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Directed Polymers in Random Environment

Chapter 3

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Abstract

These notes are based on the book "Directed Polymers in Random Environment" [2], and are intended for self-study and understand better these topics.

1 Martingale Approach and the L^2 region.

In this section we will study the partition function Z_n . Recall that $\lambda(\beta) = \log \mathbb{P}(e^{\beta\omega})$, so $\mathbb{P}(e^{\beta\omega}) = e^{\lambda(\beta)}$. Therefore,

$\mathbb{P}(Z_n) = \mathbb{P}(P[e^{\beta H_n}]) = P(\mathbb{P}(\exp\{\sum_{i=1}^n \omega(i, S_i)\})) = P(e^{n\lambda(\beta)}) = e^{n\lambda(\beta)}$, where we used the fact that the environment is i.i.d under \mathbb{P} . Because this calculation, we will consider the normalized partition function

$$W_n := \frac{Z_n}{e^{n\lambda(\beta)}}, n \geq 1 \quad (1.0.1)$$

Now, fix a path x , and consider $\bar{\xi}_n = \bar{\xi}_n(x) := e^{\beta H_n(x) - n\lambda(\beta)}$. Then, for that path, $H_n(x)$ is a random walk. In particular, ξ_n is a martingale on $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ respect to the filtration $(\mathcal{F}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ given by $\mathcal{F}_n := \sigma(\omega(j, x) : 1 \leq j \leq n, x \in \mathbb{Z}^d)$. Then, if x_1, \dots, x_k are paths and a_1, \dots, a_k are scalars, $\sum_{i=1}^k a_i \bar{\xi}_n(x_i)$ is also a martingale. Because $P(\bar{\xi}_n) = \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} P(x) \bar{\xi}_n(x)$ then $W_n = P(\bar{\xi}_n)$ also is a positive martingale.

Recall now the martingale convergence theorem, that basically says that if a martingale has L^1 norm uniformly bounded, then the limit exists \mathbb{P} almost surely. In our case, the limit $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} W_n$ will be called W_∞ . A natural question is ask if $W_\infty = 0$ or not. In fact, note first that by

$$Z_{n+m} = Z_n \times P_n^{\beta, \omega}(Z_m \circ \theta_{n, S_n}) \quad (1.0.2)$$

we can write

$$W_{n+m} = P(\overline{\xi_n} \times W_m \circ \theta_{n,S_n})$$

Taking $m \rightarrow \infty$ we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} W_\infty &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} W_m = P(\overline{\xi_n} \times \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} W_m \circ \theta_{n,S_n}) = P(\overline{\xi_n} \times W_\infty \circ \theta_{n,S_n}) \\ &= \sum_x P(S_n = x) \overline{\xi_n}(x) \times W_\infty \circ \theta_{n,x} = \sum_x P(S_n = x) e^{\beta H_n(x) - n\lambda(\beta)} \times W_\infty \circ \theta_{n,x} \\ &= Z_n e^{-n\lambda(\beta)} \sum_x \frac{1}{Z_n} (S_n = x) e^{\beta H_n(x)} \times W_\infty \circ \theta_{n,x} = W_n \times \sum_x P_n^{\beta,\omega}(S_n = x) \times W_\infty \circ \theta_{n,x} \end{aligned}$$

Because $W_n > 0$ for all n , we have

$$\{W_\infty = 0\} = \bigcap_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d: P(S_n=x)} \{W_\infty \circ \theta_{n,x} = 0\} \in \mathcal{F}_n$$

Thus, the event $\{W_\infty = 0\}$ belongs to the tail σ algebra, and we can use the Kolmogorov 0-1 law to deduce the following theorem:

Theorem 1.1. *The limit*

$$W_\infty = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} W_n$$

exists \mathbb{P} - a.s. Moreover, the limit is strictly positive, or is zero \mathbb{P} almost surely.

It's natural to introduce some terminology that distinguishes this dichotomy:

Definition 1.2. *We say that the polymer is in the weak disorder when $W_\infty > 0$ - a.s and in the strong disorder if $W_\infty = 0$ - a.s*

This definition is an analogous of the high/low temperature defined in the last section. In fact, there will be a similar statement related to a critical value.

Remark 1.3. *We can prove that $W_\infty > 0 \Rightarrow p(\beta) = \lambda(\beta)$. Indeed, we have a.s*

$$p(\beta) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log(Z_n(\beta, \omega)) = \lambda(\beta) + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \log(W_n) = \lambda(\beta)$$

because $\log(W_n) \rightarrow \log(W_\infty) < \infty$

Now we state the analogous of Theorem 1.19, chapter 2:

Proposition 1.4. *There exists $\bar{\beta}_c = \bar{\beta}_c(\mathbb{P}, d) \in [0, \infty]$ such that*

$$\begin{cases} W_\infty > 0 & \beta \in (0, \bar{\beta}_c) \\ W_\infty = 0 & \beta > \bar{\beta}_c \end{cases}$$

Proof. Let $\delta \in (0, 1)$ arbitrary. The idea is to prove the result for $(W_n^\delta)_n$ for every δ . Note that since $\mathbb{P}(W_n) = 1$, then $(W_n^\delta)_n$ is uniformly integrable (e.g. Hölder). We have then the a.s. convergence of $W_n^\delta \rightarrow W_\infty^\delta$ and $\mathbb{P}(W_n^\delta) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(W_\infty^\delta)$, which is 0 in the strong disorder case, and strictly positive in the weak one. Is enough to prove that the map $\beta \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(W_n^\delta)$ is non-increasing on \mathbb{R}_+ . This implies that the map $\beta \rightarrow \mathbb{P}(W_\infty^\delta)$ also is non-increasing on \mathbb{R}_+ . To finish, define $\bar{\beta}_c := \inf\{\beta \geq 0 : \mathbb{P}(W_n^\delta) = 0\} \in [0, \infty]$. We compute

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{d\beta} \mathbb{P}(W_n^\delta) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{d}{d\beta} W_n^\delta\right) = \delta \mathbb{P}\left(W_n^{\delta-1} \frac{d}{d\beta} Z_n e^{-n\lambda}\right) = \delta \mathbb{P}\left(W_n^{\delta-1} \left[e^{-n\lambda} \frac{d}{d\beta} Z_n - n\lambda' e^{-n\lambda} Z_n\right]\right) \\ &= \delta \mathbb{P}\left(W_n^{\delta-1} [e^{-n\lambda} P(H_n \bar{\xi}_n) - n\lambda' P(\bar{\xi}_n)]\right) = \delta \mathbb{P}(W_n^{\delta-1} P[\{H_n - n\lambda'\} \bar{\xi}_n]) \\ &= \delta P(\mathbb{P}[\bar{\xi}_n W_n^{\delta-1} \{H_n - n\lambda'\}]) \end{aligned} \quad (1.0.3)$$

Now, we apply the FGK-Harris inequality as follows: we consider the measure $\bar{\xi}_n d\mathbb{P}$ for fixed path x , the decreasing function (on ω) $W_n^{\delta-1}$ and the non-decreasing one $H_n - n\lambda'$. Then we obtain

$$\frac{d}{d\beta} \mathbb{P}(W_n^\delta) = \delta P(\mathbb{P}[\bar{\xi}_n W_n^{\delta-1} \{H_n - n\lambda'\}]) \leq \delta P(\mathbb{P}[\bar{\xi}_n W_n^{\delta-1}]) \mathbb{P}[\bar{\xi}_n \{H_n - n\lambda'\}] = 0$$

The last equality is by

$$\mathbb{P}[\omega e^{\beta\omega}] = \lambda'(\beta) e^{\lambda(\beta)} \quad (1.0.4)$$

□

Because the last theorem and Theorem 1.19, chapter 2, it's expected that $\beta_c = \bar{\beta}_c$, but at the moment this question remains open. However, if $d \in \{1, 2\}$, the equality is satisfied. Note that always $\bar{\beta}_c \leq \beta_c$. In effect, if $\beta = \beta_c + \epsilon$ with $\epsilon > 0$, then $\beta \geq \bar{\beta}_c$, otherwise $W_\infty(\beta) > 0 \Rightarrow p(\beta) = \lambda(\beta)$ (by Remark 1.3) $\Rightarrow \beta \leq \beta_c$, a contradiction.

Question 1. $\beta_c = \bar{\beta}_c$?

Question 2. What happens at $\bar{\beta}_c$?

It's expected that $W_\infty(\bar{\beta}_c) = 0$

1.1 The second moment method and the L^2 region

We recall some known facts about the return probability of the simple random walk, denoted by π_d . More precisely,

$$\pi_d := P(S_n = 0 \text{ for some } n \geq 1) \quad (1.1.1)$$

Then $\pi_d = 1$ if $d \in \{1, 2\}$ and < 1 for $d \geq 3$. In fact, $\pi_d < 1$ if $d \geq 3$. For more information, see [5]. Now we define the important L^2 condition:

Definition 1.5 (L^2 condition). *Given $d \geq 3$, we say that β satisfies the L^2 condition if*

$$\lambda_2(\beta) := \lambda(2\beta) - 2\lambda(\beta) < \log(1/\pi_d) \quad (1.1.2)$$

Note that $\lambda_2(0) = 0$ and $\lambda'_2(\beta) = 2(\lambda'(2\beta) - \lambda'(\beta)) > 0$, since λ' is increasing. Therefore, $\lambda_2(\beta)$ is increasing in \mathbb{R}_+ , and if $d \geq 3$, the L^2 condition is equivalent to $\beta < \beta_{L^2}$, with

$$\beta_{L^2} := \inf\{\beta \geq 0 : \lambda_2 \leq \log(1/\pi_d)\} \quad (1.1.3)$$

Theorem 1.6. *Suppose that $d \geq 3$ and the L^2 condition is satisfied. Then, $W_\infty > 0$ a.s. In particular, $p = \lambda$ if $\beta \leq \beta_{L^2}$*

Proof. Let's consider the product space $(\Omega^2, \mathcal{F}^{\otimes 2})$ and the probability measure $P^{\otimes 2}(dx, d\tilde{x})$. This is the distribution of two independent walks S, \tilde{S} . Note that

$$W_n^2 = P \frac{Z_n^2}{e^{2n\lambda(\beta)}} = P(e^{\beta H_n(S)}) P(e^{\beta H_n(\tilde{S})}) e^{-2n\lambda(\beta)} = P^{\otimes 2}(e^{\beta[H_n(S) - H_n(\tilde{S})] - 2n\lambda(\beta)})$$

Now we compute $\mathbb{P}(W_n^2)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(W_n^2) &\stackrel{\text{Fubini}}{=} P^{\otimes 2} \mathbb{P} \left[\prod_{t=1}^n e^{\beta[\omega(t, S_t) + \omega(t, \tilde{S}_t)] - 2\lambda(\beta)} \right] = P^{\otimes 2} \left[\prod_{t=1}^n \mathbb{P} \left(e^{\beta[\omega(t, S_t) + \omega(t, \tilde{S}_t)] - 2\lambda(\beta)} (1_{S_t = \tilde{S}_t} + 1_{S_t \neq \tilde{S}_t}) \right) \right] \\ &= P^{\otimes 2} \left[\prod_{t=1}^n e^{\lambda(2\beta) - 2\lambda(\beta)} (1_{S_t = \tilde{S}_t} + 1_{S_t \neq \tilde{S}_t}) \right] \\ &= P^{\otimes 2} \left[\prod_{t=1}^n e^{\lambda_2(\beta) 1_{S_t = \tilde{S}_t}} \right] = P^{\otimes 2} [e^{\lambda_2(\beta) N_n}] \end{aligned}$$

where $N_n = N_n(S, \tilde{S}) := \sum_{t=1}^n 1_{S_t = \tilde{S}_t}$ is the number of intersections of S, \tilde{S} up to time n . Taking $n \rightarrow \infty$, we have $N_n \rightarrow \infty$, and by the Monotone Convergence Theorem,

$$\mathbb{P}(W_n^2) \rightarrow P^{\otimes 2}[e^{\lambda_2(\beta) N_\infty}]$$

Also note that if $X_n = S_n - \tilde{S}_n$, then N_∞ is the number of visits to zero of the symmetric random walk X_n (this walk is not a nearest-neighbor one). Then N_∞ is geometrically distributed with success probability π_d . Then, we have

$$P^{\otimes 2}[e^{\lambda_2(\beta)N_\infty}] = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (1 - \pi_d) \pi_d^k e^{k\lambda_2} = \begin{cases} \frac{1 - \pi_d}{1 - \pi_d e^{\lambda_2}} & \pi_d e^{\lambda_2} < 1 \\ +\infty & \pi_d e^{\lambda_2} \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Therefore, $\sup_n \mathbb{P}(W_n^2) < \infty \Leftrightarrow \lambda_2 + \log(\pi_d) < 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda_2 < \log(1/\pi_d)$. In that case, the martingale W_n is bounded in L^2 . This implies not only the convergence to W_∞ , but also convergence in L^1 . Thus, $\mathbb{P}(W_\infty) = 1$ and necessarily W_∞ must be strictly positive. \square

Corollary 1.7. *Let $s = \text{ess sup}_{\mathbb{P}} \omega(t, x)$. The function $\lambda_2(\beta)$ is increasing on \mathbb{R}_+ , with $\lambda_2(+\infty) = -\log(\mathbb{P}(\omega(t, x) = s))$. Thus, the L^2 condition holds for all $\beta \geq 0$ as soon as $\mathbb{P}(\omega(t, x) = s) > \pi_d$.*

Proof. Let q be the law of $\omega(t, x)$. By the [Theorem 1.6](#), it's enough to prove that

$$\lim_{\beta \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_2(\beta) = \begin{cases} \infty & s = \infty \\ -\log(q(\{s\})) & s < \infty \end{cases}$$

The claim is clear for $s = \infty$, so we consider the case $s < \infty$. To prove this case, observe that when $q(\{s\}) > 0$, it's enough to prove

$$\lambda(\beta) = \beta s + \log(q(\{s\})) + \epsilon(\beta) \tag{1.1.4}$$

for some $\epsilon(\beta) \xrightarrow{\beta \rightarrow \infty} 0$. This implies that $\lambda_2(\beta) \xrightarrow{\beta \rightarrow \infty} -\log(q(\{s\}))$. To prove (1.1.4), we write for $h > 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(e^{\beta\omega} : \omega = s) &:= \mathbb{P}(e^{\beta\omega} 1_{\omega=s}) \leq \mathbb{P}(e^{\beta\omega}) = \mathbb{P}(e^{\beta\omega} : \omega \in [s-h, s]) + \mathbb{P}(e^{\beta\omega} : \omega \leq s-h) \\ &= e^{\beta s} (q([s-h, s]) + e^{-\beta h} q((-\infty, s-h])) \\ &\leq e^{\beta s} q(\{s\}) (q([s-h, s]) + e^{-\beta h}) / q(\{s\}) \end{aligned}$$

Taking logarithms, we deduce

$$\beta s + \log(q(\{s\})) \leq \lambda(\beta) \leq \beta s + \log(q(\{s\})) + \log\left(\frac{q([s-h, s]) + e^{-\beta h}}{q(\{s\})}\right)$$

Finally observe that $\inf \left\{ \log \left(\frac{q([s-h, s]) + e^{-\beta h}}{q(\{s\})} \right) : h > 0 \right\}$ decreases to 1 when $\beta \rightarrow +\infty$ \square

Example 1.8. If $\omega \sim N(0, 1)$, then $\lambda(\beta) = \beta^2/2$. Therefore, $\lambda_2(\beta) = \beta^2$. Hence, the L^2 condition holds if $\beta < \sqrt{\log(1/\pi_d)}$

Definition 1.9 (L^2 region). We call L^2 region to the set of β 's such that the L^2 condition (1.1.2) holds.

1.2 Diffusive Behavior in L^2 Region

In this section we assume $d \geq 3, \beta$ in the L^2 region. The next theorem states that in this region, the environment does not change the transversal fluctuations of the polymer for large d and small β .

Theorem 1.10. Under the assumptions of Theorem 1.6, we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_n^{\beta, \omega}(|S_n|^2)/n = 1 \quad \mathbb{P} \text{ a.s.} \quad (1.2.1)$$

and for all $f \in C(\mathbb{R}^d)$ with at most polynomial growth at infinity

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_n^{\beta, \omega}[f(S_n/\sqrt{n})] = (2\pi)^{-d/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(x/\sqrt{d}) \exp(-|x^2|/2) dx \quad \mathbb{P} \text{ a.s.} \quad (1.2.2)$$

In particular, if $Z \sim N_d(0, d^{-1}I_d)$, we have

$$P_n^{\beta, \omega}(S_n/\sqrt{n} \in \cdot) \rightarrow P(Z \in \cdot) \quad \mathbb{P} \text{ a.s.}$$

Before giving a proof of this theorem, we will define a family of martingales $(M_n)_{n \geq 1}$ on $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ of the form

$$M_n = P(\phi(n, S_n) \bar{\xi}_n) \quad (1.2.3)$$

Where we recall that $\bar{\xi}_n = e^{\beta H_n(x) - n\lambda(\beta)}$ and $\phi : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a function for which we assume the following:

(P1) There are constants $C_i, p \in \mathbb{N}, i = 0, 1, 2$ such that

$$|\phi(n, x)| \leq C_0 + C_1|x|^p + C_2n^{p/2} \text{ for all } (n, x) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{Z}^d \quad (1.2.4)$$

(P2) $\Phi_n := \phi(n, S_n)$ is a martingale on $(\Omega_{\text{traj}}, \mathcal{G}, P)$ with respect to the filtration $\mathcal{G}_n = \sigma(S_j : j \leq n)$

Note that M_n is a (\mathcal{F}_n) martingale on $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$. In effect, if $\mathbb{P}^{\mathcal{F}_n}, P^{\mathcal{G}_n}$ denote the conditional expectations, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}^{\mathcal{F}_n} M_{n+1} &= P[\phi(n+1, S_{n+1}) \bar{\xi}_n \mathbb{P}^{\mathcal{F}_n} e^{\beta \omega(n+1, S_{n+1}) - \lambda}] = P[\phi(n+1, S_{n+1}) \bar{\xi}_n] \\ &= P[\bar{\xi}_n P^{\mathcal{G}_n} \phi(n+1, S_{n+1})] = P[\bar{\xi}_n \phi(n, S_n)] = M_n\end{aligned}\tag{1.2.5}$$

We will need the following proposition before proving [Theorem 1.10](#).

Proposition 1.11. *Consider the martingale $(M_n)_{n \geq 1}$ defined in [1.2.3](#). Suppose that $d \geq 3$ the L^2 condition [\(1.1.2\)](#), (P1) and (P2) are satisfied. Then, there exists $\kappa \in [0, p/2)$ such that*

$$\max_{0 \leq j \leq n} |M_j| = O(n^\kappa) \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty \tag{1.2.6}$$

If in addition, $p < \frac{1}{2}d - 1$, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} M_n \text{ exists } \mathbb{P} \text{ a.s and in } L^2(\mathbb{P}) \tag{1.2.7}$$

Sketch of the proof: As is shown in [\[4\]](#), we have

$$\mathbb{P}(M_n^2) = O(b_n), \quad b_n = \sum_{j=1}^n j^{p-d/2} \tag{1.2.8}$$

Let $M_n^* := \max_{0 \leq j \leq n} |M_j|$. Note that $\sqrt{b_n} = O(n^{p/2-d/4+1/2})$. If $d \geq 3$, then $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{d}{4} \leq -\frac{1}{4}$. Thus, $b_n = O(n^{p/2-1/4})$. Therefore, to prove the first part of the proposition, is enough to show that if $\delta > 0$ is small enough, then

$$M_n^* = O(n^\delta \sqrt{b_n}) \tag{1.2.9}$$

when $n \rightarrow \infty, \mathbb{P}$ a.s. Because the monotonicity of M_n^* and the polynomial growth of $n^\delta \sqrt{b_n}$, it's enough to prove [\(1.2.9\)](#) along a subsequence $\{n^k : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ with $k \geq 2$. If $k > 1/\delta$, using the Doob's inequality for martingales, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(M_{n^k}^* > n^{k\delta} \sqrt{b_{n^k}}) \leq \mathbb{P}(M_{n^k}^* > n \sqrt{b_{n^k}}) \leq \mathbb{P}[(M_{n^k}^*)^2] / (n^2 b_{n^k}) \leq 4\mathbb{P}[(M_{n^k})^2] / (n^2 b_{n^k}) \leq Cn^{-2}$$

Where the last inequality comes from [\(1.2.8\)](#). Using Borel-Cantelli, we have that

$$\mathbb{P}(M_{n^k}^* \leq n^{k\delta} \sqrt{b_{n^k}} \text{ for large enough } n\text{'s}) = 1$$

That concludes the first part of the proposition. The second part comes from the Martingale Convergence Theorem.

□

Proof of Theorem 1.10. We the first part. Take $\phi(n, x) := |x|^2 - n$. In that case, $p = 2$. By Proposition 1.11, there exists $\kappa \in [0, 1)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} P_n^{\beta, \omega}[|S_n|^2] - n &= \frac{1}{Z_n} \sum_x |x|^2 e^{\beta H_n(x)} P(S_n = x) - n = \frac{1}{W_n} \sum_x |x|^2 \bar{\xi}_n(x) P(S_n = x) - n \\ &= P[|S_n|^2 \bar{\xi}_n] / W_n - n = P[\phi(S_n, n) \bar{\xi}_n] / W_n = O(n^\kappa) \end{aligned}$$

Dividing by n and taking $n \rightarrow \infty$, we conclude the first part.

Now we sketch the second part. We will use the standard multi-index notation, that is, if $a = (a_j)_{j=1}^d$, then $|a|_1 = a_1 + \dots + a_d$, $x^a = x_1^{a_1} \dots x_d^{a_d}$, $(\frac{\partial}{\partial x})^a = (\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1})^{a_1} \dots (\frac{\partial}{\partial x_d})^{a_d}$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

It's enough to prove the second part if $f(x) = x^a$. We prove this by induction in $|a|_1$. Let define

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(n, x) &:= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right)^a \exp(\theta \cdot x - n \rho(\theta))|_{\theta=0} \\ \psi(n, x) &:= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right)^a \exp(\theta \cdot x - n \frac{|\theta|^2}{2d})|_{\theta=0} \end{aligned}$$

where $\rho(\theta) := \log(\frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \cosh(\theta_j))$.

We have the following related to these functions:

1. ϕ satisfies (P1) – (P2) with $p = |a|_1$

2.

$$(2\pi)^{-d/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \psi(1, x/\sqrt{d}) e^{-|x|^2/2} dx = 0 \quad (1.2.10)$$

Following [1], he proves that

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(n, x) &= x^a + \phi_0(n, x) \\ \psi(n, x) &= x^a + \psi_0(n, x) \end{aligned} \quad (1.2.11)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_0(n, x) &= \sum_{\substack{|b|_1 + 2j \leq |a|_1 \\ j \geq 1}} A_a(b, j) x^b n^j \\ \psi_0(n, x) &= \sum_{\substack{|b|_1 + 2j = |a|_1 \\ j \geq 1}} A_a(b, j) x^b n^j \end{aligned}$$

for some $A_a(b, j) \in \mathbb{R}$. In particular, ϕ_0, ψ_0 have the same coefficients for $x^b n^j$ with $|b|_1 + 2j = |a|_1$. Thus, we can write

$$(x/\sqrt{n})^a = \phi(n, x)n^{-|a|_1/2} - \psi_0(1, x/\sqrt{n}) + [\psi_0(n, x) - \psi_0(n, x)]n^{-|a|_1/2}$$

because $(x/\sqrt{n})^a = x^a n^{-|a|_1/2}$ and $\psi_0(1, x/\sqrt{n}) = \psi_0(n, x)n^{-|a|_1/2}$. Therefore, we have

$$P_n^{\beta, \omega}[(S_n/\sqrt{n})^a] = \frac{1}{W_n} P[\phi(n, S_n)\bar{\xi}_n]n^{-|a|_1/2} - \frac{1}{W_n} P[\psi_0(1, S_n/\sqrt{n})\bar{\xi}_n] + \frac{1}{W_n} [\psi_0(n, x) - \psi_0(n, x)]n^{-|a|_1/2}$$

The second term converges to $(2\pi)^{-d/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} (x/\sqrt{d})^a e^{-|x|^2/2} dx$ by (1.2.10), (1.2.11) and the induction hypothesis. The first term converges to zero by Theorem 1.6 and Proposition 1.11. A similar argument applies to the third term. \square

1.3 Local Limit Theorem in the L^2 region.

In this section we will consider the point to point partition function

$$W_n(y) := P(e^{\beta H_n(S) - n\lambda(\beta)} | S_n = y) \quad , y \in \mathbb{Z}^d \quad (1.3.1)$$

That is, we fix the last point to (n, y) . To make a distinction, we usually call point to level partition function to W_n .

Let be $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$, $x \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ such that $P(S_n = x) > 0$, so $|x|_1 \leq n$ and $|x|_1 \equiv n \pmod{2}$. We write

$$x \leftrightarrow n \Leftrightarrow P(S_n = x) > 0 \quad (1.3.2)$$

In that case,

$$\mathbb{P}(W_n(x)) = P[\mathbb{P}(e^{\beta H_n(S) - n\lambda(\beta)} | S_n = y)] = P[\mathbb{P}(e^{\beta H_n(S) - n\lambda(\beta)})] = 1$$

and we have

$$W_n = \sum_y W_n(y) P(S_n = y)$$

Define the reflection operator $\theta_{n,x}^{\leftarrow}(\omega) = \omega'$, with $\omega'(u, y) := \omega(n - u, x + y)$. In this section we will write for $0 \leq k \leq n$

$$\bar{\xi}_{k,n}(x) = e^{\beta \sum_{i=k}^n \omega(i, x_i) - (n-k+1)\lambda(\beta)}$$

Note that $\bar{\xi}_{1,n} = \bar{\xi}_n$. We also write

$$\bar{\xi}_{k,n}^{\leftarrow} = e^{\beta \sum_{i=k-1}^{n-1} \omega(n-i, x_i) - (n-k+1)\lambda(\beta)}$$

Note that, because the ω 's are i.i.d then $P_y(\bar{\xi}_{1,n}^{\leftarrow}) \stackrel{law}{=} W_n$. Also, the random variable $W_\infty \circ \theta_{n,x}^{\leftarrow}$ is well defined for all n, x , thus we have

$$P_y(\bar{\xi}_{1,n}^{\leftarrow}) - W_\infty \circ \theta_{n,x}^{\leftarrow} \rightarrow 0$$

in probability, and in L^2 in the L^2 region.

Now we state the Local Limit Theorem:

Theorem 1.12 (Local Limit Theorem). *Assume (1.1.2). Then, for all $A < \infty$ and all sequence of integers $l_n \rightarrow \infty$ with $l_n = o(n^\alpha)$ for some $\alpha < 1/2$, we have*

$$P[\bar{\xi}_{1,n}|S_n = y] = P(\bar{\xi}_{1,l_n})P_y(\bar{\xi}_{1,l_n}^{\leftarrow}) + \delta_n^y \quad (1.3.3)$$

with

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup\{\mathbb{P}(|\delta_n^y|^2) : |y| \leq An^{1/2}, n \leftrightarrow y\} = 0$$

Moreover,

$$W_n(y) = W_\infty \times (W_\infty \circ \theta_{n,y}^{\leftarrow}) + \epsilon_n^y \quad (1.3.4)$$

Where the error term $\epsilon_n^y \rightarrow 0$ uniformly on $\{y : |y| \leq An^{1/2}, n \leftrightarrow y\}$

Remark 1.13.

1. Note that (1.3.3) can be written as $W_n(y) = W_{l_n} \times P_y(\bar{\xi}_{1,l_n}^{\leftarrow}) + \delta_n^y$
2. The result says that $P_n^{\beta,\omega}(S_n = y) \simeq W_\infty \circ \theta_{n,y}^{\leftarrow} \times P(S_n = y)$. The interpretation is that the polymer measure is close to a gaussian measure, up to a factor that depend of the endpoint.
3. Intuition: The polymer only is affected by the environment in the endpoints, and behaves like a gaussian in the middle

Sketch of the proof of Theorem 1.12. The details are found in [6]

Step 1: With $l \leq n/2$, we approximate $W_n(y)$ with $P[\bar{\xi}_{1,l_n} \bar{\xi}_{n-l_n,n}]$ in L^2 :

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{|y| \leq An^{1/2}} \|W_n(y) - P[\bar{\xi}_{1,l_n} \bar{\xi}_{n-l_n,n}]\|_2^2 = 0$$

Step 2: Using the standard local limit theorem for random walks, we deduce that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|P[\bar{\xi}_{1,l_n} \bar{\xi}_{n-l_n,n}] - P_y(\bar{\xi}_{1,l_n}^{\leftarrow})\|_1 = 0 \quad (1.3.5)$$

□

1.4 Rate of Martingale Convergence

First we define two modes of convergence in distribution. Let (Y_n) be a sequence of random variables defined in a common probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) , such that Y_n converges in distribution to Y .

1. The convergence is stable if for all $B \in \mathcal{F}$ with $P(B) > 0$, the conditional law of Y_n given B converges to some probability distribution depending on B .
2. The convergence is called mixing if it's stable, and the limit of conditional laws does not depend on B (and therefore, is the law of Y).

The stable convergence says that for a random variable Z defined on (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) , (Y_n, Z) converges in law to some coupling of Y, Z in an extended space. The mixing convergence says that Y_n is asymptotically independent of all event $A \in \mathcal{F}$ (Recall the mixing in Ergodic Theory). more precisely, if G_n is the left hand of (1.4.2), then $P(\{G_n \leq y\} \cap A) \rightarrow P(G \leq y)P(A)$ for $A \in \mathcal{F}$

We now state the theorem, found in [3]:

Theorem 1.14. *For $d \geq 3$, there exists some $\beta_0 > 0$ such that for $|\beta| < \beta_0$:*

$$n^{\frac{d-2}{4}}(W_\infty - W_n) \Rightarrow \sigma_1 W_\infty G \text{ in distribution} \quad (1.4.1)$$

and

$$n^{\frac{d-2}{4}} \frac{(W_\infty - W_n)}{W_n} \Rightarrow \sigma_1 G \text{ in distribution} \quad (1.4.2)$$

where

$$\sigma_1^2 := \frac{d^{d/2}(1 - \pi_d)}{2^{d/2}(d - 2)\pi^{d/2}\pi_d} \times \text{Var}(W_\infty) \quad (1.4.3)$$

where $G \sim N(0, 1)$, which is independent of W_∞ . Moreover, the convergence in (1.4.1) is stable, and the convergence in (1.4.2) is mixing

The theorem is based on a Central Limit Theorem for infinite martingale arrays:

Theorem 1.15. [3] For $n \geq 1$, let $\{(S_{n,i}, \mathcal{F}_{n,i}) : i \geq 0\}$ be a martingale defined on a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) , with $S_{n,0} = 0$ and

$$\sup_{n,i \geq 1} P(S_{n,i}^2) < \infty$$

Let $X_{n,i} = S_{n,i} - S_{n,i-1}$, $i \geq 1$ be the martingale differences, and $S_{n,\infty} = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} S_{n,i}$ be the a.s limit of $(S_{n,i} : i \geq 0)$. Suppose that:

1. The conditional variance converges in probability: for a real random variable $V \in [0, \infty)$,

$$V_{n,\infty}^2 := \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(X_{n,i}^2 | \mathcal{F}_{n,i-1}) \rightarrow V^2 \text{ in probability.}$$

2. The conditional Lindeberg condition holds:

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(X_{n,i}^2 1_{|X_{n,i}| > \epsilon} | \mathcal{F}_{n,i-1}) \rightarrow 0 \text{ in probability.}$$

3. $\mathcal{F}_{n,i} \subset \mathcal{F}_{n,i+1}$ for all $n, i \geq 1$.

Then,

$$S_{n,\infty} \rightarrow VG \text{ in distribution} \quad (1.4.4)$$

where $G \sim N(0, 1)$ and independent of V . If additionally $V \neq 0$ a.s, then

$$\frac{S_{n,\infty}}{V_{n,\infty}} \rightarrow G \text{ in distribution} \quad (1.4.5)$$

Moreover, the convergence in (1.4.4) is stable, and the convergence in (1.4.5) is mixing.

Sketch of the proof of Theorem 1.14. We write $n^{\frac{d-2}{4}}(W_\infty - W_n) = n^{\frac{d-2}{4}} \sum_{k=n}^{\infty} D_{k+1}$, where $D_{k+1} := W_{k+1} - W_k$, $k \geq n$ forms a sequence of martingale differences with respect to the sequence of filtrations $\mathcal{F}^{(n)} = (\mathcal{F}_i^{(n)})_{i \geq 0}$, where $\mathcal{F}_i^{(n)} = \sigma(W_j : j \leq i + n)$. Using the last theorem with $X_{n,i} = X_{n+i} \mathcal{F}_{n,i} = \mathcal{F}_{n+i}$, is enough to show that

1.

$$s_n^2 := n^{\frac{d-1}{1}} \sum_{k \geq n} \mathbb{P}[D_{k+1}^2 | \mathcal{F}_k] \rightarrow \sigma_1^2 W_\infty^2 \quad (1.4.6)$$

in probability

2. The following Lindeberg condition holds:

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, n^{\frac{d-1}{2}} \sum_{k \geq n} \mathbb{P}[D_{k+1}^2 1_{n^{\frac{d-1}{4}} |D_{k+1}| > \epsilon} | \mathcal{F}_k] \rightarrow 0 \quad (1.4.7)$$

in probability

So here, $V_{n,\infty} = \sigma_1 W_n, V = \sigma_1 W_\infty \neq 0$ because we are in the L^2 region. Also, note that $W_n/W_\infty \rightarrow 1$ in probability, so we can change W_∞ by $W_{n,\infty}$ in (1.4.3).

To prove (1.4.6), it's shown in [3] that there exists $\beta_0 > 0$ such that for $|\beta| < |\beta_0|$ we have, as $n \rightarrow \infty$:

$$\mathbb{P}[(W_n - W_\infty)^4] \rightarrow 0 \quad (1.4.8)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(s_n^4) - \sigma_1^4 \mathbb{P}(W_n^4) \rightarrow 0 \quad (1.4.9)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(s_n^2 W_n^2) - \sigma_1^2 \mathbb{P}(W_n^4) \rightarrow 0 \quad (1.4.10)$$

Using the three equations we deduce that

$$\mathbb{P}[(s_n^2 - \sigma_1^2 W_n^2)^2] = \mathbb{P}(s_n^4) - 2\sigma_1^2 \mathbb{P}(s_n^2 W_n^2) + \sigma_1^4 \mathbb{P}(W_n^4) \rightarrow 0 \quad (1.4.11)$$

Thus, $s_n^2 - \sigma_1^2 W_n^2 \rightarrow 0$ in L^2 . As $W_n^2 \rightarrow W_\infty^2$ in L^2 , it follows that $s_n^2 \rightarrow \sigma_1^2 W_\infty^2$ in L^2 .

To check (1.4.7), is verified for $q > 1$, when $|\beta| > 0$ is small enough, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(D_{k+1}^4) = O(k^{-d/q}), \quad k \geq 1$$

In that case, when β is small, $n^{d-2} \sum_{k \geq n} \mathbb{P}(D_{k+1}^4) \rightarrow 0$. This implies that $n^{d-2} \sum_{k \geq n} \mathbb{P}(D_{k+1}^4 | \mathcal{F}_k) \rightarrow 0$, and at the same, implies (1.4.7) by Cauchy Schwarz. \square

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