

Introduction to Quantum Information Processing

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- Preview of applications of black-box results
- On simulating black boxes

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Quantum vs. classical separations

black-box problem	quantum	classical	
constant vs. balanced	1 (query)	2 (queries)	
1-out-of-4 search	1	3	
constant vs. balanced	1	$\frac{1}{2} 2^n + 1$	(only for exact)
Simon's problem	$O(n)$	$\Omega(2^{n/2})$	(probabilistic)

Simon's problem

Let $f: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}^n$ have the property that there exists an $r \in \{0,1\}^n$ such that $f(x) = f(y)$ iff $x \oplus y = r$ or $x = y$

Example:

x	$f(x)$
000	011
001	101
010	000
011	010
100	101
101	011
110	010
111	000

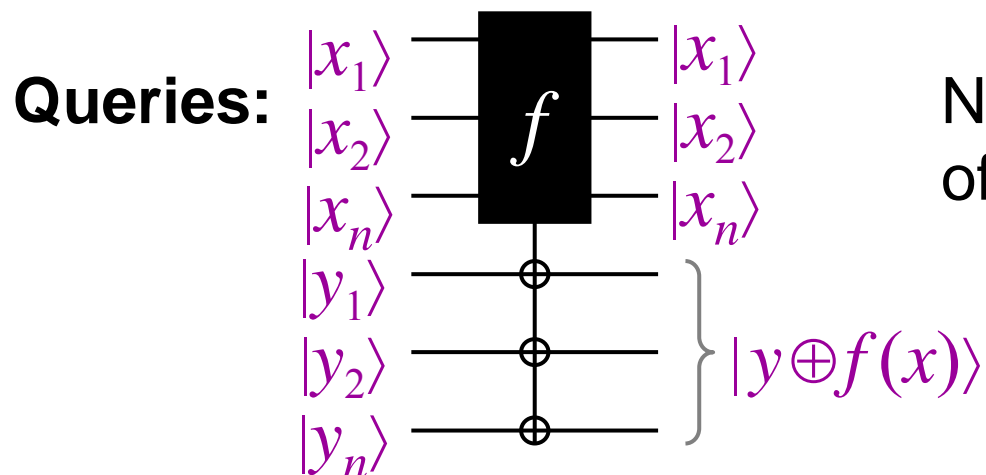
What is r in this case?

Answer: $r = 101$

Classical lower bound

Theorem: *any* classical algorithm solving Simon's problem must make $\Omega(2^{n/2})$ queries, to succeed with probability $\geq 3/4$

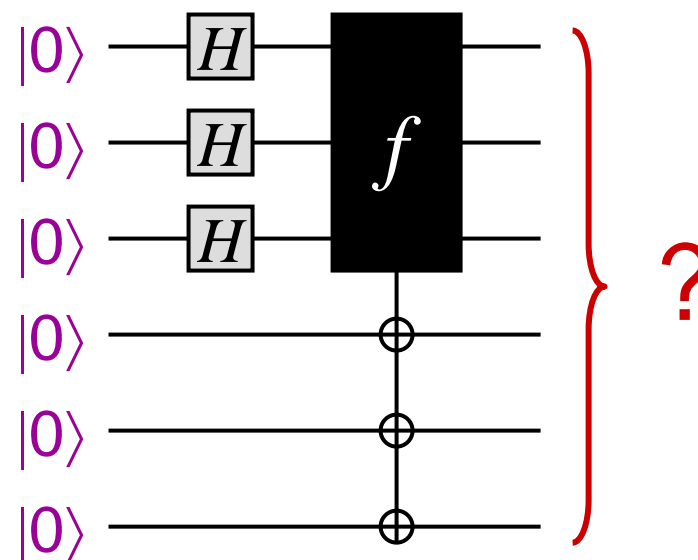
A *quantum* algorithm for Simon I



Not clear what *eigenvector* of target registers is ...

Proposed start of quantum algorithm: query all values of f in superposition

What is the output state of this circuit?



A quantum algorithm for Simon II

Answer: the output state is $\sum_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$

Let $T \subseteq \{0,1\}^n$ be such that **one** element from each matched pair is in T (assume $r \neq 00\dots 0$)

Example: could take $T = \{000, 001, 011, 111\}$

Then the output state can be written as:

$$\sum_{x \in T} |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle + |x \oplus r\rangle |f(x \oplus r)\rangle$$

$$= \sum_{x \in T} (|x\rangle + |x \oplus r\rangle) |f(x)\rangle$$

x	$f(x)$
000	011
001	101
010	000
011	010
100	101
101	011
110	010
111	000

A quantum algorithm for Simon III

Measuring the second register yields $|x\rangle + |x \oplus r\rangle$ in the first register, for a random $x \in T$

How can we use this to obtain **some** information about r ?

Try applying $H^{\otimes n}$ to the state, yielding:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{y \in \{0,1\}^n} (-1)^{x \cdot y} |y\rangle + \sum_{y \in \{0,1\}^n} (-1)^{(x \oplus r) \cdot y} |y\rangle \\ &= \sum_{y \in \{0,1\}^n} (-1)^{x \cdot y} \left(1 + (-1)^{r \cdot y} \right) |y\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Measuring this state yields y with prob. $\begin{cases} (1/2)^{n-1} & \text{if } r \cdot y = 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } r \cdot y \neq 0 \end{cases}$

A quantum algorithm for Simon IV

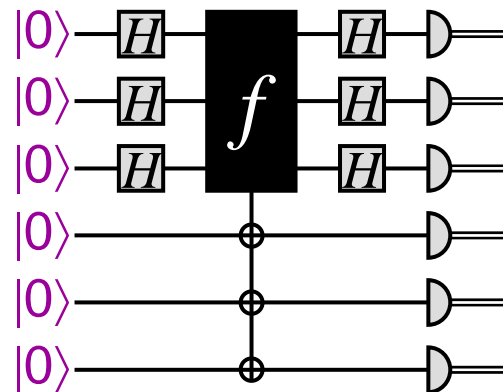
Executing this algorithm $k = O(n)$ times yields random $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k \in \{0,1\}^n$ such that $r \cdot y_1 = r \cdot y_2 = \dots = r \cdot y_n = 0$

How does this help?

This is a system of k linear equations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_{11} & y_{12} & \cdots & y_{1n} \\ y_{21} & y_{22} & \cdots & y_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_{k1} & y_{k2} & \cdots & y_{kn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r_1 \\ r_2 \\ \vdots \\ r_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

With high probability, there is a unique non-zero solution that is r (which can be efficiently found by linear algebra)



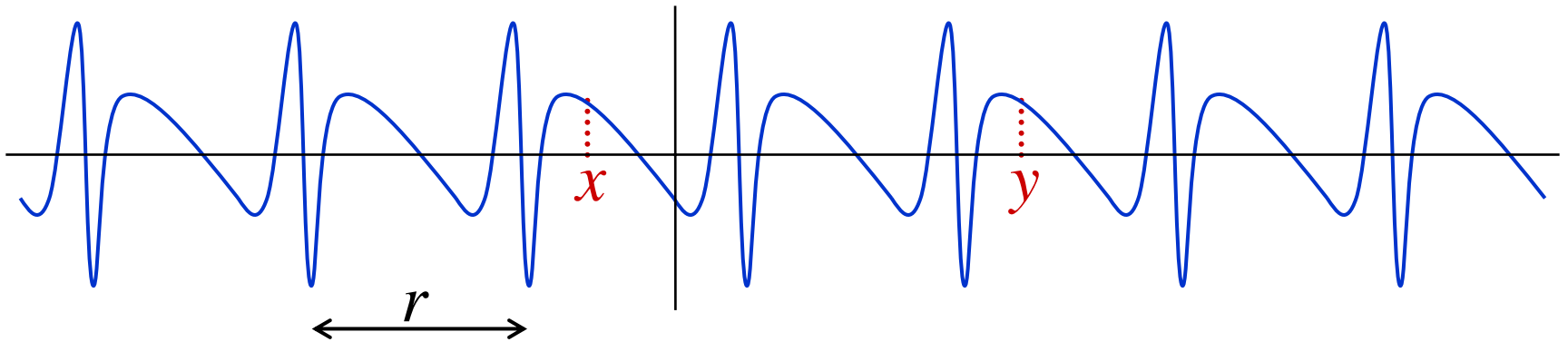
Conclusion of Simon's algorithm

- Any classical algorithm has to query the black box $\Omega(2^{n/2})$ times, even to succeed with probability $\frac{3}{4}$
- There is a quantum algorithm that queries the black box only $O(n)$ times, performs only $O(n^3)$ auxiliary operations (for the Hadamards, measurements, and linear algebra), and succeeds with probability $\frac{3}{4}$

- Continuation of Simon's problem
- Preview of applications of black-box results
- On simulating black boxes

Period-finding

Given: $f : \mathbf{Z} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$ such that f is (strictly) r -periodic, in the sense that $f(x) = f(y)$ iff $x - y$ is a multiple of r (unknown)



Goal: find r

Classically, the number of queries required can be **“huge”** (essentially as hard as finding a collision)

There is a quantum algorithm that makes only a **constant** number of queries (which will be explained later on)

Simon's problem vs. period-finding

Period-finding problem: domain is \mathbf{Z} and property is $f(x) = f(y)$ iff $x - y$ is a multiple of r

This problem meaningfully generalizes to domain \mathbf{Z}^n , where the periodicity is multidimensional

Deutsch's problem: domain is \mathbf{Z}_2 and property is $f(x) = f(y)$ iff $x \oplus y$ is a multiple of r
($r = 0$ means $f(0) = f(1)$ and $r = 1$ means $f(0) \neq f(1)$)

Simon's problem: domain is $(\mathbf{Z}_2)^n$ and property is $f(x) = f(y)$ iff $x \oplus y$ is a multiple of r

Application of period-finding algorithm

Order-finding problem: given a and m (positive integers such that $\gcd(a,m) = 1$), find the minimum positive r such that $a^r \bmod m = 1$

Example: let $a = 4$ and $m = 35$
(note that $\gcd(4,35) = 1$)

In this case, $r = ?$

Note that this is **not** a black-box problem!

$$4^1 \bmod 35 = 4$$

$$4^2 \bmod 35 = 16$$

$$4^3 \bmod 35 = 29$$

$$4^4 \bmod 35 = 11$$

$$4^5 \bmod 35 = 9$$

$$4^6 \bmod 35 = 1$$

$$4^7 \bmod 35 = 4$$

$$4^8 \bmod 35 = 16$$

:

Application of period-finding algorithm

Order-finding problem: given a and m (positive integers such that $\gcd(a,m) = 1$), find the minimum positive r such that $a^r \bmod m = 1$

No classical polynomial-time algorithm is known for this problem (in fact, the factoring problem reduces to it)

The problem reduces to finding the period of the function $f(x) = a^x \bmod m$, and the aforementioned period-finding quantum algorithm in the black-box model can be used to solve it in polynomial-time

A circuit computing the function f is substituted into the black-box ...

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How *not* to simulate a black box

Given an explicit function, such as $f(x) = a^x \bmod m$, and a finite domain $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2^n - 1\}$, simulate f -queries over that domain

Easy to compute mapping $|x\rangle|y\rangle|00\dots0\rangle \rightarrow |x\rangle|y \oplus f(x)\rangle|g(x)\rangle$, where the third register is “work space” with accumulated “garbage” (e.g., two such bits arise when a Toffoli gate is used to simulate an AND gate)

This works fine as long as f is not queried in superposition

If f is queried in superposition then the resulting state can be $\sum_x \alpha_x |x\rangle|y \oplus f(x)\rangle|g(x)\rangle$ can we just discard the third register?

No ... there could be entanglement ...

How to simulate a black box

Simulate the mapping $|x\rangle|y\rangle|00\dots 0\rangle \rightarrow |x\rangle|y\oplus f(x)\rangle|00\dots 0\rangle$,
(i.e., clean up the “garbage”)

To do this, use an additional register and:

1. compute $|x\rangle|y\rangle|00\dots 0\rangle|00\dots 0\rangle \rightarrow |x\rangle|y\rangle|f(x)\rangle|g(x)\rangle$
(ignoring the 2nd register in this step)
2. compute $|x\rangle|y\rangle|f(x)\rangle|g(x)\rangle \rightarrow |x\rangle|y\oplus f(x)\rangle|f(x)\rangle|g(x)\rangle$
(using CNOT gates between the 2nd and 3rd registers)
3. compute $|x\rangle|y\oplus f(x)\rangle|f(x)\rangle|g(x)\rangle \rightarrow |x\rangle|y\oplus f(x)\rangle|00\dots 0\rangle|00\dots 0\rangle$
(by reversing the procedure in step 1)

Total cost: around twice the cost of computing f , plus n auxiliary gates

THE END

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