

Exercise 1: Ising model in $d = 1$

Consider the Hamiltonian of the one dimensional Ising model

$$\mathcal{H} = -J \sum_{i=1}^N \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} - h \sum_{i=1}^N \sigma_i = - \sum_{i=1}^N \left\{ J \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} + \frac{h}{2} (\sigma_i + \sigma_{i+1}) \right\}$$

and the partition function expressed as a product of transfer matrices

$$Z = \sum_{\{\sigma\}} e^{\sum_{i=1}^N \left\{ \beta J \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} + \frac{\beta h}{2} (\sigma_i + \sigma_{i+1}) \right\}} = \sum_{\{\sigma\}} \prod_{i=1}^N T(\sigma_i, \sigma_{i+1})$$

The components of the transfer matrix are

$$T(\sigma_i, \sigma_{i+1}) = e^{\beta J \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} + \frac{\beta h}{2} (\sigma_i + \sigma_{i+1})}$$

Part 1. Write down the matrix

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} T(+1, +1) & T(+1, -1) \\ T(-1, +1) & T(-1, -1) \end{bmatrix}$$

in the basis $\sigma_i \otimes \sigma_{i+1}$.

Part 2. Compute the eigenvalues $\lambda_{1,2}$ of the transfer matrix in this basis. Use them to express the partition function and then take the thermodynamical limit $N \rightarrow \infty$.

Optional: Part 3. Compute the spin-spin correlator $\langle \sigma_i \sigma_j \rangle - \langle \sigma_i \rangle \langle \sigma_j \rangle$.

Hint: Part 3 is much more difficult, so feel free to use Mathematica to compute the eigenvalues (and the eigenvectors if necessary!) It is convenient to modify the Hamiltonian by adding a further space-dependent magnetic field $\mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}[b_i] = \mathcal{H} + \sum_{i=1}^N b_i \sigma_i$. The spin-spin correlator can then be obtained from the partition function

$$\langle \sigma_i \sigma_j \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \frac{\delta^2}{\delta b_i \delta b_j} Z \Big|_{b_i=0}$$