Contents

Preface		V
Chapte	r 1. Introduction	1
1.1.	The model of first-passage percolation and its history	1
1.2.	Acknowledgments	4
Chapte	r 2. The time constant and the limit shape	5
2.1.	Subadditivity and the time constant	5
2.2.	The time constant through a homogenization problem	10
2.3.	The limit shape: Cox-Durrett shape theorem	11
2.4.	Other shape theorems	16
2.5.	The class of possible limit shapes	17
2.6.	The subadditive ergodic theorem revisited	20
2.7.	Gromov-Hausdorff convergence	22
2.8.	Strict convexity of the limit shape	25
2.9.	Simulations	27
Chapte	r 3. Fluctuations and concentration bounds	29
3.1.	Variance bounds	29
3.2.	Logarithmic improvement to variance upper bound	32
3.3.	Logarithmic improvement to variance lower bound	39
3.4.	Concentration bounds	45
3.5.	Convergence of the mean for subadditive ergodic processes	50
3.6.	Large deviations	61
3.7.	Cases where Gaussian fluctuations appear	68
Chapte	r 4. Geodesics	73
4.1.	Existence of finite geodesics and their sizes	73
4.2.	0 1	83
4.3.	The scaling relation $\chi = 2\xi - 1$	92
4.4.	Infinite geodesics	94
4.5.	Geodesic lines or bigeodesics	101
Chapte	r 5. Busemann functions	109
5.1.	Basics of Busemann functions	109
5.2.	Hoffman's argument for multiple geodesics	110
5.3.	Directions of geodesics via Busemann functions	112
5.4.	Busemann increment distributions and geodesic graphs	114
5.5.	Busemann functions along boundaries in \mathbb{Z}^2	121
5.6.	Nonexistence of bigeodesics in fixed directions	124

iv CONTENTS

Chapter	6. Growth and competition models	131			
6.1.	Eden Model and the limit shape in high dimensions	131			
6.2.	First-passage competition models	134			
6.3.	6. Competition with the same speed				
6.4.	Competition with different speeds	137			
6.5.	The competition interface	138			
Chapter	7. Variants of FPP and related models	141			
7.1.	The maximum flow	141			
7.2.	Variants	143			
Chapter	8. Summary of open questions	151			
Bibliogr	aphy	155			

Preface

We celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of one the most classical models in probability theory. In this book, we describe the main results of first-passage percolation, paying special attention to the recent burst of advances. The purpose of this book is twofold. We first give self-contained proofs of seminal results obtained in the '80s and '90s on limit shapes and geodesics, while covering the state of the art of these questions. Second, aside from these classical results, we discuss recent perspectives and directions including (1) the connection between Busemann functions and geodesics, (2) proofs of sublinear variance of the passage time, and (3) the role of growth and competition models. We also provide a collection of old and new open questions, in the hope that they will be solved before the one hundredth anniversary.