

# Graphes de dépendance (pondérés) et normalité asymptotique

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# What is this talk about ?

Consider some sequence of r.v.  $X_n$  (e.g., number of substructures of a given type in some probabilistic model).

**Goal:** prove that some  $X_n$  satisfies is **asymptotically normal**, i.e.

$$\frac{X_n - \mathbb{E}[X_n]}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X_n)}} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0,1).$$

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A powerful tool: **analytic methods**, in particular bivariate generating functions and Hwang's quasi-power theorem.

**Problem:** the bivariate generating function might be intractable.

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Other standard tool: **moment (or cumulant) methods**.

Today: **(weighted) dependency graphs**, based on cumulants and independence (or weak dependencies) between variables.

# Outline of the talk

- 1 Dependency graphs
  - A motivating example: substrings in random words
  - An asymptotic normality criterion
- 2 Weighted dependency graphs
  - Definition and an extended normality criterion
  - Back to subwords: Markovian texts
  - Applications in statistical physics

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## Substrings in random words (1/2)

(following Flajolet, Guivarc'h, Szpankowski, and Vallée, '01)

Let  $w$  be a **random word** of size  $n$  with **independent** (identically distributed) letters taken in a finite alphabet  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Fix a word  $u$ , called "pattern" of length  $\ell$ .

An **occurrence** of  $u$  in  $w$  is a  $\ell$ -tuple  $i_1 < \dots < i_\ell$  s.t.  $w_{i_1} = u_1, \dots, w_{i_\ell} = u_\ell$ .

**Example:** two occurrences of  $aab$  in  $w = \underline{a}ab\underline{b}ba\underline{a}ab$  (one in blue, one underlined)

(Variants: consecutive occurrences, allowing gaps of given lengths).

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### Question

Asymptotic behaviour of the number  $X_n$  of occurrences of  $u$  in  $w$ ?

Motivations: intrusion detection in computer science, discovering meaningful strings of DNA, ...



## Substrings in random words (2/2)

Theorem (FGSV, '01)

We have

$$\mathbb{E}[X_n] \sim C_1 n^\ell, \quad \text{Var}[X_n] \sim C_2 n^{2\ell-1},$$

where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are computable constants.

Moreover, if  $C_2 > 0$ , then  $X_n$  is asymptotically normal.

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**Notation:** for  $I \subseteq [n]$ ,  $|I| = \ell$ , set  $Y_I = \mathbf{1}[u \text{ occurs at position } I \text{ in } \mathbf{w}]$ .  
Then  $X_n = \sum_{I \in \binom{[n]}{\ell}} Y_I$ .

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# Dependency graphs

Definition (Malyshev, '80, Petrovskaya/Leontovich, '82, Janson, '88)

A graph  $L$  with vertex set  $A$  is a dependency graph for the family  $\{Y_\alpha, \alpha \in A\}$  if the following holds for any  $A_1, A_2 \subset A$ :

there is no edge  
between  $A_1$  and  $A_2$   $\implies$   $\{Y_\alpha, \alpha \in A_1\}$  and  $\{Y_\alpha, \alpha \in A_2\}$   
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## Example

Consider our random word problem. Let  $A = \binom{[n]}{\ell}$  and

$$\{I_1, I_2\} \in E_L \text{ iff } I_1 \cap I_2 \neq \emptyset.$$

Then  $L$  is a **dependency graph** for the family  $\{Y_I, I \in \binom{[n]}{\ell}\}$ .

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Example

Note:  $L$  is regular of degree  $\mathcal{O}(n^{\ell-1})$

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# Janson's normality criterion

Setting: for each  $n$ ,

- $\{Y_{n,i}, 1 \leq i \leq N_n\}$  is a family of bounded random variables;  $|Y_{n,i}| < M$  a.s.
- we have a dependency graph  $L_n$  with maximal degree  $D_n - 1$ .
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**Example:** For occurrences of  $u$  in  $\mathbf{w}$ , we have

$$N_n = \Theta(n^\ell), D_n = \Theta(n^{\ell-1}) \text{ and } \sigma_n = \Theta(n^{\ell-1/2}),$$

so that asymptotic normality follows (assuming the variance estimates!).

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In roughly the same setting (when  $s = 3$ ), we also have **bounds on the speed of convergence** and **deviation estimates** (see Baldi, Rinott, '89, Rinott, '94 and F., Méliot, Nikeghbali, '16, '17).

## Main tool in the proof: (mixed) cumulants

- **Definition:** mixed cumulants are multilinear functionals defined by

$$\kappa_r(X_1, \dots, X_r) = [t_1 \cdots t_r] \log \left( \mathbb{E} \left[ \exp \left( \sum_{j=1}^r t_j X_j \right) \right] \right).$$

Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_1(X) &:= \mathbb{E}(X), & \kappa_2(X, Y) &:= \text{Cov}(X, Y) = \mathbb{E}(XY) - \mathbb{E}(X)\mathbb{E}(Y) \\ \kappa_3(X, Y, Z) &:= \mathbb{E}(XYZ) - \mathbb{E}(XY)\mathbb{E}(Z) - \mathbb{E}(XZ)\mathbb{E}(Y) \\ &\quad - \mathbb{E}(YZ)\mathbb{E}(X) + 2\mathbb{E}(X)\mathbb{E}(Y)\mathbb{E}(Z). \end{aligned}$$

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- If a set of variables can be split in two mutually independent sets, then its mixed cumulant vanishes.
- Let  $\sigma_n = \sqrt{\text{Var}(X_n)}$ . If, for some  $s \geq 3$  and any  $r \geq s$ , we have  $\kappa_r(X_n) = o(\sigma_n^r)$ , then  $X_n$  is asymptotically normal. (Janson, 1988)

# Sketch of proof of Janson's normality criterion

Setting: for each  $n$ ,

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Each summand is 0, unless **the induced graph**  $L_n[i_1, \dots, i_r]$  is connected.

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Each summand is 0, unless, up to reordering, each  $i_j$  is a neighbour of either  $i_1, \dots$ , or  $i_{j-1}$ . We have  $r!$  choices for the reordering,  $N_n$  choices for  $i_1$ ,  $D_n$  choices for  $i_2$ ,  $2D_n$  choices for  $i_3, \dots$

→ at most  $(r!)^2 N_n D_n^{r-1}$  non-zero terms, each of which is bounded by  $C_r M^r$ .

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$$\begin{aligned} |\kappa_r(X_n)| &\leq C_r (r!)^2 N_n D_n^{r-1} M^r \\ &= o(\sigma_n^r) \quad (\text{for } r \geq s, \text{ using the assumption}) \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

# Applications of dependency graphs to asymptotic normality results

- mathematical modelization of cell populations (Petrovskaya, Leontovich, 82);
- subgraph counts in random graphs (Janson, Baldi, Rinott, Penrose, 88, 89, 95, 03);
- Geometric probability: length of  $k$  neighbour graphs (Avram, Bertsimas, Penrose, Yukich, Bárány, Vu, 93, 05, 07);
- pattern occurrences in random permutations (Bóna, Janson, Hitchenko, Nakamura, Zeilberger, Hofer, 07, 09, 14, 18).

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In many models, we do not have independence, but only *weak dependencies*:

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Goal: **extend Janson's normality criterion**, to cover the above frameworks.

## Weighted dependency graphs

We use weighted graphs, i.e. graphs with a weight in  $[0, 1]$  on each edge (weight 0  $\equiv$  no edge).

Definition (F., '18)

Fix  $\mathbf{C} = (C_r)_{r \geq 1}$ . A weighted graph  $\tilde{L}$  with vertex set  $A$  is a **C-weighted dependency graph** for the family  $\{Y_\alpha, \alpha \in A\}$  if, for any  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$  in  $A$ ,

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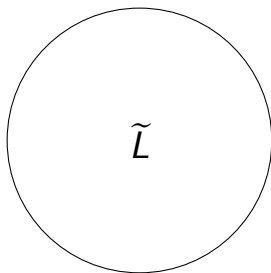
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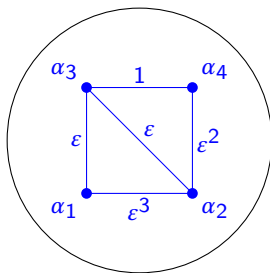
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$\tilde{L}[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r]$ : graph induced by  $\tilde{L}$  on vertices  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$ .



# Weighted dependency graphs

We use weighted graphs, i.e. graphs with a weight in  $[0, 1]$  on each edge (weight 0  $\equiv$  no edge).

Definition (F., '18)

Fix  $\mathbf{C} = (C_r)_{r \geq 1}$ . A weighted graph  $\tilde{L}$  with vertex set  $A$  is a **C-weighted dependency graph** for the family  $\{Y_\alpha, \alpha \in A\}$  if, for any  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$  in  $A$ ,

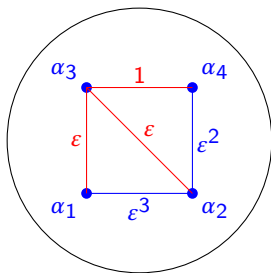
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$\mathcal{M}(K)$ : Maximum weight of a spanning tree of  $K$  (= product of the edge weights).

In the example,

$$\mathcal{M}(\tilde{L}[\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_4]) = \varepsilon^2.$$





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⚠ Unlike for usual dependency graphs, **proving that something is a weighted dependency graph needs work!**

⚠ This is a **simplified version** of the definition; some of the applications need a more general but more technical version.

# A normality criterion for weighted dependency graphs

Setting: for each  $n$ ,

- $\{Y_{n,i}, 1 \leq i \leq N_n\}$  is a family of bounded random variables;  $|Y_{n,i}| < M$  a.s.
- we have a  $\mathbf{C}$ -weighted dependency graph  $\tilde{L}_n$  with weighted maximal degree  $D_n - 1$  (with a sequence  $\mathbf{C} = (C_r)_{r \geq 1}$  independent of  $n$ ).
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Note: if  $s = 3$  and  $C_r \leq K^r (r!)^\gamma$ , we also have bounds on the speed of convergence and deviation estimates.

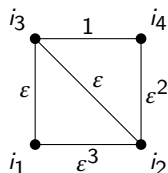
## Sketch of proof of the normality criterion (1/2)

$$|\kappa_r(X_n)| \leq \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_r} |\kappa(Y_{n, i_1}, \dots, Y_{n, i_r})| \leq C_r \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_r} \mathcal{M}(\tilde{L}[i_1, \dots, i_r]).$$

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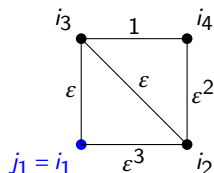


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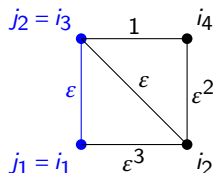


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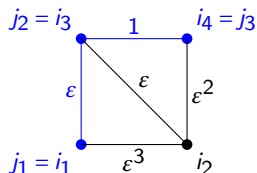


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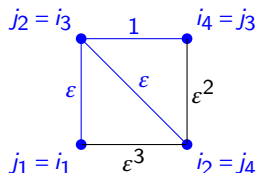


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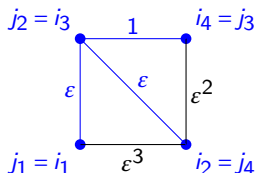


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$\Rightarrow$  there is a **reordering**  $(j_1, \dots, j_r)$  of  $(i_1, \dots, i_r)$  such that

$$\mathcal{M}(\tilde{L}[i_1, \dots, i_r]) = \prod_{t=1}^r \max(w(\{j_1, j_t\}), \dots, w(\{j_{t-1}, j_t\})).$$

## Sketch of proof of the normality criterion (2/2)

$$\begin{aligned} |\kappa_r(X_n)| &\leq C_r \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_r} \mathcal{M}(\tilde{L}[i_1, \dots, i_r]) \\ &\leq r! C_r \sum_{j_1, \dots, j_r} \left( \prod_{t=1}^r \max(w(\{j_1, j_t\}), \dots, w(\{j_{t-1}, j_t\})) \right) \end{aligned}$$

(reordering argument from the previous slide)

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Iterating, we get  $|\kappa_r(X_n)| \leq r! C_r N_n (r-1)! D_n^{r-1}$ . We conclude as in the usual case. □

# Stability by powers

Setting:

- Let  $\{Y_\alpha, \alpha \in A\}$  be r.v. with  $\mathbf{C}$ -weighted dependency graph  $\tilde{L}$ ;
- fix an integer  $m \geq 2$ ;
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The set of r.v.  $\{\mathbf{Y}_B\}$  has a  $\mathbf{C}^{(m)}$ -weighted dependency graph  $\tilde{L}^m$ , where

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where  $\mathbf{C}^{(m)}$  depends only on  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $m$ .

Convention:  $\text{wt}_{\tilde{L}}(Y_\alpha, Y_\alpha) = 1$ .

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In short: if we have a dependency graph for some variables  $Y_\alpha$ , we have also one for **monomials in the  $Y_\alpha$** .

(And potentially asymptotic normality for **polynomials in the  $Y_\alpha$** ).

# Transition

- 1 Dependency graphs
  - A motivating example: substrings in random words
  - An asymptotic normality criterion
- 2 Weighted dependency graphs
  - Definition and an extended normality criterion
  - **Back to subwords: Markovian texts**
  - Applications in statistical physics

# A weighted dependency graph for Markov chain

Setting:

- Let  $(w_i)_{i \geq 1}$  be an irreducible aperiodic **Markov chain** on a finite space state  $\mathcal{A}$ ;
- Assume  $w_1$  is distributed with the stationary distribution  $\pi$ ;
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**Proposition**

We have a **weighted dependency graph**  $\tilde{L}$  with  $\text{wt}_{\tilde{L}}(\{Z_{i,s}, Z_{j,t}\}) = |\lambda_2|^{j-i}$  (for  $i < j$ ), where  $\lambda_2$  is the second eigenvalue of the transition matrix.

Concretely, this means that, for  $i_1 < \dots < i_r$ ,

$$|\kappa(Z_{i_1, s_1}, \dots, Z_{i_r, s_r})| \leq C_r \lambda_2^{i_r - i_1}.$$

It turns out that this was proved by Saulis and Statulevičius ('90)!

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Corollary (using the stability by product)

We have a **weighted dependency graph**  $\tilde{L}^m$  for monomials  $Z_{I;S} := Z_{i_1,s_1} \cdots Z_{i_m,s_m}$ , with  $\text{wt}_{\tilde{L}^m}(Z_{I;S}, Z_{J;T}) = |\lambda_2|^{\text{md}(I,J)}$ , where  $\text{md}(I,J)$  is the minimal distance between  $I$  and  $J$ .



# Subword occurrences in Markovian text (1/2)

Let  $(w_i)_{i \geq 1}$  be a Markov chain as before and fix a pattern (= a word)  $u$  of length  $\ell$  on  $\mathcal{A}$ .

For  $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_\ell\} \subset \mathbb{N}$  ( $i_1 < \dots < i_\ell$ ), we set

$$\begin{aligned} Y_I &= \mathbf{1}[u \text{ occurs at position } I \text{ in } \mathbf{w}]; \\ &= Z_{i_1, u_1} \cdots Z_{i_\ell, u_\ell}. \end{aligned}$$

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We have a **weighted dependency graph** for  $(Y_I, I \in \binom{[n]}{\ell})$ , which is a restriction of the one for the  $Z_{I,S}$ .

## Subword occurrences in Markovian text (2/2)

Let  $X_n = \sum_I Y_I$  be the number of occurrences of  $u$  in a Markovian text  $\mathbf{w}$ . Recall that  $(Y_I, I \in \binom{[n]}{\ell})$  admits a weighted dependency graph.

Can we apply the normality criterion?

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Can we apply the normality criterion?  $M = 1$ ,  $N_n = \binom{n}{\ell}$ , and...

**degree** Fix  $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_\ell\}$ , we have

$$\sum_J \lambda_2^{\text{md}(I,J)} \leq \sum_J \lambda_2^{|i_1 - j_1|} \leq \binom{n}{\ell - 1} \sum_{j_1} \lambda_2^{|i_1 - j_1|} = \mathcal{O}(n^{\ell-1}).$$

The maximal weighted degree  $D_n$  is  $\mathcal{O}(n^{\ell-1})$ .

**variance**  $\sigma_n = \sqrt{\text{Var}(X_n)} = (C + o(1))n^{\ell-1/2}$ , for a computable constant  $C$  (Bourdon, Vallée, '01).

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→ when  $C > 0$ , the normality criterion satisfied for  $s = 3$ .

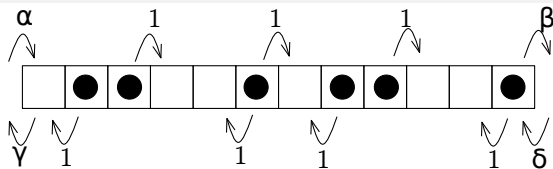
Conclusion: when  $C > 0$ , the number  $X_n$  of occurrences of  $u$  in a Markovian text  $w$  is asymptotically normal.

(Answers partially a question of Bourdon–Vallée, '01).

# Transition

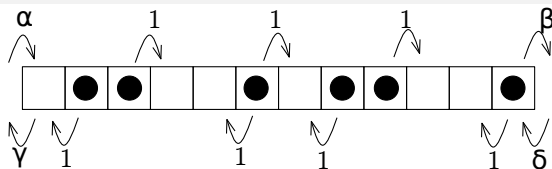
- 1 Dependency graphs
  - A motivating example: substrings in random words
  - An asymptotic normality criterion
- 2 Weighted dependency graphs
  - Definition and an extended normality criterion
  - Back to subwords: Markovian texts
  - Applications in statistical physics

# Symmetric simple exclusion process (SSEP)



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## Theorem

*The complete graph on  $[N]$  with weight  $1/N$  on each edge is a weighted dependency graph for the family  $\{\tau_i, 1 \leq i \leq N\}$ .*

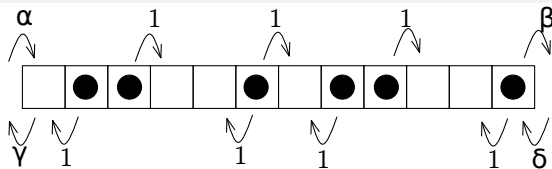
Concretely, for  $i_1, \dots, i_r$ ,

$$\kappa(\tau_{i_1}, \dots, \tau_{i_r}) = \mathcal{O}_r(N^{-d+1}),$$

where  $d = |\{i_1, \dots, i_r\}|$ .



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### Ingredients of the proof

- enough to prove the bound for **distinct**  $i_1, \dots, i_r$ ;
- joint moments of the  $\tau_i$  given by **matrix ansatz**;
- this gives an **induction formula for cumulants** (Derrida, Lebowitz, Speer, 2006), from which we deduce easily the upper bound.

## An invariance principle

Set  $X_N(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{Nt} \tau_i$  be the particle distribution function.

Theorem (F., '18)

*There exists a continuous Gaussian process  $Z$  on  $[0, 1]$  with explicit covariance function such that, in the space  $\mathcal{C}([0, 1])$ ,*

$$\widetilde{X}_N(t) := \frac{X_N(t) - \mathbb{E}X_N(t)}{\sqrt{N}} \xrightarrow{d} Z$$

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Any interest in [asymptotic normality for higher order polynomials](#) in the  $\tau_i$ ?

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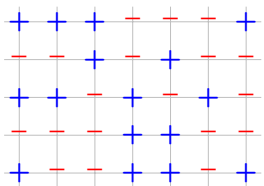
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Derrida et al.'s result holds more generally for **ASEP** (A=asymmetric, i.e. particles jump backwards at rate  $q < 1$  instead of 1).

Question

Is the same weighted graph also a weighted dependency graphs for particles in **ASEP**? Or should we use weights  $1/|i-j|$ ?

# Ising model



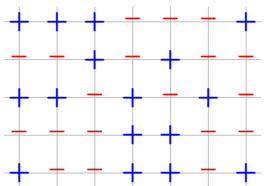
$$\mathbb{P}(\omega) \propto \exp[-H(\omega)];$$

$$H(\omega) = -\beta \sum_{x \sim y} \omega_x \omega_y - h \sum_x \omega_x.$$

## Theorem

*In presence of a magnetic field or at very low or very large temperature, there exists  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(d, h, \beta) > 0$  such that the complete graph on  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  with weight  $\varepsilon^{\|x-y\|_1}$  on the edge  $\{x, y\}$  is a **weighted dependency graph** for  $\{\sigma_x, x \in \mathbb{Z}^d\}$*

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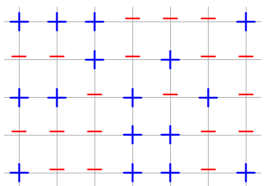
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Concretely, this means that

$$\kappa(\sigma_{x_1}, \dots, \sigma_{x_r}) = \mathcal{O}_r(\varepsilon^{\ell_T(x_1, \dots, x_r)}),$$

where  $\ell_T(x_1, \dots, x_r)$  is the **smallest length of a tree connecting  $x_1, \dots, x_r$** .

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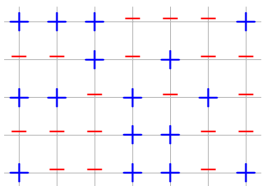
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This was proved by [Duneau, Iagolnitzer and Souillard \('74\)](#) (with magnetic field or in very high temperature) and [Malyshev and Minlos \('91\)](#) in very low temperature.

Proofs based on cluster expansion. . .

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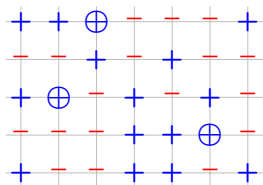
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**Question:** does it hold near the critical point?

(At the critical point, the answer is NO, since already covariances do not decay exponentially)



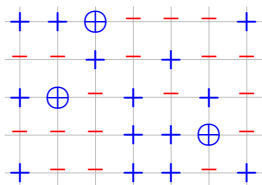
# Ising model: asymptotic normality for global patterns



Circled spins:  
occurrence of the + pattern 231

(notion inspired from patterns in permutations.)

# Ising model: asymptotic normality for global patterns



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occurrence of the + pattern 231

$S_n^{\mathcal{P}}$  := number of occurrences of  $\mathcal{P}$  within  $\Lambda_n = [-n, n]^d$ .

Theorem (Dousse, F., '19)

Assume  $\text{Var}(S_n^{\mathcal{P}}) \geq \text{cst} |\Lambda_n|^{2|\mathcal{P}|-2+\eta}$  for  $\eta > 0$ . Then we have  $S_n^{\mathcal{P}}$  is *asymptotically normal*. Moreover, the lower bound of the variance is fulfilled for patterns of only positive spins (as in the example).

# Conclusion

- **Dependency graphs** are a powerful simple **tool to prove asymptotic normality**, particularly for substructure counts in models exhibiting some **independence**;
- We proposed an extension to handle models **without independence, but with weak dependencies**.
- **Plenty of applications** (both for the initial framework and for the extended one)!

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- We proposed an extension to handle models without independence, but with weak dependencies.
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Thank you for your attention!