

Specific-heat exponent for the three-dimensional Ising model from a 24th-order high-temperature series

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We compute high temperature expansions of the three-dimensional Ising model using a recursive transfer-matrix algorithm and extend the expansion of the free energy to 24th order. Using inhomogeneous-differential Padé and ratio methods, we extract the critical exponent of the specific heat to be $\alpha = 0.104(4)$.

I. INTRODUCTION

High- and low-temperature expansions constitute major tools for the calculation of critical properties in statistical systems. The Ising and Potts model low-temperature expansions were recently extended¹⁻⁴ using a technique based on the method of recursive counting.⁵ In a separate development, Vohwinkel⁶ implemented the shadow-lattice technique of Domb⁷ in a very clever way and added many new terms to the series. However, the extraction of critical parameters from low-temperature series is hampered by the presence of unphysical singularities. This is especially true of the three-dimensional (3D) Ising model. For this reason, low-temperature analytic methods are very often inferior to Monte Carlo methods for computing critical exponents.

High-temperature (HT) expansions, on the other hand, generally have better analytic behavior and yield more accurate exponents. Very recently, two variants of the recursive counting technique for HT expansions have been pursued. While Guttmann and Enting⁴ keep track of spin configurations on a set of rectangular finite lattices, Ref. 3 counts HT graphs on finite, helical lattices. Such computer based series expansions have very large memory requirements. This makes them ideal candidates for large parallel computers if communication issues can be handled efficiently. In this paper we will present the results of a HT expansion of the 3D Ising model to 24th order, obtained on a 32 node 1 GByte Connection Machine CM-5. The implementation is based on a bookkeeping algorithm of binary coded spin configurations in helical geometry.

II. COMPUTATION OF THE SERIES

We start with a discussion of the HT algorithm to compute the partition functions on finite 3D Ising lattices.

Starting from the action

$$E\{s\} = - \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} s_i s_j, \quad (1)$$

the partition function is

$$Z = \sum_{\{s\}} \exp(-\beta E) = \sum_{\{s\}} \prod_{\langle i,j \rangle} \exp(\beta s_i s_j) \quad (2)$$

and is expanded in a HT series⁸

$$\begin{aligned} Z &= (\cosh^3 \beta)^V \sum_{\{s\}} \prod_{\langle i,j \rangle} (1 + s_i s_j t) \\ &= (2 \cosh^3 \beta)^V \sum_k p(k) t^k, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

with the HT expansion parameter $t = \tanh \beta$. V is the volume of the system. The free energy per spin is defined as

$$f = -\frac{1}{\beta V} \ln Z = -\frac{2 \cosh^3 \beta}{\beta} - \frac{1}{\beta} \sum_k f_k t^k. \quad (4)$$

For simplicity, consider a finite simple cubic lattice which, in the recursion algorithm, is built up by adding one site after the other, layer by layer. This procedure defines the recursion step, which requires knowledge only of those spin states that are contained in the exposed two-dimensional surface layer. To minimize finite-size effects, it is best to use helical boundary conditions.^{2,3} One can visualize helical boundary conditions by imagining all spins in the layer laid out along a straight line. In this picture, the nearest neighbors to a given site in the sequence in the i th direction can be chosen to be h_i sites away, with $i = x, y, z$. It is convenient to assume $h_x < h_y < h_z$. It is easy to see that, as spins are added, one needs only to keep track of the states of spins on the

TABLE I. Structures and weights w of the lattices used.

h_x	9	1	9	5	7	10	5	14	11	14	9	9	5	5	16	10	16	1	17
h_y	11	12	14	15	15	13	15	15	16	16	17	16	17	19	17	19	20	18	21
h_z	13	14	16	16	16	17	17	17	17	17	19	20	20	20	21	21	21	22	22
w	-3	3	-3	-3	3	-3	3	-3	3	3	-1	-2	-1	1	-2	5	2	-2	2

topmost h_z sites. Let these spins be denoted s_1, \dots, s_{h_z} . Then the partition function can be rewritten as

$$Z = (2 \cosh^3 \beta)^V \sum_k \sum_{s_1, \dots, s_{h_z}} p(k; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z}) t^k. \quad (5)$$

The recursion step, which consists of adding another spin s_0 to the system, changes the partition function into

$$Z = 2^V (\cosh^3 \beta)^{V+1} \sum_{s_0} \sum_k \sum_{s_1, \dots, s_{h_z}} p(k; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z}) t^k \times (1 + s_0 s_{h_x} t)(1 + s_0 s_{h_y} t)(1 + s_0 s_{h_z} t). \quad (6)$$

s_{h_x} , s_{h_y} , and s_{h_z} are the backward nearest neighbors of the site s_0 . The site s_0 will displace its backward z neighbor site s_{h_z} after the counting of the added spin is completed. Since s_{h_z} will not be referred to in the subsequent steps of the algorithm, the summation over s_{h_z} can be carried out:

$$Z = 2^V (\cosh^3 \beta)^{V+1} \sum_{s_0} \sum_k \sum_{s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}} \times [+p(k; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}, s_0) t^k (1 + s_0 s_{h_x} t)(1 + s_0 s_{h_y} t)(1 + t) + p(k; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}, \bar{s}_0) t^k (1 + s_0 s_{h_x} t)(1 + s_0 s_{h_y} t)(1 - t)]. \quad (7)$$

The contribution in the second (third) line of this equation contains the part with s_{h_z} being parallel (antiparallel, denoted by \bar{s}_0) to s_0 . Comparing this expression with the HT series (5) for the new system yields the recursion relation induced for the coefficients p ,

$$2p'(k; s_0, s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}) = p(k-0; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}, s_0) + p(k-0; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}, \bar{s}_0) + p(k-1; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}, s_0)(s_0 s_{h_x} + s_0 s_{h_y} + 1) + p(k-1; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}, \bar{s}_0)(s_0 s_{h_x} + s_0 s_{h_y} - 1) + p(k-2; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}, s_0)(s_{h_x} s_{h_y} + s_0 s_{h_x} + s_0 s_{h_y}) + p(k-2; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}, \bar{s}_0)(s_{h_x} s_{h_y} - s_0 s_{h_x} - s_0 s_{h_y}) + p(k-3; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}, s_0)(s_{h_x} s_{h_y}) + p(k-3; s_1, \dots, s_{h_z-1}, \bar{s}_0)(-s_{h_x} s_{h_y}). \quad (8)$$

It is crucial to remove finite-size errors by combining the results of different lattice structures as described in Refs. 2 and 3. We use the set of lattices listed in Table I and obtain the free energy coefficients up to 24th order as given in Table II. In order to eliminate the contribution from (unphysical) loops with an odd number of links in any direction, we use the cancellation technique of Ref. 3. This amounts to inserting additional signature factors into Eq. (6) for each of the three link factors

$$(1 + s_0 s_{h_i} t) \rightarrow \sigma_i (1 + s_0 s_{h_i} t), \quad i = x, y, z \quad (9)$$

with $\{\sigma_x, \sigma_y, \sigma_z\} = \{\pm, \pm, \pm\}$. By performing eight separate runs corresponding to all possible values of σ and adding the results, one achieves a complete elimination of the unwanted loops. Possible contributions of higher-order finite-size loops are at least of order 25 for this set of lattices. Since we use open boundary conditions, the coefficients p are invariant under the global transformation $s_i \rightarrow -s_i$. This $Z(2)$ symmetry enables us to reduce memory requirements by a factor of 2. Unlike Refs. 2,3,4 we use multiple-word arithmetic to account for the size of

the coefficients. This implementation needs about 100% more memory but leads to a doubling in performance. Since the number of words can be adjusted separately for every order, the computational effort can be reduced

TABLE II. Free energy up to 24th order.

Order k	Free energy f_n
0	0
2	0
4	3
6	22
8	375/2
10	1980
12	24044
14	319170
16	18059031/4
18	201010408/3
20	5162283633/5
22	16397040750
24	266958797382

accordingly. On the 32 node CM-5 the total time for all computations was about 50 h.

Compared to the finite-lattice approach of Guttman and Enting,⁴ our method appears to require more CPU time since we need to cancel unphysical loops. It should be noted, however, that helical lattices are very naturally implemented in data parallel software environments and thus lead to better performance. In the usual finite-lattice method,⁴ the HT expansion can only be extended in fairly coarse steps, using lattices with (4×5) cross section for 22nd order and (5×5) cross section for 26th order, respectively. For this reason, a 24th-order computation would not have been feasible using that method with our computer resources.

III. CRITICAL EXPONENT

The specific heat is defined as

$$c|_{h=0} = \beta^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \beta^2} \ln Z = \sum_k c_k t^{2k} \quad (10)$$

and is expected to behave near T_C as

$$c|_{h=0} = A(T)|T - T_C|^{-\alpha} [1 + B(T)|T - T_C|^\theta + \dots] , \quad (11)$$

with A and B being analytic near T_C .^{9,10} We analyze the series using unbiased and biased inhomogeneous-differential Padé approximants (IDP's)¹¹ as well as ratio tests.

A. Padé analysis

In Fig. 1 we plot α against t_c^2 for each IDP approximant $[J/L;M]$. Fitting the linear dependence of α on t_c^2 ,⁹ we find

$$\alpha = 0.102 \pm 0.008 \quad (12)$$

at the value $t_c = 0.218 092$ as obtained in Monte Carlo simulations.¹² A direct, biased-IDP analysis was also performed. We obtained $\alpha = 0.109 \pm 0.016$.

IDP's can also be used to predict the most significant digits of the next term in the specific-heat series.⁴ The estimate of the 24th-order term as obtained in Ref.⁴ agrees perfectly with our exact result. Using the same method we can estimate the 26th-order term in the expansion to be

$$f_{26} = 443 762(4) \times 10^7 , \quad (13)$$

where the errors quoted are two standard deviations.

B. Ratio test

The main problem in the determination of critical exponents in the low-temperature case is the presence of unphysical singularities nearer to the origin than the physical one. Since the expansion coefficients c_n are dominated by these unphysical singularities, ratio methods cannot be applied.

In the HT expansion, the physical singularity dominates the asymptotic behavior, so that the ratio $r_n = c_n/c_{n-1}$ of successive coefficients of the series is expected to behave as⁹

$$r_n = \frac{1}{t_c^2} \left[1 + \frac{\alpha - 1}{n} + \frac{c}{n^{1+\theta}} + \frac{d}{n^{1+2\theta}} + O\left(\frac{1}{n^{1+3\theta}}\right) \right] . \quad (14)$$

Assuming that the correction-to-scaling exponent θ is close to 0.5,^{12,13} the following sequence s_n is expected to converge toward α like

$$s_n := (t_c^2 r_n - 1) n + 1 = \alpha + \frac{c}{n^{1/2}} + \frac{d}{n} + O\left(\frac{1}{n^{3/2}}\right) . \quad (15)$$

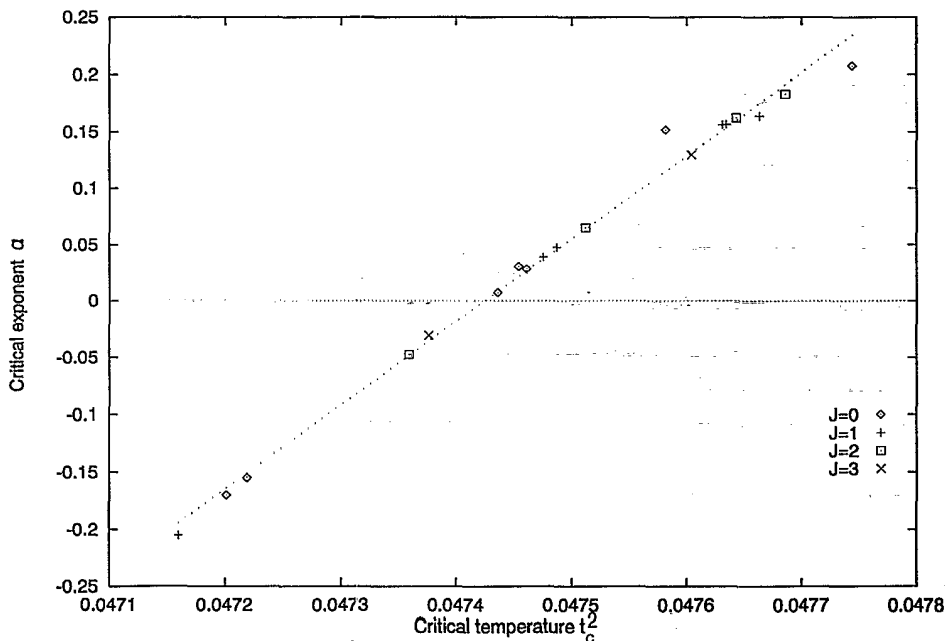


FIG. 1. Critical exponent α as a function of t_c^2 .

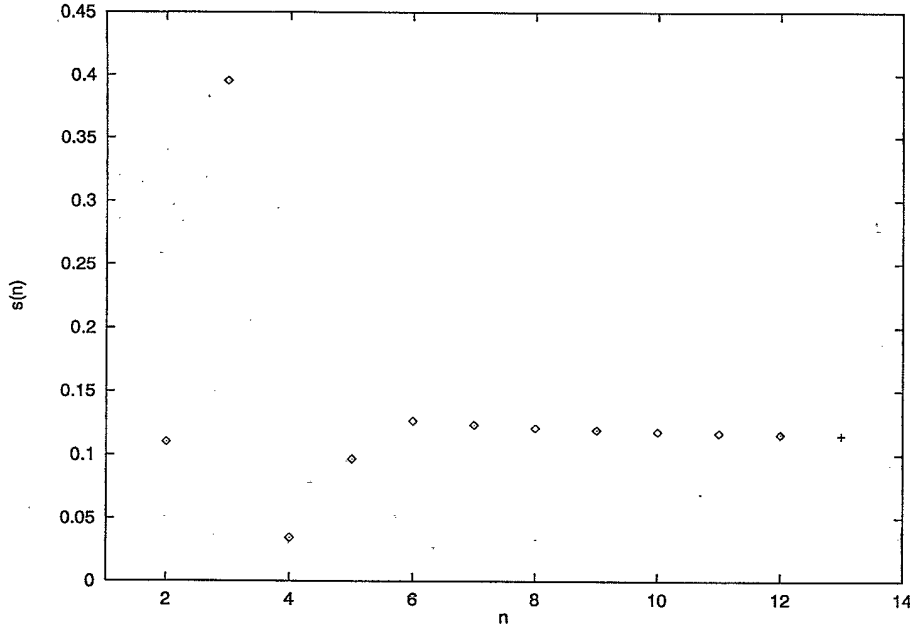


FIG. 2. Plot of the sequence s_n against n . The error of s_{13} , obtained from the ID Padé extrapolation, is too small to be visible.

A plot of this sequence against n is shown in Fig. 2. Obviously the first four values are dominated by higher-order corrections. To obtain estimates for α we therefore use only the values $\{s_6, \dots, s_{13}\}$. A three-parameter least-square-fit using the ansatz of Eq. (15) yields the values shown as diamonds in Fig. 3. The value of $\alpha = 0.113$ obtained by the fit to the points $\{s_6, \dots, s_{11}\}$ is in perfect agreement with the result of Ref. 4. Their estimate of $\alpha = 0.110$ using the extrapolated term s_{12} appears to be slightly above our value of $\alpha = 0.108$ using the exact term. Including our value for s_{13} of the ID Padé extrapolation Eq. (13) we obtain $\alpha = 0.105(2)$. The error

represents the uncertainty of the extrapolation. However, from Fig. 3 it is quite suggestive that the α values might converge to a value below 0.105.

To get an estimate of the uncertainties of our results, we investigate the stability of the fits. For this purpose, we repeat the analysis after eliminating the point s_6 from the data. As a result we obtain sizable changes for α . The new data are shown as crosses in Fig. 3.

In Fig. 4 we present the results for the first correction-to-scaling coefficient c from our three-parameter fits. In contrast to Ref. 4, our values suggest that c changes sign with increasing n_{\max} . Because of the sensitivity of the

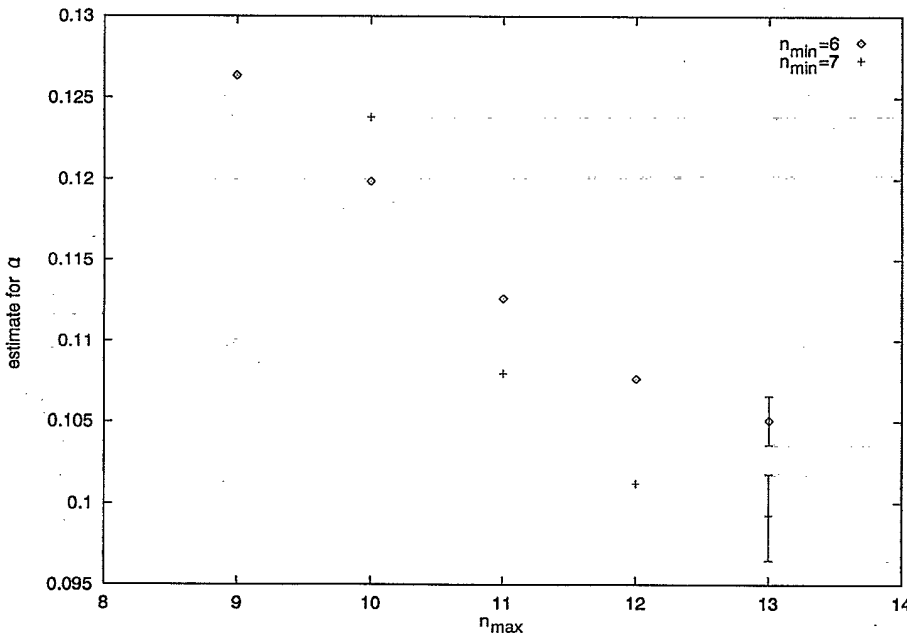


FIG. 3. Estimates of α using a three-parameter fit. Each point represents the results of a fit to the set of values $\{s_{n_{\min}}, \dots, s_{n_{\max}}\}$. The error bars of the rightmost values represent the uncertainty of the extrapolated 13th term.

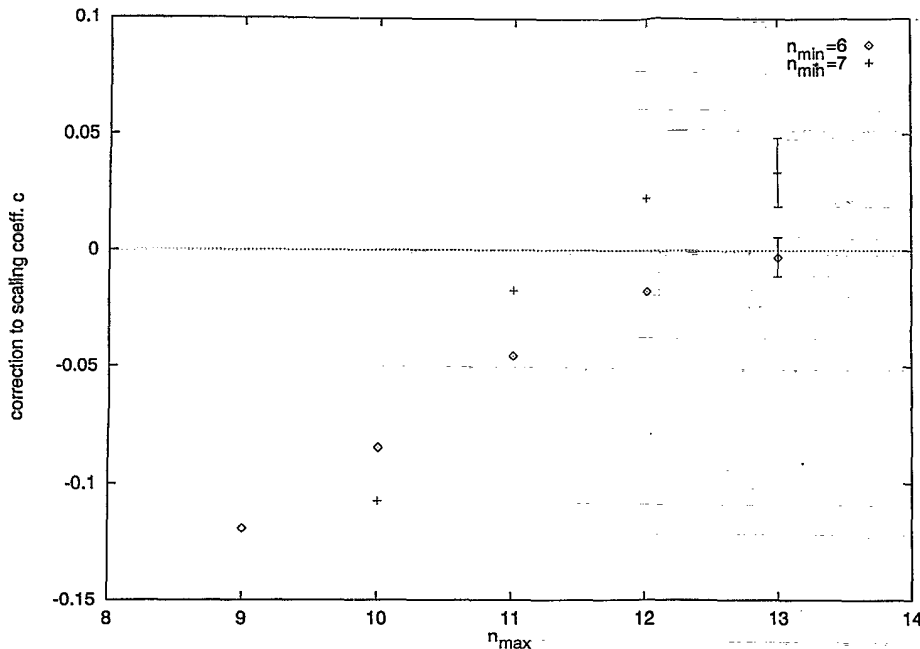


FIG. 4. Estimates of c using a three-parameter fit. Each point represents the results of a fit to the set of values $\{s_{n_{\min}}, \dots, s_{n_{\max}}\}$. The error bars of the rightmost values represent the uncertainty of the extrapolated 13th term.

fits to the number of terms we keep, it is difficult to determine the value of c very precisely. Our best estimate is $c = 0.01(4)$. Since c vanishes within error, it seems reasonable to also try a two-parameter ansatz with $c = 0$ to fit the data. The results of these fits are shown in Fig. 5. We now find that the fits are much more stable and the α estimates show much more of a convergence to their asymptotic values. The best value (from the largest n_{\max}) is $\alpha = 0.1045(3)$. This value supports the impression of the three-parameter fits, which suggested that α was slightly below 0.105. Finally we investigate the influence of the uncertainty in the correction-to-scaling exponent θ on our results. Repeating the analysis with

$\theta = 0.53$,¹² we find a change on α of less than 0.0005. Taking into account the fact that neglecting c causes an additional systematic error, our final estimate for the critical exponent is,

$$\alpha = 0.104(4) . \quad (16)$$

IV. DISCUSSION AND OUTLOOK

The crucial element in the estimate of the error in α [Eq. (16)] is our neglect of the correction-to-scaling coef-

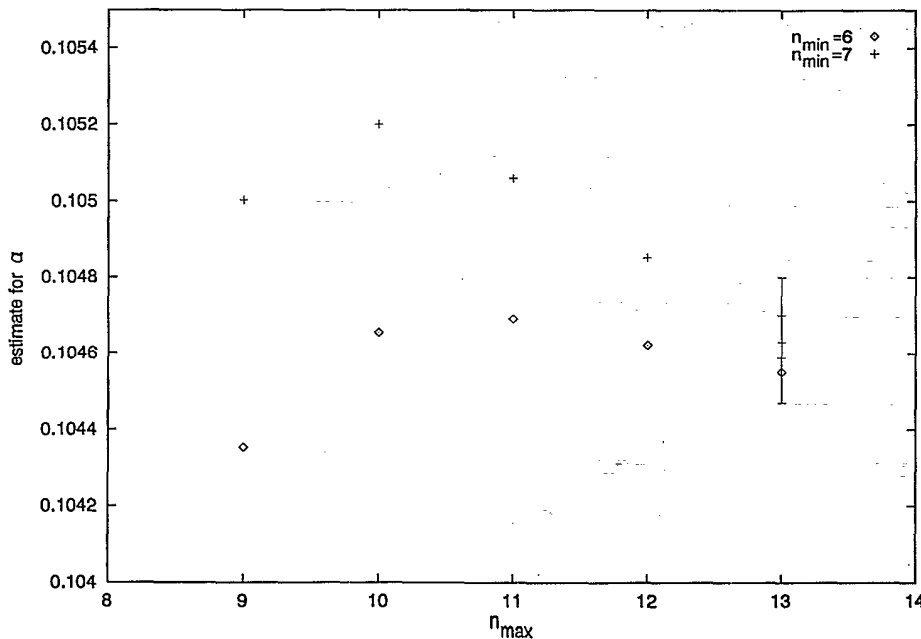


FIG. 5. Estimates of α using a two-parameter fit with $c = 0$. Each point represents the results of a fit to the set of values $\{s_{n_{\min}}, \dots, s_{n_{\max}}\}$. The error bars of the rightmost values represent the uncertainty of the extrapolated 13th term.

ficient c . The resulting systematic error is rather large. From Fig. 4 one might speculate that the estimates for c begin to exhibit asymptotic behavior at the 26th order. Therefore an exact calculation of the 26th term of the expansion might reduce the uncertainty of c significantly. If the magnitude of c turns out to be really negligible, one could adopt the errors of the linear fits, and α would be obtained accurate to the fourth significant digit.

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