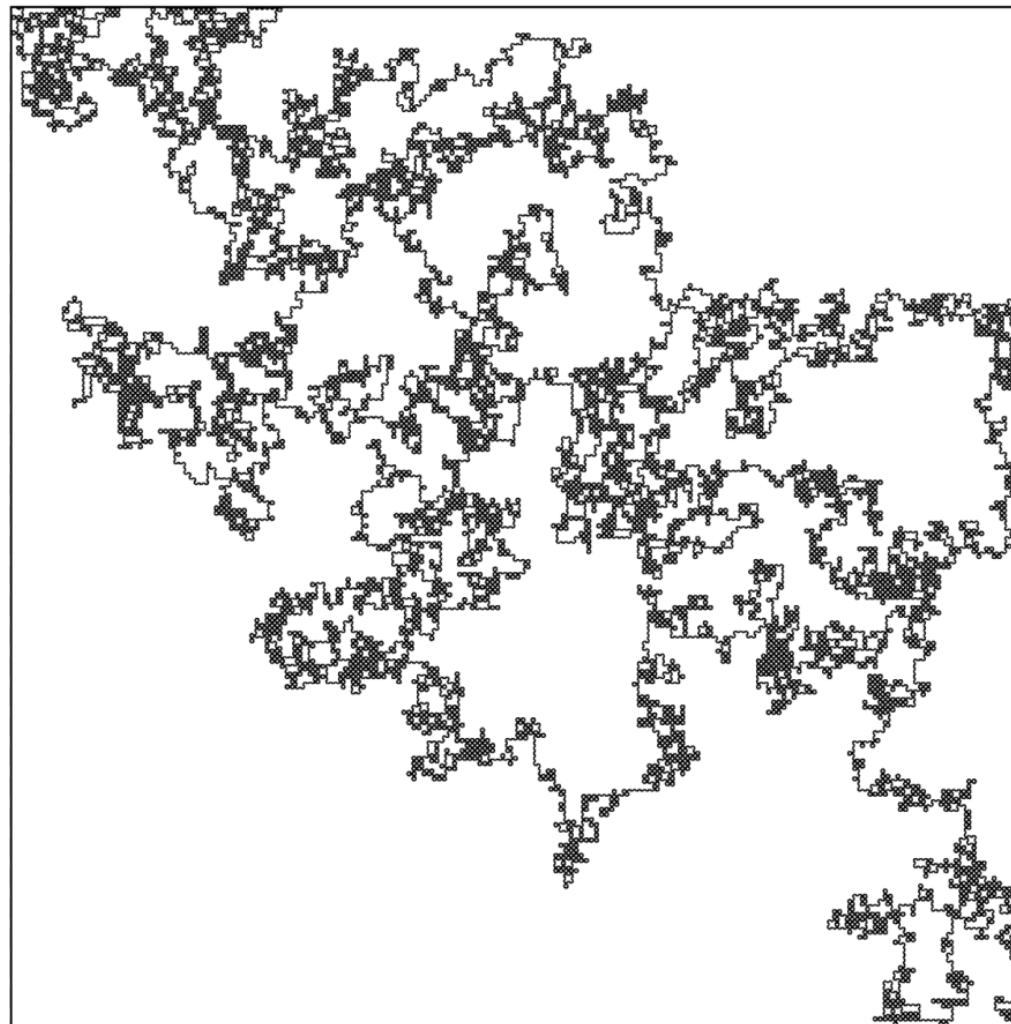
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## 4-POTTS? DGFF

Theorem if a sequence of discrete domains  
Converges:  $\Omega^\varepsilon, \alpha^\varepsilon, \beta^\varepsilon \xrightarrow{\text{Cara}} \Omega, \alpha, \beta$  then interface  
in the critical FK Ising converges to SLE(16/3)

(weak\* convergence  
of Borel measures  
on Hölder curves)



Martingale principle: if some "martingale" observable  $F$  has a conformally covariant limit, then interface converges to SLE ( $\alpha_F$ )

Martingale property of  $F$ :

$$F(z, \gamma^\epsilon_a, b) = \underset{\parallel}{\mathbb{E}}_{\gamma^\epsilon[0,t]} F(z, \gamma^\epsilon \setminus \gamma^\epsilon[0,t], \gamma^\epsilon(t), b) \underset{\parallel \star}{\mathbb{E}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} \mathbb{E} X_{z \in \gamma} \cdot W(b \rightarrow z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} \mathbb{E}_{\gamma[0,t]} \mathbb{E}(X_{z \in \gamma} W(b \rightarrow z) \mid \gamma[0,t])$$

Note:  $\gamma$  does not distinguish  $a \gamma$  from its past  $\Rightarrow$

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \left. \begin{array}{c} a \\ \text{red hexagons} \\ \text{brown path} \\ \text{green path} \\ z \\ b \end{array} \right| \gamma[0,t] \right) \stackrel{\star}{=} \mathbb{E} \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{red hexagons} \\ \text{brown path} \\ \text{green path} \\ \gamma(t) \\ z \\ b \end{array} \right)$$

Take our random curve  $\gamma^\varepsilon$  in  $\Omega^\varepsilon \approx \Omega$ .

① Choose converging subsequence

$$\gamma^{\varepsilon_i} \rightarrow \gamma' \text{ (i.e. } \mu^{\varepsilon_i} \xrightarrow{w_*} \mu)$$

② Map  $\Omega$  to  $\mathbb{C}^+$ , get random  $\gamma$

③ Describe  $\gamma$  by LE with  
random driving force  $w(t)$

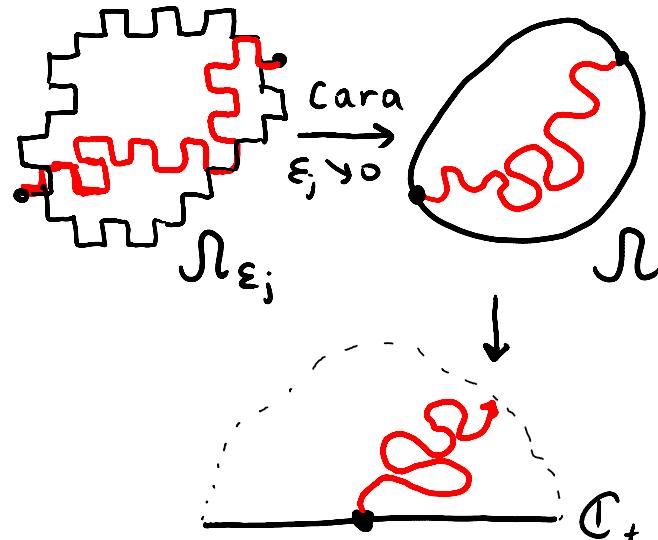
④ Use martingale to determine  $w(t)$

Assume

A  $\{\mu^\varepsilon\}$  is precompact (for ①)

for now B  $\gamma$  a.s. is a Löwner slit (for ③)

C  $w(t)$  is a.s. continuous (for ④)  
with bounded moments



Martingale property of  $F$ :

$$F(z, \mathcal{N}, a, b) = \mathbb{E}_{\gamma^{\epsilon} [0, t]} F(z, \mathcal{N} \setminus \gamma^{\epsilon} [0, t], \gamma^{\epsilon}(t), b)$$

$\downarrow \epsilon; \rightarrow 0$        $\downarrow \epsilon; \rightarrow 0$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\gamma [0, t]} \overbrace{\sqrt{\Phi'(z, \mathcal{N} \setminus \gamma [0, t])}}$$

Passing to a limit is legal:  $\mathcal{N}^{\epsilon_i} \xrightarrow{\text{Caro}} \mathcal{N}$  and  
 $\mathcal{N} \mapsto \Phi(\cdot, \mathcal{N})$  is continuous in Carathéodory sense.

Observe that  $\Phi(z, \mathbb{C}_+) = \log z \Rightarrow \Phi' = 1/z$

$$\Phi(z, \mathbb{C}_+ \setminus \gamma [0, t]) = \log G_t(z) \Rightarrow \Phi' = G'_t(z) / G_t(z)$$

Conclusion:

$$\sqrt{1/z} = \mathbb{E}_{G_t} \overbrace{\sqrt{G'_t(z) / G_t(z)}}$$

Problems: no info about  $w(t)$  yet (Markov? ...)

$G_t$  solves non-linear ODE

Rewrite:  $(1/z)^6 = \mathbb{E}_{G_t} (G_t'(z)/G_t(z))^6$ ,  $\delta = \frac{1}{2}$  a parameter

Recall  $G_t(z) = z - w(t) + \frac{2t}{z} + \dots$   $G_t'(z) = 1 - \frac{2t}{z^2} + \dots$

Plug in, expand

Note: absolute bounds for "...," moments of  $w(t)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{z^6} &= \mathbb{E}_{G_t} \left( \frac{1 - \frac{2t}{z^2} + \dots}{z - w(t) + \frac{2t}{z} + \dots} \right)^6 \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{G_t} \frac{1}{z^6} \left( 1 + \frac{6}{z} w(t) + \frac{1}{z^2} \frac{6(6+1)}{2} \left( w(t)^2 - \frac{8t}{6+1} \right) + \dots \right)\end{aligned}$$

Equate coefficients:  $0 = \mathbb{E}_{G_t} w(t)$ ,  $0 = \mathbb{E}_{G_t} w(t)^2 - \frac{8t}{6+1}$   $\textcircled{*}$

Do the same for domains  $\mathbb{C}_+ \setminus \gamma[0, s]$ ,  $\mathbb{C}_+ \setminus \gamma[0, t]$ ,

get  $\textcircled{*}$  for increments, so  $w(t)$  is a.s. continuous,

$w(t)$  and  $w(t)^2 - \frac{8t}{6+1}$  are martingales

$\xrightarrow{\text{Lévy}} w(t) = \sqrt{\frac{8}{6+1}} B_t$  for FK Ising  $\sqrt{\frac{16}{3}} B_t$   $\blacksquare$

We want to use martingale observable to deduce (A)(B)(C)

- (A)  $\{\mu^\varepsilon\}$  is precompact
- (B)  $\gamma$  a.s. is a Löwner slit
- (C)  $w(t)$  is a.s. continuous with bounded moments

Proposition Let  $\{\gamma^\varepsilon(t)\}_\varepsilon$  be a family of random curves with no transversal self intersections. The following estimate implies (A)(B)(C): for  $\frac{R}{r} > M$

