

Simulation of polymers with a new Monte-Carlo algorithm

(flatPERM - a flat histogram stochastic growth algorithm)

Thomas Prellberg

thomas.prellberg@qmul.ac.uk

School of Mathematical Sciences
Queen Mary, University of London

joint work with

J. Krawczyk, TU Clausthal

A. Rechnitzer and A.L. Owczarek, Uni Melbourne



Content

- Polymers in solution:
 - Equilibrium statistical mechanics, lattice model
- Algorithm:
 - Stochastic growth & flat histogram (flatPERM)
- Applications:
 - Bulk phenomena
 - polymer collapse, protein groundstates
 - Surface phenomena
 - confined polymers, force-induced desorption, interplay of collapse and adsorption
- Outlook:
 - continuum models, branched polymers, ...

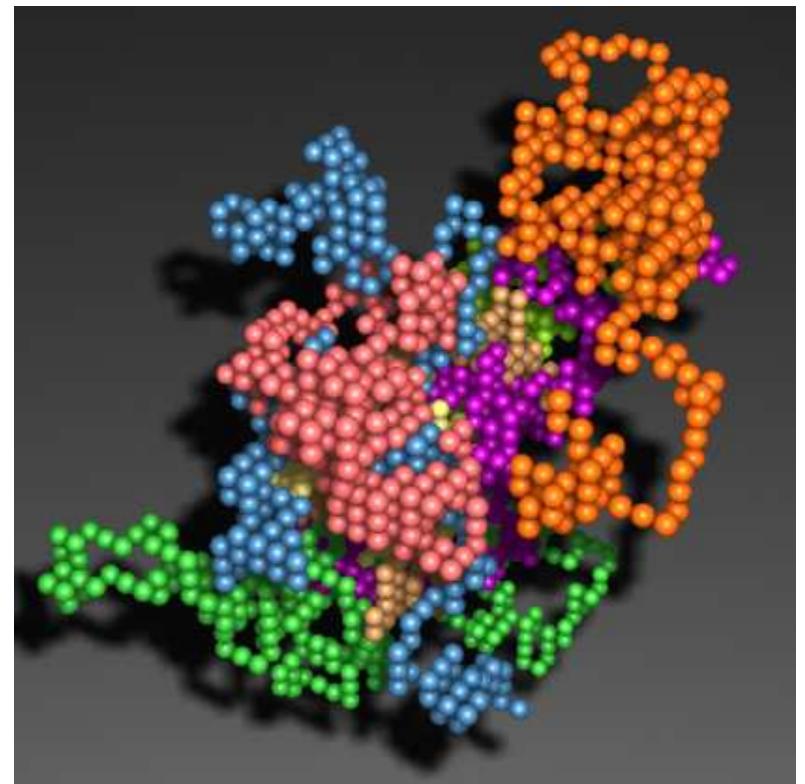


Introduction



Modelling of Polymers in Solution

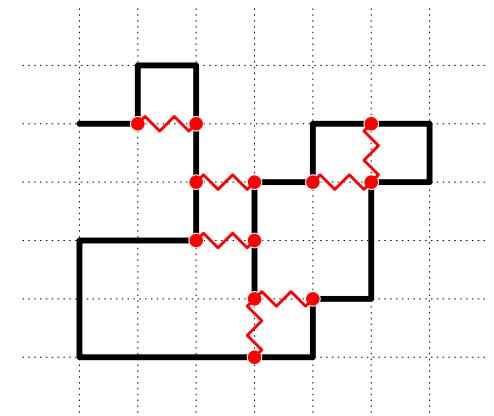
- Polymers:
long chains of monomers
- “Coarse-Graining”:
beads on a chain
- “Excluded Volume”:
minimal distance
- Contact with solvent:
effective short-range interaction
- Good/bad solvent:
repelling/attracting interaction
- Surface interaction treated analogously



Pedagogical Setting: Lattice Model

Self-Avoiding Walks with Interactions

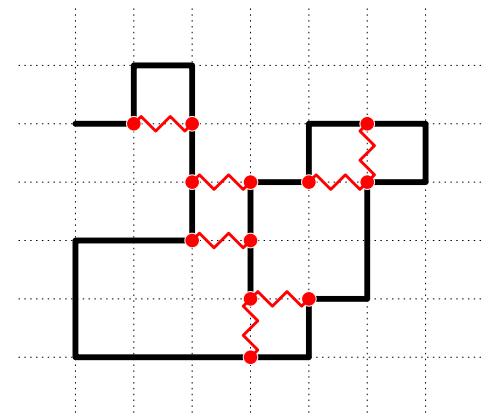
- Physical space → simple cubic lattice \mathbb{Z}^3
- Polymer → self-avoiding random walk (SAW)
- Quality of solvent → short-range interaction ϵ



Pedagogical Setting: Lattice Model

Self-Avoiding Walks with Interactions

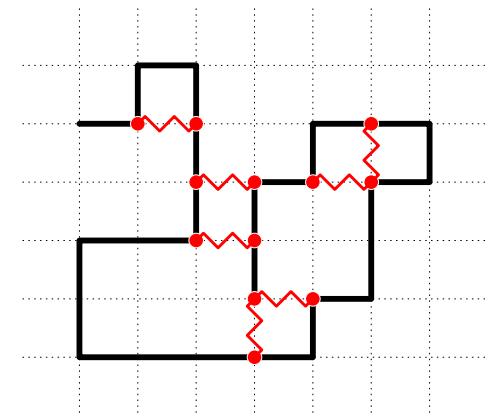
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- Examples:
 - SAW in a strip: no interaction ($\epsilon = 0$), restricted geometry
 - ISAW model: homopolymer, interaction $\epsilon = -1$ of interest: thermodynamic limit ($V = \infty$ and $n \rightarrow \infty$)



Pedagogical Setting: Lattice Model

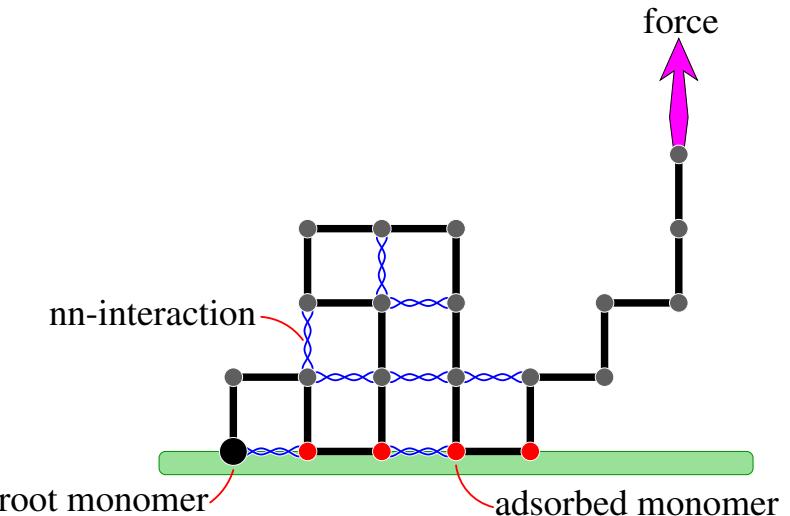
Self-Avoiding Walks with Interactions

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- Extension: interaction matrix $\epsilon = \epsilon_{i,j}$, protein folding of interest: fixed finite sequence, density of states



Extensions of the Model

- In addition to
 - solvent modelling
(bulk interaction)
- add
 - adsorption
(surface interaction)
 - micromechanical deformations
e.g. force on chain end (optical tweezers)
- Complete description through three-dimensional density of states:
 - (a) bulk energy, (b) surface energy, (c) position of chain end



Why Simulations?

- Most interesting open questions for dense and geometrically restricted configurations



Why Simulations?

- Most interesting open questions for dense and geometrically restricted configurations
- There is little theory and

this is notoriously difficult to simulate



Stochastic Growth Algorithm

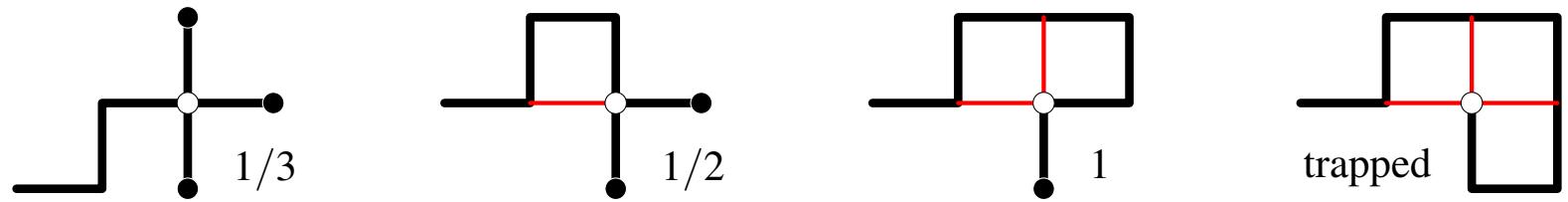


PERM: “Go With The Winners”

PERM = Pruned and Enriched Rosenbluth Method

Grassberger, Phys Rev E 56 (1997) 3682

- Rosenbluth Method: kinetic growth

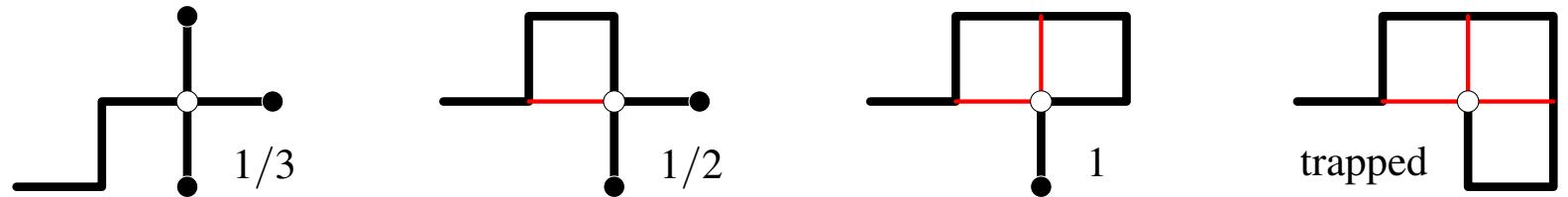


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- Enrichment: weight too large → make copies of configuration
- Pruning: weight too small → remove configuration occasionally

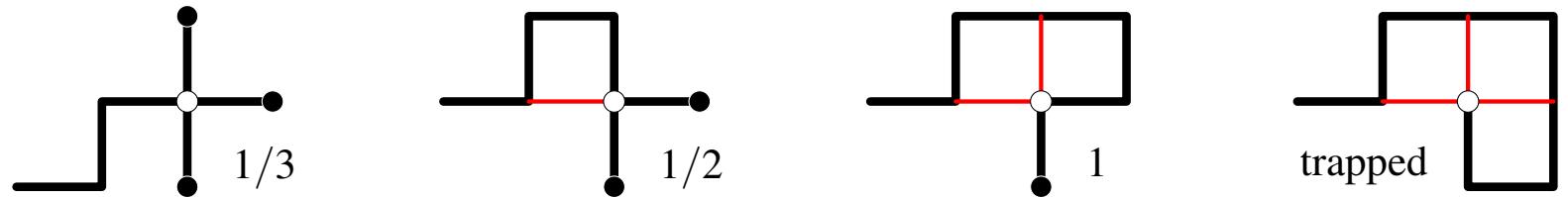


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Current work: flatPERM = flat histogram PERM

TP and JK, PRL 92 (2004) 120602, TP, JK, and AR, cond-mat/0402549

- flatPERM samples a generalised multicanonical ensemble
- Determines the whole density of states in *one* simulation!

Algorithm details

View kinetic growth as *approximate enumeration*



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- S growth chains with weights $W_n^{(i)}$ give an estimate of the total number of configurations, $C_n^{\text{est}} = \langle W \rangle_n = \frac{1}{S} \sum_i W_n^{(i)}$



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- Add pruning/enrichment with respect to ratio $r = W_n^{(S+1)} / C_n^{\text{est}}$
 - Number of samples generated for each n is roughly constant
 - We have a flat histogram algorithm in system size



From PERM to flatPERM

- Consider athermal case
 - PERM: estimate number of configurations C_n
 - $C_n^{est} = \langle W \rangle_n$
 - $r = W_n^{(i)} / C_n^{est}$



From PERM to flatPERM

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- Consider energy E , temperature $\beta = 1/k_B T$
 - thermal PERM: estimate partition function $Z_n(\beta)$
 - $Z_n^{est}(\beta) = \langle W \exp(-\beta E) \rangle_n$
 - $r = W_n^{(i)} \exp(-\beta E^{(i)}) / Z_n^{est}(\beta)$



From PERM to flatPERM

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 - $Z_n^{est}(\beta) = \langle W \exp(-\beta E) \rangle_n$
 - $r = W_n^{(i)} \exp(-\beta E^{(i)}) / Z_n^{est}(\beta)$
- Consider parametrisation \vec{m} of configuration space
 - flatPERM: estimate density of states $C_{n,\vec{m}}$
 - $C_{n,\vec{m}}^{est} = \langle W \rangle_{n,\vec{m}}$
 - $r = W_{n,\vec{m}}^{(i)} / C_{n,\vec{m}}^{est}$

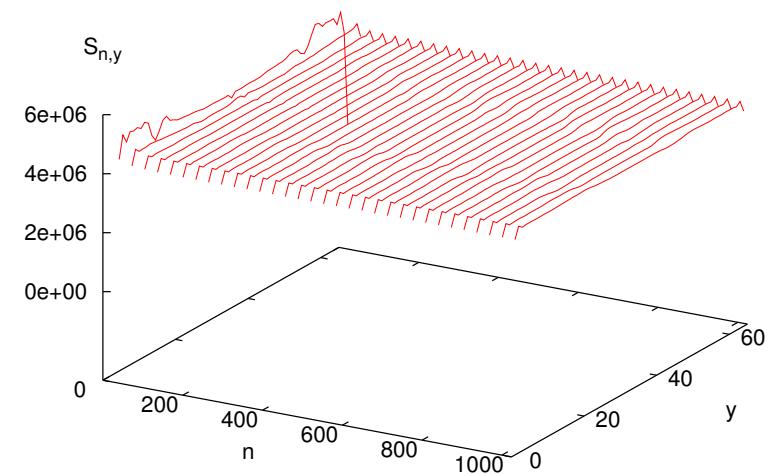
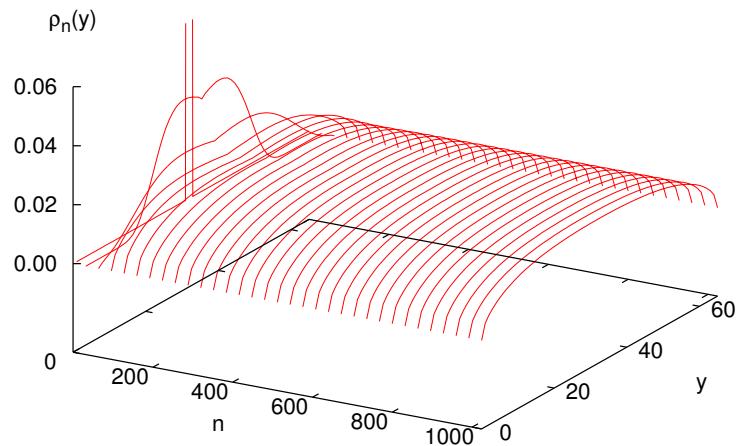


Simulation Results

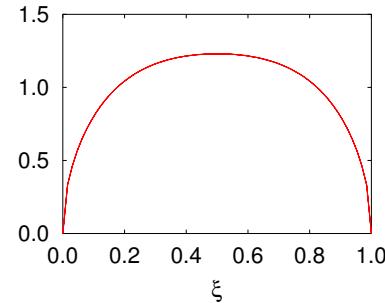


Simulation results: SAW in a strip

- 2d SAW in a strip: strip width 64, up to $n = 1024$



- Scaled endpoint density $\tilde{\rho}_n(\xi)$



- Compares favorably with “Markovian anticipation”–PERM

Hsu and Grassberger, Eur Phys J 36 (2003) 209

Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

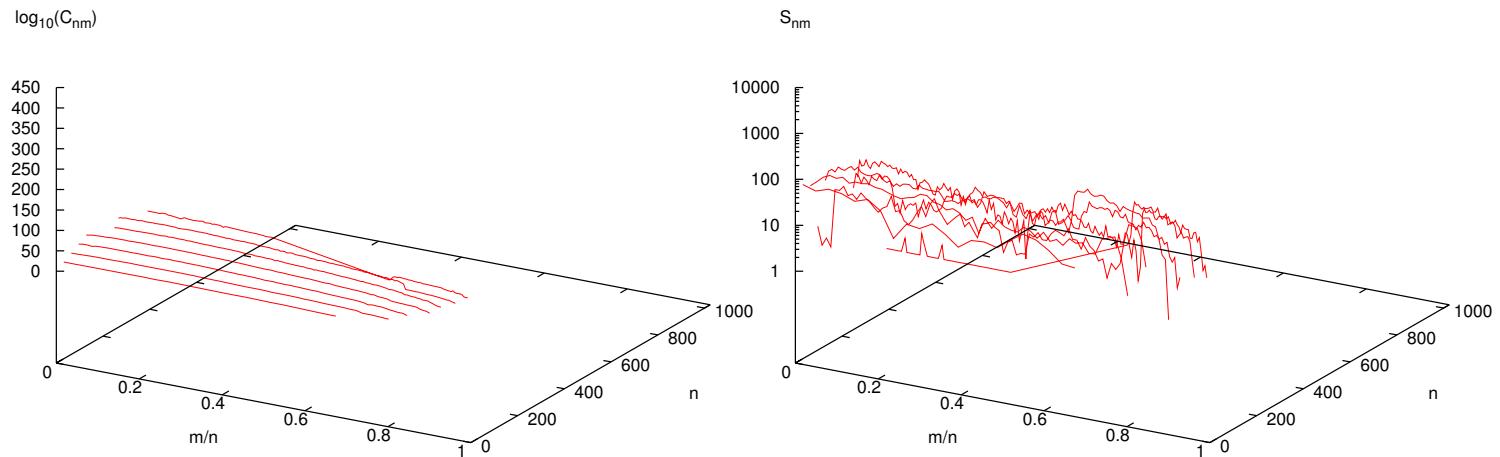
- To stabilize algorithm (avoid initial overflow/underflow):
Delay growth of large configurations
- Here: after t tours growth up to length $10t$



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

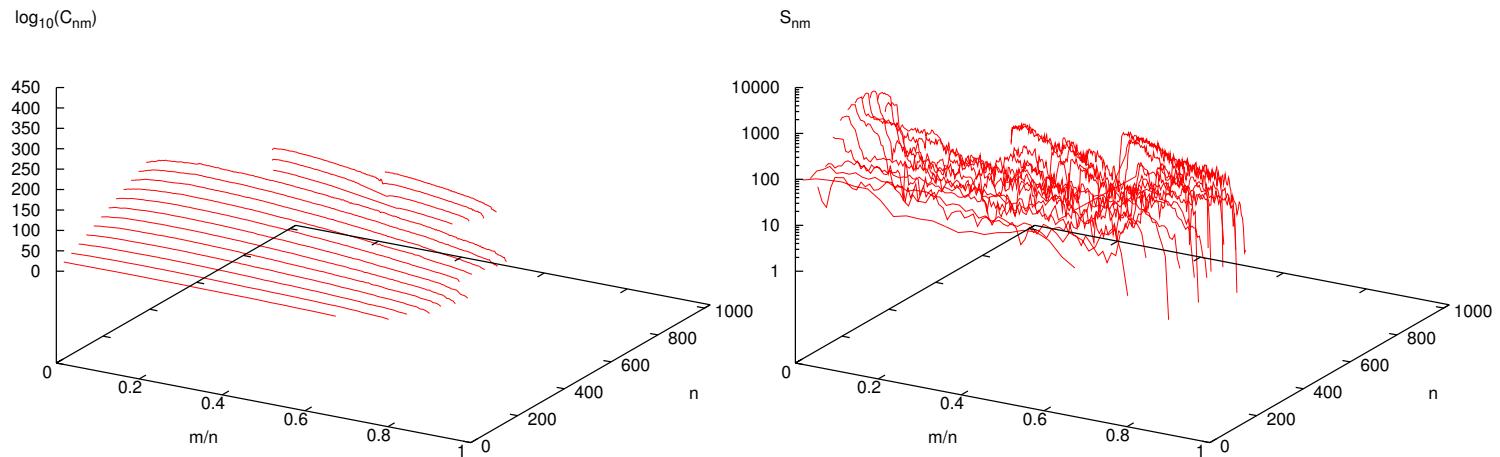
- Total sample size: 1,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

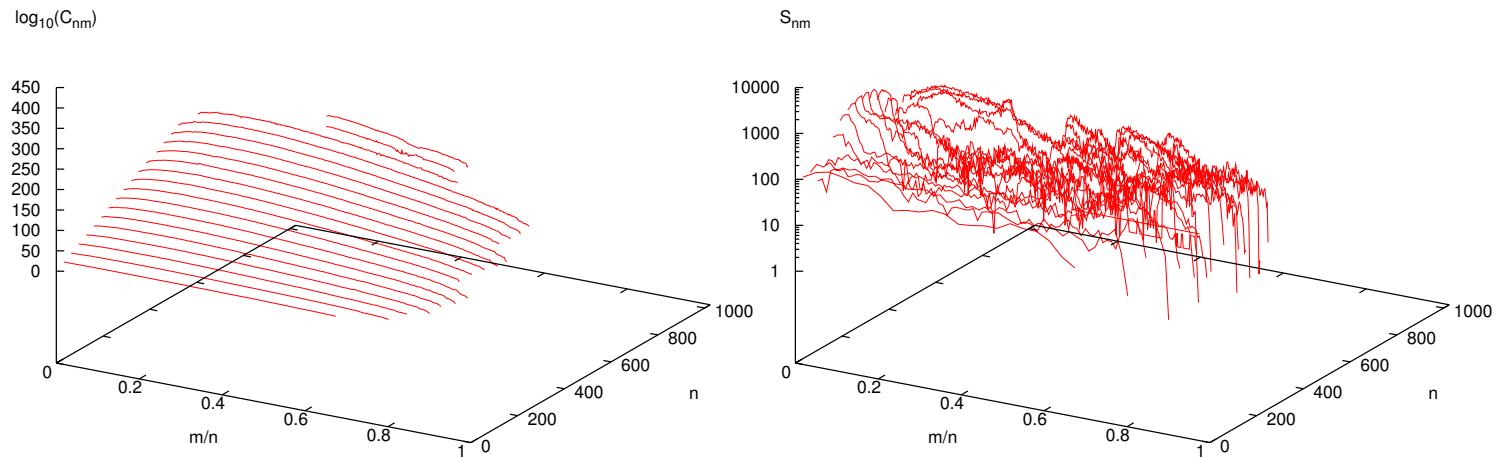
- Total sample size: 10,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

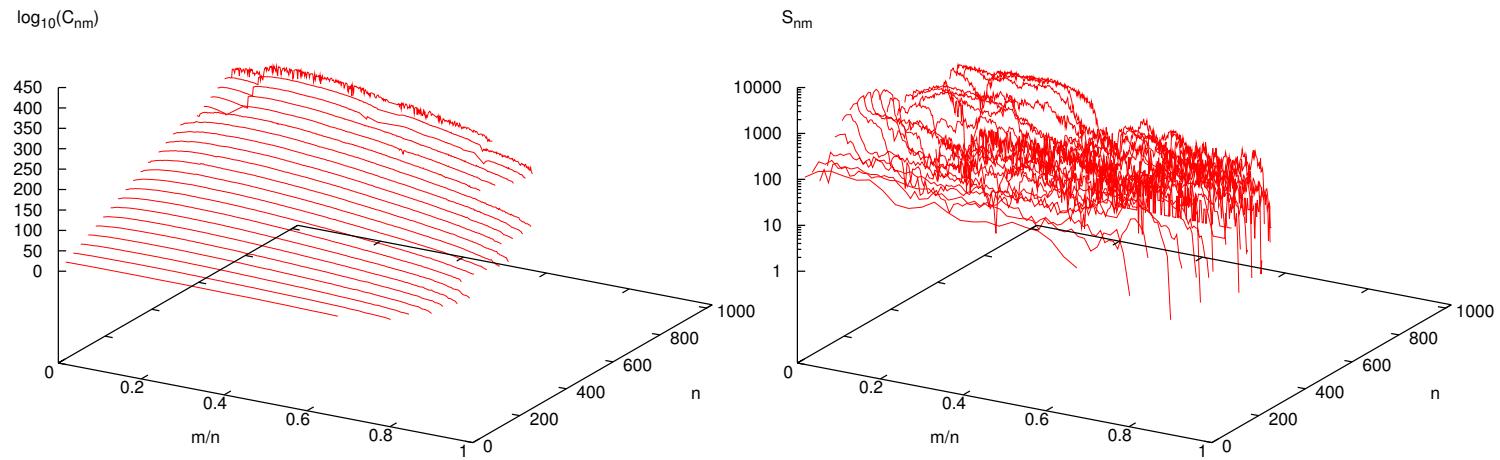
- Total sample size: 20,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

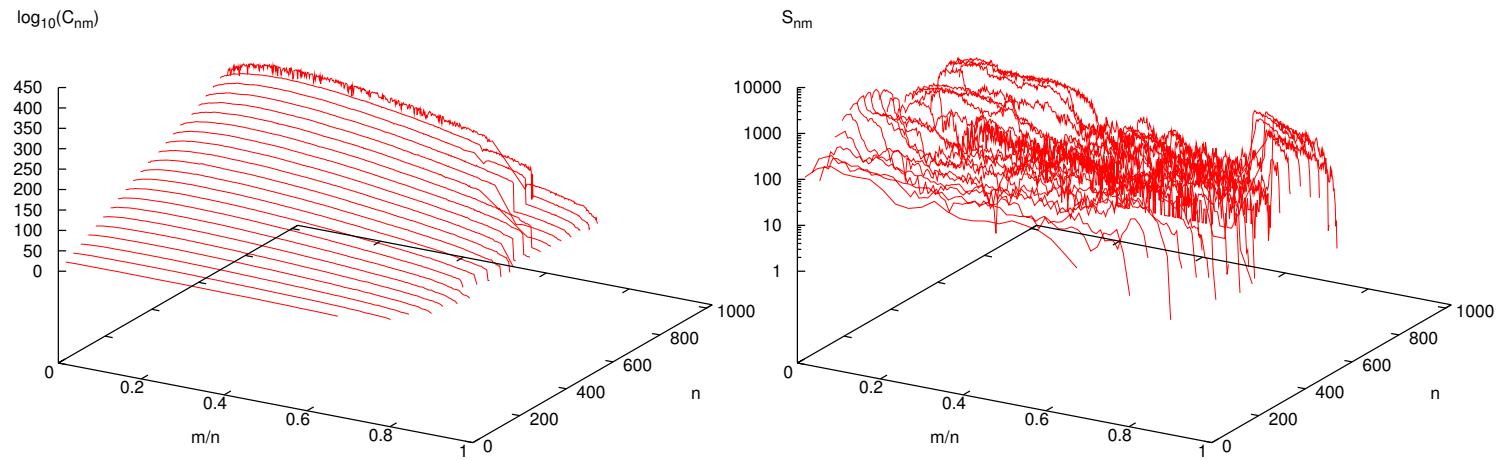
- Total sample size: 30,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

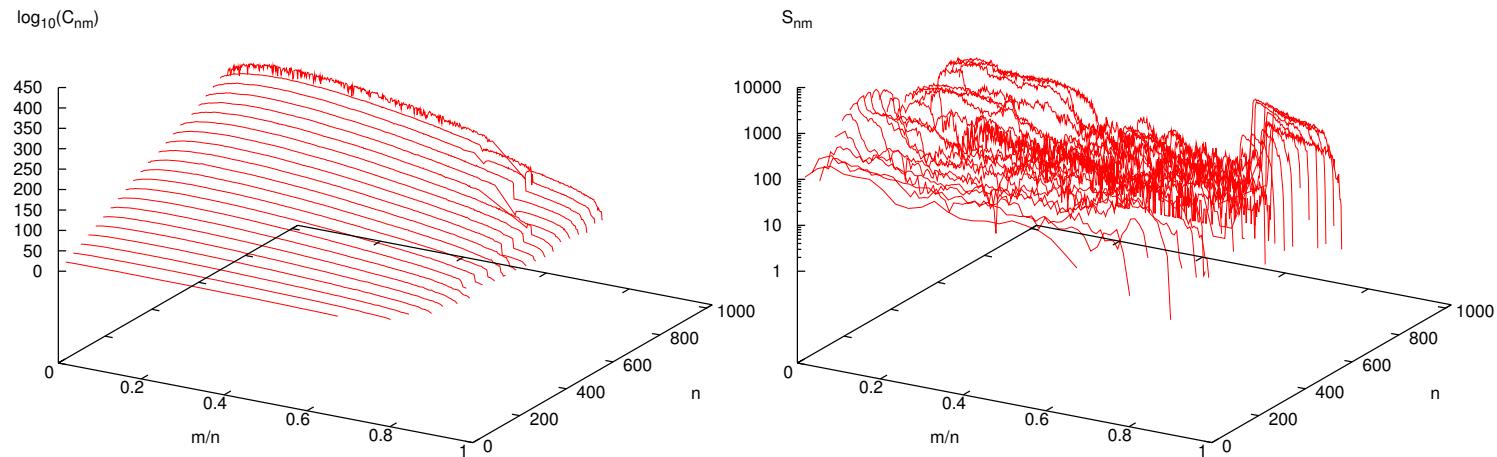
- Total sample size: 40,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

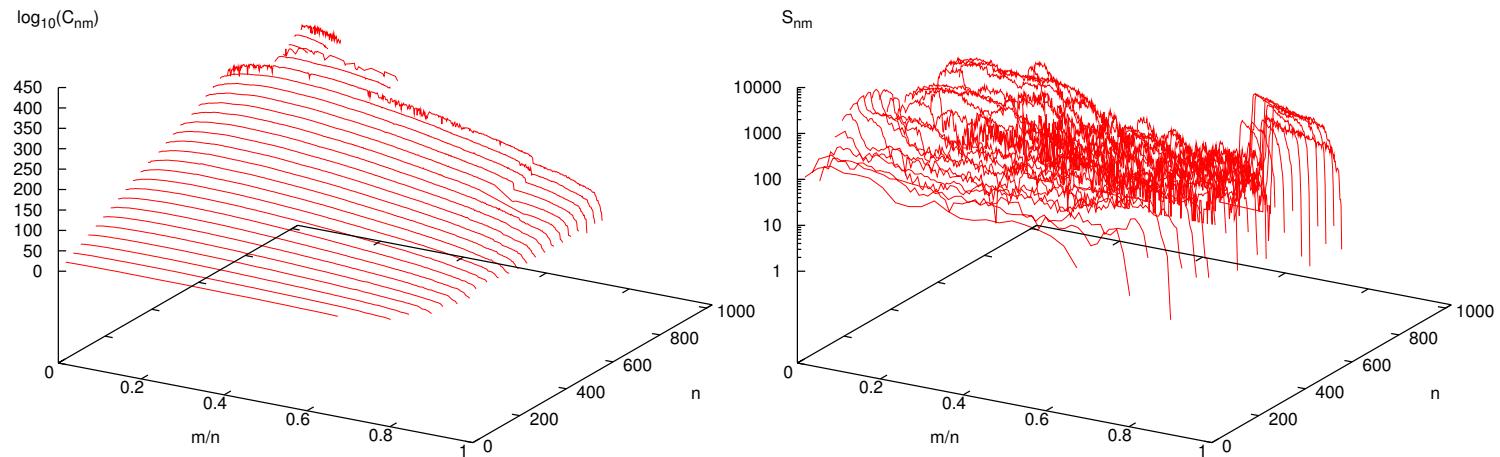
- Total sample size: 50,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

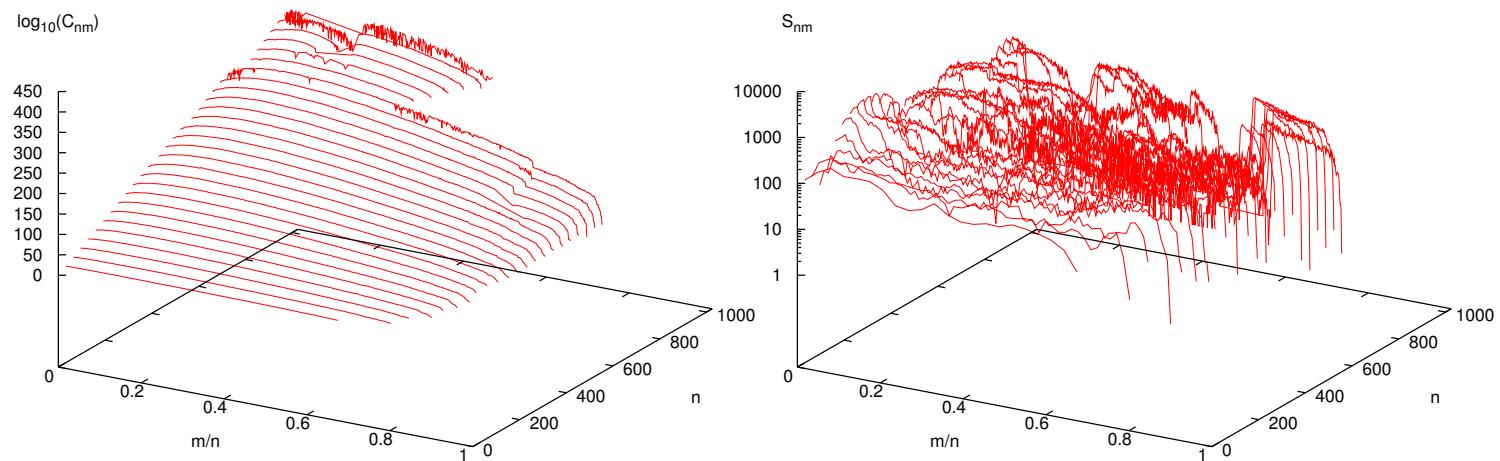
- Total sample size: 60,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

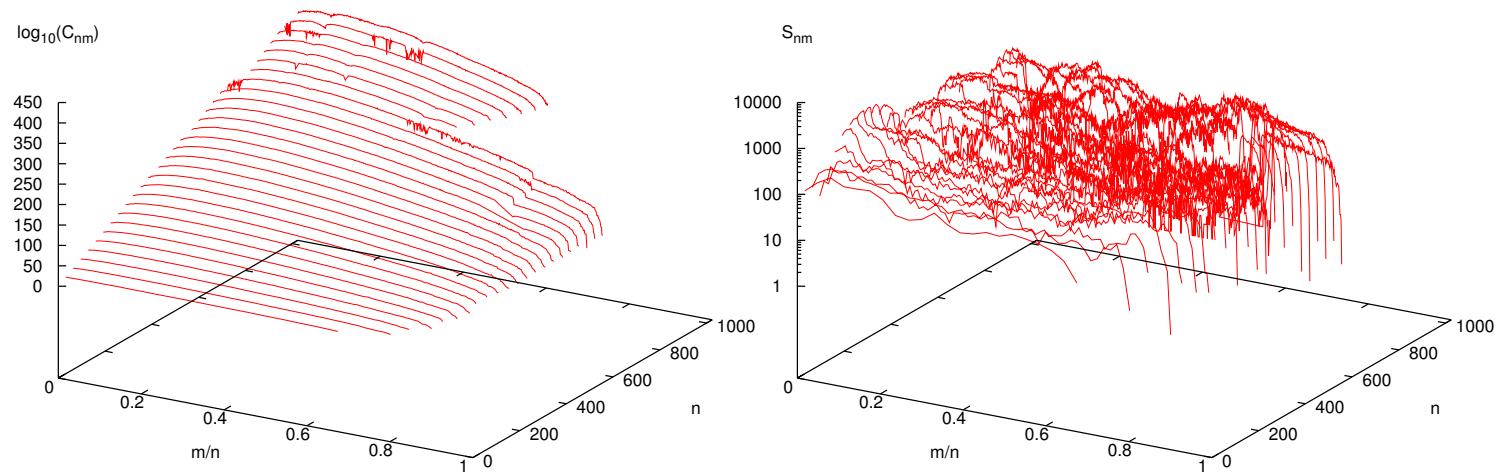
- Total sample size: 70,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

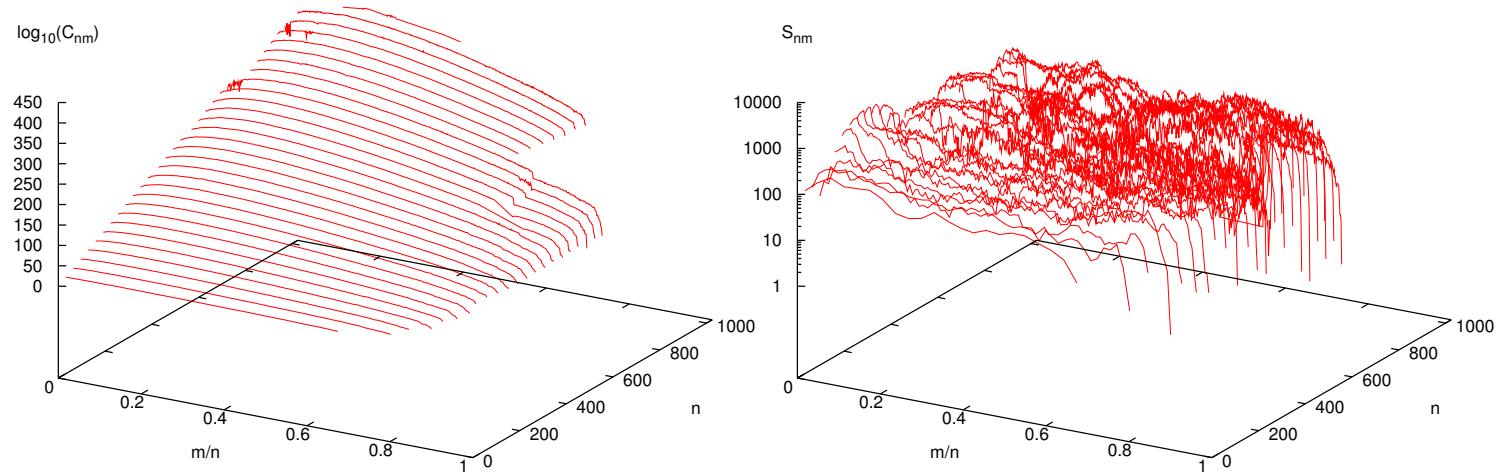
- Total sample size: 80,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

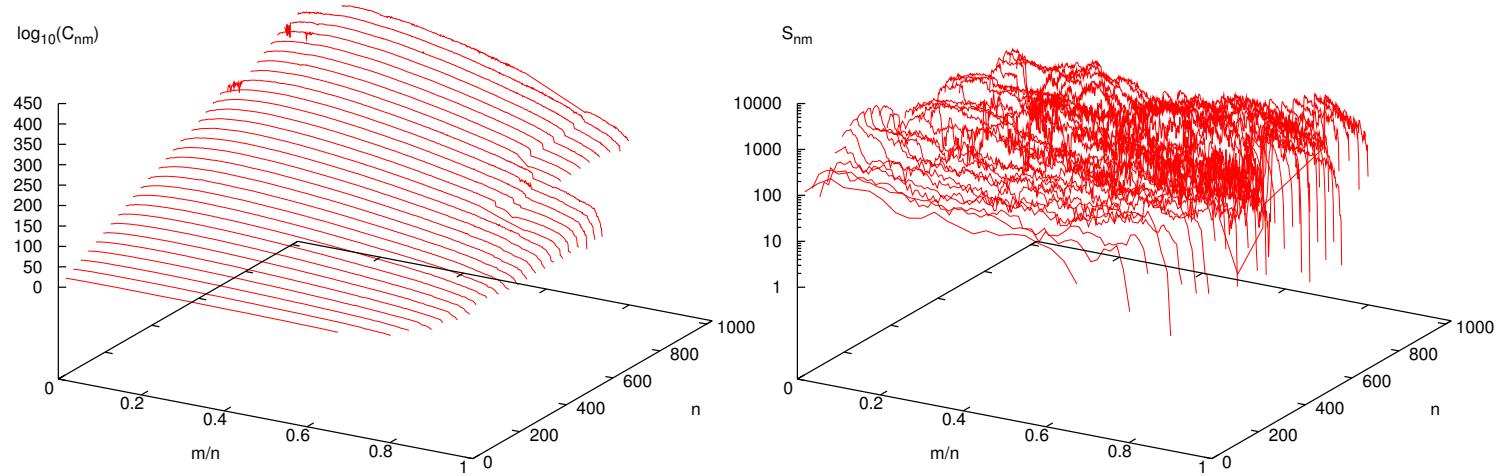
- Total sample size: 90,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

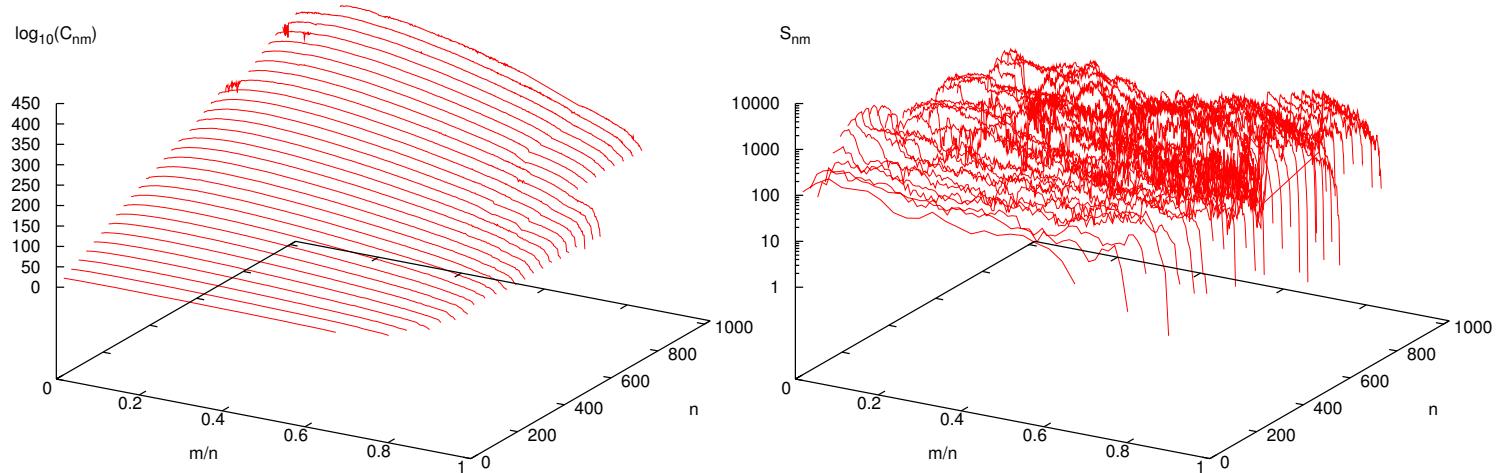
- Total sample size: 100,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

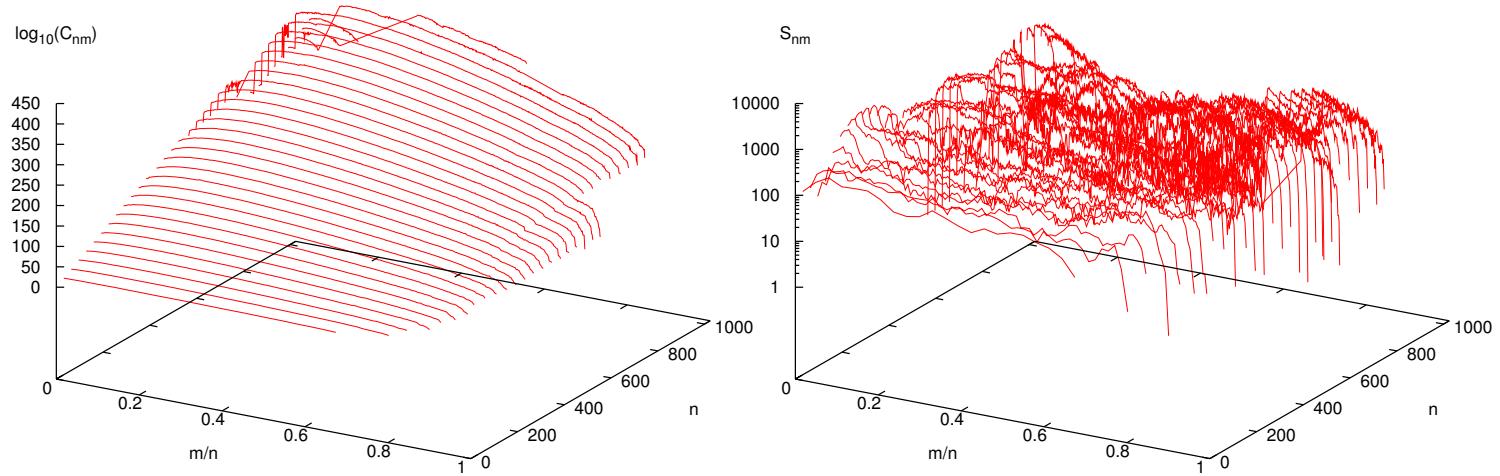
- Total sample size: 110,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

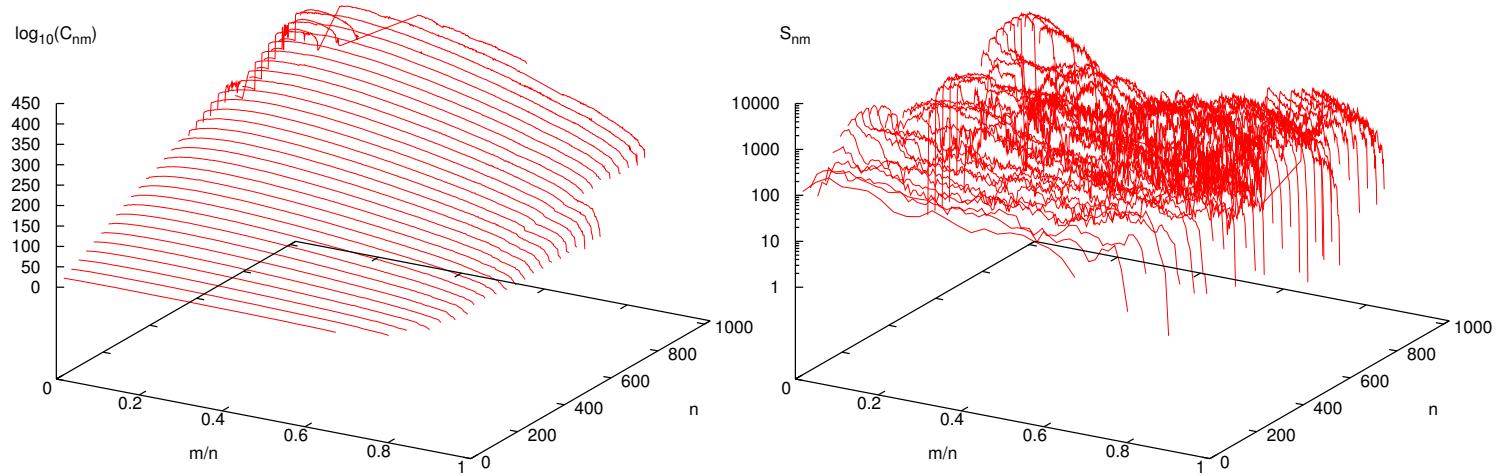
- Total sample size: 120,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

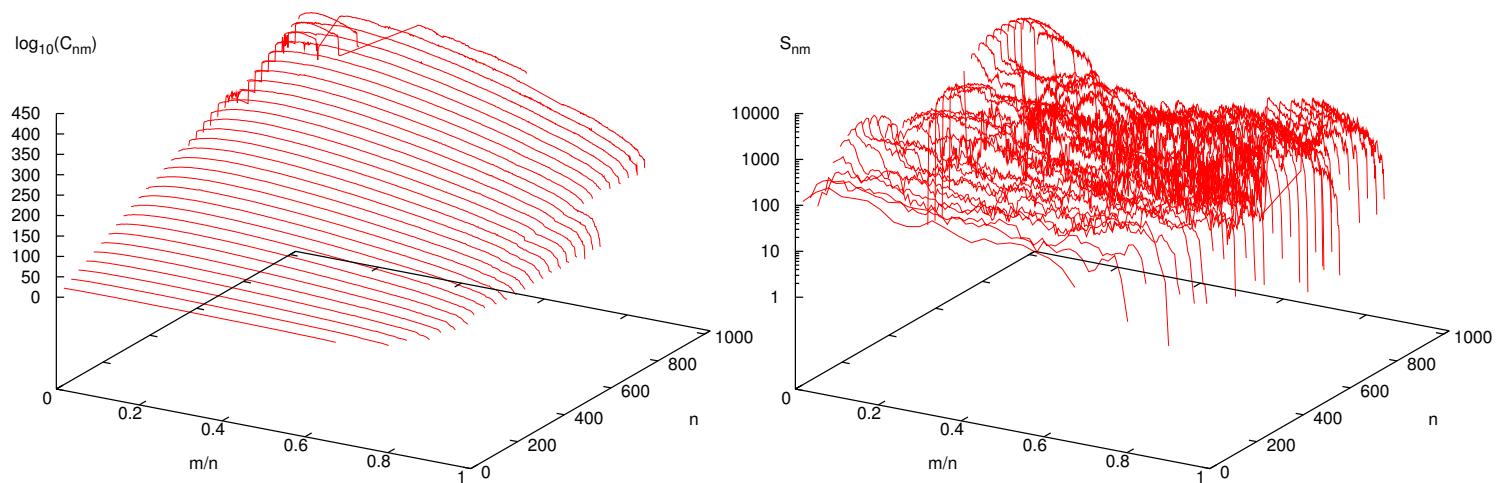
- Total sample size: 130,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

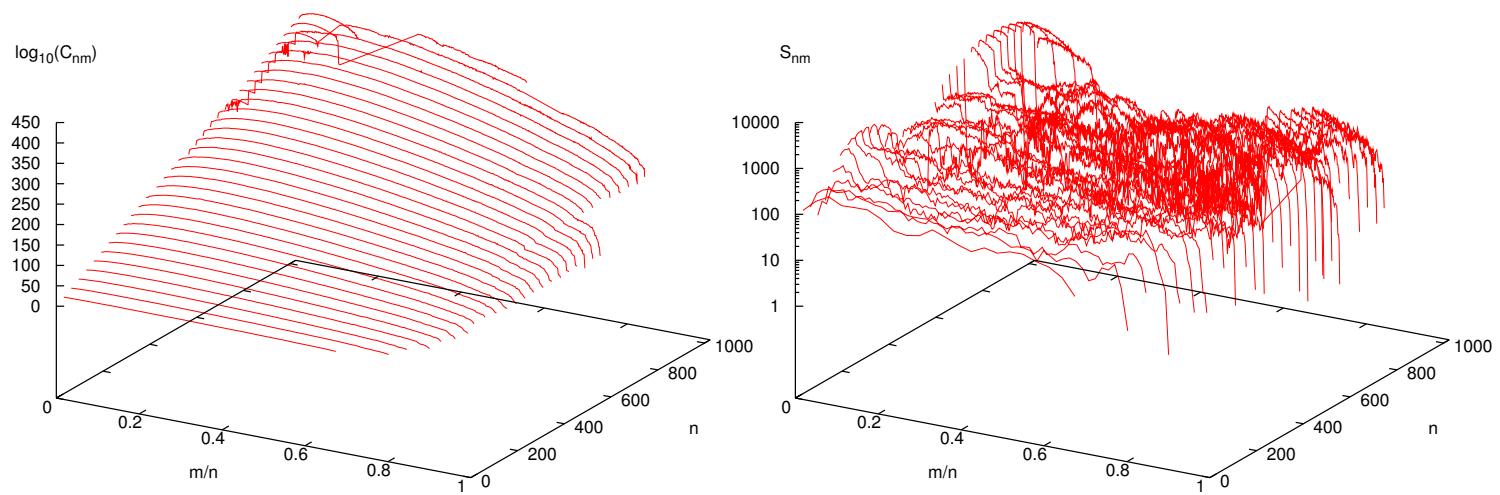
- Total sample size: 140,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

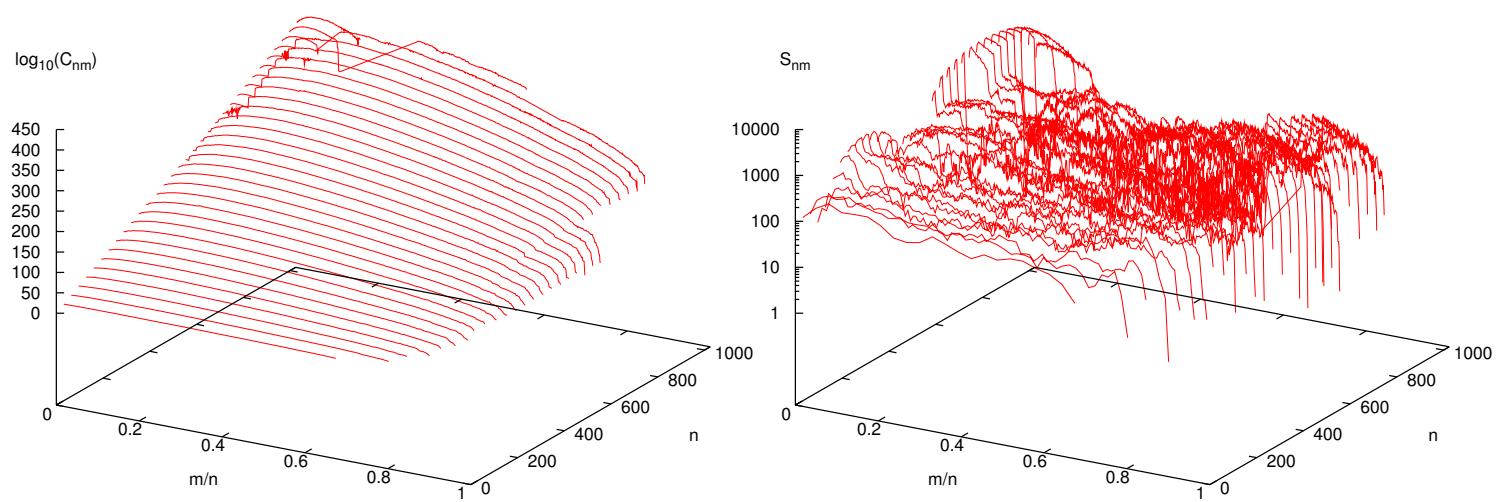
- Total sample size: 150,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

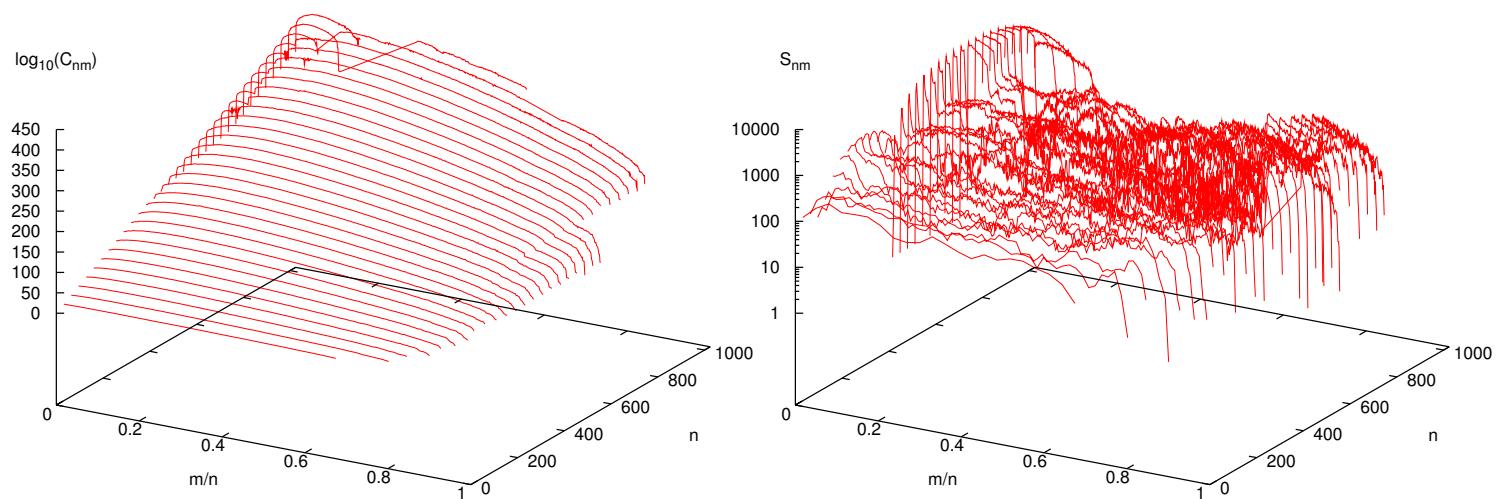
- Total sample size: 160,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

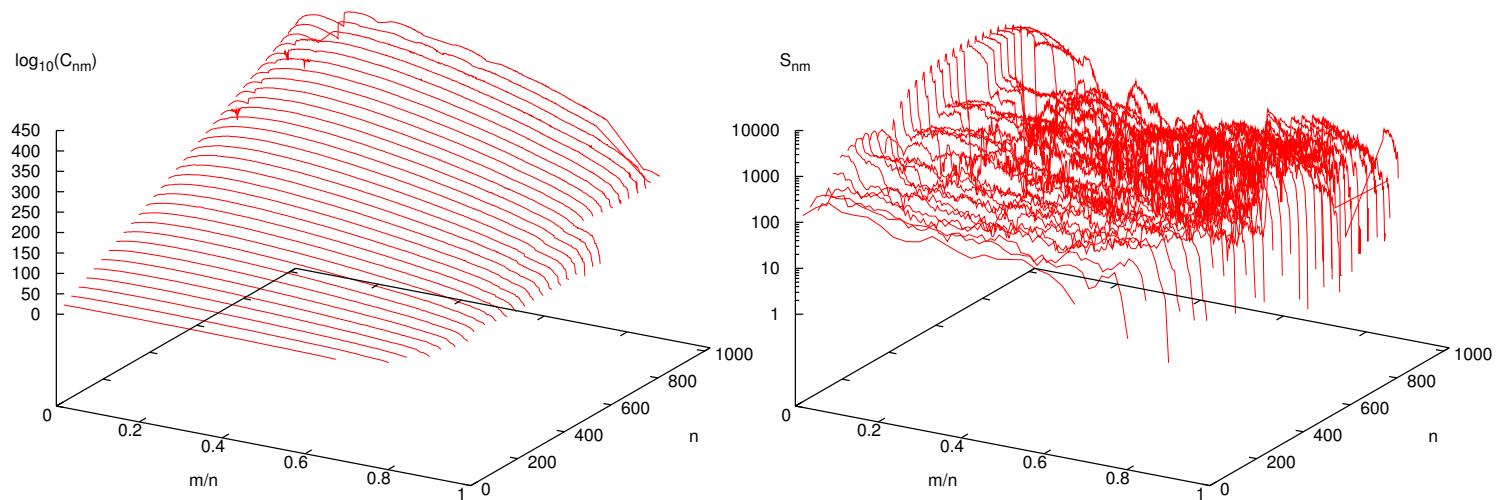
- Total sample size: 170,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

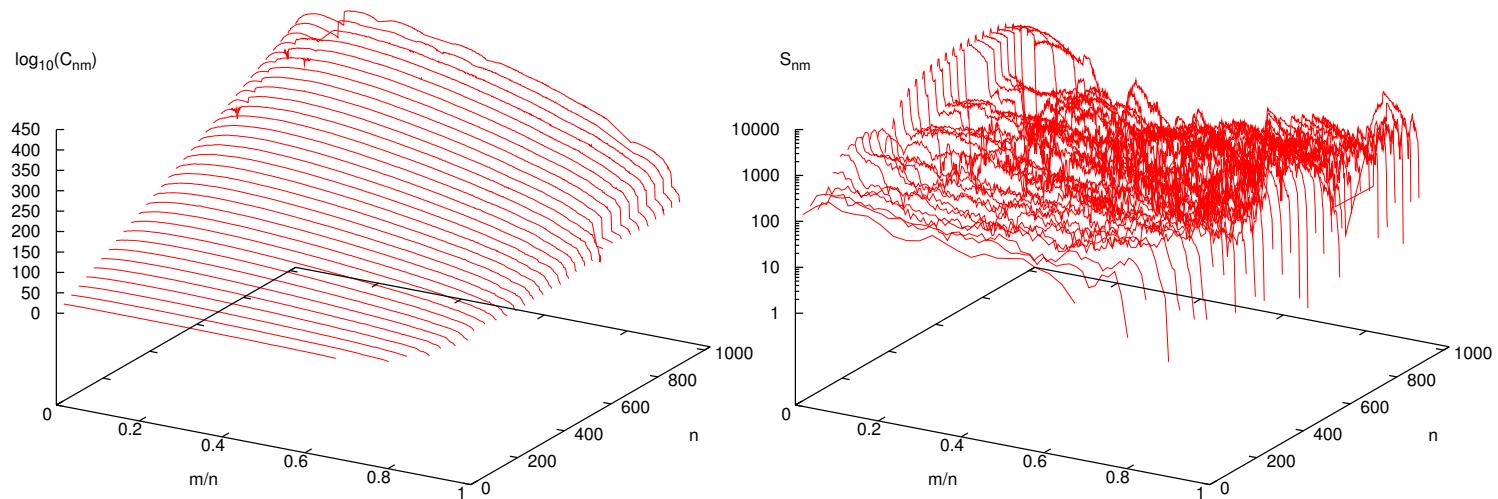
- Total sample size: 180,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

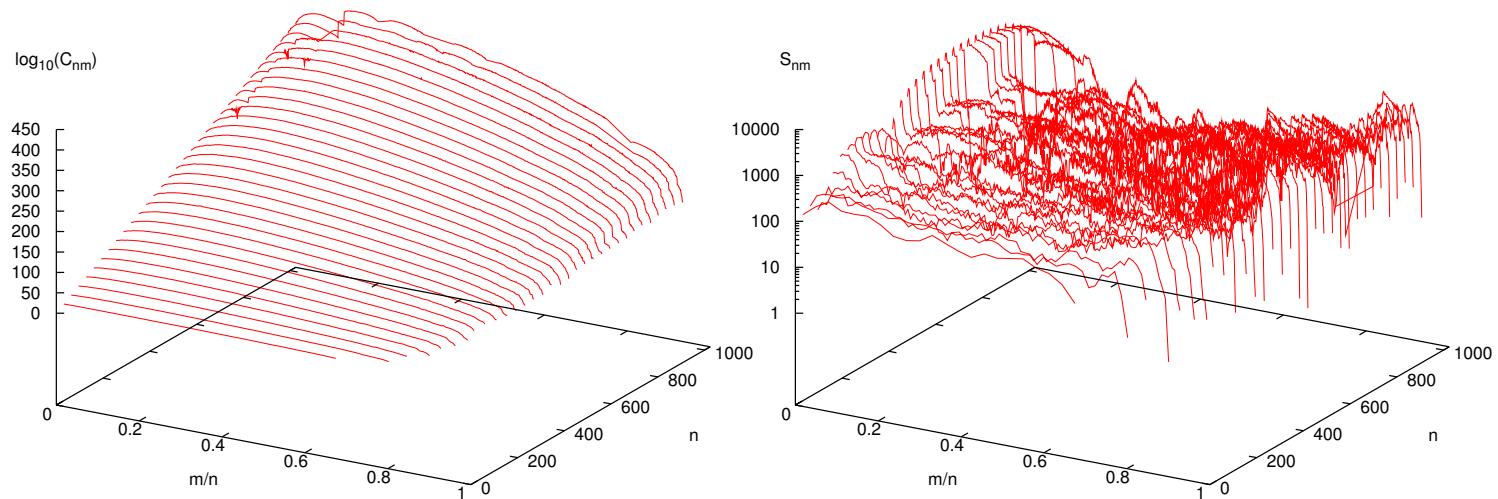
- Total sample size: 190,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

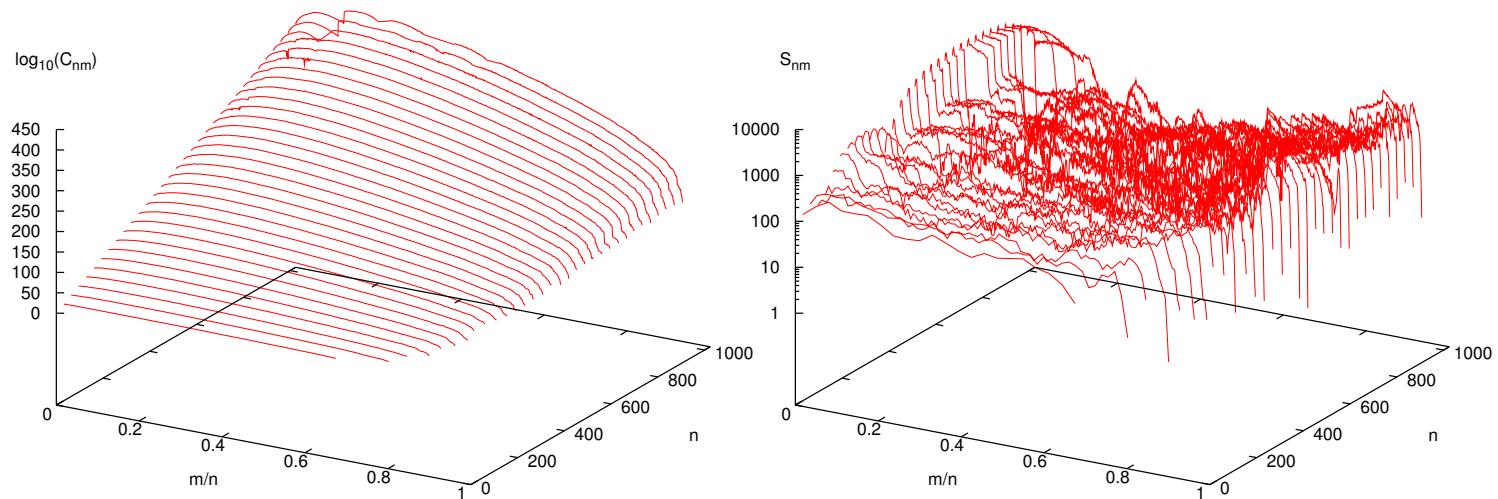
- Total sample size: 200,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

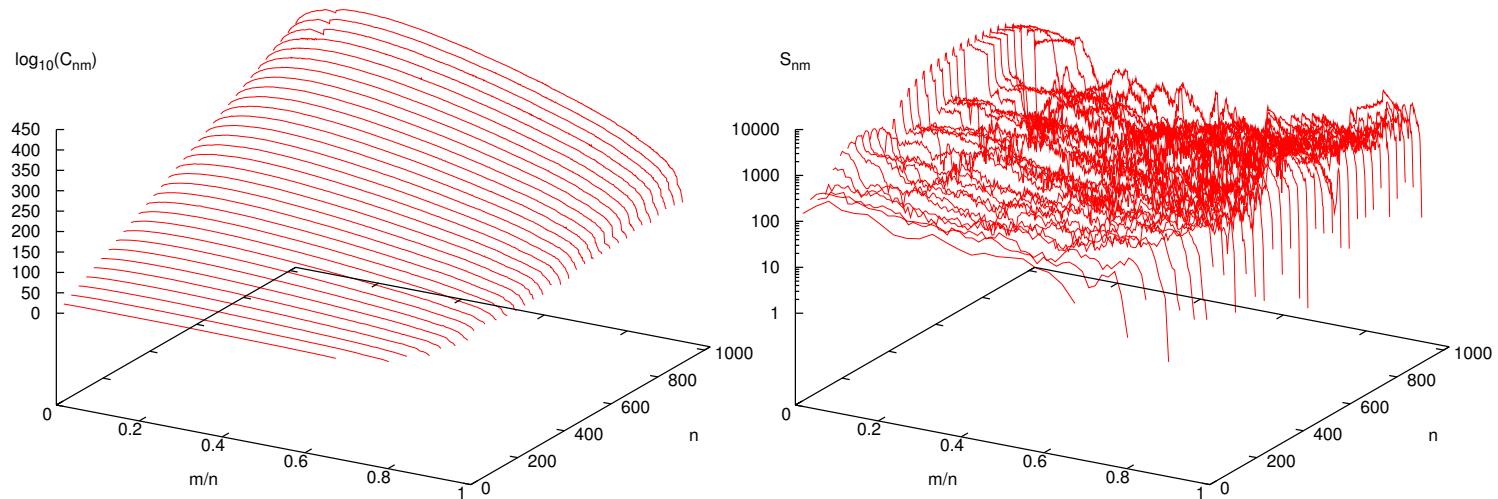
- Total sample size: 210,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

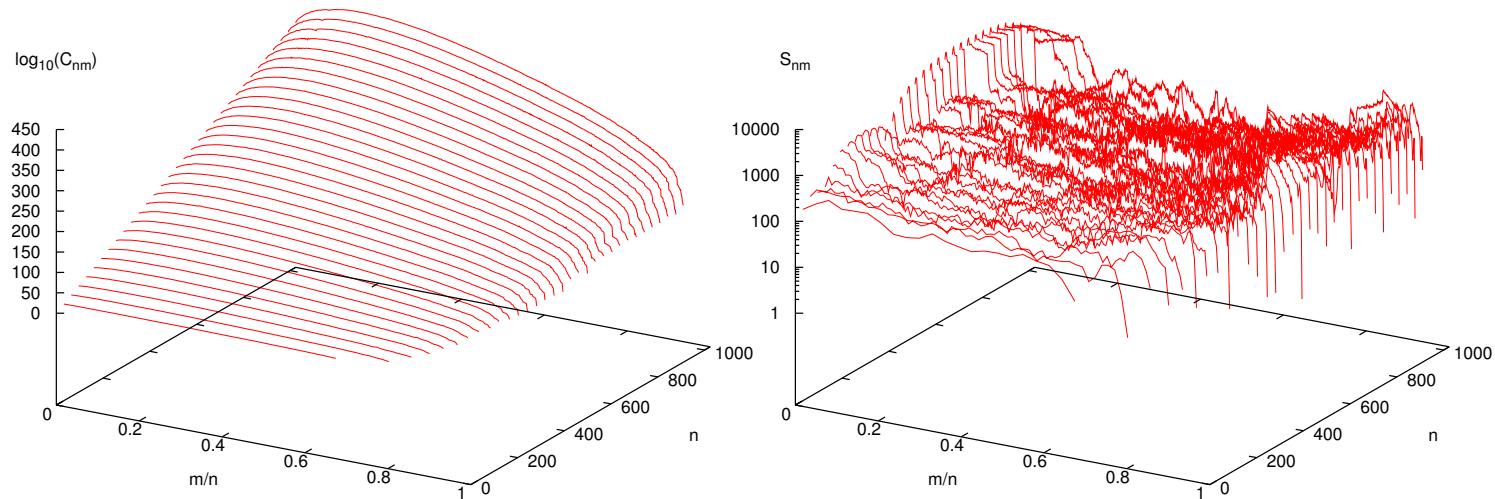
- Total sample size: 220,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

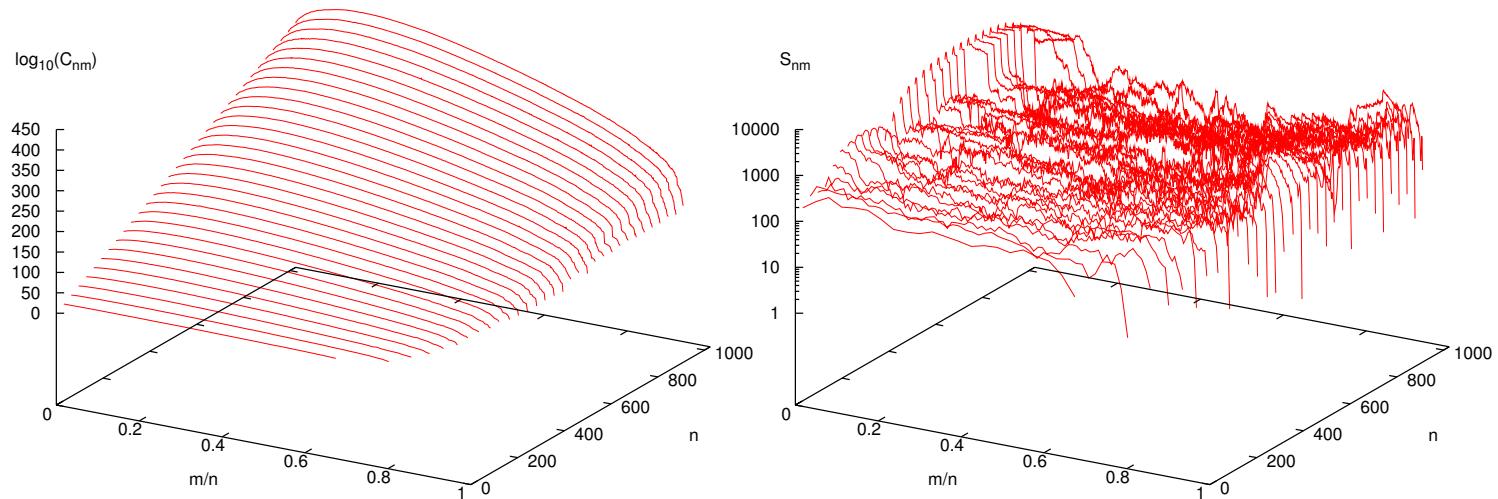
- Total sample size: 230,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

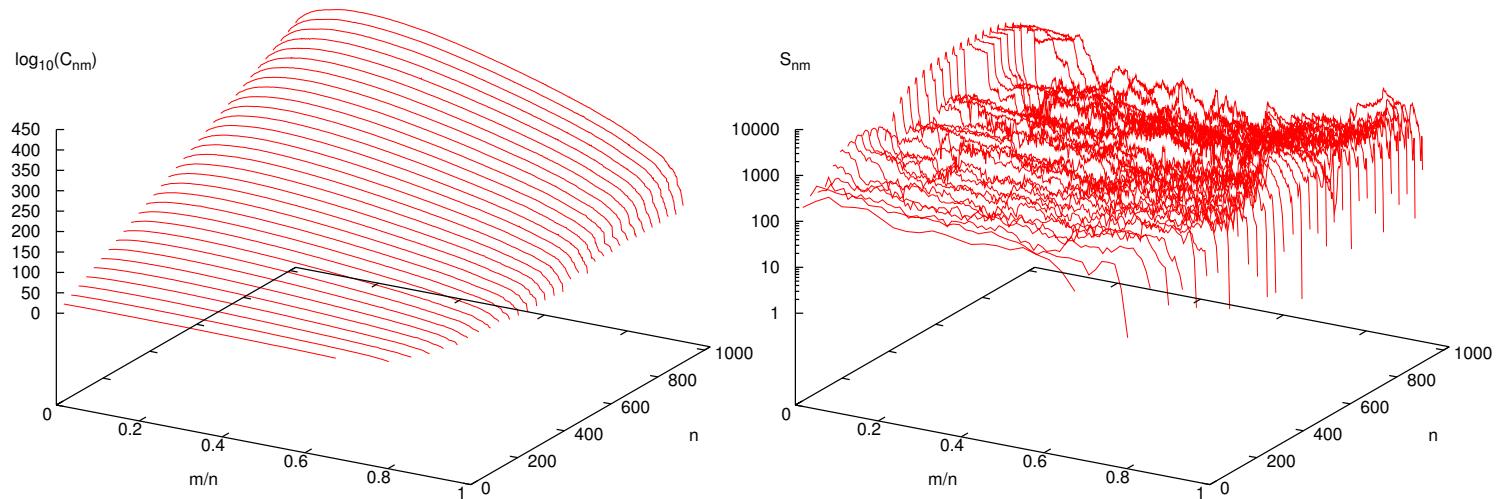
- Total sample size: 240,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

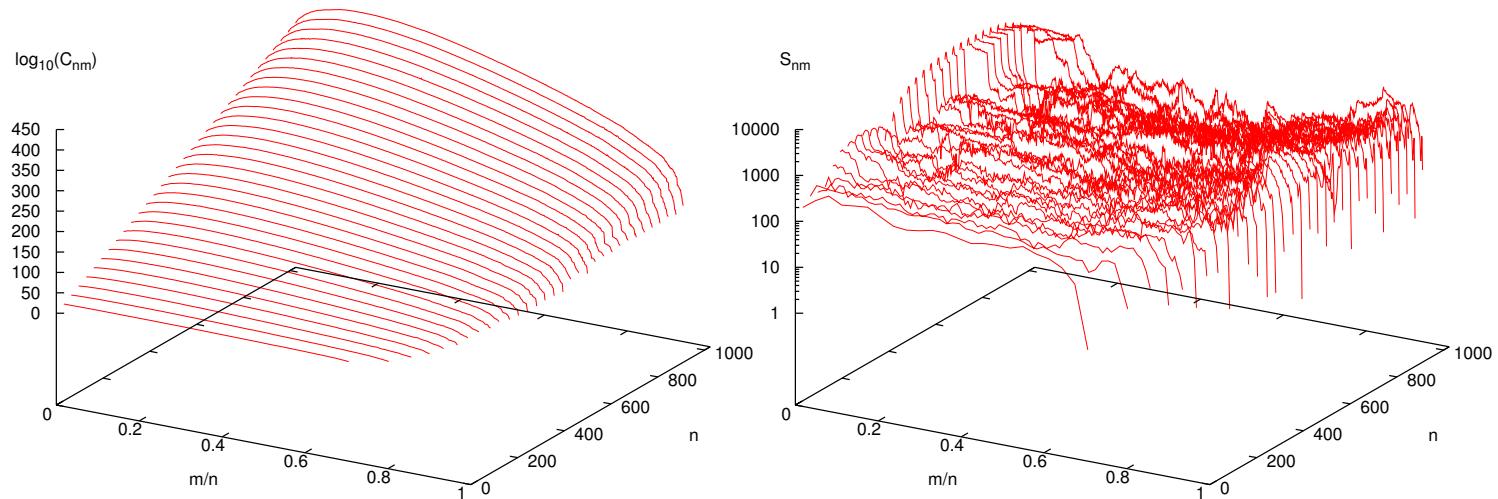
- Total sample size: 250,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

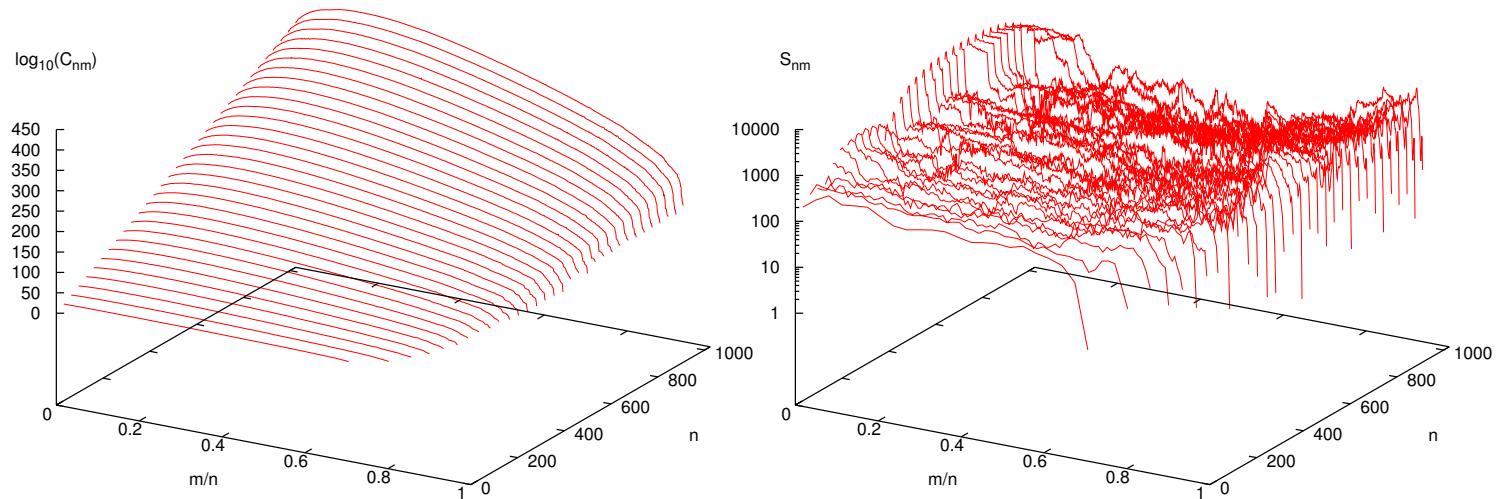
- Total sample size: 260,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

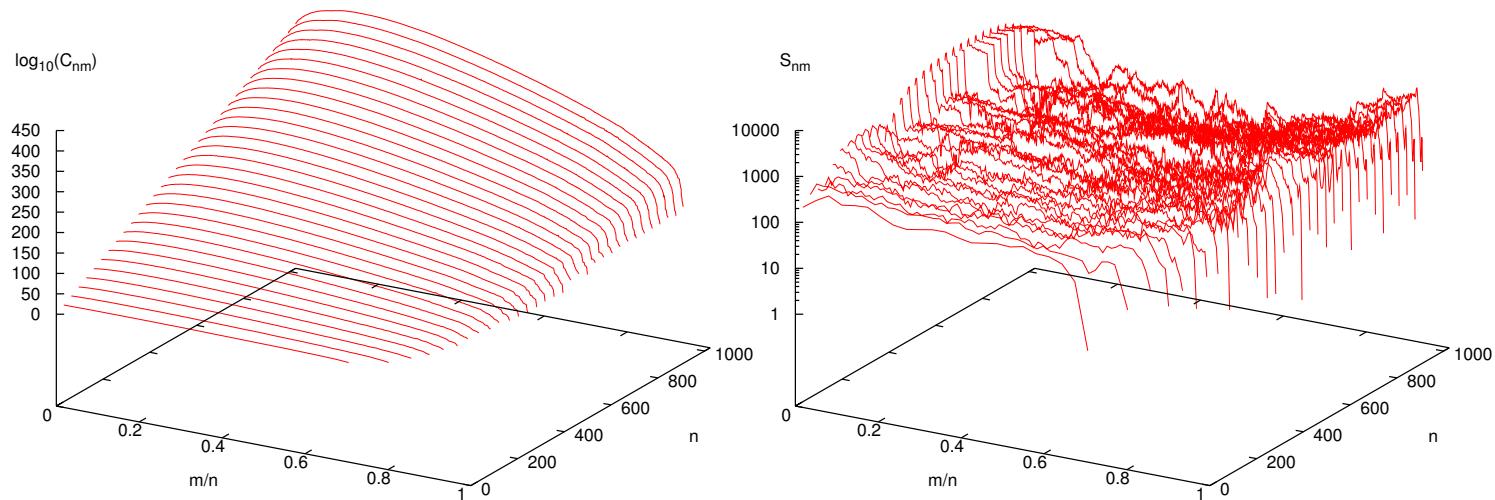
- Total sample size: 270,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

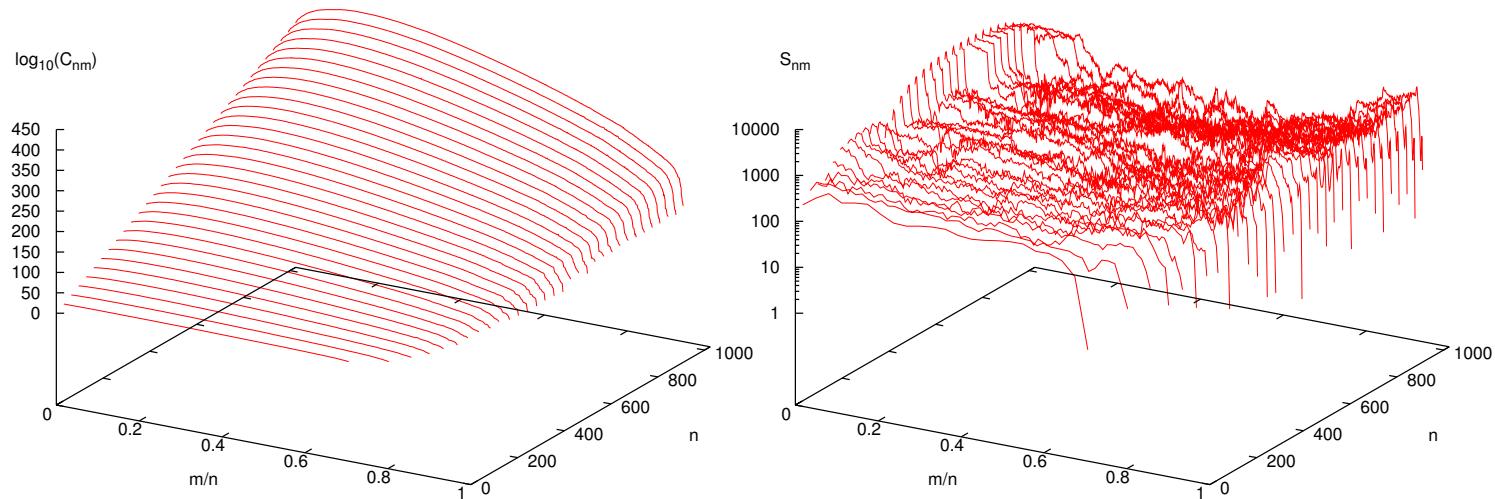
- Total sample size: 280,000,000



Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

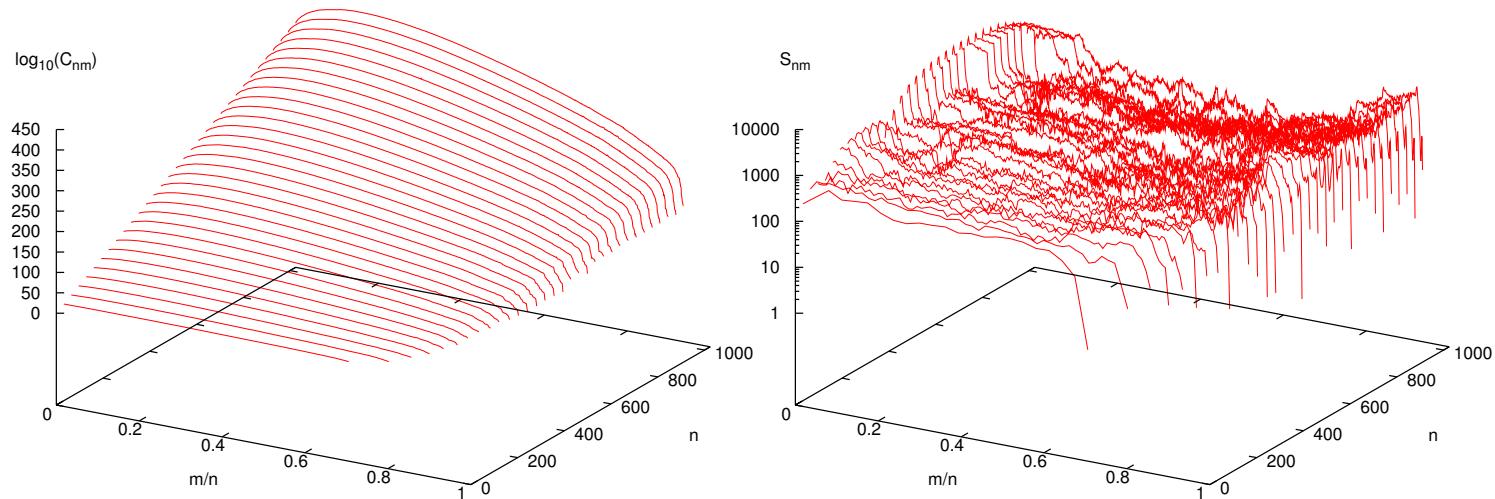
- Total sample size: 290,000,000



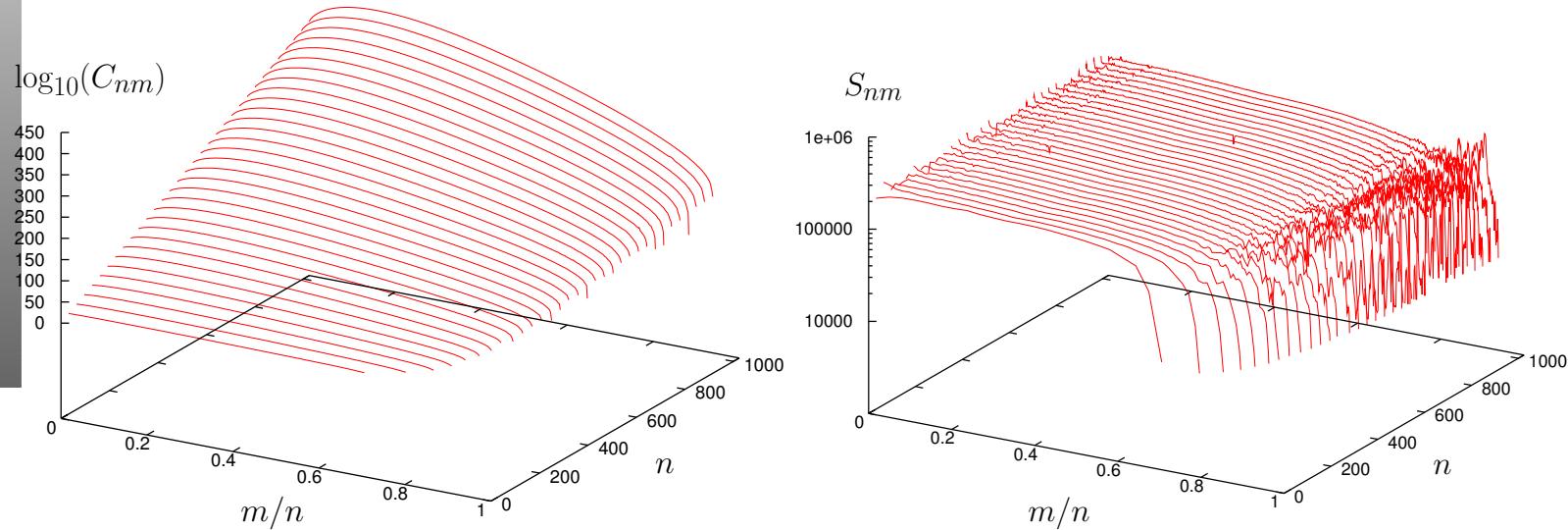
Simulation: dynamics of the algorithm

2d ISAW simulation up to $n = 1024$

- Total sample size: 300,000,000

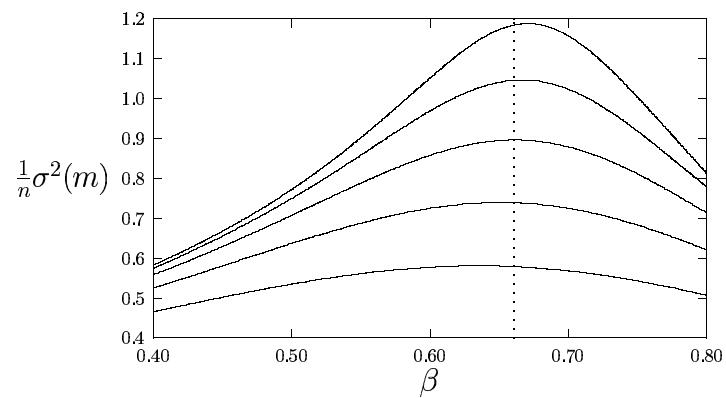


Simulation results: ISAW



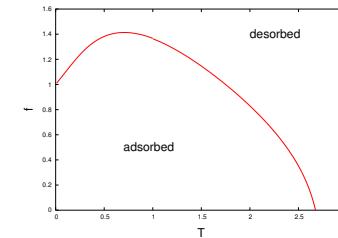
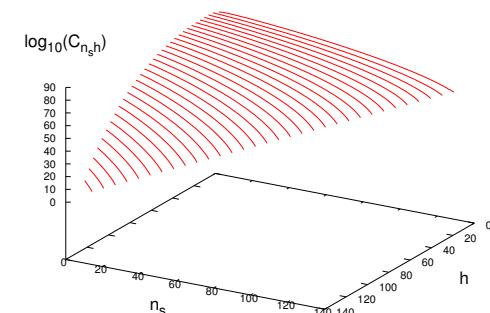
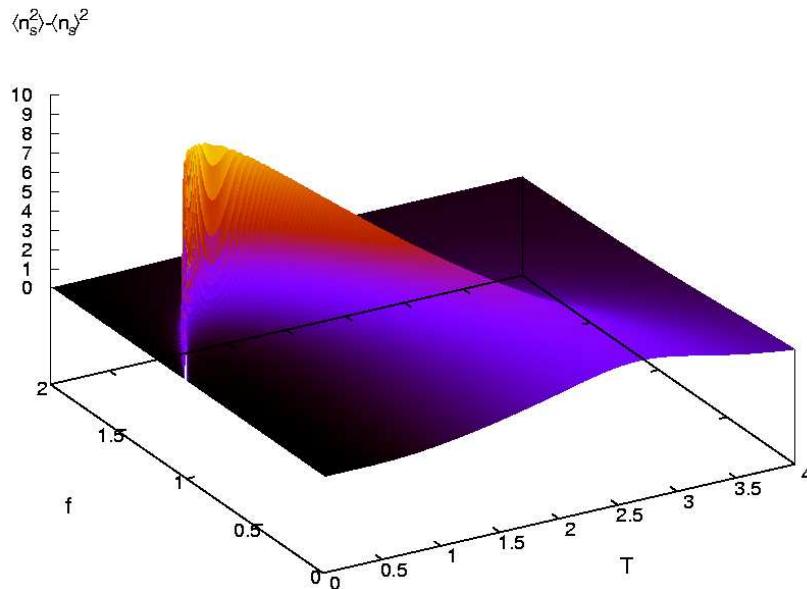
- 2d ISAW up to $n = 1024$
- One simulation suffices
- 400 orders of magnitude

(only 2d shown, 3d similar)



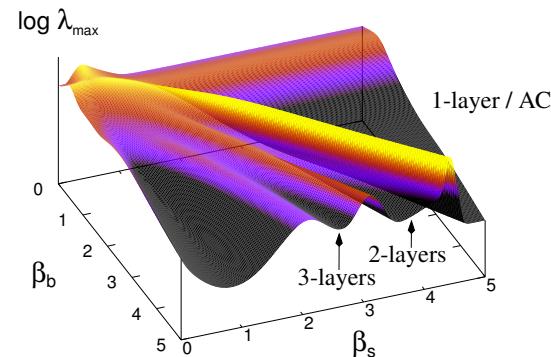
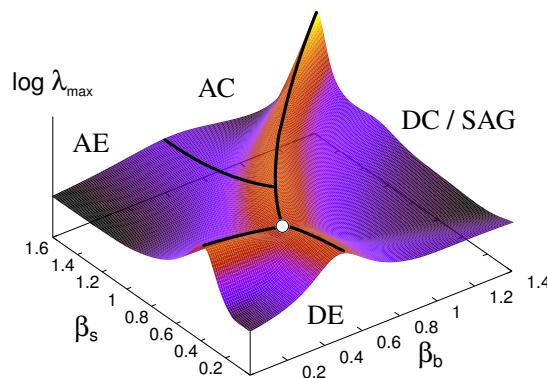
2-Dimensional Density of States

- Force-induced desorption of adsorbed polymers
 - Relevance: optical tweezers, AFM; related to DNA unzipping
- 3-dim polymer in a half space, one simulation, up to $n = 256$

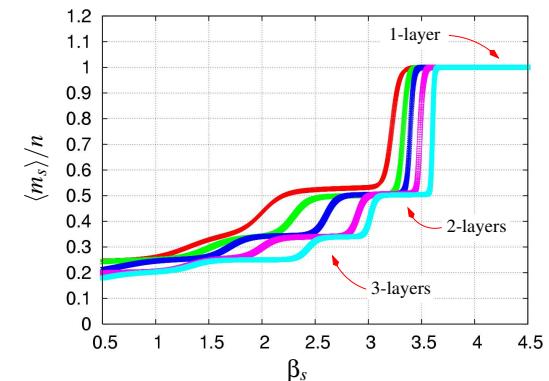


2-Dimensional Density of States

- Layering transitions of adsorbed polymers in poor solvents



- whole phase diagram at once
- low temperatures accessible
- hierarchy of layering transitions
- resolved controversy over “surface attached globule”

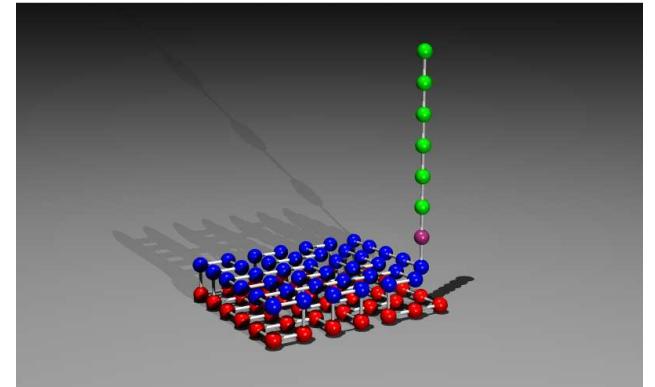
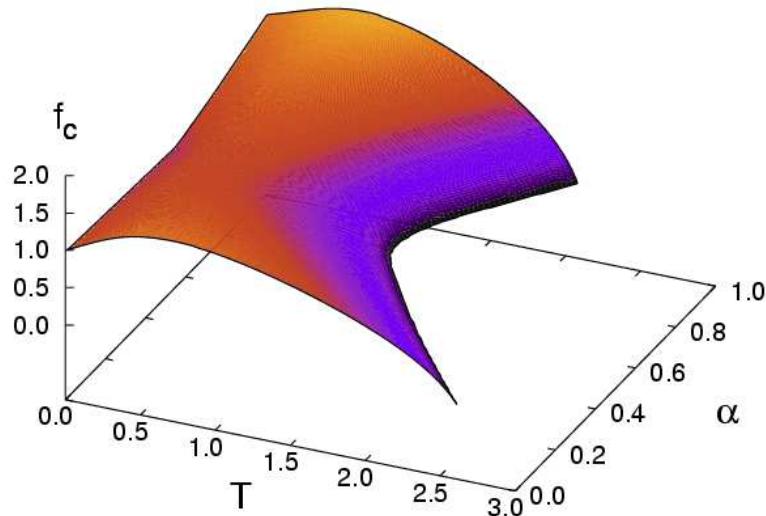


JK et al, cond-mat/0408310



3-Dimensional Density of States

- Pulling adsorbing and collapsing polymers off a surface



$$\epsilon_s = \alpha, \epsilon_b = 1 - \alpha$$

- simulations up to $n = 91$ (4-dimensional histogram)
- interplay of (both force-induced and thermal) desorption ($\alpha = 1$) and stretching ($\alpha = 0$)



Summary and Outlook



Conclusion: A Promising New Algorithm

- Presented “flat histogram” version of PERM
 - One simulation for complete density of states!
(the range can also be selectively restricted)



Conclusion: A Promising New Algorithm

- Presented “flat histogram” version of PERM
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- Outlook: applications to further models, e.g.
 - branched polymers in wedges
 - extended Domb-Joyce model
 - more realistic models, off-lattice simulations



The End

