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Hardness of computing quantum invariants of 3-manifolds with restricted topology

jcgeo25 : Jeunes Chercheuses et Chercheurs en Géométrie

04/06/2025

Quantum invariants

Quantum invariants are numerical quantities, coming from topological quantum field theories (**TQFTs**), which are often associated to either **knots or (closed) 3-manifolds**

Quantum invariants

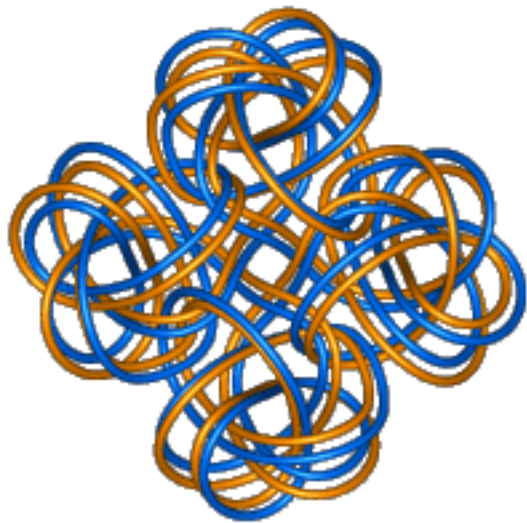
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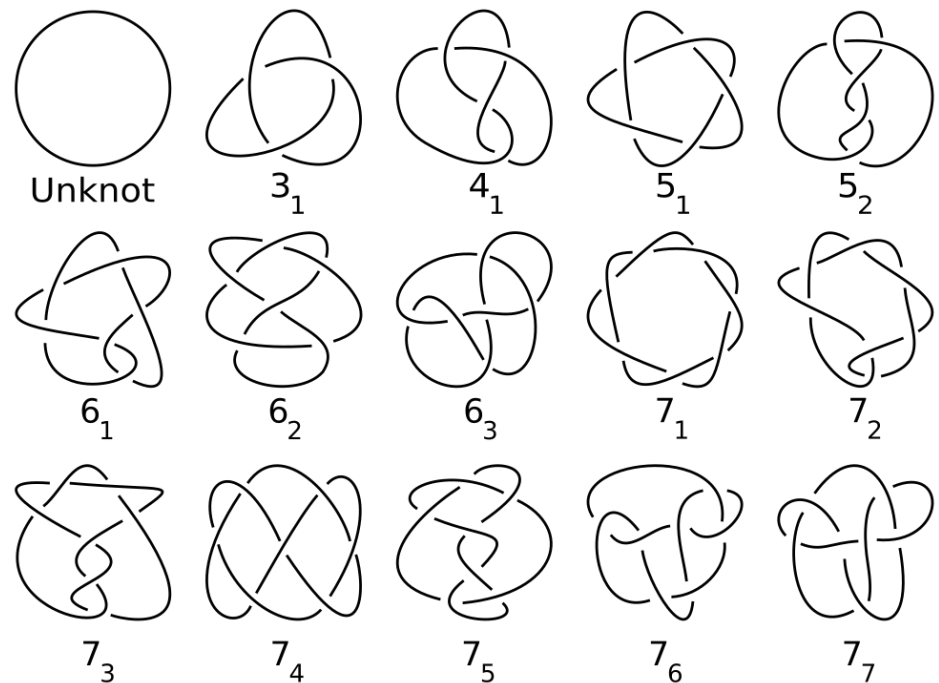
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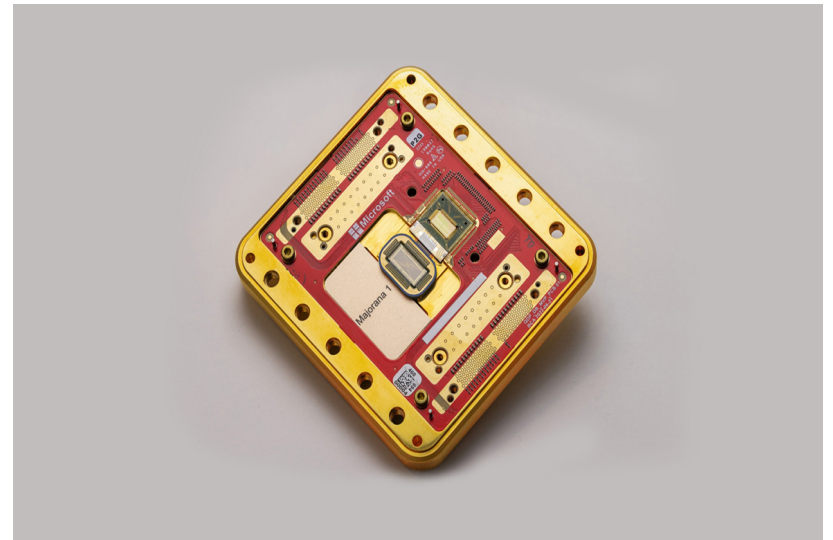
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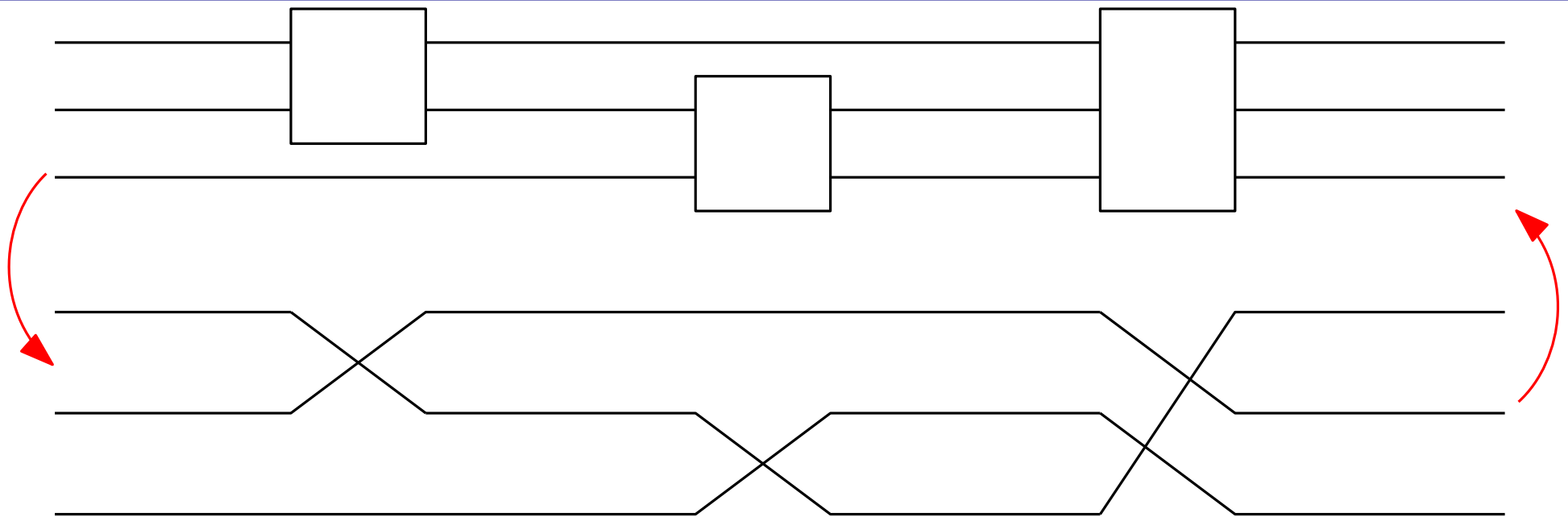
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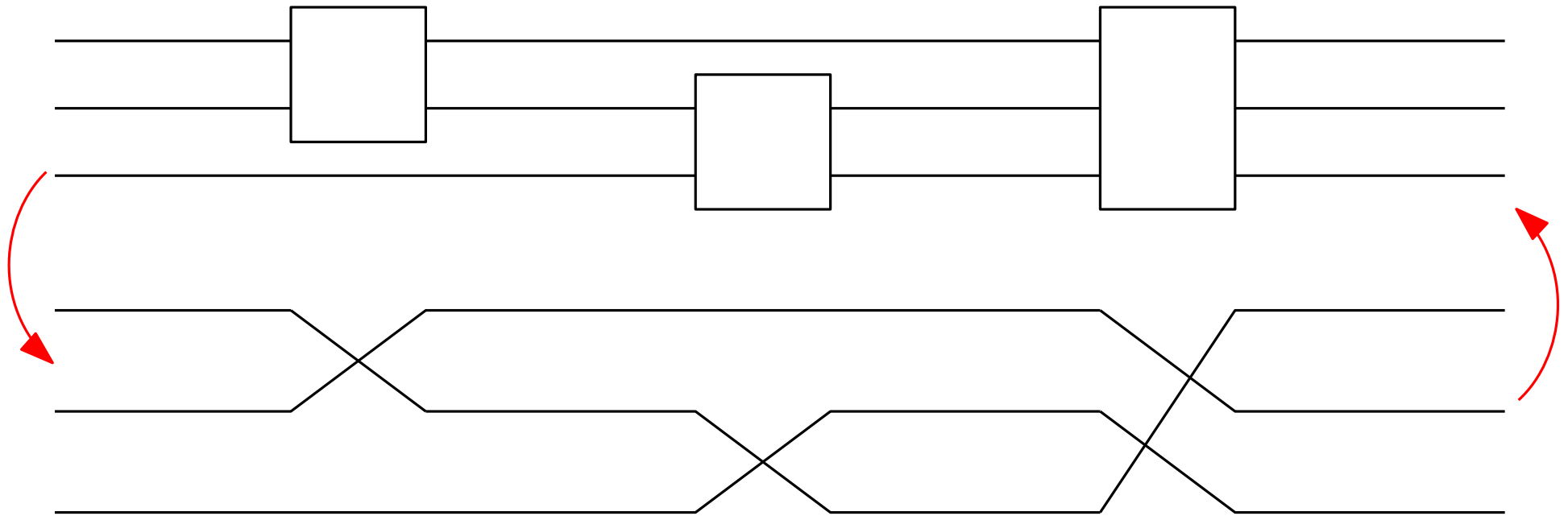
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- used in **quantum computing**



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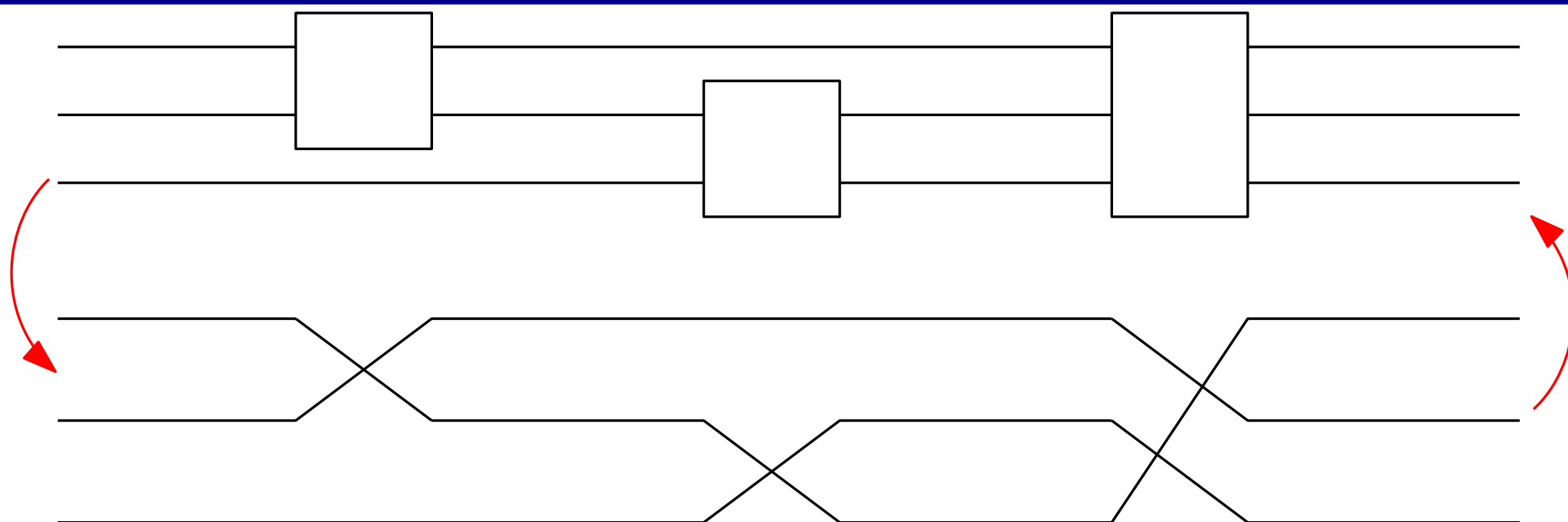


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Theorem (Kuperberg, 2009; Alagic and Lo, 2014):

Exact computations (or even good approximations) of the RT invariant for some choices of \mathcal{C} (e.g., Jones polynomial for links and WRT for closed 3-manifolds) are $\#P$ -hard

Complexity theory

Consider a logic term with free variables

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Theorem (Aaronson, 2005):

Computing the probability of a quantum circuit giving TRUE is #P-hard

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Does restricting the topology yields to easier algorithms?

- A manifold M is **irreducible*** if M is not homomorphic to the direct sum $N_1 \# N_2$ where $N_1, N_2 \neq S^3$
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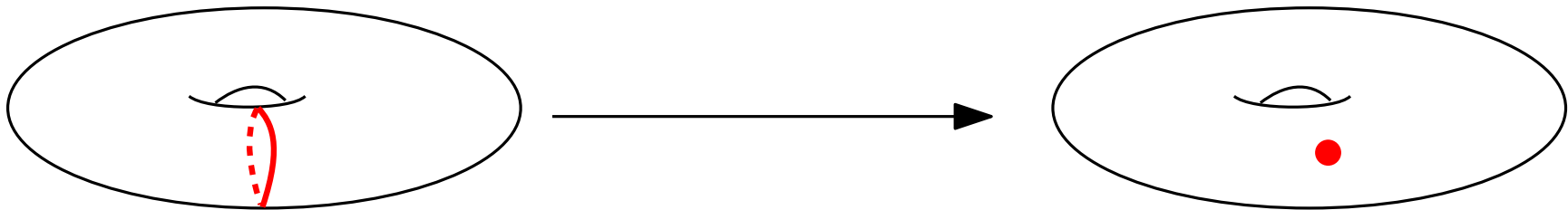
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(H.E. and C.M., 2025) **No**

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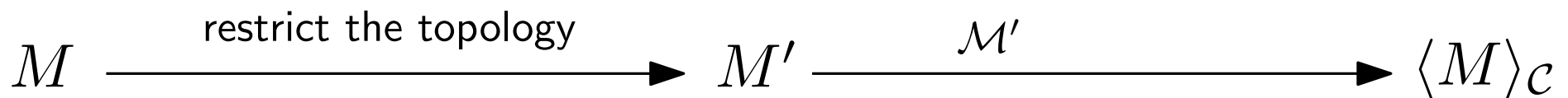
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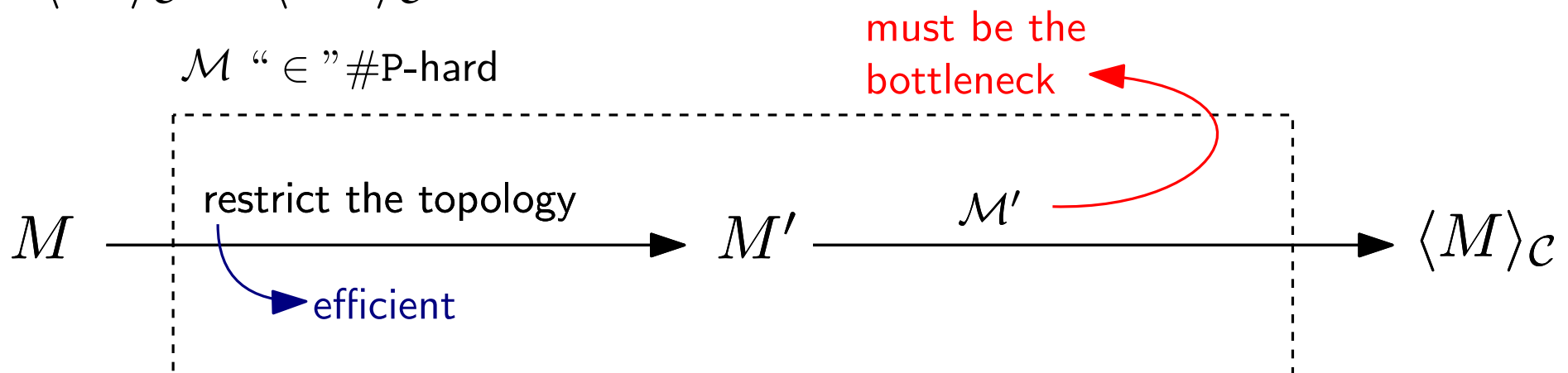
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