

On the  
Shuffling  
Algorithm for  
the Aztec  
Diamond

Eric  
Nordenstam  
eno@kth.se

Background

Shuffling  
algorithm

Warren's  
Process

Aztec  
diamond point  
process

Asymptotics

Borodin &  
Ferrari

Dyson's  
Brownian  
Minor process

# On the Shuffling Algorithm for the Aztec Diamond

Eric Nordenstam  
eno@kth.se

Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium

Université Pierre et Marie Curie, 3 June 2010

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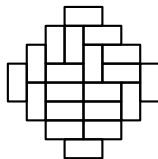
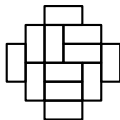
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Aztec diamonds of orders 1, 2, 3 and 4.



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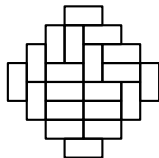
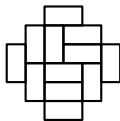
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The diamond of order  $n$  can be tiled in  $2^{n(n+1)/2}$  ways.  
Elkies et al, '92

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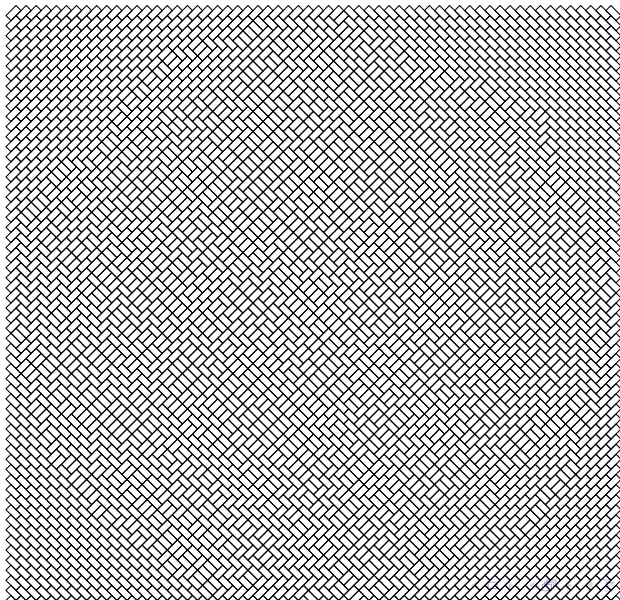
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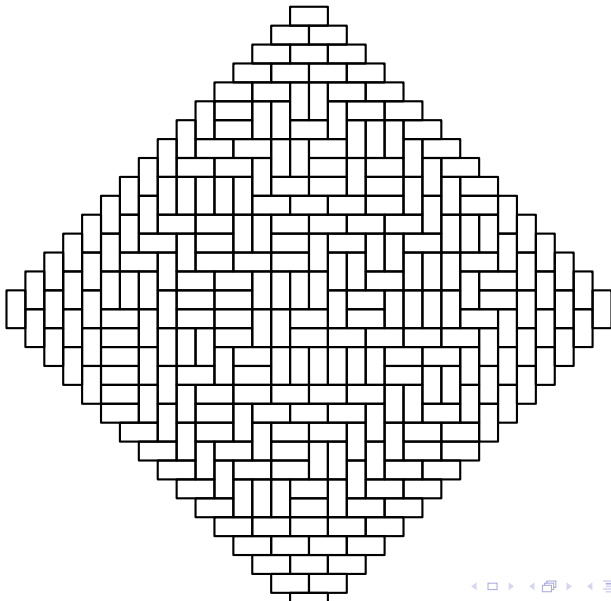
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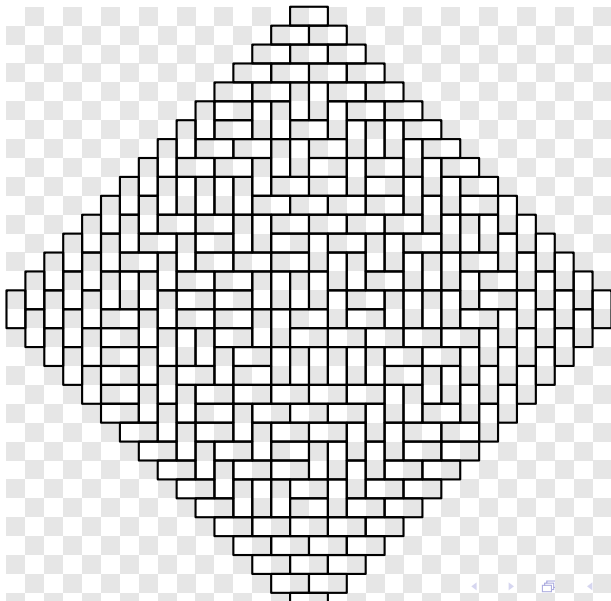
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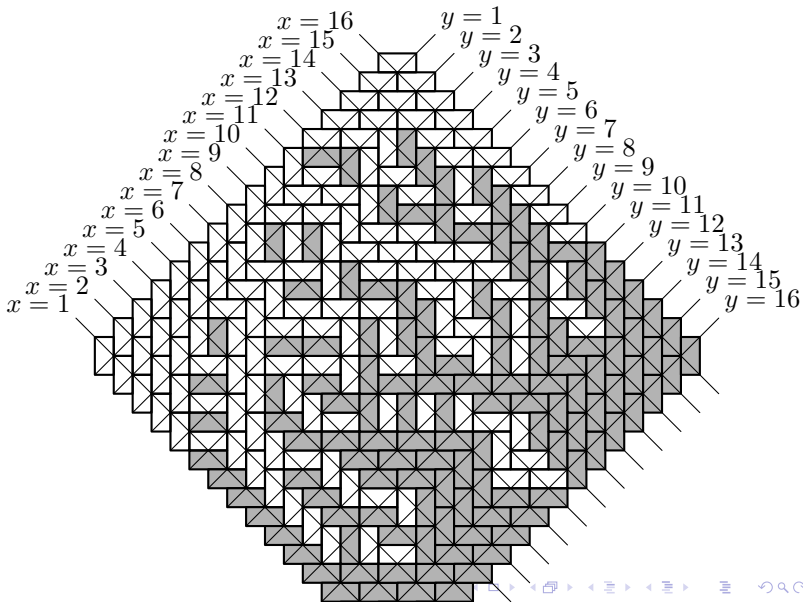
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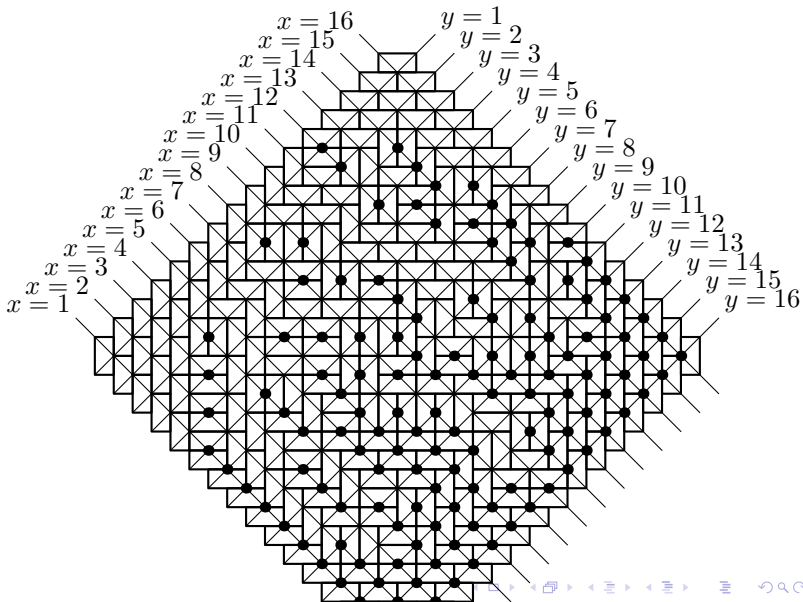
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# GUE Minor Process

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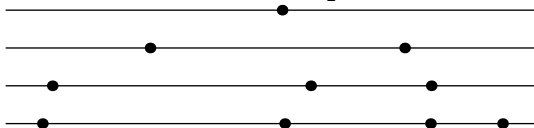
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Let  $H$  be a large GUE matrix, i.e. a random matrix with probability density  $Z^{-1}e^{-\text{Tr}H^2}$ .

Let  $H_n = [H_{i,j}]_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$  be the  $n$ :th minor of  $H$ .

Let  $H_n$  have eigenvalues  $\lambda_1^n, \dots, \lambda_n^n$



**Theorem (Johansson&N '06)**

*The Aztec diamond point process in a suitable rescaling converges to the GUE minor process.*

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- 2 Warren's Interlaced Brownian motions
- 3 Asymptotics
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## Three phases of the algorithm.

- 1 Delete
- 2 Shuffle
- 3 Create

# Delete

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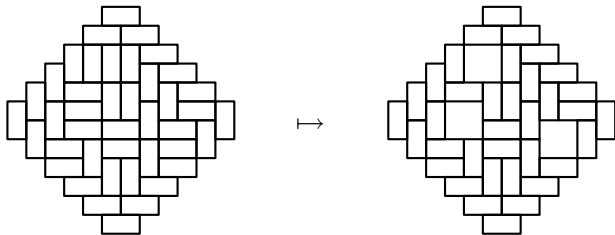
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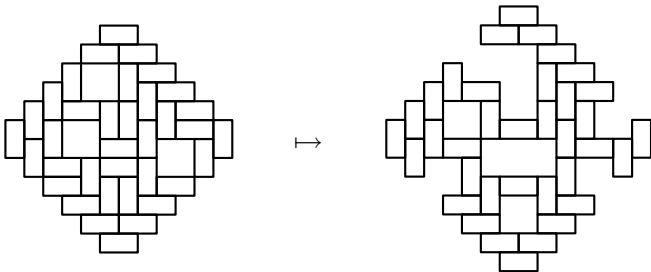
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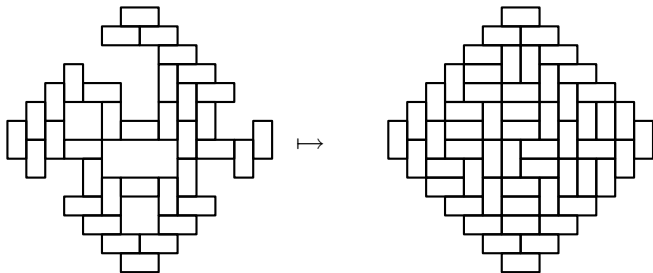
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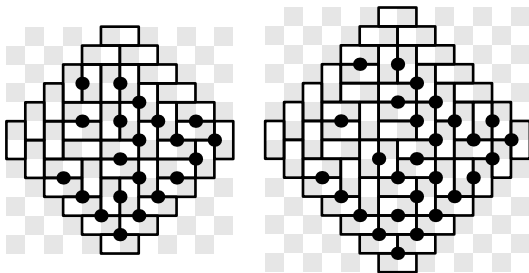
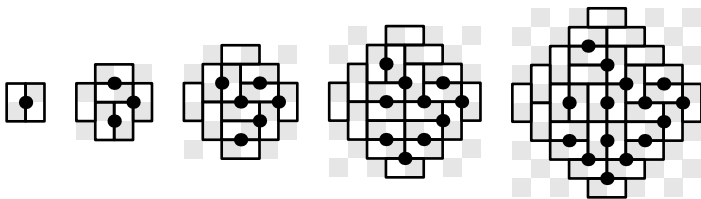
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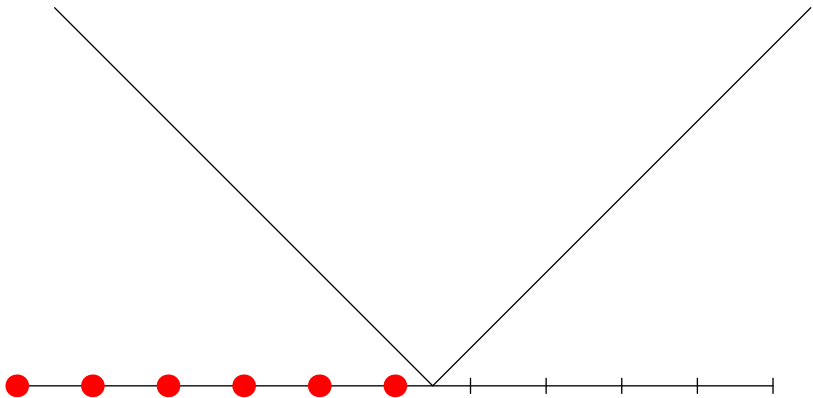
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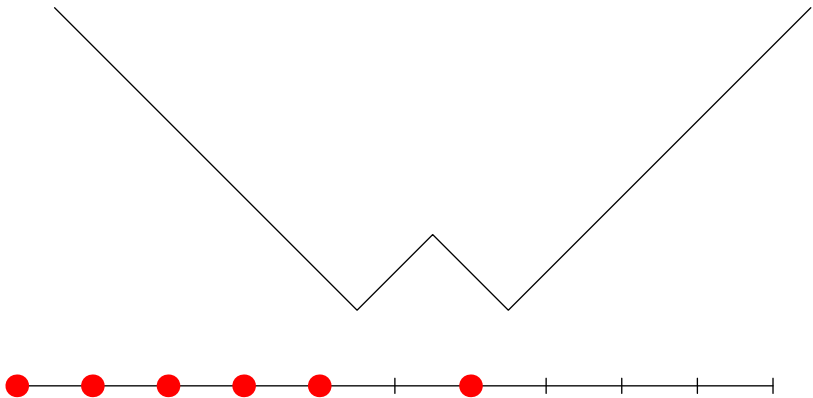
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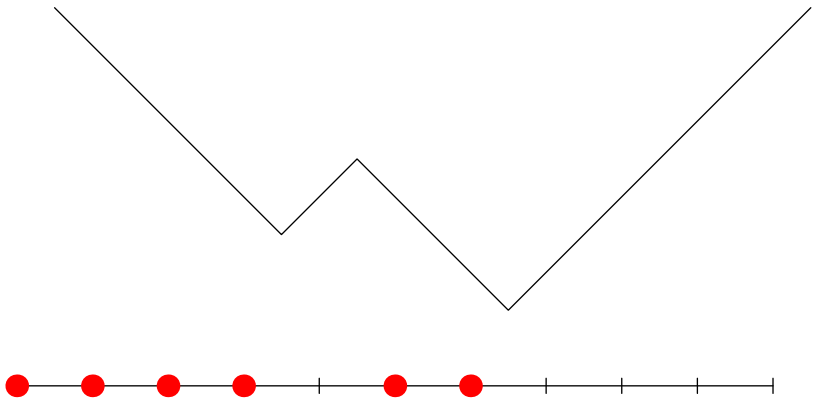
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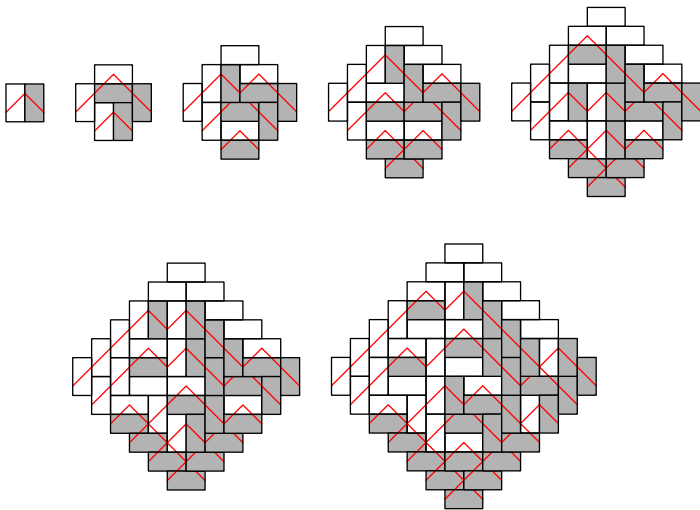
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$$x_1^1(t) = x_1^1(t-1) + \gamma_1^1(t)$$

$$x_1^j(t) = x_1^j(t-1) + \gamma_1^j(t) - \mathbf{1}\{x_1^j(t-1) + \gamma_1^j(t) = x_1^{j-1}(t-1) + 1\}$$

$$x_j^j(t) = x_j^j(t-1) + \gamma_j^j(t) + \mathbf{1}\{x_j^j(t-1) + \gamma_j^j(t) = x_{j-1}^{j-1}(t-1)\}$$

$$x_i^j(t) = x_i^j(t-1) + \gamma_i^j(t) - \mathbf{1}\{x_i^j(t-1) + \gamma_i^j(t) = x_j^{j-1}(t-1) + 1\} \\ + \mathbf{1}\{x_i^j(t-1) + \gamma_i^j(t) = x_{j-1}^{j-1}(t-1)\}.$$

Here,  $\gamma_i^j(t)$  are i.i.d. fair coin tosses and initial conditions  $x_i^j(j) = i$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $1 \leq i \leq j$ . At each time  $t$ ,

$$x_i^j(t) \leq x_i^{j-1}(t) \leq x_{i+1}^j(t).$$

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Perform substitution

$$X_i^j(t) = x_i^j(t - j) \quad (1)$$

For all  $t$ ,

$$X_i^j(t) \leq X_i^{j-1}(t) < X_{i+1}^j(t) \quad (2)$$



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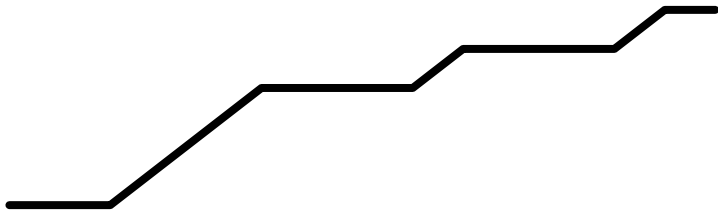
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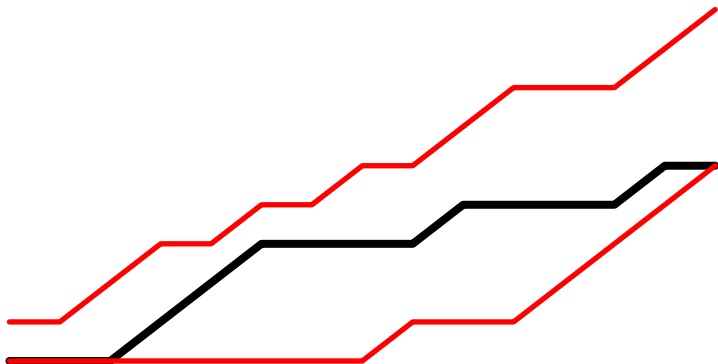
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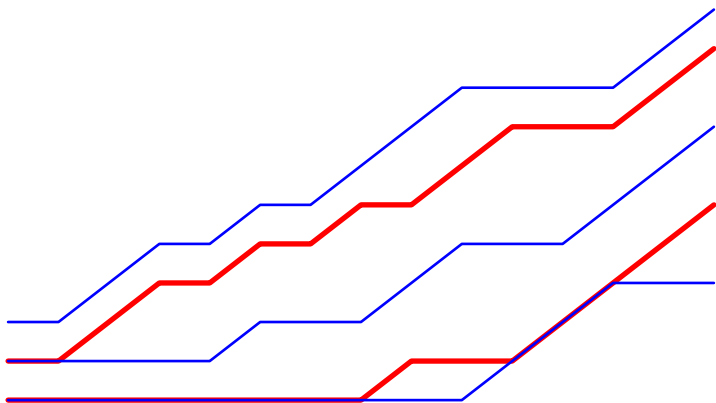
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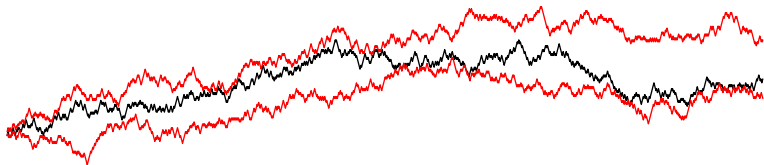
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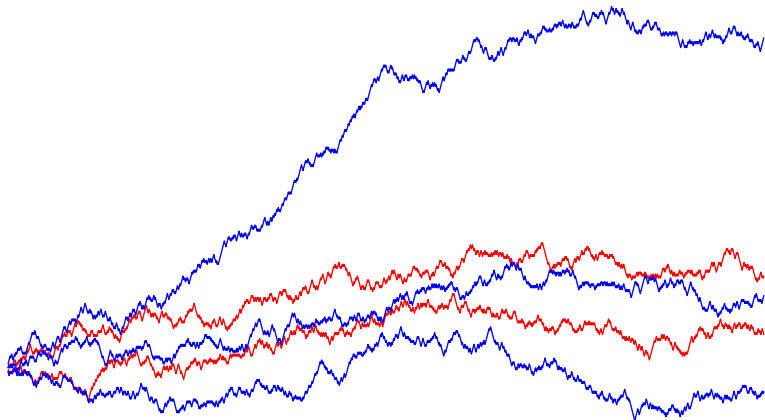
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# Transition Density for Dyson's BM

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Let  $W_n = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_n\}$ . For  $x, x' \in W_n$

$$p_t^{n,+}(x, x') = \frac{h_n(x')}{h_n(x)} \det [\varphi_t(x'_i - x_j)] \quad (3)$$

where

$$h_n(x) = \prod_{i < j} (x_j - x_i) \quad (4)$$

and

$$\varphi_t(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} e^{-x^2/2t} \quad (5)$$

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Let  $W_{n,n+1} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \times \mathbb{R}^n : x_1 \leq y_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq y_n \leq x_{n+1}\}$ .

For  $(x, y)$  and  $(x', y') \in W_{n,n+1}$ ,

$$q_t^{n,+}((x, y), (x', y')) = \frac{h_n(y')}{h_n(y)} \det \begin{bmatrix} A_t(x, x') & B_t(x, y') \\ C_t(y, x') & D_t(y, y') \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

where

$$[A_t(x, x')]_{ij} = \varphi_t(x'_i - x_j),$$

$$[B_t(x, y')]_{ij} = \Phi_t(y'_i - x_j) - \mathbf{1}(j \geq i),$$

$$[C_t(y, x')]_{ij} = \varphi'_t(y'_i - x_j) \text{ and}$$

$$[D_t(y, y')]_{ij} = \varphi_t(y'_i - y_j).$$

$$\text{where } \Phi_t(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \phi_t(y) dy.$$



# Characterisation of Warren's process

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At level  $n$  there are  $n$  components of the process:

$$X_1^n(t), \dots, X_n^n(t).$$

$$\text{Interlacing: } X_i^n(t) \leq X_i^{n-1}(t) \leq X_{i+1}^n(t)$$

Can be constructed as follows. Construct  $X_1^1(t)$ , it is an ordinary Brownian motion.

- 1 Start with  $X^n$ , a Dyson Brownian Motion of  $n$  particles.
- 2 Construct  $X^{k+1} = (X_1^{n+1}, \dots, X_{n+1}^{n+1})$  so that  $(X^n, X^{n+1})$  has transition densities  $q_t^{n,+}$ .
- 3 Then  $X^{n+1}$  is a DBM of  $n + 1$  particles.

# Discrete Dyson BM

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Let  $\mathcal{W}_n = \{x \in \mathbb{N}^n : x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_n\}$ . For  $x, x' \in \mathcal{W}_n$

$$p_t^{n,+}(x, x') = \frac{h_n(x')}{h_n(x)} \det [\phi^t(x'_i - x_j)] \quad (7)$$

where

$$\phi^1(x) = \phi(x) = \begin{cases} 1/2 & \text{if } x = 0 \text{ or } 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

and

$$\phi^t(z) = (\phi * \phi^{t-1})(z) = \sum_{x+y=z} \phi(x)\phi^{t-1}(y) \quad (9)$$

# Transition Probabilities for Aztec Diamond Process

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Let

$$\mathcal{W}_{n,n+1} = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{N}^{n+1} \times \mathbb{N}^n : x_1 \leq y_1 < x_2 \leq \dots \leq y_n < x_{n+1}\}.$$

For  $(x, y)$  and  $(x', y') \in \mathcal{W}_{n,n+1}$ ,

$$q_t^{n,+}((x, y), (x', y')) = \frac{h_n(y')}{h_n(y)} \det \begin{bmatrix} A_t(x, x') & B_t(x, y') \\ C_t(y, x') & D_t(y, y') \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

where  $[A_t(x, x')]_{ij} = \phi^t(x'_i - x_j)$ ,

$[B_t(x, y')]_{ij} = \Delta^{-1} \phi^t(y'_i - x_j) - \mathbf{1}(j \geq i)$ ,

$[C_t(y, x')]_{ij} = \Delta \phi^t(y'_i - x_j)$  and

$[D_t(y, y')]_{ij} = \phi^t(y'_i - y_j)$ ,

$$\phi = \phi^1 = \frac{1}{2}(\delta_0 + \delta_1), \quad \Delta \phi(x) = \phi(x) - \phi(x-1),$$

$$\Delta^{-1} = \sum_{y=-\infty}^x \phi(y) \quad \text{and} \quad \phi^{t+1} = \phi * \phi^t.$$

# Asymptotics

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Let  $\mathbf{X}(t)$  be Warren's process.

Let  $\mathcal{X}(t)$  be the process from the shuffling algorithm.

## Theorem (N '08)

*The process  $(X^n(t), X^{n+1}(t))$  from  $\mathcal{X}$ , extended by interpolation to non-integer times  $t$ , rescaled according to*

$$\tilde{X}_i^n(t) = \frac{X_i^n(Nt) - \frac{1}{2}Nt}{\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{N}} \quad (11)$$

*converges weakly to the process  $(X^n(t), X^{n+1}(t))$  from  $\mathbf{X}$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .*

## Theorem (N '08)

The process  $x(t) = (X^1(t), \dots, X^n(t))$ , rescaled according to

$$\tilde{X}_i^n(t) = \frac{X_i^n(Nt) - \frac{1}{2}Nt}{\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{N}} \quad (12)$$

converges weakly to  $\mathbf{X}(t)$  as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

Remark:  $\mathbf{X}(1)$  is the GUE minor process.

## Conjecture

Consider the process  $(X(t))_{t=0,1,\dots}$  rescaled according to

$$\tilde{X}_i^n(t) = \frac{X_i^n(Nt) - \frac{1}{2}Nt}{\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{N}} \quad (13)$$

and defined by linear interpolation for non-integer values of  $Nt$ .  
The process  $\tilde{X}(t)$  converges weakly to Warren's process  $\mathbf{X}(t)$   
as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

# $\Lambda$ -chain (Sequential update)

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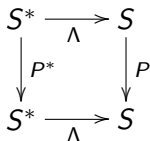
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Consider Markov operators satisfying  $\Delta = \Lambda P = P^* \Lambda$ .



$$S_\Lambda = \{(x^*, x) \in S^* \times S : \Lambda(x^*, x) > 0\}$$

$$P_\Lambda((x^*, x), (y^*, y)) = \begin{cases} \frac{P(x, y) P^*(x^*, y^*) \Lambda(y^*, y)}{\Delta(x^*, y)} & \Delta(x^*, y) > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# $\Delta$ -chain (Parallel update)

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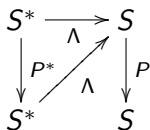
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Consider Markov operators satisfying  $\Delta = \Lambda P = P^* \Lambda$ .



$$S_{\Delta} = \{(x^*, x) \in S^* \times S : \Delta(x^*, x) > 0\}$$

$$P_{\Delta}((x^*, x), (y^*, y)) = \frac{P(x, y)P^*(x^*, y^*)\Lambda(y^*, x)}{\Delta(x^*, x)}$$



# Dyson's Brownian Minor process

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Take an  $N \times N$  GUE matrix and let the elements evolve according to independent Ornstein-Uhlenbeck processes. Consider all the  $N(N + 1)/2$  eigenvalues of this matrix and its minors.

- The eigenvalues on one level are Markovian and evolve as O-U processes conditioned never to intersect. [Dyson '62]
- The eigenvalues on two consecutive levels are Markovian. [Adler, vMoerbeke, N. 2010]
- All the  $\binom{N}{2}$  eigenvalues together are not Markovian for  $N > 2$ .

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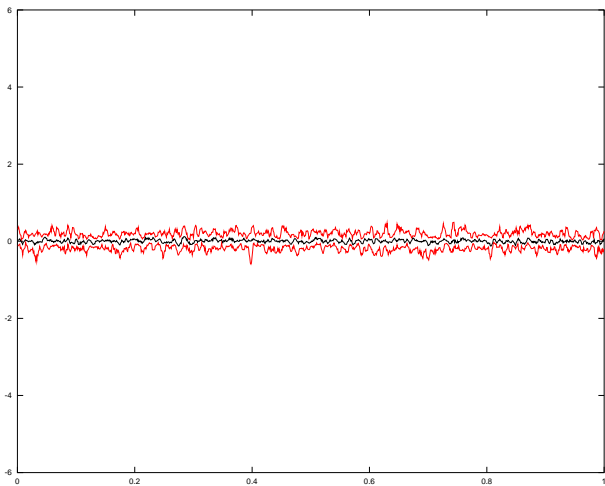
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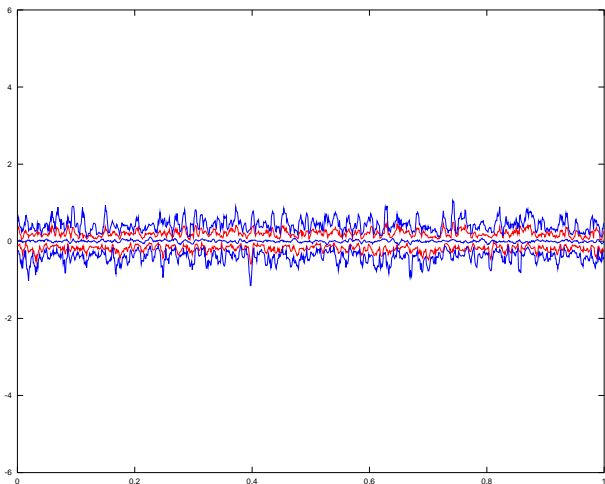
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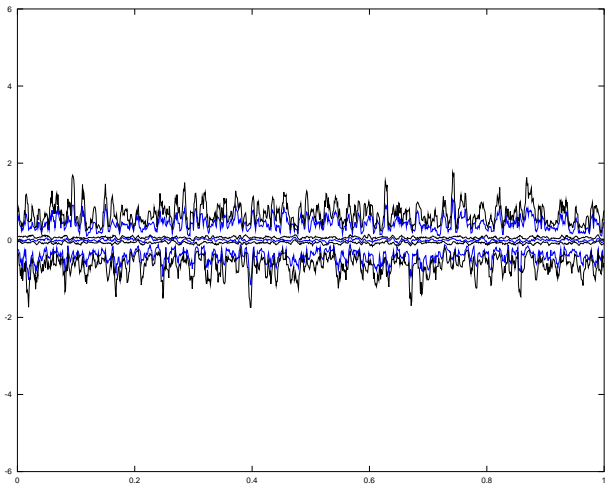
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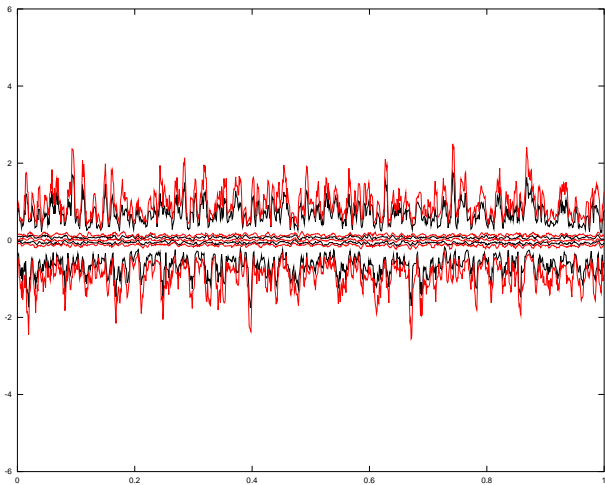
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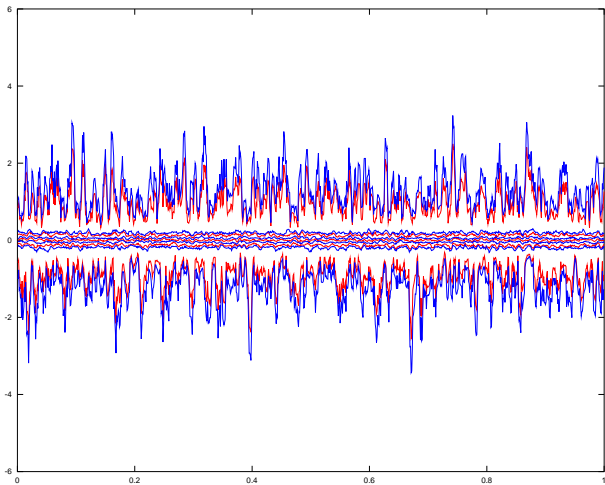
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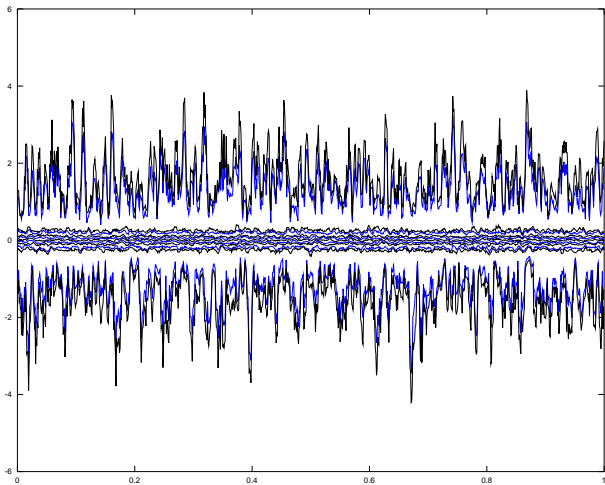
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## Theorem

Take a sequence  $\{(n_i, t_i, x_i)\}_{i=1}^k$  of times, levels and positions.  
Let them follow a space like path, i.e.

$$t_1 \leq t_2 \leq \dots \leq t_k, \quad (14)$$

$$n_1 \geq n_2 \geq \dots \geq n_k. \quad (15)$$

Then the density of the event that there is a particle at time  $t_i$   
on level  $n_i$  at position  $x_i$  in the Dyson Brownian minor process  
is

$$\rho((n_1, t_1, x_1), \dots, (n_k, t_k, x_k)) = \det[K^{OU}((n_i, t_i, x_i), (n_j, t_j, x_j))]_{i,j=1}^k \quad (16)$$



# Kernel for the Dyson Brownian minor process

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For  $n \leq m$  or  $s \geq t$ ,

$$K^{OU}((n, x, s), (m, y, t)) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{(n+k)!}{(m+k)!}} e^{-k(t-s)} h_{n+k}(x) h_{m+k}(y) e^{-y^2},$$

and otherwise,

$$K^{OU}((n, x, s), (m, y, t)) = - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{(n+k)!}{(m+k)!}} e^{-k(t-s)} h_{n+k}(x) h_{m+k}(y) e^{-y^2}.$$

# Kernel for the Warren process

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For  $n \leq m$  or  $s \geq t$ ,

$$K^W((n, x, s), (m, y, t)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{(n+k)!}{(m+k)!}} \left(\frac{s}{t}\right)^{k/2} h_{n+k}(x/\sqrt{s}) h_{m+k}(y/\sqrt{t}) e^{-y^2/t},$$

and otherwise,

$$K^W((n, x, s), (m, y, t)) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{(n+k)!}{(m+k)!}} \left(\frac{s}{t}\right)^{k/2} h_{n+k}(x/\sqrt{s}) h_{m+k}(y/\sqrt{t}) e^{-y^2/t},$$

## Theorem

Let  $a$  be a real number on the interval  $(-1, 1)$ . In the bulk scaling limit around  $a\sqrt{2N}$  the Dyson Brownian minor process converges, along spacelike paths, to a time dependent Bead kernel with parameter  $a$ . More precisely,

$$K_a^{\text{Bead}}((n, x, s), (m, y, t)) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} e^{-N(t-s)} (4N)^{\frac{1}{2}(n-m)} (2N)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \times \\ \times K^{\text{DBM}}\left(\left(N+n, \sqrt{2Na} + \frac{x}{\sqrt{2N}}, \frac{s}{2N}\right), \left(N+m, \sqrt{2Na} + \frac{y}{\sqrt{2N}}, \frac{t}{2N}\right)\right) \quad (17)$$

*The limit holds uniformly on compact sets.*

$$K_a^{\text{Bead}}((n, x, s), (m, y, t)) := -\phi_a^{\text{Bead}}((n, x, s), (m, y, t)) + \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{u_-}^{u_+} u^{m-n} e^{\frac{1}{2}(t-s)(u^2-2au)+u(x-y)} du \quad (18)$$

where, for  $n \leq m$  or  $s \geq t$ ,

$$\phi_a^{\text{Bead}}((n, x, s), (m, y, t)) = 0 \quad (19)$$

otherwise

$$\phi_a^{\text{Bead}}((n, x, s), (m, y, t)) = 2^{\frac{1}{2}(n-m)} \int_{\mathbb{R}} H^{n-m}(x-z) p_{\frac{1}{2}(t'-t)}(z, y-a(t-s)) dz \quad (20)$$

and

$$u_{\pm} = a \pm i\sqrt{1-a^2}. \quad (21)$$

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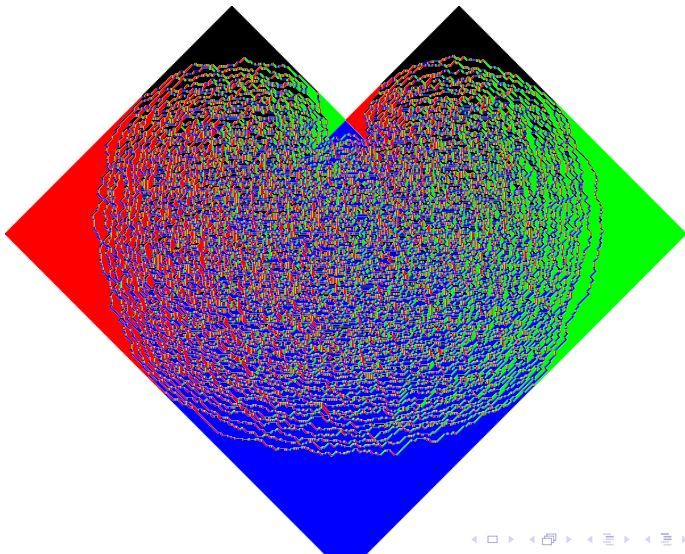
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## Related work

- Dieker & Warren, *Determinantal Transition Kernels for some Interacting Particles on a Line*, arXiv:0707.1843v2.
- Johansson, *A Multi-Dimensional Markov Chain and the Meixner Ensemble*, arXiv:0707.0098v1.
- Borodin & Ferrari, *Anisotropic growth of random surfaces in 2+1 dimensions*, arXiv:0804.3035.
- Borodin & Gorin, *Shuffling algorithm for boxed plane partitions*, arXiv:0804.3071.
- Metcalfe, O'Connell & Warren, *Interlaced processes on the circle*, arXiv:0804.3142.
- Warren & Windridge, *Some Examples of Dynamics for Gelfand Tsetlin Patterns*, arXiv:0812.0022.

Thank you for your attention.

-  Kurt Johansson and N, *Eigenvalues of GUE minors*, Electron. J. of Probab. 11 (2006), no. 50, pp. 1342-1371 + Erratum
-  N, *On the Shuffling Algorithm for Domino Tilings*, arXiv:0802.2592, Electron. J. of Probab. 15 (2010), no. 3, pp. 75-95
-  Mark Adler, N, Piere van Moerbeke, *The Dyson Brownian Minor process*, work in progress.
-  Mark Adler, N, Piere van Moerbeke, *Dyson's Brownian motions on the spectra of consecutive minors*, work in progress.