

# Potential Theory

## (1) Definitions:

Def: For  $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $p \in P$ .

i)  $\partial A =: \{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d / A \mid p(q, x) > 0 \text{ for some } q \in A\}$ .

is outer boundary of  $A$ .  $\bar{A} =: A \cup \partial A$ .

ii)  $\partial^i A =: \partial(\mathbb{Z}^d / A)$  is inner boundary of  $A$ .

iii)  $A$  is connected if  $\forall x, y \in A, \exists p_n(x, y) > 0$ .

iv)  $f: \bar{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is  $p$ -harmonic in  $A$  if:

$$L f(q) = \sum_x p(q, x) (f(x) - f(q)) = 0, \forall q \in A.$$

prop. If  $f$  is harmonic in  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  w.r.t.  $p$ .

increment of  $S_n$ . Then:

$$M_n =: f(S_n) - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} L f(S_j) \text{ is mart.}$$

Cor. If  $f$  is harmonic in  $A$ . Then:

$$f(S_{n \wedge \bar{A}}) \text{ is mart.}$$

prop.  $p \in P_A$ .  $f: \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is h.h. and harmonic in  $\mathbb{Z}^d \Rightarrow f$  is const.

Pf: Set  $\hat{p} = \frac{1}{2} \delta_0 + \frac{1}{2} p$ . aperiodic.

$\Rightarrow f$  is also  $\hat{p}$ -harmonic.

Set  $S, \tilde{S}$  are RWs, start at  $x, y$ .

Note that:  $|f(x) - f(y)| =$

$$|\mathbb{E}(f(S_n)) - \mathbb{E}(f(\tilde{S}_n))| \leq 2\|f\| \cdot |x - y| / n^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$\rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

Remark: It's closely related to that RW will forget its starting point.

## (2) Dirichlet Problem:

Thm. (First Version)

If  $p \in \mathcal{P}_A$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ . Satisfies  $P^x(\bar{A} < \infty) = 1$ .

for  $\forall x \in A$ .  $F: \partial A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$  is khd. Then,  $\exists$

unique khd func.  $f: \bar{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$ .  $f(x) = \mathbb{E}^x(F(S_{\bar{A}}))$

st.  $f(x) = 0$  in  $A$ .  $f(x) = F(x)$  on  $\partial A$ .

pf. Note  $f(S_{n \wedge \bar{A}})$  is khd mart.

Apply the optional sampling thm

Remark: i) If  $A$  is finite. Then  $\bar{A}$  is finite.

$\Rightarrow$  All func's on  $\bar{A}$  will be finite.

So: There's unique func. satisfies these conditions.

ii) If  $A$  is infinite. There may be more than one solutions.

eg.  $A = \mathbb{Z}^{\geq 0}$ .  $F(0) = 0$ . Then.

$\{f_b(x)\}_{b \in \mathbb{R}^1} =: \{b(x)\}_{b \in \mathbb{R}^1}$  is set of solutions.

iii) When  $n=1, 2$ .  $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^n$ . By recurrence.  $A$  satisfies the condition

iv) When  $n \geq 3$ .  $\mathbb{Z}^n \setminus A$  is finite. Then.

$f(x) =: \mathbb{P}^x(\bar{Z}_A = \infty)$  is hdd function

satisfies the conditions with  $F=0$ .

on  $\partial A$ .  $\Rightarrow$  The solution isn't unique.

v) It's analogue of conti. version.

When  $f(x) = \bar{E}^x(f(B_T))$

Thm. (Second Version)

If  $p \in \mathcal{P}_A$ .  $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^n$ .  $F: \partial A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$  is hdd.

Then. the only hdd func.  $f: \bar{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$  satisfies

the Dirichlet conditions are of form.:

$f(x) = \bar{E}^x(\bar{F}(S_{\bar{Z}_A}); \bar{Z}_A < \infty) + b \mathbb{P}^x(\bar{Z}_A = \infty)$  for

some  $b \in \mathbb{R}^1$ .

Rmk. As Rmk iv) above.  $b$  can be chosen

arbitrarily in some case.

Lemma. If  $p \in P_A$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $(P^x(\bar{Z}_A = \infty)) > 0$  for

some  $x \in A$ . Then,  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists \eta \in A$  s.t.

$$(P^\eta(\bar{Z}_A = \infty)) > 1 - \varepsilon.$$

Pf: 1)  $A$  is infinite.

When  $d \leq 2$ , the condition won't hold unless  $A = \mathbb{Z}^d$ .

When  $d \geq 3$ , by transience  $\Rightarrow |A| = \infty$

$$2) \text{ Set } \tilde{B}_k = A \cap (B_{2^k} / B_{2^{k-1}}).$$

At least infinite  $\tilde{B}_k \neq \emptyset$ .

If  $\exists \eta > 0$  s.t.  $\forall \eta \in A$ ,  $(P^\eta(\bar{Z}_A = \infty)) \leq 1 - \eta$ .

$$\text{i.e. } \inf_{\eta \in A} (P^\eta(\bar{Z}_A = \infty)) \geq \eta > 0$$

$$(P^x(\bar{Z}_A < \infty)) = (P^x(\exists k, \bar{Z}_A < \infty \text{ when } S_n \text{ walks in } \tilde{B}_k))$$

$$\geq (P^x(\bar{Z}_A < \infty \text{ in } \tilde{B}_k \text{ i.o.}))$$

$$\text{But } \sum_k (P^x(\bar{Z}_A < \infty \text{ in } \tilde{B}_k)) \geq \sum_{\tilde{B}_k \neq \emptyset} \eta = \infty.$$

$$\Rightarrow (P^x(\bar{Z}_A = \infty)) = 0. \text{ Contradiction!}$$

Return to pf:

WLOG. Set  $p$  is aperiodic.  $(P^x(\bar{Z}_A = \infty)) > 0$ .

Assume  $f$  is hdd satisfying the Pirochet condition.

1) Note  $f(x) = \mathbb{E}_x (f(S_n \wedge \bar{\tau}_A))$

$$= \mathbb{E}_x (f(S_n)) - \mathbb{E}_x (f(S_n), \bar{\tau}_A < n) + \mathbb{E}_x (\varnothing)$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| \leq 2 \|f\|_\infty (\mathbb{P}^x(\bar{\tau}_A < \infty) + \mathbb{P}^y(\bar{\tau}_A < \infty))$$

2) Set  $\mathcal{U}_\varepsilon = \{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d \mid \mathbb{P}^x(\bar{\tau}_A = \infty) \geq 1 - \varepsilon\} \neq \emptyset, \forall \varepsilon > 0$ .

By 1),  $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq 4\varepsilon \|f\|_\infty, \forall x, y \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$

$$\Rightarrow \exists b, s.t. |f(x) - b| \leq 4\varepsilon \|f\|_\infty, \forall x \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon$$

3) Set  $\mathcal{C}_\varepsilon = \bar{\tau}_A \wedge \inf\{n \geq 0 \mid S_n \in \mathcal{U}_\varepsilon\} \stackrel{A}{=} \bar{\tau}_A \wedge \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_\varepsilon$ .

By optional sampling Thm:  $f(x) = \mathbb{E}_x (f(S_{\mathcal{C}_\varepsilon}))$

$$\stackrel{A}{=} A + B = \mathbb{E} (F(S_{\bar{\tau}_A}), \bar{\tau}_A \leq \mathcal{C}_\varepsilon) + \mathbb{E} (f(S_{\mathcal{C}_\varepsilon}), \dots)$$

Note  $\mathcal{U}_\varepsilon \downarrow \emptyset$  as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{C}}_\varepsilon \rightarrow \infty, \varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

$(\mathbb{P}^z(\bar{\tau}_A < \infty))^{1/2} > 0, \exists \tilde{z} \in \mathbb{Z}^d, \exists \text{ path } z \rightarrow \tilde{z}$

$A \rightarrow \mathbb{E}_x (F(S_{\bar{\tau}_A}), \bar{\tau}_A < \infty), \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

$$|B - b| \mathbb{P}^x(\bar{\tau}_A > \mathcal{C}_\varepsilon) \leq 4\varepsilon \|f\|_\infty \mathbb{P}^x(\bar{\tau}_A > \mathcal{C}_\varepsilon) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} 0$$

Rmk: It's generalization of first version.

$b$  can be written as  $F(\infty)$ .

Def: For  $p \in \mathbb{P}_d, A \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ . Poisson kernel is  $H$ :

$A \times \partial A \rightarrow [0,1]$ . Def by  $H_A(x, \eta) = \mathbb{P}^x(\bar{\tau}_A < \infty,$

$S_{\bar{\tau}_A} = \eta)$ . Remote  $H_A(x, \infty) = \mathbb{P}^x(\bar{\tau}_A = \infty)$ .

Rmk: i) Note that  $\sum_{\eta \in \partial A} H_A(x, \eta) = \mathbb{P}^x(\bar{\tau}_A < \infty)$ .

ii)  $f(x) =: H_A(x, \eta)$  is func. on  $\bar{A}$  is harmonic. If  $p$  is recurrent  $\Rightarrow f$  is unique. If  $p$  is transient  $\Rightarrow f$  is unique func. st.  $\rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

Pf:  $H_A(x, \eta) \leq P^x(\bar{z}_\eta < \infty)$   
 $= h(x, \eta) / h(x, x) \sim \frac{1}{|x - \eta|^{d-2}} \rightarrow 0$

iii)  $\mathbb{E}^x(F(\bar{S}_{\bar{z}_A})) = \sum_{\eta \in \partial A} H_A(x, \eta) F(\eta)$

Prop. If  $p \in P_A$ ,  $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $g: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}'$  is func. with finite support. Then  $f(x) = \mathbb{E}^x(\sum_{1 \leq j < \bar{z}_A} g(\bar{S}_j))$  is unique bdd func. on  $\bar{A}$  st.  
 $f(x) = 0$  on  $\partial A$ .  $\mathcal{L}f(x) = -g(x)$  on  $A$ .

Pf:  $M_n =: f(\bar{S}_{n \wedge \bar{z}_A}) + \sum_{j=0}^{\bar{z}_{A \wedge n}-1} g(\bar{S}_j)$  is mart.

Cor. If  $p \in P_A$ ,  $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d$ , finite set.  $F: \partial A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}'$ ,  $g: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}'$  are given. Then  $f(x) = \mathbb{E}^x(F(\bar{S}_{\bar{z}_A})) + \mathbb{E}^x(\sum_{j=0}^{\bar{z}_A-1} g(\bar{S}_j))$  is unique bdd func. on  $\bar{A}$  st.  $\mathcal{L}f(x) = -g(x)$  on  $A$ ,  $f(x) = F(x)$  on  $\partial A$ .

(3) Properties of harmonic:

Define:  $B_n = \{ |z| < n \}$ .  $C_n = \{ J(x) < n \}$ .

$$S_n =: \mathcal{Z}C_n, \quad S_n^* =: \mathcal{Z}B_n.$$

prop. For  $p \in P_d$ ,  $d \geq 3$ ,  $x \in \partial C_n \cup \partial' C_n$ . Then,

$$h(x) = \frac{C_d}{n^{d-2}} + O(n^{1-d}), \quad d \geq 3.$$

$$h(x) = C_2 \log n + \gamma_2 + O(n^{-1}), \quad d=2$$

where  $C_d, C_2, \gamma_2$  are defined as before

Pf:  $J(x) = n + O(1)$  for  $x \in \partial C_n \cup \partial' C_n$ .

$$\Rightarrow (n + O(1))^{d-2} = n^{d-2} + O(n^{d-3}).$$

$$\log(n + O(1)) = \log n + O(n^{-1}).$$

prop. For  $p \in P_d$ ,  $h_{C_n}(0,0) = h(0,0) - \frac{C_d}{n^{d-2}} + O(n^{1-d})$ ,  $d \geq 3$

and  $h_{C_n}(0,0) = C_2 \log n + \gamma_2 + O(n^{-1})$ ,  $d=2$ , holds

Pf: By  $h_{C_n}(0,x) = h(0,x) + \mathbb{E}(h(S_{2n},x))$ ,  $d \geq 3$

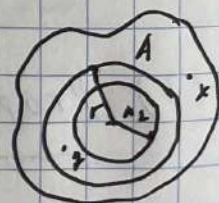
$$h_{C_n}(0,x) = \mathbb{E}(h(S_{2n},x)), \quad d=2$$

Lemma. For  $p \in P_d$ ,  $d \geq 2$ . Then,  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ ,  $r < \infty$ ,  $\exists c$  s.t.

if  $B_{\epsilon n} \subset A \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ , then,  $\forall |x| > n\epsilon$ ,  $|y| \leq r$ ,

$$|h_A(0,x) - h_A(y,x)| \leq c/n^{d-1}$$

$$|2h_A(0,x) - h_A(y,x) - h_A(-y,x)| \leq c/n^d.$$



Pf: By the equations used in the last prop.

Lemma. For  $p \in \mathcal{P}_A$ .  $n \geq 2$ . Then,  $\exists C_1, C_2 < \infty$ .

st. for  $n$  large enough, we have:

$$\mathbb{P}^x(S_{2C_1/C_2} \in (C_1/n, 2C_1/n) \geq C_1/n, \text{ if } x \in \bar{C}_n / C_{n/2}$$

$$\mathbb{P}^x(S_{2C_1/C_{n/2}} \in (C_1/n, 2C_1/n) \leq C_2/n, \text{ if } x \in \partial C_n.$$

Rmk: The exit prob. can be bounded

depending on how close  $x$  near

the boundary of  $C_n$ .

Prop. (last - exit formula)

If  $p \in \mathcal{P}_A$ ,  $x \in B \subset A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $\eta \in \partial A$ . Then.

$$H_A(x, \eta) = \sum_{z \in B} h_A(x, z) \mathbb{P}^z(S_{2A/B} = \eta).$$

$$H_A(x, \eta) = \sum_{z \in A} h_A(x, z) \mathbb{P}(z, \eta), \text{ in particular.}$$

Pf:  $\mathbb{P}^x(Z_A < \infty, S_{Z_A} = \eta) = \mathbb{P}^x(Z_B < Z_A < \infty, S_{Z_A/B} = \eta)$

$$= \sum_{k, z \in B} \mathbb{P}(Z_B = k, Z_A > k, S_{Z_B} = z, S_{Z_A/B} = \eta)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{M.P.}}{=} \sum_{z \in B} \mathbb{P}^z(S_{2A/B} = \eta) \sum_{k \geq 0} \mathbb{P}(Z_A > k, S_k = z)$$

The second is similar.  $B = A / \partial A$ .

Lemma. If  $p \in \mathcal{P}_A$ . Then, for  $n$  large enough,

$$H_{C_n}(x, \eta) \sim n^{1-d} \text{ for } x \in C_{n/4}, \eta \in \partial C_n.$$

Pf: By last - exit formula.

### Thm (Difference estimate)

If  $p \in \mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $r < \infty$ . Then,  $\exists c, \delta$ , for  $n$  large enough. The following holds:

i)  $g: \bar{B}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , harmonic in  $B_n$ ,  $|g| \leq r$ .

$$|\nabla g(x)| \leq c \|g\|_n / n, \quad |\nabla^2 g(x)| \leq c \|g\|_n / n^2.$$

ii)  $f: \bar{B}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ , harmonic in  $B_n$ ,  $|f| \leq r$ .

$$|\nabla f(x)| \leq c f(x) / n, \quad |\nabla^2 f(x)| \leq c f(x) / n^2.$$

Pf: Only prove i). ii) is similar.

By MVT, for  $G_{2n} \subset B_n$ ,  $B_r \subset G_{\frac{n}{2}}$ .

$$f(x) = \sum_{z \in G_{2n}} H_{G_{2n}}(x, z) f(z).$$

Set  $h(x) = H_{G_{2n}}(x, z)$ .  $\Rightarrow$  prove it for  $h$ .

By last exit formula on  $G_{2n} \supset G_n$ .

With estimate of  $H$  (1):  $f(x) \leq c f(y)$

### Thm (Harnack inequality)

If  $p \in \mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , open connected,  $K \subset U$ ,

cpt. Then, there exists  $c = c(K, U, p) < \infty$ ,

and  $N = N(K, U, p)$ , for  $\forall n \geq N$ , and

$f: \overline{nU} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ , harmonic in  $nU$ , we have:

$$f(x) \leq c f(y), \quad \text{for } \forall x, y \in nK.$$

Pf. By estimate above.  $f(x) \leq C f(y)$ .

if  $|x-y| \leq \delta \cdot \lambda(x, \partial U_n)$ . for some  $C$ .

Def:  $z, w$  are adjacent if  $|z-w| \leq \frac{\delta}{4} \cdot \lambda(z, \partial U_n) \vee \lambda(w, \partial U_n)$ .

Set  $e(z, w) = \min \{ k \geq 0 \mid \exists (z_i)_{i=1}^k, z_1 = z, z_k = w, \text{ s.t. } (z_i, z_{i+1}) \text{ is adjacent} \}$ .

Set  $V_k = \{ w \in U \mid e(z, w) \leq k \} \Rightarrow U = \bigcup_{k \geq 0} V_k$ .

By cpt of  $k$ . cover is by finite  $V_k$ .

prop. If  $p \in \mathcal{P}_\lambda$ ,  $\lambda \geq 3$ .  $\mathbb{Z}^\lambda / A$  is finite.  $f: \mathbb{Z}^\lambda \rightarrow \mathbb{R}'$  is harmonic and  $f(x) = o(|x|)$  as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ .

Then.  $\exists b \in \mathbb{R}'$  for  $\forall x$ .  $f(x) = \mathbb{E}_x (f(S_{\bar{z}_A}), \bar{z}_A < \infty) + b \mathbb{P}^x (S_{\bar{z}_A} = \infty)$

Lemma. If  $p \in \mathcal{P}_\lambda$ ,  $\lambda \geq 3$ ,  $m \leq n/4$ ,  $C_n / C_m \subset A \subset C_n$ .  $x \in C_{2m}$ .  $\mathbb{P}^x (S_{2A} \in \partial C_n) > 0$ .  $z \in \partial C_n$ . Then.  $\mathbb{P}^x (S_{2A} = z \mid S_{2A} \in \partial C_n) = H_{C_n}(x, z) (1 + O(\frac{m}{n}))$  for  $n$  large enough.

Pf: WLOG. Set  $0 \in A$ .  $f(x) \equiv 0$  on  $\mathbb{Z}^\lambda / A$ .

(Or set  $\tilde{f}(x) = f(x) - \mathbb{E}_x (f(S_{\bar{z}_A}), \bar{z}_A < \infty)$ )

(i) Note  $0 = f(0) = \mathbb{E} (f(S_1)) = \sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^\lambda / A} h_{C_n}(0, y) f(y)$ .

Set  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Then  $\lim_n \mathbb{E}(f(s_n)) =: b$

$$= \sum_{\eta \in \mathbb{Z}^d/A} h(\eta) \cdot \mathbb{E}(f(\eta)) \quad (\text{by } \mathbb{Z}^d/A \text{ is finite})$$

2) By optional sampling:

$$f(x) = \mathbb{P}^x(Z_A > \tau_n) \mathbb{E}^x(f(s_n) | Z_A > \tau_n) \\ \text{for } x \in A \cap C_n.$$

3) By sublinearity of  $f$ :  $\exists \varepsilon_n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$ , s.t.

$$|f(x) - f(y)| \leq 2n \varepsilon_n \quad \text{for } x, y \in \partial C_n.$$

$$4) \quad |\mathbb{E}^x(f(s_n) | Z_A > \tau_n) - \mathbb{E}(f(s_n))| \stackrel{w \in \partial C_n}{=}$$

$$\sum_{z \in \partial C_n} (f(z) - f(w)) (\mathbb{P}^x(s_n = z | Z_A > \tau_n) - \mathbb{P}_n(w, z))$$

Sum up  $w \in \partial C_n$  and divided  $|\partial C_n|$ .

$$\text{Note by lemma. } |\mathbb{P}^x(s_n = z | Z_A > \tau_n) - \mathbb{P}_n(w, z)|$$

$$\leq C \cdot \frac{|x|}{n} \mathbb{P}_n(0, z).$$

$$\Rightarrow |\mathbb{E}^x(f(s_n) | Z_A > \tau_n) - \mathbb{E}(f(s_n))|$$

$$\leq C \cdot \frac{|x|}{n} \sum_{\partial C_n} |f(x) - f(y)| \leq C|x| \varepsilon_n \rightarrow 0.$$

5) By 4) set  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in 2).

prop. If  $p \in P$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$ , finite, contain origin. Then,

$$g_A(x) =: \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (2 \log n \cdot \mathbb{P}^x(s_n \in \bar{z} \mathbb{Z}^2/A)) \text{ exists.}$$

$$\text{and } g_A(x-\eta) = h(x-\eta) - \mathbb{E}^x(h(s_{\bar{z}/n} - \eta)) \text{ for } \eta \in A.$$

Rmk: We can express the limit of exit prob. into potential kernel.

prop. If  $p \in \mathcal{P}_2$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$  finite,  $f: \mathbb{Z}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is harmonic on  $\mathbb{Z}^2/A$ , vanishes on  $A$ , and  $f(x) = O(|x|)$  ( $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ ). Then  $f = b g_A$  for some  $b$ .

Pf: 1)  $\mathbb{E}(f(S_{\tau_n})) = \sum_{\eta \in A} h_{\eta} \langle \eta, \eta \rangle \int f(\eta)$   
 $= c \log n \sum_A \int f(\eta) + O(1).$

2) As 4) step in former prop.

$$|\mathbb{E}(f(S_{\tau_n/A \cap \mathbb{Z}_n}) | \mathbb{Z}_n < T) - \mathbb{E}(f(S_{\tau_n}))|$$

$$\leq c \frac{|x| \log n}{n} \sup_{\eta \in \mathbb{Z}_n} |f(\eta) - f(\eta)| \leq c |x| \log n.$$

3) By prop. above,  $f(x) = \mathbb{E}^x(f(S_{\tau_n/A \cap \mathbb{Z}_n}))$   
 $= g_A(x) \sum_A \int f(\eta) + O(1).$

#### (4) Capacity:

① Dimension  $\geq 3$ :

Def: Let  $T_A = \tau_{\mathbb{Z}^d/A}$ ,  $\bar{T}_A = \tau_{\bar{\mathbb{Z}^d/A}}$  for  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ .

If  $p \in \mathcal{P}_\lambda$ ,  $\lambda \geq 3$ ,  $c_A(x) =: \mathbb{P}^x(T_A = \infty)$  and

$$g_A(x) =: \mathbb{P}^x(\bar{T}_A = \infty)$$

Defn: i)  $e_A(x) \geq 0$  if  $x \in A/\partial A$

ii)  $f_A(x)$  is unique func on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  that is zero on  $A$ . harmonic on  $\mathbb{Z}^d/A$ .

st.  $f_A(x) \rightarrow 1$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

iii)  $\int f_A(x) = e_A(x)$ . by Markov prop.

Define capacity of  $A$  is  $\text{cap}(A) = \sum_{x \in A} e_A(x)$

prop. (Motivation of Def)

For  $p \in \mathbb{P}_d$ .  $d \geq 3$ .  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$  finite. Then:  $\mathbb{P}^x(T_A < \infty) =$

$$\frac{C_d \text{cap}(A)}{f(x)^{d-2}} \cdot (1 + O(\frac{\text{rad}(A)}{|x|})) \text{ for } |x| \geq 2 \text{rad}(A)$$

Lemma.  $\mathbb{P}^x(T_A < \infty) = \sum_{\eta \in A} h(x, \eta) e_A(\eta)$ .

Pf: By last exit decomposition

prop. For  $p \in \mathbb{P}_d$ .  $d \geq 3$ .  $\text{cap}(C_n) = n^{d-2}/C_d + O(n^{d-1})$

Pf: Note  $1 = \mathbb{P}^0(T_n < \infty) = \sum_{\eta \in C_n} h(0, \eta) e_{C_n}(\eta)$

$$\text{with } h(0, \eta) = C_d n^{2-d} (1 + O(n^{-1}))$$

prop. If  $p \in \mathbb{P}_d$ .  $d \geq 3$ .  $A, B \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$  finite. Then: we have,

$$\text{cap}(A \cup B) \leq \text{cap}(A) + \text{cap}(B) - \text{cap}(A \cap B)$$

Pf:  $\mathbb{P}^x(T_{A \cup B} < \infty) = \mathbb{P}^x(T_A < \infty \text{ or } T_B < \infty)$

$$= \mathbb{P}^x(T_A < \tau_n) + \mathbb{P}^x(T_B < \tau_n) - \mathbb{P}^x(T_A < \tau_n, T_B < \tau_n) \\ \leq \mathbb{P}^x(T_A < \tau_n) + \mathbb{P}^x(T_B < \tau_n) - \mathbb{P}^x(T_{A \cap B} < \tau_n)$$

Lemma.  $\text{cap}(A) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \mathbb{P}^x(T_A < \tau_n)$

Pf: By symmetry of path.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x \in A} \mathbb{P}^x(T_A < \tau_n) &= \sum_A \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \mathbb{P}^x(\delta_{T_A} x_n = 1) \\ &= \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \mathbb{P}^x(\tau_n > T_A) \end{aligned}$$

So let  $n \rightarrow \infty$  obtain the result.

Def: For  $p \in \mathbb{P}_A$ ,  $d \geq 3$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ , the harmonic measure of  $A$  is  $h_A(x) = \mathbb{E}_A(x) / \text{cap}(A)$ ,  $x \in A$ .

prop. If  $A \in \mathcal{C}_{\text{fin}}$ ,  $\eta \in \mathcal{C}_n$ . Then we have:

$$\mathbb{P}^\eta(\delta_{T_A} = x \mid T_A < \infty) = h_A(x) \left( 1 + O\left(\frac{\text{rad}(A)}{\eta}\right) \right)$$

$$\text{So: } \lim_{\eta \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}^\eta(\delta_{T_A} = x \mid T_A < \infty) = h_A(x).$$

prop. For  $p \in \mathbb{P}_A$ ,  $d \geq 3$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ , finite. Then:

$$\text{cap}(A) = \sup \left\{ \sum_A f(x) \mid f \geq 0, \text{supp}(f) = A, \Delta f \leq 1 \right\}.$$

$$= \inf \left\{ \sum_A f(x) \mid f \geq 0, \text{supp}(f) = A, \Delta f \geq 1 \right\}.$$

Pf: By Lemma. above. proved as before.

prop. For  $p, q \in \mathcal{P}_\lambda$ ,  $\lambda \geq 3$ ,  $\text{cap}_p, \text{cap}_q$  are corresponding capacity. Then  $\exists \delta = \delta(p, q)$ .  
 so,  $\forall A \subset \mathbb{Z}^\lambda$ ,  $\delta \text{cap}_p(A) \leq \text{cap}_q(A) \leq \delta^{-1} \text{cap}_p(A)$ .

Rmk. capacity of different RW are comparable in same dimension.

Def. For  $p \in \mathcal{P}_\lambda$ ,  $\lambda \geq 3$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^\lambda$  is recurrent if  $\mathbb{P}(S_n \in A, i.o.) = 1$ .

Rmk. i) Finite sets are transient.  
 ii) Finite union of transient sets is transient.

iii) Note  $\{S_n \in A, i.o.\}$  is exchangeable  
 $\stackrel{\text{0-1 law}}{\Rightarrow} \mathbb{P}(S_n \in A, i.o.) \in \{0, 1\}$ .

iv)  $\sum_{x \in A} L(x) < \infty \Rightarrow A$  is transient.

pf: LHS =  $\mathbb{E}(\sum_{x \in A} I(S_n \in x))$

Lemma. For  $p \in \mathcal{P}_\lambda$ ,  $\lambda \geq 3$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^\lambda$ . Then  $A$  is transient  $\Leftrightarrow \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(T^k < \infty) < \infty$ , where

$T^k =: T_{A^k}$ ,  $A^k = A \cap C_{2^k}/C_{2^{k+1}}$ .

Pf: Set  $E_k = \{T_k < \infty\}$ . Note:

$A$  is transient  $\Leftrightarrow P(x \in E_k, i, 0) = 0$ .

Since RW is transient. So it will visit infinite  $(A_k)$ .

So we obtain  $(\Leftarrow)$  by B-L Lemma.

Cor. (Wiener's test.)

If  $p \in P_A$ ,  $\lambda \geq 3$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^A$ . Then  $A$  is transient  $\Leftrightarrow \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{(2-\lambda)k} \text{cap}(A_k) < \infty$ .

Remark: If  $A$  is transient w.r.t some  $p \in P_A$ . Then  $A$  is transient w.r.t all  $p \in P_A$ .

Pf:  $P(T^k < \infty) \leq 2^{(2-\lambda)k} \text{cap}(A_k)$ .

Thm. If  $\lambda \geq 3$ ,  $p \in P_A$ .  $S_n$  is  $p$ -walk.  $A =: S[0, \infty)$ .

Then  $A$  is recurrent if  $\lambda = 3, 4$ . it's transient if  $\lambda \geq 5$ .

Remark: Note that in  $B_n$ , the number of points visited by RW  $\sim n^2$ .

$\Rightarrow$  trajectory of RW can be seen as 2-dim set.

It's equi. to ask if 2 2-dim sets will intersect.

② Dimension = 2?

Def: Use the prop. before to define  $g_A(x)$   
in  $p \in P_2$ .  $g_A(x) := N(x) - \mathbb{E}_x(N(S_T^A))$

Prop. For  $p \in P_2$ .  $\lim_{|q| \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}^q(S_T^A = x) = \mathcal{L}g_A(x)$ .

Def: i) For  $p \in P_2$ . harmonic measure of  $A$  is  
 $h_{p,A}(x) := \lim_{|q| \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}^q(S_T^A = x)$ .

Remark: Note  $\mathbb{P}^n(S_T^A < \infty) = 1$  in  $\dim = 2$ .  
it's consistent with Def before.

ii) capacity of  $A$  is  $\text{cap}(A) := \lim_{q \rightarrow \infty} (\alpha(q) - g_A(q)) = \lim_{q \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}_q(N(S_T^A)) = \sum_{x \in A} h_{p,A}(x) N(x)$ .

Remark: By estimate of  $\alpha(x) \sim \log|x| + \gamma_2$ :

$$\lim_{q \rightarrow \infty} \alpha(q-z) - \alpha(q) = 0. \text{ So for } z \in A.$$

$$\text{cap}(A) = \sum_{x \in A} h_{p,A}(x) N(x-z).$$

Prop. For  $p \in P_2$

i) If  $A \subset B \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ . Then  $g_A(x) \geq g_B(x)$ .  $\forall x$ .  
and  $\text{cap}(A) \leq \text{cap}(B)$ .

ii) If  $A, B \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ . Then  $g_{A \cup B}(x) \geq g_A(x) + g_B(x) - g_{A \cap B}(x)$ . and  $\text{cap}(A \cup B) \leq \text{cap}(A) + \text{cap}(B) - \text{cap}(A \cap B)$

prop. For  $p \in P_+$ .  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cap}(A) &= \frac{1}{\sup \left\{ \sum_A f(\eta) \mid f \geq 0, \Delta_A f \leq 1 \text{ on } A \right\}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\inf \left\{ \sum_A f(\eta) \mid f \geq 0, \Delta_A f \geq 1 \text{ on } A \right\}}. \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Delta_A f(x) =: \sum_{\eta \in A} \Delta(x, \eta) f(\eta)$ .

prop. For  $p \in P_+$ .  $\text{cap}(C_n) = c_2 \log n + \gamma_2 + O(n^{-1})$ .

Pf: Use asymptotic estimate of  $\gamma_n$ .

prop. For  $p \in P_+$ .  $A \subset B \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$ . Then.  $\text{cap}(A)$

$$= \text{cap}(B) - \sum_B \text{hmb}(\eta) \gamma_A(\eta).$$

Pf: Note  $\gamma_A - \gamma_B$  is h.h. harmonic in  $\mathbb{Z}^2/B$  with boundary value  $\gamma_A$  on  $B$ . (\*)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cap}(A) - \text{cap}(B) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (\gamma_B(x) - \gamma_A(x)) \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (\mathbb{E}_x (\gamma_B(\tilde{S}_{\tilde{T}_0}) - \gamma_A(\tilde{S}_{\tilde{T}_0})) \\ &\stackrel{(*)}{=} \sum_B \text{hmb}(\eta) \gamma_A(\eta) \end{aligned}$$

## (5) Neumann Problem:

Def: i) For  $p \in P_+$ .  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$ .  $f: \bar{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . its normal

derivative at  $\eta \in \partial A$  is:

$$Df(\eta) = \sum_{x \in A} p(\eta, x) (f(x) - f(\eta))$$

ii) Given  $D^*: \partial A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}'$ , the Neumann problem is to find  $f: \bar{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}'$  st.

$$\begin{cases} \Delta f = 0 & \text{on } A. \\ Df = D^* & \text{on } \partial A. \end{cases}$$

Lemma. If  $p \in \partial A$ ,  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $f: \bar{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}'$ . Then:

$$\sum_{x \in A} \Delta f(x) = - \sum_{\eta \in \partial A} Df(\eta)$$

Rmk. So a necessary condition of existence of solution is  $\sum_{\partial A} D^*(\eta) = 0$ . It's a LS with dimension =  $\# \partial A - 1$ .

Pf. LHS =  $\sum_{x \in A} \sum_{\eta \in \partial A} p(x, \eta) (f(\eta) - f(x))$

$$= \sum_{x \in A} \sum_{\eta \in A} p(x, \eta) + \sum_{x \in A} \sum_{\eta \in \partial A} p(x, \eta)$$

But  $\sum_{x, \eta \in A} p(x, \eta) = 0$  by the sym of RW.

Def.  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . Extrinsic Poisson kernel is  $M_{\partial A}: \partial A \times \partial A \rightarrow [0, 1]$ . Defined by  $M_{\partial A}(\eta, z) =$

$$P^A(z, \eta, x) = \sum_{x \in A} p(\eta, x) M_A(x, z).$$

Lemma. For  $f: \bar{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}'$  harmonic in  $A$ . Then:

$$Df(\eta) = \sum_{z \in \partial A} M_{\partial A}(\eta, z) (f(z) - f(\eta)).$$

Pf: RHS =  $\sum_{z \in \partial A} \sum_{x \in A} p(\eta, x) H_A(x, z) (f(z) - f(\eta))$

$$= \sum_{x \in A} p(\eta, x) \left( \sum_{z \in \partial A} H_A(x, z) f(z) - f(\eta) \right)$$

$$= \text{LHS}.$$

Cor. For  $H(x) = H_A(x, z)$ . Then:

$$D H(\eta) = H_{\partial A}(\eta, z), \text{ for } \eta \in \partial A / \{z\}.$$

$$D H(z) = H_{\partial A}(z, z) - p^z(S, \in A).$$

Remark: Note  $\sum_{z \in \partial A} H_{\partial A}(\eta, z) = p^{\eta}(S, \in A) \leq 1$

Set  $\tilde{H}_{\partial A}(\eta, z) = H_{\partial A}(\eta, z), \eta \neq z.$

and  $\tilde{H}_{\partial A}(z, z) = 1 - \sum_{\eta \in \partial A, \eta \neq z} \tilde{H}_{\partial A}(\eta, z)$

$$\Rightarrow D f(\eta) = \sum_{z \in \partial A} \tilde{H}_{\partial A}(\eta, z) (f(z) - f(\eta))$$

still holds, i.e.  $D f = (\tilde{H}_{\partial A} - I) f$

Lemma. Rank of  $\tilde{H}_{\partial A} - I$  is  $\# \partial A - 1$ .

Pf: Note  $\forall c \in \mathbb{R}^1, (\tilde{H}_{\partial A} - I)(f+c) = (\tilde{H}_{\partial A} - I)f$

$$\Rightarrow \dim \ker(\tilde{H}_{\partial A} - I) \geq 1.$$

But when  $\tilde{H}_{\partial A} - I$  restricts on the space of harmonic func. its images will contain a LS with  $\dim = \# \partial A - 1$ .

$$\text{So: } \dim \ker(\tilde{H}_{\partial A} - I) = 1.$$

Def: For  $p \in P_A$ . Define a random walk "reflection off  $\partial A$ ". by:  $z(x, y) = p(x, y)$ ,  $x, y \in A$ .  $z(x, y) = p(x, y)$  if  $x \neq y \in \partial A$ .  $z(x, x) = 1 - \sum_{\substack{z \in A \\ z \neq x}} z(x, z)$ .

Remark: The RW can move as  $p$  in  $A$ .  
When in  $y \in \partial A$ , it only moves to  $A \cup \{y\}$ .

Prop. For  $p \in P_A$ .  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ , finite, connected.  $D^*$ :  $\partial A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Satisfies  $\sum_{\partial A} D^*(y) = 0$ . Then  $\exists f$  solves Neumann problem for  $D^*$ , which's unique up to a const. One such func. is:  
 $f(x) = - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}^x \left( \sum_{j=1}^n D^*(Y_j) \mathbb{I}_{\{Y_j \in \partial A\}} \right)$ , where  $Y \sim z$  as def above.

Pf: 1) Uniqueness is from Lemma. above

2)  $z$  is irred. sym. having stat. dist.  
 $z(x) = 1 / \# \partial A$ .

It's easy to check  $f(x)$  satisfies the condition after proving it's convergent.

$$\mathbb{E}^x \left( \sum_{j=1}^n D^*(Y_j) \mathbb{I}_{\{Y_j \in \partial A\}} \right) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{z \in \partial A} (q_j(x, z) - \frac{1}{n}) D^*(z)$$

with  $|q_j(x, z) - z(z)| \stackrel{\text{Doob's}}{\leq} C e^{-\alpha j}$