



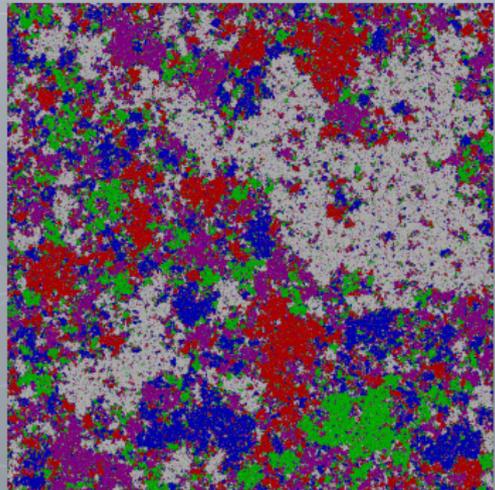
# Dynamics for the critical 2D Potts/FK model: many questions and a few answers

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Eyal Lubetzky

October 2018

Courant Institute, New York University



# Outline

The models: static and dynamical

Dynamical phase transitions on  $\mathbb{Z}^2$

Phase coexistence at criticality

Unique phase at criticality

## **The models: static and dynamical**

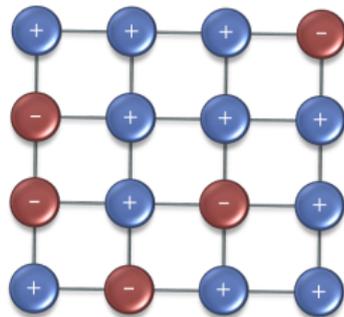
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## The (static) 2D Ising model

- ▶ Underlying geometry:  $G =$  finite 2D grid.
- ▶ Set of possible configuration:

$$\Omega_i = \{-1, 1\}^{V(G)}$$

(each *site* receives a **plus/minus** spin).

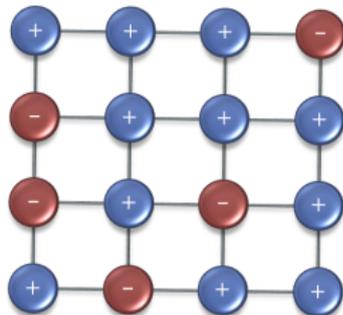


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### Definition (the Ising model on $G$ )

[Lenz 1920]

Probability distribution  $\mu_I$  on  $\Omega_I$  given by the **Gibbs measure**:

$$\mu_I(\sigma) = \frac{1}{Z_I} \exp \left( \beta \sum_{x \sim y} \mathbb{1}_{\{\sigma(x) = \sigma(y)\}} \right)$$

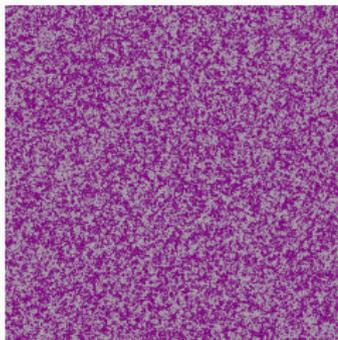
( $\beta \geq 0$  is the inverse-temperature;  $Z_I$  is the partition function)

## The (static) 2D Ising model: phase transition

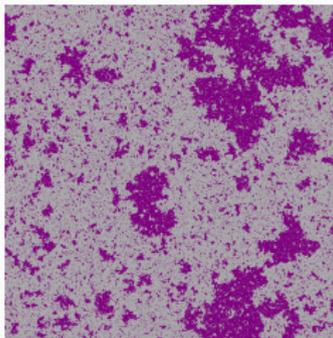
- ▶ Underlying graph:  $G =$  finite 2D grid.
- ▶ Set of possible configuration:  $\Omega_I = \{-1, 1\}^{V(G)}$
- ▶ Probability of a configuration:  $\mu_I(\sigma) \propto \exp\left(\beta \sum_{x \sim y} \delta_{\sigma(x), \sigma(y)}\right)$

Local (nearest-neighbor) interactions can have macroscopic effects:

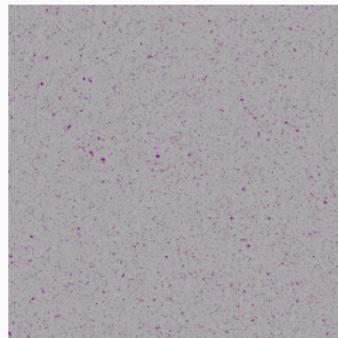
### Ising model on a $1000 \times 1000$ torus



$$\beta = 0.75$$



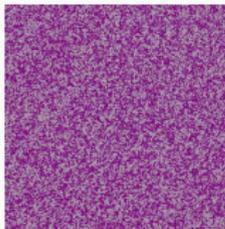
$$\beta = 0.88$$



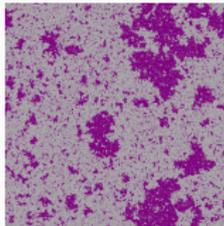
$$\beta = 1$$

## The (static) 2D Ising model: phase transition (ctd.)

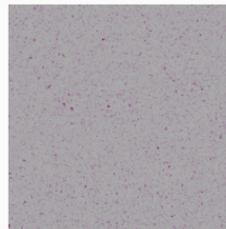
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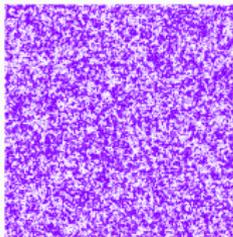


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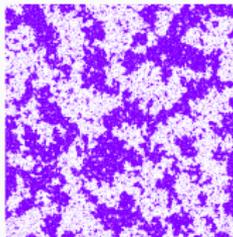


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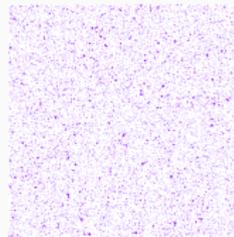
### Noisy majority model on a $2D$ torus: Ising universality class?



$$p = 0.25$$



$$p = 0.15$$



$$p = 0.10$$

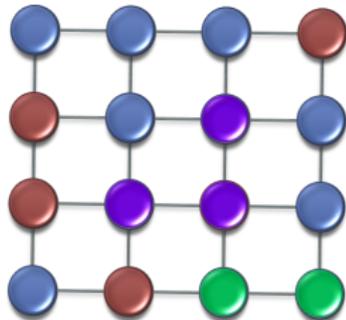
## The (static) 2D Potts model

Generalizes the Ising model from 2-state spins to  $q$ -state spins:

- ▶ Underlying geometry:  $G =$  finite 2D grid.
- ▶ Set of possible configuration:

$$\Omega_P = \{1, \dots, q\}^{V(G)}$$

(each *site* receives a *color*).



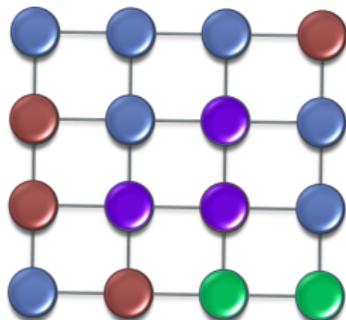
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[Domb 1951]

**Definition (the  $q$ -state Potts model on  $G$ )**

Probability distribution  $\mu_P$  on  $\Omega_P$  given by the **Gibbs measure**:

$$\mu_P(\sigma) = \frac{1}{Z_P} \exp \left( \beta \sum_{x \sim y} \mathbb{1}_{\{\sigma(x)=\sigma(y)\}} \right)$$

( $\beta \geq 0$  is the inverse-temperature;  $Z_P$  is the partition function)

## Glauber dynamics for the Potts model

Recall: 
$$\mu_P(\sigma) = \frac{1}{Z_P} \exp\left(\beta \sum_{x \sim y} \mathbb{1}_{\{\sigma(x)=\sigma(y)\}}\right)$$

A family of MCMC samplers for spin systems due to Roy Glauber:

*Time-dependent statistics of the Ising model*

**RJ Glauber** – Journal of Mathematical Physics, 1963    Cited by 3607

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- ▶ Update sites via IID Poisson(1) clocks
- ▶ An update at  $x \in V$  replaces  $\sigma(x)$  by a new spin  $\sim \mu_P(\sigma(x) \in \cdot \mid \sigma \upharpoonright_{V \setminus \{x\}})$ .

# Glauber dynamics for the Potts model

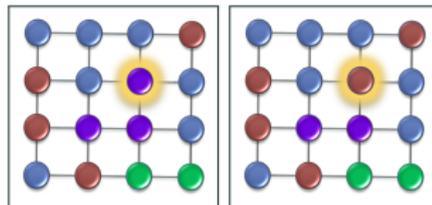
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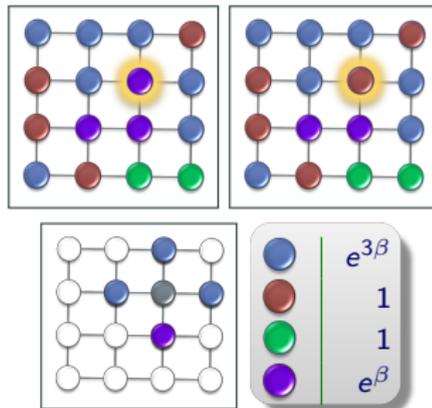
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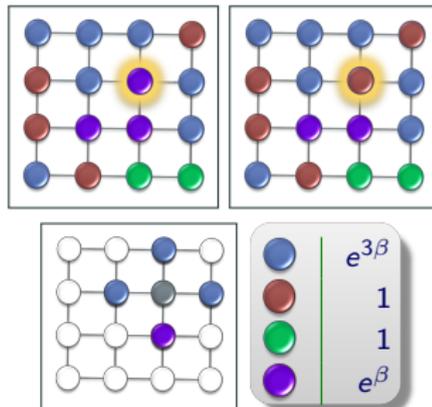
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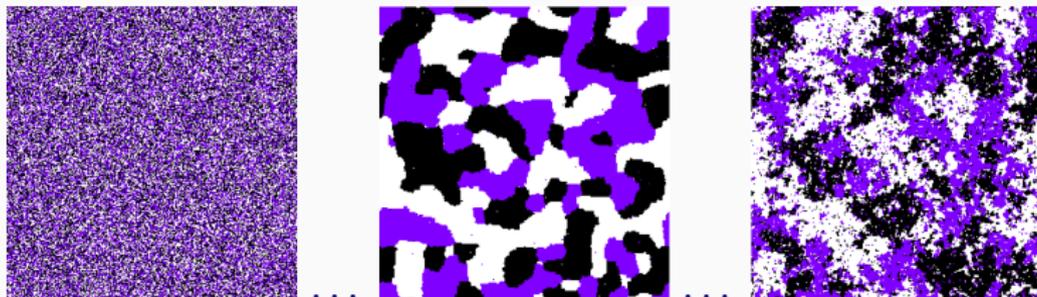
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META QUESTION: *How long does it take to converge to  $\mu$ ?*

## Glauber dynamics for the 2D Potts model

Glauber dynamics, 3-color Potts model on a  $250 \times 250$  torus for  $\beta = 0.5 \rightsquigarrow \beta = 2.01 \rightsquigarrow \beta = 1.01$ .



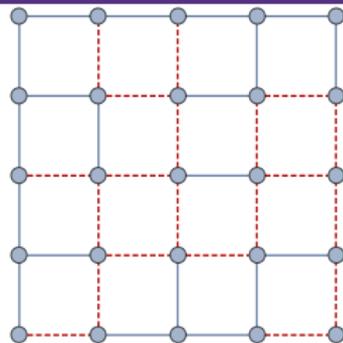
**Q. 1** Fix  $\beta > 0$  and  $T > 0$ . Does continuous-time Glauber dynamics  $(\sigma_t)_{t \geq 0}$  for the 3-color Potts model on an  $n \times n$  torus attain  $\max_{\sigma_0} \mathbb{P}_{\sigma_0}(\sigma_T(x) = \text{BLUE})$  at  $\sigma_0$  which is ALL-BLUE?

## The (static) 2D Fortuin–Kasteleyn model

- ▶ Underlying geometry:  $G =$  finite 2D grid.
- ▶ Set of possible configuration:

$$\Omega_{\text{FK}} = \{\omega : \omega \subseteq E(G)\}$$

(equiv., each edge is *open/closed*).

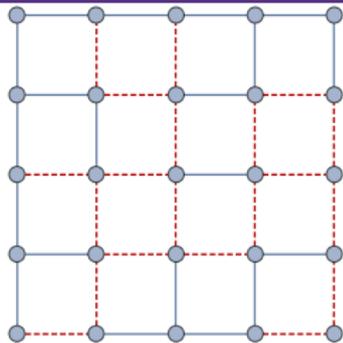


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**Definition (the  $(p, q)$ -FK model on  $G$ )**

[Fortuin, Kasteleyn '69]

Probability distribution  $\mu_P$  on  $\Omega_{\text{FK}}$  given by the **Gibbs measure**:

$$\mu_{\text{FK}}(\omega) = \frac{1}{Z_{\text{FK}}} \left( \frac{p}{1-p} \right)^{|\omega|} q^{\kappa(\omega)}$$

( $Z_{\text{FK}}$  is the partition function;  $\kappa(\omega) = \#$  connected components in  $\omega$ )

Well-defined for any real (not necessarily integer)  $q \geq 1$ .

## Glauber dynamics for the FK model

Recall:  $\mu_{\text{FK}}(\omega) = \frac{1}{Z_{\text{FK}}} \left( \frac{p}{1-p} \right)^{|\omega|} q^{\kappa(\omega)}$  where  $\kappa(\omega)$  is the # conn. comp. in  $\omega$ .

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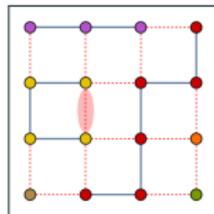
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edge prob

$p$

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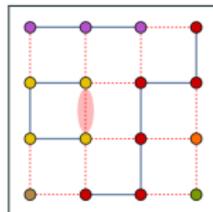
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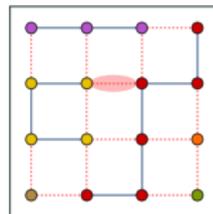
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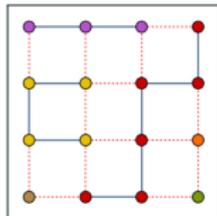
$\frac{p}{p+(1-p)q}$

## Coupling of the Potts and FK models

[Edwards–Sokal '88]: coupling of  $(\mu_P, \mu_{FK})$  for  $p = 1 - e^{-\beta}$  :

$$\Psi_{G,p,q}(\sigma, \omega) = \frac{1}{Z} \left( \frac{p}{1-p} \right)^{|\omega|} \prod_{e=xy \in E} \mathbb{1}_{\{\sigma(x)=\sigma(y)\}}$$

$$\left( \mu_P(\sigma) \propto \left( \frac{1}{1-p} \right)^{\#\{x \sim y: \sigma(x)=\sigma(y)\}} \right), \left( \mu_{FK}(\omega) \propto \left( \frac{p}{1-p} \right)^{|\omega|} q^{\kappa(\omega)} \right)$$

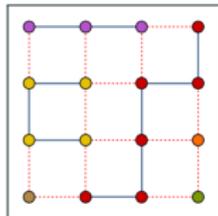


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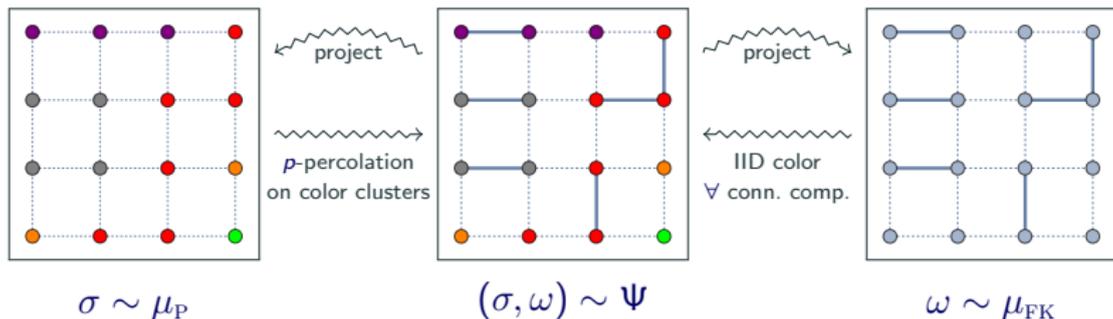
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Simple method to move between Potts & FK: [Swendsen–Wang '87]

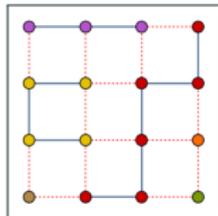


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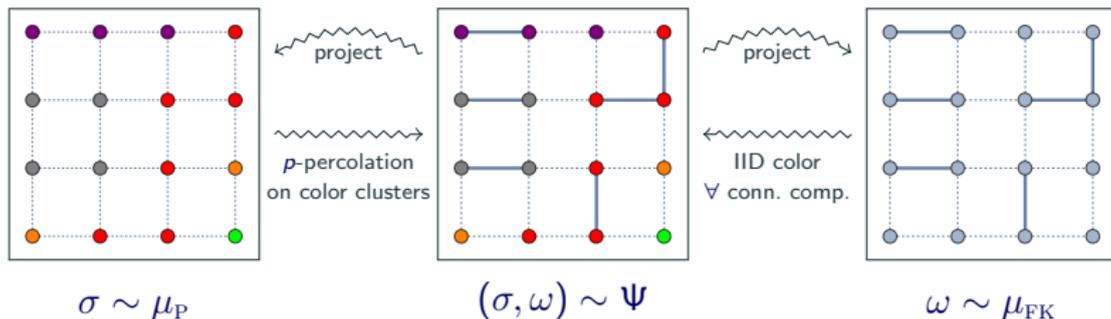
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Continuum analog [Miller, Sheffield, Werner '17]: CLE percolations.

## Measuring convergence to equilibrium in Potts/FK

Measuring convergence to the stationary distribution  $\pi$  of a discrete-time reversible Markov chain with transition kernel  $P$ :

- ▶ Spectral gap / relaxation time:

$$\text{gap} = 1 - \lambda_2 \quad \text{and} \quad t_{\text{rel}} = \text{gap}^{-1}$$

where the spectrum of  $P$  is  $1 = \lambda_1 > \lambda_2 > \dots$

- ▶ Mixing time (in total variation):

$$t_{\text{mix}} = \inf \left\{ t : \max_{\sigma_0 \in \Omega} \|P^t(\sigma_0, \cdot) - \pi\|_{\text{TV}} < 1/(2e) \right\}$$

(Continuous time (heat kernel  $H_t = e^{t\mathcal{L}}$ ): gap in  $\text{spec}(\mathcal{L})$ , and replace  $P^t$  by  $H_t$ .)

**For most of the next questions, these will be equivalent.**

## Measuring convergence to equilibrium in Potts/FK (ctd.)

[Ullrich '13, '14]: related  $\text{gap}$  of discrete-time Glauber dynamics for **Potts** and **FK** on any graph  $G = (V, E)$  with maximal degree  $\Delta$ :

$$\text{gap}_{\text{FK}}^{-1} \leq C_{\beta, \Delta, q} \text{gap}_{\text{P}}^{-1} |E| \log |E|.$$

- ▶ Glauber for **FK** is **as fast as** for **Potts** up to polynomial factors.
- ▶ Glauber for **FK** can be **exponentially faster** (in  $|V|$ ) than **Potts**.

When are the Glauber dynamics for **Potts** and **FK** both fast on  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ ?  
both slow? **FK** fast and **Potts** slow?

**Q. 2** Is  $\text{gap}_{\text{FK}}^{-1} \leq C_{\beta, \Delta, q} \text{gap}_{\text{P}}^{-1}$  on  $\forall G$  with max degree  $\Delta$ ?

(NB:  $\text{gap}$  of Swendsen–Wang is comparable up to poly factors to  $\text{gap}_{\text{FK}}$ .)

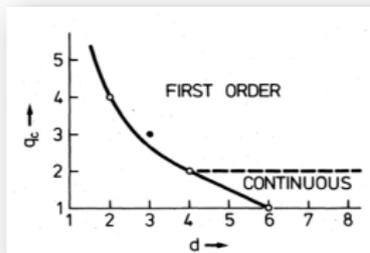
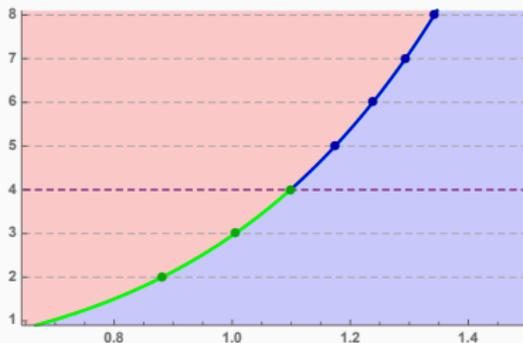
# Dynamical phase transitions on $\mathbb{Z}^2$

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# Dynamical phase transition



## Prediction for Potts Glauber dynamics on the torus



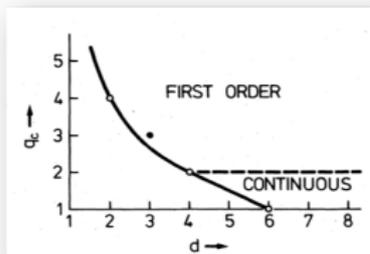
Fast at **high** temperatures, exponentially slow at **low** temperatures.

**Critical slowdown:** as a power law or exponentially slow?

# Dynamical phase transition



## Prediction for Potts Glauber dynamics on the torus



Fast at **high** temperatures, exponentially slow at **low** temperatures.

**Critical slowdown:** as a power law or exponentially slow?

**FK Glauber:** expected to be fast also when  $\beta > \beta_c$ .

- ▶ [Guo, Jerrum '17]: for  $q = 2$ : **fast** on any graph  $G$  at any  $\beta$ .

## Results on $\mathbb{Z}^2$ off criticality



### ► High temperature:

- [Martinelli, Olivieri '94a, '94b], [Martinelli, Olivieri, Schonmann '94c]:  $\text{gap}_P^{-1} = O(1) \forall \beta < \beta_c$  at  $q = 2$ ; extends to  $q \geq 3$  via [Alexander '98], [Befara, Duminil-Copin '12].
- [Blanca, Sinclair '15]: rapid mixing for FK Glauber  $\forall \beta < \beta_c, q > 1$  ( $t_{\text{mix}} = O(\log n)$  and  $\text{gap}_{\text{FK}}^{-1} = O(1)$ ).

## Results on $\mathbb{Z}^2$ off criticality



### ► Low temperature:

- [Chayes, Chayes, Schonmann '87], [Thomas '89], [Cesi, Guadagni, Martinelli, Schonmann '96]:  $\text{gap}_P^{-1} = e^{(c_\beta + o(1))n} \forall \beta > \beta_c, q = 2$ .
- [Blanca, Sinclair '15]: result that  $\text{gap}_{\text{FK}}^{-1} = O(1) \forall \beta < \beta_c, q > 1$  transfers to  $\forall \beta > \beta_c$  by duality.
- [Borgs, Chayes, Frieze, Kim, Tetali, Vigoda, Vu '99] and [Borgs, Chayes, Tetali '12]:  $\text{gap}_P^{-1} \gtrsim e^{cn}$  at  $\beta > \beta_c$  and large  $q$ . (Result applies to the  $d$ -dimensional torus for any  $d \geq 2$  provided  $q > Q_0(d)$ .)

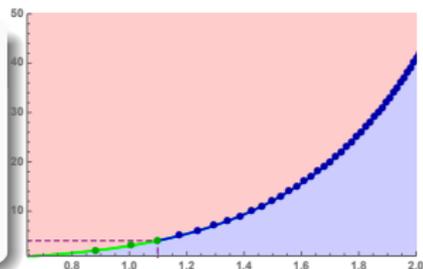
## **Phase coexistence at criticality**

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## Dynamics on an $n \times n$ torus at criticality for $q > 4$

**Prediction:** ([Li, Sokal '91],...)

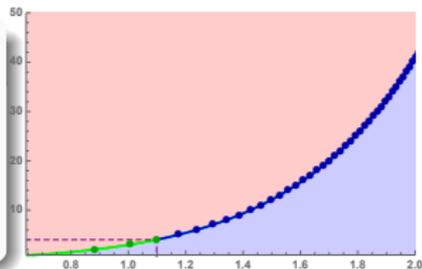
Potts Glauber and FK Glauber on the torus each have  $t_{\text{mix}} \asymp \exp(c_q n)$  at  $\beta_c$  if the phase-transition is discontinuous.



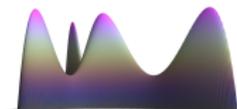
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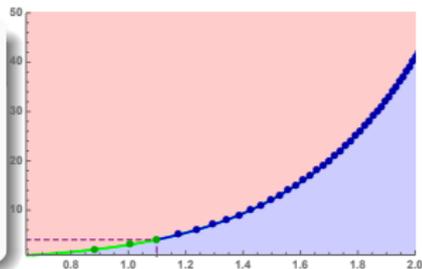
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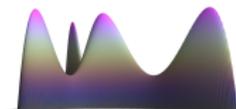
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**Rigorous bounds:** [Borgs, Chayes, Frieze, Kim, Tetali, Vigoda, Vu '99], followed by [Borgs, Chayes, Tetali '12], showed this for  $q$  large enough:

## Theorem

If  $q$  is *sufficiently large*, then Glauber dynamics for both the Potts and FK models on an  $n \times n$  torus have  $\text{gap}^{-1} \geq \exp(cn)$  at  $\beta = \beta_c$ .

## Slow mixing in coexistence regime on $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^2$

Building on the work of [Duminil-Copin, Sidoravicius, Tassion '15]:

### Theorem (Gheissari, L. '18)

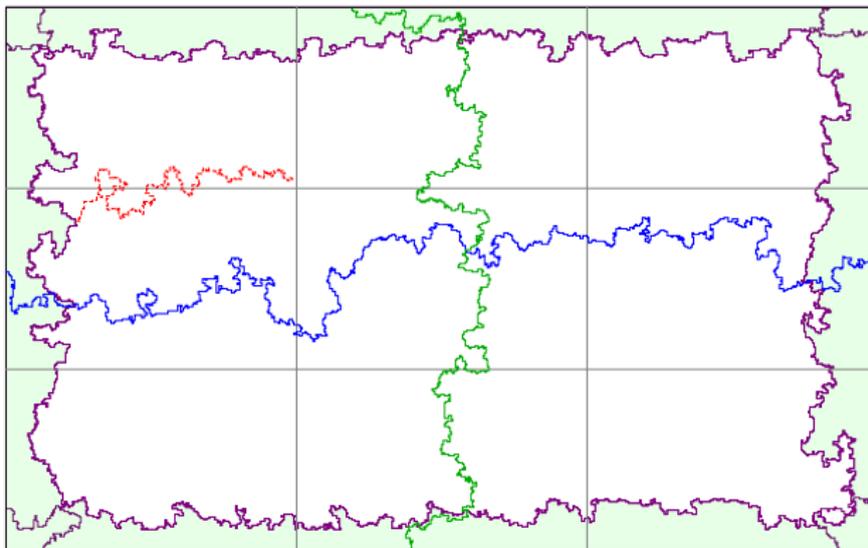
For any  $q > 1$ , if  $\exists$  multiple infinite-volume FK measures at  $\beta = \beta_c$  on an  $n \times n$  torus then  $\text{gap}_{\text{FK}}^{-1} \geq \exp(c_q n)$ .

In particular, via [Duminil-Copin, Gagnebin, Harel, Manolescu, Tassion]:

### Corollary

For any  $q > 4$ , both *Potts* and *FK* on the  $n \times n$  torus at  $\beta = \beta_c$  have  $\text{gap}^{-1} \geq \exp(c_q n)$ .

## Proof sketch: an exponential bottleneck



## The torus vs. the grid (periodic vs. free b.c.)

Recall: for  $q = 2$  and  $\beta > \beta_c$ :

- ▶ Glauber dynamics for the Ising model both on an  $n \times n$  **grid** (**free** b.c.) and on an  $n \times n$  **torus** has  $\text{gap}^{-1} \geq \exp(cn)$ .

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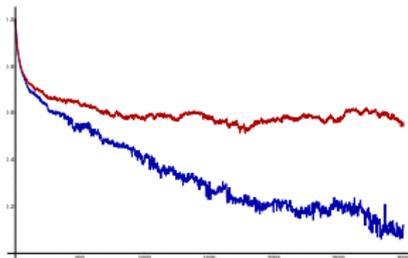
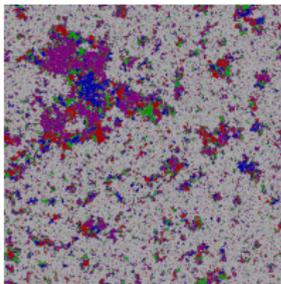
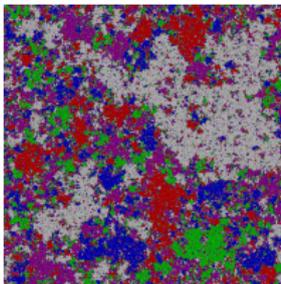
- ▶ Glauber dynamics for the Ising model both on an  $n \times n$  **grid** (**free** b.c.) and on an  $n \times n$  **torus** has  $\text{gap}^{-1} \geq \exp(cn)$ .
- ▶ In contrast, on an  $n \times n$  grid with **plus boundary conditions** it has  $\text{gap}^{-1} \leq n^{O(\log n)}$  [Martinelli '94], [Martinelli, Toninelli '10], [L., Martinelli, Sly, Toninelli '13].

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When the phase transition for Potts is discontinuous, at  $\beta = \beta_c$ :  
the dynamics under **free** boundary conditions is **fast**:



## The torus vs. the grid (periodic vs. free b.c.)

On the grid, unlike the torus (where  $\text{gap}_{\text{FK}}^{-1} \geq \exp(cn)$  at  $\beta = \beta_c$ ):

### Theorem (Gheissari, L. '18)

For large  $q$ , FK Glauber on an  $n \times n$  grid (**free b.c.**) at  $\beta_c$  has

$$\text{gap}_{\text{FK}}^{-1} \leq \exp(n^{o(1)}).$$

## The torus vs. the grid (periodic vs. free b.c.)

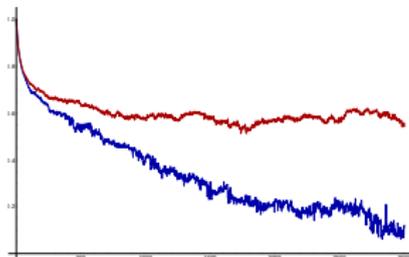
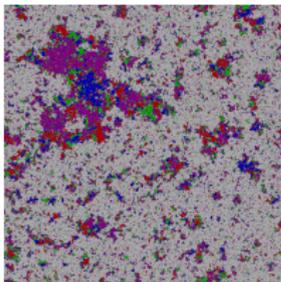
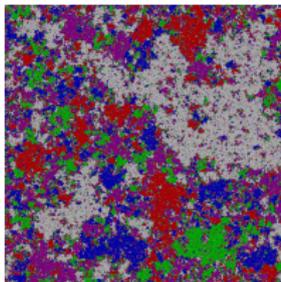
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- ▶ Intuition: **free** b.c. destabilizes the wired phase (and bottleneck).
- ▶ Proof employs the framework of [Martinelli, Toninelli '10], along with **cluster expansion**.



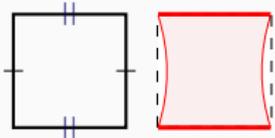
## Sensitivity to boundary conditions

Toprid mixing on the torus; sub-exponential mixing on the grid.  
Classifying boundary conditions that interpolate between the two?

**Theorem ([Gheissari, L. 18'] (two of the classes, informally))**

For large enough  $q$ , *Swendsen–Wang* satisfies:

1. *Mixed b.c. on 4 macroscopic intervals*:  $\text{gap}^{-1} \geq \exp(cn)$ .
2. *Dobrushin b.c. with a macroscopic interval*:  $\text{gap}^{-1} = e^{o(n)}$ .

Boundary		Swendsen–Wang
Periodic/Mixed		$\text{gap}^{-1} \geq e^{cn}$
Dobrushin		$\text{gap}^{-1} \leq e^{n^{1/2+o(1)}}$

## Questions on the discontinuous phase transition regime

Q. 3 Let  $q > 4$ . Is FK Glauber on the  $n \times n$  grid (**free** b.c.) quasi-polynomial in  $n$ ? polynomial in  $n$ ?

known:  $\exp(n^{o(1)})$  for  $q \gg 1$

Q. 4 Let  $q > 4$ . Is Potts Glauber on the  $n \times n$  grid (**free** b.c.) sub-exponential in  $n$ ? quasi-polynomial in  $n$ ? polynomial in  $n$ ?

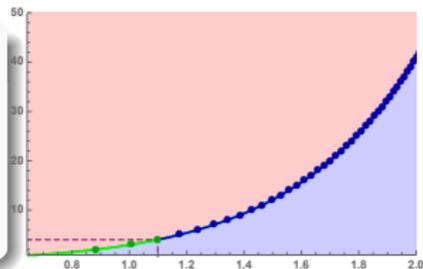
## **Unique phase at criticality**

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## Dynamics on an $n \times n$ torus at criticality for $1 < q < 4$

### Prediction:

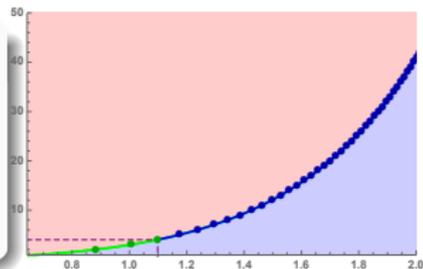
Potts Glauber and FK Glauber on the torus each have  $\text{gap}^{-1} \asymp n^z$  for a lattice-independent  $z = z(q)$ .



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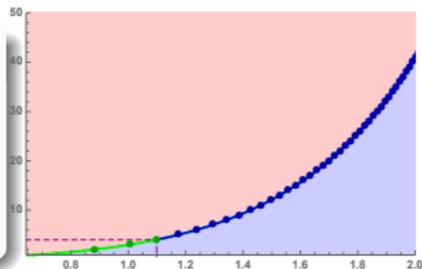


The exponent  $z$  is the “*dynamical critical exponent*”; various works in physics literature with numerical estimates, e.g.,  $z_P(2) \approx 2.18$ .

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## Rigorous bounds:

### Theorem (L., Sly '12)

Continuous-time Glauber dynamics for the *Ising* model ( $q = 2$ ) on an  $n \times n$  grid with arbitrary b.c. satisfies  $n^{7/4} \lesssim \text{gap}^{-1} \lesssim n^c$ .

Bound  $\text{gap}^{-1} \lesssim n^c$  extends to FK Glauber via [Ullrich '13,'14].

## Mixing of Critical 2D Potts Models

### Theorem (Gheissari, L. '18)

Cont.-time *Potts Glauber* dynamics at  $\beta_c(q)$  on an  $n \times n$  torus has

1. at  $q = 3$ :  $\Omega(n) \leq \text{gap}^{-1} \leq n^{O(1)}$  ;
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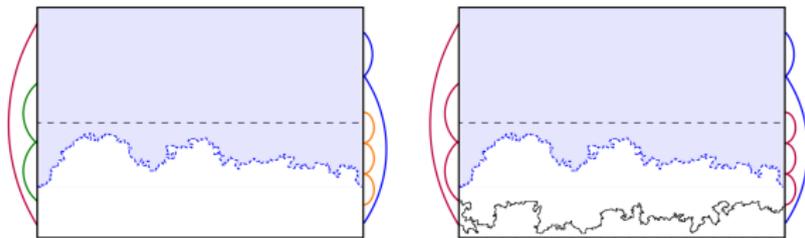
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- ▶ The case  $q = 4$  is subtle: crossing probabilities are believed to no longer be bounded away from 0 and 1 uniformly in the b.c.

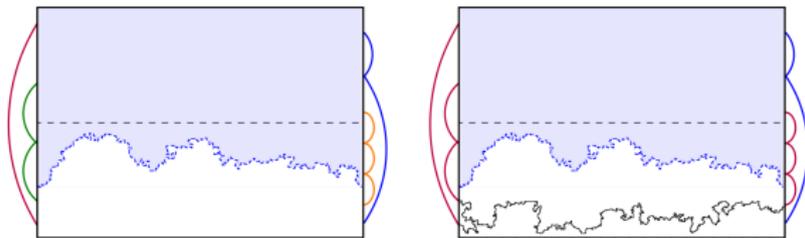
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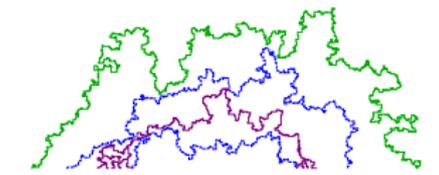
**Obstacle** in FK Glauber: macroscopic disjoint boundary bridges prevent coupling of configurations sampled under two different b.c.



### Theorem (Gheissari, L.)

For every  $1 < q < 4$ , the FK Glauber dynamics at  $\beta = \beta_c(q)$  on an  $n \times n$  torus satisfies  $\text{gap}^{-1} \leq n^{c \log n}$ .

One of the key ideas: establish the exponential tail beyond some  $c \log n$  for  $\#$  of disjoint bridges over a given point.



## Questions on the continuous phase transition regime

Q. 5 Let  $q = 4$ . Establish that Potts Glauber on an  $n \times n$  torus (or a grid with free b.c.) satisfies  $\text{gap}^{-1} \leq n^c$ .

known:  $n^{O(\log n)}$

Q. 6 Let  $q = \pi$ . Establish that FK Glauber on an  $n \times n$  torus (or a grid with free b.c.) satisfies  $\text{gap}^{-1} \leq n^c$ .

known:  $n^{O(\log n)}$

Q. 7 Is  $q \mapsto \text{gap}_P$  decreasing in  $q \in (1, 4)$ ? Similarly for  $\text{gap}_{\text{FK}}$ ?

And lastly: prove *something* at criticality or low temperature for the noisy majority model...

