



The Abdus Salam
International Centre for Theoretical Physics



1952-9

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

7 - 18 July 2008

**Background information ON Conformal invariance in the 2D Ising model (SLE and
conformal invariance for critical Ising model)**

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

3rd LA PIETRA WEEK IN PROBABILITY

Stochastic Models in Physics

Firenze, June 23-27, 2008

SLE and conformal invariance for critical Ising model

Stanislav Smirnov



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE

FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES

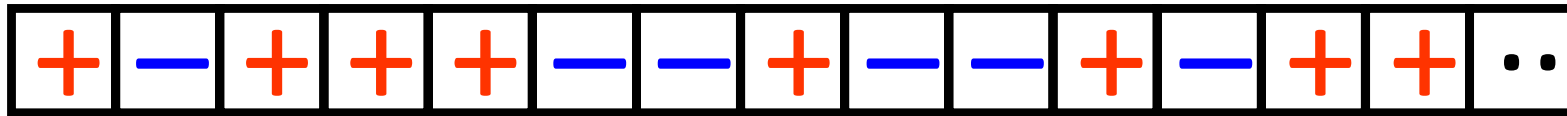


jointly with

Dmitry Chelkak

1D Ising model

0 1 N N+1



$$Z = \sum_{\text{conf.}} x^{\#\{(+)(-)\text{neighbors}\}}, \quad P[\text{conf.}] \sim x^{\#\{(+)(-)\}}$$

$$0 \leq x = e^{-J/kT} \leq 1.$$

Let $\sigma(0) = "+"$.

$$P[\sigma(N) = "+"] = ?$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(1 + y^N), \quad y = (1 - x)/(1 + x).$$

$$Z_{n+1; \sigma(n+1) = "+"} = Z_{n; \sigma(n) = "+"} + x Z_{n; \sigma(n) = "-"}$$

$$Z_{n+1; \sigma(n+1) = "-"} = x Z_{n; \sigma(n) = "+"} + Z_{n; \sigma(n) = "-"}$$

EXERCISE: Do the same in the magnetic field:

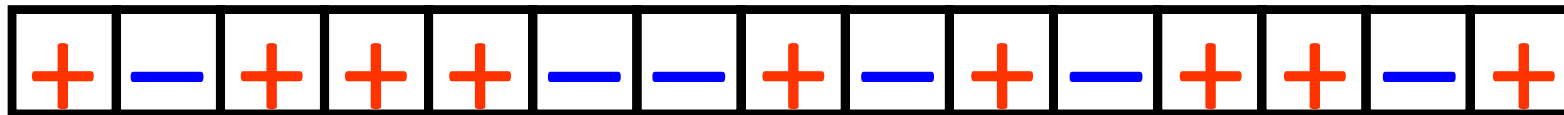
$$P[\text{configuration}] \sim \chi^{\#\{(+)(-)\}} b^{\#\{-\}}, \quad b > 0,$$

$$\sigma(0) = "+".$$

$$P[\sigma(N) = "+"] = ?$$

EXERCISE: Let $\sigma(0) = "+" = \sigma(N+M)$. $P[\sigma(N) = "+"] = ?$

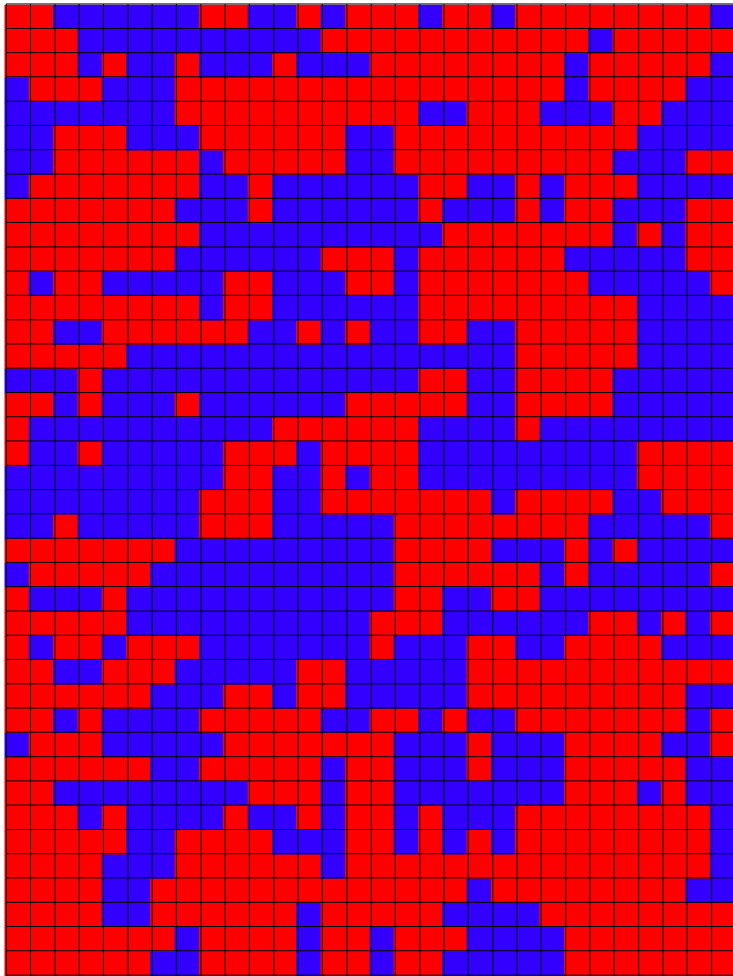
0 N N+M



Check $P[\sigma(N) = "+"] \leftarrow \lim_{N/M \rightarrow \chi} \chi^{\sigma(N)} \leftarrow (0, 1)$.

[Ising '25]: **NO PHASE TRANSITION AT $\chi \neq 0$ (1D)**

2D (spin) Ising model



Squares of two colors,
representing spins $+$, $-$

Nearby spins tend to be
the same:

$$P[\text{conf.}] \sim \chi^{\#\{(+)(-)\text{neighbors}\}}$$

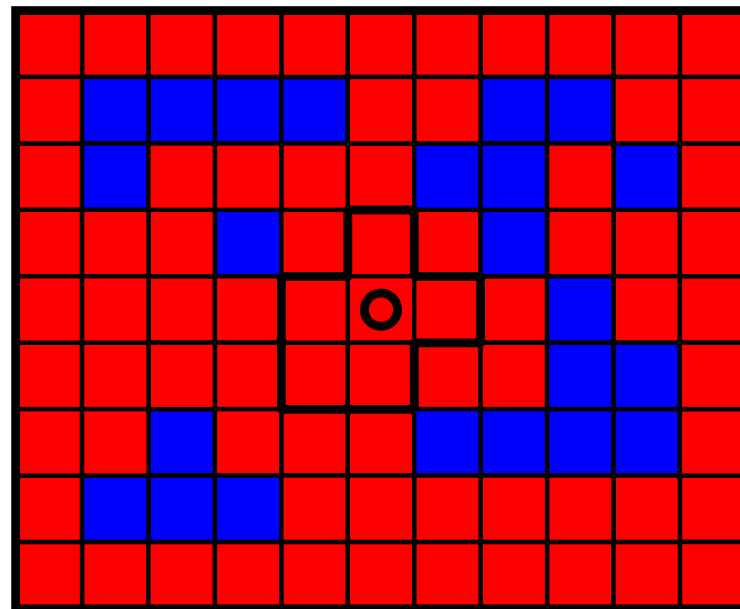
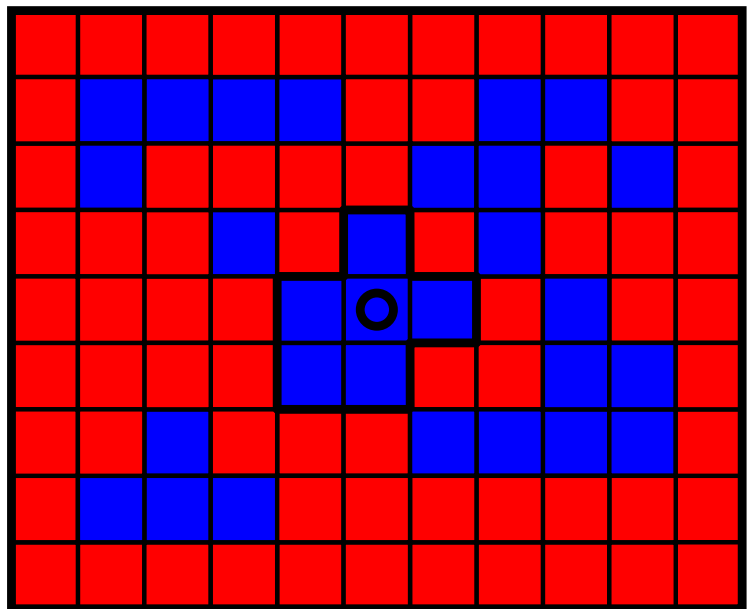
[Peierls '36]:

PHASE TRANSITION (2D)

[Kramers-Wannier '41]:

$$x_{crit} = 1/(1 + \sqrt{2})$$

$\sigma(\text{boundary of } (2N+1) \times (2N+1) = \text{"+"}) \quad \mathbf{P}[\sigma(0) = \text{"+"}] = ?$



$$\mathbf{P} \left[\begin{array}{c} \square \\ | \\ \square \\ | \\ \square \\ | \\ \square \\ | \\ \square \end{array} \right] \leq x^L / (1 + x^L) \leq x^L, \quad L = \text{Length of } \begin{array}{c} \square \\ | \\ \square \\ | \\ \square \\ | \\ \square \\ | \\ \square \end{array}$$

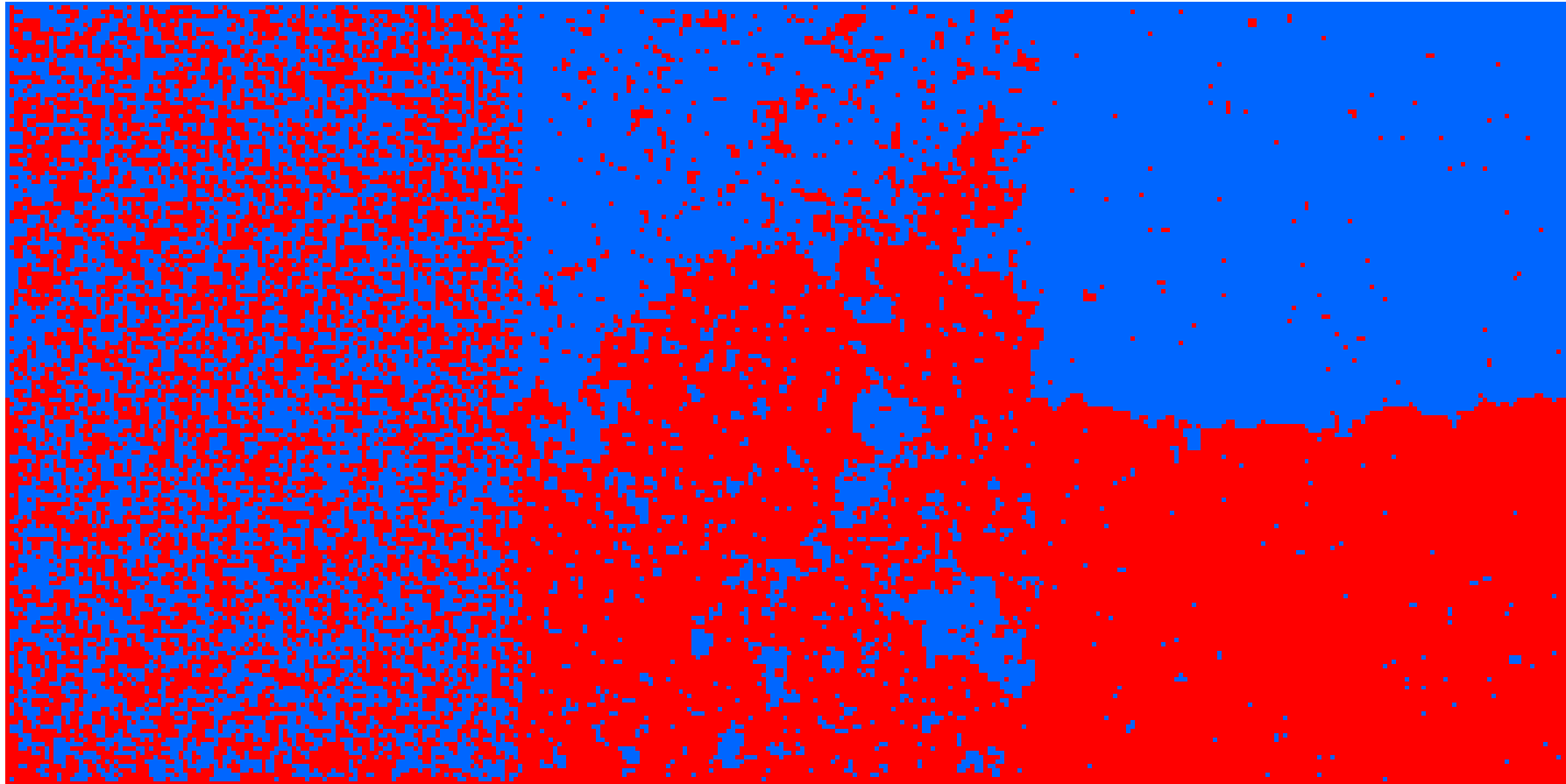
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}[\sigma(0) = \text{"-"}] &\leq \sum_{j=1, \dots, N} \sum_{L \geq 2j+2} 3^L x^L \\ &\leq (3x)^4 / (1 - (3x)^2)(1 - 3x) \leq 1/6, \quad \text{if } x \leq 1/6. \end{aligned}$$

2D: Phase transition

$x \approx 1$ ($T \approx \infty$)

$x = x_{\text{crit}}$

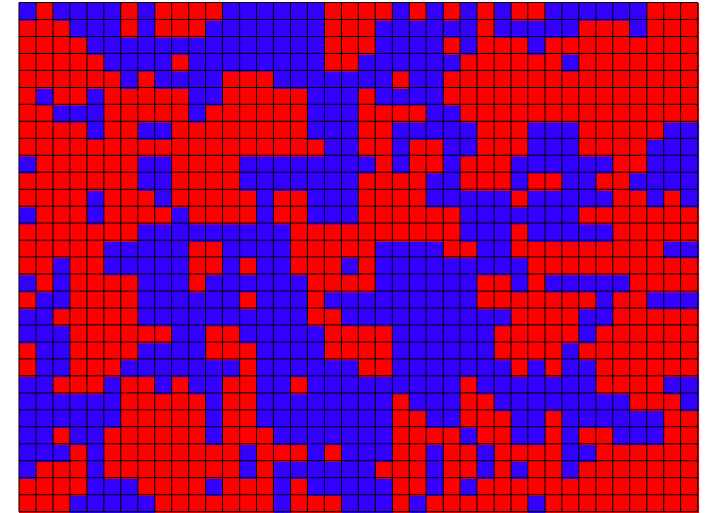
$x \approx 0$ ($T \approx 0$)



(Dobrushin boundary conditions:

*the upper arc is **blue**, the lower is **red**)*

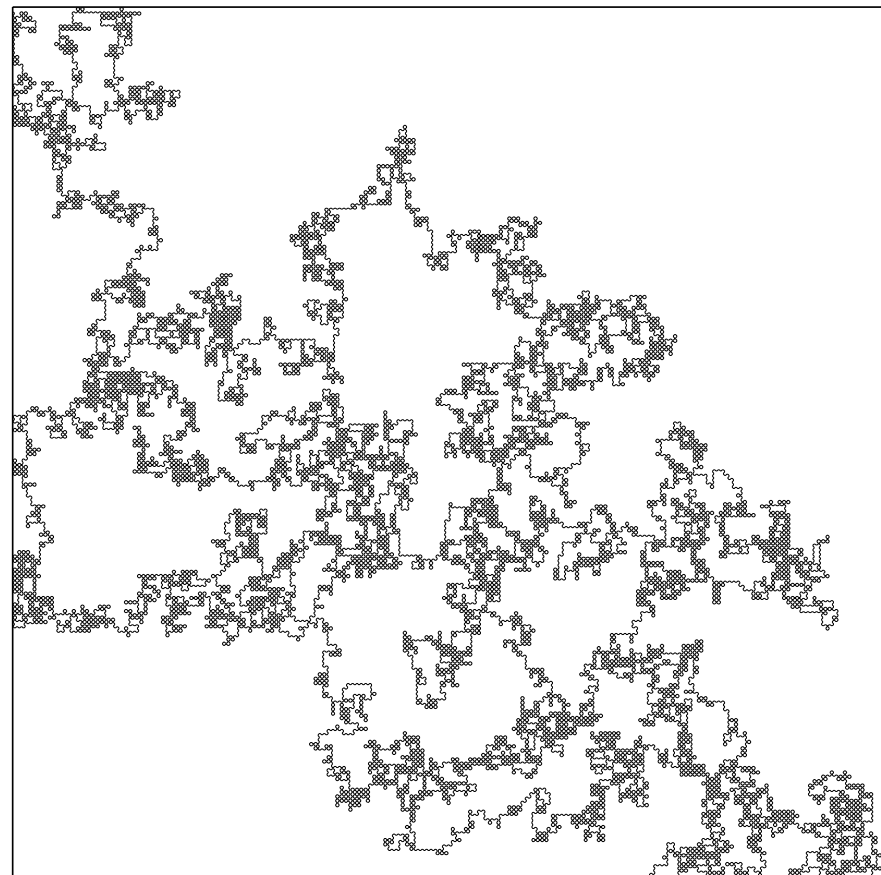
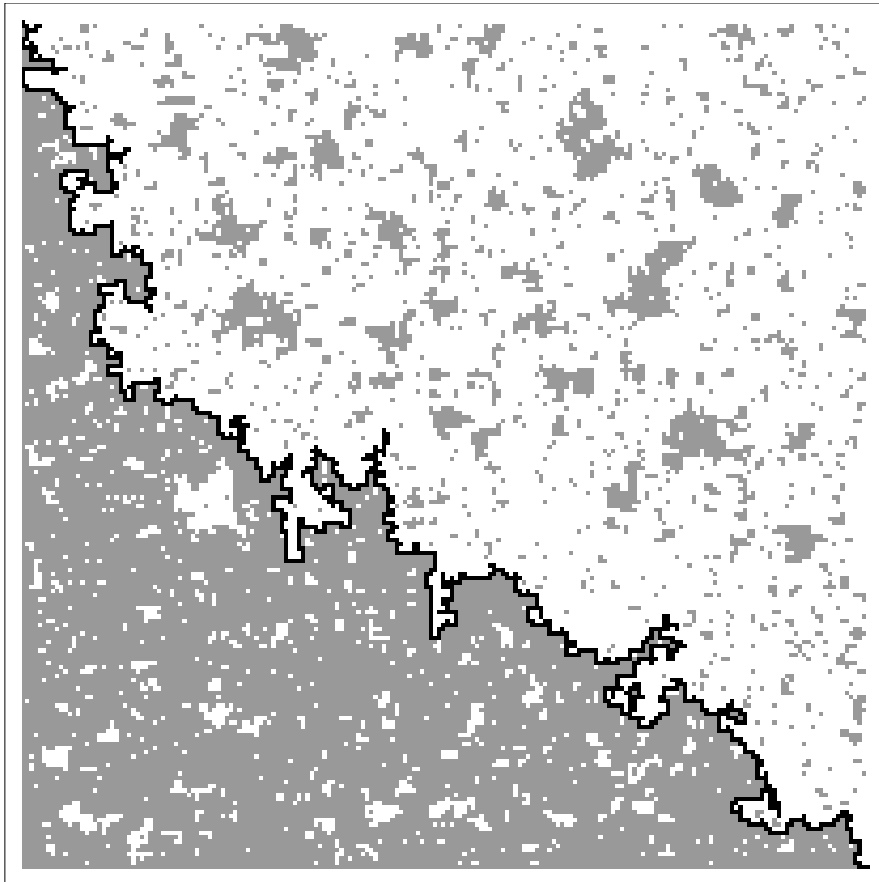
2D Ising model at criticality is considered a classical example of **conformal invariance** in statistical mechanics, which is used in deriving many of its properties.



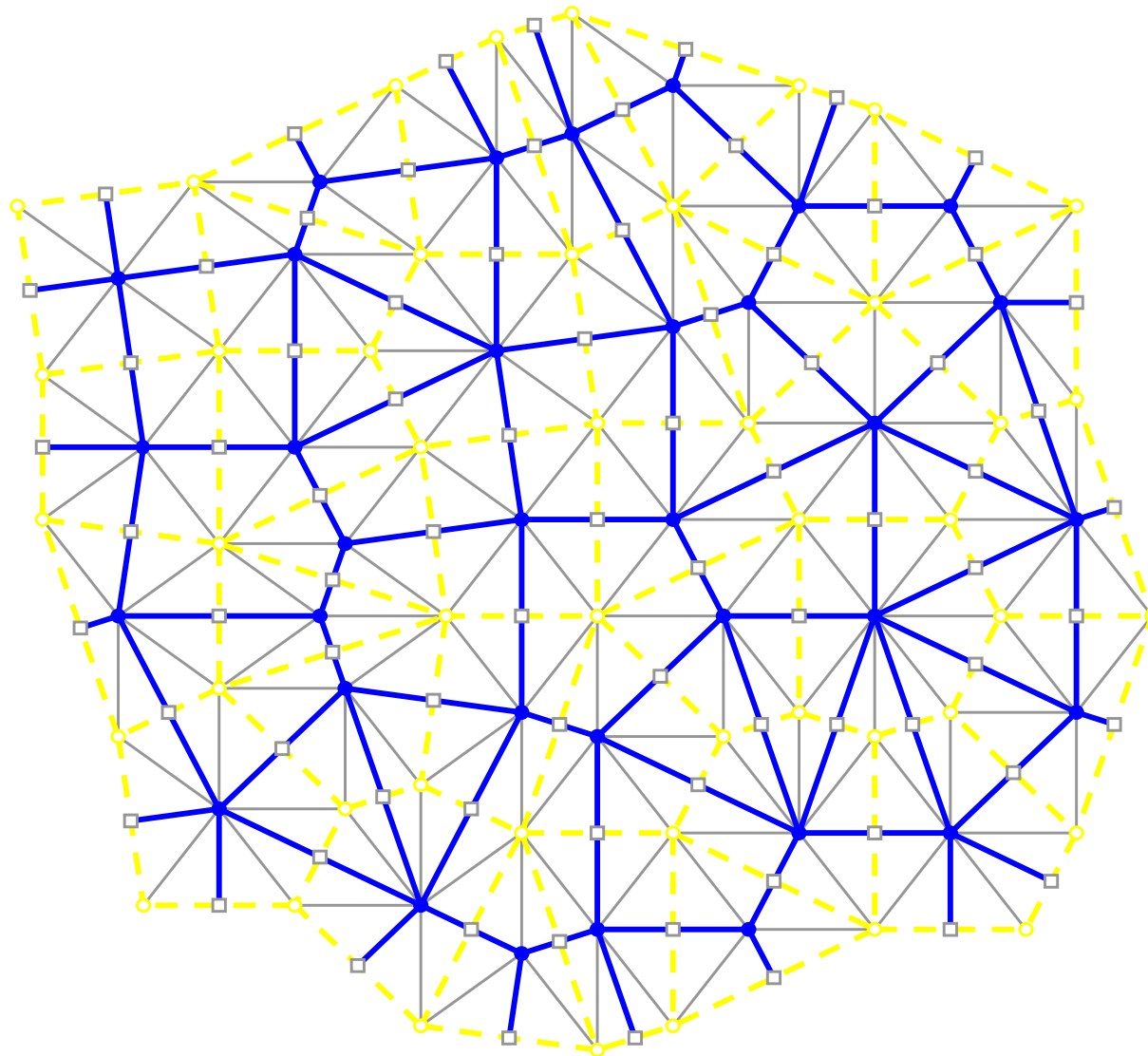
However,

- No mathematical proof has ever been given.
- Most of the physics arguments concern nice domains only or do not take boundary conditions into account, and thus only give evidence of the (**weaker!**) Mobius invariance of the scaling limit.
- Only conformal invariance of correlations is usually discussed, we ultimately discuss the full picture.

Theorem 1 [Smirnov]. Critical spin-Ising and FK-Ising models on the **square lattice** have **conformally invariant scaling limits** as the lattice **mesh $\rightarrow 0$** . Interfaces converge to **SLE(3)** and **SLE(16/3)**, respectively (*and corresponding loop soups*).
Theorem 2 [Chelkak-Smirnov]. The convergence holds true on arbitrary **isoradial graphs** (**universality** for these models).



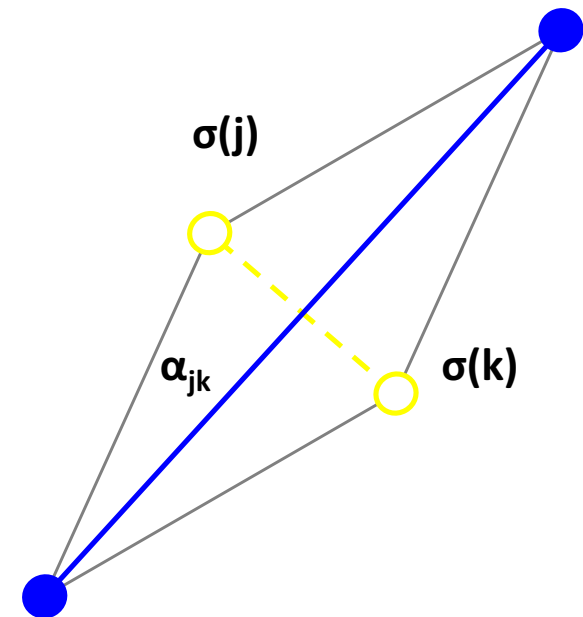
Ising model on isoradial graphs:



$$P[\text{conf.}] \sim$$

$$\prod_{\langle jk \rangle: \sigma(j) \neq \sigma(k)} X_{jk}$$

$$X_{jk} = \tan(\alpha_{jk}/2)$$



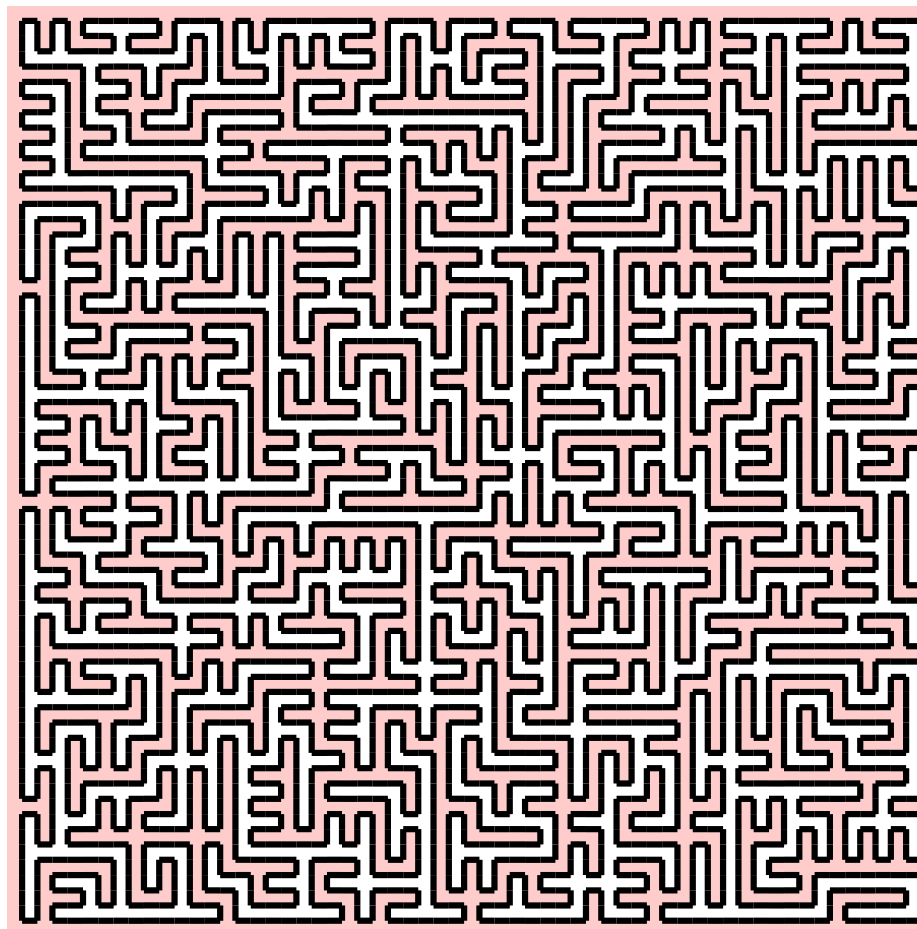
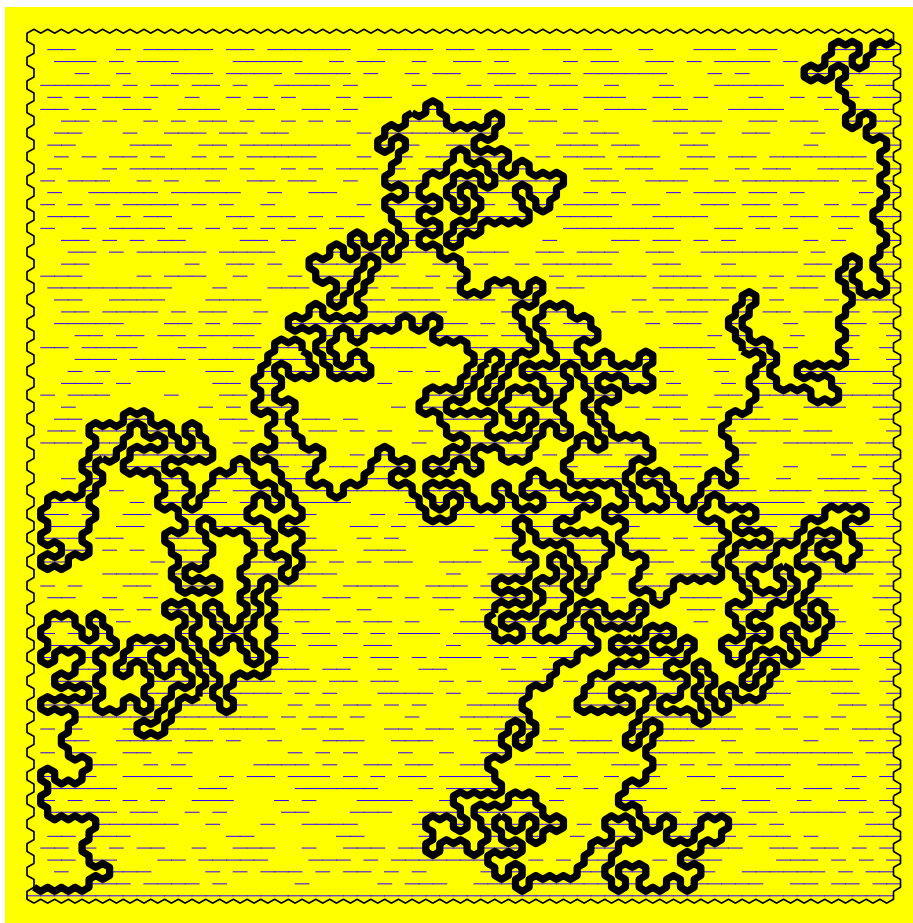
Some earlier results:

Percolation \rightarrow **SLE(6)**
[Smirnov, 2001]

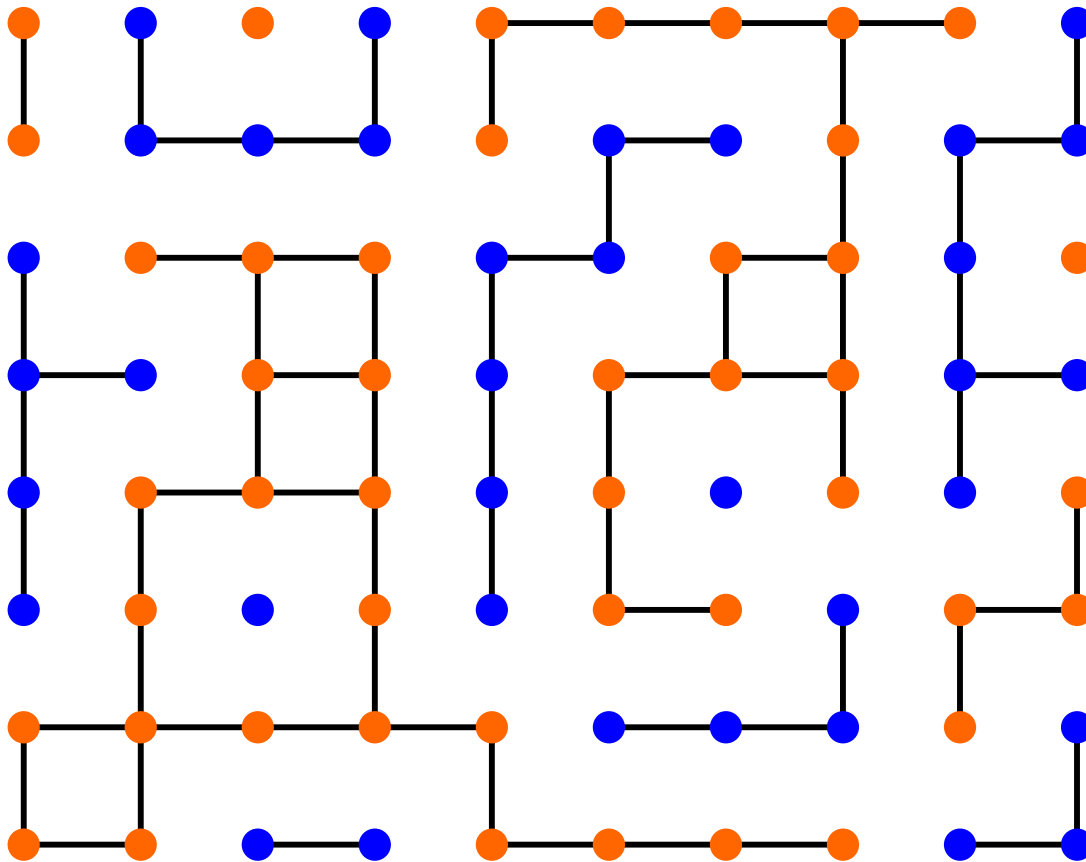
LERW \rightarrow **SLE(2)**

UST \rightarrow **SLE(8)**

[Lawler-Schramm
-Werner, 2001]



(Spin) Ising model



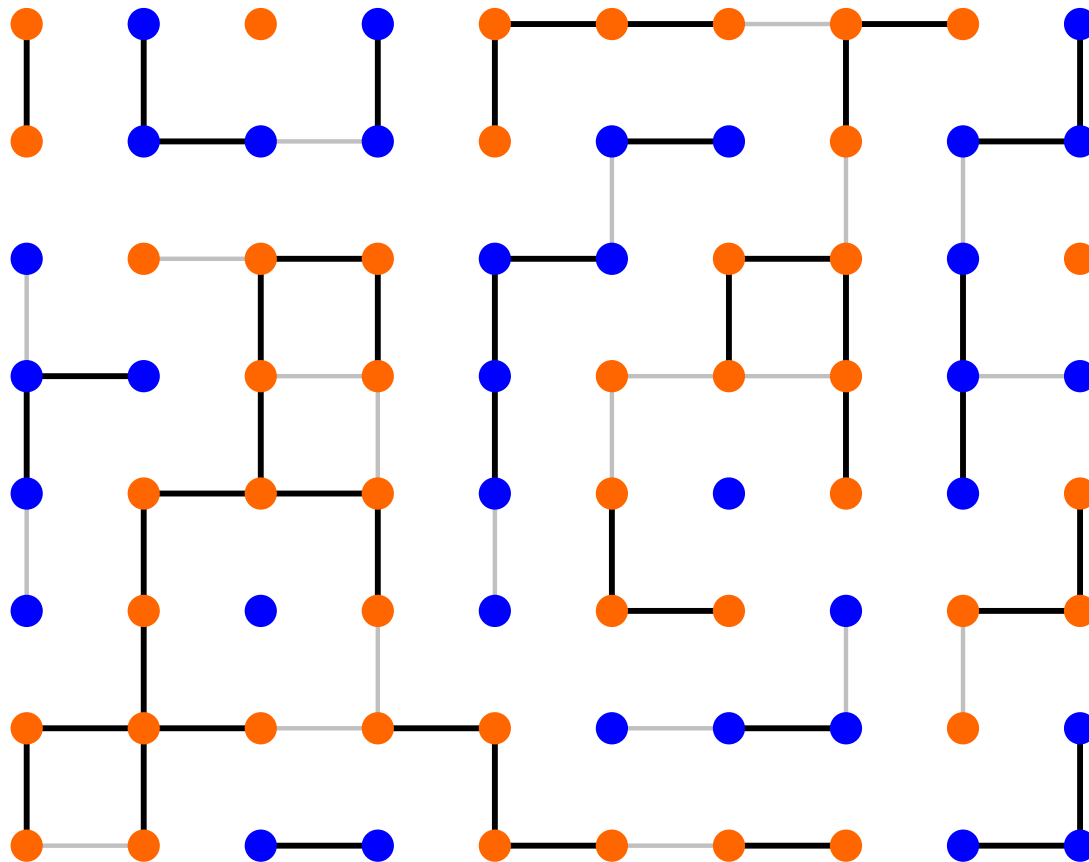
Configurations:

spins $+/-$

$\mathbf{P} \sim x^{\#\{(+)(-)\text{neighbors}\}} =$

$$\prod_{\langle jk \rangle} [(1-x) + x\delta_{s(j)=s(k)}]$$

(Spin) Ising model



Configurations:

spins $+/-$

$$\mathbf{P} \sim x^{\#\{(+)\text{-}neighbors\}} =$$

$$\prod_{\langle jk \rangle} [(1-x) + x\delta_{s(j)=s(k)}]$$

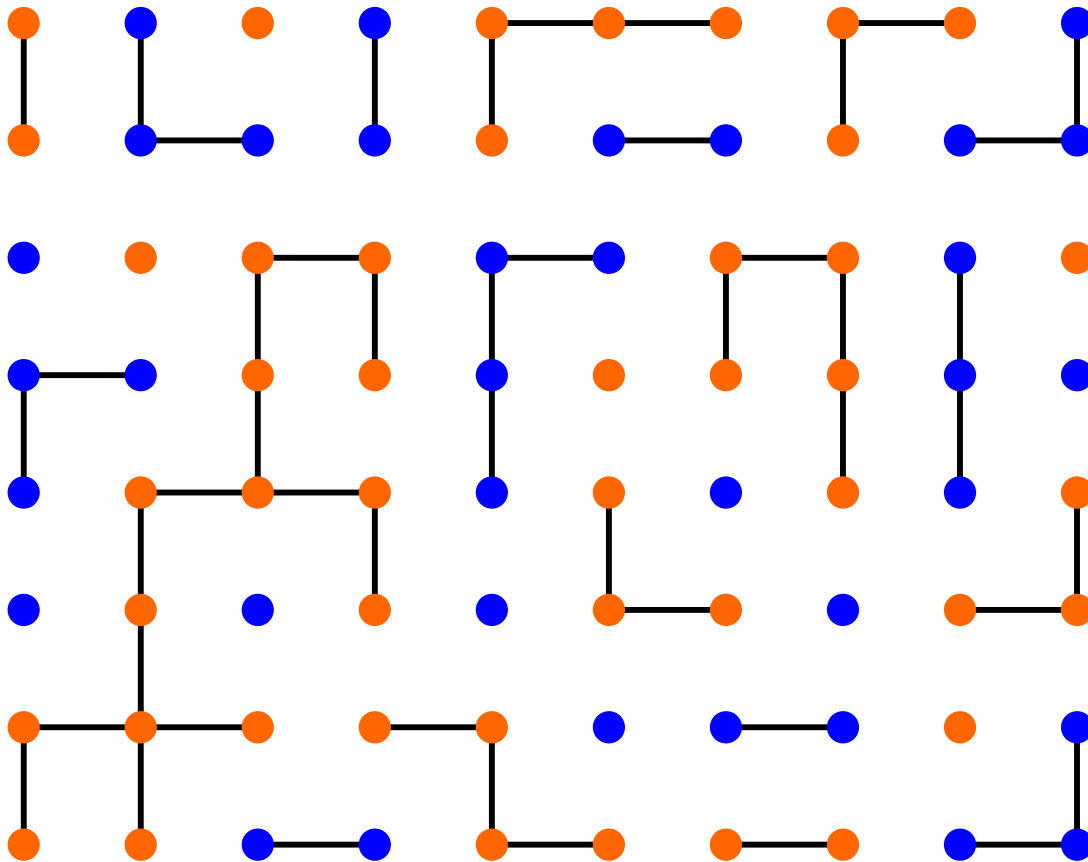
Expand, for each term
prescribe an edge
configuration:

x : edge is **open**

$1-x$: edge is closed

*open edges connect the
same spins (but not all!)*

Edwards-Sokal covering '88



Configurations:

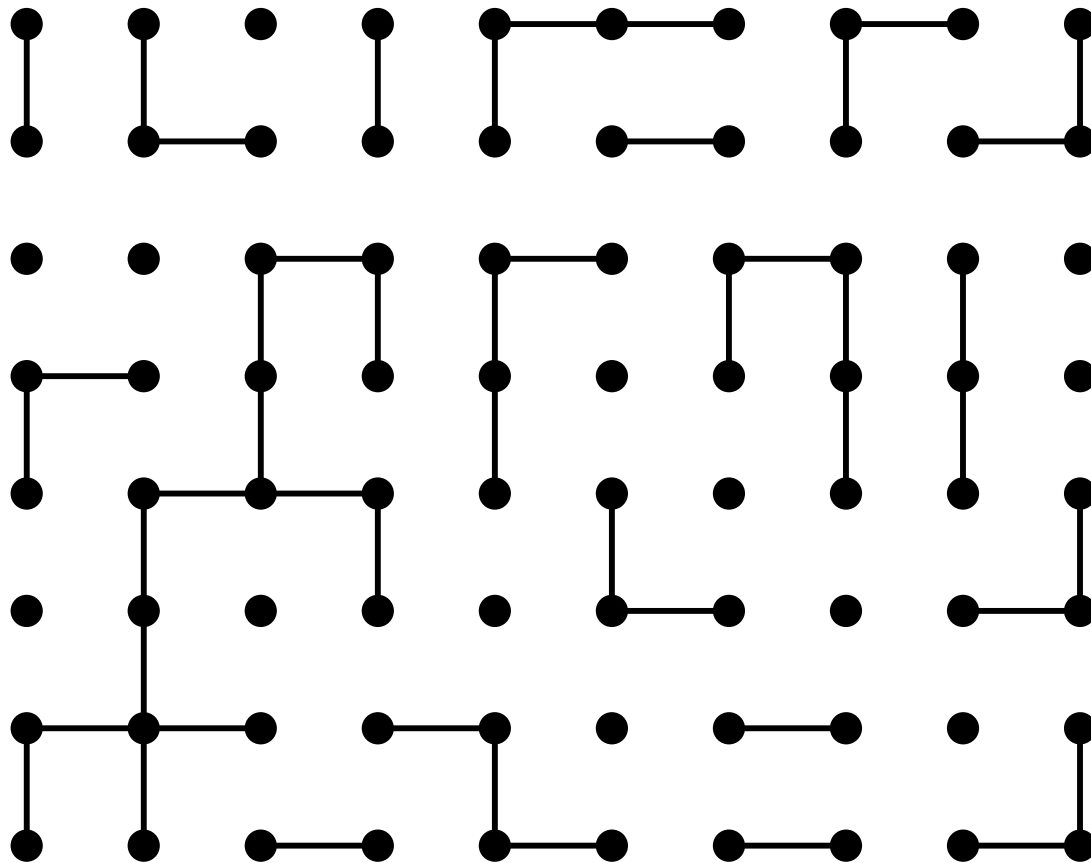
spins $+/-$, open

edges *connect the same spins (but not all of them!)*

$$\mathbf{P} \sim (1-x)^{\#open} x^{\#closed}$$

Fortuin-Kasteleyn (random cluster)

model '72:



Configurations:

spins $+/-$, open

edges connect the same spins (but not all of them!)

$$\mathbf{P} \sim (1-x)^{\#open} x^{\#closed}$$

Erase spins:

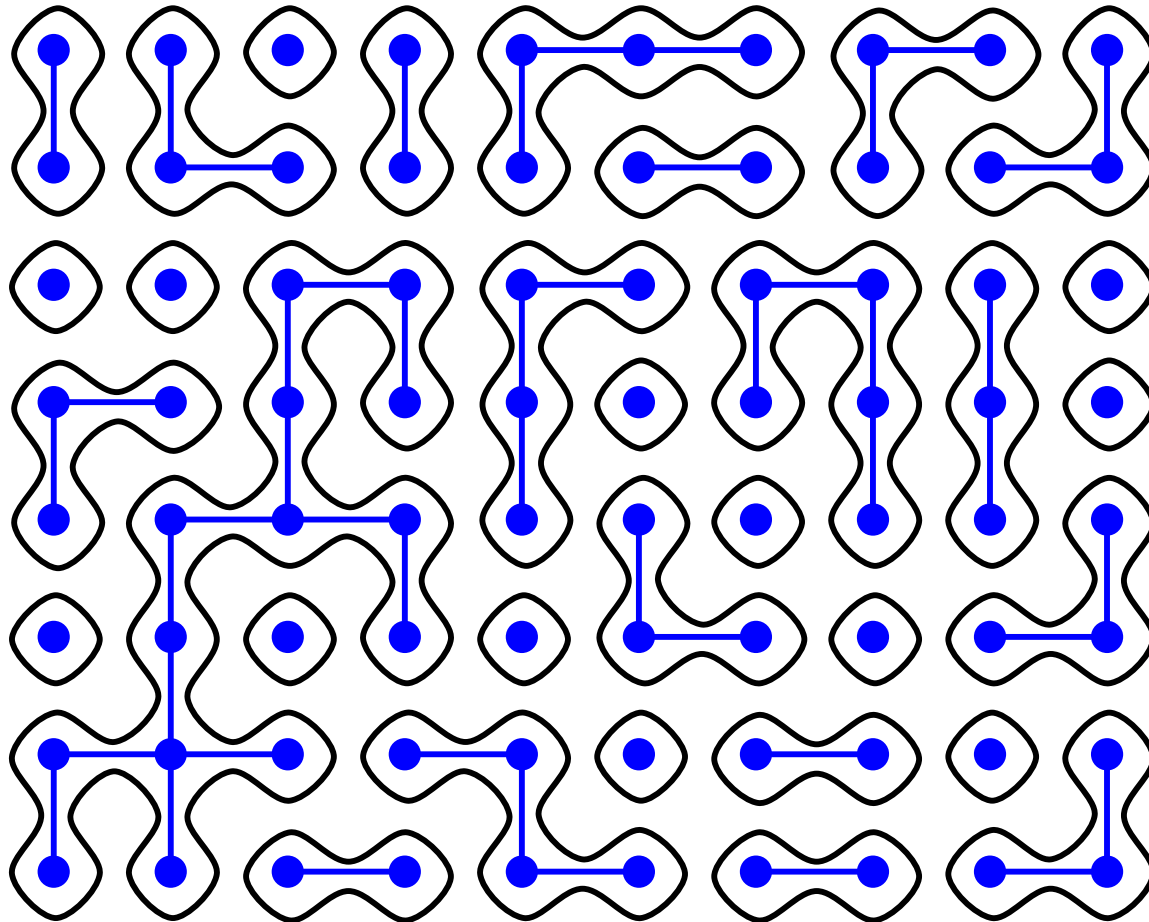
Probability of edge configurations is \sim to

$$(1-x)^{\#open} x^{\#closed} 2^{\#clusters}$$

or

$$\left(\frac{1-x}{x}\right)^{\#open} 2^{\#clusters}$$

Loop gas representation:



Configurations:
dense loop
collections. $\mathbf{P} \sim$ to

$$\left(\frac{1-x}{x}\right)^{\#open} 2^{\#clusters}$$

or

$$\left(\frac{1-x}{2^{1/2}x}\right)^{\#open} 2^{1/2\#loops}$$

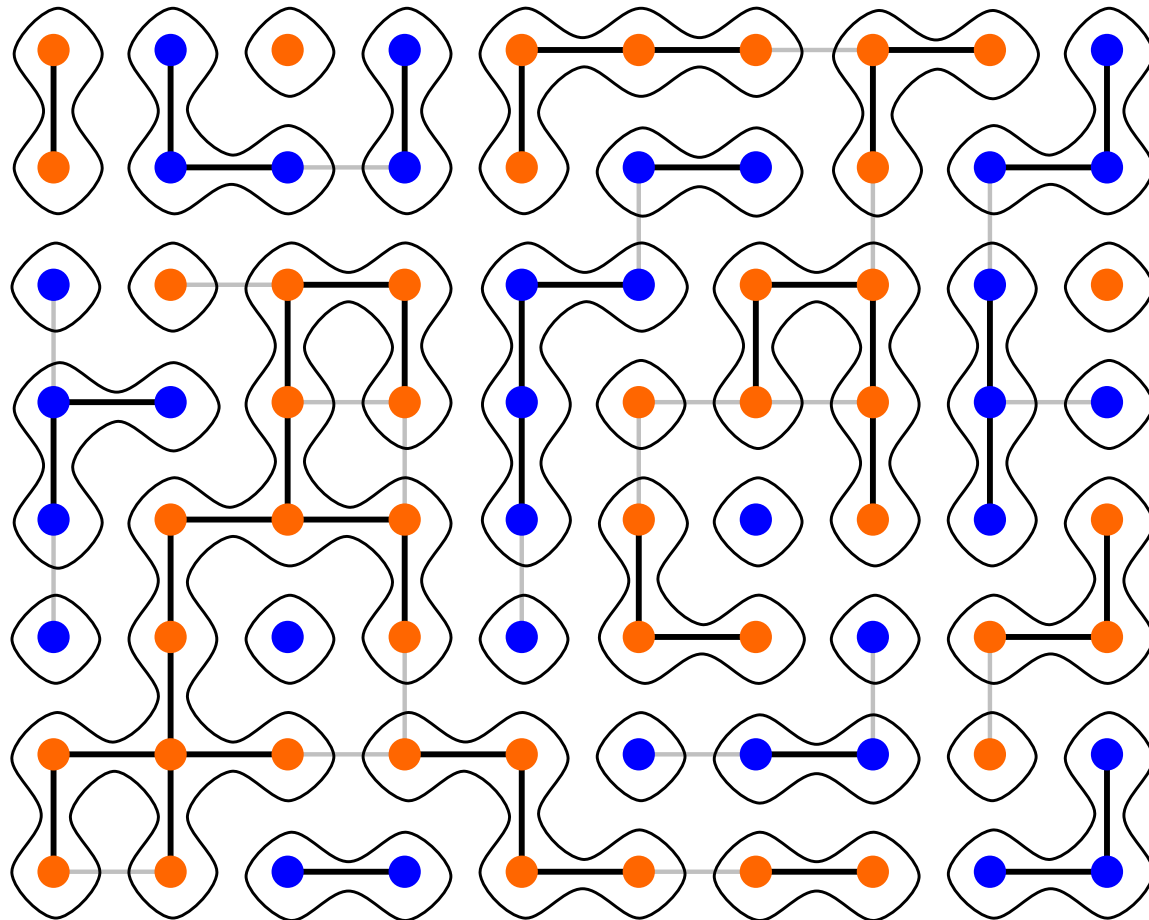
$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \#loops - \#open \\ = 2\#clusters + const \end{array} \right]$$

Self-dual case:

$$(1-x)/x = 2^{1/2}, \text{ i.e.}$$

$$x = 1/(1 + 2^{1/2})$$

Spin, FK, Loop gas



EXERCISE:

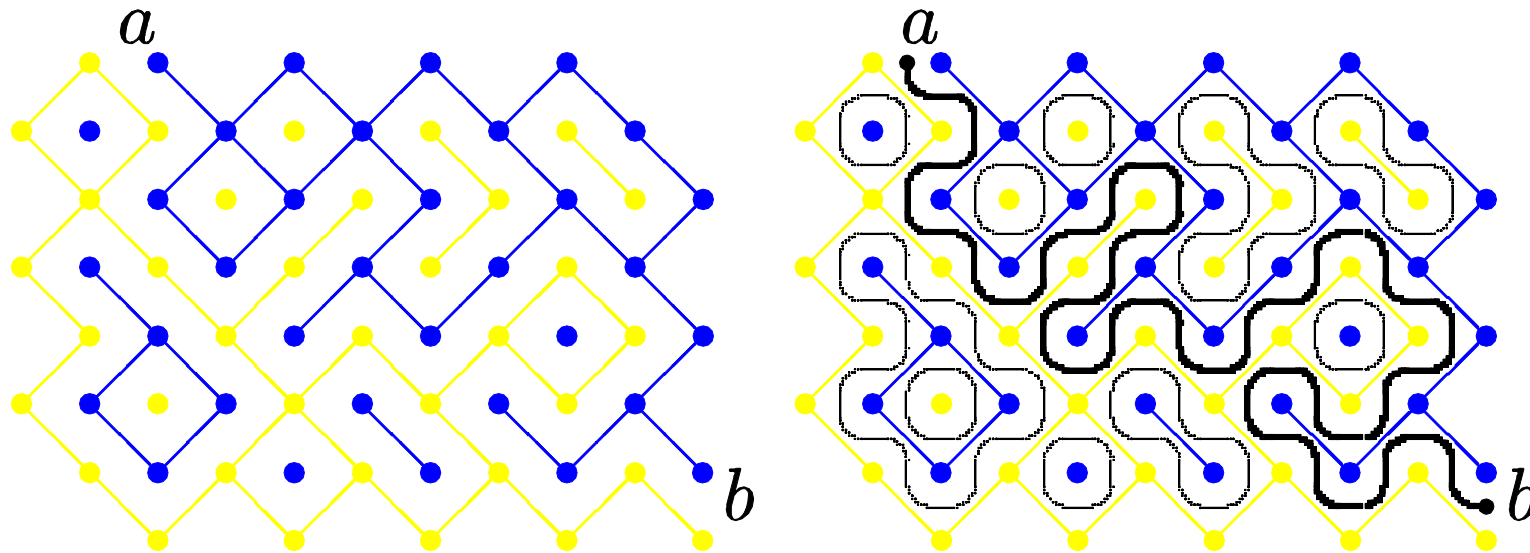
$$\begin{aligned} P_{\text{spin}}[\sigma(j)=\sigma(k)] \\ = (1 + P_{\text{FK}}[j \leftrightarrow k]) / 2 \end{aligned}$$

EXERCISE:

Start with Q different spins (Potts model).

Note: Loop gas is well-defined for all positive Q 's!

Loop representation of the FK model



Configurations are dense loop collections on the medial lattice

Loops separate **clusters** from **dual clusters**

Dobrushin b.c.: besides loops an interface $\gamma : a \leftrightarrow b$

For $p = \sqrt{q}/(1 + \sqrt{q})$ the probability **Prob** $\asymp (\sqrt{q})^{\# \text{ loops}}$

Outline:

- Introduction
- Discrete harmonic/holomorphic functions
- Holomorphic observables in the Ising model
- SLE and the interfaces in the Ising model
- Further developments

We will discuss how to

- *Find a discrete holomorphic observable with a conformally invariant scaling limit*
- *Using one observable, construct (conformally invariant) scaling limits of a domain wall*

Possible further topics:

- Retrieve needed a priori estimates from the observable
- Construct the full scaling limit
- Generalize to isoradial graphs (universality)
- Perturbation $p \approx p_{\text{crit}}$ — no conformal invariance