

Crystallization in classical  
particle systems

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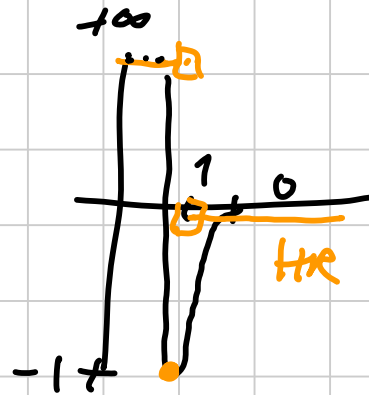
Organizers: Andrea Braides, Adriana Garroni, Annalisa Malusa

- lecture 3 -

# Summary so far on en. min., 2D

$$E(x_1, \dots, x_N) = \sum_{i \neq j} V(x_i - x_j),$$

$V =$  soft HR pot.  
or HR pot.

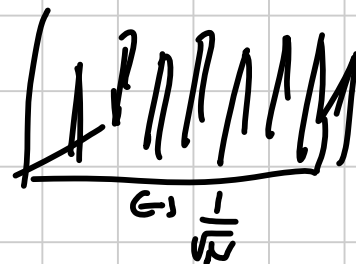


$$E \approx N \cdot e_{\infty} + \int_{\partial \Omega} s/k \dots + l.o.t.$$

$\rightarrow$  governs crystalliz.  
 $\rightarrow$  shape

An Young, GF, Schmidt

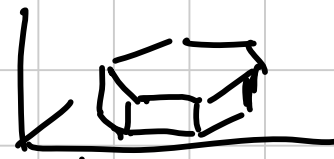
Trace of shape  $M_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{\frac{x_i}{\sqrt{N}}} \xrightarrow{*} CoX_{\Omega}$



Unique explicit shape

(Minimizes) (Minimizes up to  $O(\sqrt{N})$ )

$$M_N \xrightarrow{*} CoX_{\text{regular hexagon}}$$



## Pf of explicit shape

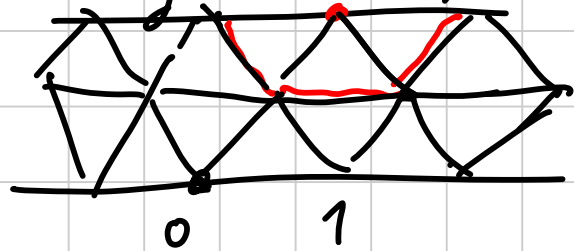
Use

- 1) ground states of finite- $N$  HR model have "global rigidity"
- 2)  $\Gamma$ -conv. result yielding a suf. en. (based on Alejandro Braides Cicala 2006)
- 3) Unique min. of  $\Gamma$ -limit (Taylor; Fonseca/S. Müller)

1) Theorem (Heitmann, Radin 1981)

$\mathcal{S} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  minimizer of 2D HR model

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  subset of  $\mathbb{R}L + a$ ,  $R \in SO(2)$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $L = \text{triang. lattice}$



$L = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \sqrt{3}/2 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$  triang. latt.

Pf idea  $\mathcal{S} = \text{general } N\text{-particle config.}$

$N(x) = \{y \in \mathcal{S} : |y-x|=1\}$  n. nbrs of  $x$

$\partial \mathcal{S} = \{x \in \mathcal{S} ; \#N(x) < 6\}$

Key lemma  $\mathcal{S}$  minimizer of  $E_N = N\text{-particle en.}$

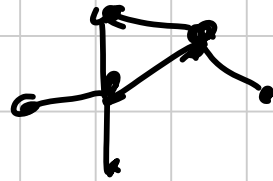
$\Rightarrow \mathcal{S} \mid \partial \mathcal{S} \dashv \dashv E_N - \# \partial \mathcal{S}$

Key tool

$$d = \sum_{x \in \partial \mathcal{S}} \#N(x)$$

More geometric interpretation (work in progress, GF + Lucia de Luca)

Configs in  $\text{TR} \rightsquigarrow$  graph  $\rightsquigarrow$  metric  $\rightsquigarrow$  curvature (many notions)



(edges  $\Leftrightarrow$  distance 1)

$d(x, y) =$   
min. # of edges  
from  $x$  to  $y$ )

$$N(x) = S^1(x)$$

Euler curvature:  $K(x) = 6 - \# \text{edges in } S^1(x)$

$$[ K(x) = 6 - \# S^1(x) \quad \text{Knill..} ]$$

$$[ K(x) = 2\# S^1(x) - \# S^2(x) \quad \text{---//---...} ]$$

$K(x) = 0$  if  $x$  interior pt in triang. latt,

$$\sum_{\mathcal{L}} K(x) = \int_{\partial \mathcal{L}} K(x) = 3|\partial \mathcal{L}| + 6 \quad \text{for nice subsets of } \mathcal{L}$$

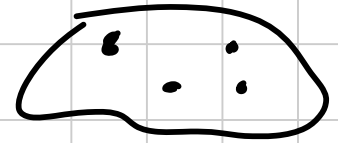
$$\Rightarrow \sum_{\mathcal{L}} K(x) - 3|\partial \mathcal{L}| = 6 \quad \text{---//---}$$

Philosophy: view defects as sources of discrete curvature

Inspiration: Geronzi *Levi-Pastigi* Min  $\int \mathbb{C} \beta \cdot \beta$  s.t.  $\text{curl } \beta = \sum \delta_{x_i}$   
 in mesoscopic plasticity models

(Müller, Peppin, Gardia

..  $\text{dist}^2(\beta, \text{SO}(2)) \dots$



2) Gamma-limit

$$I_N(\mu) = \begin{cases} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}^2} \text{diag.} \\ +\infty \text{ else} \end{cases}$$

$$NV(N^{1/2} |x-y|) dx(x) dy(y),$$

$$\mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{\frac{x_i}{N}}$$

$$I_N(\mu) = \mathbb{E}(x_1, \dots, x_N)$$

$$x_i \in \mathcal{L}$$

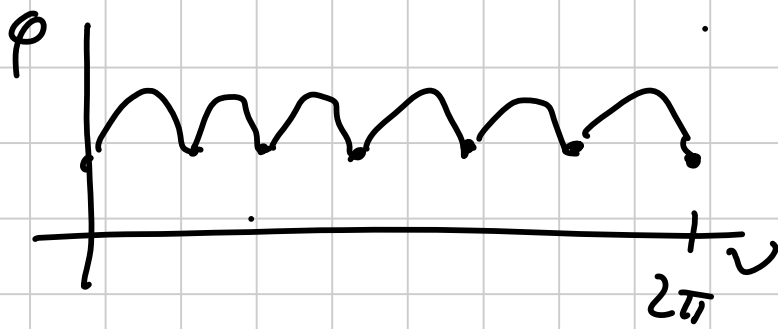
Then (An Young, GF, Schmidt)

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} (I_N - N e_\infty)$$

$\xrightarrow{\Gamma}$   
 weak conv.  
 of  $\mu$

$$\begin{cases} \int_{\mathcal{X}_E} \phi(v_E) d\mathbb{H}^1, \mu = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \chi_E \\ +\infty \text{ else} \end{cases}$$

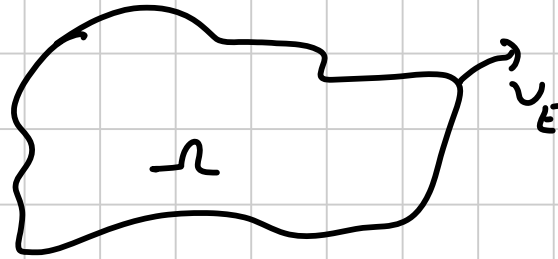
$E$  finite per.  
 $\int \mu = 1$



$$\varphi(\nu) = 2\left(\nu_2 - \frac{\nu_1}{\sqrt{5}}\right),$$

$$\nu = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin\theta \\ \cos\theta \end{pmatrix}, \theta \in [0, \frac{2\pi}{6}],$$

nr.



Wulff-Herring-Gibbs em.

3) Minimize unique, given by "Wulff construction".

$$E = \lambda \cdot \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x \cdot n \leq \varphi(n) \quad \forall n \in S^1 \right\}$$

Taylor; Fonseca/Müller.

# Quasicrystals.

Recall  $\mathcal{L}$  Bravais lattice in  $\mathbb{R}^d \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{L} = A\mathbb{Z}^d$ ,  $A \in M^{d \times d}$ , invertible

Fourier transform  $\hat{\rho}(\xi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-i\xi \cdot x} \rho(x) dx$

$$\rho \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^d) \quad \langle \hat{\rho}, \varphi \rangle_{\mathcal{S}'_0, \mathcal{S}} := \langle \rho, \hat{\varphi} \rangle \quad \forall \varphi \in \mathcal{S}$$

F.T. of empirical meas. of a Bravais lattice is well defined

$$\rho = \sum_{a \in \mathcal{L}} \delta_a =: \delta_{\mathcal{L}}$$

F.T. is in fact again the empir. meas. of a Br. lattice !!!

$$\hat{\delta}_{\mathcal{L}} = \frac{(2\pi)^d}{|\det A|} \delta_{\mathcal{L}'}, \quad \mathcal{L}' \text{ reciprocal lattice}$$

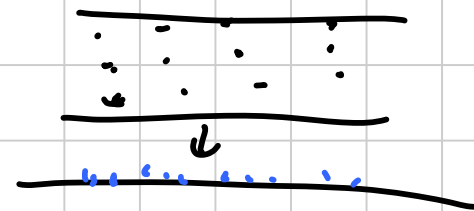
$$\mathcal{L}' = \{ \xi \in \mathbb{R}^d : \xi \cdot a \in 2\pi\mathbb{Z} \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{L} \} = (2\pi) A^{-T} \mathbb{Z}^d$$

$$\mathcal{L}'' = \mathcal{L}$$

Def. A topologically discrete subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is called a quasicrystal if  $\hat{\sigma}_S$  is a countable sum of Dirac masses with coefficients,  $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_j \delta_{R_j}$ , &  $S$  is not periodic.

Q: Classify quasicrystals.

Ex's: Penrose tilings; cut & project

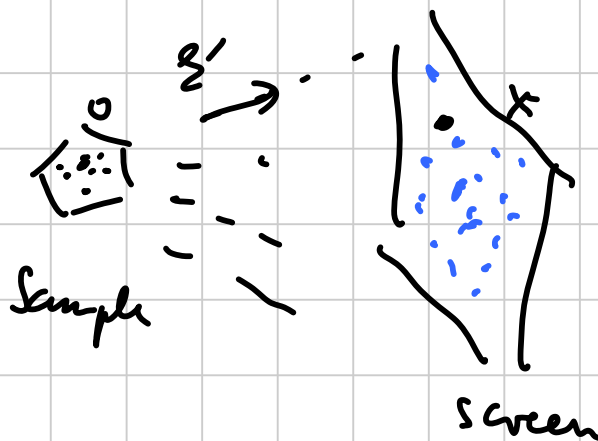


Q: Find simple model on sites, GS is quasicrystalline.

Why Fourier tf?

A: Because it governs X-ray diffraction patterns

neutron  
X-ray  
neutron



$I(k)$  intensity  
of diffracted radiation



$$\bar{I}(x) = \frac{\text{const}}{|x|^2} n'(x) \hat{g} (g'(x) - g_0)^2$$

$$n'(x) = P_{g'(x)^\perp} n, \quad g'(x) = |g_0| \frac{x}{|x|}$$

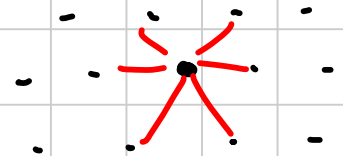
GF, James, Juestel, arXiv Tue 16.6.2015

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3D. HR model in 3D  $E(x_1, \dots, x_N)$

Def. (GF, Anycung, unpublished)

$$\mathcal{E}(\mathcal{S}) = \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{x \in B_R} (E(x, \mathcal{S}) - e_\infty)$$



$$E(A, B) = \sum_{x \in A} \sum_{y \in B} V(|x-y|)$$

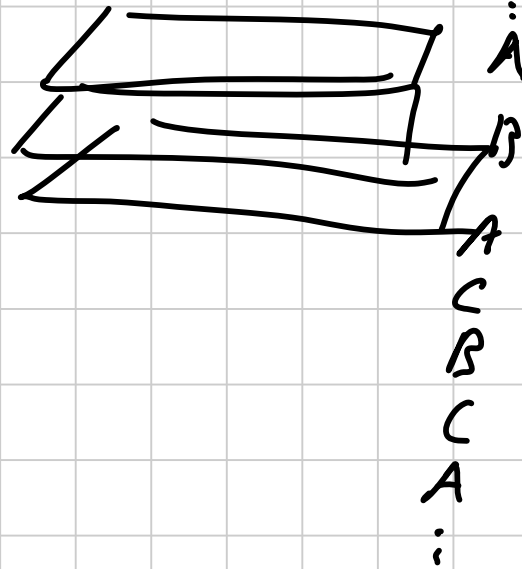
$$e_\infty = \text{missing no.} = \begin{cases} 6 & 2D \\ 12 & 3D \end{cases}$$

Fact: Unique min. of  $\mathcal{E}$  in 2D is the triang. lattice.

Conj.:

3D: any stacking seq. of triang. lattice

without rigidities



3D vs 2D: no rigidity of 12 nbrs of a pt  
open set

