

# Reflections on Replica Symmetry Breaking and Spin Glasses

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# The Continental *Parisii*

- The *Parisii* were a people of Celtic Gaul, who lived along the banks of the Sequana (Seine), and on an island in the river known as *Lutetia*; the island is nowadays famous as the site of the Notre Dame Cathedral in the centre of Paris, the capital city of modern France.

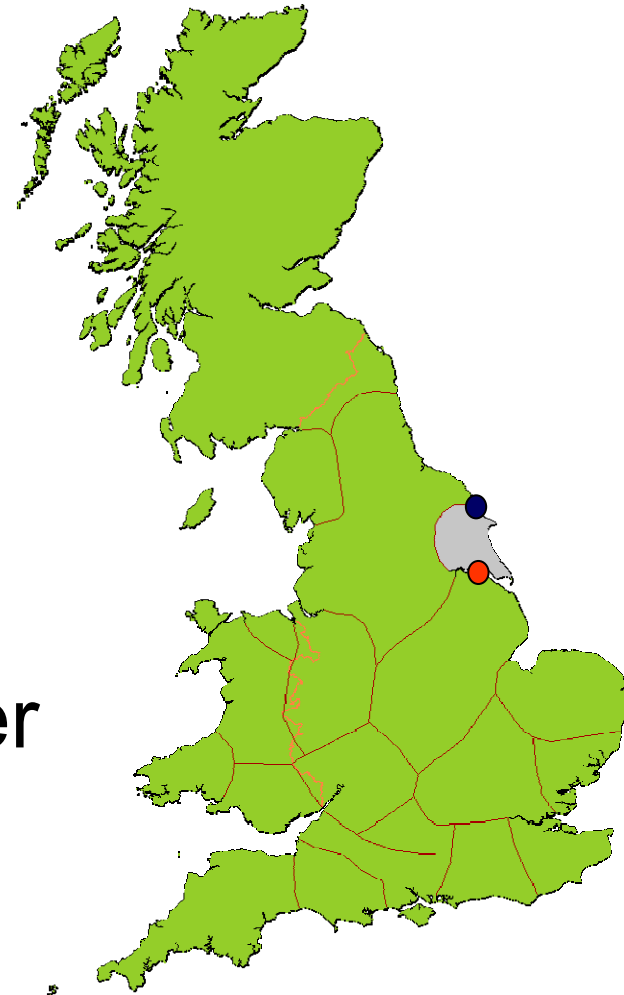
- **The Celtic Tribes of Britain**

- **The Parisi**

- **Tribe:** Parisi/Parisii

- **Capital:** PETVARIA •

- **Location:** Brough on Humber  
Humberside



● Middlesbrough: where I come from

# The n-m-agician



# Replica Symmetry Breaking

RSB

RSJ

Rolled Steel ~~Joist~~  
Beam

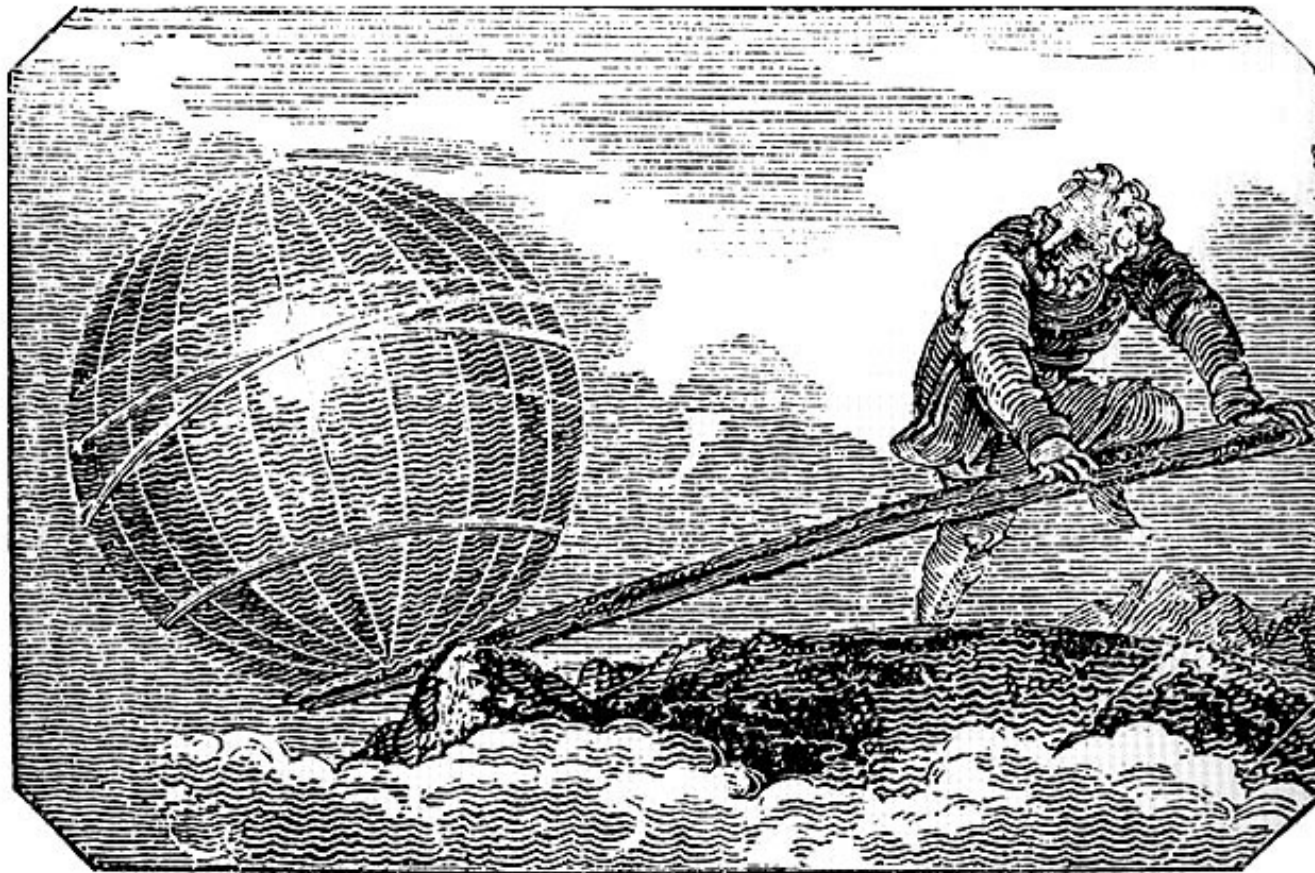
RSB

Support structures / Act as lever

ΔΟΣ ΜΟΙ ΠΟΥ ΣΤΩ ΚΑΙ ΚΙΝΩ ΤΗΝ ΓΗΝ

Give me a place to stand and I will move the Earth

(Archimedes quoted by [Pappus of Alexandria](#), *Synagoge*, Book VIII, (340))



*Fig adapted from Mechanic's Magazine (Knight & Lacey, London, 1824)*

Giulio Parigi (1571-1635)

Stanzio delle Matematiche at the Galleria degli *Uffizi*, Firenze





Giorgio Parisi (1948-)

Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Roma "La Sapienza"



World of  
Complexity

RSB

# Spinning the world; thanks to Giorgio

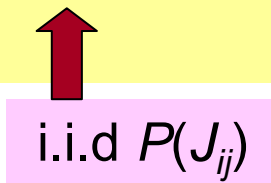
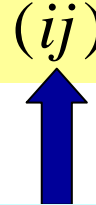


Vatican

2005

# SK model

$$H = - \sum_{(ij)} J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j; \quad \sigma_i = \pm 1$$

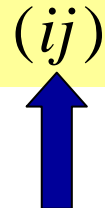


All pairs of "sites"

- (i) Potentially soluble spin glass model
- (ii) Hard optimization problem
- (iii) Paradigm complex system
- (iv) Challenges for statistical mechanics & probability
- (v) Led Giorgio → RSB

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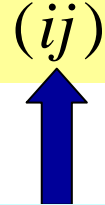
i.i.d  $P(J_{ij})$

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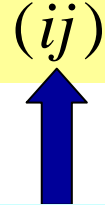
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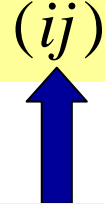
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- (v) The problem that led Giorgio  RSB

# Replicas (EA)

- Philosophy
  - Interest in typical behaviour
    - Physical behaviour of alloys independent of precise atom positions, depends only on intensive generating rules
- Average out disorder
  - But for physical observables
    - Thermodynamics:  $\ln Z = \ln \text{Tr} \exp(-H / T)$
- Hard to average
  - Change to easier-to-average  $Z^n$

$$\ln Z = \lim_{n \rightarrow 0} (Z^n - 1) / n \equiv \lim_{n \rightarrow 0} \partial Z^n / \partial n$$

Interpret as  $n$  replicas



# Replica ordering

- Replica spins:  $\sigma_i^\alpha$ ;  $\alpha = 1, \dots, n$
- Average  $Z^n$  over  $J_{ij}$ :
  - Effective interaction between replicas
  - Order parameters:  $q^{\alpha\beta} = N^{-1} \sum_i \langle \sigma_i^\alpha \sigma_i^\beta \rangle_{eff}$  SK: no site index on  $q$
- Natural ansatz (EA/SK):  $q^{\alpha\beta} = q$ ;  $\alpha \neq \beta$ 
  - But not correct!
    - Some unphysical consequences
    - & instabilities in replica space

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# Saint George to the rescue



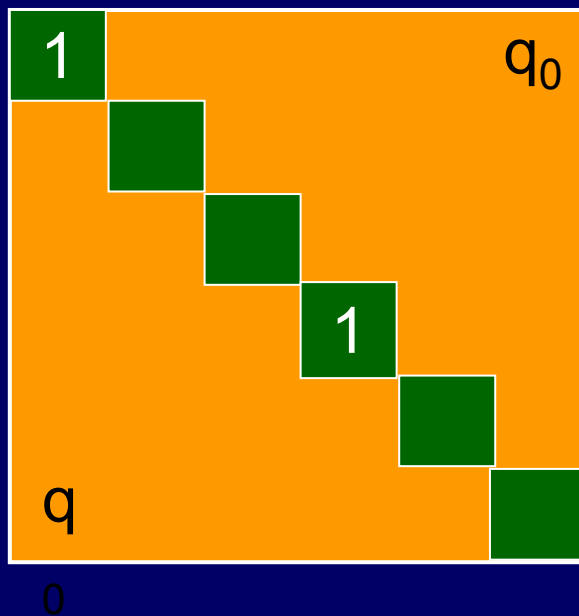
Dragon  
Replicon

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# Replica Symmetry Breaking

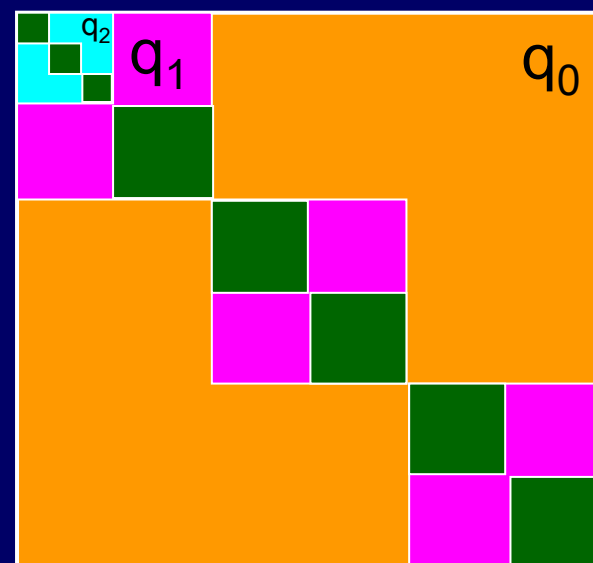
$$q^{\alpha\beta} = N^{-1} \sum_i \langle S_i^\alpha S_i^\beta \rangle ; \alpha, \beta = 1, \dots, n, n \rightarrow 0$$

Replica Symmetric



Giorgio

Replica Symmetry Broken



→ q(x)

FRSB

But how did Giorgio come to this?

I do not know

A few people tried subdivision of

$\alpha = 1, \dots, n; n \rightarrow 0$

inserting  $m$  in interval 0 to 1

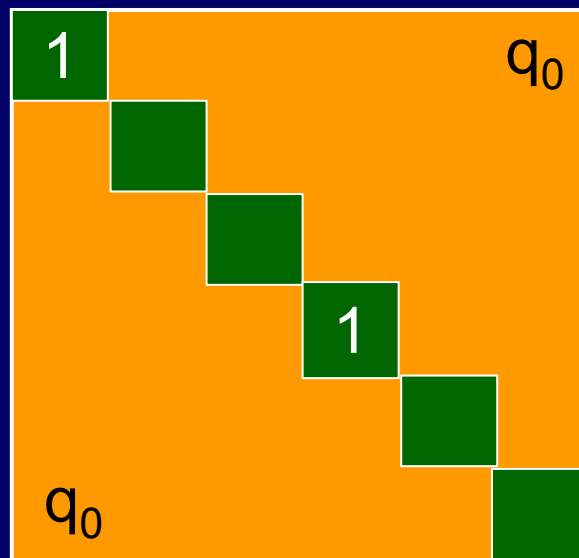
e.g. Bray & Moore:

$q=q_1; m < \alpha < \beta, q=q_2; \alpha < m < \beta, q=q_3; \alpha < \beta < m$

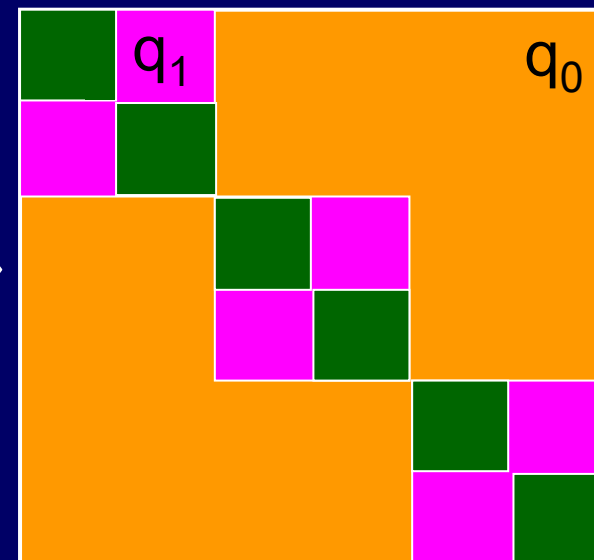
But found  $m = \infty$

# One step à la Giorgio

RS



1RSB

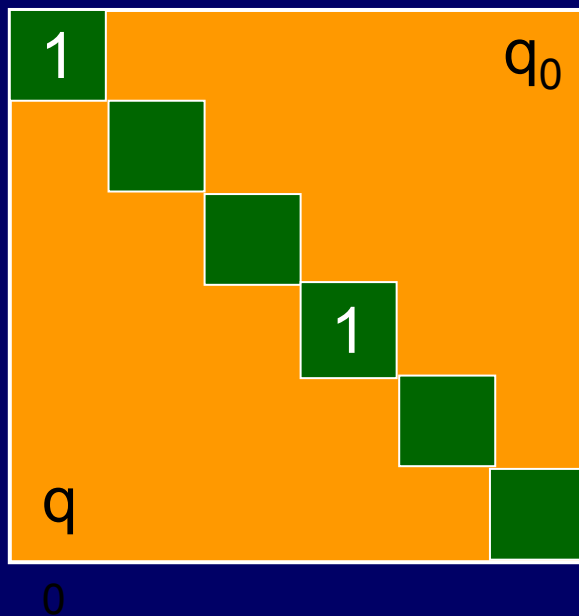


Better but not perfect. What else? Full hierarchy?

# Full RSB (Giorgio)

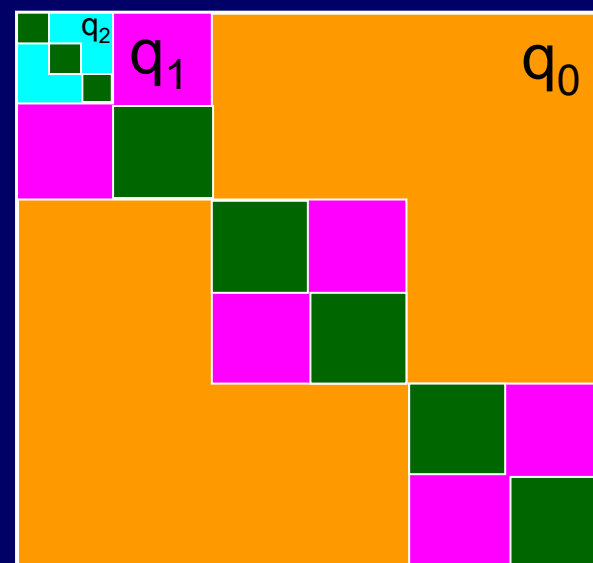
$$q^{\alpha\beta} = N^{-1} \sum_i \langle S_i^\alpha S_i^\beta \rangle ; \alpha, \beta = 1, \dots, n, n \rightarrow 0$$

Replica Symmetric



Giorgio

Replica Symmetry Broken



$\rightarrow q(x)$

FRSB

# Free energy

$$f = \text{Sup}_{\{q,m\}} \text{Lim}_{K \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ -\frac{\beta}{2} (1 - 2q_1) + \frac{\beta}{4} \sum_{i=1}^{K+1} q_i^2 (m_i - m_{i-1}) - \tilde{f} \right\}$$

$$\tilde{f} = \frac{T}{m_K} \int_{K+1}^G \ln \left[ \int_K^{GE} \dots \int_1^{GE} (2 \cosh(\beta h_1))^{m_1} \right]$$

where

$$\int_i^G g(h_i) \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dh_i}{\sqrt{2\pi\Delta q_i}} \exp\left(-\frac{(h_i - h_{i+1})^2}{2\Delta q_i}\right) g(h_i), \quad \int_i^{GE} g(h_i) \equiv \int_i^G g(h_i)^{r_{i-1}};$$

$$\Delta q_i = q_i - q_{i+1}, \quad \Delta q_{K+1} = q_{K+1}, \quad r_{i-1} = \frac{m_i}{m_{i-1}}$$



# Initially pretty mysterious

- Analytic continuation of  $n$
- Lim  $N \rightarrow \infty, n \rightarrow 0$  reversed
- Normal minima  $\rightarrow$  maxima (for  $q$ )

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Now rigorously proven

(Talagrand 05, Guerra)

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Physical meaning?

Again, provided by Giorgio (83)

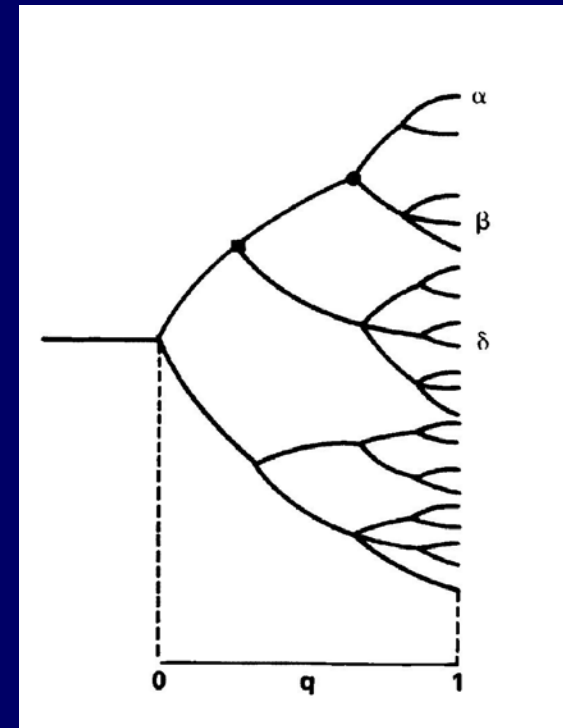
# Overlap distribution

$$q^{SS'} = N^{-1} \sum_i \langle S_i \rangle_S \langle S_i \rangle_{S'}$$

$$\overline{P(q)} = \overline{\sum_{S,S'} \tilde{P}_S \tilde{P}_{S'} \delta(q - q^{SS'})}$$

$$= \int_0^1 dx \delta(q - q(x)) = dx / dq$$

$$q(x); 0 \leq x \leq 1 \sim \text{Lim}_{K \rightarrow \infty} \{q, m\}$$



Ultrametric  
hierarchy

Later

## Dynamical relevance of $q(x), P(q)$

Fluctuation-dissipation

$$dR / dC = X(C) = \int_0^C \overline{P(q)} dq$$

C = correlation function

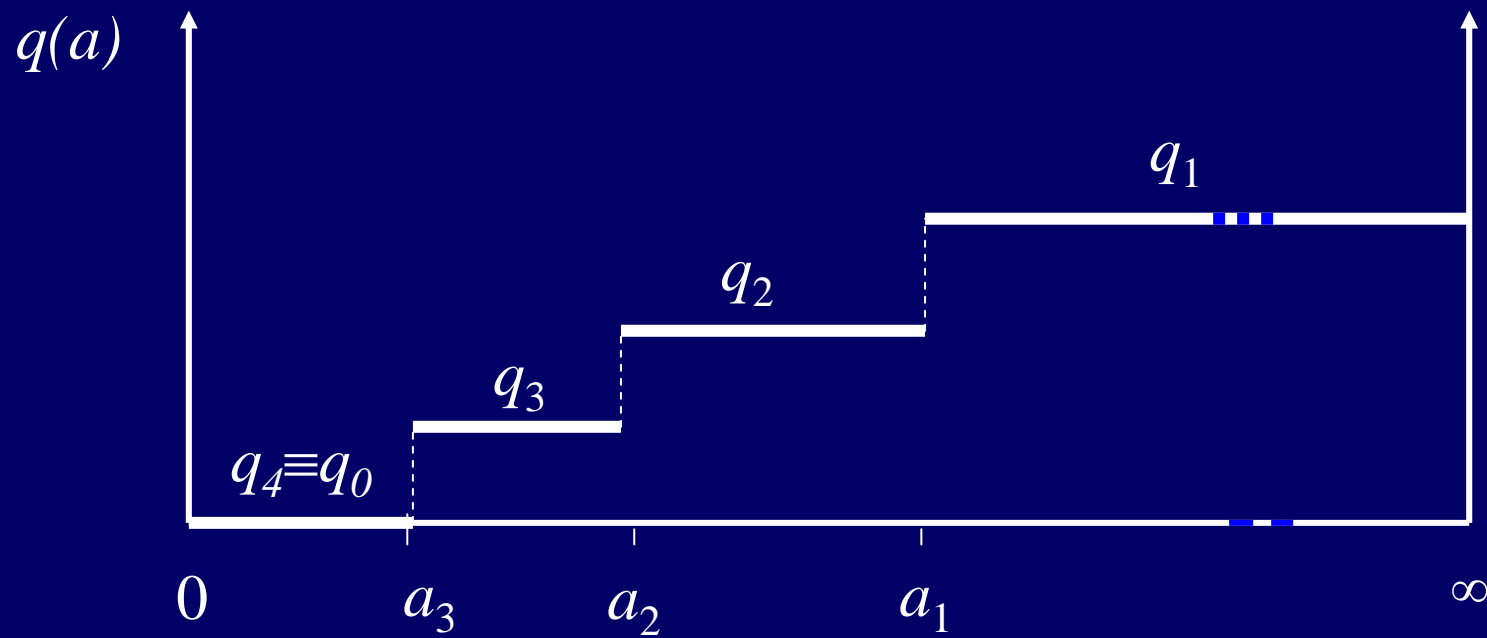
R = response function

# $T \rightarrow 0$ numerical extremization of $f$

Oppermann, Schmidt & S

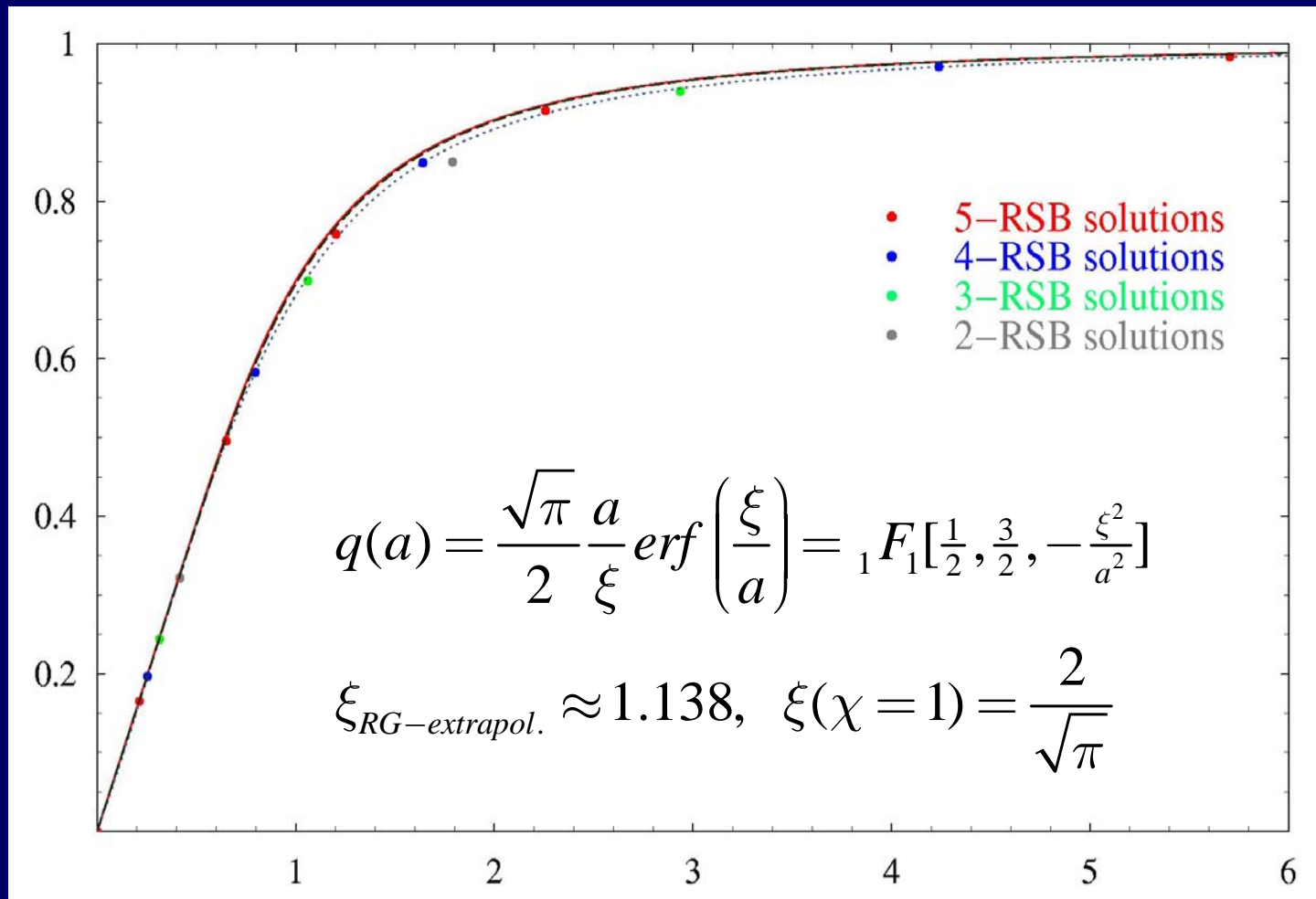
- For  $T \rightarrow 0, x_i^K \rightarrow a_i^K T$
- Hence study  $q(a) = \text{Lim}_{T \rightarrow 0} q_{\text{Parisi}}(aT)$ 
  - via sequence of discrete RSB orders  $K$
  - numerically very accurate
  - now up to  $K=200, \dots$
  - extrapolation to  $K=\infty$

# Stepped function



Note: not uniform steps

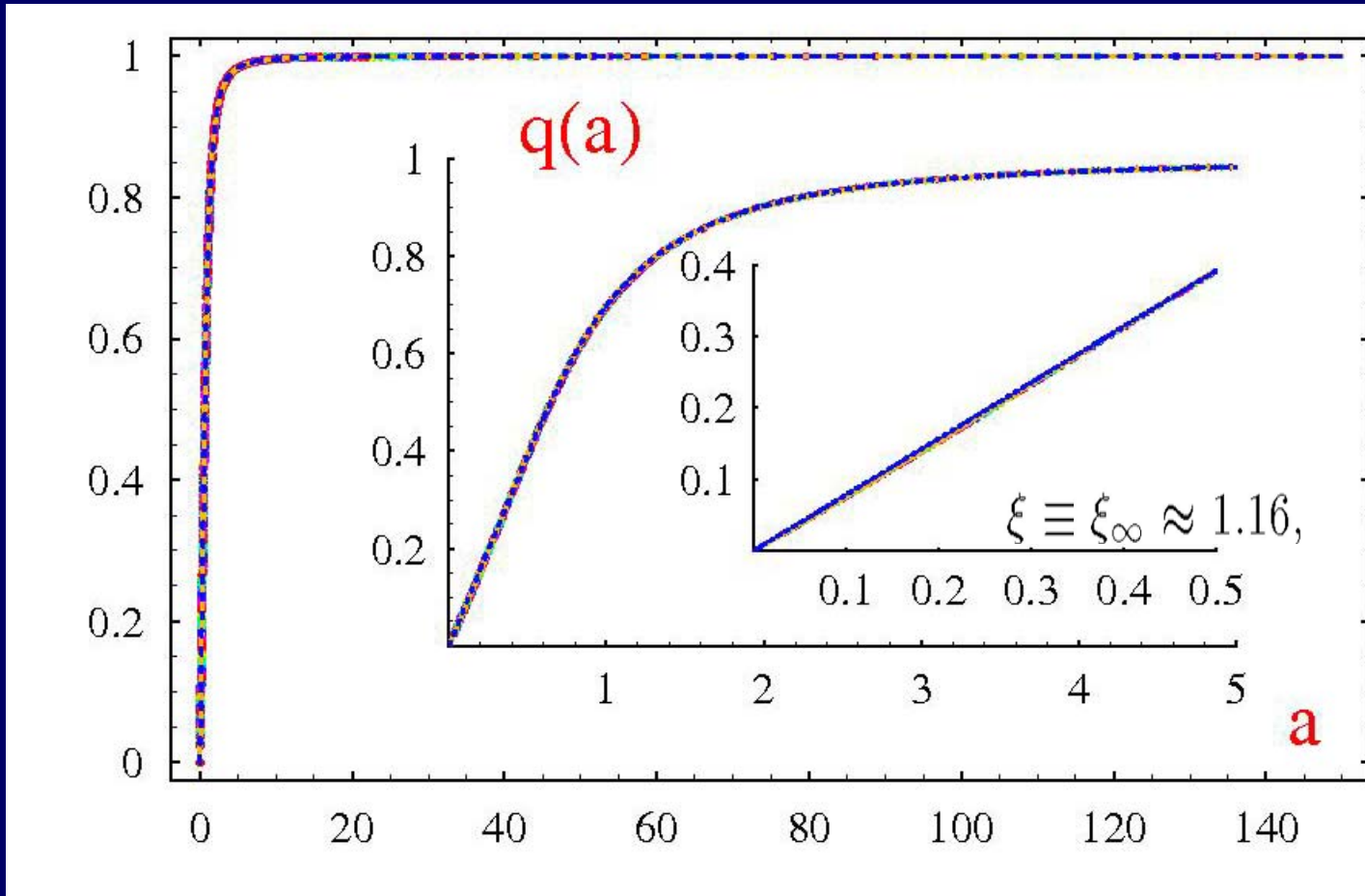
# Simple low RSB fit



No step at  $a=0$ . Limiting “correlation length”  $\xi$  in RSB space.



# 42 RSB



${}_1F_1(\alpha, \gamma, -\xi^2/(a^2 + w))a/\sqrt{a^2 + w}$  with  $\{\alpha = \frac{1}{2}, \gamma = \frac{3}{2}, w = O(10^{-6})\}$

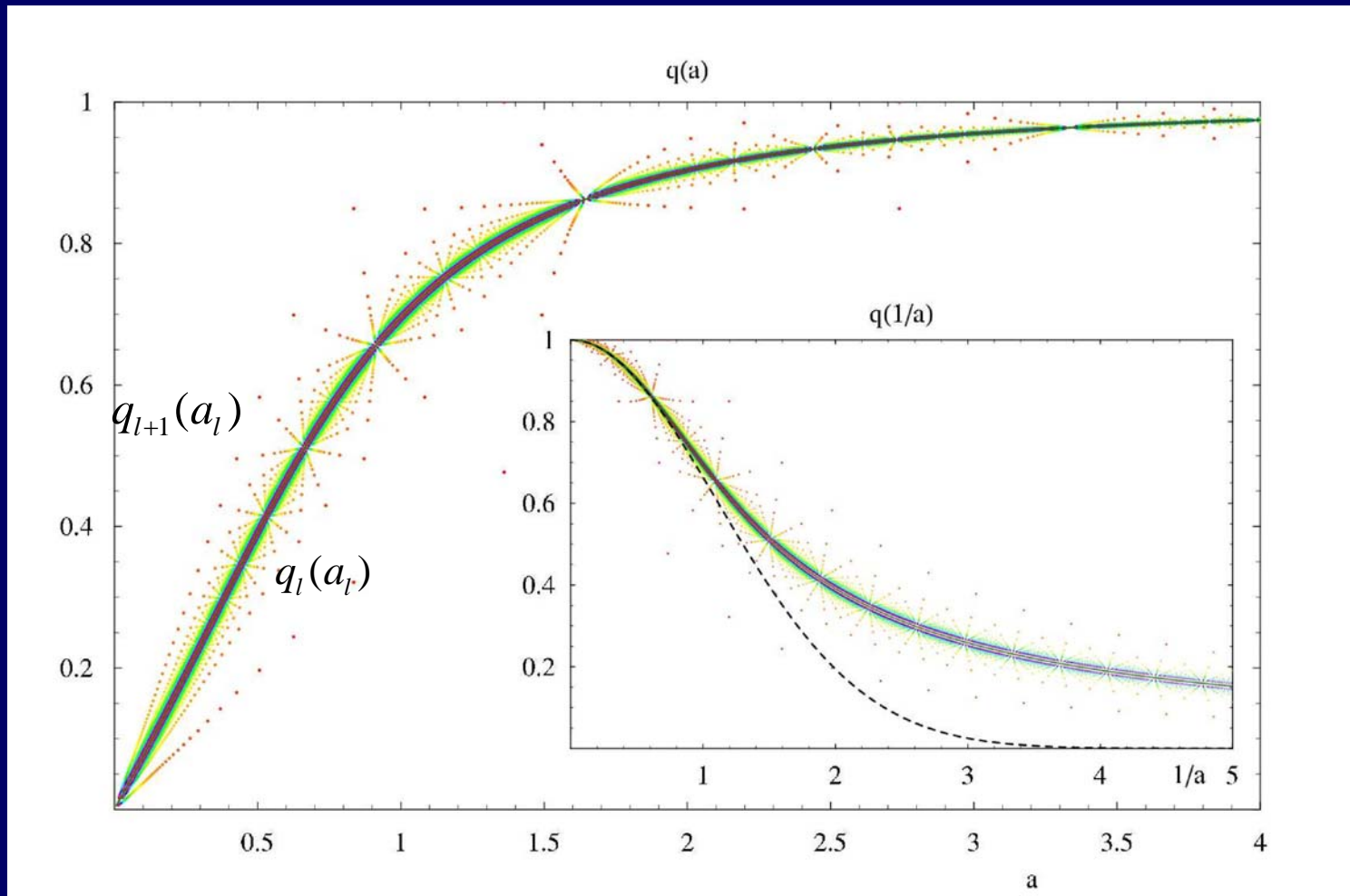
$\{\alpha \approx 0.53, \gamma \approx 1.71, w \approx 0.02\}$

blue

orange

# Flows in K-space

Oppermann & Schmidt (08)



To 200  
RSB

# Parisi-Toulouse scaling

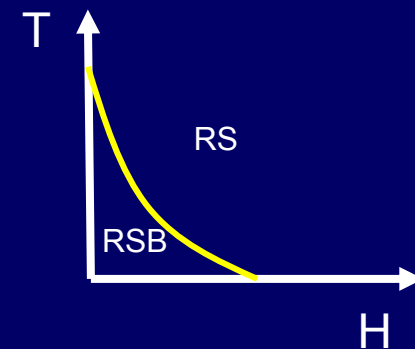
Hypothesis: gives  $q(x)$  from RS results  
on Almeida-Thouless line

$$q(x, T, H) = q_{AT}(T_{AT}(H), H); 0 < x < x_1$$

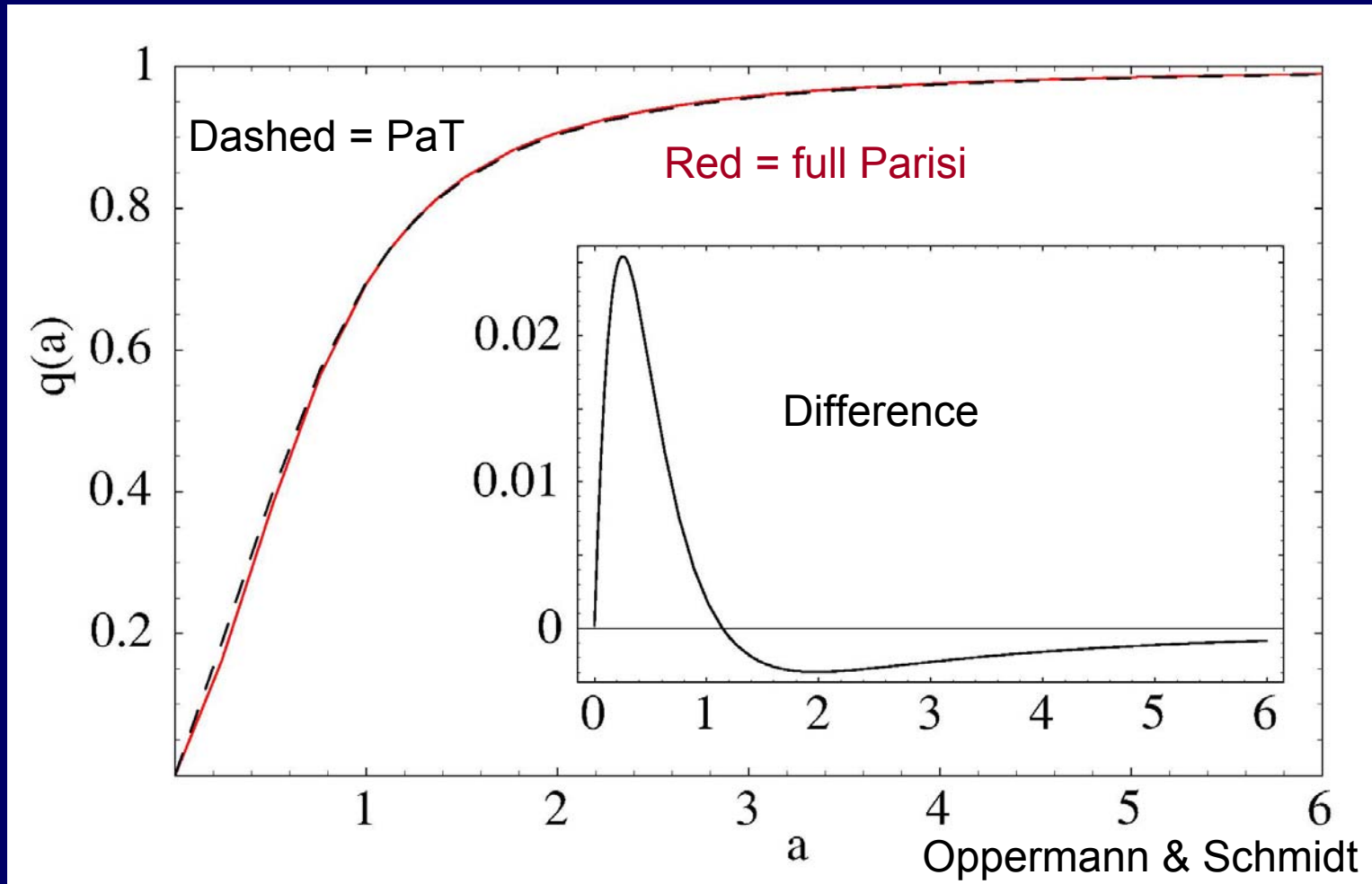
$$q(x, T, H) = f(x/T); x_1 < x < x_2$$

$$q(x, T, H) = q_{AT}(T); x_2 < x < 1$$

$$M(H, T) = M(H)$$



# Parisi vs. PaT at $T=0$



PaT amazingly good but not exact c.f. Crisanti & Rizzo

# SKPaT

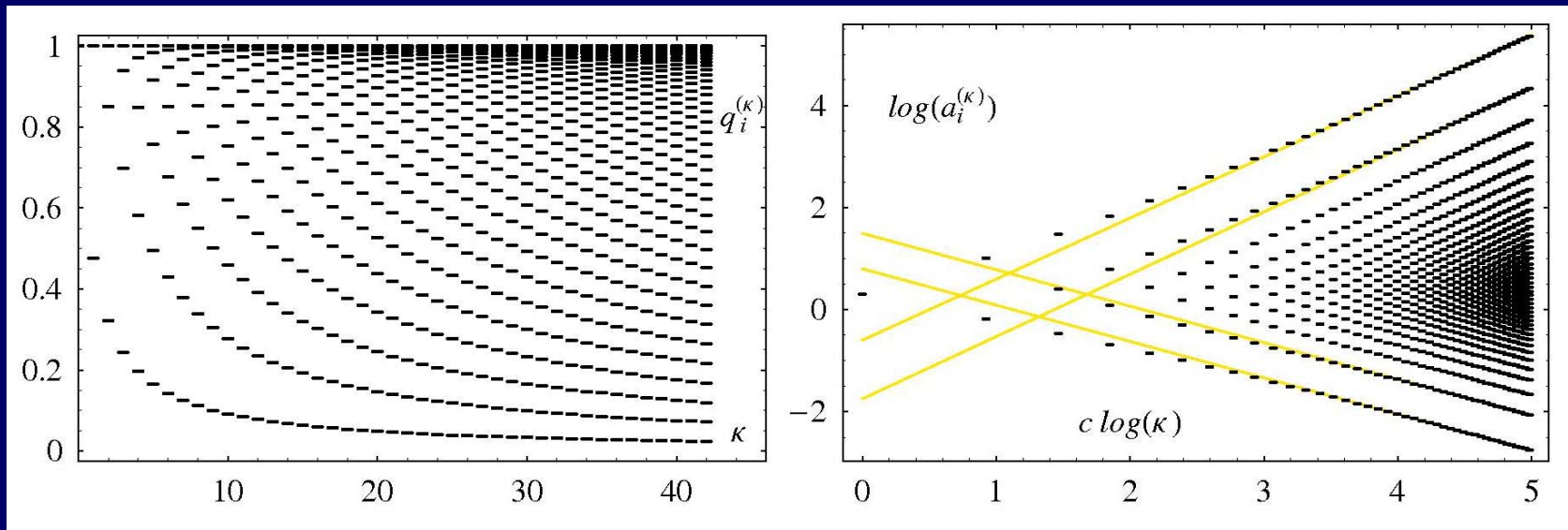


Villa Farnesina, May 1981

# Spectra 1

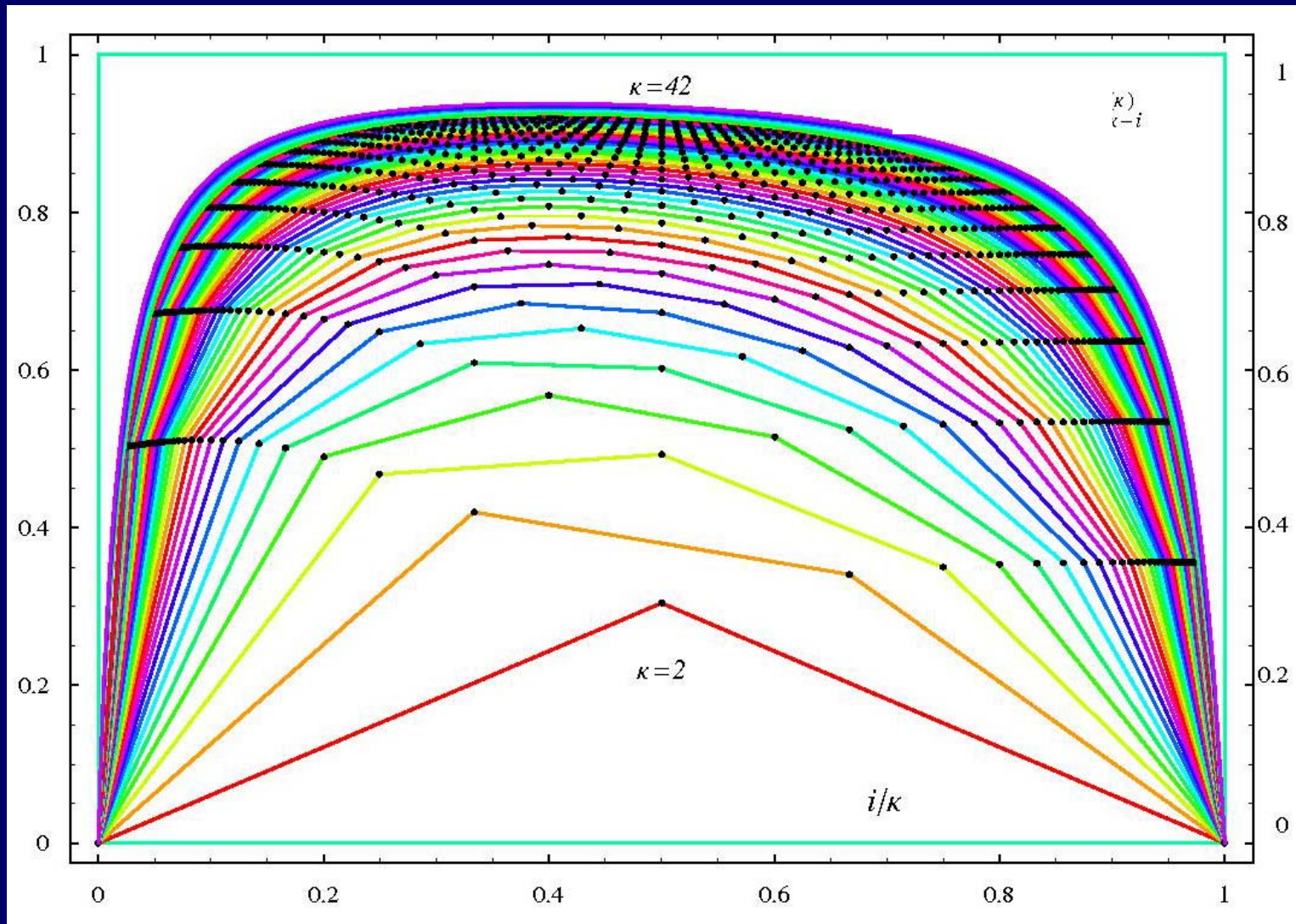
$q_i^k$  spectra versus RSB order

$a$ -spectra versus  $\log K$

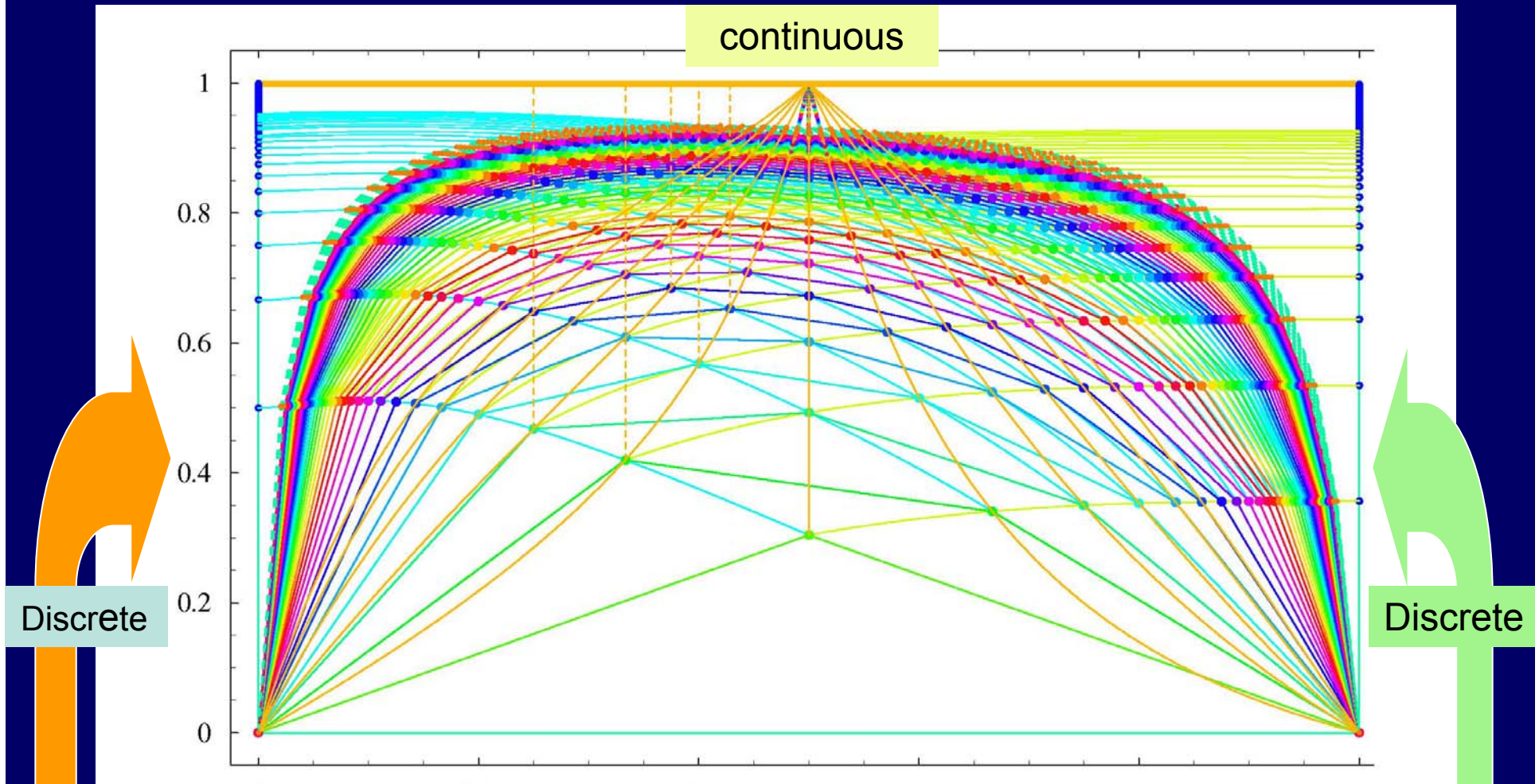


↑  
Lines have slope  $c \sim 4/3$   
 $a$ -distribution not uniform  
Bunching near  $a \sim O(K^0) \sim \xi$

# Ratio spectra: $r_{\kappa-i}^{(\kappa)} \equiv a_{\kappa-i+1}^{(\kappa)} / a_{\kappa-i}^{(\kappa)}$



# Pade fits $\rightarrow$ limiting spectra



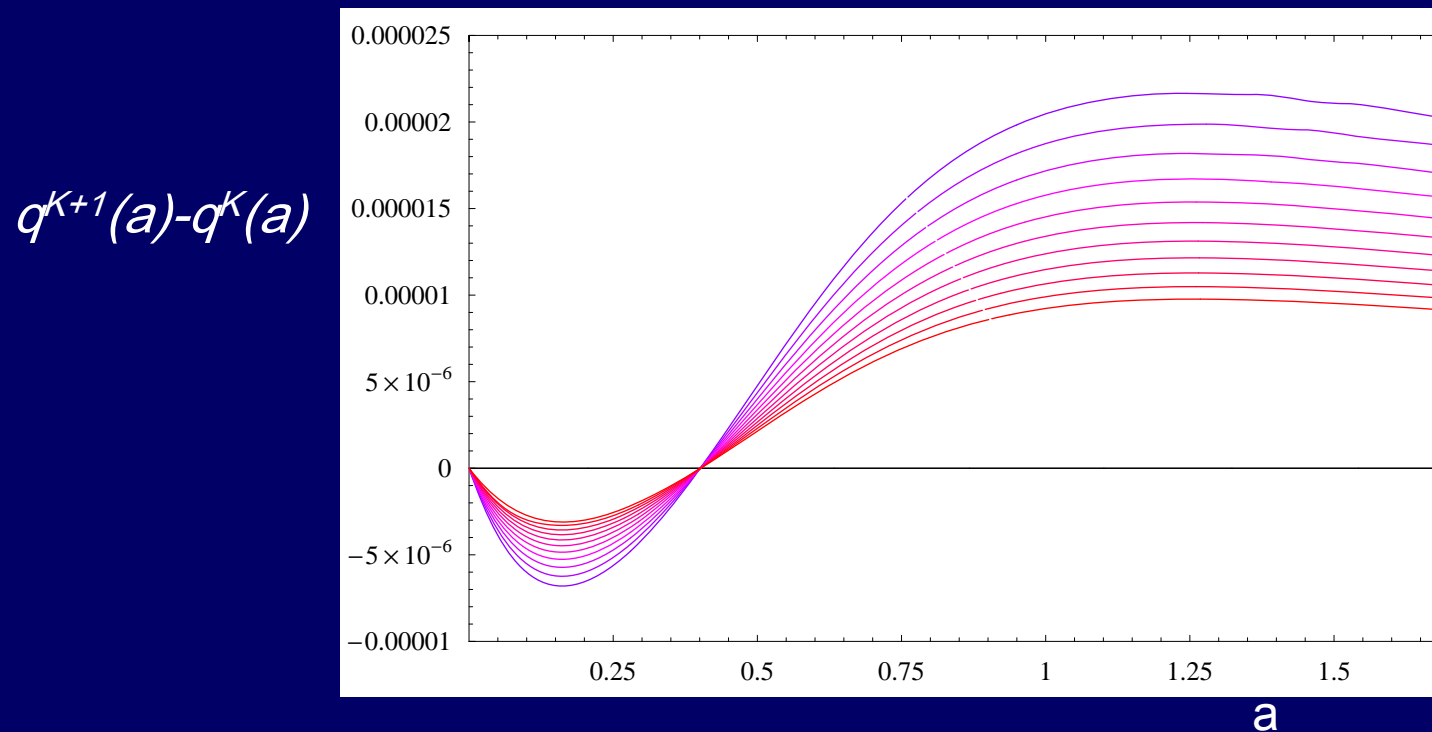
$$\tilde{r}_i \equiv \lim_{\kappa \rightarrow \infty} r_{\kappa-i}^{(\kappa)} = 1 - 1/(i + 1)$$

$$r_i = 1/\sqrt{1 + \frac{6}{5}/((i + \frac{1}{2})^{2/5} - \frac{3}{4})^2}$$



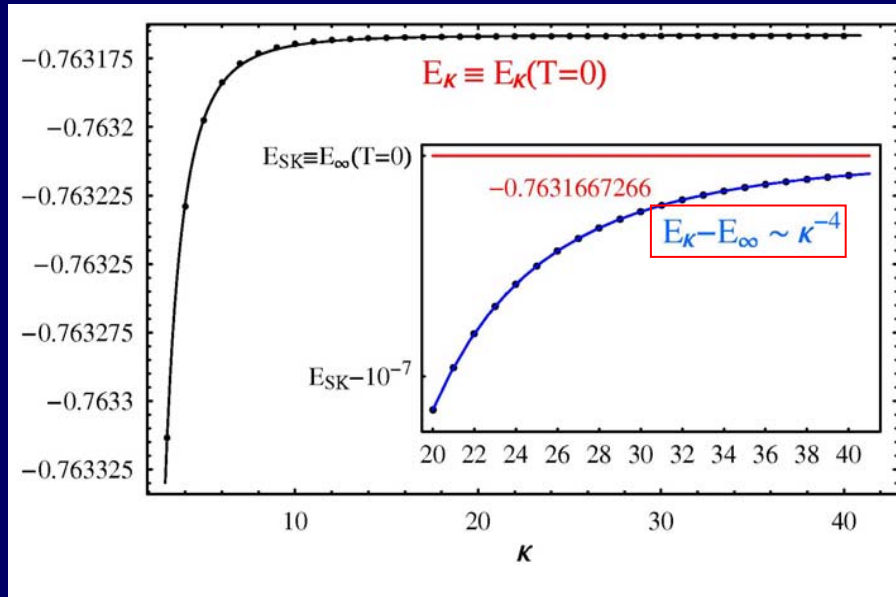
# More curiosities in $q$

- Invariance points: e.g.  $q^K(a)$



? Analogies with finite-size scaling  $\rightarrow$  location of critical points  
Meaning/ significance ?

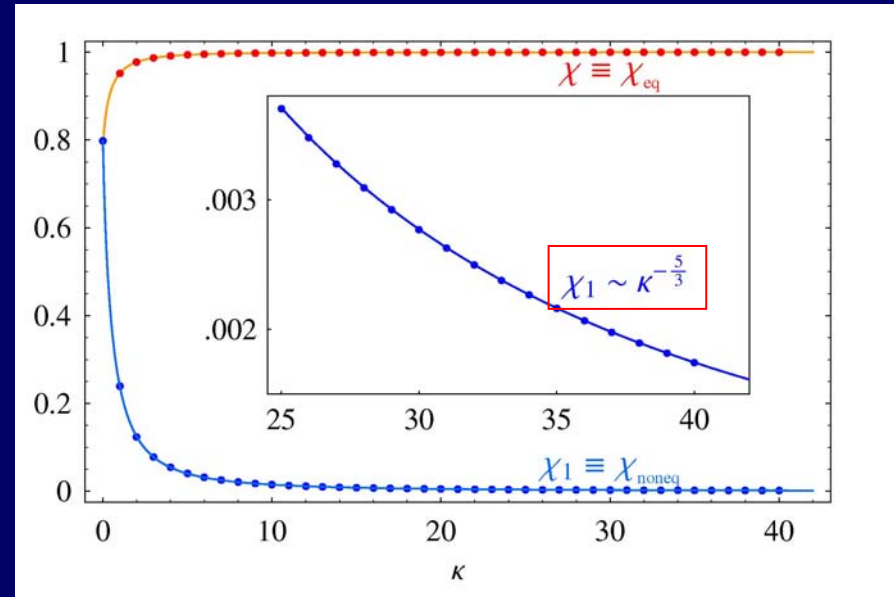
# Energy(K)



$$E - E_{\infty} \sim K^{-4}$$

↑  
42 RSB

# Susceptibilities(K)



$$\chi_{SS} \sim K^{-5/3}$$

Now available to 200 RSB  
(Oppermann & Schmidt)

# Correlation lengths in RSB order

Oppermann & Schmidt '08

Scaling functions

$$f(K / \xi)$$

$$\xi^1(a = \infty, H = 0, T) \sim T^{-\nu_T}; \quad \nu_T = 3/5$$

$$\xi^1(a = 0, H, T = 0) \sim T^{-\nu_H}; \quad \nu_H = 2/3$$

# Finite N: $K(N)$ ?

- Aspelmeier, Billoire, Marinari, Moore ('08)

Finite- $N$  SK  $\rightarrow$  Can truncate RSB at  $K \sim N^{1/6}$

- Finite- $N$  simulations of  $E_{GS}$  (e.g. Boettcher '05)

$$e_0 = -0.7632 + 0.70 N^{-2/3}$$

- Finite- $K$  RSB (Oppermann et al. '07, '08)

$$e_0 = -0.7632 - 0.0467 K^{-4}$$

(*c.f.* Parisi, Janic & Klic)

*i.e.* suggest also  $K \sim N^{1/6}$

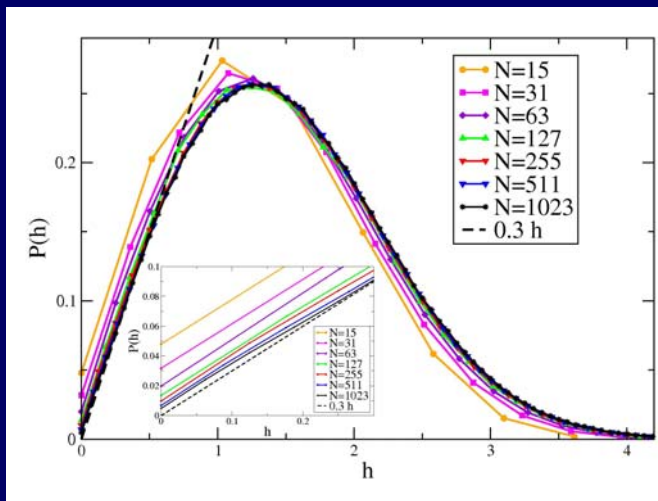
**But** deviations of opposite sign  
 $\therefore$  need terms beyond mean field  
& self-consistent self-energy corrections to propagators

# Also $P(h, T=0)$

## Finite- $N$ sim<sup>n</sup>

$p(h)$  raised at low  $h$

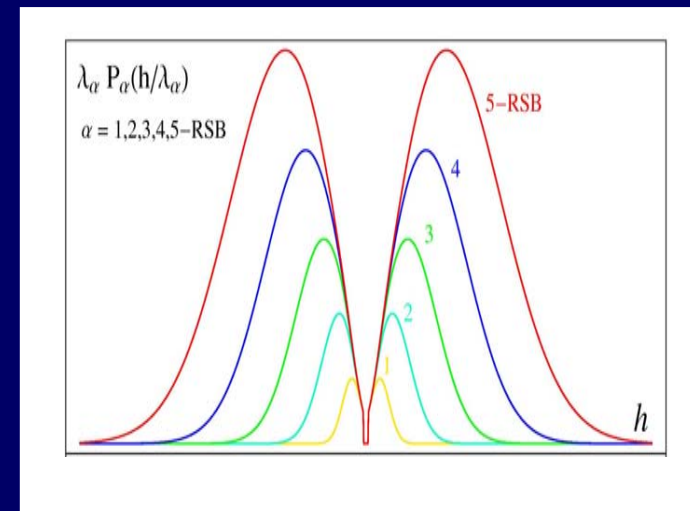
- $p(h=0) \sim N^{1/2}$   
(Boettcher et al. '08)



## Finite- $K$ RSB

$p(h)$  hole at low  $h$

- width  $\sim K^{-5/3}$   
(Oppermann et al. '07)



Again, different deviations. Need to go beyond m.f.t.

# Questions

- **Physically**, why is PaT so good?  
without being perfect?
- Beyond m.f.t. – finite N?
- Extensions of **FRSB** to dilute random s.g.  
(e.g. Viana-Bray)?

$$q^{\alpha\beta}, q^{\alpha\beta\gamma}, \dots, q^{\alpha\beta\dots\omega}$$

– or corresponding overlap distribution

$$P(\{q\})$$

– **beyond 1RSB and cavity field distributions**

# Note: need for Full RSB?

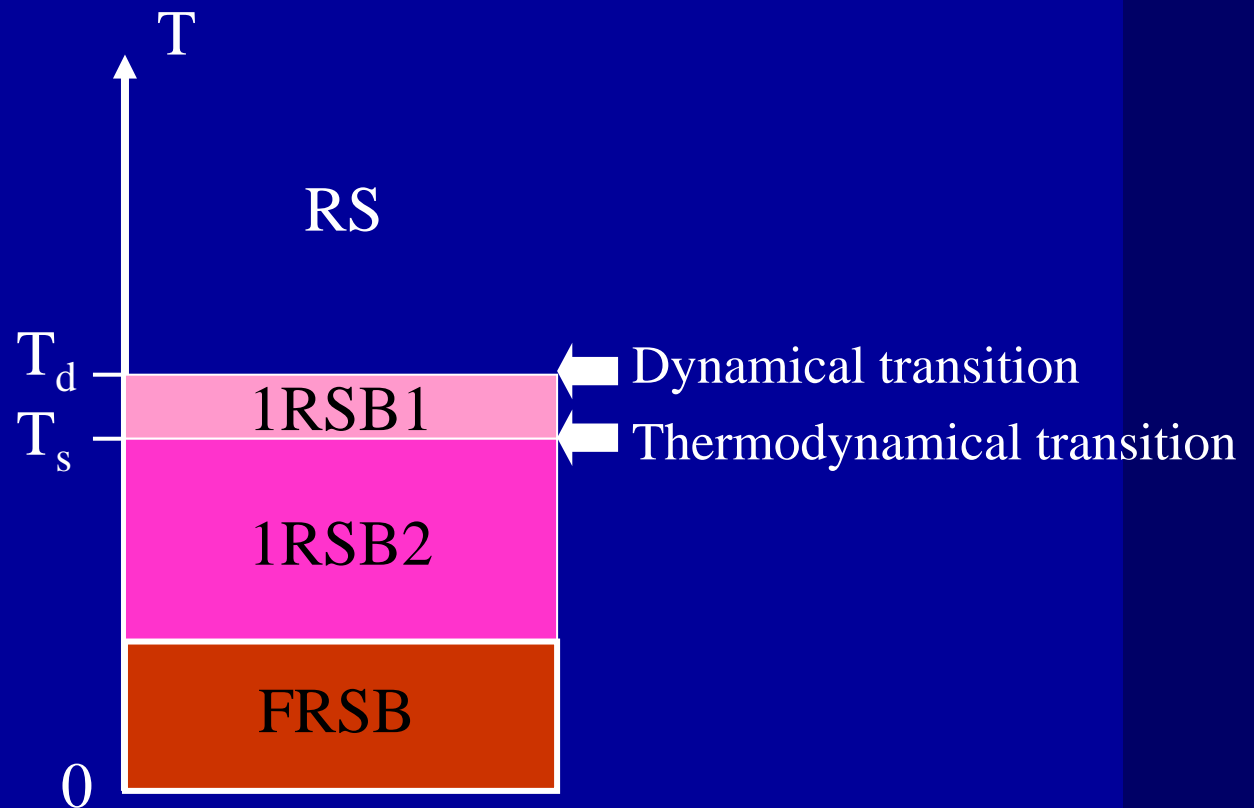
- Many systems: first transition to 1RSB
  - Lack the symmetry of definiteness of SK
    - $p(>2)$  -spin glass
    - Potts
    - Quadrupolar
    - Dynamically self-disordered
      - Structural glasses
- But normally a later transition to FRSB

# Nonsymmetric spin glass

$p > 2$   
*Potts*  
*Quadrupoles*

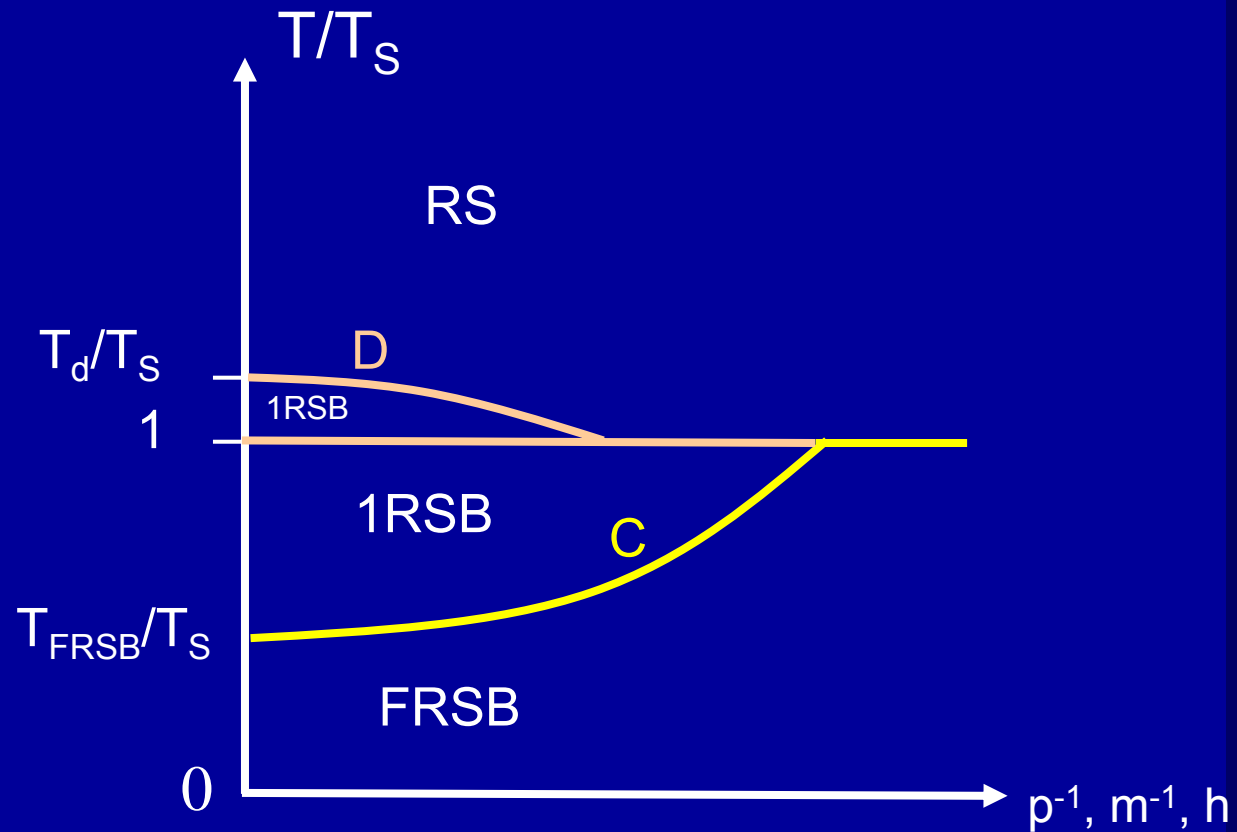


Structural glasses  
Protein folding



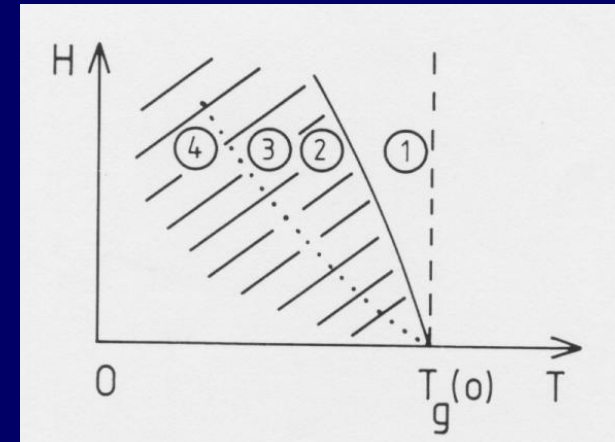
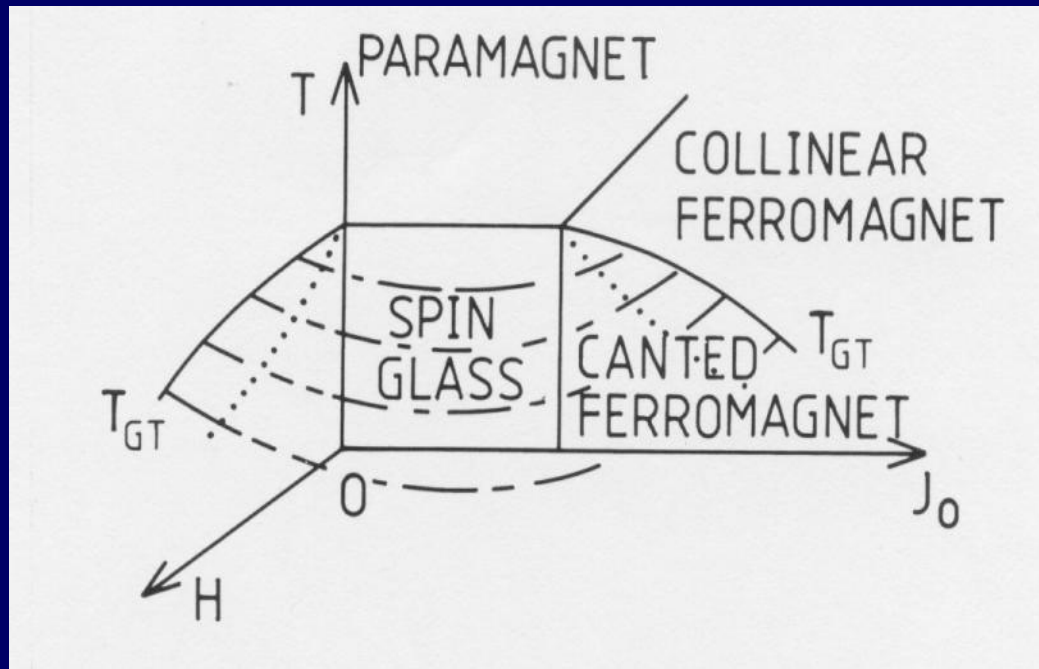


# Generic phase transitions

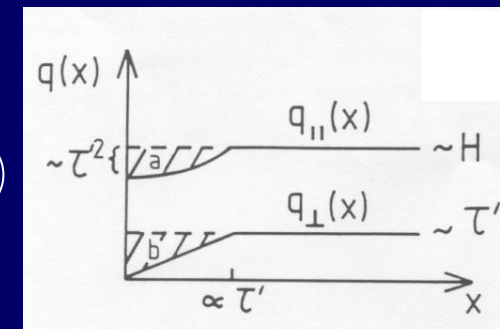


Potts, quadrupolar, p-spin in field

# Vector spin glass



2



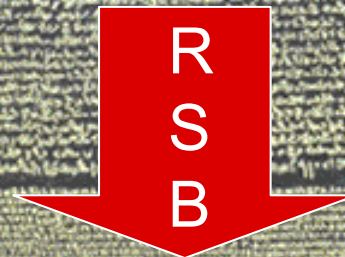
# Aside: How did I get to SK?

- **PhD functional integrals in m.b.t. – Sam Edwards (63-66)**
  - Had introduced auxiliary fields by Hubbard-Stratovich
  - Knew  $\infty$ -range &  $N$ -scaling  $\rightarrow$  m.f.t. & solubility for fm.
- **Joined IC group where expts on spin glasses (69-)**
  - Magnetic impurities; isolated  $\rightarrow$  collective
  - Statistical clustering in transition metal alloys (73)
    - Analogies with Anderson localization  $\rightarrow$  spin glass: RhCo
- **Sam tried his new EA ideas on me (74)**
  - Clearly very interesting, but many unusual ansätze
  - Wanted to find simpler way and exact model to check
  - Hence  $\rightarrow$  **infinite-ranged model  $\rightarrow$  SK**

Fascinating Physics

Novel mathematics

Spin glasses



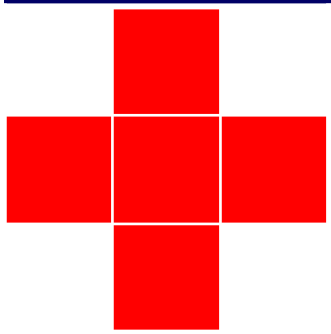
Complexity



Rosetta Stone to “read” other subjects

# San Giorgio

Patron or honoured

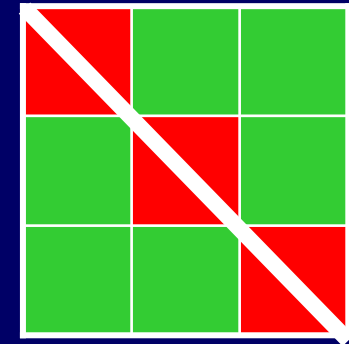


Belgium  
Brazil  
Bulgaria  
England  
Georgia  
Greece  
India  
Italy  
Lebanon  
Malta  
North Ossetia  
Palestine  
Portugal  
Serbia  
Spain  
United States

# Giorgio-San

Seijin & sensei

Europe, ESF, EC  
Belgium  
Brazil  
China  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
France  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Italy  
Japan  
Spain  
Switzerland  
United Kingdom  
United States.....



# Giorgio Primo



2003 La Massa Giorgio Primo  
93 Points Wine Spectator



Dark and powerful  
with intense aromas of tar, berry and raisins.  
Full-bodied, with loads of fruit and big, velvety tannins.  
Full-throttle. Huge wine.

# Discussions at Ascona



Photos by  
Erwin Bolthausen

# Happy birthday

