

Ballisticity for Random walks in degenerate random environments


Mark Holmes
(Joint work with Tom Salisbury)

Example: Orthant model in 2 dimensions

At each intersection of a grid like city, put a sign post, and toss a p-coin



Example: Orthant model in 2 dimensions

At each intersection of a grid like city, put a sign post, and toss a p-coin

- ▶ if the coin shows heads, add signs/arrows pointing north and east, i.e. 



Example: Orthant model in 2 dimensions

At each intersection of a grid like city, put a sign post, and toss a p-coin

- ▶ if the coin shows heads, add signs/arrows pointing north and east, i.e. 
- ▶ otherwise add signs pointing south and west, i.e. 



Example: Orthant model in 2 dimensions

At each intersection of a grid like city, put a sign post, and toss a p-coin

- ▶ if the coin shows heads, add signs/arrows pointing north and east, i.e. 
- ▶ otherwise add signs pointing south and west, i.e. 
- ▶ what parts \mathcal{C}_0 of the city can you reach by following signs?



Example: Orthant model in 2 dimensions

At each intersection of a grid like city, put a sign post, and toss a p-coin

- ▶ if the coin shows heads, add signs/arrows pointing north and east, i.e. 
- ▶ otherwise add signs pointing south and west, i.e. 
- ▶ what parts \mathcal{C}_0 of the city can you reach by following signs? (connectivity of random directed graph)



Example: Orthant model in 2 dimensions

At each intersection of a grid like city, put a sign post, and toss a p-coin

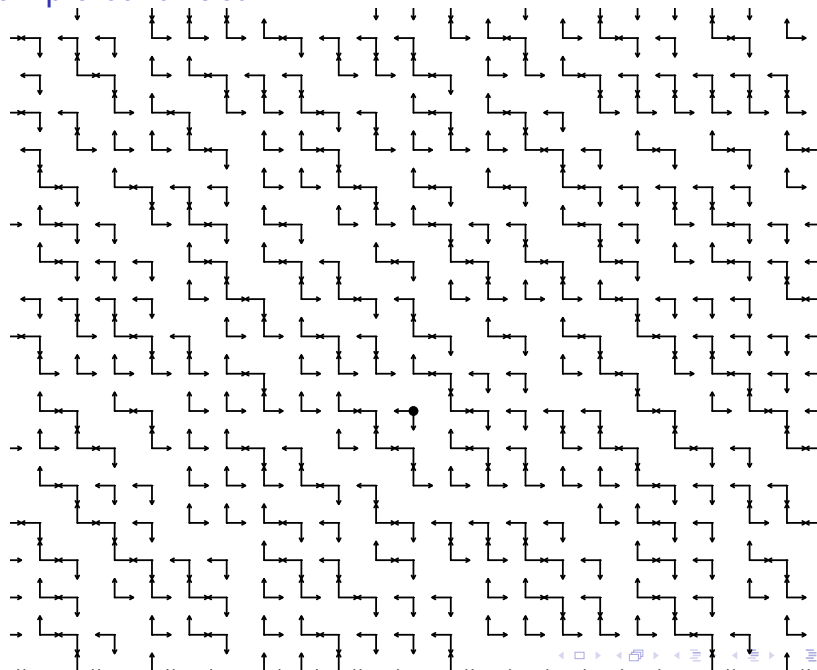
- ▶ if the coin shows heads, add signs/arrows pointing north and east, i.e. 
- ▶ otherwise add signs pointing south and west, i.e. 
- ▶ what parts \mathcal{C}_0 of the city can you reach by following signs? (connectivity of random directed graph)
- ▶ if you choose to follow signs uniformly at random, what will your journey look like?

Example: Orthant model in 2 dimensions

At each intersection of a grid like city, put a sign post, and toss a p-coin

- ▶ if the coin shows heads, add signs/arrows pointing north and east, i.e. 
- ▶ otherwise add signs pointing south and west, i.e. 
- ▶ what parts \mathcal{C}_0 of the city can you reach by following signs? (connectivity of random directed graph)
- ▶ if you choose to follow signs uniformly at random, what will your journey look like? (random walk in random environment)

Example continued



Example continued

- Fix $p > p_c \approx .5956$ and $\ell = (1, 1)$.

Example continued

- Fix $p > p_c \approx .5956$ and $\ell = (1, 1)$. Then \exists cone

$$H_{\kappa, \ell} = \{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \mathbf{u} \cdot \ell \geq \kappa \|\mathbf{u}\|\}$$

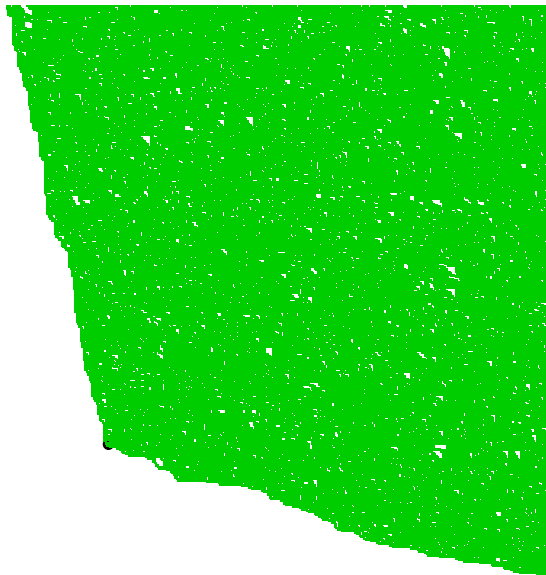
Example continued

- Fix $p > p_c \approx .5956$ and $\ell = (1, 1)$. Then \exists cone

$$H_{\kappa, \ell} = \{\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^d : \mathbf{u} \cdot \ell \geq \kappa \|\mathbf{u}\|\}$$

such that $\mathbb{Q}(\cup_n \{\mathcal{C}_o \subset -n\ell + H_{\kappa, \ell}\}) = 1$.

Example, $(\uparrow\downarrow, \leftarrow\rightarrow), p = .8$



Techniques for studying the graph:

- ▶ Networks of coalescing random walks

Techniques for studying the graph:

- ▶ Networks of coalescing random walks
- ▶ Duality

Techniques for studying the graph:

- ▶ Networks of coalescing random walks
- ▶ Duality
- ▶ Coupling:

Techniques for studying the graph:

- ▶ Networks of coalescing random walks
- ▶ Duality
- ▶ Coupling:
Let U_x be i.i.d. standard uniform random variables,

Techniques for studying the graph:

- ▶ Networks of coalescing random walks
- ▶ Duality
- ▶ Coupling:

Let U_x be i.i.d. standard uniform random variables, and let

$$g_x(p) = \begin{cases} \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \swarrow \searrow \end{array}, & \text{if } U_x < p \\ \begin{array}{c} \swarrow \searrow \\ \downarrow \end{array}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Techniques for studying the graph:

- ▶ Networks of coalescing random walks
- ▶ Duality
- ▶ Coupling:

Let U_x be i.i.d. standard uniform random variables, and let

$$\mathcal{G}_x(p) = \begin{cases} \uparrow \downarrow, & \text{if } U_x < p \\ \leftarrow \rightarrow, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

This defines a random graph \mathcal{G} for all values of p simultaneously.

Random walk in random environment:

► $\mathcal{E} = \{\pm e_1, \dots, \pm e_d\}$

Random walk in random environment:

- ▶ $\mathcal{E} = \{\pm e_1, \dots, \pm e_d\}$
- ▶ $\omega = \{\omega(x, e) : x \in \mathbb{Z}^d, e \in \mathcal{E}\}$ environment

Random walk in random environment:

- ▶ $\mathcal{E} = \{\pm e_1, \dots, \pm e_d\}$
- ▶ $\omega = \{\omega(x, e) : x \in \mathbb{Z}^d, e \in \mathcal{E}\}$ environment
- ▶ $\omega(x, e) \geq 0$ and $\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \omega(x, e) = 1$

Random walk in random environment:

- ▶ $\mathcal{E} = \{\pm e_1, \dots, \pm e_d\}$
- ▶ $\omega = \{\omega(x, e) : x \in \mathbb{Z}^d, e \in \mathcal{E}\}$ environment
- ▶ $\omega(x, e) \geq 0$ and $\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \omega(x, e) = 1$
- ▶ Random walk X in environment ω is Markov chain with $p(x, x + e) \equiv \omega(x, e)$

Random walk in random environment:

- ▶ $\mathcal{E} = \{\pm e_1, \dots, \pm e_d\}$
- ▶ $\omega = \{\omega(x, e) : x \in \mathbb{Z}^d, e \in \mathcal{E}\}$ environment
- ▶ $\omega(x, e) \geq 0$ and $\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \omega(x, e) = 1$
- ▶ Random walk X in environment ω is Markov chain with $p(x, x + e) \equiv \omega(x, e)$
- ▶ Make ω random: $\omega(o, \bullet) \sim \mu$ and

Random walk in random environment:

- ▶ $\mathcal{E} = \{\pm e_1, \dots, \pm e_d\}$
- ▶ $\omega = \{\omega(x, e) : x \in \mathbb{Z}^d, e \in \mathcal{E}\}$ environment
- ▶ $\omega(x, e) \geq 0$ and $\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \omega(x, e) = 1$
- ▶ Random walk X in environment ω is Markov chain with $p(x, x + e) \equiv \omega(x, e)$
- ▶ Make ω random: $\omega(o, \bullet) \sim \mu$ and
- ▶ Make $\omega(x, \bullet)$ i.i.d. in x : $\mathbb{Q} = \mu^{\otimes \mathbb{Z}^d}$.

Random walk in random environment:

- ▶ $\mathcal{E} = \{\pm e_1, \dots, \pm e_d\}$
- ▶ $\omega = \{\omega(x, e) : x \in \mathbb{Z}^d, e \in \mathcal{E}\}$ environment
- ▶ $\omega(x, e) \geq 0$ and $\sum_{e \in \mathcal{E}} \omega(x, e) = 1$
- ▶ Random walk X in environment ω is Markov chain with $p(x, x + e) \equiv \omega(x, e)$
- ▶ Make ω random: $\omega(o, \bullet) \sim \mu$ and
- ▶ Make $\omega(x, \bullet)$ i.i.d. in x : $\mathbb{Q} = \mu^{\otimes \mathbb{Z}^d}$.
- ▶ X not a MC under $\mathbb{P}(X \in \bullet) = \int P_\omega(X \in \bullet) d\mathbb{Q}(\omega)$

Ellipticity/degeneracy

By definition, $\omega(x, e) \geq 0$.

Ellipticity/degeneracy

By definition, $\omega(x, e) \geq 0$. ω is

- ▶ *elliptic* if $\omega(x, e) > 0 \forall x, e$

Ellipticity/degeneracy

By definition, $\omega(x, e) \geq 0$. ω is

- ▶ *elliptic* if $\omega(x, e) > 0 \forall x, e$
- ▶ *uniformly elliptic* if $\omega(x, e) > \varepsilon > 0 \forall x, e$

Ellipticity/degeneracy

By definition, $\omega(x, e) \geq 0$. ω is

- ▶ *elliptic* if $\omega(x, e) > 0 \forall x, e$
- ▶ *uniformly elliptic* if $\omega(x, e) > \varepsilon > 0 \forall x, e$

Our interest is in degenerate (non-elliptic) random environments.

Induced directed graph

Let $\mathcal{G}_x = \{(x, x + e) : \omega(x, e) > 0\}$ be a set of directed edges.

Then

- ▶ $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{G}_x)_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$ is a random directed graph.

Induced directed graph

Let $\mathcal{G}_x = \{(x, x + e) : \omega(x, e) > 0\}$ be a set of directed edges.

Then

- ▶ $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{G}_x)_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$ is a random directed graph.
- ▶ $\mathcal{G} = E(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ if and only if ω is elliptic.

Induced directed graph

Let $\mathcal{G}_x = \{(x, x + e) : \omega(x, e) > 0\}$ be a set of directed edges.

Then

- ▶ $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{G}_x)_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$ is a random directed graph.
- ▶ $\mathcal{G} = E(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ if and only if ω is elliptic.
- ▶ Need to consider set \mathcal{C}_o of reachable sites

Induced directed graph

Let $\mathcal{G}_x = \{(x, x + e) : \omega(x, e) > 0\}$ be a set of directed edges.

Then

- ▶ $\mathcal{G} = (\mathcal{G}_x)_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$ is a random directed graph.
- ▶ $\mathcal{G} = E(\mathbb{Z}^d)$ if and only if ω is elliptic.
- ▶ Need to consider set \mathcal{C}_o of reachable sites
- ▶ Want $\mathbb{Q}(|\mathcal{C}_o| = \infty) = 1$

RWRE Main questions:

- ▶ Getting stuck/recurrence/transience

RWRE Main questions:

- ▶ Getting stuck/recurrence/transience
- ▶ Directional transience: $A_\ell = \{X_n \cdot \ell \rightarrow +\infty\}$

RWRE Main questions:

- ▶ Getting stuck/recurrence/transience
- ▶ Directional transience: $A_\ell = \{X_n \cdot \ell \rightarrow +\infty\}$
- ▶ Ballisticity/LLN: $\liminf n^{-1} X_n \cdot \ell > 0$

RWRE Main questions:

- ▶ Getting stuck/recurrence/transience
- ▶ Directional transience: $A_\ell = \{X_n \cdot \ell \rightarrow +\infty\}$
- ▶ Ballisticity/LLN: $\liminf n^{-1} X_n \cdot \ell > 0$
- ▶ CLT: (averaged/quenched)

$$\frac{X_n - nv}{\sigma\sqrt{n}} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}} Z.$$

RWRE Main questions:

- ▶ Getting stuck/recurrence/transience
- ▶ Directional transience: $A_\ell = \{X_n \cdot \ell \rightarrow +\infty\}$
- ▶ Ballisticity/LLN: $\liminf n^{-1} X_n \cdot \ell > 0$
- ▶ CLT: (averaged/quenched)

$$\frac{X_n - nv}{\sigma\sqrt{n}} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}} Z.$$

- ▶ Monotonicity of v .

RWRE Main answers:

- ▶ Example does not get stuck since e.g. can always go \uparrow or \leftarrow

RWRE Main answers:

- ▶ Example does not get stuck since e.g. can always go \uparrow or \leftarrow
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{A}_\ell \cup \mathbf{A}_{-\ell}) \in \{0, 1\}$

RWRE Main answers:

- ▶ Example does not get stuck since e.g. can always go \uparrow or \leftarrow
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell \cup A_{-\ell}) \in \{0, 1\}$
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell) = 1$ implies $\exists v$ such that $\mathbb{P}(v = \lim n^{-1}X_n) = 1$.

RWRE Main answers:

- ▶ Example does not get stuck since e.g. can always go \uparrow or \leftarrow
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell \cup A_{-\ell}) \in \{0, 1\}$
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell) = 1$ implies $\exists v$ such that $\mathbb{P}(v = \lim n^{-1}X_n) = 1$.
- ▶ v exists in 2 dimensions.

RWRE Main answers:

- ▶ Example does not get stuck since e.g. can always go \uparrow or \leftarrow
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell \cup A_{-\ell}) \in \{0, 1\}$
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell) = 1$ implies $\exists v$ such that $\mathbb{P}(v = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} X_n) = 1$.
- ▶ v exists in 2 dimensions.
- ▶ Ballisticity conditions: Kalikow, Sznitman, Ramirez et al

RWRE Main answers:

- ▶ Example does not get stuck since e.g. can always go \uparrow or \leftarrow
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell \cup A_{-\ell}) \in \{0, 1\}$
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell) = 1$ implies $\exists v$ such that $\mathbb{P}(v = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} X_n) = 1$.
- ▶ v exists in 2 dimensions.
- ▶ Ballisticity conditions: Kalikow, Sznitman, Ramirez et al (all require ellipticity).

RWRE Main answers:

- ▶ Example does not get stuck since e.g. can always go \uparrow or \leftarrow
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell \cup A_{-\ell}) \in \{0, 1\}$
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell) = 1$ implies $\exists v$ such that $\mathbb{P}(v = \lim n^{-1}X_n) = 1$.
- ▶ v exists in 2 dimensions.
- ▶ Ballisticity conditions: Kalikow, Sznitman, Ramirez et al (all require ellipticity).
- ▶ existence of v and CLT require control of *regeneration times*.

RWRE Main answers:

- ▶ Example does not get stuck since e.g. can always go \uparrow or \leftarrow
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell \cup A_{-\ell}) \in \{0, 1\}$
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell) = 1$ implies $\exists v$ such that $\mathbb{P}(v = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} X_n) = 1$.
- ▶ v exists in 2 dimensions.
- ▶ Ballisticity conditions: Kalikow, Sznitman, Ramirez et al (all require ellipticity).
- ▶ existence of v and CLT require control of *regeneration times*.
- ▶ Rassoul-Agha and Seppäläinen: Ballisticity and quenched CLT when there is a *forbidden direction*.

RWRE Main answers:

- ▶ Example does not get stuck since e.g. can always go \uparrow or \leftarrow
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell \cup A_{-\ell}) \in \{0, 1\}$
- ▶ $\mathbb{P}(A_\ell) = 1$ implies $\exists v$ such that $\mathbb{P}(v = \lim n^{-1}X_n) = 1$.
- ▶ v exists in 2 dimensions.
- ▶ Ballisticity conditions: Kalikow, Sznitman, Ramirez et al (all require ellipticity).
- ▶ existence of v and CLT require control of *regeneration times*.
- ▶ Rassoul-Agha and Seppäläinen: Ballisticity and quenched CLT when there is a *forbidden direction*.
- ▶ Monotonicity of v holds for 2-valued environments but not more generally.

Theorem [B]:

Let $d \geq 2$ and $\alpha, \beta, \kappa > 0$, $\ell \neq 0$. Assume:

Theorem [B]:

Let $d \geq 2$ and $\alpha, \beta, \kappa > 0$, $\ell \neq 0$. Assume:

(a) There exist $C_1, \gamma_1 > 0$ such that $\forall n$,

$$\mathbb{Q}(\mathcal{C}_0 \not\subseteq -n\ell + H_{\kappa, \ell}) \leq C_1 e^{-\gamma_1 n^\beta};$$

Theorem [B]:

Let $d \geq 2$ and $\alpha, \beta, \kappa > 0$, $\ell \neq 0$. Assume:

(a) There exist $C_1, \gamma_1 > 0$ such that $\forall n$,

$$\mathbb{Q}(\mathcal{C}_0 \not\subseteq -n\ell + H_{\kappa, \ell}) \leq C_1 e^{-\gamma_1 n^\beta};$$

(b) For every $C > 0$, there exist $C_2, \gamma_2 > 0$ such that $\forall n$,

$$\mathbb{P}(|R_n| \leq (Cn)^\alpha) \leq C_2 e^{-\gamma_2 n^\beta}.$$

Theorem [B]:

Let $d \geq 2$ and $\alpha, \beta, \kappa > 0$, $\ell \neq 0$. Assume:

(a) There exist $C_1, \gamma_1 > 0$ such that $\forall n$,

$$\mathbb{Q}(\mathcal{C}_0 \not\subseteq -n\ell + H_{\kappa, \ell}) \leq C_1 e^{-\gamma_1 n^\beta};$$

(b) For every $C > 0$, there exist $C_2, \gamma_2 > 0$ such that $\forall n$,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(|R_n| \leq (Cn)^\alpha\right) \leq C_2 e^{-\gamma_2 n^\beta}.$$

Then $\exists v \neq 0$ such that $\mathbb{P}(n^{-1}X_n \rightarrow v) = 1$.

Theorem [B]:

Let $d \geq 2$ and $\alpha, \beta, \kappa > 0$, $\ell \neq 0$. Assume:

(a) There exist $C_1, \gamma_1 > 0$ such that $\forall n$,

$$\mathbb{Q}(\mathcal{C}_0 \not\subseteq -n\ell + H_{\kappa, \ell}) \leq C_1 e^{-\gamma_1 n^\beta};$$

(b) For every $C > 0$, there exist $C_2, \gamma_2 > 0$ such that $\forall n$,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(|R_n| \leq (Cn)^\alpha\right) \leq C_2 e^{-\gamma_2 n^\beta}.$$

Then $\exists v \neq 0$ such that $\mathbb{P}(n^{-1}X_n \rightarrow v) = 1$.

Work in progress: FCLT under \mathbb{P}

Remarks

(a) holds when $\mathbb{Q} \left(\sum_{i=1}^d \omega(o, e_i) = 1 \right) > p_d$.

Remarks

- (a) holds when $\mathbb{Q} \left(\sum_{i=1}^d \omega(o, e_i) = 1 \right) > p_d$.
- (b) holds e.g. when (b)': some projection of the walk is a submartingale (Menshikov, Popov, Ramírez, and Vachkovskaia)

Remarks

- (a) holds when $\mathbb{Q} \left(\sum_{i=1}^d \omega(o, e_i) = 1 \right) > p_d$.
- (b) holds e.g. when (b)': some projection of the walk is a submartingale (Menshikov, Popov, Ramírez, and Vachkovskaia)
- (b)' holds for every 2-valued model (for which the walk doesn't get stuck)

Regeneration levels ($(\uparrow_{\rightarrow}, \leftarrow_{\downarrow})$ example)

Let $L_n = X_n \cdot (1, 1)$. On the event $L_n \rightarrow +\infty$

Regeneration levels ($(\uparrow_{\rightarrow}, \leftarrow_{\downarrow})$ example)

Let $L_n = X_n \cdot (1, 1)$. On the event $L_n \rightarrow +\infty$

- ▶ \exists random infinite set $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{Z}$ defined by

Regeneration levels ((\uparrow, \downarrow) example)

Let $L_n = X_n \cdot (1, 1)$. On the event $L_n \rightarrow +\infty$

- ▶ \exists random infinite set $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{Z}$ defined by

$$k \in \mathcal{D} \iff L_n \geq k \text{ for every } n \geq \inf\{m : L_m \geq k\},$$

Regeneration levels ((\uparrow, \downarrow) example)

Let $L_n = X_n \cdot (1, 1)$. On the event $L_n \rightarrow +\infty$

- ▶ \exists random infinite set $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{Z}$ defined by

$$k \in \mathcal{D} \iff L_n \geq k \text{ for every } n \geq \inf\{m : L_m \geq k\},$$

- ▶ with positive probability $0 \in \mathcal{D}$

Regeneration levels ((\uparrow, \downarrow) example)

Let $L_n = X_n \cdot (1, 1)$. On the event $L_n \rightarrow +\infty$

- ▶ \exists random infinite set $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{Z}$ defined by

$$k \in \mathcal{D} \iff L_n \geq k \text{ for every } n \geq \inf\{m : L_m \geq k\},$$

- ▶ with positive probability $0 \in \mathcal{D}$
- ▶ behaviour of the walker between regeneration times $T_{k_{i+1}} - T_{k_i}$ is i.i.d.

Regeneration levels ((\uparrow, \downarrow) example)

Let $L_n = X_n \cdot (1, 1)$. On the event $L_n \rightarrow +\infty$

- ▶ \exists random infinite set $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{Z}$ defined by

$$k \in \mathcal{D} \iff L_n \geq k \text{ for every } n \geq \inf\{m : L_m \geq k\},$$

- ▶ with positive probability $0 \in \mathcal{D}$
- ▶ behaviour of the walker between regeneration times $T_{k_{i+1}} - T_{k_i}$ is i.i.d.
- ▶ by the LLN the velocity of the walk is given by

$$\frac{\mathbb{E}[X_T 1_{\{0 \in \mathcal{D}\}}]}{\mathbb{E}[T 1_{\{0 \in \mathcal{D}\}}]}.$$

Idea of proof of Theorem [B]

- ▶ Directional transience easy

Idea of proof of Theorem [B]

- ▶ Directional transience easy
- ▶ Show that $\mathbb{P}(T > n) \leq Ce^{-\gamma n^\delta}$

Idea of proof of Theorem [B]

- ▶ Directional transience easy
- ▶ Show that $\mathbb{P}(T > n) \leq Ce^{-\gamma n^\delta}$
- ▶ $\{T > n\} \Rightarrow$ one of:
 - ▶ not contained in a convenient cone

Idea of proof of Theorem [B]

- ▶ Directional transience easy
- ▶ Show that $\mathbb{P}(T > n) \leq Ce^{-\gamma n^\delta}$
- ▶ $\{T > n\} \Rightarrow$ one of:
 - ▶ not contained in a convenient cone
 - ▶ contained, and don't go far to regenerate (but still $T > n$)

Idea of proof of Theorem [B]

- ▶ Directional transience easy
- ▶ Show that $\mathbb{P}(T > n) \leq Ce^{-\gamma n^\delta}$
- ▶ $\{T > n\} \Rightarrow$ one of:
 - ▶ not contained in a convenient cone
 - ▶ contained, and don't go far to regenerate (but still $T > n$)
 - ▶ need a lot of regeneration attempts

Idea of proof of Theorem [B]

- ▶ Directional transience easy
- ▶ Show that $\mathbb{P}(T > n) \leq Ce^{-\gamma n^\delta}$
- ▶ $\{T > n\} \Rightarrow$ one of:
 - ▶ not contained in a convenient cone
 - ▶ contained, and don't go far to regenerate (but still $T > n$)
 - ▶ need a lot of regeneration attempts
 - ▶ contained, go a long way to attempt few regenerations *

Monotonicity

- ▶ The velocity $v(p)$ in any 2-valued model is monotone in p .

Monotonicity

- ▶ The velocity $v(p)$ in any 2-valued model is monotone in p .
- ▶ Not true for 3-valued environments.

Monotonicity

- ▶ The velocity $v(p)$ in any 2-valued model is monotone in p .
- ▶ Not true for 3-valued environments.
- ▶ **Conjecture:** For the orthant model example $v(p) \cdot (1, 1)$ is strictly increasing and continuous in $p \in [0, 1]$.

Monotonicity

- ▶ The velocity $v(p)$ in any 2-valued model is monotone in p .
- ▶ Not true for 3-valued environments.
- ▶ **Conjecture:** For the orthant model example $v(p) \cdot (1, 1)$ is strictly increasing and continuous in $p \in [0, 1]$. When $p = 1/2$ there are points visited infinitely often.

Monotonicity

- ▶ The velocity $v(p)$ in any 2-valued model is monotone in p .
- ▶ Not true for 3-valued environments.
- ▶ **Conjecture:** For the orthant model example $v(p) \cdot (1, 1)$ is strictly increasing and continuous in $p \in [0, 1]$. When $p = 1/2$ there are points visited infinitely often.

Work in progress: Strict monotonicity of $v(p) \cdot (1, 1)$ for $(\uparrow_{\rightarrow}, \leftarrow_{\downarrow})$ for $p > p_c$.

Sketch Proof of Monotonicity

- ▶ couple environments as before ($\mathcal{G}_x(p) = \uparrow_{\rightarrow}$ when $U_x < p$)

Sketch Proof of Monotonicity

- ▶ couple environments as before ($\mathcal{G}_x(p) = \uparrow_{\rightarrow}$ when $U_x < p$)
- ▶ Let $(Y_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Y_k = \uparrow) = P(Y_k = \rightarrow) = 1/2$

Sketch Proof of Monotonicity

- ▶ couple environments as before ($\mathcal{G}_x(p) = \uparrow_{\rightarrow}$ when $U_x < p$)
- ▶ Let $(Y_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Y_k = \uparrow) = P(Y_k = \rightarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Let $(Z_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Z_k = \downarrow) = P(Z_k = \leftarrow) = 1/2$

Sketch Proof of Monotonicity

- ▶ couple environments as before ($\mathcal{G}_x(p) = \uparrow_{\searrow}$ when $U_x < p$)
- ▶ Let $(Y_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Y_k = \uparrow) = P(Y_k = \rightarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Let $(Z_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Z_k = \downarrow) = P(Z_k = \leftarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Set $X_0(p) = 0$. Define $X = X(p)$ by taking step Y_k on its k th departure from a \uparrow_{\searrow} site and step Z_k on its k th departure from a \swarrow_{\downarrow} site.

Sketch Proof of Monotonicity

- ▶ couple environments as before ($\mathcal{G}_x(p) = \uparrow_{\searrow}$ when $U_x < p$)
- ▶ Let $(Y_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Y_k = \uparrow) = P(Y_k = \rightarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Let $(Z_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Z_k = \downarrow) = P(Z_k = \leftarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Set $X_0(p) = 0$. Define $X = X(p)$ by taking step Y_k on its k th departure from a \uparrow_{\searrow} site and step Z_k on its k th departure from a \swarrow_{\downarrow} site.
- ▶ Let $N_n(p)$ be the number of \uparrow_{\searrow} sites visited before time n . Prove that for $p' > p$:

Sketch Proof of Monotonicity

- ▶ couple environments as before ($\mathcal{G}_x(p) = \uparrow_{\searrow}$ when $U_x < p$)
- ▶ Let $(Y_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Y_k = \uparrow) = P(Y_k = \rightarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Let $(Z_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Z_k = \downarrow) = P(Z_k = \leftarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Set $X_0(p) = 0$. Define $X = X(p)$ by taking step Y_k on its k th departure from a \uparrow_{\searrow} site and step Z_k on its k th departure from a \swarrow_{\downarrow} site.
- ▶ Let $N_n(p)$ be the number of \uparrow_{\searrow} sites visited before time n . Prove that for $p' > p$:
 - ▶ The first time that $N_n(p') \neq N_n(p)$, $N_n(p') = N_n(p) + 1$.

Sketch Proof of Monotonicity

- ▶ couple environments as before ($\mathcal{G}_x(p) = \uparrow_{\searrow}$ when $U_x < p$)
- ▶ Let $(Y_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Y_k = \uparrow) = P(Y_k = \rightarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Let $(Z_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Z_k = \downarrow) = P(Z_k = \leftarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Set $X_0(p) = 0$. Define $X = X(p)$ by taking step Y_k on its k th departure from a \uparrow_{\searrow} site and step Z_k on its k th departure from a \swarrow_{\downarrow} site.
- ▶ Let $N_n(p)$ be the number of \uparrow_{\searrow} sites visited before time n . Prove that for $p' > p$:
 - ▶ The first time that $N_n(p') \neq N_n(p)$, $N_n(p') = N_n(p) + 1$.
 - ▶ If later $N_m(p') = N_m(p)$ then $X_m(p') = X_m(p)$.

Sketch Proof of Monotonicity

- ▶ couple environments as before ($\mathcal{G}_x(p) = \uparrow_{\searrow}$ when $U_x < p$)
- ▶ Let $(Y_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Y_k = \uparrow) = P(Y_k = \rightarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Let $(Z_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Z_k = \downarrow) = P(Z_k = \leftarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Set $X_0(p) = 0$. Define $X = X(p)$ by taking step Y_k on its k th departure from a \uparrow_{\searrow} site and step Z_k on its k th departure from a \swarrow_{\downarrow} site.
- ▶ Let $N_n(p)$ be the number of \uparrow_{\searrow} sites visited before time n . Prove that for $p' > p$:
 - ▶ The first time that $N_n(p') \neq N_n(p)$, $N_n(p') = N_n(p) + 1$.
 - ▶ If later $N_m(p') = N_m(p)$ then $X_m(p') = X_m(p)$.
 - ▶ This proves that $N_n(p') \geq N_n(p)$ for all n .

Sketch Proof of Monotonicity

- ▶ couple environments as before ($\mathcal{G}_x(p) = \uparrow_{\searrow}$ when $U_x < p$)
- ▶ Let $(Y_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Y_k = \uparrow) = P(Y_k = \rightarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Let $(Z_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$ be i.i.d. with $P(Z_k = \downarrow) = P(Z_k = \leftarrow) = 1/2$
- ▶ Set $X_0(p) = 0$. Define $X = X(p)$ by taking step Y_k on its k th departure from a \uparrow_{\searrow} site and step Z_k on its k th departure from a \swarrow_{\downarrow} site.
- ▶ Let $N_n(p)$ be the number of \uparrow_{\searrow} sites visited before time n . Prove that for $p' > p$:
 - ▶ The first time that $N_n(p') \neq N_n(p)$, $N_n(p') = N_n(p) + 1$.
 - ▶ If later $N_m(p') = N_m(p)$ then $X_m(p') = X_m(p)$.
 - ▶ This proves that $N_n(p') \geq N_n(p)$ for all n .
 - ▶ By the law of large numbers,
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} X_n = -1 + 2 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} N_n.$$

Strict monotonicity for $(\uparrow\downarrow, \leftarrow\rightarrow)$ model above p_c

Modify coupling proof above so that:

Strict monotonicity for $(\uparrow\rightarrow, \leftarrow\downarrow)$ model above p_c

Modify coupling proof above so that:

- ▶ There is a collection of mutual regeneration levels (in direction $(1, 1)$)

Strict monotonicity for $(\uparrow\rightarrow, \leftarrow\downarrow)$ model above p_c

Modify coupling proof above so that:

- ▶ There is a collection of mutual regeneration levels (in direction $(1, 1)$)
- ▶ The “slower” walk does not reach them quicker

Strict monotonicity for $(\uparrow\rightarrow, \leftarrow\downarrow)$ model above p_c

Modify coupling proof above so that:

- ▶ There is a collection of mutual regeneration levels (in direction $(1, 1)$)
- ▶ The “slower” walk does not reach them quicker
- ▶ The “faster” walk reaches them quicker with prob. > 0

Strict monotonicity for $(\uparrow\rightarrow, \leftarrow\downarrow)$ model above p_c

Modify coupling proof above so that:

- ▶ There is a collection of mutual regeneration levels (in direction $(1, 1)$)
- ▶ The “slower” walk does not reach them quicker
- ▶ The “faster” walk reaches them quicker with prob. > 0
- ▶ Similar to recent proof of strict monotonicity for excited random walks in 1 dimension.

