Free Energy Rates for Parameter Rich Optimization Problems

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## Roadmap



### **Generic Problem**



## Generic Problem: Gibbs Sampling

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- We search for solutions:  $X \rightarrow c$
- Input X (e. g. a graph) is random!
- Want solution *c* still to be stable

define a Maximum Entropy Gibbs measure over c:

 $p(c|X) \propto \exp(-\beta \cdot \operatorname{cost}(c,X))$ 



solutions

### Generic Problem: "free energy"

Now

$$p(c|X) = \exp(-\beta \cdot \operatorname{cost} - \mathcal{F}(X)),$$

where the following is free energy:

 $\mathcal{F}(X) = \log Z(X)$  (here Z(X) is partition function).

Goal: compute expected "free energy" - hard:

$$\mathbb{E}_X \mathcal{F}(X) = \mathbb{E}_X \log Z(X).$$



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- solutions are dependent on each other — not Random Energy Model (next slide)!
- contribution: free energy asymptotics solved!
- another case study Lawler Quadratic Assignment Problem solved as well: (see the paper).



## Free Energy: History and Advances

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- (Derrida'80) established REM no dependencies;
- (Talagrand'02): systematization; simple proof of REM free energy phase transition and beyond:

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{\mathbb{E}[\log Z(\beta,X)]}{n} = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta^2}{4} + \log 2 & \beta < 2\sqrt{\log 2}, \\ \beta\sqrt{\log 2} & \beta \ge 2\sqrt{\log 2}. \end{cases}$$

### Main Result



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- *m* is number of solutions
- *N* is size of one solution (number of parameters)
- require to be "parameter rich"

$$\log m = o(N)$$



## Main Result: 2<sup>nd</sup> Order Phase Transition

### Main theorem

Consider sparse MBP on a complete graph; edge weights mutually independent within any given solution; have mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ . Then, the following holds:

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{\mathbb{E}[\log Z] + \hat{\beta} \mu \sqrt{N \log m}}{\log m} = \begin{cases} 1 + \frac{\hat{\beta}^2 \sigma^2}{2}, & \hat{\beta} < \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sigma}, \\ \hat{\beta} \sigma \sqrt{2}, & \hat{\beta} \ge \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sigma} \end{cases}$$

provided log 
$$n \ll d \ll \frac{n^{2/7}}{\sqrt{\log n}}$$
.

## **Proof Outline**



## Proof Outline - I

- Introduce "solution overlap" D: average intersection of two bisections
- *D* is key to understand **dependencies** (remember we are no REM!)

### Lemma 1

The following holds

$$\mathbb{E}_{\text{rand choice}} D = \mathcal{O}(d^4/n).$$



### Proof Outline – II

- Introduce event A: happens when Z is close to  $\mathbb{E}Z$ , i. e.  $A := \{Z \ge \epsilon \mathbb{E}Z\}$
- Goal is to compute  $\mathbb{P}(A)$

### Fact 1

 $\mathbb{P}(A)$  can be bounded by VarZ via Chebychev.

Lemma 2 (Buhmann et al., 2014)

VarZ can be asymptotically approximated via  $\mathbb{E}_{\text{rand choice}} D$ :

$$\operatorname{Var} Z \sim (\mathbb{E} Z)^2 (\sigma^2 \beta^2 \mathbb{E}_{\operatorname{rand choice}} D).$$



### Proof Outline – III

• Break  $\mathbb{E} \log Z$  into

 $\mathbb{E} \log Z = \mathbb{E}[\log Z \mid A] \cdot \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{E}[\log Z \mathbb{1}(\bar{A})]$  $\geq (\log \mathbb{E}Z + \log \epsilon) \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{E}[\log Z \mathbb{1}(\bar{A})]$ 

### Fact 3

Can expand  $\log \mathbb{E}Z$  via Taylor expansion (used assumptions of Theorem) and bound  $\mathbb{P}(A)$  from previous.

#### Fact 4

 $\mathbb{E}[\log Z\mathbb{1}(\bar{A})]$ : enough to bound loosely



### Proof Outline – IV

 Finally, the right choice of ε for two regimes of β gives the phase transition in lower bound

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{\mathbb{E}[\log Z]+\cdots}{\cdots} > \begin{cases} 1+\frac{\hat{\beta}^2\sigma^2}{2}, & \hat{\beta}<\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sigma},\\ \hat{\beta}\sigma\sqrt{2}, & \hat{\beta}\geq\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sigma}. \end{cases}$$

 The same phase transition happens for upper bound, — easier to prove (no computing dependencies)

## Possible Application





• Remember our approach:



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• Remember our approach:



- Q: what is regularizing here?
  A: choice of β essentially controls "width"
- **Q:** how?

A: maximize expected log-convolution:

$$eta^* = rg\max_eta \mathbb{E}_{X',X''} \Big[ \log \sum_c \mathcal{P}_eta(c|X') \mathcal{P}_eta(c|X'') \Big]$$

# Application Setting: Intuition

Log-convolution is "almost" cross entropy;

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- Log-convolution is "almost" cross entropy;
- It stabilizes solution output:



## Corollary and Application



# Corollary: Log-Convolution

• The log-convolution score can be rewritten:

$$\mathbb{E}\log\sum_{c} p_{\beta}(c|X')p_{\beta}(c|X'') = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}\log Z(\beta, X' + X'')}_{\text{Thm}} - 2\underbrace{\mathbb{E}\log Z(\beta, X)}_{\text{Thm}}$$

# Corollary: Log-Convolution

• The log-convolution score can be rewritten:

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}\log\sum_{c} p_{\beta}(c|X')p_{\beta}(c|X'') \\ &=\underbrace{\mathbb{E}\log Z(\beta,X'+X'')}_{\text{Thm}} -2\underbrace{\mathbb{E}\log Z(\beta,X)}_{\text{Thm}} \end{split}$$

• Thus possible to analytically compute score:



## Conclusion

- We computed asymptotically precisely the value of  $\mathbb{E} \log Z$  with small dependencies
- It has applications to model validation (submitted to J. of Theor. CS) in machine learning: method involves comparing two fluctuating Gibbs distributions
- Still not found a general way (and probably there is no such way)

## Thanks for your attention!



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