

Title: Quantum computation with Topological Lattice Field Theories

Date: Feb 04, 2009 04:00 PM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/09020026>

Abstract: Recent results have shown that quantum computers can approximate the value of a tensor network efficiently. These results have initiated a search for tensor networks which contract to computationally interesting quantities. Topological Lattice Field Theories (TLFTs) are one source of such networks; when defined appropriately, networks arising from TLFTs contract to give topological invariants. In this elementary talk, we will define and classify TLFTs which lead to invariants of surfaces, and sketch out the corresponding quantum algorithm. Our exposition will be targetted at a general mathematically-inclined audience; no previous knowledge of field theories is required.

# **A LEISURELY STROLL THROUGH TLFTs<sup>\*</sup>**

**(and how they may be useful in quantum computation)**

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**Gorjan Alagic**  
**IQC / C&O U. Waterloo**

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**Other people thinking about this stuff include:**

**Alexander Russell (Uconn)**

**Cris Moore (UNM/SFI)**

**Jon Yard (LANL)**

**Zeph Landau (CUNY)**

**... and others.**

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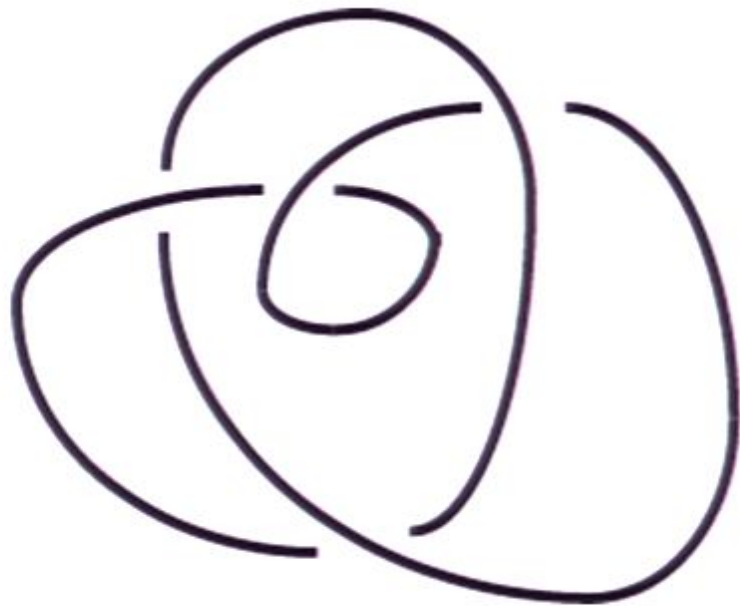
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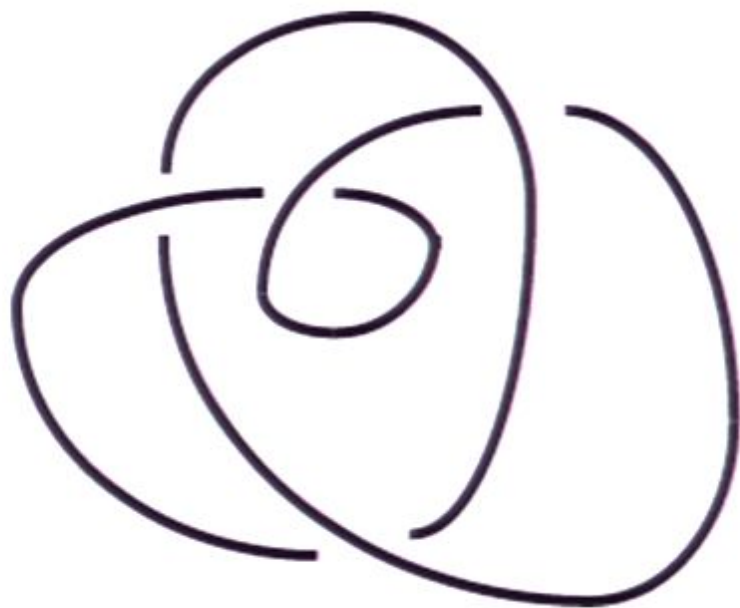
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# Knots



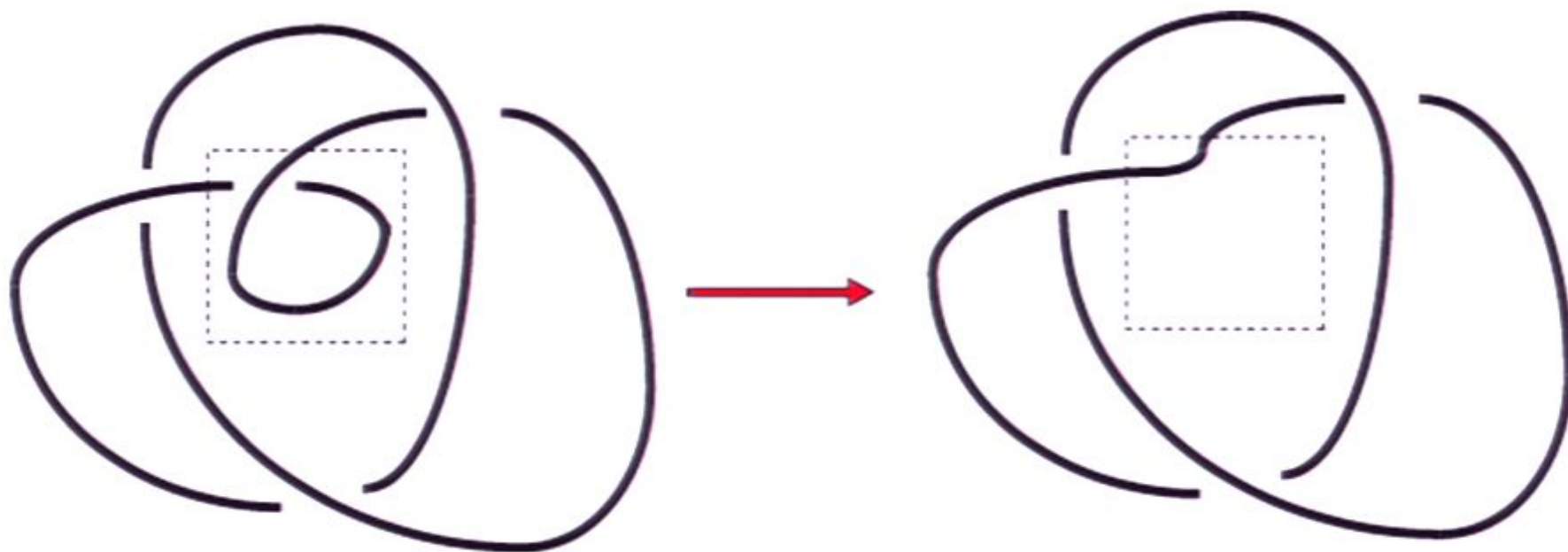
# Knot diagrams



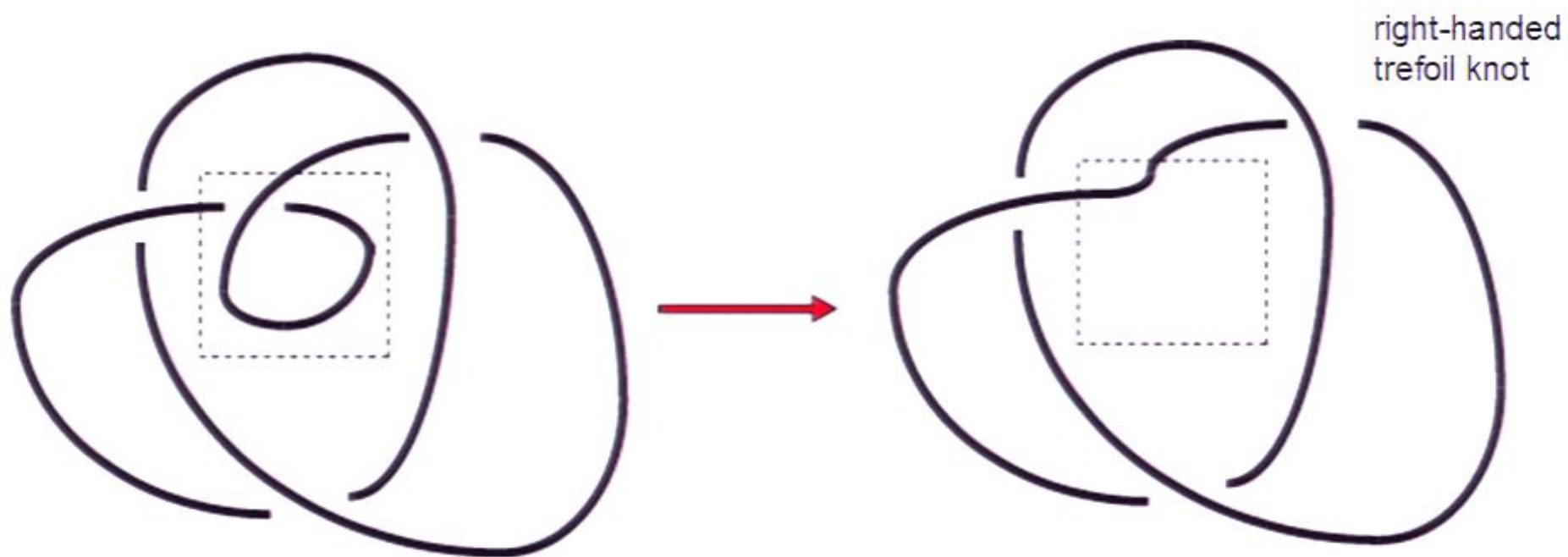
# Knot and link diagrams



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# Reidemeister Moves



Type I



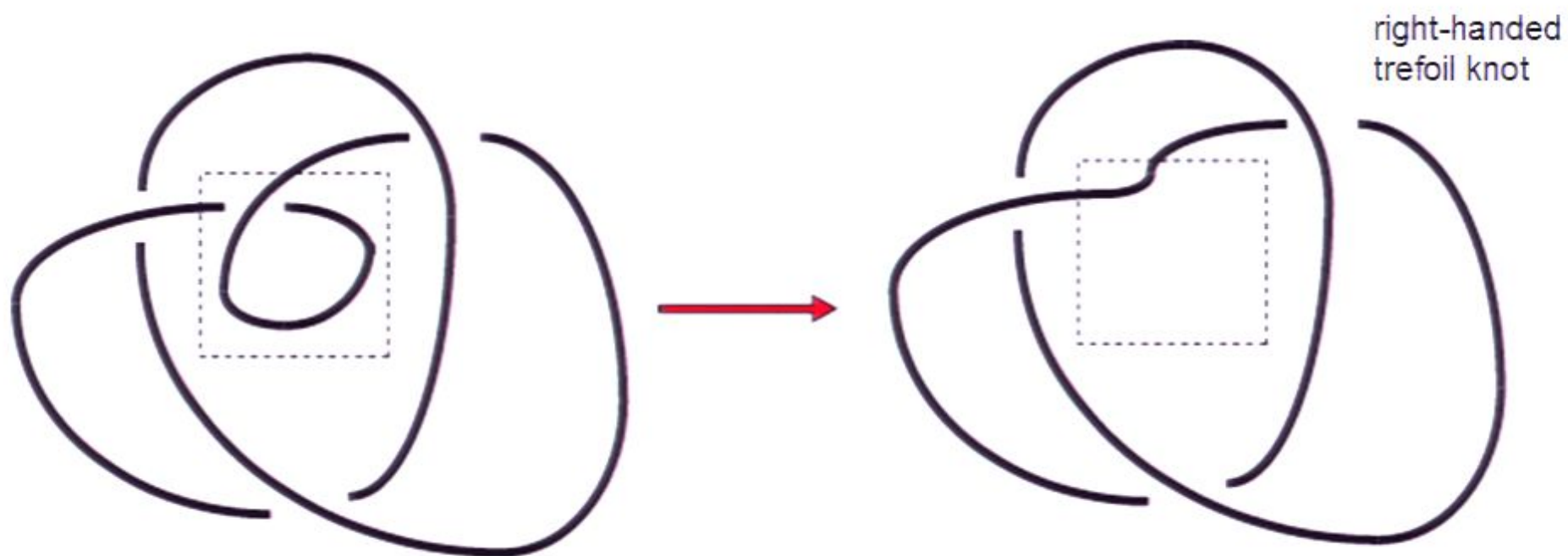
Type II



Type III

Purely combinatorial rules!

# Knot and link diagrams



# Reidemeister Moves



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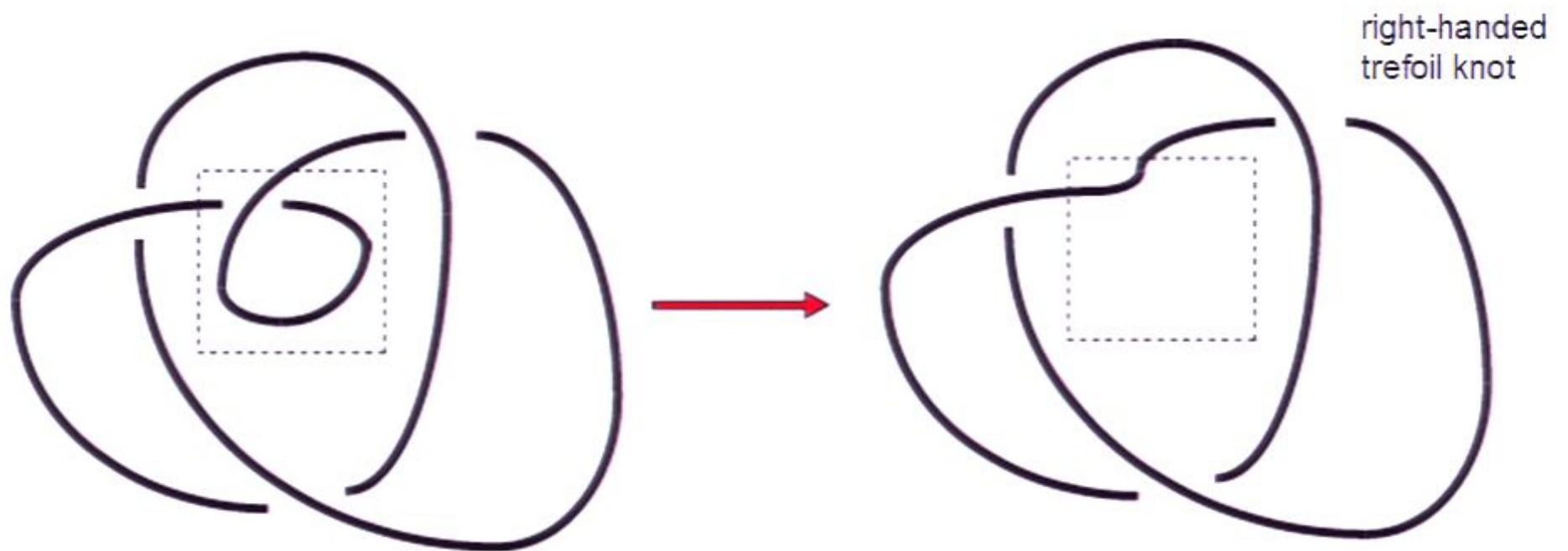


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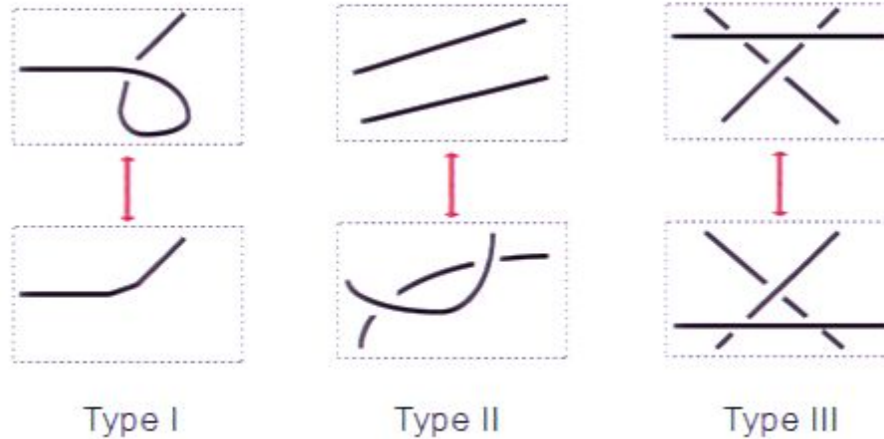


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## Theorem (Alexander and Briggs, Reidemeister) [1927]:

Any two diagrams of the same link differ by a finite number of these moves.

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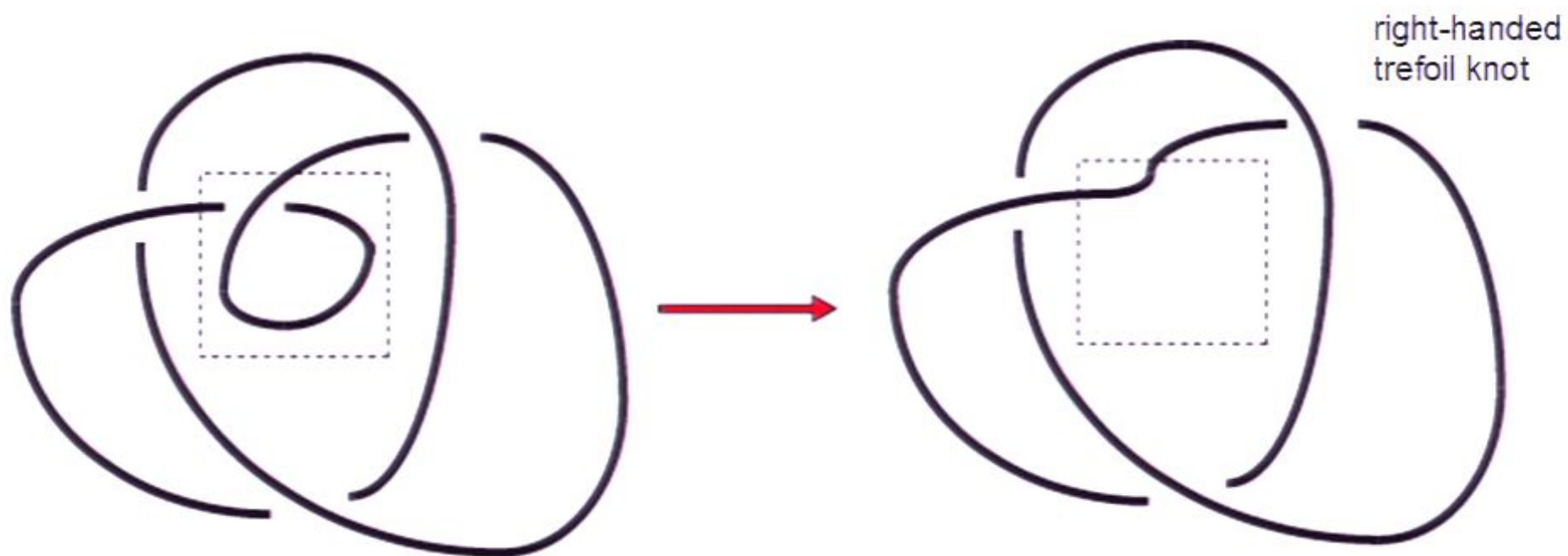


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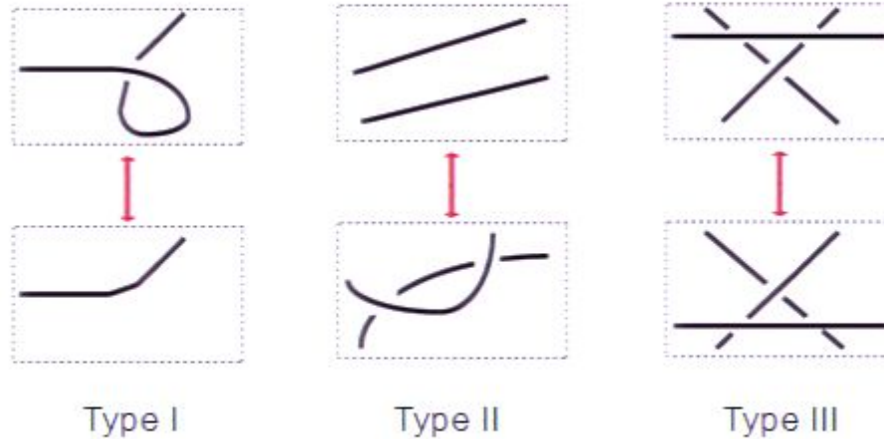


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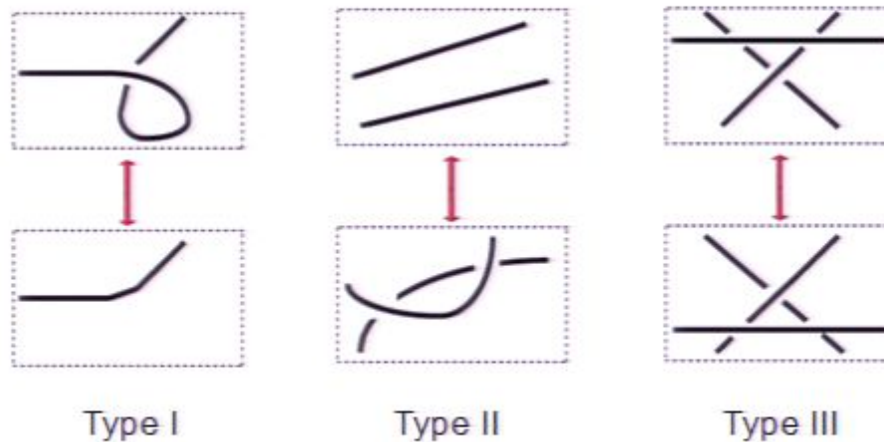
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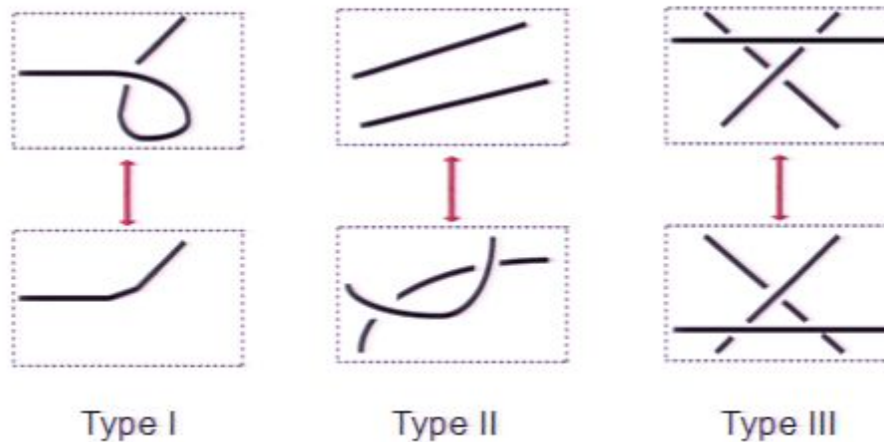
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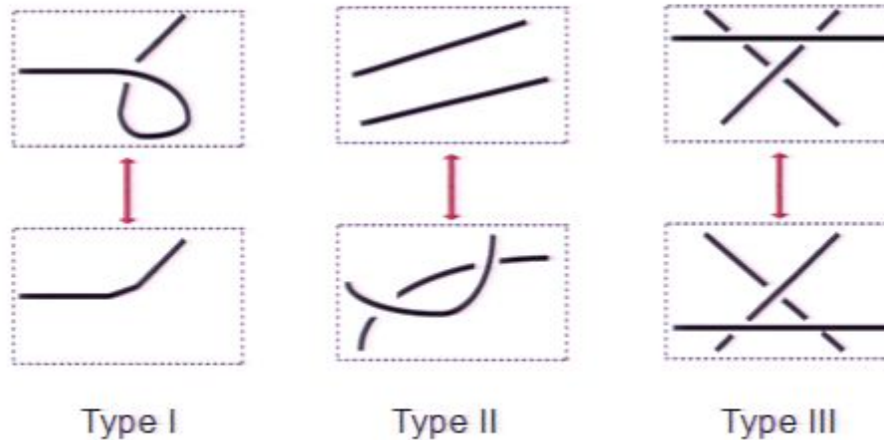
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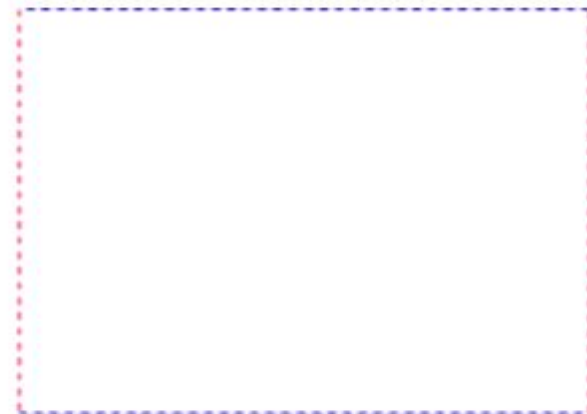
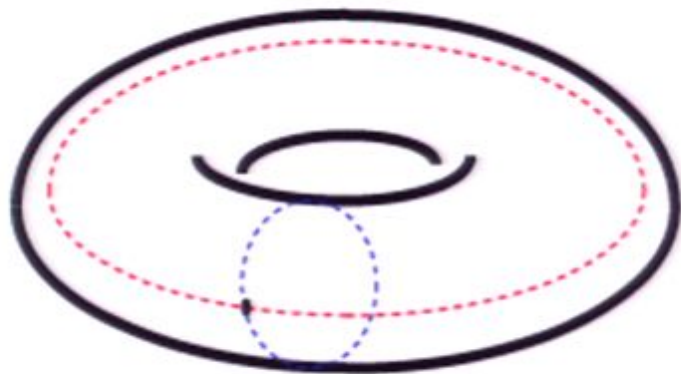
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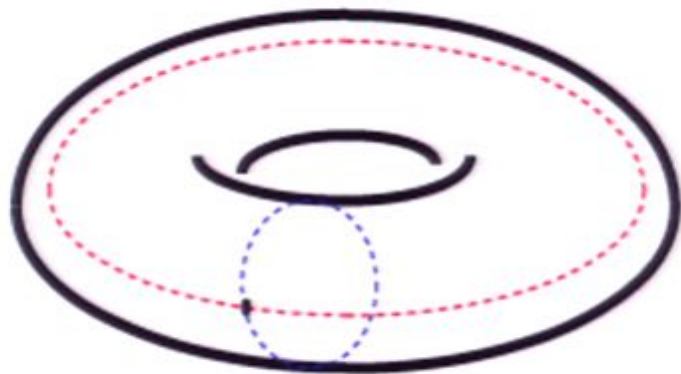
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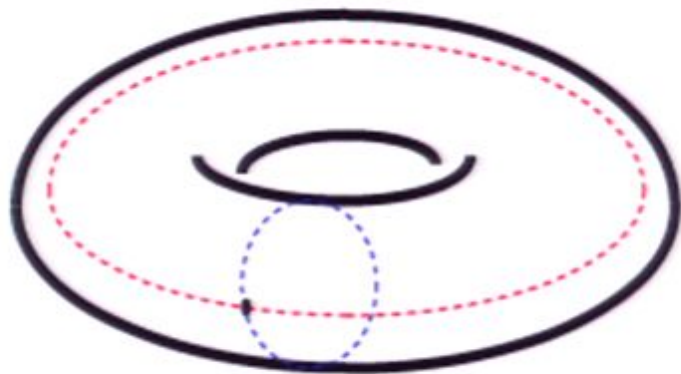
surface



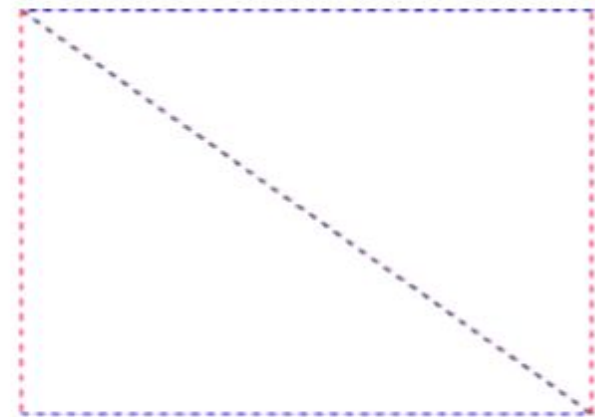
triangulation



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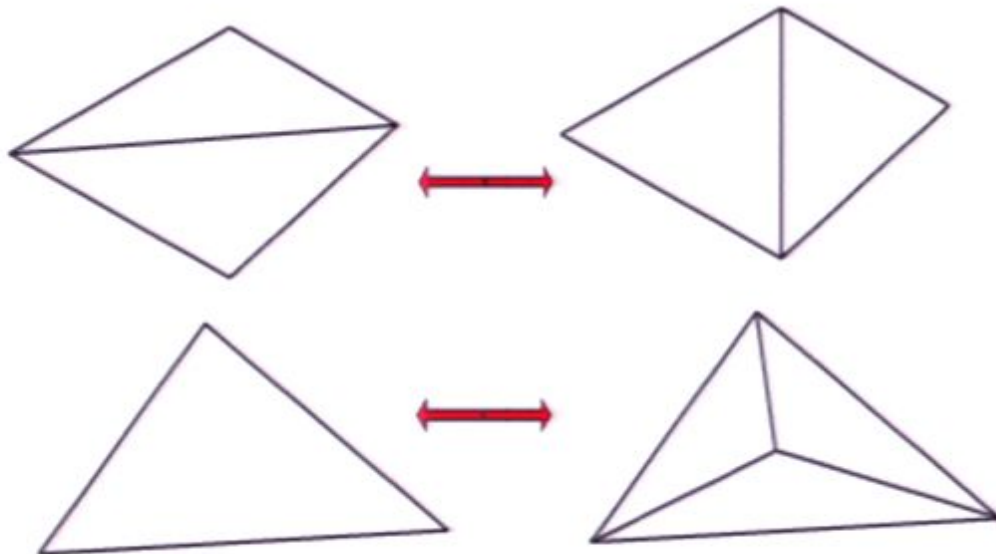
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Link diagrams came equipped with “legal moves,” the Reidemeister moves. What are the “legal moves” on triangulations? The “Pachner moves”!



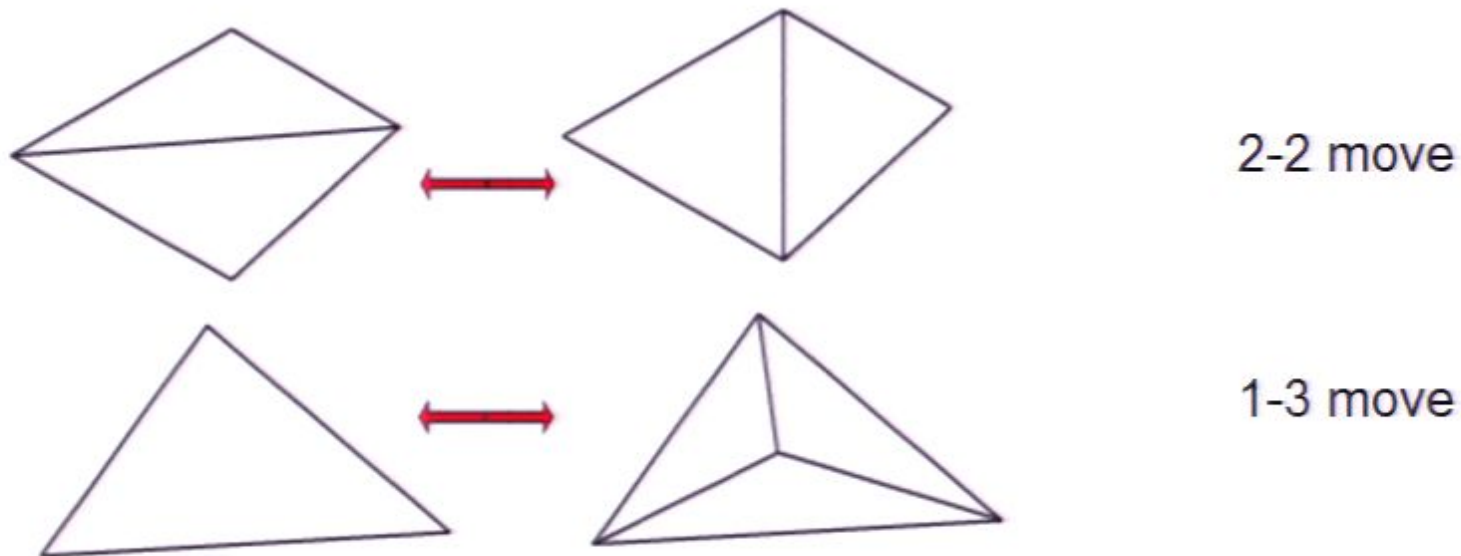
2-2 move

1-3 move

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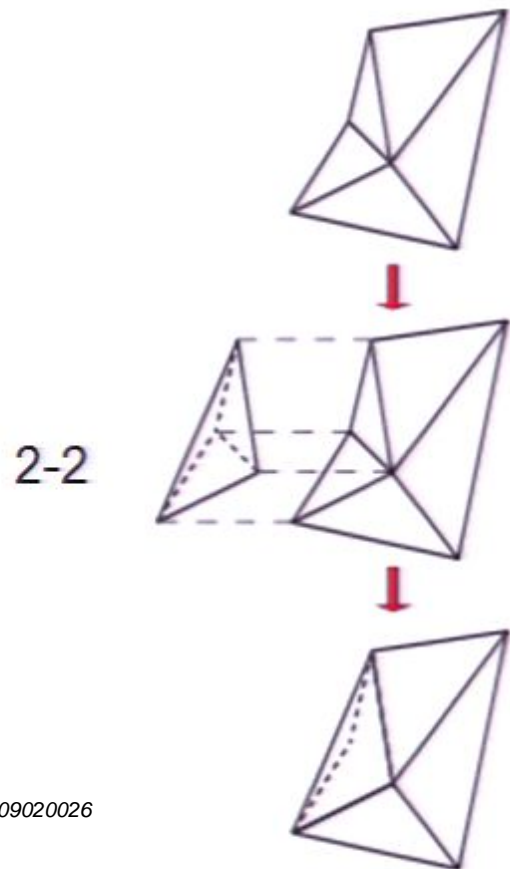
## Theorem (Pachner) [1991]:

Any two triangulations of the same surface differ by a finite number of these moves.

# Manifolds



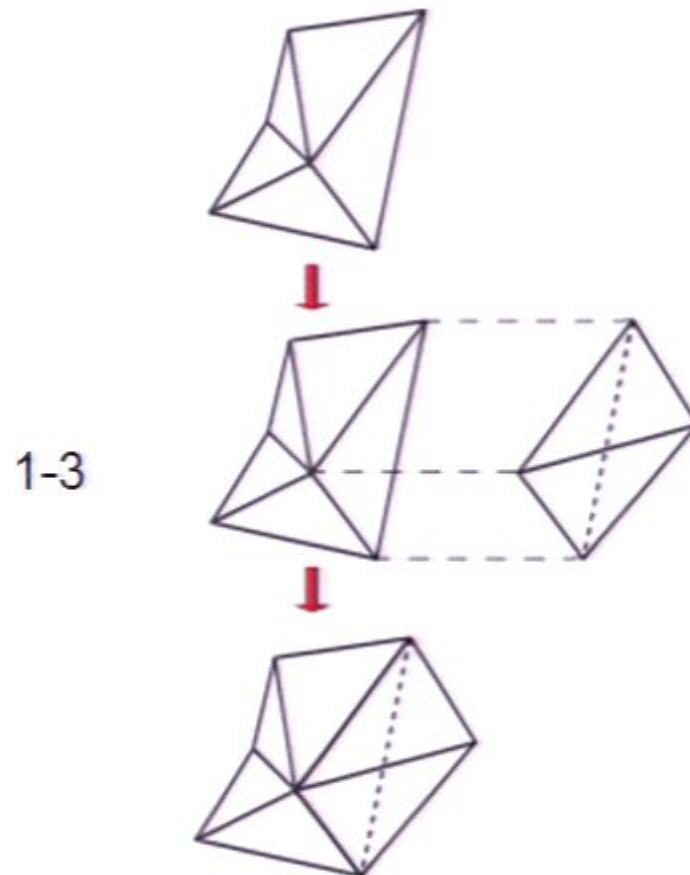
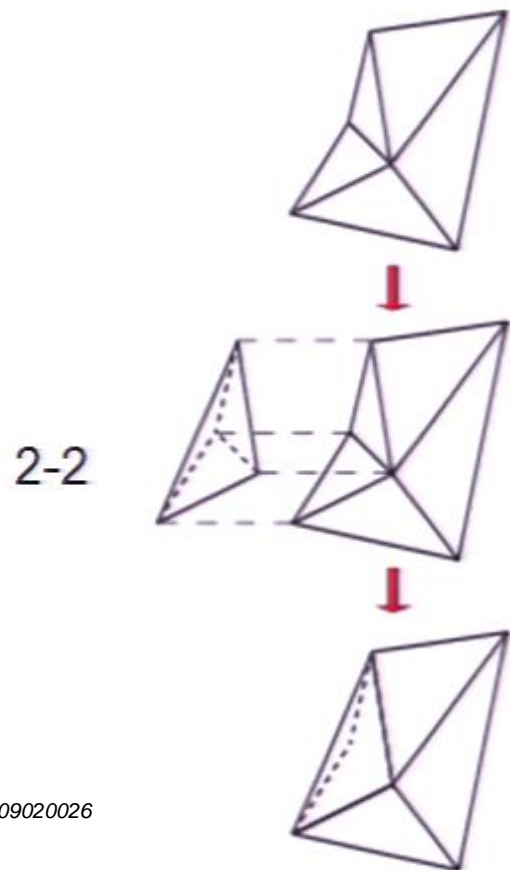
What about higher dimensions still? Picture the Pachner moves like this:



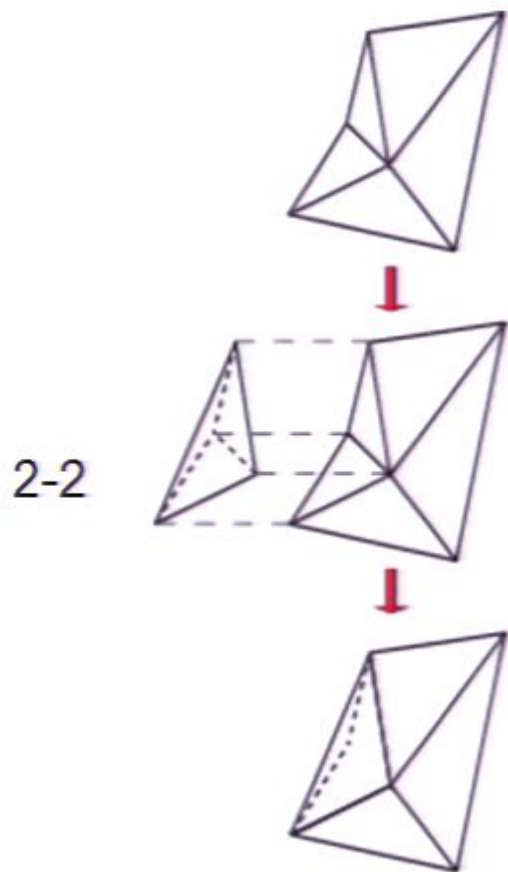
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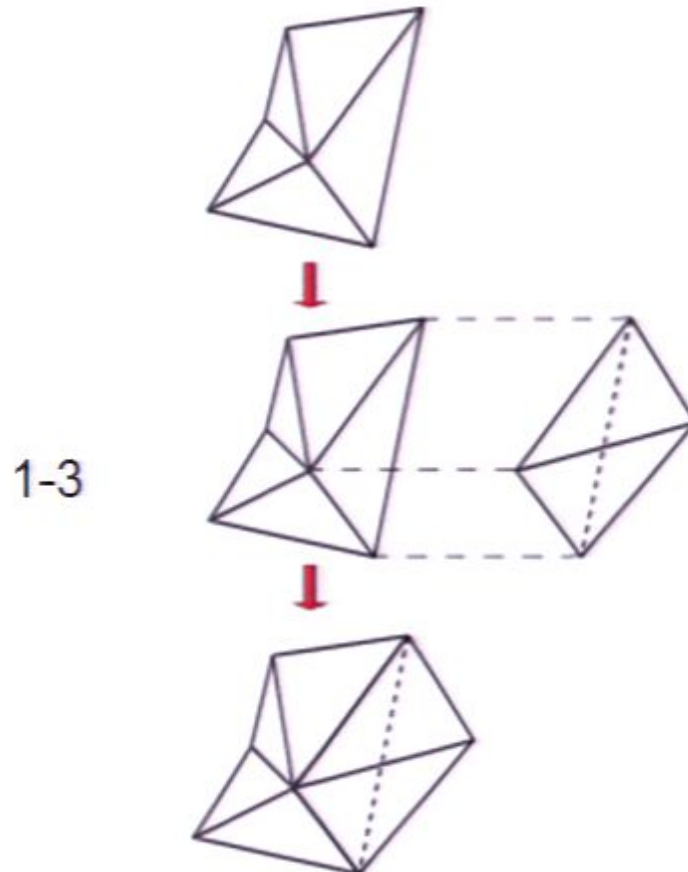
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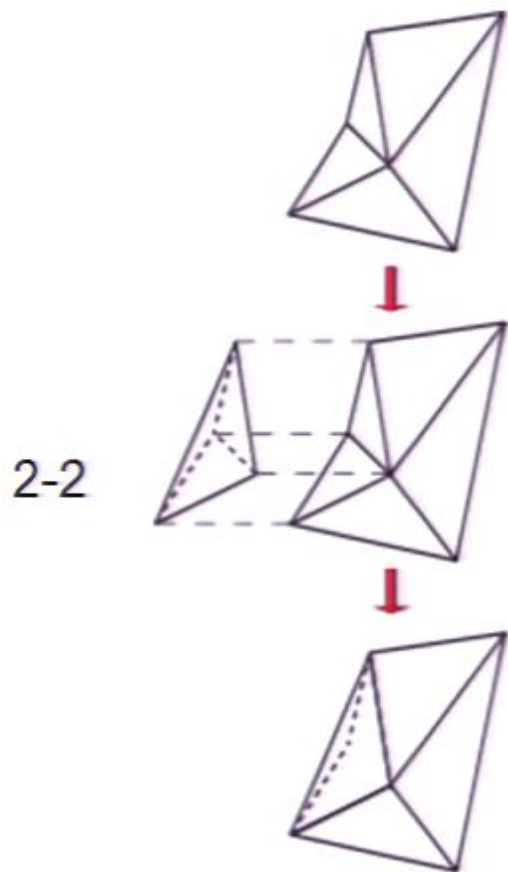
2-2



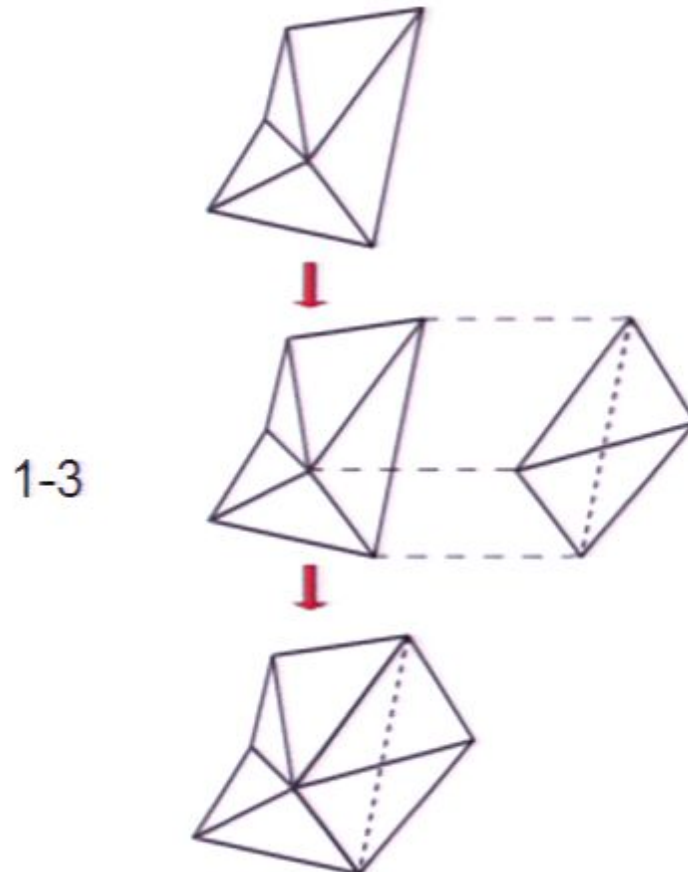
1-3

The  $n$ -dimensional Pachner moves are in one-to-one correspondence with the ways of cutting the boundary of an  $n+1$  simplex into two connected pieces.

# Manifolds



2-2



1-3

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1. replace topology with combinatorics; figure out what the “legal moves” are;
2. find **tensors** which satisfy these legal moves;
3. decorate the combinatorial structure with the tensors;
4. profit!

This is good for a lot of things.

We'll just focus on the fact that it gives us **topological invariants!**

# Tensors: definition

Tensors are a convenient way to do multilinear algebra.  
Pick a Hilbert space  $V$ . Here's an  $(l, k)$ -tensor:

$$T \in \underbrace{V \otimes V \otimes \dots \otimes V}_l \otimes \underbrace{V^* \otimes V^* \otimes \dots \otimes V^*}_k$$

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... but we will just denote it by  $T_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_l}$ .

By following some basic conventions, we can use this notation in a basis-independent way.

# Tensors: operations

We can perform two operations on tensors:

- 1) Tensor product (notice no repeated indices)

$$T_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_l} R_{s_1 s_2 \dots s_m}^{t_1 t_2 \dots t_n}$$

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Here are some basic examples of tensors, in tensor notation:

- ❖ A vector:  $v^i$
- ❖ A dual vector:  $u_j$
- ❖ A linear operator:  $A_i^j$
- ❖ Inner product (by contraction):  $v_i u^i$
- ❖ Applying an operator to a vector:  $A_i^j v^i$
- ❖ Matrix product:  $A_i^j B_j^k$
- ❖ Hilbert-Schmidt norm:  $A_i^j A_j^i$

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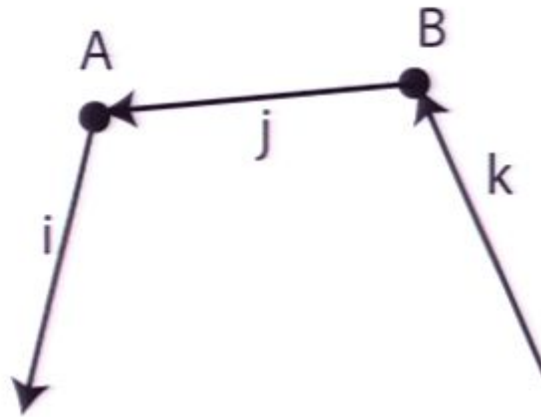
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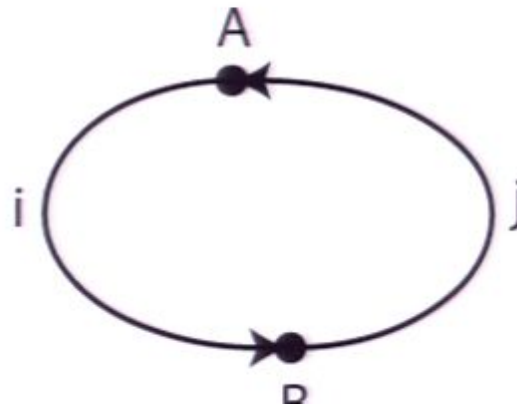
# Tensor networks

A **tensor network** is a graph decorated with tensors in the natural way:

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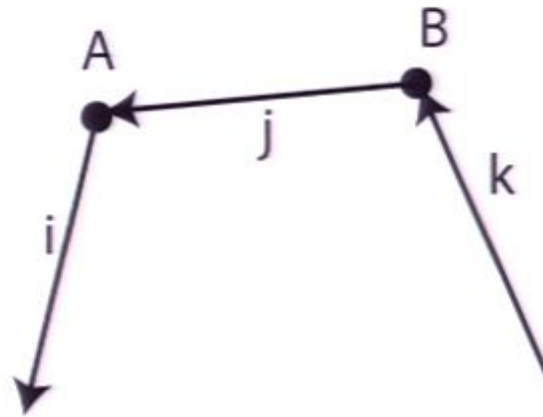
❖ Trace of a product:  $A_i^j B_j^i$



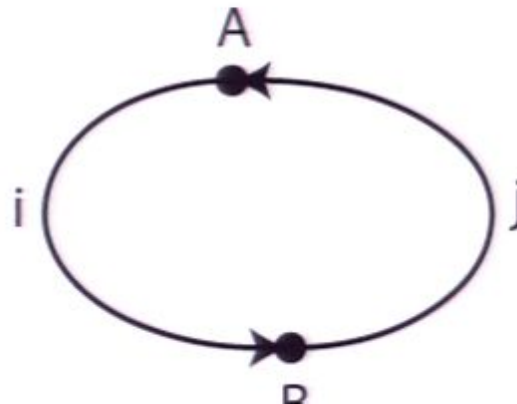
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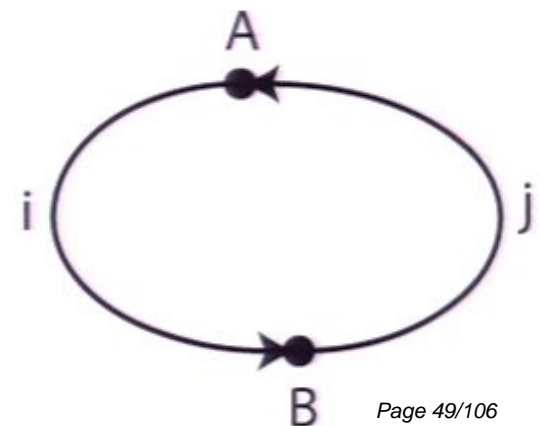
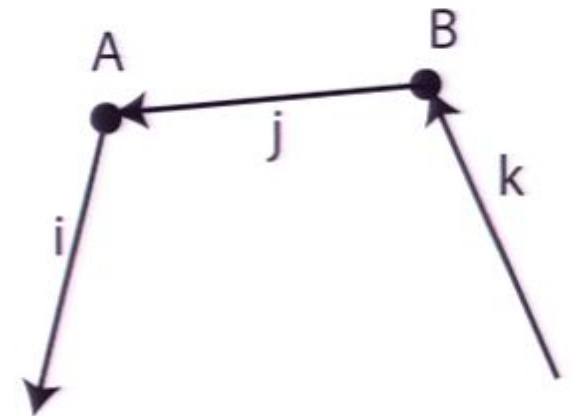




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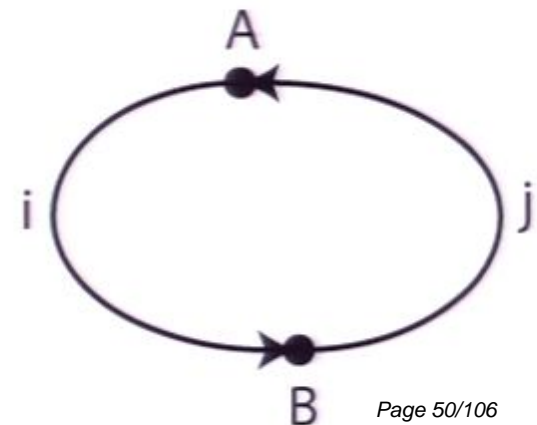
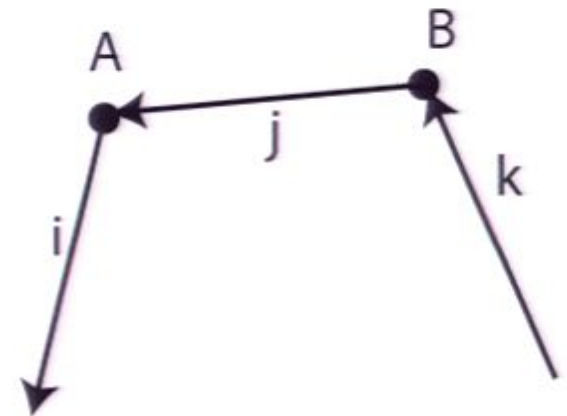
Two facts about tensor networks:

1) Every network corresponds to a single tensor; rank = (# of incoming edges, # of outgoing edges.)

2) A network with no loose edges corresponds to a single complex number:

- ✓ label each edge with a basis vector;
- ✓ each tensor is now a complex number;
- ✓ multiply these numbers together;
- ✓ sum over all possible labelings.

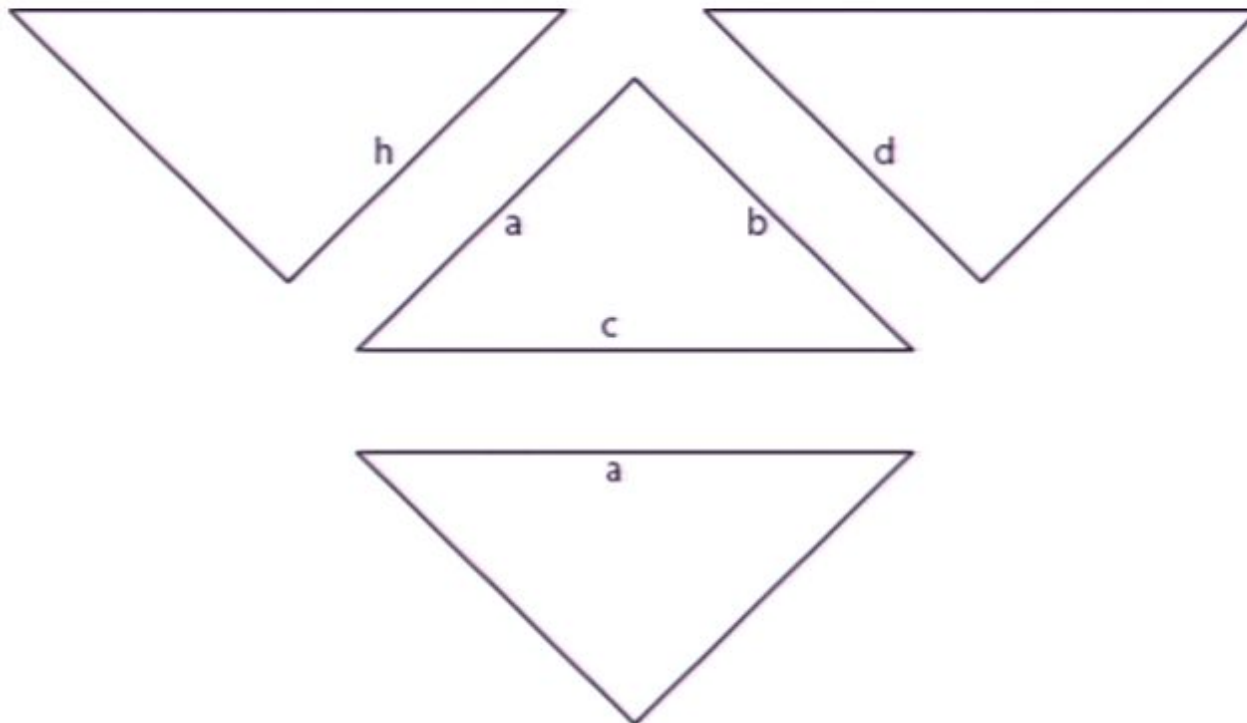
This is called the **contraction** or the **value** of the network.



# Decorating triangulations

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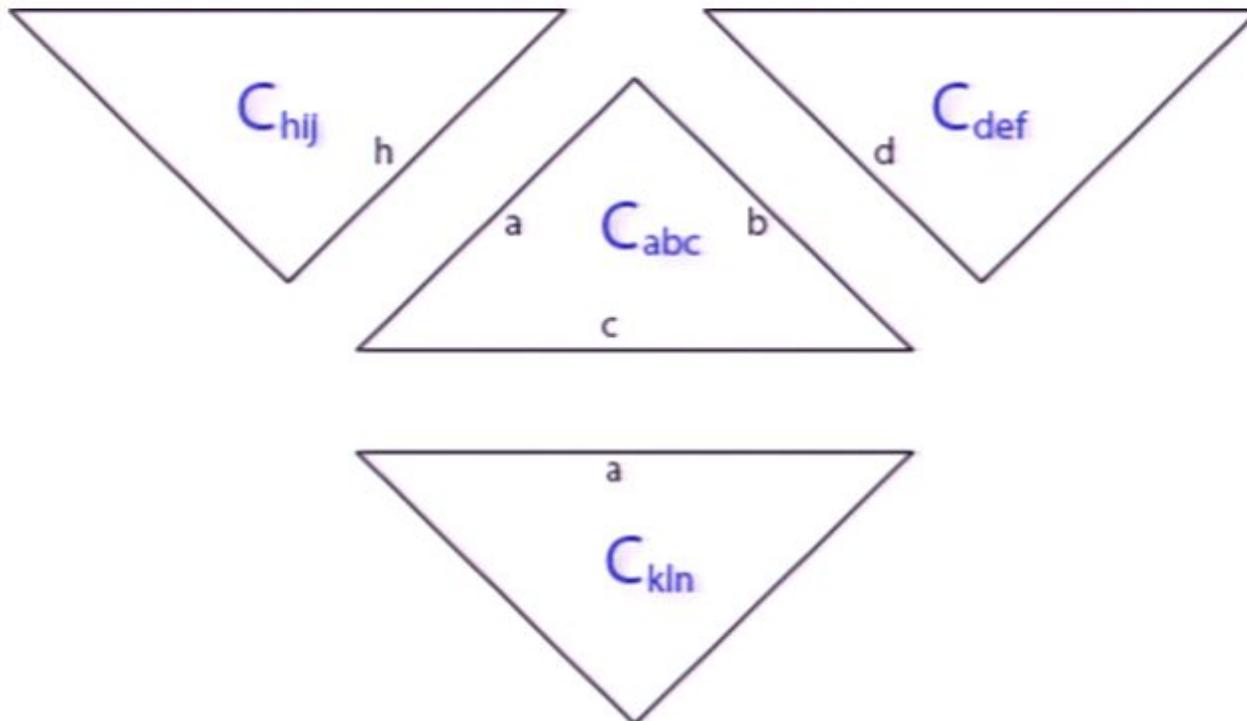
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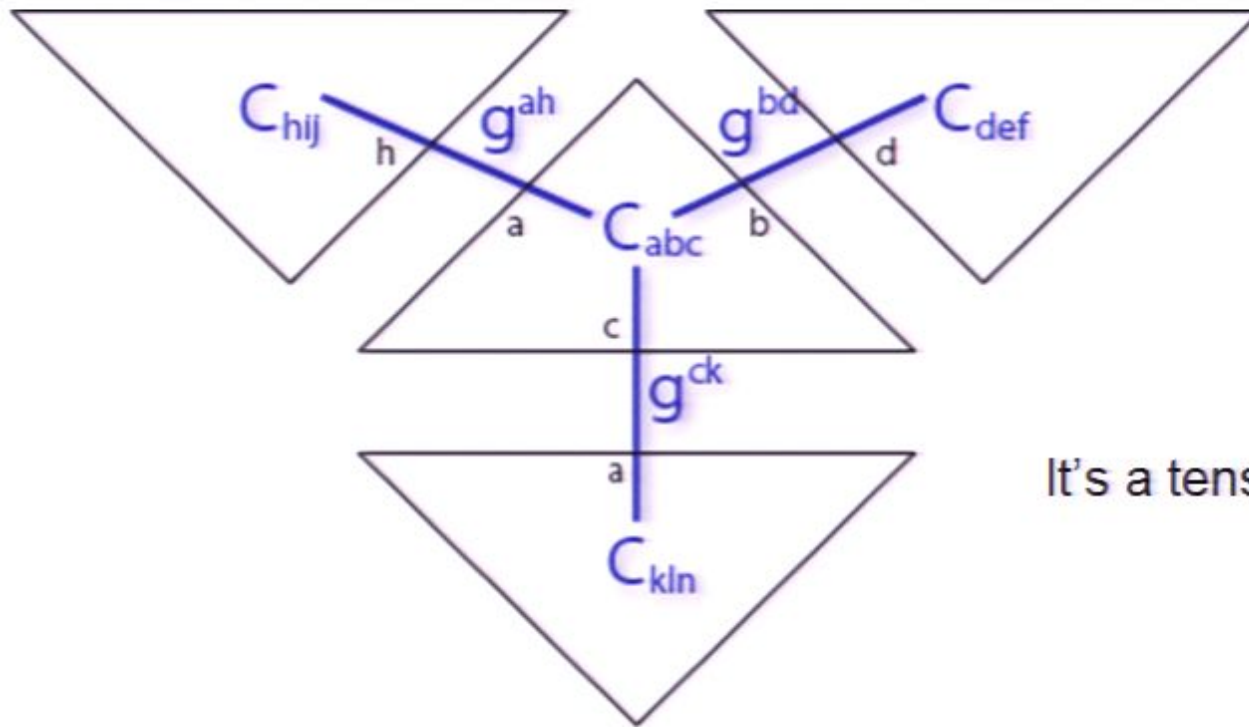
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# Decorating triangulations

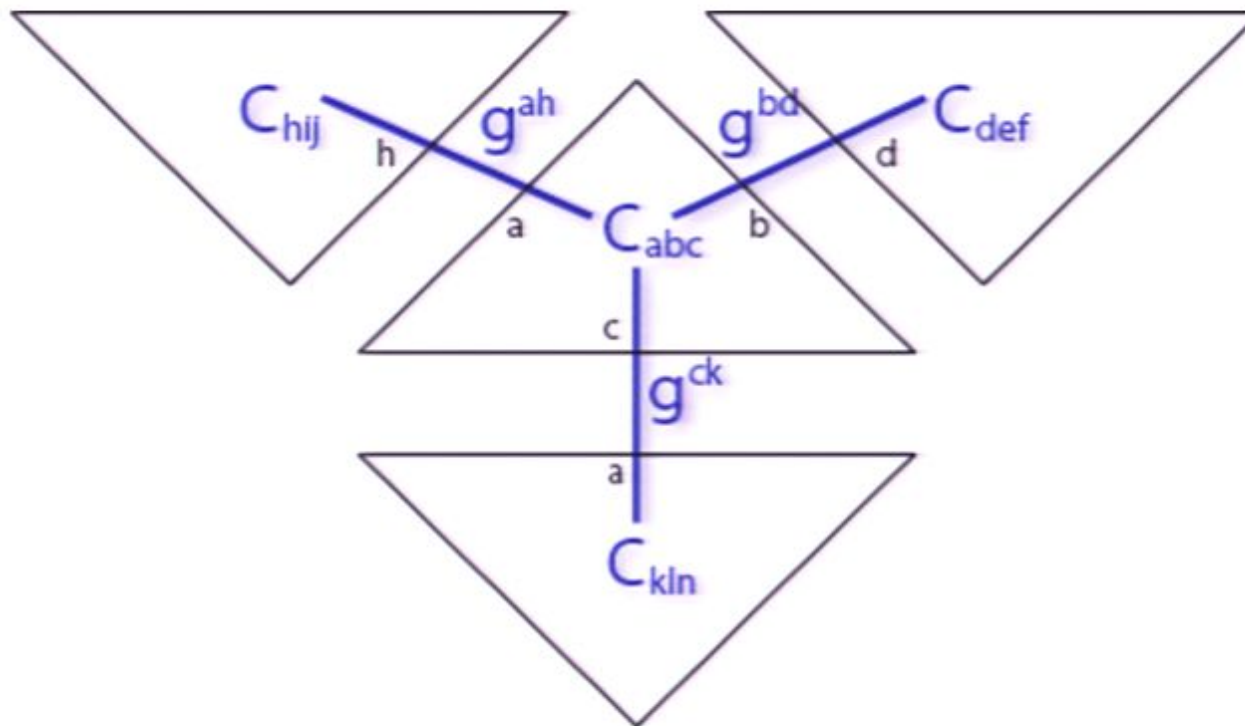
Decorating a triangulation:

1. label each edge with an index;
2. assign a “spatial” 3-tensor  $\mathbf{C}_{ijk}$  to every triangle;
3. assign a “gluing” 2-tensor  $\mathbf{g}^{ij}$  to every glued pair of edges.



It's a tensor network!

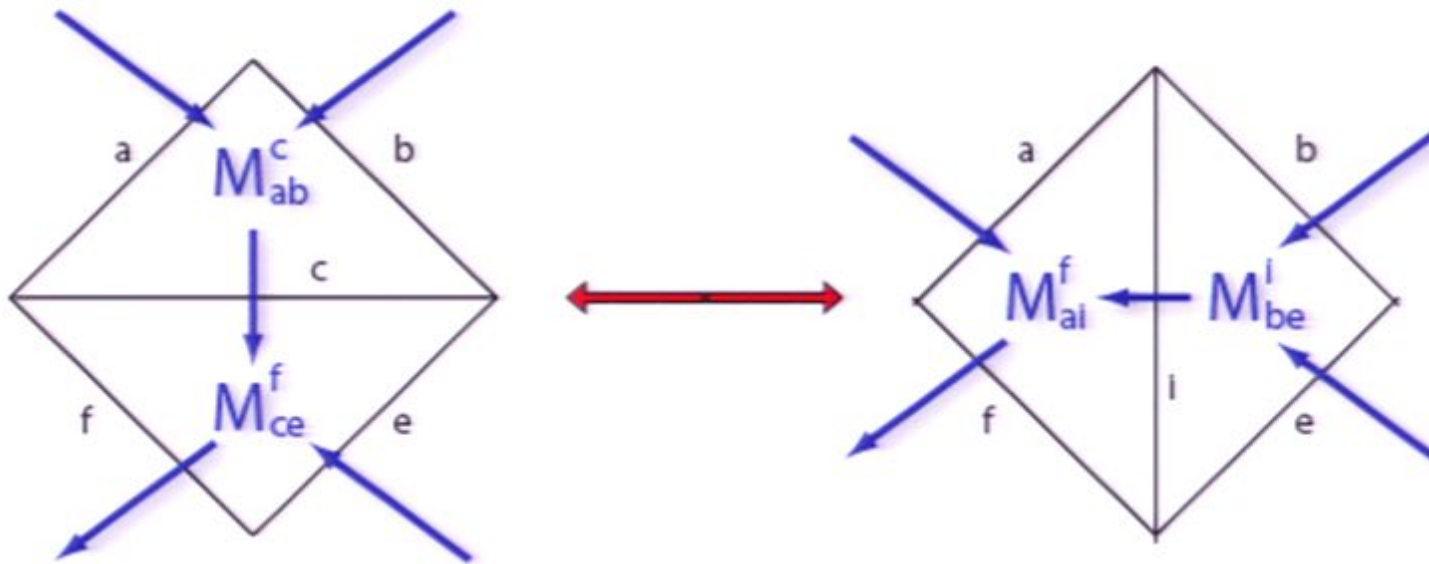
# Topological Lattice Field Theories



We want this theory to be topological, so we require that the tensors satisfy the Pachner moves.

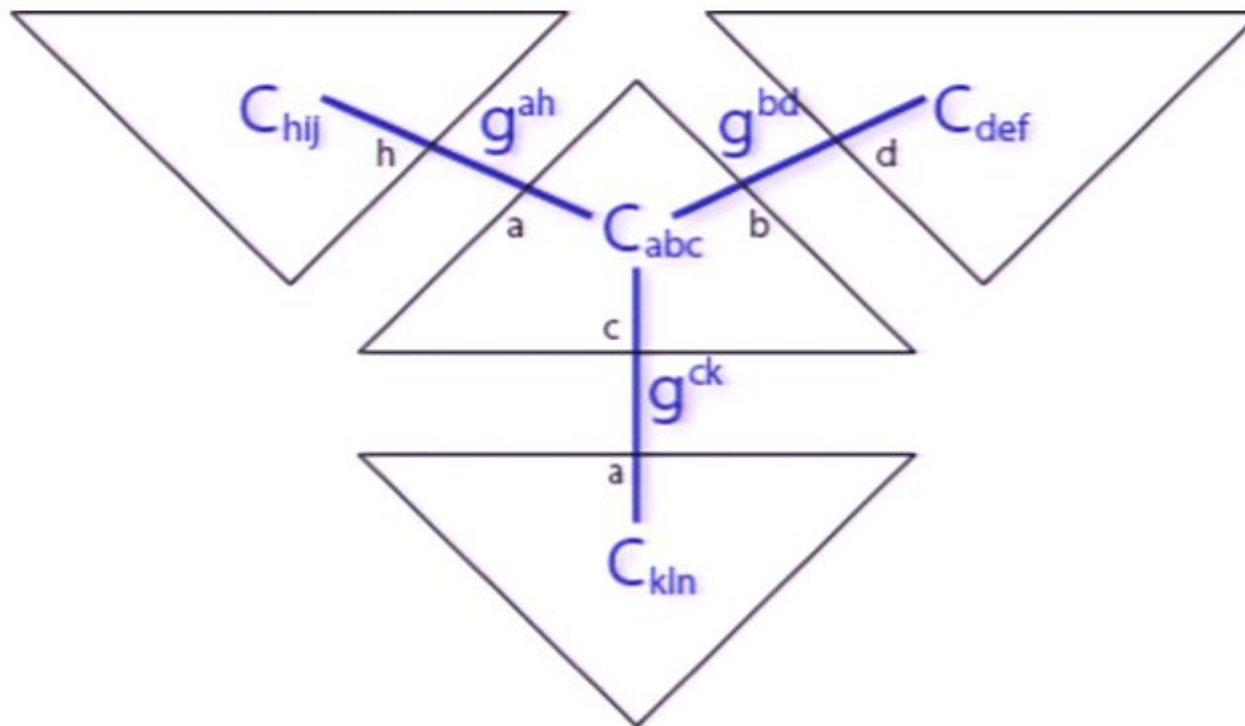
**Definition:** A 2-D Topological Lattice Field Theory (TLFT) is just a choice of 3-tensor  $\mathbf{C}$  and 2-tensor  $\mathbf{g}$  which satisfy the 2-2 and 1-3 Pachner moves.

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Define  $M_{ab}^c = C_{abt} g^{tc}$ .

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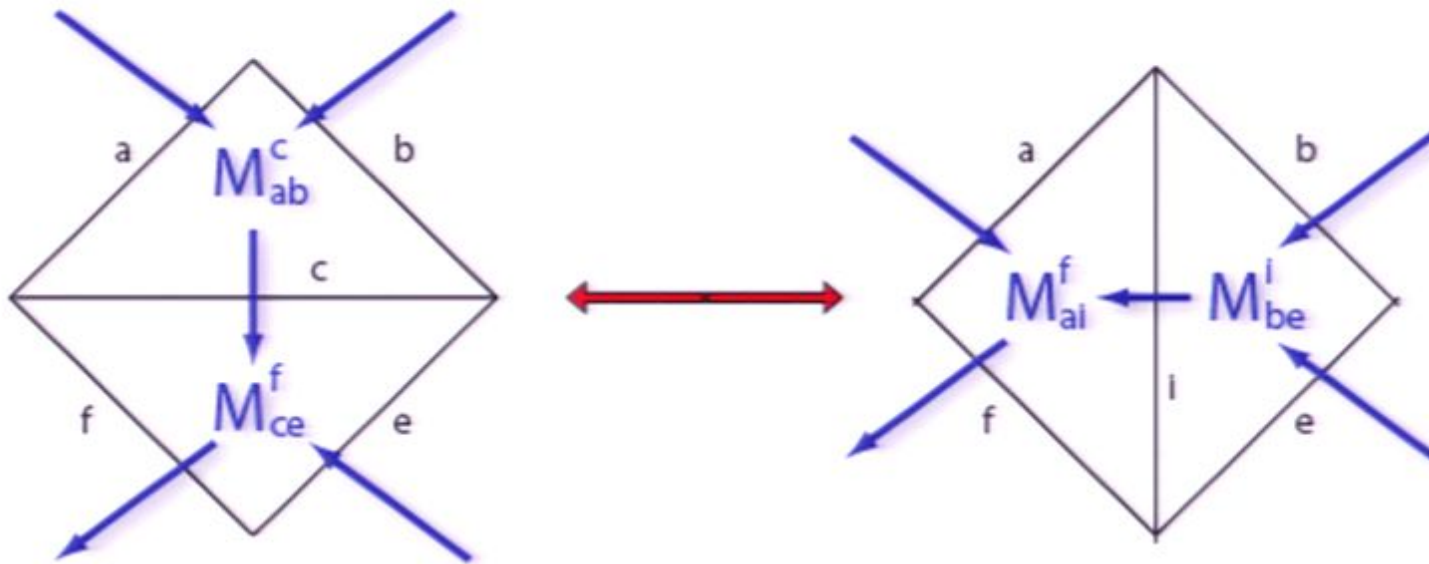


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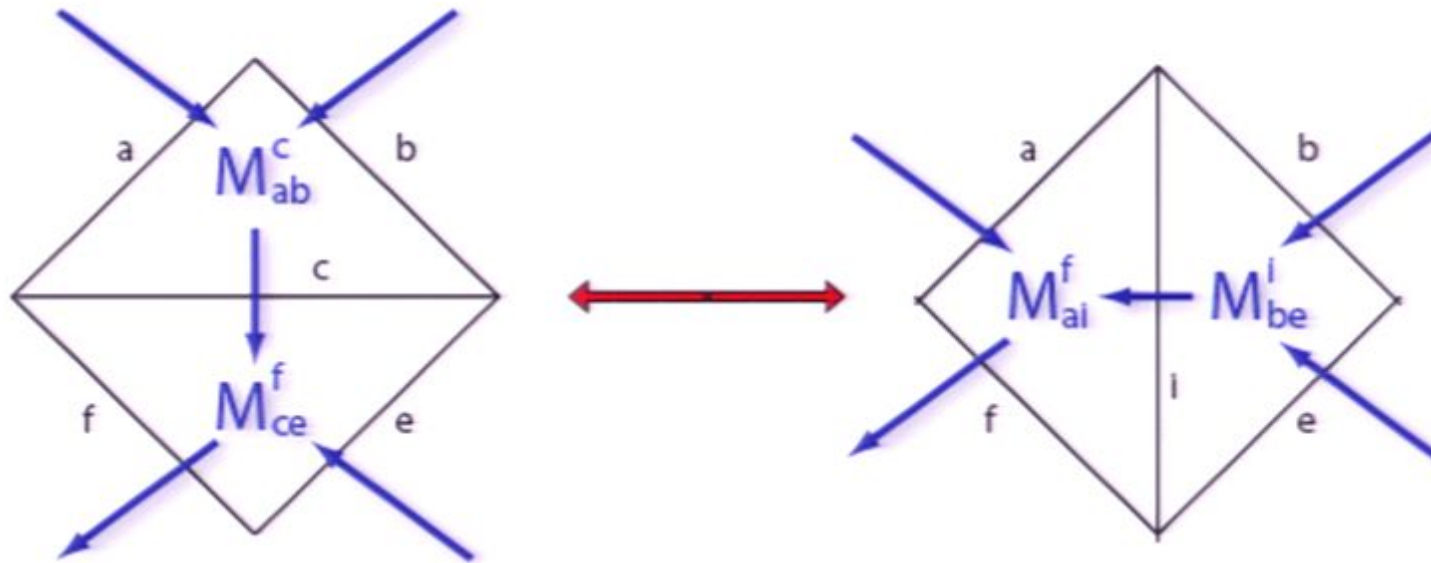


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$$M_{ab}^c M_{ce}^f = M_{be}^i M_{ai}^f$$

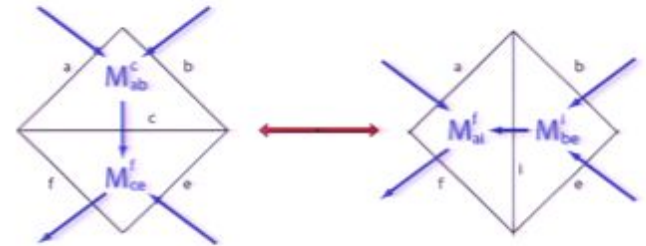
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Looks like associativity! What's going on?

**M** makes  $V$  into an algebra.

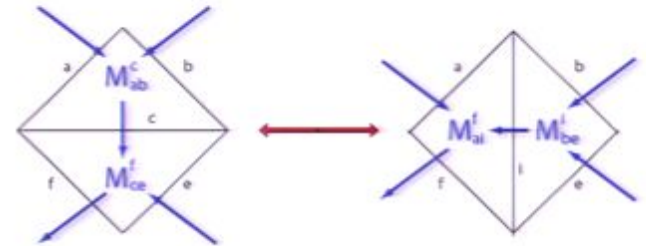
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# Topological Lattice Field Theories

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# Group Algebras

What associative, semisimple algebras do we know?

Group algebras!

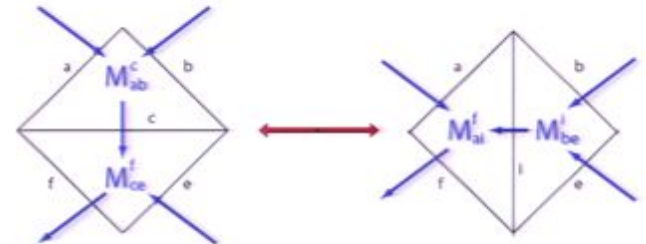
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- ❖ They are the **irreducible representations** of  $\mathbf{G}$ .

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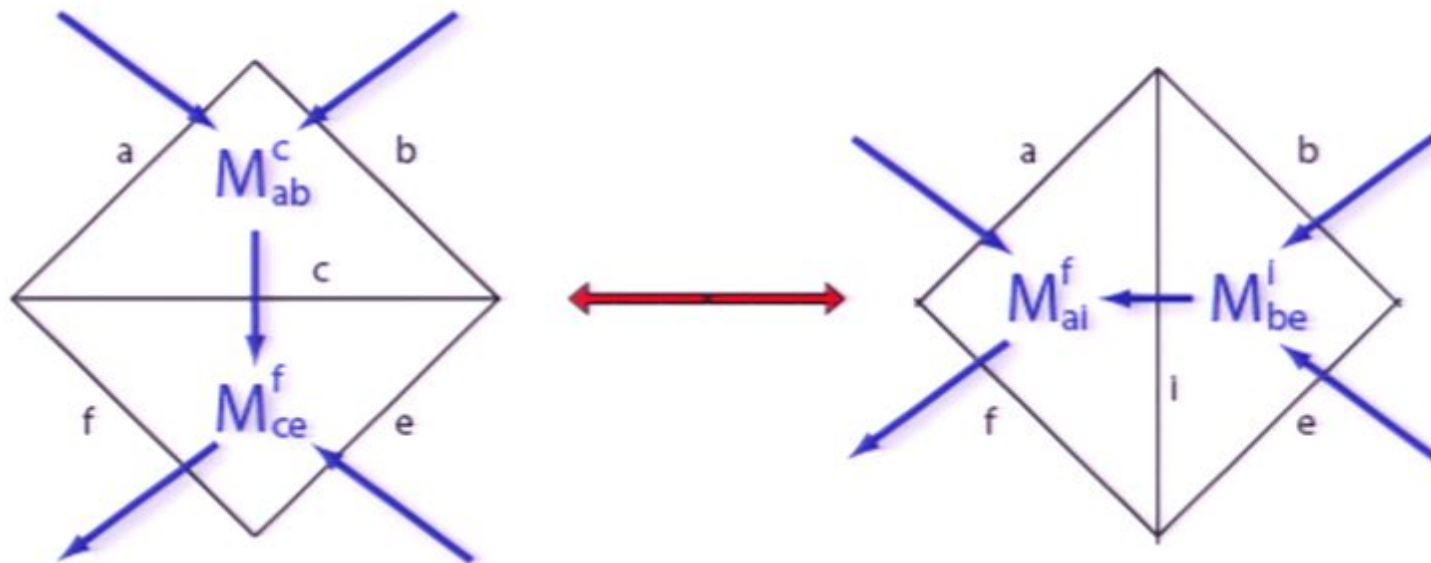
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**CG** is a representation:  $x[f](y) = f(x^{-1}y)$ .

Every irrep of **G** appears in **CG**, and it appears its dimension many times.

Note: group basis  $\rightarrow$  representation basis map is the **Fourier Transform**.

# 2d TLFTs with Group Algebras

What happens when we build a TLFT using a group algebra?

$$\text{3-tensor: } a \otimes b \otimes c \mapsto \begin{cases} |G| & \text{if } abc = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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RHS = computed in group basis; LHS = computed in Fourier basis.

This is a famous fact called **Mednykh's equality**. Snyder proved it using TLFTs!



# Quantum computation

I promised that all of this would have something to do with quantum computation!

**Theorem (Arad, Landau)[2008]**: Quantum computers can approximate the value of tensor networks efficiently.

The catch:

- ❖ the approximation is additive;
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Implement a linear operator  $\mathbf{L}$  like this:

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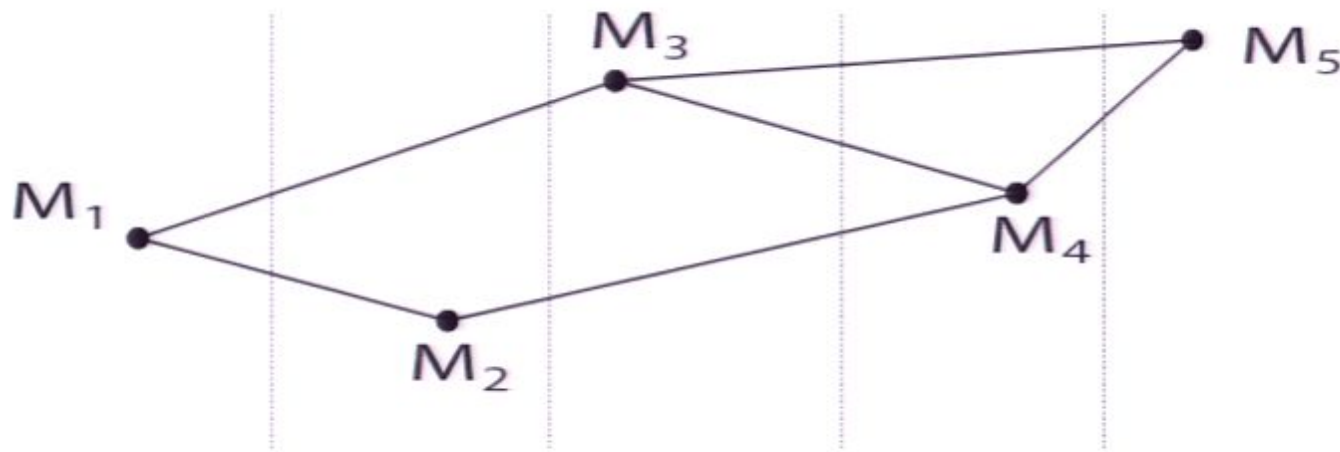
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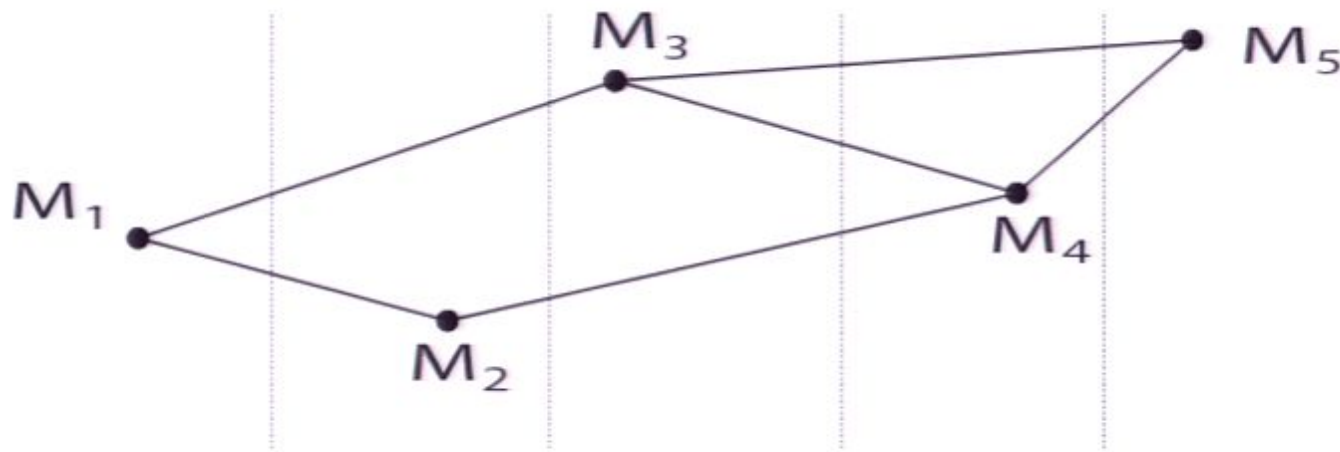
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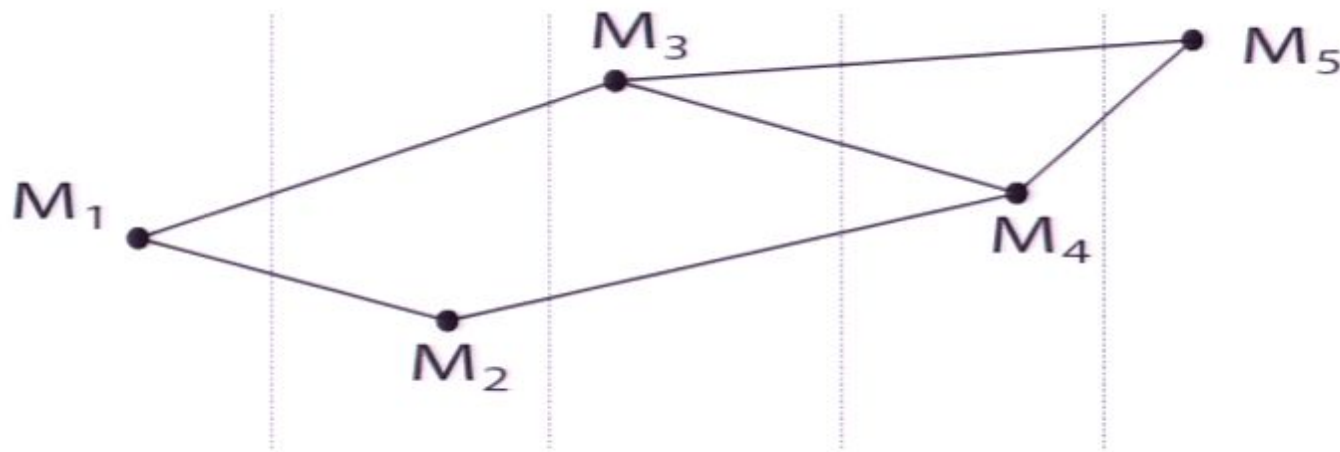


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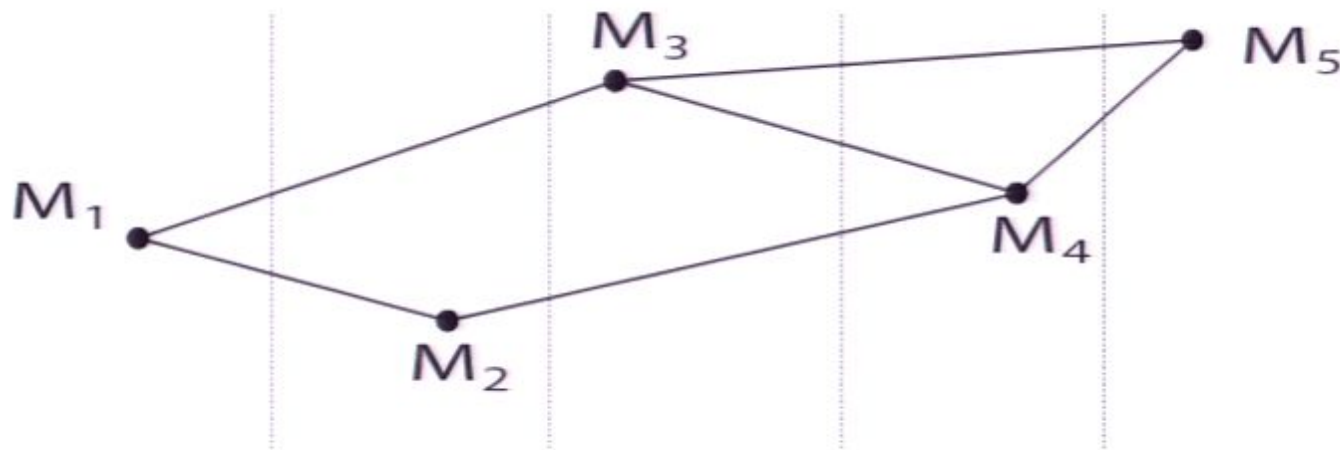
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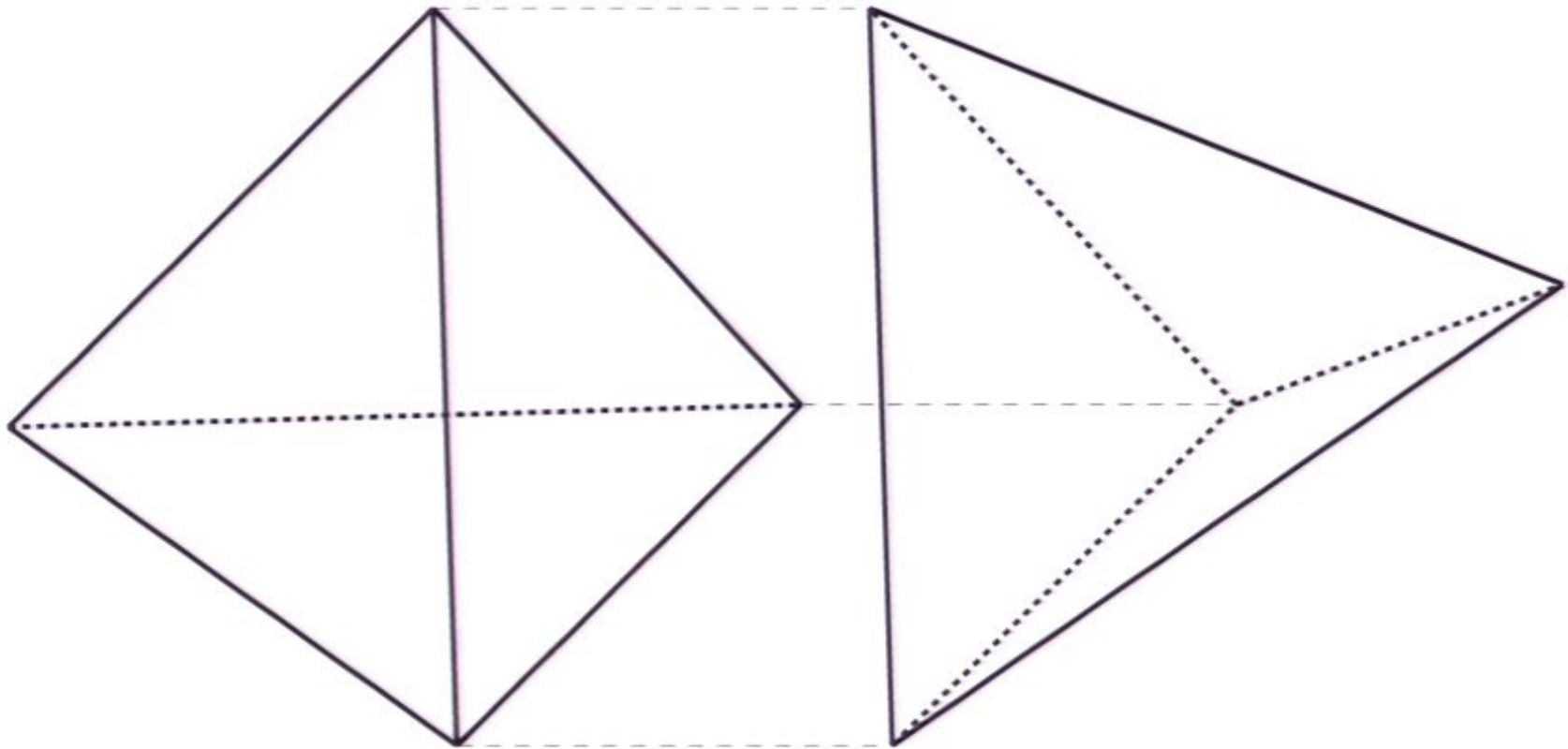
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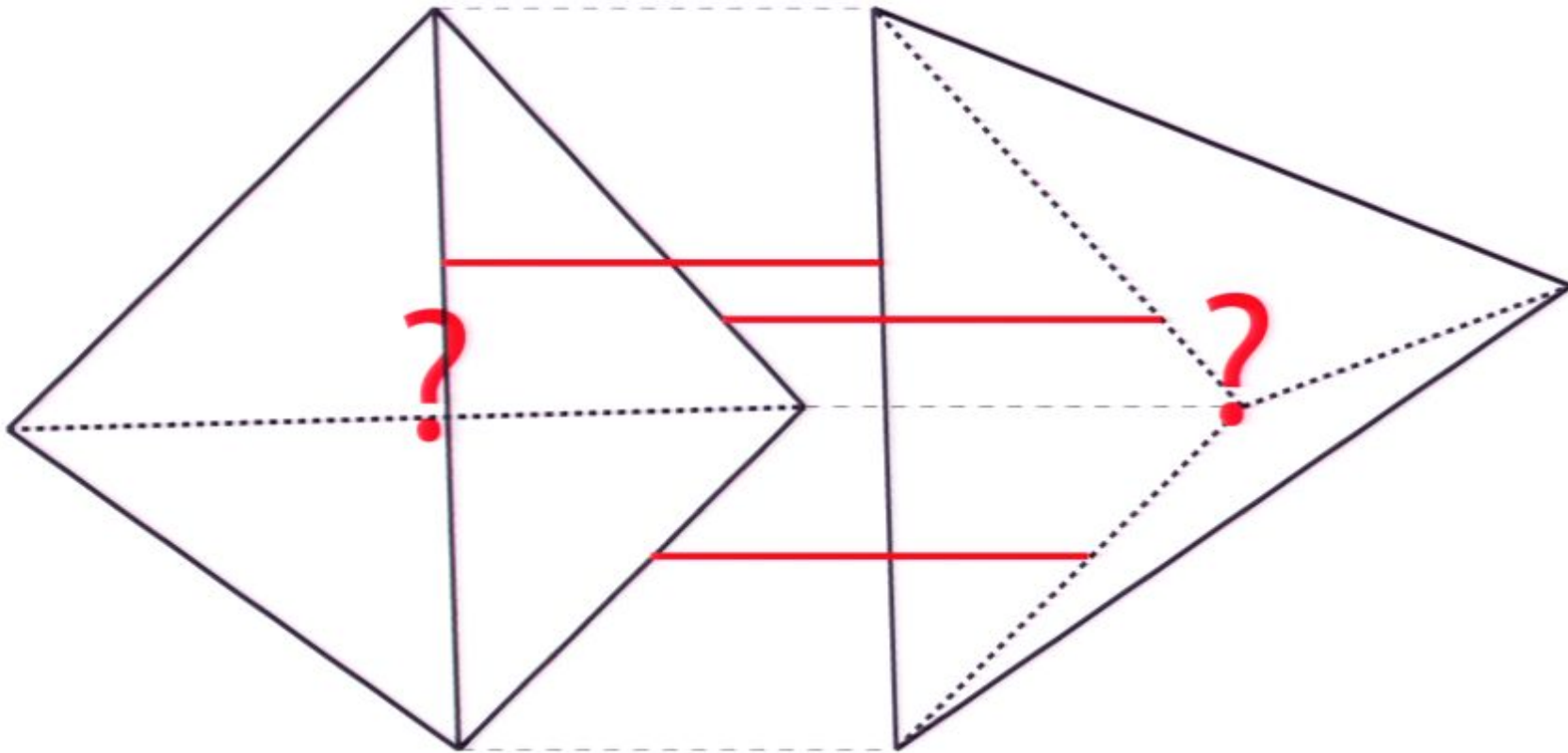
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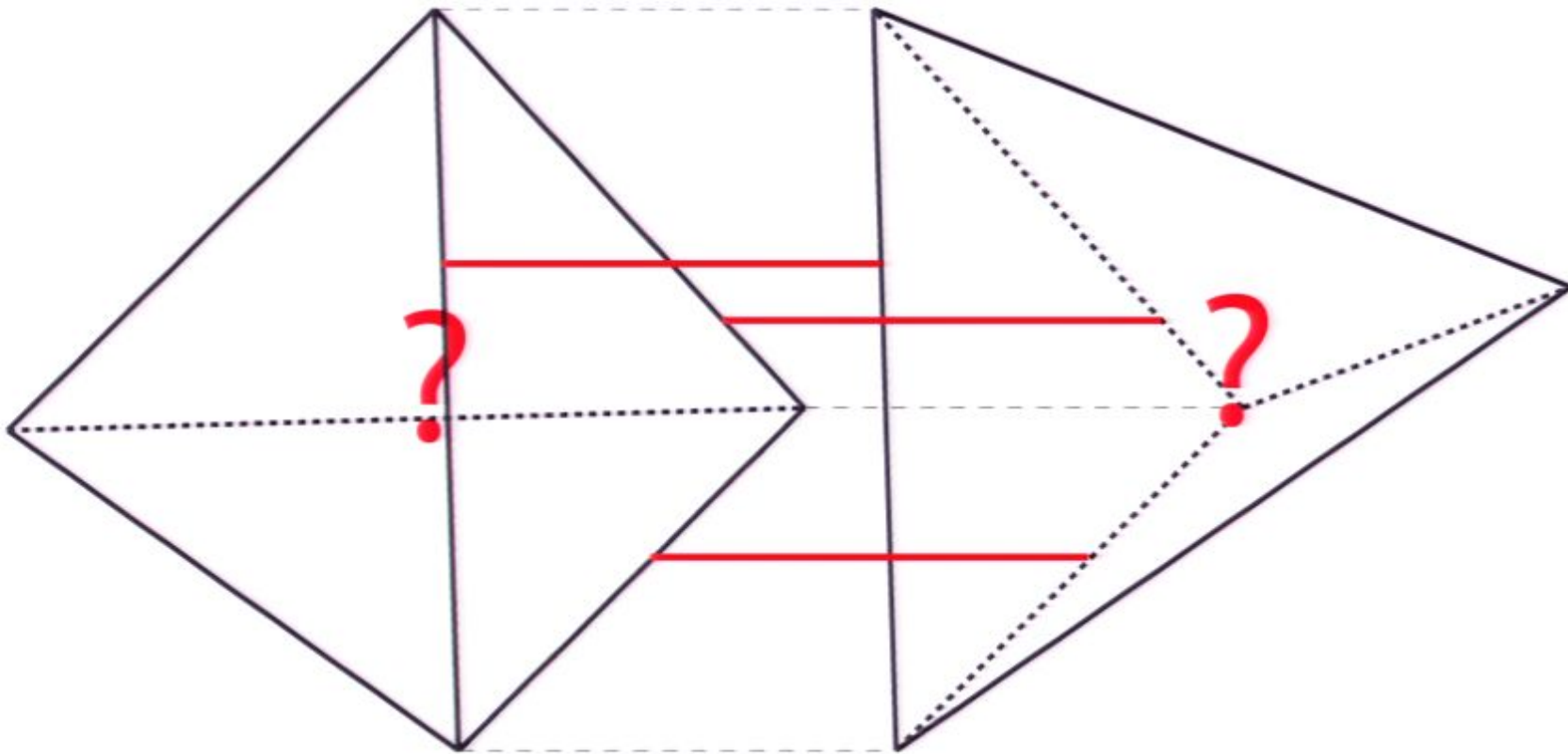
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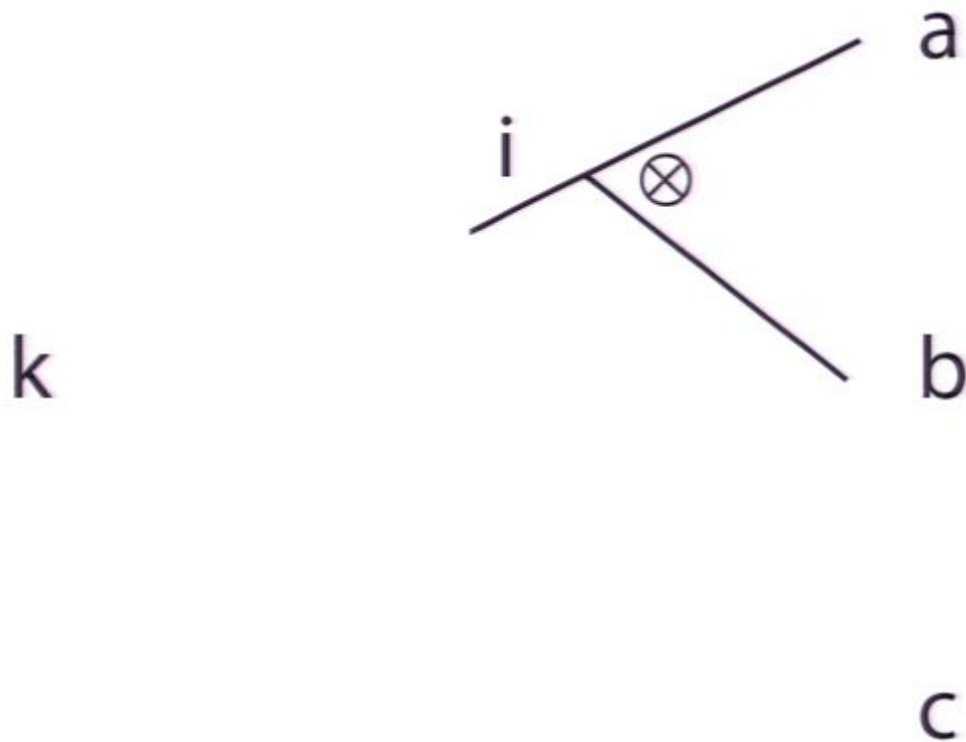
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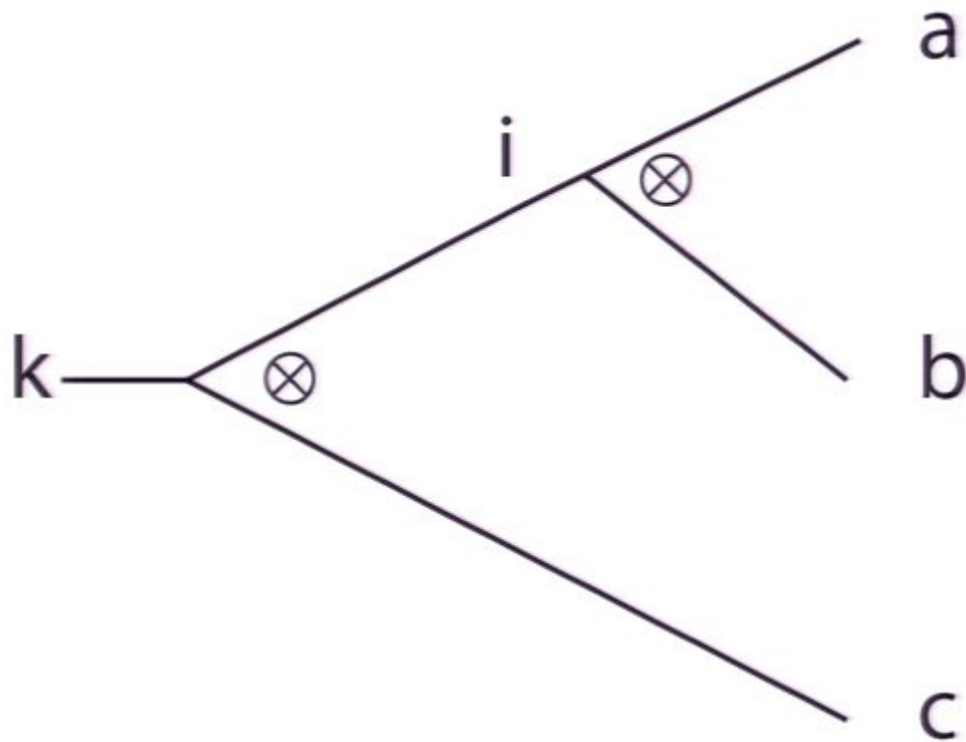
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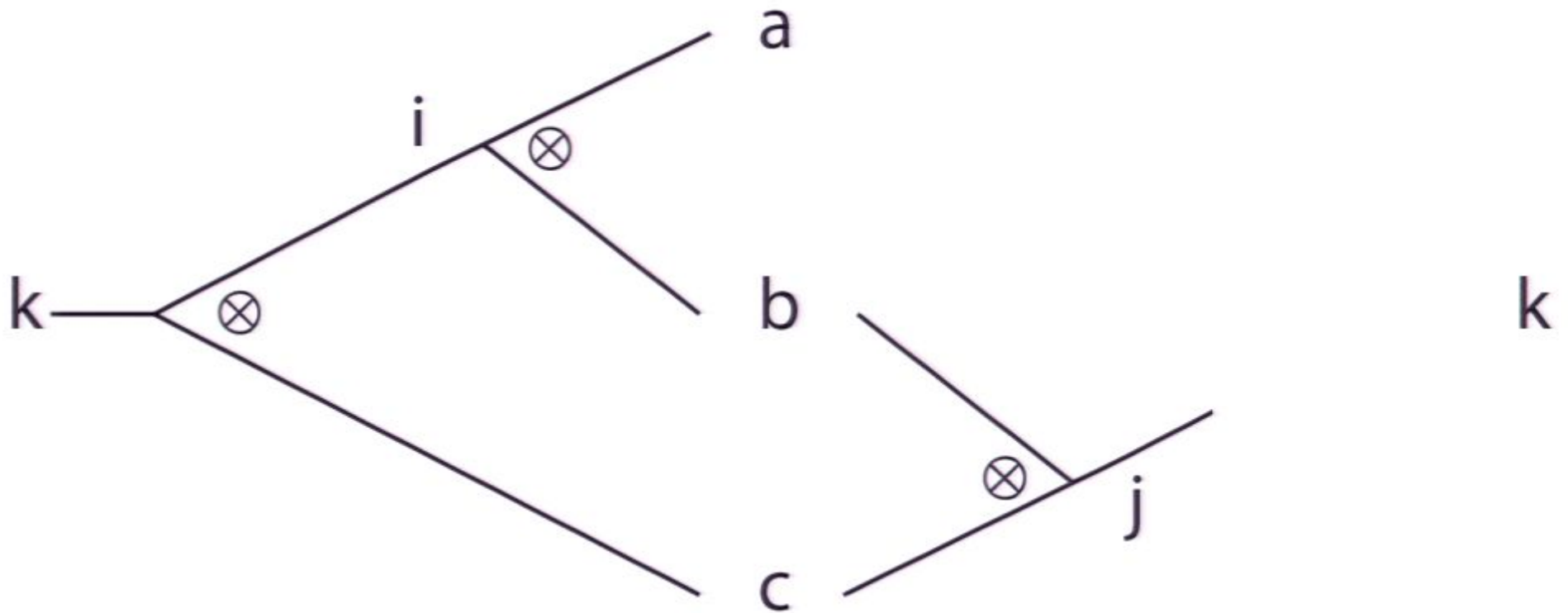
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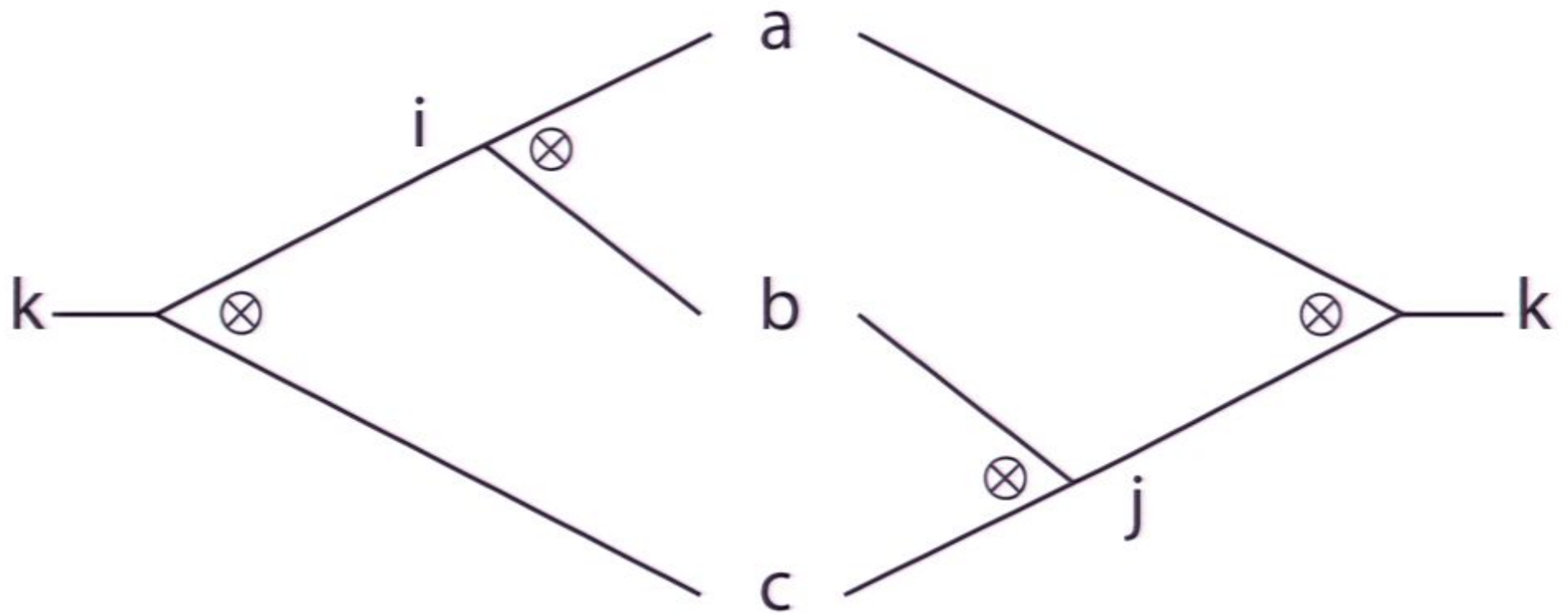
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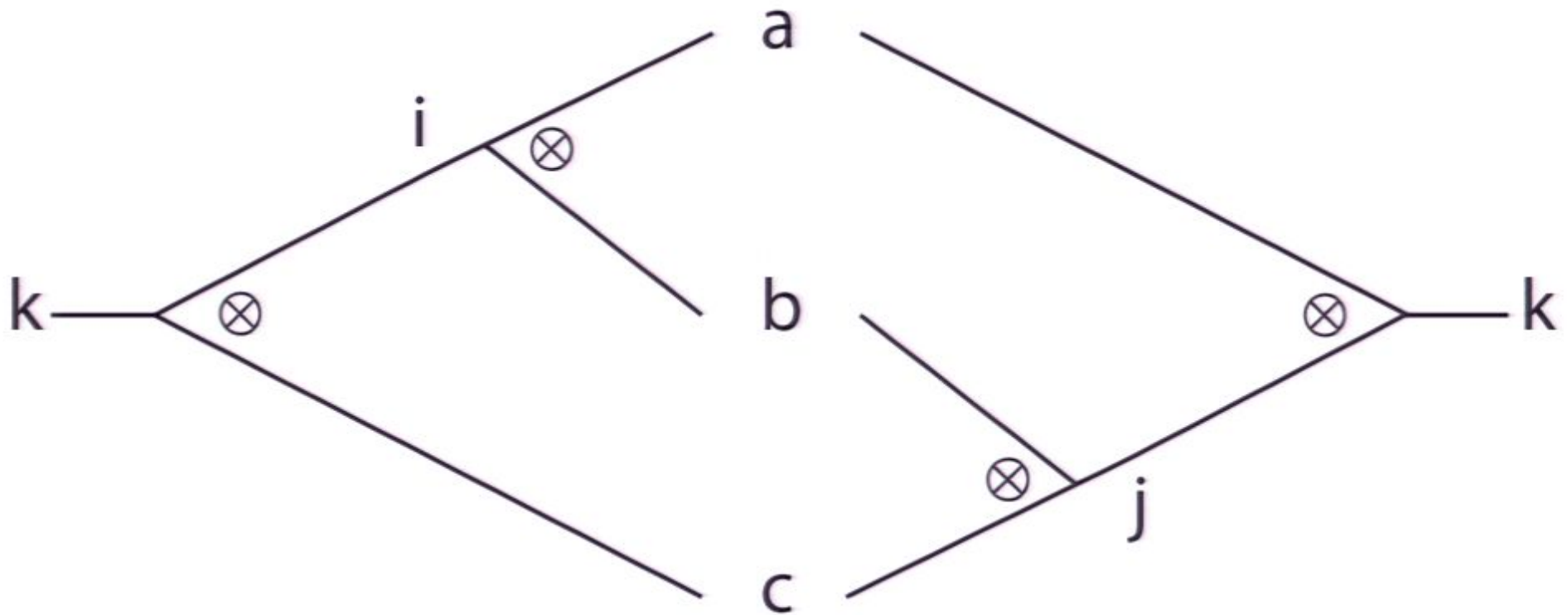
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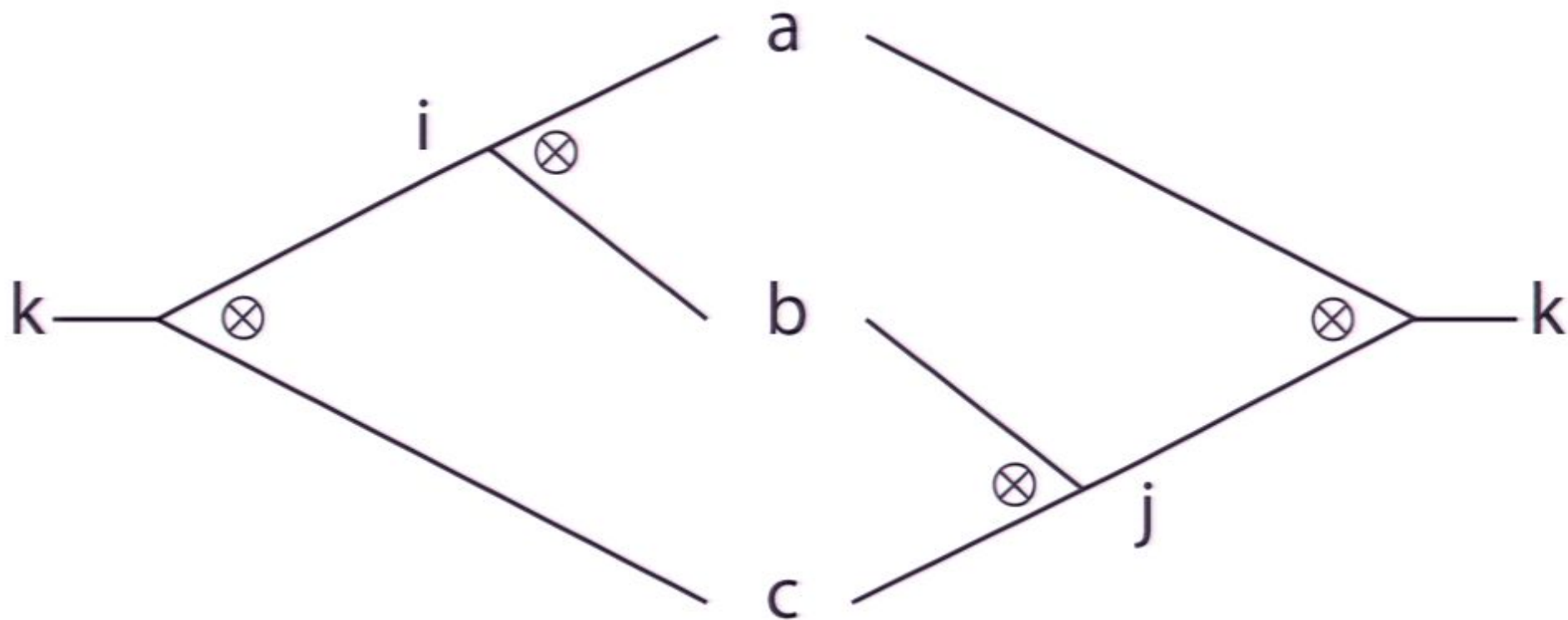
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So the situation is more complicated than 2-D, but it can be worked out...

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Open: Is there an efficient quantum algorithm for the Turaev-Viro invariant?

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THANKS!



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