

[VIDEO: video07a\\_perkolation\\_r](#)[VIDEO: video07b\\_cluster\\_r](#)

## 9 Percolation

Model for conducting material: partition a block of material into small cubes, where each cube is “non-conducting” with probability  $1 - p$ . Remaining fraction  $p$  is “conducting”. In general: sites of interest = “occupied”, here the conducting ones.

Question: Value of  $p$  such that current can run from one side to the other? (“percolating”)  $\rightarrow$  Phase transition at critical concentration  $p = p_c$  above which current runs. Percolation: important (toy) model for phase transitions. Many phase transitions can be explained by hidden percolation transitions.

Literature: Stauffer and Aharony, Percolation theory (1994) [4].

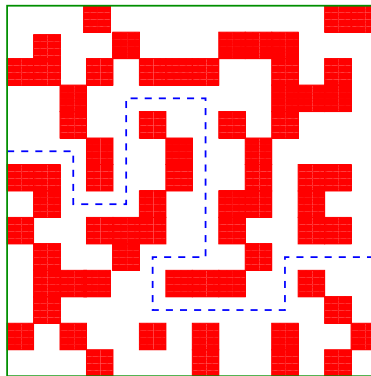


Figure 15: Percolation in two dimensions: there is a path of conducting sites (light), such that current runs through full system (broken line). The system “percolates”.

Cluster := connected region of occupied sites  $\Rightarrow$  Percolation = largest cluster spans full lattice.

Order parameter: size  $S$  of largest cluster divided by total number  $N$  of sites.

$p > p_c$ :  $S/N \rightarrow \text{const}(p) > 0$  for  $N \rightarrow \infty$   
 $p < p_c$ :  $S/N \rightarrow 0$  for  $N \rightarrow \infty$

The value of  $p_c$  depends on the dimension of the system and on the lattice structure.

---

[Activator]

---

How large is  $p_c$  in one dimension (system =line)?

---

For larger dimensions usually no analytical statement  $\rightarrow$  computer simulations (square lattice:  $p_c \approx 0.592746$ , cubic:  $p_c \approx 0.3116$ , ... [4]). Corresponding algorithms (to find clusters): applied in MANY areas of computational physics.

## 9.1 Stacks

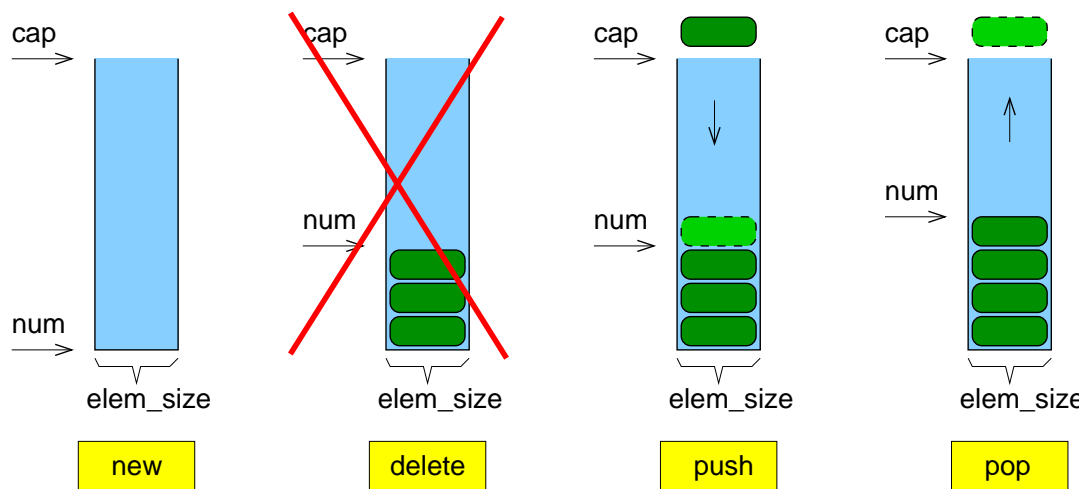
For implementation needed: special Data type: *stacks*.

Stack = one can put elements on top and remove from the top.  
 $\rightarrow$  LIFO (last in first out).

Remark: waiting queue = FIFO principle.

Basic operations:

- `lstack_new`: create stack of elements of given size with maximum number of elements..
- `lstack_delete`: delete stack.
- `lstack_push`: Put one element on top of the stack.
- `lstack_pop`: Remove top element from stack.



## 9.2 Cluster Algorithm

Representation of a d-dim systems in computer:

e.g., d-dim array **site**, e.g.. 3-dim **site**[x][y][z] = 1 if site (x,y,z) occupied. Also higher dimensions of theoretical interest, thus **site** [x1][x2][x3][x4][x5][x6][x7] → too complicated, inflexible (also for changing lattice structure).

---

[Activator]

---

Think for 3 minutes about how one can represent a system better.

ATTENTION: Do NOT read on before you found something

---

Solution: Number sites from 1 to  $N$  and use 1-dimensional (!) array **site**:  
**site**[t]=1 if site t occupied.

Realization of lattice structure: variable 'num\_n' (=number of neighbors) and array **next**.

Each site 't' has num\_n neighbors, stored in **next**[t\*num\_n] ... **next**[(t+1)\*num\_n-1].  
 order (simple cubic): +x,-x,+y,-y,... directions.

Access conveniently by macros:

```
#define INDEX(t, r, nn) ((t)*(nn)+r)
#define NEXT(t, r) next[INDEX(t, r, num_n)]
```

Attention: whenever using the macros, the variables **next** and **num\_n** have be available with exactly these names. This can be made sure easily if all variables are used locally. The macros make the coding a bit less flexible but

more convenient and better readable (runs also faster as if using function calls).

Initialize array `next[]` only once in the beginning, can be used everywhere. Here: periodic boundary conditions:

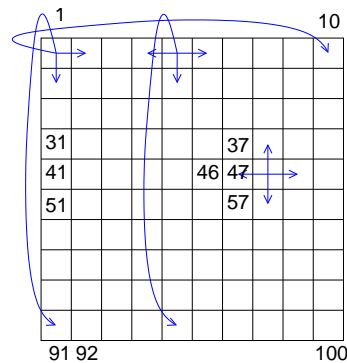


Figure 16: A 10x10 square lattice with periodic boundary conditions. The arrows point to the neighbors.

Example:  $L \times L$  square lattice for  $L = 10$ . Site  $i = 48$  has the neighbors  $i + 1 = 49$  (+x),  $i - 1 = 47$  (-x),  $i + L = 58$  (+y) and  $i - L = 38$ . Site  $i = 1$  has the neighbors 2 (+x), 10 (-x), 11 (+y), 91 (-y).

Main question of Percolation: is there a *percolating* cluster, i.e. running through the system:

First, determine *clusters* = connected regions (see below). Next:

- a) Check whether there is cluster spanning through system
- b) In the percolating region: average size of larger clusters grows linearly with size  $N \rightarrow$ : Calculate fraction of sites in largest cluster (for different system sizes  $N$ ).

Here: first method b), easier to implement.

Idea for determination of clusters:

---

[Activator]

---

Think about a possible solution for three minutes, then discuss for 3 minutes with your neighbor.

ATTENTION: Do NOT read on before you head some idea.

---

Starting point: a lattice with some sites occupied.

The occupied neighbors of an occupied site belong to the same cluster.

Their occupied neighbors also.

Implementation: The neighbors are store in a stack and the treated one after the other. Take care than every site is put on stack at most once.

**algorithm** Cluster

**begin**

**while** there are “untreated” occupied sites  $t$  **do**

**begin**

      push  $t$  on stack

      start new cluster with  $t$

**while** stack is not empty **do**

**begin**

          pop one site  $c$  from stack

**for** all neighbors  $n$  of  $c$  **do**

**if**  $n$  occupied and not yet “treated” **then**

              push  $n$  on stack, add to cluster, mark as “treated”

**end**

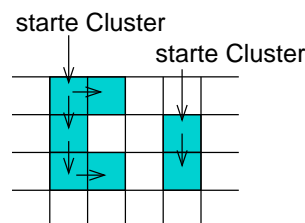
**end**

**end**

Store in `cluster[]` array, cluster ID of each site (-1: not yet treated).

Since each site is treated only once: run time  $O(N)$ .

Example:



Subroutine for cluster determination:

```

/***** percol_cluster() *****/
/** Calculates the connected clusters of the lattice **/
/** 'site'. Occupied sites have 'site[i]=1' (i=1..N). **/
/** Neighbours of occupied sites form clusters. **/
/** For each site, in 'cluster[i]' the id of the **/
/** cluster (starting at 0) is stored **/
/** PARAMETERS: (*)= return-parameter **/
/**      num_n: number of neighbours **/
/**      N: number of sites **/
/**      next: gives neighbours (0..N)x(0..num_n-1) **/
/**      0 not used here. Use NEXT() to access **/
/**      site: tells whether site is occupied **/
/** (*) cluster: id of clusters sites are contained in **/
/** RETURNS: number of clusters **/
/*****/
int percol_cluster(int num_n, int N, int *next,
                  short int *site, int *cluster)
{
    int num_clusters=0;
    int t, r;          /* loop counters over sites, directions */
    int current, neighbour;          /* sites */
    lstack_t *members;          /* stack of members for cluster */
    for(t=1; t<=N; t++)          /* initialise all clusters empty */
        cluster[t] = -1;
    members = lstack_new(N, sizeof(int));
    for(t=1; t<=N; t++)          /* loop over all sites */
    {
        if((site[t] == 1)&&(cluster[t]==-1)) /* new cluster ? */
        {
            lstack_push(members, &t);          /* start cluster */
            cluster[t] = num_clusters;
            while(!lstack_is_empty(members)) /* extend cluster */
            {
                lstack_pop(members, &current);
                for(r=0; r<num_n; r++)          /* loop over neighbours */
                {
                    neighbour = NEXT(current, r);
                    if((site[neighbour]==1)&&(cluster[neighbour]==-1))
                    {
                        /* neighbour belongs to same cluster */
                        lstack_push(members, &neighbour);
                        cluster[neighbour] = num_clusters;
                    }
                }
            }
            num_clusters++;
        }
    }
    lstack_delete(members); return(num_clusters);
}

```

Example run for 2 dimensions, side length  $L = 10$ ,  $p = 0.5$ ). Output cluster IDs of site:

```

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
0      0 0 0 0
      0 0
    1      0 0 0 0
    1      2      0 0 3
    1      2      4      5
      6      4 4 4 4
0      0 0
0 0      7      0 0
0 0      0 0 0      0 0

```

### 9.3 Ergebnisse

Many program calls done by script `run_percol.scr`:

```

#!/bin/bash
L=$1
for p in 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.45 0.5 0.52 0.54 0.56 0.57 0.58 0.59 \
        0.60 0.61 0.62 0.64 0.66 0.68 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0
do
    percolation1 $L $p 100
done

```

Possible you have to make the script executable by: `chmod u+x run_percol.scr`.

---

[Activator]

---

Compile the program by

```
cc -o percolation1 percolation1.c percol.c stacks.c
```

Run the script for different system sizes (e.g. 10, 20, 50, 100, 200) and redirect each time the results to a file, e.g., by `run_percol.scr 10 > perc10.dat`.

Plot the data using `gnuplot`.

---