

NUI MAYNOOTH



**MATHEMATICAL  
PHYSICS**



# Topological quantum computation

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# Outline

## Introduction

### Topological quantum computation and algorithms

- Links and knots
- Jones polynomial
  - Braid group
- Approximating Jones polynomial

### Topological phases and natural fault-tolerance

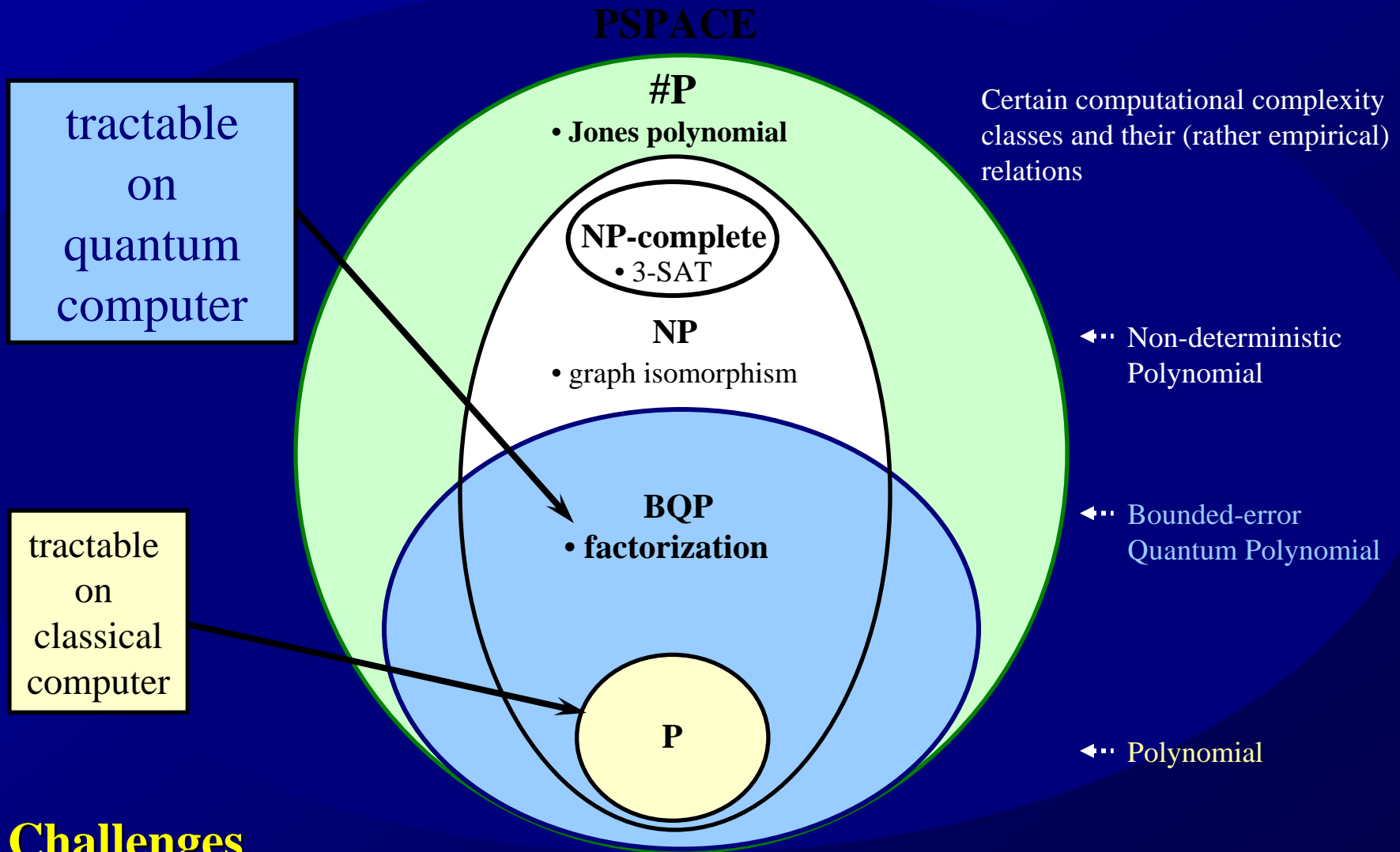
- Topological quantum field theory
- Spectral properties of topological phases

## Anyons

### Physical realization

- Fractional quantum Hall systems
- Lattice models of topological phases

# Quantum computation



## Challenges

Theory:

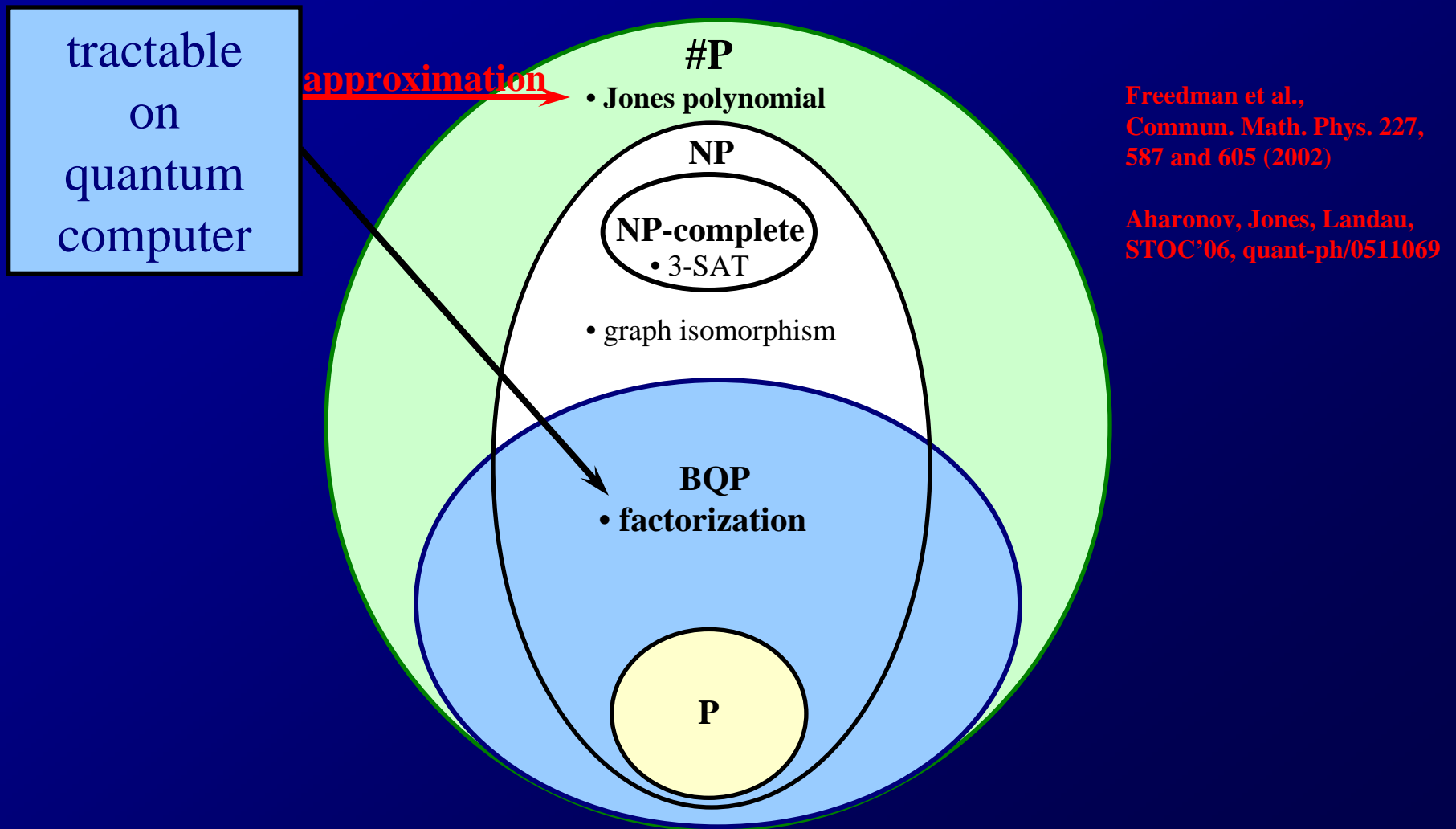
algorithms, computational complexity, ...

Implementations:

fault-tolerance, ...

# Topological quantum computation

- is a unique QC model (though equivalent to standard QCM) => new algorithms
- natural fault tolerance



# Links and knots

## Link

- a finite family of disjoint, smooth, closed curves in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  or equivalently in  $S^3$

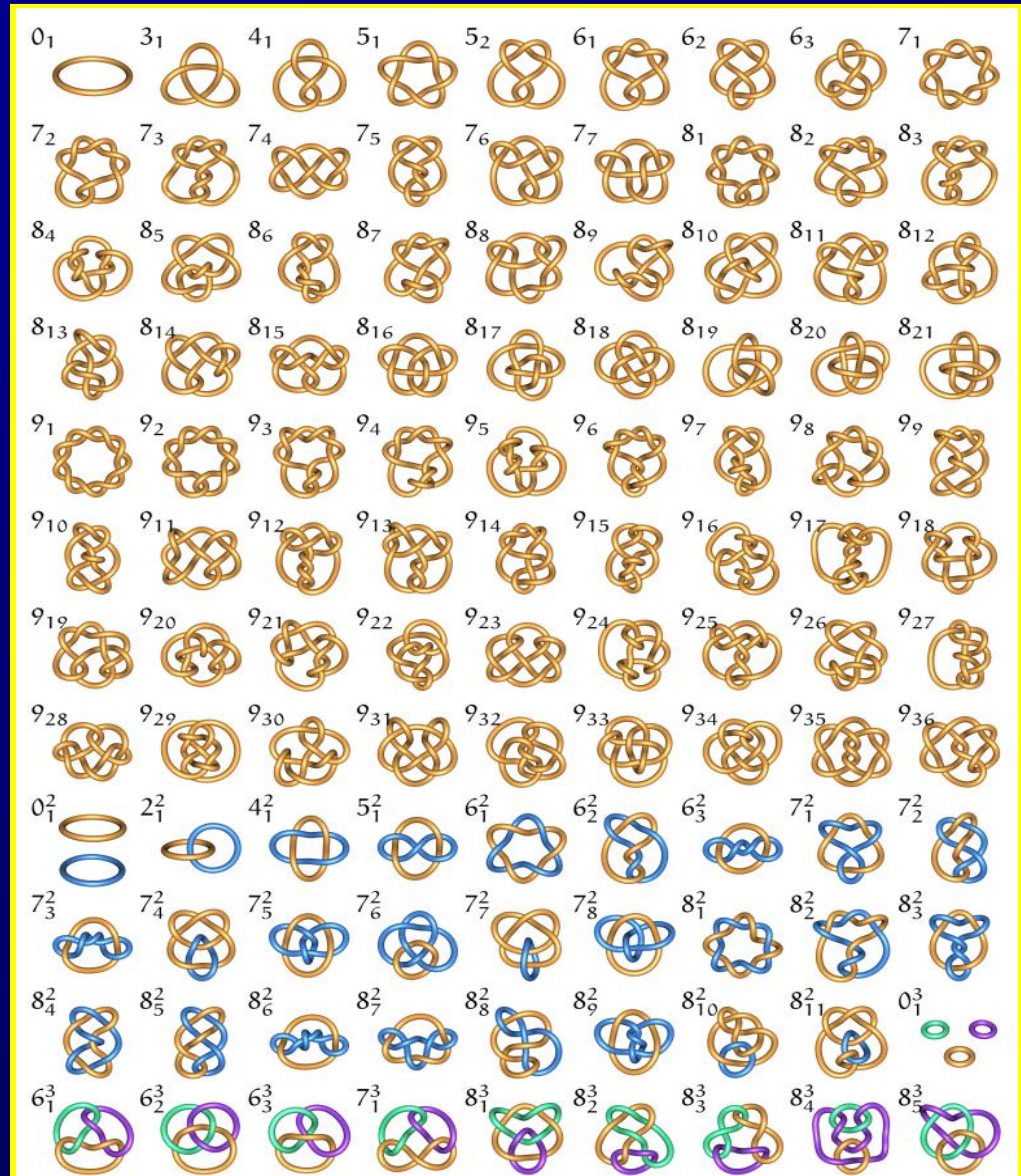
## Knot

- a link with one component

Knot complexity grows very fast:

# of crossings    # of knots

0	1
3	1
4	1
5	2
6	3
7	7
8	21
9	36



# Jones polynomial

- Laurent polynomial in  $t^{1/2}$ ,  $V_L(t)$
- invariant of links and knots under isotopy
- #P-hard combinatorial problem
  - classical algorithm is exponential in the number of crossings

Jones, Bull. AMS 12, 103 (1985)

skein relation

$$t^{-1} V_{\nearrow \searrow} - t V_{\searrow \nearrow} = (t^{1/2} - t^{-1/2}) V_{\curvearrowright}$$

trivial knot

$$V_{\bigcirc} = 1$$

Examples:

$$V_{\bigcirc \bigcirc} = - (t^{-1/2} + t^{1/2})$$

“unlink”

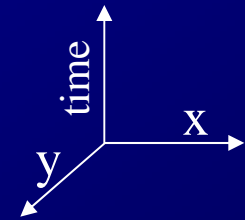
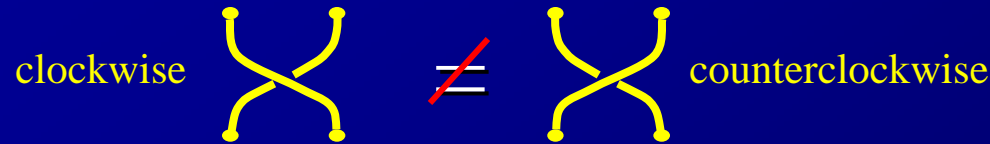
$$V_{\text{right hand trefoil}} = t + t^3 - t^4$$

right hand trefoil knot

# Braid group $B_n$

Artin, Ann. Math. 48, 101 (1947)

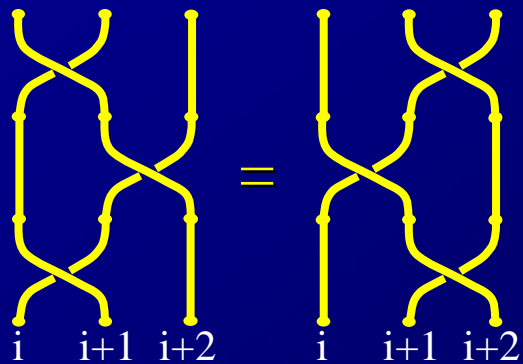
Exchanging particles on a plane is not permutation but braiding:



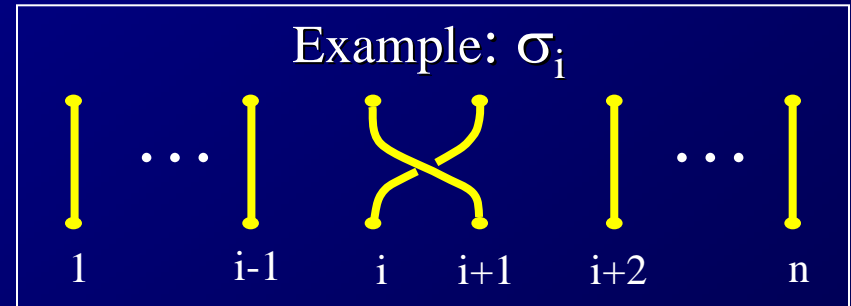
A braid group for  $n$  strands (particles) has  $n$  generators  $\{1, \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}\}$  which satisfy:

$$\sigma_i \sigma_j = \sigma_j \sigma_i \quad \text{for } |j - i| > 1$$

$$\sigma_i \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i = \sigma_{i+1} \sigma_i \sigma_{i+1}$$

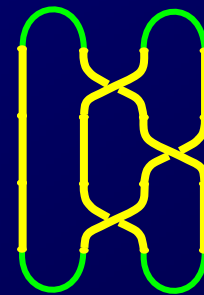


Yang-Baxter equation



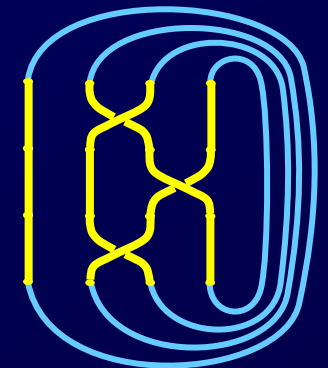
Closures of braids are links and knots

plat closure



trefoil knot

trace closure



A braid group can be usefully represented in Temperley-Lieb algebra  $TL_n(d)$  which permits a unitary representation (qubits!!!)

# Approximating Jones polynomial

Freedman et al., Commun. Math. Phys. 227, 587 and 605 (2002)

Aharonov, Jones, Landau, STOC'06, quant-ph/0511069

There is an efficient, explicit and simple quantum algorithm to approximate Jones polynomial for all  $t = e^{2\pi i/k}$ :

## Theorem 1

the trace closure case

For a given braid  $B$  with  $n$  strands and  $m$  crossings, and a given integer  $k$ , there is a quantum algorithm which is polynomial in  $n, m, k$  which with all but exponentially small probability, outputs a complex number  $r$  with  $|r - V_{\text{Btr}}(e^{2\pi i/k})| < \varepsilon d^{n-1}$  where  $d = -A^2 - A^{-2}$ , and  $\varepsilon$  is inverse polynomial in  $n, m, k$ .

## Theorem 2

the plat closure case

For a given braid  $B$  with  $n$  strands and  $m$  crossings, and a given integer  $k$ , there is a quantum algorithm which is polynomial in  $n, m, k$  which with all but exponentially small probability, outputs a complex number  $r$  with  $|r - V_{\text{Bpl}}(e^{2\pi i/k})| < \varepsilon d^{3n/2}/N$  where  $d = -A^2 - A^{-2}$ , and  $\varepsilon$  is inverse polynomial in  $n, m, k$  ( $N$  is an exponentially large factor).

## Theorem 3

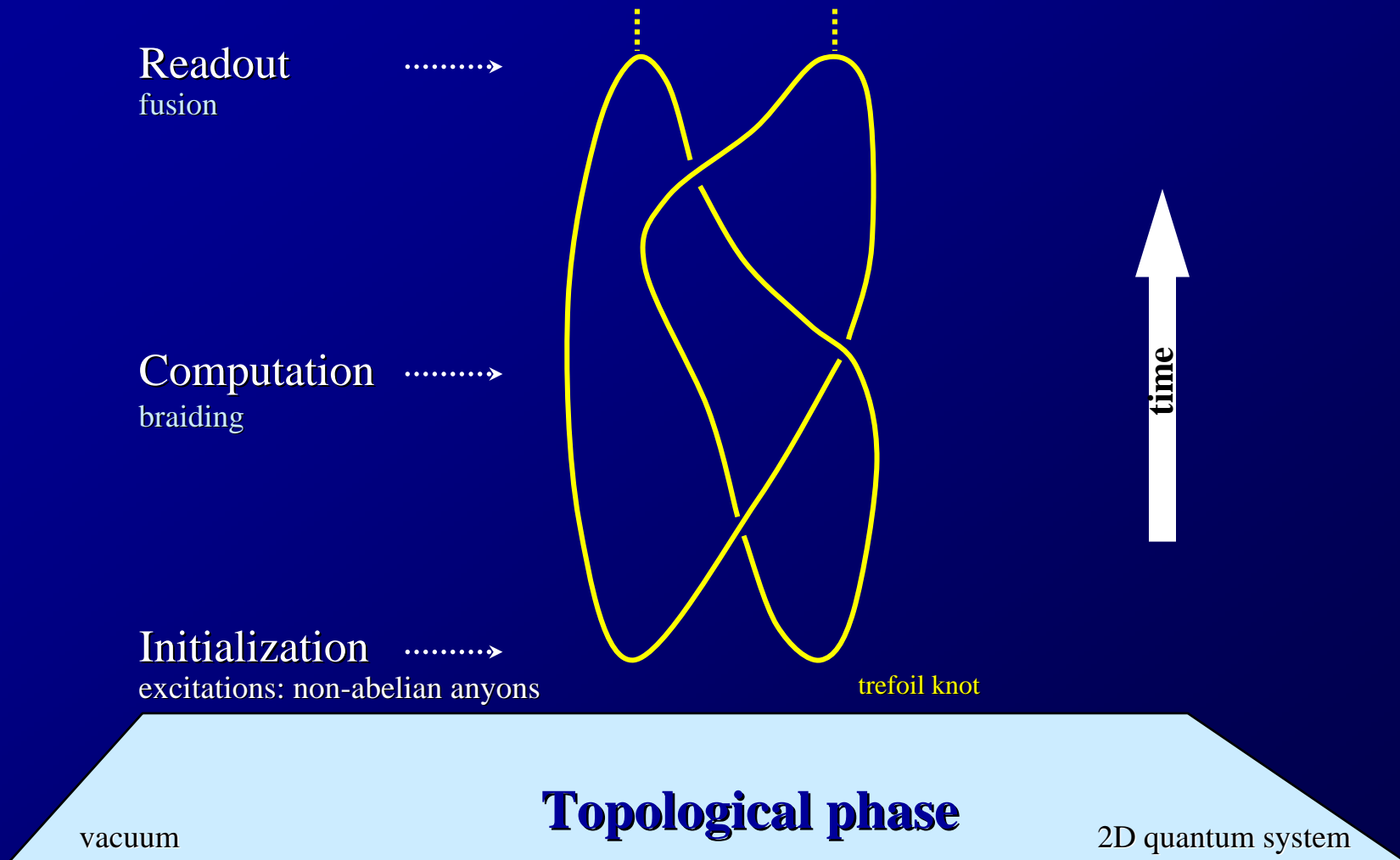
Approximating the Jones polynomial of the plat closure (Th.2) is BQP-complete.

Aharonov, Arad, quant-ph/0605181

Wocjan, Yard, quant-ph/0603069

# Topological quantum computation

- is a unique QC model (though equivalent to standard QCM) => new algorithms
- natural fault tolerance



# Topological phases: effective theory

- topological phases are phases of two-dimensional many-body quantum systems whose properties depend only on topology of the manifold on whose surface a given phase is realized
- their effective description is given by topological quantum field theory (3 dimensional) defined e.g. by the Chern-Simons action:

Witten, Commun. Math. Phys. 121, 351 (1989)

$$S = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int_{\Gamma} dt d^2x \varepsilon^{\mu\nu\rho} a_{\mu} \partial_{\nu} a_{\rho}$$

level of theory (integer) →
← (2+1)D manifold
← gauge field

no metric!!!

Example: doubled  $SU(2)_k$  Chern-Simons theory (PT invariant theory):

Freedman, et al., CMP 227, 605 (2002)

$k = 1$	- abelian topological phase	- quantum memory
$k \geq 2$	- non-abelian	
$k = 3, 5 \dots$	- non-abelian and universal	- universal QC

- topological phases are invariant with local geometry and hence quantum information stored in them is invariant with local error processes

no metric, no error!!!

# Topological phases: Hamiltonian spectrum

- are ground states of certain strongly correlated many-body quantum systems

e.g. in Coulomb gauge,  $a_0 = 0$ :  $\mathcal{L} = a_2 \partial_0 a_1 - a_1 \partial_0 a_2$

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_0 a_1)} \partial_0 a_1 + \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_0 a_2)} \partial_0 a_2 - \mathcal{L} = 0$$

no metric, no energy!!!

- energy spectrum of matter in a topological phase is characterized by

finite topology-dependent ground state degeneracy,

e.g. for the doubled  $SU(2)_k$  Chern-Simons theory:  $(k+1)^{2g}$

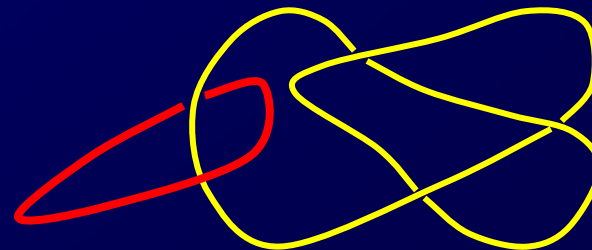
genus

Freedman et al. Ann. Phys. 310, 428 (2004)



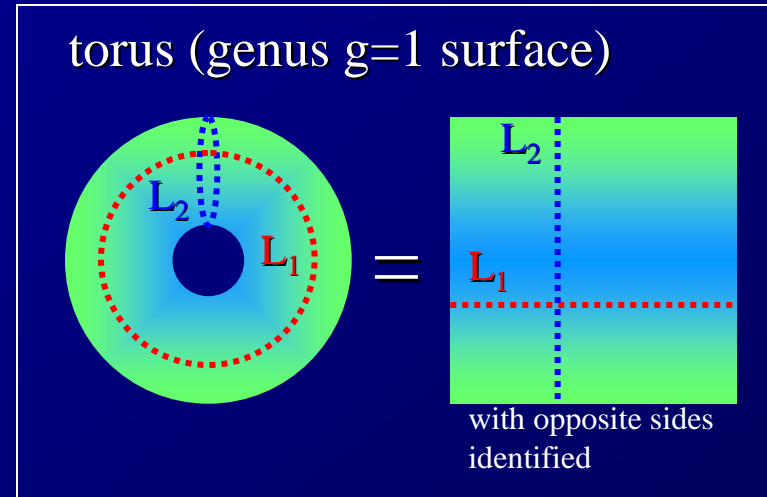
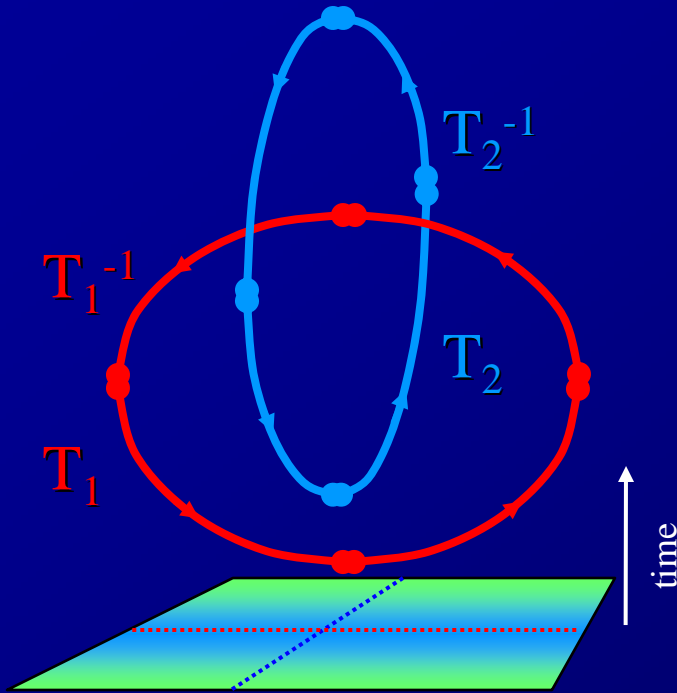
spectral gap

- excitations of **stray anyons**, which may cause errors via non-local processes, are exponentially suppressed due to the spectral gap !!!



# Topological phases: ground state degeneracy

**Example:** abelian anyons on torus



one anyon winds clockwise around the other:

$$T_2^{-1} T_1^{-1} T_2 T_1 = e^{-i2\theta} \mathbb{1}$$

$[T_1, H] = 0$  and  $[T_2, H] = 0$ , so  $T_1 |\alpha\rangle = e^{i\alpha} |\alpha\rangle$ :  $T_1(T_2)|\alpha\rangle = e^{i2\theta} T_2 T_1 |\alpha\rangle = e^{i2\theta} e^{i\alpha} (T_2)|\alpha\rangle$   
 suppose that  $\theta$  is a rational multiple of  $\pi$ :  $\theta = \pi p/q$ , then  $T_1$  has  $q$  distinct eigenvalues  
 (orbits:  $\alpha + (2\pi p/q)k \pmod{2\pi}$ , where  $k=0,1,\dots,q-1$ ) and the ground state degeneracy is  $q$ .

**For genus  $g$  surface:**

**the ground state degeneracy is  $q^g$**

# Anyons

are excitations, quasiparticles, of a topological phase

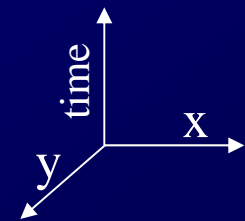
Configuration space of  $n$  indistinguishable particles in  $d$  dimensional space excluding diagonal points  $D$ :

$$M_n = (\mathbb{R}^{nd} - D)/S_n$$

Leinaas and Myrheim '77  
Wilczek '82

- in two spatial dimensions the configuration space is multiply connected

Exchanging particles on a plane is an element of braid group  $B_n$ :



One-dimensional irreps of  $B_n$  correspond to abelian fractional statistics:

$$\chi_\theta(\sigma) = e^{i\theta} \in U(1)$$

Higher dimensional irreps correspond to nonabelian fractional statistics:

$$\chi_\theta(\sigma) = e^{i\theta\Lambda} \quad \text{e.g. } \in SU(2)$$

# Example: Fibonacci anyons

J. Preskill, Lecture notes

- are characterized by two possible values of “q-deformed” spin quantum number  
0 (trivial) and 1

- composition of q-spins is dictated by **fusion** rules (CFT):

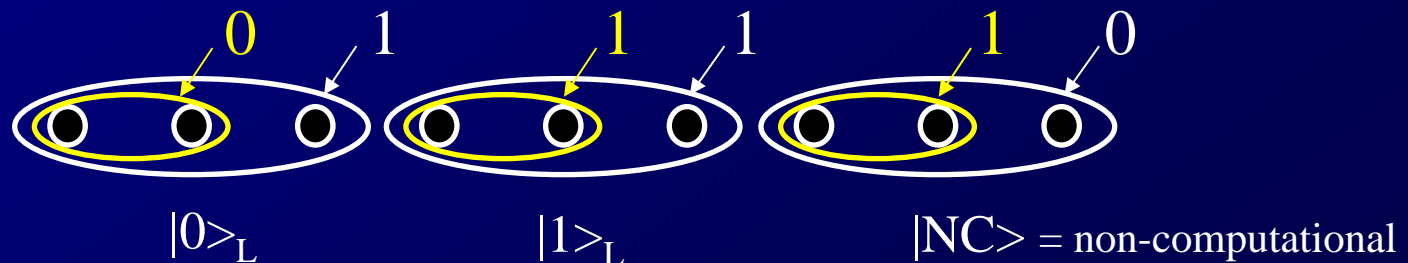
$$1 \times 1 = 0 + 1$$

$$0 \times 0 = 0$$

$$0 \times 1 = 1$$

- Hilbert space dimension for the trivial sector grows with the number of anyons as the Fibonacci series: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 ...

- one logical qubit can be constructed with q-spin=1 anyons as follows (reminiscence of encoded universality)



# QC operations with Fibonacci anyons

are derived from fusion rules and consistency relations between braiding and fusion operations known as pentagon and hexagon equations (quantum groups), the result is:

single-qubit operations:

The left diagram shows three anyons (black dots) in a white oval. The first two anyons are braided. The resulting matrix is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} e^{-i\pi/5} & 0 \\ 0 & -e^{-i2\pi/5} \end{bmatrix}$$

The right diagram shows three anyons in a white oval. The second and third anyons are braided. The resulting matrix is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\tau e^{-i\pi/5} & -i\tau^{1/2} e^{-i\pi/10} \\ -i\tau^{1/2} e^{-i\pi/10} & -\tau \end{bmatrix}$$

two-qubit operations

- braiding between anyons of different logical qubits - requires optimization
- analogous to the concept of encoded universality

# Topological phases in physical systems

- **fractional quantum Hall systems**  
particularly promising !!!

Das Sarma, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 166802 (2005)

- $p_x+ip_y$  superconductors  
Sr<sub>2</sub>RuO<sub>4</sub>  
Helium-3

Das Sarma, et al., Phys. Rev. B 73, 220502 (2006)

Salomaa, Volovik, Rev. Mod. Phys. 59, 533 (1989)

- **quantum lattice systems**  
atoms in optical lattices  
polar molecules  
Josephson-junction arrays

Duan, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 040902 (2003)

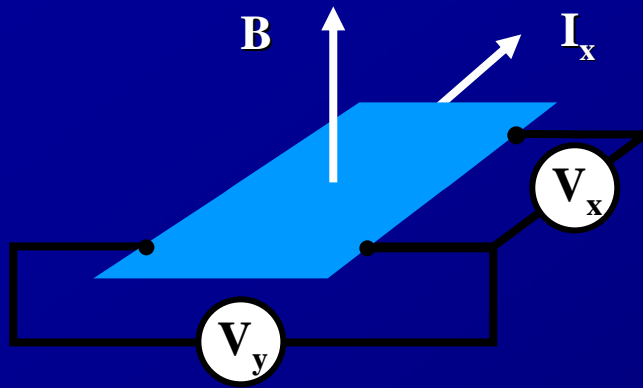
Micheli et al., Nature Phys. 2, 341 (2006)

Ioffe et al., Nature 415, 503 (2002)

- rotating Bose-Einstein condensates
- nuclear matter

# Fractional quantum Hall effect

Stormer, Tsui, Gossard, Phys. Rev. Lett. 48, 1559 (1982)  
Rev. Mod. Phys. 71, S298 (1999)



Longitudinal resistance

$$R_{xx} = V_x / I_x$$

Transverse (Hall) resistance

$$R_{xy} = V_y / I_x = h / \nu e^2$$

Theory

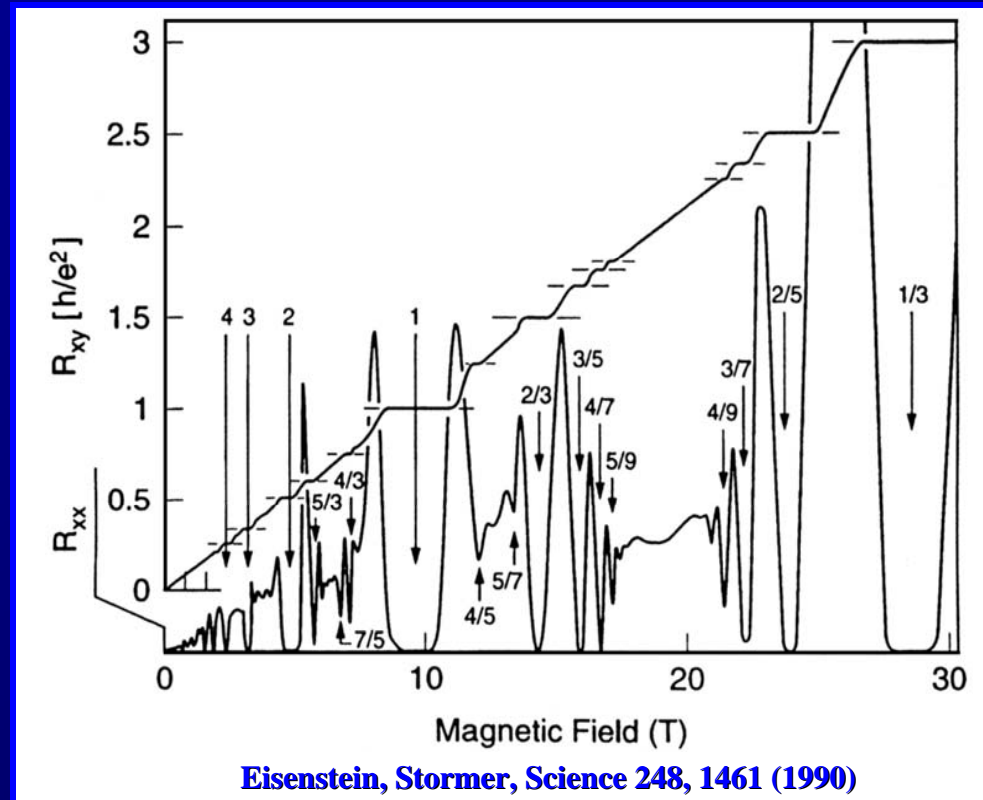
nonabelian quantum Hall phases at  $\nu=5/2$  and  $12/5$

Read, Rezayi, Phys. Rev.B 59, 8084 (1999)

Experiment

detecting these phases in high mobility samples

Xia et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 176809 (2004)



# Fractional quantum Hall systems

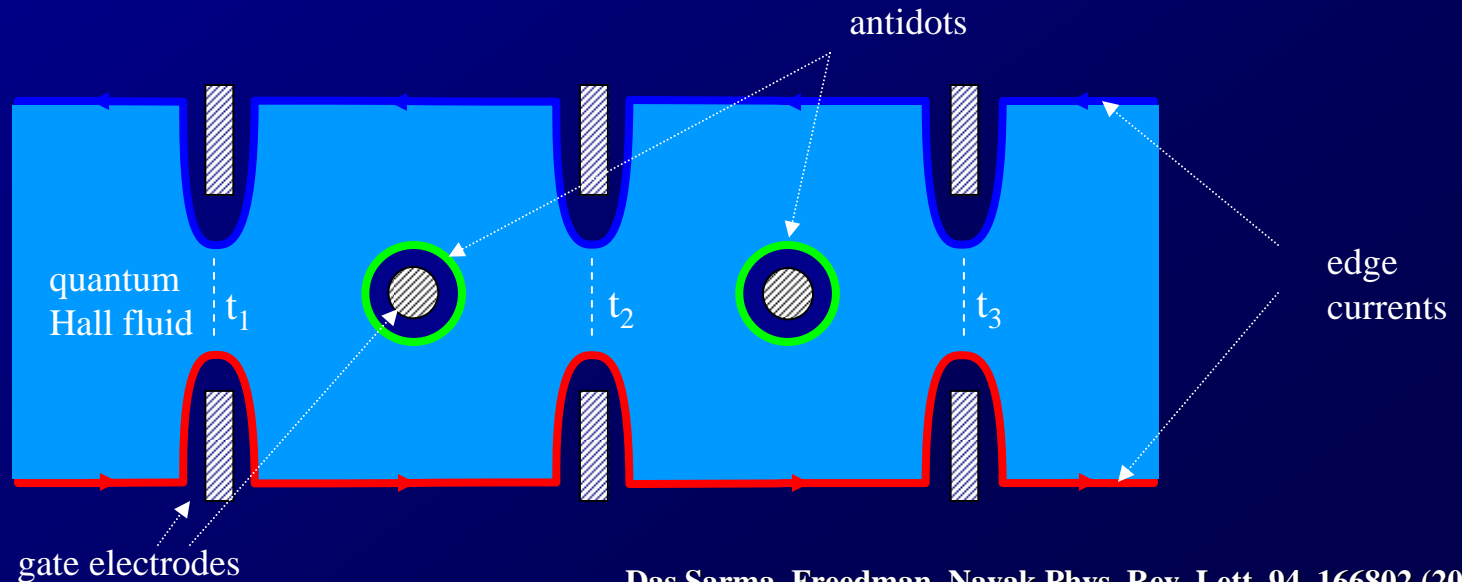
- non-abelian topological phases predicted in FQH systems at the filling  $\nu=5/2$  and  $12/5$

- experimental tests of fractional statistics using Laughlin interferometer

Camino, Zhou, Goldman, Phys. Rev. B 72, 075342 (2005)

- relation between boundary (CFT) and bulk (TQFT) – holographic principle

- topologically protected qubit



Das Sarma, Freedman, Nayak Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 166802 (2005)

# Topological phases in quantum lattice systems

- Toric code (Kitaev)
  - abelian topological phase
  - quantum memory

Kitaev,  
quant-ph/9707021  
Ann. Phys. 303, 2 (2003)
- Kitaev honeycomb lattice model
  - abelian topological field in zero magnetic field
  - non-abelian topological phase in the presence of magnetic field
  - realizations proposed using atoms in optical lattices and polar molecules
  - graphene

Kitaev,  
cond-mat/0506438
- Quantum loop gas model
  - abelian topological phases ( $k=1$ )
  - non-abelian topological phases ( $k=2$ )
  - concrete physical representation – extended Hubbard model

Freedman et al.,  
cond-mat/0309120;  
Phys. Rev. Lett.  
94, 066401 (2005).
- Trivalent graph (spin-1) model
  - hierarchy of topological phases

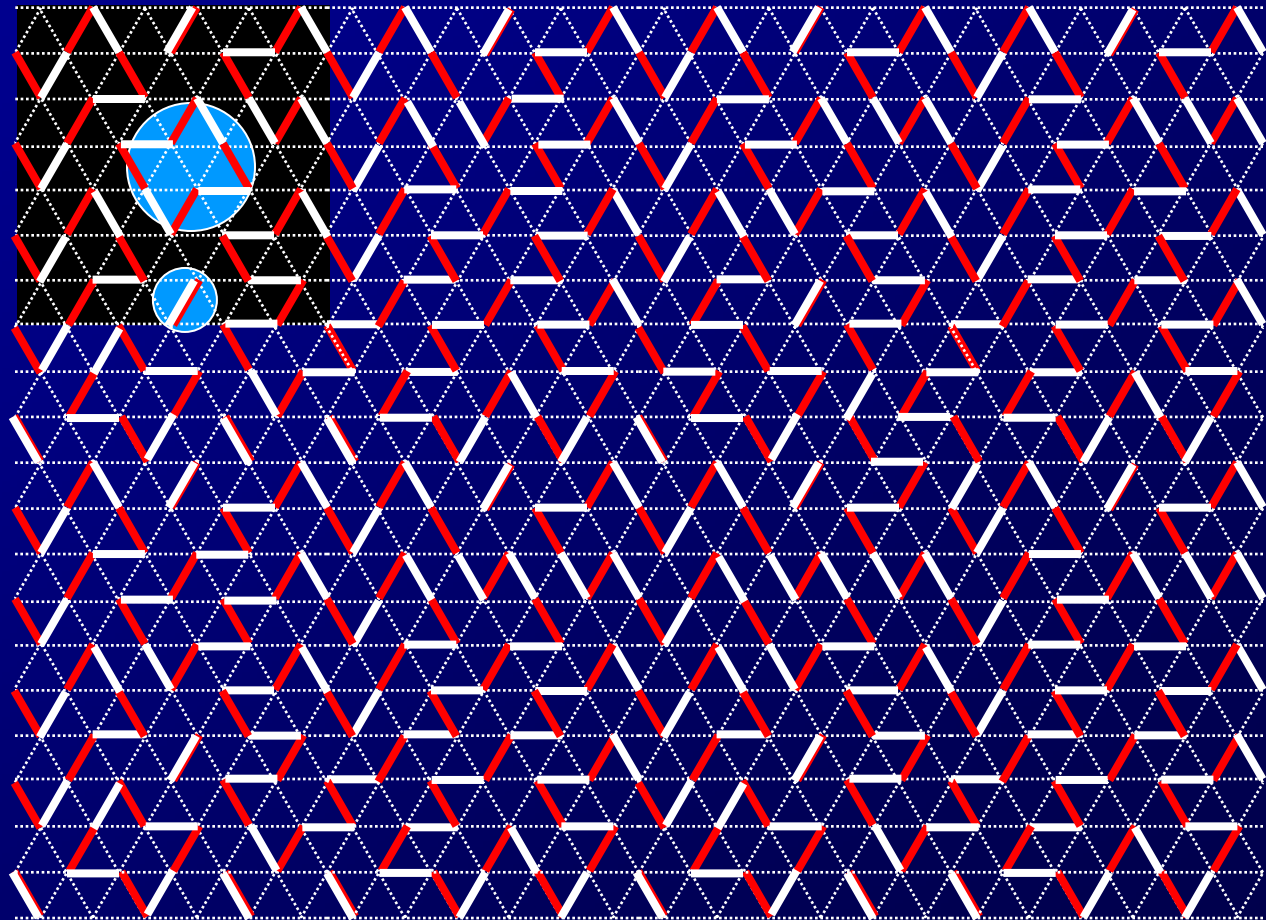
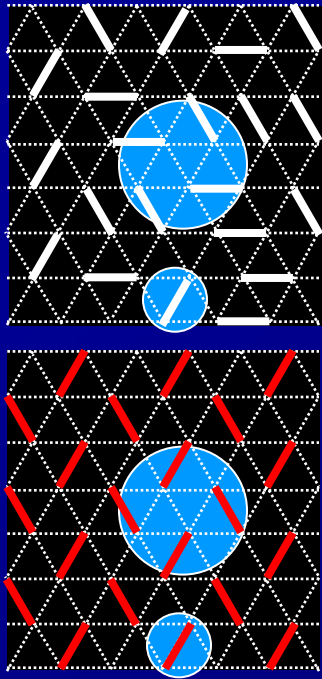
Fendley, Fradkin,  
Phys. Rev. B  
72, 024412
- String nets condensation
  - general hierarchy of topological phases

Levin, Wen,  
Phys. Rev. B  
71, 045110 (2005)

# Quantum loop gas

Two-dimensional sea of fluctuating loops

formed for example by dimers on a quantum lattice with  
a fixed background dimer covering



# Extended Hubbard model

- 1/6 filled Kagome lattice

$$H = U_0 \sum_i (n_i - 1)n_i +$$

$$\sum_i \mu_i n_i +$$

$$U \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} n_i n_j +$$

$$\sum_{\times i,j} V_{ij} n_i n_j +$$

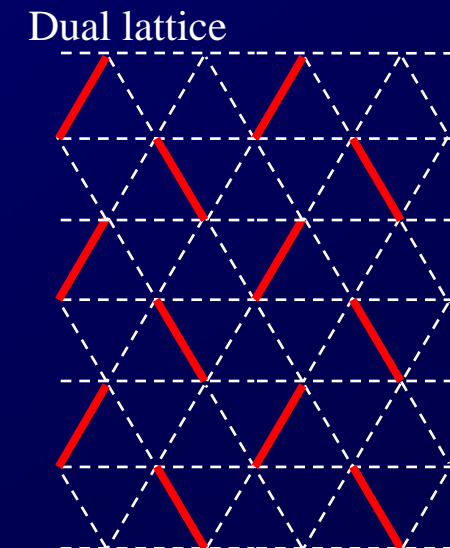
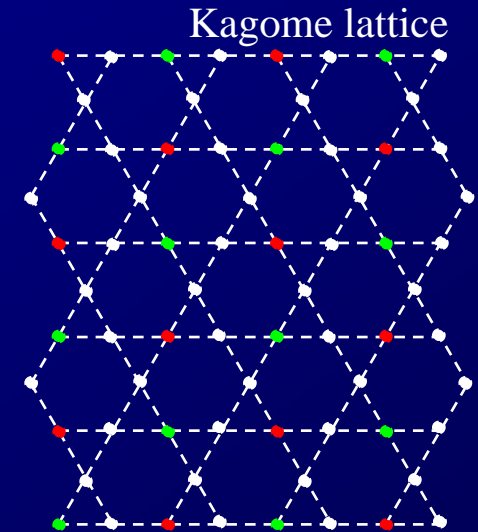
$$\sum_{i,j} t_{ij} (c_i^\dagger c_j + c_j^\dagger c_i)$$

-  $U \gg \mu_i, V_{ij}, t_{ij}$

-  $U_0$  is infinite, excluding doubly-occupied sites and hence preventing collisions

- potential terms are diagonal in the occupation basis,  $V$  and  $\mu$  terms are color dependent

- tunneling between nearest neighbors, color dependent



# Topological phase in EHM

Topological conditions:

1. isotopy  $\Psi[0] = \Psi[\text{figure-eight}]$

2. d-isotopy  $d\Psi[\text{figure-eight}] = \Psi[10]$

→ extensively degenerate ground state

3. consistent surgery conditions – Jones-Wenzl idempotents, e.g

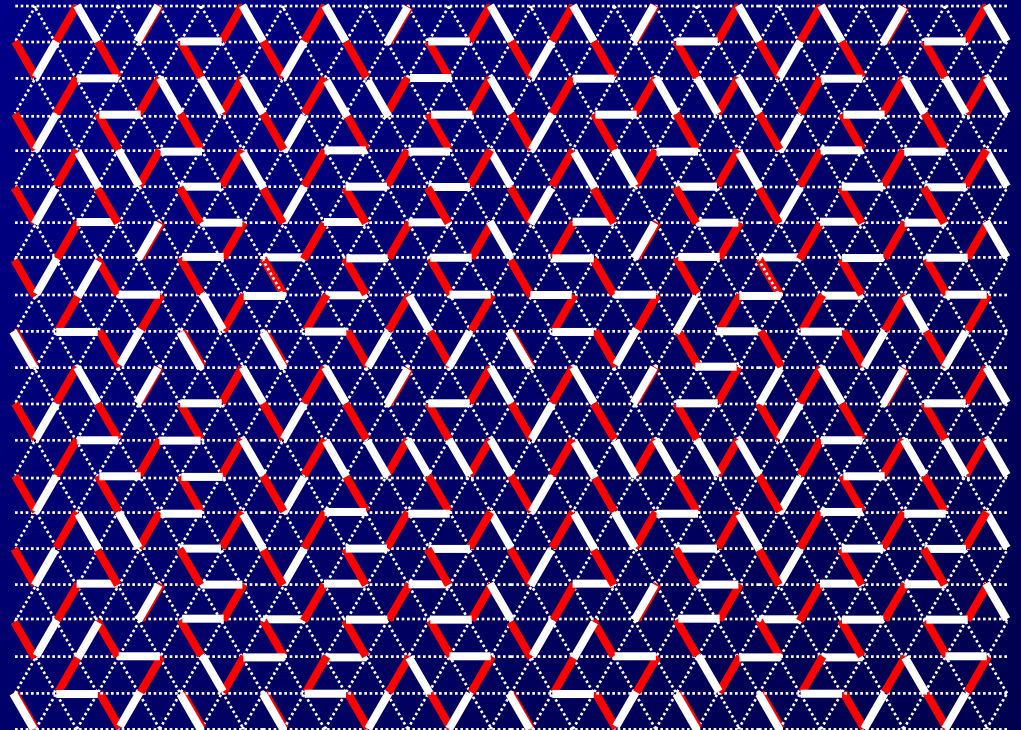
$$d\Psi[||] = \Psi[\text{cup and cap}]$$

where  $d=2\cos(\pi/(k+2))$



**Topological phase**

quantum loop gas



M. H. Freedman, C. Nayak, K. Shtengel,  
cond-mat/0309120; PRL 94, 066401 (2005).

# Challenges

## Topological phases

- microscopic models which are
  - universal for quantum computation
  - based on local interactions
  - experimentally conceivable
- physical realization
  - quantum Hall systems, etc.
- classification

## Topological quantum computing operations

- braiding
- measurement (Aharonov-Bohm-like experiment)

## Algorithms

- approximation of certain statistical mechanical problems (e.g. Potts model)
- approximation of NP-complete problems
- graph theoretical problems

## Complexity

- BQP-complete problems