# Geometry of Domain Walls in disordered 2d systems

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# Applications of POLYNOMIAL combinatorial optimization methods in Stat-Phys. (T=0)

- o Flux lines with hard core interactions
- o Vortex glass with strong screening
- o Interfaces, elastic manifolds, periodic media
- o Disordered Solid-on-Solid model
- o Wetting phenomena in random systems
- o Random field Ising systems (any dim.)
- o Spin glasses (2d polynomial, d>2 NP complete)
- o Random bond Potts model at  $T_c$  in the limit  $q{\rightarrow}\infty$
- 0 ...

c.f.: A. K. Hartmann, H.R.,

Optimization Algorithms in Physics (Wiley-VCH, 2001); New optimization algorithms in Physics (Wiley-VCH, 2004)

# Paradigmatic example of a domain wall: Interfaces in random bond Ising ferromagnets

$$H = -\sum_{i} J_{ij} S_i S_j \quad J_{ij} \ge 0, \quad S_i = \pm 1$$

Find for given random bonds J<sub>ij</sub> the ground state configuration {S<sub>i</sub>} with fixed +/- boundary conditions

⇔ Find interface (cut) with minimum energy



#### The SOS model on a random substrate



Ground state (T=0): In 1d:  $h_i$ -  $h_{i+r}$  performs random walk  $C(r) = [(h_i - h_{i+r})^2] \sim r$ In 2d: Ground state superrough,  $C(r) \sim \log^2(r)$ Stays superrough at temperatures  $0 < T < T_{\alpha}$ 



### Mapping on a minimum-cost flow problem



{x}, the height differences, is an integer flow in the dual lattice  $x_{ij} = n_i - n_j$  $d_{ij} = d_i - d_j$ 

Height profile ↔ Flow configuration

Minimize 
$$H = \sum_{(ij)} (x_{ij} - d_{ij})^2$$

with the constraint  $(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{n})_i = 0$ 

(mass balance on each node of the dual lattice)

→ Minimum cost flow problem

### **Domain walls in the disordered SOS model**



### DW scaling in the disordered SOS model



#### **Energy scaling of excitations**

**Droplets** – for instance in spin glasses (ground state  $\{S_i^0\}$ ):

Connected regions C of lateral size  $\ell^d$  with  $S_i = -S_i^0$  for  $i \in C$ with OPTIMAL excess energy over GS energy  $E^0$ .



Droplets of ARBITRARY size in 2d spin glasses [N. Kawashima, 2000]

For SOS model c.f. Middleton 2001.

# **Droplets of FIXED size in the SOS model**

Droplets: Connected regions C of lateral size L/4 < l < 3L/4 with  $h_i=h_i^0+1$  for  $i \in C$  with OPTIMAL energy (= excess energy over  $E^0$ ).



Efficient computation: Mapping on a minimum s-t-cut.

Example configurations (excluded white square enforces size)

#### **Results: Scaling of droplet energy**



Average energy of droplets of lateral size ~L/2 saturates at FINITE value for  $L\rightarrow\infty$ 

Probability distribution of excitations energies: L-independent for  $L \rightarrow \infty$ .

n.b.: Droplet boundaries have fractal dimension d<sub>f</sub>=1.25, too!



#### **Geometry of DWs in disordered 2d models**



DWs are **fractal curves** in the plane for spin glasses, disordered SOS model, etc (not for random ferromagnets)

Do they follow Schramm-Loewner-Evolution (SLE)? Yes for spin glasses (Amoruso, Hartmann, Hastings, Moore, Middleton, Bernard, LeDoussal)

# **Schramm-Loewner Evolution (1)**

The random curve  $\gamma$  can be grown through a continuous exploration process Paramterize this growth process by "time" t:



When the tip  $\tau_t$  moves, a<sub>t</sub> moves on the real axis

At any t the domain D/  $\gamma$  can be mapped onto the standard domain H, such that the image of  $\gamma_t$  lies entirely on the real axis

Loewners equation:

$$\frac{dg_t(z)}{dt} = \frac{2}{g_t(z) - a_t}$$

#### **Schramm-Loewner evolution:**

If Proposition 1 and 2 hold (see next slide) than  $a_t$  is a Brownian motion:  $a_t = \sqrt{\kappa}B_t$   $\kappa$  determines different universality classes!

### **Schramm-Loewner Evolution (2)**

Define measure  $\mu$  on random curves  $\gamma$  in domain D from point r<sub>1</sub> to r<sub>2</sub>

#### **Property 1: Markovian**

$$\mu(\gamma_2|\gamma_1; D, r_1, r_2) = \mu(\gamma_2; D/\gamma_1, \tau, r_2)$$



#### **Property 2: Conformal invariance**

$$\phi \star \mu(\gamma; D, r_1, r_2) = \mu(\phi(\gamma); D', r'_1, r'_2)$$



# Examples for $SLE_{\kappa}$



- $\kappa = 2$ : Loop erased random walks
- $\kappa = 8/3$ : Self-avoiding walks
- $\kappa = 3$ : cluster boundaries in the Ising model
- $\kappa = 4$ : BCSOS model of roughening transition, 4-state Potts model, double dimer models, level lines in gaussian random field, etc.
- $\kappa = 6$ : cluster boundaries in percolation
- $\kappa = 8$ : boundaries of uniform spanning trees

# **Properties of SLE**<sub>k</sub>

1) Fractal dimension of  $\gamma$ :  $d_f = 1 + \kappa/8$  for  $\kappa \le 8$ ,  $d_f = 2$  for  $\kappa > 8$ 

2) Left passage probability: (prob. that z in D is to the left of  $\gamma$ )



#### Schramm's formula:

$$P_{\kappa,D,a,b}(z) = P(g(z)) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{4}{\kappa}\right)}{\sqrt{\pi}\Gamma\left(\frac{8-\kappa}{2\kappa}\right)} \cdot {}_2F_1\left(\frac{1}{2},\frac{4}{\kappa};\frac{3}{2};-\left(\frac{\operatorname{Re}(g(z))}{\operatorname{Im}(g(z))}\right)^2\right) \frac{\operatorname{Re}(g(z))}{\operatorname{Im}(g(z))}$$

# DW in the disordered SOS model: SLE $\kappa$ ?

 $h_{R}=1$ 

 $h_{R}=0$ 



Let D be a **circle**, a=(0,0), b=(0,L) Fix boundaries as shown





Cumulative deviation of left passage probability from Schramm's formula f. κ

Minimum at  $\kappa = 4!$ 

Local deviation of left passage probability from  $P_{\kappa=4}$ 

#### Other domains ( $\rightarrow$ conformal inv.):



## DWs in the disordered SOS model are not described by chordal SLE

Remember:  $d_f = 1.25 \pm 0.01$ 



Schramm's formula with  $\kappa=4$  fits well left passage prob. IF the DWs are described by  $SLE_{\kappa=4}$ :  $d_f = 1+\kappa/8 \implies d_f = 1.5$ 

**But: Indication for conformal invariance!** 

#### **Conclusions / Open Problems**

- Droplets for ℓ→∞ have finite average energy, and ℓ-independent energy distribution
- Domain walls have fractal dimension d<sub>f</sub>=1.25
- Left passage probability obeys Schramm's formula with  $\kappa=4$  [ $\neq 8(d_f-1)$ ]
- … in different geometries → conformal invariance?
- DWs not described by (chordal) SLE why (not Markovian?)
- Contour lines have  $d_f=1.5$  Middleton et al.): Do they obey  $SLE_{\kappa=4}$ ?
- What about SLE and other disordered 2d systems?

# Disorder chaos (T=0) in the 2d Ising spin glass

$$C_{\delta}(r) = \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} S_i S_{i+r} S'_i(\delta) S'_{i+r}(\delta)\right]_{\mathrm{av}}.$$

$$Q_L(\delta) = N^{-1} |\sum_{i=1}^N S_i S'_i(\delta)|$$



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$$C_{\delta}(r) \sim \tilde{c}(r\delta^{1/\zeta})$$

HR et al, JPA 29, 3939 (1996)

#### **Disorder chaos in the SOS model – 2d**

Scaling of  $C_{ab}(r) = [(h_i^{a} - h_{i+r}^{a}) (h_i^{b} - h_{i+r}^{b})]:$ 

 $C_{ab}(r) = \log^2(r) f(r/L_{\delta})$  with  $L_{\delta} \sim \delta^{-1/\zeta}$  "Overlap Length"

 $q^2 \cdot C_{12}(q) \sim \log(1/q) \qquad \Rightarrow C_{12}(r) \sim \log^2(r)$ 

Analytical predictions for asymptotics  $r \rightarrow \infty$ :

Hwa & Fisher [PRL 72, 2466 (1994)]: $C_{ab}(r) \sim log(r)$ (RG)Le Doussal [cond-mat/0505679]: $C_{ab}(r) \sim log^2(r) / r^{\mu}$  with  $\mu$ =0.19 in 2d (FRG)

Exact GS calculations, Schehr & HR `05:



 $\Rightarrow$  Numerical results support RG picture of Hwa & Fisher.