

Quantitative estimates in stochastic homogenization

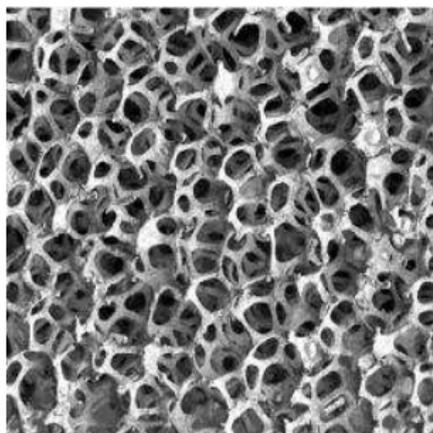
Stefan Neukamm

Max Planck Institute for Mathematics in the Sciences

joint work with Antoine Gloria and Felix Otto

RDS 2012 – Bielefeld

Motivation: Effective **large scale behavior** of **random media**

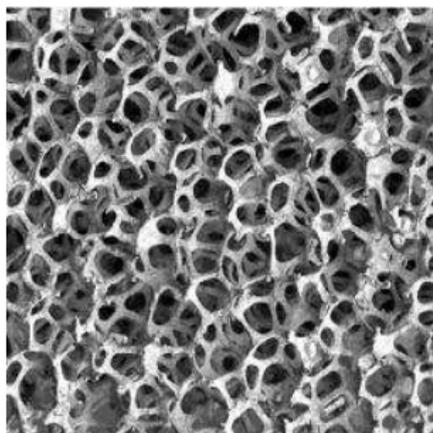


- description by **statistics**
- effective large scale behavior
 - ↪ **stochastic homogenization**
- qualitative theory
 - ↪ well-established
 - ↪ **formula** for effective properties

In practice: Evaluation of **formula** requires **approximation**

- only few results; non-optimal estimates for approximation error
- lack of understanding on very basic level

Motivation: Effective **large scale behavior** of **random media**



- description by **statistics**
- effective large scale behavior
 - ↪ **stochastic homogenization**
- qualitative theory
 - ↪ well-established
 - ↪ **formula** for effective properties

In practice: Evaluation of **formula** requires **approximation**

- only few results; non-optimal estimates for approximation error
- lack of understanding on very basic level

Our motivation:

Quantitative methods leading to **optimal estimates**

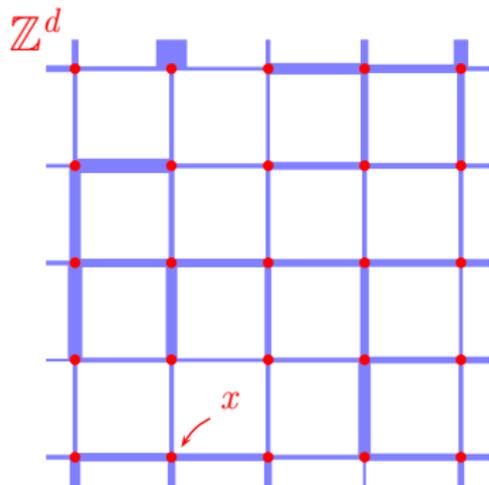
...**model problem:** linear, elliptic, scalar, on \mathbb{Z}^d

Summary

- ▶ Framework: discrete elliptic equation with random coefficients
- ▶ Qualitative homogenization
- ▶ Homogenization formula and corrector – periodic case
- ▶ Corrector equation in probability space
- ▶ Main results
- ▶ A decay estimate for a diffusion semigroup

Discrete elliptic equation with random coefficients

Discrete elliptic equation with **random coefficients**



$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x) \nabla u(x) = f(x)$$

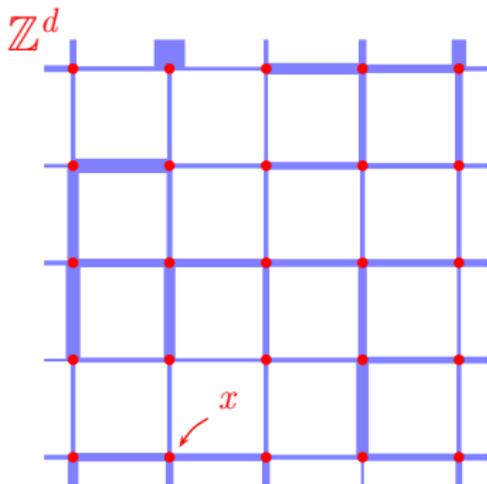
Coefficient field

$$\mathbf{a} : \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\text{diag}, \lambda}^{d \times d}$$

$$0 < \lambda \leq \mathbf{a}(x) \leq 1$$

(uniform ellipticity)

Discrete elliptic equation with **random coefficients**



$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x) \nabla u(x) = f(x)$$

Coefficient field

$$\mathbf{a} : \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\text{diag}, \lambda}^{d \times d}$$

$$0 < \lambda \leq \mathbf{a}(x) \leq 1$$

(uniform ellipticity)

Lattice \mathbb{Z}^d

sites x, y , coord. directions e_1, \dots, e_d

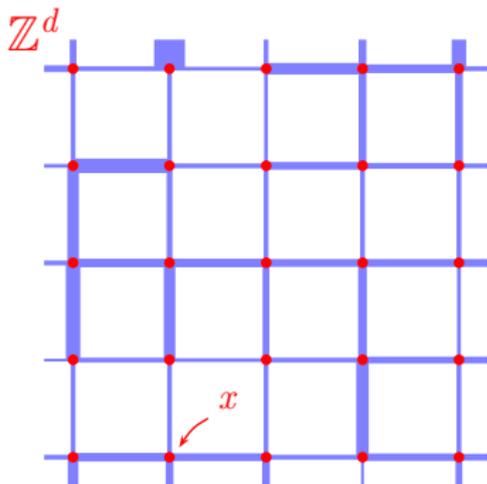
Gradient ∇

$$\nabla u = (\nabla_1 u, \dots, \nabla_d u), \quad \nabla_i u(x) = u(x + e_i) - u(x)$$

(negative) **Divergence** ∇^* (= ℓ^2 -adjoint of ∇)

$$\nabla^* g = \nabla_1^* g_1 + \dots + \nabla_d^* g_d, \quad \nabla_i^* g_i(x) = g(x - e_i) - g(x).$$

Discrete elliptic equation with **random coefficients**



$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x) \nabla u(x) = f(x)$$

Coefficient field

$$\mathbf{a} : \mathbb{Z}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\text{diag}, \lambda}^{d \times d}$$

$$0 < \lambda \leq \mathbf{a}(x) \leq 1$$

(uniform ellipticity)

Random coefficients

$$\Omega := (\mathbb{R}_{\text{diag}, \lambda}^{d \times d})^{(\mathbb{Z}^d)}$$

= space of coefficient fields

$\langle \cdot \rangle$ = probability measure on Ω

= "the ensemble"

Behavior in the large \rightsquigarrow **stochastic homogenization**

Simplest setting: $\{\mathbf{a}(x)\}_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$ are independent and identically distributed according to a random variable A

Most general setting: $\langle \cdot \rangle$ is stationary and ergodic

Stationarity: $\forall z \in \mathbb{Z}^d : \mathbf{a}(\cdot)$ and $\mathbf{a}(\cdot + z)$ have same distribution



Ergodicity: If $\forall z \in \mathbb{Z}^d F(\mathbf{a}(\cdot + z)) = F(\mathbf{a})$ then $F = \langle F \rangle$ a. s.

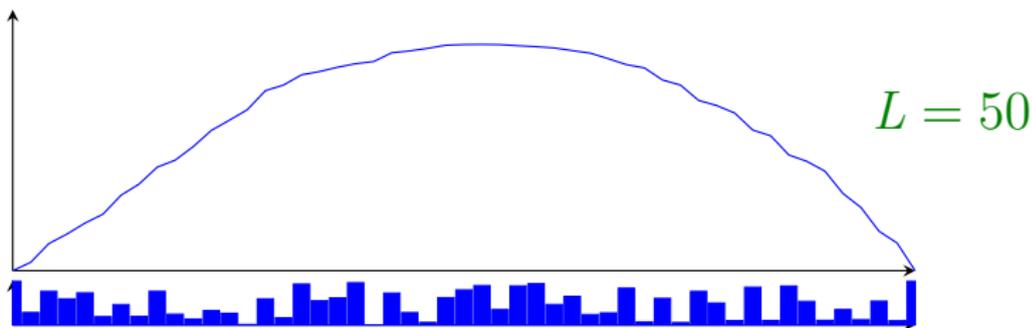
Qualitative homogenization

Numerical simulation - 1d, Dirichlet problem

$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x) \nabla u(x) = 1, \quad x \in (0, L) \cap \mathbb{Z}, \quad L \gg 1$$

$$u(0) = u(L) = 0$$

statistics of \mathbf{a} independent, identically, distributed
uniformly in $(0.2, 1)$

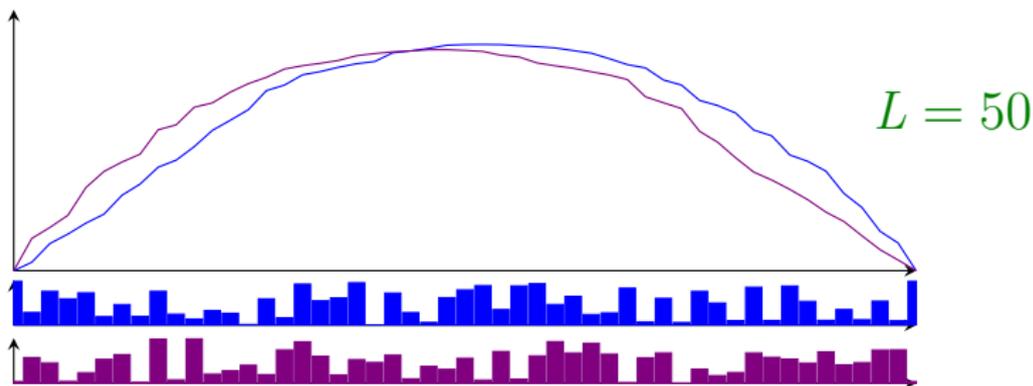


Numerical simulation - 1d, Dirichlet problem

$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x) \nabla u(x) = 1, \quad x \in (0, L) \cap \mathbb{Z}, \quad L \gg 1$$

$$u(0) = u(L) = 0$$

statistics of \mathbf{a} independent, identically, distributed
uniformly in $(0.2, 1)$

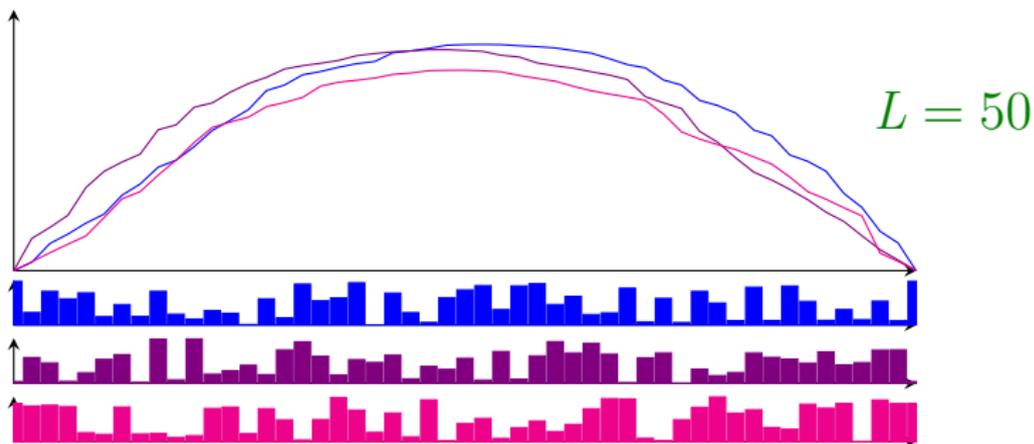


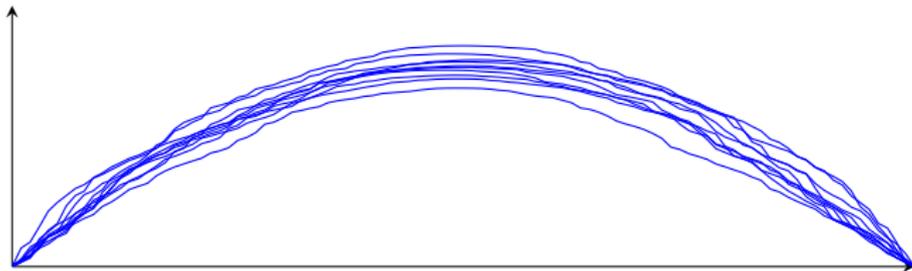
Numerical simulation - 1d, Dirichlet problem

$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x) \nabla u(x) = 1, \quad x \in (0, L) \cap \mathbb{Z}, \quad L \gg 1$$

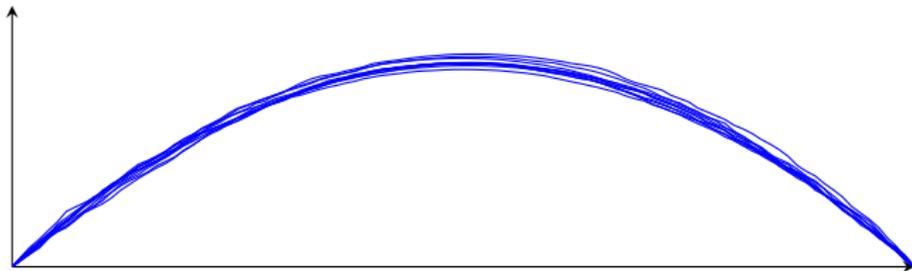
$$u(0) = u(L) = 0$$

statistics of \mathbf{a} independent, identically, distributed
uniformly in $(0.2, 1)$

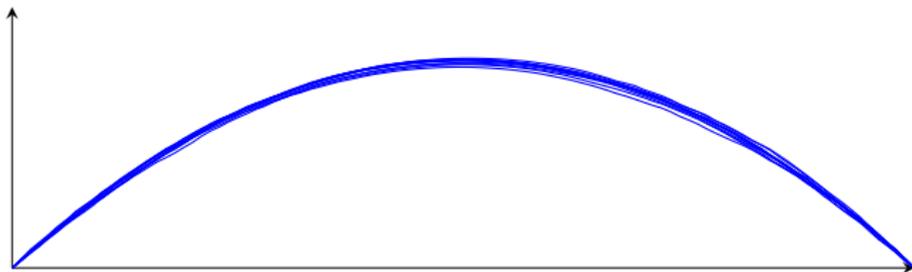




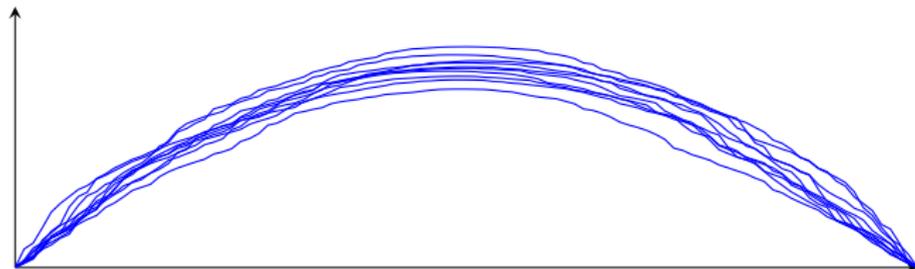
$L = 100$



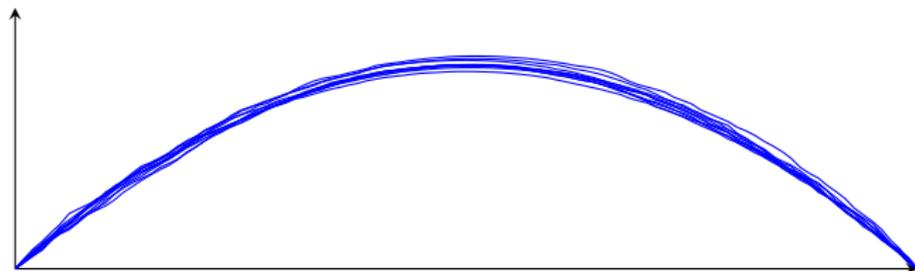
$L = 500$



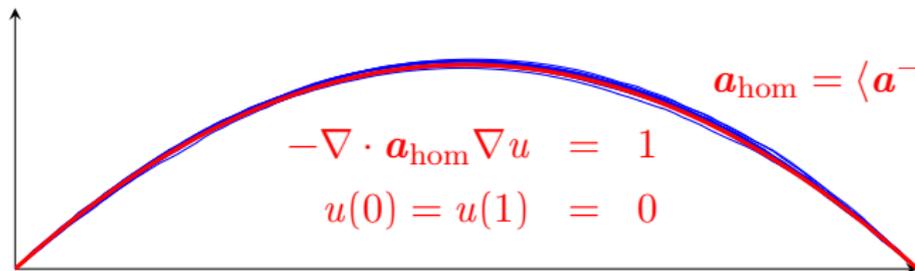
$L = 2000$



$L = 100$



$L = 500$



$$\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}} = \langle \mathbf{a}^{-1} \rangle^{-1}$$

$$-\nabla \cdot \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}} \nabla u = 1$$

$$u(0) = u(1) = 0$$

$L = 2000$

Qualitative homogenization result

Kozlov ['79], Papanicolaou & Varadhan ['79]

Suppose $\langle \cdot \rangle$ is **stationary & ergodic**. Then:

\exists unique $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}$ such that:

Given $f_0(\hat{x})$ consider right-hand side $f_L(x) = L^{-2}f_0(\frac{x}{L})$, $x \in \mathbb{Z}^d$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Solve discrete} \\ \text{Dirichlet problem} \end{array} : \begin{cases} \nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x) \nabla u_L = f_L & \text{in } x \in ([-0, L) \cap \mathbb{Z})^d \\ u_L = 0 & \text{outside } ([0, L) \cap \mathbb{Z})^d \end{cases}$$
$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Solve continuum} \\ \text{Dirichlet problem} \end{array} : \begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}} \nabla u_0 = f_0 & \text{in } x \in [0, 1)^d \\ u_0 = 0 & \text{outside } [0, 1)^d \end{cases}$$

Then $\lim_{L \uparrow \infty} u_L(L\hat{x}) = u_0(\hat{x})$ **almost surely**.

Motivation of this talk: **approximation of a_{hom}**
...requires **quantitative estimates** for **corrector problem**

Motivation of this talk: **approximation of a_{hom}**
...requires **quantitative estimates** for **corrector problem**

Related, but different:

- **homogenization error**, i.e. for $|u_L(L\cdot) - u_0(\cdot)|$
(Naddaf et al., Conlon et al., ...)
- **correlation function** in **Euclidean field theory**
(Naddaf/Spencer, Giacomini/Olla/Spohn,...)

Formula for \mathbf{a}_{hom}

Formula for \mathbf{a}_{hom}

— the **periodic** case —

Let $\langle \cdot \rangle_L$ be stationary and concentrated on **L -periodic coefficients**:

$$\forall z \in \mathbb{Z}^d \quad \mathbf{a}(\cdot + Lz) = \mathbf{a}(\cdot) \text{ a. s.}$$

Formula for \mathbf{a}_{hom}

— the **periodic** case —

Let $\langle \cdot \rangle_L$ be stationary and concentrated on **L -periodic coefficients**:

$$\forall z \in \mathbb{Z}^d \quad \mathbf{a}(\cdot + Lz) = \mathbf{a}(\cdot) \text{ a. s.}$$

We may think about the L -periodic ensemble $\langle \cdot \rangle_L$ as a **periodic approximation** of the stationary and ergodic ensemble $\langle \cdot \rangle$.

Definition of $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L} = \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L}(\mathbf{a})$

$$\forall e \in \mathbb{R}^d : \quad \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L} e := L^{-d} \sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} \mathbf{a}(x)(e + \nabla \varphi(x))$$

where $\varphi(\cdot) = \varphi(\mathbf{a}, \cdot)$ is the **L -periodic** (mean-free) solution to

$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x)(e + \nabla \varphi(x)) = 0 \quad x \in [0, L]^d$$

Definition of $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L} = \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L}(\mathbf{a})$

$$\forall e \in \mathbb{R}^d : \quad \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L} e := L^{-d} \sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} \mathbf{a}(x) (e + \nabla \varphi(x))$$

where $\varphi(\cdot) = \varphi(\mathbf{a}, \cdot)$ is the **L -periodic** (mean-free) solution to

$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x) (e + \nabla \varphi(x)) = 0 \quad x \in [0, L]^d$$

φ is called the **corrector** associated with \mathbf{a} and e

Definition of $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L} = \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L}(\mathbf{a})$

$$\forall e \in \mathbb{R}^d : \quad \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L} e := L^{-d} \sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} \mathbf{a}(x) (e + \nabla \varphi(x))$$

where $\varphi(\cdot) = \varphi(\mathbf{a}, \cdot)$ is the **L -periodic** (mean-free) solution to

$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x) (e + \nabla \varphi(x)) = 0 \quad x \in [0, L]^d$$

φ is called the **corrector** associated with \mathbf{a} and e

- ▶ **existence and uniqueness** by **Poincaré's inequality**:

$$\sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} |\varphi(x)|^2 \lesssim L^2 \sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} |\nabla \varphi(x)|^2$$

- ▶ **stationarity**: $\varphi(\mathbf{a}(\cdot + z), \cdot) = \varphi(\mathbf{a}, \cdot + z)$ for all $z \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ a.s.

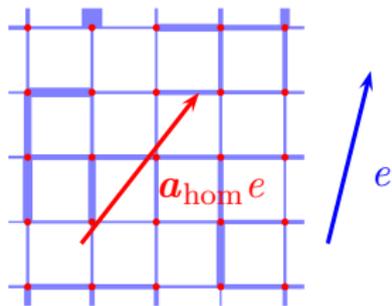
Intuition of $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L}$:

Given $e \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and associated φ ,
consider $u_L(x) := e \cdot x + \varphi(x)$. Then

$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a} \nabla u_L = 0$$

$$\text{average gradient} = L^{-d} \sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} \nabla u_L(x) = e$$

$$\text{average flux} = L^{-d} \sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} \mathbf{a}(x) \nabla u_L(x) = \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L} e$$



Formal passage $L \uparrow \infty$ yields:

Def. for **stationary corrector** $\varphi = \varphi(\mathbf{a}, x)$ for $\langle \cdot \rangle$ defined by

(i) **corrector equation**

$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x)(e + \nabla \varphi(\mathbf{a}, x)) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{Z}^d \text{ a.e. } \mathbf{a} \in \Omega$$

(ii) **sublinear growth on average**

$$\lim_{L \uparrow \infty} L^{-d} \sum_{[0, L]^d} |L^{-1} \varphi(\mathbf{a}, x)|^2 = 0.$$

(iii) **stationarity**

Formal passage $L \uparrow \infty$ yields:

Def. for **stationary corrector** $\varphi = \varphi(\mathbf{a}, x)$ for $\langle \cdot \rangle$ defined by

(i) **corrector equation**

$$\nabla^* \mathbf{a}(x)(e + \nabla \varphi(\mathbf{a}, x)) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{Z}^d \text{ a.e. } \mathbf{a} \in \Omega$$

(ii) **sublinear growth on average**

$$\lim_{L \uparrow \infty} L^{-d} \sum_{[0, L]^d} |L^{-1} \varphi(\mathbf{a}, x)|^2 = 0.$$

(iii) **stationarity**

Def. for **homogenized coefficient matrix**

$$\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}} e = \lim_{L \uparrow \infty} L^{-d} \sum_{[0, L]^d} \mathbf{a}(e + \nabla \varphi) \stackrel{\text{ergodicity}}{=} \langle \mathbf{a}(e + \nabla \varphi) \rangle$$

Can we directly get existence of **stationary corrector for** $\langle \cdot \rangle$
from existence of **periodic corrector** by limit $L \uparrow \infty$?

Can we directly get existence of **stationary corrector for** $\langle \cdot \rangle$
from existence of **periodic corrector** by limit $L \uparrow \infty$?

No, since **Poincaré's inequality degenerates** for $L \uparrow \infty$:

$$\sum_{x \in [0, L]^d} |\varphi(x)|^2 \lesssim L^2 \sum_{x \in [0, L]^d} |\nabla \varphi(x)|^2$$

Can we directly get existence of **stationary corrector for $\langle \cdot \rangle$**
from existence of **periodic corrector** by limit $L \uparrow \infty$?

No, since **Poincaré's inequality degenerates** for $L \uparrow \infty$:

$$\sum_{x \in [0, L]^d} |\varphi(x)|^2 \lesssim L^2 \sum_{x \in [0, L]^d} |\nabla \varphi(x)|^2$$

In fact, for $d \leq 2$ **stationary correctors** in general **do not exist!**

The corrector equation in $L^2_{\langle \cdot \rangle}$
 $D^* \mathbf{a}(0)(e + D\phi) = 0 .$

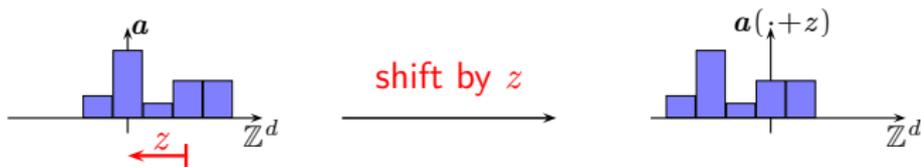
From \mathbb{Z}^d to Ω by **stationarity**

Def.: A random field $f(\mathbf{a}, x)$ is called **stationary**, if

$$\forall x, z, \mathbf{a} \quad f(\mathbf{a}(\cdot+z), x) = f(\mathbf{a}, x+z).$$

Def.: The **stationary extension** of a random variable $F(\mathbf{a})$ is defined by

$$\bar{F}(\mathbf{a}, x) := F(\mathbf{a}(\cdot+x)).$$



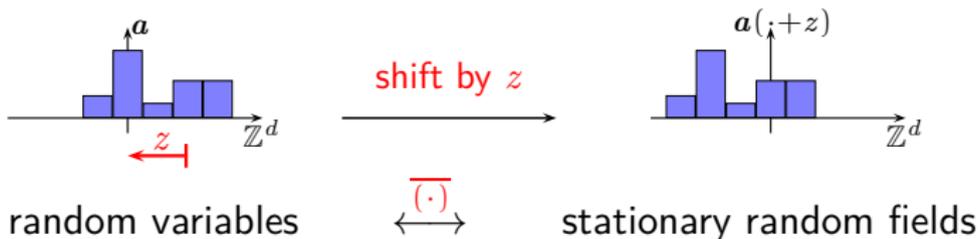
From \mathbb{Z}^d to Ω by **stationarity**

Def.: A random field $f(\mathbf{a}, x)$ is called **stationary**, if

$$\forall x, z, \mathbf{a} \quad f(\mathbf{a}(\cdot+z), x) = f(\mathbf{a}, x+z).$$

Def.: The **stationary extension** of a random variable $F(\mathbf{a})$ is defined by

$$\overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x) := F(\mathbf{a}(\cdot+x)).$$



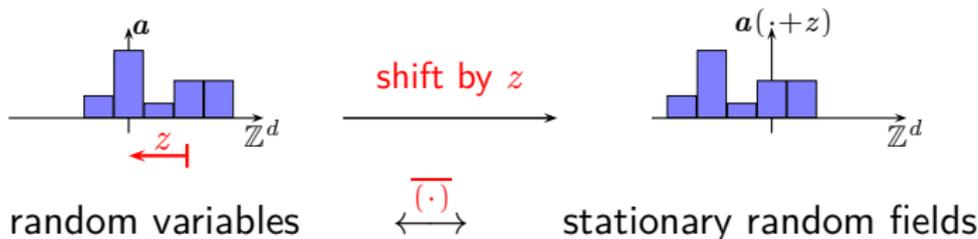
From \mathbb{Z}^d to Ω by **stationarity**

Def.: A random field $f(\mathbf{a}, x)$ is called **stationary**, if

$$\forall x, z, \mathbf{a} \quad f(\mathbf{a}(\cdot+z), x) = f(\mathbf{a}, x+z).$$

Def.: The **stationary extension** of a random variable $F(\mathbf{a})$ is defined by

$$\overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x) := F(\mathbf{a}(\cdot+x)).$$



physical space

$$(\nabla_i, \mathbb{Z}^d)$$

stationarity



probability space

$$(D_i, \Omega)$$

The horizontal derivative

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_i \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x) &= \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x + \mathbf{e}_i) - \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x) \\ &= \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}(\cdot + \mathbf{e}_i), x) - \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x) =: \overline{D}_i \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x),\end{aligned}$$

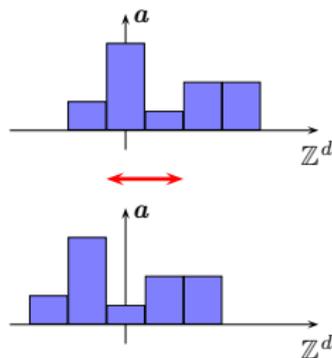
The horizontal derivative

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_i \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x) &= \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x + \mathbf{e}_i) - \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x) \\ &= \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}(\cdot + \mathbf{e}_i), x) - \overline{F}(\mathbf{a}, x) =: \overline{D}_i F(\mathbf{a}, x),\end{aligned}$$

Def: Horizontal derivative for $F(\mathbf{a})$

$$D_i F(\mathbf{a}) := F(\mathbf{a}(\cdot + \mathbf{e}_i)) - F(\mathbf{a}),$$

$$D_i^* F(\mathbf{a}) := F(\mathbf{a}(\cdot - \mathbf{e}_i)) - F(\mathbf{a})$$



Corrector problem in probability

$$D^* \mathbf{a}(0)(e + D\phi) = 0$$

Corrector problem in probability

$$D^* \mathbf{a}(0)(e + D\phi) = 0$$

Homogenization formula in probability

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}} e &= \langle \mathbf{a}(0)(e + D\phi) \rangle \\ e \cdot \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}} e &= \inf_{F \in L^2(\Omega)} \langle (e + DF) \cdot \mathbf{a}(0)(e + DF) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Does there exist ϕ s.t. $D^* \mathbf{a}(0)(e + D\phi) = 0$?

Yes if $\boxed{\exists \rho > 0 \forall F \quad \langle (F - \langle F \rangle)^2 \rangle \leq \frac{1}{\rho} \langle |DF|^2 \rangle}$ SG(ρ) for $D^* D$

Does there exist ϕ s.t. $D^* \mathbf{a}(0)(e + D\phi) = 0$?

Yes if $\boxed{\exists \rho > 0 \forall F \quad \langle (F - \langle F \rangle)^2 \rangle \leq \frac{1}{\rho} \langle |DF|^2 \rangle}$ **SG**(ρ) for $D^* D$

This is the case for the **periodic ensemble** $\langle \cdot \rangle_L$.

However, **SG**(ρ_L) for $D^* D$ in $L^2_{\langle \cdot \rangle_L}$ **degenerates for** $L \uparrow \infty$:

$$\rho_L \sim \frac{1}{L^2}$$

Does there exist ϕ s.t. $D^* \mathbf{a}(0)(e + D\phi) = 0$?

Yes if $\boxed{\exists \rho > 0 \forall F \quad \langle (F - \langle F \rangle)^2 \rangle \leq \frac{1}{\rho} \langle |DF|^2 \rangle}$ $\text{SG}(\rho)$ for $D^* D$

This is the case for the **periodic ensemble** $\langle \cdot \rangle_L$.

However, $\text{SG}(\rho_L)$ for $D^* D$ in $L^2_{\langle \cdot \rangle_L}$ **degenerates for** $L \uparrow \infty$:

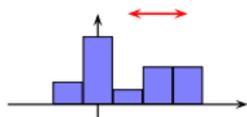
$$\rho_L \sim \frac{1}{L^2}$$

Too many variables $\{\mathbf{a}(x)\}_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$ — too few derivatives D_1, \dots, D_d .

Our main assumption (inspired by **Naddaf & Spencer [97]**):

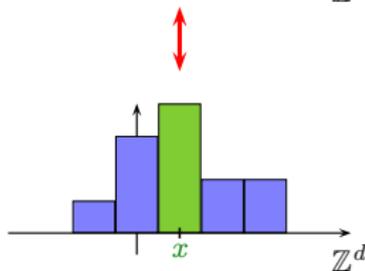
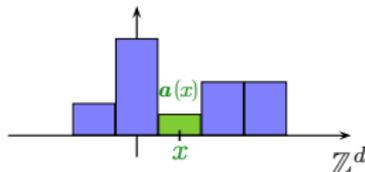
Instead of **(SG)** for D^*D

$$\langle (F - \langle F \rangle)^2 \rangle \lesssim \sum_{i=1}^d \langle (D_i F)^2 \rangle$$



assume **(SG)** for $\sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)^2$

$$\langle (F - \langle F \rangle)^2 \rangle \leq \frac{1}{\rho} \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \left\langle \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right\rangle$$



Def. vertical derivative

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} := F - \langle F \mid \{\mathbf{a}(y)\}_{y \neq x} \rangle \sim \frac{\partial F}{\partial \mathbf{a}(x)}$$

...measure how sensitively F depends on $\mathbf{a}(x)$.

Basic example

$$\{\mathbf{a}(x)\}_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \text{ i. i. d.} \Rightarrow SG(\rho) \text{ for } \sum_x \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)^2$$

Statement of main result

Existence and higher moment bounds

Theorem A [GNO, GO]

i) Let $d > 2$, suppose $SG(\rho)$ for $\sum_x (\frac{\partial}{\partial x})^2$. Then

$$\forall q < \infty \quad \langle \phi^{2q} \rangle^{\frac{1}{2q}} \leq C(d, \lambda, \rho, q)$$

ii) Let $d = 2$, consider $\langle \cdot \rangle_L$. Suppose $SG(\rho)$ for $\sum_x (\frac{\partial}{\partial x})^2$. Then

$$\langle \phi^2 \rangle_L^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq C(d, \lambda, \rho) \ln L$$

Optimal variance estimate for periodic ensemble

Consider $\langle \cdot \rangle_L$ periodic ensemble and periodic proxy

$$\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L}(\mathbf{a}) := L^{-d} \sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} \mathbf{a}(x)(e + D\varphi(\mathbf{a}, x))$$

Theorem B [GNO].

Let $d \geq 2$, suppose $SG(\rho)$ for $\sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$. Then

$$\text{Var}_{\langle \cdot \rangle_L} [\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L}] \leq C(d, \lambda, \rho) L^{-d}$$

Optimal variance estimate for periodic ensemble

Consider $\langle \cdot \rangle_L$ periodic ensemble and periodic proxy

$$\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L}(\mathbf{a}) := L^{-d} \sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} \mathbf{a}(x)(e + D\varphi(\mathbf{a}, x))$$

Theorem B [GNO].

Let $d \geq 2$, suppose $SG(\rho)$ for $\sum_{x \in [0,L]^d} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$. Then

$$\text{Var}_{\langle \cdot \rangle_L} [\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L}] \leq C(d, \lambda, \rho) L^{-d}$$

Remark: $\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom},L}$ is **spatial average** of **correlated r.v.**

In fact, for $1 - \lambda \ll 1$ and $\{\mathbf{a}(x)\}_{x \in [0,L]^d}$ i. i. d. have

$$\text{Cov}_{\langle \cdot \rangle_L} \left[\mathbf{a}(x)(e + \nabla \varphi(x)), \mathbf{a}(z)(e + \nabla \varphi(z)) \right] \sim \nabla^2 G_L(x - z)$$

$$\text{Cov}_{\langle \cdot \rangle_L} \left[\varphi(x), \varphi(z) \right] \sim G_L(x - z)$$

where G_L is the L -periodic Green's function for $\nabla^* \nabla$.

Optimal estimate of systematic error

Let $\langle \cdot \rangle_\infty$ be i.i.d. with base measure β , i.e.

$$\langle F \rangle_\infty = \int_{\Omega} F(\mathbf{a}) \prod_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \beta(d\mathbf{a}(x)).$$

Let $\langle \cdot \rangle_L$ be L -periodic and i. i. d. with base measure β , i.e.

$$\langle F \rangle_L = \int_{\Omega_L} F(\mathbf{a}) \prod_{x \in [0, L]^d} \beta(d\mathbf{a}(x)).$$

Theorem C [GNO] Let $d \geq 2$. Then

$$|\langle \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}, L} \rangle_L - \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}}|^2 \leq C(d, \lambda, \rho) L^{-2d}$$

(up to logarithmic corrections for $d = 2$)

Optimal estimate of systematic error

Let $\langle \cdot \rangle_\infty$ be i.i.d. with base measure β , i.e.

$$\langle F \rangle_\infty = \int_{\Omega} F(\mathbf{a}) \prod_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \beta(d\mathbf{a}(x)).$$

Let $\langle \cdot \rangle_L$ be L -periodic and i. i. d. with base measure β , i.e.

$$\langle F \rangle_L = \int_{\Omega_L} F(\mathbf{a}) \prod_{x \in [0, L]^d} \beta(d\mathbf{a}(x)).$$

Theorem C [GNO] Let $d \geq 2$. Then

$$|\langle \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}, L} \rangle_L - \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}}|^2 \leq C(d, \lambda, \rho) L^{-2d}$$

(up to logarithmic corrections for $d = 2$)

combine with $\langle |\mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}, L} - \langle \mathbf{a}_{\text{hom}, L} \rangle|^2 \rangle \leq C(d, \lambda, \rho) L^{-d}$ to get total $L^2_{\langle \cdot \rangle_L}$ -error.

Common analytic estimate of the proofs:
optimal decay estimate for the semigroup
 $\exp(-D^* \mathbf{a}(0) D)$

Semigroup representation of ϕ

$$u(t) := \exp(-tD^* \mathbf{a}(0)D)f, \quad f = -D^* \mathbf{a}(0)e.$$

then **formally** $\phi := \int_0^\infty u(t) dt$ solves

$$D^* \mathbf{a}(0)D\phi = -D^* \mathbf{a}(0)e \quad \text{in } L^q_{\langle \cdot \rangle}$$

Semigroup representation of ϕ

$$u(t) := \exp(-tD^* \mathbf{a}(0)D)f, \quad f = -D^* \mathbf{a}(0)e.$$

then **formally** $\phi := \int_0^\infty u(t) dt$ solves

$$D^* \mathbf{a}(0)D\phi = -D^* \mathbf{a}(0)e \quad \text{in } L^q_{\langle \cdot \rangle}$$

This is rigorous as soon as $\int_0^\infty \langle |u(t)|^q \rangle^{\frac{1}{q}} dt < \infty$!

Standard:

(SG) for $D^* D \Rightarrow$ exponential decay of $\exp(-D^* a(0) D)$

Our estimate:

(SG) for $\sum_x \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)^2 \Rightarrow$ **algebraic decay of** $\exp(-D^* a(0) D)$

(with optimal rate!)

Theorem 1 [GNO]: (optimal decay in t)

Let $d \geq 2$, suppose $SG(\rho)$ for $\sum_x (\frac{\partial}{\partial x})^2$. Then for $q < \infty$ have

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle |\exp(-tD^* \mathbf{a}(0)D) D^* g|^{2q} \rangle^{\frac{1}{2q}} \\ & \leq C_{(d,\lambda,\rho,q)} (t+1)^{-\left(\frac{d}{4} + \frac{1}{2}\right)} \left(\sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \langle (\frac{\partial g}{\partial x})^{2q} \rangle^{\frac{1}{2q}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

We explain a much simpler situation:

- constant coefficient semigroup $D^* D$ instead of $D^* \mathbf{a}(0) D$
- initial data f instead of $D^* g$
- linear exponent $p = 2$ instead $2q$

We explain a much simpler situation:

- constant coefficient semigroup D^*D instead of $D^*a(0)D$
- initial data f instead of D^*g
- linear exponent $p = 2$ instead $2q$

Theorem 2 [GNO]: (optimal decay in t)

Let $d \geq 2$, suppose $SG(\rho)$ for $\sum_x (\frac{\partial}{\partial x})^2$. Then for f with $\langle f \rangle =$ have

$$\langle |\exp(-tD^*D)f|^2 \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}} \left(\sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G^2(t, x) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \langle (\frac{\partial f}{\partial x})^2 \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

where $G(t, x)$ denotes the parabolic Green's function for $(\partial_t + \nabla^* \nabla)$.

$$\left(\sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G^2(t, x) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sim (1+t)^{-\frac{d}{4}}, \quad \left(\sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} |\nabla G(t, x)|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sim (1+t)^{-(\frac{d}{4} + \frac{1}{2})}$$

Argument for Theorem 2:

Set $u(t) := \exp(-tD^*D)f$.

Argument for Theorem 2:

Set $u(t) := \exp(-tD^*D)f$.

Stationary extension \bar{u} characterized by **parabolic equation**

$$(\partial_t + \nabla^* \nabla) \bar{u}(t, x) = 0, \quad \bar{u}(t = 0, x) = \bar{f}(x)$$

Argument for Theorem 2:

Set $u(t) := \exp(-tD^*D)f$.

Stationary extension \bar{u} characterized by [parabolic equation](#)

$$(\partial_t + \nabla^* \nabla) \bar{u}(t, x) = 0, \quad \bar{u}(t = 0, x) = \bar{f}(x)$$

[Green's representation](#) for u and $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$

$$u(t) = \sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G(t, z) \bar{f}(z), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(t) = \sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G(t, z) \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial y}(z)$$

Argument for Theorem 2:

Set $u(t) := \exp(-tD^*D)f$.

Stationary extension \bar{u} characterized by **parabolic equation**

$$(\partial_t + \nabla^* \nabla) \bar{u}(t, x) = 0, \quad \bar{u}(t = 0, x) = \bar{f}(x)$$

Green's representation for u and $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$

$$u(t) = \sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G(t, z) \bar{f}(z), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(t) = \sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G(t, z) \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial y}(z)$$

Spectral gap estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \langle u^2(t) \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}} \left(\sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \langle (\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(t))^2 \rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}} \left(\sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \left\langle \left(\sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G(t, z) \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial y}(z) \right)^2 \right\rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\stackrel{\text{stat.}}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}} \left(\sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \left\langle \left(\sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G(t, y-x) \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial x}(y-x) \right)^2 \right\rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left(\sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \left\langle \left(\sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G(t, y-x) \overline{\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}}(y-x) \right)^2 \right\rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
& \stackrel{\Delta\text{-inequality}}{\leq} \text{in } \left(\sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \langle (\cdot)^2 \rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
& \leq \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \left(\sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \langle G^2(t, y-x) | \overline{\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right)}(y-x) |^2 \rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
& \stackrel{G \text{ is deterministic, stationarity}}{=} \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \left(\sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G^2(t, y-x) \langle |\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}|^2 \rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
& = \left(\sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G^2(t, y-x) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \langle |\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}|^2 \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}.
\end{aligned}$$

□

Source of difficulty for $\exp(-tD^* \mathbf{a}(0)D)$ (Theorem 1)

Instead of representation $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(t) = \sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}^d} G(t, z) \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial y}(z)$

\rightsquigarrow **Duhamel's formula** for divergence form initial data D^*g

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u(t)}{\partial y} &= \sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \nabla_z G(t, \mathbf{a}, 0, z) \cdot \frac{\partial \bar{g}}{\partial y}(z) \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \sum_{z \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \nabla_z G(t-s, \mathbf{a}, 0, z) \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}(z)}{\partial y} \nabla_z \bar{u}(s, z) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Quantitative analysis requires estimates on

$$|\nabla_x G(t, \mathbf{a}, x, y)|^p$$

where $G(t, \mathbf{a}, x, y)$ denotes parabolic, non-constant coefficient Green's function on \mathbb{Z}^d .

need...

- optimal decay in $t \rightsquigarrow (t+1)^{-\left(\frac{d}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)p}$
- deterministic, i. e. uniform in \mathbf{a}
- exponent $p > 2$

... can only expect

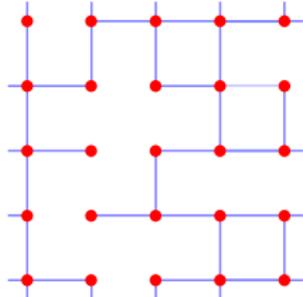
- averaged in space (with weight)

use: discrete elliptic & parabolic regularity theory

Caccioppoli estimate, Meyers' estimate, Nash-Aronson, ...

Future directions

- from scalar to **systems** (elasticity)
scalar case relies on testing with nonlinear functions $|u|^{p-2}u$
- from uniform ellipticity
to **supercritical percolation**
random geometry of percolation cluster
 \rightsquigarrow isoperimetric inequality
 \rightsquigarrow Green's function estimate
- have quantitative results for a toy problem
- application to homogenization error



- A. Gloria & F. Otto. An optimal variance estimate in stochastic homogenization of discrete elliptic equations.

Ann. Probab. 2011

- A. Gloria & F. Otto. An optimal error estimate in stochastic homogenization of discrete elliptic equations.

Ann. Appl. Probab. 2012

- A. Gloria, S. N. & F. Otto. **work in progress**

- * Quantification of ergodicity in stochastic homogenization: optimal bounds via spectral gap on Glauber dynamics.
- * Approximation of effective coefficients by periodization in stochastic homogenization.