

Quantum and Thermal Fluctuations in the Ising Chains: A Case Study of Spin-Two System

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Abstract: For a system at absolute zero temperature, all thermal fluctuations are frozen out, while quantum fluctuations prevail. These microscopic quantum fluctuations can induce a quantum phase transition (QPT) in the ground state of a many-body system when the relative strength of two competing energy terms is varied across a critical value. This paper presents a detailed and quantitative study of the magnetic properties of Ising two-spin system at zero temperature in the presence of longitudinal, transverse and mixed fields, and also at finite temperatures. At the critical longitudinal magnetic field, the system is found to undergo a QPT to a ferromagnetic state. For this system, an infinitesimal departure from zero transverse field is found to trigger off QPT and also remove the degeneracies that persisted even in the presence of longitudinal field. These quantum fluctuations, leading to QPT are more evident in the mixed field than the separate effect of longitudinal and transverse fields. The observed quantum effects at zero temperature for this system are found to be completely wiped out at finite temperatures due to thermal fluctuations. A temperature increase favours antiferromagnetic alignment of spins, while a decrease in temperature favours ferromagnetic alignment.

Keywords: Quantum phase transition, thermal fluctuations, quantum fluctuations, Ising systems, longitudinal field, and transverse field.

I. Introduction

We all observe phase transitions in our daily lives, with hardly a second thought. When we boil water for a cup of tea, we observe that the water remain quiescent until it reaches a certain temperature (100°C), and then bubbles appear vigorously until all the water has turned to steam. We have watched the melting away of snow gathered overnight when temperatures rise during the day. The more adventurous among us may have heated an iron magnet to a temperature of about 760°C and noted the disappearance of its magnetism. Familiar and ubiquitous as these and many related phenomena are, a little reflection shows that they are quite mysterious and not easy to understand. Indeed, the reasons for these observed phenomena did not emerge until the middle of the 20th century. Although, much has been understood since then, active research continues. Ice and water both consist of molecules of H₂O, and we can look up all the physical parameters of a single molecule, and of the interaction between a pair of molecules, in standard reference texts. However, no detailed study of this information prepares us for the dramatic change that occurs at 0°C. Below 0°C, the H₂O molecules of ice are arranged in a regular crystalline lattice, and each H₂O molecule hardly strays from its own lattice site. Above 0°C, we obtain liquid water, in which all the molecules are moving freely throughout the liquid container at high speeds. Why do 10²³ H₂O molecules co-operatively “decide” to become mobile at a certain temperature, leading to the phase transition from ice to water?

In Physics, a quantum phase transition (QPT) is a phase transition between different quantum phases of matter at absolute zero temperature [1-8]. Contrary to classical phase transitions, quantum phase transitions can only be accessed by varying a physical parameter such as magnetic field or pressure at absolute zero temperature. The transition describes an abrupt change in the ground state of a many-body system due to its quantum fluctuations. At the critical point where the quantum phase transition (QPT) occurs, the ground state of the system undergoes a qualitative change in some of its properties [5, 6]. QPT can be described as second order phase transition. On the other hand, classical phase transitions are driven by a competition between the energy of a system and the entropy of its thermal fluctuations. A classical system does not have entropy at absolute zero temperature and therefore no phase transition can occur. Their order is determined by the first discontinuous derivative of a thermodynamic potential. A phase transition from water to ice, for example, involves latent heat (a discontinuity of the heat capacity) and is of first order.

Among the various systems, one dimensional (1D) and quasi-one dimensional systems are fantastic playground for quantum phase transitions (QPTs), with rather unique properties [3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12]. There are various reasons for this special behaviour. Firstly, contrary to their higher dimensional counterparts, interactions play a major role in 1D particles. These interactions transform any individual motion of the particles into a collective one. Secondly, in 1D particles quantum and thermal fluctuations are pushed to a maximum, and prevent the breaking of continuous symmetries, making simple mean-field Physics inapplicable. The combination of these two effects leads to a very special universality class for interacting quantum systems, known as Luttinger liquids (LLs) [12-14]. The important point is that LL is taken to be in a critical phase in which correlations decrease at zero temperature, as power laws of space and time. This makes the system extremely fragile to external perturbations and leads to a host of QPTs. Examples of such perturbations are the effects of large Coulomb repulsion which leads to a Mott transition [15], and disorder that leads to localized phases such as Anderson localization or the Bose glass [16-17]. Each of these transitions is characterized by a quantum critical point (QCP) that can be computed from LL theory [18-20].

The study of the field-induced effects in low-dimensional quantum spin systems has been attracting much interest from theoretical and experimental points of view [1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 11]. For example, the behaviour of the one-dimensional antiferromagnetic XXZ model in a transverse magnetic field is drastically different in comparison with the case of the longitudinal field [8, 21, and 22]. The one-dimensional (1D) Ising chain in transverse field is perhaps the most-studied

theoretical paradigm for a quantum phase transition [10, 22]. More so, in a class of one-dimensional magnetic systems, QPT has also been shown to be associated with a change of entanglement [23-24]. This entanglement is known to exhibit scaling behaviour in the vicinity of the transition point [25]. This behaviour was discussed in detail for the Heisenberg model by Osborne and Nielsen in ref. [25].

Quantum phase transitions are relevant in quantum computing, e.g., adiabatic quantum computing [26-27] and quantum estimation [28-29]. Interesting phenomena related to QPTs have recently been experimentally observed in various systems, such as Cuprate Superconductors [30-31], heavy fermions and Bose-Einstein condensates [32], magnetic insulators [33-34] and Jaynes-Cummings-Hubbard (JCH) system [35]. The aim of this work is to study the effect of external magnetic fields, namely longitudinal, transverse and mixed fields at zero and finite temperatures on the ground state properties of the Ising spin chains, using two-spin system as a case study. The results obtain for this simple system will be useful for the advance study of complicated systems. This study is also expected to provide further insight into the behaviour of one and quasi-one dimensional systems subject to varying magnetic fields at zero and finite temperatures.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In section II, we give a brief description of the Ising model. Section III investigates the effect of zero field and zero temperature on Ising spin-two system. Section IV investigates the effect of longitudinal field on the system. Section V investigates the effect of transverse field on the system. Section VI investigates the effect of mixed field on the system. Section VII investigates the response of this system to finite temperatures. We present and discuss results in section VIII. We conclude in section IX.

II. Ising model

The Ising model is the simplest theoretical description of ferromagnetism. This model was invented by Wilhelm Lenz in 1920 and named after Ernst Ising, a student of Lenz who chose the model as the subject of his doctoral dissertation. The model consists of discrete variables called spins that are arranged on a lattice. The antiferromagnetic version of this model in one dimension reads:

$$H = J \sum_{i=1}^N S_i^z S_{i+1}^z - h_z \sum_i S_i^z - h_x \sum_i S_i^x, \tag{1}$$

where J is the superexchange coupling parameter between nearest neighbour spins. The symbols S_i^z and S_i^x are the diagonal and off diagonal spin operators respectively. These operators act in the reduced Hilbert space of no doubly occupied sites. The longitudinal and transverse field are respectively denoted by h_z and h_x . The Ising model can be recovered from the Heisenberg model by switching off the spin fluctuation term, i.e. $S_i^+ S_{i+1}^- + S_i^- S_{i+1}^+ = 0$. In terms of creation and annihilation operator, the form in (1) can be written as:

$$\begin{aligned} H = & \frac{J}{4} \sum_i \left(c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger c_{i\uparrow} c_{(i+1)\uparrow}^\dagger c_{(i+1)\uparrow} - c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger c_{i\uparrow} c_{(i+1)\downarrow}^\dagger c_{(i+1)\downarrow} - c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger c_{i\downarrow} c_{(i+1)\uparrow}^\dagger c_{(i+1)\uparrow} + c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger c_{i\downarrow} c_{(i+1)\downarrow}^\dagger c_{(i+1)\downarrow} \right) \\ & - 1/2 h_z \sum_i \left(c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger c_{i\uparrow} - c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger c_{i\downarrow} + c_{(i+1)\uparrow}^\dagger c_{(i+1)\uparrow} - c_{(i+1)\downarrow}^\dagger c_{(i+1)\downarrow} \right) \\ & + h_x \sum_i \left(c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger c_{i\downarrow} + c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger c_{i\uparrow} + c_{(i+1)\uparrow}^\dagger c_{(i+1)\downarrow} + c_{(i+1)\downarrow}^\dagger c_{(i+1)\uparrow} \right) \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Here, summation over nearest neighbour is explicit

III. Spin-two Ising system in zero field and zero temperature

This section will examine the nature of the ground state of the simplest possible Ising cluster (i.e. the spin-1/2 two – site dimer) in zero field. Periodic boundary conditions (PBC) is imposed on the spins so that $S_{N+1}^z = S_1^z$. Thus, the topology of the spin space is that of a circle as shown in Fig.1.

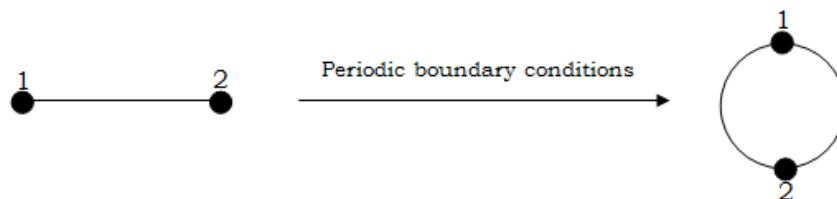


Fig.1. A two -site chain. The topology is that of a circle on the application of periodic boundary conditions.

The Hamiltonian of this system in the absence of external magnetic field is given by

$$H_0 = \frac{J}{4} \left(c_{1\uparrow}^\dagger c_{1\uparrow} c_{2\uparrow}^\dagger c_{2\uparrow} - c_{1\uparrow}^\dagger c_{1\uparrow} c_{2\downarrow}^\dagger c_{2\downarrow} - c_{1\downarrow}^\dagger c_{1\downarrow} c_{2\uparrow}^\dagger c_{2\uparrow} + c_{1\downarrow}^\dagger c_{1\downarrow} c_{2\downarrow}^\dagger c_{2\downarrow} \right) \tag{3}$$

Since a spin have two configurations in space (i.e. spin up or spin down) and the exclusion of doubly occupied site is understood, the size of the Hilbert space of an Ising system with N spins is 2^N . Hence, for two-spin system, the size of the Hilbert space is 4. The basis states are:

$$|1\rangle = |1\uparrow, 2\uparrow\rangle, |2\rangle = |1\downarrow, 2\downarrow\rangle, |3\rangle = |1\uparrow, 2\downarrow\rangle, |4\rangle = |1\downarrow, 2\uparrow\rangle$$

It is possible to construct a matrix representation of the Hamiltonian by using H_0 to act on each of these basis states. Thus,

$$H_0|1\rangle = H_0|1\uparrow, 2\uparrow\rangle = \frac{J}{4}|1\uparrow, 2\uparrow\rangle$$

$$H_0|2\rangle = H_0|1\downarrow, 2\downarrow\rangle = \frac{J}{4}|1\downarrow, 2\downarrow\rangle$$

$$H_0|3\rangle = H_0|1\uparrow, 2\downarrow\rangle = -\frac{J}{4}|1\uparrow, 2\downarrow\rangle$$

$$H_0|4\rangle = H_0|1\downarrow, 2\uparrow\rangle = -\frac{J}{4}|1\downarrow, 2\uparrow\rangle$$

These operations will lead to the matrix representation

$$H_0 = \frac{J}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \tag{4}$$

At a glance, the Hamiltonian is observed to be block-diagonal with respect to subspaces $S_{tot}^z = 1, -1$ and 0, with two-fold degeneracy in both the ground and excited states.

IV. Effect Of External Longitudinal Magnetic Field

In the presence of the longitudinal field, the Ising Hamiltonian for two-spin system, expressed in the second quantized form is given by:

$$H_{h_z} = H_0 + H_z \tag{5}$$

where H_z is given by:

$$H_z = -\vec{h}_z \cdot (\vec{S}_1^z + \vec{S}_2^z) = -h_z / 2 (c_{1\uparrow}^\dagger c_{1\uparrow} - c_{1\downarrow}^\dagger c_{1\downarrow} + c_{2\uparrow}^\dagger c_{2\uparrow} - c_{2\downarrow}^\dagger c_{2\downarrow}) \tag{6}$$

Therefore, the Hamiltonian matrix in the presence of external longitudinal magnetic field gives:

$$H_{h_z} = \begin{bmatrix} J/4 - h_z & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & h_z + J/4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -J/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -J/4 \end{bmatrix} \tag{7}$$

The eigen values of this matrix are: $\lambda_1 = -J/4$, $\lambda_2 = -J/4$, $\lambda_3 = (J/4) - h_z$ and $\lambda_4 = (J/4) + h_z$

Observe that the external longitudinal field does not have effect on antiferromagnetic states. At a glance, we see that the two-fold degenerate triplet state at zero magnetic field splits into two distinct states as the magnetic field is applied. The energy levels per magnetic coupling constant arising from (7) can be constructed as follows:

$$E_1 = E_2 = \lambda_1 / J = -0.25, E_3 = \lambda_3 / J = 0.25 - (h_z / J), E_4 = \lambda_4 / J = 0.25 + (h_z / J) \tag{8}$$

The competing energies for this system are the two-fold degenerate energy levels (i.e. E_1 and E_2) and the excited energy level E_3 . The energy dependence of this system with longitudinal field is shown in Table 1. This dependence and energy level crossing is illustrated in Fig. 2, while Fig.3 captures the quantum of magnetization.

V. Effect of external transverse magnetic field

The Hamiltonian for two-spin Ising system in the presence of transverse field gives:

$$H_{h_x} = H_0 + H_x \tag{9}$$

Here, the Hamiltonian H_x is given by:

$$H_x = -\vec{h}_x(S_1^x + S_2^x) = -h_x/2(c_{1\uparrow}^\dagger c_{1\downarrow} + c_{1\downarrow}^\dagger c_{1\uparrow} + c_{2\uparrow}^\dagger c_{2\downarrow} + c_{2\downarrow}^\dagger c_{2\uparrow}) \quad (10)$$

The Hamiltonian matrix in the presence of an external transverse magnetic field gives:

$$H_{h_x} = \begin{bmatrix} J/4 & 0 & -h_x/2 & -h_x/2 \\ 0 & J/4 & -h_x/2 & -h_x/2 \\ -h_x/2 & -h_x/2 & -J/4 & 0 \\ -h_x/2 & -h_x/2 & 0 & -J/4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

The complete diagonalization of the Hamiltonian matrix in (11) gives the following eigenvalues:

$$\lambda_1 = -\frac{J}{4}, \lambda_2 = \frac{J}{4}, \lambda_3 = -\frac{1}{4}\sqrt{16h_x^2 + J^2}, \lambda_4 = \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{16h_x^2 + J^2} \quad (12)$$

These eigenvalues in (12) can be recast as follows:

$$E_1 = \frac{\lambda_1}{J} = -\frac{1}{4}, E_2 = \frac{\lambda_2}{J} = \frac{1}{4}, E_3 = \frac{\lambda_3}{J} = -\frac{1}{4}\sqrt{16\left(\frac{h_x}{J}\right)^2 + 1}, E_4 = \frac{\lambda_4}{J} = \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{16\left(\frac{h_x}{J}\right)^2 + 1} \quad (13)$$

It is obvious that the twofold degenerate ground state that persists even in the presence of longitudinal field is completely removed by the transverse field. The two competing energies are now E_1 and E_3 . The dynamics of the spins in the corresponding eigen states at zero temperature is completely driven by quantum fluctuations. The variations of the ground and excited state energies with the transverse field are presented in Table 2 and Fig.4.

VI. Effect of mixed field

The Hamiltonian for mixed field (i.e. involving both longitudinal and transverse fields) is given by

$$H = H_h + H_0 \quad (14)$$

where H_h is given by

$$H_h = H_z + H_x \quad (15)$$

For two-spin system, (15) gives

$$H_h = -h_z/2(c_{1\uparrow}^\dagger c_{1\uparrow} - c_{1\downarrow}^\dagger c_{1\downarrow} + c_{2\uparrow}^\dagger c_{2\uparrow} - c_{2\downarrow}^\dagger c_{2\downarrow}) - h_x/2(c_{1\uparrow}^\dagger c_{1\downarrow} + c_{1\downarrow}^\dagger c_{1\uparrow} + c_{2\uparrow}^\dagger c_{2\downarrow} + c_{2\downarrow}^\dagger c_{2\uparrow}) \quad (16)$$

The interaction of this mixed field with the two-spin system gives the following

$$\begin{aligned} H_h|1\uparrow, 2\uparrow\rangle &= -\frac{h_x}{2} [|1\uparrow, 2\downarrow\rangle + |1\downarrow, 2\uparrow\rangle] - \frac{h_z}{2} |1\uparrow, 2\uparrow\rangle = -\frac{h_x}{2} [|3\rangle + |4\rangle] - h_z |1\rangle \\ H_h|1\downarrow, 2\downarrow\rangle &= -\frac{h_x}{2} [|1\downarrow, 2\uparrow\rangle + |1\uparrow, 2\downarrow\rangle] + h_z |1\downarrow, 2\downarrow\rangle = -\frac{h_x}{2} [|4\rangle + |3\rangle] + h_z |2\rangle \\ H_h|1\uparrow, 2\downarrow\rangle &= -\frac{h_x}{2} [|1\uparrow, 2\uparrow\rangle + |1\downarrow, 2\downarrow\rangle] - \frac{h_z}{2} [|1\uparrow, 2\downarrow\rangle - |1\uparrow, 2\downarrow\rangle] = -\frac{h_x}{2} [|1\rangle + |2\rangle] \\ H_h|1\downarrow, 2\uparrow\rangle &= -\frac{h_x}{2} [|1\downarrow, 2\downarrow\rangle + |1\uparrow, 2\uparrow\rangle] - \frac{h_z}{2} [|1\downarrow, 2\uparrow\rangle - |1\downarrow, 2\uparrow\rangle] = -\frac{h_x}{2} [|2\rangle + |1\rangle] \end{aligned}$$

The Hamiltonian matrix arising from the interaction of this mixed field with two-spin system gives:

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{J}{4} - h_z & 0 & -\frac{h_x}{2} & -\frac{h_x}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{J}{4} + h_z & -\frac{h_x}{2} & -\frac{h_x}{2} \\ -\frac{h_x}{2} & -\frac{h_x}{2} & \frac{J}{4} & 0 \\ -\frac{h_x}{2} & -\frac{h_x}{2} & 0 & -\frac{J}{4} \end{bmatrix} \quad (17)$$

The variations in the excited and ground state energies when h_x and h_z are simultaneously varied are shown in Table 3. By keeping h_z at its critical field ($h_z=0.5$), the response of the spins to variations in h_x is also investigated as presented in

Table 4. The quantum spin fluctuations at the ground state when either h_z or h_x is fixed and the other varied are presented in Table 5.

VII. Effect of finite temperatures on two-spin system

At finite temperatures, T enters the Hamiltonian through the uniform magnetization given by

$$m(h_z, T) = \frac{\sum_i S_i^z \exp(-\beta E_i)}{\sum_i \exp(-\beta E_i)} \quad (18)$$

For the case of the two-spin Ising system, Eq. (18) is expanded to give

$$m(h_z, T) = \frac{\exp \beta h_z - \exp(-\beta h_z)}{\exp \beta h_z + \exp(-\beta h_z) + 2 \exp \beta (J / 2)}$$

Finally, we have

$$m(h, T) = \frac{2 \text{Sinh}(\beta h_z)}{2 \text{Cosh}(\beta h_z) + 2 \exp \beta (J / 2)} \quad (19)$$

Magnetic field dependence of the uniform magnetization calculated for fixed $T=0.04J, 0.08J, 0.1J$ and $0.4J$ is shown in Table 6 and also illustrated Fig.5. Temperature dependence of the uniform magnetization calculated for fixed $h_z=0.8J, 1.6J, 2J, 2.5J$ is presented in Table 7 and also captured in Fig. 6.

VIII. Results and discussion

This section presents and discusses the results obtained for two-spin Ising system in the presence of external fields at zero temperature and finite temperatures. The variations of the energies of the two-spin system with finite longitudinal fields at zero temperature are shown in Table 1. As observed from Table 1, the two-fold degenerate ground state energy $E_1 / J = E_2 / J = -0.25$ unaffected by the field. This is because the configurations of the spins in this state are antiferromagnetic which do not respond to external longitudinal magnetic field. The energy E_4 / J exhibits a linear behaviour with h_z , while E_3 / J exhibits an inverse behaviour with h_z as shown in Fig. 2. At a critical field of $h_{zc} = J / 2$ (or $h_{zc} / J = 1 / 2$), there is a cross over where the $S_{tot}^z = 1$ state becomes the ground state, and therefore magnetization jumps from 0 to 1 as shown in Fig.3. In other words, the system undergoes a quantum phase transition (QPT) from antiferromagnetic ground state to ferromagnetic ground state. This energy level crossing changes the ground state from $E_1 / J = E_2 / J$ to E_3 / J .

Next, we investigate the response of the spins to external transverse field at $h_z = 0$ and $T = 0$. It is observed that quantum fluctuation which gives rise to QPT is immediately triggered at infinitesimal transverse field. The degeneracy that persisted even at finite longitudinal fields is completely wiped out at very small transverse field as shown in Table 2. An avoided level-crossing between the ground state with energy E_1 and the competing excited state with energy E_3 is observed as shown in Fig. 4. The ground state energy now shifts from E_1 to E_3 . This implies a shift in ground state from antiferromagnet to ferromagnet.

For the case of the mixed field, we first study the response of the spin to simultaneous variations in longitudinal and transverse fields at $T = 0$. As seen from Table 3, the simultaneous variations of h_x and h_z disrupt the antiferromagnetic alignment of spin more compare to the separate effect of h_x and h_z as captured in Table 1 and 2 respectively. A further study is carried out by keeping the longitudinal field at its critical value ($h_z = 0.5$) and then varying h_x . This study which is presented in Table 4 enables us to visualize the rapid lifting up of the degeneracy by h_x that persisted even in the presence of h_z . The removal of this degeneracy by transverse field is reflected in the increase of the energy E_3 and the subsequent decrease of the energy E_1 . This transfer of energy from E_1 to E_3 implies a shift of ground state energy from E_3 to E_1 . The spins of the electrons in E_1 are expected to be ferromagnetically aligned. The comparison between the response of the Ising two-spin system to h_x and its response to h_z is drawn by keeping either h_z or h_x constant at 0.1 and varying the other. This study which is presented in Table 5 reveals that the two-spin system responds faster to h_x than h_z . This observation further provides evidence for the fast disappearance of the antiferromagnetic ground state and the emergence of a ferromagnetic ground state in the presence of a transverse field.

However, by comparing Tables 3 and 5, it can be seen that the simultaneous variations of h_x and h_z trigger off quantum phase transition more quickly than the independent variations of h_x and h_z . At finite temperatures, the quantum jump observed in Fig.3 is smoothed out. This is because they are wiped out by thermal fluctuations. The magnetic field and temperature dependence of the uniform magnetization as calculated from (18) is presented in Table 6 and 7 respectively. The temperature dependence of the uniform magnetization depends on the strength of the applied magnetic field. If the applied field is less than the critical field strength, the zero-temperature magnetization vanishes, and $m(h, T)$ is thermally activated, i.e. $m(h, T) \propto \exp(\beta h) [\exp(\beta h) + 2 \exp(\beta J / 2)]^{-1}$. On the other hand, if the applied field exceeds the critical field strength at zero temperature, the uniform magnetization is activated as $m(h, T) \propto 1 - \exp(-\beta h)$. In both cases, at sufficiently large temperatures, $m(h, T)$ exhibit Curie-like decay which is common to all Ising systems. At low temperatures, its behaviour depends on the field, beginning at 1 for $h > h_{zc}$ and terminating at 0 for $h < h_{zc}$. This behaviour at finite temperatures is illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6. Observe in Fig. 5 the gradual transition of the system into the ferromagnetic ground state as h_z is increased. This shows that h_z favours the ferromagnetic alignment of spins. On the contrary, as observed in Fig.6, an increase in temperature favours antiferromagnetic alignment of spins due to thermal agitations caused by temperature increase.

Table 1. Variation of the energies of the two-spin system with longitudinal field. At critical field of $h_{zc} = 0.5$, the ground state shifts from $S_{tot}^z = 1$ to $S_{tot}^z = 0$

h_z/J	E_1	E_2	E_3	E_4
0.00	-0.25	-0.25	0.25	0.25
0.10	-0.25	-0.25	0.15	0.35
0.20	-0.25	-0.25	0.05	0.45
0.30	-0.25	-0.25	-0.05	0.55
0.40	-0.25	-0.25	-0.15	0.65
0.50	-0.25	-0.25	-0.25	0.75
0.60	-0.25	-0.25	-0.35	0.85
0.70	-0.25	-0.25	-0.45	0.95
0.80	-0.25	-0.25	-0.55	1.05
0.90	-0.25	-0.25	-0.65	1.15
1.00	-0.25	-0.25	-0.75	1.25

Table 2. Variation of the energies of the two-spin system with transverse field. The energy levels are nondegenerate.

h_x / J	E_1	E_2	E_3	E_4
0.00	-0.25	0.25	-0.2500	0.2500
0.10	-0.25	0.25	-0.2693	0.2693
0.20	-0.25	0.25	-0.3202	0.3202
0.30	-0.25	0.25	-0.3905	0.3905
0.40	-0.25	0.25	-0.4717	0.4717
0.50	-0.25	0.25	-0.5590	0.5590
0.60	-0.25	0.25	-0.6500	0.6500
0.70	-0.25	0.25	-0.7433	0.7433
0.80	-0.25	0.25	-0.8382	0.8382
0.90	-0.25	0.25	-0.9341	0.9341
1.00	-0.25	0.25	-1.0308	1.0308

Table 3. Variation of the energies of the two-spin system with mixed field. The antiferromagnetic alignment of spin is easily disrupted by mixed field.

$h_z = h_x$	E ₁	E ₂	E ₃	E ₄
0.1	-0.26997	-0.25	0.16142	0.35855
0.2	-0.32853	-0.25	0.09923	0.47930
0.3	-0.41856	-0.25	0.06149	0.60701
0.4	-0.52896	-0.25	0.03997	0.73899
0.5	-0.65097	-0.25	0.02748	0.87349
0.6	-0.77953	-0.25	0.01985	1.00967
0.7	-0.91195	-0.25	0.01494	1.14701
0.8	-1.04677	-0.25	0.01161	1.28516
0.9	-1.18318	-0.25	0.00927	1.42390
1.0	-1.32067	-0.25	0.00757	1.56310

Table 4. Varying h_x at the critical longitudinal field ($h_z = 0.5$). The removal of degeneracy by transverse field is manifested in the shift of ground state from E₃ to E₁.

h_x	E ₁	E ₂	E ₃	E ₄
0.0000001	-0.250000	-0.25	-0.250000	0.75000
0.0000010	-0.250001	-0.25	-0.249999	0.75000
0.1000000	-0.323079	-0.25	-0.181921	0.75500
0.2000000	-0.400381	-0.25	-0.119611	0.76999
0.3000000	-0.481193	-0.25	-0.063724	0.79492
0.4000000	-0.564895	-0.25	-0.014671	0.82957
0.5000000	-0.650969	-0.25	0.027479	0.87349
0.6000000	-0.738992	-0.25	0.063022	0.92597
0.7000000	-0.828620	-0.25	0.092556	0.98606
0.8000000	-0.919978	-0.25	0.116858	1.05272

Table 5. Quantum Spin fluctuations at the G.S. This is investigated when either h_z or h_x is fixed and the other varied.

h_z	h_x	G.S (fixed h_z)	h_x	h_z	G.S (fixed h_x)
0.1	0.1	-0.26997	0.1	0.1	-0.26997
0.1	0.2	-0.32212	0.1	0.2	-0.27243
0.1	0.3	-0.39336	0.1	0.3	-0.27797
0.1	0.4	-0.47498	0.1	0.4	-0.29082
0.1	0.5	-0.56245	0.1	0.5	-0.32308

Table 6. Variations of $m(h,T)$ with h for fixed values of T . This table shows a gradual transition from antiferromagnetism to ferromagnetism when the longitudinal field is increased.

h/J	$m(h,T)$ $T=0.04J$	$m(h,T)$ $T=0.08J$	$m(h,T)$ $T=0.1J$	$m(h,T)$ $T=0.4J$
0.00	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
0.50	0.99615	0.33333	0.03915	0.29782
1.00	0.99999	0.99615	0.33331	0.62875
1.50	0.99999	0.99999	0.85898	0.85810
2.00	1.00000	0.99999	0.98670	0.95499
2.50	1.00000	1.00000	0.99890	0.98670

Table

7. Variations of $m(h,T)$ with T for fixed values of h . This table shows a gradual transition from ferromagnetism to antiferromagnetism when the temperature is increased.

J/T	$m(T,h)$ $h=0.8J$	$m(T,h)$ $h=1.6J$	$m(T,h)$ $h=2J$	$m(T,h)$ $h=2.5J$
0.0	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000
0.5	0.17367	0.33878	0.41569	0.50495
1.0	0.29741	0.56211	0.67029	0.77756
1.5	0.38432	0.71230	0.82217	0.90848
2.0	0.44858	0.81612	0.90886	0.96458
2.5	0.50008	0.88608	0.95499	0.98670
3.0	0.54452	0.93118	0.97825	0.99507
4.0	0.62239	0.97603	0.99507	0.99933

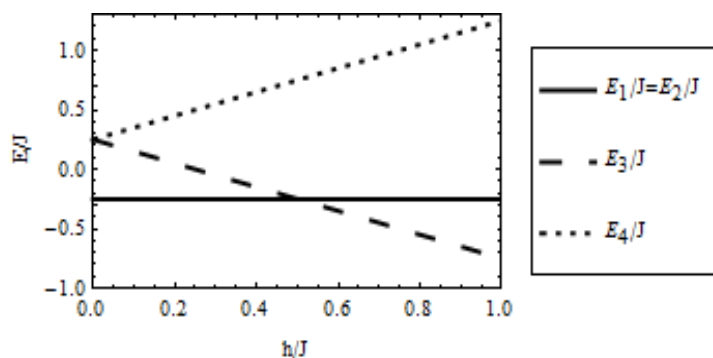


Fig. 2. Energy levels of two-spin Ising system as a function of the external longitudinal field. Level crossing occurs at $h_z/J=0.5$.

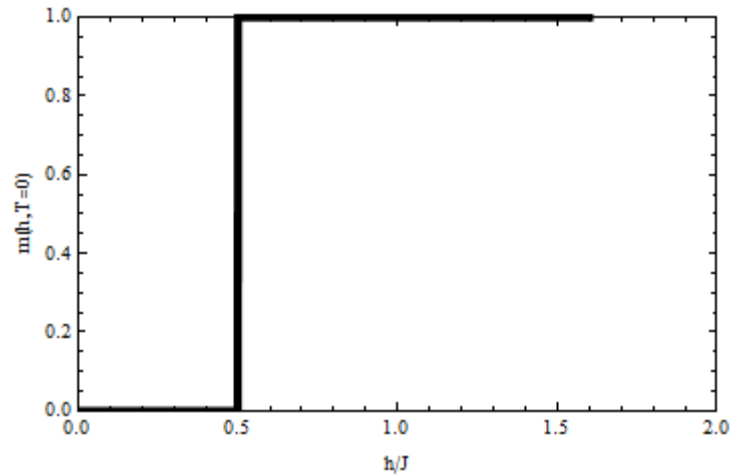


Fig. 3. Quantum of magnetization at zero temperature ($m(h, T=0)$) of two-spin Ising system. The spins will remain anti-aligned until a critical field of $h_z=J/2$ is reached.

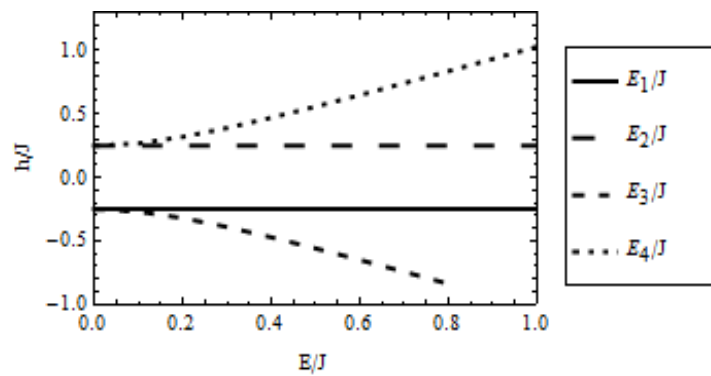


Fig. 4. Energy levels of two-spin Ising system as a function of external transverse field. All degeneracies are completely removed and level crossing occurs at an infinitesimal field.

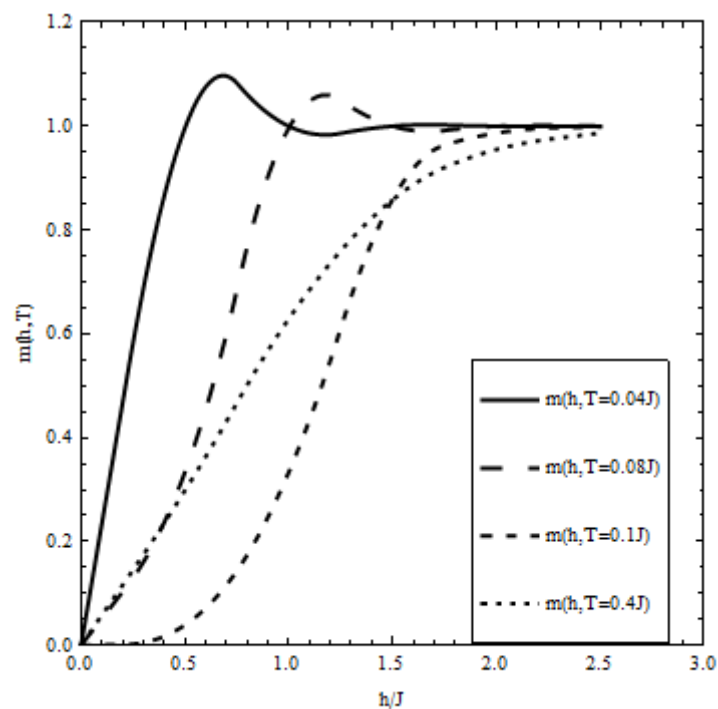


Fig. 5. Magnetic field dependence of the uniform magnetization of a 2-site Ising system. This dependence is investigated for given values of T . Thermal fluctuations smooth out the step function seen in $m(h, T=0)$.

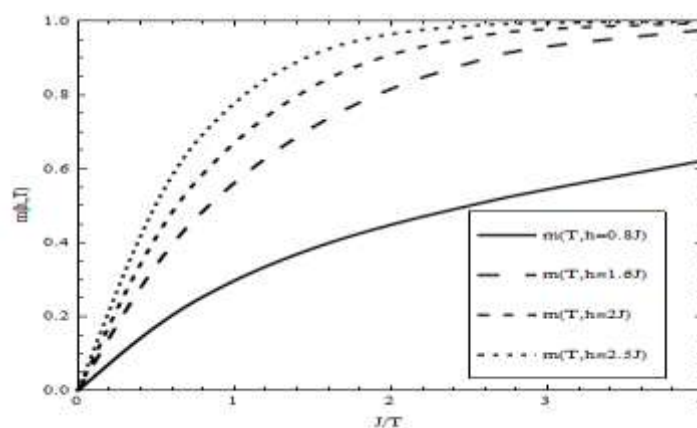


Fig 6. Temperature dependence of the uniform magnetization of a 2-site Ising system. This dependence is investigated for given values of h . Thermal fluctuations smooth out the step function seen in $m(h, T=0)$.

IX. Conclusion

The magnetic properties of two-spin system are studied within the Ising quantum antiferromagnetic model. At the critical longitudinal magnetic fields of $h_{zc}=J/2$, the system is found to undergo a quantum phase transition (QPT) to the ferromagnetic state. The effect of transverse field on the spin system is so strong that an infinitesimal departure from zero transverse field causes the system to undergo a QPT to ferromagnetic state. This shows that quantum spin fluctuations are more pronounced in the transverse field than the longitudinal field. It is also observed that QPT for the special case of mixed fields occurs at a faster rate than the separate effect of longitudinal and transverse fields.

The quantum magnetization observed at zero temperature for the Ising spin-two systems is found to be completely wiped out at finite temperatures due to thermal fluctuations. A temperature increase favours antiferromagnetic alignment of spins, while a decrease in temperature favours ferromagnetic alignment. On a macroscopic view, this temperature increase accounts for the disappearance of magnetic field when a magnet is subjected to thermal heating in accordance with Curie's law. The experimental evidence of this QPT has been observed at optimum doping in the cuprate $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sr}_{2-x}\text{La}_x\text{CuO}_{6+\delta}$ and in quasi-one dimensionally Ising ferromagnet [10,30]. Ultracold atoms in optical lattices has also provided a versatile tool with which to investigate fundamental properties of quantum many-body systems such as quantum phase transition and quantum spin dynamics [39].

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