

1. Motivation & Definition of PEPS

Goal: generalize MPS ideas to 2 dimension!

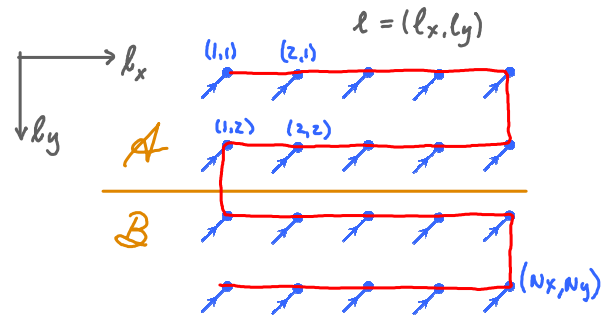
Most obvious idea: 2D-DMRG, using a 'snake-MPS':

[White1996] (2D Heisenberg, nn & nnn interactions)

[Stoudenmire2012] (brief review)

[He2016] (2D Kagome)

[Zheng2017] (recent high-end application: striped order in 2D Hubbard model)



2D-DMRG is one of the most powerful/accurate methods for studying 2D quantum lattice models.

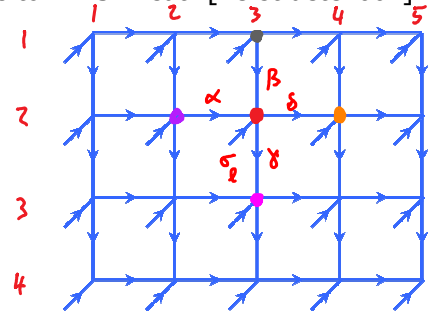
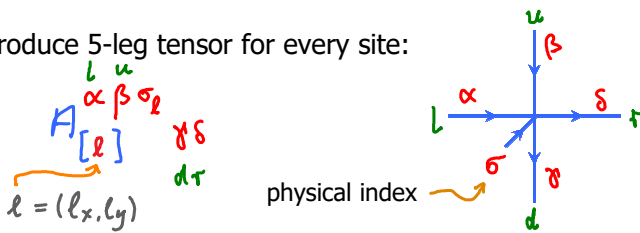
Main limitation: not enough entanglement: entanglement entropy  $S_{AB}^{MPS} \sim \mathcal{O}(\ln_2 D)$

but according to area law, we need  $S_{AB} \sim N_x \Rightarrow D \sim 2^{N_x}$

Reason for insufficiency: entanglement between A and B is encoded in a single bond.

Natural generalization: add more bonds between rows! This leads to PEPS Ansatz [Verstraete2004]:

Introduce 5-leg tensor for every site:



Sum over all virtual bonds linking neighboring sites:

$$|\psi\rangle_{PEPS} = \sum_{\vec{\sigma}_l} |\vec{\sigma}_l\rangle \prod_l A_{[l]}^{\sigma_l} \quad (1) \quad \text{physical basis: } |\vec{\sigma}_l\rangle \equiv |\sigma_{l_x, l_y}\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |\sigma_{l_x, l_y}\rangle \otimes |\sigma_{l_x}\rangle$$

contraction pattern:

$$A_{[l_x-1, l_y]}^{\alpha} \dots A_{[l_x, l_y-1]}^{\beta} \dots A_{[l_x, l_y]}^{\gamma \delta} \dots A_{[l_x, l_y+1]}^{\gamma} \dots A_{[l_x+1, l_y]}^{\delta} \dots \quad (2)$$

Variationally minimize  $\langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle$ . # of variational parameters:  $\mathcal{O}(d D^4 N_x N_y)$

Why the name 'PEPS'? Verstraete & Cirac envisioned generalization of AKLT construction:

Associate 4 'auxiliary particles' with each site:  $|\alpha\beta\gamma\delta\rangle_l = |\alpha\rangle_l^1 |\beta\rangle_l^2 |\gamma\rangle_l^3 |\delta\rangle_l^4$  (3)

Construct entangled pairs along bonds:  $|\mathbb{E}\mathbb{P}\rangle_{l, l'} = \sum_{\gamma} |\gamma\rangle_l^d |\gamma\rangle_{l'}^u$  (4)

Define projectors on each site:  $\hat{P}_l = |\sigma\rangle_l A_{[l]}^{\sigma_l} \langle \bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta} \bar{\gamma} \bar{\delta} |$  (5)

$$|\psi\rangle = \prod_l \hat{P}_l \prod_{\langle l, l' \rangle} |\mathbb{E}\mathbb{P}\rangle_{l, l'}$$

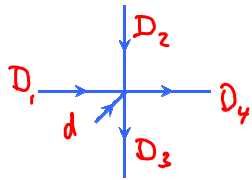
$$|\sigma\rangle_l |\sigma'\rangle_{l'} A_{[l]}^{\sigma_l} \langle \bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta} \bar{\gamma} \bar{\delta} | A_{[l']}^{\sigma'_{l'}} \langle \bar{\alpha}' \bar{\beta}' \bar{\gamma}' \bar{\delta}' | \sum_{\gamma} |\gamma\rangle_l^d |\gamma\rangle_{l'}^u$$

$$|\sigma\rangle_{\ell} |\sigma'\rangle_{\ell'} A_{[\ell]}^{\sigma} \bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta} \bar{\gamma} \bar{\delta} A_{[\ell']}^{\sigma'} \bar{\alpha}' \bar{\beta}' \bar{\gamma}' \bar{\delta}' \langle \bar{\alpha} \bar{\beta} \bar{\gamma} \bar{\delta} | \langle \bar{\alpha}' \bar{\beta}' \bar{\gamma}' \bar{\delta}' | \sum_{\ell} | \gamma \rangle_{\ell}^d | \gamma' \rangle_{\ell'}^d$$

generates a  $\gamma$ -contraction between two A-tensors

General remarks: [Orus2014, Sec. 5.2]

- PEPS are dense: any 2D state can be written as a PEPS, though possibly with exponentially large D



If no truncations are performed:

$$d D_1 D_2 = D_3 D_4 \Rightarrow D_{\ell \ell'} \sim \sqrt{d}^{\ell_x + \ell_y} \quad (6)$$

in-dimension      out-dimension

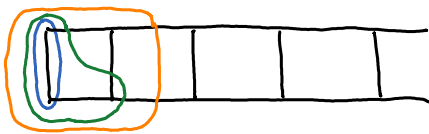
number of bonds between A and B      maximal entanglement per bond

- Entanglement entropy between subsystems A, B is  $S_{AB} \sim O(N_x \ln_2 D) \Rightarrow$  2D area law is satisfied  $S_{AB} \sim N_x$
- PEPS can handle polynomially-decaying correlations (in contrast to 1D MPS)
- Exact contraction is #P hard,  $\Rightarrow$  contraction time  $\sim O(e^{N_x N_y})$

#P-hard class of problems = count number of solutions of NP-complete problems  
 NP-complete class = problems that cannot be solved in polynomial time  
 'non-deterministic polynomial'

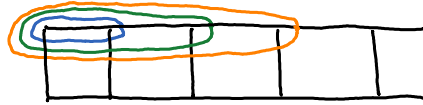
Why are exact contractions hard? Recall 1D situation:

Cheap contraction pattern:



# of open indices remains constant ( $\leq 3$ )  
 cost:  $O(D^2 \cdot d)$   
 $O(d D^2 \cdot D)$   
 $O(D^2 \cdot d D)$  }  $- O(d D^3)$

Expensive contraction pattern:



# of open indices grows linearly  
 cost:  $O(d^L D \cdot D)$   
 $O(d^3 D \cdot D)$   
 $O(d^L D \cdot D)$  }  $O(d^L D^2)$

Moreover, if canonical form is used,



then contraction costs are very small:



In 2D, growth of # of open indices is unavoidable:

open indices: 3 4 4 5 5 just keeps growing...



- Contraction costs would become manageable if a 'canonical form' were available! But this has not been explored systematically until recently.
- 'No exact canonical form exists' [Orus2014, Sec. 5.2] (but this claim might be outdated...)
- Restrictions to canonical forms are possible and probably useful. [Zaletel2019], [Hagshenas2019]

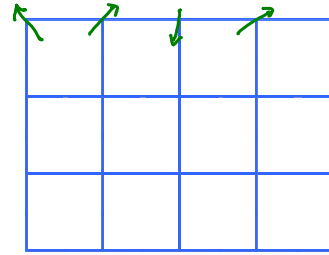
## 2. Example: RVB state

PEPS-I.2

Resonating valence bond (RVB) states are of continued interest for constructing spin liquids.

[Anderson1987], [Rokhsar1988] (high-Tc context)

Canonical example: spin-1/2 Heisenberg model on square lattice



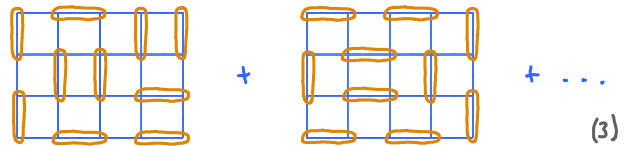
'Dimer' or 'valence bond':

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \quad | \\ \text{---} \end{array} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow_{\ell} \downarrow_{\ell'}\rangle - |\downarrow_{\ell} \uparrow_{\ell'}\rangle) \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ | \\ | \\ \text{---} \\ | \\ | \\ | \end{array} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow_{\ell} \downarrow_{\ell'}\rangle - |\downarrow_{\ell} \uparrow_{\ell'}\rangle) \quad (1)$$

[sign conventions for bonds are needed and important]

RVB state:  $|RVB\rangle =$  (equal-weight superposition of all possible dimer coverings of lattice) (2)

VB fluctuations lower energy due to Hamiltonian matrix elements connecting different configurations.

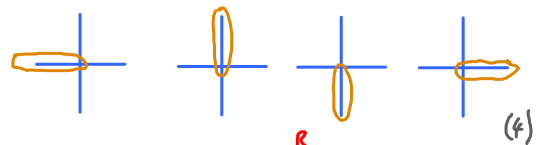


RVB state has a PEPS representation

[Verstraete2004d], [Verstraete2006]

Defining properties of RVB state:

- each vertex has precisely one dimer attached to it, so it can be involved in one of four possible states:



- introduce four auxiliary sites per physical site,

$$|\alpha\beta\gamma\delta\rangle_{\ell}$$

each in one of the states  $|\alpha\rangle \in \{ |e\rangle, |\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle \}$   
 empty up down



(D= 3)

- define 'entangled pairs' using adjacent auxiliary sites from nearest neighbors of given site:

$$|EP\rangle_{\langle\ell,\ell'\rangle} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow_{\ell} \downarrow_{\ell'}\rangle - |\downarrow_{\ell} \uparrow_{\ell'}\rangle) + |e_{\ell} e_{\ell'}\rangle$$

equal-weight superposition of VB or no-VB on bond (6)  
 $\ell = (\ell_x, \ell_y)$  is 2D index



- impose constraint: allow only one auxiliary spin-1/2 per physical site, and identify it with physical spin:

Projector on site  $\ell$ :  $\hat{P}_{\ell} = \sum_{\sigma_{\ell}=\uparrow,\downarrow} |\sigma_{\ell}\rangle ( \langle\sigma_{\ell} e e e | + \langle e \sigma_{\ell} e e | + \langle e e \sigma_{\ell} e | + \langle e e e \sigma_{\ell} | )$   
 physical spin VB points left up down right (7)

$$\equiv \sum_{\sigma_{\ell}} \sum_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} A_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^{\sigma_{\ell}} |\sigma_{\ell}\rangle \langle\alpha\beta\gamma\delta| \quad \text{(no arrow convention here)} \quad (8)$$

only nonzero elements of A-tensor:  $A_{\sigma e e e}^{\sigma} = A_{e \sigma e e}^{\sigma} = A_{e e \sigma e}^{\sigma} = A_{e e e \sigma}^{\sigma}$  (9)

only nonzero elements of  $A$ -tensor:  $A_{\sigma e e e}^{\sigma} = A_{e \sigma e e}^{\sigma} = A_{e e \sigma e}^{\sigma} = A_{e e e \sigma}^{\sigma}$  (9)

PEPS form for RVB state:  $|RVB\rangle = \prod_{\ell} \hat{P}_{\ell} \prod_{\langle \ell, \ell' \rangle} |EP\rangle_{\ell \ell'} = \sum_{\{\sigma_{\ell \ell'}\}} |\bar{\sigma}_{\ell \ell'}\rangle \prod_{\ell \ell'} A_{\ell \ell'}^{\sigma_{\ell \ell'}}$  (10)

all sites  $\rightarrow$   $\otimes_{\ell} \hat{P}_{\ell}$        $\otimes_{\langle \ell, \ell' \rangle} |EP\rangle_{\ell \ell'}$       all nearest neighbor pairs  $\ell \ell'$

Advantages of PEPS description of RBV state

- Dimer basis is hard to work with, since individual components are not orthogonal:  $\langle \text{dimer} | \text{dimer} \rangle \neq 0$
- Therefore, explicit computations are easier in PEPS framework!
- PEPS description can be extended to larger class of states, e.g. including longer-ranged bonds [Wang2013]
- 'Parent Hamiltonian' (for which RVB state is exact ground state) can be constructed systematically, but it is complicated: 19-site interaction [Schuch2012], 12-site interaction [Zhou2014]

easy to read!

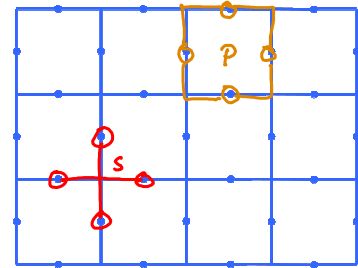
Simplest known model whose ground state displays topological order. Ground state on torus is four-fold degenerate, hence it can be used to define a 'topologically protected qubit'.

- Square lattice (on 2D plane, or on torus)

- Spin 1/2 on each edge

$$\hat{H} = -J_e \sum_s \hat{A}_s - J_m \sum_p \hat{B}_p \quad (1)$$

sum over all stars  $\leftarrow$        $\leftarrow$  sum over all plaquettes



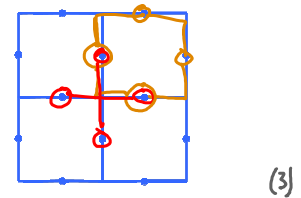
spins live on 'edges' of square lattice  
index  $l$  labels edges

$$\hat{A}_s \equiv \prod_{l \in \text{star}(s)} \hat{\sigma}_l^z \quad \hat{B}_p \equiv \prod_{l \in \text{plaquette}(p)} \hat{\sigma}_l^x$$

[note: Kitaev uses  $\hat{\sigma}^x$  for stars,  $\hat{\sigma}^z$  for plaquettes]

All terms in Hamiltonian commute

Easy to check:  $[\hat{A}_s, \hat{B}_p] = 0$  for all  $s, p$



because all stars and plaquettes share an even number of edges ( 0 or 2 );

hence minus signs from  $\hat{\sigma}_l^z \hat{\sigma}_l^x = -\hat{\sigma}_l^x \hat{\sigma}_l^z$  cancel:  $(-1)^0 = (-1)^2 = 1$  (4)

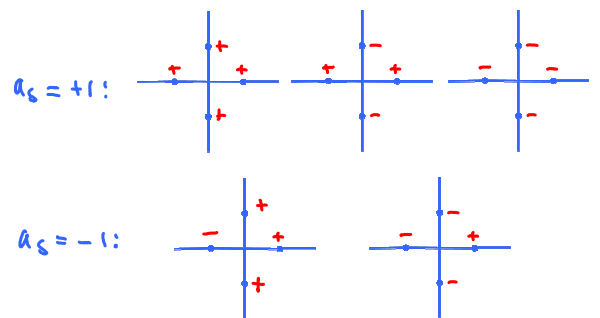
- All terms in  $\hat{H}$  commute  $\Rightarrow \hat{H}$  should be solvable!

- Adopt eigenbasis of  $\hat{\sigma}_l^z$  : with eigenstates  $|\sigma_l\rangle$ ,  $\sigma_l = \pm 1$  (5)

- Star operator,  $\hat{A}_s = \prod_{l \in \text{star}(s)} \hat{\sigma}_l^z$  (6)

has eigenvalues  $a_s = \pm 1$  'star flux' (7)

If  $a_s = -1$ , there is a 'vortex' on star. (8)



Ground state of toric code

- Due to (3), ground state must be an eigenstate of every  $\hat{A}_s, \hat{B}_p$ , (9)

$$\Rightarrow \hat{A}_s |g\rangle = a_s |g\rangle, \quad \hat{B}_p |g\rangle = b_p |g\rangle \text{ for all } s, p$$

- ground state must maximize energy of all  $\hat{A}_s, \hat{B}_p$  terms,  $\Rightarrow a_s = b_p = +1$  (10)

Note:  $a_s = 1 \Rightarrow$  all +, or all -, or two +, two -, on every star (11)

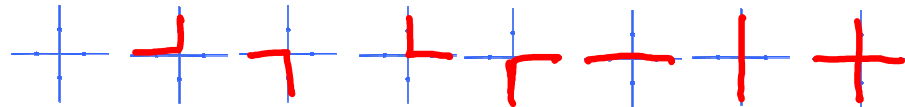
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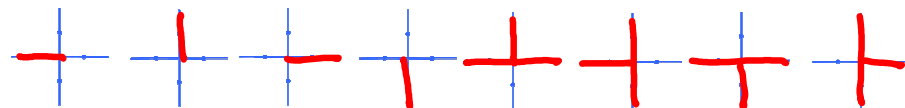
$$\Rightarrow \hat{A}_s |g\rangle = a_s |g\rangle, \quad \hat{B}_p |g\rangle = b_p |g\rangle \text{ for all } s, p$$

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Note:  $a_s = 1 \Rightarrow$  all +, or all -, or two +, two -, on every star (11)

Graphical notation:  (12)

Allowed configurations: 

Forbidden configurations: 

$\Rightarrow$  ground state is 'vortex free', i.e. it contains only closed loops of red edge lines

$$\Rightarrow |g\rangle = \sum_{\text{all closed loops } \vec{\sigma}} c_{\vec{\sigma}} |\vec{\sigma}\rangle \quad \left\{ \vec{\sigma} : a_s(\vec{\sigma}) = 1 \forall s \right\} \quad (13)$$

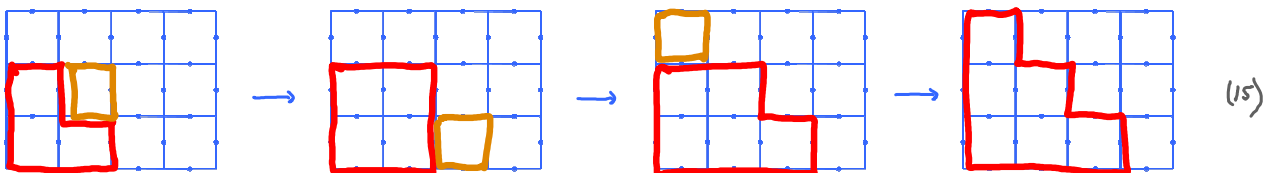
-  $\hat{B}_p$  flips all spins on plaquette, hence maps 'allowed configuration' to 'allowed configuration'.

Since  $|g\rangle$  sums over all allowed configurations, the condition  $\hat{B}_p |g\rangle = |g\rangle$  (14)

can be satisfied provided that states connected by  $\hat{B}_p$  have same amplitude:

$$\text{if } \hat{B}_p |\vec{\sigma}\rangle = |\vec{\sigma}'\rangle, \text{ then } c_{\vec{\sigma}} = c_{\vec{\sigma}'} \quad (14)$$

$\Rightarrow$  Along each 'orbit' of the action of plaquette operators, all coefficients must be equal:



### Toric code on plane

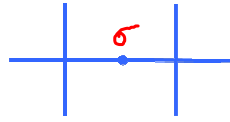
Spin flips of plaquette operator are 'ergodic', i.e. any closed loop  $|\vec{\sigma}\rangle$  can be mapped to any other  $|\vec{\sigma}'\rangle$  closed loop by a series of plaquette operators. Hence, all  $c_{\vec{\sigma}}$  must be equal:

$$|g\rangle = \sum_{\text{all closed loops}} |\vec{\sigma}\rangle \quad \text{equal-weight superposition of all closed-loop configurations} \quad (16)$$

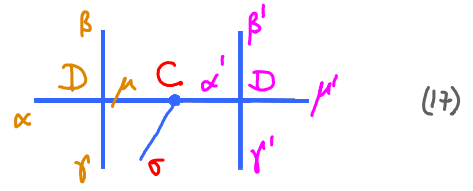
PEPS representation: [Verstraete2006]

the local variable

$$\sigma = \pm 1$$

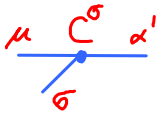


is represented by



$$(17)$$

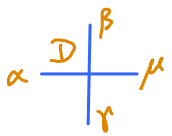
with



$$\equiv \delta_{\mu\sigma} \delta_{\alpha'\sigma}$$

[on each edge: set both auxiliary indices equal to physical index]

$$(18)$$



$$\equiv \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \alpha + \beta + \gamma + \mu = 0 \pmod{4} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

[on each vertex: enforce closed-loop condition]

$$(19)$$

Summing over all  $\alpha\beta\gamma\mu$  on each vertex generates all possible loop orderings!

$$|g\rangle = \sum_{\vec{\sigma}} |\vec{\sigma}\rangle \prod_l C_{(e)}^{\sigma_l} \prod_s D_{[s]} \quad [\text{contraction of all auxiliary bonds implied}] \quad (20)$$

PEPS formulation is generalizable to all 'string-net' models', [Gu2009]

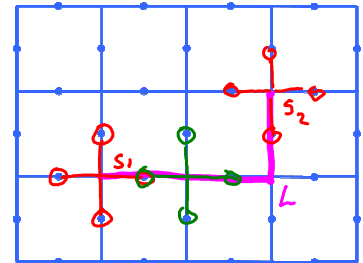
which realize all non-chiral topological order in 2+1 dimensions. [Buerschaper2009]

### Excitations on plane

Excitations come in two varieties: (i) 'electric charges', (iii) 'magnetic vortices'.

(i) Define 'electric path operator', 
$$\hat{E}_L = \prod_{l \in L} \hat{\sigma}_l^x \quad (21)$$

with  $L$  = path from  $s_1$  to  $s_2$ .



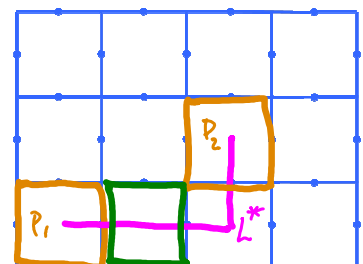
Then 
$$[\hat{E}_L, \hat{B}_p] = 0 \quad (22)$$
 (since both are built only from  $\hat{\sigma}^x$ )

$$\hat{E}_L \hat{A}_s = \mp \hat{A}_s \hat{E}_L \quad \text{for } \begin{cases} s = s_1 \text{ or } s_2 \\ \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} [\text{star flips only one spin on path}] \\ [\text{star flips two or zero spins on path}] \end{array} \quad (23)$$

So, electric path operator creates two 'charges', at  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ , each having energy  $2J_e$ . (24)

(i) Define 'magnetic path operator', 
$$\hat{M}_{L^*} = \prod_{l \in L^*} \hat{\sigma}_l^z \quad (25)$$

with  $L^*$  = path on 'dual lattice' from  $p_1$  to  $p_2$



Then 
$$[\hat{M}_{L^*}, \hat{A}_s] = 0 \quad (26)$$
 (since both are built only from  $\hat{\sigma}^z$ )

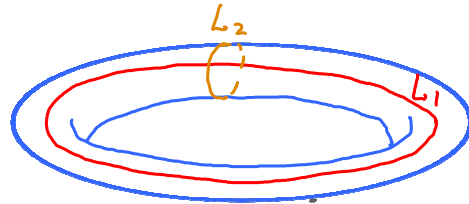
$$\hat{M}_{L^*} \hat{B}_p = \mp \hat{B}_p \hat{M}_{L^*} \quad \text{for } \begin{cases} p = p_1 \text{ or } p_2 \\ \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad [\text{plaquette flips only one spin on path}] \quad (27)$$

$$\hat{M}_L^* \hat{B}_P = \mp \hat{B}_P \hat{M}_L^* \quad \text{for} \quad \begin{cases} P = P_1 \text{ or } P_2 & \text{[plaquette flips only one spin on path]} \\ \text{otherwise} & \text{[plaquette flips two or zero spins on path]} \end{cases} \quad (27)$$

So, magnetic path operator creates two 'vortices', at  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , each having energy  $2J_m$ . (28)

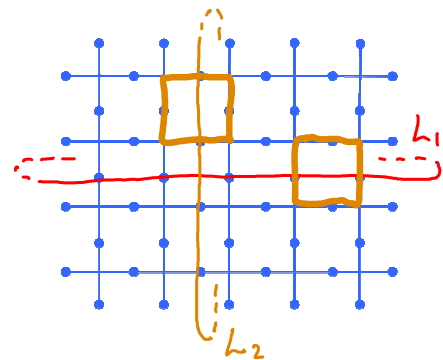
### Toric code on torus

Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be 'global loops' wrapping around surface of torus, along the spin locations (i.e. between edges, on dual lattice)



For given  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ , define the 'global loop operators'

$$\hat{A}_L = \prod_{\ell \in L} \hat{\sigma}_\ell^z, \quad L = L_1 \text{ or } L_2$$



Possible eigenvalues:  $a_{L_1} = \pm 1$ ,  $a_{L_2} = \pm 1$

Any plaquette cuts  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  either 0 or 2 times,

i.e. flips an even number of spins, hence  $[\hat{B}_P, \hat{A}_L] = 0$

Moreover,  $[\hat{A}_{L_1}, \hat{A}_{L_2}] = 0$  (since both are built only from  $\hat{\sigma}^z$ )

Hence,  $[\hat{H}, \hat{A}_L] = 0$ .

So, ground state(s) are also characterized by their  $a_L$ -eigenvalues:

$$\hat{A}_{L_1} |g, a_{L_1}, a_{L_2}\rangle = a_{L_1} |g, a_{L_1}, a_{L_2}\rangle, \quad \hat{A}_{L_2} |g, a_{L_1}, a_{L_2}\rangle = a_{L_2} |g, a_{L_1}, a_{L_2}\rangle$$

$\Rightarrow$  there are 4 degenerate ground states  $\Rightarrow$  topological property!



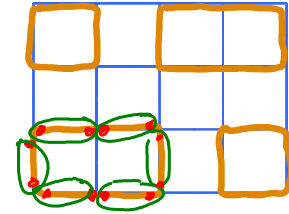
#### 4. Example: Resonating AKLT loop state (RAL)

Consider square lattice, spin 1 on every site:



$|RAL\rangle =$  (equal-weight superposition of all fully packed AKLT loop coverings) [Yao2010]

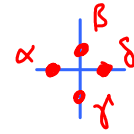
- Loops don't touch (each site is visited by exactly one loop)
- Each loop is a periodic AKLT-type state



PEPS representation: [Li2014]

- introduce four auxiliary sites per physical site,

$$|\alpha\beta\gamma\delta\rangle_l$$



(D= 3)

each in one of the states  $|\alpha\rangle \in \{ |e\rangle, |\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle \}$

empty up down

form auxiliary spin-1/2

- define 'entangled pairs' using adjacent auxiliary sites from nearest neighbors of given site:



$$|EP\rangle_{\langle ll'\rangle} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} ( |\uparrow_l \downarrow_{l'}\rangle - |\downarrow_l \uparrow_{l'}\rangle ) + |e_l e_{l'}\rangle$$

VB
no VB

equal-weight superposition of VB or no-VB on bond (same as for RVB)

- impose constraint: allow only two auxiliary spin-1/2 per physical site, combined to form physical spin-1:

Projector on site  $l$ :  $\hat{P}_l =$

$$|1_l\rangle ( \langle e e \uparrow \uparrow | + \langle e \uparrow e \uparrow | + \langle \uparrow e e \uparrow | + \dots )$$

$$+ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0_l\rangle ( \langle e e \uparrow \downarrow | + \langle e \uparrow e \downarrow | + \langle \uparrow e e \downarrow | + \dots )$$

$$- | -1_l\rangle ( \langle e e \downarrow \downarrow | + \langle e \downarrow e \downarrow | + \langle \downarrow e e \downarrow | + \dots )$$

Clebsch-Gordan

[two edges are bound into a spin-1, other two are 'empty']

$$\equiv \sum_{\sigma_l} \sum_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} A_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^{\sigma_l} |\sigma_l\rangle \langle \alpha\beta\gamma\delta |$$

PEPS form for RAL state:

$$|RAL\rangle = \prod_{\text{all sites } l} \hat{P}_l \prod_{\langle ll'\rangle} |EP\rangle_{ll'} = \sum_{\{\sigma_{ll'}\}} \prod_{ll'} A_{ll'}^{\sigma_{ll'}}$$