

Application of the lace expansion to the φ^4 model

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The φ^4 model is a standard model in scalar field theory. It is defined as the Gaussian free field combined with quartic self-interaction. Let $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^d$ and define the Hamiltonian for the spin configuration $\varphi = \{\varphi_x\}_{x \in \Lambda}$ as

$$\mathcal{H}_\Lambda(\varphi) = - \sum_{\{u,v\} \subset \Lambda} \mathcal{J}_{u,v} \varphi_u \varphi_v + \sum_{v \in \Lambda} \left(\frac{\mu}{2} \varphi_v^2 + \frac{\lambda}{4!} \varphi_v^4 \right),$$

where $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ plays the role of the temperature, while the intensity λ of self-interaction is fixed nonnegative. We assume that the spin-spin coupling $\mathcal{J}_{u,v}$ is ferromagnetic (i.e., $\mathcal{J}_{u,v} \geq 0$), translation-invariant (i.e., $\mathcal{J}_{u,v} = \mathcal{J}_{o,v-u}$), \mathbb{Z}^d -symmetric and finite-range. For example, the nearest-neighbor coupling $\mathcal{J}_{o,x} = \delta_{|x|,1}$ satisfies all those properties. Let

$$\langle \varphi_o \varphi_x \rangle_\mu = \lim_{\Lambda \uparrow \mathbb{Z}^d} \frac{\int_{\mathbb{R}^\Lambda} \varphi_o \varphi_x e^{-\mathcal{H}_\Lambda(\varphi)} d^\Lambda \varphi}{\int_{\mathbb{R}^\Lambda} e^{-\mathcal{H}_\Lambda(\varphi)} d^\Lambda \varphi}.$$

It is known to exhibit a phase transition and critical behavior: there is a $\mu_c = \mu_c(d, \mathcal{J}, \lambda)$, which is not larger than the critical point $\hat{\mathcal{J}} \equiv \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \mathcal{J}_{o,x}$ for the Gaussian free field, such that $\chi_\mu \equiv \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \langle \varphi_o \varphi_x \rangle_\mu$ is finite if and only if $\mu > \mu_c$ and diverges as $\mu \downarrow \mu_c$ [7]. There were intensive researches in the 1980's when Aizenman [1] and Fröhlich [2] succeeded in showing mean-field behavior (e.g., χ_μ is bounded above and below by a positive multiple of $(\mu - \mu_c)^{-1}$ as $\mu \downarrow \mu_c$) above 4 dimensions under the assumption of reflection-positivity. The nearest-neighbor model satisfies this assumption. In 4 dimensions, Gawędzki and Kupiainen [4] and Hara and Tasaki [5, 6] succeeded in showing the mean-field behavior (with log corrections) for the weakly coupled nearest-neighbor model using a rigorous renormalization-group method.

The sufficient condition for the mean-field behavior that Aizenman suggested in [1] is the bubble condition

$$\sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} \langle \varphi_o \varphi_x \rangle_{\mu_c}^2 < \infty.$$

For reflection-positive models, the Fourier transform of $\langle \varphi_o \varphi_x \rangle_\mu$ is known to obey the Gaussian infrared bound [3]

$$0 \leq \sum_{x \in \mathbb{Z}^d} e^{ik \cdot x} \langle \varphi_o \varphi_x \rangle_\mu \leq O(|k|^{-2}) \quad \text{uniformly in } \mu > \mu_c,$$

which implies that the bubble condition holds for $d > 4$, hence the mean-field behavior. Although the result is satisfactory, it is often hard to verify the assumption of reflection-positivity.

The goal of my research is to investigate asymptotic behavior of the critical two-point function $\langle \varphi_o \varphi_x \rangle_{\mu_c}$ above the upper-critical dimension, without the assumption of reflection-positivity. In [9], we prove the following:

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Theorem 1. Let $\rho = 2(d - 4) > 0$ and $0 < \lambda \ll 1$ (depending on d and \mathcal{J}). Then there is a $\hat{\Phi}_\mu(x) = \langle \varphi_o^2 \rangle_\mu \delta_{o,x} + O(\lambda) (|x| \vee 1)^{-(d+2+\rho)}$, where $O(\lambda)$ is uniform in $\mu \geq \mu_c$, such that

$$\mu_c = \hat{\mathcal{J}} - \frac{\lambda}{2} \hat{\Phi}_{\mu_c}, \quad \langle \varphi_o \varphi_x \rangle_{\mu_c} \underset{|x| \uparrow \infty}{\sim} \frac{\frac{d}{2} \Gamma(\frac{d-2}{2}) \pi^{-d/2}}{\sum_{y \in \mathbb{Z}^d} |y|^2 (\hat{\mathcal{J}}_{o,y} - \frac{\lambda}{2} \hat{\Phi}_{\mu_c}(y))} |x|^{2-d}.$$

The key elements for the proof of the above theorem are the following:

1. The Griffiths-Simon construction [10] to approximate the φ^4 model on Λ to some Ising model on $\Lambda \times \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$.
2. The lace expansion for the Ising two-point function [8].
3. Detail estimates on the expansion coefficients in terms of N [9].

These steps yield a linearized version of the Schwinger-Dyson equation, which further yields the aforementioned asymptotic expression for $\langle \varphi_o \varphi_x \rangle_{\mu_c}$.

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