

Quantum Hypercomputation - Hype or Computation?

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Abstract

A recent attempt to compute a (recursion--theoretic) non--computable function using the quantum adiabatic algorithm is criticized and found wanting. Quantum algorithms may outperform classical algorithms in some cases, but so far they retain the classical (recursion--theoretic) notion of computability. A speculation is then offered as to where the putative power of quantum computers may come from.

Keywords: Quantum computing; Hypercomputation; Church-Turing Thesis; Computational complexity; Undecidability

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