

Computational Physics - Project 3

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Introduction

In project 4 we are dealing with the Ising model in two dimensions without an external magnetic field. We are looking at a lattice of L times L particles, which have spin values ± 1 . In order to compute different interesting values, we want to use the metropolis algorithm. With our computations, we want to calculate the Energy, the absolute value of the magnetisation, the heat capacity and susceptibility of the system as a function of time. We also want to compare our solutions with the theoretical closed solution. This project may also show the link from statistical physics to macroscopic properties of a given physical system, which is a very interesting relation.

1 Theory

1.1 General properties of physical systems and their link to statistical physics

1.1.1 physical ensembles

1.1.2 General properties of canonical ensembles

1.1.3 Ferromagnetic order

A ferromagnet has a spontaneous magnetic moment even with the absence of an external magnetic field. Due to the existence of a spontaneous moment the electron spin and magnetic moments must be arranged in a regular manner. Ferromagnet all spins aligned, antiferromagnet all spins align with neighboring pointing in opposite directions, ferrimagnet the opposing moments are unequal, etc.

1.2 theoretical numerical solutions

1.2.1 Ising model

Ising model is a mathematical model for ferromagnetism studies of phase transitions for magnetic system at given a temperature. The model consists the interaction between two neighbouring spins is related by the interaction energy

$$-J s_k s_l \quad (1)$$

where the spin s can be in two states $+1$ or -1 , where s_k and s_l are the nearest neighbors. Which give a low energy ($-J$) if the two spins aligned and high energy (J) for spins pointing in opposite direction. The total energy to a system with N number of spins and with the absence of magnetic field can be expressed as

$$E = -J \sum_{\langle kl \rangle} s_k s_l \quad (2)$$

...probability distribution with expectation value $\langle E \rangle$...

1.2.2 Periodic boundary conditions

Periodic boundary conditions is used for approximating a large or infinite system by using smaller repeating system, we will impose PBCs on our spin lattice in x and y directions.

$$\begin{aligned} s(L+1, y) &= s(1, y) \\ s(x, L+1) &= s(x, 1) \end{aligned}$$

1.2.3 Metropolis algorithm

1.2.4 critical temperature (Lars Onsager)

1.3 Closed solution for a 2 dimensional 2×2 lattice

We want now to look at a 2×2 lattice and we want to calculate the partition function, the energy, magnetisation, heat capacity and susceptibility of the system dependent of T . The partition function for a canonical ensemble with periodic boundary conditions can be computed by:

$$Z = \sum_{i=1}^M e^{-\beta E_i} \quad (3)$$

Here, β is $\frac{1}{k_b \cdot T}$, where k_b is the Boltzmann constant. In this expression we sum over all microstates m . The Energy of the system in configuration i is then:

$$E_i = -J \sum_{\langle kl \rangle}^N s_k s_l \quad (4)$$

The sum over $\langle kl \rangle$ means that we only sum over nearest neighbours. In our 2×2 case, we have for each "particle" two possible values ± 1 . This means that we have all in all $2^{2 \cdot 2} = 2^4 = 16$ micro states. We have to compute the Energy of the micro states in order to compute the partition function. We also want to introduce the magnetisation, which is simply the sum over all the spins of the system:

$$M_i = \sum_{j=1}^N s_j \quad (5)$$

We want also to introduce the so called degeneracy, which counts the number of micro states for a given micro energy. We get the following table: We can now write the expression of the partition function:

Figure 1: Energy of the different micro states

Number of spins up (+1)	Degeneracy	Energy	Magnetization
4	1	$-8J$	4
3	4	0	2
2	4	0	0
2	2	$8J$	0
1	4	0	-2
0	1	$-8J$	-4

$$Z = \sum_{i=1}^M e^{-\beta E_i} = 12 \cdot e^{-\beta \cdot 0} + 2 \cdot e^{-8J\beta} + 1 \cdot e^{8J\beta} + 1 \cdot e^{8J\beta} \quad (6)$$

$$= 12 + 2 \cdot e^{-8J\beta} + 2 \cdot e^{8J\beta} \quad (7)$$

$$= 12 + 4 \cdot \cosh(8J\beta) \quad (8)$$

2 Execution

3 Comparison and discussion of results

4 source code