

# Introduction to Phase transitions and Critical phenomena

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# Outline

0. Prologue

I. Patterns & Fractals

II. Scaling hypothesis

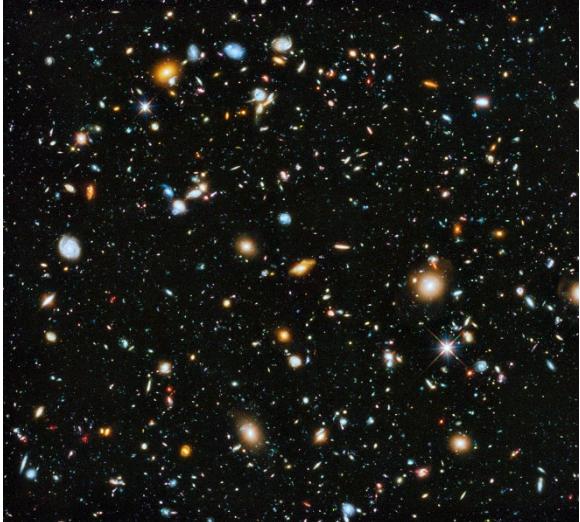
III. Renormalization group : JD Noh

IV. EQ and NEQ models (skipped)

V. Epilogue

# Prolog

## ● Physics of many-body dynamics



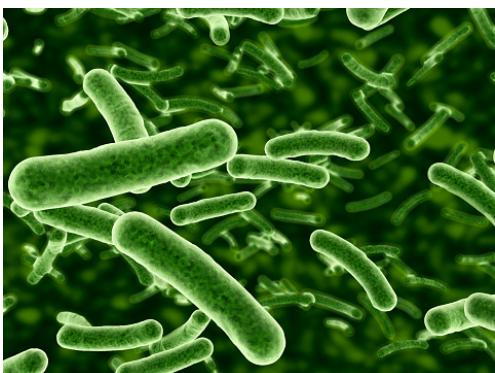
universe



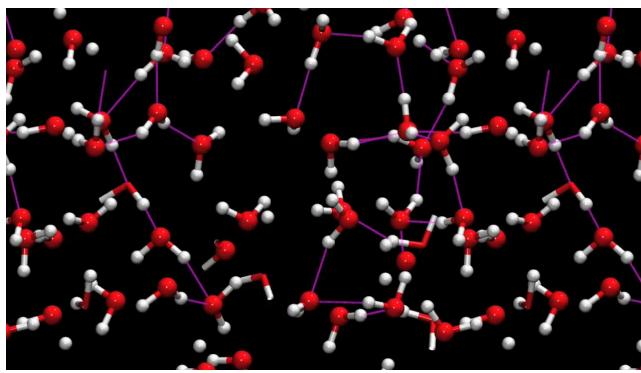
nature



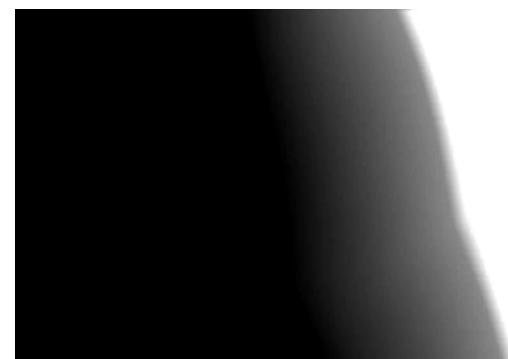
choco



bacteria

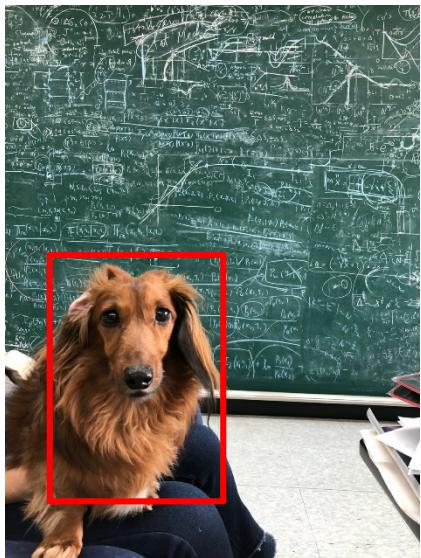


$\text{H}_2\text{O}$

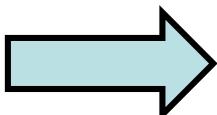
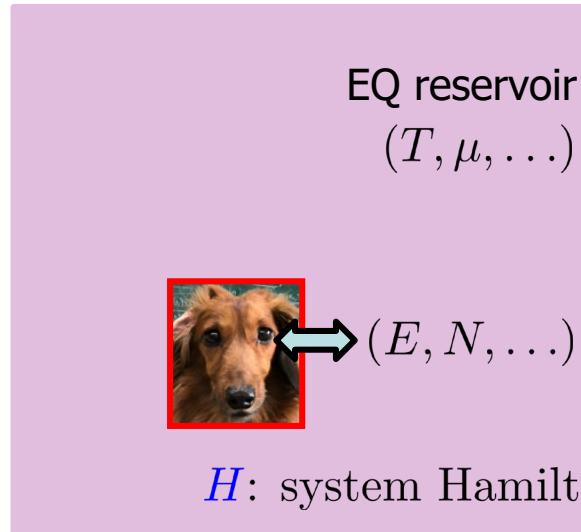


strings

## ● Physics of subsystems of interest



- dimensional reduction
  - \* trace/integrate out over **uninteresting d.o.f.**
- useful approximation
  - \* simple/constant (EQ) reservoir  
time-scale separation; huge reservoir wrt system



stochastic/probabilistic

Statistical mechanics

# ● stochastic many-body dynamics

- $N=10^3 \sim 10^{23}$  (particles/agents/d.o.f.)



4 August 1972, Volume 177, Number 4047

**SCIENCE**

## More Is Different

Broken symmetry and the nature of the hierarchical structure of science.

P. W. Anderson

less relevance they seem to have to the very real problems of the rest of science, much less to those of society.

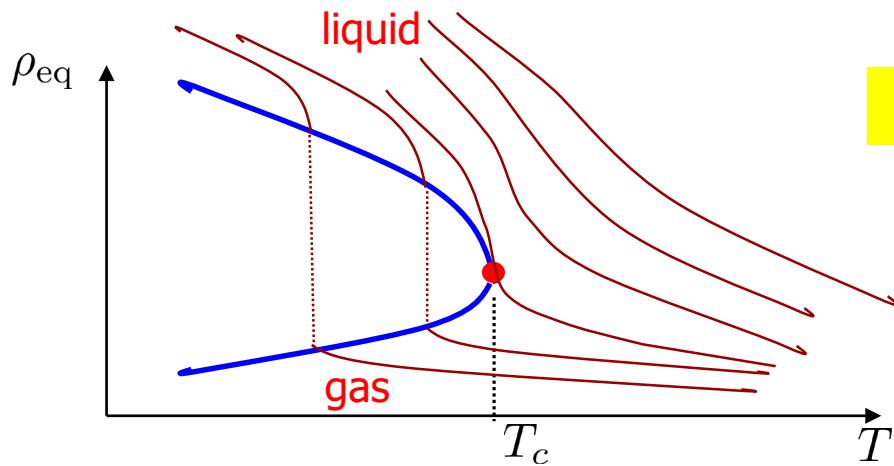
The constructionist hypothesis breaks down when confronted with the twin difficulties of scale and complexity. The behavior of large and complex aggregates of elementary particles, it turns out, is not to be understood in terms of a simple extrapolation of the properties of a few particles. Instead, at each level of complexity entirely new properties appear, and the understanding of the new behaviors requires research which I think is as fundamental in its nature as any other. That is, it seems to me that one may array the

## Emergence

- How to describe/characterize complex dynamics (spatio-temporal patterns)?

\* still too many d.o.f → dyn. eqs. of a few coarse-grained quantities.

(ex: local density  $\rho(\vec{x}, T, \mu; t)$ )



phase

transition

\* 1<sup>st</sup> order, 2<sup>nd</sup> order

critical point

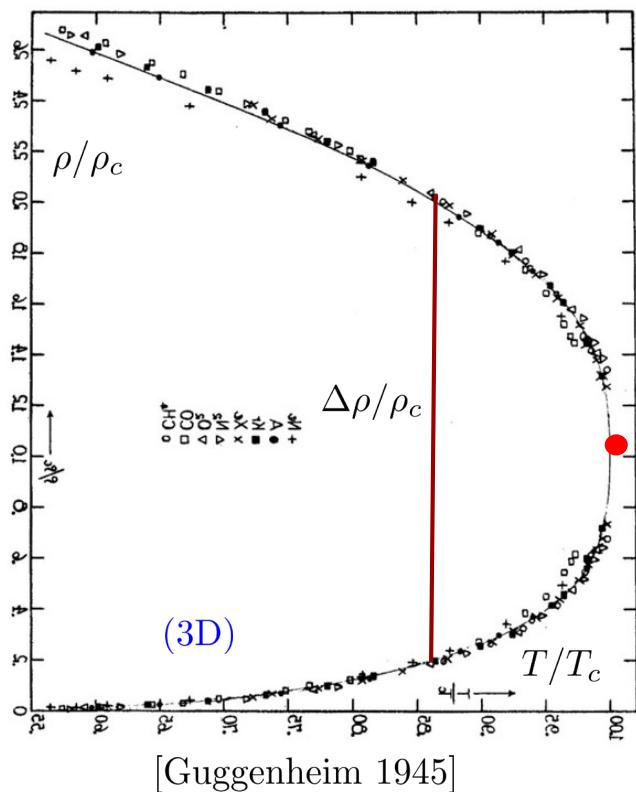
$(T_c, \rho_c, \mu_c)$

Scaling and Universality

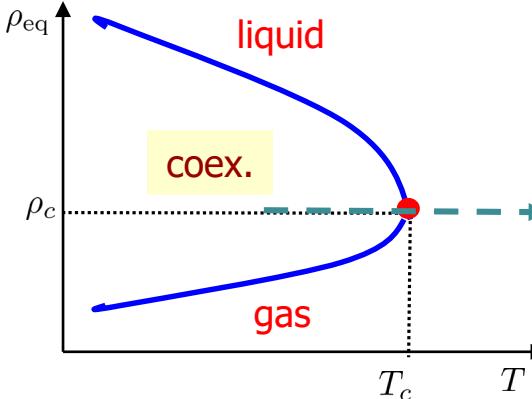
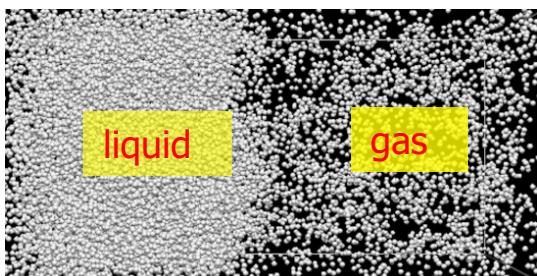
mathematical singularity ( $N = \infty$ )

Finite-size-scaling

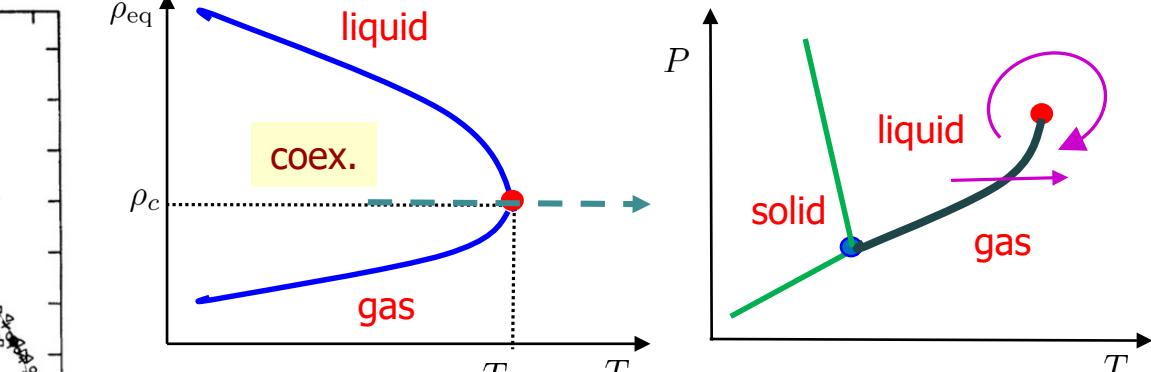
# ● Laws of corresponding states



- typical patterns



Phase diagram



- universal scaling curve

$$\frac{1}{2} \Delta \rho / \rho_c \simeq \frac{7}{4} (1 - T/T_c)^{1/3} \equiv a (1 - T/T_c)^\beta$$

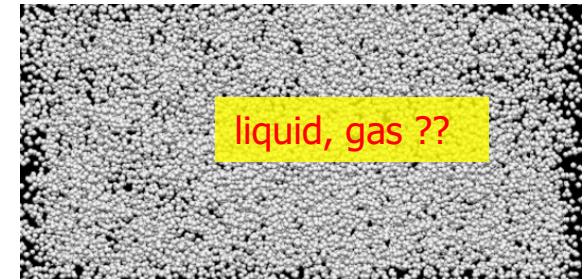
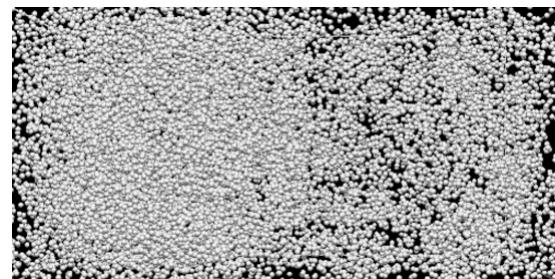
\* universal over other systems

3D Ising magnet:  $\beta \simeq 0.3264$ ,  $a \simeq 1.692$  (sc)

(universal critical exponents/non-universal metric factor)

- correlation function ?  $G(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = \langle \rho(\vec{x})\rho(\vec{y}) \rangle_{eq}$

(LJ MD) [Watanabe/Ito/Hu 2012]



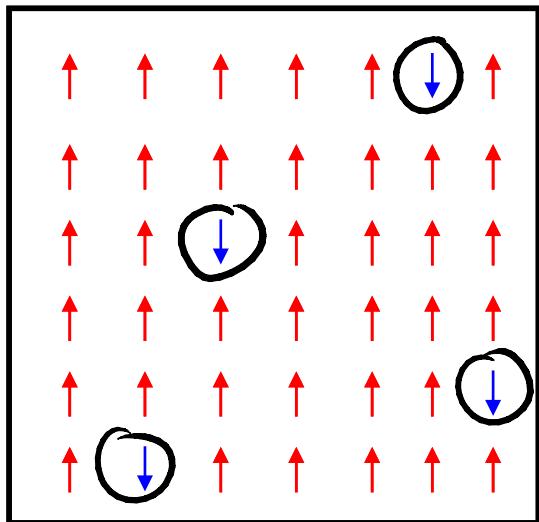
## ● Magnetic system (EQ)

### - ferromagnetic Ising model

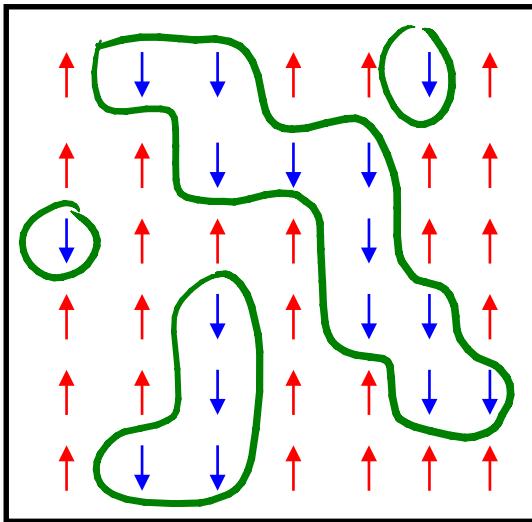
[ $Z_2$ -symmetric ground states]

$$\mathcal{H} = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} S_i S_j - H \sum_i S_i \quad (S_i = \uparrow (+), \downarrow (-))$$

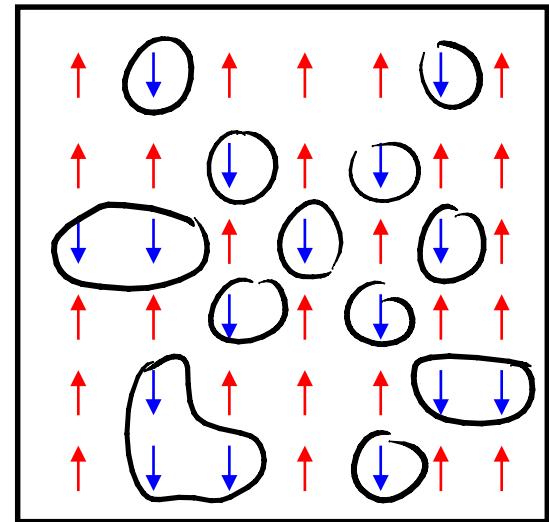
$(H = 0: Z_2$ -symmetry)



low  $T$   $|m| \lesssim 1$

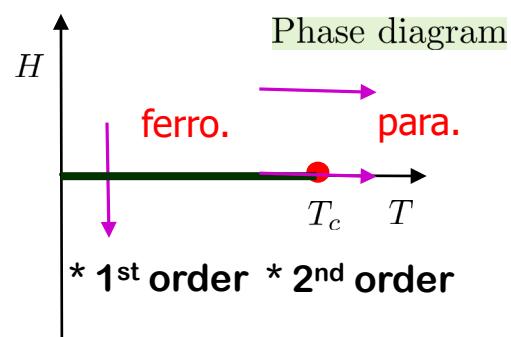
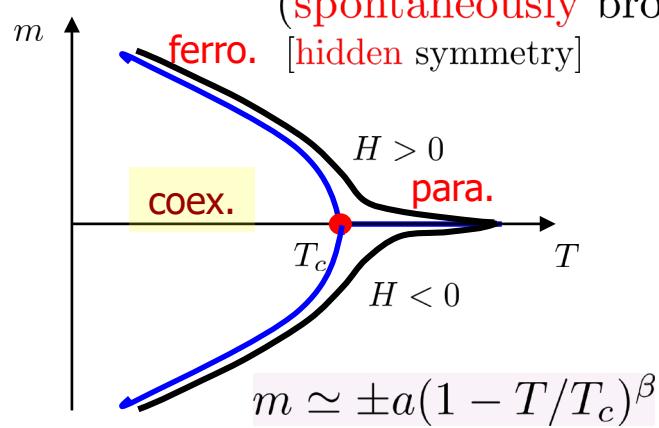


$T = T_c$   $m = 0$



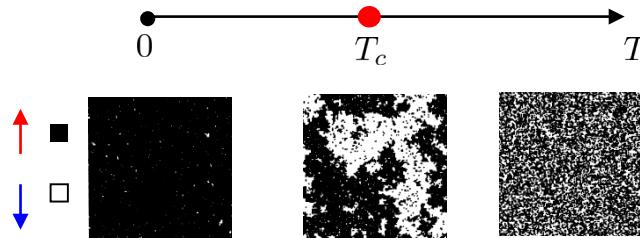
high  $T$   $m = 0$

[magnetization  $m = \langle S \rangle$  in EQ]



### - typical patterns

(2<sup>nd</sup> order)

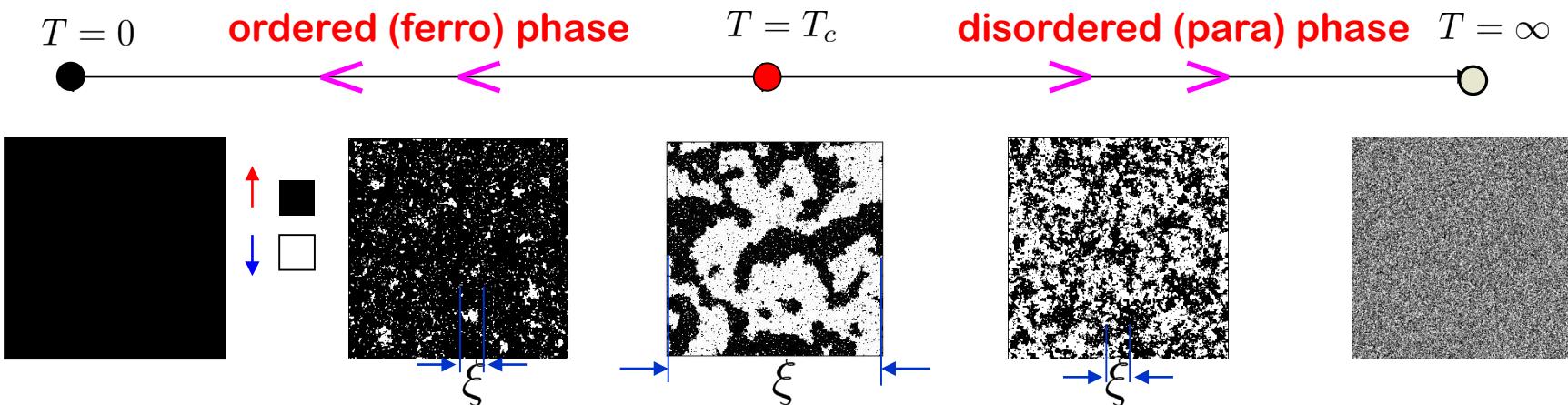


2D:  $\beta = 1/8$ ,  $a = [4\sqrt{2}(-\ln(\sqrt{2}-1))]^{1/8}$  (sq)

3D:  $\beta \simeq 0.3264$ ,  $a \simeq 1.692$  (sc)

4D+:  $\beta = 1/2$ ,  $a = \sqrt{3}$  (hc) [MF]

## - EQ spatial patterns



\* Key question: What is “phase” ?

- How to classify seeming different patterns into a few groups (phases)?

Zoom out (coarsening) for scale transformation (RG)  $\rightarrow$  approaching a fixed point

- Stable f.p. represents phase & unstable f.p. represents critical point (fractal).
- Characteristics of f.p. patterns??  $\rightarrow$  fractal dimensions

\* How to determine fractal dimensions? [a set of fractal dimensions]

$$A(\ell) = \sum_{w(\ell)} \mathcal{O}_A \quad (\mathcal{O}_A: \text{local observable like } S_i, S_i S_j, \dots; w(\ell): \text{window of linear size } \ell)$$

$\sim \ell^{d_A}$  for large  $\ell$  ( $d_A$ : fractal dimension of object ‘A’)

- Critical patterns are (nontrivial) fractals.  $P(s_A) \sim s^{-d_A}$  [no typical scale] [self-similar]

\* Is it useful to know fractal dimensions?

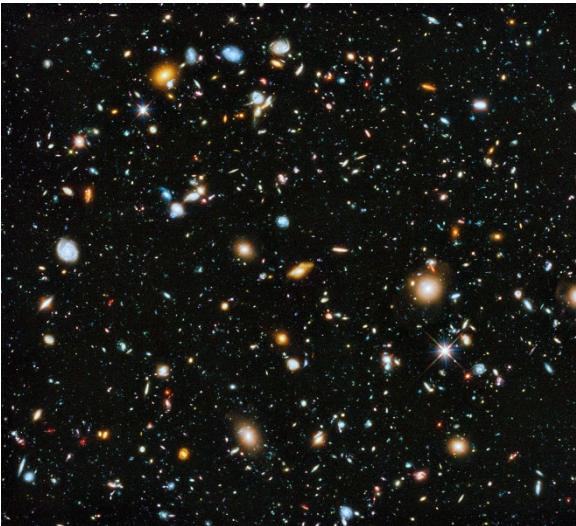
- Critical exponents are simply related to fractal dimensions.  $d_A = y_H, d_L = y_T$

# History of scaling & critical phenomena

- 1822 Cagniard de la Tour found a **special** point of alcohol/water  
[Faraday1845: disliquefying point] [Mendeleev1861: absolute boiling point]
- 1869 Andrews liquid–gas transition CO<sub>2</sub> molecules (“**critical**” point/phenomena)
- 1873 van der Waals MF equation for liquid–gas transitions [Maxwell1874]
- 1900 Verschaffelt 3D experiment (?) ( $\beta \simeq 0.3434$ ,  $\delta = 4.259$ )
- 1907 Curie–Weiss MF theory for magnetic systems ( $\beta = 1/2$ ,  $\alpha = 0$ (jump),  $\gamma = 1$ ,  $\delta = 3$ )
- vs Gibbs /Peierls  
» fluctuation
- 1937 Landau: order parameter, symmetry breaking, free energy functional
- 1941 Kolmogorov turbulence energy cascade scaling
- 1944 Onsager exact solution of 2D Ising model [+1949/Yang1952] ( $\beta = 1/8$ ,  $\alpha = 0(\log)$ ,  $\gamma = 7/4$ ,  $\delta = 15$ )
- 1945 **1<sup>st</sup> BOOM** time for **universality**:  
many experiments [Guggenheim1945], series expansion [Domb/Fisher/Sykes1959], ...  
 $(\beta \simeq 1/3 \text{ (3D), ...})$
- 1965 Modern theory starts with **scaling** [Widom1965], block (real–space) **RG** [Kadanoff1966]
- 1971 Wilson RG transformations (systematic workable tool to calculate critical exponents, fixed point)
- 1972 Baxter exact solution of 2D 8–vertex model (Yang–Baxter or star–triangular relation) [Yang1968]
- 1975 Mandelbrot fractal; self–similarity and fractal dimension [Weierstrass1872, Cantor1883, ...]
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **BOOM** time for EQ critical phenomena; universality classes, upper/lower critical dimensions, ...
- 1984 Conformal invariance for 2D EQ critical phenomena [Belavin/Polyakov/Zamolodchikov1984]
- 1978– general scaling invariant phenomena: Feigenbaum’s chaos(1978), DLA(1981), growth(1985), SOC (1987), polymer (1972), non–EQ critical phenomena, dynamic critical scaling, ...

# Patterns & Fractals

## ● Patterns



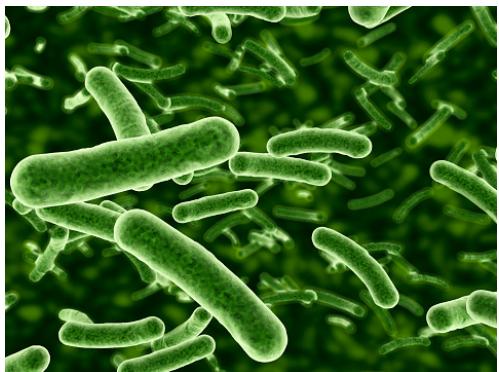
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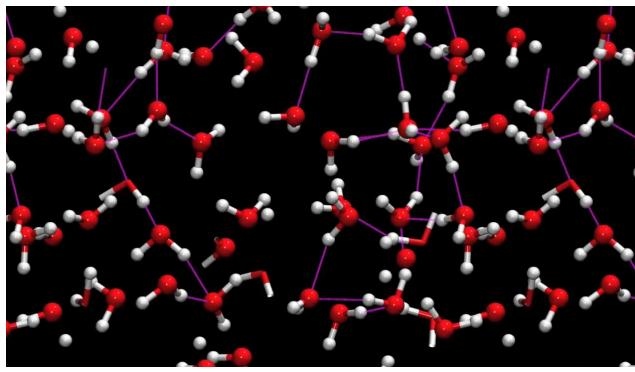
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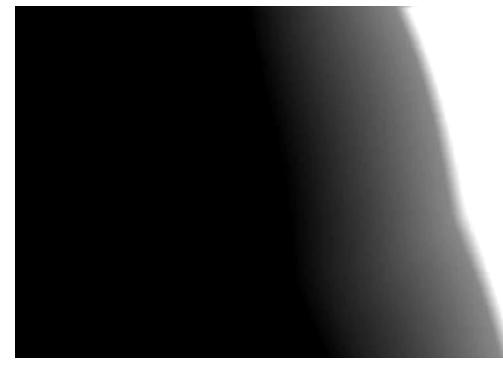
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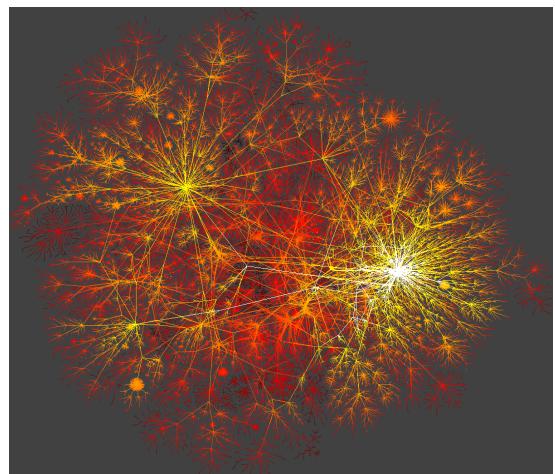
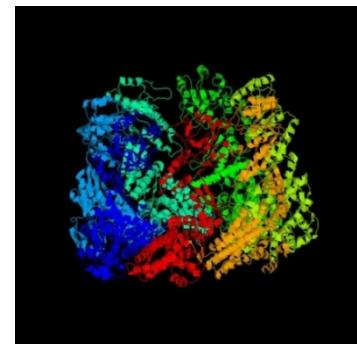
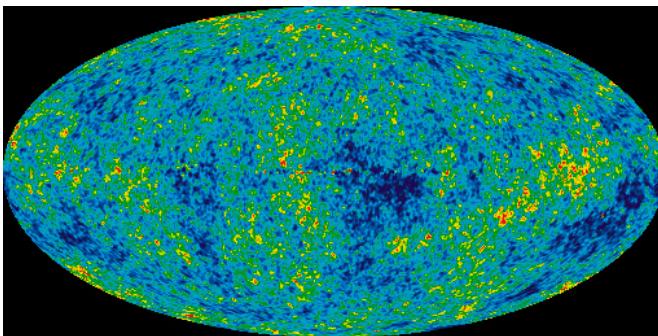
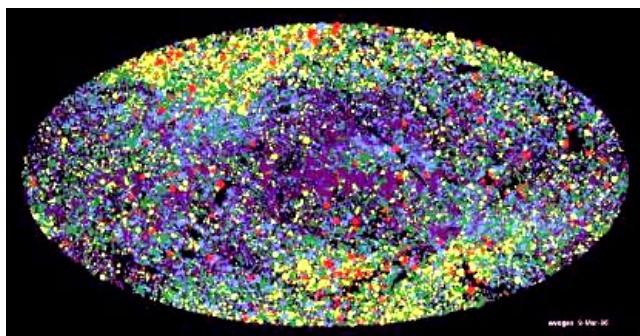
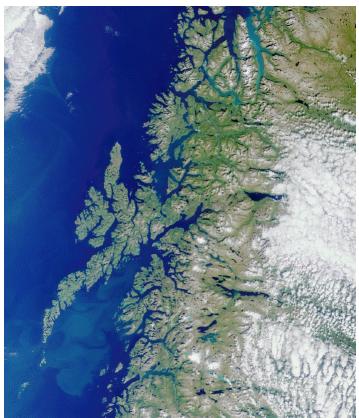
bacteria



H<sub>2</sub>O

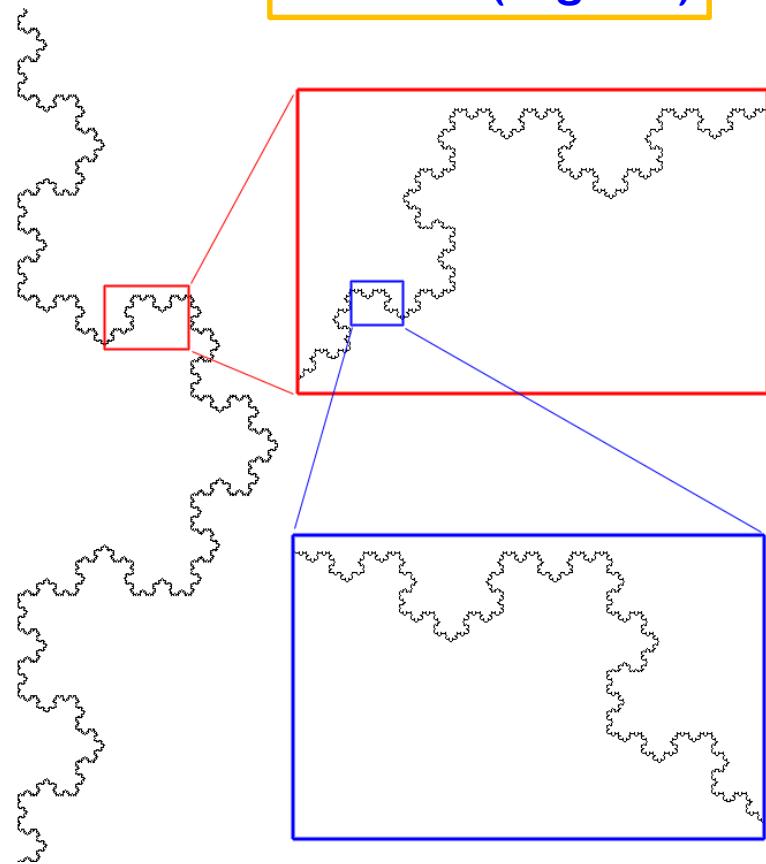


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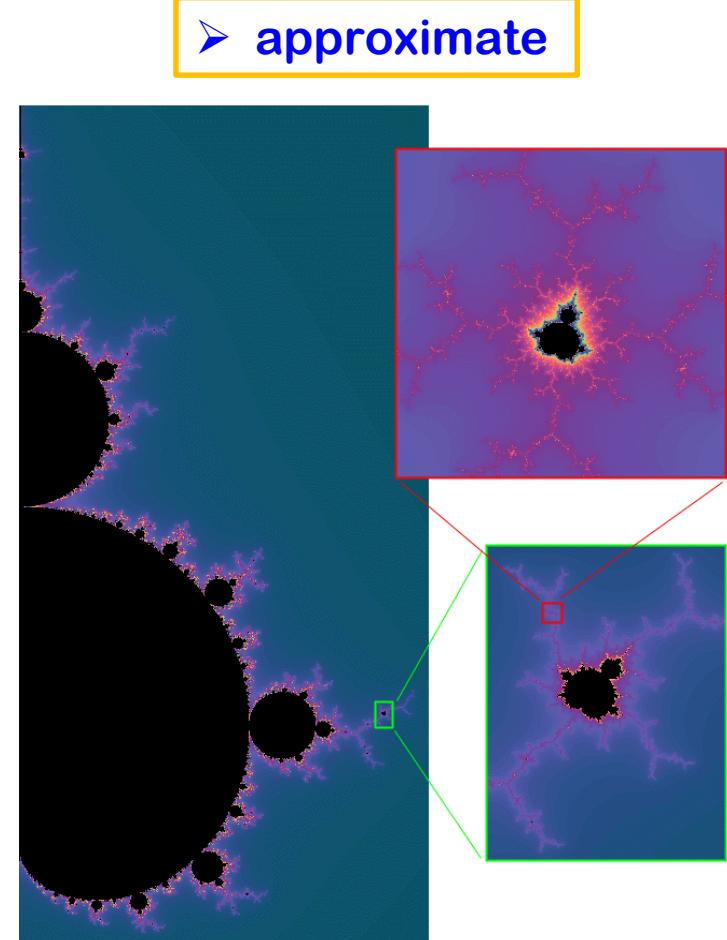


## ● Fractals

- Self-similarity in zooming in or out.

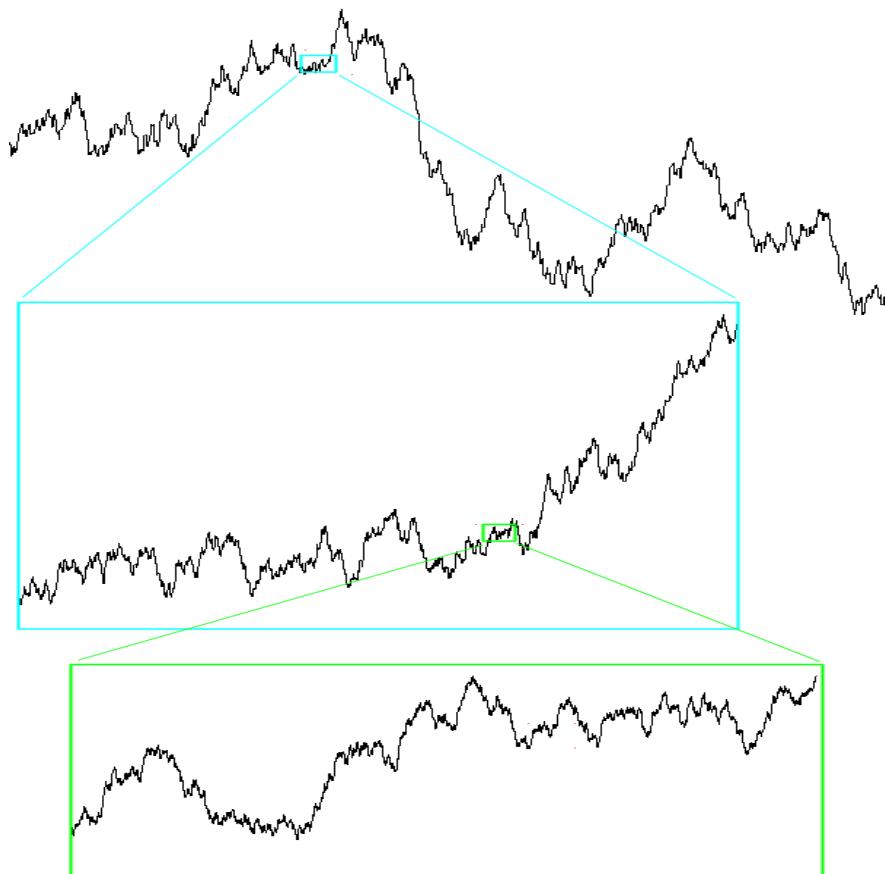


[Koch curve]

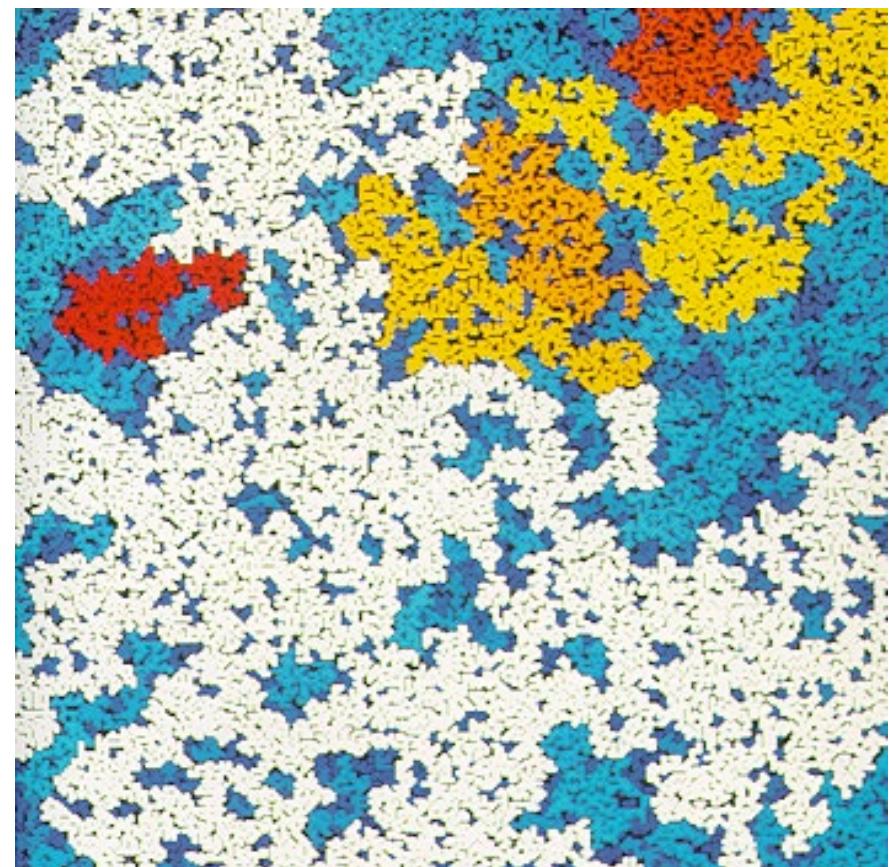


[Mandelbrot set]

➤ **statistical**



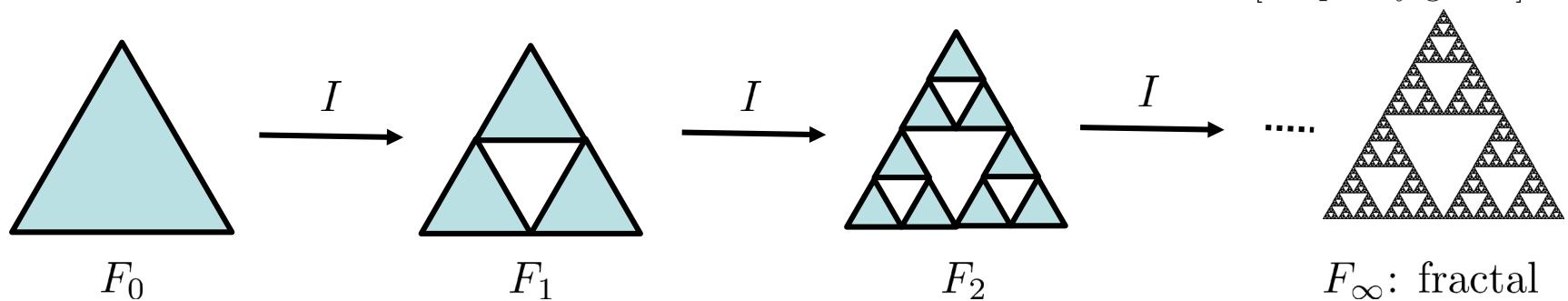
[time series]



[spatial critical pattern]

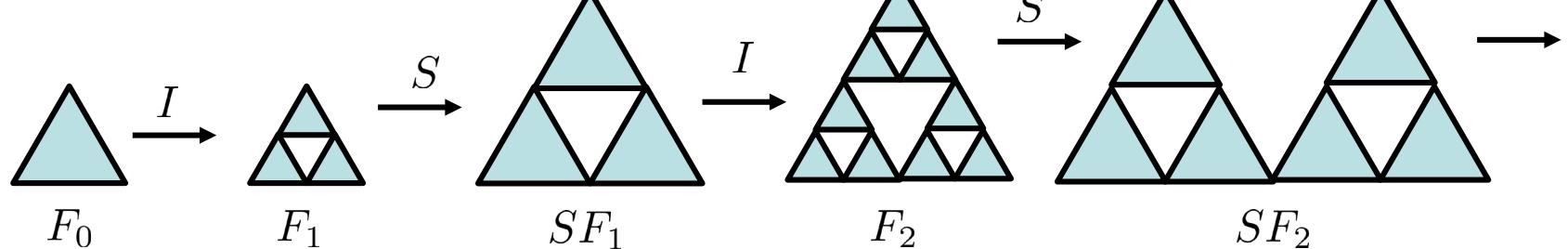
## - Fractal constructions and dimensions

\* inwards



- $I$ : resolution higher by a factor of  $b = 2$ .
- $S$ : scale bigger by a factor of  $b = 2$ .

\* outwards



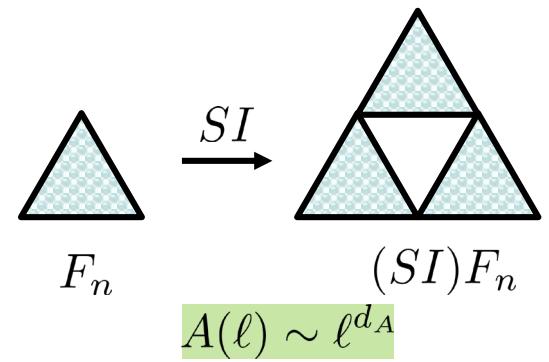
- same resolution but large size (correlation length  $\xi$  is  $b$  times bigger)

¶ RG transformation  $\equiv (SI)^{-1}$  (move away from the critical (fractal) pattern)

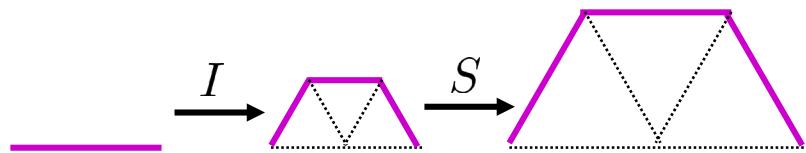
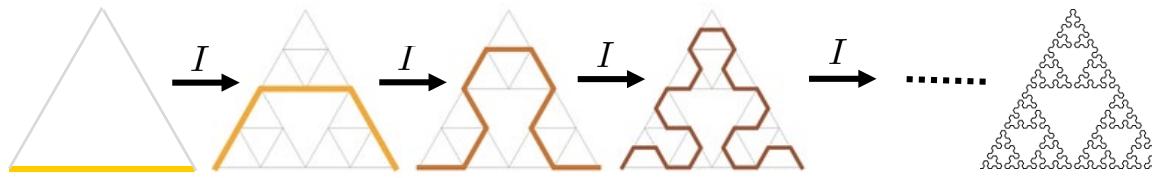
## \* definition of fractal dimension

$$-\quad b^{d_A^{(n)}} \equiv \frac{A((SI)F_n)}{A(F_n)} \quad \text{with} \quad A(F_n) = \sum_{F_n} \mathcal{O}_A$$

$$d_A = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d_A^{(n)}$$



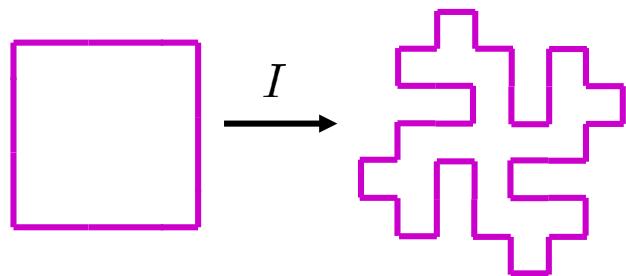
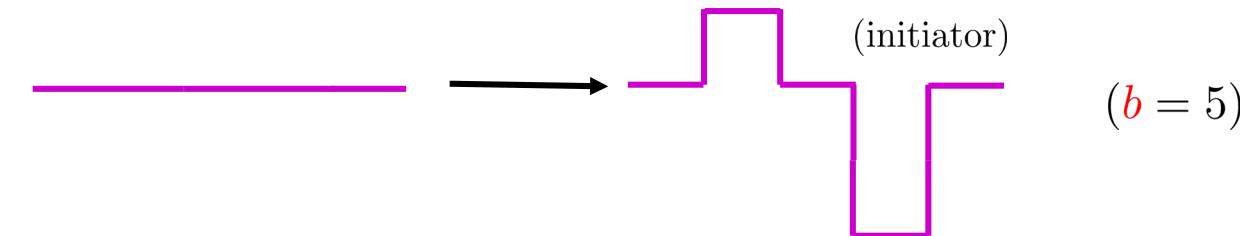
- example: (1) Sierpinsky gasket ( $b = 2$ )
  - length:  $2^{d_L} = 3 \Rightarrow d_L = \ln 3 / \ln 2$
  - filled area:  $2^{d_A} = 3 \Rightarrow d_A = \ln 3 / \ln 2$
  - vacant area:  $2^{d_V^{(n)}} = 2^2(1 + \frac{1}{4}(\frac{3}{4})^n + \dots)$   
 $\Rightarrow d_V = 2$  (correction-to-scaling)  
 $(A(\ell) = \ell^{d_A}, V(\ell) = \ell^2 - \ell^{d_A})$
- (2) Sierpinsky-arrow head



- ( $b = 2$ )
- length:  $2^{d_L} = 3 \Rightarrow d_L = \ln 3 / \ln 2$  (correction-to-scaling)
  - area above line ( $A_a$ ) and below line ( $A_b$ ):  $d_{A_a} = d_{A_b} = 2$
  - $B = 3A_a - 2A_b$ :  $d_B = i\pi / \ln 2$  (marginal) [relevant/irrelevant]

(3) quadratic Koch islands

[[ Project 1]]



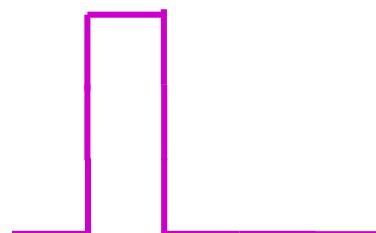
$\xrightarrow{S}$

- length:  $5^{d_L} = 11 \Rightarrow d_L = \ln 11 / \ln 5$
- area: 6 different types of elementary squares classified by # of enclosed line segments

$\Rightarrow$  2 relevant, 1 marginal, 3 irrelevant  $d_{a_i}$

- \* corresponding geometric objects ??
- \* full correction-to-scaling for enclosed area ??

- What about different initiator ??



(Is it universal ??)

## - Fractal dimensions of Ising **critical** patterns

### \* magnetization

- $M(\ell) = \sum_{w(\ell)} \langle S_i \rangle \simeq a \ell^{d_A} + \langle S_i \rangle \ell^d \quad (d_A < d)$

$$m(\ell) \simeq a \ell^{-d+d_A} = a \ell^{-x_A} \quad (x_A: \text{ scaling dimension})$$

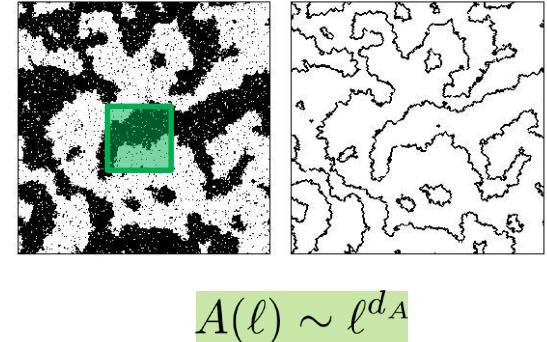
$(x_A + d_A = d)$

### \* energy

- $E(\ell) = \sum_{w(\ell)} \langle S_i S_j \rangle \simeq b \ell^{d_L} + \langle S_i S_j \rangle \ell^d$

$$e(\ell) \simeq b \ell^{-d+d_L} + \langle S_i S_j \rangle = \boxed{b \ell^{-x_L}} + \boxed{\langle S_i S_j \rangle} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(regular part)} \\ \text{(singular part)} \end{array} \quad (x_L + d_L = d)$$

- 2D Ising:  $d_A = \frac{15}{8}$ ,  $d_L = 1$  (relevant)
  - all others are  $d_\beta < 0$  (irrelevant) [# of intersection points;  $d_{\text{int}} = -2$ ]



**Finite-size-scaling**

## ● Universality of complex patterns

- pattern classification by fractal dimensions after RGT (zooming out)  
[infinite # of fractal dimensions including all irrelevant ones]
- fractal dimensions do not depend on details of system Hamiltonians or dynamic evolution rules (phenomenological).



universality classes



- equilibrium critical systems:  
symmetry, embedding dimensions, disorder,...

(symmetry between ground states in the ordered phase)

2d equilibrium critical patterns:  
almost complete list is known by conformal field theory.

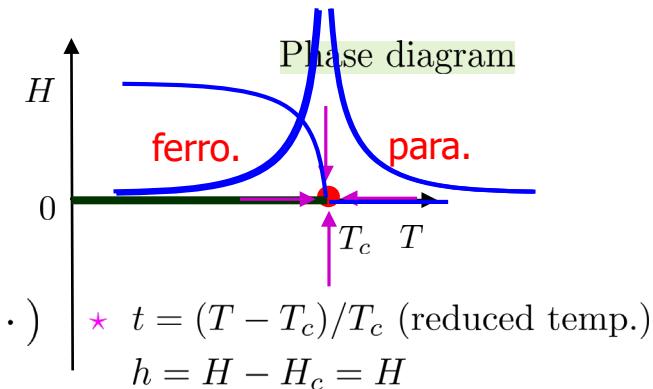
- Non-equilibrium critical systems:  
+ dynamic conservation law, boundary condition,  
ensemble dependence, SOC, ...

# Scaling hypothesis

## ● critical (scaling) exponents of Ising model

### \* thermodynamic quantities

- $H = 0$  ( $h = 0$ ) line:  $C \sim |t|^{-\alpha}$ ,  $m \sim (-t)^\beta$ ,  $\chi \sim |t|^{-\gamma}$
- $T = T_c$  ( $t = 0$ ) line:  $m \sim \pm|h|^{1/\delta} \rightarrow (\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \dots)$



### \* correlation function and length

$$G_H(r) = \langle S(0)S(r) \rangle - \langle S(0) \rangle \langle S(r) \rangle \sim \frac{e^{-r/\xi}}{r^{d-2+\eta}}, \quad \xi \sim |t|^{-\nu} \rightarrow (\eta, \nu, \dots)$$

## ● universality and scaling relations

- \* a set of critical exponents is independent of details of Hamiltonians, such as further-neighboring interactions, embedding lattice structures, anisotropy, and etc.

→ **universality classes**

→ Fundamental properties like symmetry, disorder emerge in scaling exponents.

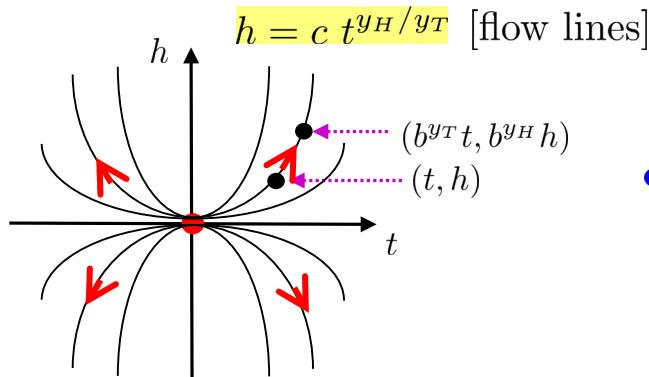
- \* scaling relations  $\alpha + 2\beta + \gamma = 2$ ,  $\gamma = \beta(\delta - 1)$ ,  $d\nu = 2 - \alpha$  (hyperscaling),  $\dots$ ,

→ **deeper level of emergent scaling behavior exists!**

## ● Homogeneity postulate for free energy [Widom 1965]

$$f(t, h) = f_{\text{sing}}(t, h) + f_{\text{reg}}(t, h)$$

$$f_{\text{sing}}(t, h) = b^{-d} f_{\text{sing}}(b^{y_T} t, b^{y_H} h)$$



- $\chi = \left( \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial h^2} \right)_t \sim |t|^{-\gamma} \quad [\gamma = (-d + 2y_H)/y_T]$

- $C_H = \left( \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} \right)_h \sim |t|^{-\alpha} \quad [\alpha = (-d + 2y_T)/y_T]$

\*  $t = (T - T_c)/T_c$  (reduced temp.)

$$h = H - H_c = H$$

( $b$ : arbitrary constant)

( $y_T$ : thermal exponent,  $y_H$ : field exponent)

( $f_{\text{sing}}$ : generalized homogeneous function)

- $m = \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial h} \right)_t \rightarrow m_s(t, h) = b^{-d+y_H} m_s(b^{y_T} t, b^{y_H} h)$

- $m_s(t, 0) = b^{-d+y_H} m_s(b^{y_T} t, 0)$

$$b = (-t)^{-\frac{1}{y_T}} = (-t)^{(d-y_H)/y_T} m_s(-1, 0) \sim (-t)^\beta \quad [\beta = (d-y_H)/y_T]$$

\*  $m_r(t, 0) \sim (-t)^n$  (subdominant)

- $m_s(0, h) \sim |h|^{1/\delta} \quad [\delta = y_H/(d-y_H)]$

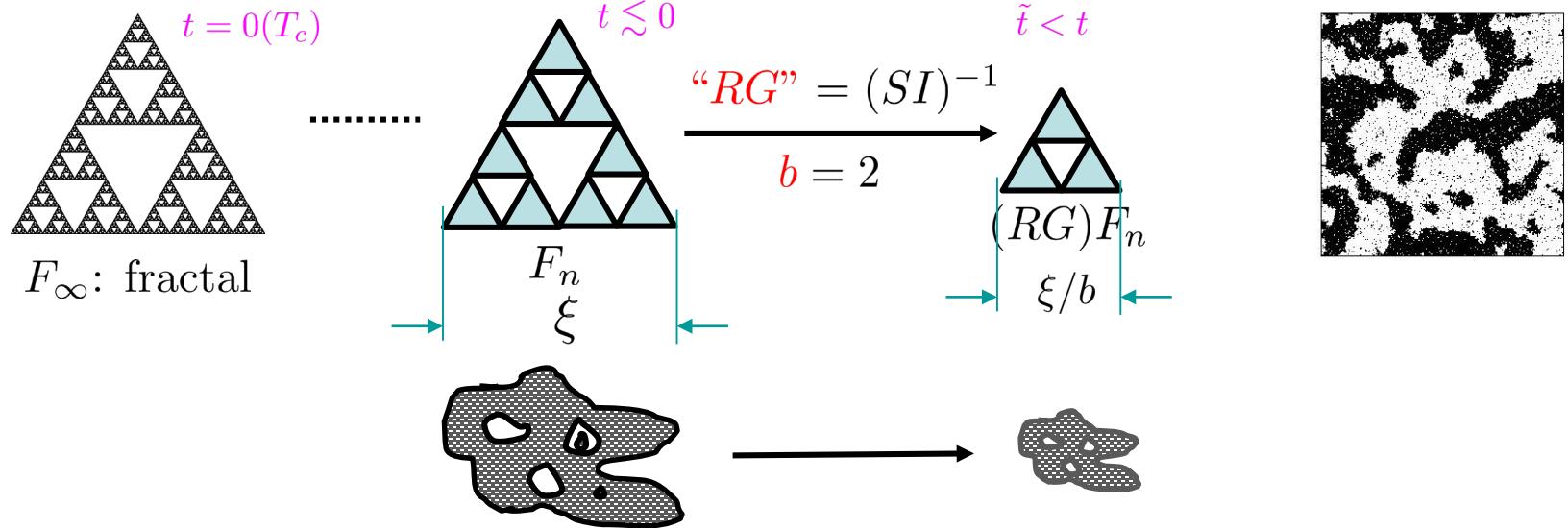
$$b = |h|^{-\frac{1}{y_H}}$$

\* scaling relations are satisfied with  $\alpha + 2\beta + \gamma = 2, \quad \gamma = \beta(\delta - 1)$ .

\* only two independent exponents ( $y_T, y_H$ )  $[d\nu = 2 - \alpha$ : hyperscaling ??]

## ● Geometric perspective (block spin formulation) [Kadanoff 1966]

- Typical off-critical patterns are NOT fractals, but can be characterized as a “fractal” constructed up to finite order.



- **RG:** coarsening + shrinking scale (zoom out)
  - ★  $(t, h) \xrightarrow{\text{RG}} (\tilde{t}, \tilde{h})$  [or linear combination]
    - assume  $\tilde{t} = g_t(b)t$  and  $\tilde{h} = g_h(b)h$  near criticality.
    - should have  $g(b_1 b_2) = g(b_1)g(b_2)$   $\rightarrow g_\alpha(b) = b^{y_\alpha}$  [power law]

$$\xrightarrow{\quad} \tilde{t} = b^{y_T} t \text{ and } \tilde{h} = b^{y_T} h \quad \& \quad F(t, h) = F(\tilde{t}, \tilde{h}) \xrightarrow{\quad} f(t, h) = b^{-d} f(\tilde{t}, \tilde{h})$$

[Widom postulate]

- correlation length:  $\xi(t, h) = b^1 \xi(b^{y_T} t, b^{y_H} h) \rightarrow \xi(t, 0) \sim |t|^{-\nu} \quad [\nu = 1/y_T]$

$$b = (-t)^{-\frac{1}{y_T}}$$

$d\nu = 2 - \alpha$  (hyperscaling)

- correlation length:  $\xi(t, h) = b^1 \xi(b^{y_T} t, b^{y_H} h) \rightarrow \xi(t, 0) \sim |t|^{-\nu} \quad [\nu = 1/y_T]$   
(hyperscaling)

- correlation function:

★ FDT :  $\chi(t, h) = \int dr G_H(t, h, r)$

$$= \left( \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial h^2} \right)_t = b^{-d+2y_H} \chi(b^{y_T} t, b^{y_H} h)$$

$$= b^{-d+2y_H} \int dr G_H(b^{y_T} t, b^{y_H} h, r)$$

$$= b^{-2d+2y_H} \int dr G_H(b^{y_T} t, b^{y_H} h, b^{-1}r)$$

★ tempting to say  $G_H(t, h, r) = b^{-2x_H} G_H(b^{y_T} t, b^{y_H} h, b^{-1}r) \quad (x_H + y_H = d)$

→  $G_H(0, 0, r) = r^{-2x_H} G_H(0, 0, 1) \sim \frac{1}{r^{d-2+\eta}}, \quad [d-2+\eta = 2(d-y_H)]$   
(hyperscaling)

$$G_H(t, 0, r) = |t|^{-2x_H/y_T} G_H(\pm 1, 0, r|t|^{1/y_T}) \sim \exp[-ar|t|^{1/y_T}]$$

$$b = |t|^{-\frac{1}{y_T}} \quad \sim \exp[-r/\xi] \rightarrow \xi \sim |t|^{-1/y_T}$$

- ★ hyperscaling is **fragile** and broken in MFT.

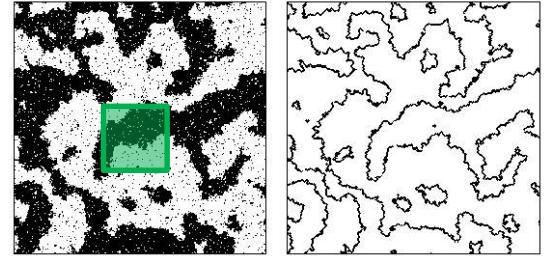
## - Fractal dimensions of Ising **critical** patterns

### \* magnetization

- $M(\ell) = \sum_{w(\ell)} \langle S_i \rangle \simeq a \ell^{d_A} + \langle S_i \rangle \ell^d \quad (d_A < d)$

$$m(\ell) \simeq a \ell^{-d+d_A} = a \ell^{-x_A} \quad (x_A: \text{scaling dimension})$$

$$(x_A + d_A = d)$$



$$A(\ell) \sim \ell^{d_A}$$

### \* energy

- $E(\ell) = \sum_{w(\ell)} \langle S_i S_j \rangle \simeq b \ell^{d_L} + \langle S_i S_j \rangle \ell^d$

### Finite-size-scaling

$$e(\ell) \simeq b \ell^{-d+d_L} + \langle S_i S_j \rangle = \boxed{b \ell^{-x_L}} + \boxed{\langle S_i S_j \rangle} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(regular part)} \\ \text{(singular part)} \end{array} \quad (x_L + d_L = d)$$

- 2D Ising:  $d_A = \frac{15}{8}$ ,  $d_L = 1$  (relevant)
  - all others are  $d_\alpha = 0$  (marginal) or  $d_\beta < 0$  (irrelevant)

- **critical** inside window  $w(\ell)$  for  $\ell \lesssim \xi(t, 0) \sim |t|^{-1/y_T} \Rightarrow \ell^{y_T} |t| \lesssim \mathcal{O}(1)$ 
  - $\xi(t, 0) = b^1 \xi(b^{y_T} t, 0) = \ell^1 \xi(\ell^{y_T} t, 0) \sim \ell \quad \text{for } \ell^{y_T} |t| \lesssim \mathcal{O}(1)$
  - $m_s(t, 0) = b^{-d+y_H} m_s(b^{y_T} t, 0) = \ell^{-d+y_H} m_s(\ell^{y_T} t, 0) \sim \ell^{-d+y_H} \rightarrow d_A = y_H$
  - $e_s(t, 0) = \left( \frac{\partial f_s}{\partial t} \right) = b^{-d+y_T} e_s(b^{y_T}, 0) = \ell^{-d+y_T} e_s(\ell^{y_T} t, 0) \sim \ell^{-d+y_T} \rightarrow d_L = y_T$

## ● extensions

- universal scaling function & amplitude ratios
- all scaling fields with finite-size and irrelevant scalings

$$f_{\text{sing}}(u_t, u_h, L^{-1}, u_1, \dots) = b^{-d} f_{\text{sing}}(b^{y_t} u_t, b^{y_h} u_h, bL^{-1}, b^{y_{ir,1}} u_1, \dots)$$

[exact with correct scaling eigenfields]

- critical line, FSS theory, Fisher renormalization, ...

### - Mean field theory

- Landau-Ginzburg functional, upper critical dimension, networks, hyperscaling violation, various FSS, ...

### - critical phases

- XY model, clock model, antiferromagnetic models, 8-vertex model, ...  
[marginal operator]

### - conformal invariance

- conformal charge, universal FSS amplitudes, integrable systems, ...

[Coulomb gas method, algebraic(coordinate) Bethe ansatz]

# Epilogue

- Phase & transitions: **emergent** property of many-body systems
- Critical phenomena and scaling: **universal**
- Macroscopic behavior reveals microscopic **symmetry**.
- Thermodynamic scaling is governed by geometric scaling:  
**fractal dimensions**.
- Universality classes in **NEQ** critical phenomena ?
- ...