Snapshot spectrum and critical phenomenon for two-dimensional classical spin systems

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We investigate the eigenvalue distribution of the snapshot density matrix (SDM) generated by Monte-Carlo simulation for 2-dimensional classical spin systems. We find that the distribution in the high temperature limit is well explained by the random-matrix theory, while that in the low-temperature limit can be characterized by the zero-eigenvalue condensation. At the critical point, we obtain the power-law distribution with a nontrivial exponent $\alpha \equiv (2 - \eta) / (1 - \eta)$ and the asymptotic form of the snapshot entropy, on the basis of the relation of the SDM to the correlation function matrix. The aspect-ratio dependence of the SDM spectrum is also mentioned.

KEYWORDS: Snapshot spectrum, Snapshot entropy, Monte-Carlo simulation

1. Introduction

The role of the entanglement in quantum spin systems attracts much attention, in accordance with the recent development of quantum information physics. In particular, the entanglement entropy often provides essential information which cannot be accessed by analysis of the usual bulk physical quantity.\(^1\)\(^2\) Also for classical spin models, the well-established correspondence between $d$-dimensional (D) quantum systems and $(d + 1)$-D classical systems\(^3\) enables for us to analyze the classical-system version of the entanglement; According to the path integral representation, the maximum eigenvalue-eigenvector of the transfer matrix for a $(d + 1)$-D classical system basically involves the equivalent implication to the wavefunction of the corresponding $d$-D quantum system.

For classical spin systems, the Monte Carlo (MC) simulation has been one of the most powerful numerical approaches in analyzing phase transitions, where their finite-size scaling analysis of expectation values of physical quantities is very effective. However, the MC sampling has a difficulty in analysis of the entanglement, which directly requires the wavefunction rather than expectation values of observables. This situation is basically the same for the quantum MC simulation, except for the Renyi entropy of $n = 2$, for which the valence-bond-solid picture of the spin singlet is available.\(^3\) Therefore, it is interesting to discuss a possible quantity analogous to the entanglement spectrum/entropy, which is easy to compute by MC simulation.

In MC simulation, snapshots representing the typical spin configurations at the equilibrium are generated and the average of physical quantities is taken for them. An interesting viewpoint is that, although the number of snapshots is huge, each snapshot for a discretized spin model can be regarded as just a bitmap image. In the field of computer science, moreover, the singular value decomposition (SVD) of the bitmap data is successfully used for the purpose of the image compression, where the SVD spectrum characterizes hierarchical structure embedded in the image.\(^4\) For MC simulation of the spin system, thus, it is also expected that the eigenvalue spectrum of a reduced snapshot density matrix (See Eqs. (3) and (4)), which we call snapshot spectrum, reflects essential features associated with the phase transition. Indeed, Matsueda recently conjectured that the snapshot spectrum for the 2D classical spin model might exhibit a similar behavior to the entanglement spectrum for the 1D quantum system.\(^5\) In particular, the snapshot entropy at the critical point would have logarithmic dependence with respect to the cutoff dimension $\chi$, which is reminiscent to the entanglement entropy for the corresponding quantum system.\(^6\) However, the snapshot is just a typical sample of the equilibrium spin configuration, which does not contain the total information equivalent to the wavefunction or the maximal eigenvector of the transfer matrix. Thus, it is important to thoroughly understand the theoretical background behind such behavior of the snapshot spectrum and entropy.

In this paper, we first investigate the distribution of the snapshot spectrum for the 2D Ising model in detail. The high temperature limit is described by the random matrix theory (RMT), whereas the zero-eigenvalue condensation occurs in the low-temperature phase. At the critical temperature, we find that the snapshot spectrum exhibits the power-law distribution with a nontrivial exponent, which can be explained in connection with the correlation function matrix. Moreover, we will derive the correct asymptotic form for the $\chi$-dependence of the snapshot entropy. We also mention the aspect-ratio dependence of the snapshot spectrum and numerical results for the 3 state Potts model.

This paper is organized as follows. In the next section, we explain definitions of the model and the snapshot spectrum. In section 3, we present the results for the square lattice Ising model in detail. We also mention the aspect-ratio dependence of the snapshot spectrum. In section 4, we explain the nontrivial exponent of the distribution function at the critical point, through the correlation function matrix. In section 5, we discuss the asymptotic form of the snapshot entropy. In section 6, we present analysis of the 3 state Potts model. The conclusion is summarized in section 7.

2. Model and snapshot spectrum

We consider the 2D ferromagnetic Ising model with the periodic boundary condition. The Hamiltonian is written as fol-
We consider the spectrum of $\rho_X$. Substituting Eq.(2) into Eq. (3), we have

$$\rho_X(x, x') = \frac{1}{N_y} \sum_{n=1}^{N_x} U_n(x) \Lambda_n^x U_n(x'),$$  

(5)

where the eigenvalues satisfy $\Lambda_n^x \geq 0$ and are assumed to be arranged in descending order. Here, we define the normalized eigenvalue spectrum as

$$\omega_n \equiv \frac{1}{N_y} \Lambda_n^x,$$  

(6)

which satisfies the normalization

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N_x} \omega_n = N_x.$$  

(7)

Using the numerical diagonalization of the SDM, we can thus investigate the snapshot spectrum $[\omega_n]$ and the corresponding unitary matrix $U$ in details. In particular, we mainly discuss the distribution function of snapshot eigenvalues(density of states),

$$p(\omega) = \frac{1}{N_x} \sum_n \delta(\omega - \omega_n),$$  

(8)

for the sufficiently large $N_x$.

3. Eigenvalue distribution for the Ising model

In practical computation of snapshots, we use Wolff’s cluster algorithm near the critical temperature, while in high temperature region, we use Swendsen-Wang algorithm. The relaxation steps to the equilibrium state is typically $N_x \times N_y$. For a given snapshot configuration, we diagonalize a SDM to obtain a snapshot spectrum $[\omega_n]$. Then, we approximate $p(\omega)$ by the histogram of the eigenvalue distribution, where typical width of the $\omega$ discretization is $\Delta \omega = 0.016 \sim 0.08$. Of course, the distribution function within a single snapshot contains a large statistical fluctuation. We thus take $5 \times 10^3$ sample average, which is sufficient in the detailed analysis of the distribution function in the followings.

3.1 Ising model on the square lattice ($N \times N$)

We first consider the square-lattice Ising model of $N_x \equiv N_Y \equiv N$, for which the snapshot matrix and SDM are $N \times N$ square matrices. In Fig. 2, we show semi-log plot of snapshot eigenvalue distributions for various temperatures $T$. The features of the temperature dependence of the distribution function are summarized as follows: (i) In the high temperature phase, the eigenvalue distribution is finite range. (ii) In the low temperature phase, the distribution has a very tall peak at $\omega = 0$ and decays exponentially in the finite $\omega$ region. (iii) At the critical temperature, the snapshot spectrum becomes very broad and thus the distribution function exhibits very slow decay in the large $\omega$ regime. It is expected that these characteristic behaviors of the distribution function are closely related to the nature of each phase. Below, we analyze the distribution function in each phase in detail.

Let us start with the high temperature phase. In the high temperature limit, the spin configurations become random, where the thermal fluctuation is dominant and the correlation effect due to the energy is negligible. If the snapshot matrix $M(x, y)$ is a random matrix, the corresponding $\rho_X$ is a Wishart
matrix in RMT, the property of which is briefly summarized in Appendix. Note that, for the square lattice Ising model, the aspect ratio is $Q = 1$ and the variance of the spin variable is $\sigma^2 = 1$, for which the lower and upper bounds of the eigenvalue distribution in $N \to \infty$ respectively become $\lambda_- = 0$ and $\lambda_+ = 4$.

In Fig.3, we show comparisons of the SDM eigenvalue distributions at $T = 10$ and $T = 100$ with the corresponding RMT distribution (A.1) for $N \to \infty$ with $Q = 1$ and $\sigma^2 = 1$. In the figure, we can basically see the good agreement. However, the insets of Figs 3 (a) and (b), which are the magnification around the upper bound of the RMT distribution, show a slight difference. In Fig.3 (b), the eigenvalue distribution of $T = 100$ falls within $\lambda_+ = 4$, which implies that the correlation effect is eventually negligible. In the inset of Fig 3 (a), on the other hand, we find that the eigenvalue distribution slightly exceeds the upper bound $\lambda_+$ of the RMT distribution. Here, we have confirmed that the distributions above $\lambda_+ = 4$ in Fig.3 are not a finite-size effect, by computations up to $N = 280$. Thus, the influence of spin correlation firstly emerges as the larger eigenvalues beyond the RMT upper bound $\lambda_+$. As temperature decreases further, the eigenvalue distribution actually extends to the larger $\omega$ region, as is depicted in Fig. 2.

We turn to the low-temperature phase, where the dominant spins in a snapshot are aligned in the same direction. Since matrix elements corresponding to the dominant per-

colating clusters are the same, the SDM becomes linear dependent, so that the matrix rank of the SDM becomes effectively small. In particular, at $T = 0$, the maximum eigenvalue $\omega_1 = N$ and the others are zero. This implies that, in the low-temperature phase, the huge maximum eigenvalue $\omega_1 \propto N$ is solely located away from the main distribution, whereas the $\delta$-function-like peak appears at $\omega = 0$, reflecting the zero-eigenvalue condensation of macroscopic number of eigenvalues. Note that, in Fig. 2, the location of the maximum eigenvalue $\omega_1$ for $T = 1.0$ and 2.0 is far out of the range. The peak heights at $\omega = 0$ for $T = 1.0$ and 2.0 are also much higher than the range of the vertical axis. The distribution of the remaining finite eigenvalues appears in a finite $\omega$ region, where the exponential decay $p(\omega) \sim \exp(-\text{const} \omega)$ is observed. Thus, we can interpret the ordered phase as the zero eigenvalue condensation of the SDM spectrum.

As was seen in Fig. 2, the distribution at the critical temperature $T_c$ becomes very broad. According to the standard theory of the critical phenomenon, $T_c$ is nothing but the percolation threshold and thus the snapshot consists of clusters significantly fluctuating in macroscale. Then, it is naturally expected that the eigenvalue distribution at $T_c$ shows the power-law behavior,

$$
p(\omega) \propto \omega^{-\alpha}
$$

for $\omega \gg 1$, reflecting the critical fluctuation. In Fig. 4, we present a log-log plot of the distribution functions at $T_c$ for $N = 40$ and 320, where we can verify the linear behavior in large $\omega$ region. For the region where the finite size effect is negligible, we perform the fitting of $p(\omega) \propto A\omega^{-\alpha}$. If we adopt $\omega \in [4.08, 7.12]$ as a fitting window, we obtain $\alpha \approx 2.33$. In Fig.4, the fitting result is drawn as a solid line, which is consistent with the numerical result of $p(\omega)$. Thus, we have confirmed that the power-law distribution is actually realized at $T_c$. Of course, the theoretical background of the nontrivial power of $\alpha$ is the next concern; We will discuss it in Sec. 4.
3.2 Behavior of the high-ranking eigenvalues at \( T_c \)

As was seen above, the power-law behavior of the distribution function is a direct evidence of the critical behavior. In determining the critical temperature, however, direct confirmation of such a power-law behavior is not so useful. Instead, one can often use the finite-size-scaling analysis of Binder cumulant, which becomes independent of the system size at \( T_c \).\(^{(10)}\)

Here, let us focus on the size dependence of the high-ranking eigenvalues. In Fig. 5 (a), we show the temperature dependence of the high-ranking eigenvalues \( \omega_n \) for \( n = 1, 2, 3 \). We take 10000 sample average to obtain the curves in the figure. As temperature decreases from the high temperature limit, the short-range correlation develops spin clusters, implying that the high rank eigenvalues grow gradually. As temperature decreases below \( T_c \), the maximum eigenvalue \( \langle \omega_1 \rangle \) rapidly increases, whereas we can see that \( \langle \omega_2 \rangle \) and \( \langle \omega_3 \rangle \) turn to decrease. These behaviors are consistent with the fact that the matrix rank of the SDM collapses toward unity in the zero temperature limit, where \( \langle \omega_1 \rangle \) acquires the macroscopic scale and the other eigenvalues fall into zero.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(a)} & \quad N=100 \quad \langle \omega_1 \rangle = 40, \quad \langle \omega_2 \rangle = 20, \quad \langle \omega_3 \rangle = 8, \\
\text{(b)} & \quad N=80 \quad \langle \omega_1 \rangle = 40, \quad \langle \omega_2 \rangle = 20, \quad \langle \omega_3 \rangle = 8.
\end{align*}
\]

Fig. 5. (a) The temperature dependence of the high-ranking eigenvalues for \( N = 100 \) in \( T = 2.2 \sim 3.0 \). The curves indicate \( \langle \omega_1 \rangle, \langle \omega_2 \rangle \) and \( \langle \omega_3 \rangle \) from top to bottom. A black solid line represents the exact critical temperature \( T_c \). (b) The temperature dependence of the ratio \( \langle \omega_1 \rangle / \langle \omega_2 \rangle \) for \( N = 80 \sim 120 \). The curves cross at \( T_c \), which is indicated as the vertical solid line.

In Fig. 5 (a), the eigenvalues seem to crossover between the high and low temperature behaviors slightly above the critical point. In order to determine the critical point, however, a careful analysis of the finite size effect is needed. Taking account of the splitting behavior of \( \langle \omega_1 \rangle \) and \( \langle \omega_2 \rangle \) below \( T_c \), we examine the ratio \( \langle \omega_1 \rangle / \langle \omega_2 \rangle \); Figure 5 (b) shows the temperature dependence of \( \langle \omega_1 \rangle / \langle \omega_2 \rangle \) for \( N = 80 \sim 120 \). In the figure, the size-dependence in the high and low temperature phases exhibits the opposite behaviors, and, moreover, the curves clearly cross at \( T_c \), which is indicated as a vertical solid line. This suggests that the ratio \( \langle \omega_1 \rangle / \langle \omega_2 \rangle \) becomes size-independent at \( T_c \), like the Binder cumulant. We can therefore determine the transition temperature, using the ratio \( \langle \omega_1 \rangle / \langle \omega_2 \rangle \). The theoretical background of the behavior of the ratio \( \langle \omega_1 \rangle / \langle \omega_2 \rangle \) will be also discussed in Sec. 4.

3.3 Ising model on the rectangular lattice (\( N_x < N_y \))

We next consider how the aspect ratio of the system affects the eigenvalue distribution, where the snapshot matrix \( M(x, y) \) is rectangular. The system size is taken to be \( N_x \times N_y \), with \( N_x = N \) and \( N_y = 2N \). An interesting point for the rectangular lattice is that the eigenvalue distribution in the high temperature limit is described by RMT (Eq.(A-1)) with \( Q \neq 1 \). Then, the range of the RMT distribution for \( N \to \infty, |\lambda_+|, \lambda_- \), deviates from the square case. In particular, we have \( \lambda_+ = 0.0858 \) for \( Q = 2 \), which suggests that the eigenvalue distribution at \( \omega = 0 \) is absent for \( T > T_c \).

In Figs. 6, we respectively show the eigenvalue distribution for \( N = 200 \) at the high temperature limit \( T = 100 \). In the figure, the eigenvalue distribution basically agrees with the RMT curve, which is drawn as a solid curve. In the insets, we can also see that the distribution beyond the RMT upper bound \( \lambda_+ \) is very small. Note that the finite size effect can be checked to be negligible for calculations within \( N = 200 \).

In Fig. 7 (a), we show the temperature dependence of the eigenvalue distribution. As temperature decreases, the distribution develops in large \( \omega \) region, which is consistent with the square lattice case. For the present rectangular lattice, however, a characteristic point is that the zero eigenvalue does not exist in the high temperature phase. We thus plot the temperature dependence of the height of the histogram at \( \omega = 0 \) in Fig. 7 (b), which actually illustrates that the zero eigenvalue appears only below \( T_c \). This behavior should be contrasted to the previous square-lattice result where a finite (but not macroscopic) number of eigenvalues appears at \( \omega = 0 \) even at the high temperature phase, because of \( \lambda_- = 0 \). In this sense, the zero-eigenvalue condensation in the ordered phase can be easily verified for \( Q \neq 1 \).

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(a)} & \quad N=70 \quad T=3.0 \quad \Delta N \cdot 0 \quad \Delta N \cdot 20, \\
\text{(b)} & \quad N=70 \quad T=2.0.
\end{align*}
\]

Fig. 7. (a) Temperature dependence of the eigenvalue distribution \( p(\omega) \) of \( N = 70 \) for \( T = 2.0 \sim 3.0 \). (b) The peak height of the histogram at \( \omega = 0 \), where \( \Delta \omega = 0.016 \). The zero-eigenvalue condensation occurs below \( T_c \).
At the critical point, the eigenvalue distribution of the rectangular lattice also exhibits the power-law behavior for $\omega \gg 1$. Figure 8 shows the log-log plot of the eigenvalue distribution for $N = 240$. Note that the finite-size effect is confirmed to be negligible within the data plotted in the figure. We perform the same fitting as the square lattice case, $(p(\omega) \propto A \omega^{-\alpha})$, the result of which is plotted as a solid line. The critical index is obtained as $\alpha \approx 2.34$ for data in $\omega \in [2.32, 7.12]$, which is clearly consistent with the square lattice result $\alpha = 2.33$. Thus, the eigenvalue distribution at $T_c$ captures the universal feature independent of the shape of the lattice.

![Fig. 8.](image)

**Fig. 8.** The log-log plot of the eigenvalue distribution for $N = 240$ at $T_c$. The solid line represents the fitting result based on the power-law distribution. The vertical dotted lines indicate the window $\omega \in [2.32, 7.12]$, which is used for the fitting.

### 4. Relation with the correlation function matrix

In the previous section, we have numerically found that the eigenvalue distribution of the SDM at $T_c$ obeys the power-law distribution $p(\omega) \propto \omega^{-\alpha}$ with $\alpha \approx 2.33$. In this section, let us consider the theoretical origin of this nontrivial power of $\alpha$. A key point is that the matrix element of the SDM $\rho_{xy}(x, x') = \sum_{\gamma} M(x, y)M(x', y)$ can be regarded as an average of two spins separated by $x - x'$ with respect to the $y$ direction. This sample average is of course within a single snapshot, which involves the large statistical fluctuation. In the thermodynamic limit, however, we can naturally see $\rho_{xy}(x, x') \sim G(x - x') \equiv \langle S_x S_{x'} \rangle$ by self-averaging effect, where the translational invariance can be assumed for the periodic boundary system. Thus, the asymptotic behavior of the SDM spectrum should be explained by the correlation function matrix $G(x - x')$, although the start point of our arguments is at the SVD of the snapshot matrix $M$.

In general, the correlation function at the critical point has the asymptotic form $G(x - x') \sim |x - x'|^{-\eta}$, where $\eta$ is the anomalous dimension. In the thermodynamic limit, thus, each matrix element of the SDM with $d = 2$ becomes

$$\rho_{xy}(x, x') \sim G(x - x') \sim |x - x'|^{-\eta},$$

for $|x - x'| \gg 1$. With help of the translational invariance, we can diagonalize the SDM by the Fourier transformation, $\omega(k) \sim |G(k)| \sim \sum_{r=0}^{N-1} r^{-\eta} \exp(ikr)$, where $r = |x - x'|$ and $k = \frac{2\pi r}{N}$. Taking the limit $N \to \infty$, we evaluate $\omega(k)$ by the integral

$$\omega(k) \sim \left| \int_0^{\infty} r^{-\eta} \exp(ikr) dr \right| \sim |k^{\eta-1}|.$$

The maximum eigenvalue is located at $k = 0$ with a certain long-distance cutoff. The eigenvalues arranged in the descending order correspond to wave-numbers $k = \frac{2\pi n}{N}$ with $n = \pm 1, \pm 2, \cdots$. Thus number of the eigenstates bigger than a certain value $\omega$ can be counted as $n(\omega) \sim \omega^{(\eta-1)}$. As a result, we have the distribution function (density of states)

$$p(\omega) = \frac{dn(\omega)}{d\omega} \sim \omega^{-\alpha},$$

with

$$\alpha = \frac{2 - \eta}{1 - \eta}.$$  

For the case of the Ising model, the anomalous dimension is $\eta = 1/4$, which yields $\alpha = 7/3 \approx 2.33$. This value is in good agreement with the results obtained in the previous section.

We further consider the size dependence of $\omega_1/\omega_2$, on the basis of the relation with the correlation function matrix. At a temperature slightly away from the critical temperature, the correlation function is described by the Ornstein-Zernike form

$$G(r) \propto r^{-(d-1)/2} e^{-r/\xi},$$

where $\xi$ is the correlation length. Thus the eigenvalue spectrum of the SDM is also obtained by the Fourier transformation

$$\omega(k) \sim \frac{1}{(k\xi)^2 + 1}.$$  

The first and second eigenvalues respectively carry the wave-numbers $k = 0$ and $2\pi/N$. As a result, the ratio $\omega_1/\omega_2$ becomes

$$\frac{\omega_1}{\omega_2} \sim 1 + \left(\frac{2\pi^2}{N}\right) \xi^2.$$  

At the critical point, the scaling dimension of $(\xi/N)^2$ is zero. Thus, the temperature dependencies of the ratio $\omega_1/\omega_2$ for various system sizes cross at the criticality.

In practical computation, the sample average of $p(\omega)$ is taken after diagonalization of the SDM, whereas the spectrum of the correlation function matrix $G$ is obtained by diagonalization after the sample average is taken. The numerical results in the previous section suggest that the leading behavior of the SDM spectrum is consistent with the correlation function matrix by the self-averaging effect.

### 5. Snapshot entropy

On the basis of the snapshot spectrum, we further discuss the snapshot entropy. For the square lattice Ising model, a normalized eigenvalue spectrum of the SDM becomes $\lambda_n \equiv \omega_n/N$, for which we may define the snapshot entropy as

$$S_x = -\sum_{n=1}^{N} \lambda_n \ln \lambda_n = -\sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{\omega_n}{N} \ln \frac{\omega_n}{N},$$

with a cutoff dimension $\chi \leq N$. Appearance of this entropy is reminiscent of the entanglement entropy. How about its implications? In analogy with the holographic principle,\(^{(11)}\)}
Matsueda conjectured the asymptotic behavior of Eq. (17) as
\[ S_\chi \sim \frac{1}{\chi} \log \chi + \text{const} \] for a small \( \chi \) region and \( S_\chi \sim \log \chi + \text{const} \) for a large \( \chi \) region. However, the theoretical justification for these asymptotic behaviors is missing in the context of the statistical mechanics, so that a precise verification has been desired.

As was discussed in Sec. 4, the asymptotic behavior of the snapshot spectrum is described by the correlation function matrix. Thus, assuming the power-law distribution (12), we evaluate the leading behavior of the snapshot entropy as
\[ S_\chi \sim \int_0^\infty p(\omega) \omega \log \left( \frac{\omega}{N} \right) d\omega \sim \int_0^\infty \omega^{\chi-\omega} \log \omega d\omega. \]

Here, the integral bound \( \omega \) is attributed to the normalized cutoff dimension \( \chi/N \) through
\[ \frac{\chi}{N} = \int_0^\infty p(\omega) d\omega \sim \omega^{\chi-\omega}, \]
which yields \( \omega \sim \chi^{-\alpha} \). We therefore have the leading asymptotic relation as
\[ S_\chi = b \chi^{\beta} \log \frac{\chi}{a}, \]
where a cutoff scale \( a \) is recovered and \( b \) is a certain overall coefficient. Note that \( a \) and \( b \) are \( N \) dependent for a finite size system.

In Fig. 9, the snapshot entropy \( S_\chi \) for the square lattice Ising model. The broken curve represents the asymptotic relation (20) with the exact result.

In order to confirm the theoretical prediction (20), we compute the \( \chi \)-dependence of the snapshot entropy \( S_\chi \) for \( N = 320 \), where 100 sample average is taken. The result is shown in Fig. 9. In the figure, we also plot the asymptotic relation of \( S_\chi = b \chi^{\beta/4} \log(\chi/a) \) with \( a = 0.1 \) and \( b = 0.146 \). In comparison with a numerical result, it should be recalled that the relation (20) is justified in the region where the power-law behavior of \( p(\omega) \) is well established. In Fig. 4, we adopted the region of \( \omega \in [4.08, 7.12] \) as an asymptotic regime. The corresponding range of \( \chi \) is \( \chi \in [17, 37] \), which is indicated by vertical dot lines in Fig. 9. For this range of \( \chi \), we determine the parameters \( a \) and \( b \) so as to reproduce the numerical result well. Then, the theoretical curve is in good agreement with the numerical result in a wide range beyond the original fitting window of \( \chi \). We therefore verify that Eq. (20) is the correct asymptotic behavior of the snapshot entropy, rather than a naive logarithmic behavior proposed in Ref. [5]. As \( \chi \) approaches \( N \), the theoretical curve deviates from the numerical result. This is because the correlation function does not described by the asymptotic form (10), where the short range correlation is dominant.

6. Eigenvalue distribution of the 3-state Potts model on the square lattice (\( N \times N \))

In order to check the universality of the above-mentioned results, let us examine the 3-state Potts model \( (2^) \)
\[ H = -J \sum_{x,y} [\delta(S_{x,y}, S_{x+1,y}) + \delta(S_{x,y}, S_{x,y+1})], \]
where \( S = \pm 1, 0, J(1 = 1) \) denotes the coupling constant, and \( \delta(S, S') \) is the Kronecker’s delta symbol. The system size is taken to be \( N_x = N_y = N \) and the periodic boundary condition is imposed. Note that the exact critical temperature of the 3-state Potts model is \( T_c = 0.99497 \ldots \).

The analysis of the Potts model is almost parallel to the Ising model. We use the Wolff algorithm to generate snapshots. For the Potts model, however, it should be noted that the snapshot matrix (2) depends on the definition of the spin variable; for instance, \( S = 0, \pm 1 \) is not a \( Z_3 \) invariant variable of the spin. In the following, we thus define the snapshot matrix as
\[ M(x, y) = \delta(S_{x,y}, q) - \frac{1}{3}. \]
where \( q \) is fixed at one of 0, ±1. This matrix can be regarded as a spin-resolved snapshot matrix and is independent of the definition of the spin variable. \( (3^) \) The SDM for the Potts model is also defined as Eq. (3) with Eq. (22). Here, it should be remarked that the normalization \( \text{Tr} \rho_x = \sum \omega_x = 2N_x/9 \) is satisfied within the level of the average in the disordered phase, in contrast to the Ising model where Eq. (7) is always exact. In calculating the eigenvalue distribution, a typical average number of samples is up to \( 5 \times 10^3 \).

In Fig. 10, we show the eigenvalue distribution of the SDM for the square-lattice 3-state Potts model of \( N = 100 \) at \( T = 100 \), where \( \Delta \omega = 0.04 \). Here, note that the mean and variance of \( M(x, y) \) for a random spin variable \( S \) are respectively evaluated as \( \langle \delta(S, q) \rangle = \frac{1}{3} \) and \( \langle (\delta(S, q) - \frac{1}{3})^2 \rangle = \frac{2}{9} \). In the figure, the RMT curve of Eq.(A-1) corresponding to \( \sigma^2 = 2/9 \) and \( Q = 1 \) is illustrated as well. We can verify the good agreement between the simulation result and the RMT curve. Thus, the RMT description of the eigenvalue distribution is also valid for the 3-state Potts model.

In Fig.11, we show the temperature dependence of the distribution function \( p(\omega) \) for \( N = 100 \) and \( T = 3.0 \) at \( T_c \), where we can basically see the similar behaviors to the Ising model. As temperature decreases, the size of the cluster containing the same spin becomes large, so that the distribution function develops beyond the bound \( \lambda_+ \). At \( T = T_c \), \( p(\omega) \) shows the long-tail behavior for large \( \omega \) region and, for \( T < T_c \), the zero-eigenvalue condensation clearly occurs, where the histogram at \( \omega = 0 \) is of order of \( N \). Here, it should be noted that the \( Z_3 \) symmetry is of course broken in the ordered phase, so that there are two types of the snapshot spectra depending on whether the ordered spin is \( q \) or not. In Fig.11, we showed the case where the spin ordering coincides with \( q \).

At the critical temperature, we can expect that \( p(\omega) \) obeys the power-law distribution. In Fig.12 (a), we show the log-log plot of the eigenvalue distribution for \( N = 400 \) at \( T_c \). For the case of the 3-state Potts model, the exact value of the
anomalous dimension is $\eta = 4/15$, which yields $\alpha = 26/11 = 2.3636 \cdots$. In Fig. 12 (a), we also draw the slope with the exact $\alpha$ as a solid line, which is clearly consistent with the histogram of the simulation result. Although the finite size effect for $\alpha$ is suggested to be relatively large compared with the Ising model, we basically think that the evaluated $\alpha$ is consistent with Eq. (13).

We finally discuss the $\chi$-dependence of the snapshot entropy for the 3-state Potts model. In Fig. 12 (b), a comparison of the simulation result to the asymptotic curve of Eq. (20) with the exact $\eta$ is presented. The good agreement can be confirmed in the wide range of $\chi$, as in the case of the Ising model. We therefore concluded that the snapshot entropy at the critical point is universally described by the theory based on the correlation function matrix.

7. Summary and discussions

In summary, we have investigated the eigenvalue distributions of SDMs generated by MC simulation for the 2D Ising and 3-state-Potts models. We have found that the eigenvalue distribution captures the features of the phase transition. The high temperature limit is described by the Wishart type RMT, whereas the low-temperature phase is characterized by the zero eigenvalue condensation, which is attributed to the appearance of the percolation cluster below $T_c$. We also find that the eigenvalue distribution of the SDM at $T_c$ obeys the power law distribution, $p(\omega) \propto \omega^{-\alpha}$. The relation with the correlation function matrix enables for us to derive the analytic formula of the nontrivial power $\alpha = (2 - \eta)/(1 - \eta)$, which is consistent with the numerical results. We have also derived the asymptotic form of the $\chi$-dependence of the snapshot entropy, $S_{\chi} \sim \chi^0 \log(\chi/a)$. Since this relation successfully explains the numerical result in the wide range of $\chi$, we think that it is a correct asymptotic form of $S_{\chi}$ rather than a naive logarithmic dependence proposed in Ref. [5].

The snapshot spectrum is not an identical concept to the entanglement spectrum in the quantum system. As was shown in this paper, however, the snapshot spectrum is able to extract essential features of the phase transition. Moreover, the snapshot is easy to handle in MC simulation, in contrast to a direct treatment of the maximal eigenvector of the transfer matrix. We thus believe that the present analysis provides further perspectives in analyzing the phase transitions of various spin systems. Also, how the relations (12) and (20) can be associated with the quantum many-body system is an important problem. Then, it may provide an interesting hint that the correlation function matrix has a direct connection to the entanglement Hamiltonian for the free fermion system.

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Appendix: random matrix theory

In this appendix, we briefly summarize the eigenvalue distribution of the Wishart random matrix. Write a matrix of \( N \times L \) as \( A \), element of which is independently defined by a random real number of the zero mean and the variance \( \sigma^2 \). Note that \( \sigma = 1 \) for the Ising variable. Then, the eigenvalue distribution of the Wishart-type matrix \( X \equiv \frac{1}{L} AA^t \) in \( N, L \to \infty \) with \( Q \equiv L/N (= \text{const.}) \) is given by,

\[
p(\lambda) = \frac{Q}{2\pi\sigma^2} \sqrt{(\lambda_+ - \lambda)(\lambda - \lambda_-)} / \lambda.
\] (A-1)

Here, \( \lambda_- \) and \( \lambda_+ \) respectively denote the lower and upper bounds of the eigenvalue spectrum, which are explicitly given by

\[
\lambda_{\pm} = \sigma^2 \left(1 + \frac{1}{Q} \pm 2 \sqrt{\frac{1}{Q}} \right).
\] (A-2)

Note that, for \( Q = 1 \), \( \lambda_- = 0 \) and thus \( p(\lambda) \) diverges as \( p(\lambda) \sim \lambda^{-1/2} \) in \( \lambda \to 0 \). However, this divergence does not indicate the zero-eigenvalue condensation of the macroscopic scale.