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# Soliton decomposition of the Box Ball System in $\mathbb{Z}$

with

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Davide Gabrielli (In preparation)

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Box at each  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Ball configuration  $\eta \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{Z}}$

$$\eta(x) = 0 \leftrightarrow \text{empty box}, \quad \eta(x) = 1 \leftrightarrow \text{ball at } x$$

Carrier visits boxes from left to right.

Carrier picks balls from occupied boxes.

Carrier deposits one ball, if carried, at empty boxes.

$$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccc}
 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \eta \\
 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 2 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & & \text{carrier} \\
 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & & & T\eta
 \end{array}$$

$T\eta$  : configuration after the carrier visited all boxes.

Ball-Box-System by Takahashi-Satsuma (1990)

## Motivation: Korteweg & de Vries equation

$$\dot{u} = u''' + u u'$$

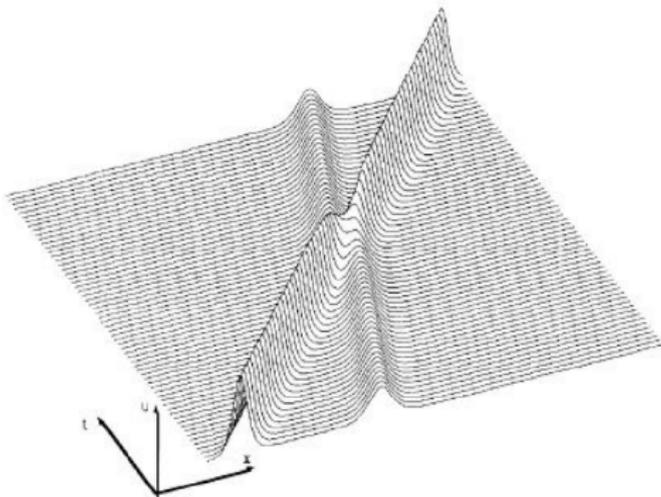


Figure from Rendiconti di Matematica, Serie VII, 11, p.351-376, 1991

Interacting soliton solutions for KdV.

## Summary

- 0) Soliton identification and conservation.
- 1) Asymptotic **speed** of solitons.
- 2) **Soliton decomposition** of ball configurations.
- 3) Evolution is a **hierarchical translation** of soliton components.
- 4) Measures with **independent soliton components are invariant** for  $T$ .
- 5) **Explicit soliton decomposition** for iid Bernoulli, Ising models and other ball distributions.

Soliton: a **solitary wave** that propagates with little loss of energy and **retains its shape and speed** after colliding with another such wave



## Conserved solitons. Motivation.

*isolated  $k$ -soliton*: set of  $k$  successive ones followed by  $k$  zeroes.

Isolated  $k$ -solitons travel at speed  $k$  and conserve shape and distances:

```

.....111000.....111000.....
..... 111000..... 111000.....
.....  111000..... 111000.....
.....   111000..... 111000.....

```

$k$ -solitons and distances are conserved after interacting with  $m$ -solitons:

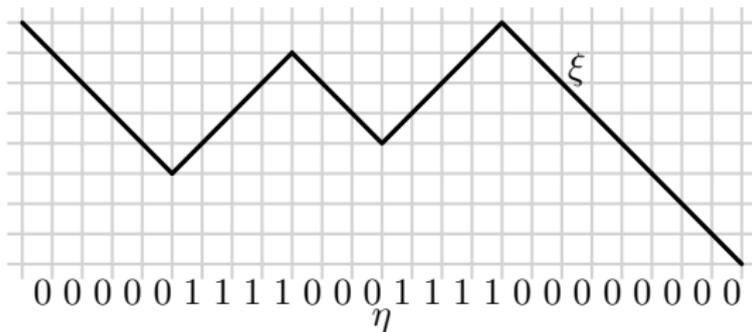
```

.....111000.....10.....111000.....
..... 111000.....10..... 111000.....
.....  11100010..... 111000.....
.....   11101000..... 111000.....
.....    10111000..... 111000.....
.....     10.....111000..... 111000.....

```



## Walk representation



$$\xi(z) - \xi(z-1) = 2\eta(z) - 1$$

**Records:**  $\{z : \xi(z) < \xi(y) \text{ for all } y < z\}$ .

**Excursion:** configuration between two successive **records**

## Infinite volume dynamics

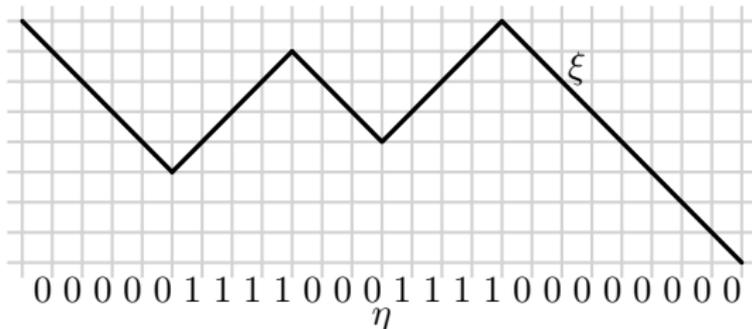
$$T\eta(x) := (1 - \eta(x))\mathbf{1}\{x \text{ is not a record}\}$$

$\mathcal{X}_\lambda :=$  configurations with density of particles  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

If  $\lambda < 1/2$  and  $\eta \in \mathcal{X}_\lambda$  then  $T\eta \in \mathcal{X}_\lambda$ .

## Takahashi-Satsuma soliton identification

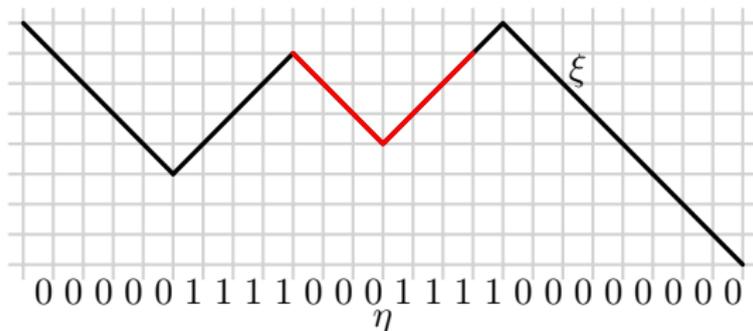
Call *runs* the segments induced by broken lines in the **walk**



Explore runs from left to right. If a run has length  $k \leq$  length of the next run, then its  $k$  boxes and the first  $k$  boxes of the next run form a  $k$ -soliton. Remove these sites and start again exploring from the left.

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## Takahashi-Satsuma soliton identification

head of  $k$ -soliton  $\gamma :=$  position of ones

$$h(\gamma) = \{h_1, \dots, h_k\},$$

tail of  $k$ -soliton  $\gamma :=$  zeroes

$$t(\gamma) = \{t_1, \dots, t_k\}.$$

Infinite configurations:

Apply TS algorithm to each *excursion*, pretending it is isolated.

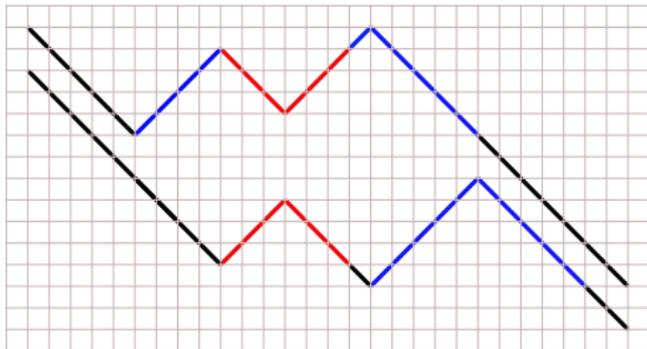
## $k$ -soliton conservation under $T$

**Proposition.** For any  $\eta \in \mathcal{X}$ :

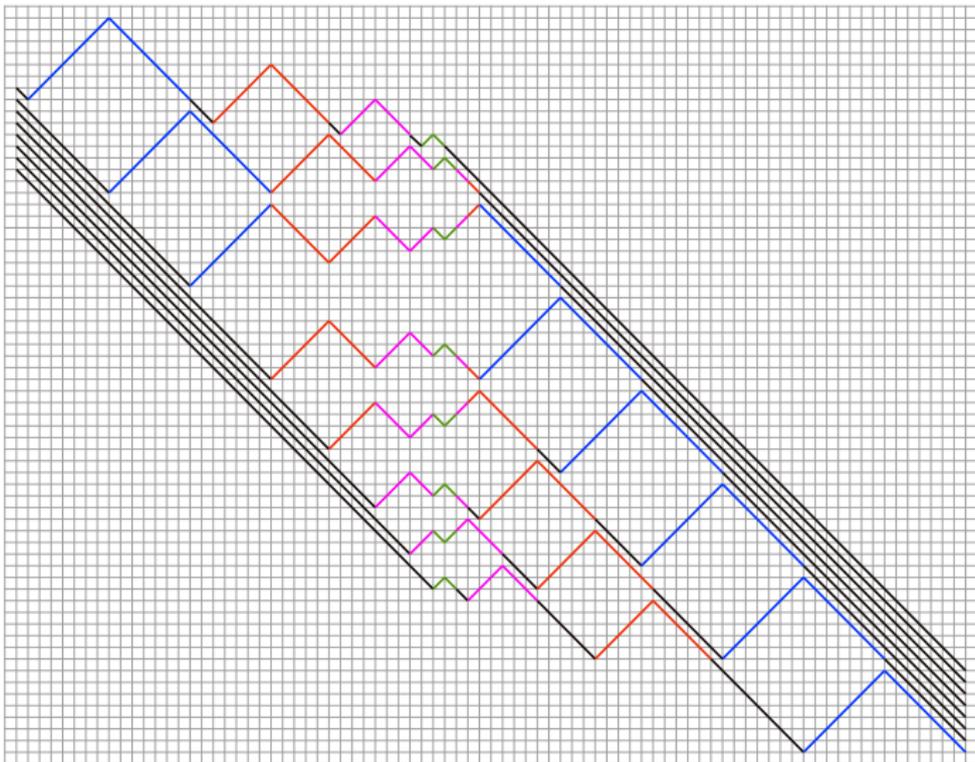
$\eta$  has  $k$ -soliton  $\gamma$  with tail  $t(\gamma) = a$

if and only if

$T\eta$  has  $k$ -soliton  $\gamma'$  with head  $h(\gamma') = a$ .



We can follow solitons along time!

$k$ -soliton conservation under  $T$ 

## Asymptotic speed of solitons

**Theorem (FNRW).** *Let  $\mu$  be a shift-ergodic  $T$ -invariant measure.  $\rho_k :=$  mean number of  $k$ -solitons per excursion.*

*$x(\gamma^t) :=$  position of  $k$ -soliton  $\gamma$  at time  $t$ .*

*Then, there exists  $v = (v_k)_{k \geq 1}$  deterministic such that*

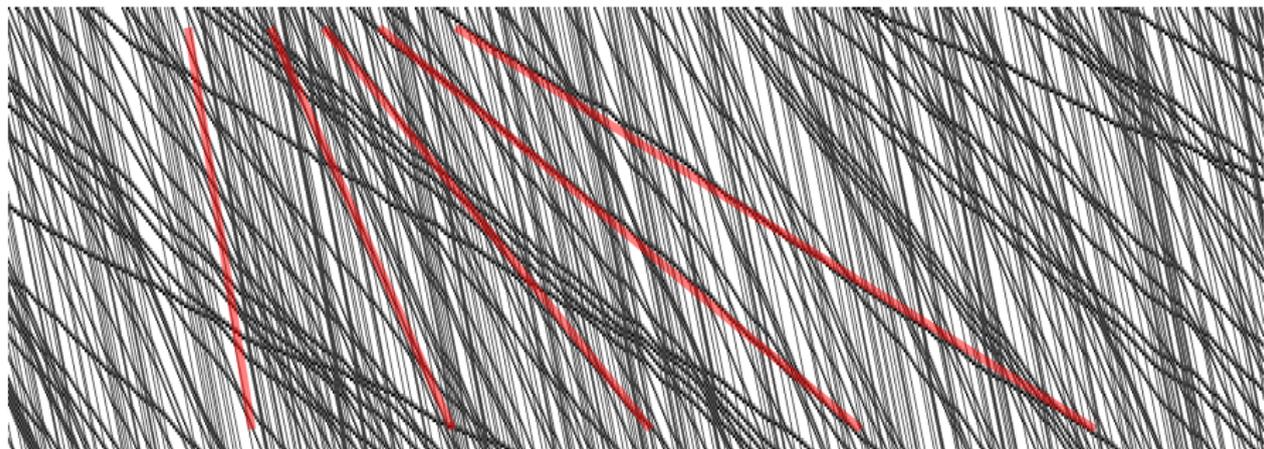
$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x(\gamma^t)}{t} = v_k, \quad \mu\text{-a.s.}$$

*$v$  is a solution of*

$$v_k = k + \sum_{m < k} 2m\rho_m(v_k - v_m) - \sum_{m > k} 2k\rho_m(v_m - v_k).$$

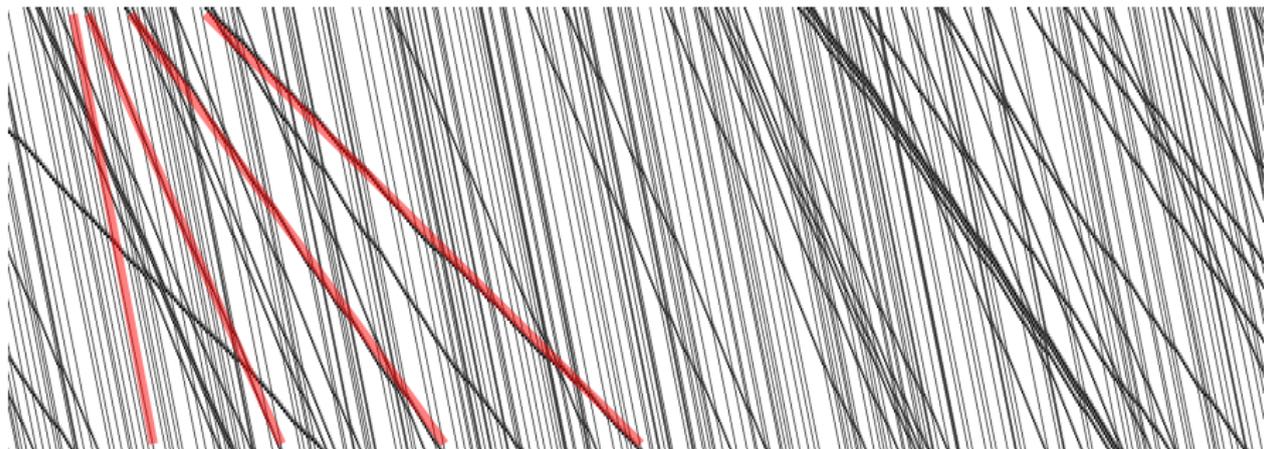
*and can be computed explicitly in function of  $(\rho_k)_{k \geq 1}$ .*

## Asymptotic speed of solitons



Simulation for an iid configuration with density 0.25.  
Deterministic red straight lines have slopes computed by the theorem.  
2000 boxes  $\times$  140  $T$  iterations, going downwards  
(stretched vertically by a factor of 5)

## Asymptotic speed of solitons



Simulation for an iid configuration with density 0.15.  
Deterministic red straight lines have slopes computed by the theorem.  
2000 boxes  $\times$  140  $T$  iterations, going downwards  
(stretched vertically by a factor of 5)

## Detail



## Asymptotic speed of solitons

Motivation of

$$v_k = k + \sum_{m < k} 2m\rho_m(v_k - v_m) - \sum_{m > k} 2k\rho_m(v_m - v_k).$$

Isolated  $k$ -solitons have speed  $k$

When a  $k$ -soliton encounters an  $m$ -soliton:

- it advances  $2m$  extra units if  $m < k$  or
- it is delayed by 2 time steps if  $m > k$ .

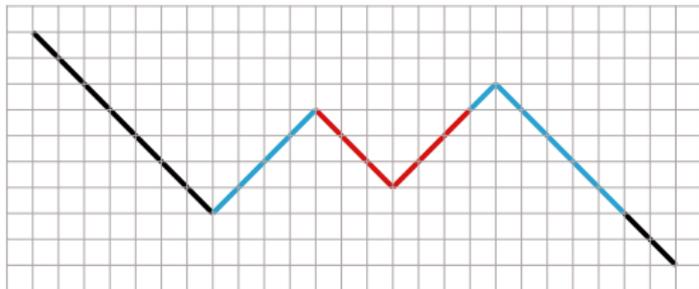
$\rho_m|v_k - v_m|$  is the frequency of such encounters as seen from a  $k$ -soliton.

## Slots

Let  $\eta$  configuration with finite excursions.

Will decompose  $\eta$  in soliton components.

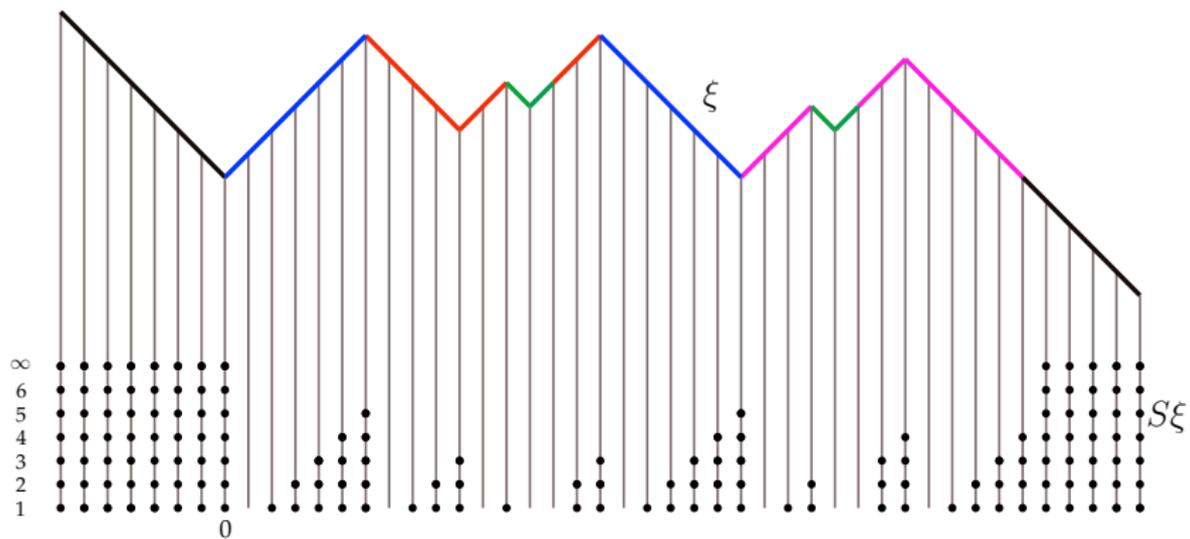
Motivation: Insert 3-soliton in 3-slot of 5-soliton:



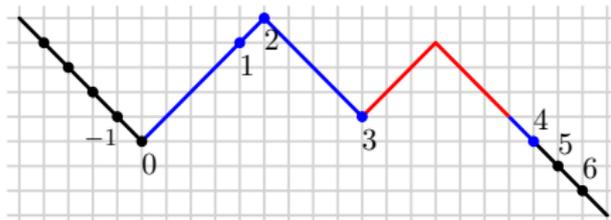
$k$ -slots := Places where  $k$ -solitons can be inserted.

$k$ -slots := records plus  $\{h_\ell(\gamma), t_\ell(\gamma)\}$ ,  $\ell > m$ ,  $m$ -solitons  $\gamma$  with  $m > k$ .

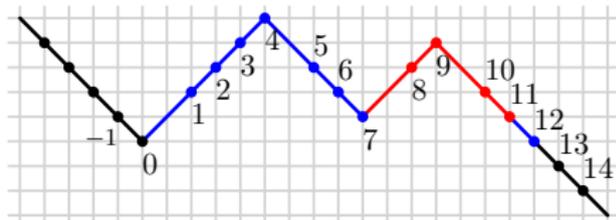
# Slot configuration



## Enumerating the $k$ -slots



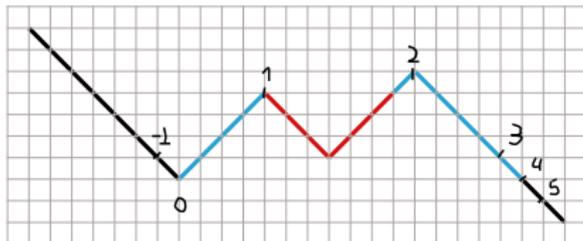
enumerating 3-slots



enumerating 1-slots

## Soliton components

Insert 3-soliton in 3-slot number 1:

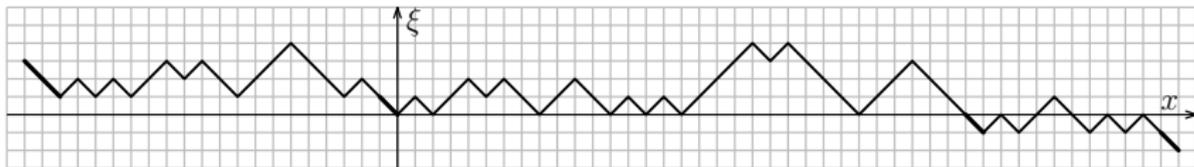
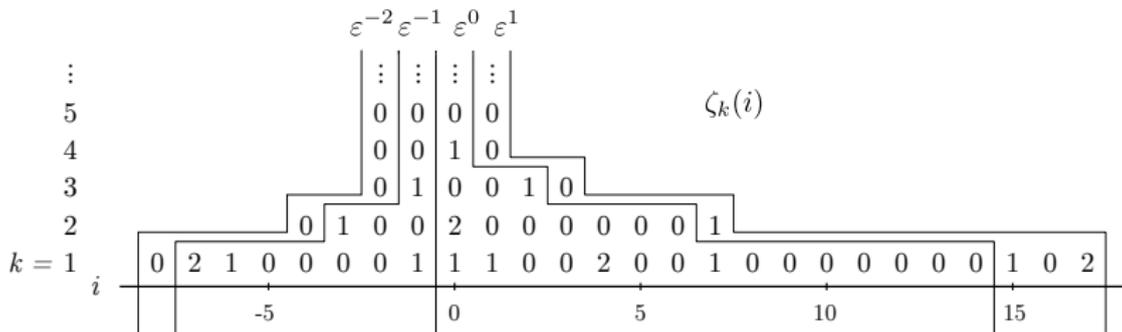


$M_3\eta(1) = 1$  means that 3-component at coordinate 1 has 1 soliton.

$M_k\eta(i) :=$  number of  $k$ -solitons inserted in  $k$ -slot number  $i$

Soliton decomposition:  $M\eta = (M_k\eta)_{k \geq 1}$

The map  $\eta \mapsto M\eta$  (or  $\xi \mapsto \zeta$ ).



Below: Records  $-2$  to  $2$  in boldface and the excursions between them.

Above: the parts of the field  $\zeta$  corresponding with excursions  $\varepsilon^{-2}, \varepsilon^{-1}, \varepsilon^0, \varepsilon^1$ .

## Solitons!

**Theorem** (FNRW).

*k*-soliton component of  $\hat{T}^t \eta$  is a shift of the *k*-soliton component of  $\eta$ :

$$M_k \hat{T}^t \eta = \theta^{o_k^t(\eta, 0) + kt} M_k \eta$$

$\hat{T}^t \eta = T^t \eta$  as seen from Record 0

$\theta^x =$  translation by  $x$

$$o_k^t(\eta, 0) := \sum_{m > k} 2(m - k) J_m^t(\eta)$$

$J_m^t(\eta) :=$  Flow of  $m$ -solitons thru Record 0

## Evolution of components

.11111110000000..1111100000.111000.10.....  
.....11111110000000111110000111001000.....  
.....11111110000011110001101110000000.....  
.....1111100001110010001111110000000.....  
.....111100011011100000..11111110000000.....  
.....11100100.1111100000....11111110000000.....  
.....11011000...1111100000.....11111110000000.....  
.....10.111000....1111100000.....11111110000000.....

## Evolution of components

### Ball configuration

.11111110000000..1111100000.111000.10.....

### Components

1.....  
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.....1.....  
.....  
.....1.....  
.....  
.....1.....

## Evolution of components

### Ball configuration

.....111111100000001111110000111001000.....

### Components

.....1.....  
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.....1.....  
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.....1.....  
.....  
.....1.....

## Evolution of components

### Ball configuration

.....11111110000011110001101110000000.....

### Components

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## Evolution of components

### Ball configuration

.....11111000011100100011111110000000.....

### Components

.....1.....  
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## Evolution of components

### Ball configuration

.....111100011011100000..11111110000000.....

### Components

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## Evolution of components

### Ball configuration

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### Components

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## Evolution of components

### Ball configuration

.....11011000...1111100000.....11111110000000.....

### Components

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## Evolution of components

### Ball configuration

.....10.111000.....1111100000.....11111110000000.....

### Components

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.....1.....

## Evolution of components

### Ball configuration

.....10.111000.....1111100000.....11111110000000.....

### Components

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1.....1.....1.....1.....1.....1.....1.....1.....1.....1.....
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.....1....1....1....1....1....1....1....1....1....1.....
.....
.....          1..1..1..1..1..1..1..1.....
.....
.....                1111111.....

```

## Independent-component invariant measures

### **Theorem** [FNRW]

$\zeta_k \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{Z}}$  *independent* with *shift-stationary* law such that

$$\sum_k k E \zeta_k(0) < \infty$$

Let  $\zeta = (\zeta_k)_{k \geq 1}$  and  $\hat{\mu} :=$  law of  $M^{-1}\zeta$ .

Then  $\hat{\mu}$  is  $\hat{T}$ -invariant and

$\mu := \text{Palm}^{-1}(\hat{\mu})$  is *shift-stationary* and  $T$ -invariant.

$k$ -components of iid Bernoulli are independent iid geometrics.

With Davide Gabrielli

Let  $\lambda \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$  and  $\alpha_k := (\lambda(1 - \lambda))^k$

Let  $q_1 = \alpha_1$  and for  $k \geq 2$ ,

$$q_k := \frac{\alpha_k}{\prod_{j=1}^{k-1} (1 - q_j)^{2(k-j)}} .$$

**Theorem (FG).** *If  $(\eta(x) : x \in \mathbb{Z})$  iid **Bernoulli**( $\lambda$ ) conditioned to have a Record at the origin, then*

*$(M_k \eta(s) : s \in \mathbb{Z})$  iid **Geometric**( $1 - q_k$ ) and*

*$(M_k \eta : k \geq 1)$  are **independent**.*

## Other measures with independent geometric $k$ -components.

Let  $\alpha_k \geq 0$  such that  $\sum_{k \geq 0} \alpha_k < \infty$ .

Let  $\varepsilon$  be an excursion between Record 0 and Record 1 and

$n_k(\varepsilon) :=$  number of  $k$ -solitons of  $\varepsilon$ .

$$\text{weight } w_\alpha(\varepsilon) := \prod_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k^{n_k(\varepsilon)} \quad (1)$$

induces a measure

$$\nu_\alpha(\varepsilon) = \frac{w(\varepsilon)}{Z_\alpha} \quad (2)$$

Concatenate independent excursions to obtain a measure  $\hat{\mu}_\alpha$  on  $\hat{\mathcal{X}}$ .

$\mu := \text{Palm}^{-1}(\mu)$  has independent components geometric with parameters  $q_i$

### Theorem (FG).

Let  $\hat{\mu}_\alpha :=$  independent excursions with law  $\nu_\alpha$  with Record 0 at the origin.

Let  $(\eta(x) : x \in \mathbb{Z}) \sim \hat{\mu}_\alpha$ . Then

$(M_k \eta(s) : s \in \mathbb{Z})$  iid *Geometric*( $1 - q_k$ ) and

$(M_k \eta : k \geq 1)$  are *independent*.

### Special cases

- $\alpha_k = [\lambda(1 - \lambda)]^k$ ,  $\lambda < \frac{1}{2}$ . Product measure with density  $\lambda$
- $\alpha_k = e^{2J} e^{kh}$ . Ising measure with pair interaction  $J$  and external field  $h < 0$ .

## When the $k$ -components of invariant measures are independent?

Let  $\hat{\mu}$  on  $\mathcal{X}^o$  be invariant for  $\hat{T}$  and record-mixing(?). Then,

$$\hat{\mu}M = \bigotimes_{k \geq 1} \hat{\mu}M_k.$$

That is, if  $\eta$  has law  $\hat{\mu}$ ,

$(M_k \eta : k \geq 1)$  is a family of independent configurations.