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Quantum algorithms: tough to design and interpret

Despite beautiful work in QPLs [1, 2], we still reason at gate level, most of the time

What can quantum programming *techniques* & *abstractions* learn from their classical cousins?

Quantum algorithm design



Overview

Pinpoint strengths of algorithmic class: QSP

Argue function-first algorithmic design with above is (1) desirable but (2) not immediately possible

Turn a desire into a formal problem

Show solution utility, efficiency, functional programming flavor, and introduce package

QSP: functional interpretability



Space- and query-efficient algorithms for spectral mapping; unifies most quantum algorithms [3, 4]

The temptation

QSP and QSVT achieve^{*} polynomial transforms $\langle 0 | U(\Phi, x) | 0 \rangle = P(x)$

Given protocols achieving f(x), g(y), and h(z, w), it *feels* like we should be able to achieve

$$h \circ (f,g) \equiv h(f(x),g(y)).$$

Moreover, the composite protocol ought to be able to use f(x) and g(y) as contiguous subroutines





The problem

QSP encodes privileged basis: expects X rotations as input but does not produce them as output

Even worse lifting to QSVT or with many oracles

QSP protocols aren't first class functions

Why bother

Modularity and reusability in coherent setting

QSP is great: space efficient, infinity norm dependent, strong numerical footing ...

Multivariable analogues of QSP are *hard*, while multivariable functions (comparators, control-flow, loss) are ubiquitous [5]

A note on QSVT

Commuting operators and spectral mapping

Anything we do in SU(2) is done in preserved QSVT subspaces. Let $\Pi, \tilde{\Pi}$ proj. and $A = \tilde{\Pi} U \Pi$, then

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^{d_{\min}} \xi_i |\tilde{\psi}_i\rangle \langle \psi_i| \mapsto P^{SV}(A) \equiv \sum_{i=1}^{d_{\min}} P(\xi_i) |\tilde{\psi}_i\rangle \langle \psi_i|,$$
$$U = \dots \oplus \bigoplus_{\xi_i \neq 0, 1} \begin{bmatrix} \xi_i & \sqrt{1 - \xi_i^2} \\ \sqrt{1 - \xi_i^2} & -\xi_i \end{bmatrix}_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}_i}^{\mathcal{H}_i} \oplus \dots,$$

Gadgets 📟

An (a, b) gadget is a unitary^{*} superoperator:



over θ in known range. Each of *b* output legs achieves $\cos \psi_j$, often polynomial in $\cos \theta_k$, $k \in [a]$.

Functionally interpretable boxes: a inputs, b outputs

Gadget Rosetta Stone



Thm 1: linking gadgets 🔗

Let $\varepsilon, \delta > 0$, \mathfrak{G} an (a, b) gadget and (Ξ, S) an atomic (c, d) gadget, where $\Xi \equiv \{\Phi_0, \dots, \Phi_{d-1}\}$ and $S \equiv \{s_0, \dots, s_{d-1}\}$. Suppose \mathfrak{G} achieves

 $F(x) \equiv \{f_0(x_0, \cdots, x_{a-1}), f_1(x_0, \cdots, x_{a-1}), \dots, f_{b-1}(x_0, \cdots, x_{a-1})\}$

over $x \in [-1,1]^{ imes a}$, and (Ξ, S) achieves

$$G(y) \equiv \{g_0(y_0, \cdots, y_{c-1}), g_1(y_0, \cdots, y_{c-1}), \dots, g_{d-1}(y_0, \cdots, y_{c-1})\}$$

over $y \in [-1,1]^{\times c}$. Let $\mathfrak{I} = (B, C, W)$ an interlink. Then, there exists a gadget \mathfrak{G}' which ε -approximately achieves

$$H(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}') \equiv \bigcup_{k \in [d]} g_k \left(\bigcup_{j \in B} f_{W(j)}(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{a-1}) \cup \bigcup_{k \notin C} y_k \right) \cup \bigcup_{k \notin B} f_k(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{a-1})$$

over $(F(x), y') \in \mathcal{D}$, where y' is the subset of y_k such that $k \notin C$ and \mathcal{D} is a domain determined by the correction protocol used.

 \mathfrak{G}' uses description of (Ξ, S) and $\widetilde{\mathcal{O}}(d|\Xi|_{\infty}\zeta)$ black-box calls to result of running \mathfrak{G} .



Generally, $\zeta = \widetilde{O}(\operatorname{polylog}(\varepsilon^{-1})\operatorname{poly}(\delta^{-1}))$ for $\delta = \mathcal{O}(1)$. Note $|\Xi|_{\infty}$ is max length of elem in Ξ .

Thm 2: gadget-poly equivalence

Let $\mathcal{L}(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ polynomials achievable by atomic gadgets over x_1, \ldots, x_n . Suppose $P(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ has degree D and can be split into a tower of $m = \mathcal{O}(\log(D))$ interlinked polynomials,

$$\boldsymbol{\mathcal{P}} = \boldsymbol{\mathcal{P}}^{(m-1)} \circ_{\mathfrak{I}_{m-2}} \left(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{P}}^{(m-2)} \circ_{\mathfrak{I}_{m-3}} \circ \left(\cdots \left(\boldsymbol{\mathcal{P}}^{(1)} \circ_{\mathfrak{I}_{0}} \boldsymbol{\mathcal{P}}^{(0)} \right) \cdots \right) \right)$$

such that $P_i^{(j)} \in \mathcal{L}(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ for all i, j. If the P_k are separated from $\{0, \pm 1\}$ by $\delta \in \mathcal{O}(1)$ for all k over \mathcal{D}_k . Then, there exists an assemblage of m atomic, snappable gadgets which ε -approximately achieves P on \mathcal{D}_k with aggregate query cost $\widetilde{O}(\text{poly}(D) \text{ polylog}(\varepsilon))$.

Algebraic structure	Manipulation	Algebraic	form	Reference
QSP/M-QSP	Polynomial application Multivariable variant [†]	$\begin{array}{c} x_0 \mapsto P(x_0), \\ x_0, \dots, x_n \vdash \end{array}$	$\rightarrow P(x_0,\ldots,x_n),$	Thm. D.1 Thm. D.2
Polynomial ring [‡]	Addition Multiplication Scalar multiplication	$x_0, x_1 \mapsto (x_0, x_1) \mapsto x_0, x_1 \mapsto x_0, x_1 \mapsto \min(\alpha)$	$(x_0 + x_1)/2,$ $(x_1, x_0, 1), \alpha \in \mathbb{R},$	Thm. IV.3 Thm. IV.2 Ex. IV.4/5
Composition monoid	Polynomial composition	$f(x_0), g(x_0)$	$\mapsto (f \circ g)(x_0),$	Thm. III.1
General gadgets	Gadget linking	$\mathfrak{G},\mathfrak{G}'\mapsto\mathfrak{GI}$	$\mathfrak{G}',$	Thm. III.1
Provided examples	Negation/inversion (Ex. IV.1)		Bandpass function (Ex. IV.11)	
	Angle sum/difference (Ex. IV.2)		Majority vote (Ex. IV.12)	
	Affine shift (Ex. IV.7) Step function (Ex. IV.8)		Functional interpolation (Ex. IV.13)	
			Chebyshev inverse (Thm. IV.1)	
	General mean (Ex. IV.10)		

Sum gadget



A: square root gadget, B, C: angle sum/difference gadgets, D: product gadgets.

Prior work

Cascaded classical filters for sharpening. [6, 7]

Recursively defined quantum (computational) subroutines. [8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14]

Single-variable self-embedded QSP/QSVT. [15, 16]

Multivariable QSP/QET and LCU-based methods.

Functional programming techniques: quantum and classical. [1, 2, 17]



Main idea: repeated use of twisted signal to obliviously, approximately cancel its own twist

$$e^{i\phi\sigma_z}e^{i\psi\sigma_x}e^{-i\phi\sigma_z}\mapsto \{e^{i\phi\sigma_z}e^{i\psi\sigma_x}e^{-i\phi\sigma_z},e^{2i\phi\sigma_z}\}\mapsto e^{i\psi\sigma_x}.$$

Off diagonal element's phase sent to $pprox \pi/2$

$$\begin{bmatrix} P & iQ\sqrt{1-x^2} \\ * & * \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} P & i\sqrt{1-P^2} \\ * & * \end{bmatrix}$$



Computing costs

For P(x) close to ± 1 , QSP suffers 'gimbal lock'

Take $\delta = \mathcal{O}(1)$, and $P(x) \in [-1 + \delta, 1 - \delta]^b$ over $x \in [-1 + \delta, 1 - \delta]^a$: simple bounding box

Cost per correction is $\mathcal{O}(\mathsf{poly}(\delta^{-1})\mathsf{polylog}(\varepsilon^{-1}))$

On query/space complexity

An (a, b) gadget has a cost for each output leg, up to desired precision, in queries to each input leg: $a \times b$ cost matrix C

Up to padding rows & cols, C of gadget computed by multiplying C_k of sub-gadgets.

Space/query complexity breaks into cases: single-variable, psd Q, controlled access.

Is this efficient? Or, why not LCU?

Poly-many, poly-size gadgets, log depth. Maintains QSP's infinity norm scaling.

- Poly-logarithmic in inverse precision.
- No post-selection required.
- Hierarchical, distributed, modular.
- Linking high-degree gadgets is where method shines. Potentially huge space saving (psd Q); coupled to questions in poly decomposition theorems.

Not truly in competition with LCU.

Method	Queries	Space	Norm
[18]	$poly(r)d^{poly(r)}$	poly(r)[poly(d) + poly(s)]	$\ \cdot\ _1$
Ours	d	s + c	$\ \cdot\ _{\infty}$

Table: Asymptotic query and space complexity, as well as relevant norm. Here d is generalized degree, r is number of variables, and s is qubits needed for block encodings. Note the case that c = 0 is well-understood.

Functional programming 🔧

Semantics and syntax

Monad: monoid in the category of endofunctors

unit:
$$T \rightarrow M T$$
,
bind: $(M T, T \rightarrow M U) \rightarrow M U$,

Unwrapped type is scalar value (or X rotation), wrapped is QSP output; this work constructs bind

Bonus: attribute grammar & language of gadgets





github.com/ichuang/pyqsp/tree/beta





Efficient, function-first quantum algorithm design

Coherent use of QSP protocols as QSP oracles with functional interpretability

Readymade repo at ichuang/pyqsp/tree/beta

Formal syntax and semantics, coupled to deep lit in (Q)PLs: compilation, verification [1, 19, 20]

Ancilla-free gadgets: minimal functional description?

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