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University of Amsterdam  
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Center for Mathematics and  
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# Mixing of fast random walks on dynamic random permutations

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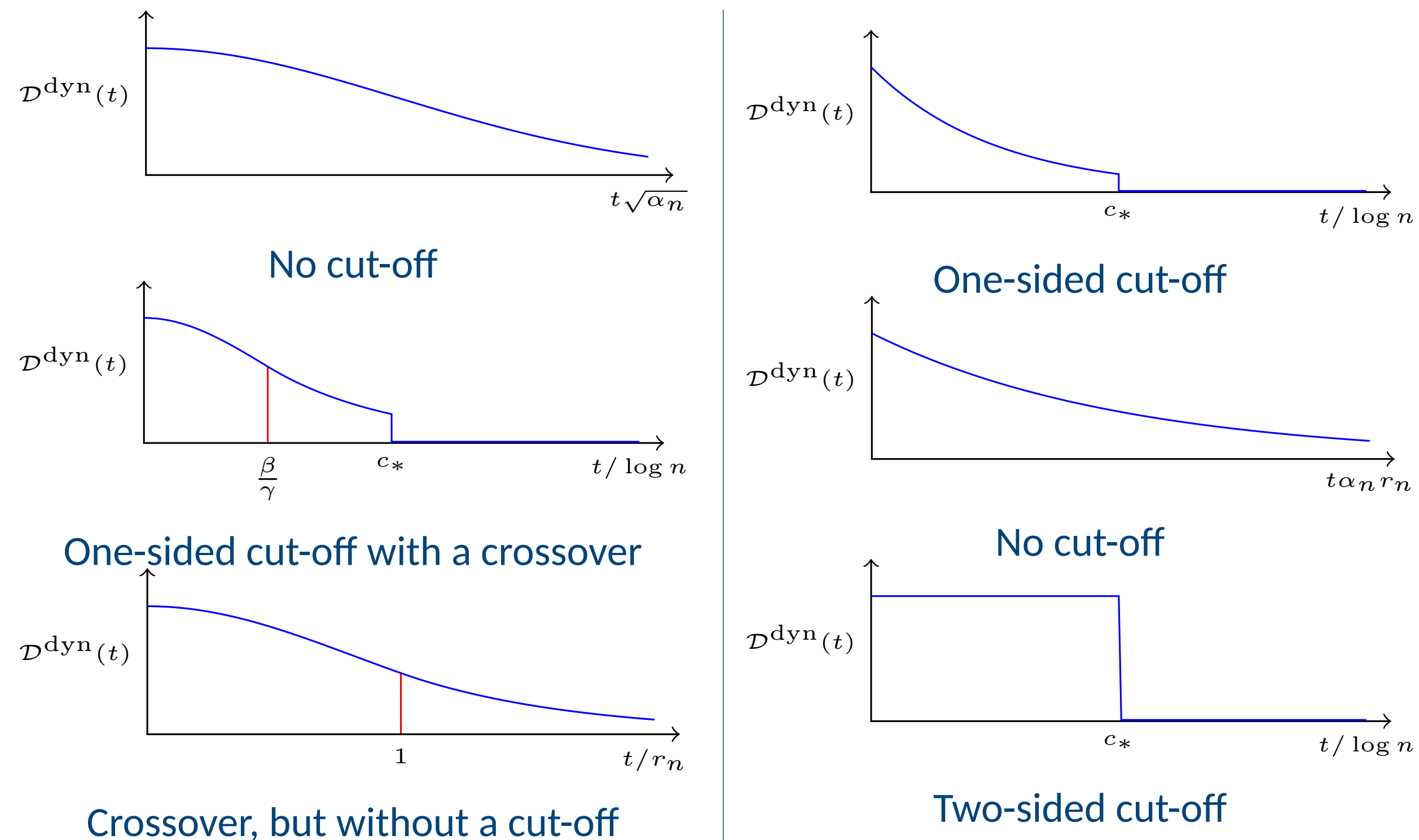
Mark Kac seminar,  
November 3, 2023; Utrecht

# Mixing profile zoo

- How does the mixing profile of a random walk on a dynamic random graph

$$\mathcal{D}_n^{v_0}(t) = \|\mu(t) - \mu^{\text{stat}}\|_{\text{TV}} \in [0,1]$$

evolve in time?



# Model

## Underlying geometry: Dynamic permutation

- Fix  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and define the sequence  $(\Pi_n(t))_{t=0}^{\infty}$  such that:
  - $\Pi_n(0) = \text{Id} \in S_n$
  - $\forall t \geq 1 : \Pi_n(t) = \Pi_n(t-1) \circ (a, b)$ ,  
where  $(a, b)$  is transposition chosen according to a given rule
- Dynamic rules under consideration:
  - Transpositions of elements on different cycles picked u.a.r. (coagulation-only)
  - Transpositions chosen u.a.r. (coagulation-fragmentation)

# Model

## Stochastic process: Infinite-speed random walk (ISRW)

**Definition 1.6 [Infinite-speed random walk on  $\Pi_n$ ]** Fix  $\Pi_n$  and an element  $v_0 \in [n]$ . Recall that  $\gamma_v(\Pi_n(t))$  is the cycle of  $\Pi_n(t)$  that contains  $v$ . The infinite-speed random walk (ISRW) starting from  $v_0$  is the random process  $X_n^{v_0} = (X_n^{v_0}(t))_{t \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  on  $[n]$  with initial distribution given by

$$\mu^{X_n^{v_0}}(0) = \left( \mu_w^{X_n^{v_0}}(0) \right)_{w \in [n]}, \quad (1.4)$$

where

$$\mu_w^{X_n^{v_0}}(0) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{|\gamma_w(\Pi_n(0))|}, & w \in \gamma_{v_0}(\Pi_n(0)), \\ 0, & w \notin \gamma_{v_0}(\Pi_n(0)), \end{cases} \quad (1.5)$$

and with distribution at time  $t \in \mathbb{N}$  given by

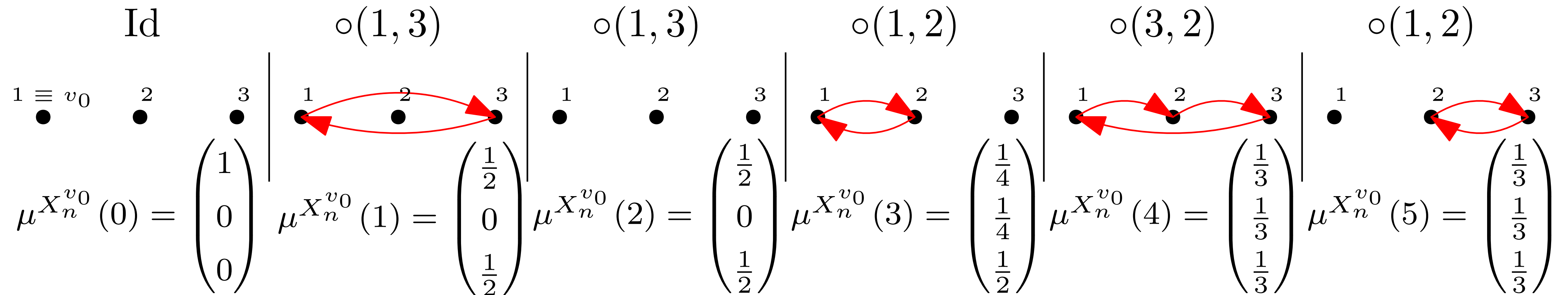
$$\mu^{X_n^{v_0}}(t) = \left( \mu_w^{X_n^{v_0}}(t) \right)_{w \in [n]}, \quad (1.6)$$

where

$$\mu_w^{X_n^{v_0}}(t) = \frac{1}{|\gamma_w(\Pi_n(t))|} \sum_{u \in \gamma_w(\Pi_n(t))} \mu_u^{X_n^{v_0}}(t-1). \quad (1.7)$$

# Model

## Example: ISRW on a dynamic permutation



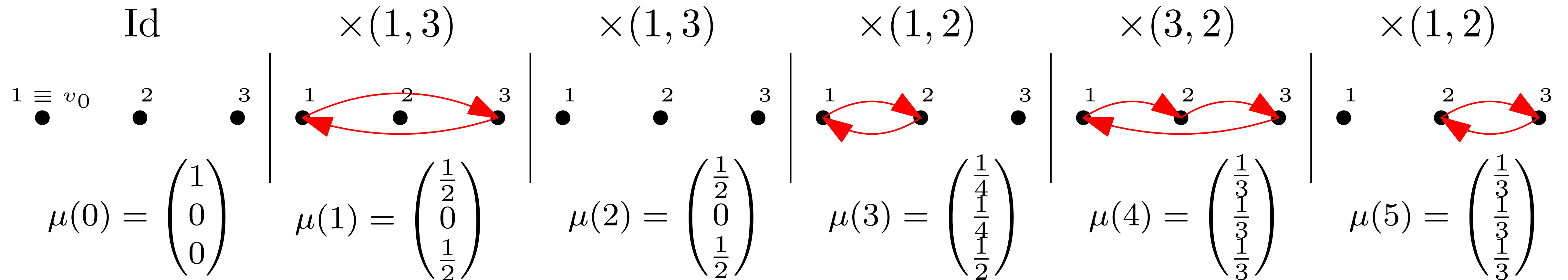
# Associated graph process

**Definition 2.1 [Graph process associated with  $\Pi_n$ ]** Let  $\Pi_n = (\Pi_n(t))_{t=0}^{t_{\max}}$  with  $t_{\max} \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$  be a dynamic permutation starting for the identity permutation. Construct the *associated graph process*, denoted by  $A_{\Pi_n}$ , as follows:

1. At time  $t = 0$ , start with the empty graph on the vertex set  $\mathcal{V} = [n]$ .
2. At times  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ , add the edge  $\{a, b\}$ , where  $a, b$  are such that  $\Pi_n(t) = \Pi_n(t - 1) \circ (a, b)$ .

- Different distributions for different dynamics:
  - Coagulative: Erdős–Rényi with no cycles
  - Coagulative-fragmentative: Erdős–Rényi with no constraints

# Associated graph process

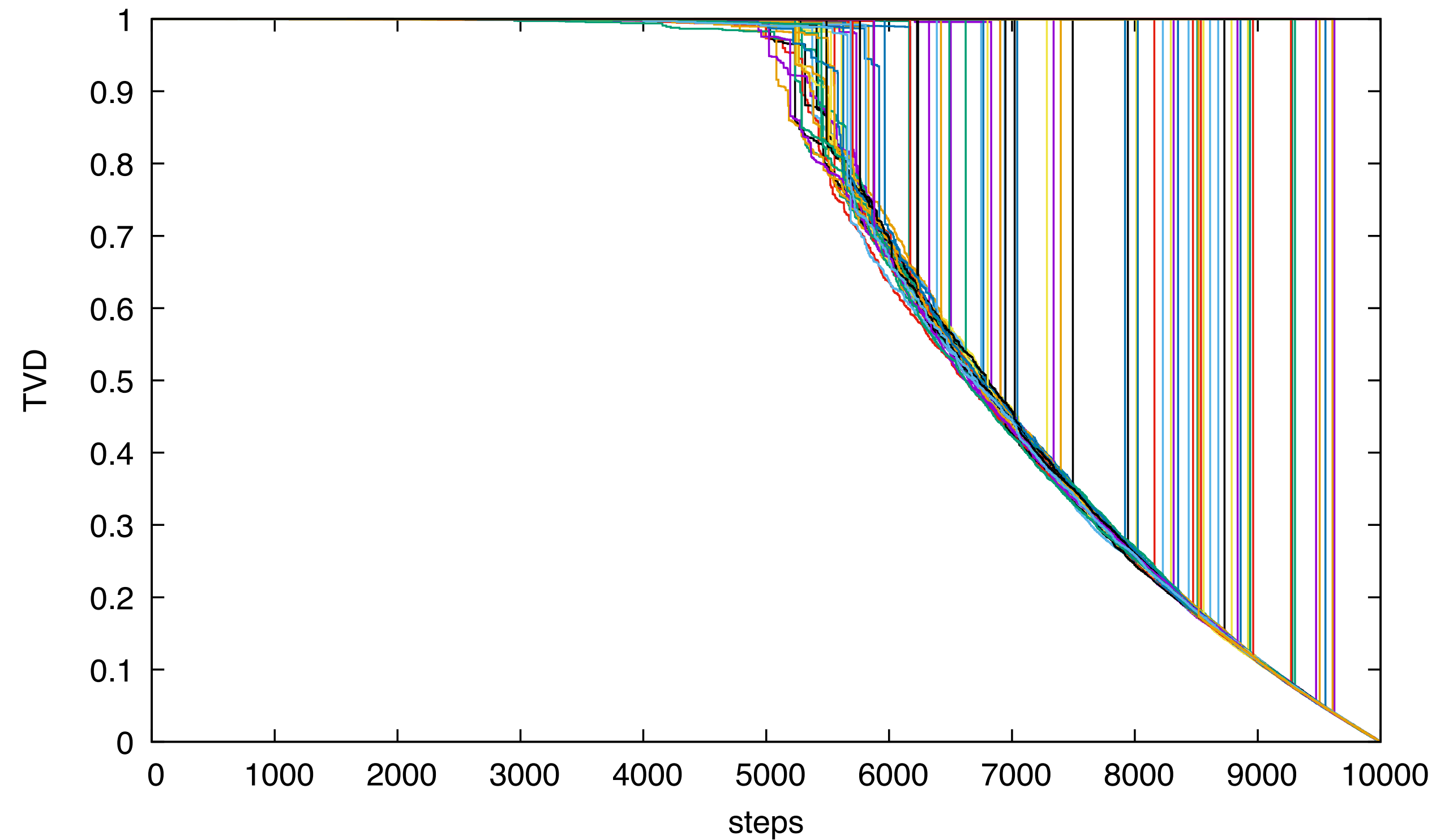


AGP

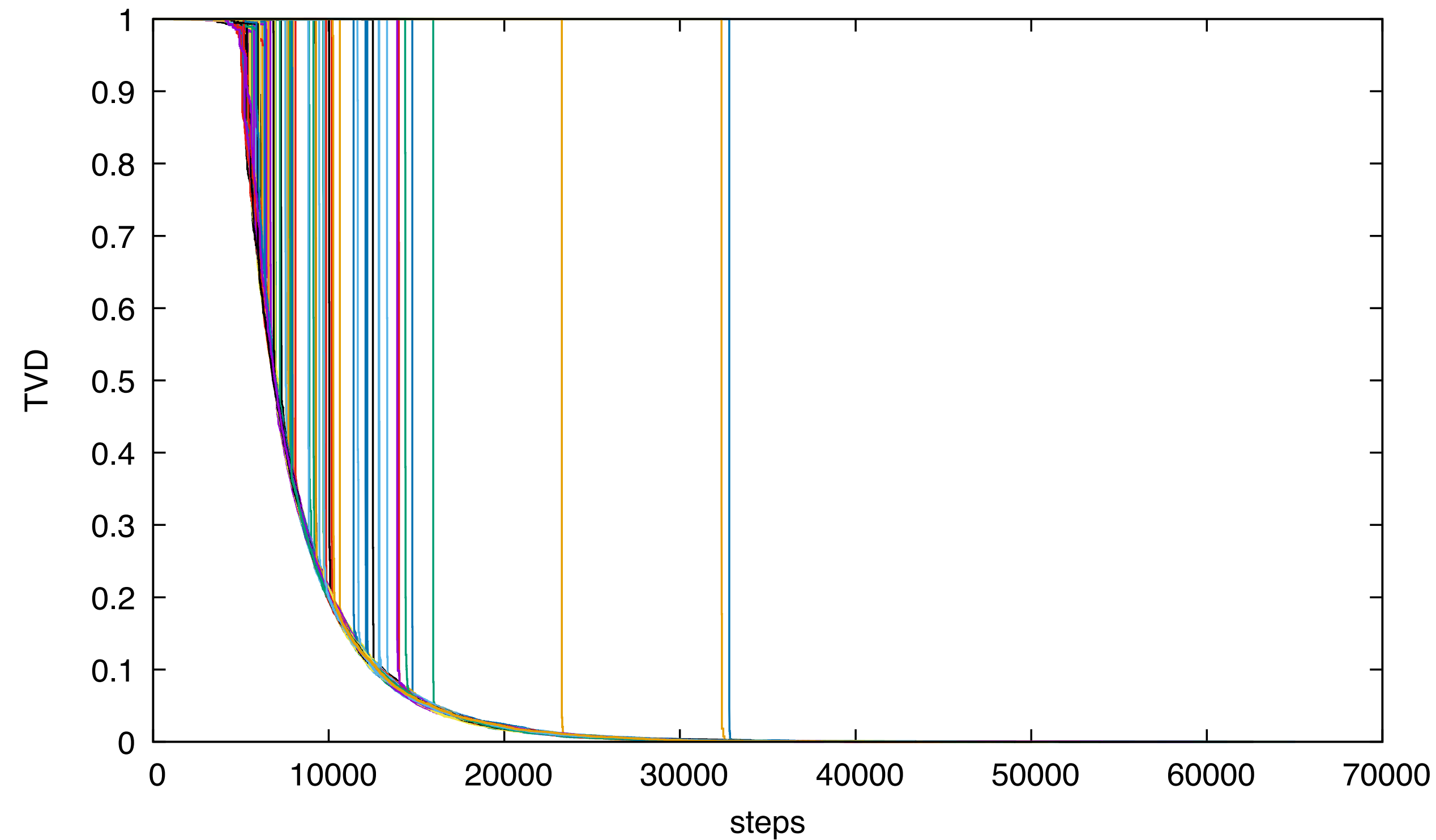


# Results

## Simulations



**Coagulative dynamics**

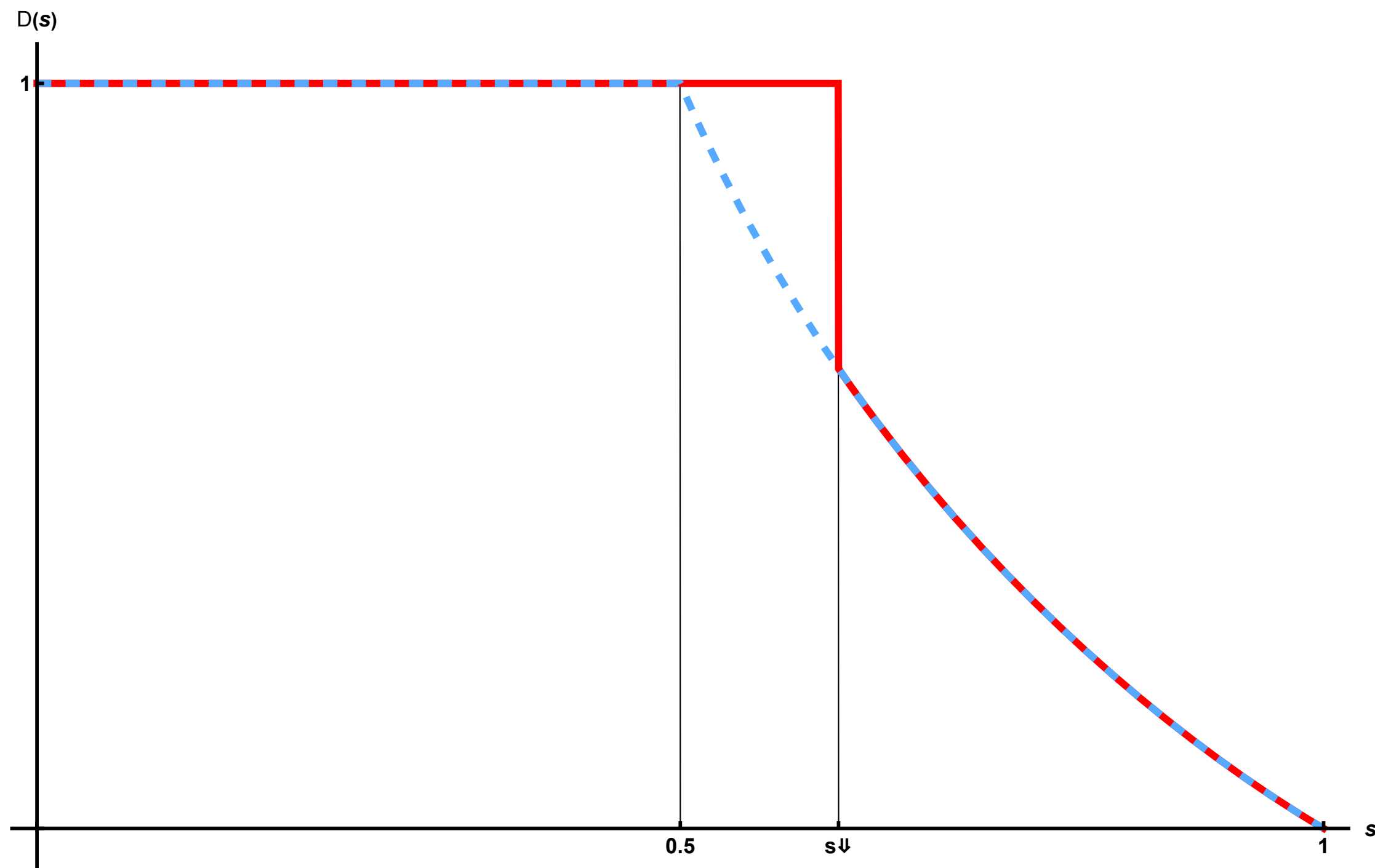


**Coagulative-fragmentative dynamics**

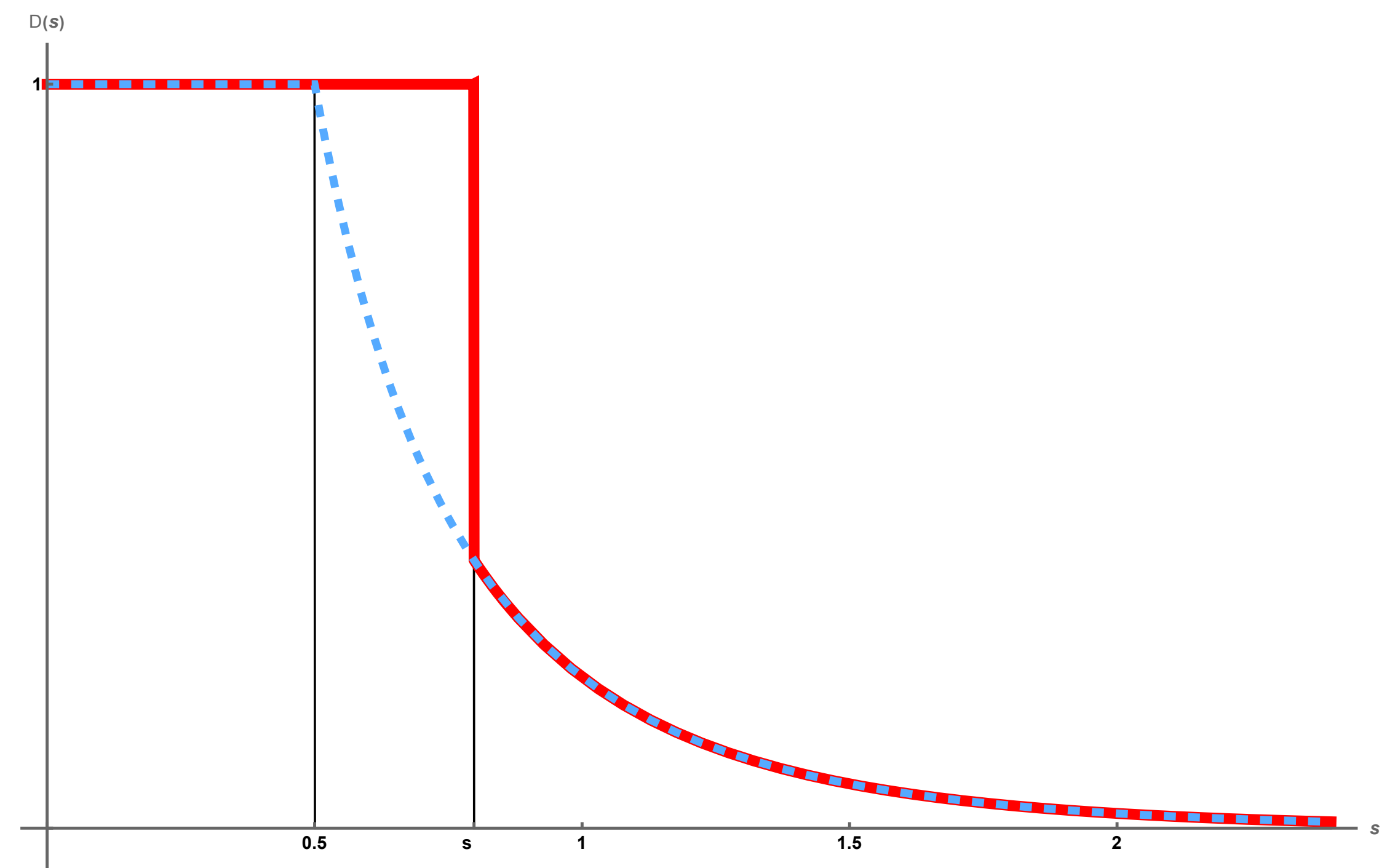


# Results

## Plot of a typical realisation



Coagulative dynamics



Coagulative-fragmentative dynamics

# Results

## Theorem 1.14 [Mixing profile for ISRW on CDP]

(1) *Uniformly in*  $v \in [n]$ ,

$$\frac{T_{n,v}^{\downarrow}}{n} \xrightarrow{d} s^{\downarrow}, \quad (1.13)$$

where  $s^{\downarrow}$  is the  $[0, 1]$ -valued random variable with distribution  $\mathbb{P}(s^{\downarrow} \leq s) = \eta(s)$ ,  $s \in [0, 1]$ .

(2) *Uniformly in*  $v \in [n]$ ,

$$(\mathcal{D}_n^v(sn))_{s \in [0,1]} \xrightarrow{d} (1 - \eta(s) \mathbb{1}_{\{s > s^{\downarrow}\}})_{s \in [0,1]} \text{ in the Skorokhod } M_1\text{-topology.} \quad (1.14)$$

## Theorem 1.15 [Mixing profile for ISRW on CFDP]

(1) *Uniformly in*  $v \in [n]$ ,

$$\frac{T_{n,v}^{\downarrow}}{n} \xrightarrow{d} s^{\downarrow}, \quad (1.15)$$

where  $s^{\downarrow}$  is the non-negative random variable with distribution  $\mathbb{P}(s^{\downarrow} \leq s) = \zeta(s)$ ,  $s \in [0, \infty)$ .

(2) *Uniformly in*  $v \in [n]$ ,

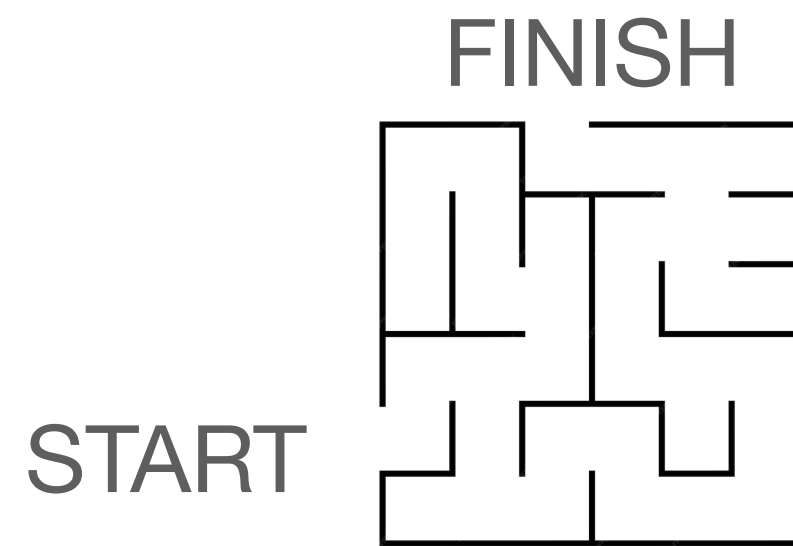
$$(\mathcal{D}_n^v(sn))_{s \in [0,\infty)} \xrightarrow{d} (1 - \zeta(s) \mathbb{1}_{\{s > s^{\downarrow}\}})_{s \in [0,\infty)} \text{ in the Skorokhod } M_1\text{-topology.} \quad (1.16)$$

# Three-step road towards the proof

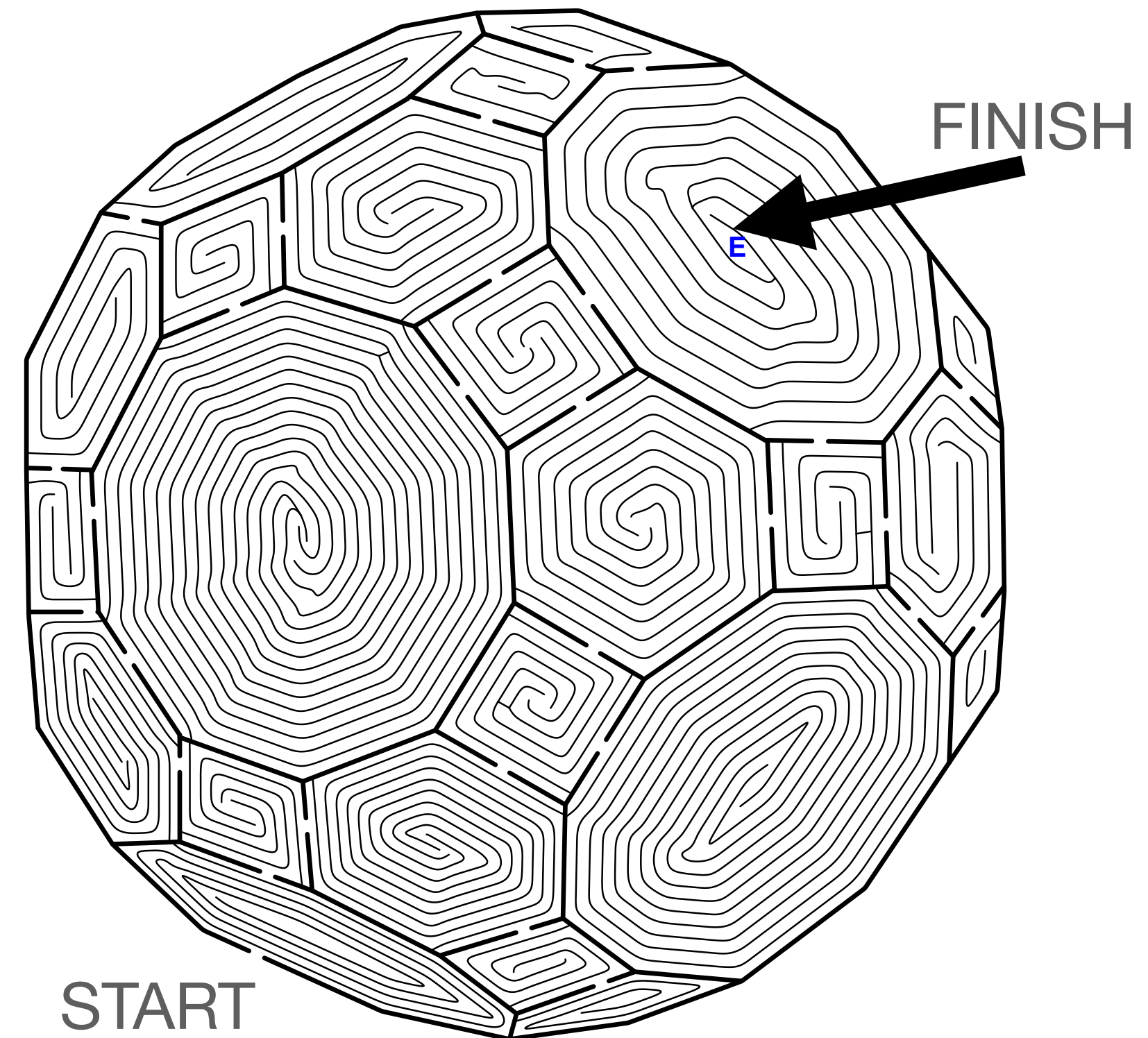
1. Understand the structure and evolution of permutation cycles
2. Identify the distribution of rescaled “drop-down time”  $\frac{T^\downarrow}{n}$
3. Show “ISRW local mixing” upon drop-down in  $o(n)$  steps of the dynamics

# Relative difficulty of proofs

- Coagulative dynamics:



- Coagulative-fragmentative dynamics:



# Path towards the proofs

## Coagulation-only dynamics

### 1. Understand the structure and evolution of permutation cycles

- Described by sizes of connected components in the cycle-free Erdős–Rényi model.

### 2. Identify the distribution of rescaled “drop-down time” $\frac{T^\downarrow}{n}$

- CDF of  $\frac{T^\downarrow}{n}$  is given by  $\eta(c)$ ,  $c \in [0,1]$ , related to the CF-ER giant component.

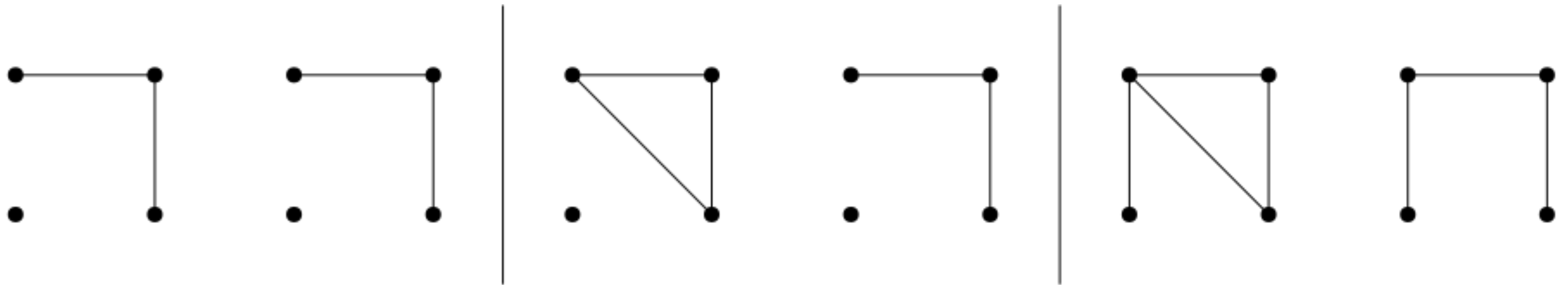
### 3. Show “ISRW local mixing” upon drop-down in $o(n)$ steps of the dynamics

- Follows from the definition of the infinite-speed random walk.

# Technical problems

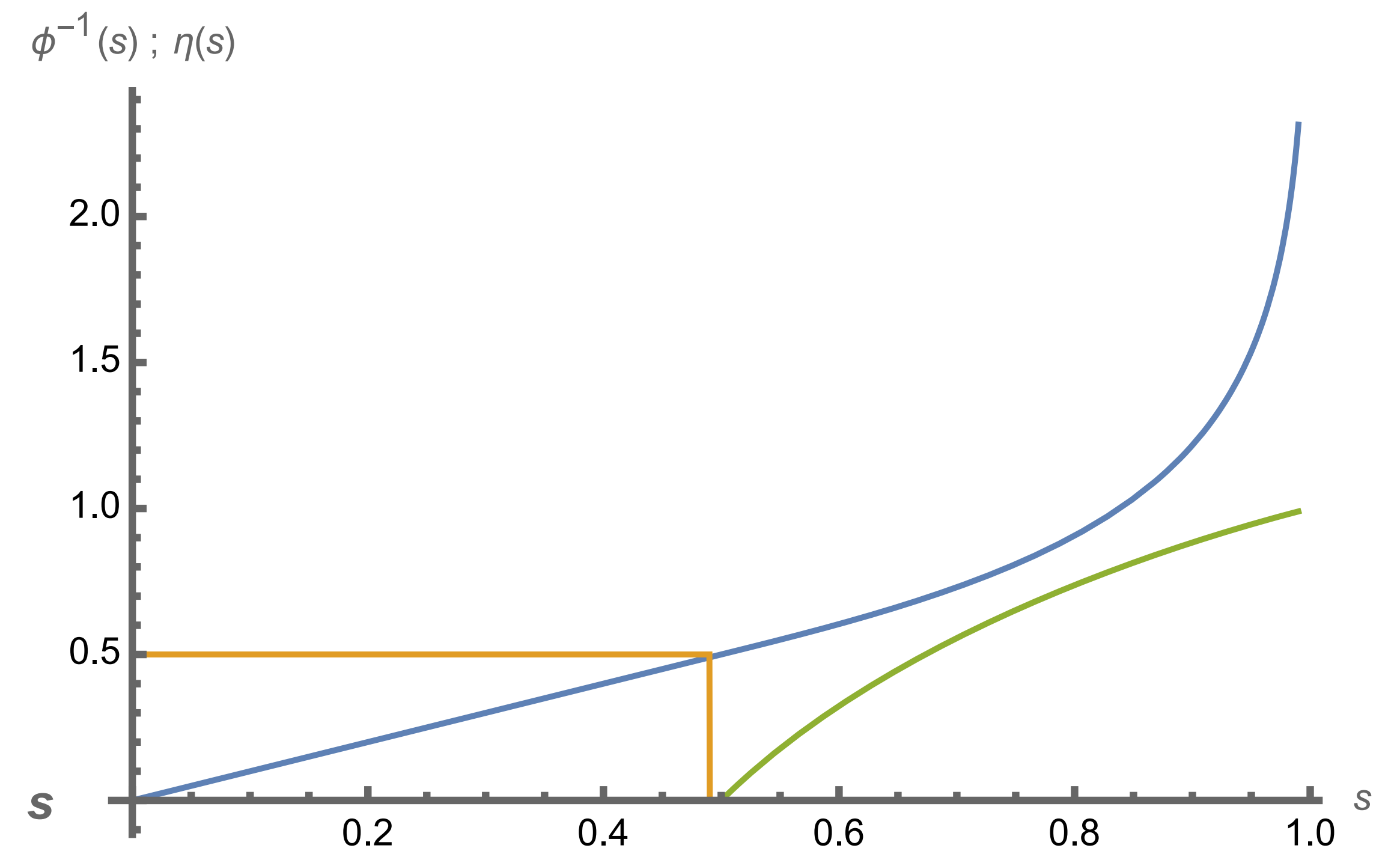
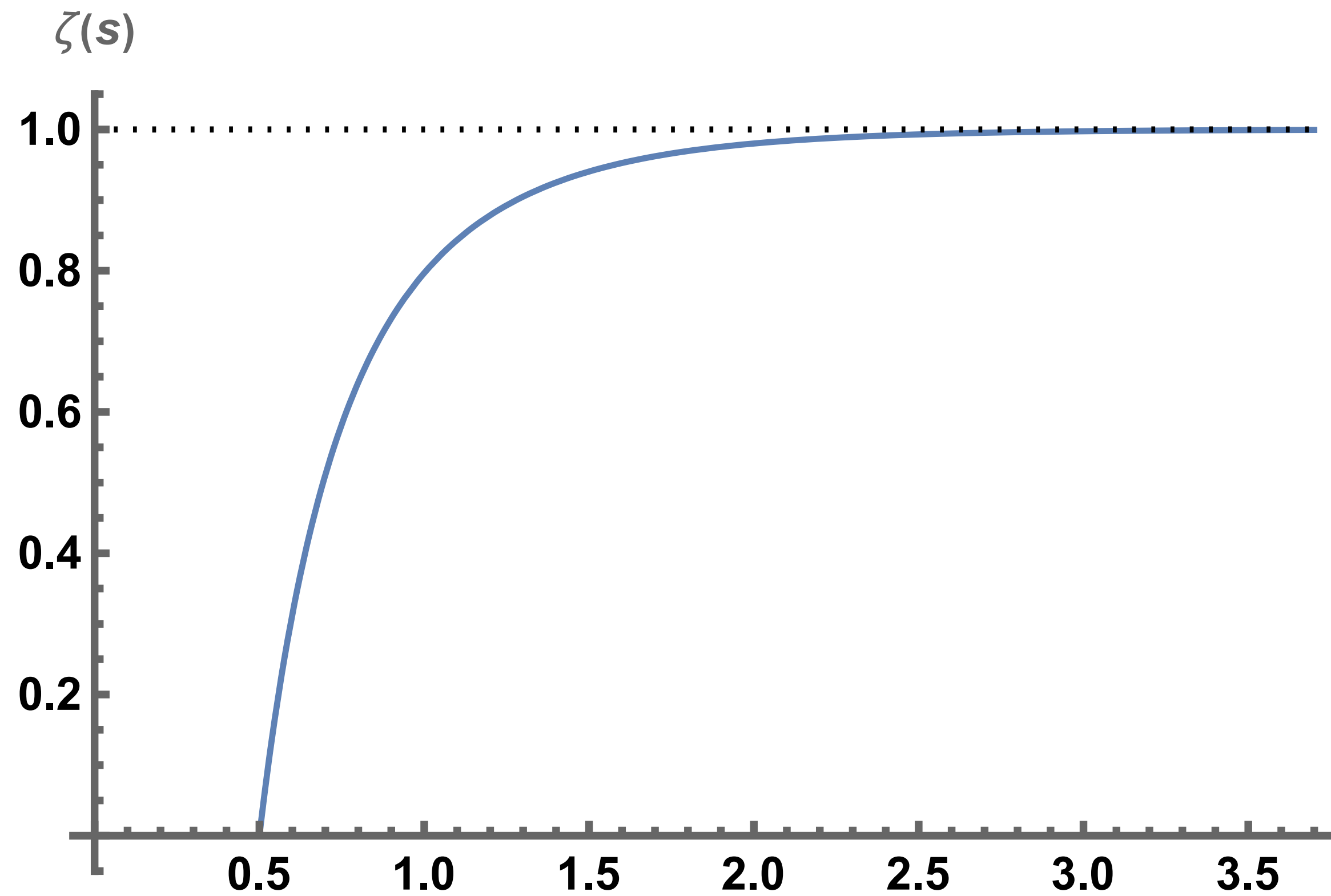
## Size of the giant component in cycle-free Erdős–Rényi

- Coupling to the unconstrained Erdős–Rényi model  $(G(n, M = t))_{t=0}^{\infty}$ .
- Sizes of connected components of  $F_n(t)$  correspond to the sizes of connected components of  $G_n(\tau)$  with some different time  $\tau(t)$ .



# Technical problems

## Size of the giant component in cycle-free Erdős–Rényi



# Path towards the proofs

## Coagulative-fragmentative dynamics

### 1. Understand the structure and evolution of permutation cycles

- **COMPLICATED!** Schramm (2005): PD(1) substructure on the giant.

### 2. Identify the distribution of rescaled “drop-down time” $\frac{T^\downarrow}{n}$

- CDF of  $T^\downarrow/n$  is given by  $\zeta(c)$ ,  $c \in (0, \infty)$  – related to the Erdős–Rényi giant component.
- Furthermore, whp the support of the ISRW does not experience fragmentation before  $T^\downarrow$ .

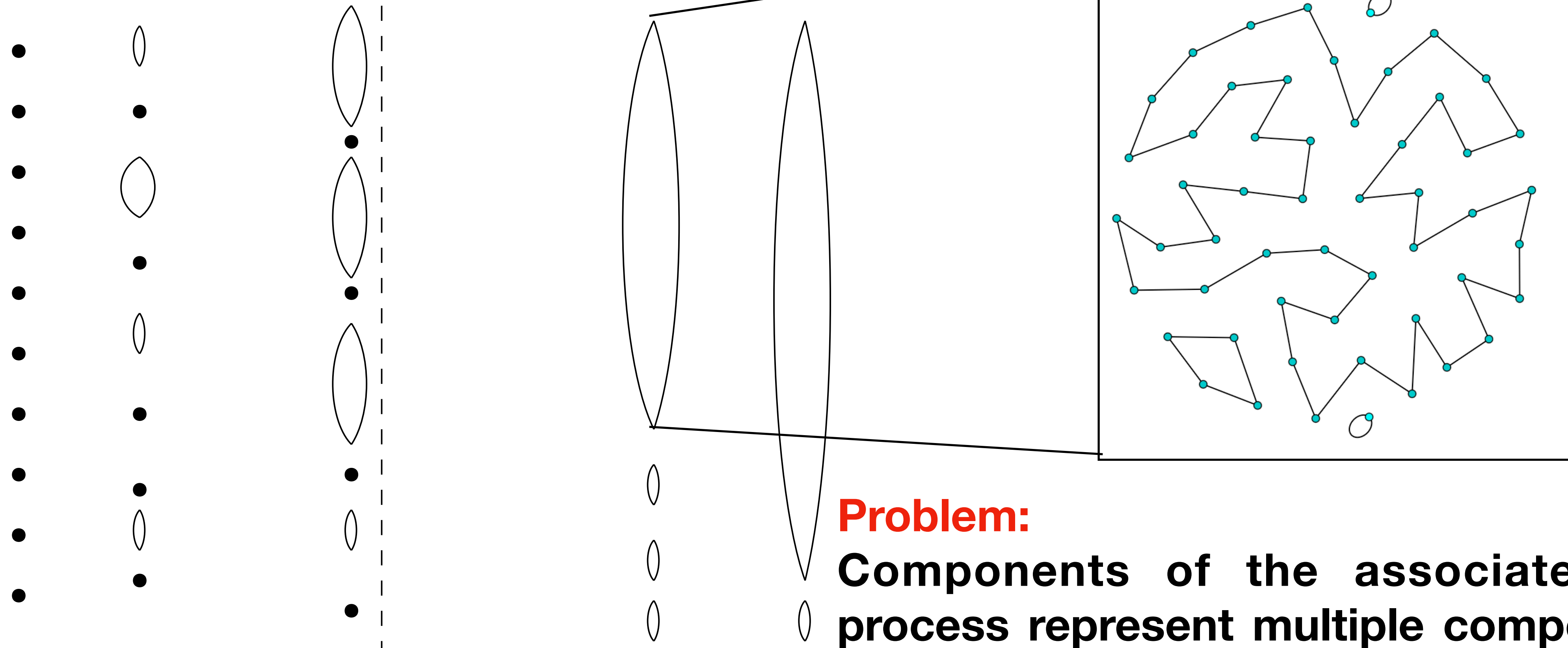
### 3. Show “ISRW local mixing” upon drop-down in $o(n)$ steps of the dynamics

- **COMPLICATED!** Mixing induced by large cycles.



# Technical problems

## Mixing in sublinear-time upon drop-down



**Problem:**

**Components of the associated graph process represent multiple components of the underlying permutation!**

# Technical problems

## Mixing in sublinear-time upon drop-down

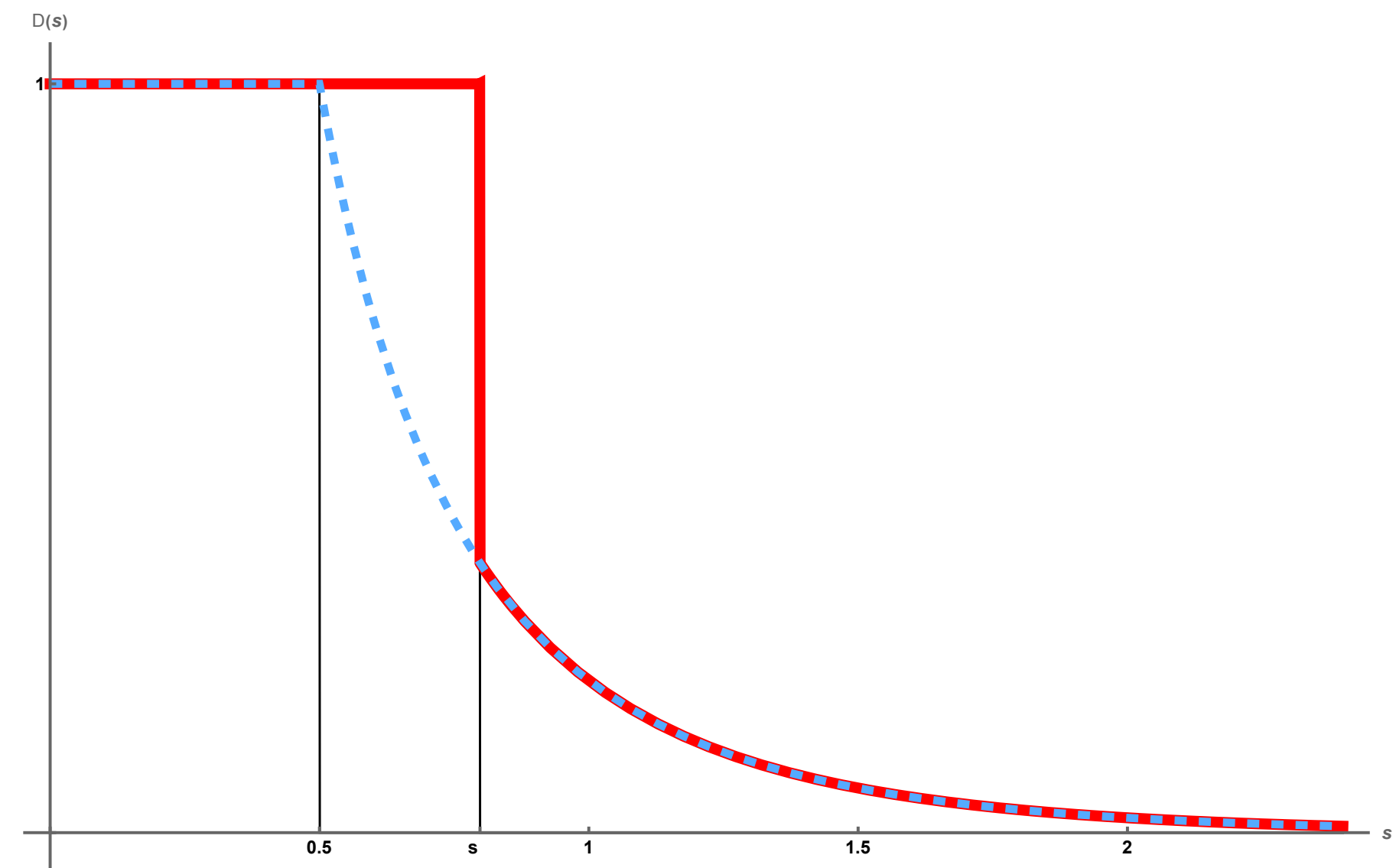
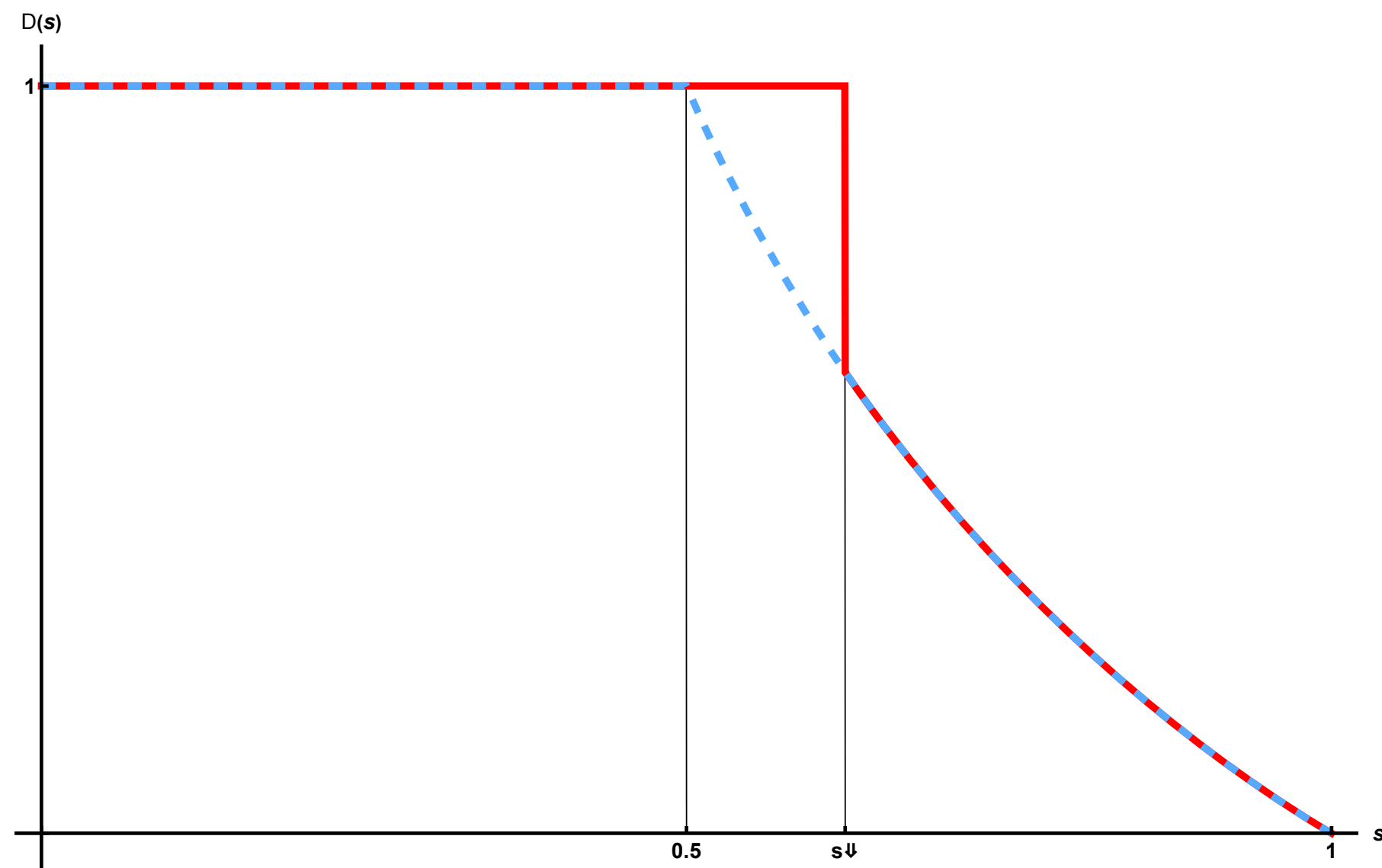
- **Schramm's coupling - main tool to study the structure of cycles**
- Adaptation of Schramm's coupling to a dynamic setting.
- Approximate the real cycle structure by a PD(1) sample evolving by stationary dynamics.
- A subtle argument shows that within a  $o(n)$  timescale, a cycle that covers almost the entire "AGP-giant" appears whp.

# What next?

- Random walk with a commensurate rate?
- More general dynamics?
- Voter model on a dynamic permutation?

# Summary

**The mixing profile of an ISRW on a dynamic random permutation has a cut-off-like discontinuity at a random time**



**Thank you for your attention.**

# References

- **Cycle structure of dynamic random permutations**
  - N. Berestycki and R. Durrett. A phase transition in the random transposition random walk. *Probab. Theory Relat. fields*, 136:203–233, 2006.
  - O. Schramm. Compositions of random transpositions. *Israel J. Math.*, 147:221–243, 2005.
- **Accesible explanation of Schramm's coupling**
  - J. E. Björnberg, M. Kotowski, B. Lees, and P. Miłoś. The interchange process with reversals on the complete graph. *Electron. J. Prob.*, 24:1–43, 2019.