

Rodney Baxter (b. 8 February 1940)

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Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rodney_Baxter

Homepage: N/A

Essay by Daniel Rogers

Rodney Baxter is currently an Emeritus Professor of Physics at Australian National University. Before teaching at ANU, Baxter was a professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and University of Cambridge. He earned his BA and MA at Trinity College, Cambridge and his PhD at Australian National University in 1964. Baxter wrote his dissertation *Aspects of the statistical mechanics of gases* with the help of his advisor Kenneth James le Couteur; his Mathematics Subject Classification was 82 – Statistical mechanics, structure of matter. Baxter’s research interests include, but are not limited to, statistical mechanics, mathematical logic, combinatorics, discrete mathematics, and mathematical physics. His most cited publication, “Exactly solved models in statistical mechanics,” is a comprehensive work on exactly solved models, or completely integrable systems in physics. Some specific models he is known for include the six-vertex model and eight-vertex model, and the chiral Potts model and hard hexagon model. A common equation in these models has been named in his honor: the Yang–Baxter Equation. Despite being retired from teaching at Australian National University, Baxter remains active as a researcher.