

# Asymptotic direction of oriented-edge reinforced random walks

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# Oriented-edge reinforced random walk (OERRW)

Directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ . Notation:  $e = (\underline{e}, \bar{e}) \in E$

Let initial weights  $\alpha_e > 0$  be given for  $e \in E$  (oriented edges).

The *oriented-edge reinforced random walk* is defined by the following:

- probability transitions across edges are proportional to their weights;
- the weight of an (oriented) edge increases by 1 after the traversal.

In other words, for all  $n$ , if  $\underline{e} = X_n$ ,

$$P^{(\alpha)}((X_n, X_{n+1}) = e | X_0, \dots, X_n) = \frac{\alpha_e + N_e^{(n)}}{\sum_{\underline{f}=X_n} (\alpha_f + N_f^{(n)})},$$

where  $N_f^{(n)}$  is the number of traversals of edge  $f$  before time  $n$ .

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NB: for non-oriented edges (and translation-invariant weights), positive recurrence for small weights (on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ ) was proved very recently by Sabot-Tarrès and Angel-Crawford-Kozma, independently.

## Remark

For the OERRW, the successive choices of edges used to exit each vertex are given by independent Polya urns.

Two representations of a Polya urn (cf. De Finetti's theorem):

### Initially:

$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$  balls of color  $1, \dots, r$ .

### Then:

Reinforced urn (chosen color +1 ball).

Proportions of colors converge a.s. to

$$p = (p_1, \dots, p_r) \sim \mathcal{D}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r).$$

Dirichlet distribution:

$$\mathcal{D}((\alpha_i)_{i \in I}) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{i \in I} x_i^{\alpha_i - 1} d\lambda(x)$$

( $\lambda$  is Lebesgue measure on a simplex of probabilities)

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The OERRW with initial weights  $(\alpha_e)_{e \in E}$  has same law as a **random walk in a random environment** given by independent Dirichlet random variables  $\omega_{(x,\cdot)}$ ,  $x \in V$ .

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$\Rightarrow$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$ , behaviour of OERRW known in details (via RWRE)

# Previous results on $\mathbb{Z}^d$

$d \geq 1$  E.S.06

**Ballisticity condition**

$$\max_i |\alpha_i - \alpha_{-i}| > 1 \Rightarrow \frac{X_n}{n} \rightarrow \vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$$

Kalikow  
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Integ. by parts

E. : Enriquez  
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$$\sum_i |\alpha_i - \alpha_{-i}| > 1 \Rightarrow \frac{X_n}{n} \rightarrow \vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$$

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Any finite graph T.09

## Integrability of exit times

$$\kappa > 1 \Leftrightarrow E^{(\alpha)}[T_U] < \infty$$

$d \geq 1$

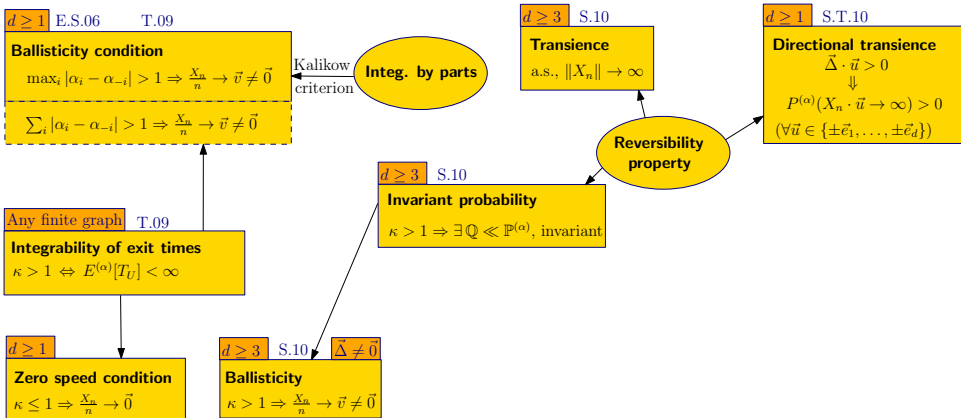
## Zero speed condition

$$\kappa \leq 1 \Rightarrow \frac{X_n}{n} \rightarrow \vec{0}$$

E. : Enriquez  
S. : Sabot  
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$$\kappa = \min_{\emptyset \neq B \subset E_U} \sum_{e \in \partial B} \alpha_e = 2 \sum_i (\alpha_i + \alpha_{-i}) - \max_i (\alpha_i + \alpha_{-i})$$

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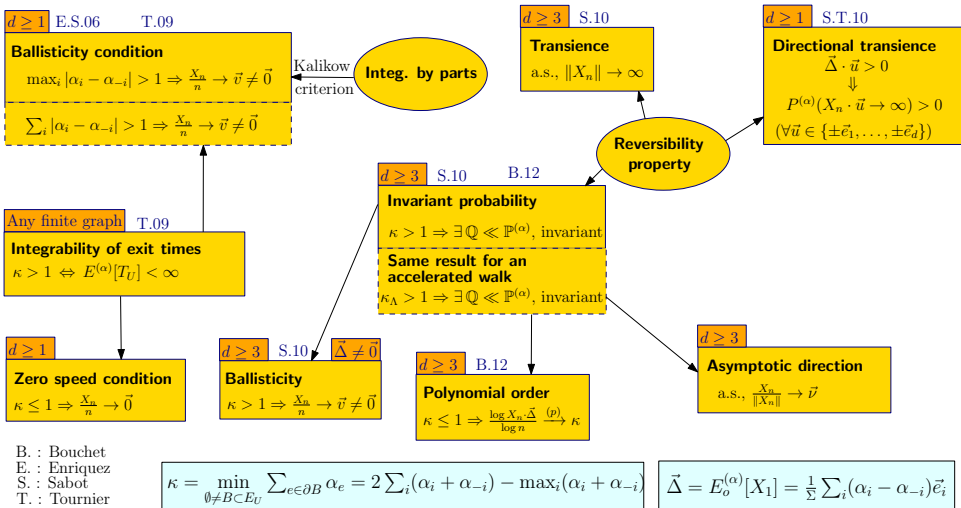


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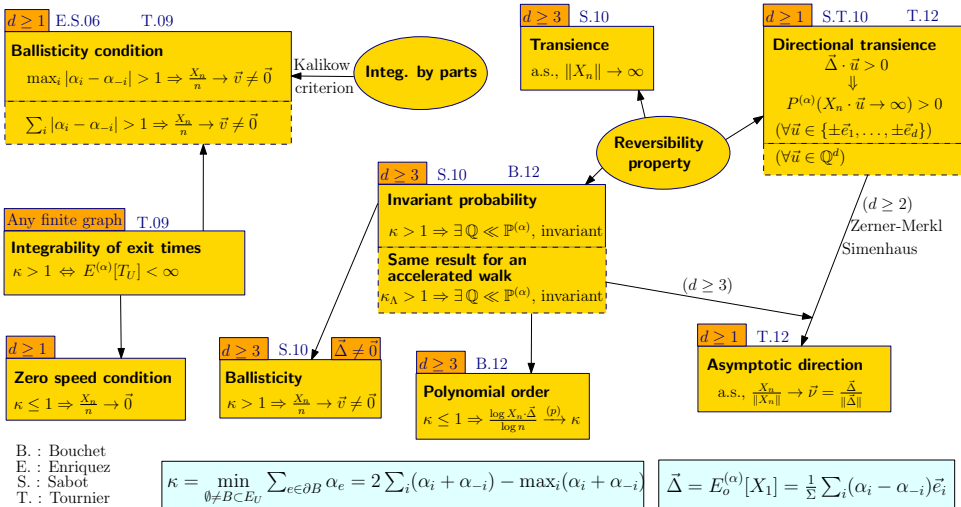
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$$\vec{\Delta} = E_o^{(\alpha)}[X_1] = \frac{1}{\Sigma} \sum_i (\alpha_i - \alpha_{-i}) \vec{e}_i$$

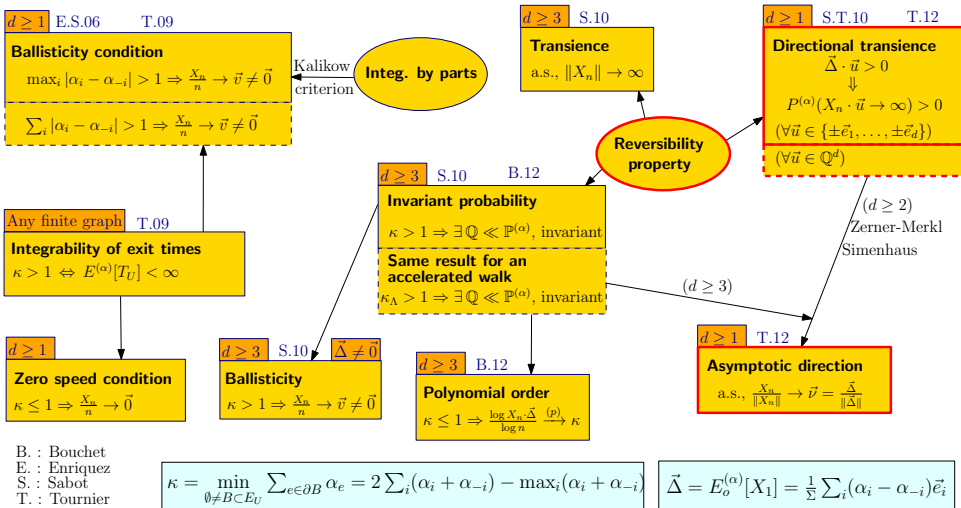
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B. : Bouchet  
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# Time reversal

Finite directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ , weights  $\alpha = (\alpha_e)_{e \in E}$ .

Reversed graph:  $\check{G} = (V, \check{E})$  made of reversed edges  $\check{e} = (\bar{e}, \underline{e})$ , endowed with weight  $\check{\alpha}_e = \alpha_{\bar{e}}$  for  $e \in \check{E}$ .

Reversed environment: for  $e \in E$ ,  $\check{\omega}_{\check{e}} = \frac{\pi(\underline{e})}{\pi(\bar{e})} \omega_e$

( $\pi$ : invariant probability for  $\omega$ )

For  $x \in V$ , denote

$$\alpha_x = \sum_{\underline{e}=x} \alpha_e.$$

## Property

Assume  $\text{div}(\alpha) = 0$ : for all  $x \in V$ ,  $\alpha_x = \check{\alpha}_x$ . Then,

$$\omega \sim \mathbb{P}^{(\alpha)} \Rightarrow \check{\omega} \sim \mathbb{P}^{(\check{\alpha})}.$$

Then, for all cycle  $\sigma$  in  $G$  going through  $o$ ,

$$P_o^{(\alpha)}((X_n)_n \text{ follows } \sigma) = P_o^{(\check{\alpha})}((X_n)_n \text{ follows } \check{\sigma}).$$

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**Proof:**

$$P_o^{(\alpha)}(\sigma) = \frac{\prod_{e \in E} \alpha_e (\alpha_e + 1) \cdots (\alpha_e + N_e(\sigma) - 1)}{\prod_{x \in V} \alpha_x (\alpha_x + 1) \cdots (\alpha_x + N_x(\sigma) - 1)}$$

and  $\alpha_e = \check{\alpha}_{\bar{e}}$ ,  $\alpha_x = \check{\alpha}_x$ ,  $N_e(\sigma) = N_{\bar{e}}(\check{\sigma})$ ,  $N_x(\sigma) = N_x(\check{\sigma})$ .

Recall the mean drift

$$\vec{\Delta} = E_o^{(\alpha)}[X_1] = \frac{1}{\sum_i (\alpha_i + \alpha_{-i})} \sum_{i=1}^d (\alpha_i - \alpha_{-i}) \vec{e}_i.$$

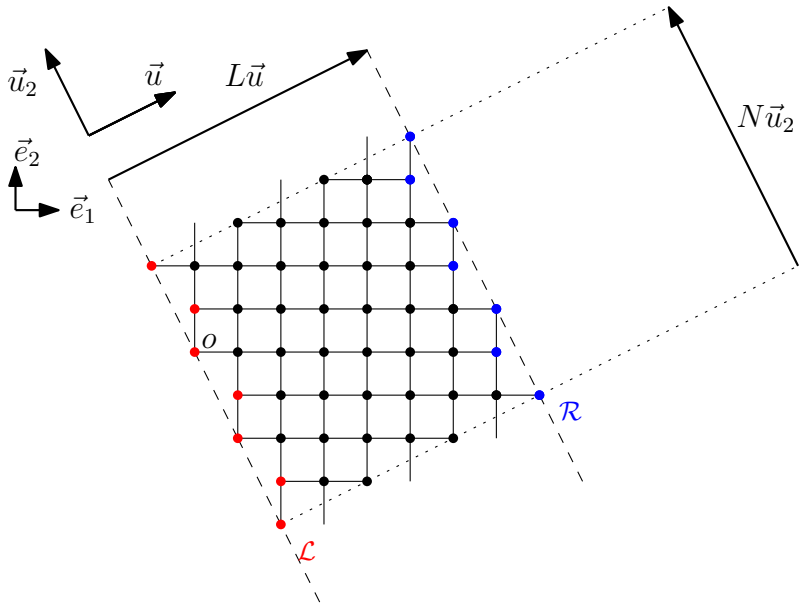
## Proposition

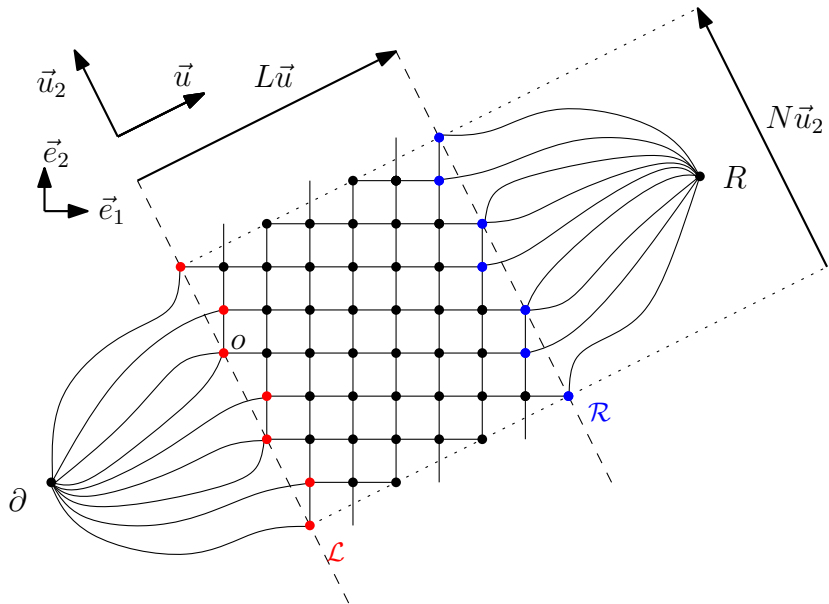
For any direction  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  such that  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{\Delta} > 0$ ,

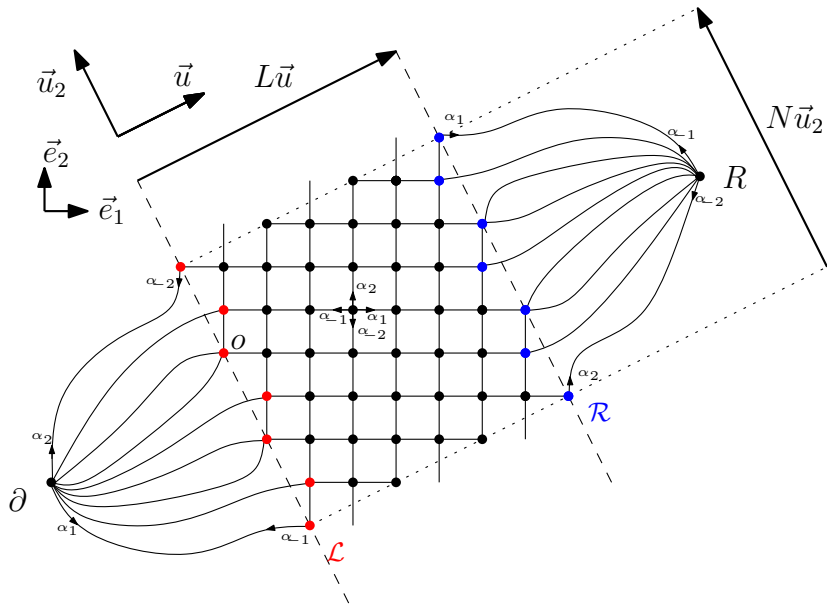
$$P^{(\alpha)}(X_n \cdot \vec{u} \rightarrow +\infty) > 0.$$

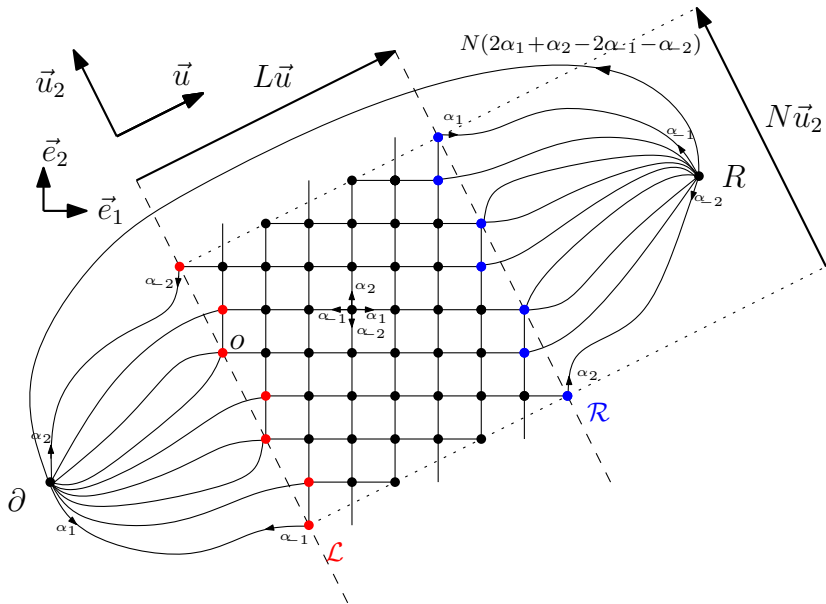
NB: Result actually holds for non nearest-neighbour walks with finite range.  
(Hence for the triangular lattice for instance)

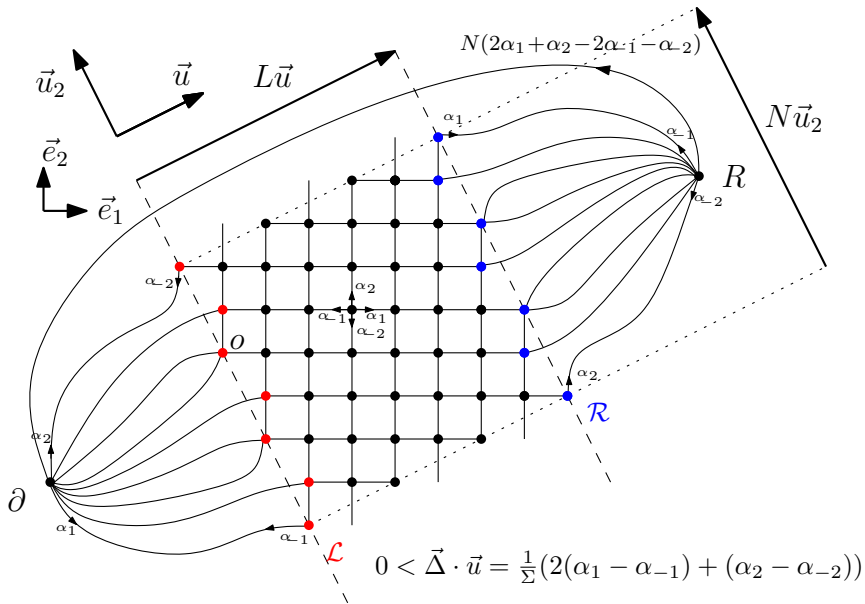


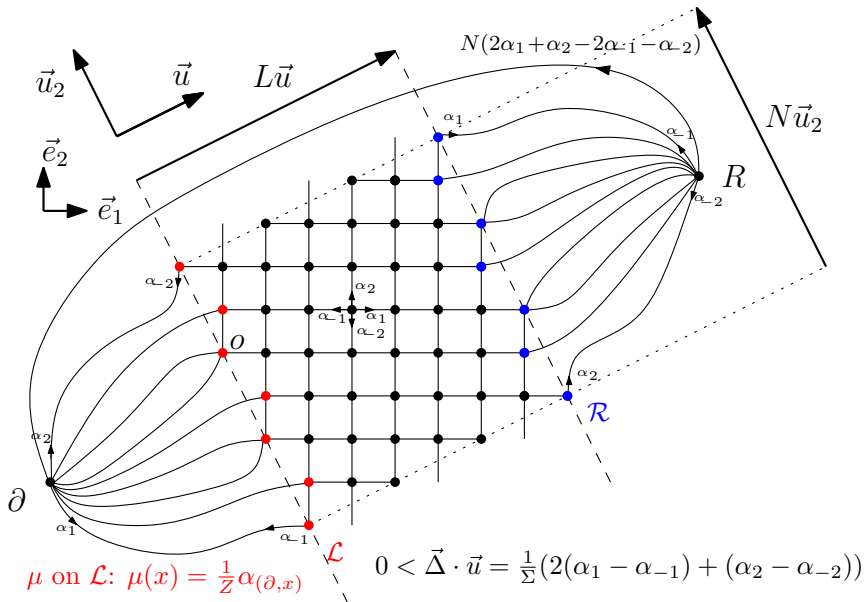












# Corollary

We got:  $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{Q}^d, \vec{u} \cdot \vec{\Delta} > 0 \Rightarrow P_o^{(\alpha)}(X_n \cdot \vec{u} \rightarrow +\infty) \geq P_\mu^{(\alpha)}(\forall n, X_n \cdot \vec{u} \geq 0) > c$

## Corollary

Assume  $\vec{\Delta} \neq \vec{0}$ .

- $P^{(\alpha)}$ -a.s.,  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{\Delta} > 0 \Rightarrow X_n \cdot \vec{u} \rightarrow +\infty$ .

- ( $d = 2$ ) 0-1 law of Zerner-Merkl(01): for elliptic RWRE,  $P(A_\ell) \in \{0, 1\}$  where

$$A_\ell = \{X_n \cdot \ell \xrightarrow[n]{} +\infty\}$$

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$$P(A_\ell) = 1 \text{ for every } \ell \text{ in an open set} \Rightarrow \frac{X_n}{\|X_n\|} \xrightarrow[n]{} \vec{v}$$

where  $\vec{v}$  is deterministic.

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$$P(A_\ell) > 0 \text{ for every } \ell \text{ in an open set} \Rightarrow \frac{X_n}{\|X_n\|} \xrightarrow[n]{} (\mathbf{1}_A - \mathbf{1}_{A^c})\vec{v}.$$



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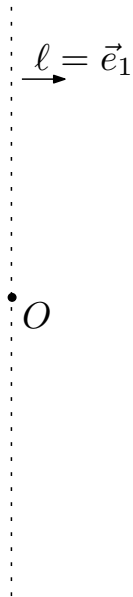
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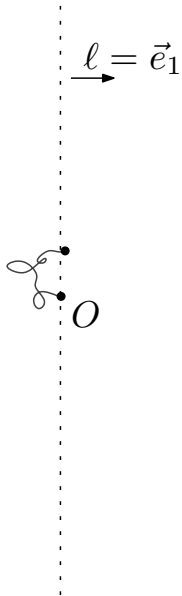
$$\vec{\ell} = \vec{e}_1$$

•  $O$

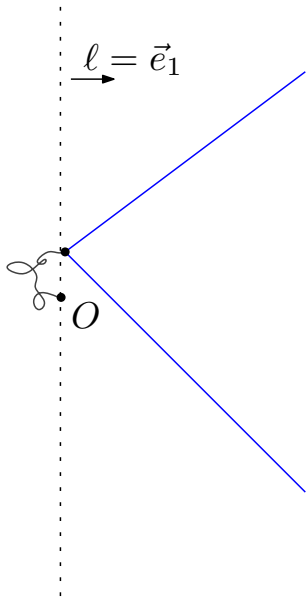
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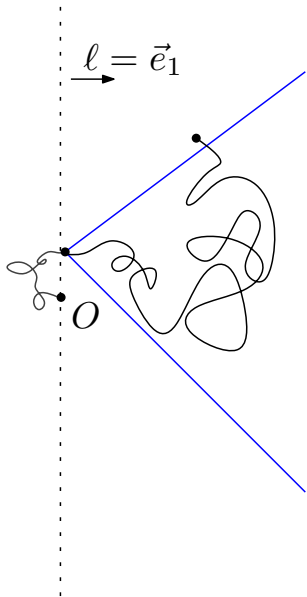
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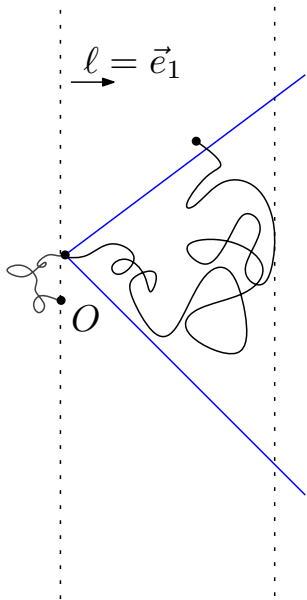
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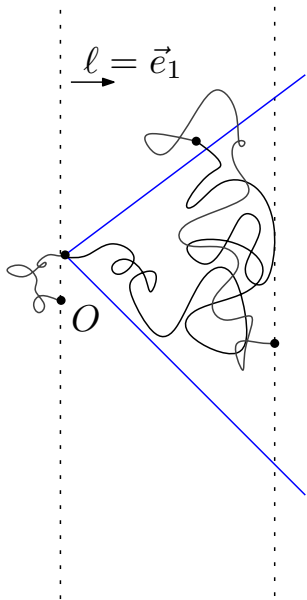
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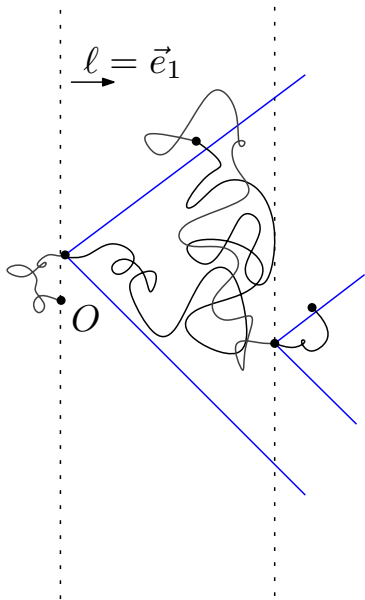


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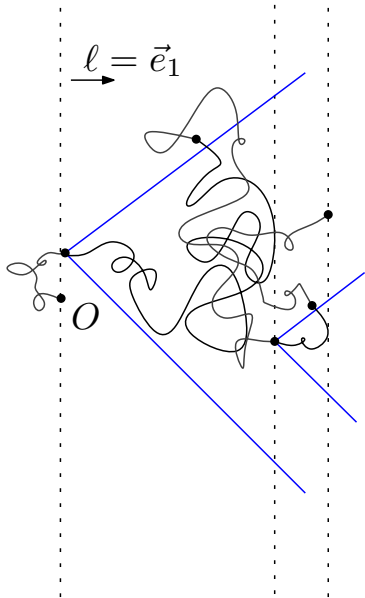




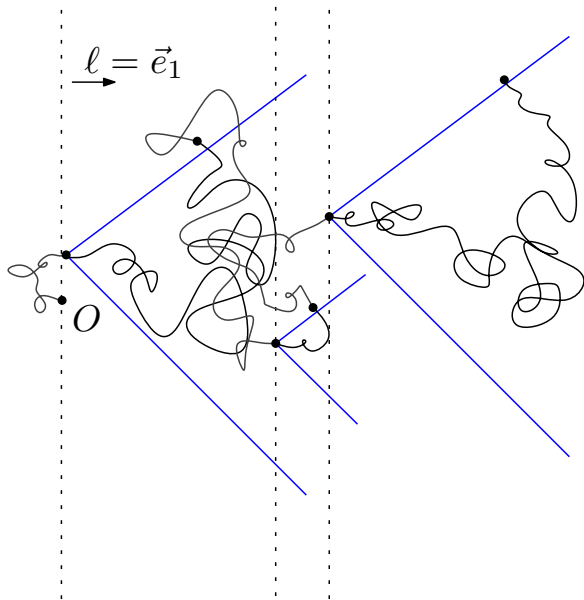
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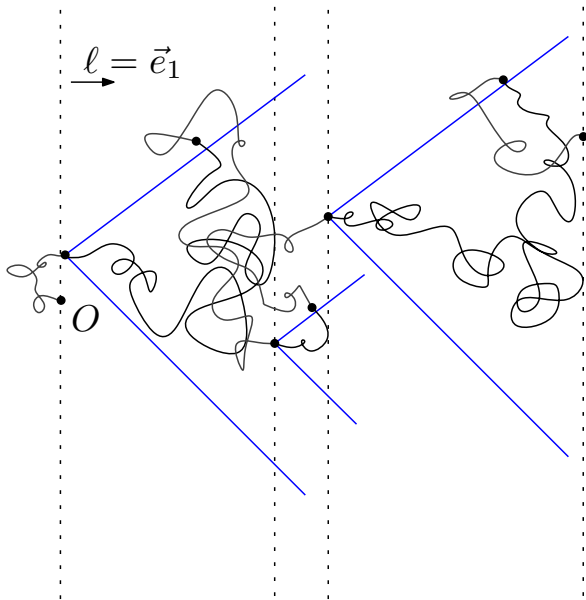
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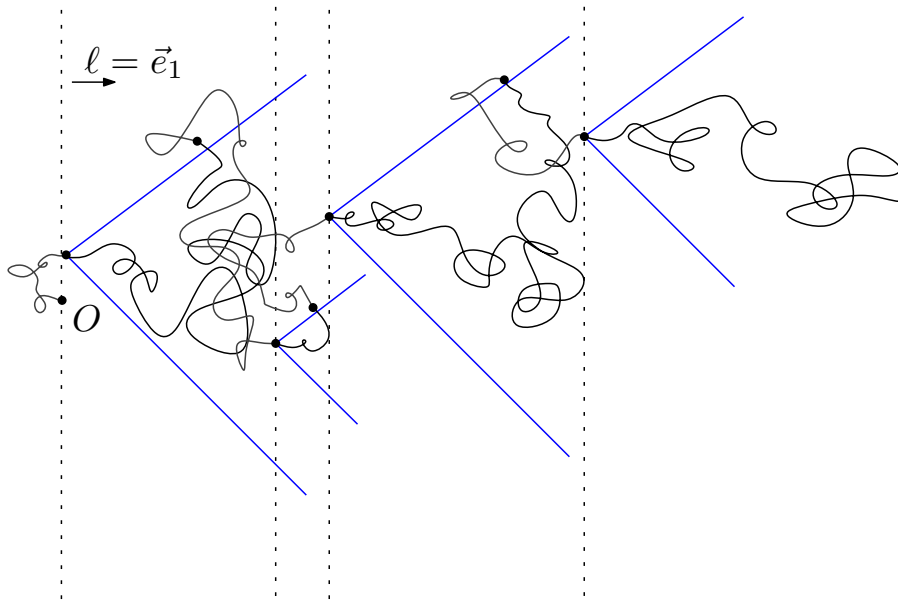
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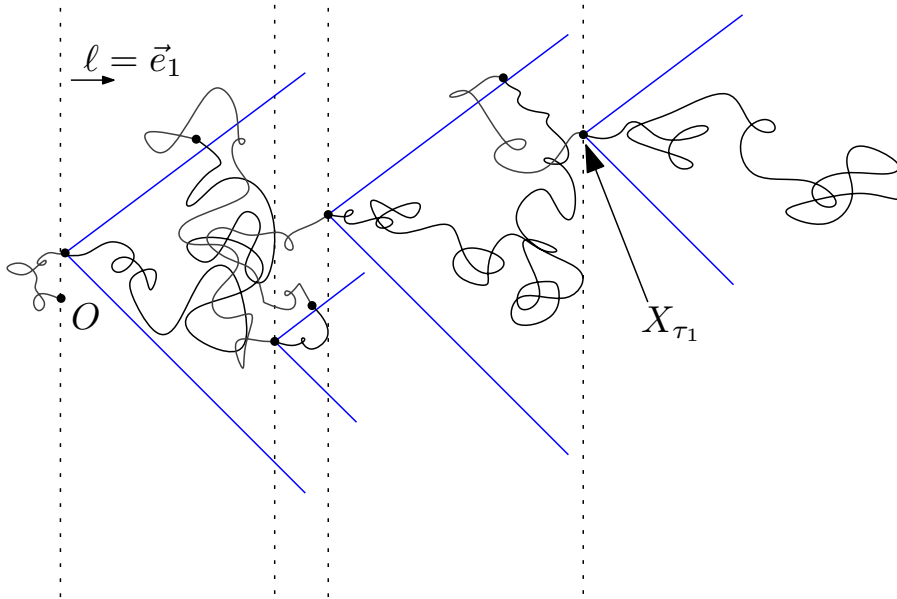
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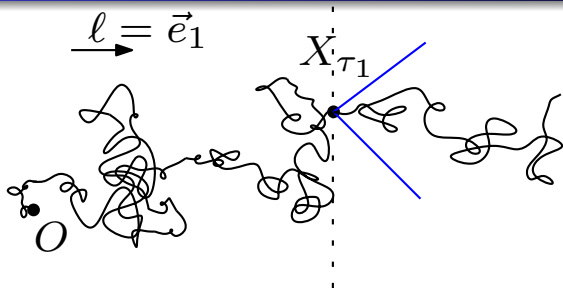
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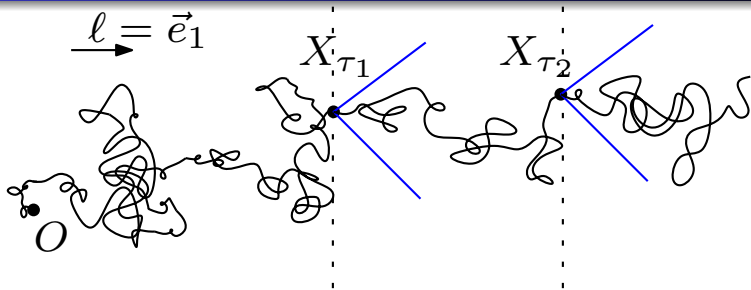
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# Asymptotic direction (renewal structure)

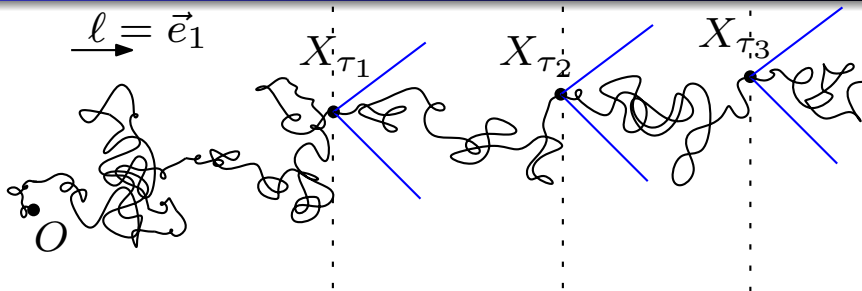


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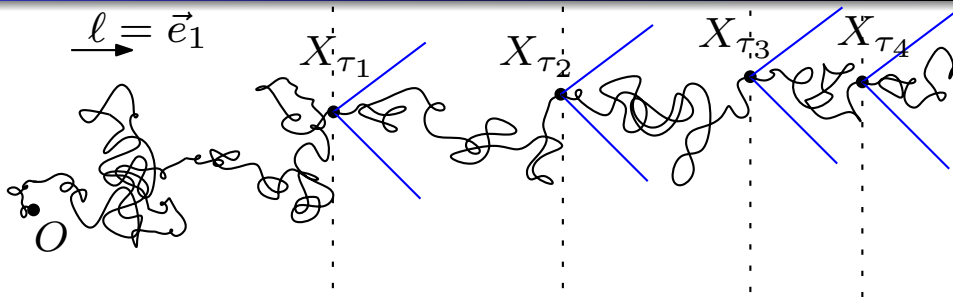




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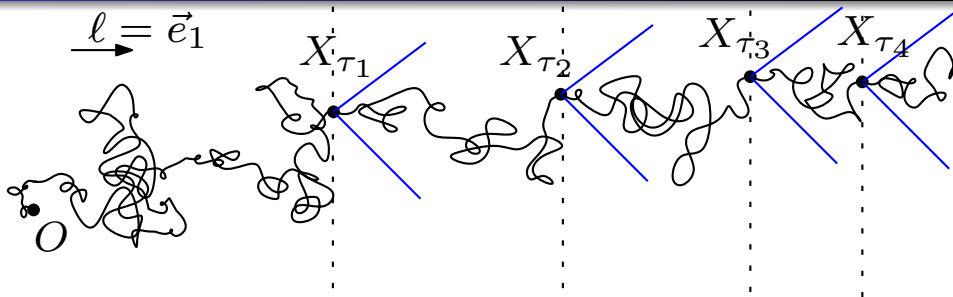
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Expected density of points in  $\{X_{\tau_k} \cdot \vec{e}_1 : k \geq 1\} \subset \mathbb{N}$ :

$$E \left[ \frac{1}{N} \# \left\{ k \leq N : \exists i, X_{\tau_i} \cdot \vec{e}_1 = k \right\} \right]$$

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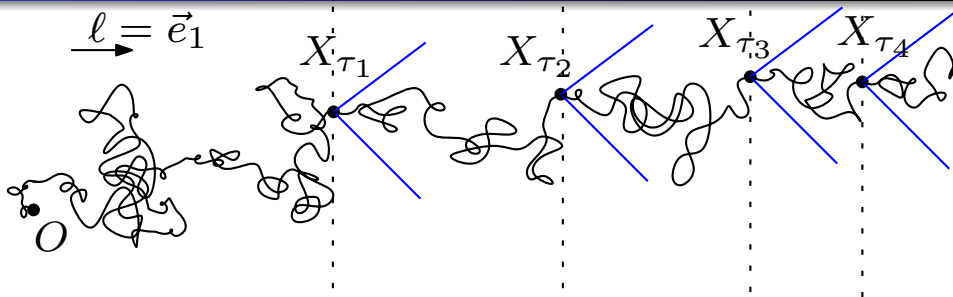


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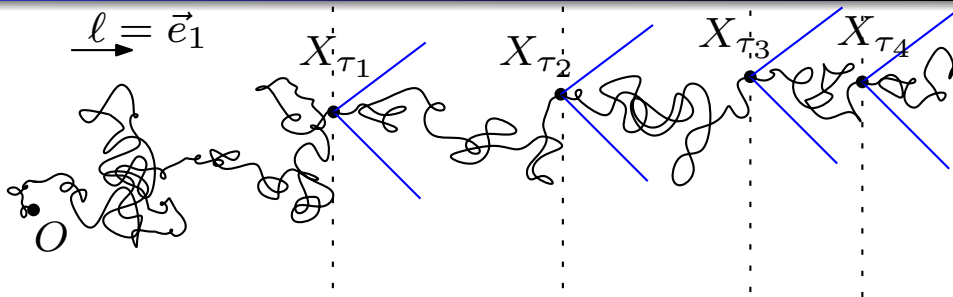
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- equals  $P(T_C = \infty)$ , by linearity of expectation;
- tends to  $\frac{1}{E[(X_{\tau_2} - X_{\tau_1}) \cdot \vec{e}_1]}$ , by LLN.

Hence  $E[(X_{\tau_2} - X_{\tau_1}) \cdot \vec{e}_1] = \frac{1}{P(T_C = \infty)} < \infty$ . And thus  $E[\|X_{\tau_2} - X_{\tau_1}\|] < \infty$ .

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$$E \left[ \frac{1}{N} \# \left\{ k \leq N : \exists i, X_{\tau_i} \cdot \vec{e}_1 = k \right\} \right]$$

- equals  $P(T_C = \infty)$ , by linearity of expectation;
- tends to  $\frac{1}{E[(X_{\tau_2} - X_{\tau_1}) \cdot \vec{e}_1]}$ , by LLN.

Hence  $E[(X_{\tau_2} - X_{\tau_1}) \cdot \vec{e}_1] = \frac{1}{P(T_C = \infty)} < \infty$ . And thus  $E[\|X_{\tau_2} - X_{\tau_1}\|] < \infty$ .

Law of large numbers:  $\frac{X_{\tau_k}}{k} \rightarrow v \neq 0$ , hence  $\frac{X_{\tau_k}}{\|X_{\tau_k}\|} \rightarrow \frac{v}{\|v\|}$ . And  $\frac{X_n}{\|X_n\|} \rightarrow \frac{v}{\|v\|}$ .

# Conclusion – Open questions

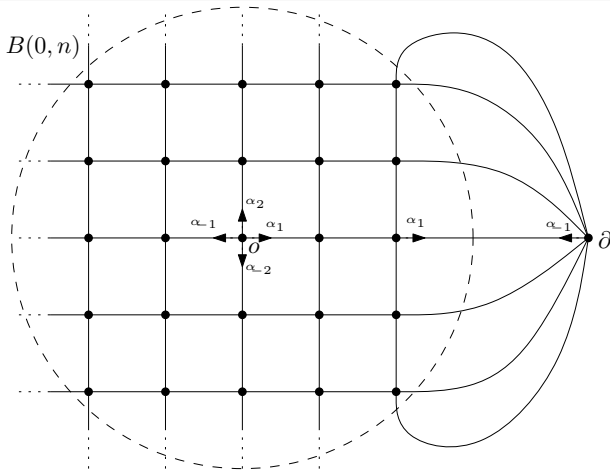
- $(d \geq 2, \kappa \leq 1)$  Limit law? ( $\|X_n\| \simeq n^\kappa$ )
- $(d \geq 2, \kappa > 1)$  Central limit theorem?
- $(d = 2, \vec{\Delta} \neq 0)$  Optimal criterion of ballisticity? ( $\kappa > 1$ ?)
- $(d = 2, \vec{\Delta} = 0)$  Recurrence?

# Transience if $d \geq 3$

## Theorem (Sabot)

If  $d \geq 3$ ,

$$|X_n| \rightarrow +\infty \quad P^{(\alpha)}\text{-a.s.}$$

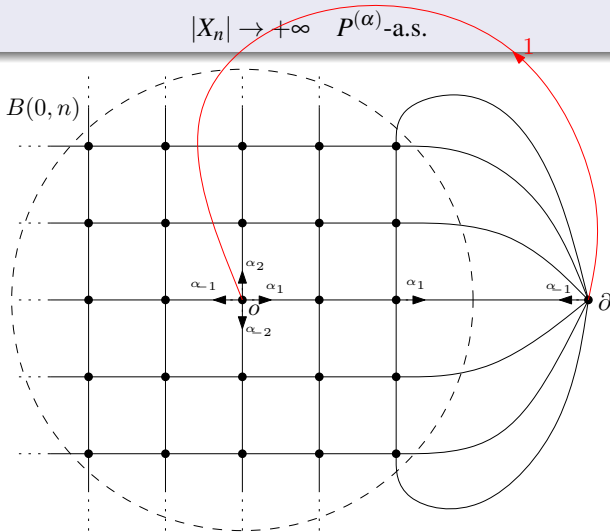


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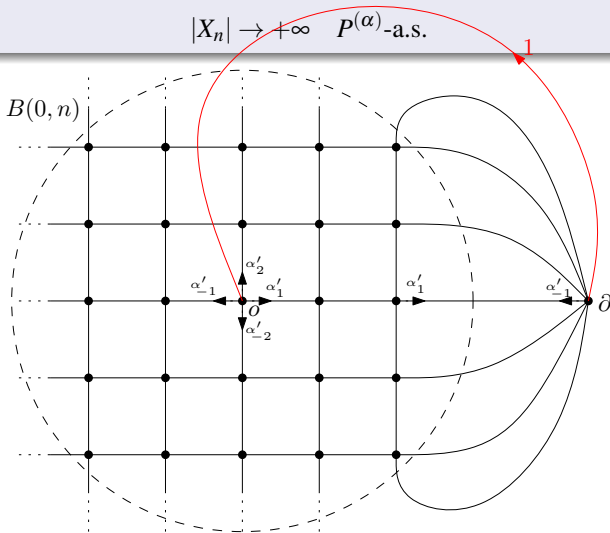


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## 0-1 law for transience

For any random walk in elliptic random environment on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ ,

$$P(|X_n| \rightarrow \infty) \in \{0, 1\}.$$

Proof: ergodicity.

# Conclusion – Open questions

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