

**Entanglement in correlated
quantum systems:
A quantum information perspective**

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Quantum Information and Quantum Many-Body Systems

- Aim: Understand the physics of **quantum systems** composed of **many particles**
- In many cases, quantum correlations between particles are not very relevant (mean field theory)
- **Strong correlations** involved
⇒ **entanglement** becomes important
- Entanglement Theory:
 - central part of quantum information theory
 - how can we **measure entanglement**?
 - **what can we do** with entanglement, and **what is impossible**?

Can we use quantum information techniques (in particular entanglement theory) to obtain a better understanding of quantum many-body systems?

Entanglement in Quantum Information

- two (and more) spins: **entanglement**

$$|\Psi^+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[|0\rangle_A |0\rangle_B + |1\rangle_A |1\rangle_B \right]$$

- **How much entanglement** is in some state

e.g. $|\phi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle_A|0\rangle_B + \beta|1\rangle_A|1\rangle_B$?

↔ How much **perfect entanglement** $|\Psi^+\rangle$ does it contain?

- **reduced state** of Alice $\rho_A := \text{tr}_B |\phi\rangle\langle\phi|$:

$$\rho_A = |\alpha|^2 |0\rangle\langle 0| + |\beta|^2 |1\rangle\langle 1|$$

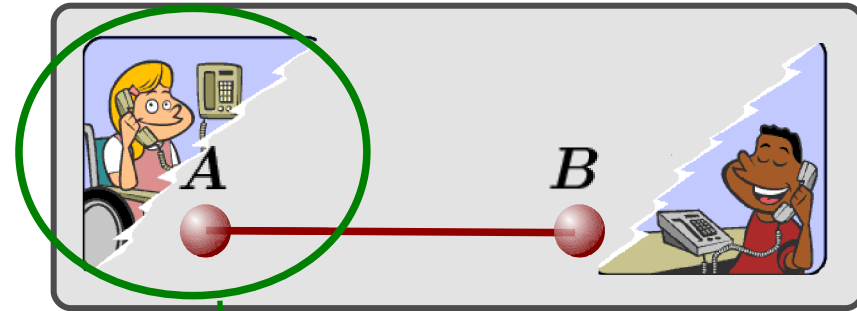
- more entanglement ↔ **more uncertainty** in ρ_A

- measure of uncertainty (entanglement): **von Neumann entropy**

$$S(\rho_A) = -\text{tr}[\rho_A \log_A]$$

⇒ provides **quantitative measure** of entanglement

entropy = entanglement

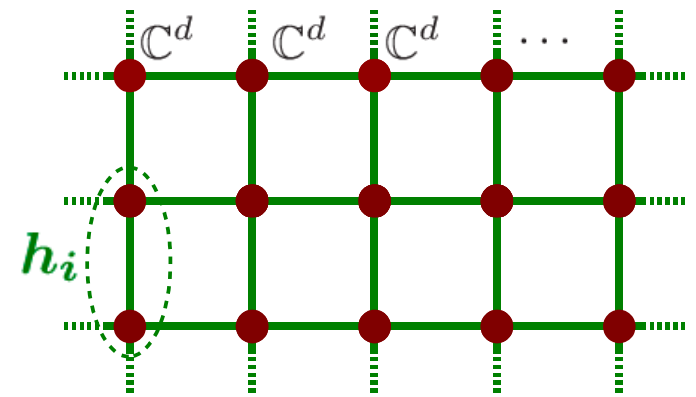


Quantum many-body systems

- We consider systems composed of many (N)

d -level spins $|0\rangle, |1\rangle, \dots, |d-1\rangle$

with a **locality notion** (\rightarrow lattice geometry)



- **Local Hamiltonian** $H = \sum_{i=1}^M h_i$

- H might be gapped: **energy gap** $\Delta(H) > 0$ betw. ground and excited states
-

- Primary focus: **ground state** properties – $H|\Psi_0\rangle = E_0|\Psi_0\rangle$

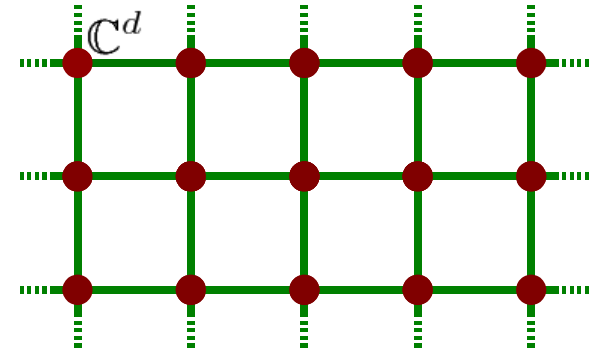
... but we are also interested in **thermal states** $\rho = e^{-\beta H}$

or the time evolution $|\Psi(t)\rangle = e^{iHt}|\Psi(t=0)\rangle$

- **Variational approach:**

We seek for an **explicit form** of the **wavefunction** $|\Psi_0\rangle$

How hard is it to describe the ground state?



- N spins, $H = \sum_{i=1}^M h_i$
 - can we **describe the ground state** $|\Psi_0\rangle$?
-

- Problem for large N :

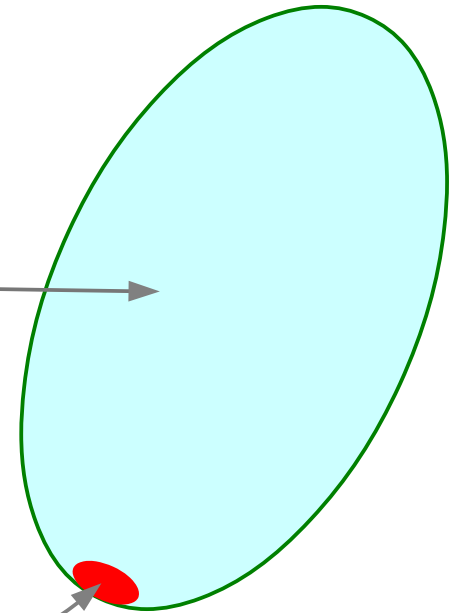
$$|\Psi_0\rangle = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_N} c_{i_1 \dots i_N} |i_1, \dots, i_N\rangle \in (\mathbb{C}^d)^{\otimes N} = \mathbb{C}^{(d^N)}$$

exponentially large
Hilbert space $\mathbb{C}^{(d^N)}$!

- But there is hope:

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^M h_i \text{ has only } M \propto N \text{ parameters}$$

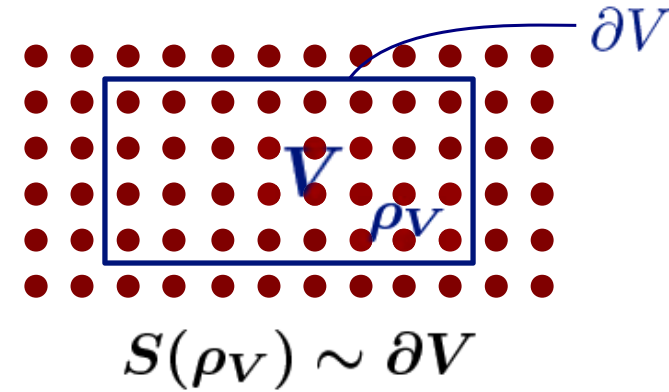
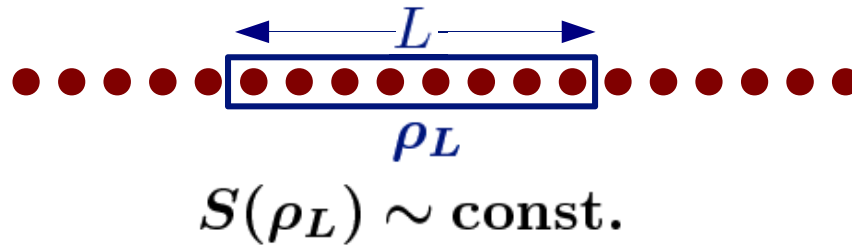
→ $|\Psi_0\rangle$ lives in **small region** of Hilbert space



Can we find an **efficient description of ground states**
from which we can **efficiently compute quantities of interest**?

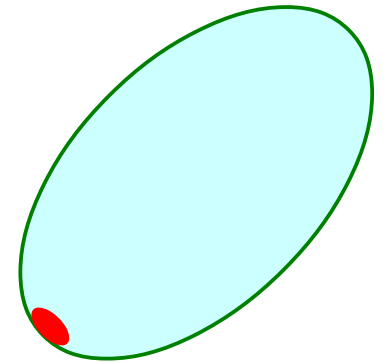
A physical guideline: The area law

- **Area law** for ground states of **gapped Hamiltonians**:



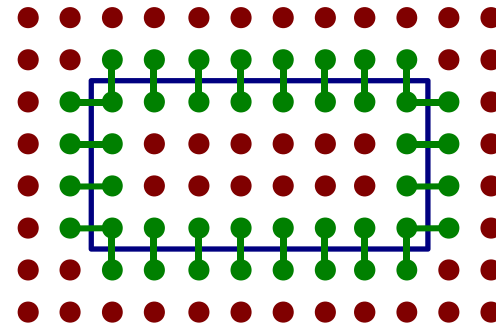
⇒ entropy $S(\rho_L)$ of a region **scales as boundary**

- Surprising: for random states, we expect $S(\rho_L) \sim \text{Volume}$
- Even for **gapless systems**: $S(\rho_L) \sim \log L$ (1D)



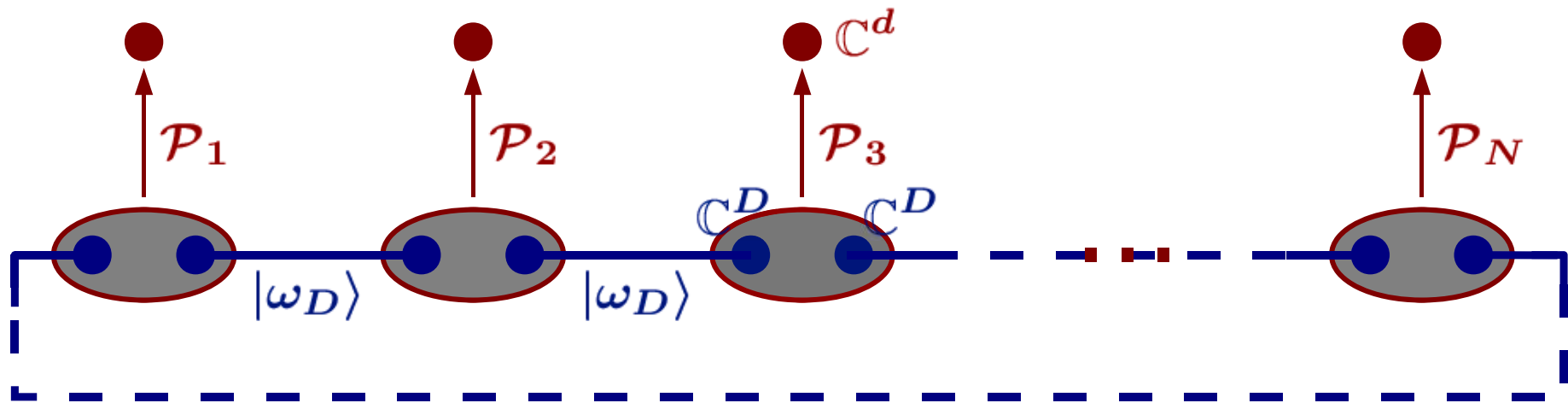
- Quantum Information: entropy \equiv entanglement

⇒ **entanglement** located around the **boundary**



⇒ construct ansatz from **entanglement** between **adjacent sites**

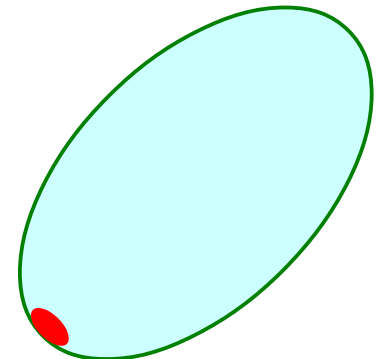
An ansatz for states with an area law



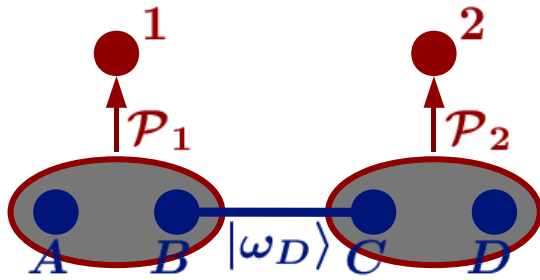
- each site composed of two **auxiliary particles** (“virtual particles”) forming max. entangled **bonds** $|\omega_D\rangle := \sum_{i=1}^D |i, i\rangle$ (D : “bond dimension”)
- apply **linear map** (“projector”) $\mathcal{P}_k : \mathbb{C}^D \times \mathbb{C}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^d$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{|\psi\rangle = (\mathcal{P}_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{P}_N) |\omega_D\rangle^{\otimes N}}$$

- satisfies **area law** by construction
- state characterized by $\mathcal{P}_1, \dots, \mathcal{P}_N \rightarrow NdD^2$ parameters
- family of states: enlarged by increasing D



Formulation in terms of Matrix Products



$$\mathcal{P}_s = \sum_{i, \alpha, \beta} A_{\alpha\beta}^{[s], i} |i\rangle \langle \alpha, \beta|$$

$A^{[s], i} : D \times D$ matrices

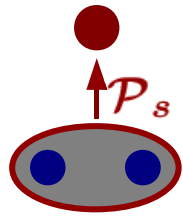
$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{P}_1 \otimes \mathcal{P}_2) |\omega_D\rangle &= \left[\sum_{i, \alpha, \beta} A_{\alpha\beta}^{[1], i} |i\rangle_1 \langle \alpha, \beta|_{AB} \right] \left[\sum_{j, \gamma, \delta} A_{\gamma\delta}^{[2], j} |j\rangle_2 \langle \gamma, \delta|_{CD} \right] \left[\sum_k |k, k\rangle_{BC} \right] \\ &= \sum_{i, j, \alpha, \delta} \left[\sum_{\beta} A_{\alpha\beta}^{[1], i} A_{\beta\delta}^{[2], j} \right] |i, j\rangle_{12} \langle \alpha, \delta|_{AD} \quad \beta = \gamma \\ &= \sum_{i, j, \alpha, \delta} (A^{[1], i} A^{[2], j})_{\alpha\delta} |i, j\rangle_{12} \langle \alpha, \delta|_{AD} \end{aligned}$$

- iterate this for the whole state $|\psi\rangle = (\mathcal{P}_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \mathcal{P}_N) |\omega_D\rangle^{\otimes N}$:

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_N} [A^{[1], i_1} A^{[2], i_2} \dots A^{[N], i_N}] |i_1, \dots, i_N\rangle \quad \text{Matrix Product State (MPS)}$$

(or $|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_N} \langle l | A^{[1], i_1} A^{[2], i_2} \dots A^{[N], i_N} | r \rangle |i_1, \dots, i_N\rangle$ for open boundaries)

Formulation in terms of Tensor Networks



$$\mathcal{P}_s = \sum_{i, \alpha, \beta} A_{\alpha, \beta}^{[s], i} |i\rangle \langle \alpha, \beta|$$

$$A_{\alpha\beta}^{[s], i} \equiv \alpha - \boxed{A^{[s]}} - \beta \quad \begin{array}{c} i \\ | \\ \square \end{array}$$

- **Tensor Network** notation:

$$A_{\alpha\beta}^i \equiv \alpha - \boxed{A} - \beta \quad \sum_{\beta} A_{\alpha\beta}^i B_{\beta\gamma}^j \equiv \alpha - \boxed{A} - \beta - \boxed{B} - \gamma$$

$$\text{tr}[A^{[1], i_1} A^{[2], i_2} \dots A^{[N], i_N}] = \begin{array}{c} i_1 \quad i_2 \quad i_3 \quad \dots \quad i_N \\ | \quad | \quad | \quad \dots \quad | \\ \boxed{A^{[1]}} - \alpha - \boxed{A^{[2]}} - \beta - \boxed{A^{[3]}} - \dots - \boxed{A^{[N]}} \\ | \quad | \quad | \quad \dots \quad | \\ \alpha \quad \beta \quad \dots \quad \end{array}$$

||

- Matrix Product States can be written as

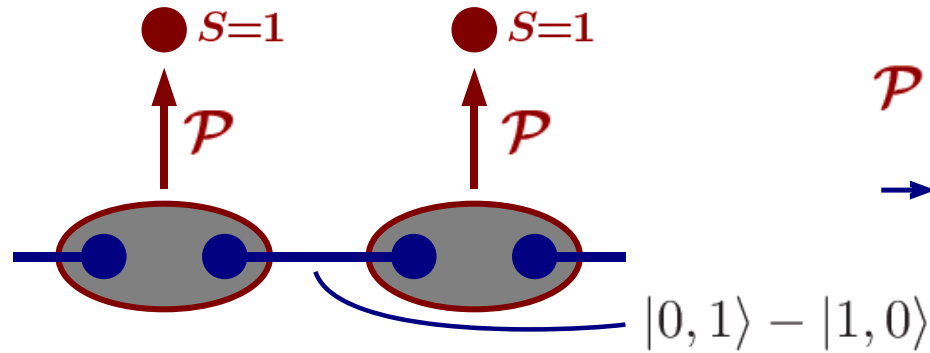
$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_N} c_{i_1, \dots, i_N} |i_1, \dots, i_N\rangle \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{array}{c} i_1 \quad i_2 \quad i_3 \quad \dots \quad i_N \\ | \quad | \quad | \quad \dots \quad | \\ \boxed{c_{i_1, \dots, i_N}} \end{array}$$

“Tensor Network States”

Examples

- The **AKLT state** [Affleck, Kennedy, Lieb & Tasaki, '87]

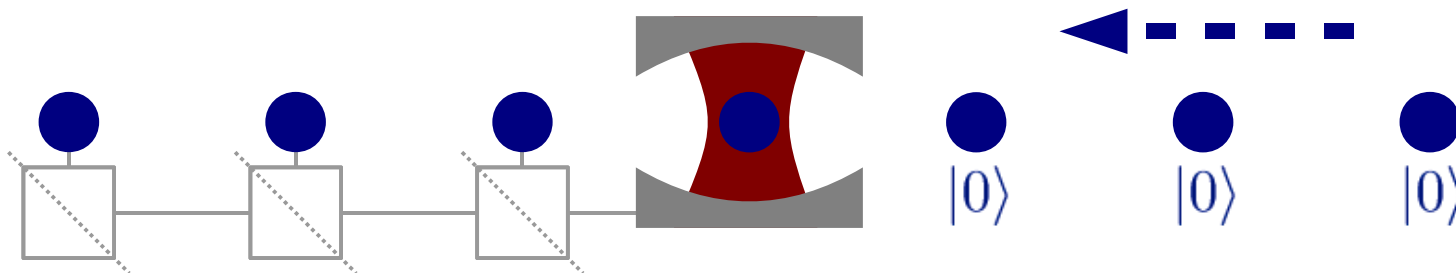
$D = 2$:



\mathcal{P} : projector onto $S = 1$ subspace
 → **rotationally invariant** model

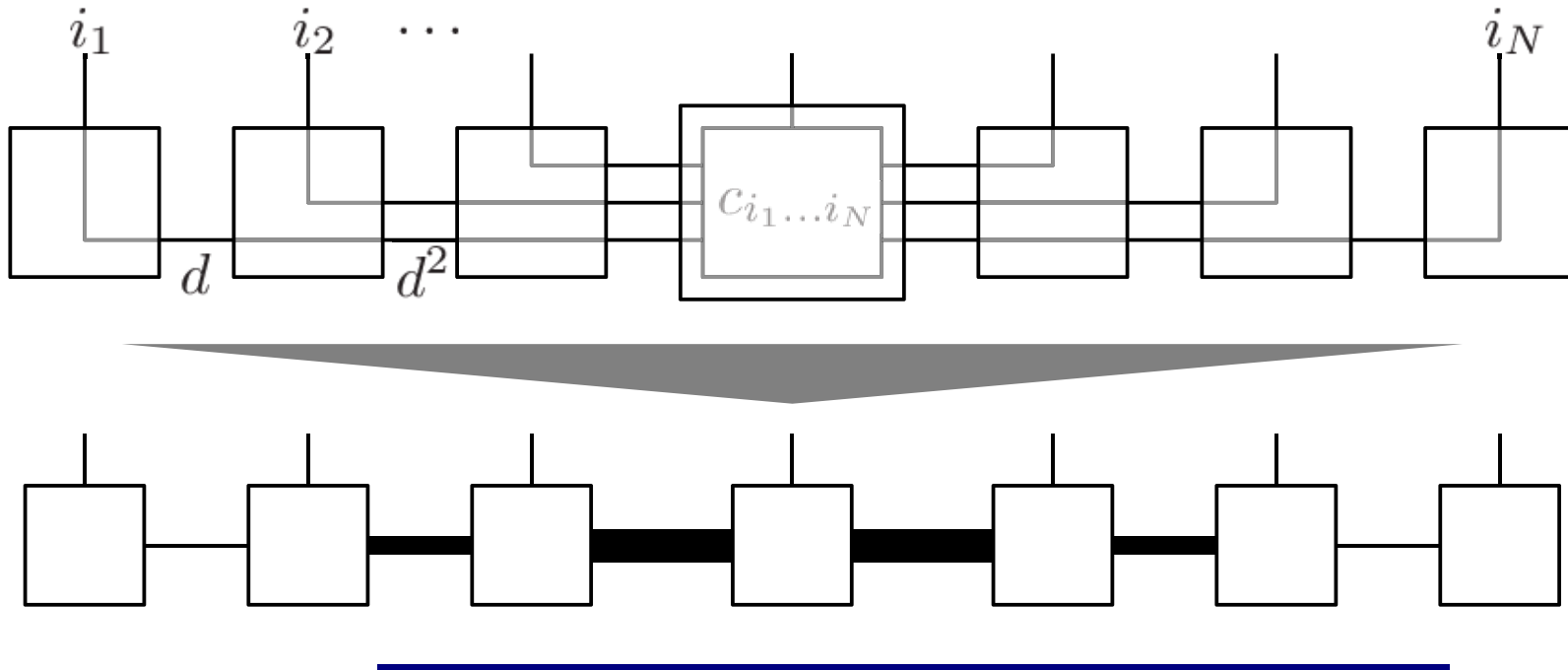
- Exact ground state** of $H = \sum_i \left[\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1} + \frac{1}{6} (\mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_{i+1})^2 + \frac{1}{3} \right]$
- H has a **provable gap** (\Leftrightarrow Haldane conj. on integer-spin Heisenberg model)
 \Rightarrow MPS form a great **analytical toolbox** for correlated systems

- MPS \Leftrightarrow states which can be prepared with a **sequential scheme**, e.g. a beam of atoms going through a cavity:



When can we write state as MPS?

- Every state can be written as an MPS: $|\psi\rangle = \sum c_{i_1 \dots i_N} |i_1, \dots, i_N\rangle$



- state with **entropic area law*** $S_\alpha(\rho_L) \leq S_{\max}$
 \rightarrow efficient **MPS approximation** exists!

$$\| |\Psi\rangle - |\text{MPS}(D)\rangle \| \leq \text{const} \times \frac{N e^{c_\alpha S_{\max}}}{D^{c_\alpha}}$$

size N : linear scaling
(poly if $S_{\max} \sim \log N$)

constant accuracy: $D \propto N^{1/c_\alpha}$

- Hastings '07: 1D gapped systems exhibit an area law!

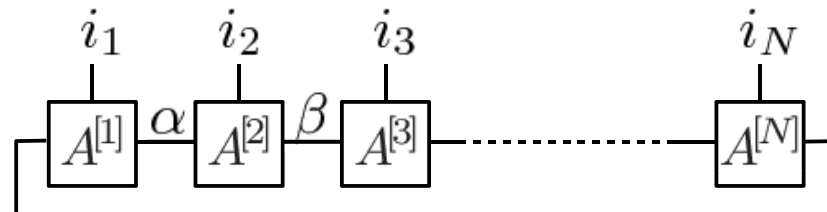
A short wrap-up on MPS

- Matrix Product States: ansatz for 1D system of N d -level systems $(\mathbb{C}^d)^{\otimes N}$

$$A_{\alpha\beta}^{[s],i}$$

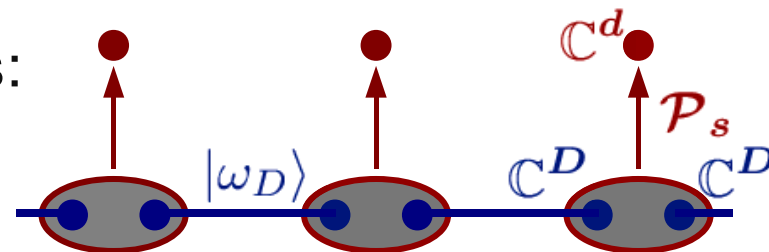
$s = 1, \dots, N$: site index
 $i = 0, \dots, d - 1$: physical system (physical index)
 $\alpha, \beta = 0, \dots, D - 1$: left/right virtual system ("bond")

- Matrix Product notation: $|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_N} \text{tr}[A^{[1],i_1} A^{[2],i_2} \dots A^{[N],i_N}] |i_1, \dots, i_N\rangle$



- Tensor Network notation:

- construction with bonds:



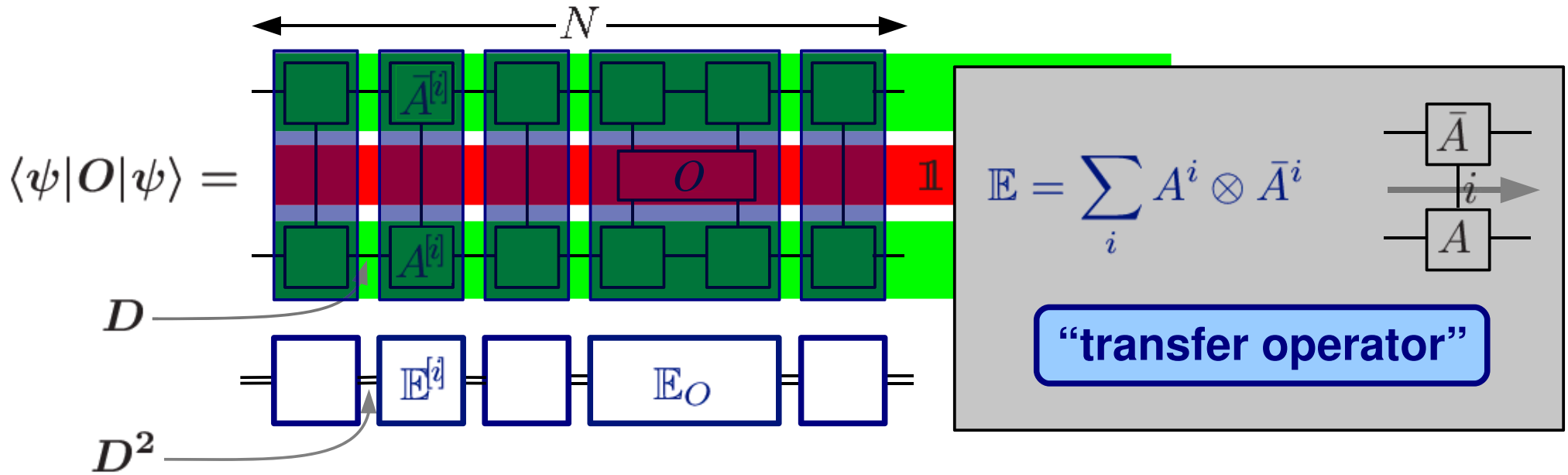
$$|\omega_D\rangle = \sum_{i=0}^{D-1} |i, i\rangle$$

$$\mathcal{P}_s = \sum_{i\alpha\beta} A_{\alpha\beta}^{[s],i} |i\rangle \langle \alpha, \beta|$$

- good approximation** for **ground states** of 1D systems
- bond dimension D** serves as a tuning parameter to **enlarge class** of states

Computing with MPS

- Given an MPS $|\psi\rangle$, can we compute exp. values $\langle\psi|O|\psi\rangle$ for local O ?



$$\langle\psi|O|\psi\rangle = \text{tr}[E^{[1]}E^{[2]}\dots E^{[k-1]} E_O E^{[k+2]}\dots E^{[N]}]$$

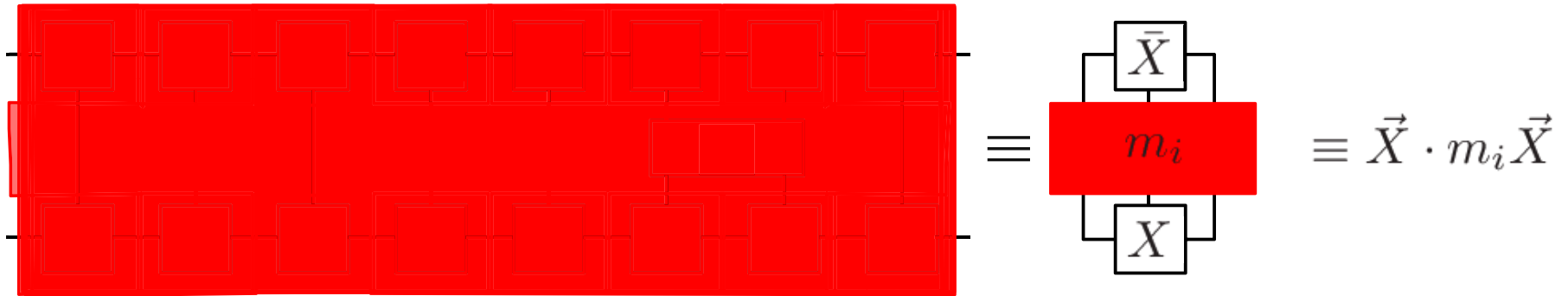
- computing $\langle\psi|O|\psi\rangle =$ multiplication of $D^2 \times D^2$ matrices
 \rightarrow computation time $\propto N \cdot D^6 = \text{poly}(N)$
- OBC scaling: D^4 [and if done properly, even D^5 (PBC) and D^3 (OBC)]
- works also for **correlation functions**, string order parameters, etc.

Numerical simulations with MPS

- MPS as **variational ansatz**: find MPS $|\psi\rangle \equiv |\psi[A^{[1]}, \dots, A^{[N]}\rangle$ (fixed D)

$$\text{which minimizes } E(|\psi\rangle) = \frac{\langle \psi | H | \psi \rangle}{\langle \psi | \psi \rangle} = \sum_i \frac{\langle \psi | h_i | \psi \rangle}{\langle \psi | \psi \rangle}$$

- Optimize **one tensor** $A^{[s]} =: X$ **at a time**



$$\rightarrow \text{minimize } E(X) = \frac{\langle \psi[X] | H | \psi[X] \rangle}{\langle \psi[X] | \psi[X] \rangle} = \frac{\vec{X} \cdot M \vec{X}}{\vec{X} \cdot N \vec{X}} \text{ over } X$$

- generalized eigenvalue problem $M \vec{X} = \lambda N \vec{X} \rightarrow$ efficiently solvable!

- DMRG algorithm: Repeatedly sweep through lattice & optimize

[Density Matrix Renormalization Group – White, '92]

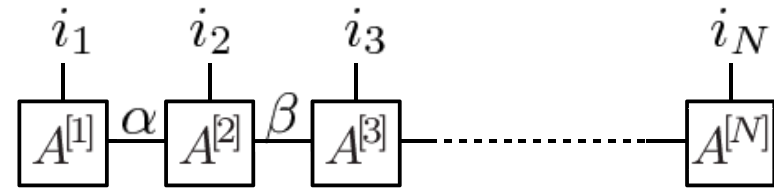
- converges very quickly

- does (typically) not get stuck in local minima [but hard instances exist!]

- approximation error for local observables: typ. $\sim \exp[-D]$

Wrap-up: Matrix Product States & simulations

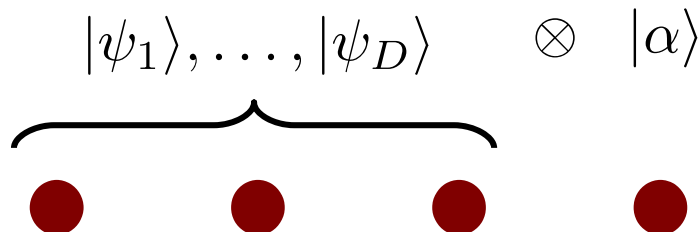
- **Matrix Product States (MPS):**
efficient description of ground states of (gapped) 1D systems



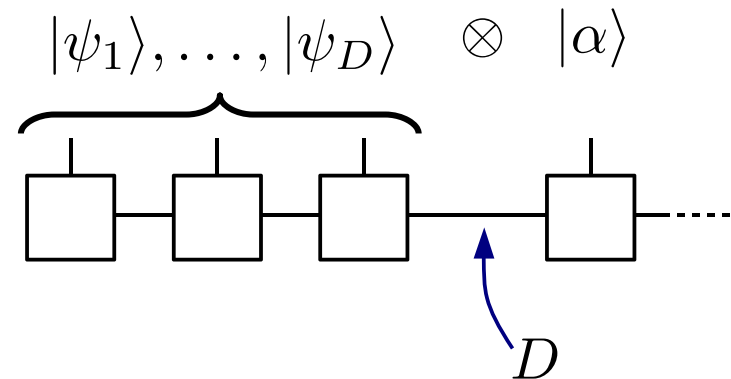
- expectation values of **local observables**, correlation functions etc. can be **computed efficiently**
- can be used to build **variational method: DMRG**

- relation to **Wilson RG (NRG):**

NRG: keep D states with lowest energy for given block

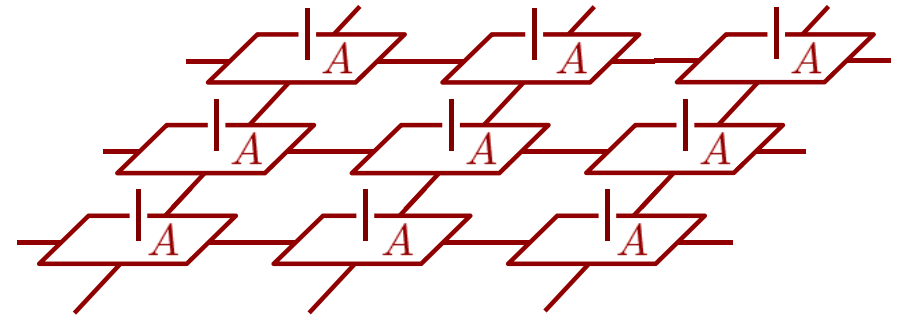
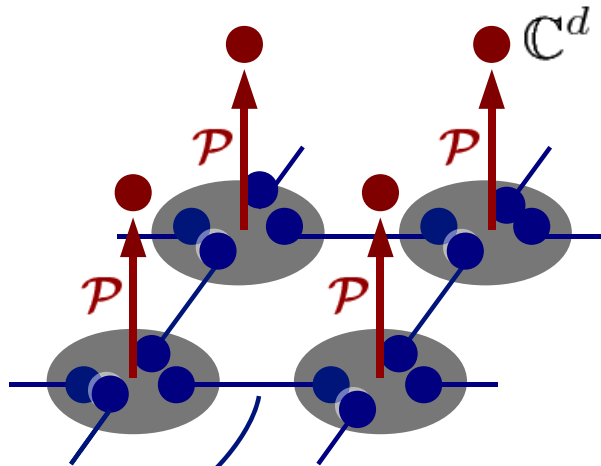


DMRG: keep D states most important for ground state entanglement



Projected Entangled Pair States

- Natural generalization of MPS to two dimensions:



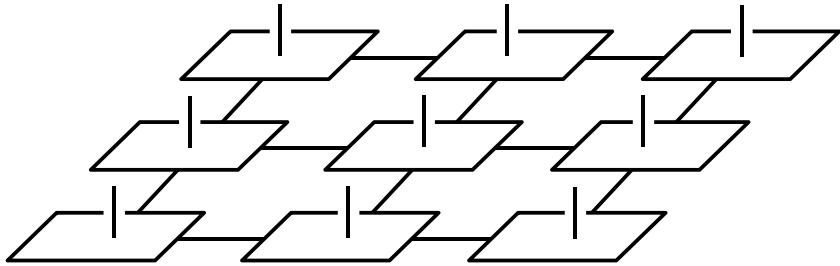
$$|\omega_D\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^D |i\rangle|i\rangle$$

Projected Entangled Pair States (PEPS)

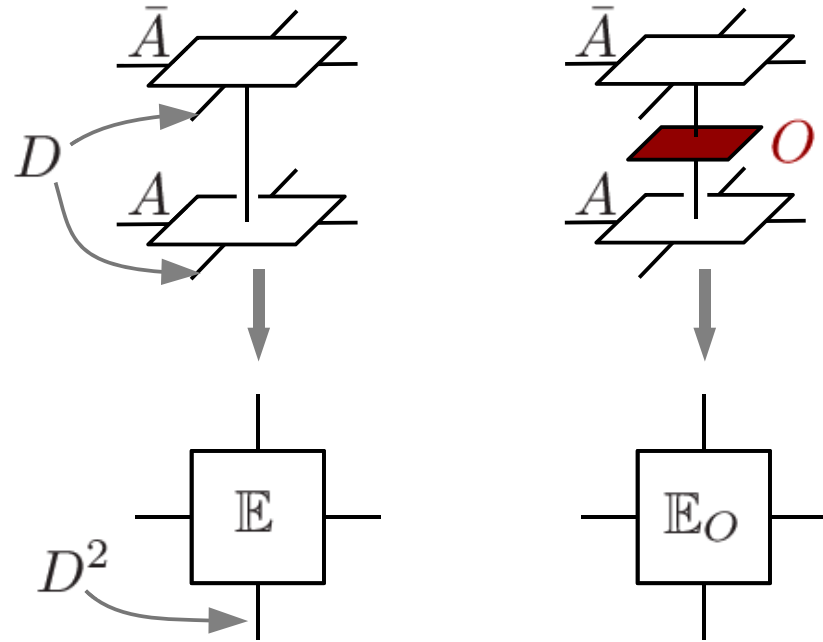
- **approximate ground/thermal states** of local Hamiltonians well
- PEPS form a **complete family** with accuracy parameter D .
- PEPS appear as **exact ground states** of local Hamiltonians
→ can be used to construct **exactly solvable models**

Computing expectation values for PEPS

- Can we compute expectation values (energy, correlation functions)?



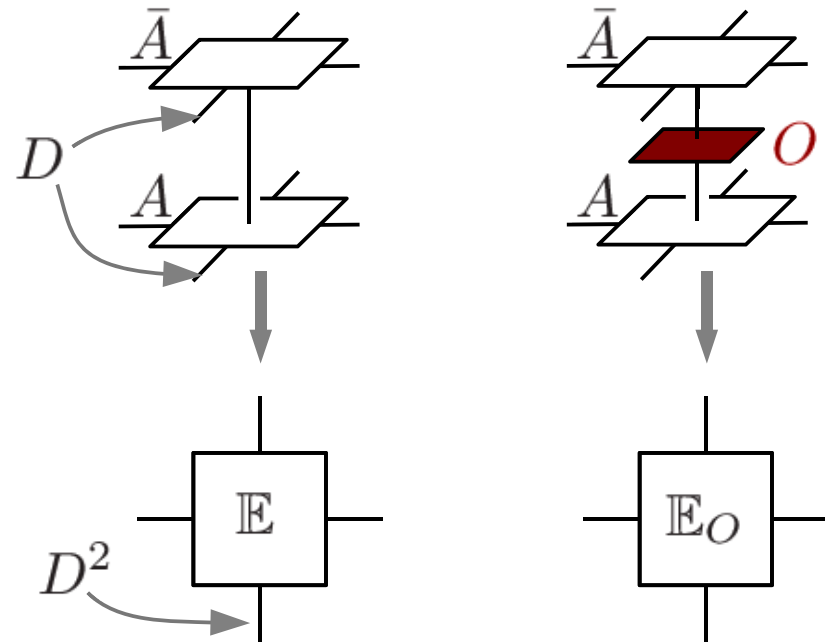
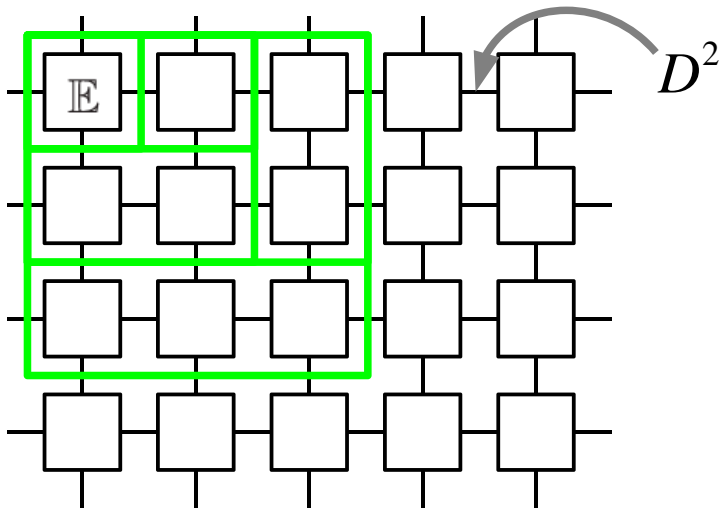
- Use **transfer operators** \mathbb{E} , \mathbb{E}_O :



Computing expectation values for PEPS

- Can we compute expectation values (energy, correlation functions)?

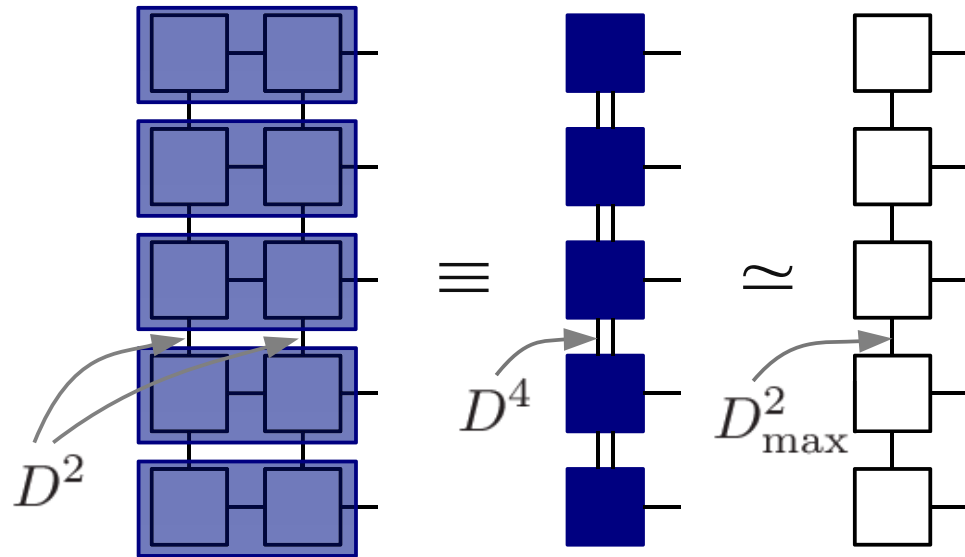
- Use **transfer operators** \mathbb{E} , \mathbb{E}_O :



- Need to keep track of all **indices at the boundary**
→ contraction requires to store **exponentially large tensor**
- Contracting PEPS **computationally hard** (#P, the “counting version” of NP)
- Numerical calculations require **approximation methods!**

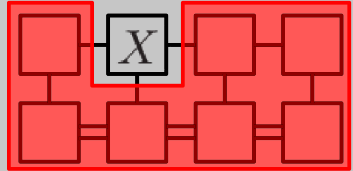
Approximate contraction of PEPS

- Solution: proceed column-wise and truncate the bond dimension



- $D^4 \rightarrow D_{\max}^2$: either **truncation** or find **best MPS approximation**

best MPS approximation:

$\langle \Psi_{D^4} | \Psi_{\alpha D^2} \rangle =$ 

linear in X , iterate as in DMRG

- Allows for **approximate contraction** of PEPS
- **Error** in approximation is **known** (and, in practice, very small)!
- Can be used to build **variational algorithms** for 2D systems
- Computational resources scale like D^8

Simulation of time evolution with MPS

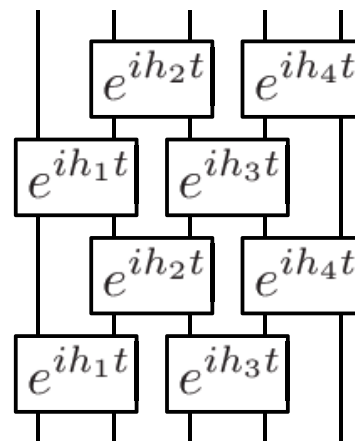
- Can we use MPS for simulating **time evolution**?

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = e^{iHt} |\psi(0)\rangle, \text{ with initial state } |\psi(0)\rangle \text{ MPS, and } H = \sum h_i$$

- Trotter expansion:

$$e^{iHt} = [e^{iH\delta t}]^N$$

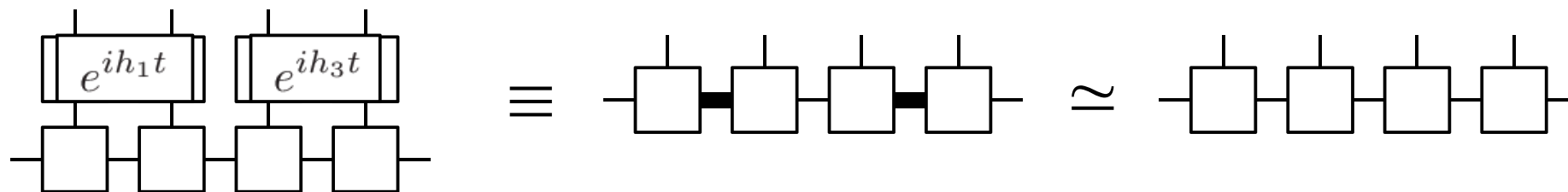
$$\approx \left(\exp\left[i \sum_{\text{even}} h_i \delta t\right] \exp\left[i \sum_{\text{odd}} h_i \delta t\right] \right)^N$$



$$O = A - B$$

$$O = \sum_i A_i \otimes B_i$$

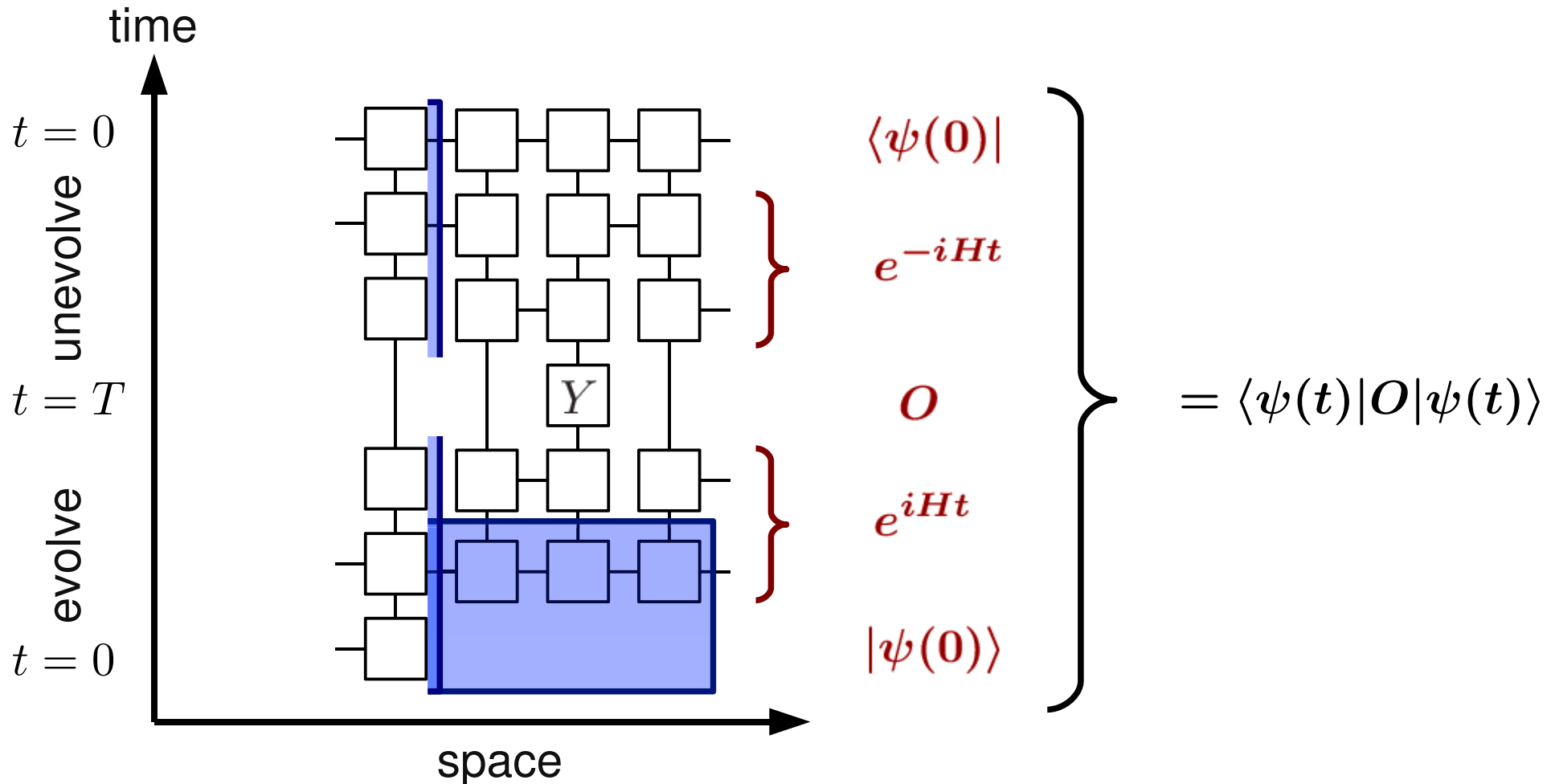
- Iterate: **Evolve** $|\psi(t)\rangle$ for δt and **approximate by MPS** with original D :



- Also useful for ground states (imag. time evol. $e^{-\beta H} |\chi\rangle \rightarrow |\Psi_0\rangle$ for $\beta \rightarrow 0$)

Entropy growth & alternative contraction

- State $|\psi(t)\rangle$ at all times **described by an MPS**
- Problem: **Entropy** in time evol. typically **grows linearly** (and $D \sim \exp[S]$!).
- solution: **contract in space direction**, not in time direction!



Thermal states, excited states

- Simulation of **thermal states** with MPS:

$$\rho = \sum c_{i_1, \dots, i_N}^{j_1, \dots, j_N} |i_1, \dots, i_N\rangle \langle j_1, \dots, j_N|$$

with $c_{i_1, \dots, i_N}^{j_1, \dots, j_N} =$

Diagram illustrating the Matrix Product Density Operator (MPDO) structure. The diagram shows a sequence of tensors $A^{[1]}, A^{[2]}, A^{[3]}, \dots, A^{[N]}$ connected horizontally. Each tensor $A^{[i]}$ has two vertical legs: an upper leg labeled i_i and a lower leg labeled j_i . The tensors are connected by horizontal lines, with contraction weights α and β indicated between adjacent tensors. Dotted lines extend from the left and right ends of the chain.

“Matrix Product Density Operator” (MPDO)

- Write $\rho = e^{-\beta H/2} \mathbb{1} e^{-\beta H/2}$ and proceed like for time evolution!
-

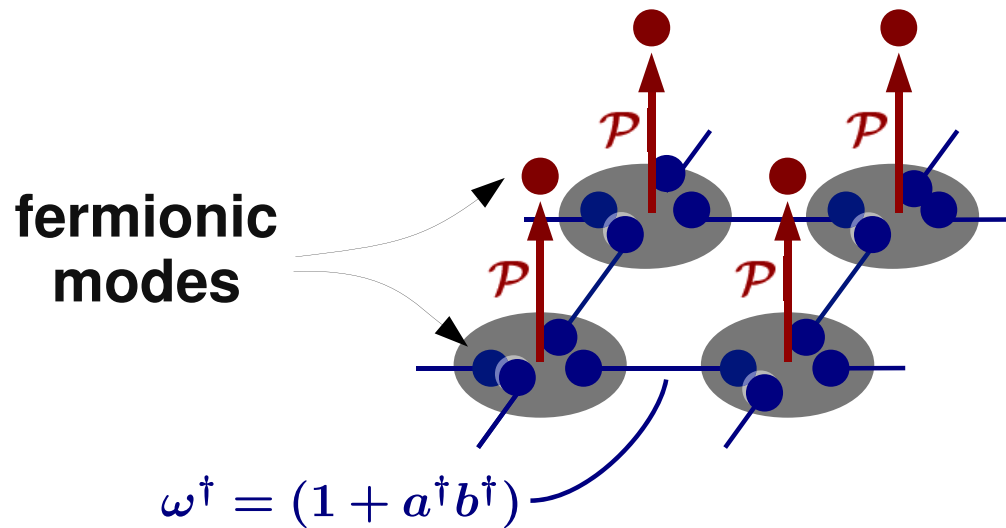
- Simulation of **excited states** with MPS:

- find ground state $|\Psi_0\rangle$
- minimize $\langle \Psi_1 | H | \Psi_1 \rangle$ subj. to $\langle \Psi_0 | \Psi_1 \rangle = 0$ (linear constraint)

Simulating fermionic systems

- can we use similar ideas to simulate **fermionic systems**?
- 1D: fermionic systems \leftrightarrow spin systems (Jordan-Wigner transformation)

- 2D: construct **fermionic PEPS (fPEPS)**:



$$\mathcal{P} = \sum A_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^i (\hat{p}^\dagger)^i (\hat{a})^\alpha (\hat{b})^\beta (\hat{c})^\gamma (\hat{d})^\delta$$

\mathcal{P} maps virtual fermionic modes $\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}, \hat{\gamma}, \hat{\delta}$ to physical mode \hat{p}

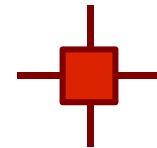
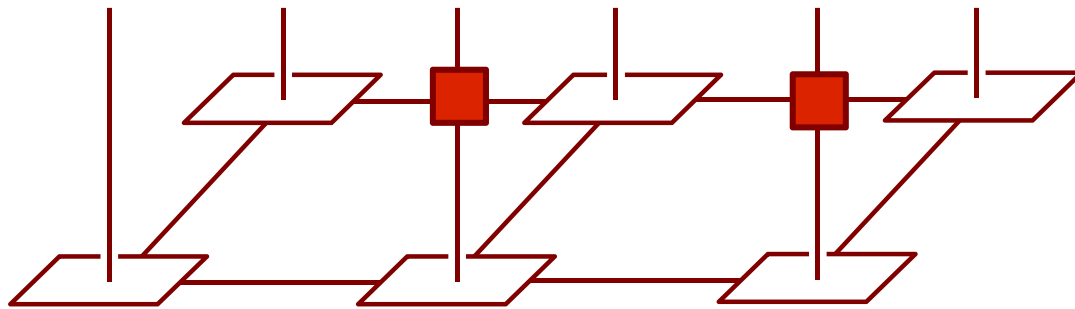
\mathcal{P} has fixed parity

$$\text{fPEPS: } |\Psi\rangle = \langle \Omega_{\text{virt}} | (\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{P} \otimes \dots) (\omega^\dagger \otimes \omega^\dagger \otimes \dots) | \Omega_{\text{virt}}, \Omega_{\text{phys}} \rangle$$

Computing with fermionic tensor networks

- Calculations with fermionic tensor networks:
Need to keep track of **anticommutation relations!**
- Is **efficient computation** still possible? \Rightarrow **Yes!**

- E.g., introduce fermionic swap tensors:

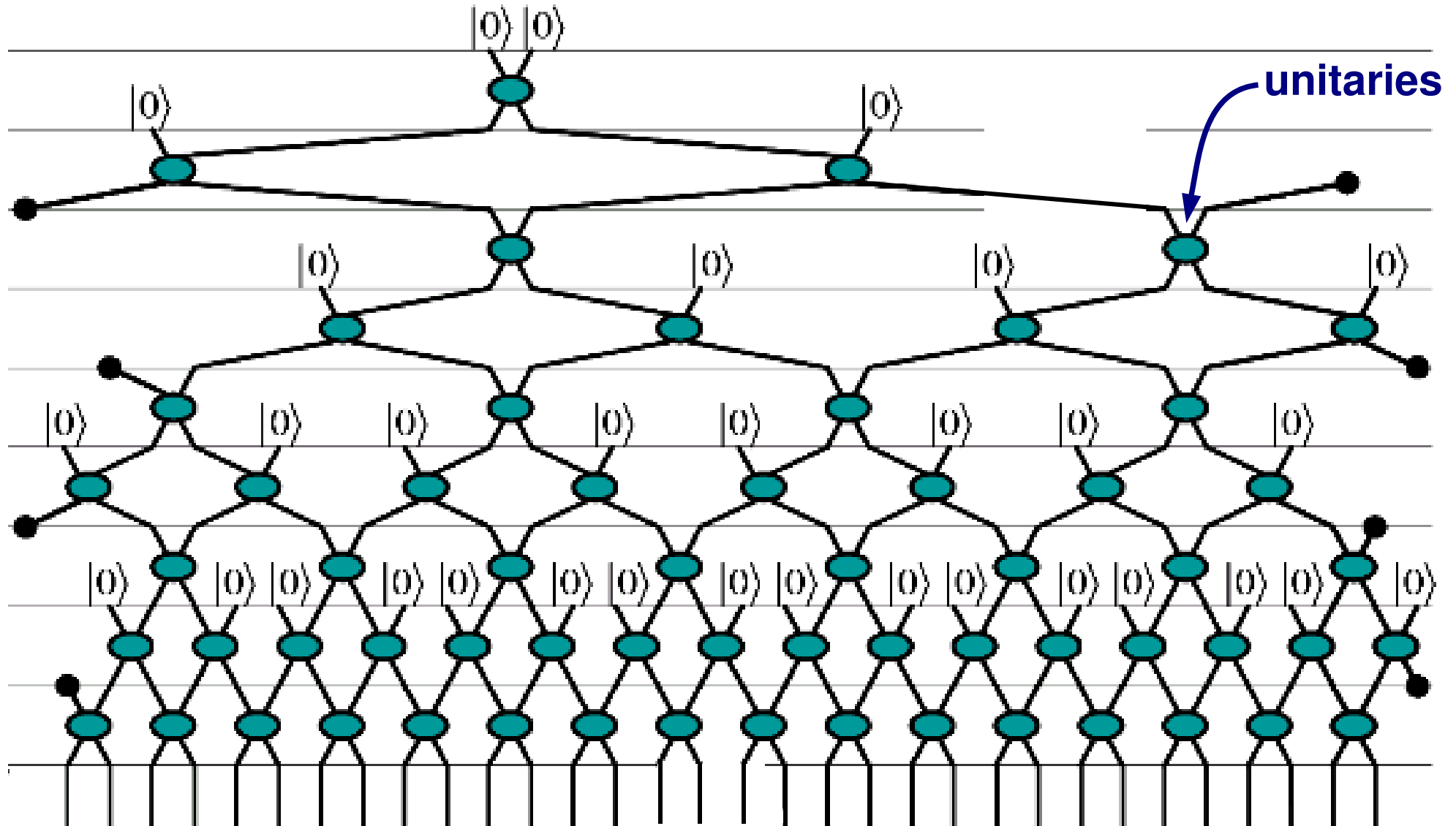


“fermionic swap”:
crossing & (-1) if
both modes occupied

- Contract PEPS as before, but keep track of any swap occurring.

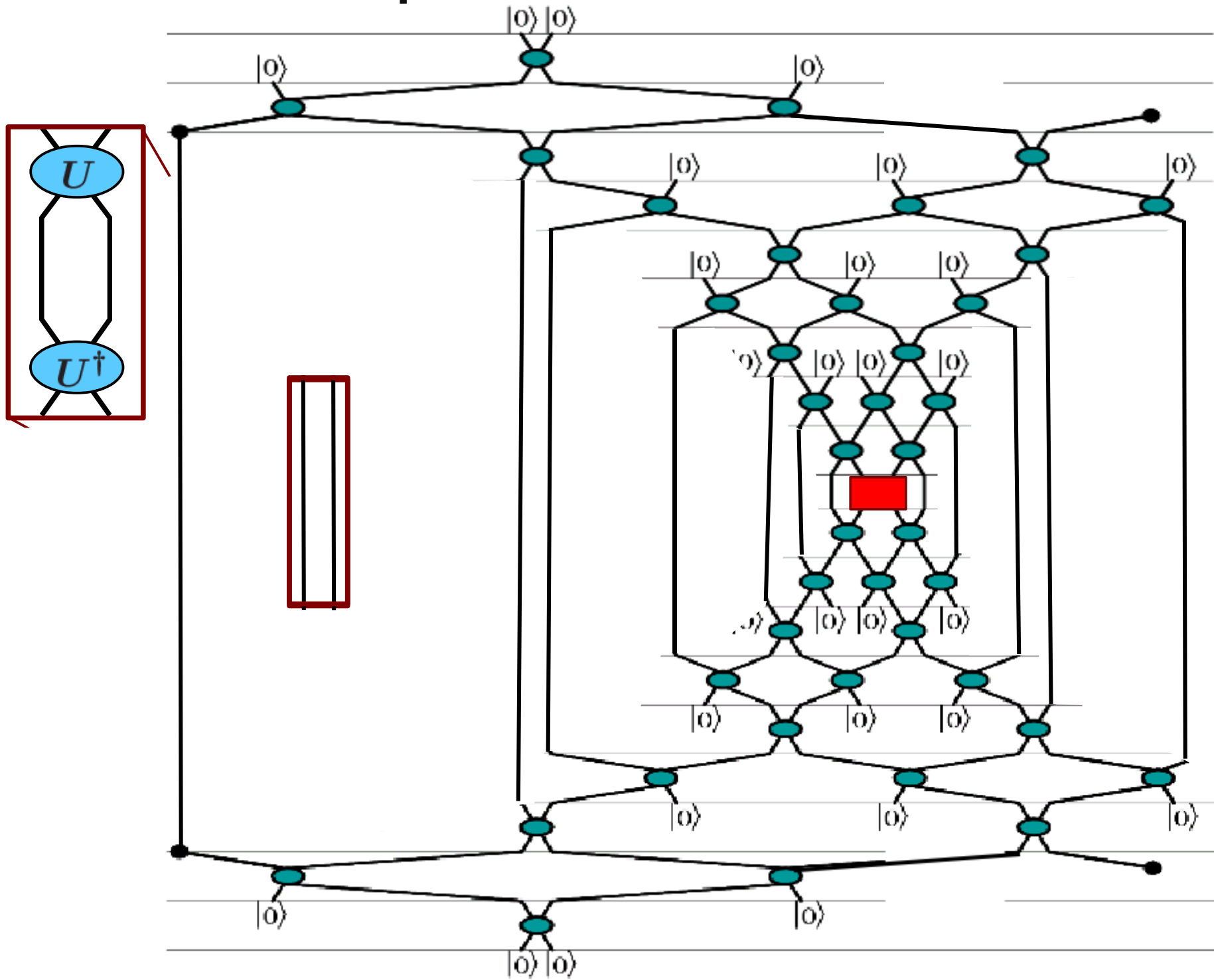
Unitary networks: MERA

- can we also model **scale-invariant critical systems** using tensor networks?



Multi-scale entanglement renormalization ansatz (MERA)

Expectation values for MERA



Conclusions

- **Matrix Product States (MPS)** and **Projected Entangled Pair States (PEPS)** approximate **ground states** of **local Hamiltonians** well
- MPS form the basis for an **efficient variational algorithm** (DMRG)
- beyond 1D (PEPS): variational method with **controlled approximations**
- extensions to **time evolution, thermal states, excitations, infinite systems**
- **fermionic statistics** can be naturally incorporated
- **MERA (Multi-scale entanglement renormalization ansatz)**:
Tensor network ansatz for scale-invariant systems