

**Disorder-induced rounding of the phase transition  
in the large- $q$ -state Potts model**

**M.T. Mercaldo**

**Università di Salerno**

**J-C. Anglès d'Auriac**

**CNRS - Grenoble**

**F. Iglói**

**SZFKI - Budapest**

- CRITICAL PROPERTIES OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS
- EFFECTS OF DISORDER ON FIRST ORDER PHASE TRANSITIONS
- $\Rightarrow$  RANDOM BOND POTTS MODEL (RBPM), ESPECIALLY IN THE LARGE- $q$ -LIMIT, IS A PERFECT GROUND TO ANALYZE THIS ASPECT

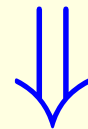
- CRITICAL PROPERTIES OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS
- EFFECTS OF DISORDER ON FIRST ORDER PHASE TRANSITIONS
- $\Rightarrow$  RANDOM BOND POTTS MODEL (RBPM), ESPECIALLY IN THE LARGE- $q$ -LIMIT, IS A PERFECT GROUND TO ANALYZE THIS ASPECT

## Outline

- POTTS MODEL IN THE RANDOM CLUSTER REPRESENTATION
- INTRODUCING DISORDER
- RESULTS AND PERSPECTIVES

$$Z \equiv \sum_{\{\sigma\}} q^{-\beta \mathcal{H}(\{\sigma\})}$$
$$\mathcal{H} = - \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} J_{ij} \delta(\sigma_i, \sigma_j) \quad \sigma_i = 0, 1, \dots, q-1$$

$J_{ij}$  FM random couplings



Random cluster representation

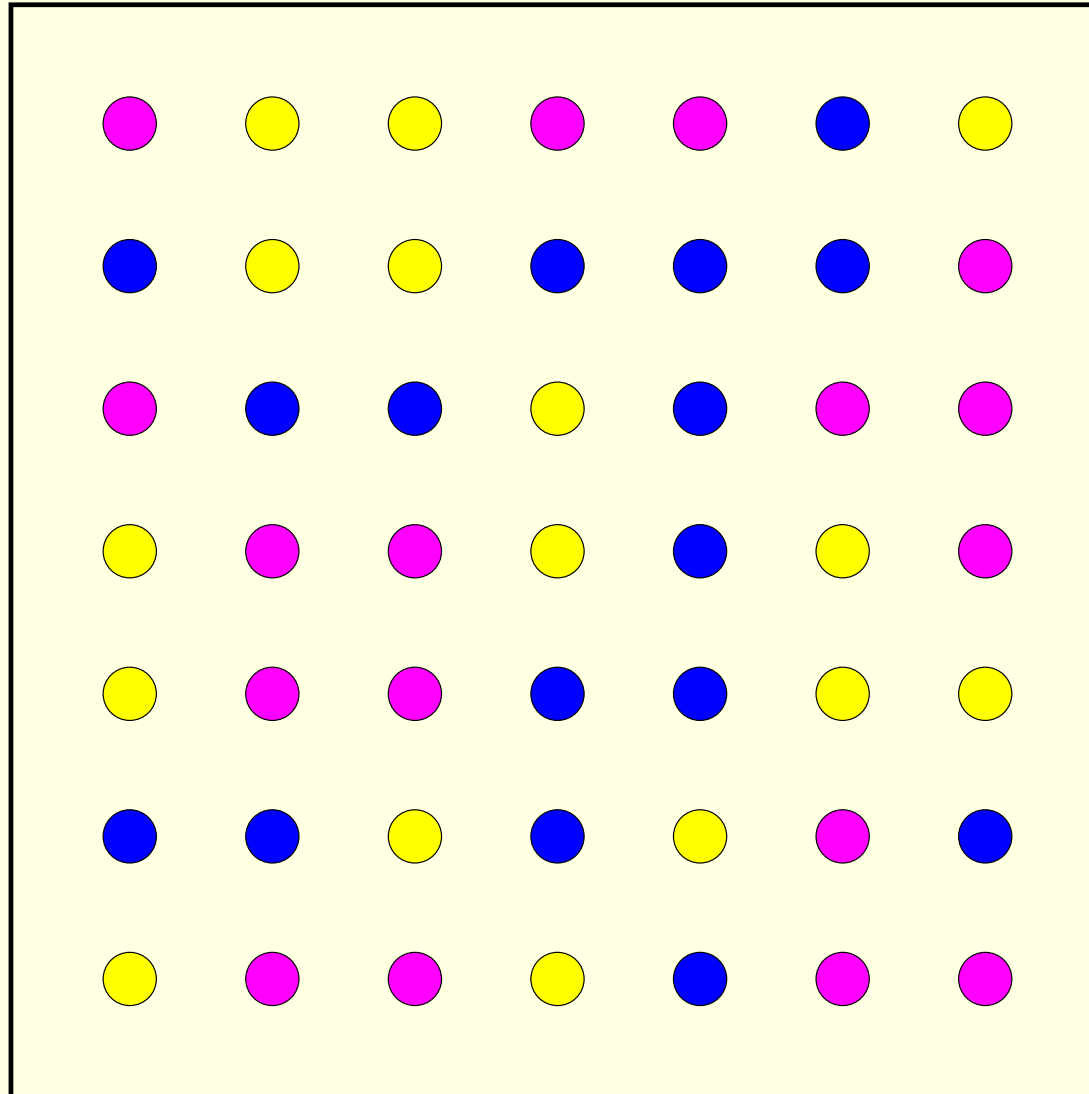
$$Z = \sum_{G \subseteq E} q^{c(G)} \prod_{ij \in G} \nu_{ij} \quad \nu_{ij} = e^{\beta J_{ij}} - 1$$

$q=3$ 

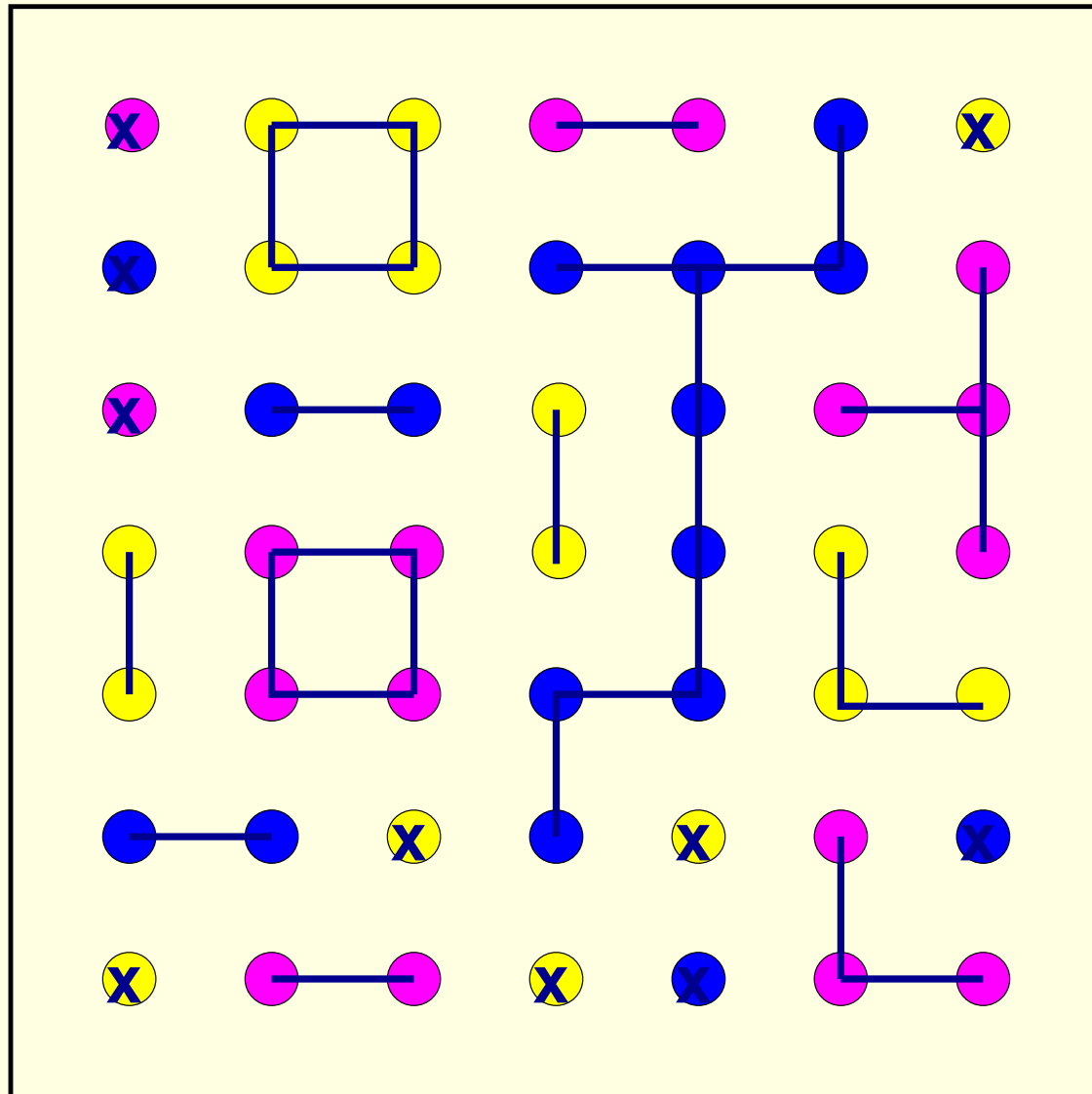
0

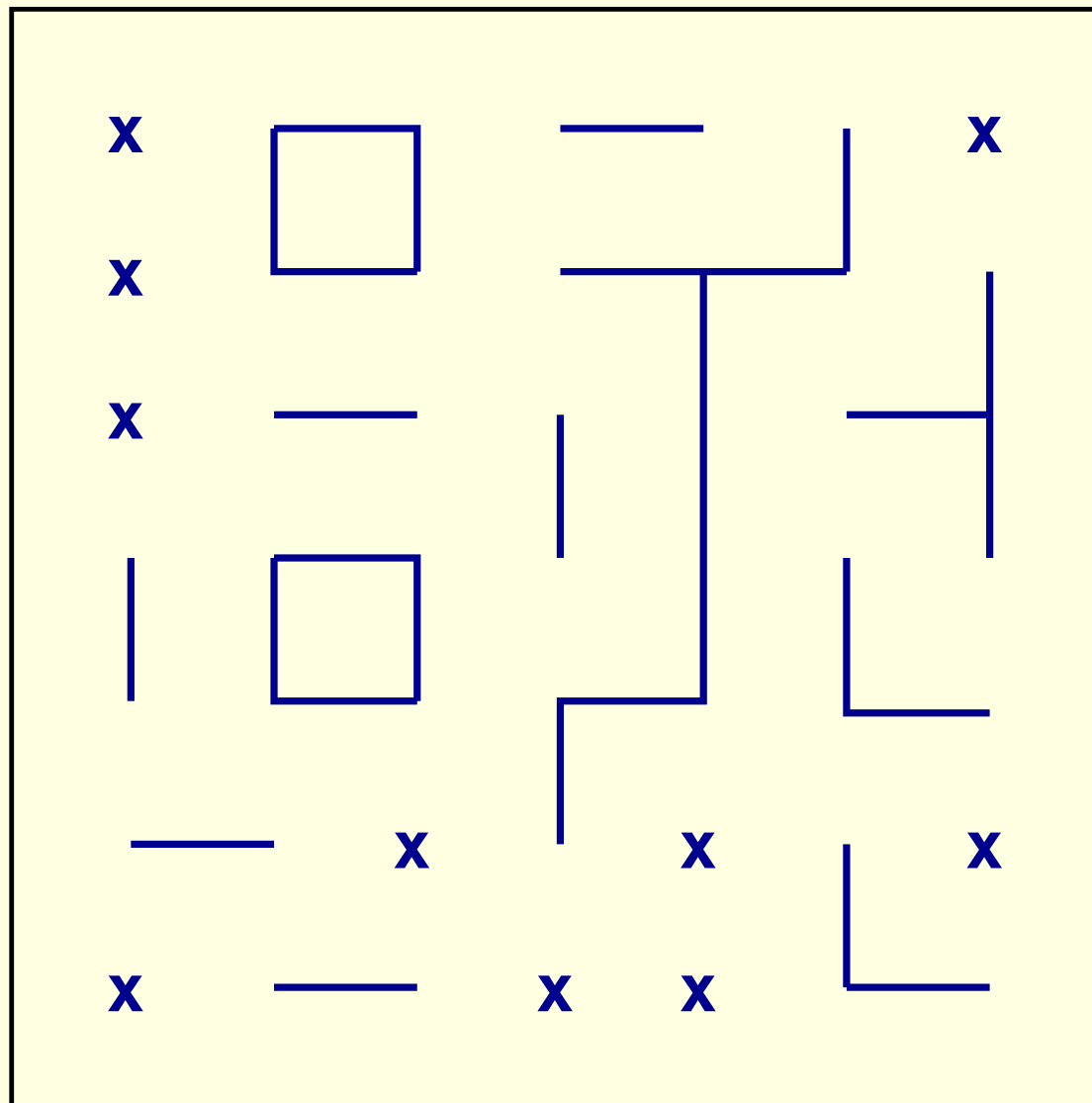
1

2



$$c(G) = 10 + 12 = 22$$



$c(G)$ 
 $\prod_e (e^{\beta J_e} - 1)$ 






$q < q_c \Rightarrow 2^{nd}$  order PT

$q > q_c \Rightarrow 1^{st}$  order PT

$$q < q_c$$

 $\Rightarrow$  $2^{nd}$  order PT

$$q > q_c$$

 $\Rightarrow$  $1^{st}$  order PT

in  $2D$ :  $q_c = 4$  (exact result)

in the  $q \rightarrow \infty$  limit

the PT is strongly  $1^{st}$  order

$$q < q_c \Rightarrow$$

2<sup>nd</sup> order PT

$$q > q_c \Rightarrow$$

1<sup>st</sup> order PT

in  $2D$ :  $q_c = 4$  (exact result)

in the  $q \rightarrow \infty$  limit

the PT is strongly 1<sup>st</sup> order

## Systems with Disorder

Continuous PT

HARRIS criterion

$\alpha_P > 0$  disorder is **relevant**

$\alpha_P < 0$  disorder is **irrelevant**

1<sup>st</sup> order PT

$\nexists$  criterion

it is only known that DISORDER  
will SOFTEN the transition

$$q < q_c \Rightarrow$$

2<sup>nd</sup> order PT

$$q > q_c \Rightarrow$$

1<sup>st</sup> order PT

in  $2D$ :  $q_c = 4$  (exact result)

in the  $q \rightarrow \infty$  limit

the PT is strongly 1<sup>st</sup> order

## Systems with Disorder

Continuous PT

HARRIS criterion

$\alpha_P > 0$  disorder is **relevant**

$\alpha_P < 0$  disorder is **irrelevant**

1<sup>st</sup> order PT

$\nexists$  criterion

it is only known that DISORDER  
will SOFTEN the transition

Relevant disorder

Conventional Random FP (different values of critical exponents)

Infinite Randomness FP (IRFP) (disorder grows without limits)

$$T \rightarrow T' = T \ln q \qquad f(T) \rightarrow \frac{f(T')}{\ln q}$$

$$Z = \sum_{G \subseteq E} q^{c(G)} \prod_{ij \in G} [q^{\beta J_{ij}} - 1]$$

 $\Downarrow q \rightarrow \infty$ 

$$Z = \sum_{G \subseteq E} q^{\phi(G)}$$

$$\phi(G) = c(G) + \beta \sum_{ij \in G} J_{ij}$$

$$T \rightarrow T' = T \ln q \qquad f(T) \rightarrow \frac{f(T')}{\ln q}$$

$$Z = \sum_{G \subseteq E} q^{c(G)} \prod_{ij \in G} [q^{\beta J_{ij}} - 1]$$

$$\Downarrow_{q \rightarrow \infty}$$

$$Z = \sum_{G \subseteq E} q^{\phi(G)}$$

$$\phi(G) = c(G) + \beta \sum_{ij \in G} J_{ij}$$

$$Z = n_0 q^{\phi^*} (1 + \dots) \quad \text{where} \quad \phi^* = \max_G \phi(G) \quad \text{and} \quad \phi^* = -\beta N f$$

All information about the RBPM in the large- $q$  limit  
is contained in the **OPTIMAL SET**  $G^*$

All information about the RBPM in the large- $q$  limit  
is contained in the **OPTIMAL SET**  $G^*$

⇒ THERMAL PROPERTIES ARE CALCULATED FROM  $\phi^*$



All information about the RBPM in the large- $q$  limit  
is contained in the **OPTIMAL SET**  $G^*$

⇒ THERMAL PROPERTIES ARE CALCULATED FROM  $\phi^*$

→ free energy, internal energy, specific heat,...

All information about the RBPM in the large- $q$  limit  
is contained in the **OPTIMAL SET  $G^*$**

- ⇒ THERMAL PROPERTIES ARE CALCULATED FROM  $\phi^*$ 
  - free energy, internal energy, specific heat,...
- ⇒ MAGNETIZATION AND CORRELATION FUNCTIONS ARE OBTAINED FROM THE GEOMETRICAL STRUCTURE OF  $G^*$

All information about the RBPM in the large- $q$  limit  
is contained in the **OPTIMAL SET  $G^*$**

⇒ THERMAL PROPERTIES ARE CALCULATED FROM  $\phi^*$

→ free energy, internal energy, specific heat,...

⇒ MAGNETIZATION AND CORRELATION FUNCTIONS ARE OBTAINED FROM  
THE GEOMETRICAL STRUCTURE OF  $G^*$

→  $C(r)$ , average correlation function, is related to the distribution of clusters

All information about the RBPM in the large- $q$  limit  
is contained in the **OPTIMAL SET  $G^*$**

- ▶ THERMAL PROPERTIES ARE CALCULATED FROM  $\phi^*$ 
  - free energy, internal energy, specific heat,...
- ▶ MAGNETIZATION AND CORRELATION FUNCTIONS ARE OBTAINED FROM THE GEOMETRICAL STRUCTURE OF  $G^*$ 
  - $C(r)$ , average correlation function, is related to the distribution of clusters
  - $m$ , magnetization, is the fraction of sites in the *infinite* cluster

All information about the RBPM in the large- $q$  limit  
is contained in the **OPTIMAL SET  $G^*$**

- ▶ THERMAL PROPERTIES ARE CALCULATED FROM  $\phi^*$ 
  - free energy, internal energy, specific heat,...
- ▶ MAGNETIZATION AND CORRELATION FUNCTIONS ARE OBTAINED FROM THE GEOMETRICAL STRUCTURE OF  $G^*$ 
  - $C(r)$ , average correlation function, is related to the distribution of clusters
  - $m$ , magnetization, is the fraction of sites in the *infinite* cluster
  - $\xi$ , correlation length, is the average size of the clusters

maximize  $\phi^*$

- One has to find the max over the  $2^{|E|}$  possible configuration !

- One has to find the max over the  $2^{|E|}$  possible configuration !
- $\phi^*$  is a **supermodular** function  $\Rightarrow \phi(A) + \phi(B) \leq \phi(A \cup B) + \phi(A \cap B) \quad \forall A, B \in E$

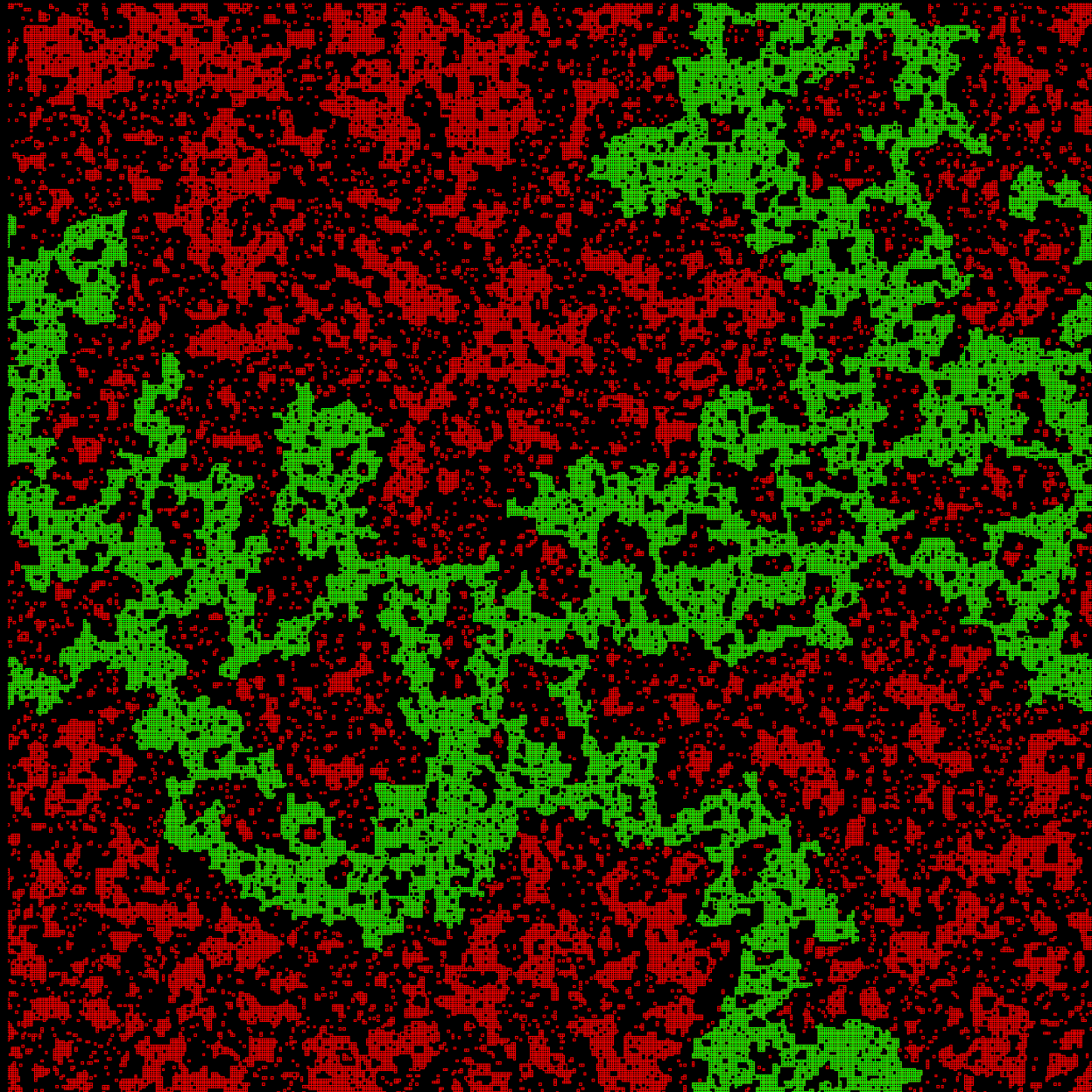


- One has to find the max over the  $2^{|E|}$  possible configuration !
- $\phi^*$  is a **supermodular** function  $\Rightarrow \phi(A) + \phi(B) \leq \phi(A \cup B) + \phi(A \cap B) \quad \forall A, B \in E$
- theorem of discrete math  $\Rightarrow \exists$  a **combinatorial optimization** method to maximize it in polynomial time

- One has to find the max over the  $2^{|E|}$  possible configurations !
- $\phi^*$  is a **supermodular** function  $\Rightarrow \phi(A) + \phi(B) \leq \phi(A \cup B) + \phi(A \cap B) \quad \forall A, B \in E$
- theorem of discrete math  $\Rightarrow \exists$  a **combinatorial optimization** method to maximize it in polynomial time
- for  $\phi(G)$  of the Potts model a specific algorithm has been formulated  
Angles d'Auriac *et al.* JPA35, 6973 (2002)

- One has to find the max over the  $2^{|E|}$  possible configuration !
- $\phi^*$  is a **supermodular** function  $\Rightarrow \phi(A) + \phi(B) \leq \phi(A \cup B) + \phi(A \cap B) \quad \forall A, B \in E$
- theorem of discrete math  $\Rightarrow \exists$  a **combinatorial optimization** method to maximize it in polynomial time
- for  $\phi(G)$  of the Potts model a specific algorithm has been formulated  
*Angles d'Auriac et al. JPA35, 6973 (2002)*

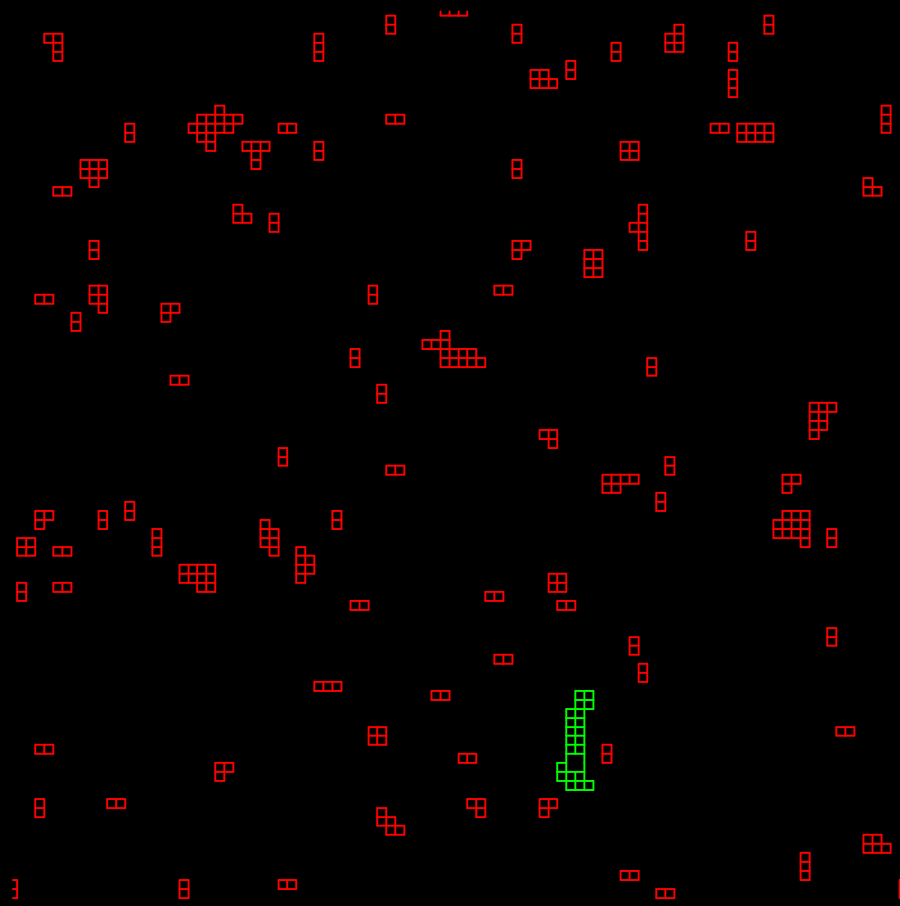
$$d = 2 \quad L = 512 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 2^{524288} \sim 2.6 \cdot 10^{157826}$$



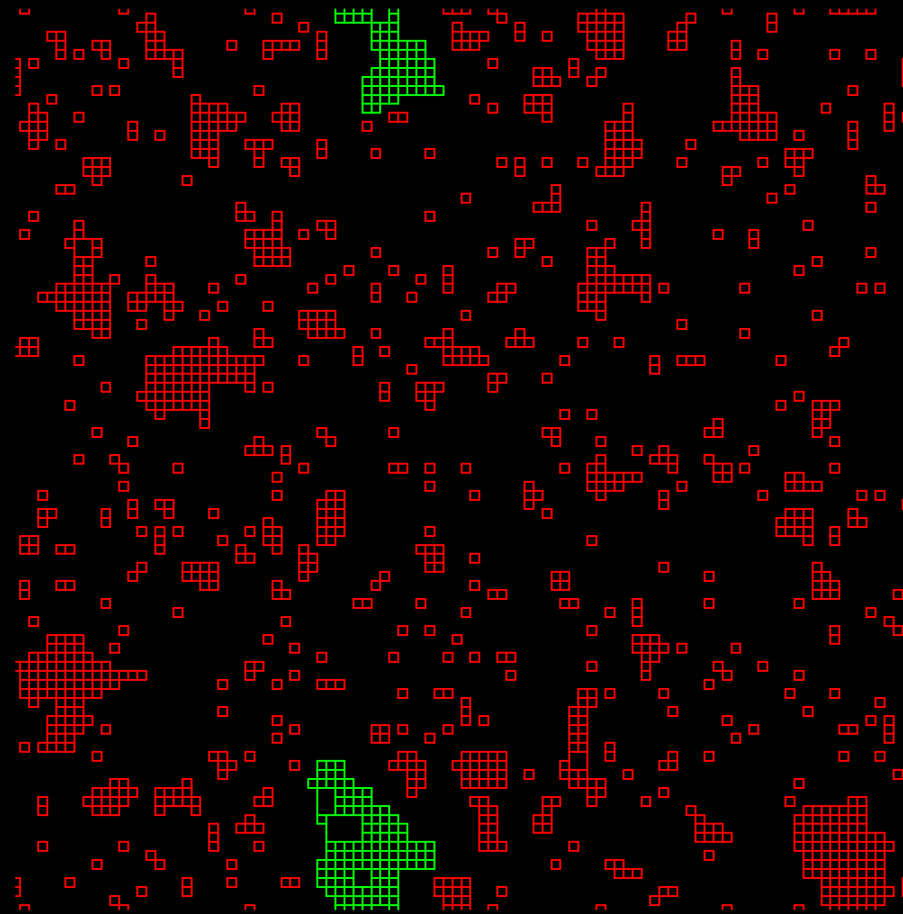
$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 1.200$$



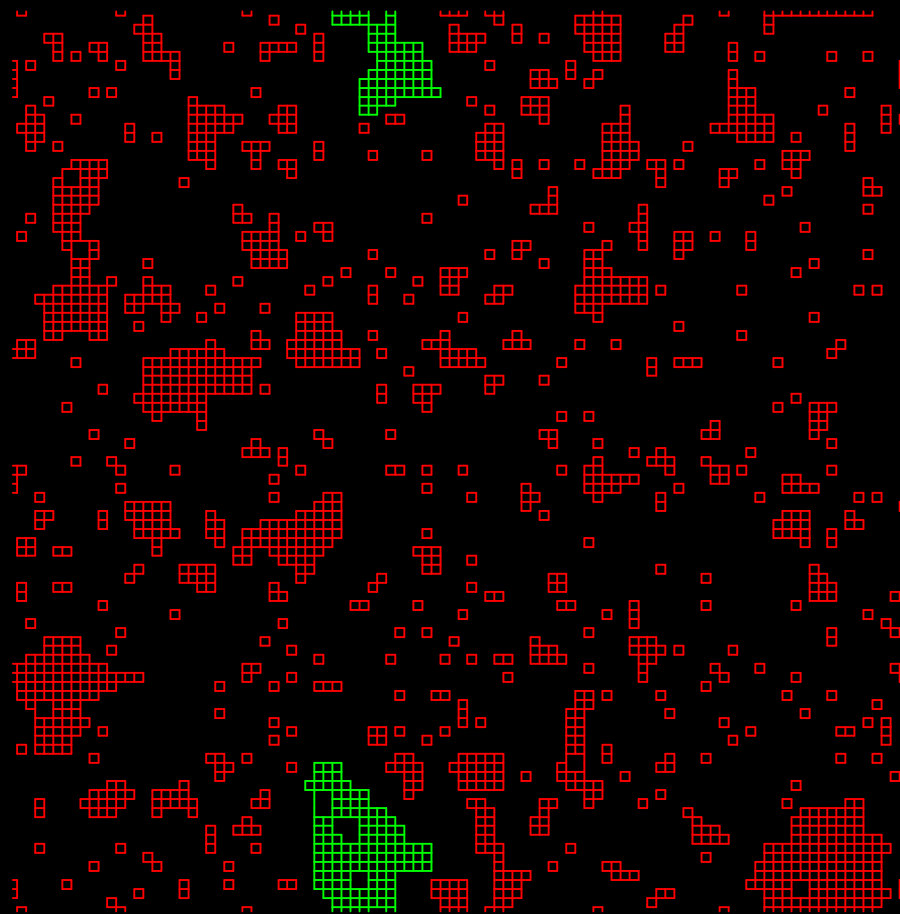
$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 1.166$$



$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 1.066$$

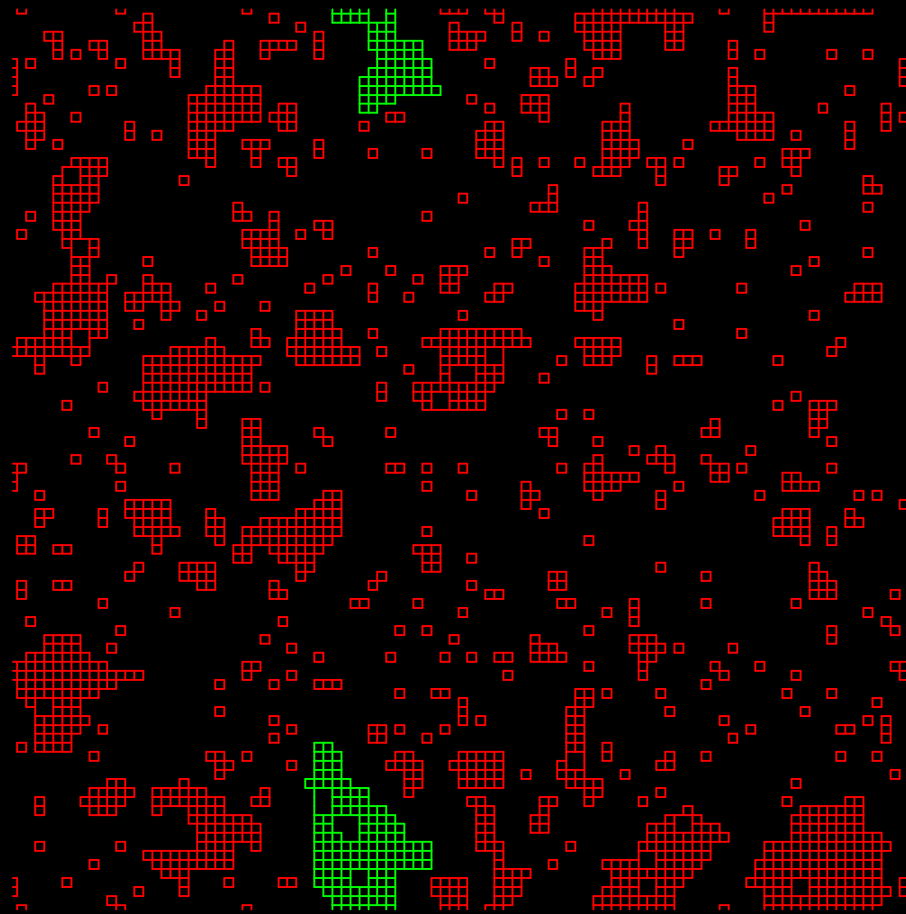


$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 1.050$$

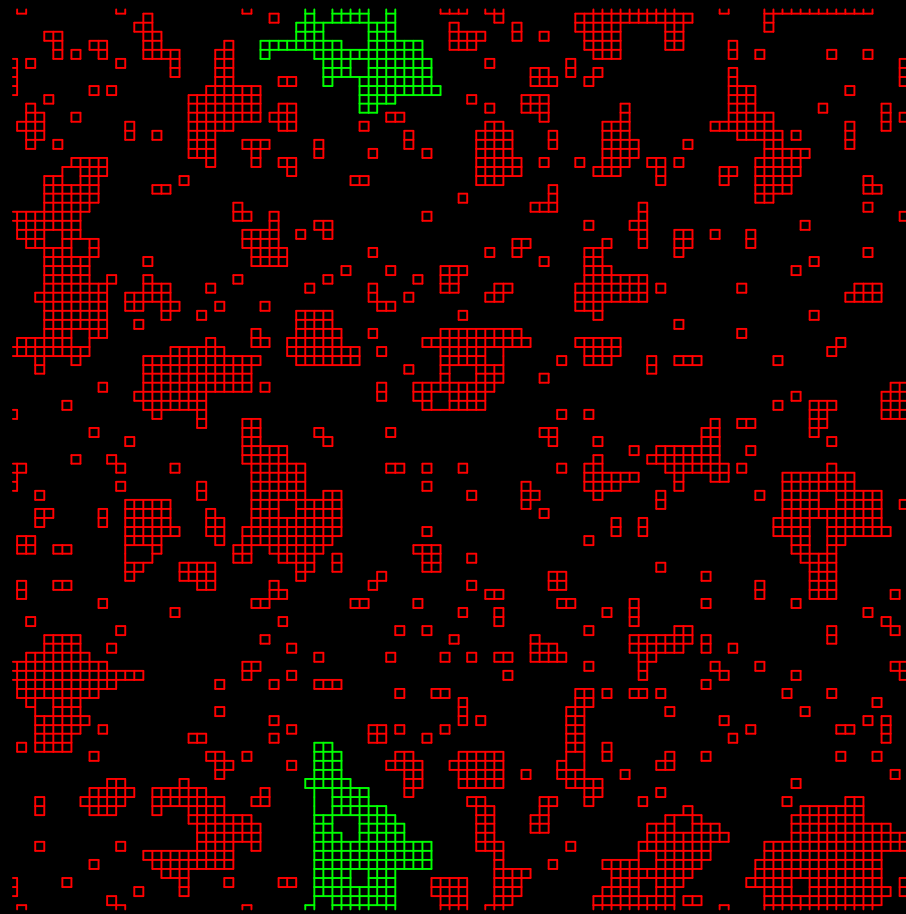




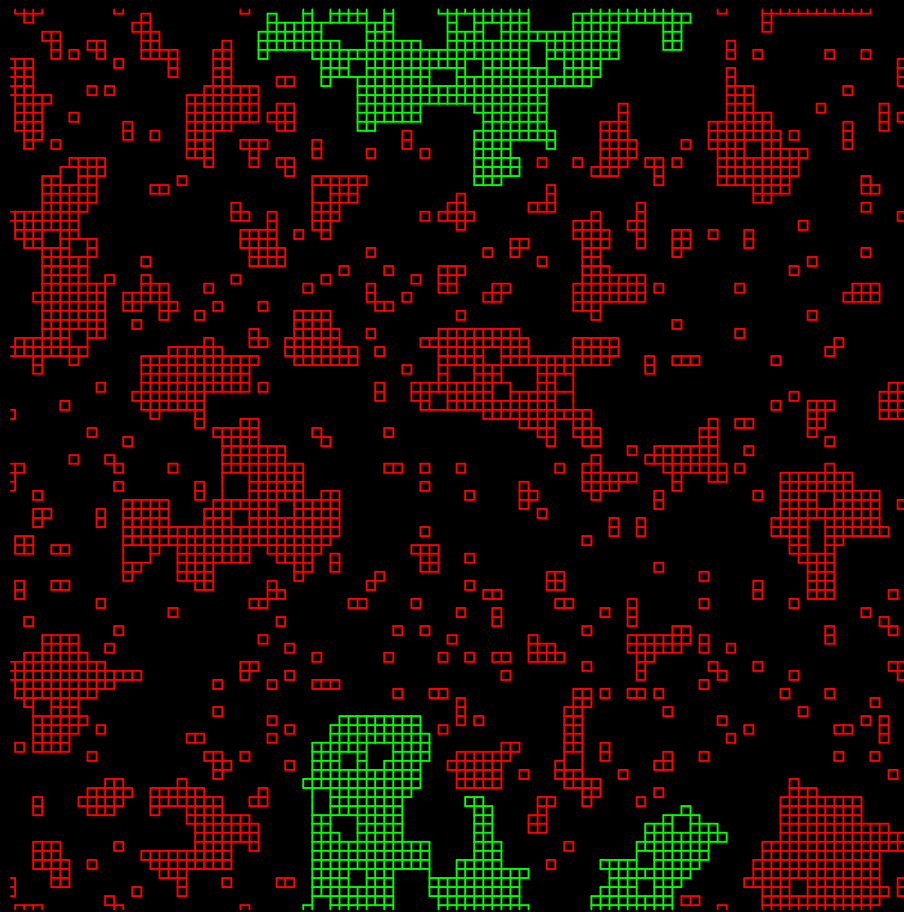
$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 1.042$$



$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 1.033$$



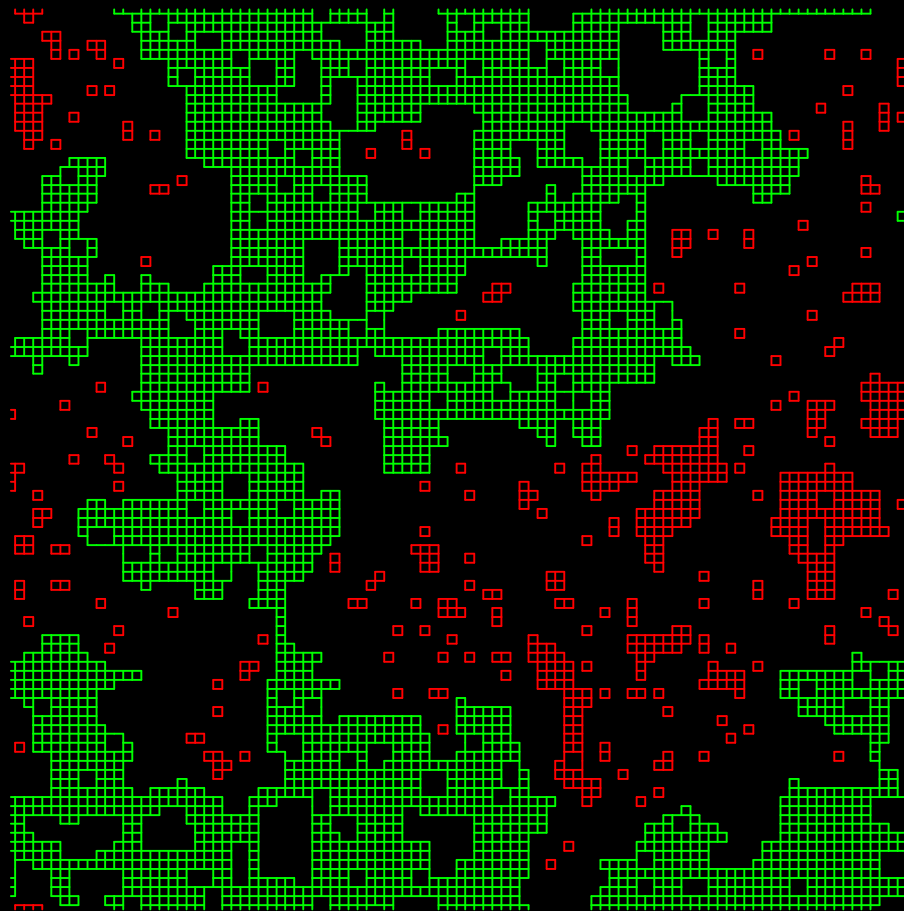
$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 1.025$$



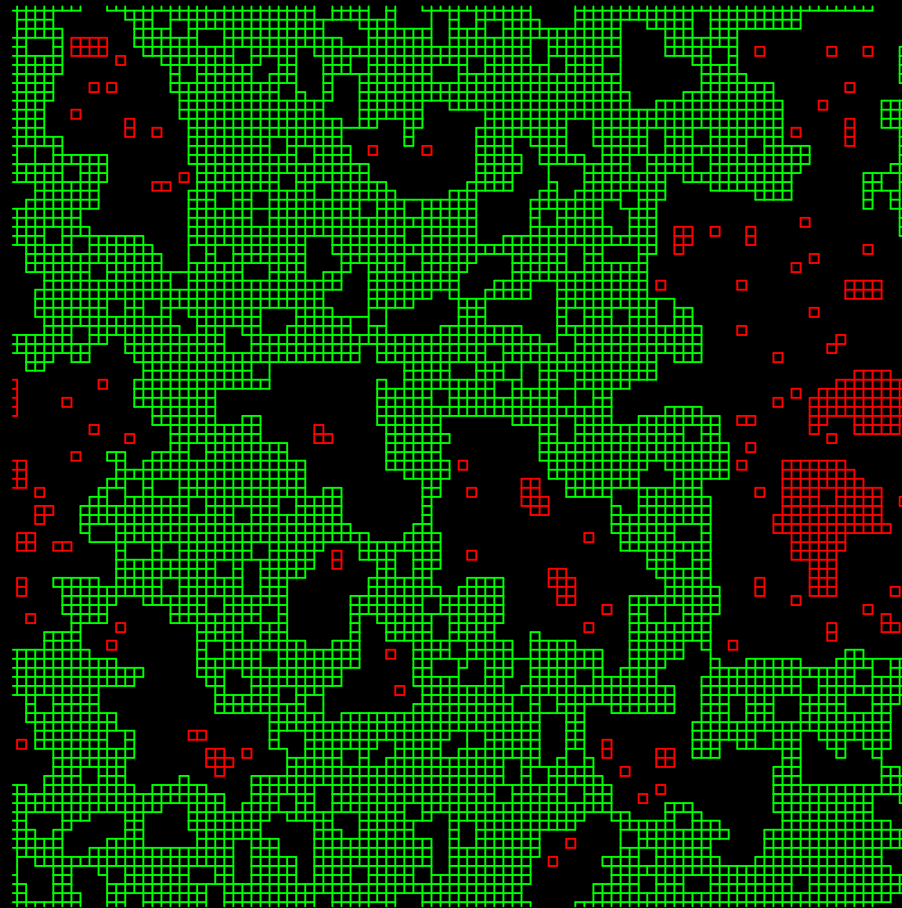
$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 1.016$$



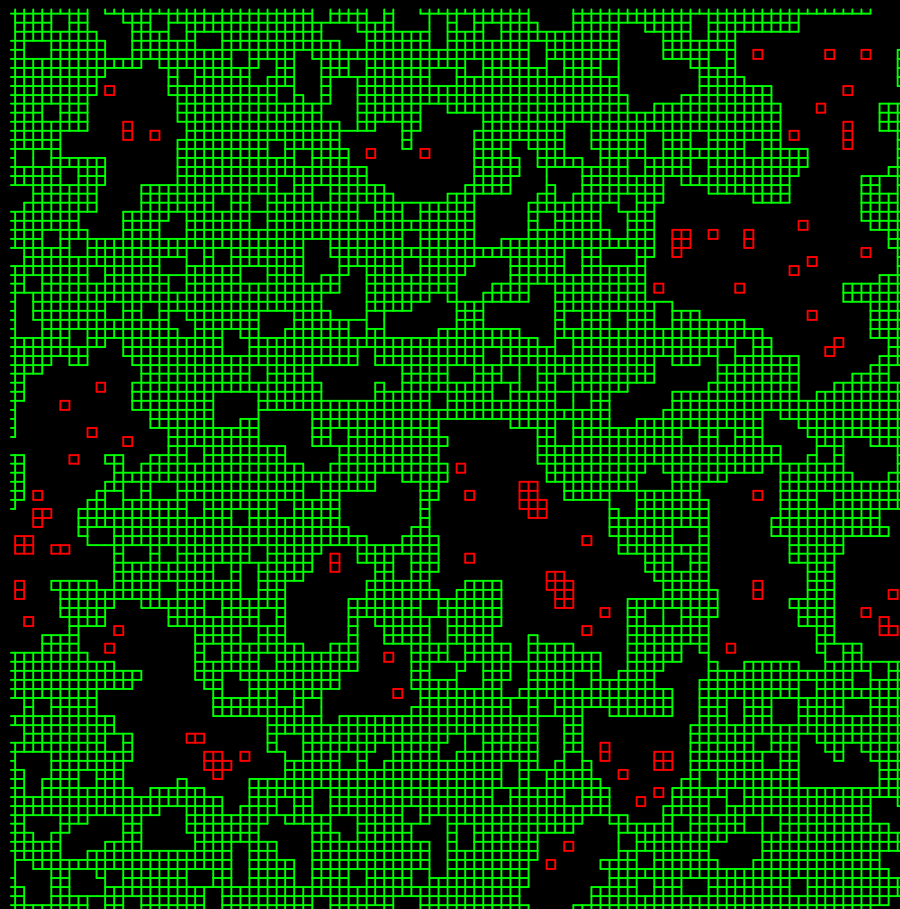
$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 1.008$$



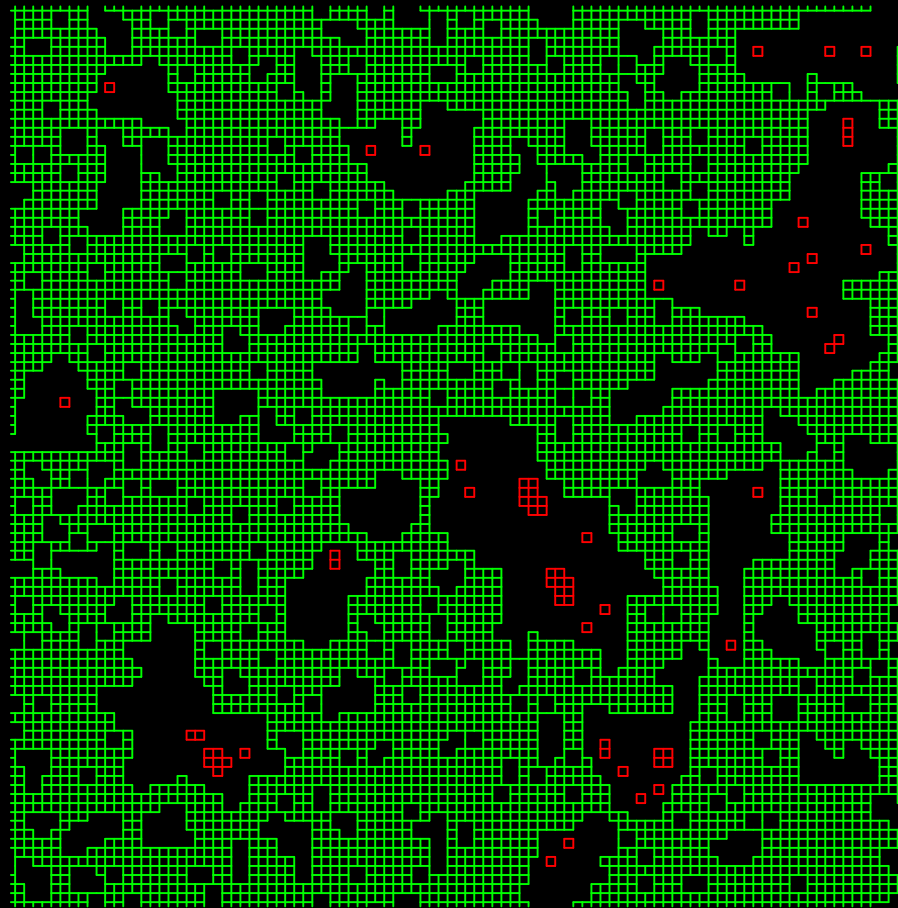
$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 1.000$$



$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 0.992$$

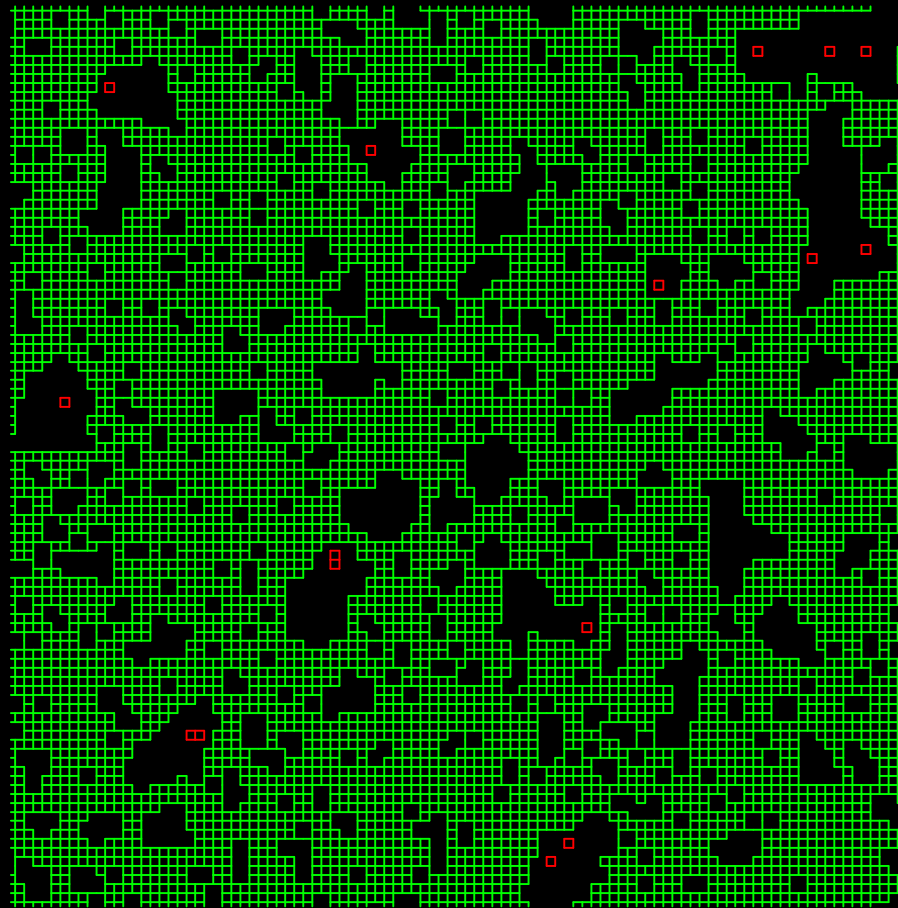


$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 0.983$$

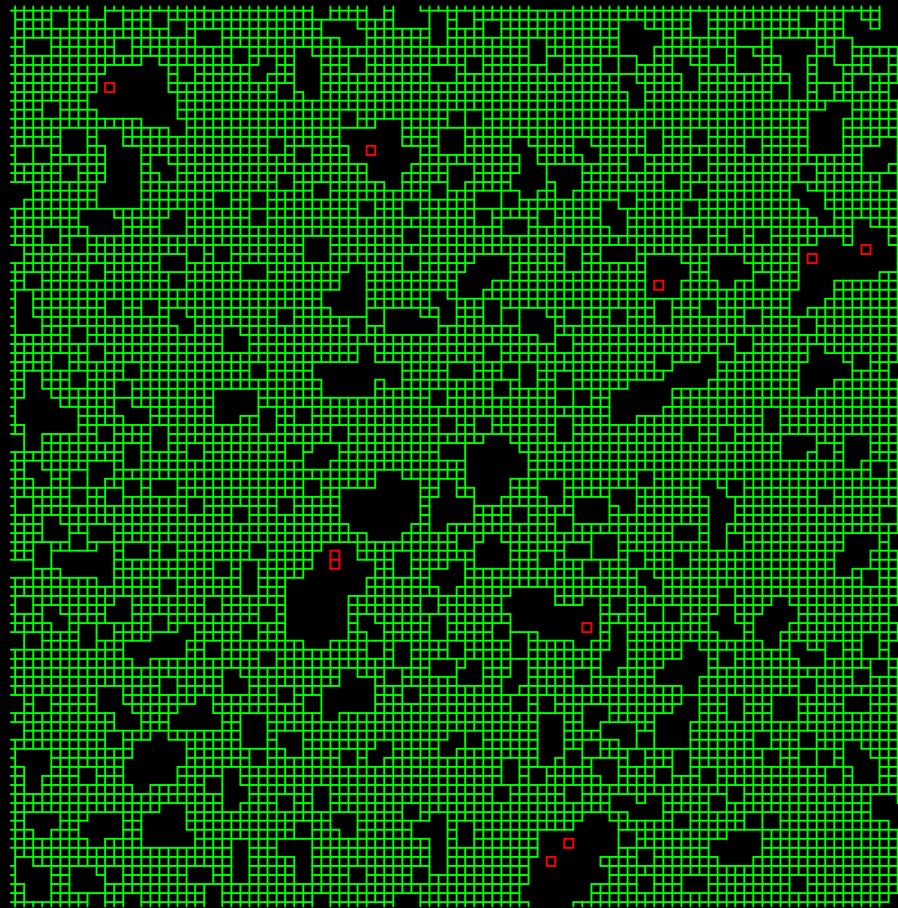




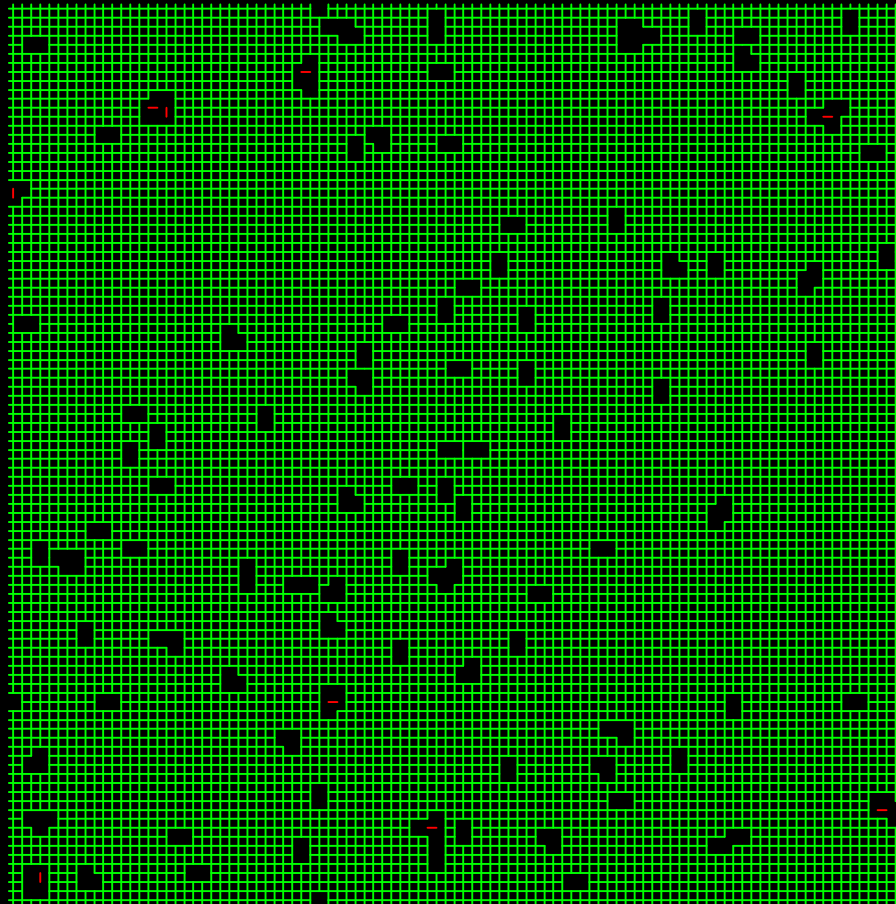
$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 0.967$$



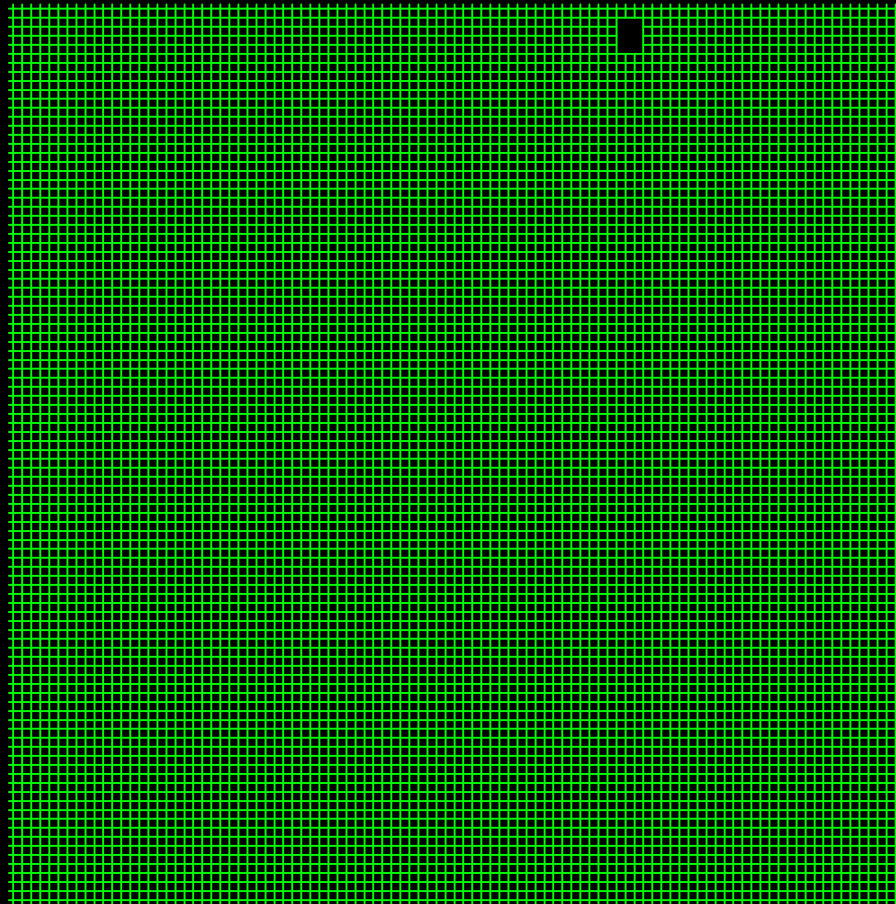
$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 0.9416$$



$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 0.667$$



$$P(J) = \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta \left( J - \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad T = 0.500$$





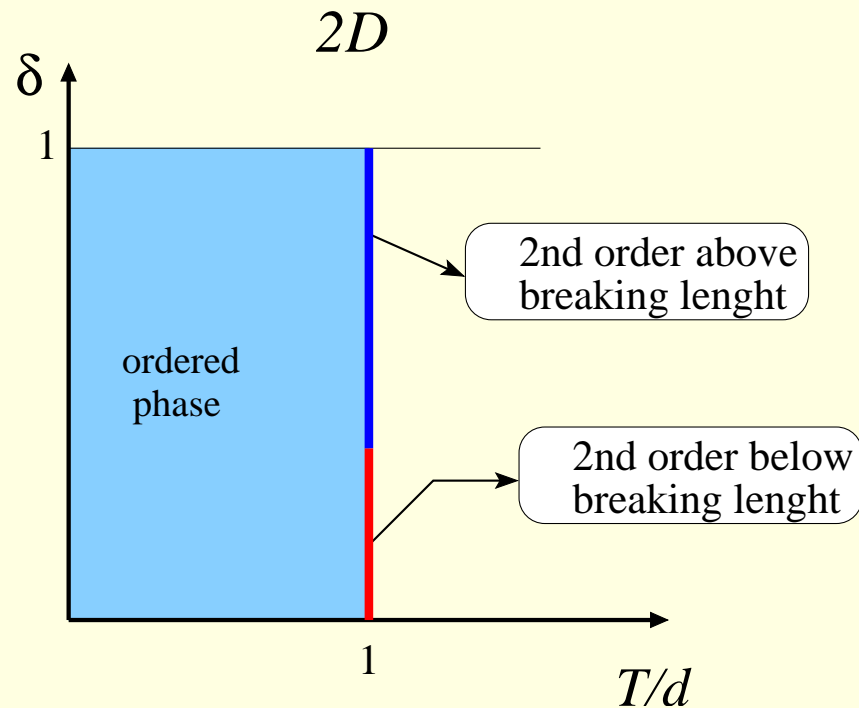
▣ IN 2D DISORDER DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE  $\Rightarrow$  it softens the  $1^{st}$  order PT into a  $2^{nd}$  order PT

- **IN 2D DISORDER DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE**  $\Rightarrow$  it softens the  $1^{st}$  order PT into a  $2^{nd}$  order PT
- **IN 3D WEAK DISORDER DOES NOT DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE** i.e. disorder has to be strong enough to soften the PT into  $2^{nd}$  order PT

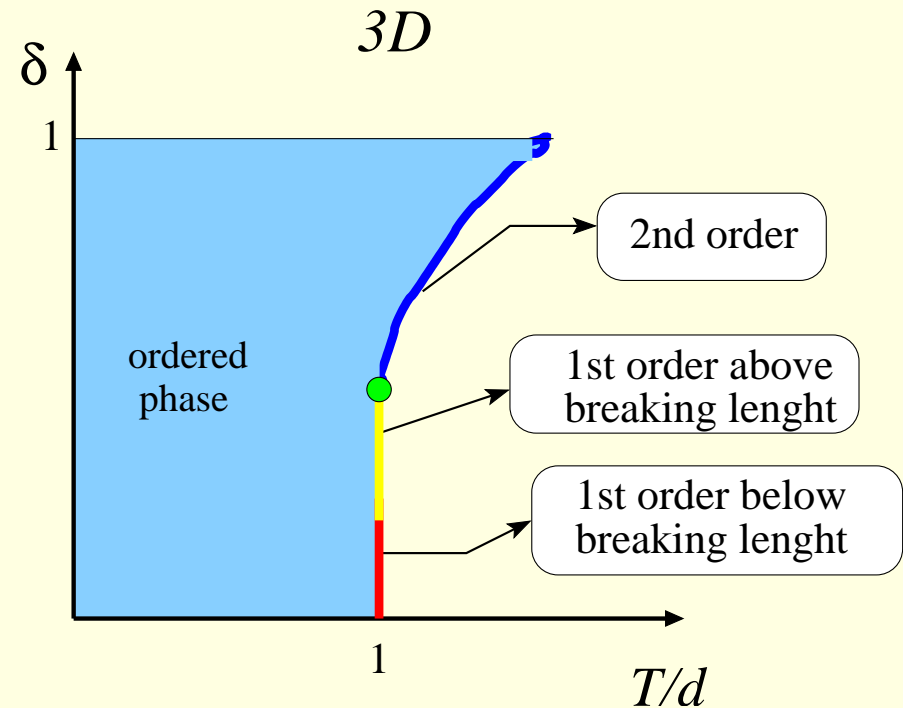
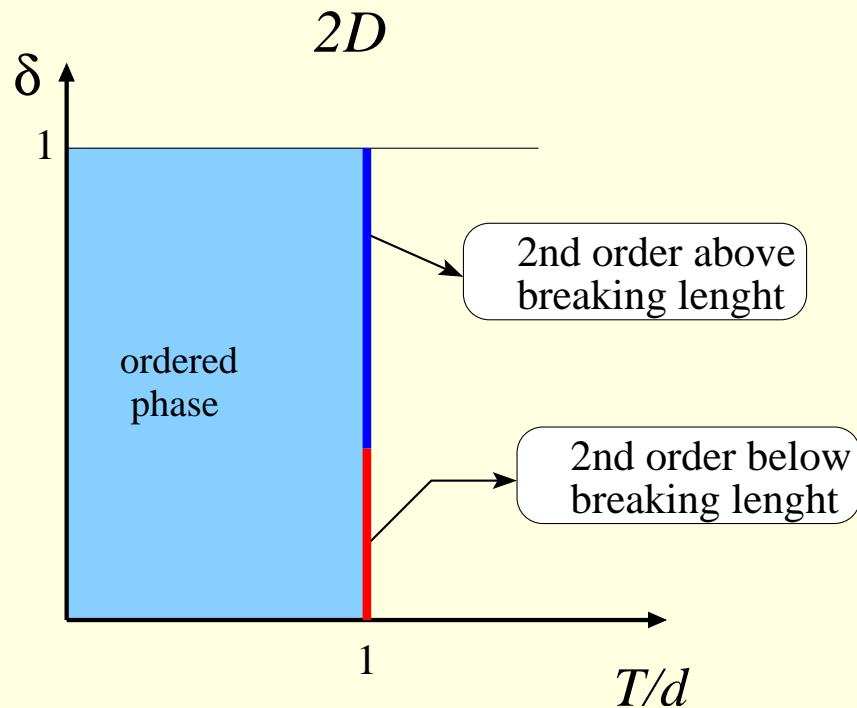
- ▶▶▶▶ **IN 2D DISORDER DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE**  $\Rightarrow$  it softens the  $1^{st}$  order PT into a  $2^{nd}$  order PT
- ▶▶▶▶ **IN 3D WEAK DISORDER DOES NOT DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE** i.e. disorder has to be strong enough to soften the PT into  $2^{nd}$  order PT



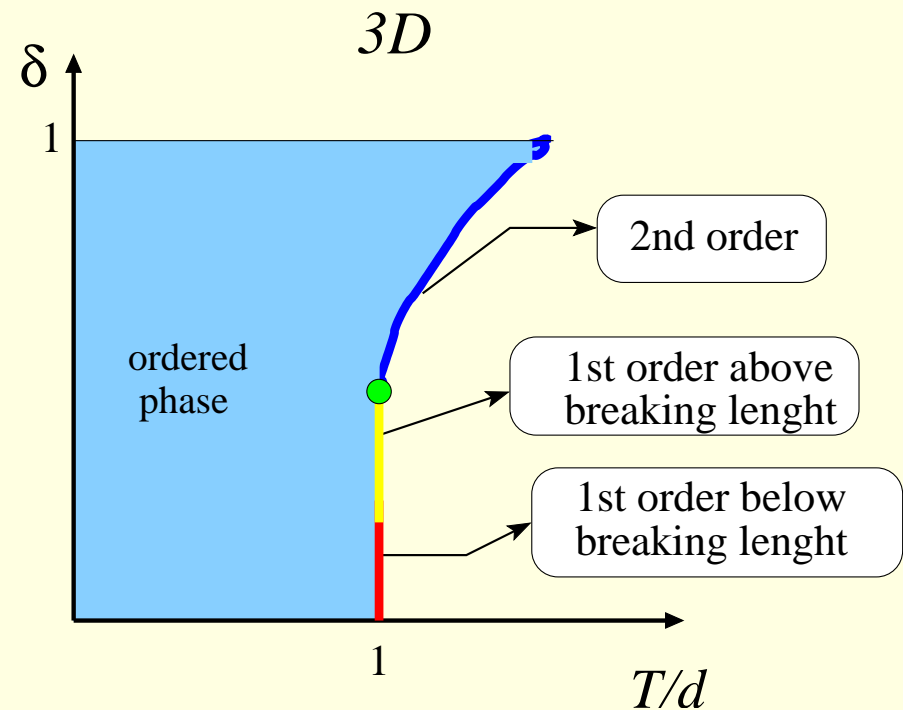
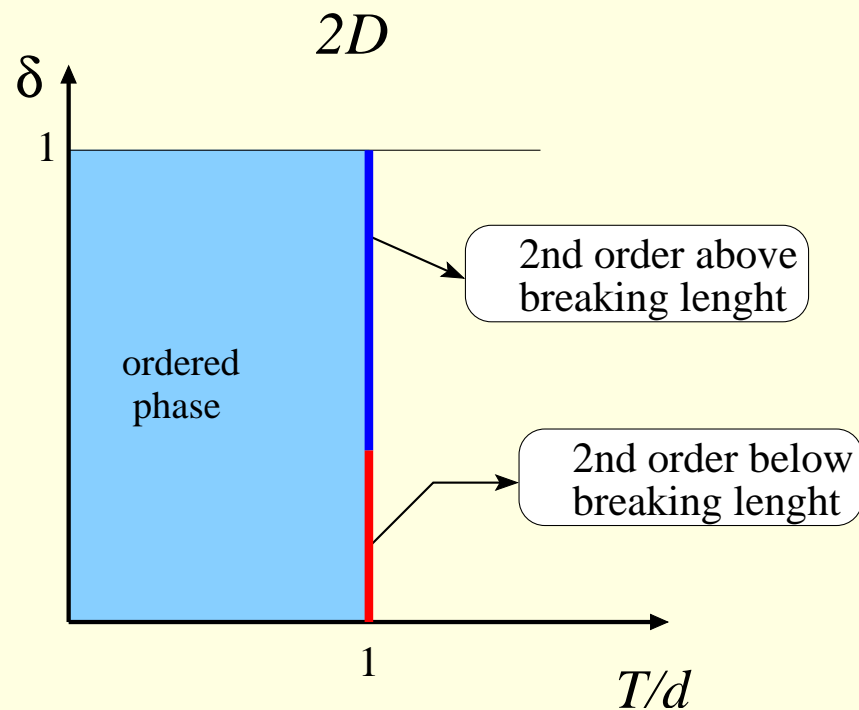
- IN 2D DISORDER DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE  $\Rightarrow$  it softens the 1<sup>st</sup> order PT into a 2<sup>nd</sup> order PT
- IN 3D WEAK DISORDER DOES NOT DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE i.e. disorder has to be strong enough to soften the PT into 2<sup>nd</sup> order PT



- IN 2D DISORDER DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE  $\Rightarrow$  it softens the 1<sup>st</sup> order PT into a 2<sup>nd</sup> order PT
- IN 3D WEAK DISORDER DOES NOT DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE i.e. disorder has to be strong enough to soften the PT into 2<sup>nd</sup> order PT



- IN 2D DISORDER DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE  $\Rightarrow$  it softens the 1<sup>st</sup> order PT into a 2<sup>nd</sup> order PT
- IN 3D WEAK DISORDER DOES NOT DESTROY PHASE COEXISTENCE i.e. disorder has to be strong enough to soften the PT into 2<sup>nd</sup> order PT



In a finite size system weak disorder fluctuation could not be sufficient to break phase coexistence

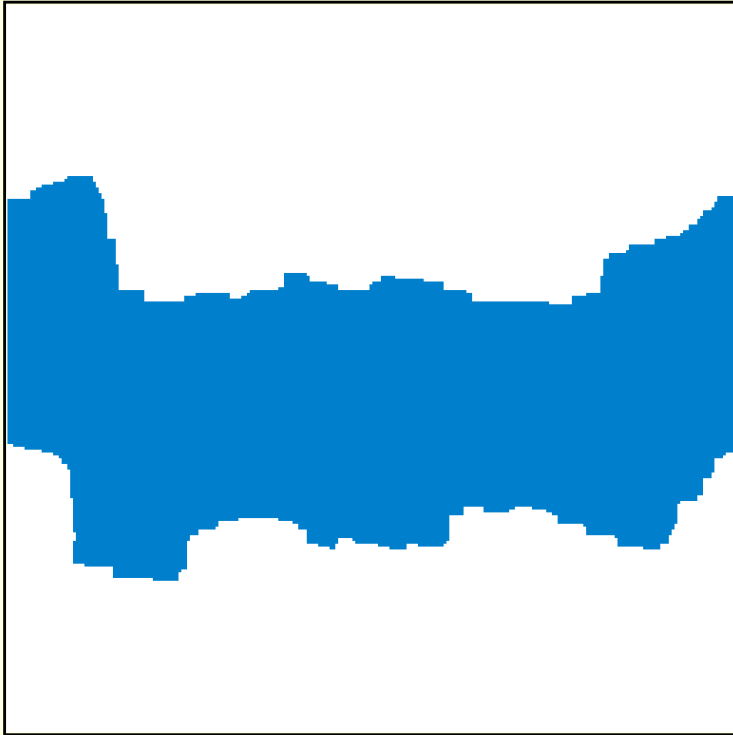
Through extreme value statistics one can estimate the **breaking length scale**  $L \sim \exp[(1/\delta)^2]$

[the finite length scale  $L$  at which breaking of phase coexistence takes place]

strength of disorder  $\delta = \Delta/J$

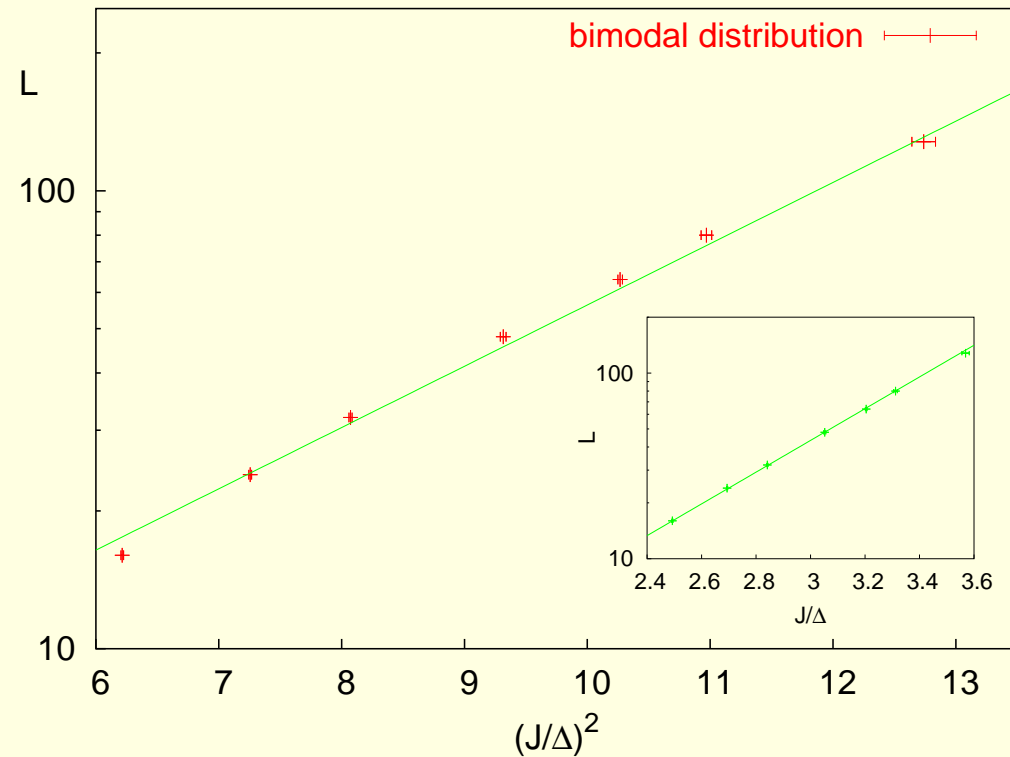
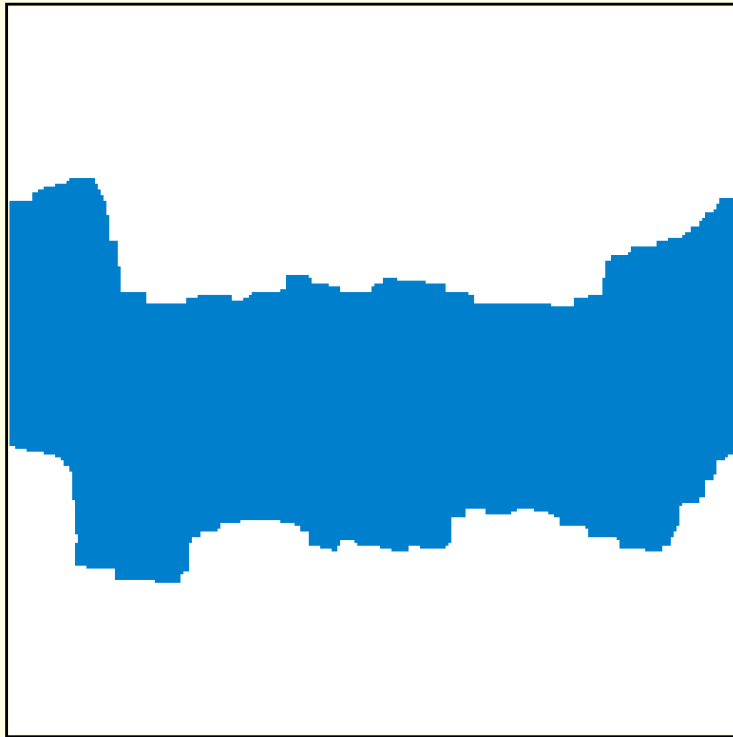
Through extreme value statistics one can estimate the **breaking length scale**  $L \sim \exp[(1/\delta)^2]$

[the finite length scale  $L$  at which breaking of phase coexistence takes place]



strength of disorder  $\delta = \Delta/J$

Through extreme value statistics one can estimate the **breaking length scale**  $L \sim \exp[(1/\delta)^2]$   
 [the finite length scale  $L$  at which breaking of phase coexistence take place]

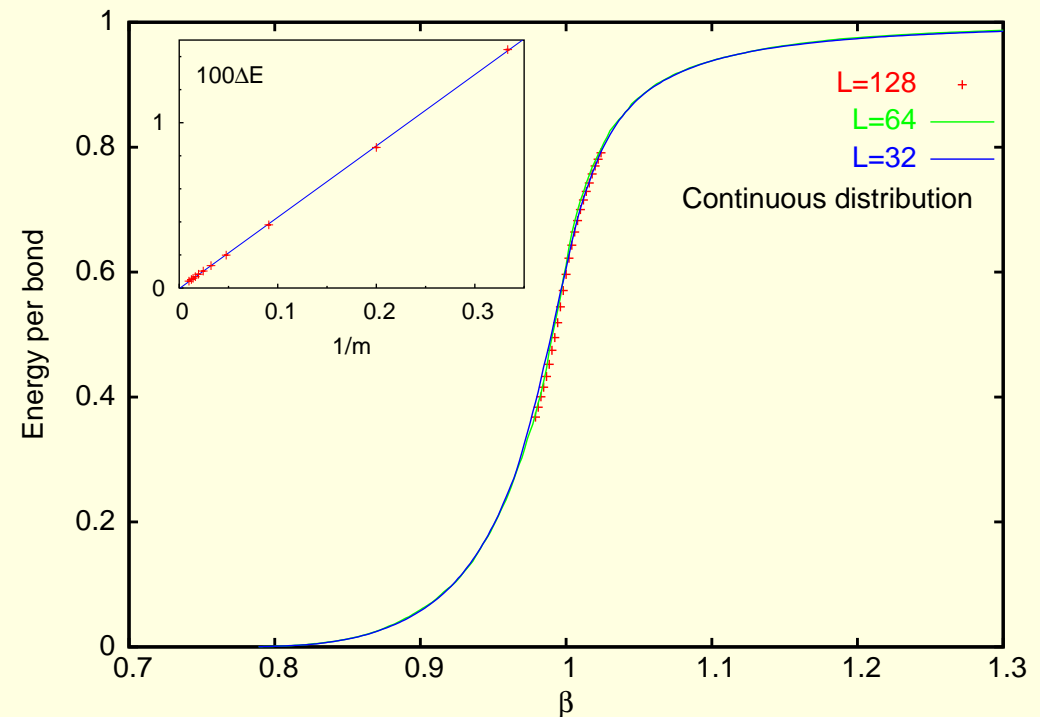
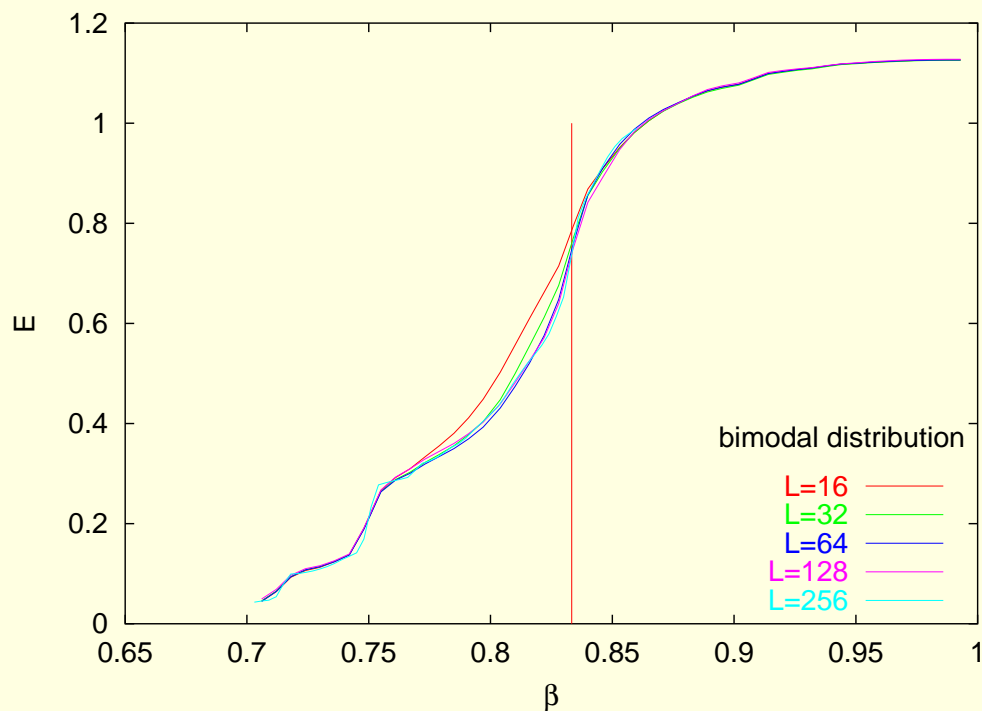


strength of disorder  $\delta = \Delta/J$

Free Energy:  $F = c(G^*)T - \sum_{ij \in G^*} J_{ij}$

Internal Energy:  $E = - \sum_{ij \in G^*} J_{ij}$

- ▣▣▣▣ For a given sample  $E$  is a piecewise constant function of temperature  $\Rightarrow$  it shows discontinuities
- ▣▣▣▣ The average over disorder generally smears out discontinuities
- ▣▣▣▣ The behavior of averaged quantities is different for the discrete and the continuous distributions

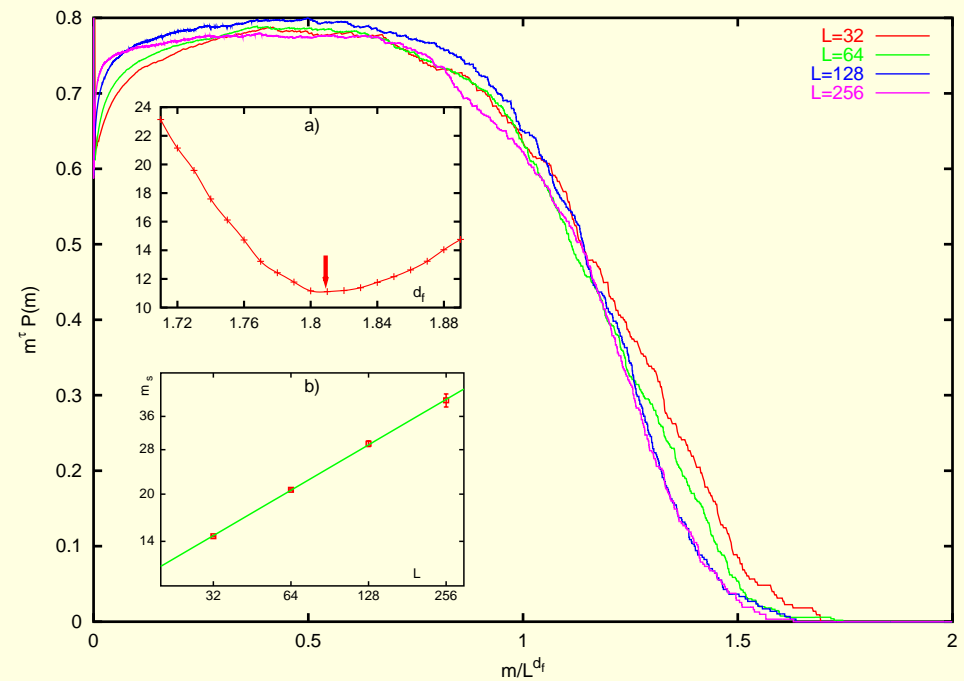
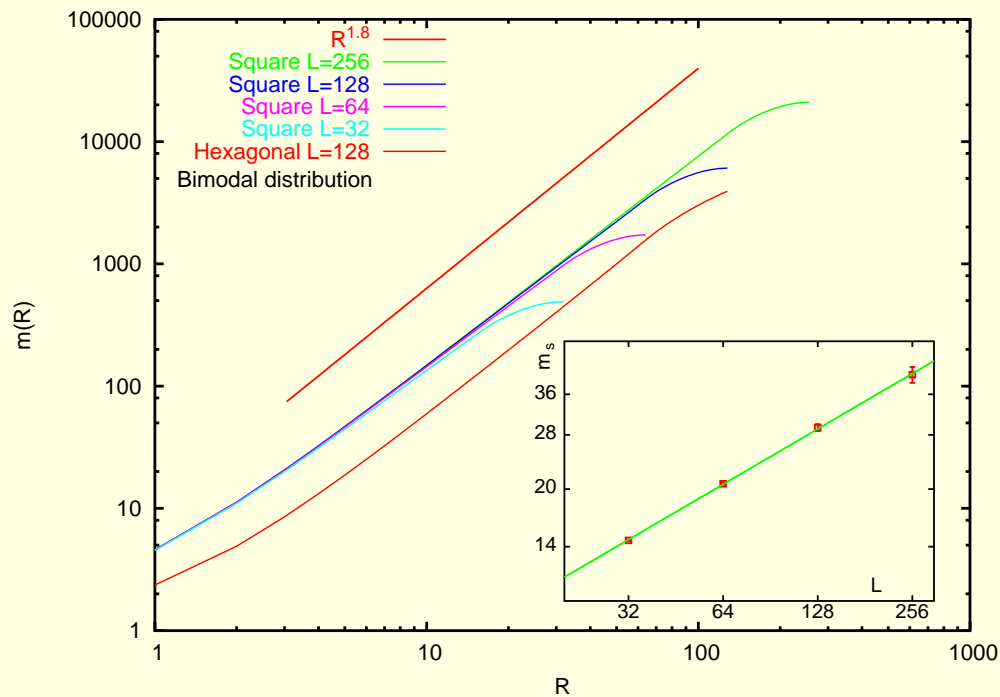


At the critical point the largest cluster of  $G^*$  is a fractal and its mass  $M \sim L^{d_f}$

$$d_f = d - \frac{\beta}{\nu} \quad d_f = \frac{5 + \sqrt{5}}{4}$$

According to scaling theory, cumulative distribution of the mass of the cluster

$$R(M, L) = M^{-\tau} \tilde{R}(M/L^{d_f})$$





# Conclusions

## RESULTS IN 2D

→  $\alpha = 0, \beta = \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{4}, \nu = 1$  as for the RTIM  $\Rightarrow$  **IRFP** !

→ We can argue that the RTIM is the Hamiltonian version of the 2D RBPM in the large- $q$  limit

Ref.: Mercaldo, Anglès d'Auriac, Iglói, PRE **69**, 0461xx (2004);

Anglès d'Auriac, Iglói PRL **90**, 190601 (2003)

# Conclusions

## RESULTS IN 2D

→  $\alpha = 0, \beta = \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{4}, \nu = 1$  as for the RTIM  $\Rightarrow$  **IRFP** !

→ We can argue that the RTIM is the Hamiltonian version of the 2D RBPM in the large- $q$  limit

Ref.: Mercaldo, Anglès d'Auriac, Iglói, PRE **69**, 0461xx (2004);

Anglès d'Auriac, Iglói PRL **90**, 190601 (2003)

## QUESTIONS IN 3D

→ is the transition line  $T_c/d = 1$  for  $\delta \ll 1$  ?

→ is  $\delta = 1/2$  the tricritical point ?

→ does the critical line depend on the disorder distribution ?

Ref.: Anglès d'Auriac, Iglói, Mercaldo work in progress

# Conclusions

## RESULTS IN 2D

→  $\alpha = 0, \beta = \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{4}, \nu = 1$  as for the RTIM  $\Rightarrow$  **IRFP** !

→ We can argue that the RTIM is the Hamiltonian version of the 2D RBPM in the large- $q$  limit

Ref.: Mercaldo, Anglès d'Auriac, Iglói, PRE **69**, 0461xx (2004);

Anglès d'Auriac, Iglói PRL **90**, 190601 (2003)

## QUESTIONS IN 3D

→ is the transition line  $T_c/d = 1$  for  $\delta \ll 1$  ?

→ is  $\delta = 1/2$  the tricritical point ?

→ does the critical line depend on the disorder distribution ?

Ref.: Anglès d'Auriac, Iglói, Mercaldo work in progress

## RELATED PROBLEM

→ Critical Properties of Quantum Potts model

Ref.: Mercaldo, De Cesare, work in progress