

**XIV Training Course on Strongly Correlated Systems  
Vietri Sul Mare, Salerno, Italy, October 5-16, 2009**

## **Exact diagonalization studies**

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### **Studies of small spin chains**

Using basis states incorporating conservation laws (symmetries)

- magnetization conservation, momentum states, parity, spin inversion
- discussion without group theory
  - only basic quantum mechanics and common sense needed

Key elements of an actual program implementation

- pseudocode segments; actual program available for practice

How to characterize different kinds of ground states

- critical ground state of the Heisenberg chain
- quantum phase transition to a valence-bond solid in a  $J_1$ - $J_2$  chain

## Complete diagonalization of the hamiltonian

To find the ground state (maybe excitations,  $T > 0$  properties) of the Heisenberg  $S=1/2$  chain

$$\begin{aligned} H &= J \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1} = J \sum_{i=1}^N [S_i^x S_{i+1}^x + S_i^y S_{i+1}^y + S_i^z S_{i+1}^z], \\ &= J \sum_{i=1}^N [S_i^z S_{i+1}^z + \frac{1}{2} (S_i^+ S_{i+1}^- + S_i^- S_{i+1}^+)] \end{aligned}$$

Simplest way; enumerate the states

- construct the hamiltonian matrix using bits

$$|0\rangle = |\downarrow, \downarrow, \downarrow, \dots, \downarrow\rangle \quad (= 0 \dots 000)$$

$$|1\rangle = |\uparrow, \downarrow, \downarrow, \dots, \downarrow\rangle \quad (= 0 \dots 001)$$

$$|2\rangle = |\downarrow, \uparrow, \downarrow, \dots, \downarrow\rangle \quad (= 0 \dots 010)$$

$$|3\rangle = |\uparrow, \uparrow, \downarrow, \dots, \downarrow\rangle \quad (= 0 \dots 011)$$

$$H_{ij} = \langle i | H | j \rangle$$

$$i, j = 0, \dots, 2^N - 1$$

bit representation perfect for  $S=1/2$  systems

- use  $>1$  bit/spin for  $S > 1/2$ , or integer vector
- construct  $H$  by examining/flipping bits

## Diagonalizing the matrix

- on the computer
- gives the eigenvalues and eigenvectors

If  $U$  is the matrix whose columns are the eigenvectors of  $H$ , then

$$\langle n|A|n\rangle = [U^{T*}AU]_{nn}$$

is the expectation value of some operator  $A$  in the  $n$ :th eigenstate

Use some “canned” diagonalization subroutine

- Useful subroutines available at <http://gams.nist.gov>

**Problem:** Matrix size  $M=2^N$  becomes too large quickly

- maximum  $N \approx 20$
- $M^2$  matrix elements to store, time to diagonalize  $\propto M^3$

## Pseudocode; construction of the hamiltonian matrix

Let  $a[i]$  refer to the  $i$ :th bit of an integer  $a$

Define a function  $\text{flip}(a,i,j)$

- “flips” ( $0 \leftrightarrow 1$ ) bits  $i$  and  $j$  of the integer  $a$
- In F90 the bit-level function  $\text{ieor}(a, 2^i)$  can be used to flip bit  $i$  of  $a$
- bits  $i$  and  $j$  can be flipped using  $\text{ieor}(a, 2^i + 2^j)$

			j		i			
$a$	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
$2^i + 2^j$	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
$\text{ieor}(a, 2^i + 2^j)$	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1

The  $S=1/2$  Heisenberg chain hamiltonian  
can be constructed according to

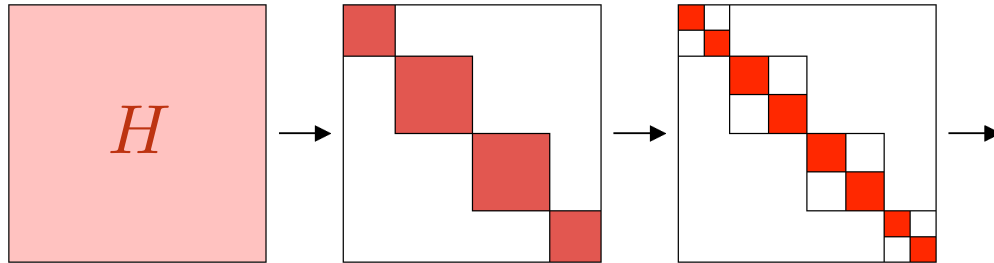
$j$  is the “right” nearest-neighbor of  $i$

- periodic boundary conditions

```
do  $a = 0, 2^N - 1$ 
  do  $i = 0, N - 1$ 
     $j = \text{mod}(i + 1, N)$ 
    if ( $a[i] = a[j]$ ) then
       $H(a, a) = H(a, a) + \frac{1}{4}$ 
    else
       $H(a, a) = H(a, a) - \frac{1}{4}$ 
       $b = \text{flip}(a, i, j); H(a, b) = \frac{1}{2}$ 
    endif
  enddo
enddo
```

## Using conservation laws (symmetries) for block-diagonalization

We can choose the basis in such a way that the  $H$  becomes block-diagonal



- the blocks can be diagonalized individually
- we can reach larger  $N$  (but not much larger,  $N \approx 40$  is max)

## Simplest example; magnetization conservation

$$m_z = \sum_{i=1}^N S_i^z$$

- blocks correspond to fixed values of  $m_z$
- no H matrix elements between states of different  $m_z$
- block-diagonalization just amounts to including states with only given  $m_z$

Number of states in the largest block ( $m_z = 0$ ):

$$\frac{N!}{(N/2)!(N/2)!}$$

Other symmetries (conserved quantum numbers)

- can be used to further split the blocks
- but more complicated
  - basis states have to be constructed to obey symmetries

## Pseudocode: using magnetization conservation

Constructing the basis in the block of  $n_{\uparrow}$  spins  $\uparrow$

Store state-integers in ordered list  $\mathbf{s}_a$ ,  $a=1, \dots, M$

```
do  $s = 0, 2^N - 1$ 
  if  $(\sum_i s[i] = n_{\uparrow})$  then  $a = a + 1$ ;  $s_a = s$  endif
enddo
 $M = a$ 
```

```
subroutine findstate( $s, b$ )
do
   $b_{\min} = 1$ ;  $b_{\max} = M$ 
   $b = b_{\min} + (b_{\max} - b_{\min})/2$ 
  if  $(s < s_b)$  then
     $b_{\max} = b - 1$ 
  elseif  $(s > s_b)$  then
     $b_{\min} = b + 1$ 
  else
    exit
  endif
enddo
```

Example;  $N=4$ ,  $n_{\uparrow}=2$

$s_1=3$	(0011)
$s_2=5$	(0101)
$s_3=6$	(0110)
$s_4=9$	(1001)
$s_5=10$	(1010)
$s_6=12$	(1100)

Finding the location  $b$   
of a state-integer  $s$  in the list

- using bisection in the ordered list



## Hamiltonian construction

```
do  $a = 1, M$   
  do  $i = 0, N - 1$   
     $j = \mathbf{mod}(i + 1, N)$   
    if ( $s_a[i] = s_a[j]$ ) then  
       $H(a, a) = H(a, a) + \frac{1}{4}$   
    else  
       $H(a, a) = H(a, a) - \frac{1}{4}$   
       $s = \mathbf{flip}(s_a, i, j)$   
      call  $\mathbf{findstate}(s, b)$   
       $H(a, b) = H(a, b) + \frac{1}{2}$   
    endif  
  enddo  
enddo
```

## Momentum states (translationally invariant systems)

A periodic chain (ring) is translationally invariant

- the eigenstates have a momentum (crystal momentum )
- quantum number  $k$

$$T|n\rangle = e^{ik}|n\rangle \quad k = m\frac{2\pi}{N}, \quad m = 0, \dots, N-1,$$

The operator  $T$  translates the state by one lattice spacing

- for a spin basis state

$$T|S_1^z, S_2^z, \dots, S_N^z\rangle = |S_N^z, S_1^z, \dots, S_{N-1}^z\rangle$$

$[T, H]=0 \rightarrow$  momentum blocks of  $H$

- can use eigenstates of  $T$  with given  $k$  as basis

A momentum state can be constructed from any **representative** state

$$|a(k)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r |a\rangle, \quad |a\rangle = |S_1^z, \dots, S_N^z\rangle$$

Construct ordered list of representatives

If  $|a\rangle$  and  $|b\rangle$  are representatives, then

$$T^r |a\rangle \neq |b\rangle \quad r \in \{1, \dots, N-1\}$$

4-site examples

**(0011)**  $\rightarrow$  (0110), (1100), (1001)

**(0101)**  $\rightarrow$  (1010)

The sum can contain several copies of the same state

If  $T^R |a\rangle = |a\rangle$  for some  $R$

- the total weight for this component is

$$1 + e^{-ikR} + e^{-i2kR} + \dots + e^{-ik(N-R)}$$

- vanishes (state incompatible with  $k$ ) unless  $kR = n2\pi$
- the total weight of the representative is then  $N/R$

$$kR = n2\pi \rightarrow \frac{mR}{N} = n \rightarrow m = n \frac{N}{R} \rightarrow \text{mod}(m, N/R) = 0$$

$$|a(k)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r |a\rangle$$

**Normalization** of a state  $|a(k)\rangle$  with periodicity  $R_a$

$$\langle a(k)|a(k)\rangle = \frac{1}{N_a} \times R_a \times \left(\frac{N}{R_a}\right)^2 = 1 \rightarrow N_a = \frac{N^2}{R_a}$$

### Pseudocode; basis construction

```

do  $s = 0, 2^N - 1$ 
  call checkstate( $s, R$ )
  if  $R \geq 0$  then  $a = a + 1$ ;  $s_a = s$ ;  $R_a = R$  endif
enddo
 $M = a$ 

```

$M$  = size of  
the H-block

Uses a subroutine **checkstate**( $s, R$ )

- $R$  = periodicity if state-integer  $s$  is a new representative
- store in list  **$R_a, a=1, \dots, M$**
- $R = -1$  if some translation of  $|s\rangle$  gives a smaller integer

## Translations of the representative; cyclic permutation

Define function **cyclebits**( $t, N$ )

- cyclic permutations of first  $N$  bits of integer  $t$
- F90 function `ishiftc( $t, -1, N$ )`

### Pseudocode; **checkstate()** subroutine

```
subroutine checkstate( $s, R$ )  
   $R = -1$   
  if ( $\sum_i s[i] \neq n_{\uparrow}$ ) return  
   $t = s$   
  do  $i = 1, N$   
     $t = \text{cyclebits}(t, N)$   
    if ( $t < s$ ) then  
      return  
    elseif ( $t = s$ ) then  
      if ( $\text{mod}(k, N/i) \neq 0$ ) return  
       $R = i$ ; return  
    endif  
  enddo
```

The representative is the lowest integer among all translations

**The Hamiltonian matrix.** Write  $S = 1/2$  chain hamiltonian as

$$H_0 = \sum_{j=1}^N S_j^z S_{j+1}^z, \quad H_j = \frac{1}{2}(S_j^+ S_{j+1}^- + S_j^- S_{j+1}^+), \quad j = 1, \dots, N$$

Act with H on a momentum state

$$H|a(k)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r H|a\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{j=0}^N \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r H_j|a\rangle,$$

$H_j|a\rangle$  is related to some representative:  $H_j|a\rangle = h_a^j T^{-l_j} |b_j\rangle$

$$H|a(k)\rangle = \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{h_a^j}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^{(r-l_j)} |b_j\rangle$$

Shift summation index r and use definition of momentum state

$$H|a(k)\rangle = \sum_{j=0}^N h_a^j e^{-ikl_j} \sqrt{\frac{N_{b_j}}{N_a}} |b_j(k)\rangle \quad \rightarrow \text{matrix elements}$$

$$\langle a(k)|H_0|a(k)\rangle = \sum_{j=1}^N S_j^z S_j^z,$$

$$\langle b_j(k)|H_{j>0}|a(k)\rangle = e^{-ikl_j} \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{R_a}{R_{b_j}}}, \quad |b_j\rangle \propto T^{-l_j} H_j|a\rangle,$$

## Pseudocode; hamiltonian construction

First, some elements needed; recall

$$H_j |a\rangle = h_a^j T^{-l_j} |b_j\rangle$$

Finding the representative  $r$  of a state-integer  $s$

```
subroutine representative( $s, r, l$ )  
 $r = s; t = s; l = 0$   
do  $i = 1, N - 1$   
   $t = \text{cyclebits}(t, N)$   
  if ( $t < r$ ) then  $r = t; l = i$  endif  
enddo
```

- Finding the location of the representative in the state list
- may not be there, if the new state is incompatible with  $k$
  - **$b=-1$**  for not found in list

$$|r\rangle = T^l |s\rangle$$

```
subroutine findstate( $s, b$ )  
do  
   $b_{\min} = 1; b_{\max} = M$   
   $b = b_{\min} + (b_{\max} - b_{\min})/2$   
  if ( $s < s_b$ ) then  
     $b_{\max} = b - 1$   
  elseif ( $s > s_b$ ) then  
     $b_{\min} = b + 1$   
  else  
    exit  
  endif  
  if ( $b_{\min} > b_{\max}$ ) then  
     $b = -1; \text{exit}$   
  endif  
enddo
```

Construct all the matrix elements

```
do  $a = 1, M$ 
  do  $i = 0, N - 1$ 
     $j = \text{mod}(i + 1, N)$ 
    if ( $s_a[i] = s_a[j]$ ) then
       $H(a, a) = H(a, a) + \frac{1}{4}$ 
    else
       $H(a, a) = H(a, a) - \frac{1}{4}$ 
       $s = \text{flip}(s_a, i, j)$ 
      call representative( $s, r, l$ )
      call findstate( $r, b$ )
      if ( $b \geq 0$ ) then
         $H(a, b) = H(a, b) + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{R_a / R_b} e^{i2\pi kl / N}$ 
      endif
    endif
  enddo
enddo
```



**Reflection symmetry (parity)** Define a reflection (parity) operator

$$P|S_1^z, S_2^z, \dots, S_N^z\rangle = |S_N^z, \dots, S_2^z, S_1^z\rangle$$

Consider a hamiltonian for which  $[H,P]=0$  and  $[H,T]=0$ ; but note that  $[P,T]\neq 0$

Can we still exploit both P and T at the same time? Consider the state

$$|a(k, p)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^r (1 + pP)|a\rangle, \quad p = \pm 1$$

This state has momentum k, but does it have parity p? Act with P

$$\begin{aligned} P|a(k, p)\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{-ikr} T^{-r} (P + p)|a\rangle \\ &= p \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} e^{ikr} T^r (1 + pP)|a\rangle = p|a(k, p)\rangle \text{ if } k = 0 \text{ or } k = \pi \end{aligned}$$

**k=0,π momentum blocks are split into p=+1 and p=-1 sub-blocks**

- $[T,P]=0$  in the k=0,π blocks
- physically clear because  $-k=k$  on the lattice for k=0,π
- we can exploit parity in a different way for other k →
- **semi-momentum states**

## Semi-momentum states

Mix momenta  $+k$  and  $-k$  for  $k \neq 0, \pi$ . Introduce function

$$C_k^\sigma(r) = \begin{cases} \cos(kr), & \sigma = +1 \\ \sin(kr), & \sigma = -1. \end{cases}$$

Useful trigonometric relationships

$$\begin{aligned} C_k^\pm(-r) &= \pm C_k^\pm(r), \\ C_k^\pm(r+d) &= C_k^\pm(r)C_k^\pm(d) \mp C_k^\mp(r)C_k^\mp(d). \end{aligned}$$

Semi-momentum state

$$|a^\sigma(k)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} C_k^\sigma(r) T^r |a\rangle$$

$$k = m \frac{2\pi}{N}, \quad m = 1, \dots, N/2 - 1, \quad \sigma = \pm 1$$

States with same  $k$ , different  $\sigma$  are orthogonal

$$\langle a^{-\sigma}(k) | a^\sigma(k) \rangle = \frac{1}{N_a} \sum_{r=1}^{R_a} \sin(kr) \cos(kr) = 0,$$

## Normalization of semi-momentum states

$$N_a = \left( \frac{N}{R_a} \right)^2 \sum_{r=1}^{R_a} [C_k^\sigma(r)]^2 = \frac{N^2}{2R_a}$$

**Hamiltonian:** ac with H

$$H|a^\pm(k)\rangle = \sum_{j=0}^N h_a^j \sqrt{\frac{R_a}{R_{b_j}}} \left( C_k^+(l_j) |b_j^\pm(k)\rangle \mp C_k^-(l_j) |b_j^\mp(k)\rangle \right),$$

The matrix elements are

$$\langle b^\tau(k) | H_j | a^\sigma(k) \rangle = \tau^{(\sigma-\tau)/2} h_a^j \sqrt{\frac{N_{b_j}}{N_a}} C_k^{\sigma\tau}(l_j)$$

$\sigma$  is not a conserved quantum number

- H and T mix  $\sigma=+1$  and  $\sigma=-1$  states
- the H matrix is twice as large as for momentum states

Why are the semi-momentum states useful then?

Because we can construct a real-valued basis:

## Semi-momentum states with parity

This state has definite parity with  $p=+1$  or  $p=-1$

$$|a^\sigma(k, p)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a^\sigma}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} C_k^\sigma(r) (1 + pP) T^r |a\rangle.$$

- $(k, -1)$  and  $(k, +1)$  blocks
- roughly of the same size as original  $k$  blocks
- but these states are real, not complex!
- For  $k \neq 0, \pi$ , the  $p=-1$  and  $p=+1$  states are degenerate

$r$	$T^r$	$T^r P$																
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### P, T transformations

example:  $N=8$ ; note that

- $T^5 P |a\rangle = |a\rangle$

such P, T relationships will affect normalization and H-elements

**Normalization:** We have to check whether or not

$$T^m P|a\rangle = |a\rangle \text{ for some } m \in \{1, \dots, N-1\}$$

Simple algebra gives

$$N_a^\sigma = \frac{N^2}{R_a} \times \begin{cases} 1, & T^m P|a\rangle \neq |a\rangle \\ 1 + \sigma p \cos(km), & T^m P|a\rangle = |a\rangle \end{cases}$$

In the latter case the  $\sigma=-1$  and  $\sigma=+1$  states are not orthogonal

- calculation of the overlap gives

$$\langle a^\mp(k, p) | a^\pm(k, p) \rangle = -p, \quad (T^m P|a\rangle = |a\rangle \text{ for some } m)$$

Then only one of them should be included in the basis

- convention: **use  $\sigma=+1$  if  $1+\sigma p \cos(km) \neq 0$ , else  $\sigma=-1$**

**If both  $\sigma=+1$  and  $\sigma=-1$  are present:**

- **we store 2 copies of the same representative**
- we will store the  $\sigma$  value along with the periodicity of the representative

## Pseudocode: semi-momentum, parity basis construction

```
do  $s = 0, 2^N - 1$ 
  call checkstate( $s, R, m$ )
  do  $\sigma = \pm 1$  (do only  $\sigma = +1$  if  $k = 0$  or  $k = N/2$ )
    if ( $m \neq -1$ ) then
      if ( $1 + \sigma p \cos(ikm2\pi/N) = 0$ )  $R = -1$ 
      if ( $\sigma = -1$  and  $1 - \sigma p \cos(ikm2\pi/N) \neq 0$ );  $R = -1$ 
    endif
    if  $R > 0$  then  $a = a + 1$ ;  $s_a = s$ ;  $R_a = \sigma R$ ;  $m_a = m$  endif
  enddo
enddo
```

In the subroutine **checkstate**(), we now find whether

$$T^m P|a\rangle = |a\rangle \text{ for some } m \in \{1, \dots, N - 1\}$$

$m = -1$  if there is no such transformation

if  $\sigma = -1$  we check whether the  $\sigma = +1$  state is orthogonal to the  $\sigma = -1$  state or not

- if not orthogonal use  $\sigma = +1$
- $R = -1$  for not including

the subroutine **checkstate()**

is modified to give us:

- periodicity  $R$  ( $R=-1$  if incompatible)
- $m>0$  if  $T^m P|s\rangle = |s\rangle$
- $m=-1$  if no such relationship

check all translations of  $|s\rangle$

construct reflected state  $P|s\rangle$

check all translations of  $P|s\rangle$

```
subroutine checkstate( $s, R, m$ )
```

```
 $R = -1$ 
```

```
if ( $\sum_i s[i] \neq n_{\uparrow}$ ) return
```

```
 $t = s$ 
```

```
do  $i = 1, N$ 
```

```
   $t = \text{cyclebits}(t, N)$ 
```

```
  if ( $t < s$ ) then
```

```
    return
```

```
  elseif ( $t = s$ ) then
```

```
    if ( $\text{mod}(k, N/i) \neq 0$ ) return
```

```
     $R = i$ ; exit
```

```
  endif
```

```
enddo
```

```
 $t = \text{reflectbits}(s, N)$ ;  $m = -1$ 
```

```
do  $i = 0, R - 1$ 
```

```
  if ( $t < s$ ) then
```

```
     $R = -1$ ; return
```

```
  elseif ( $t = s$ ) then
```

```
     $m = i$ ; return
```

```
  endif
```

```
   $t = \text{cyclebits}(t, N)$ 
```

```
enddo
```

**Hamiltonian** : Act with an operator  $H_j$  on a representative state:

$$H_j |a\rangle = h_a^j P^{q_j} T^{-l_j} |b_j\rangle$$

We can write H acting on a basis state as

$$H |a^\sigma(k, p)\rangle = \sum_{j=0}^N \frac{h_a^j (\sigma p)^{q_j}}{\sqrt{N_a^\sigma}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} C_k^\sigma(r + l_j) (1 + pP) T^r |b_j\rangle$$

Using the properties (trigonometry) of the C-functions:

$$H |a^\sigma(k, p)\rangle = \sum_{j=0}^N h_a^j (\sigma p)^{q_j} \sqrt{\frac{N_{b_j}^\sigma}{N_a^\sigma}} \times \\ \left( \cos(kl_j) |b_j^\sigma(k, p)\rangle - \sigma \sqrt{\frac{N_{b_j}^{-\sigma}}{N_{b_j}^\sigma}} \sin(kl_j) |b_j^{-\sigma}(k, p)\rangle \right)$$

If, for some m,  $T^m P |b_j\rangle = |b_j\rangle$  then

$$\sqrt{\frac{N_{b_j}^{-\sigma}}{N_{b_j}^\sigma}} = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \sigma p \cos(km)}{1 + \sigma p \cos(km)}} = \frac{|\sin(km)|}{1 + \sigma p \cos(km)}$$

$$\langle b_j^\mp(k, p) | b_j^\pm(k, p) \rangle = -p$$

else the ratio is one and the + and - states are orthogonal



The matrix elements are

**diagonal in  $\sigma$**

$$\langle b_j^\sigma(k, p) | H_j | a^\sigma(k, p) \rangle = h_a^j(\sigma p)^{q_j} \sqrt{\frac{N_{b_j}^\sigma}{N_a^\sigma}} \times$$

$$\begin{cases} \cos(kl_j), & P|b_j\rangle \neq T^m|b_j\rangle \\ \frac{\cos(kl_j) + \sigma p \cos(k[l_j - m])}{1 + \sigma p \cos(km)}, & P|b_j\rangle = T^m|b_j\rangle \end{cases}$$

**off-diagonal in  $\sigma$**

$$\langle b_j^{-\sigma}(k, p) | H_j | a^\sigma(k, p) \rangle = h_a^j(\sigma p)^{q_j} \sqrt{\frac{N_{b_j}^{-\sigma}}{N_a^\sigma}} \times$$

$$\begin{cases} -\sigma \sin(kl_j), & P|b_j\rangle \neq T^m|b_j\rangle, \\ \frac{-\sigma \sin(kl_j) + p \sin(k[l_j - m])}{1 - \sigma p \cos(km)}, & P|b_j\rangle = T^m|b_j\rangle, \end{cases}$$

## Pseudocode: semi-momentum, parity hamiltonian

If 2 copies of the same representative,  $\sigma=-1$  and  $\sigma=+1$ :

- do both in the same loop iteration
- examine the previous and next element
- carry out the loop iteration only if representative found for the first time

```
do  $a = 1, M$ 
  if ( $a > 1$  and  $s_a = s_{a-1}$ ) then
    cycle
  elseif ( $a < M$  and  $s_a = s_{a+1}$ ) then
     $n = 2$ 
  else
     $n = 1$ 
  endif
  ...
enddo
```

**n** is the number of copies  
of the representative

```
do  $i = a, a + n - 1$ 
   $H(a, a) = H(a, a) + E_z$ 
enddo
```

diagonal matrix elements

- **$E_z$**  = diagonal energy

```

s = flip(sa, i, j)
call representative(s, r, l, q)
call findstate(r, b)
if (b ≥ 0) then
  if (b > 1 and sb = sb-1) then
    m = 2; b = b - 1
  elseif (b < M and sb = sb+1) then
    m = 2
  else
    m = 1
  endif
  do j = b, b + m - 1
  do i = a, a + n - 1
    H(i, j) = H(i, j) + helement(i, j, l, q)
  enddo
enddo
endif

```

construct  
off-diagonal  
matrix elements

**helement()**  
computes the  
values based on

- stored info
- and l,q

```

subroutine representative(s, r, l, q)
...
t = reflectbits(s, N); q = 0
do i = 1, N - 1
  t = cyclebits(t, N)
  if (t < r) then r = t; l = i; q = 1 endif
enddo

```

find the  
representative r of s

- translation and  
reflection numbers l,q

## Using spin-inversion symmetry

Spin inversion operator:  $Z|S_1^z, S_2^z, \dots, S_N^z\rangle = | -S_1^z, -S_2^z, \dots, -S_N^z\rangle$

In the magnetization block  $m^z=0$  we can use eigenstates of Z

$$|a^\sigma(k, p, z)\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_a^\sigma}} \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} C_k^\sigma(r) (1 + pP)(1 + zZ)T^r |a\rangle,$$

$$Z|a^\sigma(k, p, z)\rangle = z|a^\sigma(k, p, z)\rangle, \quad z = \pm 1$$

**Normalization:** must check how a representative transforms under Z,P,T

- |    |                                  |                                 |   |
|----|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 1) | $T^m P a\rangle \neq  a\rangle,$ | $T^m Z a\rangle \neq  a\rangle$ | $T^m PZ a\rangle \neq  a\rangle$              |
| 2) | $T^m P a\rangle =  a\rangle,$    | $T^m Z a\rangle \neq  a\rangle$ | $T^m PZ a\rangle \neq  a\rangle$              |
| 3) | $T^m P a\rangle \neq  a\rangle,$ | $T^m Z a\rangle =  a\rangle$    | $T^m PZ a\rangle \neq  a\rangle$              |
| 4) | $T^m P a\rangle \neq  a\rangle,$ | $T^m Z a\rangle \neq  a\rangle$ | $T^m PZ a\rangle =  a\rangle$                 |
| 5) | $T^m P a\rangle =  a\rangle,$    | $T^n Z a\rangle =  a\rangle$    | $\Rightarrow T^{m+n} PZ a\rangle =  a\rangle$ |

For cases 2,4,5 only  $\sigma=+1$  or  $\sigma=-1$  included

$$N_a^\sigma = \frac{2N^2}{R_a} \times \begin{cases} 1, & 1) \\ 1 + \sigma p \cos(km), & 2) \\ 1 + z \cos(km), & 3) \\ 1 + \sigma p z \cos(km), & 4) \\ [1 + \sigma p \cos(km)][1 + z \cos(kn)], & 5) \end{cases}$$

**Hamiltonian:** acting on a state gives a transformed representative

$$H_j |a\rangle = h_a^j P^{q_j} Z^{g_j} T^{-l_j} |b_j\rangle$$

$$q_j \in \{0, 1\}, \quad g_j \in \{0, 1\}, \quad l_j = \{0, 1, \dots, N - 1\}$$

After some algebra .... we can obtain the matrix elements

diagonal in  $\sigma$

$$\langle b_j^\sigma(k, p) | H_j | a^\sigma(k, p) \rangle = h_a^j (\sigma p)^{q_j} z^{g_j} \sqrt{\frac{N_{b_j}^\tau}{N_a^\sigma}} \times$$

$$\begin{cases} \cos(kl_j), & 1), 3) \\ \frac{\cos(kl_j) + \sigma p \cos(k[l_j - m])}{1 + \sigma p \cos(km)}, & 2), 5) \\ \frac{\cos(kl_j) + \sigma p z \cos(k[l_j - m])}{1 + \sigma p z \cos(km)}, & 4) \end{cases}$$

off-diagonal in  $\sigma$

$$\langle b_j^{-\sigma}(k, p) | H_j | a^\sigma(k, p) \rangle = h_a^j (\sigma p)^{q_j} z^{g_j} \sqrt{\frac{N_{b_j}^\tau}{N_a^\sigma}} \times$$

$$\begin{cases} -\sigma \sin(kl_j), & 1), 3) \\ \frac{-\sigma \sin(kl_j) + p \sin(k[l_j - m])}{1 - \sigma p \cos(km)}, & 2), 5) \\ \frac{-\sigma \sin(kl_j) + p z \sin(k[l_j - m])}{1 - \sigma p z \cos(km)}, & 4) \end{cases}$$

## Example: block sizes

$k=0, m_z=0$  (largest block)

$(p = \pm 1, z = \pm 1)$

$N$	$(+1, +1)$	$(+1, -1)$	$(-1, +1)$	$(-1, -1)$
8	7	1	0	2
12	35	15	9	21
16	257	183	158	212
20	2518	2234	2136	2364
24	28968	27854	27482	28416
28	361270	356876	355458	359256
32	4707969	4690551	4685150	4700500

## Total spin S conservation

- difficult to exploit
- complicated basis states
- calculate S using  $\mathbf{S}^2 = \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{S}+1)$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{S}^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j \\ &= 2 \sum_{i < j} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j + \frac{3}{4}N \end{aligned}$$

## Full diagonalization; expectation values

shorthand block label:  $\mathbf{j}=(m_z, \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{p})$  or  $\mathbf{j}=(m_z=0, \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{z})$

$$D_j^{-1} H_j D_j = E_j, \quad \langle n_j | A | n_j \rangle = [D_j^{-1} A D_j]_{nn}$$

$\mathbf{T} > \mathbf{0}$ : sum over all blocks  $j$  and states in block  $n=0, M_j-1$

$$\langle A \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_j \sum_{n=0}^{M_j-1} e^{-\beta E_{j,n}} [D_j^{-1} A_j U_j]_{nn}, \quad Z = \sum_j \sum_{n=0}^{M_j-1} e^{-\beta E_{j,n}}$$

$E_j$  = diagonal (energy) matrix,  $E_{j,n}$  = energies,  $n=0, \dots, M_j-1$

Full diagonalization limited to small  $N$ ;  $N=20-24$

## Example: Thermodynamics

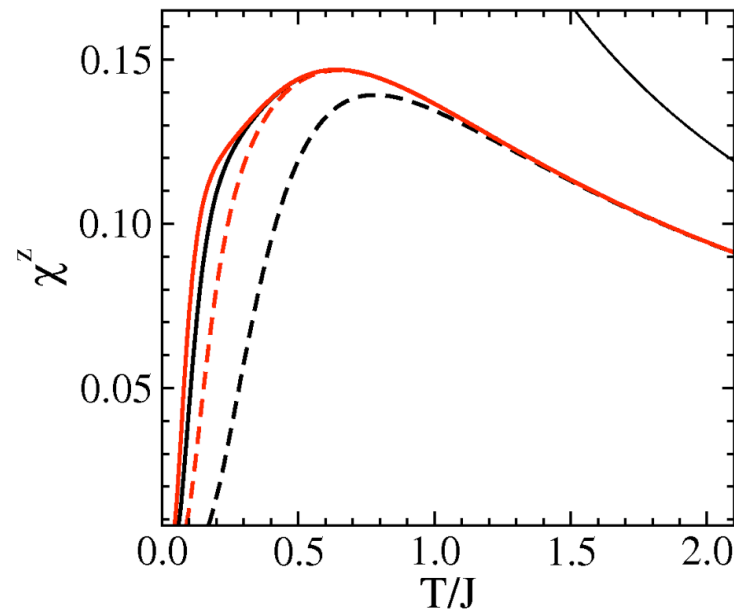
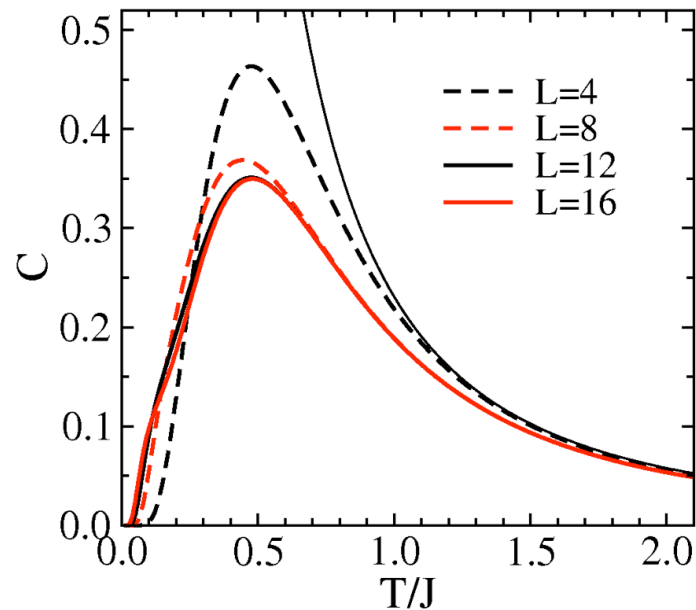
some quantities can be computed using only the magnetization  $m_z=0$  sector

- spin-inversion symmetry can be used, smallest blocks
- spin- $S$  state is **(2S+1)**-fold degenerate (no magnetix field) → weight factor
- possible spin dependence of expectation value → average over  **$m_z=-S, \dots, S$**

$$C = \frac{d\langle H \rangle}{dt} = \frac{1}{T^2} (\langle H^2 \rangle - \langle H \rangle^2)$$

$$\chi^z = \frac{d\langle m_z \rangle}{dh_z} = \frac{1}{T} (\langle m_z^2 \rangle - \langle m_z \rangle^2)$$

$$\langle m_z \rangle = 0, \quad \langle m_z^2 \rangle = \frac{\langle m_x^2 + m_y^2 + m_z^2 \rangle}{3} = \frac{\langle S^2 \rangle}{3} = \frac{S(S+1)}{3}$$



Compared with leading high-T forms  
 $\chi = (1/4)/T$   
 $C = (3/13)/T^2$

## The Lanczos method

If we need only the ground state and a small number of excitations

- can use “Krylov space” methods, which work for much larger matrices
- basis states with  $10^7$  states or more can be easily handled (30-40 spins)

## The Krylov space and “projecting out” the ground state

Start with an arbitrary state  $|\Psi\rangle$

- it has an expansion in eigenstates of H; act with a high power  $\Lambda$  of H

$$H^\Lambda |\Psi\rangle = \sum_n c_n E_n^\Lambda |n\rangle = E_0^\Lambda \left( c_0 |0\rangle + c_1 \left( \frac{E_1}{E_0} \right)^\Lambda |1\rangle + \dots \right)$$

For large  $\Lambda$ , if the state with largest  $|E_n|$  dominates the sum

- one may have to subtract a constant,  $H-C$ , to ensure ground state
- even better to use linear combination of states generated for different  $\Lambda$

$$|\psi_a\rangle = \sum_{m=0}^{\Lambda} \psi_a(m) H^m |\Psi\rangle, \quad a = 0, \dots, \Lambda$$

- diagonalize H in this basis

In the **Lanczos basis**, H is tridiagonal, convenient to generate and use

- Normally  $M=50-200$  basis states is enough; easy to diagonalize H



## Constructing the Lanczos basis

First: construct **orthogonal but not normalized basis**  $\{f_m\}$ . Define

$$N_m = \langle f_m | f_m \rangle, \quad H_{mm} = \langle f_m | H | f_m \rangle$$

The first state  $|f_0\rangle$  is arbitrary, e.g., random. The next one is

$$|f_1\rangle = H|f_0\rangle - a_0|f_0\rangle$$

Demand orthogonality

$$\langle f_1 | f_0 \rangle = \langle f_0 | H | f_0 \rangle - a_0 \langle f_0 | f_0 \rangle = H_{00} - a_0 N_0 \rightarrow a_0 = H_{00} / N_0$$

The next state and its overlaps with the previous states

$$|f_2\rangle = H|f_1\rangle - a_1|f_1\rangle - b_0|f_0\rangle$$

$$\langle f_2 | f_1 \rangle = H_{11} - a_1 N_1, \quad \langle f_2 | f_0 \rangle = N_1 - b_0 N_0$$

For orthogonal states

$$a_1 = H_{11} / N_1, \quad b_0 = N_1 / N_0$$

All subsequent states are constructed according to

$$|f_{m+1}\rangle = H|f_m\rangle - a_m|f_m\rangle - b_{m-1}|f_{m-1}\rangle$$

$$a_m = H_{mm} / N_m, \quad b_{m-1} = N_m / N_{m-1}$$

Easy to prove orthogonality of all these states ( $\langle f_{m+1} | f_m \rangle = 0$  is enough)

## The hamiltonian in the Lanczos basis

Rewrite the state generation formula

$$H|f_m\rangle = |f_{m+1}\rangle + a_m|f_m\rangle + b_{m-1}|f_{m-1}\rangle$$

Because of the orthogonality, the only non-0 matrix elements are

$$\langle f_{m-1}|H|f_m\rangle = b_{m-1}N_{m-1} = N_m$$

$$\langle f_m|H|f_m\rangle = a_mN_m$$

$$\langle f_{m+1}|H|f_m\rangle = N_{m+1}$$

But the f-states are not normalized. The normalized states are:

$$|\phi_m\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_m}}|f_m\rangle$$

In this basis the H-matrix is

$$\langle \phi_{m-1}|H|\phi_m\rangle = \sqrt{b_{m-1}}$$

$$\langle \phi_m|H|\phi_m\rangle = a_m$$

$$\langle \phi_{m+1}|H|\phi_m\rangle = \sqrt{b_m}$$

## Potential problem:

The normalization constants  $N_m$  can become very large (think of  $E_0^\Lambda$ )

## Solution:

generate the normalized basis directly

- start with  $|\phi_0\rangle$  arbitrary, normalized, and then

$$|\phi_1\rangle = \frac{1}{N_1} (H|\phi_0\rangle - a_0|\phi_0\rangle).$$

$$|\phi_{m+1}\rangle = \frac{1}{N_{m+1}} (H|\phi_m\rangle - a_m|\phi_m\rangle - N_m|\phi_{m-1}\rangle) = \frac{|\gamma_m\rangle}{N_{m+1}}$$

The definition of  $N_m$  is different, and no  $b_m$ :

$$a_m = \langle \phi_m | H | \phi_m \rangle$$

$$N_m = \langle \gamma_m | \gamma_m \rangle^{-1/2}$$

Generate  $|\gamma_m\rangle$  first, normalize to get  $N_{m+1}$

The H-matrix is

$$\langle \phi_{m-1} | H | \phi_m \rangle = N_m$$

$$\langle \phi_m | H | \phi_m \rangle = a_m$$

$$\langle \phi_{m+1} | H | \phi_m \rangle = N_{m+1}$$

## Lanczos basis generation in practice

Here: generate the orthogonal basis  $\{\phi_m\}$  directly

$$|\phi_m\rangle = \sum_{a=1}^M \phi_m(a) |a\rangle, \quad m = 0, \dots, \Lambda$$

in a given symmetry block of size M

The coefficients  $\phi_m(\mathbf{a})$  are stored as  $\Lambda+1$  vectors of size M

- may store only the vectors  $\phi_{m-1}$  and  $\phi_m$  to generate  $\phi_{m+1}$ 
  - but basis has to be re-generated when computing expectation values
- stabilization by “re-orthogonalization” (later) requires storage of all  $\phi_m$

The main computational effort is in acting with the hamiltonian;  $H|\phi_m\rangle$

- implement as a subroutine **hoperation**( $\phi, \gamma$ ), where  $|\gamma\rangle = H|\phi\rangle$
- state normalization implemented as **normalize**( $\phi, n$ )
  - $\phi$  = vector to normalize,  $n = \langle \phi | \phi \rangle$  before normalization

## Pseudocode; Lanczos basis generation

Initial random state

```
do  $i = 1, M$   
     $\phi_0(i) = \text{randomfloat}(0, 1)$   
enddo  
call normalize( $\phi_0, n_0$ )
```

second state

```
call hoperation( $\phi_0, \phi_1$ )  
 $a_0 = \langle \phi_0 | \phi_1 \rangle$ ;  $\phi_1 = \phi_0 - a_0 | \phi_1 \rangle$   
call normalize( $\phi_1, n_1$ )
```

Generate the rest of the states

```
do  $m = 1, \Lambda - 1$   
    call hoperation( $\phi_m, \phi_{m+1}$ )  
     $a_m = \langle \phi_m | \phi_{m+1} \rangle$   
     $\phi_{m+1} = \phi_{m+1} - a_m \phi_m - n_m \phi_{m-1}$   
    call normalize( $\phi_{m+1}, n_{m+1}$ )  
enddo
```

Note: the H-matrix can be constructed and diagonalized after each step

- follow evolution of energy versus  $\Lambda$
- stop based on some convergence criterion on  $E_0$  (or higher energy)
- expectation values converge slower than energies

The subroutine **hoperation**( $\phi, \gamma$ ) implements

$$H|\phi\rangle = |\gamma\rangle = \sum_{a=1}^M \sum_{b=1}^M \phi(a) \langle b|H|a\rangle |b\rangle$$

in a given symmetry block ( $M = \text{block size}$ )

We do not want to store  $H$  as an  $M \times M$  matrix (too big). Two options:

- carry out the operations on the fly; only the vectors are stored
- store  $H$  in a compact form; only non-0 elements (sparse matrix)

**Storing  $H$  speeds up the Lanczos iterations**

- but may require a lot of memory

**Compact storage of  $H$ :** For each  $a=1, M$

- $e_a$  is the number of non-0 elements  $\langle \mathbf{b} | \mathbf{H} | \mathbf{a} \rangle$
- labels  $i = s_a + 1, s_a + e_a$  will refer to these matrix elements;  $s_a = \sum_{c=1}^{a-1} e_c$
- $H(i)$  contains the values of the matrix elements  $\langle \mathbf{b} | \mathbf{H} | \mathbf{a} \rangle$
- $B(i)$  contains the corresponding “target” state index  $b$
- The hamiltonian is symmetric
  - store only elements with  $b \leq a$  (divide diagonal elements by 2)

## Pseudocode; hamiltonian operation with compact storage

```
subroutine hoperation( $\phi, \gamma$ )
 $\gamma = 0; i = 0$ 
do  $a = 1, M$ 
  do  $j = 1, e_a$ 
     $i = i + 1$ 
     $\gamma(B(i)) = \gamma(B(i)) + H(i)\phi(a)$ 
     $\gamma(a) = \gamma(a) + H(i)\phi(B(i))$ 
  enddo
enddo
```

$$H|\phi\rangle = |\gamma\rangle = \sum_{a=1}^M \sum_{b=1}^M \phi(a) \langle b|H|a\rangle |b\rangle$$

### Further storage compactification possible

- small number of different elements
- use mapping  $\langle \mathbf{b}|\mathbf{H}|\mathbf{a}\rangle \rightarrow \text{integer}$
- many operations on  $|a\rangle$  give same  $|b\rangle$ 
  - add up all contributions before storing

## Operator expectation values

Diagonalizing the tri-diagonal matrix  $\rightarrow$  eigenstates in the Lanczos basis

- eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_n$ , energies  $E_n$
- only some number of low-energy states ( $\ll \Lambda$ ) are correct eigenstates of H

To compute expectation values we normally go back to the original basis

$$\psi_n(a) = \sum_{m=0}^{\Lambda} v_n(m) \phi_m(a), \quad a = 1, \dots, M$$

To compute  $\langle \psi_n | \mathbf{O} | \psi_n \rangle$  first construct

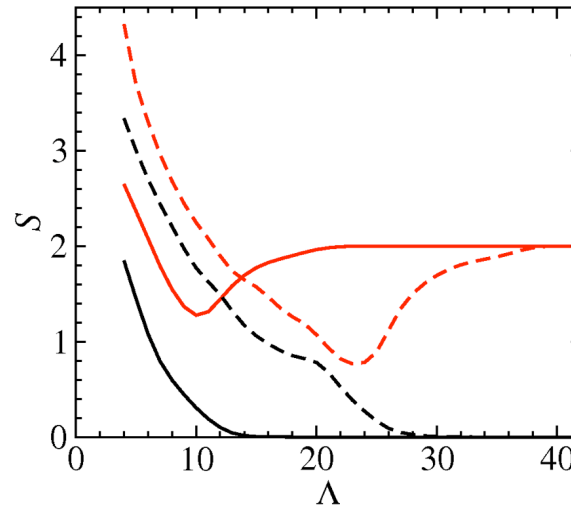
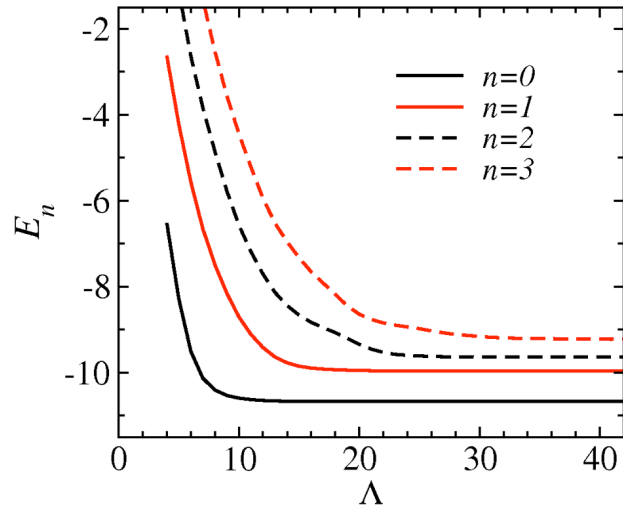
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{O} | \psi_n \rangle = | \psi_n^{\mathbf{O}} \rangle &= \sum_{a=1}^M \psi_n(a) \mathbf{O} | a \rangle \\ &= \sum_{a=1}^M \sum_{b=1}^M \psi_n(a) | b \rangle \langle b | \mathbf{O} | a \rangle \\ &= \sum_{b=1}^M \psi_n^{\mathbf{O}}(b) | b \rangle \quad \psi_n^{\mathbf{O}}(b) = \sum_{a=1}^M \psi_n(a) \langle b | \mathbf{O} | a \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Then evaluate the scalar product

$$\langle \psi_n | \mathbf{O} | \psi_n \rangle = \langle \psi_n | \psi_n^{\mathbf{O}} \rangle = \sum_{a=1}^M \psi_n(a) \psi_n^{\mathbf{O}}(a)$$



## Convergence properties of the Lanczos method

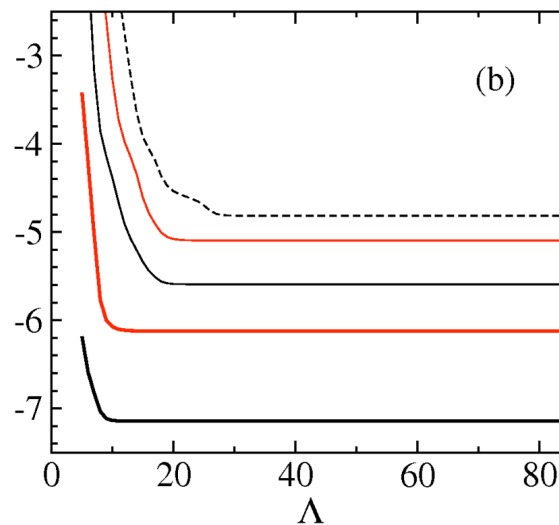
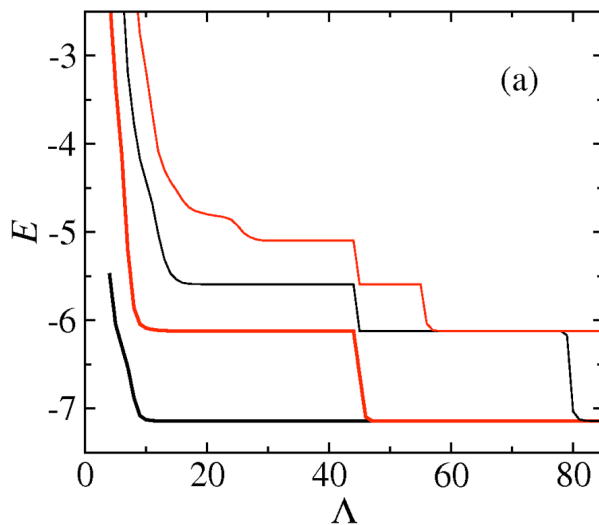


**Example;** 24-site chain  
 $m_z = 0, k = 0, p = 1, z = 1$   
 block size  $M=28416$

Ground state converges first, then successively excited states

**Loss of orthogonality:** accumulation of numerical error  $\rightarrow$  basis becomes non-orthogonal

- higher states collapse down onto lower ones
- can be cured with re-orthogonalization



**Example;** 16-site chain  
 $m_z = 0, k = 0, p = 1, z = 1$   
 block size  $M=212$

- (a) non-orthogonality
- (b) re-orthogonalized

## Re-orthogonalization procedure

For each state generated, remove all components of prior states,  $i=1, \dots, m$

- easy if we work with the normalized basis and all states are stored

$$|\phi_m\rangle \rightarrow \frac{|\phi_m\rangle - q|\phi_i\rangle}{1 - q^2}, \quad q = \langle \phi_i | \phi_m \rangle$$

**Pseudocode:** modify state generation

```
do  $m = 1, \Lambda - 1$ 
  call hoperation( $\phi_m, \phi_{m+1}$ )
   $a_m = \langle \phi_m | \phi_{m+1} \rangle$ ;  $\phi_{m+1} = \phi_{m+1} - a_m \phi_m - n_m \phi_{m-1}$ 
  call normalize( $\phi_{m+1}, n_{m+1}$ )
  do  $i = 1, m$ 
     $q = \langle \phi_{m+1} | \phi_i \rangle$ ;  $\phi_{m+1} = (\phi_{m+1} - q\phi_i) / (1 - q^2)$ 
  enddo
enddo
```

**Note:** the Lanczos method can only generate a single state of a multiplet

- some random linear combination of degenerate states

Example: 2 degenerate states  $i, j$ :

$$H^\Lambda |\Psi\rangle = \sum_{m \neq i, j} c_m E_m^\Lambda |\psi_m\rangle + E_{i,j}^m (c_i |\psi_i\rangle + c_j |\psi_j\rangle)$$

The mixing of the duplet is determined by  $c_i, c_j$  of the initial state

## Spin correlations in the Heisenberg chain

Let's look at the (staggered) spin correlation function

$$C(r) = \langle \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+r} \rangle (-1)^r$$

versus the distance  $r$  and at  $r=N/2$  versus system size  $N$

Theory (bosonization conformal field theory) predicts (for large  $r$ ,  $N$ )

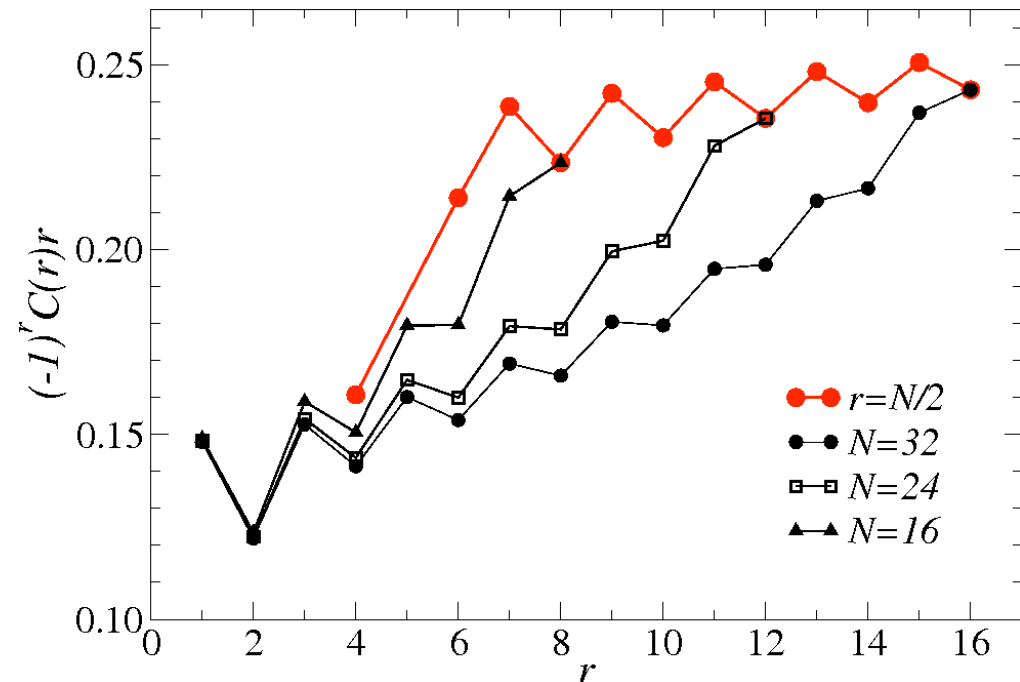
$$C(r) \propto \frac{\ln^{1/2}(r/r_0)}{r}$$

Plausible based on  $N$  up to 32

- other methods for larger  $N$

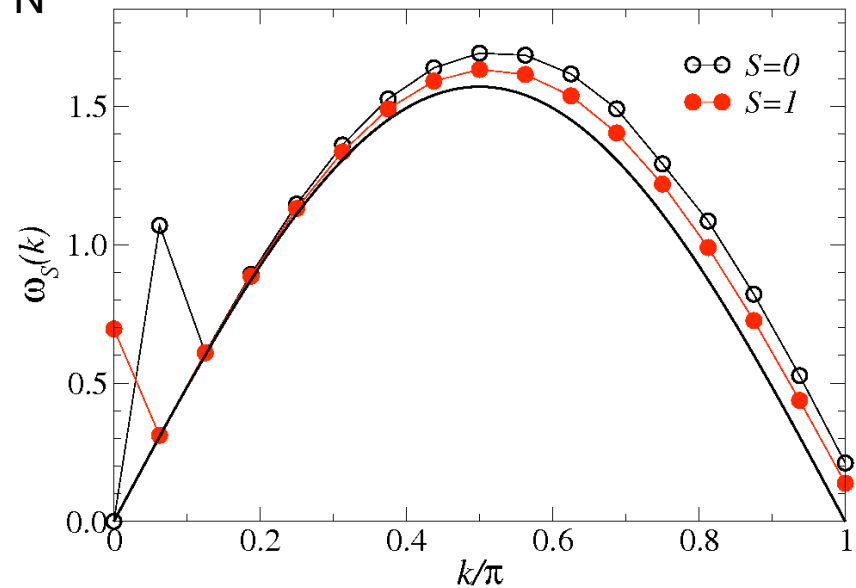
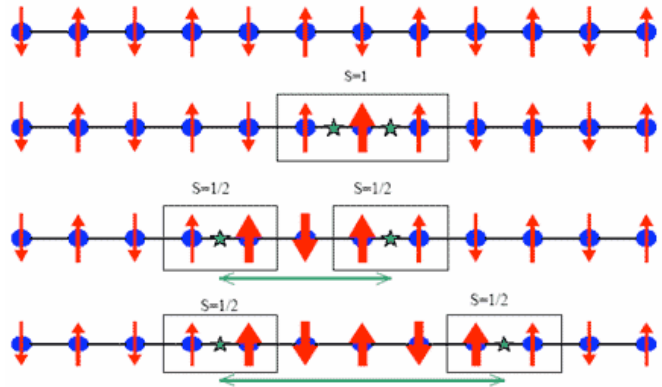
Power-law correlations are a sign of a “critical” state; at the boundary between

- ordered (antiferromagnetic)
- disordered (spin liquid)



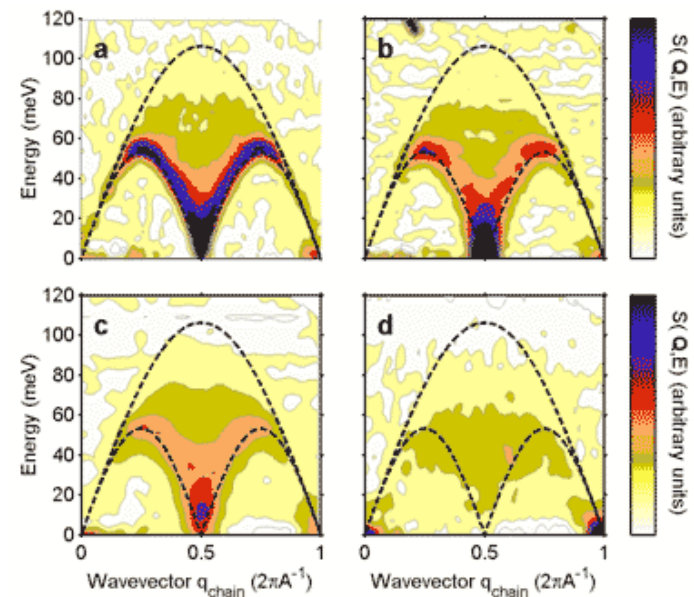
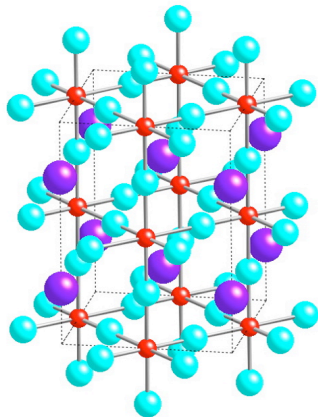
# Excitations of the Heisenberg chain

- the ground state is a singlet ( $S=0$ ) for even  $N$
- the first excited state is a triplet ( $S=1$ )
- can be understood as pair of “spinons”



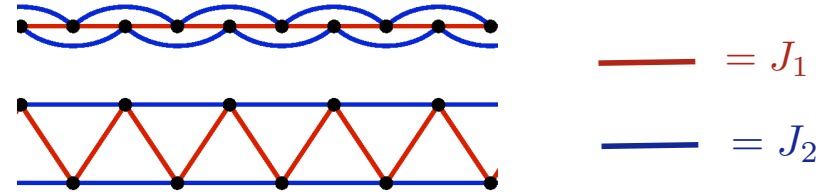
## Neutron scattering experiments

- quasi-one-dimensional  $\text{KCuF}_3$
- B. Lake et al., Nature Materials 4 329-334 (2005)



# Heisenberg chain with frustrated interactions

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^N [J_1 \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1} + J_2 \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+2}]$$

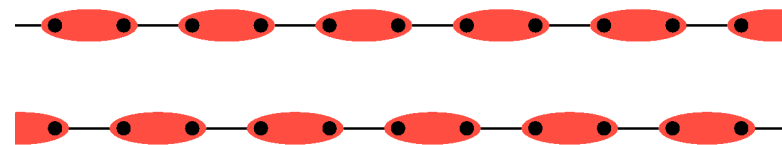


For the special point  $J_2/J_1=0.5$ , this model has an exact solution

## Singlet-product states

$$|\Psi_A\rangle = |(1, 2)(3, 4)(5, 6) \dots\rangle$$

$$|\Psi_B\rangle = |(1, N)(3, 2)(5, 4) \dots\rangle$$



It is not hard to show that these are eigenstates of  $H$  (we will do later)

$$(a, b) = (\uparrow_a \downarrow_b - \downarrow_a \uparrow_b) / \sqrt{2}$$

The system has this kind of order (with fluctuations, no exact solution) for all  $J_2/J_1 > 0.2411\dots$ . This is a **quantum phase transition** between

- a critical state
- a valence-bond-solid (VBS) state

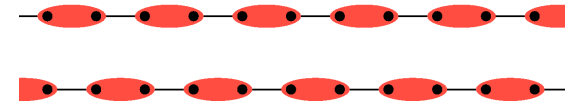
The symmetry is not broken for finite  $N$

- the ground state is a superposition of the two ordered states

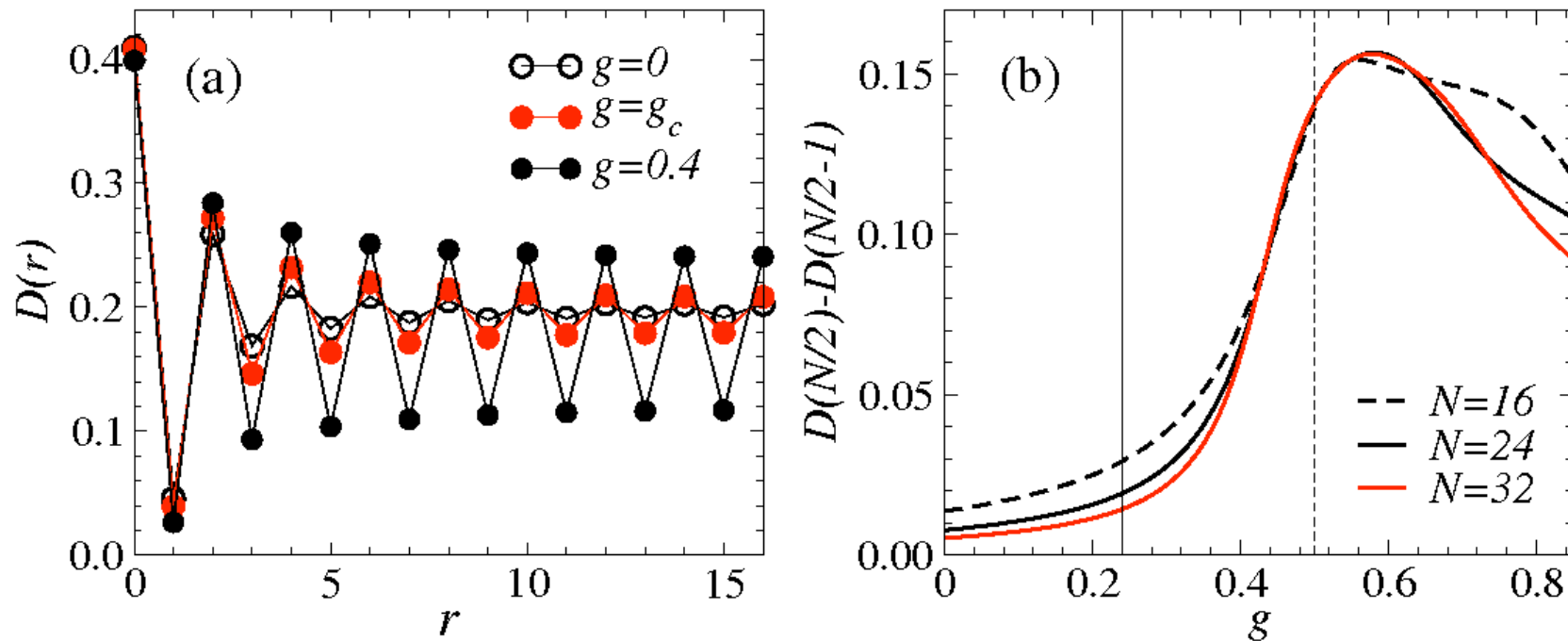
$$|\Psi_0\rangle \sim |\Psi_A\rangle + |\Psi_B\rangle, \quad |\Psi_1\rangle \sim |\Psi_A\rangle - |\Psi_B\rangle$$

The VBS state can be detected in finite systems using “dimer” correlations

$$D(r) = \langle B_i B_{i+r} \rangle = \langle (\mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1})(\mathbf{S}_{i+r} \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1+r}) \rangle$$



Results from Lanczos diagonalization; different coupling ratios  $g=J_2/J_1$



It is not easy to detect the transition this way

- much larger systems are needed for observing a sharp transition
- other properties can be used to accurately determine the critical point  $g_c$

## Determining the transition point using level crossings

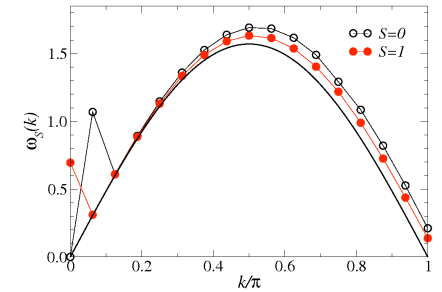
Lowest excitation for the  $g=0$  Heisenberg chain is a triplet

- this can be expected for all  $g < g_c$

The VBS state is 2-fold degenerate for infinite  $N$

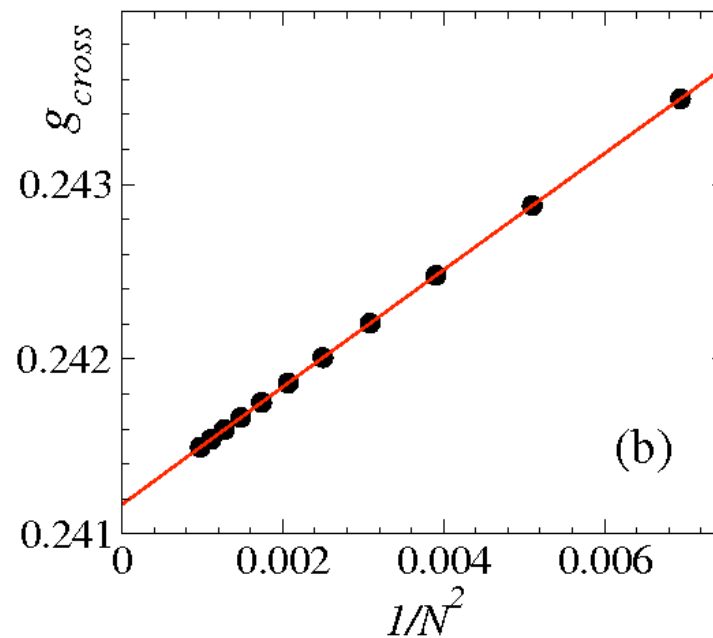
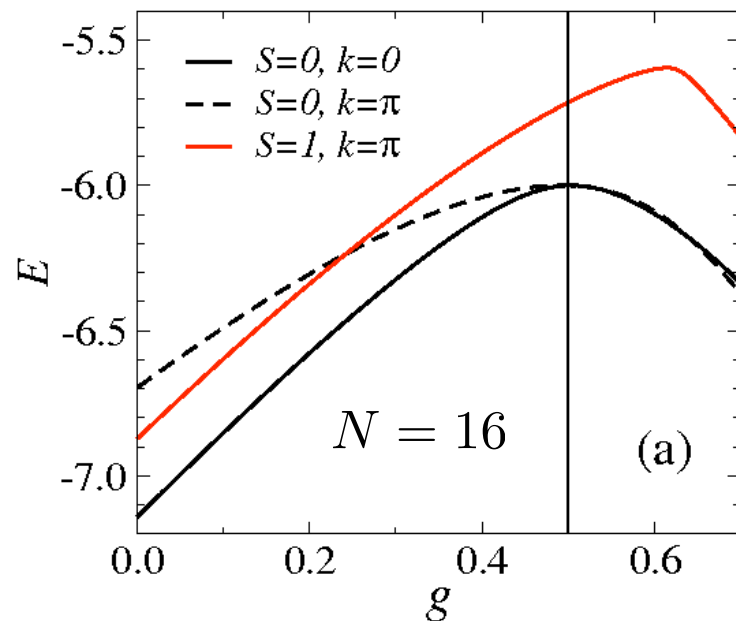
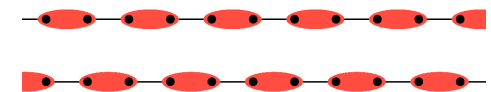
- and for any  $N$  at  $g=1/2$
- these two states are singlets
- gap between them closes exponentially as  $N \rightarrow \infty$
- the lowest excitation is the second singlet

The two lowest excited state should cross at  $g_c$



$$|\Psi_0\rangle \sim |\Psi_A\rangle + |\Psi_B\rangle$$

$$|\Psi_1\rangle \sim |\Psi_A\rangle - |\Psi_B\rangle$$



Extrapolating point for different  $N$  up to 32 gives  $g_c = 0.2411674(2)$