# The Discrete Gaussian Chain with $1 / r^{n}$ Interactions: Exact Results 

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#### Abstract

We show that the discrete Gaussian chain with interaction $V(r)=1 /\left(r^{2}-1 / 4\right)$ is self-dual. At the dual temperature $k_{B} T=1$ we calculate the height-height correlation function and find that the system is rough. A duality relation is established for the temperature-dependent correlation function exponent $\eta$. We also consider interactions $V(r) \simeq 1 / r^{n}$ and show that absence of a phase transition for $2<n<3$ implies absence of a phase transition for $1<n<2$. All these results have their counterparts in a linear system of charges interacting through a potential which is asymptotically logarithmic (for $n=2$ ) or power-law-like (for $n \neq 2$ ).


KEY WORDS: Discrete Gaussian model; long-range interactions; selfduality.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

One-dimensional systems having interactions that decay as $1 / r^{n}$ with distance are of particular theoretical interest. Among them, the Ising model is rigorously known ${ }^{(1,2)}$ to exhibit long-range order at sufficiently low temperature for $n<2$, and not to have a phase transition for $n>2$. The $1 / r^{2}$ Ising model is a borderline case and has received special attention. ${ }^{(3-7)}$ Its behavior can be analyzed in terms of topological defects which interact logarithmically. In this respect the model is similar to the two-dimensional Coulomb gas, which in turn is connected to the two-dimensional $X Y$ model ${ }^{(8)}$ and the two-dimensional discrete Gaussian model ${ }^{(9)}$ (both with nearest-neighbor interactions).

[^0]Recently Cardy ${ }^{(10)}$ has given a renormalization group analysis of the $1 / r^{2}$ interaction in one-dimensional systems whose site variables have access to a finite number of states with arbitrary symmetry. The renormalization equations for these models indicate a Kosterlitz-Thouless type of transition ${ }^{(8)}$ with a correlation length that diverges as the exponential of a power when $T \downarrow T_{c}$. The examples presented in Ref. 10 are the $q$-state Potts model and the Ashkin-Teller model.

In this paper we present a number of exact analytic results on a closely related system, namely, the discrete Gaussian (DG) chain with interactions $V(r) \simeq 1 / r^{n}$. We are able to derive our results by combining, in this new context, two transformations that occur in the literature. Firstly we map the DG chain onto a neutral gas of charges via a transformation taken from Chui and Weeks. ${ }^{(9)}$ Secondly, we reconvert the gas of charges into a new discrete Gaussian chain with potential $V^{\prime}(r) \simeq 1 / r^{4-n}$ by Cardy's transformation. ${ }^{(10)}$ Since the first transformation interchanges high and low temperatures, but the second one does not, the net result is an inversion of temperature. It follows that absence of a phase transition for $2<n<3$ implies absence of a phase transition for $1<n<2$. In the first case the DG chain, viewed as a model for an interface, is rough at all temperatures, and in the second case it is smooth at all temperatures.

For $n=2$ one sees that $V(r)$ and $V^{\prime}(r)$ have the same large- $r$ behavior, and the possibility of self-dual potentials arises. Indeed we find that the special potential $V^{*}(r)=1 /\left(r^{2}-\frac{1}{4}\right)$ is self-dual. The dual temperature is $k_{B} T=1$. (The heuristic Kosterlitz-Thouless argument ${ }^{(8)}$ predicts just this value as the critical temperature of the system!) For the potential $V^{*}(r)$ we present the following results:

With the aid of the unusually strong duality properties we calculate, at $k_{B} T=1$, the height-height correlation function. It diverges logarithmically with distance, i.e., the system is rough at this temperature. A duality relation is derived for the temperature-dependent correlation function exponent $\eta$. If it is assumed that the dual temperature $k_{B} T=1$ marks the transition between a smooth and a rough phase, then it follows that $\eta=1$ for $k_{B} T<1$ and that $\eta$ takes the same values as in the continuum Gaussian model for $k_{B} T>1$. At the dual point itself we have-whether there is a transition or not-that $\eta=2$, in contrast to the continuum Gaussian value $\eta=3$.

## 2. THE DISCRETE GAUSSIAN MODEL

We consider a one-dimensional system of $N$ sites labeled $i=1$, $2, \ldots, N$. At each site there is a height variable $h_{i}$ taking the values
$0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \ldots$. We take the periodic boundary condition $h_{i+N}=h_{i}$. The discrete Gaussian (DG) Hamiltonian $\mathscr{H}_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}$ is defined by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathscr{H}_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}=(1 / 2) \sum_{i \neq j} V_{N}(i-j)\left(h_{i}-h_{j}\right)^{2} \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

The interaction $V_{N}(r)$ is chosen to satisfy

$$
\begin{equation*}
V_{N}(r)=V_{N}(-r), \quad V_{N}(r)=V_{N}(r+N) \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

and we denote

$$
\begin{equation*}
V(r)=\lim _{N \rightarrow \infty} V_{N}(r) \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

The value of $V_{N}(0)$ is irrelevant and we arbitrarily set $V_{N}(0)=0$. Specific choices for $V_{N}(r)$ will be made later.

We shall consider the partition function $Z_{N}^{D G}$ defined by

$$
\begin{equation*}
Z_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}\left[\beta V_{N}\right]=\sum_{\left\{h_{i}\right\}}^{\prime} e^{-\beta \mathcal{X}_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}} \tag{2.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\beta \equiv\left(k_{B} T^{\mathrm{DG}}\right)^{-1}$ is the inverse temperature. The prime on the summation sign indicates that the height variable $h_{N}$ is kept at the fixed value $h_{N}=0$ : in this way we avoid that $Z_{N}^{\text {DG }}$ becomes infinite due to the invariance of $\mathscr{K}_{N}^{\text {DG }}$ under $\left\{h_{i}\right\} \rightarrow\left\{h_{i}+m\right\}$ (where $m$ is any integer). This condition on the summation in (2.4) will be seen to play an important role.

In our later discussion we shall need the Fourier transforms $\hat{V}_{N}(k)$ and $\hat{h_{k}}$ defined by

$$
\begin{align*}
h_{j} & =N^{-1 / 2} \sum_{k} e^{i k j} \hat{h}_{k}  \tag{2.5}\\
V_{N}(r) & =N^{-1} \sum_{k} e^{i k r} \hat{V}_{N}(k) \tag{2.6}
\end{align*}
$$

where the sum is on the wave numbers $k=0, \pm 2 \pi / N, \pm 4 \pi / N, \ldots$, $\pm(N-1) \pi / N$ (for $N$ odd) or $k=0, \pm 2 \pi / N, \pm 4 \pi / N, \ldots, \pm(N-2)$ $\pi / N, \pi$ (for $N$ even). The Hamiltonian takes the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathscr{H}_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}=\sum_{k} W_{N}(k){\hat{h_{k}}}_{\hat{h_{-k}}} \tag{2.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
W_{N}(k)=\hat{V}_{N}(0)-\hat{V}_{N}(k) \tag{2.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Clearly we have to impose the condition

$$
\begin{equation*}
W_{N}(k)>0 \quad \text { for } \quad k \neq 0 \tag{2.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

to keep $Z_{N}^{\text {DG }}$ from blowing up.

## 3. EQUIVALENCE TO A SYSTEM OF INTERACTING CHARGES AND SELF-DUALITY

### 3.1. Chui and Weeks' Transformation

In this section we apply to $Z_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}$ a transformation used by Chui and Weeks ${ }^{(9)}$ for the nearest-neighbor discrete Gaussian model. The transformation can in fact be used for interactions of arbitrary range and was employed by other authors in various different contexts. ${ }^{(11,12)}$ For the present application it is essential that we take account of the subtle effects ${ }^{(13,14)}$ due to the finiteness of the system and the condition $h_{N}=0$ on the summation in (2.4). We recall here only the main steps and refer to Appendix A for details.

The transformation consists in using Poisson's summation formula in the expression (2.4). This replaces the summation on the integer-valued heights $h_{i}$ by integrations on continuous variables $\nu_{i}$ and summations on new integer-valued variables $q_{i}$ (called charges; $q_{i}=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \ldots$ ). Fourier transforms $\hat{v}_{k}$ and $\hat{q}_{k}$ are defined as in (2.5). The partition function then takes the form

$$
\begin{align*}
Z_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}\left[\beta V_{N}\right]=\sum_{\left\{q_{i}\right\}} & \int_{-1 / 2}^{1 / 2} d \lambda \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \prod_{k} d \hat{\nu}_{k} \\
& \times \exp \left[2 \pi i \sum_{k}\left(N^{-1 / 2} \lambda+\hat{q}_{-k}\right) \hat{\nu}_{k}-\beta \sum_{k} W_{N}(k) \hat{\nu}_{k} \hat{\nu}_{-k}\right] \tag{3.1}
\end{align*}
$$

Here the occurrence of the $\lambda$ integration is a consequence of the fact that the sum in (2.4) is restricted to $h_{N}=0$. When carrying out, in (3.1), the integrations on $\hat{\nu}_{0}$ and $\lambda$ we find the "charge neutrality condition" $\sum_{i=1}^{N} q_{i}$ $=0$. Doing the remaining $\hat{\nu}_{k}$ integrations we find

$$
\begin{equation*}
Z_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}\left[\beta V_{N}\right]=N^{1 / 2} C_{N}^{1 / 2} \beta^{-(N-1) / 2} \sum_{\left\{q_{i}\right\}}^{\prime \prime} \exp \left[-\frac{\pi^{2}}{\beta} \sum_{k \neq 0} \frac{\hat{q}_{k} \hat{q}_{-k}}{W_{N}(k)}\right] \tag{3.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the double prime denotes the charge neutrality condition and where

$$
\begin{equation*}
C_{N}=\prod_{k \neq 0} \frac{\pi}{W_{N}(k)} \tag{3.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Reconverting the $\hat{q}_{k}$ in (3.2) to $q_{i}$ we obtain

$$
\begin{equation*}
Z_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}\left[\beta V_{N}\right]=N^{1 / 2} C_{N}^{1 / 2} \beta^{-(N-1) / 2} Z_{N}^{\mathrm{CG}}\left[\frac{1}{\beta} U_{N}\right] \tag{3.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

in which $Z_{N}^{\mathrm{CG}}$ is the partition function for a gas of charges (CG) described
by a Hamiltonian $\mathscr{H}_{N}^{\mathrm{CG}}$ :

$$
\begin{align*}
Z_{N}^{\mathrm{CG}}\left[\frac{1}{\beta} U_{N}\right] & =\sum_{\left\{q_{i}\right\}}^{\prime \prime} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{\beta} \mathscr{H}_{N}^{\mathrm{CG}}\right)  \tag{3.5}\\
\mathscr{K}_{N}^{\mathrm{CG}} & =-(1 / 2) \sum_{i \neq j} U_{N}(i-j) q_{i} q_{j} \tag{3.6}
\end{align*}
$$

in which the charge potential is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
U_{N}(r)=\frac{2 \pi^{2}}{N} \sum_{k \neq 0} \frac{1-\cos k r}{W_{N}(k)}, \quad r=1,2, \ldots, N-1 \tag{3.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

The interaction $U_{N}(r)$, like $V_{N}(r)$, is symmetric and $N$ periodic in $r$. We shall set $U_{N}(0)=0$. Furthermore, we denote

$$
\begin{equation*}
U(r)=\lim _{N \rightarrow \infty} U_{N}(r) \tag{3.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Equation (3.4) relates the partition function of the original DG model with interaction $V_{N}(r)$ to the partition function of a gas of charges with potential $U_{N}(r)$. The latter is at inverse temperature $\left(k_{B} T^{\mathrm{CG}}\right)^{-1}=1 / \beta$, and hence (3.4) connects high $T^{\mathrm{DG}}$ to low $T^{\mathrm{CG}}$ and vice versa. The equations (2.6), (2.8), and (3.7) give the connection between $U_{N}(r)$ and $V_{N}(r)$.

In Appendix B we show that in the limit $N \rightarrow \infty$ the long-distance behaviors of $U(r)$ and $V(r)$ are related as follows. If

$$
\begin{equation*}
V(r) \sim 1 / r^{n}, \quad r \rightarrow \infty, \quad 1<n<3 \tag{3.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

then

$$
\begin{equation*}
W(k) \sim k^{n-1}, \quad k \rightarrow 0 \tag{3.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
U(r) \sim\left\{\begin{array}{lll}
r^{n-2}, & r \rightarrow \infty, & 2<n<3  \tag{3.11a}\\
\log r, & r \rightarrow \infty, & n=2 \\
u_{0}-u_{1} / r^{2-n}, & r \rightarrow \infty, & 1<n<2
\end{array}\right.
$$

where $u_{0}$ and $u_{1}$ are positive constants.

### 3.2. Cardy's Transformation

In this section we transform the partition function $Z_{N}^{\mathrm{CG}}\left[(1 / \beta) U_{N}\right]$ of equation (3.5) with the aid of a transformation introduced by Cardy. ${ }^{(10)}$ Cardy's purpose was to express the Hamiltonian of a one-dimensional system with site variables taking a finite number of values, and having $1 / r^{2}$ interaction between themselves, in terms of kink variables. Application of
the transformation here, in the reversed sense, to the charges $q_{i}$ simply amounts to the introduction of new variables $l_{1}, l_{2}, \ldots, l_{N}$ defined by

$$
\begin{align*}
l_{i} & =-\sum_{j=i}^{N-1} q_{j}, \quad i=1,2, \ldots, N-1  \tag{3.12a}\\
l_{N} & =0 \tag{3.12b}
\end{align*}
$$

The neutrality condition on the charges $q_{i}$ is automatically satisfied and the $l_{i}$ (for $i \neq N$ ) take independently all integer values. This means that in (3.5) we may replace the summation $\Sigma^{\prime \prime}$ on the $q_{i}$ by a summation $\Sigma^{\prime}$ on the $l_{i}$, where the prime has the same meaning as before. In this way (3.5), (3.6), and (3.12) lead to an expression for $Z_{N}^{\mathrm{CG}}$ as a new discrete Gaussian partition function at the same temperature:

$$
\begin{equation*}
Z_{N}^{\mathrm{CG}}\left[\frac{1}{\beta} U_{N}\right]=\sum_{\left\{l_{i}\right\}}^{\prime} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{\beta} \mathscr{K}_{N}^{\prime \mathrm{DG}}\right)=Z_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}\left[\frac{1}{\beta} V_{N}^{\prime}\right] \tag{3.13}
\end{equation*}
$$

with

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathscr{K}_{N}^{\prime \mathrm{DG}}=(1 / 2) \sum_{i \neq j} V_{N}^{\prime}(i-j)\left(l_{i}-l_{j}\right)^{2} \tag{3.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

in which the new interaction $V_{N}^{\prime}(r)$ is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
V_{N}^{\prime}(r)=-\frac{1}{2}\left[U_{N}(r-1)-2 U_{N}(r)+U_{N}(r+1)\right], \quad r=1,2, \ldots, N-1 \tag{3.15}
\end{equation*}
$$

$V_{N}^{\prime}(r)$ is symmetric and $N$ periodic. We set $V_{N}^{\prime}(0)=0$, and define $V^{\prime}(r)$ $=\lim _{N \rightarrow \infty} V_{N}^{\prime}(r)$. Equation (3.15) shows that if $U(r)$ behaves as in (3.11) for large $r$, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
V^{\prime}(r) \sim 1 / r^{4-n} \quad r \rightarrow \infty \tag{3.16}
\end{equation*}
$$

### 3.3. Duality and Self-Duality

From Eqs. (3.4) and (3.13) we see that the partition functions of the two DG models with potentials $V_{N}$ and $V_{N}^{\prime}$ are related by

$$
\begin{equation*}
Z_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}\left[\beta V_{N}\right]=N^{1 / 2} C_{N}^{1 / 2} \beta^{-(N-1) / 2} Z_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}\left[\frac{1}{\beta} V_{N}^{\prime}\right] \tag{3.17}
\end{equation*}
$$

The connection between $V_{N}(r)$ and $V_{N}^{\prime}(r)$ is most conveniently expressed in terms of their Fourier transforms $W_{N}(k)$ and $W_{N}^{\prime}(k)$. From (2.8), (3.7), and (3.15) we find the duality relation

$$
\begin{equation*}
W_{N}^{\prime}(k)=\frac{4 \pi^{2} \sin ^{2} \frac{1}{2} k}{W_{N}(k)} \tag{3.18}
\end{equation*}
$$

It follows that there is a self-dual potential given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
W_{N}^{*}(k)=2 \pi\left|\sin \frac{1}{2} k\right| \tag{3.19}
\end{equation*}
$$

We shall indicate all quantities referring to this potential by an asterisk. By setting $\beta=1$ in (3.17) we find that we must have

$$
\begin{equation*}
N C_{N}^{*}=1 \tag{3.20}
\end{equation*}
$$

as may also be verified explicitly from (3.3) and (3.19). Letting $\beta$ again be general in (3.17) we obtain

$$
\begin{equation*}
Z_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}\left[\beta V_{N}^{*}\right]=\beta^{-(N-1) / 2} Z_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}\left[\frac{1}{\beta} V_{N}^{*}\right] \tag{3.21}
\end{equation*}
$$

which shows that the DG chain with interaction (3.19) has the dual temperature

$$
\begin{equation*}
\beta=1 \tag{3.22}
\end{equation*}
$$

The spatial representation of the self-dual interaction $W_{N}^{*}(k)$ is readily obtained as

$$
\begin{equation*}
V_{N}^{*}(r)=\frac{(\pi / N) \sin (\pi / N)}{\sin \left[(\pi / N)\left(r+\frac{1}{2}\right)\right] \sin \left[(\pi / N)\left(r-\frac{1}{2}\right)\right]}, \quad r=1, \ldots, N-1 \tag{3.23}
\end{equation*}
$$

whence

$$
\begin{equation*}
V^{*}(r)=\frac{1}{r^{2}-\frac{1}{4}}, \quad r= \pm 1, \pm 2, \ldots \tag{3.24}
\end{equation*}
$$

The charge potential in the equivalent CG model is

$$
\begin{equation*}
U_{N}^{*}(r)=\frac{2 \pi}{N} \sum_{s=1}^{r} \cot \frac{\pi}{N}\left(s-\frac{1}{2}\right), \quad r=1, \ldots, N-1 \tag{3.25}
\end{equation*}
$$

whence

$$
\begin{equation*}
U^{*}(r)=2 \sum_{s=1}^{|r|} \frac{1}{s-\frac{1}{2}}, \quad r= \pm 1, \pm 2, \ldots \tag{3.26}
\end{equation*}
$$

which for $r \rightarrow \infty$ behaves as $U^{*}(r) \simeq 2 \log r+O(1)$. Hence we have found a DG chain with interaction $\simeq 1 / r^{2}$, and a gas of charges with interaction $\simeq 2 \log r$, that each satisfy a high-temperature-low-temperature duality and have $\beta=1$ as their dual point.

### 3.4. Absence of Phase Transitions for $n \neq 2$

One-dimensional models with interactions decaying as $1 / r^{n}$, where $n>2$, are generally expected not to exhibit a phase transition. ${ }^{(1,5)}$ There
seems to be no reason why this would not also hold for the DG chain with $V(r) \simeq 1 / r^{n}$ and $n>2$. We saw in the previous section [Eqs. (3.9) and (3.16)], that the potential $V(r) \simeq 1 / r^{n}$ is dual to the case $V(r) \simeq 1 / r^{4-n}$. Hence, by (3.17), absence of a phase transition for $2<n<3$ in the DG chain implies that there is no phase transition either in this chain for $1<n<2$. We conclude that the DG chain with interaction $1 / r^{n}$, while rough at all temperatures when $n>2$, is smooth at all temperatures for $n<2$. The latter result is surprising in that it contrasts with the Ising chain, which does have a phase transition for $n<2$. For the equivalent system of charges we obtain the corresponding statements by introducing a potential $U^{\prime}(r)$ related to $V^{\prime}(r)$ in the same way as $U(r)$ is related to $V(r)$. Comparison of $U^{\prime}(r)$ and $U(r)$ shows that potentials $U(r) \simeq u_{0}-u_{1} r^{m}$ have no phase transition when $-1<m<0$ (plasma phase at all temperatures) or when $0<m<1$ (dielectric or dipole phase at all temperatures).

These considerations bring out that the potentials $V(r) \simeq 1 / r^{2}$ [or $U(r) \simeq 2 \log r]$ are a borderline case. It is the only case where a phase transition may occur. We shall discuss the special self-dual potential $V^{*}(r)=1 /\left(r^{2}-\frac{1}{4}\right)$ in greater detail in the next section.

## 4. HEIGHT-HEIGHT CORRELATIONS FOR $V(r)=1 /\left(r^{2}-1 / 4\right)$

### 4.1. The Correlation Function at the Dual Point $\beta=1$

The duality expressed by Eqs. (3.17) and (3.18) is unusually strong. For $V_{N}(r)=V_{N}^{*}(r)$ it enables us to find interesting relations between the high-temperature and the low-temperature behavior of the height-height correlation function, and it allows us in particular to fully calculate this quantity at $\beta=1$. To see this we differentiate (3.17) with respect to $W_{N}(k)$ and put $W_{N}=W_{N}^{*}$. This gives

$$
\begin{equation*}
\beta\left\langle\hat{h_{k}} \hat{h}_{-k}\right\rangle_{\beta}^{*}+\frac{1}{\beta}\left\langle\hat{h}_{k} \hat{h}_{-k}\right\rangle_{1 / \beta}^{*}=\frac{1}{2 W_{N}^{*}(k)} \tag{4.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

Setting $\beta=1$ we obtain the correlation function at the dual point,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\langle\hat{h_{k}} \hat{h}_{-k}\right\rangle_{1}^{*}=\frac{1}{4 W_{N}^{*}(k)} \tag{4.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

From (2.7) and (4.2) we find for the internal energy of the system

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\langle\mathscr{C}_{N}^{\mathrm{DG}}\right\rangle_{1}^{*}=\frac{1}{4}(N-1) \tag{4.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

while Fourier transformation of (4.2) gives the height-height correlation as

$$
\begin{align*}
\left\langle\left(h_{i}-h_{i+r}\right)^{2}\right\rangle_{1}^{*} & =\frac{2}{N} \sum_{k \neq 0}(1-\cos k r)\left\langle\hat{h}_{k} \hat{h}_{-k}\right\rangle_{1}^{*} \\
& =\frac{1}{4 \pi^{2}} U_{N}^{*}(r) \tag{4.4}
\end{align*}
$$

By (3.26) we have that in the thermodynamic limit $N \rightarrow \infty$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\langle\left(h_{i}-h_{i+r}\right)^{2}\right\rangle_{1}^{*} \simeq \frac{1}{2 \pi^{2}} \log r, \quad r \rightarrow \infty \tag{4.5}
\end{equation*}
$$

which means that at the dual point the DG system is rough.
The exponent $\eta(\beta)$ which is usually associated with a DG model is defined by

$$
\begin{equation*}
g(r ; \beta) \equiv \exp \left[-2 \pi^{2}\left\langle\left(h_{i}-h_{i+r}\right)^{2}\right\rangle_{\beta}\right] \sim 1 / r^{\eta(\beta)-1} \tag{4.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

(where we have taken into account that our system has dimension 1). For $\eta=1$ the height fluctuations $\left\langle\left(h_{i}-h_{i+r}\right)^{2}\right\rangle_{\beta}$ tend to a finite limit as $r \rightarrow \infty$ and the interface is smooth; for any $\eta>1$ it is rough. From (4.5) and (4.6) we see that for $V=V^{*}$ we have

$$
\begin{gather*}
g^{*}(r ; 1) \sim 1 / r  \tag{4.7a}\\
\eta(1)=2 \tag{4.7b}
\end{gather*}
$$

It is interesting to remark that the analog of (4.7b) in the continuum Gaussian model ${ }^{3}$ is that $\eta(1)=3$, implying a rougher interface than in the DG model.

### 4.2. The Correlation Function for General $\beta$

Duality arguments do not permit to extend the exact result (4.4) for the height-height correlation to general $\beta$. However, we can derive interesting relations from the duality property (4.1). Since the large-r behavior of $g(r ; \beta)$ is determined by the small $k$ behavior of $\left\langle\hat{h_{k}} \hat{h}_{-k}\right\rangle_{\beta}$ we put

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left\langle\hat{h_{k}} \hat{h}_{-k}\right\rangle_{\beta}^{*} \simeq c(\beta) k^{\sigma(\beta)}, \quad \text { as } \quad k \rightarrow 0 \tag{4.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $c(\beta)$ and $\sigma(\beta)$ are unknown. A calculation analogous to the one of the preceding subsection shows that $\eta(\beta)=1+4 \pi c(\beta)$ if $\sigma(\beta)=-1$ and

[^1]

Fig. 1. The exponent $\eta$ as a function of the temperature $T \equiv T^{\mathrm{DG}}$ of the discrete Gaussian model. Dashed line: a possible solution of (4.9) if there is no phase transition. Solid line with isolated point at $k_{B} T=1$ : the solution (4.10) of (4.9) if the DG model has a smooth low-temperature phase for $k_{B} T<1$. For comparison the dotted line gives the exponent $\eta$ of the continuum Gaussian model.
$\eta(\beta)=1$ if $\sigma(\beta)>-1$. Upon using (3.19) and (4.8) in (4.1) and considering the leading terms for $k \rightarrow 0$ we find for the exponent $\eta(\beta)$ the duality relation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\beta \eta(\beta)+\beta^{-1} \eta\left(\beta^{-1}\right)=2+\beta+\beta^{-1} \tag{4.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

of which (4.7b) is a special case.
We cannot rule out the possibility that the DG chain with potential $V^{*}(r)=1 /\left(r^{2}-\frac{1}{4}\right)$ has no phase transition, in which case (4.9) would be satisfied by some analytic $\eta(\beta)$, as in Fig. 1. If one assumes, however, that the system is in a smooth phase for $k_{B} T^{\mathrm{DG}}<1(\beta>1)$, then we have the interesting behavior

$$
\eta(\beta)= \begin{cases}1, & \beta>1  \tag{4.10}\\ 2, & \beta=1 \\ 1+2 / \beta, & \beta<1\end{cases}
$$

which is also shown in Fig. 1. It has the extraordinary feature that above criticality $(\beta<1)$ the exponent $\eta(\beta)$ has precisely the same value as in the continuum Gaussian model (see footnote 3). At criticality $\eta$ gets renormalized to a value below the continuum Gaussian value, which yields an isolated point on the $\eta(\beta)$ curve.

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## APPENDIX A

We give here some details on the transformation leading from (2.4) to (3.1)-(3.3). Poisson's summation formula reads ${ }^{(15)}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{h_{j}=-\infty}^{\infty} f\left(h_{j}\right)=\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d v_{j} \sum_{q_{j}=-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left(2 \pi i q_{j} v_{j}\right) f\left(v_{j}\right) \tag{Al}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since the sum in (2.4) is subject to the condition $h_{N}=0$ we also use

$$
\begin{align*}
f\left(h_{N}\right) & \equiv f(0)=\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d v_{N} \delta\left(\nu_{N}\right) f\left(\nu_{N}\right) \\
& =\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d \nu_{N} \sum_{q_{N}=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-1 / 2}^{1 / 2} d \lambda \exp \left[2 \pi i \nu_{N}\left(q_{N}+\lambda\right)\right] f\left(\nu_{N}\right) \tag{A2}
\end{align*}
$$

in which the last equality follows from the integral representation of the $\delta$ function. We obtain Eq. (3.1) by inserting (A1) and (A2) in (2.4) and using (2.7). In (3.1) the integrations on $\hat{\nu}_{0}$ and $\lambda$ are special. Since $W_{N}(0)=0$ they read

$$
\begin{align*}
& \int_{-1 / 2}^{1 / 2} d \lambda \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d \hat{\nu}_{0} \exp \left[2 \pi i\left(N^{-1 / 2} \lambda+\hat{q}_{0}\right) \hat{\nu}_{0}\right] \\
& \quad=\int_{-1 / 2}^{1 / 2} d \lambda N^{1 / 2} \delta\left(\lambda+\sum_{j=1}^{N} q_{j}\right)  \tag{A3}\\
& \quad=N^{1 / 2} \delta_{0, \sum_{j=1}^{N} q_{j}} \tag{A4}
\end{align*}
$$

The remaining $\hat{\nu}_{k}$ integrations in (3.1) are standard Gaussian integrals which one can perform (doing the real and the imaginary parts of the $\hat{\nu}_{k}$ separately) with the aid of the formula

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d x e^{-a x^{2}+i b x}=\left(\frac{\pi}{a}\right)^{1 / 2} e^{-b^{2} / 4 a} \tag{A5}
\end{equation*}
$$

As a result (3.1) is converted into (3.2).

## APPENDIX B

In order to obtain the large- $r$ behavior of $U(r)$ we combine Eqs. (3.7) and (3.8) and write

$$
\begin{equation*}
U(r)=2 \pi \int_{0}^{\pi} \frac{1-\cos k r}{W(k)} d k \tag{B1}
\end{equation*}
$$

If $V(r) \sim 1 / r^{n}$ for $r \rightarrow \infty$, then $W(k) \sim w_{0} k^{n-1}+o\left(k^{n-1}\right)$ for $k \downarrow 0$, and the integral converges for all $n$ in the interval of interest, viz., $1<n<3$.

For $2 \leqslant n<3$, the function $1 / W(k)$ is itself nonintegrable at $k=0$, and therefore $U(r)$ diverges as $r \rightarrow \infty$. To find the divergence we put $k r=x$ and obtain from (B1):

$$
\begin{equation*}
U(r)=2 \pi r^{n-2} \int_{0}^{\pi r} \frac{1-\cos x}{w_{0} x^{n-1}+\cdots} d x \tag{B2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the dots indicate terms that vanish as $r \rightarrow \infty$. Furthermore, in this limit the upper integration bound $\pi r$ may be replaced with $\infty$ and the integral becomes a constant. Hence (B2) implies the behavior (3.11a, b).

For $1<n<2$, the function $1 / W(k)$ is itself integrable. In this case we split ( B 1 ) up into two terms. After applying a partial integration to the second one we find

$$
\begin{equation*}
U(r)=2 \pi \int_{0}^{\pi} \frac{d k}{W(k)}+\frac{2 \pi}{r} \int_{0}^{\pi} \sin k r \frac{d}{d k} \frac{1}{W(k)} d k \tag{B3}
\end{equation*}
$$

The first term equals a constant $u_{0}$. The large- $r$ behavior of the second term is obtained by putting again $k r=x$ and proceeding as before. This leads to the behavior (3.11c).

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[^1]:    ${ }^{3}$ For the continuum Gaussian model with the same interaction $V_{N}^{*}(r)$ one shows in a straightforward manner that $\left\langle\hat{h}_{k} \hat{h}_{-k}\right\rangle_{\beta}^{*}=1 / 2 \beta W_{N}^{*}(k)$ at all $\beta$.

