

# A directed polymer in random environment with unbounded jumps

Ryoki Fukushima (Kyoto University)

16th Stochastic Analysis on Large Scale Interacting Systems  
November 9, 2017

Partly based on a joint work with Francis Comets (University of Paris 7), Shuta Nakajima (Kyoto university) and Nobuo Yoshida (Nagoya university)

# Model

- ▶  $(\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, P)$ : Random walk on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  with

$$P(X_{n+1} = x | X_n = y) = c_1 \exp\{-|x - y|_1^\alpha\};$$

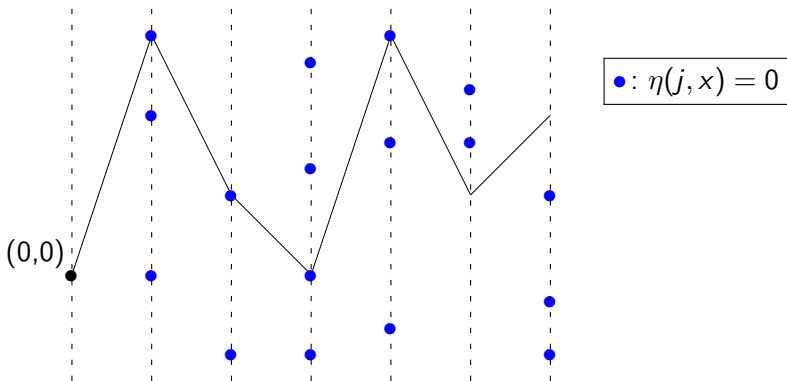
- ▶  $(\{\eta(j, x)\}_{(j,x) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{Z}^d}, Q)$ : IID,  $\text{Ber}(p)$ .

Directed polymer measure:

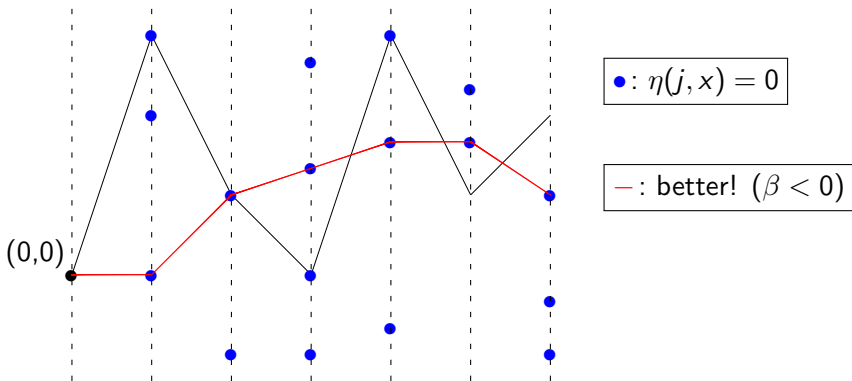
$$\mu_n^{\eta, \beta}(\mathrm{d}X) = \frac{1}{Z_n^{\eta, \beta}} \exp \left\{ \beta \sum_{j=1}^n \eta(j, X_j) \right\} P_0(\mathrm{d}X),$$
$$Z_n^{\eta, \beta} = P \left[ \exp \left\{ \beta \sum_{j=1}^n \eta(j, X_j) \right\} \right].$$

$\beta > 0 \Rightarrow$  attractive,  $\beta < 0 \Rightarrow$  repulsive.

$$Z_n^{\eta, \beta} = \sum_{X: \text{path}} c_1^n \exp \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n \left[ \beta \eta(j, X_j) - |X_{j-1} - X_j|_1^\alpha \right] \right\}.$$



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# Free energy

It is standard to show the existence of the free energy:

$$\varphi(p, \beta) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log Z_n^{\eta, \beta} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} Q[\log Z_n^{\eta, \beta}].$$

If we naturally define  $Z_n^{\eta, -\infty} = P(\sum_{j=1}^n \eta(j, X_j) = 0)$ , this holds even at  $\beta = -\infty$ .

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The key ingredient is that  $Q[\log Z_n^{\eta, -\infty}] < \infty$ , which FAILS to hold for SRW model and Brownian polymer in Poissonian environment.

## Digression to nearest neighbor model

Let  $N_n$  be the number of open paths of length  $n$  in the oriented percolation. Suppose  $p > p_c$  and always assume percolation.

- ▶ F.-Yoshida (2012):  $N_n$  grows exponentially.
- ▶ Garet-Gouéré-Marchand (2017):  $\frac{1}{n} \log N_n$  converges.

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This  $N_n$  is the (negative) zero-temperature version of the directed SRW in Bernoulli environment.

Question: Continuity of the free energy at  $\beta = -\infty$ ?



# Part 1: Free energy asymptotics

## Zero temperature limit

In our model, we know  $\varphi(p, -\infty)$  exists.

**Theorem (Comets–F.–Nakajima–Yoshida 2015)**

For any  $\alpha < d$ ,

$$\varphi(p, \beta) \xrightarrow{\beta \searrow -\infty} \varphi(p, -\infty).$$

### Remark

1. The joint continuity in  $(p, \beta)$  is easy on  $|\beta| < \infty$  region.
2. The proof shows that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , we can choose large negative  $\beta < 0$  such that

$$Z_n^{\eta, -\infty} \leq Z_n^{\eta, \beta} \leq e^{\epsilon n} Z_n^{\eta, -\infty}.$$

*This gives an alternative proof of the existence of  $\varphi(p, -\infty)$ .*

## A word on the proof: $\alpha < d$

The proof roughly goes as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} Z_n^{\eta, \beta} &= \sum_{X: \text{path}} c_1^n \exp \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n \left[ \beta \eta(j, X_j) - |X_{j-1} - X_j|_1^\alpha \right] \right\} \\ &= \left( \sum_{\text{no traps}} + \sum_{\text{few traps}} + \sum_{\text{many traps}} \right) c_1^n \exp \{ \cdots \}. \end{aligned}$$

$\sum_{\text{no traps}} = Z_n^{\eta, -\infty}$  and  $\sum_{\text{many traps}}$  is negligible when  $\beta \sim -\infty$ .

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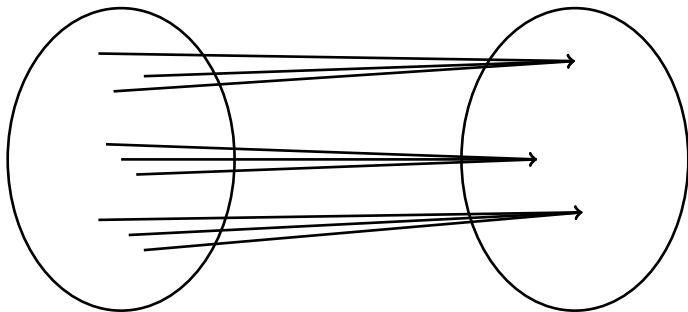
If a path  $X$  go through only few traps, we can deform (or map) it to a trap free path:

- ▶ it can be done without too much extra cost;
- ▶ not too many paths are mapped to the same trap free path.

# Bounding $\sum_{\text{few traps}}$ by $\sum_{\text{no traps}}$

Paths with few traps

Paths with no traps



$$\#\{\text{Paths with few traps}\} \leq \#\{\text{Paths with no traps}\} \times \text{"Multiplicity"}$$

## The case $\alpha \geq d$

The other case  $\alpha \geq d$  require a different technique and has been done by

S. Nakajima: Concentration results for directed polymer with unbounded jumps, arXiv:1603.05032.

In order to apply the method of bounded differences, a good control on the jumps is important.

### Lemma

*For any  $\alpha > 1$ , “typical” polymers of length  $n$  jumps at most  $n^{o(1)}$ .*

## High density limit

When  $\beta = -\infty$  and  $p = 1$ , it is natural to set  $\varphi(1, -\infty) = -\infty$ .

### Theorem (Comets *et al.* 2015)

*For any  $\alpha > 0$ , there exists  $\mu_1 > 0$  such that*

$$\varphi(p, -\infty) \stackrel{p \nearrow 1}{\sim} -\mu_1(1-p)^{-\alpha/d}.$$

### Remark

*When  $p \sim 1$ , RW has to jump  $(1-p)^{-1/d}$  to find an “open” site.  
The constant  $\mu_1$  is a time constant of a certain FPP model.*

## A directed first passage percolation

Denote the scaled open sites by

$$\omega_p = \{(k, (1-p)^{1/d}x) : \eta(k, x) = 0\}.$$

This converges to a homogeneous Poisson point process  $(\omega_1, \mathbb{P})$  on  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R}^d$  as  $p \nearrow 1$ .



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For each  $p \in (0, 1]$ , consider a first passage percolation:

$$T_n(\omega_p) = \min \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^n |x_{k-1} - x_k|^\alpha : x_0 = 0 \text{ and } \{(k, x_k)\}_{k=1}^n \subset \omega_p \right\}.$$

(cf. Howard–Newmann (1996) studied non-directed model.)

$$\exists \mu_p = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} T_n(\omega_p), \quad Q\text{-a.s.}$$

## Continuity of time constant

As  $T_n(\omega_p)$  is the least cost for a path to avoid traps,

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(\sum_{j=1}^n \eta(j, X_j) = 0\right) &\geq c_1^n \exp\{-(1-p)^{-\alpha/d} T_n(\omega_p)\} \\ &\gtrsim c_1^n \exp\{-(1-p)^{-\alpha/d} \mu_p n\}. \end{aligned}$$

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To prove the upper bound, we need to show that there are not too many paths which are “nearly optimal”. This is done by a standard block argument.

## Part 2: Geometry of optimal path

# Reminder

## Lemma (Nakajima, 2017+)

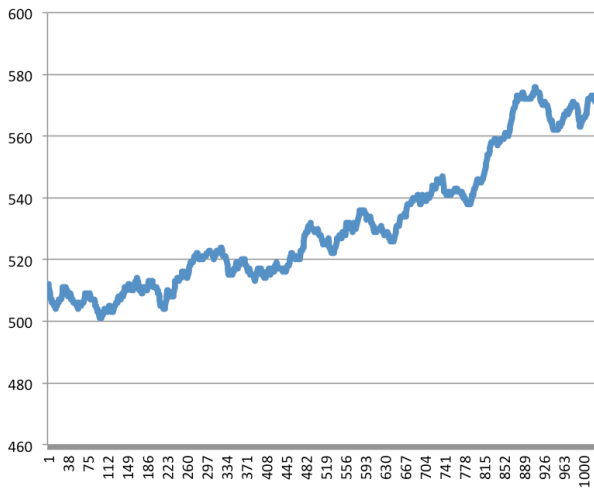
*For any  $\alpha > 1$ , “typical” polymers of length  $n$  jumps at most  $n^{o(1)}$ .*

This remains true (in fact easier) in the FPP setting. Let us call paths attaining  $T_n(\omega_p)$  *optimal paths*.

## Lemma (Nakajima, 2017+)

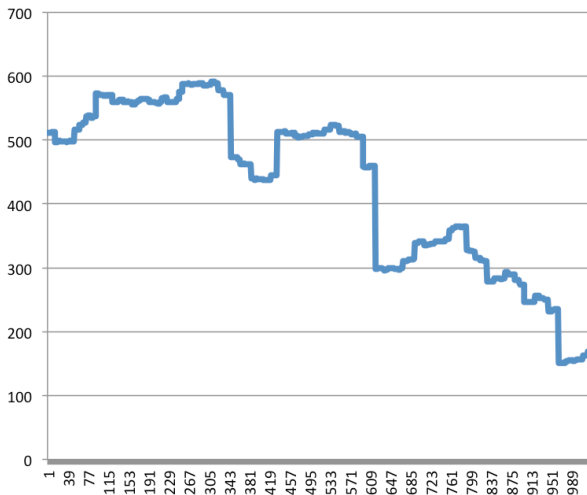
*For any  $\alpha > 1$ , any optimal path jumps at most  $n^{o(1)}$ .*

$(1 + 1)$ -dim,  $p = 1/2$ , 1024 steps,  $\alpha = 1.2$



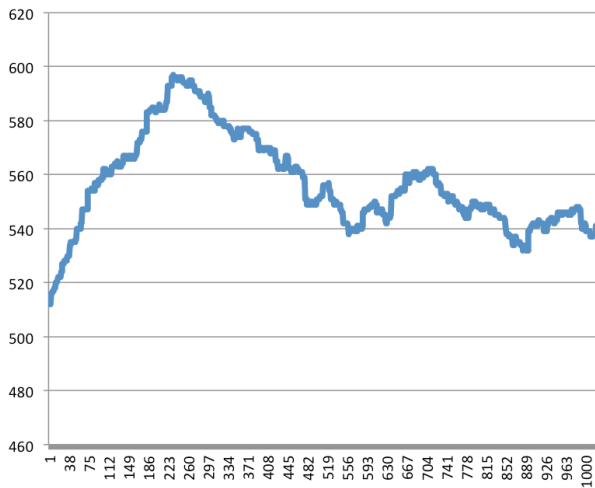
Maximal jump=3

$(1 + 1)$ -dim,  $p = 1/2$ , 1024 steps,  $\alpha = 0.4$



Maximal jump=162

$(1 + 1)$ -dim,  $p = 1/2$ , 1024 steps,  $\alpha = 0.8$

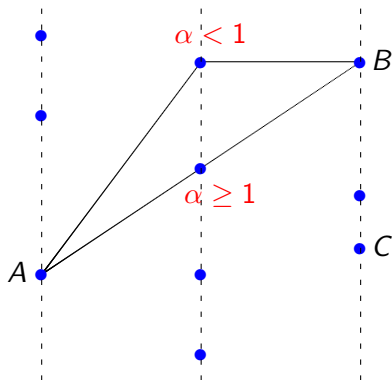


Maximal jump=8



## Why large jump for $\alpha < 1$ ?

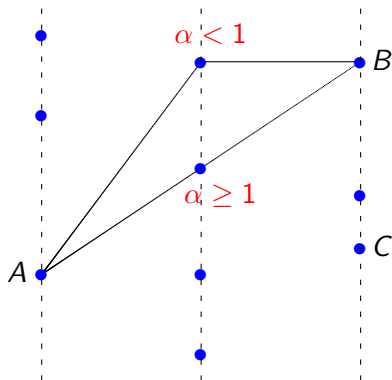
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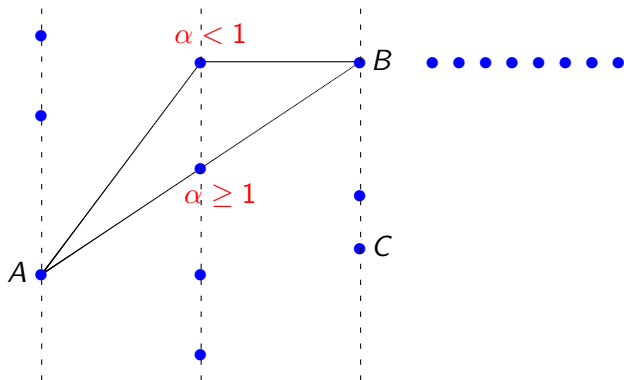


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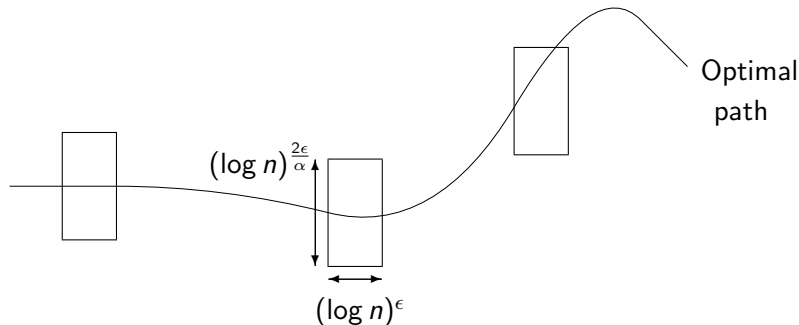
Why go to  $B$  instead of  $C$ ? To find a “good” environment!

# A result

## Proposition

*For any  $\alpha \in (0, \infty)$ , there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that the maximal jump of any optimal path is larger than  $(\log n)^\epsilon$ .*

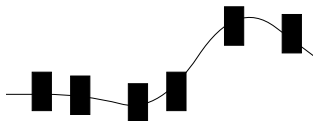
## Schematic argument



We call a box *black* if its passage time is close to  $\mu_p(\log t)^\epsilon$  and the path exits from right side. This is a typical situation and most of the boxes are black.

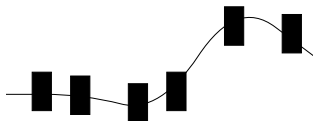
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There are  $n^{1-o(1)}$  many black boxes.  
On each black box, we *re-sample*  
the configuration.



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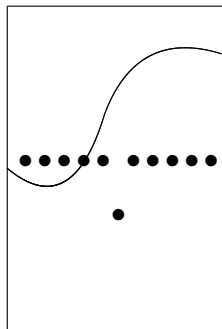
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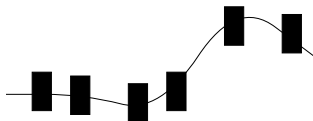
- almost straightly aligned points;
- the middle point  $(\log n)^\epsilon$  away;
- otherwise no points inside the box;

with probability at least  $\exp\{-(\log n)^{\frac{10\epsilon}{\alpha}}\}$ ,



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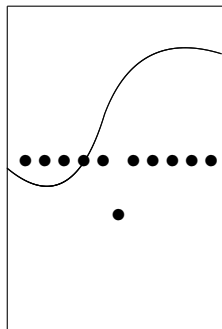


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with probability at least  $\exp\{-(\log n)^{\frac{10\epsilon}{\alpha}}\}$ ,  
that is much larger than  $n^{-1+o(1)}$  for  
small  $\epsilon$ .

If there is such a box, the optimal path  
does make a  $(\log n)^\epsilon$  jump.





## Schematic argument

There are two ways to make sense/use of “re-sampling”.

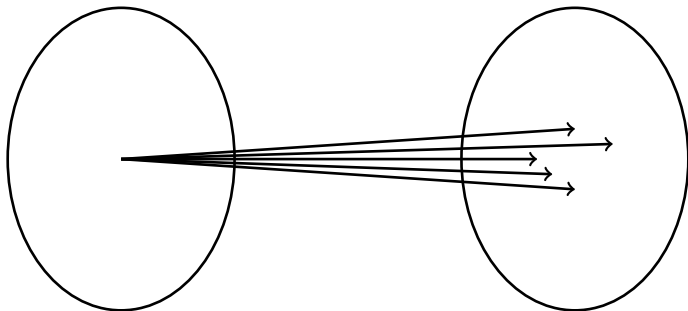
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We use the latter that relies on a combinatorial interpretation of the re-sampling:



Paths without big jumps

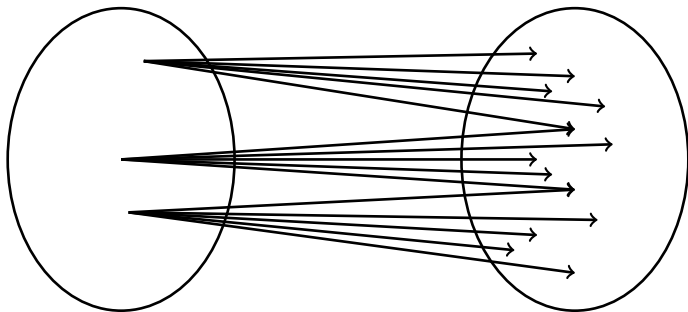
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$$\#\{\text{Paths without big jumps}\} \ll \#\{\text{Paths with a big jump}\}$$

Thank you!