

# PHYSICS OF COMPLEX SYSTEMS

LECTURE AND TUTORIALS – PROF. DR. HAYE HINRICHSSEN – B. SC. NILS PLÄHN – SS 2020

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## EXERCISE 7.1: THE FIRST GAP

(6P)

The Hamiltonian of the Ising quantum chain is defined by

$$\mathbf{H}_N = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left( \sigma_n^x \sigma_{n+1}^x + \lambda \sigma_n^z \right)$$

where  $\lambda > 0$  and  $\sigma_n^{x|y|z} = \mathbb{1}_{2^n \times 2^n} \otimes \sigma^{x|y|z} \otimes \mathbb{1}_{2^{N-n-1} \times 2^{N-n-1}}$  are Pauli matrices acting at site  $n$ , assuming periodic boundary conditions. The first (or lowest) gap  $\Delta_N$  is defined as the difference between the first two lowest-lying eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{H}_N$ .

- In Markov processes, the first gap of  $\mathcal{L}$  is the inverse leading relaxation time. In particle physics, the first gap measures the mass. What is the interpretation of the first gap of  $\mathbf{H}_N$  in the present context? (1P)
- With the *Mathematica*<sup>®</sup> code fragment for the tensor product  $\otimes$  given in the lecture notes,<sup>1</sup> write a code snippet to set up the Hamiltonian for arbitrary  $N$  and  $\lambda$ . (2P)  
Cross check: The eigenvalues for  $N = 3$  (i.e.  $8 \times 8$ ) are  $\{-\lambda - 1, -\lambda - 1, \lambda - 1, \lambda - 1, -2\sqrt{\lambda^2 - \lambda + 1} + \lambda + 1, 2\sqrt{\lambda^2 - \lambda + 1} + \lambda + 1, -2\sqrt{\lambda^2 + \lambda + 1} - \lambda + 1, 2\sqrt{\lambda^2 + \lambda + 1} - \lambda + 1\}$
- With (b) compute *numerically*<sup>2</sup> the first gap of  $\mathbf{H}_N$  for  $N = 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12$  and plot the gap for  $\lambda = 0.8, 1, 1.2$  double-logarithmically as a function of  $N$ . For which  $\lambda$  do you get an almost straight line of points and why?<sup>3</sup> (2P)
- Compute the negative *discrete logarithmic derivative*

$$\nu(N) = -\frac{\ln[\Delta_{N+2}/\Delta_N]}{\ln[(N+2)/N]}$$

for  $\lambda = 1$  and  $N = 2, 4, 6, 8, 10$  and guess the value of the critical exponent  $\nu$  which is defined as the limit  $\nu = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \nu(N)$ . (1P)

⇒ PLEASE TURN OVER

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<sup>1</sup>You are of course free to use any other algebraic computer systems as well.

<sup>2</sup>In Mathematica: Use `N[...]` to make  $\mathbf{H}$  numerical: `Eigenvalues[N[H[length,lambda]]]`

<sup>3</sup>The execution for  $N = 12$  should take less than 20 seconds. If not, go only up to  $N = 10$ .

**EXERCISE 7.2: XXZ CHAIN AND 2-POINT SCALAR OPERATORS** (6P)

The XXZ-Heisenberg chain with  $N$  sites and open boundary conditions is defined by the Hamiltonian

$$H = - \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} e_j, \quad e_j = -\frac{1}{2} \left( \sigma_j^x \sigma_{j+1}^x + \sigma_j^y \sigma_{j+1}^y + \sigma_j^z \sigma_{j+1}^z - \mathbb{1} \right).$$

In this exercise we want to improve algebraic skills. Please do not construct explicit matrices via *Mathematica*<sup>®</sup>, but use commutation relations instead. Of course, you may use *Mathematica*<sup>®</sup> to verify your results.

- (a) Show *algebraically* that the  $e_j$  satisfy the Temperley-Lieb algebra (c.f. 3.2) (2P)

$$e_j^2 = 2e_j, \quad e_j e_{j\pm 1} e_j = e_j, \quad [e_i, e_j] = 0 \text{ for } |i - j| \geq 2$$

Hint: The Pauli matrices  $(\sigma^x, \sigma^y, \sigma^z) = (\sigma^1, \sigma^2, \sigma^3)$  obey the multiplication rule  $\sigma^\mu \sigma^\nu = \delta_{\mu\nu} \mathbb{1} + i \sum_{\tau=1}^3 \epsilon_{\mu\nu\tau} \sigma^\tau$ .

- (b) Verify *algebraically* that the  $SU(2)$  operators

$$S^\pm = \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_j^\pm, \quad S^z = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_j^z, \quad \sigma_j^\pm = \frac{1}{2} (\sigma_j^x \pm i \sigma_j^y)$$

obey the commutation relations  $[S^+, S^-] = 2S^z$  and that they commute with the operators  $e_1, \dots, e_{N-1}$ . (2P)

- (c) The two-point scalar operator is defined as

$$C_{l,m} := \frac{1}{2} \left( \mathbb{1} - \vec{\sigma}_l \cdot \vec{\sigma}_m \right)$$

Prove that (1P)

$$C_{l,m} = (\mathbb{1} - e_{m-1})(\mathbb{1} - e_{m-2}) \cdots (\mathbb{1} - e_{l+1}) e_l (\mathbb{1} - e_{l+1})(\mathbb{1} - e_{l+2}) \cdots (\mathbb{1} - e_{m-1}),$$

(implying via (b) that the two-point operator  $C_{m,n}$  is  $SU(2)$ -invariant) and show that the correlator obeys the recurrence relation ( $l < m < n$ ) (1P)

$$C_{l,n} = C_{l,m} + C_{m,n} - C_{l,m} C_{m,n} - C_{m,n} C_{l,m}.$$

( $\Sigma = 12P$ )

To be handed in electronically until Wednesday, June 10, 2020, 12:00, on WueCampus according to our Corona guidelines on the web page [cs.hayehinrichsen.de](https://www.cs.hayehinrichsen.de).