# The hard-core model in discrete 2D

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This is a joint work with Alexander Mazel and Yuri Suhov

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## Dense disk-packing in a popular culture



Dense disk-packing on unit lattices: (a) triangular, (B) square



#### Dense disk-packing on triangular lattice



Fragments of the dense-packed configurations for  $D = \sqrt{3}$ , D = 2 and  $D = \sqrt{7}$ ; the latter case is represented by two configurations obtained from each other by a reflection (about any of the 3 directions constituting  $\mathbb{L}$ ).

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Inscribed/inclined triangular/hexagonal arrangement depending on the value of D.

### Dense disk-packing on square lattice



D = 2

Lattice and non-lattice: all have the same particle density 1/4.

Dense disk-packing on square lattice

First surprises: the disks do not want to touch each other (at least, partially). And they do not want to form squares (for  $D^2 \ge 20$ ).





 $D = 5, \sqrt{32}$ 

The object of investigation: the hard-core model

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The impact of the model spread out to many areas: theoretical and mathematical physics, dynamical systems, computer science, network theory, social sciences, etc. The hard-core model

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## (a)

Let  $\mathbb{W} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be a countable set. We say that a configuration  $\phi \in \{0,1\}^{\mathbb{W}}$  is *D*-admissible if  $\rho(x, y) \ge D \forall$  pairs of 'occupied' points  $x, y \in \mathbb{W}$  with  $\phi(x) = \phi(y) = 1$ . The set of *D*-admissible configurations is denoted by  $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(\mathbb{W}, D)$ . The notion of a *D*-admissible configuration can be given  $\forall$  finite set  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ .

Concatenated configurations, W: a triangular lattice

D = 5



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Concatenated configurations, W: a triangular lattice



## The hard-core model

## (b)

Let  $V \subset \mathbb{W}$  be a finite set, and  $\phi \in \mathcal{A}$  be a *D*-admissible configuration. We say that a finite configuration  $\psi^V \in \{0, 1\}^V$  is **compatible** with  $\phi$  if the concatenated configuration  $\psi^V \lor (\phi \upharpoonright_{\mathbb{W} \setminus V}) \in \mathcal{A}$ . Given u > 0, consider a probability measure  $\mu_{V \mid \mathbb{W}}(\cdot \parallel \phi)$  on  $\{0, 1\}^V$ 

given by

$$\mu_{V|\mathbb{W}}(\psi^{V} \| \phi) = \begin{cases} \frac{u^{\sharp(\psi^{V})}}{Z(V|\mathbb{W};\phi)}, & \text{if } \psi^{V} \text{ and } \phi \text{ are compatible,} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(i)  $\sharp(\psi^V)$  is the number of occupied sites in  $\psi^V$ ,

(ii)  $Z(V|W;\phi) = \sum_{\psi^{V} \in \{0,1\}^{V}} u^{\sharp(\psi^{V})} 1(\psi^{V} \text{ compatible with } \phi)$ the partition function in V with the Boundary condition  $\phi$ .

### The hard-core model

## (c)

A probability measure  $\mu$  on  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{W}}$  is called a *D*-hard-core **Gibbs/DLR-measure** on  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{W}}$  if  $\forall$  finite  $V \subset \mathbb{W}$  and a function  $f : \phi \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{W}} \mapsto f(\phi) \in \mathbb{C}$  depending only on the restriction  $\phi \upharpoonright_V$ , the integral  $\mu(f) = \int_{\{0,1\}^{\mathbb{W}}} f(\phi) d\mu(\phi)$  has the form

$$\mu(f) = \int_{\{0,1\}^{\mathbb{W}}} \int_{\{0,1\}^{V}} f(\psi^{V} \lor \phi \upharpoonright_{\mathbb{W} \setminus V}) \mathrm{d}\mu_{V \mid \mathbb{W}}(\psi^{V} \| \phi) \mathrm{d}\mu(\phi).$$

It means that under  $\mu$ , the probability of a configuration in a finite subset  $V \subset \mathbb{W}$  conditional on a configuration  $\phi \upharpoonright_{\mathbb{W}\setminus V}$  coincides with  $\mu_{V|\mathbb{W}}(\psi^V \| \phi)$ , for  $\mu$ -a.a.  $\phi$ .

Hard-core Gibbs measures: uniqueness vs non-uniqueness

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In the latter case it would be interesting to describe extreme GIBBS measures since every GIBBS measure is a mixture of these. We focus upon  $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{A}_2, \mathbb{Z}^2, \mathbb{H}_2$ .



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 $\diamond$  The exclusion diameter D is measured in the Euclidean metric  $\rho$ 

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- Heilmann & Praestgaard (1973): non-uniqueness for large u, for a large collection of values of D.
- Baxter (1980): The critical value for  $D = \sqrt{3}$  is  $u_{\rm cr} = \frac{1}{2}(11 + 5\sqrt{5}).$

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• As was said, we are interested in the extreme GIBBS/DLR measures  $\mu$  which cannot be written as a non-trivial convex linear combination  $\alpha\mu_1 + (1 - \alpha)\mu_2$  of GIBBS measures  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$ . Pirogov, Sinai, Zahradnik

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*periodic extreme Gibbs measures* are generated by **dominant periodic ground states**, with the help of a **Peierls bound** and **polymer expansion**.



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## **Pirogov-Sinai theory:**

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- (II) A Peierls bound: a bound for the probability for a deviation from the periodic ground states in a Gibbs measure.

Dobrushin-Shlosman: in 2D, non-periodic ground states do not generate extreme Gibbs measures.

(Periodic) Ground States

A ground state: a *D*-admissible configuration  $\varphi$  on the lattice which cannot be improved locally: for any *D*-admissible configuration  $\psi$  that differs from  $\varphi$  on a finite set of lattice sites  $\mathbb{V}$ 

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A ground state  $\varphi$  is called **periodic** if there exist linearly independent vectors  $e_1$ ,  $e_2$  such that  $\varphi$  is invariant under lattice shifts  $S_{e_i}$ :

$$S_{\mathbf{e}_i}\varphi=\varphi, \quad i=1,2.$$

 $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{A}_2$ : Periodic ground states = D-sublattices

Any ordered pair of integers (a, b) solving the equation  $D^2 = a^2 + b^2 + ab$  defines a *D*-sublattice in  $\mathbb{A}_2$  containing the origin and the following 6 sites: (a, b); (-b, a + b); (-a - b, a); (-a, -b); (b, -a - b); (a + b, -a) Any ordered pair of integers (a, b) solving the equation  $D^2 = a^2 + b^2 + ab$  defines a *D*-sublattice in  $\mathbb{A}_2$  containing the origin and the following 6 sites: (a, b); (-b, a + b); (-a - b, a); (-a, -b); (b, -a - b); (a + b, -a)

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Each periodic ground state is completely determined by just two occupied sites x, ywith  $\rho(x, y) = D$ . This is a 'rigidity' property of  $\mathbb{A}_2$ ; it simplifies the analysis on  $\mathbb{A}_2$  comparing to  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ .

$$z = a + b\omega \in \mathbb{C}$$
, where  $\omega = -\frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ ,  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

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 $D^{2} = c^{2} + d^{2} + cd = \varepsilon (1 - \omega)^{\alpha} \prod_{i \geq 0} p_{i}^{\beta_{i}} \prod_{j \geq 0} (a_{j} - b_{j}\omega)^{\gamma_{j}} \prod_{k \geq 0} (a_{k} - b_{k}\omega^{2})^{\delta_{k}}$ 

#### Theorem 1

There are  $m \cdot D^2$  periodic ground states, where m = 1 or 2 depending on the Eisenstein prime decomposition of  $D^2$ . There exists  $u^0 \in (1, \infty)$  such that for all  $u \ge u^0$  the following properties hold.

#### A2: Extreme Gibbs measures

#### Theorem 1

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(a) Each of m ⋅ D<sup>2</sup> periodic ground states φ generates an extreme Gibbs/DLR measure μ<sub>φ</sub>. The measures μ<sub>φ</sub> are pair-wise disjoint.

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(b) Any Gibbs/DLR measure μ is a convex linear combination of measures μ<sub>φ</sub>.

We say that an extreme Gibbs/DLR measure  $\mu$  is generated by a periodic ground state  $\varphi$  if  $\mu = w - \lim_{V \neq \mathbb{A}_2} \mu_{V|\mathbb{A}_2}(\cdot ||\varphi).$ 

Physically, it means that  $\mu_{\varphi}$  is supported on configurations that percolate to infinity along  $\varphi$  but **NOT** along any other periodic ground state.





For a general D, not all periodic ground states generate extreme Gibbs measures only the dominant ones.

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#### Theorem 2.

If there exist  $M \ge 1$  dominant types of periodic ground states then, for a large *u*, the number of extreme Gibbs/DLR measures is

$$D^2 \sum_{j=1}^M m_j,$$

where  $m_j \in \{1, 2\}$  is determined by the Eisenstein prime decomposition of  $D^2$ .

 $\mathbb{Z}^2$ : a misleading picture



Periodic vs. non-periodic, lattice vs. non-lattice ground states









# On $\mathbb{Z}^2$ for some values of D there is a phenomenon of sliding, with countably many periodic ground states.

On  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  for some values of *D* there is a phenomenon of *sliding*, with countably many periodic ground states.

Sliding occurs when we can shift a ID array of occupied sites without violating the non-overlapping condition. This generates a characteristic pattern of 'competing' fundamental triangles.  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ : sliding vs. non-sliding,  $D^2=4,5$ 



 $\mathbb{Z}^2$ : sliding for  $D^2 = 8,9$ 



Values of D with sliding

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 $\begin{array}{l} D^2=4,8,9,18,20,29,45,72,80,\overline{106},121,157,160,218,281,392,\\ 521,698,821,1042,1325,1348,1517,1565,2005,2792,3034,3709,\\ 4453,4756,6865,11449,12740,13225,15488,22784,29890,37970. \end{array}$ 

Krachun (2019): proved that the number of sliding instances is finite.

i We expect that sliding leads to uniqueness of a Gibbs/DLR measure for large enough u.

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miminize the area of a  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ -lattice triangle with angles  $\alpha_1 \ge \alpha_2 \ge \alpha_3$  and side-lengths  $\ell_0 \ge \ell_1 \ge \ell_2$ , subject to the restrictions that  $\alpha_1 \le \pi/2$  and  $\ell_2 \ge D$ .

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For  $D \ge \sqrt{20}$ , it is a *D*-min-area sublattice, not a square arrangement, which determines a periodic ground state for a given *D* on  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ .

Values D with uniqueness

 $\checkmark$  The D-Min-area sub-lattices are obtained from each other via rotations by  $\pm \pi/2$  and reflections about the axes.

✓ This defines an equivalence class of sub-lattices with a given triple  $(\ell_0, \ell_1, \ell_2)$ . We say we have uniqueness in (\*) if the equivalence class is unique. It may contain a single sublattice (m = 1) or two sublattices (m = 2) or four (m = 4). Values D with non-uniqueness

The non-uniqueness in (\*) has a two-fold character:

(i) There may be more than one triple  $(\ell_0, \ell_1, \ell_2)$  solving (\*). We found one attainable D with 5 different triples.
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Uniqueness and Both non-uniqueness forms have infinite occurrences of D.



- Frame (A):  $D^2 = 425$ , (S = 375). The optimal squared side lengths are 425, 425, 450, with two non-equivalent  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  implementations.
- Frame (B):  $D^2 = 65$ , (S = 60). The optimal squared side-lengths are 65, 65, 80 (Blue) and 68, 68, 72 (Black); Both triangles admit a unique implementation up to  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ -symmetries.

 $\mathbb{Z}^2$ : Solutions to the optimization problem

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- ✓ It is clear that  $S \le D^2$  but in fact for all Dwith  $20 < D^2 \le 9990017$  we have  $S < D^2$ ; as our computations show, the difference  $D^2 - S$  grows monotonically with D.

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- ✓ Another feature is that side-length  $I_3$  is often > D: we call the value of D with this property non-tessellating.

## $\mathbb{Z}^2$ : A count of periodic ground states.



For  $D^2 = 25$ :  $l_1^2 = 29$ ,  $l_2^2 = 26$ ,  $l_3^2 = 25$ . For  $D^2 = 32$ :  $l_1^2 = 36$ ,  $l_2^2 = l_3^2 = 34$ .

# $\mathbb{Z}^2$ : Extreme Gibbs measures: uniqueness in (\*)

### Theorem 3.

Suppose that for a given *D*, the optimization problem (\*) produces a **unique triple**  $(\ell_0, \ell_1, \ell_2)$ , **unique** equivalence class (hence **no sliding**). Then the number of extreme Gibbs measures for *u* large enough matches the number of the periodic ground states: it equals

### тS

#### where

(a) m = 1 if  $D = 1, \sqrt{2}$  (here the fundamental parallelogram is a square),

(b) m = 2 if the fundamental triangle is isosceles,

(c) m = 4 if the fundamental triangle is non-isosceles.

The extreme Gibbs measures are generated by periodic ground states.

 $\mathbb{Z}^2$ : Extreme Gibbs measures: non-uniqueness in (\*)

In General, not all periodic Ground states Generate extreme Gibbs measures only the dominant ones.

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### Theorem 4.

Suppose that *D* is non-sliding and generates non-uniqueness in (\*). If there exist  $M \ge 1$  dominant types of periodic ground states then, for a large *u*, the number of extreme Gibbs/DLR measures is

$$S\sum_{j=1}^{M}m_j,$$

where  $m_j \in \{2, 4\}$  is determined by the shape of the dominant fundamental triangle (isosceles or not).

The queen of Math, again

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The idea is to approximate an equilateral triangle by  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ -triangles. It leads to norm equations in the cyclotomic integer ring  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta]$ , where  $\zeta$  is a primitive l2-th root of unity.

$$t^2=3s^2+r, \ s,t\in\mathbb{Z}.$$

Here r is given positive integer. A famous example is the Pell equation, with r = 1.

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The solutions to the norm equation have to be analyzed both geometrically and algebraically. This leads to infinite sequences of values of D of both types.  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ : Extreme Gibbs measures: non-uniqueness in (\*)

The smallest values of  $D^2$  from Theorem 4 are  $D^2 = 65, 130, 324$ . The analysis of dominance can be done on a case-by-case basis, by counting local excitations where we vacate some occupied sites in a periodic ground state and attempt to insert 'new particles' while maintaining admissibility.

# $\mathbb{Z}^2$ , $D^2 = 130 = 11^2 + 3^2 = 9^2 + 7^2$ : local excitations



 $\mathbb{W}=\mathbb{H}_2$ 







 $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{H}_2, C$ lass I

First we divide the attainable values  $D^2 = a^2 + b^2 + ab$  in to two classes:

**I.**  $3 \mid D^2$ , **II.**  $3 \nmid D^2$ .

In Class I the problem reduces to the case of the triangular lattice  $\mathbb{A}_2$ . It leads to a further division into 3 subclasses based on the same Eisenstein prime decomposition of D. It yields the respective formulas for the number of extreme Gibbs measures

$$rac{2}{3}D^2, \qquad rac{4}{3}D^2, \qquad rac{2}{3}D^2\sum_{j=1}^M m_j, ext{ with } m_j \in \{1,2\}.$$







 $D^2 = 48$  left frame,  $D^2 = 39$  right frame.

 $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{H}_2$ , *C*lass II

Class II admits a further partition.

- There are 13 exceptional values forming a finite subclass:

 $D^2 = 1, 4, 7, 13, 16, 28, 49, 64, 67, 97, 133, 157, 256.$ 

- And there is an infinite subclass containing all remaining Löschian numbers not divisible by 3.

For non-exceptional values D, minimal-area triangles can be found via a discrete optimization problem. However, they do not generate a tiling of  $\mathbb{H}_2$ . Hence, one needs to consider sub-optimal triangles which tessellate  $\mathbb{H}_2$ . The first among them is an equilateral  $D^*$ -triangle, where  $D^* > D$  is the closest value with  $3 \mid D^*$ . Then the formulas for Class I apply with  $D^*$ replacing D.  $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{H}_2$ , Exceptional non-sliding values

Exceptional non-sliding values of D

 $D^2 = 1, 13, 28, 49, 64, 97, 157, 16, 256, 67.$ 

Ground states: involve non-equilateral and equilateral triangles in specific combinations/arrangements.

These values of D require a case-by-case analysis, with the help of a computer. (Informally we call them a ZOO.)

Each ground state generates an extreme Gibbs measure for u large enough. Except for  $D^2 = 67$ : here again we have an issue of dominance, and some periodic ground states are suppressed.

# $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{H}_2$ , Exceptional non-sliding examples



 $D^2 = 13$ 



 $D^2 = 67$ 

 $\mathbb{W} = \mathbb{H}_2$ , Exceptional values: sliding

# Sliding

$$D^2 = 4, 7, 133.$$





 $D^2 = 4$  left frame

 $D^2 = 7$  right frame