

Statistical Mechanics

List of results and definitions

Function of state		Statistical mechanical expression
U		$-\frac{d \ln Z}{d\beta}$
F		$-k_B T \ln Z$
S	$= -\left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial T}\right)_V = \frac{U-F}{T}$	$k_B \ln Z + k_B T \left(\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial T}\right)_V$
p	$= -\left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial V}\right)_T$	$k_B T \left(\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial V}\right)_T$
H	$= U + pV$	$k_B T \left[T \left(\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial T}\right)_V + V \left(\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial V}\right)_T \right]$
G	$= F + pV = H - TS$	$k_B T \left[-\ln Z + V \left(\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial V}\right)_T \right]$
C_V	$= \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial T}\right)_V$	$k_B T \left[2 \left(\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial T}\right)_V + T \left(\frac{\partial^2 \ln Z}{\partial T^2}\right)_V \right]$

Table 20.1 Thermodynamic quantities derived from the partition function Z .

$$\beta = \frac{1}{k_B T}$$

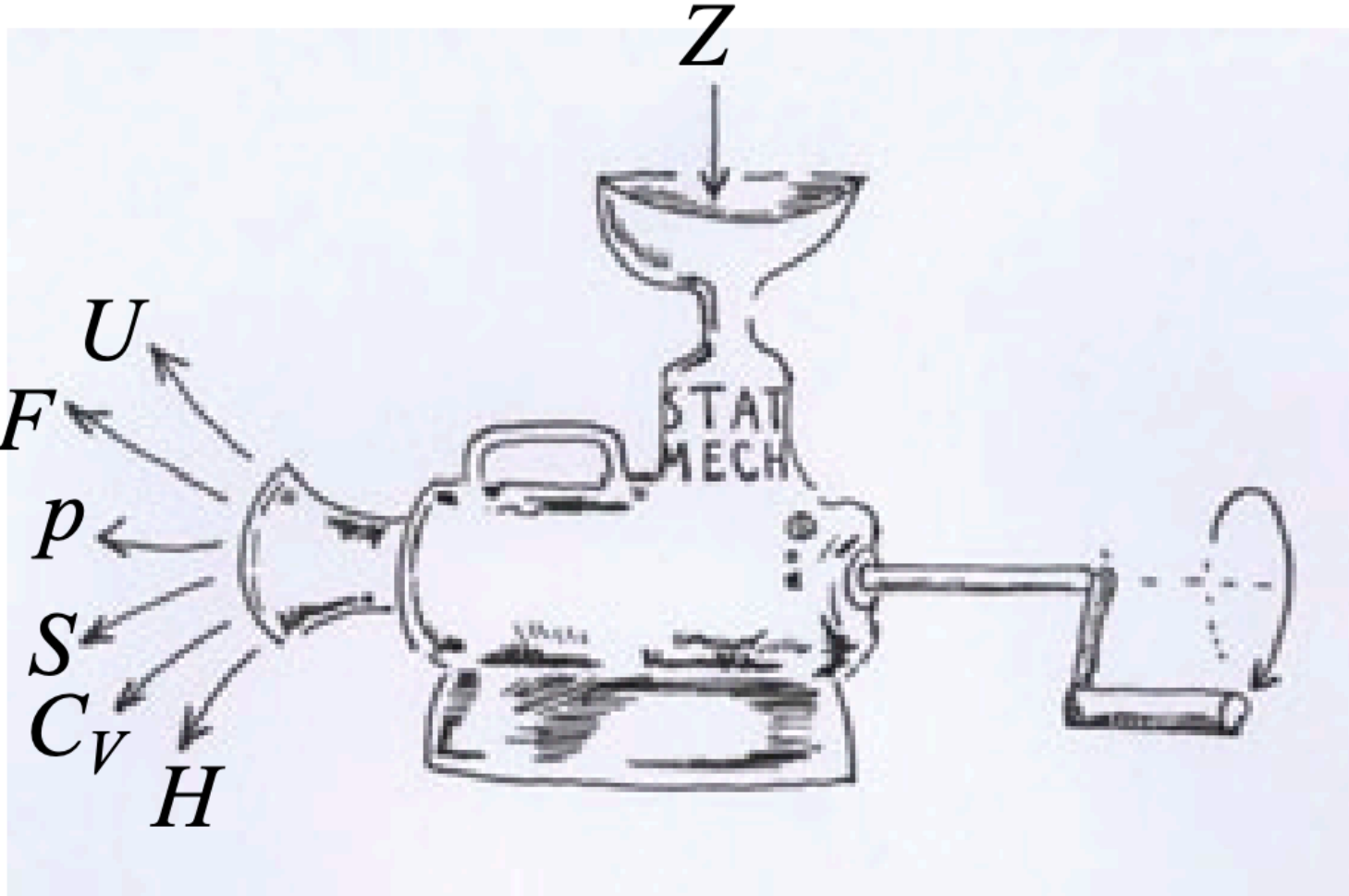


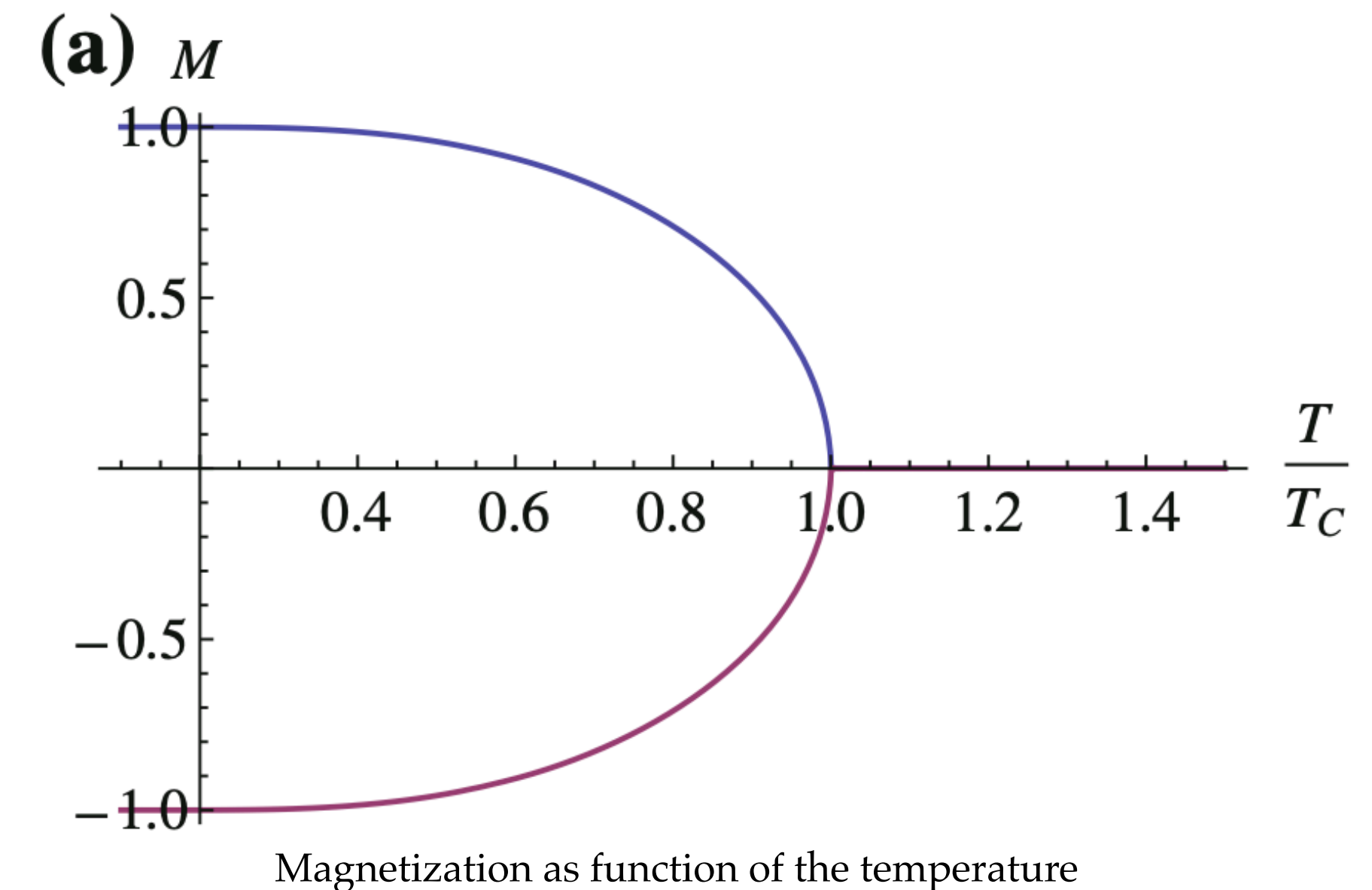
Fig. 20.3 Given Z , it takes only a turn of the handle on our ‘sausage machine’ to produce other functions of state.

Figures taken from Blundell

What about the Ising Model?

What is good/used for?

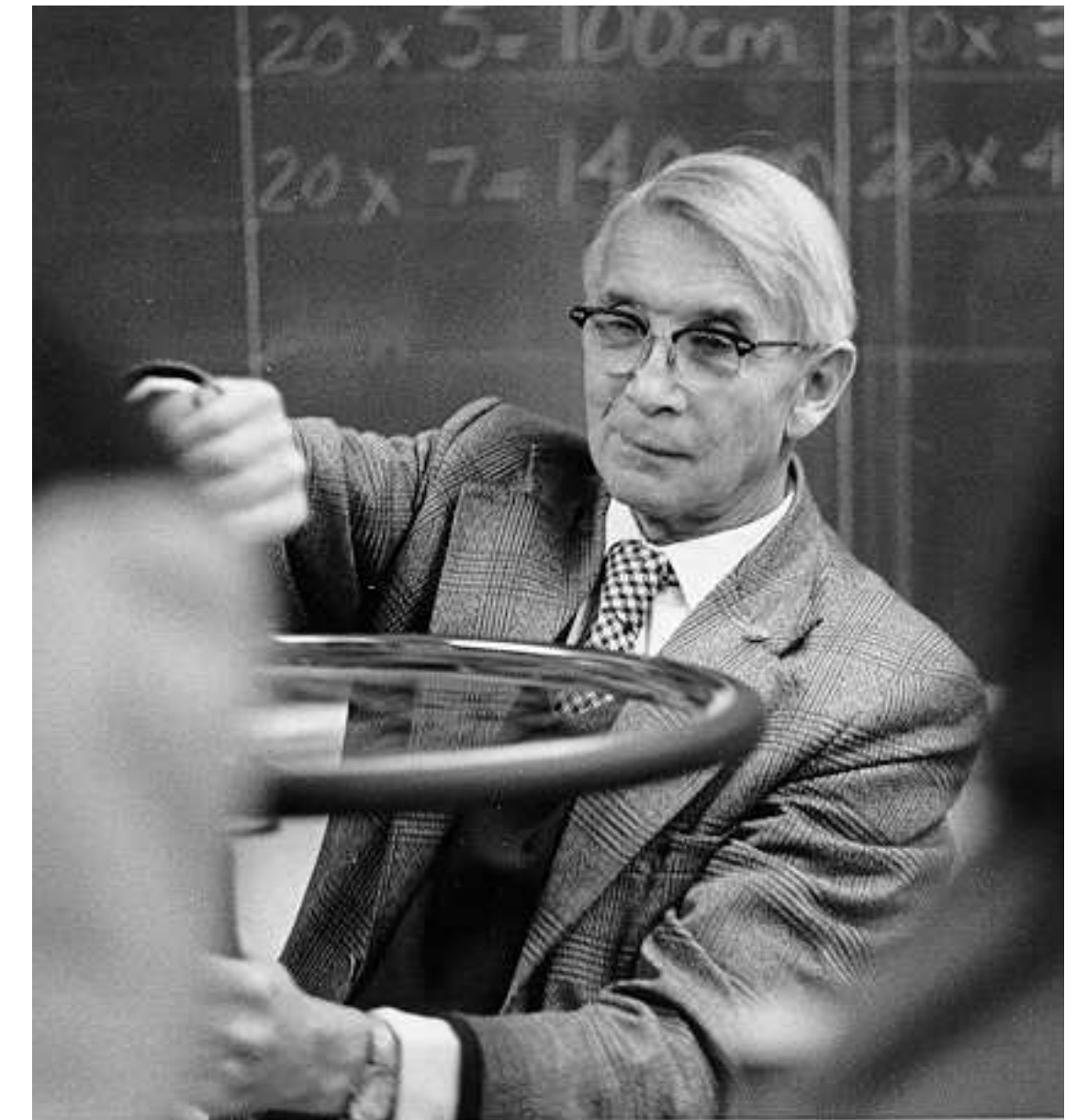
- Was designed to “understand” ferromagnetism.
- It’s “like” the harmonic oscillator (quadratic potential).
- **Exact solution (Onsager)**
 - Clever way to find the partition function; in general is hard to do it...
- Defines a whole **universality class**.



A little bit of history

“Drama”?

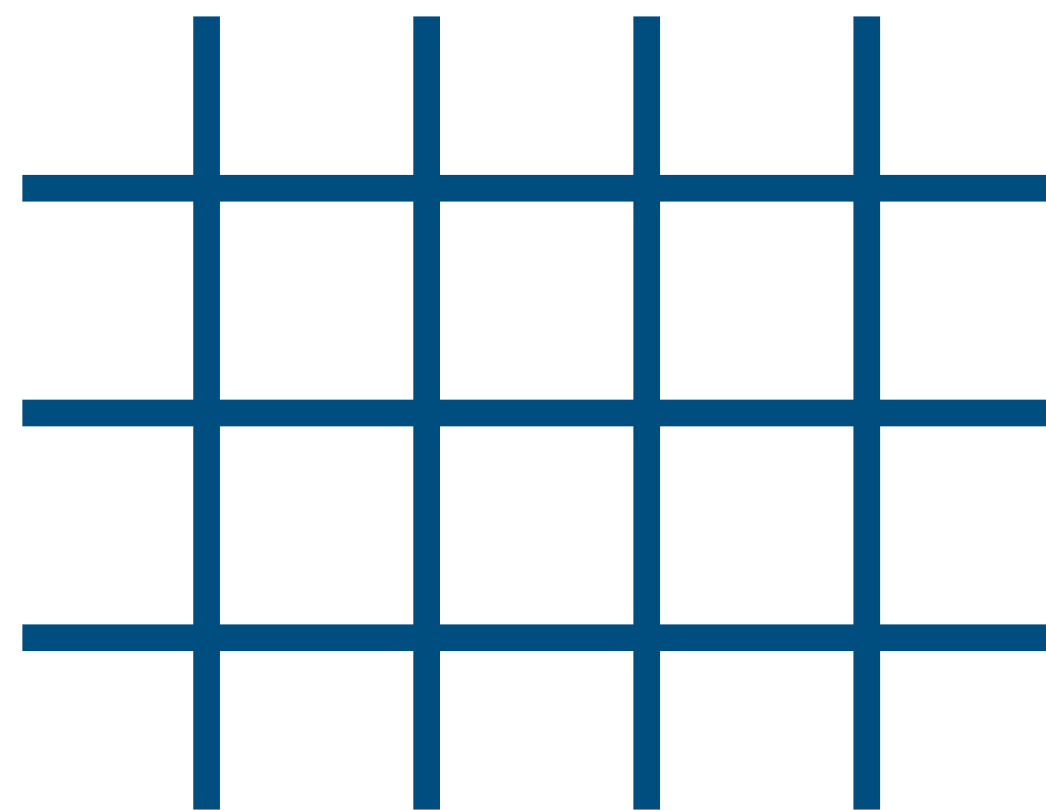
- (1920) Lenz invented the model (PI).
- Lenz: “Hey Ising, I have a cool project for a PhD...”
 - Infinite 1D lattice with coupling and interactions.
- (1925) Ising publish the results (**its only paper btw..**)
 - He didn't found a phase transition :(
- Exact solutions by Onsager and Kramers in 2D
 - Onsager: “Hey, I have a cool project for a PhD...”
 - 3D extension: **has not yet solved**



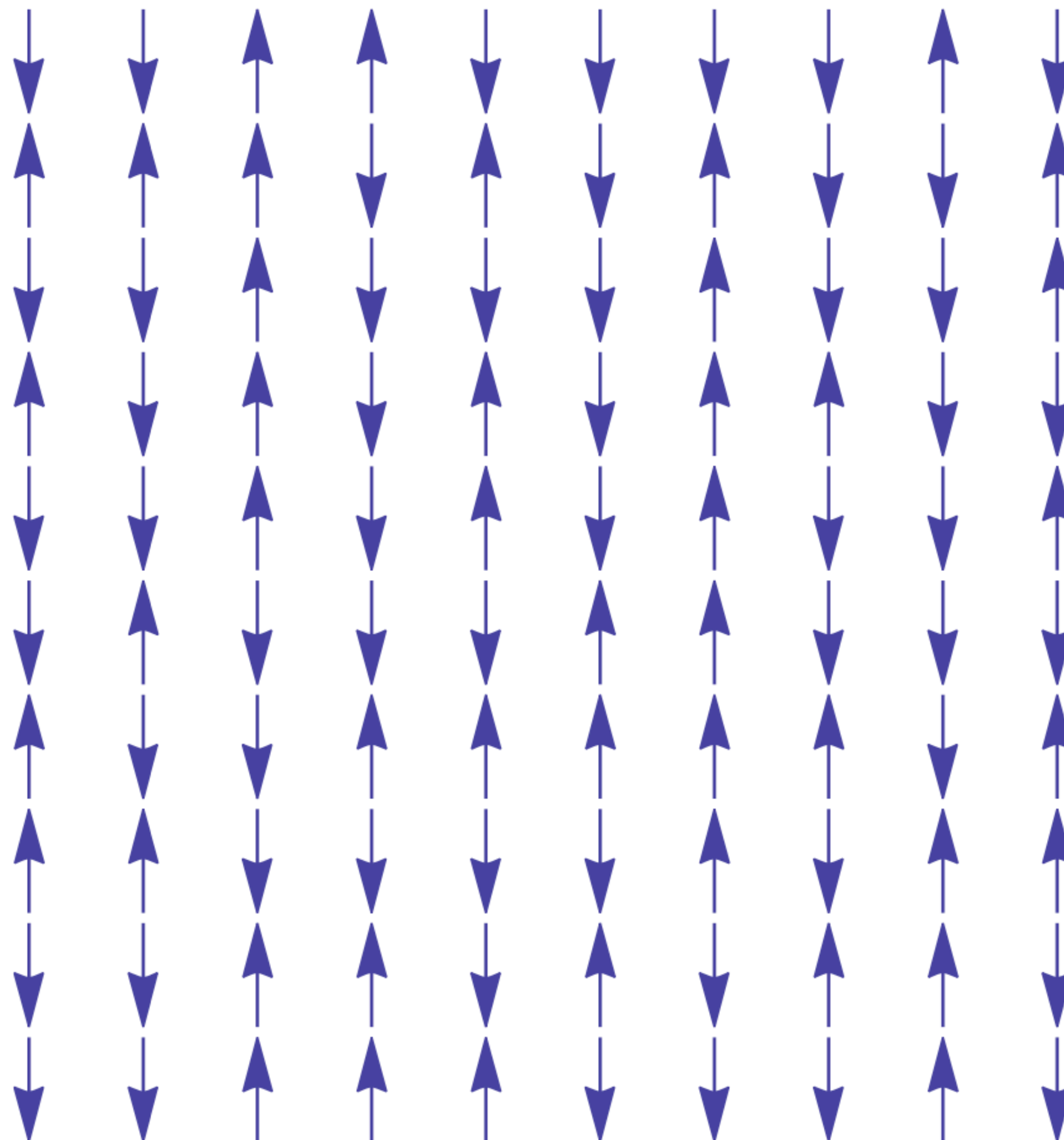
Ernst Ising

“...it was not until 1949 that he found out from the scientific literature that his model had become widely known...”

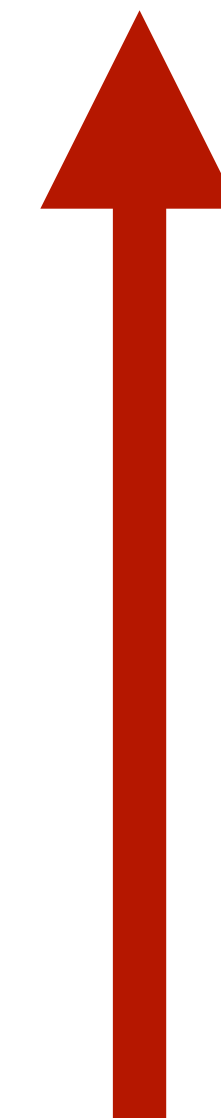
(<http://theor.jinr.ru/~kuzemsky/isingbio.html>)



Lattice of spins



What are the “important” things?



Magnetic Field

Ising-like Hamiltonians

$$E = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \sigma_i \sigma_j - h \sum_i \sigma_i$$

Total Energy

Neighbors interaction

Strength of the B field

Let's define an order parameter...

$$M = \left\langle \frac{N_{\uparrow} - N_{\downarrow}}{N} \right\rangle$$

Compute M as function of:
the **interaction strength**, the **magnetic field**, and the **temperature**

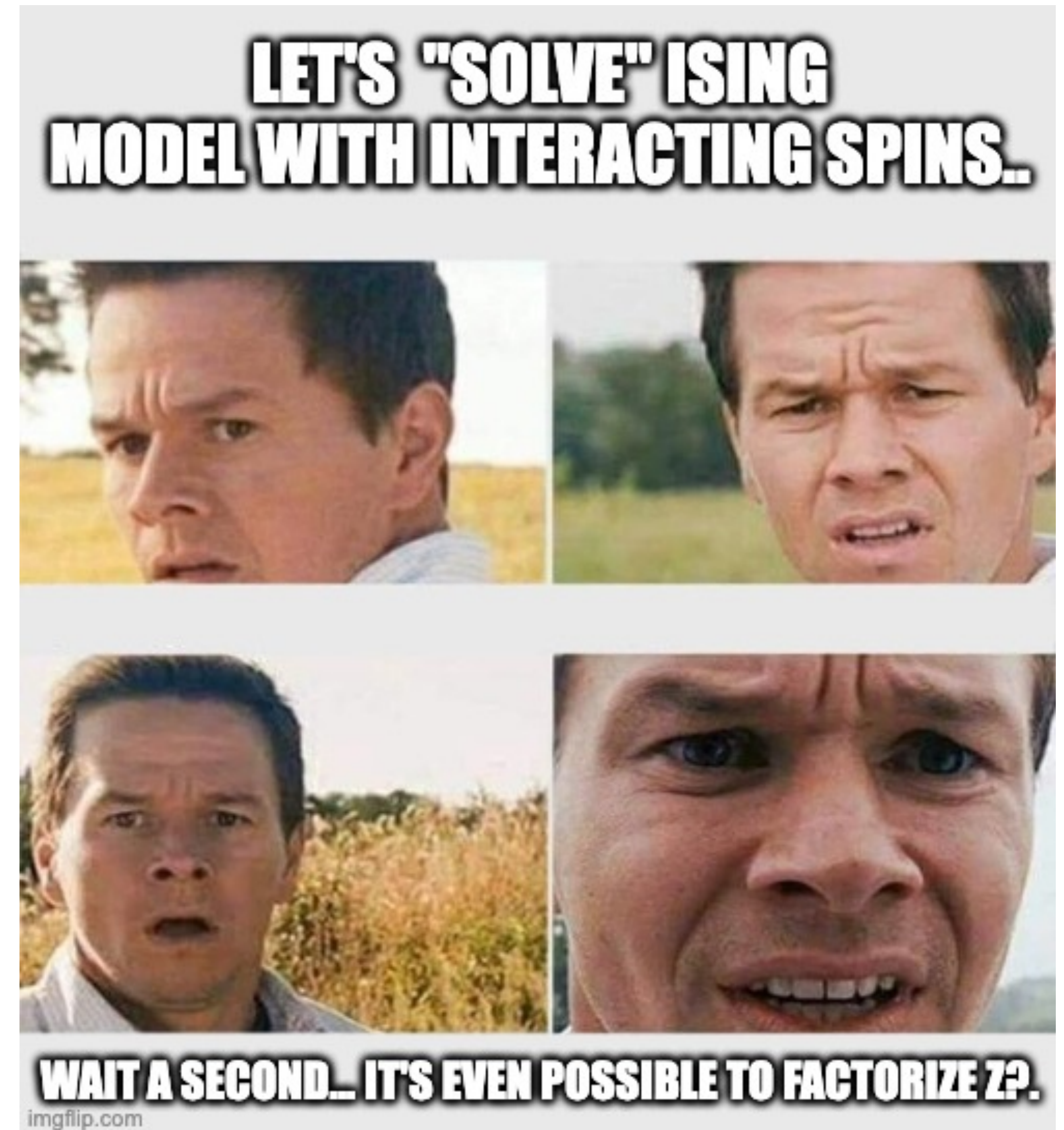
First Case: Non-Interacting Spins

Non-Interacting Spins: Entropy

Second Case: Interacting Spins

Ok, let's do the same!

Wait, something is wrong...



What is the “problem”?

$$Z = \sum_{\sigma_1} \sum_{\sigma_2} \cdots \sum_{\sigma_N} \exp \left[\frac{J}{k_B T} \sum_{\langle i, j \rangle} \sigma_i \sigma_j + \frac{h}{k_B T} \sum_i \sigma_i \right]$$

All spins are coupled between each other

The Free Energy:

$$\frac{F}{Nk_B T} = - \left(\frac{Jq}{2k_B T} \right) M^2 - \left(\frac{h}{k_B T} \right) M + \left(\frac{1+M}{2} \right) \ln \left(\frac{1+M}{2} \right) + \left(\frac{1-M}{2} \right) \ln \left(\frac{1-M}{2} \right)$$

Let's explore the behavior of this function!

Last but not least

Huge applicability to other systems!

- Study up-down, left-right symmetries.
- Liquid-vapor critical points.
- Mixing-unmixing in binary mixtures.
- Normal-super transition in superfluids.
- Cicadas
- Universality: different systems with different physics have same behavior in critical points

Thanks!

What do we need?

$$N = N_{\uparrow} + N_{\downarrow} \quad M = \frac{N_{\uparrow} - N_{\downarrow}}{N} \quad \Omega = \frac{N!}{N_{\uparrow}! N_{\downarrow}!}$$



$$S = -k_B T \left[\left(\frac{1+M}{2} \right) \ln \left(\frac{1+M}{2} \right) + \left(\frac{1-M}{2} \right) \ln \left(\frac{1-M}{2} \right) \right]$$

Issues with Interacting Spins

- “Unfortunately, this problem is much harder than the non-interacting spins. It is not just harder in the sense that I need to look up a tricky integral, or that I have to get Mathematica to calculate something numerically. It is harder in the sense that it consists of a huge number of variables that are all coupled together.” (Selinger)

So, what to do now?

Let's make mathematicians cry!

$$E_{int} = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \sigma_i \sigma_j$$

$$\langle E_{int} \rangle = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \langle \sigma_i \sigma_j \rangle$$

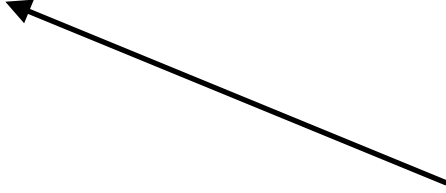
Let's make mathematicians cry!

$$\langle \sigma_i \sigma_j \rangle \approx \langle \sigma_i \rangle \langle \sigma_j \rangle$$

$$\langle E_{int} \rangle \approx -J \sum_{\langle i, j \rangle} \langle \sigma_i \rangle \langle \sigma_j \rangle$$

$$\langle E_{int} \rangle \approx -\frac{1}{2} N J q M^2$$

coordination number



$$F = \langle E \rangle - TS$$

We have everything we need to compute the free energy!