

The independence polynomial on recursive graphs – the dynamical perspective

Misha Hlushchanka

University of Amsterdam

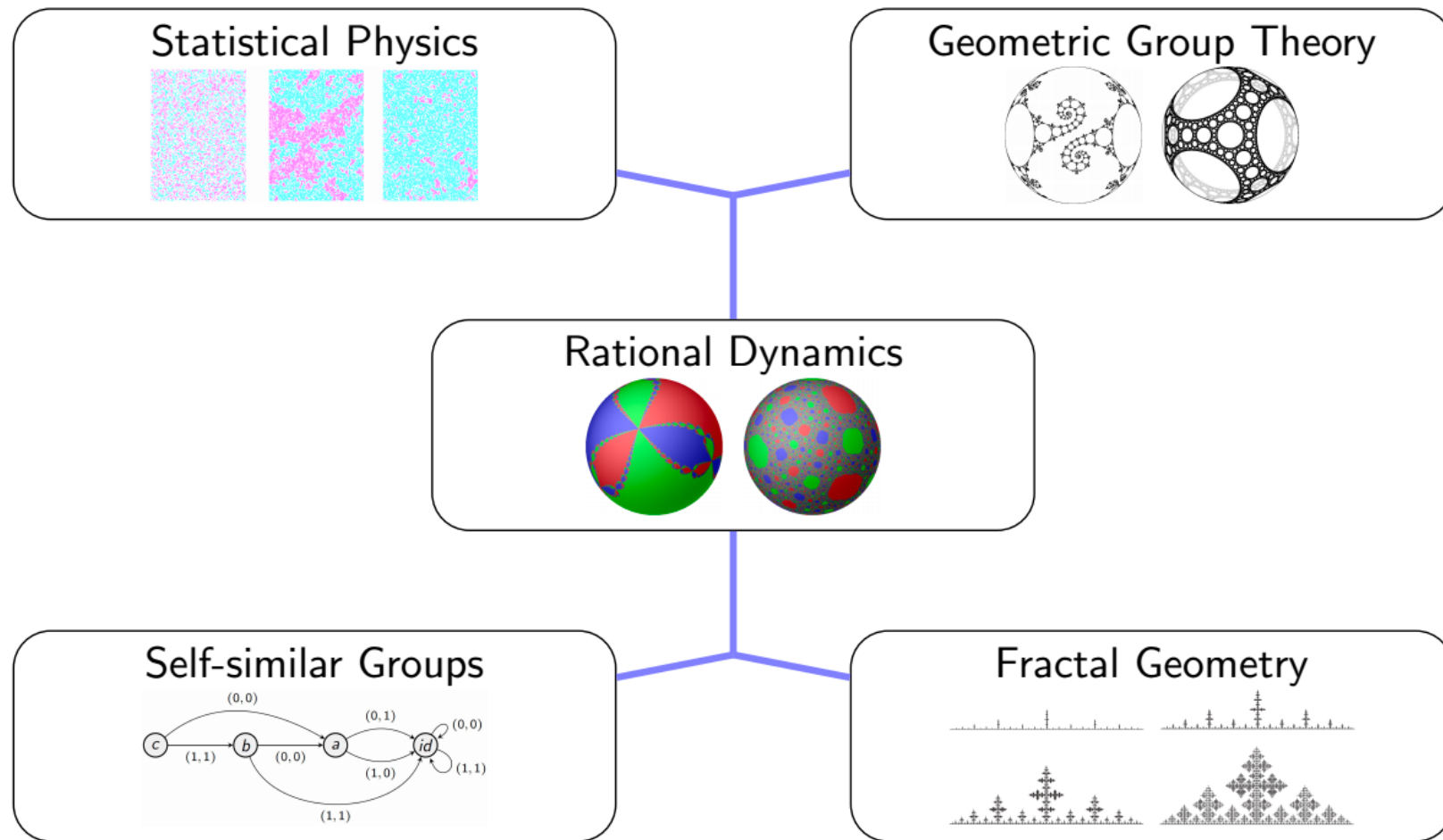
Workshop on the CAP aspects of Partition Functions
CWI, March 28, 2025



**Funded by
the European Union**

CODAG: Complexity in Dynamical systems, Algebra, and Geometry

“Understand relations between different measures of complexity of dynamical systems, fractal sets, graphs, and groups.”



Pictures courtesy of C. Bishop, C. McMullen, and P. Winkler

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Main Characters

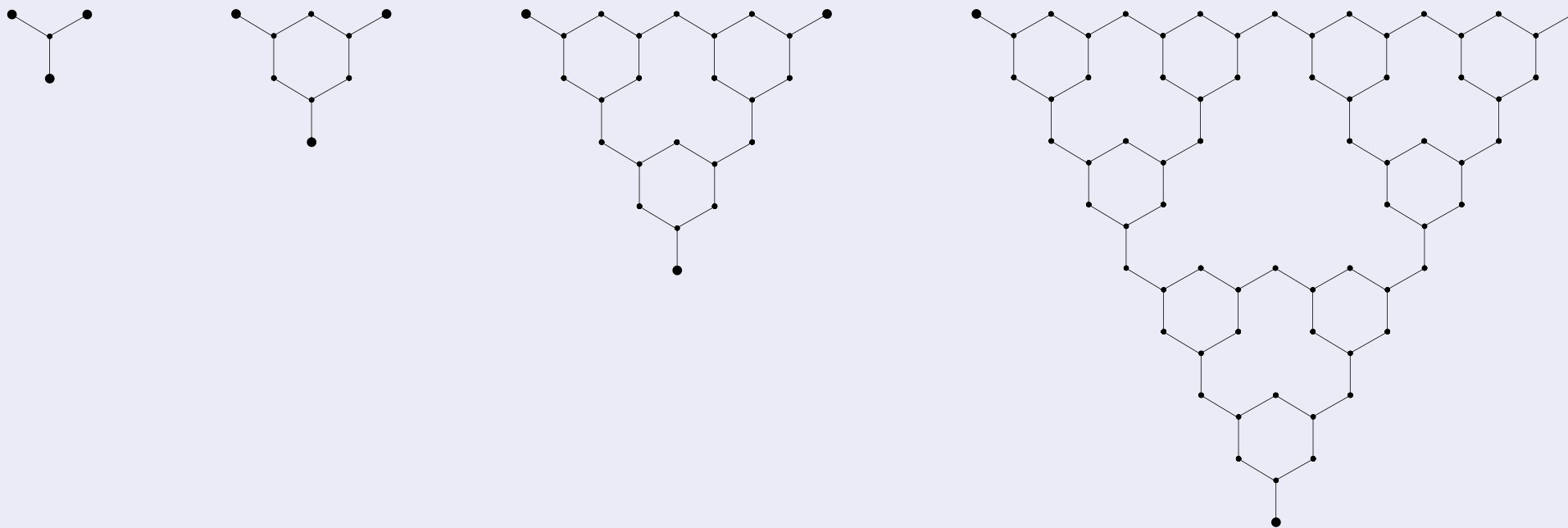
- Independence polynomial and its zeroes
- Free energy and phase transitions
- Recursive graphs
- Rational dynamical systems
- Invariant variety
- ...

Synopsis

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Let $\{G_n\}$ be a recursive sequence of graphs, each with k labeled vertices:
 $G_{n+1} = R(G_n)$ is defined by joining m copies of G_n along labeled vertices.



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- If the recursion operator R is non-degenerate and expanding then **zeros of the independence poly's $Z_{G_n}(\lambda)$ avoid a nbhd of \mathbb{R}_+ .**

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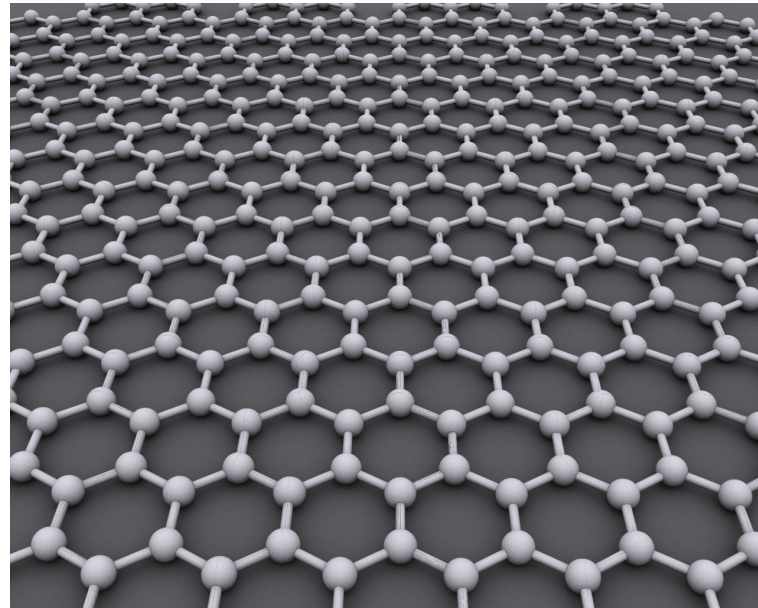
Corollary: The limiting free energy is well-defined and real analytic on all of \mathbb{R}_+ : there are **no phase transitions**.

Prologue:

Partition Functions and Phase Transitions

Motivation from **Statistical Physics**

The **Hard-Core (Neighbour Exclusion) model** on a (possibly infinite) graph G represents the behavior of large particles at the vertices of G which excludes the presence of other particles at the adjacent sites.



Gas molecules absorbed in the dual of a graphene lattice

Motivation from **Statistical Physics**

The **Hard-Core (Neighbour Exclusion) model** on a (possibly infinite) graph G represents the behavior of large particles at the vertices of G which excludes the presence of other particles at the adjacent sites.

A **(spin) configuration on G** is a vertex assignment $\sigma : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$.

The **weight** of σ is

$$e^{-H(\sigma, \lambda)} = \begin{cases} \lambda^{\#\sigma^{-1}(1)}, & \sigma \text{ is independent} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The **partition function** is

$$Z_G(\lambda) := \sum_{\text{ind. } \sigma: V(G) \rightarrow \{0,1\}} \lambda^{\#\sigma^{-1}(1)}$$

— the **independence polynomial** of G .

Phase transitions (for the Hard-Core model)

Let $\{G_n\}$ be a finite graph sequence approximating a limiting graph G_∞ .

Phase transitions \Leftrightarrow **(non-)uniqueness of Gibbs measures**

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Ehrenfest classification

The **pressure** (or **limiting free energy per site**) for $\{G_n\}$ is defined as

$$\mathcal{P}(\lambda) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log Z_{G_n}(\lambda)}{\#V(G_n)} \quad (\text{for } \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+).$$

Phase transition of order k at $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$ — discontinuity of the k -th order derivative of the limiting free energy \mathcal{P} at λ_0 .

Phase transitions for regular lattices

Folklore Conjecture

Let $\{G_n\}$ be a sequence of finite graphs approximating a regular lattice. Then there exists a **unique critical parameter** $\lambda_c \in \mathbb{R}_+$ such that

$$\begin{cases} \lambda_0 < \lambda_c & \Rightarrow \text{unique Gibbs measure at } \lambda_0 \\ \lambda_0 > \lambda_c & \Rightarrow \text{multiple Gibbs measures at } \lambda_0. \end{cases}$$

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[Yang-Lee'1952]

For “good” graph sequences approximating the lattice \mathbb{Z}^d :

- **the limiting free energy is well-defined and continuous on \mathbb{R}_+ .**
- If zeros of the polynomials $Z_{G_n}(\lambda)$ avoid a **complex nbhd** of $\lambda_0 \in \mathbb{R}_+$, then **the limiting free energy is real analytic at λ_0 .**

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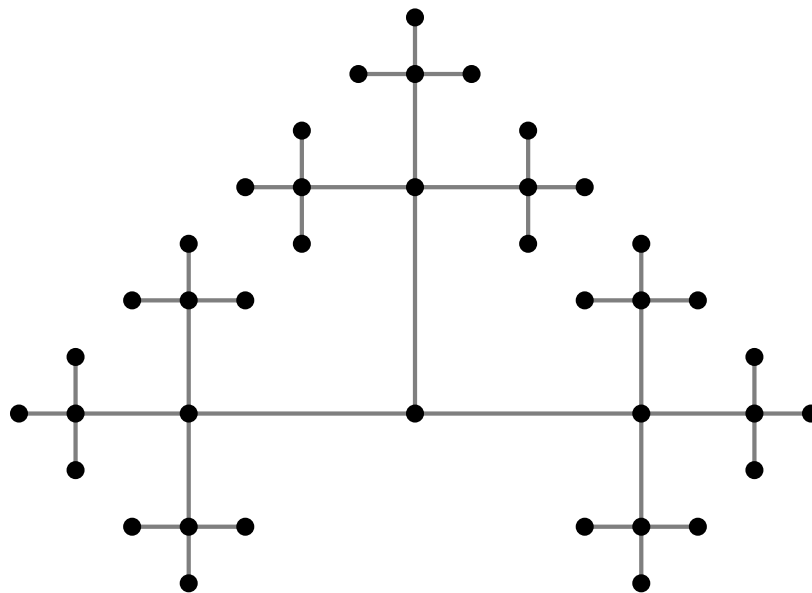
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Regular lattice are hard!

Chapter I:

Recursive Graphs

Examples of recursive graphs I — Regular rooted trees

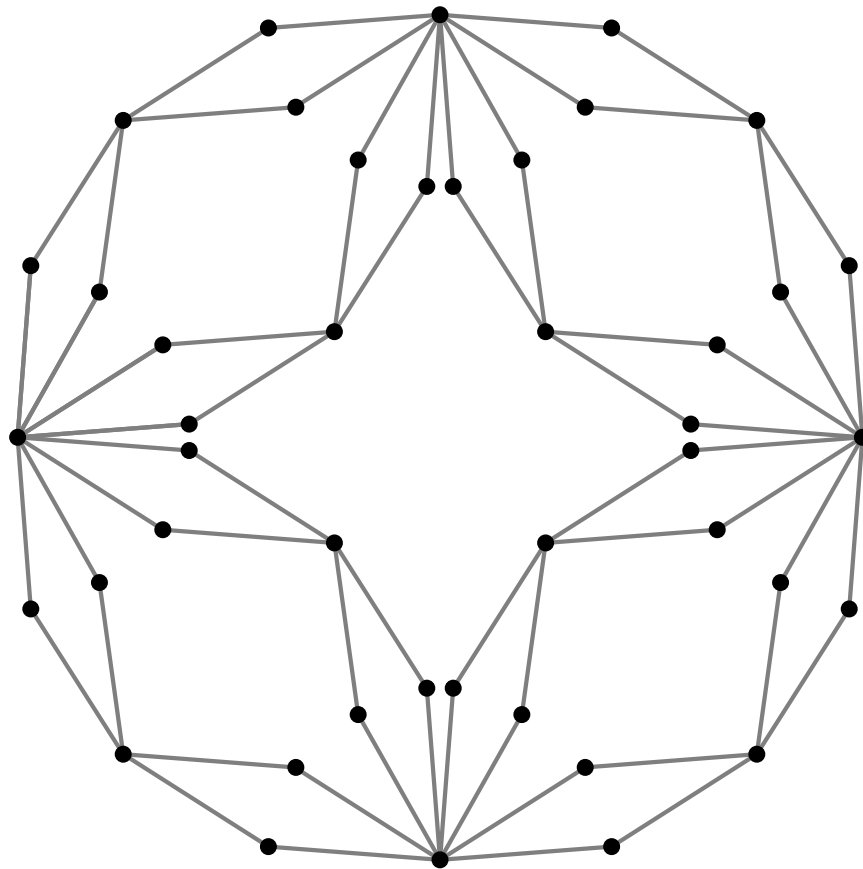


[Rivera-Letelier & Sombra'2019 (talk at the Fields Institute)]

For the **Hard-Core model** on **d -ary rooted trees** there is a **unique phase transition** (of infinite order).

Zeros accumulate at a unique parameter in \mathbb{R}_+ given by $\lambda(d) = \frac{d^d}{(d+1)^{d-1}}$.

Examples of recursive graphs II — Hierarchical lattices



[Bleher-Lyubich-Roeder'2010, Chio-Roeder'2021]

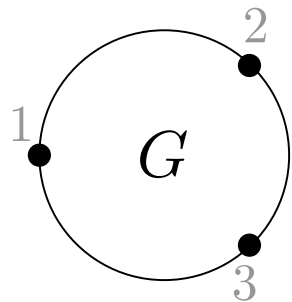
For the **Ising model** on **diamond hierarchical lattices** there is a **unique phase transition**.

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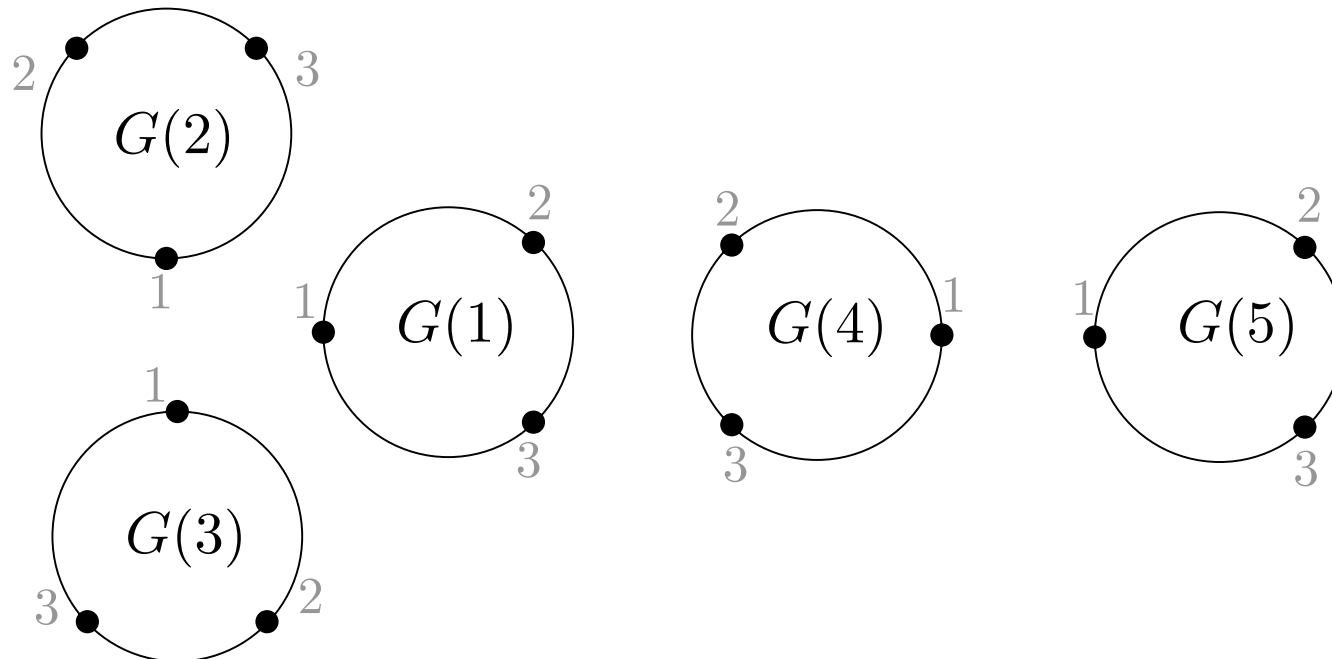


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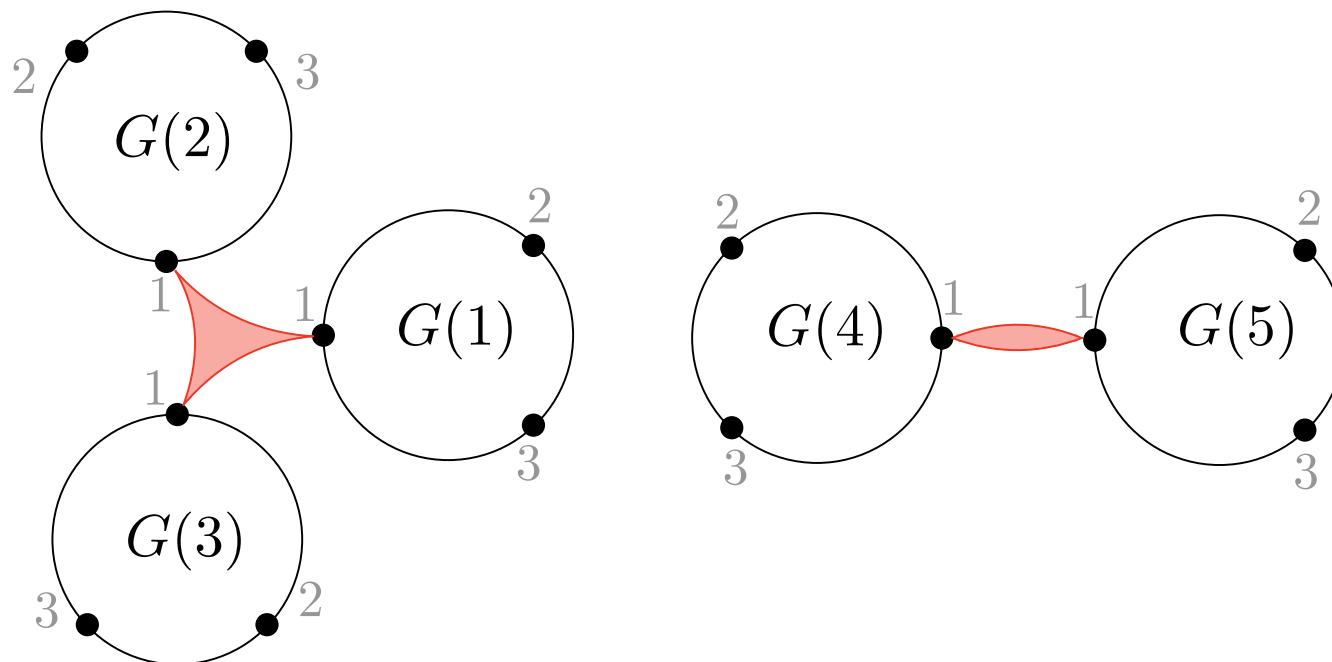


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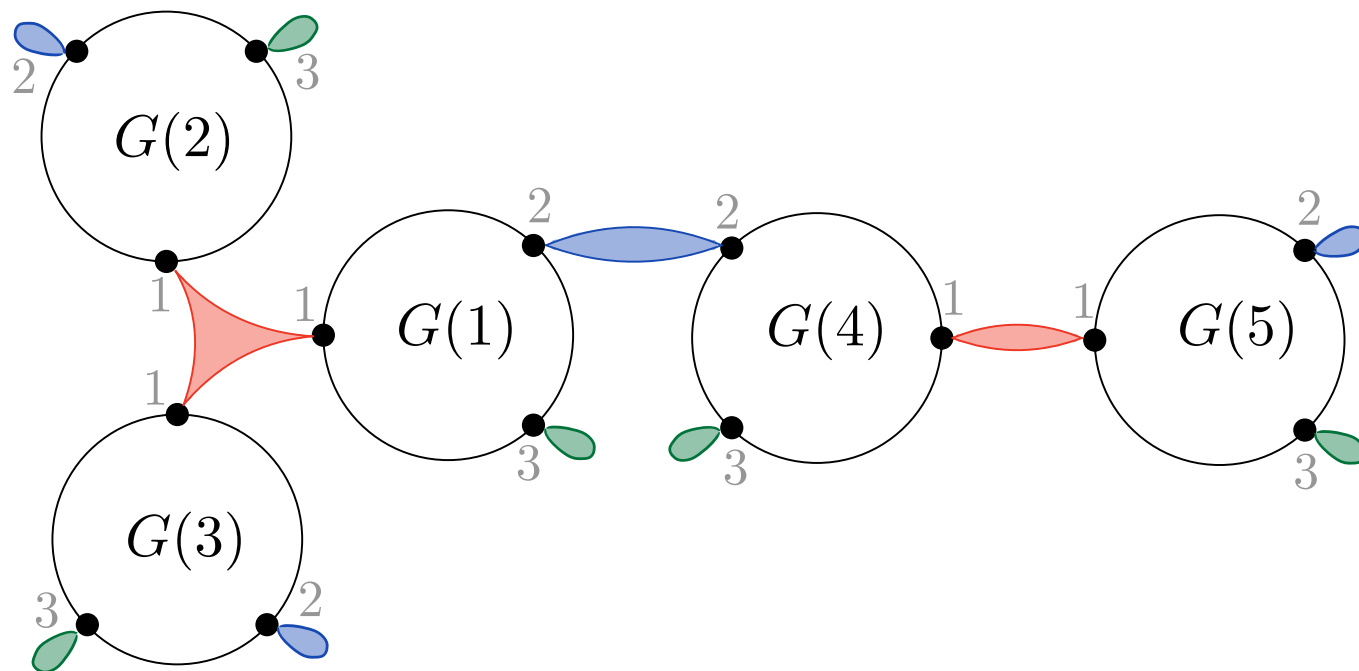


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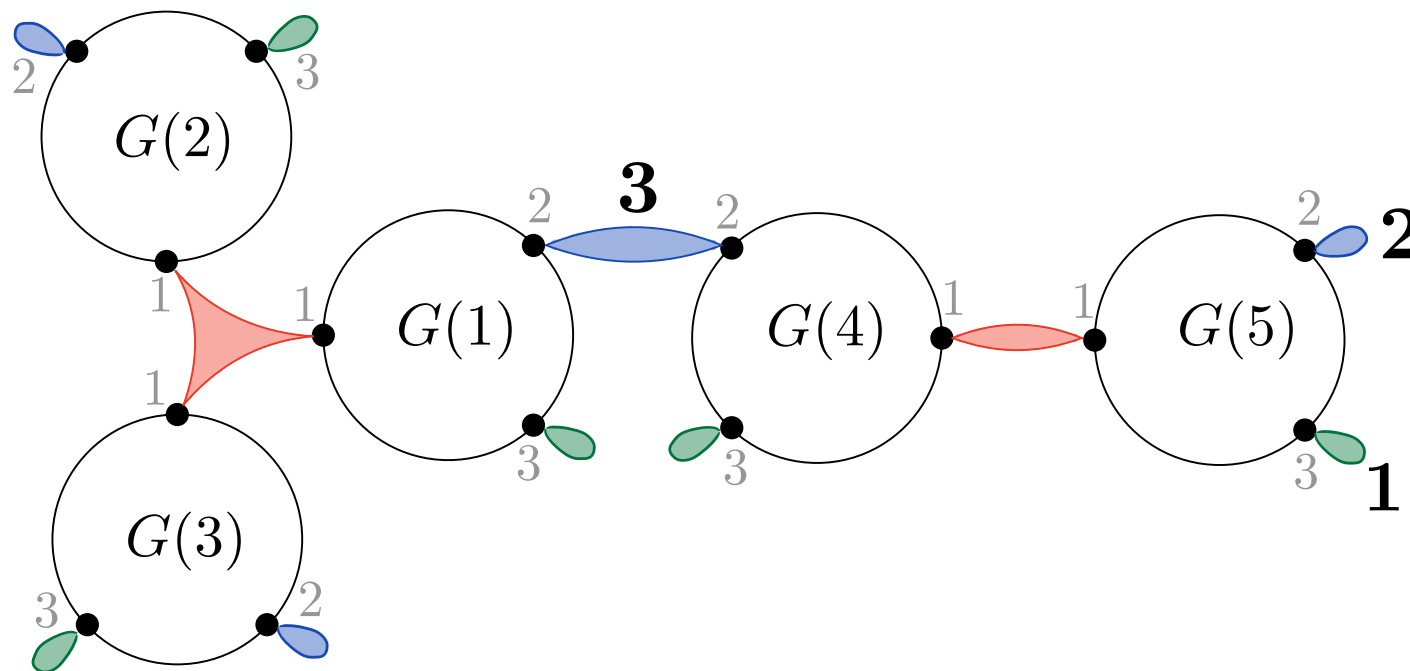


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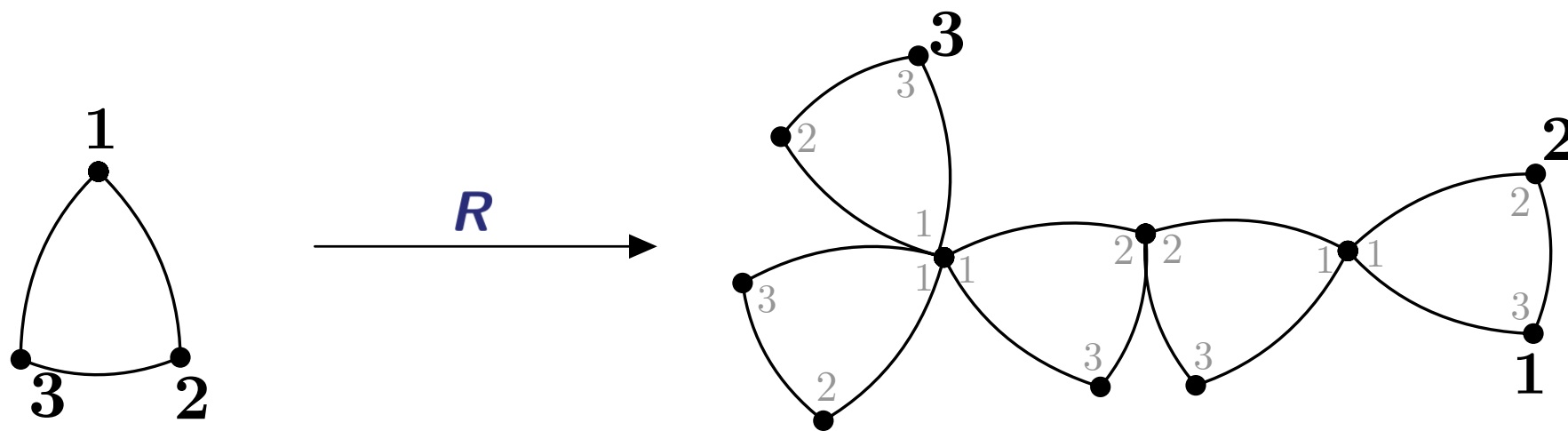


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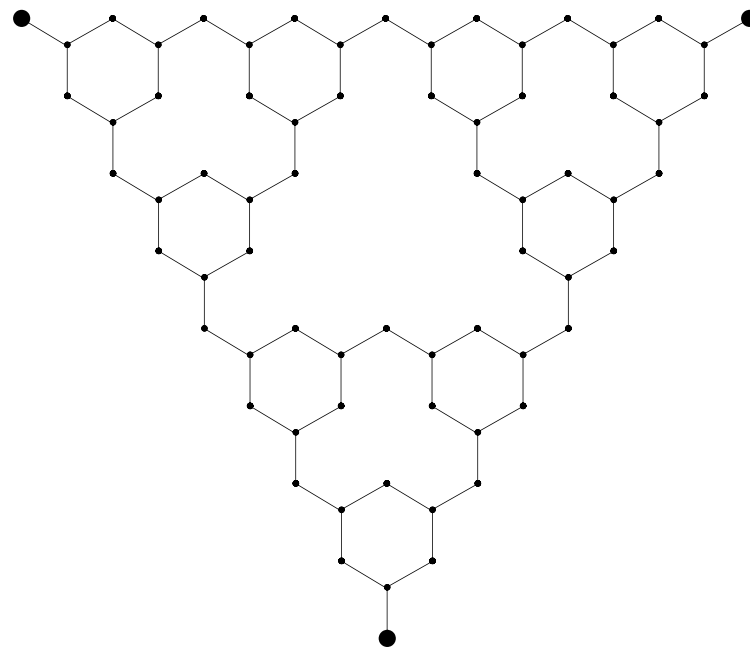
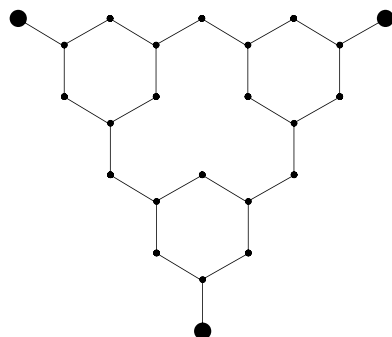
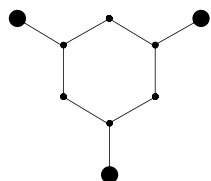
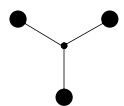
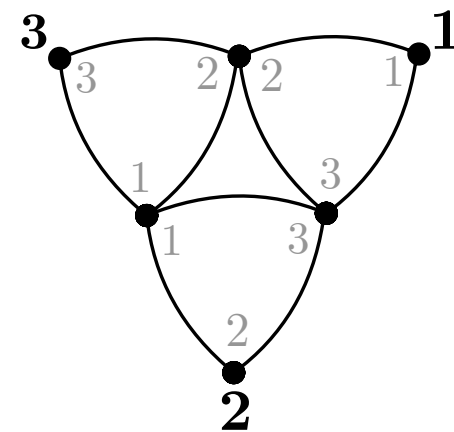
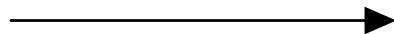
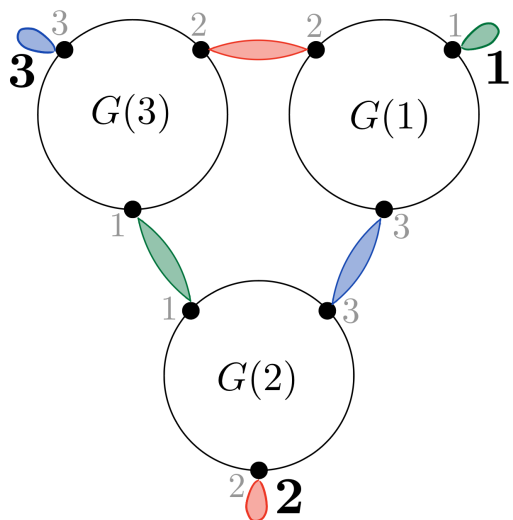
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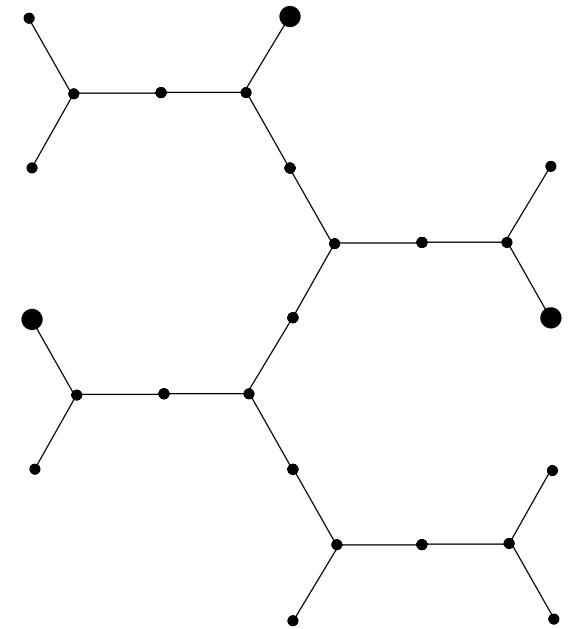
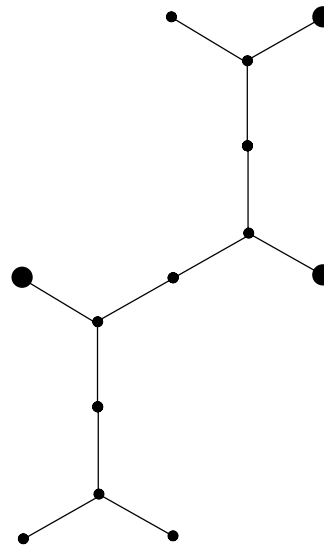
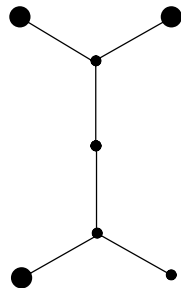
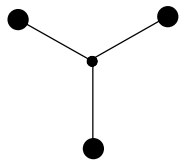
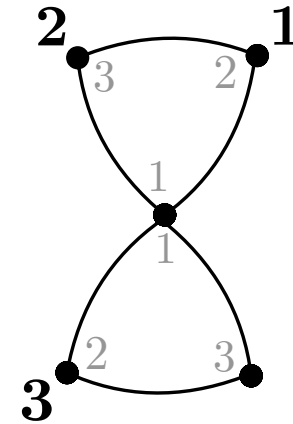
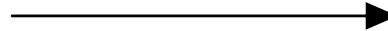
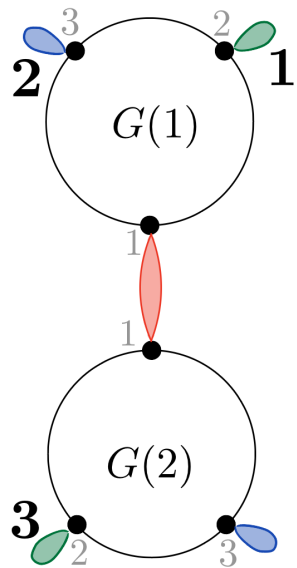
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Examples of recursions — Sierpiński gasket recursion



Examples of recursions — Dendrite $(z^2 + i)$ recursion

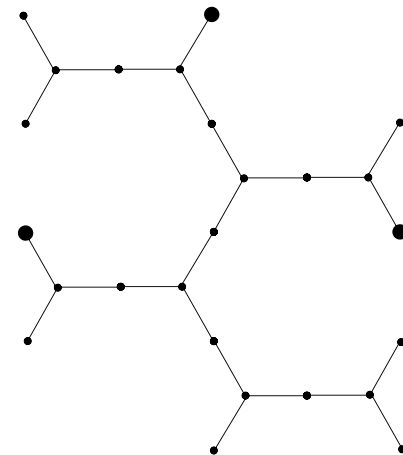
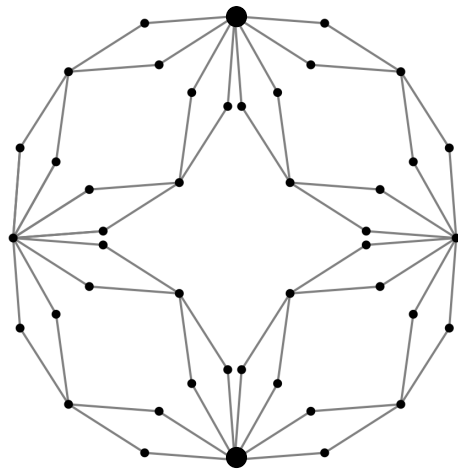


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Starting graph $G_0 \in \mathcal{G}_k \rightsquigarrow$ recursive graph sequence $\{G_n = R^n(G_0)\}$

R is **non-degenerate** if for some (and thus for all) connected G_0 the vertex degrees of G_n are uniformly bounded (in n).



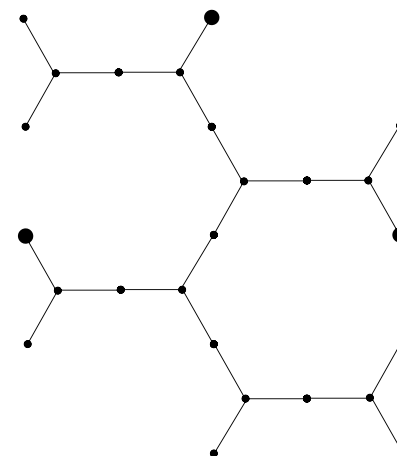
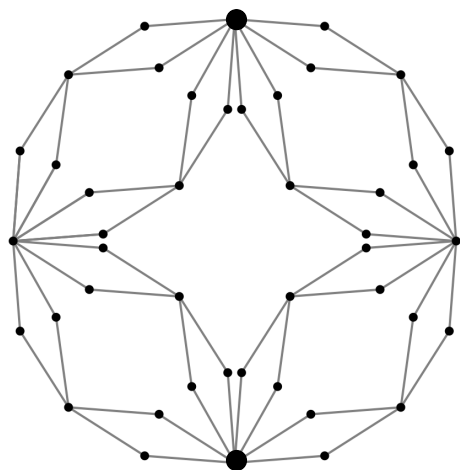
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R is **expanding** if for some (and thus for all) connected G_0 the distance between vertices labeled ℓ, ℓ' in G_n diverges to ∞ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for all $\ell \neq \ell' \in \{1, \dots, k\}$.



Chapter II:

Dynamical System

Let's partition the partition function!

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$$Z_G^{\bar{x}}(\lambda) := \sum_{\substack{\text{ind. } \sigma: V(G) \rightarrow \{0,1\} \\ \sigma \sim \bar{x} \text{ on } L(G)}} \lambda^{\#\sigma^{-1}(1)}.$$

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We have a natural **coordinate map** $\phi_\lambda: \mathcal{G}_k \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{2^k}$

$$G \mapsto \left(Z_G^{(0,\dots,0)}(\lambda), \dots, Z_G^{(1,\dots,1)}(\lambda) \right).$$

Dynamical system

Claim

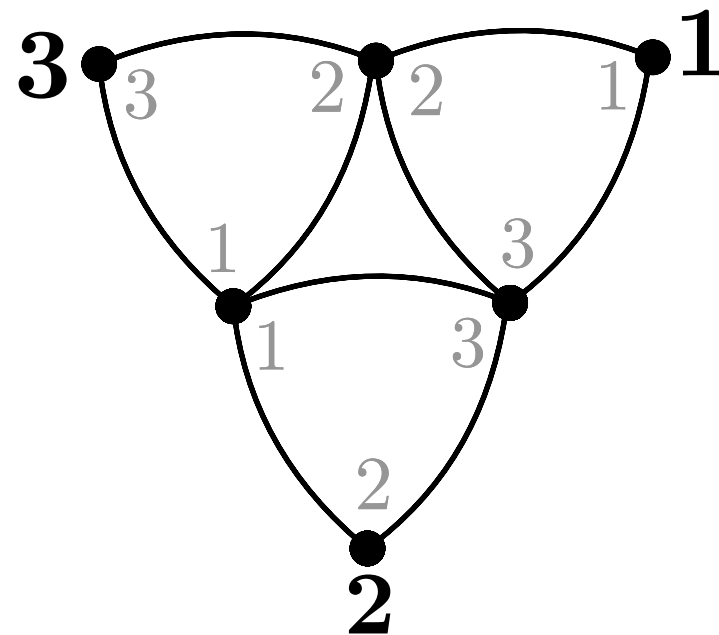
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Example [Sierpiński recursion]



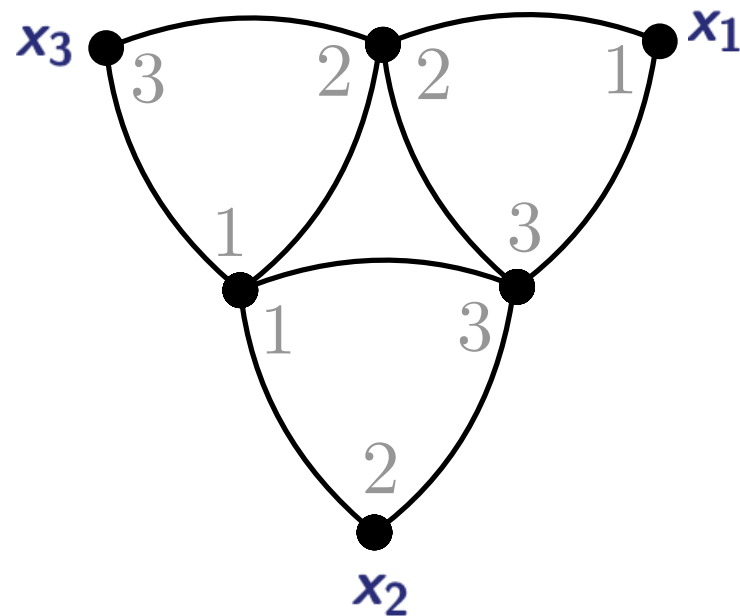
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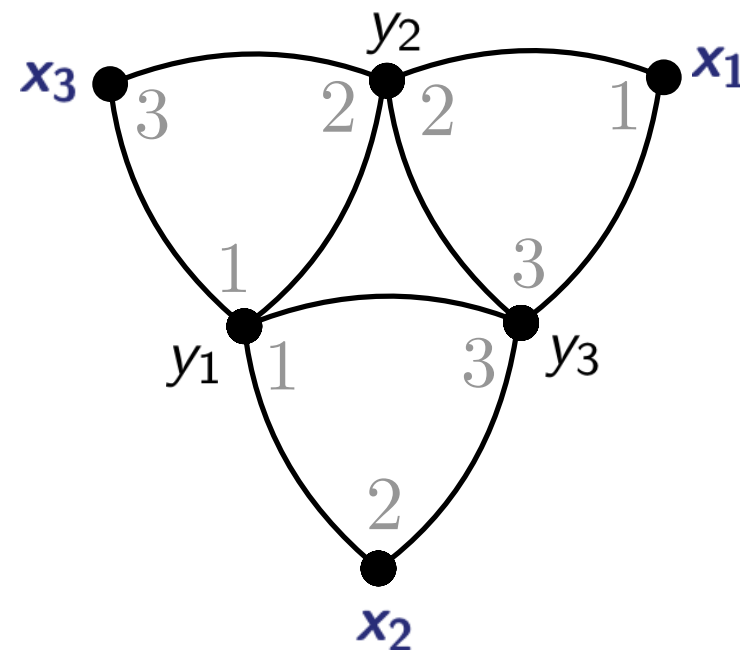


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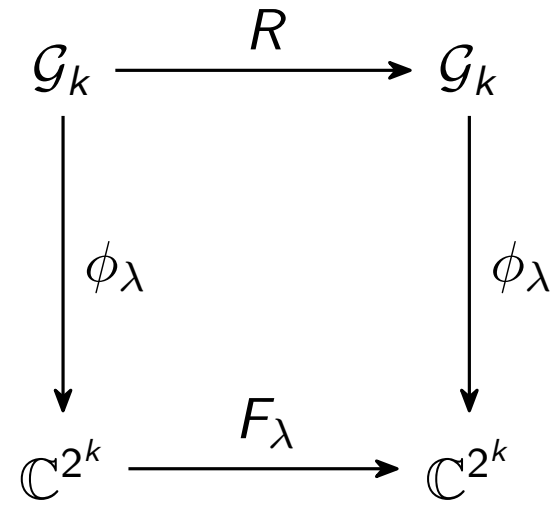
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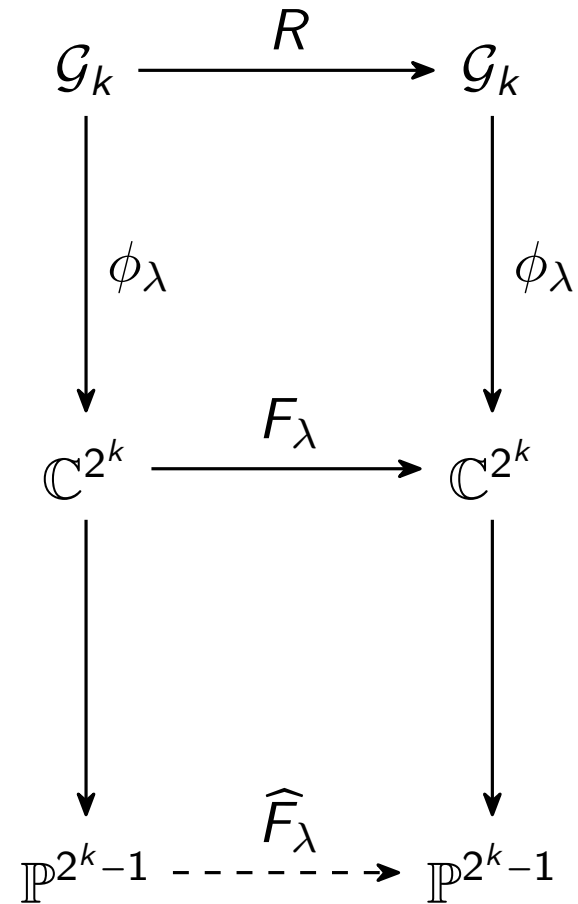
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$$(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_3)' = \sum_{(y_1, y_2, y_3) \in \{0,1\}^3} \frac{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_2, y_3) \cdot (y_1, \mathbf{x}_2, y_3) \cdot (y_1, y_2, \mathbf{x}_3)}{\lambda^{y_1+y_2+y_3}}.$$

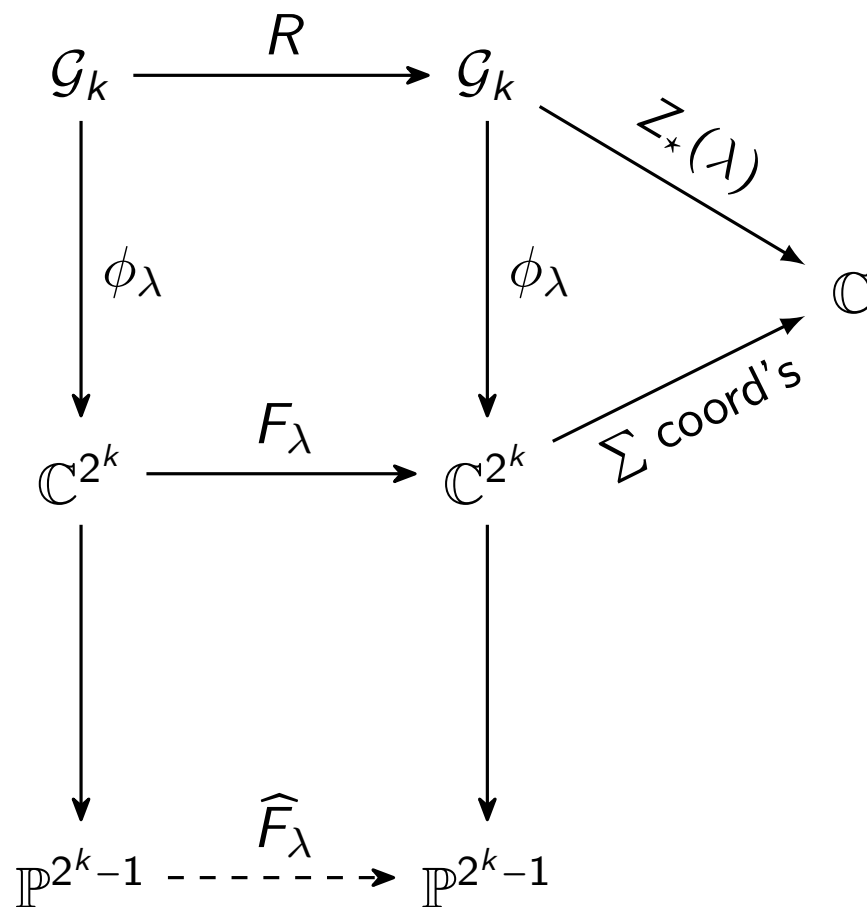
Rational dynamical system induced by R



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Chapter III:

Invariant Variety

Invariant Variety

Lemma

Let \mathcal{M} be the variety in \mathbb{P}^{2^k-1} defined by the following equations:

$$\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} = (\bar{x} + \bar{y}) \cdot \bar{0}$$

for all $\bar{x}, \bar{y} \in \{0, 1\}^k$ with $\bar{x} + \bar{y} \in \{0, 1\}^k$ (i.e., with disjoint support).

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Note: \mathcal{M} depends ONLY on $k!$ and not on the recursion data $(m, H, \Phi)!$

Invariant Variety

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Let \mathcal{M} be the variety in \mathbb{P}^{2^k-1} defined by the following equations:

$$\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} = (\bar{x} + \bar{y}) \cdot \bar{0}$$

for all $\bar{x}, \bar{y} \in \{0, 1\}^k$ with $\bar{x} + \bar{y} \in \{0, 1\}^k$ (i.e., with disjoint support).

Then $\dim(\mathcal{M}) = k$ and \mathcal{M} is (forward) invariant under \widehat{F}_λ .

Note: \mathcal{M} depends ONLY on $k!$ and not on the recursion data (m, H, Φ) !

- Can be proven directly using the formula for F_λ .

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- Can be proven directly using the formula for F_λ .
- Alternatively, one can use a *probability interpretation* of \mathcal{M} .

Probability interpretation of the invariant variety \mathcal{M}

Let $\tau : L \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ be an assignment on $L \subset L(G)$. Set

$$\mathbb{P}_G[\tau] := \sum_{\text{ind. } \sigma \text{ with } \sigma|_L = \tau} \lambda^{\#\sigma^{-1}(1)} / Z_G(\lambda) = \sum_{\bar{x} \in \{0,1\}^k, \tau \sim \bar{x} \text{ on } L} Z_G^{\bar{x}}(\lambda) / Z_G(\lambda)$$

— the probability that vertices of L get the assignment τ (for $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}^+$).

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Claim

The variety $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathbb{P}^{2^k-1}$ is defined by the following equations:

$$\mathbb{P}_G[\tau \cap \tau'] = \mathbb{P}_G[\tau] \cdot \mathbb{P}_G[\tau']$$

for any assignments τ, τ' on disjoint subsets of $L(G)$.

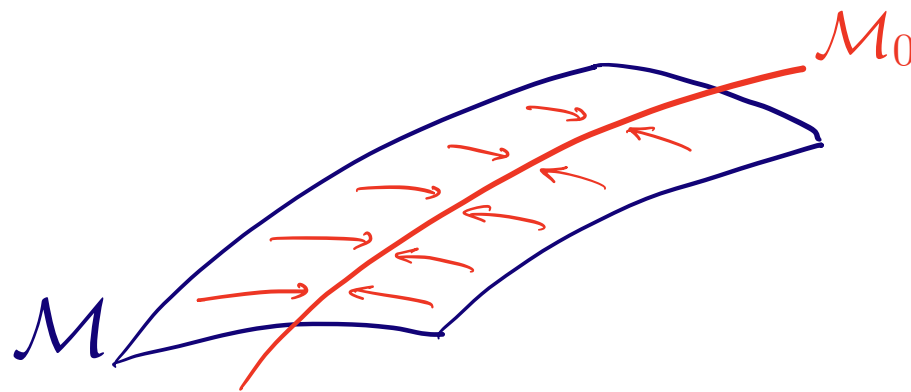
In other words: **no correlation between different labeled vertices!**

Dynamics **on** the invariant variety

Lemma

If R is **non-degenerate**, then \mathcal{M} is **eventually periodic**:

$$\mathcal{M} \xrightarrow{\widehat{F}_\lambda^t} \mathcal{M}_0 \curvearrowright \text{id} \quad \text{for some iterate } t \geq 1.$$



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$$\frac{(\bar{e}_\ell)'}{(\bar{0})'} = \lambda^{1-d_\ell} \cdot \left(\frac{(\bar{e}_{\Phi(\ell)})}{(\bar{0})} \right)^{d_\ell}$$

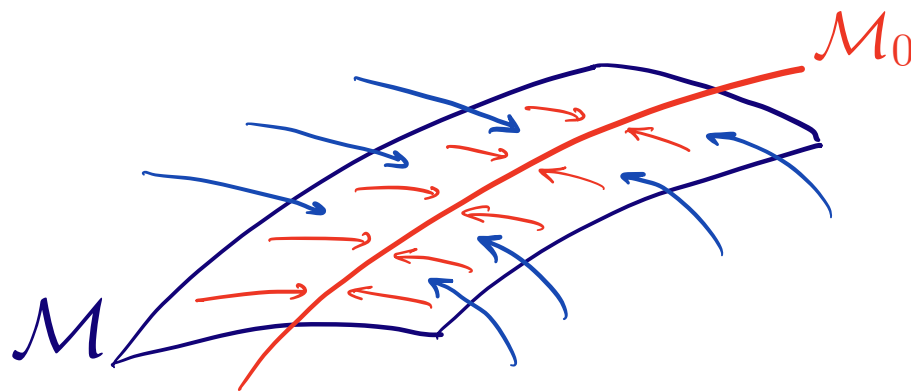
Dynamics **near** the invariant variety

Theorem

If R is **expanding**, then \mathcal{M} is **transversally superattracting**: $\exists C >, \epsilon_0 > 0$ s.t.

$$|\mathbb{P}_G(\tau : \tau') - \mathbb{P}_G(\tau)| < \epsilon < \epsilon_0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad |\mathbb{P}_{R(G)}(\sigma : \sigma') - \mathbb{P}_{R(G)}(\sigma)| < C \cdot \epsilon^2.$$

$\forall \tau, \tau': L(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}, \text{supp}(\tau) \cap \text{supp}(\tau') = \emptyset \quad \forall \sigma, \sigma': L(R(G)) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}, \text{supp}(\sigma) \cap \text{supp}(\sigma') = \emptyset$



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Corollary

Suppose R is **non-degenerate** and **expanding**. Then

- the **spectrum of $J := \text{Jac}_{\widehat{F}_\lambda}(\xi_0)$** at any $\xi_0 \in \mathcal{M}_0$ is **$\{0, 1\}$** ;
- $\mu_J(1) = \dim_J(E_1) = \dim(\mathcal{M}_0)$;
- $\mu_J(0) = \dim_{J^t}(E_0) = 2^k - \dim(\mathcal{M}_0) - 1$.

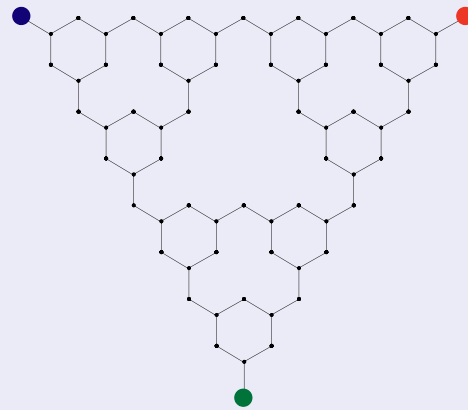
Dynamics when starting with **physical values** ($\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+$)

Theorem

Suppose R is **non-degenerate** and **expanding**, and let $G_n = R^n(G_0)$. Then correlations between labeled vertices in G_n decay exponentially fast:

$$|\mathbb{P}_{G_n}(\tau : \tau') - \mathbb{P}_{G_n}(\tau)| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad n \rightarrow \infty$$

for any assignments τ, τ' on disjoint subsets of $L(G_n)$ (and $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+$).



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In other words:

For $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+$, if we start to iterate \widehat{F}_λ with $[\phi_\lambda(G_0)] \in \mathbb{P}^{2^k}$ for $G_0 \in \mathcal{G}_k$, then

$$\widehat{F}_\lambda^n([\phi_\lambda(G_0)]) = [\phi_\lambda(G_n)] \rightarrow \mathcal{M} \quad \text{as} \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Chapter IV:

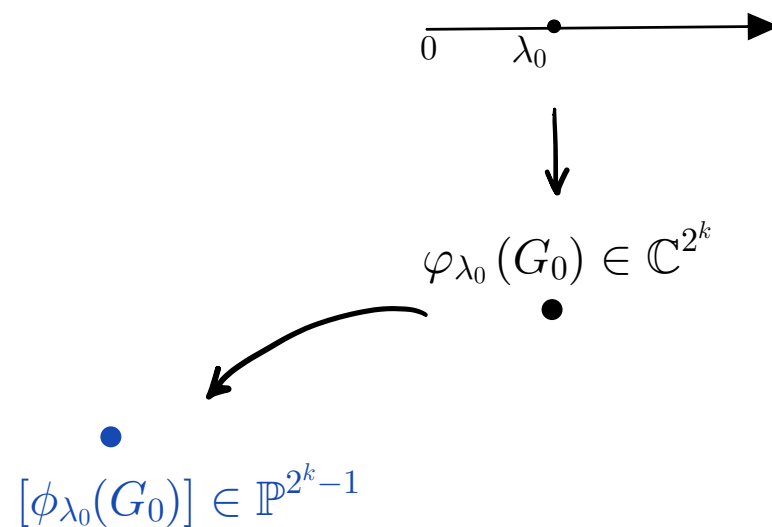
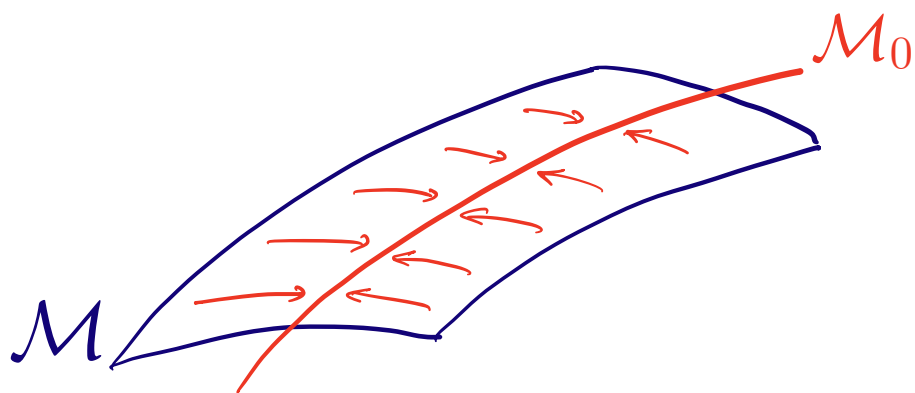
And they all meet together...

No Phase Transitions!

Theorem [H.-Peters]

Suppose R is a **non-degenerate** and **expanding** graph recursion operator, and let $\{G_n = R^n(G_0)\}$ be a recursive graph sequence.

Then **zeros of $Z_{G_n}(\lambda)$, $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, avoid a uniform neighborhood of \mathbb{R}_+ .**

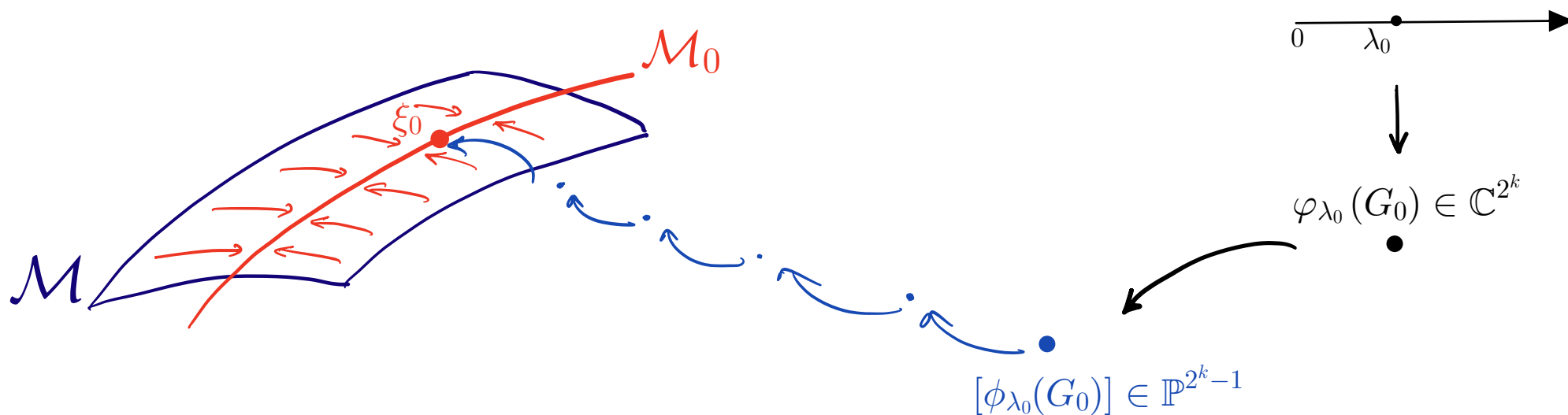


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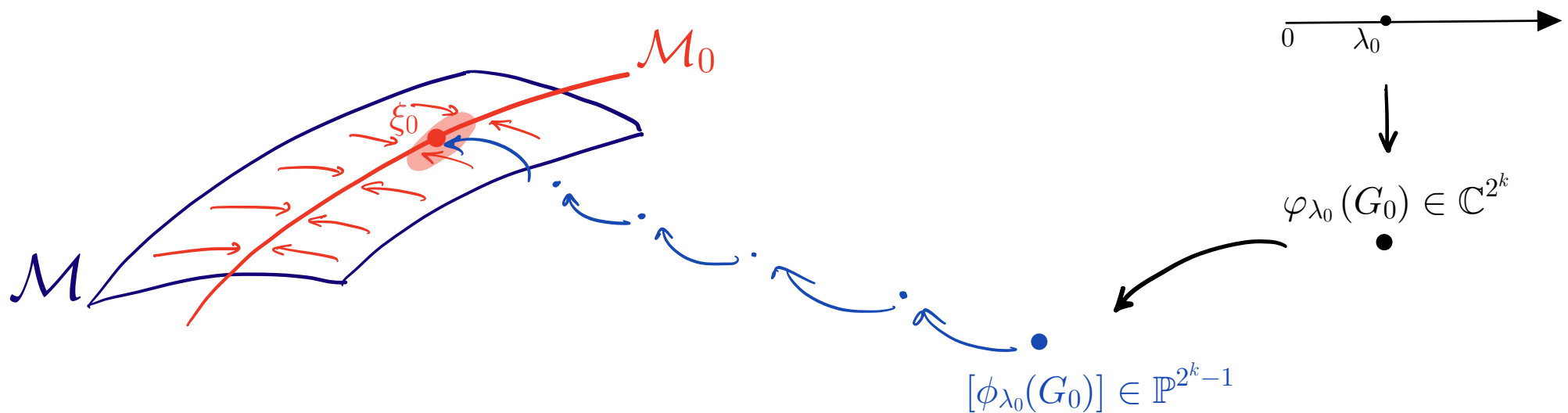


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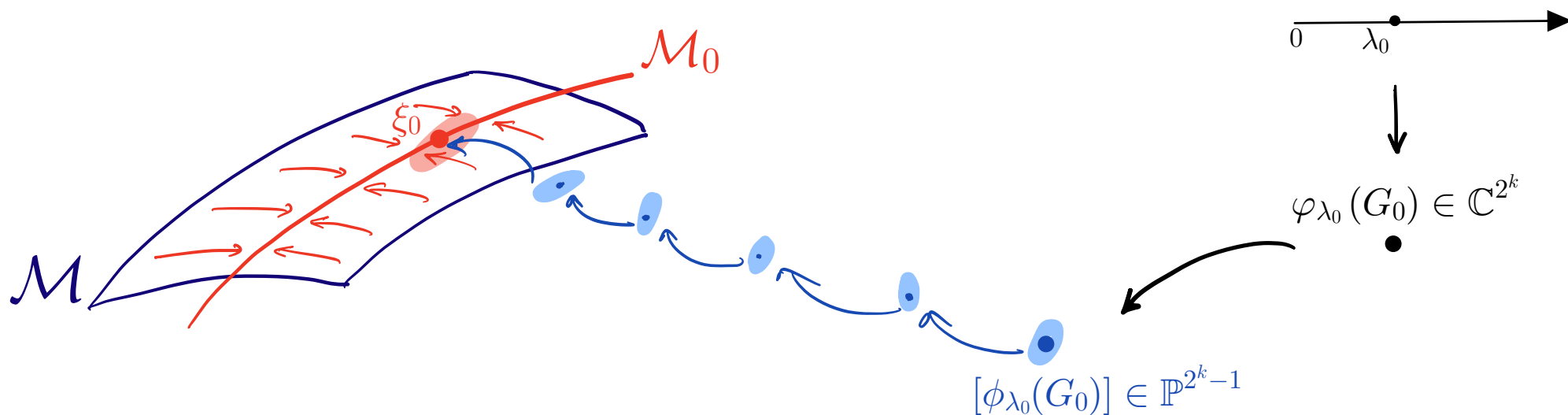


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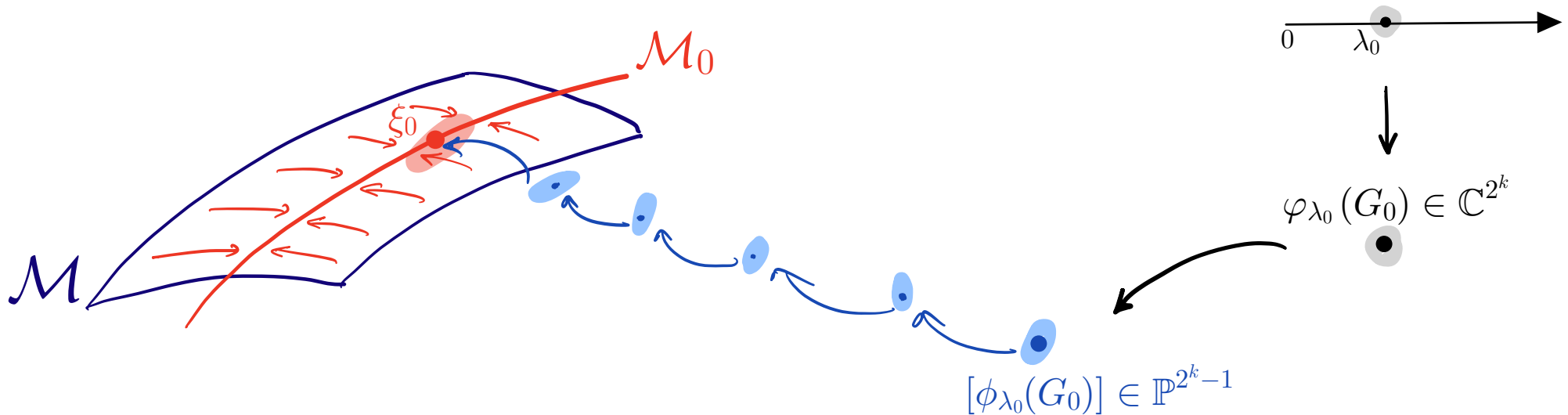


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Corollary

The limiting free energy per site is real analytic on all of \mathbb{R}_+ , that is, there are **no phase transitions**.

Boundedness of Zeros!

Theorem [H.-Peters]

Suppose R is a **non-degenerate** and **expanding** graph recursion operator, and let $\{G_n = R^n(G_0)\}$ be a recursive graph sequence with $G_0 = (k+1)$ -star.

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Then **zeros of $Z_{G_n}(\lambda)$, $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$, are uniformly bounded** (and thus avoid a cone around \mathbb{R}_+).

Epilogue:

That is just the beginning!

Further questions

- **Other models (e.g., Ising):**

What is the precise class of amenable partition functions?

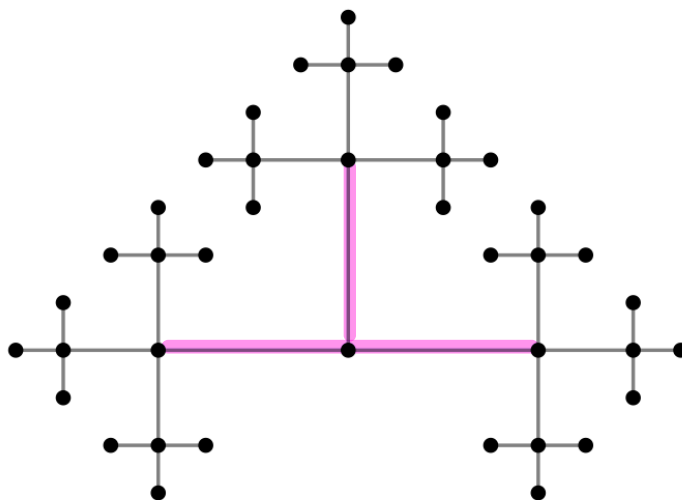
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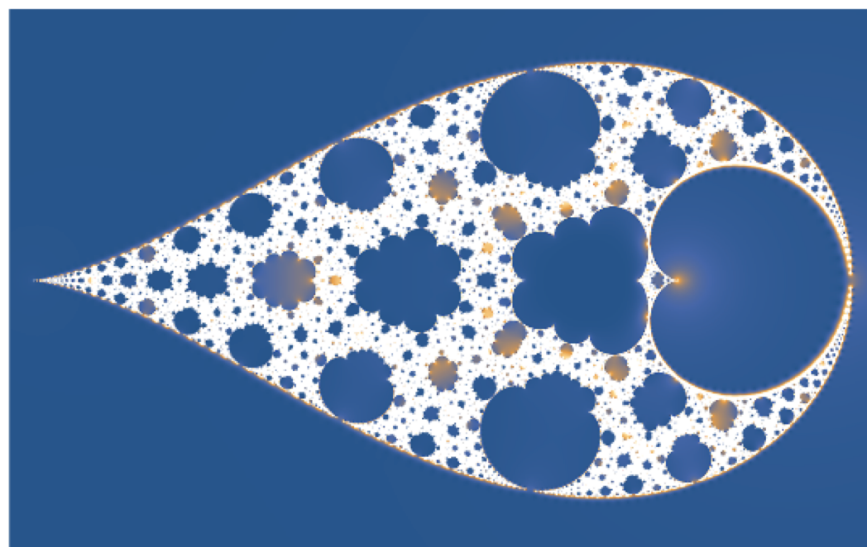
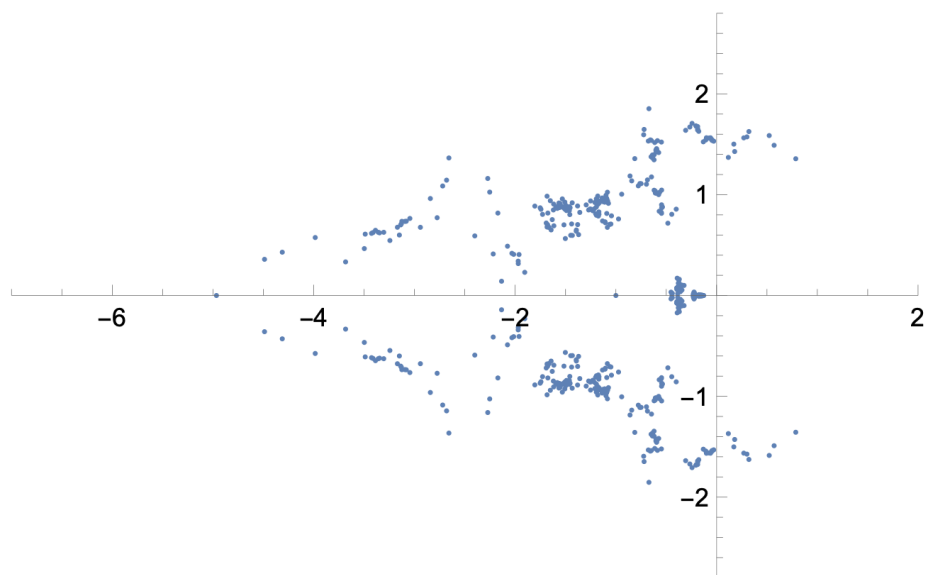
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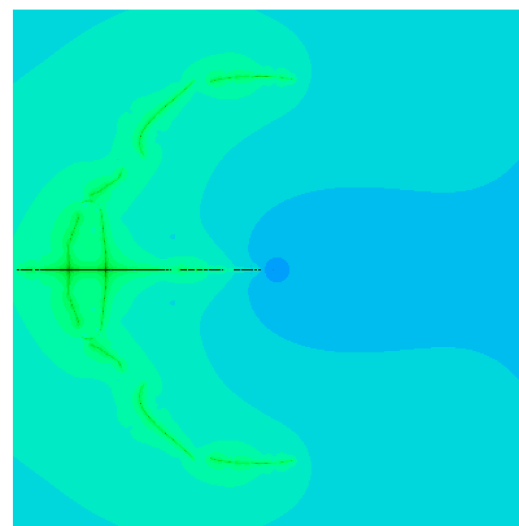
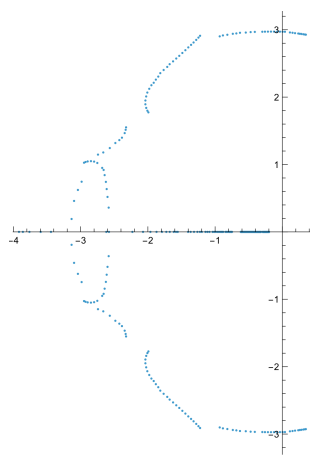
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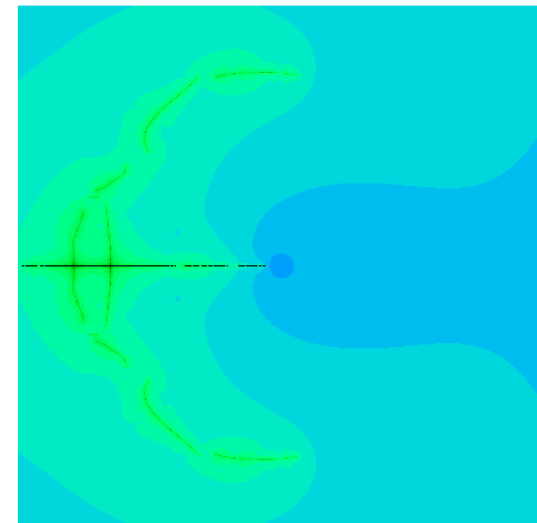
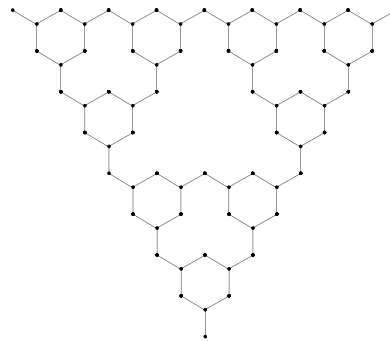
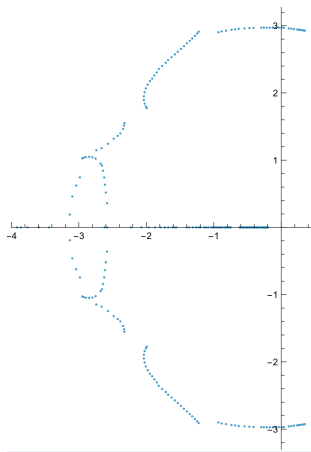
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THANK YOU for your attention!