

Recall that the Green's function on a domain  $A \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$  is the function

$$G_A(x, y) = \mathbb{E}^x [\#\{0 \leq n < \tau_A : S_n = y\}]$$

where  $(S_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is the simple random walk started at  $x$  (under  $\mathbb{P}^x$ ) and  $\tau_A = \min\{n \geq 0 : S_n \notin A\}$ .

We also recall that the Harmonic measure on  $A$  associated to a subset  $B \subset \partial A$  is the function which for each  $x \in A$  takes value

$$H_A(x, B) = \mathbb{P}^x [S_{\tau_A} \in B].$$

**Exercise 1. General knowledge**

- (1) Recall what is the discrete PDE satisfied by the function  $x \rightarrow G_A(x, y)$ .
- (2) Recall what is the discrete PDE satisfied by the harmonic measure  $x \rightarrow H_A(x, \{y\})$  (where  $y \in \partial A$ )
- (3) In this exercise sheet, a *salary* is a function  $s : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and an *exit bonus* is a function  $b : \partial A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Given a path  $\omega = [\omega_0, \dots, \omega_n]$  in  $A \sqcup \partial A$  such that only  $\omega_n \in \partial A$ , the *reward* associated with  $\omega$  is  $r_{s,b} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} s(\omega_k) + b(s_n)$ . Give an interpretation of  $G_A(x, y)$  and  $H_A(x, \{y\})$  as an *expected reward*.
- (4) Give an explicit solution to

$$(0.1) \quad \begin{cases} \Delta f = 0 & \text{in } A \\ f = F & \text{in } \partial A \end{cases}$$

in terms of  $\{H_A(x, \{y\})\}_{x,y}$ , and give a interpretation of the solution as an *expected reward*.

- (5) Solve

$$(0.2) \quad \begin{cases} \Delta f = \rho & \text{in } A \\ f = 0 & \text{in } \partial A \end{cases}$$

in terms of the Green function and give an interpretation of  $f(x)$  as an *expected reward*.

- (6) Explain why

$$G_A(x, x) = \sum_{\omega: x \rightarrow x, \omega \subset A} \left(\frac{1}{2d}\right)^{|\omega|}$$

where  $|\omega|$  is the length of the path  $\omega = [x = \omega_0, \dots, \omega_{|\omega|} = x]$ .

**Exercise 2. Discretisation of PDEs : the equilibrium case**

We want to study the discrete PDEs :

$$(0.3) \quad \begin{cases} \Delta f = \rho & \text{in } A \\ f = F & \text{in } \partial A \end{cases}$$

and to give an explicit formulation in terms of the given functions  $\rho, F$ , the Green's function  $G_A$  and the harmonic measure  $H_A(x, y)$ .

- (1) Recall why there is at most one solution to the system (0.3).
- (2) Solve the system (0.3) and give an interpretation of  $f(x)$  as an *expected reward*.

**Exercise 3. Discretisation of PDEs: the evolution case**

We want to give an explicit formulation and a probabilistic interpretation of the solution to the discrete partial differential equation:

$$(0.4) \quad \begin{cases} \Delta f(x, t) = f(x, t+1) - f(x, t) & \text{for } (x, t) \in A \times \mathbb{N} \\ f(x, t) = F(x) & \text{for } (x, t) \in \partial A \times \mathbb{N} \cup A \times \{0\} \end{cases}$$

where  $f : A \cup \partial A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

- (1) Suppose that  $f(\cdot, t)$  converges to a function  $g(\cdot)$  when  $t$  goes to infinity. What discrete partial differential equation does  $g$  satisfy ? Thus which function ( or modification of it ) should appear in the explicit formulation : the Harmonic measure or the Green function ?
- (2) Write the discrete PDE as  $\Delta_t f(x, t) = 0$  where  $\Delta_t$  is a linear operator.
- (3) Find an explicit formulation of a solution. *Hint: think of a modification of the Harmonic measure when the random walk as a finite time to live.*

- (4) Let us consider the graph  $A^\rightarrow = A \times \mathbb{N}$  with the following “oriented notion” of neighbours:  $(x_1, t_1) \rightsquigarrow (x_2, t_2)$  if and only if  $t_1 - t_2 = -1$  and  $x_1 \rightsquigarrow x_2$  in  $A$  (remark that this relation is not symmetric). Recall that the Laplacian on  $A^\rightarrow$  is

$$\Delta f(\bar{x}) = \frac{1}{\#\{\bar{y} \rightsquigarrow \bar{x}\}} \sum_{\bar{y} \rightsquigarrow \bar{x}} (f(\bar{y}) - f(\bar{x})).$$

- (a) Show that  $f$  is a solution to (0.4) if and only if  $f$  is harmonic on  $A^\rightarrow$ .  
 (b) Recall why the solution to (0.4) is unique.  
 (c) What is  $\partial A^\rightarrow$ ? Show that the harmonic measure  $H_{A^\rightarrow}((x, t), \{(y, s)\})$  is equal to

$$\begin{cases} \mathbb{P}^x(S_{\tau_A} = y \text{ and } \tau_A = t - s) & \text{if } s > 0 \\ \mathbb{P}^x(S_t = y \text{ and } \tau_A \geq t) & \text{if } s = 0 \end{cases}$$

where we recall that  $(S_n)_n$  is the simple random walk on  $A$  starting at  $x$ .

- (d) Using the point 4.(c), give the explicit formulation of (0.4).

**Exercise 4.** *Discretisation of PDEs: the time-dependant boundary condition.*

We want to give an explicit formulation and a probabilistic interpretation of the solution to the discrete partial differential equation:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta f(x, t) = f(x, t+1) - f(x, t) & \text{for } (x, t) \in A \times \mathbb{N} \\ f(x, t) = F(x, t) & \text{for } (x, t) \in \partial A \times \mathbb{N} \cup A \times \{0\} \end{cases}$$

where  $f : A \cup \partial A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

Following the same ideas used for the point 4. of Exercise 3, give an explicit formulation and a probabilistic interpretation of the solution discrete partial differential equation.