

Project 1 (Marks 15)

In this project you will construct a Monte Carlo algorithm and develop computer codes to study a d dimensional scalar field theory on the lattice. In the next project you will use these codes to study the theory in $d = 2, 3$ and 4 dimensions.

The theory you will study is defined by the lattice action

$$S_E^\ell = \sum_x \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \chi_x^2 - \kappa \sum_\mu \chi_x \chi_{x+\hat{\mu}} + g \chi_x^4 \right\},$$

where κ and g are called “bare” couplings. We will define $\kappa^{-1} = 2d + (m_0 a)^2$, where m_0 is defined as the bare lattice mass term and a is the lattice spacing. When $g = 0$ we can verify that the physical mass of the scalar particle is $M_{\text{phys}} = m_0$, however once we turn on interactions this connection between M_{phys} and m_0 is no longer true and we will treat $\alpha \equiv (m_0 a)^2$ as a parameter that defines κ .

The label $x = (\mathbf{n}, \tau)$ represents the site on a square, cubic, or hyper-cubic lattice depending on d with periodic boundary conditions. **Let L be the number of lattice sites in each direction.** Your Monte Carlo algorithm should help you compute three quantities

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{L^d} \sum_x \langle \chi_x^2 \rangle, \quad \chi = \frac{1}{L^d} \sum_{x,y} \langle \chi_x \chi_y \rangle, \quad F = \frac{1}{L^d} \sum_{x,y} \langle \chi_x \chi_y \rangle \cos(2\pi \Delta\tau / L),$$

for a fixed value of L , κ and g . In the definition of F the quantity $\Delta\tau$ is the temporal separation in lattice units between x and y . Using χ and F let us define a finite size mass $M(L)$ using the formula

$$M(L) = \frac{2 \sin(\pi/L)}{\sqrt{(\chi/F) - 1}}.$$

In the next project you will show that in the massive symmetric phase $M(L \rightarrow \infty) = M_{\text{phys}} a$. We will use this to compute the physical mass of the scalar particle in the Monte Carlo method.

1. For $g = 0$ write a computer program to **exactly compute** the three observables. Verify that $M(L) = m_0 a$ independent of L when $g = 0$. This implies $M_{\text{phys}} = m_0$ in the free theory as expected. Also have a computer code handy to compute the observables when $\kappa = 0$. In your report tabulate exact results for $L = 16$, $g = 0$, and $\alpha = 0.25$ and $L = 16$, $g = 0.1$, and $\kappa = 0$ in $d = 2, 3, 4$.
2. Using online lectures provided on the webpage or otherwise construct a **Monte Carlo algorithm** and develop computer codes to study the above d dimensional lattice field theory. Verify that your Monte Carlo is producing the right results when $g = 0$ but $\kappa \neq 0$ and when $\kappa = 0$ but $g \neq 0$. You can use the exact results from above for this purpose.
3. Using your Monte Carlo method compute the three observables and $M(L)$ for $L = 8$, $(ma)^2 = -1.5$ and $g = 0.1$ in $d = 2, 3$ and 4. Tabulate your results in the form shown below.

d	σ	χ	F	$M(L)$

Make sure the errors in your results are around 0.2%.