

11. Some comments on the general classification of topological systems with interactions

Topological system with interactions are not fully understood. In the following we will sketch a classification scheme by

Xia-Gang Wen et al. PRB 82, 155138 (2010)

phase transitions



Spontaneous
Symmetry-breaking

topological

11.1 Symmetry-breaking phase transitions and entanglement

Example 1D Ising model in transverse field

$$(570) \quad H = -B \sum_j \sigma_j^x - J \sum_j \sigma_{j+1}^z \sigma_j^z$$

has a global $\mathbb{Z}_2$ symmetry

$$|\uparrow\rangle \leftrightarrow |\downarrow\rangle \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \sigma^z \rightarrow -\sigma^z$$

ground state

$$B \gg J$$

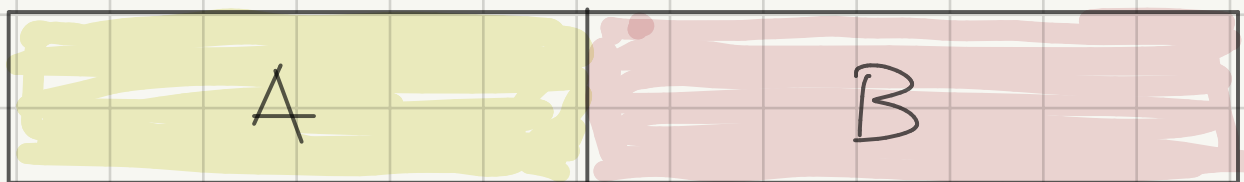
$$(5.11) \quad |\phi_{gs}^P\rangle = \prod_j \left(\frac{|\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right)_j = \prod_j |+\rangle_j$$

$$B \ll J$$

$$(5.12) \quad |\phi_{gs}^F\rangle = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} |\uparrow\rangle|\uparrow\rangle|\uparrow\rangle \dots \\ \text{or} \\ |\downarrow\rangle|\downarrow\rangle|\downarrow\rangle \dots \end{array} \right\} \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{break} \\ \mathbb{Z}_2 \\ \text{symmetry!} \end{array} \right\}$$

In both limits $B \gg J$ and $B \ll J$ ground state is a product state!

Consider bi-partition



Schmidt theorem

$$(5.13) \quad |\psi\rangle = \sum_{j=1}^n \sqrt{\lambda_j} |j\rangle_A |j\rangle_B$$

$$n \leq \min(\dim(\mathcal{H}_A), \dim(\mathcal{H}_B))$$

note that $|j\rangle_A$ and $|j\rangle_B$ can have completely different representations in terms of local states

$|j\rangle_A$ and $|j\rangle_B$ are ONB

Von-Neumann entropy of half system as
measure of entanglement between A and B

$$S_A = \text{Tr}_B \{ |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| \} \quad S_B = \text{Tr}_A \{ |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| \}$$

in Schmidt representation

$$S_A = \sum_j \lambda_j |j\rangle_A \langle j| \quad S_B = \sum_j \lambda_j |j\rangle_B \langle j|$$

$\Rightarrow$ von Neumann entropy

$$\begin{aligned} S_A &= -\text{Tr}_A \{ S_A \ln S_A \} = S_B = -\text{Tr}_B \{ S_B \ln S_B \} \\ (5/4) \quad &= -\sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j \ln \lambda_j \end{aligned}$$

In general
(5/5)

$$n \leq p^{L/2}$$

p : local dimension ; L : total # of lattice sites

Thus in general

$$\begin{aligned} S_A &= -\sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j \ln \lambda_j \leq -\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \ln \frac{1}{n} \leq \ln n \leq \ln p^{L/2} \\ (5/6) \quad &\boxed{S \leq L \ln \sqrt{p}} \end{aligned}$$

"volume" law
(here in 1D)

This is to be expected in general since the entropy
is an extensive thermodynamic quantity

For gapped many-body states one finds however in general a area law

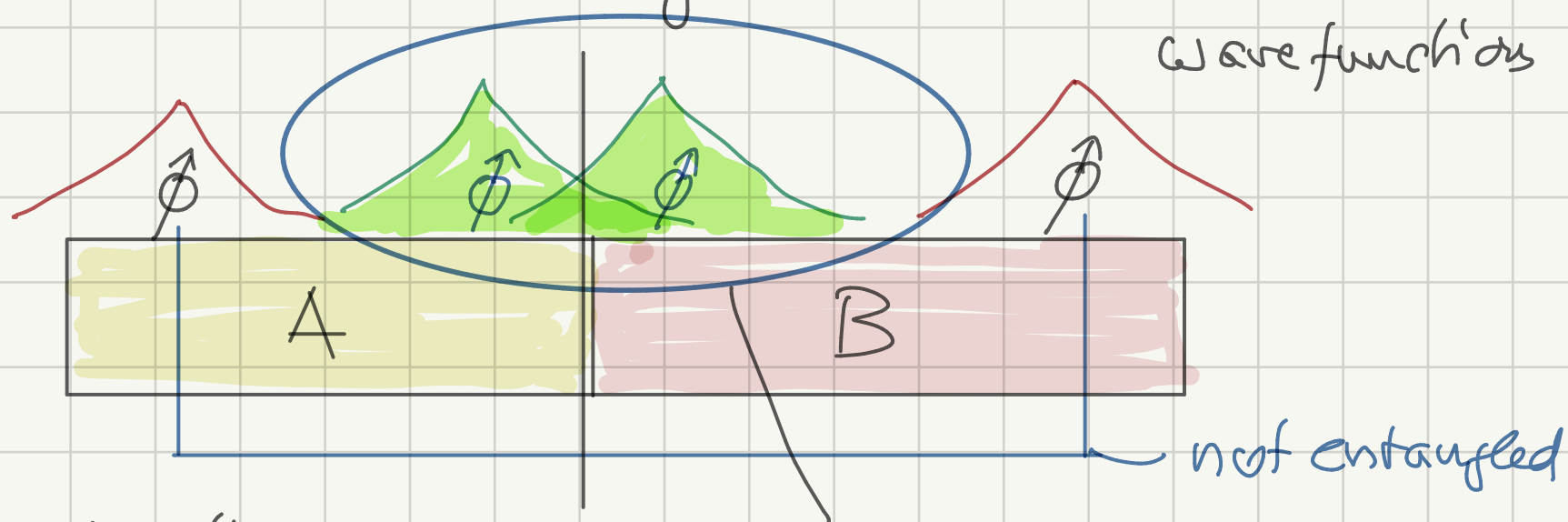
$$(517) \quad S \leq \eta \mathcal{O}(L) \sim \eta L^{d-1} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} d=1 \text{ const!} \\ d=2 \quad S \sim L \end{array} \right.$$

At the critical point one gets an extra factor $\ln L$.

$\Rightarrow$ both phases of Ising model have much less entropy than maximally possible!

This is because there are only short-range correlations in the system

gapped state:



only wavefunction close to cut contribute to entanglement

short-range entanglement

Conjecture

gapped ground states that can be characterized by a spontaneously broken symmetry are short-range entangled

precise definition of "short range entanglement" will follow later

11.2 Quantum phase transitions, local unitary evolution and topological order

quantum phase transition

ground state:

$$(518) \quad H = H(\lambda) \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1 \quad |\phi(\lambda)\rangle$$

If a local observable exists which has a non-analytic behavior at some value λ_c in the thermodynamic limit $L \rightarrow \infty$

$$(519) \quad \langle \hat{O} \rangle(\lambda) = \langle \phi(\lambda) | \hat{O} | \phi(\lambda) \rangle$$

then the system is said to have a quantum phase transition. The thdyn. limit is important since in finite systems there are no non-analyticities (except in pathological, non-generic cases)

The states $|\phi(\lambda=0)\rangle$ and $|\phi(\lambda=1)\rangle$ are said to be in the same phase (or same equivalence class) if we can find a smooth deformation of the local Hamiltonian $H \rightarrow H(\lambda)$ such that $|\phi(0)\rangle$ and $|\phi(1)\rangle$ are ground states of $H(\lambda)$ at $\lambda=0$ and $\lambda=1$ and there was no gap closing on the λ -path

1. (520)

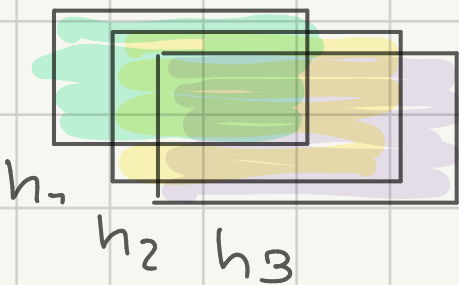
$$|\phi(t)\rangle \stackrel{\wedge}{=} |\phi(0)\rangle \quad \text{iff} \quad |\phi(t)\rangle = T e^{-i \int_0^t H(\lambda) d\lambda} |\phi(0)\rangle$$

Here
(521)

$$U_L \equiv T e^{-i \int_0^1 H(\lambda) d\lambda}$$

is called a Local unitary map LU

Def: $H(\lambda)$ is called local if it can be written as a sum of terms that connect only local sites or decay exponentially with separation

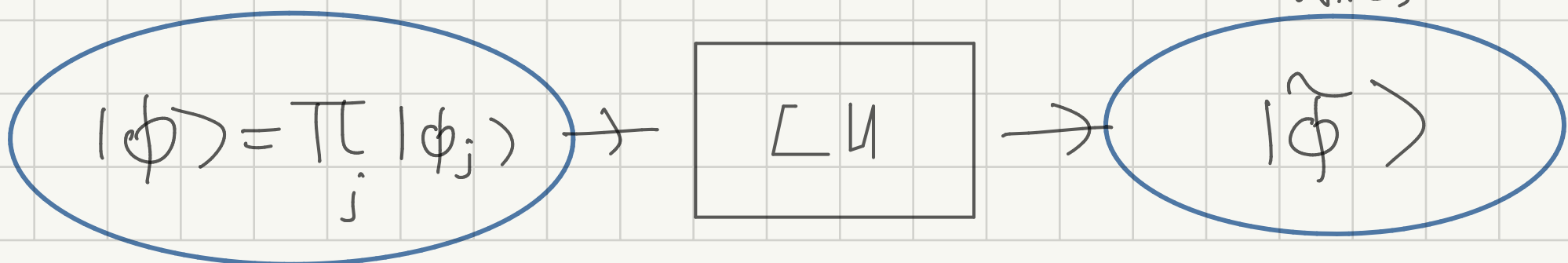
$$H = \sum_j h_j$$


With this we can now formally define what short-range entangled means

Def: A many-body state is short-range entangled if and only if it can be transformed into a product state by a finite number of LU transformations

Set of all product states

Set of all SRE states



Def: Quantum many-body states that cannot be connected to product states by a finite number of LU's are called long-range entangled LRE

X.G. Wen: Long-range entangled states have intrinsic topological order

One can show that ground states of local Hamiltonians in 1D are all SRE (see discussion on Ising chain)

$\Rightarrow$ no intrinsic topological order in 1D



but there is a second class of states with topological order if we require certain symmetries

10.3 Symmetry-protected topological order

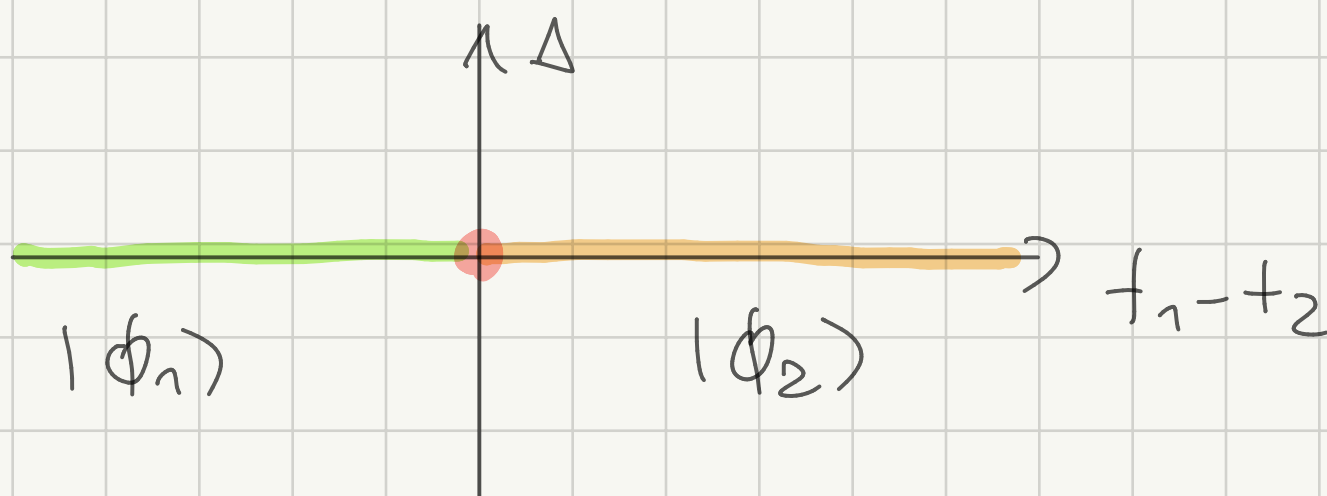
$$(522) \quad \begin{aligned} |\phi(1)\rangle &\stackrel{\hat{S}}{=} |\phi(0)\rangle \quad \text{iff} \quad |\phi(1)\rangle = T e^{-i \int_0^1 dz H(z)} |\phi(0)\rangle \\ &\quad \text{and} \quad [H(z), S] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$ restriction to allowed transformations

The states $|\phi(\lambda=0)\rangle$ and $|\phi(\lambda=1)\rangle$ are said to be in the same symmetry protected phase (c.f. class) if we can find a smooth deformation of $H \rightarrow H(\lambda)$ such that $[H(\lambda), S] = 0$ and that $|\phi(0)\rangle$ and $|\phi(1)\rangle$ are ground states of $H(\lambda)$ at $\lambda=0$ and $\lambda=1$ and there was no gap closing on the λ -path

example

1D Rice-Mele model as SSH



$|\phi_1\rangle, |\phi_2\rangle$ not in the same symmetry-protected phase but if we lift symmetry protection they are in the same phase

