Validation of the replica trick for simple models

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Abstract. We discuss the replica analytic continuation using several simple models in order to prove mathematically the validity of the replica analysis, which is used in a wide range of fields related to large-scale complex systems. While replica analysis consists of two analytical techniques—the replica trick (or replica analytic continuation) and the thermodynamical limit (and/or order parameter expansion)—we focus our study on replica analytic continuation, which is the mathematical basis of the replica trick. We apply replica analysis to solve a variety of analytical models, and examine the properties of replica analytic continuation. Based on the positive results for these models we propose that replica analytic continuation is a robust procedure in replica analysis.

Keywords: cavity and replica method, spin glasses
1. Introduction

Replica analysis is a widely used analytic approach, developed for the analysis of large-scale complex systems in cross-disciplinary fields. Applications of replica analysis include the analysis of the physical properties of some disordered magnetic materials, evaluation of the learning performance of neural networks, estimation of the transmission rate of channel coding and optimization of the investment risk of diversification investments.
Replica analysis has a long history and has been discovered (and rediscovered) in several research fields [10, 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 22]. In one of the pioneering works on replica analysis, Edwards et al investigated the singular properties of some disordered magnetic materials [12], generally called spin glasses. They first derived and used replica analysis to examine the physical properties of spin glasses. Based on the observation that 2-body interactions between localized spins can be modeled by the Ruderman–Kittel–Kasuya–Yoshida interaction, they assumed that 2-body interactions between localized spins could be randomly assigned and used to analyze the singular physical properties of spin glass. Subsequently, Sherrington et al developed this model into a fully connected spin glass model by applying the mean-field approximation, since it is well known that solutions based on the mean-field approximation are most often available and sometimes even rigorous [20, 30].

Recently, following its success in the analysis of the physical properties of spin glass, replica analysis has been applied to the mathematical structures and mathematical analogies of other large-scale complex systems. For instance, for the analysis of the learning performance of neural networks, Amit et al applied replica analysis to the associative storage model, examined the mechanism for recalling stored memories, and evaluated the learning capacity of the associative storage model [1, 2]. Further, Gardner investigated the learning performance of the perceptron, one of the most simplified neural network models, using replica analysis, and found that it is consistent with the findings based on combinatorics in the previous work of Cover et al [7, 14, 36]. As part of an evaluation of the transmission rate of communication technology, Kabashima et al used a sparse connected spin glass model to resolve the decoding problem of the binary linear low-density parity check code (LDPC) and guarantee that the communication performance of its linear code was close to the Shannon limit using replica analysis [18]. In addition, Tanaka used the posterior probability as a type of perceptron, learning to resolve the maximizer of the posterior marginal estimation problem for the third generation of radio communication technology, code division multiple access (CDMA), and analyzed the bit error rate and channel capacity of CDMA using replica analysis [33]. To assess the risk of diversification investments, Ciliberti et al dissected the minimal investment risks of the absolute deviation model and expected the shortfall model in the zero temperature limit using replica analysis [6]. In a later work, Shinzato proved that the minimal investment risk and the investment concentration of the mean variance model satisfy the property of self-averaging using replica analysis and the Chernoff inequality [31].

Replica analysis consists of two main steps: the replica trick operation and the application of the thermodynamical limit. While several previous works have verified the effectiveness of replica analysis, in our own use of the replica trick, for convenience of analysis, we use a calculation technique where a number which is assumed to be an integer is replaced by a real or complex number in order to implement the limit operation, and for this reason replica analysis is not always guaranteed mathematically. With this in mind, we compared the results estimated by replica analysis and other approaches such as the Markov chain Monte Carlo method and steepest descent method, and found that the effectiveness of replica analysis was partly validated [32]. However, in several previous works, problems have arisen regarding negative entropy and the convexity of the order parameter expansion of free energy. To address these problems, the results of replica analysis were refined by the 1st step (or full step) replica symmetry breaking solution or Almeida–Thouless analysis, which is an approach that can provide a partial...
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fix, but does not necessarily verify the universal reliability of replica analysis [8, 23, 25, 28, 29]. With respect to these efforts to refine replica analysis, Ogure et al analytically evaluated the expectation of the complex power of the partition function of the grand canonical discrete random energy model [15] using complex analysis, and then compared three solutions obtained from replica analysis—the paramagnetic solution, the ferromagnetic solution and the first replica symmetry breaking solution (the spin glass solution) [26, 27]. Further, they derived the cases where the three solutions, composed of the \( n \)th moments of the partition function, are not analytic at \( n = n_c \in (0, 1) \) (\( n \) is called the replica number), and verified their results using numerical simulations. In addition, Tanaka rearranged the problem implied in replica analysis using the framework of the moment problem, examining several counterexamples of the moment problem and summarizing the sufficient condition in which the distribution of the partition function is uniquely determined from the moment sequences of the partition function [34]. Previous works have shown that we need to analyze the Helmholtz free energy in a large-scale complex system in order to implement a quenched analysis of it. Below we discuss the mathematical basis of the expectation of the logarithm of the partition function for the analysis of Helmholtz free energy. One of the problematical issues in replica analysis is the assumption that for an integer replica number there is an essentially unique, analytical or convex continuation to the real or complex number case, as this is not always valid for replica numbers. In order to validate the reliability of replica analysis mathematically, we need to examine the mathematical structure of replica analysis through models that can be applied to the two distinct approaches for analyzing the \( n \)th moment of the partition function, in a similar way to the argument discussed by Ogure et al.

In the present work, as the first step for resolving the validity of replica analysis and rigorously interpreting the findings obtained from it, we separate the two distinct analytical approaches: (1) the replica trick and (2) the thermodynamical limit (and/or the order parameter expansion), and focus our study on the first of the techniques—the replica trick—or equivalently, replica analytic continuation. So, our goal in this paper is to discuss the properties of replica analysis by examining replica analytic continuation.

The paper is organized as follows. In the following section, we explain the analytical techniques of replica analysis, the replica trick and replica analytic continuation, and consider the importance of the order of integration of two distinct variables. In section 3 we test replica analytic continuation using several simple models and propose a conjecture regarding replica analytic continuation. The final section is devoted to a summary and plans for future work.

2. From replica trick to replica analytic continuation

2.1. Why do we need replica analysis?

Based on several studies of disordered magnetic models [12, 20, 30], neural network models [1, 2, 14], channel coding models [18, 33], and the portfolio optimization problem [6, 31], it is well known that we can examine some indicators which characterize a system—for instance, the average magnetization, learning rate and encoding rate—by evaluating the Helmholtz free energy of the system, \( F = -\frac{1}{\beta} \log Z \), or its expectation

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$E[F] = -\frac{1}{\beta}E[\log Z]$, where $\beta$ is the inverse temperature and $Z$ is the partition function.

In several analyses of quenched disordered systems, replica analysis has been used constructively to assess the expectation of the Helmholtz free energy. However, the validity of several methods used in replica analysis has not been guaranteed theoretically. For this, by comparing the results obtained by replica analysis and other approaches, such as the Markov chain Monte Carlo method and the steepest descent method, we can partly verify the validity of replica analysis. In this work, as a first step for confirming the effectiveness of replica analysis, we examine the replica trick, which is one of the two analytical approaches constituting replica analysis.

2.2. The replica trick

In general, the replica trick consists of the following identity equation for any positive random variable $Z$ [34, 35, 37, 38],

$$\log Z = \lim_{n \to 0} \frac{Z^n - 1}{n}. \quad (1)$$

If the random variable $Z$ is positive and its probability density function $P(Z)$ is known, using the replica trick and the expectation of the $n$th power of $Z$, $E[Z^n] = \int_0^\infty dZP(Z)Z^n$, the expectation of the logarithm of $Z$, $E[\log Z] = \int_0^\infty dZP(Z)\log Z$, is estimated as follows:

$$E[\log Z] = \lim_{n \to 0} \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
\frac{E[Z^n]-1}{n} & \frac{1}{n} \log E[Z^n] \\
\frac{\partial}{\partial n} \log E[Z^n] & 
\end{array} \right\}. \quad (2)$$

where the three terms on the right-hand side are consistent with each other, and can be easily confirmed by using L’Hôpital’s rule. The $n$ in $E[Z^n]$ is the replica number. However, a necessary condition for equation (2) is that $n$ must be a real or complex number. In other words, the result obtained for $n \in Z$ is extended to $n \in R$ and/or $n \in C$. However, the validity of this assumption with respect to the analytic continuation of the replica number is not always guaranteed [9].

It should be noted that, in general, if we can accurately assess $E[Z^n]$ without approximation (e.g. the saddle point method and the mean-field approximation) when the replica number is real or complex, then we can assess $E[\log Z]$ using equation (2), and therefore we are not limited to analyzing quenched disordered systems. In this case, there is no question of the validity of the replica trick of equation (2). We consider that the assumption is the basis of the ambiguity in replica analysis, in which the result for $E[Z^n]$ in $n \in Z$ can be solved using the thermodynamical limit and by expanding the Helmholtz free energy on order parameters and its approximation can be regarded as the result for $E[Z^n]$ in $n \in R$, or $n \in C$.

2.3. Two types of integral assessment

In the analysis of quenched disordered systems, which are represented by the Sherrington–Kirkpatrick model in spin glass theory and the Hopfield model in associative memory, it is well-known that by analyzing the expectation of the Helmholtz free
energy $F = -\frac{1}{\beta} \log Z$, $E[F] = -\frac{1}{\beta} E[\log Z]$, we can assess the typical behavior of the system. To average the free energy, we use the replica trick of equation (2) and analytically evaluate the $n$th power function of the partition function, $E[Z^n]$, in the right-hand side of equation (2). This requires the evaluation of two distinct integrals of the internal variable of the partition function, $S$, and the external variable of the partition function, $J$. Here, we consider the relationship between the order of the two integrations of $E[Z^n]$ and $n$.

We first consider the procedure first-$S$-next-$J$ (hereafter abbreviated FSNJ) for which when evaluating $E[Z^n]$, the integral or sum of the thermodynamical variable or internal variable of the partition function $S$ is first implemented, followed by the integral or sum (or the expectation) over the configuration variable or external variable of the partition function $J$. That is, for FSNJ the expectation of $Z^n$, $E[Z^n]$, is derived as follows:

$$E[Z^n] = \sum_J P(J) \left( \sum_S e^{-\beta H(S,J)} \right)^n,$$

where $H(S, J)$ is the Hamiltonian of the system, $Z = \sum_S e^{-\beta H(S,J)}$ is the partition function of the canonical ensemble of the inverse temperature $\beta$, $\sum_J$ and $\sum_S$ are the integrals or sums over the whole configuration of $J$ and $S$, respectively, and $P(J)$ describes the probability function of the external variable $J$. Since the integral or sum with respect to the internal variable $S$ is implemented first, we allow the replica number $n$ in equation (3) to be regarded as a real or complex number.

In the alternate procedure first-$J$-next-$S$ (FJNS), the integral or sum of the external variable of the partition function is first implemented, followed by the integral or sum of the internal variable. That is,

$$E[Z^n] = \sum_{S_1} \sum_{S_2} \cdots \sum_{S_n} \left( \sum_J P(J) e^{-\beta \sum_{a=1}^n H(S_a, J)} \right).$$

We first evaluate equation (4) with respect to the external variable $J$ and next evaluate it with respect to the internal variables $S_1, \ldots, S_n$. The intuitive advantage of FJNS is that for any $A, B > 0$, the factor expansion $(A + B)^{2.1}$ can be described by the infinite series expansion and $(A + B)^2 < (A + B)^{2.1} < (A + B)^3$ holds, that is, since $(A + B)^n$ is described as a finite series expansion when the power number is an integer, we can evaluate each term of $(A + B)^3 = A^3 + 3A^2B + 3AB^2 + B^3$ and then approximately assess $(A + B)^{2.1}$ using a sort of false position method from the results of $(A + B)^2$ and $(A + B)^3$. A peculiarity of this method is that if the accuracy of the approximation is reduced, negative entropy and/or convexity may occur in the order parameter expansion of the Helmholtz free energy, casting doubt on the validity of the replica analysis.

### 2.4. Formulation of the replica analytic continuation

We set the expectation of the $n$th power of the partition function derived by FSNJ as $F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{C})$ and for FJNS as $G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{Z})$, shown in figure 1. From equation (4), the assessment of $G(n)$ when $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ requires the order of the two integrations
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\[ F \left(3.5 + 5\sqrt{-1}\right) = E \left[Z^{3.5+5\sqrt{-1}}\right] \]

\[ G(4) = E[Z^4] \]

Figure 1. The relationship between \( F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in C) \) for FSNJ and \( G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in Z) \) for FJNS on the complex plane.

to be changed. For instance, when \( n \in C, F(n) = E[Z^n] = An^2 + Bn + C + D\sin(2\pi n) \)
(where \( D \neq 0 \)) or \( n \in Z, G(n) = E[Z^n] = An^2 + Bn + C \), since \( F(n) \neq G(n), (n \notin Z) \),
the replica analytic continuation of this example does not apply. That is, if we regard \( G(n) \) as an analytical function with respect to \( n \) and assume that \( G(n) \) can also be described as an analytical function of \( n \) when \( n \notin Z \), then \( F(n) = G(n) \) always holds in the case \( n \in Z \). We can then propose that this system demonstrates replica analytic continuation. By contrast, for \( F(n) = G(n), (n \in Z) \) and \( F(n) \neq G(n), (n \notin Z) \), the system does not satisfy replica analytic continuation. Thus, we will discuss hereafter whether \( F(n) \) can be estimated from \( G(n) \) or not.

If replica analytic continuation holds for the system under consideration, from the replica trick of equation (2), the expectation of the logarithm of the partition function, \( E[\log Z] \), can be accurately analyzed. We examine replica analytical continuation by applying it to physical or statistical models which can be evaluated for both the FSNJ and FJNS approaches, so that we can compare the results of the two approaches. We have selected models for which the thermodynamical limit need not be applied, so that we can test the accuracy of replica analytical continuation alone, as part of our goal is to focus on the replica trick. Note that several previous works have used \( G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in Z) \), for which it is important to estimate \( E[\log Z] \) accurately, and hence we need to consider the accuracy of \( n \) in the neighborhood of 0. However, we do not try to evaluate the expectation of the logarithm of the partition function consistently, since we are interested mainly in the issue of replica analytic continuation, which is not limited to the neighborhood \( n = 0 \).

3. Simple examples

3.1. Classical harmonic oscillator model with Rayleigh distribution

First we discuss whether replica analytic continuation holds by applying the well-known analytical model of the classical harmonic oscillator model. The Hamiltonian of the classical harmonic oscillator model, \( \mathcal{H}(p, q) \), is defined as

\[ \mathcal{H}(p, q) = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{m\omega^2}{2}q^2, \]  

Figure 1. The relationship between \( F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in C) \) for FSNJ and \( G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in Z) \) for FJNS on the complex plane.
where \( p \) and \( q \) are the momentum and the position of the harmonic oscillator, respectively, \( m \) is the mass of the particle and \( \omega \) is the angular frequency of the harmonic oscillator. The partition function \( Z \) is solved as follows:

\[
Z = \frac{1}{\hbar} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dp dq e^{-\beta H(p,q)} = \frac{1}{\hbar\beta\omega},
\]

using the Dirac constant \( \hbar = \frac{h}{2\pi} \). Since the partition function of this model is analytically and easily evaluated, it is suitable for discussing the mathematical structure of replica analytic continuation.

We assume that the angular frequency of the harmonic oscillator which models the vibration phenomena \( \omega \) has a Rayleigh distribution:

\[
P(\omega) = \begin{cases} 
\omega e^{-\omega^2/2} & \omega > 0 \\
0 & \text{otherwise}
\end{cases}.
\]

From this, the FSNJ case with \( n \in \mathbb{C} \) can be analyzed directly. The \( n \)th moment of \( Z \), \( F(n) = E[Z^n] \), is derived as

\[
E[Z^n] = \frac{2^{-\frac{n}{2}}}{(\hbar\beta)^n} \Gamma \left( 1 - \frac{n}{2} \right).
\]

Note that hereafter the gamma function \( \Gamma(s) = \int_0^\infty dt t^{s-1} e^{-t}, (s \in \mathbb{C}) \) is often used in our discussion [4, 5, 21]. This is a meromorphic function and has a pole at the origin and at negative integer numbers, so if \( F(n) = E[Z^n] \) is described using the Gamma function, then we will omit \( n \in \mathbb{C} \), which is related to a pole of the Gamma function in the discussion on replica analytic continuation (e.g. \( n - \tau \in \mathbb{Z} \) in equation (37) is omitted).

For the FJNS case, since we can permute the integral order from Fubini’s theorem when \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \), the \( n \)th moment of \( Z \), \( G(n) = E[Z^n] \), is calculated as

\[
E[Z^n] = \frac{1}{h^n} \int_0^\infty d\omega P(\omega) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{a=1}^{n} dp_a dq_a 
\exp \left( -\frac{\beta}{2m} \sum_{a=1}^{n} p_a^2 - \frac{\beta m \omega^2}{2} \sum_{a=1}^{n} q_a^2 \right)
= \frac{1}{h^n} \left( \frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{a=1}^{n} dq_a \frac{1}{1 + \beta m \sum_{a=1}^{n} q_a^2}
= \left( \frac{2\pi}{h^2 \beta^2} \right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{a=1}^{n} dr_a \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{a=1}^{n} r_a^2}
= \left( \frac{2\pi}{h^2 \beta^2} \right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \frac{2\pi^{\frac{n}{2}}}{\Gamma \left( \frac{n}{2} \right)} \int_0^\infty dR \frac{R^{n-1}}{1 + R^2}.
\]
In addition, we substitute the identity
\[ 2 \int_0^\infty dR \frac{R^{n-1}}{1 + R^2} = 2 \int_0^{\pi/2} d\theta \tan^{n-1} \theta \]
\[ = B \left( \frac{n}{2}, 1 - \frac{n}{2} \right) \]
\[ = \frac{\Gamma \left( \frac{n}{2} \right) \Gamma \left( 1 - \frac{n}{2} \right)}{\Gamma \left( \frac{n}{2} + 1 - \frac{n}{2} \right)} , \]
(10)
into equation (9), giving
\[ E[Z^n] = 2^{-\frac{n}{2}} \frac{\Gamma \left( 1 - \frac{n}{2} \right)}{\beta^{\frac{n}{2}}} , \]
(11)
where \( r_a = q_a \sqrt{\beta m} \), \( R^2 = \sum_{a=1}^n r_a^2 \) and \( B(p, q) = \frac{\Gamma(p)\Gamma(q)}{\Gamma(p+q)} \) are used. Furthermore, with respect to the integral domain \( D = \{(r_1, \cdots, r_n) | \sum_{a=1}^n r_a^2 < A^2\} \), from the identical integral
\[ \int_D \prod_{a=1}^n dr_a f \left( \sum_{a=1}^n r_a^2 \right) = \frac{2\pi^{\frac{n}{2}}}{\Gamma \left( \frac{n}{2} \right)} \int_0^A dR R^{n-1} f(R^2) , \]
(12)
the \( n \)-dimensional integral of \( r_1, \cdots, r_n \) can be rewritten as an \( n \)-dimensional hyperspherical volume integral. From this, we find that \( F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{C}) \) in equation (8) derived by FSNJ is consistent with \( G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{Z}) \) in equation (11) by FJNS. So, it is verified that the replica analytic continuation holds for the classical harmonic oscillator.

### 3.2. Classical harmonic oscillator model with positive Gaussian distribution

Similar to our discussion for the classical harmonic oscillator, we now discuss the case where the angular frequency \( \omega \) is drawn from a positive normal distribution, \( P_\sigma(\omega) \), defined as
\[ P_\sigma(\omega) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{\omega^2}{2\sigma^2}} & \omega > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} . \]
(13)
For FSNJ, when \( n \in \mathbb{C} \), the expectation of the \( n \)th power of \( Z \), \( F(n) = E[Z^n] \), can be assessed directly:
\[ E[Z^n] = \int_0^\infty d\omega P_\sigma(\omega) \left( \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \omega} \right)^n \]
\[ = \frac{2^{-\frac{n}{2}}}{(\hbar \beta \sigma)^n \sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma \left( \frac{1 - n}{2} \right) . \]
(14)
For FJNS, when \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \), since we can permute the integral order, \( G(n) = E[Z^n] \) is assessed as
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\[ E[Z^n] = \frac{1}{h^n} \left( \frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^\frac{n}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{a=1}^{n} dq_a \]

\[ \int_{0}^{\infty} d\omega \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma^2} e^{-\frac{\omega^2}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\sigma^2} + \beta m \sum_{a=1}^{n} q_a^2 \right)} \]

\[ = \frac{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}}{(\hbar \beta \sigma)^n} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{a=1}^{n} dr_a \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \sum_{a=1}^{n} r_a^2}} \]

\[ = \frac{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}}{(\hbar \beta \sigma)^n} \frac{2\pi^{\frac{n}{2}}}{\Gamma \left( \frac{n}{2} \right)} \int_{0}^{\infty} dR \left( \frac{R^{n-1}}{\sqrt{1 + R^2}} \right) \]

\[ = \frac{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}}{(\hbar \beta \sigma)^n} \frac{\pi^{\frac{n}{2}}}{\Gamma \left( \frac{n}{2} \right)} B(\frac{n}{2} - \frac{1}{2}) \]

\[ = \frac{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}}{(\hbar \beta \sigma)^n} \frac{\Gamma \left( 1 - \frac{n}{2} \right)}{\sqrt{\pi}} \Gamma \left( \frac{n}{2} \right) \]

(15)

Since \( F(n) = E[Z^n], \ (n \in \mathbb{C}) \) in equation (14) is derived by FSNJ and \( G(n) = E[Z^n], \ (n \in \mathbb{Z}) \) in equation (15) by FJNS are also consistent, the replica analytic continuation is validated in this model where in equation (15) \( r_a = q_a \sigma \sqrt{m} \), \( R^2 = \sum_{a=1}^{n} r_a^2 \), \( B(p, q) = \frac{\Gamma(p)\Gamma(q)}{\Gamma(p+q)} \) and equation (12) are used.

3.3. Classical harmonic oscillator model with Chi distribution

We also consider the case where \( \omega \) has a \( \chi \) distribution, \( P_\chi(\omega) \), with parameter \( s \), defined as

\[ P_\chi(\omega) = \begin{cases} \frac{\omega^{s-1}}{2^{\frac{s+1}{2}} \Gamma \left( \frac{s}{2} \right)} e^{-\frac{\omega^2}{2}} & \omega > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \]

(16)

For FSNJ, when \( n \in \mathbb{C} \), \( F(n) = E[Z^n] \), is evaluated as

\[ E[Z^n] = \int_{0}^{\infty} d\omega P_\chi(\omega) \left( \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \omega} \right)^n \]

\[ = \frac{2^{-\frac{n}{2}} \Gamma \left( \frac{s-n}{2} \right)}{(\hbar \beta)^n} \Gamma \left( \frac{s}{2} \right) \]

(17)

For FJNS, when \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \), \( G(n) = E[Z^n] \) is calculated as

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$$E[Z^n] = \frac{1}{\hbar^n} \left( \frac{2\pi m}{\beta} \right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{a=1}^{n} d\omega$$

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} d\omega \omega^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \frac{e^{-\frac{\omega}{2}} \Gamma \left( \frac{s}{2} \right)}{2^{\frac{s}{2}-2} \Gamma \left( \frac{s}{2} \right)}$$

$$= \frac{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}}{(\hbar\beta)^n} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{a=1}^{n} dr_a \frac{1}{(1 + \sum_{a=1}^{n} r_a^2)^{\frac{s}{2}}}$$

$$= \frac{2^{-\frac{n}{2}}}{(\hbar\beta)^n} \Gamma (\frac{s}{2}) \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{dR}{(1 + R^2)^{\frac{n}{2}}}$$

$$= \frac{2^{-\frac{n}{2}} \Gamma (\frac{s-n}{2})}{(\hbar\beta)^n} \Gamma (\frac{s}{2}).$$

(18)

$$F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{C})$$ in equation (17) analyzed by FSNJ is consistent with

$$G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{Z})$$ in equation (18) analyzed by FJNS, since these descriptions are consistent with \( n \not\in \mathbb{Z} \), and thus replica analytic continuation may hold in this model. Note that this model includes the models in sections 3.1 and 3.2 as special cases.

3.4. The quantum harmonic oscillator model with exponential distribution

The models for which replica analytic continuation is satisfied are not limited to the classical harmonic oscillator model. Here, we discuss another commonly used analytical model: the quantum harmonic oscillator model. The Hamiltonian of the quantum harmonic oscillator model, \( \mathcal{H}(k) \), is defined as

$$\mathcal{H}(k) = \hbar \omega \left( k + \frac{1}{2} \right),$$

(19)

where \( k \) is the quantum number and \( \omega \) is the positive angular frequency. In the case of a Boson, \( k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \cdots \) and the partition function \( Z \) in this model is calculated as

$$Z = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}(k)}$$

$$= e^{-\hbar \omega} \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\hbar \beta \omega}}.$$ (20)

Moreover, it is assumed that the angular frequency \( \omega \) is distributed with the exponential distribution \( P_\mu(\omega) \):

$$P_\mu(\omega) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\mu} e^{-\frac{\omega}{\mu}} & \omega > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$ (21)

From this, for FSNJ, when \( n \in \mathbb{C} \), \( F(n) = E[Z^n] \) is evaluated as
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\[ E[Z^n] = \int_0^\infty d\omega P_\mu(\omega) \frac{e^{-\frac{n\beta\omega}{2}}}{(1 - e^{-\frac{n\beta\omega}{2}})^n} \]
\[ = \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu} \int_0^1 dt \frac{t^n + \frac{1}{\beta \mu} - 1}{(1 - t)^{1-n}} \]
\[ = \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu} B \left( \frac{n}{2} + \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu}, 1 - n \right) , \tag{22} \]

where \( t = e^{-\frac{\beta\omega}{2}} \) is used.

For FJNS, when \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \), \( G(n) = E[Z^n] \) is calculated as

\[ E[Z^n] = \sum_{\vec{k}} \int_0^\infty d\omega P_\mu(\omega) e^{-\frac{n\beta\omega}{2} \sum a=1^n (k_a + \frac{1}{2})} \]
\[ = \sum_{\vec{k}} \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu \Gamma(\vec{n})} \left( \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu} + \frac{n}{2} + \sum a=1^n k_a \right) \]
\[ = \sum_{m=0}^\infty \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu (\frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu} + \frac{n}{2} + m)} \left( n - 1 + m \right) \]
\[ = \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu} \int_0^\infty ds \int_0^\infty du u^{n-1} e^{-s(\frac{n}{2} + \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu}) - u + u e^{-s}} \]
\[ = \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu} \int_0^1 dt \frac{t^n + \frac{1}{\beta \mu} - 1}{(1 - t)^{1-n}} \]
\[ = \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu} B \left( \frac{n}{2} + \frac{1}{\hbar \beta \mu}, 1 - n \right) , \tag{23} \]

where \( \vec{k} = (k_1, k_2, \ldots, k_n)^T \in \mathbb{Z}^n \) and the Kronecker delta \( \delta(c,d) \) are used. Further,

\[ \sum_{\vec{k}=0}^\infty \delta \left( m, \sum_{a=1}^n k_a \right) = \left( n - 1 + m \right) \left( \frac{m}{n} \right) , \tag{24} \]

and \( t = e^{-s} \) are employed. From this, \( F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{C}) \) in equation (22) analyzed by FSNJ is consistent with \( G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{Z}) \) in equation (23) calculated by FJNS, indicating that the replica analytic continuation also holds in this model.

3.5. Single random field Ising model

In this subsection, Fermi’s quantum harmonic oscillator, the Fermion, with \( k = 0, 1 \), is discussed using the Ising model as the equivalent representation in this case. For convenience, we accept the Ising model here, the Hamiltonian of which is defined as

\[ \mathcal{H}(S) = -hS , \tag{25} \]

where \( S(= \pm 1) \) indicates the Ising spin and \( h \) is the external magnetic field. Then, the partition function \( Z \) is estimated easily as

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\[ Z = \sum_{S=\pm 1} e^{-\beta H(S)} = 2 \cosh \beta h. \] (26)

Furthermore, it is presumed that the external magnetic field \( h \) is distributed with a Gaussian distribution with mean \( \mu \) and variance \( \sigma^2 \), \( P_{\mu,\sigma^2}(h) \):

\[ P_{\mu,\sigma^2}(h) = \frac{e^{-(h-\mu)^2/2\sigma^2}}{\sqrt{2\pi \sigma^2}}. \] (27)

Then, for FSNJ, in the case of \( n \in \mathbb{C} \), \( F(n) = E[Z^n] \) is solved as

\[ E[Z^n] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dh P_{\mu,\sigma^2}(h) (2 \cosh \beta h)^n \]
\[ = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Dx (2 \cosh(\beta \mu + \beta \sigma x))^n, \] (28)

where \( Dx = \frac{dx}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2} \) is employed.

For FJNS, when \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \), \( G(n) = E[Z^n] \) is derived as

\[ E[Z^n] = \sum_{\vec{S} \in \{\pm 1\}^n} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dh P_{\mu,\sigma^2}(h) e^{\beta h \sum_{a=1}^{n} S_a} \]
\[ = \sum_{\vec{S} \in \{\pm 1\}^n} \exp \left( \beta \mu \sum_{a=1}^{n} S_a + \frac{\beta^2 \sigma^2}{2} \left( \sum_{a=1}^{n} S_a \right)^2 \right) \]
\[ = \sum_{m=0}^{n} e^{\beta \mu (2m-n) + \beta^2 \sigma^2 (2m-n)^2/2} \left( \begin{array}{c} n \\ m \end{array} \right) \]
\[ = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Dx e^{-n \beta \mu - n \beta \sigma x (1 + e^{2 \beta \mu + 2 \beta \sigma x})^n} \]
\[ = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Dx (2 \cosh(\beta \mu + \beta \sigma x))^n, \] (29)

where \( \vec{S} = (S_1, S_2, \cdots, S_n)^T \in \{\pm 1\}^n \) is used and the notation \( \sum_{\vec{S} \in \{\pm 1\}^n} \) means a sum over the whole configuration space of \( \vec{S} \). Furthermore, \( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Dx e^{\theta x} = e^{\theta^2} \) and

\[ \sum_{\vec{S} \in \{\pm 1\}^n} \delta \left( 2m - n, \sum_{a=1}^{n} S_a \right) = \left( \begin{array}{c} n \\ m \end{array} \right). \] (30)

are used. From equations (28) and (29), \( F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{C}) \) for FSNJ and \( G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{Z}) \) for FJNS are equivalent, showing that replica analytic continuation holds for this model.

### 3.6. Potential energy for near earth gravity

In this subsection, we discuss whether replica analytic continuation holds using a classical physics model that is not often used in statistical physics: the potential energy for
near Earth gravity. For $g$—the gravitational acceleration—the Hamiltonian $H(x)$ is defined by the potential energy of the particle (its mass $m$) at position $x$, $mgx$, where the potential energy at the origin is regarded as 0:

$$H(x) = mgx.$$ (31)

Here, we consider the canonical ensemble of this model whose range is the set of non-negative real numbers. The partition function of this model $Z$ is calculated as

$$Z = \frac{1}{h} \int_0^\infty dx e^{-\beta H(x)} = \frac{1}{h\beta mg}.$$ (32)

Here it is assumed that the mass $m$ has a random Gamma distribution with the shape parameter $\tau \in \mathbb{R}$, $P_\tau(m)$:

$$P_\tau(m) = \begin{cases} \frac{m^{\tau-1}e^{-m}}{\Gamma(\tau)} & m > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$ (33)

Using this distribution, for FSNJ, in the case of $n \in \mathbb{C}$, $F(n) = E[Z^n]$ is solved as

$$E[Z^n] = \frac{1}{(h\beta g)^n} \frac{\Gamma(\tau - n)}{\Gamma(\tau)}.$$ (34)

For FJNS, when $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $G(n) = E[Z^n]$ is described as

$$E[Z^n] = \frac{1}{h^n} \int_0^\infty \prod_{a=1}^n dx_a \int_0^\infty dm P_\tau(m) e^{-\beta mg \sum_{a=1}^n x_a} = \frac{1}{(h\beta g)^n} \int_0^\infty \prod_{a=1}^n dr_a \left(1 + \sum_{a=1}^n r_a\right)^{-\tau},$$ (35)

where $r_a = \beta g x_a$ is used. Moreover, when $k > 1$,

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{dr}{(\alpha + r)^k} = \frac{1}{(k-1)\alpha^{k-1}},$$ (36)

is obtained. Using this formula, we can recursively solve $G(n)$ as

$$E[Z^n] = \frac{1}{(h\beta g)^n} \frac{1}{(\tau - 1)} \frac{1}{(\tau - 2)} \cdots \frac{1}{(\tau - l)} \int_0^\infty \prod_{a=1}^{n-l} dr_a \left(1 + \sum_{a=1}^{n-l} r_a\right)^{-l} = \frac{1}{(h\beta g)^n} \frac{\Gamma(\tau - n)}{\Gamma(\tau)}.$$ (37)
$F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{C})$ in equation (34) analyzed by FSNJ and $G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{Z})$ in equation (37) analyzed by FJNS are consistent, and thus replica analytic continuation is guaranteed in this model.

3.7. The moment of chi-squared distribution

In this subsection we discuss whether replica analytic continuation holds for a model which does not originate from physics, namely, where the random variable $Z$ is distributed with a $\chi^2$ distribution with parameter $m$, $P_{\chi^2(m)}(Z)$:

$$P_{\chi^2(m)}(Z) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\pi m^{(m/2)}} Z^{m-1} e^{-Z/2} & Z > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \quad (38)$$

where $Z$ of this $\chi^2$ distribution is the sum of the squares of $m$ random variables, $x_1, \cdots, x_m$, which are independently and identically drawn from the standard normalized distribution, that is, $Z = \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i^2$. We regard the sum of squares $Z = \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i^2$ to be the partition function.

For FSNJ, since the distribution of $Z$ is already known, that is, we can consider the thermodynamical average to be determined, when $n \in \mathbb{C}$, $F(n) = E[Z^n]$, is evaluated as

$$E[Z^n] = \int_{0}^{\infty} dZ P_{\chi^2(m)}(Z) Z^n = \frac{2^n \Gamma(m/2 + n)}{\Gamma(m/2)}.$$ \quad \quad (39)

For FJNS, since $Z$ is constructed from the sum of $m$ independently and identically distributed variables, that is, $Z = \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i^2$, when $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $G(n) = E[Z^n]$ is expanded as

$$E[Z^n] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{i=1}^{m} D x_i \left( \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i^2 \right)^n$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{i=1}^{m} D x_i \sum_{\tilde{k} = 0}^{n} \frac{n!}{\prod_{i=1}^{m} k_i!} \prod_{i=1}^{m} x_i^{2k_i} \delta \left( n, \sum_{i=1}^{m} k_i \right) \Gamma \left( k_i + \frac{1}{2} \right) \Gamma \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \Gamma \left( k_i + 1 \right),$$ \quad \quad (40)

where $\tilde{k} = (k_1, \cdots, k_m)^T \in \{0, 1, 2, \cdots, n\}^m$ and

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} D x x^{2k} = \frac{2^k}{\Gamma \left( \frac{k+1}{2} \right)} \Gamma \left( \frac{k+1}{2} \right),$$ \quad \quad (41)

are used. We can verify that equations (39) and (40) are consistent by using mathematical induction. For convenience, the right-hand sides of equations (39) and (40) are rewritten as

$$F(m, n) = \frac{2^n \Gamma(m/2 + n)}{\Gamma(m/2)},$$ \quad \quad (42)
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\[ G(m, n) = 2^n n! \sum_{k_1=0}^{n} \delta(n, \sum_{i=1}^{m} k_i) \prod_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\Gamma(k_i + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(k_i + 1)}. \]  

(43)

When \( m = 1 \), for any \( n \in \mathbb{Z} \),

\[ F(1, n) = \frac{2^n \Gamma(n + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}, \]

(44)

\[ G(1, n) = 2^n n! \sum_{k_1=0}^{n} \delta(n, k_1) \frac{\Gamma(k_1 + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(k_1 + 1)} \]

\[ = 2^n n! \frac{\Gamma(n + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(n + 1)} \]

\[ = 2^n \frac{\Gamma(n + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}. \]  

(45)

This shows that \( F(1, n) = G(1, n) \) holds.

Next, we set

\[ F(s, t) = \frac{2^s \Gamma(s + t)}{\Gamma(t)}, \]

(46)

\[ G(s, t) = 2^s t! \sum_{k=0}^{t} \delta(t, \sum_{i=1}^{k} k_i) \prod_{i=1}^{k} \frac{\Gamma(k_i + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(k_i + 1)}, \]

(47)

and assume that \( F(s, t) = G(s, t) \) holds when \( m = s \in \mathbb{Z} \) for any \( t \in \mathbb{Z} \). Then, when \( m = s + 1 \),

\[ G(s + 1, t) = 2^s t! \sum_{k_{s+1}t=0}^{t} \sum_{k_{s-1}=0}^{t} \cdots \sum_{k_1=0}^{t} \delta(t, \sum_{i=1}^{s} k_i + k_{s+1}) \frac{\Gamma(k_{s+1} + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(k_{s+1} + 1)} \prod_{i=1}^{s} \frac{\Gamma(k_i + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(k_i + 1)} \]

\[ = 2^s t! \sum_{k_{s+1}=0}^{t} \frac{\Gamma(k_{s+1} + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(k_{s+1} + 1)} \frac{2^{k_{s+1} - t}}{\Gamma(t - k_{s+1} + 1)} \]

\[ \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
2^{t-k_{s+1}}(t - k_{s+1})! \sum_{k_{s-1}=0}^{t-k_{s+1}} \sum_{k_{s-2}=0}^{t-k_{s+1}} \cdots \sum_{k_1=0}^{t-k_{s+1}} \\
\delta \left( t - k_{s+1}, \sum_{i=1}^{s} k_i \right) \prod_{i=1}^{s} \frac{\Gamma(k_i + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(k_i + 1)}
\end{array} \right\} \]

\[ = 2^s t! \sum_{k_{s+1}=0}^{t} \frac{\Gamma(k_{s+1} + \frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) \Gamma(k_{s+1} + 1)} \frac{2^{k_{s+1} - t}}{\Gamma(t - k_{s+1} + 1)} G(s, t - k_{s+1}). \]  

(48)
Further, from the assumption of mathematical induction, since \( G(s, t - k_{s+1}) = F(s, t - k_{s+1}) \) holds, we have

\[
G(s + 1, t) = 2^t \Gamma \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \Gamma \left( \frac{3}{2} \right) \sum_{k_{s+1}=0}^{t} \frac{\Gamma \left( k_{s+1} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \Gamma \left( k_{s+1} + 1 \right)}{\Gamma \left( \frac{3}{2} \right)} 2^{k_{s+1} - t} \frac{\Gamma \left( \frac{3}{2} + t - k_{s+1} \right)}{\Gamma \left( \frac{3}{2} \right)}
\]

\[
= \frac{2^t}{\Gamma \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \Gamma \left( \frac{3}{2} \right)} \sum_{k_{s+1}=0}^{t} \frac{t!}{k_{s+1}! (t - k_{s+1})!} \Gamma \left( k_{s+1} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \Gamma \left( t - k_{s+1} + \frac{1}{2} \right)
\]

\[
= \frac{2^t}{\Gamma \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \Gamma \left( \frac{3}{2} \right)} \int_0^\infty du k_{s+1}^{\frac{1}{2}-1} e^{-u} \int_0^\infty dv v^{t-k_{s+1}1-1} e^{-v}
\]

\[
= \frac{2^t}{\Gamma \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) \Gamma \left( \frac{3}{2} \right)} \int_0^\infty du u^{\frac{1}{2}-1} e^{-u} \int_0^\infty dv v^{\frac{1}{2}-1} e^{-v}
\]

\[
\sum_{k_{s+1}=0}^{t} \frac{t!}{k_{s+1}! (t - k_{s+1})!} u^{k_{s+1}} v^{t-k_{s+1}}
\]

\[
= 2^t \int_0^\infty du u^{\frac{1}{2}-1} e^{-u} \int_0^\infty dv v^{\frac{1}{2}-1} e^{-v} \frac{1}{\Gamma \left( \frac{3}{2} \right)} (u + v)^t.
\]

(49)

Setting \( u = \frac{x}{2} \) and \( v = \frac{y}{2} \) we obtain

\[
G(s + 1, t) = 2^t \int_0^\infty dx \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}-1} e^{-\frac{x}{2}}}{\Gamma \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)} \int_0^\infty dy y^{\frac{1}{2}-1} e^{-\frac{y}{2}} \frac{1}{\Gamma \left( \frac{3}{2} \right)} (x + y)^t
\]

\[
= \int_0^\infty dx P_{\chi^2(1)}(x) \int_0^\infty dy P_{\chi^2(s)}(y) (x + y)^t
\]

\[
= \int_0^\infty dz P_{\chi^2(s+1)}(z) z^t
\]

\[
= 2^t \Gamma \left( \frac{s+1}{2} + t \right)
\]

\[
= F(s + 1, t).
\]

(50)

Thus, \( F(s + 1, t) = G(s + 1, t) \) holds. Note that we use the property of the sum of the random variable \( x \), which is drawn from the \( \chi^2 \) distribution with the 1 parameter, and the random variable \( y \), which is drawn from the \( \chi^2 \) distribution with parameter \( s \), so that \( z = x + y \) is distributed with a \( \chi^2 \) distribution with parameter \( s + 1 \). From this induction, it is verified that \( F(m, n) = G(m, n) \) holds. Finally, since both descriptions, \( F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in C) \) for FSNJ and \( G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in Z) \) for FJNS, are also

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consistent with each other, we have shown that replica analytic continuation holds in this model.

### 3.8. Other toy models

Lastly, we introduce other toy models which satisfy replica analytic continuation:

(i) From the partition function $Z = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Dxe^{\omega x} = e^{\frac{x^2}{2}}$ and $P_\sigma(\omega)$ in equation (13), $F(n) = E[Z^n] = (1 - n\sigma^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ is obtained. Since $x_a \sim N(0, 1), (a = 1, \cdots, n)$, it is well known that $s = \sigma \sum_{a=1}^{n} x_a$ is distributed with a Gaussian distribution with mean 0 and variance $n\sigma^2$. Using $s$, we can also easily analyze $G(n)$ for FJNS.

(ii) We consider a random variable $Z$ from the $F$ distribution with parameters $s$ and $t$:

$$P(Z) = \begin{cases} \frac{s^{\frac{t}{2}}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{t}{2}\right)} Z^{\frac{s+t-2}{2}} B\left(\frac{s}{2}, \frac{t}{2}\right) & Z > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (51)$$

Then, $F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{C})$ is calculated as follows.

$$E[Z^n] = \left(\frac{t}{s}\right)^n \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{2} + n\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{t}{2} - n\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{s}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{t}{2}\right)} \quad (52)$$

We can regard the random variable $Z$ as being the ratio between the squared average of $s$ random variables $x_k, (k = 1, \cdots, s)$, which are independently and identically distributed with a standard normal distribution, and the squared average of $t$ random variables $y_l, (l = 1, \cdots, t)$, which are also independently and identically distributed with a standard normal distribution as follows:

$$Z = \frac{\frac{1}{s} \sum_{k=1}^{s} x_k^2}{\frac{1}{t} \sum_{l=1}^{t} y_l^2} \quad (53)$$

Thus, $G(n)$ is also easily solved using the mathematical induction in section 3.7.

### 3.9. Discussion and open problems

As stated above, in this study we have examined replica analytic continuation—the mathematical basis behind the replica trick—one of the two steps that comprise replica analysis. Some of the concerns about the reliability of replica analysis are based on doubts about the accuracy of the replica trick. When applying replica analysis, both the replica trick and the thermodynamical limit are used, and hence it can be hard to unravel any inaccuracies in replica analysis. Therefore, we have applied replica analysis to some physical or statistical models for which the thermodynamical limit need not
be applied, so that we can test the accuracy of replica analytical continuation alone, thereby definitively addressing part of the basis of replica analysis.

In this paper, although we have considered only a few examples due to the limitations of space, it is clear from the results of the models for which we can apply both analytical procedures, FSNJ and FJNS, that we can assess \( F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{C}) \) and \( G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{Z}) \) without approximation (e.g. the saddle point method and the mean-field approximation) and can verify that replica analytic continuation is guaranteed in these models. We note that a more complete analysis would examine a counterexample to the case of replica analytical continuation in mathematical models, which can be analyzed without approximation. Thus, while the analysis in this paper does not provide a universal mathematical proof of replica analysis, the positive examples detailed in this paper lead us to the following conjecture:

**Conjecture on replica analytic continuation** With respect to models where we can assess the FSNJ and FJNS approaches without approximation, for \( F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{C}) \) analyzed by the FSNJ procedure and \( G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{Z}) \) analyzed by the FJNS procedure, when \( n \in \mathbb{Z}, F(n) = G(n) \) is always satisfied. In addition, \( G(n) \) is regarded as an analytical function of the replica number \( n \), and we assume that \( G(n) \) is also described as an analytical function of \( n \) when \( n \notin \mathbb{Z} \), so then if \( F(n) = G(n), (n \notin \mathbb{Z}) \) holds, the replica analytic continuation for this model is guaranteed.

So, given the positive results of our study, it can now be expected that any doubts about the accuracy of replica analysis will not be directed at replica analytic continuation. Hence, any questions regarding replica analysis reported in previous works are likely to be based on more complicated aspects of replica analysis, particularly when the thermodynamical limit and the expansion on the order parameters are included. This paper has taken the approach of decomposing replica analysis into its composite components, allowing the mathematical properties of each component to be investigated in order to clarify the mathematical structure of replica analysis. However, it is also important to examine problems where the components are used in combination.

### 4. Conclusion and future works

In this work, to explore the roots of questions on the validity of replica analysis, we applied replica analytic continuation to analyze harmonic oscillator models (classical and quantum) and the Ising model, which do not need consideration of the thermodynamical limit, and validated the effectiveness of replica analytic continuation. Although the present paper handles only a few examples, we discussed whether replica analytic continuation holds with respect to toy models for which it is possible to solve \( F(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{C}) \) and \( G(n) = E[Z^n], (n \in \mathbb{Z}) \) using the FSNJ and FJNS approaches without approximations. Although we cannot provide universal proof of the validity of replica analysis in this paper, our goal was to formulate a conjecture for replica analytic continuation. We do not discuss the thermodynamical limit and
order parameter expansion, though these have already been guaranteed theoretically and practically, and are not particularly under question. However, considering more complicated cases will be difficult [3], as even if each analytical technique can be proved individually, they are complicated when combined.

In future work we need to discuss whether replica analytic continuation holds for the physical or statistical models of many-body systems (e.g. the presence of interaction between particles may affect the replica analytic continuation) using FSNJ and FJNS without approximations. Although we considered a few positive examples in this paper, it is preferable to prove the conjecture of replica analytic continuation in a general form. Furthermore, although we discussed replica analytic continuation using the versatile properties of the Gamma function, other special functions could further support the proof of replica analytic continuation.

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Appendix. Calculation of $E[\log Z]$

Here we discuss the expectation of the logarithm of the partition function $E[\log Z]$. It is well-known that the Gamma function of $z$, $\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty dt t^{z-1} e^{-t}$ is described as

$$\Gamma(z) = \frac{1}{z} e^{-\gamma z} \prod_{k=1}^\infty \left( \frac{k}{k+z} \right) e^z. \quad (A.1)$$

Using this description, the derivative of the logarithm function of the Gamma function with respect to $z$,

$$\psi(z) = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \log \Gamma(z)$$

$$= -\gamma - \frac{1}{z} + \sum_{k=1}^\infty \left( \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+z} \right), \quad (A.2)$$

is easily calculated where the Euler constant $\gamma$ is defined as

$$\gamma = \lim_{L \to \infty} \left( \sum_{k=1}^L \frac{1}{k} - \log L \right)$$

$$\simeq 0.57721. \quad (A.3)$$

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We call $\psi(z)$ the digamma function. In particular, for $z \in \mathbb{Z}$, the digamma function is formulated as follows:

$$\psi(z) = -\gamma + \sum_{k=1}^{z-1} \frac{1}{k}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.4)

$$\psi\left(z + \frac{1}{2}\right) = -\gamma - 2 \log 2 + \sum_{k=1}^{z} \frac{1}{k - \frac{1}{2}}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.5)

From which we have

$$\psi(1) = -\gamma,$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.6)

$$\psi\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = -\gamma - 2 \log 2.$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.7)

From these settings, the expectation of the logarithm of the partition function $E[\log Z]$ in each case is solved as follows:

**A.1. Expectation of log $Z$ in section 3.1**

$$E[\log Z] = \frac{\gamma}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \log 2 - \log(h\beta).$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.8)

**A.2. Expectation of log $Z$ in section 3.2**

$$E[\log Z] = \frac{\gamma}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \log 2 - \log(h\beta \sigma).$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.9)

**A.3. Expectation of log $Z$ in section 3.3**

$$E[\log Z] = -\frac{1}{2} \psi\left(\frac{s}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{2} \log 2 - \log(h\beta).$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.10)

**A.4. Expectation of log $Z$ in section 3.4**

$$E[\log Z] = \frac{1}{2} \psi\left(\frac{1}{h\beta \mu}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \psi\left(1 + \frac{1}{h\beta \mu}\right) - \psi(1)$$

$$= -\frac{h\beta \mu}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k + \frac{1}{h\beta \mu}}\right).$$  \hspace{1cm} (A.11)
A.5. Expectation of $\log Z$ in section 3.5

$$E[\log Z] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Dx \log 2 \cosh (\beta \mu + \beta \sigma x).$$  \hfill (A.12)

A.6. Expectation of $\log Z$ in section 3.6

$$E[\log Z] = -\log(h \beta g) - \psi(\tau).$$  \hfill (A.13)

A.7. Expectation of $\log Z$ in section 3.7

$$E[\log Z] = \log 2 + \psi \left(\frac{m}{2}\right).$$  \hfill (A.14)

A.8. Expectation of $\log Z$ of 1st example in section 3.8

$$E[\log Z] = \frac{\sigma^2}{2}.$$  \hfill (A.15)

A.9. Expectation of $\log Z$ of 2nd example in section 3.8

$$E[\log Z] = \log \frac{t}{s} + \psi \left(\frac{s}{2}\right) - \psi \left(\frac{t}{2}\right).$$  \hfill (A.16)

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