

Quantum Computation

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Quantum Computation

The only difference between a probabilistic classical world and the equations of the quantum world is that somehow or other it appears as if the possibilities would have to go negative.

-Richard Feynman, in “Simulating Physics with Computers”, 1982

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Introduction

- Quantum computing is an new computational model that may be physically realizable and may provide an exponential advantage over “classical” computational models such as probabilistic and deterministic Turing machines.
- Quantum computers pose a serious challenge to the strong Church-Turing thesis – if quantum computers are physically realizable, then the strong Church-Turing thesis is wrong.

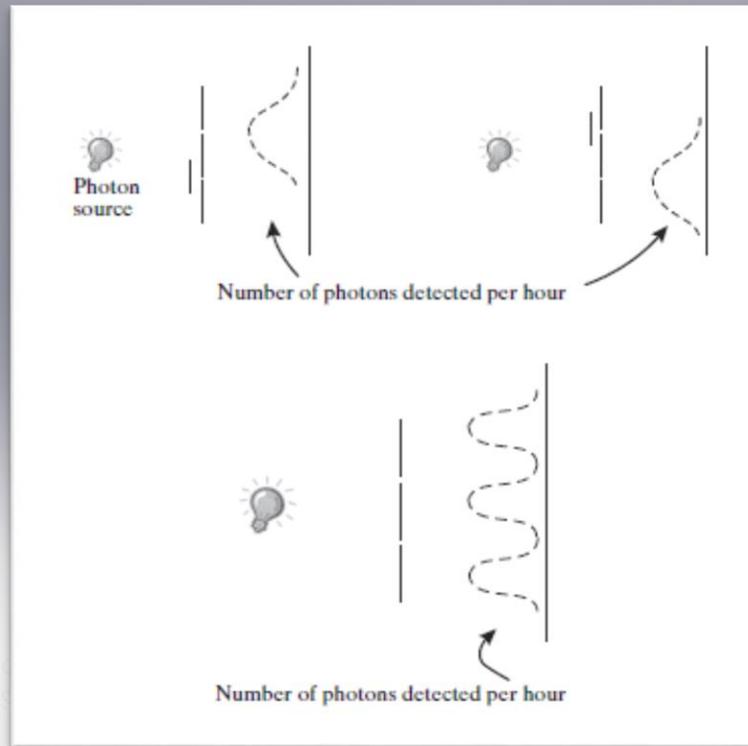
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Introduction

- The physical parameters (energy, momentum, spin, etc.) of elementary particles such as an electron are *quantized* and can only take values in a discrete set.
- The value of a physical parameter of a particle (including location, energy, etc.) at any moment in time is not a single number. Rather the parameter has a kind of *probability wave* associated with it, involving a “*smearing*” or “*superposition*” over all possible values. The parameter only achieves a definite value when it is measured by an observer, at which point we say that the probability wave *collapses* to a single value.

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Quantum Weirdness: The Two-Slit Experiment



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Quantum Superposition and Qubits

- The unit of storage in quantum computing is a *qubit*.
- Elementary particle, which can be *simultaneously* in both basic states.
- The state of a qubit at any time is called a *superposition* of these basic states.
- We denote the basic states $|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$.

- We allow a qubit to be in any state of the form
$$\alpha_0|0\rangle + \alpha_1|1\rangle$$

where α_0, α_1 are called *amplitudes* and are *complex* numbers satisfying

$$|\alpha_0|^2 + |\alpha_1|^2 = 1$$

- When the qubit is observed, with probability $|\alpha_0|^2$, it is revealed to be in state zero and with probability $|\alpha_1|^2$, it is revealed to be in state one.
- After observation the amplitude wave *collapses*, and the values of the amplitudes are *irretrievably* lost.

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Quantum Superposition and Qubits

- A system of two qubits can be in four states $|00\rangle$, $|01\rangle$, $|10\rangle$, $|11\rangle$ and the state of a two-qubit system at any time is described by a superposition of the type

$$a_{00}|00\rangle + a_{01}|01\rangle + a_{10}|10\rangle + a_{11}|11\rangle$$

where $\sum_{b_1, b_2} |a_{b_1 b_2}|^2 = 1$. When this system is observed, its state is revealed to be $|b_1 b_2\rangle$ with probability $|a_{b_1 b_2}|^2$.

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Quantum Superposition and Qubits - Examples

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|1\rangle$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|1\rangle$$

- If the qubit is measured, what is the possibility it contains 0?
- If the qubit is measured, what is the possibility it contains 1?

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Quantum Superposition and Qubits - Examples

We call the state where all the coefficients are equal the *uniform* state.

$$|0\rangle + |1\rangle \text{ denotes the state } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |1\rangle$$

$$|0\rangle - |1\rangle \text{ denotes the state } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |0\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |1\rangle$$

The uniform state for a two-qubit system is

$$|00\rangle + |01\rangle + |10\rangle + |11\rangle$$

What is the normalization factor for a two-qubit system?

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Quantum Superposition and Qubits

- We will sometimes denote the state $|xy\rangle$ as $|x\rangle|y\rangle$.
- Using this notation, we can write the uniform state of a two-qubit system as

$$(|0\rangle + |1\rangle)(|0\rangle + |1\rangle)$$

which shows that this state just consists of two one-qubit systems in uniform state.

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Some necessary Linear Algebra

- If $z = a + ib$ is a complex number (where $i = \sqrt{-1}$), then $\bar{z} = a - ib$ denotes complex conjugate of z . Note that $z\bar{z} = a^2 + b^2 = |z|^2$.
- The *inner* product of two vectors $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{C}^M$, denoted by $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle$, is equal to $\sum_{x \in [M]} \mathbf{u}_x \bar{\mathbf{v}}_x$.
- The *norm* of a vector \mathbf{u} , denoted by $\|\mathbf{u}\|_2$, is equal to $\sqrt{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u} \rangle} = \sqrt{\sum_{x \in [M]} |\mathbf{u}_x|^2}$.
- If $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0$ we say that \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are *orthogonal*.
- A set $\{\mathbf{v}^i\}_{i \in [M]}$ of vectors in \mathbb{C}^M is an *orthonormal* basis of \mathbb{C}^M if for every $i, j \in [M]$, $\langle \mathbf{v}^i, \mathbf{v}^j \rangle$ is equal to 1 if $i = j$ and equal to 0 if $i \neq j$.
- If A is an $M \times M$ matrix, then A^* denotes the *conjugate transpose* of A . That is $A_{x,y}^* = \bar{A}_{y,x}$ for every $x, y \in [M]$.
- An $M \times M$ matrix A is *unitary* if $AA^* = I$, where I is the $M \times M$ identity matrix.

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Some necessary Linear Algebra

Claim 10.5 For every $M \times M$ complex matrix A , the following conditions are equivalent:

1. A is unitary (i.e. $AA^* = I$)
2. For every vector $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{C}^M$, $\|A\mathbf{v}\|_2 = \|\mathbf{v}\|_2$.
3. For every orthonormal basis $\{\mathbf{v}^i\}_{i \in [M]}$ of \mathbb{C}^M , the set $\{A\mathbf{v}^i\}_{i \in [M]}$ is a orthonormal basis of \mathbb{C}^M .
4. The columns of A form an orthonormal basis of \mathbb{C}^M .
5. The rows of A form an orthonormal basis of \mathbb{C}^M .

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The quantum register and its state vector

- In a standard digital computer, by taking m physical objects (every object has two states) together we have an m -bit *register* whose state can be described by a string in $\{0,1\}^m$.
- A quantum *register* is composed of m qubits, and its state is a superposition of all 2^m basic states: a vector $\mathbf{v} = \langle \mathbf{v}_0^m, \mathbf{v}_0^{m-1}, \dots, \mathbf{v}_1^m \rangle \in \mathbb{C}^{2^m}$, where $\sum_x |\mathbf{v}_x|^2 = 1$.

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Quantum Operations

Definition 10.6 (*Quantum Operation*) A quantum operation for an m -qubit register is a function $F: \mathbb{C}^{2^m} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{2^m}$ that maps its previous state to the new state and satisfies the following conditions:

Linearity: F is a linear function. That is, for every $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{C}^{2^m}$,

$$F(\mathbf{v}) = \sum_x |\mathbf{v}_x|^2 F(|x\rangle).$$

Norm preservation: F maps unit vectors to unit vectors. That is, for every \mathbf{v} with $\|\mathbf{v}\|_2 = 1$, $\|F(\mathbf{v})\|_2 = 1$.

Lemma 10.7 (*Composition of quantum operations*) If A_1, A_2 are matrices representing any quantum operations, then their composition (i.e. applying A_1 followed by applying A_2) is also a quantum operation whose matrix is $A_2 A_1$.

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Some examples of Quantum Operations

- Flipping qubits
- Reordering qubits
- Copying qubits
- Rotation on single qubit
- AND of two qubits – Toffoli Gate
- The Hadamard operation

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Quantum Computation and BQP

Definition 10.8 (*Elementary quantum operations or quantum gates*) A quantum operation is called *elementary*, or sometimes *quantum gate*, if it acts on three or less qubits of the register.

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Quantum Computation and BQP

Definition 10.9 (*Quantum Computation and the class BQP*) Let $f: \{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ and $T: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ be some functions. We say that f is computable in quantum $T(n)$ -time if there is a polynomial-time classical TM that on input $(1^n, 1^{T(n)})$ for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ outputs the description of quantum gates F_1, \dots, F_T such that for every $x \in \{0,1\}^n$, we can compute $f(x)$ by the following process with probability at least $2/3$:

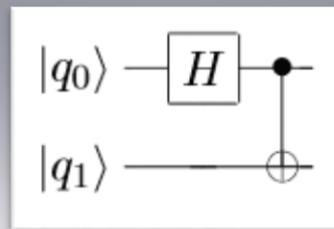
1. Initialize an m qubit quantum register to state $|x0^{n-m}\rangle$ (i.e., x padded with zeros), when $m \leq T(n)$.
2. Apply one after the other $T(n)$ elementary quantum operations F_1, \dots, F_T to the register.
3. Measure the register and let Y denote the obtained value. (That is, if \mathbf{v} is the final state of the register, then Y is a random variable that takes the value y with probability $|\mathbf{v}_y|^2$ for every $y \in \{0,1\}^m$.)
4. Output Y_1 .

A Boolean function $f: \{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ is in **BQP** if there is some polynomial $p: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such as that f is computable in quantum $p(n)$ -time.

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Quantum Circuits

Quantum circuits are similar to Boolean circuits: These are directed acyclic graphs with sources (vertices with in-degree zero) denoting the inputs, sinks (vertices with out-degree zero) denoting the outputs and internal nodes denoting the gates.



Apply Hadamard operation on $|q_0\rangle$

Apply the mapping $|q_0 q_1\rangle \mapsto |q_0(q_0 \oplus q_1)\rangle$

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Classical Computation as a subcase of Quantum Computation

Lemma 10.10 (*Boolean circuits as a subcase of quantum circuits*) If $f: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^m$ is computable by a Boolean circuit of size S then there is a sequence of $2S + m + n$ quantum operations computing the mapping $|x\rangle|0^{2m+S}\rangle \mapsto |x\rangle|f(x)\rangle|0^{S+m}\rangle$.

Corollary 10.11 $\text{BPP} \subseteq \text{BQP}$

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Universal Operations

Theorem 10.12 (*Universal basis for quantum operations* [Deu89, Kit97]) For every $D \geq 3$ and $\varepsilon > 0$, there is $l \leq 100(D \log^{1/\varepsilon})^3$ such that the following is true. Every $D \times D$ unitary matrix U can be approximated as a product of unitary matrices U_1, \dots, U_l in the sense that its (i, j) entry for each $i, j \leq D$ satisfies

$$|U_{i,j} - (U_l \cdots U_1)_{i,j}| < \varepsilon$$

and each U_r corresponds to applying either the Hadamard gate $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$, the Toffoli gate $|abc\rangle \mapsto |ab(c \oplus a \wedge b)\rangle$, or the phase shift gate $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}$, on at most three qubits.

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Shor's Algorithm: Integer Factorization using Quantum Computers

- The *integer factorization* problem is to find , given an integer N , the set of all *prime factors* of N .
- The best classical algorithm takes roughly $2^{(\log N)^{1/3}}$ steps to factor N [LLMP90].

Theorem 10.15 Shor's algorithm: Factoring in BQP [Sho97]

There is a quantum algorithm that given a number N , runs in $\text{poly}(\log(N))$ and outputs the prime factorization of N .

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Shor's Algorithm: Integer Factorization using Quantum Computers

1. Since N has at most $\log N$ factors, it clearly suffices to show how to find a *single* factor of N in $\text{poly}(\log N)$ time because we can then repeat the algorithm with N divided by that factor, and thus find all factors
2. It is a well-known fact that in order to find a single factor, it suffices to be able to find the *order* of a random number $A \pmod{N}$, in other words, the smallest r such that $A^r \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$. With good probability, the order r of A will be even and $A^{r/2} - 1$ will have a nontrivial common factor with N , which we can find using a GCD computation.
3. The mapping $A \mapsto A^x \pmod{N}$ is computable in $\text{poly}(\log N)$ time even on classical TMs.

Using those observations we can come up with a simple $\text{poly}(\log N)$ time quantum algorithm that transforms a quantum register initialized to all zeros into the state that is the uniform superposition of all states of the type $|x\rangle$, where $x \leq N$ and satisfies $A^x \equiv y_0 \pmod{N}$ for some randomly chosen $y_0 \leq N - 1$. By elementary number theory, the set of x 's form an arithmetic progression of the type $x_0 + ri$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots$ where $A^{x_0} \equiv y_0 \pmod{N}$ is the order of A .

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Shor's Algorithm: Integer Factorization using Quantum Computers

- We created a quantum state involving strong periodicity (namely an arithmetic progression) and we are interested in determining its period.
- The Quantum Fourier Transform (QFT) allows us to detect periods in quantum state. This is a quantum algorithm that takes a register from some arbitrary state $f \in \mathbb{C}^M$ into a state whose vectors is the Fourier transform \hat{f} of f .
- The QFT takes only $O(\log^2 M)$ elementary steps and is thus very sufficient.

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Thank You