

Extremal Optimization for Low-Energy Excitations of very large Spin-Glasses



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(Pre-)Prints: www.physics.emory.edu/faculty/boettcher

Summary:

- Applications of Extremal Optimization (EO)
Here:

- EO for Mean-Field Glasses (SK) ($n \leq 1000$)
- Spin Glass Ground States with $\sim 10^6$ Spins
- EO for Defect Energies of Glasses in $d=3, \dots, 7$
- Comparison with Mean-Field ($d \rightarrow \infty$) limit

Result: Mean-Field Prediction fails

Poster:

- EO vs Metropolis: Energy-Landscape Explorations
- EO of MAX-3-Coloring at Phase Transition
- EO for the Thomson Problem
- Theory of EO

Hard Optimization Problems:

Consider:

- 1) System of n variables, $x_i \in I$.
- 2) Configurations $S = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in I^n$.
- 3) “Cost Function” $C(S)$.
- 4) Local Search “Neighborhood,” $S' := N(S)$.

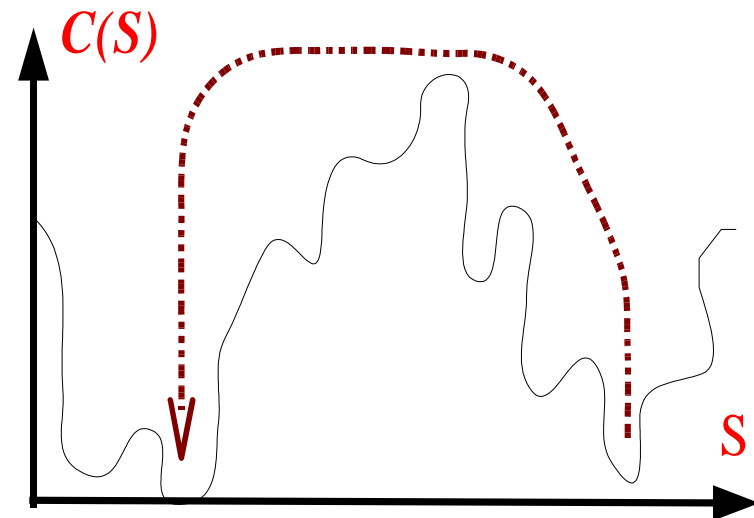
Problem:

Find Global Minimum of $C(S)$

when

- 1) n is large,
- 2) $C(S)$ has many local Extrema in N .

\Rightarrow Search-time $t \gg n^k$ for any k .



Need: Search “Heuristic” to find approximate solution in $t \sim n^k$.

Spin Glass Ground States:

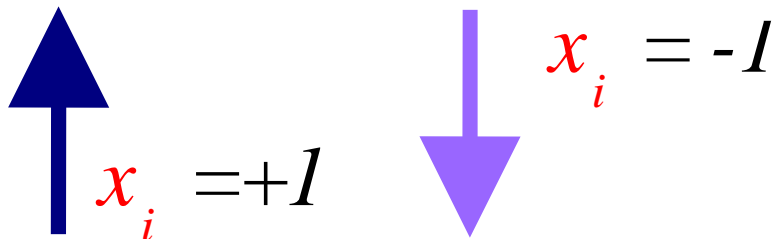
Ferro-magnetic Bonds:

————— $J = +1$

Anti-ferro-mag Bonds:

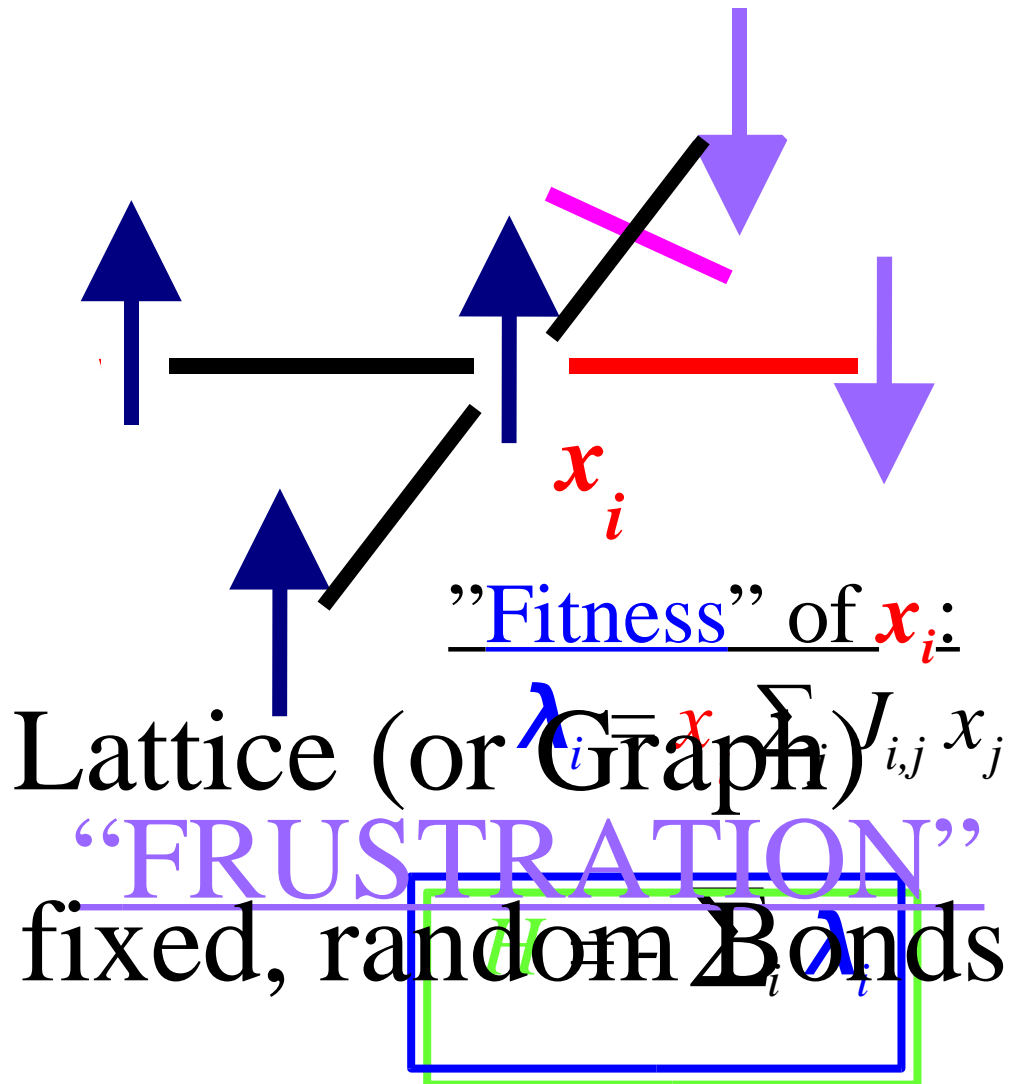
————— $J = -1$

Spin Variables:



Hamiltonian (Cost):

$$H = - \sum \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} J_{i,j} x_i x_j$$



Extremal Optimization (EO)

- Motivated by Self-Organized Criticality

- Emergent Structure

- ★ *without* tuning any Control Parameters

- ★ despite (or because of) Large Fluctuations

- How can we use it to optimize?

- Extremal Driving:

- ★ Select and eliminate the “bad”,

- ★ Replace it *at random*,

- ★ Eventually, only the “good” is left!

Evolutionary Search Heuristic

‘Fitness’ λ for various Problems:

- Spin Glasses (eg. MAX-CUT):

$$\lambda_i = x_i \sum_j J_{i,j} x_j$$

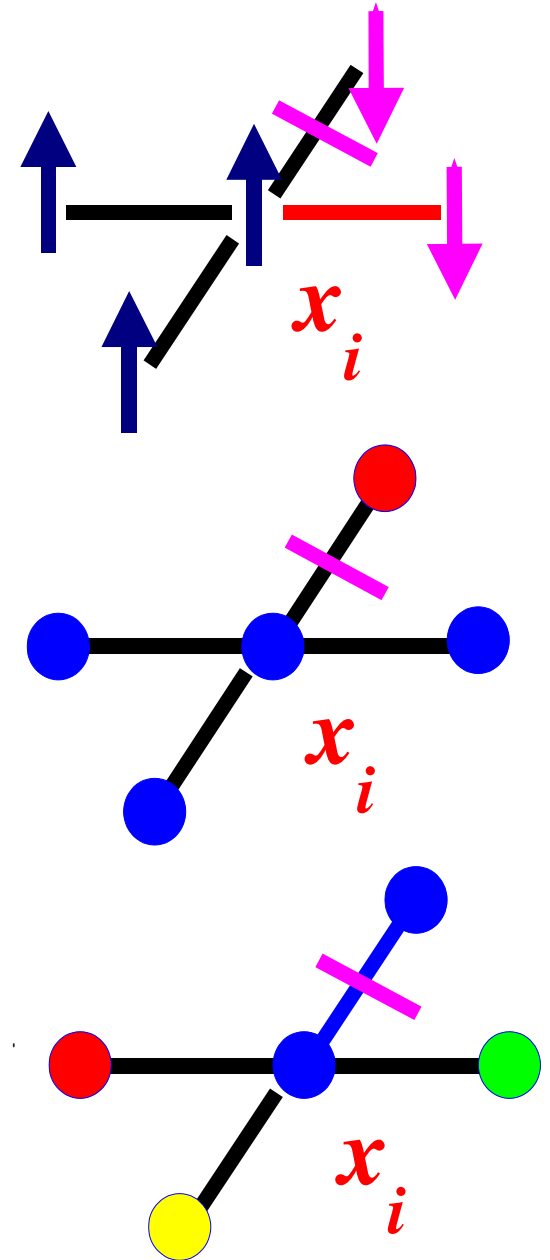
- Partitioning (eg. MIN-CUT):

$$\lambda_i = - (\# \text{-cut edges of } x_i)$$

- Coloring (eg. Potts Anti-ferro):

$$\lambda_i = - (\# \text{-monochrome edges of } x_i)$$

$$\text{Cost} \propto H = - \sum_i \lambda_i$$



>> “Extremal Optimization” (EO): <<

(1) Provide initial Configuration $S=(x_1, \dots, x_n)$,

(2) Determine “Fitness” λ_i for each Variable x_i ,

(3) Rank all $i=\Pi(k)$ according to

$$\lambda_{\Pi(1)} \leq \lambda_{\Pi(2)} \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{\Pi(n)}$$

(4) Select x_w w/ $w=\Pi(1)$, i.e. x_w has worst Fitness!

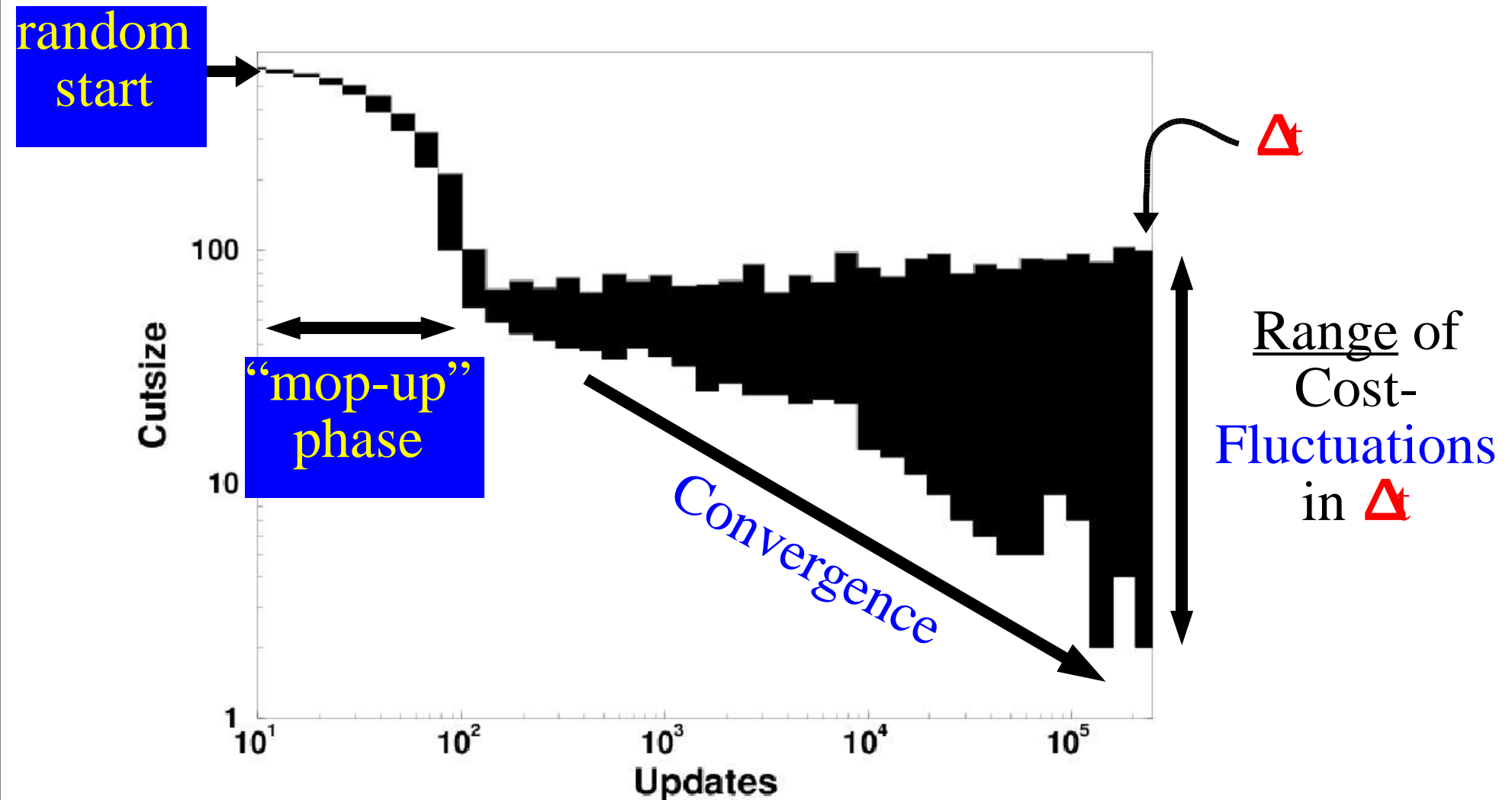
(5) Update x_w unconditionally,

(6) For t_{max} times, Repeat at (2),

(7) Return: Best $Cost(S)$ found along the way!

Typical Extremal Optimization Run:

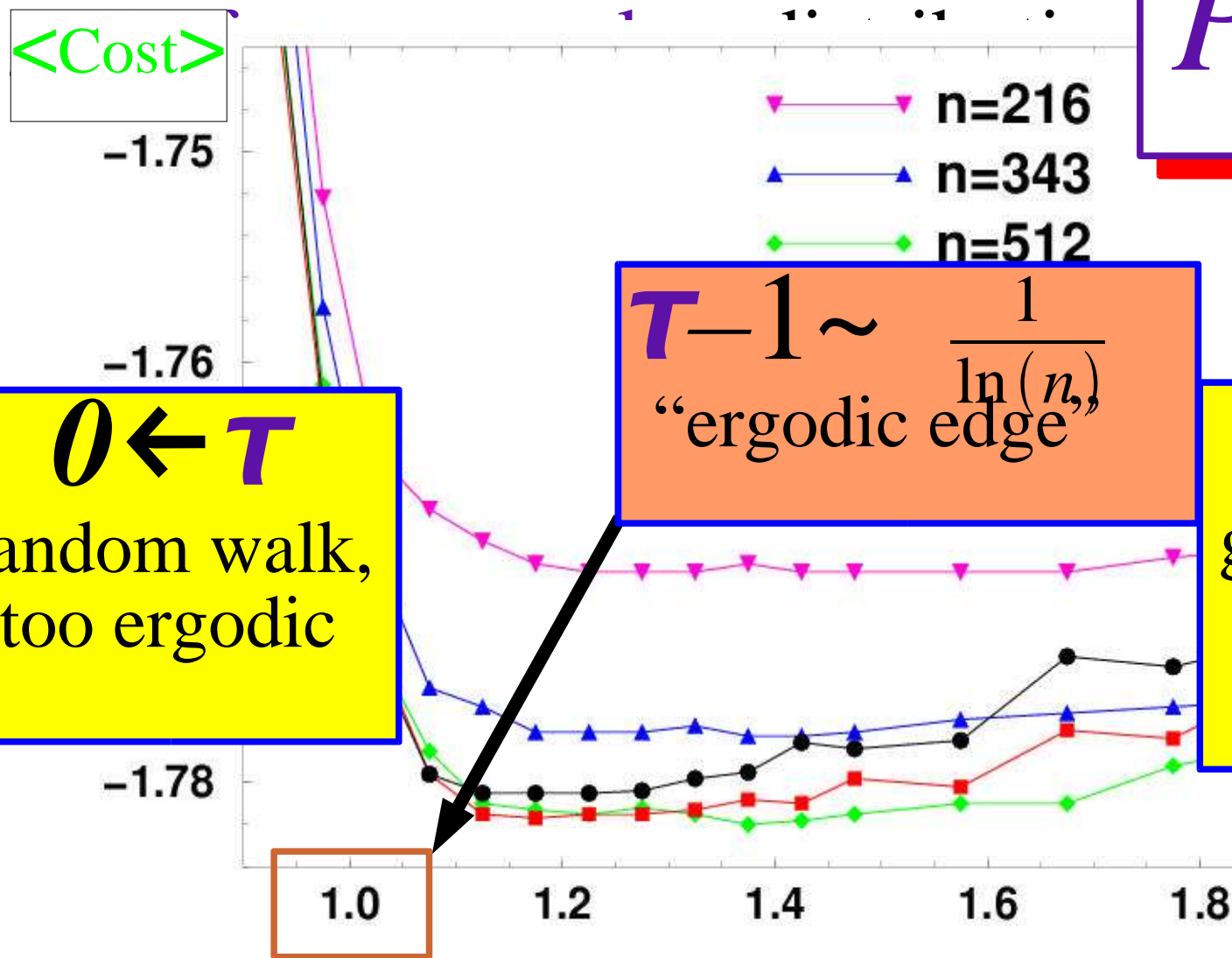
EO-run for Partitioning ($n=500$):



τ -EO - Searching at the ‘Ergodic Edge’:

For Ranks $\lambda_{\Pi(1)} \leq \dots \leq \lambda_{\Pi(n)}$, update $i = \Pi(k)$ with

$$P(k) \propto k^{-\tau}$$



$$0 \leftarrow \tau$$

random walk,
too ergodic

$$\tau \rightarrow \infty$$

greedy + frozen,
non-ergodic

Results for τ -EO:

- Applications by Others:

EO for Image Alignment (Batouche et al, [LNCS2449('02)330])



Aligned Images

Results for τ -EO:

- For Spin Glasses:

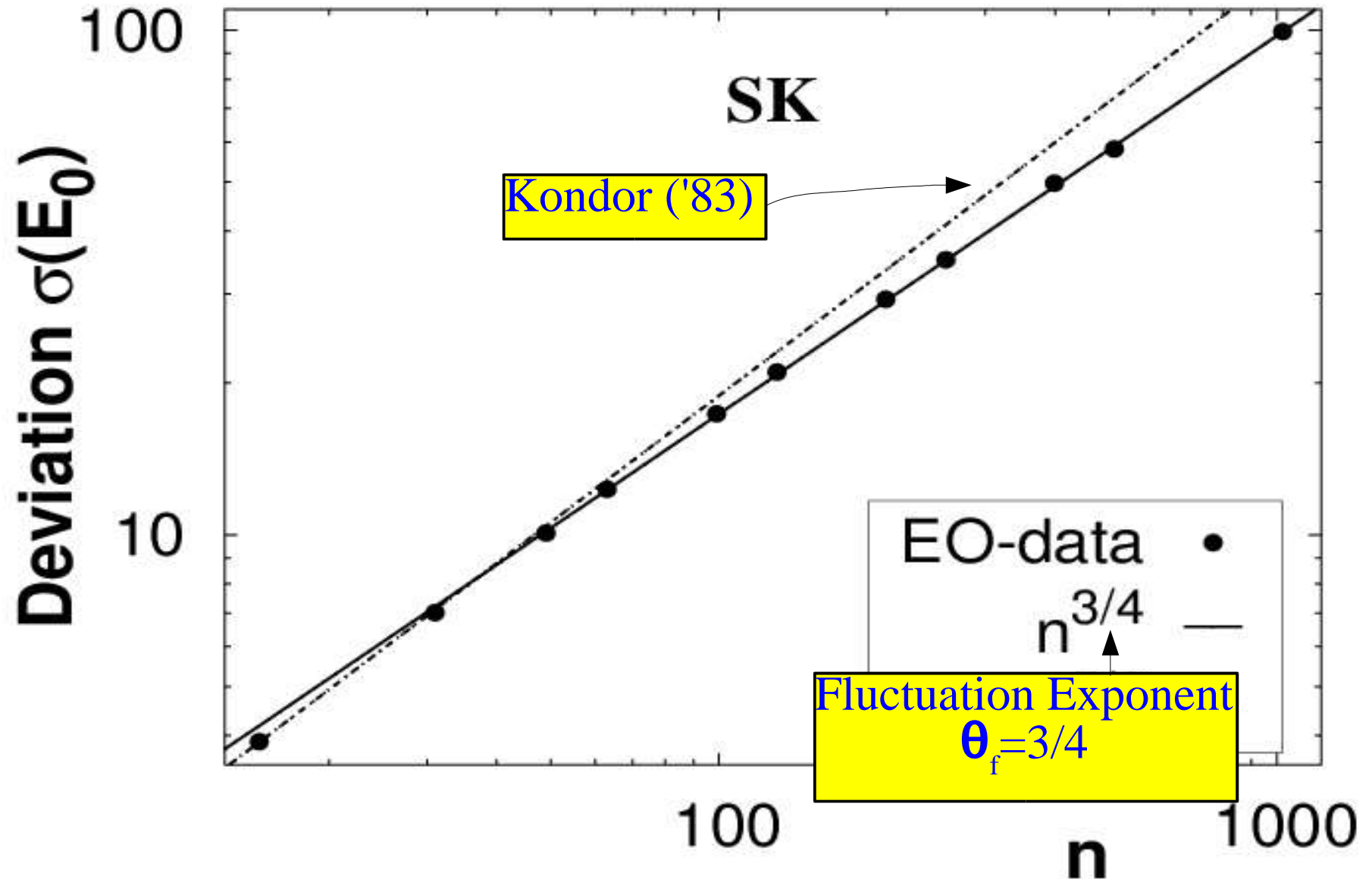
EO for $3d$ -Lattice Spin Glasses [[PRL86\('01\)5211](#)]

L	t	E/L^3	Pal96	Hartmann97
3	0.0006	-1.6712(6)	-1.67171(9)	-1.6731(19)
4	0.0071	-1.7377(3)	-1.73749(8)	-1.7370(9)
5	0.0653	-1.7609(2)	-1.76090(12)	-1.7603(8)
6	0.524	-1.7712(2)	-1.77130(12)	-1.7723(7)
7	3.87	-1.7764(3)	-1.77706(17)	
8	22.1	-1.7796(5)	-1.77991(22)	-1.7802(5)
9	100	-1.7822(5).		
10	424.	-1.7832(5)	-1.78339(27)	-1.7840(4)
12	9720.	-1.7857(16)	-1.78407(121)	-1.7851(4)
∞	$O(n^4)$	-1.7865(3)	-1.7863(4)	-1.7868(3)

Genetic Algorithms by Pal [[PhysicaA223\('96\)283](#)]
and by Hartmann [[EPL40\('97\)492](#)]

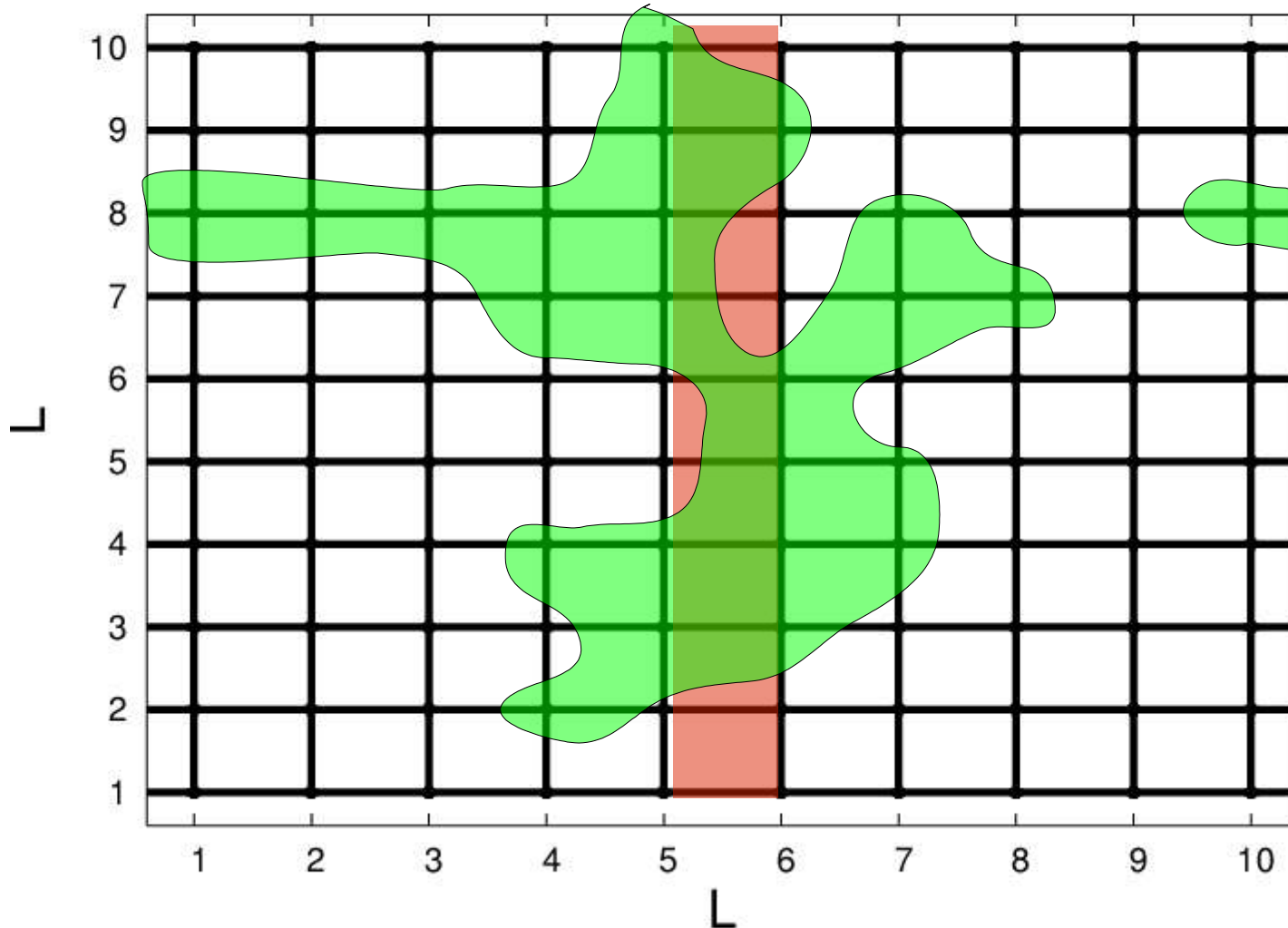
τ -EO for Sherrington-Kirkpatrick (SK):

- Mean-Field ($d \rightarrow \infty$) Spin Glasses:



Lattice Spin Glasses (at $T=0$):

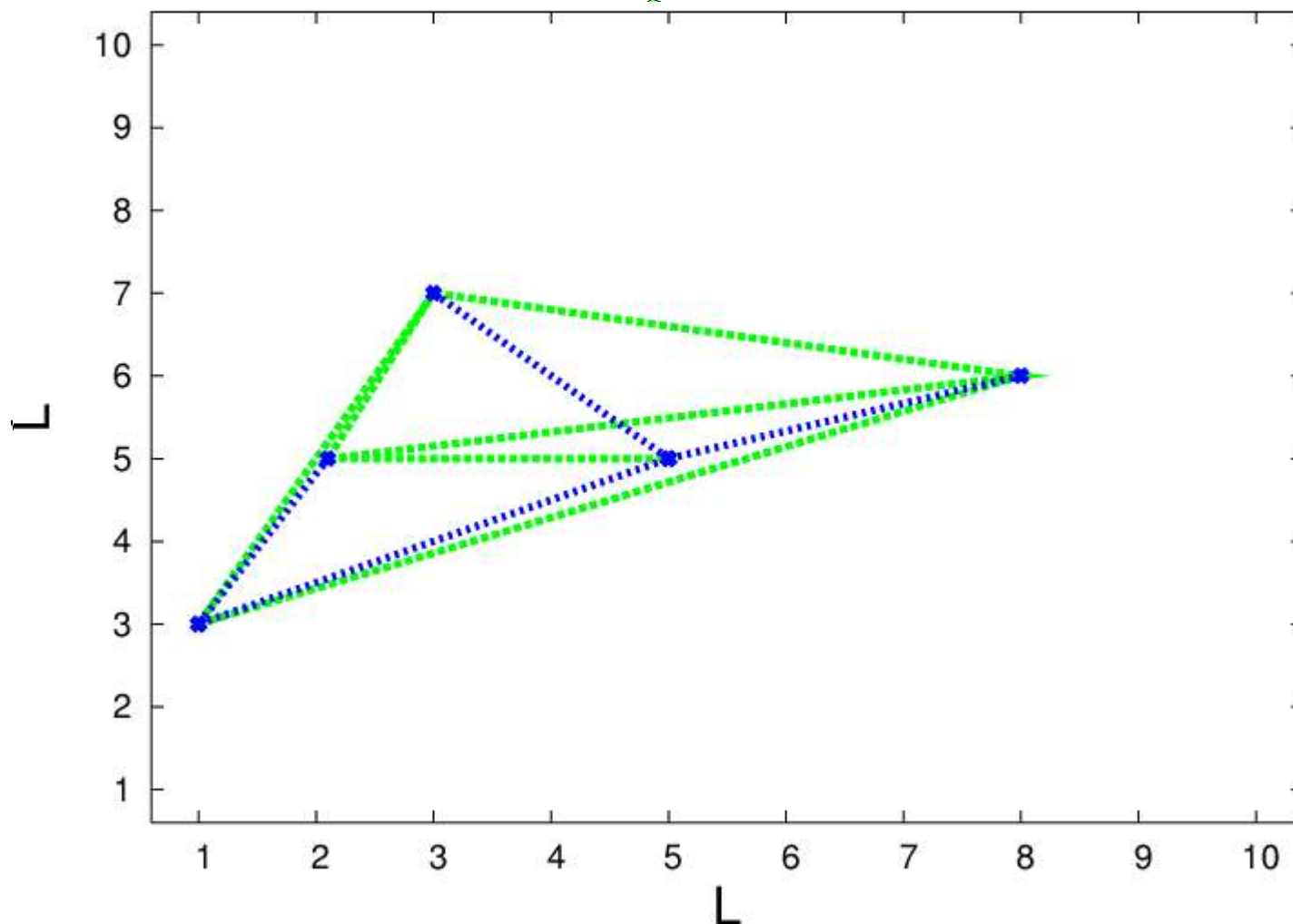
- Defect-Energy:
- Reverse Bonds (Perturb) on scale L
 - Measure Energy Fluctuations $\Delta E(L)$



⇒ Low-Energy Excitations (like “small Oscillations”)

Lattice Spin Glasses (at $T=0$):

Defect-Energy: Measure “Stiffness”: $\sigma(\Delta E) \sim L^y$



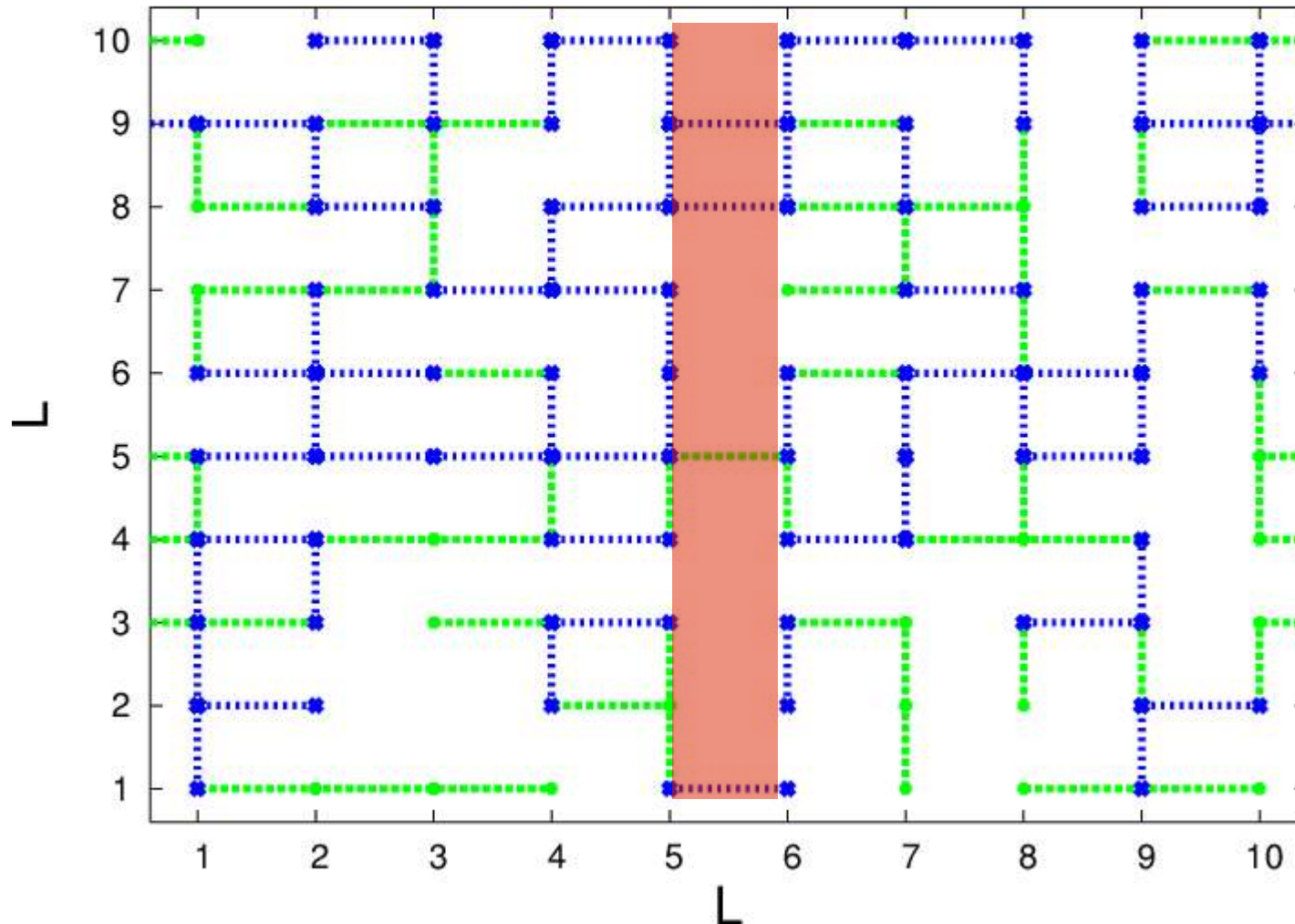
Before:
100 spins

After:
5 spins

⇒ Low-Energy Excitations on *bond-diluted* Lattices

Lattice Spin Glasses (at $T=0$):

Defect-Energy: Measure “Stiffness”: $\sigma(\Delta E) \sim L^y$

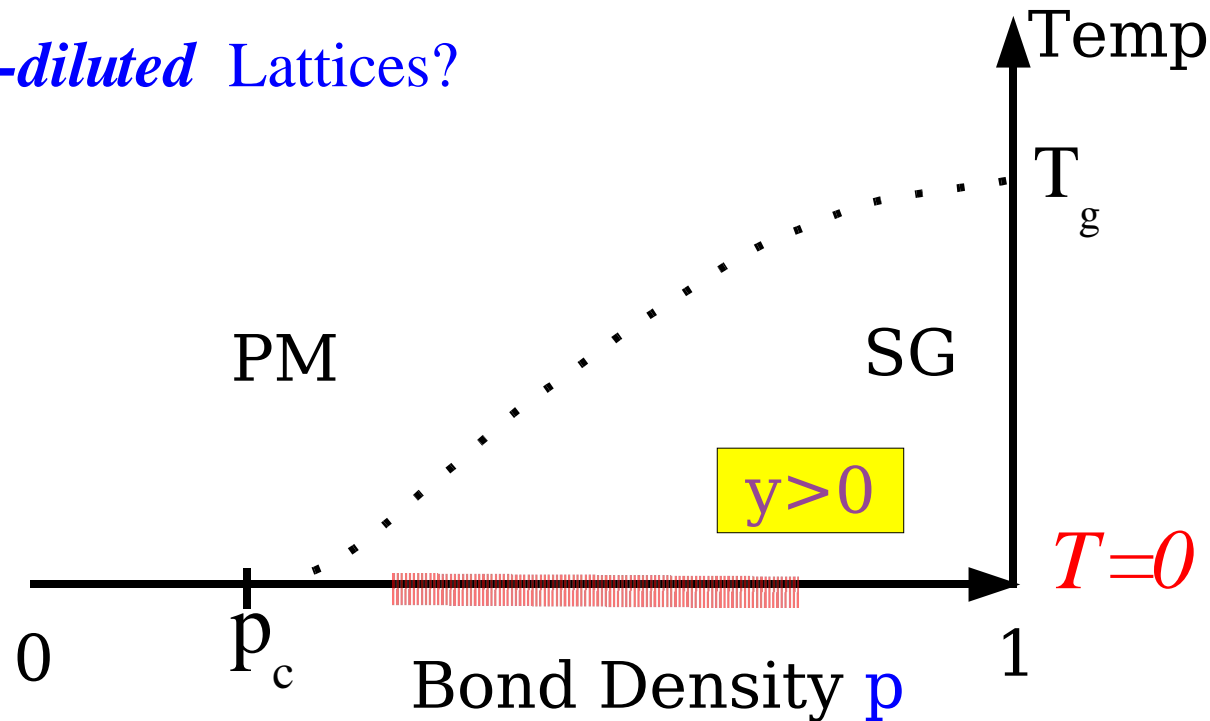


⇨ Low-Energy Excitations on bond-diluted Lattices

Lattice Spin Glasses (at $T=0$):

Defect-Energy: Measure “Stiffness”: $\sigma(\Delta E) \sim L^y$

How bond-diluted Lattices?



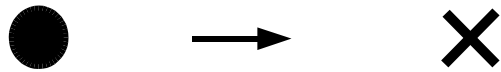
Why bond-diluted Lattices?

- Simpler Problem
- Larger Sizes L
- Better Scaling

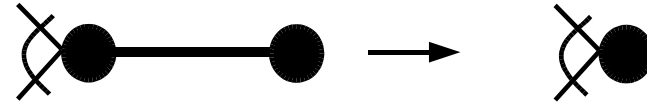
Reduction Method for sparse Graphs:

“Reduce” low-connected Spins, optimize the Remainder ($T=0$ only!):

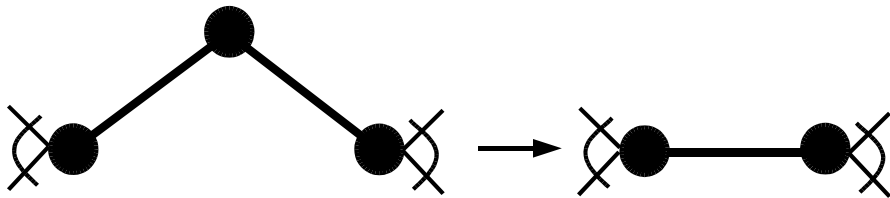
0-con:



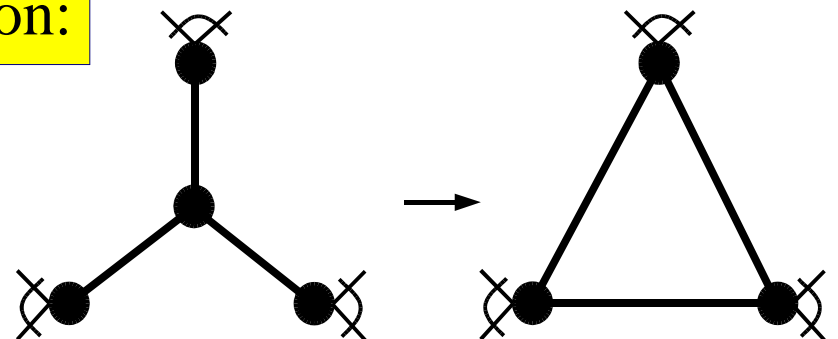
1-con:



2-con:

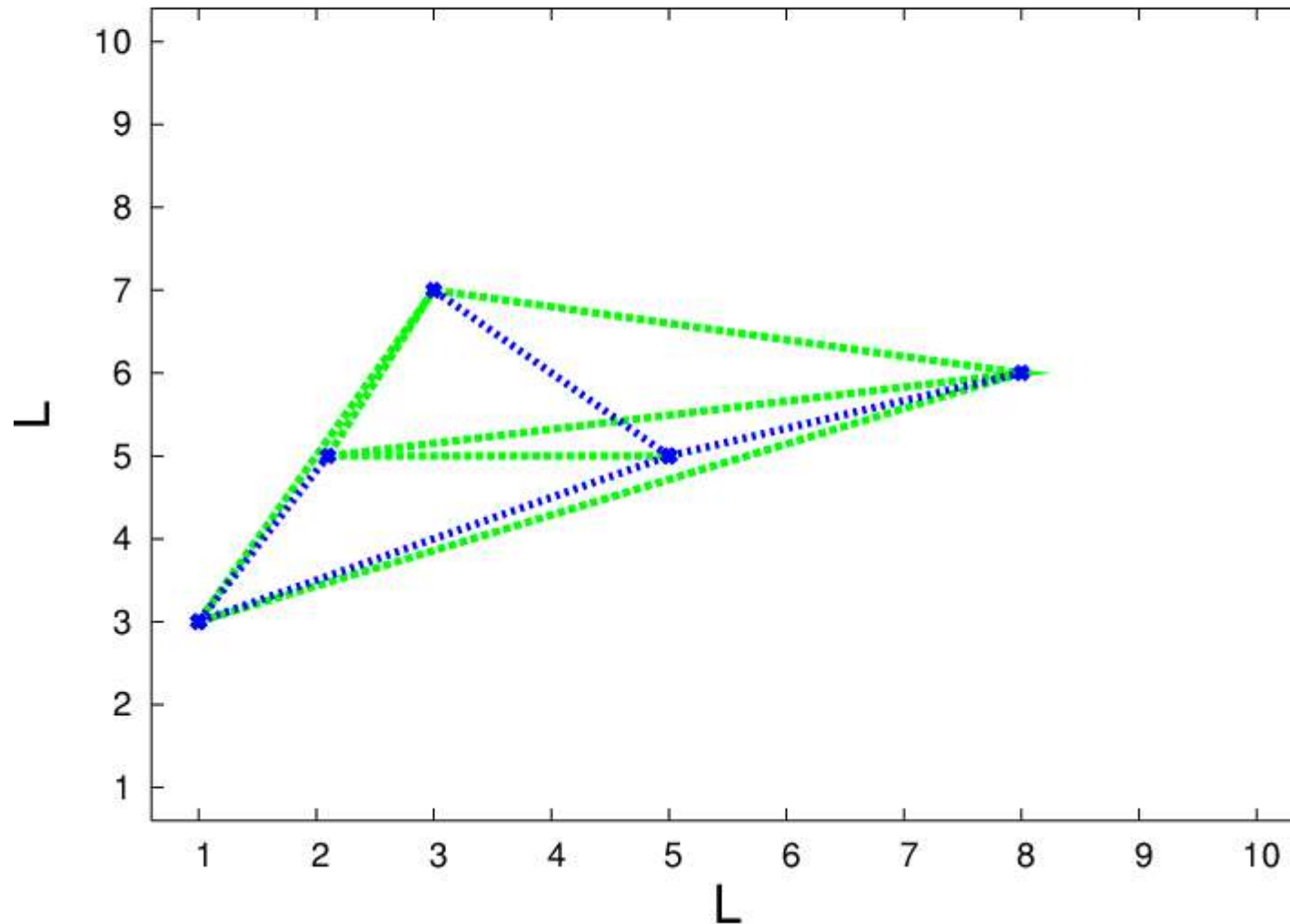


3-con:



Lattice Spin Glasses (at $T=0$):

Applying the Reduction Rules:

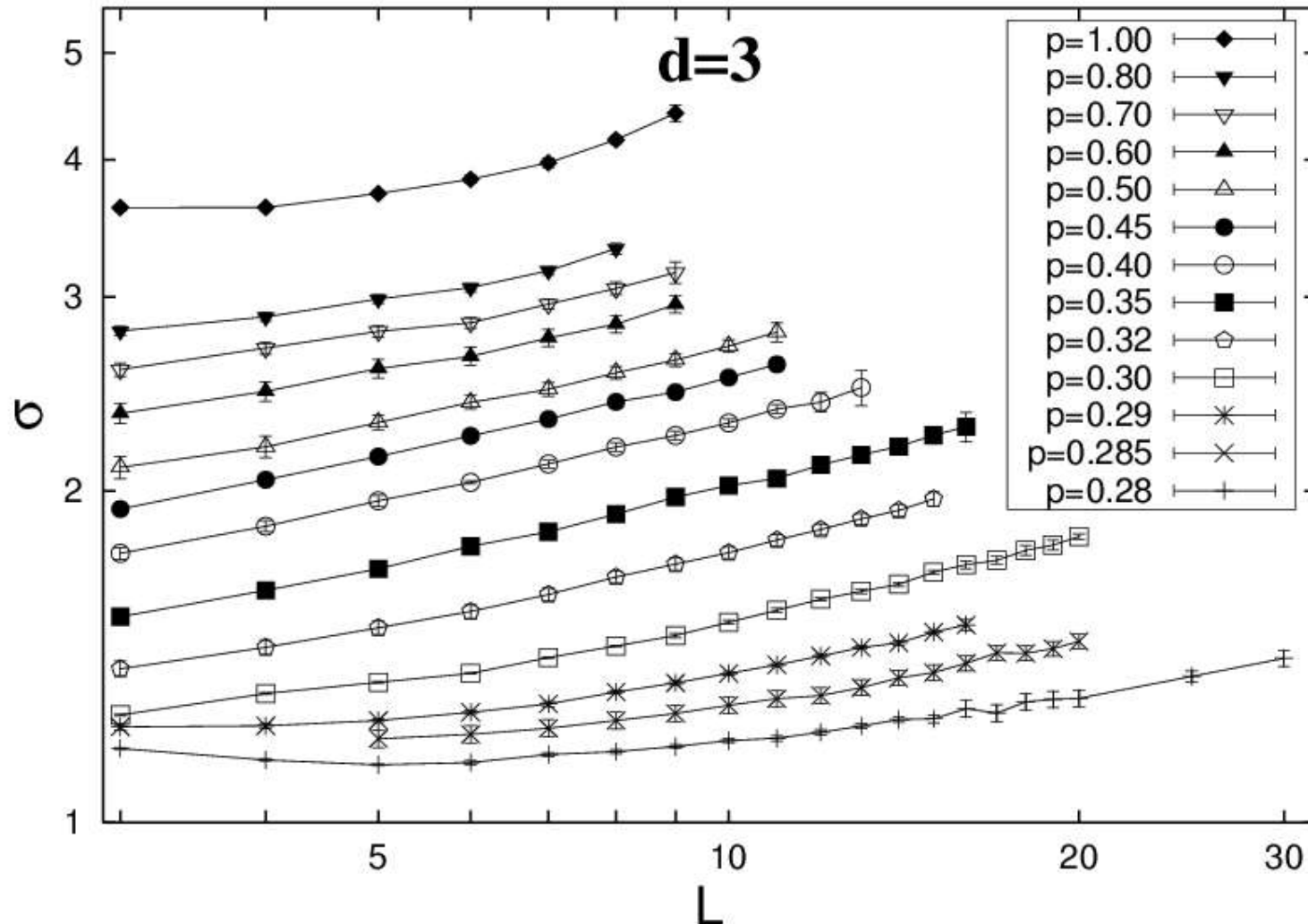


Before:
100 spins

After:
5 spins

Defect-Energy of diluted Lattices:

“Stiffness”: $\sigma(\Delta E) \sim L^y$

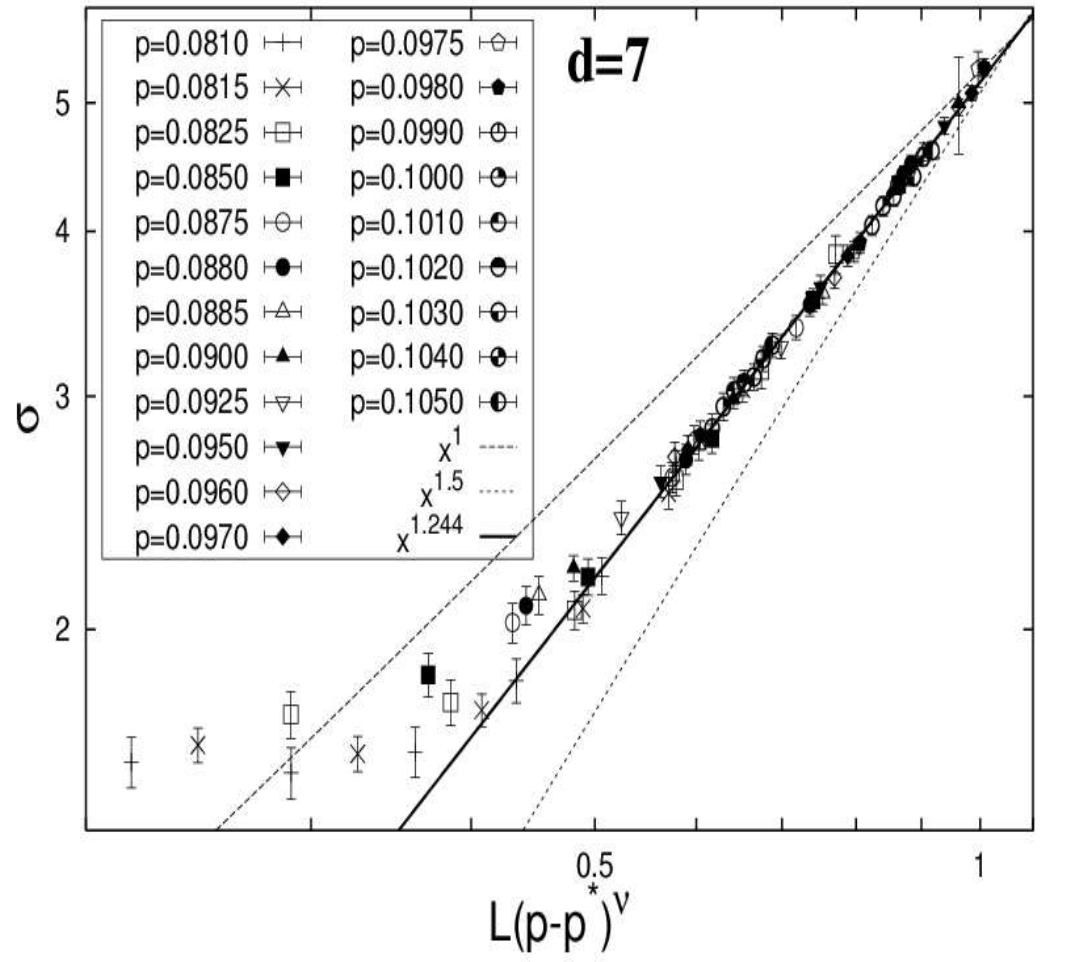
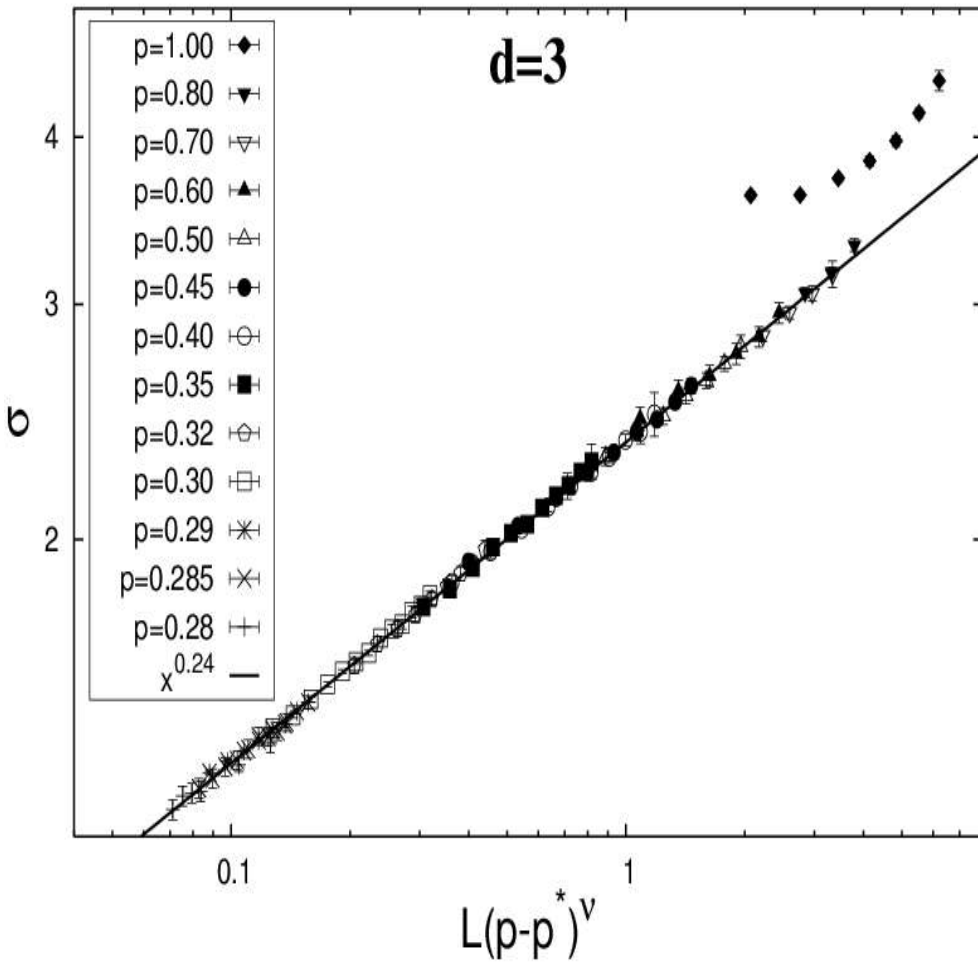


Stiffness Exponent γ for Lattice Glasses:

- Reduction plus τ -EO for dilute-Lattice $\pm J$ Glasses:

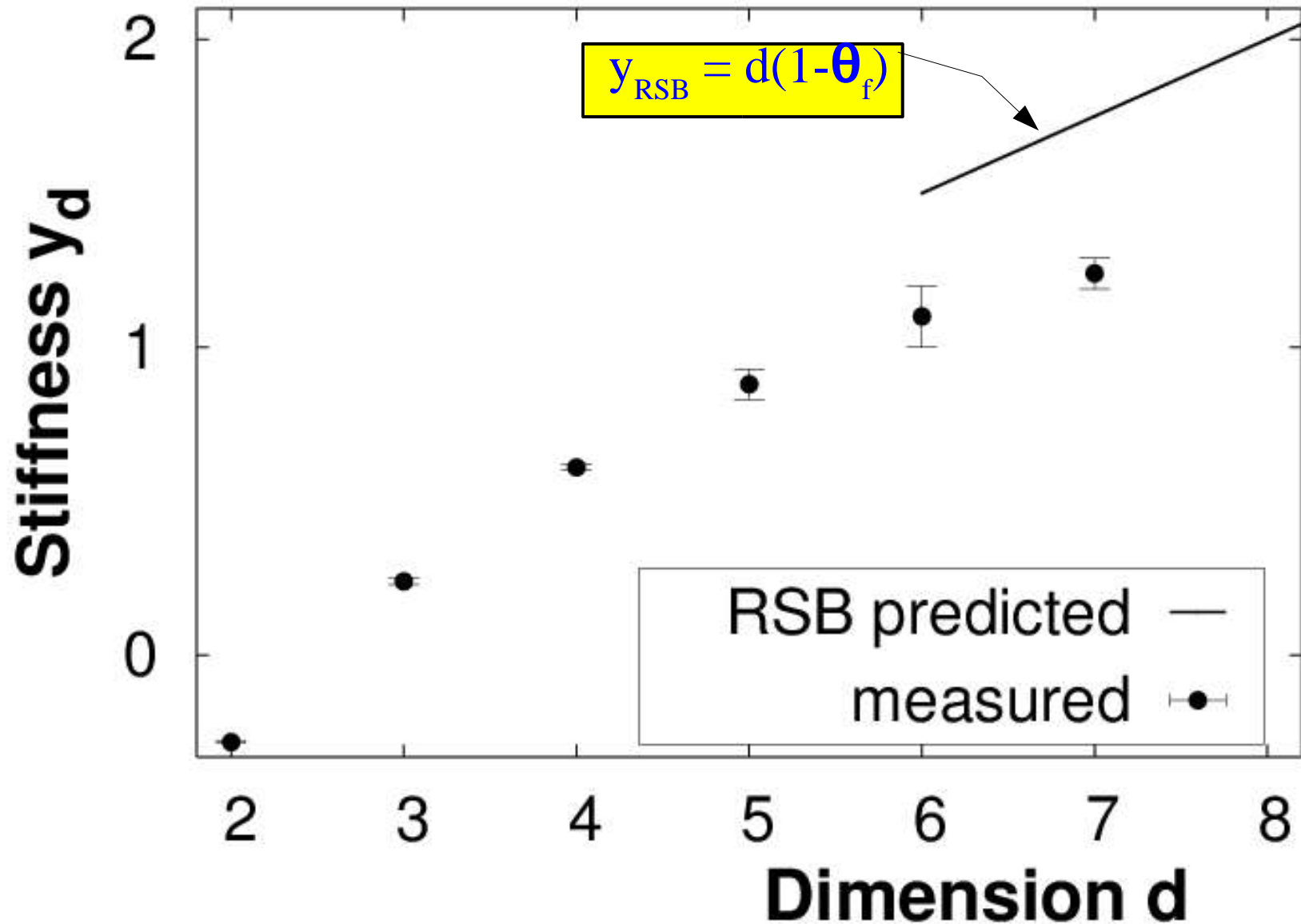
d=3

d=7 (!)



Comparing with Mean-Field Theory:

“Stiffness”: $\sigma(\Delta E) \sim L^y$



Cinderella Cluster:

- 18 Boxes w/ AthlonXP (2GHz), 512 Mb, no HD, Video, etc
- 1 Server w/ P4, 1Gb, RAID5, Tape, etc
- Diskless NetBoot over fast Switch
- QUANTIAN_4.6.0.9 (Debian) w/
 - TerminalServer
 - OPENMOSIX loadbalancer
 - MPI for parallel processing

Cost: ~\$8,000

Conclusions:

● Extremal Optimization:

- Selection *against* extremely *Bad* ⇨ Greedy!
- *No Rejection* ⇨ Large Fluctuations ⇨ No Trapping!
- *Single, fixed* Parameter (τ) ⇨ Simple!
- τ -EO: Optimizing at the *Ergodic Edge*.
- Problems: Definition of Fitness and Sorting Ranks.

● Results:

- Works well for Partitioning, Coloring, Spin Glasses, Satisfiability, Pattern Recognition (at least!).
- Works poorly for TSP, Polymer Folding, ie. *highly* connected problems!
- Theory: “*Jamming*” Model, predicting $\tau_{opt} \searrow I^+$.