Random walks in power-law correlated disordered environments

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Random Walks (RWs)

Self-Avoiding Walks (SAWs)

End-to-end distance: $\langle R^2 \rangle \sim N^{2\nu}$ Universal size exponent ν :

$$\nu_{\rm RW} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$v_{\text{SAW}} = \frac{3}{d+2}$$

Definitions: Gyration tensor



- Position vectors $\vec{R}_n = \{x_n, y_n\}$, (n = 1, ..., N).
- Center of mass \vec{R}_{CM} with $x_{CM} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{N} x_n}{N}, y_{CM} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{N} y_n}{N}.$
- Gyration tensor

$$Q_{xy} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} (x_n - x_{CM})(y_n - y_{CM})$$

• Eigenvalues λ_i measures the shape

Definitions: Gyration tensor



Random walk trajectories are asymmetrical (W. Kuhn (1934); K. Solc and W.H. Stockmayer (1971))

Rotational invarint: Asphericity
$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{d(d-1)} \sum_{i=1}^{d} \frac{(\lambda_i - \overline{\lambda})^2}{\overline{\lambda}^2} = \frac{d}{d-1} \frac{\operatorname{Tr} \hat{\mathbf{Q}}^2}{(\operatorname{Tr} \mathbf{Q})^2}$$

with $\overline{\lambda} \equiv \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{d} \lambda_i = \frac{1}{N} \operatorname{Tr} \mathbf{Q}, \quad \hat{\mathbf{Q}} \equiv \mathbf{Q} - \operatorname{Tr} \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{I}$ (J.A. Aronovitz and D.R. Nelson, J. Physique 47 1445 (1986).)

• Random walk: $A_{RW}(d=2) = 0.392 \pm 0.005$ (J. Rudnick and G. Gaspari, J. Phys. A 19, L191 (1986))

• Self-avoiding walk: $A_{SAW}(d=2) = 0.501 \pm 0.003$ (M. Bishop and C.J. Saltiel, J. Chem. Phys. 88 (1988))



- I site with defect
- p concentration of disorder
- uncorrelated point-like deffects: universal size and shape characteristics are not altered unless p > p_c

(Y. Kim, J. Phys. C 16, 1345 (1983);

S. B. Lee and H. Nakanishi, Phys. Rev. Lett. 61, 2022 (1988).

• pc - percolation threshold

(R.M. Ziff, Phys. Rev. Lett. 72, 1942 (1942).)

Long-range correlated disorder

 Defects are correlated on large distances r according to a power law with a pair correlation function

 $C(r) \sim r^{-a}$

(A. Weinrib and B.I. Halperin, Phys. Rev. B 27, 413 (1983))

- a = d uncorrelated point-like defects
- a < d defects in the form of extended fractal clusters
- Fourier filtering method (FFM) (s. Prakash et al., Phys. Rev. A 46 (1992); H.A. Makse et al., Phys. Rev. E 53 (1996))



Cluster size distribution



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Image: Image:

Cluster size distribution



Cluster size distribution



Pruned-enriched Rosenbluth method (PERM)



Weight of Nth step: $W_N = \prod_{l=1}^N m_l (M.N. Rosenbluth, J. Chem. Phys. 23, 356 (1955))$ Control parameters: $W_n^{max} = W_n^{min} (P. Grassberger, Phys. Rev. E 56, 3682 (1997))$ • $W_n < W_n^{min} - \text{pruning with probability } 1/2, W_n = 2W_n$ • $W_n > W_n^{max} - \text{enrichment}, W_n = W_n/2$ The configurational averaging for any observable O:

$$\langle O
angle = rac{\sum_{\mathrm{conf}} W_N^{\mathrm{conf}} O}{\sum_{\mathrm{conf}} W_N^{\mathrm{conf}}},$$

The averaging over different realizations of disorder, i.e., over different constructed disordered lattices

$$\overline{\langle O \rangle} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^{M} \langle O \rangle_i.$$
 (2)

We consider M = 1000 configurations of disorder in d = 2-dimensional lattices of linear size 2048×2048 at various values of correlation parameter *a*.

(1)

Size exponent



Averaged end-to-end distance of RW and SAW on a lattice with 20% of disorder at a = 2.0, a = 1.75, a = 0.25

а	$ u_{RW}$	ν_{SAW}
2.0	$\textbf{0.5} \pm \textbf{0.001}$	0.750 ± 0.001
1.75	0.482 ± 0.001	0.757 ± 0.001
0.25	$\textbf{0.470} \pm \textbf{0.001}$	$\textbf{0.764} \pm \textbf{0.001}$

Asphericity



Averaged asphericity of RW and SAW on a lattice with 20% of disorder at a = 2.0, a = 1.75, a = 0.25

а	$\overline{\langle A \rangle}_{RW}$	$\overline{\langle A \rangle}_{SAW}$
2.0	0.393 ± 0.002	0.501 ± 0.003
1.75	0.380 ± 0.002	0.538 ± 0.003
0.25	0.370 ± 0.002	0.546 ± 0.003

Conclusions



• Defects are correlated on large distances *r* according to a power law with a pair correlation function

 $C(r) \sim r^{-a}$

 The RWs are more compact and symmetric in correlated environments
 The SAWs are more extended and asymmetric in correlated environments



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Random walks in correlated environments

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