

# Introduction to DMRG

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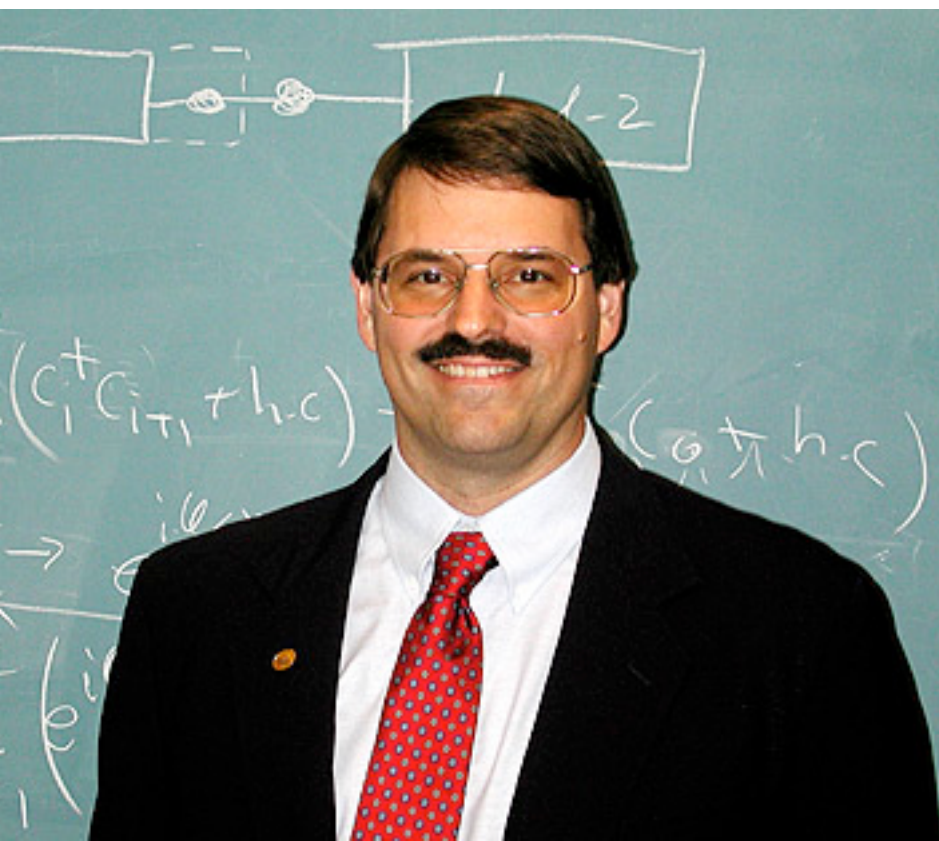


## Outline

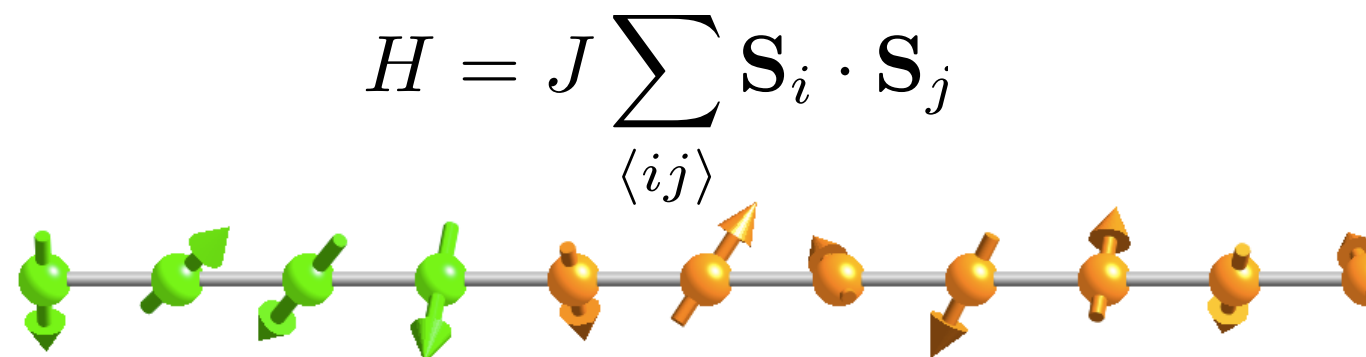
- 1) Density Matrix Renormalization Group - overview and basics
- 2) Entanglement Entropy in condensed matter systems

# What is the Density Matrix Renormalization Group?

- DMRG is the established leading method for simulation of statistics and dynamics of **one-dimensional** strongly-correlated quantum lattice models.



Steve White



# Why do we need DMRG?

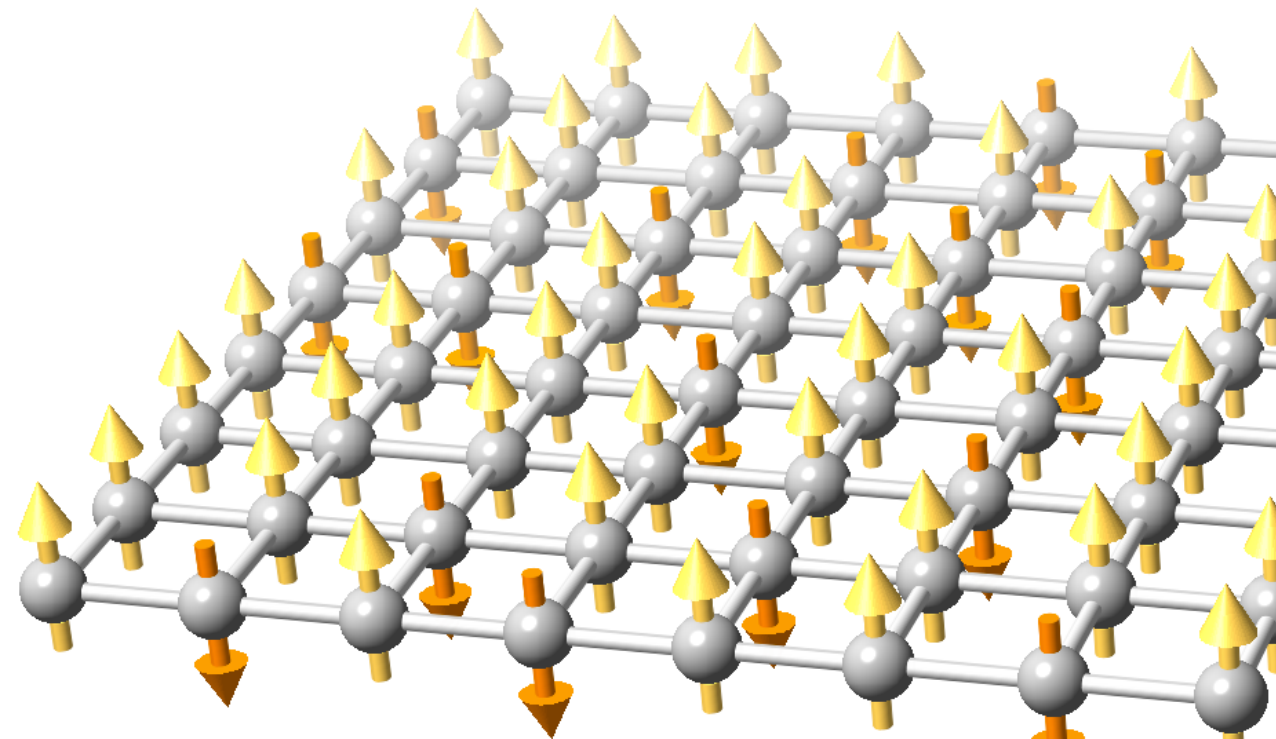
- There are only a few “exact” numerical methods capable of tackling quantum many-body problems using classical computers

# Why do we need DMRG?

- There are only a few “exact” numerical methods capable of tackling quantum many-body problems using classical computers

Exponential state space

$$\Omega = 2^N$$



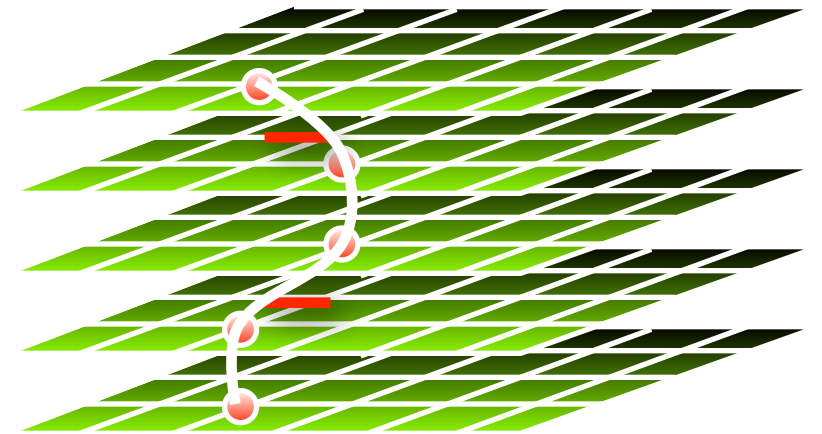
$$H = -J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z$$

# Why do we need DMRG?

- There are only a few “exact” numerical methods capable of tackling quantum many-body problems using classical computers

**Quantum Monte Carlo** simulations avoid this direct sum by statistical sampling based on random numbers.

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{i=1}^{\Omega} \mathcal{O}_i e^{-\beta E_i}$$

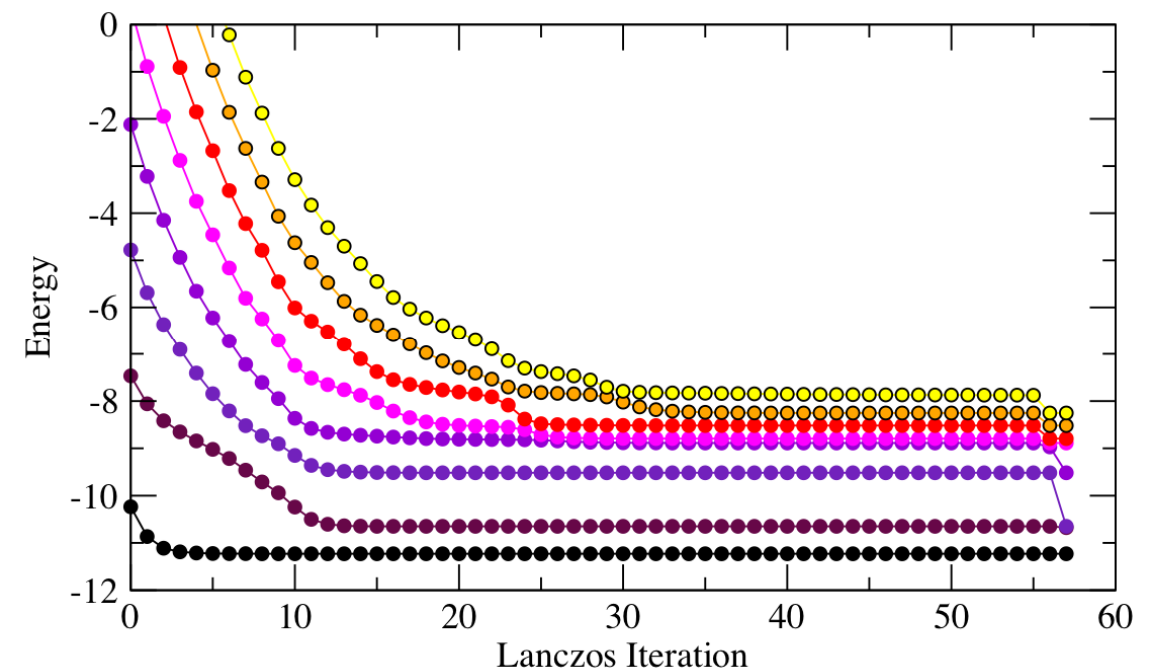


Cannot simulate fermions (or frustrated spins)

# Why do we need DMRG?

- There are only a few “exact” numerical methods capable of tackling quantum many-body problems using classical computers

## Exact Diagonalization

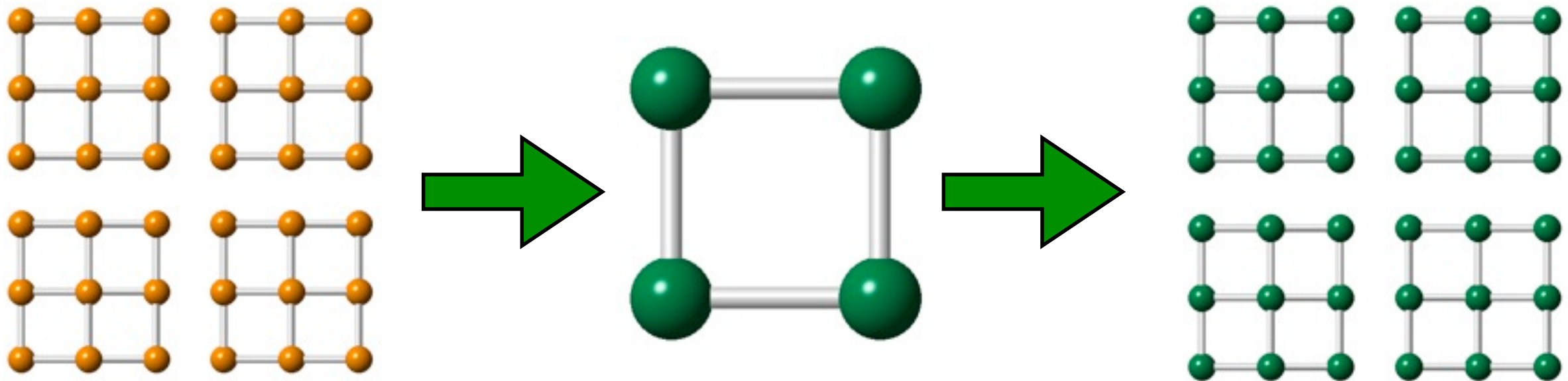


Exponential Hilbert Space:  $2^N$

Maximum number of  $S=1/2$  spins: 40~44

# Renormalization Group

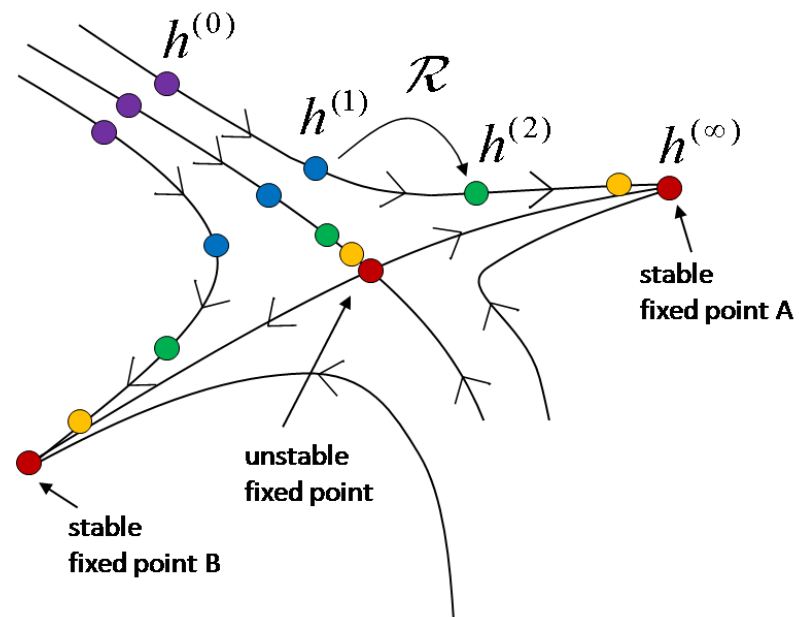
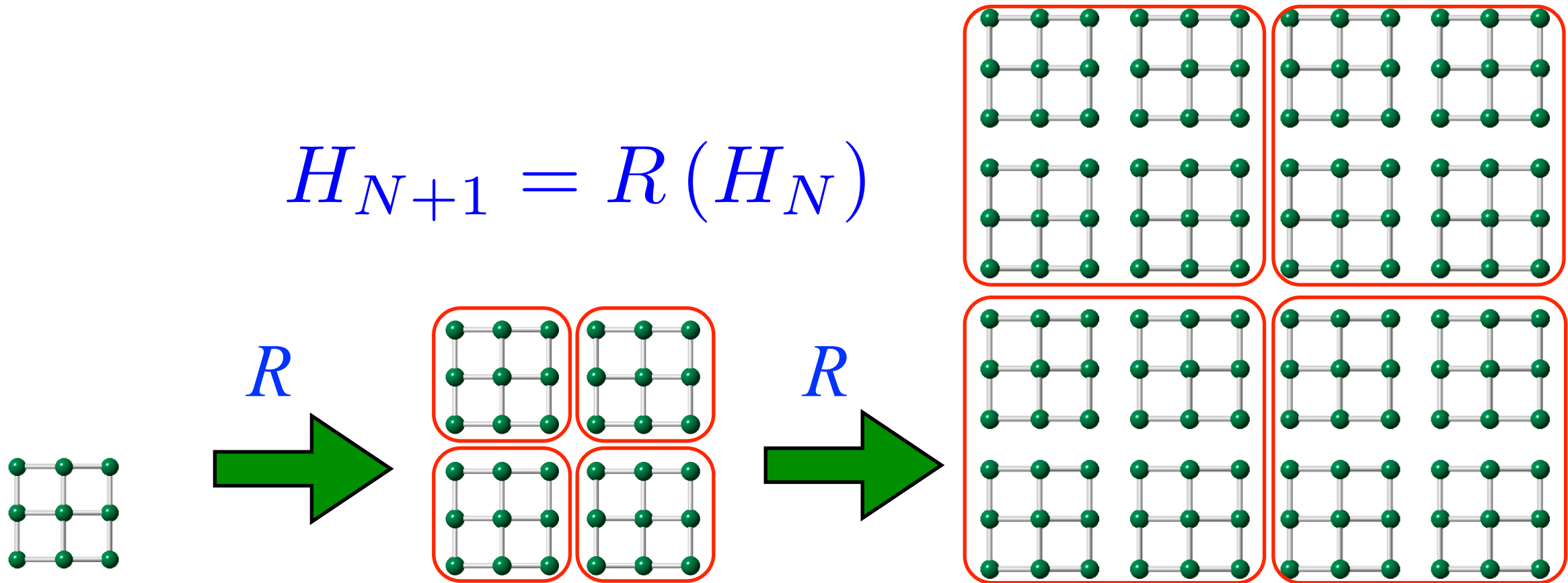
- Reduce the size of this Hilbert space through some clever **decimation** procedure
- Keep only the **important** information
- Perform an ED using the remaining Hilbert space





# Renormalization Group

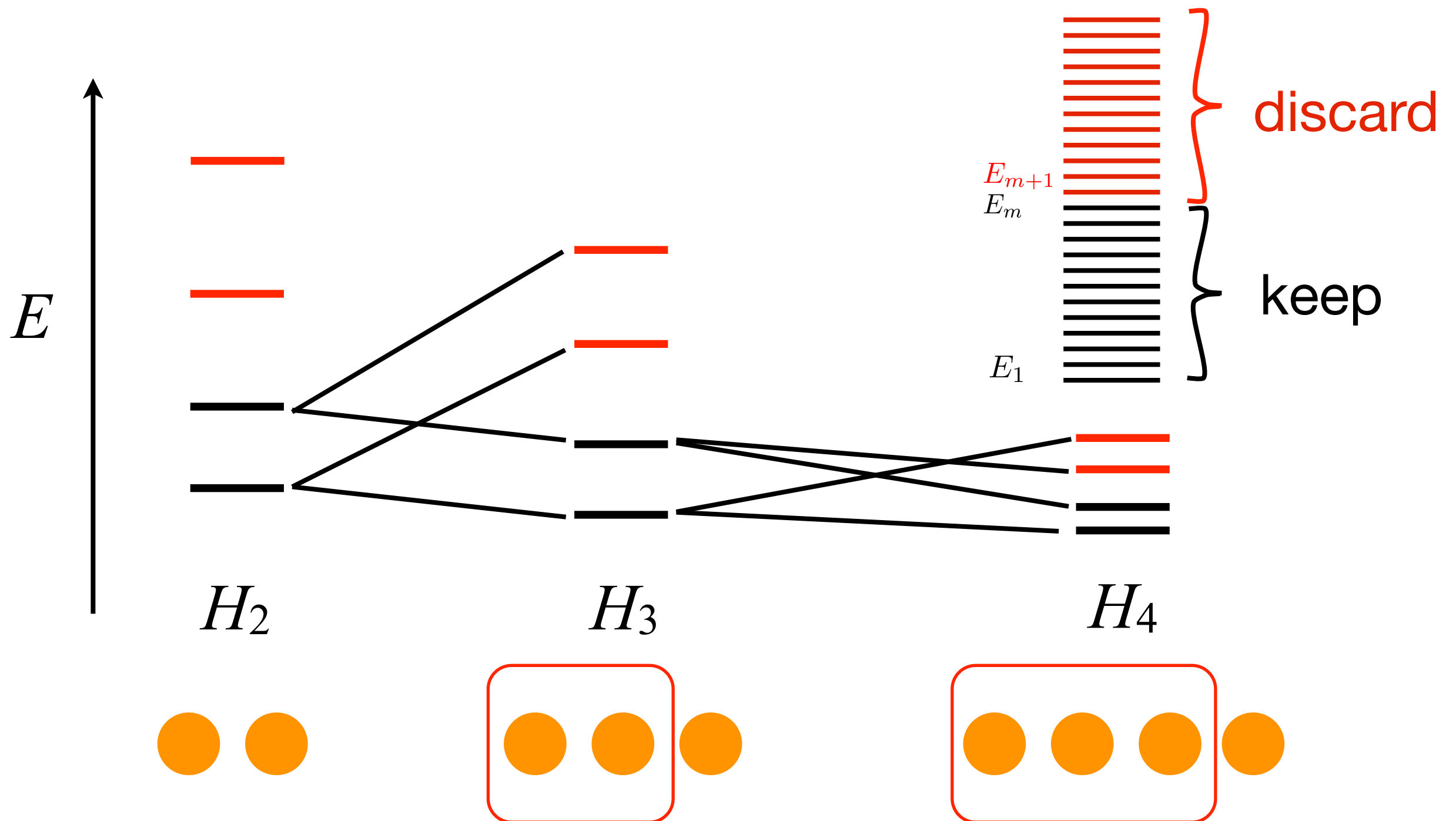
$$H_{N+1} = R(H_N)$$



see: Tomorrow's talks

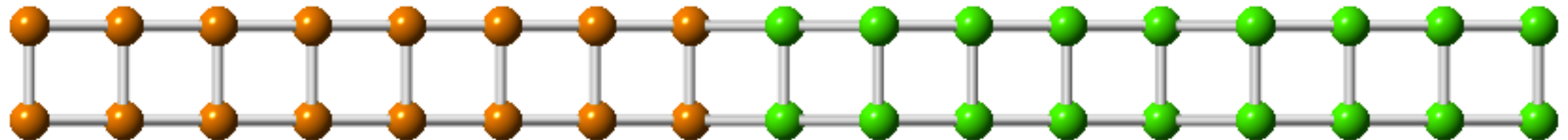
# Wilson's Numerical RG

- Reduce the size of the Hilbert space by an RG-like procedure that truncates the **energy levels**



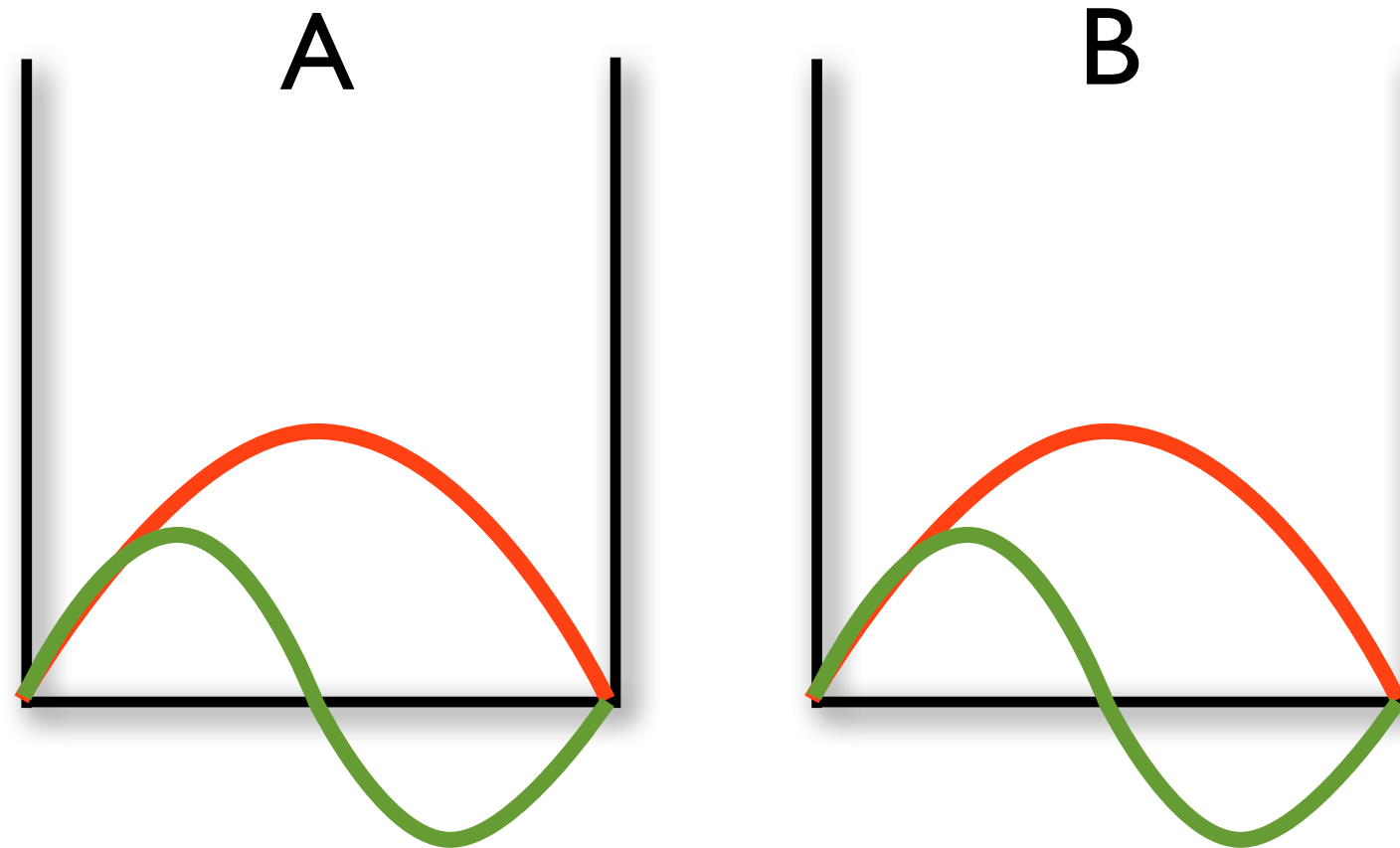
## this can give very poor results

- Truncating the higher energy eigenvalues only works well for a few specific models - fails in general
- 20 years after Wilson's original idea, Steve White fixed the method to produce DMRG
- The right quantity to truncate is the number of **entanglement** degrees of freedom represented



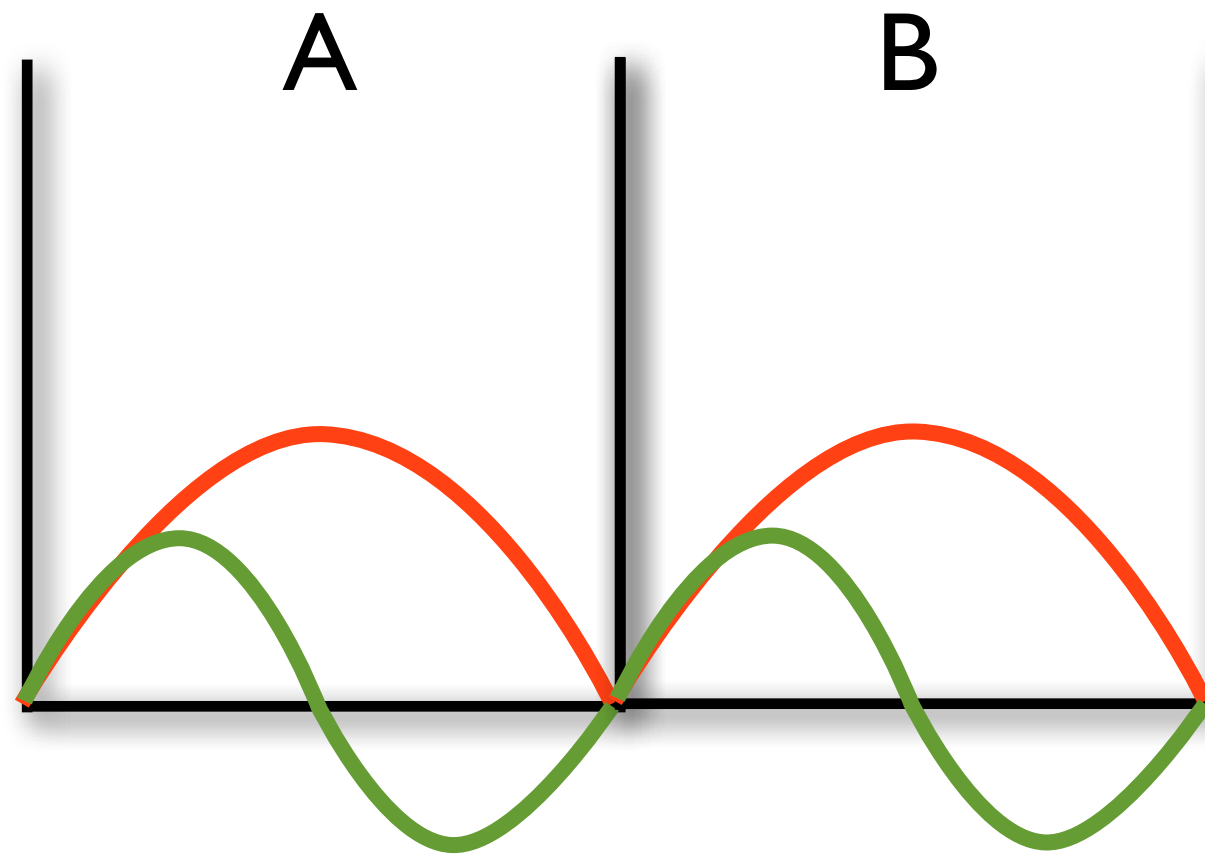
# Particle in a box

- Consider a particle in a box



# Particle in a box

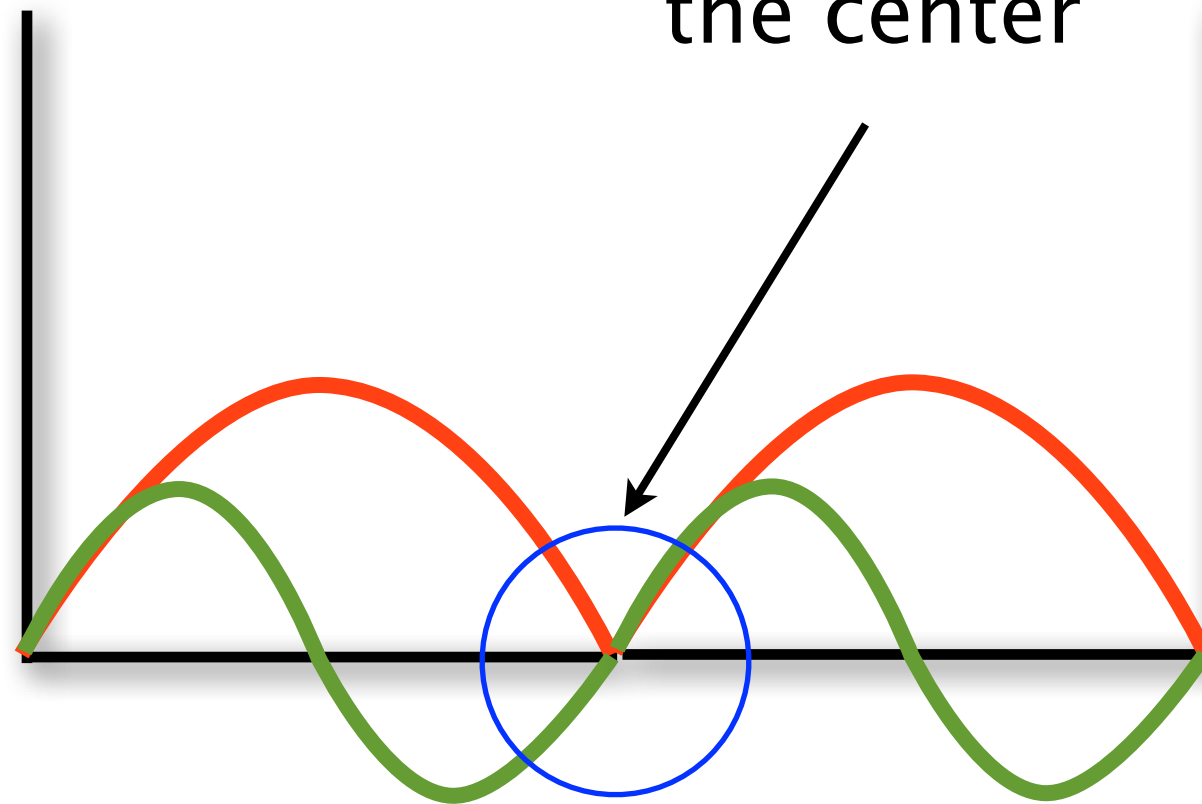
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# Particle in a box

- Consider a particle in a box

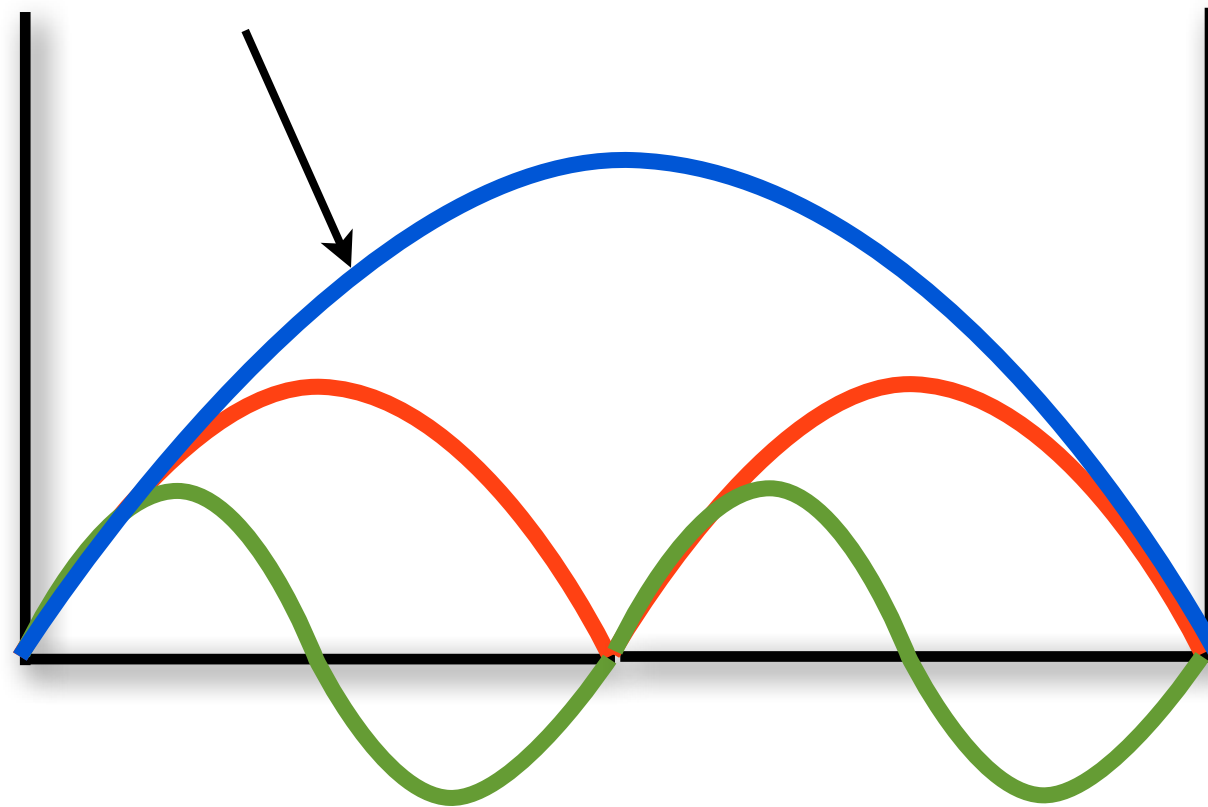
Solutions built from the smaller **blocks** have a node at the center



# Particle in a box

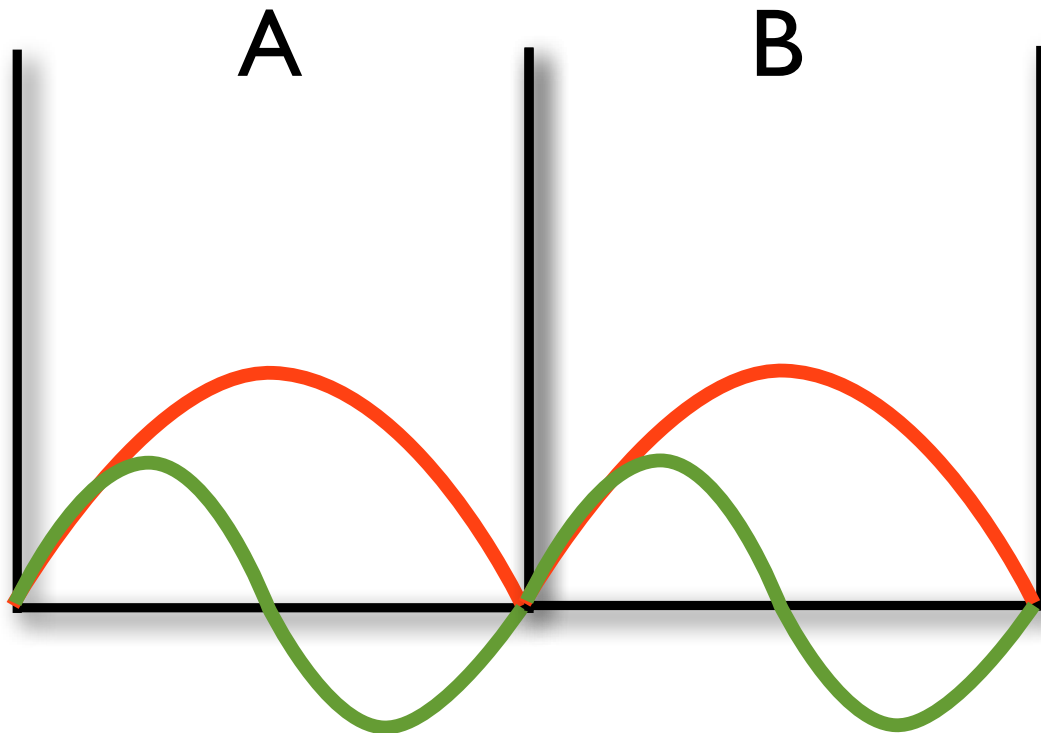
- Consider a particle in a box

System ground state  $\neq$  product of subsystem low energy states



# Numerical RG results

- 10 blocks (2048 sites), 8 states kept
- Very poor results
- Treatment of boundary condition is critical



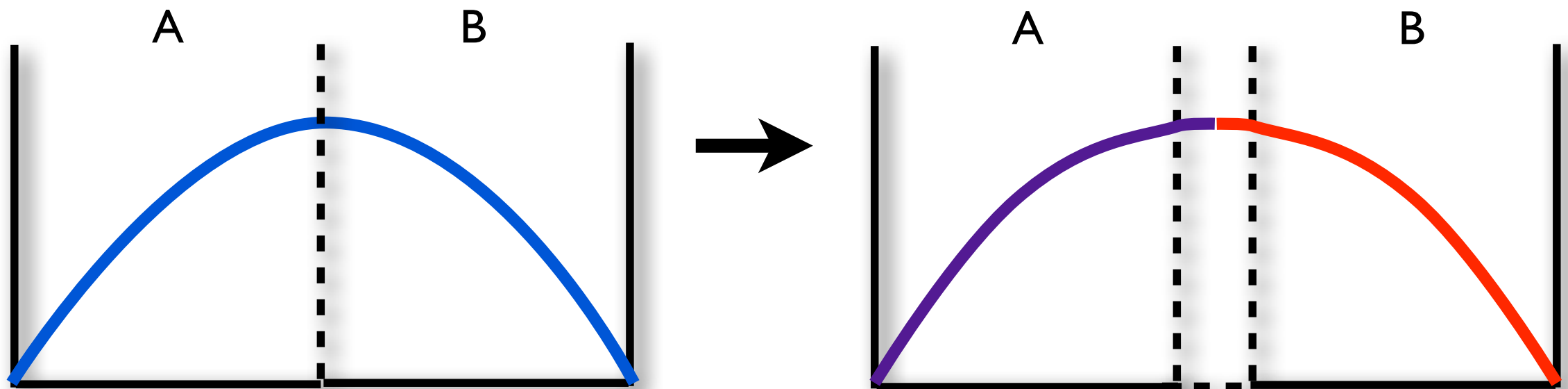
State	Exact	NRG
$E_0$	$2.351 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.9207 \times 10^{-2}$
$E_1$	$9.403 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.9209 \times 10^{-2}$
$E_2$	$2.116 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.9714 \times 10^{-2}$

S.R. White and R.M. Noack, PRL 68, 3487 (1992)



# Particle in a box: Better Solution

- Embed A in an **environment**
- Diagonalize the **system+ environment**, then increase size



# Subsystem States

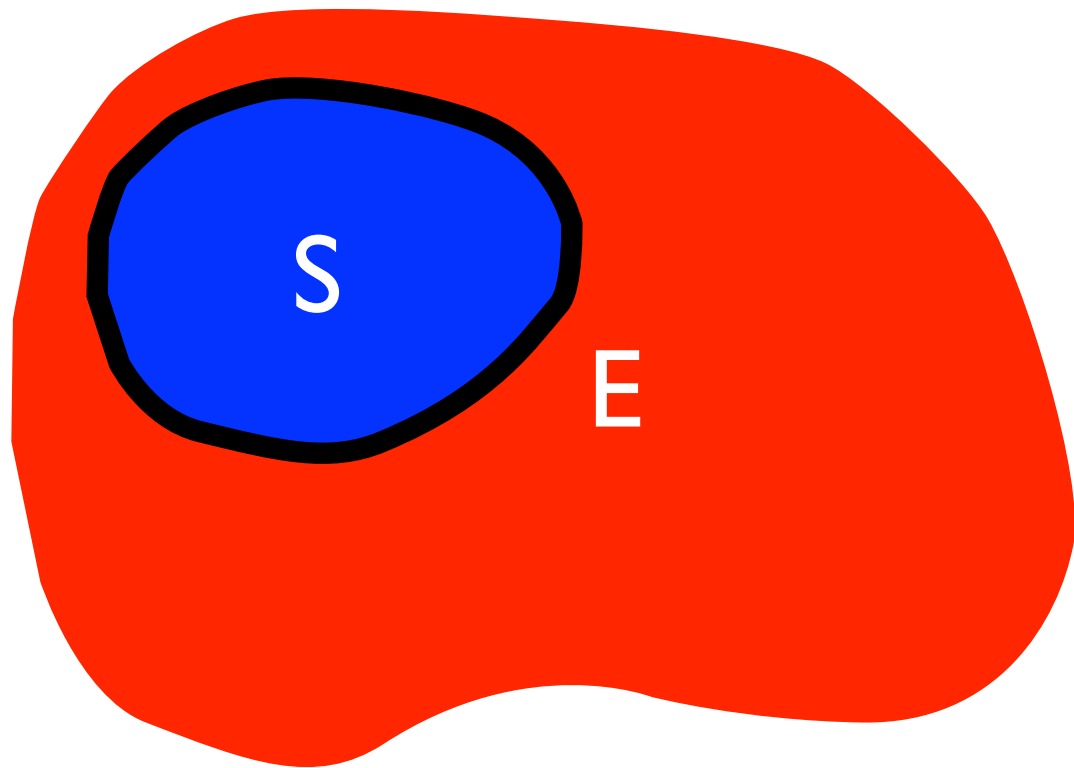
- What are the most important subsystem states ?

Hamiltonian

$$H = H_S + H_E + H_{SE}$$

Wavefunction

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i,\alpha} \psi_{i,\alpha} |i\rangle_S |\alpha\rangle_E$$



Best approximation with  $m$  subsystem states:

$$|\tilde{\psi}\rangle = \sum_{n=1}^m \sum_{\alpha} \tilde{\psi}_{n,\alpha} |\phi_n\rangle_S |\alpha\rangle_E$$

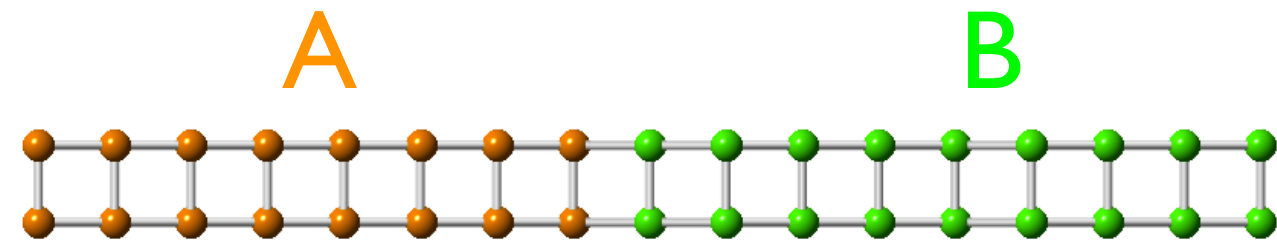
Minimize the **distance** between states:  $S = \left| |\tilde{\psi}\rangle - |\psi\rangle \right|^2$

# Reduced density matrix

- Instead of energy levels, truncate the eigenvalues of the reduced density matrix

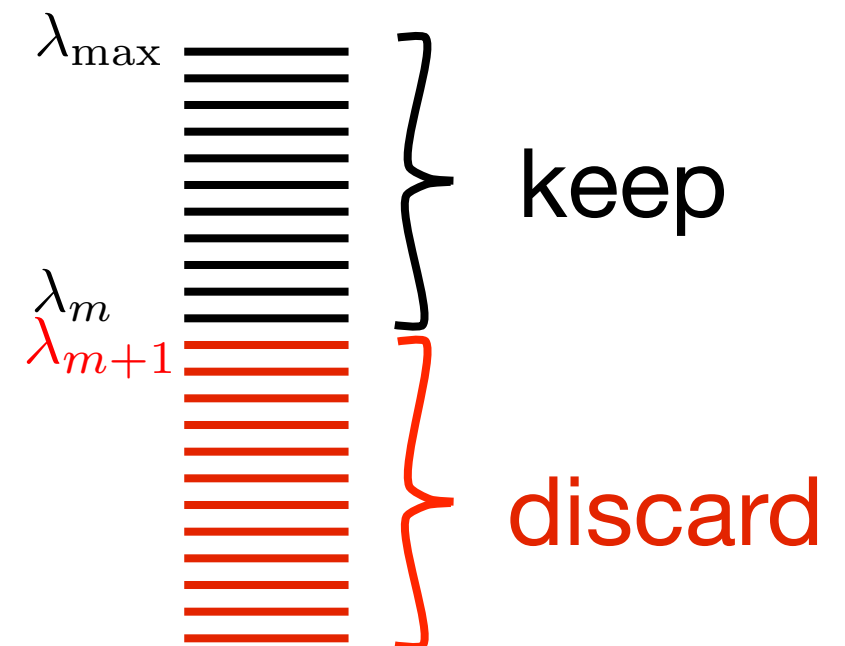
$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_i \lambda_i |i_A\rangle |i_B\rangle$$

$$\rho_A = \sum_i \lambda_i^2 |i_A\rangle \langle i_A|$$

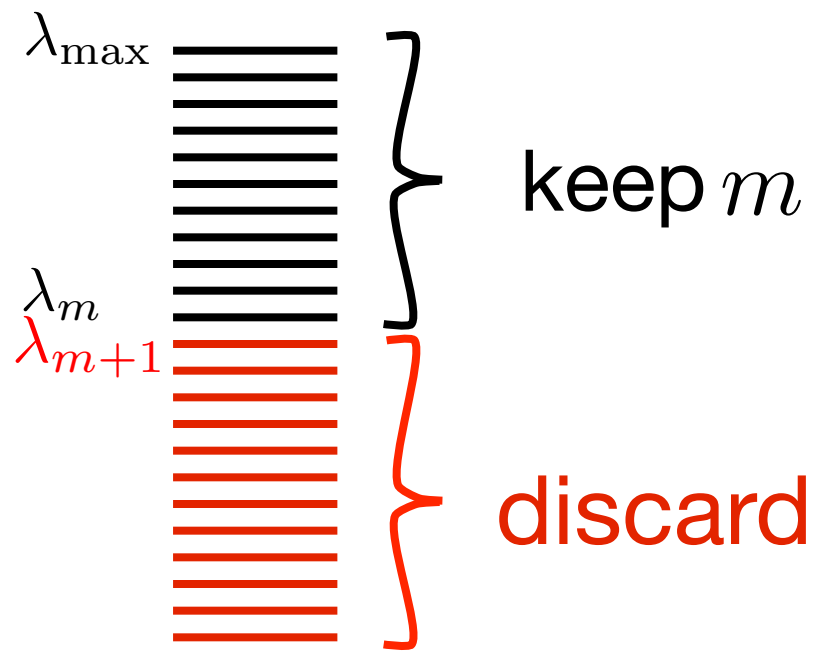


- The eigenvalues are probabilities

$$\sum_i \lambda_i^2 = 1$$



# number of “states”



eigenvalues of the  
reduced density matrix

- In general, the number of DMRG states that you need to keep to faithfully represent a wavefunction is related to the **entanglement entropy** between the two blocks:

$$m = f(S) \quad ?$$

## Outline

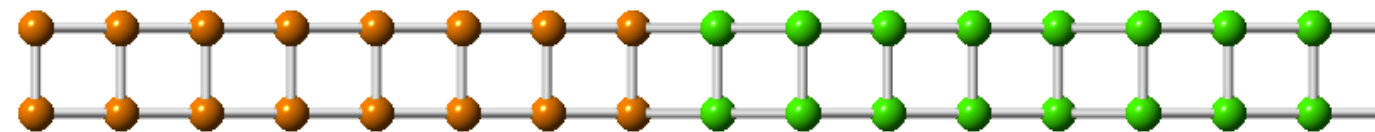
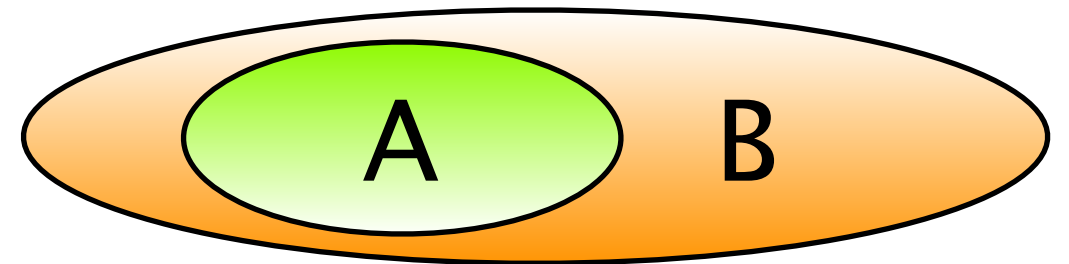
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# entanglement entropy

von Neumann

$$S_1(\rho_A) = -\text{Tr}(\rho_A \ln \rho_A)$$

$$\rho_A = \text{Tr}_B(\rho)$$



- Quantifies the entanglement between subregions A and B
- Does not depend on any choice of observable
- $S_1(\rho_A) = S_1(\rho_B)$
- $S_1(\rho_A) = 0$  if region A and B are unentangled

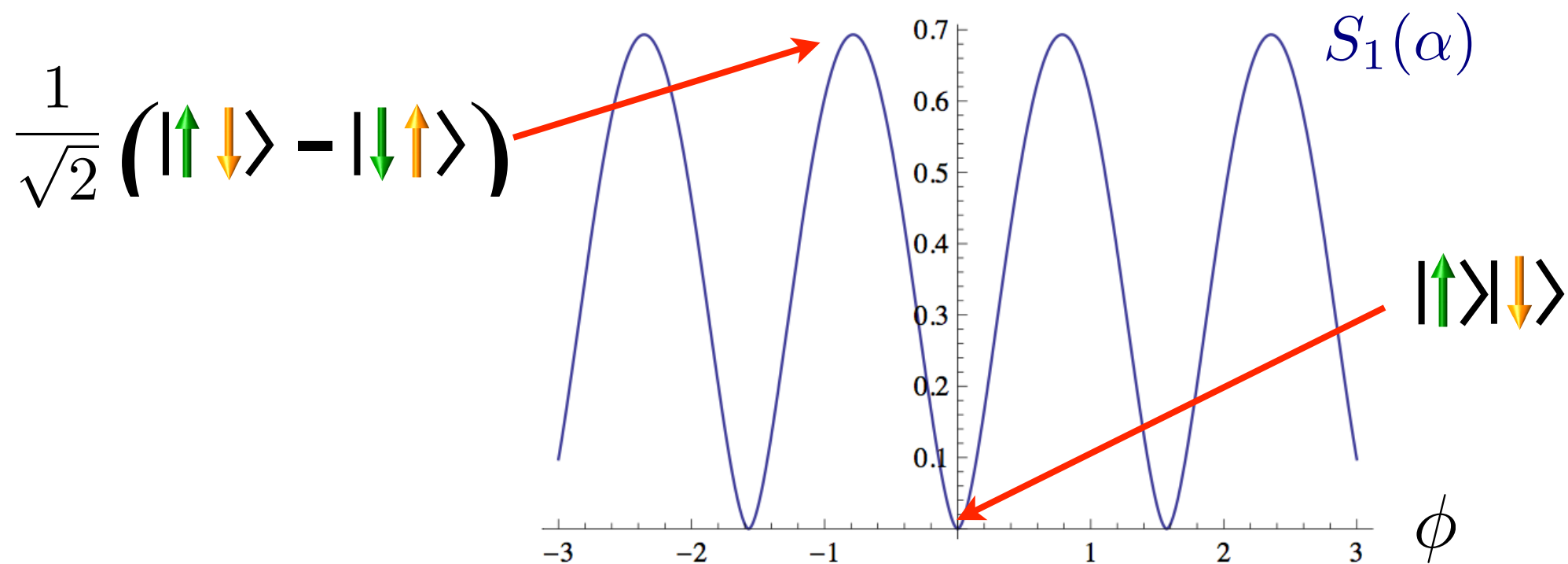
# entanglement entropy of two spins

$$|\Psi\rangle = \cos\phi |\uparrow\rangle|\downarrow\rangle + \sin\phi |\downarrow\rangle|\uparrow\rangle$$

$\uparrow = A$   
 $\uparrow = B$

$$\rho_A = \begin{pmatrix} \cos^2\phi & 0 \\ 0 & \sin^2\phi \end{pmatrix}$$

$$S_1 = -\cos^2\phi \ln \cos^2\phi - \sin^2\phi \ln \sin^2\phi$$



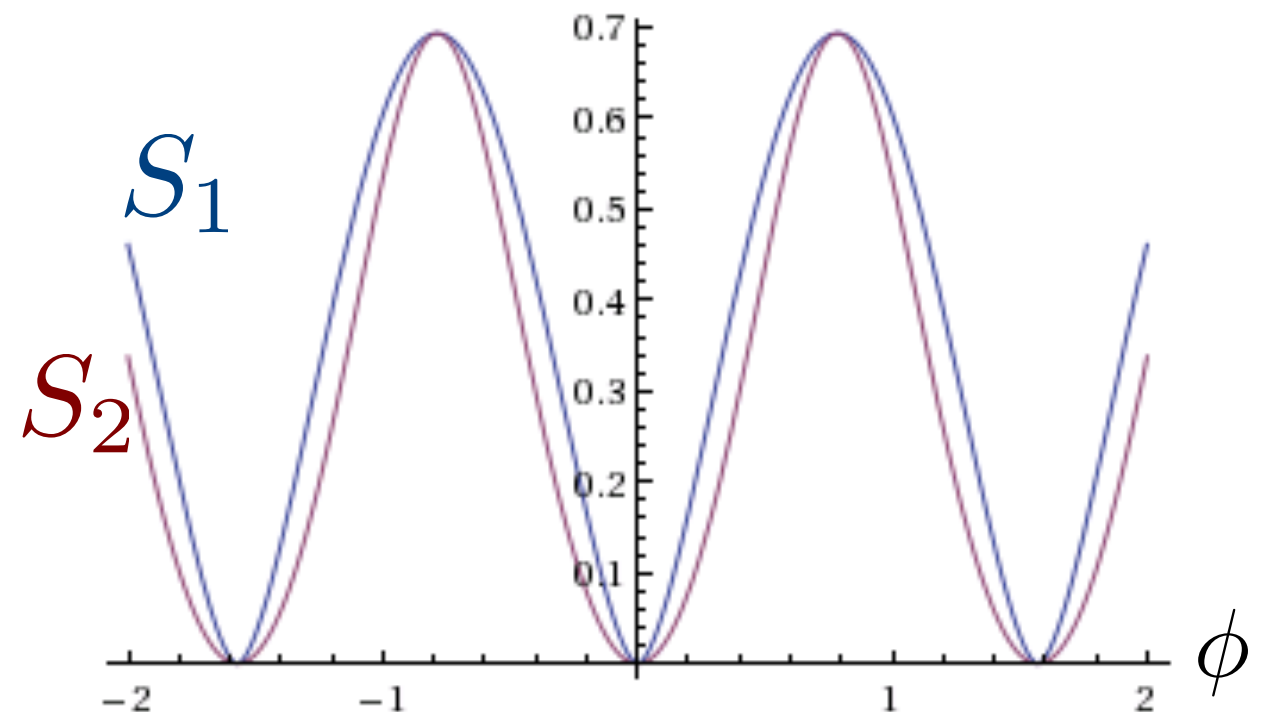
# Renyi entanglement entropy

$$S_n(\rho_A) = \frac{1}{1-n} \ln [\text{Tr}(\rho_A^n)]$$

$$S_1(\rho_A) = -\text{Tr}(\rho_A \ln \rho_A) \quad S_2(\rho_A) = -\ln [\text{Tr}(\rho_A^2)]$$

two spins:

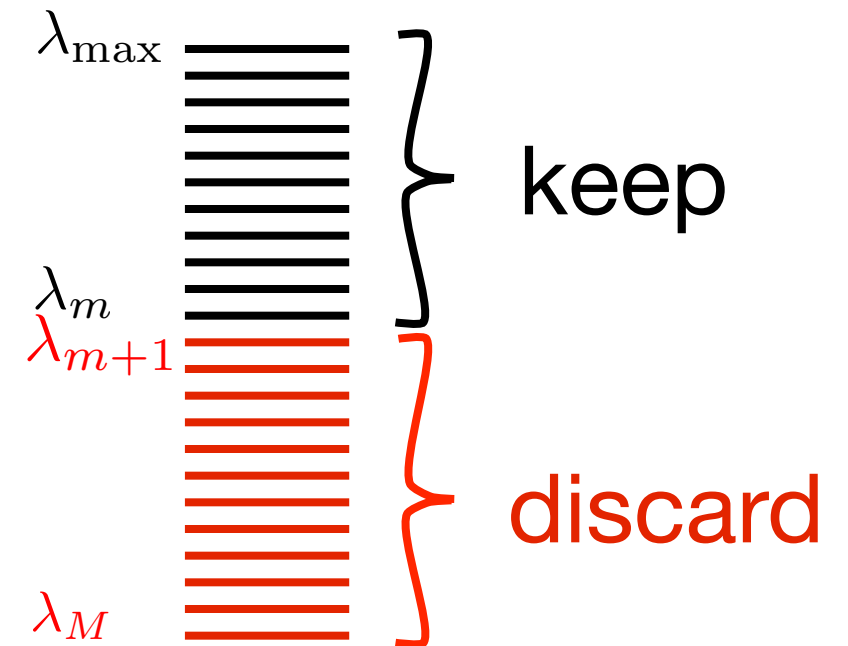
$$|\Psi\rangle = \cos \phi |\uparrow\rangle|\downarrow\rangle + \sin \phi |\downarrow\rangle|\uparrow\rangle$$





# entanglement and number of “states”

$$\rho_A = \sum_i \lambda_i^2 |i_A\rangle\langle i_A|$$



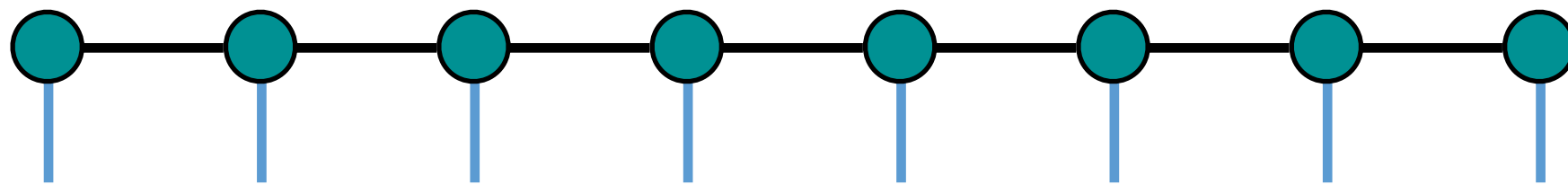
- $S_1(\rho_A) = 0$  minimally (for a product state)
- $S_1(\rho_A) = \ln(M)$  maximally (when all eigenvalues are equal)

in analogy, the effective number of states one needs in order to properly capture the entanglement between A and B is:

$$m \propto e^{S_1}$$

# DMRG and entanglement cutoff

- Therefore, the success of DMRG depends on the wavefunctions of interest having a “low degree” of entanglement
- This is the basis of the reformulation of DMRG in the **Matrix Product State** representation (see talks tomorrow)

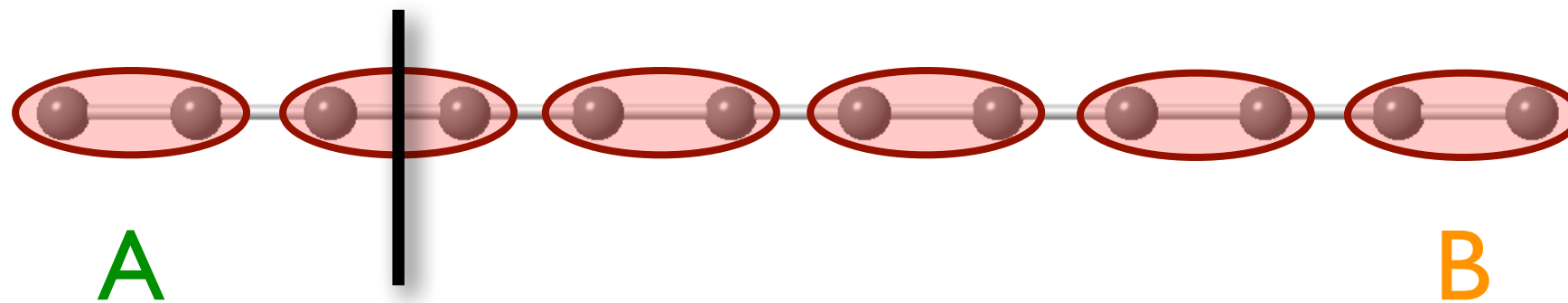


- We take a minute to examine entanglement in some prototypical models of condensed-matter physics

# entanglement in one dimension

- gapped system

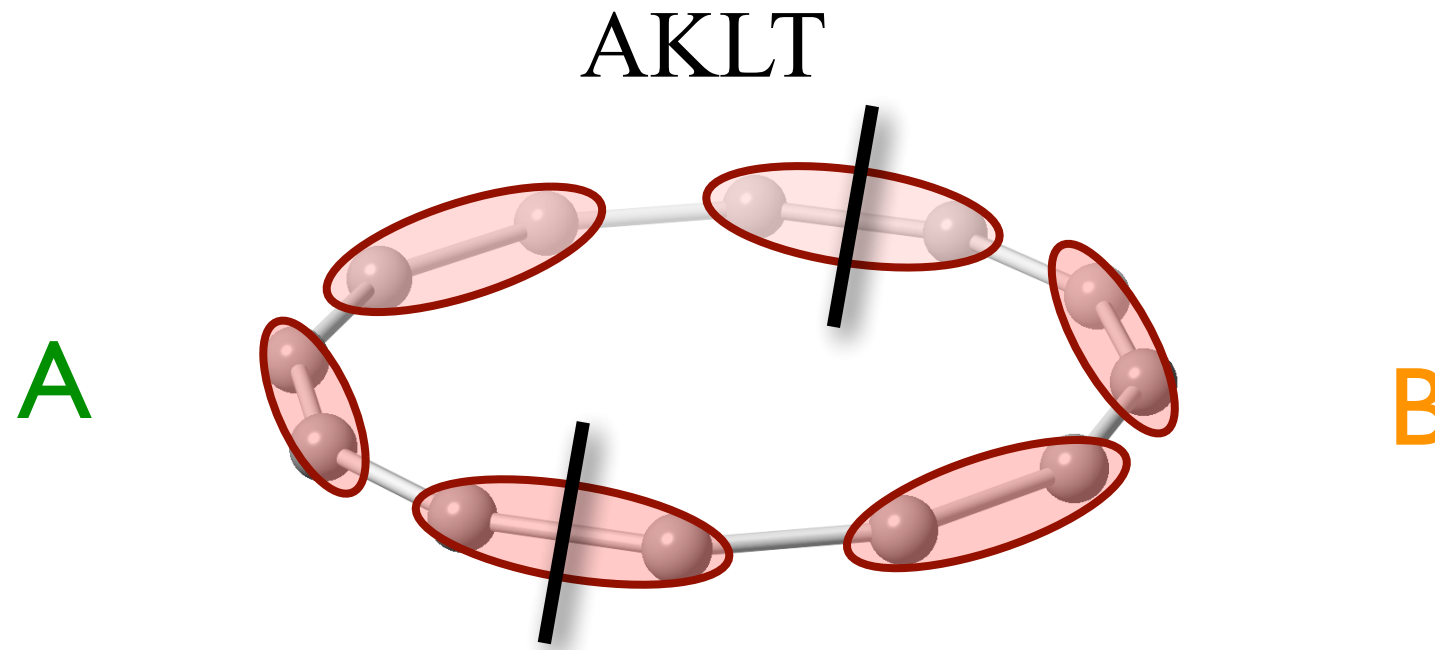
AKLT



$$\text{red oval} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle) \quad S_1(\rho_A) = \ln(2)$$

$$m \propto e^{S_1} \Rightarrow m \propto 2 \quad (\text{constant})$$

# entanglement in one dimension



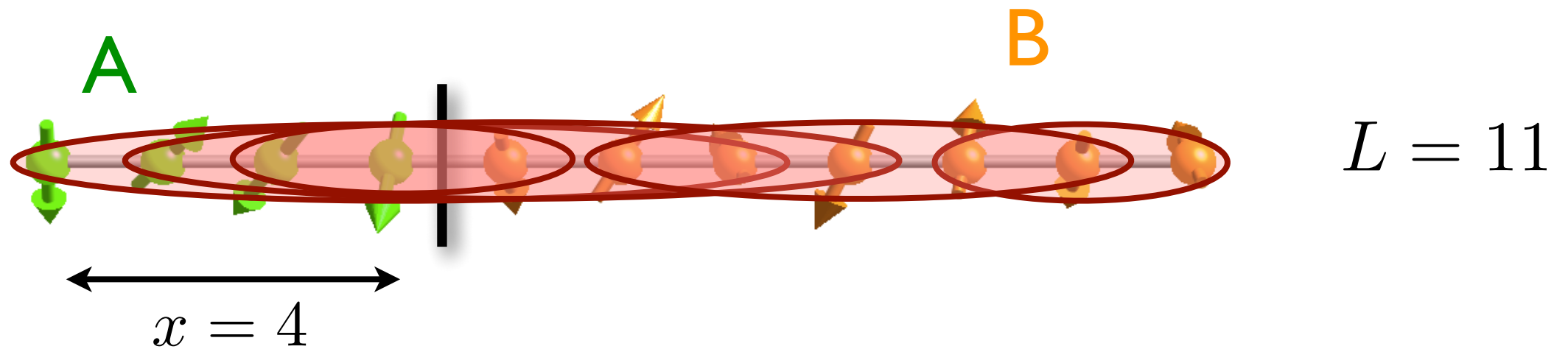
$$S_1(\rho_A) = 2 \ln(2) = \ln(2^2)$$

$$m \propto e^{S_1} \Rightarrow m \propto 2^2$$

- For periodic boundary conditions in 1D, you need to keep the **square** of the number of states needed for open boundary conditions

# entanglement in one dimension

- gapless/critical system  $H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$



$$S_1 \propto c \ln[L] \Rightarrow m \propto L^{\text{const.}}$$

- computational cost grows as the size of the system
- it is still possible to simulate large systems if  $c$  is small

# entanglement in one dimension

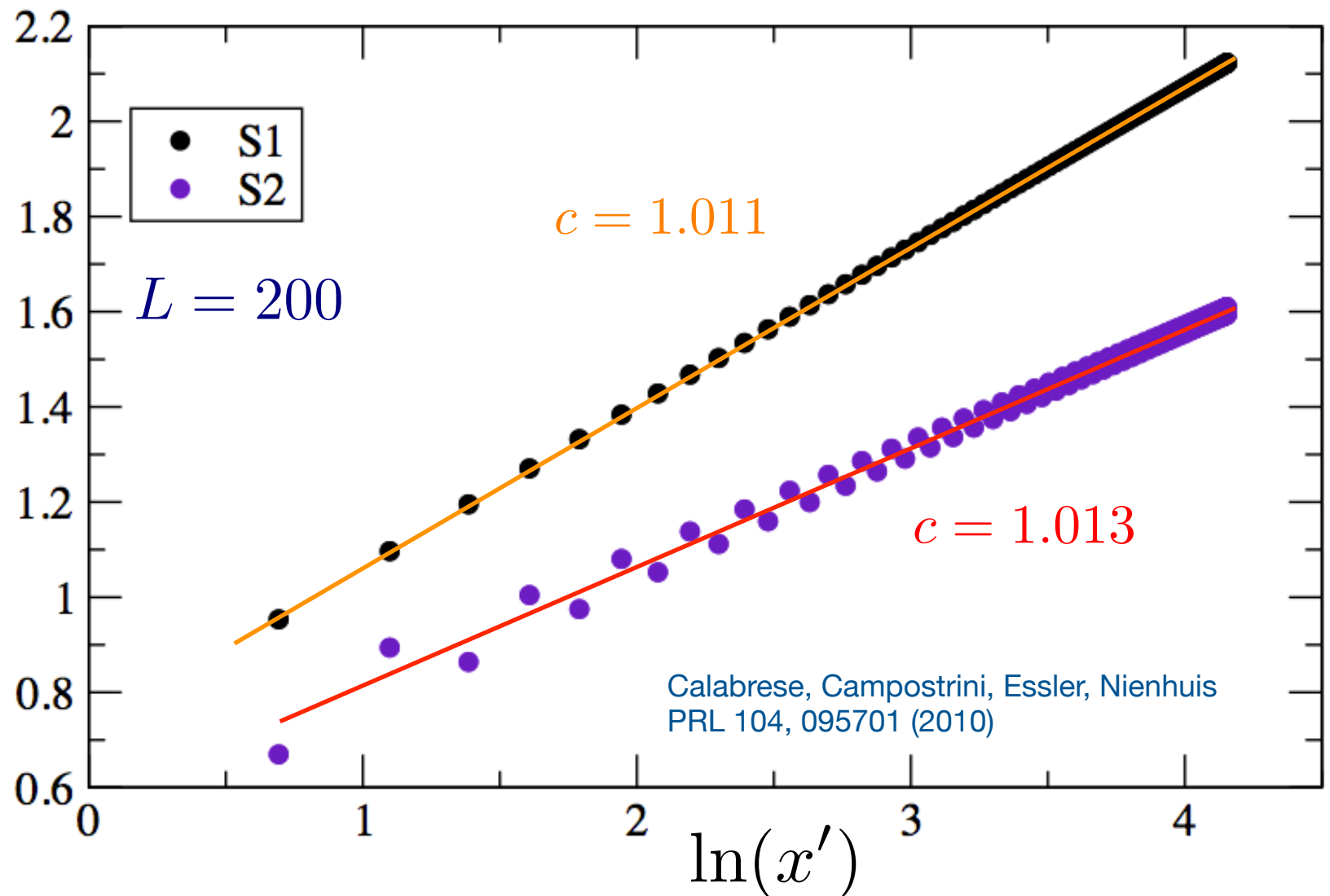
- gapless/critical system

$$H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$$

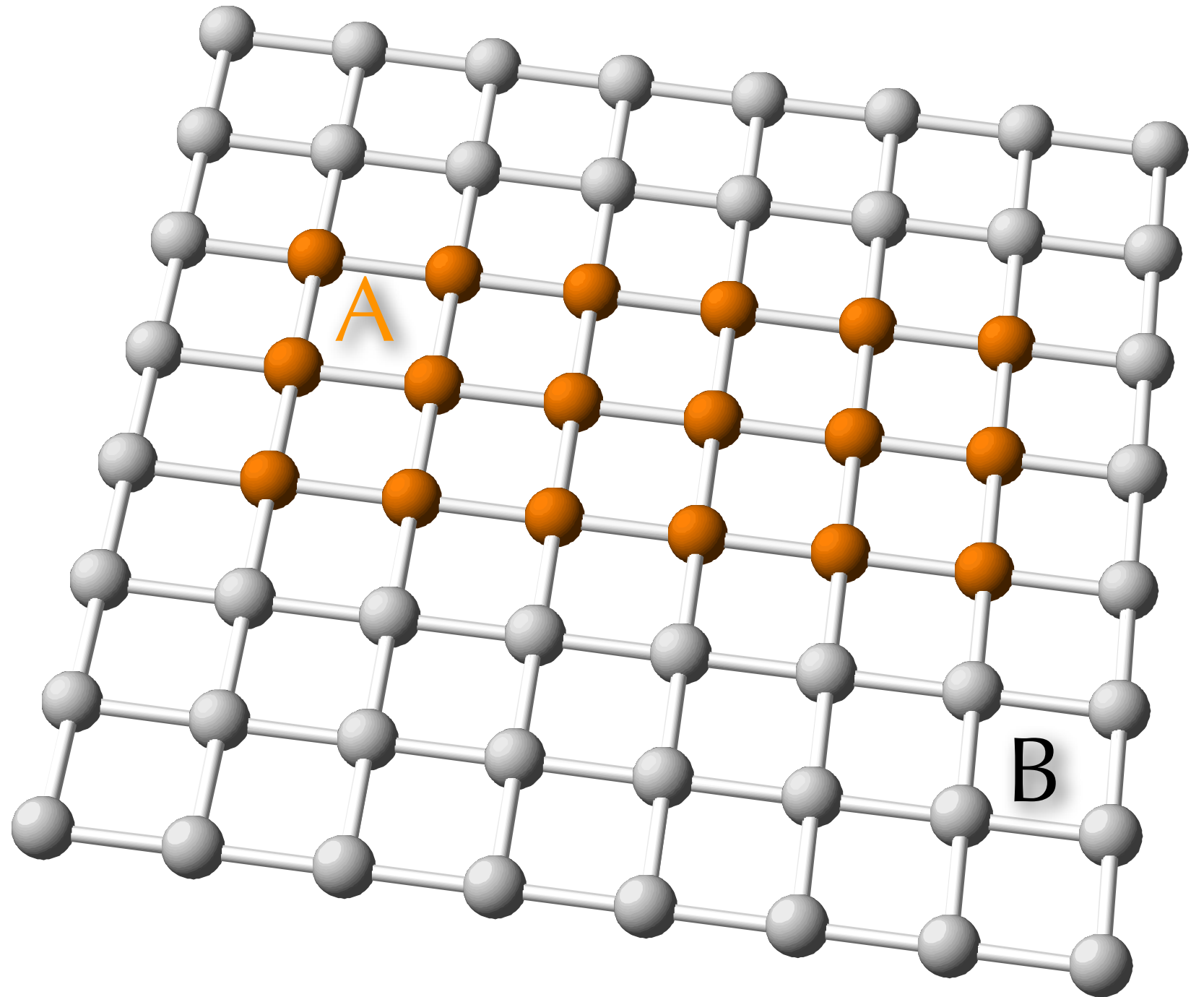
$$S_n(x) = \frac{c}{6} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) \cdot \ln[x'] + \dots$$

$$x' = \frac{L}{\pi} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$$

**c=1: central charge of a conformal field theory**

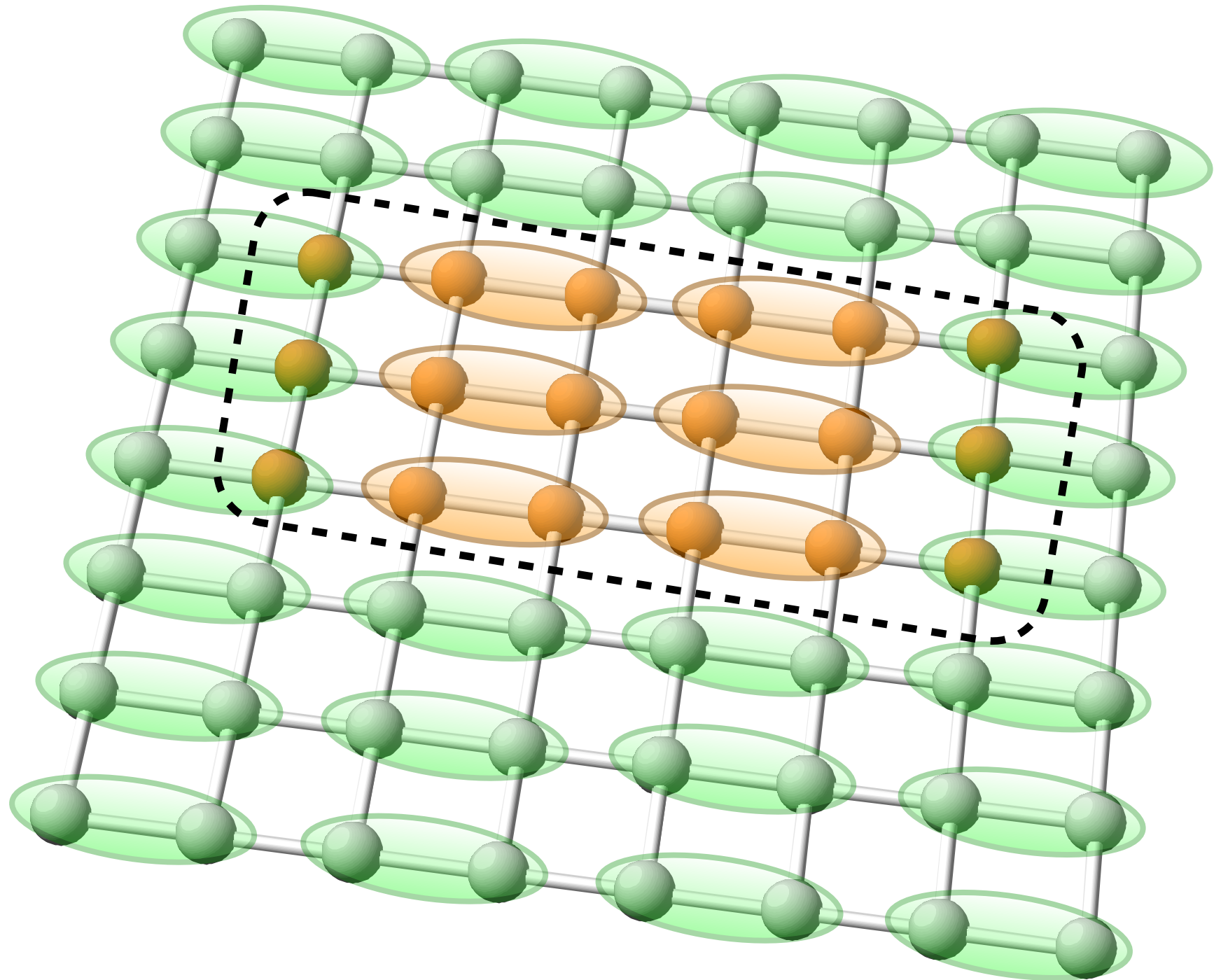


# entanglement in two dimensions



# entanglement in two dimensions

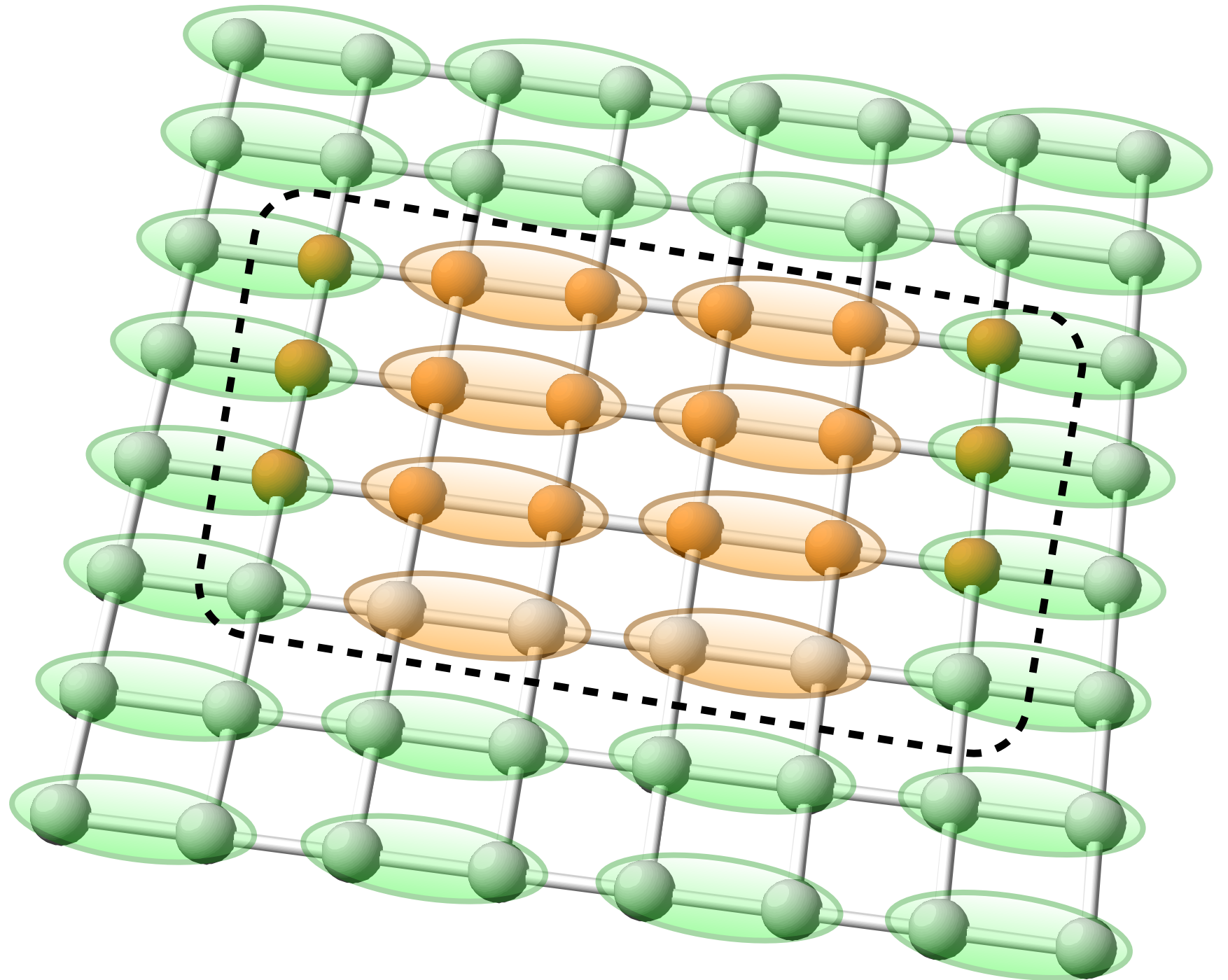
$$\text{green oval} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\lvert \uparrow \downarrow \rangle - \lvert \downarrow \uparrow \rangle)$$





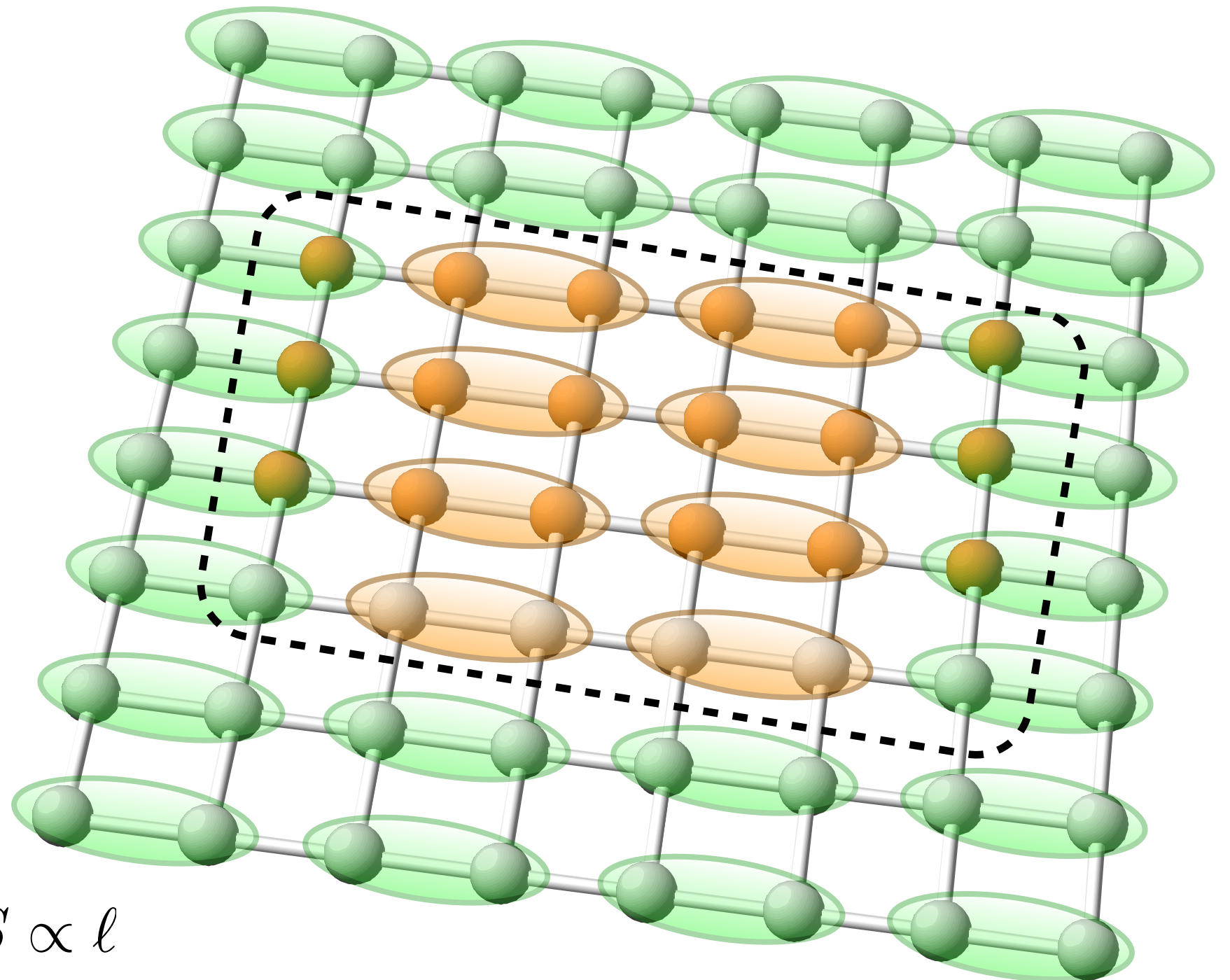
# entanglement in two dimensions

$$\text{green oval} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$



# entanglement in two dimensions

$$\text{Oval} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$

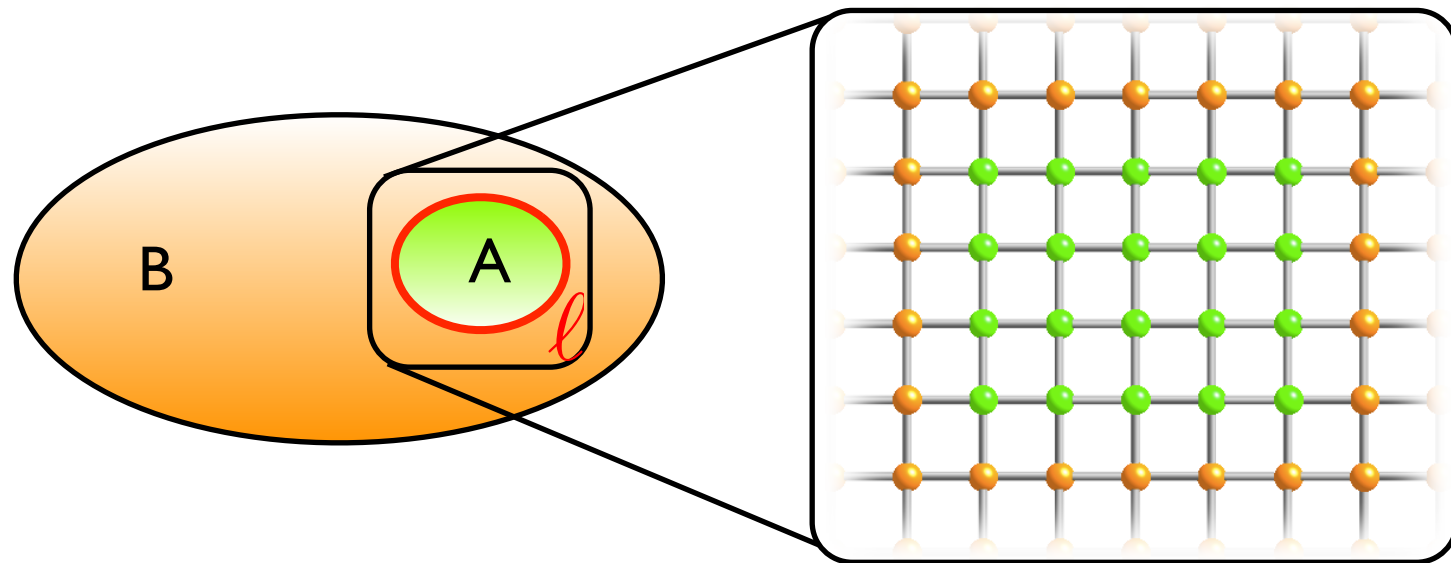


$$S \propto \ell$$

Here, the entanglement depends on the boundary: the “**Area Law**”

# the area law: a special property of groundstates

- or the “boundary rule-of-thumb”



$$S_n = al + \dots$$

coefficient is non-universal

- **groundstate** wavefunctions of local many-body Hamiltonians

- heuristically related to short-range correlations

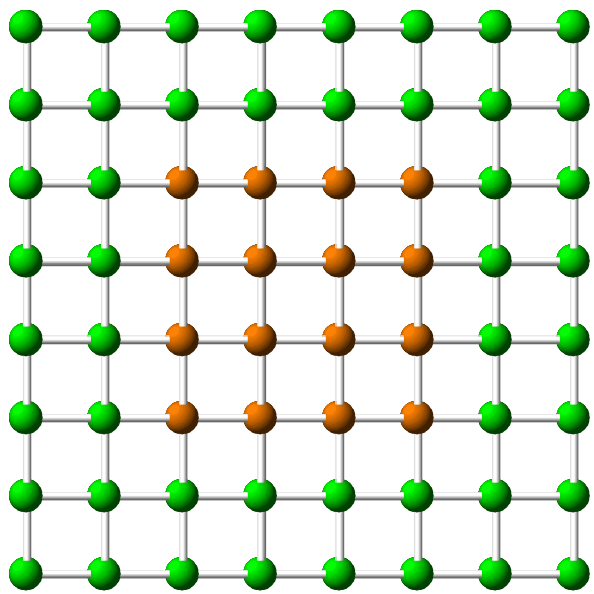
Wolf et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 070502 (2008)

- generally speaking, excited states exhibit a **volume law**

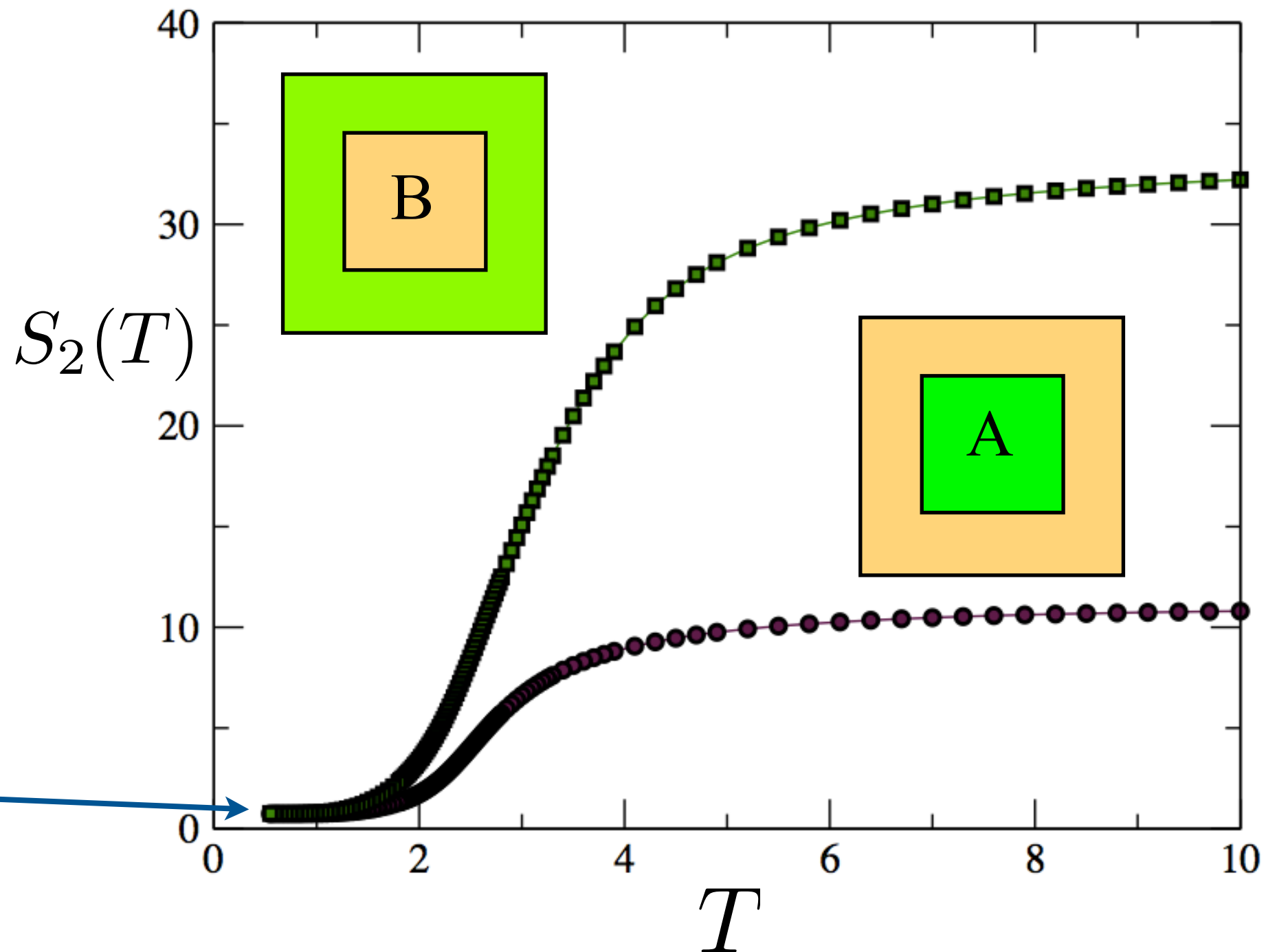
$$S \approx al^2$$

# entanglement at finite-temperatures

The entanglement entropy at finite- $T$  picks up a “volume” law due to thermal mixing



$$S_A = S_B$$



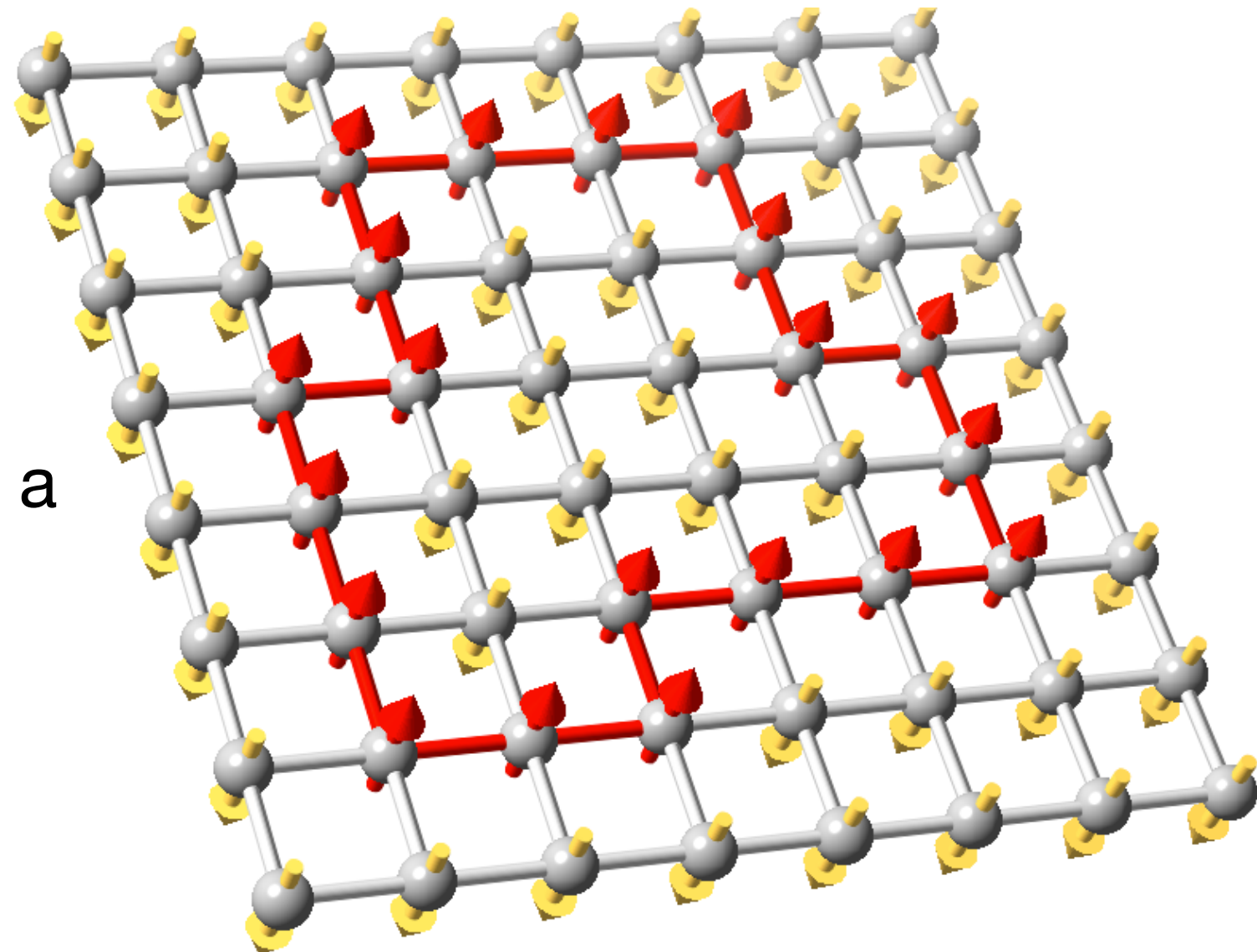
# additive corrections to the area law ( $T=0$ )

**gapped** systems in two dimensions can have subleading terms in the entanglement entropy

$$S_n = a\ell + \dots$$

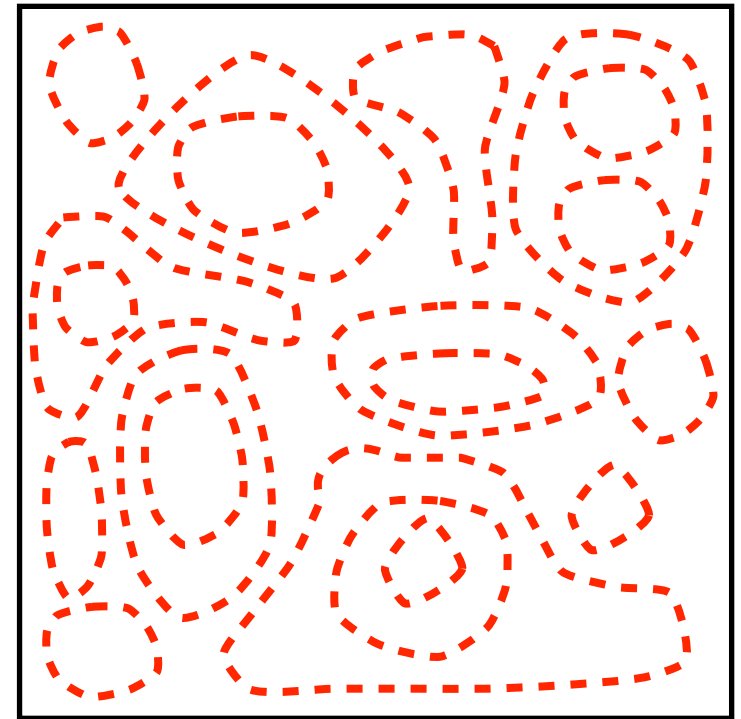
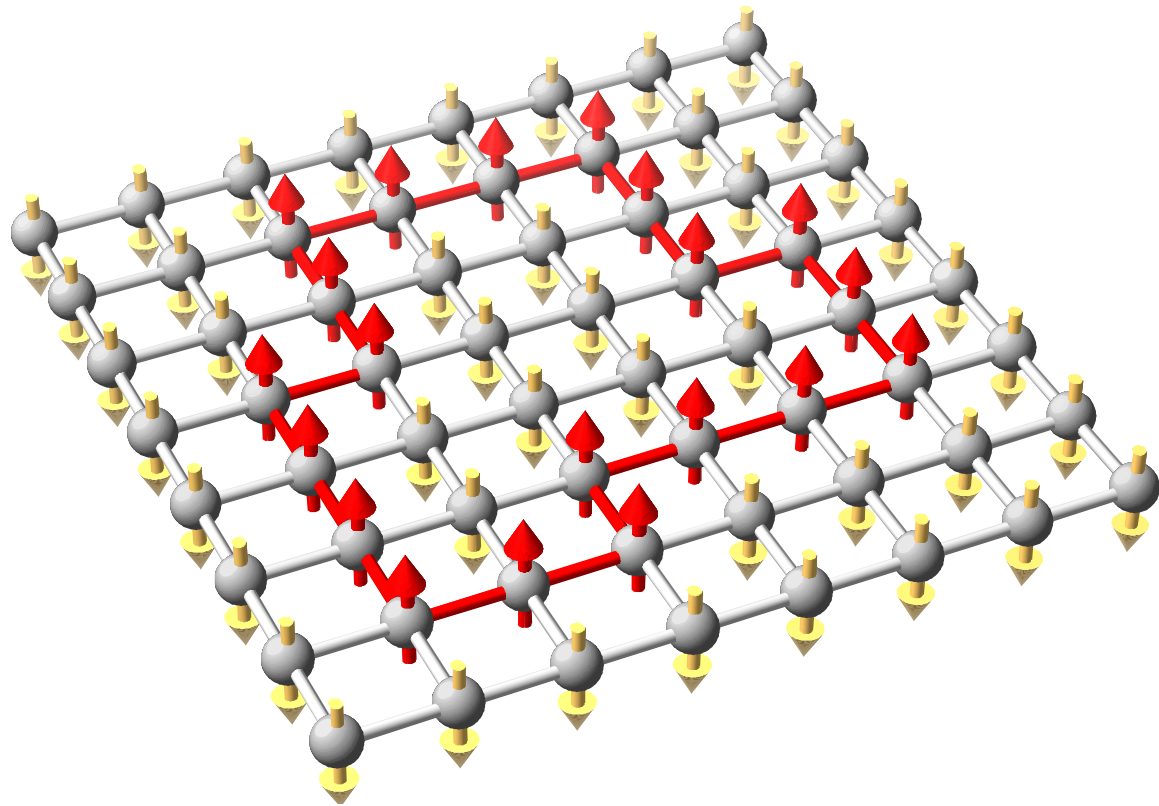
$$S_n = a\ell - \ln(2)$$

For example, a spin liquid (fluctuating loop gas) can have a **topological entanglement entropy**

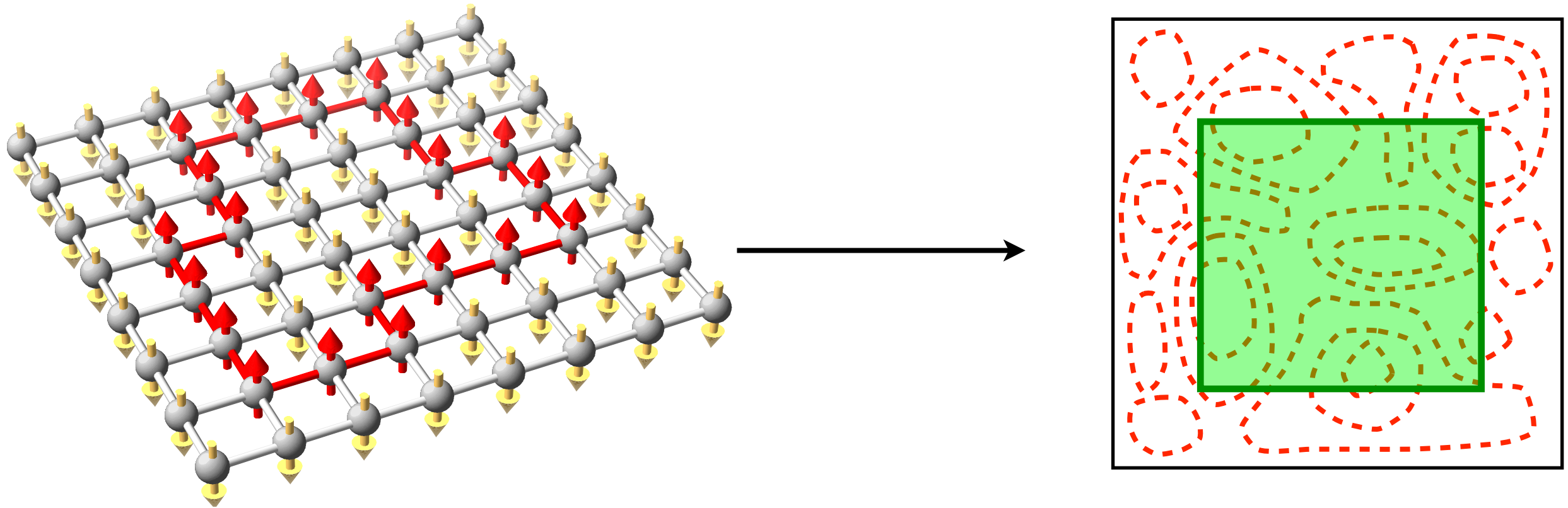




The groundstate of a ( $Z_2$ ) spin liquid can be thought of as a fluctuating “loop gas”



The groundstate of a ( $Z_2$ ) spin liquid can be thought of as a fluctuating “loop gas”



This loop structure imposes **constraints** that subtract from the entanglement entropy of a pure area law:

$$\Omega \sim 2^{\ell-1}$$

possible boundary configurations

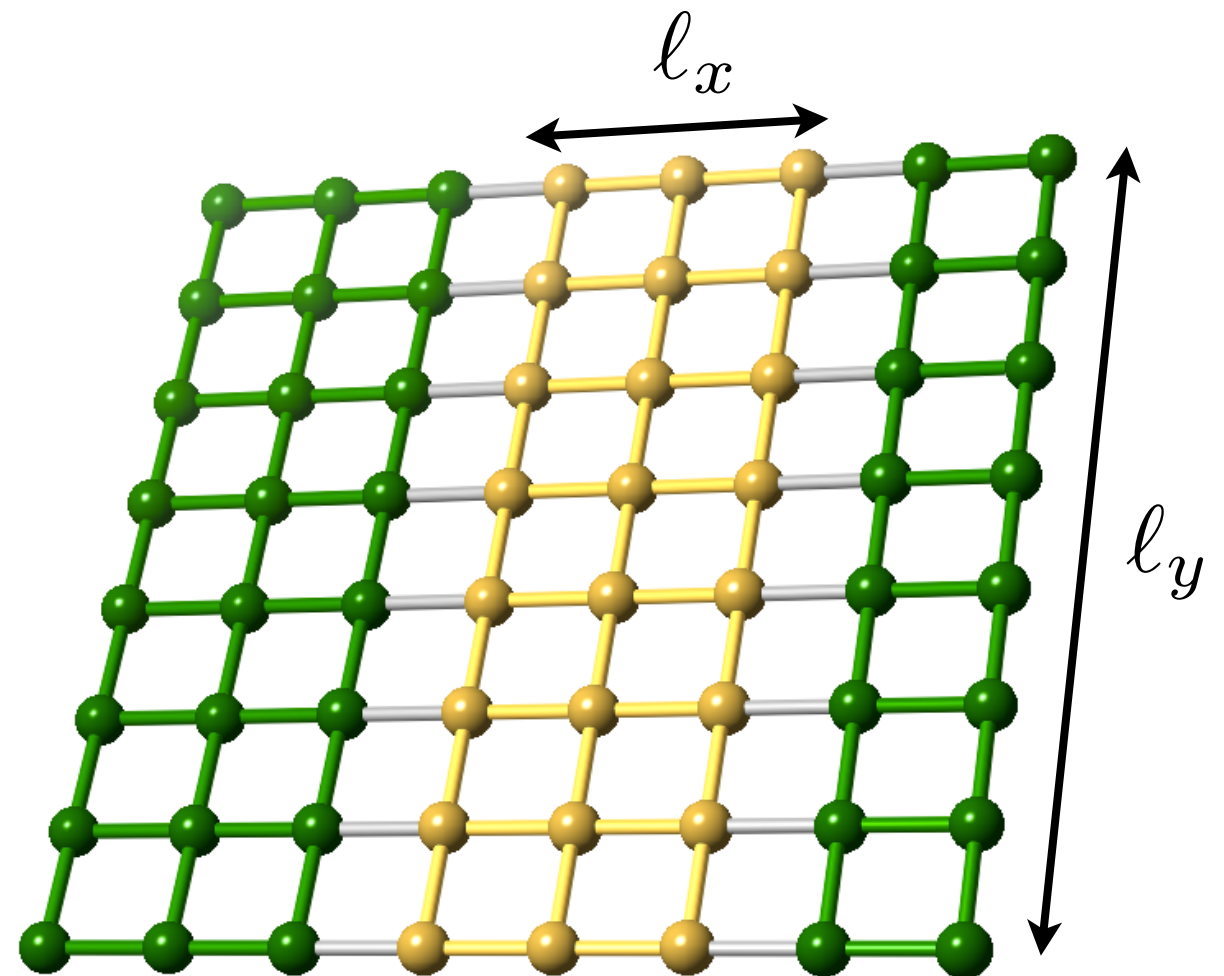
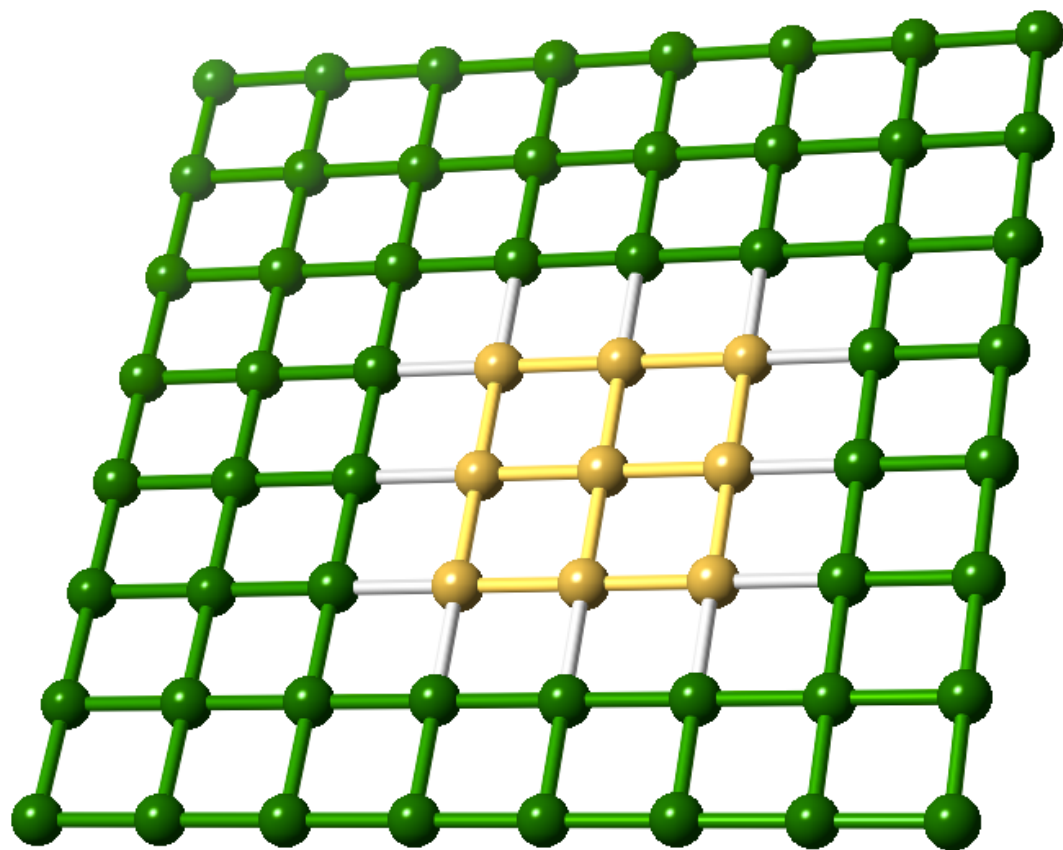
$$S_n = a\ell - \gamma$$

$$\gamma = \ln(2)$$

# additive corrections to the area law ( $T=0$ )

**gapless** systems in two dimensions generally have subleading shape-dependent terms in the entanglement entropy

$$S_n = al + \gamma(l_x, l_y)$$





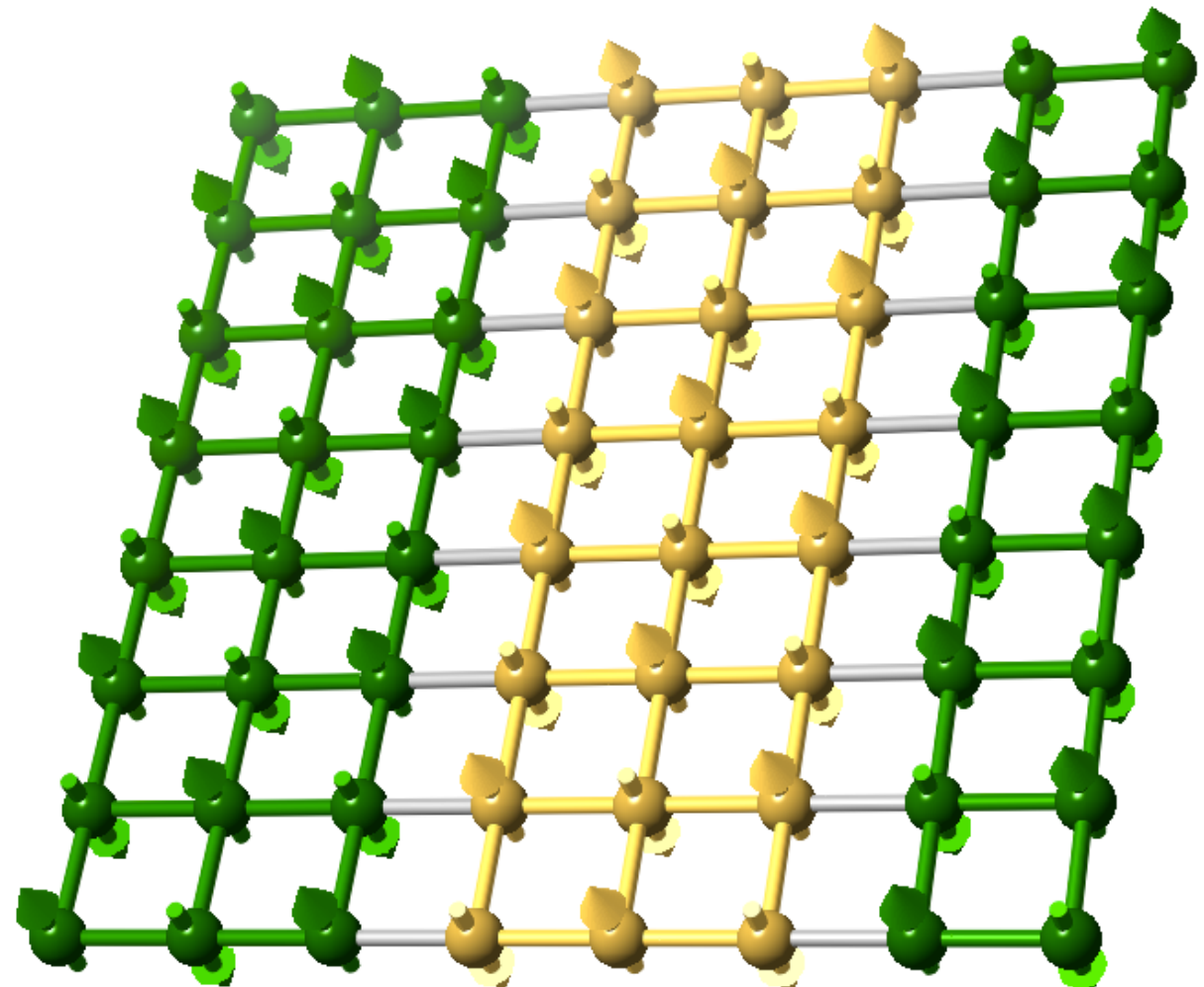
# additive corrections to the area law (T=0)

Neel order, e.g. the groundstate of the 2D spin-1/2 Heisenberg model

$$H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j$$

$$S_n = a\ell + b \ln(\ell) + \dots$$

The subleading term is a consequence of Goldstone modes - has a **universal** coefficient



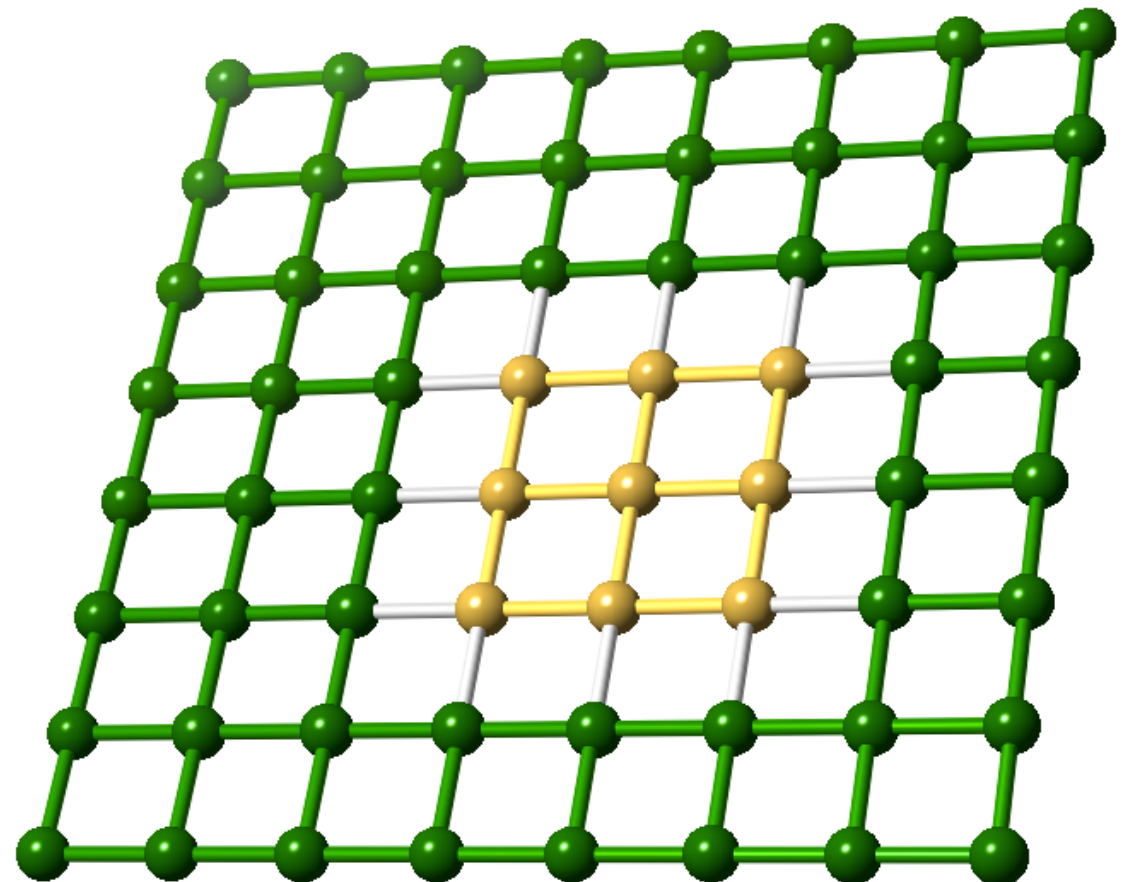
# additive corrections to the area law (T=0)

Quantum critical systems, e.g. transverse-field Ising model

$$H = J \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} S_i^z S_j^z + h \sum_i S_i^x$$

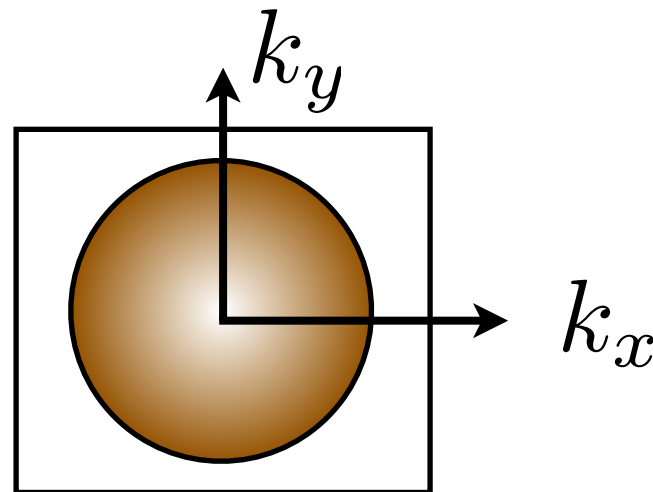
$$S_n = a\ell + c_n \ln(\ell) + \dots$$

A subleading logarithm arises when one has **corners** in the region - the coefficient of this terms is universal for that particular universality class



# “violations” of the area law in 2D

Multiplicative logarithmic corrections to the area law occur in cases where one has a fermi surface in 2D



$$S_n = c \ell \ln(\ell) + \dots$$

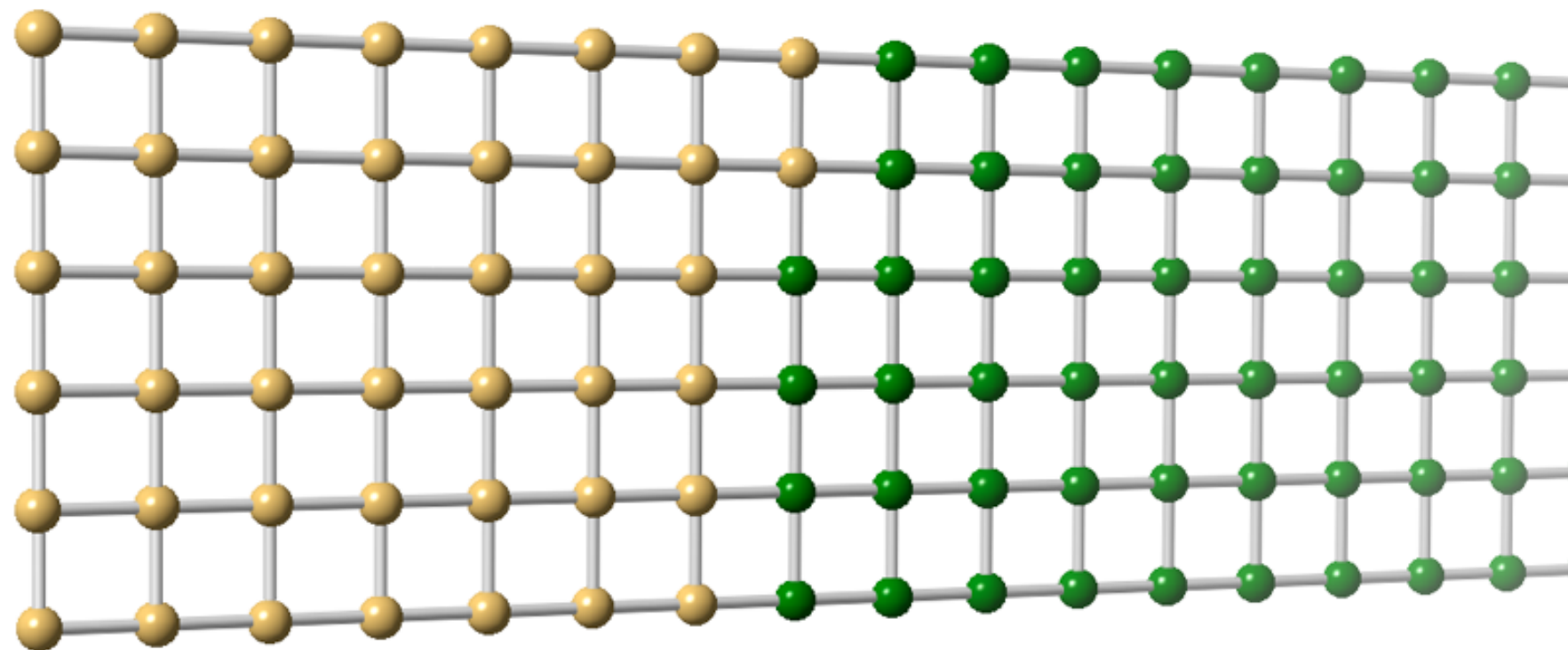
M.M. Wolf, Phys. Rev. Lett. **96**, 010404 (2006).  
D. Gioev, I. Klich, Phys. Rev. Lett. **96**, 100503 (2006).

... will this be the new “sign problem” for the 21st century?

# the challenge for DMRG

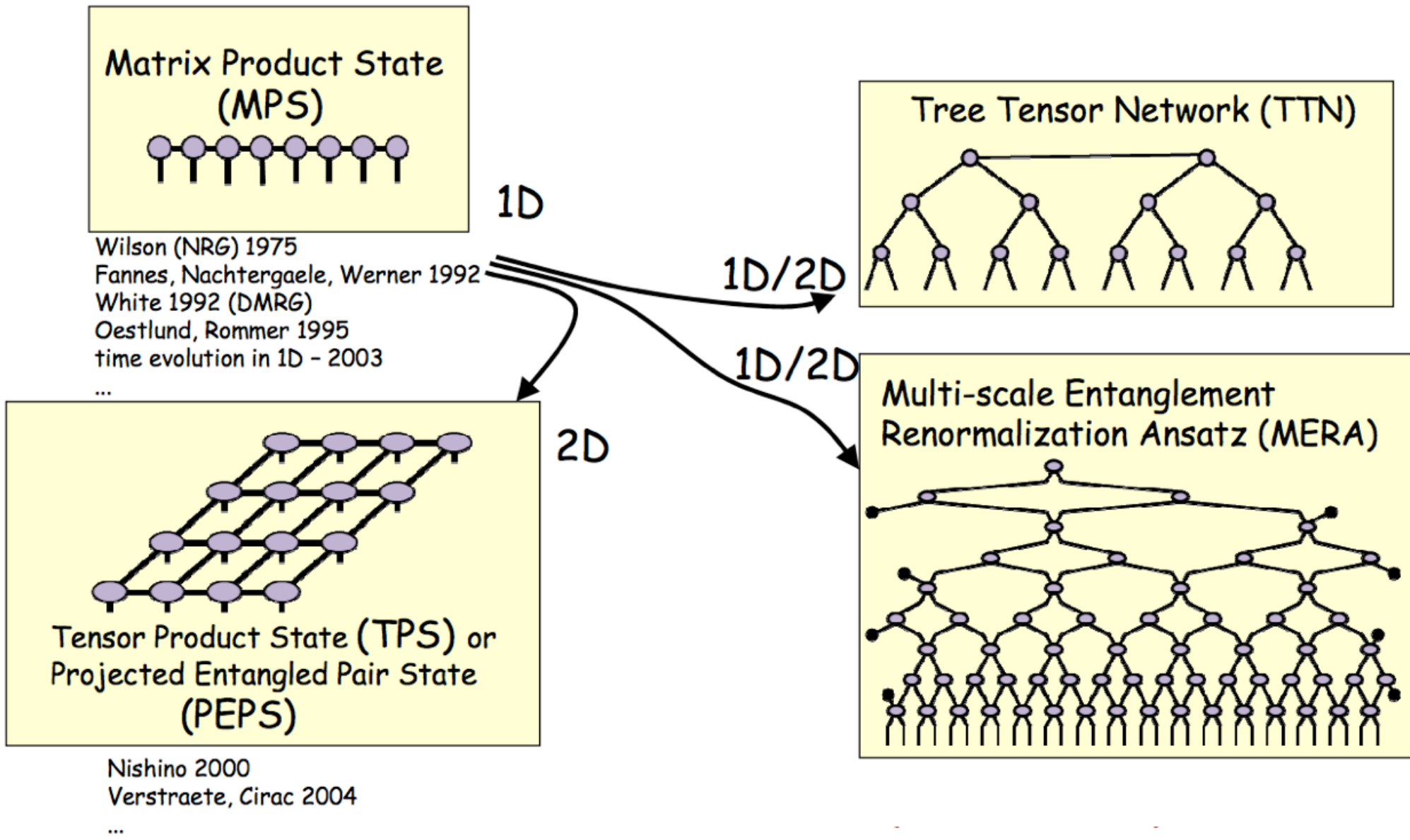
$$m \propto e^{S_1} \Rightarrow m \propto e^{\ell}$$

- in general, the number of DMRG states that you need to keep to represent a groundstate wavefunction is exponential in the width



# higher dimensions? Tensor Networks

- methods based on a “low-entanglement” ansatz in the wavefunction



# conclusion

DMRG is the established method for solving the ground states of strongly interacting systems in 1D

It continues to revolutionize the way we think of dealing with the strongly-interacting quantum many-body problem numerically