





Metastability For the DCWP Model with Glauber dynamics Vicente Lenz

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What is metastability?

Metastability is a dynamical phenomenon where a system under the influence of stochastic dynamics moves between different regions **on different timescales**. **Reword simpler**

In physical systems, this takes the form of transitions between different local energy valleys.









Ising model on a grid



Let $(X(t))_{t>0}$ be a Markov process over S, and let $\mathcal{M} = \{\mathcal{M}_1, \dots, \mathcal{M}_K\}, \mathcal{M}_i \subset S$ be our candidate metastable set collection Let us define the return time to a set $\mathcal{A} \subset S$ by

 $\tau_{\mathcal{A}} \coloneqq \inf \left\{ t > 0 : X(t) \in \mathcal{A}, X(t-) \notin \mathcal{A} \right\}$

Then $(X(t))_{t>0}$ is said to be ρ -metastable with respect to the collection \mathcal{M} if and only if

Each \mathcal{M}_j is hard to leave for the others

$$K \frac{\max_{j \in \{1,...,K\}} \mathcal{P}_{\mu|\mathcal{M}_{j}} \left[\tau_{\cup\mathcal{M}\setminus\mathcal{M}_{j}} < \tau_{\mathcal{M}_{j}}\right]}{\min_{\mathcal{B}\subset\mathcal{S}\setminus\cup\mathcal{M}} \mathcal{P}_{\mu|\mathcal{B}} \left[\tau_{\cup\mathcal{M}} < \tau_{\mathcal{B}}\right]} \leq \rho \ll 1$$

There must not be other hard to leave sets

How to study metastability?

The geometry of the free energy landscape gives us information about metastability

- Global minimum
- Local minima
- Saddle points

stable state metastable state gates/critical droplets

A central quantity is the mean hitting time from a metastable to a metastable set. Hitting times between metastable sets behave like exponential RVs (no memory)

Metastable systems recover Arrhenius law: for $N \to \infty$, $E(\tau) \sim \exp(N\Delta F)$

Typically, trajectories in state space pass through from gates/critical droplets.

Trough **potential theory** we will obtain explicit expressions for the hitting time.



The CWP model

- Mean field spin particle model, with configuration space $S_N = \{1, \ldots, q\}^N, \quad \sigma = (\sigma_1, \cdots, \sigma_N) \in S_N$
- CWP Hamiltonian given by $ilde{H}_N(\sigma)\coloneqq rac{-1}{N}\sum_{i< j}^N\mathbbm{1}_{\sigma_i=\sigma_j}\propto N$
- Equilibrium Gibbs measure given by $\tilde{\mu}_N(\sigma) = rac{e^{-eta \tilde{H}_N(\sigma)}}{\tilde{Z}_N},$



• Symmetry on both colors and positions.



$$\sigma \in \mathcal{S}_6, \quad q=3$$

The CWP model: empirical magnetization



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The DCWP model

• $J = (J_{ij})_{1 \le i < j \le \infty}$ triangular array with i.i.d mean 1 entries variance v (+regularity conditions)

- CWP Hamiltonian given by $H_N(\sigma) \coloneqq rac{-1}{N} \sum_{i < j}^N J_{ij} \mathbbm{1}_{\sigma_i = \sigma_j}$
- Gibbs measure μ_N analogously defined
- Close to CWP Hamiltonian: $\mathbb{E}[H_N(\sigma)] = \tilde{H}_N(\sigma), \quad \mathbb{V}[H_N(\sigma)] \le \frac{v}{2}$
- **Can't** be expressed in terms of the empirical magnetization.
- Depending on the edge weights, can thought as a Potts model over a random graph (Erdős–Rényi, multiedge)
- **Breaks** the position symmetry (edge weights)
- Maintains color symmetry (absence of magnetic field)





Glauber dynamics

Both models can be endowed with spin flip dynamics: let $\sigma, \eta \in S_N$ adjacent configurations, then define $(\Sigma_N(n))_{n\geq 0}$ on S_N with transition probabilities

$$p_N(\sigma,\eta) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{qN} e^{-\beta [H_N(\eta) - H_N(\sigma)]_+} & \text{if} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

if $d(\sigma, \eta) = 1$, otherwise

Analogously define $(\tilde{\Sigma}_N(n))_{n\geq 0}$. $\mu_N, \tilde{\mu}_N$ are their reversible measures

 $(\rho_N(\Sigma_N(n)))_{n\geq 0}$ is not a Markov process.

 $(\rho_N(\tilde{\Sigma}_N(n)))_{n\geq 0}$ is a Markov process (lumping property). Closest neighbor weighted random walk with reversible measure

$$\eta(x) = \tilde{\mu}_N(\rho_N^{-1}(x)) \approx \frac{\exp(-\beta N F_\beta(x))}{(2\pi N)^{\frac{q-1}{2}} \tilde{Z}_N}$$

Glauber dynamics





Lumped annealed free energy landscape, q=3

$$F_{\beta}(x) = -\frac{\|x\|_{2}^{2}}{2} + \frac{1}{\beta} \sum_{k=1}^{q} x_{k} \ln x_{k}$$





 $0 < \beta < \beta_1$

Not metastable

 $\beta_1 < \beta < \beta_2$

Metastable, one global minimum 3 local minima $\beta_2 < \beta < \beta_3$

Metastable, one local minimum 3 global minima $\beta_3 < \beta$

Metastable, 3 global minima

• Due to symmetry metastable regimes are degenerate: multiple minima with the same energy.

Simulations for the DCWP model



Key questions

Start defining $\mathcal{M}_0 = \rho_N^{-1}(p), \quad , \mathcal{M}_k = \rho_N^{-1}(u_k), \quad , k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

Assume $\beta_1 < \beta < \beta_2$ is such that the CWP model is e^{-k_1N} -metastable with respect to the sets $\mathcal{M}_0, \cdots, \mathcal{M}_q$

Q: Is the DCWP model metastable for the same β and metastable sets? A: Yes ,with probability going to 1 and metastability constant $e^{-k_2N}, k_2 < k_1$.

Let $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{M}_1 \cup \mathcal{M}_2 \cup \mathcal{M}_3$, $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{M}_0$ and $\nu_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}$ the last exit biased distribution.

Q: What can we say about the mean hitting time $E_{\nu_{A,B}}[\tau_B]$? A: Two types of results: moment and tail estimates.

Q: What can we say about different ${\cal A}$, ${\cal B}$? A:



Main Theorems

Assumption Let $\beta_1 < \beta < \beta_2$. The CWP model is e^{-k_1N} metastable with respect to the collection $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_0, \cdots, \mathcal{M}_3$.

Theorem 1: There exists $0 < k_2 < k_1$ such that the event $\{(\Sigma_N(t))_{t\geq 0} \text{ is } e^{-k_2N} - metastable with respect to <math>\mathcal{M}\}$ has probability going to 1 as $N \to \infty$.

Strategy of proof: from the potential-theoretic definition of metastability

$$|\mathcal{M}| \frac{\tilde{\operatorname{cap}}(\mathcal{M}_l, \cup \mathcal{M} \setminus \mathcal{M}_l) / \tilde{\mu}[\mathcal{M}_l]}{\tilde{\operatorname{cap}}(\mathcal{C}, \cup \mathcal{M}) / \tilde{\mu}[\mathcal{C}]} \le e^{-k_1 N}$$

The CWP and DCWP capacities and measures deviate by an order of $e^{C\sqrt{N}}$ with probability going to 1, preserving the exponential order on the r.h.s..

Main Theorems

Theorem 2: for any r > 0, and N big enough we have

$$e^{-\frac{\beta^2 v}{4}}(1+o(1)) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}\left[\mathbb{E}_{\nu_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tau_{\mathcal{B}}]^r\right]^{\frac{1}{r}}}{\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_{\tilde{\nu}_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tilde{\tau}_{\mathcal{B}}]} \leq e^{4r\frac{\beta^2 v}{4}}(1+o(1)).$$

Theorem 3: Let β be such that \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} as previously defined. Then are constants $c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, \alpha$ such that $\forall s > 0$

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} \mathbb{P}\left[c_1 e^{-t-\alpha} (1+o(1)) \le \frac{\mathrm{E}_{\nu_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tau_{\mathcal{B}}]}{\tilde{\mathrm{E}}_{\tilde{\nu}_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tilde{\tau}_{\mathcal{B}}]} \le c_2 e^{t+\alpha} (1+o(1))\right] \ge 1-c_3 e^{-c_4 s^2}.$$

Main Theorems

Sketch of proof for Theorem 3:

 $\mathcal{E}_{\nu_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tau_{\mathcal{B}}] = \frac{\sum_{x \in \mathcal{S}} \mu(x) h_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}(x)}{\operatorname{cap}(\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B})}$

$$\ln \left(\frac{E_{\nu_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tau_{\mathcal{B}}]}{\tilde{E}_{\tilde{\nu}_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tilde{\tau}_{\mathcal{B}}]} \right) = \ln \left(E_{\nu_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tau_{\mathcal{B}}] \right) - \mathbb{E}[\ln \left(E_{\nu_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tau_{\mathcal{B}}] \right)] + \mathbb{E}[\ln \left(E_{\nu_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tau_{\mathcal{B}}] \right)] - \ln \left(\tilde{E}_{\tilde{\nu}_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tilde{\tau}_{\mathcal{B}}] \right)$$

$$Concentration inequality for Lipschitz functions Annealed estimates Annealed estimates$$

 e^{-k_1N} metastability let's us approximate the log of the harmonic sum by the depth of the valley, which is Lipschitz on the random weights.

Variational principles let us estimate capacity.

Challenges



This can be solved by use of symmetries for the CWP model via lumped process and color symmetry use, but not (yet) for DCWP.

References

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Potential theory

Translates the problem of understanding the metastable behaviour of Markov processes to the study of capacities of electric networks/boundary problems.

Key formulas: $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{S}, x \in \mathcal{S}$

 $h_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}(x) = P_x[\tau_{\mathcal{A}} < \tau_{\mathcal{B}}]$ Harmonic function

$$\begin{split} & \operatorname{cap}(\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{A}} \mu(x)(-Lh_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}})(x) & \text{Capacity between two sets} \\ & \operatorname{E}_{\nu_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}}[\tau_{\mathcal{B}}] = \frac{\sum_{x \in \mathcal{S}} \mu(x)h_{\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B}}(x)}{\operatorname{cap}(\mathcal{A},\mathcal{B})} & \text{Expression for (biased) hitting} \\ & \text{time} \end{split}$$

The capacity has upper and lower bounds coming from variational principles! Metastability can be rephrased in terms of comparison of capacities.