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Functional renormalization for disordered systems. Basic recipes and gourmet dishes. (English summary)

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The paper provides an introductory review of the so-called functional renormalization group for disordered systems. The systems are described by a Hamiltonian $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_{\text{el}} + \mathcal{H}_{\text{DO}}$ containing, besides the elastic energy term

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{el}}[u] = \frac{1}{2} \int dx (\nabla u(x))^2,$$

with $x \in \mathbf{R}^d$ and the displacement field $u \in \mathbf{R}^N$, a disorder term

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{DO}}[u] = \int dx V(x, u(x)),$$

identified by the disorder distribution function $R(u)$ such that the correlation is given by

$$\overline{V(x, u) V(x', u')} = \delta(x - x') R(u - u').$$

The renormalization group leads to a flow equation for the function R , which is computed up to 1-loop or 2-loop order approximation. After a finite renormalization, non-analyticity phenomena (formation of a cusp) occur. The authors also discuss how to measure non-analyticity in simulations and experiments. *Guido Gentile*

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Note: This list reflects references listed in the original paper as accurately as possible with no attempt to correct errors.