

# Percolation of worms

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- a pair  $(x, H) \in \mathbb{Z}^d \times \mathcal{H}$  is a **lattice animal rooted at  $x$**
- the **trace** of  $(x, H)$  is the translated set  $x + H$

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- alternatively: let  $N_x, x \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  i.i.d.  $\text{POI}(\nu)$ ,  
put  $N_x$  i.i.d. copies of animals with law  $\nu$  translated by  $x$

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- law of  $\mathcal{S}^v$  is **ergodic** under spatial translations

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**Why?** Number of animals that contain  $o$  has POI( $v \cdot m_1$ ) law.

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If  $m_2 = \sum_{H \in \mathcal{H}} \nu(H) \cdot |H|^2 < +\infty$  then  $v_c > 0$ .



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**Why?** Exploration of cluster of origin is dominated by a subcritical branching process with compound Poisson offspring distribution. Expectation of total cardinality of animals that contain  $o$  is  $v \cdot m_2$ .

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*If  $\nu$  is the law of of  $B(0, R)$  (where  $R$  is random) then*

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Thus the  $m_1$  condition can be sharp. How about the  $m_2$  lemma?



## Can the $m_2$ lemma be strengthened?

### Question

Given  $d \geq 2$ , is there a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  satisfying

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(n)/n^2 = 0$$

such that for any choice of  $\nu$  the condition

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We do not know, but we will show that the  $m_2$  condition is quite close to being sharp for a specific choice of  $\nu$ .

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- $\mathcal{S}^\nu$  is called the **random length worms set** at level  $\nu$
- Alternatively: start  $\text{POI}(\nu)$  worms from each site of  $\mathbb{Z}^d$   
 $\mathcal{S}^\nu$  is the set of sites visited by these worms

## Main result

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## Theorem

Let  $d \geq 5$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $\ell_0 \geq e^e$ . If

$$m(\ell) := \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{L} = \ell) = c \frac{\ln(\ln(\ell))^\varepsilon}{\ell^3 \ln(\ell)} \mathbf{1}[\ell \geq \ell_0], \quad \ell \in \mathbb{N}$$

then  $\nu_c = 0$ .

## Discussion

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If the answer to this question is positive then the answer to our previous question is negative for  $d \geq 5$ .

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- if we have already used worms from a spatial region then that region develops a **shortage of worms**

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- **Wiener sausage percolation** [Erhard, Poisat, 2016]  
like worms where  $\mathcal{L} = T$

$$v_c(T) \asymp \begin{cases} T^{-d/2} & d = 2, 3 \\ \ln(T)/T^2 & d = 4 \\ 1/T^2 & d \geq 5 \end{cases}$$

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Theorem (Sapozhnikov, Chang, 2016)

*For all  $d \geq 3$  we have  $v_c > 0$ .*



## Related model: loop percolation

- PPP of random walk loops on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $d \geq 3$
- **Heuristically:** similar to worms with  $m(\ell) \asymp \ell^{-(d+2)/2}$

### Theorem (Sapozhnikov, Chang, 2016)

*For all  $d \geq 3$  we have  $v_c > 0$ .*

Note:  $m_2 < +\infty$  if  $d \geq 5$ , but  $m_2 = +\infty$  if  $d = 3, 4$

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- **Conjecture:** if  $d = 4$  then  $v_c > 0$  iff  $\beta \geq 3$   
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Thank you for your attention!