The Mean Field Approach to Sherrington-Kirkpatrick Model

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Experimental finding: In some dilute **magnetic alloys** such as AuFe and CuMn, when the temperature drops, the magnetization increases slowly, and then decreases slowly after a peak.



the anti-ferromagnetic material: oxides, halides, sulfides, etc.

- the first name: mictomagnet, coming from the mix of ferromagnetic and antiferromagnetic interactions.
- In 1970, P. Anderson proposed the concept of spin glass at the suggestion of B. R. Coles. Anderson P W. Localisation theory and the CuMn problem: Spin glasses. Materials Research Bulletin, 1970, 5(8): 549-554.

the first model: Edwards-Anderson model (Edwards & Anderson, 1975)

$$H = -\sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} J_{ij} S_i S_j \tag{1}$$

Edwards S F, Anderson P W. Theory of spin glasses. Journal of Physics F: Metal Physics, 1975, 5(5): 965.

the most famous model: Sherrington-Kirkpatrick model (Sherrington & Kirkpatrick, 1975)

$$H = -\sum_{i < j} J_{ij} S_i S_j \tag{2}$$

Sherrington D, Kirkpatrick S. Solvable model of a spin-glass. Physical Review Letters, 1975, 35(26): 1792.

the replica symmetry solution (Sherrington & Kirkpatrick, 1975) The order parameters m and q are the fixed points of the following equations

$$m = \int Dz \, \tanh \beta \widetilde{H}(z) \tag{3}$$

$$q = \int Dz \, \tanh^2 \beta \widetilde{H}(z) \tag{4}$$

where $Dz \equiv dz \ e^{-z^2/2}/\sqrt{2\pi}$ and $\widetilde{H}(z) \equiv J\sqrt{q}z + J_0m + h$. The free energy is calculated as

$$f_{\rm RS} = -\frac{1}{4}\beta J^2 (1-q)^2 + \frac{1}{2}J_0 m^2 - \frac{1}{\beta} \int Dz \, \log(2\cosh\beta \widetilde{H}(z))$$
(5)

▶ the negative entropy crisis (Sherrington & Kirkpatrick, 1975) When h = 0, $J_0 = 0$, and $T \rightarrow 0$, the free energy is

$$f_{\rm RS} = -\sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}}J + \frac{T}{2\pi} \tag{6}$$

F = E - TS, the ground state energy is $E = -\sqrt{2/\pi}J$, and the ground state entropy is $S = -\pi/2$.

the Thouless-Anderson-Palmer solution (TAP equation, 1977)
 The local magnetization satisfies

$$m_{i} = \tanh \beta \left(\sum_{j} J_{ij} m_{j} + h - \beta \sum_{j} J_{ij}^{2} (1 - m_{j}^{2}) m_{i} \right)$$
(7)

The free energy is calculated as

$$f_{\text{TAP}} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij} m_i m_j - \sum_i h_i m_i - \frac{\beta}{4} \sum_{i \neq j} J_{ij}^2 (1 - m_i^2) (1 - m_j^2) + \frac{1}{2\beta} \sum_i \left\{ (1 + m_i) \log \frac{1 + m_i}{2} + (1 - m_i) \log \frac{1 - m_i}{2} \right\}$$
(8)

Thouless D J, Anderson P W, Palmer R G. Solution of 'solvable model of a spin glass'. Philosophical Magazine, 1977, 35(3): 593-601.

the stability of the replica symmetric solution (dAT line, 1978)

$$\left(\frac{T}{J}\right)^2 > \int Dz \operatorname{sech}^4(\beta J \sqrt{q}z + \beta J_0 m) \text{ for } h = 0, \quad \left(\frac{T}{J}\right)^2 > \int Dz \operatorname{sech}^4(\beta J \sqrt{q}z + \beta h) \text{ for } J_0 = 0$$
(9)

de Almeida J R L, Thouless D J. Stability of the Sherrington-Kirkpatrick solution of a spin glass model. Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and General, 1978, 11(5): 983.



the replica symmetry breaking solution (Parisi, 1979) The free energy of the RSB solution is given by

$$f_{\text{RSB}} = -\frac{1}{4}\beta J^2 \left\{ 1 + \int_0^1 q(x)^2 dx - 2q(1) \right\} - \frac{1}{\beta} \int Du \ f_0(0, \sqrt{q(0)}u) \tag{10}$$

where f_0 satisfies the following Parisi equation:

$$\frac{\partial f_0(x,h)}{\partial x} = -\frac{J^2}{2} \frac{\mathrm{d}q}{\mathrm{d}x} \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 f_0}{\partial h^2} + x \left(\frac{\partial f_0}{\partial h^2} \right) \right\}$$
(11)

Parisi G. Infinite number of order parameters for spin-glasses. Physical Review Letters, 1979, 43(23): 1754. Parisi G. A sequence of approximated solutions to the S-K model for spin glasses. Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and General, 1980, 13(3): 1101.

Plefka expansion (1982)

see SMNN chapter 5 "High-Temperature Expansion"

Plefka T. Convergence condition for the TAP equation. Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and General, 1982, 15(6): 1971.

the cavity method (Mezard, Parisi, & Virasoro 1987)

Mezard M, Parisi G, Virasoro M A. The Replica Solution without Replicas. Journal of Physics A: Mathematical and General, 1987, 20(9): 2555.

- The vanilla cavity method can directly derive the TAP equations, and through a more rough approximation, it can back to the RS solution.
- Later, this method was found to be powerful in dealing with optimization problems, such as the K-satisfiability problem. Martin O. C., Monasson R. and Zecchina R. Statistical mechanics methods and phase transitions in optimization problems. Theoretical Computer Science, 2002, 265(1-2): 3-67. Mezard M., Zecchina R. Random K-satisfiability problem: From an analytic solution to an efficient algorithm. Physical

Review E, 2002, 66(5): 056126.

It is equivalent to belief propagation, also known as sum-product message passing, which is an efficient algorithm applied to sparse graph models, as discussed in Chapter 2 in SMNN book.

Yedidia J S, Freeman W T, Weiss Y. Constructing free-energy approximations and generalized belief propagation algorithms. IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, 2005, 51(7): 2282-2312.

Nishimori H. Statistical Physics of Spin Glasses and Information Processing: An Introduction. Oxford University Press, 2001.

Mezard M., Montanari A. Information, Physics, and Computation. Oxford University Press, 2009.

Although the SK model considers fully connected interactions, which is a dense graph rather than a sparse one, we can still do approximate calculation by the cavity iteration equation as following

$$h_{i \to ij} = \frac{1}{\beta} \left(\sum_{k(\neq i,j)} \beta u_{ik \to i} \right)$$
(12)

$$u_{ij\to i} = \frac{1}{\beta} \tanh^{-1} \left[\tanh\left(\beta J_{ij}\right) \tanh\left(\beta h_{j\to ij}\right) \right]$$
(13)

By iteratively solving for $u_{ij \rightarrow i}$, we can then solve for m_i using

$$m_i = \tanh\bigg(\sum_{j(\neq i)} \beta u_{ij \to i}\bigg),\tag{14}$$

and then we can calculate the free energy by $F=\sum_i \Delta F_i - \sum_{\langle ij\rangle} \Delta F_{ij},$ where

$$\Delta F_{ij} = \ln \left[\cosh(\beta J_{ij}) \left(1 + \tanh(\beta J_{ij}) m_{i \to ij} m_{j \to ij} \right) \right]$$
(15)

$$\Delta F_i = \ln \left(\prod_{j \neq i} \Lambda_{ij \to i}^+ + \prod_{j \neq i} \Lambda_{ij \to i}^- \right)$$
(16)

and

$$\Lambda_{ij\to i}^{\pm} = \cosh(\beta J_{ij}) \Big[1 \pm \tanh(\beta J_{ij}) m_{ij\to i} \Big]$$
(17)

Equations (12)~(17) can converge to the RS solution in the limit $N \rightarrow \infty$.

Some Tricks: the Enumeration Method

C++ or Python ?



Some Tricks: the TAP Equation

the one step iteration:

$$m_{i}^{t} = \tanh \beta \left(\sum_{j} J_{ij} m_{j}^{t-1} + h - \beta \sum_{j} J_{ij}^{2} \left(1 - (m_{j}^{t-1})^{2} \right) m_{i}^{t-1} \right)$$
(18)

the two step iteration:

$$m_{i} = \tanh \beta \left(\sum_{j} J_{ij} m_{j}^{t-1} + h - \beta \sum_{j} J_{ij}^{2} \left(1 - (m_{j}^{t-1})^{2} \right) m_{i}^{t-2} \right)$$
(19)

Erwin Bolthausen, An Iterative Construction of Solutions of the TAP Equations for the Sherrington-Kirkpatrick Model, Communications in Mathematical Physics 325, 333366 (2014).



The Phase Diagrams



The Phase Diagrams





Comparison of Different Methods



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