# Logarithmic scaling and logarithmic correlations in critical phenomena

#### Victor Gurarie



KITP, December 2014

#### In this talk

RG and logarithmic scaling

Examples: 3D random bond Ising model and 2D percolation

Symplectic fermions, the determinant of a Laplacian and conformal field theory with the central charge c=-2

Quenched disorder, 2D random walks, percolation and conformal field theory with the central charge c=0

## Critical phenomena

#### Critical phenomena

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

In physics, critical phenomena is the collective name associated with the physics of critical points. Most of them stem from the divergence of the correlation length, but also the dynamics slows down. Critical phenomena include scaling relations among different quantities, power-law divergences of some quantities (such as the magnetic susceptibility in the ferromagnetic phase transition) described by critical exponents, universality, fractal behaviour, ergodicity breaking. Critical phenomena take place in second order phase transition, although not exclusively.



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$$Z = \sum_{\sigma=\pm 1} \exp\left(K \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}' \mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \sigma_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma_{\mathbf{r}'} \right) \quad \text{Ising model}$$

Low temperature phase  $\,K>K^*$   $\left<\sigma_{\bf r}\right>=M>0$ 

# RG group and logarithmic scaling

lattice spacing rescaling a' = ba $Z = \operatorname{Tr}_{\sigma} e^{-\mathcal{H}[K]} = \operatorname{Tr}_{\sigma'} e^{-\mathcal{H}[K']}$ 

renormalization group transformation

$$K'_{\alpha} = R_{\alpha}[K]$$



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fixed point of the renormalization group  $K_{\alpha}^* = R_{\alpha}[K^*]$ 

Taylor expansion about the fixed point

$$K'_{\alpha} - K^*_{\alpha} = R_{\alpha}[K] - K^*_{\alpha} \approx \sum_{\beta} \left. \frac{\partial R_{\alpha}[K]}{\partial K_{\beta}} \right|_{K=K^*} \left( K_{\beta} - K^*_{\beta} \right)^{-1}$$
$$T_{\alpha\beta} = \left. \frac{\partial R_{\alpha}[K]}{\partial K_{\beta}} \right|_{K=K^*} \qquad \sum_{\alpha} e^i_{\alpha} T_{\alpha\beta} = \lambda^i e^i_{\beta}$$
$$\lambda_i = b^{y_i}$$

Scaling and Renormalization in Statistical Physics

> CAMBRIDGE LECTURE NOTES IN PHYSICS

JOHN CARDY

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$$\lambda_{i} = b^{y_{i}}$$

scaling variables  $u_i = \sum_{\alpha} e^i_{\alpha} \left( K_{\alpha} - K^*_{\alpha} \right)$ 

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#### RG transformations

 $u'_{i} = b^{y_{i}} u_{i}$  $\sum_{i} u_{i} \int \frac{d^{d}r}{a^{d}} \phi_{i}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i} u'_{i} \int \frac{d^{d}r}{a'^{d}} \phi'_{i}(\mathbf{r})$  $\phi'_{i} = b^{d-y_{i}} \phi_{i}$ 

$$\langle \phi_i(\mathbf{r}_1)\phi_i(\mathbf{r}_2) \rangle_{K=K^*} \sim \frac{a^{2x_i}}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|^{2x_i}}$$

 $\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}[K] \approx \mathcal{H}[K^*] + \sum_i u_i \sum_{\mathbf{r}} \phi_i(\mathbf{r}) & \text{scaling operators} \\ & \text{scaling dimensions} & x_i = d - y_i \end{aligned}$ 

## The renormalization group matrix

$$K'_{\alpha} = R_{\alpha}[K]$$
$$T_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{\partial R_{\alpha}[K]}{\partial K_{\beta}}\Big|_{K=K^*}$$

$$T_{\alpha\beta} \neq T_{\beta\alpha}$$

Are we sure that the eigenvalues of *T* actually exist?

$$\sum_{\alpha} e^i_{\alpha} T_{\alpha\beta} = b^{y_i} e^i_{\beta}$$

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What if they are complex? Possible, but far too exotic.

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Wikipedia



An example of a matrix in a Jordan normal form. The grey blocks are called the Jordan blocks.

What if the eigenvalues exist but coincide?

Possible to bring *T* to the Jordan normal form

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda(b) & 0\\ \mu(b) & \lambda(b) \end{pmatrix}$$

This is what this talk is about.

#### Correlation functions with Jordan forms

$$b = e^{\ell} \\ a' = e^{\ell} a$$

Infinitesimal RG equations  $\rightarrow$  finite RG transformations

$$\frac{\partial u_1}{\partial \ell} = yu_1$$
$$\frac{\partial u_2}{\partial \ell} = yu_2 - u_1$$
$$\frac{\partial a}{\partial \ell} = a$$

$$u_2' = b^y u_2 - b^y \ln(b) u_1$$

 $u_1' = b^y u_1$ 

note the logarithm

invariant energy

$$\sum_{i} u_i \int \frac{d^d r}{a^d} \phi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

demands  $\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial \ell} = x\phi_1 + \phi_2$ 

$$\frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial \ell} = x\phi_2$$

#### Correlation functions with Jordan forms

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Infinitesimal RG equations  $\rightarrow$  finite RG transformations

$$\frac{\partial u_1}{\partial \ell} = yu_1 \qquad u'_1 = b^y u_1$$
$$\frac{\partial u_2}{\partial \ell} = yu_2 - u_1 \qquad u'_2 = b^y u_2 - b^y 1$$
$$\frac{\partial a}{\partial \ell} = a \qquad \text{note the}$$

$$u_2' = b^y u_2 - b^y \ln(b) u_1$$

invariant energy

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demands  $\frac{\partial \phi_1}{\partial \ell} = x\phi_1 + \phi_2$ 

$$\frac{\partial \phi_2}{\partial \ell} = x\phi_2$$

Invariance with respect to the above RG demands

$$\langle \phi_1(\mathbf{r}_1)\phi_1(\mathbf{r}_2)\rangle = \frac{2a^{2x}}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|^{2x}} \ln \frac{a}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|}$$
$$\langle \phi_1(\mathbf{r}_1)\phi_2(\mathbf{r}_2)\rangle = \frac{a^{2x}}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|^{2x}}$$
$$\langle \phi_2(\mathbf{r}_1)\phi_2(\mathbf{r}_1)\rangle = 0$$

 $\phi_1(\mathbf{r})$  Logarithmic operator  $\phi_1(\mathbf{r}), \ \phi_2(\mathbf{r}_2)$  Logarithmic pair How common are logarithmic operators?

Require fine-tuning of the eigenvalues of the RG matrix.

So perhaps do not appear except in some special fine-tuned models?

In fact, that's not true. Logarithmic operators are ubiquitous in certain models, especially in models with disorder.

# Example: 3D random bond Ising model

#### 3D random bond Ising model

 $Z = \sum_{\sigma=\pm 1} \exp\left(K \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \sigma_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma_{\mathbf{r}'} + \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \delta K_{\mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}''} \sigma_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma_{\mathbf{r}'} \right)$ 

random and Gaussian  $\delta K$  $P(\delta K) \sim e^{-\frac{\delta K^2}{4\gamma^2}}$ 

#### 3D random bond Ising model

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Need to invoke the famous replica trick

$$Z^{n} = \sum_{\sigma=\pm 1} \exp\left(K\sum_{a=1}^{n} \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \sigma^{a}_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma^{a}_{\mathbf{r}''} + \sum_{a=1}^{n} \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \delta K_{\mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}''} \sigma^{a}_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma^{a}_{\mathbf{r}''} \right)$$

and average over disorder

$$\langle Z^n \rangle = \sum_{\sigma=\pm 1} \exp\left(K \sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}''} + \gamma \sum_{a,b=1}^n \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}''} \sigma^b_{\mathbf{r}''} \sigma^b_{\mathbf{r}''} \right)$$

random and Gaussian  $\delta K$  $P(\delta K) \sim e^{-\frac{\delta K^2}{4\gamma^2}}$ 

> so that free energy can then be found if needed

$$F = -T \lim_{n \to 0} \frac{\langle Z^n \rangle - 1}{n}$$

#### 3D random bond Ising model

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and average over disorder

random and Gaussian 
$$\delta K$$
  
 $P(\delta K) \sim e^{-\frac{\delta K^2}{4\gamma^2}}$ 

so that free energy can then be found if needed

$$Z^{n}\rangle = \sum_{\sigma=\pm 1} \exp\left(K\sum_{a=1}^{n}\sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}''\rangle}\sigma_{\mathbf{r}'}^{a}\sigma_{\mathbf{r}''}^{a} + \gamma\sum_{a,b=1}^{n}\sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}''\rangle}\sigma_{\mathbf{r}'}^{a}\sigma_{\mathbf{r}''}^{b}\sigma_{\mathbf{r}''}^{b}\right) \qquad \qquad F = -T\lim_{n\to 0}\frac{\langle Z^{n}\rangle - 1}{n}$$

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In the vicinity of the conventional Ising critical point  $K = K^*, \ \gamma = 0$ 

 $\phi_t(\mathbf{r}') = \sum_{a=1}^{n} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}''}$  this is the conventional thermal scaling operator, dimension

$$x_t = d - y_t = d - \frac{1}{\nu}$$

 $\sum \sigma^a_{{\bf r}'}\sigma^a_{{\bf r}''}\sigma^b_{{\bf r}'}\sigma^b_{{\bf r}''} \quad \text{this is the scaling operator which}$ is coupled to disorder strength

$$y_{\gamma} = d - 2x_t = d - 2\left(d - \frac{1}{\nu}\right) = \frac{2}{\nu} - \frac{1}{\nu}$$

d

#### Harris criterion

$$\langle Z^n \rangle = \sum_{\sigma=\pm 1} \exp\left(K \sum_{a=1}^n \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}''} + \gamma \sum_{a,b=1}^n \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma^b_{\mathbf{r}'} \sigma^b_{\mathbf{r}''} \right)$$

 $\sum_{a,b=1}^{n} \sigma_{\mathbf{r}'}^{a} \sigma_{\mathbf{r}''}^{a} \sigma_{\mathbf{r}'}^{b} \sigma_{\mathbf{r}''}^{b} \quad \text{this is the scaling operator which} \\ \text{is coupled to disorder strength}$ 

$$y_{\gamma} = d - 2x_t = d - 2\left(d - \frac{1}{\nu}\right) = \frac{2}{\nu} - d$$

 $y_t > 0 \rightarrow \nu < \frac{2}{d}$  disorder is relevant equivalently  $\alpha > 0$ 

RG flow for 3D Ising, with a > 0



Ising critical point

#### Disorder-dominated point is logarithmic

J. Cardy, 1999

Let's look at the energy operator  $E^a(\mathbf{r}) = \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}} \sigma^a_{\mathbf{r}'}$ 

Two physical correlators:

$$\lim_{n \to 0} \left\langle E^1(0) E^1(\mathbf{r}) \right\rangle$$

 $\lim_{n \to 0} \left\langle E^1(0) E^2(\mathbf{r}) \right\rangle$ 

thermal correlator of two energies averaged over disorder

product of two thermal averaged energies further averaged over disorder

However these are complicated operators from the RG point of view. Simple correlators are irreducible representations of the replica permutation group.

$$E_{\text{sym}} = \sum_{a=1}^{n} E^{a}$$
with dimensions
$$x_{\text{sym}}(n)$$

$$E_{\text{irr}}^{a} = E^{a} - \frac{E_{\text{sym}}}{n}$$
with dimensions
$$x_{\text{irr}}(n)$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \langle E_{\text{sym}}(0) E_{\text{sym}}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = \langle E^{1}(0) E^{1}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle + (n-1) \langle E^{1}(0) E^{2}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = \frac{S(n)}{r^{2x_{\text{sym}}(n)}}$$
$$\frac{n}{n-1} \langle E_{\text{irr}}^{1}(0) E_{\text{irr}}^{1}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = \langle E^{1}(0) E^{1}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle - \langle E^{1}(0) E^{2}(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = \frac{I(n)}{r^{2x_{\text{irr}}(n)}}$$
$$x_{\text{sym}}(0) = x_{\text{irr}}(0) = x_{\text{irr}}(0) = x_{\text{irr}}(0)$$
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Distinct features of the logarithms in this context

Logarithms appear directly at the critical point

No fine tuning is needed to get logarithms, and no fine tuning can eliminate them

This is a generic feature of problems with quenched disorder (to be discussed later)

## Example: 2D percolation

#### Percolation as Q-state Potts model

Q-state Potts model

Z

$$Z = \sum_{\sigma=1,2,\ldots,Q} \exp\left(K \sum_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \delta_{\sigma_{\mathbf{r}'}\sigma_{\mathbf{r}''}}\right)$$

Q = 2 corresponds to the Ising model

More generally, known to have a second order phase transition in 2D for  $\ 1 \leq Q \leq 4$ 

percolation (Fortuin-Kasteleyn) clusters

$$= \frac{1}{(1-p)^{\# \text{ bonds}}} \sum_{\sigma=1,2,\dots,Q} \prod_{\langle \mathbf{r}'\mathbf{r}'' \rangle} \left(1-p+p \,\delta_{\sigma_{\mathbf{r}'}\sigma_{\mathbf{r}''}}\right)$$
$$p = 1-e^{-K}$$

Standard map from Q=1 Potts model to percolation



$$Z = \frac{1}{(1-p)^{\text{\# bonds}}} \sum_{\text{clusters}} Q^{\text{\# clusters}} p^{\text{\# cluster bonds}} (1-p)^{\text{\# remaining bonds}}$$

limit  $Q \rightarrow 1$  counts all clusters equally and is equivalent to studying percolation

 $Q \rightarrow 0$  counts spanning trees and is equivalent to computing the determinant of the lattice laplacian

#### Logarithmic observables in percolation

R. Vasseur, J. L. Jacobsen, H. Saleur (2012)



Figure 1. Percolation configurations contributing to (a)  $\mathbb{P}_0(r)$ , (b)  $\mathbb{P}_1(r)$  (one cluster propagating a distance  $r = |r_1 - r_2|$ ), (c)  $\mathbb{P}_2(r)$  (two propagating clusters).

P≠ nearby points belong
 to different clusters

$$F(r) \equiv \frac{\mathbb{P}_0(r) + \mathbb{P}_1(r) - \mathbb{P}_{\neq}^2}{\mathbb{P}_2(r)} \sim \theta + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\pi} \log r$$



## Symplectic fermions

#### Determinant of a Laplacian

defined via a Grassmann functional integral

det (
$$\Delta$$
) ~  $\int \mathcal{D}\theta \mathcal{D}\bar{\theta} \,\theta(\mathbf{r})\bar{\theta}(\mathbf{r}) \,e^{-\frac{1}{4\pi}\int d^2r\,\partial_\mu\theta\partial_\mu\bar{\theta}} = \prod_{n,\lambda_n\neq 0}\lambda_n$ 

necessary to get rid of the "zero mode"

with proper normalization

$$\left< \begin{array}{l} \left< \theta(\mathbf{r}) \overline{\theta}(\mathbf{r}) \right> = 1 \\ \left< I \right> = 0 \\ \checkmark \quad \text{identity} \end{array} \right.$$

This is a logarithmic pair:  $\langle I(\mathbf{r}_1)I(\mathbf{r}_2)\rangle = 0$   $\langle I(\mathbf{r}_1)\tilde{I}(\mathbf{r}_2)\rangle = 1$   $\langle \tilde{I}(\mathbf{r}_1)\tilde{I}(\mathbf{r}_2)\rangle = -4\ln\left(|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|\right)$ 

$$\tilde{I}(\mathbf{r}) = \theta(\mathbf{r})\bar{\theta}(\mathbf{r})$$

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#### Models related to the determinant of $\Delta$

Any model involving counting of spanning trees, or  $Q \rightarrow 0$ Potts model

In particular, dense polymers (self-avoiding random walks passing through every point of a lattice)

Abelian sandpile model

### CFT approach to logarithms

VG, 1993

$$T(z) = \sum_{n} \frac{L_n}{z^{n+2}}$$

L<sub>0</sub> generates scale transformations

Definition of the primary operators in CFT

$$L_0 A = hA$$
$$L_n A = 0 \qquad n > 0$$

$$\langle A(0)A(z)\rangle = \frac{1}{z^{2h}}$$

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Definition of a logarithmic primary in CFT  $L_0C = hC$   $L_0D = hD + C$  $L_nC = 0, \ L_nD = 0 \qquad n > 0$ 

$$\langle A(0)A(z)\rangle = \frac{1}{z^{2h}}$$

$$\langle C(0)C(z)\rangle = 0$$
$$\langle C(0)D(z)\rangle = \frac{1}{z^{2h}}$$
$$\langle D(0)D(z)\rangle = \frac{-2\ln z}{z^{2h}}$$

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$$\langle A(0)A(z)\rangle = \frac{1}{z^{2h}}$$

$$\begin{split} \langle C(0)C(z)\rangle &= 0\\ \langle C(0)D(z)\rangle &= \frac{1}{z^{2h}}\\ \langle D(0)D(z)\rangle &= \frac{-2\ln z}{z^{2h}} \end{split}$$

c=-2 theory has a zero dimension primary

$$L_0 \tilde{I} = I \qquad \left< \tilde{I}(0)\tilde{I}(z) \right> = -2\ln z$$
$$L_0 I = 0$$

$$S = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2 z \,\partial\theta \bar{\partial}\bar{\theta}$$

$$T \sim \partial \theta \partial \bar{\theta} \quad c = -2$$

Kac table of degenerate operators

$n \setminus r$	$n \parallel$	1	2	3	4	
1		0	$\left  -\frac{1}{8} \right $	0	$\frac{3}{8}$	
2		1	$\frac{3}{8}$	0	$-\frac{1}{8}$	
3		3	$\frac{15}{8}$	1	$\frac{3}{8}$	

$$\Delta_{n,m} = \frac{(2n-m)^2 - 1}{8}$$

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Kac table of degenerate operators

 $\left\langle \sigma(z_1)\sigma(z_2)\sigma(z_3)\sigma(z_4) \right\rangle = \left[ (z_1 - z_3)(z_2 - z_4)x(1 - x) \right]^{\frac{1}{4}} F_i(x)$  $F_i(x) = F\left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right)$ 

$$F_{1}(x) = F\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 1, x\right) \qquad F_{1}(1-x) \approx \ln x$$

$$F_{2}(x) = F\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 1-x\right) \qquad x \to 0$$

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$$S = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2 z \,\partial\theta \bar{\partial}\bar{\theta}$$

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Kac table of degenerate operators
$$\sigma(z)$$

$$\frac{n \setminus m \parallel 1}{2} \mid 2 \mid 3 \mid 4 \mid \dots \quad \sigma(z)$$

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$$\int d\theta \quad \frac{n \setminus m \parallel 1}{2} \mid 2 \mid 3 \mid 4 \mid \dots \quad \sigma(z)$$

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$$\int d\theta \quad \frac{n \setminus m \parallel 1}{2} \mid 2 \mid 3 \mid 4 \mid \dots \quad \sigma(z)$$

$$\int d_{n,m} = \frac{(2n - m)^2 - 1}{8}$$

$$\sigma(z)\sigma(0) = z^{\frac{1}{8}} \left(\tilde{I} + \ln z I + \dots\right)$$

$$\langle \sigma(z_1)\sigma(z_2)\sigma(z_3)\sigma(z_4) \rangle = [(z_1 - z_3)(z_2 - z_4)x(1 - x)]^{\frac{1}{4}} F_i(x)$$

$$F_1(x) = F\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 1; x\right)$$

$$F_2(x) = F\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 1; x\right)$$

$$F_1(1 - x) \approx \ln x$$

$$x \to 0$$
### Relevance to the stat mech models?

#### $\blacktriangleright$ Identification of observables related to the operator ~~I

#### Meaning of this observable in the Abelian sandpile model?

V.S. Poghosyan, S. Y. Grigorev, V. B. Priezzhev, P. Ruelle, 2010

P. Ruelle, 2013

## CFT at c=0 and problems involving averaging over disorder

$$P(t,x) = \int_{x(0)=0}^{x(t)=x} \mathcal{D}x(t) e^{-\frac{1}{D}\int_0^t dt \, \dot{x}_\mu^2 - \frac{g}{2} \int dt dt' \, \delta\left(\vec{x}(t) - \vec{x}'(t)\right)}$$

$$P(t,x) = \int_{x(0)=0}^{x(t)=x} \mathcal{D}x(t) e^{-\frac{1}{D}\int_0^t dt \, \dot{x}_\mu^2 - \frac{g}{2} \int dt dt' \, \delta\left(\vec{x}(t) - \vec{x}'(t)\right)}$$

Perturbative expansion



$$P(t,x) = \int_{x(0)=0}^{x(t)=x} \mathcal{D}x(t) e^{-\frac{1}{D}\int_0^t dt \, \dot{x}_\mu^2 - \frac{g}{2} \int dt dt' \, \delta\left(\vec{x}(t) - \vec{x}'(t)\right)}$$

Perturbative expansion



is reproduced by the expansion of this Green's function with a random imaginary potential *i* V(x) in powers of V(x)

$$\overline{i\omega + D\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV(x)}$$

$$\langle V(x)V(y)\rangle = g\,\delta(x-y)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} - iV(x)$$
  $\langle V(x)V$ 

$$P(t,x) = \int_{x(0)=0}^{x(t)=x} \mathcal{D}x(t) e^{-\frac{1}{D}\int_0^t dt \, \dot{x}_\mu^2 - \frac{g}{2} \int dt dt' \, \delta\left(\vec{x}(t) - \vec{x}'(t)\right)}$$

Perturbative expansion



is reproduced by the expansion of this Green's function with a random imaginary potential i V(x) in powers of V(x)

$$\frac{1}{i\omega + D\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV(x)} \qquad \langle V(x)V(y)\rangle = g\,\delta(x-y)$$

$$P(\omega, x) = \frac{\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \,\phi(x) \,\bar{\phi}(0) \,e^{\int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi} \left(D \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}}{\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \,e^{\int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi} \left(D \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}}$$

$$P(\omega, x) = \frac{\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \,\phi(x) \,\bar{\phi}(0) \,e^{\int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi} \left(D\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}}{\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \,e^{\int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi} \left(D\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}}$$

Random potential  $\langle V(x)V(y)\rangle = g\,\delta(x-y)$ 

$$P(\omega, x) = \frac{\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \,\phi(x) \,\bar{\phi}(0) \,e^{\int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi} \left(D \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}}{\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \,e^{\int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi} \left(D \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{Random potential} \\ \langle V(x)V(y) \rangle = g \,\delta(x - y) \end{array}$$

$$P(\omega, x) = \frac{\int \prod_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{D}\phi_{i} \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi}_{i} \phi_{1}(x) \bar{\phi}_{1}(0) e^{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int d^{2}x \bar{\phi}_{i} \left(D \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi_{i}}}{\left[\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} e^{\int d^{2}x \bar{\phi} \left(D \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}\right]^{n}}$$

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take *n* to zero

$$P(\omega, x) = \lim_{n \to 0} \int \prod_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{D}\phi_i \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi}_i \,\phi_1(x) \,\bar{\phi}_1(0) \,e^{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi}_i \left(D \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi_i}$$

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and finally average over random potential  
$$P(\omega, x) = \lim_{n \to 0} \int \prod_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{D}\phi_{i} \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi}_{i} \phi_{1}(x) \bar{\phi}_{1}(0) e^{-\int d^{2}x \left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} D\partial_{\mu}\bar{\phi}_{i}\partial_{\mu}\phi_{i} - i\omega\bar{\phi}_{i}\phi_{i} + \frac{g}{2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \bar{\phi}_{i}\phi_{i}\right)^{2}\right]}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\omega, x) = \lim_{n \to 0} \int \prod_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{D}\phi_i \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi}_i \phi_1(x) \bar{\phi}_1(0) e^{-\int d^2x \left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{D}\phi_\mu \phi_i \partial_\mu \phi_i - i\omega \phi_i \phi_i + \frac{3}{2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi_i \phi_i\right)\right]}$$

$$P(\omega, x) = \frac{\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \,\phi(x) \,\bar{\phi}(0) \,e^{\int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi} \left(D \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}}{\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \,e^{\int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi} \left(D \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{Random potential} \\ \langle V(x)V(y) \rangle = g \,\delta(x - y) \end{array}$$

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and finally average over random potential

$$P(\omega, x) = \lim_{n \to 0} \int \prod_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{D}\phi_i \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi}_i \phi_1(x) \bar{\phi}_1(0) e^{-\int d^2x \left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathcal{D}\partial_\mu \bar{\phi}_i \partial_\mu \phi_i - i\omega \bar{\phi}_i \phi_i + \frac{g}{2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \bar{\phi}_i \phi_i\right)^2\right]}$$
  
This is the famous  $O(n)$  model in the  $n \to 0$  limit De Gennes, 1972

#### Random potentials: "supersymmetry approach"

$$P(\omega, x) = \frac{\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \,\phi(x) \,\bar{\phi}(0) \,e^{\int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi} \left(D \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}}{\int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi} \,e^{\int d^2 x \,\bar{\phi} \left(D \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi}} \qquad \langle V(x)V(y)\rangle = g \,\delta(x-y)$$

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Introduce fermionic fields  $\psi$ 

$$P(\omega, x) = \int \mathcal{D}\phi \mathcal{D}\bar{\phi}\mathcal{D}\bar{\psi}\mathcal{D}\psi \,\phi(x) \,\bar{\phi}(0) \,e^{\int d^2 x \left[\bar{\phi}\left(D\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\phi + \bar{\psi}\left(D\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - iV + i\omega\right)\psi\right]}$$

Random potentials: "supersymmetry approach"

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Average over random potential, to find effective field theory with the action

$$S = \int d^2x \left[ D \left( \partial_\mu \bar{\phi} \,\partial_\mu \phi + \partial_\mu \bar{\psi} \,\partial_\mu \psi \right) + \frac{g}{2} \left( \bar{\phi} \phi + \bar{\psi} \psi \right)^2 \right]$$

We would like to study CFTs corresponding to the field theories of this type. All have c=0.

### "Supersymmetric" critical theories

- Supersymmetric effective field theories describe a variety of interesting critical behavior in 2 dimensions. Most have not been understood.
- Examples include self-avoiding random walks and percolation (mostly understood, although not completely) and quantum motion in random potentials under various conditions (mostly not understood).
- Most famous example, the quantum Hall transition, has been extensively studied, and yet is not understood.

### Supersymmetry

 $\begin{pmatrix} \phi' \\ \psi' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 & \epsilon \\ \bar{\epsilon} & \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \phi \\ \psi \end{pmatrix}$ 

## A typical action $S = \int d^2x \left[ D \left( \partial_\mu \bar{\phi} \, \partial_\mu \phi + \partial_\mu \bar{\psi} \, \partial_\mu \psi \right) + \frac{g}{2} \left( \bar{\phi} \phi + \bar{\psi} \psi \right)^2 \right]$

Superunitary (more precisely, in this example, orthosymplectic) group is the symmetry group of this action

### Supersymmetry

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Superunitary (more precisely, in this example, orthosymplectic) group is the symmetry group of this action

Strange reducible but indecomposable representations of the superunitary group



scalar at the bottom



# Logarithmic operators love indecomposable multiplets

Z. Masarani, D. Serban, 1996



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 $\langle C(z)\,C(w)\rangle=0$  . Used to be mysterious, now natural  $~\delta~\langle \zeta(z)C(w)\rangle=0$ 



# Logarithmic operators love indecomposable multiplets

Z. Masarani, D. Serban, 1996

 $\langle C(z)\,C(w)\rangle=0$  . Used to be mysterious, now natural  $~\delta~\langle \zeta(z)C(w)\rangle=0$ 

$$\langle C(z) D(w) \rangle = \frac{1}{(z-w)^{2\lambda}} \quad \delta \left\langle D(z)\overline{\zeta}(w) \right\rangle = \left\langle \zeta(z)\overline{\zeta}(w) \right\rangle - \left\langle D(z)C(w) \right\rangle = 0$$
  
So  $\zeta$  are just the usual primary fields

$$\langle \zeta(z)\overline{\zeta}(w) \rangle = \frac{1}{(z-w)^{2\lambda}}$$



## Logarithmic operators love indecomposable multiplets

Z. Masarani, D. Serban, 1996

 $\langle C(z)\,C(w)\rangle=0$  . Used to be mysterious, now natural  $~\delta~\langle \zeta(z)C(w)\rangle=0$ 

$$\begin{split} \langle C(z) \, D(w) \rangle &= \frac{1}{(z-w)^{2\lambda}} \quad \delta \left\langle D(z) \bar{\zeta}(w) \right\rangle = \left\langle \zeta(z) \bar{\zeta}(w) \right\rangle - \left\langle D(z) C(w) \right\rangle = 0 \\ \text{So } \zeta \text{ are just the usual primary fields} \\ \left\langle \zeta(z) \bar{\zeta}(w) \right\rangle &= \frac{1}{(z-w)^{2\lambda}} \end{split}$$

Finally:

$$\langle D(z) D(w) \rangle = -\frac{2\ln(z-w)}{(z-w)^{2\lambda}}$$

because why not??

Stress-energy tensor at c=0: CFT perspective

## Any primary operator with a nonvanishing norm in a CFT satisfies

$$A(z)A(0) = \frac{1}{z^{2\lambda}} \left( 1 + \frac{2\lambda}{c}T(z) + \dots \right)$$

Thus the direct limit  $c \rightarrow 0$  is problematic.

VG, 1999

Stress-energy tensor at c=0: CFT perspective

$$A(z)A(0) = \frac{1}{z^{2\lambda}} \left( 1 + \frac{2\lambda}{c}T(z) + \dots \right)$$

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Any *c=0* CFT must contain operators with dimension 2 distinct from the stress-energy tensor. At least one of them, called *t*, must satisfy

$$T(z)t(0) = \frac{b}{z^4} + \dots$$

VG, 1999

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$$T(z)t(0) = \frac{b}{z^4} + \dots$$
  
Then 
$$A(z)A(0) = \frac{1}{z^{2\lambda}} \left(1 + \frac{\lambda}{b}t(z) + CT(0) + \dots\right)$$

VG. 1999

Stress-energy tensor at c=0: supersymmetry perspective



Stress-energy tensor is always a part of a reducible but indecomposable multiplet Stress-energy tensor at c=0: supersymmetry perspective



Stress-energy tensor is always a part of a reducible but indecomposable multiplet 31



Stress-energy tensor at c=0: supersymmetry perspective



Stress-energy tensor is always a part of a reducible but indecomposable multiplet

Possible consistent OPE:

$$T(z)T(0) = \frac{2T(0)}{z^2} + \dots$$

$$T(z)t(0) = \frac{b}{z^4} + \frac{2t(0)}{z^2} + \dots$$

$$t(z)t(0) = \frac{2t(0)}{z^2} + \dots$$

Realized in supergroup-based WZW models.

But these are also possible consistent OPE:  $T(z)T(0) = \frac{2T(0)}{r^2} + \dots$  $T(z)t(0) = \frac{b}{z^4} + \frac{2t(0) + T(0)}{z^2}$  $t(z)t(0) = \frac{-2b\ln z}{z^4} + \dots$ 

Makes *t* logarithmic. Realized in c=0 minimal model.

#### Logarithmic *t*: supersymmetry emerges

$$T(z)t(0) = \frac{b}{z^4} + \frac{2t(0) + T(0)}{z^2} + \frac{t'(0)}{z} + \dots$$

#### Logarithmic *t*: supersymmetry emerges

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$$t(z)t(0) = -\frac{2b\log z}{z^4} + \frac{t(0)\left[1 - 4\log z\right] - T(0)\left[\log z + 2\log^2 z\right]}{z^2}$$

$$\xi(z)\bar{\xi}(0) = \frac{1}{8}T(z)T(0) + \frac{b}{2z^4} + \frac{t(0) + T(0)\log z}{z^2} + \dots$$

$$t(z)\xi(0) = \frac{1}{4}T(z)\xi(0) - T(z)\xi(0)\log z + \frac{\xi'(0)}{2z} + \dots$$

These follow from the assumption of logarithmic t by conformal invariance only

### Logarithmic *t*: supersymmetry emerges

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$$\xi(z)\bar{\xi}(0) = \frac{1}{8}T(z)T(0) + \frac{b}{2z^4} + \frac{t(0) + T(0)\log z}{z^2} + \dots$$

$$t(z)\xi(0) = \frac{1}{4}T(z)\xi(0) - T(z)\xi(0)\log z + \frac{\xi'(0)}{2z} + \dots$$

These follow from the assumption of logarithmic t by conformal invariance only



Yet they automatically form the indecomposable representation shown on the left

### Logarithmic *t*: minimal model at c=0



Differential equations give

$$\langle A(z_1)A(z_2)A(z_3)A(z_4)\rangle = \frac{1}{(z_1 - z_2)^{2\lambda}(z_3 - z_4)^{2\lambda}} \left(1 + \alpha x^2 \ln(x) + \dots\right)$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\lambda}{b} \qquad \qquad x = \frac{z_{12}z_{34}}{z_{13}z_{24}}$$

### Logarithmic *t*: minimal model at c=0



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#### Determination of b

PRL 108, 161602 (2012)

#### Puzzle of Bulk Conformal Field Theories at Central Charge c = 0

Romain Vasseur,<sup>1,2,5</sup> Azat Gainutdinov,<sup>1,5</sup> Jesper Lykke Jacobsen,<sup>2,3,5</sup> and Hubert Saleur<sup>1,4,5</sup> <sup>1</sup>Institut de Physique Théorique, CEA Saclay, 91191 Gif Sur Yvette, France <sup>2</sup>LPTENS, 24 rue Lhomond, 75231 Paris, France <sup>3</sup>Université Pierre et Marie Curie, 4 place Jussieu, 75252 Paris, France <sup>4</sup>Department of Physics, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California 90089-0484, USA <sup>5</sup>Institut Henri Poincaré, 11 rue Pierre et Marie Curie, 75231 Paris Cedex 05, France (Received 12 October 2011; published 20 April 2012)

Nontrivial critical models in 2D with a central charge c = 0 are described by logarithmic conformal field theories (LCFTs), and exhibit, in particular, mixing of the stress-energy tensor with a "logarithmic" partner under a conformal transformation. This mixing is quantified by a parameter (usually denoted *b*), introduced in Gurarie [Nucl. Phys. **B546**, 765 (1999)]. The value of *b* has been determined over the last few years for the boundary versions of these models:  $b_{perco} = -\frac{5}{8}$  for percolation and  $b_{poly} = \frac{5}{6}$  for dilute polymers. Meanwhile, the existence and value of *b* for the bulk theory has remained an open problem. Using lattice regularization techniques we provide here an "experimental study" of this question. We show that, while the chiral stress tensor has indeed a single logarithmic partner in the chiral sector of the theory, the value of *b* is not the expected one; instead, b = -5 for *both* theories. We suggest a theoretical explanation of this result using operator product expansions and Coulomb gas arguments, and discuss the physical consequences on correlation functions. Our results imply that the relation between bulk LCFTs of physical interest and their boundary counterparts is considerably more involved than in the non-logarithmic case.

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PACS numbers: 11.25.Hf, 02.30.Ik, 64.60.ah

#### Determination of b

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#### Further developments

#### 1. arXiv:1409.0167 [pdf, ps, other]

The periodic sl(2|1) alternating spin chain and its continuum limit as a bulk Logarithmic Conformal Field Theory at c=0 A.M. Gainutdinov, N. Read, H. Saleur, R. Vasseur Comments: 69pp, 8 figs

Subjects: High Energy Physics - Theory (hep-th); Statistical Mechanics (cond-mat.stat-mech); Mathematical Physics (math-ph); Quantum Algebra (math.QA); Representation Theory (math.RT)

#### 2. arXiv:1303.2082 [pdf, ps, other]

#### Logarithmic Conformal Field Theory: a Lattice Approach

A.M. Gainutdinov, J.L. Jacobsen, N. Read, H. Saleur, R. Vasseur Comments: 44pp, 6 figures, many comments added Journal-ref: J. Phys. A: Math. Theor. 46 (2013) 494012 Subjects: High Energy Physics - Theory (hep-th); Statistical Mechanics (cond-mat.stat-mech); Mathematical Physics (math-ph)

#### 3. arXiv:1207.6334 [pdf, ps, other]

#### Associative algebraic approach to logarithmic CFT in the bulk: the continuum limit of the gl(1|1) periodic spin chain, Howe duality and the interchiral algebra A. M. Gainutdinov, N. Read, H. Saleur

Comments: 69 pp., 10 figs, v2: the paper has been substantially modified - new proofs, new refs, new App C with inductive limits construction, etc Subjects: High Energy Physics - Theory (hep-th); Statistical Mechanics (cond-mat.stat-mech); Mathematical Physics (math-ph); Quantum Algebra (math.QA)

#### 4. arXiv:1112.3407 [pdf, ps, other]

#### Bimodule structure in the periodic gl(1|1) spin chain

A. M. Gainutdinov, N. Read, H. Saleur
 Comments: latex, 42 pp., 13 figures + 5 figures in color, many comments added
 Journal-ref: Nuclear Physics B 871 [FS] (2013) 289-329
 Subjects: High Energy Physics - Theory (hep-th); Statistical Mechanics (cond-mat.stat-mech); Mathematical Physics (math-ph); Quantum Algebra (math.QA); Representation Theory (math.RT)

#### 5. arXiv:1112.3403 [pdf, ps, other]

Continuum limit and symmetries of the periodic gl(1|1) spin chain A. M. Gainutdinov, N. Read, H. Saleur Comments: 43 pp, few comments added Journal-ref: Nuclear Physics B 871 [FS] (2013) 245-288 Subjects: High Energy Physics - Theory (hep-th); Statistical Mechanics (cond-mat.stat-mech); Mathematical Physics (math-ph); Quantum Algebra (math.QA)

Extensive work by H. Saleur and N. Read elucidating the structure of percolation,  $Q \rightarrow 1$  limit of Potts model, as a logarithmic CFT.
## Conclusions and outlook

## c=0 theories: modern developments

Logarithmic scaling at certain fixed points of renormalization group is unavoidable

- In some examples it affects certain correlation functions and is relatively easy to study
- In other examples, it affect the whole structure of the theory and makes it very difficult to understand it.
- Problems with disorder generally have logarithmic correlators. Exact solutions to the critical points in 2D involving disorder are supposed to involve logarithmic structure and are very hard to study.