# Brownian winding and Gaussian multiplicative chaos

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## Winding of a planar curve

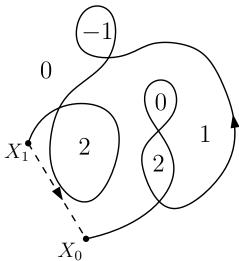


Figure: A curve  $X : [0, 1] \to \mathbb{R}^2$  on the plane allows to define a **winding** function  $\theta^X : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{Z}$ . For any point  $z \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\theta^X(z)$  describes the number of time X winds around z.

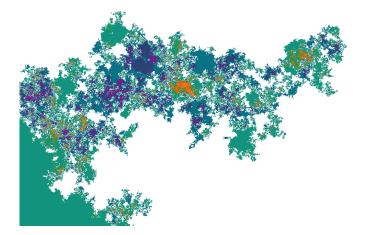


Figure: Coloration of the plane depending on the value of  $\theta^X$ , when X is a planar Brownian motion.

I studied the set of points with winding at least N,

$$\mathcal{D}_N \coloneqq \{ z \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \theta(z) \ge N \},$$
(1)

and its Lebesgue measure

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In 1994, W. Werner has obtained the following estimation [1].

#### Theorem

The sequence  $D_N$  is equivalent to  $\frac{1}{2\pi N}$  in  $L^2$ . That is,

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I obtained the following improvement [2].

#### Theorem

The sequence  $D_N$  is equivalent to  $\frac{1}{2\pi N}$ , in  $L^p$  for all p and in the almost sure sense. The convergence rate is at least  $N^{-\frac{1}{2}+o(1)}$ .

To be more specific:

- ♦ For all  $p \in [1 + \infty)$ , for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists C such that for all  $N \ge 1$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[|ND_N - \frac{1}{2\pi}|^p]^{\frac{1}{p}} \le CN^{-\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon}.$
- ♦ Almost surely, for all  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists C such that for all  $N \ge 1$ ,

$$\left|ND_N - \frac{1}{2\pi}\right| \le CN^{-\frac{1}{2}+\epsilon}.$$

Why was I interested in such an improvement? Let us recall the following facts.

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◊ Monte-Carlo method: for an homogeneous Poisson process P with large intensity,

$$\operatorname{Leb}(\mathcal{C}(X)) \simeq \frac{1}{\#\mathcal{P}} \sum_{z \in \mathcal{P}} \mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{C}(X)}(z).$$

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By averaging the winding of random points, we can compute integrals along smooth curves.

#### What about the Brownian case?

The estimation on the convergence rate of  $D_N$ , in the almost sure sense, allows to prove the following.

#### Theorem ([2])

For a planar Brownian motion X, the function  $\theta^X$  is not integrable, but

$$\int X^1 \, \mathrm{d}X^2 = \lim_{K \to +\infty} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \max(-K, \min(\theta^X(z), K)) \, \mathrm{d}z.$$

(the left-hand side is a stochastic integral, either in the sense of Itö or Stratonovich)

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(the left-hand side is a stochastic integral, either in the sense of Itö or Stratonovich)

The average winding of random points converges in distribution, toward a Cauchy variable centered at this value.

$$\frac{1}{\#\mathcal{P}}\sum_{z\in\mathcal{P}}\theta^X(z)\xrightarrow{(d)}\mathrm{Cauchy}(\int \mathrm{X}^1\,\mathrm{dX}^2,\tfrac{1}{2\pi}).$$

The proof relies on the idea that the distribution of  $\mathcal{D}_N$  is 'balanced' along the trajectory of X. I made this idea formal with the following result.

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## Theorem ([3])

The measure  $2\pi N \mathbb{1}_{\mathcal{D}_N} dz$  converges almost surely, weakly, toward the occupation measure of the Brownian motion.

#### Gaussian multiplicative chaos

To compute other integrals, the Lebesgue measure must be replaced with other area elements. For a smooth 1-form  $\eta$ ,

$$\int_X \eta = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \theta^X \, \mathrm{d}\eta.$$

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What happens when the area measure becomes very irregular?

## Theorem ([4])

When the measure M is a Gaussian multiplicative chaos on the plane with small enough intermittency parameter  $\gamma$ , and X is a planar Brownian motion, one can still define a 'principal value' for the integral  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \theta^X \, \mathrm{d}M$ .

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This defines a notion of Lévy area enclosed by the Brownian motion, but with GMC as underlying area measure.

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Roughly speaking, we are studying a 'Brownian particle interacting with an extremely weak quantum Yang-Mills field'.

## That's it!

#### Wendelin Werner.

Sur les points autour desquels le mouvement brownien plan tourne beaucoup.

Probability Theory and Related Fields, 99(1):111-144, 1994.



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Lévy area without approximation, 2021. arXiv:2101.03992.



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Planar Brownian motion winds evenly along its trajectory, 2021.

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Integration and stochastic integration in Gaussian multiplicative chaos, 2021. arXiv:2105.01232