

# **Sparse random graphs: Interplay of local and global structure**

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Workshop on Graph Limits, Non-Parametric Models, and Estimation

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# Outline of the talk

- I. From **local** to **global structure**
- II. From **global** to **local** structure

**Part I.**

**From *local* to *global* structure**

# Emergence of giant component

- $|L| = \#$  vertices in the largest component in  $G(n, p)$
- $d = p(n-1) \in (0, \infty)$

## Theorem

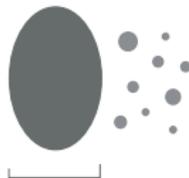
[ ERDŐS-RÉNYI 60 ]

If  $d < 1$ , whp  $|L| = O(\log n)$

If  $d > 1$ , whp  $|L| = \Theta(n)$



$O(\log n)$



$\Theta(n)$

\* **whp** = **with high probability** = with prob tending to one as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

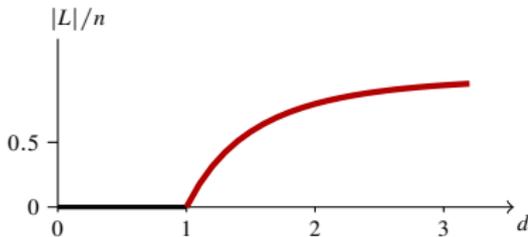
# Largest component in ER random graph

- $|L| = \#$  vertices in the largest component in  $G(n, p)$
- $d = p(n-1) \in (1, \infty)$
- $\rho =$  survival prob of  $Po(d)$  Galton-Watson branching process  
= unique positive solution of  $1 - \rho = \exp(-d \rho)$

## Theorem

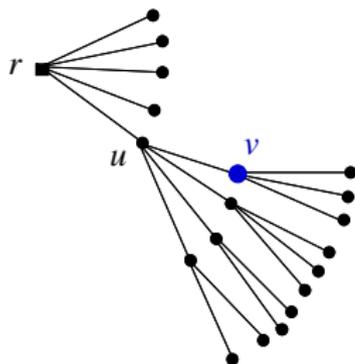
whp

$$|L| = (1 + o(1)) \rho n$$



## Local structure of ER random graph

- $d = p(n-1) \in (0, \infty)$
- $r =$  vertex chosen uniformly at random from  $V(G(n, p))$



$$d^+(r) \sim \text{Po}(d)$$

$$d^+(u) \sim \text{Po}(d)$$

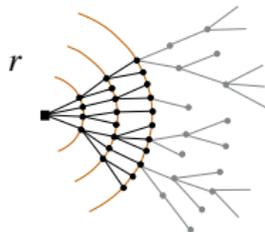
$$d^+(v) \sim \text{Po}(d)$$

# Local weak convergence

[ BENJAMINI–SCHRAMM 2001], [ ALDOUS–STEELE 2004]

- A rooted graph  $(H, r)$   
= a connected locally finite graph  $H$  with a vertex  $r \in V(H)$  as the root
- Given a rooted graph  $(H, r)$  and  $\ell \in \mathbb{N} := \{1, 2, \dots\}$ , let

$$B_\ell(H, r) := H \left[ \{v \in V(H) : d_H(v, r) \leq \ell\} \right]$$



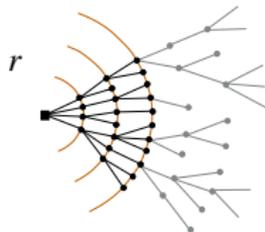
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- Two rooted graphs  $(H, r)$  and  $(H', r')$  are isomorphic,

$$(H, r) \cong (H', r')$$

if  $\exists$  isomorphism  $\phi$  from  $H$  onto  $H'$  with  $\phi(r) = r'$

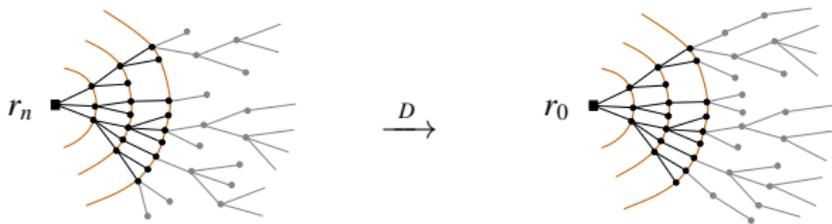
## Local weak convergence — cont'd

Given a sequence  $((G_n, r_n))_n$  of random rooted graphs,  
a random rooted graph  $(G_0, r_0)$  is the **local weak limit** of  $(G_n, r_n)$

$$(G_n, r_n) \xrightarrow{D} (G_0, r_0)$$

if for each fixed rooted graph  $(H, r_H)$  and  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left[B_\ell(G_n, r_n) \cong (H, r_H)\right] \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\left[B_\ell(G_0, r_0) \cong (H, r_H)\right]$$



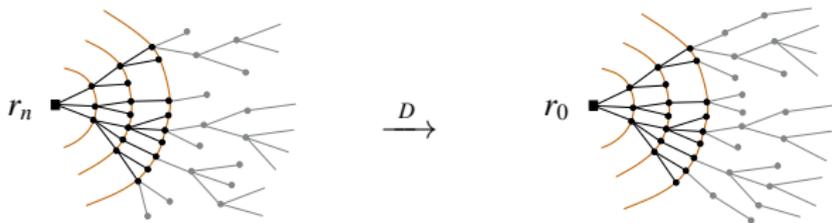
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For **not necessarily connected**  $(G_n, r_n)$ , its local weak limit?

$\implies$  define it as the local weak limit of the **component of  $G_n$  containing  $r_n$**

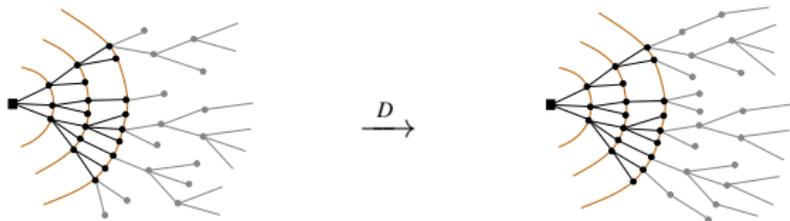
# ER random graph vs Galton–Watson tree

- $G = G(n, p)$  and  $d = p(n-1) \in (0, \infty)$
- $r \in_R V(G) =$  vertex chosen uniformly at random from  $V(G)$
- $\text{GWT}(d) =$  Galton–Watson tree with offspring distribution  $\text{Po}(d)$

Theorem

[ DEMBO–MONTANARI 2010], [VAN DER HOFSTAD 2022+ ]

$$(G, r) \xrightarrow{D} \text{GWT}(d)$$



$$\text{i.e., } \mathbb{P}\left[B_\ell(G, r) \cong (H, r_H)\right] \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}\left[B_\ell(\text{GWT}(d)) \cong (H, r_H)\right]$$

# Why local structure?

- Percolation threshold
  - Universality principle in percolation theory
- Giant component
  - Coupling component exploration processes via BFS with Galton-Watson branching process
  - High-dimensional analogues
  - Percolated hypercubes
  - • •
- Message passing algorithms
  - Belief Propagation on random  $k$ -SAT
  - Warning Propagation for the  $k$ -core and rank of parity matrix
  - • •

**Part II.**

**From **global** to **local** structure**

# Planarity of ER random graph

- $d = p(n-1) \in (0, \infty)$

## Theorem

[ ERDŐS-RÉNYI 1959–60 ]

- If  $d < 1$ , whp
  - each component is either a tree or unicyclic component
  - $G(n,p)$  is **planar**
- If  $d > 1$ , whp
  - largest component contains  $\geq$  two cycles
  - $G(n,p)$  is **not planar**

# Random graphs with topological constraints

How does a **topological constraint** such as

- being **planar**
- being embeddable on the orientable surface with given **genus**

**affect** the **global** and **local** structure of a random graph, e.g.,

- **component structures**
- **local weak limits?**

## Random graphs on surfaces

- $g \in \mathbb{N}_0 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$
- $\mathbb{S}_g =$  the orientable surface of genus  $g$  (i.e., with  $g$  handles)

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- $g \in \mathbb{N}_0 = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$
- $\mathbb{S}_g =$  the orientable surface of genus  $g$  (i.e., with  $g$  handles)
- $\mathcal{S}_g(n, m) =$  set of all vertex-labelled simple graphs on  $[n]$   
with  $m = m(n)$  edges that are embeddable on  $\mathbb{S}_g$
- $\mathcal{S}_g(n, m) =$  a graph chosen uniformly at random from  $\mathcal{S}_g(n, m)$

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- \*  $\mathcal{S}_0(n, m) \subset \dots \subset \mathcal{S}_g(n, m) \subset \mathcal{S}_{g+1}(n, m) \subset \dots \subset \mathcal{G}(n, m)$

## Random graphs on surfaces – cont'd

Note

\* If  $1 \leq m < \frac{n}{2}$ , then

$$\frac{|\mathcal{S}_0(n, m)|}{|\mathcal{G}(n, m)|} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1$$

\* If  $m > 3n - 6 + 6g$ , then

$$\mathcal{S}_g(n, m) = \emptyset$$

- Assume  $2m/n \rightarrow d \in (1, 6]$

## Random graphs on surfaces – cont'd

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\* If  $1 \leq m < \frac{n}{2}$ , then  $\frac{|\mathcal{S}_0(n, m)|}{|\mathcal{G}(n, m)|} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1$

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- Assume  $2m/n \rightarrow d \in (1, 6]$

- $P = P(n, m) \in_R \mathcal{P}(n, m)$

$\mathcal{P}(n, m)$  = set of all vertex-labelled simple graphs  
with vertex set  $[n]$  and  $m = m(n)$  edges  
that are **embeddable on the sphere  $\mathbb{S}_0$**

$P(n, m)$  = a graph chosen uniformly at random from  $\mathcal{P}(n, m)$

# Phase transition in a random planar graph

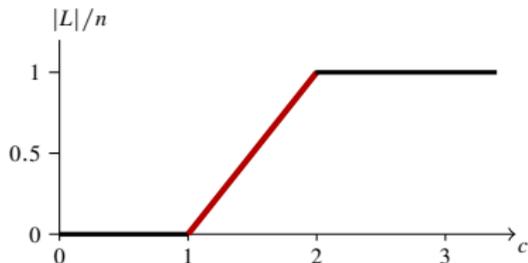
- $P = P(n, m) \in_R \mathcal{P}(n, m)$
- $|L| = \#$  vertices in the largest component of  $P$

Theorem

[K.-LUCZAK 2012], [K.-MOSSHAMMER-SPRÜSSEL 2020]

If  $d \in (1, 2]$ , whp  $|L| = (1 + o(1)) (d - 1) n$

If  $d \in [2, 6]$ , whp  $|L| = (1 + o(1)) n$



# Local weak limit of a random planar graph

Theorem

[ K.-MISSETHAN 2022+ ]

Assume  $2m/n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} d \in (1, 2)$  and  $r \in_R V(P)$ . Then

$$(P, r) \xrightarrow{D} (2-d) \text{GWT}(1) + (d-1) T_\infty$$

i.e., for each rooted graph  $(H, r_H)$  and  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ B_\ell(P, r) \cong (H, r_H) \right] \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} (2-d) \mathbb{P} \left[ B_\ell(\text{GWT}(1)) \cong (H, r_H) \right] + (d-1) \mathbb{P} \left[ B_\ell(T_\infty) \cong (H, r_H) \right]$$

Skeleton tree  $T_\infty$

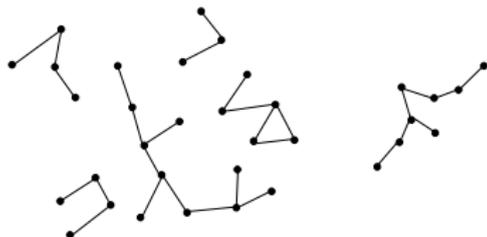


= an infinite path whose vertices are replaced by independent  $\text{GWT}(1)$

## From global to local structure

- $P = P(n, m) \in_R \mathcal{P}(n, m)$  and  $2m/n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} d \in (1, 2)$
- $L$  largest component of  $P$
- $S = P \setminus L$  'small' part of  $P$

- $S$  'behaves similarly' like a **critical** ER random graph  $G(\bar{n}, \bar{m})$  with  $\bar{n} = (2 - d)n$  and  $2\bar{m}/\bar{n} \rightarrow 1$

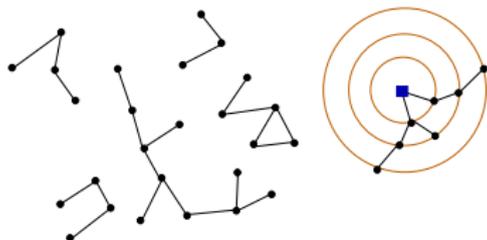


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•  $(S, r_S) \xrightarrow{D} \text{GWT}(1)$



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## Giant component and its 2-core

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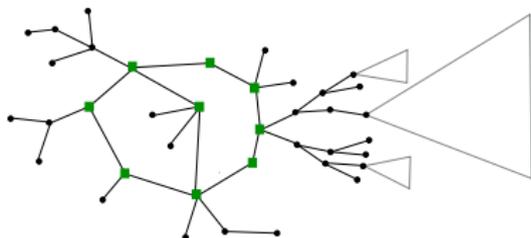
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### Theorem

[ K.-MOSSHAMMER-SPRÜSSEL 2020 ]

- $|L| \sim (d-1)n$
- $|C| \sim o(n)$
- $L = C +$  each vertex in  $V(C)$  replaced by a rooted tree



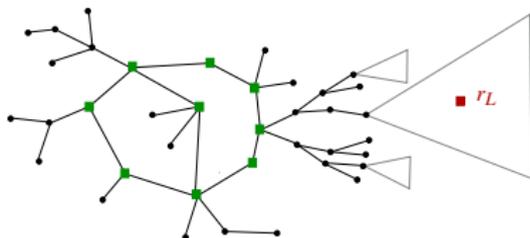
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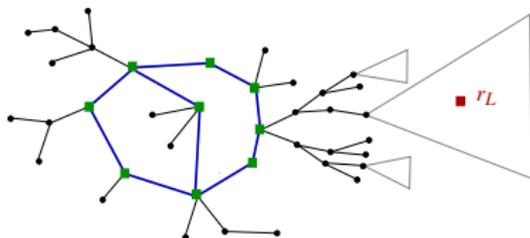
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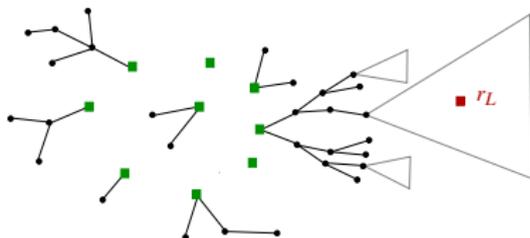
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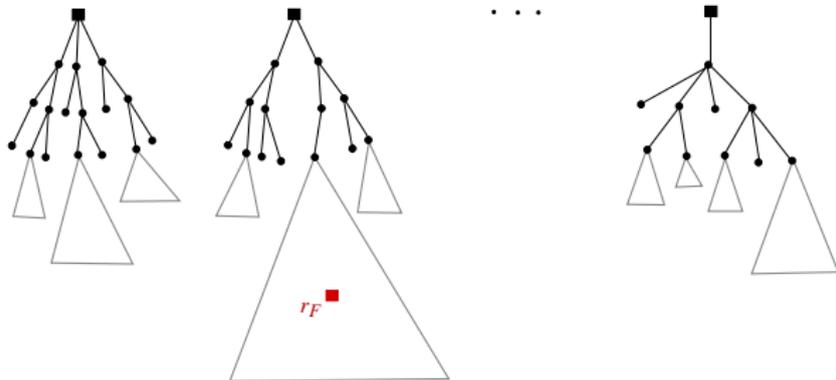
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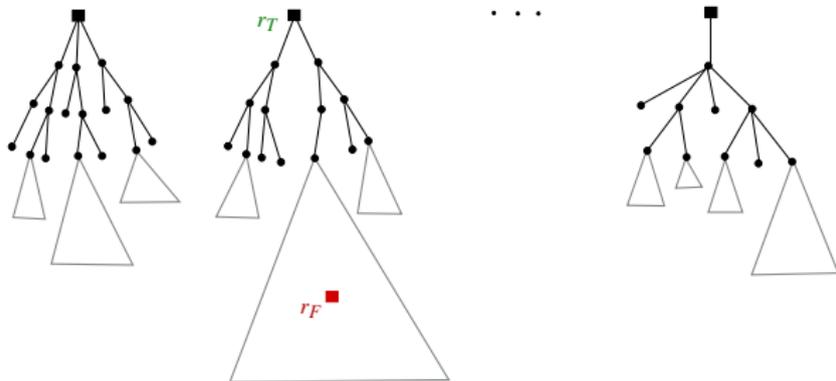
# Local weak limit of a random forest

- $F = F(n, t) \in_R \mathcal{F}(n, t)$  a forest on  $[n]$  with  $t$  tree components
- $r_F \in_R V(F)$  a vertex chosen uniformly at random from  $V(F)$



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- $r_T$  the root of tree component  $T$  that contains  $r_F$



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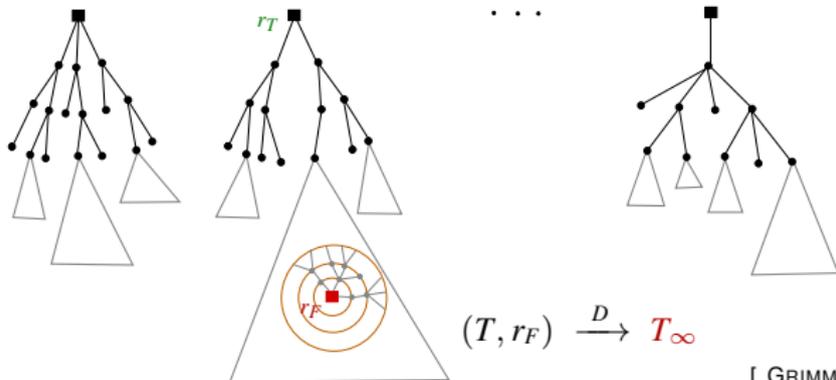
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Lemma

[ K.-MISSETHAN 2022+ ]

If  $t = t(n) = o(n)$ , then whp  $d(r_F, r_T) = \omega(1)$  and

$$(F, r_F) \xrightarrow{D} T_\infty$$



[ GRIMMETT 1980/1981 ]

## Finer view of local weak limits

- $P = P(n, m) \in_R \mathcal{P}(n, m)$ ,
- $L$  largest component of  $P$ ,

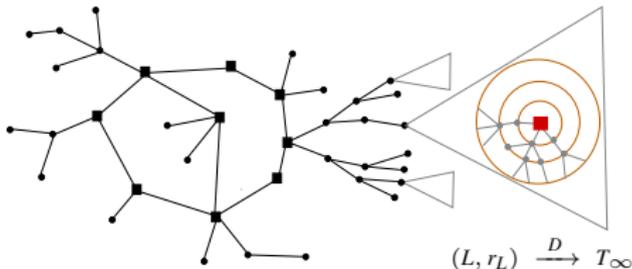
$$2m/n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} d \in (1, 2)$$

$$r_L \in_R V(L)$$

Theorem

[ K.-MISSETHAN 2022+ ]

$$(L, r_L) \xrightarrow{D} T_\infty$$



# Finer view of local weak limits

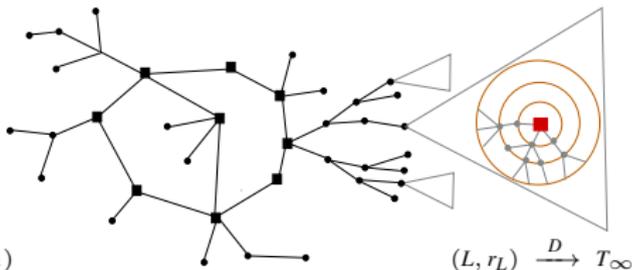
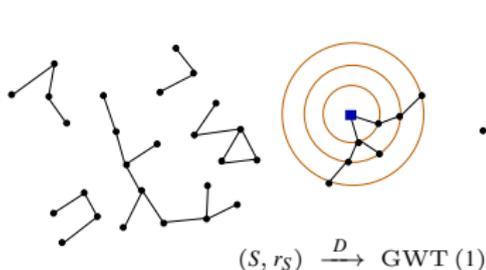
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- $L$  largest component of  $P$ ,
- $S = P \setminus L \sim$  critical ER random graph,
- $r_S \in_R V(S)$ ,  $r_L \in_R V(L)$

Theorem

[ K.-MISSETHAN 2022+ ]

$$(S, r_S) \xrightarrow{D} \text{GWT}(1)$$

$$(L, r_L) \xrightarrow{D} T_\infty$$



# Finer view of local weak limits

- $P = P(n, m) \in_R \mathcal{P}(n, m)$ ,  $2m/n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} d \in (1, 2)$
- $L$  largest component of  $P$ ,  $|L| \sim (d-1)n$
- $S = P \setminus L \sim$  critical ER random graph,  $|S| \sim (2-d)n$
- $r_S \in_R V(S)$ ,  $r_L \in_R V(L)$  and  $r_P \in_R V(P)$

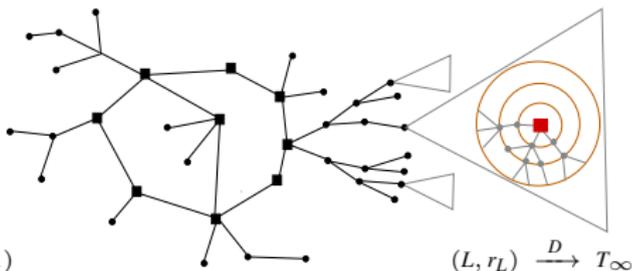
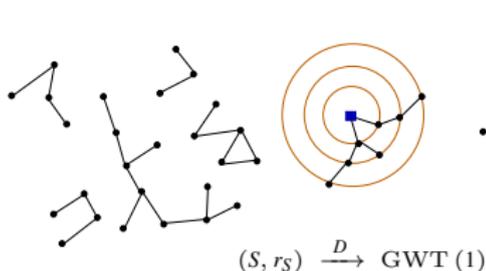
Theorem

[ K.-MISSETHAN 2022+ ]

$$(S, r_S) \xrightarrow{D} \text{GWT}(1)$$

$$(L, r_L) \xrightarrow{D} T_\infty$$

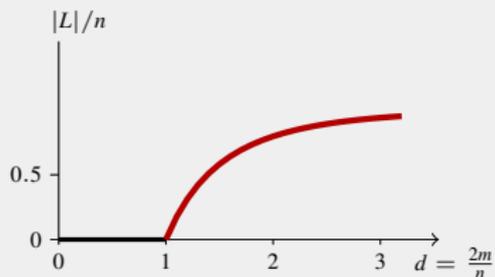
$$(P, r_P) \xrightarrow{D} (2-d) \text{GWT}(1) + (d-1) T_\infty$$



# Summary

## (1) Phase transitions and critical phenomena

Uniform random graph  $G(n, m)$



Random planar graph  $P(n, m)$



\*  $S = G(n, m) \setminus L$  'behaves similarly' like a **subcritical** ER random graph

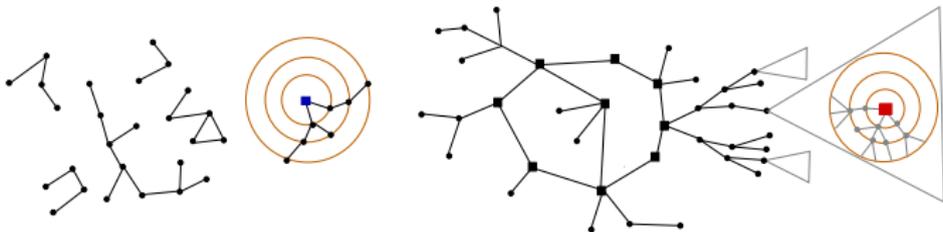
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# Summary and an open question

(2) Local weak limit of a random planar graph

- $P = P(n, m) \in_R \mathcal{P}(n, m)$
- $r \in_R V(P)$
- $2m/n \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} d \in (1, 2)$

$$(P, r) \xrightarrow{D} (2-d) \text{GWT}(1) + (d-1) T_\infty$$



Q. Local weak limit of  $(P, r)$  when  $d \in (2, 6)$  ?