Fractal Self-Avoiding Walks

Pascal Préa

Laboratoire d'Informatique Fondamentale de Marseille LIF, CNRS UMR 7279

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A Basic Definition

A Self Avoiding Walk (SAW) on the square lattice $Z \times Z$ is a walk which does not pass twice through the same vertex.



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A Basic Definition

A Self Avoiding Walk (SAW) on the square lattice $Z \times Z$ is a walk which does not pass twice through the same vertex.



The same definition holds for other lattices, higher dimensions, ...

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The General Problem

Questions :

- What is the number c_n of SAWs of length n?
- ▶ What is the average distance d_n between the two extremities of a SAW of length n?

Conjectures :

•
$$c_n \approx \mu^n n^{\gamma-1}$$
, where $\mu = \sqrt{\frac{7+\sqrt{30261}}{26}}$

•
$$d_n \approx n^{\nu}$$
, where $\nu = 3/4$

What we can do :

Define families of SAWs on which μ or ν can be calculated or approximated.

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Fractal Self-Avoiding Walks : Definition

K an odd integer > 1. We simultaneously partition the square lattice into squares of size K^p (for every p > 0), each square of size K^{p+1} containing K^2 squares of size K^p



Fractal Self-Avoiding Walks : Definition

A SAW is *K*-*Fractal* (F_K) if, for any square, of any size :

- It does not pass twice through the same square.
- ▶ When it leaves a square, it is through the middle of a side.



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We denote by \mathcal{F}_{K} the set of all these SAWs.

directed : There exists p > 0 and a square of size K^p such that the walk begins at the middle of the West side of the square and ends at the middle of the East side of it. The walk is entirely contained in this square.



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 centered : There exists p > 0 and a square of size K^p such that the walk begins at the center of the square and stays inside this square.



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$\mathsf{Property}: \mathsf{lim}_{\mathcal{K} \to \infty} \, \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{K}} \text{ is the set of all SAWs}$

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Counting Fractal Self-Avoiding Walks

For Directed F_K SAWs :



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K = 3



K = 3



 $S = s^3 + 2st^6 + 6st^4$

Where $s(z) = \sum_{n \in N} S_k(n) z^n$, $t(z) = \sum_{n \in N} T_k(n) z^n$ and $S(z) = \sum_{n \in N} S_{k+1}(n) z^n$. $S_k(n)$ (resp. $T_k(n)$) is the number of 3-fractal SAWs which cross (resp turn into) a $3^k \times 3^k$ square.

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 $T = t^3 + t^7 + s^2t + 2s^2t^3 + 3s^2t^5$

Where $T(z) = \sum_{n \in N} T_{k+1}(n) z^n$.

$$K = 3: S = s^3 + 2st^6 + 6st^4, T = t^3 + t^7 + s^2t + 2s^2t^3 + 3s^2t^5$$

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K = 3; $S = s^3 + 2st^6 + 6st^4$, $T = t^3 + t^7 + s^2t + 2s^2t^3 + 3s^2t^5$ K = 5: $S = s^{5} + 4s^{13}t^{10} + 6s^{13}t^{12} + 12s^{11}t^{8} + 44s^{11}t^{10} + 56s^{11}t^{12} + 18s^{11}t^{14} +$ $4s^{9}t^{6} + 56s^{9}t^{8} + 168s^{9}t^{10} + 198s^{9}t^{12} + 80s^{9}t^{14} + 8s^{9}t^{16} + 32s^{7}t^{6} +$ $134s^{7}t^{8} + 306s^{7}t^{10} + 372s^{7}t^{12} + 222s^{7}t^{14} + 52s^{7}t^{16} + 4s^{7}t^{18} + 20s^{5}t^{4} + 52s^{7}t^{10} + 52s^{7}t^{1$ $64s^5t^6 + 174s^5t^8 + 324s^5t^{10} + 368s^5t^{12} + 256s^5t^{14} + 98s^5t^{16} +$ $16s^{5}t^{18} + 2s^{5}t^{20} + 20s^{3}t^{4} + 60s^{3}t^{6} + 124s^{3}t^{8} + 174s^{3}t^{10} + 164s^{3}t^{12} + 164s^{3}t^{10} + 164s^{3}t^{1$ $122s^{3}t^{14} + 60s^{3}t^{16} + 8s^{3}t^{18} + 30st^{8} + 32st^{10} + 8st^{12} + 8st^{14} + 6st^{16}$ $T = 2s^{14}t^9 + 2s^{14}t^{11} + 4s^{12}t^7 + 14s^{12}t^9 + 14s^{12}t^{11} + 6s^{12}t^{13} + 6s^{12}t^{13} + 6s^{12}t^{14} +$ $16s^{10}t^7 + 46s^{10}t^9 + 76s^{10}t^{11} + 52s^{10}t^{13} + 12s^{10}t^{15} + 14s^8t^5 + 54s^8t^7 + 54s^8t^$ $171s^{8}t^{9} + 278s^{8}t^{11} + 228s^{8}t^{13} + 68s^{8}t^{15} + 6s^{8}t^{17} + 4s^{6}t^{3} + 26s^{6}t^{5} + 6s^{6}t^{5} + 6s$ $123s^{6}t^{7} + 306s^{6}t^{9} + 483s^{6}t^{11} + 406s^{6}t^{13} + 168s^{6}t^{15} + 26s^{6}t^{17} + s^{4}t + 168s^{6}t^{10} + 100s^{6}t^{10} + 100s^{6}t^{10}$ $4s^4t^3 + 22s^4t^5 + 86s^4t^7 + 239s^4t^9 + 370s^4t^{11} + 337s^4t^{13} + 194s^4t^{15} + 194s^4t^{16}$ $62s^4t^{17} + 14s^4t^{19} + 2s^4t^{21} + 4s^2t^3 + 10s^2t^5 + 19s^2t^7 + 54s^2t^9 + 10s^2t^7 + 54s^2t^7 + 10s^2t^7 + 10$ $85s^{2}t^{11} + 86s^{2}t^{13} + 45s^{2}t^{15} + 18s^{2}t^{17} + 6s^{2}t^{19} + t^{5} + 3t^{9} + 5t^{13}$

Naïve Enumeration : $\rightarrow K = 7$.

Naïve Enumeration : $\rightarrow K = 7$.

Finite Lattice Method (A.J. Guttmann & all.) : $\rightarrow K = 11$.

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The hooks $\langle 0,7\rangle$, $\langle 3,0\rangle$, $\langle 5,2\rangle$ and $\langle 7,6\rangle$ inside a 7×7 square.

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a Configuration

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C a configuration $\alpha_{C}(s, t)$ is the number of Half-SAWs corresponding to the configuration C having s straights and t turns.

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$$egin{aligned} lpha_{\mathcal{C}^L}(s+1,t) &= lpha_{\mathcal{C}}(s,t) \ lpha_{\mathcal{C}^R}(s,t+1) &= lpha_{\mathcal{C}}(s,t) \end{aligned}$$



$$egin{aligned} lpha_{\mathcal{C}^L}(s+1,t) &:= lpha_{\mathcal{C}}(s,t) + lpha_{\mathcal{C}^L}(s+1,t) \ lpha_{\mathcal{C}^R}(s,t+1) &:= lpha_{\mathcal{C}}(s,t) + lpha_{\mathcal{C}^R}(s,t+1) \end{aligned}$$

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By dichotomy, it is possible to estimate the radius of convergence of $\lim_{k\to\infty} \sum_{n\in N} S_k(n) z^n$ and $\lim_{k\to\infty} \sum_{n\in N} T_k(n) z^n$. From these, we get :

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- ▶ \mathcal{F}_3 : $\mu \approx 1.758$
- ▶ \mathcal{F}_5 : $\mu \approx 2.035$
- ▶ \mathcal{F}_7 : $\mu \approx 2.180$
- ▶ *F*₉ : µ ≈ 2.2694173
- \mathcal{F}_{11} : $\mu \approx 2.330$



Step 0

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P. Préa, Fractal Self-Avoiding Walks, GASCom 2012

We consider the set of K-fractal SAWs generated with p steps.

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We consider the set of K-fractal SAWs generated with p steps.

 $\blacktriangleright\,$ The distance between the two extremities of a SAW is in $\approx {\cal K}^p$

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- ► The average length of a SAW is in [I^p_S, I^p_T], where I_S (resp. I_T) is the average length of a SAW crossing (resp. turning into) a K × K square.
- $I_S > K$.

Property : The critical exponent ν for the K-Fractal SAW is < 1, i.e. the average distance between the two extremities of a K-Fractal SAW of length n is $\approx n^{\nu}$, with $\nu < 1$.

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Example : For K = 3, $\nu \in [0.64, 0.66]$.

Conjecture : This is also true for the uniform distribution.

Sinuous *K*-Fractal SAW (M. Bousquet-Mélou) : A *K*-Fractal SAW is Sinuous if it never cross a square from one side to the opposite one, an turns on each vertex.

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P. Préa, Fractal Self-Avoiding Walks, GASCom 2012

$$K = 3: T = t^{3} + t^{7}$$

$$K = 5: T = 3t^{9} + 5t^{13} + t^{5}$$

$$K = 7: T = 6t^{11} + 28t^{19} + t^{7} + 34t^{23} + 15t^{15} + 23t^{27} + 5t^{31}$$
...
$$K = 3: \mu \approx 1,210$$

$$K = 5: \mu \approx 1,288$$

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$$K = 5 : \mu \approx 1,288$$

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$$K = 7 : \mu \approx 1,335$$

$$K = 9 : \mu \approx 1,376$$

$$K = 11 : \mu \approx 1,405$$

$$K = 13 : \mu \approx 1,427$$

$$K = 15 : \mu \approx 1,444$$

$$K = 17 : \mu \approx 1,458$$

It is possible to take rectangles instead of squares. L and H two odd numbers, $1 < H \leq L$.

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It is possible to take rectangles instead of squares. L and H two odd numbers, $1 < H \leq L$.



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$$H = 5$$

$$L = 5 : \mu \approx 2.035$$

$$L = 11 : \mu \approx 2.141$$

$$L = 15 : \mu \approx 2.157$$

$$L = 21 : \mu \approx 2.168$$

$$H = 7$$

$$L = 7 : \mu \approx 2.180$$

$$L = 11 : \mu \approx 2.244$$

$$L = 15 : \mu \approx 2.2690334$$

It is possible to forbid some points.

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It is possible to forbid some points.



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 $\mu \approx 1.207$

A SAW is K-Quasi-Fractal (QF_K) if, for any square, of any size :

▶ When it leaves a square, it is through the middle of a side.



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 QF_K SAWs can be studied with the same tools that F_K SAWs



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$$\begin{split} \mathcal{K} &= 3: \\ \blacktriangleright \ S &= s^3 + 6st^4 + 4st^4c^2 + 2st^6 + 2s^3t^4c^2 + 4st^6c \\ \blacktriangleright \ T &= s^2t + t^3 + 3t^5c^3 + s^2t^3c + 3s^2t^5 + 2s^2t^3 + t^7 + \\ 2s^2t^5c^2 + 2s^2t^5c + 2t^5c \\ \blacktriangleright \ C &= s^4c + 2s^2t^4 + 8t^4c^5 + 4s^2t^4c + 6t^6c^2 + t^6 \end{split}$$

 QF_K SAWs can be studied with the same tools that F_K SAWs



$$\begin{split} \mathcal{K} &= 3: \\ \bullet \ S &= s^3 + 6st^4 + 4st^4c^2 + 2st^6 + 2s^3t^4c^2 + 4st^6c \\ \bullet \ T &= s^2t + t^3 + 3t^5c^3 + s^2t^3c + 3s^2t^5 + 2s^2t^3 + t^7 + \\ 2s^2t^5c^2 + 2s^2t^5c + 2t^5c \\ \bullet \ C &= s^4c + 2s^2t^4 + 8t^4c^5 + 4s^2t^4c + 6t^6c^2 + t^6 \\ \\ \mathcal{K} &= 3: \mu \approx 1.862 \\ \mathcal{K} &= 5: \mu \approx 2.155 \\ \mathcal{K} &= 7: \mu \approx 2.312 \end{split}$$

A fractal SAW is *K-Directed-Fractal* (DF_K) if, for any square, of any size :

When it crosses a square from the West to the East, it never goes West, ...



A fractal SAW is *K-Directed-Fractal* (DF_K) if, for any square, of any size :

When it crosses a square from the West to the East, it never goes West, ...

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 $K = 43 : \mu \approx 2.325$