



African School of Fundamental  
Physics and Applications



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# FLUCTUATIONS EFFECTS ON PHASE TRANSITIONS USING RENORMALIZED GAUSSIAN APPROACH (RGA)

**OPTION: CONDENSED MATTER PHYSICS  
BY**

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# MOTIVATION



# PLAN

I- LANDAU THEORY OF SECOND ORDER PHASE TRANSITIONS

II- RENORMALIZED GAUSSIAN APPROACH TO SECOND ORDER  
PHASE TRANSITIONS

III- NUMERICAL RESULTS: INTERPRETATION

CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVES

# I- LANDAU THEORY OF SECOND ORDER PHASE TRANSITIONS

The Landau's theory of phase transitions is built on the existence of the order parameter  $\phi$  whose value characterizes the phase in prevailing in the system considered.

- In the disordered phase of high symmetry, usually at high temperature,  
 $\phi = 0$  (I.1a)
- In the ordered phase of lower symmetry,  $\phi \neq 0$  (I.1b)

LANDAU assumes that the free energy of the system can be written as a function of the order parameter:

$$F(T, \phi) = F_0(T) + a(T)\phi^2 + c\phi^4 \quad (I.2)$$

Where  $a(T) = a_0(T - T_c)$  (I.3) is the quadratic term

By minimizing the free energy  $F(T, \phi)$  we obtain:

$$\begin{cases} \phi = 0, & T > T_c \\ \phi = 0 \text{ or } \phi = \pm\sqrt{a_0(T - T_c)}, & T < T_c \end{cases} \quad (I.4)$$

➤ BEHAVIOUR OF THE SUSCEPTIBILITY AND THE INVERSE SUSCEPTIBILITY

$$\chi = \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial h} \right)_T \quad (I.5)$$

$$G = F(T, \phi) - \phi h \quad (I.6)$$

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial \phi} = 2a_0(T - T_c)\phi + 4c\phi^3 - h = 0 \quad (I.7)$$

$$2a_0(T - T_c)\chi + 12c\phi^2\chi - 1 = 0 \quad (I.8)$$

$$\chi \propto 1/[a_0(T - T_c)] \quad (I.9)$$

$$\chi^{-1} \propto a_0(T - T_c) \quad (I.10)$$

## ➤ LIMITS OF THE LANDAU MODEL

- The LANDAU model is implicitly a mean field theory

we approach the order parameter by its most probable value equated to the average value by abandoning any fluctuations.

- The LANDAU model is exact in dimension  $d \geq 4$

## II- RENORMALIZED GAUSSIAN APPROACH (RGA) TO SECOND ORDER PHASE TRANSITIONS

The starting point is the functional of the following LANDAU-GINZBURG-WILSON (LGW) Hamiltonian:

$$H_{LGW} = \int \frac{d^d x}{\varepsilon_0} \left[ c(\nabla_x \phi(\mathbf{x}))^2 + a(T)\phi^2(x) + b_0\phi^4(x) + \dots \right] \quad (II.1)$$



Additional term introduced to take into account the spatial inhomogeneities

We account for the geometry, the strongly fluctuating and the correlated nature of the low-dimensional system following the transformations:

$$a_0(T - T_{c0}) \rightarrow a_0(d, T) = a_0(T - T_{c0}) + \Sigma^*(d, T) \quad (II.2)$$

$$\text{Where } \Sigma^*(d, T) = \eta \left[ \frac{T}{T_{c0}} \right] \left( \frac{T - T_{c0}}{T_{c0}} + \frac{\Sigma^*(d, T)}{a_0 T_{c0}} \right)^{\frac{d}{2}-1} \quad (II.3)$$

Consequence: All thermodynamic observables are dimension-dependent (including the critical temperature).  $d_c = 4$  remains the upper- critical dimension .

Example:

- the new statistic susceptibility is given by:

$$\chi^* \propto 1/a_0(T - T_{c0}) + \Sigma^*(d, T) \quad (II.4)$$

- And the inverse susceptibility is given by:

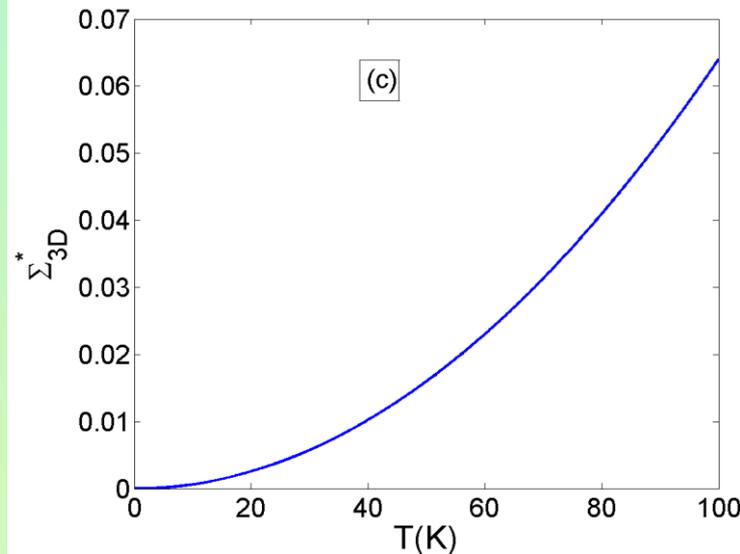
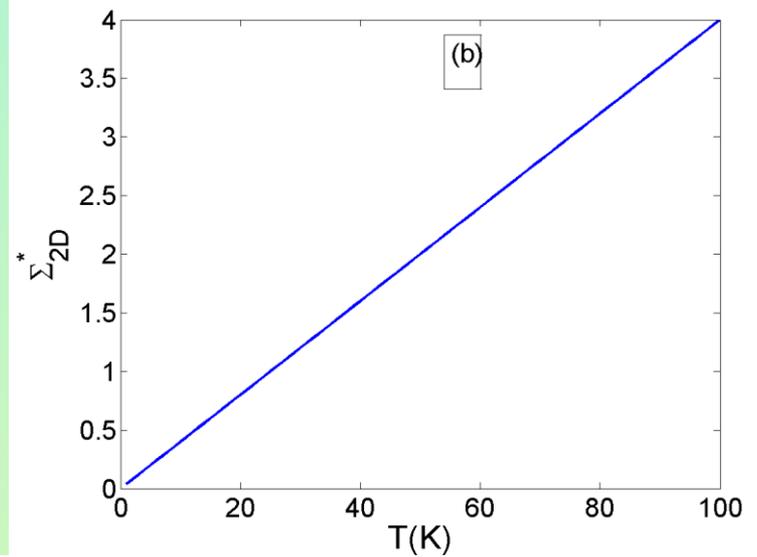
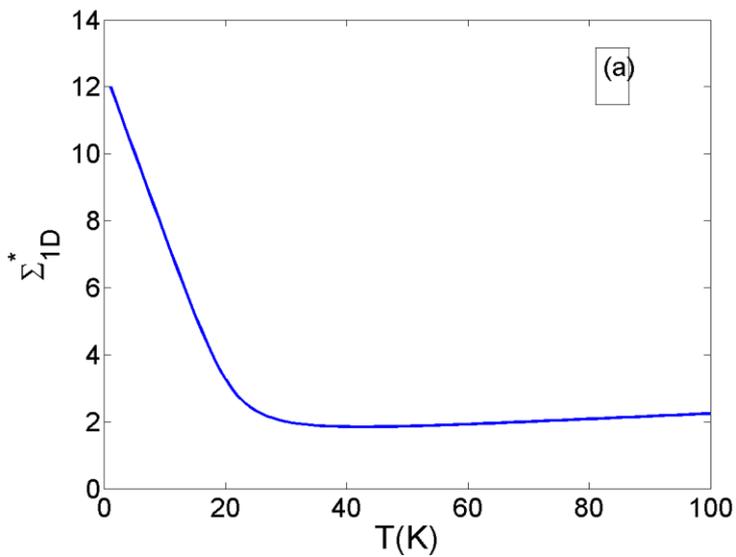
$$\chi^{*-1} \propto a_0(T - T_{c0}) + \Sigma^*(d, T) \quad (II.5)$$

- The real critical temperature [1]:

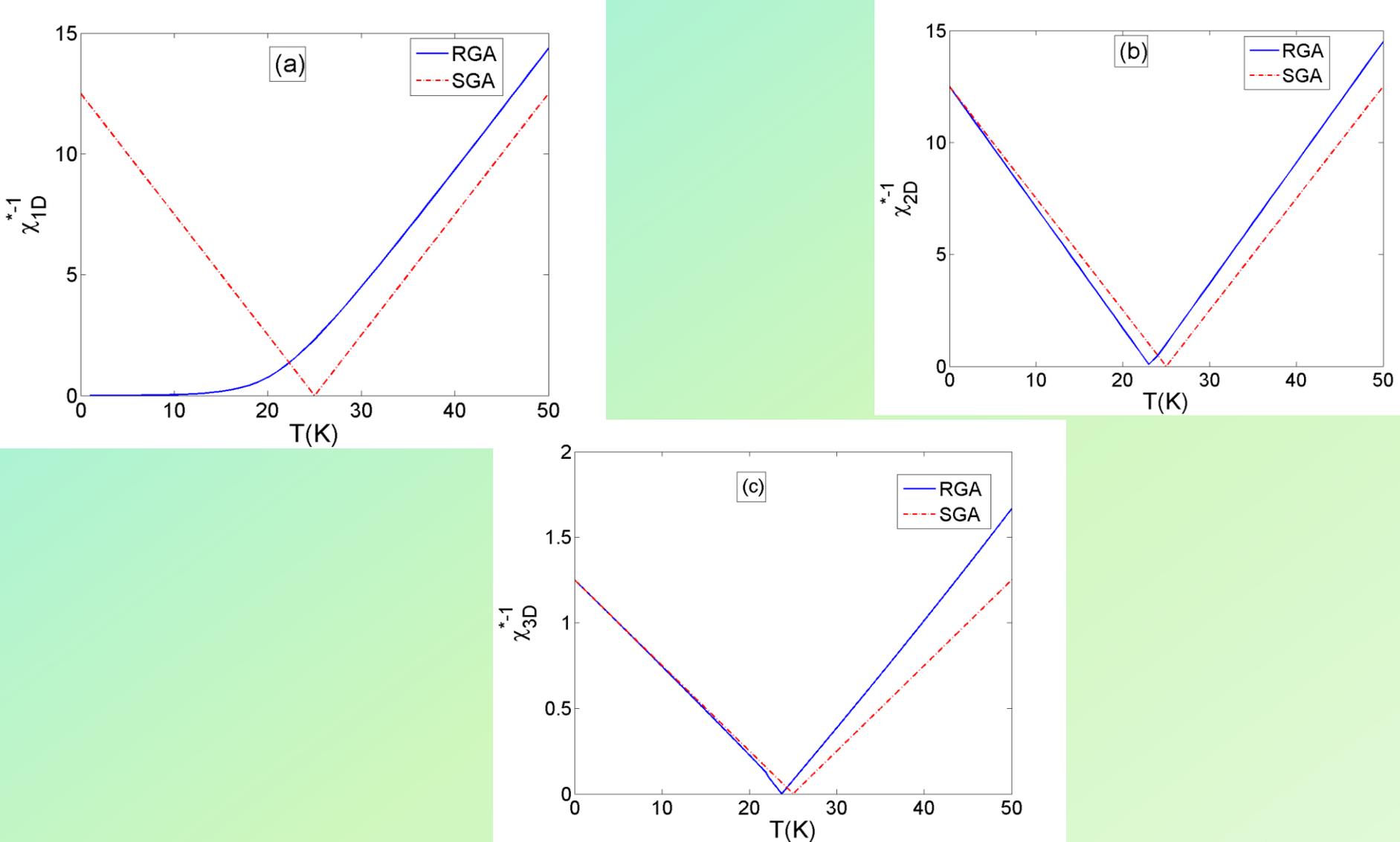
$$T_c = T_{c0}(1 - v_{dc}) \quad \text{where} \quad \begin{cases} v_{1c} \sim 1 \\ v_{2c} = \frac{K_{2D}}{1 + K_{2D}} \\ v_{3c} \approx 0 \\ v_{4d} = 0 \end{cases} \quad (II.6)$$

# III

## NUMERICAL RESULTS: INTERPRETATION



**Figure 1:** the temperature  $T$  dependence of the scaled correction term for one, two, and three dimensional lattice systems. It assumed that  $T_c=25\text{K}$ ,  $\alpha_0=0.5$ ,  $K_d=1$ .



**Figure 2:** The temperature dependence of the inverse susceptibility and showing the type of behavior it exhibits for a (a) 1D lattice system, (b) 2D lattice system, and (c) 3D lattice system.  $T_c = 25$  K,  $a_0 = 0.5$ ,  $K_d = 1$

# CONCLUSION AND PERSPECTIVE

- We establish that the fluctuations effects play a crucial role in the determination of thermodynamic quantities and also on the phase transitions and critical phenomena.
- We also remark that in the LANDAU theory, thermodynamic quantities are independent to the geometry of space whereas they are dependent to geometry of space for the RGA
- As perspective: determination of other correction terms, application to multiferroic materials

THANK  
YOU

FOR YOUR ATTENTION!