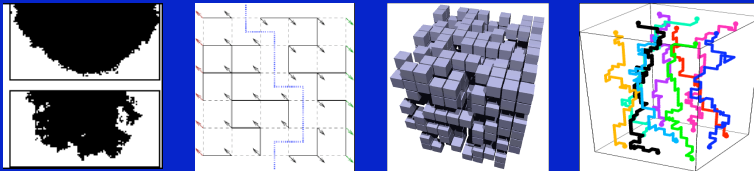


## Disordered Systems, Ground States and Combinatorial Optimization in Statistical Physics

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Santa Barbara, 5/23/03

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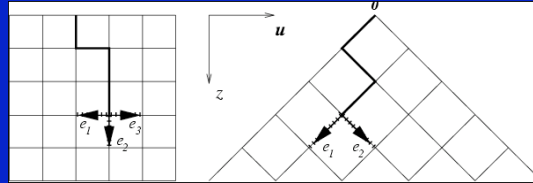
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**A simple combinatorial optimization problem:  
The (directed) polymer model:**



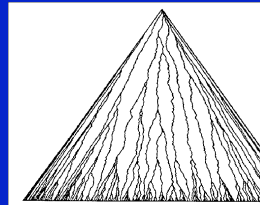
Lattice graph    Non-directed                      directed

Random bond energies:  $e_i \in [0,1]$

Total energy:  $E = \sum_{i \in path} e_i$

Find ground state – i.e. optimal path  
From top node to a bottom nodes:

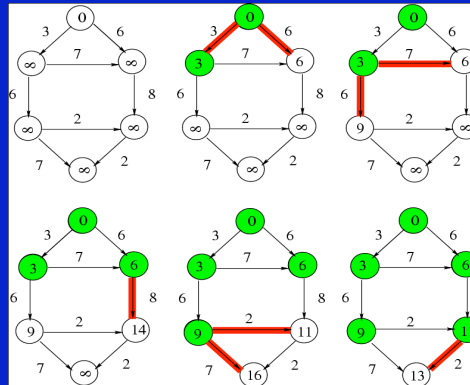
Collection of optimal directed polymers



**Dijkstras algorithm  
for shortest paths in general graphs**

Start node:  $s$   
Minimal distance (energy)  
from  $s$  to  $j$ :  $d(j)$   
Predecessor of  $j$ :  $pred(j)$

**algorithm** Dijkstra  
**begin**  
 $S := \{s\}$ ,  $S^* = N \setminus \{s\}$ ;  
 $d(s) := 0$ ,  $pred(s) := 0$ ;  
**while**  $|S| < |N|$  **do**  
  **begin**  
    choose  $(i,j)$ :  
     $d(j) := \min_{k,m} \{d(k) + c_{km} \mid k \text{ in } S, m \text{ in } S^*\}$ ;  
     $S^* = S^* \setminus \{j\}$ ;  $S = S \cup \{j\}$ ;  
     $pred(j) := i$ ;  
  **end**  
**end**



Performance  $O(N^2)$ ,  
with heap reshuffling  $O(N \log(N))$

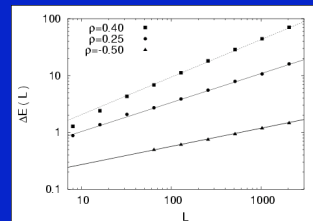
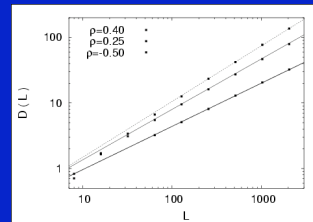
## Optimal paths with correlated disorder

Isotropically correlated disorder:  $\langle e_i e_{i+r} \rangle \sim r^{2\alpha-1}$

Universal geometrical properties:

Roughness:  
 $D(L) = \langle x^2 \rangle - \langle x \rangle^2 \sim L^\alpha$

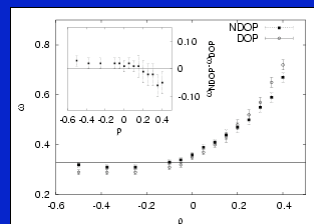
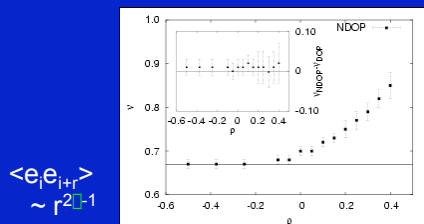
Energy fluctuations:  
 $\Delta E(L) = \langle E^2 \rangle - \langle E \rangle^2 \sim L^\beta$



## Optimal paths with correlated disorder (2)

2d: Roughness exponent  $\alpha$

Energy fluctuation exp.  $\beta$



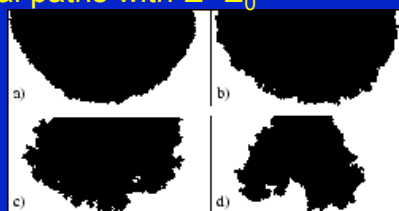
$\langle e_i e_{i+r} \rangle \sim r^{2\alpha-1}$

Optimal paths with  $E < E_0$

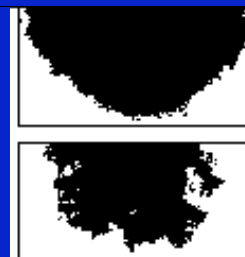
$\alpha < 0$

2d

$\alpha = 0.4$



3d



## From one line to many lines

Continuum model for N interacting elastic lines in a random potential

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_0^H dz \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{dr_i}{dz} \right)^2 + V_{rand}[r_i(z), z] + \sum_{j(\neq i)} V_{int}[r_i(z) - r_j(z)] \right]$$

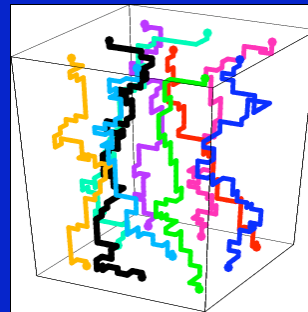
Strong disorder:  $V_{rand} \gg V_{int}$  short ranged, hard core

$$H = \sum_{i(\text{bond})} e_i n_i \quad n_i = 0,1$$

$$e_i \in [0,1]$$

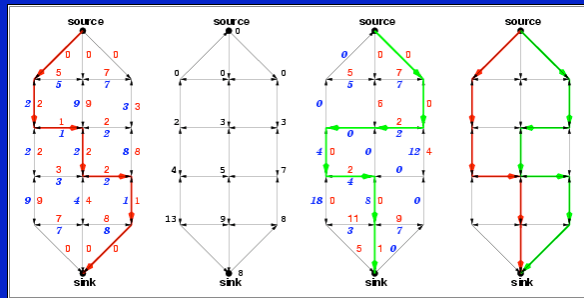
Ground state of N-line problem:  
Minimum Cost Flow problem

Example conf. for 9 lines:



## Successive shortest path algorithm

Find successively shortest paths from s to t in the residual network  $G_r(n)$ :  
Use node potentials  $\pi(i)$   
reduced energies  $e_{ij}^{\pi}(n)$  all positive  
Use Dijkstra's algorithm



**begin**

$n:=0; \pi(i)=0; G_r(n):=G;$

**for** line-counter = 1 to N **do**

compute reduced energies  $e_{ij}^{\pi}(n)=e_{ij} + \pi(i) - \pi(j);$

find the shortest path distance  $d(i)$  from s to all other nodes i

in the residual network  $G_r(n)$  w.r. to the reduced energies  $e_{ij}^{\pi}(n);$

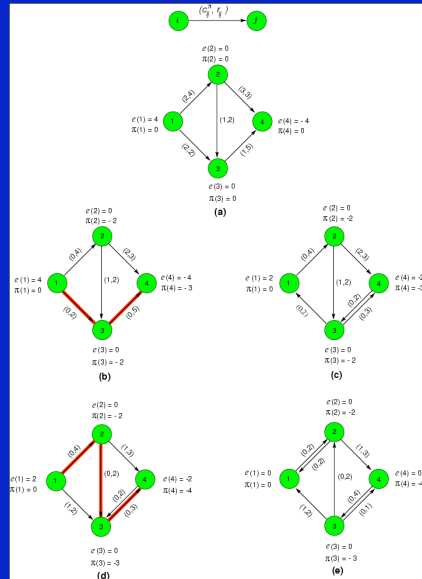
increase flow on the shortest path from s to t by one unit;

compute  $\pi(i):=\pi(i)-d(i);$

**end**

**end**

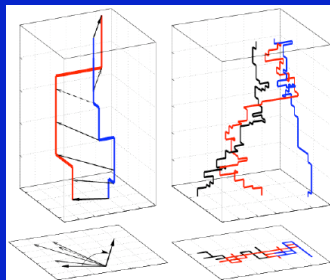
## Successive shortest path algorithm (2)



## Entanglement of elastic lines in a disordered environment

Magnetic flux lines in type II superconductors:

**Pure case:** Abrikosov-FL lattice  
**Weak disorder:** Bragg glass phase  
**Strong disorder:** Topological defects  
**FL entanglement**



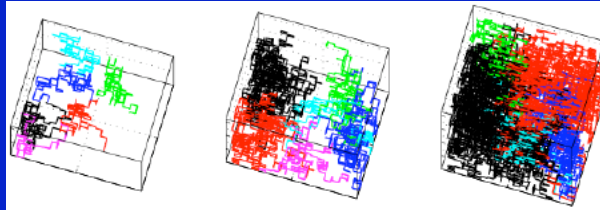
### Definition of two-line-entanglement

Check winding angle of line A and B:  
 if  $> 2\pi$ : A and B are entangled.

### Definition of entangled clusters:

Entangled lines form clusters or bundles:  
 A @ B and B @ C  $\square$  A & B & C in one bundle

### Entanglement transition of elastic lines

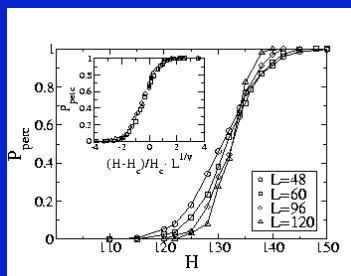


H = 64

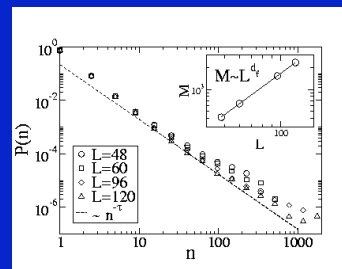
H = 96

H = 128

### Conventional 2d percolation transition



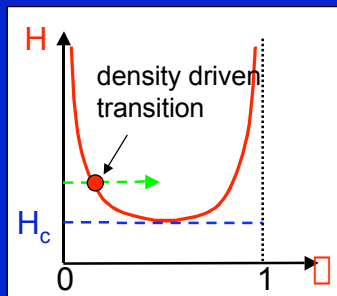
$\square=4/3$



$d_f=1,896$

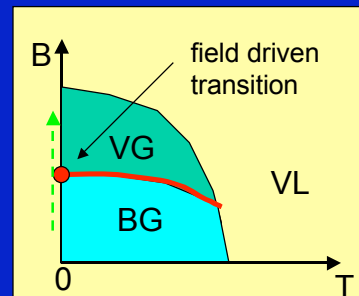
$\square=2,055$

### Entanglement transition of elastic lines (2)



Thick samples ( $H > H_c$ ):  
Entanglement transition;

Thin samples ( $H < H_c$ ):  
Disentangled lines – rods.



Magnetic field (B) driven  
Bragg glass (BG)  
to vortex glass (VG) transition  
in disordered high- $T_c$   
superconductors;  
n.b.: line density  $\square \propto B$

## Loop percolation of magnetic flux lines in HTC (1)

Vortex-Glass Model

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} (n_i - b_i) G_{ij}(i - j) (n_j - b_j)$$

$$n_i = \dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad n_i = 0$$

$$b_j = \sum_{\text{plaq.}} A_{ij}, \quad A_{ij} \in [0, 2\pi]$$

$$G_{ij}(i - j) \sim \exp(-|r_{ij}| / \xi) / r_{ij}$$

Strong screening limit:

$$\xi \rightarrow 0$$

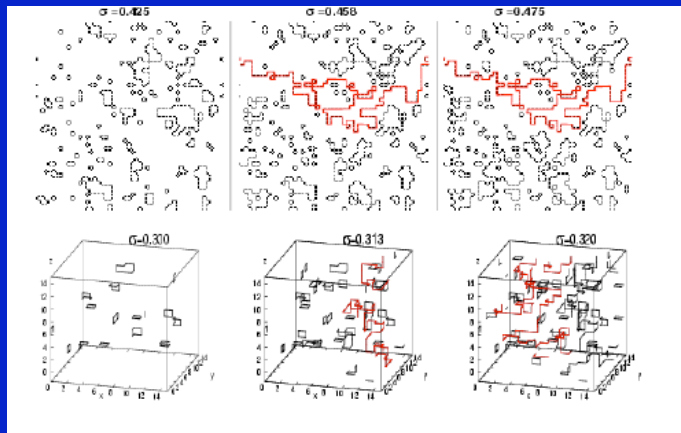
$$H = \sum_i (n_i - b_i)^2$$

Ground state: Minimum cost flow problem  
Successive shortest path algorithm

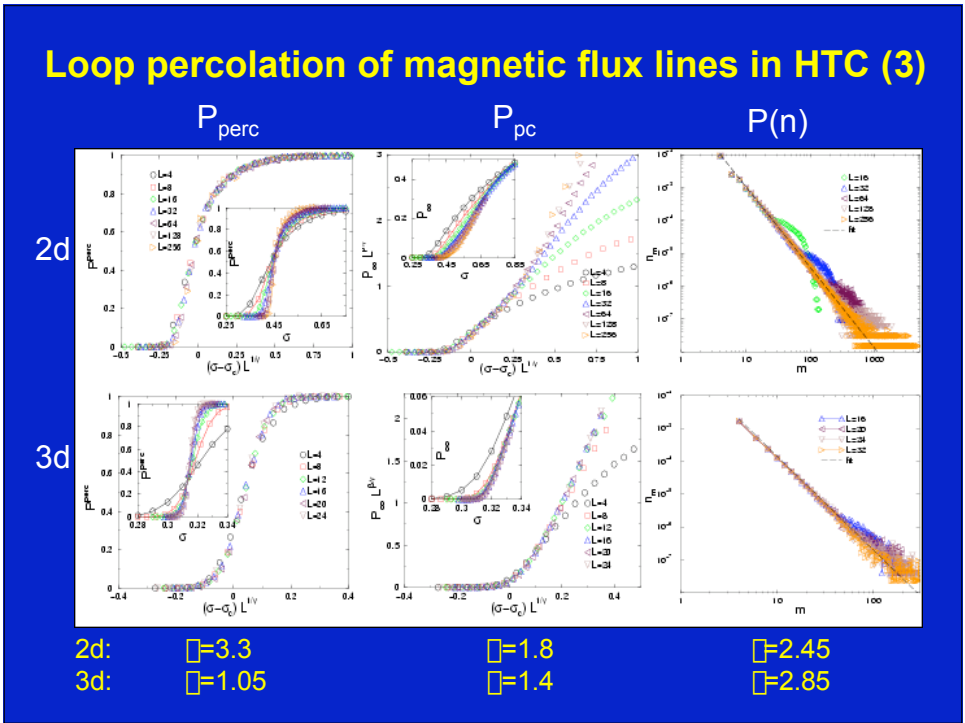
Note:  $\xi$  = strength of disorder

## Loop percolation of magnetic flux lines in HTC (2)

2d



3d



### Another combinatorial optimization problem: Interfaces in random bond Ising ferromagnets

$$H = \sum_i \sum_j J_{ij} S_i S_j$$

$$J_{ij} \geq 0, \quad S_i = \pm 1$$

Find for given random bonds  $J_{ij}$  the **ground state** configuration  $\{S_i\}$  with fixed +/- b.c.

$S_i = +1$

$S_i = -1$

$\square$  Find interface (cut) with minimum energy



### Min-Cut-Max-Flow Problem

network  $G(V,A)$ , arcs (Bonds)  $(i,j) \in A$  have capacity  $u_{ij} > 0$ ,  
 flow  $0 \leq n_{ij} \leq u_{ij}$  fulfills mass balance constraint

$$\sum_{\{j|(j,i) \in A\}} n_{ji} - \sum_{\{j|(i,j) \in A\}} n_{ij} = \begin{cases} v & \text{for } i = s \\ -v & \text{for } i = t \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Find the maximum flow  $n^*$  with value  $v$  from  $s$  to  $t$

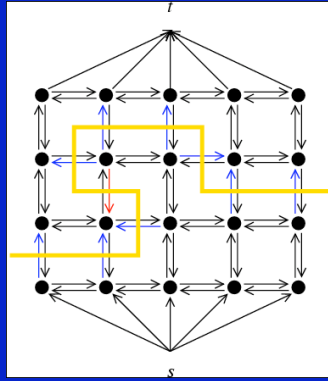
residual network  $G(n)$  with residual capacities

$$r_{ij} = u_{ij} - n_{ij} + n_{ji}$$

$n^*$  maximum flow  $\iff$  no directed path  $s \rightsquigarrow t$  in  $G(n^*)$

$s$ - $t$  cut  $[S, S']$  is a partition of  $V$  in two disjoint sets with  $s \in S, t \in S' = V \setminus S$ ,  
 $(S, S') = \{(i,j) \in A \mid i \in S, j \in S'\}$ ; capacity of the  $s$ - $t$  cut  $v[S, S'] = \sum_{(i,j) \in (S, S')} u_{ij}$

**Min-Cut-Max-Flow-Theorem:  $\max_{\{n\}} v = \min_{[S, S']} v[S, S']$  and  $r_{ij}^* = 0$  along  $(S, S')$**



### Preflow-Push Algorithm

Strategy:

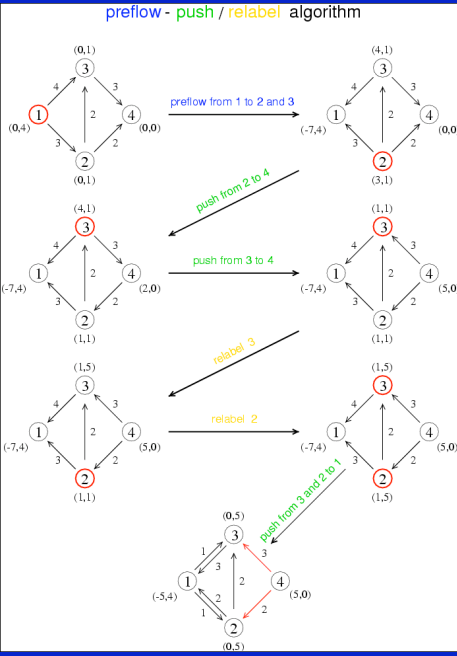
- 1) flood the network from source
- 2) propagate the flooding toward the target
- 3) push excess flow back towards source

excess flow  $e(i) = \sum_{\{j|(j,i) \in A\}} n_{ji} - \sum_{\{j|(i,j) \in A\}} n_{ij}$

distance function  $d(i)$  (w.r.t. target)

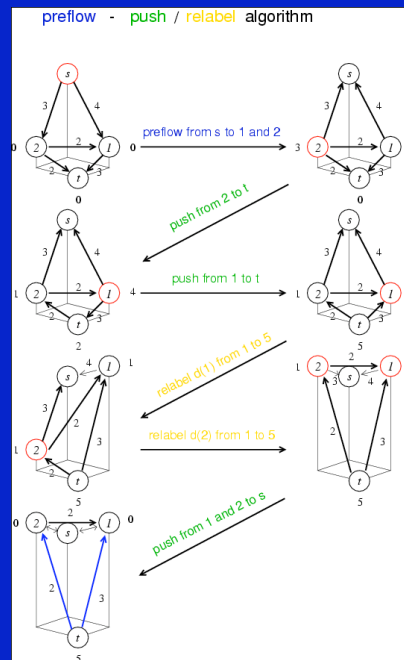
**begin**  
 $d(i) =$  exact distance from target,  $d(s) = |V|$   
 for all  $(s,j) \in A: n_{sj} = u_{sj}$ ;  
**choose**  $i \in \bigcup \{s, t\}$  with  $e(i) > 0$   
**if** there is  $(i,j) \in A$  with  $d(i) = d(j) + 1$ :  
 push  $\lfloor \min\{e(i), r_{ij}\} \rfloor$  flow units from  $i$  to  $j$   
**else**  
 relabel  $d(i) = \min_{\{j|(i,j) \in A, r_{ij} > 0\}} \{d(j) + 1\}$ ;  
**end**

preflow - push / relabel algorithm



## Preflow-Push-Algorithm (2)

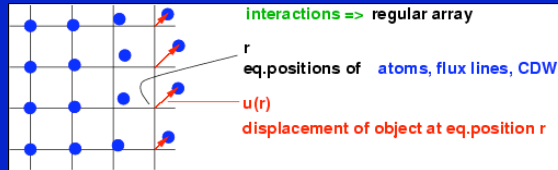
Interpret distance function (or labels) as height of the nodes.



## Problems that can be mapped on min-cut / max-flow

- Interfaces / wetting in random media
- Random field Ising model (in any dimension)
- Periodic media (flux lines, CDW, etc.) in disordered environments
- Elastic manifolds with periodic potential and disorder

### Example: Elastic manifolds / Elastic media



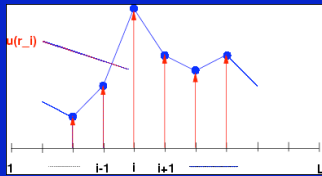
Expansion of potential energy around equilibrium positions:

$$H_{elast} = \int d^D r (\frac{1}{2} u^2 + \sum_{(ij)} [u(r_i) - u(r_j)]^2)$$

Effects of impurities, i.e. disorder: lattice distortions:

$$H_{rand} = \int d^D r V[r, u(r)] + \sum_{(ij)} V[r_i, u(r_i)]$$

Manifolds: D=1 KPZ, in any D  $\square$  interface in D+1 RBIFM



$$w^2 = \int_i (u_i - \langle u \rangle)^2 L^D$$

$$\square = 2/3, 0.41, 0.22 \text{ in } D=2,3,4$$

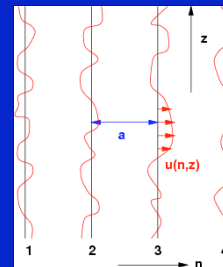
### Periodic elastic media

Symmetry:  $H\{u\} = H\{u + a \cdot n\}$ , e.g.: flux lines

Random pinning potential: first harmonics

$$V[r, u(r)] = \cos(2\pi u(r) / a) \square(r)$$

$\square \in [0, 2\pi]$ , random



$$H = \int d^D r (\frac{1}{2} u^2 + \sum_{(ij)} (u_i - u_j)^2 + \int_i \cos(u_i \square_i))$$

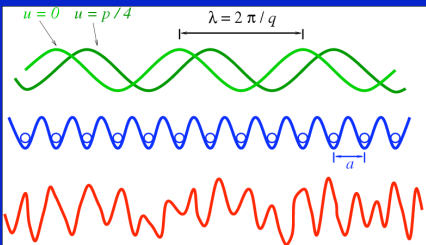
Flory argument: Roughness  $\langle\langle u^2 \rangle\rangle \sim \ln L/L_\square$   
 in 2d RG:  $\langle\langle u^2 \rangle\rangle \sim (\ln L/L_\square)^2$

### Periodic elastic media + periodic potential

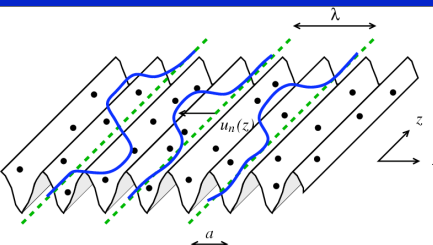
$$H = \int d^D r (\nabla u)^2 + v \cos(p \cdot u(r)) + \phi(r) \cos(u(r) - \phi(r))$$

$$\langle \phi(r) \rangle = 0 \quad \langle \phi(r) \phi(r') \rangle = \phi \phi(r - r') \quad \langle e^{i\phi(r)} \rangle = 0 \quad \langle e^{i\phi(r)} e^{i\phi(r')} \rangle = \phi \phi(r - r')$$

2 periodicities with ratio  $p$      $T=0$  roughening transition via  $\phi$



Charge density wave system



Flux line system

### Periodic elastic medium + periodic potential (2)

Mapping to an RBIFM interface problem

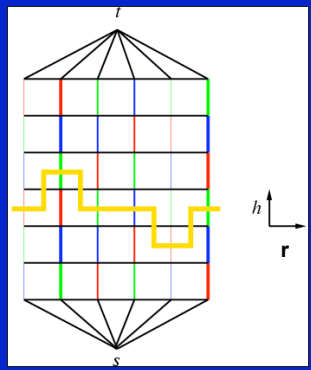
Discrete interface hamiltonian:  $H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} (h_i - h_j)^2 + \sum_i \phi_i \cos(2\pi h_i / p - \phi_i)$

Ising model:

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} S_i S_j$$

$$J_{h \text{ direction}} = \phi(r) \cos(2\pi h / p - \phi(r))$$

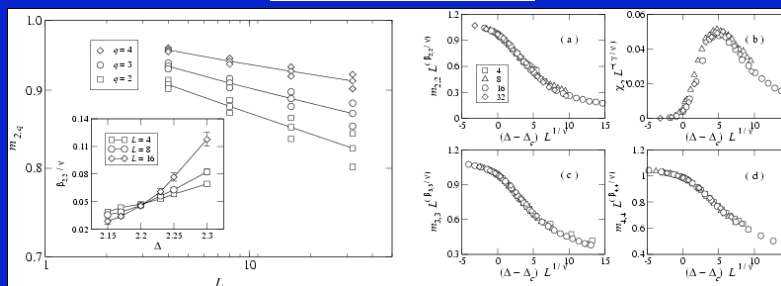
$$J_{r \text{ direction}} = \text{const.} \cdot \phi(r, h)$$



## Periodic elastic medium + periodic potential (3)

The roughening transition in 3d:

Order parameter:  $m_{p,q}(L, \Delta) = \langle |e^{2i\mathcal{J}/q}| \rangle$



p	$\Delta_c$	$\nu_{p,2}/\nu$	$\nu_{p,3}/\nu$	$\nu_{p,4}/\nu$	$\nu$
2	2.20	0.046	0.034	0.022	1.25
3	2.48	0.049	0.037	0.024	1.29
4	2.95	0.044	0.033	0.022	1.28

## Further applications of combinatorial optimization methods in Stat-Phys.

- o Flux lines with hard core interactions
- o Vortex glass with strong screening
- o Interfaces, elastic manifolds, periodic media
- o Wetting phenomena in random systems
- o Random field Ising systems
- o Spin glasses (2d polynomial, d>2 NP complete)
- o Statistical physics of complexity (K-Sat, vertex cover)
- o Random bond Potts model at  $T_c$  in the limit  $q \rightarrow \infty$
- o ...

**Further reading:**

H. Rieger:

Ground state properties of frustrated systems,  
Advances in computer simulations, Lecture Notes in Physics 501  
(ed. J. Kertesz, I. Kondor), Springer Verlag, 1998

M. Alava, P. Duxbury, C. Moukarzel and H. Rieger:  
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A. Hartmann and H. Rieger,  
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