

Large deviations, metastability, and effective interactions

Robert Jack (University of Bath)

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Thanks to:

Peter Sollich (Kings College London)

Juan Garrahan (Nottingham) and David Chandler (Berkeley)

Fred van Wijland, Vivien Lecomte (Paris-Diderot)

Ian Thompson (Bath) and Yael Elmatad (Tapad)

General idea

Consider a stochastic system evolving in time

Focus on large deviations of time-averaged quantities.

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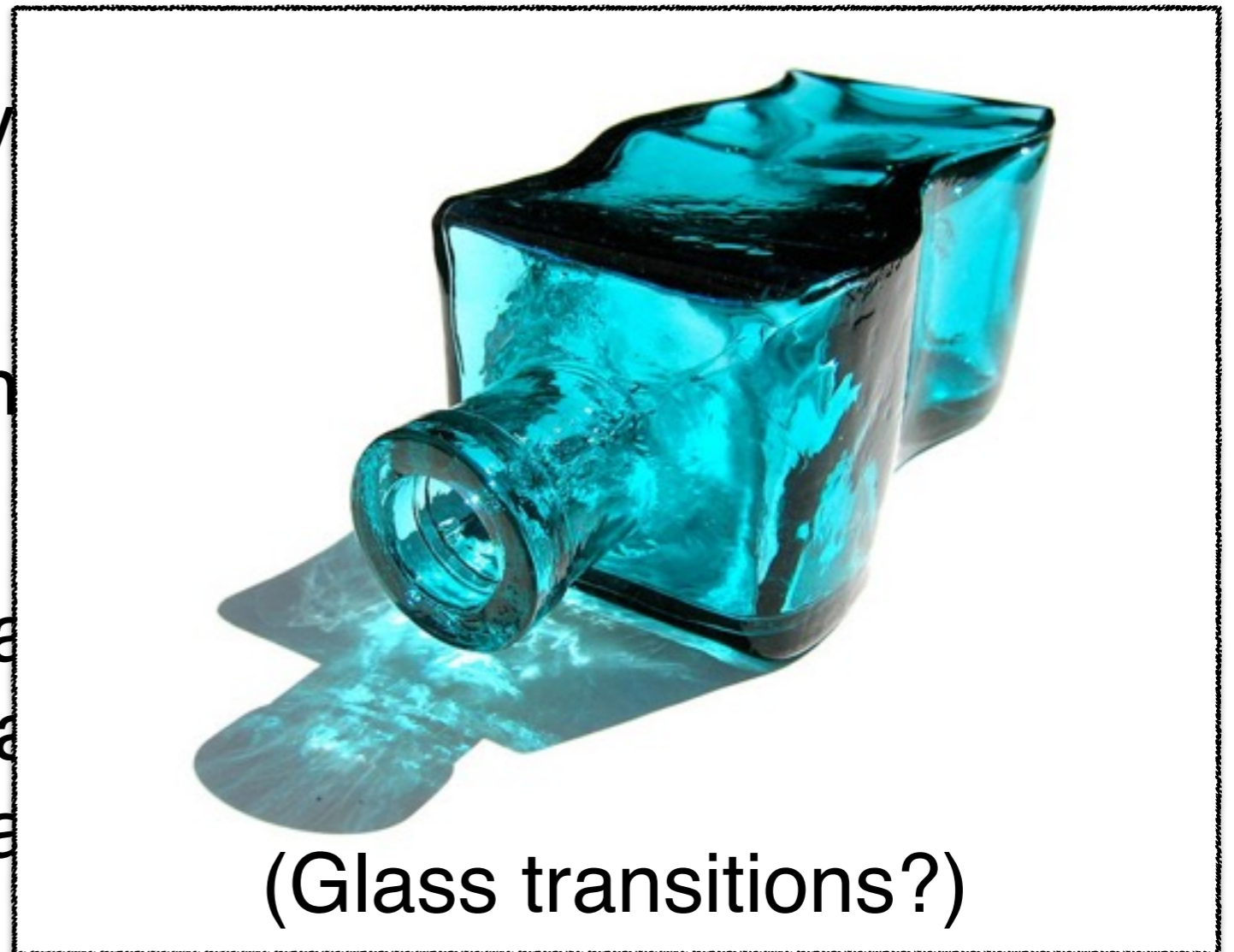
Approach today: what can we say about the “effective interactions” that stabilise this rare structure? (cf “driven processes” *a la* Touchette-Chetrite)

General idea

Consider a stochastic system

Focus on large deviations

What kinds of structure arise
when we condition on (rare)
typical steady state behavior



Approach today: what can we say about the
“effective interactions” that stabilise this rare structure?
(cf “driven processes” *a la* Touchette-Chetrite)

Setup

Markov jump process with finite set of configurations $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2, \dots$
(Examples: symmetric simple exclusion process, $1d$ Ising model)

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Conditioned set of trajectories can be described* by “auxiliary” (driven) process with “effective interactions”
(* Terms and conditions apply)

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Write

$$\partial_t p^{\mathcal{C}}(t) = \mathbb{W}_0 p^{\mathcal{C}}(t)$$

(\mathbb{W}_0 is the (forward) generator)

($p^{\mathcal{C}}$ is a discrete probability distribution over \mathcal{C})

Large deviations...

[Lebowitz-Spohn, Bodineau-Derrida, Lecomte-van Wijland, etc]

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Finally end up with

$$\partial_t p^{\mathcal{C}}(s, t) = \mathbb{W}(s) p^{\mathcal{C}}(s, t)$$

... and $\mathbb{W}(s)$ typically has a simple representation

Auxiliary process

[following RLJ-Sollich 2010]

$$\partial_t p^c(s, t) = \mathbb{W}(s) p^c(s, t)$$

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Define $\mathbb{W}^{\text{aux}} = u^{-1}\mathbb{W}(s)u - \psi(s)$

with

$\psi(s)$: largest eigenvalue of $\mathbb{W}(s)$

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Then \mathbb{W}^{aux} is the (transposed) generator for the auxiliary process [for conditioning $K/t_{\text{obs}} \approx -\psi'(s)$]

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[?? can we do this on infinite lattices ?? see later]

Effective interactions

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Some interesting cases:

1. Exclusion processes (SSEP and ASEP)
2. East model
3. 1d Ising model
4. Model sheared systems

Exclusion processes

Particles on periodic $1d$ lattice, at most one per site, attempt to hop right (or left) with rate $1 + a_0$ (or $1 - a_0$).

Joint conditioning on activity (bias s) and current (bias h)

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$$\mathbb{W}(s, h) = \sum_i e^{-s+h} (1+a_0) \sigma_i^- \sigma_{i+1}^+ + e^{-s-h} (1-a_0) \sigma_i^+ \sigma_{i+1}^- - 2n_i(1 - n_i)$$

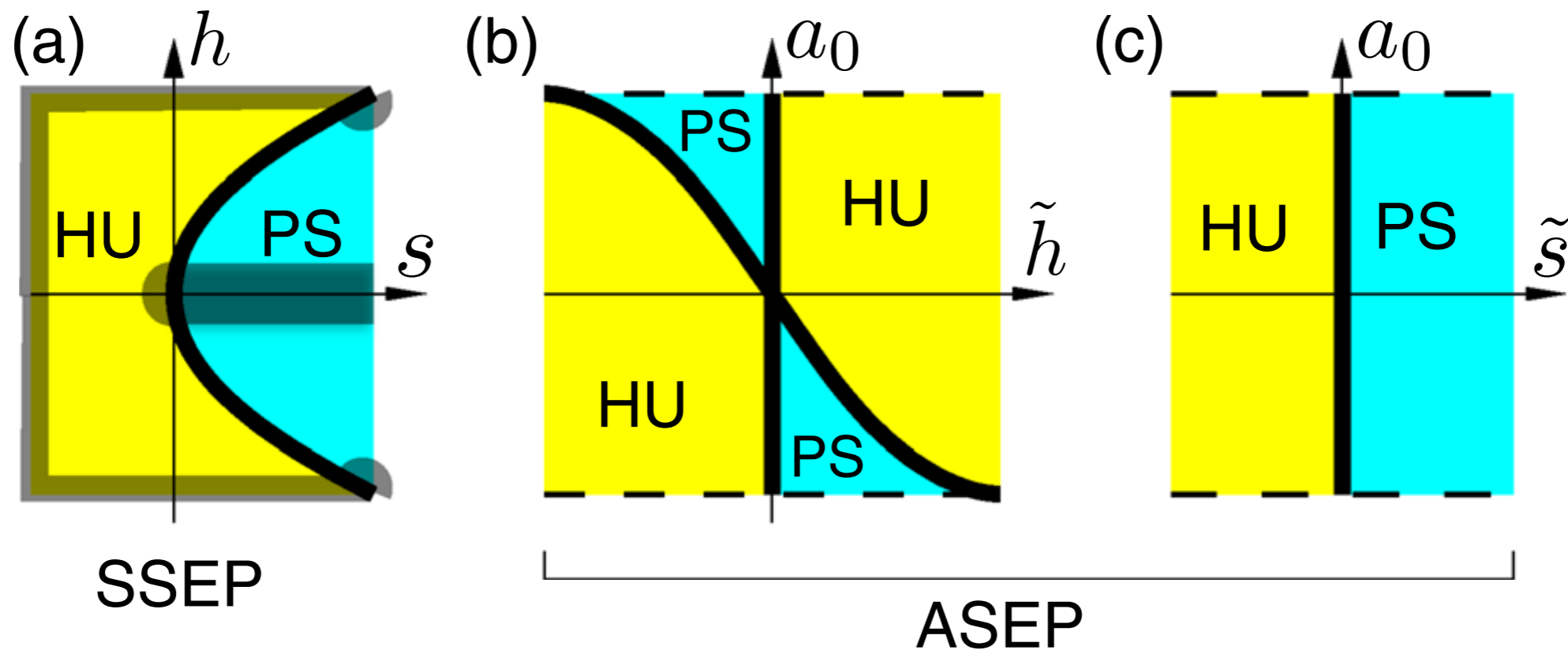
$$n_i = \sigma_i^+ \sigma_i^-$$

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[RLJ, Thompson, Sollich, PRL **114**, 060601 (2015)]



HU: hyperuniform state

PS: “phase-separated” (inhomogeneous) state

Hyperuniformity

[Torquato and Stillinger, 2003-]

In HU states, the variance of the number of points in a region of volume R^d scales as

$$\langle \delta n(R^d)^2 \rangle \sim R^{d-1}$$

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HU states have strong suppression of large-scale density fluctuations...

... jammed particle packings, biological systems, novel photonic materials, galaxies...

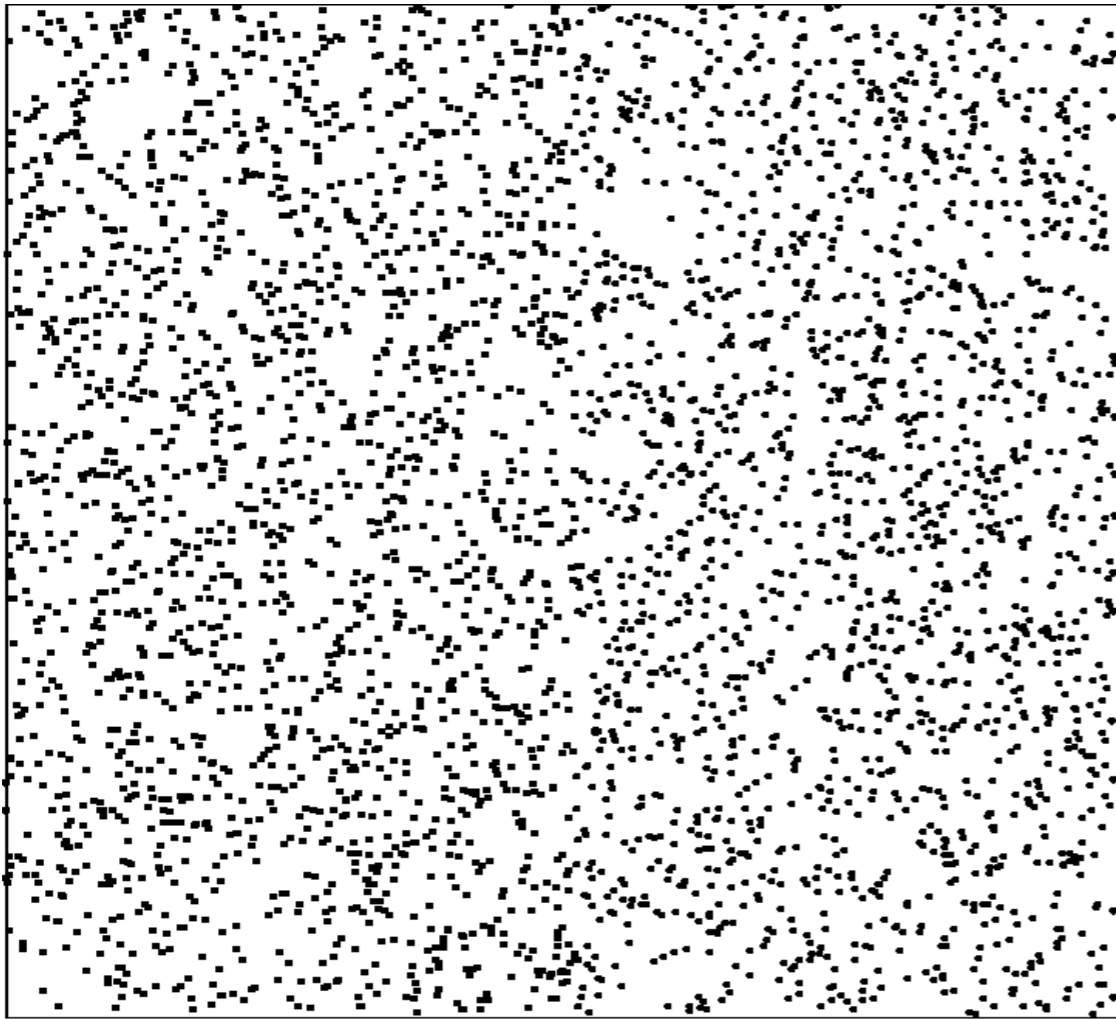
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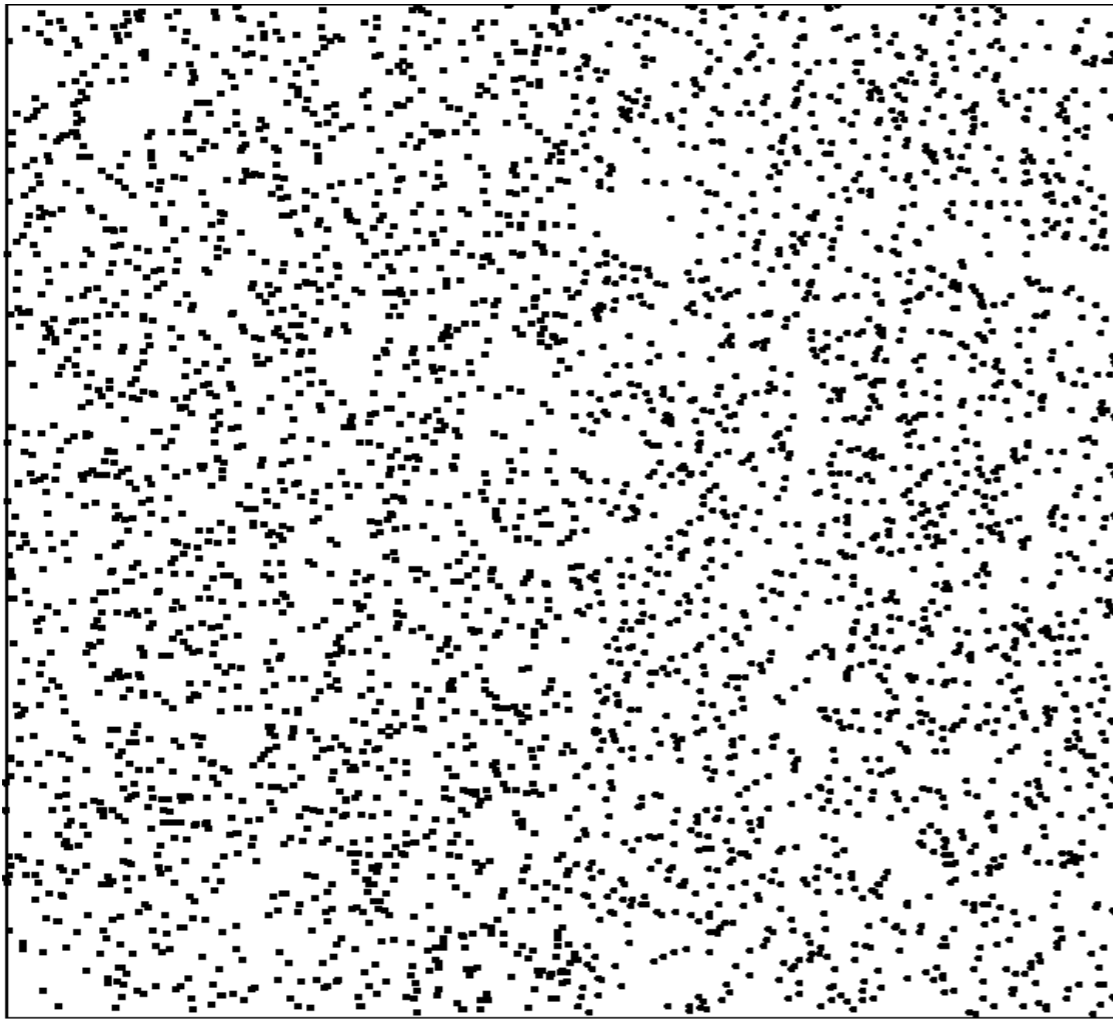
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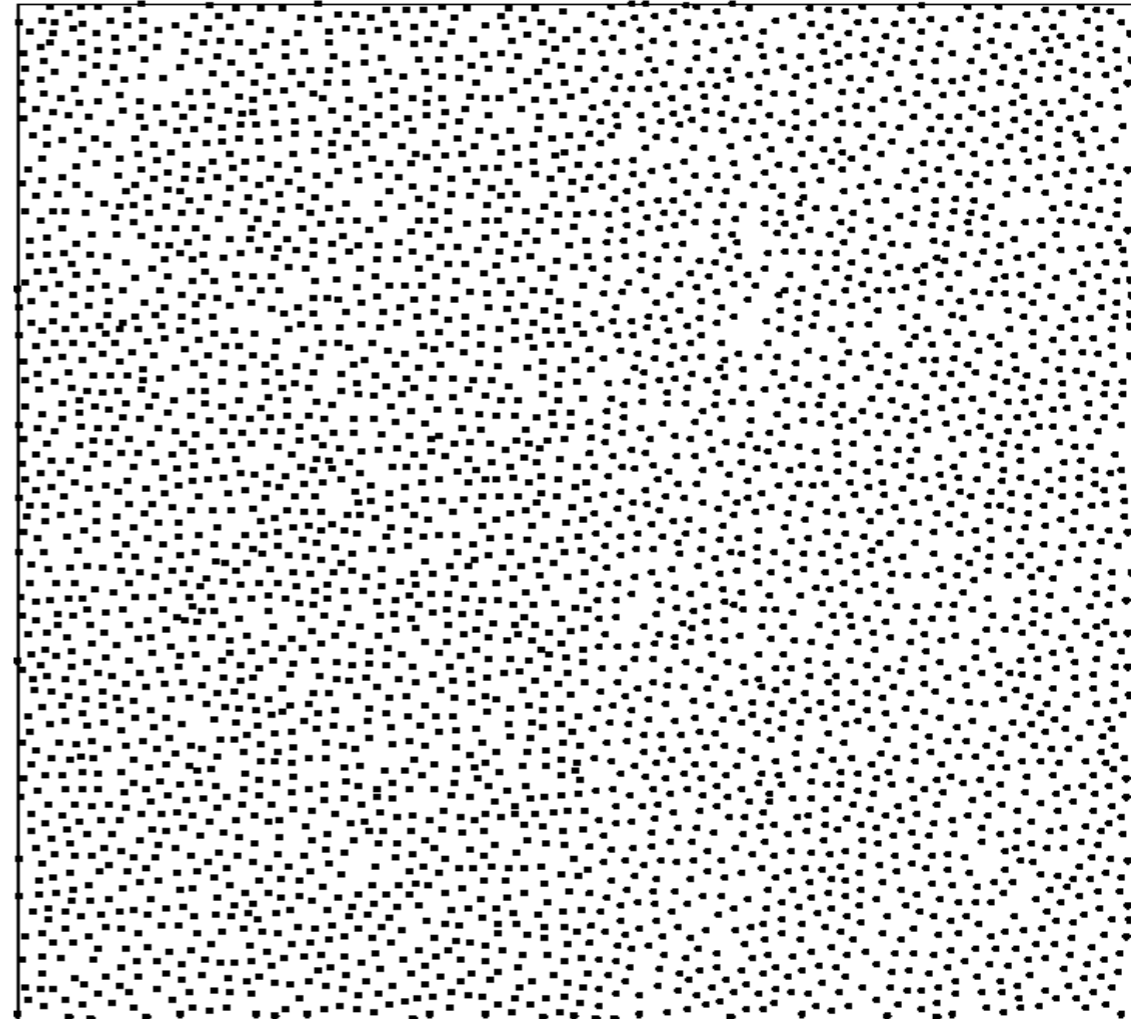
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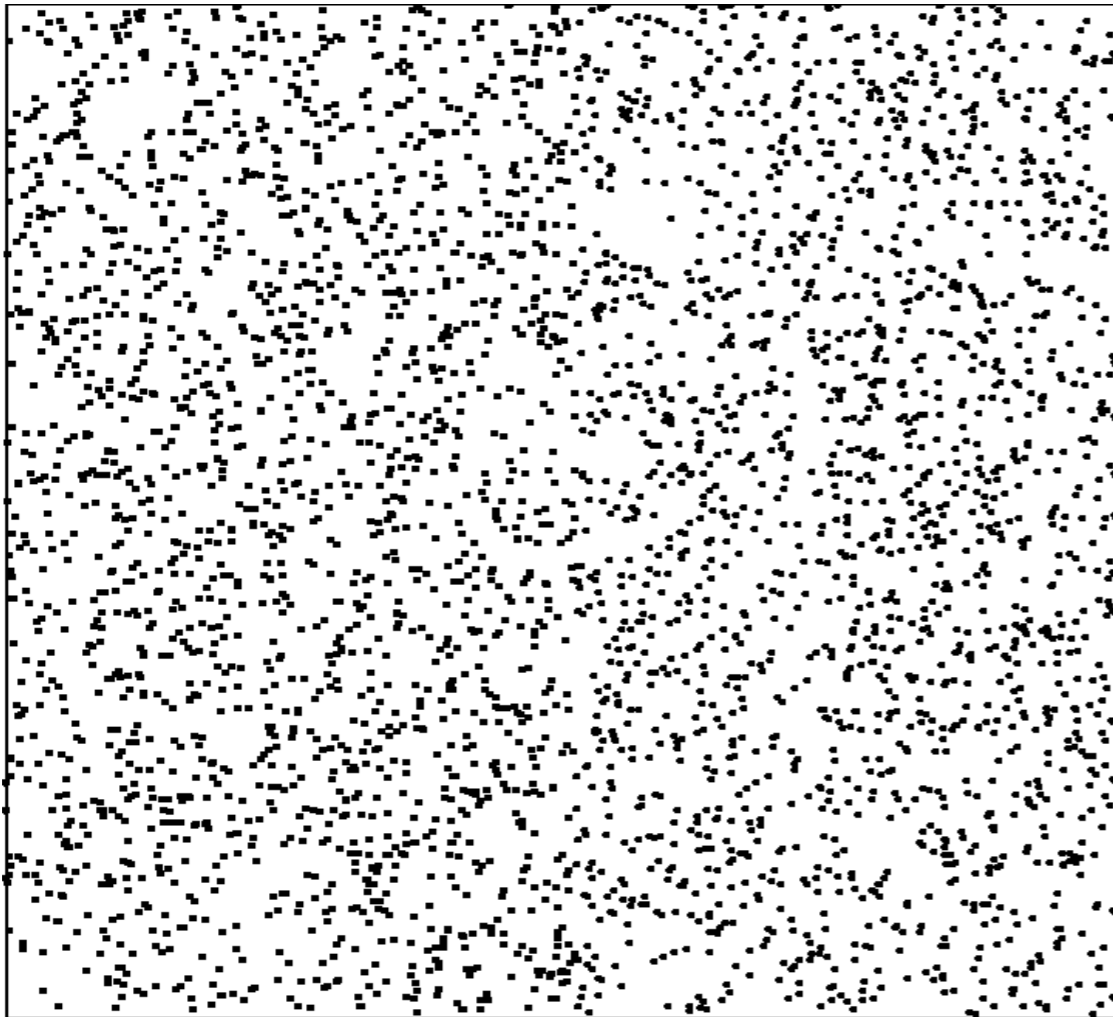


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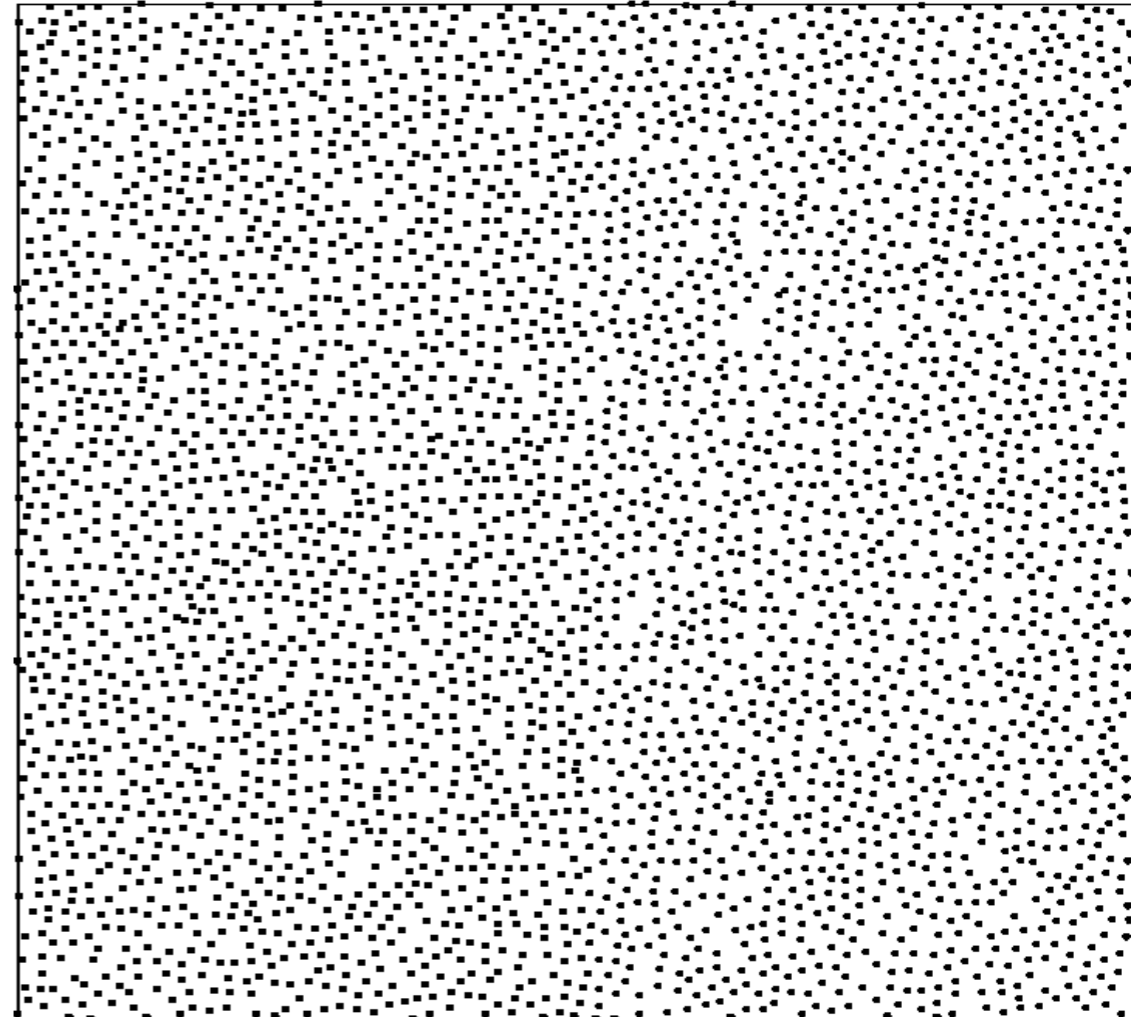


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For extreme bias, can get exact results (Bethe ansatz):

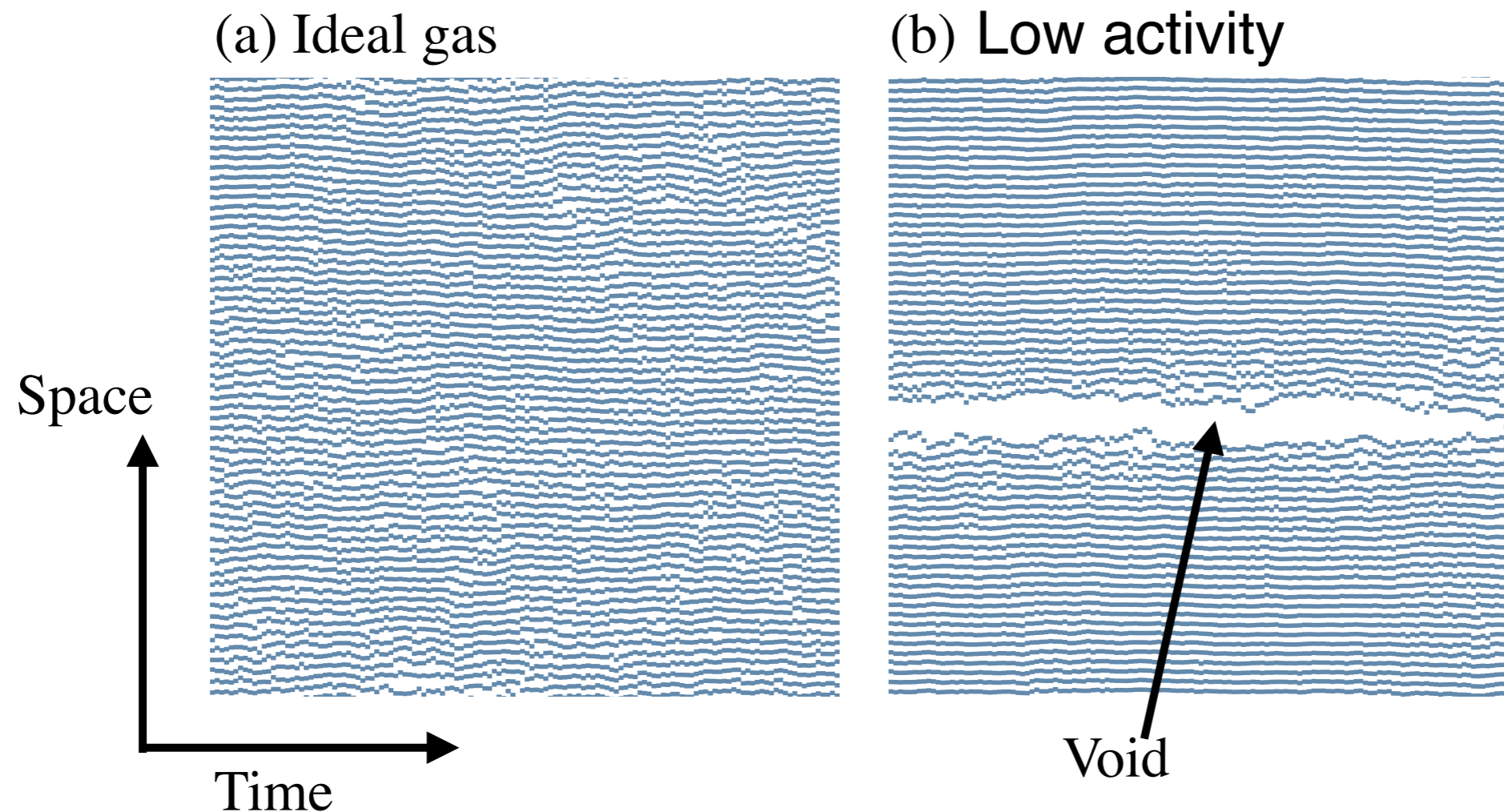
[Schuetz, Simon, Popkov, Lazarescu, 2009-]

Repulsive potential $V(i - j) \sim -\log \sin \frac{\pi(i-j)}{2L}$

That is, particles on a *circle* interact by $(2d)$ Coulomb repulsion

“Phase separation”

Hard particles in 1d evolving with Brownian motion (Langevin), conditioned on low activity

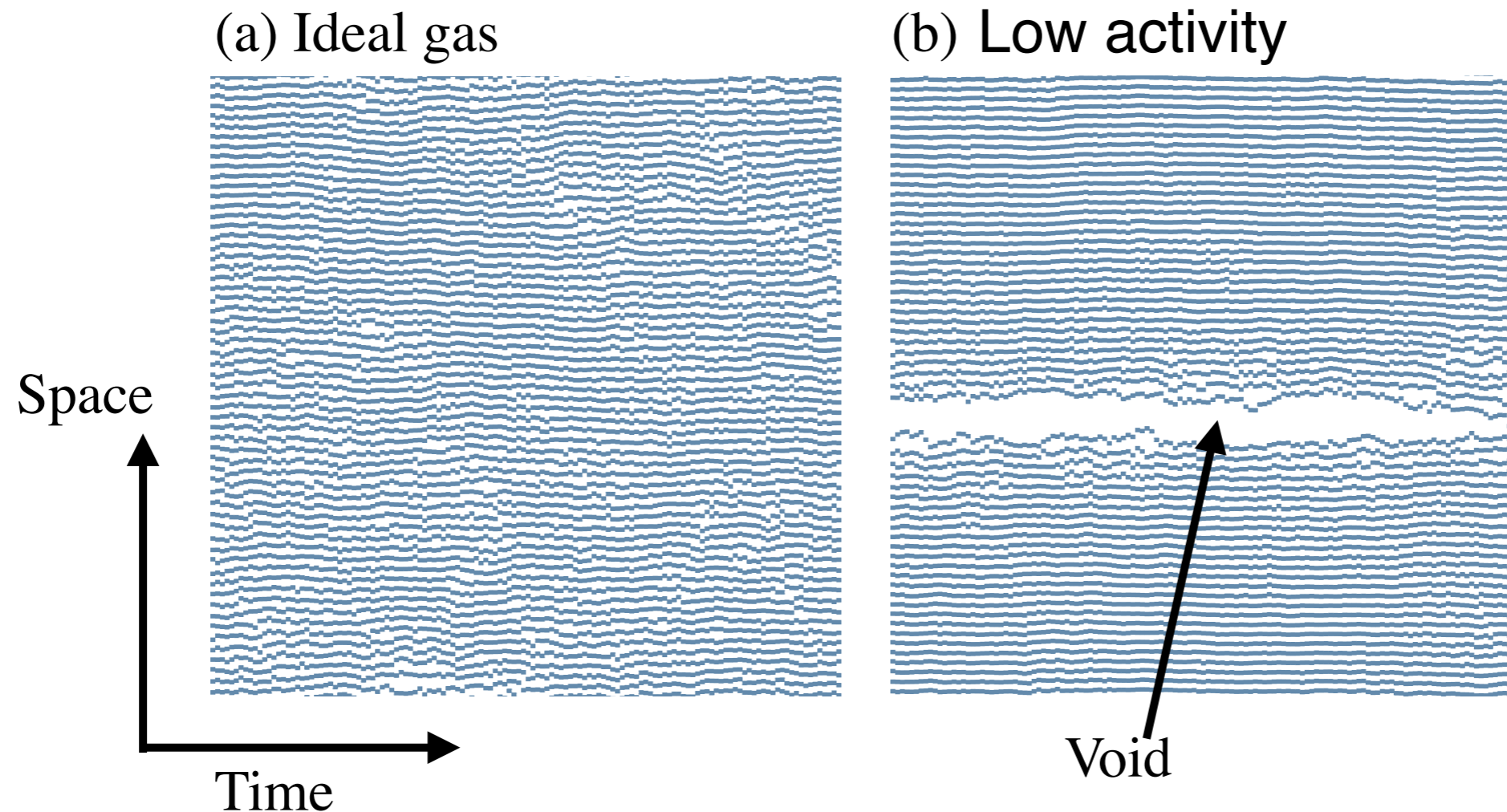


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Linear response

[RLJ, Thompson, Sollich, PRL **114**, 060601 (2015)]

General result: can obtain effective potential values from “propensities” for activity

$$u(\mathcal{C}, s) \propto \langle e^{-sK} \rangle_{\mathcal{C}(0)=\mathcal{C}}$$

(average over long trajectories starting in \mathcal{C} , need to take care with normalisation)

Simple hydrodynamic argument shows that u -values for phase-separated / hyperuniform configurations have divergent $du(\mathcal{C}, s)/ds$ as system size $L \rightarrow \infty$.

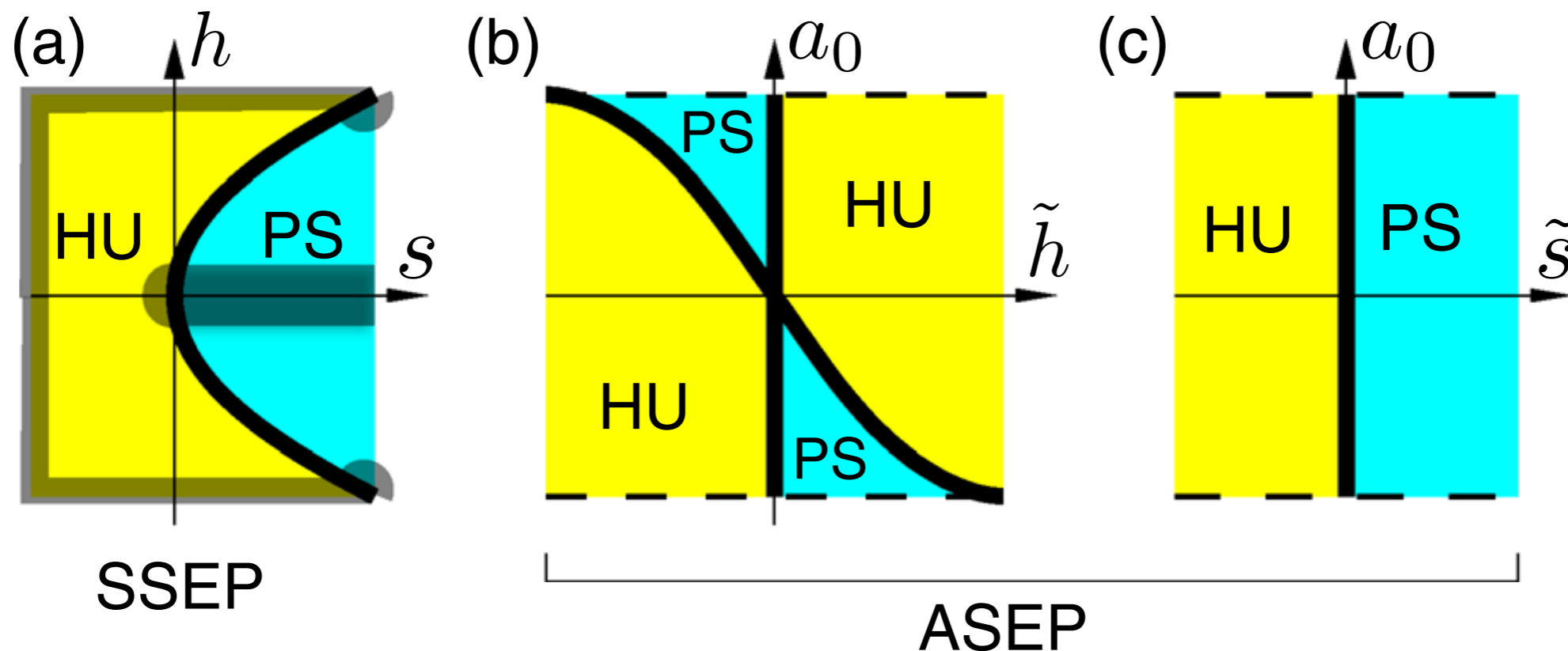
This comes from a diverging time scale: $\tau_L \sim L^2$ is the time required for these trajectories to relax to the steady state...

Diverging interaction range linked to diverging length and time scales...

Exclusion processes summary

[RLJ, Thompson, Sollich, PRL **114**, 060601 (2015)]

Long-ranged effective interactions (repulsive or attractive) are generic in conditioned exclusion processes



The physical origin of the weak-bias instabilities is the diverging hydrodynamic time scale $\tau_R \sim R^2$.

East model

Site i has occupancy $n_i \in \{0, 1\}$

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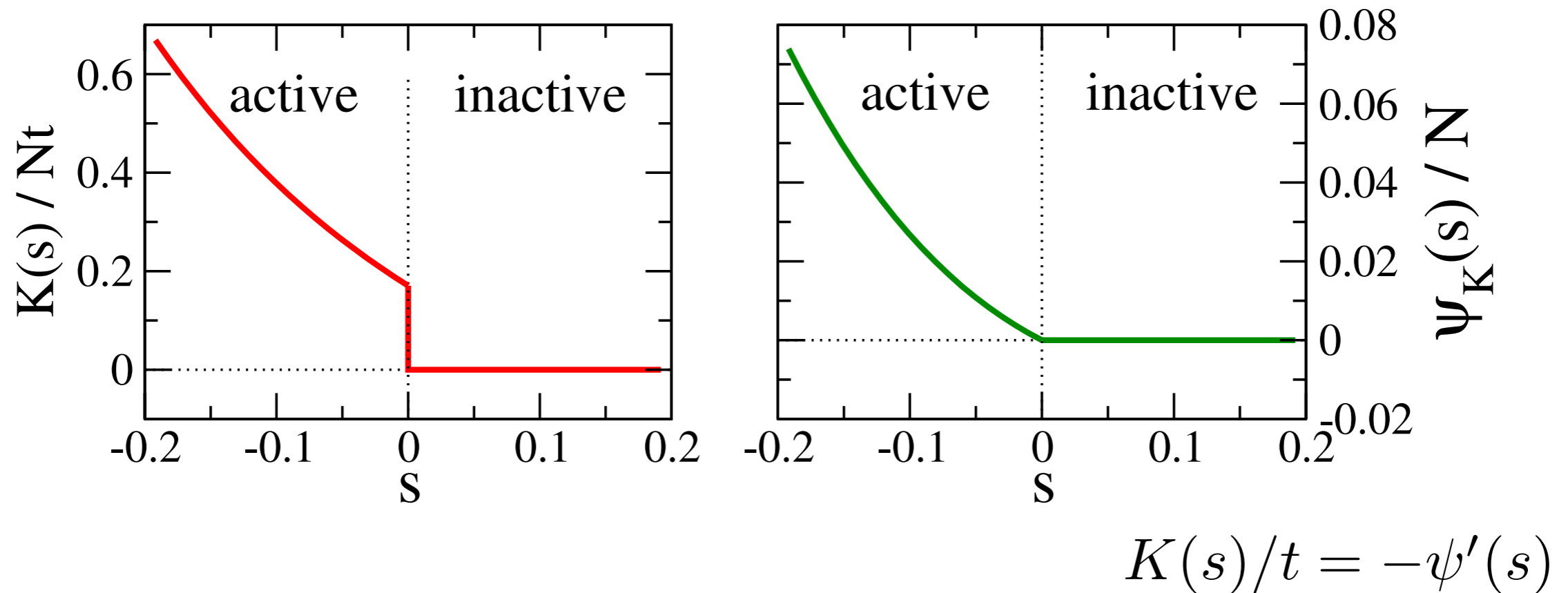
Relaxation time diverges for small c as

$$\log \tau \sim a(\log c)^2$$

Hierarchical relaxation mechanism...

[Sollich & Evans 1999, Aldous & Diaconis 2002, Toninelli, Martinelli & others 2007-]

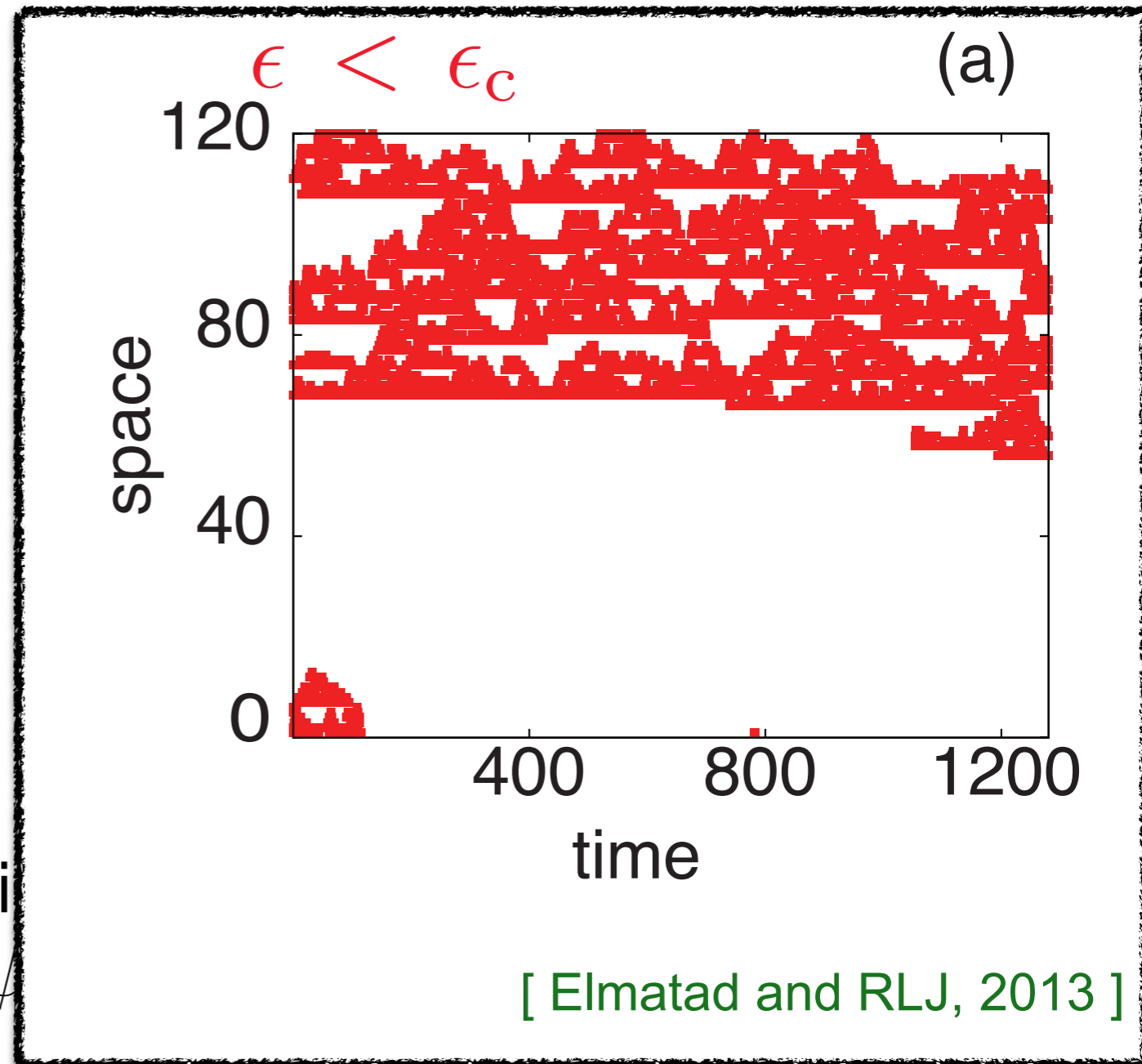
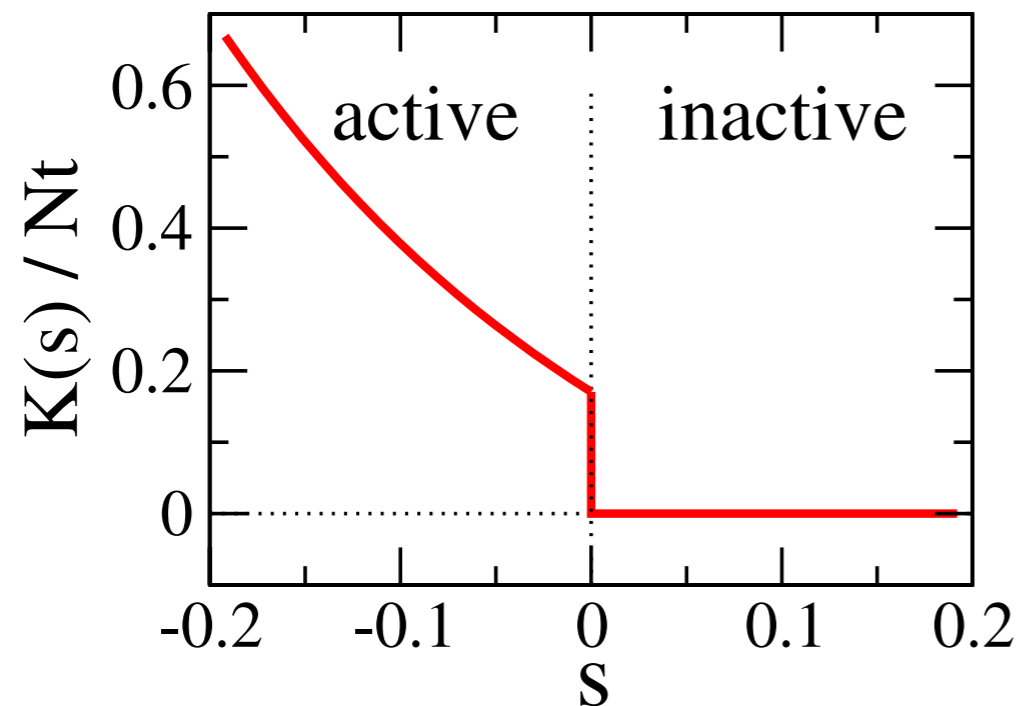
East model : phase transition



As system size $N \rightarrow \infty$, there is a jump in the first derivative of the “free energy” $\psi(s)/N$.

First order dynamical phase transition, accompanied by *phase separation in space-time*

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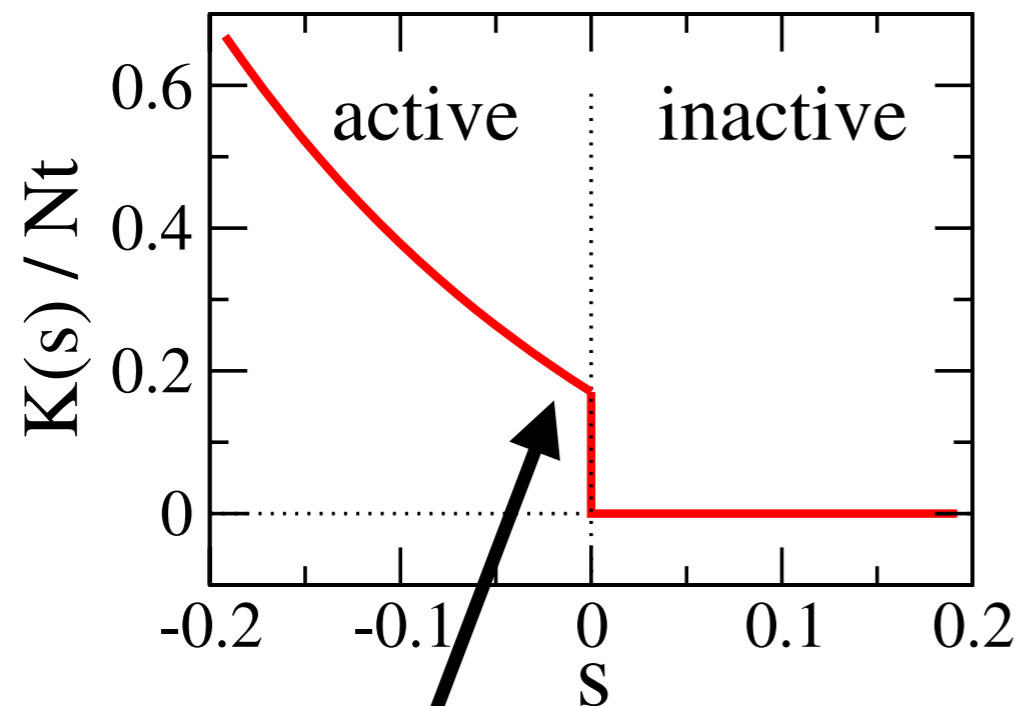


As system size $N \rightarrow \infty$, there is a sharp transition in the derivative of the “free energy” ψ

[Elmatad and RLJ, 2013]

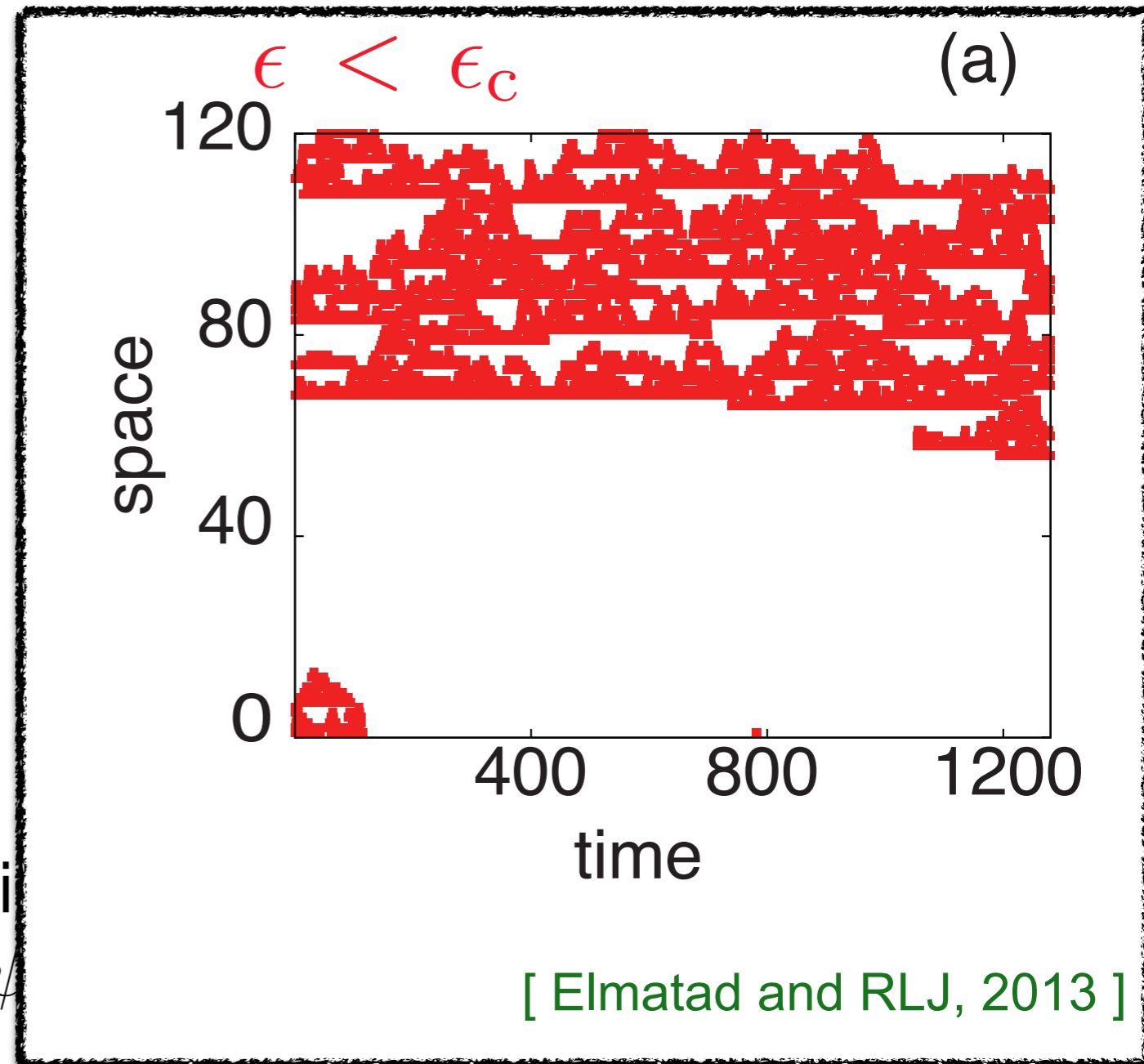
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What happens here?

As system size $N \rightarrow \infty$, there is a first order phase transition, characterized by a discontinuity in the derivative of the "free energy" ψ .



[Elmatad and RLJ, 2013]

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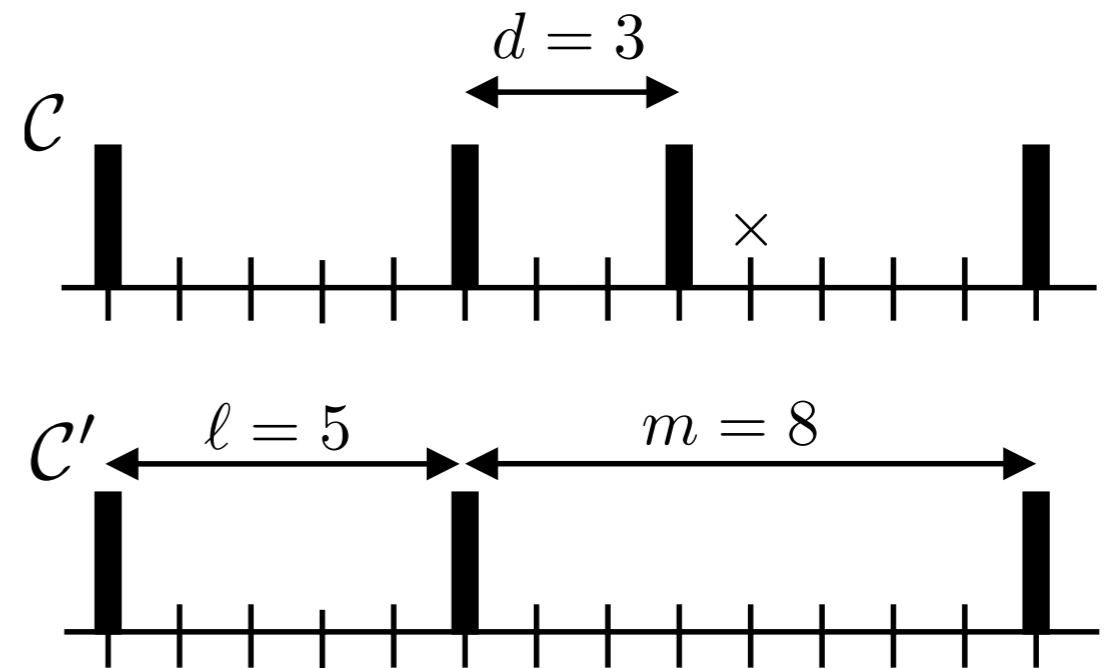
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(Variational problem with 2^N d.o.f.)

Conditioned East model

[RLJ and Sollich, J Phys A, 2014]

East model, biased to high activity



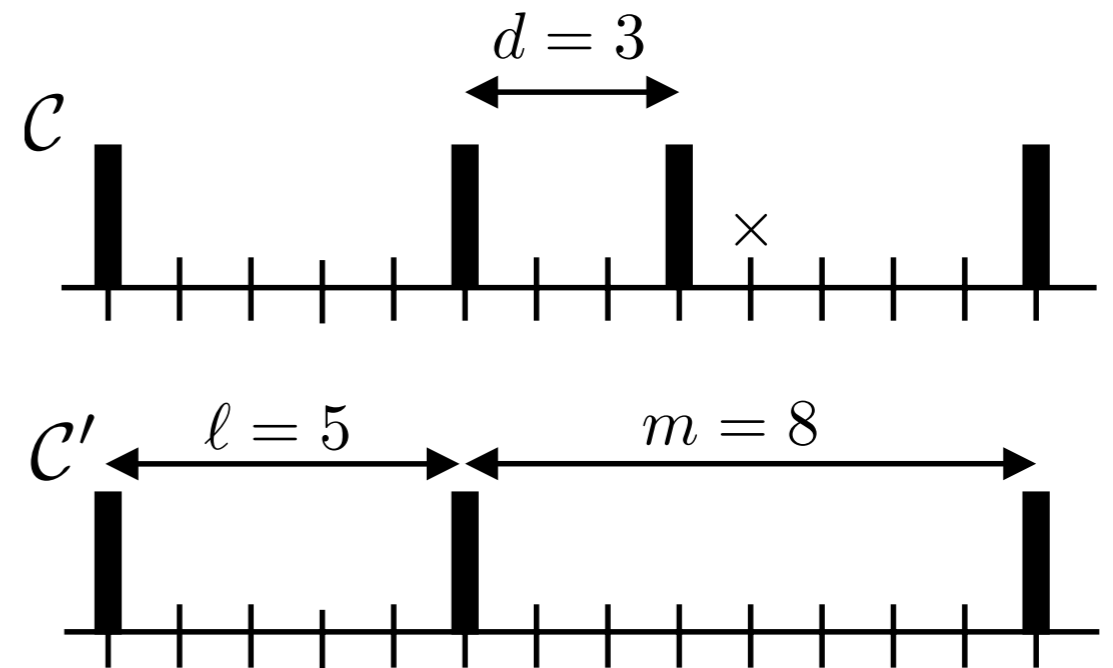
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[RLJ and Sollich, J Phys A, 2014]

East model, biased to high activity

Variational results using ansatze for *effective interactions*

1. local multi-spin interactions up to 6-body
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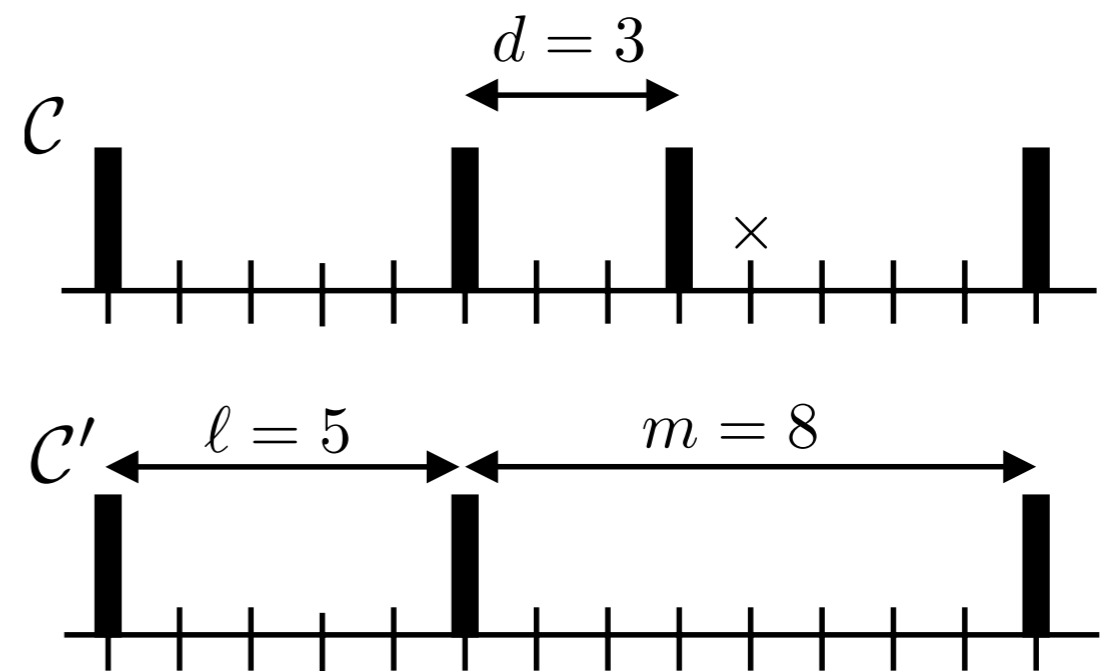
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Also,
numerical results
(exact diagonalisation
and transition path sampling)

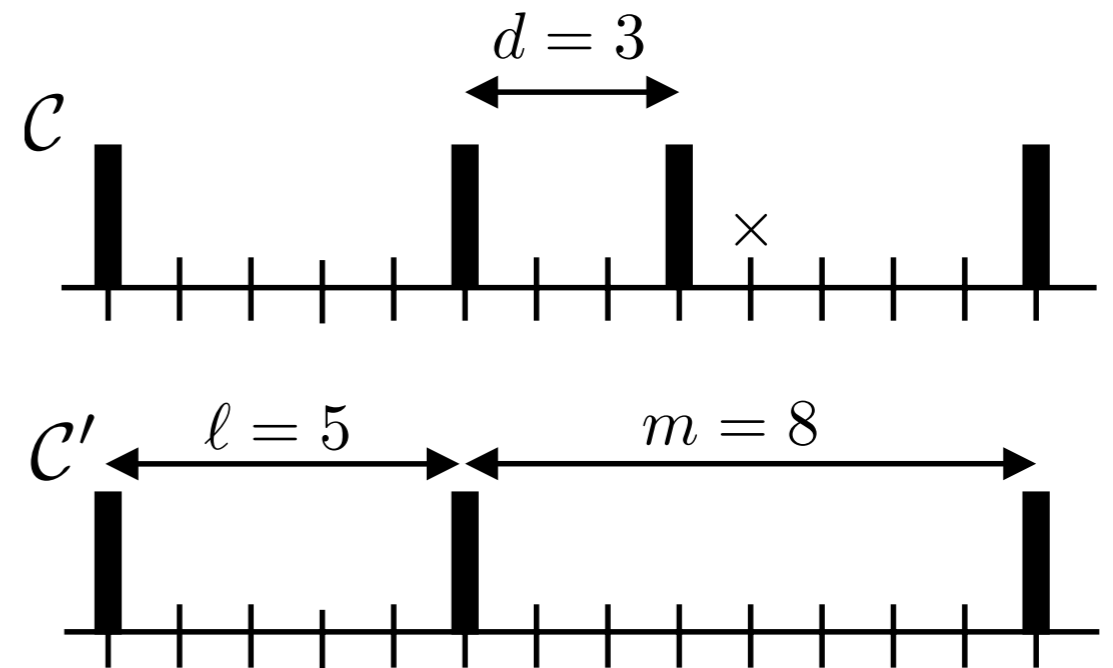
... and perturbative results for
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Main results:

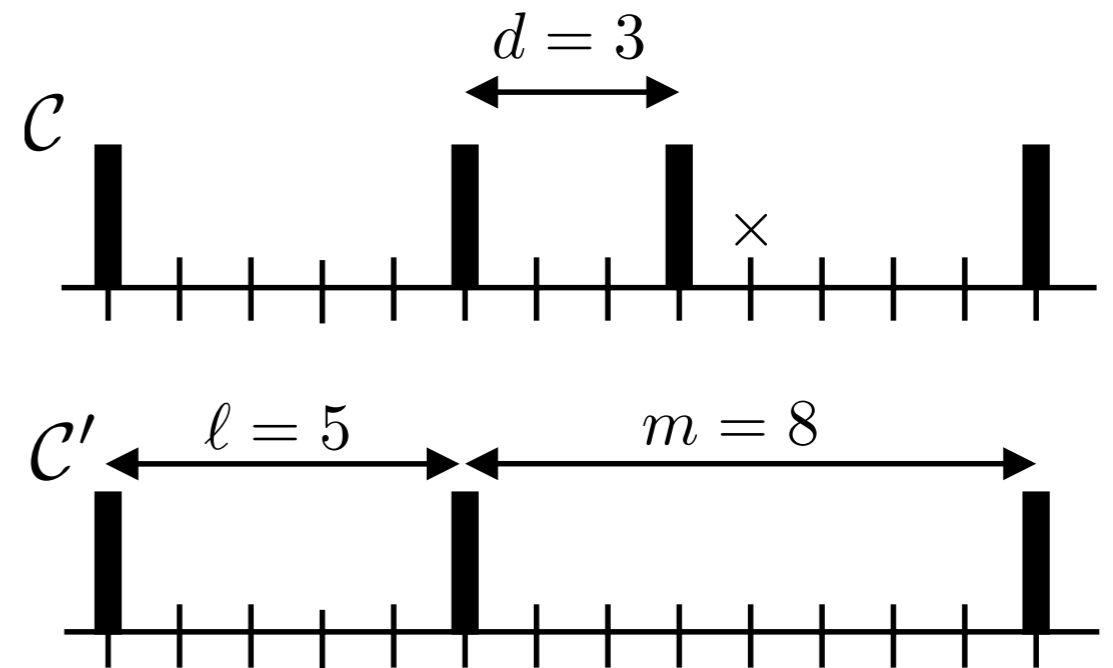


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Main results:

Interactions are *long-ranged*, (no finite ranged interaction can capture even the first-order response to the bias)
can attribute this long range to large time scales
for relaxation on large length scale (cf SEP)



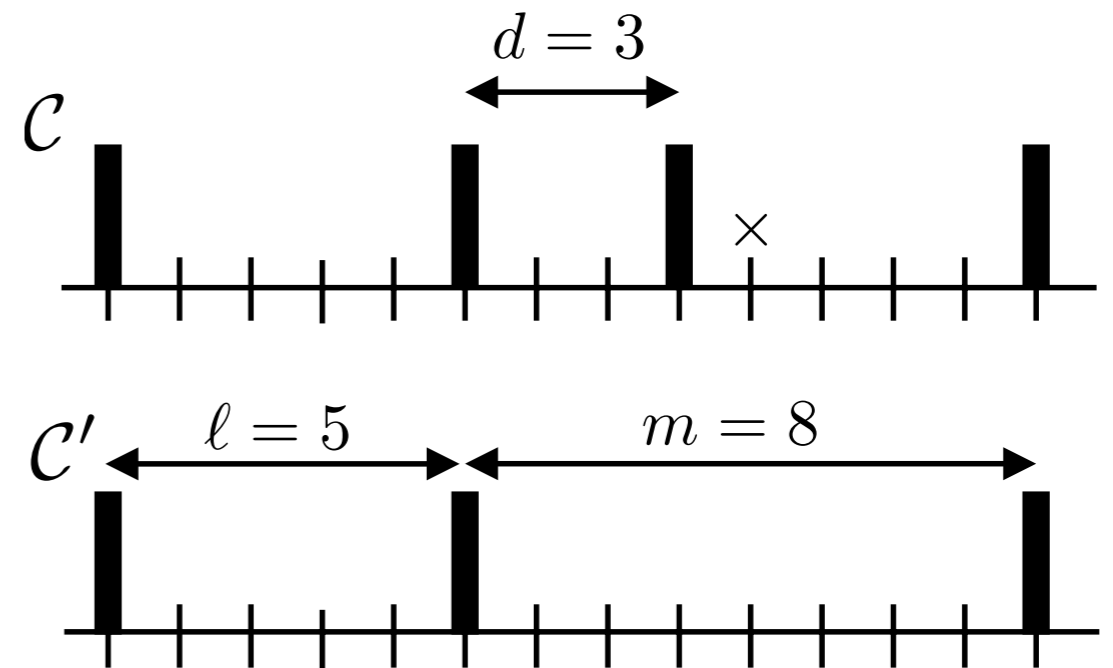
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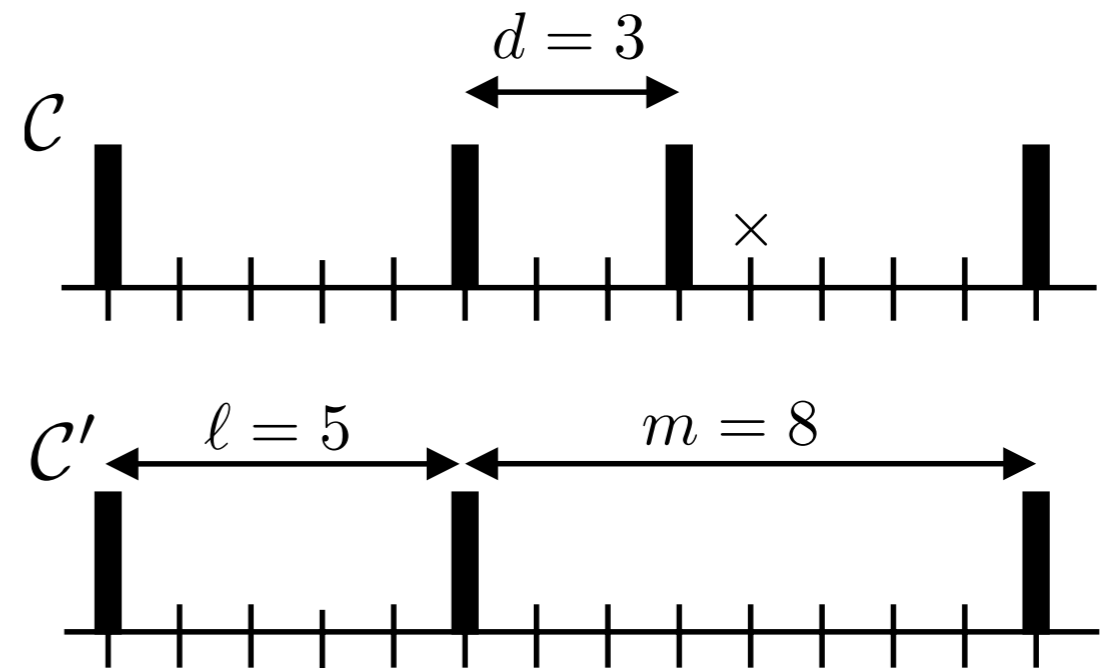
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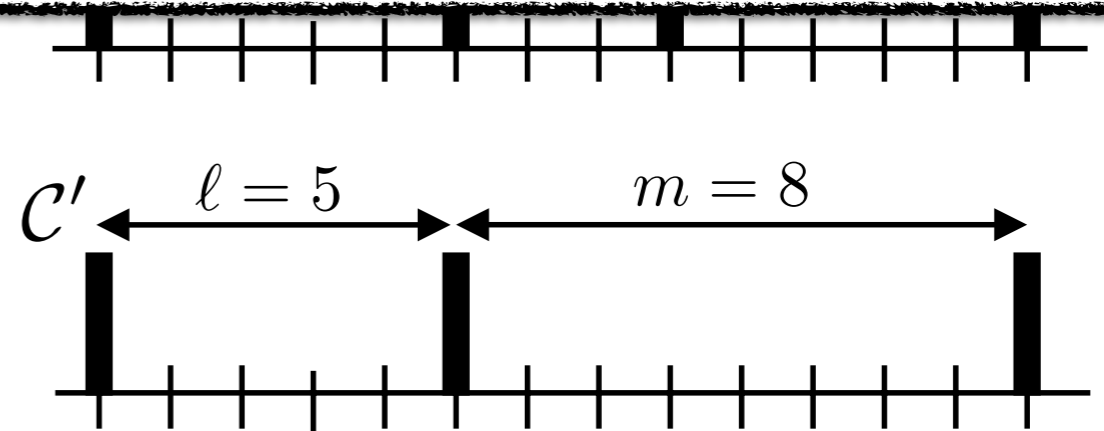
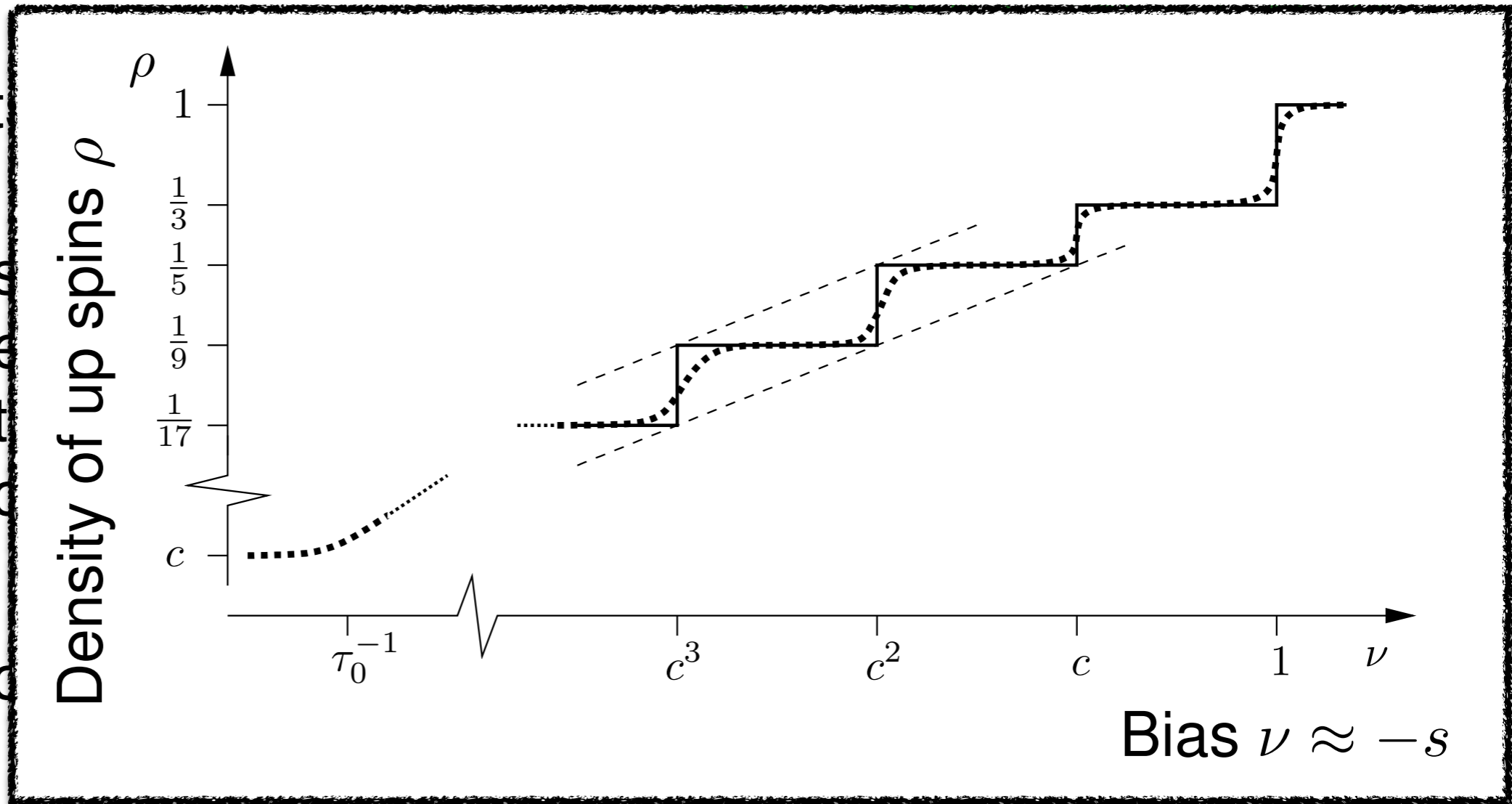
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There are good reasons to expect this to be general:
(eg perturbative arguments, small spectral gaps...)
... also, plenty of other examples

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(how general is this?)

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Conditioning stochastic systems to non-typical values of time-integrated observables leads to rich phenomenology

Hyperuniformity, phase separation in space and/or time, dynamical phase transitions, hierarchical responses...

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Slow degrees of freedom respond most strongly to bias (or conditioning), this can be one origin of long-ranged interactions