

Star polymers and DNA in correlated environments

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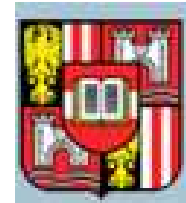
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MARIE CURIE ACTIONS

Models for disordered and correlated environments

A. Weak disorder, $c_{\text{perc}} < c \leq 1$

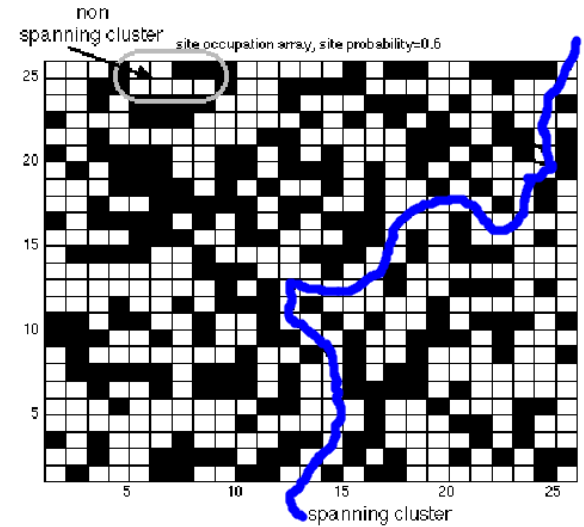
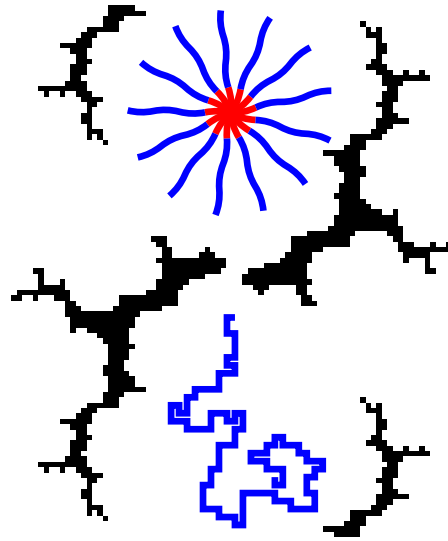
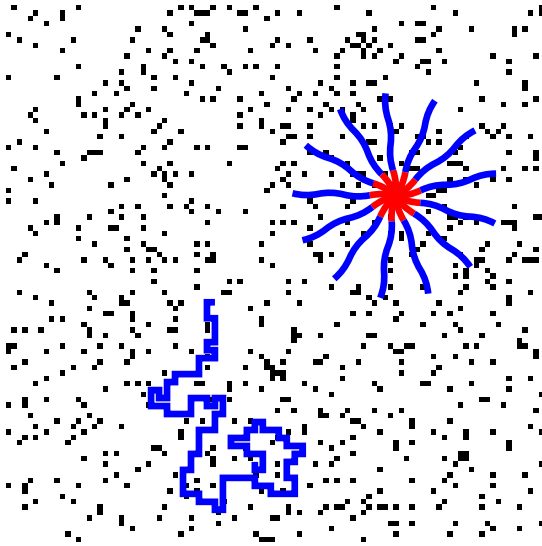
B. Strong disorder, $c = c_{\text{perc}}$

uncorrelated

long range correlated

incipient percolation cluster

$$g(R) \sim R^{-a}$$



universality unchanged

universality may change

universality and upper crit. dim. change

$$4 - d = \varepsilon$$

$$\nu^{\text{saw}} = 1/2 + \varepsilon/16$$

$$4 - a = \delta \leq \varepsilon/2$$

$$\nu = \nu^{\text{saw}} = 1/2 + \varepsilon/16,$$

$$\varepsilon/2 \leq \delta \leq \varepsilon: \nu = 1/2 + \delta/8.$$

$$6 - d = \varepsilon > 0$$

$$\nu = 1/2 + \varepsilon/42,$$

Kim '82

Weinrib, Halperin '83

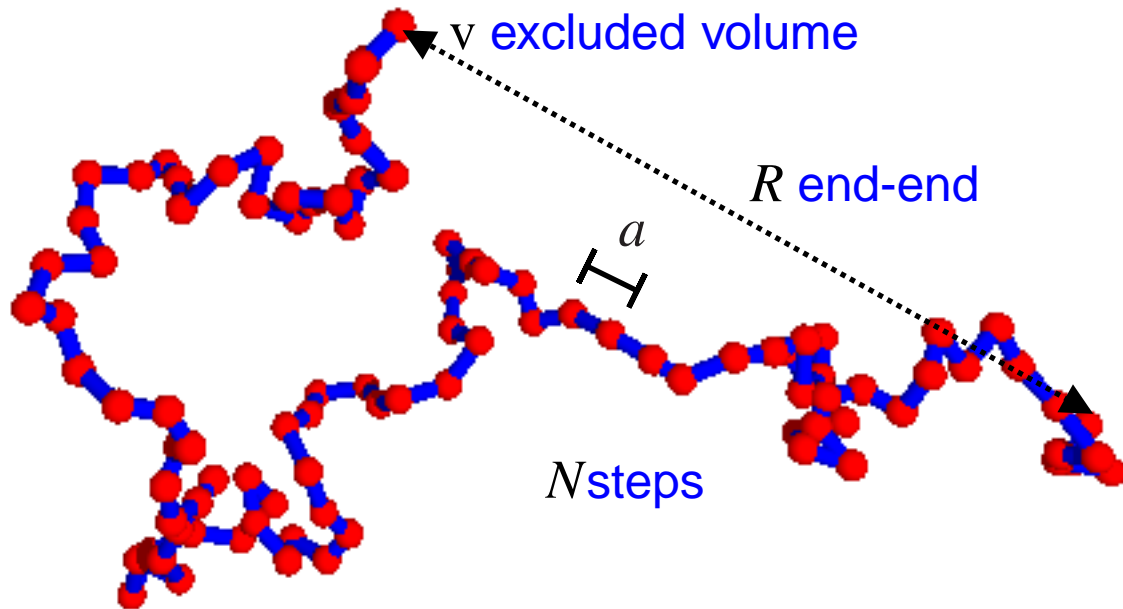
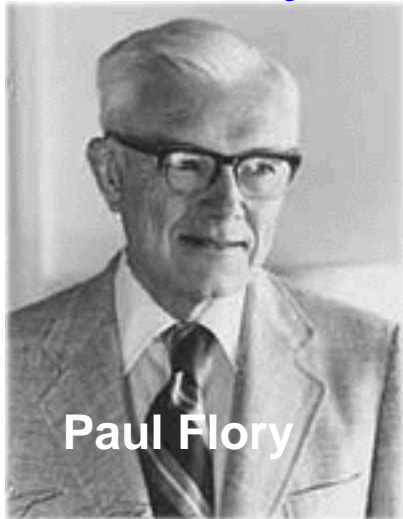
V. Blavats'ka, CvF, Yu Holovatch '01

Y. Meir, A. B. Harris'89,

CvF, V. Blavats'ka, R. Folk, Yu Holovatch'04

O. Stenull, H.-K. Janssen '07

Polymer self-avoiding random walk



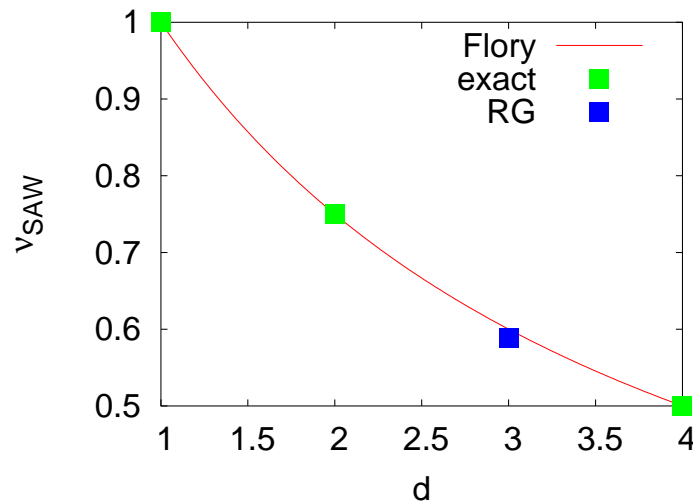
random walk $P(R) \sim e^{-\frac{R^2}{Na^2}}$

FLORY:

cloud of monomers $\rho \sim \frac{N}{R^d}$ that interact at overlap

→ free Energy $\frac{1}{kT} \mathcal{F}(R) \sim \underbrace{\frac{R^2}{Na^2}}_{\text{elastic}} + \underbrace{Nv \frac{N}{R^d}}_{\text{overlap}}$

minimize: $R \sim N^{\frac{3}{d+2}} = N^{\nu_{\text{Flory}}}$



Perturbation theory

$$Z(N) = \int \prod_{j=1}^N dr_j \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{4\ell^2} \sum_{j=1}^N (r_j - r_{j-1})^2 - \beta \ell^d \sum_{i \neq j} \delta^d(r_i - r_j)\right\}$$

$$= \text{---} + \beta \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---}$$

$\sim N^{1/2}$

$$+ \beta^2 \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} + \beta^2 \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---} \text{---} \bigcirc \text{---}$$

$\sim N$ $\sim N$



The perturbation series diverges (in particular for $N \rightarrow \infty$).

De Gennes (1972):

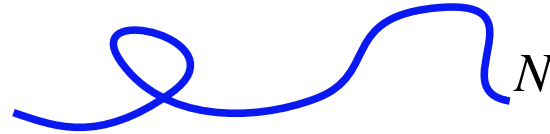
Polymer theory may be mapped to spinmodel.

Exponents of the $O(n)$ -symmetric spinmodel for $n = 0$

De Gennes, Phys. Lett. A 1972 (N.L. 1991)

Partition function Number of Configurations

- linear chain

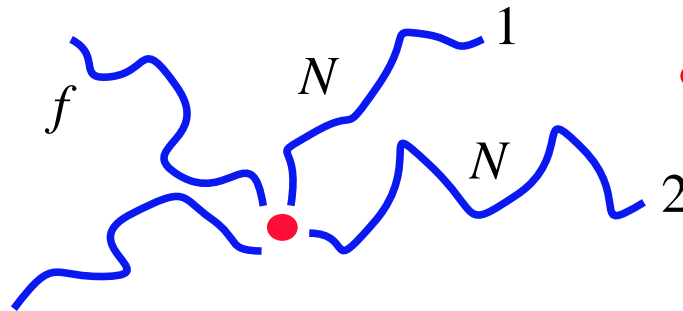


- Radius
 $\langle (r_N - r_1)^2 \rangle \sim N^\nu$

- Partition function
 $Z_1(N) \sim z^N N^{\gamma-1}$
fugacity z

- star polymer

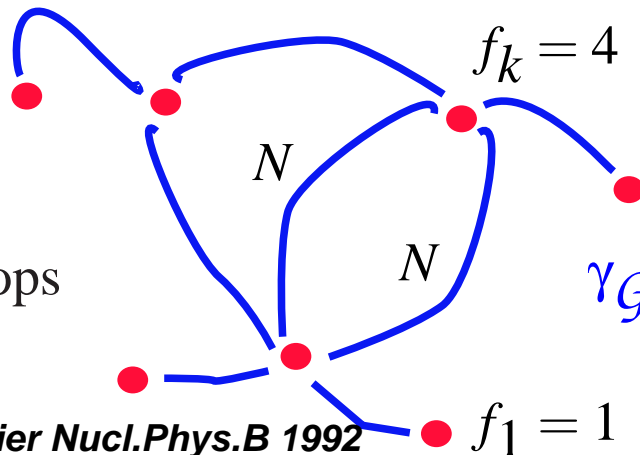
f arms, length N



- Family of exponents γ_f
 $Z_f(N) \sim z^{fN} N^{(\gamma_f - 1)}$

- network

F chains, L_G loops



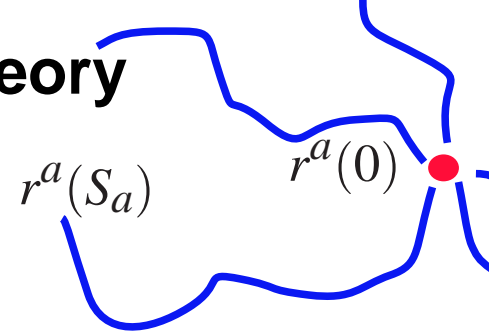
$$Z_G(N) \sim z^{FN} N^{\gamma_G - 1}$$

- linear combination

$$\gamma_G - 1 = d\nu L_G + \sum_k \left(\gamma_{f_k} - 1 + \frac{f_k}{2}(\gamma - 1) \right)$$

Mapping to Lagrangean field theory

Continuous model (Edwards):



$$\frac{\mathcal{H}[r^a]}{k_B T} = \sum_a \int_0^{S_a} ds \left[\frac{dr^a(s)}{ds} \right]^2 + \sum_{a,b} \frac{u_{ab}}{2} \int d^d r \rho_a(r) \rho_b(r)$$

Star partition sum, chain ends at $r = 0$:

$$\rho_a(r) = \int_0^{S_a} \delta(r - r^a(s))$$

$$Z_{*f}\{S_a\} = \int D[r^a] \prod_a \delta(r^a(0)) \exp\left\{-\frac{\mathcal{H}[r^a]}{k_B T}\right\}$$

local operator product " ϕ^f "

Laplace transform:

$$\tilde{Z}_{*f}\{\mu_a\} = \int_0^\infty \prod_a dS_a e^{-\mu_a S_a} Z_{*f}\{S_a\} = \int D[\phi_a] \prod_a \phi_a(0) \exp\left\{-\frac{\mathcal{L}[\phi_a]}{k_B T}\right\}$$

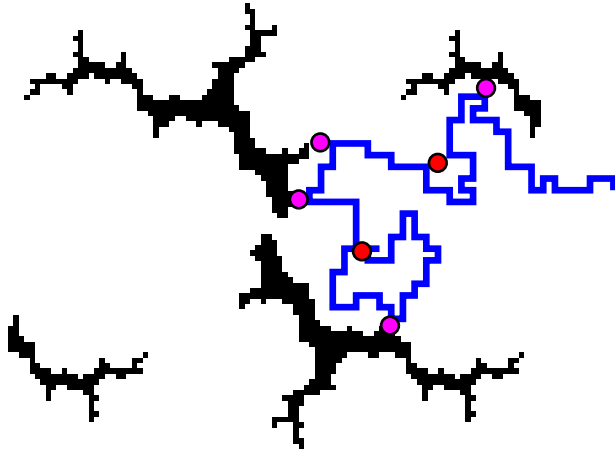
ϕ^4 – Lagrangean:

$$\frac{\mathcal{L}[\phi_a]}{k_B T} = \sum_a \int d^d r \left\{ \frac{\mu_a}{2} \phi_a^2(r) + [\nabla \phi_a(r)]^2 \right\} + \sum_{a,b} \frac{u_{ab}}{2} \int d^d r \phi_a^2(r) \phi_b^2(r)$$

ϕ_a is an $m = 0$ component field.

Long-range correlated medium

- self-avoidance u_0
- disorder



$$g(R) \sim R^{-a}$$

$$\widehat{g}(k) \sim v_0 + w_0 |k|^{a-d}$$

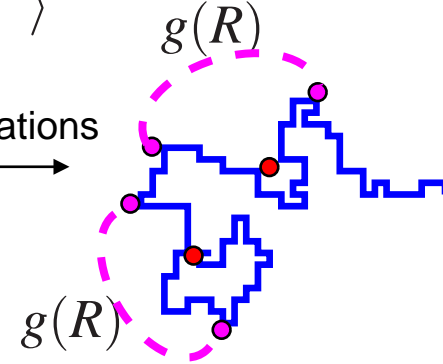
Replica

$$\langle \ln Z \rangle = \lim_{n \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{n} \langle Z^n \rangle$$

average disorder configurations

Weinrib, Halperin '83

- long-range coupling



$$\mathcal{L}_{LR} = \sum_{\alpha, \beta=1}^n \int d^d x d^d y g(|x-y|) \vec{\phi}_\alpha^2(x) \vec{\phi}_\beta^2(y)$$

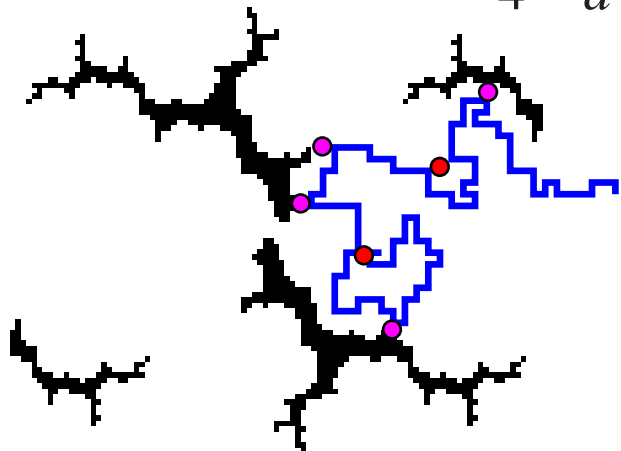
n -replicated $O(m)$ -symmetric m -vector $\vec{\phi}$ model

$n, m \rightarrow 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(\vec{\phi}) = & \sum_k \sum_\alpha \frac{1}{2} (\mu_0^2 + k^2) (\vec{\phi}_k^\alpha)^2 + \frac{u_0}{4!} \sum_\alpha \sum_{\{k\}'} \sum_{\alpha'} (\vec{\phi}_{k_1}^\alpha \vec{\phi}_{k_2}^\alpha) (\vec{\phi}_{k_3}^{\alpha'} \vec{\phi}_{k_4}^{\alpha'}) \\ & + \frac{w_0}{4!} \sum_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{\{k\}''} |k|^{a-d} (\vec{\phi}_{k_1}^\alpha \vec{\phi}_{k_2}^\alpha) (\vec{\phi}_{k_3}^\beta \vec{\phi}_{k_4}^\beta). \end{aligned}$$

ε - δ expansion

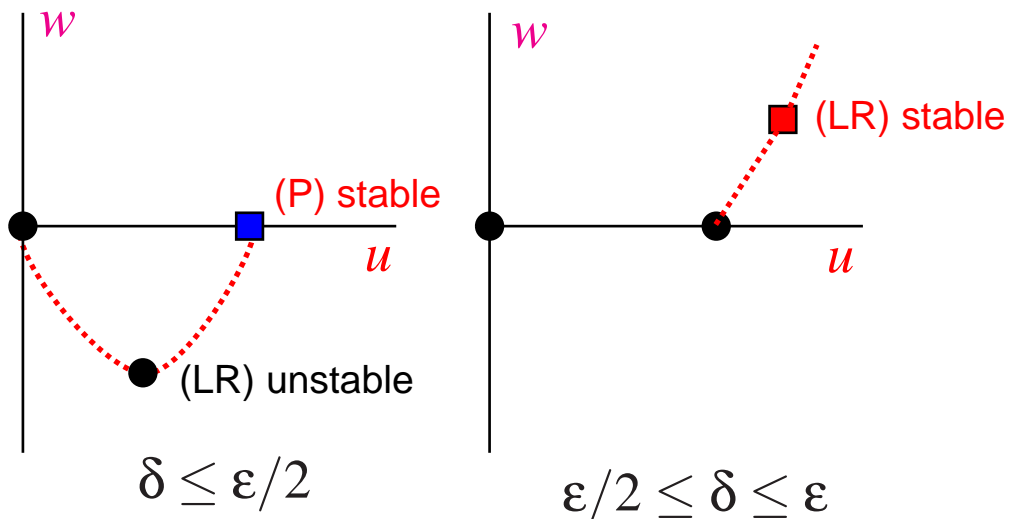
- self-avoidance u_0
 - disorder w_0
- $4 - d = \varepsilon$



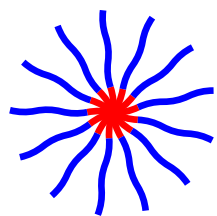
$$g(R) \sim R^{-a} \quad 4 - a = \delta$$

$$\hat{g}(k) \sim v_0 + w_0 |k|^{a-d}$$

Renormalization group flow



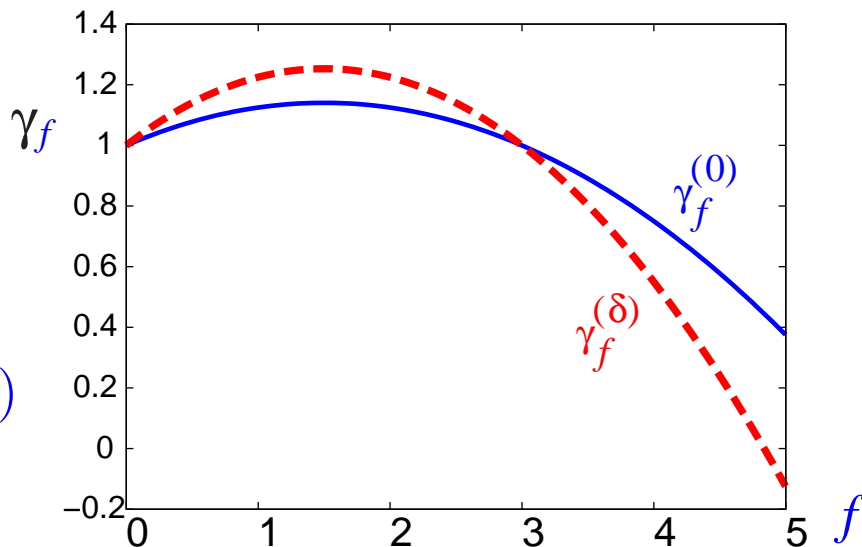
Blavat'ska, CvF, Holovatch PRE (2001)



f -arm polymer star

● Partition function

$$Z_f(N) \sim z^{fN} N^{(\gamma_f - 1)}$$

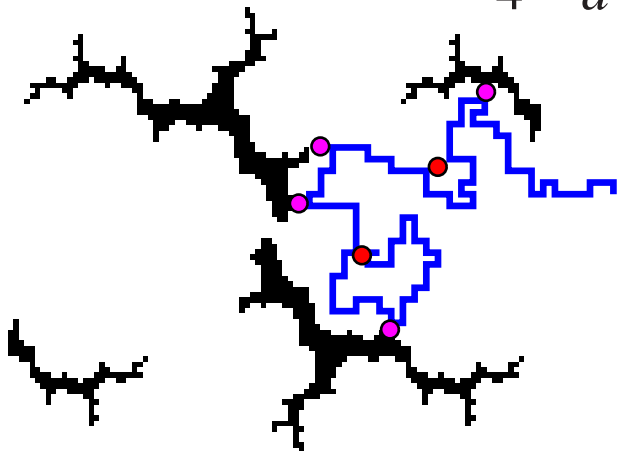


Fixed d, a loop expansion

● self-avoidance u_0

● disorder w_0

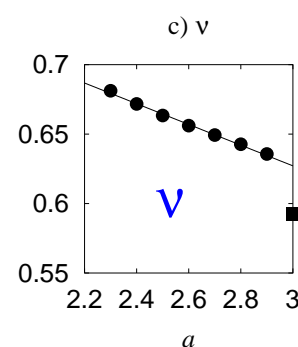
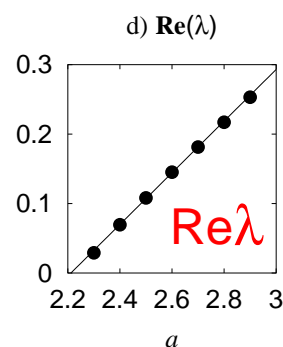
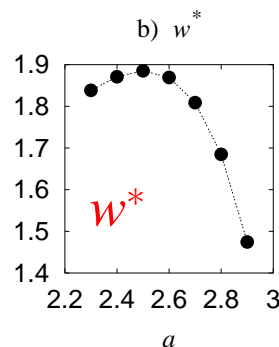
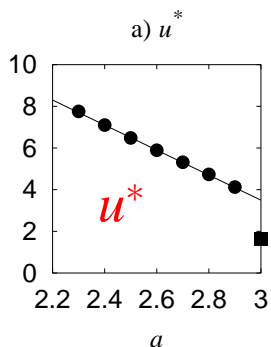
$$4 - d = \varepsilon$$



Renormalization group LR fixed point

Stability matrix eigenvalue λ

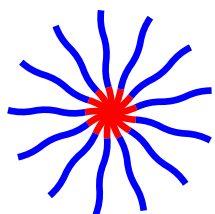
$$R_{\text{Polymer}} \sim N^{\nu}$$



$$g(R) \sim R^{-a} \quad 4 - a = \delta$$

$$\widehat{g}(k) \sim \nu_0 + w_0 |k|^{a-d}$$

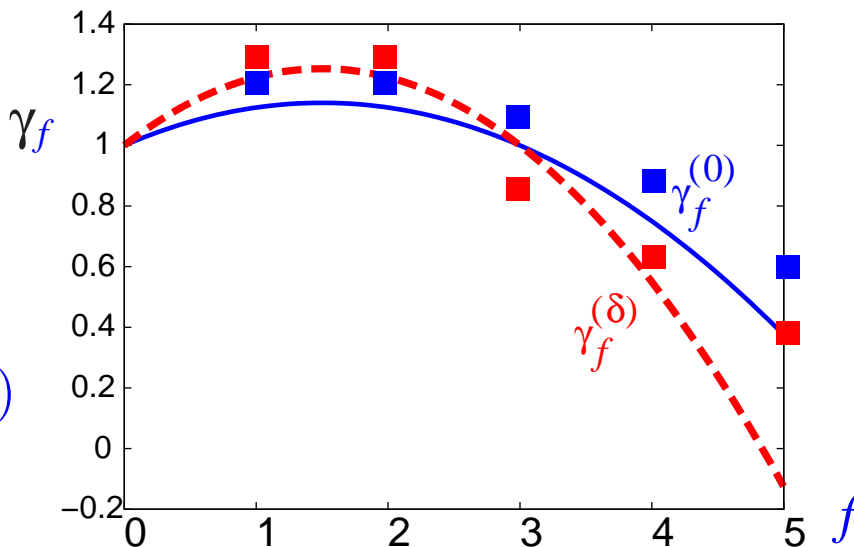
Blavat'ska, CvF, Holovatch J Phys Cond Mat (2001)



f -arm polymer star

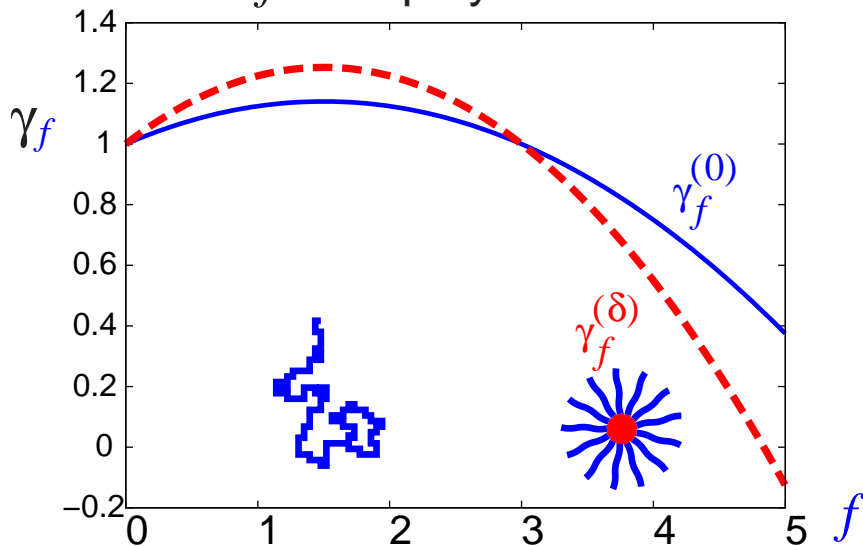
● Partition function

$$Z_f(N) \sim z^{fN} N^{(\gamma_f - 1)}$$



Static separation

f -arm polymer star



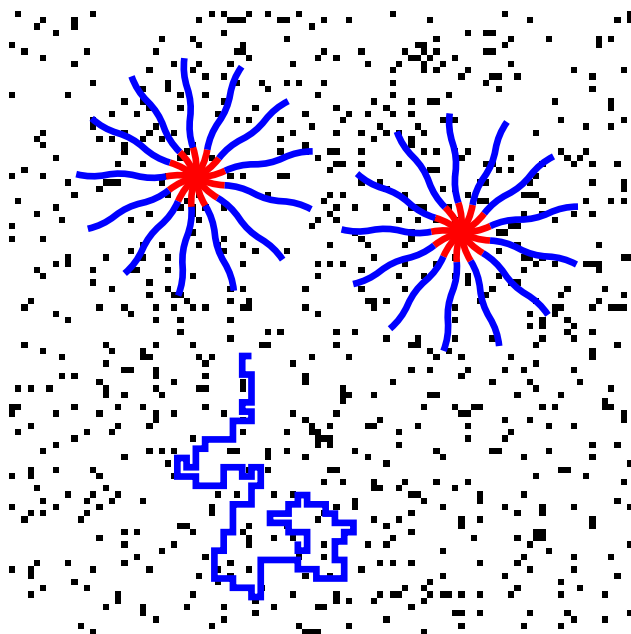
Partition function

$$Z_{*f}(N) \propto e^{\mu f N} N^{\gamma_f - 1}$$

Free energy

$$\mathcal{F} = -\mu f N - (\gamma_f - 1)$$

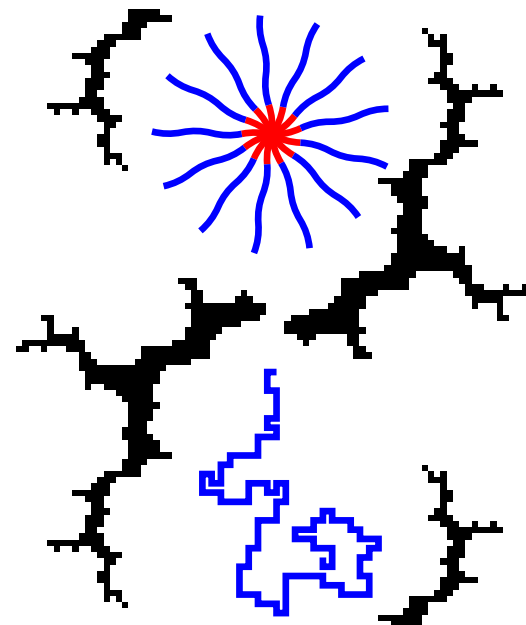
uncorrelated



star preference



long range correlated

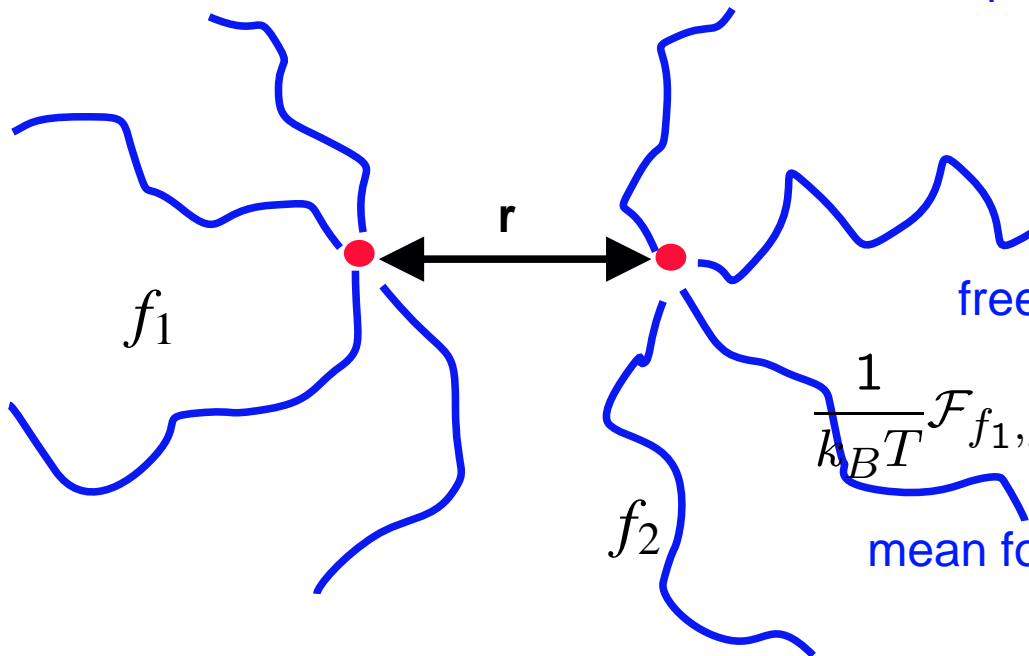


chain preference



(same density)

Star–star interaction



partition function:

$$Z_{f_1, f_2}(r) \sim r^{\Theta_{f_1 f_2}} Z_{f_1 + f_2}(N)$$

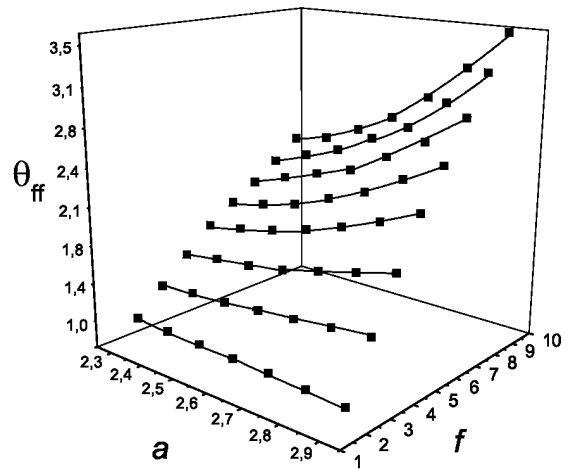
$$\nu \Theta_{f_1, f_2}(r) = \gamma_{f_1} + \gamma_{f_2} - \gamma_{f_1 + f_2} - 1$$

free energy:

$$\frac{1}{k_B T} \mathcal{F}_{f_1, f_2}(r) = -\ln Z_{f_1, f_2} \approx -\Theta_{f_1 f_2} \ln \frac{r}{R}$$

mean force:

$$\frac{1}{k_B T} \langle F(r) \rangle \approx \frac{\Theta_{f_1 f_2}}{r}$$

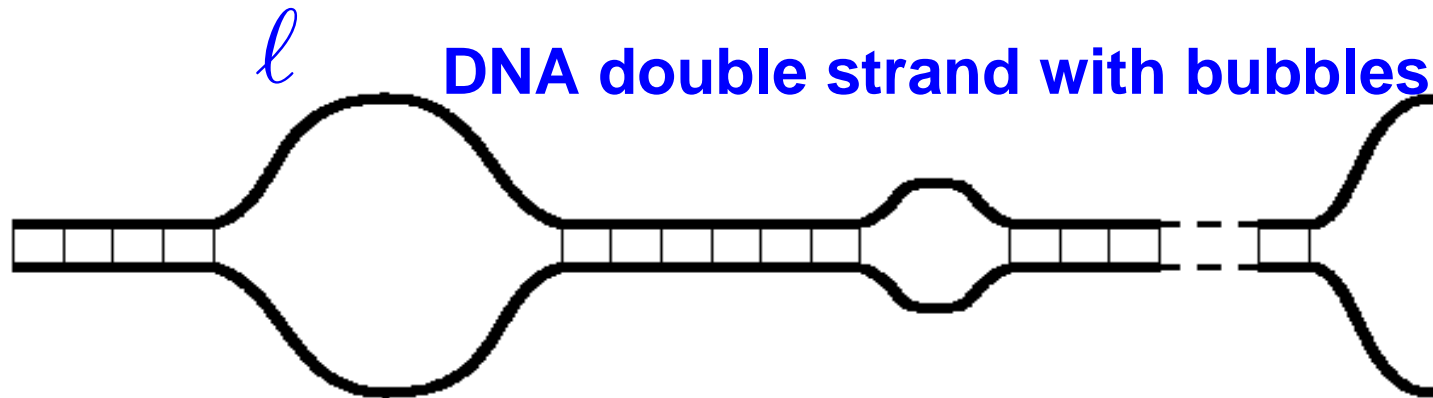


Correlated disorder weakens the effective interaction.

$\Theta_{ff}^{(a)}$ as a function of f and a at $d = 3$.

DNA denaturation

Poland, Scheraga (1966)



Loop size distribution $P(\ell) = \frac{1}{\ell^c}$

c determines phase transition:
 $c \leq 1$: none, $1 < c \leq 2$: 2nd, $2 < c$: 1st order



Kafri, Mukamel, Peliti EPJB (2002)

Entropic contributions:

- Graph \mathcal{G}

$$Z_{\mathcal{G}}(N) \sim z^{4N} N^{-v\eta_{\mathcal{G}}} \quad \eta_{\mathcal{G}} = dL_{\mathcal{G}} + \sum_k \left(\eta_{f_k} - \frac{f_k}{2} \eta_2 \right)$$

- loop

$$\ell \ll N: \quad Z_{\mathcal{G}}(N, \ell) \sim (z^{2\ell} \ell^{-c}) (z^{2N} N^{-v\eta_2})$$

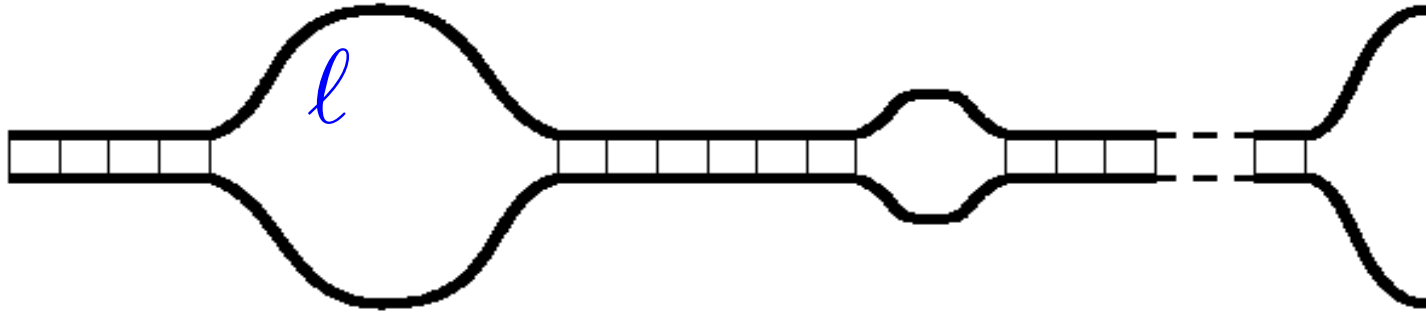
short chain expansion vF NucPhB (1997)

- loop exponent

$$c = v\eta_{\mathcal{G}} - v\eta_2 = dv + 2v\eta_3 - 3v\eta_2 = 2.11 \text{ in 3D} \rightarrow \text{1st order transition?}$$

DNA denaturation in correlated disorder

Poland–Scheraga model of DNA denaturation



Loop size distribution $P(\ell) = \frac{1}{\ell^c}$



c determines phase transition:
 $c \leq 1$: none, $1 < c \leq 2$: 2nd, $2 < c$: 1st order

Kafri, Mukamel, Peliti EPJB (2002)

- loop exponent

$$c = dv - 2(\gamma_3 - 1) + 3(\gamma_1 - 1)$$

$$c = 3(0.588) - 2(0.05) + 3(0.15) = 2.11 \text{ no disorder (a=3)}$$

$$c = 3(0.68) - 2(-0.3) + 3(0.38) = 3.78 \text{ LR disorder (a = 2.3)}$$

- correlated disorder shifts the transition to 1st order.