

For lack of accuracy in our numerical calculations the precision of our old results for  $N \geq 20$  was only  $10^{-2}$ . This problem happened because we used the ground-state function that approximates the energy up to  $10^{-7}$  to evaluate the correlation functions assuming that the error in these functions would be the same. This criterion proves to be correct for  $N = 18$  but it is not accurate enough for  $N \geq 20$ . Now we present the correlation functions with an error of  $10^{-6}$  as was claimed in our paper. The conclusions of our work remain the same.

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**Erratum: Decay of a metastable state: A variational approach**  
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E. Freidkin, Peter Riseborough, and Peter Hanggi

In Eq. (5), the right-hand side should be multiplied by a factor of  $\pi$ . The numerical values, in Tables I through IV, were calculated with the correct formula.