

La Pietra 2011  
Mini course  
*lectures 3,4*

# Cutoff for Ising on the lattice



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# Recap: product chains $\mathcal{L}^1 \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^2$ reduction

► PROPOSITION:

Let  $X_t = (X_t^1, \dots, X_t^n)$  be a product chain where each  $X_t^i$  is ergodic with stationary measures  $\pi_i$  and  $\pi = \prod_i \pi_i$ . Let

$$\mathfrak{M}_t = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathfrak{m}_t \quad \text{where} \quad \mathfrak{m}_t = \left\| \mathbb{P}(X_t^i \in \cdot) - \pi_i \right\|_{L^2(\pi_i)}^2.$$

For  $\forall \delta > 0$  there  $\exists \varepsilon > 0$  so that if for some  $t > 0$

$$\max_i \left\| \mathbb{P}(X_t^i \in \cdot) - \pi_i \right\|_{L^\infty(\pi_i)} < \varepsilon$$

then

$$\left| \left\| \mathbb{P}(X_t \in \cdot) - \pi \right\|_{\text{TV}} - \left( 2\Phi\left(\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\mathfrak{M}_t}\right) - 1 \right) \right| < \delta.$$



# Products of i.i.d.'s

▶ COROLLARY:

Let  $X_t$  be a product chain made of  $n$  i.i.d. copies of a finite ergodic chain  $Y_t$  with spectral-gap and log-Sobolev const gap and  $\alpha_s$  resp. and stationary measure  $\varphi$ . If

$$\log \varphi_{\min}^{-1} \leq n^{o(\alpha_s/\text{gap})}$$

then  $X_t$  exhibits cutoff at  $\frac{1}{2} \text{gap}^{-1} \log n$  with window of order  $O(\alpha_s^{-1} \log_+ \log \varphi_{\min}^{-1})$ .

# Intuition: cutoff on the lattice

- ▶ Break up  $\mathbb{Z}_n^d$  to cubes of side-length  $\log^3 n$ .

Dynamics on such a cube:

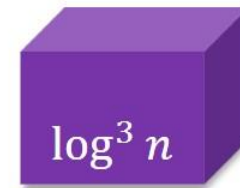
- ▶  $\alpha_s^{-1} = O(1)$

- ▶  $\log \varphi_{\min}^{-1}(\sigma) = O(\log^{3d} n) = n^{o(1)}$

- ▶ Take non-adjacent cubes  $Q_1, \dots, Q_m$  ( $m \asymp (n/\log^3 n)^d$ ) and *suppose as if* the projection on those would predict mixing for the entire system:

- ▶ Distance between cubes turn them  $\approx$  independent.

- ▶ Expect cutoff at  $\frac{1}{2\text{gap}} \log m = \frac{1}{2\text{gap}} \log n + O(\log \log n)$  with window  $O(\log \log n)$ .



# Making this rigorous: sparse sets

## ▶ DEFINITION:

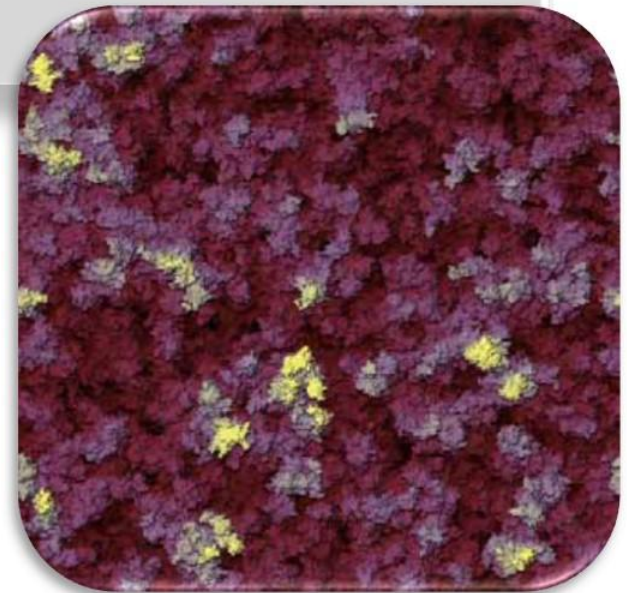
The set  $\Lambda \subset V$  is *sparse* iff it can be partitioned into (not necessarily connected) components  $\{A_i\}$  so that

$$(i) \text{diam}(A_i) = O(\log^3 n) \quad (ii) \text{dist}(A_i, A_j) \geq \log^2 n$$

Let  $\mathcal{S} = \{\Lambda \subset V : \Lambda \text{ is sparse}\}$ .

## ▶ Motivation:

- ▶ Small diameter  $\rightsquigarrow$  can embed each component in a small box.
- ▶ Super logarithmic distances between components  $\rightsquigarrow$  essentially independent.



# Upper bound via sparse sets

▶ THEOREM:

Let  $t > 0$  and  $\frac{10d}{\hat{\alpha}_s} \log \log n \leq s \leq \log^{4/3} n$ . Then  $\exists$  measure  $\nu$  on the sparse sets  $\mathcal{S}$  s.t.  $\nu(\{\Delta: u \in \Delta\}) < \log^{-5d} n \ \forall u$  and

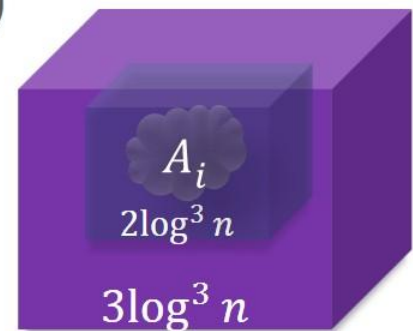
$$\left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_{t+s} \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \int_{\mathcal{S}} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_t(\Delta) \in \cdot) - \mu|_{\Delta} \right\|_{\text{TV}} d\nu(\Delta) + O(n^{-10d})$$

▶ Assuming theorem, from here we can:

- ▶ Box each component  $A_i$  (extended a bit) inside  $B_i$  then extend to a larger box.
- ▶ Couple dynamics to a product chain agreeing on the projections on  $\cup B_i$

Identical

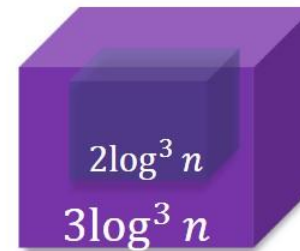
Independent



# $L^1-L^2$ reduction for Ising

► Framework:

- $(X_t)$  : Glauber dynamics for  $\mathbb{Z}_n^d$
- $(X_t^*)$  : Glauber dynamics on  $\mathbb{Z}_r^d$   
for  $r = 3 \log^3 n$ .



- $B$  : smaller cube within  $\mathbb{Z}_r^d$  of side-length  $2 \log^3 n$ .

► Define:

$$\mathfrak{m}_t \triangleq \max_{x_0} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{x_0} (X_t^*(B) \in \cdot) - \mu^*|_B \right\|_{L^2(\mu^*|_B)}^2$$

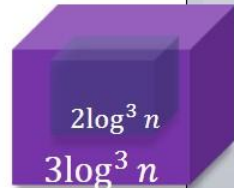
(measure  $L^2$  convergence of the projection  $(X_t^*) \hookrightarrow B$ .)

- There are  $m \asymp (n / \log^3 n)^d$  such disjoint cubes in  $\mathbb{Z}_n^d$ , so as a lower bound take the proposition with

$$\mathfrak{M}_t \triangleq (n / \log^3 n)^d \mathfrak{m}_t$$

# $L^1-L^2$ reduction for Ising (ctd.)

► Recall: 
$$\mathfrak{m}_t \triangleq \max_{x_0} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{x_0} (X_t^* (B) \in \cdot) - \mu^*|_B \right\|_{L^2(\mu^*|_B)}^2$$



► THEOREM:

Suppose 
$$\begin{cases} 10d \hat{\alpha}_s^{-1} \log \log n \leq s < \log^{4/3} n \\ 20d \hat{\alpha}_s^{-1} \log \log n \leq t < \log^{4/3} n \end{cases}$$
 where  $\hat{\alpha}_s$  is the infimum over log-Sobolev constants.

Then

$$(n/\log^5 n)^d \mathfrak{m}_t \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{x_0} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{x_0} (X_{t+s} \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} = 0$$

$$(n/\log^3 n)^d \mathfrak{m}_t \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \max_{x_0} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{x_0} (X_t \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} = 1$$



# Existence of cutoff



▶ Recall:  $\mathfrak{m}_t \triangleq \max_{x_0} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{x_0} (X_t^*(B) \in \cdot) - \mu^*|_B \right\|_{L^2(\mu^*|_B)}^2$

and choose: 
$$\begin{cases} t^* \triangleq \inf \left\{ t : \mathfrak{m}_t \leq n^{-d} \log^{3d+1} n \right\}, \\ s \triangleq 10d \hat{\alpha}_s^{-1} \log \log n . \end{cases}$$

▶ By def.: 
$$\begin{cases} (n / \log^3 n)^d \mathfrak{m}_{t^*} = \log n \rightarrow \infty \\ (n / \log^5 n)^d \mathfrak{m}_{t^*} = \log^{1-2d} n \rightarrow 0 \end{cases}$$

▶ Remains to check range of  $t^*$ :

➤ Due to log-Sobolev inequalities  $t^* \asymp \log n$  ✓

▶ By Theorem: entire mixing occurs at interval  $(t^*, t^* + s)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  cutoff at time  $t^*$  with window  $\leq s$ .

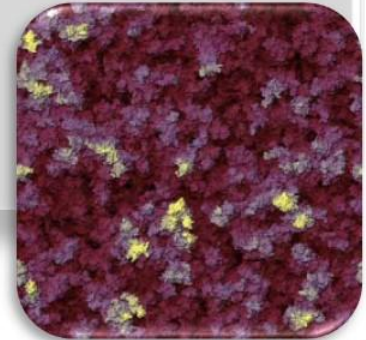


# Sparse sets upper bound

► DEFINITION:

The set  $\Lambda \subset V$  is *sparse* ( $\Lambda \in \mathcal{S}$ ) if it can be partitioned into (not necessarily connected) components  $\{A_i\}$  so that

1.  $\text{diam}(A_i) \leq \frac{1}{2} \log^3 n$
2.  $\text{dist}(A_i, A_j) \geq \log^2 n$



► THEOREM:

Let  $t > 0$  and  $\frac{10d}{\hat{\alpha}_s} \log \log n \leq s \leq \log^{4/3} n$ . Then  $\exists$  measure  $\nu$  on the sparse sets  $\mathcal{S}$  s.t.  $\nu(\{\Delta: u \in \Delta\}) < \log^{-5d} n \quad \forall u$  and

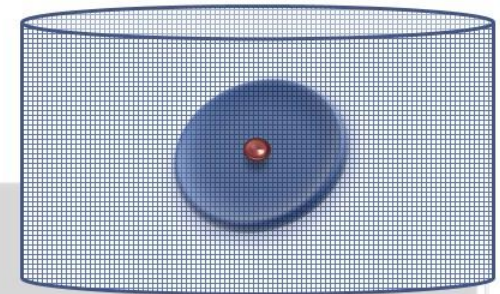
$$\left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_{t+s} \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \int_{\mathcal{S}} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_t(\Delta) \in \cdot) - \mu|_{\Delta} \right\|_{\text{TV}} d\nu(\Delta) + O(n^{-10d})$$

# Barrier dynamics



- ▶ Random map  $\mathcal{G}_s: \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$  (where  $\Omega = \{\pm 1\}^V$ ) coupled to the Glauber dynamics.

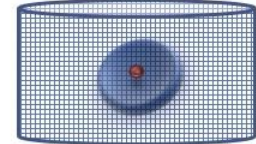
## ▶ DEFINITION



For  $s > 0$  define  $\mathcal{G}_s(X_0)$  as follows:

- ▶ Surround  $\forall u \in V$  by  $B_u(\log^{3/2} n)$ , a ball of radius  $\log^{3/2} n$  by graph metric.
- ▶ Impose periodic boundary (“barrier”) on each ball.
- ▶ Run standard dynamics  $(X_t)$  till time  $s$  and use same site-choices and unit-variables for updates.
- ▶ Output: the spins at centers of  $\{B_u(\log^{3/2} n) : u \in V\}$

# Working with the barrier dynamics



▶ LEMMA:

The barrier dynamics map  $\mathcal{G}_s$  can be coupled to the original Glauber dynamics  $X_t$  such that

$$\mathbb{P}\left(X_s = \mathcal{G}_s(X_0) \quad \forall s \in [0, \log^{4/3} n]\right) \geq 1 - n^{-10d}.$$

▶ PROOF:

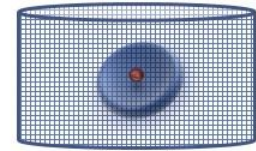
➤ Use implicit coupling defining the barrier dynamics.

➤ Disagreement at  $u \Rightarrow$  sequence of updates at times  $t_1 < \dots < t_\ell < \log^{4/3} n$  connects  $u \leftrightarrow \partial B_u(\log^{3/2} n)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{u,t} \{X_t(u) \neq \tilde{X}_t(u)\}\right) &\leq n^d \sum_{\ell \geq \log^{3/2} n} (2d)^\ell \mathbb{P}(\text{Po}(\log^{4/3} n) \geq \ell) \\ &\leq Cn^d e^{-c \log^{3/2} n} < n^{-10d}. \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$



# Update support



- ▶ Update sequence for the barrier dynamics map  $\mathcal{G}_s$  in interval  $[0, s]$ :

- ▶ Seq. of triplets  $(t_i, x_i, u_i)$

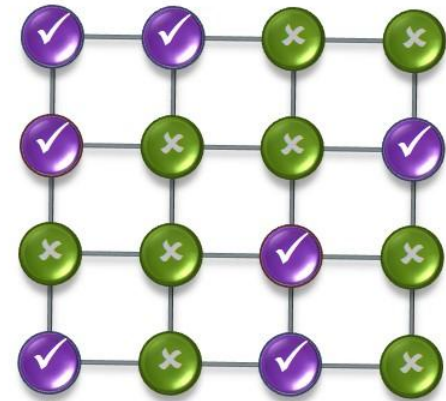


- ▶ Given this:  $\mathcal{G}_s = g_{W_s}$  det. monotone.

- ▶ DEFINITION:

Let  $W_s =$  update seq. for barrier dynamics map  $\mathcal{G}_s$ .  
The **support** of  $W_s$  is the minimum subset  $\Delta_{W_s} \subset V$  s.t.  
 $g_{W_s}(\sigma_0)$  is determined by  $\sigma_0(\Delta_{W_s})$  for  $\forall \sigma_0$ .

- ▶ Equiv.:  $x \in \Delta_{W_s}$  if  $\exists \sigma_0$  such that  $g_{W_s}(\sigma_0) \neq g_{W_s}(\sigma_0^x)$ .



# Upper bound via update support

▶ LEMMA:

Let  $W_s$  = random update seq. of the barrier dynamics map in the interval  $(0, s)$  for some  $s \leq \log^{4/3} n$ . Then  $\forall \sigma_0 \forall t > 0$

$$\left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0} (X_{t+s} \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \int \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0} (X_t(\Delta_{W_s}) \in \cdot) - \mu|_{\Delta_{W_s}} \right\|_{\text{TV}} d\mathbb{P}(W_s) + O(n^{-10d})$$

▶ PROOF:

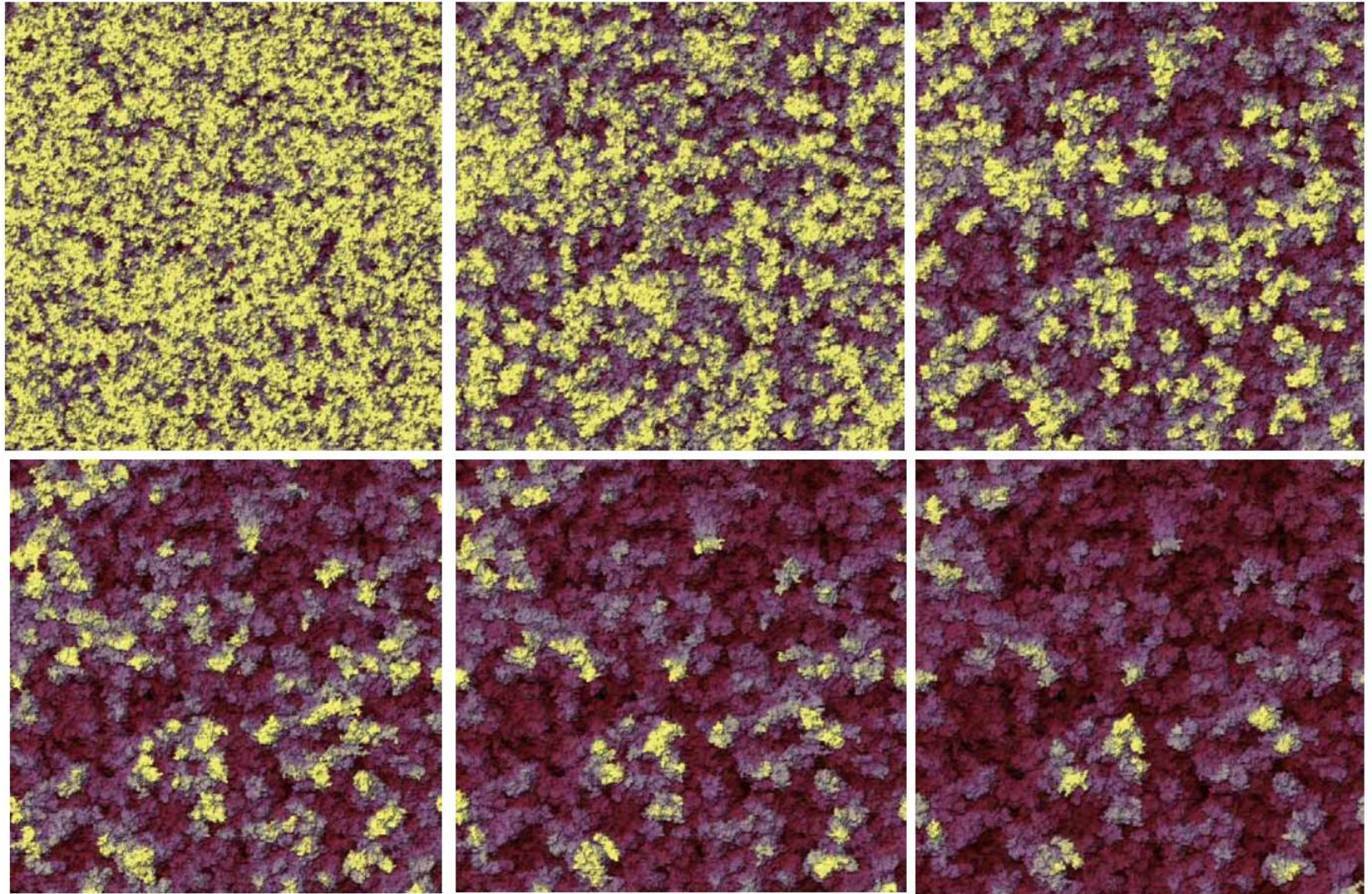
- Couple dynamics to two instances of the barrier dynamics run for time  $s$ .
- Reduce to an integral over  $L^1$  distances between the deterministic barrier-dynamics functions.
- Projection can only decrease  $L^1$  distance. ■

# Update support is sparse

- ▶ Most supports are sparse:
  - *Volume decays exponentially*
  - *Components separated and small*
- ▶ As time traverses, the effect of more and more sites becomes 0 (information flow stops at barriers of barrier dynamics).



# Random support of update seq.





# Update support is sparse (ctd.)

▶ LEMMA:

Let  $W_s$  be the random update sequence of the barrier dynamics in the interval  $(0, s)$  for some  $s \geq \frac{10d}{\alpha_s} \log \log n$ .

Then  $\mathbb{P}(\Delta_{W_s} \in \mathcal{S}) \geq 1 - O(n^{-10d})$   
 and  $\mathbb{P}(u \in \Delta_{W_s}) \leq \log^{-5d} n \quad \forall u$ .

▶ PROOF:

- Estimate the probability that a full copy  $B_u(\log^{3/2} n)$  of the barrier-dynamics is “trivial” (coupling).
- No long  $(\varepsilon \log n)$  path of nontrivial balls by a first moment argument.



# Upper bound via sparse sets

► We showed:

$$\forall s \geq \frac{10d}{\alpha_s} \log \log n \quad \forall W_s : \begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\Delta_{W_s} \in \mathcal{S}) &\geq 1 - O(n^{-10d}) \\ \mathbb{P}(u \in \Delta_{W_s}) &\leq \log^{-5d} n \quad \forall u \end{aligned}$$

$$\forall s \leq \log^{43} n \quad \forall t \quad \forall \sigma_0:$$

$$\left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_{t+s} \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \int \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_t(\Delta_{W_s}) \in \cdot) - \mu|_{\Delta_{W_s}} \right\|_{\text{TV}} d\mathbb{P}(W_s) + O(n^{-10d})$$

► COROLLARY:

Let  $t > 0$  and  $\frac{10d}{\hat{\alpha}_s} \log \log n \leq s \leq \log^{4/3} n$ . Then  $\exists$  measure

$\nu$  on the sparse sets  $\mathcal{S}$  s.t.  $\nu(\{\Delta: u \in \Delta\}) < \log^{-5d} n \quad \forall u$  and

$$\left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_{t+s} \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \int_{\mathcal{S}} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_t(\Delta) \in \cdot) - \mu|_{\Delta} \right\|_{\text{TV}} d\nu(\Delta) + O(n^{-10d})$$

# The projection onto a sparse set

► LEMMA:

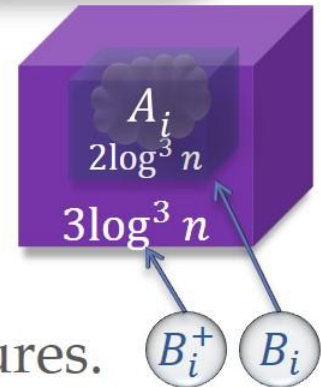
Let  $\Delta \in \mathcal{S}$  be a *sparse* set and  $A_1, \dots, A_{N_\Delta}$  be its component partition. Then for  $\forall \sigma_0$  and  $t \leq t_0$ ,

$$\left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0} (X_t(\Delta) \in \cdot) - \mu|_{\Delta} \right\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0} (\bar{X}_t^*(\cup B_i) \in \cdot) - \mu^*|_{\cup B_i} \right\|_{\text{TV}} + O(n^{-10d})$$

where  $(\bar{X}_t^*)$  is the product chain on  $N_\Delta$  i.i.d. cubes  $B_i^+$

► PROOF:

- Couple  $X_t(\Delta)$  to  $\bar{X}_t^*(\Delta)$  via  $A_i^+ = B_{A_i}(\log^{3/2} n)$  to agree throughout  $t \in [0, \log^{4/3} n]$ .
- Inspect  $\bar{X}_t^*(\Delta)$  started from equilibrium at time  $t_0 = \log^{4/3} n$  to couple stationary measures.
- Decrease projection from  $\Delta$  to  $\cup B_i$  to conclude proof. ■



# Concluding the upper bound

► So far we showed:

Let  $t \leq \log^{4/3} n$  and  $\frac{10d}{\hat{\alpha}_s} \log \log n \leq s \leq \log^{4/3} n$ . Then  
 $\exists$  measure  $\nu$  on  $\mathcal{S}$  s.t.  $\nu(\{\Delta: u \in \Delta\}) < \log^{-5d} n \quad \forall u$  and  
 $\left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_{t+s} \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \int \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(\bar{X}_t^*(\cup B_i) \in \cdot) - \mu^*|_{\cup B_i} \right\|_{\text{TV}} d\nu(\Delta) + O(n^{-10d})$

► For  $\Delta \in \mathcal{S}$  with  $N_\Delta$  comp. apply Product Proposition:

$$\max_{\sigma_0} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(\bar{X}_t^*(\cup B_i) \in \cdot) - \mu^*|_{\cup B_i} \right\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \sqrt{\mathfrak{M}_t}$$

where  $\mathfrak{M}_t = N_\Delta \mathfrak{m}_t$  and  $\mathfrak{m}_t = \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_t^*(B) \in \cdot) - \mu^*|_B \right\|_{L^2(\mu^*|_B)}^2$

2 log<sup>3</sup> n  
 3 log<sup>3</sup> n

► Integrate to get:

$$\max_{\sigma_0} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(X_{t+s} \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \left( (n / \log^5 n)^d \mathfrak{m}_t \right)^{1/2} + O(n^{-10d})$$