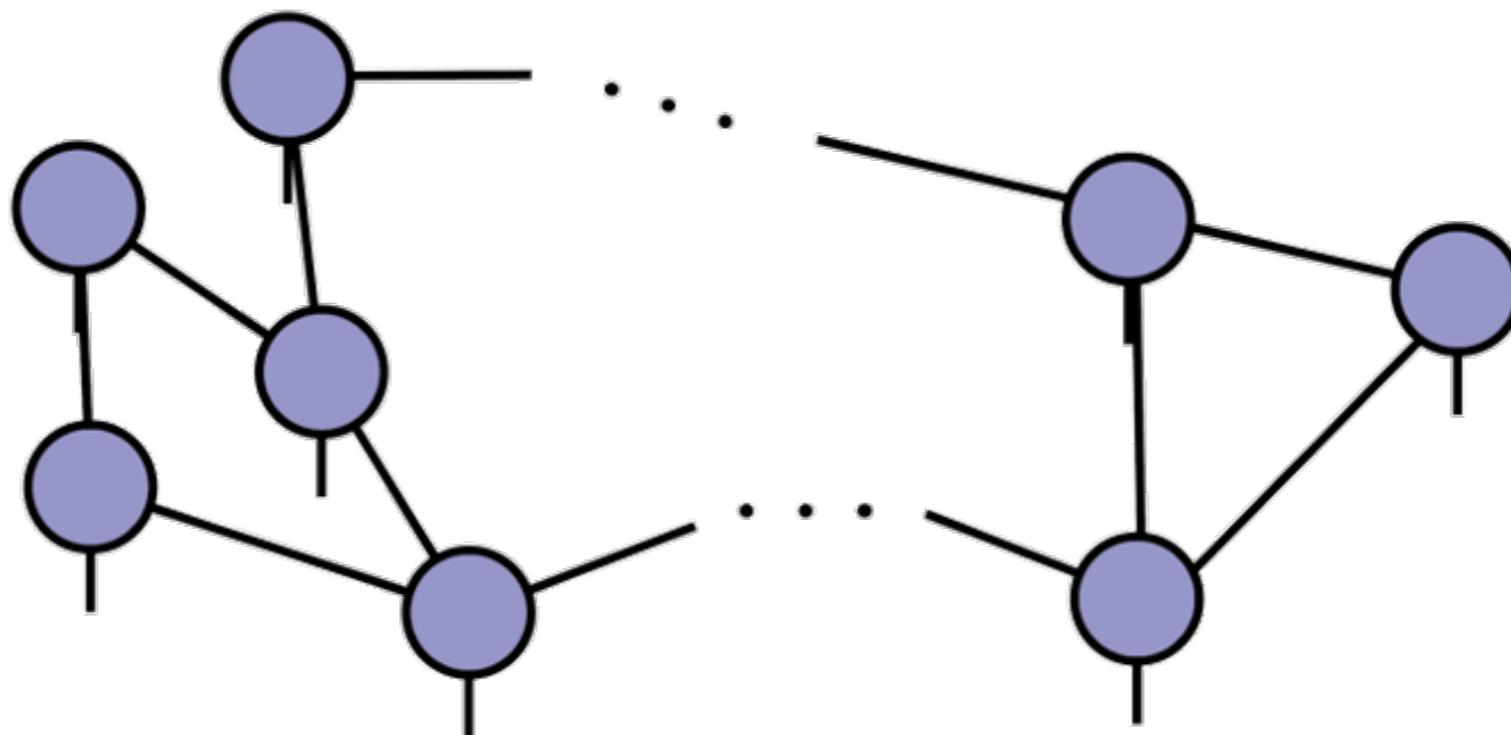


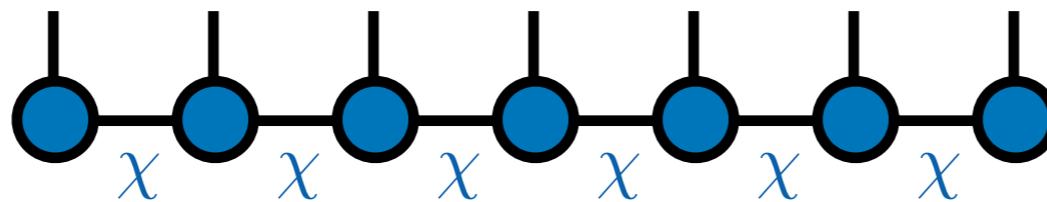
# Tensor Networks

## Beyond One Dimension



# Motivation

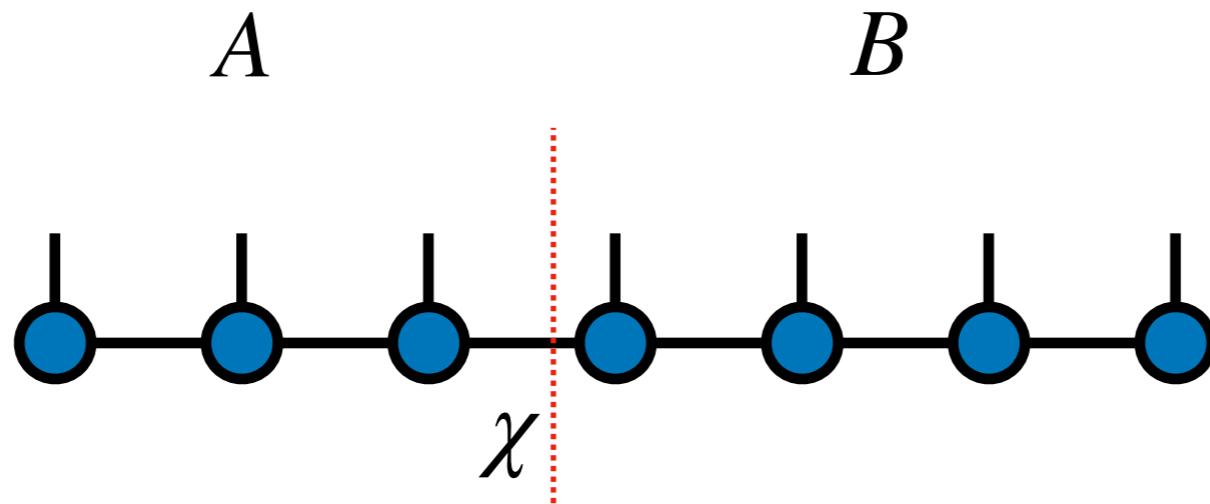
Earlier introduced tensor networks, but entirely focused on **matrix product states**



An MPS has a one-dimensional structure, making it powerful for **1D** but weak for **2D** and **3D** systems

What tensor networks can we use in higher dimensions?  
Alternatives to MPS?

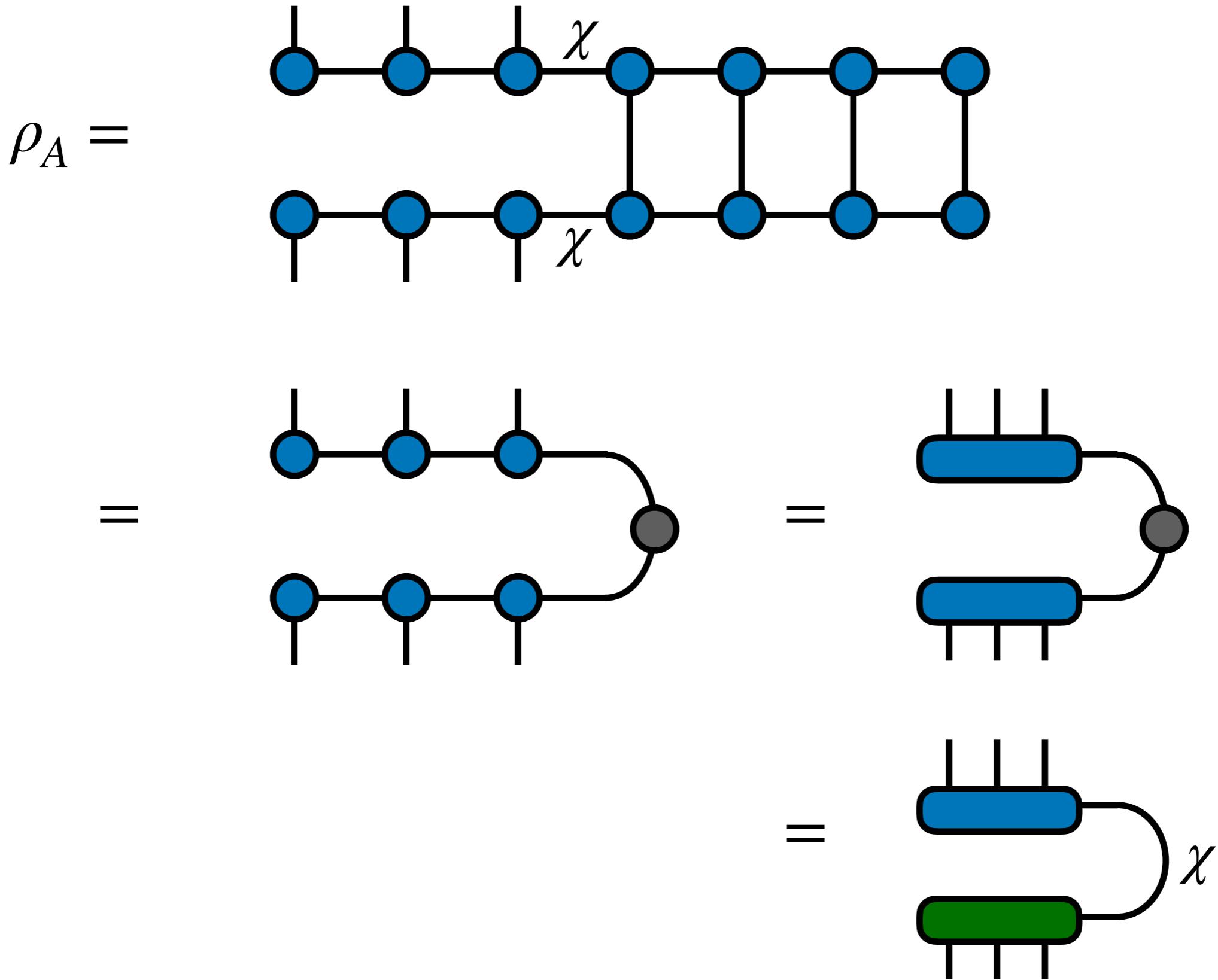
What is the entanglement capacity of an MPS tensor network?



Consider bipartition ("cut") across bond of dimension  $\chi$

Compute reduced density matrix  $\rho_A$

# Entanglement capacity of an MPS



## Entanglement capacity of an MPS

We have shown that  $\rho_A$  is a product of two matrices, contracted over an index of dimension  $\chi$

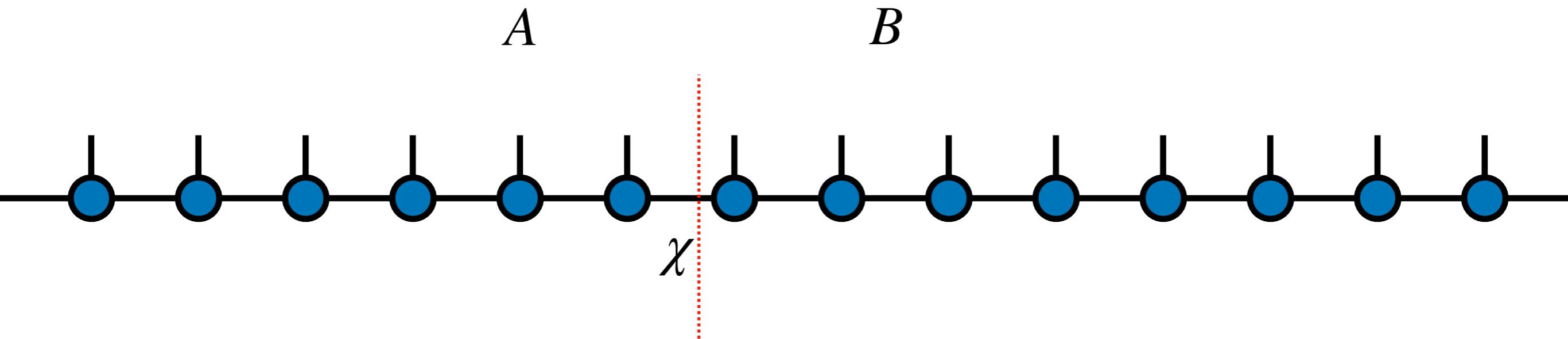
$$\rho_A = \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} \text{blue rectangle} \text{---} \curvearrowright \chi \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} \text{green rectangle} \text{---}$$

Thus  $\rho_A$  has maximum rank  $\chi$ , i.e. at most  $\chi$  non-zero singular values

Recall  $S_{vN} = -\text{Tr}(\rho \log(\rho))$

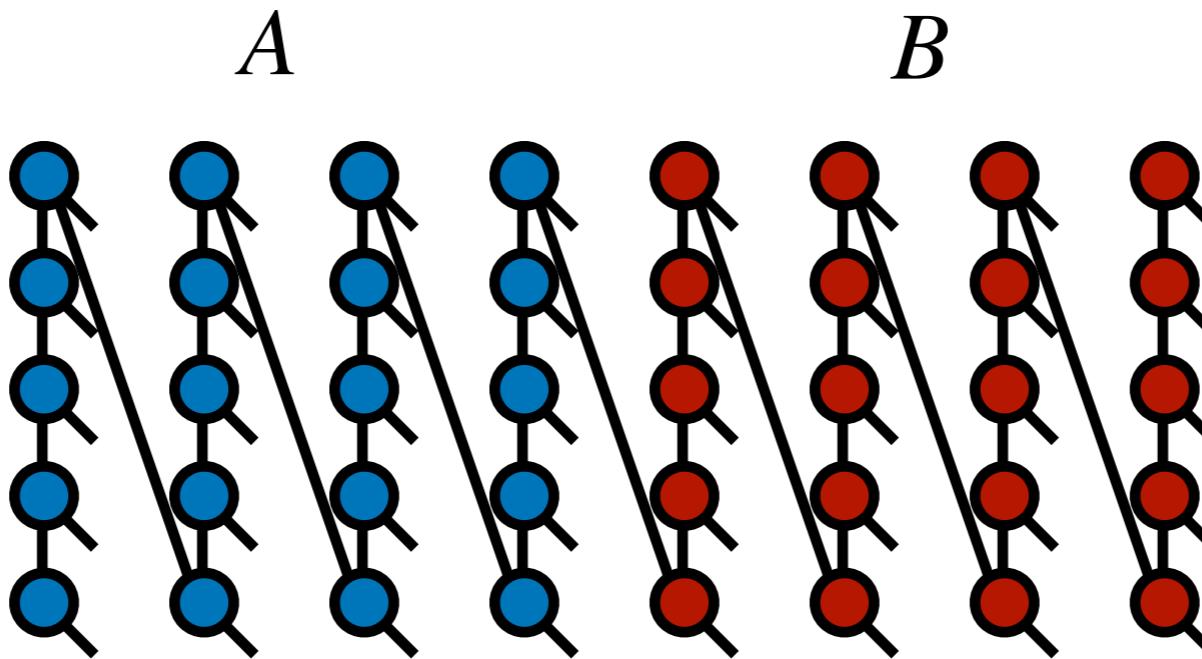
Maximum entropy if all eigenvalues  $p_n = 1/\chi$ , implies an upper bound  $S_{vN} \leq \log(\chi)$

We therefore see MPS with  $\chi \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$  obey a 1D area law



Entropy bounded  $S_{vN} \leq \log(\chi) \sim N^0$  (i.e. const with system size)

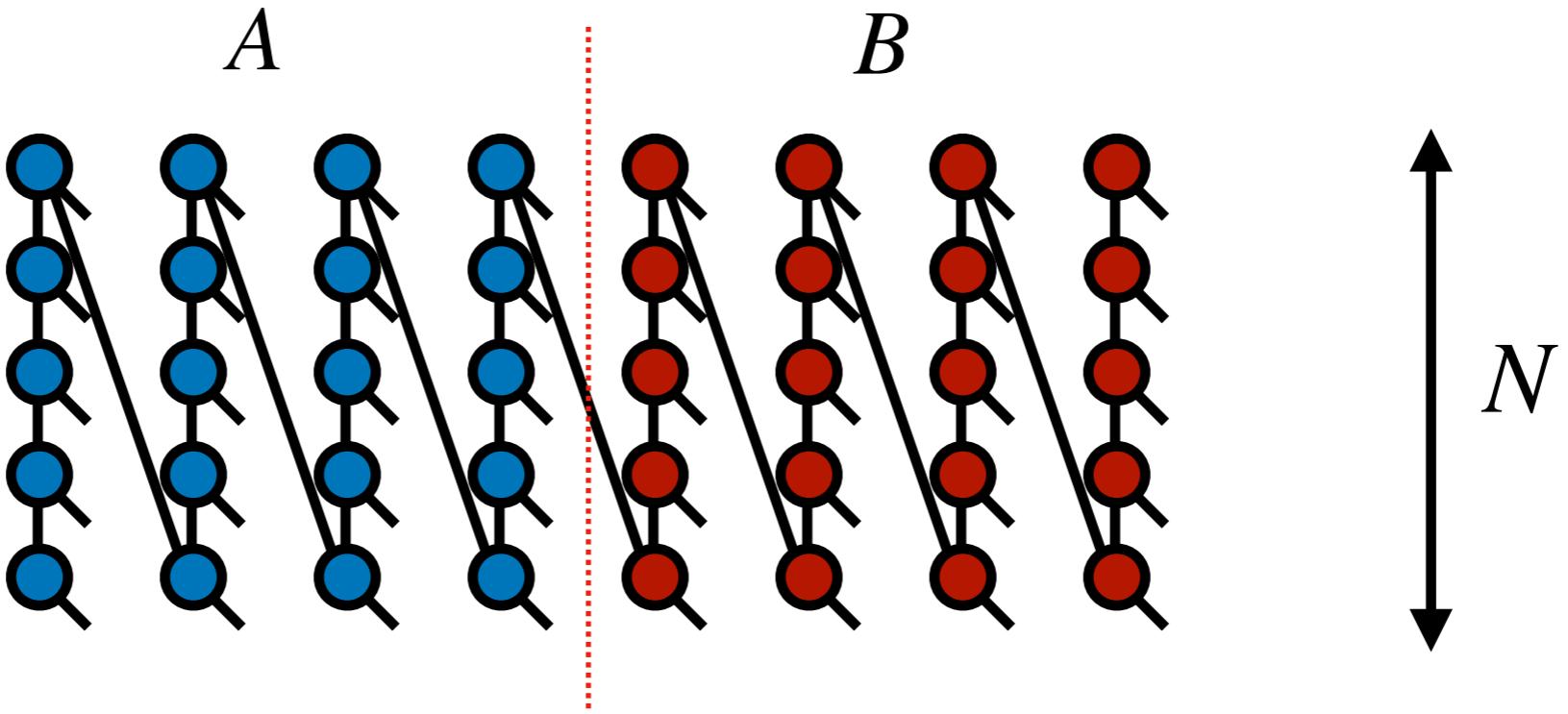
If we use MPS for a two-dimensional system (2D)



we can treat the 2D system using a "zig-zag" or "snaking" pattern to visit all the sites

Basis of 2D-DMRG approach that has been successful on *thin* 2D systems

But importantly, scaling of entanglement is still that of an MPS

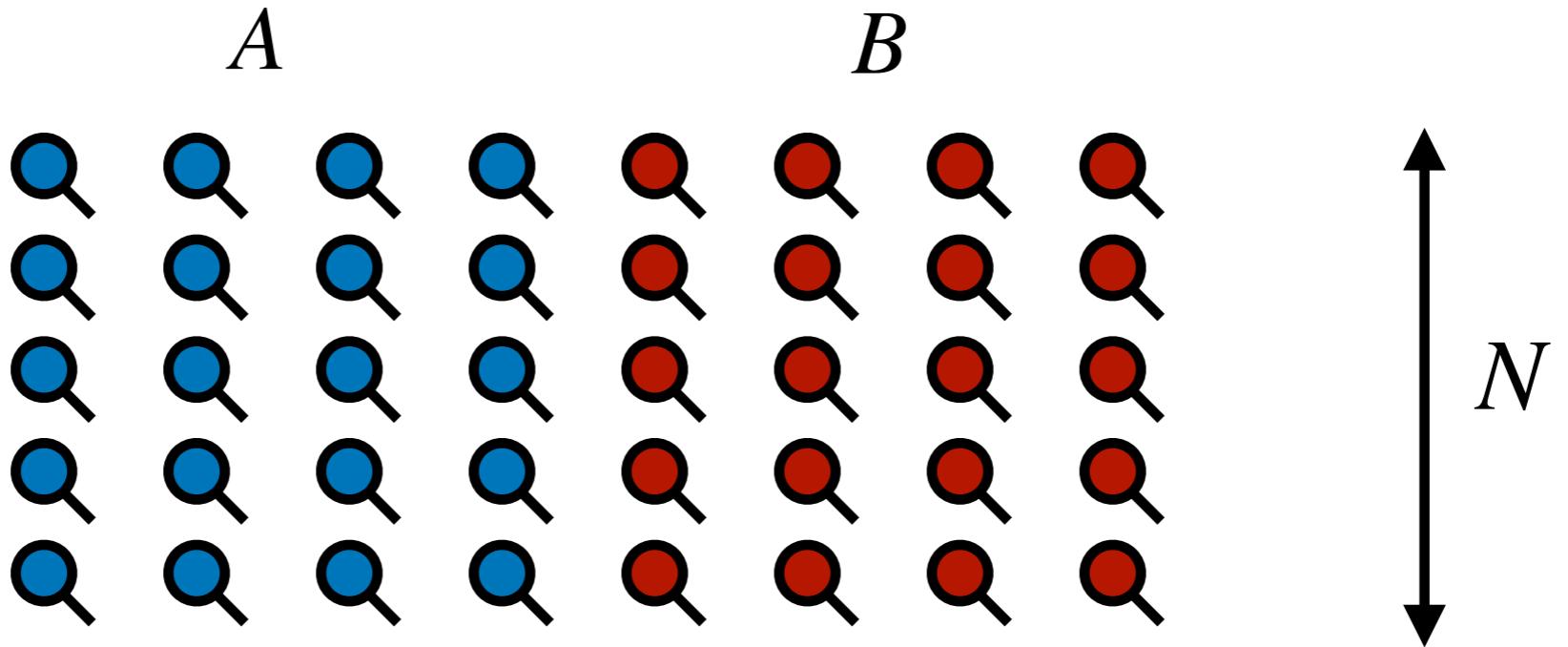


$$S_{vN} \leq \log(\chi)$$

If we assume 2D wavefunction is “nice” and obeys 2D area law, where  $S_{vN} \sim aN$

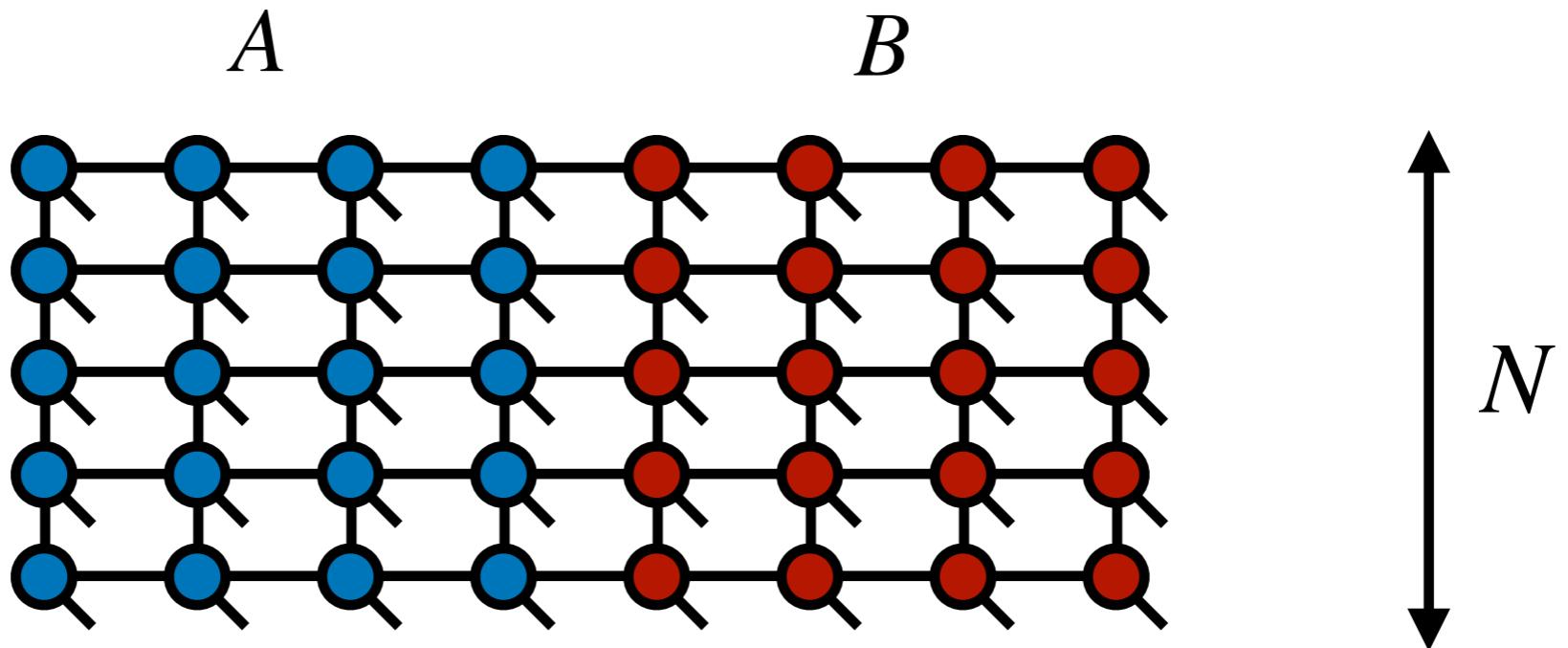
Then requires  $\chi \sim e^{aN}$  to capture the state

Intuition: each bond of size  $\chi$  contributes  $\sim \log(\chi)$  entanglement



Want total  $S_{vN} \sim N$ , so put  $N$  bonds across the cut  
(i.e. connecting regions  $A$  and  $B$ )

Intuition: each bond of size  $\chi$  contributes  $\sim \ln(\chi)$  entanglement



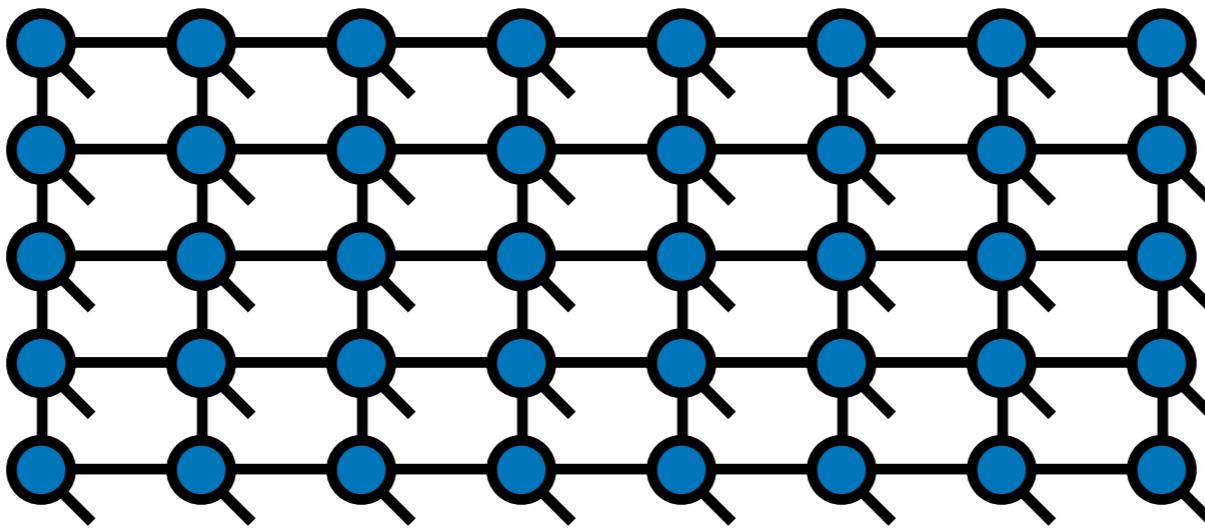
Want total  $S_{vN} \sim N$ , so put  $N$  bonds across the cut  
(i.e. connecting regions  $A$  and  $B$ )

Motivates 2D tensor network state (TNS)  
also called projected entangled pair state (PEPS)

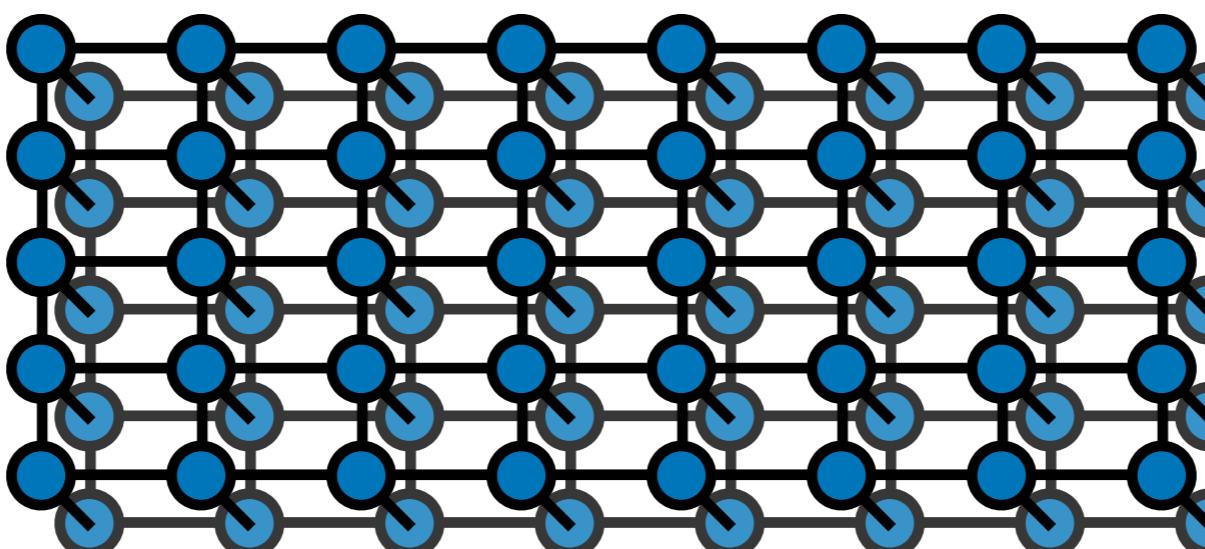
# **The Belief Propagation Algorithm for General Tensor Networks**

# Motivation

To work with 2D tensor networks

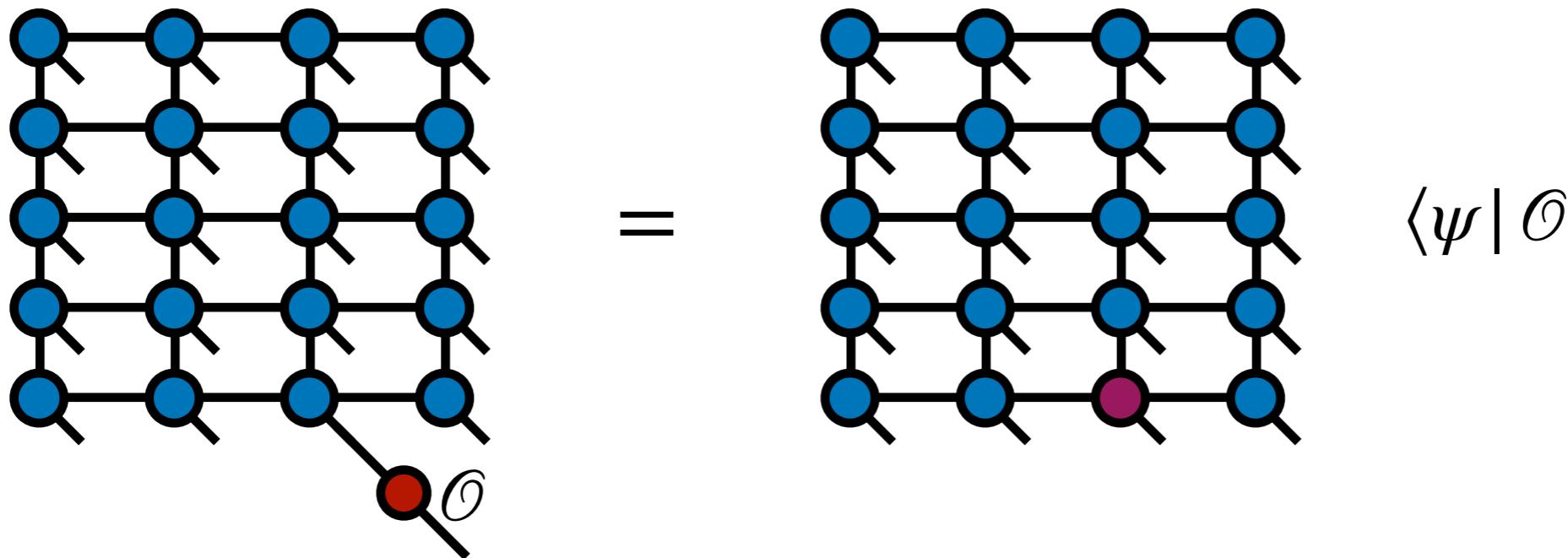


Must be able to contract them

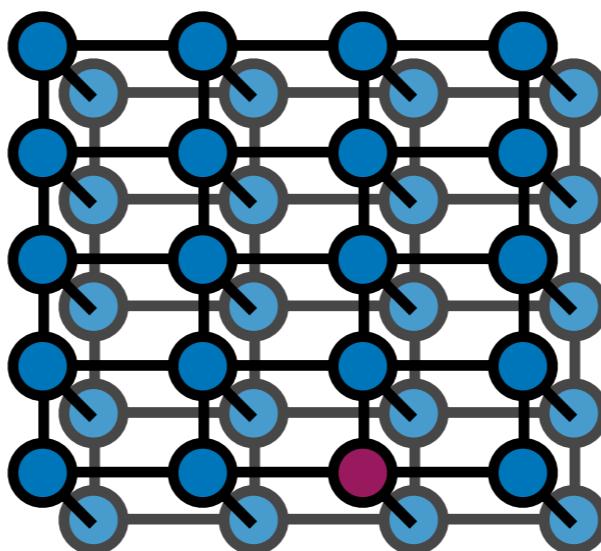


# Motivation

For example, computing operator expected values



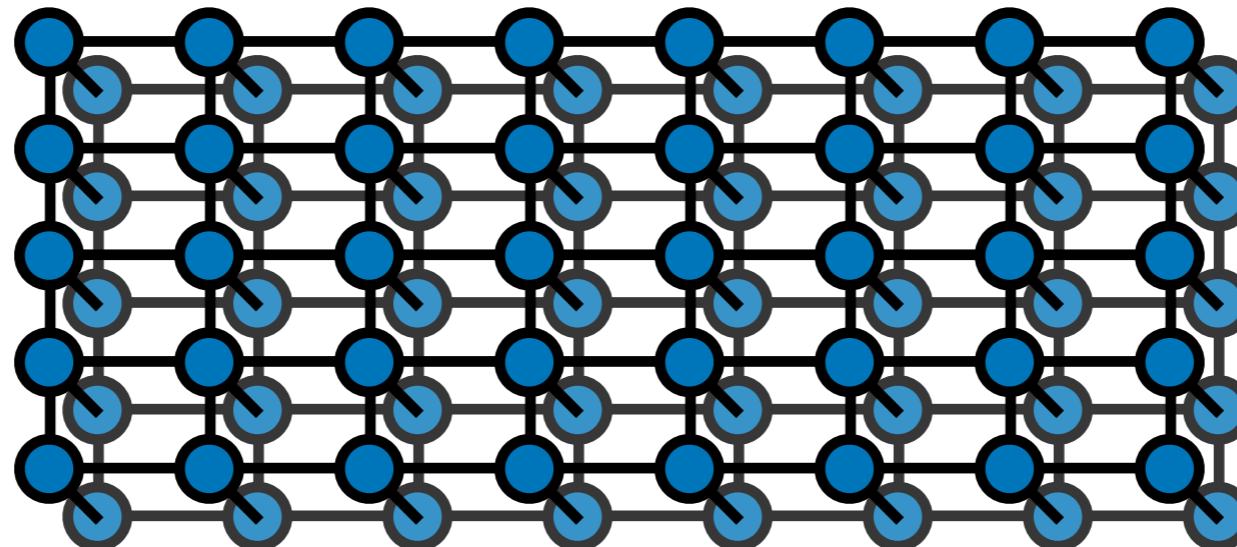
$$\langle\psi|\mathcal{O}|\psi\rangle =$$



# Motivation

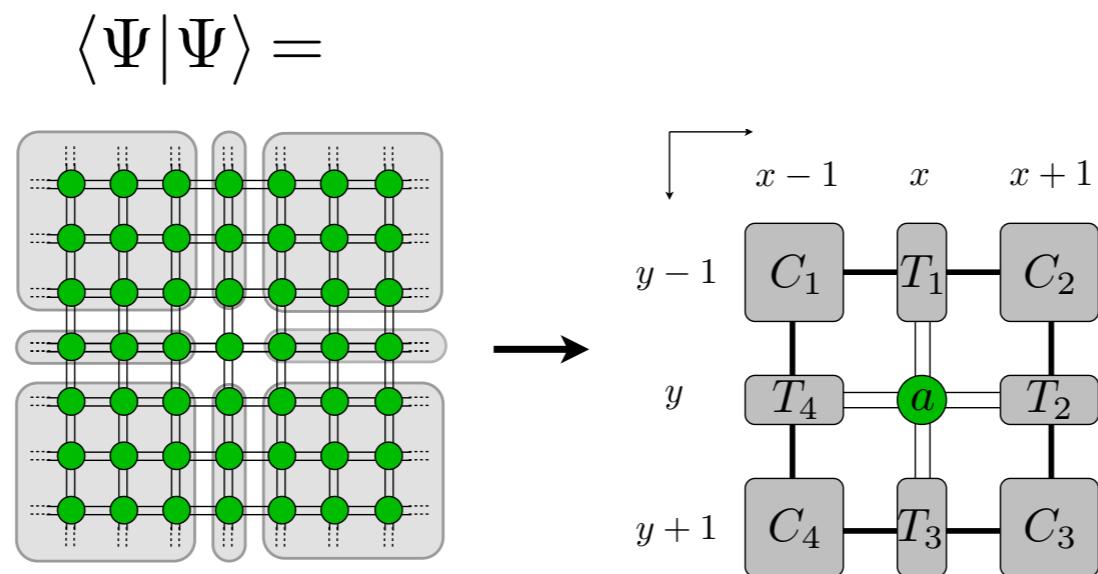
However, contracting 2D (3D, etc.) tensor networks exactly is #P-Complete in worst case.

A polynomial time (in system size) to contract any finite bond dimension PEPS would imply  $P = NP$ .



# Motivation

Highly controlled approximations have been developed for *infinite PEPS* (TNS) optimization [1,2]



and related works using automatic differentiation [3,4]

[1] Corboz, Phys. Rev. B **94**, 035133 (2016)

[2] Vanderstraeten, Haegeman, Corboz, Verstraete, Phys. Rev. B **94**, 155123 (2016)

[3] Liao, Liu, Wang, Xiang, Phys. Rev. X **9**, 031041 (2019)

[4] Ponsioen, Assaad, Corboz, SciPost Phys. **12**, 006 (2022)

# Motivation

However, existing 2D tensor network methods are **expensive** and overly-focussed on square lattices

Typical costs: \*

- iPEPS optimization – scaling  $O(D^{10})$  for square lattice
- VMC optimization – scaling  $O(MD^6)$  with  
 $M \sim 10,000$  the number of samples

Also, 3D lattices seem out of reach

\* Liu, Zhai, Peng, Gu, Chan, arxiv:2502.13454

# Motivation

Is there *more efficient* method for contracting TNS?

We need to accept **larger approximations...**

We just need **to know** how large the approximation is



"Belief propagation" + extensions gives all three



# Belief propagation has been around for some time

Hans Bethe  
statistical mechanics (1935)

Statistical Theory of Superlattices  
By H. A. BETHE, H. H. Wills Physical Laboratory, University of Bristol  
(Communicated by W. L. Bragg, F.R.S.—Received February 13, 1935)

Judea Pearl  
probabilistic inference (1982)

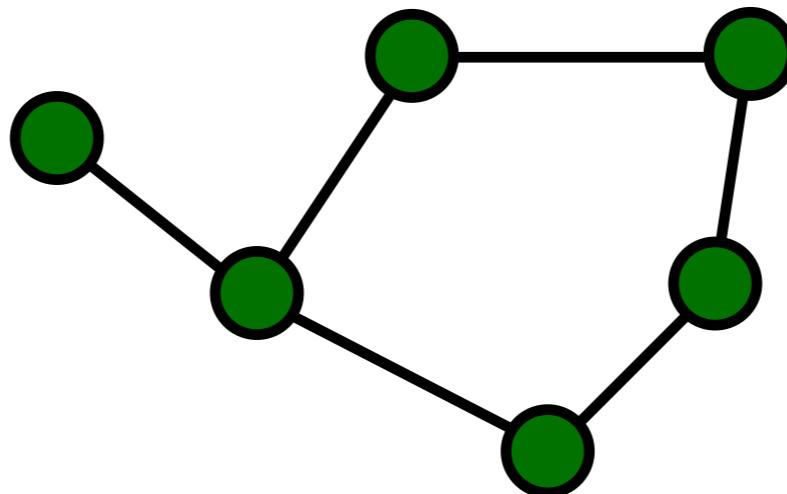
REVEREND BAYES ON INFERENCE ENGINES: A DISTRIBUTED  
HIERARCHICAL APPROACH<sup>(\*)</sup>(<sup>\*\*</sup>)  
  
Judea Pearl  
Cognitive Systems Laboratory  
School of Engineering and Applied Science  
University of California, Los Angeles

Mezard, Parisi, Virasoro  
spin glass physics (1985)

J. Physique Lett. 46, 217-222 (1985)  
DOI: 10.1051/jphyslet:01985004606021700

Random free energies in spin glasses  
M. Mézard, G. Parisi et M.A. Virasoro

Originally approximates *marginals* of  
locally tree-like graphs (e.g. stat mech models)



# Recently adapted to quantum wavefunctions via tensor networks

PHYSICAL REVIEW RESEARCH 3, 023073 (2021)

## Tensor networks contraction and the belief propagation algorithm

R. Alkabetz  and I. Arad

*Department of Physics, Technion, 3200003 Haifa, Israel*

[Submitted on 9 Jun 2022]

## Efficient tensor network simulation of quantum many-body physics on sparse graphs

[Subhayan Sahu](#), [Brian Swingle](#)

SciPost Physics

## Gauging tensor networks with belief propagation

Joseph Tindall, Matt Fishman

SciPost Phys. 15, 222 (2023) · published 1 December 2023

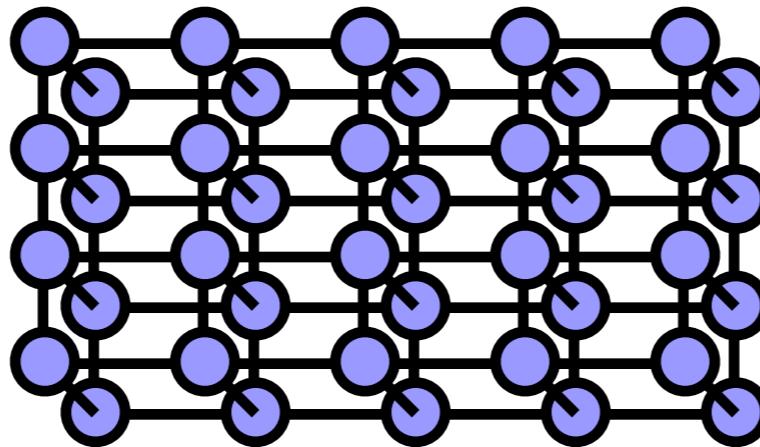
Alkabetz, Arad, Phys. Rev. Research 3, 023073 (2021)

Sahu, Swingle, arxiv:2206.04701

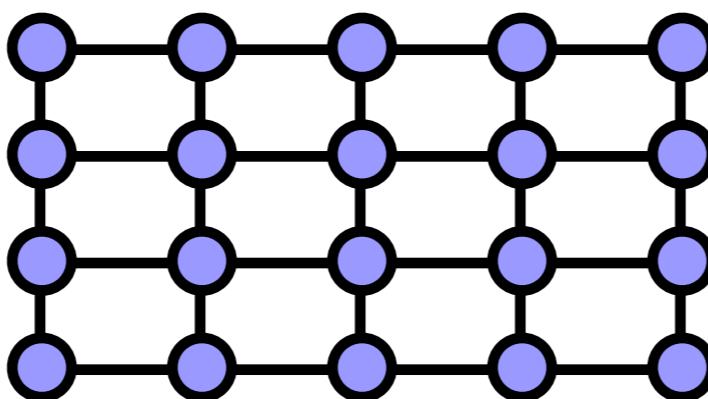
Guo, Poletti, Arad, Phys. Rev. B, 108, 125111 (2023)

Tindall, Fishman, SciPost Phys. 15, 222 (2023)

To apply belief propagation to quantum systems,  
start from " $\langle \text{bra} | \text{ket} \rangle$ " network ("norm network")

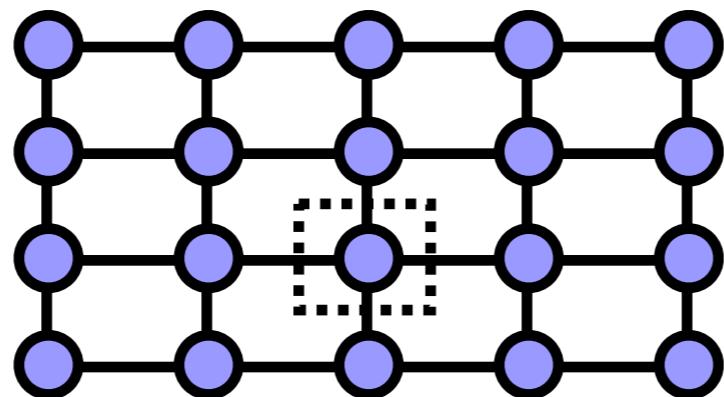


Top-down view



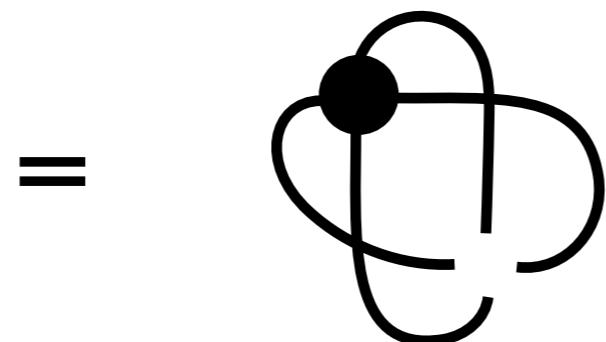
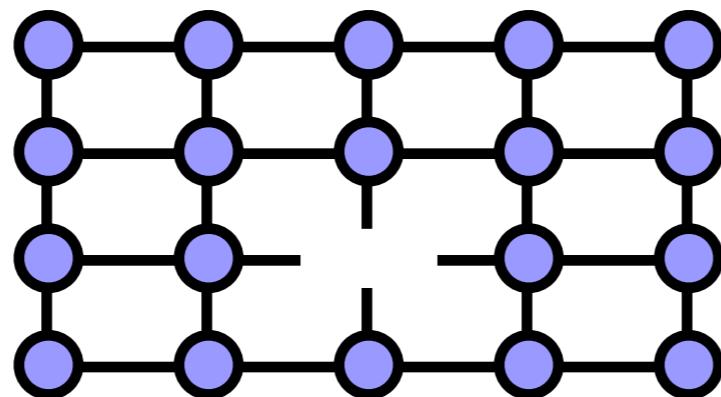
Ideally compute exact "environment"

Defined as network with one tensor removed



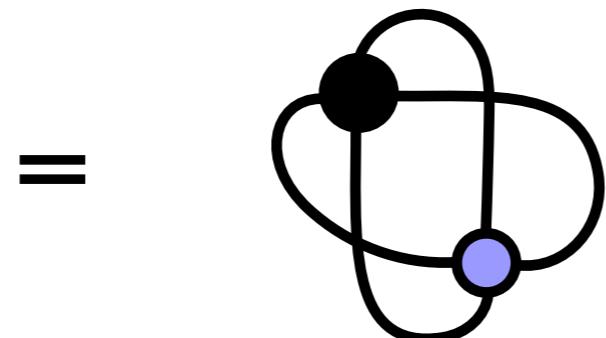
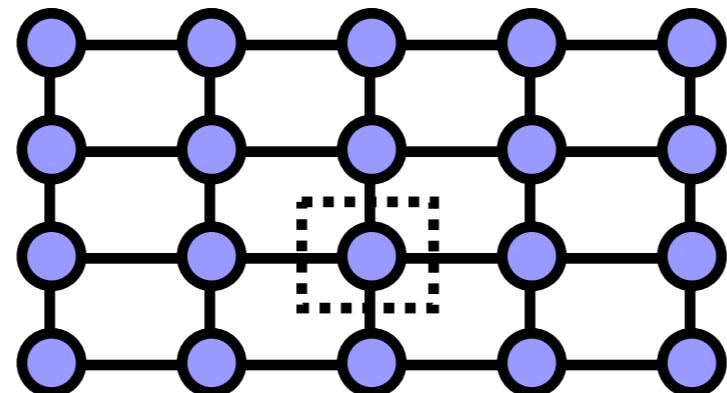
Ideally compute exact "environment"

Defined as network with one tensor removed



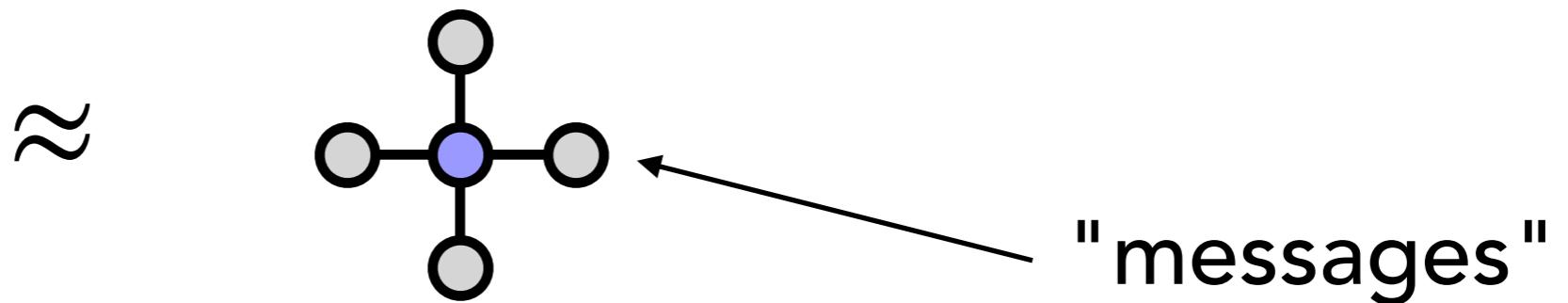
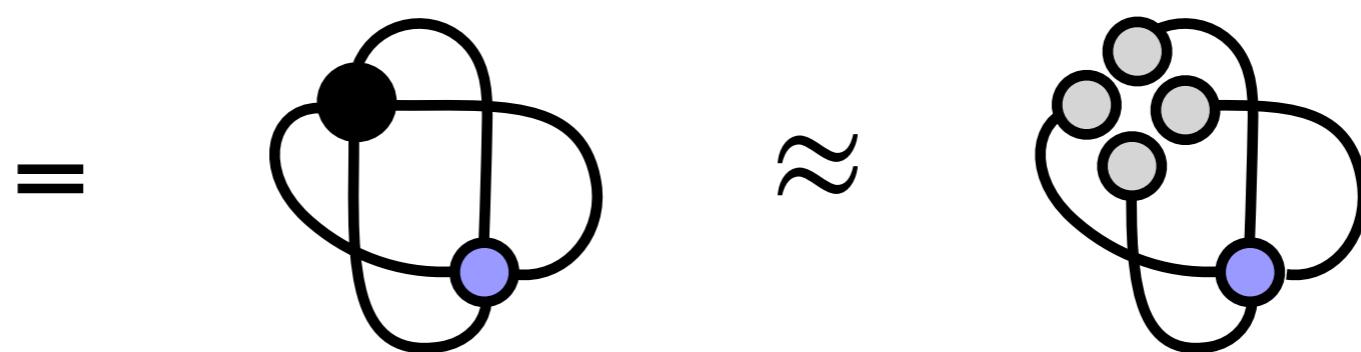
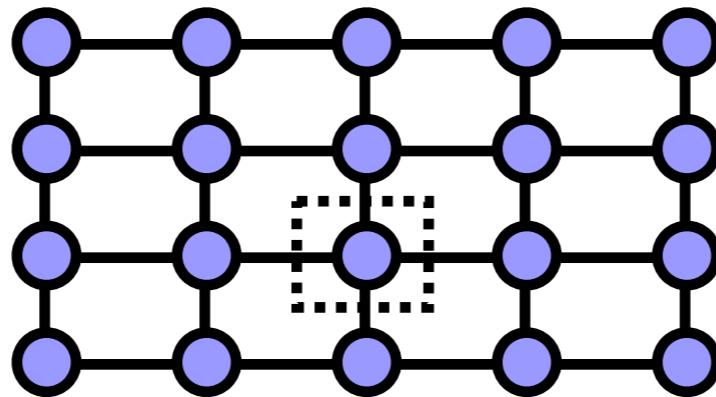
Ideally compute exact "environment"

Defined as network with one tensor removed



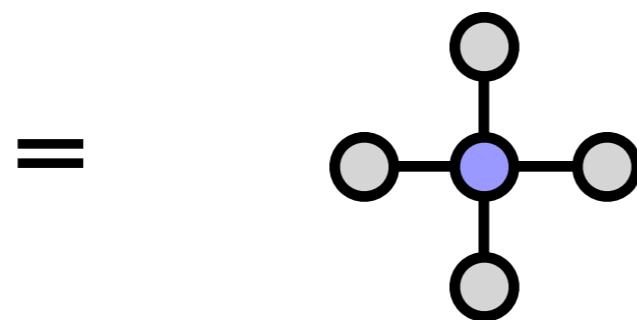
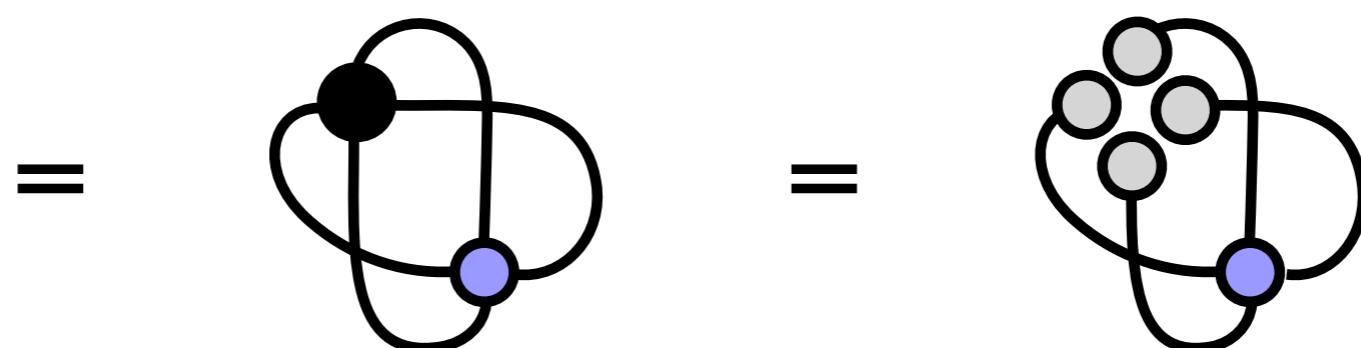
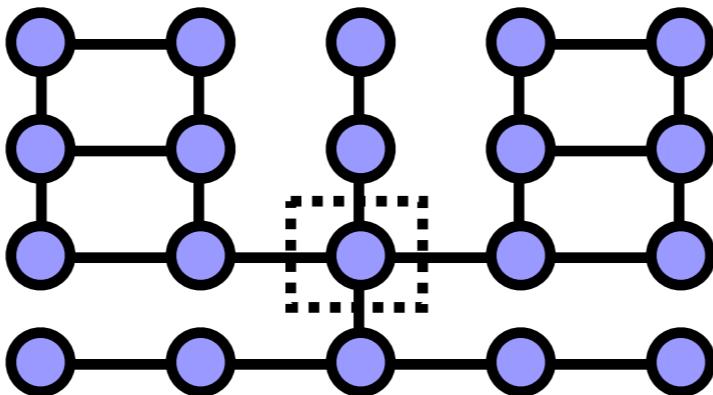
Small (4-index) environment tensor sufficient to contract  
whole network, but just as hard to compute

# Make seemingly *drastic* approximation

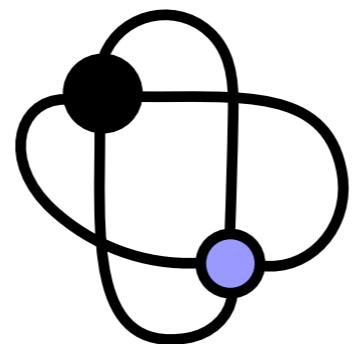


"messages"

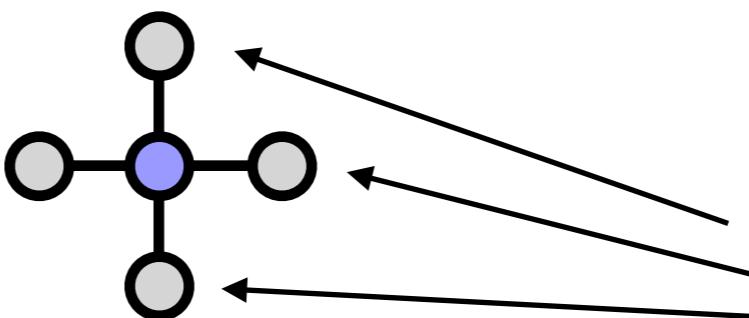
Would be exact if certain loops don't contribute



# How to find "messages" in practice?



$\approx$

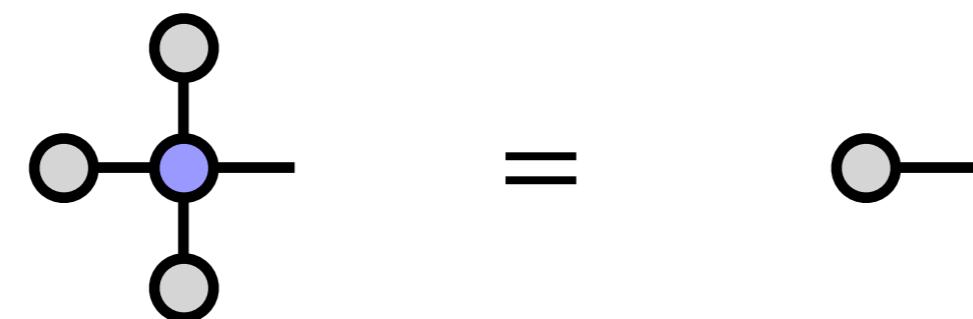


"messages"

# Message Passing

Use "message passing" to converge the messages until self-consistency over all edges of the network

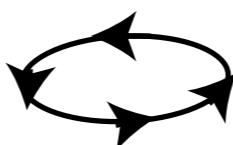
Update rule on edge  $e$



Incoming messages  
\* Local tensors

Outgoing message

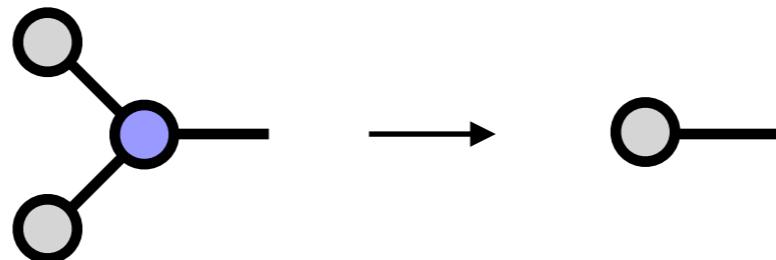
Iterate on all edges until convergence



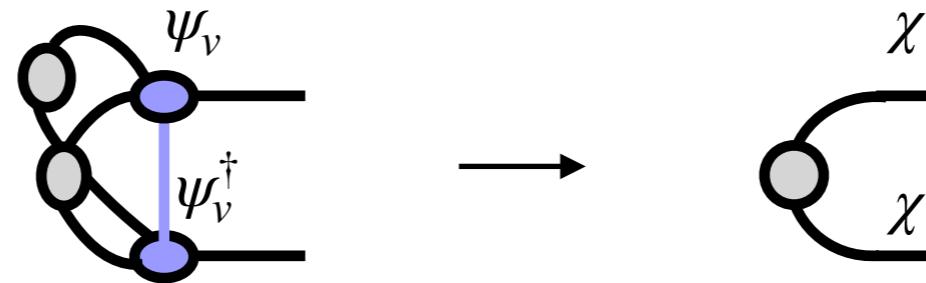
# Belief Propagation

Side-on view helpful to understand quantum case. We typically run BP over the norm network  $\langle \psi | \psi \rangle$

Top view:



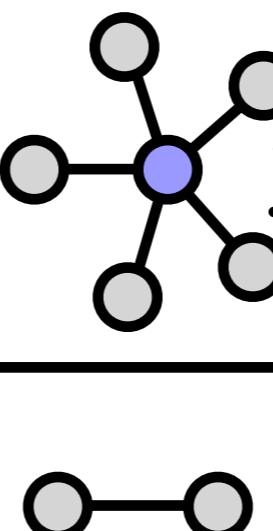
Side view:



Quantum messages are  $\chi \times \chi$  matrices, where  $\chi$  is the bond dimension. They are RDMS in the bond basis

# Belief Propagation

After messages converged,  
can compute BP estimate of norm ("partition function")

$$\langle \psi | \psi \rangle \approx \frac{\prod_{\text{vertices}} \dots}{\prod_{\text{edges}} \dots}$$


If the tensor network represents a partition function, this is exactly the Bethe free energy. If  $|\psi\rangle$  is a tree tensor network, it is exact.

# Belief Propagation

Scaling of quantum belief propagation on the norm  $\langle \psi | \psi \rangle$  is

$$O(N\chi^{z+1})$$

where  $z$  is the *coordination number* of the lattice,  $\chi$  the bond dimension,  $N$  the number of sites.

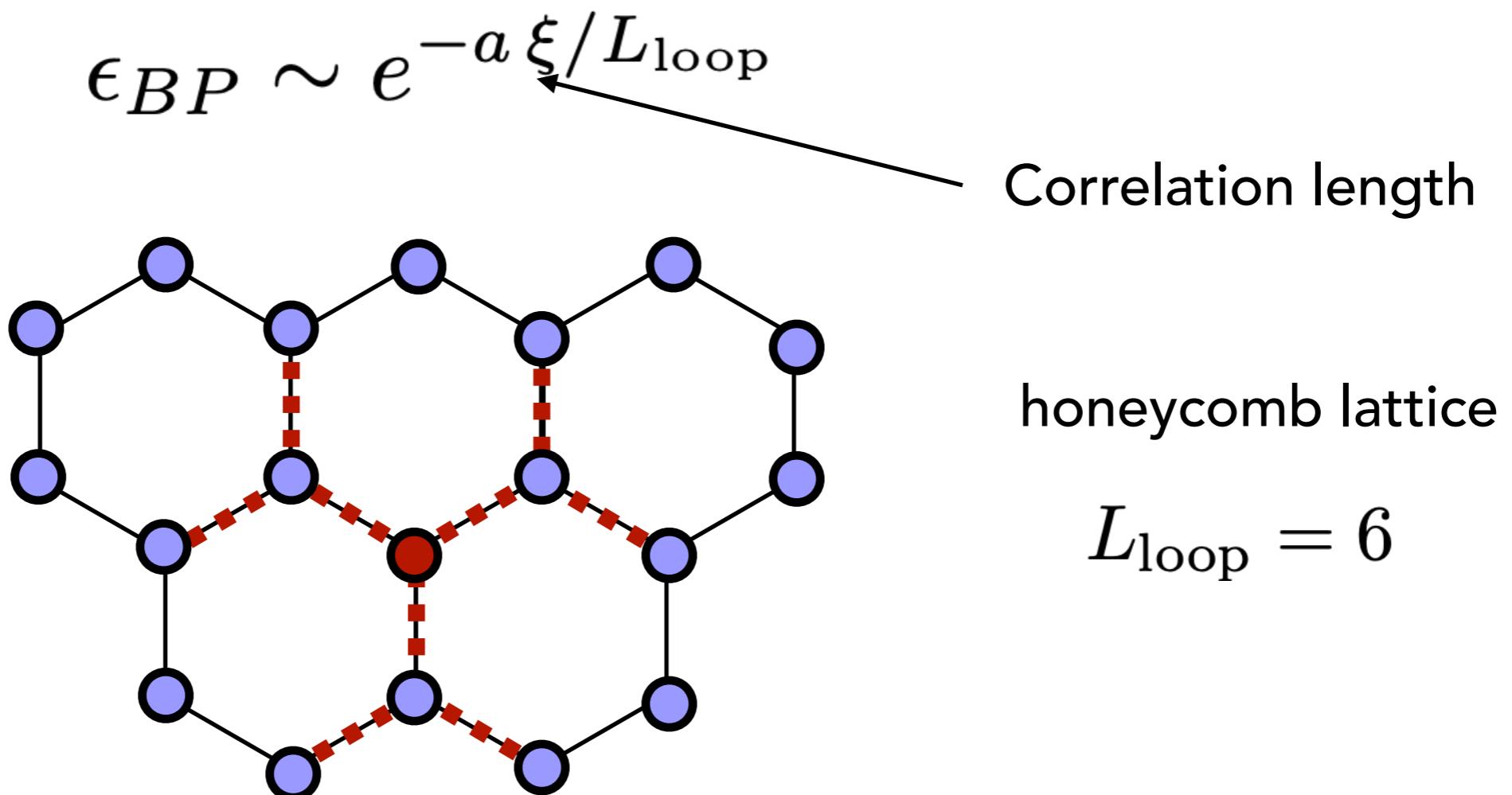
So, for square lattice, scaling is  $O(\chi^5)$

Compared to scaling and prefactors of other TNS algorithms, generally much better

More neighbors (higher  $z$ ) costs more, but lower bond dimensions usually needed (mean field like)

# BP Approximation

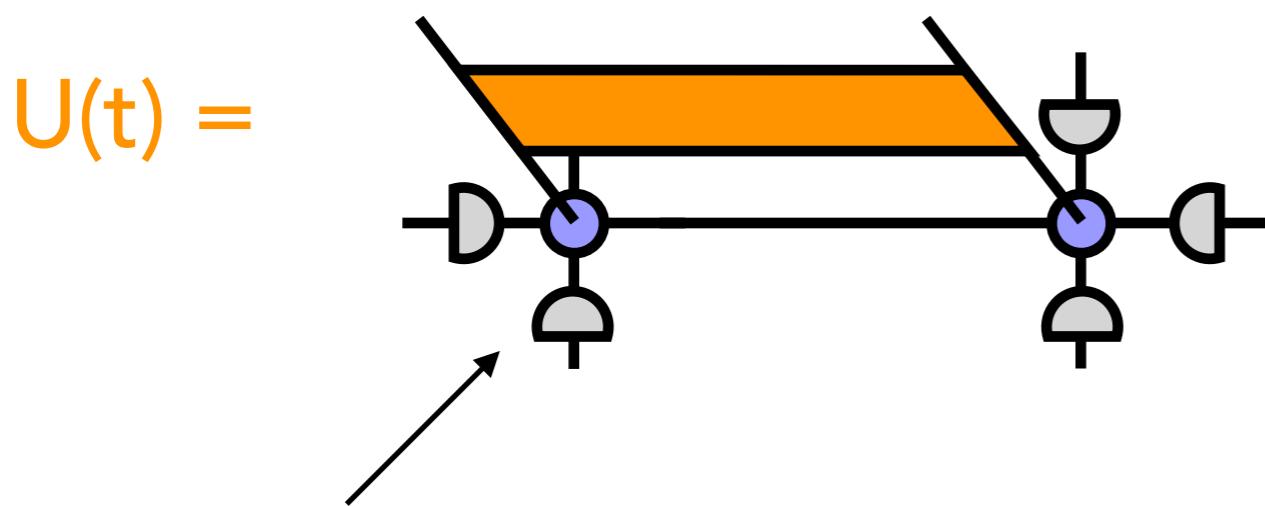
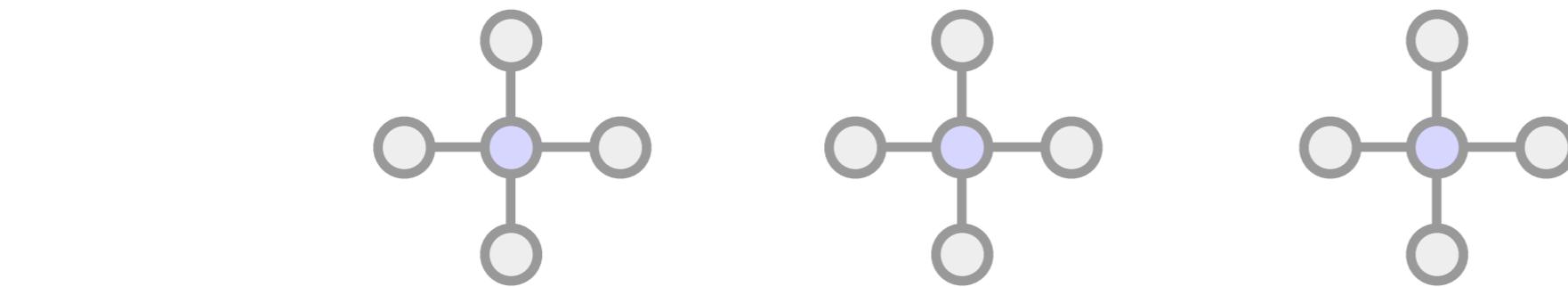
Intuitive understanding of BP approximation is viewing its convergence as



If correlations do not transit around a loop,  
loop might as well not be there

# Belief Propagation

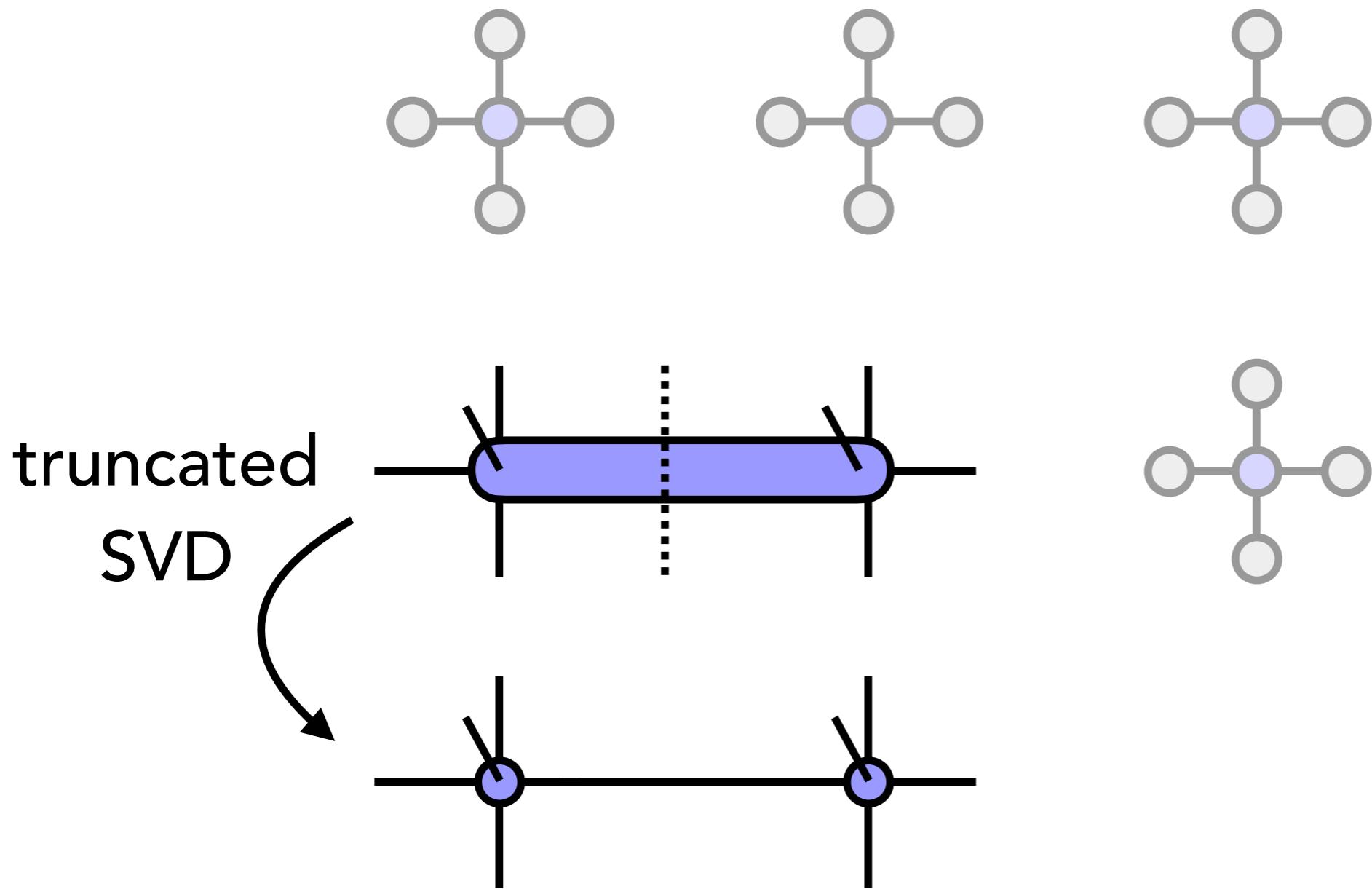
Use converged messages to apply gates



square roots  
of messages

# Belief Propagation

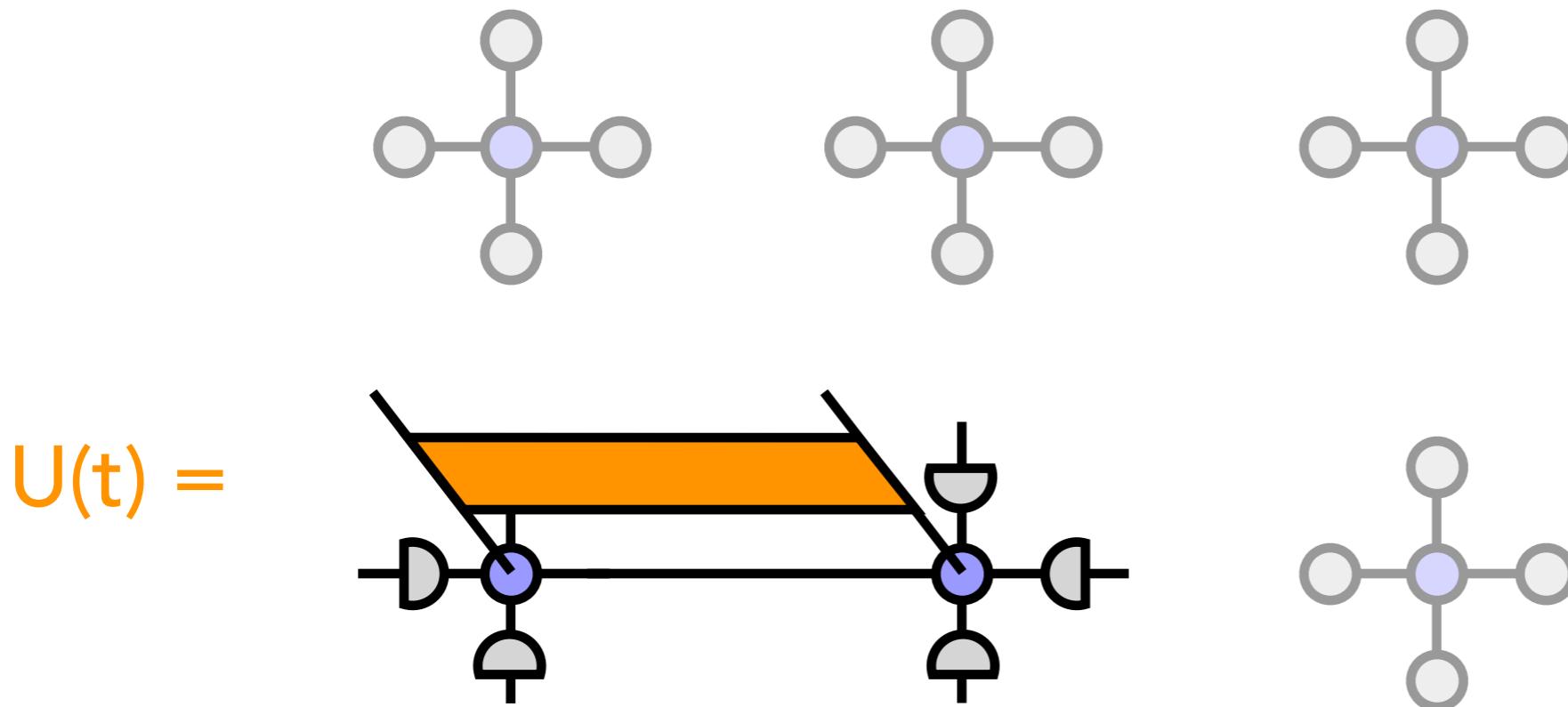
Messages play important role not so much when we apply the gate, but in order to make the SVD truncation accurate:



# Belief Propagation

Applying gates lets us:

- 1) compute ground states & thermal states (imaginary time)
- 2) compute dynamics (real time)



# Belief Propagation

For extensive discussion of theory of  
quantum belief propagation  
(relation to gauging, simple update, etc.)

SciPost

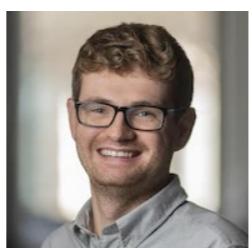
SciPost Phys. 15, 222 (2023)

## Gauging tensor networks with belief propagation

Joseph Tindall\* and Matt Fishman

Center for Computational Quantum Physics, Flatiron Institute,  
New York, New York 10010, USA

\* [jtindall@flatironinstitute.org](mailto:jtindall@flatironinstitute.org)



Joey Tindall

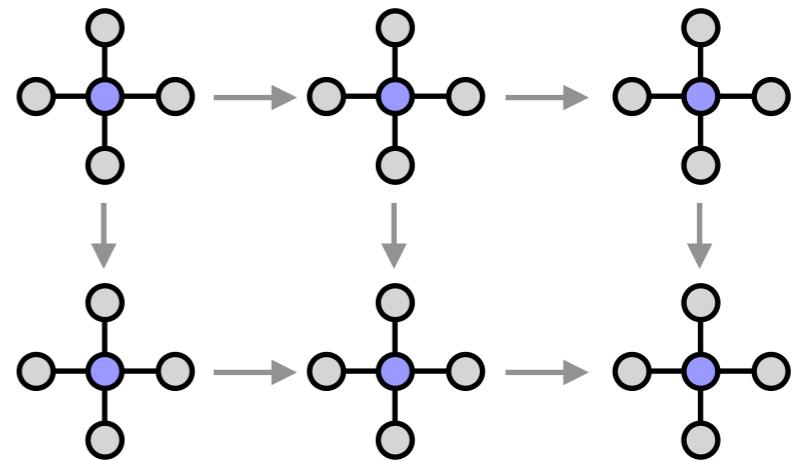


Matt Fishman

# Belief Propagation

Benefits of belief propagation:

- if lattice has no loops, fully **controlled**
- **cheap**: use large internal bond dimensions  $\chi$
- like mean-field theory, but more **accurate**
- can run **dynamics** on top
- **systematic corrections** possible



# **Applications of Belief Propagation for Quantum Simulation**

# 1) Simulation of quantum utility experiment

Featured in Physics    Open Access

## Efficient Tensor Network Simulation of IBM's Eagle Kicked Ising Experiment

Joseph Tindall, Matthew Fishman, E. Miles Stoudenmire, and Dries Sels  
PRX Quantum 5, 010308 – Published 23 January 2024

Physics See Research News: [A Moving Target for Quantum Advantage](#)



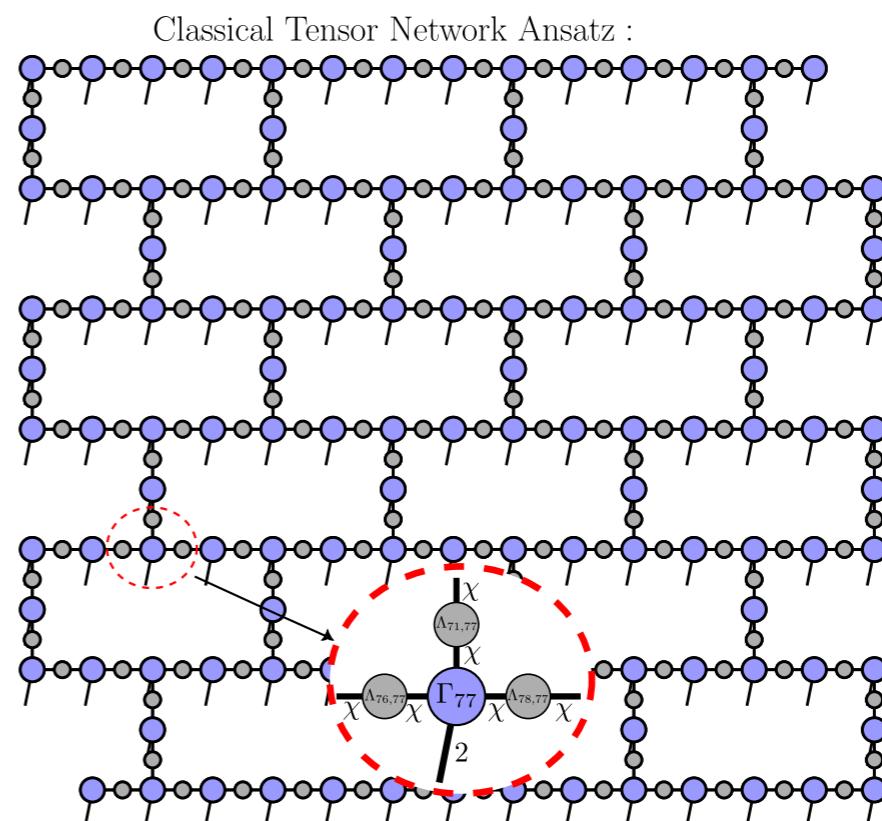
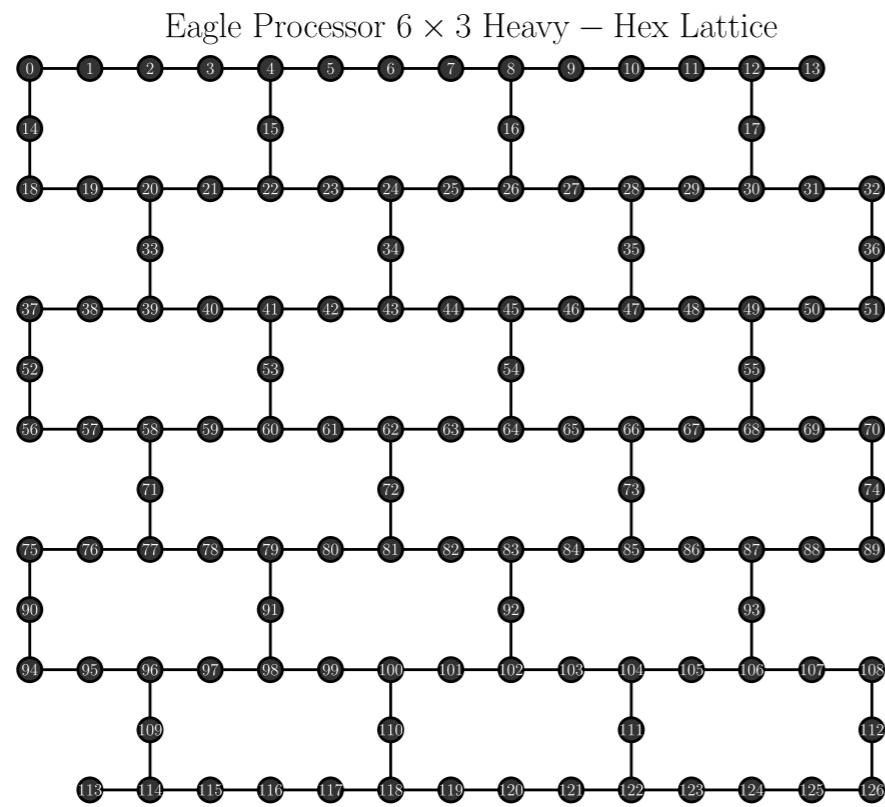
J. Tindall



M. Fishman



D. Sels

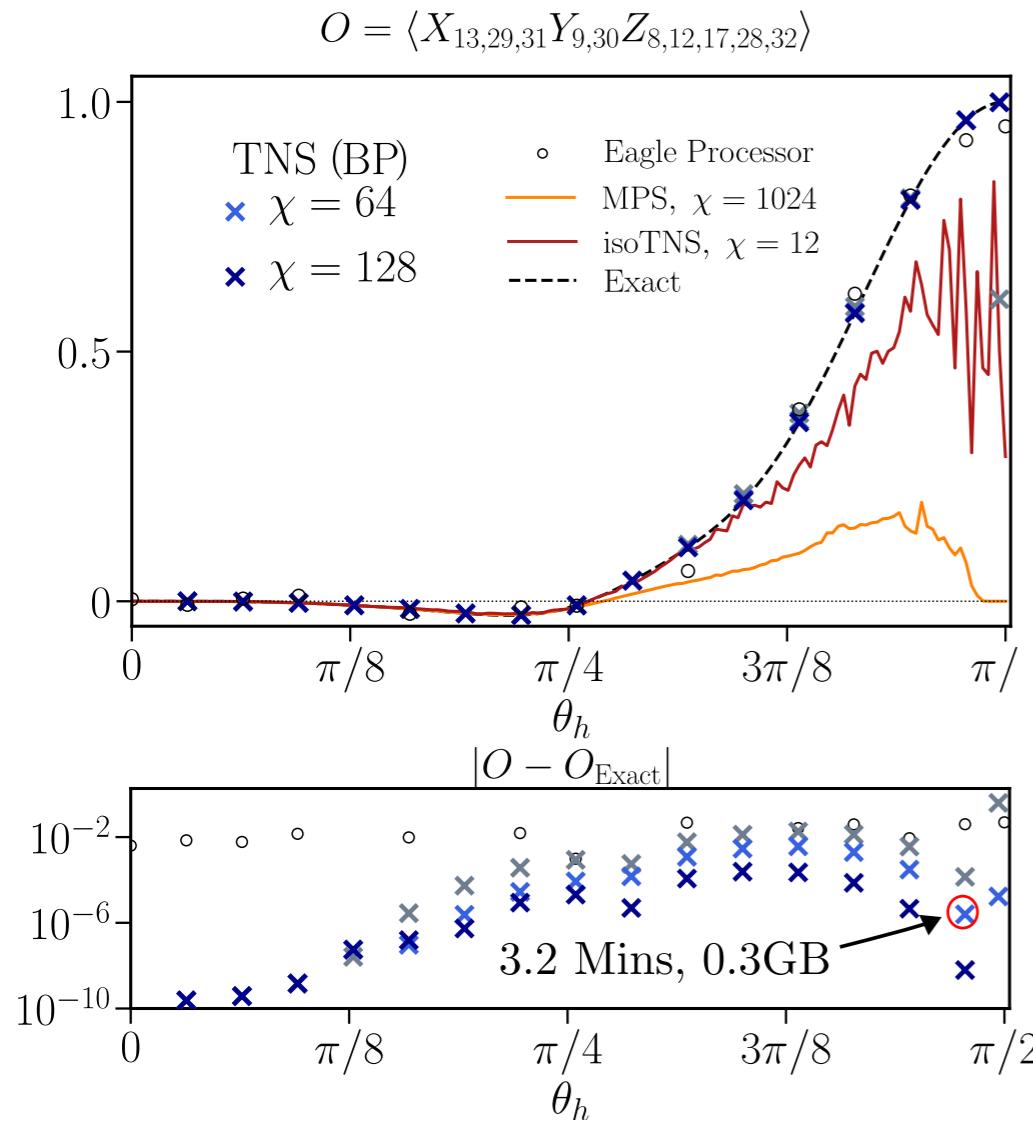


$$U(\theta_h) = \left( \prod_{\langle v, v' \rangle} \exp \left( i \frac{\pi}{4} Z_v Z_{v'} \right) \right) \left( \prod_v \exp \left( -i \frac{\theta_h}{2} X_v \right) \right)$$

← discretized dynamics

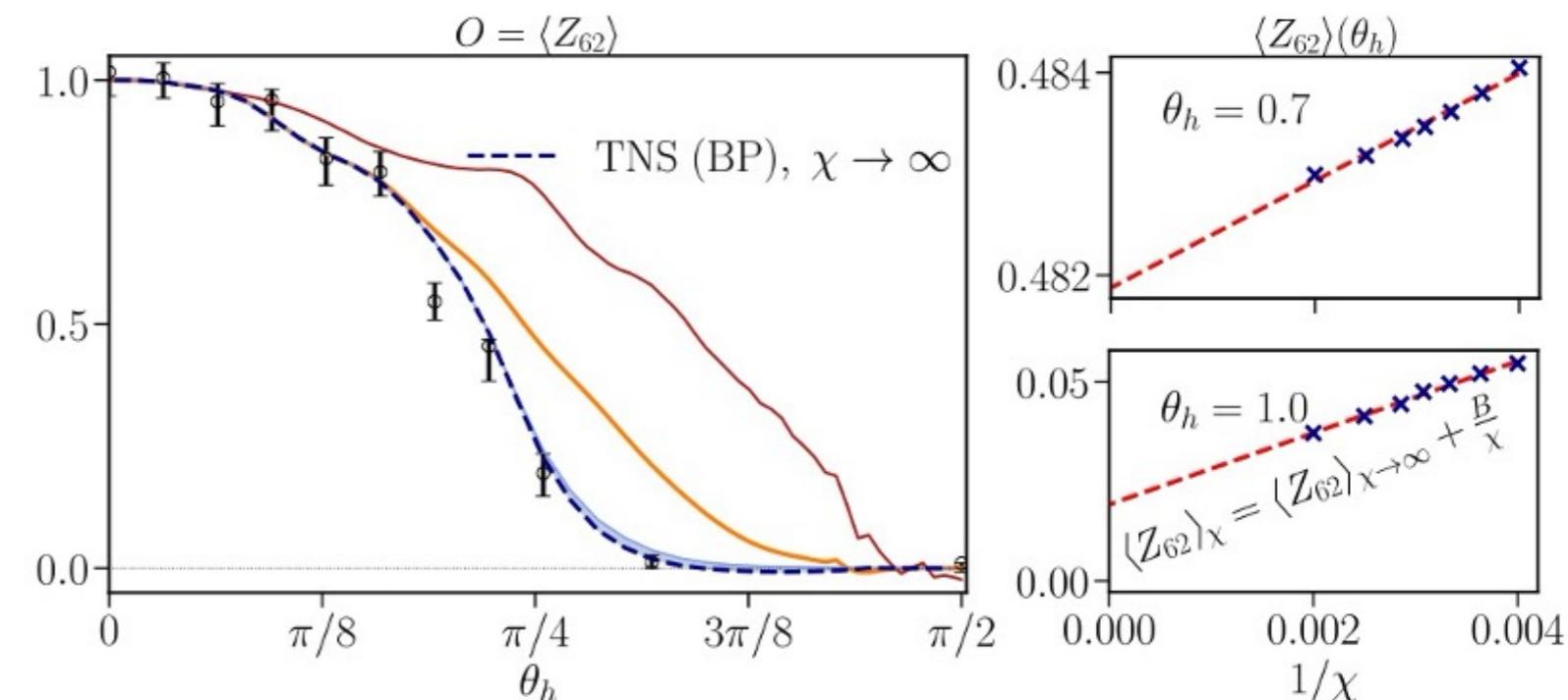
# 1) Simulation of quantum utility experiment

✖ BP results



Results in  
verifiable regime

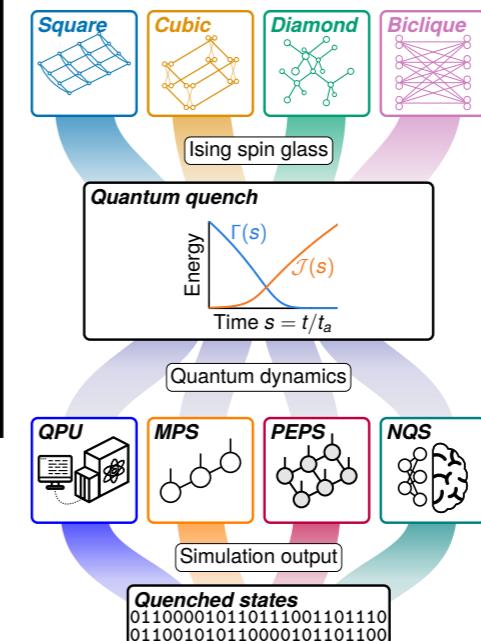
— BP results



Results in  
unverifiable regime

## 2) Simulation of D-Wave quantum Ising dynamics

The screenshot shows a news article from The Wall Street Journal under the Science section. The headline reads "D-Wave Claims 'Quantum Supremacy,' Beating Traditional Computers". Below the headline is a sub-headline "Beyond-classical computation in quantum simulation". The author is listed as "By Belle Lin". The URL is "https://www.wsj.com/articles/d-wave-claims-quantum-supremacy-beating-traditional-computers-11618000001".



### Dynamics of disordered quantum systems with two- and three-dimensional tensor networks

Joseph Tindall,<sup>1</sup> Antonio Francesco Mello,<sup>1,2</sup> Matthew Fishman,<sup>1</sup> E. Miles Stoudenmire,<sup>1</sup> and Dries Sels<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Center for Computational Quantum Physics, Flatiron Institute, New York, New York 10010, USA*

<sup>2</sup>*International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA), via Bonomea 265, 34136 Trieste, Italy*

<sup>3</sup>*Center for Quantum Phenomena, Department of Physics,  
New York University, 726 Broadway, New York, NY, 10003, USA*

(Dated: March 14, 2025)



**Joey Tindall**  
Flatiron CCQ



**Antonio Mello**  
Flatiron CCQ  
SISSA



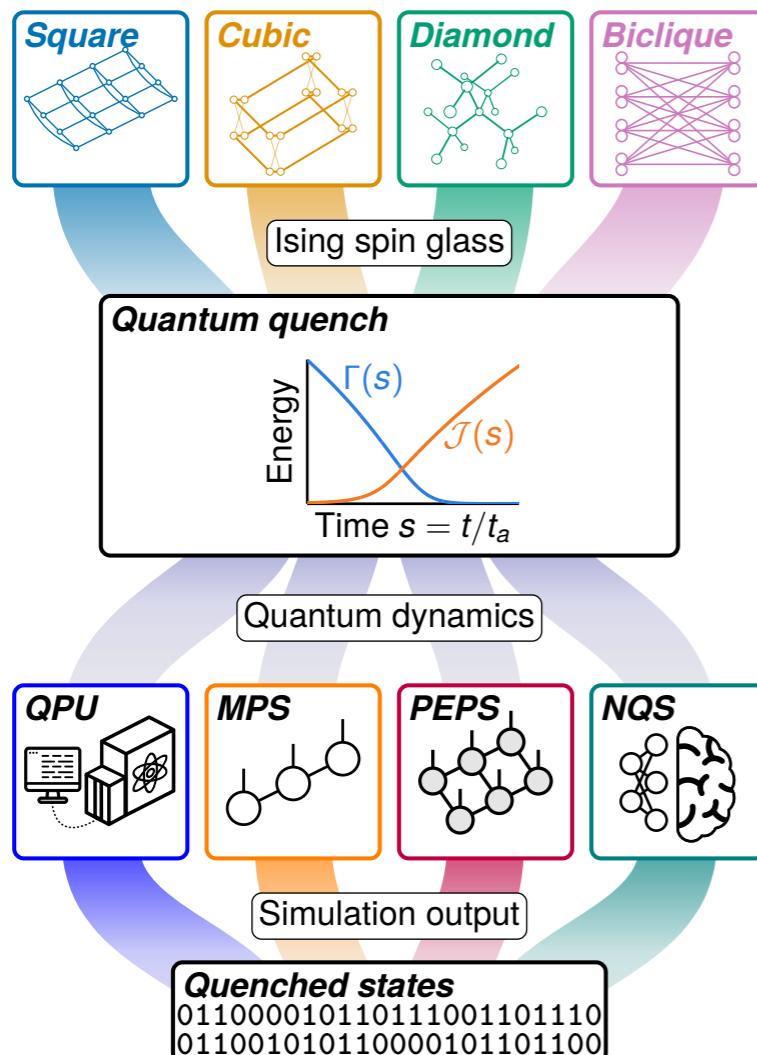
**Matt Fishman**  
Flatiron CCQ



**Dries Sels**  
Flatiron CCQ  
New York University

## 2) Simulation of D-Wave quantum Ising dynamics

### What did the experiment compute?



**Goal: compute post-quench correlations**

$$c_{ij} = \langle \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z \rangle$$

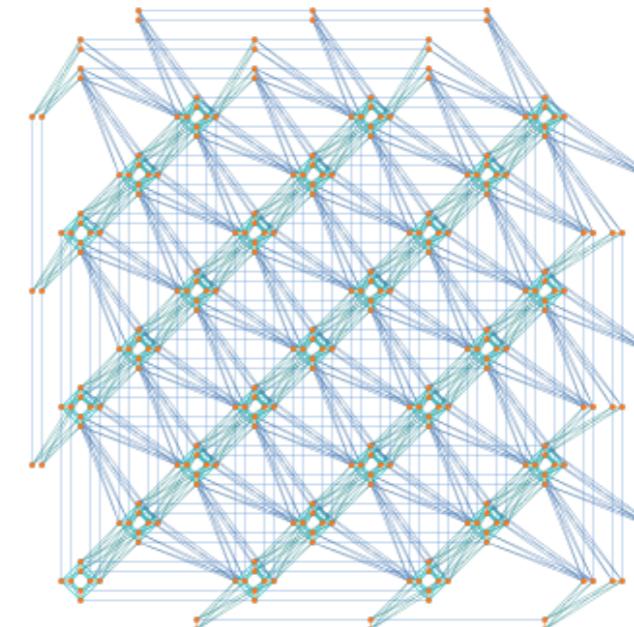
$$\epsilon_c = \left( \frac{\sum_{i,j} (c_{ij} - \tilde{c}_{ij})^2}{\sum_{i,j} \tilde{c}_{ij}^2} \right)^{1/2}$$

We consider a time-dependent Hamiltonian that interpolates between a driving Hamiltonian  $\mathcal{H}_D$  and a classical Ising problem Hamiltonian  $\mathcal{H}_P$ :

$$\mathcal{H}(t) = \Gamma(t/t_a)\mathcal{H}_D + \mathcal{J}(t/t_a)\mathcal{H}_P, \quad (1)$$

$$\mathcal{H}_D = - \sum_i \sigma_i^x, \quad \mathcal{H}_P = \sum_{i < j} J_{ij} \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z, \quad (2)$$

**Hardware: SQUIDs (quantum Ising spins) on "Pegasus" graph topology**

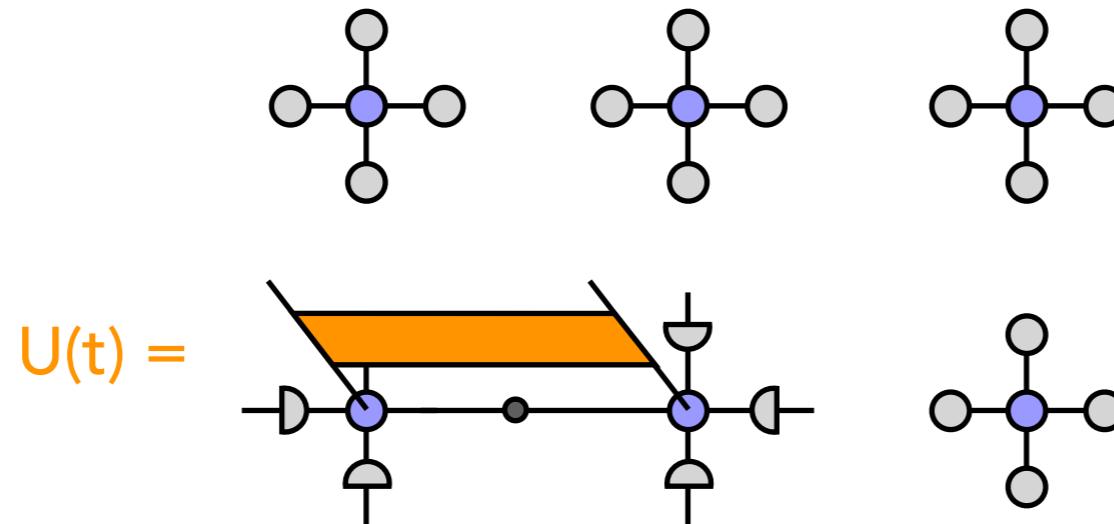


# Tensor BP for Annealing

Our approach to simulate:

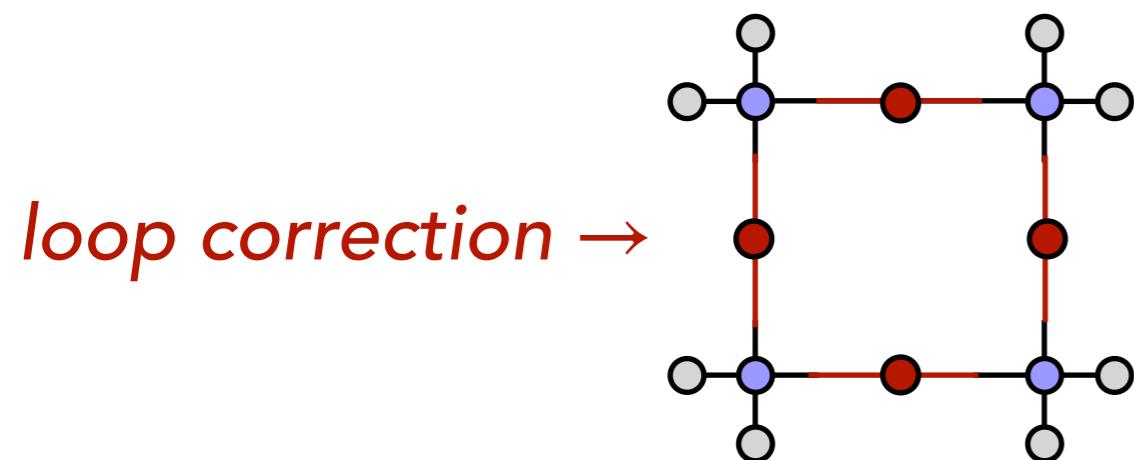
## 1. Time evolution at BP level

(allowing bonds to grow large, cheaply)

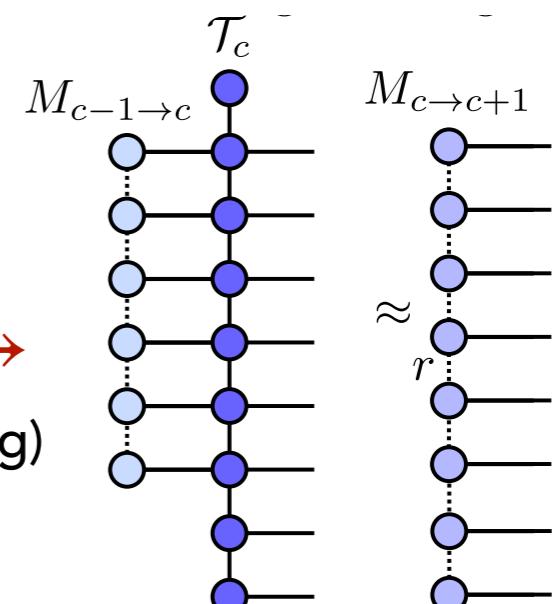


## 2. Corrected calculation of correlators

(truncate bonds before this step)

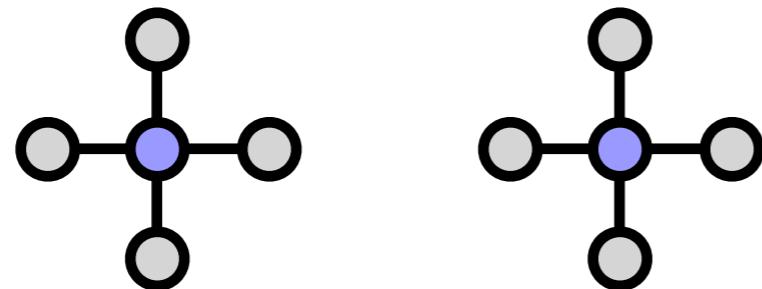


*Boundary MPS →*  
(2D MPS Message Passing)

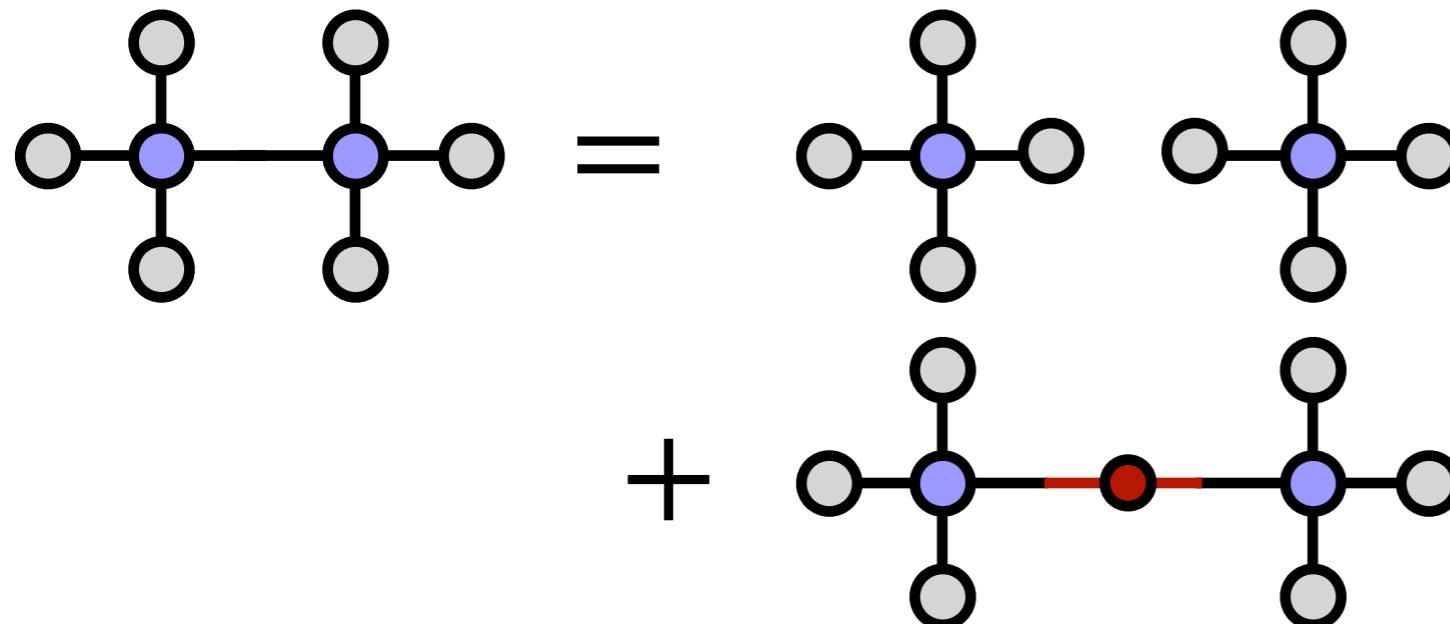


# Loop Corrections – What are They?

Messages "cut" the original network:



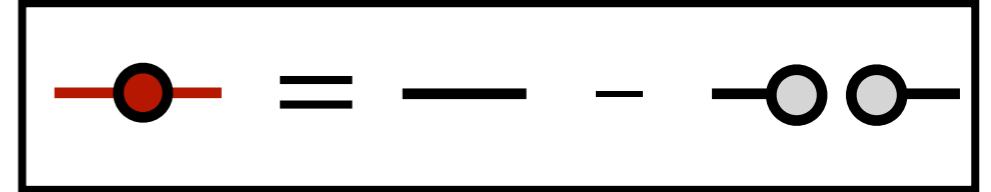
Missing contributions from orthogonal "message space":



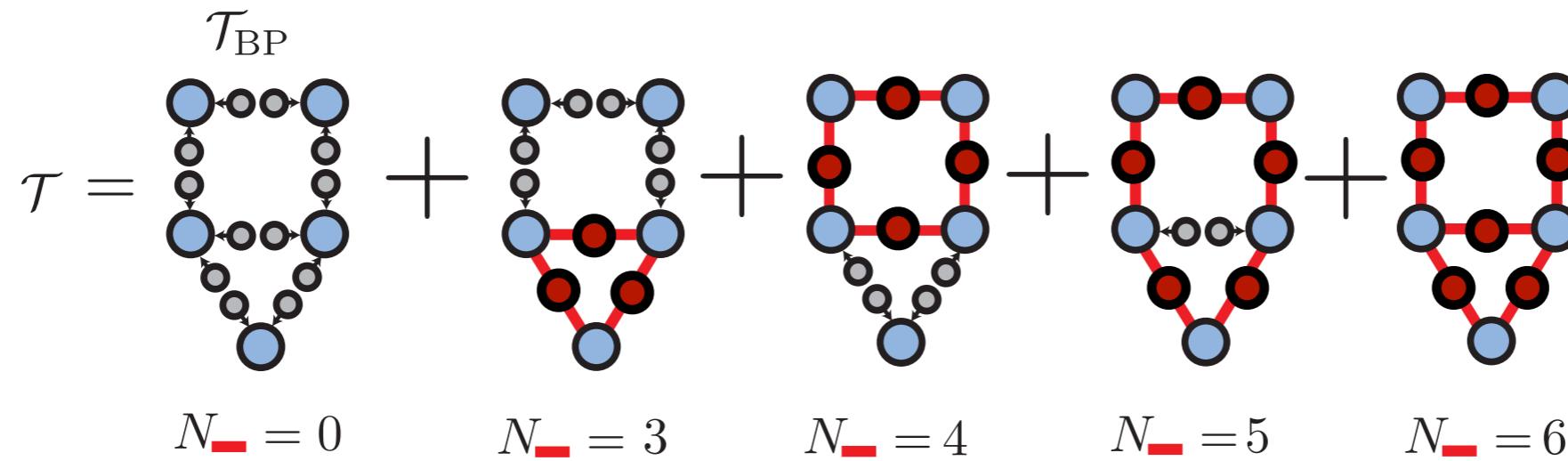
$$\text{---} \bullet = \text{---} - \text{---} \bullet \text{---}$$

Only **closed loops** give non-zero correction

# Loop Corrections – What are They?



Only **closed loops** give non-zero correction



Like a Feynman diagram expansion but controlled by correlation length

Glen Evenbly, et al., "Loop Series Expansions for Tensor Networks", arxiv: 2409.03108

Tindall, Mello, et al., "Dynamics of disordered quantum systems...", arxiv:2503.05693

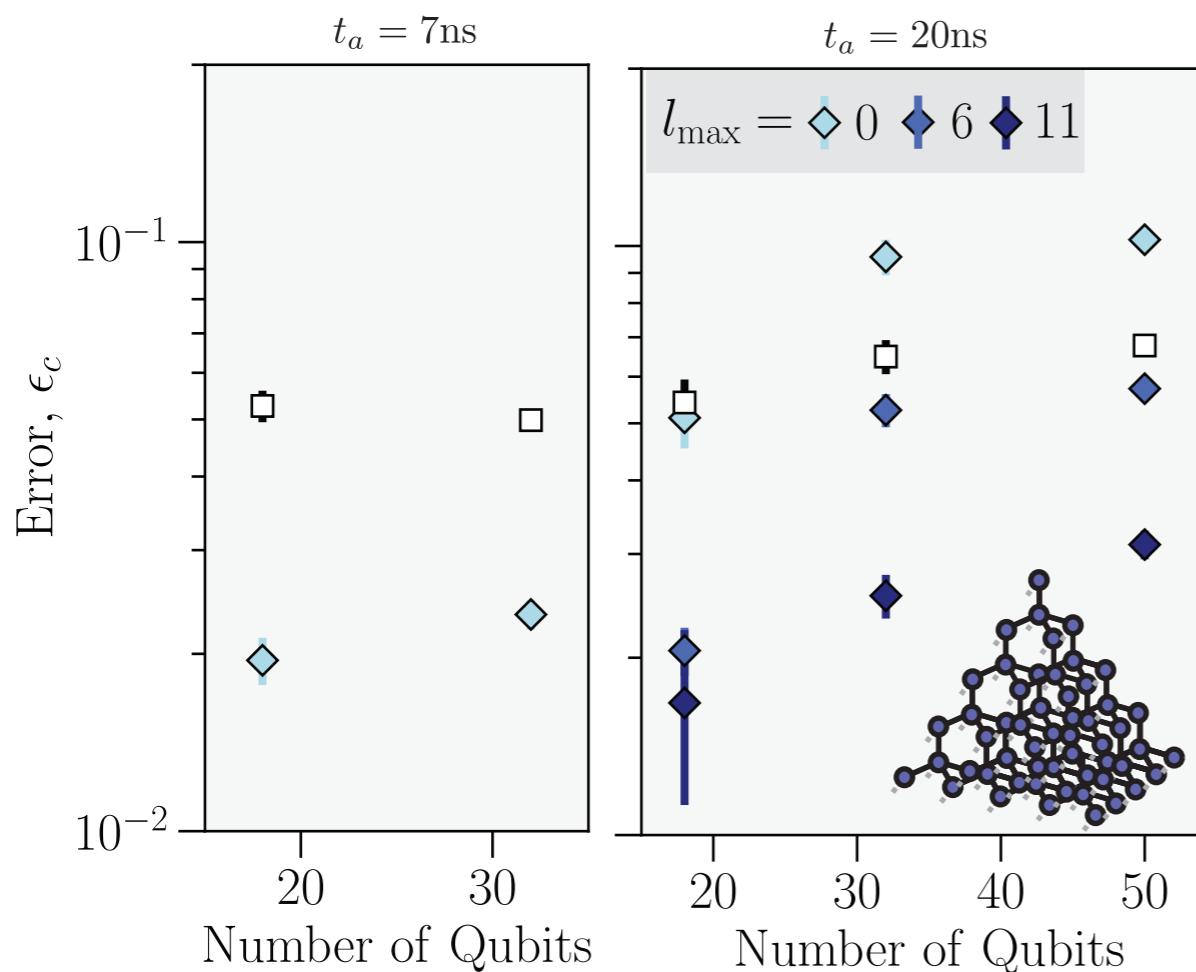
Siddhant Midha and Yifan F. Zhang, "Beyond Belief Propagation...." arXiv: 2510.02290

J. Gray et al, "Tensor Network Loop Cluster Expansions....." arXiv: 2510.05647

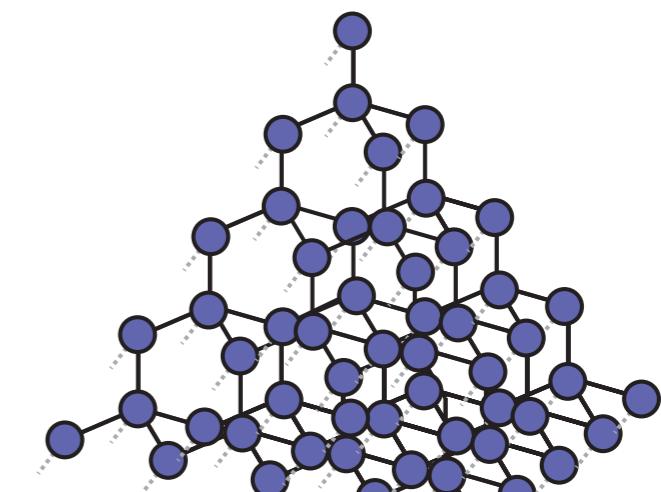
# Annealing Simulation Results

Can compute **3D** quantum dynamics  
with these tools

Correlator errors:



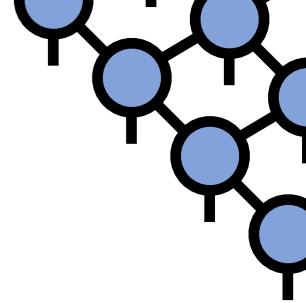
Diamond Cubic Tensor Network  $|\psi\rangle$



- Quantum annealer
- ◆ Loop corrected BP method

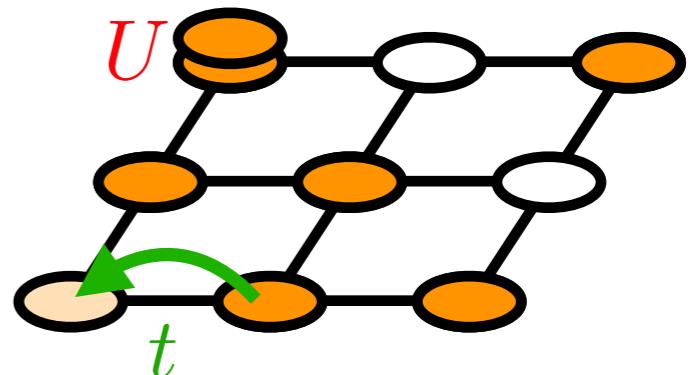
Competitive with quantum annealer results,  
using scalable methods

# Future Directions & Open Questions



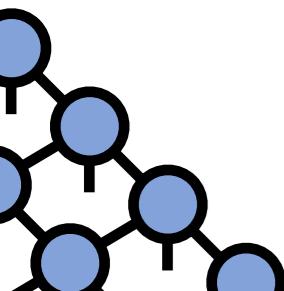
What is the limit?

Can we simulate dynamics of strongly-correlated electrons in 2D and 3D?



$$\hat{H} = - \textcolor{green}{t} \sum_{ij} (\hat{c}_i^\dagger \hat{c}_j + \hat{c}_j^\dagger \hat{c}_i) + \textcolor{red}{U} \sum_j \hat{n}_{j\uparrow} \hat{n}_{j\downarrow}$$

Can novel dynamics approaches (space + time)  
"influence functional [1]" bring long time dynamics into reach?



# Summary

Newly **efficient** methods for 2D and 3D tensor networks are being developed based on message passing

Actually easier in **high dimensions**  
(more neighbors)

Opportunities to study **quantum dynamics** in  
higher dimensions

Now we are going to work with our own BP + PEPS Code using  
**ITensors.jl** and **NamedGraphs.jl**