# The Hard Hexagon Partition Function for Complex Fugacity

# Iwan Jensen

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Work with: M Assis, JL Jacobsen, J-M Maillard and BM McCoy

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Hard Hexagons

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Particles are placed on the sites of the lattice with the restriction that particles are not allowed to occupy nearest neighbor sites.

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#### Baxter's solution for real z

Baxter computed the fugacity *z* and the partition function per site

$$\kappa_{\pm}(z) = \lim_{L_h \to \infty} \lambda_{\max}(z; L_h)^{1/L_h}$$

for positive z terms of an auxiliary variable x using the functions

$$G(x) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1-x^{5n-4})(1-x^{5n-1})},$$
  

$$H(x) = \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(1-x^{5n-3})(1-x^{5n-2})},$$
  

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Regions  $0 \le z \le z_c \le z < \infty$  with  $z_c = (11 + 5\sqrt{5})/2 = 11.090168 \cdots$ 

For high density where  $0 < z^{-1} < z_c^{-1}$  the results are

$$z = \frac{1}{x} \left( \frac{G(x)}{H(x)} \right)^5; \quad \kappa_+ = \frac{1}{x^{1/3}} \frac{G^3(x) Q^2(x^5)}{H^2(x)} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1-x^{3n-2})(1-x^{3n-1})}{(1-x^{3n})^2}.$$

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For low density where  $0 \leq z < z_c$ 

$$z = -x \left(\frac{H(x)}{G(x)}\right)^5; \quad \kappa_- = \frac{H^3(x) Q^2(x^5)}{G^2(x)} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1-x^{6n-4})(1-x^{6n-3})^2(1-x^{6n-2})}{(1-x^{6n-5})(1-x^{6n-1})(1-x^{6n})^2}.$$

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 $\kappa_{\pm}(z)$  have singularities at  $z_c$ ,  $z_d = -1/z_c$  and  $\infty$ .

# The equimodular curve $|\kappa_{-}(z)| = |\kappa_{+}(z)|$

If the two eigenvalues  $\kappa_{-}(z)$  and  $\kappa_{+}(z)$  suffice to describe the partition function in the entire complex *z* plane then there will be zeros on the equimodular curve  $|\kappa_{-}(z)| = |\kappa_{+}(z)|$ .

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Numerically we compute the partition function using a transfer matrix algorithm to build the finite lattice site-by-site.



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2. Starting with 30  $\times$  30 zeros start to appear in the necklace and separated regions begin to be apparent.

3. It is unknown what will happen as  $L \to \infty$ . Will the zeros fill the entire necklace region?

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When the transfer matrix is diagonalizable the partition function may be written in terms of the eigenvalues  $\lambda_k$  and eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_k$  of the transfer matrix  $\mathbf{T}_{L_b}(z)$  as

$$Z_{L_{v},L_{h}}(z) = \sum_{k} \lambda_{k}^{L_{v}}(z;L_{h})c_{k}$$

where

$$c_k = (\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{B}} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}})(\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{B}}').$$

and  $\mathbf{v}_{\mathbf{B}}$  and  $\mathbf{v}'_{\mathbf{B}}$  are suitable vectors for the boundary conditions on rows 1 and  $L_{v}$ .

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The density of zeros on this curve is proportional to  $d\phi(z)/dz$ .

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We developed routines to automatically trace equimodular curves.

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Iwan Jensen (University of Melbourne)

#### Hard Hexagons

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Dominant eigenvalue crossings in red;  $|\kappa_{-}(z)| = |\kappa_{+}(z)|$  in black.

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Hard Hexagons





According to finite-size scaling the free energy per site corresponding to the *j*-th eigenvalue of the transfer matrix has the scaling form

$$\frac{1}{L}f_j\left(|z-z_c|L^y, uL^{-|y'|}\right) ,$$

where  $z_c$  is the critical point, y is the leading relevant eigenvalue and u is the coupling to an irrelevant operator with eigenvalue y' < 0, which implies at leading order that

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To higher orders, terms on the RHS involve powers of  $L^{-1}$  that can be any non-zero linear combination of *y* and |y'| with non-negative integer coefficients.

The critical point  $z_c > 0$  of hard hexagons is known to be in the same universality class as the three-state ferromagnetic Potts model.

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Our numerical analysis of  $|z_c(L)| - z_c$  for *L* up to 39 gives good evidence for the scaling form

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However, note that powers such as y + 1 = 11/5 and 2y = 12/5, which are possible in principle, are not observed numerically.

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The integer shifts can be related to descendent operators in the CFT, since |y'| is a positive integer for descendents of the identity operator.