

The Ghirlanda-Guerra Identities

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If the variance of a Gaussian spin-glass Hamiltonian grows like the volume the model fulfills the Ghirlanda-Guerra identities in terms of the normalized Hamiltonian covariance.

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1. INTRODUCTION

In the last decade new ideas and technical methods have been developed in the attempt to build the spin glass theory on rigorous mathematical grounds. The most recent example is the interpolation strategy⁽²¹⁾ introduced to prove the existence of the thermodynamic limit in the Sherrington-Kirkpatrick⁽³¹⁾ model and its use in the proof of the Parisi free energy⁽²³⁾ of the same model^(18,32) and in the identification of an extended variational principle.⁽²⁾

The first basic contribution in the field came with the work by Guerra⁽¹⁹⁾ on how to prove some correlation identities of the Sherrington-Kirkpatrick model that were only assumed within the ultrametric structure of the Parisi solution. Those identities were later generalized by Ghirlanda-Guerra⁽²⁰⁾ and are playing an increasingly important role in the mathematical approach to the low temperature spin glass phase. For instance they were used in ref. 33 to prove that, for the SK model with random magnetic field, the probability distribution of the overlap q is, in the thermodynamic limit, supported only on positive values of q (see also ref. 4 and references therein). The Ghirlanda-Guerra identities are consequence of a very basic principle of statistical mechanics i.e. the vanishing of the

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fluctuation of the energy per particle: at increasing volumes the energy per particle approaches a constant with respect to the equilibrium measure. Within the non-disordered classical cases all that simply implies the finiteness of the specific heat almost everywhere in the temperature (see nevertheless the implications in classical mean-field models⁽¹¹⁾); however in the spin glass cases, where the equilibrium *quenched* state is a properly intertwined composition of the Boltzmann-Gibbs and the disorder measures, its consequences are way more subtle. The work⁽⁹⁾ led to the identification of the *stochastic stability*,⁽¹⁾ an invariance property of the quenched state under a class of suitable perturbations. Subsequently stochastic stability was developed and used to clarify the relation between the equilibrium and the off-equilibrium properties in the spin glass phase.^(16,17) Recently stochastic stability has been classified^(3,5) and placed on rigorous grounds in ref. 19, where its relation with the mentioned identities is also discussed.

In this work we obtain a condition that guarantees the validity of the Ghirlanda-Guerra identities: our result states that they hold true whenever the variance of the Hamiltonian function grows like the volume. Such a condition is the same that ensures the boundedness (and existence as it was proved in ref. 7) of the thermodynamic limit and applies to every spin glass model studied so far: to the Edwards-Anderson model, to the finite dimensional cases with summable or non-summable interactions in the sense of Kanin and Sinai,⁽²²⁾ to the mean field cases like SK, p-spin, REM and GREM, up to the general spin glass model of subset interaction on which our general condition has been tailored. It is important to stress that the identities we prove hold in terms of the normalized Hamiltonian covariance which has a different spin expression in each model: for instance in the SK model it coincides with the square power of the overlap function, while for the EA model it is the link overlap.^(6,25) The strategy we use to achieve the result relies on very simple methods like the bound on martingale sums and classical inequalities.

The paper is organized in definitions (Sec. 2), results (Sec. 3) and proofs (Sec. 4).

2. DEFINITIONS

We consider a disordered model of Ising configurations $\sigma_n = \pm 1$, $n \in \Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ for some d -parallelepiped Λ of volume $|\Lambda|$. We denote Σ_Λ the set of all $\sigma = \{\sigma_n\}_{n \in \Lambda}$, and $|\Sigma_\Lambda| = 2^{|\Lambda|}$. In the sequel the following definitions will be used.

1. Hamiltonian.

For every $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ let $\{H_\Lambda(\sigma)\}_{\sigma \in \Sigma_\Lambda}$ be a family of $2^{|\Lambda|}$ *translation invariant (in distribution) centered Gaussian* random variables defined, in

analogy with,⁽²⁹⁾ according to the very general representation

$$H_\Lambda(\sigma) = - \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} J_X \sigma_X \tag{2.1}$$

where

$$\sigma_X = \prod_{i \in X} \sigma_i, \tag{2.2}$$

($\sigma_\emptyset = 0$) and the J 's are independent Gaussian variables with zero mean

$$\text{Av}(J_X) = 0, \tag{2.3}$$

and (translation invariant) variance

$$\text{Av}(J_X^2) = \Delta_X^2. \tag{2.4}$$

2. Covariance matrix and generalized overlap.

$$\mathcal{C}_\Lambda(\sigma, \tau) := \text{Av}(H_\Lambda(\sigma)H_\Lambda(\tau)) = \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \Delta_X^2 \sigma_X \tau_X. \tag{2.5}$$

By the Schwartz inequality

$$|\mathcal{C}_\Lambda(\sigma, \tau)| \leq \sqrt{\mathcal{C}_\Lambda(\sigma, \sigma)}\sqrt{\mathcal{C}_\Lambda(\tau, \tau)} = \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \Delta_X^2 \tag{2.6}$$

for all σ and τ . The generalized overlap is

$$c_\Lambda(\sigma, \tau) := \frac{1}{|\Lambda|} \mathcal{C}_\Lambda(\sigma, \tau) \tag{2.7}$$

3. Thermodynamic stability.

The Hamiltonian (2.1) is thermodynamically stable if it exist a constant $\bar{c} < \infty$ such that

$$\sup_{\Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^d} \frac{1}{|\Lambda|} \mathcal{C}_\Lambda(\sigma, \sigma) = \sup_{\Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^d} \frac{1}{|\Lambda|} \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \Delta_X^2 \leq \bar{c} \tag{2.8}$$

Together with translation invariance a condition like the (2.8) is equivalent to

$$\sum_{X \ni 0} \frac{\Delta_X^2}{|X|} \leq \bar{c}. \tag{2.9}$$

In fact

$$\sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \Delta_X^2 = \sum_{x \in \Lambda} \sum_{X \ni x} \frac{\Delta_X^2}{|X|} = |\Lambda| \sum_{X \ni 0} \frac{\Delta_X^2}{|X|}. \tag{2.10}$$

Alternatively, summing over the equivalence classes \tilde{X} of the translation group, (2.8) is equivalent to

$$\sum_{\tilde{X}} \Delta_{\tilde{X}}^2 \leq \bar{c}. \quad (2.11)$$

Thanks to the (2.6) a thermodynamically stable model fulfills the bound

$$\mathcal{C}_\Lambda(\sigma, \tau) \leq \bar{c} |\Lambda| \quad (2.12)$$

and has a order 1 generalized overlap.

4. *Random partition function.*

$$\mathcal{Z}(\beta) := \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_\Lambda} e^{-\beta H_\Lambda(\sigma)}. \quad (2.13)$$

5. *Random free energy.*

$$-\beta \mathcal{F}(\beta) := \mathcal{A}(\beta) := \ln \mathcal{Z}(\beta). \quad (2.14)$$

6. *Random internal energy.*

$$\mathcal{U}(\beta) := \frac{\sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_\Lambda} H_\Lambda(\sigma) e^{-\beta H_\Lambda(\sigma)}}{\sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_\Lambda} e^{-\beta H_\Lambda(\sigma)}}. \quad (2.15)$$

7. *Quenched free energy.*

$$-\beta F(\beta) := A(\beta) := \text{Av}(\mathcal{A}(\beta)). \quad (2.16)$$

8. *R-product random Gibbs-Boltzmann state.*

$$\Omega(-) := \sum_{\sigma^{(1)}, \dots, \sigma^{(R)}} (-) \frac{e^{-\beta [H_\Lambda(\sigma^{(1)}) + \dots + H_\Lambda(\sigma^{(R)})]}}{[\mathcal{Z}(\beta)]^R}. \quad (2.17)$$

9. *Quenched equilibrium state.*

$$\langle - \rangle := \text{Av}(\Omega(-)). \quad (2.18)$$

10. *Observables.*

For any smooth bounded function $G(c_\Lambda)$ (without loss of generality we consider no explicit dependence of G on the J 's and assume $|G| \leq 1$; no assumption of permutation invariance on G is made) of the covariance matrix entries we introduce the random (with respect to $\langle - \rangle$) $R \times R$ matrix of elements $\{q_{k,l}\}$ by the formula

$$\langle G(q) \rangle := \text{Av}(\Omega(G(c_\Lambda))). \quad (2.19)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{E.g.: } G(c_\Lambda) &= c_\Lambda(\sigma^{(1)}, \sigma^{(2)})c_\Lambda(\sigma^{(2)}, \sigma^{(3)}) \\
 \langle q_{1,2}q_{2,3} \rangle &= \text{Av} \left(\frac{\sum_{\sigma^{(1)}, \sigma^{(2)}, \sigma^{(3)}} c_\Lambda(\sigma^{(1)}, \sigma^{(2)}) c_\Lambda(\sigma^{(2)}, \sigma^{(3)}) e^{-\beta \left[\sum_{i=1}^3 H_\Lambda(\sigma^{(i)}) \right]}}{[\mathcal{Z}(\beta)]^3} \right) \quad (2.20)
 \end{aligned}$$

3. RESULTS

The Ghirlanda-Guerra identities admit several equivalent formulations. They can be expressed in terms of factorization properties of the quenched distribution of the generalized overlap^(4,20,33) as well as in terms of expectations of observables. In this work we chose the second approach because it allows to distinguish the identities in two classes with different physical meaning: the first expresses the regularity with respect to the temperature, the second the self-averaging of intensive quantities.

In relation to the definitions of the previous section it holds the following:

Theorem 1. *The quenched equilibrium state of a thermodynamically stable Hamiltonian fulfills, for every observable G and every temperature interval $[\beta_1^2, \beta_2^2]$ the following identities in the thermodynamic limit*

$$\lim_{\Lambda \nearrow \mathbb{Z}^d} \int_{\beta_1^2}^{\beta_2^2} \left\langle \sum_{\substack{k,l=1 \\ k \neq l}}^R G q_{l,k} - 2RG \sum_{l=1}^R q_{l,R+1} + R(R+1)G q_{R+1,R+2} \right\rangle d\beta^2 = 0 \quad (3.21)$$

$$\lim_{\Lambda \nearrow \mathbb{Z}^d} \int_{\beta_1^2}^{\beta_2^2} \left[\sum_{k=1}^R \langle G q_{k,R+1} \rangle - (R+1) \langle G q_{R+1,R+2} \rangle + \langle G \rangle \langle q_{1,2} \rangle \right] d\beta^2 = 0 \quad (3.22)$$

Remark 1. The two previous relations when applied to $G(q) = q_{1,2}$ combined together lead to the well known^{19,23}:

$$\langle q_{1,2}q_{2,3} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle q^2 \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle q \rangle^2 \quad (3.23)$$

$$\langle q_{1,2}q_{3,4} \rangle = \frac{1}{3} \langle q^2 \rangle + \frac{2}{3} \langle q \rangle^2 \quad (3.24)$$

whose validity holds in the sense of the previous theorem i.e. in β -average in the thermodynamic limit.

Remark 2. It is straightforward to verify that the condition (2.8) of thermodynamic stability holds for all the known spin glass models. Here are a few examples:

1. The Edwards-Anderson model.⁽¹⁵⁾ The nearest neighbor case is defined by $\Delta_X^2 = 1$ if $X = (n, n')$ and $|n - n'| = 1$. The condition (2.8) is verified by $\bar{c} = d$.
2. More generally one consider still a two body interaction with $\Delta_X^2 = |n - n'|^{-2d\alpha}$. The regime $\alpha > 1$ comes from a summable interaction. The condition (2.8) is verified by $\bar{c} = (2\alpha - 1)^{-d}$ for all $\alpha > 1/2$ thus including also the non summable case.⁽²²⁾
3. The SK model,⁽³¹⁾ Although it is not a finite dimensional model it may still be embedded in \mathbb{Z} , with $\Delta_X^2 = 0$ unless $|X| = 2$ and $\Delta_{i,j} = N^{-1}$ with $N = |\Lambda|$. It obviously fulfills condition (2.8) with $\bar{c} = 1$.
4. The p-spin. Analogously as above $\Delta_X = 0$ if $|X| \neq p$ and $\Delta_X^2 = 1/N^p$ otherwise. It is thermodynamically stable with $\bar{c} = 1$
5. The REM⁽¹³⁾ and GREM⁽¹⁴⁾ models. Although they have not been defined as spin models their discrete nature allows to associate to them a spin Hamiltonian. For instance it is easy to prove that the REM is represented by the Hamiltonian (2.1) with $\Delta_X^2 = N 2^{-N}$ which satisfies the condition (2.8) with $\bar{c} = 1$, see also ref 4. The same argument holds for the GREM^(8,12) which is again thermodynamically stable with $\bar{c} = 1$.

Remark 3. The relevance of the identities is evident considering that they reduce the degrees of freedom a priori carried by each spin glass model. In the mean field case for instance the method led to the rigorous proof of a property called *replica equivalence*^(6,27) which can be viewed as an ansatz generalizing the ultrametric one. The purely ultrametric identities (still lacking a rigorous mathematical derivation) which are built in the Parisi solution of the SK model are not contained in the Ghirlanda-Guerra ones.

Remark 4. It would be interesting to establish, or disprove, the same identities in a stronger sense, i.e. everywhere in the temperature. One of the limits of the method used to achieve our results is that it is intrinsically restricted to hold in β -average, i.e. in every interval excluding at most isolated singularities. It is still an open question if, in the spin glass phase, there are similar singularities or if the identities hold just everywhere. The only existing results are evidences of numerical nature of the validity of those identities everywhere.⁽²⁴⁾

4. PROOF

The statements (3.21) and (3.22) are proved respectively in the lemmata of subsections 4.1 and 4.2. The proof uses only elementary methods like martingale differences and classical inequalities. Let $h(\sigma) = |\Lambda|^{-1} H_\Lambda(\sigma)$ be the Hamiltonian per particle. We consider the quantity

$$\sum_{l=1}^R \{ \langle h(\sigma^{(l)}) G \rangle - \langle h(\sigma^{(l)}) \rangle \langle G \rangle \} = \Delta_1 G + \Delta_2 G \tag{4.25}$$

where

$$\Delta_1 G = \sum_{l=1}^R \{ \text{Av}(\Omega[h(\sigma^{(l)}) G]) - \Omega[h(\sigma^{(l)})] \Omega[G] \} \tag{4.26}$$

$$\Delta_2 G = \sum_{l=1}^R \{ \text{Av}(\Omega[h(\sigma^{(l)})] \Omega[G]) - \text{Av}(\Omega[h(\sigma^{(l)})]) \text{Av}(\Omega[G]) \} \tag{4.27}$$

4.1. Stochastic Stability Bounds, Vanishing of $\Delta_1 G$

We follow the method of stochastic stability as developed in ref. 9.

Lemma 4.1. *For every bounded observable G , see definition (10), we have that for every interval $[\beta_1, \beta_2]$ in the thermodynamic limit*

$$\lim_{\Lambda \nearrow \mathbb{Z}^d} \int_{\beta_1}^{\beta_2} \Delta_1 G d\beta = 0 \tag{4.28}$$

Proof. We observe that deriving $\langle G \rangle$ with respect to the temperature

$$-\frac{\partial \langle G \rangle}{\partial \beta} = |\Lambda| \sum_{l=1}^R \{ \text{Av}(\Omega[h(\sigma^{(l)}) G]) - \Omega[h(\sigma^{(l)})] \Omega[G] \} \tag{4.29}$$

Integrating in $d\beta$ we obtain thanks to (4.26)

$$\int_{\beta_1}^{\beta_2} \Delta_1 G d\beta = \frac{\langle G \rangle(\beta_2) - \langle G \rangle(\beta_1)}{|\Lambda|} \tag{4.30}$$

Remembering the assumption on boundedness of function G this proves the lemma. □

Remark 5. The previous lemma is related to a general property of disordered systems which is known as stochastic stability (see ref. 1, 9). It says that the equilibrium state in a spin glass model is invariant under a suitable class of perturbation in all temperature intervals of continuity.

Lemma 4.2. *The following expression holds:*

$$\Delta_1 G = -\beta \left\langle G \left[\sum_{\substack{k,l=1 \\ k \neq l}}^R q_{l,k} - 2R \sum_{l=1}^R q_{l,R+1} + R(R+1) q_{R+1,R+2} \right] \right\rangle. \tag{4.31}$$

Proof. For each replica l ($1 \leq l \leq R$), we evaluate separately the two terms in the right side of Eq. (4.26) by using the integration by parts (generalized Wick formula) for correlated Gaussian random variables, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n

$$\text{Av}(x_i \psi(x_1, \dots, x_n)) = \sum_{j=1}^n \text{Av}(x_i x_j) \text{Av} \left(\frac{\partial \psi(x_1, \dots, x_n)}{\partial x_j} \right). \tag{4.32}$$

It is convenient to denote by $p(R)$ the Gibbs-Boltzmann weight of R copies of the deformed system

$$p(R) = \frac{e^{-\beta [\sum_{k=1}^R H_\Lambda(\sigma^{(k)})]}}{[\mathcal{Z}(\beta)]^R}, \tag{4.33}$$

so that we have

$$-\frac{1}{\beta} \frac{dp(R)}{dH_\Lambda(\tau)} = p(R) \left(\sum_{k=1}^R \delta_{\sigma^{(k)}, \tau} \right) - R p(R) \frac{e^{-\beta[H_\Lambda(\tau)]}}{[\mathcal{Z}(\beta)]}. \tag{4.34}$$

We obtain

$$\text{Av}(\Omega(h(\sigma^{(l)}) G)) = \frac{1}{|\Lambda|} \text{Av} \left(\sum_{\sigma^{(1)}, \dots, \sigma^{(r)}} G H_\Lambda(\sigma^{(l)}) p(R) \right) \tag{4.35}$$

$$= \text{Av} \left(\sum_{\sigma^{(1)}, \dots, \sigma^{(r)}} \sum_{\tau} G c_\Lambda(\sigma^{(l)}, \tau) \frac{dp(R)}{dH_\Lambda(\tau)} \right) \tag{4.36}$$

$$= -\beta \left[\sum_{k=1}^R \langle G q_{l,k} \rangle - R \langle G q_{l,R+1} \rangle \right] \tag{4.37}$$

where in (4.36) we made use of the integration by parts formula and (4.37) is obtained by (4.34). Analogously, the other term reads

$$\text{Av}(\Omega(h(\sigma^{(l)}))\Omega(G)) = \frac{1}{|\Lambda|} \text{Av} \left(\sum_{\sigma^{(l)}} \sum_{\tau^{(1)}, \dots, \tau^{(R)}} G H_{\Lambda}(\sigma^{(l)}) p(R+1) \right) \tag{4.38}$$

$$= \text{Av} \left(\sum_{\sigma^{(l)}} \sum_{\tau^{(1)}, \dots, \tau^{(R)}} \sum_{\gamma} G c_{\Lambda}(\sigma^{(l)}, \gamma) \frac{dp(R+1)}{dH_{\Lambda}(\gamma)} \right) \tag{4.39}$$

$$= -\beta \left[\sum_{k=1}^{R+1} \langle G q_{k, R+1} \rangle - (R+1) \langle G q_{R+1, R+2} \rangle \right] \tag{4.40}$$

Inserting the (4.37) and (4.40) in Eq. (4.26) we finally obtain the expression (4.31). \square

4.2. Martingale Bounds, Vanishing of $\Delta_2 G$

The method of the martingale differences to prove the self averaging of the free energy, or in general to bound the fluctuations of extensive quantity, has been applied in the context of spin glasses in ref. 28 for the SK case and in ref. 34 in the case of finite dimensional models. Our formulation applies to both cases and extends the previous results. For instance our method includes the non summable interactions in finite dimensions⁽²²⁾ and the p-spin mean field model as well as the REM⁽¹³⁾ and GREM⁽¹⁴⁾ models.

Lemma 4.3. *The free energy is a self averaging quantity, i.e. it exist a positive function $c(\beta)$ such that*

$$V(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Av}(\mathcal{A}^2) - \text{Av}(\mathcal{A})^2 \leq c(\beta)|\Lambda| \tag{4.41}$$

Proof. For an assigned volume Λ we enumerate by the index k the interacting subsets X from 1 to N_{Λ} and considering the random partition function (2.13) we define

$$A_k = \text{Av}_{\leq k} \ln \mathcal{Z}(\beta), \tag{4.42}$$

where the symbol $\text{Av}_{\leq k}$ denotes the Gaussian integration performed only on the first k random variables J_X . Clearly $A_0 = \mathcal{A}(\beta)$ and $A_{N_{\Lambda}} = A(\beta)$. Introducing the quantity

$$\Psi_k = A_k - A_{k+1}, \tag{4.43}$$

it holds

$$\mathcal{A} - \text{Av}(\mathcal{A}) = \sum_{k=0}^{N_\Lambda-1} \Psi_k \tag{4.44}$$

and

$$V(\mathcal{A}) = \sum_k \text{Av}(\Psi_k^2) + 2 \sum_{k>k'} \text{Av}(\Psi_k \Psi_{k'}). \tag{4.45}$$

First we observe that the second sum is zero, being zero each of its terms. In fact

$$\text{Av}(\Psi_k \Psi_{k'}) = \text{Av}(\text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Psi_k \Psi_{k'})) = \text{Av}(\Psi_k \text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Psi_{k'})) \tag{4.46}$$

and

$$\text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Psi_{k'}) = \text{Av}_{\leq k}(A_{k'} - A_{k'+1}) = 0 \tag{4.47}$$

thanks to the property

$$\text{Av}_{\leq k}(A_{k'}) = A_k \quad \forall \quad k \geq k'. \tag{4.48}$$

We introduce now the interpolating Hamiltonian

$$H_\Lambda^{(t)}(\sigma) = - \sum_{l=1}^{N_\Lambda} J_l t_l \sigma_l \tag{4.49}$$

with

$$t_l = \begin{cases} t, & \text{if } l = k + 1, \\ 1, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \tag{4.50}$$

and call Ω_t its relative Gibbs-Boltzmann state. Defining the quantity

$$A_k(t) = \text{Av}_{\leq k} \ln \sum_{\sigma \in \Sigma_\Lambda} e^{-\beta H_\Lambda^{(t)}(\sigma)}, \tag{4.51}$$

by the fundamental theorem of calculus one has

$$A_k = A_k(0) + B_k \tag{4.52}$$

with

$$B_k = \int_0^1 \frac{dA_k(t)}{dt} dt = \beta \int_0^1 \text{Av}_{\leq k} \Omega_t(J_{k+1} \sigma_{k+1}). \tag{4.53}$$

Denoting by Av_k integration with respect to the k -th Gaussian we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Av}(\Psi_k^2) &= ([A_k - A_{k+1}]^2) = (\text{Av}_{k+1}[A_k - \text{Av}_{k+1} A_k]^2) \\ &= (\text{Av}_{k+1}(A_k^2) - [\text{Av}_{k+1}(A_k)]^2). \end{aligned} \tag{4.54}$$

Since A_k and B_k differ by a constant with respect to Av_{k+1} their variance is the same:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Av}(\Psi_k^2) &= \text{Av}(\text{Av}_{k+1}(A_k^2) - [\text{Av}_{k+1}(A_k)]^2) \\ &= \text{Av}(\text{Av}_{k+1}(B_k^2) - [\text{Av}_{k+1}(B_k)]^2). \end{aligned} \tag{4.55}$$

We proceed estimating the term $\text{Av}_{k+1}(B_k^2)$:

$$\text{Av}_{k+1}(B_k^2) = \text{Av}_{k+1} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Omega_t(J_{k+1}\sigma_{k+1}))\text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Omega_s(J_{k+1}\sigma_{k+1}))st ds dt \tag{4.56}$$

Applying twice the integration by parts (4.32) we get

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Av}_{k+1}(B_k^2) &= \beta^2 \Delta_{k+1}^2 \text{Av}_{k+1} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Omega_t(\sigma_{k+1}))\text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Omega_s(\sigma_{k+1}))st ds dt \\ &\quad - 2\beta^4 \Delta_{k+1}^4 \text{Av}_{k+1} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Omega_t(\sigma_{k+1})) \\ &\quad \times [1 - \Omega_t^2(\sigma_{k+1})]\text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Omega_s(\sigma_{k+1}))st^3 ds dt \\ &\quad - 2\beta^4 \Delta_{k+1}^4 \text{Av}_{k+1} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Omega_s(\sigma_{k+1})) \\ &\quad \times [1 - \Omega_s^2(\sigma_{k+1})]\text{Av}_{\leq k}(\Omega_t(\sigma_{k+1}))s^3 t ds dt \\ &\quad + 2\beta^4 \Delta_{k+1}^4 \text{Av}_{k+1} \int_0^1 \int_0^1 \text{Av}_{\leq k}[1 - \Omega_s^2(\sigma_{k+1})] \\ &\quad \times \text{Av}_{\leq k}[1 - \Omega_t^2(\sigma_{k+1})]s^2 t^2 ds dt \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4}\beta^2 \Delta_{k+1}^2 + \frac{13}{18}\beta^4 \Delta_{k+1}^4. \end{aligned} \tag{4.57}$$

The (4.55) and (4.57) together imply

$$\text{Av}(\Psi_k^2) \leq \frac{1}{4}\beta^2 \Delta_{k+1}^2 + \frac{13}{18}\beta^4 \Delta_{k+1}^4 \tag{4.58}$$

$$V(\mathcal{A}) = \sum_k \text{Av}(\Psi_k^2) \leq \sum_{X \subset \Lambda} \left(\frac{1}{4}\beta^2 \Delta_X^2 + \frac{13}{18}\beta^4 \Delta_X^4 \right). \tag{4.59}$$

By the assumption of thermodynamic stability with the formulation (2.11) and using the inequality $\sum_{\tilde{X}} \Delta_{\tilde{X}}^4 \leq (\sum_{\tilde{X}} \Delta_{\tilde{X}}^2)^2$ we obtain

$$V(\mathcal{A}) \leq |\Lambda| \left(\frac{1}{4}\beta^2 \bar{c} + \frac{13}{18}\beta^4 \bar{c}^2 \right) \tag{4.60}$$

which fulfills (4.41) with $c(\beta) = \frac{1}{4}\beta^2\bar{c} + \frac{13}{18}\beta^4\bar{c}^2$. □

Remark 6. The self-averaging property can also be proven by using “concentration of measure” inequalities. Indeed one can see that the random free energy $\mathcal{A}(\beta)$ is a Lipschitz function of the coupling variables $\{J_X\}_{X \in \Lambda}$, with Lipschitz constant $\beta\sqrt{\bar{c}|\Lambda|}$. Then, using Theorem 2.2.4 of ref. 33, one obtain $V(\mathcal{A}) \leq 8\beta^2\bar{c}|\Lambda|$.

Lemma 4.4. *The internal energy is self averaging almost everywhere β , i.e. defining $u = \mathcal{U}/|\Lambda|$ and $V_\beta(u) = Av(u^2) - Av(u)^2$ it holds in the thermodynamic limit*

$$\int_{\beta_1}^{\beta_2} V_\beta(u) d\beta \rightarrow 0 \tag{4.61}$$

Proof. The result is obtained in two steps which use general theorems of measure theory. First from lemma 4.2 we obtain the convergence to zero almost everywhere (in β) of the variance of the internal energy, then thanks to a bound on the variance of the internal energy we apply the Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem which gives the lemma statement. The sequence of convex functions $\mathcal{A}(\beta)/|\Lambda|$ converges a.e. (in J) to the limiting value $a(\beta)$ of its average^(7,2) and the convergence is self averaging in the sense of lemma 4.3. By general convexity arguments [29] it follows that the sequence of the derivatives $\mathcal{A}'(\beta)/|\Lambda|$ converges to $u(\beta) = a'(\beta)$ almost everywhere in β and also that the convergence is self averaging. In fact the vanishing of the variance of a sequence of convex functions is inherited, in all points in which the derivative exists (which is almost everywhere for a convex function), to the sequence of its derivatives (see refs. 26,30). From lemma 4.3 we have then

$$V_\beta(u) \rightarrow 0 \quad \beta - a.e. \tag{4.62}$$

In order to obtain the convergence in β -average we use the Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem. In fact we prove that the sequence of variances of u is uniformly bounded (in every interval $[\beta_1, \beta_2]$) by an integrable function of β . A lengthy but simple computation which uses again integration by parts gives

$$Av(u^2) = Av\left(\sum_{X,Y \subset \Lambda} J_X J_Y \Omega(\sigma_X)\Omega(\sigma_Y)\right) \tag{4.63}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{X,Y \subset \Lambda} \beta^2 \Delta_X^2 \Delta_Y^2 Av[1 - \Omega^2(\sigma_X) - \Omega^2(\sigma_Y) + 6\Omega^2(\sigma_X)\Omega^2(\sigma_Y) \\ &\quad - 6\Omega(\sigma_X)\Omega(\sigma_Y)\Omega(\sigma_X\sigma_Y) + \Omega^2(\sigma_X\sigma_Y)] \leq 14\beta^2|\Lambda|^2\bar{c}^2 \end{aligned} \tag{4.64}$$

from which

$$V_\beta(u) \leq \frac{1}{|\Lambda|^2} \text{Av}(\mathcal{U}^2) \leq 14\beta^2 \bar{c}^2. \tag{4.65}$$

From this follows (4.61). □

Lemma 4.5. *For every bounded observable G , see definition (10), we have that for every interval $[\beta_1, \beta_2]$ in the thermodynamic limit*

$$\lim_{\Lambda \nearrow \mathbb{Z}^d} \int_{\beta_1}^{\beta_2} \Delta_2 G \, d\beta = 0 \tag{4.66}$$

Proof. Thanks to the Schwartz inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_2 G &= \text{Av}(uG - \text{Av}(u)\text{Av}(G)) = \text{Av}([u - \text{Av}(u)][G - \text{Av}(G)]) \tag{4.67} \\ &\leq \sqrt{([u - \text{Av}(u)]^2)} \sqrt{([G - \text{Av}(G)]^2)} \leq \sqrt{2} \sqrt{V(u)} \end{aligned}$$

$$(\Delta_2 G)^2 \leq 2V(u) \tag{4.68}$$

$$\left| \int_{\beta_1}^{\beta_2} \Delta_2 G \, d\beta \right| \leq \sqrt{\int_{\beta_1}^{\beta_2} (\Delta_2 G)^2 \, d\beta} \sqrt{\beta_2 - \beta_1} \leq \sqrt{2(\beta_2 - \beta_1)} \sqrt{\int_{\beta_1}^{\beta_2} V(u) \, d\beta} \rightarrow 0 \tag{4.69}$$

□

Lemma 4.6. The following expression holds:

$$\Delta_2 G = -\beta R \left[\sum_{k=1}^R \langle G q_{l, R+1} \rangle - (R+1) \langle G q_{R+1, R+2} \rangle + \langle G \rangle \langle q_{1,2} \rangle \right]. \tag{4.70}$$

Proof. In order to obtain the $\Delta_2 G$ we are left with the explicit evaluation of the other term in (4.27) which simply gives

$$\begin{aligned} (\Omega(h(\sigma^{(l)}))) \text{Av}(\Omega(G)) &= \frac{1}{|\Lambda|} \text{Av} \left(\sum_{\sigma^{(l)}} H_\Lambda(\sigma^{(l)}) p_\Lambda(1) \right) \langle G \rangle \\ &= \text{Av} \left(\sum_{\sigma^{(l)}} \sum_{\gamma} c_\Lambda(\sigma^{(l)}, \gamma) \frac{dp_\Lambda(1)}{dH_\Lambda(\gamma)} \right) \langle G \rangle \\ &= -\beta \langle G \rangle [\langle q_{1,1} \rangle - \langle q_{1,2} \rangle] \end{aligned} \tag{4.71}$$

Inserting the (4.40) and (4.71) in Eq. (4.27) we obtain the (4.70). □

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