# New insights from one-dimensional spin glasses

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Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich

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# Outline and Motivation

- Introduction to spin glasses (disordered magnets)
  - What are spin glasses?
  - Why are they hard to study?

#### • How well does the mean-field solution work?

- Model: ID chain
- Do spin glasses order in a field?
- Ultrametricity in spin glasses?
- Applications to other problems and algorithm benchmarking.



 Work done in collaboration with W. Barthel, S. Böttcher, B. Gonçalves, A. K. Hartmann, T. Jörg, F. Krzakala, and A. P. Young.

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 $H_{AT}$ 

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# Brief introduction to spin glasses

# Building a spin glass from the Ising model

• Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H} = -\sum_{\langle ij\rangle} J_{ij} S_i S_j - H \sum_i S_i$$
$$J_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall i, j \quad i \neq j$$

• Order parameter:

$$m = rac{1}{N} \sum_{i} S_i$$
 (magnetization)



- Some properties:
  - Phase transition to an ordered state.
  - According to Harris criterion, if  $d\nu > 2$  the system changes universality class when local disorder is added.
  - For the Ising model  $d\nu \leq 2$  in 2D and 3D.

# What is a spin glass?

Prototype model: Edwards-Anderson Ising spin glass



Very hard to treat analytically beyond mean-field.

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# Applications beyond disordered magnets

- The models can describe many systems with competing interactions on a graph:
  - Computer chips:
    - $S_i$ component
    - $J_{ij}$  wiring diagram
  - Economic markets:
    - $S_i$ agent inclination
    - $J_{ij}$  portfolio interactions
- Other applications:
  - Quantum error correction in topological quantum computing (current research).
  - Optimization problems (e.g., number partitioning problem).
  - Neural networks, ...

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chip optimization

payload distribution

### Experimental discovery, theoretical pictures

#### • Early experimental observations:

- I970: Canella and Mydosh see a cusp in the susceptibility of Fe/Au alloys (disorder). Material with RKKY interactions (frustration):
- Early theoretical descriptions:
  - 1975: Introduction of the Edwards-Anderson Ising spin-glass model  $(J_{ij}$  random):

$$\mathcal{H} = -\sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} S_i S_j \quad \text{mean-field approx.} \quad \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \rightarrow \sum_{i,j} J_{ij} S_i S_j$$

- 1975: Mean-field Sherrington-Kirkpatrick model.
- 1979: Parisi solution of the mean-field model (RSB).
- I986: Fisher, Huse, Bray, Moore introduce the phenomenological droplet picture (DP) for short-range systems.



### How can we study these systems?

- Analytically: only the mean-field solution (RSB) or qualitative descriptions (DP).
- Numerically: Optimal problem for large computers
  - Challenges:
    - Exponential number of competing states (usually NP hard).
    - Relaxation times diverge exponentially with the system size.
    - Extra overhead due to disorder averaging.
    - Usually small systems only.
  - Solution:
    - Use large computer clusters.
    - Use better algorithms.
    - Use better models.
  - Average project requires 300'000 CPUh (4 months on 10<sup>2</sup> CPUs).





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# Some open problems... many challenges



- Chaos in spin glasses
- Nature of the low-temperature spin-glass phase
- Properties of vector spin glasses, ...

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Which properties of the mean-field solution carry over to short-range systems?

# Models: The ID Ising chain

### Traditional model: Edwards-Anderson

• Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H} = -\sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} J_{ij} S_i S_j \qquad S_i \in \{\pm 1\}$$

- Details about the model:
  - Nearest-neighbor interactions.



- Simulations usually done with periodic boundary conditions.
- Transition temperatures:  $T_c = 0$  (2D),  $T_c \sim I$  (3D),  $T_c \sim 2$  (4D).
- Most studied spin-glass model to date.
- Disadvantages of the model:
  - Cannot be solved analytically.
  - In high space dimensions only small systems can be simulated  $(D \ge 5 \text{ almost impossible}).$

# Better: The one-dimensional Ising chain



• Tuning the power-law exponent changes the universality class.

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# Tuning the universality class

- Short-range spin glasses:
  - Upper critical dimension  $d_u = 6$  (for  $d \ge d_u$  MF behavior)
  - Lower critical dimension  $d_{\rm l}$  = 2 (for  $d \le d_{\rm l} T_{\rm c}$  = 0)  $d_{\rm eff} \approx \frac{2}{2\sigma - 1}$
- Phase diagram of the ID chain:

Kotliar et al., PRB (83)



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# Algorithms

# Reminder: Exchange Monte Carlo

- Efficient algorithm to treat spin glasses at finite T.
- Idea:
  - Simulate *M* copies of the system at different temperatures with  $T_{max} > T_c$  (typically  $T_{max} \sim 2T_c^{MF}$ ).
  - Allow swapping of neighboring temperatures: easy crossing of barriers.



- Extremely fast equilibration at low temperatures.
- For the following applications we use this algorithm...

#### Hukushima & Nemoto (96)



# Do spin glasses order in a field?

# Spin-glass state in a field?

#### • Two possible scenarios:

- Replica Symmetry Breaking (RSB): existence of an instability line [Almeida & Thouless (78)] for the mean-field SK model.
- Droplet picture (DP): there is no spin-glass state in a field.



- The question lies at the core of theoretical descriptions.
  - Field terms are ubiquitous in applications/experiments.
  - Experimentally, numerically, and theoretically controversial.

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# Spin-glass state in a field?

**Outline**:

- I. Tool to probe transition
- 2. Review of old 3D results
- 3. Improved results in ID

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# Probing criticality: correlation length

Ballesteros et al. PRB (00)

- Use the finite-size correlation length to probe criticality in spin-glass systems:
  - Wave-vector-dependent connected spin-glass susceptibility:

$$\chi_{\rm SG}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{ij} \left[ \left( \langle S_i S_j \rangle_T - \langle S_i \rangle_T \langle S_j \rangle_T \right)^2 \right]_{\rm dis} e^{i\mathbf{k}(\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j)}$$

• Perform an Ornstein-Zernicke approximation:

$$[\chi_{\rm SG}(k)/\chi_{\rm SG}(0)]^{-1} = 1 + \xi_L^2 k^2 + \mathcal{O}[(\xi_L k)^4]$$

• Compensate for finite-size effects and periodic boundaries:

$$\xi_L = \frac{1}{2\sin(k_{\min}/2)} \left[\frac{\chi_{\rm SG}(0)}{\chi_{\rm SG}(k_{\min})} - 1\right]^{1/2}$$

- Finite-size scaling:  $\frac{\xi_L}{L} = \tilde{X} \left( L^{1/\nu} [T T_c] \right)$
- Better than Binder ratio.

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### How well does this work for zero field?

#### Katzgraber et al., PRB (06)


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#### Katzgraber & Young, PRL (04)



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Katzgraber & Young, PRL (04)



Perform "slices" at different horizontal fields.



1.4

Katzgraber & Young, PRL (04)



#### Katzgraber & Young, PRL (04)



#### Katzgraber & Young, PRB (2005)



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External field H = 0.10. 103 The data span a large = 0.65σ range of system sizes. 10<sup>2</sup> • The AT line vanishes outside the MF regime  $(\sigma \ge 2/3).$ 10 32 64 128 △ 256 2/3  $\sigma$ 1/20 1 SK MF non-MF d $\infty$ 2 0.1 0.3 0.5 0.7 0.4 0.6 0.8 0.9no AT AT T 3

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### Spin-glass state in a field?

- The AT line vanishes when not in the mean-field regime.
- For short-range spin glasses below the upper critical dimension:



- Does the behavior change for even larger system sizes?
- What happens for "narrow" AT lines? (see cond-mat/0712.2009)

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## Ultrametricity in spin glasses

### What is ultrametricity?

### • Formal definition:

- Given a metric space with a distance function.
- In general, the distance function obeys the triangle inequality:  $d(\alpha, \gamma) \leq d(\alpha, \beta) + d(\beta, \gamma)$
- In an ultrametric space we have a stronger inequality:  $d(\alpha,\gamma) \leq \max\{d(\alpha,\beta),d(\beta,\gamma)\}$

### • Note:

- Every triangle is isosceles in an ultrametric space.
- Examples:
  - Linguistics (space where words differ)
  - Taxonomy (classification of species).
  - Number theory (p-adic numbers), ...

### What is ultrametricity?

Outline: I. Definitions 2. Tools 3. Results

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### Relevance to spin glasses (hand-waving...)

- Replica symmetry breaking solution of the mean-field model:
  - $F = -kT[\log Z]_{\text{av}} \qquad \log Z = \lim_{n \to 0} \left(\frac{Z^n 1}{n}\right) \quad \frac{\text{Parisi (79)}}{\text{Talagrand (06)}}$
- Order parameter: overlap function

$$q = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} S_i^{\alpha} S_i^{\beta} \qquad \qquad q = \frac{1}{N}$$

• After replication one obtains:

$$[\log Z]_{\rm av} \sim \int \prod_{\alpha,\beta} dQ_{\alpha\beta} e^{NG(Q_{\alpha\beta})}$$

• Typical structure:

$$Q_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} S_i^{(\alpha)} S_i^{(\beta)} =$$



• One can show that for three states in  $Q_{\alpha\beta}$  with  $q_{\alpha\gamma} \ge q_{\gamma\beta} \ge q_{\alpha\beta}$ one has  $q_{\gamma\beta} = q_{\alpha\beta}$  in the thermodynamic limit.

### What does it mean to be ultrametric?

### • Simple test to see if the mean-field solution is applicable to a model:

- Ultrametricity is a cornerstone of the mean-field solution.
- If a model has no ultrametricity, the RSB solution is not valid for it.

#### • Current state of affairs:

- Are short-range models ultrametric? Very controversial!
- Many contradicting predictions.

#### • Problems:

- Only small short-range systems can be studied.
- The states for the test have to be selected very carefully.

### Solution:

• Analysis of the ID chain [similar to Hed et al. (04)].

Hed et al., PRL (04)

and many more ...

Contucci et al., PRL (06)

Jörg & Krzakala, PRL (07)

# Achtung! Problems when picking 3 states...

### • Possible pitfalls:

I. If time-reversal symmetry is unbroken, one has to ensure that all three states used belong to the same "side" of phase space.

- 2. The temperature must be much smaller than  $T_c$ .
- 3. If the temperature is too small, for large systems most triangles are equilateral (carry no information). Do not study too low *T*'s.

### Solutions:

- I. Can be avoided with a clustering analysis: Pick 3 states only from the left tree.
- 2. Simulations done at  $T < T_c$ , but not below  $T = 0.2T_c$ . Data shown for  $T = 0.4T_c$ .
- 3. To avoid equilateral triangles pick the 3 states from different branches in the left subtree ( $C_{1a}$ ,  $C_{1b}$ ,  $C_2$ ). Next...

Hed et al., PRL (04)

### Selection of states (similar to Hed et al.)

- Generation of states:
  - Equilibrate system.
  - Store 10<sup>3</sup> states per realization.
- Selection of states:
  - Sorted dendrograms using Wards clustering method.
  - Pick left tree ("spin down").
  - Split left tree into  $|C_1| \ge |C_2|$ .
  - Split  $C_1$  into  $C_{1a}$  and  $C_{1b}$ .
  - Pick three random states:  $\alpha \in C_{1a}$  ,  $\beta \in C_{1b}$  ,  $\gamma \in C_2$  .
- Distance matrix:
  - Darker colors mean closer distances  $d_{\alpha\beta} = (1 q_{\alpha\beta})/2$ .



### Typical distance matrices at $T < T_c$

• Data for the ID chain, L = 512,  $T = 0.4T_c$ .



- Darker colors correspond to closer hamming distances.
- Both systems show structure at low temperatures.

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### How to measure ultrametricity

- Observable:
  - Select three states with the aforementioned recipe.
  - Compute the hamming distance between them:  $d_{\alpha\beta} = (1 q_{\alpha\beta})/2$ .
  - Sort the distances:  $d_{\max} \ge d_{\min}$ .

• Compute: 
$$K = \frac{d_{\max} - d_{\text{med}}}{\rho(d)}$$

Here  $\rho(d)$  is the width of the distance distribution.

- Signs of ultrametricity:
  - If the space is ultrametric, we expect  $d_{\max} = d_{\mathrm{med}}$  for  $N \to \infty$  .
  - Study the distribution *P*(*K*). We expect:

$$P(K) \sim \delta(K=0) \qquad \qquad N \to \infty$$

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- Similar results for other values of  $\sigma$ .

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### What else can we do with the ID chain?

### Other ideas currently explored

- Study open problems in spin glasses:
  - Chaos, aging, universality, memory effect, ...
- Modifications of the model:
  - Spin symmetries (Potts, Heisenberg, ... ).
  - p-spin model for structural glasses.
  - Power-law probability-diluted chain (huge systems).
- Benchmarking algorithms:
  - How does the algorithm scale with the size of the input (N)?
  - How does the scaling of the algorithm depend on the complexity/connectivity?
  - ID chain: range of the interactions (universality class) can be changed.





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     Matsuda et al. (07)
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Examples: 1. diluted model 2. benchmarks





### Probability-diluted Gaussian Ising chain

• Place a Gaussian random bond with  $\mathcal{P}(J_{ij} 
eq 0) \sim r^{-2\sigma}$ 

• Same behavior as the regular ID chain, but  $[z]_{av} = 2\zeta(2\sigma)$ .



 $\mathcal{H} = -\sum J_{ij} S_i S_j$ 

i < j Leuzzi, et al. (08)
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Note: Leuzzi et al. fix the connectivity (VB limit). Here SK limit.

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i < j Leuzzi, et al. (08)

## Example: Hysteretic optimization

#### Zarand et al., PRL (02)

### • Experiment:

- Do you have a CRT monitor or a non-LCD TV at home?
- Take a magnet and hold it to the screen.
- You are in trouble.
- Solution:
  - Call the technician.
  - Make a degaussing coil and slowly do circles around the TV increasing the radius and distance.
- You have just hysteretically (and possibly also hysterically) demagnetized the TV screen.



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## Benchmarking: Hysteretic optimization

#### Zarand et al., PRL (02)

• Idea: Minimize the energy of a system by successive demagnetization.



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- Summary:
  - Do short-range spin glasses order in a field? No.
  - Are short-range spin glasses ultrametric? Seems like it.
  - What does this mean? The mean-field solution works only for certain aspects.
- Advantages of the ID model:
  - Large systems can be studied.
  - The effective space dimension can be changed.
  - Benchmark model for optimization algorithms.

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