

Stochastic models for coagulation processes, large scale limits and phase transitions

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And what about Smoluchowski?

Self-organised criticality

Multiplicative Smoluchowski equation

$$\partial_t n_k(t) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{h=1}^{k-1} h(k-h) n_h(t) n_{k-h}(t) - k n_k(t) \sum_{h \geq 1} h n_h(t).$$

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Forest-fire models [RÁTH, TÓTH, 2009]

- graph grows by edge addition;
- large clusters burn after lightning events;
- the burning mechanism removes mass;
- the system self-organises near criticality.

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$$\sum_k k n_k(t) = 1 - \rho(t) < \frac{1}{t}.$$

Adding inhomogeneities

Sparse inhomogeneous random graphs

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Inhomogeneous random graphs are a natural generalization of the Erdős-Rényi random graph ([SÖDERBERG 2002], [BOLLOBÁS, JANSON AND RIORDAN 2006]).

- \mathcal{S} a metric space: the **type space**;
- $\mu \in \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{S})$ a probability on \mathcal{S} ;
- $\mathbf{x}^N = (x_1, \dots, x_N) \in \mathcal{S}^N$ vector of vertices' type

$$\mu_N := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{x_i} \rightarrow \mu;$$

- a symmetric kernel $\kappa : \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$.

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The **sparse inhomogeneous random graph** $\mathcal{G}(N, \mathbf{x}^N, \kappa)$ is such that there is an edge between vertices i and j with probability that depends on their types:

$$i \sim j \text{ with probability } \frac{\kappa(x_i, x_j)}{N} \wedge 1.$$

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Sparse since the expected number of edges is proportional to N :

$$\mathbf{E}\#\{\text{edges}\} \simeq N \int_{\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S}} \kappa(x, y) \mu(dx) \mu(dy).$$

Phase transition in inhomogeneous random graphs

Let $\mathcal{G}_N = \mathcal{G}(N, \mathbf{x}^N, \kappa)$, then the phase transition is in terms of the operator

$$T_{\kappa, \mu} : L^2(\mu) \rightarrow L^2(\mu), \quad T_{\kappa, \mu} f(x) = \int_{\mathcal{S}} f(y) \kappa(x, y) \mu(dy), \quad (0.1)$$

and its norm

$$\sigma(\kappa, \mu) = \|T_{\kappa, \mu}\|_{L^2(\mu)} = \sup_{f \in L^2(\mu): \|f\|_{L^2(\mu)}=1} \|T_{\kappa, \mu} f\|_{L^2(\mu)}. \quad (0.2)$$

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$$\text{size largest component of } \mathcal{G}_N \lesssim N \int_S \rho(x) \mu(dx)$$

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Examples!

Counting microscopic and macroscopic components (S finite)

\mathcal{C}_i connected component of $\mathcal{G}(N, \mathbf{x}^N, \kappa) \rightarrow \text{types}(\mathcal{C}_i) \in \mathbb{N}^S$.

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Microscopic empirical measure:

$$\text{Mi}_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_j \delta_{\text{types}(\mathcal{C}_j)}$$

where $(\mathcal{C}_j)_j$ are the connected components of $\mathcal{G}(N, \mathbf{x}^N, \kappa)$.

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mi}_N \in \mathcal{N}(\mu_N) &= \left\{ \lambda \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{N}^S) : c(\lambda)(\cdot) = \mu_N(\cdot), \lambda(0) = 0 \right\} \\ c(\lambda)(\cdot) &:= \int_{\mathbb{N}^S} k(\cdot) \lambda(dk) \text{ integrated type configuration of } \lambda \end{aligned}$$

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Microscopic and **macroscopic** empirical measures:

$$\text{Mi}_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_j \delta_{\text{types}(C_j)} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Ma}_N = \sum_j \delta_{\frac{1}{N} \text{types}(C_j)},$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ma}_N \in \mathcal{M}(\mu_N) &= \left\{ \alpha \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{N}_0}((0, 1]^S) : c(\alpha)(\cdot) = \mu_N(\cdot) \right\} \\ c(\alpha)(\cdot) &:= \int_{(0, 1]^S} \gamma(\cdot) \alpha(d\gamma) \text{ integrated type configuration of } \alpha \end{aligned}$$

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$$\text{Mi}_N \in \mathcal{N} = \left\{ \lambda \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{N}^S) : c(\lambda)(\cdot) \leq \mu(\cdot), \lambda(0) = 0 \right\} \quad \text{vague topol.}$$

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Large Deviation Principle

Theorem (A., König, Langhammer, Patterson (2023))

The pair of measures $(\text{Mi}_N, \text{Ma}_N)$ satisfies a large deviations principle in $\mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{M}$ with rate N an **explicitly given rate function**

$$I(\lambda, \alpha) = I_{\text{Mi}}(\lambda) + I_{\text{Ma}}(\alpha) + I_{\text{Me}}(\mu - c(\lambda) - c(\alpha)) + C(\mu).$$

- If $c(\lambda) + c(\alpha) \not\leq \mu$

$$I(\lambda, \alpha) = +\infty$$

- Entropy form of the **microscopic part**:

$$I_{\text{Mi}}(\lambda) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}^S} \lambda_k \log \left(\frac{\lambda_k}{\tau(k) e^{1-|k|} \prod_r \frac{\mu_r^{k_r}}{k_r!}} \right).$$

Sketch of the proof

Space of configurations of the **connected components** of the graph:

$$\mathcal{E}_N := \left\{ \ell = (\ell_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathcal{S}}} : \ell_k \in \mathbb{N} \text{ for all } k \text{ and } \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathcal{S}}} \ell_k k_r = N \mu_N(r) \text{ for all } r \in \mathcal{S} \right\}.$$

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Lemma (The distribution of \mathbf{Mi}_N and \mathbf{Ma}_N)

For any $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and for any $\ell \in \mathcal{E}_N$ we have that

$$\mathbb{P} \left(\mathbf{NMi}_N(\mathbf{k}) = \ell_k; \forall k \in \mathbb{N}_0^S \right) = \mathbb{P} \left(\mathbf{Ma}_N(\mathbf{Nk}) = \ell_k; \forall k \in \mathbb{N}_0^S \right)$$

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where

$$\zeta^{(N)}(\ell, k) = \frac{\rho_N(k)^{\ell_k}}{\ell_k! \prod_{r \in S} (k_r!)^{\ell_k}} \left(\prod_{r, s \in S} \left(1 - \frac{\kappa(r, s)}{N} \wedge 1 \right)^{\frac{1}{2} k_s [N \mu_N(r) - k_r]} \right)^{\ell_k}.$$

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Where, for any $k \in \mathbb{N}^S$, given any vertex vector $x \in S^{|k|}$ “compatible” with k :

$$\rho_N(k) = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{G}(|k|, x, \frac{1}{N} \kappa) \text{ is connected}), \quad N \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Sketch of the proof

We fix $R < \infty$ and $\epsilon > 0$.

For any pair $(\lambda, \alpha) \in \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{M}$

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\text{Mi}_N \in \mathcal{B}_\delta(\lambda); \text{Ma}_N \in \mathcal{B}_\rho(\alpha)\right) = \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{A}_{\delta, \rho}(\lambda, \alpha) \subseteq \mathcal{L}_N} \left(\prod_{r \in \mathcal{S}} (N\mu_N(r))! \right) \times \prod_{|k| \leq R} \zeta^{(N)}(\ell, k) \prod_{|k| \geq \epsilon N} \zeta^{(N)}(\ell, k) \prod_{\text{otherwise}} \zeta^{(N)}(\ell, k)$$

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Key points:

- accurate estimates for $p_N(k) = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{G}(|k|, x, \frac{1}{N}\kappa)$ is connected) **only** in the cases: $|k| \leq R$ and $|k| \geq \epsilon N$;
- sufficient upper bound for $p_N(k) = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{G}(|k|, x, \frac{1}{N}\kappa)$ is connected) in the other regimes;
- combinatorial terms.

The phase transition

$\sigma(\kappa, \mu)$ largest eigenvalue of the matrix $\{\kappa(r, s)\mu_s\}_{(r,s) \in S^2}$

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$$\text{Minimization of } I_{\text{Mi}}(\lambda) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}^S} \lambda_k \log \left(\frac{\lambda_k}{\tau(k) e^{1-|k|} \prod_r \frac{\mu_r^{k_r}}{k_r!}} \right).$$

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(i) If $\sigma(\kappa, \mu) \leq 1$,

$\forall c \in \mathcal{M}(S)$ such that $c \preceq \mu$

$$\exists \lambda^*(c) \in \mathcal{N}(c) \quad \text{such that } \lambda^*(c) = \arg \inf_{\substack{\lambda: \\ c(\lambda)=c}} I_{\text{Mi}}(\lambda),$$

in particular

$$\lambda_k^*(c) = \tau(k) \prod_{r \in S} \frac{c_r^{k_r} e^{-k_r \kappa_r c_r}}{k_r!}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}^S.$$

Any microscopic mass is possible.

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(ii) If $\sigma(\kappa, \mu) > 1$,

$\forall c \in \mathcal{M}(S)$ such that $c \preceq \mu$ **but** $\sigma(\kappa, c) > 1$

$I_{\text{Mi}}(\lambda)$ does not admit minimizers in $\mathcal{N}(c)$.

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Minimization of $I_{\text{Mi}}(\lambda) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{N}^S} \lambda_k \log \left(\frac{\lambda_k}{\tau(k) e^{1-|k|} \prod_r \frac{\mu_r^{k_r}}{k_r!}} \right)$.

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$\exists \lambda^{(n)}$ **minimizing sequence**

$$\lambda^{(n)} \searrow \lambda^*(b^*) \notin \mathcal{N}(c)$$

where $b^* = (1-f)c$ is such that $\sigma(\kappa, b^*) = 1$ and f is a positive non-trivial solution to

$$f = (1-f) T_{\kappa, c} f. \quad (0.3)$$

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Not every microscopic mass is admissible.

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$$\lambda_k^*(c) = \tau(k) \prod_{r \in S} \frac{c_r^{k_r} e^{-k_r \kappa^* c_r}}{k_r!}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}^S.$$

Any microscopic mass is possible.

(ii) If $\sigma(\kappa, \mu) > 1$,

$\forall c \in \mathcal{M}(S)$ such that $c \preceq \mu$ **but** $\sigma(\kappa, c) > 1$

Not every microscopic mass is admissible.

To get the **typical behaviour** you should minimize the **complete rate function**, but $I_{\text{Mi}}(\lambda)$ already gives hint on the phase transition!

From random graphs back to coagulation processes

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- LDP for $\{\text{Mi}_N(t)\}_{t \in [0, T]}$

Freidlin-Wentzell approach: $\mathcal{I}_{[0, T]}(n) = \int_0^T L(n_t, \dot{n}_t) dt$.

Problems: tilting argument in infinite dimensional space!

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\text{Mi}_N(t) \simeq n_t \mid n_0\right) \simeq e^{-N I_t(n_t | n_0)}.$$

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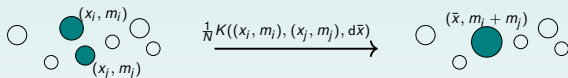
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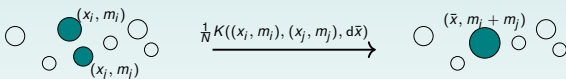
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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}\left(\{\text{Mi}_N(t)\}_{t \in [0, T]} \simeq \{n_t\}_{t \in [0, T]}\right) &\simeq \prod_i \mathbb{P}\left(\text{Mi}_N(t_{i+1}) \simeq n_{t_{i+1}} \mid n_{t_i}\right) \\ &\simeq e^{-N \sum_i I_t(n_{t_{i+1}} | n_{t_i})} \end{aligned}$$

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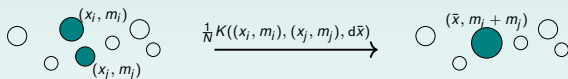


Poisson monodisperse initial condition: for $\mu \in \mathcal{M}_1(\mathcal{S})$

$$\mu_0^{(N)} := \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \delta_{(X_i, 1)},$$

where $(X_i) \sim$ Poisson Point Process on \mathcal{S} with intensity measure $N\mu$ ($\text{Poi}_{N\mu}$).

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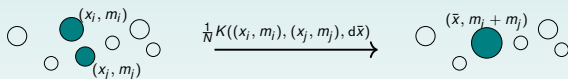
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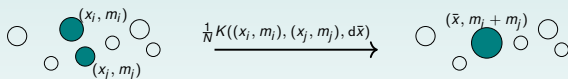
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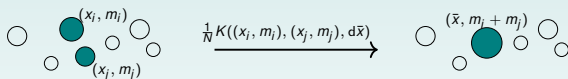
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$(\mu_T^{(N)})_{N \in \mathbb{N}}$ satisfies an LDP on $\mathcal{M}(\mathcal{S} \times \mathbb{N})$ with speed N and rate function

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What if we add the **coagulation interaction**?

LDP for cluster coagulation process

[A., KÖNIG, LANGHAMMER, PATTERSON (2026)]

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We are interested in describing, under $\mathbb{P}_{\text{Poi}_{N\mu}}^{(N)}(\cdot)$,

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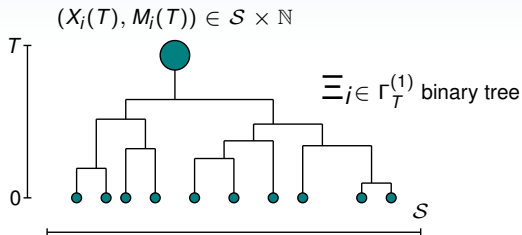


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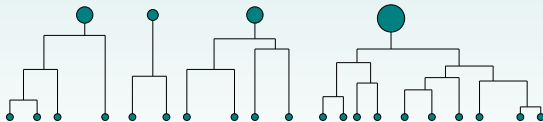
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Description via binary trees

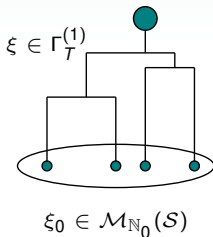


$\Gamma_T^{(1)}$ set of binary trees embedded in $[0, T]$: a subset of $\mathbb{D}([0, T], \mathcal{M}(\mathcal{S} \times \mathbb{N}))$.

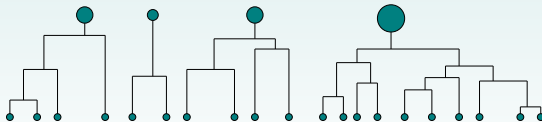
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$$\mathcal{V}_N^{(T)} := \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \delta_{\Xi_i} \in \mathcal{M}(\Gamma_T^{(1)}).$$

$$N \int \xi_0 \mathcal{V}_N^{(T)}(d\xi) \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{N}_0}(\mathcal{S})$$

\Rightarrow initial distribution of points in \mathcal{S}

Does the law of $\mathcal{V}_N^{(T)}$ satisfy a **large deviations principle**?

$$\mathbb{P}_{\text{Poi}_{N\mu}}^{(N)}(\mathcal{V}_N^{(T)} \in d\nu) \approx e^{-NI(\nu) + o(N)}$$

Many-body system approach

Theorem [A., KÖNIG, LANGHAMMER, PATTERSON, 2026]

For $\nu \in \mathcal{M}(\Gamma_T^{(1)})$

$$\mathbb{P}_{\text{Poi}_{N\mu}}^{(N)}(\mathcal{V}_N^{(T)} \in d\nu) = \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i \neq j} R^{(T)}(\xi_i, \xi_j)\right\} \mathbb{P}_{NM_{\mu,N}^{(T)}}^{(N)}\left(\frac{Y}{N} \in d\nu\right)$$

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Interpretation:

a many body system with interaction R .

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For all $k \in \mathbb{N}$

$$M_{\mu, N}^{(T)}(d\xi) \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} M_{\mu}^{(T)}(d\xi) \quad \xi \in \Gamma_T^{(1)}, |\xi_0| = k.$$

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Conditional LDP holds

$$\mathbb{P}_{\text{Poi}_{N\mu}}^{(N)} (\mathcal{V}_N^{(T)} \in d\nu | \mathcal{A}) \approx e^{-N(I_{\mu}(\nu) - \chi_{\mathcal{A}})}$$

where

$$I_{\mu}(\nu) = \left\langle \nu, \log \frac{d\nu}{dM_{\mu}^{(T)}} \right\rangle + 1 - |\nu| + \frac{1}{2} \langle \nu, \mathfrak{R}^{(T)}(\nu) \rangle,$$

$$\mathfrak{R}^{(T)}(\nu)(\xi) = \int_{\Gamma_T^{(1)}} R^{(T)}(\xi, \xi') \nu(d\xi'), \quad \xi \in \Gamma_T^{(1)}, \nu \in \mathcal{M}(\Gamma_T^{(1)}),$$

and $\chi_{\mathcal{A}}$ is a constant.

Merci!