Answers to exercises: Percolation

1.3 Percolation in d = 1 on a lattice with periodic boundary conditions.

(i) When $s \leq L-2$, an s-cluster must be bounded by two empty sites. For s = L-1, there is only one empty site in the system while for s = L, all sites are occupied. Clearly we cannot have s > L. Thus

$$n(s,p) = \begin{cases} p^{s}(1-p)^{2} & \text{for } s \leq L-2\\ p^{L-1}(1-p) & \text{for } s = L-1\\ p^{L} & \text{for } s = L\\ 0 & \text{for } s > L. \end{cases}$$
(1.3.1)

- (ii) A cluster with s = L is percolating and hence not to be characterized as being finite. Therefore, $\sum_{s=1}^{L-1} sn(s,p)$ represents the probability that a site belongs to a finite cluster.
- (iii) In a d = 1 system of size L, the probability of an arbitrarily selected site to belong to the spanning (infinite) cluster

$$P_{\infty}(L,p) = p^L. \tag{1.3.2}$$

Alternatively, an occupied site either belongs to the spanning cluster or to a finite cluster (s < L), that is,

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\infty}(L,p) &= p - \sum_{s=1}^{L-1} sn(s,p) \\ &= p - (L-1)p^{L-1}(1-p) - \sum_{s=1}^{L-2} sp^s(1-p)^2 \\ &= p - (L-1)p^{L-1}(1-p) - (1-p)^2 \left(p\frac{d}{dp}\right) \left(\sum_{s=1}^{L-2} p^s\right) \\ &= p - (L-1)p^{L-1}(1-p) - (1-p)^2 \left(p\frac{d}{dp}\right) \left(\frac{p-p^{L-1}}{1-p}\right) \\ &= p - (L-1)p^{L-1}(1-p) - (1-p)^2 p \frac{(1-p)(1-(L-1)p^{L-2}) + (p-p^{L-1})}{(1-p)^2} \\ &= p - (L-1)p^{L-1} + (L-1)p^L - (p-p^2)(1-(L-1)p^{L-2}) - p^2 + p^L \\ &= p^L. \end{aligned}$$

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$Complexity \ and \ Criticality$

(iv) (a) In d = 1 percolation,

$$\xi = -\frac{1}{\ln p} \Leftrightarrow \ln p = -\frac{1}{\xi} \Leftrightarrow p = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\xi}\right). \quad (1.3.4)$$

Thus

$$P_{\infty}(L,\xi) = p^{L} = \left[\exp\left(-\frac{1}{\xi}\right)\right]^{L} = \exp\left(-\frac{L}{\xi}\right). \quad (1.3.5)$$

(b) Write the order parameter using the scaling form

$$P_{\infty}(\xi; L) = \exp\left(-\frac{L}{\xi}\right) = \xi^{-\beta/\nu} \mathcal{P}(L/\xi), \qquad (1.3.6)$$

where

$$\beta/\nu = 0 \tag{1.3.7}$$

and a scaling function

$$\mathcal{P}(x) = \exp(-\frac{L}{\xi})$$

$$\propto \begin{cases} \text{constant} & \text{for } L \ll \xi \\ \text{decaying rapidly} & \text{for } L \gg \xi. \end{cases} (1.3.8)$$