# Fredrickson Andersen 2-spin facilitated model: sharp threshold

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# Fredrickson Andersen 2 spin facilitated model (FA-2f)

An interacting particle system on  $\{0,1\}^{\mathbb{Z}^d}$ ,  $d \geq 2$ .

0=empty, 1=occupied.

Dynamics: birth and death of particles

- Fix a parameter  $q \in [0, 1]$
- at rate 1 each site gets a proposal to update its state to empty at rate *q* and to occupied at rate 1 − *q*.
- the proposal is accepted iff the site has at least 2 empty nearest neighbours = iff the kinetic constraint is satisfied

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- $\rightarrow$  sharp slowdown for  $q\downarrow 0$

Several IPS tools fail  $\rightarrow$  new tools needed!

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# Motivations from physics

Introduced in the '80's to model the liquid/glass transition

- major open problem in condensed matter physics;
- sharp divergence of timescales;
- no significant structural changes.
- ⇒ kinetic constraints mimic *cage effect* : if temperature is lowered free volume shrinks ( $q \leftrightarrow e^{-1/T}$ )
- $\Rightarrow$  changing the constraint: KCM
- ⇒ trivial equilibrium and yet sharp divergence of timescales when  $q \downarrow 0$ , aging, heterogeneities, ... → glassy dynamics

# Motivations from physics

- Key question: how do KCM time-scales diverge for  $q \downarrow 0$  ?
- Sharp divergence → numerical simulations do not give clear-cut answers, some of the conjectures were wrong!

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#### 2-neighbour Bootstrap Percolation

A deterministic discrete time algorithm on  $\{0,1\}^{\mathbb{Z}^d}, d \geq 2$ :

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- iterate until reaching a stable configuration.

If the initial configuration is distributed with  $\mu_q$ 

 $\rightarrow \forall q > 0$  the stable configuration is a.s. empty [Van Enter '88]  $\rightarrow \tau_0^{\text{BP}} = \text{first time at which the origin is emptied}$ 

$$\text{for } q \downarrow 0 \ \text{ w.h.p. } \tau_0^{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{BP}} = \exp\left(\frac{\lambda(d)}{q^{1/(d-1)}}(1-o(1))\right)$$

• 
$$\lambda(2) = \pi^2/18$$
 [Holroyd '08]

•  $\lambda(d) = \dots \, \forall d > 2$  [Balogh Bollobas Duminil-Copin Morris '12]

#### Back to FA2f: our results

Theorem [Hartarsky, Martinelli, C.T. '20]

As  $q \downarrow 0$ , w.h.p. for the stationary FA-2f model on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  it holds

$$au_0 = \exp\left(\frac{d imes \lambda(d)}{q^{1/(d-1)}}(1 - o(1))\right), \ \ d \ge 2$$

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#### Remark

- This is not a corollary of the BP result: the emptying/occupying mechanism of FA-2f has no counterpart in BP!
- We settle contrasting conjectures in physics literature

 Relaxation is driven by the motion of unlikely and large patches of empty sites ⇒ droplets

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 $\dots 1$  adjacent  $\circ$  allows expansion!



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- Droplets move in any direction ..... isn't this a contradiction with "finite empty regions cannot expand"?!
- Motion requires few additional empty sites → this good environment is very likely for large droplets (q ↓ 0)

•  $\tau_0 \sim$  time for the droplet to arrive near the origin

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- $\tau_0 \sim$  time for the droplet to arrive near the origin
- motion of droplets  $\sim$  coalescing + branching + SSEP

 $\rightarrow \tau_0 \sim 1/\rho_D$ 

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•  $au_0^{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{BP}} \sim \mathrm{distance} \ \mathrm{of} \ \mathrm{droplet} \ \mathrm{to} \ \mathrm{origin}$ 

$$\rightarrow \tau_0^{\rm BP} \sim 1/\rho_D^{1/d} \sim {\tau_0}^{1/d}$$

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# How do optimal droplets look like? the d=2 case

#### Two key steps:

- identify optimal droplets (... what does optimal means?)
- study the droplet motion and identify its time-scale

#### Optimal droplets are regions of size poly(1/q) that contain:

- a segment of  $\sim 1/\sqrt{q}$  empty sites  $\Rightarrow$  core
- additional empty sites allowing the core to move inside the droplet without creating a larger empty core
   ⇒ super-good dust

### Super-good dust: multi-scale construction



 $\ell_n := e^{n\sqrt{q}}/\sqrt{q}, \quad N = 8|\log q|/\sqrt{q} \quad \to \quad \ell_N = L_D = q^{-17/2 + o(1)}$ 

- black square = no double raws fully occupied + one raw with no consecutive filled sites (the core)
- vertical arrow = no double raws fully occupied
- horizontal arrow = no double columns fully occupied

# More precisely...

A multi-scale definition

- $\ell_n := e^{n\sqrt{q}}/\sqrt{q}, \quad N = 8|\log q|/\sqrt{q}$  $\rightarrow \quad \ell_N = L_D = (1/q)^{17/2 + o(1)}$
- a rectangle R is of class n if
  - R is a single site for n = 0;
  - $R = \ell_m \times h$  with  $h \in (\ell_{m-1}, \ell_m]$  for n = 2m;
  - $R = w \times \ell_m$  with  $w \in (\ell_m, \ell_{m+1}]$  for n = 2m + 1
- Super-good (SG) rectangles:
  - a rectangle of class 0 is SG if it is empty;
  - a rectangle of class n is SG if it contains a SG rectangle R' of class n-1 (the *core*) AND it satisfies *traversability conditions* elsewhere, i.e. no double column/raw fully occupied.

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#### Droplets are defined as $\ell_N \times \ell_N$ SG rectangles

• A droplet coalesces with a nearby droplet on time

$$T \sim \exp\left(\frac{|\log q|^3}{q^{1/(2d-2)}}\right)$$

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 droplets can move by deforming themselves like amoeba (i.e. rearranging the position of the super-good dust) → a droplet and a non-droplet swap position on time T ≪ ρ<sub>D</sub><sup>-1</sup>

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 $\implies$  A generalised CBSEP motion

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$$\rightarrow \tau_0 \leq T_{\rm rel}^{\rm FA-2f,D}\,T_{\rm rel}^{\rm g-CBSEP}$$

 $T_{\rm rel}^{\rm FA-2f, D}$  = relaxation time of the FA-2f chain inside a droplet  $T_{\rm rel}^{\rm g-CBSEP}$  = relaxation time of the g-CBSEP chain

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establish the following Poincaré inequalities

$$\rightarrow T_{\mathrm{rel}}^{\mathrm{FA-2f,D}} \leq e^{O(\log q)/q^{1/(2d-2)}} \qquad T_{\mathrm{rel}}^{\mathrm{g-CBSEP}} \leq \rho_D^{-1} \log \rho_D$$

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- our mathematical tools are very flexible, we prove universality results in d = 2 for all KCM [Hartarsky, Marêché, Martinelli, Morris, C.T. '19 - '20- '21+]

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- our mathematical tools are very flexible, we prove universality results in *d* = 2 for all KCM [Hartarsky, Marêché, Martinelli, Morris, C.T. '19 - '20- '21+]
- relaxation is always driven by large rare droplets but their motion can be very different from CBSEP!

Ex. Duarte-KCM:

d = 2, constraint = at least 2 empty among N,W,S neighbours

$$\tau_0 = e^{\Theta\left(\frac{(\log q)^4}{q^2}\right)} \gg \tau_0^{\mathrm{BP}} = e^{\Theta\left(\frac{(\log q)^2}{q}\right)}$$

$$\rightarrow \tau_0 \gg (\tau_0^{\rm BP})^c \ \forall c$$

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[Marêché, Martinelli, C.T. '20]

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# Thanks for your attention!

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