```
# Parse a string argument for which pairing scheme to utilize
.parsePairs <- function(pairs, array, array_class){</pre>
  # Valid schemes for printing if user is unaware of options
 valid_schemes <- c("largest", "lower", "upper", "consecutive", "all")</pre>
  # Set default to be the consecutive pair scheme
 if(class(pairs) == "logical"){pairs <- "consecutive"}</pre>
 # Stop function call if the argument is invalid
 if(!(pairs %in% valid schemes)){
    scheme list <- paste(valid schemes, collapse = ", ")</pre>
    stop(paste("Invalid pair scheme. Try one of the following: ", scheme list, ".", ""))
 }
 # // Once we verify that we have a valid pair scheme string, try to parse it.
  # First, obtain a matrix by inferring array type; if ensemble take first matrix
 if(array class == "ensemble") { P <- array[[1]] }</pre>
 else if(array class == "matrix") { P <- array }</pre>
  # Obtain the dimension of the matrix
 N \leftarrow nrow(P)
  # Parse the pair string and evaluate the pair scheme
 if(pairs == "largest"){pair_scheme <- data.frame(i = 2, j = 1)}</pre>
 else if(pairs == "consecutive"){pair_scheme <- .consecutive_pairs(N)}</pre>
 else if(pairs == "lower"){pair_scheme <- .unique_pairs_lower(N)}</pre>
 else if(pairs == "upper"){pair_scheme <- .unique_pairs_upper(N)}</pre>
 else if(pairs == "all"){pair_scheme <- .all_pairs(N)}</pre>
  # Return pair scheme
 return(pair_scheme)
```