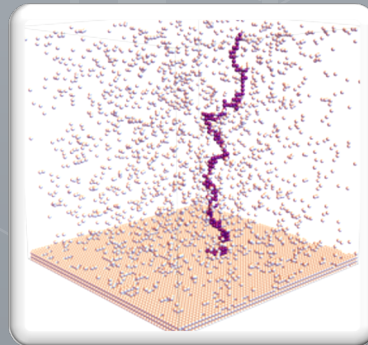
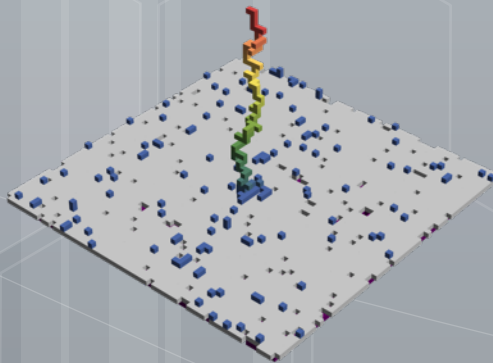


Oxford

May 2020

# Maximum height of 3D Ising interfaces



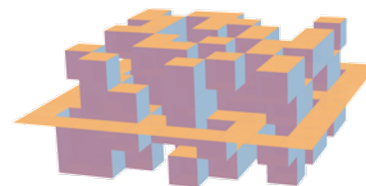
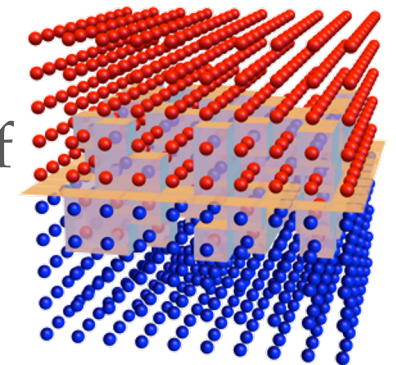
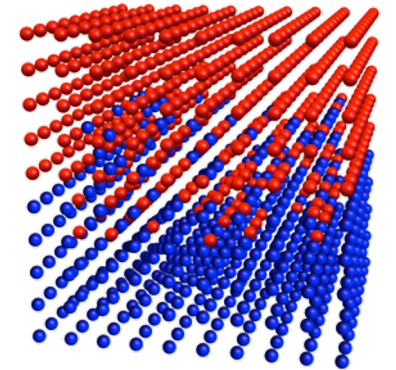
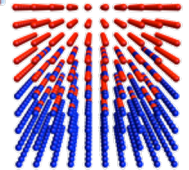
**Eyal Lubetzky**  
Courant Institute (NYU)

based on joint works with  
Reza Gheissari (UC Berkeley)

# 3D Ising interfaces



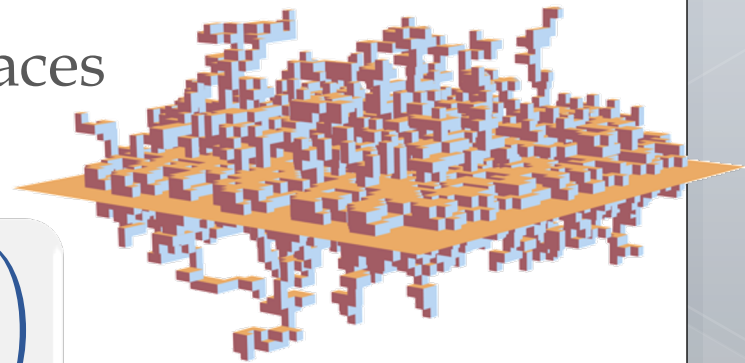
- ▶ Consider surfaces generated as follows:
  - 3D cylinder  $\Lambda = \llbracket -n, n \rrbracket^2 \times (\mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2})$
  - $\sigma$  is a 2-coloring of the vertices:
    - boundary vertices:  $\begin{cases} - & \text{upper half-space} \\ + & \text{lower half-space} \end{cases}$
    - internal vertices: arbitrarily (for now).
  - Draw a **dual-face**  $(u, v)^*$  if  $\sigma_u \neq \sigma_v$ .
- ▶ **Interface:** (max) connected component  $\mathcal{J}$  of dual-faces separating the boundary.



# 3D Ising interfaces (ctd.)

- ▶ Goal: understand random interfaces sampled via the distribution:

$$\mu(\mathcal{J}) \propto \exp\left(-\beta|\mathcal{J}| + \sum_{f \in \mathcal{J}} \mathbf{g}(f, \mathcal{J})\right)$$



- ▶  $\beta > 0$ : inverse temperature (large, fixed).
- ▶  $\mathbf{g}(\cdot, \cdot)$ : some complicated function, yet satisfying

- 1)  $\mathbf{g} \leq K_0$

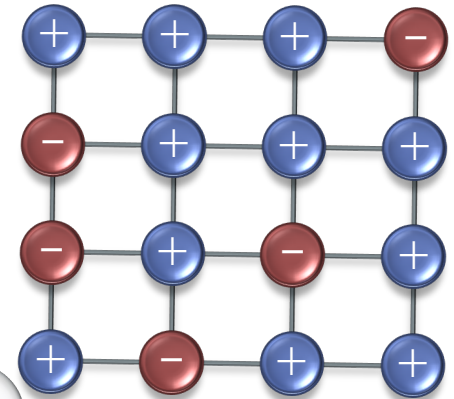
- 2)  $|\mathbf{g}(f, \mathcal{J}) - \mathbf{g}(f', \mathcal{J}')| \leq e^{-c_0 r}$  if  $B_r(f, \mathcal{J}) \cong B_r(f', \mathcal{J}')$

for **absolute** constants  $c_0, K_0$ .

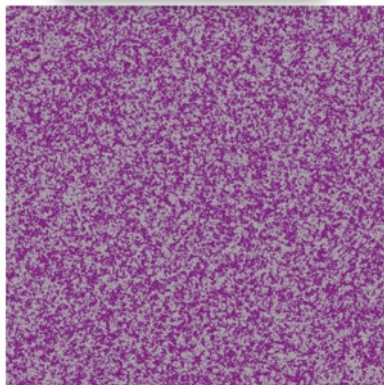
# Definition: the classical Ising model

- ▶ Underlying geometry: finite  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ .
- ▶ Set of possible configurations:  $\Omega = \{\pm 1\}^\Lambda$
- ▶ Probability of a configuration  $\sigma \in \Omega$  given by the *Gibbs distribution*:

$$\mu_\Lambda(\sigma) \propto \exp\left(-\beta \sum_{x \sim y} \mathbf{1}_{\{\sigma_x \neq \sigma_y\}}\right)$$

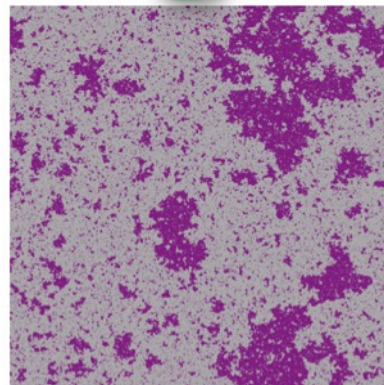


$\beta < \beta_c$



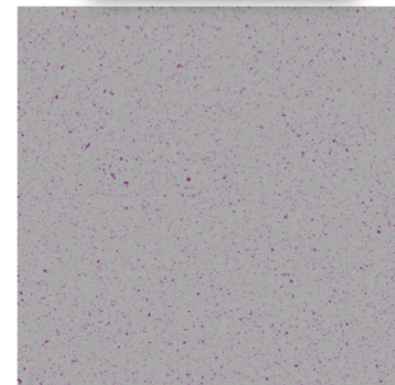
$\beta = 0.75$

$\beta_c$



$\beta = 0.88$

$\beta > \beta_c$



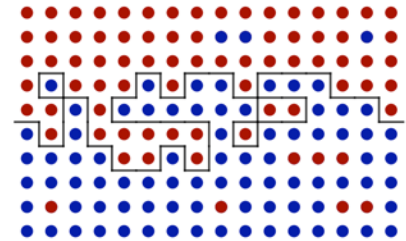
$\beta = 1$



# 2D Ising interfaces

▶  $\mu_{\Lambda}^{\mp}$  : Ising model on 2D cylinder  $\Lambda = \llbracket -n, n \rrbracket \times (\mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2})$

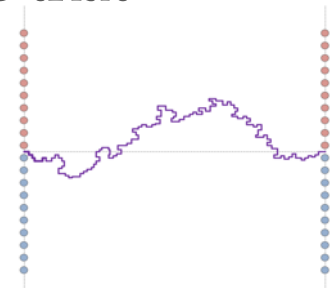
▶ Boundary conditions:  $\begin{cases} - & \text{upper half-plane} \\ + & \text{lower half-plane} \end{cases}$



▶ Draw a dual-edge  $(u, v)^*$  if  $\sigma_u \neq \sigma_v$ .

▶ **Interface**: connected component  $\mathcal{J}$  of dual-edges that separates the the boundary components.

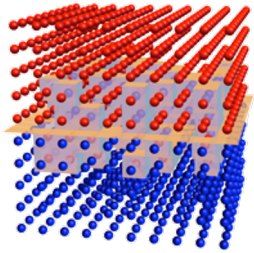
▶ Known [Higuchi '79], [Dobrushin, Hryniv '97], [Hryniv '98], [Dobrushin, Kotecký, Shlosman '92] :



▶ Interface has a scaling limit:  $\frac{\mathcal{J}(x/n)}{\sqrt{c_{\beta}n}} \rightarrow \text{Brownian bridge}$

▶ Maximum  $M_n$  is  $O_P(\sqrt{n})$ , and  $M_n - \mathbb{E}[M_n]$  is also  $O_P(\sqrt{n})$ .

# 3D Ising interfaces

- ▶  $\mu_\Lambda^\mp$ : Ising model on 3D cylinder  $\Lambda = \llbracket -n, n \rrbracket^2 \times (\mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2})$ 
  - ▶ Boundary conditions:  $\begin{cases} \ominus & \text{upper half-plane} \\ \oplus & \text{lower half-plane} \end{cases}$ 

  - ▶ Draw a dual-face  $(u, v)^*$  if  $\sigma_u \neq \sigma_v$ .
- ▶ **Interface**: maximal connected component  $\mathcal{J}$  of dual-faces that separates the boundary components.
- ▶ [Minlos, Sinai '67], [Dobrushin '72]:  $\mu_\Lambda^\mp(\mathcal{J}) \propto e^{-\beta|\mathcal{J}| + \sum_{f \in \mathcal{J}} \mathbf{g}(f, \mathcal{J})}$   
(cluster expansion; valid for large  $\beta$ )
- ▶ THEOREM: [Dobrushin '72] (*rigidity of the interface*)

There exists  $\beta_0 > 0$  such that  $\forall \beta > \beta_0$  and  $\forall x_1, x_2, h$ ,

$$\mu_\Lambda^\mp(\mathcal{J} \ni (x_1, x_2, h)) \leq \exp\left(-\frac{1}{3} \beta h\right)$$

# Plus/minus interface in 3D Ising

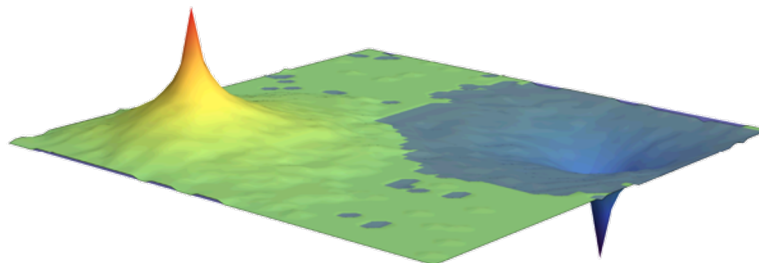
▶  $M_n$  = maximum height of the interface  $\mathcal{I}$  in 3D Ising with Dobrushin's boundary conditions.

▶ [Dobrushin '72]:  $\exists C_\beta$  s.t.  $\mu_\Lambda^\mp(M_n \leq C_\beta \log n) \rightarrow 1$ .

▶  $\Rightarrow$  (via straightforward matching order lower bound) the maximum of the interface has **order**  $\log n$ .

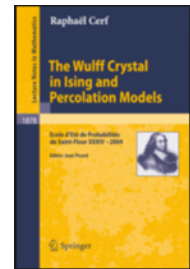
▶ Asymptotics of the maximum (LLN)? Tightness?

▶ Structure of interface conditional on the rare event of reaching height  $h \gg 1$  above some fixed point?



# Related work on 3D Ising interfaces

- ▶ Alternative simpler argument by [van Beijeren '75] for [Dobrushin '72]'s result on the rigidity of the 3D Ising interface.
- ▶ Rigidity argument extended to
  - Widom–Rowlinson model [Bricmont, Lebowitz, Pfister, Olivieri '79a], [Bricmont, Lebowitz, Pfister '79b, '79c]
  - Super-critical percolation / random cluster model conditioned to have interfaces [Gielis, Grimmett '02]
- ▶ Tilted interfaces: [Cerf, Kenyon '01] (zero temperature, 111 interface), [Miracle Sole '95] (1-step interface), [Sheffield '03] ( $|\nabla\phi|^p$  models), **many** works on the conjectured behavior, related to the (non-)existence of non-translational invariant Gibbs measures
- ▶ Wulff shape, large deviations for the magnetization, surface tension [Pisztora '96], [Bodineau '96], [Cerf, Pisztora '00], [Bodineau '05], [Cerf '06]
- ▶ Plus/minus phases away from the interface [Zhou '19]





# LLN for the maximum

- ▶ Recall:  $M_n$  = maximum of the interface  $\mathcal{J}$  in 3D Ising; [Dobrushin '72]:  $M_n = O_P(\log n)$ .
- ▶ THEOREM: ([Gheissari, L. '19a])

There exists  $\beta_0$  such that for all  $\beta > \beta_0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M_n}{\log n} = \frac{2}{\alpha}, \quad \text{in probability,}$$

where

$$\alpha(\beta) = \lim_{h \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{1}{h} \log \mu_{\mathbb{Z}^3}^{\mp} \left( (0,0,0) \overset{+}{\longleftrightarrow} (\mathbb{R}^2 \times \{h\}) \right)$$

and satisfies  $\alpha(\beta)/\beta \rightarrow 4$  as  $\beta \rightarrow \infty$ .

- ▶ existence of the limit  $\alpha$  nontrivial: sub-multiplicativity argument relying on new results on the interface shape.

LLN

\*-connected in  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \times [0, h]$

# Tightness and tails for the maximum

▶ THEOREM: ([Gheissari, L. '19b])

1. There exists  $\beta_0$  such that for all  $\beta > \beta_0$ ,

$$M_n - \mathbb{E}M_n = O_P(1).$$

2. There exist  $C, \bar{\alpha}, \underline{\alpha}$  such that  $\forall r \geq 1$ ,

$$\begin{cases} e^{-(\bar{\alpha}r+C)} \leq \mu_n^{\bar{\cdot}}(M_n \geq \mathbb{E}[M_n] + r) \leq e^{-(\underline{\alpha}r-C)} \\ e^{-e^{\bar{\alpha}r+C}} \leq \mu_n^{\bar{\cdot}}(M_n \leq \mathbb{E}[M_n] - r) \leq e^{-e^{\underline{\alpha}r-C}} \end{cases}$$

where  $\bar{\alpha}/\underline{\alpha} \rightarrow 1$  as  $\beta \rightarrow \infty$ .

Tightness  
Gumbel tails

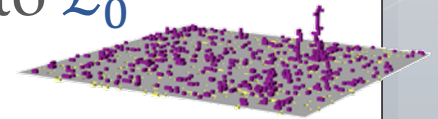
▶ PROPOSITION: ([Gheissari, L. '19b])

There *does not* exist a deterministic sequence  $(m_n)$  s.t.  $(M_n - m_n)$  converges weakly to a nondegenerate law.

# Steppingstone: Dobrushin's argument

▶ Notation:  $\mathcal{L}_0 = \mathbb{R}^2 \times \{0\}$ ;  $\pi =$  projection onto  $\mathcal{L}_0$

▶ DEFINITION: [ceiling and walls]

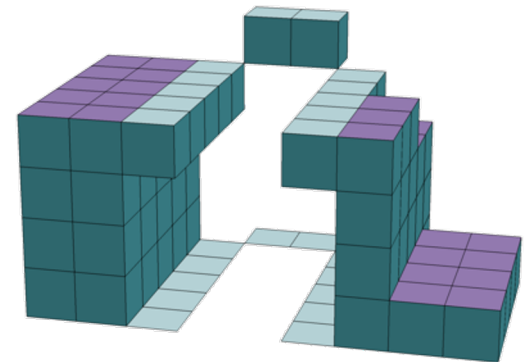
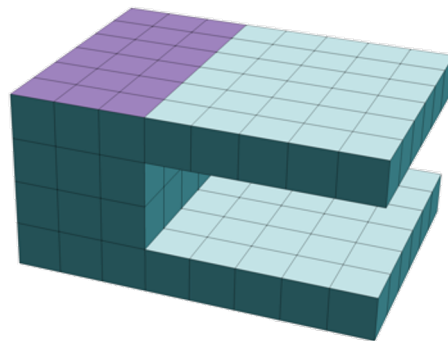
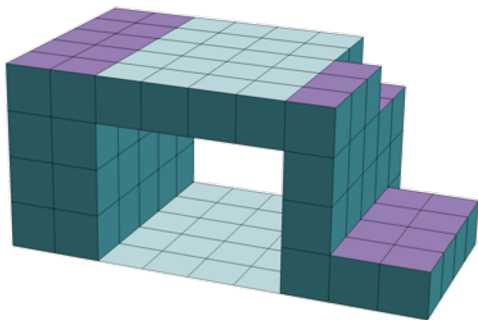


1. *Ceiling face* : a horizontal face  $f \in \mathcal{J}$  such that  
$$\pi(f') \neq \pi(f) \quad \forall f' \neq f.$$

*Ceiling  $\mathcal{C}$*  : connected component of *ceiling* faces.

2. *Wall face* : all other faces.

*Wall  $\mathcal{W}$*  : connected component of *wall* faces.



# Steppingstone: Dobrushin's argument

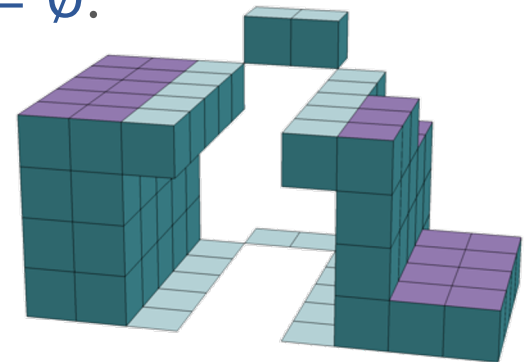
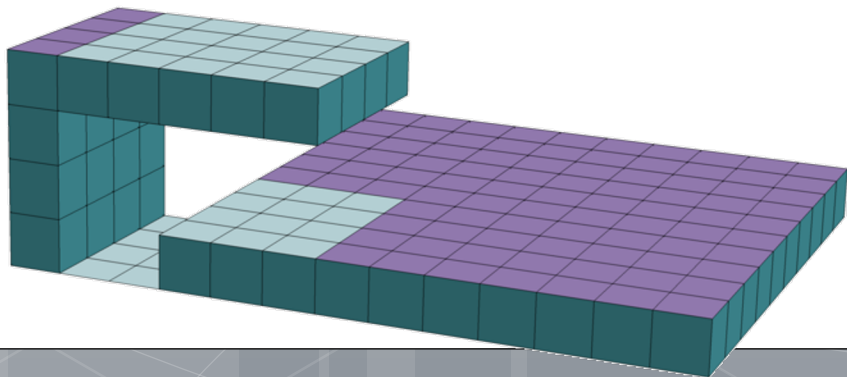
► DEFINITION: [ceiling and walls]

1. *Ceiling face* : a horizontal face  $f \in \mathcal{J}$  with  $\pi(f') \neq \pi(f) \quad \forall f' \neq f$ .  
*Ceiling  $\mathcal{C}$*  : connected component of *ceiling* faces.

2. *Wall face* : all other faces.  
*Wall  $\mathcal{W}$*  : connected component of *wall* faces.

► FACTS:

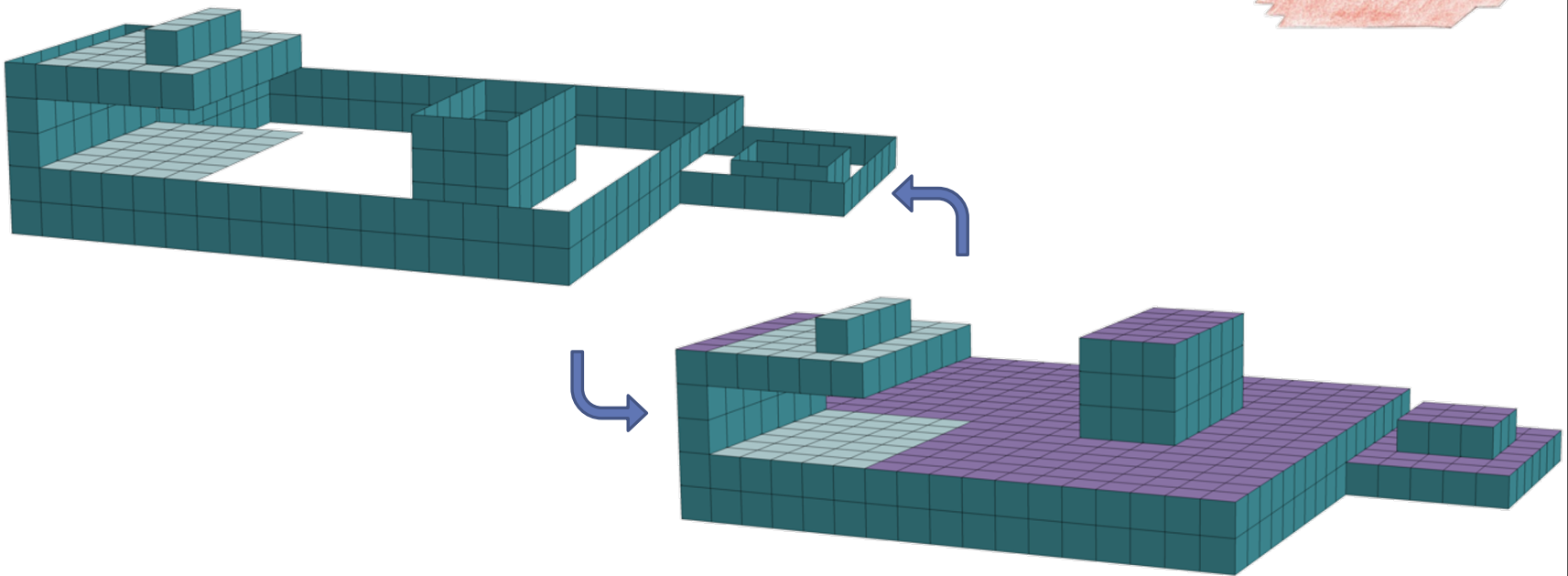
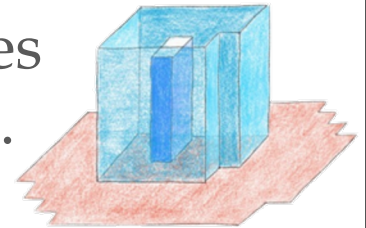
1.  $\forall$  *ceiling  $\mathcal{C}$*  has a single height.
2.  $\forall$  *wall  $\mathcal{W}$* :  $\pi(\mathcal{W})$  is connected.
3.  $\forall$  *walls  $\mathcal{W} \neq \mathcal{W}'$* :  $\pi(\mathcal{W}) \cap \pi(\mathcal{W}') = \emptyset$ .





# Steppingstone: Dobrushin's argument

- ▶ A wall  $\mathcal{W}$  is standard if  $\exists \mathcal{J}$  whose only wall is  $\mathcal{W}$ .
- ▶ FACT: 1:1 correspondence between interfaces and *admissible*\* collections of standard walls.

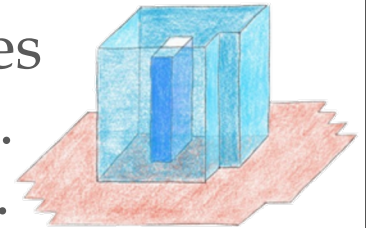


\* *admissible: walls are disjoint components and so are their projections*

# Steppingstone: Dobrushin's argument

▶ A **wall**  $\mathcal{W}$  is **standard** if  $\exists \mathcal{J}$  whose only **wall** is  $\mathcal{W}$ .

▶ FACT: **1:1** correspondence between interfaces and *admissible* collections of standard **walls**.

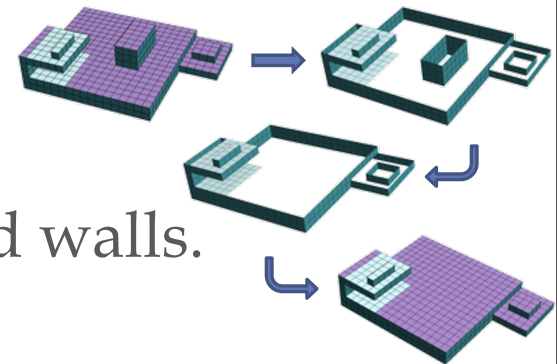


▶ Basic idea: given  $x \in \mathcal{L}_0$ , construct a map  $\Phi$ :

▶ “standardize” every wall  $\mathcal{W}$  in  $\mathcal{J}$ ;

▶ delete the wall  $\mathcal{W}_x$  of  $x$ ;

▶ “reconstruct”  $\mathcal{J}'$  from other standard walls.



▶ Goal: establish for this map  $\Phi$ :

1. (Energy bound) 
$$\frac{\mu(\mathcal{J})}{\mu(\Phi(\mathcal{J}))} \leq e^{-c\beta|\mathcal{W}_x|}$$

2. (Multiplicity bound) 
$$\#\{\mathcal{J} \in \Phi^{-1}(\mathcal{J}') : |\mathcal{W}_x| = \ell\} \leq e^{c\ell}$$

# Steppingstone: Dobrushin's argument

recall  $\mu_{\Lambda}^{\mp}(\mathcal{J}) \propto e^{-\beta|\mathcal{J}| + \sum_{f \in \mathcal{J}} \mathbf{g}(f, \mathcal{J})}$

▶ Basic idea: delete the wall  $\mathcal{W}_x$  of  $x$ .

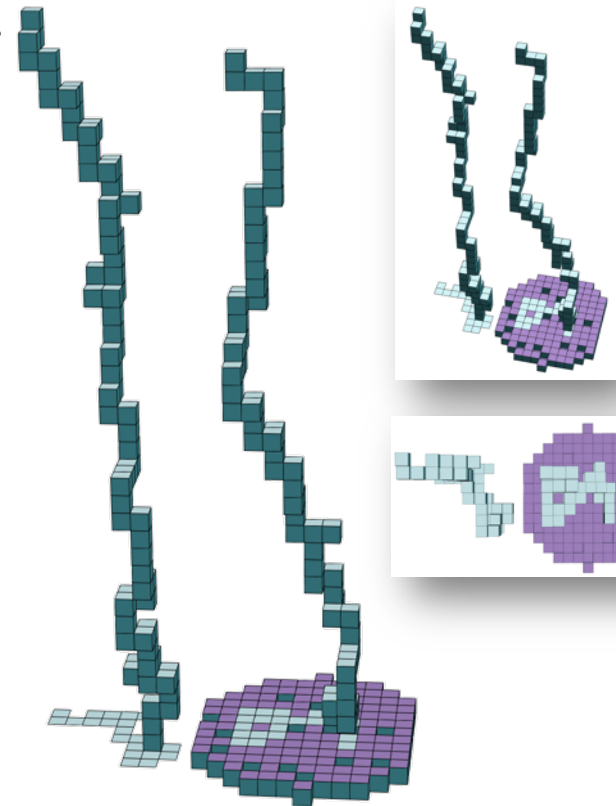
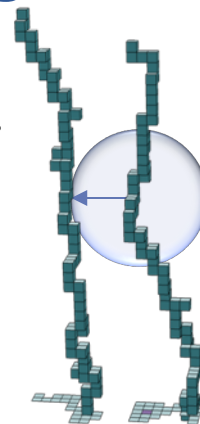
▶ Energy bound ( $\frac{\mu(\mathcal{J})}{\mu(\Phi(\mathcal{J}))} \leq e^{-c\beta|\mathcal{W}_x|}$ ):

▶ Gain  $\beta|\mathcal{W}_x|$  from  $\beta(|\mathcal{J}| - |\Phi(\mathcal{J})|)$

▶ **Problem:** effect on non-deleted faces that moved due to  $\mathbf{g}$ ...

- The effect of  $\mathbf{g}$  is **local** (decays exp. in distance).

- **BUT:** tall nearby walls can pick up a cost that cancels our  $\beta|\mathcal{W}_x|$  gain.

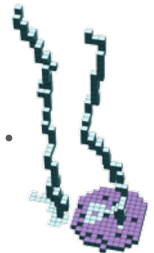


▶ Solution: also delete **tall walls** that are **close** to  $\mathcal{W}_x$ .

# Steppingstone: Dobrushin's argument

$$\text{recall } \mu_{\Lambda}^{\mp}(\mathcal{J}) \propto e^{-\beta|\mathcal{J}| + \sum_{f \in \mathcal{J}} \mathbf{g}(f, \mathcal{J})}$$

- ▶ *Energy bound* ( $\frac{\mu(\mathcal{J})}{\mu(\Phi(\mathcal{J}))} \leq e^{-c\beta|\mathcal{W}_x|}$ ):
  - **Gain**  $\beta|\mathcal{W}_x|$  from  $\beta(|\mathcal{J}| - |\Phi(\mathcal{J})|)$ , but must handle **g**...
  - ... must also **delete tall walls** that are **close**.
- ▶ *Multiplicity bound* ( $\#\{\mathcal{J} \in \Phi^{-1}(\mathcal{J}') : |\mathcal{W}_x| = \ell\} \leq e^{c\ell}$ ):
  - **Problem**: accounting for the **extra walls** we deleted...
- ▶ Dobrushin's criterion: **groups of walls**: for  $x, y \in \mathcal{L}_0$ ,
 
$$\mathcal{W}_x \sim \mathcal{W}_y \iff d(x, y)^2 \leq \max\{|\pi^{-1}(x)|, |\pi^{-1}(y)|\}.$$
 (a "tall"  $\mathcal{W}_x$  (many faces above  $x$ ) is easier to group with)
- ▶ The map  $\Phi$  deletes the entire **group of walls** of  $\mathcal{W}_x$ :  
analysis becomes 2D (but too crude for detailed questions).

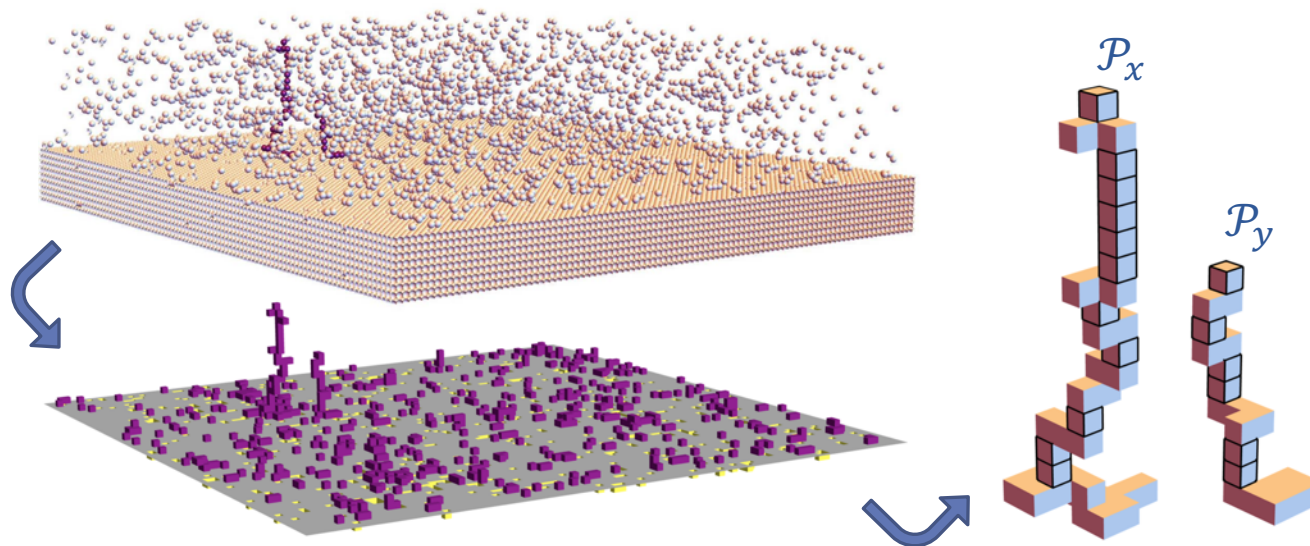
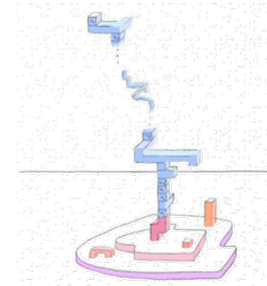




# New approach: pillars in the interface

DEFINITION: [ $\mathcal{P}_x$ , the **pillar** at  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \times \{0\}$ ]

1. Take the interface  $\mathcal{J}$  (filling in  $\nabla$  bubble)
2. Discard  $\mathbb{R}^2 \times (-\infty, 0)$  from the sites below  $\mathcal{J}$
3. The pillar  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is the remaining  $\oplus^*$ -connected component of  $x$

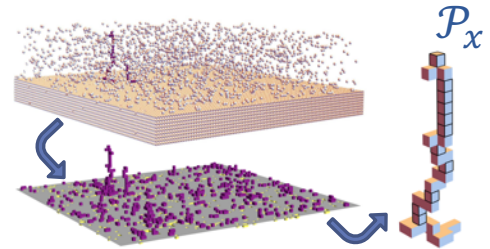


Goal: second moment argument for  $M_n = \max_x \text{ht}(\mathcal{P}_x)$

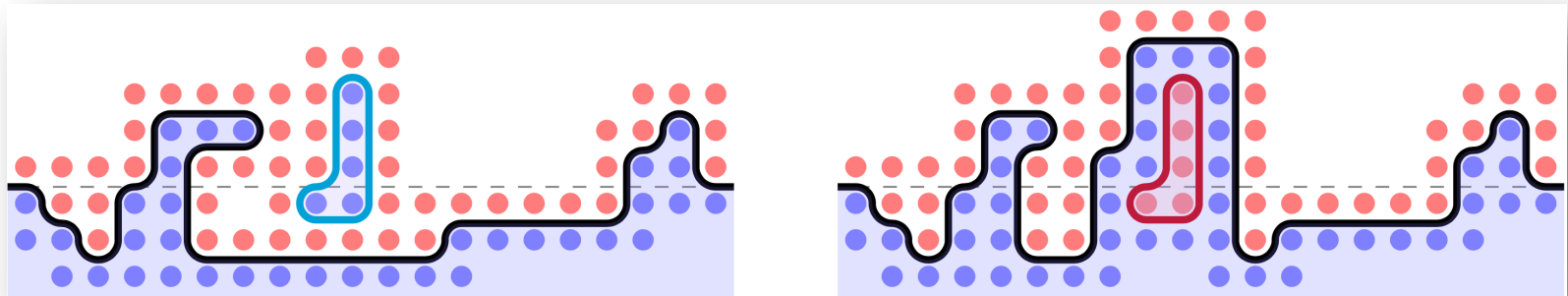
# Pillars vs. connected + components

DEFINITION: [ $\mathcal{P}_x$ , the **pillar** at  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \times \{0\}$ ]

1. Take the interface  $\mathcal{J}$  (filling in  $\nabla$  bubble)
2. Discard  $\mathbb{R}^2 \times (-\infty, 0)$  from the sites below  $\mathcal{J}$
3. The pillar  $\mathcal{P}_x$  is the remaining  $\oplus^*$ -connected component of  $x$



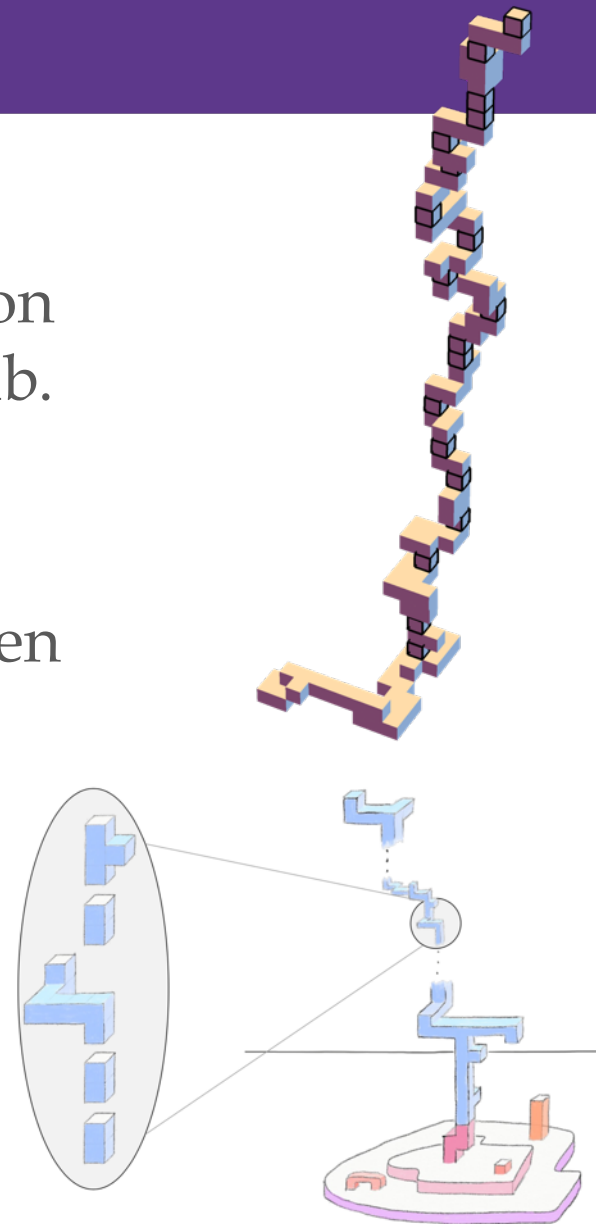
REMARK: No monotonicity the height of the pillar  $\mathcal{P}_x$  and the height of the  $\oplus$  component of  $x$  (in either direction)




Goal: second moment argument for  $M_n = \max_x \text{ht}(\mathcal{P}_x)$

# Decomposition of pillars

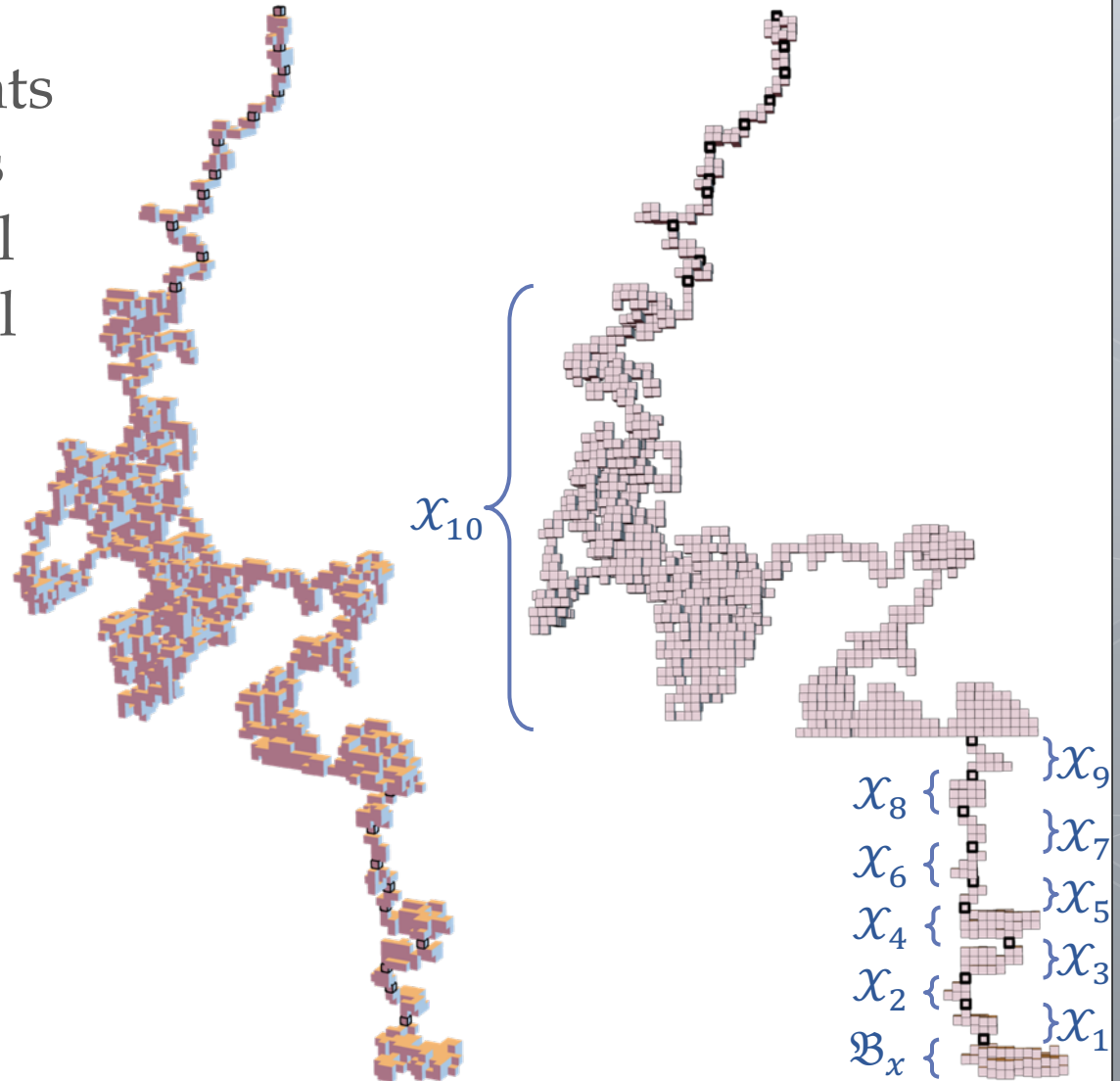
- ▶ DEFINITION: [**cutpoint** of the pillar]  
a cell  $v_i$  which is the only intersection of the pillar  $\mathcal{P}_x$  with a horizontal slab.
- ▶ DEFINITION: [pillar **increment**]  
 $\mathcal{X}_i =$  segment of  $\mathcal{P}_x$  bounded between the cutpoints  $v_i, v_{i+1}$  (inclusively).
- ▶ Decompose  $\mathcal{P}_x$  into:
  1. *increments*  $(\mathcal{X}_1, \mathcal{X}_2, \dots, \mathcal{X}_T)$
  2. *base*  $\mathcal{B}_x = \mathcal{P}_x \cap (\mathbb{R}^2 \times [0, \text{ht}(v_1)])$



# Decomposition of pillars

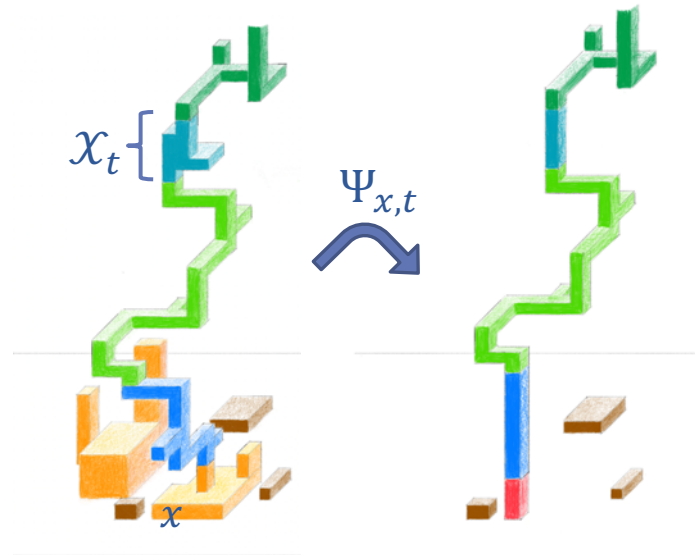
- ▶ Typical increments are perturbations (with exponential tails) of the trivial increment 

- ▶ But: (rarely) they can be quite complex...





# The interface map $\Psi_{x,t}$



$\Psi_{x,t}: \{\mathcal{J}: \text{ht}(\mathcal{P}_x) \geq h, |\mathcal{B}_x| \vee |\mathcal{X}_t| \geq r\} \rightarrow \{\mathcal{J}: \text{ht}(\mathcal{P}_x) \geq h\}$  s.t.

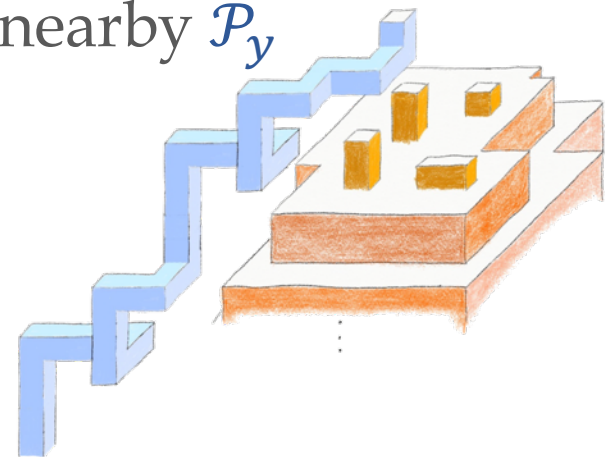
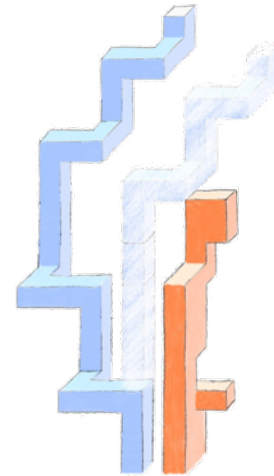
1. (Energy bound)

$$\frac{\mu(\mathcal{J})}{\mu(\Psi_{x,t}(\mathcal{J}))} \leq e^{-c\beta(|\mathcal{J}| - |\Psi_{x,t}(\mathcal{J})|)}$$

2. (Multiplicity bound)  $\#\{\mathcal{J} \in \Psi_{x,t}^{-1}(\mathcal{J}') : |\mathcal{J}| - |\mathcal{J}'| = \ell\} \leq e^{c\ell}$

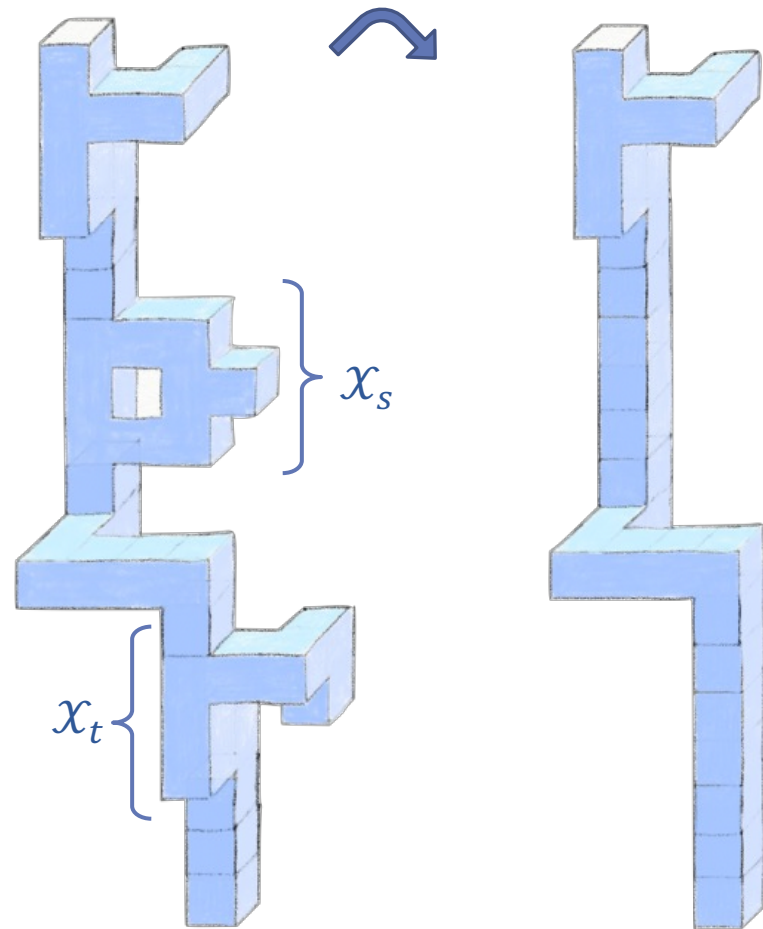
# Challenges due to interacting pillars

- ▶ The map  $\Psi_{x,t}$  induces
  1. horizontal shifts
  2. vertical shifts (down & up)
- ▶ The pillar  $\mathcal{P}_x$  to hit a nearby  $\mathcal{P}_y$  (possibly making the map not well-defined)
- ▶ The pillar may get very close to a nearby  $\mathcal{P}_y$  and heavily interact with it (destroying the energy control).



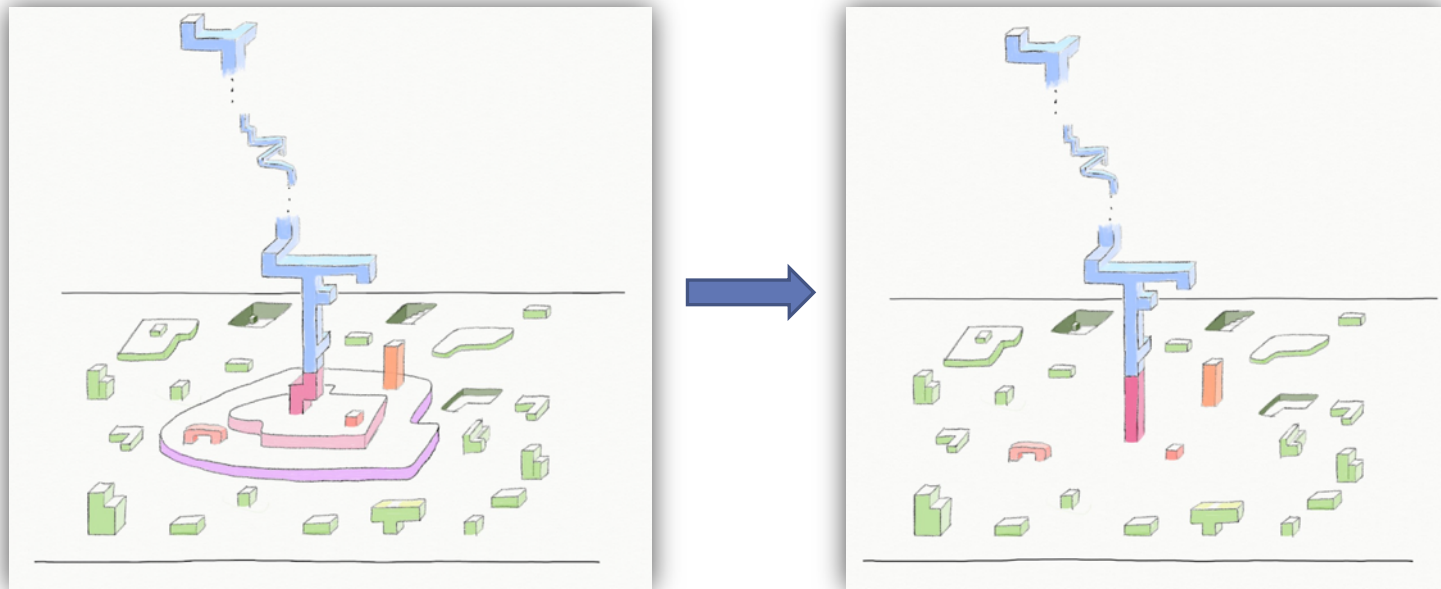
# Basic map $\Psi_{x,t}$ to control increments

- ▶ Target the structure of the increment  $\mathcal{X}_t$  by:
  - ▶ straightening  $\mathcal{X}_t$  if its size is too large.
  - ▶ straightening any other increment  $\mathcal{X}_s$  for  $s \geq t$  whose size is at least  $e^{c|s-t|}$  (too large w.r.t.  $\mathcal{X}_t$ ).



# A basic $\Psi_{x,t}$ for controlling increments

- ▶ Base is delicate: incorporates interaction with other nearby pillars in the interface...
- ▶ Trying to relax the definition of the base to rule out such interactions gives an  $O(\log h)$  error on its size: sufficient for LLN but *not for tightness*.



# Algorithm for the refined map $\Psi_{x,t}$

- ▶ Defining  $\Psi_{x,t}$  :
  - $\forall j \geq 1$ , determine whether to straighten  $\mathcal{P}_x$  at the increment  $\mathcal{X}_j$ . If so:
    - $\forall y \neq x$ , determine whether this action may cause  $\mathcal{P}_x$  to draw to closely to  $\mathcal{P}_y$ . If so, delete  $\mathcal{P}_y$  as well.
- ▶ Delicate balance between deleting too little (energy control) and deleting too much (multiplicity control).

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## Algorithm 1: The map $\Psi_{x,t}$

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1 Let  $\{\tilde{W}_y : y \in \mathcal{L}_{0,n}\}$  be the standard wall representation of the interface  $\mathcal{I} \setminus \mathcal{S}_x$ . Also let  $\mathcal{O}_{v_1}$  be the nested sequence of walls of  $v_1$ , so that  $\partial_{\text{ST}} \mathcal{O}_{v_1} = \tilde{\mathfrak{W}}_{v_1}$ .

// Base modification

2 Mark  $[x] = \{x\} \cup \partial_0 x$  and  $\rho(v_1)$  for deletion (where  $\partial_0 x$  denotes the four faces in  $\mathcal{L}_0$  adjacent to  $x$ ).

3 if the interface with standard wall representation  $\tilde{\mathfrak{W}}_{v_1}$  has a cut-height then  
 Let  $h^\dagger$  be the height of the highest such cut-height.  
 Let  $y^\dagger$  be the index of a wall that intersects  $(\mathcal{P}_x \setminus \mathcal{O}_{v_1}) \cap \mathcal{L}_{h^\dagger}$  and mark  $y^\dagger$  for deletion.

// Spine modification (A): the 1st increment

4 Set  $s_1 \leftarrow 0$  and  $y_A^* \leftarrow \emptyset$ .

for  $j = 1$  to  $\mathcal{F} + 1$  do  
 Let  $s \leftarrow s_j$  and  $s_{j+1} \leftarrow s_j$ .  
 if  $m(\mathcal{X}_j) \geq j - 1$  then // (A1)  
 Let  $s_{j+1} \leftarrow j$ .  
 if  $\mathfrak{D}_x(\tilde{W}_y, j, -v_{s+1}, 0) \leq m(\tilde{W}_y)$  for some  $y$  then // (A2)  
 Let  $s_{j+1} \leftarrow j$  and mark for deletion every  $y$  for which (A2) holds.  
 if  $\mathfrak{D}_x(\tilde{W}_y, j, -v_{s+1}, 0) \leq (j-1)/2$  for some  $y$  then // (A3)  
 Let  $s_{j+1} \leftarrow j$  and let  $y_A^*$  be the minimal index  $y$  for which (A3) holds.

Let  $j^* \leftarrow s_{\mathcal{F}+2}$  and mark  $y_A^*$  for deletion.

// Spine modification (B): the  $t$ -th increment

5 if  $t > j^*$  then  
 Set  $s_t \leftarrow t - 1$  and  $y_B^* \leftarrow \emptyset$ .  
 for  $k = t$  to  $\mathcal{F} + 1$  do  
 Let  $s \leftarrow s_k$  and  $s_{k+1} \leftarrow s_k$ .  
 if  $m(\mathcal{X}_k) \geq k - t$  then // (B1)  
 Let  $s_{k+1} \leftarrow k$ .  
 if  $\mathfrak{D}_x(\tilde{W}_y, j, -v_{s+1}, v_t - v_{j+1}) \leq m(\tilde{W}_y)$  for some  $y$  then // (B2)  
 Let  $s_{k+1} \leftarrow k$  and mark for deletion every  $y$  for which (B2) holds.  
 if  $\mathfrak{D}_x(\tilde{W}_y, j, -v_{s+1}, v_t - v_{j+1}) \leq (k-t)/2$  for some  $y$  then // (B3)  
 Let  $s_{k+1} \leftarrow k$  and let  $y_B^*$  be the minimal index  $y$  for which (B3) holds.

Let  $k^* \leftarrow s_{\mathcal{F}+2}$  and mark  $y_B^*$  for deletion.

else  
 Let  $k^* \leftarrow j^*$ .

6 foreach index  $y \in \mathcal{L}_{0,n}$  marked for deletion do delete  $\tilde{\mathfrak{W}}_y$  from the standard wall representation  $(\tilde{W}_y)$ .

7 Add a standard wall  $W_x^{\mathcal{F}}$  consisting of  $\text{ht}(v_1) - \frac{1}{2}$  trivial increments above  $x$ .

8 Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be the (unique) interface with the resulting standard wall representation.

9 Denoting by  $(\mathcal{X}_i)_{i \geq 1}$  the increment sequence of  $\mathcal{S}_x$ , set

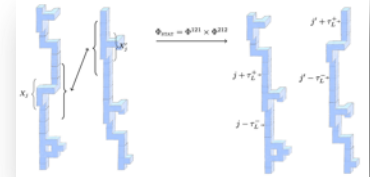
$$S \leftarrow \begin{cases} (\underbrace{X_{\emptyset}, X_{\emptyset}, \dots, X_{\emptyset}}_{\text{ht}(v_{j^*+1}) - \text{ht}(v_1)}, \mathcal{X}_{j^*+1}, \dots, \mathcal{X}_{t-1}, \underbrace{X_{\emptyset}, X_{\emptyset}, \dots, X_{\emptyset}}_{\text{ht}(v_{k^*+1}) - \text{ht}(v_1)}, \mathcal{X}_{k^*+1}, \dots) & \text{if } t > j^*, \\ (X_{\emptyset}, X_{\emptyset}, \dots, X_{\emptyset}, \mathcal{X}_{j^*+1}, \dots) & \text{if } t \leq j^*. \end{cases}$$

10 Obtain  $\Psi_{x,t}(\mathcal{I})$  by appending the spine with increment sequence  $S$  to  $\mathcal{K}$  at  $x + (0, 0, \text{ht}(v_1))$ .

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# CLT for location of tip, volume, surface area

- ▶ Via additional maps ( $2 \rightarrow 2$ ): tall pillars are  $\approx$  stationary sequences of increments.



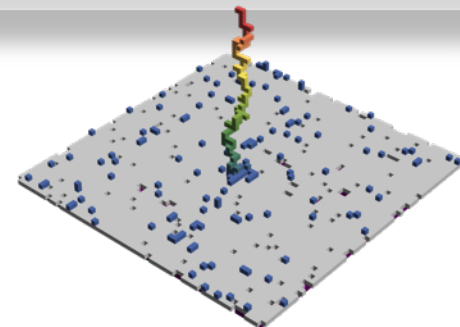
- ▶ THEOREM: ([Gheissari, L. '19a])

Let  $(Y_1, Y_2, \text{ht}(\mathcal{P}_x))$  be the location of the tip of the pillar  $\mathcal{P}_x$ . Conditional on  $\mathcal{P}_x$  having at least  $1 \ll T_n \ll n$  increments,

$$\frac{(Y_1, Y_2, \text{ht}(\mathcal{P}_x)) - (x_1, x_2, \lambda T_n)}{\sqrt{T_n}} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \begin{pmatrix} \sigma^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (\sigma')^2 \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

for some  $\sigma, \sigma' > 0$ .

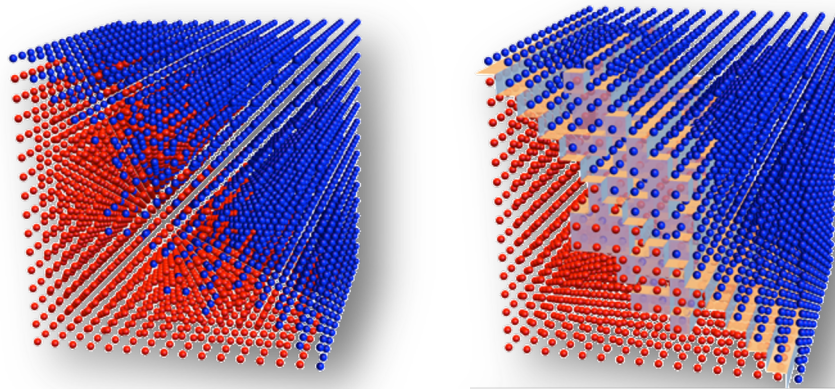
- ▶ CLT also holds, e.g., for the surface area and volume of  $\mathcal{P}_x$ .





# Open: tilted interfaces

- ▶ Major open problem: roughness of **tilted** interfaces of the 3D Ising model at low temperature ( $\beta$  fixed, large).
  - Conjecture:  $\text{Var}(\text{ht}_x(\mathcal{I})) \asymp \log n$ .
  - Verified only for  $\beta = \infty$  ([Cerf, Kenyon '01]).
  - For finite large  $\beta$ , unknown that  $\text{Var}(\text{ht}_x(\mathcal{I})) \rightarrow \infty \dots$



Thank you!