

# Scaling limits of pattern-avoiding permutations

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Joint work with F. Bassino, M. Bouvel, V. Féray, L. Gerin and A. Pierrot  
(LIPN-P13, Zürich<sup>2</sup>, CMAP-Polytechnique, LMO-Orsay)

Journées MAS

30 août 2018



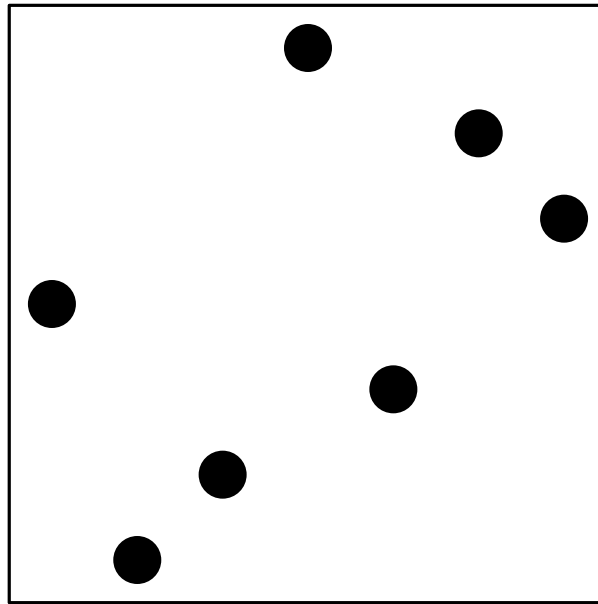
# 1 – The scaling limit of separable permutations

After Bassino, Bouvel, Féray, Gerin, Pierrot 2016

# Permutations

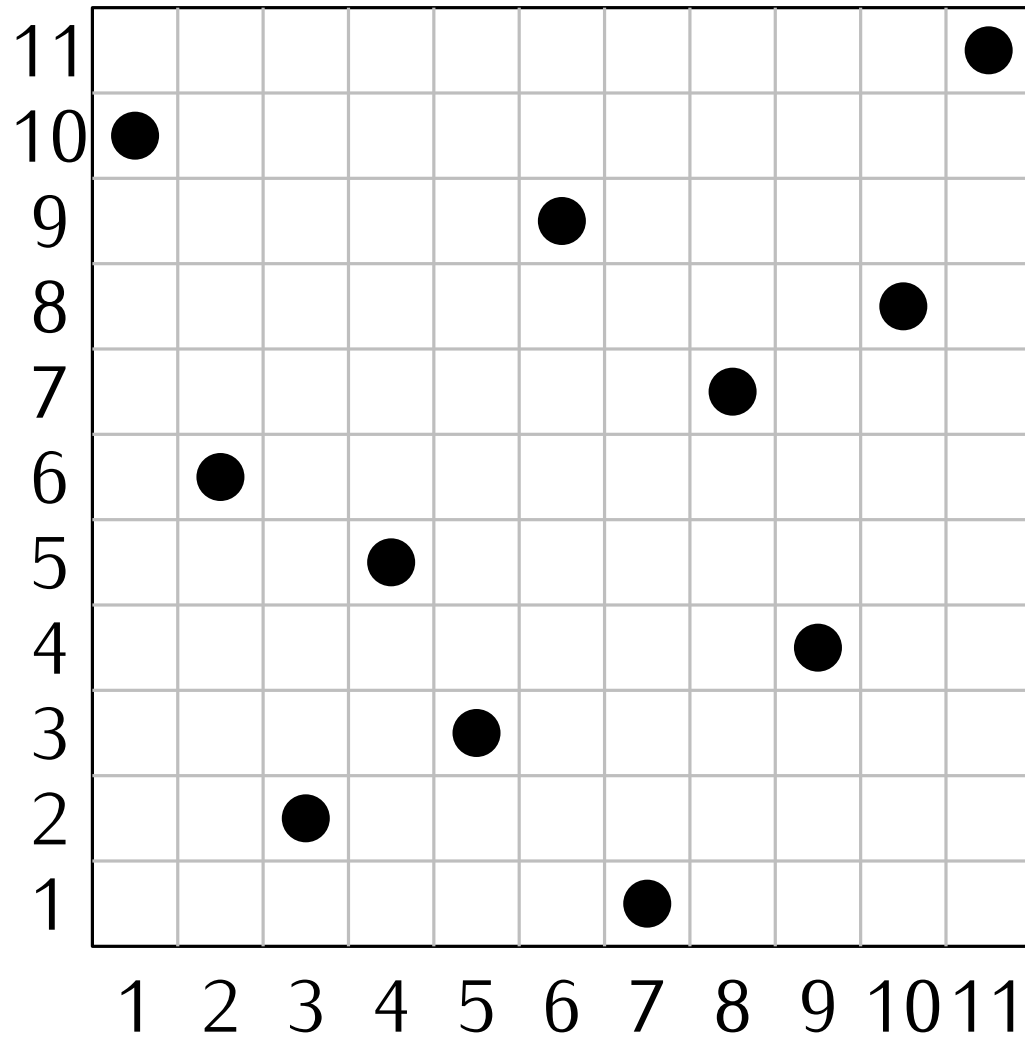
A permutation  $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$  is a word  $(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(n))$  which contains every element of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ .

Diagram of  $(4128376) \in \mathfrak{S}_8$ :



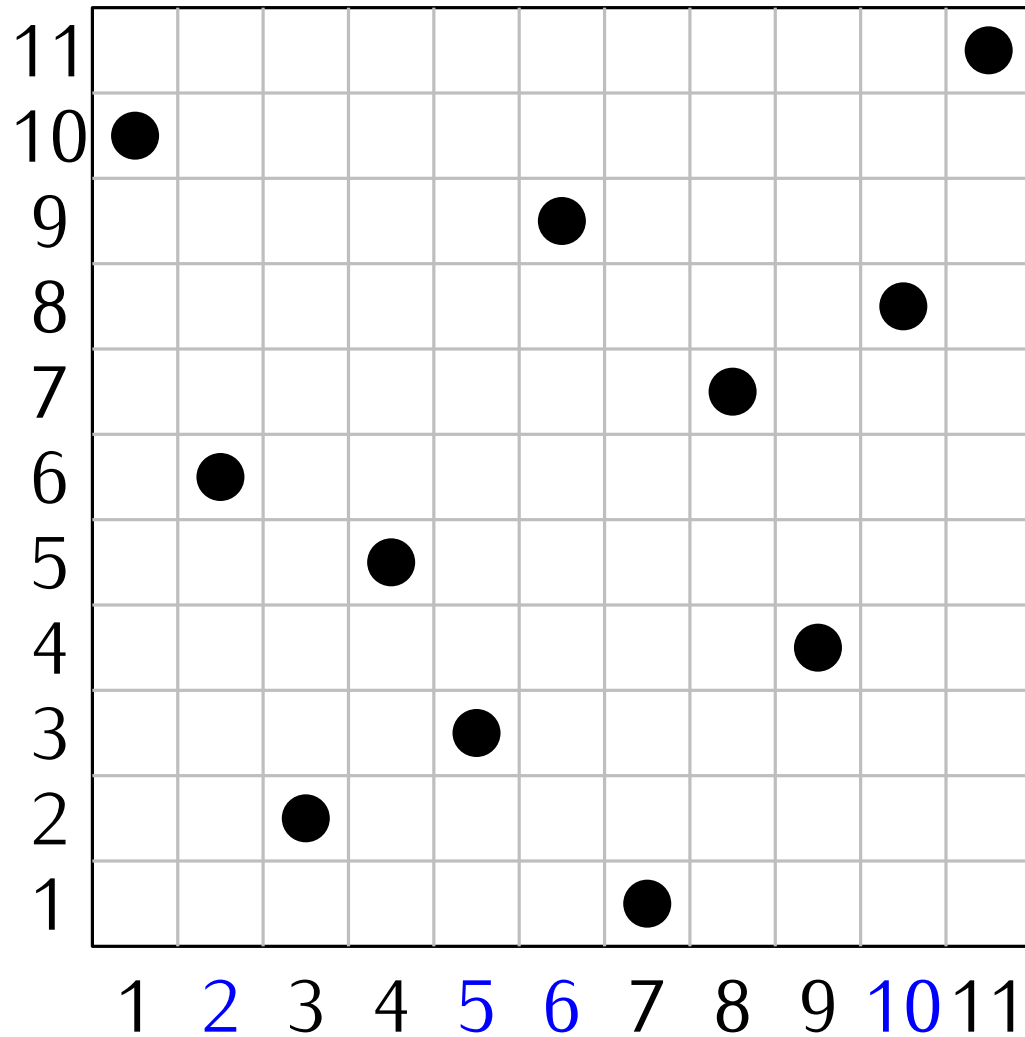
# Permutation patterns

$$\sigma = (10, 6, 2, 5, 3, 9, 1, 7, 4, 8, 11) \in \mathfrak{S}_{11}$$



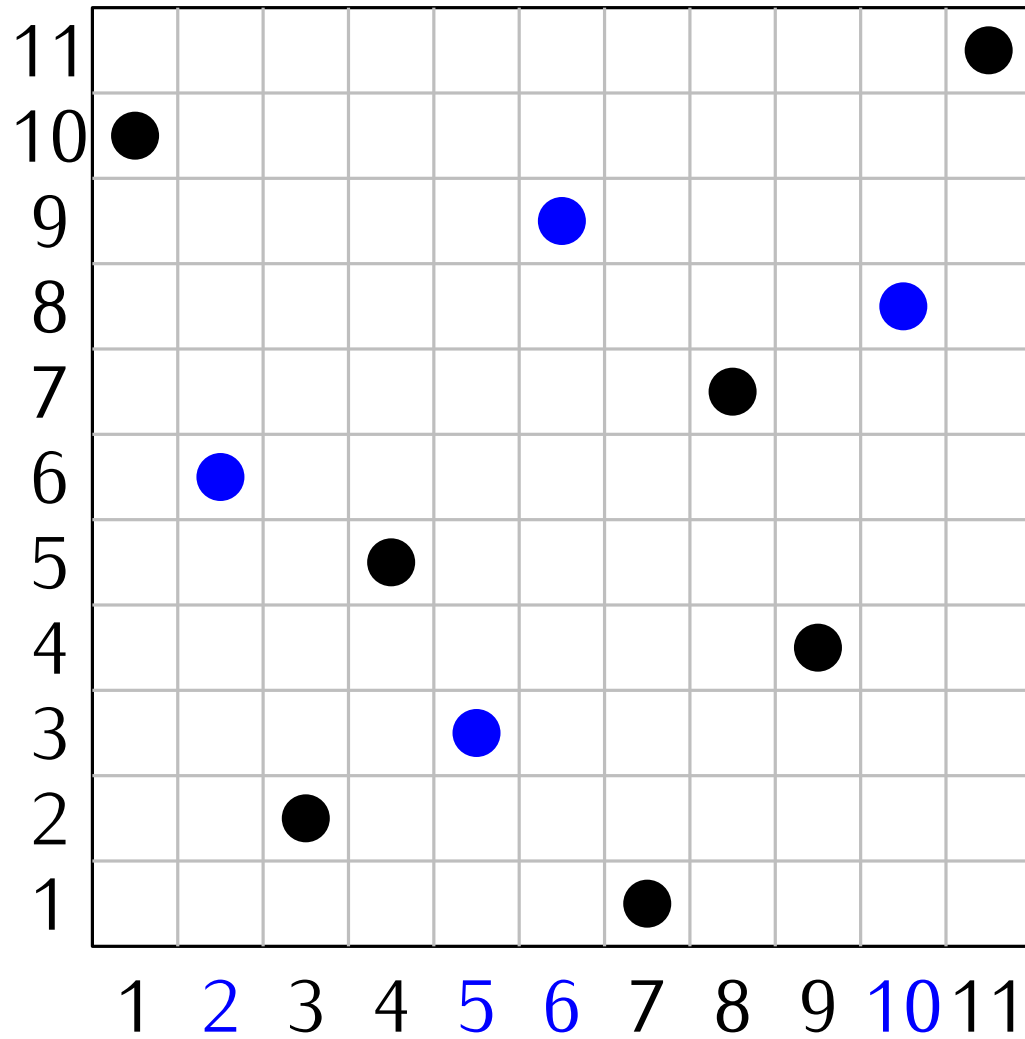
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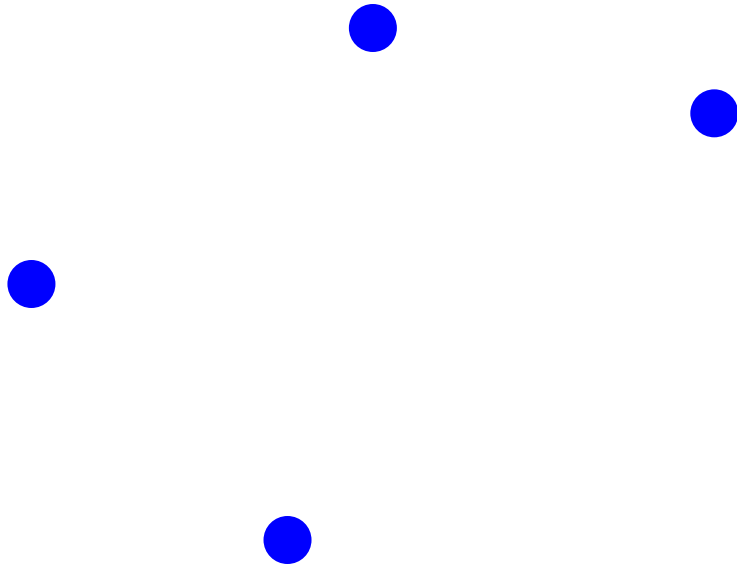
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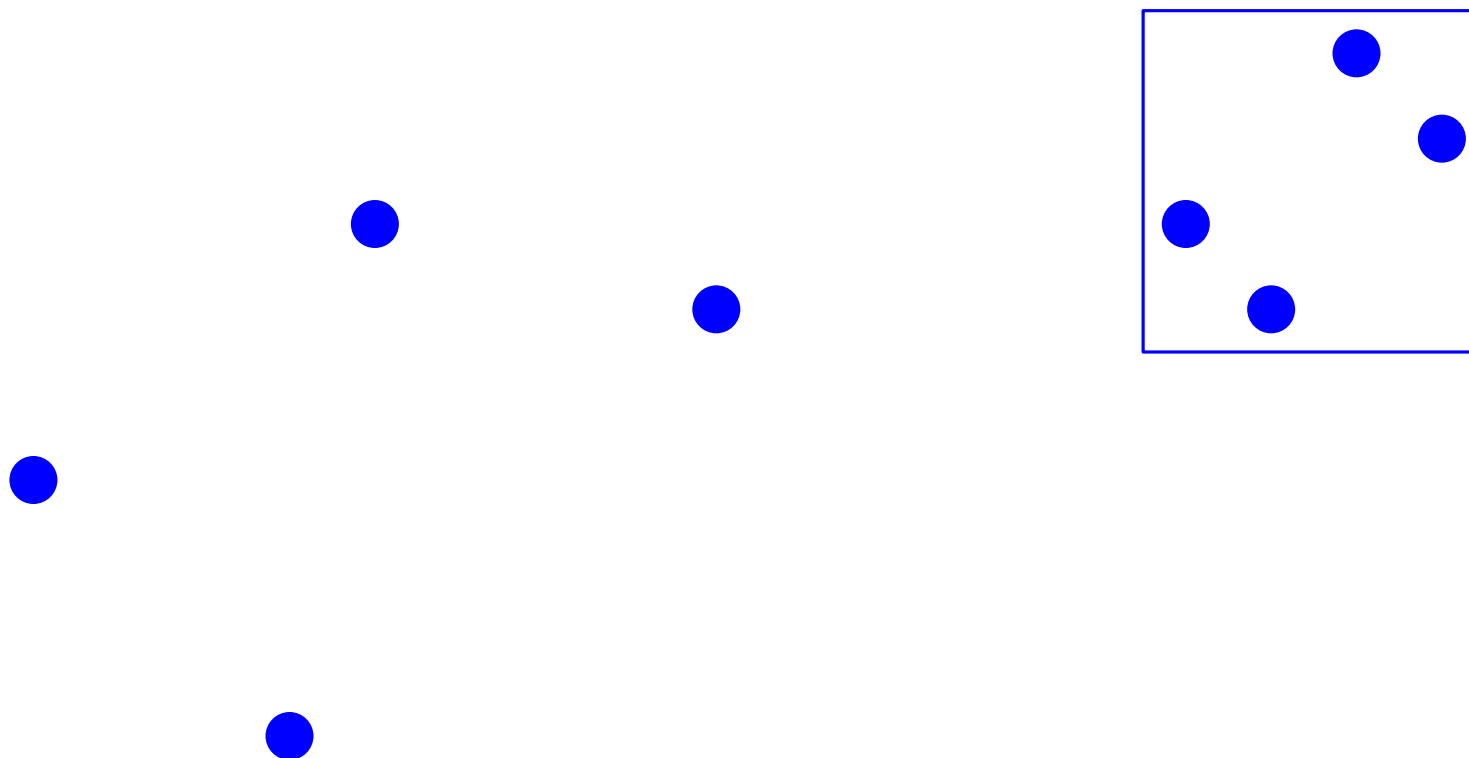
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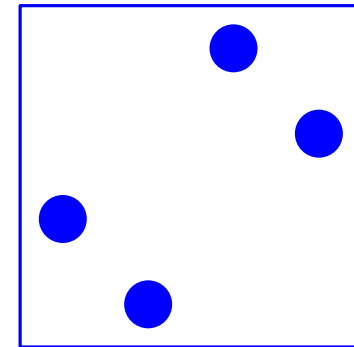
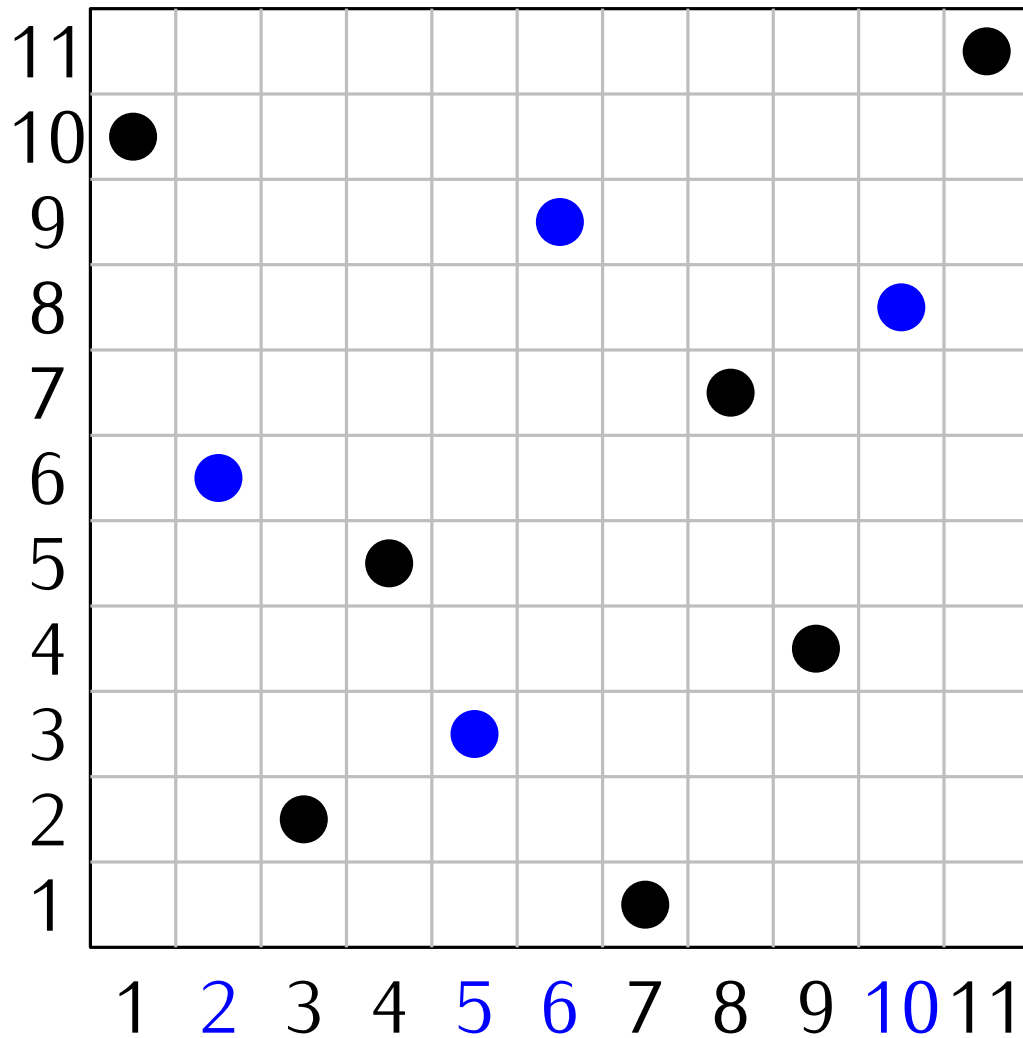
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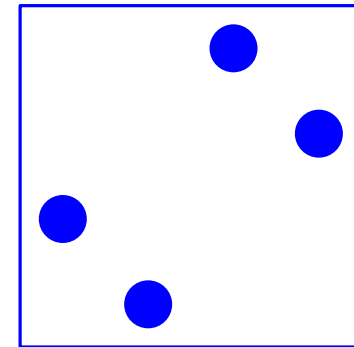
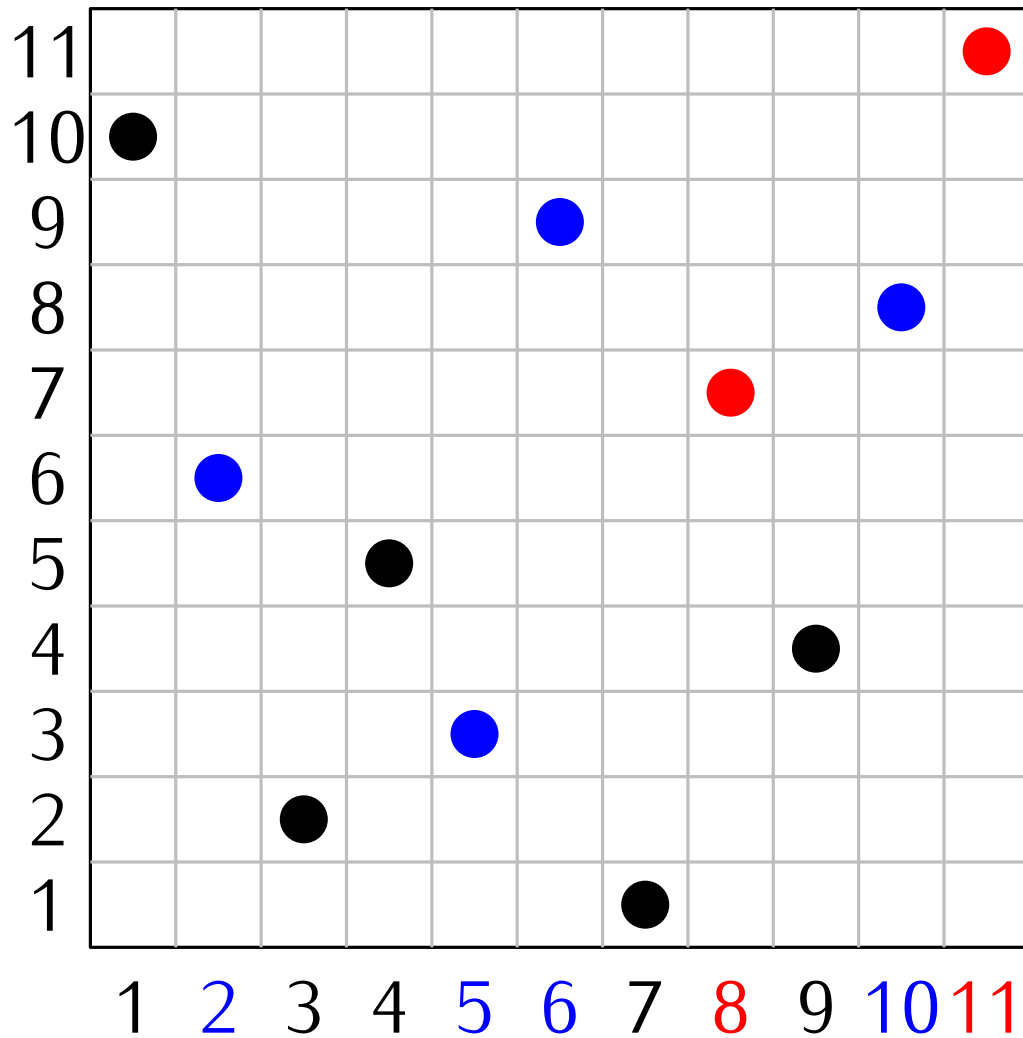
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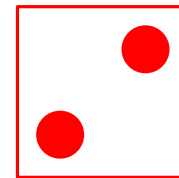
$$\text{pat}_{\{2,5,6,10\}}(\sigma) = (2143)$$

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$$\text{pat}_{\{8,11\}}(\sigma) = (12)$$

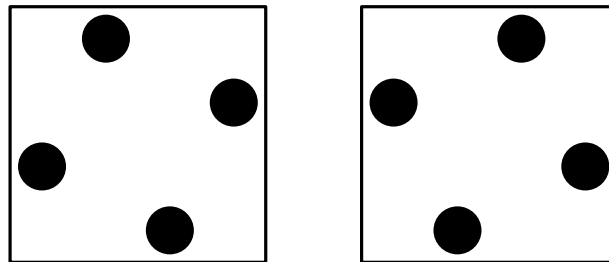
# Classes of permutation and pattern-avoidance

*Permutation class*: set of permutations closed under pattern extraction. Can always be written as  $Av(B)$ , the set of permutations that avoid patterns in some *basis*  $B$ .

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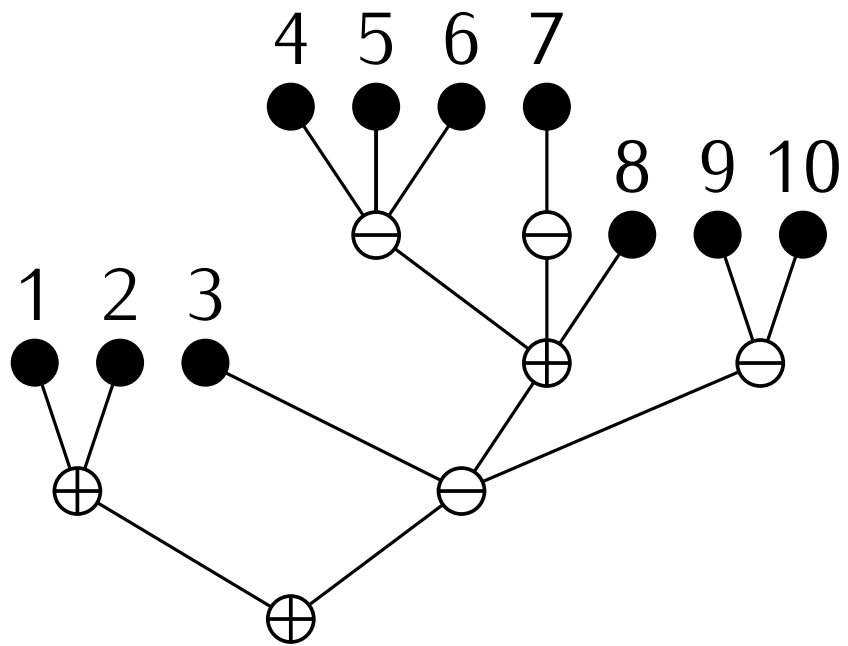
*Permutation class*: set of permutations closed under pattern extraction. Can always be written as  $Av(B)$ , the set of permutations that avoid patterns in some *basis*  $B$ .

Separable permutations:  $Av(3142, 2413)$



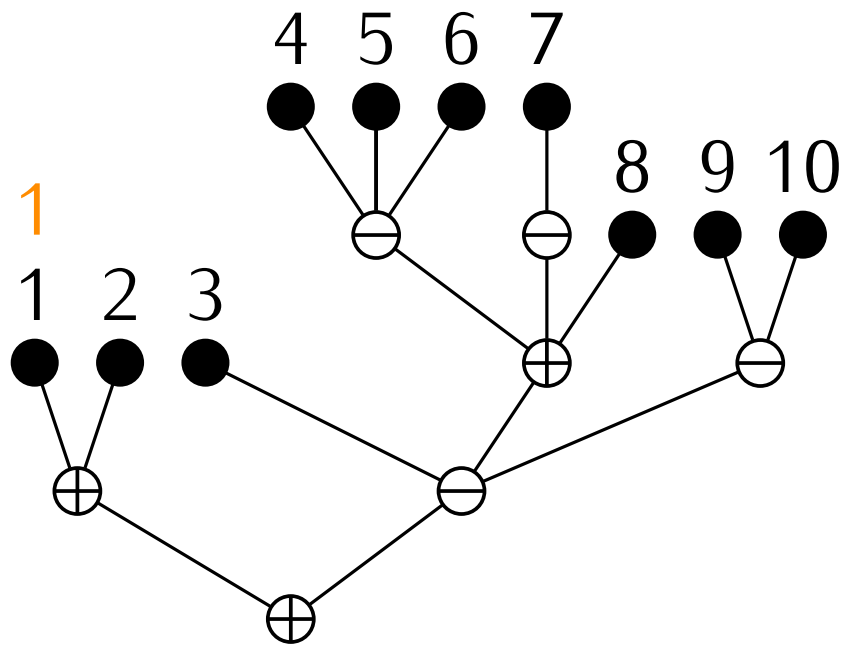
(Avis-Newborn '80, Bose-Buss-Lubiw '93)

# Separable permutations



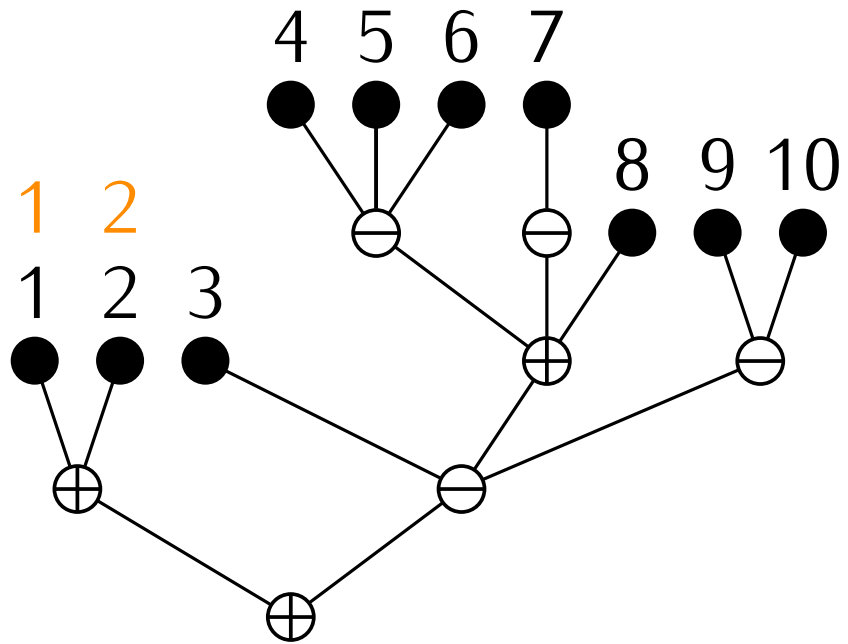
Signed tree  $\tau$

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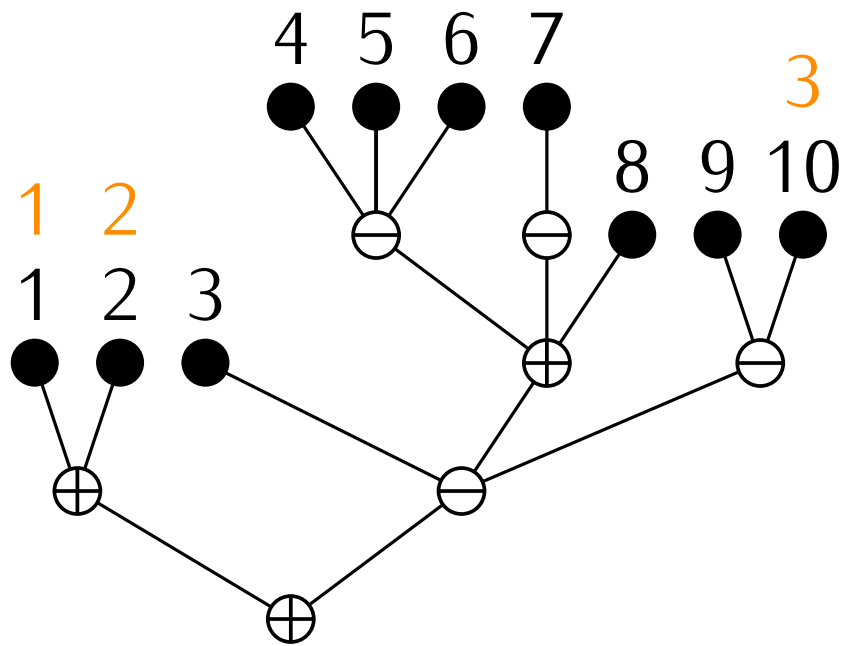
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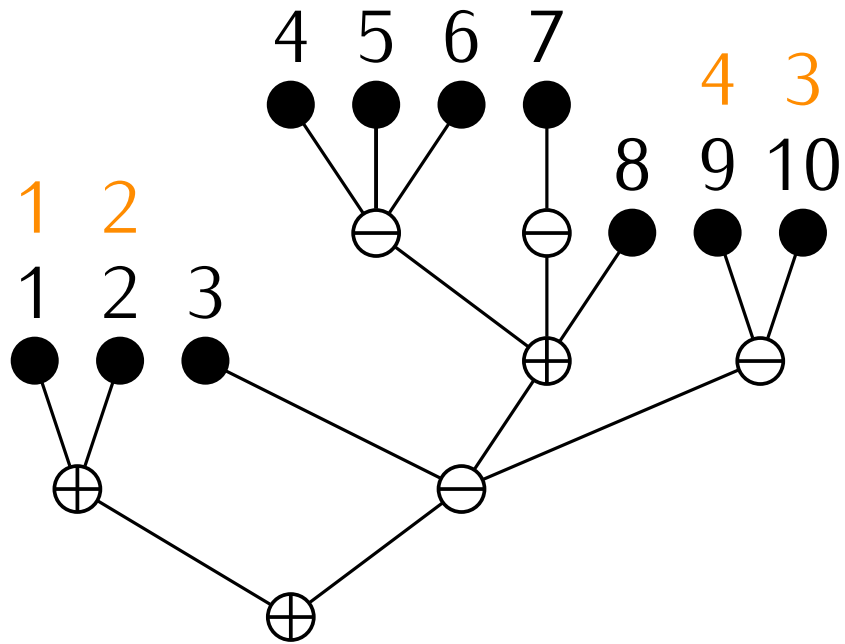
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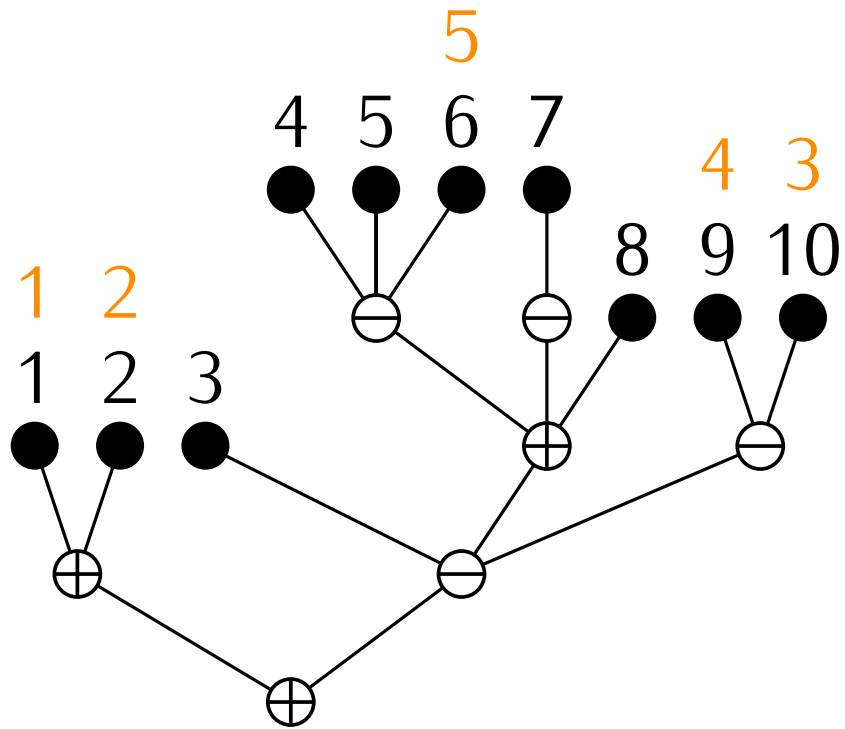


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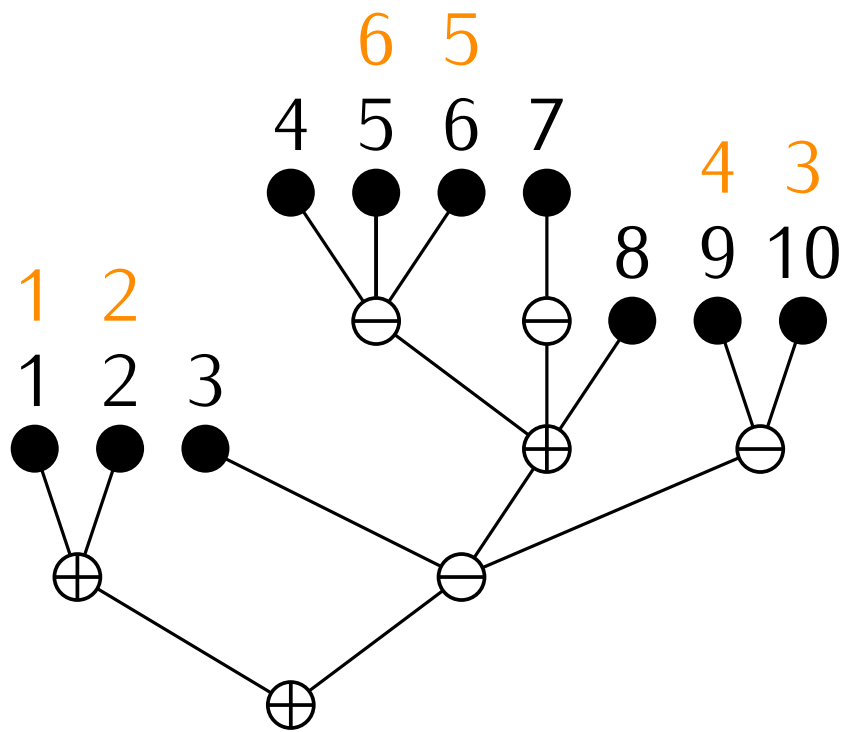
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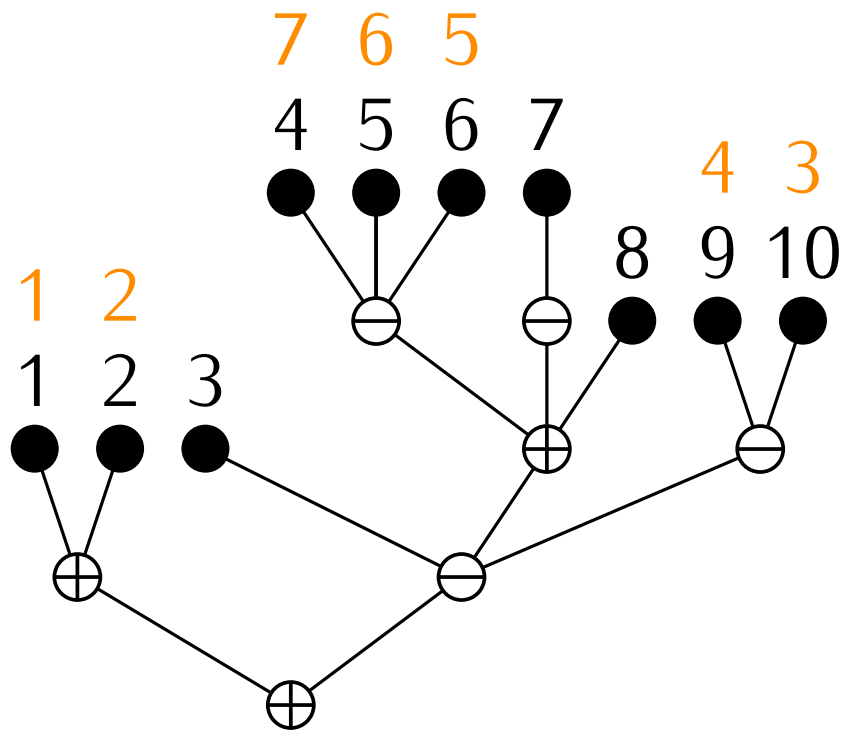
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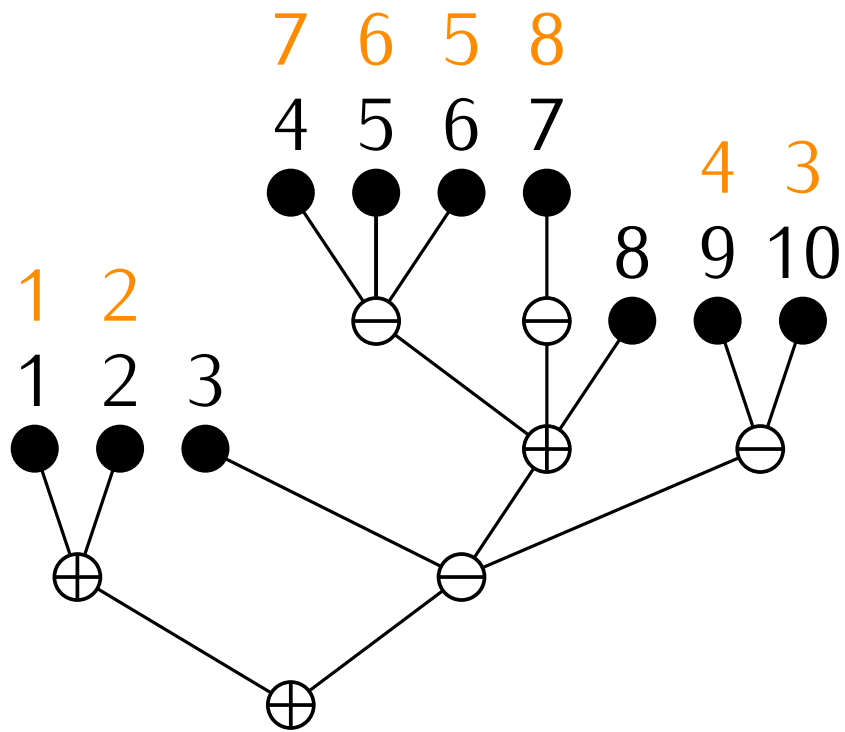
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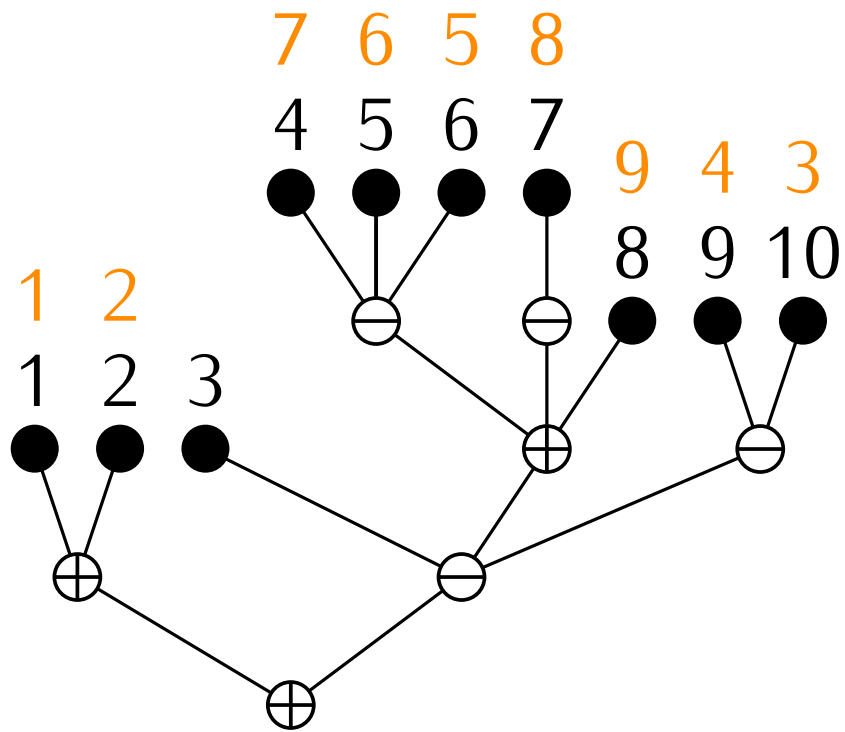
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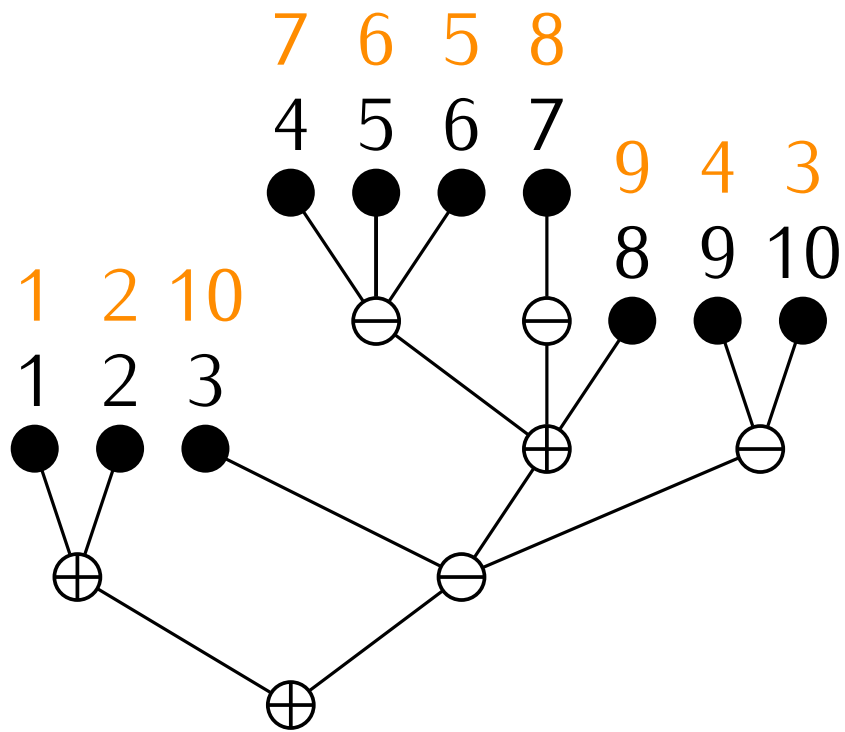
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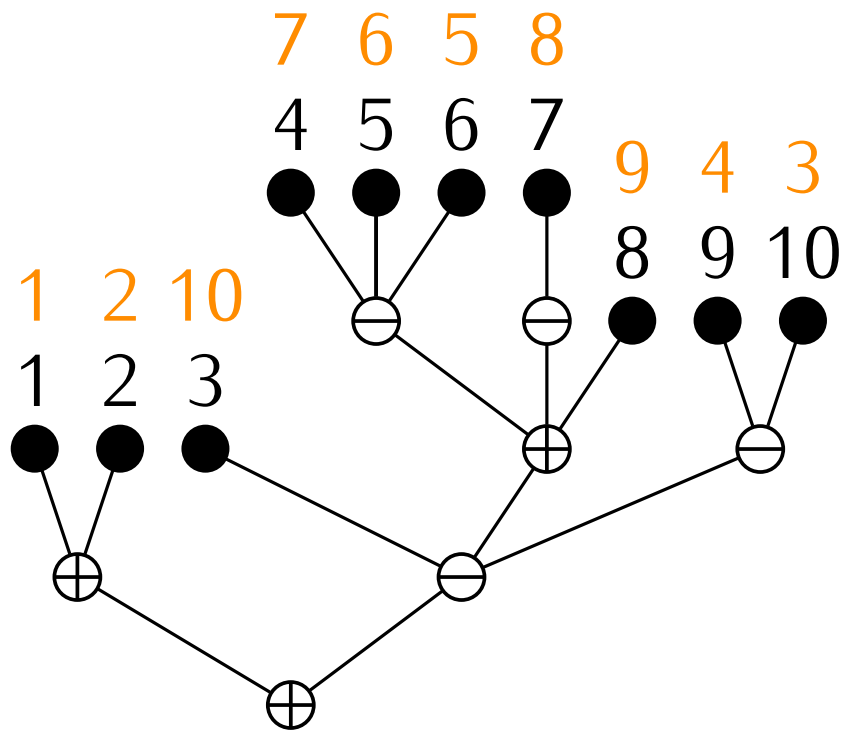
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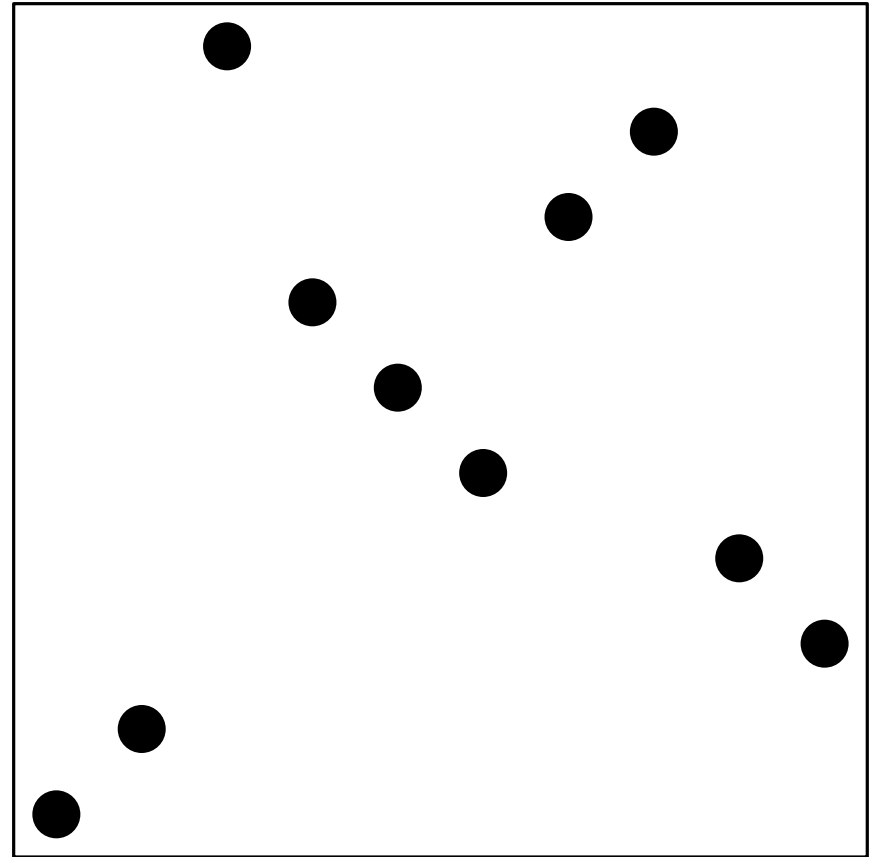


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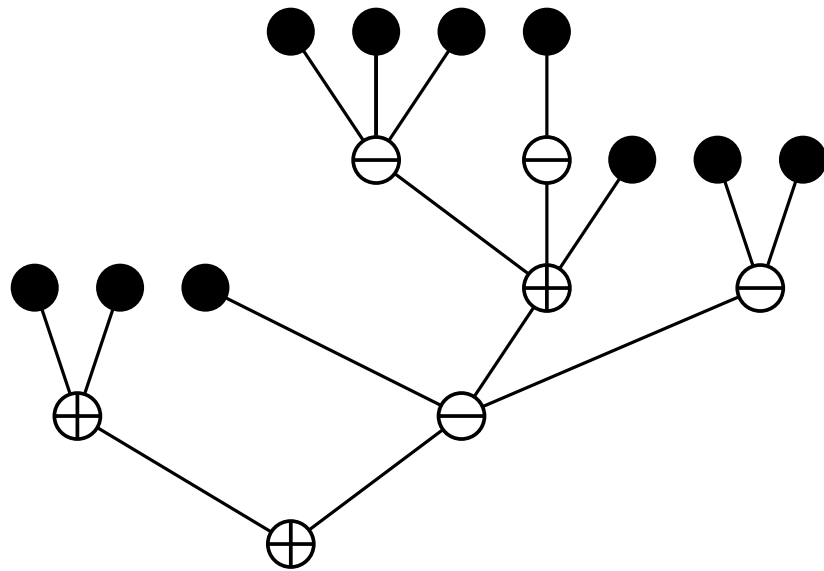
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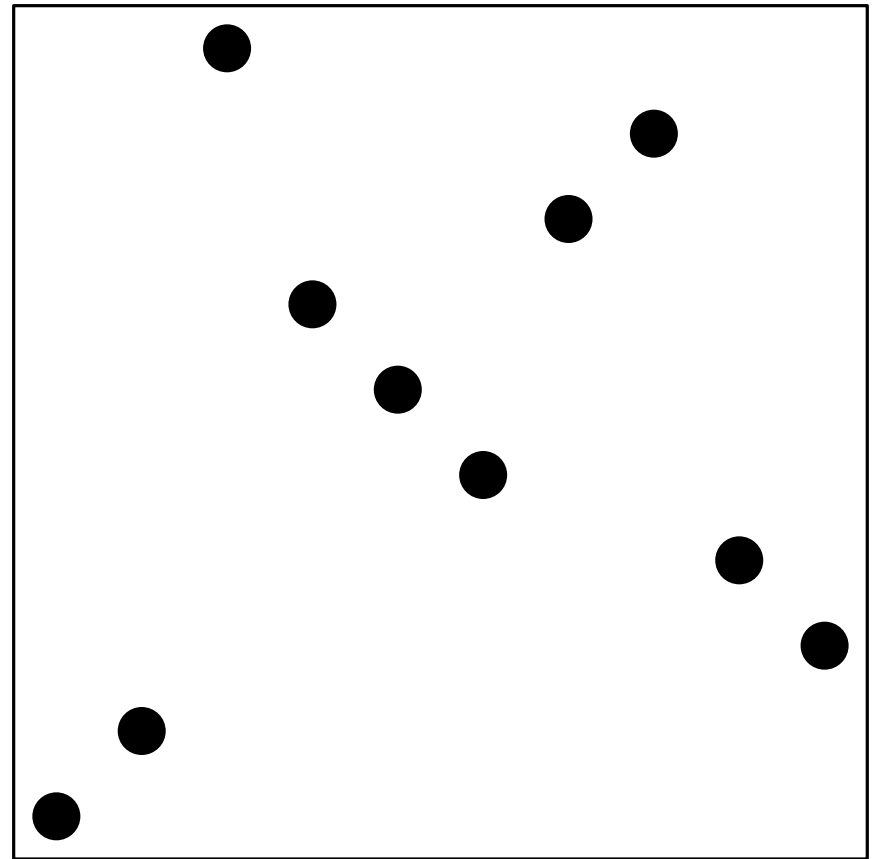
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 $\text{perm}(\tau) = (1\ 2\ 10\ 7\ 6\ 5\ 8\ 9\ 4\ 3)$



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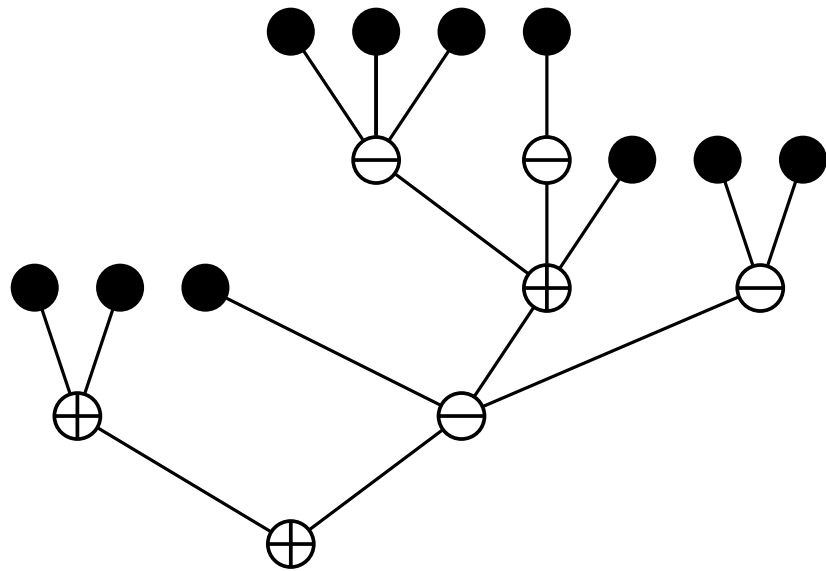
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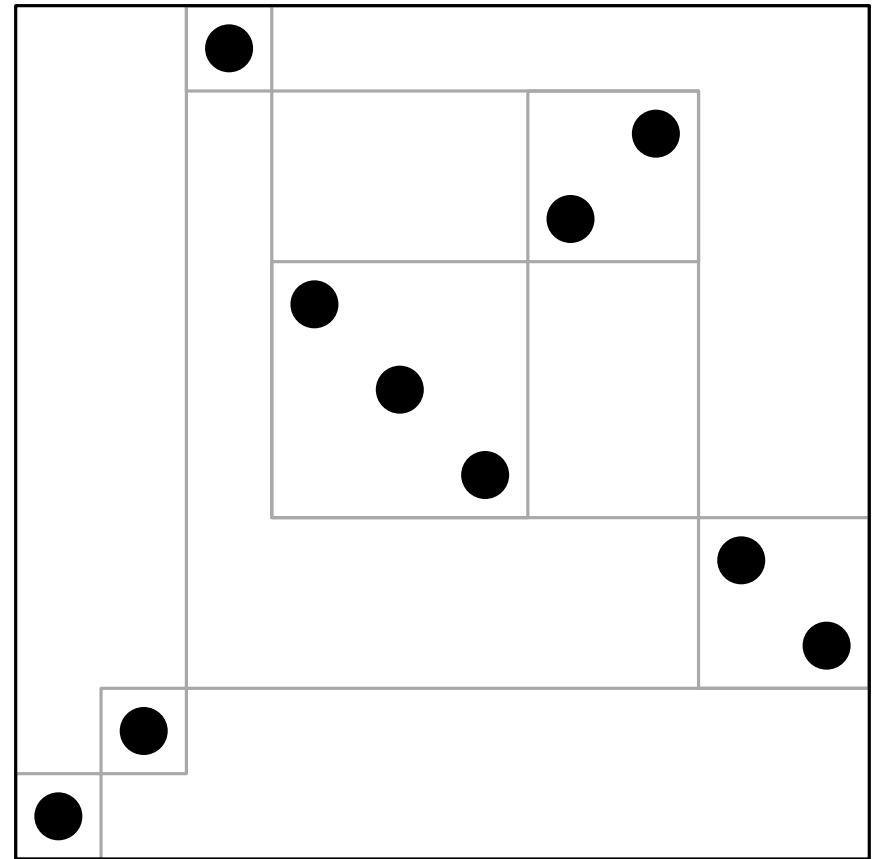
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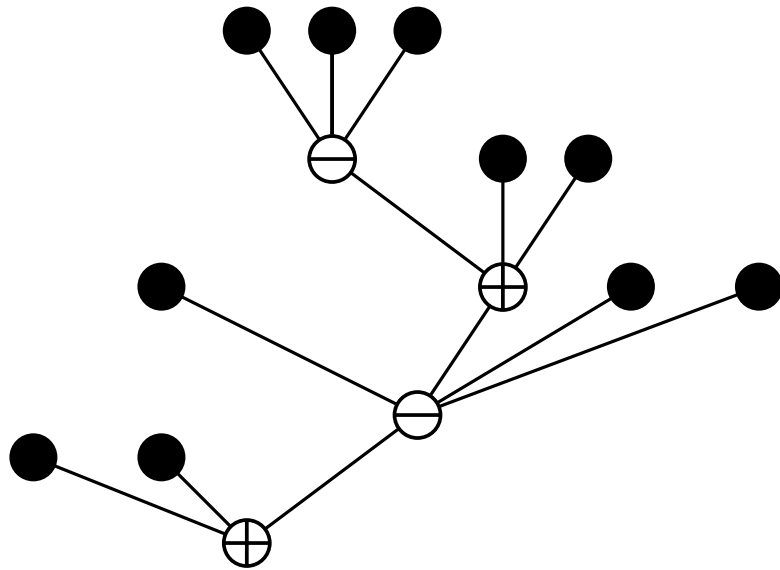
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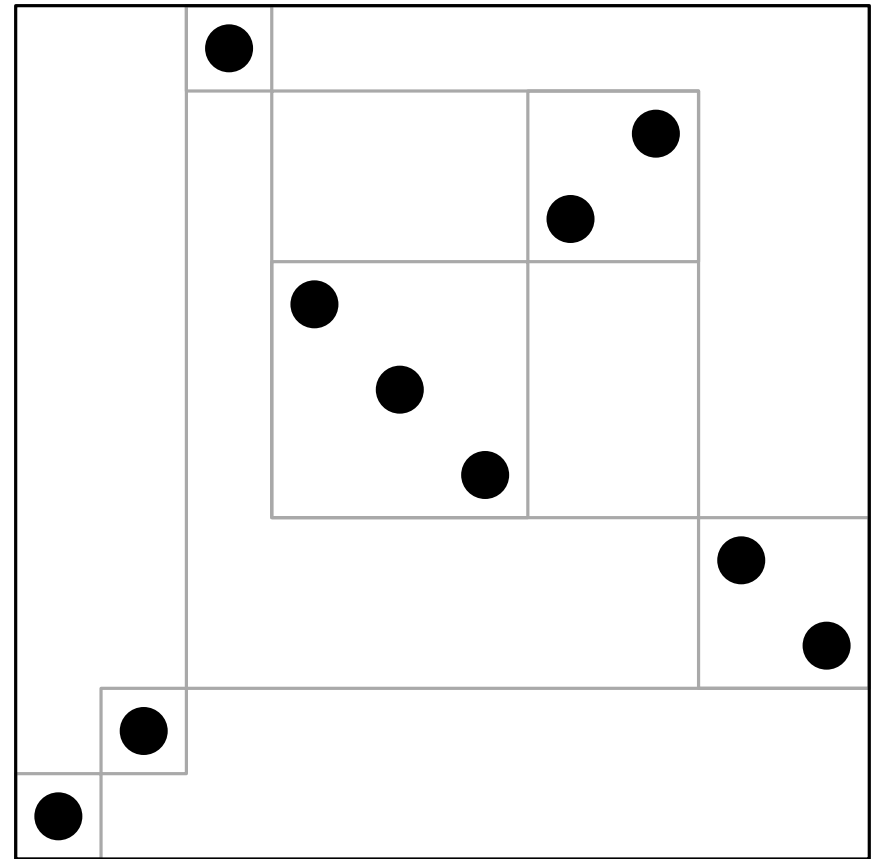
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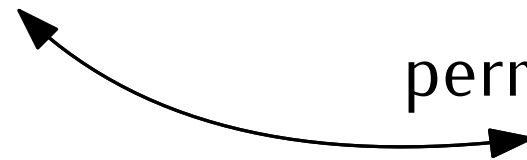
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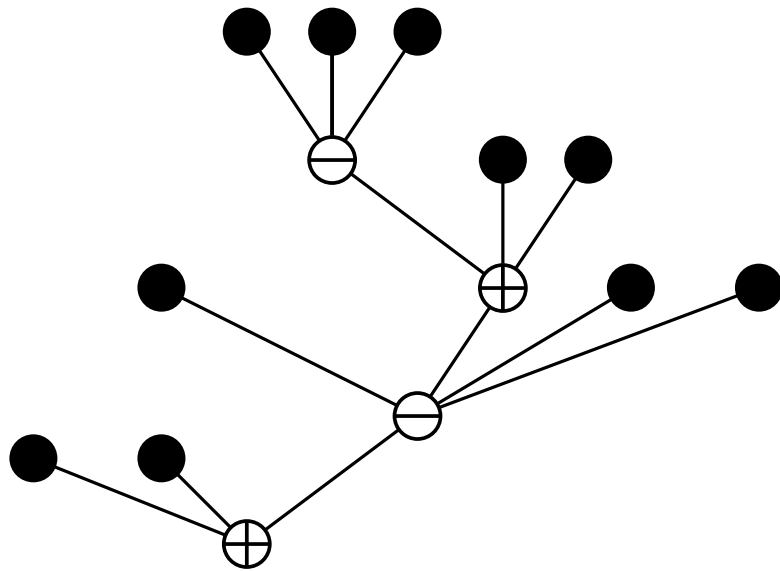
Alternating-signs Schröder tree



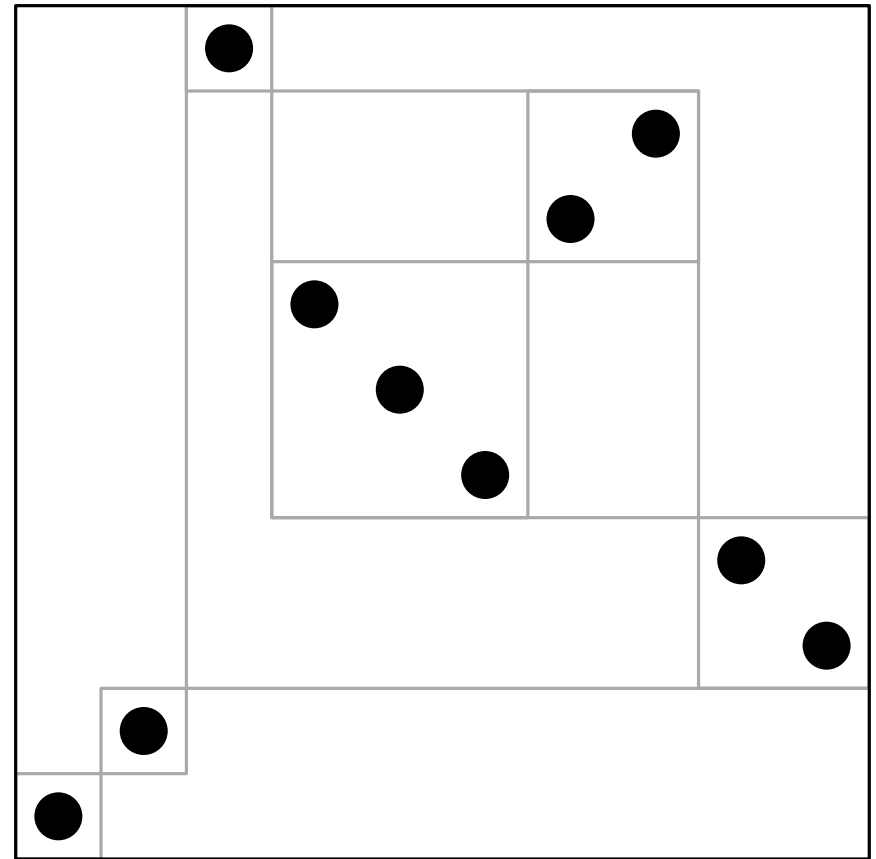
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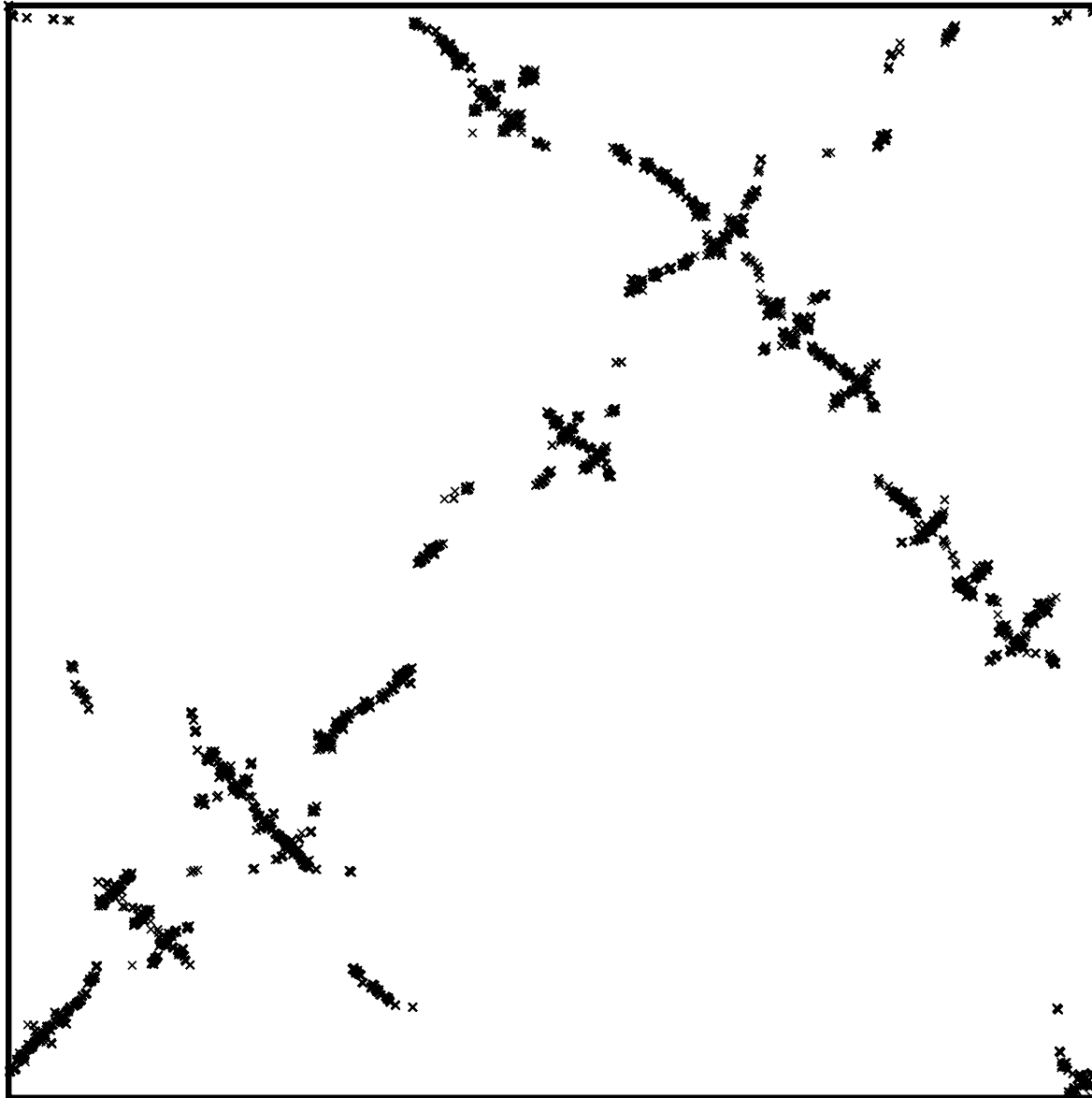


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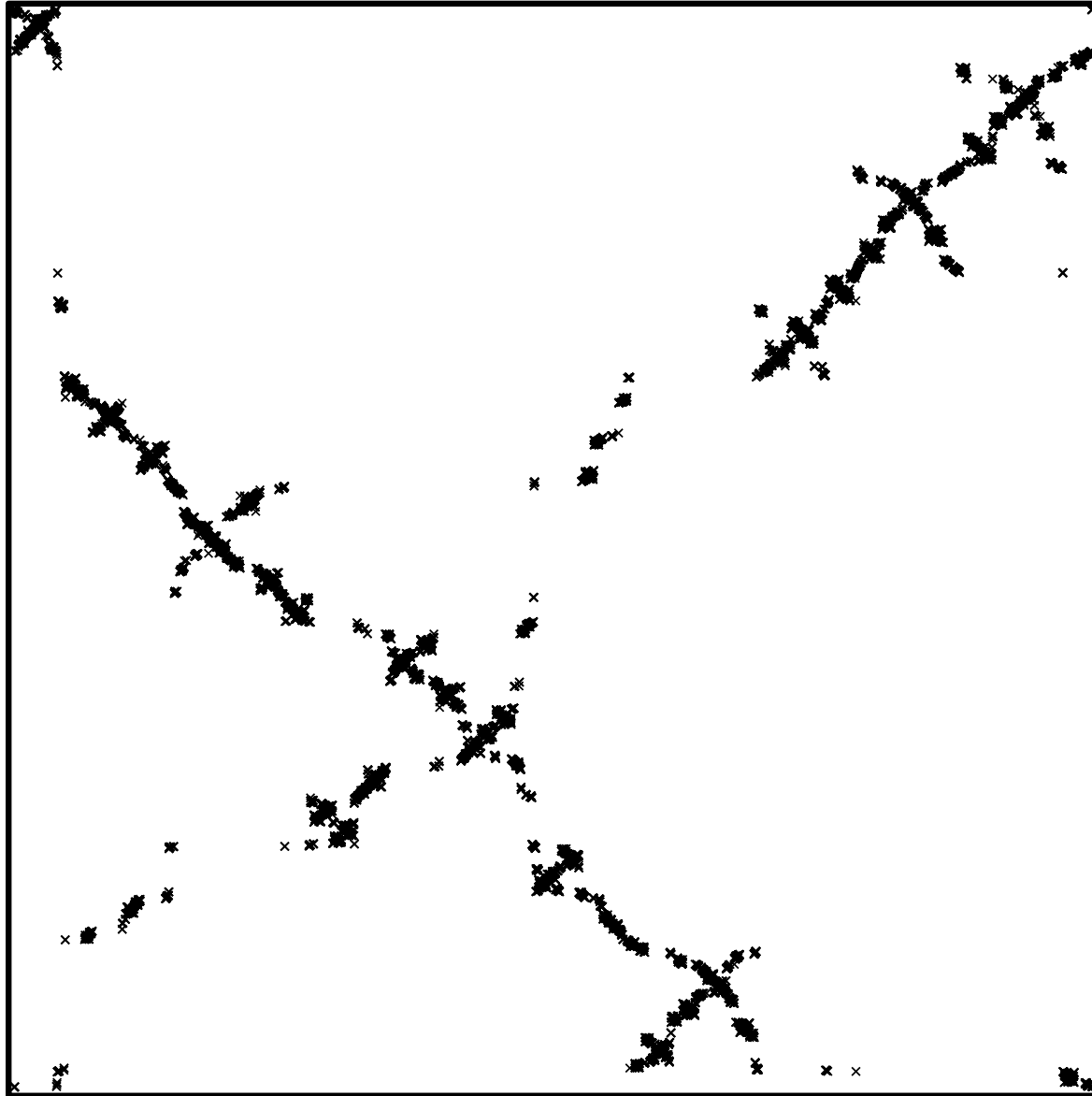
Counted by large Schröder numbers

$$1, 2, 6, 22, 90, 394, 1806, 8558, \dots \asymp (3 + \sqrt{8})^n n^{-3/2}$$

# A large uniform separable permutation

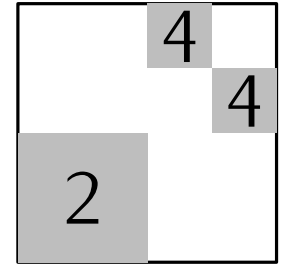
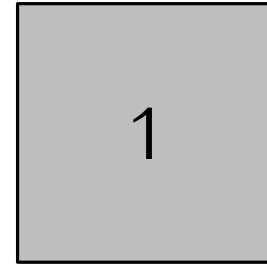
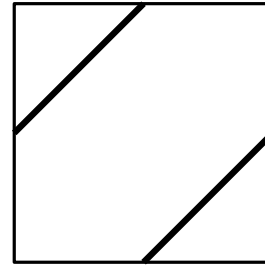
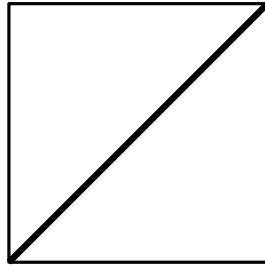


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# Permutons

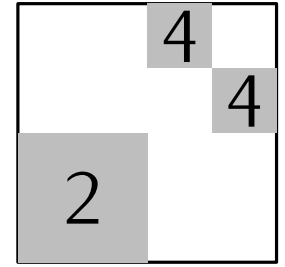
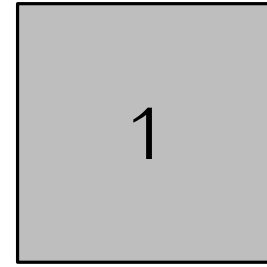
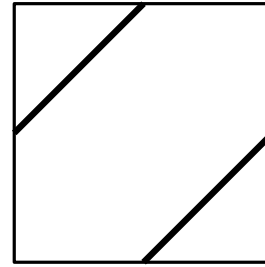
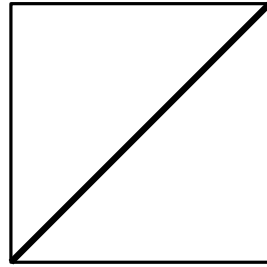
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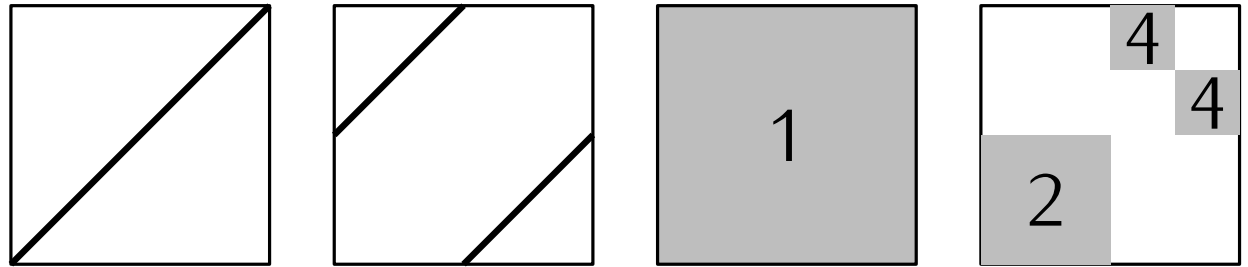
$\implies$  compact metric space (with weak convergence).





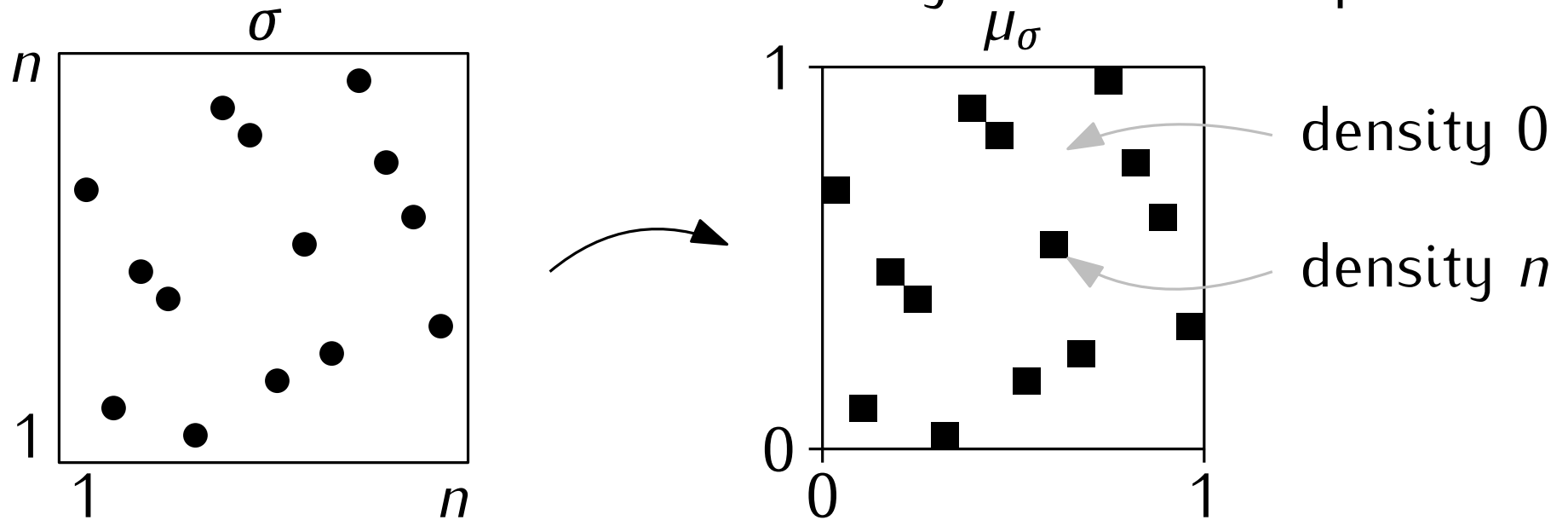
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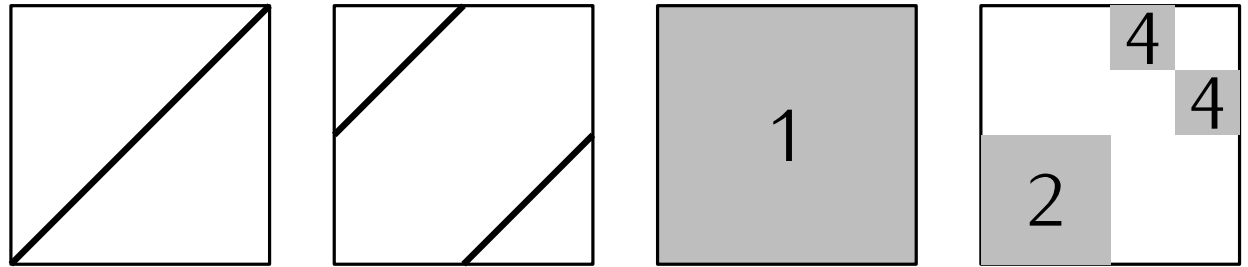
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Permutations of all sizes are densely embedded in permutons.



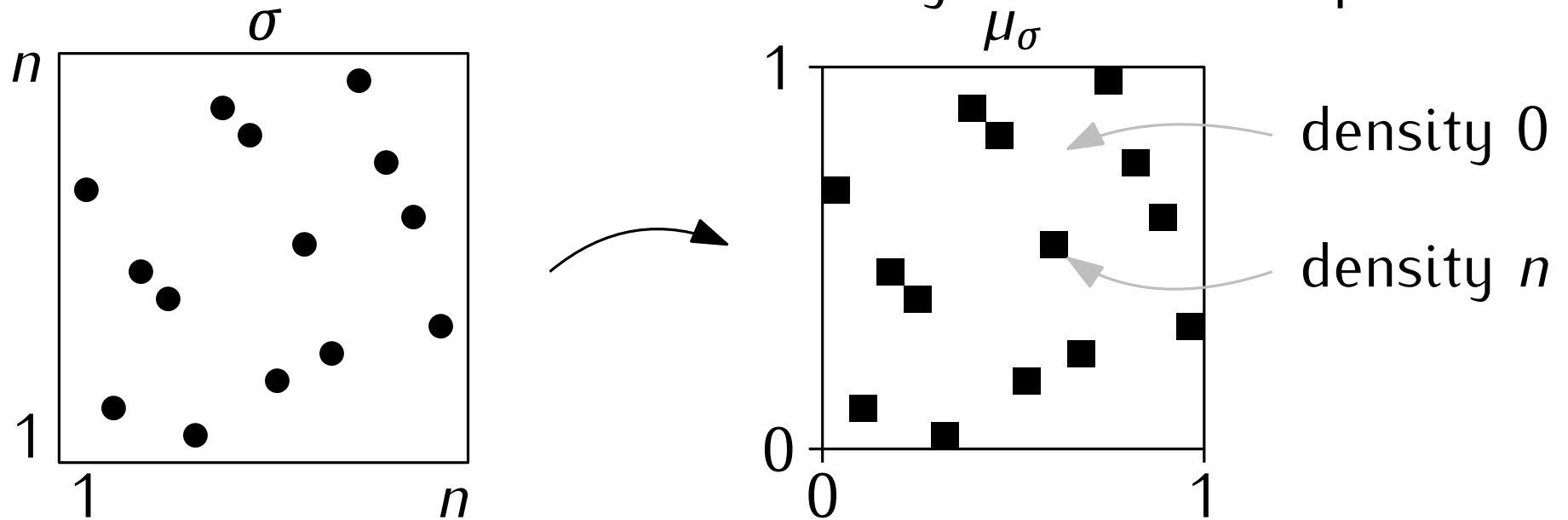
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We say that a sequence  $(\sigma_n)$  converges to  $\mu$  when  $\mu_{\sigma_n} \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{w} \mu$ .

# Permuton convergence and subpermutations

For  $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$  and  $k \leq n$ ,  $\text{subperm}_k(\sigma)$  is a uniform subpermutation of length  $k$  in  $\sigma$ .

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**Theorem** (Hoppen *et. al.*, 2013)

The sequence  $(\sigma_n)$  converges to  $\mu$  iff for every  $k$ ,

$$\text{subperm}_k(\sigma_n) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{d} \text{subperm}_k(\mu).$$

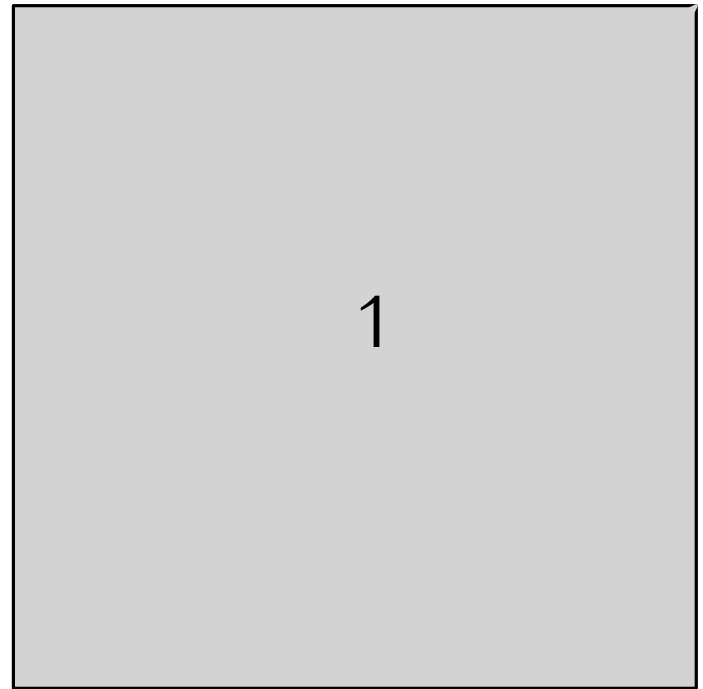
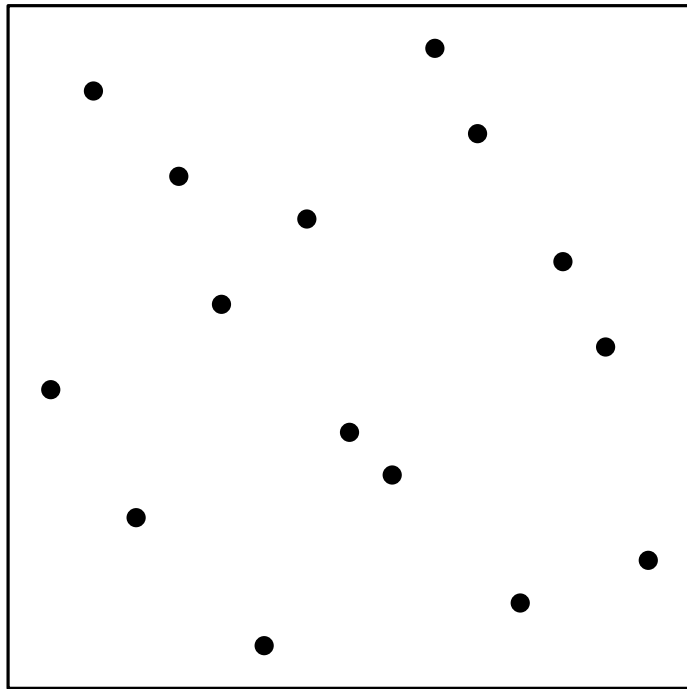
# Sequences of random permutations

If  $\sigma_n$  is a sequence of random permutations, we can consider the convergence in distribution of the random permutons  $\mu_{\sigma_n}$ .  
Let  $\sigma_n = \text{uniform}$  of size  $n$  in some class  $\mathcal{C}$ .

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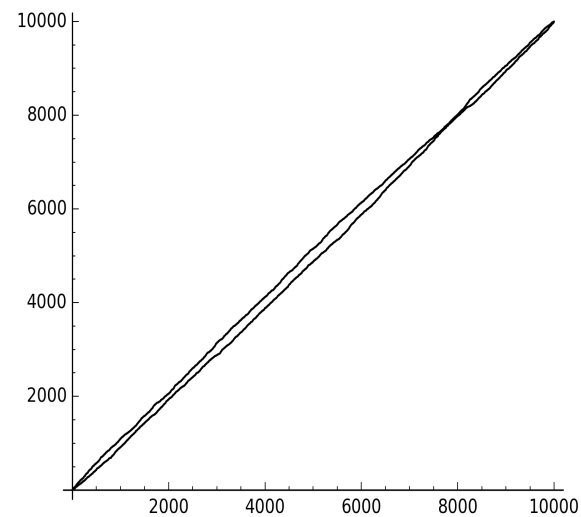
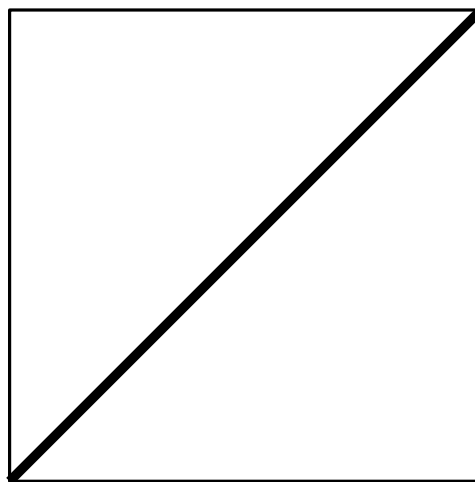
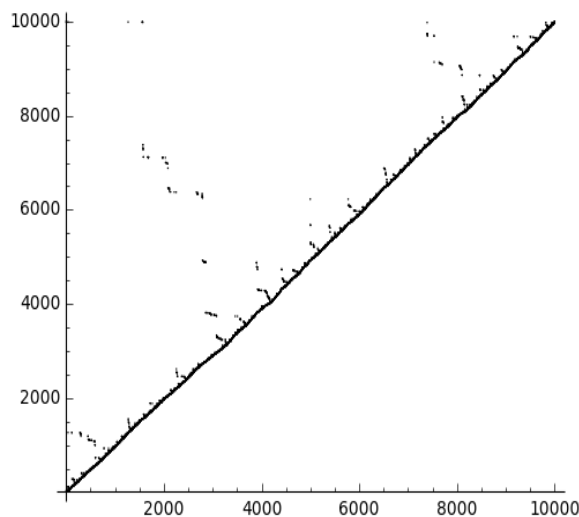
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$\mathcal{C} = \text{Av}(231)$  or  $\text{Av}(321)$  :  $\sigma_n \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}} (\text{id}, \text{id})_* \text{Leb}_{[0,1]}$ .



Fluctuations: Miner-Pak, Hoffman-Rizzolo-Slivken... Pictures from the latter.



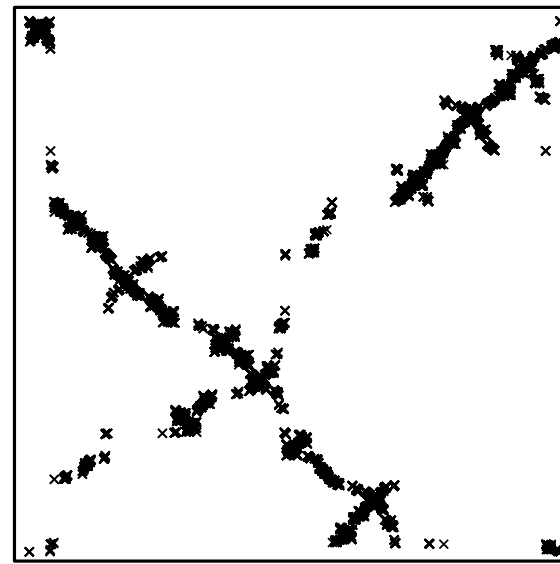
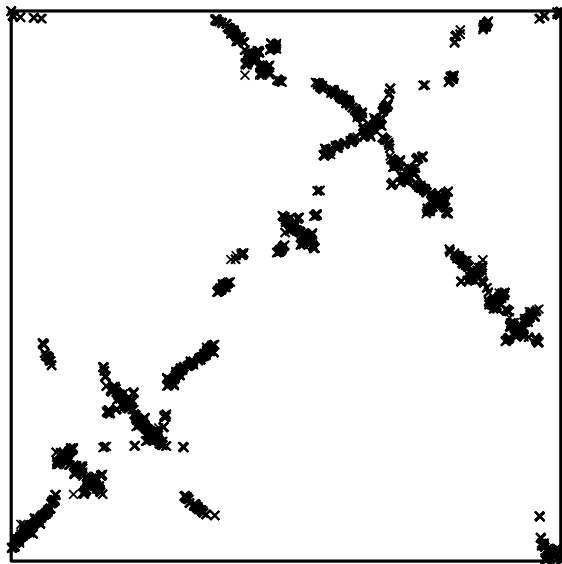
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$\mathcal{C} = \text{Av}(2413, 3142) = \{\text{separables}\}$ :

**Theorem** (Bassino, Bouvel, Féray, Gerin, Pierrot 2016)

$\sigma_n$  converges in distribution to some random permuton  $\mu$ , called the Brownian separable permuton.



# A portmanteau theorem for random permutons

**Theorem** (Bassino, Bouvel, Feray, Gerin, M., Pierrot. 2017)

The following are equivalent:

1. The random measure  $\mu_{\sigma_n}$  converges in distribution to some random permuton  $\mu$ .
2.  $\mathbb{P}((\text{subperm}_k(\sigma_n))_k \in \cdot \mid \sigma_n)$  converges in distribution,
3.  $\text{subperm}_k(\sigma_n) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{d} \beta_k$  random in  $\mathfrak{S}_k$  for every  $k$

Moreover, the law of  $\mu$  is characterized by

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## Idea of proof

Use the bijection with signed Schröder trees:  $\sigma_n = \text{perm}(t_n)$ , where  $t_n$  is a uniform signed Schröder tree with  $n$  leaves.

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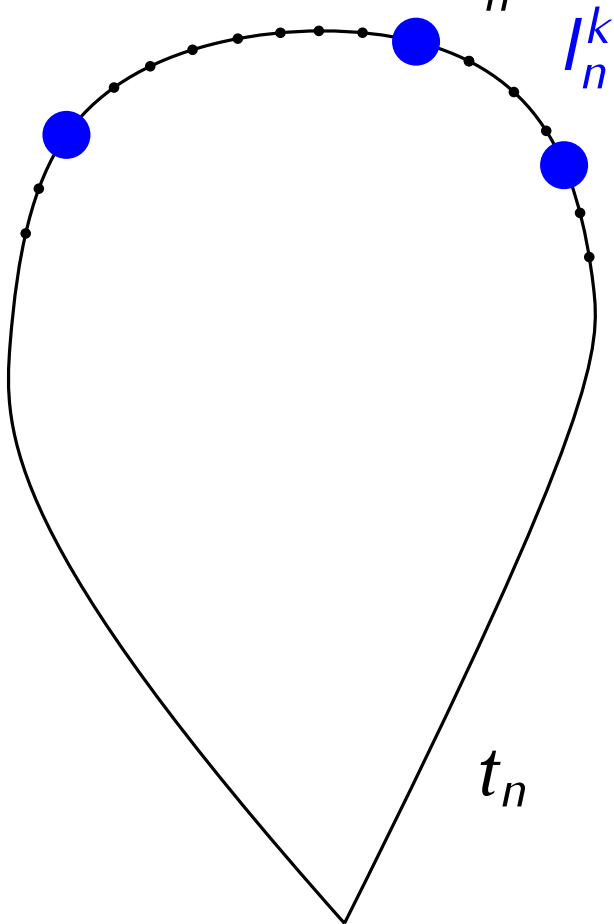
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Fix  $k(= 3)$ . Then  $\text{subperm}_k(\sigma_n) = \text{pat}_{I_n^k}(\sigma_n) = \text{perm}(t_n|_{I_n^k})$ , where  $t_n|_{I_n^k}$  is the reduced subtree of  $t_n$  induced by the leaves with indexes in  $I_n^k$ .

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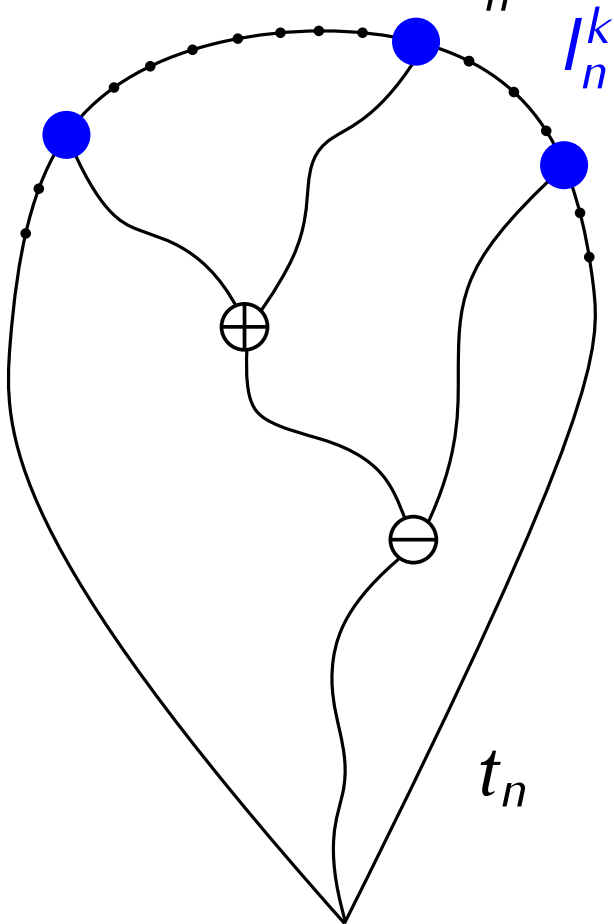
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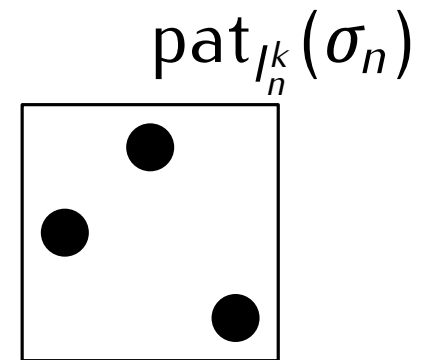
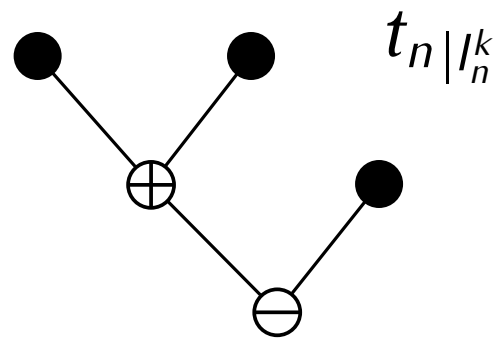
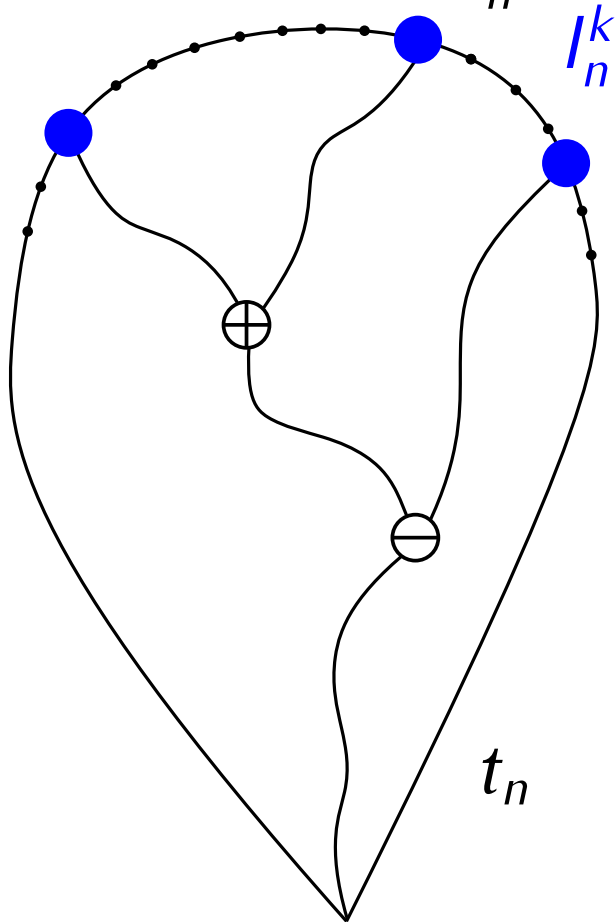
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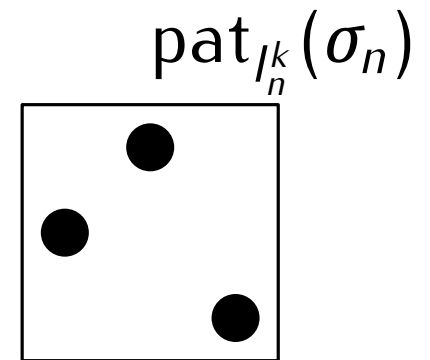
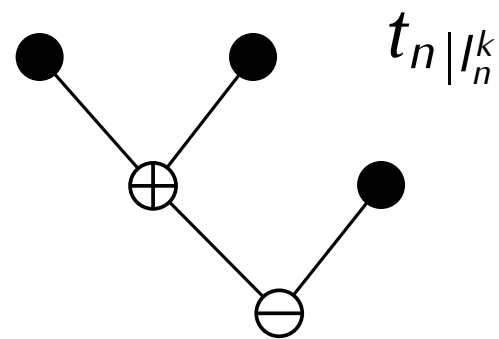
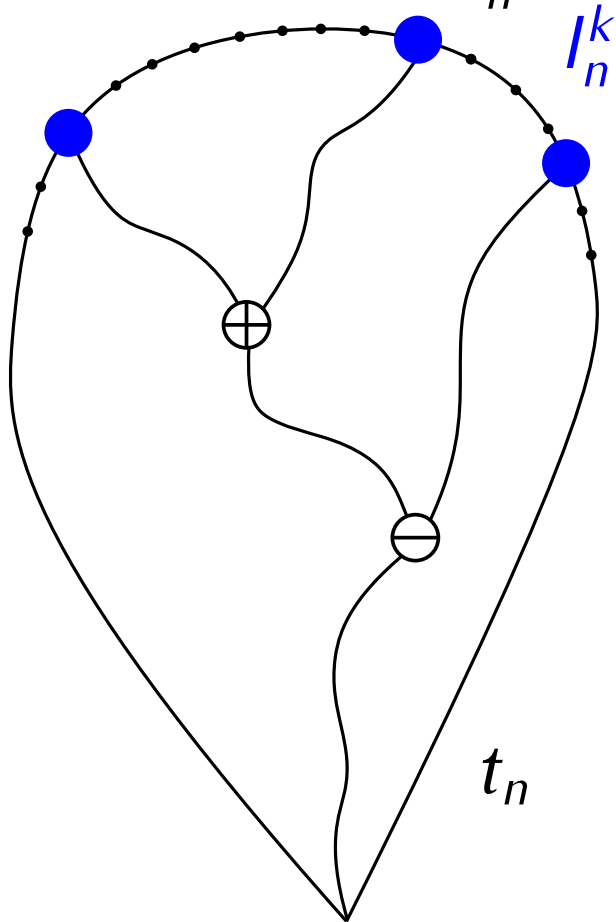




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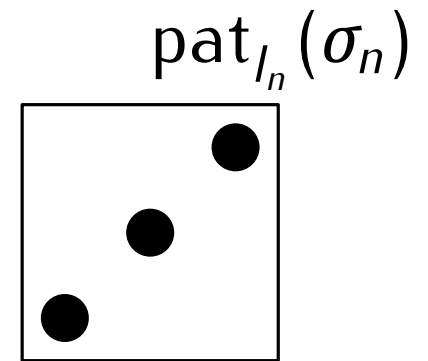
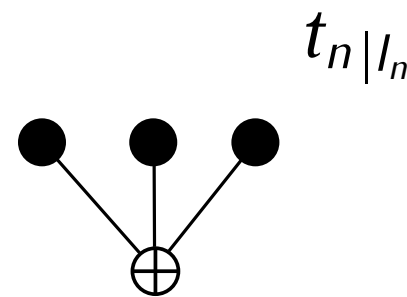
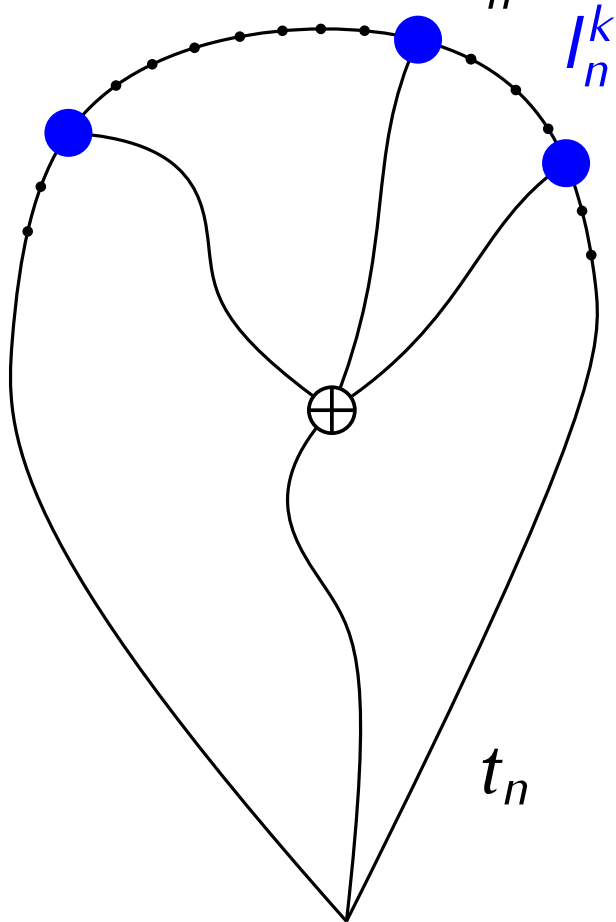


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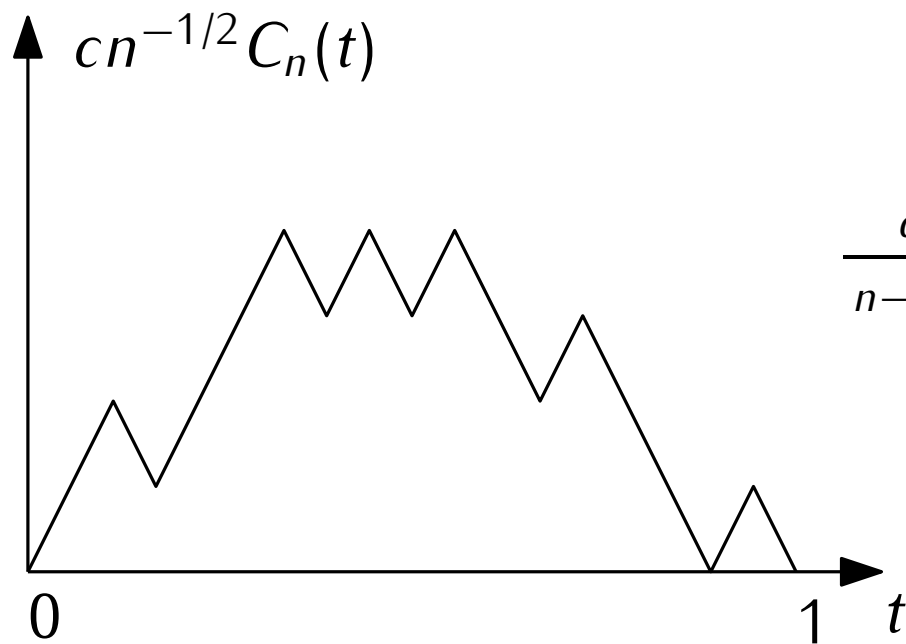
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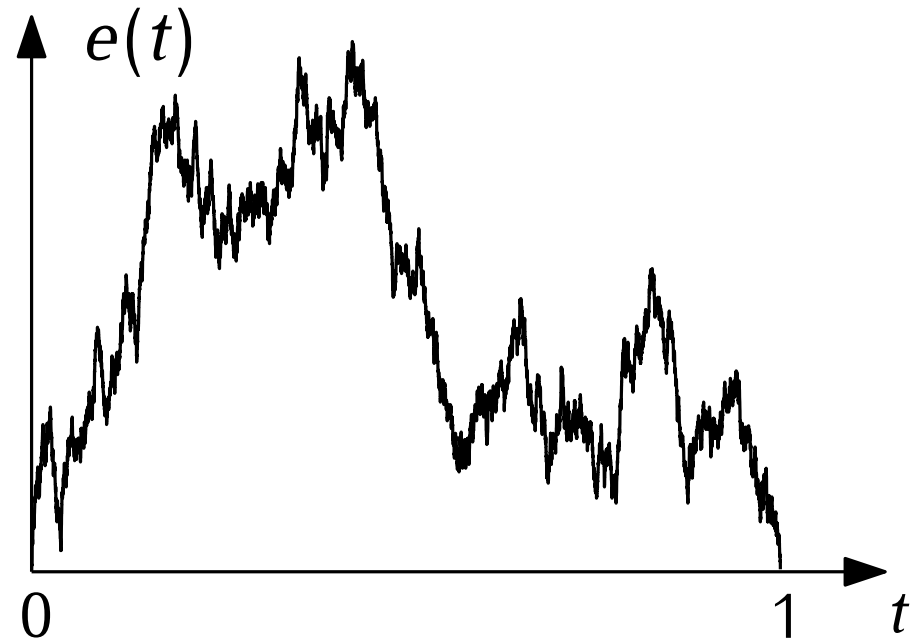
Many "nice" models of random trees  $(t_n)_n$  where  $n$  is some size parameter, converge to (a multiple of) the Brownian CRT at  $\sqrt{n}$ . More precisely, if  $C_n$  is the contour function of  $t_n$ , for some constant  $c > 0$ ,  $cn^{-1/2}C_n$  converges in distribution to the normalized Brownian excursion.

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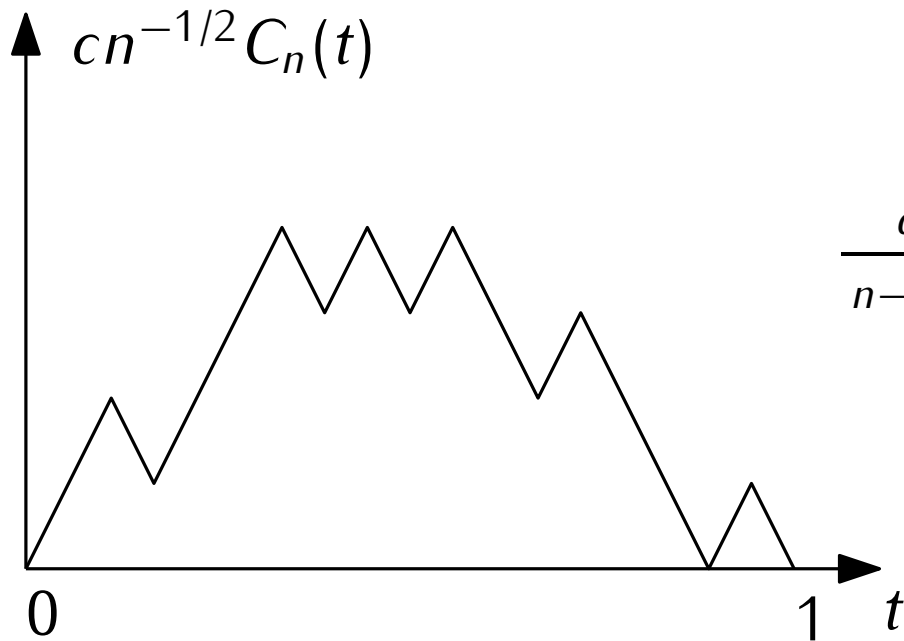


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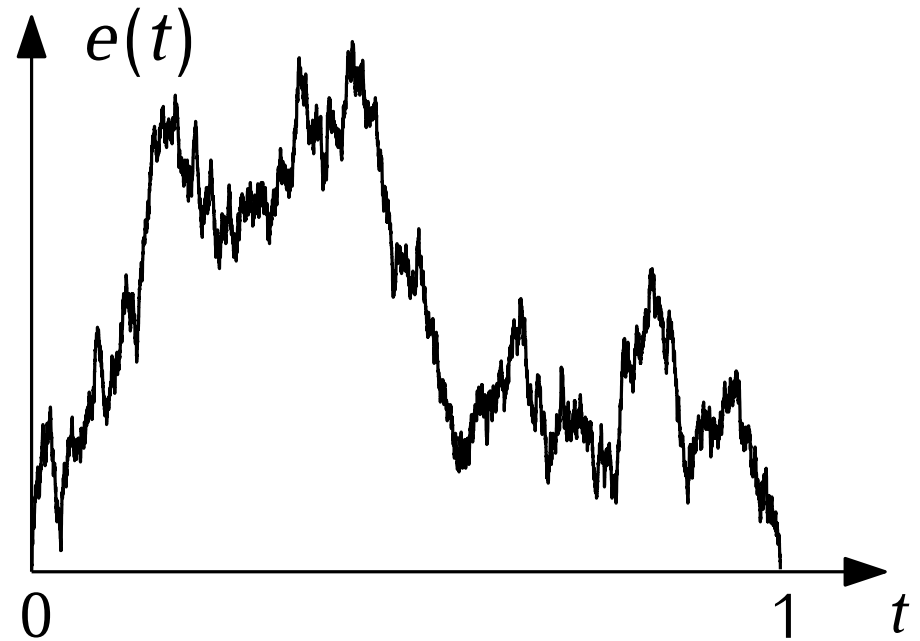


# Scaling limits of trees

Leaf-counted Schröder trees are (critical, finite-variance) BGW trees conditioned on the number of leaves and fall in this category (Kortchemski '12)

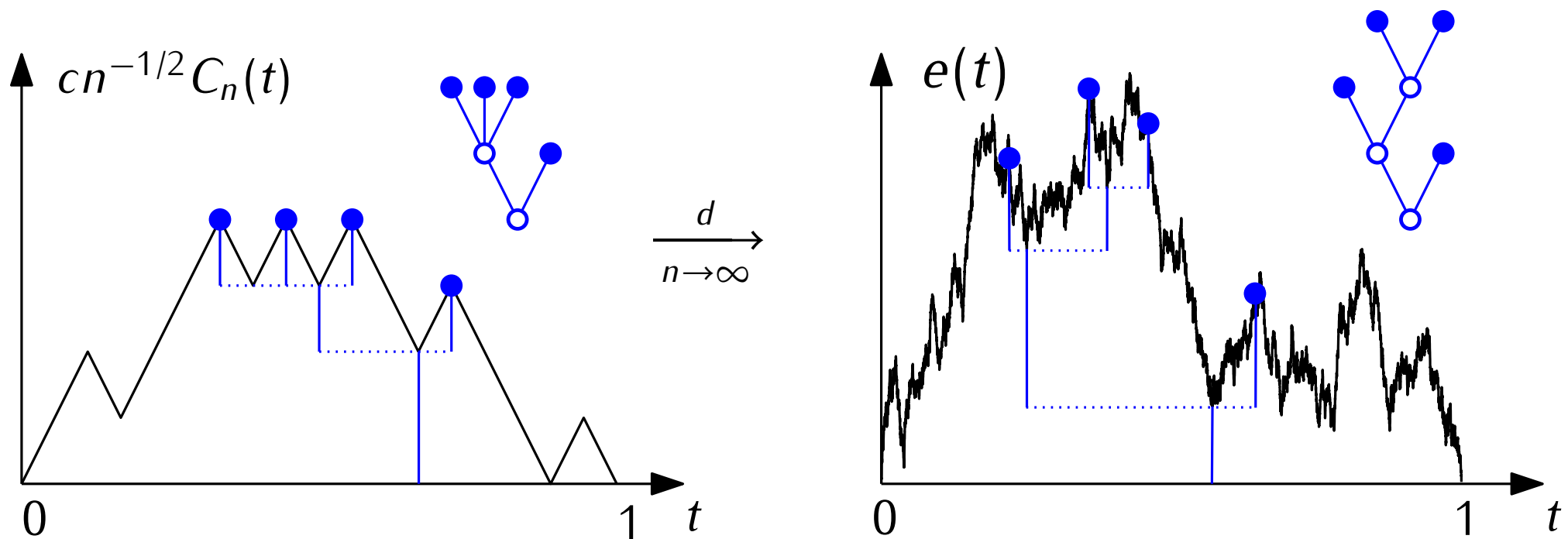


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# Scaling limits of trees

So uniform extracted subtrees from  $t_n$  converge to uniform extracted subtrees from the Brownian excursion, which are uniform binary trees (Aldous '93, Le Gall '93)



## Signs in extracted subtrees

Since Schröder trees are alternating-signs, this boils down to parity of branches lengths in the extracted subtree.

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- analytic combinatorics (used for our subsequent generalization, see part 2)

## Summing up...

We have shown that if  $\sigma_n$  is a uniform separable permutation of size  $n$ ,  $\text{subperm}_k(\sigma_n)$  converges in distribution to  $\text{perm}(\tau_k)$ , where  $\tau_k$  is a uniform signed binary tree with  $k$  leaves.

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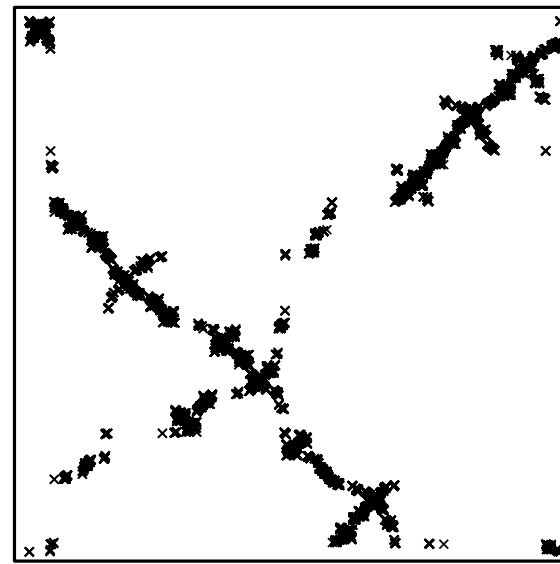
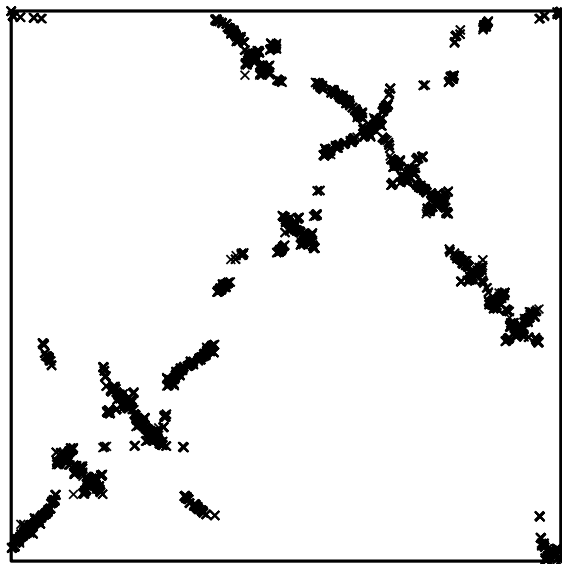
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This random permutation is characterized in distribution by

$$\forall k \geq 1, \text{subperm}_k(\mu) \stackrel{d}{=} \text{perm}(\tau_k).$$



### 3 – Universality of permuton limits in substitution-closed classes.

Joint work with F. Bassino, M. Bouvel, V. Féray, L. Gerin and A. Pierrot  
[arXiv:1706.08333]

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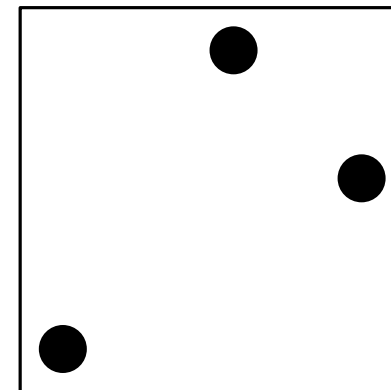
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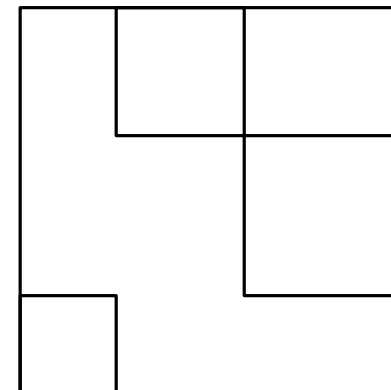


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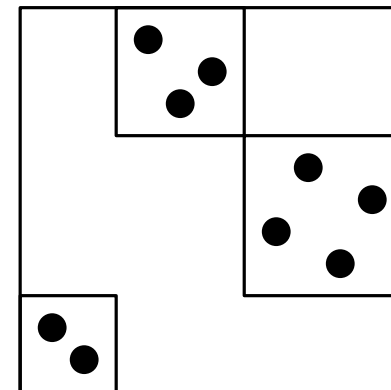


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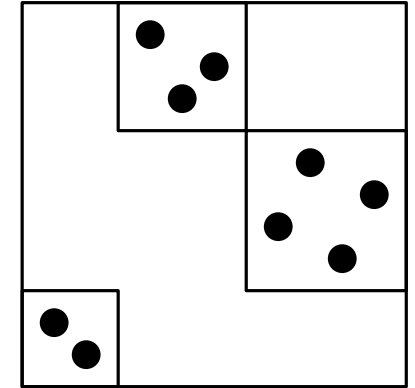
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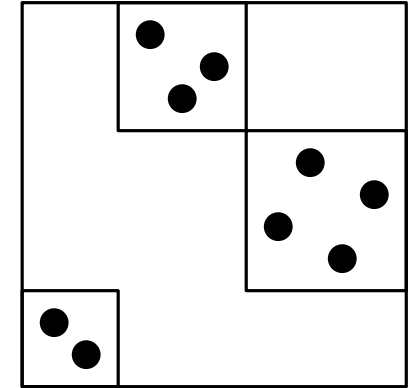
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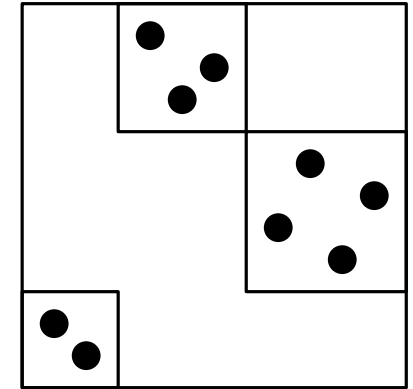
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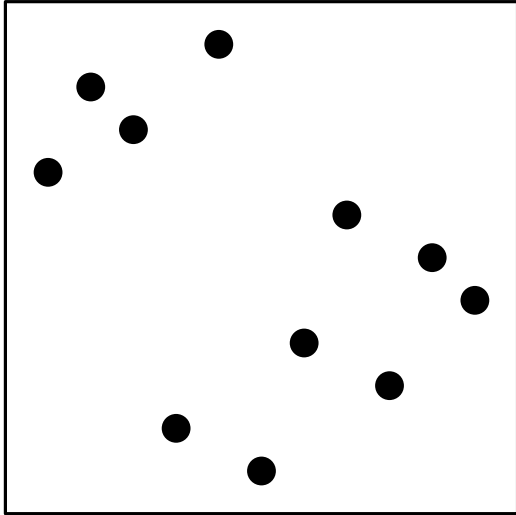
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- Or  $\sigma$  can't be decomposed by a nontrivial substitution :  $\sigma$  is a **simple permutation**. Ex :  
 $1, 12, 21, 2413, 3142, 31524, \dots \sim \frac{n!}{e^2}$ .

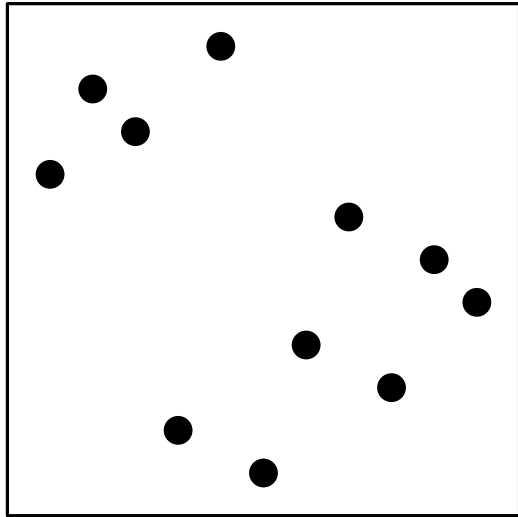
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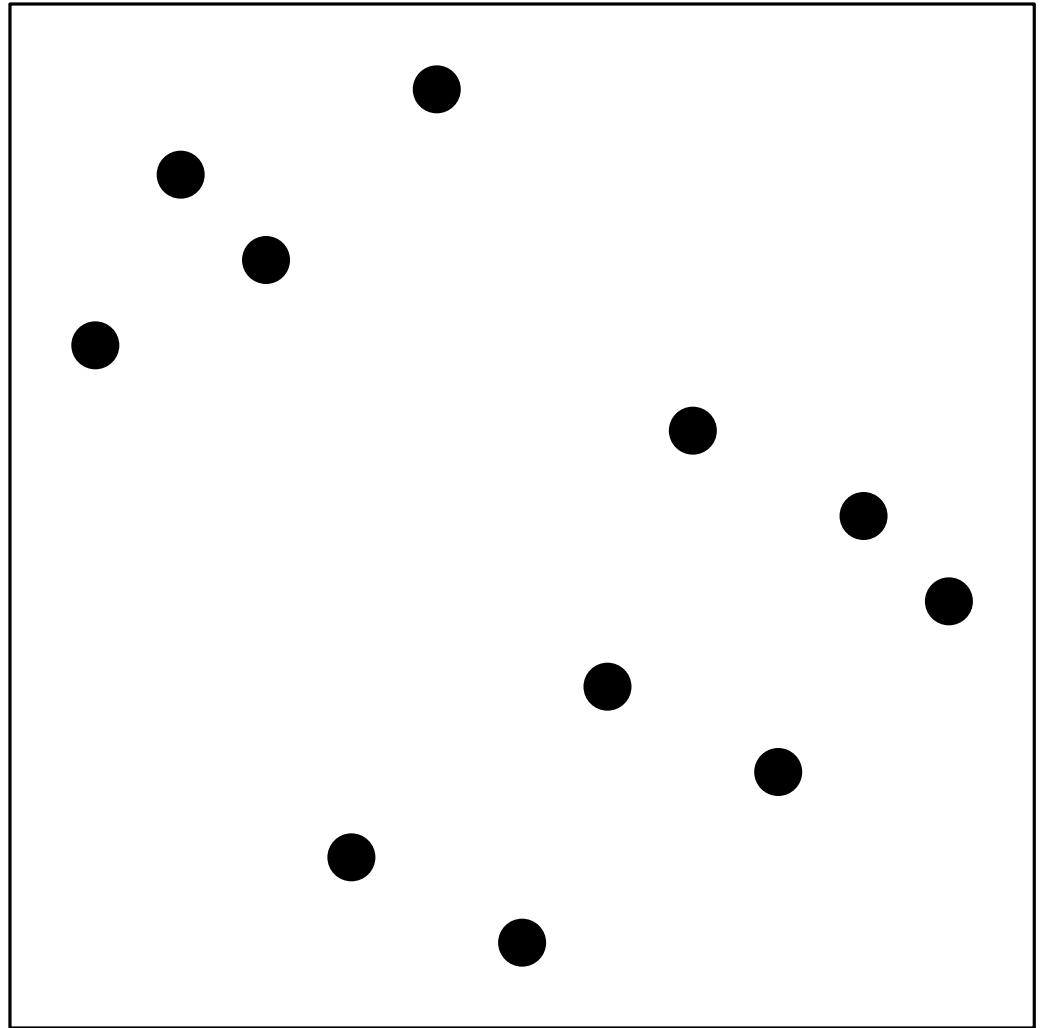
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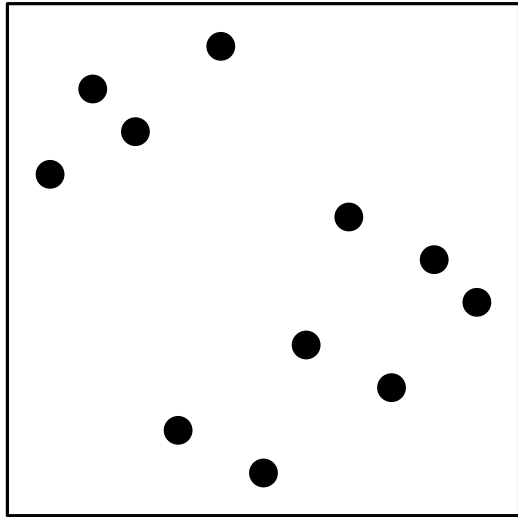
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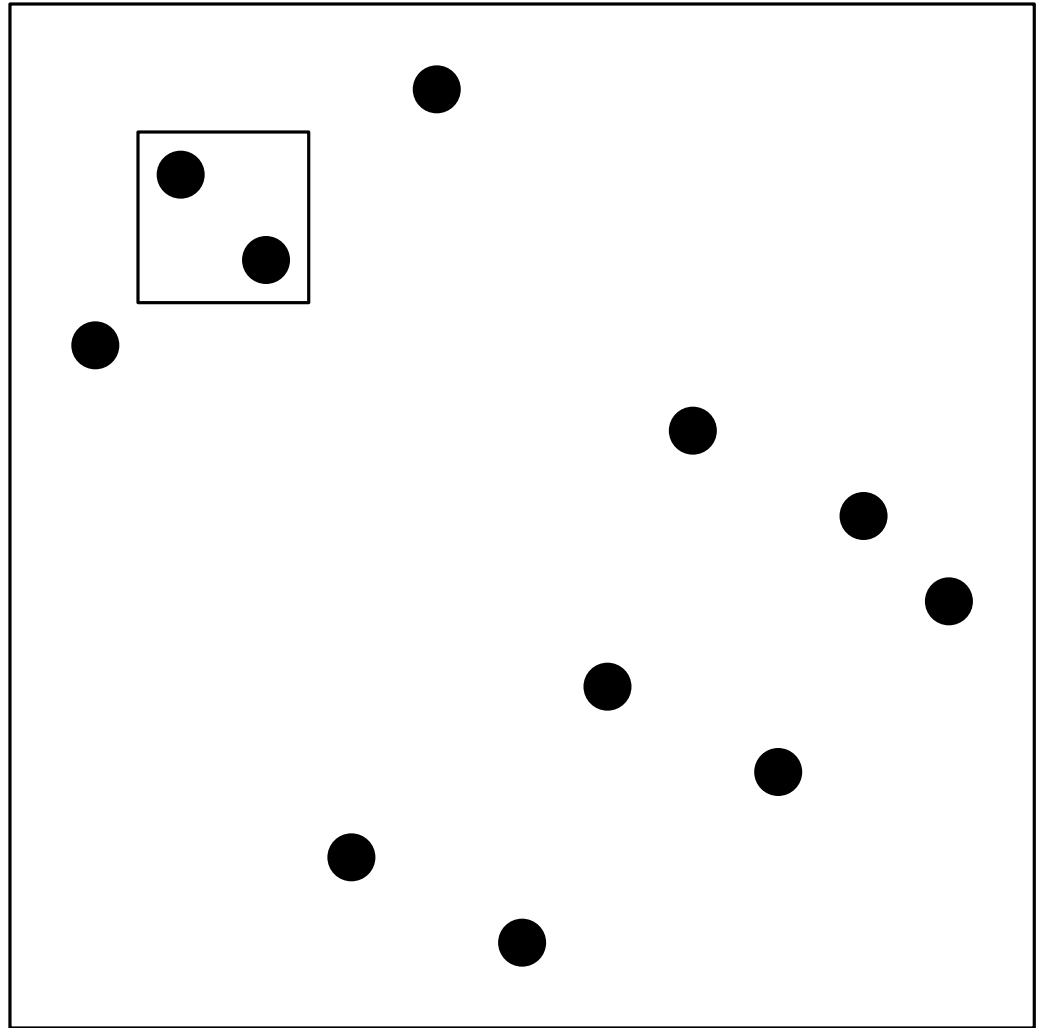
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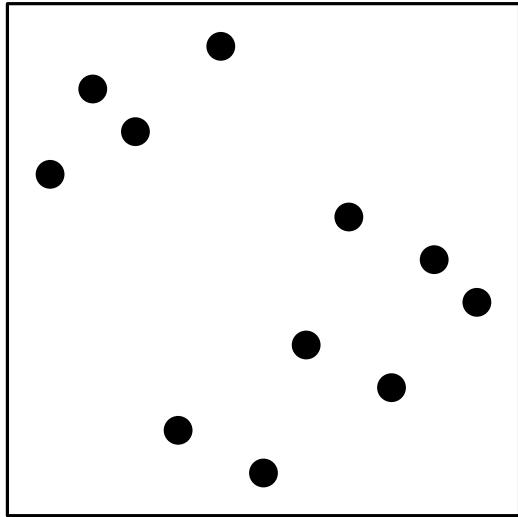
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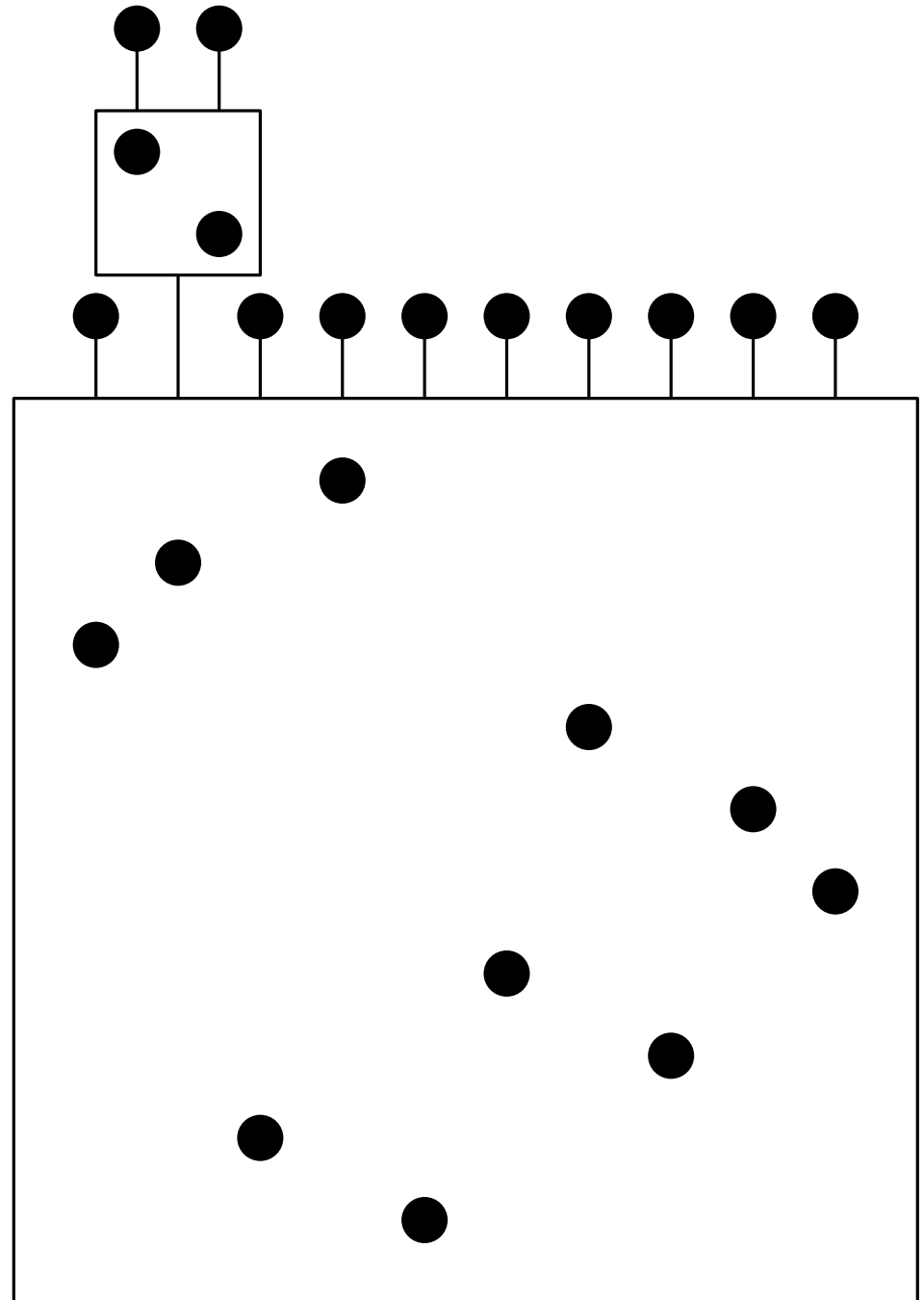
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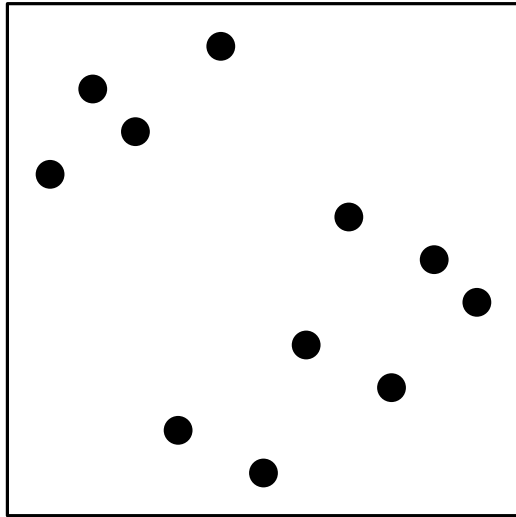
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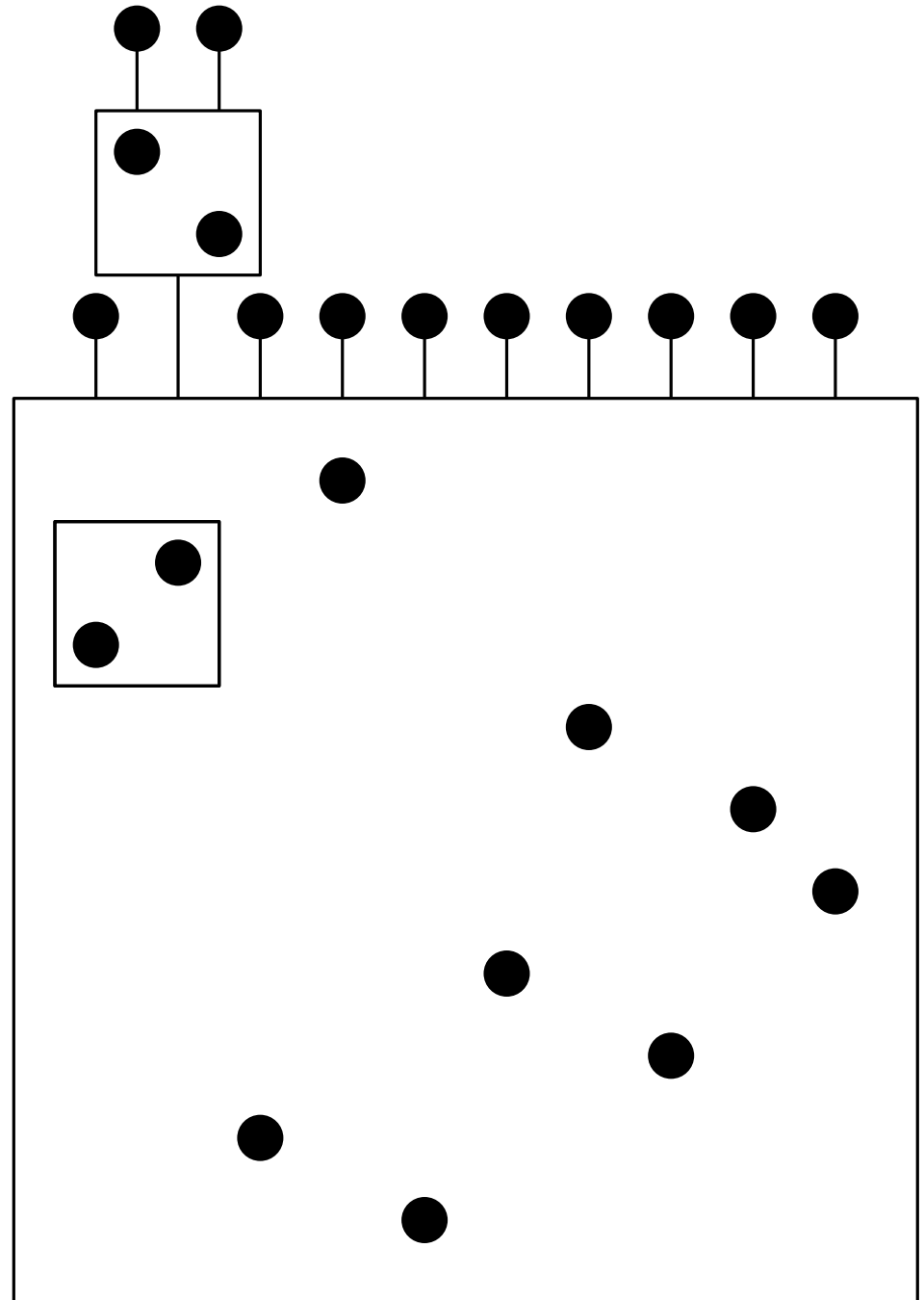
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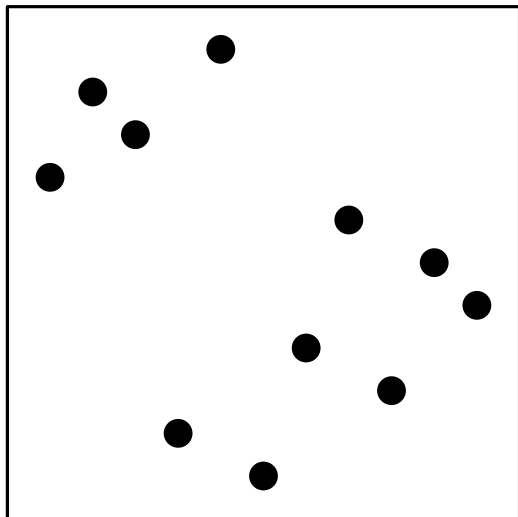
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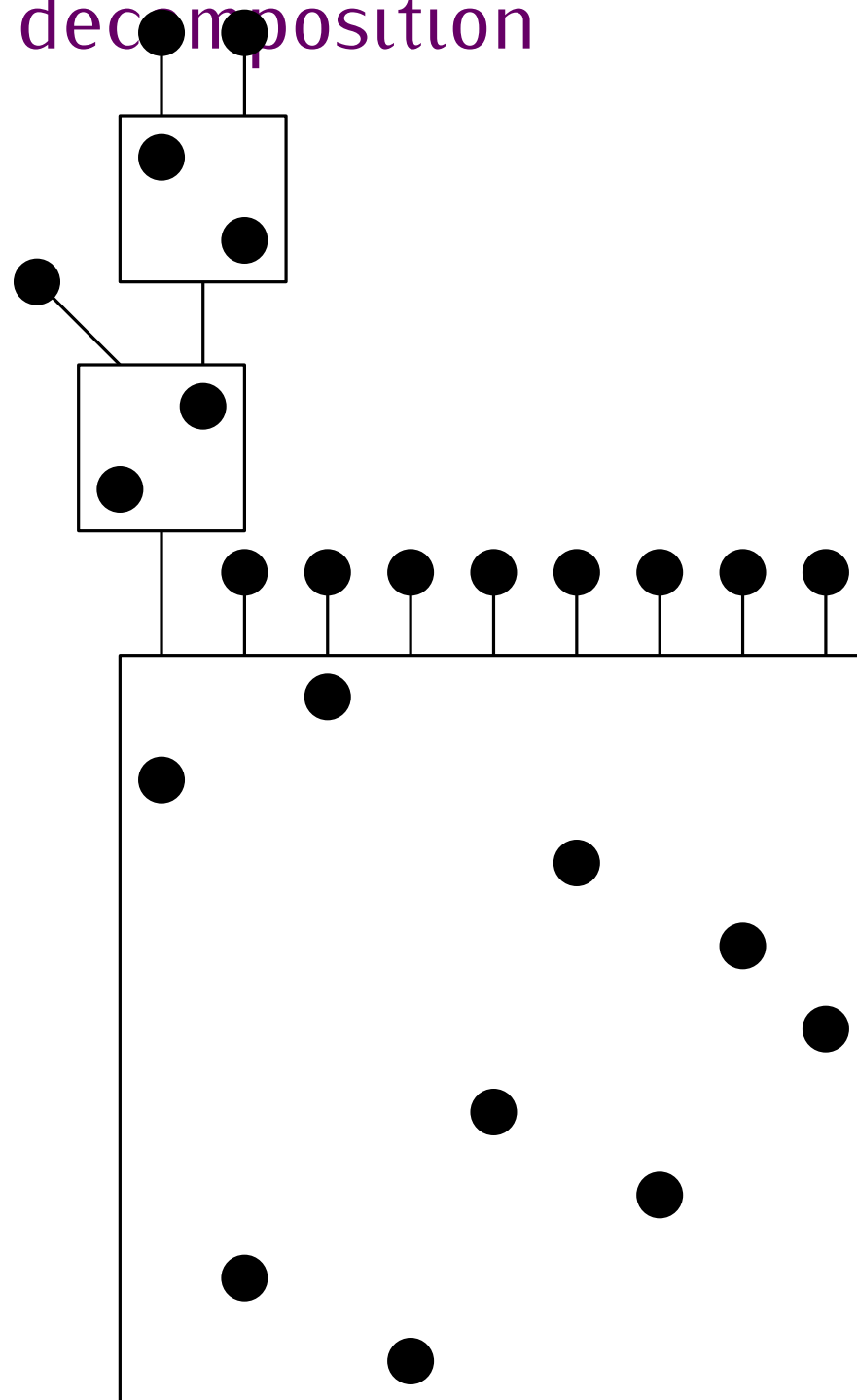
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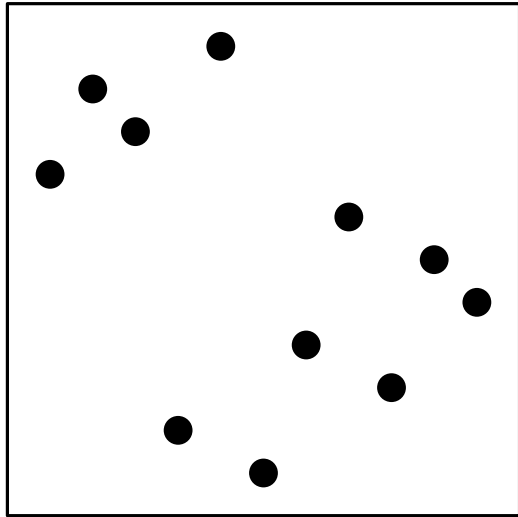
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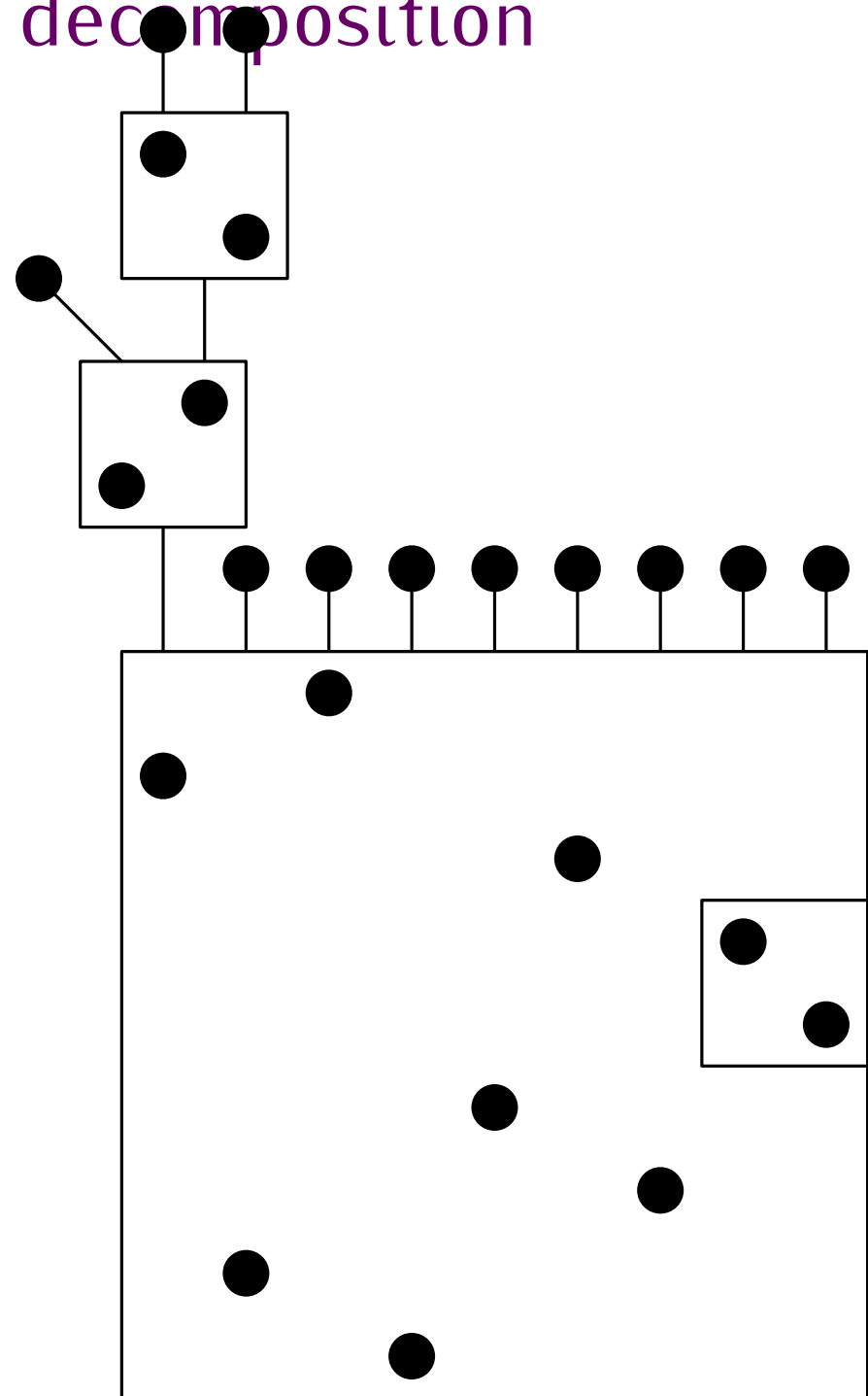
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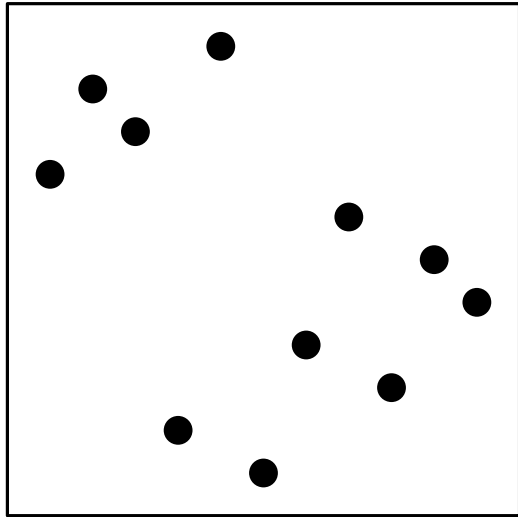
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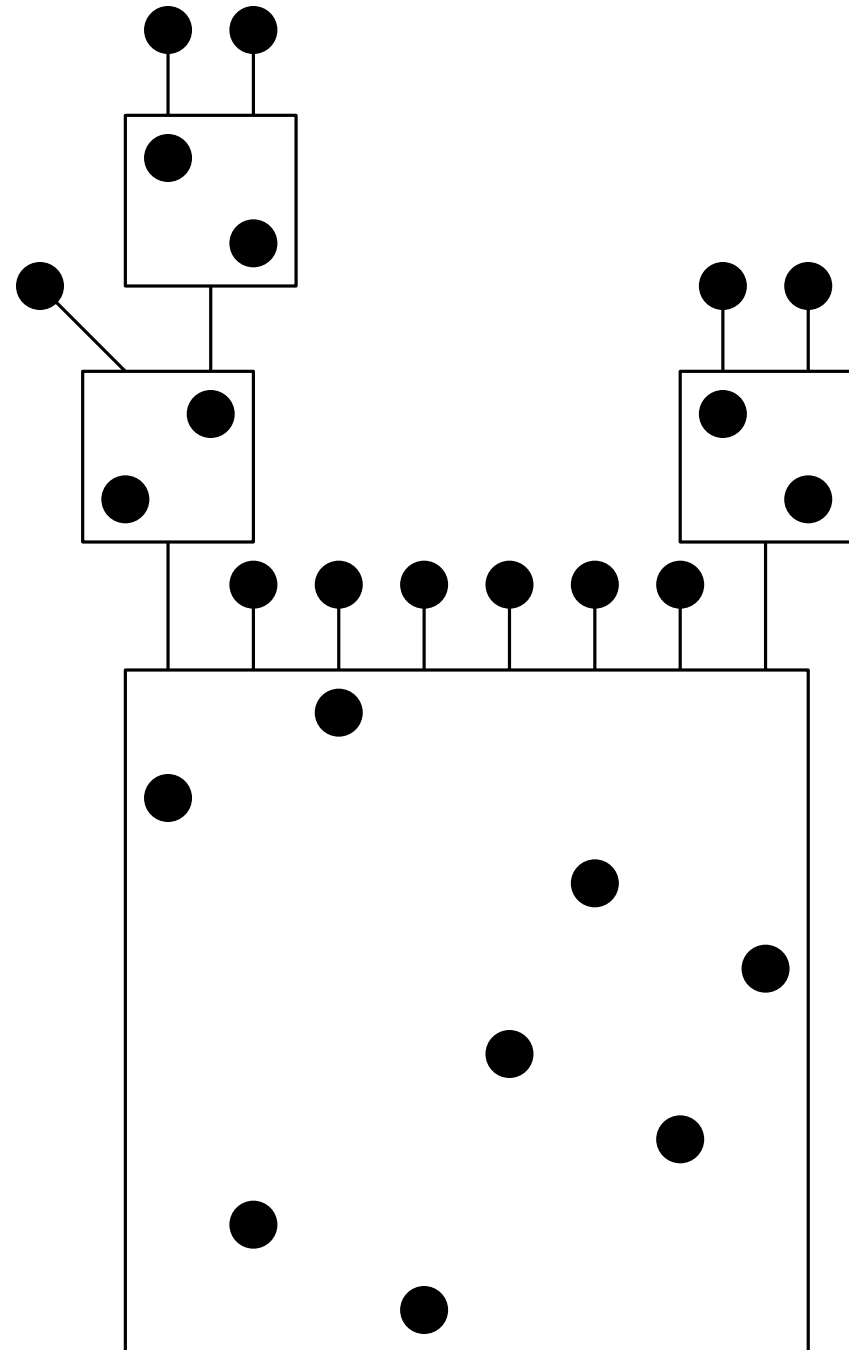
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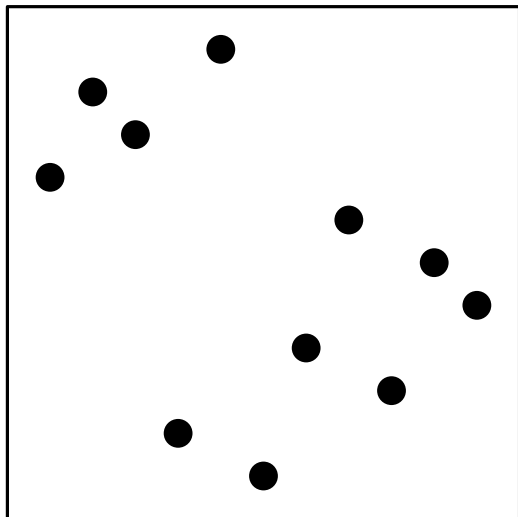
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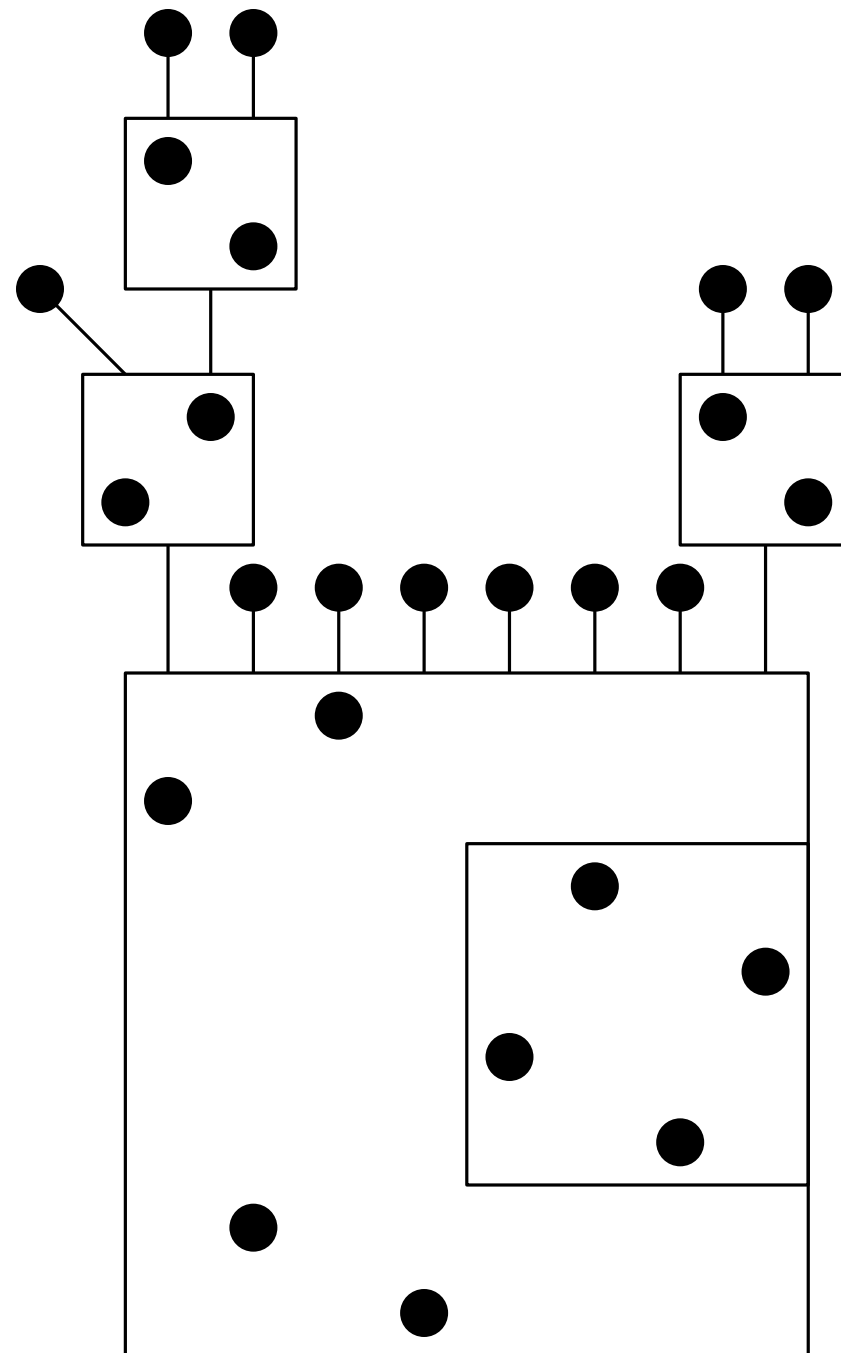
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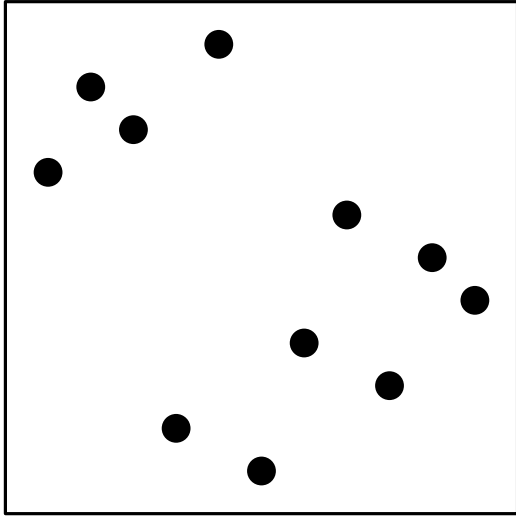


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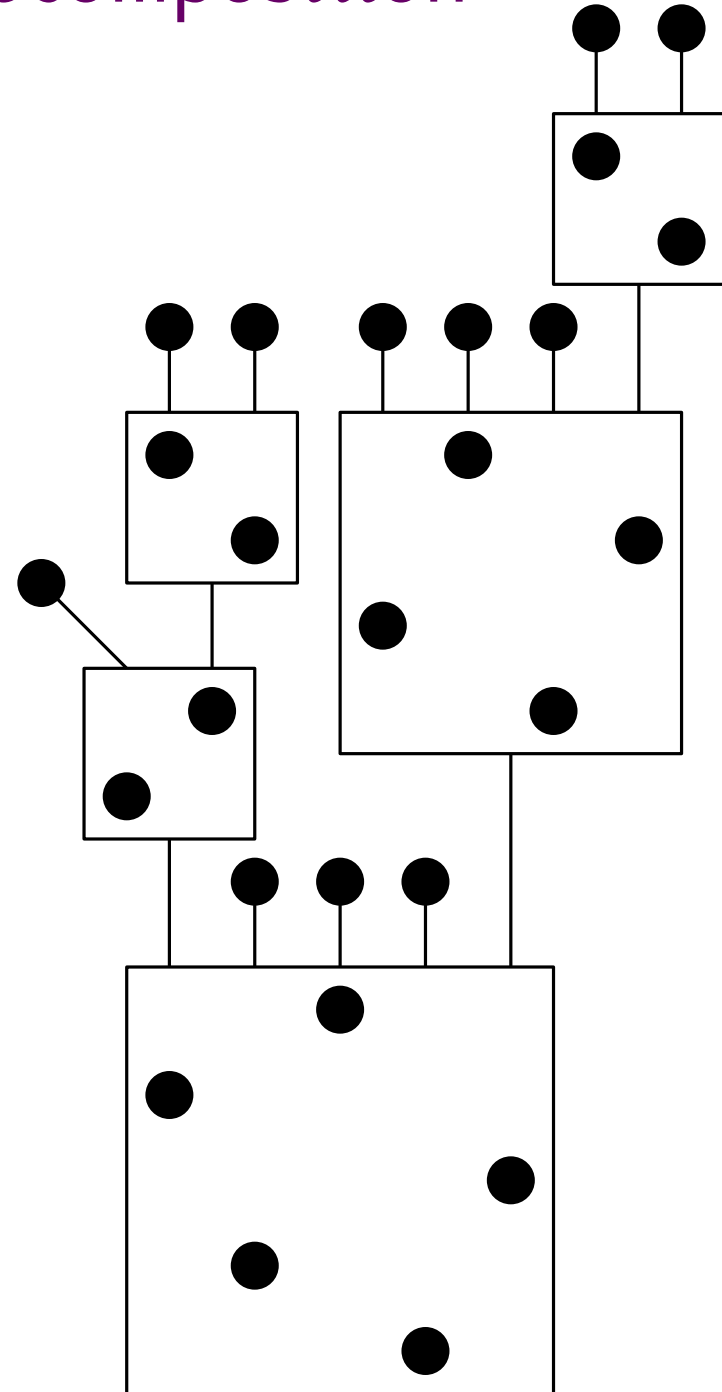




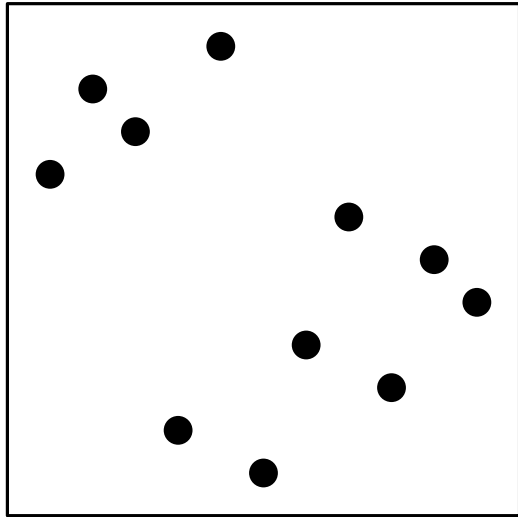
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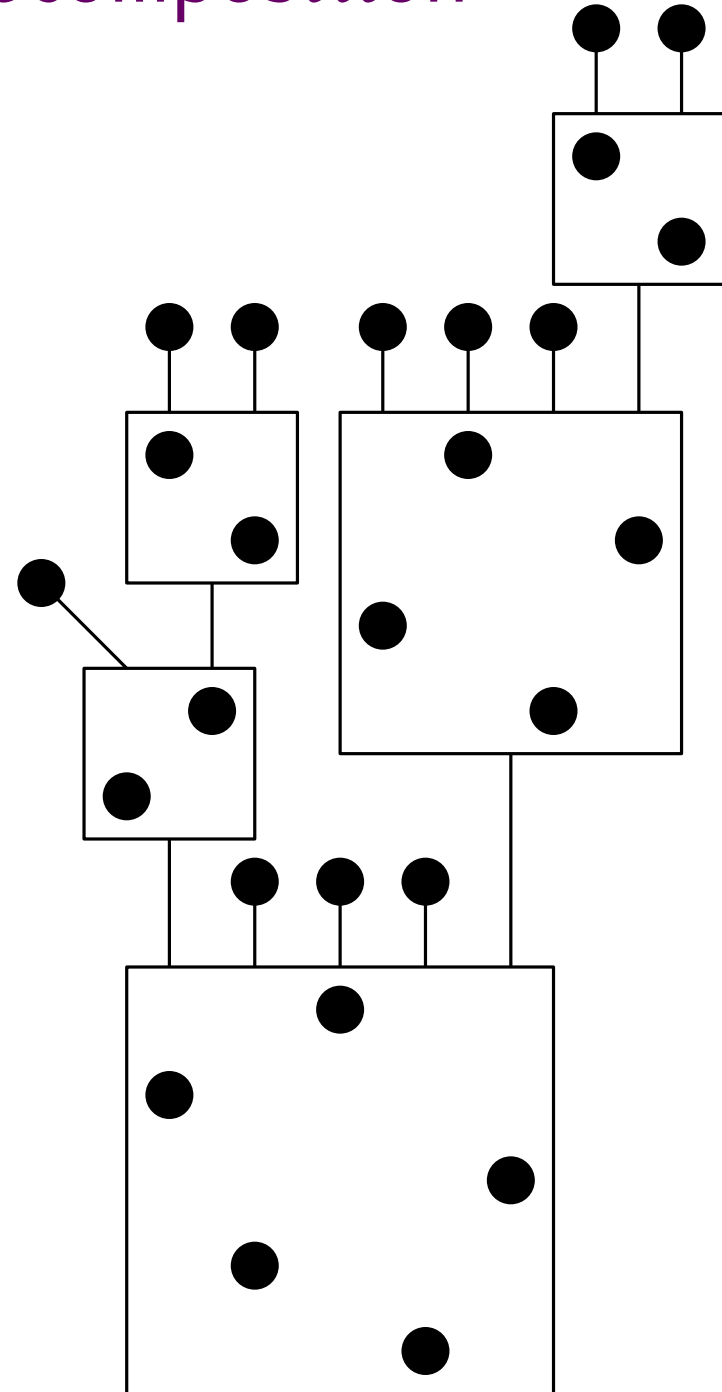
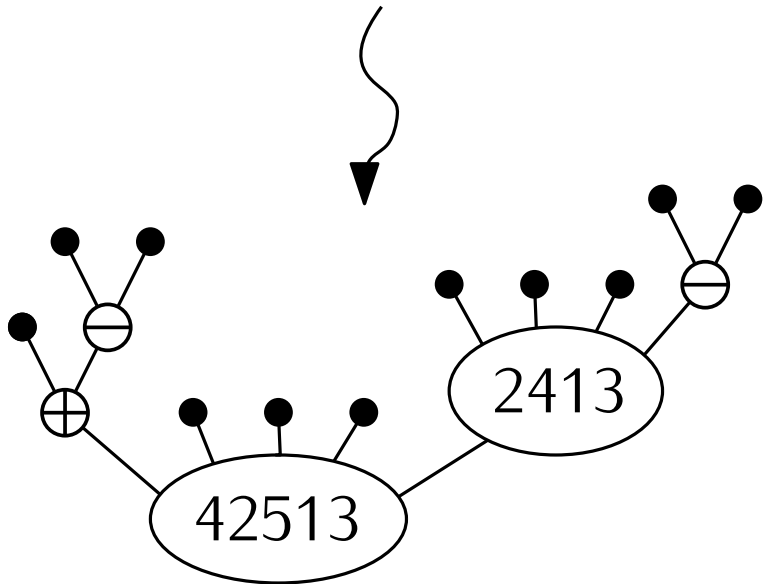
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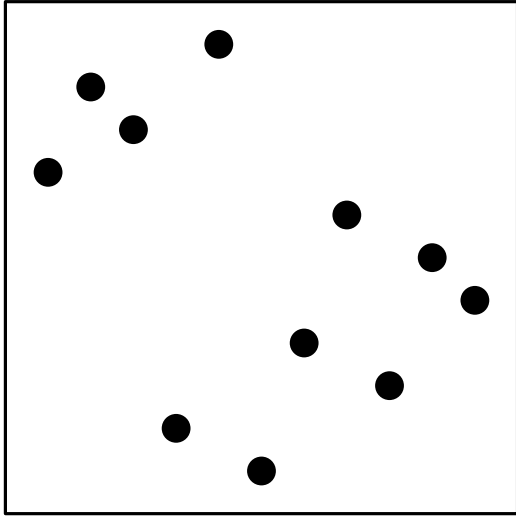
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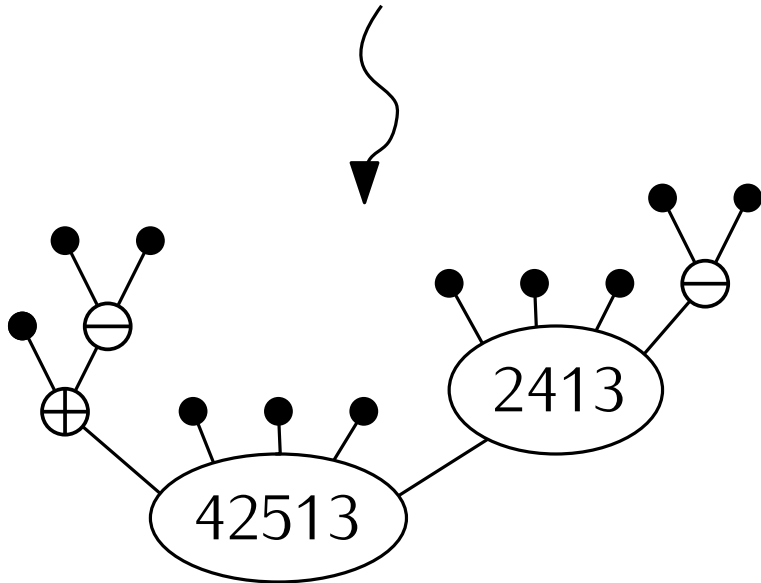
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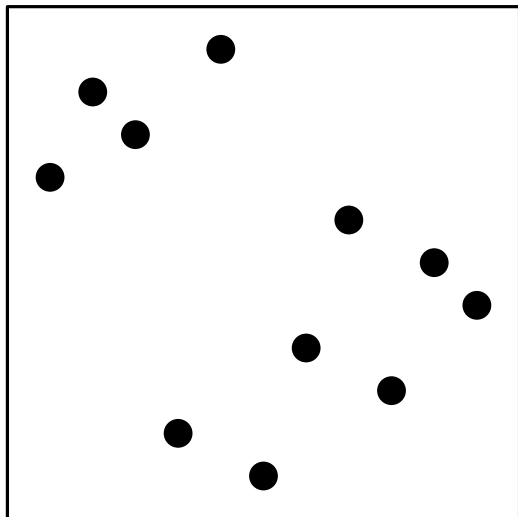
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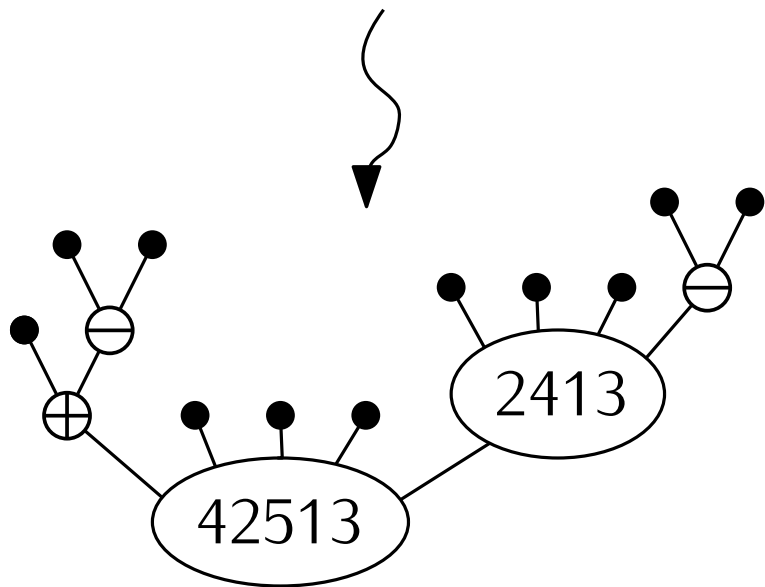
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**Theorem** (Albert, Atkinson 2005):  
Any permutation can be decomposed into a substitution tree with  $\oplus$ ,  $\ominus$  nodes, and simple nodes of length  $\geq 4$ , unique as long as adjacent  $\oplus$  and  $\ominus$  are merged.

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Examples :  $\langle \emptyset \rangle = \{\text{separables}\} = \text{Av}(3142, 2413)$ .

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Let  $\sigma_n$  be a uniform permutation of size  $n$  in  $\langle \mathcal{S} \rangle$ .

$S(z) = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{S}} z^{|\alpha|}$  generating function of the simples, radius  $R$ . Set  $a = S'(R) - 2/(1 + R)^2 + 1$  and  $b = S''(R)$



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**Theorem** (Bassino, Bouvel, Féray, Gerin, M., Pierrot 2017)

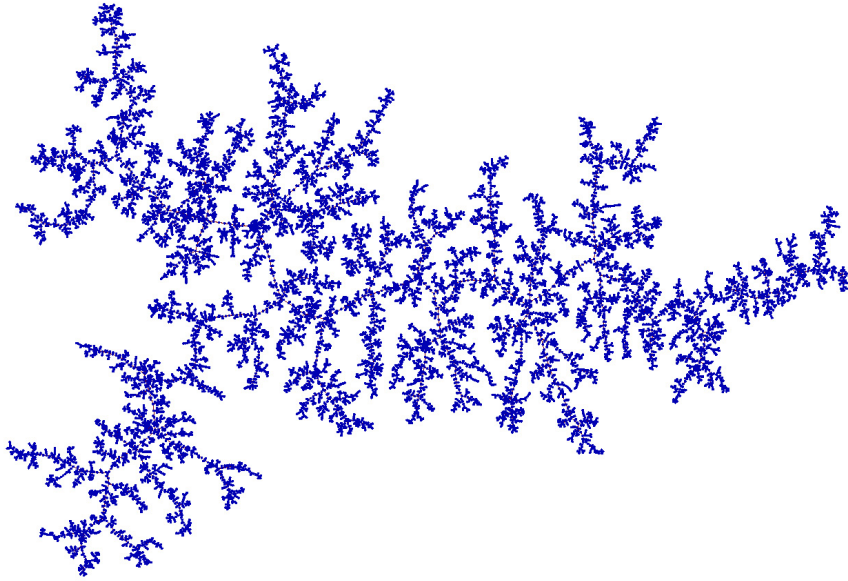
The limit in distribution of  $\sigma_n$  is

- a **biased** Brownian separable permuton if  $a > 0$  or  $a = 0, b < \infty$ ,
- the same limit  $\nu$  as an uniform simple permutation in  $\mathcal{S}$  if  $a < 0$ ,
- a **stable** permuton if  $a = 0, b = \infty$ .

When  $a \leq 0$  additional regularity hypotheses on  $S$  near its singularity are needed.

# Biased Brownian separable permuton

Regime where the decomposition tree converges to a Brownian CRT.

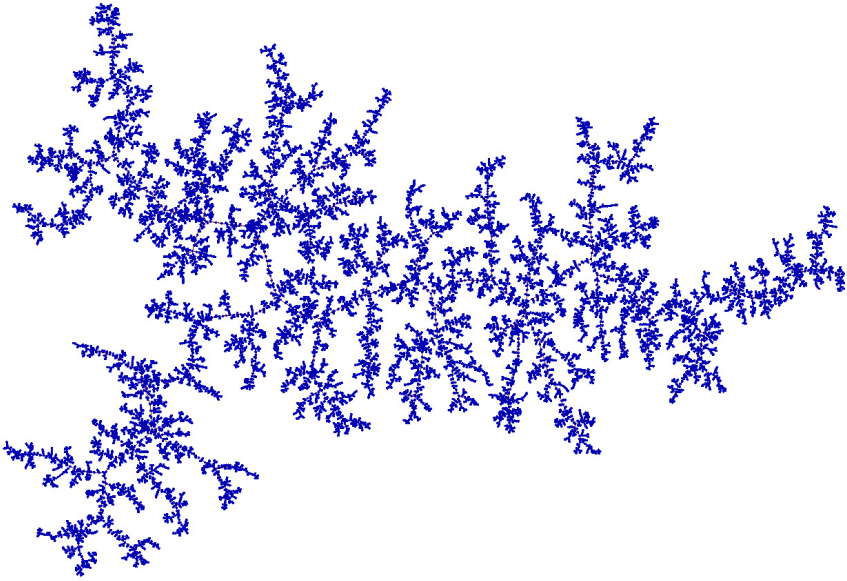


Picture by I. Kortchemski

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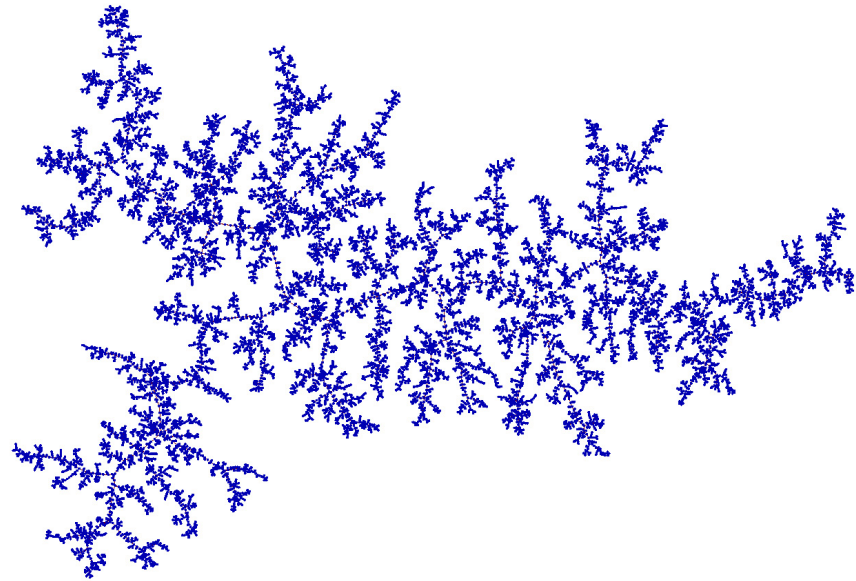
The signs in a uniform subtree are biased:  $\mathbb{P}(\oplus) = p$ , and  $p$  depends explicitly on  $\mathcal{S}$ . Here  $p = 0.2$ .



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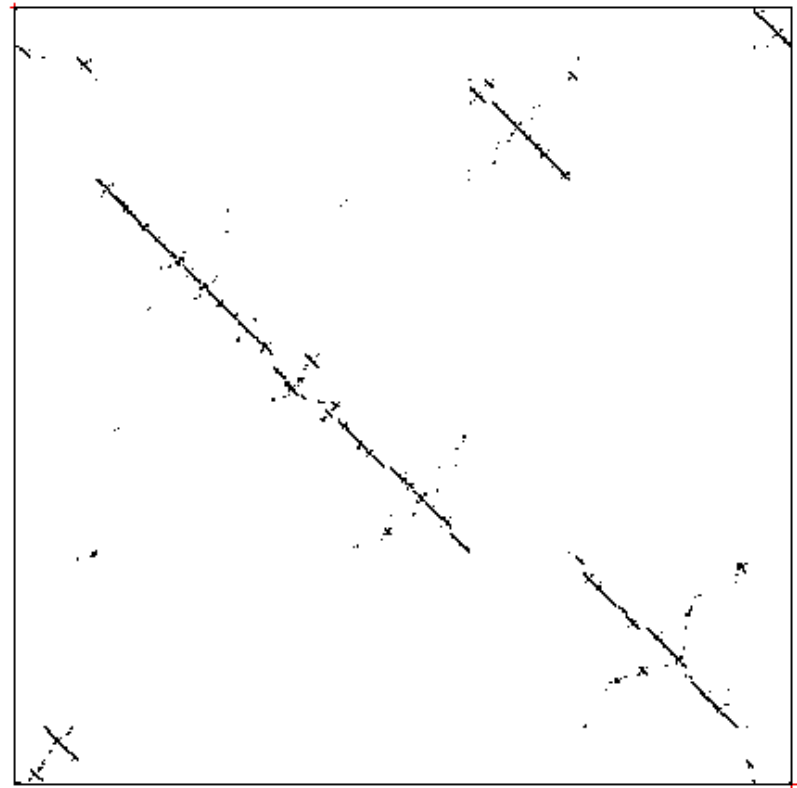
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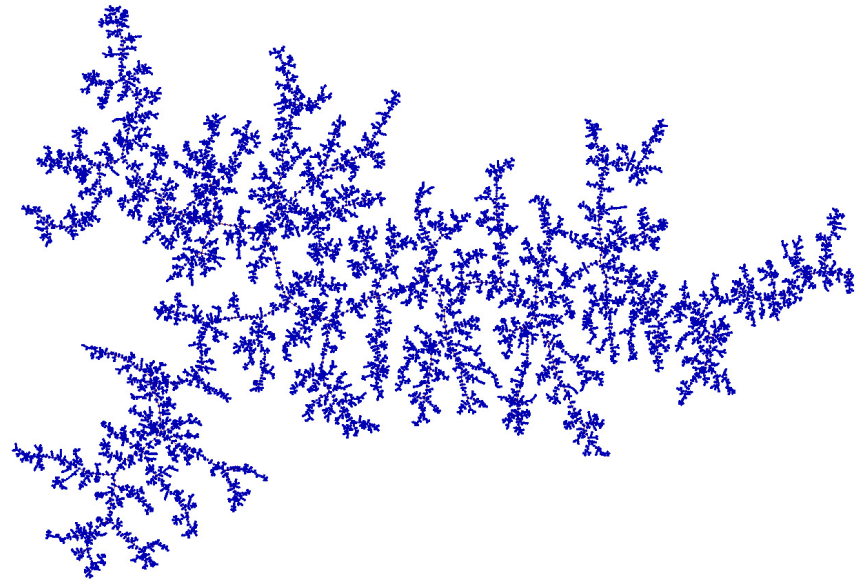
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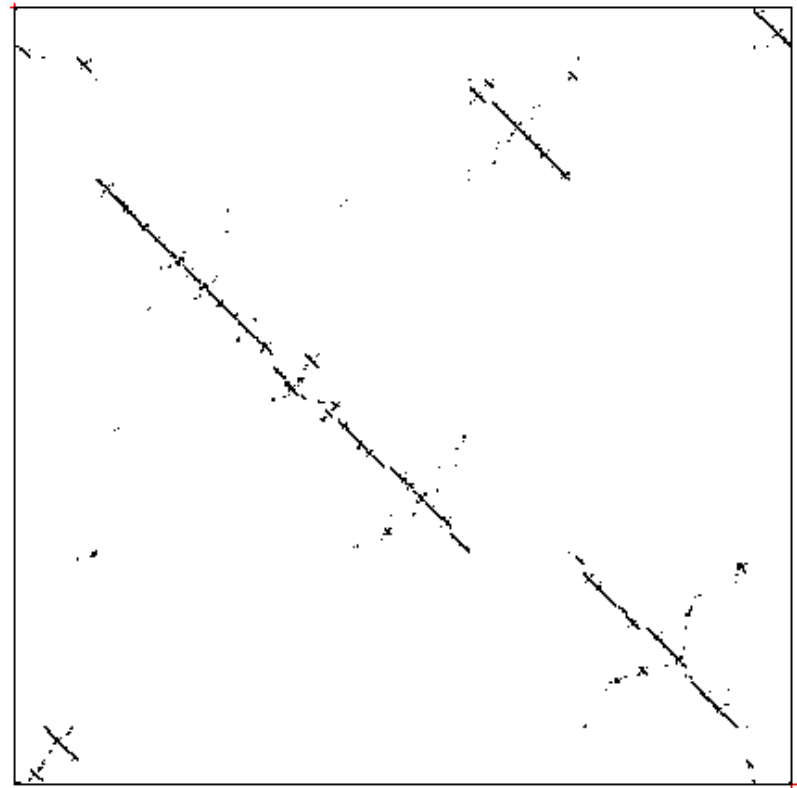
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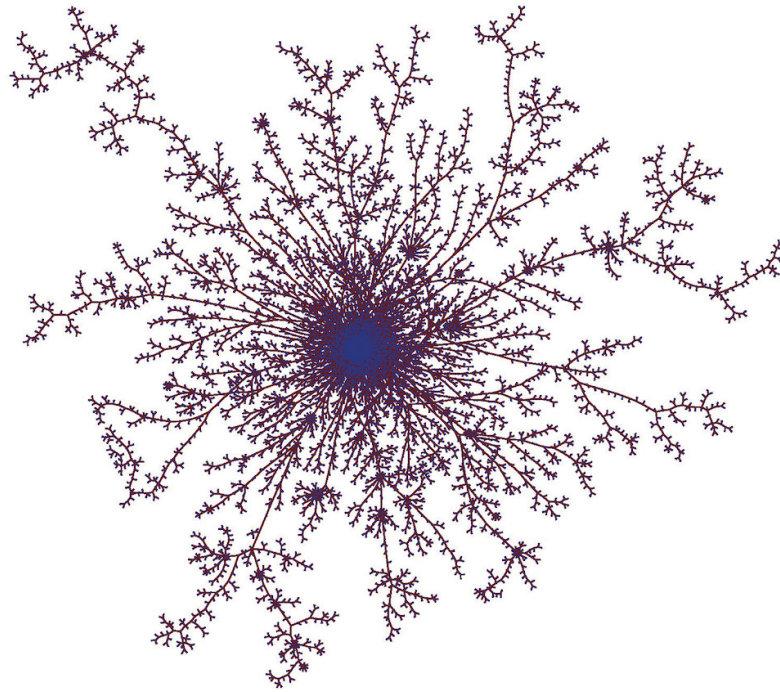
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The regime  $a > 0$  covers most known substitution-closed classes:  $\mathcal{S}$  finite or subexponential,  $S$  rational,...

## Degenerate case $a < 0$

Regime where the decomposition tree exhibits a condensation phenomenon. Roughly,  $\sigma_n$  looks like a large uniform simple permutation in  $\mathcal{S}$  and converges to the same limit  $\nu$ .



Picture by I. Kortchemski

Example:  $Av(2413)$ . We still need to understand the permutation limit of large simples in this class (+ technical hypotheses) to apply our theorem.

# Stable permutons

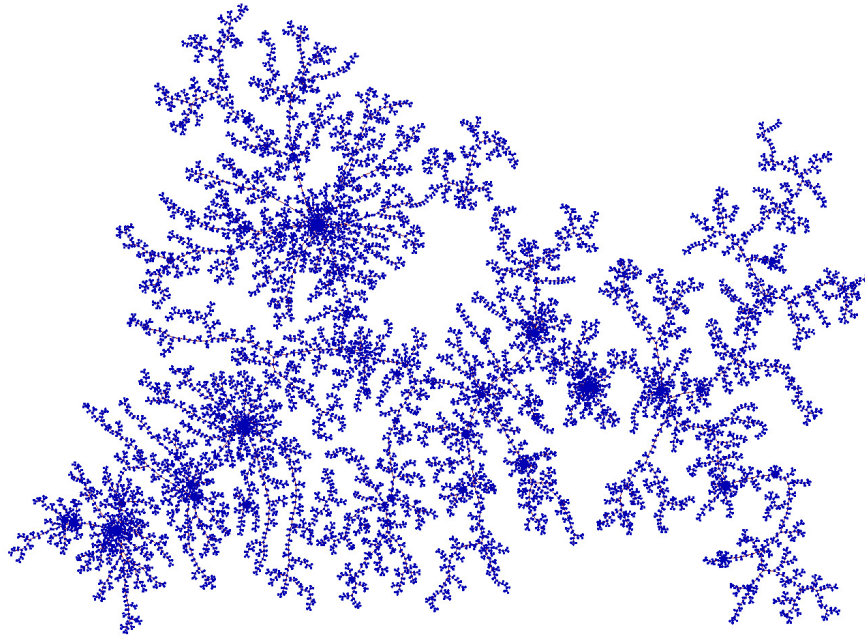
Regime where the decomposition tree converges to a  $\alpha$ -stable tree,  $\alpha$  explicit.



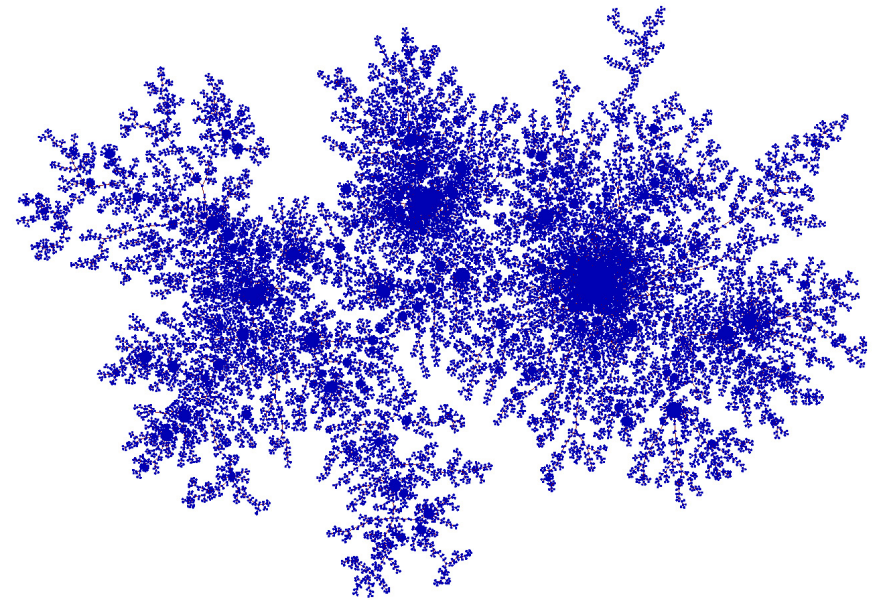
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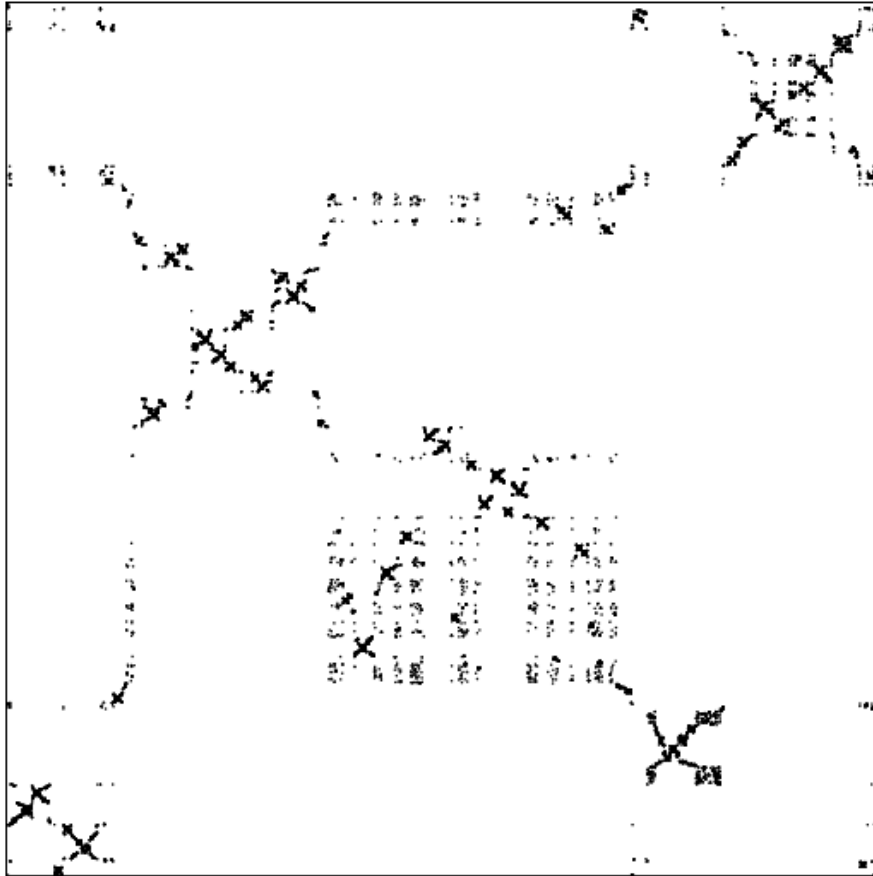


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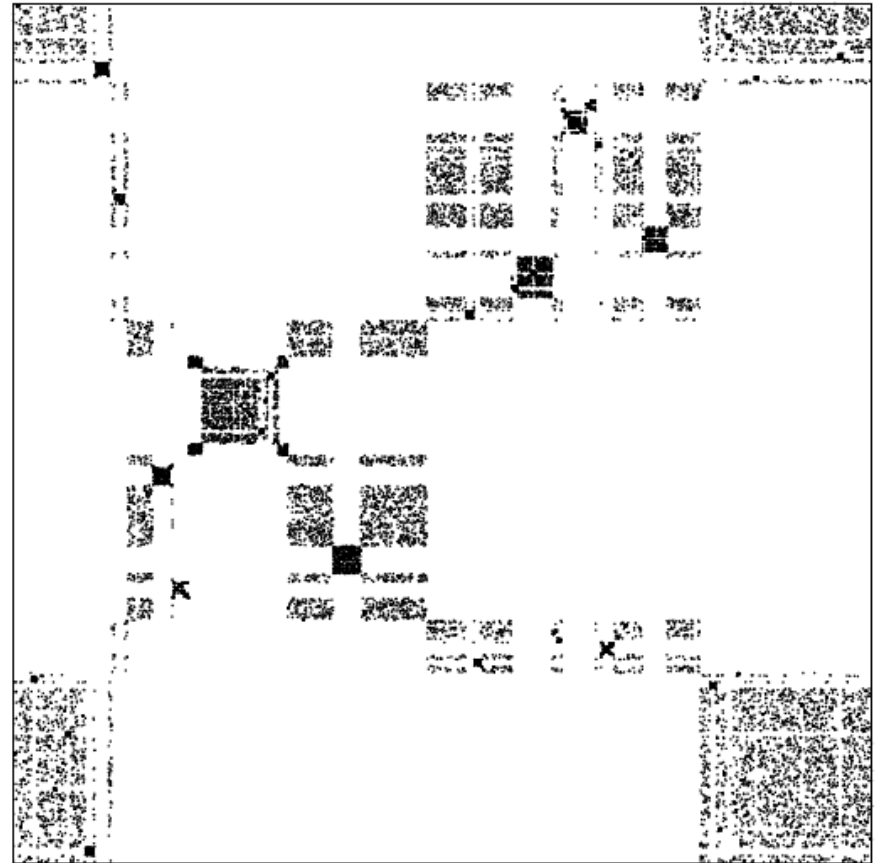
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Branches from each infinite-degree point are reordered according to an independent copy of  $\nu$  (the limit of large simples in the class)

Idea of proof (first, separable permutations)

# Analytic combinatorics

Let  $(a_n)_n$  be a nonnegative sequence and  $A(z) = \sum_n a_n z^n$  its generating function of radius  $\rho$

**Transfer Theorem (Flajolet & Odlyzko)** If

- $A$  is defined on a  $\Delta$ -domain at  $\rho > 0$
- $A(z) \underset{z \rightarrow \rho}{=} g(z) + (C + o(1))(\rho - z)^\delta$  with  $g$  analytic,  $\delta \notin \mathbb{N}$ ,

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If  $(a_n)_n$  counts a recursive structure, equations on  $A$  are easy to obtain from which the singular behavior can be inferred.

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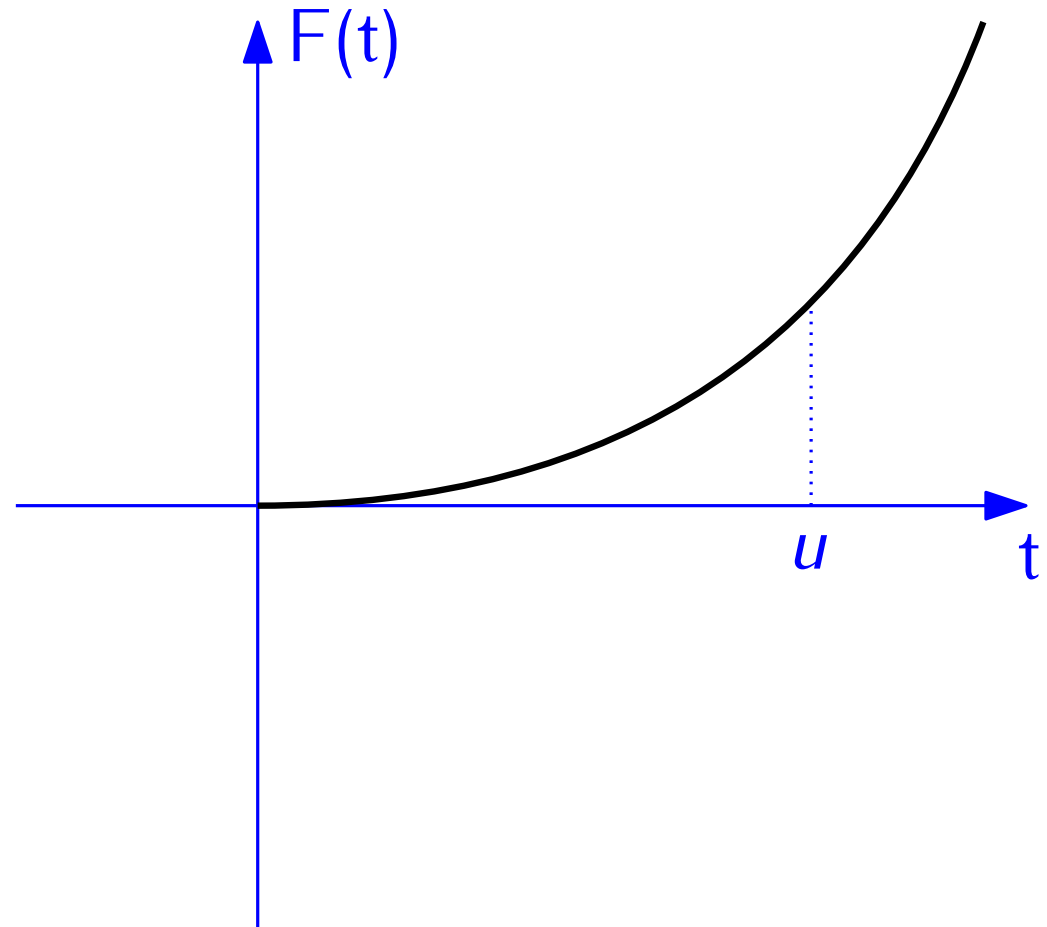
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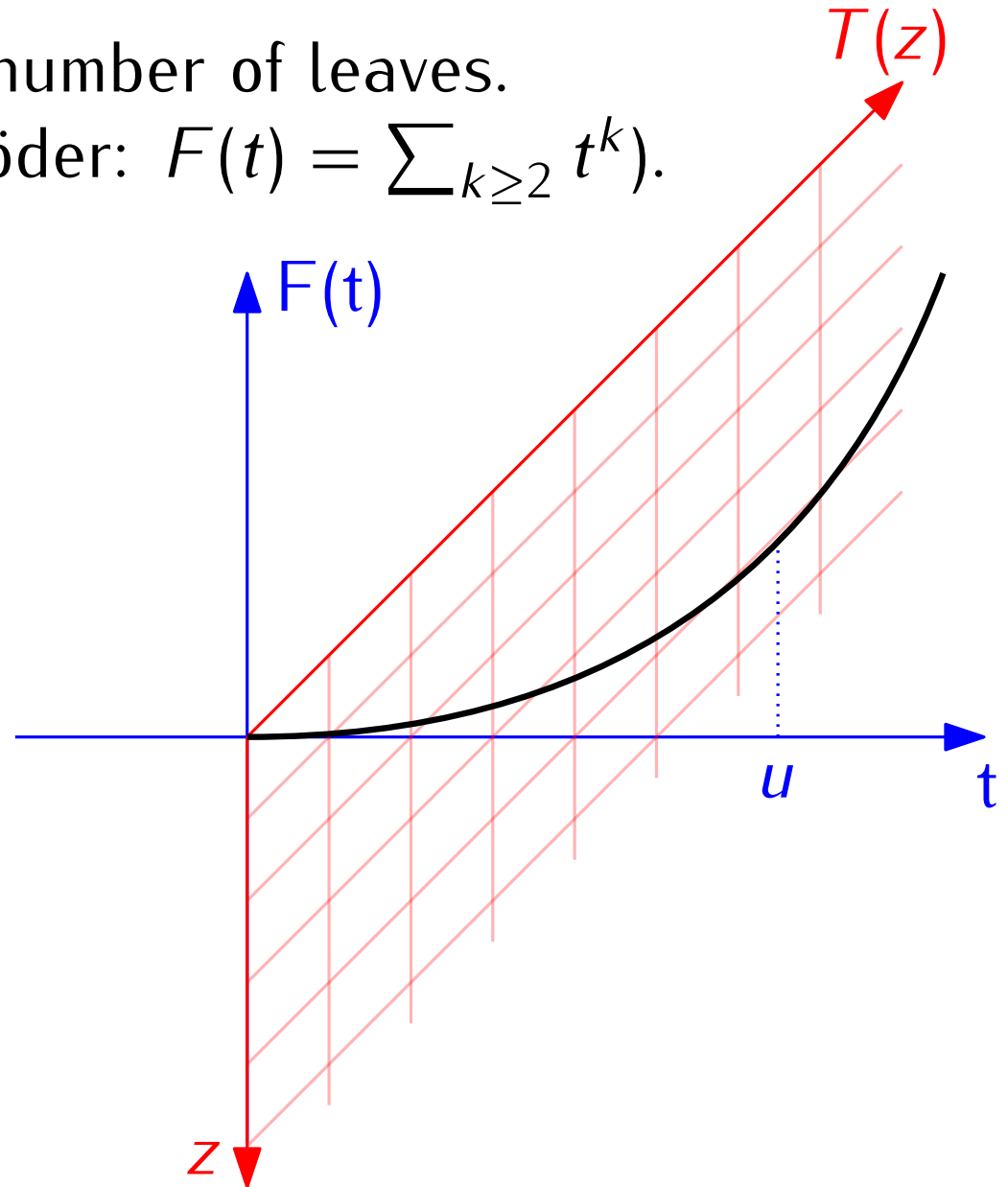
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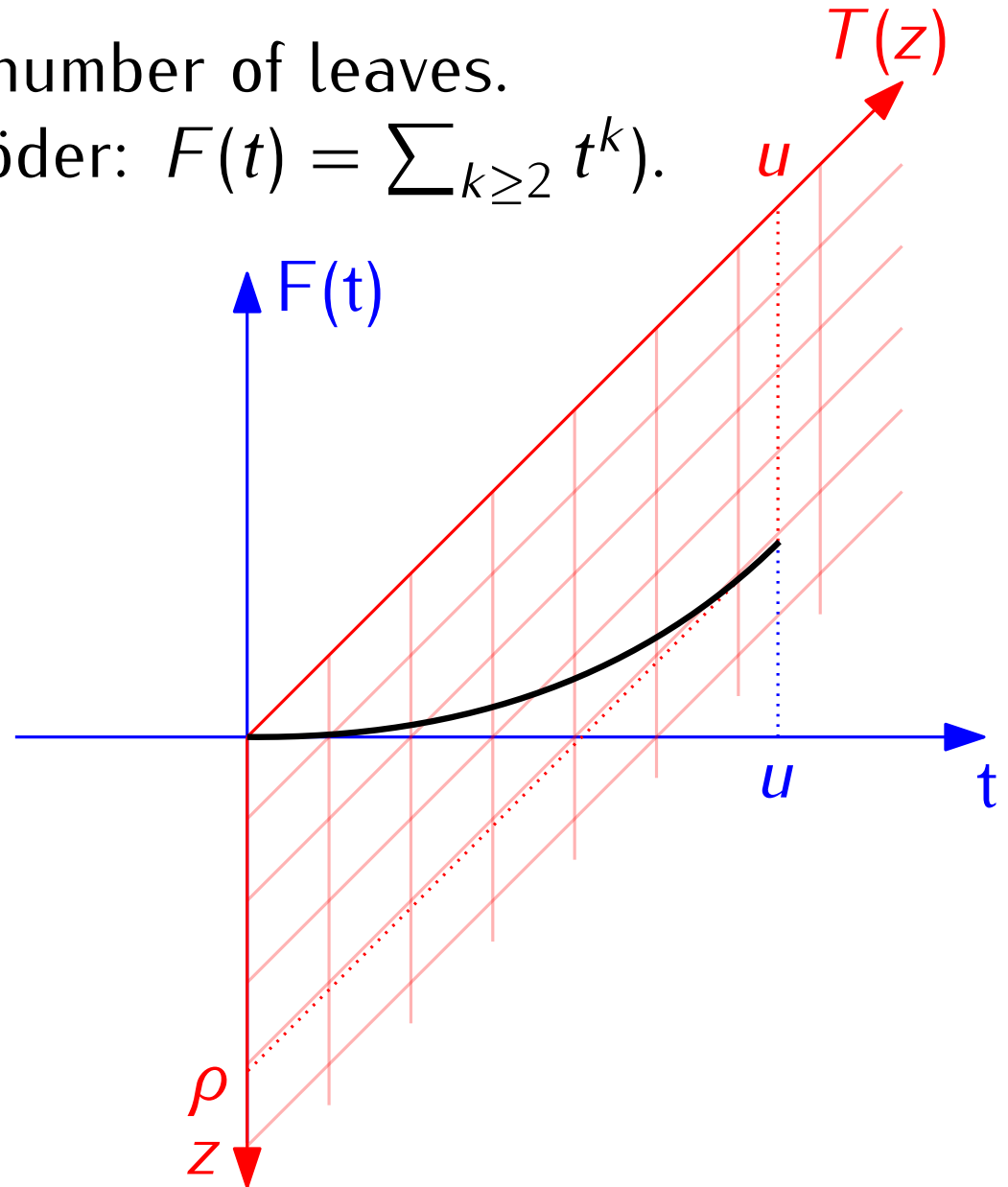
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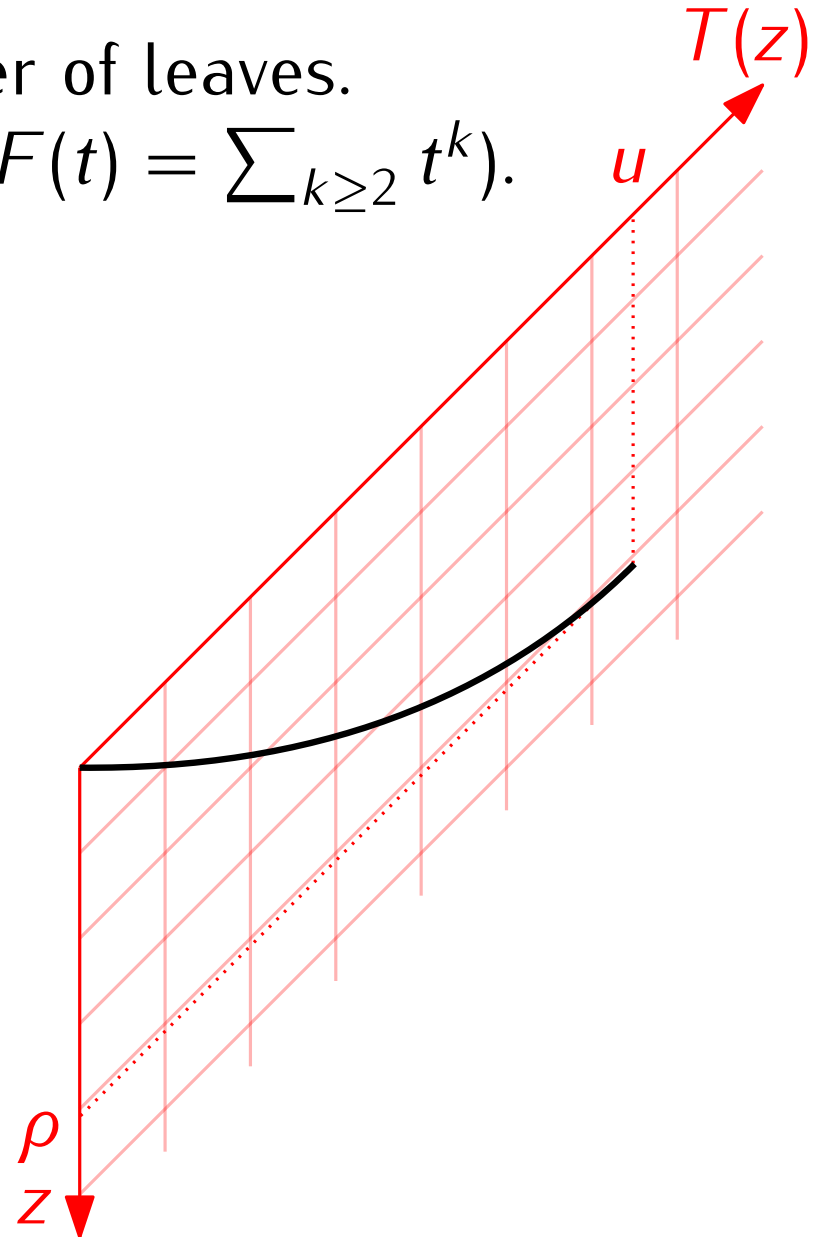
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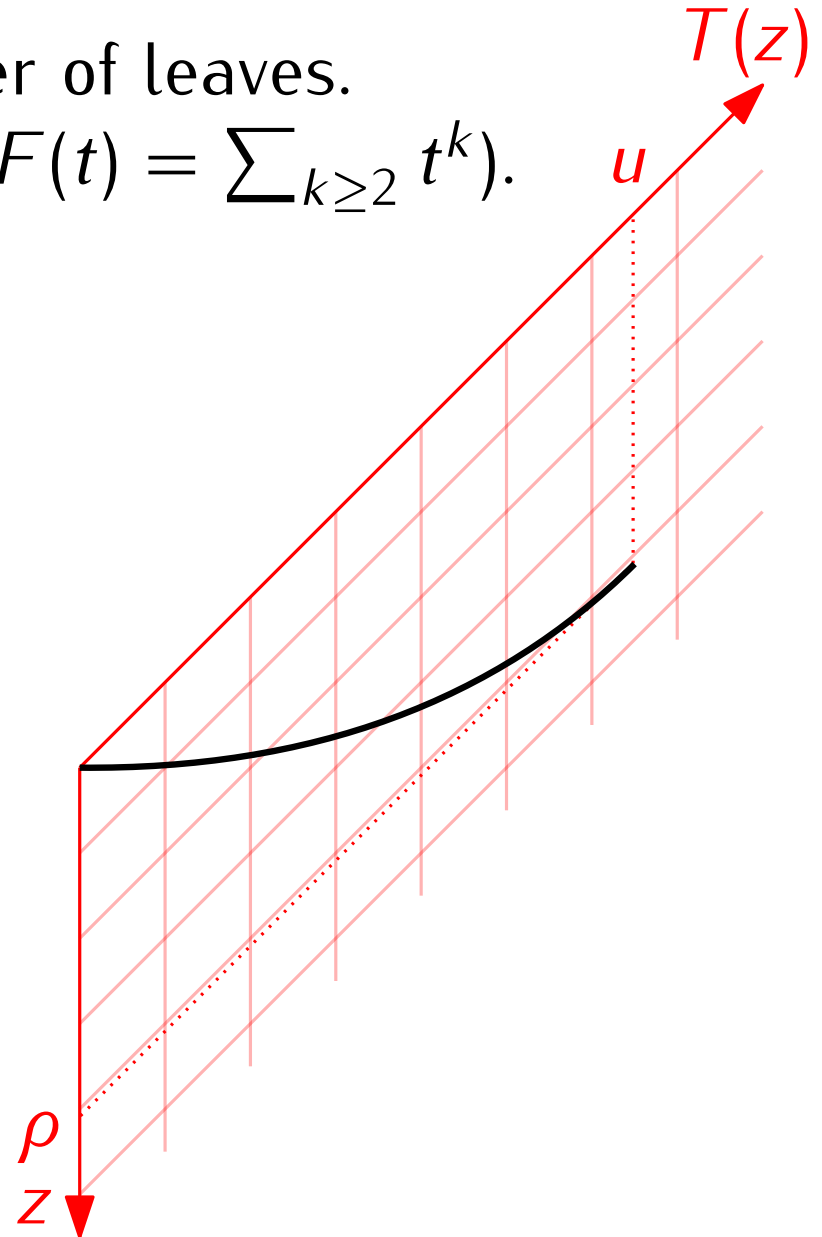
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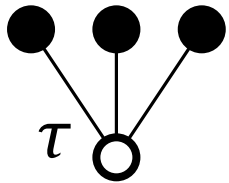
This is the case for Schröder  
( $F$  rational)



# Uniform $k$ -subtree in large unsigned trees

$T$  has square-root singularity at  $\rho$  and  $F$  analytic at  $T(\rho)$ .  
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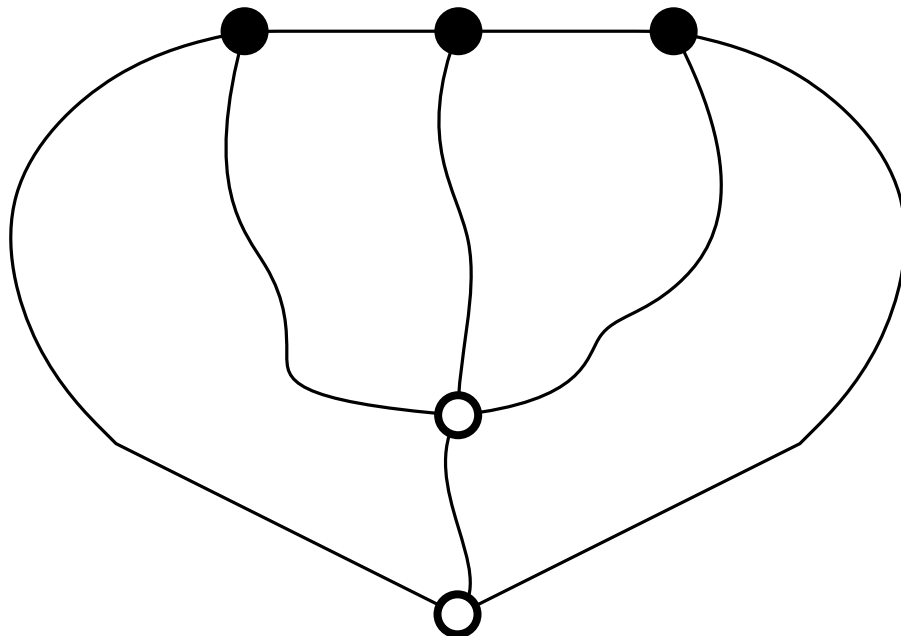
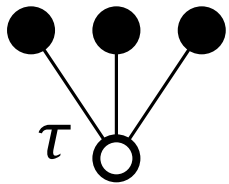
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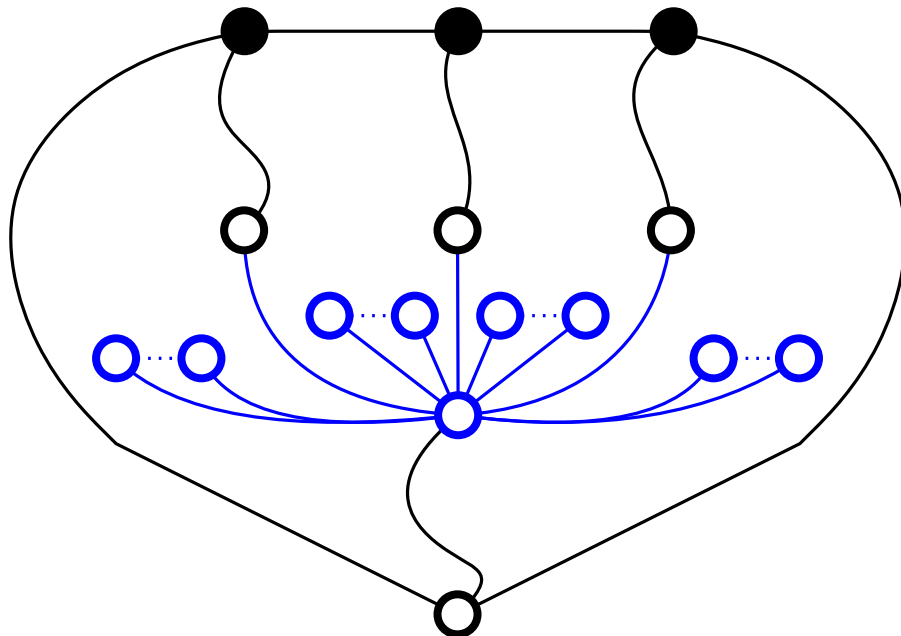
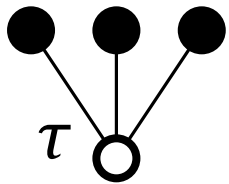
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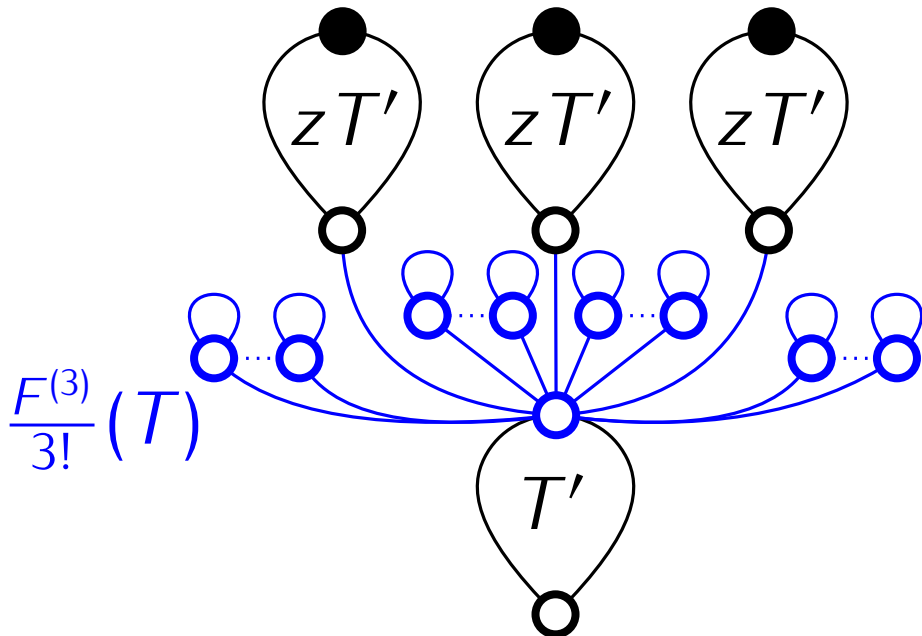
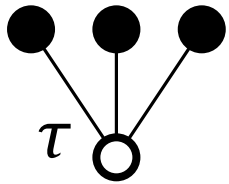
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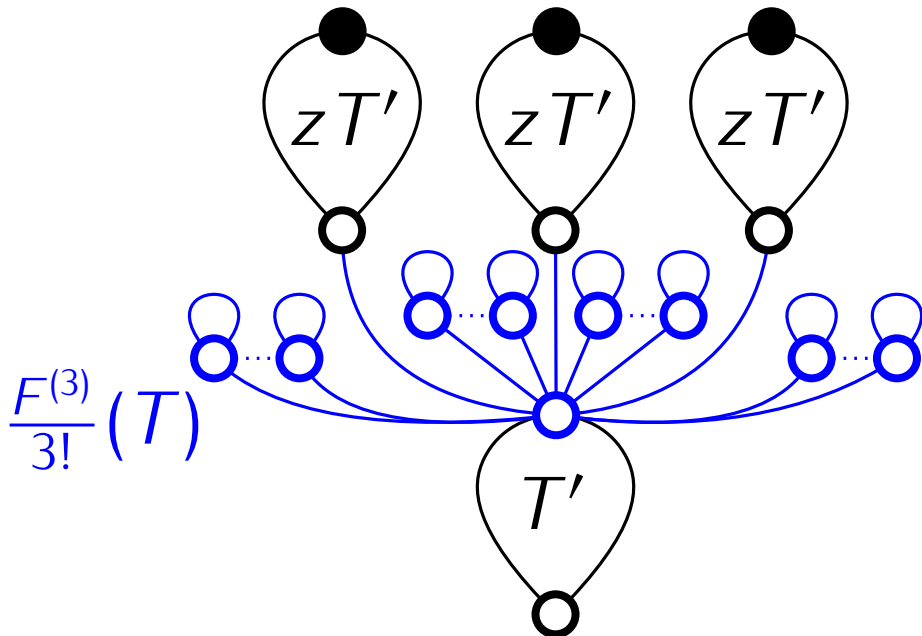
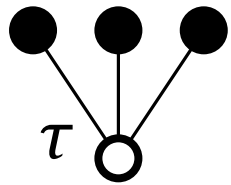




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$\sim_{\rho} C_{\tau}(\rho - z)^{-\#\{\text{nodes in } \tau\}/2}$ .  
Dominates when  $\tau$  binary.  
(Then  $C_{\tau}$  doesn't depend on  $\tau$ ).  
Transfer:  $t_n|_n^k$  converges in distribution to a uniform binary tree.

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Hence all signed binary trees have the same asymptotic  
probability, what we needed for permutation convergence.

Idea of proof (general substitution-closed families)

# Substitution-closed classes

Here the trees are described by a context-free grammar with three types:

$$T = z + \frac{T_{\text{not}\oplus}^2}{1 - T_{\text{not}\oplus}} + \frac{T_{\text{not}\ominus}^2}{1 - T_{\text{not}\ominus}} + S(T)$$

$$T_{\text{not}\oplus} = z + \frac{T_{\text{not}\oplus}^2}{1 - T_{\text{not}\oplus}} + S(T)$$

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Which reduces to

$$T_{\text{not}\ominus} = T_{\text{not}\oplus} = z + \frac{T_{\text{not}\oplus}^2}{1 - T_{\text{not}\oplus}} + S\left(\frac{T_{\text{not}\oplus}}{1 - T_{\text{not}\oplus}}\right) = z + \Lambda(T_{\text{not}\oplus}).$$

$$T = \frac{T_{\text{not}\oplus}}{1 - T_{\text{not}\oplus}}.$$



Then

- If  $a > 0$ , then  $\Lambda'$  reaches 1 before its singularity and we end up in the smooth implicit function schema (hence the Brownian behavior)
- If  $a = 0$  then  $\Lambda'(R_\Lambda) = 1$ . If  $\delta > 1$  is the singularity exponent of  $S$  and  $\Lambda$  then the one of  $T_{\text{not}\oplus}$  is  $(\delta \wedge 2)^{-1}$ .
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In the first two cases, the  $3 \times 3$  matrix

(g.f. of trees of type  $i$  with a marked leaf of type  $j$ ) $_{i,j \in \{\emptyset, \text{not}\oplus, \text{not}\ominus\}}$

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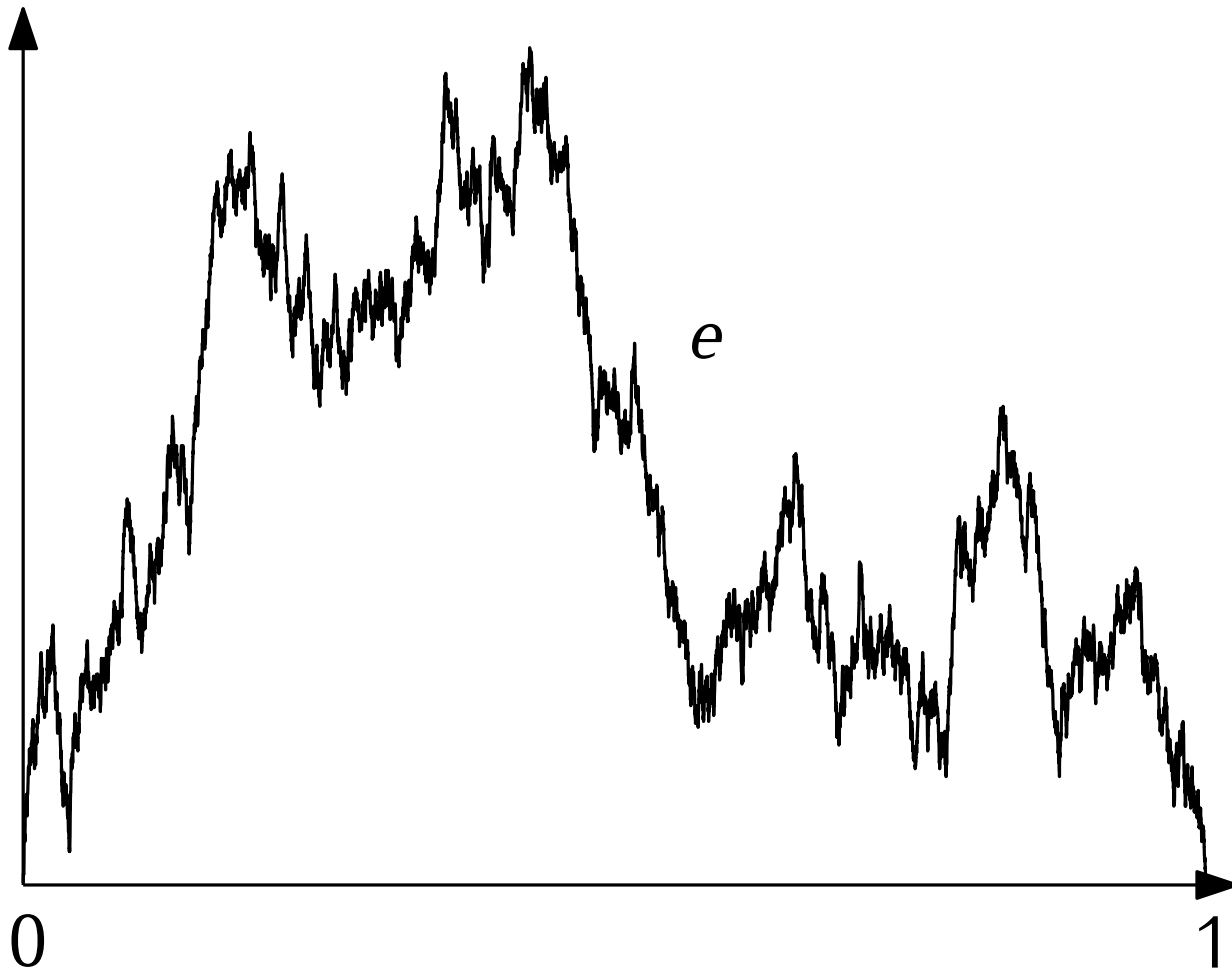
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This is enough to analyze the probability of uniform subtrees in a large substitution tree and prove the theorem.

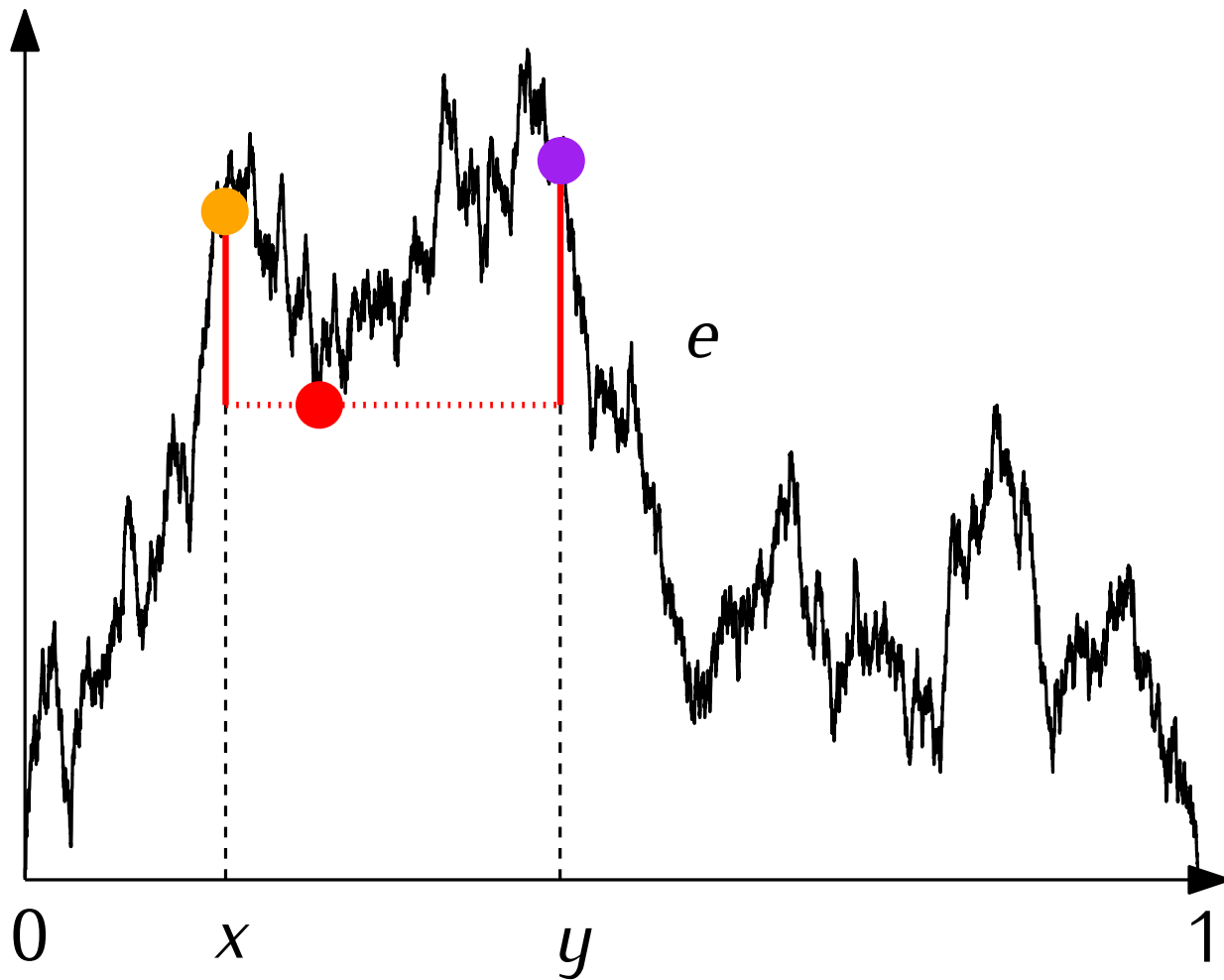
# 2 – Construction of the Brownian Permuton

[arXiv:1711.08986]

# The Brownian excursion and CRT

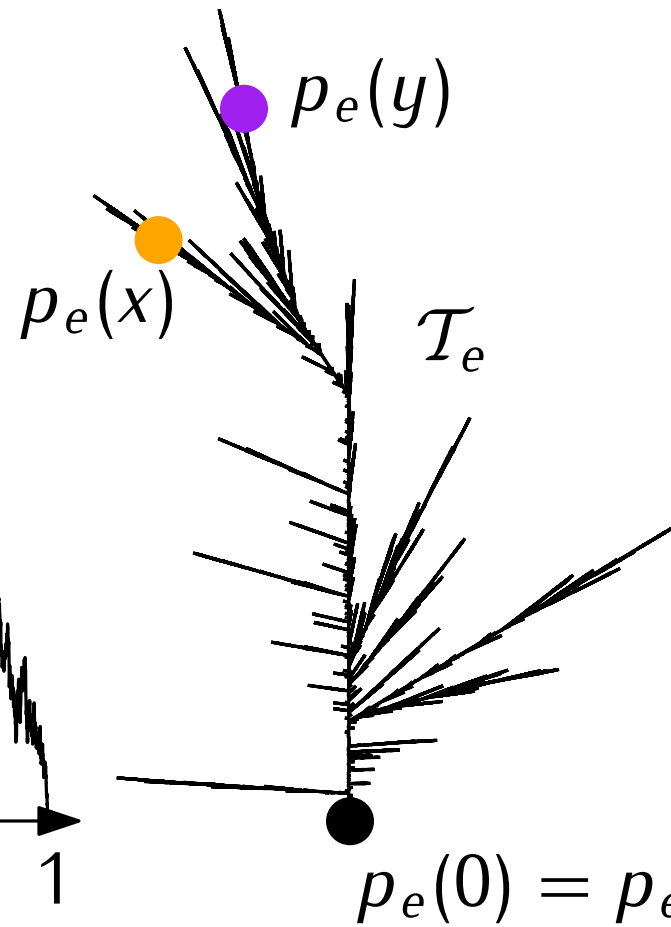
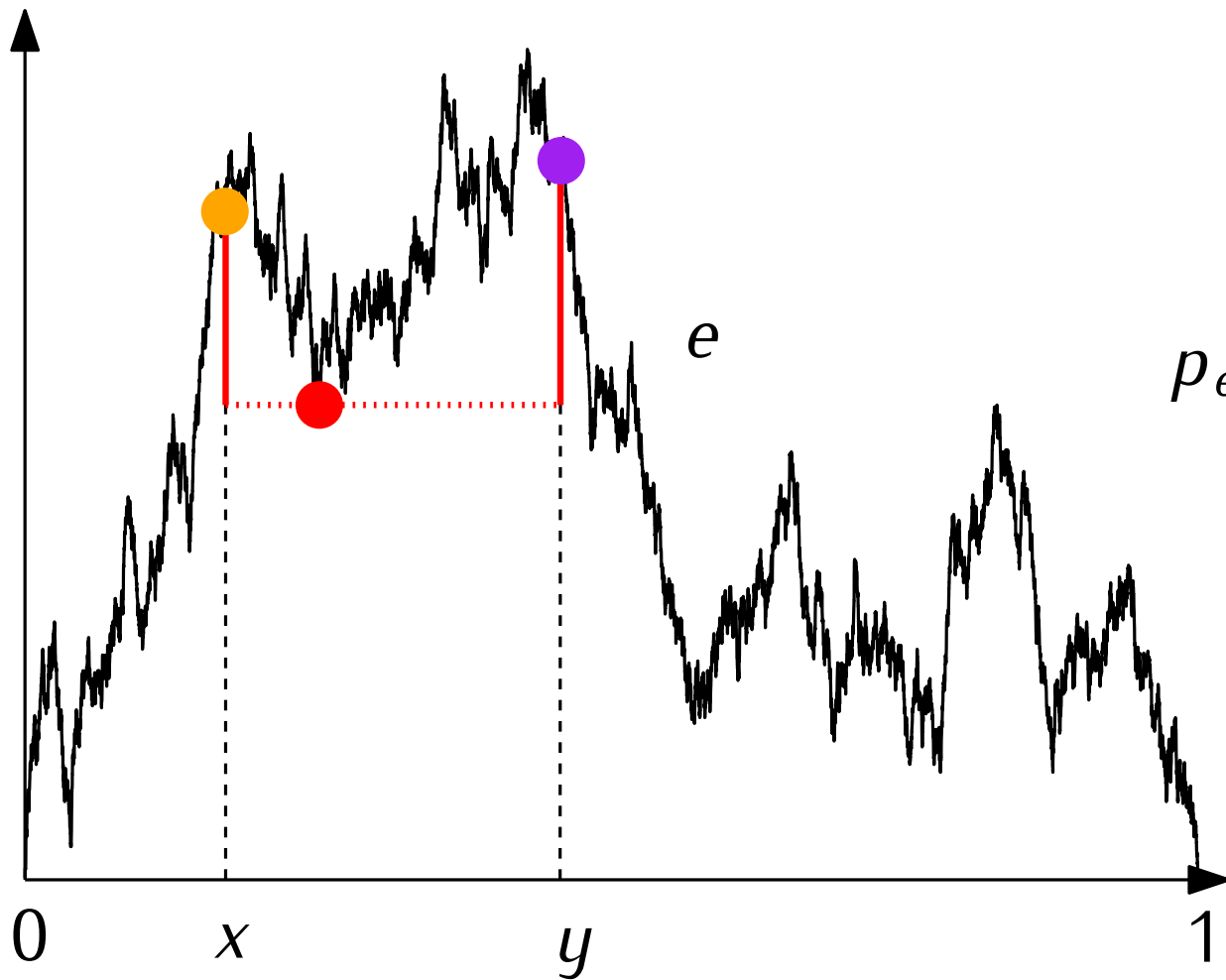


# The Brownian excursion and CRT



$$d_e(x, y) = e(x) + e(y) - 2 \min_{[x, y]} e$$

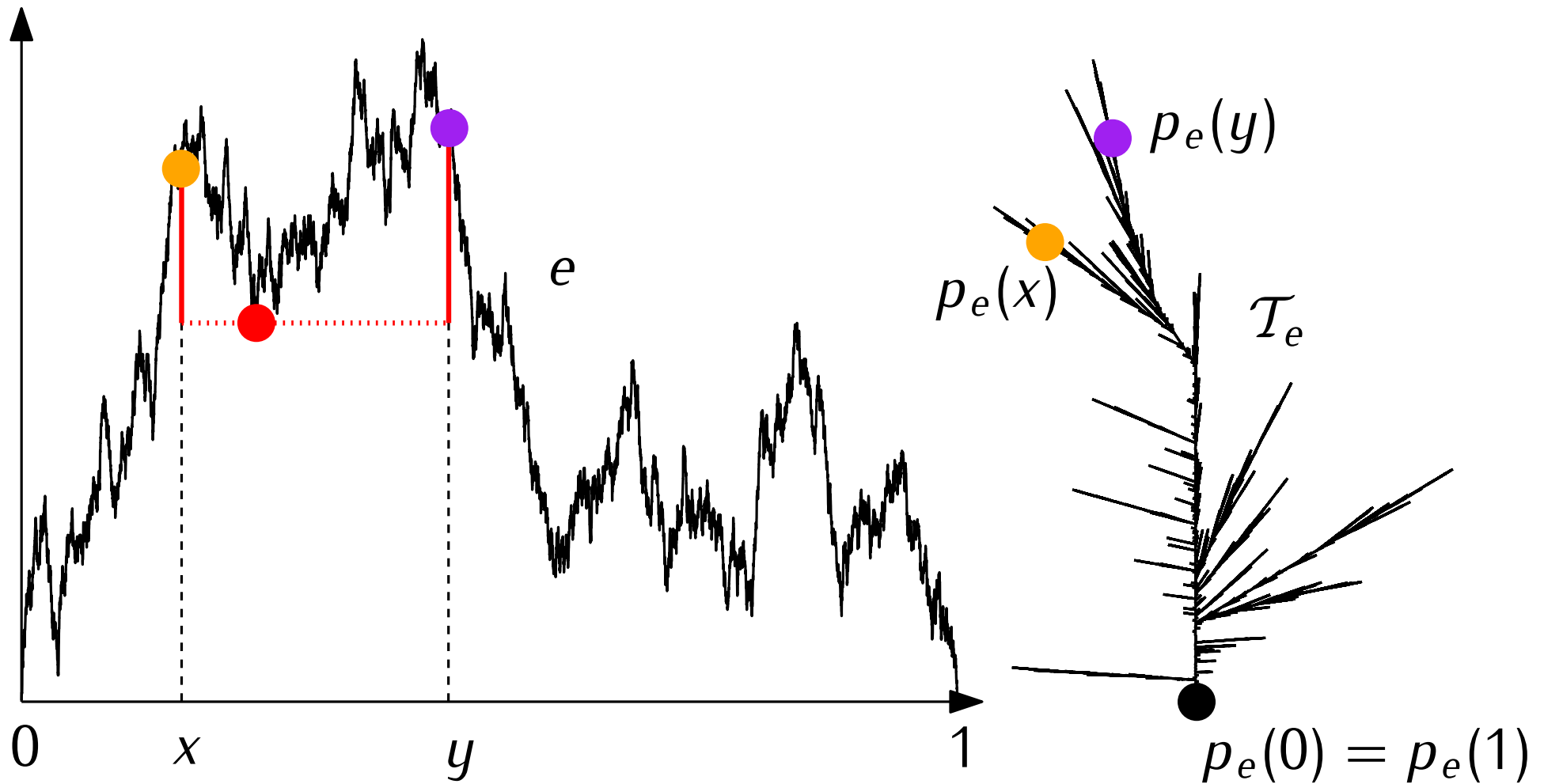
# The Brownian excursion and CRT



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$$\mathcal{T}_e = ([0, 1] / \{d_e = 0\}, d_e)$$

# The Brownian excursion and CRT

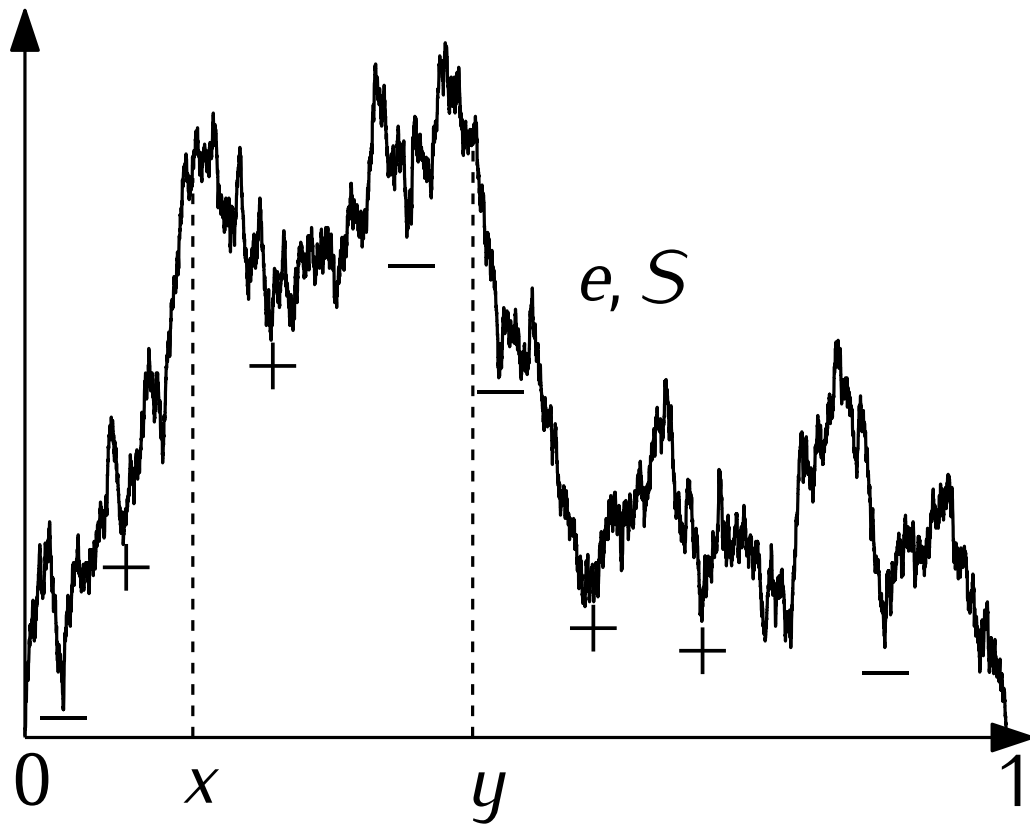


$$d_e(x, y) = e(x) + e(y) - 2 \min_{[x, y]} e \quad \mathcal{T}_e = ([0, 1] / \{d_e = 0\}, d_e)$$

$e$  contains more information than the metric space  $\mathcal{T}_e$ : 1) a mass measure 2) a DFS ordering of the vertices,  $\iff$  an ordering of the two subtrees at each branching point.

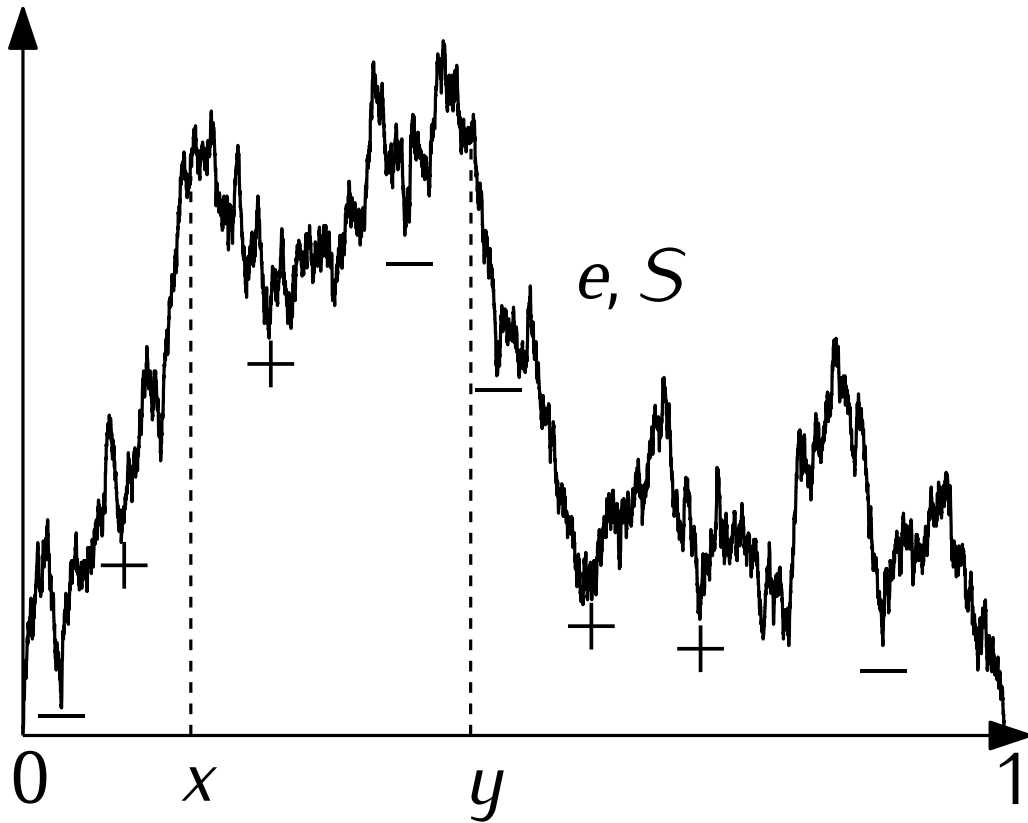


# The signed Brownian excursion



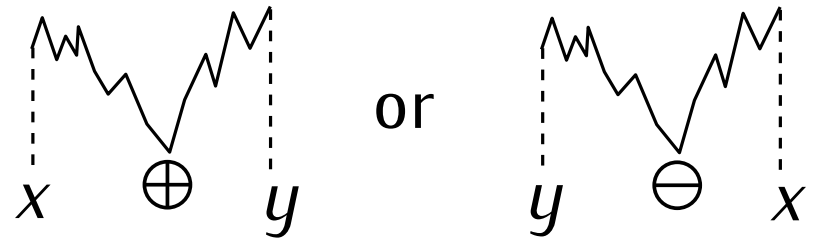
$e$  Brownian excursion,  $S$   
i.i.d. signs indexed by the  
local minima of  $e$ .

# The signed Brownian excursion

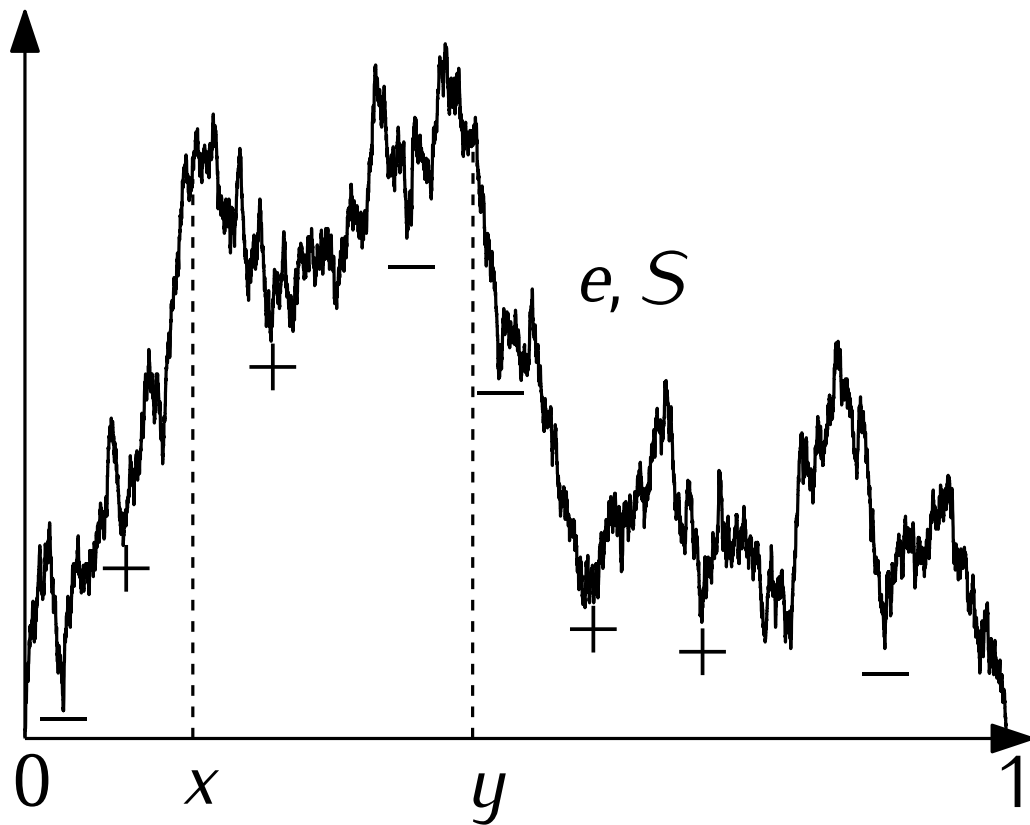


$e$  Brownian excursion,  $S$  i.i.d. signs indexed by the local minima of  $e$ .

Define a shuffled pseudo-order on  $[0, 1]$ :  
 $x \triangleleft_e^S y$  if and only if



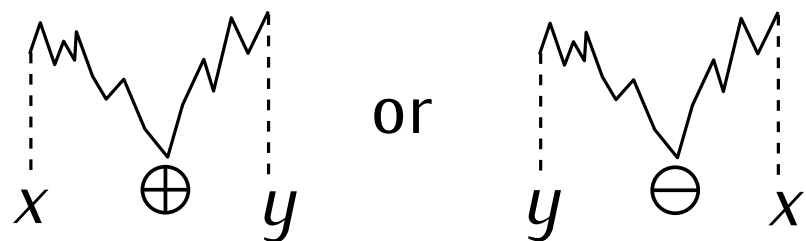
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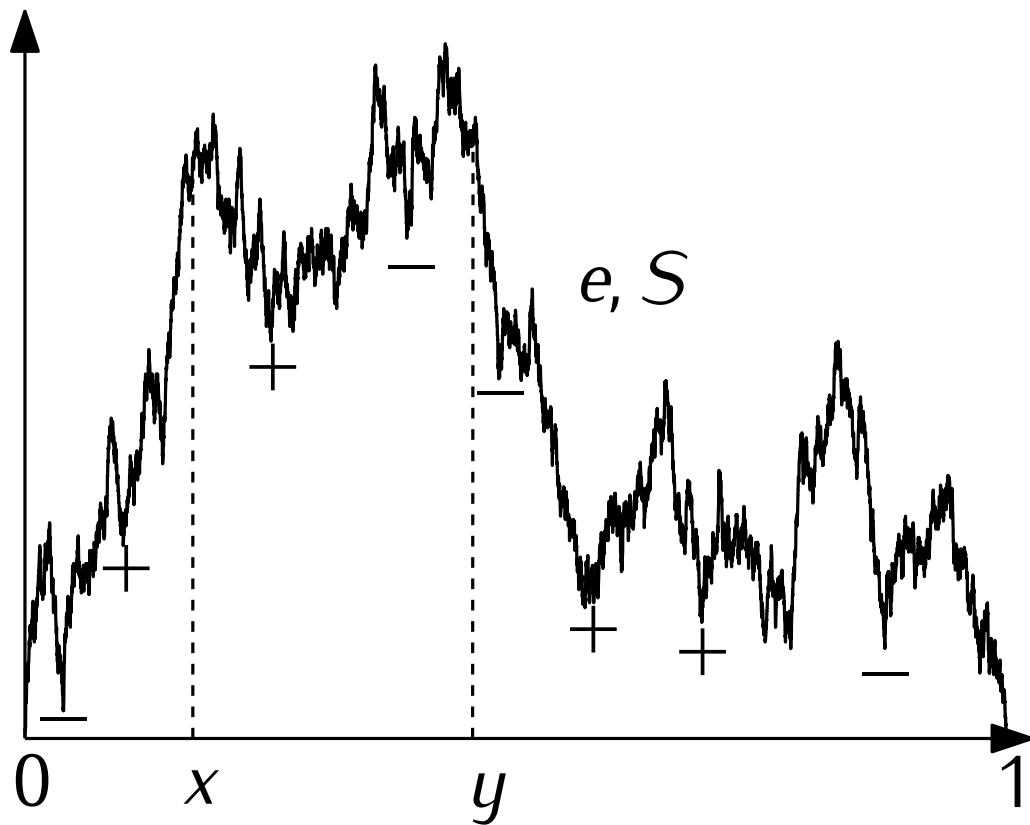
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We can interpret  $\triangleleft_e^S$  as a DFS ordering on the tree  $\mathcal{T}_e$ , different from the one given by  $e$ .

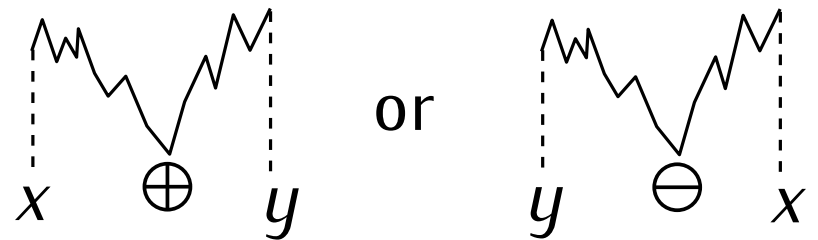
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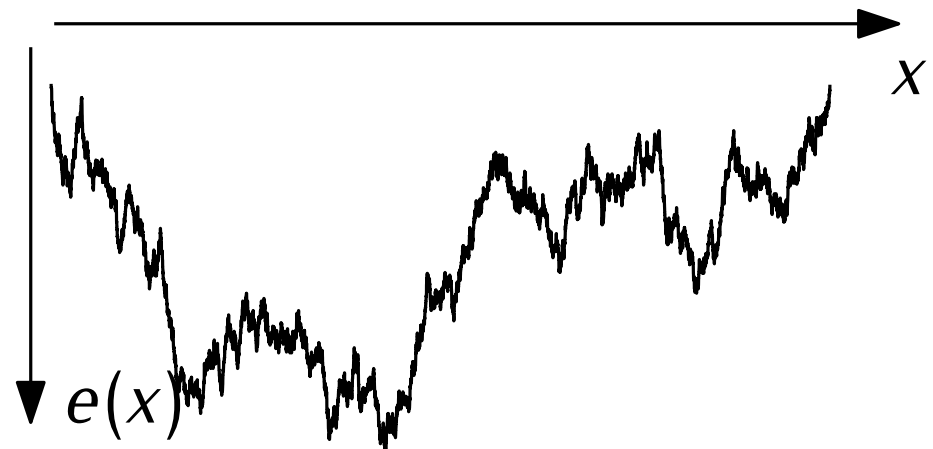
$x \triangleleft_e^S y$  if and only if



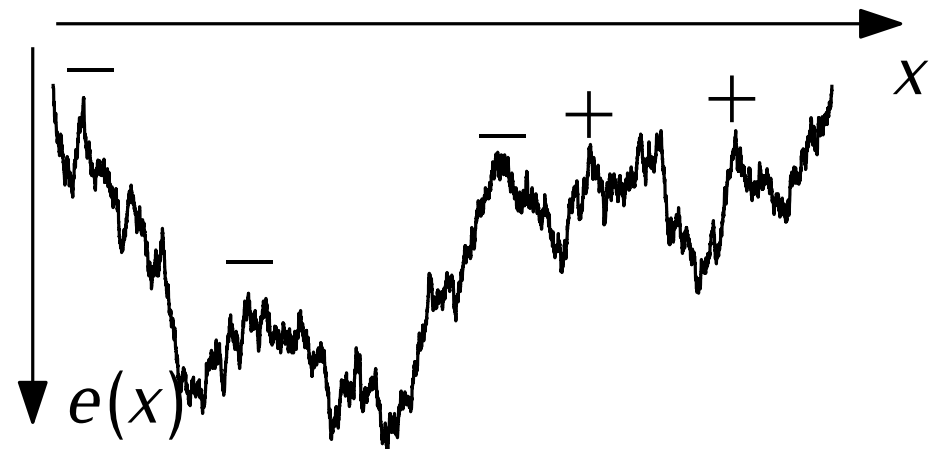
We can interpret  $\triangleleft_e^S$  as a DFS ordering on the tree  $\mathcal{T}_e$ , different from the one given by  $e$ .

We set  $\varphi(t) = \text{Leb}(\{u \in [0, 1], u \triangleleft_e^S t\})$ .

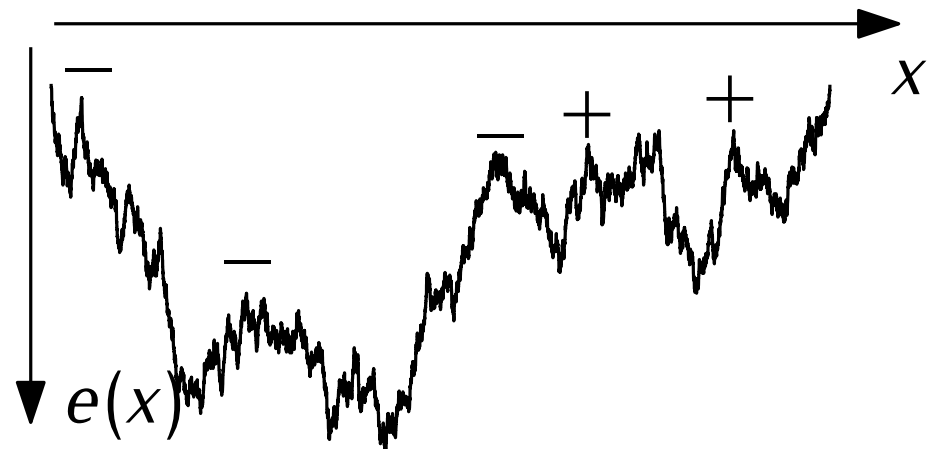
# Constructing the Brownian permuton



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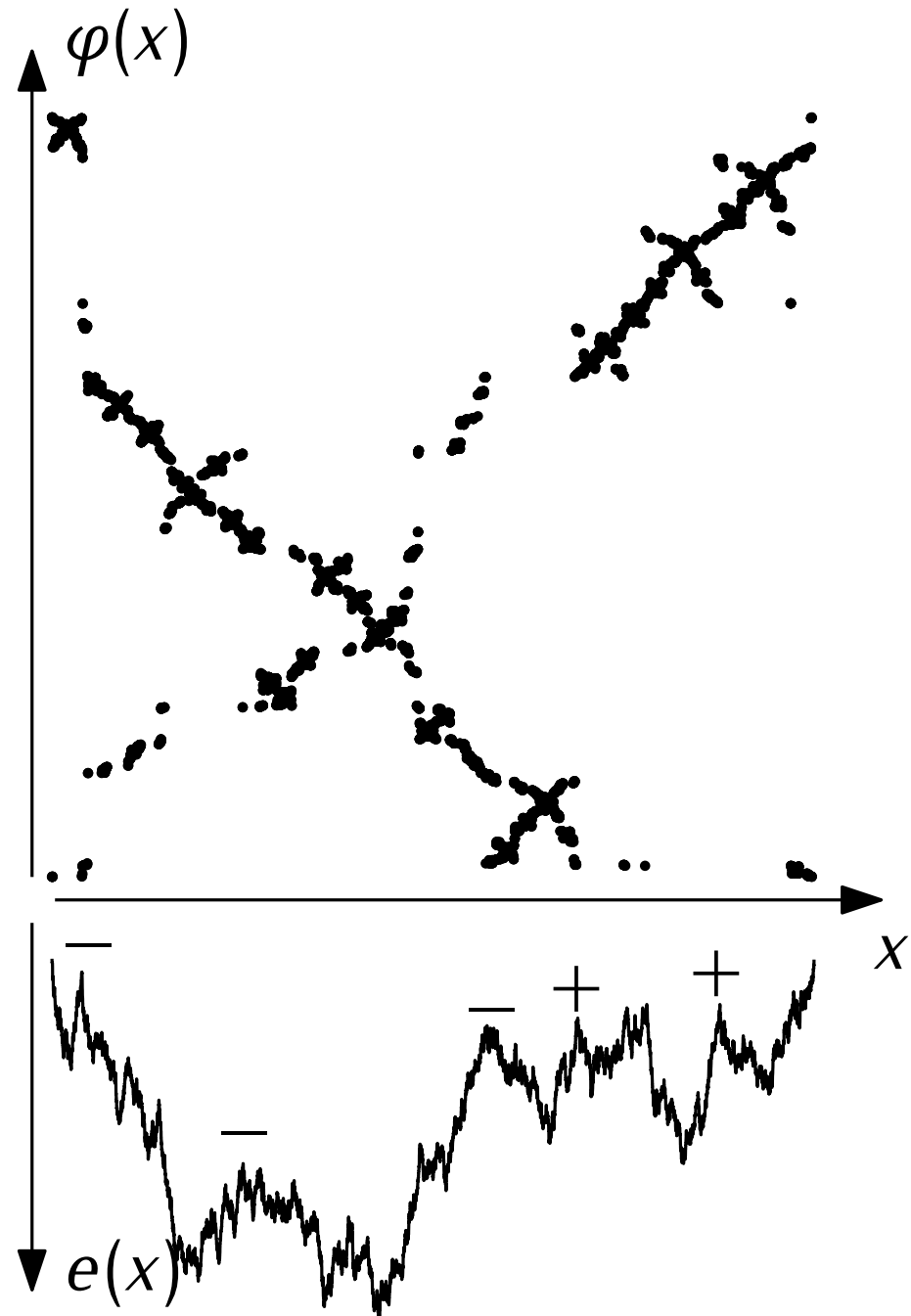


# Constructing the Brownian permuton

**Theorem** (M. 2017)

A.s.  $\varphi$  is  $(\triangleleft_e^S, \leq)$  increasing and Lebesgue-preserving, uniquely characterized up to a.s. equality by these properties.

The random measure  $(\text{id}, \varphi)_* \text{Leb}$  has the law of the Brownian separable permuton.





# Constructing the Brownian permuton

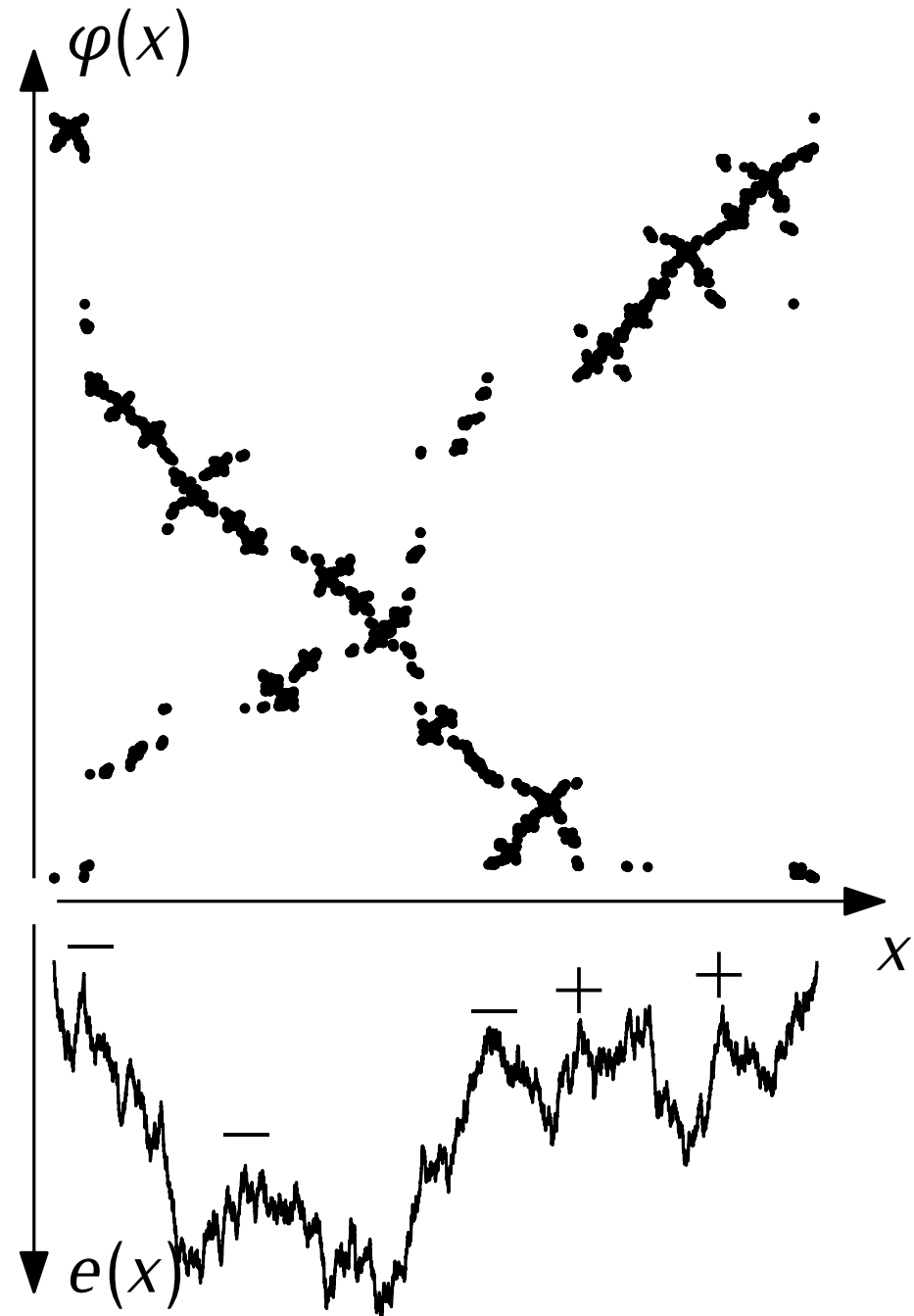
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$\varphi$  is continuous at every leaf (point which is not a one-sided local minimum) of  $e$  (full Lebesgue measure).

$\rightsquigarrow$  The support of  $\mu$  is of Hausdorff dimension 1



# Constructing the Brownian permuton

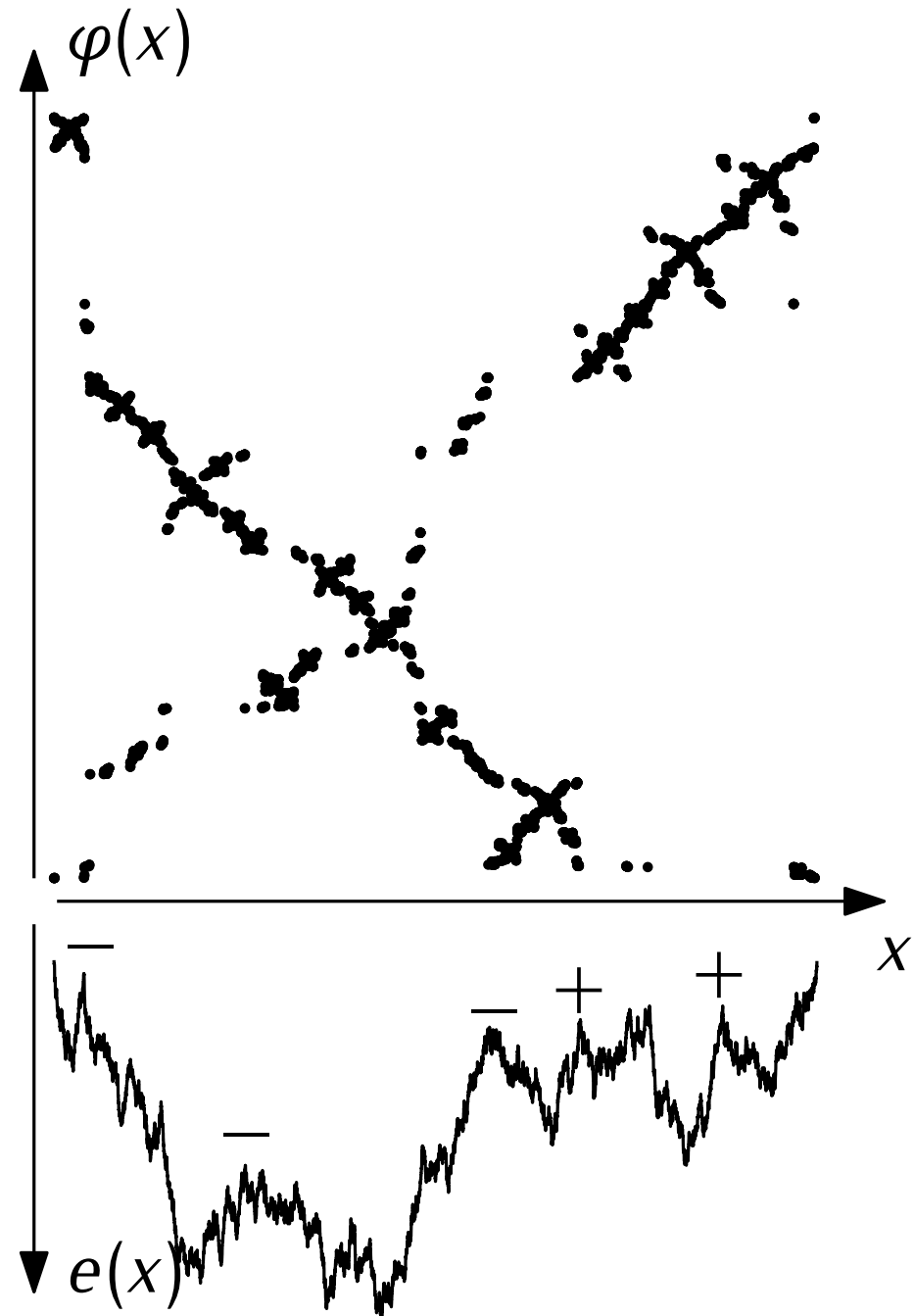
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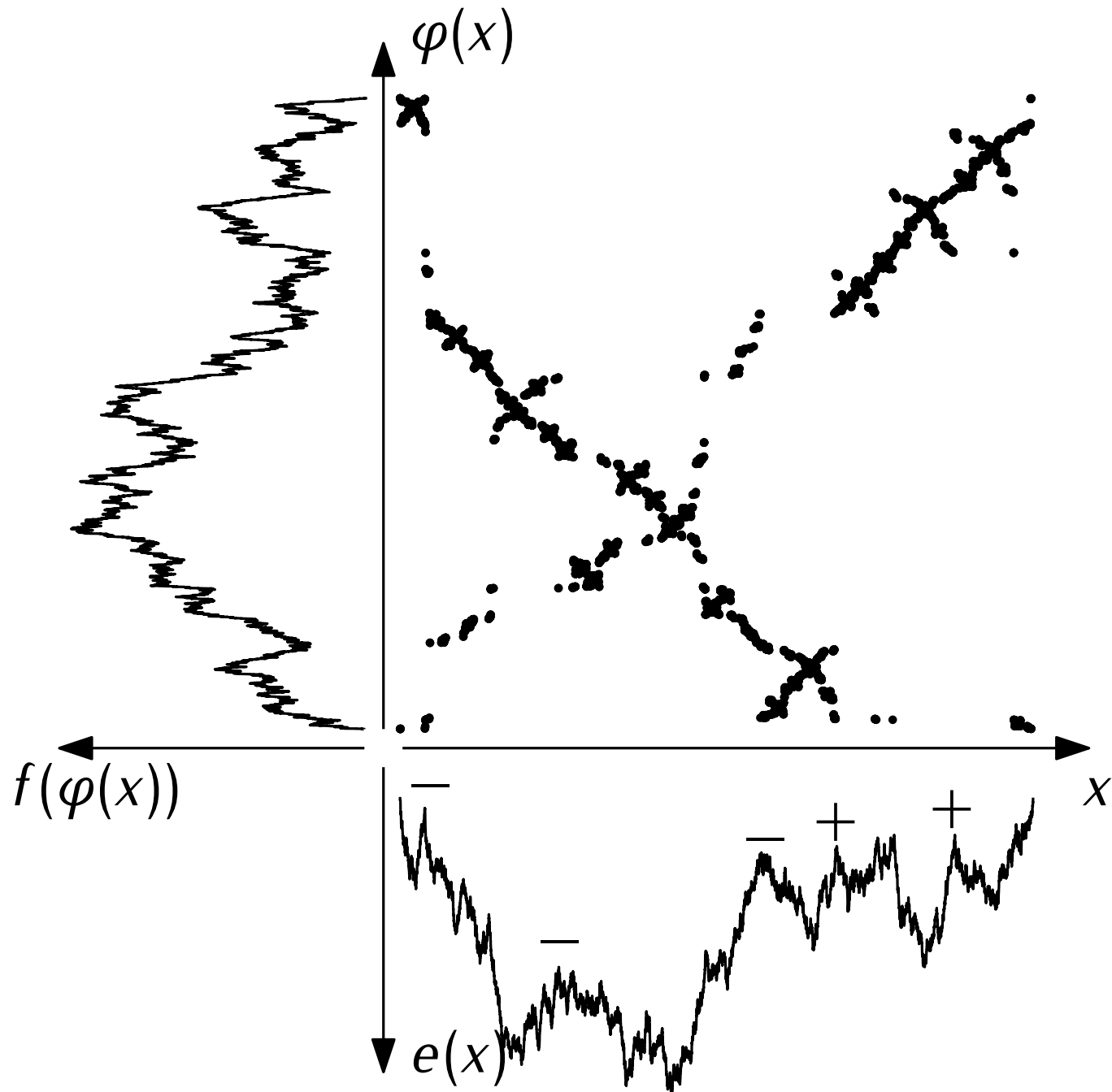
Discontinuities at every strict local minima of  $e$  (dense)

$\rightsquigarrow$  The support of  $\mu$  is totally disconnected.



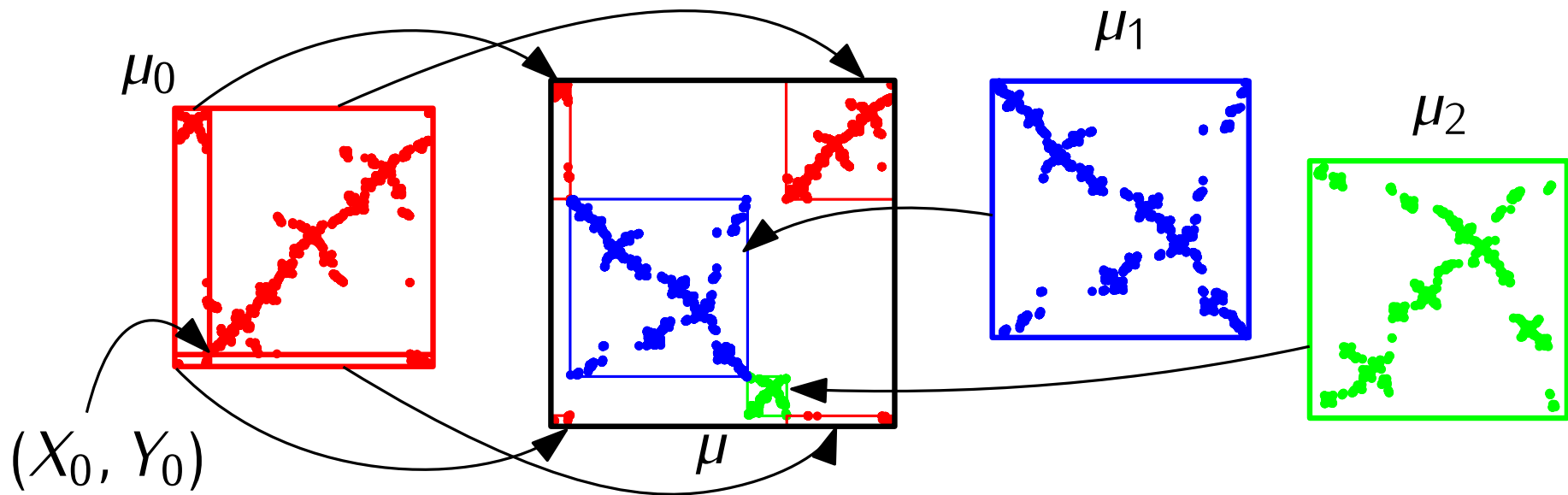
# Constructing the Brownian permuton

There exists a Brownian excursion  $f$  defined on the same probability space such that  $f \circ \varphi = e$ . a.s.,  $\mathcal{T}_f$  is isometric to  $\mathcal{T}_e$ .



# Self-similarity

The Brownian permuton can be obtained by cut-and-pasting three independent copies in distribution of itself. The first copy  $\mu_0$  is cut according to a sample  $(X_0, Y_0) \sim \mu_0$ . The scaling is an independent Dirichlet(1/2, 1/2, 1/2) vector. The relative position of  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  is chosen independently and uniformly between  $\oplus$  and  $\ominus$ .

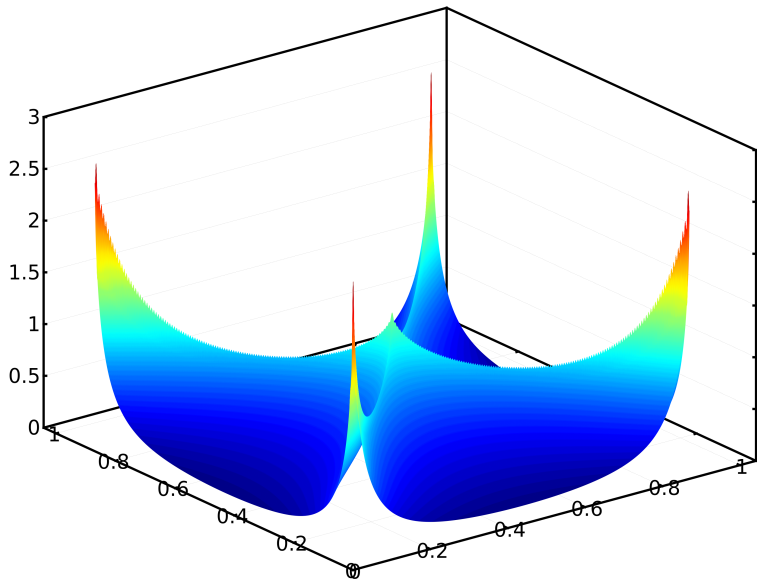


# Expectation of the permuton

As  $\mu$  is a random measure, it is natural to compute its average  $\mathbb{E}\mu$ , which is the limit of the permuton obtained by stacking all separable permutations of a given size.

**Theorem** The permuton  $\mathbb{E}\mu$  has density function at  $(x, y) \in [0, 1]^2$

$$\int \frac{3\mathbb{1}_{[\max(0, x+y-1), \min(x, y)]}(a) da}{\pi(a(x-a)(1-x-y+a)(y-a))^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{(x-a)} + \frac{1}{(1-x-y+a)} + \frac{1}{(y-a)} \right)^{\frac{5}{2}}}.$$



This should be equal to the following formula, computed by Dokos and Pak (picture) for separable Baxter permutations (for  $x \leq y \wedge (1-y)$ , extended by symmetry)

$$\int_0^x \int_0^{x-u} \frac{dv du}{4\pi[(u+v)(y-v)(1-y-u)]^{3/2}},$$

