

Capacity threshold for the Ising perceptron

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MIT Combinatorics Seminar

November 14, 2024

- 1 Introduction and main result
- 2 Failure of direct moment method \rightarrow proof roadmap
- 3 1st/2nd moment in planted model
- 4 Justifying the TAP heuristic

High-dimensional disordered systems

Models of random, high-dimensional **objective functions** or **distributions**

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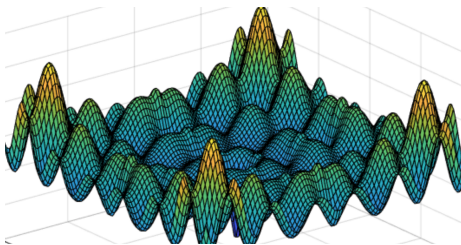
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Highly non-convex landscapes, often with exponentially many maxima

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Unified framework of physics **predictions** via replica / cavity methods

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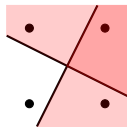
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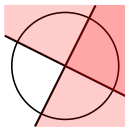
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Goal: unified rigorous theory & broadly applicable tools

The perceptron model



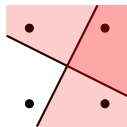
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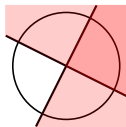
Spherical

Intersection of $\Sigma_N = \{-1, 1\}^N$ or $\sqrt{N}\mathbb{S}^{N-1}$
with M i.i.d. random half-spaces

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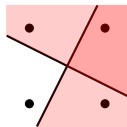
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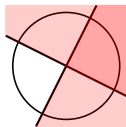
Formally: $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$ fixed, $\mathbf{g}^1, \mathbf{g}^2, \dots \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I_N)$,

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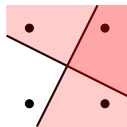
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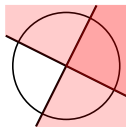
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Main question: what is $\alpha_* = \alpha_*(\kappa) = \text{p-lim}_{N \rightarrow \infty} M/N$?

Connections to other problems

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Satisfiability threshold of constraint satisfaction problem with **global** constraints

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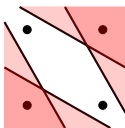
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- Capacity \leftrightarrow max # patterns neural network can memorize

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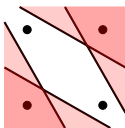
Related model: **symmetric perceptron** with constraints $\langle \mathbf{g}^a, \mathbf{x} \rangle / \sqrt{N} \in [-\kappa, \kappa]$



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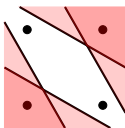
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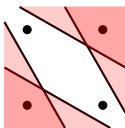
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Main result

Conjecture (Krauth Mézard 1989)

For the $\kappa = 0$ Ising perceptron, $\alpha_* = \alpha_{\text{KM}} \approx 0.833$.

Theorem (Ding Sun 2018)

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Theorem (H. 2024)

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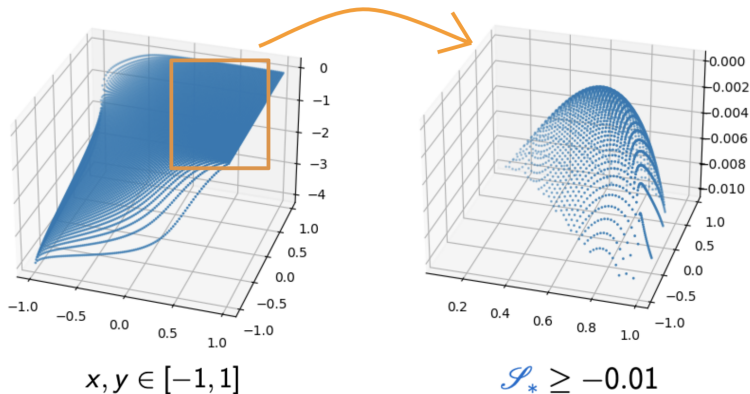
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(Also for general $\kappa \in \mathbb{R}$, under several numerical conditions depending on κ)

The function \mathcal{I}_* in our numerical condition

$\mathcal{I}_*(1, 0) = 0$ local max, conjecturally unique global max

Plot of $(x, y) \mapsto \mathcal{I}_*(\tanh^{-1}(x), \tanh^{-1}(y))$:



Background: physics predictions

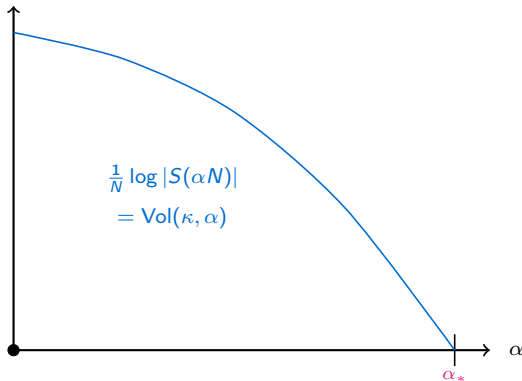
Gardner Derrida 88, Krauth Mézard 89:

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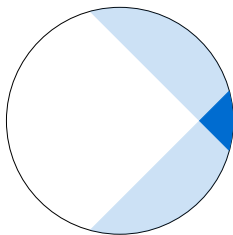
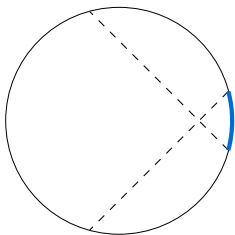
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(In “replica symmetric” regime of (κ, α) , which includes $\kappa = 0$ Ising perceptron)
- Capacity: $\alpha_* = \alpha_*(\kappa)$ solves $\text{Vol}(\kappa, \alpha_*) = 0$



Spherical perceptron, $\kappa \geq 0$

- Shcherbina Tirozzi 03: proof of volume limit $\text{Vol}(\kappa, \alpha)$ (and thus capacity)
- Stojnic 13: simple proof of capacity threshold

Crucial to proofs: $\kappa \geq 0$ spherical perceptron is **convex** problem!



Ising perceptron, $\kappa = 0$

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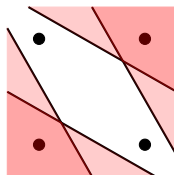
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Identifies α_* in **symmetric perceptron** with constraints $\langle \mathbf{g}^a, \mathbf{x} \rangle / \sqrt{N} \in [-\kappa, \kappa]$

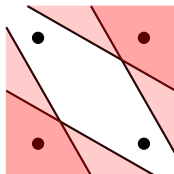


(Aubin Perkins Zdeborová 19, Perkins Xu 21, Abbe Li Sly 22, Altschuler 22, Sah Sawhney 23)

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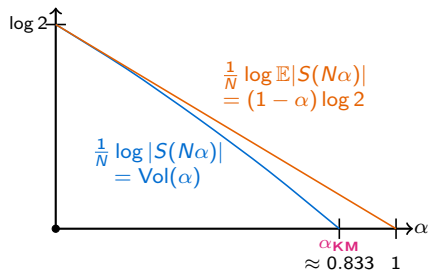
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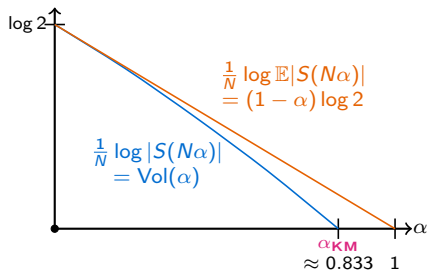
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But fails in our model! $\mathbb{E}|S(N\alpha)| = 2^{(1-\alpha)N} \ll 1$ only when $\alpha > 1$

Failure of direct moment method



Failure of direct moment method



$\mathbb{E}|S(N\alpha)|$ dominated by events where the \mathbf{g}^a are **atypically correlated**



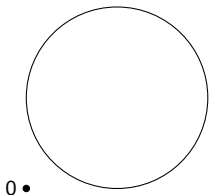
Typically: \mathbf{g}^a orthogonal



Atypically: \mathbf{g}^a correlated,
which inflates # solutions

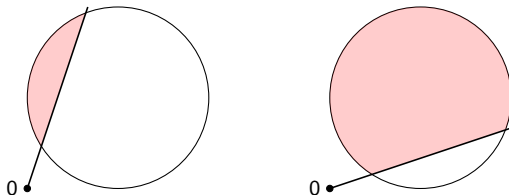
Another perspective on 1st moment failure

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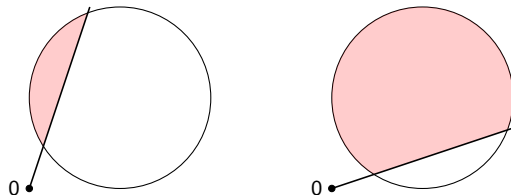
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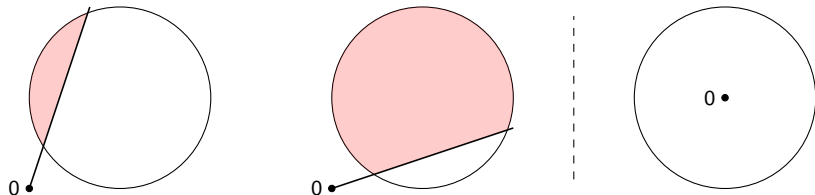


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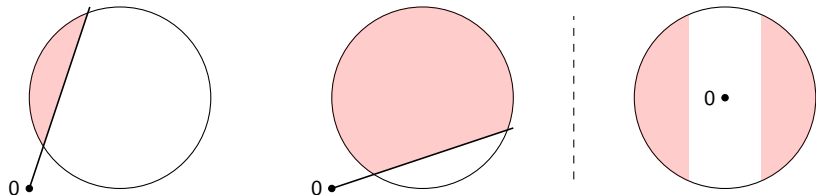


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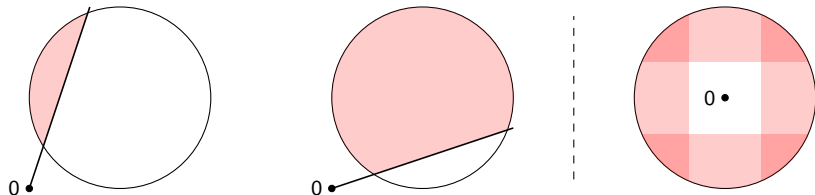


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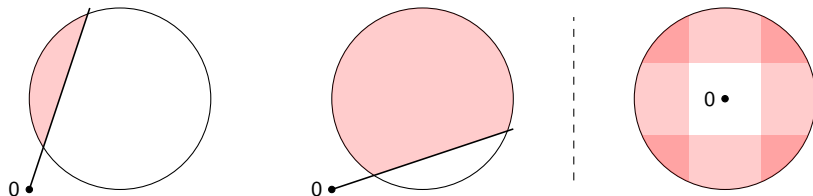


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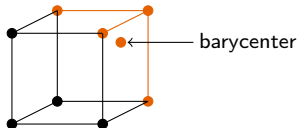
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Next few slides: non-rigorous physics intuitions on how to remedy this.

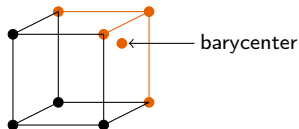
Conditional moment method

Key intuition of Ding Sun 18, Bolthausen 19: 1st mt failure caused by large deviation events in **barycenter** of solution set $S(N\alpha)$



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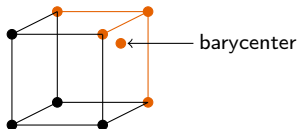


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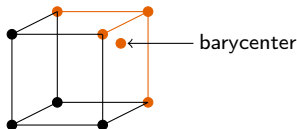


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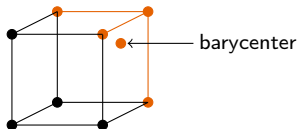
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Barycenter is mathematically complicated, but can condition on **physics proxy**

(Heuristic) physics description of barycenter

TAP equation: nonlinear system in

- $\mathbf{G} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ matrix with rows $\mathbf{g}^1, \dots, \mathbf{g}^M$
- $\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ barycenter of $\mathcal{S}(M)$
- $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{R}^M$ average slacks of constraints: $n_a = \text{avg}_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{S}(M)} \left\{ \frac{\langle \mathbf{g}^a, \mathbf{x} \rangle}{\sqrt{N}} - \kappa \right\}$

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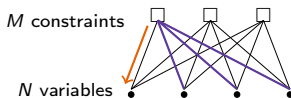
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(\leftrightarrow dense graph limit of **belief propagation**)



$$n_{a \rightarrow i} = \hat{f}((\mathbf{m}_{j \rightarrow a})_{j \neq i})$$

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(Heuristic) physics description of barycenter

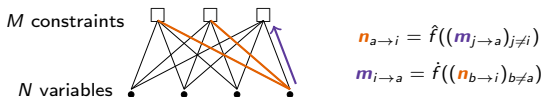
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Physics predictions for TAP & planted model

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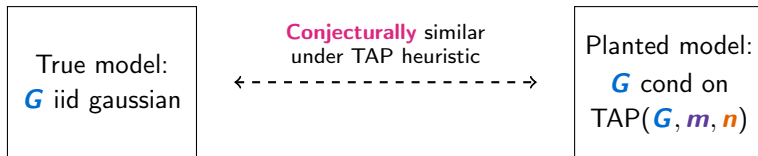
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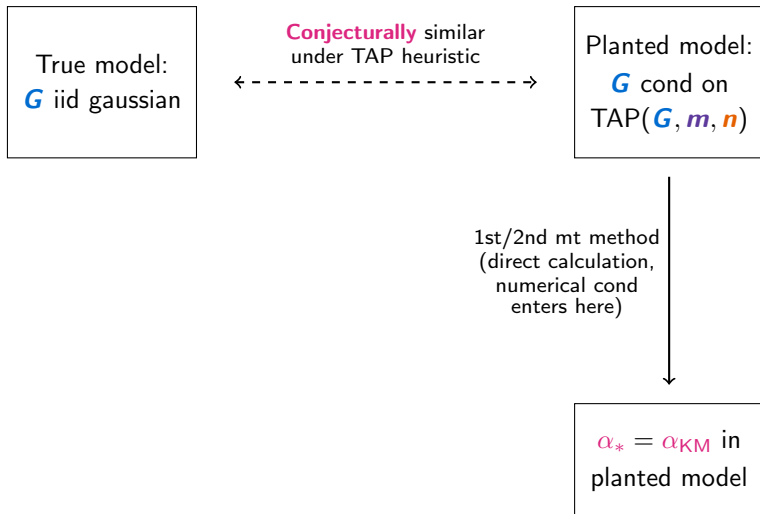
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! existence/uniqueness of (\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) is **not proven**, so planted \neq true possible

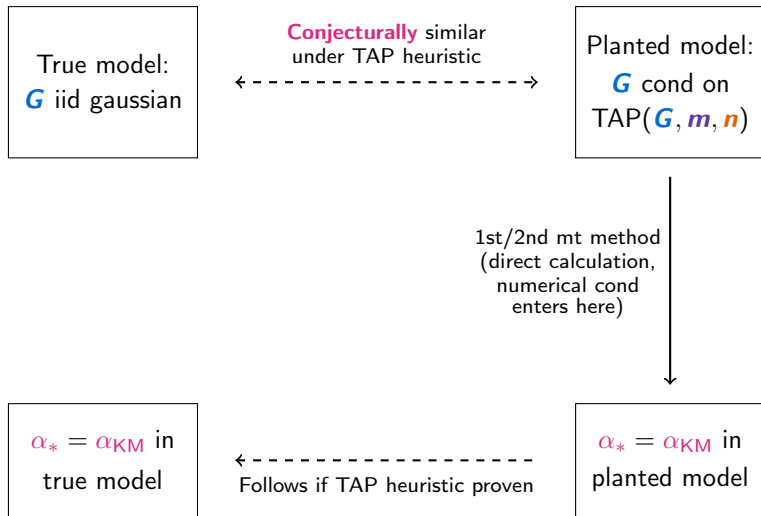
Proof roadmap



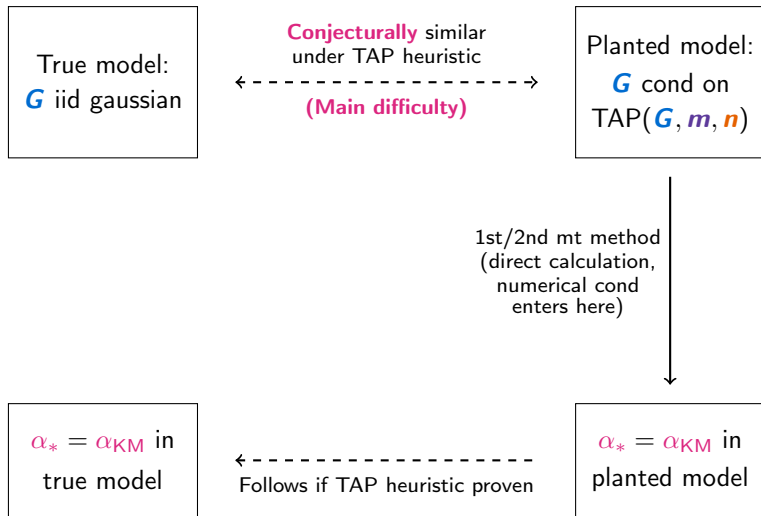
Proof roadmap



Proof roadmap



Proof roadmap



Proof roadmap

True model:
 G iid gaussian

$\alpha_* = \alpha_{KM}$ in
true model

Conjecturally similar
under TAP heuristic
← - - - - - →
(Main difficulty)

[Previous work: **motivation** only]

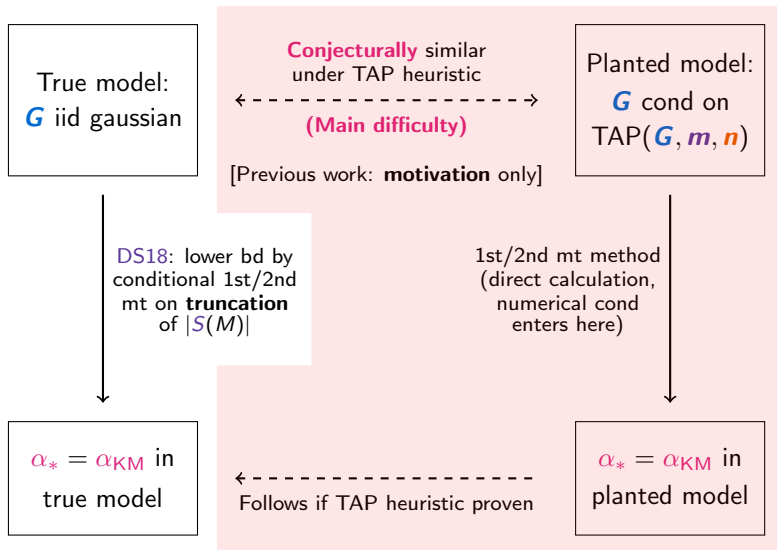
Planted model:
 G cond on
 $\text{TAP}(G, m, n)$

1st/2nd mt method
(direct calculation,
numerical cond
enters here)

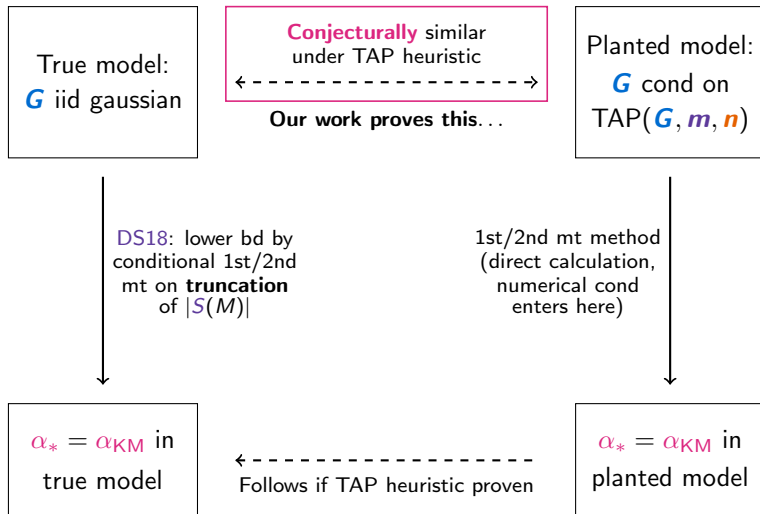
← - - - - - →
Follows if TAP heuristic proven

$\alpha_* = \alpha_{KM}$ in
planted model

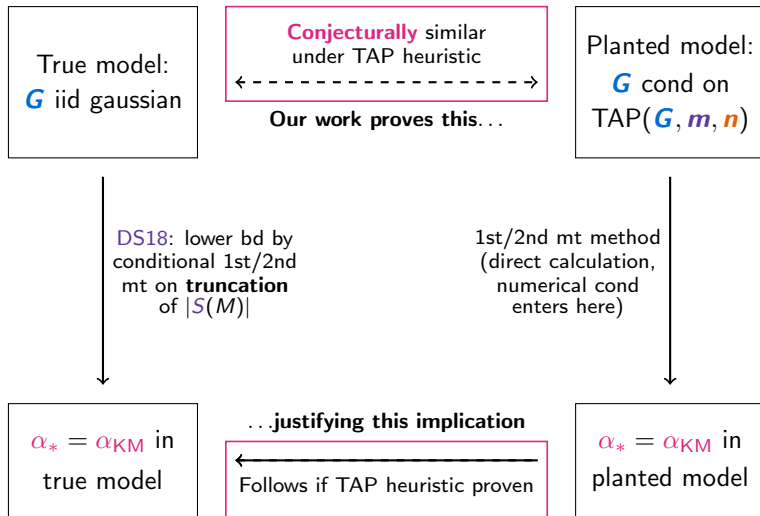
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Properties making the planted model tractable

Recall planted model:

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1 The coordinate profiles

$$\mu(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(m_i) \qquad \nu(\mathbf{n}) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{a=1}^M \delta(n_a) \qquad \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$$

concentrate around explicit μ_*, ν_* . (Roughly, $m_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mu_*$ & $n_a \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \nu_*$)

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- ## 2
- $\text{TAP}(\mathbf{G}, \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})$ is linear constraint on $\mathbf{G} \Rightarrow \mathbf{G}$ conditionally gaussian!

Moment calculation in planted model

Plan: 1st/2nd moment method on $|S| = \#(\text{solutions})$ conditional on (m, n)

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G is spiked gaussian mtx $\Rightarrow G\mathbf{x}$ is gaussian vector whose law depends on only

$$a = \langle \mathbf{x}, m \rangle \quad b = \langle \mathbf{x}, H \rangle \quad (H = \dot{F}^{-1}(m))$$

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$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[|S| | m, n] \approx \exp(N \cdot \max f(a, b))$ essentially **2 variable maximization**

1st/2nd moment in planted model

1st/2nd moments are both explicit $O(1)$ -variable maximizations.

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1st/2nd moment works!! Conditional on typical (m, n) ,

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under our + DS18's numerical conditions

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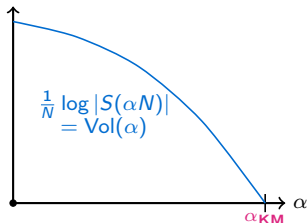
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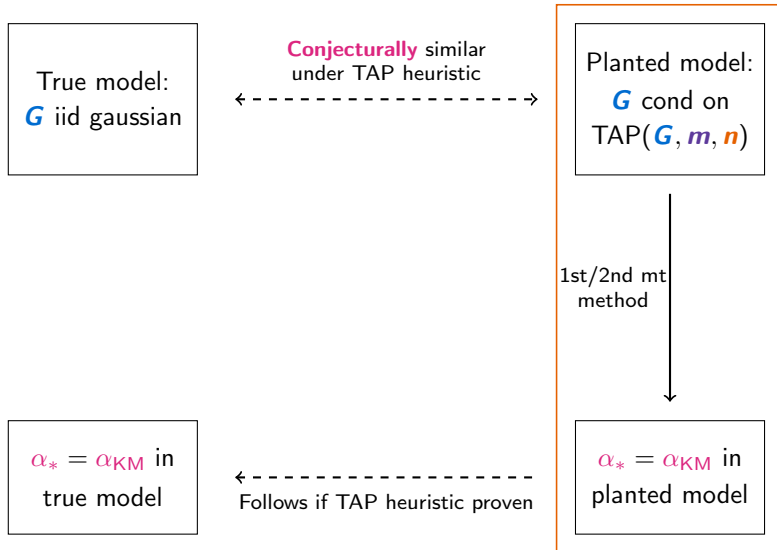
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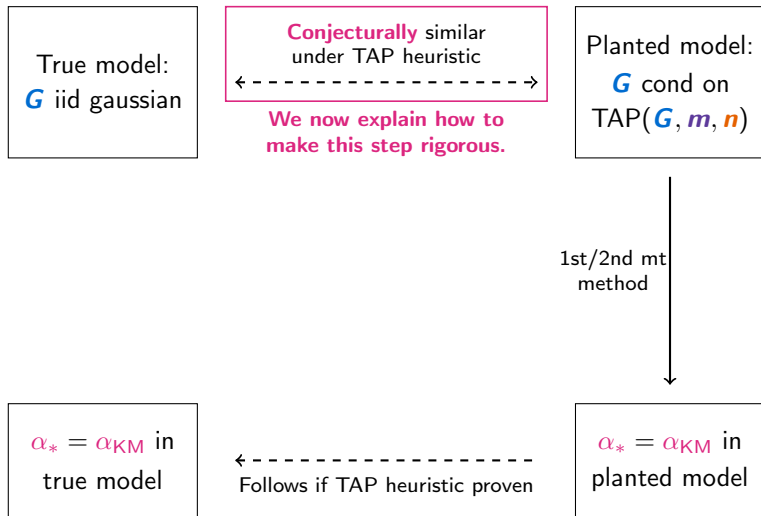
Since Vol has root α_{KM} , planted model has capacity α_{KM}

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Proof roadmap



Proof roadmap



Key issue: linking true and planted models

(m, n)

G

		×		
			×	
	×			
				×
×				
	×			
×				
		×		
				×
			×	

True model \leftrightarrow random row

Planted model \leftrightarrow random col, then random \times in col

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			×	
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×				
		×		
				×
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		×		
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	×			
				×
×		×	×	
	×			×
×				
		×		

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	×			×
×				
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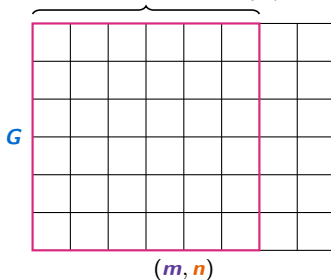
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\Rightarrow planted / true models can a priori be very different

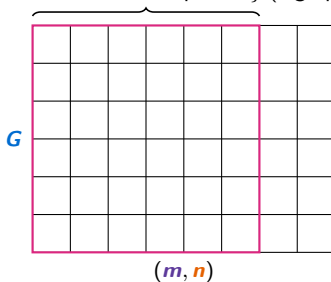
This work: contiguity of true / planted models

$T = \{(m, n) \text{ with } \approx \text{ideal coordinate profiles}\}$ (high-probability set)



This work: contiguity of true / planted models

$\mathcal{T} = \{(m, n) \text{ with } \approx \text{ideal coordinate profiles}\}$ (high-probability set)



We show, for $G \sim$ true model:

- ① Existence: G has TAP solution $(m, n) \in \mathcal{T}$ whp (most rows have a \times)
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G

		×				?	?
×						?	?
			×			?	?
	×					?	?
				×		?	?
					×	?	?

(m, n)

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$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$
 \mathbf{G}

		×				?	?
×						?	?
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(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n})

We show, for $\mathbf{G} \sim \text{true model}$:

- ① Existence: \mathbf{G} has TAP solution $(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in \mathcal{T}$ whp (most rows have a \times)
- ② Uniqueness: $\mathbb{E}[\#\text{TAP solutions in } \mathcal{T}] = 1 + o(1)$ (rows average $1 + o(1)$ \times 's)

This shows true \approx planted. That is, \forall event E ,

$$\mathbb{P}_{\text{true}}(E) \leq C \sup_{(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in \mathcal{T}} \mathbb{P}_{\text{planted}}(E | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) + o(1)$$

Existence: algorithmic proof

Want: $\mathbf{G} \sim$ true model, \mathbf{G} has TAP fixed pt $(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}) \in \mathcal{T} = \{\text{correct profiles}\}$ whp

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$$\mathbf{m}^{k+1} = \dot{F} \left(\frac{\mathbf{G}^\top \mathbf{n}^k}{\sqrt{N}} - \mathbf{d} \mathbf{m}^k \right) \qquad \mathbf{n}^k = \hat{F} \left(\frac{\mathbf{G} \mathbf{m}^k}{\sqrt{N}} - \mathbf{b} \mathbf{n}^{k-1} \right)$$

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① TAP fixed points are critical points of **TAP free energy** $\mathcal{F}_{\text{TAP}}(\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n}; \mathbf{G})$

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$$(\mathbf{m}^k, \mathbf{n}^k) \in \mathcal{T} \qquad \|\nabla \mathcal{F}_{\text{TAP}}(\mathbf{m}^k, \mathbf{n}^k)\| = o_k(1)$$

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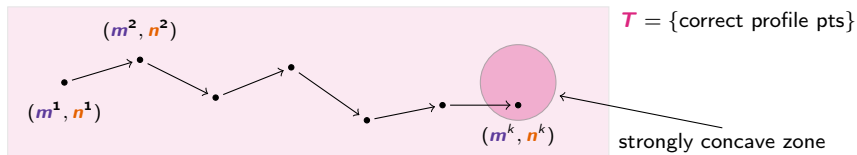
That is, AMP finds an **approximate** critical point in \mathcal{T}

Existence: from approximate to exact critical point

💡 Celentano Fan Mei 21: if \mathcal{F}_{TAP} **strongly concave** near the approximate critical point $(\mathbf{m}^k, \mathbf{n}^k)$, exists exact critical point nearby

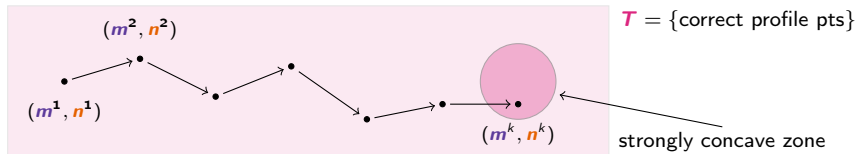
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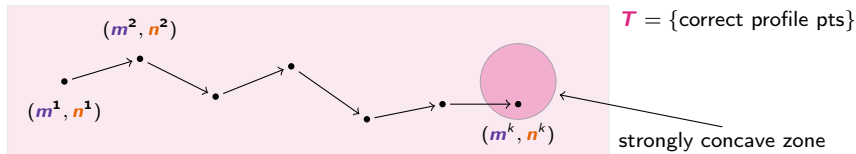
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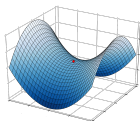
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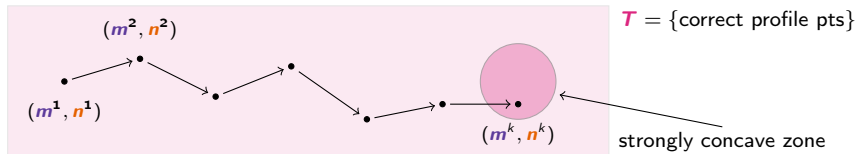
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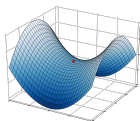
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Proof adapts AMP-conditioned gaussian comparison approach of Celentano 22

Uniqueness: double-counting argument

Want: for $G \sim$ true model, $\mathbb{E}[\# \text{TAP fixed pts of } G \text{ in } T] = 1 + o(1)$

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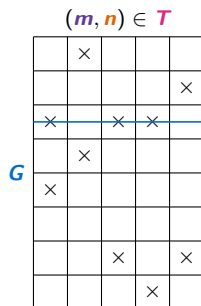
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Did AMP return to (m, n) ?

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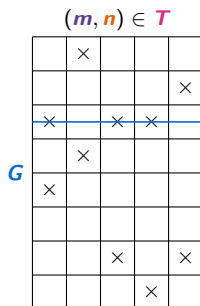
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If too many rows have > 1 \times s, claim cannot be true!

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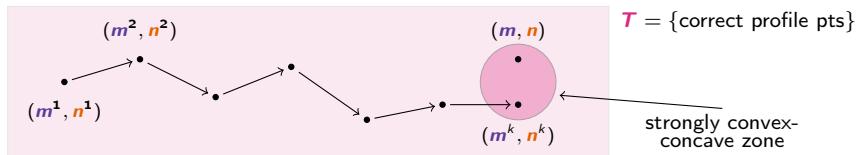
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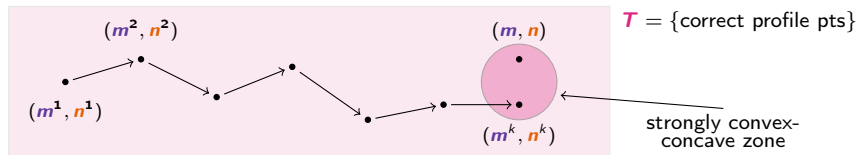


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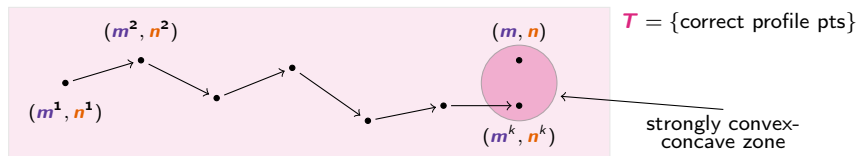
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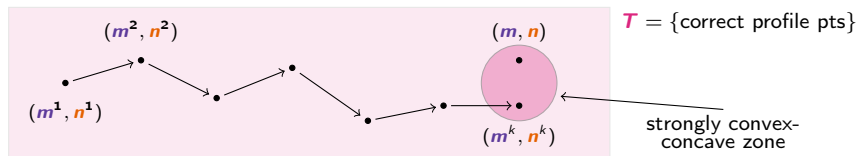
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Recap: contiguity of true / planted models

$$\mathcal{T} = \{(m, n) \text{ with } \approx \text{ ideal coordinate profiles}\}$$

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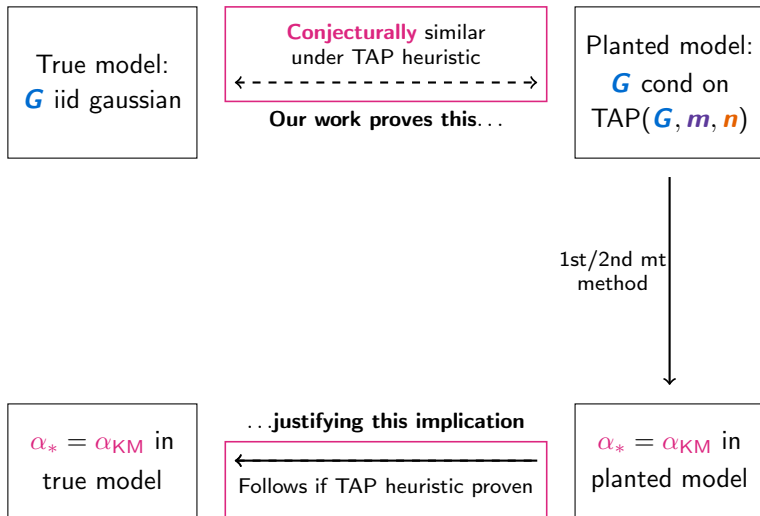
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- 2 Uniqueness: $\mathbb{E}[\#\text{TAP solutions in } \mathcal{T}] = 1 + o(1)$ (rows average $1 + o(1)$ \times 's)

This shows true \approx planted.

Recap: proof roadmap



Conclusion

- We develop method to link true model & model with planted TAP fixed point
- Then 1st/2nd moment in planted model identifies capacity $\alpha_* = \alpha_{KM}$

Conclusion

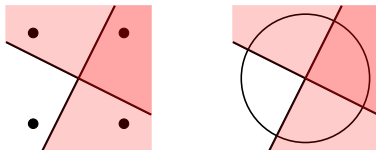
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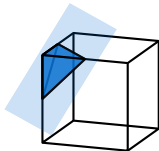
Thanks for your attention!

Earlier work: AMP-conditioned moment method

$$\mathbf{m}^{k+1} = \hat{F} \left(\frac{\mathbf{G}^\top \mathbf{n}^k}{\sqrt{N}} - \mathbf{d} \mathbf{m}^k \right) \quad \mathbf{n}^k = \hat{F} \left(\frac{\mathbf{G} \mathbf{m}^k}{\sqrt{N}} - \mathbf{b} \mathbf{n}^{k-1} \right)$$

Plan: for large $k = O(1)$, condition on $\mathbf{m}^1, \mathbf{n}^1, \dots, \mathbf{m}^k, \mathbf{n}^k$, then 1st/2nd moment

No existence / uniqueness issue, but now $\mathbb{E}[|S(M)| \mid \text{AMP}]$ is k -dim optimization
(Over codimension- k slices of $\{\pm 1\}^N$ orthogonal to $\mathbf{m}^1, \dots, \mathbf{m}^k$)



💡 DS18: for lower bound, tractable 1st/2nd moment on **truncated** count

$$|S(M) \cap \{\text{correct affine slice}\}|$$

Upper bound: can't do truncation, optimization intractable