

# LAB IX

## Random magnet model: avalanches and hysteresis

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# Plan

1 Algorithm

2 Tasks and hints

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# Process

- each spin flips when it can gain energy
- its local field  $J \sum_{j(i)} s_j + h_i + H(t)$  at site  $i$  changes sign
- spin can be triggered by
  - 1) one of the neighbours flips
  - 2) increase of  $H(t)$

Slowly changing the external field:

- search for the unflipped spin that is next to flip
- jump the field  $H$  just enough to flip
- propagate the avalanche.

Use  $J = 1$  and periodic boundary conditions.

# Block code: draft

## *Propagating an avalanche*

- (1) Find the triggering spin  $i$  for the next avalanche, which is the unflipped site with the largest internal field  $J \sum_{j \text{ nbr to } i} s_j + h_i$  from its random field and neighbors.
- (2) Increment the external field  $H$  to minus this internal field, and push the spin onto a first-in–first-out queue
- (3) Pop the top spin off the queue.
- (4) If the spin has not been flipped,\* flip it and push all unflipped neighbors with positive local fields onto the queue.
- (5) While there are spins on the queue, repeat from step (3).
- (6) Repeat from step (1) until all the spins are flipped.

## Task 1 (0.5pts)

Benchmark: calculate mean size of the first avalanche with 1000 realizations of disorder for  $100 \times 100$  lattice and  $R = 0.7, 0.9, 1.4$ .

Optional: while developing your code plot the system/magnetic field configurations for a better insight.

Example results:

$R = 1.4$     `mean_size` = 1.042 (1)

$R = 0.9$     `mean_size` = 1.39 (1)

$R = 0.7$     `mean_size` = 660 (30)

## Task 2 (0.5pts)

**A)** Display the avalanches. While forming an avalanche assign the `count` number to the sites visited. Make a “pixel” plot of all the avalanches from the whole run, mark the avalanches with different colors. Use disorder strength  $R = 0.9, 1.4, 2.1$ .

**B)** Perform the simulation on a  $300 \times 300$  system with  $R = 0.9, 1.4, 2.1$ .

Plot the accumulated result for  $H(M)$  in the range  $H \in (-3, 3)$  and  $M \in (-1, 1)$ . Magnetization:  $M = \text{np.sum}(s) / (L \times 2)$ .

# Extra

There are many more things one can compute:

- histogram of avalanche sizes (on a log-log plot)
- colored shells (subsequent triggered neighbourhoods) of a growing avalanche
- time series of an avalanche (time is shell number)

Try at least one of those. For more details consult the literature (!)

One may also perform a 3D simulation (critical value is  $R_c = 2.16$ ). (The speed would increase considerably when using `numba`, but it is not quite trivial; algorithmic tricks are also possible.)



# Hints I

We need some simple data structure

```
# lattice of spins
s = np.ones( (L, L), dtype = int ) * (-1)
# recording of avalanches
aval = np.zeros( (L, L), dtype = int )

# random magnetic fields
h_rnd = np.random.randn(L, L) * R
# ... and the local fields
h_loc = np.ones( (L, L) ) * (-4.0) + h_rnd
```

# Hints II

It is useful to prepare a routine for calculating the neighbours

```
def neighbours(i):  
    ix, iy = i  
    return [ ( ix, (iy+1) % L ), ( ix, (iy-1) % L ),  
             ( (ix+1) % L, iy ), ( (ix-1) % L, iy ) ]
```

Spin update: flip the spin and adjust local field of the neighbours

```
def update(i):  
    s[i] = 1  
    for j in neighbours(i):  
        h_loc[j] += 2.0  
    return
```

# Hints III

FIFO queue is available as a Python list

```
d = []  
d.append(i)  
itmp = d.pop(0)
```

Important trick to calculate the triggering spin:

```
# find the triggering spin  
i_trig = np.unravel_index(np.argmax(h_loc + (s+1)*(-100)),  
                           h_loc.shape)  
  
# increment the external field  
H = - h_loc[i_trig]
```

Quick way to plot the avalanches

```
plt.imshow(aval, interpolation='none', cmap=cm.gist_rainbow)
```