

Monte Carlo Methods

Example: The Ising Model

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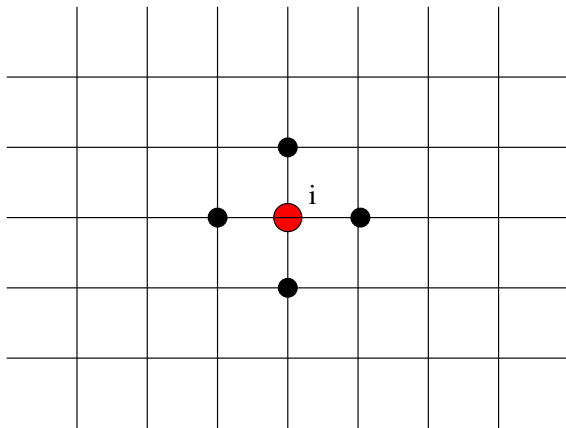
- 1. The Model
- 2. Local Monte Carlo Algorithms
 - Fixed Energy Monte Carlo
- Metropolis-Hastings Monte Carlo
- 3. Global Algorithms
- 4. Literature

The Ising model (1) is defined as follows:

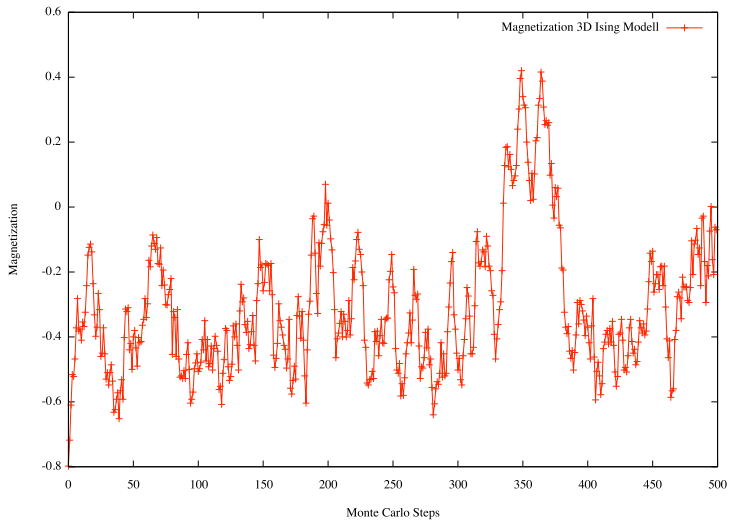
- Let $G = L^d$ be a d -dimensional lattice.
- Associated with each lattice site i is a spin s_i which can take on the values $+1$ or -1 .
- The spins interact via an exchange coupling J . In addition, we allow for an external field H .
- The Hamiltonian reads

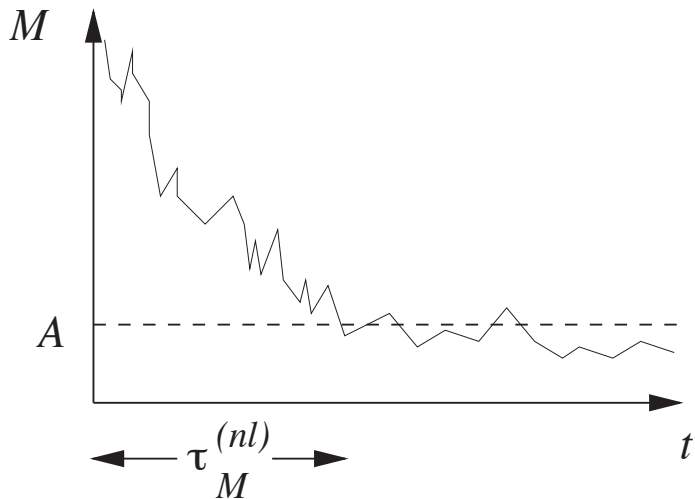
$$\mathcal{H} = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} s_i s_j + \mu H \sum_i s_i \quad (1)$$

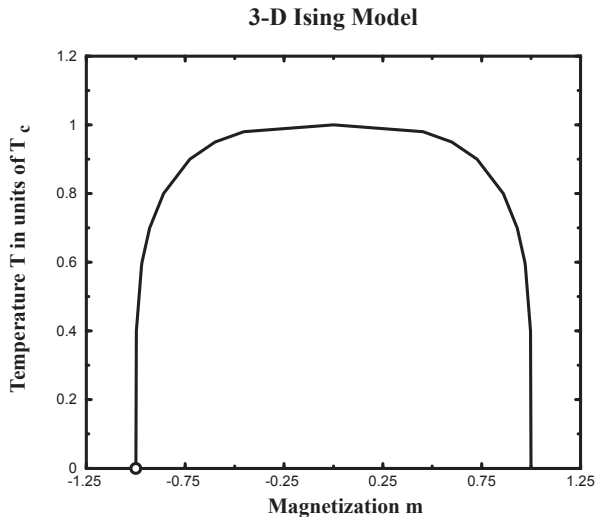
- The first sum on the right-hand side of the equation runs over nearest neighbours only.
- The symbol μ denotes the magnetic moment of a spin. If the exchange constant J is positive, the Hamiltonian is a model for ferromagnetism, i.e., the spins tend to align parallel.
- For J negative the exchange is anti ferromagnetic and the spins tend to align antiparallel. In what follows we assume a ferromagnetic interaction $J > 0$.



The Model III





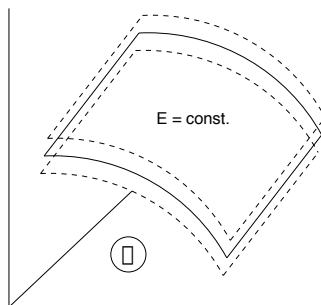


- Let E be the fixed energy and suppose that a spin configuration $s = (s_1, \dots, s_N)$ was constructed with the required energy.
- We set the demon energy to zero and let it travel through the lattice.
- At each site the demon attempts to flip the spin at that site.
- If the spin flip lowers the system energy, then the demon takes up the energy and flips the spin.
- On the other hand, if a flip does not lower the system energy the spin is only flipped if the demon carries enough energy.
- A spin is flipped if

$$E_D - \Delta\mathcal{H} > 0 \tag{2}$$

and the new demon energy is

$$E_D = E_D - \Delta\mathcal{H} \tag{3}$$



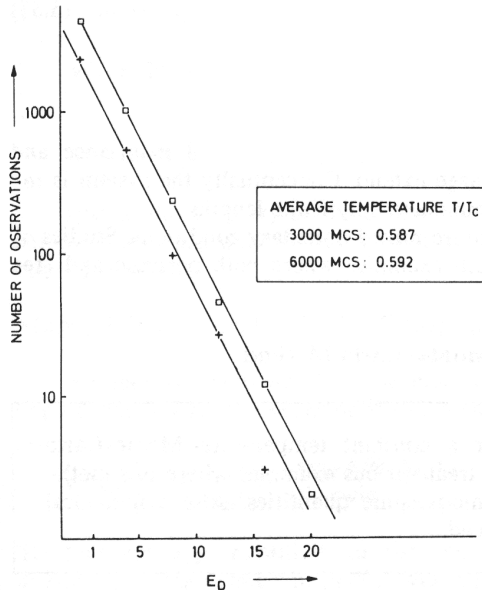
- After having visited all sites one time unit has elapsed and a new configuration is generated.
- In Monte-Carlo method language the time unit is called the MC step per spin.
- After the system has relaxed to thermal equilibrium, i.e., after n_0 Monte-Carlo Steps (MCS), the averaging is started. For example, we might be interested in the magnetization.

- Let n be the total number of MCS, then the approximation for the magnetization is

$$\langle m \rangle = \frac{1}{n - n_0} \sum_{i \geq n_0}^n m(s_i) \quad (4)$$

where s_i is the i th generated spin configuration. Since the demon energies ultimately become Boltzmann distributed, it is easy to show that

$$\frac{J}{k_B T} = \frac{1}{4} \ln \left(1 + 4 \frac{J}{\langle E_D \rangle} \right) \quad (5)$$



- The simplest and most convenient choice for the actual simulation is a transition probability involving only a single spin; all other spins remain fixed.
- It should depend only on the momentary state of the nearest neighbours.
- After all spins have been given the possibility of a flip a new state is created. Symbolically, the *single-spin-flip* transition probability is written as

$$W_i(s_i) : (s_1, \dots, s_i, \dots, s_N) \longrightarrow (s_1, \dots, -s_i, \dots, s_N)$$

where W_i is the probability per unit time that the i th spin changes from s_i to $-s_i$.

- With such a choice the model is called the single-spin-flip Ising model (Glauber).



- Let $P(s)$ be the probability of the state s . In thermal equilibrium at the fixed temperature T and field K , the probability that the i -th spin takes on the value s_i is proportional to the Boltzmann factor

$$P_{eq}(s_i) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp\left(\frac{-\mathcal{H}(s_i)}{k_B T}\right)$$

The fixed spin variables are suppressed.

- We require that the detailed balance condition be fulfilled:

$$W_i(s_i)P_{eq}(s_i) = W_i(-s_i)P_{eq}(-s_i)$$

or

$$\frac{W_i(s_i)}{W_i(-s_i)} = \frac{P_{eq}(-s_i)}{P_{eq}(s_i)}$$

- It follows that

$$\frac{W_i(s_i)}{W_i(s_i)} = \frac{\exp(-s_i/E_i)}{\exp(s_i/E_i)}$$

where

$$E_i = J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} s_j$$

- The derived conditions do not uniquely specify the transition probability W .
- The *Metropolis function*

$$W_i(s_i) = \min \{ \tau^{-1}, \tau^{-1} \exp(-\Delta \mathcal{H}/k_B T) \}$$

- and the *Glauber function*

$$W_i(s_i) = \frac{(1 - s_i \tanh E_i/k_B T)}{2\tau}$$

where τ is an arbitrary factor determining the time scale.

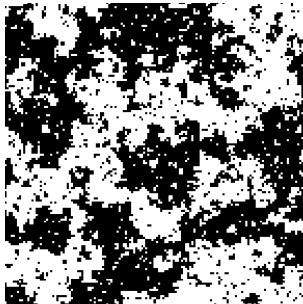
Algorithmically the Metropolis MC method looks as follows:

- 1: Specify an initial configuration.
- 2: Choose a lattice site i .
- 3: Compute W_i .
- 4: Generate a random number $R \in [0, 1]$.
- 5: **if** $W_i(s_i) > R$ **then**
- 6: $s_i \rightarrow -s_i$
- 7: **else**
- 8: Otherwise, proceed with Step 2 until $MCSMAX$ attempts have been made.
- 9: **end if**

Java program can be found [here](#)



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```
#include <iostream.h>
#include <math.h>

# define L 10

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int mcs,i,j,k,ip,jp,kp,in,jn,kn;
    int old_spin,new_spin,spin_sum;
    int old_energy,new_energy;
    int mcsmax;
    int spin[L][L][L];
    int seed;
    double r;
    double beta;
    double energy_diff;
    double mag;

    mcsmax = 100;
    beta = 0.12; // beta = J/kT KC = 0.2216544 Talapov and Blöte (1996)
    seed = 4711;

    srand(seed);
    for (i=0;i<L;i++) {
        for (j=0;j<L;j++) {
            for (k=0;k<L;k++) {
                spin[i][j][k] = -1;
            }
        }
    }
    mag = - L*L*L;

    // Loop over sweeps
    for (mcs=0;mcs<mcsmax;mcs++) {
        // Loop over all sites
        for (i=0;i<L;i++) {
            for (j=0;j<L;j++) {
                for (k=0;k<L;k++) {

                    // periodic boundary conditions
                    ip = (i+1) % L;
                    jp = (j+1) % L;
                    kp = (k+1) % L;
                    in = (i+L-1) % L;
                    jn = (j+L-1) % L;
                    kn = (k+L-1) % L;

                    old_spin = spin[i][j][k];
                    new_spin = - old_spin;

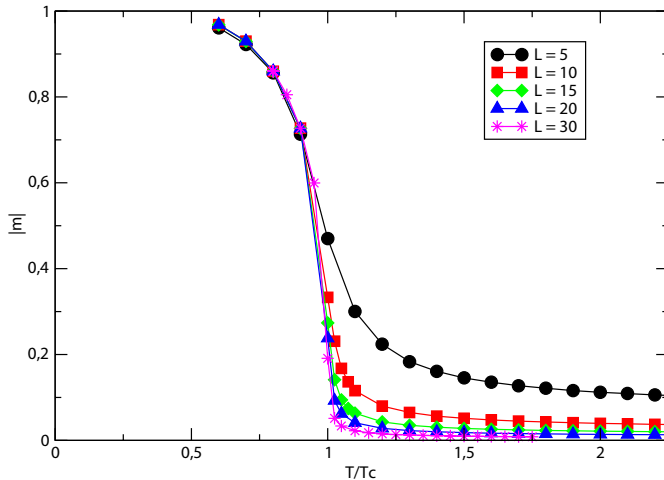
                    // Sum of neighboring spins
                    spin_sum = spin[ip][jp][k] + spin[ip][j][k] +
                        spin[i][jn][k] + spin[in][j][k] +
                        spin[i][j][kn] + spin[i][j][kp];

                    old_energy = - old_spin * spin_sum;
                    new_energy = - new_spin * spin_sum;
                    energy_diff = beta * (new_energy - old_energy);
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```



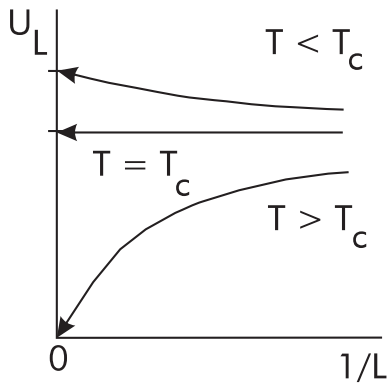
3D Ising Model

Magnetization vs. Temperature



$$U_L = 1 - \frac{\langle s^4 \rangle_L}{3 \langle s^2 \rangle_L^2} \quad (6)$$

$$U(T, L) = b(\epsilon L^{1/\nu}) \quad (7)$$



See lecture on cluster and multi-grid algorithms

- [1] E. Ising: Z. Phys. 31,253 (1925)
- [2] M. Creutz: Phys. Rev. Lett. 50, 1411 (1983)