

Meanders & Meandric Systems

(joint works with E. Gwynne, M. Park, and X. Sun)

Jacopo Borga

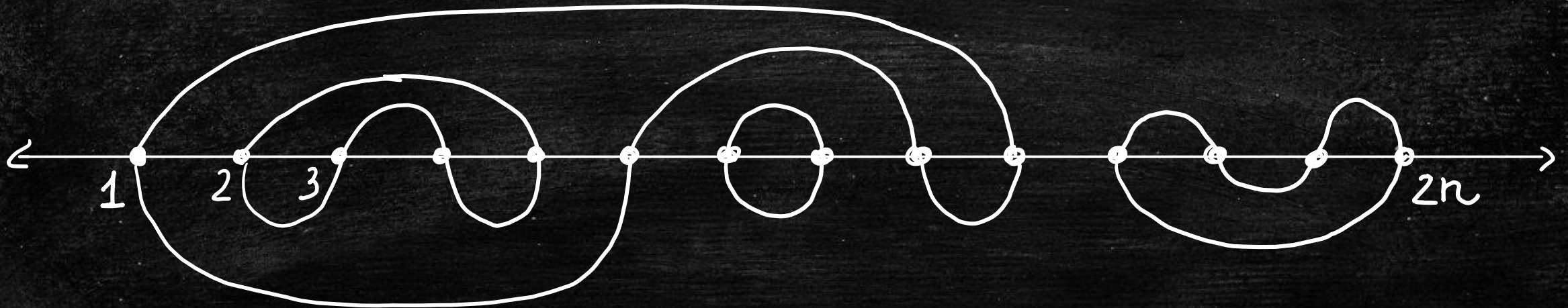
Jeju, June 6, 2023



Stanford
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Meandric systems

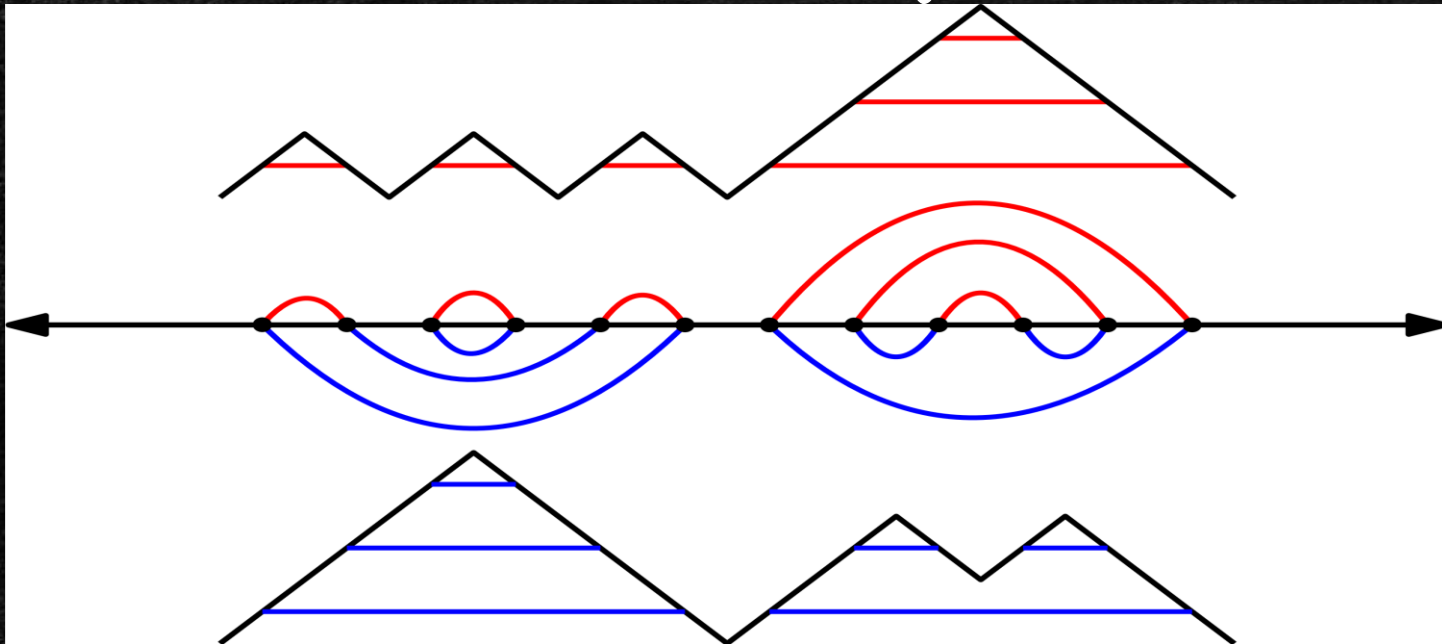
Def: A MEANDRIC SYSTEM of size $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is a collection of disjoint simple loops in \mathbb{R}^2 which orthogonally cross \mathbb{R} , precisely at the points $\{1, \dots, 2n\}$. Configurations are viewed modulo homeomorphisms fixing \mathbb{R} .



- This model is equivalent to:

CROSSING FULLY PACKED $O(0 \times 1)$ loop model on PLANAR MAPS

- STUDIED BY : Kargin, Féray-Thévenin, Corien-Kozma-Sidoravicious-Tournier
Golden-Nica-Puder, Fukuda-Nechita, Janson-Thévenin, etc...
- How can we sample a uniform meandric system of size $2n$?



ISSUE: Loops are a very complicated functional of the 2 walks

BASIC QUESTIONS are still OPEN:

Is there an infinite loop?

How does a large
uniform meandric system
look like?

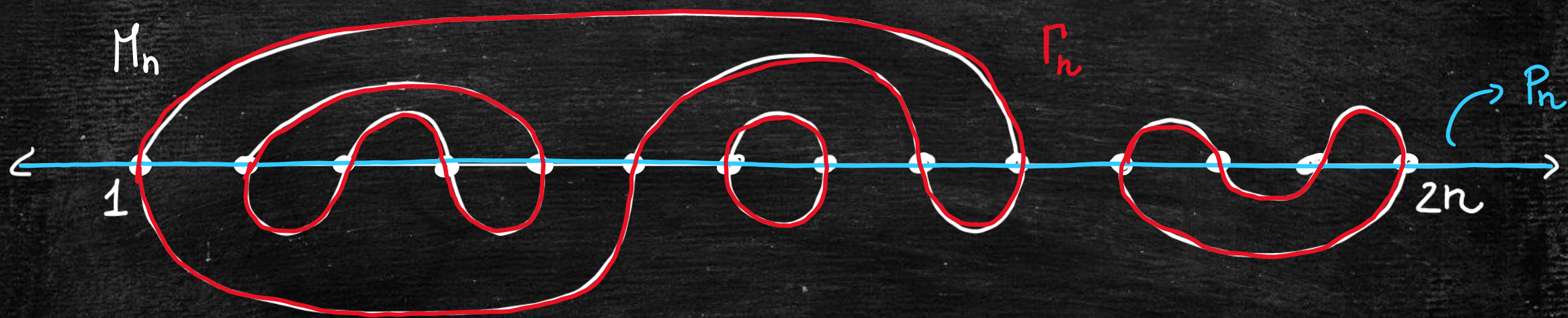
We view a meandric system as a

PLANAR MAP + HAMILTONIAN PATH + LOOPS

M_n

P_n

Γ_n



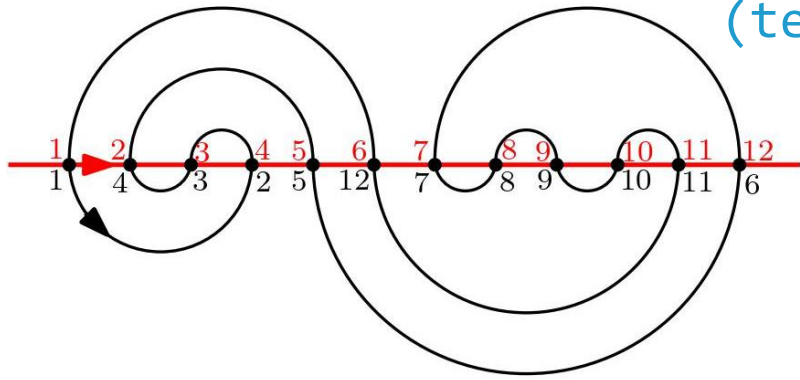
CONJECTURE: (B., Gwynne, Park, '22)

(M_n, P_n, Γ_n) converges under an appropriate scaling limit to a $\sqrt{2}$ -LQG-measure + SLE_8 + CLE_6

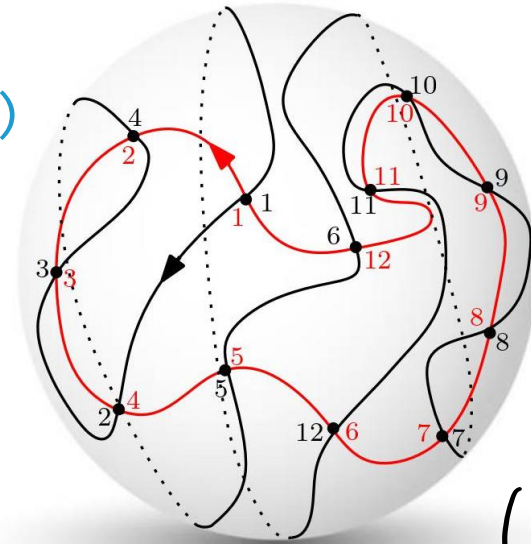
What happens if we
require to have a
single loop?

Meanders

(term coined by V. Arnold)



There is no "efficient" algorithm to sample uniform meanders



(M_n, P_n^1, P_n^2)

$$\sigma_n = 1 \ 4 \ 3 \ 2 \ 5 \ 12 \ 7 \ 8 \ 9 \ 10 \ 11 \ 6$$

LITERATURE: • Zvonkin, 2021, "Meanders: A personal perspective"

(Survey papers)

• La Croix, 2003, "Approaches to the enumerative theory of meanders"

Connections to many different subjects: COMBINATORICS, THEORETICAL PHYSICS, GEOMETRY of MODULI SPACES, ...

CONJECTURE

(B., Gwynne, Sun, '22)

$$(M_n, P_n^1, P_n^2) \xrightarrow{d} \gamma\text{-LQG} + 2 \perp \text{SLE}_8^{(c=-2)}$$

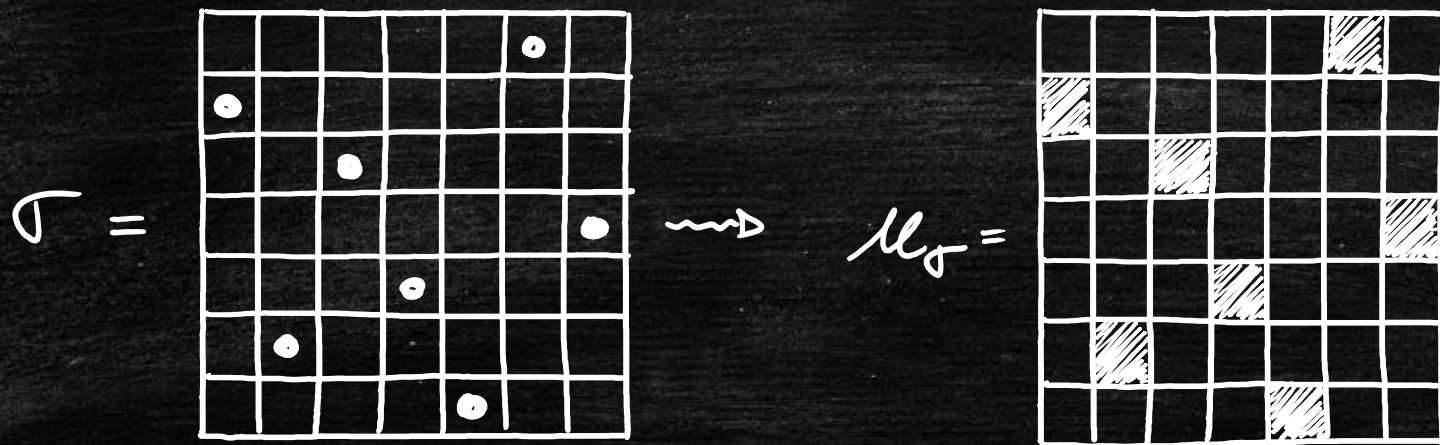
$$\gamma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}(17 - \sqrt{145})} \quad (c = -4)$$

Permutons from
Liouville quantum gravity
&
Schramm-Loewner evolutions

Permutons

Definition: A PERMUTON is a probability measure on $[0,1]^2$ with uniform marginals.

Consider the permutation $\sigma = 6\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 1\ 7\ 4$



The ingredients:

- Fix $\gamma \in (0,2)$ and $K_1, K_2 \geq 8$.

- Let μ be a γ -LQG area measure with $\mu(\hat{\mathbb{C}}) = 1$.

\Downarrow

- Let (η_1, η_2) be a pair of space-filling SLEs of parameters (K_1, K_2) .
 \hookrightarrow coupling is unspecified.

Directions:

- For $i \in \{1,2\}$, parametrize η_i by μ .

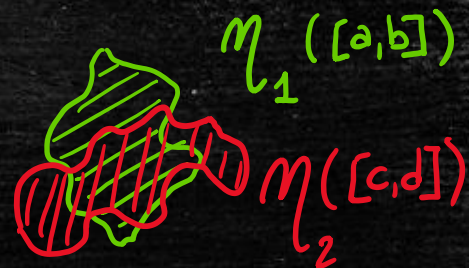
$\hookrightarrow \eta_i(0) = \eta_i(1) = \infty, \mu(\eta_i([0,t])) = t \quad \forall t \in [0,1]$

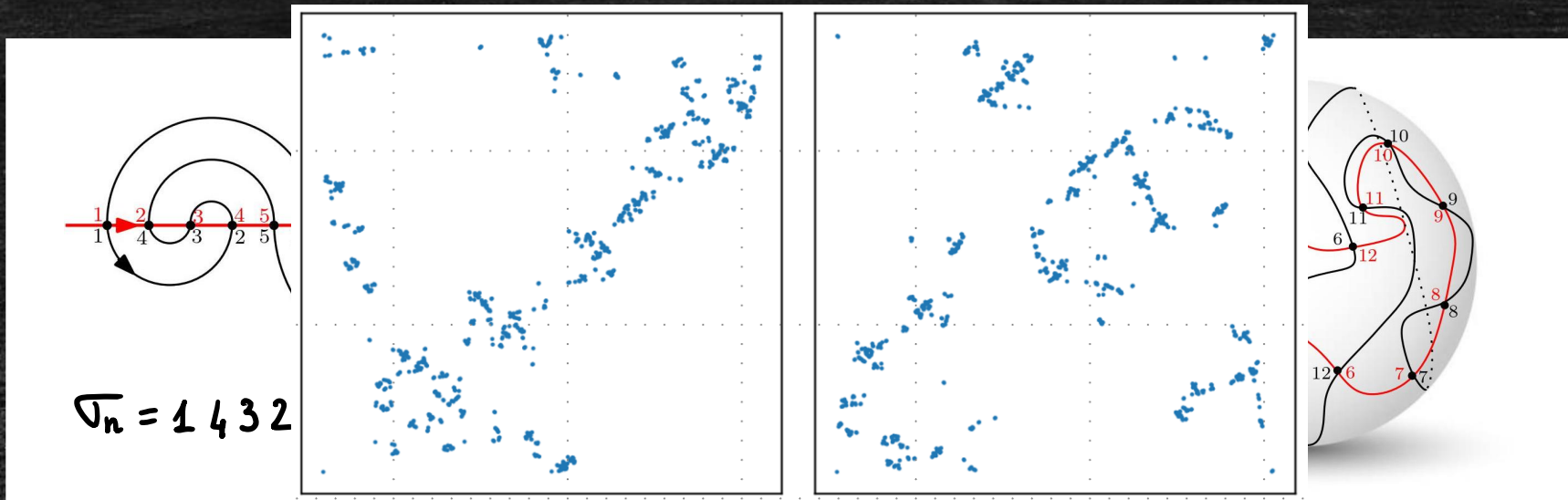


This is a RANDOM PERMUTON & its law depends on (γ, K_1, K_2) and the coupling of (η_1, η_2)

The permuton π associated with (μ, η_1, η_2) is defined by

$$\pi([a,b] \times [c,d]) = \mu(\eta_1([a,b]) \cap \eta_2([c,d]))$$





MEANDRIC PERMUTON (MP): $\kappa_1 = \kappa_2 = 8$, $\gamma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}(17 - \sqrt{145})}$, $\eta_1 \perp \eta_2$

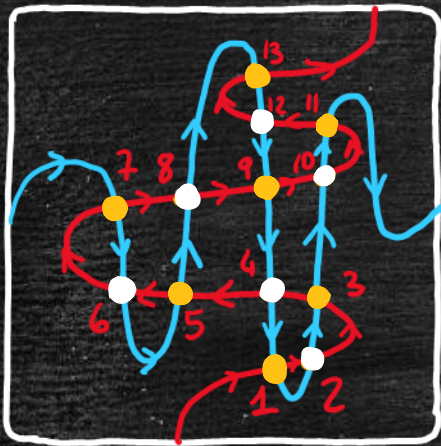
CONJECTURE

(B., Gwynne, Sun, '22) $\mathcal{M}_{\sigma_n} \xrightarrow{d} \text{MP (w.r.t weak topology)}$  The γ -LQG and the two \perp SLE₈ are a.s. given by MP.

GOAL (Ongoing project): Can we find a "NATURAL" CHARACTERIZATION of the MP?

- REROOTING INVARIANCE (TRUE $\forall \gamma \in (0, 2)$ but only when $\kappa_1 = \kappa_2 = 8$) theorem
- RESHUFFLING INVARIANCE (if $\kappa_1 = \kappa_2 = 8$, TRUE ONLY when $\gamma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}(17 - \sqrt{145})}$) work in progress

Definition: A MONOTONE MEANDER of size $2n+1$ is: Connected with
other combinatorial
objects



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$\sigma := \overbrace{7 \ 6 \ 5 \ 8 \ 13 \ 12 \ 9 \ 4 \ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 10 \ 11}^{\text{BAXTER PERMUTATION}}$   
MONOTONE MEANDRIC PERMUTATION

(This is  
a bijection)

THEOREM (B., Maazoun, AOP '21) + (B., PLMS '23)

Let  $\sigma_n$  be a uniform Baxter permutation of size  $n$ , then

$\mathcal{M}_{\sigma_n} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{M}_B \rightsquigarrow$

BAXTER PERMUTON: ↪ IMAGINARY GEOMETRY  
of Miller & Sheffield  
Obtained from two coupled  $SLE_{12}$  ( $c=-7$ )  
& an independent  $\sqrt{4/3}$ -LQG ( $c=-7$ )



감사합니다

