

Memory and rejuvenation in spin glasses: aging systems are ruled by more than one length scale

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Memory and rejuvenation effects in the magnetic response of off-equilibrium spin glasses have been widely regarded as the doorway into the experimental exploration of ultrametricity and temperature chaos (maybe the most exotic features in glassy free-energy landscapes). Unfortunately, despite more than twenty years of theoretical efforts following the experimental discovery of memory and rejuvenation, these effects have thus far been impossible to simulate reliably. Yet, three recent developments convinced us to accept this challenge: first, the custom-built Janus II supercomputer makes it possible to carry out “numerical experiments” in which the very same quantities that can be measured in single crystals of CuMn are computed from the simulation, allowing for parallel analysis of the simulation/experiment data. Second, Janus II simulations have taught us how numerical and experimental length scales should be compared. Third, we have recently understood how temperature chaos materializes in aging dynamics. All three aspects have proved crucial for reliably reproducing rejuvenation and memory effects on the computer. Our analysis shows that (at least) three different length scales play a key role in aging dynamics, while essentially all theoretical analyses of the aging dynamics emphasize the presence and the crucial role of a single glassy correlation length.

The remarkable off-equilibrium behavior of glass formers at low temperatures has been described with terms such as *aging* [1] or *memory* and *rejuvenation* [2–5], which seem more suitable for living beings than for inert chunks of matter. In this context, spin glasses (which are disordered magnetic alloys, see, e.g., [6]) enjoy a privileged status. On the experimental side, their magnetic response can be studied with great accuracy using a superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID). Rejuvenation and memory (see the description below) are, furthermore, remarkably strong in spin glasses, probably because of the large correlation length ξ of the coherent spin do-

main. The values of ξ reached in single-crystal samples [7–10] is much larger than in other glass-forming materials (for instance, the ξ measured in supercooled glycerol or propylene carbonate [11] is smaller by a factor ~ 100). On the other hand, spin-glass theory [12] has proved applicable to distant fields that also feature rugged free-energy landscapes, such as combinatorial optimization, machine learning, biology, financial markets or social dynamics.

It is worth stressing that the main part of spin-glass experimental studies is carried out under off-equilibrium conditions [14]. In the simplest setting, the so-called zero-field-cooling (ZFC) protocol, the system is initially at equilibrium at some very high temperature. Eventually the spin glass is abruptly cooled to the working temperature $T < T_g$ and relaxes for a waiting time t_w (T_g is the glass tempera-

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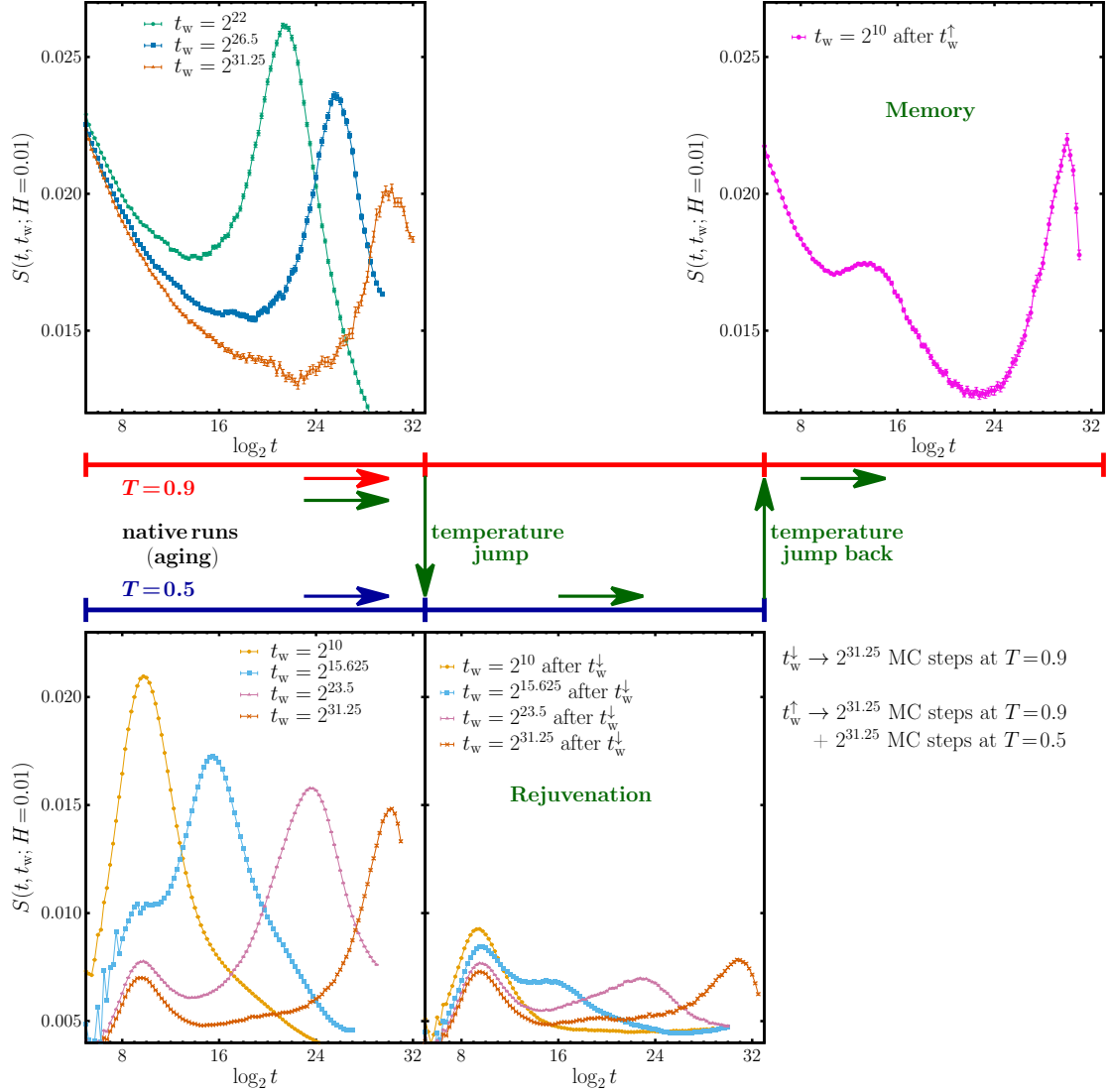


FIG. 1. The zero-field-cooling (ZFC) numerical experiment measuring rejuvenation and memory. The starting random spin configuration is placed instantaneously at the working temperature and it relaxes for a time t_w without a field. At time t_w , a magnetic field $H = 0.01$ is applied and the magnetic density, $M_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H)$, is recorded. **Left panels** show the relaxation function $S_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H)$, Eq. (1), for the *native* runs at the warmer, $T_1 = 0.9$, and colder, $T_2 = 0.5$, temperatures (both below the glass temperature $T_g = 1.102(3)$ [13]) (Aging case). The physically interesting peak of $S_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H)$ defines $t_H^{\text{eff}} \simeq t_w$ (the peak at short times, $t \sim 2^{10}$, does not change with the waiting time which makes this peak uninteresting for us, see **Methods**). In our protocol (schematized by the green arrows), after a waiting time $t_w^{\downarrow} = 2^{31.25}$, the temperature is abruptly dropped from the initial temperature $T_1 = 0.9$ to the colder temperature $T_2 = 0.5$. Then, the system relaxes at T_2 for an additional time, after which the magnetic field is switched on and the function $S_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H)$ shown in the **bottom-center panel** is measured. Waiting times for these *jump* runs are reported in the legend; the *rejuvenation* effect is clearly visible, since $t_H^{\text{eff}} \ll t_w^{\downarrow}$ and similar to the time t_w spent at T_2 (we use t_w for the time spent at the last temperature in a given protocol). Finally, after the waiting time $t_w^{\uparrow} = 2t_w^{\downarrow} = 2^{32.25}$ [*i.e.*, the system has spent half of its life at the initial temperature T_1 and half at the colder temperature T_2 without a field], the spin glass is suddenly heated back to T_1 . We let the system relax for a short time, $t_w = 2^{10} \ll t_w^{\downarrow}$, after which the magnetic field is switched on. The $S_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H)$ measured after the *jump back* and shown in the **top-right panel** has a peak very similar to the one before the first jump (see **top-left panel**), evincing the *memory* of the aging at the initial temperature T_1 , notwithstanding the rejuvenation observed when staying at the lower temperature T_2 . In Tab. I we report the effective times, $t_{H=0.01}^{\text{eff}}$ (*i.e.*, the time at which the aging peak is found). In all cases, error bars are one standard deviation.

ture, while t_w ranges from minutes to several hours). At time t_w a magnetic field H is switched on and the growing magnetization $M_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w)$ is recorded at later times $t+t_w$. $M_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w)$ has turned out to have a

significant dependence on t_w for as long as researchers have had the patience to wait. The relaxation rate

$$S_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H) = \frac{1}{H} \frac{dM_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H)}{d \log t} \quad (1)$$

peaks at a time t_H^{eff} roughly equal to t_w (see, *e.g.*, Refs. [9, 10] for experimental results). The only relevant time scale that can be identified is the glass's age, namely t_w (hence the term *aging*). The left panels in Fig. 1 show our results for this comparatively simple fixed-temperature protocol, which will be named *native* hereafter. The native setup is used as a standard for comparison.

The quest for rejuvenation and memory.

An even more interesting behavior appears when temperature is made to vary with time. In fact, we shall consider here only the simplest protocol for which rejuvenation and memory have been experimentally found [15] (see our temperature-time scheme in the central part of Fig. 1). After a relaxation of duration t_w^\downarrow , the temperature is lowered abruptly from the initial temperature $T_1 < T_g$ to a lower temperature T_2 (the choice of T_2 turns out to be critical, see below). The system is again let to relax at temperature T_2 for an additional time t_w , after which a magnetic field is switched on and the relaxation function S_{ZFC} is measured at times $t_w^\downarrow + t_w + t$. Surprisingly enough, one finds that the initial relaxation at T_1 has been essentially forgotten: the long-time peak of S_{ZFC} is found at times $t_H^{\text{eff}} \sim t_w$, which can be substantially shorter than t_w^\downarrow . This is the rejuvenation effect, which was experimentally found more than 20 years ago and which we are reporting in the bottom-central panel of Fig. 1 for the first time in a simulation.

Yet, rejuvenation is not the end of the story. After a total time of $t_w^\uparrow = 2t_w^\downarrow$, half of it spent at T_1 and half at T_2 , the system is suddenly heated back to the original temperature T_1 , where it is left to relax for a time $t_w \ll t_w^\downarrow$, after which the magnetic field is switched on and the relaxation function measured. The S_{ZFC} is found to peak again at time $\sim t_w^\downarrow$, as if the excursion to temperature T_2 never happened (Fig. 1, top-right panel). This is the memory effect, which at first sight seems quite contradictory with the rejuvenation effect.

The physical origin of memory and rejuvenation in spin glasses has not been identified yet. Then, it is perhaps unsurprising that all past attempts to reproduce these effects in computer simulations have failed [16–21], which has even raised questions about the validity of the standard model of finite-dimensional spin glasses, the Edwards-Anderson model [22, 23]. Fortunately, the Janus II dedicated supercomputer [24] has changed this situation, attaining realistic time and length scales and allowing for the first time a thorough examination of spin-glass dynamics both in the vicinity of the critical temperature T_g and in the low-temperature regime.

The spin-glass dynamics at $T < T_g$ consists in the growth of (glassy) magnetic domains of linear size $\xi(t_w)$ [25–27] (we shall later refer to this length as ξ_{micro}). The non-equilibrium nature of the process is evident in the growth of $\xi(t_w)$ as t_w varies, which is never-ending and extremely slow. In fact, the lower

the temperature, the more sluggish the growth of $\xi(t_w)$ is, see, *e.g.*, Refs. [7, 28]. Janus II has reached unprecedentedly large values of $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$, enabling safe extrapolations from the numerical time scale of tenths of a second (when $\xi \sim 20 a_0$, where a_0 is the typical spin-spin distance) to the experimental scale of hours [7, 28] (when $\xi \sim 200 a_0$). This special-purpose computer has also made it possible to simulate [29] the experimental protocol for extracting the spin-glass coherence length from the Zeeman effect [26], thus showing the consistency between the Zeeman method and the microscopic approach. Janus II allowed us to perform *computer experiments* with a native (*i.e.*, fixed-temperature or *aging*) protocol and make a direct comparison of the S_{ZFC} (1) obtained in the simulation with that from real experiments on a single crystal of CuMn [9, 10, 30]. The Edwards-Anderson model and CuMn turned out to be governed by the same scaling laws, where ξ is the all-important scaling variable. This agreement between simulations and experiment, however, was established only for native protocols. We need to understand what happens when temperature is varied.

Experimentalists are prone to attribute the rejuvenation effect to temperature chaos (see, *e.g.*, Ref. [15]; explanations not invoking temperature chaos have been also proposed [31, 32]). Temperature chaos [33–35] is an equilibrium notion stating that spin configurations typical from the Boltzmann distribution at temperature T_1 would be very atypical for temperature T_2 , no matter how close T_1 and T_2 are (provided that $T_1, T_2 < T_g$). Temperature chaos could explain why the relaxation at temperature T_1 seems useless at T_2 (*i.e.*, rejuvenation). Yet, even in the mean-field approximation, showing that temperature chaos is really present in equilibrium has been a hard task since it is a weak effect [36, 37]. Furthermore, extending the equilibrium concept of temperature chaos to the experimentally relevant context of off-equilibrium dynamics is a very recent achievement [38].

Dynamic temperature chaos is spatially extremely heterogeneous (see Fig. 2). To measure it we choose many spheres of linear size R in random positions within the sample. We compare *within each sphere* spin configurations obtained at temperature T_1 and time $t_w^{T_1}$ with configurations from temperature T_2 and time $t_w^{T_2}$ (the simplifying choice $\xi(t_w^{T_1}, T_1) = \xi(t_w^{T_2}, T_2) = \xi(t_w)$ was made in [38]). The comparison is quantitative, through the computation of a correlation coefficient X_{T_1, T_2} , see **Methods**. Many of those spheres turn out to have very weak temperature chaos [$X_{T_1, T_2} \approx 1$]. Yet, with low probability, one picks a chaotic sphere with a significantly smaller X_{T_1, T_2} . In fact, the analysis in [38] identifies a crossover length scale $\xi^*(T_1, T_2)$: for $\xi(t_w) \ll \xi^*(T_1, T_2)$ chaotic spheres are *very rare* but for $\xi(t_w) \gg \xi^*(T_1, T_2)$ chaotic spheres become *fairly typical*. A scaling law was also found: $\xi^*(T_1, T_2) \propto (T_1 - T_2)^{-1/\zeta_{\text{NE}}}$ with $\zeta_{\text{NE}} = 1.19(2)$.

Our last building block comes from the experiment of Ref. [8], which identifies a minimal temperature

Type	T	(History) + t_w	$\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$	$\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$	$\zeta(t_w, 2t_w)$	$\log_2 t_{H=0.01}^{\text{eff}}$	t_{max}
NATIVE (aging)	0.9	$2^{31.25}$	16.63(5)	16.64(5)		29.66(2)	2^{32}
NATIVE (aging)	0.5	2^{10}	2.23926(2)		1.916(1)	9.813(1)	2^{28}
NATIVE (aging)	0.5	$2^{15.625}$	2.9090(4)		2.571(4)	15.377(2)	2^{28}
NATIVE (aging)	0.5	$2^{23.5}$	4.0865(15)	3.5175(2)	3.77(1)	22.942(4)	2^{30}
NATIVE (aging)	0.5	$2^{31.25}$	5.6167(4)	5.617(4)	5.30(4)	29.500(8)	2^{32}
JUMP (rejuv)	0.5	$(2^{31.25} \text{ at } T=0.9) + 2^{10}$	16.62(12)	2.43(2)	1.488(3)	19.016(7)	2^{28}
JUMP (rejuv)	0.5	$(2^{31.25} \text{ at } T=0.9) + 2^{15.625}$	16.68(12)	3.67(1)	1.869(2)	22.156(8)	2^{28}
JUMP (rejuv)	0.5	$(2^{31.25} \text{ at } T=0.9) + 2^{23.5}$	16.75(13)	4.83(8)	2.69(1)	26.699(9)	2^{31}
JUMP (rejuv)	0.5	$(2^{31.25} \text{ at } T=0.9) + 2^{31.25}$	16.81(13)	6.43(8)	3.958(9)	31.56(1)	$2^{33.5}$
NATIVE (aging)	0.7	2^{10}	2.6629(4)		2.054(1)	9.948(1)	2^{28}
NATIVE (aging)	0.7	$2^{15.625}$	3.8230(10)		2.931(4)	15.502(3)	2^{28}
NATIVE (aging)	0.7	$2^{23.5}$	6.1742(4)	5.50(1)	4.72(4)	23.042(6)	2^{28}
NATIVE (aging)	0.7	$2^{31.25}$	9.578(11)	9.578(1)	7.50(1)	30.39(1)	2^{33}
JUMP (rejuv)	0.7	$(2^{31.25} \text{ at } T=0.9) + 2^{10}$	16.62(12)	6.59(7)	1.652(3)	23.08(1)	2^{28}
JUMP (rejuv)	0.7	$(2^{31.25} \text{ at } T=0.9) + 2^{15.625}$	16.67(12)	7.61(8)	2.194(5)	24.48(1)	2^{28}
JUMP (rejuv)	0.7	$(2^{31.25} \text{ at } T=0.9) + 2^{23.5}$	16.76(12)	9.26(10)	3.43(4)	26.82(2)	2^{28}
JUMP (rejuv)	0.7	$(2^{31.25} \text{ at } T=0.9) + 2^{31.25}$	16.81(13)	12.12(1)	5.59(9)	29.40(2)	2^{32}
JUMP-BACK (memory)	0.9	$(2^{31.25} \text{ at } T=0.9) + 2^{10}$	16.81(13)	16.05(2)	1.812(3)	29.98(2)	2^{32}

TABLE I. **Basic features of our simulations.** The runs labelled as *native* are intended for the study of *aging*, those labelled as *jump* are devoted to *rejuvenation*, while *jump-back* are for *memory* (see definitions, below). We have simulated on the Janus II supercomputer the Edwards-Anderson model with nearest-neighbor couplings ($J = \pm 1$ with 50% probability), on simple-cubic lattices containing 160^3 Ising spins $s = \pm 1$ (the lattice size is $L = 160 a_0$) and endowed with periodic boundary conditions. A particular set of couplings is termed *sample*. For every sample and every set of parameters, we have simulated 512 independent trajectories (*i.e.*, 512 *replicas*, see **Methods**). This table lists the main parameters for each of our numerical simulations. Temperature-varying protocols, see the central part and the top-right one of Fig. 1, are named respectively *jump* and *jump-back* protocols. In all cases, temperature T refers to the temperature at which the relaxation function in Eq. (1) is computed. All temperatures considered are in the spin-glass phase: $T < T_g = 1.102(3)$ [13]. The waiting time is the time elapsed at the working temperature before the magnetic field H is switched on. [For *native*, this consists of a time t_w at the working temperature T ; for jump protocols, the system stays for a time t_w^\downarrow at the starting temperature $T_1 = 0.9$, plus a time t_w at T_2 ; for jump-back protocols, the system stays for a time t_w^\downarrow at the starting temperature $T_1 = 0.9$, plus a time t_w^\uparrow at the cold temperature $T_2 = 0.5$, plus a short time $t = 2^{10}$ back at temperature T_1]. The three length scales characterizing the dynamics, namely ξ_{micro} , ξ_{Zeeman} , and $\zeta(t_1 = t_w, t_2 = 2t_w)$ are given in $a_0 = 1$ units [as explained in **Methods**, $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$ is calculated in absence of the external magnetic field, ξ_{micro} is computed just before the magnetic field is switched on while ξ_{Zeeman} reflects the dependence on the magnetic field of the relaxation rate S_{ZFC} , see Eq. (1)]. We incur in a slight language abuse when writing $\zeta(t_1 = t_w, t_2 = 2t_w)$, which is only accurate for native runs. For jump runs, it is $t_1 = t_w^\downarrow + t_w$ ($t_1 = t_w^\downarrow + t_w^\uparrow + t_w$ for jump-back protocols). In all cases, we have $t_2 = t_1 + t_w$. Finally, we report t_{max} , our longest simulation time in the presence of a field, and the effective time t_H^{eff} , the time of the *aging* peak of the relaxation function (as computed for field $H = 0.01$, see Fig. 1 and **Methods**). In all cases, error bars are one standard deviation.

jump ΔT_{min} in a CuMn sample. Temperature chaos in that sample turned out to be exceedingly weak whenever $T_1 - T_2 < \Delta T_{\text{min}}$. It follows that, in a simulation, chaotic spheres will be just too rare to significantly affect the overall sample relaxation unless [39]

$$\left. \frac{T_1 - T_2}{T_g} \right|_{\text{sim}} \approx \left. \frac{\Delta T_{\text{min}}}{T_g} \right|_{\text{CuMn}} \left[\frac{\xi_{\text{CuMn}}(t_w)}{\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)} \right]^{\zeta_{\text{NE}}}, \quad (2)$$

where the subindex *micro* stands for the ξ computed in the numerical simulation (see **Methods**) while T_g is the glass temperature, which is different for the CuMn sample and for simulations. Plugging in typical numbers ($\Delta T_{\text{min}} = 450$ mK, $T_g = 31.5$ K, $\xi_{\text{CuMn}}(t_w) \approx 220 a_0$ and $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w) \approx 16.6 a_0$), we conclude from Eq. (2) that, given the correlation length reached in our simulations, a successful simulation of the rejuvenation effect should have $T_1 - T_2 > 0.32 T_g$.

In this work we have considered two temperature

jumps, see Table I. The first jump, namely $T_1 = 0.9 \rightarrow T_2 = 0.5$, meets the requirement for temperature chaos expressed in Eq. (2), while the second jump, $T_1 = 0.9 \rightarrow T_2 = 0.7$ is too small. Hence we expect to find qualitative differences between the two.

Becoming quantitative: how many controlling length scales?

Our discussion shall emphasize three different length scales, focusing on their physical interpretation and their utility to rationalize the rejuvenation and memory effects (many more details are provided in **Methods** [40]). Only one of these scales, named ξ_{Zeeman} , can be experimentally accessed nowadays (the other two lengths, however, provide invaluable microscopic information):

- ξ_{micro} is the size of the (glassy) domains within

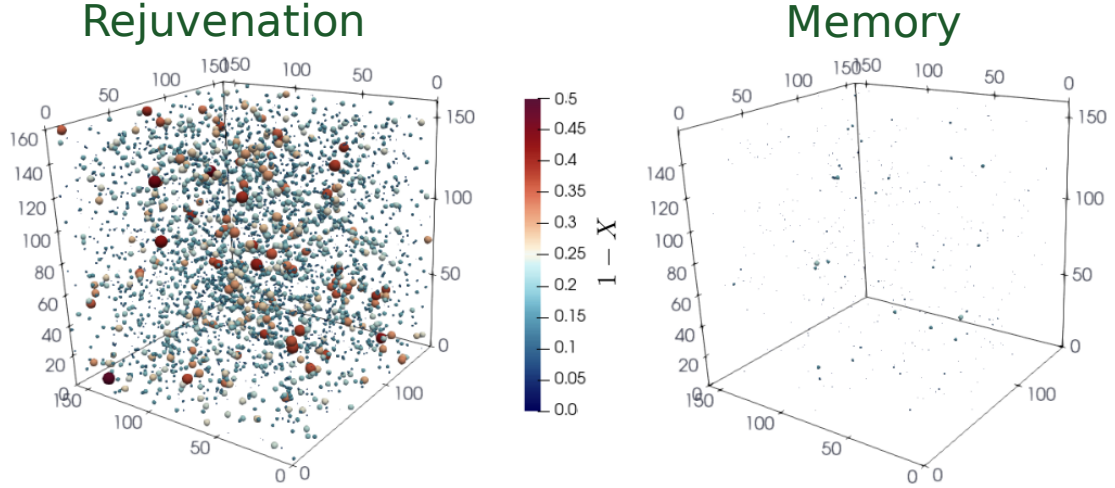


FIG. 2. **Temperature chaos is spatially heterogeneous when it is clearly present.** The left panel refers to the rejuvenation protocol and the right panel relates to the memory protocol. The 8000 randomly chosen spheres in a sample of size $L = 160$ are depicted with a color code depending on $1 - X$ (X is the chaotic correlation parameter as computed for spheres of radius $R = 5a_0$, see **Methods**). For visualization purposes, spheres are represented with a radius $12(1 - X)$, so that only fully chaotic spheres (*i.e.*, $X = 0$) would have the largest size. In order to avoid cluttering, we draw only spheres with $X < 0.97$. **On the left**, we calculate the chaotic correlation parameter X between the native system at $T = 0.5$ (*i.e.*, a fixed-temperature protocol: a completely disordered system is put at temperature $T = 0.5$ and let to evolve at this temperature for a time $t_w = 2^{31.25}$) and the jump system at the same temperature $T = 0.5$ (recall the central part of Fig. 1: the jump system has spent the first half of its life, $t_w^\downarrow = 2^{31.25}$, at the hot temperature $T_1 = 0.9$ and the second half, $t_w = 2^{31.25}$, at the cold temperature $T = 0.5$). Very strong chaotic heterogeneity is found. **On the right**, we calculate the chaotic correlation parameter X between the native system at the hot temperature $T = 0.9$ and the jump-back system at the same temperature $T = 0.9$ (the jump-back system has spent a time $t_w^\downarrow = 2^{31.25}$ at the hot temperature $T_1 = 0.9$, a time $t_w^\uparrow - t_w^\downarrow = 2^{31.25}$ at the cold temperature $T_2 = 0.5$, and then $t_w = 2^{10}$ again at $T_1 = 0.9$ — see the temperature protocol of Fig. 1). After the cycle the system does not display chaotic heterogeneity since almost every sphere has a large correlation parameter X , *i.e.*, a strong *memory* (more examples can be found in Supplementary Note V).

the sample (is the largest length scale at which we can regard the system as ordered at time t_w).

- ξ_{Zeeman} is obtained by counting the number of spins that react coherently to an externally applied field [26]. It provides a very direct quantification of memory and rejuvenation.
- $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$ [41–43] is obtained from the comparison of the same system at the two times $t_1 < t_2$: ζ characterizes the long-distances decay of the pair-correlation function corresponding to the set of spins taking opposite signs at times t_1 and t_2 , see Methods [physically, $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$ is the typical size of the regions where coherent rearrangements have occurred between times t_1 and t_2 , likely because of the on-going formation of a new spin order at time t_2]. For fixed t_1 , $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$ grows with t_2 starting from $\zeta(t_1, t_2 = t_1) = 0$.

Previous analysis for native (*i.e.*, fixed-temperature) protocols tell us that ξ_{Zeeman} follows quite closely the behavior of the microscopic length ξ_{micro} [9, 10, 26, 29]. This is what we find in the top panel of Fig. 3. There are two salient features in the time growth of either ξ_{Zeeman} or $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$ at fixed temperature [7, 28]: the growth slows down as ξ_{micro}

increases [44] and the dynamics at lower temperatures is enormously slower [45]. In fact, see Table I and Ref. [28], at the largest temperature $T = 0.9$ it is comparatively easy to reach a large $\xi_{\text{micro}} \approx 16.6a_0$ in a native protocol. Instead, for a similar simulation time, the native protocol at $T = 0.5$ is limited to $\xi_{\text{micro}} \approx 5.6a_0$. It is then unsurprising that, when the temperature jumps from $T_1 = 0.9$ to $T_2 = 0.5$ or 0.7 , see Fig. 3–top, the size of the glassy domains is locked to their value at jump time, namely $\xi_{\text{micro}} \approx 16.6a_0$: the time needed for such a large domain to grow at the lower temperature T_2 far exceeds the scale of our simulations. The importance of this locking was also emphasized in Ref. [18].

While ξ_{micro} is locked at the value it has at the jump time, the behavior of ξ_{Zeeman} is different in the jump protocols. In the jump complying with Eq. (2), $T_1 = 0.9 \rightarrow T_2 = 0.5$, $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$ is quite similar to the corresponding curve for the native run at $T = 0.5$. From the point of view of the response to the magnetic field, rejuvenation is almost complete for this temperature jump, because the initial relaxation at $T_1 = 0.9$ (almost) does not leave a measurable trace. Instead, for the more modest jump $T_1 = 0.9 \rightarrow T_2 = 0.7$, rejuvenation is weaker and ξ_{Zeeman} is sensibly larger

than in the native runs (see Supplementary Note II for more details).

Furthermore, it is also shown in Fig. 3–top that, when the system jumps back to $T_1 = 0.9$ (*i.e.* $T_1 = 0.9 \rightarrow T_2 = 0.5 \rightarrow T_1 = 0.9$, recall the top-right panel in Fig. 1), the response to the magnetic-field goes back to normal: ξ_{Zeeman} catches up with ξ_{micro} after a extremely short transient. This is another manifestation of the memory effect.

As for the third length scale, see Fig. 3–bottom and Supplementary Note III, for all our jump protocols we find $\zeta \ll \xi_{\text{micro}}$, which means that the configuration right before the jump is only locally distorted by the excursion to the low temperature T_2 (in our opinion, this fact provides a natural explanation for the *memory* effect). The inset in Fig. 3 shows that ζ is not just a simple function of ξ_{micro} and ξ_{Zeeman} . The consequences of this sophisticated behavior are discussed below.

Dynamic temperature chaos and rejuvenation

At this point, the elephant in the room is clear: what is the physical origin for rejuvenation and memory?

In order to answer the question, we need to compare pairs of spin configurations. One of the configurations will be taken from the jump protocols. The other configuration will come from the native runs at temperatures $T_2 = 0.5$ or $T_2 = 0.7$. In an attempt to make a fair comparison, we shall choose the native configurations at T_2 at their largest possible waiting time. In fact, the magnetic domains will be substantially smaller in the native protocol than they are in the jump protocol (at $T_2 = 0.5$, for instance, one has to compare $\xi_{\text{micro}}^{\text{native}} \approx 5.8 a_0$ with $\xi_{\text{micro}}^{\text{jump}} \approx 16.6 a_0$).

The main steps in the comparison were outlined above (for a more paused exposition see **Methods** and Ref. [38]). We pick at random in the sample spheres of radius R . The results presented in this paper were obtained with $R = 5 a_0$ to make sure that the spheres will have a chance to fit within the glassy domains of the native runs (we have tried other values of R , finding qualitatively similar results, see Supplementary Note VI). The configurations from the two protocols are compared by computing a correlation coefficient X that takes into account only the spins contained in the sphere. If X is significantly smaller than unity we regard that particular sphere as *chaotic*, because typical configurations from the two protocols differ within the sphere. To be precise, we compute the probability distribution function $F(\tilde{X})$, namely the fraction of the spheres with a correlation coefficient $X < \tilde{X}$.

Our results shown in Fig. 4–bottom for the jump protocol $T_1 = 0.9 \rightarrow T_2 = 0.7$ remind us of previous studies [38]. The vast majority of the spheres have a very large correlation coefficient, and truly chaotic spheres are found only in the tail of the distribution (probability 0.1% or smaller).

Interestingly enough, see the left panel in Fig. 2 and Fig. 4–top, the situation is radically different for the jump protocol $T_1 = 0.9 \rightarrow T_2 = 0.5$, where the spheres in percentile 10 of the distribution are as chaotic as the most chaotic spheres we could find for the jump $T_1 = 0.9 \rightarrow T_2 = 0.7$. In fact, to our knowledge, Fig. 4–top reports the strongest temperature-chaos signal ever observed in a simulation of glassy dynamics.

In order to convince ourselves that the extreme chaos is not an artifact of the disparity in domain sizes, we have tried a null experiment by simulating a model where no temperature chaos is expected, namely the link-diluted ferromagnetic Ising model (we have used the results in Ref. [46] to match as closely as possible in the diluted ferromagnet the conditions in our spin-glass simulations, with special care in matching the size of the domains, see **Methods**). As expected, see Fig. 4, the sphere distribution for the ferromagnet is concentrated at correlation coefficient $X \approx 1$. We conclude that the spin-glass results in Fig. 4–top are genuine evidence for dynamic temperature chaos.

It is also interesting that the distribution function in Fig. 4–top barely depends on t_w . This is another manifestation of the dynamic lock-down when the temperature jumps to the lower value.

The overall conclusions of this analysis are twofold. First, the requirement expressed by Eq. (2), which is based on CuMn experimental results [8], is sensible: strong temperature chaos is found only when $T_1 - T_2$ is as large as Eq. (2) demands. Second, only when temperature chaos is strong do our simulations find strong rejuvenation (recall Fig. 3–top).

Where do we stand?

Our simulations depict a clear picture of the rejuvenation and memory effects. Provided that the temperature jump is large enough, see Eq. (2), the spin-glass state that was forming at temperature T_1 is completely alien at temperature T_2 (at least it looks like an alien when compared with the native state that grows directly at T_2 , see Fig. 2). In fact, the response to the magnetic field (which is the quantity measured in experiments [2–5, 7–10, 15]) is not qualitatively different in the alien state and in the native state that grows from a fully disordered high-temperature state. The system just dismisses the relaxation it achieved at the higher temperature T_1 .

Paradoxically enough, the alien state is locked at temperature T_2 : the microscopic rearrangement at T_2 , see Fig. 3–bottom, takes place on too small length scales to dissolve such foreign glassy domains. As a consequence, when the temperature is taken back to T_1 , the glassy domains characteristic of T_1 are still there. This seems to be the physical origin of the memory effect. This reasoning is also consistent with recent experiments that find that the memory effect strongly depends on t_w^\downarrow (*i.e.*, the time spent in the first stay at T_1) [47]. Indeed, if t_w^\downarrow is too small, the memory effect almost disappears. Our interpretation

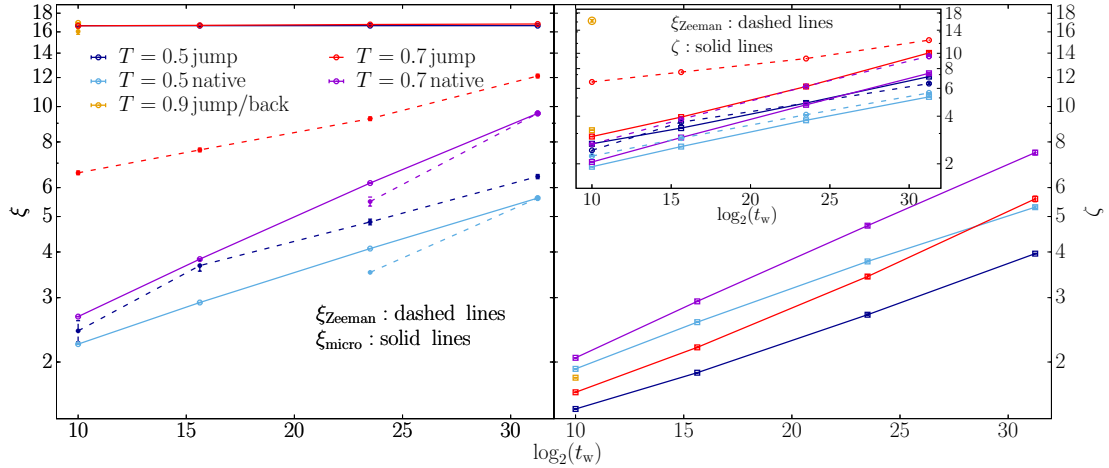


FIG. 3. **Aging dynamics is controlled by three length scales (at least).** (See text and **Methods** for extended discussion of these three length scales). The dashed lines and filled dots are for $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w, T)$, the continuous lines and empty dots are for $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w, T)$, and the continuous lines and empty squares are for $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$. **On the top**, for the *native* protocols, $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$ follows quite closely the behavior of $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$. For the *jump* protocol with $T_2 = 0.5$, $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$ is extremely similar to the corresponding curve for the native run [this T_2 meets the *chaos requirement* expressed in Eq. (2)], which means that the system responds to an external magnetic field as if *rejuvenated*, $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w) \ll \xi_{\text{micro}}^{\text{jump}}(t_w)$. When the system jumps back to $T_1 = 0.9$ (i.e., $T_1 = 0.9 \rightarrow T_2 = 0.5 \rightarrow T_1 = 0.9$), $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}^{\text{jump}}(t_w)$ goes back to its original value $\xi_{\text{micro}}^{\text{native}}(t_w)$ after an extremely short time (*memory*). Instead, $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$ never becomes small for the jump protocols with $T_2 = 0.7$. **On the bottom**, the size of the regions undergoing coherent rearrangements when evolving from the initial to the final time, $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$, is much smaller than $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$ for all our jump protocols. The two times at which we evaluate the coherence length, $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$, are $t_1 = t_w$ and $t_2 = 2t_w$ (see Table I for a detailed explanation). In all cases, ζ is represented as a function of $\log_2(t_2 - t_1)$. See Supplementary Note III for more results on $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$. **On the inset**, we compare the behavior of $\zeta(t_1 = t_w, t_2 = 2t_w)$ and $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$. For *native* runs, the two lengths are approximately equal. Instead, for the jump protocols we show $1.8\zeta(t_1 = t_w, t_2 = 2t_w)$. Indeed, for $T_2 = 0.5$ only, and using an appropriate scaling factor of approximately 2, it is clear that $\zeta^{\text{jump}}(t_1 = t_w, t_2 = 2t_w)$ can be made to coincide with $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}^{\text{jump}}(t_w)$ (because these curves are approximately parallel in our logarithmic representation). For $T_2 = 0.7$ instead, see the solid red line in the inset, $\zeta^{\text{jump}}(t_1 = t_w, t_2 = t_w + t_w)$ can be rescaled to coincide with $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$ from the *native* protocol (dashed violet line), which differs from $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}^{\text{jump}}(t_w)$ (dashed red line). The largest length in this set, $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w) \approx 16$, corresponds to the jump-back protocol. Error bars are one standard deviation.

of this experimental finding is that the glassy domains at T_1 need to grow large enough as to remain mostly unaltered at the lower temperature T_2 .

Looking back, we understand as well why rejuvenation has been so difficult to find in simulations: the correlation lengths that could be reached prior to the Janus family of supercomputers were rather limited (we are referring here to the ξ_{micro} length scale). Therefore, Eq. (2) would demand an exceedingly large temperature jump $T_1 - T_2$ if one wants to have a large fraction of chaotic spheres of the relevant size.

An open question is whether or not the only experimentally accessible coherence length, namely $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$, relates to some correlation function under *all* circumstances. Indeed, in the case of native protocols, $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$ behaves analogously to $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$, which we know how to obtain from a microscopic correlation function. However, $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$ is not a valid proxy for $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$ in temperature-jump protocols. Fortunately, Fig. 3-inset, we achieve a step forward in this respect (but only if temperature chaos is strong enough). Indeed, if the condition in Eq. (2) is met, we have found that it is possible to rescale $\zeta(t_1 = t_w, t_2 = t_w + t_w)$ in such a way that it coincides with $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$, with a scaling factor in the

range between 1 and 2. In other words, we are extending to jump protocols the main result of [29] [because $\zeta(t_1 = t_w, t_2 = t_w + t_w)$ basically coincides with $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$ for native protocols]. Hence, our data suggest that ζ may help us to bridge in a more complete way the microscopic world, namely the correlation functions that we compute in a simulation, with the macroscopic world of the response to an external field (that is quantified by ξ_{Zeeman}).

Finally, we should also stress that the analysis of the rejuvenation and memory effects requires considering at least three different length scales, namely $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$, $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}(t_w)$, and $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$, which can be quite different from each other. Of course, one of the three, the domain size $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$, acts as a cut-off for the other lengths. Yet we have seen that $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$ is not nearly enough to describe the variety of behaviors that an aging system may present. In fact, $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$ has stayed essentially constant for all the jump simulations that we have considered here! Therefore, a useful theory of aging dynamics cannot feature just a single length scale. In this sense, we think that our work poses a new and significant question for the different theories of aging dynamics.

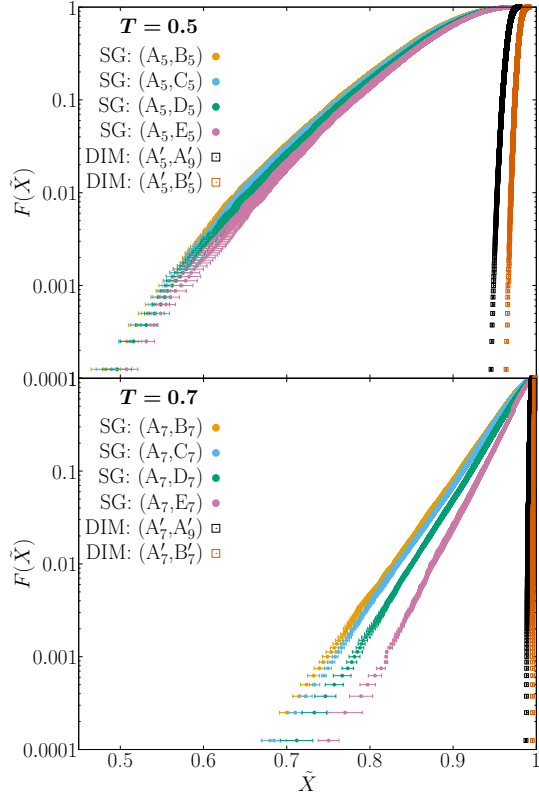


FIG. 4. **Strong temperature chaos correlates with full rejuvenation.** The figure shows the fraction of the spheres with radius $R = 5a_0$ that have a correlation parameter X smaller than \tilde{X} , $F(\tilde{X})$ (see **Methods**; the pairs of systems for which the correlation parameter X is computed are listed in Table II). In the **top** panel, one of the systems in the pair used to compute X is always taken from the native protocol at $T = 0.5$ ($T = 0.7$ for the **bottom** panel). In the cases reported in the top panel, the partner in the pair that undergoes the temperature-jump protocol experiences strong rejuvenation. Instead, recall Fig. 3–top, rejuvenation is only partial for the cases reported in the bottom panel. Interestingly enough, small correlation parameters appear with high probability in the top panel while they are very rare events in the bottom panel. We also show a comparison with the diluted Ising Model (our null experiment, see **Methods**), where temperature chaos is not expected. Indeed, in the absence of temperature chaos, the probability concentrates at $X \approx 1$. In all cases, error bars are one standard deviation.

	System	T	Type	Waiting time
A ₉	SG	0.9	NATIVE	$t_w^\downarrow = 2^{31.25}$
B ₉	SG	0.9	JUMP-BACK	$t_w^\downarrow + t_w^\uparrow + 2^{10}$
A ₅	SG	0.5	NATIVE	$t_w^\downarrow + 2^{31.25}$
B ₅	SG	0.5	JUMP	$t_w^\downarrow + 2^{10}$
C ₅	SG	0.5	JUMP	$t_w^\downarrow + 2^{15.625}$
D ₅	SG	0.5	JUMP	$t_w^\downarrow + 2^{23.5}$
E ₅	SG	0.5	JUMP	$t_w^\downarrow + 2^{31.25}$
A ₇	SG	0.7	NATIVE	$t_w^\downarrow + 2^{31.25}$
B ₇	SG	0.7	JUMP	$t_w^\downarrow + 2^{10}$
C ₇	SG	0.7	JUMP	$t_w^\downarrow + 2^{15.625}$
D ₇	SG	0.7	JUMP	$t_w^\downarrow + 2^{23.5}$
E ₇	SG	0.7	JUMP	$t_w^\downarrow + 2^{31.25}$
A' ₅	DIM	0.5	NATIVE	76
B' ₅	DIM	0.5	JUMP	430 + 69
A' ₇	DIM	0.7	NATIVE	197
B' ₇	DIM	0.7	JUMP	430 + 165
A' ₉	DIM	0.9	NATIVE	430

TABLE II. **Identifying parameters for each of the numerical simulations appearing in Figure 4.** Spin glass (SG) protocols follow the notation in Figure 1. T is the final temperature in the protocol. For the diluted Ising Model (DIM; see **Methods** for the DIM temperature-naming convention) we write explicitly $t_w^{(1)} + t_w^{(2)}$ for jump protocols to stress that the time before the jump (at $T = 0.9$), $t_w^{(1)}$, differs from the time $t_w^{(2)}$ at the final temperature. We choose $t_w^{(1)}$ such that ξ_{micro} coincides for both protocols in the pairs (A_5, A'_5) , (A_7, A'_7) and (A_9, A'_9) .

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Appendix A: Methods

The layout of this note is as follows. In Sect. A1 we describe our simulations. In Sect. A2 we define some quantities characteristic of the ZFC protocol. In fact, the magnetic field plays a crucial role in the determination of the Zeeman length scale, as we explain in Sect. A3. The other two spin-glass coherence lengths, ξ_{micro} and ζ , are computed as explained in Sect. A4. Finally, in Sect. A5 we explain our computation of the chaotic correlation parameter.

1. The models simulated

We performed massive simulations on the Janus II supercomputer [24] to study the three-dimensional Edwards-Anderson (EA) model on a cubic lattice with periodic boundary conditions and size $L = 160$ (in units of the lattice constant a_0). The main parameters describing our simulations are provided in Tab. I.

The $N = L^3$ Ising spins, $s_x = \pm 1$, interact with their lattice nearest neighbors in presence of a magnetic field (H) through the Hamiltonian:

$$\mathcal{H} = - \sum_{\langle x, y \rangle} J_{xy} s_x s_y - H \sum_x s_x, \quad (\text{A1})$$

where the couplings are independent, identically distributed random variables: $J_{xy} = \pm 1$, with 50% probability. The couplings are chosen at simulation start, and remain fixed (*quenched* disorder). A particular choice of the couplings is termed a *sample*. In the absence of an external magnetic field $H = 0$, this model undergoes a spin-glass transition at the critical temperature $T_g = 1.102(3)$ [13].

The off-equilibrium dynamics was simulated with a Metropolis algorithm. The numerical time unit is the lattice sweep, which roughly corresponds to 1 ps of physical time.

In this work we have simulated $N_s = 4$ samples using a lattice size of $L = 160 a_0$. For each of these samples and for each protocol (Tab. I in the main text) we have simulated $N_R = 512$ replicas (*i.e.*, independent simulations carried out for a given sample, following an identical protocol). We use replicas to

account for the thermal noise controlling the simulation (each replica is controlled by an independent realization of the thermal noise). The average over the thermal noise will be represented as $\langle \dots \rangle$. Only afterwards, we shall perform the average over samples, which will be indicated as $\overline{\langle \dots \rangle}$.

Some times, however, (most notably for the analysis in Sect. A3) final quantities are computed for a single sample (this is, of course, the approach followed in the laboratory). In these cases, the different samples allow us to assess to which extent our results depend on the disorder realization, see Supplementary Note I.

Besides, as a null experiment for temperature chaos, we have studied the link-diluted Ising model (DIM), also on cubic lattices of size $L = 160 a_0$ with periodic boundary conditions and using Metropolis dynamics. Specifically, we used the Hamiltonian in Eq. (A1) but with couplings $J_{xy} = 1$ (with 70% probability) or $J_{xy} = 0$ (with 30% probability) and magnetic field $H = 0$. Since all couplings are positive or zero, this is a ferromagnetic system without frustration, for which no temperature chaos is expected. The critical temperature for the DIM is $T_c = 3.0609(5)$ [46] (actually, this is twice the value reported in [46] due to our use of an Ising, rather than Potts, formulation). In fact, with some abuse of language, in the main text we refer to DIM temperatures as $T = 0.9$, $T = 0.7$ or 0.5 rather than to their actual values $T = 0.9 T_c / T_g$, $T = 0.7 T_c / T_g$ or $0.5 T_c / T_g$, where T_g is the critical temperature for the EA model. We follow the very same procedure, which is explained in Sect. A4a, to compute the coherence length ξ_{micro} for both the spin glass and the DIM. We have chosen times for the DIM such that ξ_{micro} coincides with the corresponding spin-glass value, namely $\xi_{\text{micro}} = 5.84$ (protocol A'5 in Table II in the main text), $\xi_{\text{micro}} = 10.11$ (protocol A'7) and $\xi_{\text{micro}} = 16.63$ (protocol A'9). Of course, the necessary times are extremely shorter for the DIM than for the spin glass. Given that DIM simulations were comparatively inexpensive, we simulated 16 samples (each with 512 replicas) for this model.

2. Some zero-field-cooled observables

As explained in the main text, our simulations are designed to mimic the experimental protocol named zero-field cooling (ZFC). In ZFC protocols, a sample initially in equilibrium at some very high temperature is cooled below T_g , always being kept at zero magnetic field. In the native protocols, the system is abruptly taken to the measuring temperature, where it is let to relax for a time t_w . The cooling process (always without a field) is more complex for our jump protocols, as depicted in Fig. 1 in the main text.

For both protocols, native or jump, we let the system relax for a time t_w at the final, measuring temperature. Then, the external magnetic field, H , is

switched on and we record the magnetic density

$$M_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \langle s_{\mathbf{x}}(t + t_w; H) \rangle, \quad (\text{A2})$$

which grows with t from its initial value $M = 0$ at $t = 0$. We also record the two-time autocorrelation function,

$$C_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \langle s_{\mathbf{x}}(t_w; 0) s_{\mathbf{x}}(t + t_w; H) \rangle. \quad (\text{A3})$$

Note that C_{ZFC} is a monotonically decreasing function of time and $C_{\text{ZFC}} = 1$ at $t = 0$.

3. Measurement of the Zeeman length through the scaling law of the effective times

The method introduced in Ref. [26] to measure the spin-glass coherence length experimentally has recently been refined. Indeed, the scaling law introduced in [9, 10] is a milestone for describing the magnetic response of a spin glass in both “lab experiments” and “numerical experiments”. We shall name ξ_{Zeeman} the length scale extracted using these methods.

In experiments on a single-crystal CuMn sample, the main quantity evaluated is the relaxation function $S_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H)$, which exhibits a local maximum at time $t_H^{\text{eff}} \approx t_w$. Hence, one focuses on the H dependence of t_H^{eff} . On the numerical side, we carry out massive numerical experiments spanning from picoseconds to tenths of a second on Janus II, from which we can also extract the t_H^{eff} . The numerical method proceeds as follows (see [9, 10] for a full discussion). One first changes variable by considering S_{ZFC} as a function of $C(t, t_w; H)$, recall Eq. (A3), rather than time. The peak is found at some $C_{\text{peak}}(t_w)$. Finally, t_H^{eff} is found by solving the equation $C(t_H^{\text{eff}}, t_w; H) = C_{\text{peak}}(t_w)$. A crucial advantage is that this equation can also be solved directly at $H = 0$.

The numerical $S_{\text{ZFC}}(t, t_w; H)$, however, shows two peaks: a t_w -independent peak at very short times, and a second, physically interesting peak at $t \sim t_w$. Unfortunately, in fixed-temperature simulations (*i.e.*, native protocols) with very short t_w , the two peaks cannot be resolved (see, for instance, bottom-left of Fig. 1). We have not attempted to extract ξ_{Zeeman} in native runs where the two peaks cannot be resolved. However, for the shortest jump protocol with $T_2 = 0.5$, namely $t_w = 2^{10}, 2^{15.625}$, we could borrow C_{peak} from the jump with the largest t_w (unfortunately, the same trick did not work for *native* runs, because important consistency checks [30] were not passed in this case).

From a phenomenological point of view, the effective time t_H^{eff} can be associated with the height of the largest free-energy barrier, Δ_{max} , through the usual Arrhenius law [26]

$$\Delta_{\text{max}} = k_B T (\log t_H^{\text{eff}} - \log \tau_0), \quad (\text{A4})$$

where τ_0 is a characteristic exchange time, $\tau_0 \sim \hbar/k_B T_g$. In an external magnetic field, the free-energy

barriers are lowered by the Zeeman energy E_Z [26]. For small magnetic field, E_Z behaves as:

$$E_Z = \xi_{\text{Zeeman}}^{D-\theta/2} \chi_{\text{FC}} H^2, \quad (\text{A5})$$

which defines ξ_{Zeeman} . χ_{FC} is the field-cooled magnetic susceptibility per spin, $\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}^{D-\theta/2}$ is the number of correlated spins, $D = 3$ is the spatial dimension and θ is the replicon exponent [29].

We slightly depart from the previous approach by exploiting a scaling theory. We use the effective time t_H^{eff} to reflect the total free-energy change at magnetic fields H and $H = 0^+$ [9, 10]:

$$\log \left[\frac{t_H^{\text{eff}}}{t_{H \rightarrow 0^+}^{\text{eff}}} \right] = \frac{\hat{S}}{2T} \xi_{\text{micro}}^{D-\theta/2} H^2 + \xi_{\text{micro}}^{-\theta/2} \mathcal{G}(T, \xi_{\text{micro}}^{D-\theta/2} H^2), \quad (\text{A6})$$

where \hat{S} is a constant coming from the fluctuation-dissipation relations and $\mathcal{G}(x)$ is a scaling function behaving as $\mathcal{G}(x) \sim x^2$ for small $x = \xi_{\text{micro}}^{D-\theta/2} H^2$. For small-enough magnetic fields [$H \leq 0.017$], we can neglect the $\mathcal{O}(H^4)$ terms in Eq. (A6):

$$\log \left[\frac{t_H^{\text{eff}}}{t_{H \rightarrow 0^+}^{\text{eff}}} \right] = c_2(t_w; T) H^2, \quad (\text{A7})$$

where we have included all the constants in the $c_2(t_w; T)$ coefficient.

Thus, fitting our data according to Eq. (A7), we can define the *Zeeman* coherence length ξ_{Zeeman} as

$$\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}^{\text{jump}}(t_w, T_1 \rightarrow T_m) = \left[\frac{c_2(t_w, T_1 \rightarrow T_m)}{c_2(t_w^*, T_m)} \right]^{1/(D-\theta/2)} \xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w^*; T_m), \quad (\text{A8})$$

$$\xi_{\text{Zeeman}}^{\text{native}}(t_w, T_m) = \left[\frac{c_2(t_w, T_m)}{c_2(t_w^*, T_m)} \right]^{1/(D-\theta/2)} \xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w^*; T_m). \quad (\text{A9})$$

where $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w^*; T_m)$ plays the role of a reference length [the reference length allows us to avoid the precise determination of constants in Eq. (A7)]. The reference time t_w^* is the longest available waiting time for our *native* runs at the measuring temperature T_m . For the sake of clarity, we omit in Eqs. (A8) and (A9) the explicit dependence of θ on ξ_{micro} (which is dealt with as explained in Ref. [7]).

4. Numerical coherence lengths ξ_{micro} and ζ

In this paragraph, we shall consider two more length scales. One of them, ξ_{micro} , is computed from the correlation function for the spin-glass order parameter (hence, ξ_{micro} tells us about the size of the glassy domains). The second length scale, $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$, tells us about how the system reorganizes itself when going from the earlier time t_1 to the later time t_2 .

a. The computation of ξ_{micro}

For the reader's convenience, let us recall the definition of the spatial autocorrelation function that we use for computing $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t_w)$ [41]

$$C_4(\mathbf{r}, t'; T) = \overline{\langle q^{(a,b)}(\mathbf{x}, t') q^{(a,b)}(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}, t') \rangle_T}, \quad (\text{A10})$$

$$q^{(a,b)}(\mathbf{x}, t') \equiv \sigma^{(a)}(\mathbf{x}, t') \sigma^{(b)}(\mathbf{x}, t'), \quad (\text{A11})$$

where $t' = t_w + t$, the indices (a, b) label different real replicas and $\langle \cdots \rangle_T$ stands for the average over the thermal noise at temperature T .

The calculation of the correlation function is computationally costly since we have $N_R(N_R - 1)/2$ possible choices of the pair of replicas. Fortunately, it can be accelerated using the specific multispin coding methods explained in Ref. [48].

Once we have $C_4(\mathbf{r}, t'; T)$, we compute the integrals [27, 28, 41]:

$$I_k(t'; T) = \int_0^\infty d^3r \, r^k C_4(\mathbf{r} = (r, 0, 0), t'; T). \quad (\text{A12})$$

A coherence length can be computed as

$$\xi_{k,k+1}(t', T) = \frac{I_{k+1}(t', T)}{I_k(t', T)}. \quad (\text{A13})$$

We define $\xi_{\text{micro}}(t, t_w; H) = \xi_{12}(t, t_w; H)$.

b. The ζ length scale

This length scale was studied in details in Ref. [41] by refining earlier suggestions [42, 43].

Let us consider the thermal trajectory followed by a given replica at the two times $t_1 < t_2$. Our basic quantity will be the local correlation

$$c_{\mathbf{x}}(t_1, t_2) = s_{\mathbf{x}}(t_2) s_{\mathbf{x}}(t_1). \quad (\text{A14})$$

Note that $c_{\mathbf{x}}(t_1, t_2) = -1$ if the spin at site \mathbf{x} has been flipped when going from time t_1 to time t_2 [otherwise, $c_{\mathbf{x}}(t_1, t_2) = 1$]. Then, the two-time, two-site correlation function is

$$C_{2+2}(\mathbf{r}, t_1, t_2) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} [\overline{\langle c_{\mathbf{x}}(t_1, t_2) c_{\mathbf{x}+\mathbf{r}}(t_1, t_2) \rangle} - \overline{C^2(t_1, t_2)}], \quad (\text{A15})$$

where

$$C(t_1, t_2) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \langle c_{\mathbf{x}}(t_1, t_2) \rangle. \quad (\text{A16})$$

The *ideal* $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$ is defined from the long-distance decay of $C_{2+2}(\mathbf{r}, t, t_w)$:

$$C_{2+2}(\mathbf{r}, t_1, t_2) \sim \frac{1}{r^b} g(r/\zeta(t_1, t_2)), \quad (\text{A17})$$

where g is an unknown scaling function. We bypass our lack of knowledge of g exactly as we solved this problem for ξ_{micro} : by using integral estimators, recall Eq. (A13). Note that, by construction, $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$ tends to zero when t_2 approaches t_1 . Conversely, we expect $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$ to grow with the later time t_2 .

As for the interpretation of the length scale ζ , an analogy with the theory of liquids is of help. We name a *defect* a site where $c_{\mathbf{x}}(t_1, t_2) = -1$. Let $n(t_1, t_2)$ be the density of defects [$C(t_1, t_2) = 1 - 2n(t_1, t_2)$] and let $g(\mathbf{r})$ be the pair-correlation function for defects: The conditional probability for having a defect at site $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}$, given that a defect is present at site \mathbf{x} , is $n(t_1, t_2)g(\mathbf{r})$ (so that, at long distances, $g(\mathbf{r})$ tends to one). Given these definitions, one easily finds that

$$C_{2+2}(\mathbf{r}, t_1, t_2) = 4 \overline{n^2(t_1, t_2)} [g(\mathbf{r}) - 1]. \quad (\text{A18})$$

In other words, ζ is the length scale on which defects are correlated. Only when $\zeta(t_2, t_1) \approx \xi_{\text{micro}}(t_1)$ does the configuration at time t_2 start to differ *structurally* from the configuration at the earlier time t_1 .

Finally, let us mention that a length analogous to $\zeta(t_1, t_2)$ can be obtained with the analysis tools of temperature chaos, see Supplementary Note IV.

5. Computation of the chaotic parameter

As we explained in the main text, our goal here is to introduce a correlation parameter that will allow us to compare two different thermal protocols. This comparison should necessarily be local in space. We adapt to that end the procedure introduced in Ref. [38].

Specifically, we select $N_{\text{sph}} = 8000$ spheres of radius R randomly chosen inside the system and centered at the central points of the elementary cells of the cubic lattice. Now, let us consider two identical systems that are subjected to two different thermal protocols, which we may name protocols A_1 and A_2 . Next one performs a set of independent simulations (*i.e.*, *replicas*) for protocol A_1 , and another set of independent simulations for protocol A_2 . Then, the correlation coefficient for protocols A_1 and A_2 as computed on the k -th sphere of radius R is defined as

$$X_{A_1, A_2}^{k, R} = \frac{\langle [q_{A_1, A_2}^{k, R}]^2 \rangle_T}{\sqrt{\langle [q_{A_1, A_1}^{k, R}]^2 \rangle_T \langle [q_{A_2, A_2}^{k, R}]^2 \rangle_T}}. \quad (\text{A19})$$

In the above expression, $q_{A_1, A_2}^{k, R}$ is the overlap between two replicas σ and τ that have undergone thermal protocols A_1 and A_2 respectively

$$q_{A_1, A_2}^{k, R} = \frac{1}{N_r} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in B_R^k} s_{\mathbf{x}}^{\sigma, A_1} s_{\mathbf{x}}^{\tau, A_2}, \quad (\text{A20})$$

where N_R is the number of spins within the k -th sphere B_R^k of radius R .

The interpretation of the chaotic parameter is very similar to a correlation coefficient: if $X_{A_1, A_2}^{k, R} = 1$, spin

configurations from thermal protocols A_1 and A_2 are completely indistinguishable inside the sphere B_R^k (absence of chaos). Instead, $X_{A_1, A_2}^{k, R} = 0$ corresponds to completely different configurations, which is an extremely chaotic situation.

The reader may notice from Eq. (A19) that the computation of $X_{A_1, A_2}^{k, R}$ involves an exact thermal expectation value (which could be obtained in simulations only if one had simulated an infinite number of replicas). Unfortunately, we only have $N_R^{\max} = 512$ replicas at our disposal. Our choice has been to produce different estimates of $X_{A_1, A_2, N_R}^{k, R}$ by varying N_R . Specifically, our procedure has been the following:

1. For each $N_R < N_R^{\max}$ we randomly order the N_R^{\max} replicas and divide them in N_R^{\max}/N_R groups of N_R replicas.
2. In this way, we get N_R^{\max}/N_R independent estimates of $X_{A_1, A_2, N_R}^{k, R}$.
3. In order to erase the effect of the initial permutation of the N_R^{\max} replicas, we repeat this procedure 10 times for all $N_R < N_R^{\max}$.

In a nutshell, for every sphere of radius R we obtain $N_{\text{thermal}}(N_R)$ estimates of $X_{A_1, A_2, N_R}^{k, r}$ where

$$N_{\text{thermal}}(N_R < N_R^{\max}) = 10 \times \frac{N_R^{\max}}{N_R}, \quad (\text{A21})$$

or

$$N_{\text{thermal}}(N_R = N_R^{\max}) = 1. \quad (\text{A22})$$

We average the N_{thermal} estimates of $X_{A_1, A_2, N_R}^{k, R}$ for every N_R and finally, in a complete analogy with Ref. [38], we compute the extrapolation of the chaotic parameter to an infinite number of replicas by means of a simple linear extrapolation

$$X_{A_1, A_2, N_R}^{k, R} = X_{A_1, A_2, \infty}^{k, R} + \frac{A_{A_1, A_2}^{k, R}}{N_R}, \quad (\text{A23})$$

where $X_{A_1, A_2, \infty}^{k, R}$ is our best estimation of $X_{A_1, A_2}^{k, R}$. More complicated extrapolations do not seem to present advantages (see SI in [38]).

Finally, in order to explore the statistical information carried by the $N_{\text{sph}} = 8000$ spheres, we define the distribution function

$$F(\tilde{X}, A_1, A_2, R) = \text{Probability}[X_{A_1, A_2}^{k, R} < \tilde{X}]. \quad (\text{A24})$$

Some examples of this distribution function are displayed in Fig. 4 in the main text.

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Author contributions

D.I. and A.T. contributed to the design of the Janus II project. J.M.G.-N. and D.N. contributed Janus II/Janus simulation software. M.B.-J., E.C., A.C., L.A.F., J.M.G.-N., I.G.-A.P., A.G.-G., D.I., A.M., A.M.-S., I.P., S.P.-G., S.F.S. and A.T. contributed to Janus II hardware and software development. L.A.F., E.M., V.M.-M. and I.P. suggested undertaking this project. L.A.F., E.M., V.M.-M., I.-P., F.R.-T. and J.J. R.-L. designed the research. J.M.-G. and I.P. analyzed the data. M.B.-J., L.A.F., E.M., V.M.-M., J.M.-G., I.P., G.P., B.S., J.J.R.-L., F.R.-T. and D.Y. discussed the results. L.A.F., E.M., V.M.-M., J.M.-G., I.P., J.J.R.-L., B.S., F.R.-T. and D.Y. wrote the paper.

Data availability

The data contained in the figures of this paper, accompanied by the gnuplot script files that generate these figures, are publicly available at https://github.com/janusII/Rejuvenation_memory.git. The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

Code availability

The codes that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.