

# Optimality of AMP Among Low-Degree Polynomials

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# Spiked Wigner Model

signal-to-noise ratio  $s > 0$

$$Y = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \theta \theta^\top + Z$$

observed data, n-by-n matrix

rank-1 "signal"

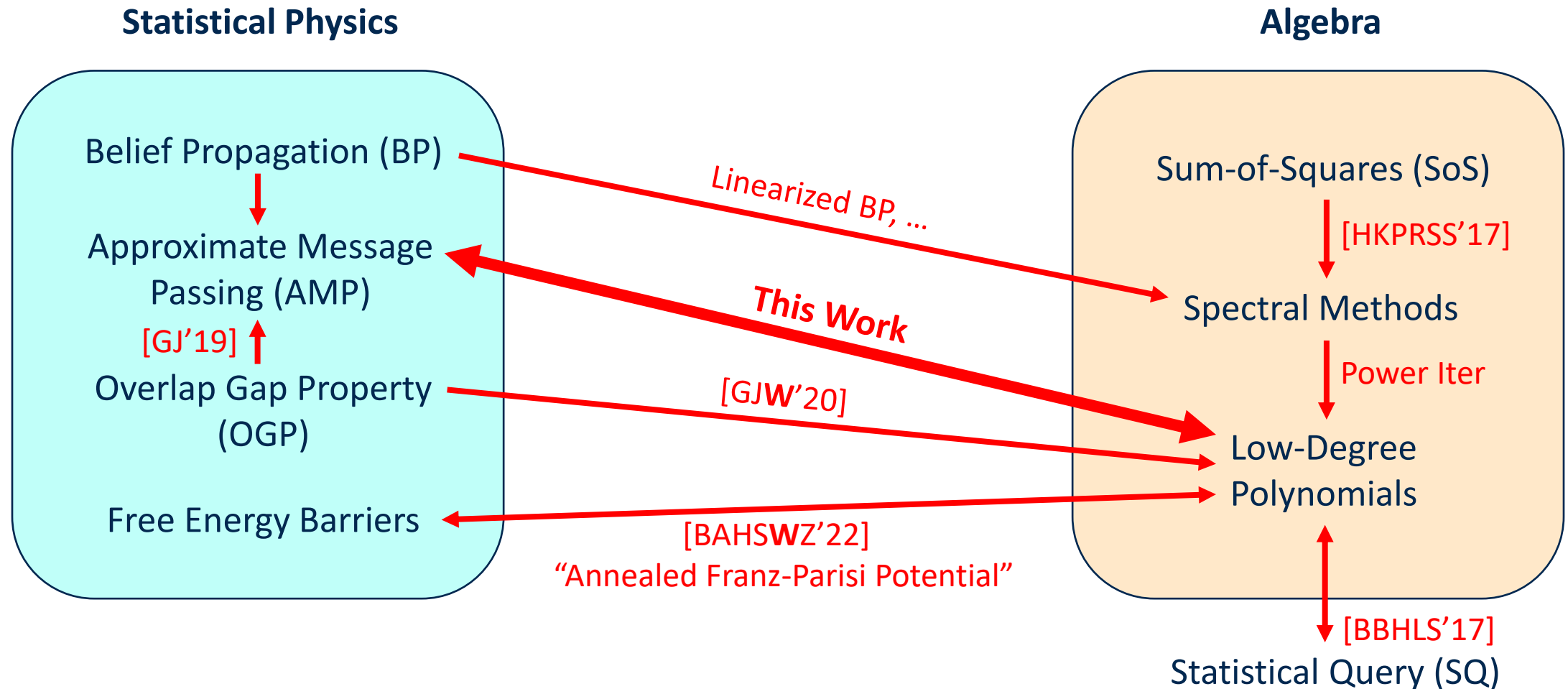
iid Gaussian "noise"

$\theta$  – unknown vector with entries iid from known fixed prior  $\pi$

Goal: given  $Y$ , estimate  $\theta$

Simple "signal plus noise" model, testbed

# What Are The Best Algorithms?



# AMP for Spiked Wigner Model

$$Y = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \theta \theta^\top + Z$$

Iterate

$$x^0 = 0$$

vector, estimate for  $\theta$

$$x^t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} Y f(x^{t-1}) - b_t f(x^{t-2})$$

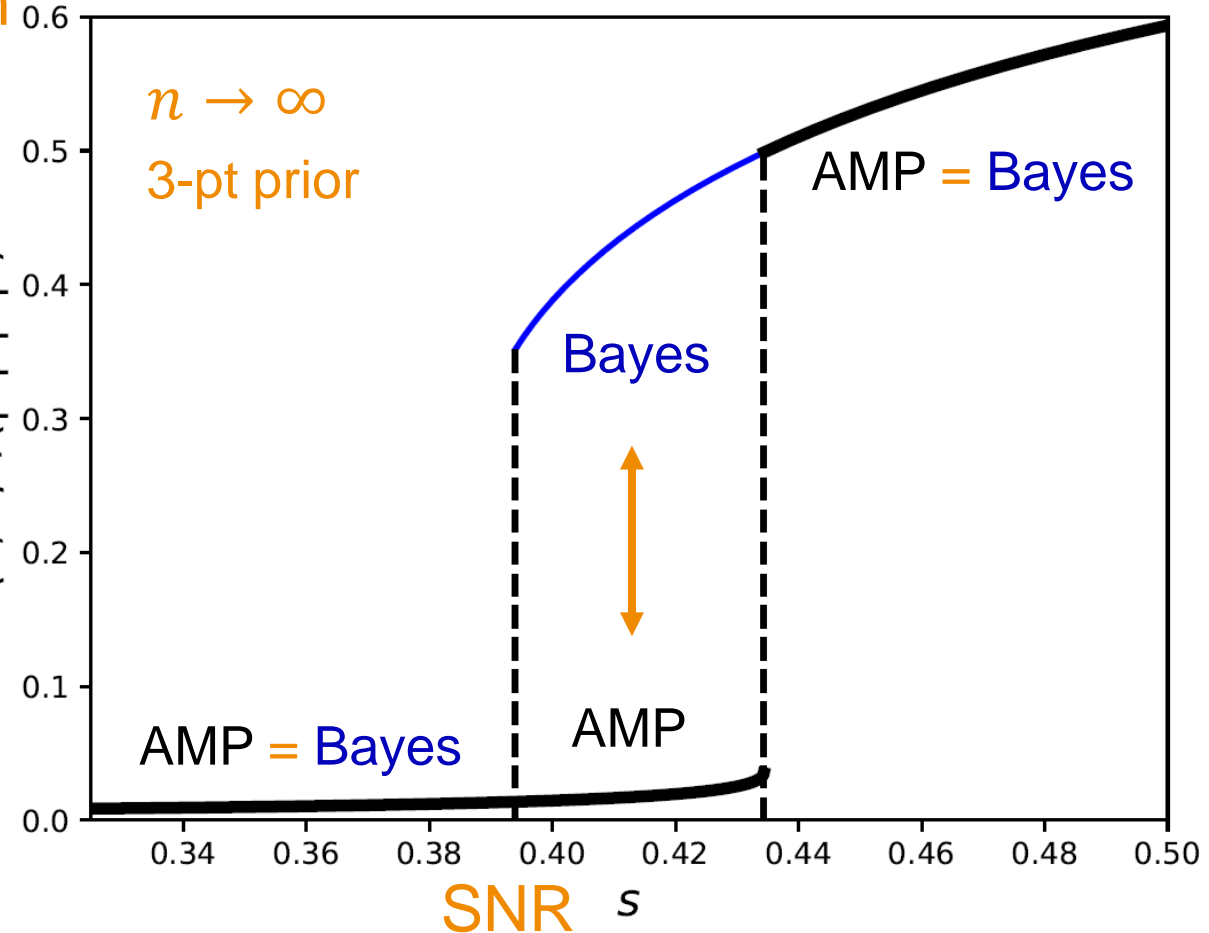
entrywise transform

Onsager term

Bayes is not comp. efficient, gap

estimation accuracy

$$\langle \hat{\theta}, \theta \rangle^2 / (|\hat{\theta}|^2 |\theta|^2)$$



# Main Result

## Conjecture

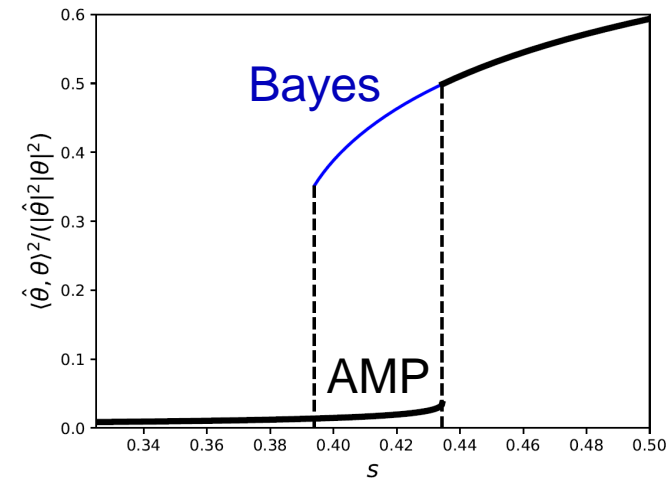
AMP has optimal MSE among all poly-time algorithms

## Theorem (Montanari, W '22)

AMP has optimal MSE among all **constant-degree polynomials**

AMP (with const num iter) takes the form  $(\hat{\theta}_1(Y), \dots, \hat{\theta}_n(Y))$  where  $\hat{\theta}_i$  is a const-deg multivariate polynomial in the entries of  $Y$

We show AMP is the best estimator of this form; sharp constant



# Comments

Biased prior:  $\mathbb{E}[\pi] \neq 0$

Open: mean-zero prior  $\pi$ ,  $O(\log n)$  iterations/degree

Open: rule out higher degree polynomials

conjecture: need degree  $n^{1-o(1)}$  to beat AMP

AMP is sub-optimal for tensor PCA [Montanari, Richard'14]

Kikuchi hierarchy “redeems” physics [W, Alaoui, Moore'19]

Proof suggests how to test if AMP is optimal for a given problem

# Low-Degree Estimation Lower Bounds

Given  $Y$ , estimate  $\theta_1$

Predictor:  $\text{MMSE}_{\leq D} := \inf_{p \text{ deg } D} \mathbb{E}[(p(Y) - \theta_1)^2]$

- Planted submatrix, planted dense subgraph [Schramm,W'20]
- Hypergraphic planted dense subgraph [Luo,Zhang'20]
- Tensor decomposition [W'22]

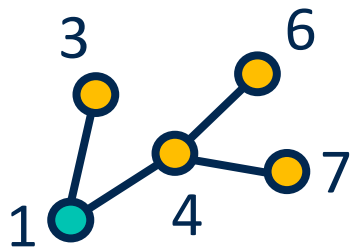
This work: exact value of  $\lim_{D \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{MMSE}_{\leq D}$

$$Y = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \theta \theta^\top + Z$$

# Proof Sketch: AMP vs Low-Deg

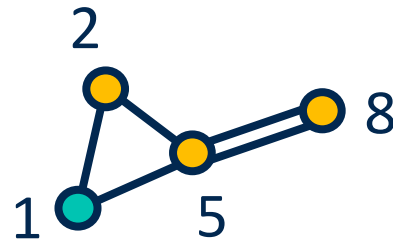
- I. AMP is as powerful as any “tree-shaped” polynomial
- II. Tree-shaped polynomials are as powerful as all polynomials (of the same degree)

tree



$$f(Y) = Y_{13} Y_{14} Y_{46} Y_{47}$$

non-tree



$$g(Y) = Y_{12} Y_{15} Y_{25} Y_{58}^2$$



$$Y = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \theta \theta^\top + Z$$

# I. AMP vs Tree Polynomials

$$\text{Claim: } \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{MSE}_t^{\text{AMP}} = \lim_{D \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{MMSE}_{\leq D}^{\text{Tree}}$$

( $\geq$ ) AMP is a tree polynomial

( $\leq$ ) Consider the best tree polynomial, WLOG symmetric

Given any symmetric const-deg tree polynomial, can construct a “message-passing” (MP) scheme to compute it

Prior work: AMP has best MSE among all MP schemes

[Celentano, Montanari, Wu'20; Montanari, Wu'22]

$$Y = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \theta \theta^\top + Z$$

## II. Tree Poly vs All Poly

Remains to prove:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{MMSE}_{\leq D}^{\text{Tree}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{MMSE}_{\leq D}$  (rest of talk)

Conclude:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{MSE}_t^{\text{AMP}} = \lim_{D \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{MMSE}_{\leq D}^{\text{Tree}} = \lim_{D \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{MMSE}_{\leq D}$$

AMP

Tree Poly

All Poly

$$Y = \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \theta \theta^\top + Z$$

## II. Tree Poly vs All Poly

Remains to prove:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{MMSE}_{\leq D}^{\text{Tree}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{MMSE}_{\leq D}$

$$\text{MMSE}_{\leq D} := \inf_{p \text{ deg } D} \mathbb{E}[(p(Y) - \theta_1)^2] = \mathbb{E}[\theta_1^2] - c^\top M^{-1} c$$

where:

$\{H_A\}$  – basis for (symmetric) const-deg polynomials

$$c_A := \mathbb{E}[H_A(Y) \cdot \theta_1]$$

$$M_{AB} := \mathbb{E}[H_A(Y) \cdot H_B(Y)]$$

(see board)

# Summary

Equivalence of constant-iter AMP and constant-degree polynomials in the spiked Wigner model with any fixed prior

AMP = tree polynomials = all polynomials

Key property of Wigner model for “tree = all”: block diagonal  
use this to test if AMP is optimal for a given problem?

Thanks!