

La Pietra 2011  
Mini course

*lecture 5*

# Cutoff for Ising on the lattice



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# 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:

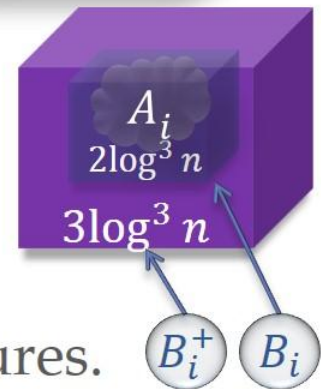
Let  $\Delta \in \mathcal{S}$  be a *sparse* set and  $A_1, \dots, A_{N_\Delta}$  be its component partition. Then for  $\forall \sigma_0$  and  $t \leq t_0$ ,

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

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

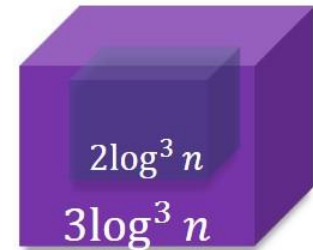


$2\log^3 n$   
 $3\log^3 n$

► Integrate to get:

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

# Existence of cutoff



- ▶ 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  $2 \log^3 n$ .
- ▶ For  $t \leq \log^{4/3} n$  and  $10d\hat{\alpha}_s^{-1} \log \log n \leq s \leq \log^{4/3} n$  :

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

- ▶ Matching lower bound: take order  $(n / \log^3 n)^d$  such cubes (well-spaced) to get that for  $t > 20d\hat{\alpha}_s^{-1} \log \log n$  :

$$\max_{\sigma_0} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0} (X_t \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} \geq f \left( (n / \log^3 n)^d \mathfrak{m}_t \right) \text{ where } \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = 1 - O(n^{-10d})$$

# Existence of cutoff



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

and choose:

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

*B exp. mixed  
in  $L^2$  at  $t^*$*

(by log-Sobolev inequalities  $t^* \asymp \log n$ ).

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

▶ Conclude: 
$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\sigma_0} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0} (X_{t^*+s} \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} &\leq \log^{1/2-d} n + O(n^{-10d}) \rightarrow 0 \\ \max_{\sigma_0} \left\| \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0} (X_{t^*} \in \cdot) - \mu \right\|_{\text{TV}} &\geq f(\log n) - O(n^{-10d}) \rightarrow 1 \end{aligned}$$

▶ Entire mixing occurs at interval  $(t^*, t^*+s)$ , i.e. cutoff at time  $t^*$  with window  $\leq s = O(\log \log n)$ . ■

# Establishing cutoff location

▶ Recall:

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

$$t^* \triangleq \inf \left\{ t : \mathfrak{m}_t \leq n^{-d} \log^{3d+1} n \right\}.$$



▶ LEMMA:

Set  $c_0 = \frac{12d}{\hat{\alpha}_s}$  ,  $\frac{10d}{\hat{\alpha}_s \hat{\lambda}} \log \log n \leq t \leq \log^{4/3} n$  and  $r = 3 \log^3 n$ .

Then:  $e^{-\lambda(r)t - c_0 \log \log n} - O(n^{-10d}) \leq \mathfrak{m}_t \leq e^{-\lambda(r)t + c_0 \log \log n}$

▶ COROLLARY: cutoff in terms of local spectral gap:

$$t^* = \frac{d}{2\lambda(r)} \log n \quad \text{and window} \leq \frac{40d}{\hat{\alpha}_s \hat{\lambda}} \log \log n$$

## With some extra work

- ▶ The limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  of  $\lambda(n)$ , spectral gap of Ising on  $\mathbb{Z}_n^d$  exists and equals  $\lambda_\infty$ , the gap of infinite-vol. dynamics.

- ▶ Convergence rate obtain from proof:

$$|\lambda(n) - \lambda_\infty| < n^{-1/2+o(1)}$$

- ▶ Other boundary conditions e.g. all-plus:

- ▶ Analyze locations of cubes in the system how many are adjacent to the outer boundary

- ▶ Obtain an expression in terms of mixed eigenvalues, e.g. for  $\mathbb{Z}_n^2$  with  $\oplus$  b.c.  $\exists$  cutoff at

$$t^* = (\lambda_\infty \wedge 2\lambda_{\text{III}})^{-1} \log n$$



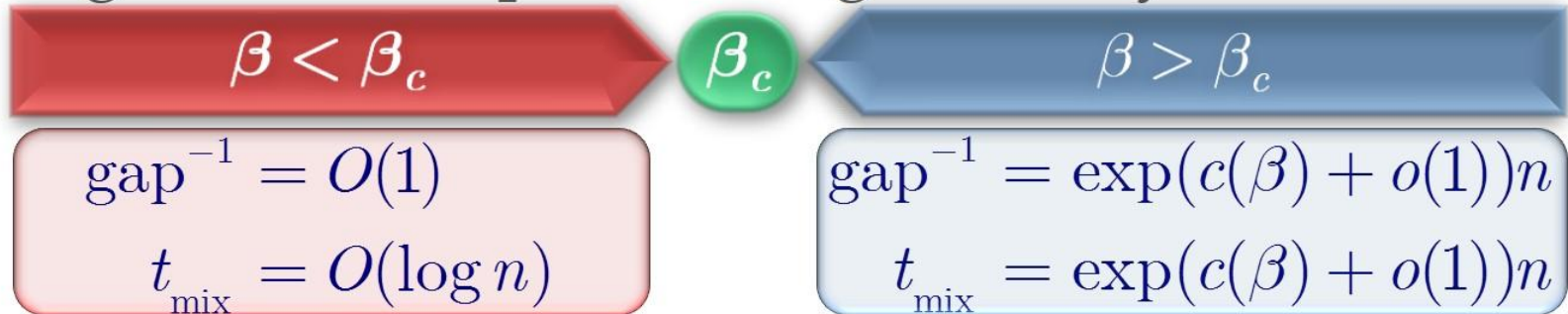


# General (believed) picture for the Glauber dynamics

- ▶ Setting: Ising model on the lattice  $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^d$ .  
 Belief: For some critical inverse-temperature  $\beta_c$  :
- ▶ Low temperature:  $(\beta > \beta_c)$   
 $\text{gap}^{-1}$  and  $t_{\text{mix}}$  are *exponential* in the surface area.
- ▶ Critical temperature:  $(\beta = \beta_c)$   
 $\text{gap}^{-1}$  and  $t_{\text{mix}}$  are *polynomial* in the surface area.
  - Exponent of  $\text{gap}^{-1}$  is universal (the *dynamical critical exponent*  $z$ ).
- ▶ High temperature:  $(\beta < \beta_c)$ 
  - *Rapid* mixing:  $\text{gap}^{-1} = O(1)$  and  $t_{\text{mix}} \asymp \log n$
  - Mixing occurs abruptly, *i.e.* there is *cutoff*.

# Mixing on the square lattice

- ▶ High & low temperature regimes fully settled:



- ▶ Power law at the critical  $\beta = \beta_c = \frac{1}{2} \log(1 + \sqrt{2})$  ?
  - Numerical experiments: universal exponent of  $\sim 2.17$   
 [Ito '93], [Wang, Hatano, Suzuki '95], [Grassberger '95],  
 [Nightingale, Blöte '96], [Wang, Hu '97],...
  - **No previous sub-exponential upper bounds ...**
  - Only geometries with analogous critical power-law:  
 Mean-field [Ding, L., Peres '09], Regular tree [Ding, L., Peres '10]

# Recent result

▶ THEOREM: ([L.-Sly])

Consider Glauber dynamics for the critical Ising model on a finite  $n \times n$  box  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$  with an arbitrary boundary condition  $\tau$ . There exists an absolute  $C > 0$  (independent of  $\Lambda, \tau$ ) so that the mixing of the dynamics is at most  $n^C$ .

▶ COROLLARY:

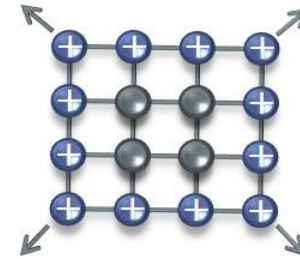
Perfect simulation (zero error approximation) for the 2D critical Ising model with arbitrary boundary conditions.

Best previous samplers gave *approximated* sample for *specific* homogenous boundaries [JS'93], [RW'96].

# Another recent result

▶ Mixing believed to be polynomial...

- [Martinelli '94]:  $\text{mixing} \leq \exp(n^{1/2+o(1)})$  for  $n \times n$  box in  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  and large enough  $\beta$ .
- Breakthrough by [Martinelli, Toninelli '10]:  $t_{\text{mix}} \leq \exp(n^\epsilon)$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$  and large enough  $\beta$ .

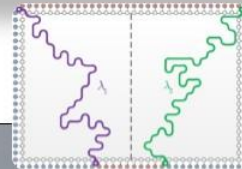


(Sub-exponential)

▶ More recently: *Quasi-polynomial down to  $\beta_c$*

**THEOREM:** ([L., Martinelli, Toninelli, Sly]:

Consider Glauber dynamics for the Ising model on an  $n \times n$  box  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^2$  with all-plus boundary. For any  $\beta > \beta_c$  there exists  $C(\beta) > 0$  so that the mixing time is at most  $n^{C \log n}$ .



# Glauber dynamics on $\mathbb{Z}^2$

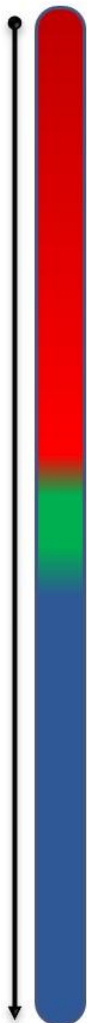
► Present state-of-the-art bounds on mixing:

$\beta < \beta_c$   $\rightarrow$   $\text{gap}^{-1} = O(1)$   
 $t_{\text{mix}} = \frac{1}{2} \lambda_{\infty}^{-1} \log n + O(\log \log n)$  **Cutoff**

$\beta_c$

$n^{7/4} \leq \text{gap}^{-1} \leq t_{\text{mix}} \leq n^c$

$\beta > \beta_c$   $\leftarrow$  **Free b.c. :**  $\text{gap}^{-1} = \exp(c(\beta) + o(1))n$   
 $t_{\text{mix}} = \exp(c(\beta) + o(1))n$   
**Plus b.c. :**  $\text{gap}^{-1} \leq t_{\text{mix}} \leq n^{O(\log n)}$



# Open problems

- ▶ Ising model on the 2D lattice...
  - Calculate the precise *dynamical critical exponent*.
  - Show the Glauber dynamics is *polynomial* at low temperatures under all-plus b.c.
  
- ▶ Ising model on the 3D lattice...
  - Establish strong spatial mixing throughout the high temperature regime (zero external field).
  - Establish power-law behavior at criticality and sub-exponential low-temp mixing under all-plus b.c.

# Thank you

