

Quantum entanglement and the phases of matter

Colloquium Ehrenfestii
Leiden University
May 9, 2012

sachdev.physics.harvard.edu





Liza Huijse



Max Metlitski

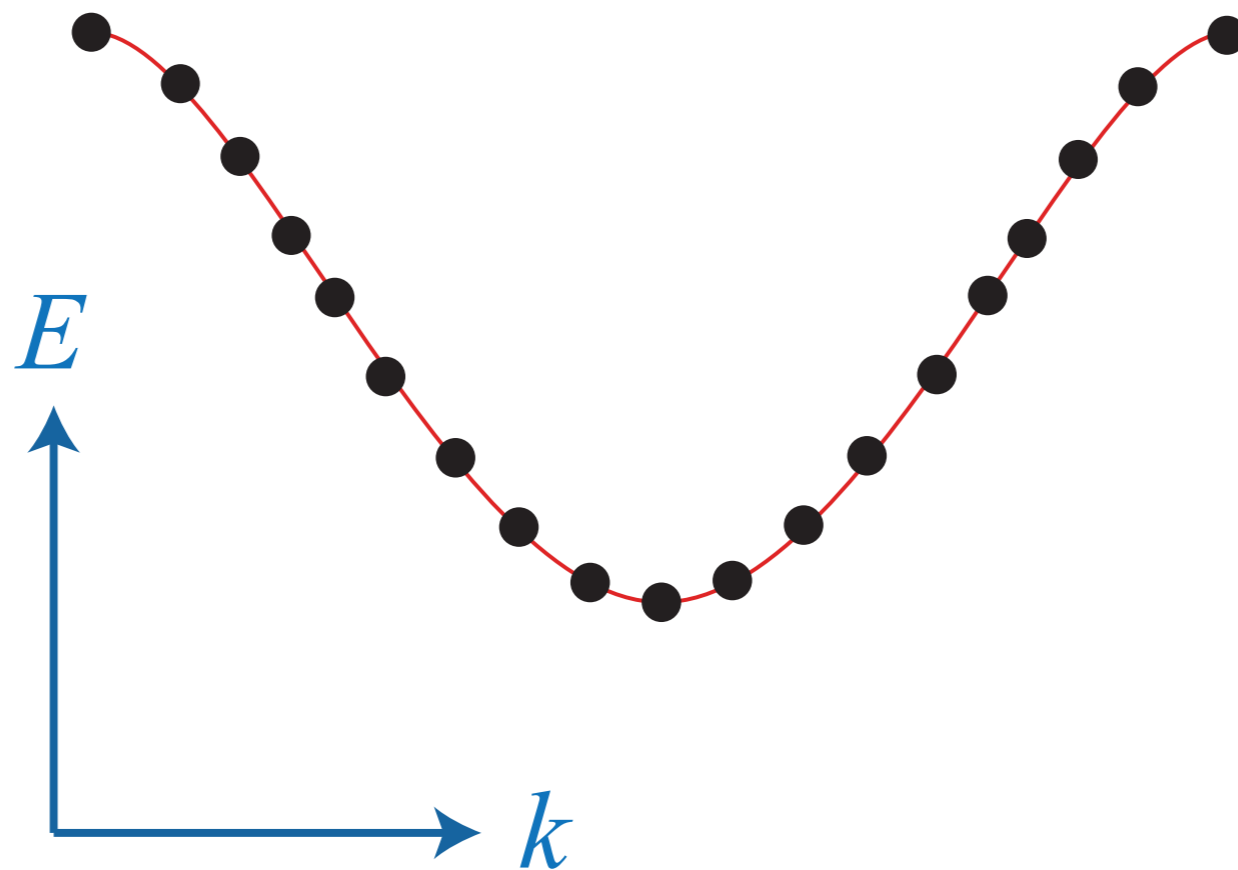


Brian Swingle

Sommerfeld-Bloch theory of
metals, insulators, and superconductors:
many-electron quantum states are adiabatically
connected to independent electron states

Sommerfeld-Bloch theory of metals, insulators, and superconductors: many-electron quantum states are adiabatically connected to independent electron states

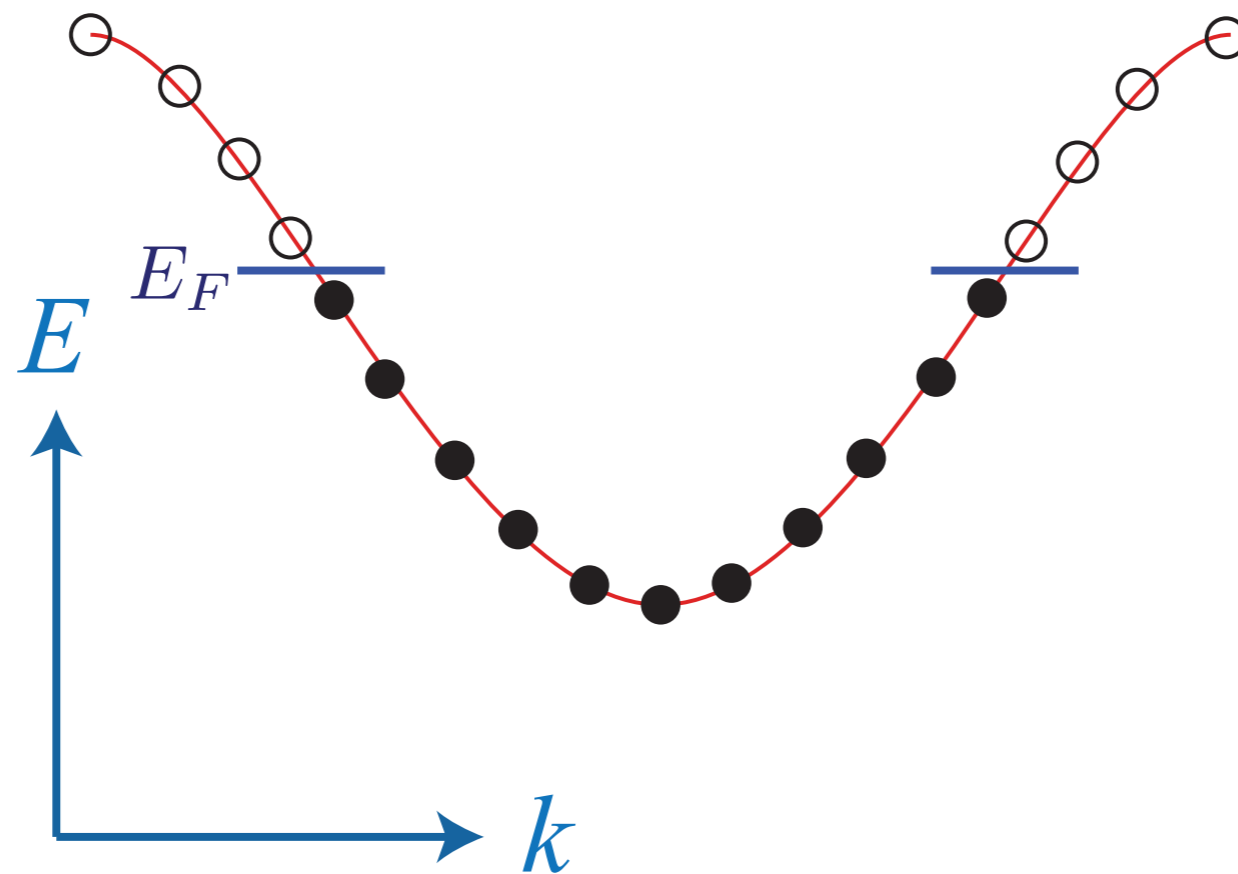
Band insulators



An even number of electrons per unit cell

Sommerfeld-Bloch theory of metals, insulators, and superconductors: many-electron quantum states are adiabatically connected to independent electron states

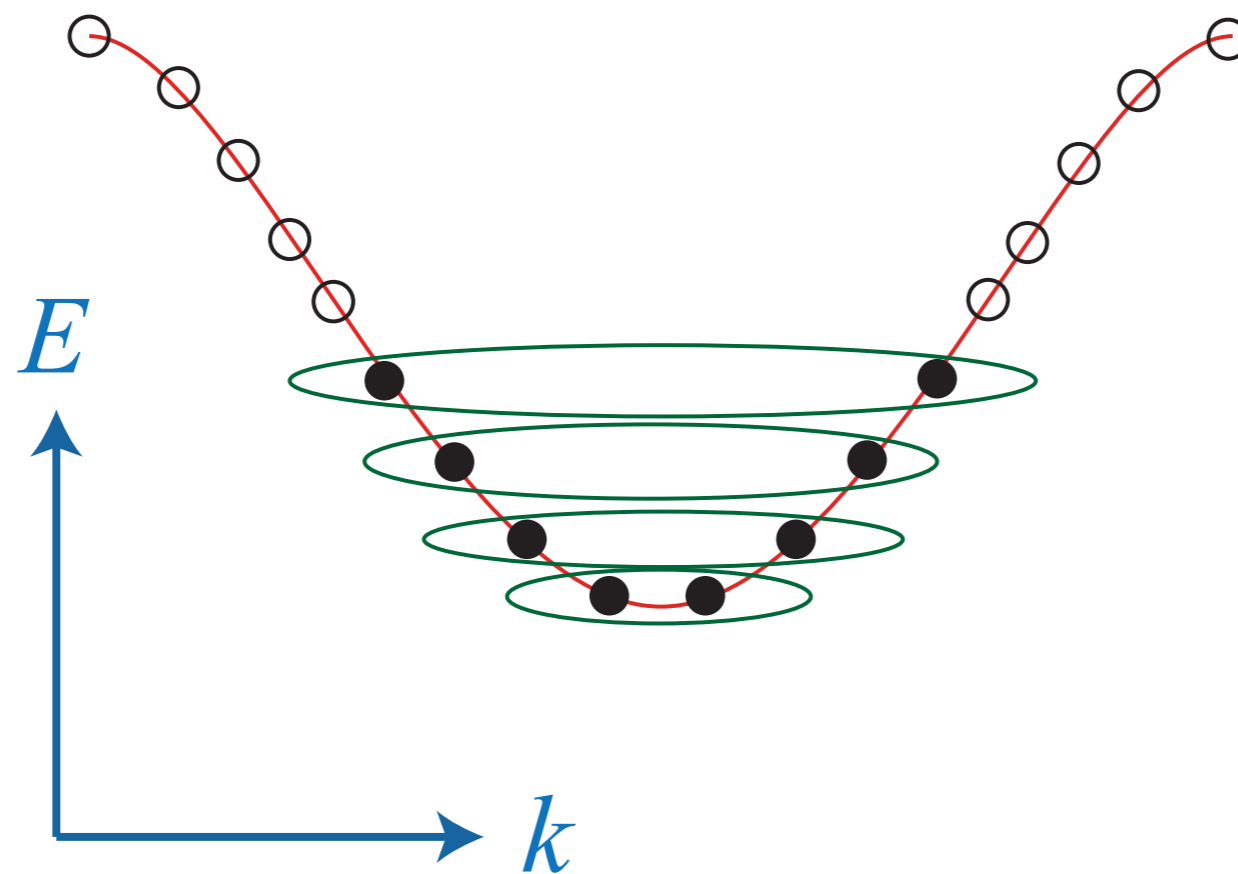
Metals



An odd number of electrons per unit cell

Sommerfeld-Bloch theory of metals, insulators, and superconductors: many-electron quantum states are adiabatically connected to independent electron states

Superconductors



Modern phases of quantum matter
Not adiabatically connected
to independent electron states:

Modern phases of quantum matter

Not adiabatically connected
to independent electron states:

*many-particle, long-range
quantum entanglement*

**Quantum
superposition and
entanglement**

Quantum Entanglement: quantum superposition with more than one particle

Quantum Entanglement: quantum superposition with more than one particle

Hydrogen atom:

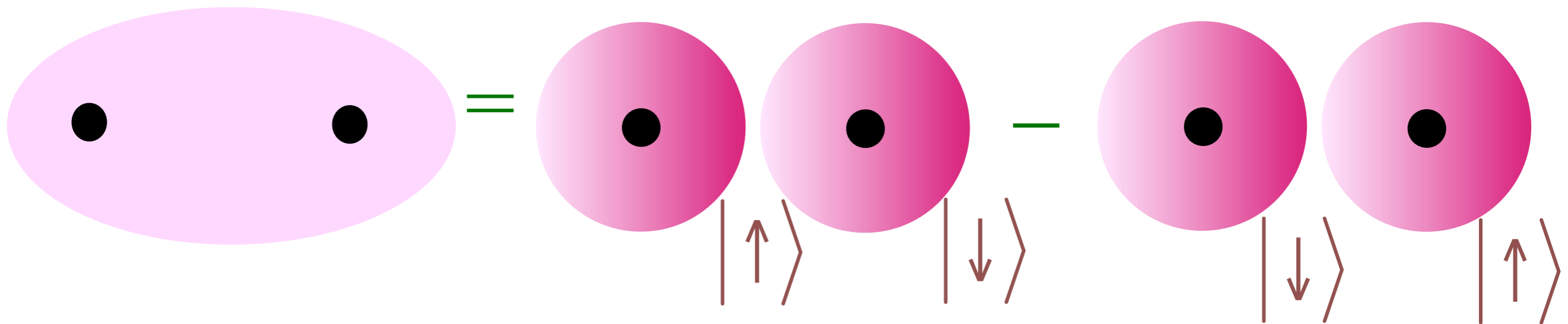


Quantum Entanglement: quantum superposition with more than one particle

Hydrogen atom:



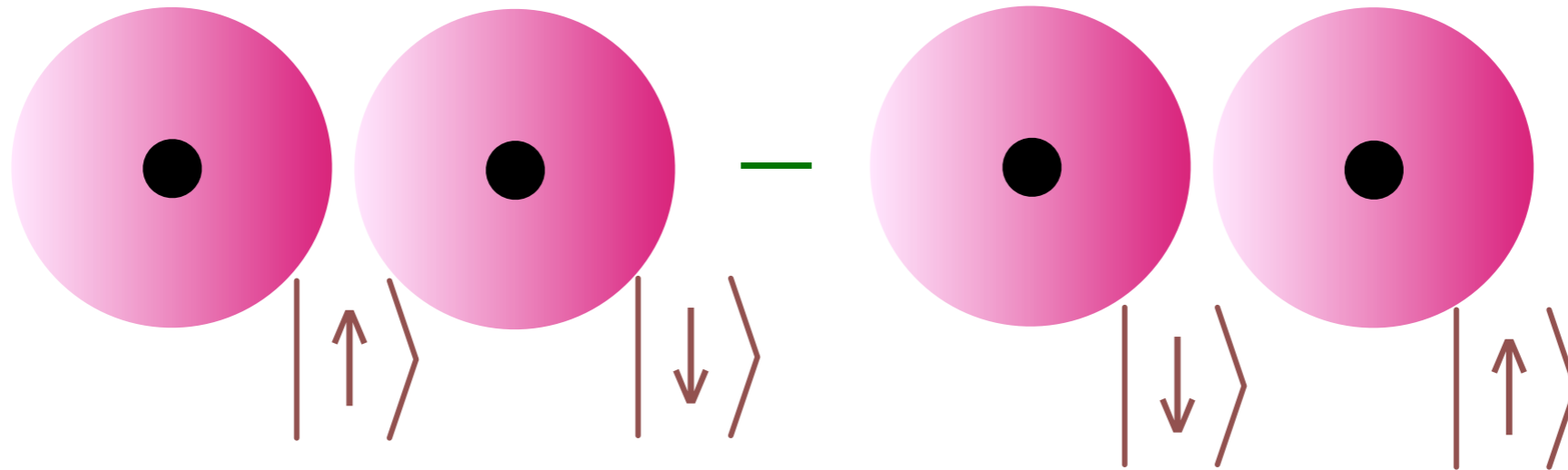
Hydrogen molecule:



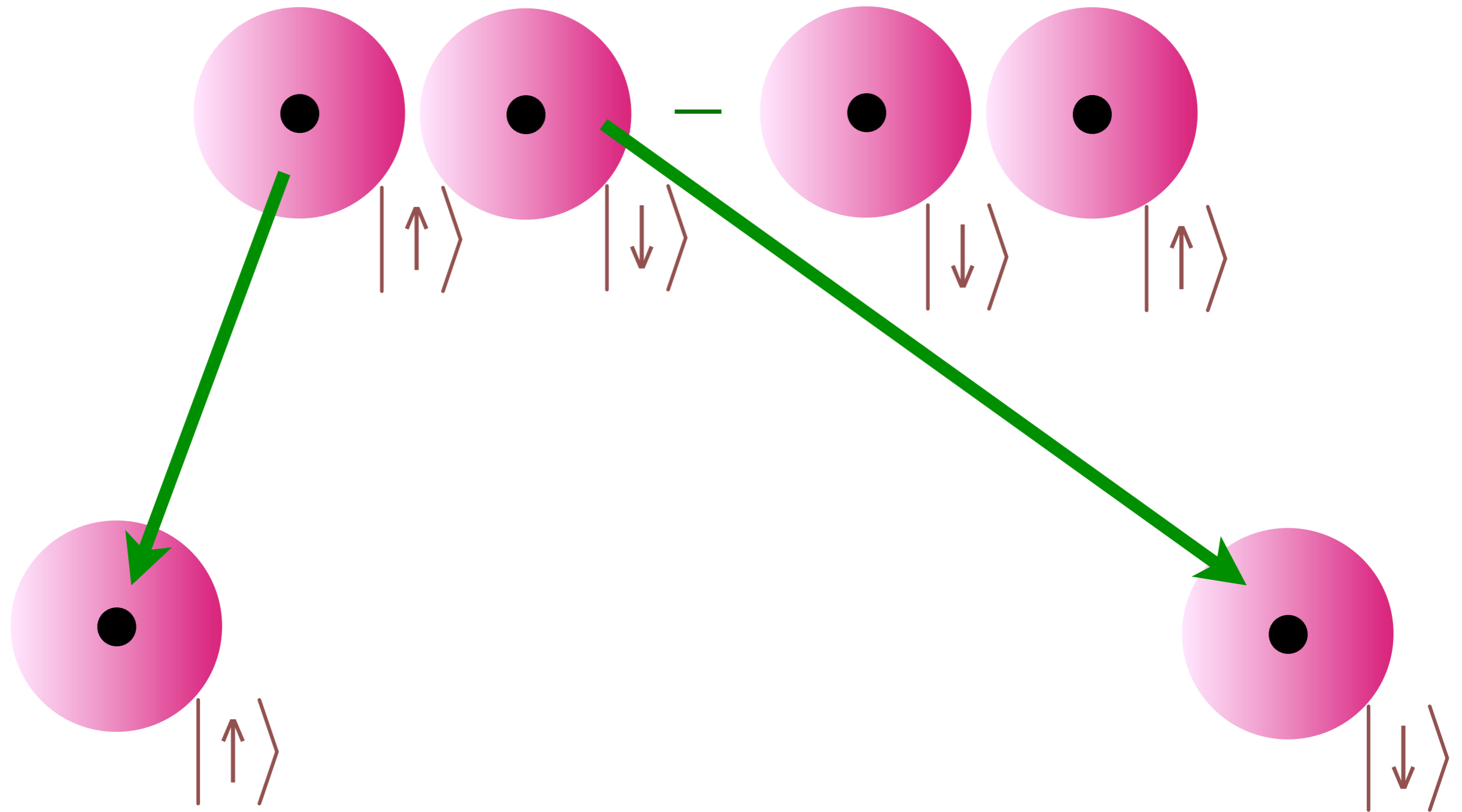
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle)$$

Superposition of two electron states leads to non-local
correlations between spins

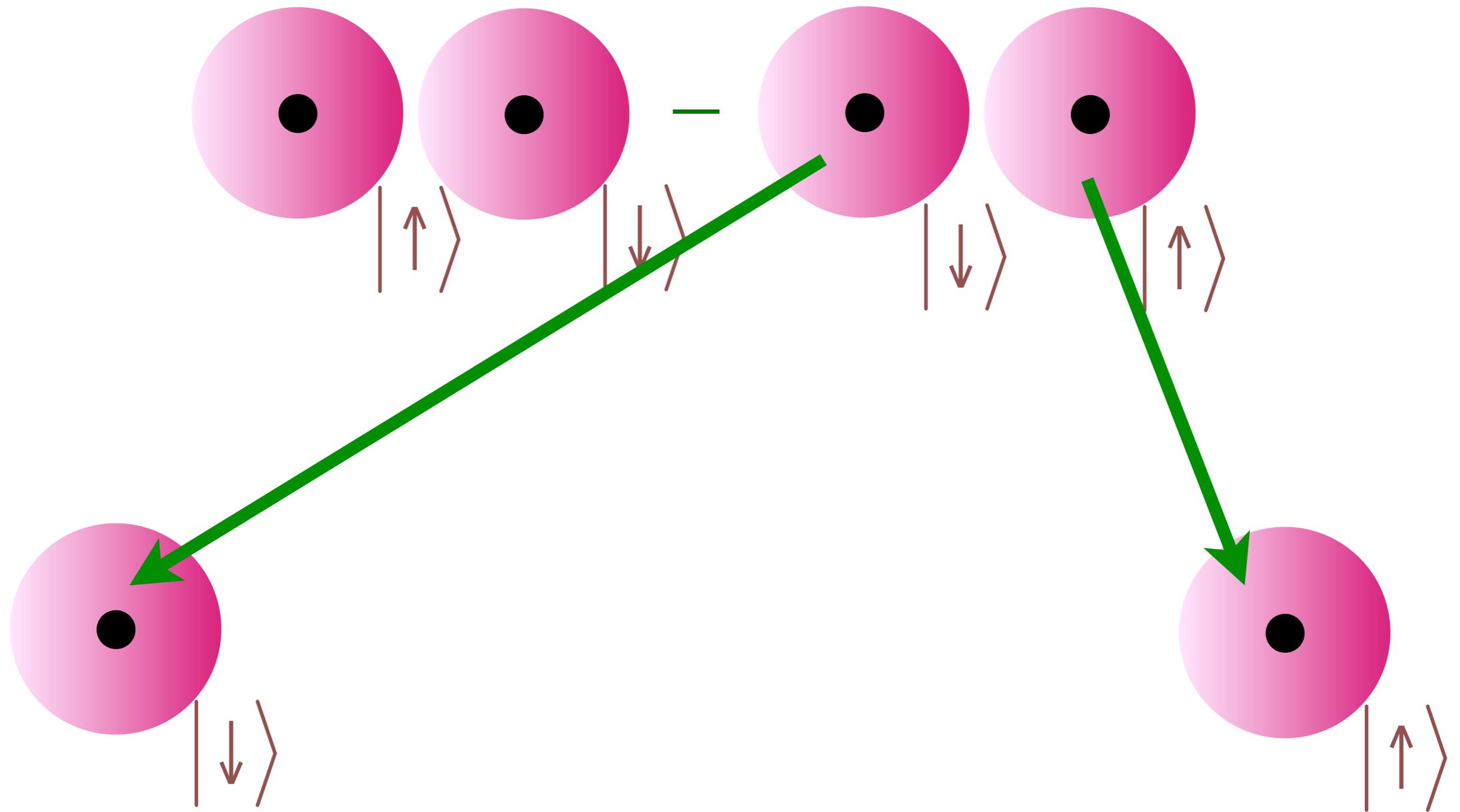
Quantum Entanglement: quantum superposition with more than one particle



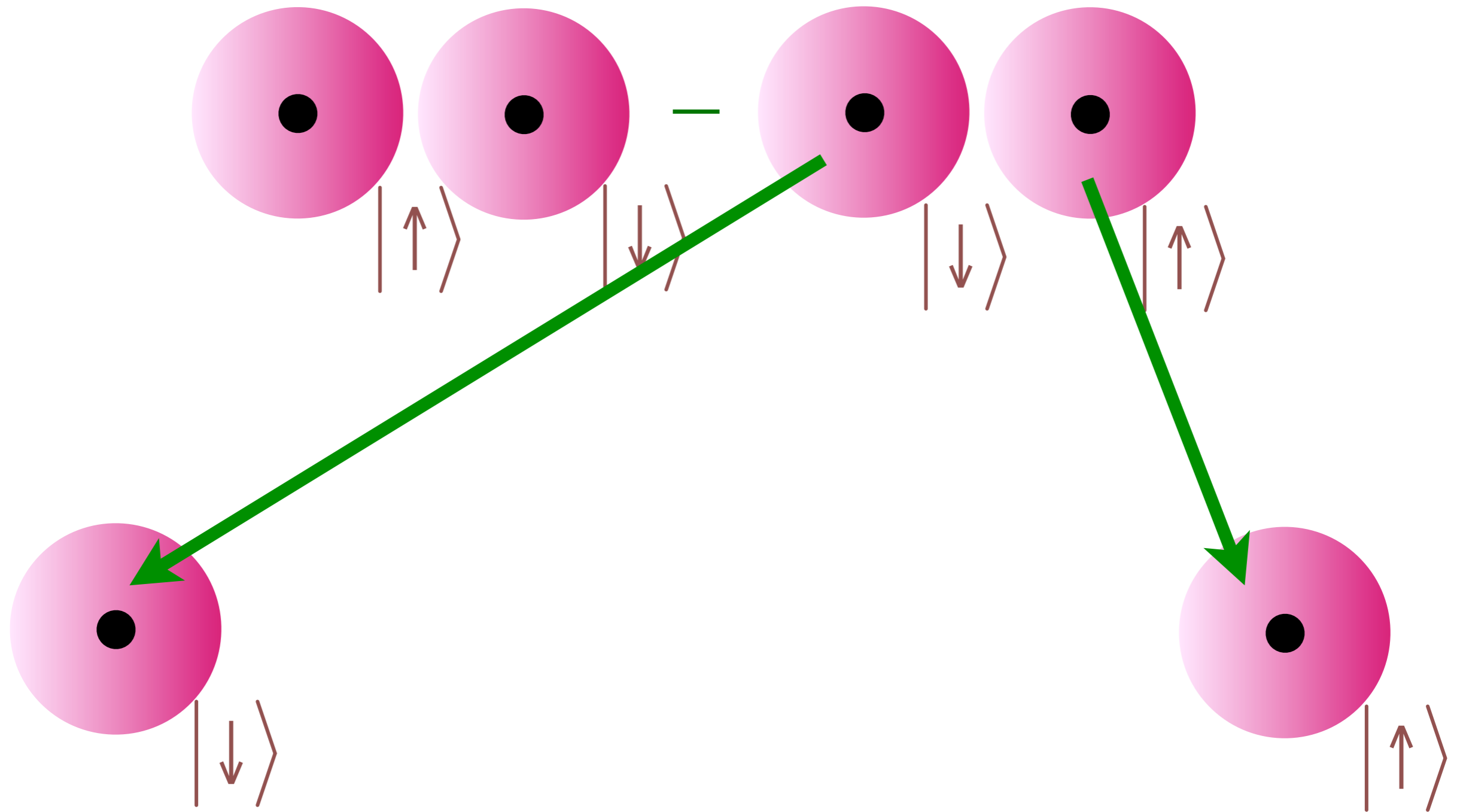
Quantum Entanglement: quantum superposition with more than one particle



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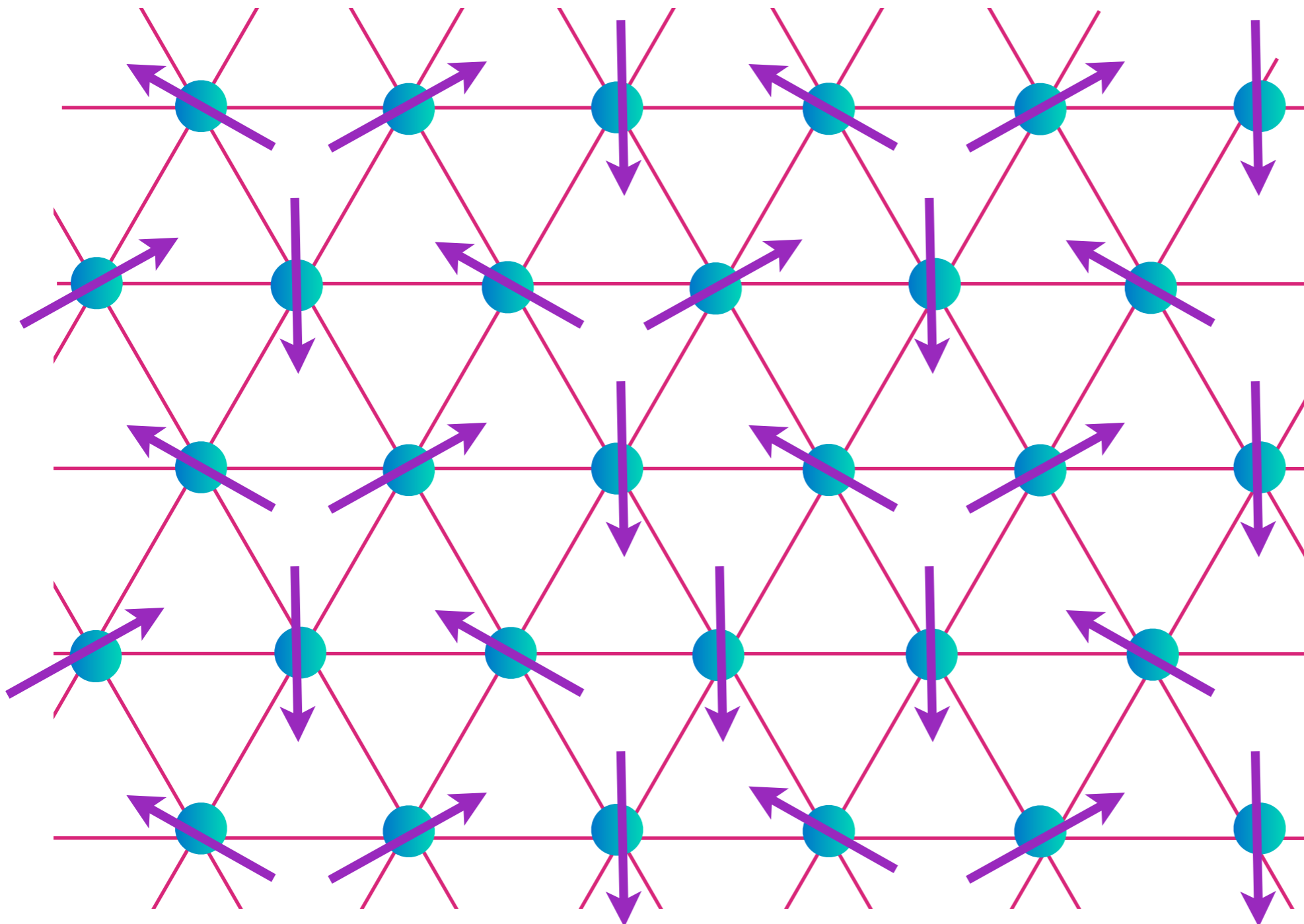
Quantum Entanglement: quantum superposition with more than one particle



Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen “paradox”: Non-local correlations between observations arbitrarily far apart

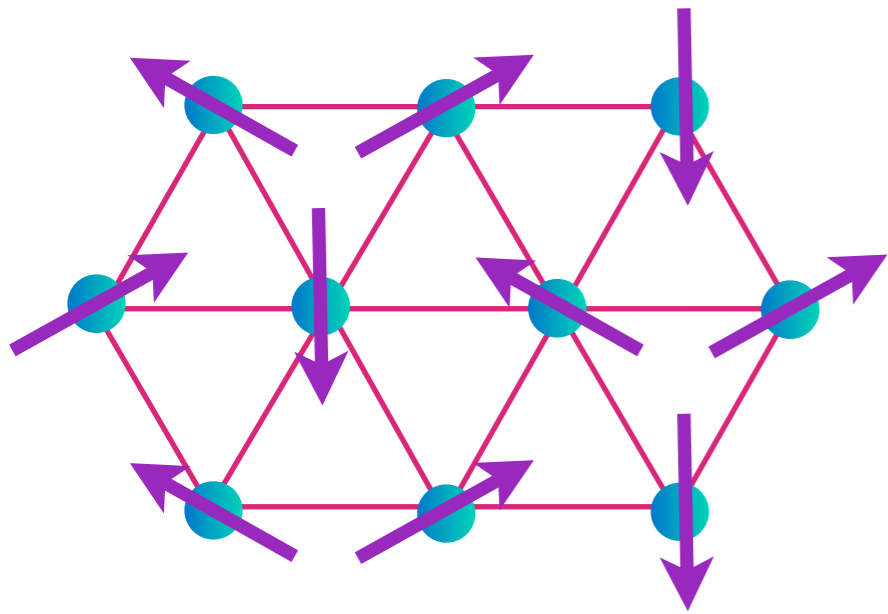
Mott insulator: Triangular lattice antiferromagnet

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



Nearest-neighbor model has non-collinear Neel order

Mott insulator: Triangular lattice antiferromagnet



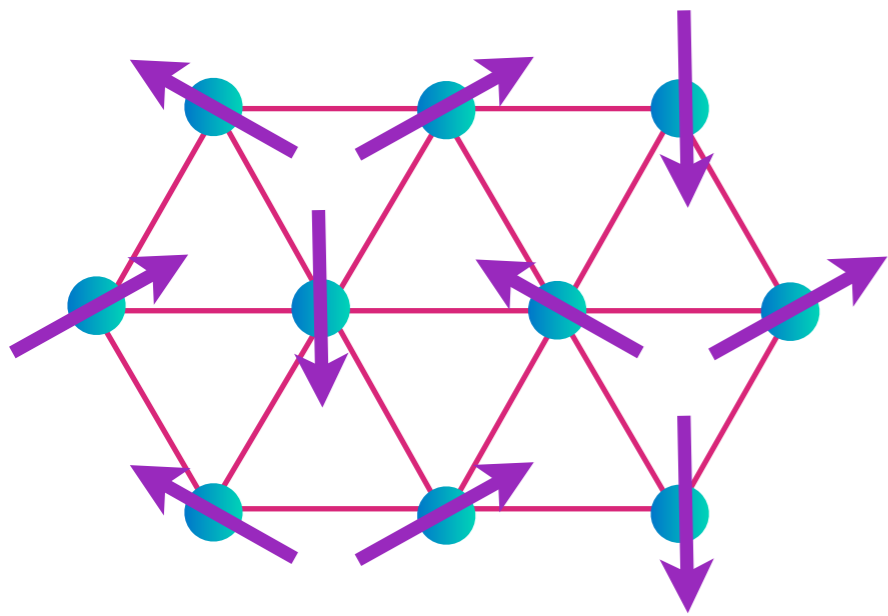
non-collinear Néel state

Quantum “disordered” state with exponentially decaying spin correlations.

S_c

S

Mott insulator: Triangular lattice antiferromagnet



non-collinear Néel state

Quantum “disordered” state with exponentially decaying spin correlations.

Z_2 spin liquid with long-range entanglement.

S_c

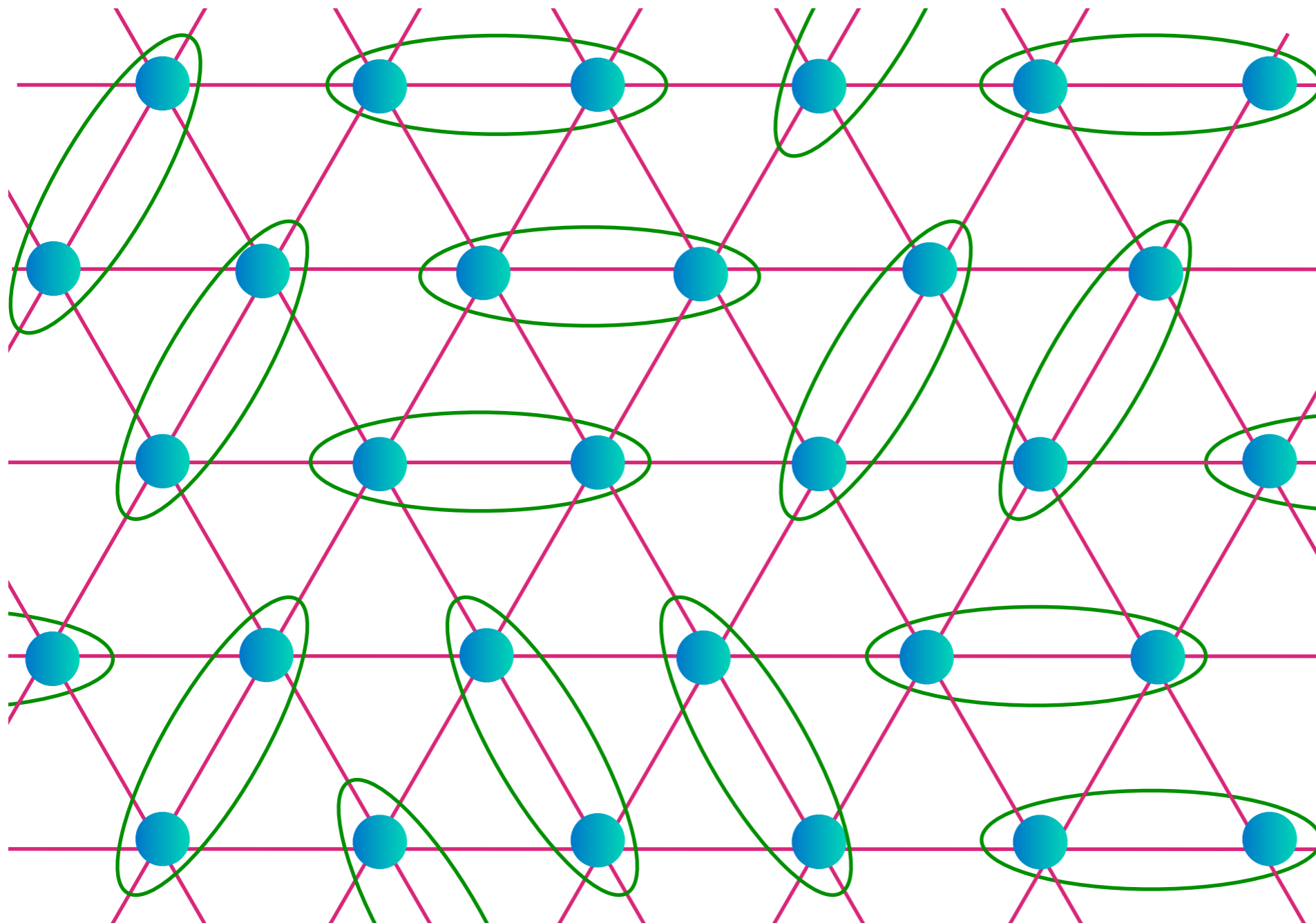
S

N. Read and S. Sachdev, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **66**, 1773 (1991)
X.-G. Wen, *Phys. Rev. B* **44**, 2664 (1991)

Mott insulator: Triangular lattice antiferromagnet

Spin liquid obtained in a generalized spin model with $S=1/2$ per unit cell

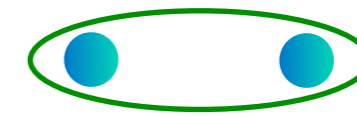
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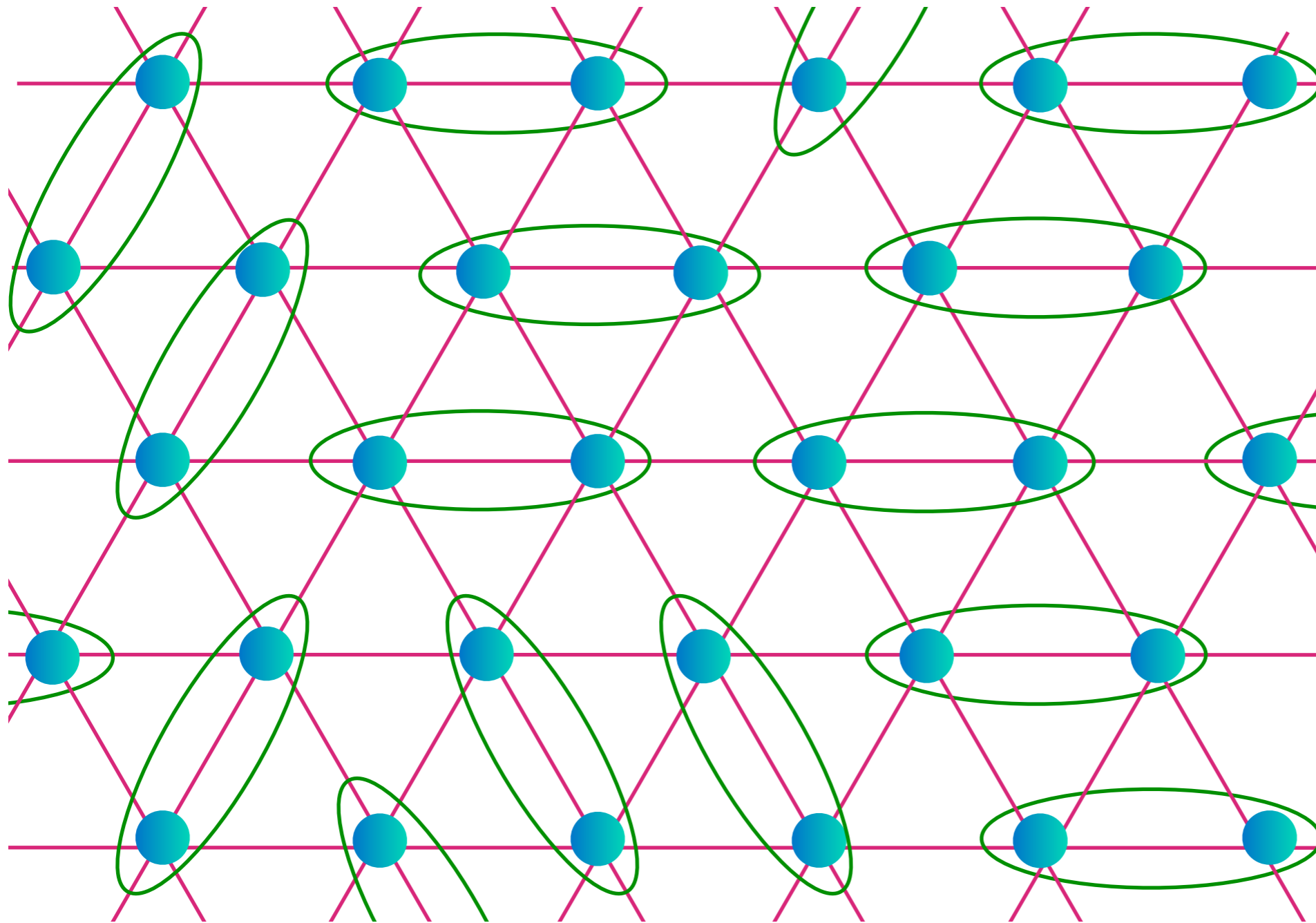


P. Fazekas and P. W. Anderson, *Philos. Mag.* **30**, 23 (1974).

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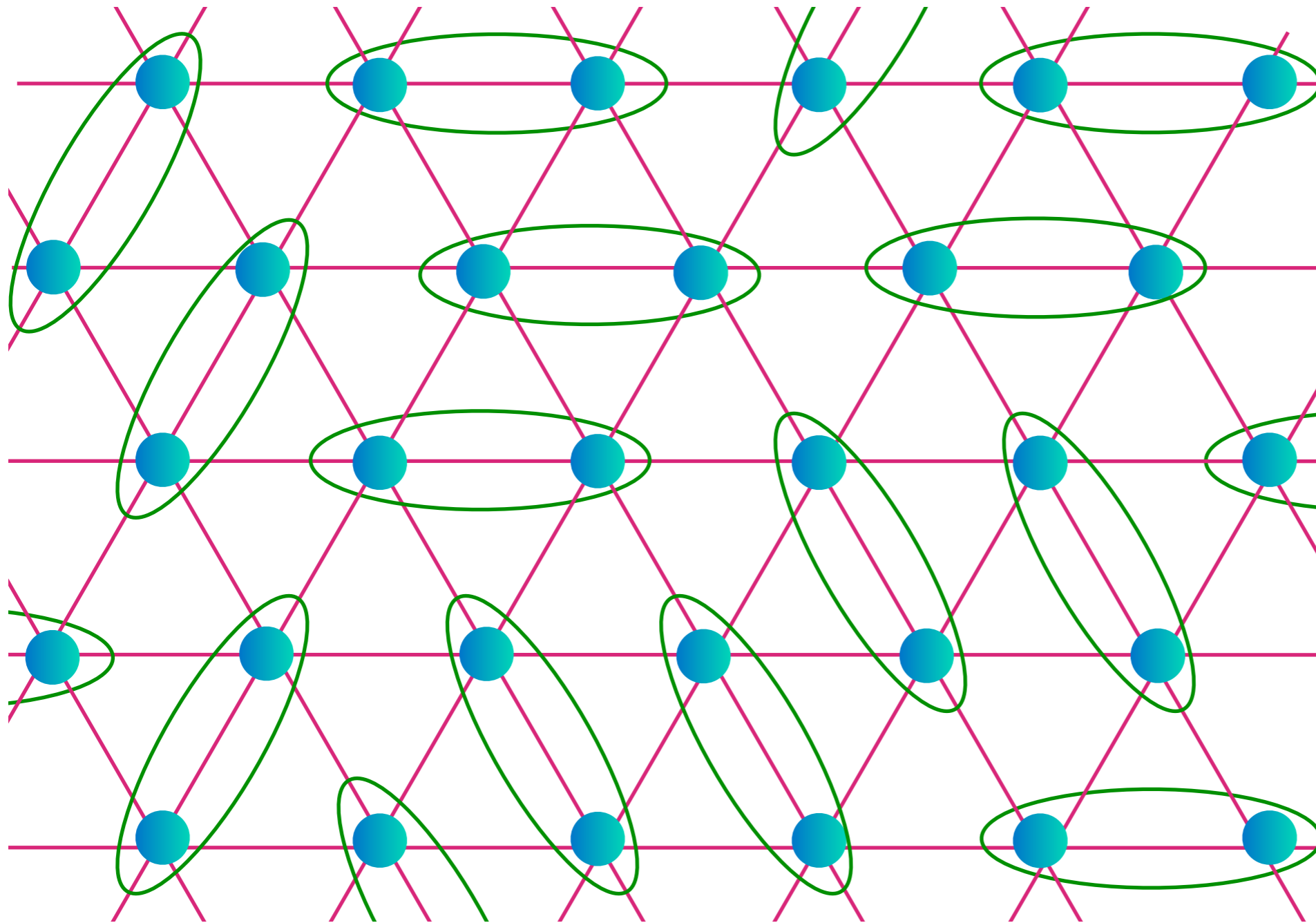


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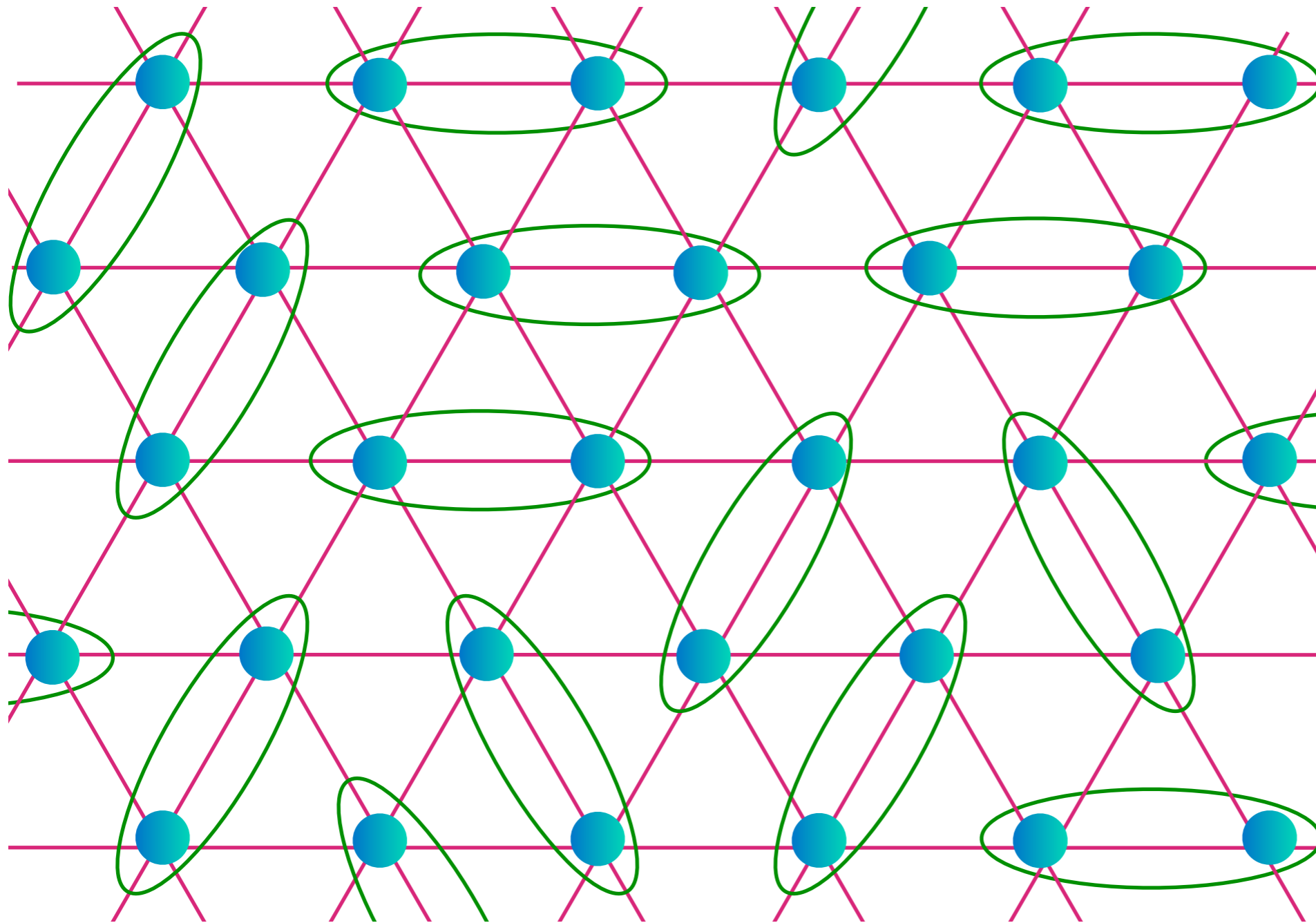


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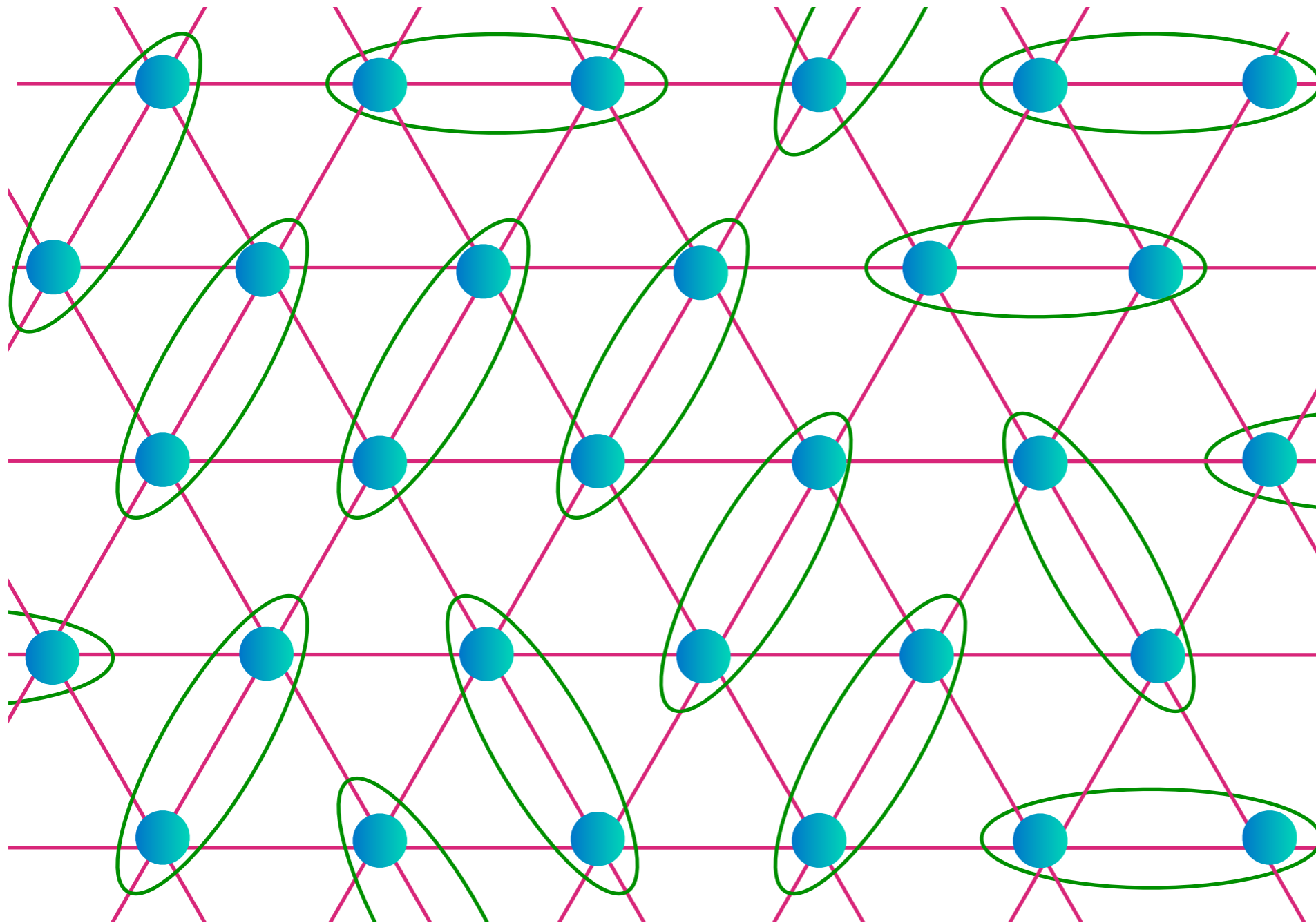


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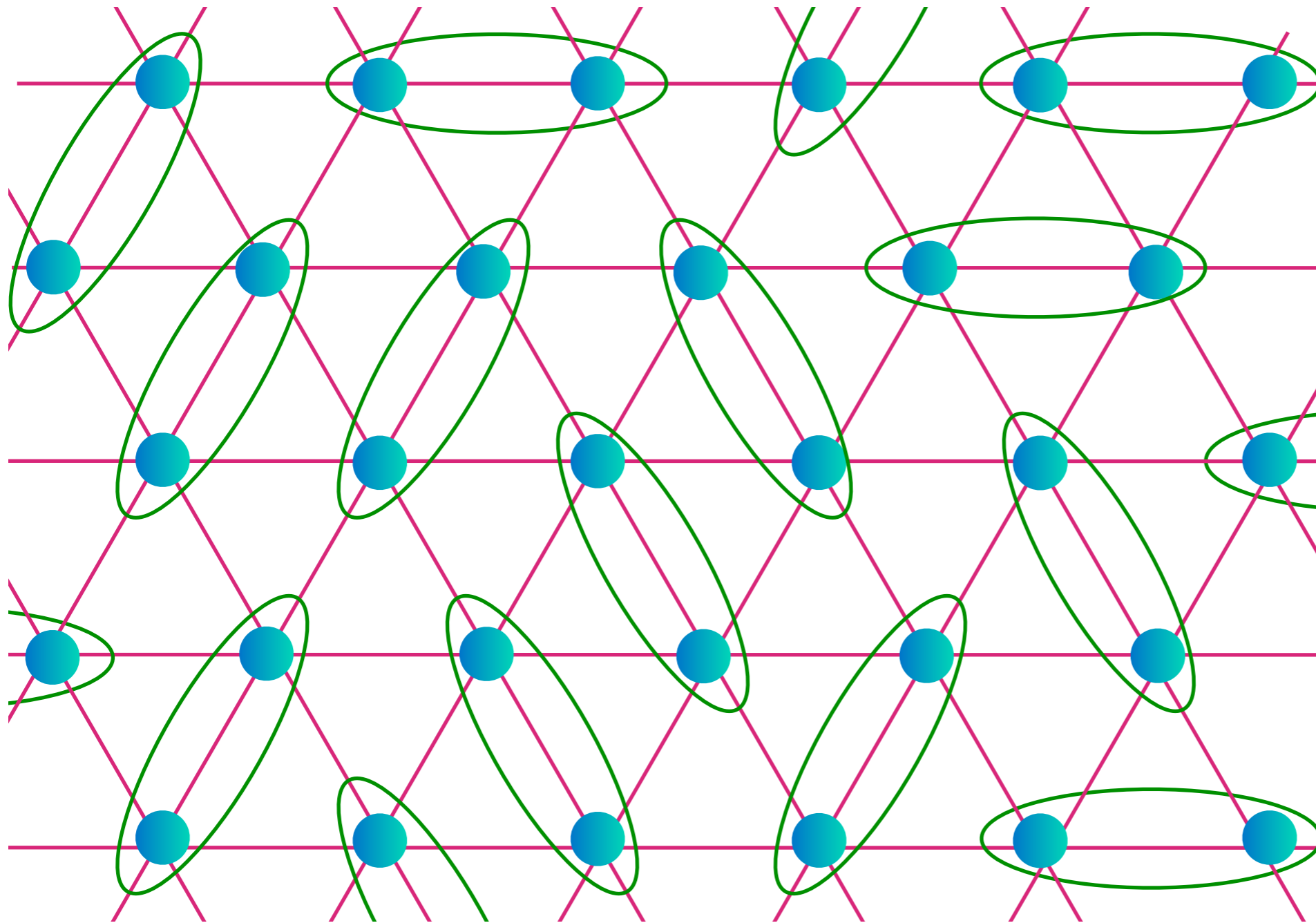


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Mott insulator: Triangular lattice antiferromagnet

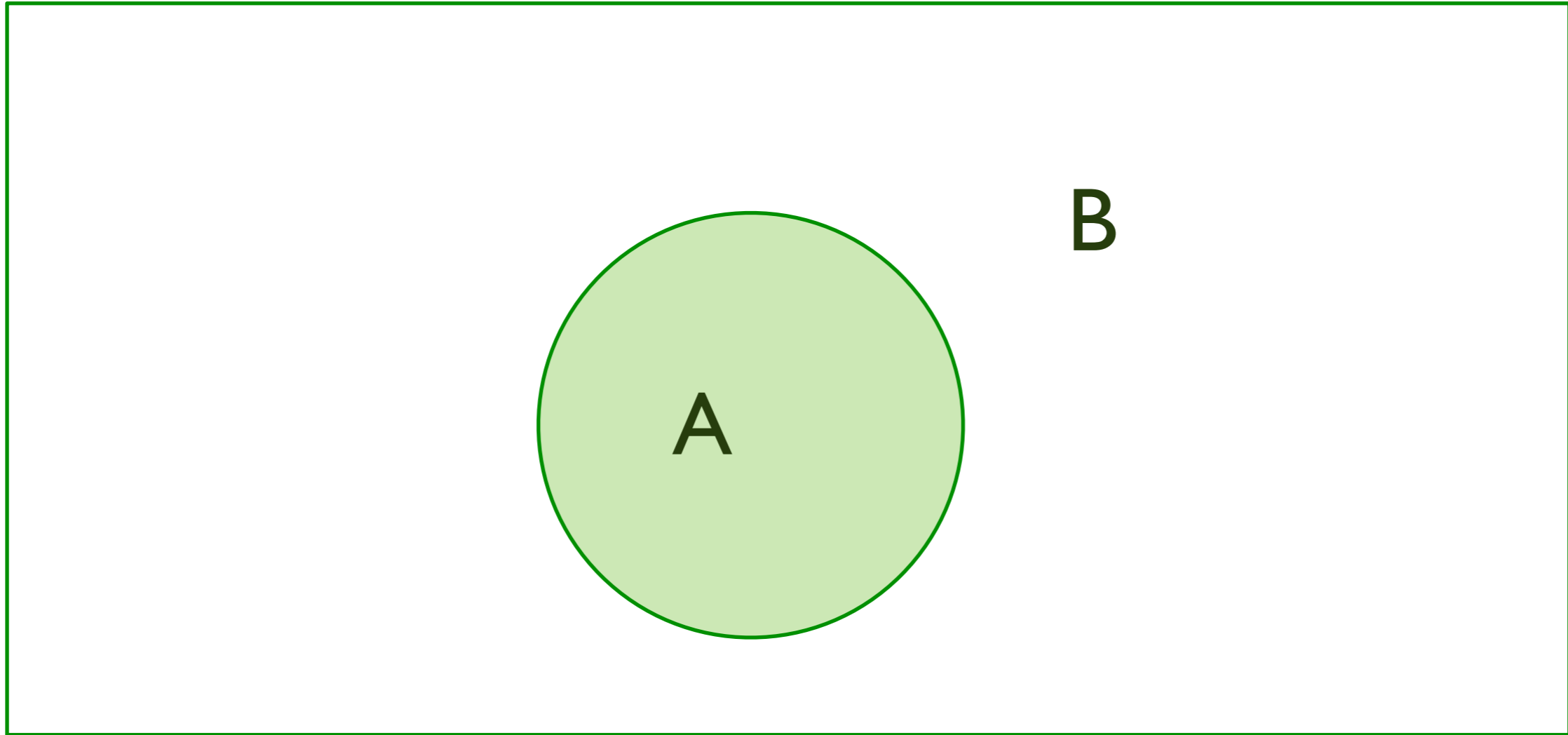
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Topological order in the Z_2 spin liquid ground state

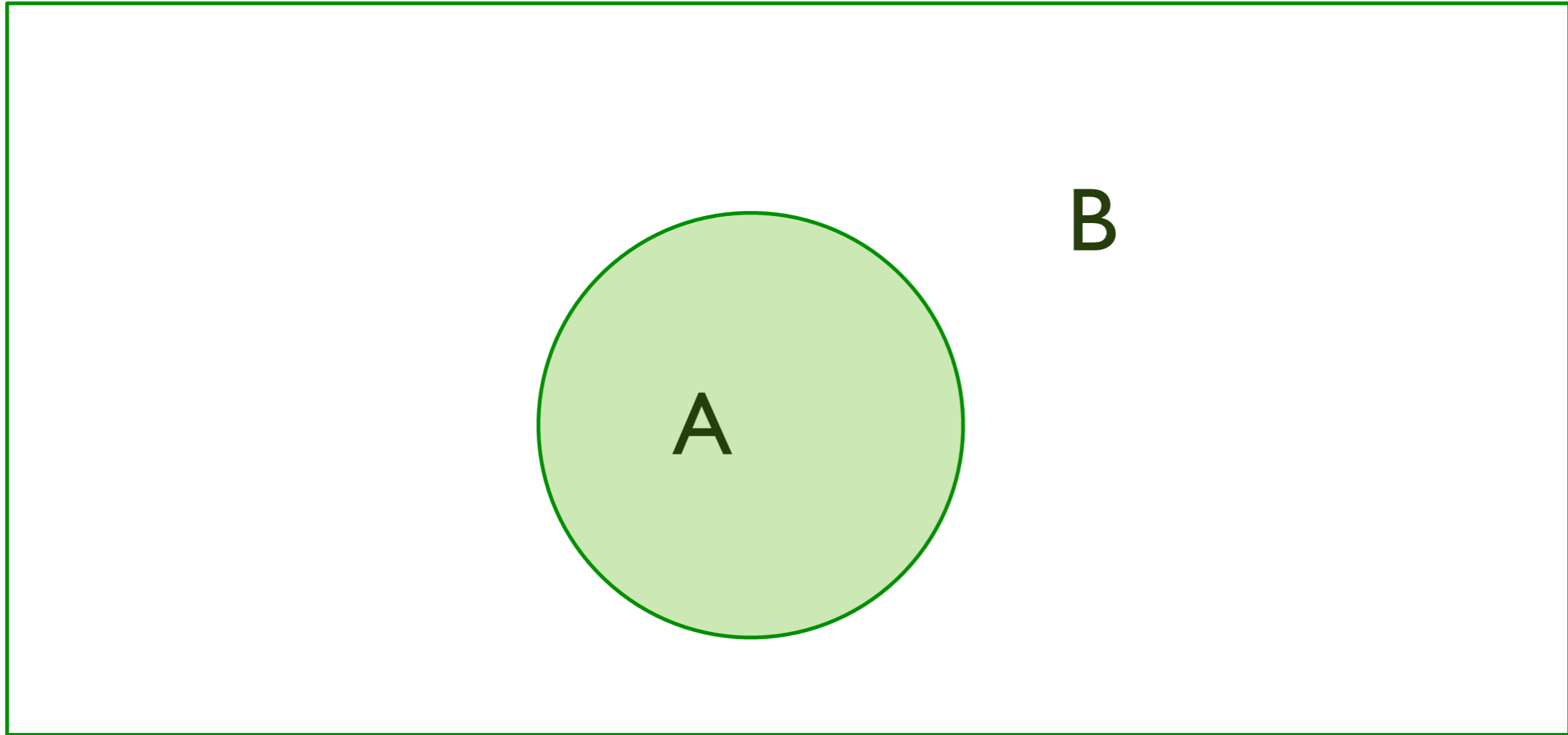


$|\Psi\rangle \Rightarrow$ Ground state of entire system,
 $\rho = |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi|$

$\rho_A = \text{Tr}_B \rho =$ density matrix of region A

Entanglement entropy $S_{EE} = -\text{Tr}(\rho_A \ln \rho_A)$

Topological order in the Z_2 spin liquid ground state

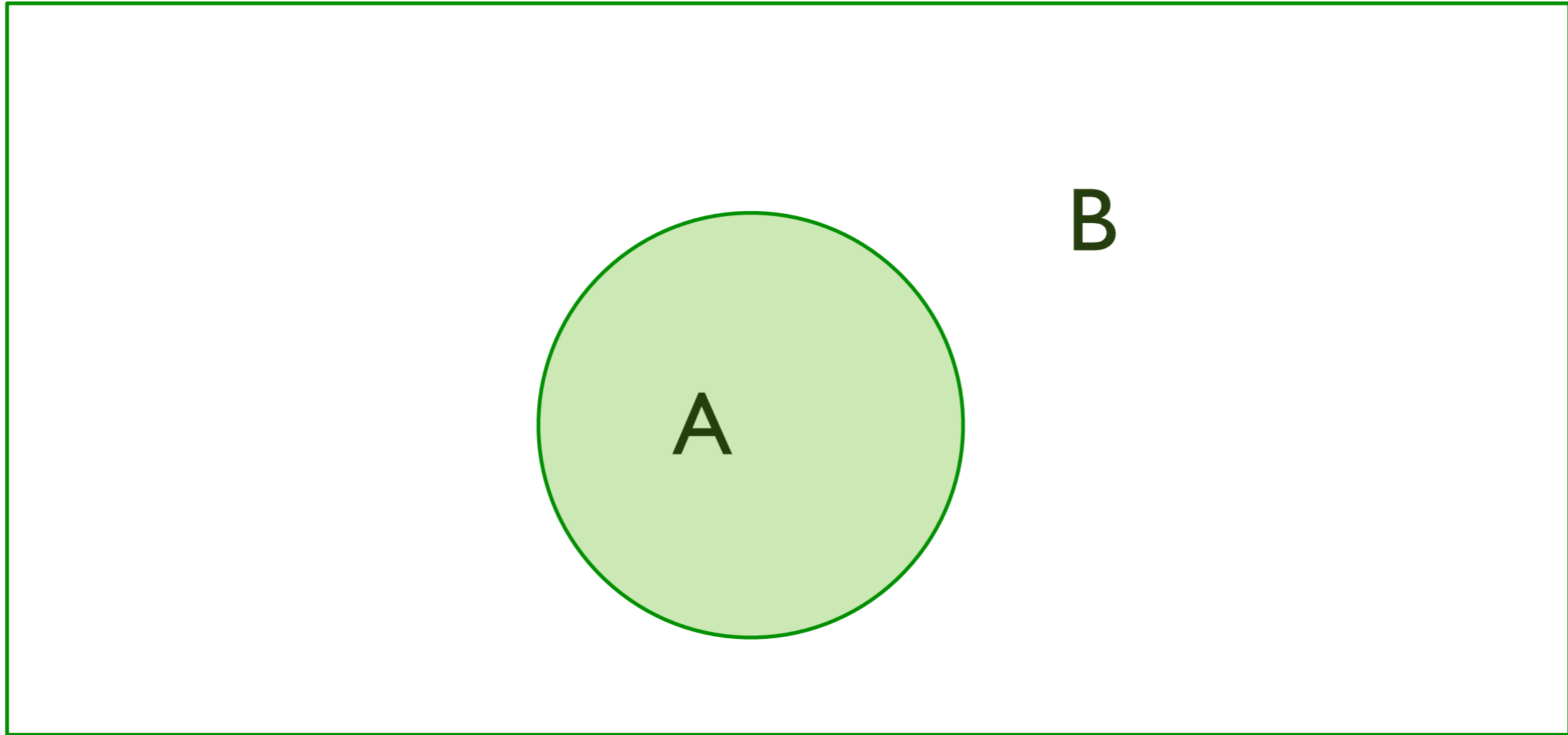


Entanglement entropy of a band insulator:

$$S_{EE} = aL - \exp(-bL)$$

where L is the perimeter of the boundary between A and B.

Topological order in the Z_2 spin liquid ground state



Entanglement entropy of a Z_2 spin liquid:

$$S_{EE} = aL - \ln(2)$$

where L is the perimeter of the boundary between A and B.
The $\ln(2)$ is a universal characteristic of the Z_2 spin liquid,
and implies *long-range* quantum entanglement.

M. Levin and X.-G. Wen, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **96**, 110405 (2006); A. Kitaev and J. Preskill, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **96**, 110404 (2006);
Y. Zhang, T. Grover, and A. Vishwanath, *Phys. Rev. B* **84**, 075128 (2011).

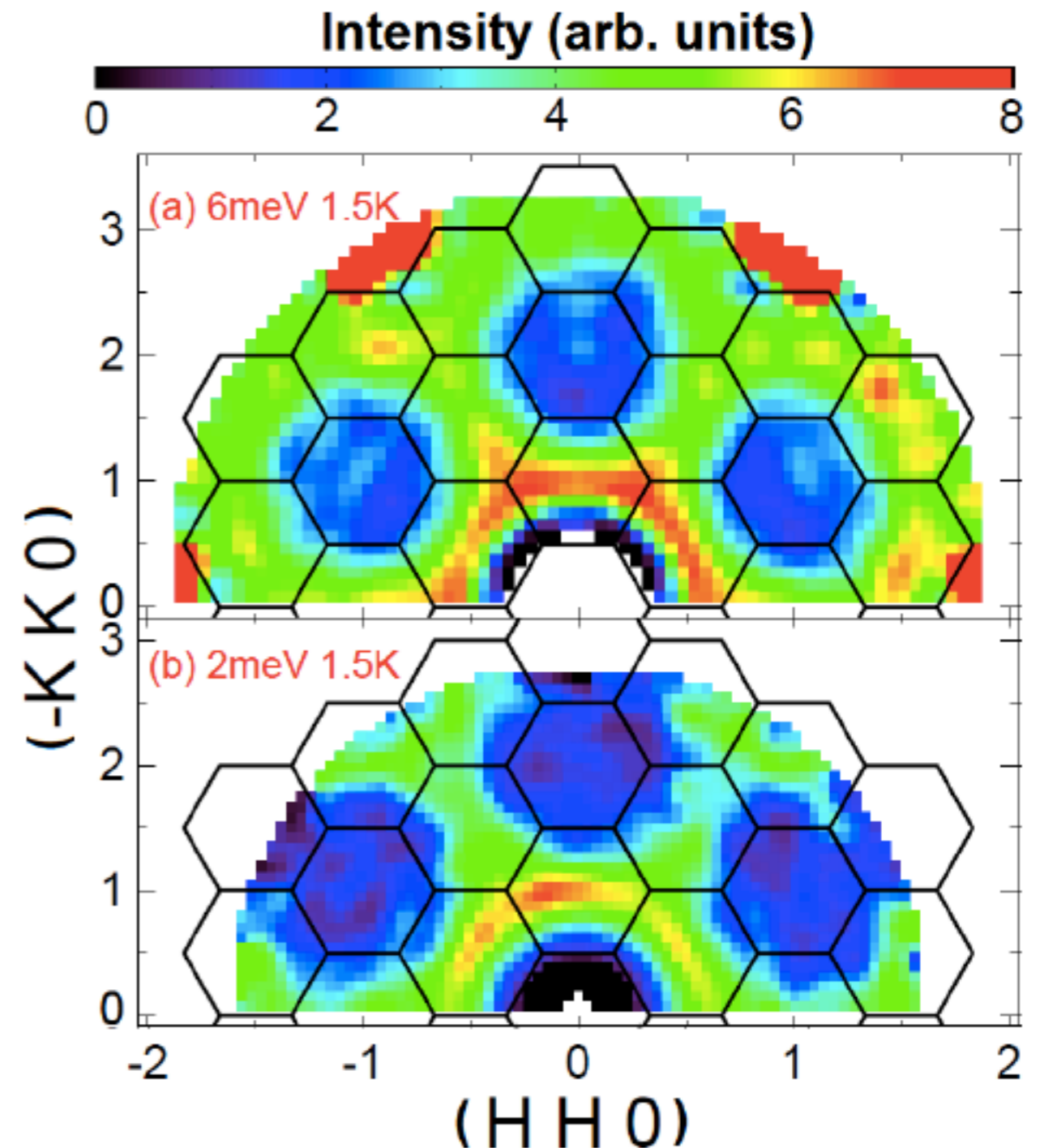
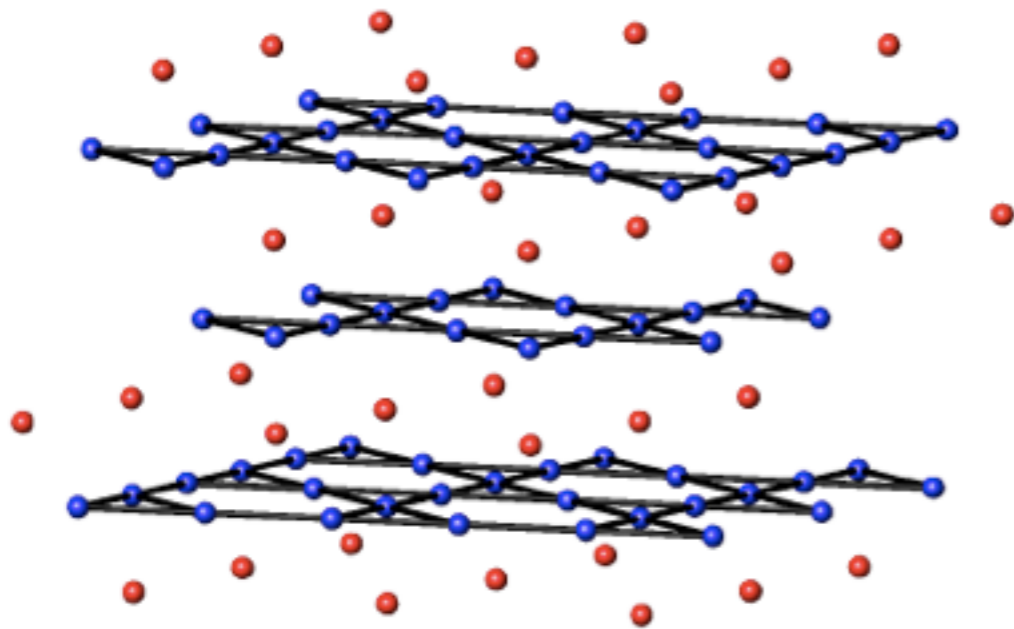
● Promising candidate: the kagome antiferromagnet

Numerical evidence for a gapped spin liquid:

Simeng Yan, D.A. Huse, and S. R. White, *Science* **332**, 1173 (2011).

Young Lee,
APS meeting, March 2012

$\text{ZnCu}_3(\text{OH})_6\text{Cl}_2$ (also called Herbertsmithite)



**Quantum
superposition and
entanglement**

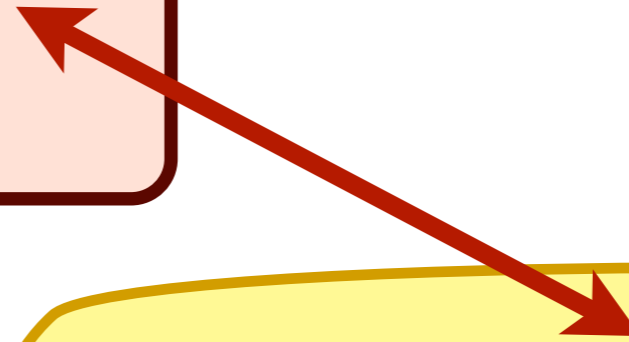
**Quantum
superposition and
entanglement**

String theory

**Quantum critical
points of electrons
in crystals**

Black holes

**Quantum
superposition and
entanglement**



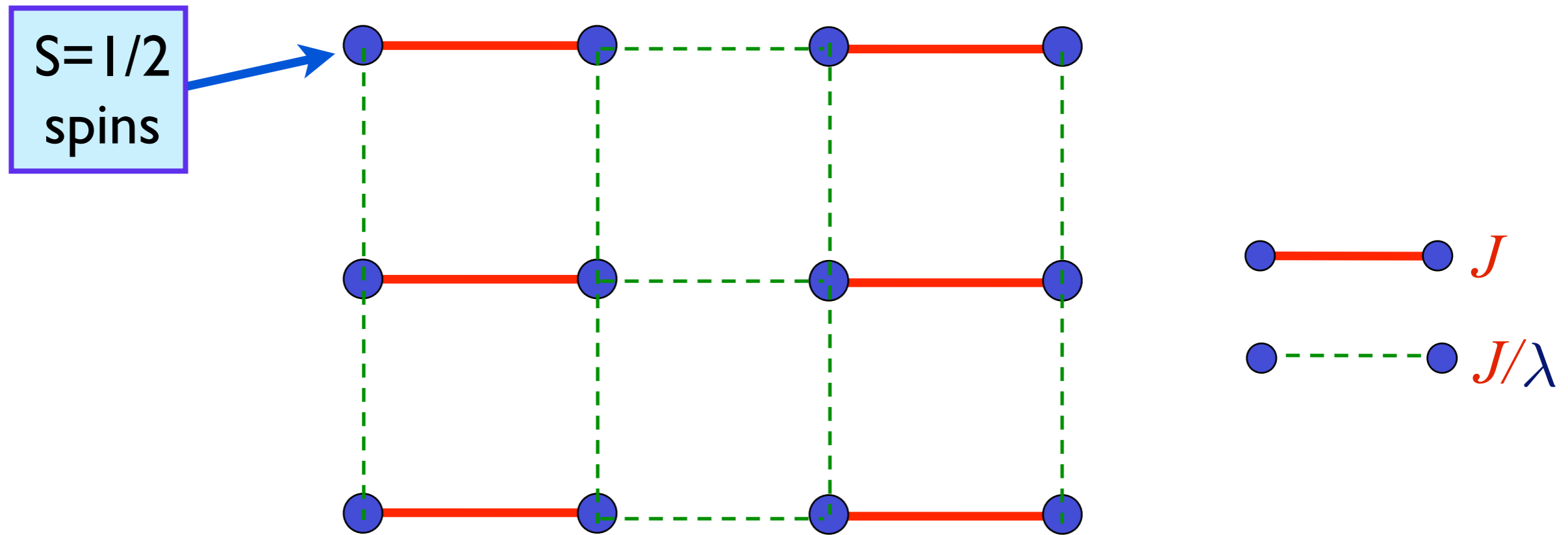
String theory

**Quantum critical
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Black holes

Spinning electrons localized on a square lattice

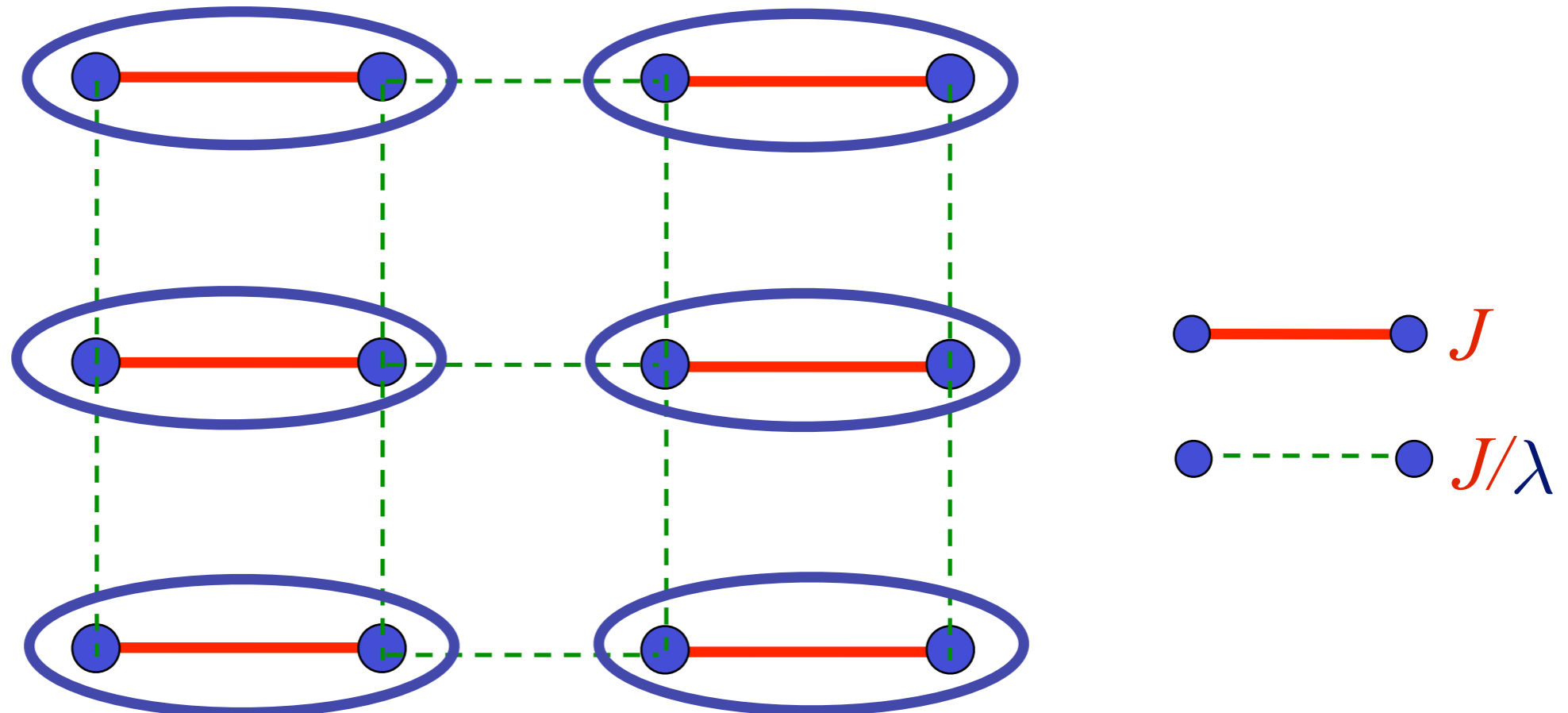
$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$$



Examine ground state as a function of λ

Spinning electrons localized on a square lattice

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$$

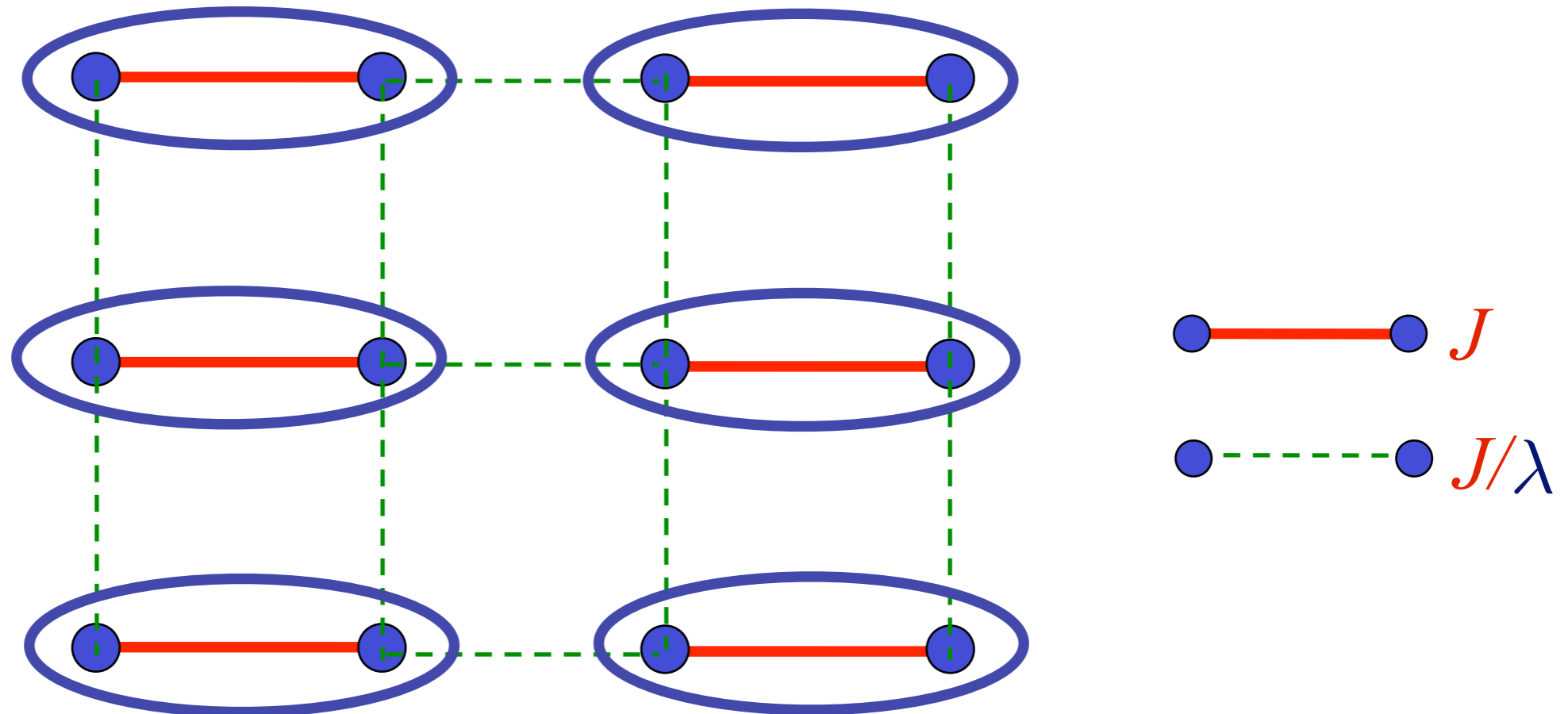


$$\text{Valence bond singlet} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \right)$$

At large λ ground state is a “quantum paramagnet” with spins locked in valence bond singlets

Spinning electrons localized on a square lattice

$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$$

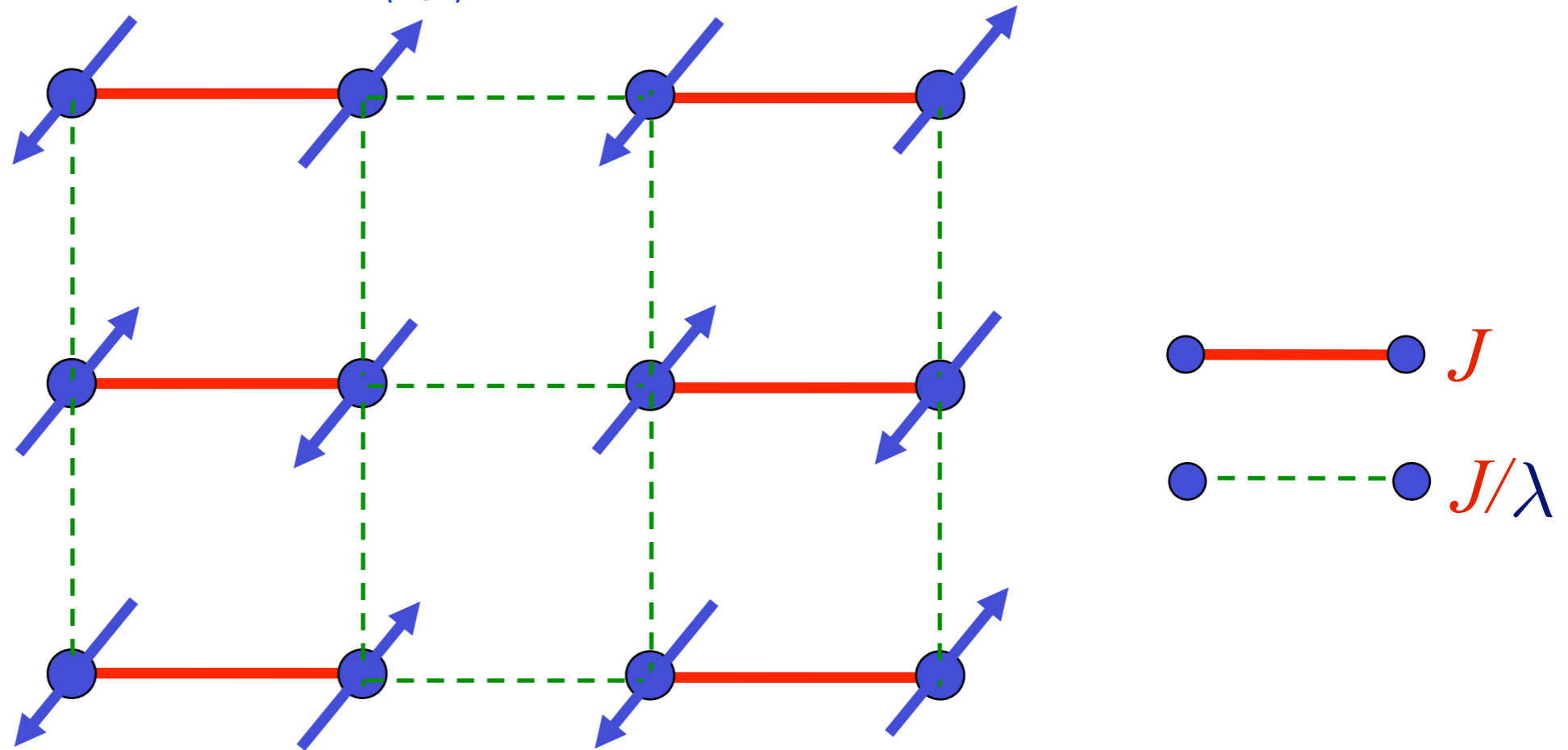


$$\text{[Pair of sites in a blue oval]} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \right)$$

Nearest-neighbor spins are “entangled” with each other.
Can be separated into an Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen (EPR) pair.

Spinning electrons localized on a square lattice

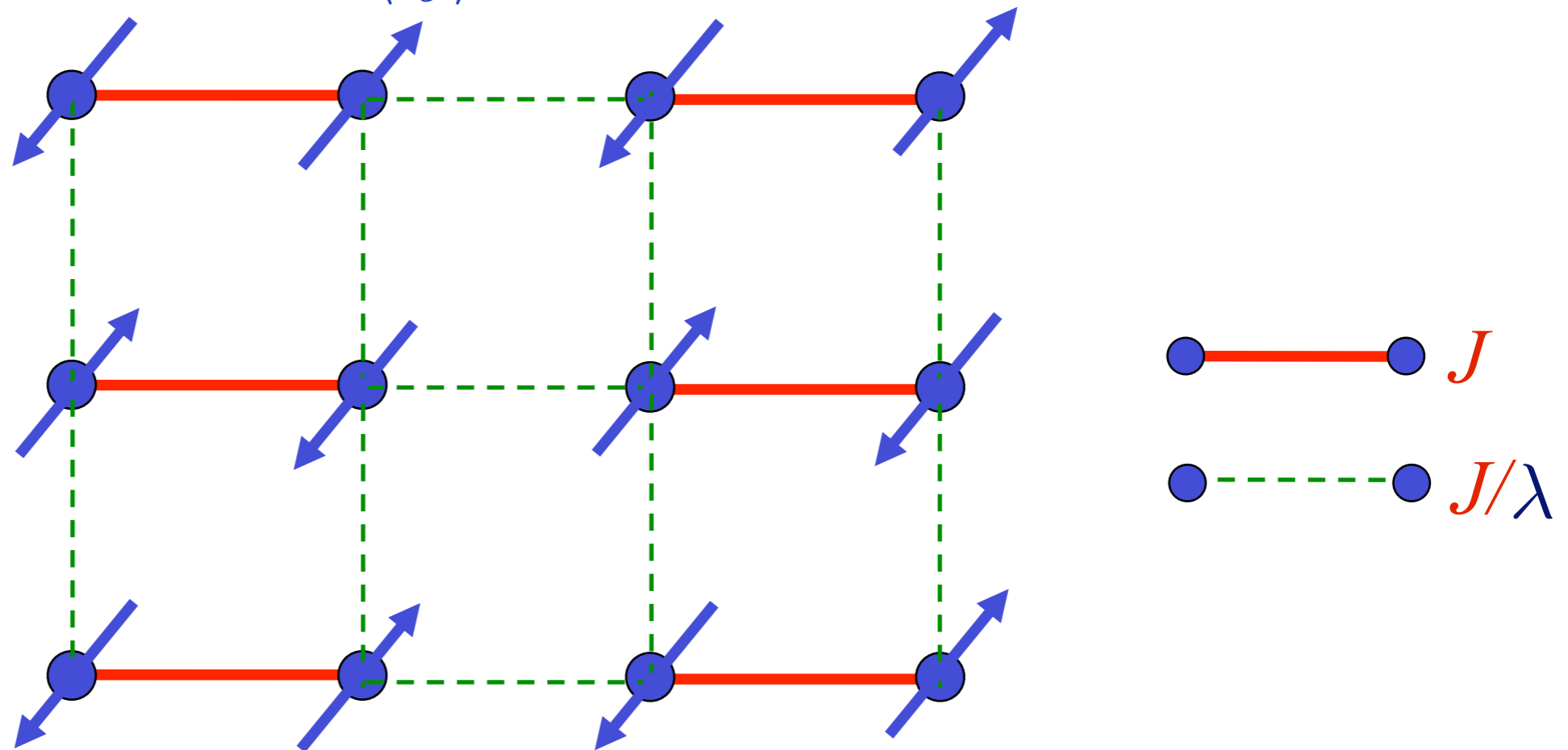
$$H = \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} \vec{S}_i \cdot \vec{S}_j$$



For $\lambda \approx 1$, the ground state has antiferromagnetic (“Néel”) order, and the spins align in a checkerboard pattern

Spinning electrons localized on a square lattice

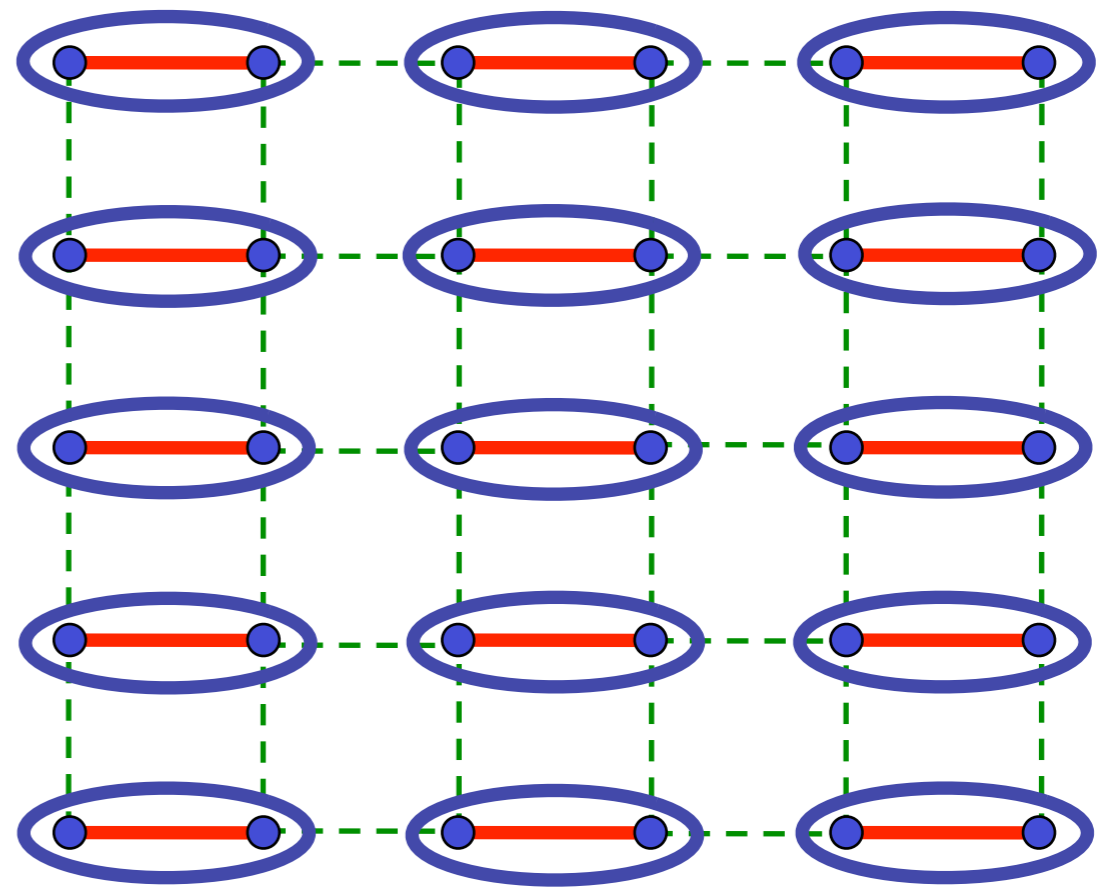
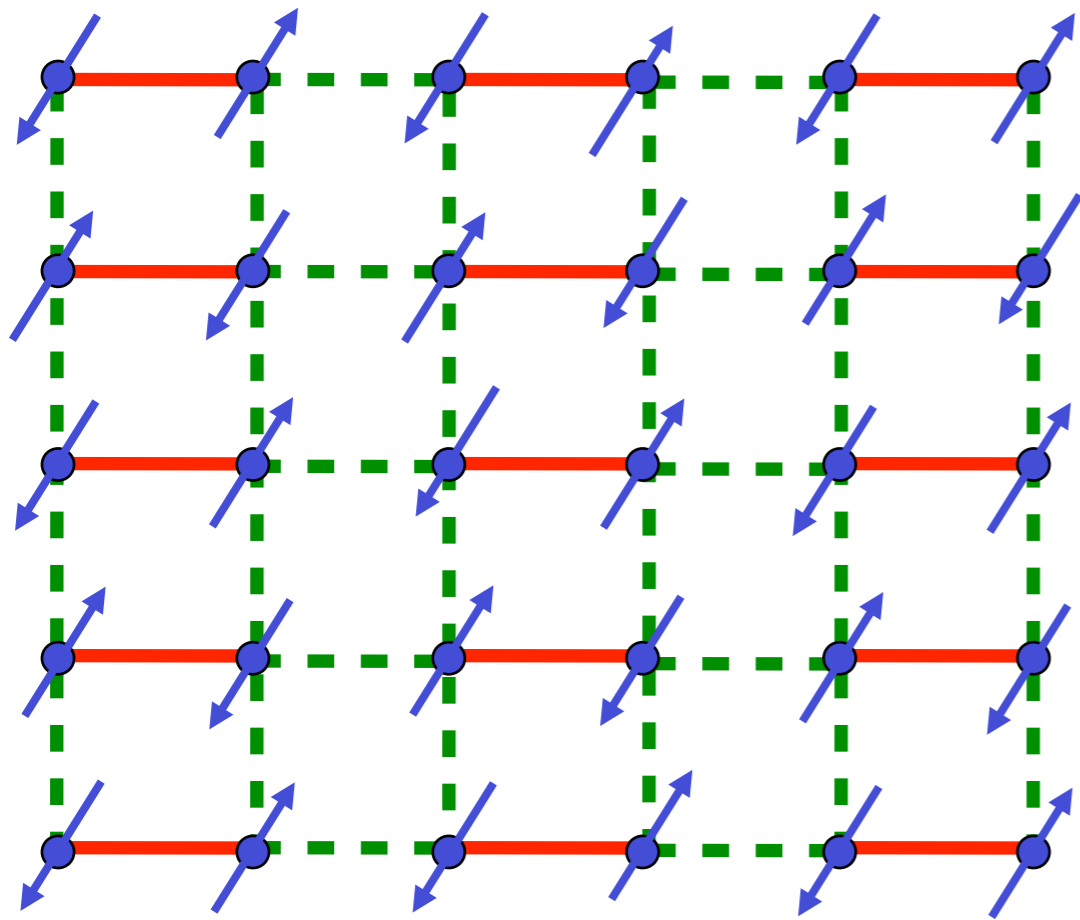
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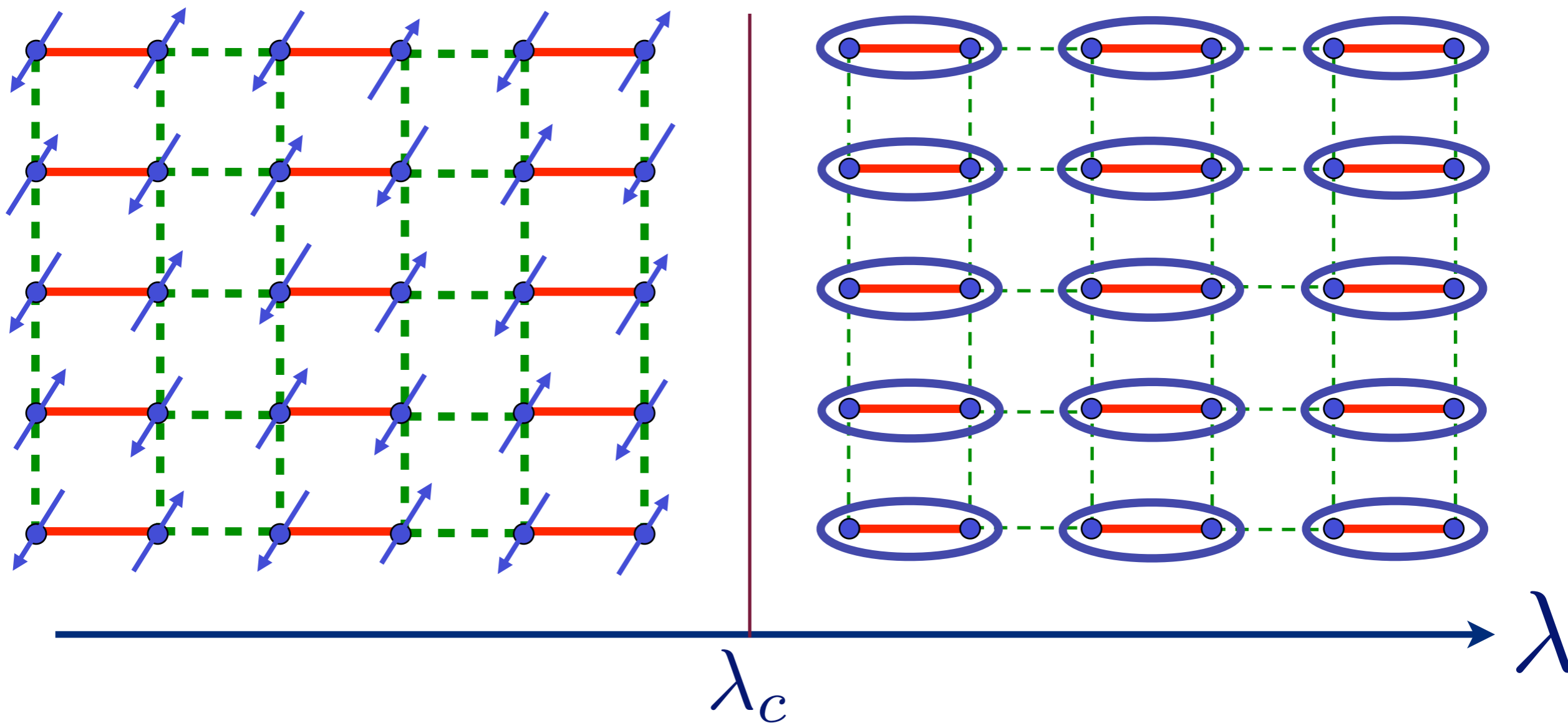
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No EPR pairs

$$\text{Diagram of two blue spheres connected by a red line, enclosed in a blue oval} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \right)$$



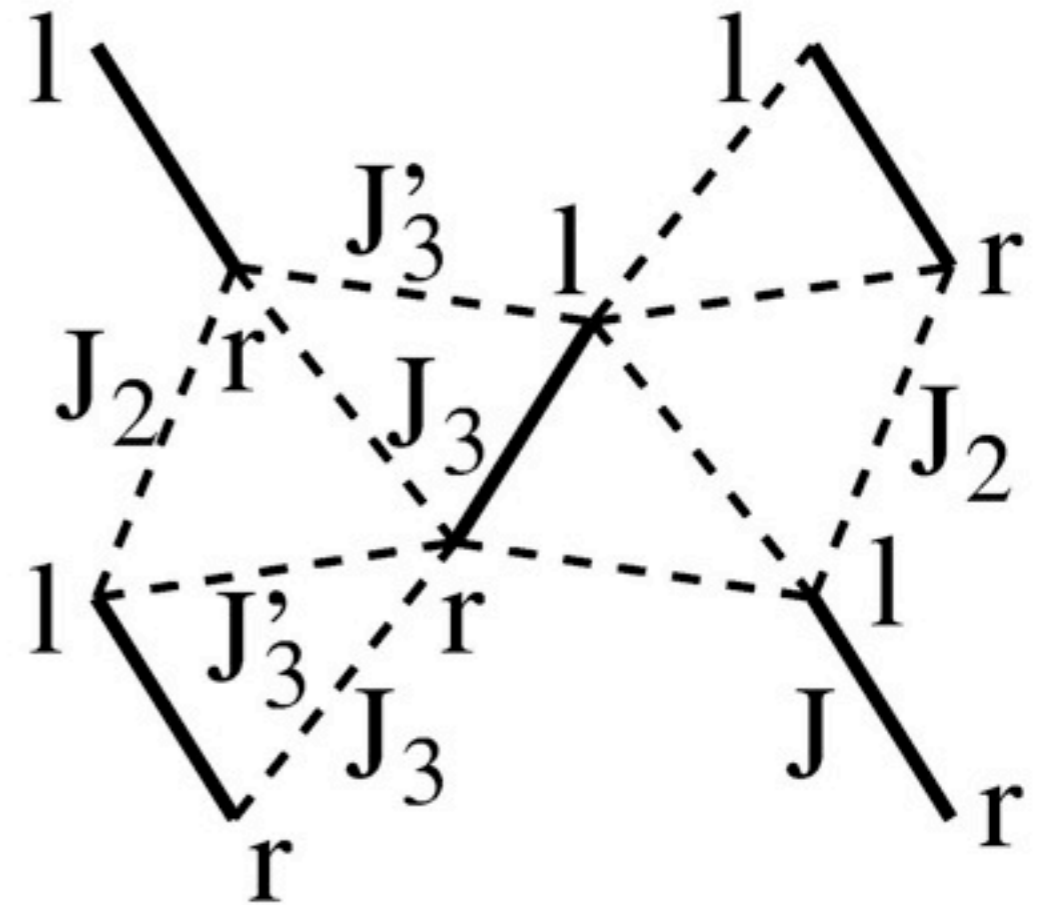
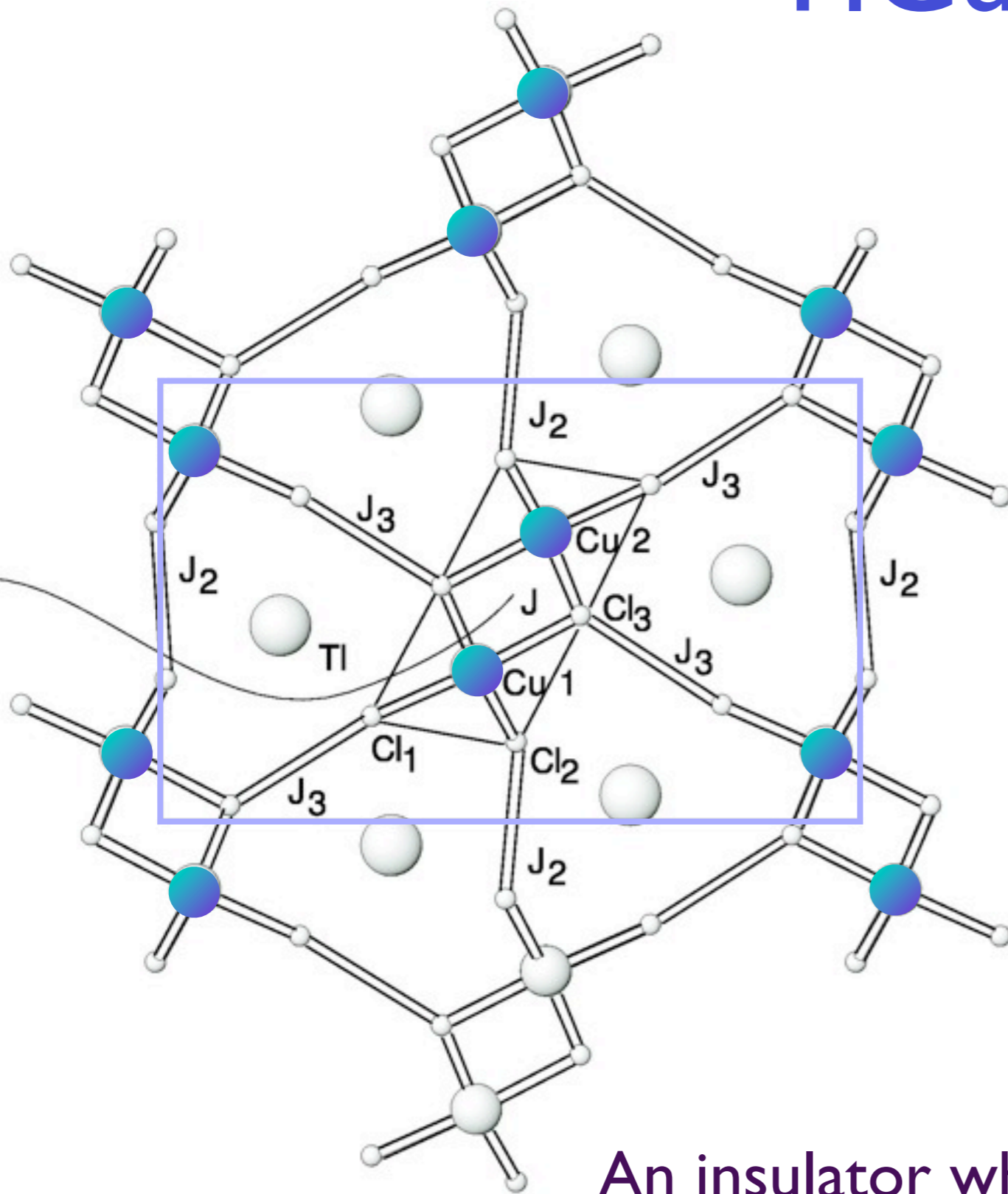
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Pressure in TlCuCl_3

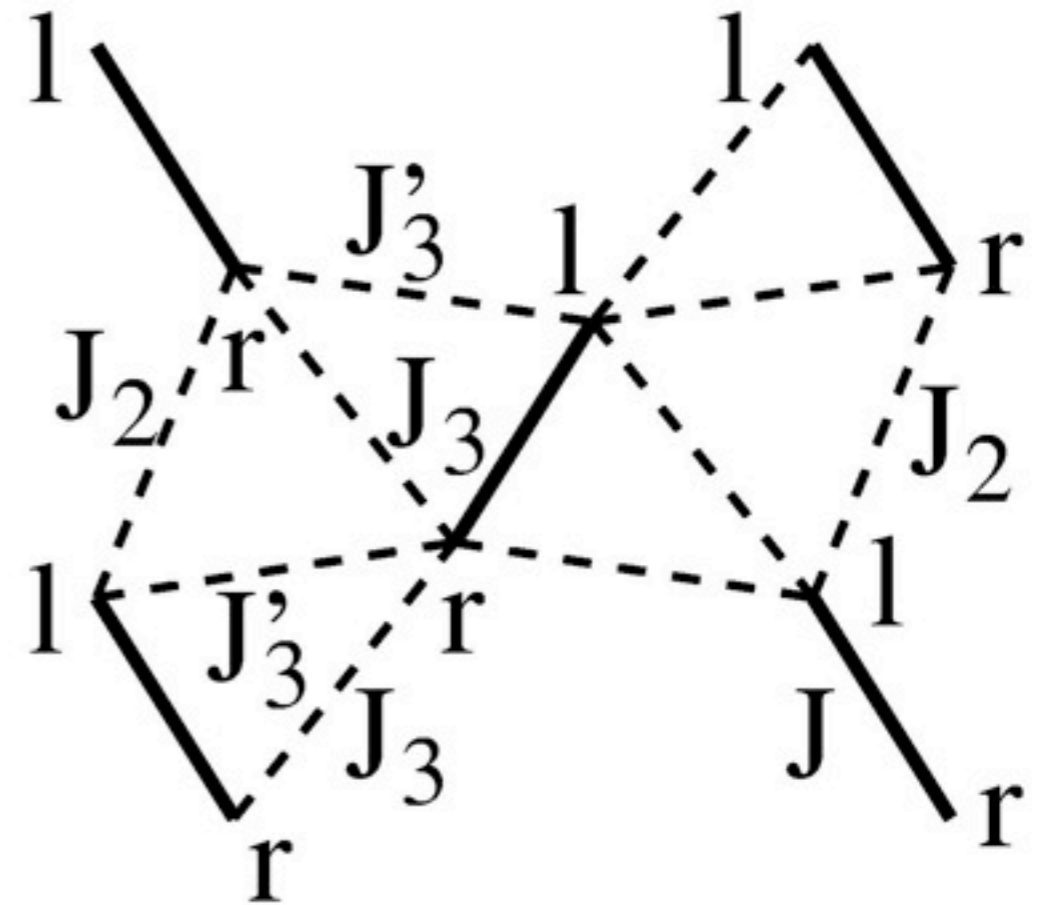
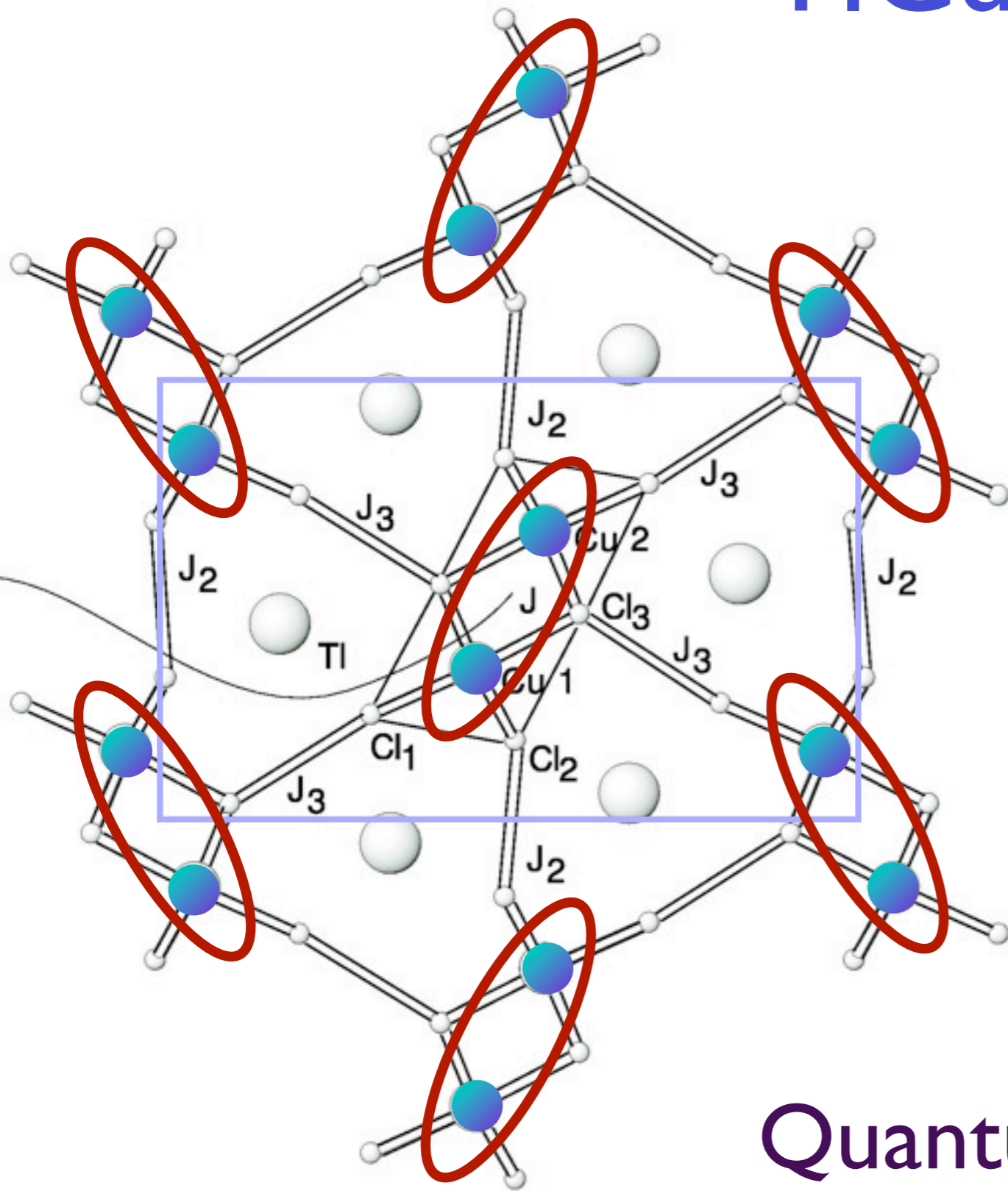
A. Oosawa, K. Kakurai, T. Osakabe, M. Nakamura, M. Takeda, and H. Tanaka, *Journal of the Physical Society of Japan*, **73**, 1446 (2004).

TlCuCl₃



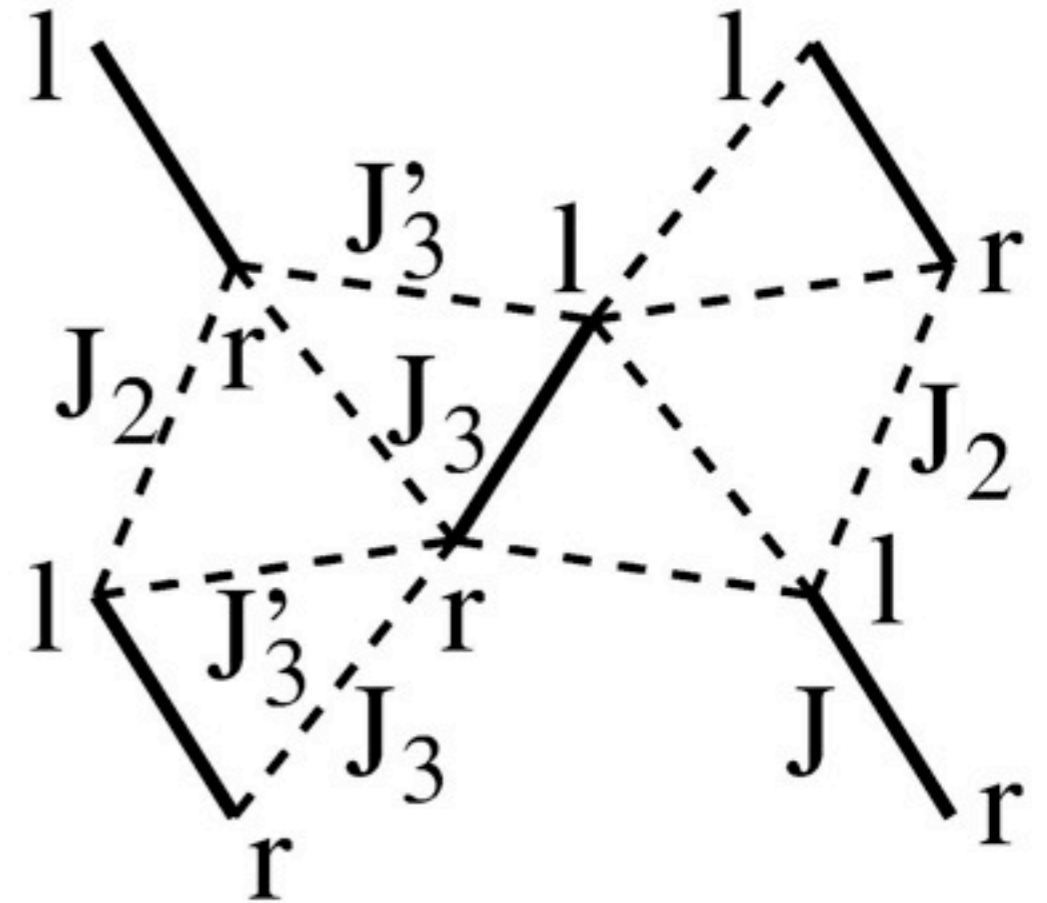
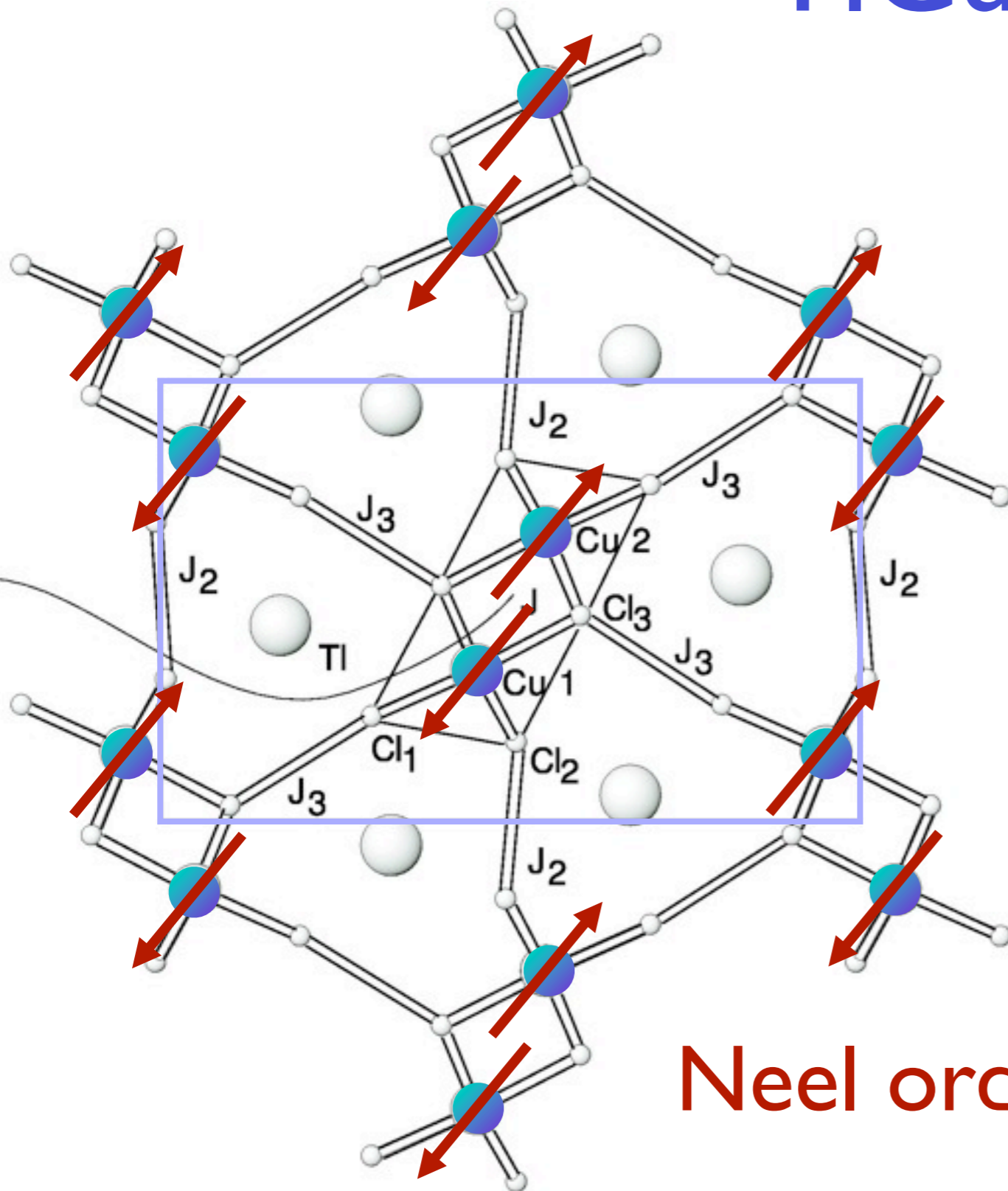
An insulator whose spin susceptibility vanishes exponentially as the temperature T tends to zero.

TlCuCl₃



Quantum paramagnet at ambient pressure

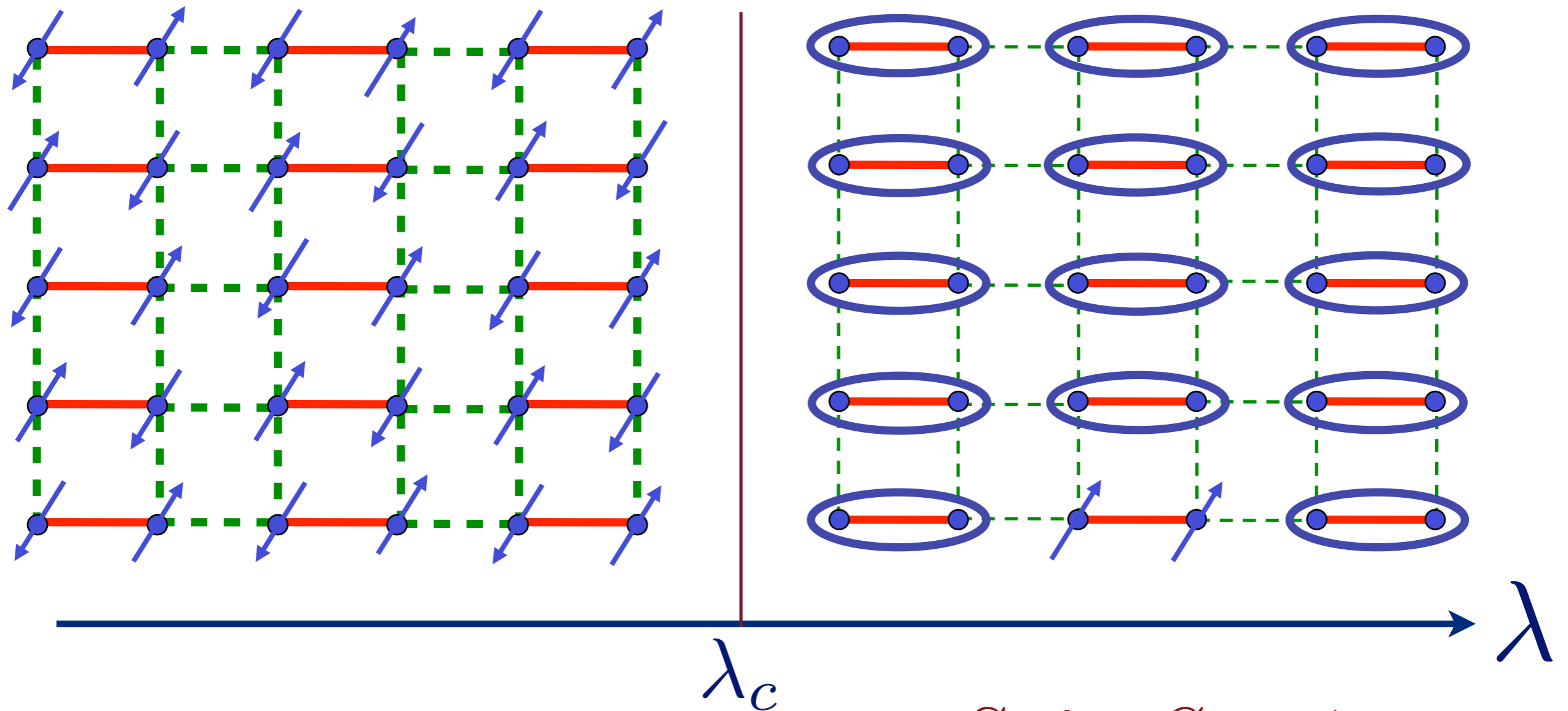
TlCuCl₃



Neel order under pressure

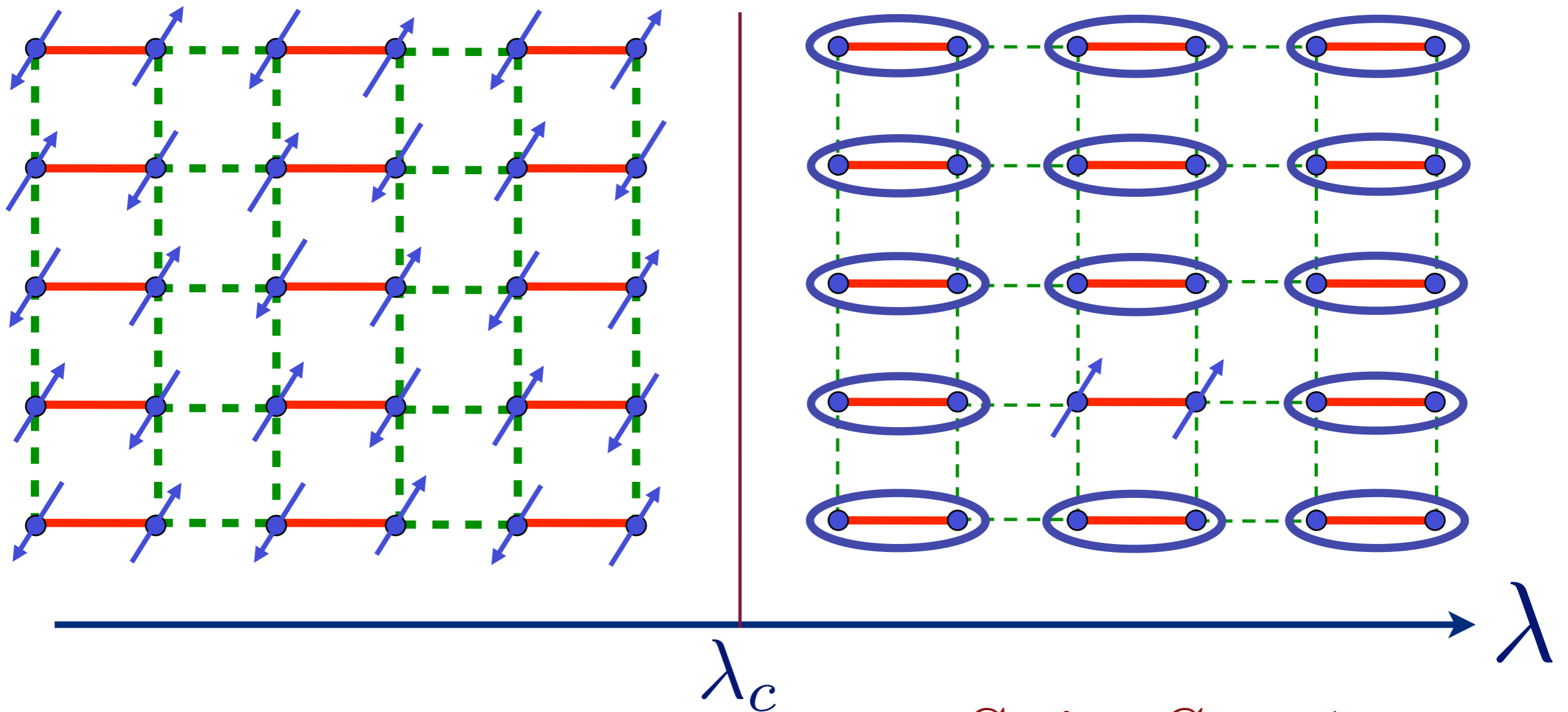
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Excitation spectrum in the paramagnetic phase



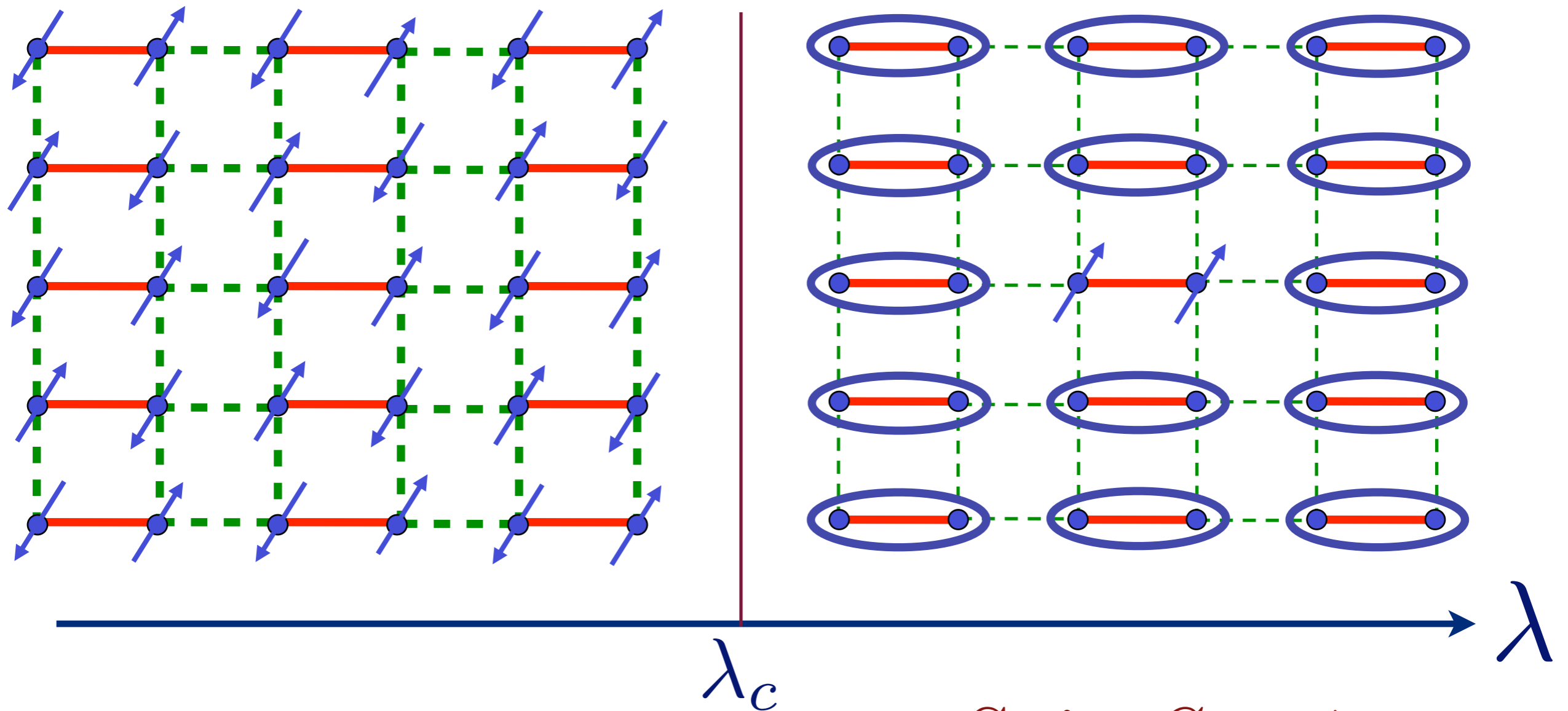
Spin $S = 1$
"triplon"

Excitation spectrum in the paramagnetic phase



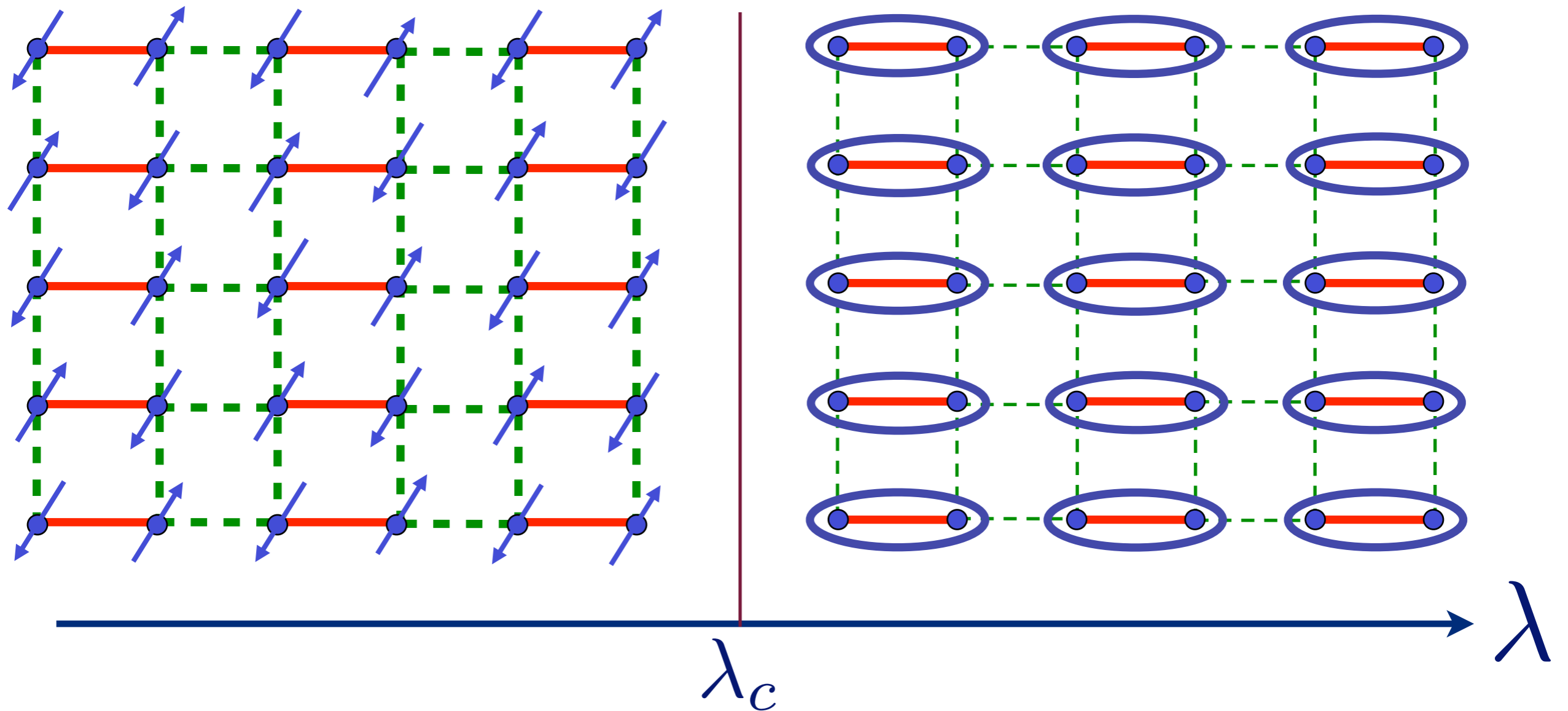
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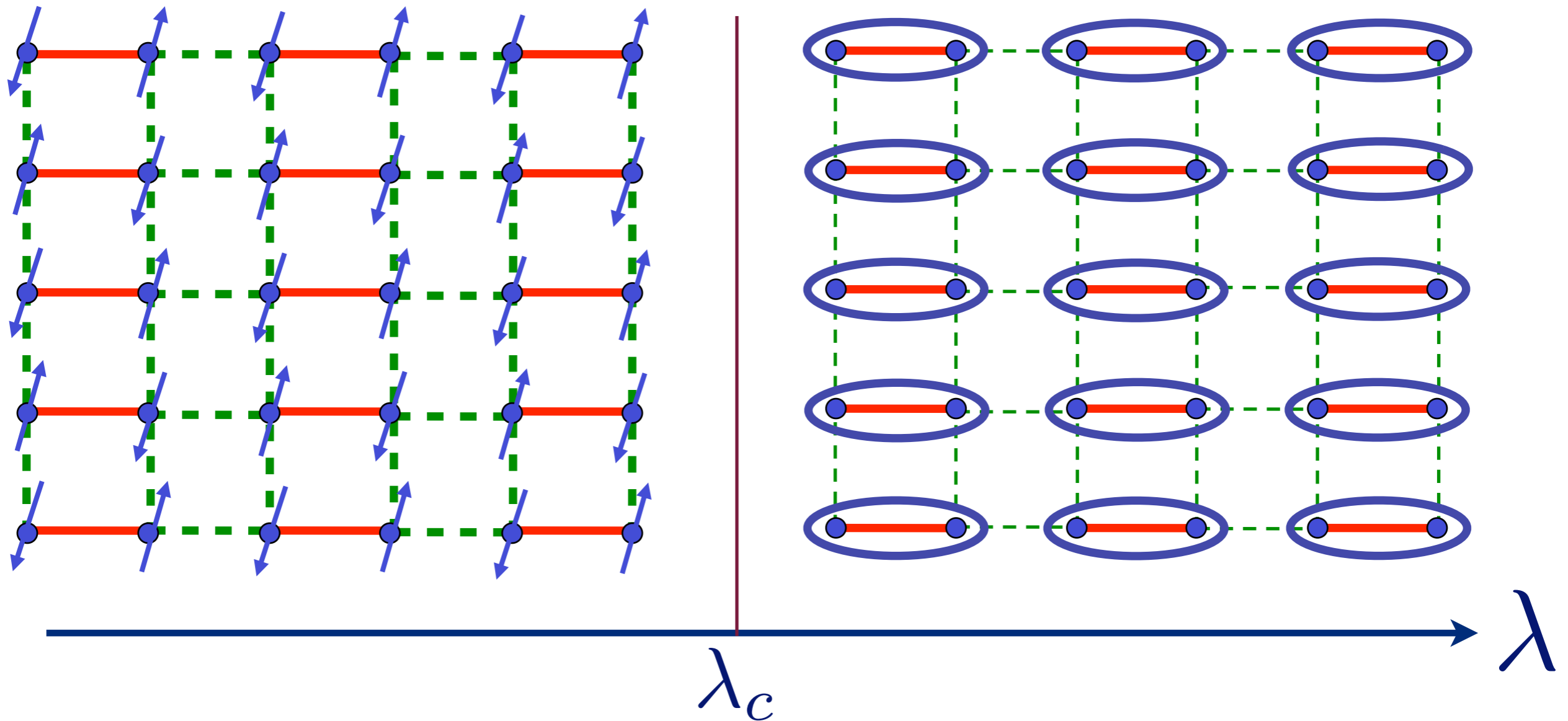
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Excitation spectrum in the Néel phase



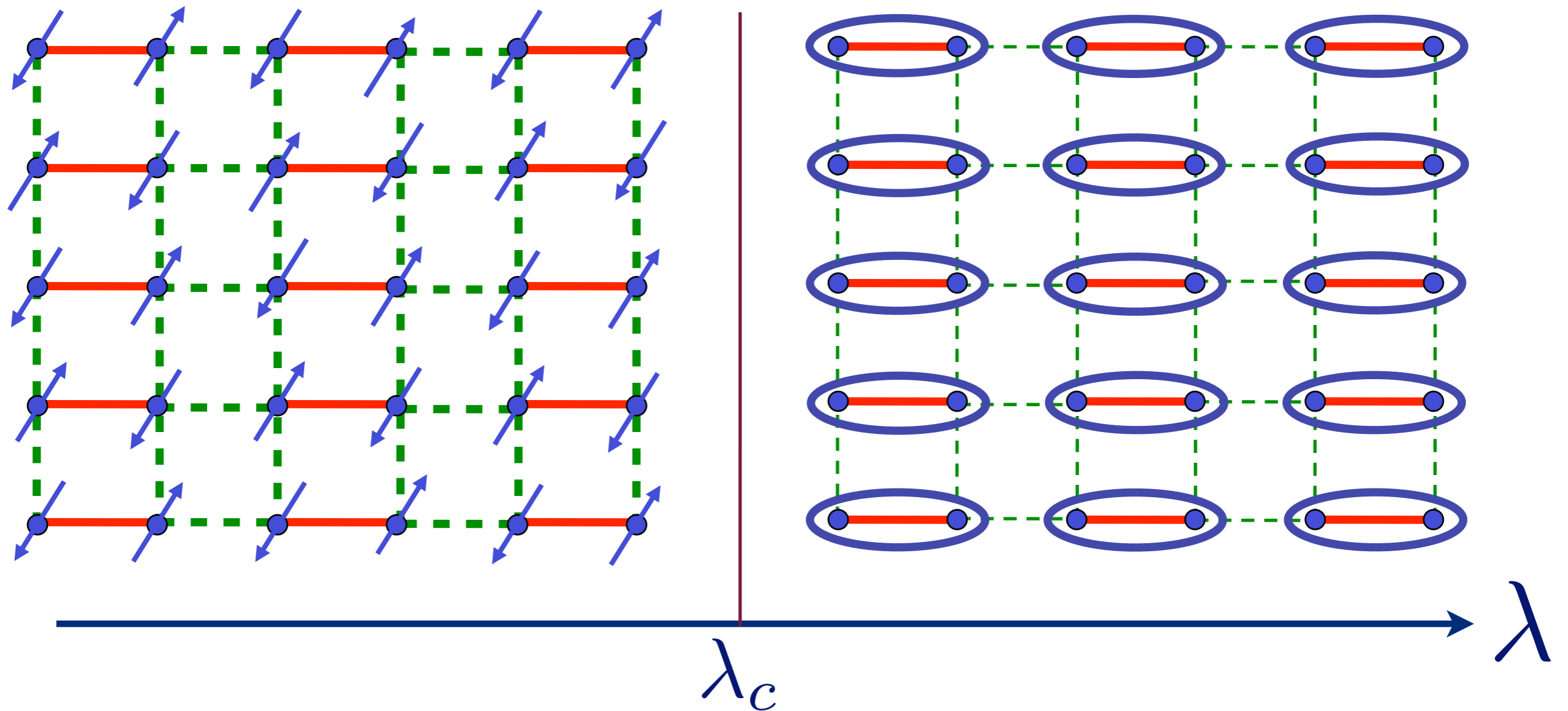
Spin waves

Excitation spectrum in the Néel phase



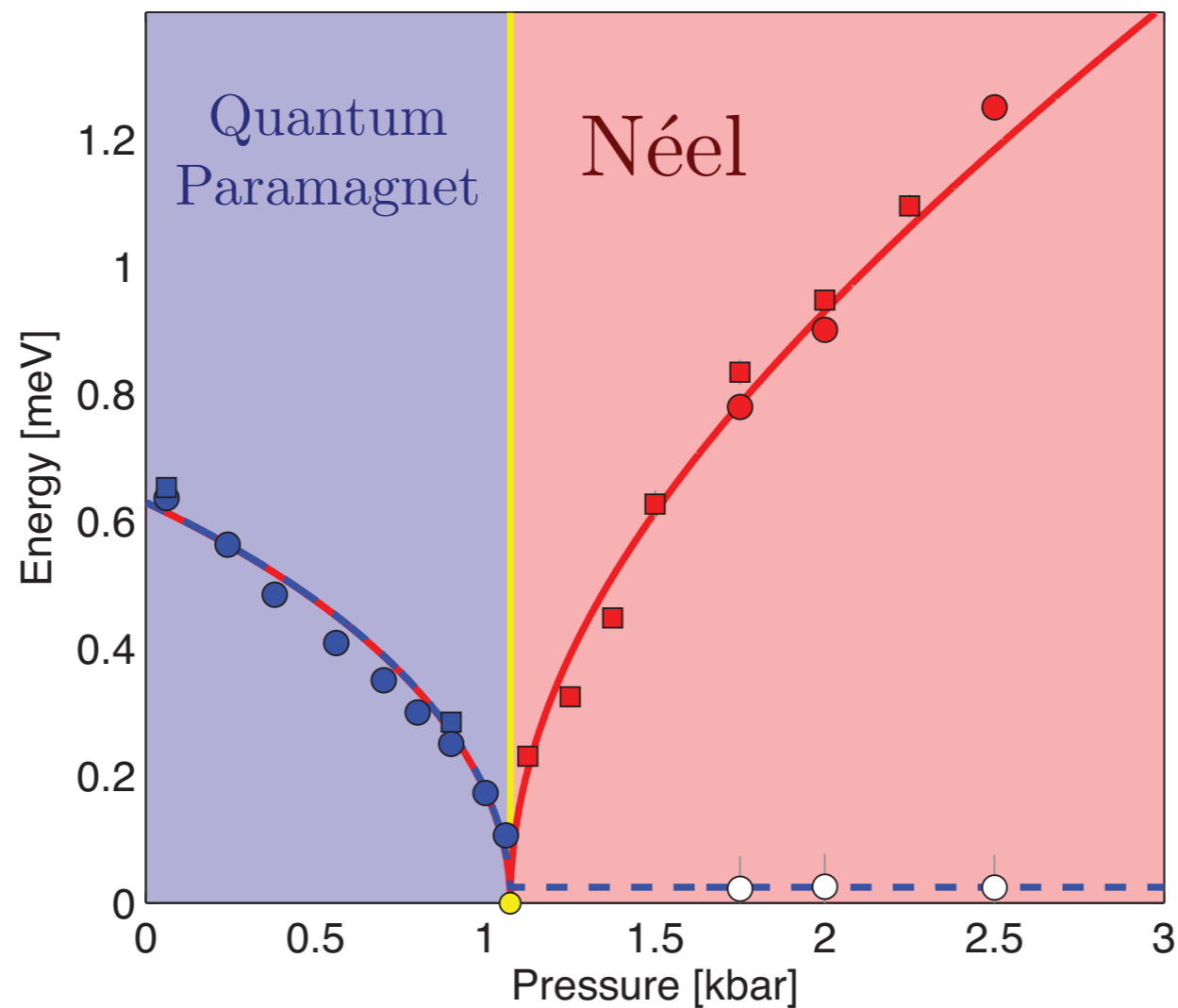
Spin waves

Excitation spectrum in the Néel phase



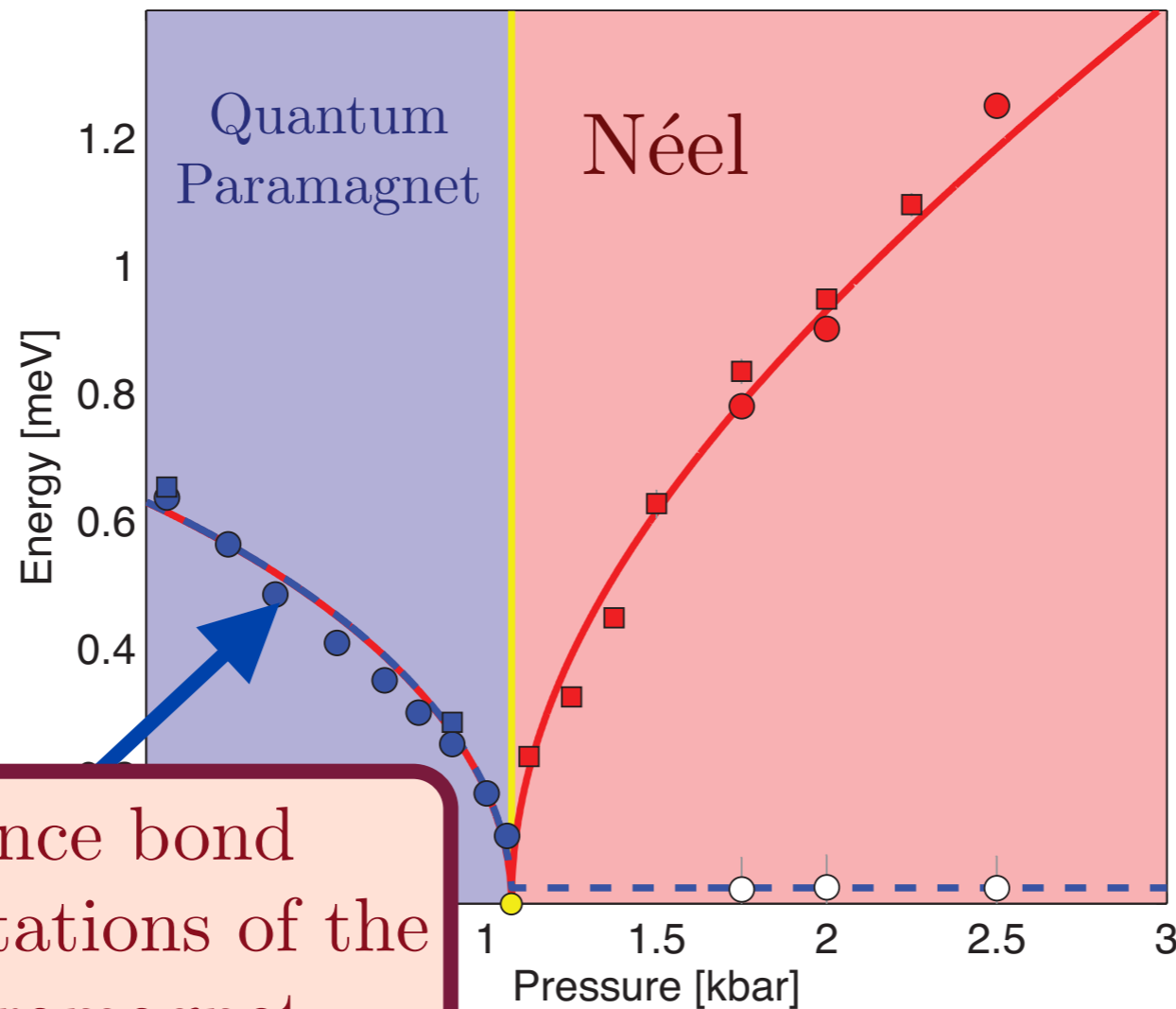
Spin waves

Excitations of TlCuCl_3 with varying pressure



Christian Ruegg, Bruce Normand, Masashige Matsumoto, Albert Furrer, Desmond McMorrow, Karl Kramer, Hans-Ulrich Gudel, Severian Gvasaliya, Hannu Mutka, and Martin Boehm, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **100**, 205701 (2008)

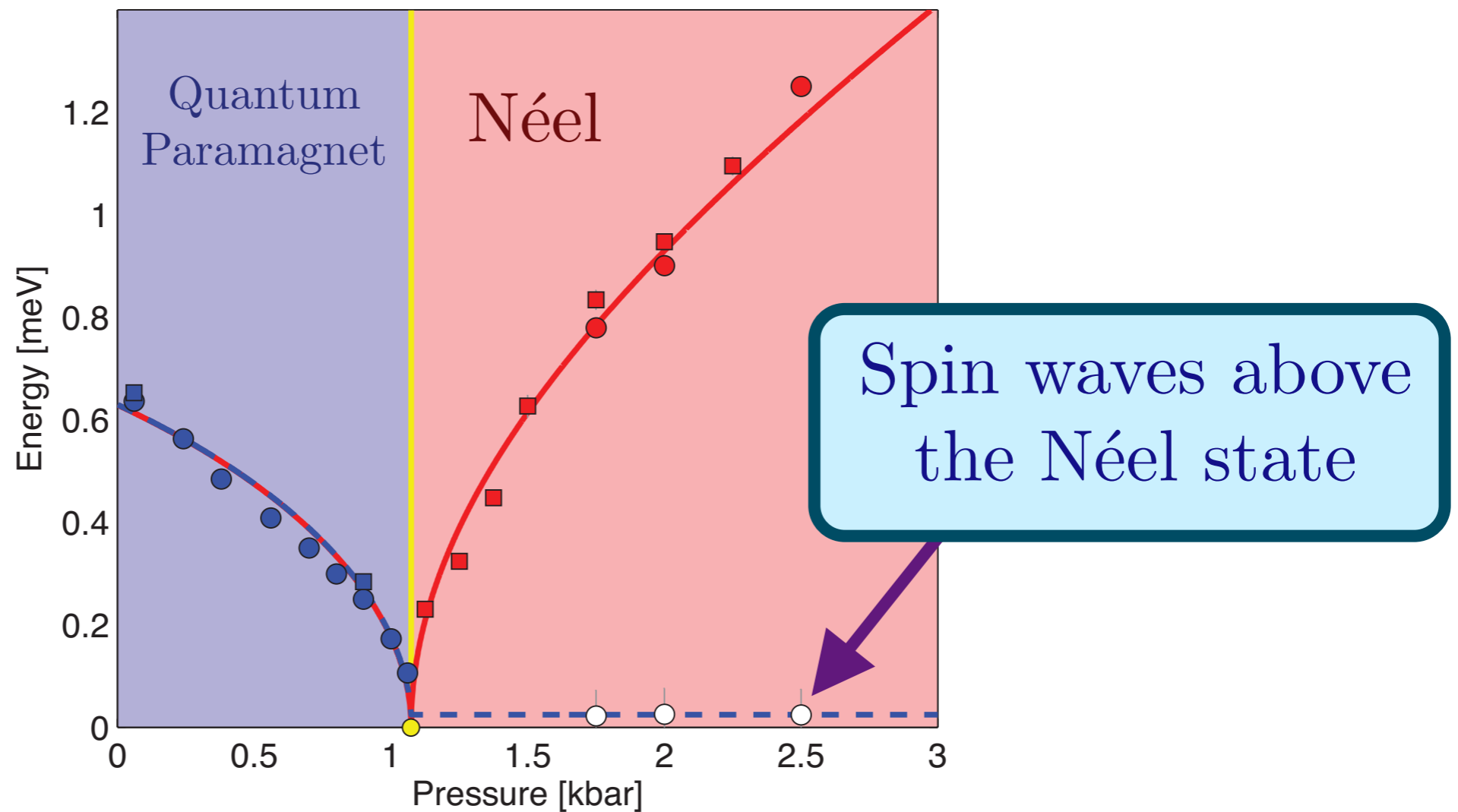
Excitations of TlCuCl_3 with varying pressure



Broken valence bond (“triplon”) excitations of the quantum paramagnet

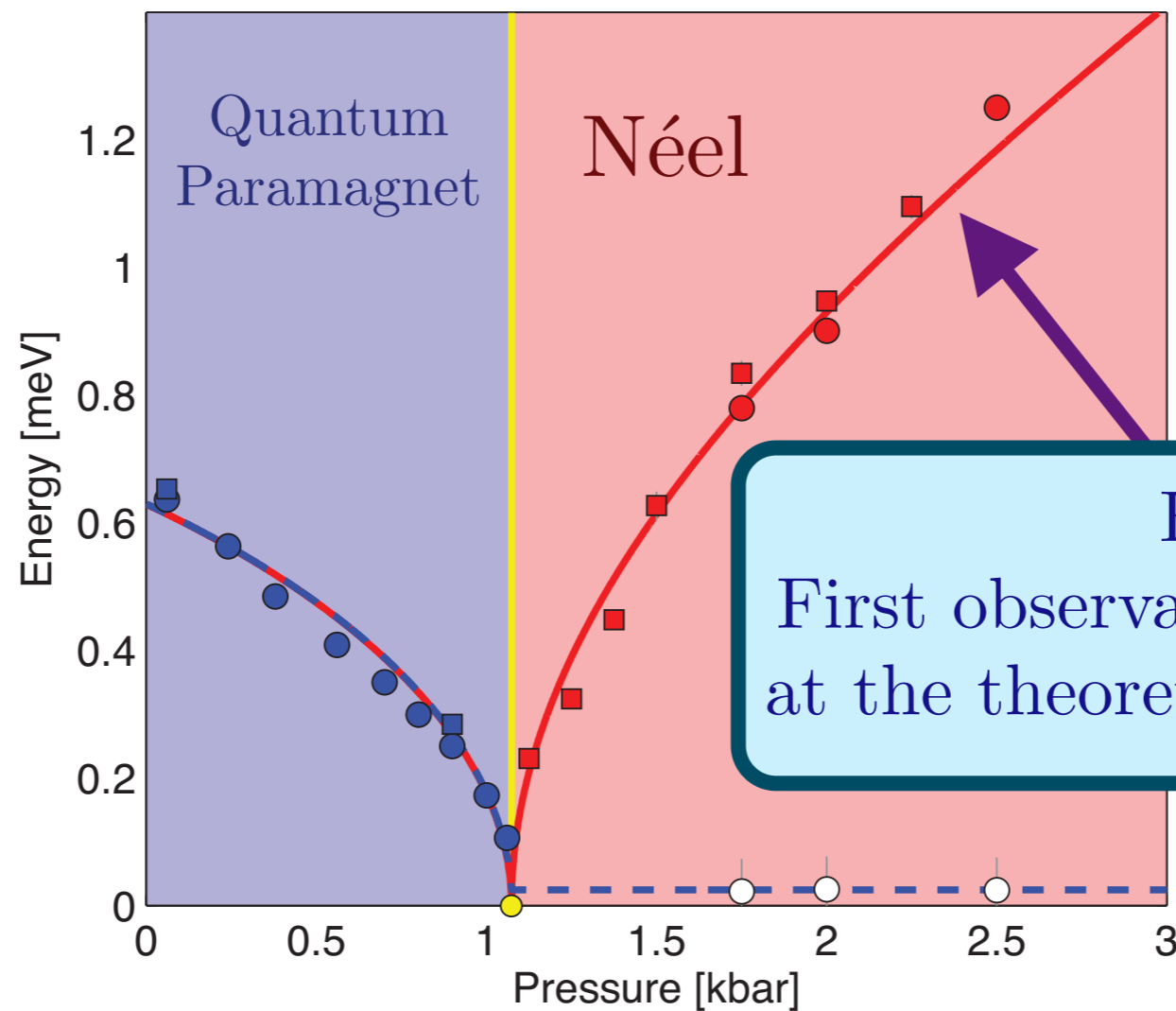
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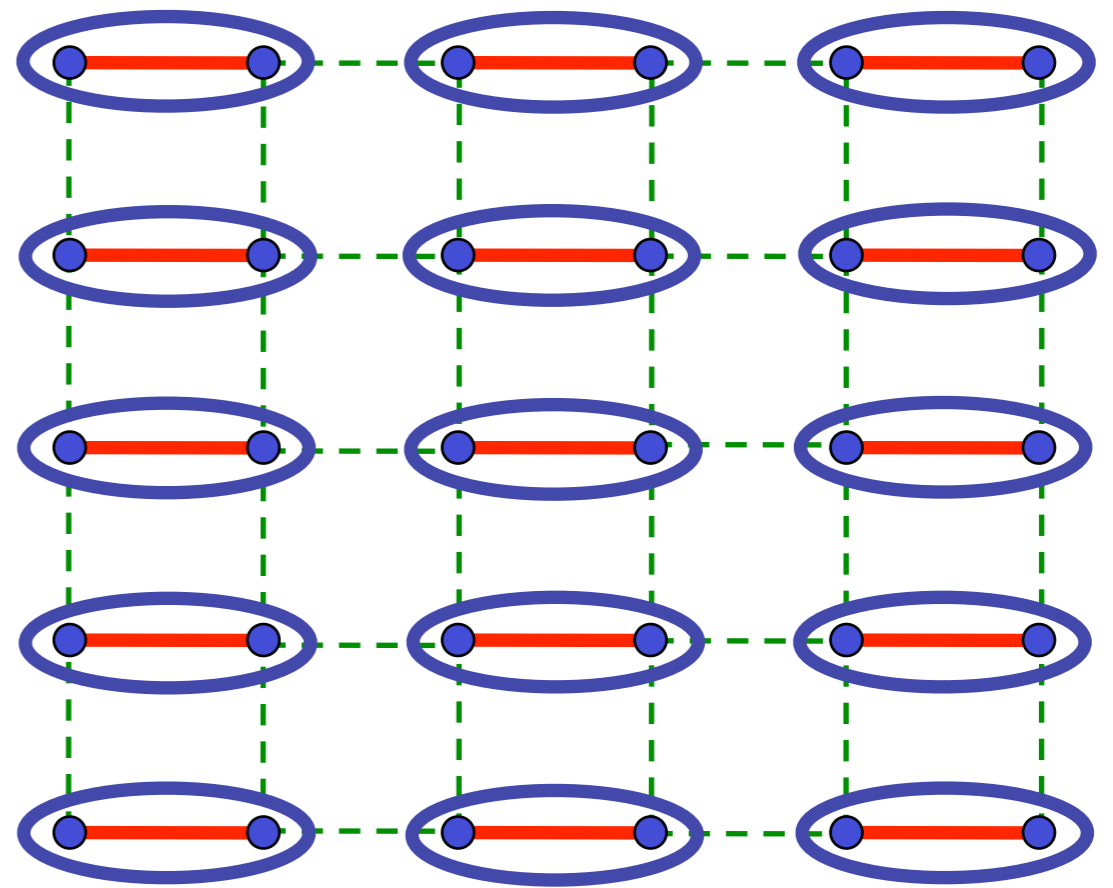
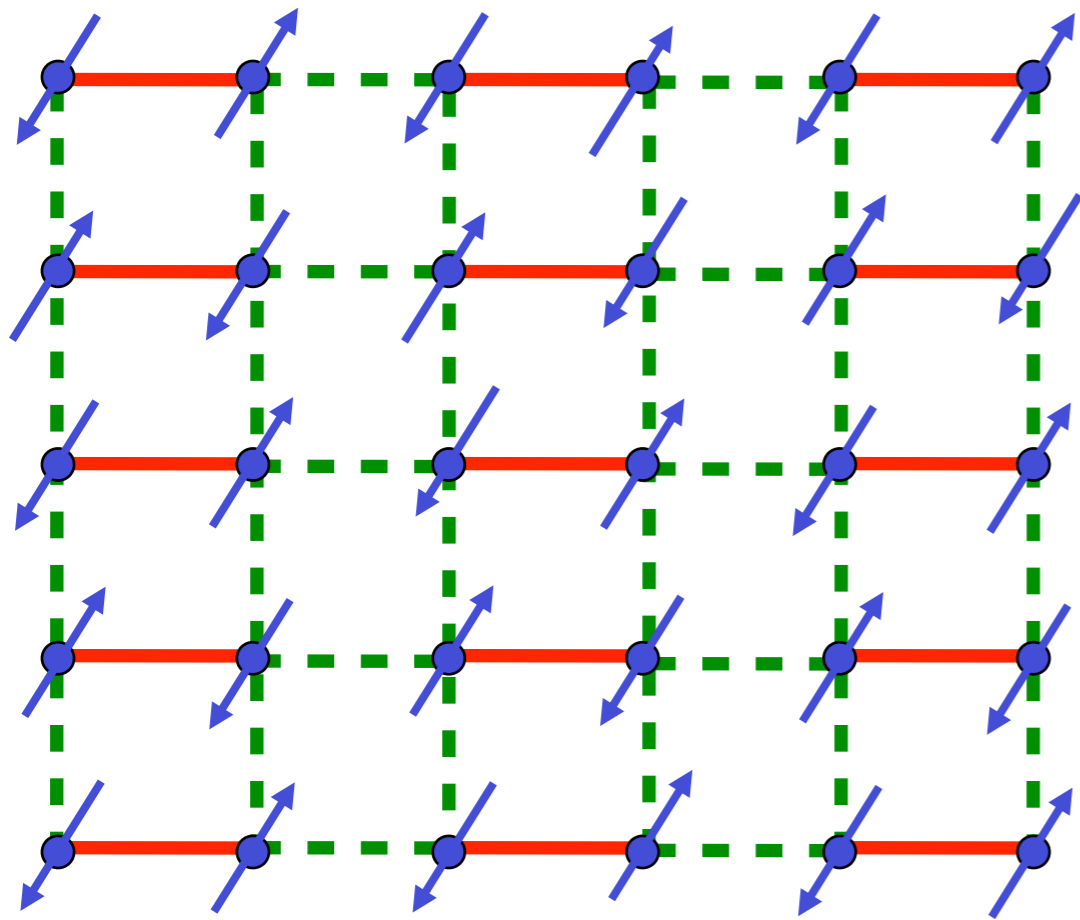
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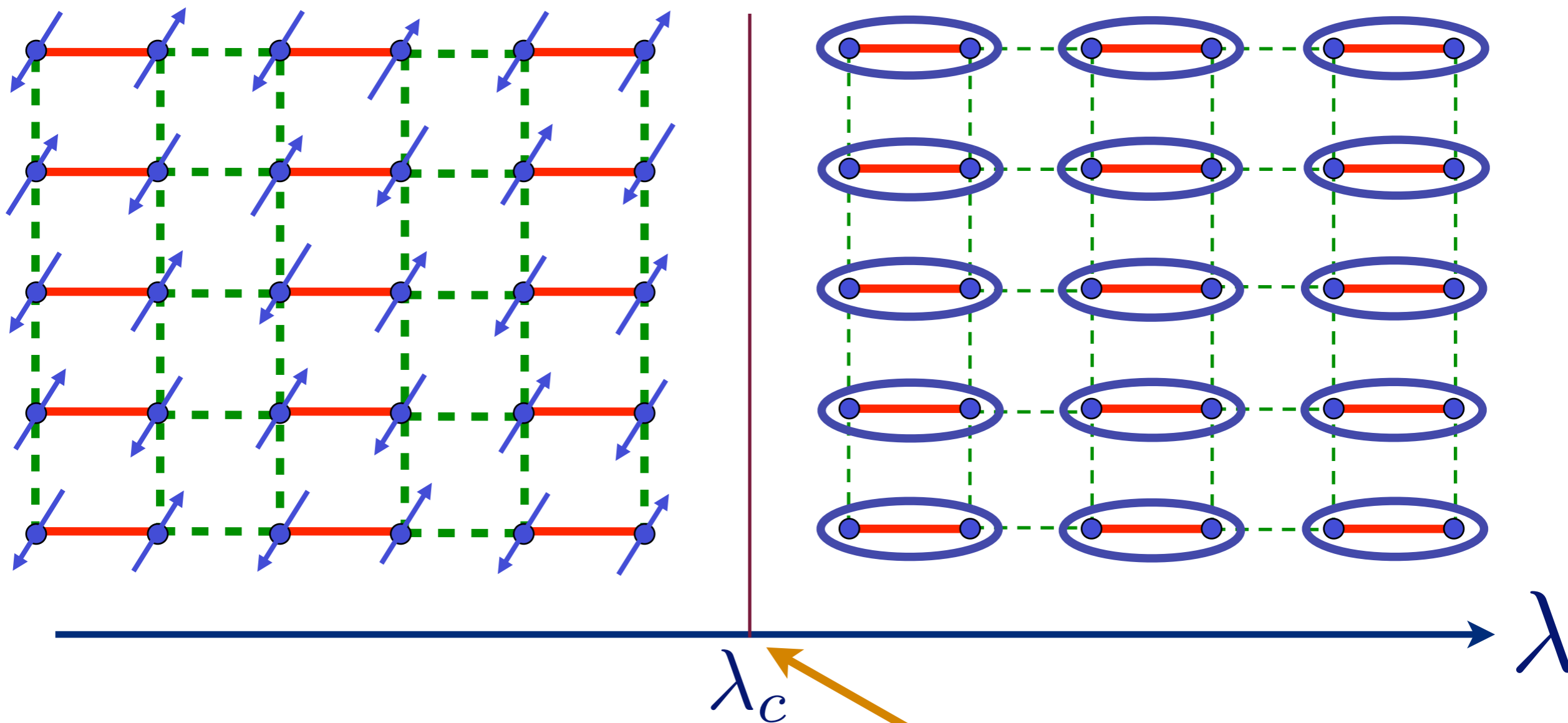
S. Sachdev,
arXiv:0901.4103

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$$\text{Diagram of two blue spheres connected by a red line, enclosed in a blue oval} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \right)$$



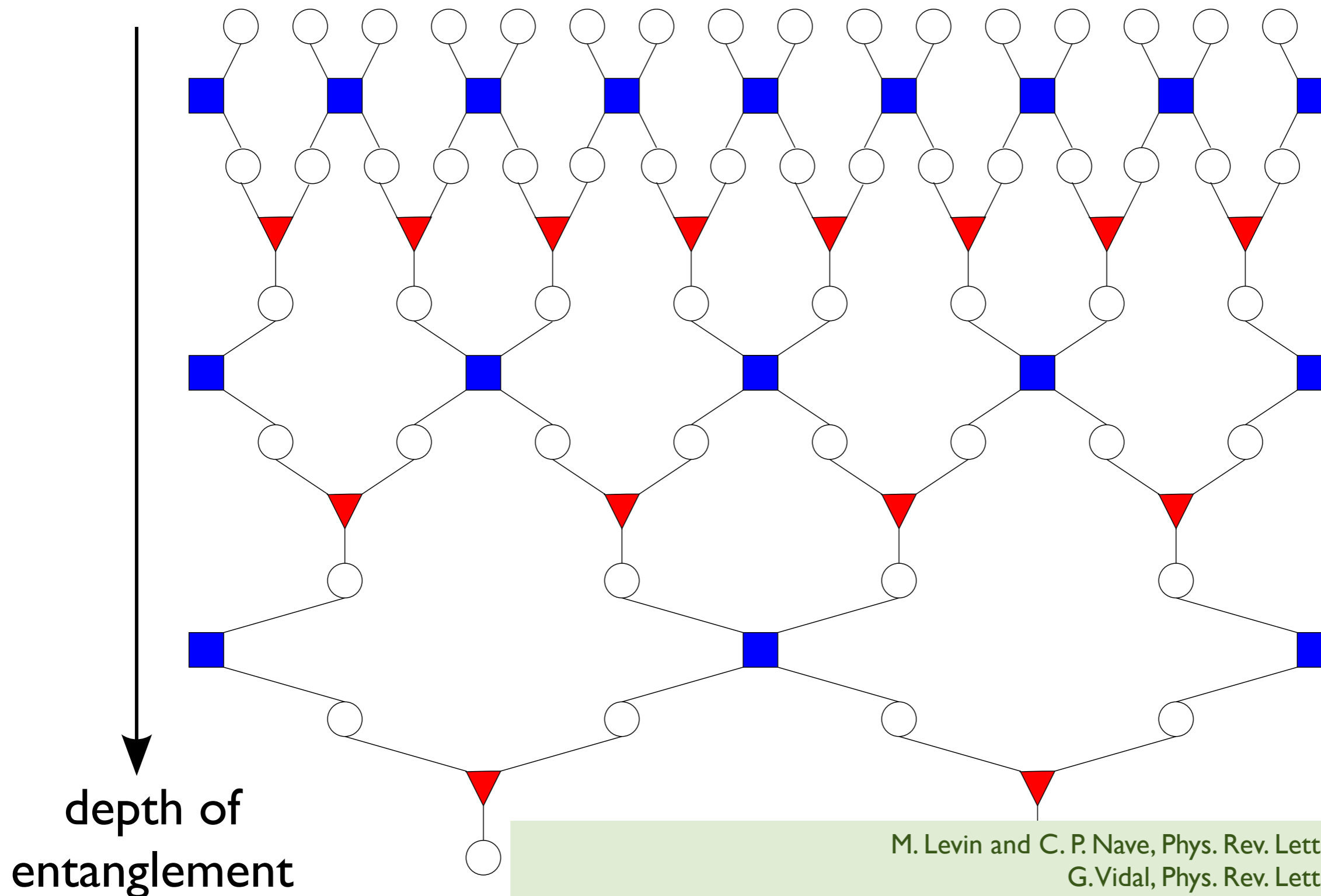
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Quantum critical point with non-local entanglement in spin wavefunction

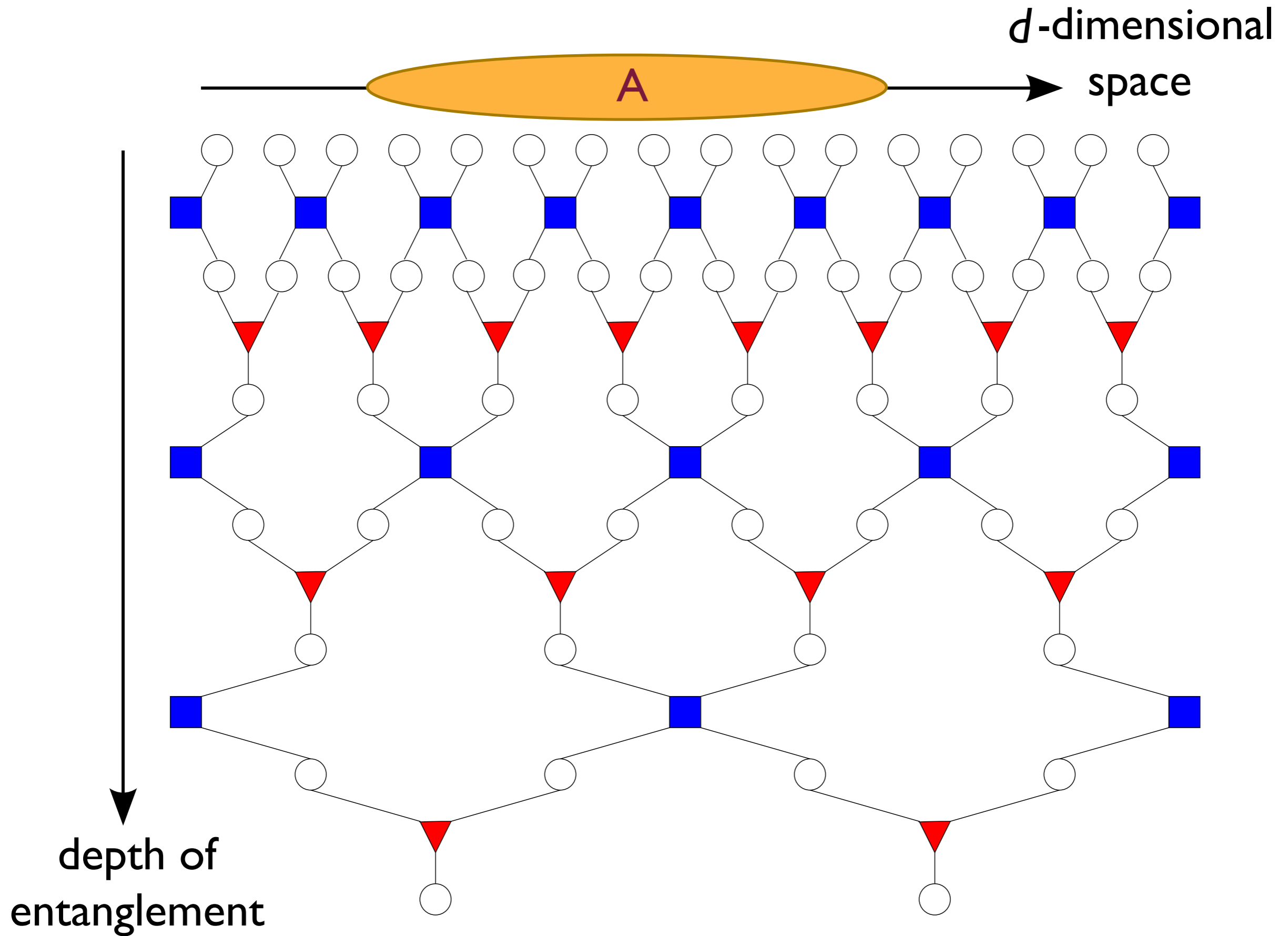
Tensor network representation of entanglement at quantum critical point

D -dimensional
space

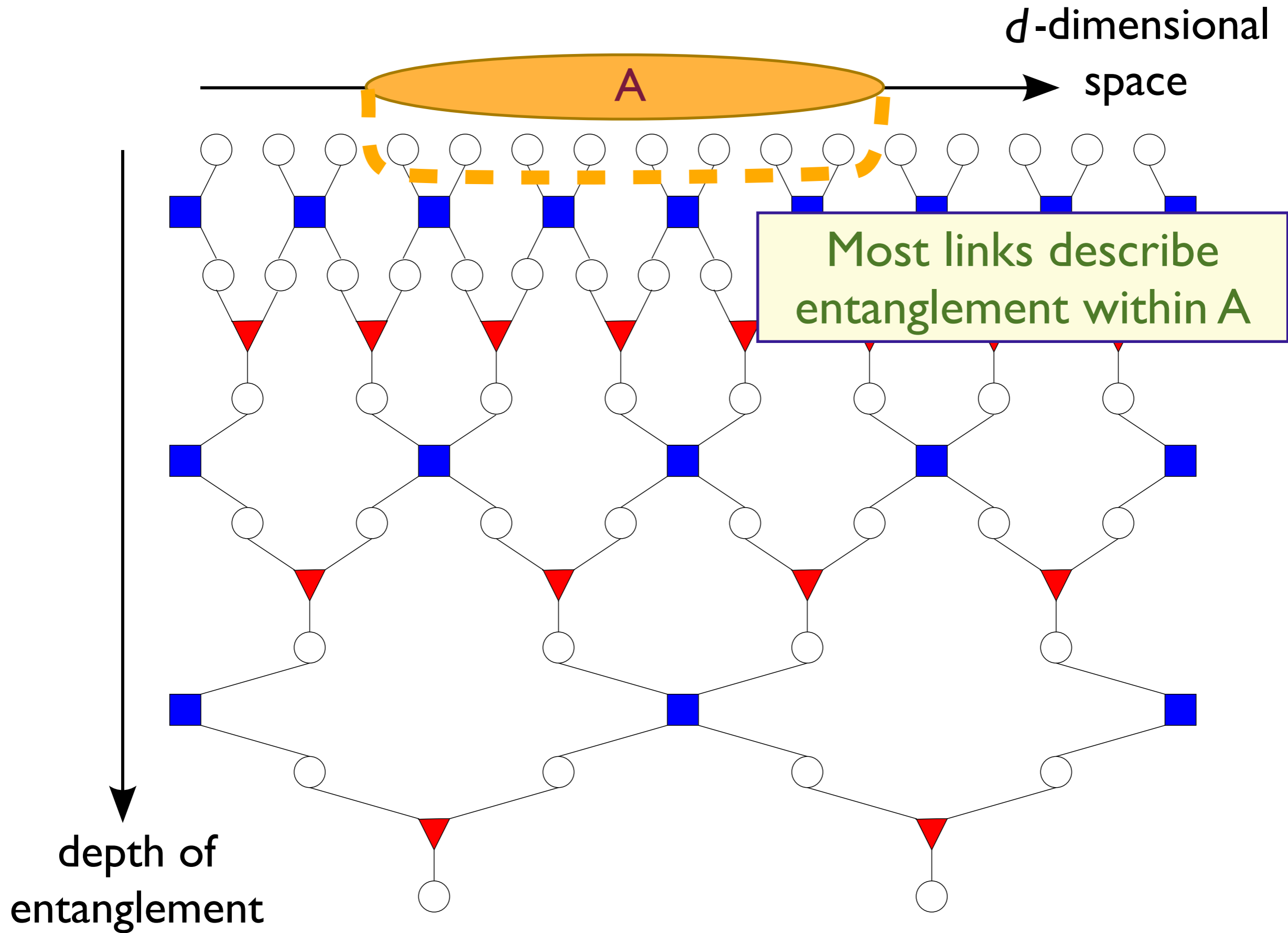


M. Levin and C. P. Nave, Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 120601 (2007)
G. Vidal, Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 220405 (2007)
F. Verstraete, M. M. Wolf, D. Perez-Garcia, and J. I. Cirac, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 220601 (2006)

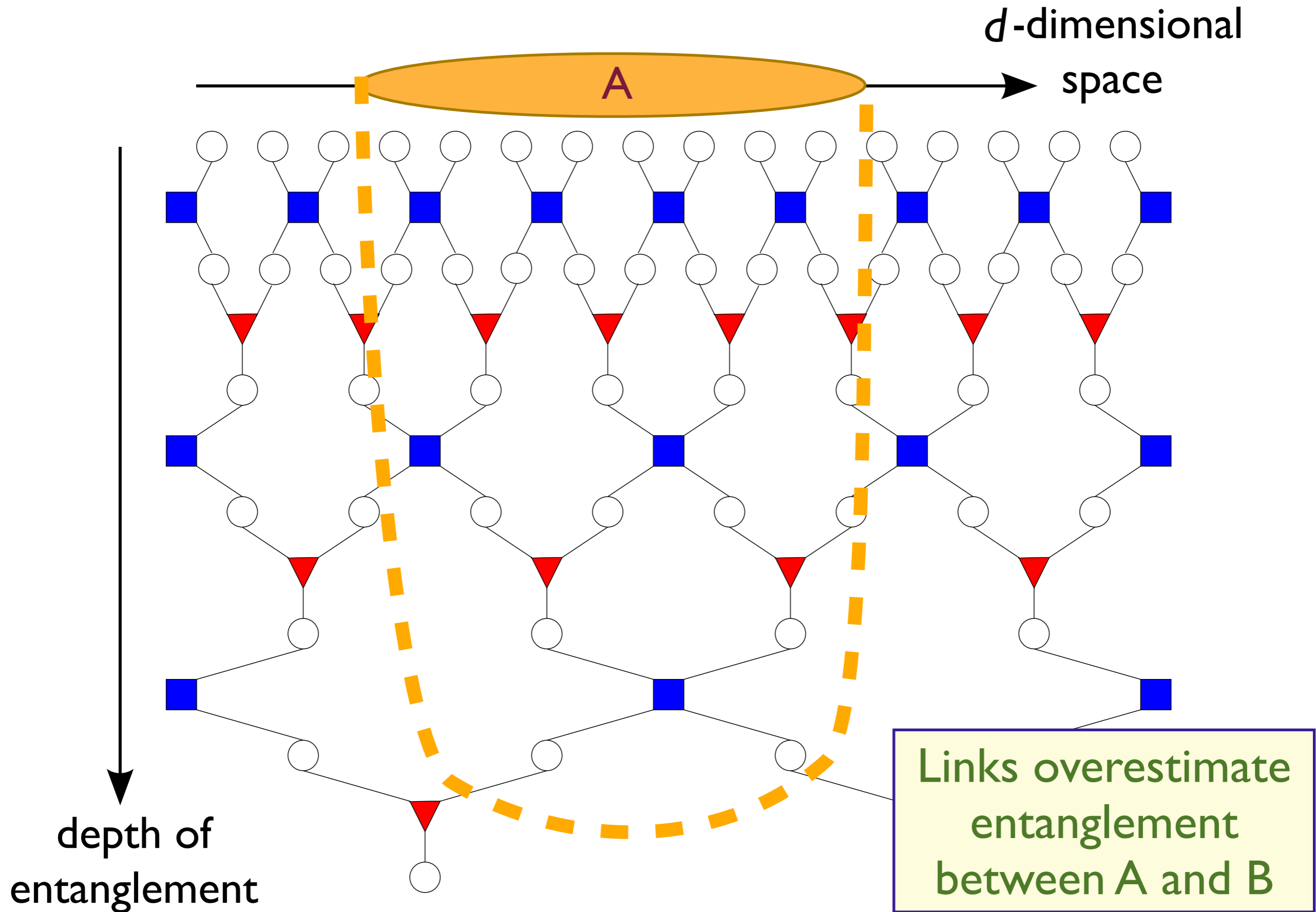
Entanglement entropy



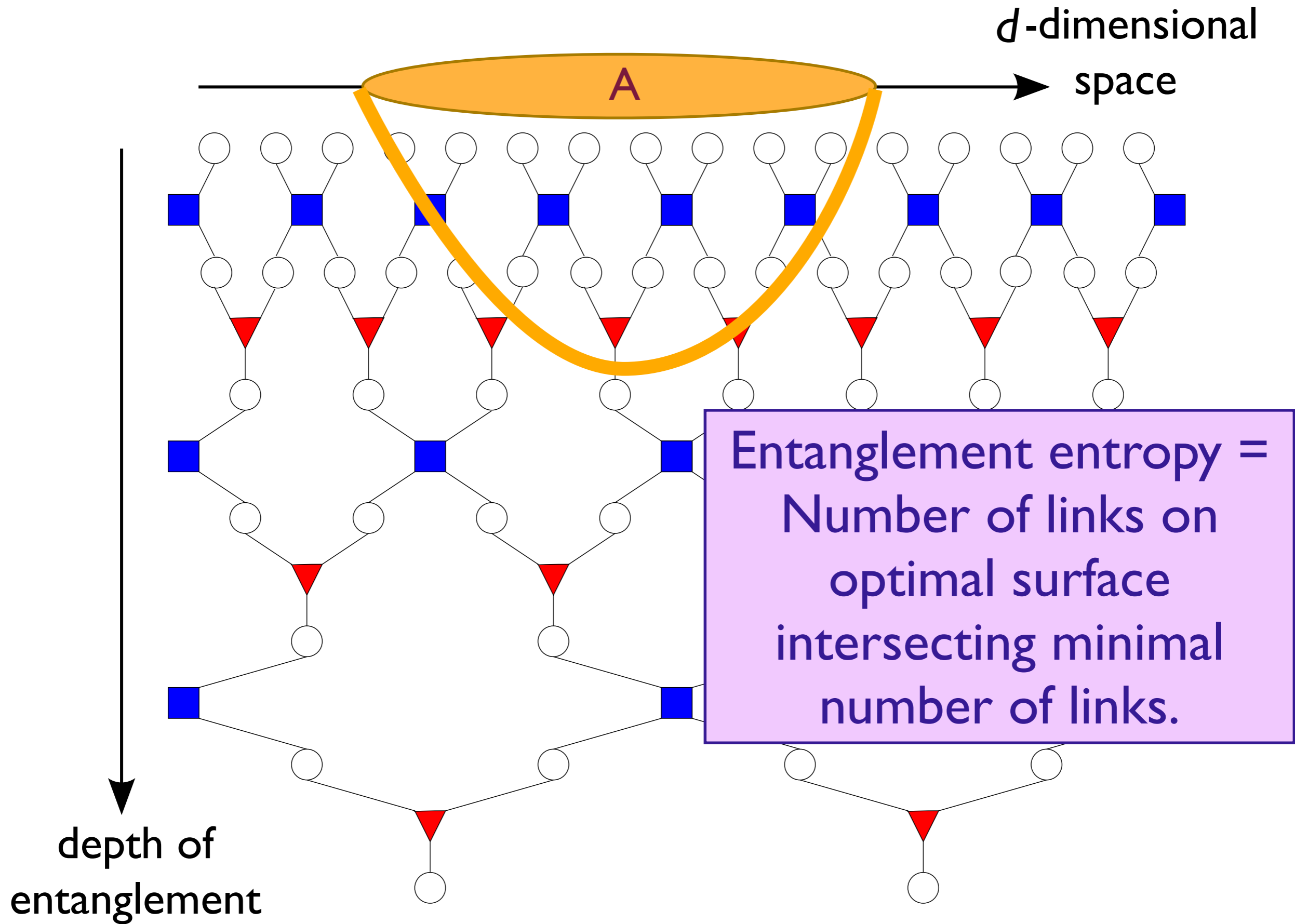
Entanglement entropy



Entanglement entropy

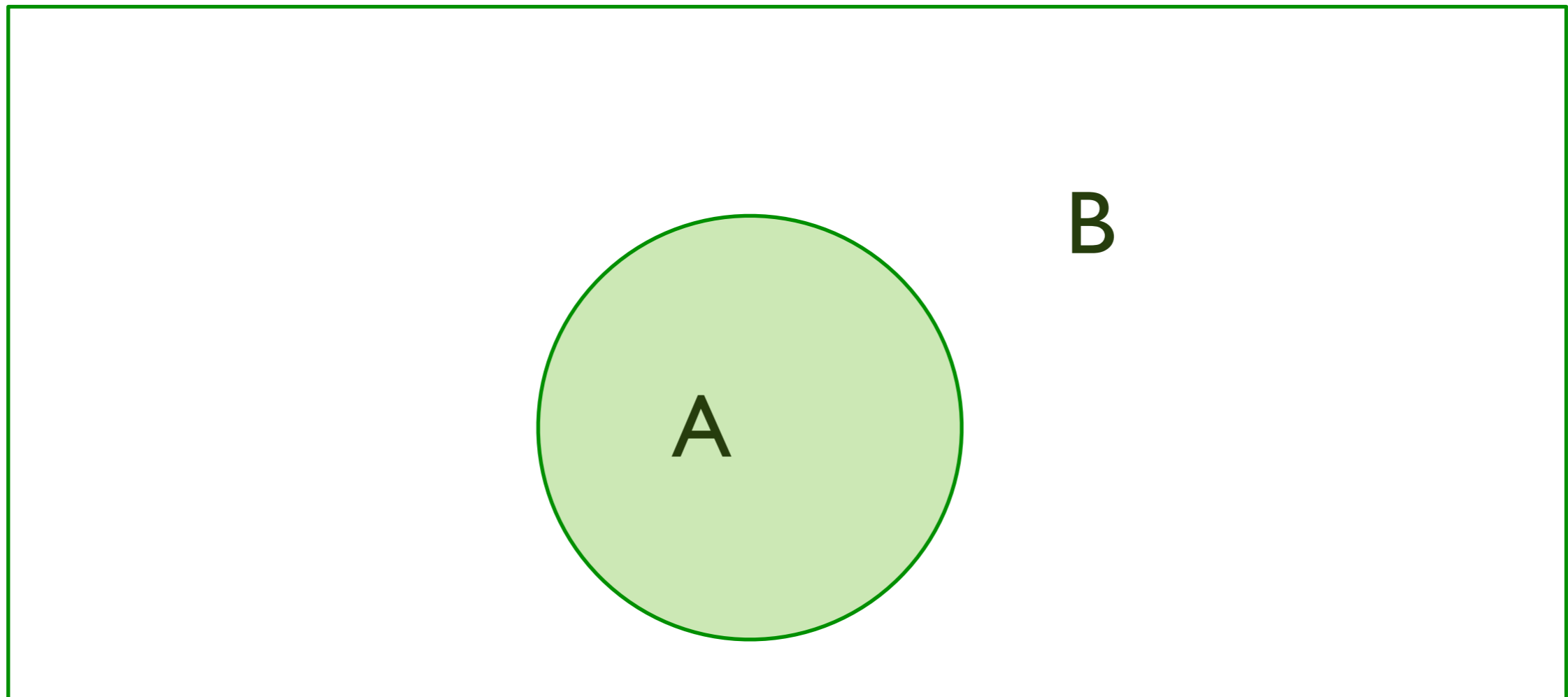


Entanglement entropy



Long-range entanglement in a CFT3

- Long-range entanglement: entanglement entropy obeys $S_{EE} = aL - \gamma$, where γ is a universal number associated with the quantum critical point.



M.A. Metlitski, C.A. Fuertes, and S. Sachdev, Physical Review B 80, 115122 (2009).
H. Casini, M. Huerta, and R. Myers, JHEP 1105:036, (2011)
I. Klebanov, S. Pufu, and B. Safdi, arXiv:1105.4598

Characteristics of quantum critical point

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**Quantum
superposition and
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String theory

**Quantum critical
points of electrons
in crystals**

Black holes

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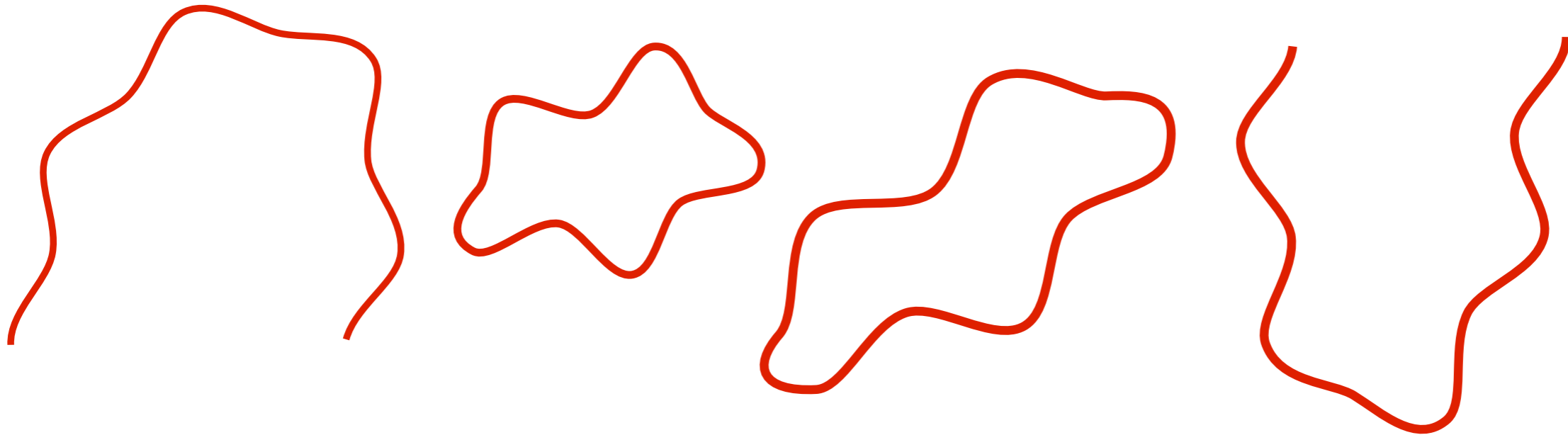
**Quantum
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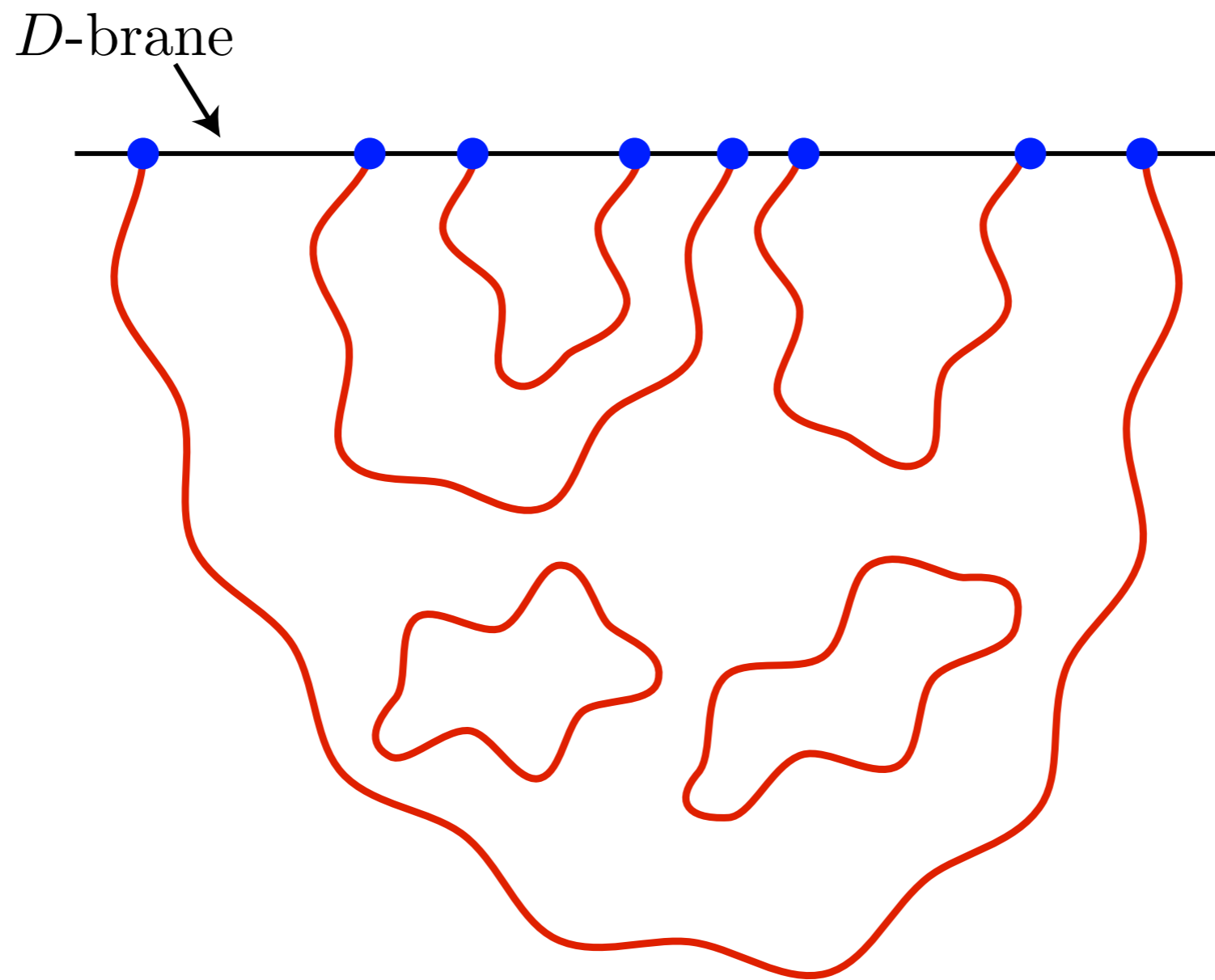
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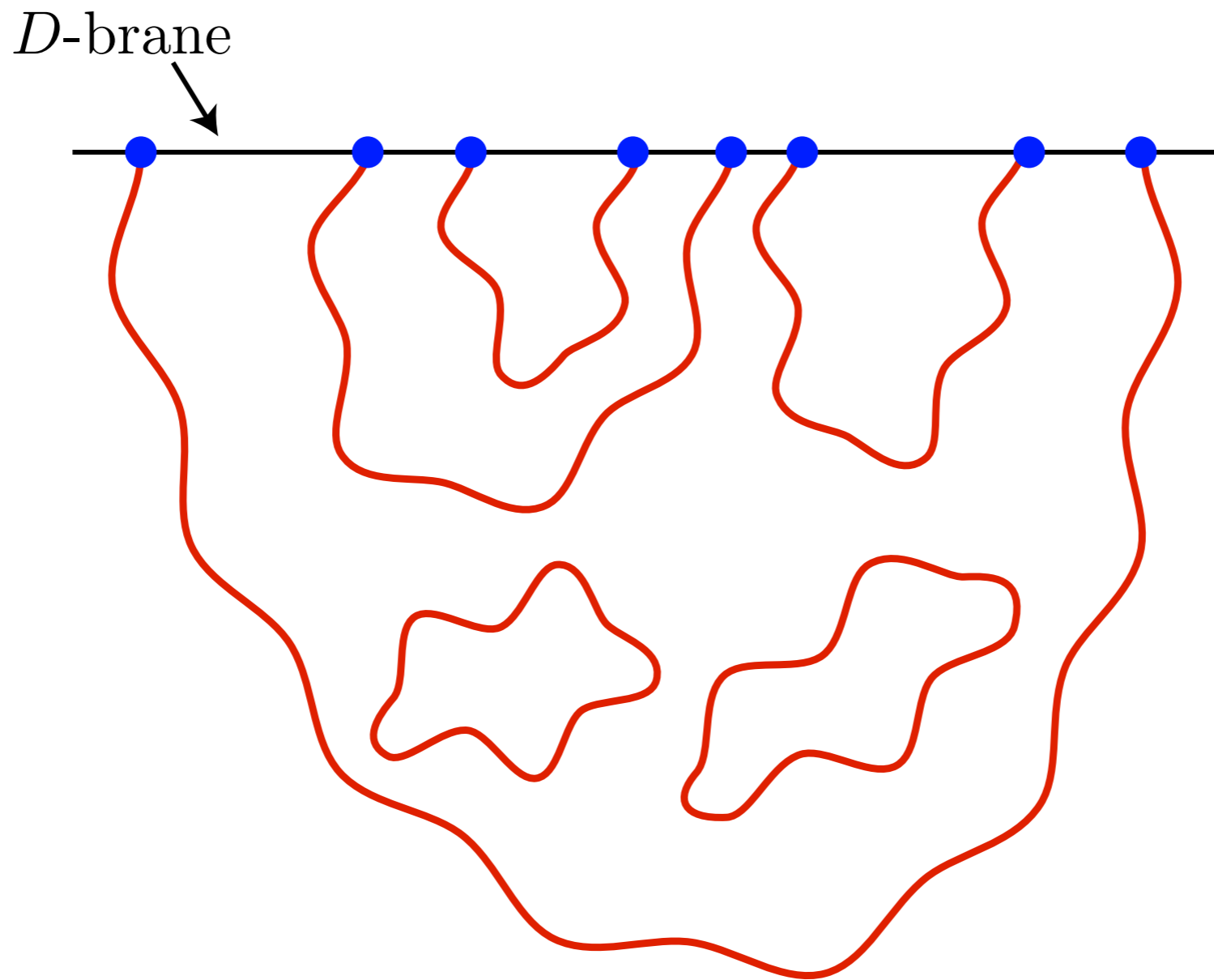
String theory



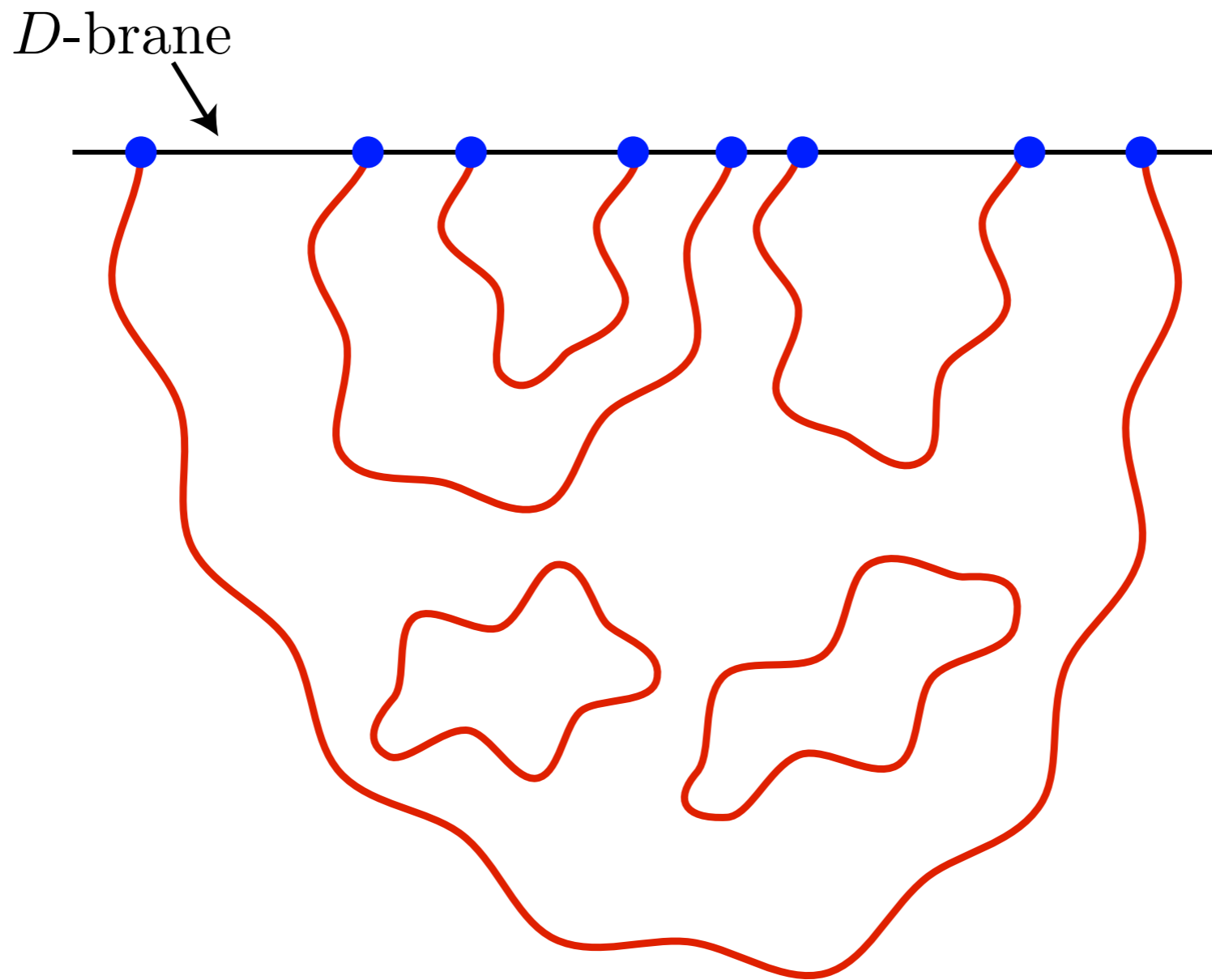
- Allows unification of the standard model of particle physics with gravity.
- Low-lying string modes correspond to gauge fields, gravitons, quarks ...



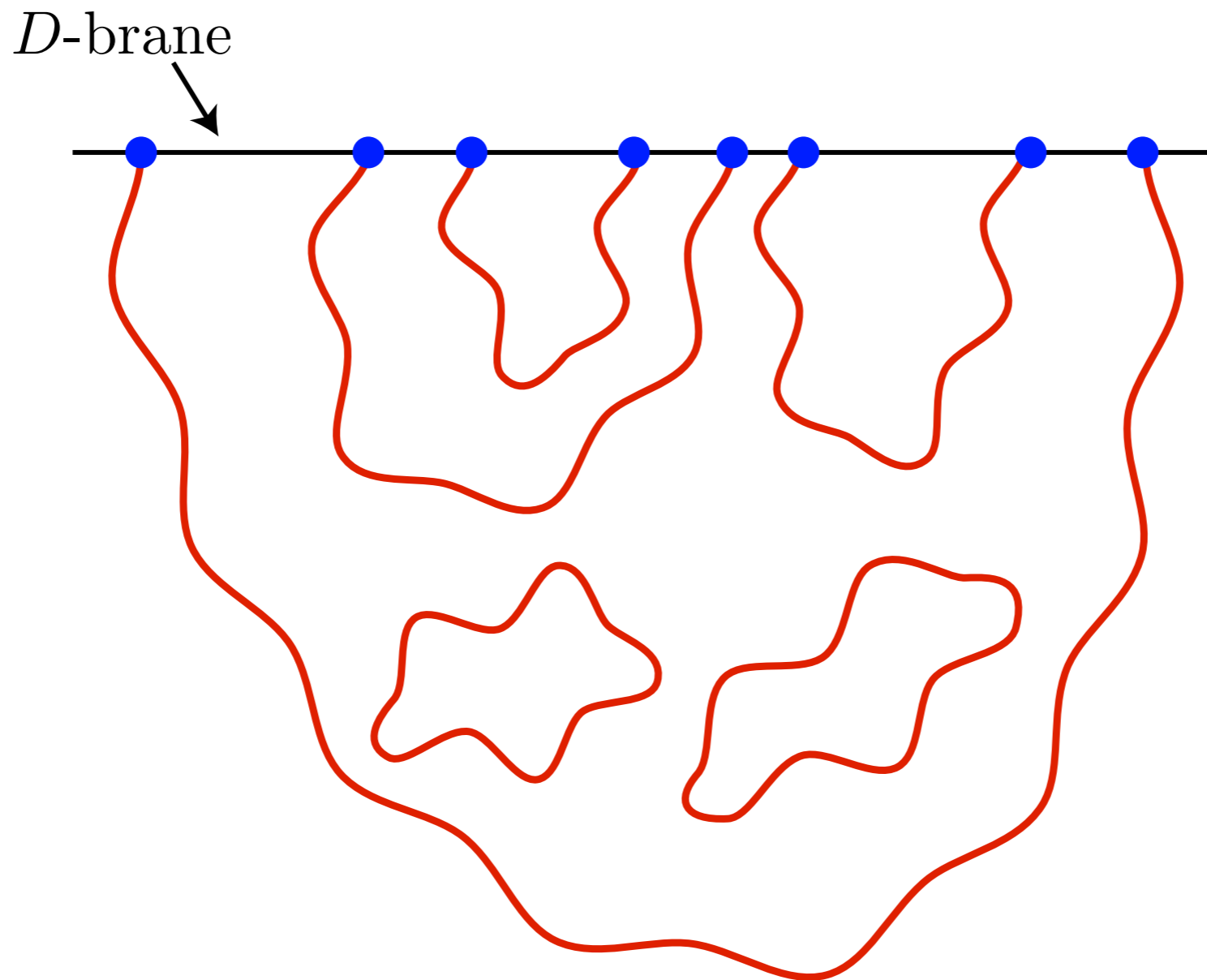
- A D -brane is a d -dimensional surface on which strings can end.



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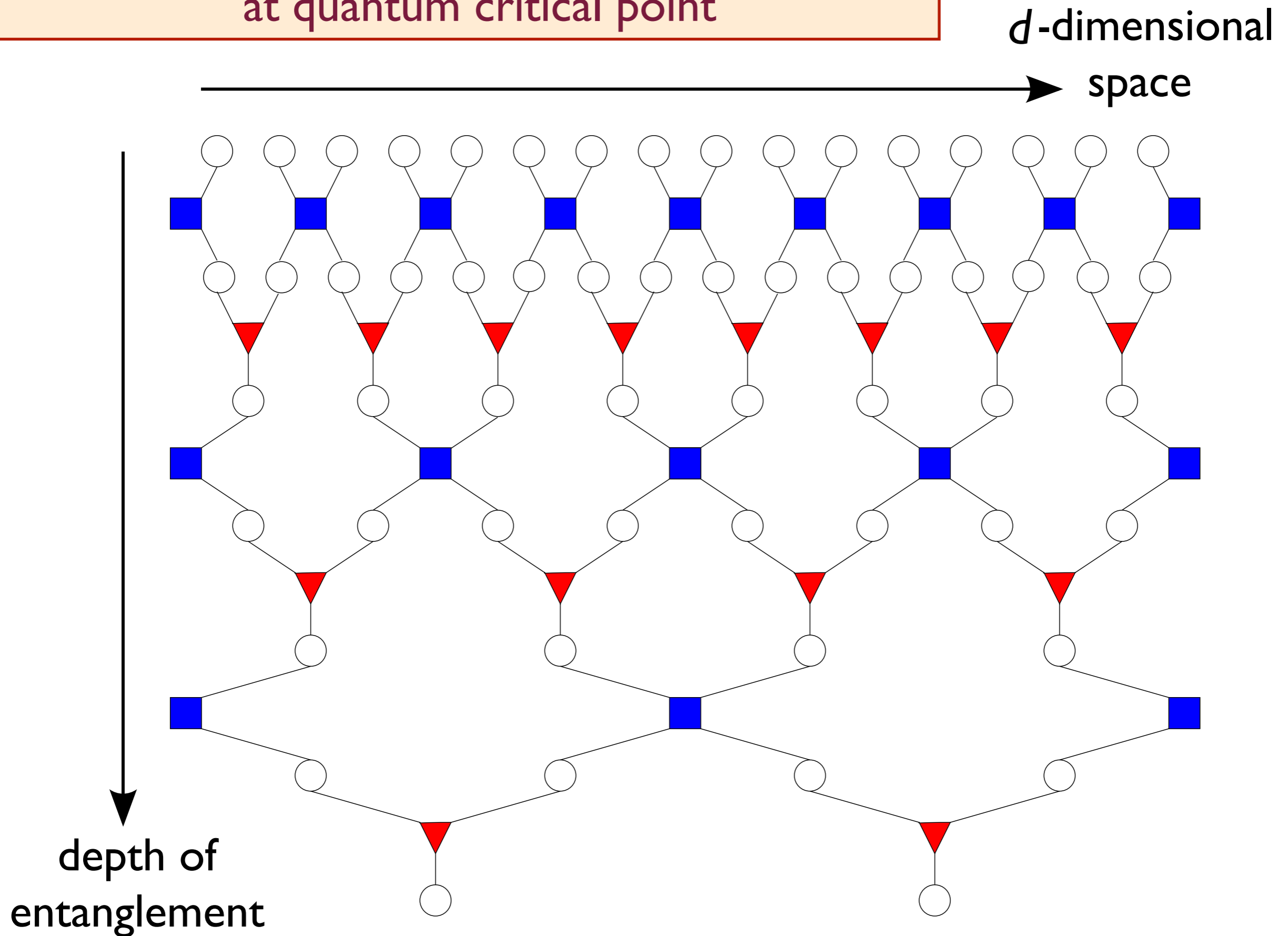


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- In $d = 2$, we obtain strongly-interacting **CFT3s**. These are “dual” to string theory on anti-de Sitter space: **AdS4**.



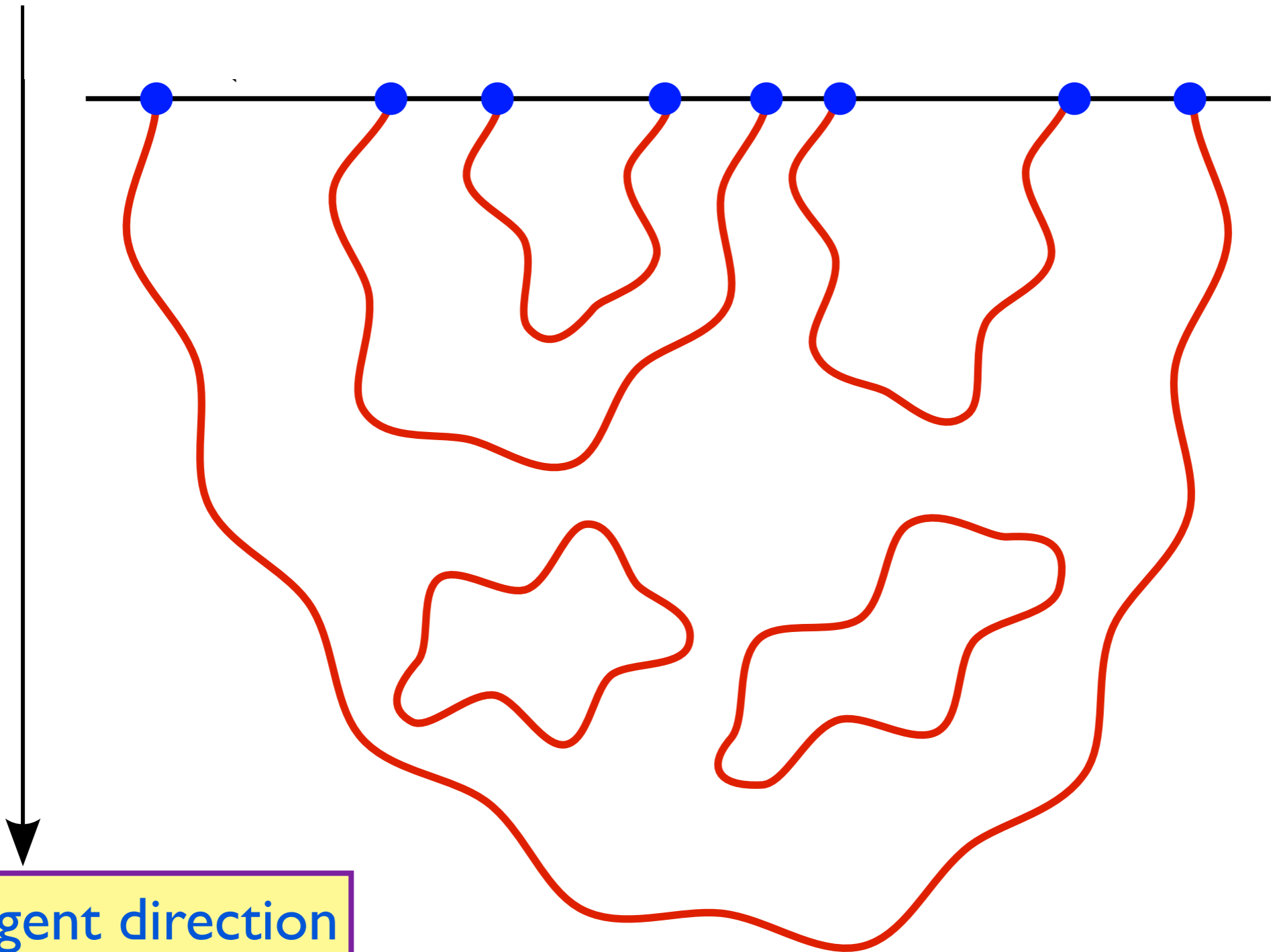
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Tensor network representation of entanglement at quantum critical point



String theory near
a D-brane

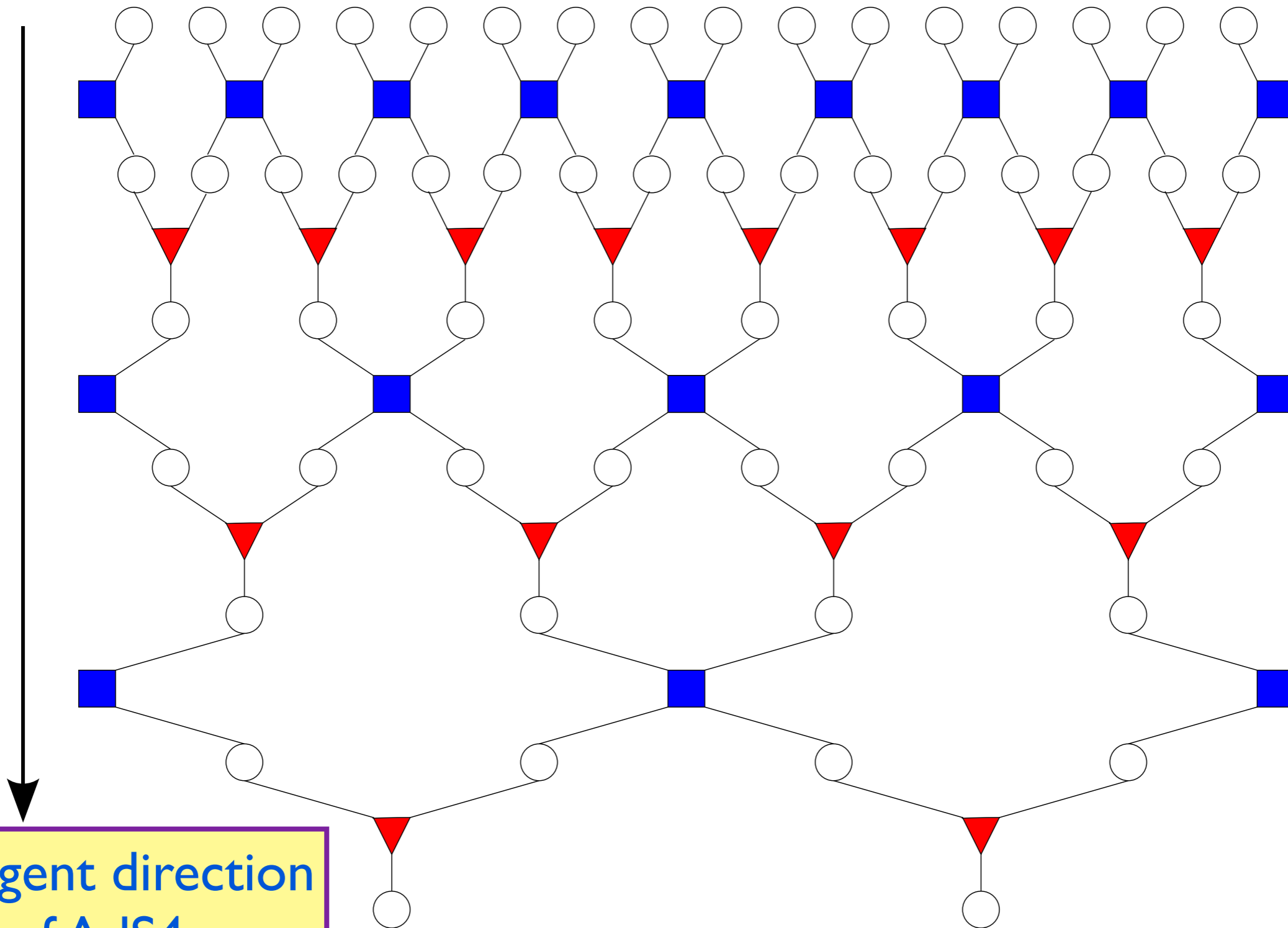
d -dimensional
space



Emergent direction
of AdS4

Tensor network representation of entanglement at quantum critical point

d -dimensional
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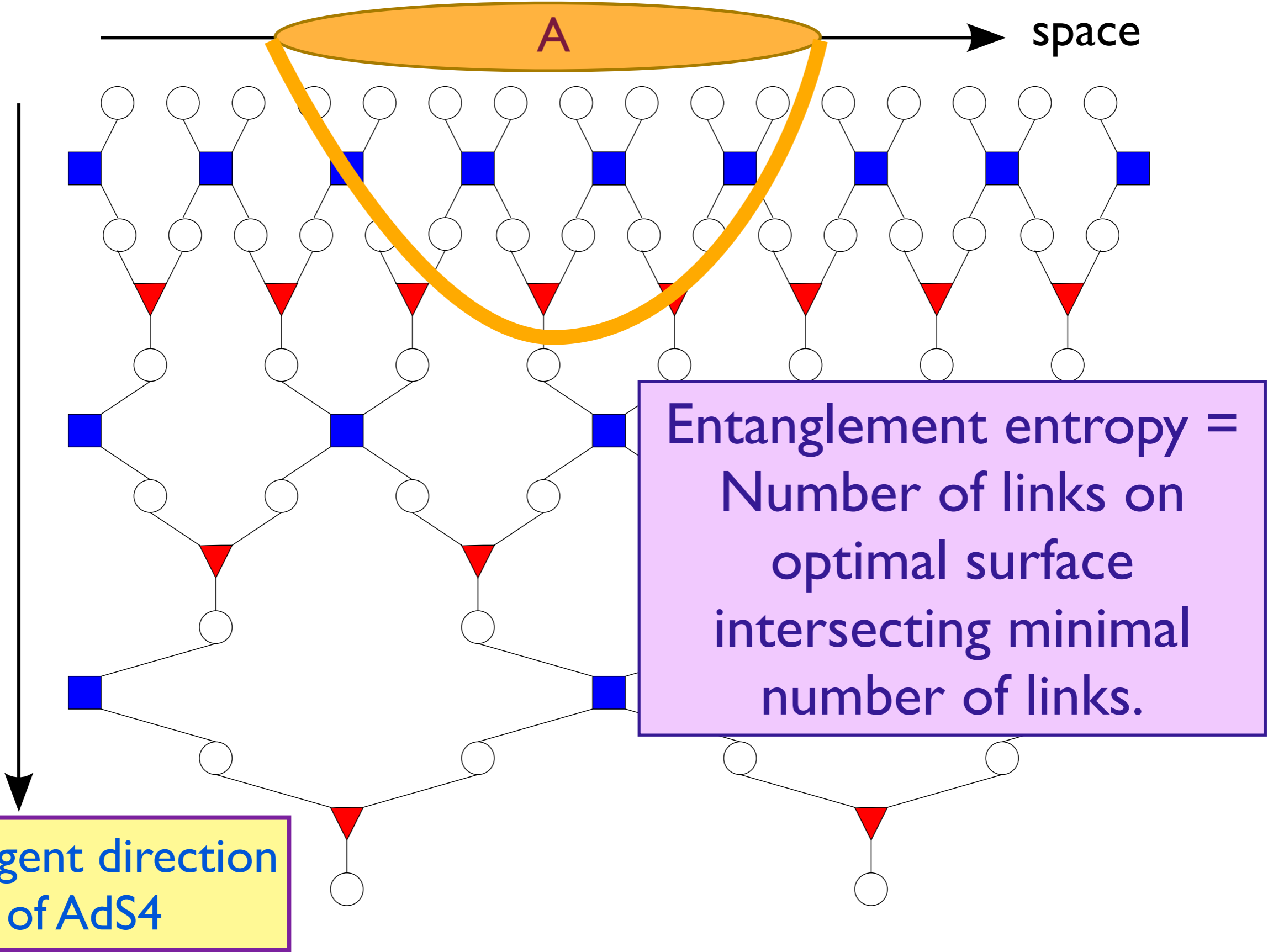


Emergent direction
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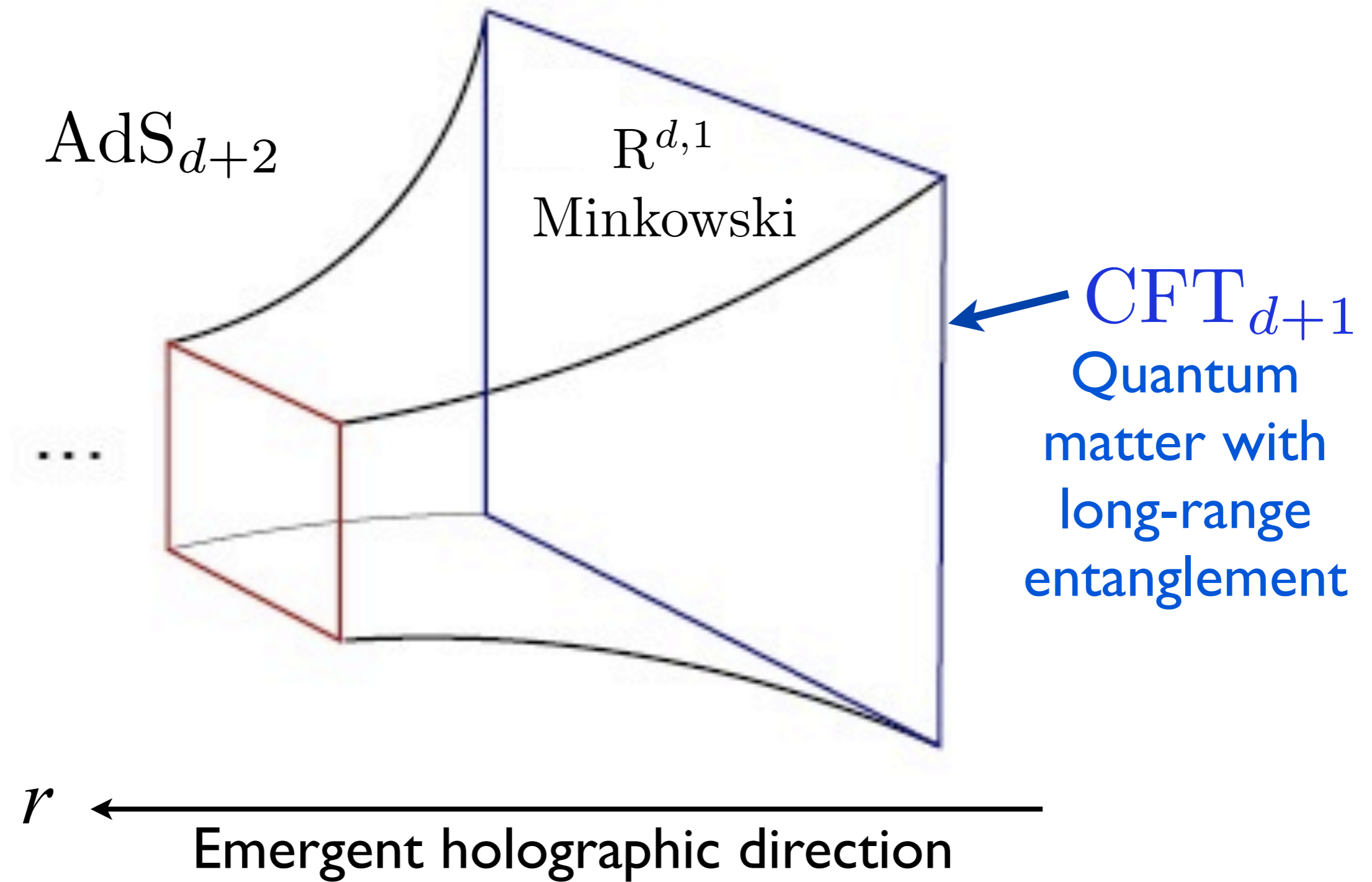
Brian Swingle, arXiv:0905.1317

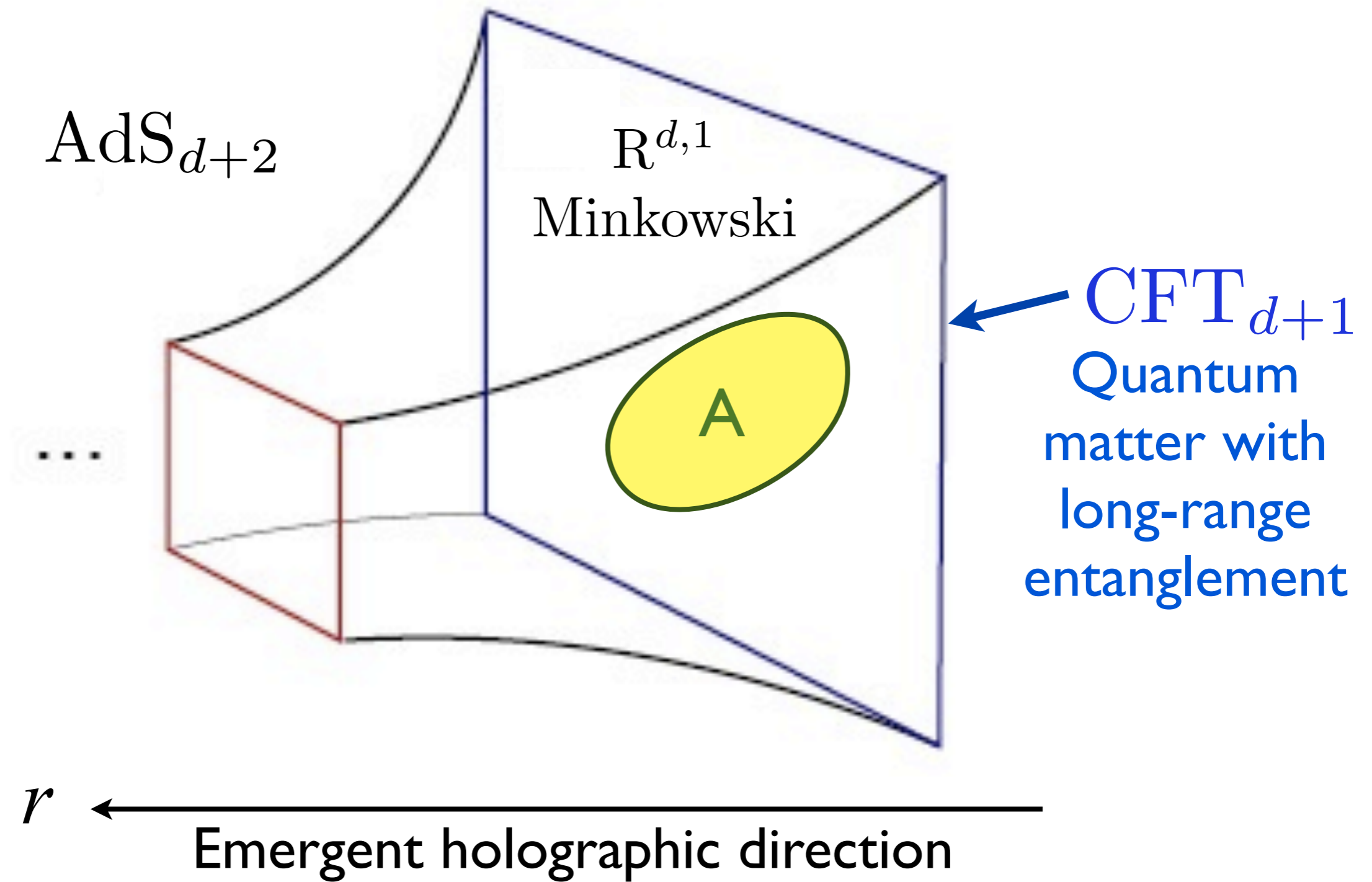
Entanglement entropy

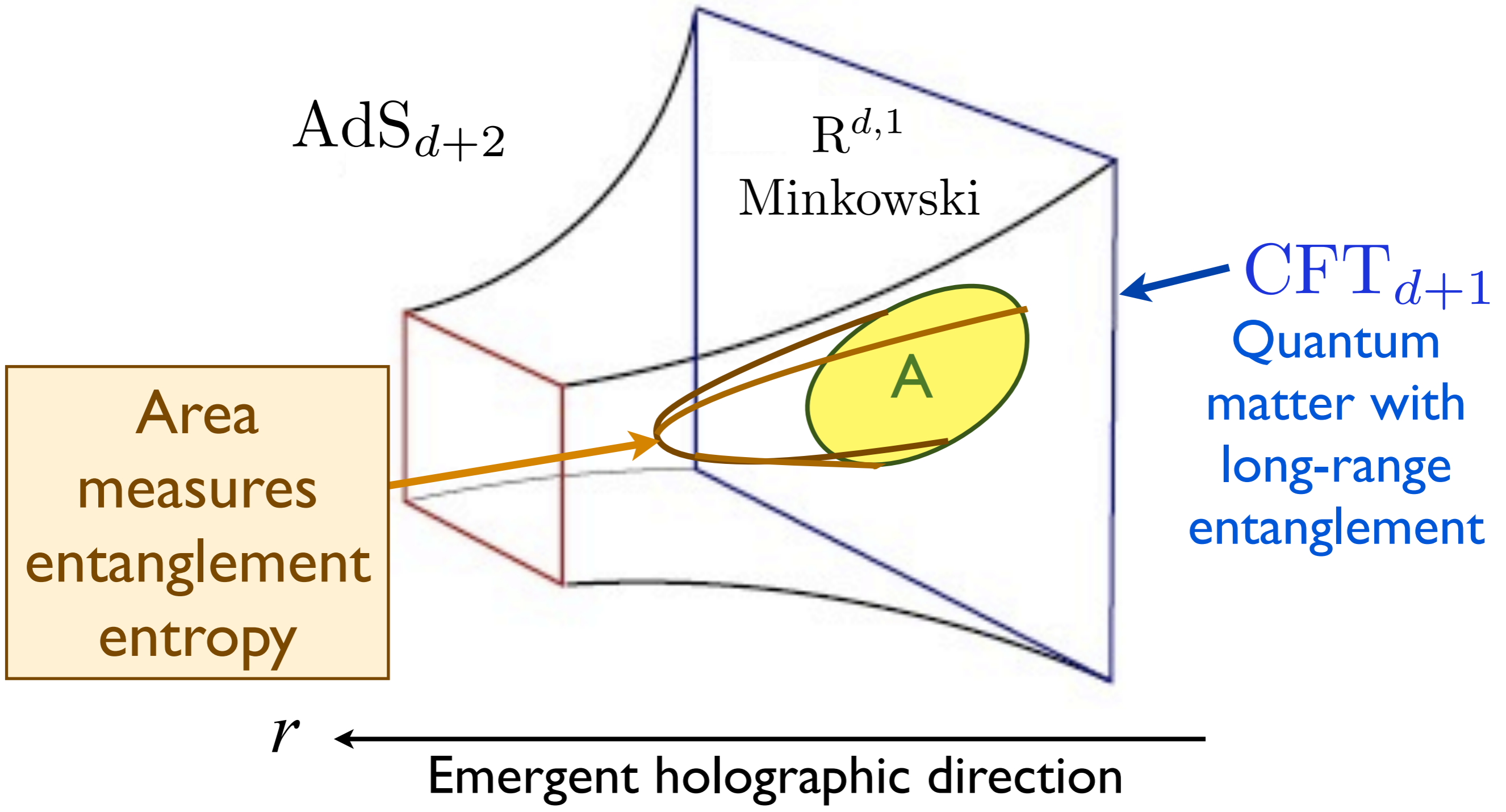
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S. Ryu and T. Takayanagi, Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 18160 (2006).

**Quantum
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String theory

**Quantum critical
points of electrons
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Black holes

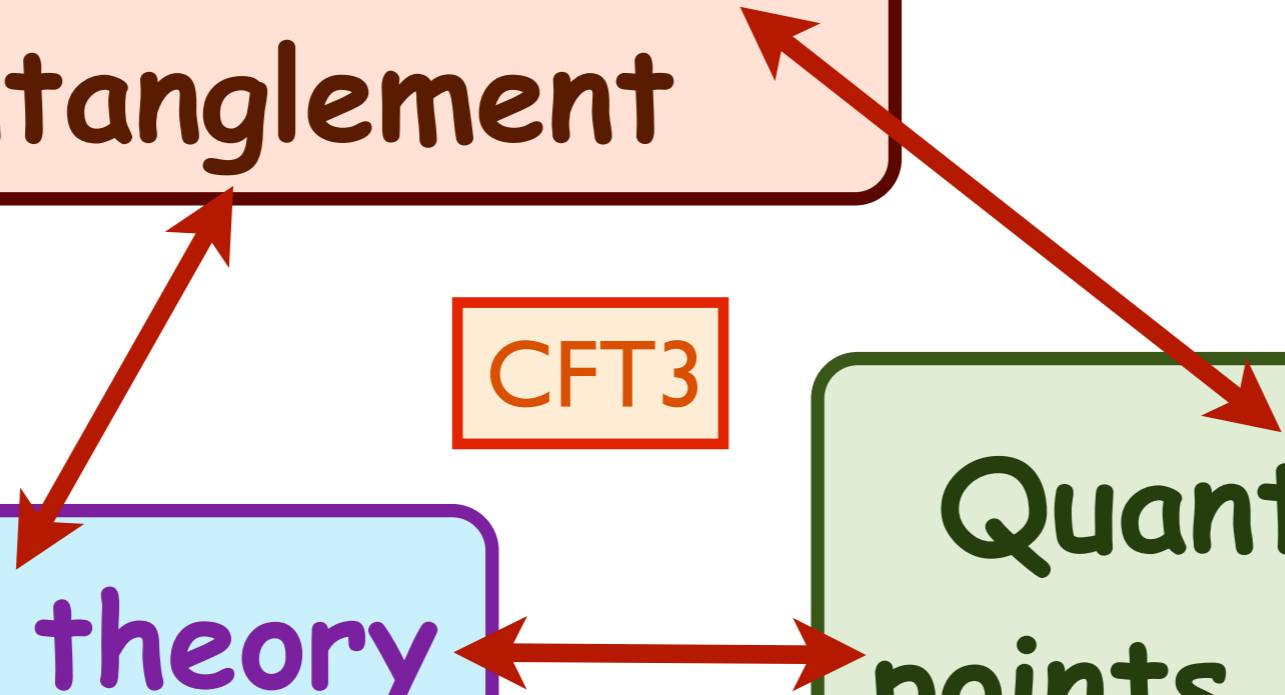
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CFT3

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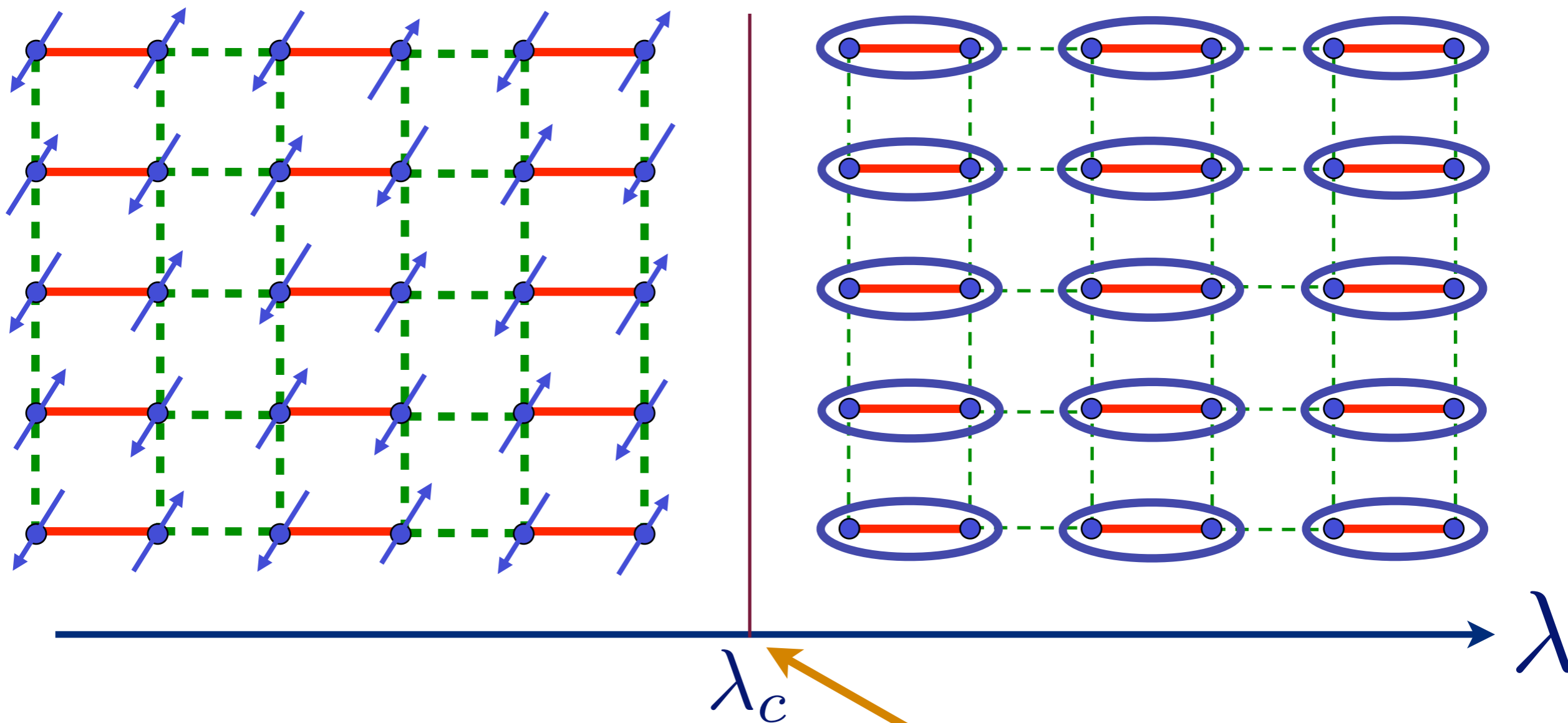
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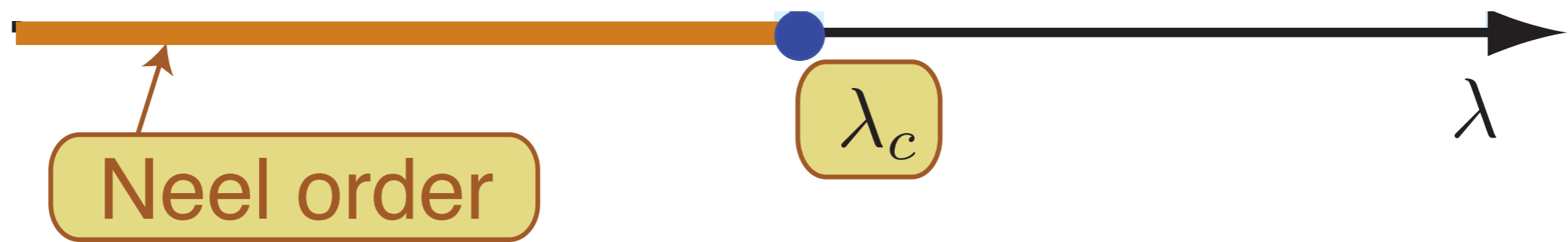
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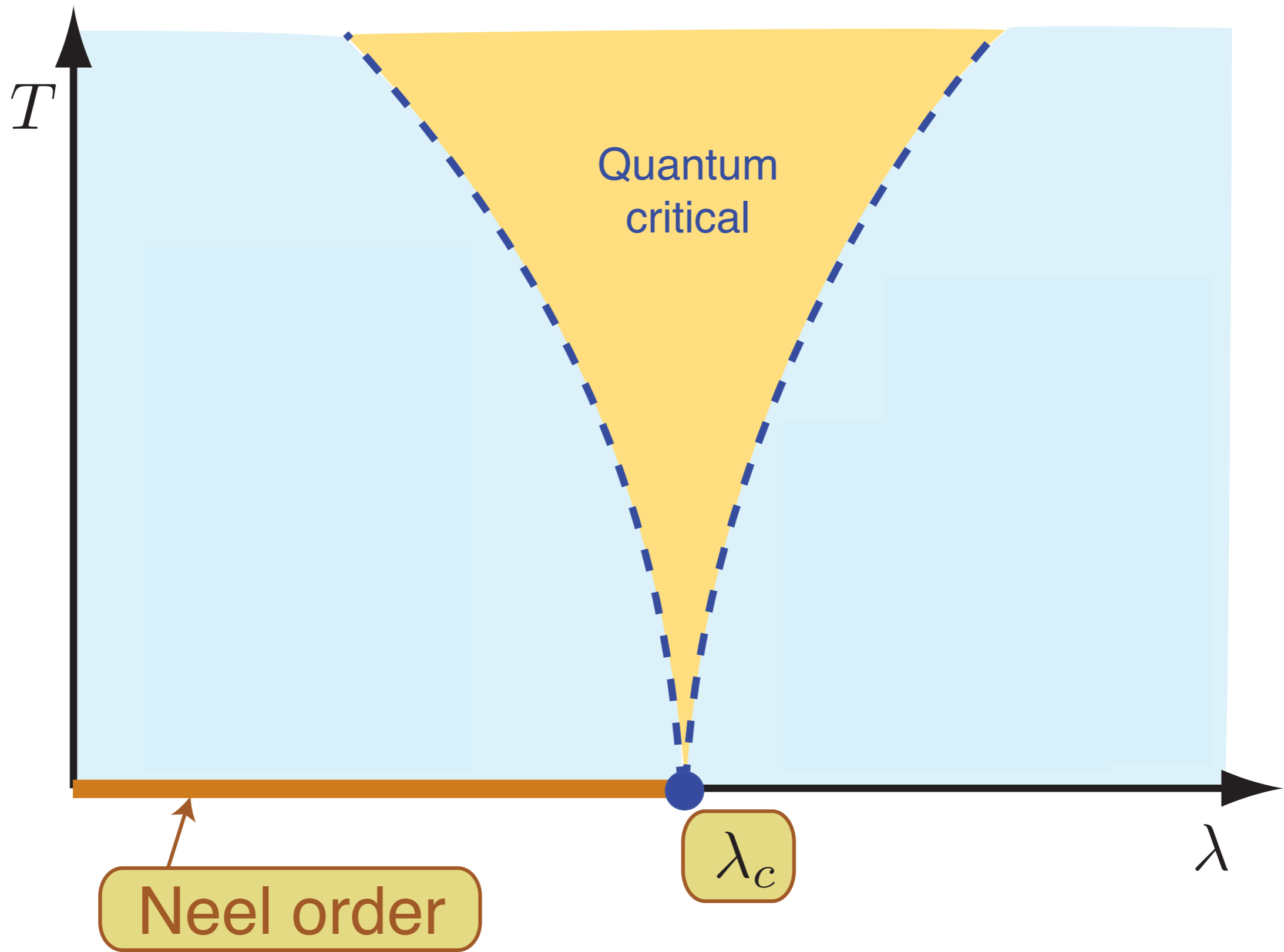
Black holes

$$\text{[Diagram of two blue dots connected by a red line, enclosed in a blue oval]} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(|\uparrow\downarrow\rangle - |\downarrow\uparrow\rangle \right)$$

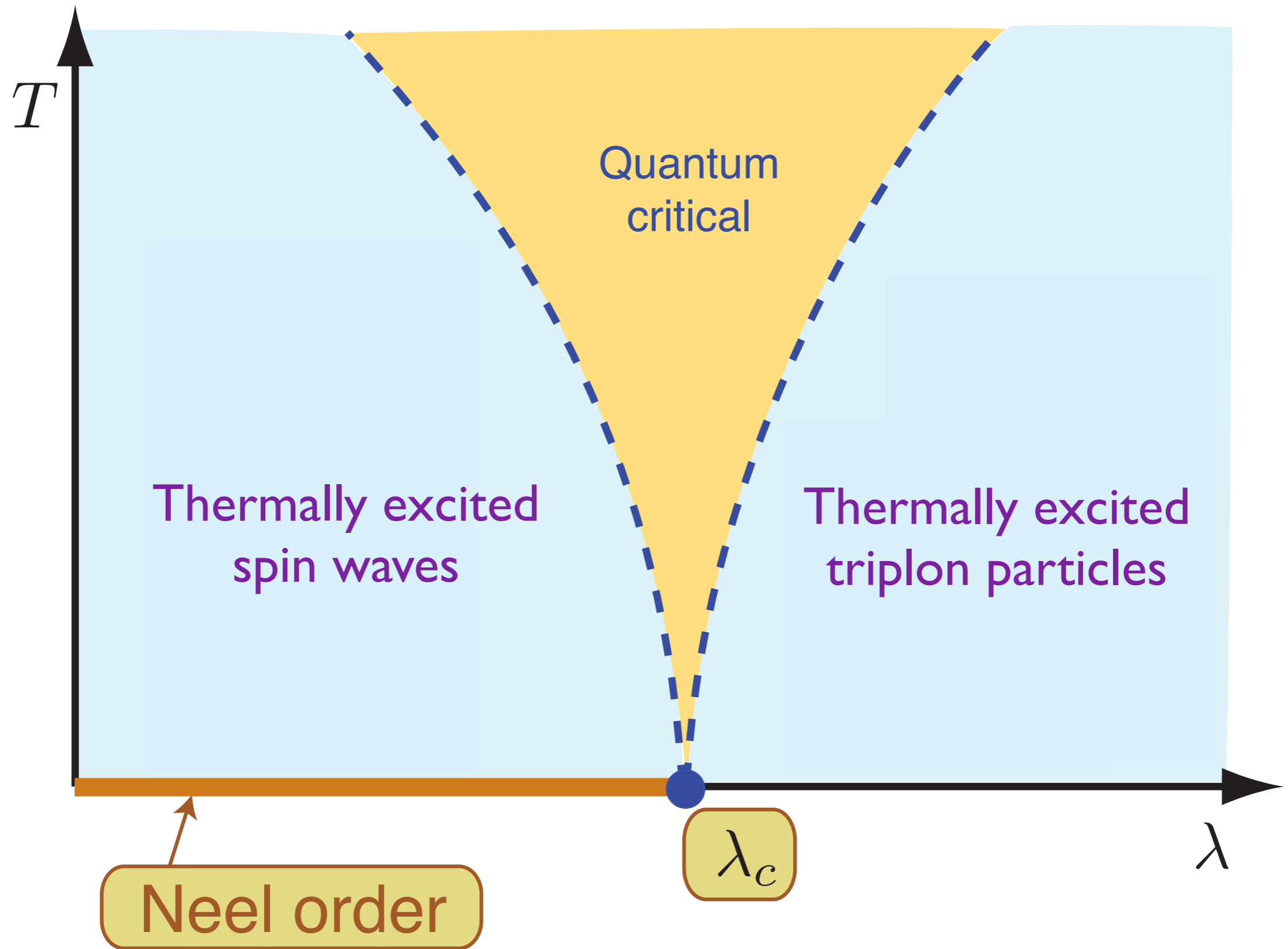


Quantum critical point with non-local entanglement in spin wavefunction

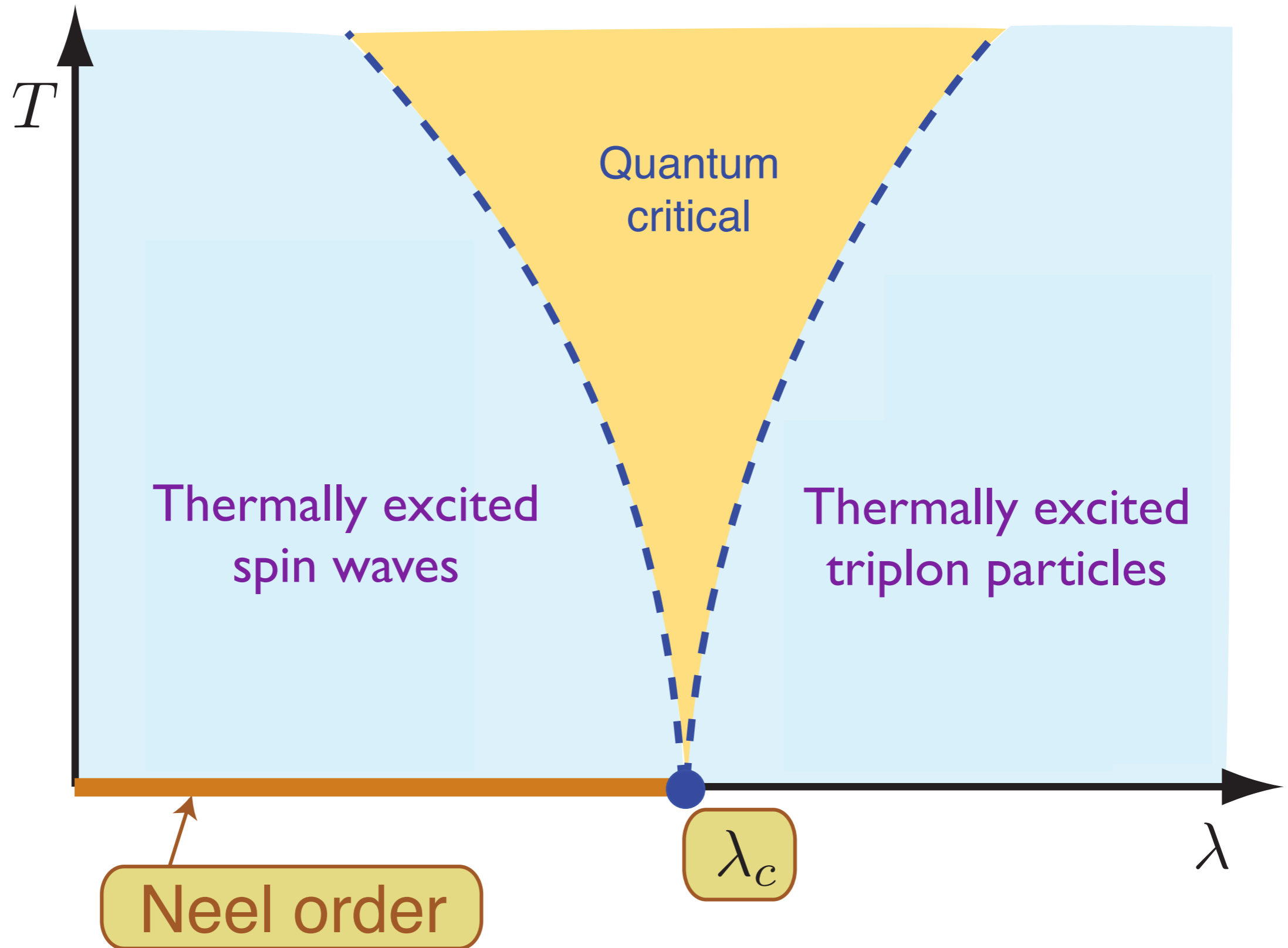




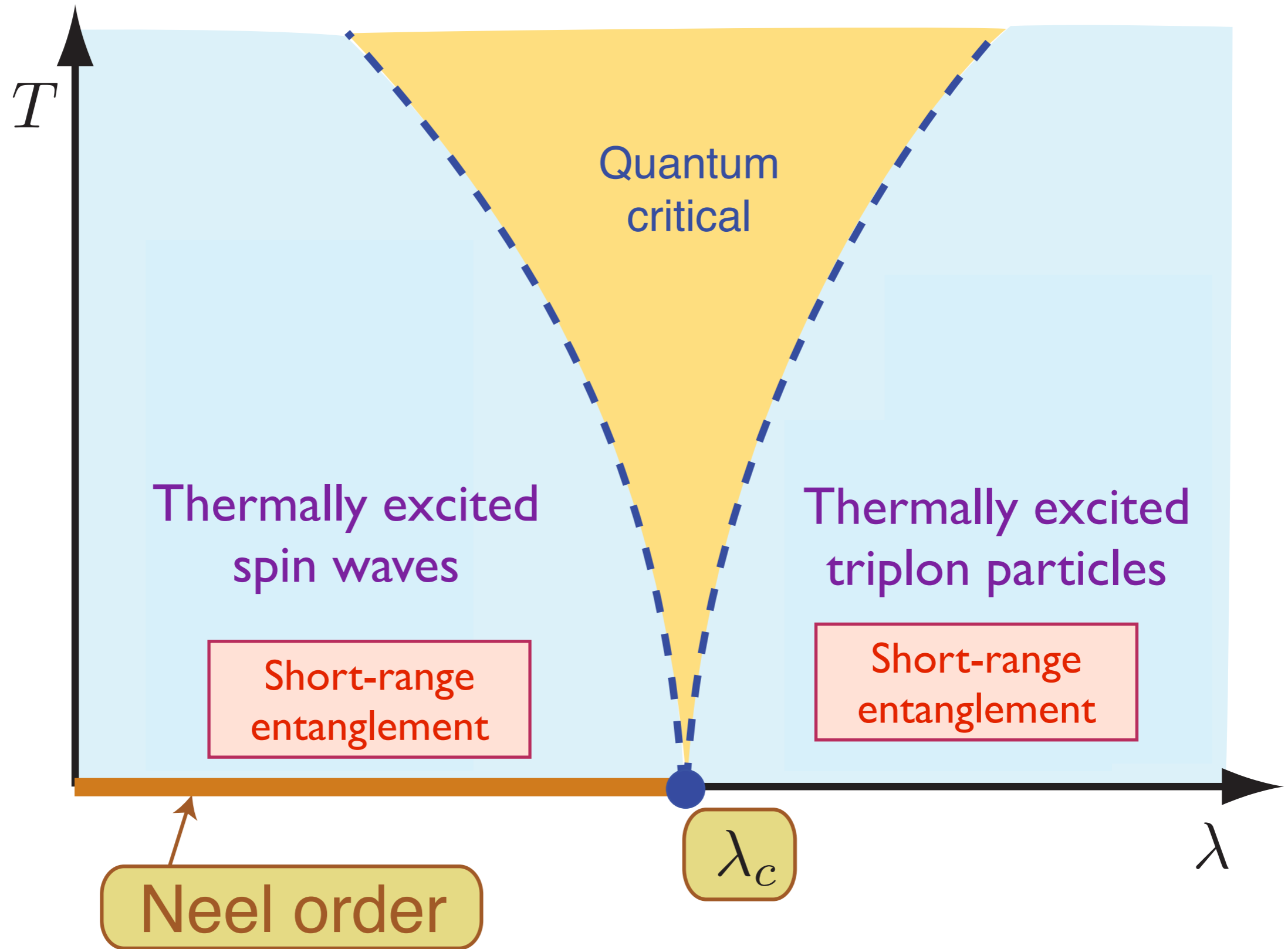
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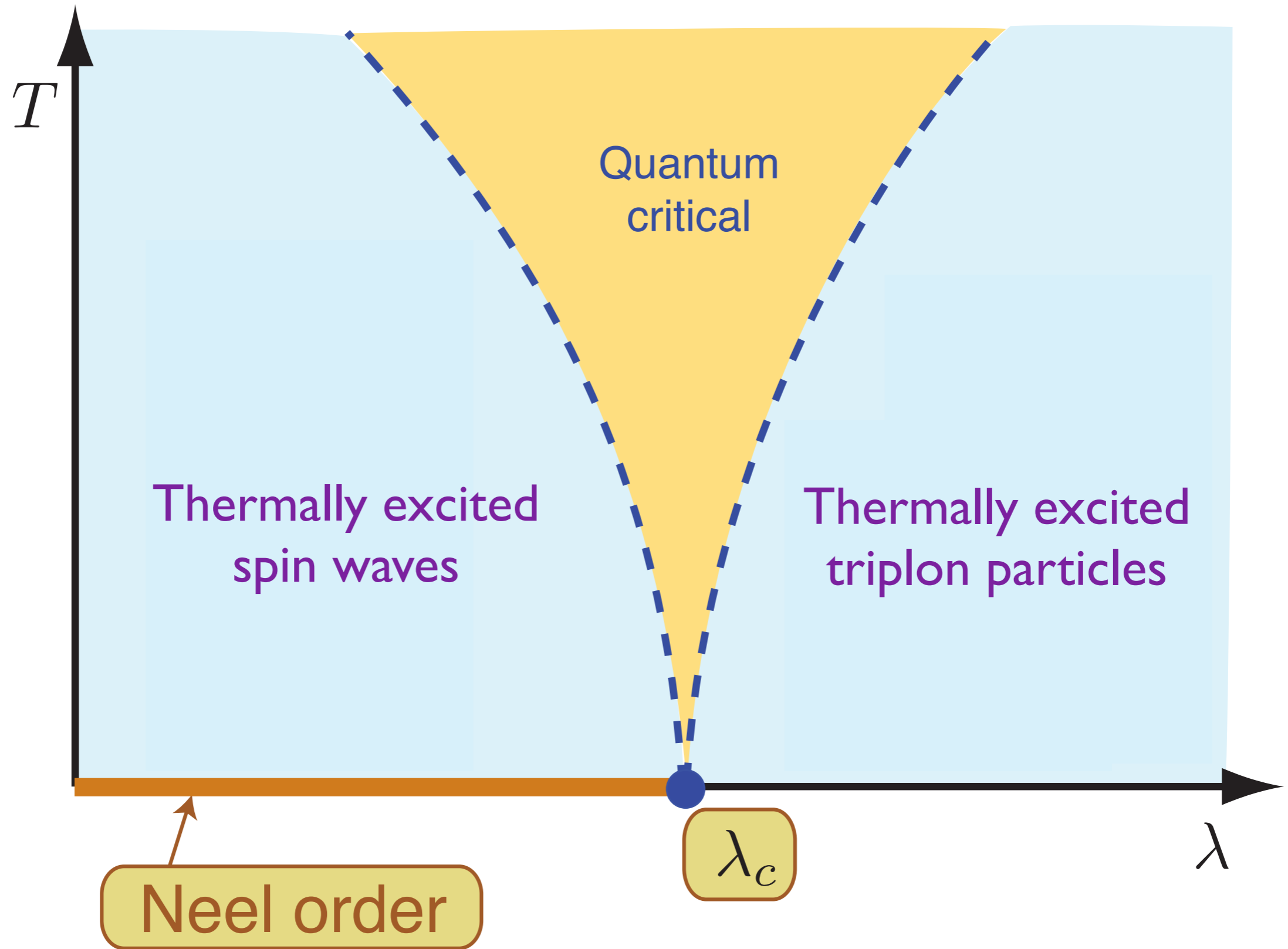
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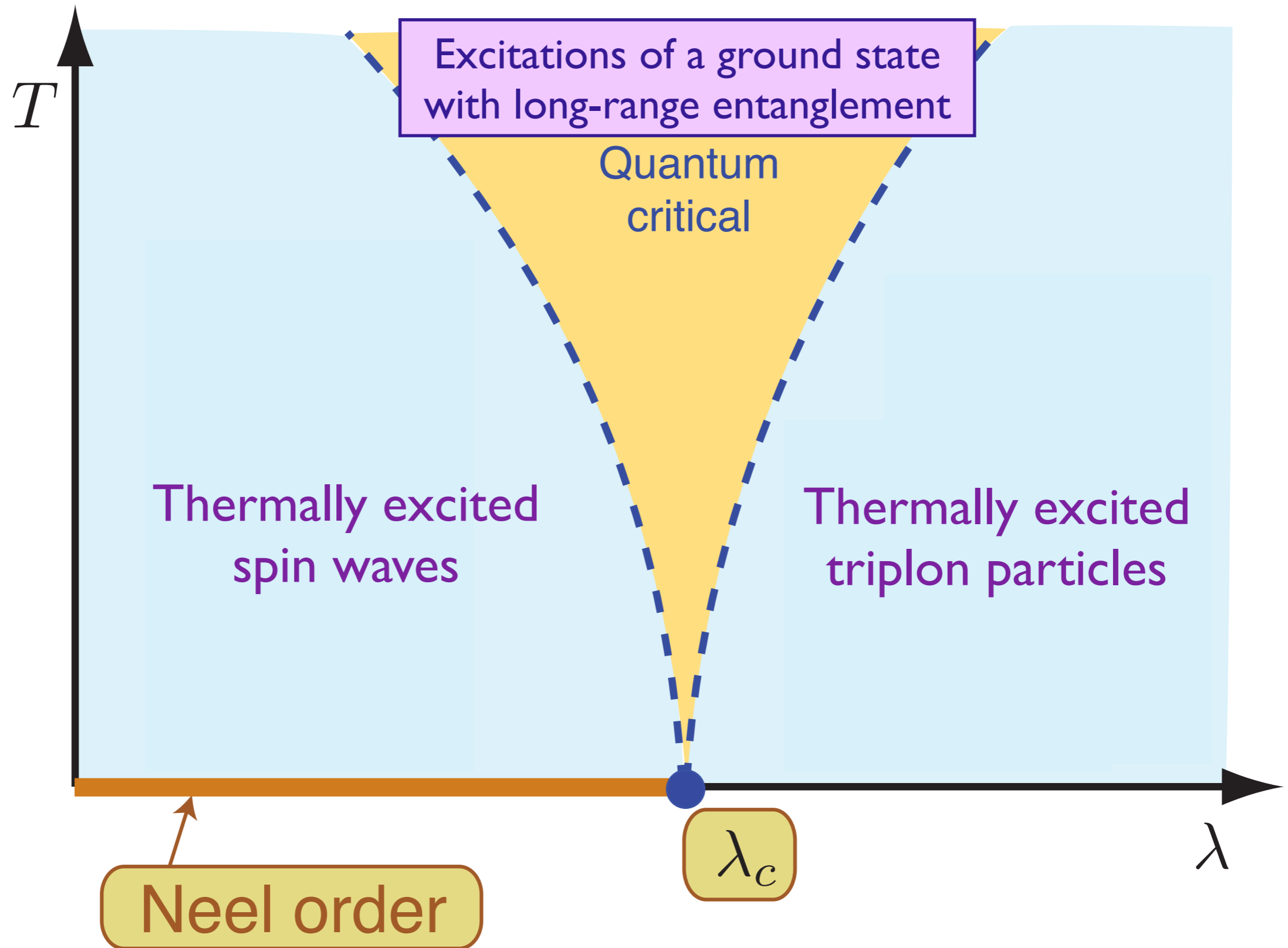
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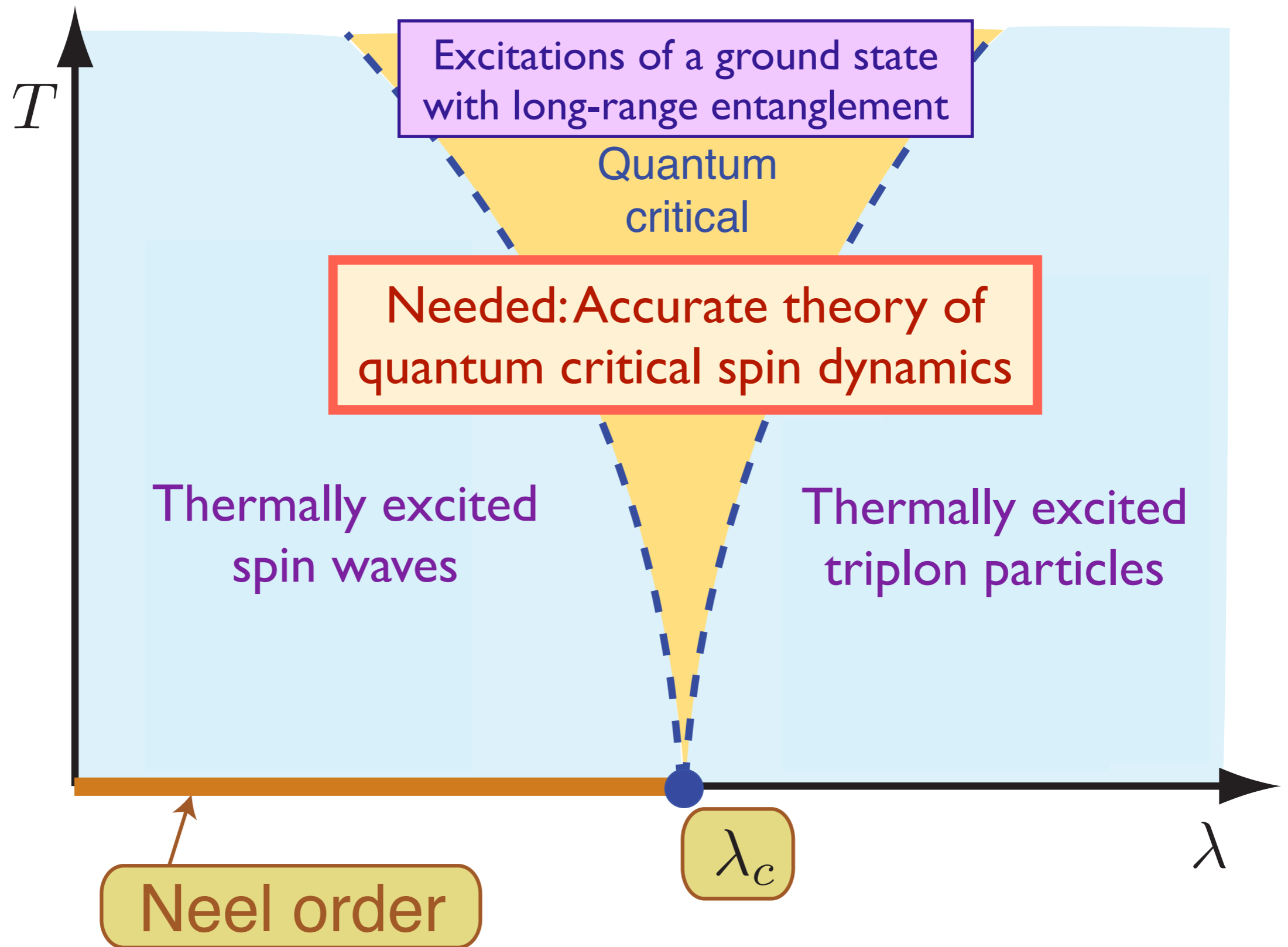


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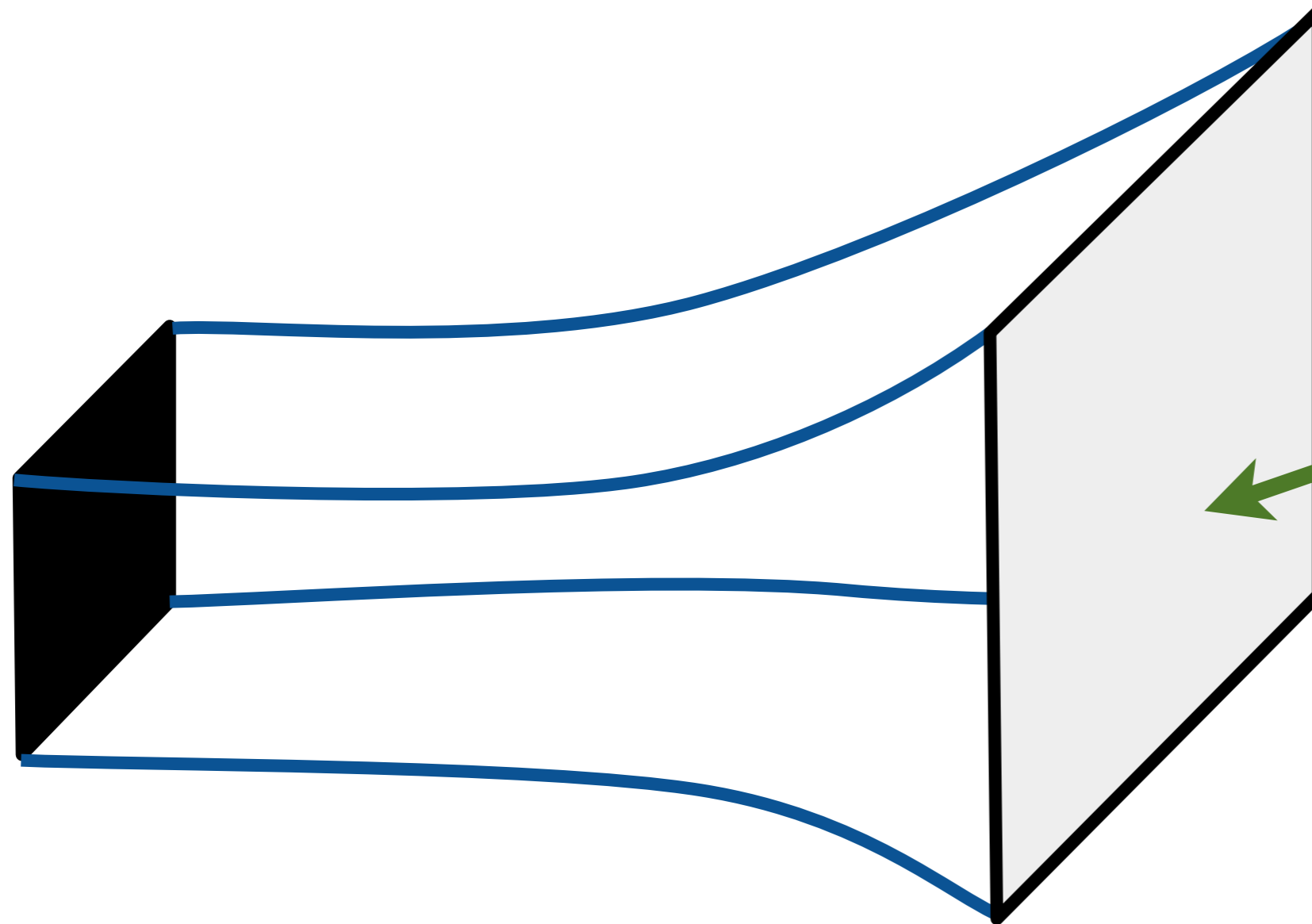


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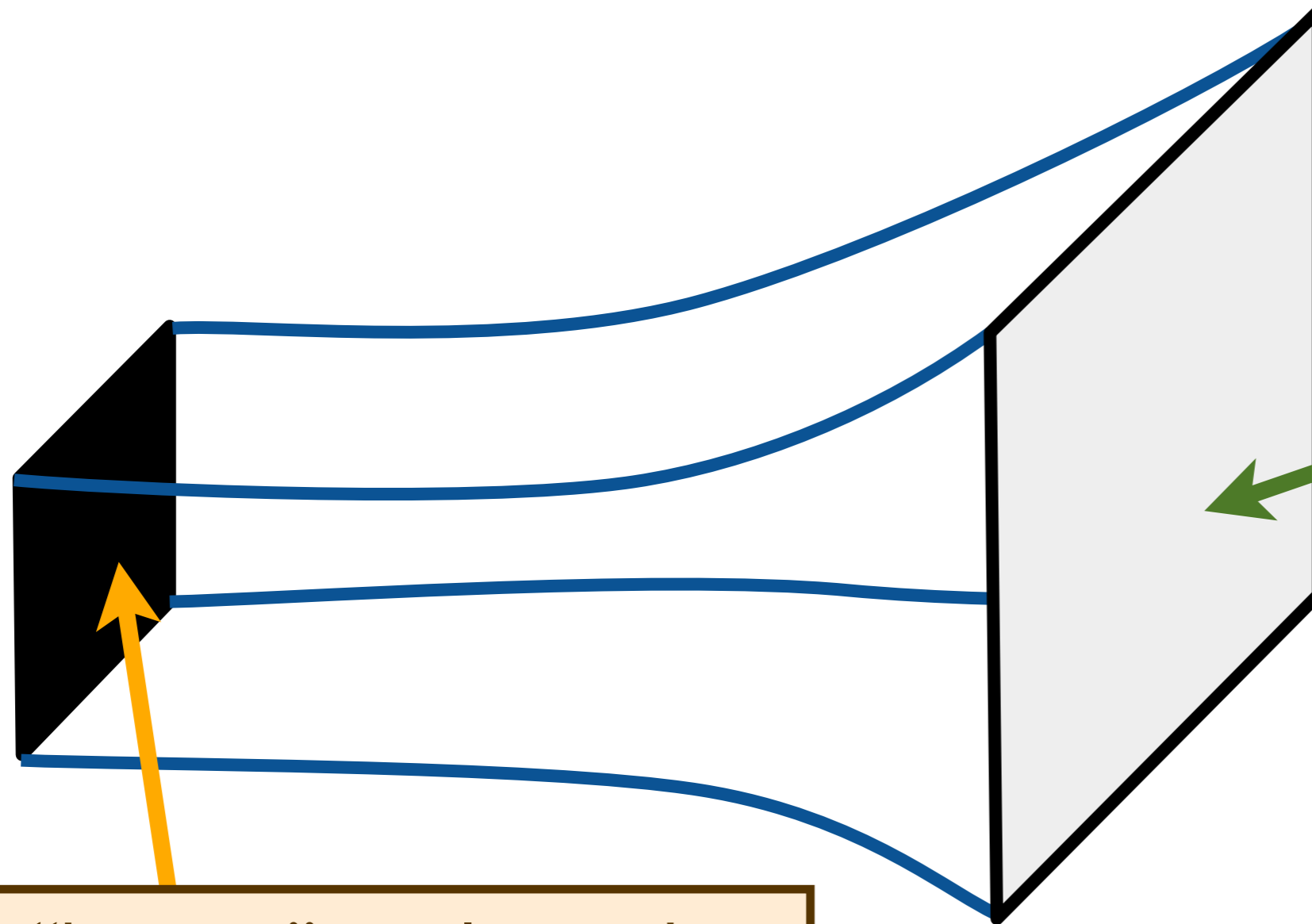


String theory at non-zero temperatures



A 2+1 dimensional system at its quantum critical point

String theory at non-zero temperatures

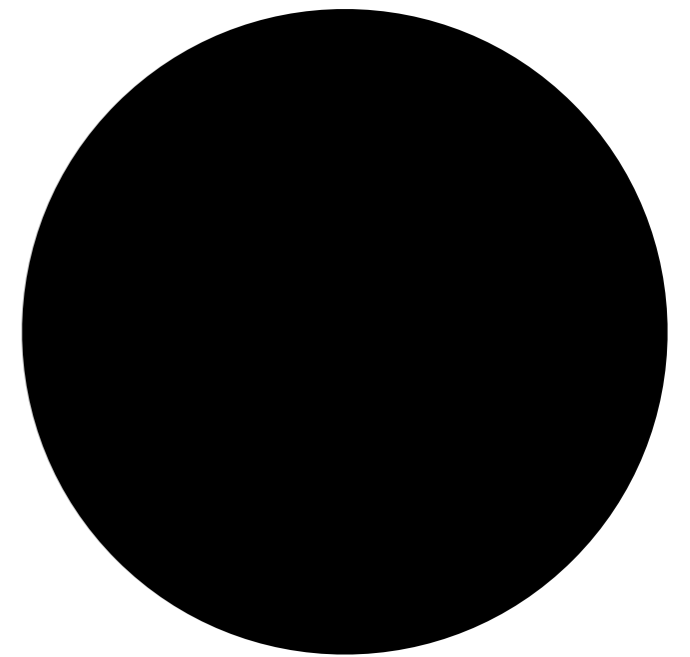


A “horizon”, similar to the surface of a black hole !

A 2+1 dimensional system at its quantum critical point

Black Holes

Objects so massive that light is gravitationally bound to them.

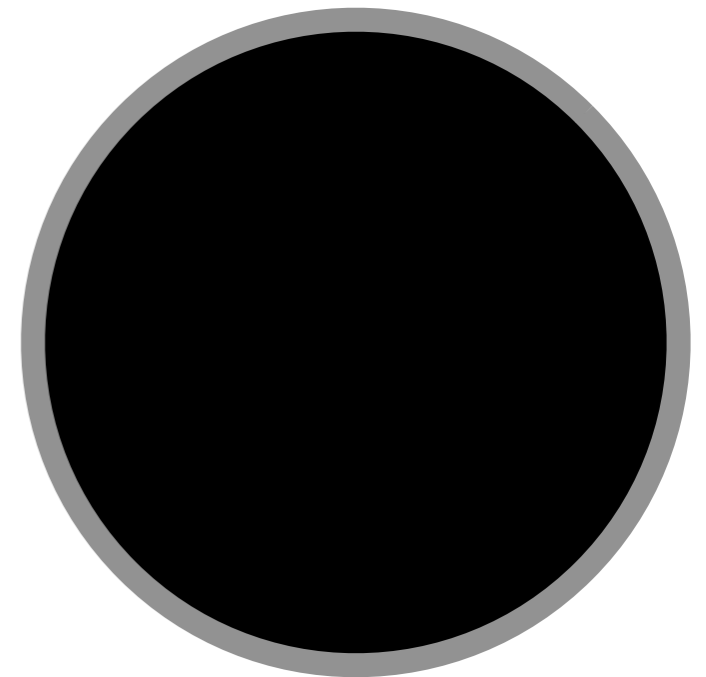


Black Holes

Objects so massive that light is gravitationally bound to them.

In Einstein's theory, the region inside the black hole **horizon** is disconnected from the rest of the universe.

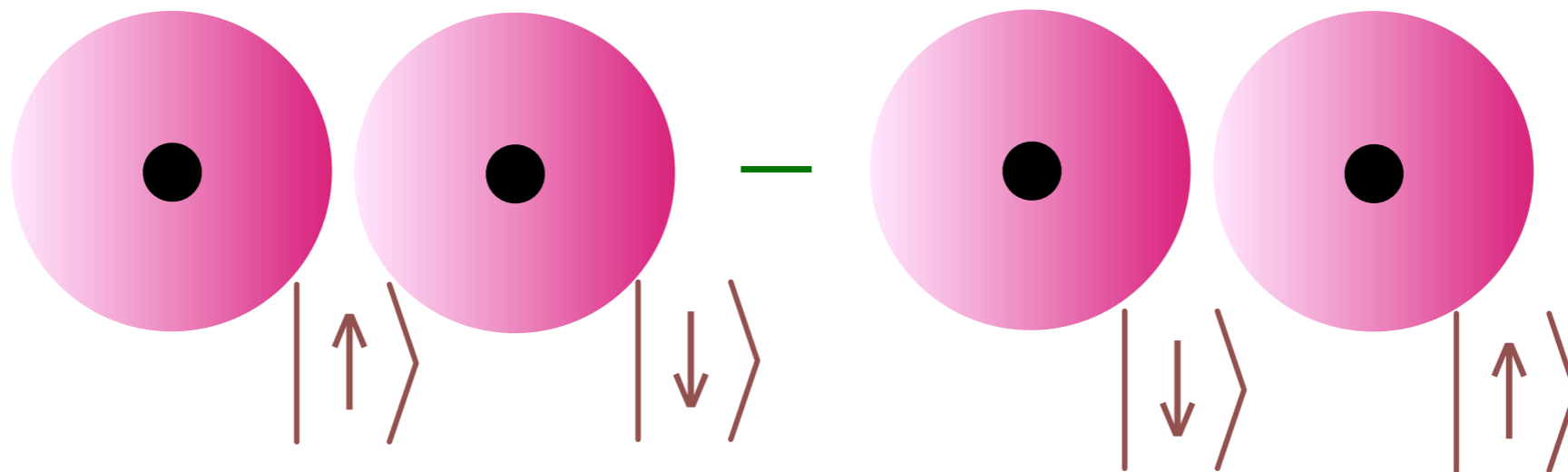
$$\text{Horizon radius } R = \frac{2GM}{c^2}$$



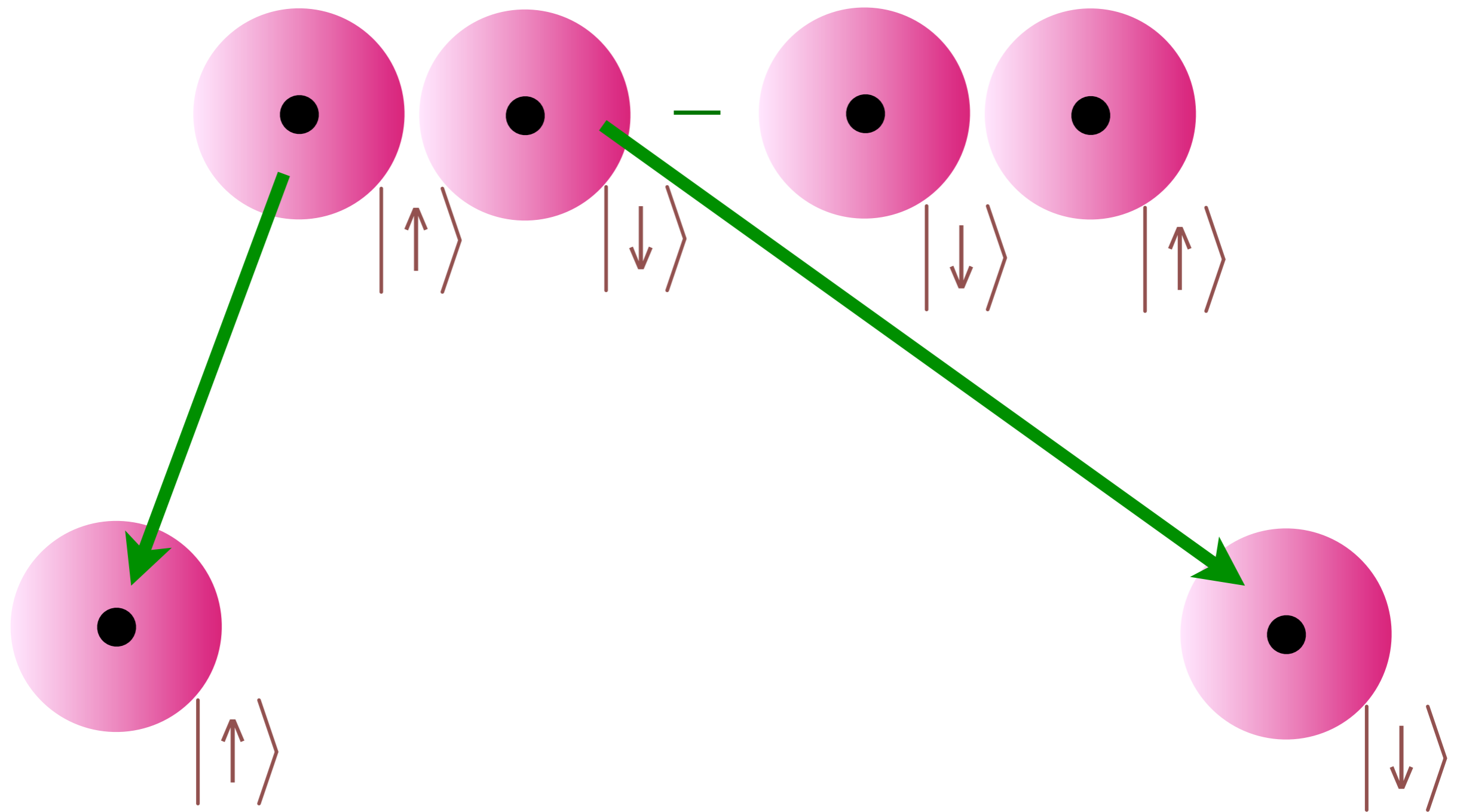
Black Holes + Quantum theory

Around 1974, Bekenstein and Hawking showed that the application of the quantum theory across a black hole horizon led to many astonishing conclusions

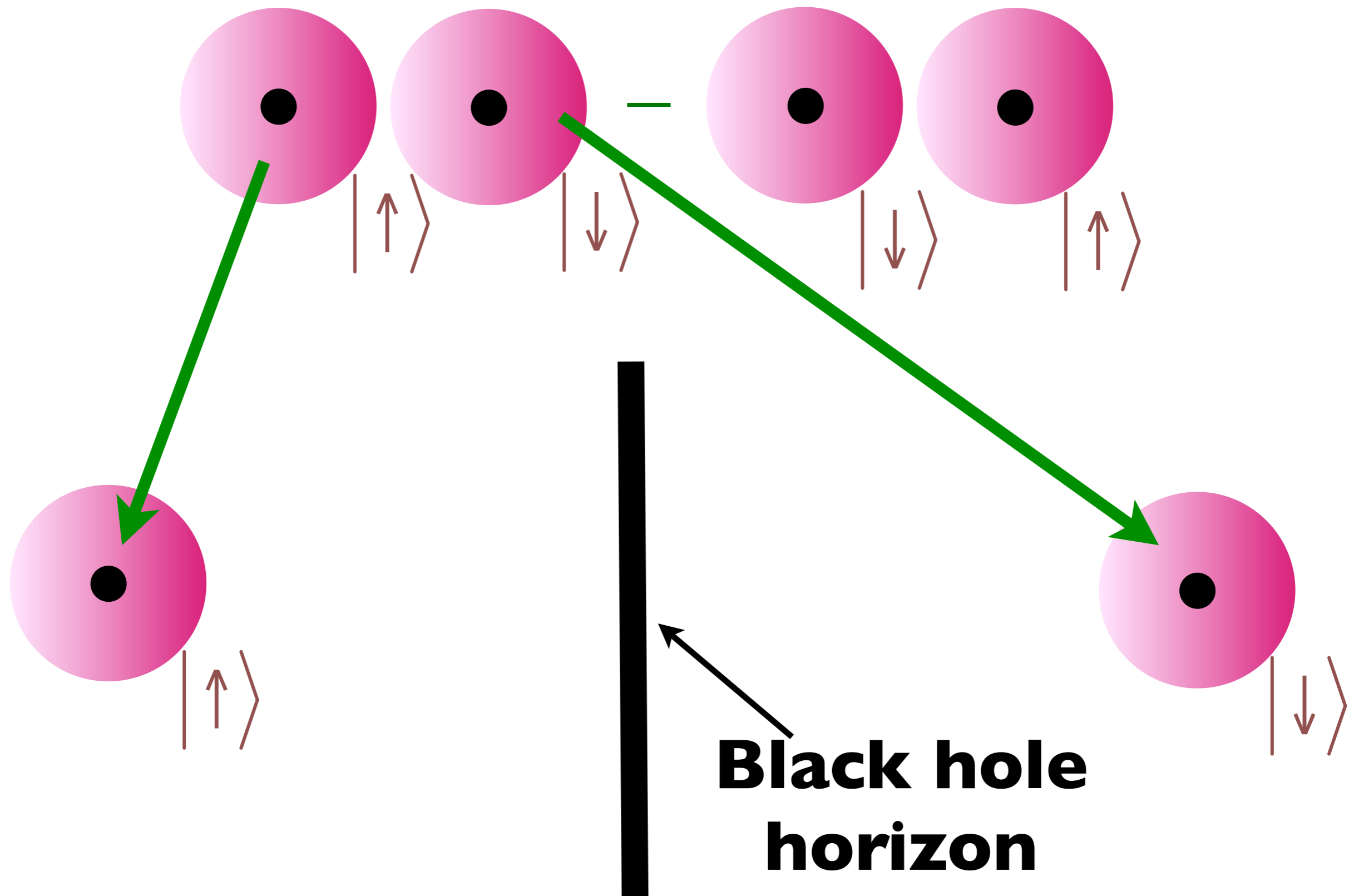
Quantum Entanglement across a black hole horizon



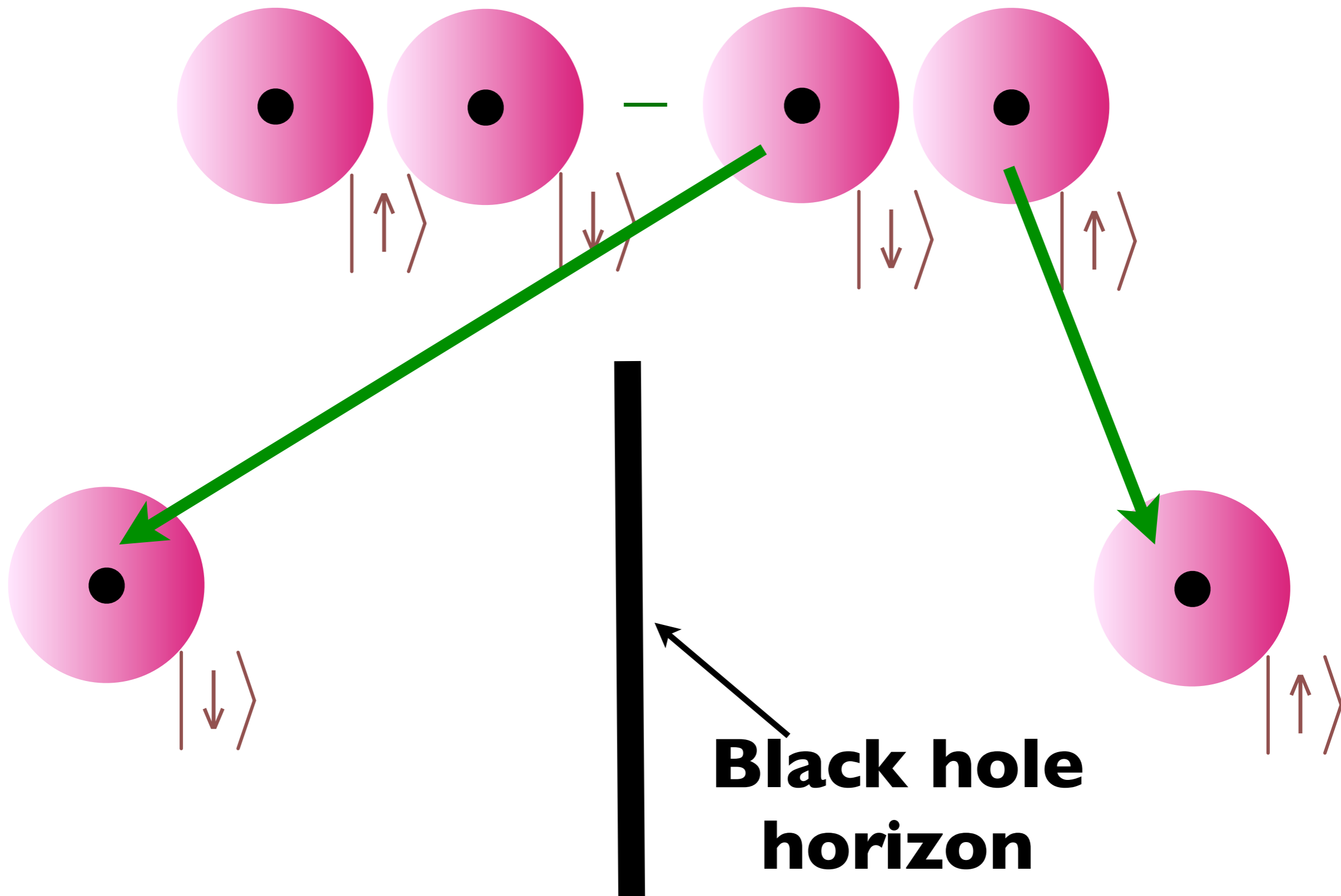
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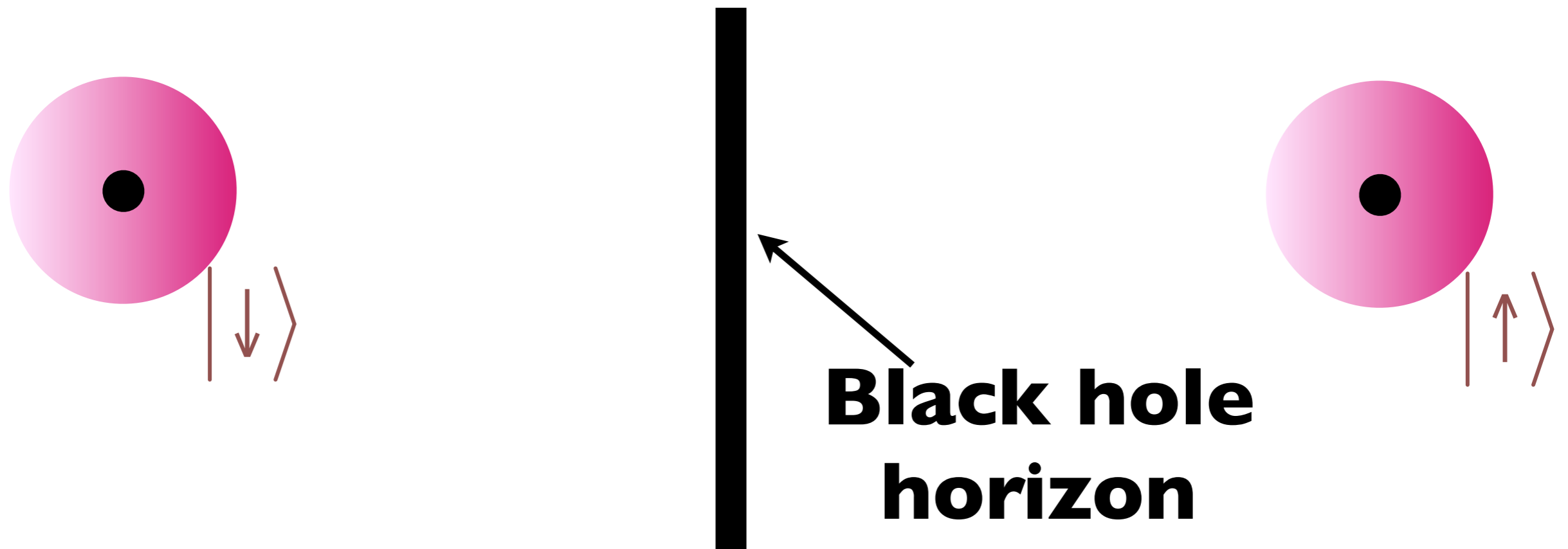


Quantum Entanglement across a black hole horizon



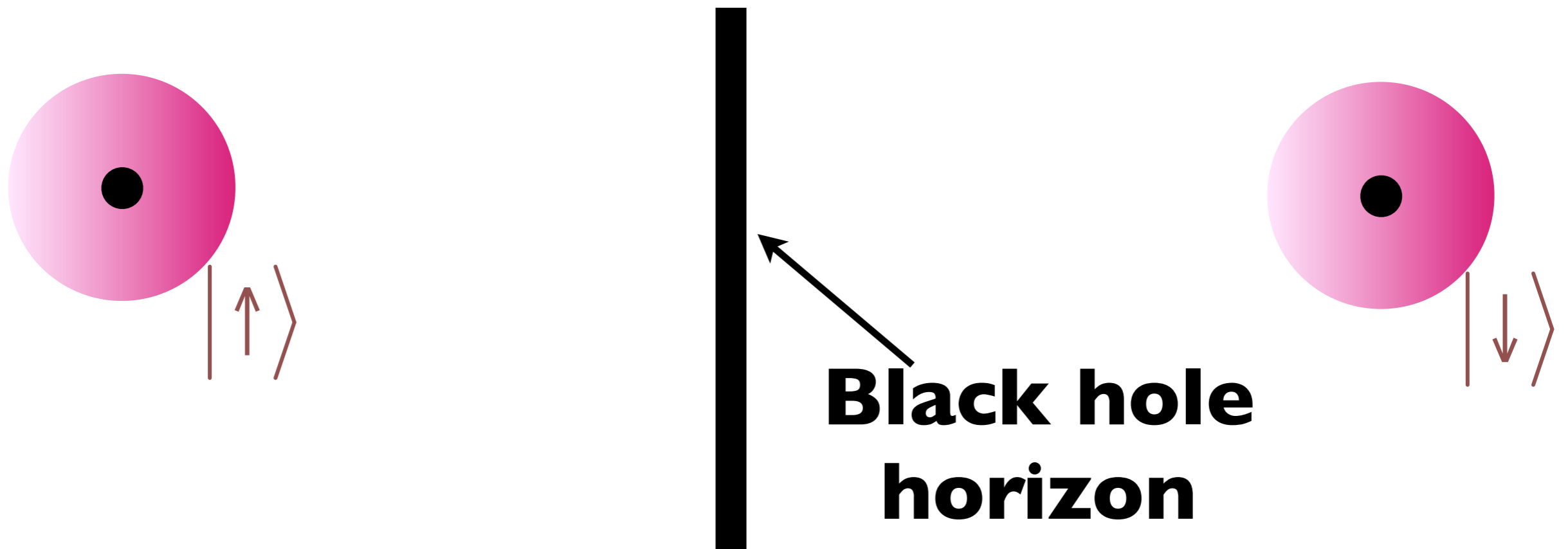
Quantum Entanglement across a black hole horizon

There is a non-local quantum entanglement between the inside and outside of a black hole



Quantum Entanglement across a black hole horizon

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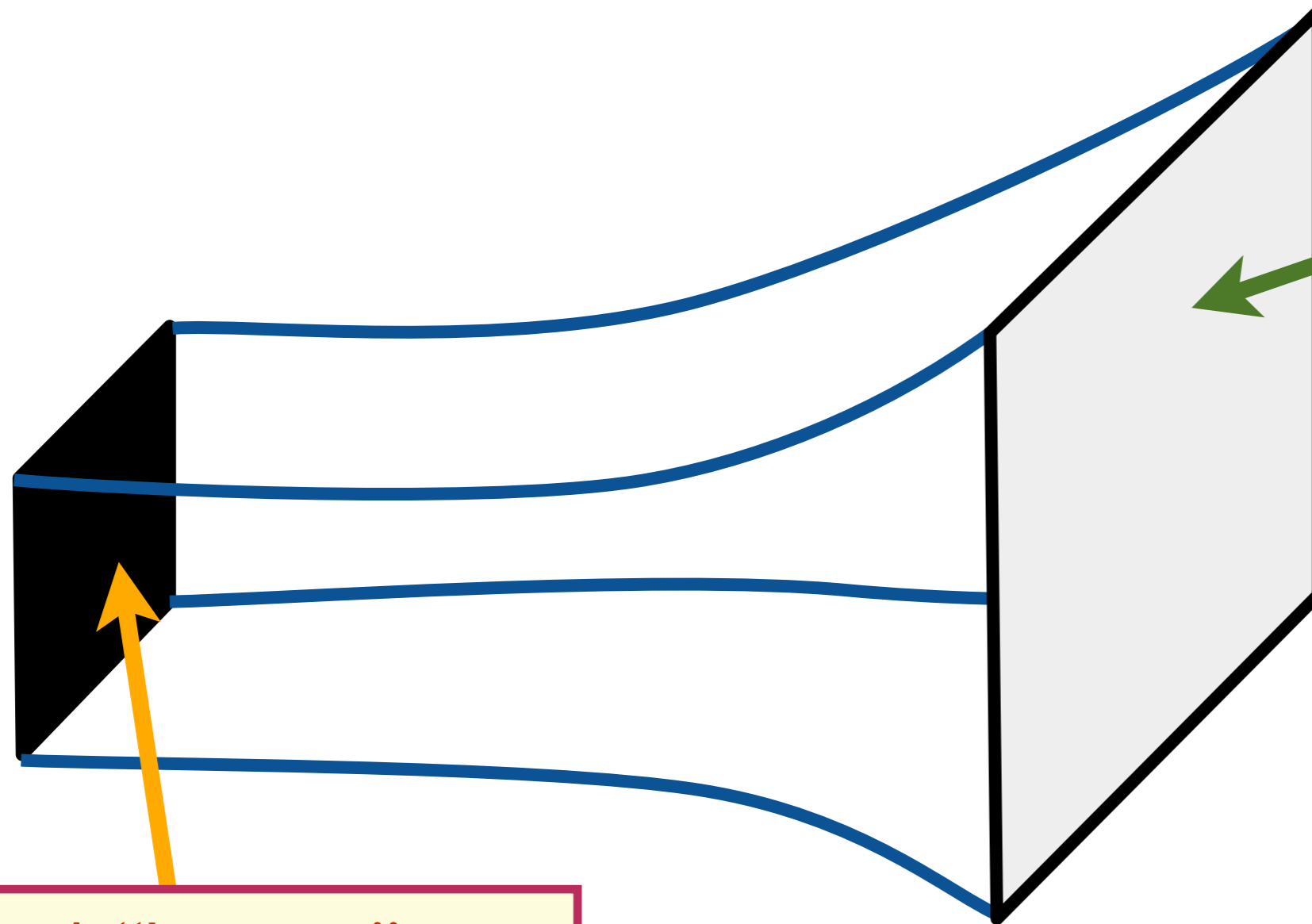


Quantum Entanglement across a black hole horizon

There is a non-local quantum entanglement between the inside and outside of a black hole

This entanglement leads to a black hole temperature (the Hawking temperature) and a black hole entropy (the Bekenstein entropy)

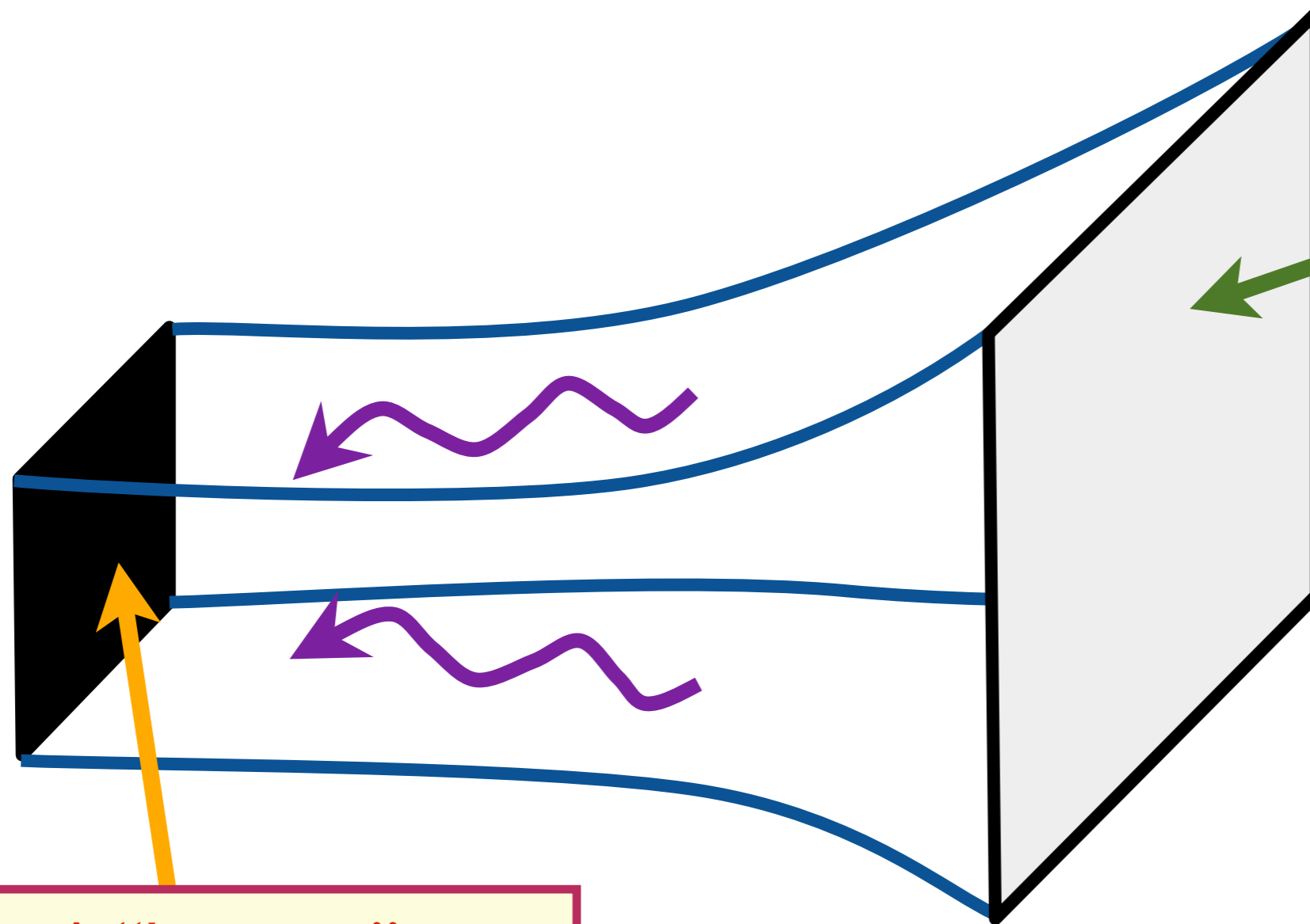
String theory at non-zero temperatures



A “horizon”,
whose temperature
and entropy equal
those of the quantum
critical point

A 2+1
dimensional
system at its
quantum
critical point

String theory at non-zero temperatures

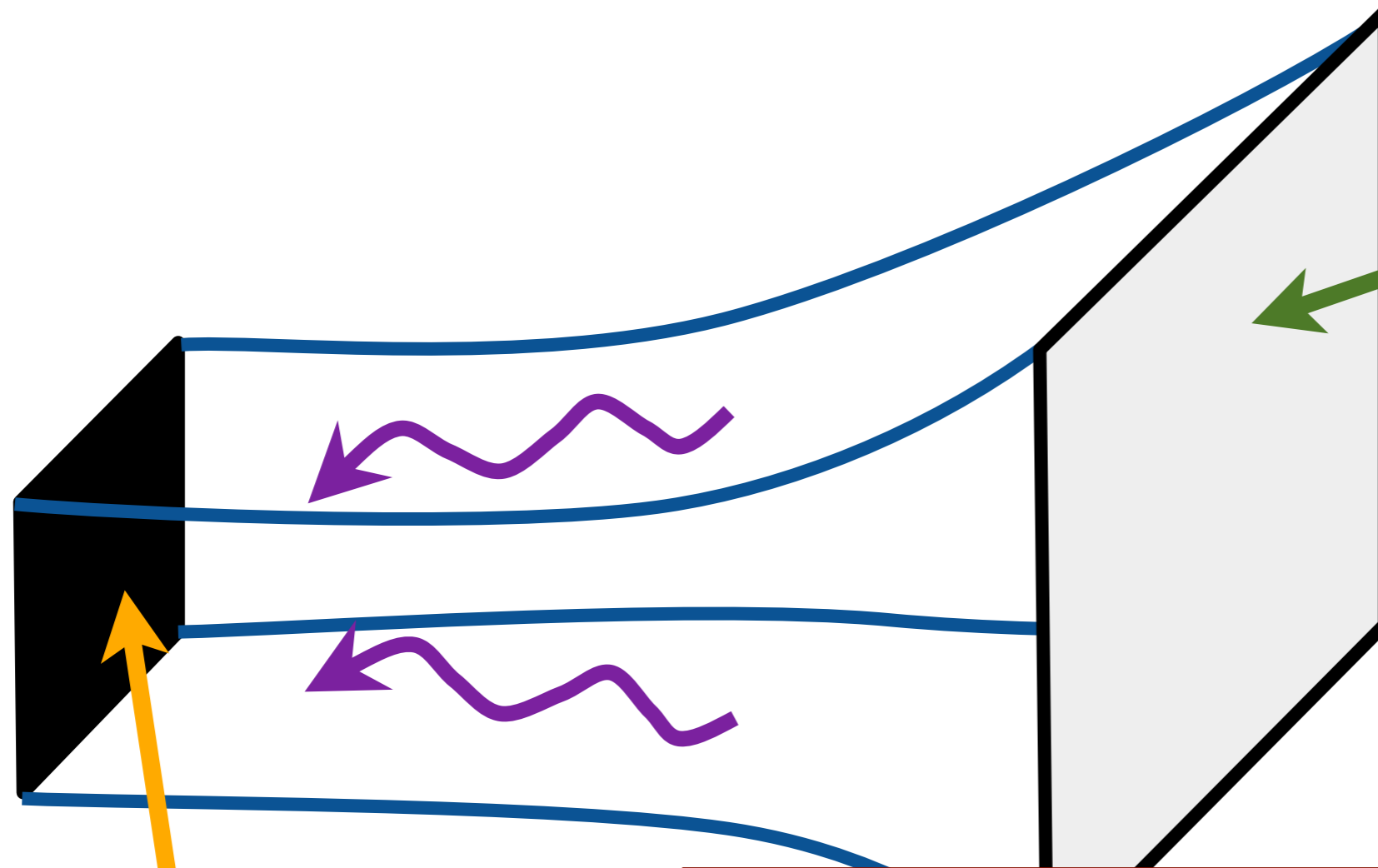


A 2+1
dimensional
system at its
quantum
critical point

A “horizon”,
whose temperature
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Friction of quantum
criticality = waves
falling into black brane

String theory at non-zero temperatures



A “horizon”, whose temperature and entropy equal those of the quantum critical point

An (extended) Einstein-Maxwell provides successful description of dynamics of quantum critical points at non-zero temperatures (where no other methods apply)

A 2+1 dimensional system at its quantum critical point

**Quantum
superposition and
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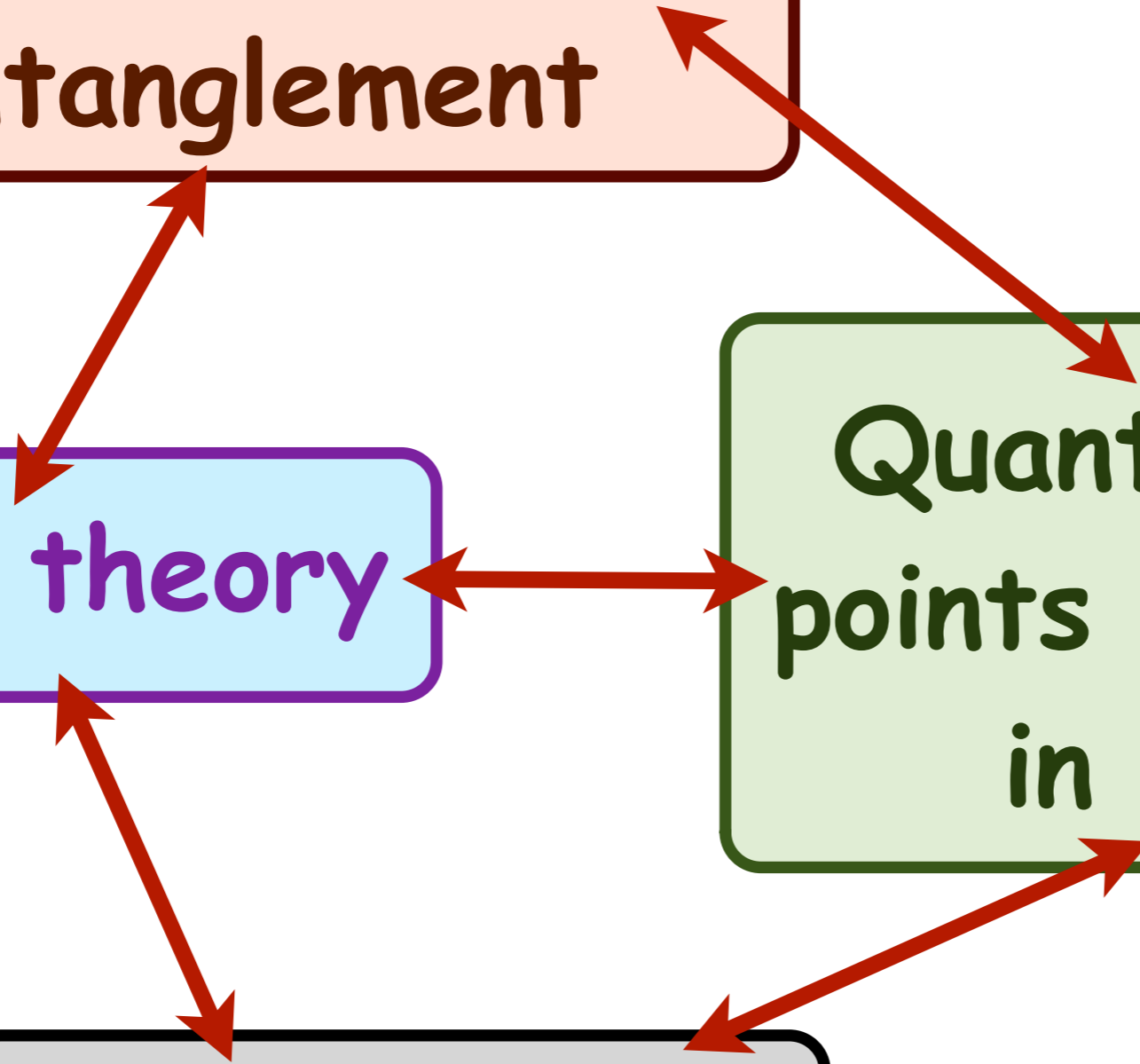
Black holes

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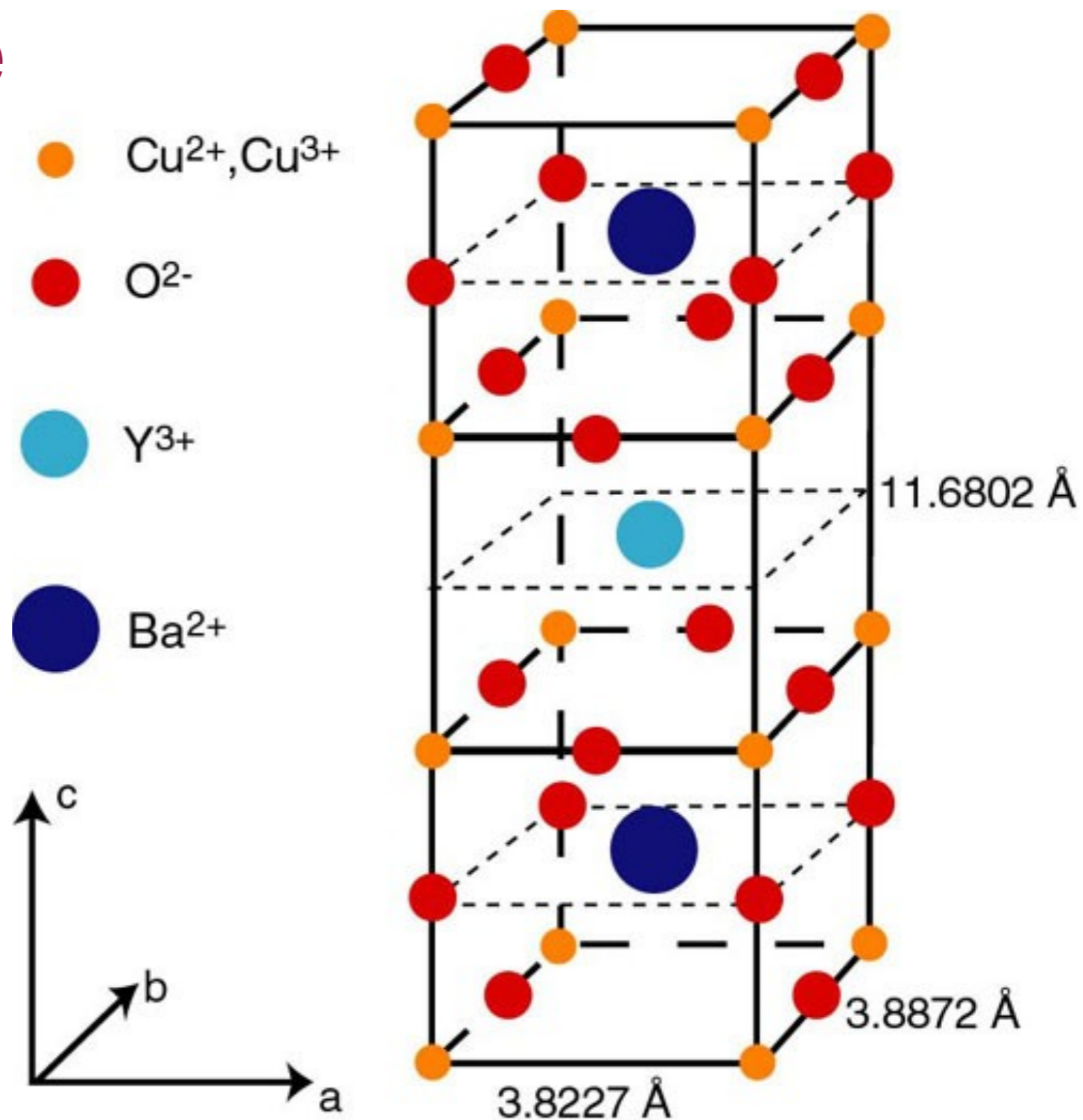
Black holes



**Metals, "strange metals", and
high temperature
superconductors**

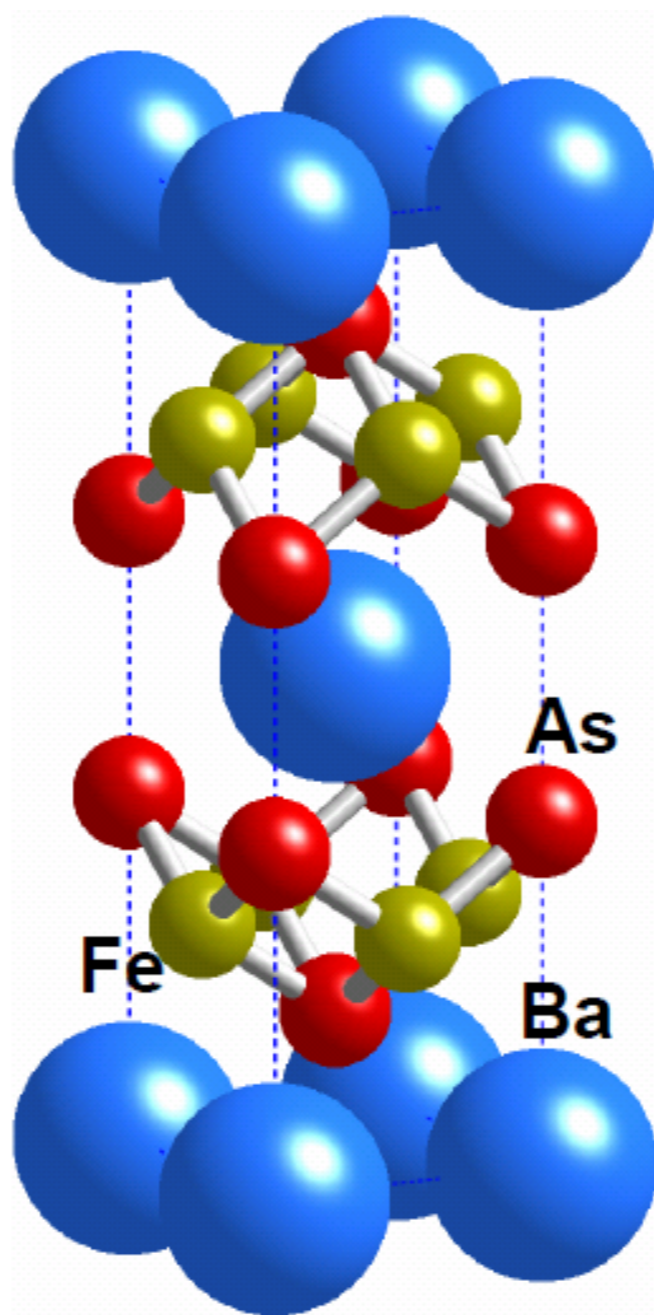
**Insights from gravitational
"duals"**

High temperature superconductors

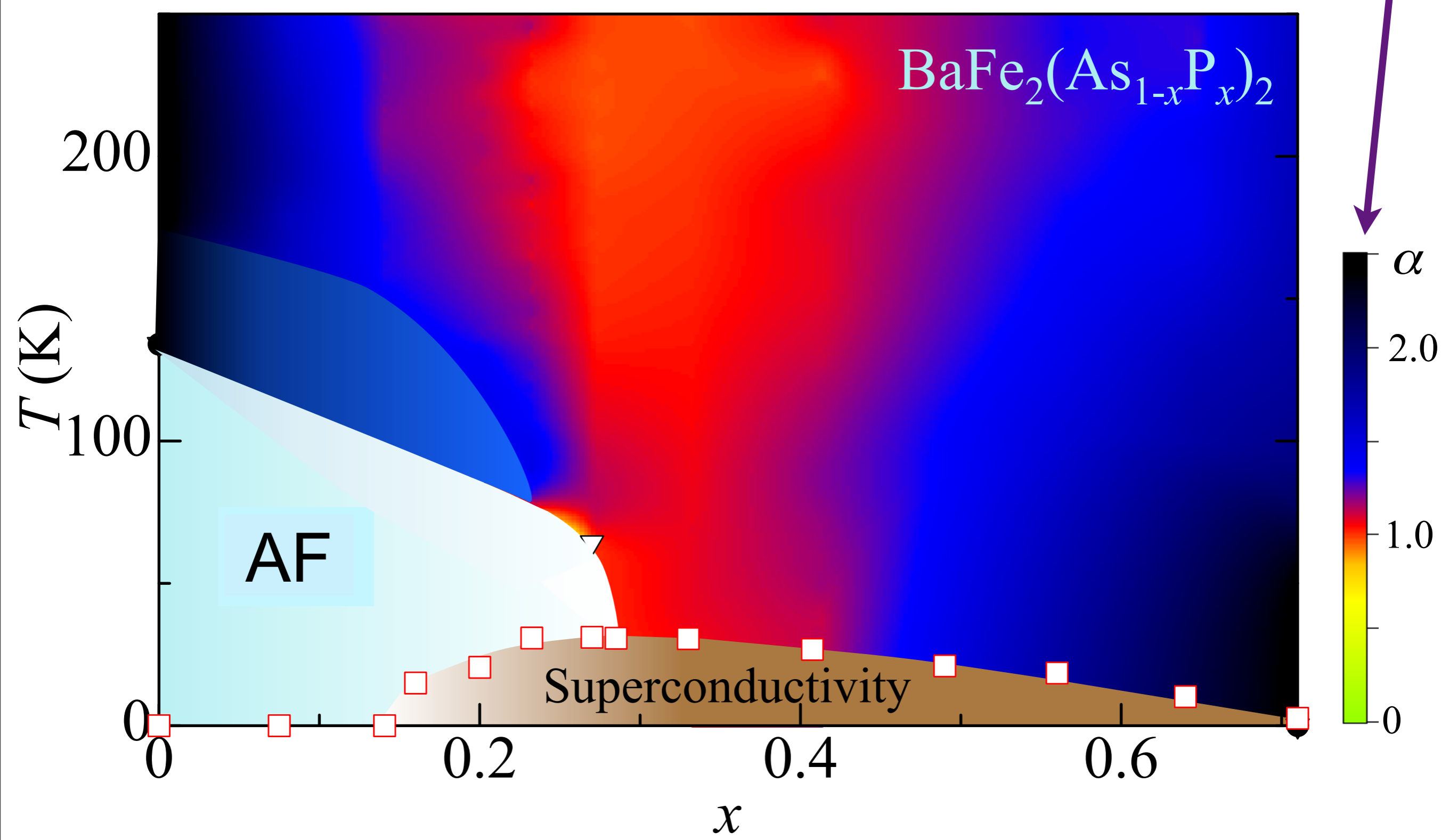


Iron pnictides:

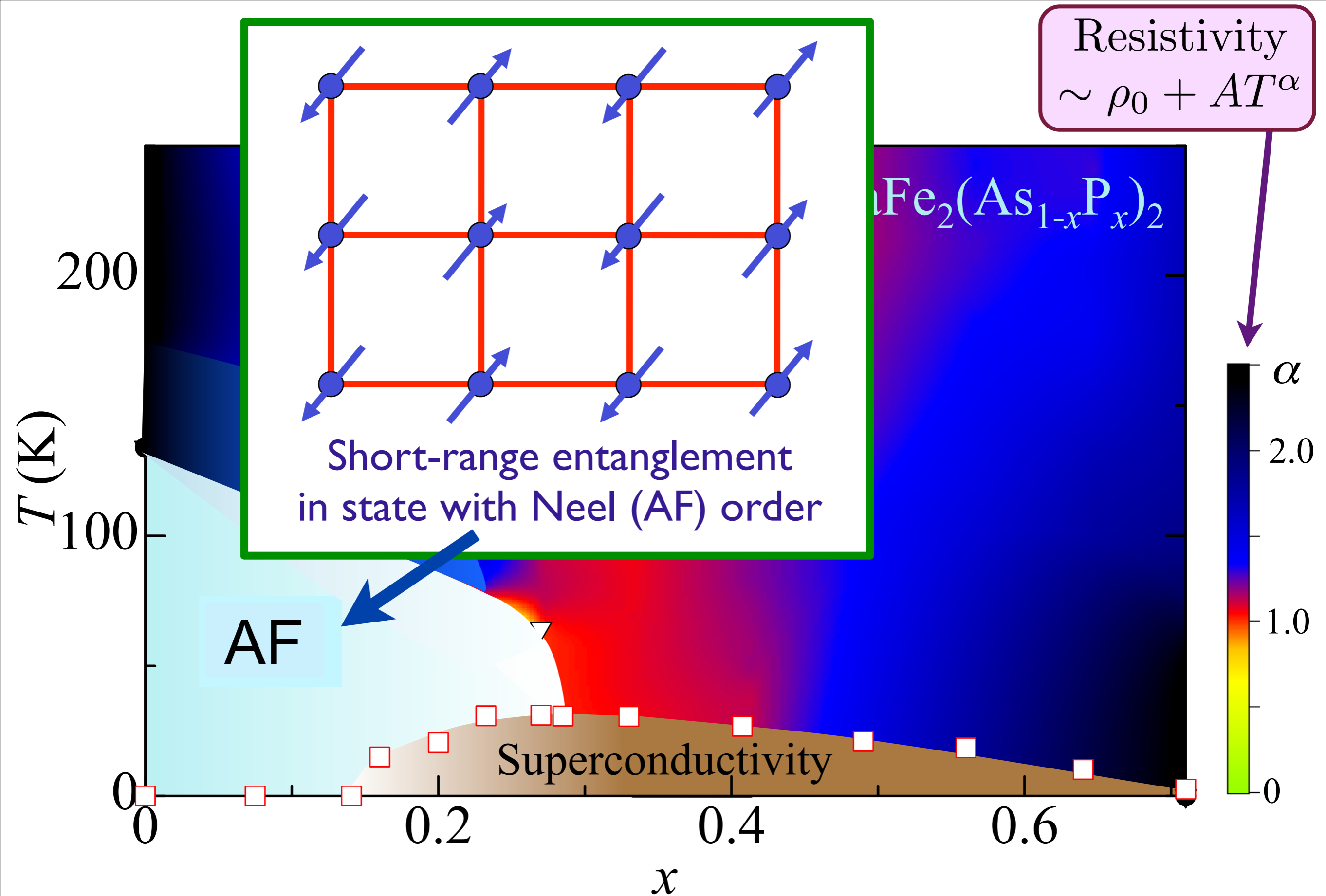
a new class of high temperature superconductors



Resistivity
 $\sim \rho_0 + AT^\alpha$

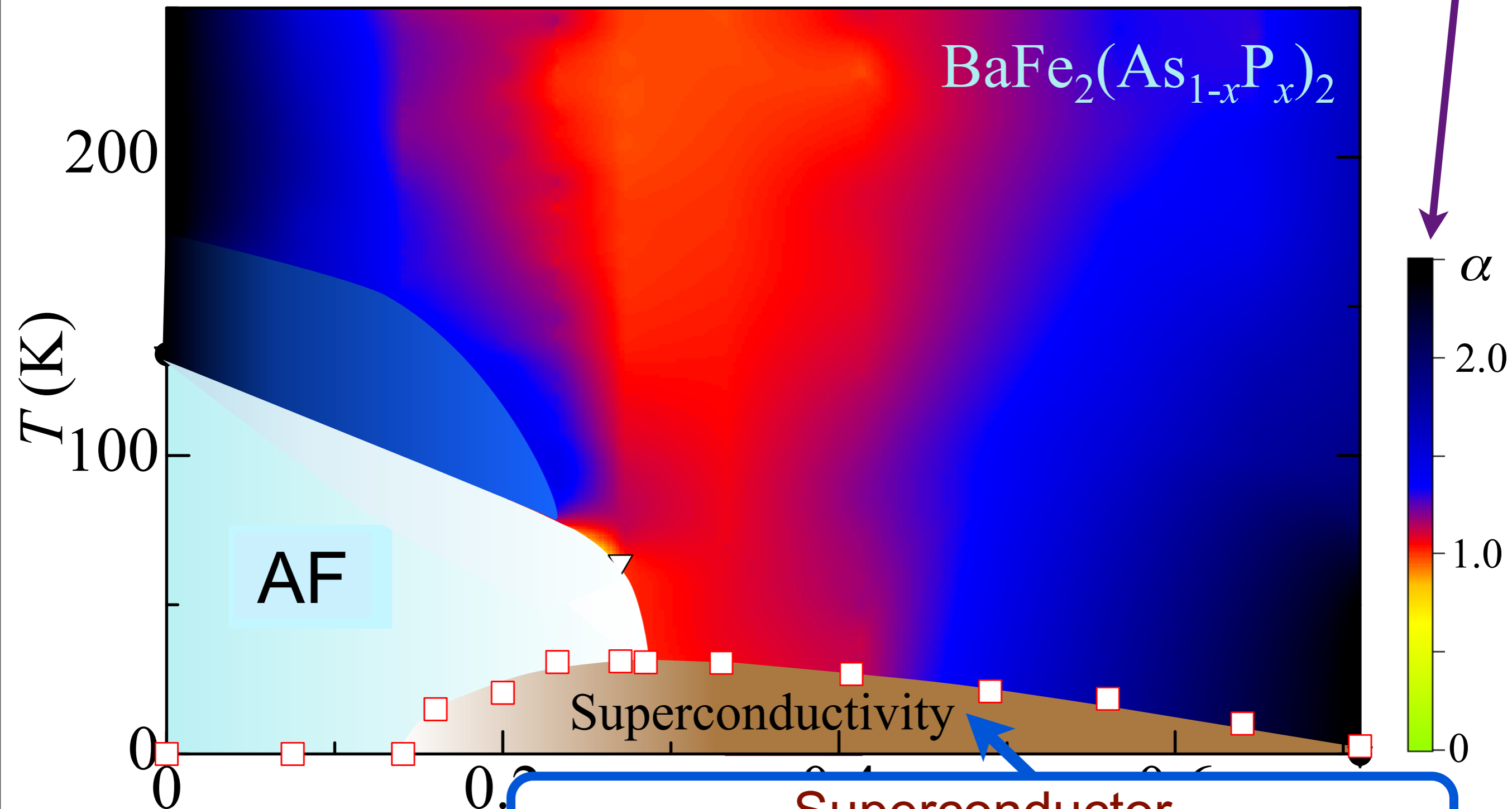


S. Kasahara, T. Shibauchi, K. Hashimoto, K. Ikada, S. Tonegawa, R. Okazaki, H. Shishido, H. Ikeda, H. Takeya, K. Hirata, T. Terashima, and Y. Matsuda, *Physical Review B* **81**, 184519 (2010)



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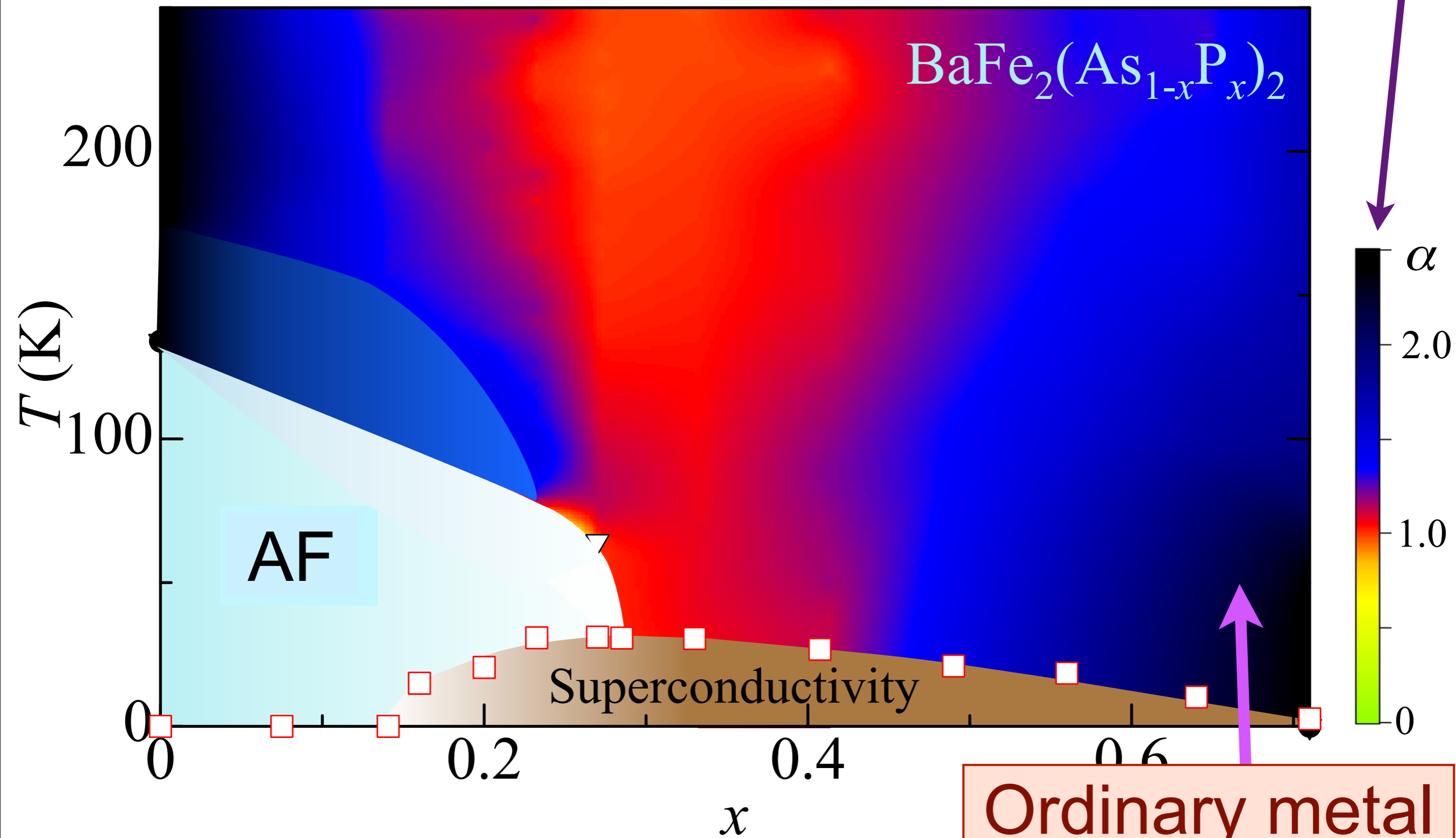
Resistivity
 $\sim \rho_0 + AT^\alpha$



Superconductor
Bose condensate of pairs of electrons
Short-range entanglement

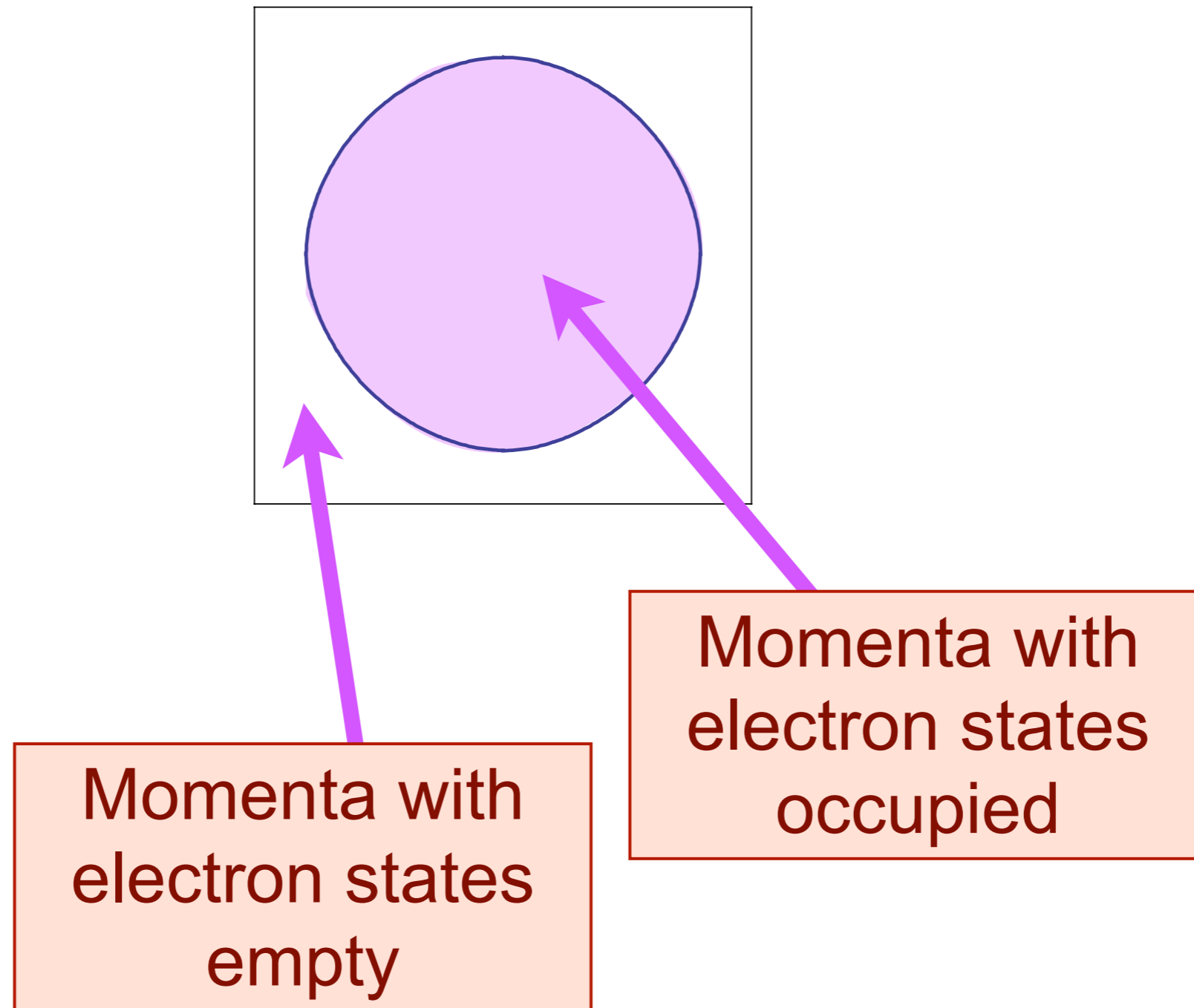
S. Kasahara, T. Shiba
H. Ike

Resistivity
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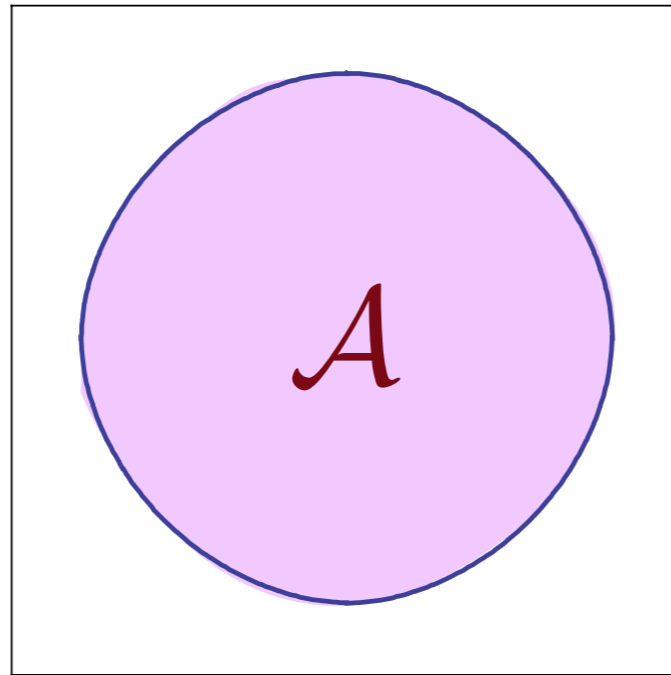


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Sommerfeld-Bloch theory of ordinary metals



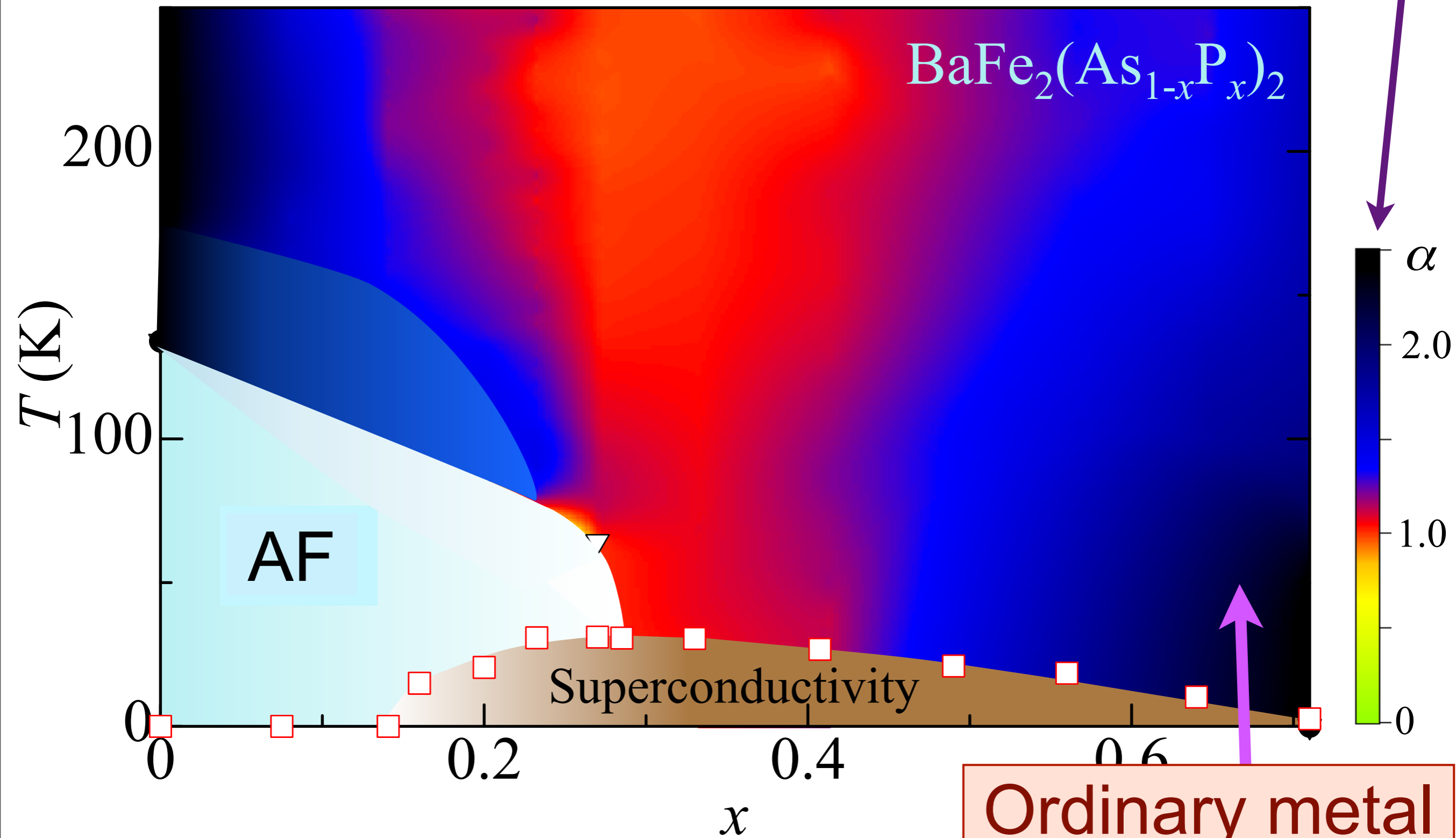
Sommerfeld-Bloch theory of ordinary metals



**Key feature of the theory:
the Fermi surface**

- Area enclosed by the Fermi surface $\mathcal{A} = Q$,
the electron density
- Excitations near the Fermi surface are responsible for the familiar properties of ordinary metals, such as resistivity $\sim T^2$.

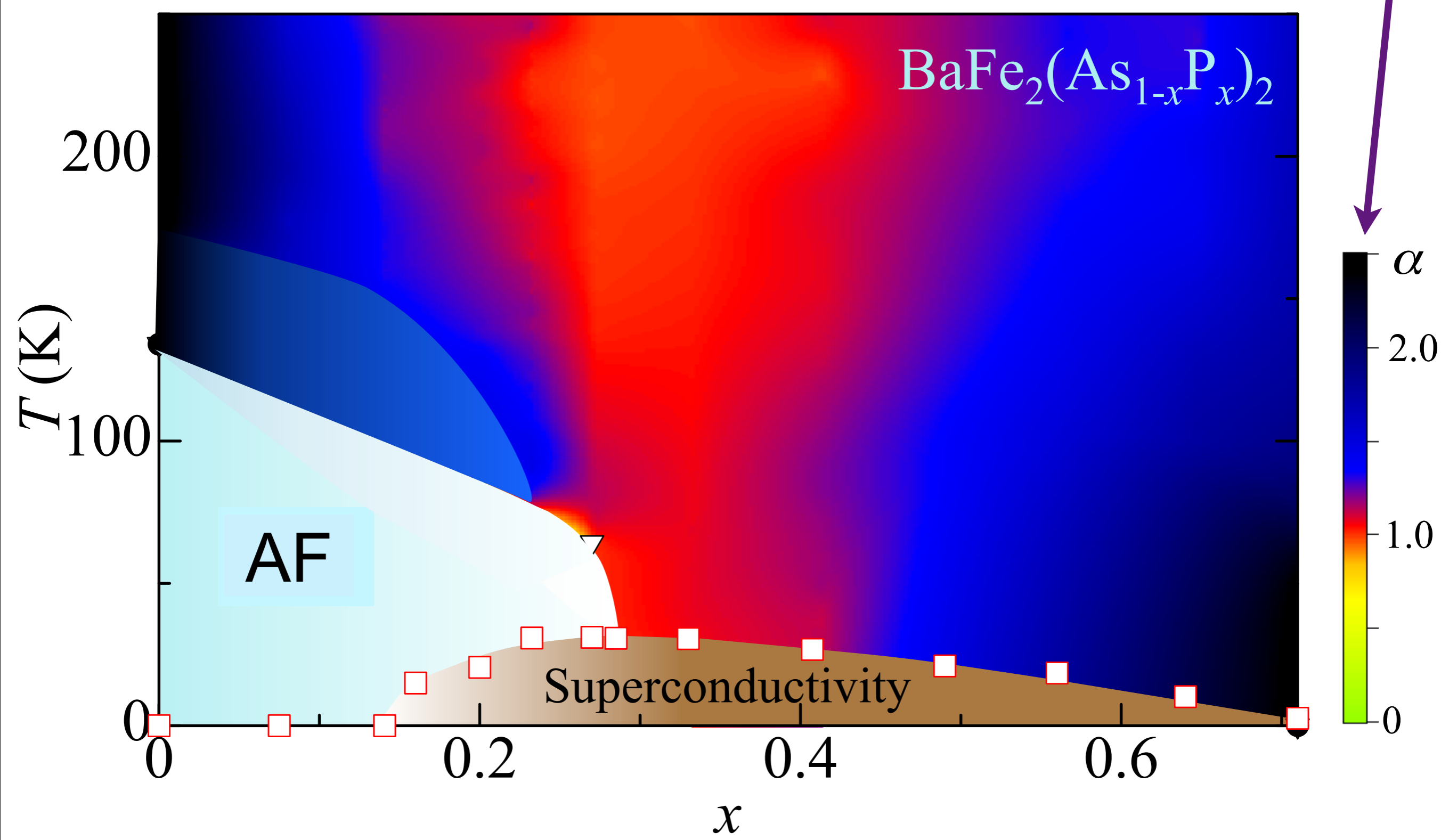
Resistivity
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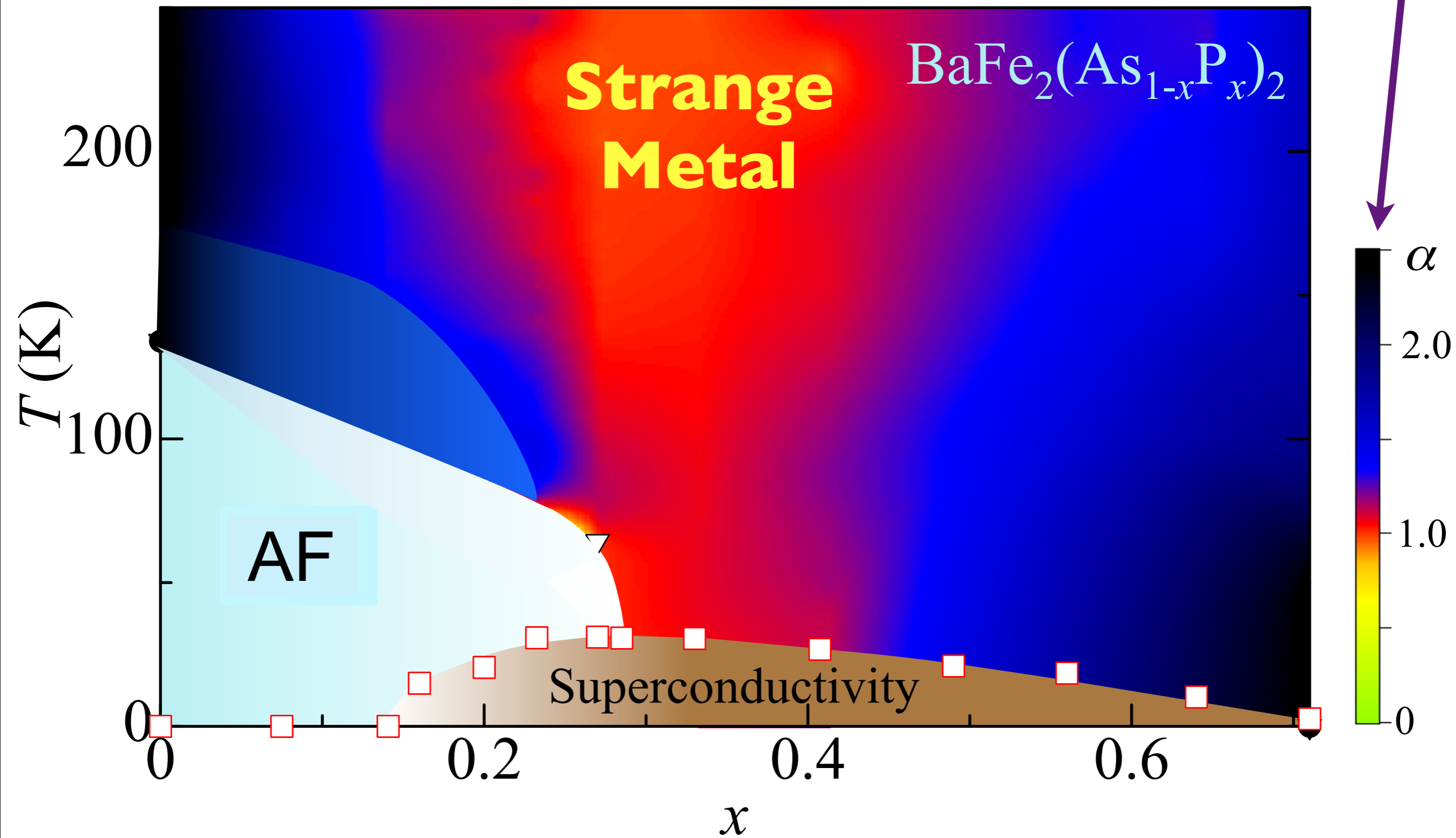
Ordinary metal
(Fermi liquid)

Resistivity
 $\sim \rho_0 + AT^\alpha$



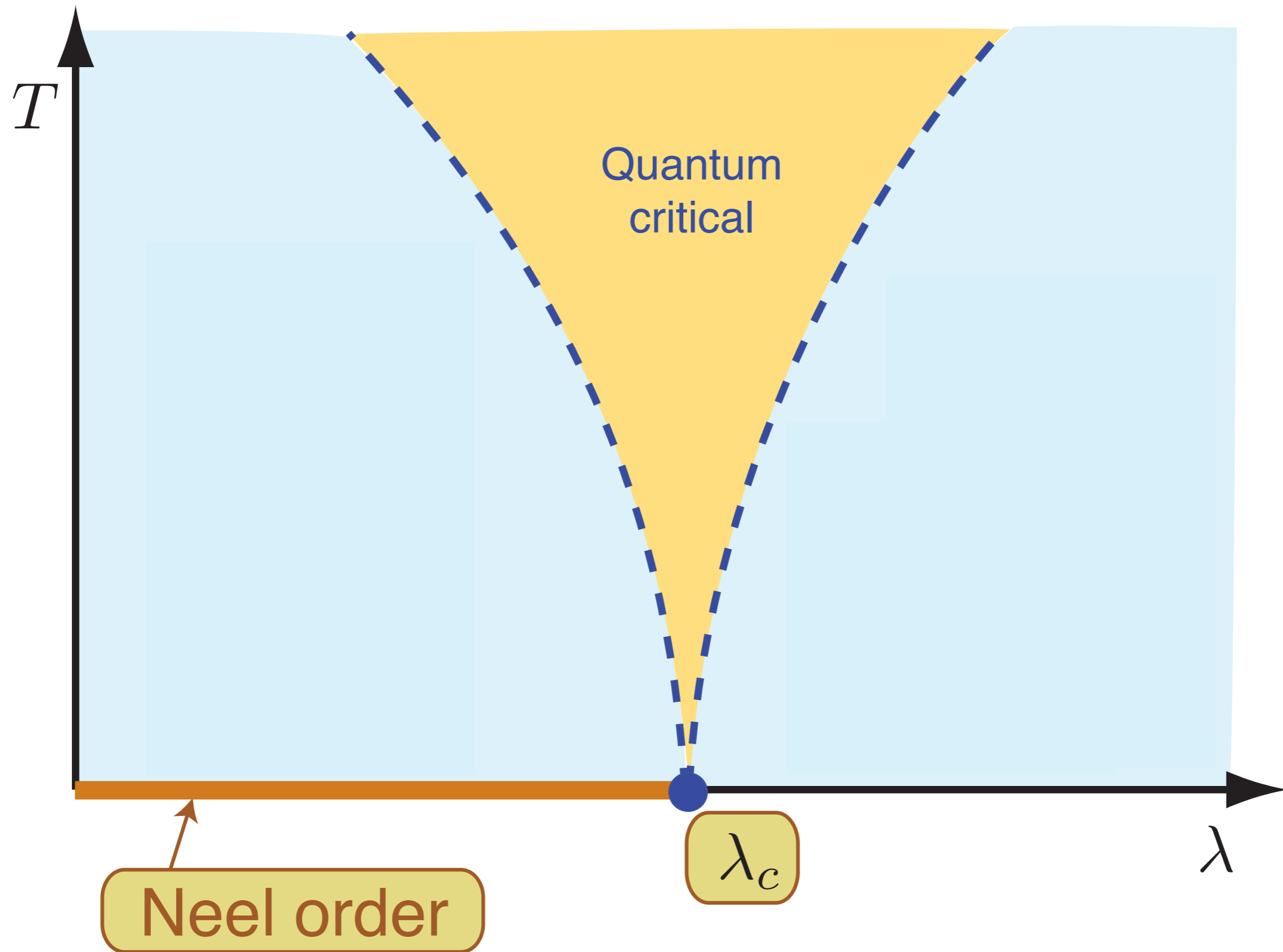
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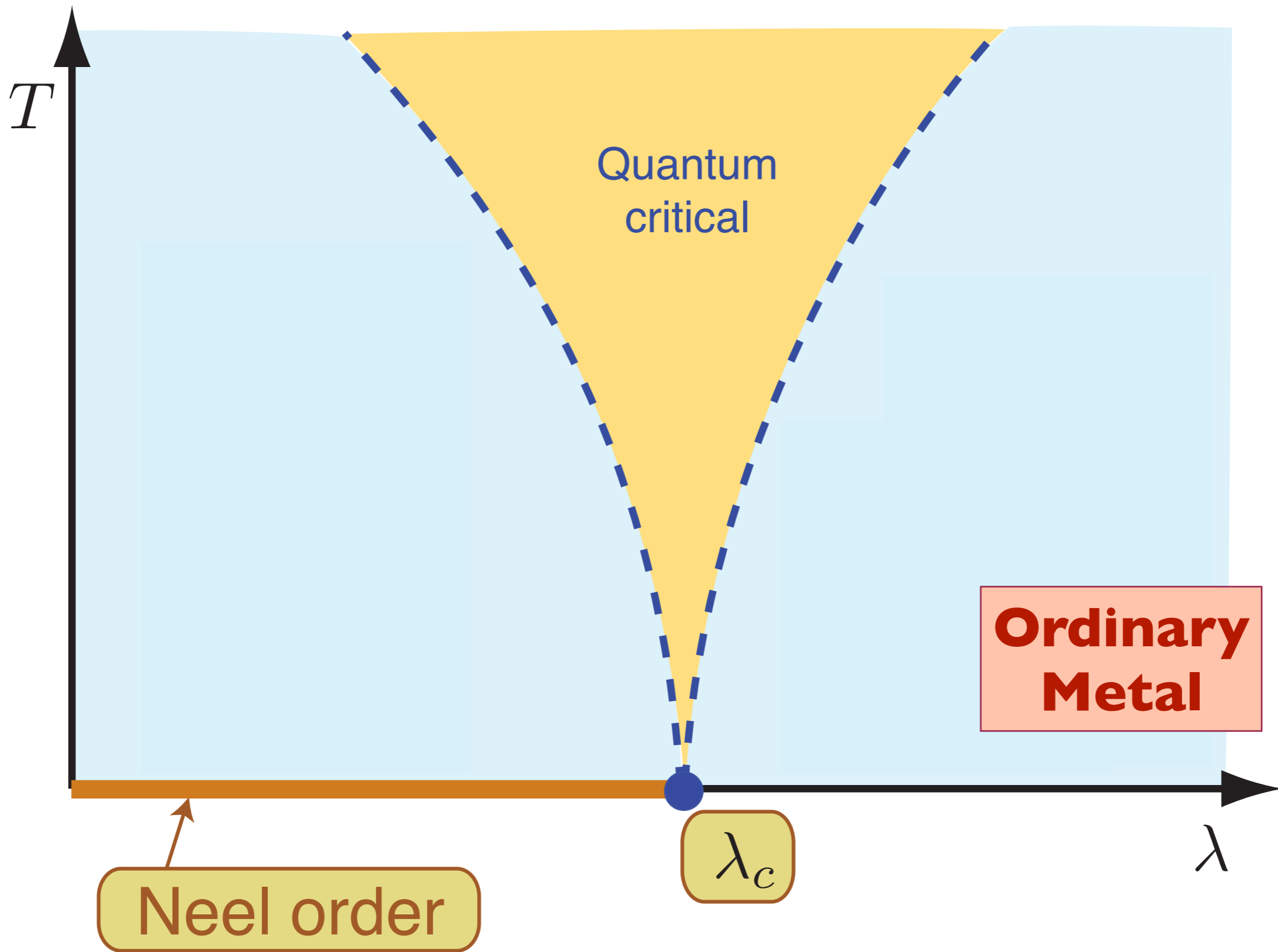
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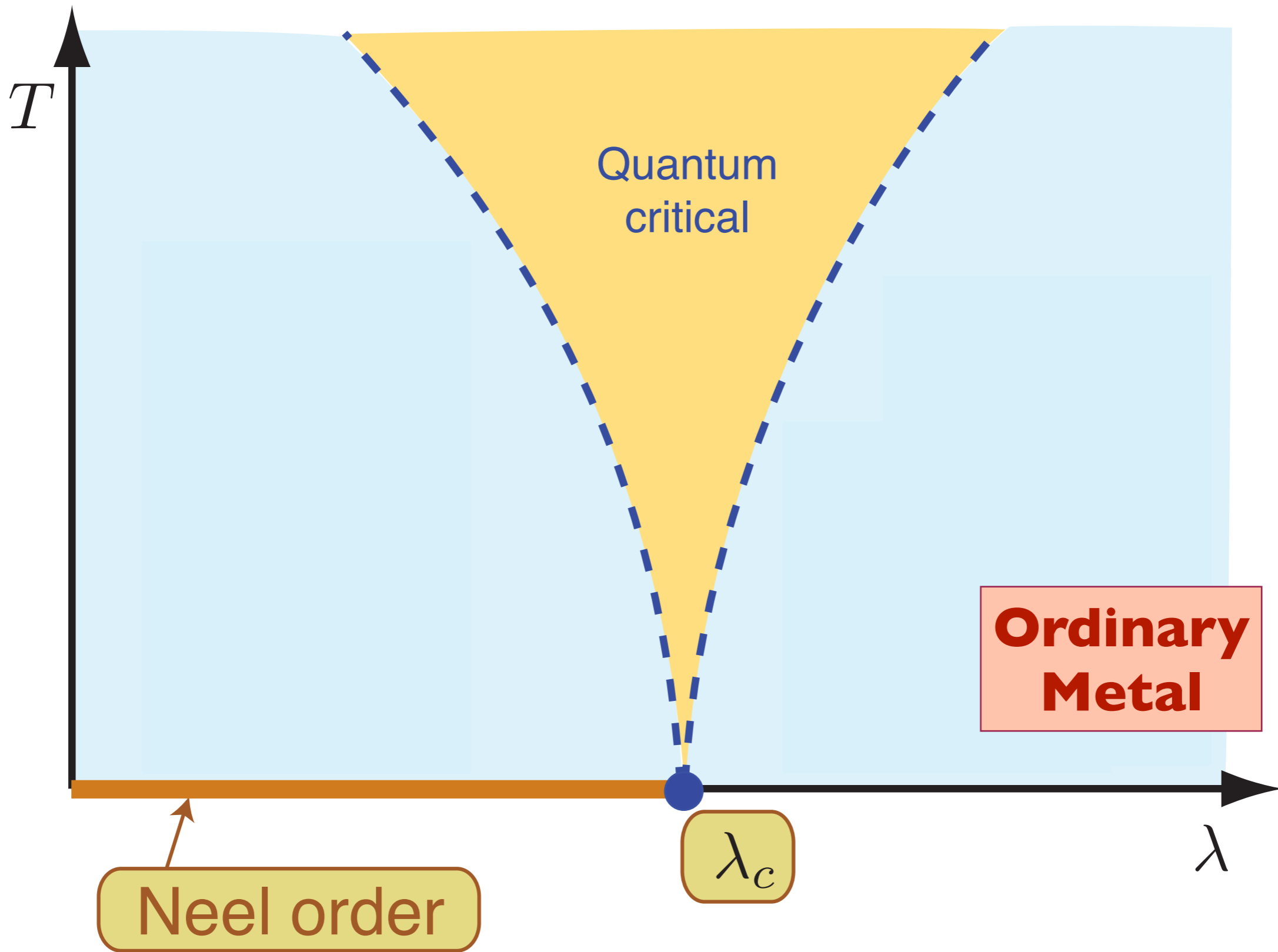


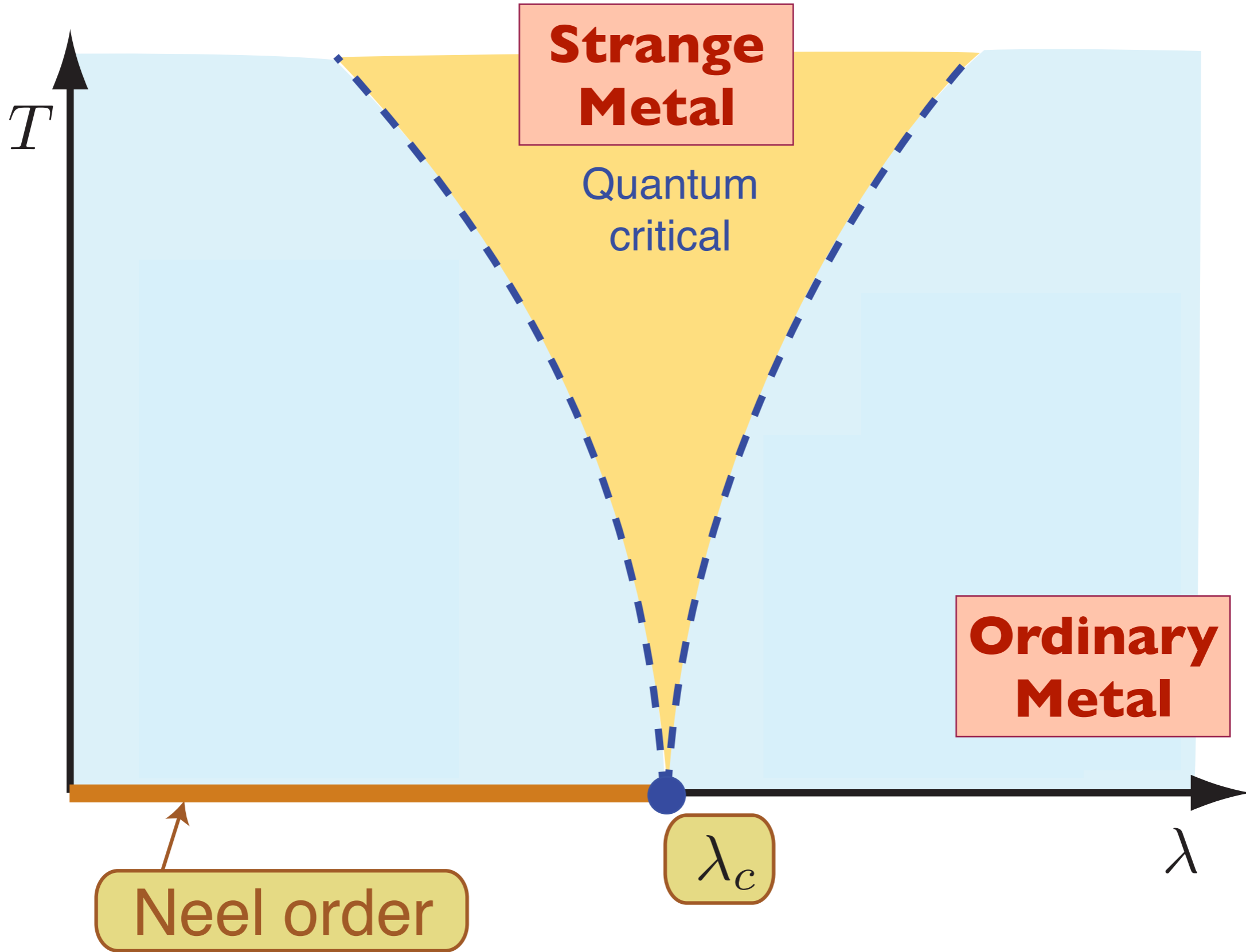
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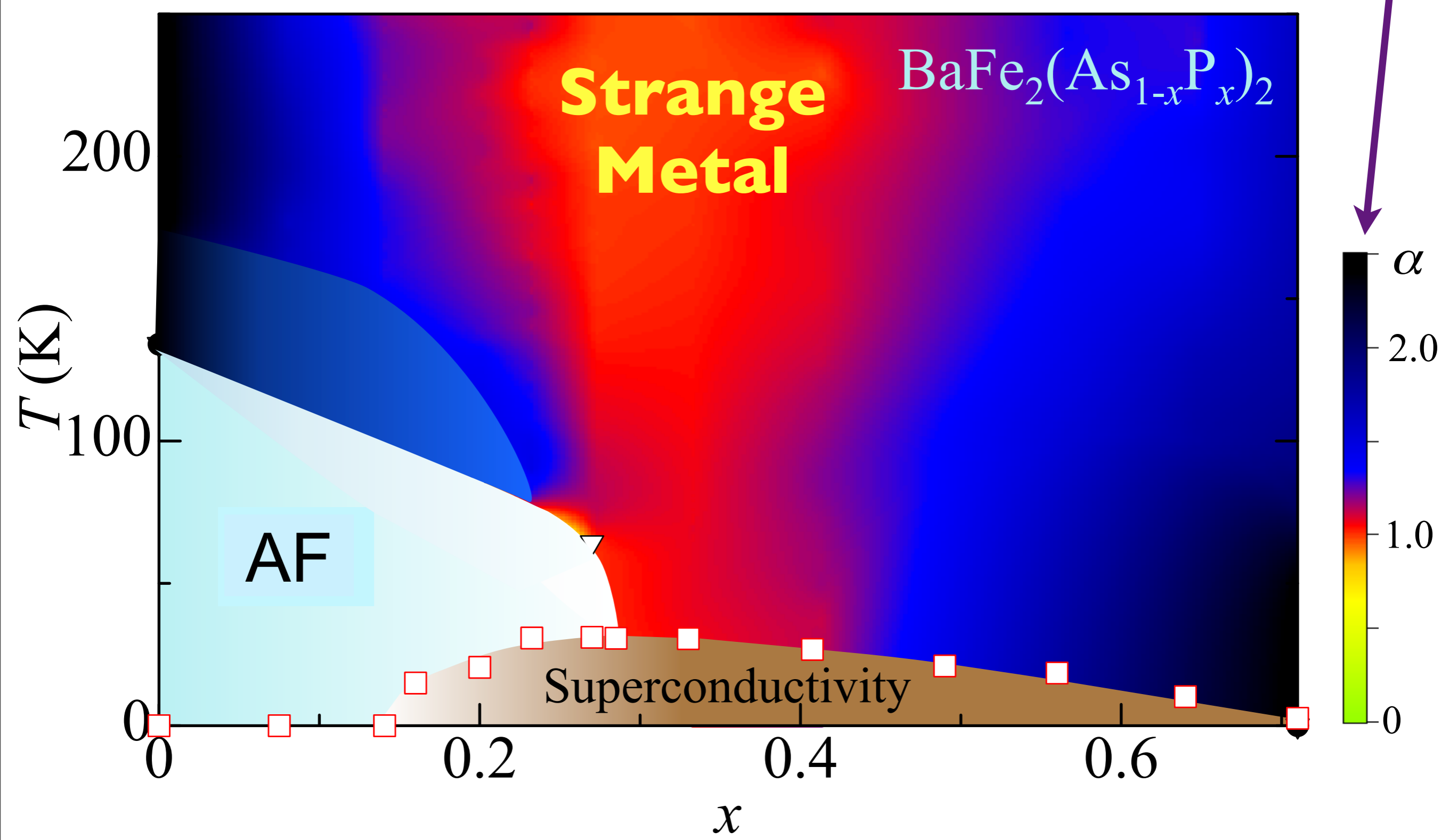






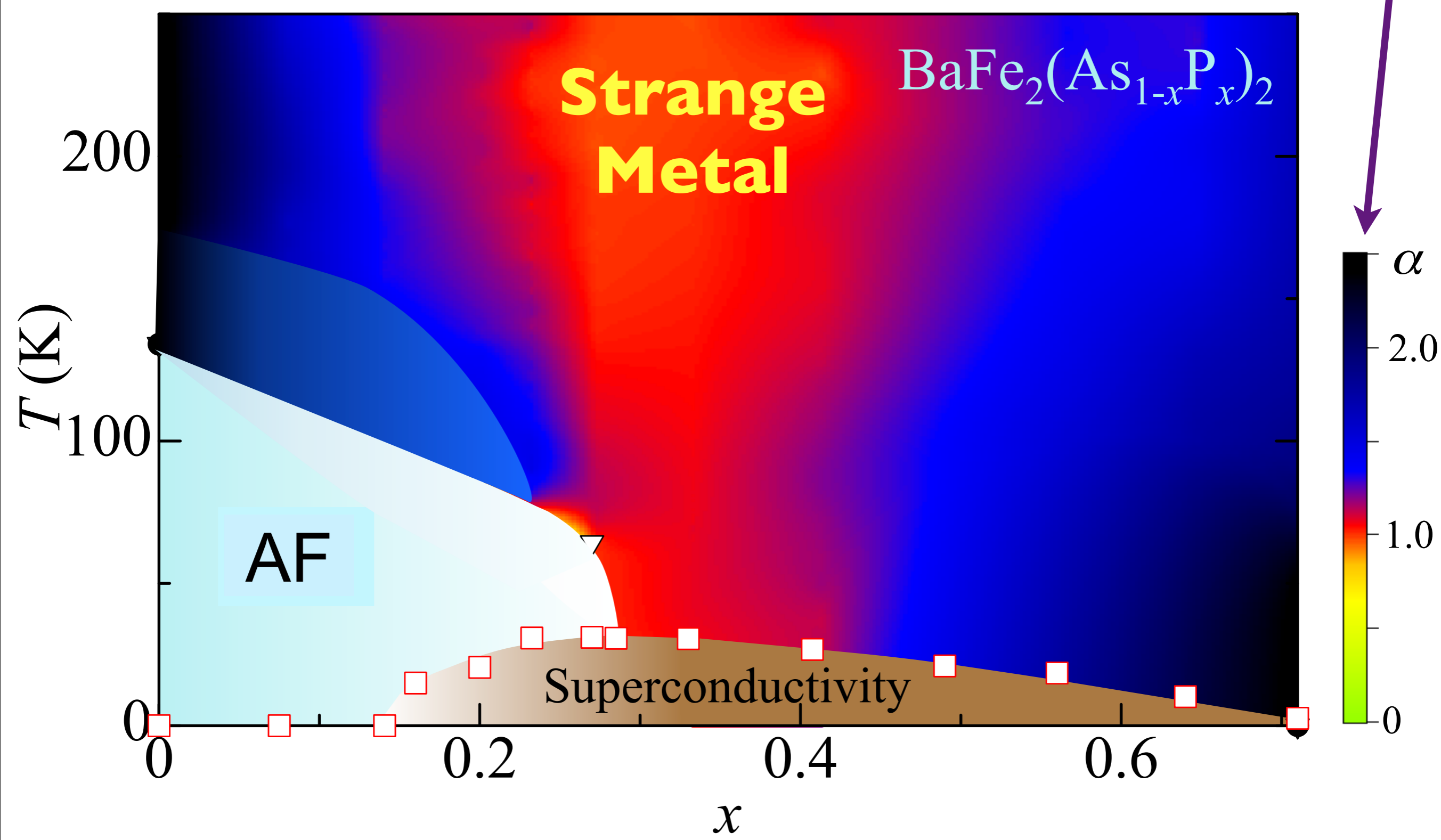


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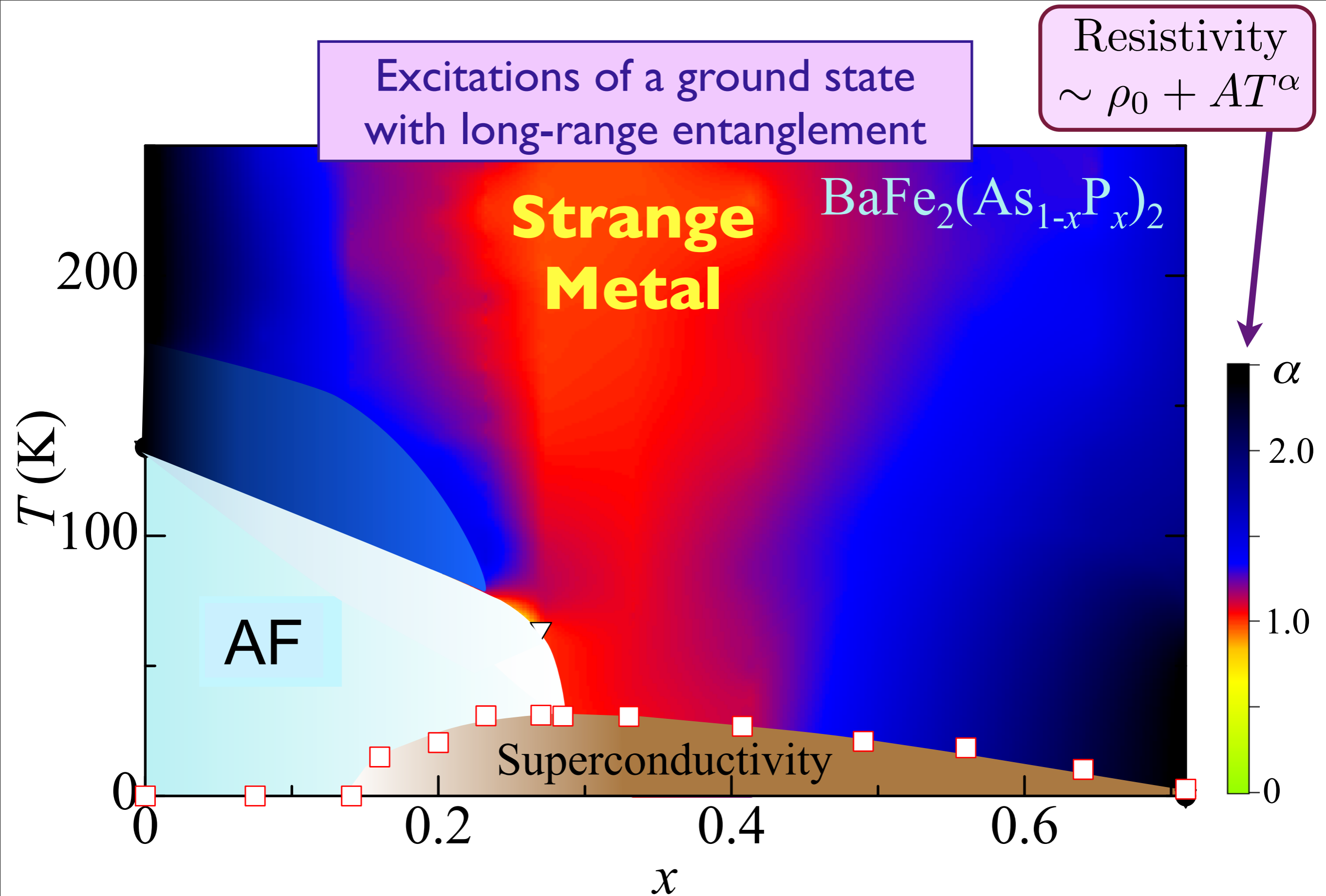


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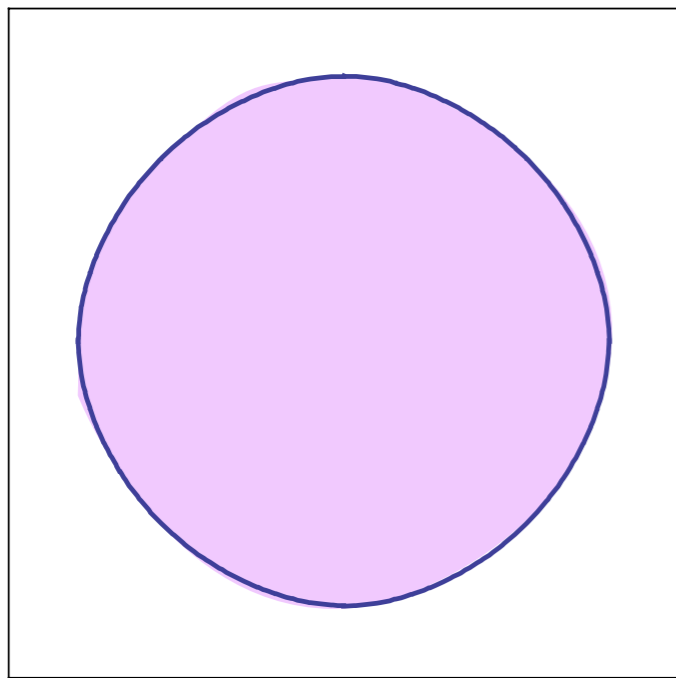
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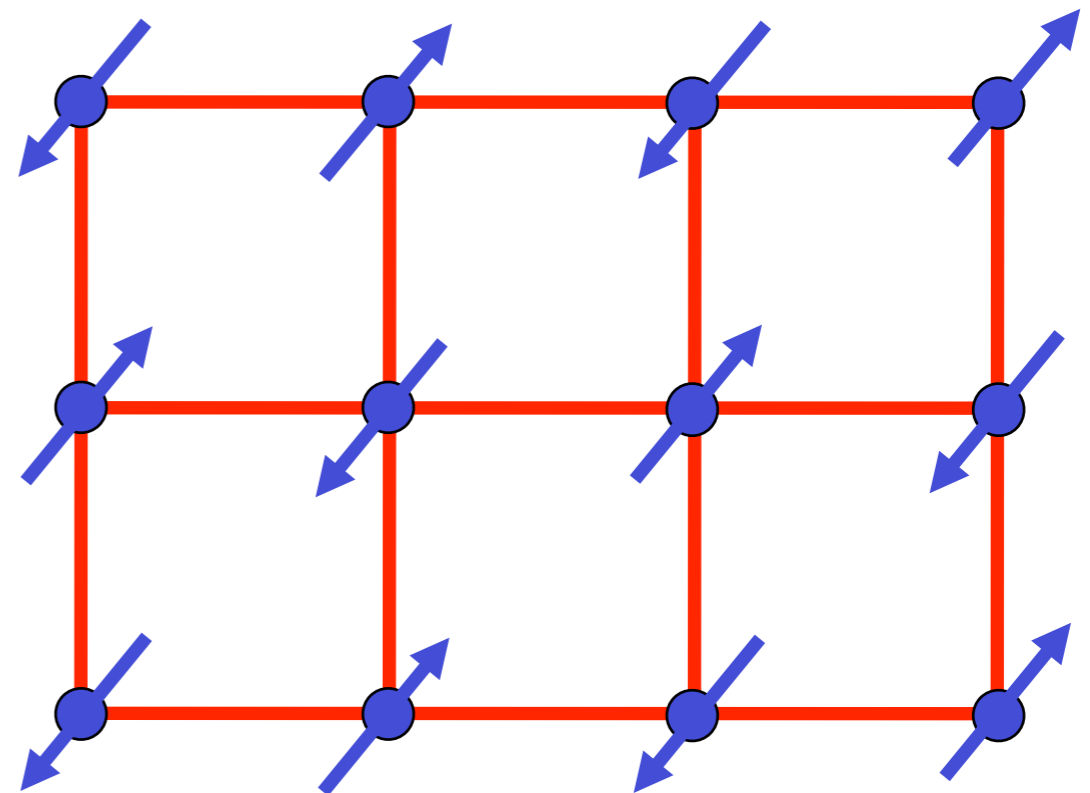
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Key (difficult) problem:

Describe quantum critical points and phases of systems with Fermi surfaces leading to metals with novel types of long-range entanglement



+



Challenge to string theory:

Describe quantum critical points
and phases of metals

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Can we obtain gravitational theories
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ordinary Sommerfeld-Bloch metals ?

Yes

T. Nishioka, S. Ryu, and T. Takayanagi, JHEP **1003**, 131 (2010)

G.T. Horowitz and B. Way, JHEP **1011**, 011 (2010)

S. Sachdev, Physical Review D **84**, 066009 (2011)

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Do the “holographic” gravitational theories
also yield metals distinct from
ordinary Sommerfeld-Bloch metals ?

Yes, lots of them, with
many “strange” properties !

S.-S. Lee, *Phys. Rev. D* **79**, 086006 (2009);
M. Cubrovic, J. Zaanen, and K. Schalm, *Science* **325**, 439 (2009);
T. Faulkner, H. Liu, J. McGreevy, and D. Vegh, arXiv:0907.2694;
F. Denef, S.A. Hartnoll, and S. Sachdev, *Phys. Rev. D* **80**, 126016 (2009)

Challenge to string theory:

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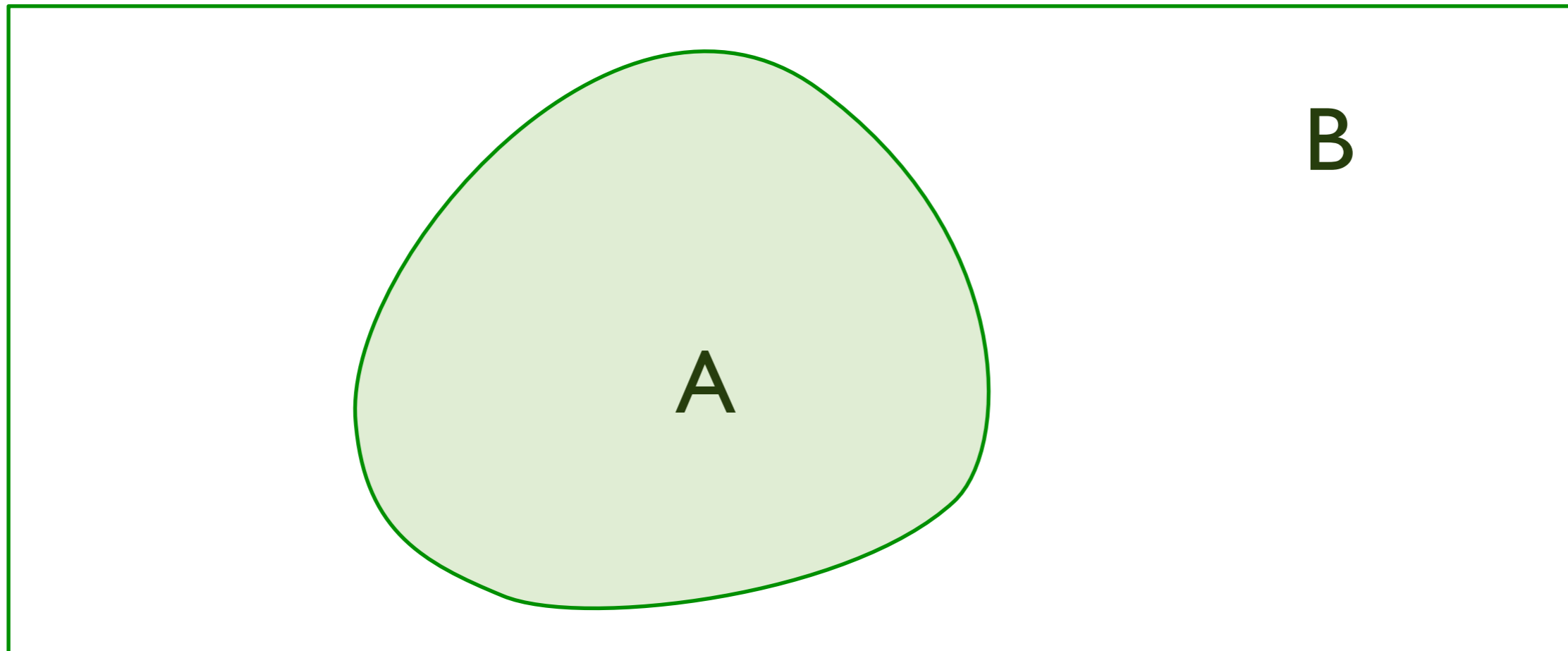
Choose the theories with the
proper entropy density

Checks: these theories also have the
proper entanglement entropy and
Fermi surface size !

N. Ogawa, T. Takayanagi, and T. Ugajin, arXiv:1111.1023

L. Huijse, S. Sachdev, B. Swingle, Physical Review B **85**, 035121 (2012)

Entanglement entropy of Fermi surfaces

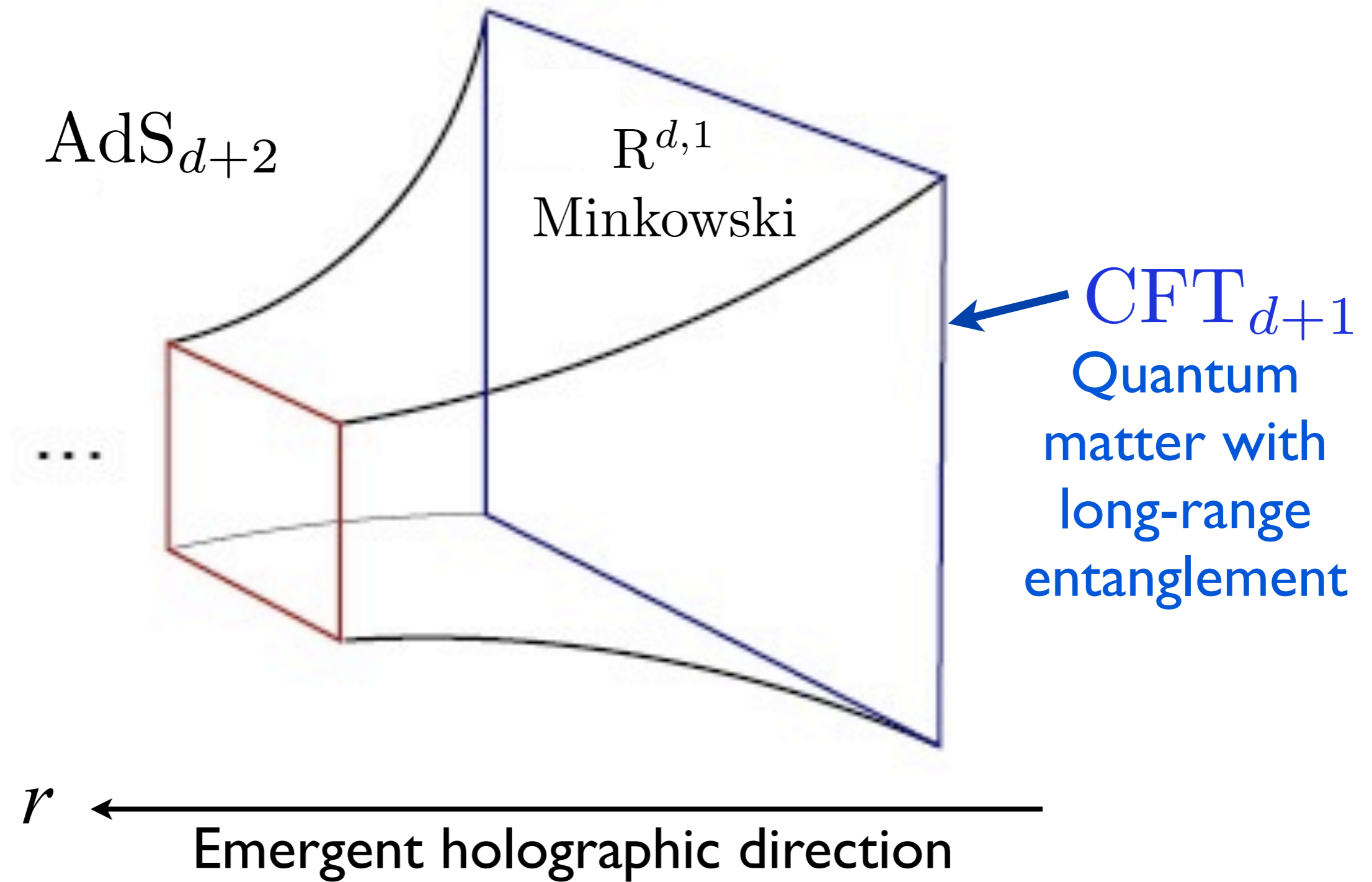


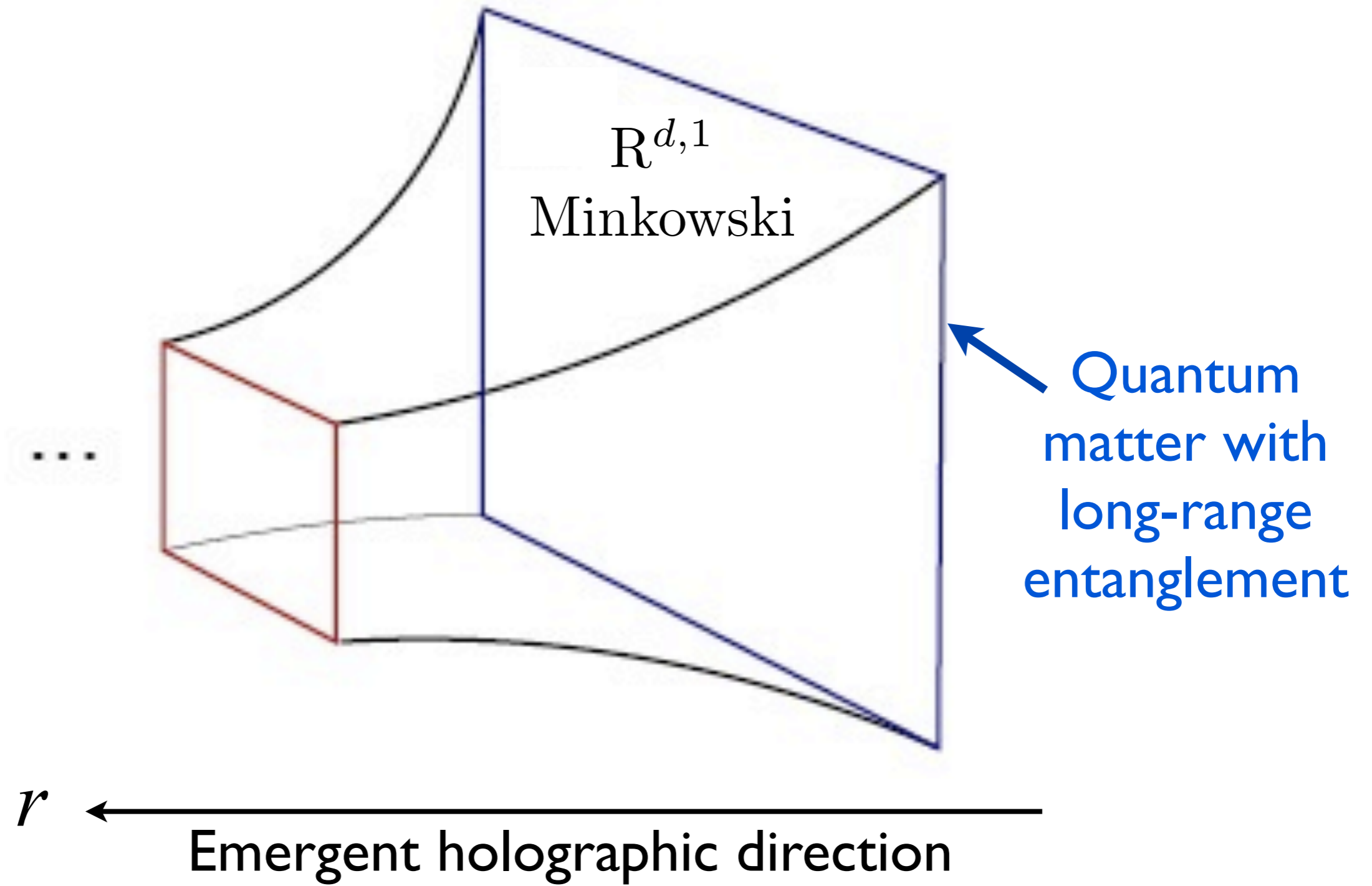
Logarithmic violation of “area law”: $S_{EE} = \frac{1}{12} (k_F L) \ln(k_F L)$

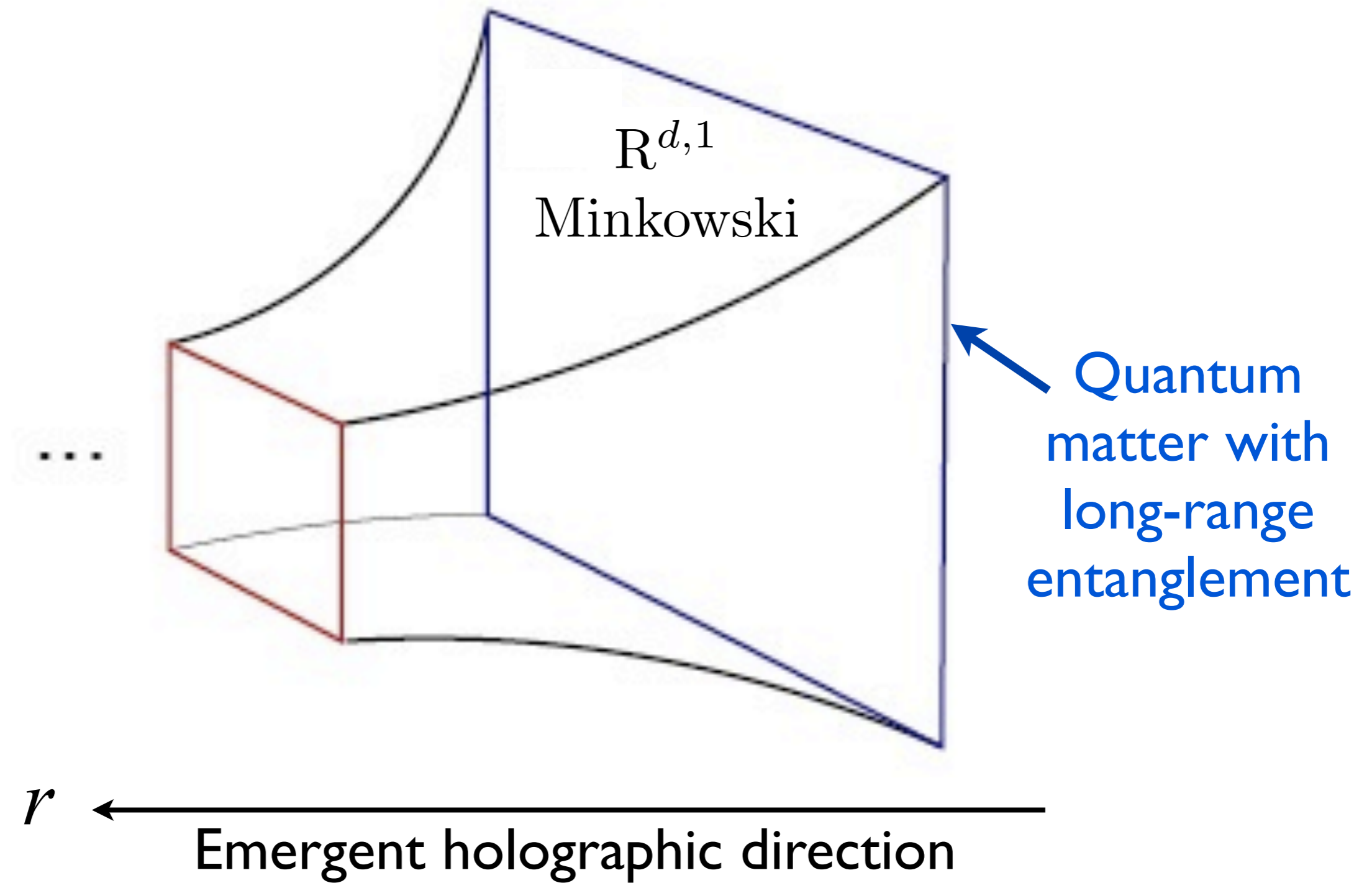
for a circular Fermi surface with Fermi momentum k_F , where L is the perimeter of region A with an arbitrary smooth shape.

Non-Fermi liquids have, at most, the “1/12” prefactor modified.

Y. Zhang, T. Grover, and A. Vishwanath, *Physical Review Letters* **107**, 067202 (2011)







Abandon conformal invariance, and only require scale invariance at long lengths and times.....

Consider the metric which transforms under rescaling as

$$\begin{aligned}x_i &\rightarrow \zeta x_i \\t &\rightarrow \zeta^z t \\ds &\rightarrow \zeta^{\theta/d} ds.\end{aligned}$$

This identifies z as the dynamic critical exponent ($z = 1$ for “relativistic” quantum critical points).

θ is the violation of hyperscaling exponent.

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θ is the violation of hyperscaling exponent.

The most general choice of such a metric is

$$ds^2 = \frac{1}{r^2} \left(-\frac{dt^2}{r^{2d(z-1)/(d-\theta)}} + r^{2\theta/(d-\theta)} dr^2 + dx_i^2 \right)$$

AdS_{d+2} corresponds to $\theta = 0, z = 1$. We have used reparametrization invariance in r to choose so that it scales as $r \rightarrow \zeta^{(d-\theta)/d} r$.

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- The thermal entropy density scales as (Stefan-Boltzmann law or “hyperscaling”)

$$S \sim T^{(d-\theta)/z}.$$

where $d - \theta$ is the effective dimension. A Fermi surface has excitations which disperse only in one direction, and so we require $\theta = d - 1$.

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- The entanglement entropy, S_E , of an entangling region with boundary surface ‘area’ Σ scales as

$$S_E \sim \begin{cases} \Sigma & , \text{ for } \theta < d - 1 \\ \Sigma \ln \Sigma & , \text{ for } \theta = d - 1 \\ \Sigma^{\theta/(d-1)} & , \text{ for } \theta > d - 1 \end{cases}$$

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So we have log violation of area law for $\theta = d - 1$, just as expected for a Fermi surface !

- The null energy condition implies $z \geq 1 + \frac{\theta}{d}$. This implies $z \geq 3/2$ in $d = 2$. Remarkably the value $z = 3/2$ is obtained from a field theory of a Fermi surface coupled to an emergent gauge field !!

Conclusions

Phases of matter with long-range quantum entanglement are prominent in numerous modern materials.

Conclusions

Simplest examples of long-range entanglement are in insulating antiferromagnets:
 Z_2 spin liquids and quantum critical points

Conclusions

More complex examples in metallic states are experimentally ubiquitous, but pose difficult strong-coupling problems to conventional methods of field theory

Conclusions

String theory and gravity in emergent dimensions offer a remarkable new approach to describing states with long-range quantum entanglement.

Conclusions

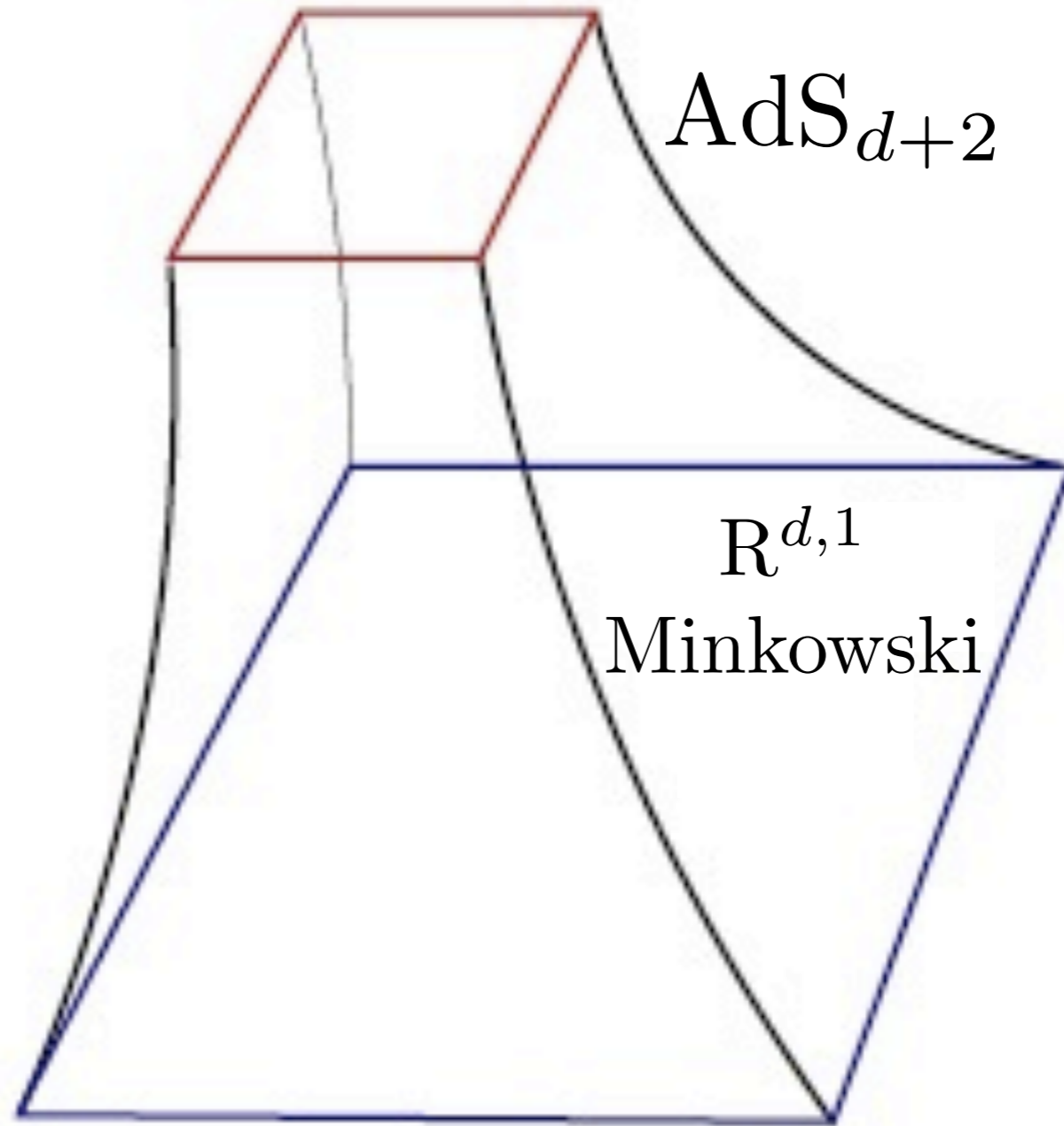
String theory and gravity in emergent dimensions offer a remarkable new approach to describing states with long-range quantum entanglement.

Much recent progress offers hope of a holographic description of “strange metals”

anti-de Sitter space

Emergent holographic direction

r



anti-de Sitter space

