

# Higher-order multicritical points in two-dimensional lattice polygon models

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*Lattice walks at the Interface of Algebra, Analysis and Combinatorics*

BIRS

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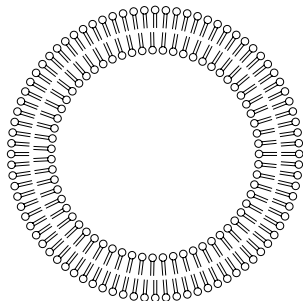
- 1 Introduction
- 2 Dyck paths
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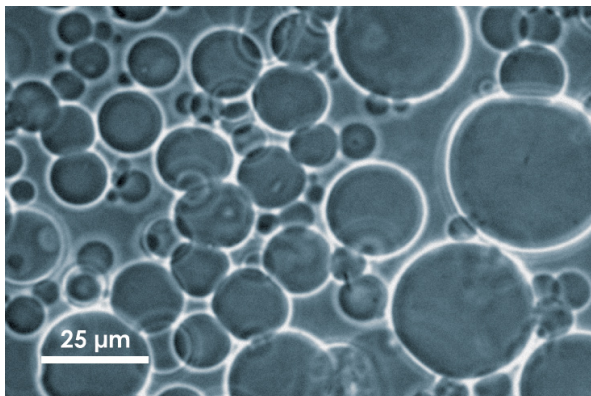
# Vesicles

Vesicles are closed membranes formed of lipid bilayers



**Figure:** Schematic picture of a vesicle (texample.net).

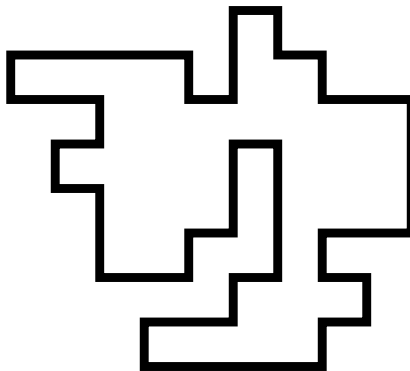
# Vesicles



**Figure:** Vesicles (<http://www.nanion.de>).

# The Fisher-Guttman-Whittington (FGW) vesicle

We model vesicles as two-dimensional self-avoiding polygons (SAP).



**Figure:** A self-avoiding polygon of perimeter 52 and area 37.

# The generating function of the FGW vesicle

The area-perimeter generating function of SAP is defined as

$$G(x, q) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_{m,n} x^m q^n,$$

where  $c_{m,n}$  is the number of SAP with perimeter  $m$  and area  $n$ .

# The generating function of the FGW vesicle

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## Conjecture (Richard, Guttmann, Jensen, 2001)

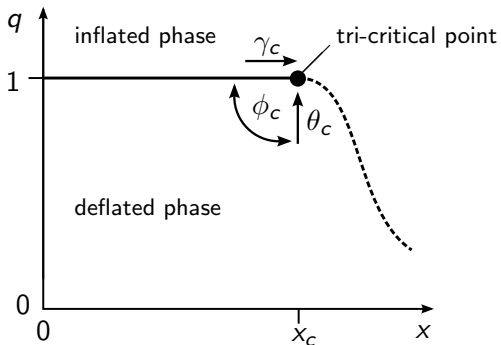
There exists a  $x_c > 0$  such that for  $q = e^{-\epsilon} \rightarrow 1^-$ ,

$$G^{\text{sing}}(x_c - s\epsilon^{\phi_c}, 1 - \epsilon) \sim \epsilon^{\theta_c} F(s),$$

where  $\phi_c$  and  $\theta_c$  are critical exponents, and  $F(s)$  is called the scaling function, expressible via Airy functions.



# The phase diagram of the FGW vesicle

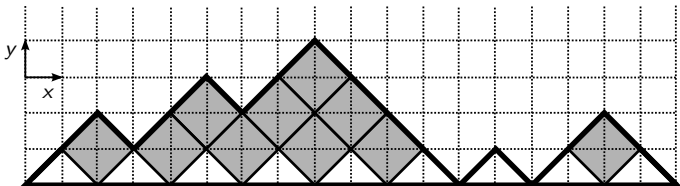


**Figure:** Phase diagram of the Fisher-Guttman-Whittington vesicle.

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# The model of Dyck paths



**Figure:** A Dyck path of half-width 9 and area 10.

We consider the generating function

$$D(x, q) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d_{m,n} x^m q^n,$$

where  $d_{m,n}$  is the number of DP of half-width  $m$  and area  $n$ .

Functional equation for  $D(x, q)$ 

We have the functional equation

$$D(x, q) = 1 + xD(qx, q)D(x, q).$$

For  $q = 1$ , we get the solution

$$D(x, 1) = \frac{1}{2x} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - 4x} \right).$$

# Exact solution of $D(x, q) = 1 + xD(qx, q)D(x, q)$

Using the ansatz

$$D(x, q) = \frac{\phi(qx, q)}{\phi(x, q)},$$

we get the linearised functional equation

$$x\phi(q^2x, q) - \phi(qx, q) + \phi(x, q) = 0.$$

This equation is solved by the  $q$ -hypergeometric series

$$\phi(x, q) = {}_0\phi_1 \left( \begin{matrix} - \\ 0 \end{matrix} ; q, -x \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n(n-1)}}{(q; q)_n} (-x)^n,$$

where  $(z; q)_n = \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} (1 - zq^k)$  for  $z, q \in \mathbb{C}$ .

# Integral representation of $\phi(x, q)$

In the limit  $q = e^{-\epsilon} \rightarrow 1^-$ , we get

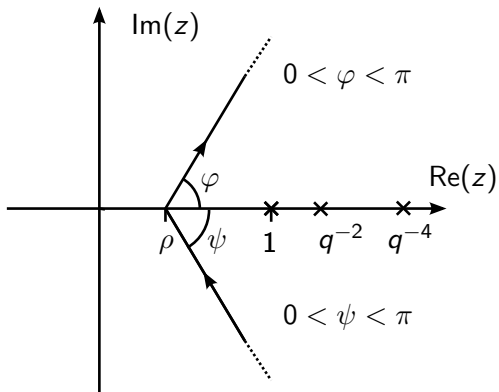
$$\phi(x, q) = A \left( \int_C \exp \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} f(z) \right) g(z) dz \right) (1 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)),$$

where  $\epsilon = -\ln(q)$ ,  $C$  is a contour in the complex plane,

$$f(z) = \log(z) \log(x) + \text{Li}_2(z) - \frac{1}{2} \log(z)^2,$$

$$g(z) = \sqrt{\frac{z}{1-z}},$$

and  $A$  is some function of  $x$ .

Integral representation of  $\phi(x, q)$ 

**Figure:** The contour  $C$  used in the integral representation of  $\phi(x, q)$ .

# Saddle point analysis

The function  $f(z)$  has the two saddle points

$$\begin{cases} z_1 &= \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{1 - 4x}) \\ z_2 &= \frac{1}{2}(1 - \sqrt{1 - 4x}) \end{cases}$$

which coalesce in  $z_c = \frac{1}{2}$  for  $x = x_c = \frac{1}{4}$ .



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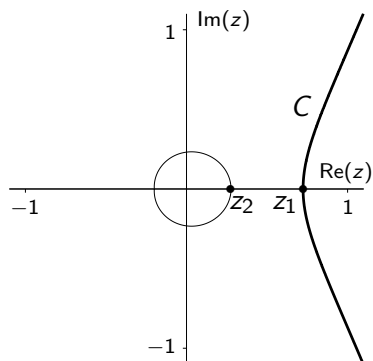
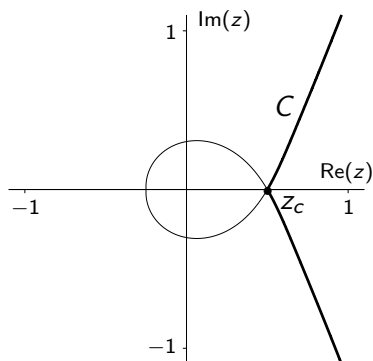
## Theorem (Chester, Friedman, Ursell, 1957)

There exists a transformation  $T : u \mapsto z(u)$  such that

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{3}u^3 - \alpha u + \beta,$$

which is regular and bijective in a region containing  $(z_c, x_c)$ .

# Paths of steepest descent and ascent of $\operatorname{Re}(f(z))$

(a)  $0 < x < x_c = \frac{1}{4}$ (b)  $x = x_c = \frac{1}{4}$ 

**Figure:** Paths of steepest descent/ascent originating from  $z_{1,2}$ .

# Uniform asymptotics of $\phi(x, q)$ and $D(x, q)$

Using the transformation  $T : u \mapsto z(u)$ , we obtain for  $q = e^{-\epsilon} \rightarrow 1^-$ ,

$$\phi(x, q) \sim A \int_{e^{-i\pi/3}\infty}^{e^{i\pi/3}\infty} \exp\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[\frac{u^3}{3} - \alpha u + \beta\right]\right) g(z(u)) \frac{dz}{du} du,$$

uniformly for  $x > 0$ .

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## Result

For  $q = e^{-\epsilon} \rightarrow 1^-$

$$D(x, q) = \frac{p^{(1)} \text{Ai}(\alpha \epsilon^{-\frac{2}{3}}) - q^{(1)} \epsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} \text{Ai}'(\alpha \epsilon^{-\frac{2}{3}})}{p^{(0)} \text{Ai}(\alpha \epsilon^{-\frac{2}{3}}) - q^{(0)} \epsilon^{\frac{1}{3}} \text{Ai}'(\alpha \epsilon^{-\frac{2}{3}})} + \mathcal{O}\left(\epsilon^{\frac{2}{3}}\right)$$

uniformly for  $0 < x \leq x_c = \frac{1}{4}$ , where  $\alpha \sim 1 - 4x$  for  $x \rightarrow x_c = \frac{1}{4}$ , and the  $p^{(0,1)}$  and  $q^{(0,1)}$  are analytic functions of  $x$ .

# Scaling behaviour of $D(x, q)$

In particular, we obtain for  $q = e^{-\epsilon} \rightarrow 1^-$ ,

$$D\left(\frac{1}{4}(1 - s\epsilon^{\frac{2}{3}}), 1 - \epsilon\right) = 2\left(1 + \epsilon^{\frac{1}{3}}F(s) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)\right),$$

where

$$F(s) = \frac{d}{ds} \ln(\text{Ai}(s)).$$

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NH and T Prellberg.

Uniform asymptotics of area-weighted Dyck paths.

*J. Math. Phys.*, 56:043301, 2015.

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# Question

Airy function scaling is found for many models, including staircase polygons and directed column-convex polygons.



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### Question (John Cardy, 2001)

How can one, by turning on further interactions, find multicritical points of higher order described by a scaling function expressible via the generalised Airy integral

$$\Theta_k(s_1, \dots, s_{k-2}) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{e^{-i\pi/k}\infty}^{e^{i\pi/k}\infty} \exp\left(\frac{u^k}{k} - \sum_{j=1}^{k-2} s_j u^j\right) du ?$$

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### Answer

For example by enriching the step set of Dyck paths.

# Perturbation of the generating function of Dyck paths

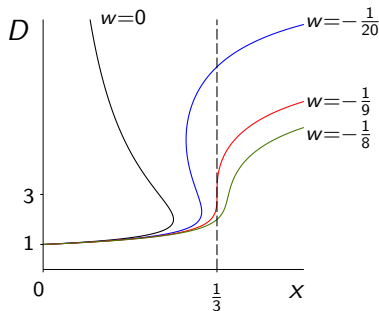
We perturb the functional equation for the perimeter generating function  $D(x) \equiv D(x, 1)$  for Dyck paths with a cubic term, giving

$$wxD(x)^3 + xD(x)^2 - D(x) + 1 = 0.$$

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# $q$ -generalisation of the perturbed equation

We define the  $q$ -deformed version of the functional equation by

$$wxD(q^2x)D(qx)D(x) + xD(qx)D(x) - D(x) + 1 = 0,$$

where  $D(x) \equiv D(w, x, q)$ .

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Can this functional equation be interpreted combinatorially?

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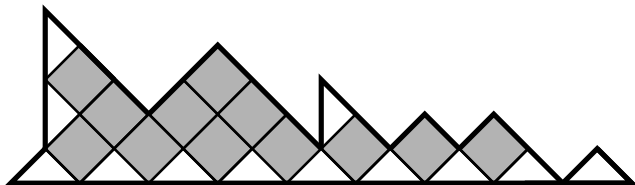
### Question

Can this functional equation be interpreted combinatorially?

### Answer

Yes, the solution  $D(w, x, q) \equiv D(x)$  can be interpreted combinatorially as the generating function of *deformed Dyck paths*.

# The model of deformed Dyck paths



**Figure:** A deformed Dyck path of half-width 9, 3 jumps and area 12.

We consider the generating function

$$D(w, x, q) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d_{k,m,n} w^k x^m q^n,$$


where  $d_{k,m,n}$  is the number of DDP with  $k$  jumps, half-width  $m$  and area  $n$ .



# Functional equation and solution

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Diagram: a gray semi-circle} \\
 = \\
 \bullet + \text{Diagram: two gray semi-circles connected by a line} + \text{Diagram: three red semi-circles connected by lines} \\
 \\
 D(x) = 1 + xD(qx)D(x) + wxD(q^2x)D(qx)D(x)
 \end{array}$$

# Functional equation and solution



$$D(x) = 1 + xD(qx)D(x) + wxD(q^2x)D(qx)D(x)$$

Analogous to Dyck paths, we obtain the solution

$$D(w, x, q) = \frac{\phi(w, qx, q)}{\phi(w, x, q)},$$

where  $\phi(w, x, q) \equiv \phi(x)$  is the  $q$ -hypergeometric series

$${}_1\phi_2 \left( \begin{matrix} -w \\ 0, 0 \end{matrix} ; q, -x \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-w; q)_n q^{n(n-1)}}{(q; q)_n} (-x)^n.$$

# Contour integral representation of $\phi(w, x, q) = \phi(x)$

For  $q = e^{-\epsilon} \rightarrow 1^-$ , we get

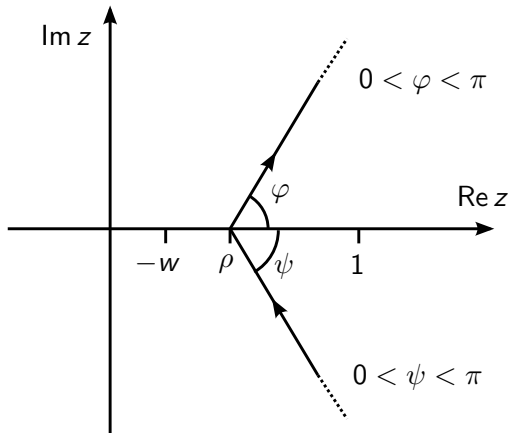
$$\phi(x) = A \int_C \left( \exp \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon} f(z) \right) g(z) dz \right) (1 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon)),$$

where  $C$ , is again a complex contour,

$$f(z) = \log(z) \log(x) - \frac{1}{2} \log(z)^2 + \text{Li}_2(z) + \text{Li}_2 \left( \frac{-w}{z} \right),$$

$$g(z) = \frac{z}{\sqrt{(1-z)(z+w)}}$$

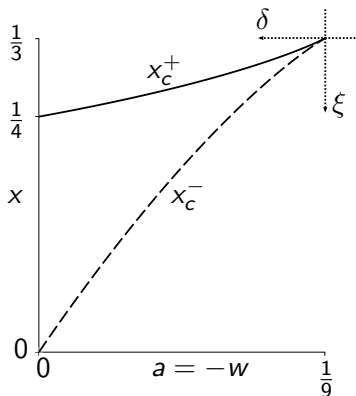
and  $A$  is some function of  $x$  and  $w$ .

Contour integral representation of  $\phi(w, x, q)$ 

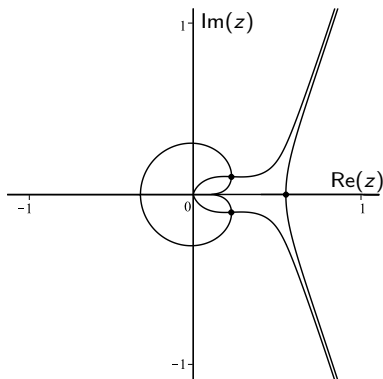
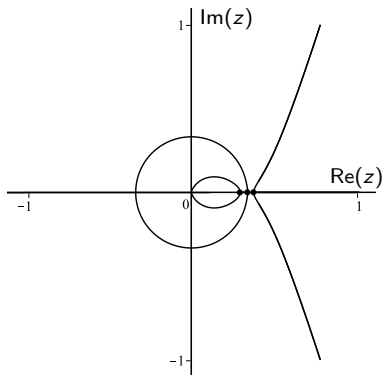
**Figure:** The contour  $C$  used in the integral representation of  $\phi(x)$ .

# Saddle point analysis

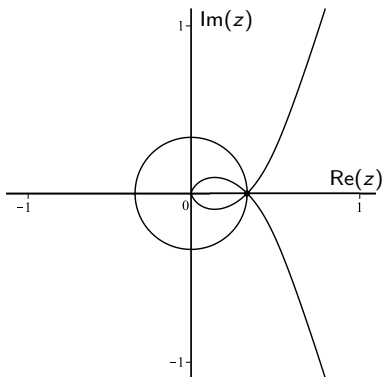
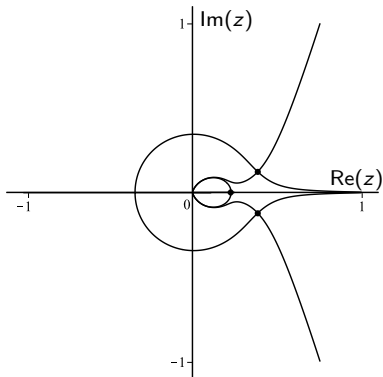
The kernel  $f$  has **three** saddle points coalescing for given  $w$  if  $x = x_c^-(w)$  and  $x = x_c^+(w)$ . For  $w = -\frac{1}{9}$ , we have  $x_c^- = x_c^+ = \frac{1}{3}$ .



# Paths of steepest descent and ascent of $\operatorname{Re}(f(z))$

(a)  $0 < x < x_c^-$ (b)  $x_c^- < x < x_c^+$

# Paths of steepest descent and ascent of $\operatorname{Re}(f(z))$

(c)  $x = x_c^- = x_c^+$ (d)  $x_c^+ < x$

# Canonical transformation of $f$

## Theorem (Ursell, 1972)

There exists a transformation  $T : u \mapsto z(u)$  such that

$$f(z) = \frac{1}{4}u^4 - \alpha u^2 - \beta u + \gamma,$$

which is regular and bijective in region containing  $(z_c, x_c) = (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$ .



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Using the transformation  $T : z \mapsto z(u)$ , we obtain for  $q = e^{-\epsilon} \rightarrow 1^-$ ,

$$\phi(x) \sim A \int_{e^{-i\pi/4}\infty}^{e^{i\pi/4}\infty} \exp\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \left[ \frac{u^4}{4} - \alpha u^2 - \beta u + \gamma \right]\right) g(z(u)) \frac{dz}{du} du,$$

where  $A$  is a constant and  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  are analytic functions of  $x$  and  $w$ .

# Uniform asymptotics of $\phi(x)$

Define the generalised Airy function

$$\Theta(s_1, s_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{e^{-i\pi/4}\infty}^{e^{i\pi/4}\infty} \exp\left(\frac{u^4}{4} - s_2 u^2 - s_1 u\right) du,$$

and  $\Phi(s_1, s_2) = \frac{\partial}{\partial s_1} \ln(\Theta(s_1, s_2))$ .

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and  $\Phi(s_1, s_2) = \frac{\partial}{\partial s_1} \ln(\Theta(s_1, s_2))$ .

## Theorem (NH, A Olde Daalhuis, T Prellberg 2016)

Let  $q = e^{-\epsilon}$ ,  $\delta = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{1/2})$  and  $\xi = \frac{3}{2}\delta + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{3/4})$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ . Then

$$G\left(\delta - \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{3} - \xi, q\right) = 3\left(1 + 2^{1/4} \Phi(s_1, s_2) \epsilon^{1/4} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{1/2})\right),$$

as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ , for all  $s_1, s_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|\Phi(s_1, s_2)| < \infty$ , where  $s_1 = 3\sqrt[4]{2}(\xi - \frac{3}{2}\delta)\epsilon^{-3/4}$  and  $s_2 = \frac{27\sqrt{2}}{8}(\delta + \frac{1}{40}\xi^2)\epsilon^{-1/2}$ .

# Scaling behaviour of $D(w, x, q)$

In particular, for fixed  $w = -\frac{1}{9}$ , we get

$$G\left(-\frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{3}\left(1 - s\epsilon^{\frac{3}{4}}\right)\right) = 3\left(1 + \Phi(s, 0)\epsilon^{\frac{1}{4}} + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{\frac{1}{2}})\right),$$

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$w$	$\gamma_c$	$\theta_c$	$\phi_c$
$-\frac{1}{9}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$
$> -\frac{1}{9}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$

**Table:** Critical exponents of DDP.

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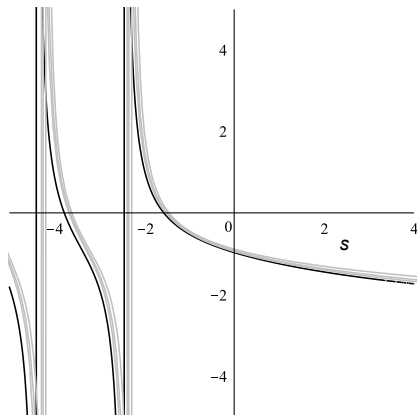


N Haug, A Olde Daalhuis, and T Prellberg.

Higher-Order Airy Scaling in Deformed Dyck Paths.

*Journal of Statistical Physics*, pp. 1–16, 2017.

# Numerical test



**Figure:** Plot of the scaling function  $F(\sqrt[4]{2}s) = \Phi(\sqrt[4]{2}s, 0)$  (black) and the asymptotic approximation obtained from rearranging the scaling relation for  $\epsilon = 10^{-4}, 10^{-5}, 10^{-6}$  (gray).

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# Higher-order multi-critical points

Generalising DDP by introducing jumps of height greater than 2, multicritical points of arbitrary order, with a multivariate scaling function expressible via the higher-order Airy function

$$\Theta(s_1, \dots, s_n) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{e^{-\frac{i\pi}{n+2}} \infty}^{e^{\frac{i\pi}{n+2}} \infty} \exp\left(\frac{u^{n+2}}{n+2} - s_n u^n - \dots - s_1 u\right) du,$$

can be observed.

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N Haug and T Prellberg.

Multicritical points in a two-dimensional lattice vesicle model.

*In preparation.*

The End.