

2.2.3 Ising paramagnet

Dynamics and relaxation time for $H=0$
 time t = discrete, measured in the number of spin-flips.

$$P_n(t+1) = \underbrace{\frac{n+1}{N} P_{n+1}(t)}_{\text{probability that one of the } (n+1) \oplus \text{ turns into } \ominus} + \underbrace{\frac{N-(n-1)}{N} P_{n-1}(t)}_{\text{prob. that one of the } \ominus \text{ spins turns into } \oplus}$$

For $N \gg 1$ the $P_n(t)$ changes slowly and we can replace:

$$P_n(t+1) - P_n(t) \approx \frac{\partial}{\partial t} P_n(t)$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial P_n(t)}{\partial t} = \frac{n+1}{N} P_{n+1}(t) + \frac{N-n+1}{N} P_{n-1}(t) - P_n(t)}$$

Master equation

Equation of motion for $\langle n \rangle$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle n \rangle = \frac{d}{dt} \sum_n n P_n(t) = \sum_n n \frac{d}{dt} P_n(t)$$

$$= \underbrace{\sum_n n \frac{(n+1)}{N} P_{n+1}(t)}_{n \rightarrow n-1} + \underbrace{\sum_n n \frac{N-n+1}{N} P_{n-1}(t)}_{n \rightarrow n+1} - \sum_n n P_n(t)$$

$$= \sum_n \left[(n-1) \frac{n}{N} + \frac{(n+1)(N-n)}{N} - n \right] P_n(t) = \sum_n \left(1 - \frac{2n}{N} \right) P_n(t)$$

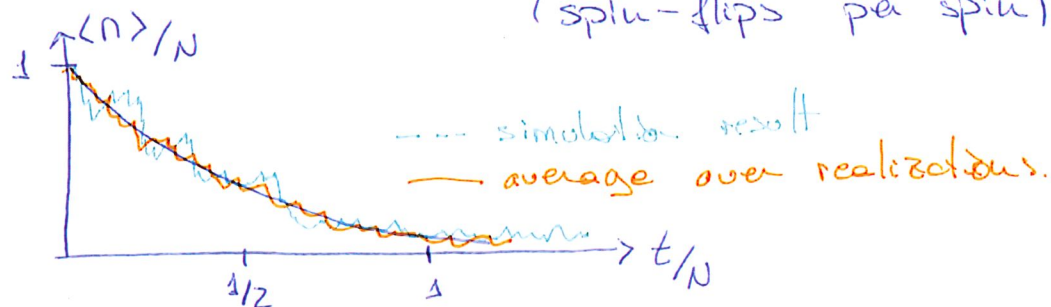
$$= 1 - \frac{2}{N} \langle n \rangle$$

For the initial condition $n(t=0) = N$

$$\rightarrow n(t) = \frac{N}{2} \left[1 + \exp\left(-\frac{2}{N} t\right) \right]$$

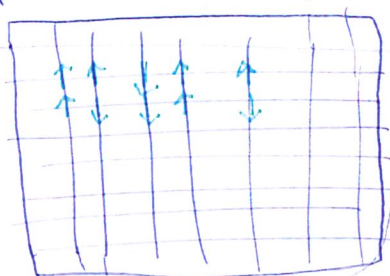
Conclusions:

- Exponential relaxation
- Relaxation time $\tau = 1/2$
- ~ To eliminate the dependence of the relaxation time, time is usually expressed in MCS units
MCS - Monte Carlo step per spin $\sim \frac{1}{2}$
(spin-flips per spin)



2.2.4 - Ising ferromagnet

Consider a d -dimensional cubic lattice with a spin in every node $s_i \in \{+1, -1\}$



• There is an interaction between next neighbours which favours the parallel orientation of the spins.

$$H(s) = -J \sum_i s_i - J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} s_i s_j$$

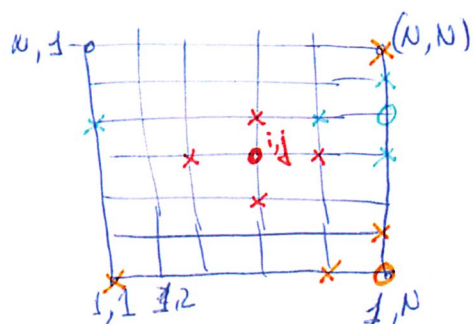
$J > 0$ - coupling constant

	$\uparrow\uparrow$	$\uparrow\downarrow$	$\downarrow\uparrow$	$\downarrow\downarrow$
s_i	+	+	-	-
s_j	+	-	+	-
$-J s_i s_j$	-	+	+	-

Monte Carlo procedure (Metropolis)

- Choose an initial ordered configuration (or unordered)
- Choose a lattice node i
- Calculate the energy difference of an hypothetical spin flip $s_i \rightarrow -s_i$

In a 2-d lattice



$$S_i \sim S_{ij}$$

→ the calculation of the energy difference is local, this is it is related only to the chosen lattice nodes, and the nearest-neighbours. All the other terms in the energy cancel in the difference

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta H &= H\{s_{11}, s_{12}, \dots, -s_{ij}, \dots, s_{NN}\} - H\{s_{11}, s_{12}, \dots, s_{ij}, \dots, s_{NN}\} \\ &= -J(-s_{ij}) \{s_{i+1,j} + s_{i-1,j} + s_{i,j+1} + s_{i,j-1}\} \\ &= (-J)(s_{ij}) \{s_{i+1,j} + s_{i-1,j} + s_{i,j+1} + s_{i,j-1}\} \\ &= 2J \{s_{i+1,j} + s_{i-1,j} + s_{i,j+1} + s_{i,j-1}\} \end{aligned}$$

→ we consider periodic boundary conditions
($N+1 \rightarrow 1$; $1-1 \rightarrow N$)

(iv) In case $\Delta E \leq 0 \rightarrow s_{ij} \rightarrow -s_{ij}$ (accepted)

(v) In case $\Delta E > 0$

Choose a random number g with equal probability in the interval $[0, 1]$

• in case $\exp(-\beta \Delta E) > g \rightarrow s_{ij} \rightarrow -s_{ij}$

• in case $\exp(-\beta \Delta E) < g \rightarrow$ no flip

(vi) Calculate the magnetization $M = \sum_i S_i$

2.2.5 Calculation of the mean values.

(i) The Markov process provides a path in the phase space that if long enough, covers a representative subset of the phase space.

1 \Rightarrow the number of configurations used in a simulation is always just a very small subset of all the points in the phase space

3 \rightarrow It does not make sense to calculate data for averaging too often because the configurations that follow each other in short succession are strongly correlated.

Rule of thumb - calculate averages every couple of MCS.

MCS = Monte Carlo step per spin

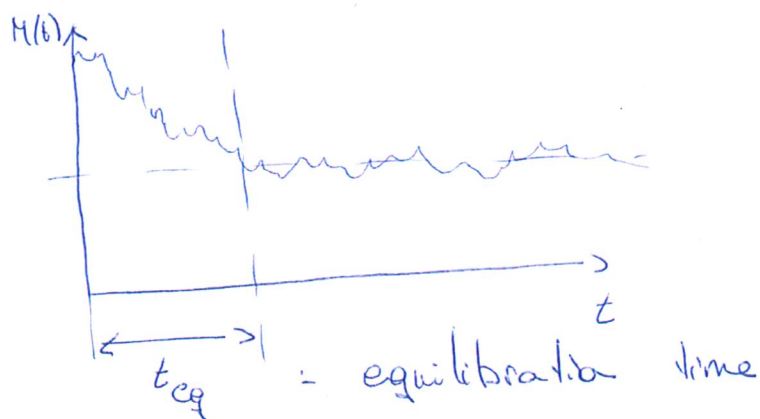
(ii) In section 2.1.2 we have seen that the information about the initial state is forgotten after some relaxation time τ

• For the Ising paramagnet $\tau = N/2$

some MCS are sufficient, increasing with N

• For other models, such as the Ising ferromagnet, τ can be much longer

therefore - we calculate an observable (such as the magnetization $M = \sum_i s_i$) at a time according to a MCS and write to a file.
then draw its time evolution



For calculating the mean values the small times are typically not considered.

(iii) In thermodynamics, there are often quantities that are calculated by derivation according to intensive variables.

Examples:

magnetic susceptibility $\chi = - \left. \frac{\partial M}{\partial H} \right|_{H=0}$

specific heat $= C_{H=0} = T \frac{\partial S}{\partial T}$

these quantities should not be calculated via a (complex and inaccurate) discretization of the derivatives, but via the mean values of fluctuations.

Example: specific heat

from thermodynamics $TdS = dU - HdM$

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{H=0} &= \left. \frac{\partial U}{\partial T} \right|_{H=0} = \left. \frac{\partial \langle U \rangle}{\partial T} \right|_{H=0} = \frac{\partial}{\partial T} \frac{1}{Z} \left[\sum H e^{-\beta H} \right] = \\
 &\stackrel{\beta = \frac{1}{k_B T}}{\rightarrow} - \frac{1}{k_B T^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left[\frac{1}{Z} \sum H e^{-\beta H} \right] \\
 &= - \frac{1}{k_B T^2} \left[\frac{1}{Z} \sum (H)^2 e^{-\beta H} + \frac{1}{Z^2} \left(\sum H e^{-\beta H} \right)^2 \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$C_{H=0} = \kappa_B \left[\langle (\beta \mathcal{H})^2 \rangle - \langle \beta \mathcal{H} \rangle^2 \right]$$

C_H can be calculated from the energy fluct.

□