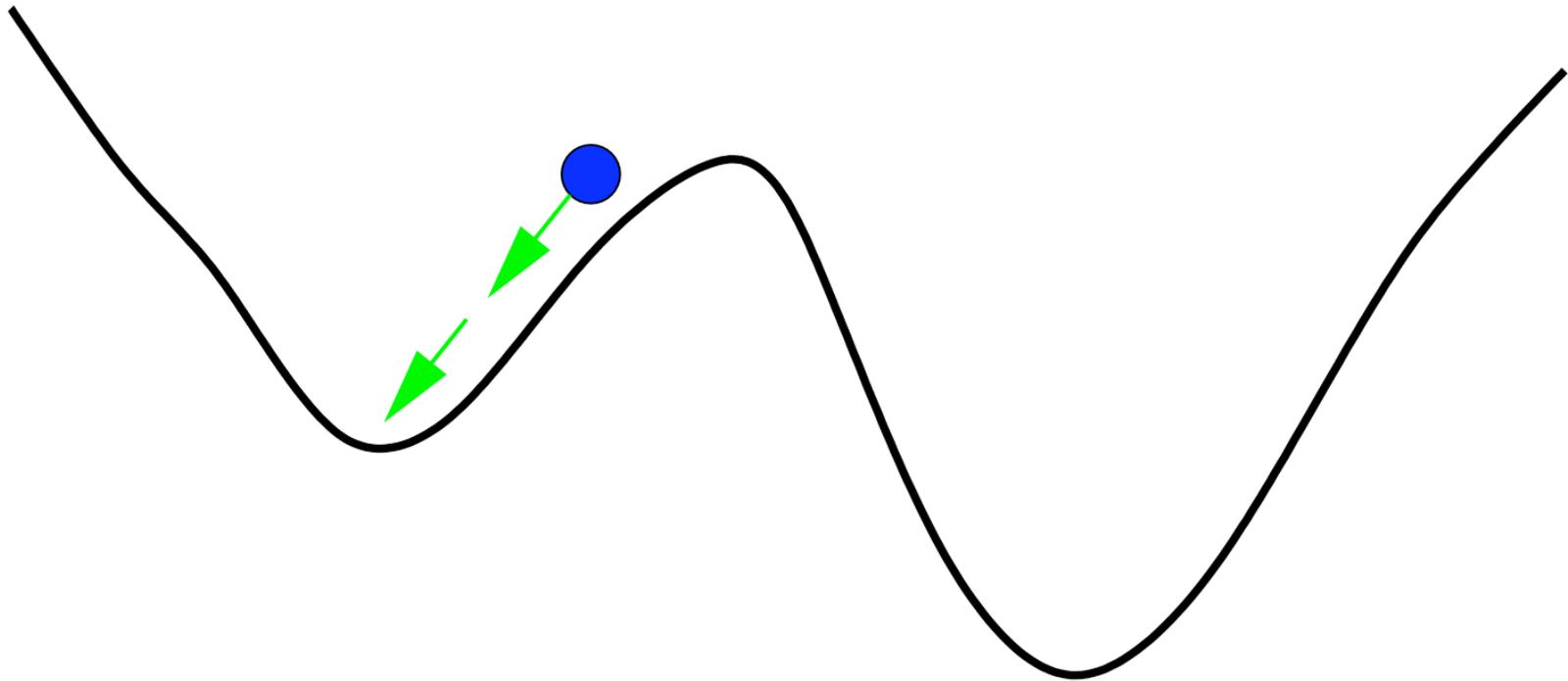


B.

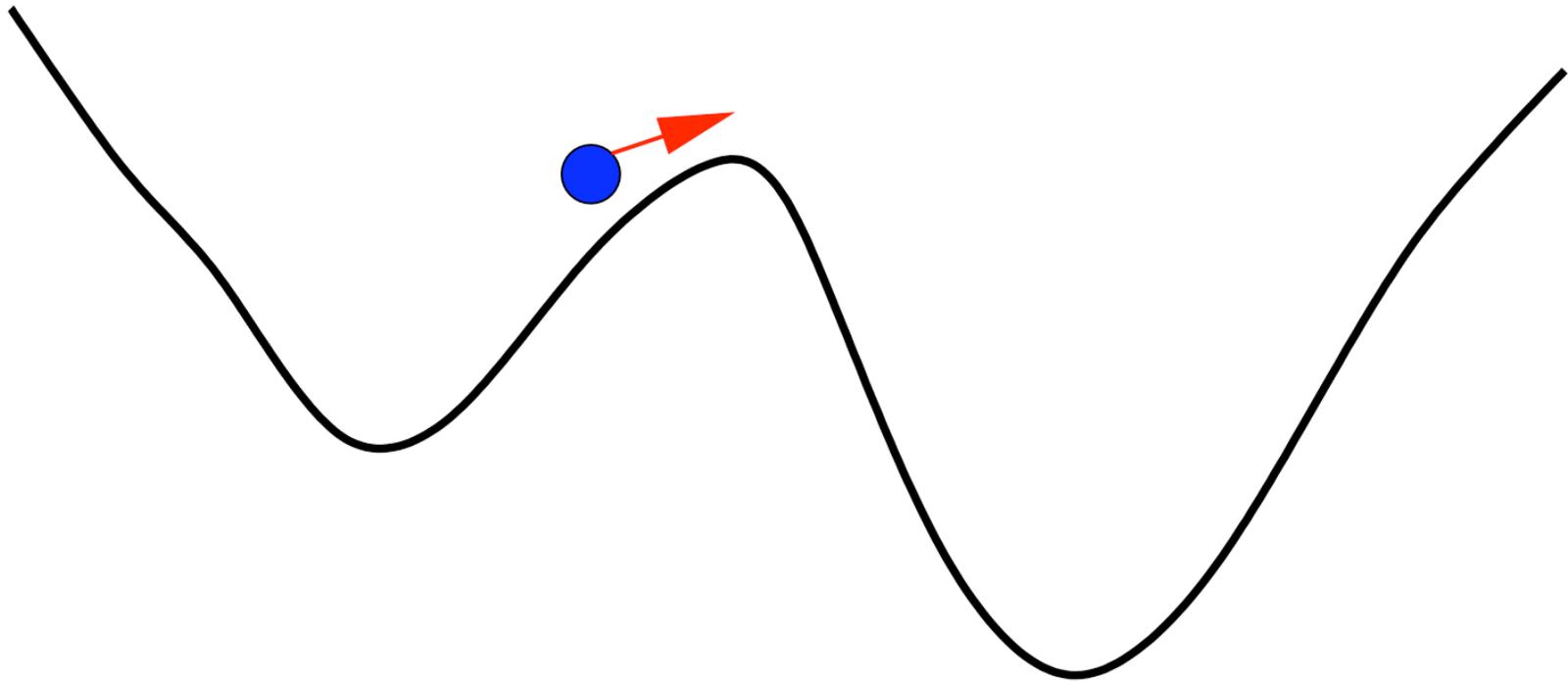
Stochastic Neural Networks

(in particular, the stochastic Hopfield network)

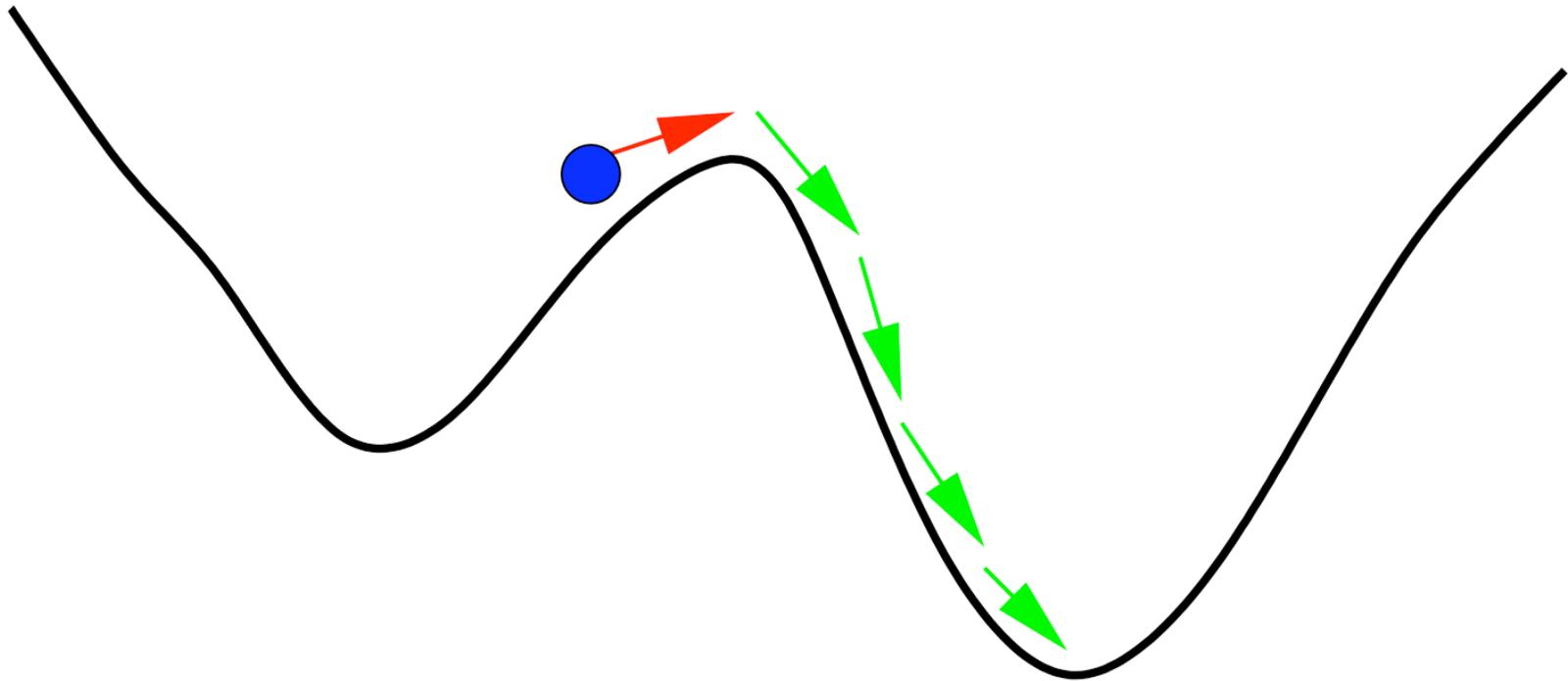
Trapping in Local Minimum



Escape from Local Minimum



Escape from Local Minimum



Motivation

- **Idea:** with low probability, go against the local field
 - move up the energy surface
 - make the “wrong” microdecision
- **Potential value for optimization:** escape from local optima
- **Potential value for associative memory:** escape from spurious states
 - because they have higher energy than imprinted states

The Stochastic Neuron

Deterministic neuron: $s'_i = \text{sgn}(h_i)$

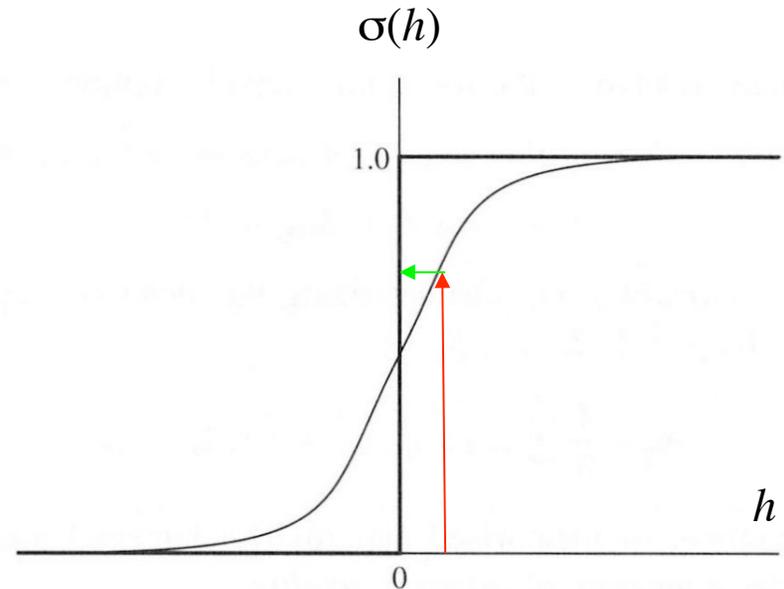
$$\Pr\{s'_i = +1\} = \Theta(h_i)$$

$$\Pr\{s'_i = -1\} = 1 - \Theta(h_i)$$

Stochastic neuron:

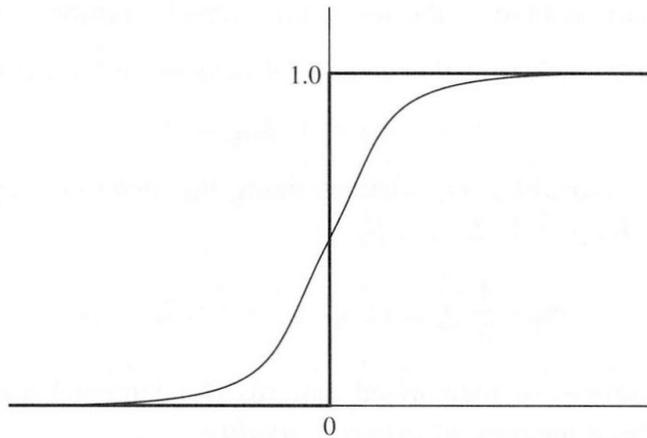
$$\Pr\{s'_i = +1\} = \sigma(h_i)$$

$$\Pr\{s'_i = -1\} = 1 - \sigma(h_i)$$



$$\text{Logistic sigmoid: } \sigma(h) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-2h/T)}$$

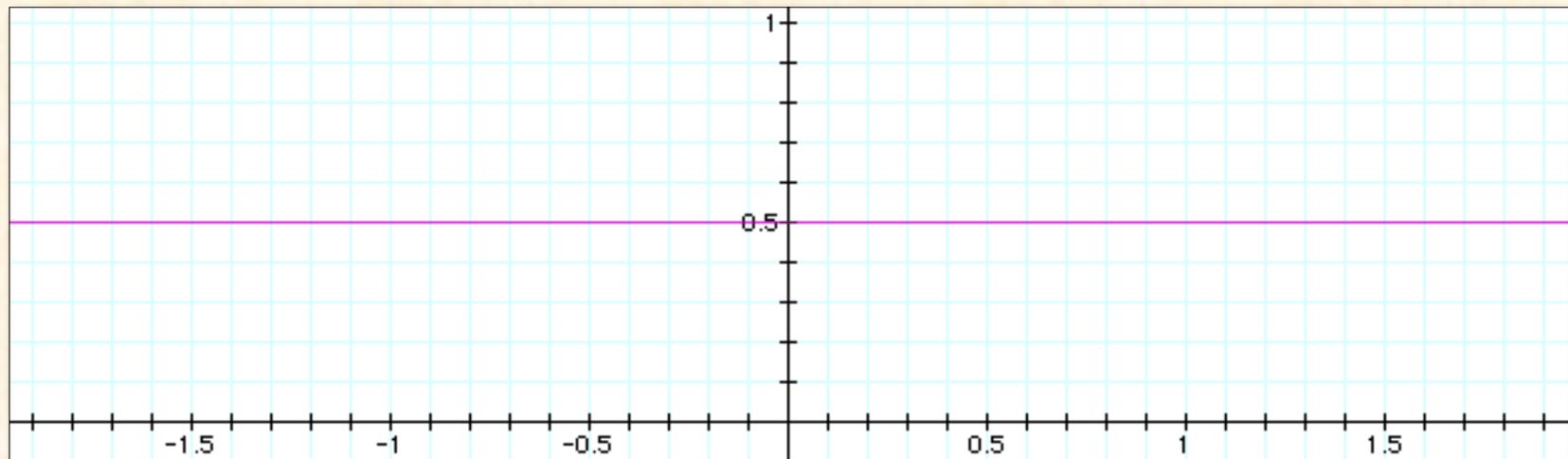
Properties of Logistic Sigmoid



$$\sigma(h) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-2h/T}}$$

- As $h \rightarrow +\infty$, $\sigma(h) \rightarrow 1$
- As $h \rightarrow -\infty$, $\sigma(h) \rightarrow 0$
- $\sigma(0) = 1/2$

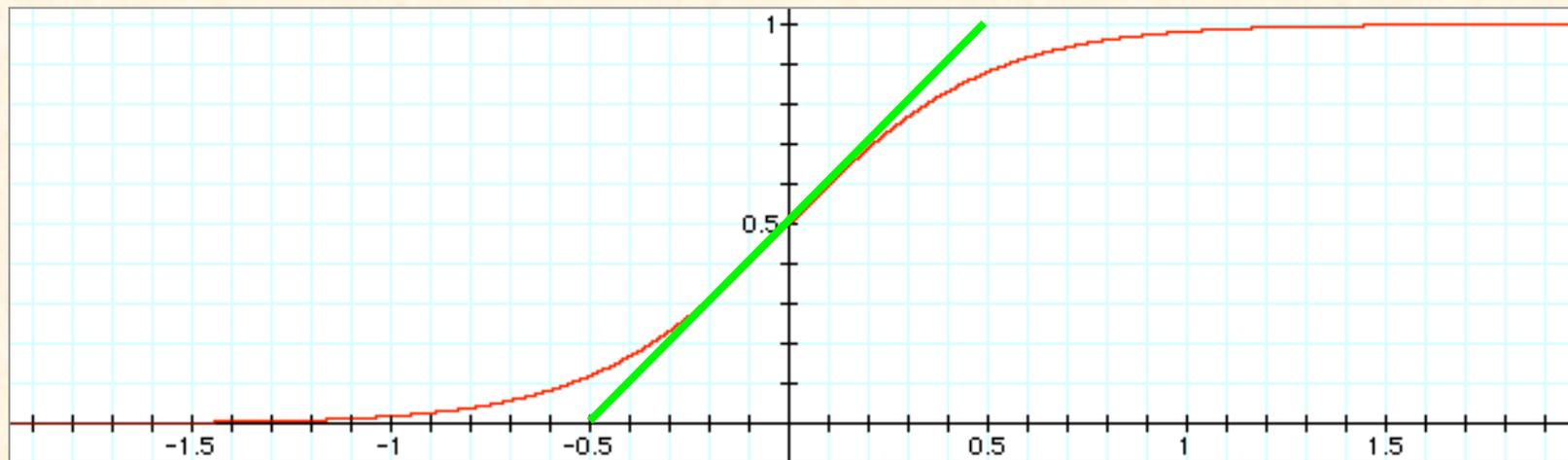
Logistic Sigmoid With Varying T



T varying from 0.05 to ∞ ($1/T = \beta = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 20$)

Logistic Sigmoid

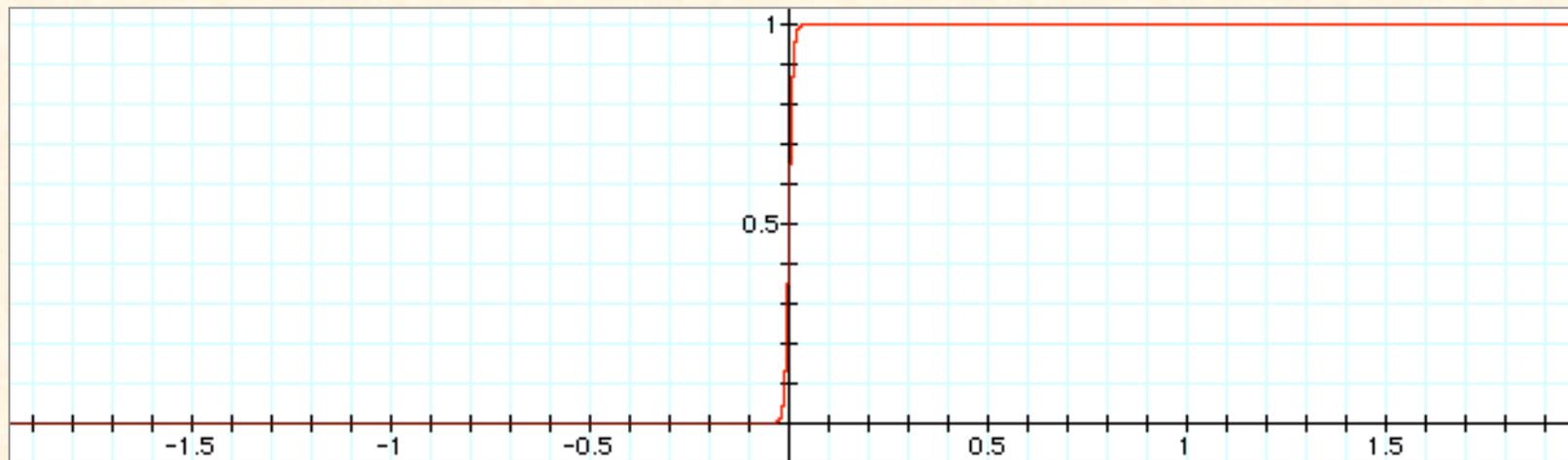
$T = 0.5$



Slope at origin = $1 / 2T$

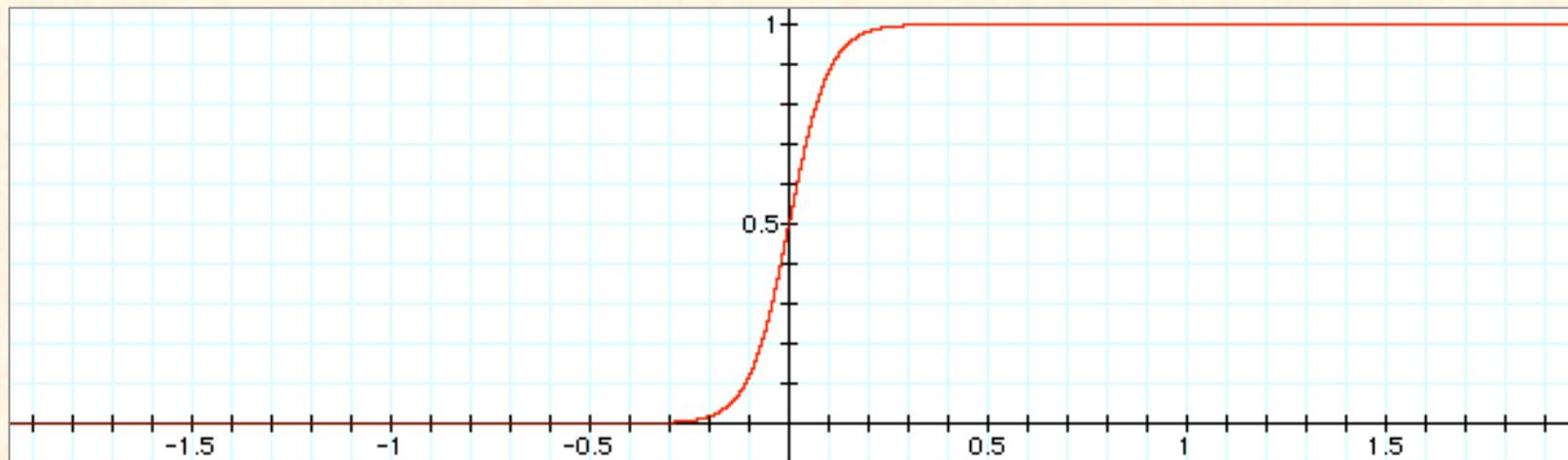
Logistic Sigmoid

$T = 0.01$



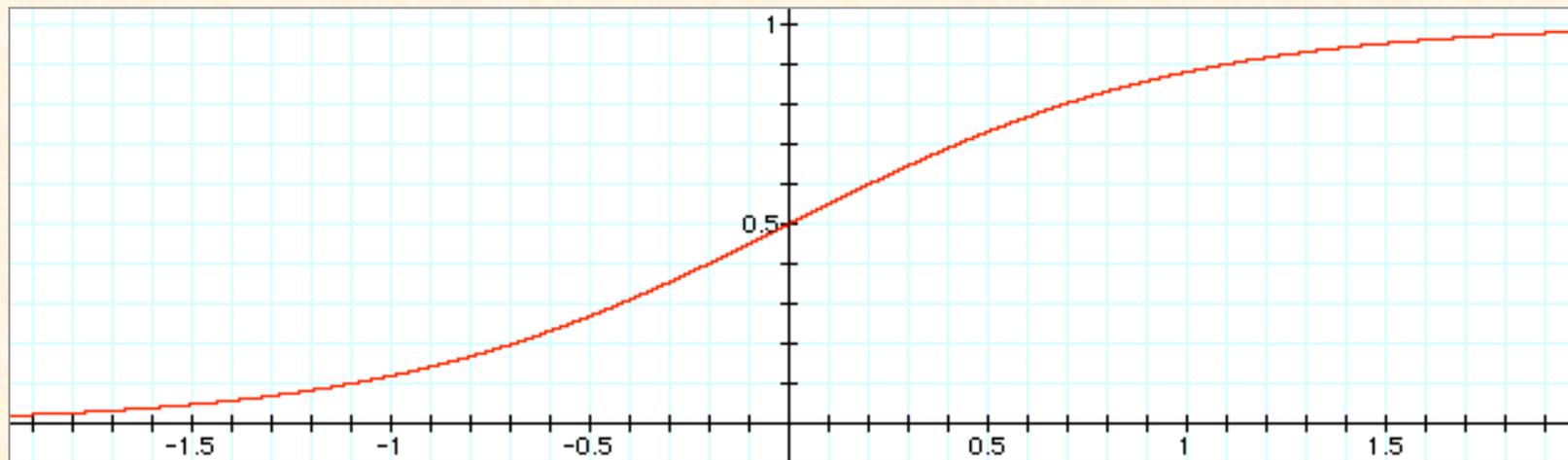
Logistic Sigmoid

$T = 0.1$



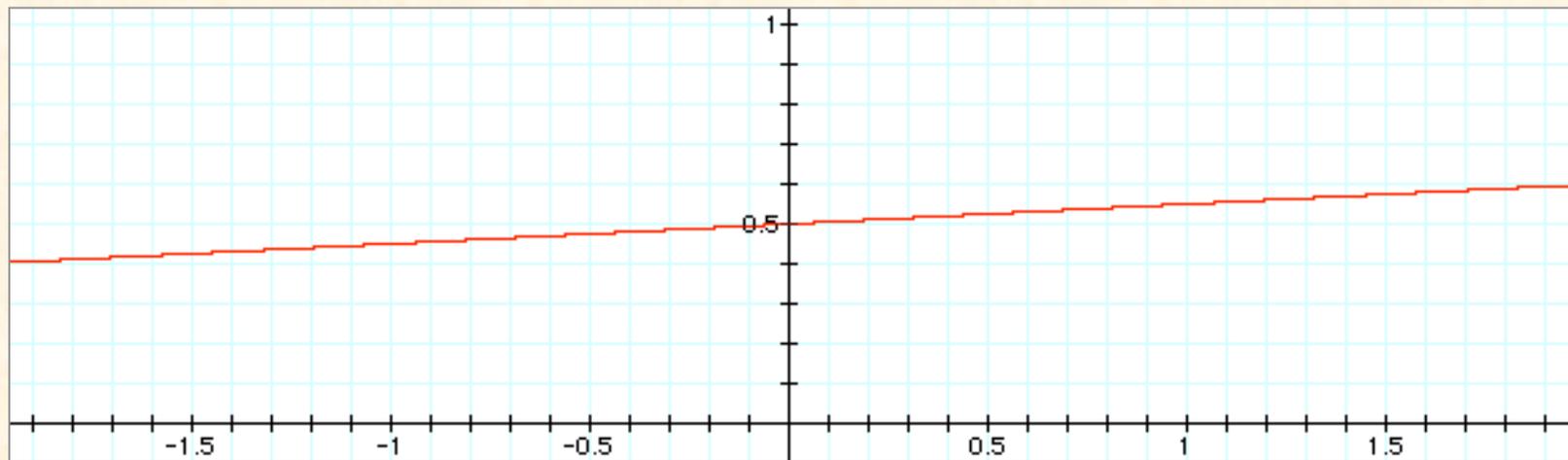
Logistic Sigmoid

$T = 1$



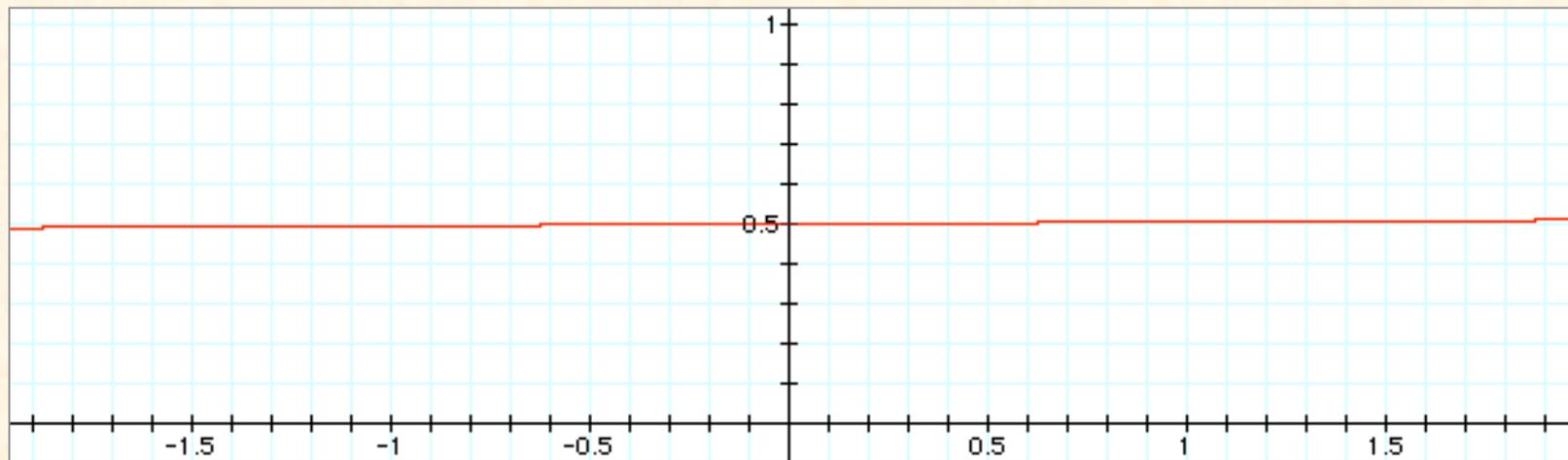
Logistic Sigmoid

$T = 10$



Logistic Sigmoid

$T = 100$



Pseudo-Temperature

- Temperature = measure of thermal energy (heat)
- Thermal energy = vibrational energy of molecules
- A source of random motion
- Pseudo-temperature = a measure of nondirected (random) change
- Logistic sigmoid gives same equilibrium probabilities as Boltzmann-Gibbs distribution

Transition Probability

Recall, change in energy $\Delta E = -\Delta s_k h_k$
 $= 2s_k h_k$

$$\Pr\{s'_k = \pm 1 | s_k = \mp 1\} = \sigma(\pm h_k) = \sigma(-s_k h_k)$$

$$\Pr\{s_k \rightarrow -s_k\} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(2s_k h_k / T)}$$
$$= \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\Delta E / T)}$$

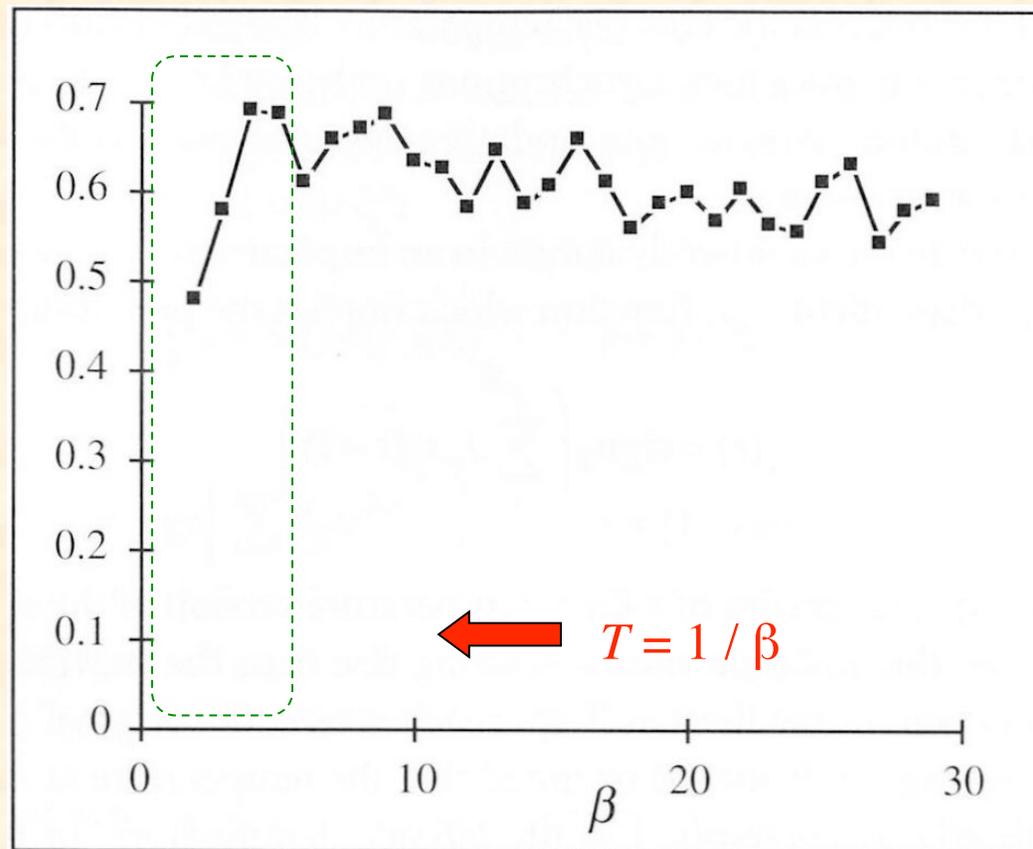
Stability

- Are stochastic Hopfield nets stable?
- Thermal noise prevents absolute stability
- But with symmetric weights:
average values $\langle s_i \rangle$ become time - invariant

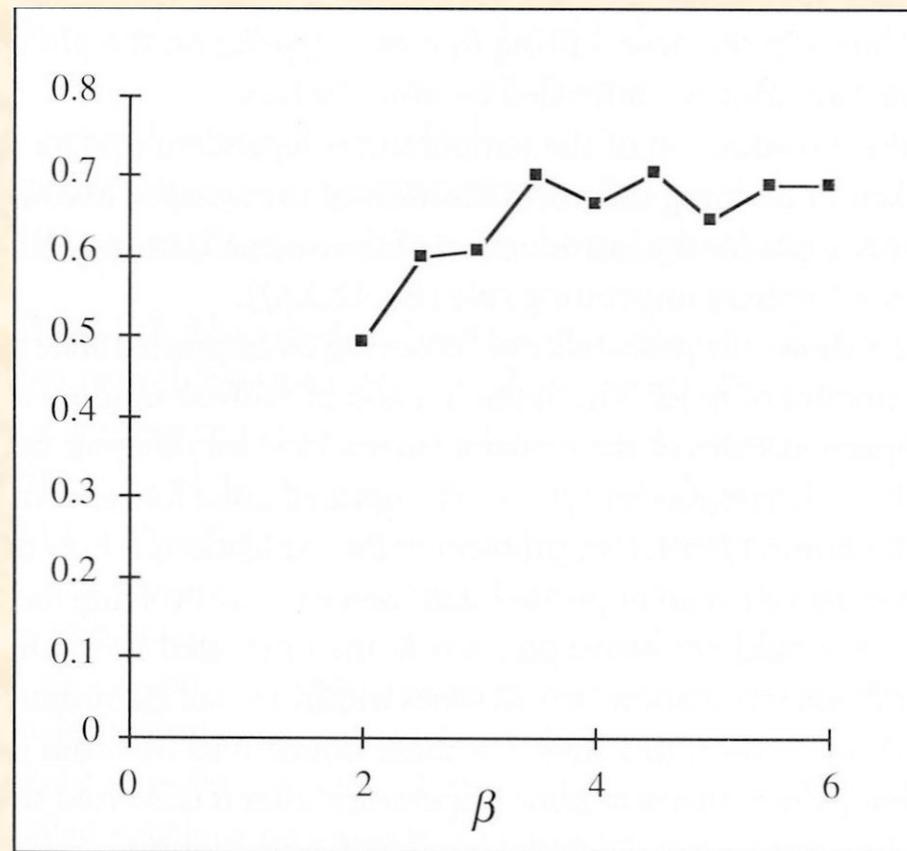
Does “Thermal Noise” Improve Memory Performance?

- Experiments by Bar-Yam (pp. 316-20):
 - $n = 100$
 - $p = 8$
- Random initial state
- To allow convergence, after 20 cycles set $T = 0$
- How often does it converge to an imprinted pattern?

Probability of Random State Converging on Imprinted State ($n=100, p=8$)



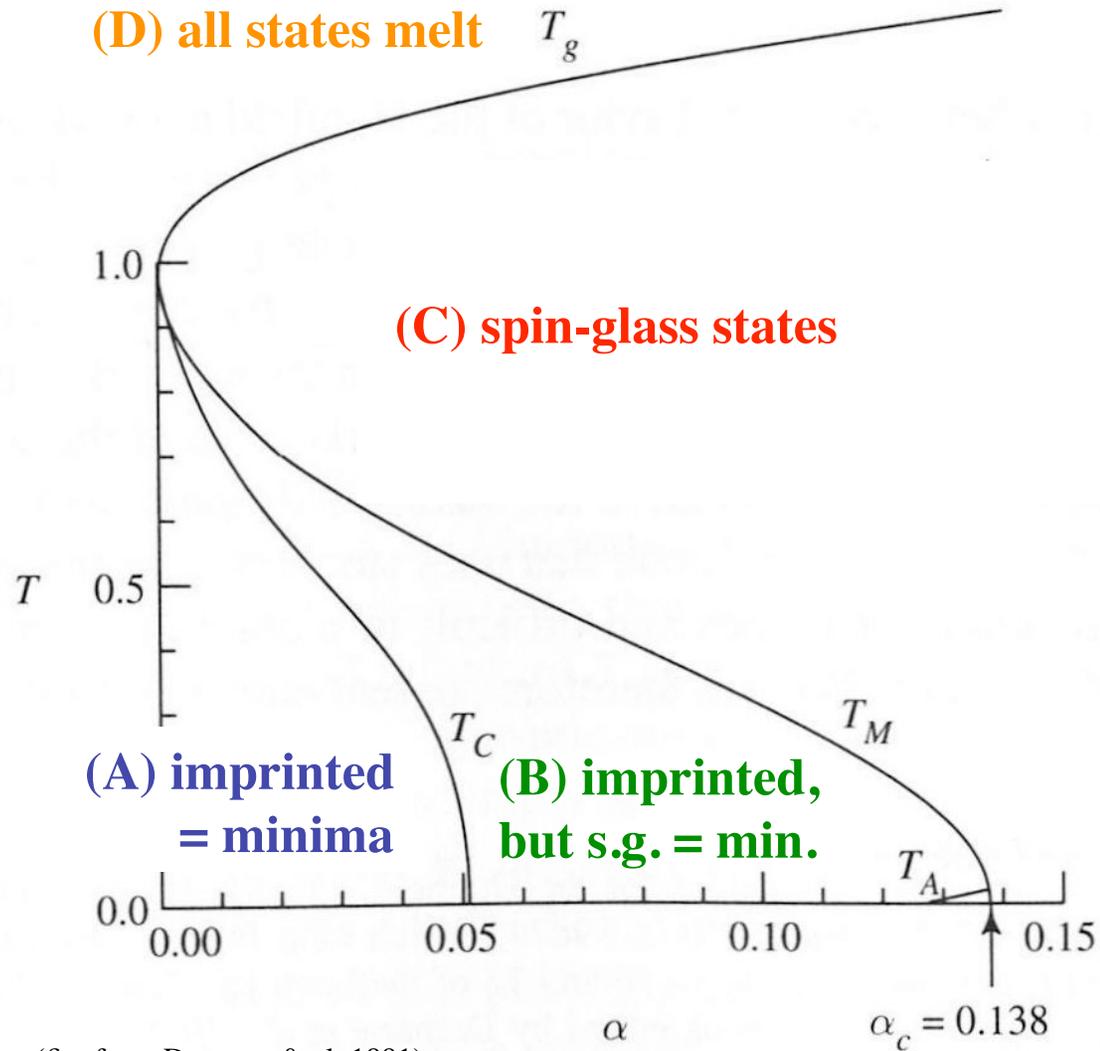
Probability of Random State Converging on Imprinted State ($n=100, p=8$)



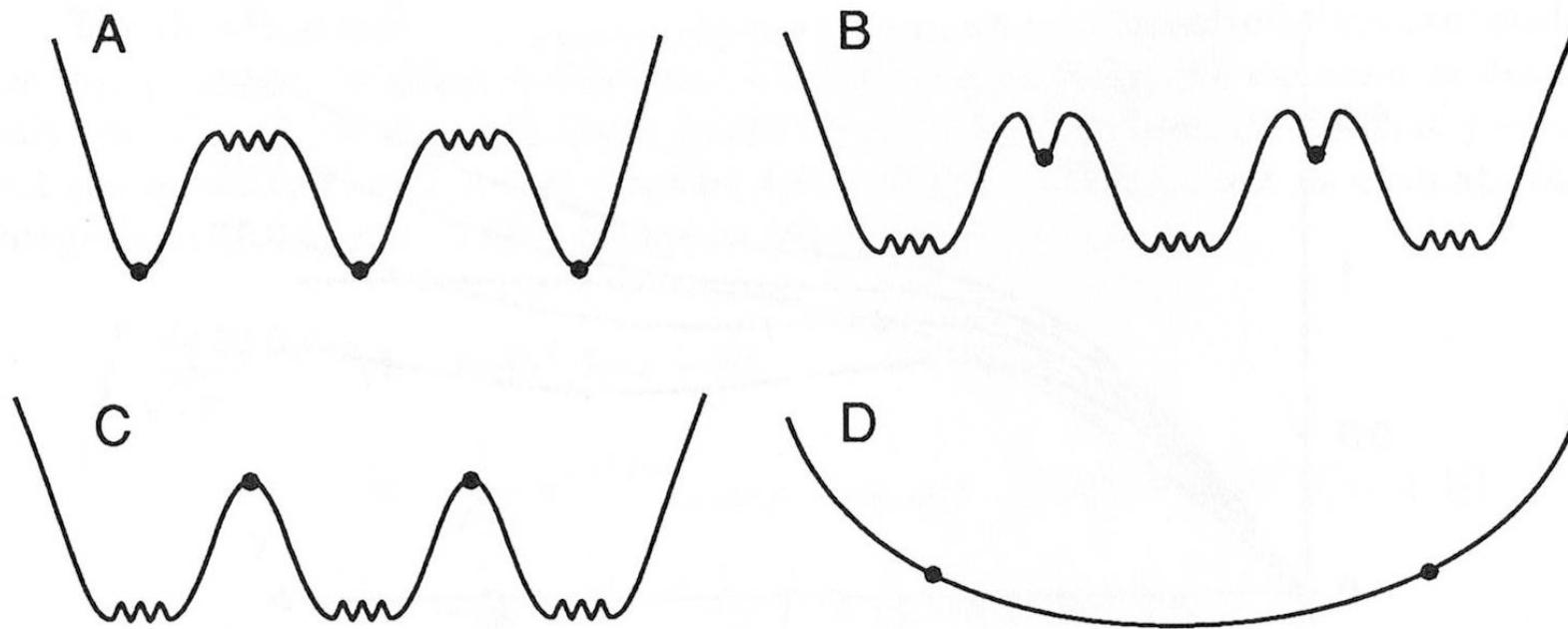
Analysis of Stochastic Hopfield Network

- Complete analysis by Daniel J. Amit & colleagues in mid-80s
- See D. J. Amit, *Modeling Brain Function: The World of Attractor Neural Networks*, Cambridge Univ. Press, 1989.
- The analysis is beyond the scope of this course

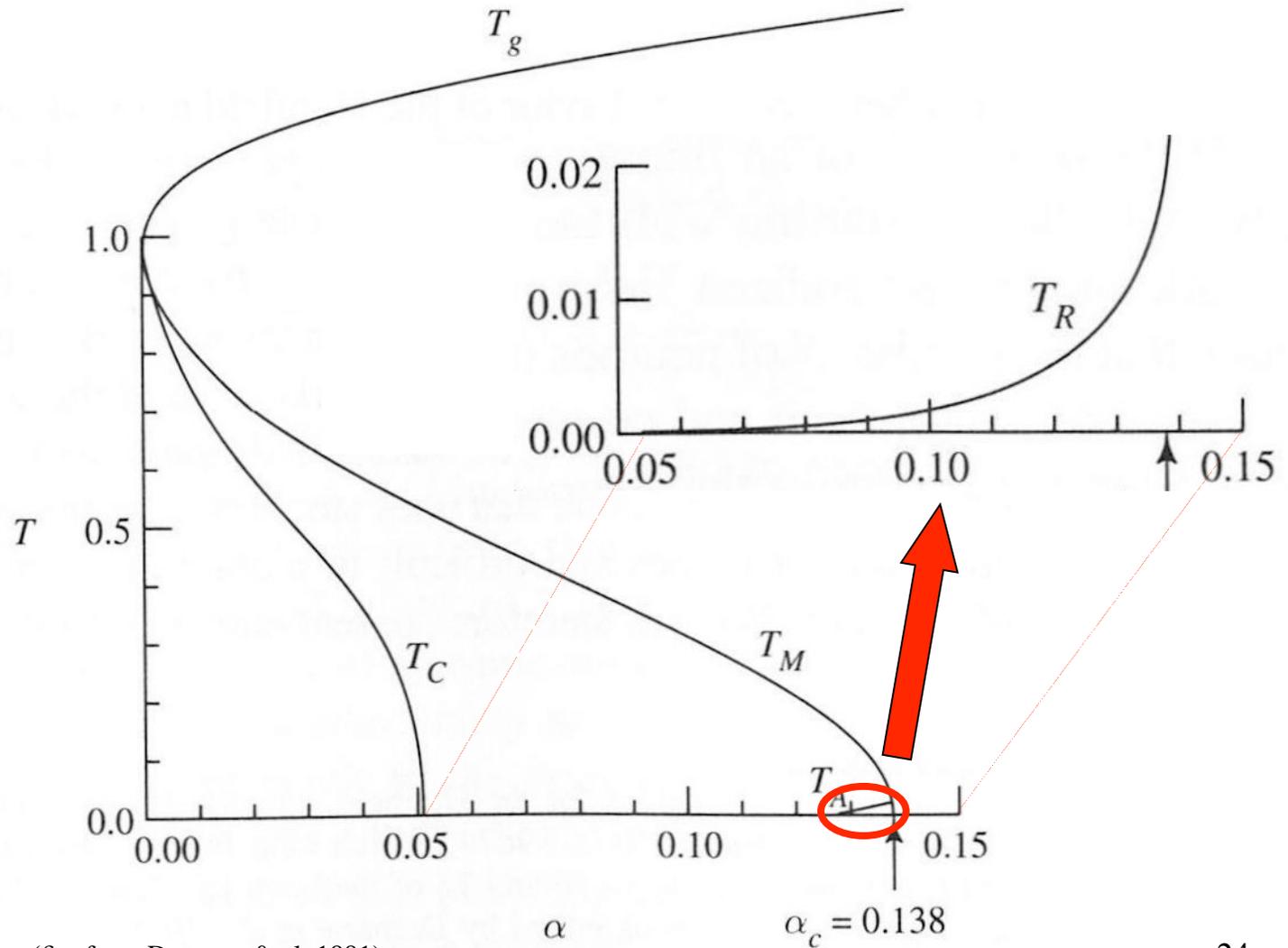
Phase Diagram



Conceptual Diagrams of Energy Landscape



Phase Diagram Detail



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(fig. from Domany & al. 1991)

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Simulated Annealing

(Kirkpatrick, Gelatt & Vecchi, 1983)

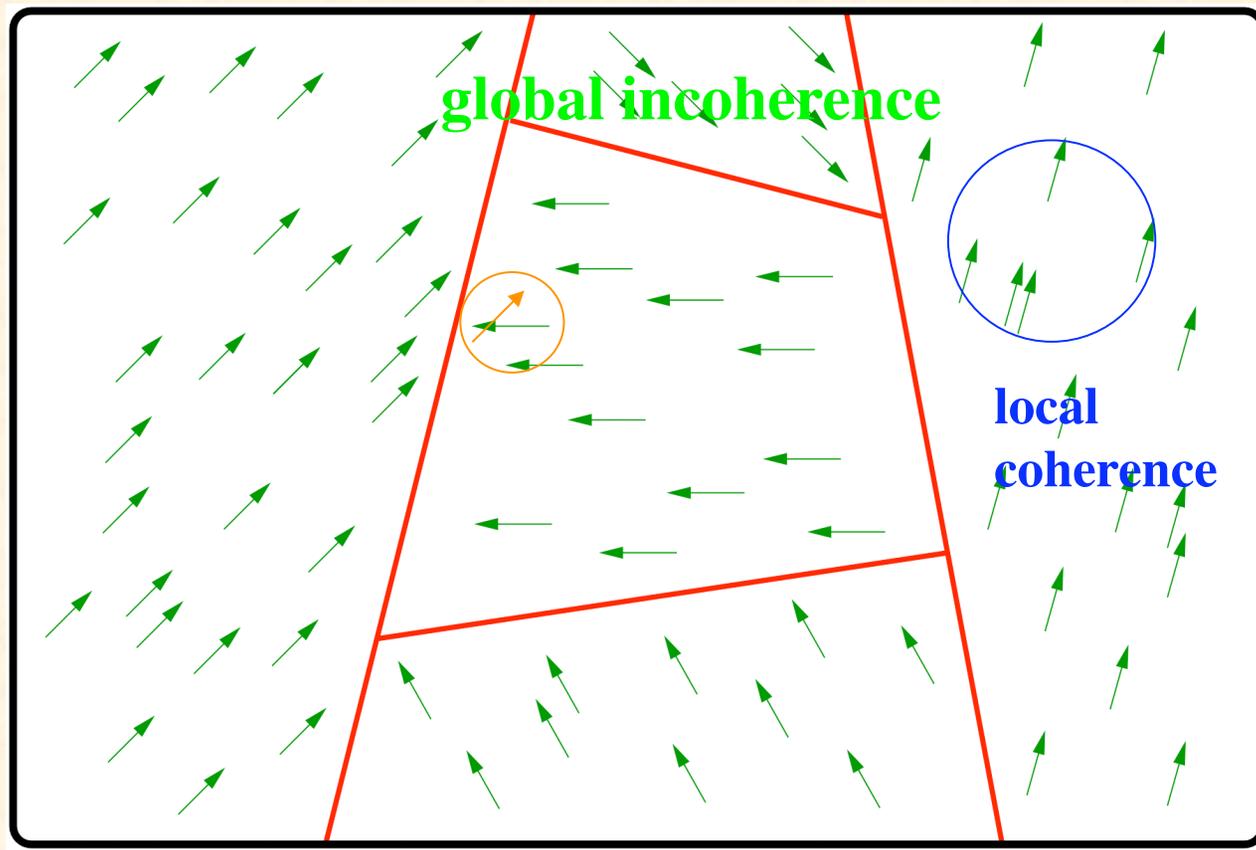
Dilemma

- In the early stages of search, we want a high temperature, so that we will explore the space and find the basins of the global minimum
- In the later stages we want a low temperature, so that we will relax into the global minimum and not wander away from it
- **Solution:** decrease the temperature gradually during search

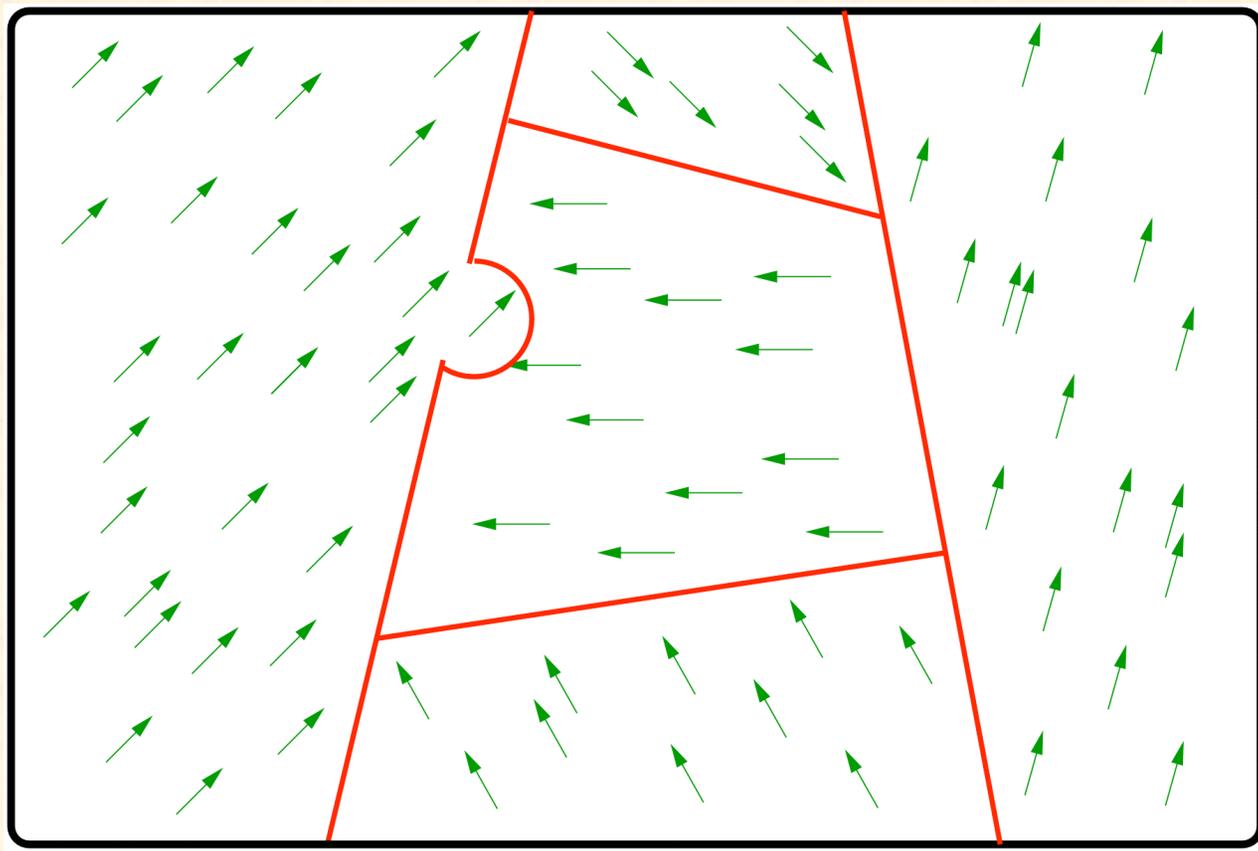
Quenching vs. Annealing

- **Quenching:**
 - rapid cooling of a hot material
 - may result in defects & brittleness
 - local order but global disorder
 - locally low-energy, globally frustrated
- **Annealing:**
 - slow cooling (or alternate heating & cooling)
 - reaches equilibrium at each temperature
 - allows global order to emerge
 - achieves global low-energy state

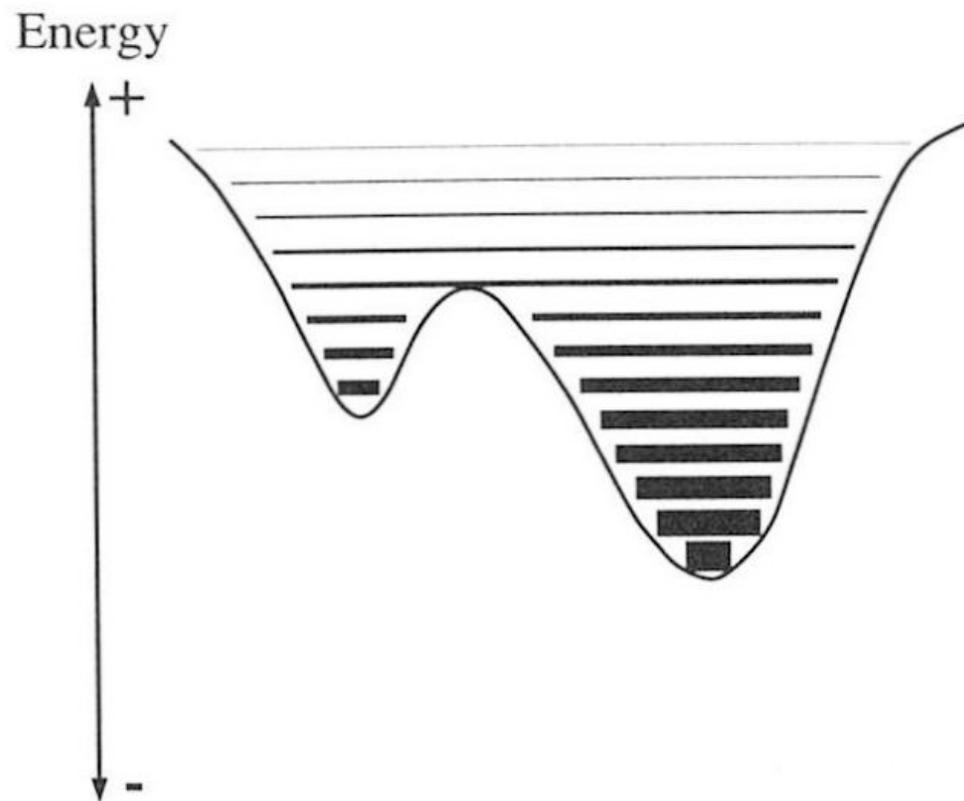
Multiple Domains



Moving Domain Boundaries



Effect of Moderate Temperature

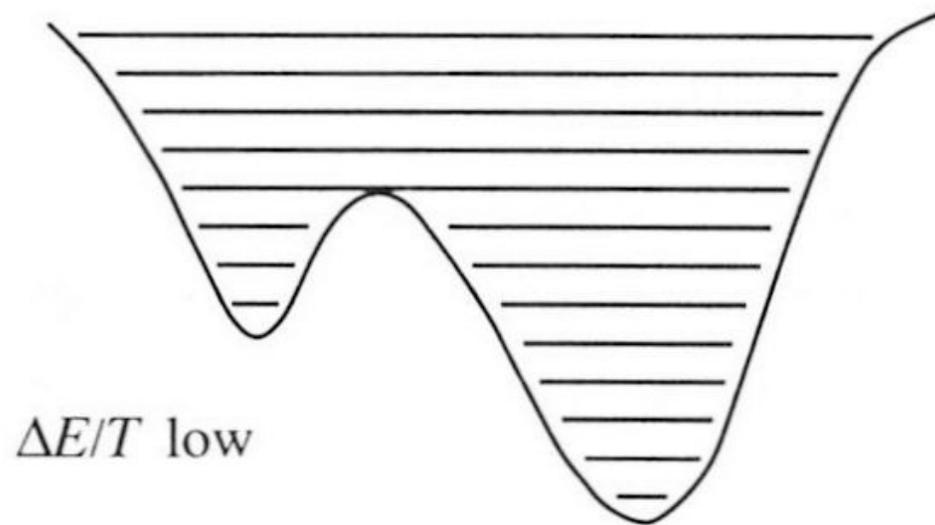


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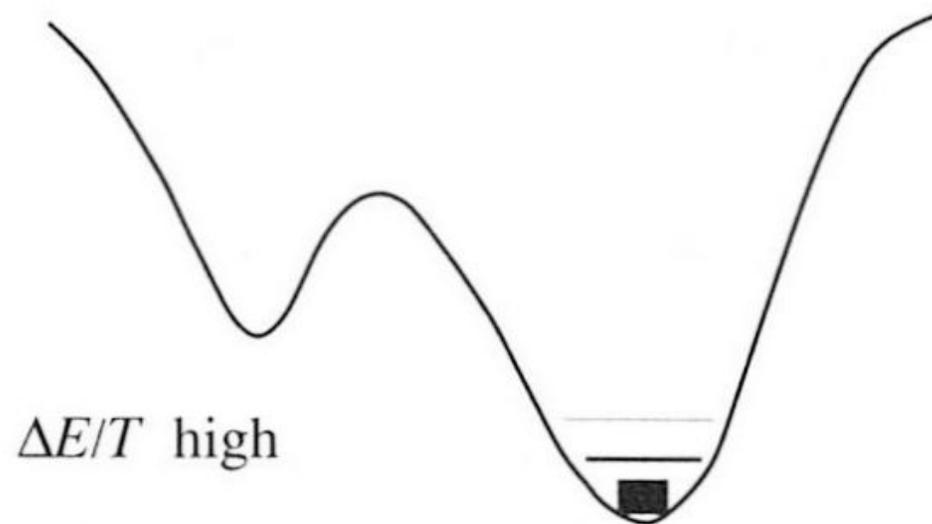
(fig. from Anderson *Intr. Neur. Comp.*)

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Effect of High Temperature



Effect of Low Temperature



Annealing Schedule

- Controlled decrease of temperature
- Should be sufficiently slow to allow equilibrium to be reached at each temperature
- With sufficiently slow annealing, the global minimum will be found with probability 1
- Design of schedules is a topic of research

Typical Practical Annealing Schedule

- **Initial temperature** T_0 sufficiently high so all transitions allowed
- **Exponential cooling**: $T_{k+1} = \alpha T_k$
 - typical $0.8 < \alpha < 0.99$
 - at least 10 accepted transitions at each temp.
- **Final temperature**: three successive temperatures without required number of accepted transitions

Summary

- Non-directed change (random motion) permits escape from local optima and spurious states
- Pseudo-temperature can be controlled to adjust relative degree of exploration and exploitation

Hopfield Network for Task Assignment Problem

- Six tasks to be done (I, II, ..., VI)
- Six agents to do tasks (A, B, ..., F)
- They can do tasks at various rates
 - A (10, 5, 4, 6, 5, 1)
 - B (6, 4, 9, 7, 3, 2)
 - etc
- What is the optimal assignment of tasks to agents?

NetLogo Implementation of Task Assignment Problem

[Run TaskAssignment.nlogo](#)

Additional Bibliography

1. Anderson, J.A. *An Introduction to Neural Networks*, MIT, 1995.
2. Arbib, M. (ed.) *Handbook of Brain Theory & Neural Networks*, MIT, 1995.
3. Hertz, J., Krogh, A., & Palmer, R. G. *Introduction to the Theory of Neural Computation*, Addison-Wesley, 1991.