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|| सा विद्या या विमुक्ति ||

भगवान स्वामीनारायण नी कृपा भी अने परम पुल्ला प्रमुख स्वामी महाराज ना आशीर्वाद भी
for my daughter, Priyena
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Abstract

Our aim is to investigate the critical behaviour of lattice spin models such as the three-dimensional Ising model in the thermodynamic limit. The exact partition functions (typically summed over the order of $10^{75}$ states) for finite simple cubic Ising lattices are computed using a transfer matrix approach. Q-state Potts model partition functions on two- and three-dimensional lattices are also computed and analysed. Our results are analysed as distributions of zeros of the partition function in the complex-temperature plane. We then look at sequences of such distributions for sequences of lattices approaching the thermodynamic limit. For a controlled comparison, we show how a sequence of zero distributions for finite 2d Ising lattices tends to Onsager’s thermodynamic solution. Via such comparisons, we find evidence to suggest, for example, a thermodynamic limit singular point in the behaviour of the specific heat of the 3d Ising model.
Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Physics background

This thesis is a study of the analytic properties of certain models of co-operative phenomena (cf. [102, 89, 57]). A physical system exhibits a co-operative phenomenon if there is a coherent relationship between its microscopic constituents leading to macroscopic properties.

A ferromagnet [79, §7.3] is an example of such a system, as there is a coherent relationship between its magnetic dipoles leading to a bulk magnetisation [49].

[1.1] To compare macroscopic properties of a physical system we categorise the system state into phases [7]. For example, at low (high) temperature a ferromagnet is said to be in a ferromagnetic (paramagnetic) phase, if it has (does not have) a bulk magnetisation. We can move from one phase to another by adjusting its temperature $T$ (the mechanism for this will be discussed later). We shall only focus on systems (such as the ferromagnet) where phase changes only occur at a definite point. The point at which the phases co-exist is known as the critical point. At the critical point the system is said to be undergoing a phase transition [89, 27].

Physical experiments on a system can tell us what its critical point is. For example, a well known critical point is the Curie temperature $T_c$ (where $T_c = 1043 K$ for iron [11, §1.1]), at which spontaneous magnetisation [5] vanishes (cf. Baxter (1982) [9, §1.1]). See Binney et al (1992) [11, §1.6] and references therein for several other examples.

[1.2] The Curie temperature categorises a ferromagnet as being in: the disordered (paramagnetic) phase when $T > T_c$; the ordered (ferromagnetic) phase when $T < T_c$; and a phase transition when $T = T_c$.

We describe this transition (known as the order/disorder transition) as follows [37]. In the ferromagnetic phase, magnetic dipoles are not randomly orientated but are aligned parallel (even in the absence of an external field) to give a net magnetisation. This is known as spontaneous magnetisation. Here we denote the net magnetisation by $M$. As $T$ is increased\(^1\) (ie. by adding heat energy to the system) the orientation of one or more dipoles may fluctuate and become unaligned.

\(^1\)We ignore any dynamical questions (such as the changes in kinetic energy) that may arise.
from the ordered state. As a result $M$ will decrease. Then at $T = T_c$ we see that $M$ suddenly drops to zero, and remains zero for all $T > T_c$. The magnet has changed to the paramagnetic phase.

We use statistical mechanics to investigate phenomena such as the Curie point phase transition.

### 1.1.1 Statistical Mechanics

Classic mechanical theory does well in following a particle through a force field [7]. It even extends to a many-body system [53, §11]. However, there are typically $6 \times 10^{23}$ (Avogadro’s number) particles [13] in a real world system. Using Newtonian mechanics on this scale would be impossible computationally. On the other hand, thermodynamics [16, 40] is a theory used to observe data for systems on a macroscopic scale. This theory gives results on a macroscopic level, and yet fails to answer how transitions occur between phases [91].

[1.3] Statistical mechanics [9, 40, 44, 67, 69] is a theory that attempts to “bridge” the gap between microscopic entities and macroscopic observables. It attempts to predict the macroscopic behaviour of a physical system (or process), by analysing its microscopic components.

In this thesis, we focus on equilibrium statistical mechanics [44]. When the state of the system is independent of time we say the system is in equilibrium [20]. As an example, consider a hot cup of coffee in a room. As the coffee cools it is not in equilibrium. However when it is at room temperature, the coffee will have the same temperature regardless of whether we observe it over a few minutes or over a few hours. Here we say the system is in equilibrium.

As real world systems/phenomena are far too complex to accurately investigate mathematically, a simplistic model that extracts only the essential features is employed [50]. The aim of this model is to predict the results of an unobserved (but suitably nearby) regime. In this thesis, we shall use a Potts model [83] (Section 1.1.4). See Baxter (1982) [9] for examples of other statistical mechanics models.

In the next section we introduce a function that relates macroscopic observables and microscopic states.

### 1.1.2 Partition functions

In statistical mechanics, the partition function $Z$, is a function that relates the temperature (a thermodynamic quantity) of a system to its microscopic states. There are several types of partition functions, each associated with a type of statistical ensemble (or a type of free energy) [13]. Here we study the canonical ensemble, a system in which heat is exchanged in an environment where temperature, volume and the number of particles is fixed.

At time instance $t$, the energy of a system will depend on the position and velocity of all atoms in the system. Instead of trying to determine each individual molecule’s position and velocity at any $t$, all possible instances are calculated. These are known as microscopic states. Further, we use $\Omega$ as the set of all possible microstates.
Definition 1.1.1. The partition function is then defined as

\[ Z(T) = \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} e^{-H(\sigma)/k_B T} \] (1.1.1)

where \( T \) is the absolute temperature and \( k_B \) is Boltzmann’s constant \((k_B \approx 1.3807 \times 10^{-23} \text{J/K})\).

Note it is convenient to let

\[ \beta = 1/k_B T. \] (1.1.2)

The energy function \( H \), is tailored to fit the desired phenomenon, where

\[ H : \Omega \to \mathbb{R} \] (1.1.3)

associates a real energy value to each state. This function is generally referred to as the Hamiltonian.

The Hamiltonian is explicitly defined in Sections 1.1.4 and 1.2.1, for the Potts model and Ising model respectively. For these models, we assume that only the orientation of magnetic dipole pairs contribute to the energy of the system, whilst all other dynamic components of the system are fixed. Quite simply \( H \) depends on nearest neighbour interactions and the relative orientation of the atoms. Any kinetic energy due to orientation variation is enclosed in \( \beta \) and considered negligible.

In the next section, we see that the partition function is merely a normalising constant (cf. [44, §1.3]). However, it contains all the information we need to work out particular thermodynamical properties of a system. That is, thermodynamic quantities such as internal energy, specific heat, and spontaneous magnetisation can be calculated from the log derivatives of the partition function.

1.1.3 Observables

An observable, denoted \( O \), is a measurable property of a physical system. The general idea is to observe the value of the property over repeated experiments, identify certain regularities and then express the observable as a theoretical law. The law is then used to predict future (nearby) observable events.

At any time instance, the probability of finding the system in state \( \sigma \), at temperature \( \beta \) is

\[ P(\sigma) = \frac{\exp(\beta H(\sigma))}{Z}; \] (1.1.4)

recall Definition 1.1.1 for the definition of the variables \( \beta, H \) and \( Z \). An expectation value is a thermal average

\[ \langle O \rangle := \frac{\sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} O(\sigma)e^{\beta H(\sigma)}}{Z}. \] (1.1.5)

The variance is a measure of how volatile the system is around the expectation, and is given by

\[ \langle O^2 \rangle - \langle O \rangle^2. \] (1.1.6)
The Helmholtz free energy $F$ (c.f [16]) of a system, which may be obtained from the partition function, is of the form

$$F = -k_B T \ln Z.$$  \hfill (1.1.7)

Many thermodynamic quantities (such as the internal energy, specific heat, and spontaneous magnetisation [52]) can then be calculated from suitable derivatives of Equation (1.1.7). Note, we shall use partial derivatives as $F$ will depend on several variables.

The specific heat $C_V$ is defined in terms of the heat $Q$ required to change the temperature by $\delta T$ of a mass $m$. It is simply expressed as $Q = mC_V \delta T$, where $C_V$ depends on the material being heated. For an infinitesimal temperature change $dT$ and a corresponding quantity of heat $dQ$, we then have

$$dQ = mC_V dT.$$  \hfill (1.1.8)

The specific heat can now be written as

$$C_V = \frac{1}{m} \frac{dQ}{dT}. \hfill (1.1.9)$$

For our studies on phase transitions, we are not concerned with the specific heat of any material in particular, but with the changes in $C_V$, at certain changes in $T$.

The internal energy $\langle H \rangle$ of a system can now be derived from the log derivative of the partition function. That is

$$\frac{\partial \ln(Z)}{\partial \beta} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \ln \left( \sum_{\Omega} e^{\beta H} \right) = \frac{\sum_{\Omega} He^{\beta H}}{\sum_{\Omega} e^{\beta H}} = \langle H \rangle. \hfill (1.1.10)$$

The specific heat $C_V$ is given by the second log differential of the partition function as follows:

$$C_V = \frac{\partial^2 \ln(Z)}{\partial \beta^2}$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left( \frac{\partial \ln(Z)}{\partial \beta} \right)$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left( \frac{\sum_{\Omega} He^{\beta H}}{\sum_{\Omega} e^{\beta H}} \right)$$

$$= \frac{\left( \sum_{\Omega} e^{\beta H} \right) \cdot \left( \sum_{\Omega} H^2 e^{\beta H} \right) - \left( \sum_{\Omega} He^{\beta H} \right)^2}{\left( \sum_{\Omega} e^{\beta H} \right)^2}$$

$$= \left( \frac{\sum_{\Omega} H^2 e^{\beta H}}{\sum_{\Omega} e^{\beta H}} \right) - \left( \frac{\sum_{\Omega} He^{\beta H}}{\sum_{\Omega} e^{\beta H}} \right)^2$$

$$= \langle H^2 \rangle - \langle H \rangle^2. \hfill (1.1.11)$$

We refer the reader to Huang (1987) [40], for the further derivations of observables such as pressure, spontaneous magnetisation, and entropy.
1.1.4 Potts models

In this thesis, we shall only model the atomic structure of crystalline ferromagnets [71]. A crystalline solid is essentially a solid in which atoms are physically spaced in a regular three-dimensional array. That is, we may think of a magnet as a set of magnetic dipoles residing on the sites of a crystal lattice [33], that are able to exchange energy between themselves.

Our objective is to study interacting systems such as a ferromagnet and investigate its critical behaviour. A “lattice spin system” is used to model specific aspects of a magnet’s behaviour under certain conditions [50] (i.e. it may aid our understanding of certain co-operate phenomena such as the Curie point phase transitions).

The orientation of a magnetic dipole can be modelled by a variable known as a “spin”. We place a spin on each site of the lattice. The set of interacting spins on a lattice is known as a lattice spin system [50]. Note that interactions tend only to be significant for nearest neighbour spins; anything further away and the interaction energy tends to be negligible.

The Potts model [83] is regarded as a model of a lattice spin system. Consider a lattice $L$ with $N$ sites. Associate a spin variable to each site on $L$, where each spin can take $Q$ values, say $1, 2, \ldots, Q$. Physically this could represent the orientation of a magnetic dipole sitting on a crystal lattice. As dipole interactions tend to be short range, we restrict the model’s Hamiltonian $H$ to include only spin-to-spin nearest neighbour interactions.

Define $\Omega$ as the set of all possible spin states. Each element of $\Omega$ assigns a state (from $Q$ possibilities) to each spin. Specifically, if there are $N$ spins, then there are $Q^N$ possible states of the system in total (i.e. $Q^N = |\Omega|$).

The Hamiltonian (see (1.1.3)) is now explicitly defined as

$$H(\sigma) = -\epsilon \sum_{<ij>} \delta_{\sigma_i, \sigma_j}, \quad (1.1.12)$$

where: $\sigma \in \Omega$ is the state of the system; $\sigma_i$ is the value of the spin on site $i$ of the lattice; $\epsilon$ is the interaction energy between nearest neighbour spins; the summation is over all nearest neighbour spins (denoted $< ij >$); and

$$\delta_{\sigma_i, \sigma_j} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \sigma_i = \sigma_j \\ 0, & \text{if } \sigma_i \neq \sigma_j \end{cases} \quad (1.1.13)$$

The partition function for the $Q$-state Potts model is then defined as

$$Z = \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} e^{-\beta H(\sigma)}, \quad (1.1.14)$$

where $\Omega$ is the set of all possible spin configurations and $\beta = 1/k_B T$. Specifically $T$ is the temperature, and $k_B$ is Boltzmann’s constant.

The Potts model has helped enhance our understanding of the general theory of critical phenomena [29, 99, 100], and it can be applied to model a wide range of physical systems (cf. [49]). In the next section, we introduce the Ising model, which is a special case of the Potts model.
1.2 Known results

1.2.1 Two-dimensional Ising model

The Potts model is a generalisation of a simple model of ferromagnetism called the Ising model [55]. The Ising model is the $Q = 2$-state Potts Model. One of the most important discoveries in the field of statistical mechanics is Onsager’s solution [78] of the 2d Ising model in a zero magnetic field. Onsager’s solution is too complex to interpret for the context of this thesis. Instead we use a simplification of his result, as derived by Martin [61, §2]. The proof of the solution is presented in Appendix A.

Many models in statistical mechanics can be regarded as a special case of the general Ising model (cf. [9]). The Ising model is a mathematical model of a physical ferromagnetic substance. The Hamiltonian for the Ising model is

$$H(\sigma) = -\epsilon \sum_{<ij>} \sigma_i \sigma_j - \mu \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sigma_i, \quad (1.2.1)$$

where: constants $\epsilon$ and $\mu$ are the interaction energy and external magnetic fields respectively; $\sigma_i$ is a spin on a site $i$ of a lattice with $N$ sites; and the sum is over all nearest neighbours $<ij>$. Note each $\sigma_i$ only takes values $\pm 1$, which are usually referred to as “up”, “down” states.

In his PhD Thesis [41] Ernest Ising solved the one dimensional Ising model and found that it is not capable of modelling a phase transition. He also assumed that this was true in the case of higher dimensions [42]. In 1936, Peierls [82] put forward a simple argument that the two dimensional Ising model is indeed capable of exhibiting a phase transition. This led to an influx of further study in the field [15].

Peierls considered the two dimensional Ising model [70] at zero temperature in thermal equilibrium. At low temperature the majority of spins are aligned, that is they hold the same value, and the model is said to be in an ordered phase. At high temperature the majority of spins are not aligned, and the model is said to be in a disordered phase. Suppose we increase (decrease) the temperature of the model in the ordered (disordered) phase. Then a few spins may gain (lose) energy and flip (align). However, overall, we would still consider the model to be in an ordered (disordered) state.

Now as we continue to increase (decrease) the temperature, so many spins will have flipped (aligned) that the model is now be considered to have changed phase and is considered mostly disordered (ordered). However, there must exist some temperature at which the model is considered to be both states. This point is known the critical temperature $T_c$ of the Ising model.

With appropriate boundary conditions the solution of the 2d Ising model in a zero magnetic field on a $n \times m$ square lattice may be written in the terms of the product

$$Z_{mn} = \prod_{r=1}^{m} \prod_{s=1}^{n} \left\{ 1 - \frac{1}{2} K \left( \cos \frac{2\pi r}{m} + \cos \frac{2\pi s}{n} \right) \right\}, \quad (1.2.2)$$

where

$$K = \frac{\exp(-2\beta) \{1 - \exp(-4\beta)\}}{\{1 + \exp(-4\beta)\}^2} \quad (1.2.3)$$

6
The specific heat $C_V$, for Onsager’s exact solution near the critical temperature $\beta_c = \sqrt{2} + 1$ is \cite{40},

$$\frac{1}{k_B}C_V \approx \frac{8\beta_c^2}{\pi} \left[ -\log \left| 1 - \frac{\beta}{\beta_c} \right| + \log \left| \frac{1}{2\beta_c} \right| - \left( 1 + \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \right] \quad (1.2.4)$$

A plot of Equation (1.2.4) is shown in Figure 1.1.

![Figure 1.1: Specific heat of the two dimensional Ising model](image)

**1.2.2 Perturbation expansions**

Perturbation expansion is a mathematical method used to approximate the solution of a problem that cannot be solved exactly \cite{50, 9}. In the absence of exact solutions to problems such as the Potts model, we can find certain terms of the partition function and estimate certain expectation values. For instance, Guttman and Enting \cite{35} found a series for the free energy of the $Q = 3$-state Potts model to around 40 terms.

Kramers and Wannier \cite{51} used duality (discussed in detail in the next section) and perturbation expansion to find the exact critical temperature of the 2d Ising model. Here we use their method to explain perturbation expansions. We focus on the 2d square lattice, but the method can be applied to any multi-dimensional lattice.

Recall, the partition function $Z(T)$ (1.1.1), and the Ising model Hamiltonian $H$ (1.2.1). Note, with reference to Equation (1.2.1), we fix $M = 0$, $\epsilon = 1$ and then expand the R.H.S.

Consider the model at low temperature $K$, on a 2d lattice with $N$ sites. Suppose all spins are pointing in the same direction. That is, either all up or all down (see Figure 1.2(a) for example). Then, with periodic boundary conditions, we have $H = -2N$, and the largest term in the series is $2e^{2NK}$ (cf. Appendix C for further details).

Now if we flip any spin on the lattice (see Figure 1.2(b) for example), then four of the interactions change from -1 to +1. There are $2N$ possible states where one spin points down and the rest are
up (or vice versa). Thus the next term is $2Ne^{(2N-8)K}$.

The next term has $4N$ states when two adjacent spins are down and the rest are up (or vice versa), see Figure 1.2(c). The change in the Hamiltonian from all up (or all down) is $-12$.

Figures 1.2(d)-(f), all have the same Hamiltonian value. This is a combination of: two non-adjacent spins (Figure 1.2(d)); four adjacent spins forming a square (Figure 1.2(e)); or any three adjacent spins (Figure 1.2(f)).

The partition function for the $K$ expansion is

$$Z(K) = 2e^{2NK} + 2Ne^{(2N-8)K} + 4Ne^{(2N-12)K} + N(N-5)e^{(2N-16)K} + \ldots$$

(1.2.5)

$$= 2e^{2NK}(1 + Ne^{-8K} + 2Ne^{-12K} + \frac{1}{2}N(N-5)e^{-16K} + \ldots)$$

(1.2.6)

$$= 2e^{2NK} P(e^{-2K}).$$

(1.2.7)

where $P$ is a polynomial.

In a similar manner, we now consider the expansion at high temperature $K^*$. This time every spin is pointing in the opposite direction to its nearest neighbours, see Figure 1.3(a). The leading term in this case is $2e^{-2NK^*}$. Then in a similar manner to the low temperature expansion, by changing suitable spins we find the next few terms, Figure 1.3(b)-(f).
Figure 1.3: Showing the high temperature expansion for part of a 2d lattice. Full circles denote spins pointing up, and open circles are spins pointing down.

The partition function for the $K^*$ expansion is

$$Z(K^*) = 2e^{-2NK^*}(1 + Ne^{8K^*} + 2Ne^{12K^*} + \frac{1}{2}N(N - 5)e^{16K^*} + \ldots)$$  \hspace{1cm} (1.2.8)

Note this series does not converge. However, we can write $Z(K^*)$ in terms of tanh. That is, as $\sigma_i\sigma_j = \pm 1$, then we can use the identity

$$\exp(\beta\sigma_i\sigma_j) = \cosh(\beta) + \sigma_i\sigma_j\sinh(\beta) = \cosh(\beta)(1 + \sigma_i\sigma_j \tanh(\beta)),$$ \hspace{1cm} (1.2.9)

to write $Z(K^*)$ as

$$Z(K^*) = 2^N \cosh(K^*)^{2N}(1 + N \tanh(K^*))^4 + 2N \tanh(K^*)^6 + \ldots$$ \hspace{1cm} (1.2.10)

$$= 2^N \cosh(K^*)^{2N}P(\tanh(K^*)).$$ \hspace{1cm} (1.2.11)

Note, the derivation of this expansion is explained in the next section (specifically, Equation (1.2.24)). But for now, the graphical explanation of the low-temperature and high-temperature expansions should make the correspondence between the two clear, ie. $P(e^{-2K}) = P(\tanh K^*)$ [50]. To justify this relationship, suppose we let

$$e^{-2K} = \tanh(K^*).$$ \hspace{1cm} (1.2.12)
Then, we write Equation (1.2.7) as

\[
Z(K) = 2 \tanh(K^*)^{-N} P(\tanh(K^*)) \\
= 2 \tanh(K^*)^{-N} [2^{-N} \cosh(K^*)^{-2N} Z(K^*)] \\
= 2 (2 \sinh(K^*) \cosh(K^*))^{-N} Z(K^*) \\
= 2 \sinh(2K^*)^{-N} Z(K^*)
\]

(1.2.13)

**[1.7]** The free energy density \( f \) (cf. [64]), is

\[
f = -k_B T \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{1}{N} \ln(Z),
\]

where \( N \) is the number of spins. By Peierls argument (paragraph [1.6]) there exists a temperature \( \beta_c \), where \( K = K^* = \beta_c \) and

\[
-k_B T \lim_{N \to \infty} \left( \frac{1}{N} \ln Z(K) \right) = -k_B T \lim_{N \to \infty} \left( \frac{1}{N} \ln Z(K^*) \right) + kT \ln(\sinh(2\beta_c)).
\]

Thus, the critical temperature of the 2d Ising model is when

\[
\sinh(2\beta_c) = 1,
\]

thus

\[
\beta_c = \frac{1}{2} \ln(1 + \sqrt{2}).
\]

### 1.2.3 Duality

We can use duality to pass information we know about one model to its “dual” model (as we shall see later). This is quite a powerful tool, as we show that certain properties of a model, that may not manifest too easily on one may do so on its dual [9, 74]. For example, Figure 1.4 is a planar representation of a triangular lattice and its dual honeycomb lattice. (See Baxter [9, §6, §12] for a detailed example of this duality transformation.)

Duality transformations can be generalised to \( d \)-dimensional simple hypercubic lattices [36]. For example, Savit [86] shows that the 3d Ising model is dual to a lattice gauge model. See Martin [60] for an example of this duality transformation.

Kramers and Wannier [51] showed that the 2d Ising model is *self-dual*. That is, the 2d Ising model can be expressed as another 2d Ising model. They used duality to determine the critical temperature for the 2d Ising model in a zero magnetic field (detailed in Section 1.2.2).

### 2d Ising model duality

Here we demonstrate how duality works for the 2d \( Q = 2 \) (Ising) Potts model. To begin, we recall some graph notation [25]. Let \( \mathcal{G} \) be a planar graph. We define a dual graph \( \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{G}) \), of a plane-embedded graph \( \mathcal{G} \). We can then rewrite the partition function \( Z \), on a lattice \( \mathcal{L} \), from Equation (1.1.14) in a form that allows us to write a duality transformation between the partition functions on \( \mathcal{G} \) and \( \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{G}) \) (formally regarded as lattices in the obvious way).
Recall a graph \( \mathcal{G} = \mathcal{G}(V_{\mathcal{G}}, E_{\mathcal{G}}) \), with \( V_{\mathcal{G}} \) the set of vertices of \( \mathcal{G} \), \( E_{\mathcal{G}} \) the set of edges of \( \mathcal{G} \). Suppose \( \mathcal{G} \) is plane-embedded, and let \( F_{\mathcal{G}} \) be the set of faces of \( \mathcal{G} \) in this embedding. A face is a region bounded by edges, and the set includes the outer infinite region. Note by Euler’s formula that

\[
|V_{\mathcal{G}}| - |E_{\mathcal{G}}| + |F_{\mathcal{G}}| = 2.
\]

Let \( \mathcal{D} \) be the dual graph of \( \mathcal{G} \) (for example, see Figure 1.5). That is, in the centre of each face of \( \mathcal{G} \), we place a vertex of \( \mathcal{D} \). And for each edge in \( \mathcal{G} \) that separates two faces we draw an edge of \( \mathcal{D} \), whose vertices are the vertices of \( \mathcal{D} \) that lie in the faces it separates. Also add a vertex of \( \mathcal{D} \) outside \( \mathcal{G} \), that connect all edges on the boundary of \( \mathcal{G} \). Note, \( \mathcal{G} \) and \( \mathcal{D} \) are not isomorphic to each other in general, thus implying that \( Z_{\mathcal{D}} \neq Z_{\mathcal{G}} \). Also note

\[
|E_{\mathcal{G}}| = |E_{\mathcal{D}}|, \quad |V_{\mathcal{G}}| = |F_{\mathcal{D}}|, \quad \text{and} \quad |F_{\mathcal{G}}| = |V_{\mathcal{D}}|.
\]
We now show how the partition function described in Equation (1.1.1) can be formulated in terms of \( G \) and its sub-graphs. Let \( G' \) be an edge sub-graph of \( G \), written \( G' \subseteq G \). That is: \( V_G = V_{G'} \), and \( E_G' \subseteq E_G \).

Let \( x = e^\beta \) and \( v = x - 1 \), then

\[
\exp(\beta \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j}) = 1 + v \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j},
\]

so the \( Q \)-state Potts partition function \( Z_G \) (Equation (1.1.14)), is rewritten as

\[
Z_G = \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \prod_{<ij> \in E_G} \left( 1 + v \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j} \right),
\]

where \( < ij > \) represent the nearest neighbour interactions. Note each factor of the product corresponds to an interaction (bond).

If we multiply out the product of Equation (1.2.17), then the terms of this expansion can be represented by the edge sub-graphs \( G' \subseteq G \). The edge sets of \( G' \) correspond to the \( v \) factors in the terms. After carrying out spin configuration summation, we can write the partition function in the ‘dichromatic polynomial’ \([97]\) form (see e.g. \([8]\))

\[
Z_G = \sum_{G' \subseteq G} v^{|E_{G'}|} Q^{|C_{G'}|},
\]

where \( |C_{G'}| \) is the number of connected clusters in \( G' \), including isolated vertices.

Now we fix \( Q = 2 \). Suppose we rewrite the factor \( \exp(\beta \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j}) \) from the partition function, not as in Equation (1.2.17) but as

\[
(1 + (x - 1) \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j}) = \left( \frac{x + 1}{2} + \frac{(x - 1)}{2} (2 \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j} - 1) \right).
\]

Then Equation (1.2.17) can be written as

\[
Z_G = \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \prod_{<ij> \in E_G} \left( \frac{x + 1}{2} + \frac{(x - 1)}{2} (2 \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j} - 1) \right).
\]

By factoring out the largest term of the product we have

\[
Z_G = \left( \frac{x + 1}{2} \right)^{|E_G|} \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \prod_{<ij> \in E_G} \left( 1 + \frac{(x - 1)}{x + 1} (2 \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j} - 1) \right),
\]

\[
= \left( \frac{x + 1}{2} \right)^{|E_{G'}|} \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \sum_{G' \subseteq G} \prod_{<ij> \in E_{G'}} \left( \frac{x - 1}{x + 1} (2 \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j} - 1) \right),
\]

\[
= \left( \frac{x + 1}{2} \right)^{|E_{G'}|} \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \sum_{G' \subseteq G} \left( \frac{x - 1}{x + 1} \right)^{|E_{G'}|} \prod_{<ij> \in E_{G'}} (2 \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j} - 1).
\]

As an example consider the lattice consisting of a single square, and \( G' \), a single edge. Here we have

\[
\sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \prod_{<ij> \in E_{G'}} (2 \delta_{\sigma_i,\sigma_j} - 1) = \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} (2 \delta_{\sigma_1,\sigma_2} - 1) = \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} 2 \delta_{\sigma_1,\sigma_2} - \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} 1
\]

\[
= 2 \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \delta_{\sigma_1,\sigma_2} - \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} 1 = 2 \cdot 2^{N-1} - 2^N = 0
\]

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Figure 1.6: An example of a mapping between graph $G' \subset G$ (black vertices and solid lines) and a dual of $G$, $D' \subset D$ (white vertices and dashed lines).

In fact, the sum is zero whenever the graph $G'$ describes a ‘non-even covering’ of $G$. An even covering is a sub-graph $G'$ such that every vertex has an even number of edges.

One sees that if $G'$ describes an even covering of $G$, then the sum is always $2^N$. Thus we have:

$$Z_G = 2^N \left( \frac{x+1}{2} \right)^{|E_G|} \sum_{\text{even coverings } G'} \left( \frac{x-1}{x+1} \right)^{|E_{G'}|} \quad (1.2.24)$$

We now show a formulation of duality for the $Q = 2$ (Ising) Potts model in two dimensions.

Let $D$ be the dual graph of $G$. Suppose for any $G' \subseteq G$, we introduce an edge sub-graph $D' \subseteq D$ such that $E_{D'}$ is the complement set of $E_{G'}$ (see Figure 1.6 for example). By construction the connected components of $D'$ form “islands” around clusters of $G'$.

For the $Q = 2$ model, we can write the partition function explicitly in terms of the islands

$$Z_D = 2x^E \sum_{\text{Islands } H} \left( x^{-l(H)} \right), \quad (1.2.25)$$

where $l(H)$ is the length of an island $H$ and $E = |E_D|$.

There is a bijection between the islands of $D$ and the coverings of $G$ that takes sub-graphs onto identical, but shifted sub-graphs.

Note that if $G$ is self-dual, then the partition function is ‘almost’ invariant under the transformations [64]

$$x^{-1} \rightarrow \frac{x-1}{x+1} \quad (1.2.26)$$

(cf. (1.2.12) and (1.2.26).) Further, for the $Q$-state Potts model the duality relation is (see Martin [62])

$$x \rightarrow \frac{x + (Q-1)}{x-1} \quad (1.2.27)$$
The square lattice is almost self-dual, in the sense that in the square lattice is taken to another square lattice up to boundary effects. (cf. Figure 1.5 with the self-dual lattice in Chen et al. (1996) [19], Figure 1).

The invariance property of the model is then called self-duality. In this sense, self-duality for the square lattice model holds true ‘up to boundary effects’.

More generally, and more precisely, let \( P \) be a polynomial in \( \frac{1}{x} \), such that Equation (1.2.25) is written as

\[
Z_D = 2x^E P \left( \frac{1}{x} \right)
\]  

(1.2.28)

Then

\[
2^N \left( \frac{x+1}{2} \right)^E P \left( \frac{x-1}{x+1} \right) = Z_G.
\]  

(1.2.29)

(Compare with Equation (1.2.13)).

Example 1.1. Fix \( Q = 2 \), using \( G \) and \( D \) from Figure 1.5, then by Equation (1.2.24) we have

\[
Z_G = 2 + 8x^2 + 32x^3 + 72x^4 + 224x^5 + 584x^6 + 1216x^7 + 2638x^8 + 4928x^9 + 7344x^{10} + 9984x^{11} + 11472x^{12} + 9984x^{13} + 7344x^{14} + 4928x^{15} + 2638x^{16} + 1216x^{17} + 584x^{18} + 224x^{19} + 72x^{20} + 32x^{21} + 8x^{22} + 2x^{24},
\]  

(1.2.30)

and by Equation (1.2.25)

\[
Z_D = 2x^4 + 8x^6 + 138x^8 + 232x^{10} + 316x^{12} + 184x^{14} + 100x^{16} + 24x^{18} + 18x^{20} + 2x^{24}.
\]  

(1.2.31)

The zeros of Equations (1.2.30) and (1.2.31) are plotted in Figures 1.7(a) and 1.7(b) respectively. The zeros are invariant in the dashed grey circle shown. Plotting the zeros in the same plane (Figure 1.7(c)), highlights the invariance property. Figure 1.7(d), displays the distribution of zeros for \( P(x^{-1}) + P(\frac{x+1}{x-1}) \).

We shall use this duality relation to validate our results in Chapter 3, and discuss the importance of the dashed grey circle.

1.2.4 Monte-Carlo methods

One of the most popular methods used in approximating observables is using a Monte-Carlo method [52]. There are quite a few different types of Monte-Carlo algorithms, but the overall concept is the same. Here we describe a Monte-Carlo algorithm known as the Metropolis algorithm [72]. We shall discuss some of the advantages and disadvantages of Monte-Carlo methods.

In general, the Metropolis algorithm uses a manageable sized sample of configurations. From this sample, we can approximate observable data. The algorithm works by considering suitable changes in energy \( \delta E \) between states. The algorithm is as follows [52]:

1. Choose an initial state.

2. Choose a random site \( i \).
3. Calculate the change in energy $\delta E$, if the spin at site $i$ is changed/flipped.

4. Generate a random number $r$, in the interval $[0, 1]$.

5. If $r < \exp(-\delta E/k_B T)$, change/flip the spin.

6. Iterate from step 2.

Thermal averages from this sample can then be calculated.

An estimate of the critical point $\beta_c$ for the 3d Ising model, on a simple cubic lattice (by Talapov and Blöte (1996) [92]) is

$$\beta_c = J/k_B T_c = 0.2216544,$$

(1.2.32)

with a claimed standard deviation of $3 \times 10^{-7}$. A Monte-Carlo algorithm was used to compute this result. It was checked against the exact solution of the 2d Ising model.

The advantages of using the Monte-Carlo method, lie within the advantages of sampling techniques. When analytic techniques fail, the Monte-Carlo method can be used to give an insight into the behaviour of the system. Due to the limitations of computer speed and memory, for large systems with an extremely large number of configurations, approximating may be the only way to find the partition function.
How true or fair are all possible configurations being represented by our sample of configurations? The results obtained using Monte-Carlo methods are exposed to statistical error. That is because we are looking at a sample of the population (ie. all possible states/configurations of the system). However, the accuracy of the system (reducing the magnitude of the statistical errors) may be increased simply by increasing the sample size (including more states). This does require further processor time. Also questions arise on how many computations are carried out for the sample to be accurate and in thermodynamic equilibrium (for example, how many iterations should we carry out; what the size of the sample should be; etc...).

1.2.5 Existing exact finite lattice results

In this section, we discuss some published \( Q \)-state Potts model results on finite 2d and 3d lattices.

In 1982, Pearson [81], found the exact partition function for the 3d Ising model on \( 4 \times 4 \times 4 \) simple cubic lattice. He obtained his result by identifying symmetries that significantly reduced the number of configurations to be enumerated from \( 2^{64} \) to \( 2^{32} \).

In 1990, Bhanot and Sastry [10] calculated the partition function for a \( 4 \times 5 \times 5 \) lattice. To compute this result they used the Connection Machine, a “massively” parallel computer. Using the Connection machine, they were able to enumerate the states of the partition function using \( 2^{20} \) processors.

For the \( Q > 2 \) state Potts model on 2d and 3d lattice see Martin [61, 66, 63, 64]. Martin has used a transfer matrix approach (§2.2.1) to obtain his results. In his paper we also find some interesting anisotropic [64] 2d Potts model results, such as the 5 and 6-state models on a \( 6 \times 7 \) lattice.

1.3 Physical interpretation of results

Our focus of study is on phase transitions, and what happens to a material as the critical temperature is approached. Phase transitions manifest as singularities in our results [64, §1.4.2]. Phase transitions are classified by where the lowest derivative of the free energy is discontinuous (cf. [39]). For example, we say it is a first order phase transition if the first derivative is discontinuous. Divergence in the specific heat (§1.1.3) is a signal of a second-order phase transition.

In statistical mechanics, we use correlation functions to measure how spins at various points on the lattice interact. In our systems, correlation functions contain important information about physical phase transitions [40]. Close to the critical temperature the spin-spin correlation length diverges [50, §II.A], and this can be interpreted as a signal for a second-order phase transition.

The zeros of the partition function are a powerful tool used for studying phase transitions and critical phenomena in finite-size systems [32]. In 1965 Fisher [30] considered the Ising model as a polynomial (in the variable \( e^{2\beta} \)), and studied the behaviour of its zero distribution. He showed that, in the thermodynamic limit (cf. Blundell [13, §1.2]), phase transitions occur where the distribution of zeros cut the real axis. By studying a suitable sequence of zero distributions, any
such stabilising features that may occur can be interpreted as an indication of what may happen in the thermodynamic limit.

### 1.4 Universality

Recall, a critical point of a system is a time-independent property of where phase transition occur. It separates the system into phases. *Order parameters* [49, 64] describe the phase a system is in. The average magnetisation of a ferromagnet and the density of a liquid-gas material are examples of order parameters [69]. *Critical exponents* describe the behaviour of order parameters near a transition².

According to the *universality* hypothesis, the critical behaviour of a system depends on properties such as the dimension of space and the symmetries of the system [9, 34, 69]. That is

“If we could solve a model with the same dimensionality and symmetry as a real system, universality asserts that we should obtain the exact critical components of the real system.” – Baxter (1982) [9].

Each system is assigned to a *universality class* [52]. Systems that have the same set of critical exponents belong to the same universality class. For example, universality puts a liquid-gas transition and Ising magnet transition into the same class [69, §8.1.3]. Also according to universality the gas-liquid phase transition of carbon dioxide, the gas-solid phase transition of xenon and the phase transition of the 3d Ising model should be in the same class [9].

In the following chapter, we present a method for finding the critical temperature of the 3d Ising model. First we describe a method to compute partition functions for the $Q$-state Potts model, and then study the specific heat order parameter. We present our results in the form of zeros distributions and specific heat plots in Chapter 3.

---

Chapter 2

Computational Method

For Potts models on lattices of any significant size, to calculate the partition function by a brute-force enumeration of states is not feasible. For this reason, technical tools such as *transfer matrices* are now introduced [9, §7.2].

In order to introduce transfer matrix formalism we start by recalling the necessary mathematical machinery and notations in a slightly more general setting. We have in part followed the analysis by Martin (1991) [64] in this chapter.

2.1 Potts models on graphs

Basic notations for spin configurations

For $Q$ a natural number, define the set $Q = \{1, 2, \ldots, Q\}$. For us, then, $Q$-state Potts spin variables can be considered to take values from $Q$.

For $S, T$ sets we write $\text{hom}(S, T)$ for the set of all maps from $S$ to $T$ [45, §1.6].

If a set $S$ indexes the spins in a given Potts model (for example, the set of physical locations might serve this purpose) we shall write $\Sigma_S$ for the set of spins.

The set of all spin configurations of some set $\Sigma_S$ of $Q$-state Potts spins is thus

$$\Omega_S := \text{hom}(\Sigma_S, Q)$$

Note that mathematically this is the same as $\text{hom}(S, Q)$.

Let $A$ be some finite set of symbols [28]. A string over $A$ is a finite sequence of symbols drawn from that set. Let $A^k$ denote the set of all strings over $A$ of length $k$.

Example 2.1. Fix $Q = 2$, then $Q^3 = \{111, 211, 121, 221, 112, 212, 122, 222\}$.

Apply a total order $R$ on set $S$, and write $\sigma_i$ for the $i$th spin in this order. We can then write $\Omega_S$ as a set of strings. That is, for each $f \in \Omega_S$ we may encode it as an element of $Q^{\mid \Sigma_S\mid}$ by

$$f(\sigma_i) = x_i \quad (2.1.1)$$

where $x_i$ is the $i$th symbol of string $x \in Q^{\mid \Sigma_S\mid}$. Also note that $\mid \Omega_S\mid = Q^{\mid \Sigma_S\mid}$. 

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Similarly we can think of each \( f \in \Omega_S \) as a \(|\Sigma_S|\)-tuple vector: the \( i \)th element of \( f \) is \( f(\sigma_i) \).

**Example 2.2.** For \( Q = 2 \) fixed, we have the set \( Q^3 \). Let \( S = \{1, a, 3\} \). Assume that a total order relation \( R \), orders the elements of \( S \) as \( a < 1 < 3 \). Also let \( \Sigma_S = \{\sigma_1, \sigma_a, \sigma_3\} \). Then for \( 712 \in Q^3 \), the corresponding function \( f \in \Omega_S \) is

\[
f(\sigma_1) = 1, \quad f(\sigma_a) = 7 \quad \text{and} \quad f(\sigma_3) = 2.
\]

This is also written as vector \((f(\sigma_a), f(\sigma_1), f(\sigma_3))\), which evaluates to \((7, 1, 2)\).

**Graphs as Potts model ‘lattices’**

Recall [25, §1.1] that a simple undirected graph \( G = G(V_G, E_G) \) is a set of vertices \( V_G \) together with a set of edges \( E_G \), which are unordered pairs from \( V_G \).

**Example 2.3.** Figure 2.1 encodes a graph \( G \), with three arbitrarily labelled vertices \( a, b \) and \( c \). That is \( V_G = \{a, b, c\}, E_G = \{\{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}\} \).

A lattice spin system [50] is modelled here as a Potts model on a simple undirected graph \( G(V_G, E_G) \) [101]. A vertex \( i \in V_G \) represents a physical site on the lattice, on which resides a spin \( \sigma_i \); and the set of edges \( E_G \) represents the bond or nearest neighbour interactions between spins.

For each choice of graph \( G \) and natural number \( Q \) we have the Potts model Hamiltonian (cf. Section 1.1.4):

\[
H_G : \Omega_{V_G} \to \mathbb{R}
\]

\[
H_G(f) = \sum_{(i,j) \in E_G} \delta_{f(\sigma_i), f(\sigma_j)}. \tag{2.1.3}
\]

Where \( \delta_{a,b} \) is the Kronecker delta, that returns a value of 1 if \( a = b \), and 0 otherwise. We shall write \( H_G \) as just \( H \), when the dependence on \( G \) is clear.

**Example 2.4.** Using \( G \) from Example 2.3 with \( V_G \) totally ordered in the natural way and configuration \((1, 2, 2) \in \Omega_{V_G} \), the Hamiltonian value is

\[
H((1, 2, 2)) = \delta_{1,2} + \delta_{1,2} + \delta_{2,2} = 1 \tag{2.1.4}
\]
The notion of Potts partition function $Z$ [40] can then be regarded as a map from the set of graphs $G$ to the set of polynomials $Z_G$ in $\exp(\beta)$. That is (cf. Equation (1.1.1)):

$$Z_G = \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \exp \beta H_G(\sigma).$$ (2.1.5)

Here physically $\beta = -1/k_B T$ ($k_B$ is Boltzmann’s constant, $T$ the temperature). For the remainder of this section let $x = \exp(\beta)$.

Example 2.5. Using $G$ from Example 2.3, and fixing $Q = 2$, then $Z_G = 2e^{3\beta} + 6e^\beta$.

2.2 Partition vectors and transfer matrices

In this section, Partition vectors [64, §2.1] will be explained. A specialisation to transfer matrix formulation is then made in Section 2.2.1.

Let $V \subseteq V_G$ for any graph $G$. For $Q$-state Potts model configuration $c \in \Omega_V$, we define $\Omega^V_G|_c$ as the set of spin configurations where the spins associated to $V$ are fixed to $c$. Note $\Omega^V_G|_c \subset \Omega^V_G$.

Example 2.6. Let $G = \{a, b, c\}$ and $V = \{a, c\}$ (see Figure 2.2). Fix $Q = 2$. Take the natural order on $V_G$, and the natural order by restriction of this order on $V$, then

$$\Omega^V_G = \{(1,1,1), (2,1,1), (1,2,1), (2,2,1), (1,1,2), (2,1,2), (1,2,2), (2,2,2)\},$$ (2.2.1)

and $\Omega_V = \{(1,1), (2,1), (1,2), (2,2)\}$. Then for configuration $(1,1) \in \Omega_V$, we have

$$\Omega^V_G|_{(1,1)} = \{(1,1,1), (1,2,1)\}.$$ (2.2.2)

The partition function with the configuration of spins in subset $V$ fixed to configuration $c$ ($c \in \Omega_V$) is

$$Z^V_G|_c := \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega^V_G|_c} \exp(\beta H(\sigma)).$$ (2.2.3)

**Definition 2.2.1.** The partition vector $Z^V_G$ is a vector indexed by $\Omega_V$.

The $c$-th component of $Z^V_G$ ($c \in \Omega_V$) is $Z^V_G|_c$. Note

$$Z_G = \sum_{c \in \Omega_V} Z^V_G|_c.$$ (2.2.4)
Example 2.7. Consider graph $G$ in Figure 2.2, where the subset of vertices $V = \{a, c\}$ is indicated. Fix $Q = 2$. We have $\Sigma_V = \{\sigma_a, \sigma_c\}$, and

$$Z^V_\sigma = (Z^V_\sigma |_{(1,1)}, Z^V_\sigma |_{(1,2)}, Z^V_\sigma |_{(2,1)}, Z^V_\sigma |_{(2,2)})$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.5)

$$= (x^3 + x, 2x, 2x, x^3 + x).$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.6)

Note, summing up the entries of $Z^V_\sigma$ give $Z_G$ from Example 2.5.

[2.1] We now formulate a method for combining the partition vectors for two Potts models on graphs to make a Potts model partition function for a larger graph. We refer to this as binding.

To do this, first we must define the union operator of two graphs (cf. [94] for several variations on combining graphs).

**Definition 2.2.2.** For the union $G \cup G'$ of graphs $G$ and $G'$, we have:

$$V_{G \cup G'} = V_G \cup V_{G'} \quad \text{and} \quad E_{G \cup G'} = E_G \cup E_{G'}.$$

**Theorem 2.2.3** (Chapman-Kolmogorov [80]). Let $G$ and $G'$ be graphs such that $E_G \cap E_{G'} = \emptyset$.

Let $GG'$ denote $G \cup G'$ and $V = V_G \cap V_{G'}$. Then

$$Z_{GG'} = \sum_{c \in \Omega_{V_{GG'}}} (Z^V_{G'}|_c)(Z^V_{G}|_c) = Z^V_G \cdot Z^V_{G'}$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.7)

**Proof.** Recall Equation (2.1.5). For graph $GG' = G \cup G'$, we have

$$Z_{GG'} = \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega_{V_{GG'}}} e^{\beta H_{GG'}(\sigma)}$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.8)

Providing $E_G \cap E_{G'} = \emptyset$, then

$$H_{GG'}(\sigma) = H_G(\sigma) + H_{G'}(\sigma).$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.9)

for every configuration $\sigma \in \Omega_{V_{GG'}}$. Thus

$$Z_{GG'} = \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega_{V_{GG'}}} \left( e^{\beta H_G(\sigma)} \right) \left( e^{\beta H_{G'}(\sigma)} \right)$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.10)

Now if $V = V_G \cap V_{G'}$ then

$$Z_{GG'} = \sum_{c \in \Omega_V} \left( \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega_{V_G}|c}} e^{\beta H_G(\sigma)} \right) \left( \sum_{\sigma' \in \Omega_{V_{G'}}|c}} e^{\beta H_{G'}(\sigma')} \right)$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.11)

$$= \sum_{c \in \Omega_V} (Z^V_G|_c)(Z^V_{G'}|_c)$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.12)

The second identity in Equation (2.2.7) is an equivalent statement by Definition 2.2.1.

**Example 2.8.** Fix $Q = 2$. For graphs $G$ and $G'$, see Figure 2.3. The partition vector $Z^V_G$ is

$$(Z^V_G |_{(1)}, Z^V_G |_{(2)}) = (x^3 + 3x, x^3 + 3x).$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.13)

Also

$$Z^V_{G'} = (x^2 + 2x + 1, x^2 + 2x + 1)$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.14)
Then for graph $GG' = G \cup G'$ (Figure 2.4), $V_{G'} = \{a, a', b, b', c\}$, $V = \{c\}$, and

$$Z_{GG'} = (Z^V_{G|1} \cdot Z^V_{G'|1}) + (Z^V_{G|2} \cdot Z^V_{G'|2})$$

$$= (x^3 + 3x)(x^2 + 2x + 1) + (x^3 + 3x)(x^2 + 2x + 1)$$

$$= 2x^5 + 4x^4 + 8x^3 + 12x^2 + 6x \quad (2.2.15)$$

A mild generalisation of Theorem 2.2.3 is as follows.

**Notation:** For sets $V$ and $V'$ let $V \setminus V'$ denote the set of all elements in $V$ that are not in $V'$.

**Lemma 2.2.4.** Let $G$ and $G'$ be graphs such that $E_G \cap E_{G'} = \emptyset$. Let $GG' = G \cup G'$ and $V = V_G \cap V_{G'}$ and $V' \subseteq V_{G'}$. Then

$$Z_{GG'}^{V'}|_{c'} = \sum_{c \in \Omega \setminus V'} (Z^V_{G|c}) (Z^V_{G'|c}). \quad (2.2.16)$$

Here $c'$ is the configuration associated to $V'$ and then to $V$.

The proof of Lemma 2.2.4 is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.2.3 (cf. Chapman-kolmogorov
equation [80]). Figure 2.5 is a graphical representation of Lemma 2.2.4. The next section shows how Lemma 2.2.4 implies matrix multiplication can be used to combine partition vectors.

### 2.2.1 Transfer matrices

In this section we show that the partition function (Equation (2.1.5)) is for certain very regular graphs \( G \) the trace of the \( N \)th power of a certain matrix. We call this matrix the transfer matrix \([88, 12, 9, 6, 65, 85, 23]\). A computational feature of using transfer matrices is that we may compute \( Z_G \) by repeatedly binding smaller systems together.

Recall the partition vector \( Z^V_V \). Let \( E \subset V \). We call \( \Sigma_E \) the set of outgoing spins. Let \( I \subset V \) such that \( V = E \cup I \). Call \( \Sigma_I \) the set of incoming spins. \( Z^V_V \) is now trivially reorganised as a matrix, denoted \( T \). The rows and columns of \( T \) are indexed by \( \Omega_I \) and \( \Omega_E \) respectively. The element in the \( i \)-th row, \( j \)-th column is

\[
T_{ij} = Z^\Sigma_I,\Sigma_E^V|_{i,j},
\]

where \( i \in \Omega_I \) and \( j \in \Omega_E \). Indeed for any collection of subsets \( V_i \subset V \) such that \( V = \cup_i V_i \) we define \( Z_G^{V_1,V_2,...}|_{c_1,c_2,...} \) in the obvious way — leading to what might be called a partition tensor \([64, 46]\).

**Example 2.9.** Fix \( Q = 2 \). Let the graph in Figure 2.6 model a spin system. The incoming and outgoing vertex (spin) sets have been labelled \( I \) and \( E \) respectively. Then

\[
T = \begin{pmatrix}
  x^3 & x & x & x \\
  x^2 & x^2 & 1 & x^2 \\
  x^2 & 1 & x^2 & x^2 \\
  x & x & x & x^3
\end{pmatrix}
\]

Let \( T_G \) and \( T_{G'} \) be transfer matrices associated to graphs \( G \) and \( G' \) respectively, with \( I_G, E_G \) and \( I_{G'}, E_{G'} \) being the index sets to the incoming and outgoing spins for \( T_G \) and \( T_{G'} \) respectively.

If \( E_G = I_{G'} \), and \( E_G \cap E_{G'} = \emptyset \) then by Lemma 2.2.4, we have the matrix product

\[
T_{G,G'} = T_G T_{G'}.
\]

Note \( I_{G G'} = I_G \) and \( E_{G G'} = E_{G'} \).
Figure 2.7: Spin systems modelled by graphs $G$ and $G'$ and $GG'$, where $G$ and $G'$ are connected to form $GG'$. The red, white, and black vertices model incoming, outgoing, and internal spins respectively.

After matrix multiplication, any further binding with $T_{GG'}$ is restricted to incoming and outgoing spins of $GG'$. The set $E_G \cap I_{G'}$ becomes the set of internal vertices of $GG'$. That is, the spin configuration information of these vertices is summed over, such that no further binding from these vertices is possible. We shall often refer to these spins as internal spins. For an example of such graphs see Figure 2.7. Here we model incoming, outgoing, and internal spins in each graph using red, white and black vertices respectively.

The partition function for a suitable large regular graph (such as a crystal structure cf. §2.2.2) can then be calculated by iteratively multiplying suitably smaller manageable transfer matrices. To do this, we introduce isomorphisms between graphs.

**Definition 2.2.5.** Two graphs $G$ and $G'$ are said to be isomorphic [18] if there is a one-to-one mapping $\phi : V_G \rightarrow V_{G'}$ such that if and only if $\{a, b\} \in E_G$ then $\{\phi(a), \phi(b)\} \in E_{G'}$.

For instance, suppose $G$ is isomorphic (in the strong sense) to $G'$, and $|E_G| = |I_G| = |E_{G'}| = |I_{G'}|$ then we can take $T_G = T_{G'}$. It then follows that

$$T_{GG'} = T_GT_{G'} = (T_G)^2. \quad (2.2.20)$$

Let $G(L)$ be the graph union of $L$ isomorphic graphs $G$. The partition function is given by

$$Z_{G(L)} = \sum_{s \in \Omega_{I_G(L)}} \left( \sum_{t \in \Omega_{E_G(L)}} (T_G^L)_{st} \right) \quad (2.2.21)$$

where $I_{G(L)}$ is the incoming spin set for $G(L)$ (ie. $I_G$ for the first $G$ in $G(L)$); and $E_{G(L)}$ is the outgoing spin set for $G(L)$ (ie. $E_G$ for the last $G$ in $G(L)$). Note that if $D$ is the column vector with $D_i = 1$ for all configurations in $\Omega_{I_G}$ then

$$Z_{G(L)} = D^T T^L D. \quad (2.2.22)$$

To obtain periodic boundary condition (Section 2.2.2) we identify the incoming and outgoing spins of $(T_G)^L$. To do this, we sum over the states where incoming and outgoing configurations are equal. Specifically

$$Z_{G(L)} = \text{Tr}(T_G^L). \quad (2.2.23)$$
2.2.2 Geometry and Crystal lattices

This section is on graphs as regular crystal lattices [71] embedded in Euclidean space [31, 36].

Potts Model in $d$-dimension

We ‘place’ spins in $\mathbb{R}^d$ so as to form a $d$-dimensional lattice modelling a physical crystal lattice. Let $\mathcal{L}^d$ denote the $d$-dimensional hypercubic lattice. Here, we define $\mathcal{L}^d$ as a finite set of regularly spaced sites embedded in the Euclidean space $\mathbb{R}^d$ of the form \[ \{1, \ldots, N_1\} \times \{1, \ldots, N_2\} \times \ldots \times \{1, \ldots, N_d\} | N_i \in \mathbb{N} \}. \] On each site resides a spin. Figure 2.8, the sub-figures depict examples of $d$-dimensional lattices. We draw lines between nearest-neighbour sites to represent corresponding interactions between spins.

![Figure 2.8](image)

**Figure 2.8:** Showing $d$-dimensional lattices. The grey spin in each figure, represents a typical bulk spin and its nearest neighbour interactions (red edges).

Layer transfer matrix

Our $d$-dimensional lattice can be built up by a set of $(d - 1)$-dimensional sub-lattices. We shall call these layers of a lattice. Note, in the case of $d = 1$, a layer is just a single point.

In $d = 3$ we shall use the notation $N_x \times N_y \times N_z$, ($N_x, N_y, N_z \in \mathbb{N}$) to represent $\mathcal{L}$ with $N_z$ layers. Each layer has $N_y$ columns each containing $N_x$ sites. The total number of sites is $N_x N_y N_z$.

For the $Q$-state Potts model on $\mathcal{L}$, the $i$th layer interacts only with the $i - 1$th and $i + 1$th layers.

Now suppose we wanted to calculate a $Q$-state Potts model partition function on a lattice $N_x \times N_y \times N_z$. We could use a transfer matrix $T$ that is indexed by the spin configuration of two
Boundary Conditions

In dimension $d$, the number $n$ of nearest neighbours to each spin is $n = 2d$ up to boundary effects [21]. A finite-sized lattice (as defined so far) has spins on the boundary of the lattice that have $n < 2d$. We refer to this as the lattice having *open* boundary conditions. The lattices in Figure 2.8, are examples of lattices with open boundary conditions.

An alternative is to introduce an extra interaction between spins on opposite sides of the boundary. In this case all spins on a lattice have the same number of nearest neighbours, and there are exact translation symmetries. We refer to this as applying *periodic* boundary conditions.

2.2.3 Eigenvalues of the transfer matrix

Recall the layer transfer matrix $T$, Section 2.2.1, such as in Example 2.9.

For this $T$, all entries are monomials in $x = e^\beta$. In particular all entries are positive for real $\beta$. Suppose $T$ binds layers $i$ and $i + 1$. Then by Theorem 2.2.3, we may write $T$ as a product of more *local* transfer matrices, say $T_{i+1}, T_{i,i+1}$. Specifically $T_{i+1}$ is restricted to only the interactions on layer $i + 1$, and $T_{i,i+1}$ is restricted to only the interactions between layers $i$ and $i + 1$. 

Figure 2.9: Examples of $d$-dimensional transfer matrix lattice layers. Incoming (outgoing) spins are modelled by grey (white) vertices.
Example 2.10. For $T$ in given in Example 2.9 (page 23)

$$
T = T_{i,i+1}T_{i+1} = \begin{pmatrix}
x^2 & x & x & 1 \\
x & x^2 & 1 & x \\
x & 1 & x^2 & x \\
1 & x & x & x^2
\end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix}
x \\
1 \\
x \\
x
\end{pmatrix}
$$

[2.2] By symmetry of the Hamiltonian, $T_{i,i+1}$ and $T_{i+1}$ are Hermitian matrices for real $\beta$. Note, they both are real symmetric and $T_{i+1}$ is also a diagonal matrix. One can then show that $T$ is similar (in the technical sense) to a real symmetric matrix (and hence Hermitian).

Let $\{\lambda_i\}$ be the set of eigenvalues of $T$. Also, for each $\lambda_i$, let $v'_i$ and $v_i$ be the corresponding row and column eigenvectors respectively. That is

$$Tv_i = \lambda_i v_i \quad (2.2.24)$$

and

$$v'_i T = \lambda_i v'_i. \quad (2.2.25)$$

For us let $r$ and $w$ be suitable boundary vectors (such as $D^T$ and $D$ from Equation (2.2.22)) such that

$$Z = r T^N w.$$ 

Define coefficients $a_i$ and $b_i$ by

$$r = \sum_i a_i v'_i \quad \text{and} \quad w = \sum_i b_i v_i \quad (2.2.26)$$

Note that $a_i$ and $b_i$ are constants, depending only on the fixed boundary conditions $r$ and $w$.

Then

$$r T^N w = \left( \sum_i a_i v'_i \right) T^N \left( \sum_j b_j v_j \right)$$

$$= \left( \sum_i a_i (\lambda_i^N v'_i) \right) \left( \sum_j b_j v_j \right) \quad (2.2.27)$$

By the similarity of $T$ to a real symmetric matrix, eigenvectors $v'_i$ and $v_j$ can be chosen to be orthonormal. Thus, by completeness of the set of eigenvectors [73], we have

$$\lambda_i^N v'_i v_j = \begin{cases} 
\lambda_i^N, & j = i \\
0, & \text{otherwise}
\end{cases} \quad (2.2.28)$$

for all $i, j$.

Thus Equation (2.2.27) simplifies to

$$r T^N w = \sum_i (a_i b_i \lambda_i^N) \quad (2.2.29)$$

so

$$Z = r T^N w = \sum_i K_i \lambda_i^N, \quad (2.2.30)$$

where $K_i = a_i b_i$ for all $i$. 

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Theorem 2.2.6 (Perron-Frobenius). ¹ A finite-dimensional positive matrix has unique eigenvalue that has the largest magnitude of all eigenvalues. Further this eigenvalue is positive and there is an associated eigenvector that is also positive.

It follows from the theorem that if $\beta$ is real then $T$ has a largest eigenvalue.

Let $\lambda_0$ denote the largest eigenvalue of $T$ (for $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$) then Equation (2.2.31) can be expressed in the form

$$Z = \sum_i K_0 \lambda_0^N K_i \left( \frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda_0} \right)^N$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.32)

$$= K_0 \lambda_0^N \left( 1 + \sum_{i > 0} K_i \left( \frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda_0} \right)^N \right).$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.33)

For a given real value of $\beta$, we have

$$\lim_{N \to \infty} Z = K_0 \lambda_0^N.$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.34)

Recall [75] the free energy density $f = (1/N) \ln Z$. For us then, in the limit $N \to \infty$ we have [64, §2.5]

$$f(\beta) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \frac{\ln(K_0 \lambda_0^N)}{N} = \ln(\lambda_0)$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.2.35)

This equation thus connects the physics to the partition function to the largest eigenvalue of $T$.

In Section 2.3, we go further and connect the eigenvalues of $T$ to the zeros of the partition function in complex $\beta$.

## 2.3 Zeros of the partition function

In this section we show how the complex zeros of the partition function relate to the eigenvalues of the transfer matrix, and to physics.

We shall discuss the distribution of the zeros and their sensitivity to varying lattice sizes. Also, we show how the distribution of zeros are used to extract information on real physical attributes from our system.

Note the zeros are themselves hard to compute, even given the exact partition function. They are found by using a modified Newton-Raphson technique, see Appendix D.

### 2.3.1 Specific heat

Recall Section 1.1.3, the specific heat $C_V$ is [96, §19.1] given by

$$C_V/k_B = -\beta^2 \frac{\partial^2 \ln Z}{\partial \beta^2}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.3.1)

For us, $Z$ is the $Q$-state Potts model partition function (Equation (2.1.5)).

¹For proof see [76], [64, §2.4]
As $Z$ is a polynomial in $x = e^\beta$, we can write it in terms of its zeros $x_i$ [90]. That is

$$Z = Q \prod_i (e^\beta - x_i).$$  \hspace{1cm} (2.3.2)

In statistical mechanics, thermodynamic limit singularities that occur in derivatives of the free energy correspond to phase transitions (cf. [26, 30]). Recall Section 1.1.3, the Helmholtz free energy is $F = -k_B T \ln Z$ [16]. So in the Potts model case we have

$$F = -\frac{1}{\beta} \left( \ln Q + \sum_i \ln(e^\beta - x_i) \right). \hspace{1cm} (2.3.3)$$

**[2.3] Remark:** Here we consider specific heat capacity as an “extensive” variable. It is often useful to consider specific heat by an intensive measure [17]. To do this, we divide $C_V$ by an extensive measure, say the total number of spins on the lattice $N$. We shall use $c_V := C_V/N$ to differentiate between the two.

Note

$$\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \beta} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left( \ln Q + \sum_i \ln(e^\beta - x_i) \right) = e^\beta \sum_i \frac{1}{e^\beta - x_i}. \hspace{1cm} (2.3.4)$$

Thus, we can express Equation (2.3.1) in terms of the partition function zeros as:

$$C_V/k_B \beta^2 = -\frac{\partial^2 \ln Z}{\partial \beta^2} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left( e^\beta \sum_i \frac{1}{e^\beta - x_i} \right) \hspace{1cm} (2.3.5)$$

$$= -\sum_i \left( \frac{e^\beta}{e^\beta - x_i} - \frac{e^{2\beta}}{(e^\beta - x_i)^2} \right) \hspace{1cm} (2.3.6)$$

$$= e^\beta \sum_i \frac{x_i}{(e^\beta - x_i)^2}. \hspace{1cm} (2.3.7)$$

Thus Equation (2.3.9) states complex temperature singularities [68] in the specific heat occur when $e^\beta = x_i$.

As physically meaningful temperatures are real and positive, then $\beta$ must also be real and positive. For us however, the coefficients of $Z$ are all positive, and therefore the zeros will lie off the real positive $x$ axis [64, §11.1].

**[2.4] Only in the thermodynamic limit where the distribution of zeros is continuous, do we find a “critical point”.** That is, the singular point at which the zeros cut the real axis. Thus, as the complex roots $x_i$ get closer to the real axis, the more tightly they indicate the position of a phase transition.

### 2.3.2 Eigenvalues and the zeros distribution

In Section 2.2.3, we showed that the partition function can be approximated numerically for real $\beta$ via the largest eigenvalue of the transfer matrix. With this in mind we now show how the
distribution of zeros of the partition function in the complex plane is related to the eigenvalues of
the transfer matrix.

Recall Equation (2.2.31). Setting \( Z = 0 \), and letting \( K_i = a_i b_i \), we have

\[
\sum_i (K_i \lambda_i^N) = 0. \tag{2.3.10}
\]

Suppose \( T \) has two jointly largest magnitude eigenvalues at some value of \( \beta \), or in some small
range of \( \beta \) values. (Note that the Perron-Frobenius Theorem 2.2.6 cannot be expected to apply
when \( \beta \) is not real.) Denote the two largest magnitude eigenvalues as \( \lambda_0 \) and \( \lambda_1 \). Then expanding
Equation (2.3.10):

\[
K_0 \lambda_0^N + K_1 \lambda_1^N + \sum_{i \neq 0, 1} K_i \lambda_i^N = 0, \tag{2.3.11}
\]

and rearranging, we obtain

\[
\frac{K_0 \lambda_0^N}{K_1 \lambda_1^N} = -1 - \sum_{i \neq 0, 1} \frac{K_i \lambda_i^N}{K_1 \lambda_1^N}. \tag{2.3.12}
\]

Here

\[
\lim_{N \to \infty} \left( \frac{K_0 \lambda_0^N}{K_1 \lambda_1^N} \right) = -1. \tag{2.3.13}
\]

Also note

\[
\ln \frac{K_0}{N} + \log \lambda_0 = \ln \left( \frac{-K_1}{N} \right) + \log \lambda_1
\]

so approaching the limit \( \log \lambda_0^N \approx \log \lambda_1^N \). Equation (2.3.13) is then

\[
\left( \frac{\lambda_0}{\lambda_1} \right) = \sqrt{-1} \tag{2.3.14}
\]

Martin [64] block diagonalises a small \( Q \)-state Potts model transfer matrix and shows that its
eigenvalues take the form

\[
\lambda_\pm = A(x) \pm B(x),
\]

where \( A(x) \), and \( B(x) \) are polynomials in \( x = \exp(\beta) \). We shall just use this result, and refer
the reader to the book for the proof.

We re-express \( \lambda_+^N + \lambda_-^N \) using the following identity. For scalars \( C \) and \( D \)

\[
C^N + D^N = \prod_n (C + \exp(2\pi i n/N)D) \tag{2.3.15}
\]

where the product is over \( n = 1, 2, \ldots, N \), if \( N \) is odd; and over \( n = 1/2, 3/2, \ldots N - 1/2 \) for \( N \)
even [64, §11.2].

The zeros of \( \lambda_+^N + \lambda_-^N \) occur only when \( |\lambda_+| = |\lambda_-| \) [56]. That is, when

\[
eg^{i(2\pi n/N)} = \frac{\lambda_+}{\lambda_-}. \tag{2.3.16}
\]

By Equation 2.3.15 we see that the zeros of \( \lambda_+^N + \lambda_-^N \) lie on the same loci as the zeros of \( Z_G \).
Further, the endpoints of these loci are at the zeros of \( B(x) \) (where \( \lambda_+ = \lambda_- \)).

For a finite \( N \), the zeros of \( Z \) thus end up indicating the ‘analytic structure’ [3, 95] of the largest
eigenvalues for the corresponding \( T \). (See [54, §4.10] for detailed exposition.)
Example 2.11. In Example 2.9 (page 23), the transfer matrix $T$ for $Q = 2$ Potts model on a 2 site wide lattice is given. The eigenvalues for $T$ are

$$\left\{ e^{2\beta} - 1, \frac{1}{2} \left( e^{3\beta} + e^{2\beta} + e^\beta + 1 \pm (e^\beta + 1) \sqrt{e^{4\beta} - 4 e^{3\beta} + 10 e^\beta - 4 e^-1 + 1} \right), e^{3\beta} - e^\beta \right\}$$

Then choose

$$\lambda_\pm = \frac{1}{2} \left( e^{3\beta} + e^{2\beta} + e^\beta + 1 \pm (e^\beta + 1) \sqrt{e^{4\beta} - 4 e^{3\beta} + 10 e^\beta - 4 e^-1 + 1} \right)$$

In Figure 2.10 (cf. Fig. 4.4 [54]), we plot the $B(x) = 0$ with blue crosses and use the red points to show the zeros of $Z = \text{Tr}(T^{100})$. Note, there are two zeros of $B(x) = 0$ at $(-1,0)$.

This model itself is too small to extract meaningful physics from. See Chapter 3 for many much larger cases; and an analysis of their physical significance.

### 2.4 Correlation functions

The transfer matrix formalism that we have described allows us, in principle, to compute other physical observables besides those derived from $Z$, such as correlation functions. At present our computational methodology does not help sufficiently to allow computing correlation functions on the large lattices with which we work. Nonetheless, for completeness we end this Chapter with a brief formal discussion of such physically interesting observables.

Recall (Section 1.1.3) that an observable $O$ on a lattice system is a map on the set of configurations $\Omega$,

$$O : \Omega \to \mathbb{R}$$

For example, for a Potts model on a graph $\mathcal{G}$ with $a, b \in V_\mathcal{G}$

$$O_a := \delta_{\sigma_a, 1}$$
An expectation value is a thermal average

$$
\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle := \frac{\sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \mathcal{O} e^{\beta H(\sigma)}}{Z_G}
$$

(2.4.2)

Suppose spins $\sigma_a$ and $\sigma_b$, are fixed to state $q \in Q$. Fix $\sigma_a$’s position on the lattice, then we shall observe $\langle \mathcal{O}_a \mathcal{O}_b \rangle$ for various suitable separations $d$, on the lattice of $\sigma_b$ from $\sigma_a$. (We are assuming here that the lattice, that is the graph $G$, is such that the notion of separation makes sense.)

This allows us to study the relation between the distance of spins, and their influence on each other.

At large $\beta$ (low temperature) there is a high expectation of agreement between spins. This agreement is due to the fact that all spins are mostly aligned at this temperature, and is not dependent on the distance between $a$ and $b$.

To adjust for this non-correlated agreement we calculate the subtracted spin-spin correlation function [64]

$$
\langle \mathcal{O}_a \mathcal{O}_b \rangle_s := \langle \mathcal{O}_a \mathcal{O}_b \rangle - \langle \mathcal{O}_a \rangle \langle \mathcal{O}_b \rangle.
$$

(2.4.3)

At zero temperature, the probability that the Ising model is in a particular frozen state is $1/2$. This is because of the symmetry of the model. To ‘correct’ this we choose a spin on the boundary of the lattice and fix its state to $c$. Now at low temperature the configuration of the system will be in the frozen state with all spins in state $c$. Our model models “spontaneous symmetry breaking” [64, §1.4] in this way.

Define diagonal matrix $U_a$ with rows and columns indexed by the same configuration space as $T$. Let $(U_a)_{\sigma \sigma} = \delta_{\sigma(a),c}$, for all $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}$.

For boundary vectors $r$ and $w$, we have [64, §2.6]

$$
\langle \mathcal{O}_a \mathcal{O}_b \rangle_s = \frac{r T^M U_a T^d U_b T^{N-M-d} w}{Z} - \frac{r T^M U_a T^{N-M} w}{Z} - \frac{r T^{M+d} U_b T^{N-M-d} w}{Z}.
$$

(2.4.4)

(where $M$ determines the position of $a$ relative to the left boundary of the lattice).

One finds (see e.g. Kogut [50]) that $\langle \mathcal{O}_a \mathcal{O}_b \rangle_s$ typically decays exponentially with $d$:

$$
\langle \mathcal{O}_a \mathcal{O}_b \rangle_s \sim \exp(-|d|/\xi(\beta)),
$$

(2.4.5)

The decay length $\xi(\beta)$ is called the correlation length. (The correlation length may be expressed in terms of eigenvalues of $T$. See [59, §2.6].)

The program used to compute large Potts model partition functions for this work relies highly on symmetry within the transfer matrix. Due to this we cannot compute the correlation function of a system of any real significant size in our exact-calculation framework.

**Toy Example**

Consider the $2 \times 3$ lattice shown in Figure 2.11. Fix $Q = 2$. The white vertex represents a spin with configuration fixed to 1 (symmetry breaking condition). Here $T$ is indexed in the usual manner (see Section 2.2.1, for example).
Figure 2.11: A $2 \times 3$ lattice, with sites labelled $a$ and $b$. The white site is a fixed spin.

Sites $a$ and $b$ have been labelled. Then

$$U_a = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad U_b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

For open boundary conditions we define the row vectors $r = (x, 1, 1, x)$ and $w = (1, 1, 0, 0)$. Then

$$Z = r^T U_a^T w = x^7 + 6x^5 + 9x^4 + 9x^3 + 6x^2 + 1,$$

$$< O_a > = \frac{(r^T U_a^T w)}{Z} = \frac{(x^7 + 4x^5 + 6x^4 + 3x^3 + 2x^2)}{Z},$$

$$< O_b > = \frac{(r^T U_b^T w)}{Z} = \frac{(x^7 + 4x^5 + 6x^4 + 3x^3 + 2x^2)}{Z},$$

$$< O_a O_b > = \frac{(r^T U_a^T U_b^T w)}{Z} = \frac{(x^7 + 3x^5 + 3x^4 + x^2)}{Z}.$$

In Figure 2.12, we plot $< O_a O_b >_s$ for this example. We also mark the critical temperature $\beta_c$ of the 2d Ising model [78].

Figure 2.12: A plot of $< O_a O_b >_s$ against $\beta$ for the Ising model on a $2 \times 3$ lattice.
Chapter 3

Potts model partition functions:
Exact Results

In this Chapter, we give our results. A convenient way to present a partition function which is polynomial in $e^\beta$ is by plotting its zeros in the $e^\beta$-Argand plane (see e.g. [30, 81, 60, 64, 19]). Here, then, we give the zeros of the partition function for various lattices, displayed in the $e^\beta$-Argand plane and variants thereof. Some specific heat graphs are also presented.

Since none of these models, apart from the 2d Ising model [78], is integrable in the thermodynamic limit [9], the main challenge in interpreting these results is in extrapolating from our finite lattices to the limit (cf. [58, 66]). We study how varying lattice size and boundary conditions affect the specific heat and zeros by computing, for each model, several variations of each.

The figure above is a zeros distribution for a 3d Ising model. The $4 \times 4 \times 98'$ refers to lattice size (the prime is explained later) and solid line represents the interval $[0, 1]$. How do we interpret this distribution? We start this chapter by introducing the terms and notations used to describe such figures. The 3d Ising model is then discussed. For example, Figure 3.1 shows our results for the 3d Ising model on various lattices. However we are immediately confronted with the need for a means to interpret such results. So together with the 3d model we look at the 2d Ising model, and hence
show how physical phenomena such as phase transitions are manifested in the zero distribution.

Figure 3.1: Zeros of the partition function $Z$ in $x = e^\beta$ for the $N_x \times N_y \times 10^\prime$ Ising model. The degree of $Z$ in sub-figure: (a) is 116; (b) is 232; (c) is 464; (d) is 696.
We use the following notation for lattice sizes and boundary conditions (BCs):

- $N \times M \times \ldots$ means an $N \times M \times \ldots$ hypercubic lattice with periodic BCs in every direction.
- A direction with open BCs is indicated as $N'$.
- $N \times M$ means an $N \times M$ lattice with self dual BCs\(^1\).
- $(N \times M)^*$ means the dual of a $N \times M$ lattice \(^2\).

So for example $5 \times 5 \times 10'$ means a lattice periodic in the length 5 directions, and with open BCs in the long direction.

Figure 3.2 show the zeros distribution for the 2d Ising model partition on a $10 \times 10$ lattice. We use this figure as a visual aid to describing some of the terms used in this chapter. The solid black line in this figure (and all subsequent figures) is the interval $[0, 1]$ in the Argand plane. (Note that for $x = e^\beta$ this region is the anti-ferromagnetic region).

The values of $\beta$ that have direct physical significance lie in the interval $[0, \infty)$ on the real axis. That is, where temperature is real and positive, either for ferro- or anti-ferromagnetic coupling. The ferromagnetic region is indicated by a green line in the figure. We shall refer to it as $\mathcal{F}$.

We find it useful to separate the $e^\beta$ plane into quadrants. We label the 2nd, 3th, and 4th quadrant as indicated in Figure 3.2. The 1st quadrant is labelled with the lattice size and boundary condition.

Many of the zero distributions presented are grouped together under one figure, like in Figure 3.1. We refer to sub-figures in the order: left to right top to bottom, as (a), (b)... etc. So for example Figure 3.1(c) is the zero distribution for the 3d model on the $4 \times 4 \times 10'$ lattice.

Recall, from Section 2.3, the way in which zero distributions approximate analytic structures (of transfer matrix eigenvalues). With this in mind, we call the linear distributions of zeros sometimes apparent in these plots “arms”, as indicated in Figure 3.2. Note that the rigorous justification for this requires a sequence tending, in a suitable sense, to a limit distribution. Thus the identification of ‘arms’ in any given figure is not an exact science. For example, note the two large ‘arms’ in the 3rd and 4th quadrant are certainly not clear cut. (Although in this case we know that, as part of a sequence, they again approach a linear distribution in their respective quadrants.)

Table 3.1 lists the maximal sizes of the figures in this thesis.

---

\(^1\)See Fig. 1.1 in Chen et al (1996) [19], for an example of a lattice with self-dual boundary conditions.

\(^2\)See §1.2.3, for an explanation of dual lattices.
### Table 3.1: Table of Potts model partition functions, for exact finite lattice presented in this chapter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$Q$</th>
<th>size: $n \times m \times l$</th>
<th>source</th>
<th>figure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$4 \times 4 \times 4$</td>
<td>Pearson [81]</td>
<td>3.13(d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$4 \times 5 \times 5'$</td>
<td>Bhanot [10]</td>
<td>3.16(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$4 \times 4 \times 10$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.14(d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$4 \times 6 \times 10'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.1(d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$5 \times 5 \times 10'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.10(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$5 \times 5 \times 19'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.10(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$4 \times 4 \times 98'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.26(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$3 \times 3 \times 9'$</td>
<td>Martin [60]</td>
<td>3.27(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$3 \times 4 \times 10'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.27(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$4 \times 4 \times 10'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.27(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$3 \times 4 \times 10'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.28(a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$3 \times 3 \times 9'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.28(b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$4 \times 4 \times 98'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.28(c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$4 \times 4 \times 10'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.28(d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>$3 \times 3 \times 9'$</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>3.28(f)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.1 On phase transitions in 3d Ising model

For the 2d Potts model, an exact solution for $Q = 2$ is well known. For suitable boundary conditions (BCs) (see Appendix for details) it is:

$$Z_{MN}(x) = \prod_{r=1}^{M} \prod_{s=1}^{N} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2} K(x) \left( \cos \frac{2\pi r}{M} + \cos \frac{2\pi s}{N} \right) \right),$$

(3.1.1)

where

$$K(x) = \frac{x^{-2} \{1 - x^{-4}\}}{\{1 + x^{-4}\}^2}$$

(3.1.2)

(we review the solution in detail in the appendix, following Onsager’s method [78], §A). We compare finite lattice results obtained by our methods to the exact thermodynamic limit solution in order to study the relationship between sequences of finite-size results and limit results. This relationship will be what guides our interpretation of sequences of finite lattice results in the cases where we do not have exact thermodynamic limit solutions. It also gives us a way to study finite size effects in general.

#### Signals of phase transition: 2d Ising model

The zeros distributions for the 2d Ising model on $5 \times 5$, $10 \times 10$, $18 \times 18$, and $\infty \times \infty$ (thermodynamic limit) are shown in Figure 3.3, respectively. In the limit the zeros form two solid circles as shown if Figure 3.3(d).

In the limit the zeros have perfect 8-fold symmetry: inversion in the unit circle; symmetry by complex conjugation; and sign-reversal symmetry (since it is a function of $x^2$). Further, the circle on the right does cut the real axis in $\mathfrak{F}$, at $e^{\beta_c} = \sqrt{2} + 1$. 

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Figure 3.3: Zeros of $Z$ in $x$ for the $N_x \times N_x$ Ising model with self-dual boundary conditions. The degree of $Z$ in sub-figure: (a) is 50; (b) is 200; (c) is 648.

If we view Figures 3.3(a)-(d) as a sequence of figures. Then as the size of the lattice increase, notice the way the zeros start to form two circles like those in Figure 3.3(d).

For now we shall focus on the large arms in the 1st and 2nd quadrant, which are linear enough (as it were) to have ‘endpoints’. Note, for the 2d Ising model, the specific locus is known. However, when we come to study other models, we will not know it in general, or if one even exists.

Notice as the lattice size increases, the endpoints of each arm get closer to $\tilde{F}$. In light of our analysis in Section 2.3, we interpret this behaviour as an indication of a critical point — a thermodynamic limit singular point in the behaviour of the specific heat.

Evidence of ‘Phase transitions’ in the 3d Ising model

A strict real-beta singular point can occur only in the thermodynamic limit. Our models however, are finite-sized. Nonetheless, suppose we view Figure 3.1 in a similar manner to the 2d model.
That is, if we look at the figures as a sequence of figures, we see that as the size of the lattice increases the zeros start to form some sort of structure analogous to the 2d case. Notice, the two large arms in the 1st and 2nd quadrant pinch the real axis. (Note, we shall look at the point they pinch in further detail later in the chapter). Also, the zeros for the $6 \times 4 \times 10'$ lattice show the same 8 fold symmetries are also present.

Recall Section 2.3.1, our signal for a phase transition is a singular point in the specific heat curve. The specific heat curves plots in this chapter are $C_V/k_B \beta^2$ against $\exp(\beta)$ unless stated otherwise. We accompany the plots with an overlay of corresponding zero distributions close to $\tilde{g}$. Recall that Equation (2.3.9) gives a direct relationship between these plots.

Figure 3.4(a) shows a blow up of the 1st quadrant. Here we overlay the sub-figures of Figure 3.3. The thermodynamic limit solution case is indicated by the thin grey line. The specific heat curves of these models are plotted in 3.4(b) and we have marked the critical point $e^{\beta_c}$.

[3.2] For Figure 3.4(b), we compute the part of $C_V$ coming from the high and low temperature ends of the polynomial $Z$ (and the limit $Z$), to show how they are the same or nearly the same.

**Figure 3.4:** With reference to Figure 3.3: (a) overlays the zeros distributions close to $\tilde{g}$ in the first quadrant; (b) overlays the corresponding specific heat curves.
A blowup of the zeros of Figure 3.1 in the first quadrant pinching $\mathcal{F}$ is shown in Figure 3.5(a). For comparison, we also indicate an estimate critical temperature given by $\beta = 0.2216544$ with a claimed standard deviation of $3 \times 10^{-7}$, (Talapov and Blöte (1996) [92], using a Monte–Carlo simulation) for the 3d Ising model, as
\[ e^{2\beta} \approx 1.558 =: x_t. \] (3.1.3)

Note, Talapov and Blöte give $\beta$ in the Ising model variable. In Equation (3.1.3), we convert this to our Potts model variable, hence $e^{2\beta}$.

The respective specific heat curves for Figure 3.1 are plotted in Figure 3.5(b). In all further, specific heat plots related to the 3d Ising model, we shall use a dashed vertical line to indicate $x_t$.

Notice the ‘divergence’ in the specific heat close to the $x_t$.

[3.3] Comparing the 2d and 3d sequences, we claim that these results are evidence not only that the 3d Ising model is capable of modelling a phase transition, but also that the relevant part of the complex analytic structure of $Z$ is linear, as in the 2d case (cf. the clock model in [64] Figure 11.9 for example).
Figure 3.5: With reference to Figure 3.1: (a) overlays the zeros distributions close to $\hat{y}$ in the first quadrant; (b) overlays the corresponding specific heat curves.
3.2 Validating our interpretation of results

In this thesis, the zeros of the Potts model partition function for finite-sized 2d and 3d lattices are studied. Are our finite-size partition function results credible approximations to thermodynamic limit systems?

Suppose the partition function $Z$ for some toy model on a lattice with $N$ spins is

$$Z = x^{2N} + 1. \quad (3.2.1)$$

The free energy density $f$ is written in the form

$$f = N^{-1} \ln(Z)$$

$$= N^{-1} \ln(x^{2N} + 1)$$

$$= N^{-1} \ln \left( x^N (x^N + x^{-N}) \right). \quad (3.2.2)$$

As $x = \exp(\beta)$,

$$f = \frac{1}{N} \left( \ln(e^{\beta N}) + \ln(e^{\beta N} + e^{-\beta N}) \right)$$

$$= \beta + \frac{1}{N} \ln(2 \cosh(\beta N))$$

$$= \beta + \frac{1}{N} \ln(2) + \frac{1}{N} \ln(\cosh(\beta N)). \quad (3.2.3)$$

The internal energy is

$$U = -\frac{\partial N^{-1} \ln(Z)}{\partial \beta}$$

$$= - \left( 1 + \frac{1}{N} \frac{N \sinh(\beta N)}{\cosh(\beta N)} \right)$$

$$= -1 - \tanh(\beta N) \quad (3.2.4)$$

Figure 3.6 shows the tanh graph for various $N$. Notice at $\beta = 0$, the change in $U$ becomes more and more rapid as $N$ increases. In the limit, $U$ is discontinuous. So even our simple toy model shows signs of displaying a first order phase transition [4] (albeit at zero temperature). See Baxter (1982) [9] for an example of a phase transition (at zero temperature) for the 1d Ising model.
Figure 3.7: A $5 \times 5$, and a $15 \times 15$ lattice. The grey shaded area in each figure highlights the number of spins on the boundary and their nearest neighbour interactions. The larger the lattice the smaller the ratio of spins on the boundary to spins in the bulk. In these figures, the ratio is $16 : 9$ spins and $56 : 169$ respectively.

For a thermodynamic system we consider the following finite-size properties [64]:

(1) **size** - the bulk observables of a physical system are independent of the systems size. For example, consider temperature at which an ice cube and an ice berg melts. Here we find that both will melt at the same temperature. That is, the thermodynamic properties of the system are independent to the size of the system.

(2) **boundary** - the number of particles close to the boundary of the system are negligible compared to those in the bulk of the system (cf. Figure 3.7). For example, consider an ice cube melting. At certain (non-critical) temperatures, the surface of the ice cube may be a mixture of liquid and ice, but the bulk of the cube may still frozen. However, at the critical temperature, the bulk of the ice cube will also start to melt.

The results in Figure 3.1 and 3.3 are a sequence of lattice sizes tending to the thermodynamic limit. We now recall (cf. [22]) the formal definition “limit of a sequence”.

**Definition 3.2.1 (Limit of a sequence).** Let $a_n$ be an infinite sequence of real numbers (where $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$). We say a real number $A$ is the limit of $a_n$ as $n$ goes to infinity if, for every real positive number $\epsilon$, there exists an integer $\delta$ (which depends on $\epsilon$) such that for all $n > \delta$, $|a_n - A| < \epsilon$.

The sequence of graphs in Figure 3.6 contains many examples of Definition 3.2.1, that is, a limit for each $\beta$ value. Suppose each $\beta$ has a limit, then the plot of all the limits against $\beta$ is another graph, say the "limit" graph.

Let $a_n$ be the gradient of $\tanh(n\beta)$ at a given $\beta$. For example, at $\beta = 0.01$ we have $A = 0$. The limit graph in this case is a step function, which has zero gradient everywhere except at $\beta = 0$. This notion of limit graph then generalises the definition (which, as it is, is just for number sequences).
Note, the 1d Potts model and the toy model described above, the sequence has a “natural” order. In 2d and 3d, a natural order is not as clear. Ideally, we would to keep to globally square and cubic lattices dimensions for 2d and 3d respectfully, however this is not always computationally possible.

In Sections 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 we check if: (a) the arms approaching $\mathbf{\hat{3}}$ also tend to some sequence; (b) our results are dependent on any boundary or size effects.
3.2.1 Checking dependence on boundary conditions

What is evidence of limit behaviour that can be interpreted from determining the limits of our zeros distribution? We check boundary dependence, by applying various boundary conditions to a fixed size lattice. First we shall investigate the “behaviour” of the zeros distribution for the 2d Ising model under various boundary conditions. Then we carry out parallel checks on the 3d Ising model.

![Diagram of zeros distribution for 14x14 Ising model with various boundary conditions](image)

**Figure 3.8:** Zeros of the partition function $Z$ in $x$ for the $14 \times 14$ Ising model with various boundary conditions. The degree of $Z$ in sub-figure: (a) is 378; (b) is 378; (c) is 392; (d) is 392.

Figure 3.8 shows the zero distributions for a model on a $14 \times 14$ lattice with various boundary conditions. It is useful to overlay each distribution with Onsager’s solution (grey circles). The variation of the position of the zeros in each figure suggests that this model is susceptible to interactions of spins on the boundary.

For a 2d finite-sized model (such as in Figure 3.8), we see that by applying dual boundary
conditions, the zeros (in the positive region) comply better with the thermodynamic limit solution. See Figure 3.8(d) or Chen et al (1996) [19] for example. We can apply such boundary condition because the 2d Ising model is self-dual [50]. The 3d Ising model is not self-dual\(^3\), so how else may we interpret the role of boundary conditions in our results?

![Diagram](image)

**Figure 3.9:** Zeros of \(Z\) in \(x\) for the \(N_x \times N_y\)' Ising model with fixed open/periodic boundary conditions. The degree of \(Z\) in sub-figure: (a) is 45; (b) is 190; (c) is 630; (d) is 1970. (What effect do boundary conditions have on zero distributions?)

The zeros of the 2d Ising models in Figure 3.9, have boundary conditions that are similar to the ones we have in the 3d Potts model case. ie. a combination of open and periodic boundary conditions. Notice as the lattice size increases the position of zeros comply better to the thermodynamic limit case (also see Figure 3.25). Also note that the endpoints of the \(18 \times 18'\) Ising model lie closer to \(\mathfrak{f}\) than in the case of the \(10 \times 99'\) Ising model.

Recall that the \(10 \times 99'\) zeros are a model (in the sense of Section 2.3.2) of the analytic structure

\(^3\)It is dual to the Ising gauge model, see Savit (1980) [86]
of the largest eigenvalue of the 10-site wide lattice transfer matrix. Whereas the $18 \times 18'$ zeros (while they might be not as good model of the 18 site wide transfer matrix, and is a smaller lattice in terms of number of sites) are a better model of a large square lattice.

Consider the zeros of the 3d Ising model on a $5 \times 5 \times 5'$ lattice (Figure 3.10(a)). In the first quadrant the inversion symmetry in the unit circle is "broken" by what seems to be a zero trailing off the line of zeros approaching the anti-ferromagnetic region. The zeros of the $5 \times 5 \times 10'$ and $5 \times 5 \times 19'$ confirm this, and might even seem to indicate that they are approaching the region at two separate points. However, in comparison, the $6 \times 4 \times 10'$ lattice (Figure 3.1(d)) does not show this effect. So which one is the correct approximation?

[3.4] First, we compare the ground-state configurations of the $5 \times 5 \times 10'$ and $6 \times 4 \times 10'$ model at high $\beta$ (low temperature). That is, a configuration when the Hamiltonian value is a maximum (ie. when all the spins are aligned). For the $5 \times 5 \times 10'$ case it is $2 \pi^{725}$ and for $6 \times 4 \times 10'$ case it

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**Figure 3.10**: Zeros of $Z$ in $x$ for the $5 \times 5 \times N_x'$ Ising model. The degree of $Z$ in sub-figure: (a) is 350; (b) is 725; (c) is 1400 (d) is 725.
Figure 3.11: A configuration of the Ising model on a $3 \times 4$ lattice.

At low $\beta$ (high temperature) the ground-state configuration is the configuration with a minimum Hamiltonian value. The term for the $6 \times 4 \times 10'$ at this ground-state configuration is $2x^0$. Here every spin is in a different state to its nearest neighbour. For the $5 \times 5 \times 10'$ the ground-state is $2470x^{100}$ (see Appendix E). This is because, whenever periodic boundary conditions are applied to a side with an odd number of spins, then it is not possible (for the $Q=2$-state model at least) for a configuration to have every spin in a different state to its nearest neighbour. For example, in Figure 3.11 we show a configuration for a $Q=\{\uparrow, \downarrow\}$-state Potts model on a $3 \times 4$ lattice.

The next terms in each model, at high and low temperature are obtained by changing the state of a spin on the boundary. The partition function $Z$ for the $6 \times 4 \times 10'$ model is

$$Z = 2x^{696} + 96x^{691} + \ldots + 96x^5 + 2.$$  

However, the partition function $Z'$ for the $5 \times 5 \times 10'$ model is

$$Z' = 2x^{725} + 100x^{720} + \ldots + 12600x^{101} + 2470x^{100}.$$  

Note that for $Z$, the coefficients and the change in energy is the same for a high and low temperature expansion (see Section 1.2.2). This is not the case for $Z'$, and hence, the inversion in the unit circle symmetry is broken.

Recall in Figure 3.8, by applying self-dual boundary conditions on 2d Ising model, the zeros comply better with the thermodynamic limit solution. The 3d Ising model is not however self-dual. So suppose we manipulate the partition function slightly. That is, we sum together corresponding coefficients of the ferromagnetic and anti-ferromagnetic models. This will then make the coefficients for the high/low temperature expansions the same. Figure 3.10(d) (labelled ‘$(5 \times 5 \times 10')^*$’), shows the distribution for such a manipulation.

Now the zeros are inverted in the unit circle, and we see the distribution has “cleaned up”. The caveat to this is that there is an extra line of zeros that lie on the unit circle in the 3rd and
To summarise, the impact of the spins on the boundary depends on the dimension of the lattice. Next, we look at a lattice where $N_x$ is odd and $N_y$ is even. In Figures 3.12 - 3.14 we compare periodic/open boundary conditions on various lattice sizes.

![Figure 3.12: Control boundary conditions I. $N_x = \{5, 5'\}, N_y = \{4, 4'\}, N_z = 10'$. The degree of $Z$ in sub-figure: (a) is $490$; (b) is $530$; (c) is $540$ (d) is $580$.](image)

Figure 3.12, highlights the effect that boundary conditions have on our zero distribution. The arm of zeros approaching $\mathcal{F}$ for this lattice size do not seem to be considerably affected by changes in boundary conditions.

Notice the zeros approaching anti-ferromagnetic of $5 \times 4' \times 10'$. Here we can see the zeros approaching the region at two different points. Compare this to $5' \times 4' \times 10'$. and $5' \times 4 \times 10'$. We see that it is only a boundary effect.

Computationally, the lattice sizes represented here provide an excellent check when testing code for improvements on speed or memory usage. We are able to profile the programs full run-time for...
In Figure 3.13, we fix the lattice size to be the same in all directions, and vary between open and periodic boundary conditions. Note the $4 \times 4 \times 4$ (Figure 3.13(d)), was first calculated by Pearson [81] in 1982. Notice the perfect 8 fold symmetry present in this model.
Figure 3.14: Control boundary conditions III. $N_x = N_y = \{4, 4^\prime\}, N_z = \{10, 10^\prime\}$. The degree of $Z$ in sub-figure: (a) is 384; (b) is 424; (c) is 464 (d) is 480.

Due to computational restrictions, for large lattices we can only compute the long direction with open boundary conditions. For comparison, we test the $4 \times 4 \times 10$ lattice, to see what the effect may be. Here we see there is not much difference between the $4 \times 4 \times 10^\prime$ and the $4 \times 4 \times 10$. 
3.2.2 Checking dependence on size

Recall our simple model described in Section 3.2, $Z = x^{2M} + 1$, where $x = \exp(\beta)$. Denote the $j$th zero of the partition function as $z_j = r \exp(i\theta_j)$. Note, the argument $\theta_j$ of $z_j$ is known as the phase.

![Figure 3.15](image)

**Figure 3.15:** Showing the zeros of $Z = x^N + 1$, for various $N$

Notice as $N = 2M$ increase, the zero get closer to the real axis (i.e. $\theta_j$ becomes smaller), see Figure 3.15. This simple model, shows that the zeros cut the real axis at $e^\beta = 1$. That is, only at zero temperature, does this model show a phase transition.

We now show the results for a series of controlled experiments, on various lattice sizes.
Figure 3.16: Control lattice size I. $N_x \times 5 \times 10'$: (a) $N_x = 2$; (b) $N_x = 3$; (c) $N_x = 4$; (d) $N_x = 5$. In sub-figure (c) we overlay a result from [10].

In 1990, Bhanot et al. [10] computed the $5 \times 4 \times 5'$. We overlay this result with the $5 \times 4 \times 10'$ in Figure 3.16(c), as check to show that our computation is correct.
In Figure 3.17(d), notice the zeros on the large arm all seem to lie on some curve, except the zero closest to $\mathfrak{g}$. We investigate this further in the next section.

### 3.3 Further analysis: Specific heat

Recall Section 1.1.3, the specific heat $C_V$ can be calculated from the partition function

$$\frac{C_V}{k_B \beta^2} = -\frac{\partial^2 \ln(Z)}{\partial \beta^2}.$$  

Also recall Section 2.3.1. We relate the zeros of the partition function to the specific heat. In the following figures we show a blow up of the zeros in the 1st quadrant near $\mathfrak{g}$, along with their corresponding specific heat curves.

Figure 3.18(a), we overlay the zero distributions of the 2d Ising model from Figure 3.8. We have focused on the zeros close to $\mathfrak{g}$, and plotted the corresponding specific heat curves.
Notice the position of the peak along the real axis is the position of the zero closest to $\xi$. Also the height of the peak corresponds to the distance between the zero closest to $\xi$ and $\xi$.

Care has to be taken, as we see the peak of the $14 \times 14'$ is closer to $e^{\beta_c}$ than the $14 \times 14$ model. The close up (Figure 3.18(a)), shows the position of the peak is dominated by the position of the zero closest to $\xi$.

Next we look at the 3d Ising models.

**Figure 3.18:** With reference to Figure 3.8: (a) overlays the zeros distributions close to $\xi$ in the first quadrant; (b) overlays the corresponding specific heat curves.
Here we see that $5 \times 4' \times 10'$ and $5' \times 4 \times 10'$ zero distributions slightly vary, thus indicating a small dependence on boundary conditions at this lattice size. However there is still quite a significant difference in the $5' \times 4' \times 10'$ and $5 \times 4 \times 10'$ distributions.
The close up in Figure 3.21(a) shows that there is not much dependence on boundary conditions in the curve’s position between $4 \times 4 \times 10'$ and $4 \times 4 \times 10$. However notice the unusual behaviour of the zeros in Figure 3.22.
Figure 3.23: An overlay of zero distributions of large lattices close to \( \tilde{\xi} \), along with their corresponding specific heat curves.

If we compare the \( 5 \times 5 \times 10' \), \( 6 \times 4 \times 10' \) and \( 4 \times 4 \times 10 \), we notice the endpoints all lie very close to each other. But the specific heat curves show a far bigger difference in the height of each peak. Notice the density of zeros close to the real line. We see this also contributes to the height of the peak.
Recall [2,3]. Here we compare $c_V$ and $C_V$. Figure 3.24(a) is our usual plot of $C_V/k_B\beta^2$ vs. $e^\beta$. Figures 3.24(b) and 3.24(c), we plot $c_V := C_V/N$ vs $e^\beta$, where $N$ is the number of spins on the lattice. Notice in Figure 3.24(c) the height of the peak for the $4 \times 4 \times 10$ is same as the $5 \times 5 \times 19'$, and higher than the $5 \times 5 \times 10'$, and $6 \times 4 \times 10'$ peaks.

**Figure 3.24:** A look at the $5 \times 5 \times N_z$ on various axis.
3.4 Eigenvalue analysis

Here we look at the analytic structure of the transfer matrices in a 2d and 3d Ising model. Figure 3.25 shows the zero distribution for the 2d Ising model on a $10 \times N_y'$ lattice, where $N_y = \{10, 20, 50, 99\}$.

![Figure 3.25: Zeros of the partition function $Z$ for the $10 \times N_y'$ Ising model, $N_y = \{10', 20', 50', 99'\}$. The degree of $Z$ in sub-figure: (a) is 190; (b) is 390; (c) is 990; (d) is 1970; As discussed in Section 2.3 we can see from the sequence of figures, that the zeros lie on curves whose shape and endpoints are determined by $T$ and not by the number of layers $l$. That is, the zeros get denser on these curves, but do not get closer to the real axis, as $l$ increases. Nevertheless we can still consider a $N \times N \times (N + L)$ (where $l = N + L$), a 3d sequence.](image-url)
Figure 3.26: Zeros of the partition function $Z$ in $x = e^\beta$. The degree of $Z$ for sub-figure: (a) is 2664 (b) is 3552 (c) is 4688 (d) is 1400.

In Figure 3.26(c), we show the distribution of zeros for the Ising model on a $4 \times 4 \times 98'$ lattice. This is a partition function summed over more than $10^{472}$ configurations! Recall Section 2.3, this distribution allows us to probe the analytic structure of the largest magnitude eigenvalues for this $2^{16} \times 2^{16}$ transfer matrix. Comparing this to Pearson’s results, this result gives a much clearer indication of where the eigenvalues of such a large matrix are degenerate.
Here we display our zeros distribution for $Q > 2$-state Potts model on various 2d lattices (Figures 3.27 and 3.28) and 3d lattices (Figure 3.31).

**Figure 3.27:** The zeros of the partition functions in $Z$ in $x = e^\beta$ for various $Q = 3$-state 2d Potts models

It has been shown that the distribution of zeros lie, in part, on an arc of known circle determined similarly to the locus computed in Section 1.2.3 (c.f. [38]), but not all zeros are confined to it.

This circle is the locus of points for which the duality transformation corresponds to complex conjugation:

$$e^\beta = \frac{1 - Q}{1 + \sqrt{Q}e^{i\theta}} \quad \text{for } 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$$

(3.5.1)

Note, the $Q = 3$-state 10 × 12, and $Q = 5$-state 7 × 9 (Figure 3.28) Potts models are computed by Martin [66].
Figure 3.28: The zeros of the partition functions in $Z$ in $z = e^\beta$ for various ($Q > 2$)-state 2d Potts model
Figure 3.29, is a sequence of zeros distributions, $Q = 3$-state 3d Potts model (the $3 \times 3 \times 9'$ result in Figure 3.29(b), was first computed by Martin [60]). Note, that in this sequence, the arm of zeros approaching $\mathbb{S}$ tend to be settled and well defined. However the zeros approaching the anti-ferromagnetic region have not stabilised. For example, notice the difference in the zeros in the anti-ferromagnetic region of Figures 3.29(b) and 3.29(f).

Consider the anti-ferromagnetic ground-state configurations in a 3d lattice. If we look at any line of adjacent spins through the lattice (which would be like a 1d sub-lattice), then this must also be a ground-state. With open boundary conditions there is no problem forming such lines, which are anti-ferromagnetic ground-states by a pattern (ie. in the line path through the 3d lattice) $12121212\ldots$ from one edge to the other; or $123123123\ldots$ or various others. But with a short periodic direction, some of these ground-state patterns are frustrated by the periodicity [24]. For example, if we have a configuration $12121$, then 1 meets 1, and it is not an anti-ferromagnetic ground-state at all.

We check size and boundary dependence for a $Q = 3$-state Potts model in Figures 3.29 and 3.30 respectively.

In Figure 3.31, we plot the distribution of zeros for some further $Q$-state Potts models.
Figure 3.29: The zeros of the partition functions in $Z$ in $x = e^\beta$ for $(Q = 3)$-state models on various 3d lattices.
Figure 3.30: The zeros of the partition functions in $Z$ in $x = e^{\beta}$ for $(Q = 3)$-state models on a $3 \times 4 \times 10'$ lattice with various boundary conditions.
Figure 3.31: The zeros of the partition functions in $Z$ in $x = e^{\beta}$ for various $(Q > 2)$-state models on various 3d lattices.
Chapter 4

Discussion

We have studied the zeros of the Potts model partition function on finite 3d lattices \( N_x \times N_y \times N_z \). Using a transfer matrix formalism, we compute the exact partition function in a polynomial expression, in the variable \( x = e^\beta \). Our results show a diminishing dependence on lattice size and boundary conditions close to the ferromagnetic region. We also explain the difficulties that arise in the formalism close to the anti-ferromagnetic region.

Our aim is to locate the critical points of the 3d Ising model. In Table 4.1, we estimate the value for the critical point of the 3d Ising model using our largest results. We have numerically extrapolated the line of \( N \) zeros closest the ferromagnetic region, for the \( 5 \times 5 \times 10' \) and \( 6 \times 4 \times 10' \) Ising model results. The estimated points have been obtained using various in-built curve fitting functions of Maple [98]. (The process of estimating the critical points by extrapolating the zeros in the complex plane has been carried out by: Abe 1967 [1]; Katsura 1967 [47]; Ono et al 1967 [77]; Abe and Katsura 1970 [2]. Although the zeros are calculated for much smaller lattice sizes).

By studying a sequence of finite lattice results we infer that the 3d Ising model does exhibit co-operative phenomena (§1.1). Our results also seem to agree with an estimate of the critical temperature (§1.2.4) by Talapov (1996) [92]. However, an exception to this, is the zeros distributions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>lattice size</th>
<th>( N )</th>
<th>Polynomial</th>
<th>Least square</th>
<th>Thiele</th>
<th>Cubic spline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 \times 5 \times 10'</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1.57456</td>
<td>1.58941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 \times 5 \times 10'</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.56071</td>
<td>1.58656</td>
<td>1.59617</td>
<td>1.58860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 \times 5 \times 10'</td>
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<td>1.57201</td>
<td>1.58486</td>
<td>1.56560</td>
<td>1.58844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 \times 5 \times 10'</td>
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<td>1.58140</td>
<td>1.58140</td>
<td>1.58140</td>
<td>1.58140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 \times 4 \times 10'</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>1.56893</td>
<td>1.59965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 \times 4 \times 10'</td>
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<td>1.56461</td>
<td>1.59772</td>
<td>1.98972</td>
<td>1.59874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1.57594</td>
<td>1.59452</td>
<td>1.55325</td>
<td>1.59917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 \times 4 \times 10'</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.58942</td>
<td>1.58942</td>
<td>1.58942</td>
<td>1.58942</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textbf{Table 4.1:} Extrapolating the critical point, using various curve fitting techniques.
in Figure 3.22(a). Our results also agree with previous work by Martin 1983 [61], Pearson 1982 [81], and Bhanot and Sastry 1990 [10]. For other $Q$-state models, such as the ones shown in Figures 3.27 and 3.28, our results agree with the findings of Hintermann (1978) [38].

Another interesting outcome of our results is that we are able to probe the analytic structure of the largest eigenvalues, for typically large matrices. However, we assume that the thermodynamic functions have the same functional features in the complex plane as they have in the real variable [90].

The specific heat observables of these partition functions results are also studied. We see the strong relation between the zero distribution close to the real ferromagnetic region and the position of the peak of the specific heat curve [43] (cf. §1.3). However, we find this is not true when we plot the specific heat per $N_x N_y N_z$ spins (such as in Figure 3.24(c)).

The computation of such large partition functions, requires a sophisticated level of programming. Computing results, such as the $5 \times 5 \times 19'$, requires solving many time and space complexity problems (cf [84]). That is, we are restricted computational limits, such as CPU processing time and memory usage required. However, we resist the temptation to present the vast amount of C++ programming code used. Instead, in Appendix B, we use the mathematical tools and notation introduced in Section 2.2 to describe our code. The code and all our exact partition function results are available to download at www.priyena.com [93].

We have considered the zeros of the partition function in the $x = e^{\beta}$-plane. There are other variables that we could present our results in. For example, the high temperature expansion (§1.2.2) variable tanh $\beta$ (cf. Pearson [81]). Or we could follow Martin [60], who plots the zeros of the 3-state Potts model in $x = \exp(-\frac{3}{2}\beta)$. That is, to consider the model as an Ising model with spin variables that take values from $\sqrt{3}+1$.

Another interesting variation to the Potts model, is to consider anisotropic interactions. This is known as the clock model. See Martin [63, 64] for zero distributions of clock models.

So how may we compute partition function on even larger lattices? The tools we have describe, leave open a wide range of ways to grow the lattice, such that a computation maybe manageable in terms of time and memory. One possible method could be to consider some sort of hybrid version of the parallel computing method used by Bhanot and Sastry, and our method described in Appendix B.
Appendix A

Onsager’s Exact Solution proof

In 1944, Lars Onsager solved the 2d Ising model in a zero field [78]. Onsager’s solution is too complex to interpret for the context of this thesis. Instead, we use a simplification of his result, as derived by Martin [61, §2].

Recall Section 2.2.1, the partition function $Z$ is expressed by transfer matrix $T$ with suitable boundary conditions. That is, for spins on a $N \times M$ lattice, $Z = \text{Tr}(T^M)$, where $T$ is a $2^N$ square matrix. Further if $\{\lambda_i\}$ are the eigenvalues of $T$, then

$$Z = \sum_i (\lambda_i^M). \quad (A.0.1)$$

Unfortunately the eigenvalues of $T$ are not known and cannot be easily found.

A.1 Notations and background maths

A.1.1 Matrix algebra

Although matrices $A$ and $B$ may not commute (ie. $AB \neq BA$), we find that the trace of their product does ie. $\text{Tr}(AB) = \text{Tr}(BA)$. Further if a matrix $S$ is used to diagonalise matrix $A$, ie. $SAS^{-1}$, then

$$\text{Tr}(SAS^{-1}) = \text{Tr}(S^{-1}SA) = \text{Tr}(A) \quad (A.1.1)$$

For two arbitrary matrices $A$ and $B$, we have the direct product (Kronecker product) defined as

$$A \otimes B = \begin{bmatrix}
a_{11}B & a_{12}B & \cdots & a_{1n}B \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
a_{m1}B & a_{m2}B & \cdots & a_{mn}B
\end{bmatrix}. \quad (A.1.2)$$

If $A$ is an $m \times n$ matrix and $B$ is a $p \times q$ matrix, then their Kronecker product $A \otimes B$ is an $mp \times nq$ matrix.

Let $1_i$ ($i \in \mathbb{N}$), denote an $i \times i$ identity matrix. Further, let $1_i^{\otimes k}$ be the result of applying

$$1_i^{\otimes k} = 1_i \otimes 1_i \otimes \ldots \otimes 1_i \quad (A.1.3)$$
The Kronecker product is not commutative. If $A$ and $B$ are both $k \times k$ matrices, then for fixed $N \in \mathbb{N}$ denote
\[
A_i = (1_k^{\otimes i-1} \otimes A \otimes 1_k^{\otimes N-i}) , \quad \text{and} \quad B_j = (1_k^{\otimes j-1} \otimes B \otimes 1_k^{\otimes N-j}).
\]

Every $A_i$ and $B_j$ will commute for every $\{i, j \in \mathbb{N} | i \neq j \}$. Note for matrices $A$ and $B$, if $A$ and $B$ are the same dimension and $AB$ exists then
\[
1_a^{\otimes i} \otimes AB \otimes 1_b^{\otimes j} = (1_a^{\otimes i} \otimes A \otimes 1_b^{\otimes j}) \times (1_a^{\otimes i} \otimes B \otimes 1_b^{\otimes j}) \quad (A.1.4)
\]
\[
1_a^{\otimes i} \otimes (A + B) \otimes 1_b^{\otimes j} = (1_a^{\otimes i} \otimes A \otimes 1_b^{\otimes j}) + (1_a^{\otimes i} \otimes B \otimes 1_b^{\otimes j}) \quad (A.1.5)
\]

There are three Pauli matrices, denoted $\sigma^x$, $\sigma^y$, $\sigma^z$ where
\[
\sigma^x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma^y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sigma^z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.
\]

The following properties are easily verified
\[
(\sigma^x)^2 = (\sigma^y)^2 = (\sigma^z)^2 = 1_2 \quad (A.1.7)
\]
\[
\sigma^x \sigma^y = -\sigma^y \sigma^x, \quad \forall x, y \in \{x, y, z\} \quad (A.1.8)
\]
\[
\sigma^x \sigma^y = i\sigma^z, \quad \sigma^y \sigma^z = i\sigma^x, \quad \sigma^z \sigma^x = i\sigma^y \quad (A.1.9)
\]

**Notation:** For $x \in \{x, y, z\}$ and $i, n \in \mathbb{N}$ where $i \leq n$, denote
\[
\sigma_i^x = 1_2^{\otimes i-1} \otimes \sigma^x \otimes 1_2^{\otimes n-i}.
\]

By using Equation (A.1.4) the following can also be verified:
\[
(\sigma_i^x)^2 = 1_2^n, \quad \forall x \in \{x, y, z\} \quad (A.1.11)
\]
\[
\sigma_i^x \sigma_i^y = -\sigma_i^y \sigma_i^x, \quad \forall x, y \in \{x, y, z\} \quad (A.1.12)
\]
\[
\sigma_i^x \sigma_i^y = \sigma_i^z \sqrt{-1}, \quad \sigma_i^y \sigma_i^z = \sigma_i^x \sqrt{-1}, \quad \sigma_i^z \sigma_i^x = \sigma_i^y \sqrt{-1} \quad (A.1.13)
\]

See the proofs of propositions A.3.4 and A.3.5 for an example of how to verify A.1.12 and A.1.13 respectively. Also note as $(\sigma_i^x)^2 = 1_2^n$ then $e^{\theta i \sigma_i^x} = \cosh(\theta)1_2^n + \sinh(\theta)\sigma_i^x$.

### A.1.2 Clifford algebra

Here we introduce the algebra that is used to link rotation matrices to transfer matrices. We give a formal definition of the algebra, and prove its existence by example.

**Proposition A.1.1** (Clifford Relations [14]). For each $n$ there exists matrices $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, \ldots, \Gamma_{2n}$ of size $2^n \times 2^n$, obeying
\[
\Gamma_i^2 = 1_{2^n} \quad (A.1.14)
\]
\[
\Gamma_i \Gamma_j = -\Gamma_j \Gamma_i, \quad i \neq j \quad (A.1.15)
\]

Such a set is called a set of gamma-matrices ($\Gamma$-matrices).
Example A.1. We prove Proposition A.1.1 by existence. Suppose \( \Gamma_i \) is a set of \( \Gamma \)-matrices, and suppose \( S \) is an invertible matrix of size \( 2^n \times 2^n \), then

**Proposition A.1.2.** \( \{ S \Gamma_i S^{-1} \}_i \) is a set of \( \Gamma \)-matrices.

**Proof.** For every \( i \), \( S \Gamma_i S^{-1} \) is a \( 2^n \times 2^n \) matrix, such that

\[
(S \Gamma_i S^{-1})^2 = (S \Gamma_i S^{-1})(S \Gamma_i S^{-1})
\]

\[
= S \Gamma_i (S^{-1} S) \Gamma_i S^{-1}
\]

\[
= S \Gamma_i \Gamma_i S^{-1}
\]

\[
= S \mathbb{1}_{2^n} S^{-1}
\]

\[
= \mathbb{1}_{2^n}
\]  

(A.1.16)

and

\[
(S \Gamma_i S^{-1})(S \Gamma_j S^{-1}) = S \Gamma_i (S^{-1} S) \Gamma_j S^{-1}
\]

\[
= S (- \Gamma_j \Gamma_i) S^{-1}
\]

\[
= -(S \Gamma_j S^{-1})(S \Gamma_i S^{-1})
\]  

(A.1.17)

In order to link transfer matrices to rotational matrices, we can express Pauli matrices (Equation (A.1.6)) as \( \Gamma \)-matrices (Proposition A.1.1).

Example A.2. For \( n = 1 \), then \( \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \) are \( 2 \times 2 \) matrices. Suppose \( \Gamma_1 = \sigma^x \) and \( \Gamma_2 = \sigma^z \).

Then

\[
(\Gamma_1)^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{1}_2
\]

(A.1.18)

\[
(\Gamma_2)^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbb{1}_2
\]

(A.1.19)

\[
\Gamma_1 \Gamma_2 = \sigma^x \sigma^z = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}
\]

(A.1.20)

\[
\Gamma_2 \Gamma_1 = \sigma^z \sigma^x = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}
\]

(A.1.21)

Therefore

\[
\Gamma_2 \Gamma_1 = - \Gamma_1 \Gamma_2
\]

(A.1.22)
### A.2 Rotational matrices

#### A.2.1 Rotations in \(2n\)-dimensions

Every rotation in \(2n\)-dimensions can be defined by a \(2n\)-square matrix. For example, the matrix for a the rotation by \(\theta\) in the 1-2 plane is

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
\cos(\theta) & \sin(\theta) & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
-\sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \ldots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 1
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
x \\
y \\
z \\
t \\
\vdots \\
a
\end{pmatrix}
= 
\begin{pmatrix}
x \cos(\theta) + y \sin(\theta) \\
-x \sin(\theta) + y \cos(\theta) \\
z \\
t \\
\vdots \\
a
\end{pmatrix}
= 
\begin{pmatrix}
x' \\
y' \\
z \\
t \\
\vdots \\
a
\end{pmatrix}
\tag{A.2.1}
\]

Let

\[
M(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix}
\cos(\theta) & \sin(\theta) \\
-\sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta)
\end{pmatrix}.
\tag{A.2.2}
\]

The following properties of \(M\) are easily verified \(M(\theta + \theta') = M(\theta)M(\theta') = M(\theta')M(\theta)\) and \(M(2\pi) = M(0) = 1_2\). Also \(\det(M) = 1\), so the complex eigenvalues are \(\exp(\pm i\theta)\).

**Notation:** Let \(W\) be the group of rotational matrices. Let \(W_{ab}(\theta)\) denote the matrix representing rotation by \(\theta\) in the \(ab\) plane. Then for any \(i\), we have

\[
W_{i, i+1}(\theta) = 1_{i-1} \oplus M(\theta) \oplus 1_{(2n-i-1)}
\tag{A.2.3}
\]

where the spectrum of \(W_{i, i+1}\) is \(\{e^{\pm i\theta}, 1\}\). For example, the eigenvalues of say \(W_{12}(\theta)\) are

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
\cos \theta & \sin \theta \\
-\sin \theta & \cos \theta
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
-1
\end{pmatrix}
\sim 
\begin{pmatrix}
e^{i\theta} & e^{-i\theta} \\
e^{-i\theta} & e^{i\theta}
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
1
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
1
\end{pmatrix}
\]

\(\tag{A.2.4}\)

For any rotation group element of \(W\), the spectrum is of the form \(\text{diag}(e^{i\theta}, e^{-i\theta}, e^{i\theta'}, e^{-i\theta'}, \ldots)\).

#### A.2.2 Rotational matrices and Clifford algebra

We now show how rotational matrices \(W_{ab}(\theta)\) (§A.2.1) can be expressed in terms of \(\Gamma\)-matrices (§A.1.2).

**Fact A.2.1.** *Given a set of \(2^n \times 2^n\) \(\Gamma\)-matrices \(\{\Gamma_i\}_i\), then \(\{\Gamma'_i\}_i\), the set of \(2^n \times 2^n\) matrices given by

\[
\Gamma'_i = \cos(\theta)\Gamma_i + \sin(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1}
\tag{A.2.5}
\]

\[
\Gamma'_{i+1} = -\sin(\theta)\Gamma_i + \cos(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1}
\tag{A.2.6}
\]

\[
\Gamma'_j = \Gamma_j, \quad \forall j \neq i, i + 1,
\tag{A.2.7}
\]

is a set of \(\Gamma\)-matrices, ie. \(\{\Gamma'_i\}_i\), obey (A.1.14) and (A.1.15).*
Proof. Firstly we show for all $i$ Equation (A.1.14) holds true.

\[
(G_i')^2 = (\cos(\theta)\Gamma_i + \sin(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1})^2
= \cos^2(\theta)\Gamma_i^2 + \sin^2(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1}^2 + \cos(\theta)\sin(\theta)\Gamma_i\Gamma_{i+1} + \cos(\theta)\sin(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1}\Gamma_i
= \cos^2(\theta)1_{2n} + \sin^2(\theta)1_{2n} + \cos(\theta)\sin(\theta)\Gamma_i\Gamma_{i+1} + \cos(\theta)\sin(\theta)(-\Gamma_{i+1}\Gamma_i)
= 1_{2n}.
\]  

(A.2.8)

Similarly

\[
(G_{i+1}')^2 = (-\sin(\theta)\Gamma_i + \cos(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1})^2
= \cos^2(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1}^2 + \sin^2(\theta)\Gamma_i^2 - \cos(\theta)\sin(\theta)\Gamma_i\Gamma_{i+1} - \cos(\theta)\sin(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1}\Gamma_i
= 1_{2n}.
\]  

(A.2.9)

Next we show that Equation (A.1.15) holds true for all $i$.

\[
G_i'G_{i+1}' = (\cos(\theta)\Gamma_i + \sin(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1})(-\sin(\theta)\Gamma_i + \cos(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1})
= -\cos(\theta)\sin(\theta)\Gamma_i^2 + \cos^2(\theta)\Gamma_i\Gamma_{i+1} - \sin^2(\theta)\Gamma_i\Gamma_{i+1}\Gamma_i + \sin(\theta)\cos(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1}^2
= -\cos(\theta)\sin(\theta)\Gamma_i^2 + \cos^2(\theta)(-\Gamma_i\Gamma_{i+1}) - \sin^2(\theta)(-\Gamma_{i+1}\Gamma_i) + \sin(\theta)\cos(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1}^2
= (-\sin(\theta)\Gamma_i + \cos(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1})(-\cos(\theta)\Gamma_i - \sin(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1})
= -(\sin(\theta)\Gamma_i + \cos(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1})(\cos(\theta)\Gamma_i + \sin(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1})
= -\Gamma_{i+1}\Gamma_i
\]  

(A.2.10)

For all $i, j (j \neq i, i + 1)$

\[
G_i'G_j' = (\cos(\theta)\Gamma_i + \sin(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1})\Gamma_j
= \cos(\theta)\Gamma_i\Gamma_j + \sin(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1}\Gamma_j
= \cos(\theta)(-\Gamma_j\Gamma_i) + \sin(\theta)(-\Gamma_j\Gamma_{i+1})
= -\Gamma_j(\cos(\theta)\Gamma_i + \sin(\theta)\Gamma_{i+1})
= -\Gamma_j\Gamma_i
\]  

(A.2.11)

\[\square\]

We now show how rotational matrices are linked $\Gamma$-matrices. Take the $W_{12}(\theta)$ matrix as an example, but it is trivial to extend the concept to any $W_{ab}$ matrix.

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
\cos(\theta) & \sin(\theta) & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
-\sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \ldots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 1
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
\Gamma_1 \\
\Gamma_2 \\
\Gamma_3 \\
\Gamma_4 \\
\vdots \\
\Gamma_{2n}
\end{pmatrix}
= \begin{pmatrix}
\Gamma_1 \cos(\theta) + \Gamma_2 \sin(\theta) \\
-\Gamma_1 \sin(\theta) + \Gamma_2 \cos(\theta) \\
\Gamma_3 \\
\Gamma_4 \\
\vdots \\
\Gamma_{2n}
\end{pmatrix}
= \begin{pmatrix}
\Gamma_1' \\
\Gamma_2' \\
\Gamma_3' \\
\Gamma_4' \\
\vdots \\
\Gamma_{2n}'
\end{pmatrix}
\]
A.2.3 Product of rotational matrices

Let $W_1$ and $W_2$ be rotational matrices given by

$$W_1 = \prod_{i=1}^{n} W_{2i\ 2i-1}(2i\theta),$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.2.12)

and

$$W_2 = \prod_{i=1}^{n} W_{2i+1\ 2i}(2i\beta).$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.2.13)

Example A.3. For $n = 2$, let $c = \cos(2i\theta)$, $s = \sin(2i\theta)$, $c' = \cos(2i\beta)$, and $s' = \sin(2i\beta)$. Then

$$W_1 = W_{21}(2i\theta)W_{43}(2i\theta)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} c & s \\ -s & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -s \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c & s \\ -s & c \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} c & s \\ -s & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c & s \\ -s & c \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$W_2 = W_{32}(2i\beta)W_{04}(2i\beta)$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & c' & s' \\ -s' & c' & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c' & -s' \\ -s' & c' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} c' & -s' \\ -s' & c' \end{pmatrix}$$

Example A.4. For $n = 4$

$$W_1 = \begin{pmatrix} c & s & c & s \\ -s & c & -s & c \\ c & s & c & s \\ -s & c & -s & c \end{pmatrix}$$

$$W_2 = \begin{pmatrix} c' & s' & -s' \\ -s' & c' & c' \\ c' & s' & -s' \\ -s' & c' & c' \end{pmatrix}$$

Then let matrix $W = W_1W_2$. Expanding out the products

$$W = W_1W_2$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^{n} W_{2i\ 2i-1}(2i\theta) \prod_{i=1}^{n} W_{2i+1\ 2i}(2i\beta)$$

$$= W_{21}(2i\theta)W_{43}(2i\theta)W_{56}(2i\theta) \ldots W_{32}(2i\beta)W_{54}(2i\beta)W_{76}(2i\beta) \ldots$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^{2n} W_{a_i b_i}(\theta_i)$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.2.14)
where all \( \{a_i, b_i\} \) are distinct.

Define \( \mathfrak{T} \) as a \( 2n \times 2n \) shift operator matrix, ie. (when \( n = 3 \))

\[
\mathfrak{T} = \begin{pmatrix}
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
\end{pmatrix}
\]  
(A.2.15)

Then \( \mathfrak{T}^{2n} = I \) and for any \( i \),

\[
\mathfrak{T}^i W_1 \mathfrak{T}^{-i} = W_1
\]  
(A.2.16)

\[
\mathfrak{T}^i W_1 = W_1 \mathfrak{T}^i
\]  
(A.2.17)

Define variable \( z = e^{i\pi k/n} \), such that \( z^{2n} = 1 \).

**Proposition A.2.2.** \( z \) is an eigenvalue of \( \mathfrak{T} \).

**Proof.**

\[
\mathfrak{T} \begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
z \\
z^2 \\
z^3 \\
\vdots \\
z^{2n-1}
\end{pmatrix} = z \begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
z \\
z^2 \\
z^3 \\
\vdots \\
z^{2n-1}
\end{pmatrix}
\]  
(A.2.18)

hence \( z \) is an eigenvalue of \( \mathfrak{T} \).

Using Fourier transforms we define vector \( f_z \), as

\[
f_z = \begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
z^2 \\
z^4 \\
z^6 \\
\vdots \\
z^{2n-2}
\end{pmatrix}
\]  
(A.2.19)

and also vectors \( v_1 \) and \( v_2 \) as

\[
v_1^\ast = f_z \otimes \begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
0
\end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad v_2^\ast = f_z \otimes \begin{pmatrix}
0 \\
1
\end{pmatrix}
\]  
(A.2.20)

Then

\[
W_1 v_1^\ast = \begin{pmatrix}
c \\
-s \\
c z^2 \\
-s z^2 \\
\vdots \\
-s z^{2n-2}
\end{pmatrix} = c \begin{pmatrix}
1 \\
0 \\
z^2 \\
0 \\
\vdots \\
z^{2n-2}
\end{pmatrix} - s \begin{pmatrix}
0 \\
1 \\
z^2 \\
0 \\
\vdots \\
z^{2n-2}
\end{pmatrix}
\]  
(A.2.21)

\[
= c v_1^\ast - s v_2^\ast
\]  
(A.2.22)
Proof.

The determinant of the image matrix of the eigenvalues is equal to the trace of the matrix $W$. Proposition A.2.3 implies that the eigenvalues of $W$ must be reciprocal, i.e., $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2^{-1}$.

**A.2.4 Eigenvalues of W**

As $W$ is rotational matrix, we note that the eigenvalues will be of the form $e^{\pm i z}$. Then as the sum of the eigenvalues is equal to the trace of the matrix $W$ [87, Pg. 249]

$$e^{i z} + e^{-i z} = 2 \left( c' + \frac{z^2 + z^{-2}}{2} s' \right)$$

(A.2.31)
Then using the identities \( \cosh(x) \equiv \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2}, \cosh(ix) \equiv \cos(ix) \) and 
\( \sinh(x) \equiv i \sin(ix), \) gives

\[
\cosh(l_z) = \left( \cosh(2\theta) \cosh(2\beta) - \frac{z^2 + z^{-2}}{2} \sinh(2\theta) \sinh(2\beta) \right)
\]  
(A.2.32)

Since \( z \) is any solution to \( z^{2n} = 1, \) the complete set of \( l_z \) is obtained from \( z = e^{\pi i k/n} \) with \( k = 1, \ldots, n. \) By the Perron-Frobenius theorem each \( l_z \) is positive for physical parameters.

The eigenvalues of \( z \) can be written more precisely as

\[
\lambda = \exp \left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \pm l_z e^{\pi i k/n} \right).
\]
(A.2.33)

### A.3 Formulation

#### A.3.1 Local transfer matrices

In this section we provide a link between \( 2N \times 2N \) rotational matrices and the exponentially larger \( 2^N \times 2^N \) transfer matrix \( T. \) To begin with we introduce local horizontal and vertical bond transfer matrices. We then express \( T \) as a product of these matrices. These local transfer matrices are then expressed as \( \Gamma \)-matrices, thus allowing a connection to rotational matrices to be made.

**Notation:** Let \( T_i \) denote the local horizontal bond transfer matrix that adds a horizontal bond in the \( i \)th row; \( T_{i(i+1)} \) be the local vertical transfer matrix for the vertical bond between the spins in \( i \)-th and \((i+1)\)-th row; Let \( I_2 \) denote a \( 2 \times 2 \) identity matrix, such that for \( k \in \mathbb{N} \)

\[
I_2^\otimes k := I_2 \otimes I_2 \otimes \ldots \otimes I_2,
\]
(A.3.1)

that is a \( 2k \times 2k \) identity matrix.

For spins on a \( N \times M \) lattice, we have

\[
T_i = I_2^\otimes i-1 \otimes \begin{pmatrix} x & 1 \\ 1 & x \end{pmatrix} \otimes I_2^\otimes N-i,
\]
(A.3.2)

and

\[
T_{i(i+1)} = I_2^\otimes i-1 \otimes \begin{pmatrix} x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & x \end{pmatrix} \otimes I_2^\otimes N-(i+1).
\]
(A.3.3)

In terms of local transfer matrices, \( T \) is

\[
T = \left( \prod_i^N T_i \right) \left( \prod_i^N T_{i(i+1)} \right).
\]
(A.3.4)

where \( N + 1 = 1. \)

**Example A.5.** In Figure A.1, we show how an extra column of spins can be added to a \( 3 \times 2 \) model.

To write \( T_i \) and \( T_{i(i+1)} \) in terms of \( \Gamma \)-matrices, we first need to express them as Pauli matrices (Equation (A.1.6)). To do this we redefine our Hamiltonian such that

\[
H = \sum_{ij} \delta_{\sigma_i \sigma_j} = \sum_{ij} (2\delta_{\sigma_i \sigma_j} - 1).
\]
(A.3.5)
Figure A.1: Adding a sequence of horizontal and vertical bonds to a lattice

Then $T_i$ and $T_{i(i+1)}$ can be written as

$$T_i = \frac{x}{x^{-1}} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} x & x^{-1} \\ x^{-1} & x \end{pmatrix} \otimes \frac{x}{x^{-1}} \otimes \mathbb{1}_{N-i}^\otimes, \quad (A.3.6)$$

and

$$T_{i(i+1)} = \frac{x}{x^{-1}} \otimes \begin{pmatrix} x & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x^{-1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & x \end{pmatrix} \otimes \frac{x}{x^{-1}} \otimes \mathbb{1}_{N-(i+1)}^\otimes (A.3.7)$$

**Proposition A.3.1.** Each local horizontal transfer matrix can be expressed in terms of Pauli matrices, as

$$T_i = \frac{x}{x^{-1}} \otimes \exp(\theta \sigma_i^x) \quad (A.3.8)$$

**Proof.** For all $T_i$, the matrix in Equation (A.3.6), is written as

$$\begin{pmatrix} x & x^{-1} \\ x^{-1} & x \end{pmatrix} = x \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + x^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= x\mathbb{1}_2 + x^{-1}\sigma^x$$

$$= x\mathbb{1}_2 + x^{-2}\sigma^x$$

Therefore $T_i = \frac{x}{x^{-1}} \otimes x\mathbb{1}_2 + x^{-2}\sigma^x \otimes \mathbb{1}_{N-i}^\otimes$. Simplifying

$$T_i = x(\mathbb{1}_2^\otimes N + x^{-2}\sigma^x) \quad (A.3.10)$$

Using $(\sigma_i^x)^2 = \mathbb{1}_2^\otimes N$, and Taylor’s series expansion,

$$e^{\theta \sigma_i^x} = 1 + \theta \sigma_i^x + \frac{(\theta \sigma_i^x)^2}{2!} + \frac{(\theta \sigma_i^x)^3}{3!} + \frac{(\theta \sigma_i^x)^4}{4!} + \ldots$$

$$= \left(1 + \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} + \ldots \right) \mathbb{1}_2^\otimes n + \left(\theta + \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \ldots \right) \sigma^x_i$$

$$= \cosh(\theta)\mathbb{1}_2^\otimes N + \sinh(\theta)\sigma^x_i \quad (A.3.11)$$

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Therefore
\[
e^{\theta \sigma x} / \cosh(\theta) = (1 + x^{-2} \sigma x)
\] (A.3.12)

where
\[
x^{-2} = \tanh(\theta).
\] (A.3.13)

Thus by equations (A.3.12) and (A.3.10)
\[
T_i = x e^{\theta \sigma x} / \cosh(\theta)
\] (A.3.14)

\[\square\]

**Proposition A.3.2.** Local vertical transfer matrices \(T_{i(i+1)}\) can be expressed in terms of Pauli matrices, more precisely
\[
T_{i(i+1)} = \exp(\beta \sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z)
\] (A.3.15)

**Proof.** Identities (A.1.4) and (A.1.5) are used in the following proof. Note:
\[
\sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z = (1_2 \otimes \sigma^z \otimes 1_{2}^{\otimes N-i-1}) (1_2 \otimes \sigma^z \otimes 1_{2}^{\otimes N-i-1})
\]
\[
= (1_2 \otimes \sigma^z \otimes 1_{2}^{\otimes N-i-1}) (1_2 \otimes \sigma^z \otimes 1_{2}^{\otimes N-i-1})
\]
\[
= 1_2 \otimes \sigma^z \otimes 1_2^{\otimes N-i-1}
\]
\[
= 1_2 \otimes \sigma^z \otimes 1_2^{\otimes N-i-1}
\] (A.3.16)

and
\[
(\sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z)^2 = (1_2 \otimes \sigma^z \otimes 1_{2}^{\otimes N-i-1})^2
\]
\[
= 1_2 \otimes \sigma^z \otimes 1_2^{\otimes N-i-1}
\]
\[
= 1_2 \otimes \sigma^z \otimes 1_2^{\otimes N-i-1}
\]
\[
= 1_2^{\otimes 2} + \sinh(\beta) (\sigma^z \otimes \sigma^z)
\] (A.3.17)

As \(x = e^\beta\), \(T_{i(i+1)}\) can be written as
\[
T_{i(i+1)} = 1_2 \otimes (e^\beta \quad e^{-\beta} \quad e^{-\beta} \quad e^\beta) \otimes 1_2^{\otimes N-i-1}
\] (A.3.18)

Using the identity \(e^{\pm \beta} = \cosh(\beta) \pm \sinh(\beta)\), we have
\[
\begin{pmatrix}
e^\beta & e^{-\beta} \\
e^{-\beta} & e^\beta
\end{pmatrix} = \cosh(\beta) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \sinh(\beta) \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}
\] (A.3.19)

\[
= \cosh(\beta) 1_2^{\otimes 2} + \sinh(\beta) (\sigma^z \otimes \sigma^z)
\] (A.3.20)

Therefore \(T_{i(i+1)}\) can be written as
\[
T_{i(i+1)} = 1_2 \otimes \left( \cosh(\beta) 1_2^{\otimes 2} + \sinh(\beta) (\sigma^z \otimes \sigma^z) \right) \otimes 1_2^{\otimes N-i-1}
\]
\[
= \cosh(\beta) \left[ 1_2 \otimes (\sigma^z \otimes \sigma^z) \right] \otimes 1_2^{\otimes N-i-1}
\]
\[
= \cosh(\beta) \sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z
\]
\[
= \exp(\beta \sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z)
\] (A.3.21)
A.3.2 Local transfer matrices and gamma matrices

Define a set of $2n$ matrices, $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \ldots, \gamma_{2n}$, as follows: For all $1 \leq i \leq 2n$, define $\gamma_i$ by

$$
\gamma_i = \left( \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} \sigma_j^x \right) \sigma_k^z.
$$

(A.3.22)

if $i = 2k - 1$ is odd, else by

$$
\gamma_i = \left( \prod_{j=1}^{k-1} \sigma_j^x \right) \sigma_k^y.
$$

(A.3.23)

if $i = 2k$ is even. Note: The set $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \ldots, \gamma_{2n}$ is not a set of $\Gamma$-matrices as $\gamma_2 \gamma_4 \neq -\gamma_4 \gamma_2$.

Proposition A.3.3. The set of $2n$ matrices, $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \ldots, \gamma_{2n}$, forms a set of quasi $\Gamma$-matrices obeying

$$
(\gamma_i)^2 = 1^\otimes n
$$

(A.3.25)

$$
\gamma_i \gamma_{i+1} = -\gamma_{i+1} \gamma_i
$$

(A.3.26)

Proof. For all $i$,

$$
(\gamma_{2i})^2 = (\sigma_1^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x)(\sigma_i^y)(\sigma_1^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x)(\sigma_i^y)
$$

$$
= (\sigma_1^x \sigma_1^z \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_{i-1}^z)(\sigma_i^y \sigma_i^z)
$$

$$
= 1^\otimes n
$$

(A.3.27)

$$
(\gamma_{2i-1})^2 = (\sigma_1^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x)(\sigma_i^z)(\sigma_1^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x)(\sigma_i^z)
$$

$$
= (\sigma_1^x \sigma_1^y \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_{i-1}^y)(\sigma_i^z \sigma_i^y
$$

$$
= 1^\otimes n
$$

(A.3.28)

Also

$$
\gamma_{2i} \gamma_{2i-1} = (\sigma_1^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_i^y)(\sigma_1^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_i^z)
$$

$$
= (\sigma_1^x \sigma_1^z \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_{i-1}^z)(\sigma_i^y \sigma_i^z)
$$

$$
= \sigma_i^y \sigma_i^z
$$

(A.3.29)

and therefore

$$
\gamma_{2i-1} \gamma_{2i} = (\sigma_1^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_i^y)(\sigma_1^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_i^y)
$$

$$
= (\sigma_1^x \sigma_1^y \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_{i-1}^y)(\sigma_i^y \sigma_i^y)
$$

$$
= \sigma_i^y \sigma_i^y
$$

$$
= -\sigma_i^y \sigma_i^y
$$

(by A.1.12)

$$
= -\gamma_{2i} \gamma_{2i-1}
$$

(A.3.30)
Proposition A.3.4. For all $1 \leq i \leq 2n$,

\[ \gamma_{2i+1}^* \gamma_{2i}^* = \sigma_i^x \sigma_{i+1}^z \sqrt{-1} \]  
(A.3.31)

Proof.

\[ \gamma_{2i+1}^* \gamma_{2i}^* = (\sigma_i^x \ldots \sigma_i^x \sigma_{i+1}^z)(\sigma_i^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_i^y) \]

\[ = (\sigma_i^x \sigma_i^x) \ldots (\sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_i^y)(\sigma_i^x \sigma_{i+1}^z \sigma_i^y) \]

\[ = \sigma_i^x \sigma_i^y \sigma_{i+1} \]

\[ = (1 \otimes_{i-1} \otimes \sigma^y \sigma^y \otimes 1 \otimes_{n-i} \sigma_{i+1} \]

\[ = (1 \otimes_{i-1} \otimes \sqrt{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \otimes 1 \otimes_{n-i} \sigma_{i+1} \]

\[ = \sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1} \sqrt{-1} \]

\[ \square \]

Proposition A.3.5. For all $1 \leq i \leq 2n$,

\[ \gamma_{2i}^* \gamma_{2i-1}^* = \sigma_i^x \sqrt{-1} \]  
(A.3.32)

Proof.

\[ \gamma_{2i}^* \gamma_{2i-1}^* = (\sigma_i^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_i^y)(\sigma_i^x \ldots \sigma_{i-1}^x \sigma_i^y) \]

\[ = \sigma_i^x \sigma_i^y \]

\[ = \sigma_i^x \sqrt{-1} \]

\[ \square \]

By Propositions A.3.4 and A.3.5, $T_i$ and $T_{i(i+1)}$ (equations A.3.8 and A.3.15 respectively) are expressed as

\[ T_i = ke^{-i\theta_{2i}^2 \gamma_{2i}^*} \]  
(A.3.33)

where $k = x / \cosh(\theta)$, and

\[ T_{i(i+1)} = e^{-i\theta_{2i+1}^2 \gamma_{2i}^*} \]  
(A.3.34)

A.3.3 Rotational and transfer matrices

For any given set of $\Gamma$-matrices define function

\[ S : \{ W_{ab}(\theta) | a \neq b \in 1, 2, \ldots, 2n; \theta \text{ angle} \} \rightarrow M_{2n}(\mathbb{C}) \]  
(A.3.35)

where

\[ S(W_{ab}(\theta)) = \cos (\theta / 2) - \sin (\theta / 2) \Gamma_a \Gamma_b. \]  
(A.3.36)

Proposition A.3.6. The function $S(W_{ab}(\theta))$ is also expressed in the form

\[ S(W_{ab}(\theta)) = \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \theta \Gamma_a \Gamma_b \right). \]  
(A.3.37)
Proof. Using \((\Gamma_a \Gamma_b)^2 = \Gamma_a \Gamma_b \Gamma_a \Gamma_b = -\Gamma_a \Gamma_a \Gamma_b \Gamma_b = -1_2\), it follows that

\[
S(W_{ab}(\theta)) = \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \theta \Gamma_a \Gamma_b\right)
= 1 + \left(-\frac{1}{2} \theta \right)^2 + \frac{(-\frac{1}{2} \theta \Gamma_a \Gamma_b)^3}{3!} + \ldots
= \left(1 - \frac{(-\frac{1}{2} \theta)^2}{2!} + \ldots\right) + \left((-\frac{1}{2} \theta) + \frac{(-\frac{1}{2} \theta)^3}{3!} + \ldots\right) \Gamma_a \Gamma_b
= \cos(\theta/2) - \sin(\theta/2) \Gamma_a \Gamma_b
\]

\[\square\]

**Proposition A.3.7.** For a fixed width \(N\), the transfer matrix \(T\) is

\[
T = k^N \prod_{j=1}^{N} S(W_{2j} \ 2j-1(2i\theta))S(W_{2j+1} \ 2j(2i\phi)).
\] (A.3.38)

where \(\theta\) and \(\phi\) distinguish between horizontal and vertical bonds respectively.

**Proof.** Using equations (A.3.33) and (A.3.34), we have

\[
T_j = k \exp(-i\theta \gamma_j \gamma_{j-1})
= kS(W_{2j} \ 2j-1(2i\theta)).
\] (A.3.33)

and

\[
T_{j(j+1)} = e^{-i\phi \gamma_{j+1} \gamma_j}
= S(W_{2j+1} \ 2j(2i\phi)).
\] (A.3.34)

Recall Equation (A.3.4).

\[
T = k^N \left( \prod_{j=1}^{N} S(W_{2j} \ 2j-1(2i\theta)) \right) \left( \prod_{j=1}^{N} S(W_{2j+1} \ 2j(2i\phi)) \right)
\] (A.3.41)

Note, we use periodic boundary conditions. That is, let \(N + 1 = 0\) such that \(S(W_{2j+1} \ 2j(2i\phi)) = S(W_{1} \ 2N(2i\phi))\). Also note that we could add a horizontal bond then a vertical bond, then horizontal etc. In that case Equation (A.3.41) simplifies to

\[
T = k^N \left( \prod_{i=1}^{N} S(W_{2i} \ 2i-1(2i\theta))S(W_{2i+1} \ 2i(2i\phi)) \right).
\] (A.3.42)

\[\square\]

For convenience let

\[
S(W_{a_j b_j}(2i\theta_j)) = S(W_{2j} \ 2j-1(2i\theta))S(W_{2j+1} \ 2j(2i\phi))
\] (A.3.43)

where \(\theta_j\) distinguishes between horizontal and vertical bonds. Equation (A.3.38) is now written as

\[
T = k^N \prod_{j}^{2N} S(W_{a_j b_j}(2i\theta_j)).
\] (A.3.44)

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The transfer matrix as a realisation of a rotation

**Proposition A.3.8.** For any product of $S(W_{ab})$, by conjugating we find the relationship

$$
\prod_j S(W_{a_j b_j}(\theta_j)) \sim S\left(\prod_j W_{a_j b_j}(\theta_j)\right)
$$

(A.3.45)

**Proof.** Let $W = W_{ab}(\theta)$, and $W' = W_{a'b'}(\theta')$. Then for

$$
S(W)\Gamma_x S^{-1}(W) = \cos(\theta)\Gamma_a + \sin(\theta)\Gamma_b = R_{ab}(\theta) (\Gamma_x)
$$

(A.3.46)

we have

$$
S(W') (S(W)\Gamma_x S^{-1}(W)) S^{-1}(W') = S(W')R_{ab}(\theta) (\Gamma_x) S^{-1}(W')
$$

(A.3.47)

and

$$
S(W') (S(W)\Gamma_x S^{-1}(W)) S^{-1}(W') = (S(W')S(W))\Gamma_x (S^{-1}(W)S^{-1}(W'))
$$

(A.3.49)

$$
= S(W'W)\Gamma_x S^{-1}(W'W).
$$

(A.3.50)

So

$$
T = k^N \prod_{ab} S(W_{ab}(\theta_{ab})) \sim S\left(\prod_{ab} W_{ab}(\theta_{ab})\right)
$$

(A.3.51)

**Claim:** $T$ is a “realisation” of a rotation, given that

$$
S(W_{ab}(\theta))\Gamma_a S^{-1}(W_{ab}(\theta)) = \cos \theta \Gamma_a + \sin \theta \Gamma_b
$$

(A.3.52)

and

$$
S(W_{ab}(\theta))\Gamma_b S^{-1}(W_{ab}(\theta)) = \cos \theta \Gamma_b - \sin \theta \Gamma_a
$$

(A.3.53)

**Proposition A.3.9.**

$$
S(W_{ab}(\theta)) \Gamma_a S^{-1}(W_{ab}(\theta)) = \cos \theta \Gamma_a + \sin \theta \Gamma_b
$$

(A.3.54)

**Proof.** As $S(W_{ab}(\theta)) = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \theta \Gamma_a \Gamma_b}$, and $S^{-1}(W_{ab}(\theta)) = e^{\frac{1}{2} \theta \Gamma_b \Gamma_a}$

$$
S(W_{ab}(\theta))\Gamma_a S^{-1}(W_{ab}(\theta)) = (\cos \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \Gamma_b) \Gamma_a (\cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \Gamma_b) = (\cos \frac{\theta}{2} \Gamma_a + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \Gamma_b) (\cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \Gamma_a \Gamma_b) = (\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}) \Gamma_a + (2 \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \sin \frac{\theta}{2}) \Gamma_b = \cos(\theta) \Gamma_a + \sin(\theta) \Gamma_b = \Gamma_a
$$

(A.3.55)

\[84\]
Proposition A.3.10.

\[ S(W_{ab}(\theta)) \Gamma_b S^{-1}(W_{ab}(\theta)) = \cos \theta \Gamma_b - \sin \theta \Gamma_a \]  
(A.3.56)

Proof.

\[ S(W_{ab}(\theta)) \Gamma_b S^{-1}(W_{ab}(\theta)) = \left( \cos \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \Gamma_a \Gamma_b \right) \left( \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \Gamma_a \Gamma_b \right) = \left( \cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2} \right) \Gamma_a + \left( \sin \theta \cos \frac{\theta}{2} \right) \Gamma_a \Gamma_b = \left( \cos \theta \right) \Gamma_b - \sin \theta \Gamma_a \]

(A.3.57)

\[ \square \]

A.3.4 Eigenvalues of \( S(W) \)

Our next task is to connect eigenvalues of proper rotations \( W \) to the eigenvalues of \( S(W) \). Note the eigenvalues of the rotational matrix are explained in Section A.2.1.

Proposition A.3.11. The spectrum of \( S(W_{ab}(\theta)) \) is \( e^{\pm \frac{\theta \sigma^a}{2}} \), of which there are \( 2^{n-1} \) copies.

Proof. Let \( \Gamma = \gamma^* \), then

\[ S(W_{ab}(\theta)) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \theta \Gamma_a \Gamma_b) \]

\[ = \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \theta \sigma^z_a \sigma^y_b) \quad \text{(by A.3.29)} \]

\[ = \exp(\frac{1}{2} \theta \sigma^x_a) \quad \text{(by A.1.13)} \]

\[ = 1_2 \otimes 1_2^\otimes N-a \]

(A.3.58)

and this holds true for all \( a, b \), where \( \Gamma_a \Gamma_b = \sigma^a_0 \sigma^y_0 \). The spectrum of Equation (A.3.58) is the same as the spectrum of \( 1_2 \otimes 1_2^\otimes N-a \). i.e. \( e^{\frac{\theta}{2}} \) and \( e^{-\frac{\theta}{2}} \)

\[ \square \]

A.3.5 The indeterminate solution

The largest eigenvalue for \( T \), is

\[ \lambda_0 = \exp\left( \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} + l_{c,rk/a} \right) \]  
(A.3.59)

If the lattice is \( M \) sites long and with a fixed width \( N \), then

\[ Z = \text{Tr}(T^M) \]

\[ = \sum \lambda^M \]  
(A.3.60)

\[ = \lambda_0^M \left( 1 + \sum_{i \neq 0} \left( \frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda_0} \right)^M \right) \]  
(A.3.61)

Then for large \( M \)

\[ Z \sim \lambda_0^M \]  
(A.3.62)
The free energy density \( f = \frac{-k_B T}{N M} \ln Z \), can then be approximated as

\[
f \sim -\frac{k_B T}{N} \ln \lambda_0. \tag{A.3.64}
\]

Equation A.3.64 becomes an equality in the large \( M \) limit.

Using

\[
\sinh(2\beta) = \sinh(2\theta)^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \coth(2\beta) = \cosh(2\theta), \tag{A.3.65}
\]

in isotropic case \( \beta = \theta \) Equation (A.2.32) is then

\[
\cosh(l_z) = \coth(2\beta) \cosh(2\beta) - \frac{z^2 + z^{-2}}{2}. \tag{A.3.66}
\]

To find \( l_z \) we need to find

\[
l_z = \cosh^{-1} \left( \coth(2\beta) \cosh(2\beta) - \frac{z^2 + z^{-2}}{2} \right). \tag{A.3.67}
\]

Using standard trigonometric identities

\[
\cosh^{-1} x = \ln(x + \sqrt{x^2 - 1}) = \ln(1 + \sqrt{1-x^2}) \quad \text{and} \quad \pi \ln(1 + \sqrt{1-t^2}) = \int_0^\pi \ln(1 + t \cos w) dw,
\]

leads to

\[
\cosh^{-1} x = \ln(x) + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \ln(1 + x \cos y) dy \quad \text{(A.3.68)}
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi dy \ln(2x - 2 \cos y). \tag{A.3.69}
\]

So

\[
l_z = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi dy \ln(2(\coth(2\beta) \cosh(2\beta) - \frac{z^2 + z^{-2}}{2}) - 2 \cos y) \tag{A.3.70}
\]

Substitute \( l_z \) into Equation (A.3.59), then

\[
\ln \lambda_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{M} \int_0^\pi dy \ln(2 \coth(2\beta) \cosh(2\beta) - 2 \cos(2\pi k/N) - 2 \cos y) \tag{A.3.71}
\]

From this point, we have a choice of proceeding in two directions. Either we take the large \( N \) limit, (which converts the sum to a integral) or we discretise the integral to a sum over \( M \) terms using:

\[
\int_0^\pi f(y) dy \sim \frac{\pi}{M} \sum_{r=1}^M f(\pi r/M) \tag{A.3.72}
\]

**A.3.6 Thermodynamic limit solution**

We choose to discretise the integral, for which we get

\[
\ln \lambda_0 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{M} \sum_{r=1}^M \ln(2 \coth(2\beta) \cosh(2\beta) - 2 \cos(2\pi k/N) - 2 \cos(\pi r/M)) \tag{A.3.73}
\]

\[
Z_{MN} = \prod_{r=1}^M \prod_{s=1}^N \left\{ 1 - \frac{1}{2} K \left( \cos \frac{2\pi r}{M} + \cos \frac{2\pi s}{N} \right) \right\}, \tag{A.3.74}
\]

where

\[
K = \frac{\exp(-2\beta) \{1 - \exp(-4\beta)\}}{\{1 + \exp(-4\beta)\}^2} \tag{A.3.75}
\]

In Section 1.2.1, we continue with further analysis of this solution.
Appendix B

Code

In this section, the code that computes the exact partition functions of Chapter 3 is explained. We begin this section with a discussion on the problems associated to such computations.

Consider the $5 \times 5 \times 10'$ Ising model result given in Figure 3.10(b) (Page 47), for example. (The exact partition function for this result is presented in Appendix E). Computing the partition function $Z_G$ on this lattice by enumerating over all $2^{250}$ states would take at least $10^{62}$ years! Thus, it is not yet possible to compute $Z_G$ in a reasonable time frame using say, a brute-force enumeration program. On the other hand, suppose we use the transfer matrix method described in Section 2.2.1. The size of the transfer matrix is $2^{25} \times 2^{25}$, where each element is a large polynomial. This requires using much more memory than is currently available.

So we introduce some transfer matrix organisation, that makes the computation possible. Note, we shall use the notation from Section 2.1 to explain our method.

B.1 Hamiltonian symmetries

Recall Section 2.2.2, we use the layer transfer matrix to add an extra layer of spins to a lattice. For example in Figure B.1 step 1, we have the $4 \times 4 \times L$ lattice. Then by layer transfer matrix computation we have the $4 \times 4 \times (L+1)$ lattice, ie $1 \rightarrow 2$. The white spins in the figure are external outgoing spins, and the black ones are internal.

Consider the computation

$$D^T T^{L+1} = (D^T T^L) T,$$

where $D$ is a column vector such that $D^T T^L$ is then just the partition vector indexed by the external spins of $T^L$. That is $Z^E_G = D^T T^L$.

We compute the symmetries of $\Omega_E$ that are equivalent by translations and spin symmetries of the Hamiltonian. We denote the set of representatives of each equivalence class $[\Omega_E]$.

It is only necessary to store the $(Z^E_G)_i$ for representatives of each equivalence class, since $(Z^E_G)_i = (Z^E_G)_j$ if $i, j$ are in the same equivalence class. Let $[Z^E_G]$ be the partition vector indexed by $[\Omega_E]$. 

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Figure B.1: Showing two possible routes that an extra layer is added to the $4 \times 4 \times L$ lattice (1). The resultant is a $4 \times 4 \times (L + 1)$ lattice (2).
(the set of configuration representatives). Then for each \( [i] \in [\Omega_Z] \) we have

\[
(D^T T_{L+1})_{[i]} = \sum_{j \in \Omega_V} (Z^x_j)_{[i],[j]},
\]

(B.1.2)

Back to our \( 5 \times 5 \times 10' \) example. For this, we find \(|[\Omega_Z]| = 86056\). The required number of vector multiplications is reduced, but still not enough to compute \( Z^x \) in a reasonable time frame.

### B.2 Transfer matrix symmetries

We now describe an alternate method to add an extra layer of spins. This method is graphically outlined in Figure B.1. We add the extra layer by following steps \( 1 \rightarrow 1(a) \rightarrow 1(b) \rightarrow 1(c) \rightarrow 2 \).

For a lattice with \( N_z \) layers of \( N_x \times N_y \) spins per layer. We divide each layer into a subset column spins. That is \( V = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \ldots \cup V_{N_y} \). For example in Figure B.2 we have divided a layer of the \( 4 \times 4 \times L \) lattice into 4 columns of spins \( V_1, V_2, V_3, V_4 \).

The partition vector is written in the form

\[
Z^y := Z^y_{V_1,V_2,\ldots,V_{N_y}}
\]

We denote the added layer of spins as \( V' = V_1' \cup \ldots \cup V_{N_y}' \). For the intermediate steps such as \( 1 \rightarrow 1(a) \) we have

\[
Z^y_{V_2'\ldots V_{N_y}',V_1'} = Z^y_{V_1, V_2, \ldots, V_{N_y}} T'.
\]

and for \( 1(a) \rightarrow 1(b) \)

\[
Z^y_{V_1', V_2', V_3'\ldots V_{N_y}'} = Z^y_{V_2'\ldots V_{N_y}', V_1'} T''.
\]

Here \( T' \) is a transfer matrix where the only interactions are between spins in \( V_1 \) and \( V_1' \), and the internal interaction in \( V' \), see Figure B.3 for example. The solid lines represent interactions that are added, while the dashed lines are to show spatial awareness. \( T'' \) is the same as \( T' \), but also includes the interaction between \( V_1' \) and \( V'' \). By the same method the rest of the layer can be built.

The dimension of \( T' \) and \( T'' \) is \( Q^{N_x N_y} \times Q^{N_x N_y} \) and \( Q^{N_x N_y} \times Q^{N_x (N_y - 1)} \) respectively. In general, suppose we label \( T', T'' \ldots \) as \( T^1, T^2, \ldots, T^{N_y} \), then each \( T^i \) is a \( Q^{N_x N_y} \times Q^{N_x (N_y - i)} \) matrix. Further if we only consider only the equivalence classes, ie. \( [\Omega_{V_1', \ldots, V_i}] \) then the required number of dot product computations is reduced even further.

To highlight this reduction we use the “big Oh” notation (see [84]). Let \( N \) be the number of terms in a dot product. Let \( O(N) \) be the total number of polynomial product computations required to add a layer to the lattice.

So for example, for each layer in the \( 5 \times 5 \times 10' \) computation, \( O(N) = 86056.2^{25} \approx 2.89 \times 10^{12} \).

By our method

\[
O(N) = 4.2^{25} + 37.2^{20} + 570.2^{15} + 9511.2^{10} + 86056.2^{5} \approx 2.04 \times 10^{8}
\]
Figure B.2: The spins on a layer of $4 \times 4 \times L$ lattice are organised into columns and the sets labelled $V_1, \ldots, V_4$

Figure B.3: Examples of local transfer matrices

Figure B.4: A transfer matrix used in the code
Computationally, we do not even need create $T_i$'s of this size. We replace each $T_i$ with $TP$ and $TX$, where $P$ is a “comb” graph and $X$ a parallel line graph (see Figure B.4) for example.

The following code extract shows how we use $TP$.

```c
int h = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < ZNEW.size(); i++) {
    int k = 0;
    for (int j = 0; j < ZG.size(); j++) {
        ZNEW[i] = ZNEW[i] + ZG[j]*TP[h][k];
        k++;
        if (k == QCOL)
            k = 0;
    }
    h++;
    if (h == QCOL)
        h = 0;
}
```

In this code segment $ZNEW$ denotes $Z_{v_1,v_2,v_3,v_4}$; $ZG$ denotes $Z_{v_2,v_3,v_4,v′_1}$; $TP$ denotes $TP$; $QCOL = Q^{N_x}$ (the number of spin configurations per column).

The $5 \times 5 \times 19'$ in Figure 3.10(c) (Page 47, is found by computing the dot product on the $5 \times 5 \times 10'$ partition vector with itself. In general, we have

\[
Z_\sigma = \sum_{\sigma \in [\Omega_V]} \left( m_\sigma ([Z_\sigma^V])_1 \cdot \left( ([Z_\sigma^V])_1 / x^{H(\sigma)} \right) \right),
\]

where $m_\sigma$ is the multiplicity of each equivalence class, and the common edges $x^{H(\sigma)}$ between the two is factored out.

### B.2.1 Spin configurations

In Section 2.1, we define the totally ordered set. In this section, we give an example of how the set of spin configurations can be mapped to a totally ordered set.

Let $\Omega_V$ be a set of spin configurations of $\Sigma_V$ indexed by totally ordered set $V$. Note for fixed $Q$, $|\Omega_V| = Q^{|V|}$.

\[
T : \Omega \rightarrow \{1 \ldots Q^{\left| \Sigma \right|} \}
\]

\[
T(\sigma) = 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{\left| \Omega \right|} Q^{i-1}(\sigma_i - 1),
\]

where $\sigma \in \Omega$, and $\sigma_i \in \{1 \ldots Q\}$ is the value of the $i$-th spin.

### B.3 Large numbers, memory

The GNU general multiple precision (GMP) library is used for handling the large coefficients involved in our calculations.
We use the gnu C++ code profiling tool *gprof*, to analyse our code at run-time. By profiling the code, we identify where the majority of CPU speed and memory is used.

Our programs are computed on the AMD Opterom processor 6134, which has 2300Mhz CPU speed and 64GB ram available. The 2-state $5 \times 5 \times 10$ takes 121 hours to complete and requires 19GB of memory. The 2-state $4 \times 6 \times 10$ takes 28 hours to run and requires 10GB of memory.
Appendix C

Checking results

Here we describe the methods used to check our results. We use: series expansion; checking all possible configuration are accounted for; the structure of the code and the use of recursive functions; checks against published results;

[81, 10] and an alternate code is also used from comparison [59].

The partition function $Z$ can be written in polynomial form

$$Z = a_N x^N + a_{N-1} x^{N-1} + \ldots + a_1 x^1 + a_0 x^0$$  \hspace{0.5cm} (C.0.1)

where $x = \exp(\beta)$.

We first check that all spin configurations are accounted for in the partition function. That is, if

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i = Q^{N_z N_x N_y}.$$

Recall Section 1.2.2, certain terms of this polynomial can be found using a *series expansion* method [50, 99].

Series expansion involves permuting the suitable spin states from a known “ground-state” configuration. A *ground-state* configuration is where the Hamiltonian and the number of equivalent configurations is easily obtained. For example, configuration with all spins aligned in the same direction (Figure C.1(a)). If we allow $Q$ states, then the number of equivalent configurations is also $Q$.

Another ground-state would be one where is spin is pointing in a different direction to its nearest neighbour (see Figure C.1(b) for example). However this ground-state is harder to calculate the larger $Q$ is.

The next largest (smallest) term is given by changing a spin’s configuration so that the change in energy is a minimum (maximum) (Figures C.1(c) and C.1(d)). By symmetry, we can find the number of equivalent configurations.

We continue to change spin configurations until the number of symmetric states is too large to calculate.
For a lattice spin system with $N$ spins say $\Sigma_S$, we check the sum of the coefficients of $Z$ is
$$|\Omega_S| = Q^N$$

Using recursive functions and changing a minimal number of variables, Partition functions for over 2000 finite sized systems are found. Code variables are $N_x$, $N_y$, $N_z$, $Q$-states and boundary conditions. The probability of that there is an error in the code is significantly reduced, because the same code is used to produce known and unknown results with a minimal change in code.

Recall from Section 2.2.1. We fix the code so that the partition function $Z$ is found using
$$Z = \text{Tr}(T^{N_z})$$

where $N_z$ is the number of layers of the system. The size of $T$ depends on the size and dimension of the system, but is independent of the boundary conditions. In our code, $T$ is fixed to be a $Q^{N_x N_y}$ square matrix. If we require a 2d system then we set either $N_x = 1$ or $N_y = 1$. Similarly for a 1d system set $N_x = N_y = 1$.

Consider a $N_x \times N_y \times N_z$ and $N_y \times N_x \times N_z$ lattice. They both have the same partition function, but by using comb and parallel line graphs, their computation is different. That is, the elements of the local transfer matrices are different, as are the number of local transfer matrices. Similarly alternating boundary conditions, between open and periodic involves a changes in the elements of the transfer matrix. Thus another check is made by comparing suitable partition functions.
shell script is used to compare all possible equivalent partition functions.

The 1d models are checked exactly using the indeterminate solution.

Previously published exact partition function results, by Pearson, Bhanot and Sastry and Martin (see §1.2.5 for details and references), are reproduced by our program.

A series of other programs have been created to calculate partition functions using different calculation techniques. Each has their limitations on size and/or time. The results produced are used to compare the results of the final program. In this section we describe a few of the programs made, and discuss their limitations.

The first program is known as a brute force program. This program permutes through all possible configurations. It calculates the Hamiltonian at each configuration, and simply adds the term to the polynomial. Although very little memory is required, we find that the program takes a too long for systems with more than $2^{50}$ possible configurations.

Our next program is known as a brute force transfer matrix program. The program computes matrix multiplication. This time the program is limited by the available memory of the computer. The size of the transfer matrices is a real restriction for computing larger systems, however more results are produced compared to the brute force program.

Next is a program that uses local transfer matrices. This produces significantly more results than the above two programs, but again memory is a restriction. The next program is an adaption of the previous one. Symmetry is used to identify alike elements in local transfer matrices. These elements are stored in a separate array, and the transfer matrix elements are changed to pointers. Thus reducing the memory required. A program to optimise polynomial arithmetic is then used. All these programs build up to the final program, producing larger lattices at each stage.

We also use P Martin’s code [59], which calculates the partition function in a completely different manner. This is also used as a check.
Appendix D

Finding Zeros

The algorithm used to find all the roots of the partition function $Z_G$, is a combination of the Newton-Raphson method (NR), and polynomial division [59]. All roots are found to a minimum precision of $\epsilon = 1^{-300}$, and $L$ is the number of initial NR iterations.

The NR algorithm is as follows:

$$x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{f(x_i)}{f'(x_i)}$$ (D.0.1)

for $0 < i < L$. For our program setting $L = 1000$ is usually sufficient. We iterate the above $L$ times then check if $|x_L - x_{L-1}| < \epsilon$. If so, then accept $x_L$ as a root. If not, then repeat the iteration for another $L$ steps.

Let $z_1 = x_L$. By polynomial division, $z_1$ is factored out. That is $Z_G(x) = f_1(x)(x - z_1)$. Due to rounding errors, we find there will be a small remainder $r_1$. The program checks $r_1 \leq \epsilon$. If $r_1 > \epsilon$, then we increase the precision of the program, by increasing $L$. Also if $z_1$ is a root then its complex conjugate is also a root. The iteration (D.0.1), is then repeated for $f_1(x)$, until we have $Z_G$ expressed in terms of its roots, i.e. $Z_G = (x - z_1)(x - z_2)\ldots$.

We reduce the impact of rounding errors as follows. The NR-algorithm finds real roots regardless of whether the initial guess is a real or complex number. However, if we find all real roots using a real initial guess, then the overall rounding error is significantly reduced.
Appendix E

Example of exact partition function

In this section we present an exact partition function for a \( Q = 2 \)-state 3d Potts model on a \( 5 \times 5 \times 10 \) lattice.

Table E.1: Exact partition function for Ising model on a \( 5 \times 5 \times 10 \) lattice

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