

Critical points for various spread-out statistical-mechanics models in high dimensions

@ The 3rd Taiwan-Japan Joint Workshop on Applied Mathematics

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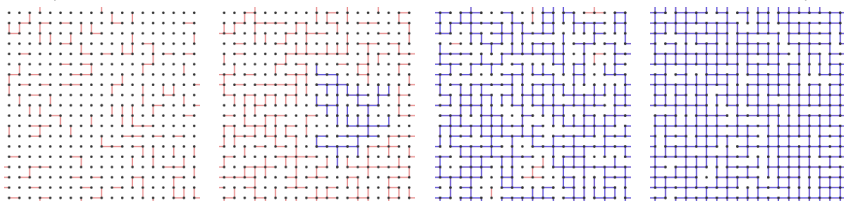
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May 1, 2025

- Want to understand **phase transitions** & **critical phenomena**.

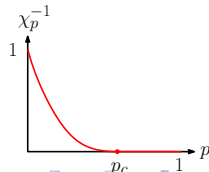
E.g., percolation on $\mathbb{Z}^2$, with bond-occupation probability $p = 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8$.

(<https://www.ams.org/publicoutreach/feature-column/fcarc-percolation>)



$$\chi_p = \underbrace{\sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \mathbb{P}_p(o \longleftrightarrow x)}_{\text{expected \# of connected sites to } o} \begin{cases} < \infty & \text{if } p < p_c, \\ = \infty & \text{if } p \geq p_c, \end{cases}$$

$$\chi_p \underset{p \uparrow p_c}{\approx} \begin{cases} (\frac{1}{2} - p)^{-43/18} & \text{on } \mathbb{Z}^2, \\ (p_c - p)^{-1} & \text{on } \mathbb{Z}^{d \gg 6}. \end{cases}$$



- Important to know the exact value of **the critical point** p_c .

- **Self-avoiding walk (SAW):** a statistical-mechanics model for linear polymers.

- $\mathcal{G}_L^d = (\mathbb{Z}^d, E_L)$: the spread-out lattice with spread-out parameter $L \in [1, \infty)$.

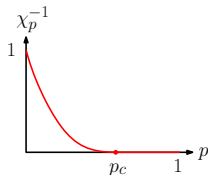
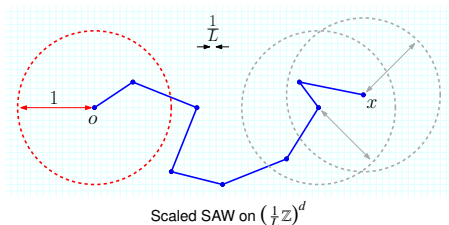
$$E_L = \{ \{x, y\} \subset \mathbb{Z}^d : 0 < \|x - y\| \leq L \}, \quad \Delta = \deg(\mathcal{G}_L^d) = O(L^d), \quad D(x, y) = \frac{\mathbb{1}_{\{x, y\} \in E_L}}{\Delta}.$$

- **SAW 2-point function** $G_p^{\text{SAW}}(o, x)$: the generating function for SAWs from o to x .

$$G_p^{\text{SAW}}(o, x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n \sum_{\substack{\omega=(\omega_0, \dots, \omega_n): \\ \omega_0=o, \omega_n=x}} \prod_{j=1}^n D(\omega_{j-1}, \omega_j) \underbrace{\prod_{0 \leq s < t \leq n} \mathbb{1}_{\{\omega_s \neq \omega_t\}}}_{\text{self-avoidance}} \equiv \sum_{\substack{\omega: o \rightarrow x \\ (\text{SAW})}} \left(\frac{p}{\Delta}\right)^{|\omega|}.$$

- **Critical point** p_c : the radius of convergence of **the susceptibility** χ_p .

$$p_c = \sup \left\{ p \geq 0 : \chi_p = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G_p(o, x) < \infty \right\}.$$



- Removal of **self-avoidance** $\Rightarrow$ **random walk (RW)**:

$$G_p^{\text{RW}}(o, x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n \sum_{\substack{\omega=(\omega_0, \dots, \omega_n): \\ \omega_0=o, \omega_n=x}} \prod_{j=1}^n D(\omega_{j-1}, \omega_j), \quad \chi_p^{\text{RW}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n = \begin{cases} (1-p)^{-1} & \text{if } p < 1, \\ \infty & \text{if } p \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

- For **percolation** on $\mathcal{G}_L^d$ with bond-occupation probability $pD(x, y) = \frac{p}{\Delta} \mathbb{1}_{\{(x, y) \in E_L\}}$,

$$G_p^{\text{perc}}(o, x) = \mathbb{P}_p \left(\bigcup_{\substack{\omega: o \rightarrow x \\ (\text{SAW})}} \bigcap_{j=1}^{|\omega|} \{[\omega_{j-1}, \omega_j] \text{ is occupied}\} \right) \quad (\leq G_p^{\text{SAW}}(o, x)).$$

Theorem 1 (with v.d.Hofstad, 2005)

Let $U(x) \propto \mathbb{1}_{\{\|x\| \leq 1\}}$ be the uniform distribution on the Euclidean ball of radius 1, and let U^{*n} be its n -fold convolution in $\mathbb{R}^d$. $\forall d > d_c$ (the model-dependent upper-critical dimension), $p_c = 1 + \text{CL}^{-d} + O(L^{-d-1})$ as $L \rightarrow \infty$, where

$$C = \begin{cases} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} U^{*n}(o) & \text{for SAW \& the contact process on } \mathcal{G}_L^{d>4}, \\ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} U^{*2n}(o) & \text{for oriented percolation on } \mathbb{Z}_+ \times \mathcal{G}_L^{d>4}, \\ U^{*2}(o) + \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{n+1}{2} U^{*n}(o) & \text{for percolation on } \mathcal{G}_L^{d>6}. \end{cases}$$

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Best bounds before [Theorem 1](#)

■ SAW:

- Madras & Slade (1993): $d > 4 \Rightarrow p_c = 1 + O(L^{-d})$.
- Penrose (1994): $\exists CL^{-2d/7} \log L \geq p_c - 1 \geq \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } d \geq 3, \\ \exists cL^{-2} \log L & \text{if } d = 2, \\ \exists cL^{-4/5} & \text{if } d = 1. \end{cases}$

■ Percolation:

- Hara & Slade (1990): $d > 6 \Rightarrow p_c = 1 + O(L^{-d})$.

■ Oriented percolation:

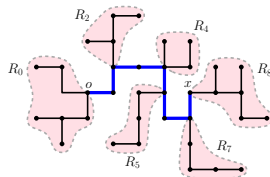
- v.d.Hofstad & Slade (2002): $d > 4 \Rightarrow p_c = 1 + O(L^{-d})$.

■ The contact process:

- Bramson & Durrett & Swindle (1989): $p_c - 1 \asymp f(L) \equiv \begin{cases} L^{-d} & \text{if } d \geq 3, \\ L^{-2} \log L^2 & \text{if } d = 2, \\ L^{-2/3} & \text{if } d = 1. \end{cases}$
- Durrett & Perkins (1999): $\lim_{L \uparrow \infty} \frac{p_c - 1}{f(L)} = \begin{cases} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} U^{sn}(o) & \text{if } d \geq 3, \\ \frac{3}{2\pi} & \text{if } d = 2, \end{cases}$
- v.d.Hofstad & Sakai (2004): $d > 4 \Rightarrow p_c = 1 + O(L^{-d})$.

- **Lattice animals (LA)**: a statistical-mechanics model for branched polymers.
- **Lattice trees (LT)**: LA with no loops.
- **LT 2-point function** $G_p^{\text{LT}}(o, x)$: the generating function for LTs containing o and x .

$$G_p^{\text{LT}}(o, x) = \sum_{\substack{T \ni o, x \\ (\text{LT})}} \left(\frac{p}{\Delta}\right)^{|E_T|}$$



$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p^n \sum_{\substack{\omega=(\omega_0, \dots, \omega_n): \\ \omega_0=o, \omega_n=x}} \prod_{j=1}^n D(\omega_{j-1}, \omega_j) \underbrace{\prod_{k=0}^n \sum_{\substack{R_k \ni \omega_k \\ (\text{LT})}} \left(\frac{p}{\Delta}\right)^{|E_{R_k}|}}_{\text{difference from SAW}} \prod_{0 \leq s < t \leq n} \mathbb{1}_{\{R_s \cap R_t = \emptyset\}}.$$

- Removal of **self-avoidance** $\Rightarrow p_c \sum_{\substack{R \ni o \\ (\text{LT})}} \left(\frac{p_c}{\Delta}\right)^{|E_R|} \simeq 1. \quad \therefore p_c \simeq \frac{1}{e}.$

$$\therefore I \equiv \sum_{\substack{R \ni o \\ (\text{LT})}} \left(\frac{p_c}{\Delta}\right)^{|E_R|} \simeq 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\Delta} \binom{\Delta}{k} \left(\frac{p_c I}{\Delta}\right)^k = \left(1 + \frac{p_c I}{\Delta}\right)^{\Delta} \underset{L \uparrow \infty}{\sim} e^{p_c I} \simeq e.$$

Theorem 2 (with Kawamoto, 2024)

On $\mathcal{G}_L^{d>8}$, $p_c^{LT/LA} = \frac{1}{e} + \textcolor{red}{CL}^{-d} + O(L^{-d-1})$ as $L \rightarrow \infty$, where

$$\textcolor{red}{C}_{LT} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n+1}{2e} U^{*n}(o), \quad \textcolor{red}{C}_{LA} = \textcolor{red}{C}_{LT} - \frac{1}{2e^2} \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} U^{*n}(o).$$

Best bounds before [Theorem 2](#)

- Penrose (1994): $d \geq 1 \Rightarrow p_c^{LT/LA} = \frac{1}{e} + O(L^{-2d/7} \log L)$.

Key elements for the proof of [Theorems 1 & 2](#)

- [Lace expansion](#) $\Rightarrow$ a formal recursion equation for $G_p(o, x)$:

$$G_p^{\text{SAW}}(o, x) = \delta_{o,x} + \sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} (pD(o, y) + \pi_p(o, y)) G_p^{\text{SAW}}(y, x), \quad \pi_p(o, y) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (-1)^j \pi_p^{(j)}(o, y).$$

- Use [translation invariance](#) to identify p_c and bound the expansion coefficients $(\pi_p^{(j)})$:

$$\chi_p^{\text{SAW}} = 1 + (p + \|\pi_p\|_1) \chi_p^{\text{SAW}} = \underbrace{\left(1 - \|\pi_p\|_1 - p\right)^{-1}}_{\therefore p_c = 1 - \|\pi_{p_c}\|_1} \underset{p \uparrow p_c}{\sim} \frac{(p_c - p)^{-1}}{1 + \|\partial_p \pi_{p_c}\|_1}.$$

$$\pi_p^{(1)}(y) = \bigcirc_{o=y} \delta_{o,y} \leq (pD * G_p^{\text{SAW}})(o) \delta_{o,y}, \quad \pi_p^{(2)}(y) = o \bigcirc y \leq G_p^{\text{SAW}}(y)^3.$$

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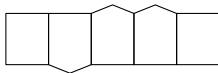
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History of the lace expansion for the spread-out models

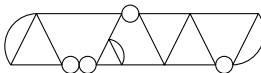
- Brydges & Spencer (1985), Hara & Slade (1992) for **SAW** in $d > 4$.
- Hara & Slade (1990) for **percolation** in $d > 6$.



- Hara & Slade (1990) for **LT/LA** in $d > 8$.



- Nguyen & Yang (1993) for **oriented percolation** in spatial dimensions $d > 4$.
- Sakai (2001) for **the contact process** in $d > 4$.
- Sakai (2007 & 2022), Kamijima & Sakai (2025) for **the classical Ising model** in $d > 4$.



- Sakai (2015 & 2022), Brydges & Helmuth & Holmes (2021) for **the $|\varphi|^4$ model** in $d > 4$.
- Kamijima & Sakai (202?) for **the quantum (or transverse-field) Ising model** in $d \geq 4$.

Best bounds for [the nearest-neighbor models](#), as $d \uparrow \infty$:

- Clisby & Liang & Slade (2007):

$$p_c^{\text{SAW}} = 1 + \frac{1}{2d} + \frac{2}{(2d)^2} + \frac{6}{(2d)^3} + \frac{27}{(2d)^4} + \frac{157}{(2d)^5} + \cdots (\text{up to } O(d^{-10})).$$

- Hara & Slade (1995):

$$p_c^{\text{perc}} = 1 + \frac{1}{2d} + \frac{7/2}{(2d)^2} + O(d^{-3}).$$

- Cox & Durrett (1983):

$$p_c^{\text{OP}} = 1 + O(d^{-2}).$$

- Liggett (1999):

$$p_c^{\text{CP}} = 1 + O(d^{-1}).$$

- Miranda & Slade (2013):

$$p_c = \frac{1}{e} + \frac{3}{2e} \frac{1}{2d} + \begin{cases} \frac{115}{24e} \frac{1}{(2d)^2} + o(d^{-2}) & \text{for LT,} \\ \left(\frac{115}{24e} - \frac{1}{2e^2} \right) \frac{1}{(2d)^2} + o(d^{-2}) & \text{for LA.} \end{cases}$$

1 Derivation of the recursion equation.

- Naive expansion of **the self-avoidance constraint**.

$$\mathbb{1}_{\{\omega \text{ is SAW}\}} = \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq |\omega|} (1 - \delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}) = \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{G}_{0,|\omega|}} \prod_{ij \in \Gamma} (-\delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}).$$

$$\text{E.g., } \mathcal{G}_{0,2} = \left\{ \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array}}_{\mathcal{G}'_{0,2}}, \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array}}_{\mathcal{G}''_{0,2}}, \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array}}_{\mathcal{G}'''_{0,2}} \right\}.$$

- $\mathcal{C}_{0,n} (\subset \mathcal{G}_{0,n})$: the set of **connected graphs** from 0 to n .

$$\Gamma \in \mathcal{C}_{0,n} \Leftrightarrow \text{(i) } \exists 0t, st \in \Gamma, \text{ (ii) } 0 < {}^v k < n, \exists st \in \Gamma \text{ such that } s < k < t.$$

$$\text{E.g., } \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{G}'_{0,2}} \prod_{ij \in \Gamma} (-\delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq 2} (1 - \delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}),$$

$$\sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{G}''_{0,2}} \prod_{ij \in \Gamma} (-\delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}) = \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{C}_{0,1}} \prod_{ij \in \Gamma} (-\delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}) \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq 2} (1 - \delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}),$$

$$\sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{G}'''_{0,2}} \prod_{ij \in \Gamma} (-\delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}) = \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{C}_{0,2}} \prod_{ij \in \Gamma} (-\delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}).$$

$$\therefore \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq 2} (1 - \delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq 2} (1 - \delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}) + \sum_{n=1}^2 \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{C}_{0,n}} \prod_{ij \in \Gamma} (-\delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}) \prod_{n \leq i < j \leq 2} (1 - \delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}).$$

$$\therefore G_p(o, x) - \delta_{o,x} = \sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} pD(o, y) G_p(y, x) + \sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \pi_p(o, y) G_p(y, x).$$

2 Lace expansion for the connected part $\sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{C}_{0,n}} \prod_{ij \in \Gamma} (-\delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j})$.

- $\mathcal{L}_{0,n}$: the set of **laces** (= minimally connected graphs) from 0 to n .

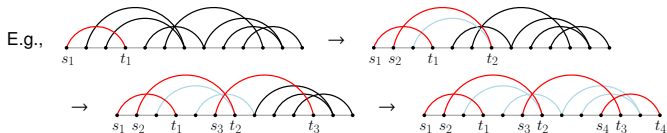
Construction of a lace $L_\Gamma = \{s_j t_j\} \in \mathcal{L}_{0,n}$ from $\Gamma \in \mathcal{C}_{0,n}$.

$$t_1 = \max\{t : 0t \in \Gamma\},$$

$$s_1 = 0,$$

$$t_{j+1} = \max\{t : \exists s < t_j, st \in \Gamma\},$$

$$s_{j+1} = \min\{s : st_{j+1} \in \Gamma\}.$$



- Resummation over **compatible edges** $\Delta(L)$ (to partially restore self-avoidance).

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\Gamma \in \mathcal{C}_{0,n}} \prod_{ij \in \Gamma} (-\delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}) &= \sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}_{0,n}} \prod_{st \in L} (-\delta_{\omega_s, \omega_t}) \sum_{\substack{\Gamma \in \mathcal{C}_{0,n}: \\ L_\Gamma = L}} \prod_{ij \in \Gamma \setminus L} (-\delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j}) \\ &= \sum_{L \in \mathcal{L}_{0,n}} \prod_{st \in L} (-\delta_{\omega_s, \omega_t}) \underbrace{\prod_{ij \in \Delta(L)} (1 - \delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j})}_{\text{restored self-avoidance}}. \end{aligned}$$

3 Diagrammatic bounds on $\pi_p^{(j)}(x)$ (assuming translation invariance).

$$\pi_p^{(1)}(x) = \sum_{\substack{\omega: o \rightarrow x \\ (|\omega| \geq 1)}} p^{|\omega|} \prod_{n=1}^{|\omega|} D(\omega_{n-1}, \omega_n) \underbrace{\delta_{\omega_0, \omega_{|\omega|}} \prod_{i \neq 0, |\omega|} (1 - \delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j})}_{\text{Diagram: a semi-circle with a red top arc and a blue bottom arc}} = \text{Diagram: a circle with } o=x \text{ at the bottom} \delta_{o,x} \leq (pD * G_p)(o) \delta_{o,x},$$

$$\pi_p^{(2)}(x) = \sum_{\substack{\omega: o \rightarrow x \\ (|\omega| \geq 1)}} p^{|\omega|} \prod_{n=1}^{|\omega|} D(\omega_{n-1}, \omega_n) \underbrace{\sum_{0 < s < t < |\omega|} \delta_{\omega_0, \omega_t} \delta_{\omega_s, \omega_{|\omega|}} \prod_{i \neq 0, s, |\omega|} (1 - \delta_{\omega_i, \omega_j})}_{\text{Diagram: two overlapping semi-circles with red top arcs and blue bottom arcs, labeled s and t}} = o \text{ (Diagram: a circle with a horizontal line through the center)} x \leq G_p(x)^3.$$

For $j \geq 3$, if $\sup_x (|x| \vee 1)^{d-2} G_p(x)$ is bounded uniformly in $p < p_c$,
 eventually proven by continuity & bootstrapping

$$\pi_p^{(j)}(x) = \text{Diagram: a sequence of triangles and semi-circles} \lesssim B_p^{(j-3) \vee 0} \frac{O(j^{2+3(d-2)})}{(|x| \vee 1)^{3(d-2)}}, \quad \text{where } B_p = \sum_{x \neq o} G_p(x)^2.$$

4 Why $d > 4$.

$$B_p \lesssim \sum_{x \neq o} G_1^{\text{RW}}(x)^2 = \int_{[-\pi, \pi]^d} \left(\frac{\hat{D}(k)}{1 - \hat{D}(k)} \right)^2 \frac{d^d k}{(2\pi)^d} = O\left(\frac{1}{d-4}\right), \quad \text{where } \hat{D}(k) = \frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \cos k_j.$$

$$\therefore \sum_{x \neq o} |x|^2 \pi_p(x) \lesssim \sum_{x \neq o} |x|^{2-3(d-2)} = \sum_{x \neq o} |x|^{-d-2(d-4)} < \infty.$$

