

Abstract Submitted  
for the MAR05 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Entanglement in quantum-critical spin systems** TOMMASO ROSCILDE, STEPHAN HAAS, University of Southern California, PAOLA VERRUCCHI, ANDREA FUBINI, VALERIO TOGNETTI, Università di Firenze — In this talk I would like to review recent work done on entanglement in quantum spin systems at and close to a quantum critical point. Making use of the Stochastic Series Expansion Quantum Monte Carlo, we have extensively studied the  $T = 0$  bipartite entanglement in the spin-1/2 XXZ model with a magnetic field applied in the  $xy$  plane. Simulations have been done on linear chains, two-leg ladders, and on the square lattice; a field-driven quantum phase transition is observed for all lattice geometries. We observe that the transition is always accompanied by a strong entanglement signature, namely a minimum in the pairwise-to-global entanglement ratio, which signals the critical enhancement of multi-partite entanglement [1]. Moreover, the appearance of a classical exactly factorized state at an anisotropy-dependent field value, known in the one-dimensional case only, is surprisingly singled out by entanglement estimators also in the case of the ladder and of the square lattice. This shows the novel insight provided by entanglement estimators in lattice quantum spin systems. [1] T. Roscilde *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **93**, 167203 (2004); in preparation.

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Date submitted: 29 Nov 2004

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