# A Journey on Configuration Graphs Coloring and Independent Set Reconfiguration

### Nicolas Bousquet

July, 3rd, 2024





### My research - 11 years ago



# My research - Now



# My research - Now



# My research - Now



Geometric & Col. Rec.

Local certification

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- Important problems in random sampling, bioinformatics, discrete geometry, games...etc... for decades.



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- Exponential length transformation. Looks simple but computationally hard.
- Understandable because of symmetry. In what follows, symmetry / structure will vanish.

# Configuration graph

### **Definition** (Configuration graph C(I) of I)

- Vertices : Valid solutions of *I*.
- Create an edge between any two solutions if we can transform one into the other in one elementary step.



Reconfiguration diameter = Diameter of C(I) (when connected)

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### Outline of the presentation :

Focus on Graph Recoloring an Independent Set Reconfiguration.



# Graph Recoloring







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A spin system is a set of spins given with :



- An integer *k* being the number of states.
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A spin configuration is a function  $f : S \to \{1, ..., k\}^n$ .  $\Leftrightarrow$  A (non necessarily proper) graph coloring.



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 $H(\sigma)$  : number of monochromatic edges. = Edges with both endpoints of the same color.

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- The probability  $\searrow$  if the number of monochrom. edges  $\nearrow$ .

• When  $T \searrow_{\sigma} \mathcal{P}(c) \searrow$  if c has at least one monochr. edge. Limit of an antiferromagnetic Potts model when  $T \rightarrow 0$ .  $\Rightarrow$  Only **proper** colorings have positive measure.

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## **Questions** :

• Can we generate every solution?

Is the configuration graph connected?

• How long shall we wait to "sample a solution almost at random" ?

What is the mixing time? (Related with the diameter of the configuration graph).

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A graph is *d*-degenerate if there exists an ordering  $v_1, \ldots, v_n$  such that for every i,  $|N(v_i) \cap \{v_{i+1}, \ldots, v_n\}| \le d$ .



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Cerededa's conjecture for d = 2... and  $\Delta = 4!$ 

[Feghali, Johnson, Paulusma '17] d = 2 and  $\Delta = 3$  is true.












**Open : How many colors to get lin. diameter :**  $(2 - \epsilon)tw(G)$  colors?  $(2 - \epsilon)d$ ?



**Open : How many colors to get lin. diameter :**  $(2 - \epsilon)tw(G)$  colors?  $(2 - \epsilon)d$ ? 7 colors for planar graphs?

Part II

# Independent Set Reconfiguration



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Question : What is the complexity of TS / TJ-REACHABILITY?

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**Input** : A graph *G*, two independent sets *I*, *J*. **Input** : YES iff there exists a TS (resp. TJ)-transformation from *I* to *J*.

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### Today :

Focus on parameterized algorithms.

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**Theorem** (Bodlaender, Groenland, Swennenhuis '21)

TS and TJ-REACHABILITY are XL-complete.







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TS-ISR is FPT on : [Bartier et al. '20 and '22, '24]

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- Graphs of girth ≥ 5.



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#### **Consequences :**

- FPT on bounded degree graphs.
- FPT on planar graphs.

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- Explore the differences between Connected-TJ and TS.
- Dense classes ?

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Thanks for your attention !