

Today's outline - March 03, 2022



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- Overview of Shor's algorithm

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- Period-finding and factoring strategy

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Reading assignment: 8.3 – 8.4

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Homework Assignment #05:
Chapter 7:1,3,4
due Sunday, March 06, 2022

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HW #06 will include using quirk

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Reading assignment: 8.3 – 8.4

Homework Assignment #05:

Chapter 7:1,3,4

due Sunday, March 06, 2022

HW #06 will include using quirk

Quantum circuit simulator <https://algassert.com/quirk>

Classical period-finding



In 1994 Shor developed an algorithm for factoring integers which coupled with the quantum Fourier transform threatened to crack the standard encryption algorithms of the time

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The factoring algorithm relies finding the period of a function $f(k)$

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Consider the function $f(k)$

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$$f(k) = a^k \bmod M$$

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Since $a^r = 1 \bmod M$ we can write

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Consider the function $f(k)$

Since $a^r = 1 \bmod M$ we can write

$$f(k) = a^k \bmod M = a^{k+r} \bmod M$$

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Consider the function $f(k)$

Since $a^r = 1 \bmod M$ we can write and r is the period of $f(k)$

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For example, take $a = 5$ and $M = 13$

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$$r \quad a^r \quad a^r \bmod M$$

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$$f(k) = a^k \bmod M = a^{k+r} \bmod M$$

r	a^r	$a^r \bmod M$
1	5	5

For example, take $a = 5$ and $M = 13$

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r	a^r	$a^r \bmod M$
1	5	5
2	25	12

For example, take $a = 5$ and $M = 13$

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For example, take $a = 5$ and $M = 13$

r	a^r	$a^r \bmod M$
1	5	5
2	25	12
3	125	8

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For example, take $a = 5$ and $M = 13$

r	a^r	$a^r \bmod M$
1	5	5
2	25	12
3	125	8
4	625	1

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Consider the function $f(k)$

Since $a^r = 1 \bmod M$ we can write and r is the period of $f(k)$

$$f(k) = a^k \bmod M = a^{k+r} \bmod M$$

For example, take $a = 5$ and $M = 13$

Thus $r = 4$ is the period of the function

$$f(k) = a^k = 5^k$$

r	a^r	$a^r \bmod M$
1	5	5
2	25	12
3	125	8
4	625	1

Factoring strategy



If $a^r = 1 \bmod M$ and r is even then

Factoring strategy



If $a^r = 1 \bmod M$ and r is even then

$$(a^{r/2} + 1)(a^{r/2} - 1) \equiv 0 \bmod M$$

Factoring strategy



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Factoring strategy



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$$(a^{r/2} + 1)(a^{r/2} - 1) \equiv 0 \bmod M$$

In our example $r = 4$ so we have

$$(5^2 + 1)(5^2 - 1) = 26 \cdot 24$$

Factoring strategy



If $a^r = 1 \bmod M$ and r is even then

$$(a^{r/2} + 1)(a^{r/2} - 1) \equiv 0 \bmod M$$

In our example $r = 4$ so we have

$$(5^2 + 1)(5^2 - 1) = 26 \cdot 24 = 13 \cdot 48$$

Factoring strategy



If $a^r = 1 \bmod M$ and r is even then

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In our example $r = 4$ so we have

$$(5^2 + 1)(5^2 - 1) = 26 \cdot 24 = 13 \cdot 48$$

If neither $a^{r/2} \pm 1$ is a multiple of M then they both likely have common factors with M and so suggest a method for factoring M

Factoring strategy



If $a^r = 1 \bmod M$ and r is even then

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$$(5^2 + 1)(5^2 - 1) = 26 \cdot 24 = 13 \cdot 48$$

If neither $a^{r/2} \pm 1$ is a multiple of M then they both likely have common factors with M and so suggest a method for factoring M

1. Randomly choose an integer a and determine the period r of $f(k) = a^k \bmod M$

Factoring strategy



If $a^r = 1 \bmod M$ and r is even then

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1. Randomly choose an integer a and determine the period r of $f(k) = a^k \bmod M$
2. If r is even use the Euclidean algorithm to compute the greatest common divisor of $a^{r/2} \pm 1$ and M

Factoring strategy



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3. Repeat as necessary

Factoring strategy



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3. Repeat as necessary

Given that an encryption key, M , is generally a large number, this is still a computationally expensive operation for a classical computer, however Shor's quantum algorithm makes it possible efficiently perform step 2.

Shor's factoring algorithm



The implementation of Shor's algorithm can be summarized in a few steps

Shor's factoring algorithm



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1. Randomly choose an integer a such that $0 < a < M$ and apply the Euclidean algorithm

Shor's factoring algorithm



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2. Use quantum parallelism to compute $f(x) = a^x \bmod M$ on the superposition of $n : M^2 \leq 2^n < 2M^2$ inputs and apply a quantum Fourier transform to the result

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3. Measure. With high probability, a value v close to a multiple of $\frac{2^n}{r}$ will be obtained

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3. Measure. With high probability, a value v close to a multiple of $\frac{2^n}{r}$ will be obtained
4. Use classical methods to obtain a possible period q from v

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3. Measure. With high probability, a value v close to a multiple of $\frac{2^n}{r}$ will be obtained
4. Use classical methods to obtain a possible period q from v
5. For q even, use the Euclidean algorithm to find any common factors of M and $a^{q/2} \pm 1$

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3. Measure. With high probability, a value v close to a multiple of $\frac{2^n}{r}$ will be obtained
4. Use classical methods to obtain a possible period q from v
5. For q even, use the Euclidean algorithm to find any common factors of M and $a^{q/2} \pm 1$
6. Start over with step 1 if more factors are needed

Only steps 2 and 3 require a quantum computer since the other steps are efficiently performed with a classical computer

The quantum core



Start by preparing a uniform superposition state of an n -qubit register

The quantum core



Start by preparing a uniform superposition state of an n -qubit register

$$W|0 \cdots 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} |x\rangle$$

The quantum core



Start by preparing a uniform superposition state of an n -qubit register

The function $f(x) = a^x \bmod M$ can be computed with an efficiently implemented transformation U_f

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$$U_f : |x\rangle|0\rangle \rightarrow |x\rangle|f(x)\rangle$$



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The function $f(x) = a^x \bmod M$ can be computed with an efficiently implemented transformation U_f

This requires a second m -qubit register such that

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Start by preparing a uniform superposition state of an n -qubit register

The function $f(x) = a^x \bmod M$ can be computed with an efficiently implemented transformation U_f

This requires a second m -qubit register such that

The second register is now measured randomly and this returns a value u for $f(x)$ so that the two registers are no longer entangled and the state is

$$W|0 \cdots 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} |x\rangle$$

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$$C \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} g(x)|x\rangle|u\rangle, \quad g(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } f(x) = u \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The quantum core



Start by preparing a uniform superposition state of an n -qubit register

$$W|0 \cdots 0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} |x\rangle$$

The function $f(x) = a^x \bmod M$ can be computed with an efficiently implemented transformation U_f

$$U_f : |x\rangle|0\rangle \rightarrow |x\rangle|f(x)\rangle$$

This requires a second m -qubit register such that

$$U_f \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} |x\rangle|0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} |x\rangle|f(x)\rangle$$

The second register is now measured randomly and this returns a value u for $f(x)$ so that the two registers are no longer entangled and the state is

$$C \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} g(x) |x\rangle |u\rangle, \quad g(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } f(x) = u \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

C is the normalization constant and $g(x)$ must, by definition, have the same period as $f(x)$ but is sparse and only has non-zero values at intervals of the period

Applying the quantum Fourier transform



The second register can be thrown away as it is no longer entangled with the first

Applying the quantum Fourier transform



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$$|\psi\rangle = C \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} g(x)|x\rangle$$

Applying the quantum Fourier transform



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$$|\psi\rangle = C \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} g(x)|x\rangle$$

Now apply the quantum Fourier transform, U_F , to the first register to get

Applying the quantum Fourier transform



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$$|\psi\rangle = C \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} g(x)|x\rangle$$

Now apply the quantum Fourier transform, U_F , to the first register to get

$$U_F|\psi\rangle = C' \sum_{c=0}^{N-1} G(c)|c\rangle$$

Applying the quantum Fourier transform



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When the period is not a power of two, the quantum Fourier transform approximates the exact case and yields a value v close to a multiple of $\frac{2^n}{r}$

Continued fraction expansion



In the case where r is a power of 2, the measured output $v = j \frac{2^n}{r}$ and the period is straightforward to extract

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Shor showed that this fraction is within $\frac{1}{2}$ of a multiple of $\frac{2^n}{r}$

Period extraction



Recall that we chose the size of the qubit register to be $n : M^2 \leq 2^n < 2M^2$

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This fraction, computed by fraction expansion will likely be equal to $\frac{j}{r}$ so the denominator q is the guess for the period r which will be correct if r and j are relatively prime

Shor's algorithm example



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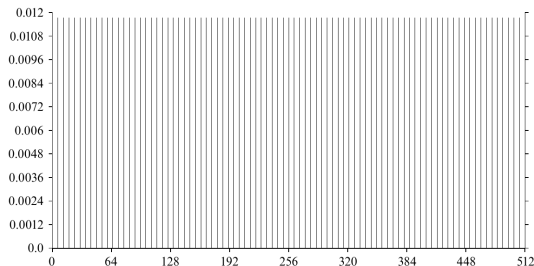
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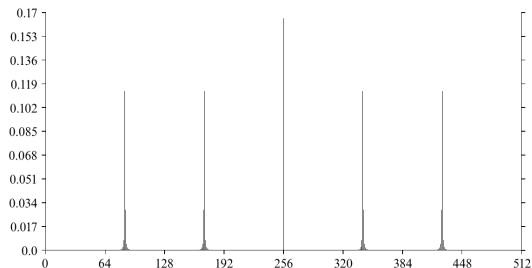


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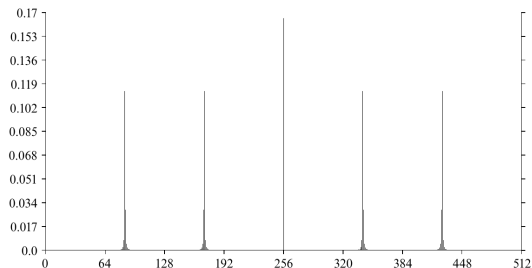


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Measurement of $|\psi\rangle$ now returns a value $v = 427$ which is relative prime to 2^n



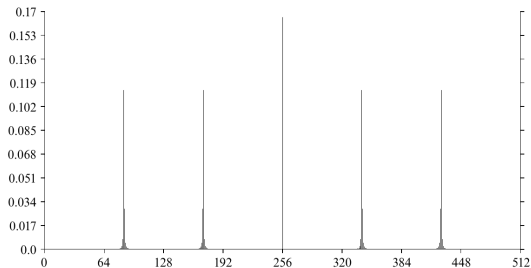
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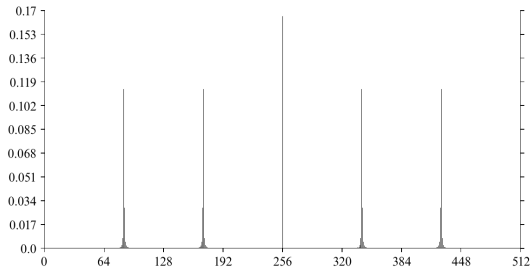
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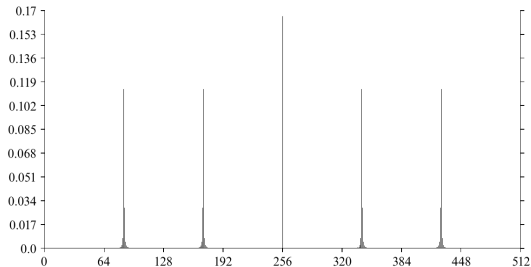
i	a_i	p_i	q_i	ϵ_i
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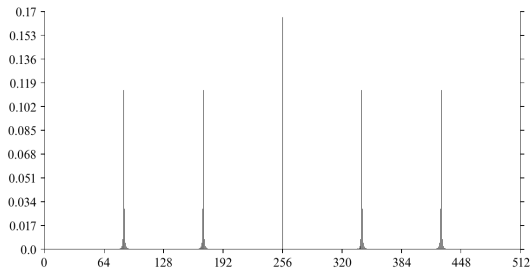
i	a_i	p_i	q_i	ϵ_i
0	0	0	1	0.8339844

Shor's algorithm example



The result of the Fourier transform U_F is applied to $|\psi\rangle$ clearly shows that the period of $f(x)$ is not a multiple of 2

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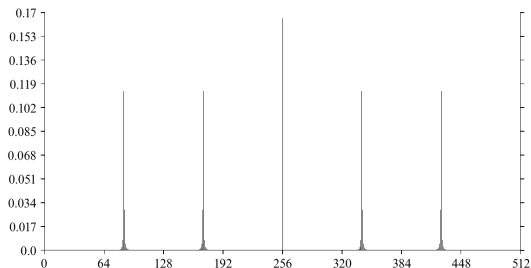
i	a_i	p_i	q_i	ϵ_i
0	0	0	1	0.8339844
1	1	1	1	0.1990632

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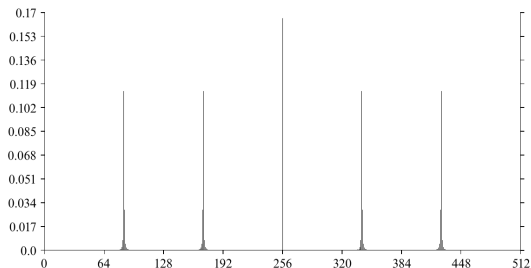
i	a_i	p_i	q_i	ϵ_i
0	0	0	1	0.8339844
1	1	1	1	0.1990632
2	5	5	6	0.02352941

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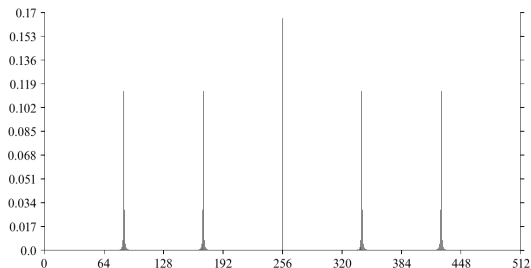
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3	42	211	253	0.5

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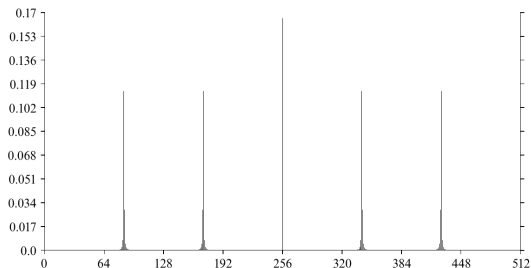
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$q = 6$ is thus the guess for the period of $f(x)$

i	a_i	p_i	q_i	ϵ_i
0	0	0	1	0.8339844
1	1	1	1	0.1990632
2	5	5	6	0.02352941
3	42	211	253	0.5

Shor's algorithm example



With $q = 6$ being even we can now find the greatest common factor of $a^{q/2} \pm 1$ and M where $M = 21$ and $a = 11$ by applying the Euclidean algorithm

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With $q = 6$ being even we can now find the greatest common factor of $a^{q/2} \pm 1$ and M where $M = 21$ and $a = 11$ by applying the Euclidean algorithm

$$a^{q/2} + 1 = 11^3 + 1 = 1332$$

Shor's algorithm example



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$$M \quad n \quad m$$

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	M	n	m
1332	21		63

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	M	n	m
1332	21		63
9	21	2	

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	M	n	m
1332	21		63
9	21	2	
9	3		3

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1332	21		63
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9	3		3
0			

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$$a^{q/2} + 1 = 11^3 + 1 = 1332$$

$$a^{q/2} - 1 = 11^3 - 1 = 1330$$

	M	n	m
1332	21		63
9	21	2	
9	3		3
0			

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---	---	---

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9	21	2	
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0			

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	M	n	m
1330	21		63
7	21	3	

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	M	n	m
1332	21		63
9	21	2	
9	3		3
0			

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	M	n	m
1330	21		63
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0			

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9	3		3
0			

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	M	n	m
1330	21		63
7	21	3	
0			

With a single Fourier transform application we have factored $M = 21$ into 3 and 7

Shor's algorithm example



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1332	21		63
9	21	2	
9	3		3
0			

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	M	n	m
1330	21		63
7	21	3	
0			

With a single Fourier transform application we have factored $M = 21$ into 3 and 7

Clearly this is a trivial example but the potential efficiency of the algorithm is evident