

# Introduction to Quantum Programming with Qiskit

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## 1 First Things First

We first begin with setting up our environment to work with Qiskit. You will need to install Python 3 from [here](#). We will then use command line to install Qiskit. This can be done using the 'pip install qiskit' command in the command line<sup>1</sup> just as seen below.

Figure 1: pip makes installing stuff easy using the commandline

Now, we need to install our environment, Jupyternotebooks. This can be done easily now that we have python by using another command in the commandline, 'pip install notebook'. After that is finished downloading we now have the 'jupyter notebook' command. This will start a python kernel<sup>2</sup> and open the Jupyternotebooks homepage. On the right hand side of the screen there is a 'new' drop down menu, click on the Python 3 notebook option and you should see a screen like the one on top of the next page.

Figure 2: Jupyternotebook Cell

Lets get started by coding up our first QuantumCircuit! The QuantumCircuit Object in Qiskit is the bread and butter of the package. We start by initializing a quantum register, a place that says this is how many qubits I have, and then putting our quantum register into our QuantumCircuit.

In this order, we will import qiskit into Python so we can use it. Define a quantum register with 2 qubits and give it a name. Define a quantum circuit that will use our 2 qubits. Then get some information about the quantum register used in our new quantum circuit. To run our code you either just click on a cell you want to run and click the 'Run' button, or click on 'cells' and click 'run cell' or 'run all'.

Figure 3: Importing Qiskit

## 2 Everyone's Favorite Quantum Gate

Now we will get to the buisness of applying gates to our quantum circuit. The First gate we will use is the Hadamard Gate. This is implemented by the following

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<sup>1</sup>for mac users commandline just means terminal

<sup>2</sup>tastier than corn kernels!

Figure 4: The humble Hadamard gate

We could also just use `qcircuit.draw()` but that picture would not look nearly as neat. Now we have our gates applied lets take a look at making measurements using qiskit. We will need a little more setting up however. Making sure we define our simulator backends.<sup>3</sup>

Qiskit works by providing you with a simulator that is able to run the experiments that we want to run. We need in particular a Statevector simulator and a Measurement simulator<sup>4</sup>. We will call them `S_simulator` and `M_simulator` respectively. We do this by simply making variables for the pair.

Figure 5: setting up simulators

Now we have tools to make measurements and to check the states of our quantum system! The first thing we would like to do is get a statevector that represents our quantum circuit. This is done by executing a job on the appropriate simulator. Lets make a variable called 'job' and execute a job on the statevector simulator, then get the result of that job and print it out for us to see.

Figure 6: Our first ket

We can even take this state we have a put into a new quantum circuit. This is done by using the '.initialize' method. This can be useful for setting up a bell state at the beginning of an experiment for entanglement or to reset a state to make repeated measurements on the circuit.

Figure 7: initialization

We now introduce the classical register. Much like its name suggests, it is just a place that says I have some number of classical bits. Classical bits are used with their quantum cousins to hold results from quantum experiments. To measure both qubits we will need 2 classical bits. We begin by creating a classical register and then adding it to our quantum circuit. We make measurements by specifying the qubit we are measuring and the classical bit we are putting the result into.

Figure 8: Making measurements

We can draw our circuit now to see how it looks just because it really is neat.

Figure 9: neat

Since we are in business of measuring we need to use the measurement simulator. Very similar to the way we executed a job to get the statevector we will do the same to get the measurement. Qiskit allows us however to do multiple runs of a measurement on a state, each

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<sup>3</sup>Do not worry about what a backend is we are just gonna write them in

<sup>4</sup>Actually a QASM simulator that reads our instructions and uses those to do measurements in the simulator

run is called a shot. Each execution of a measurement job will by default to 1024 shots but we can also tell Qiskit how many shots we want to do for a particular measurement. We can even get a really neat histogram to display the results.

What else can we do with qiskit? There are other visualizations we can do. Including making bloch vectors on a bloch sphere and showing how the bloch vector rotates as we move it around the sphere. We can run more complicated circuits using all our friends, the Pauli matrices and CNOT among others. You can see that you can take any interesting circuit you have seen in class and type it up and see how it behaves and measure it and see statevectors! For more information do what I do and look it up! The best resource for starting out is the [Qiskit Textbook](#). Basically anything you want to do on paper you can do on Qiskit or at least give it a good try. Lets try a harder example together.

Figure 10: we get a dictionary key:value pair of our state and how many shots hit it

Figure 11: really neat

### 3 Quantum Teleportation

An example of a cool final project is going through one of the circuits we did in class. The Quantum Teleportation protocol has a lot of moving pieces and will be a good example to up our game. Please check out all the cool [Quantum Protocols and Quantum Algorithms](#) on the Qiskit site. They have all the ones we have covered in class included a few new ones. Teleportation works by having Alice wanting to send an arbitrary state of her qubit.  $|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$

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We want to send this same arbitrary state over to Bob's qubit. This is achieved by initializing Alice's qubit with some state  $|\psi\rangle$ , use a third ancillary state that will be entangled with Bob's qubit, and take measurements in the bell basis to determine the use of  $Z$  and  $X$  gates on Bob's qubit to make complete the teleportation.

Figure 12: tweaking old code for teleportation

Figure 13: We start by setting up the circuit...

Figure 14: ...and finish it with measurements

We need to go back to the top of our circuit for the initialization of Alice's qubit to some state<sup>5</sup>. For example lets say  $|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|0\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|1\rangle$ . This is done by importing 'Initialization' from qiskit.extensions and creating an initialization gate. We then append it to our zeroth qubit<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>Python much like quantum circuit reads instructions one at a time starting at the first instruction and ending at the last, we need to write our code in a desired order to get a desired result

<sup>6</sup>this is also the first qubit and known as Alice's qubit. A qubit by any other name is just as random.

Figure 15: Some adventures can only end by going back to the beginning

Finally, how do we check to see if any of this works? We first note that our init gate works by acting on Alice's qubit in the  $|0\rangle$  and giving us some  $|\psi\rangle$ . Quantum computers unlike their jealous and classical cousins have the benefit of unitary operations that can be done by some other unitary operation. Qiskit lets us easily make an inverse init gate by figuring out what operation(s) undo our init gate. We do this because its easier to see if Bob's qubit is in the  $|0\rangle$  state rather than the  $|\psi\rangle$  state. Thats because  $|\psi\rangle$  can be in a superposition of states meaning we could not get a certain measuremnt.

Figure 16: Create an Inverse gate and lets measure Bob's qubit.

Now that this is all complete we can use `'.draw(output='mpl')'` to get a really nice picture again. I am really proud of this one. You should be too, this is not trivial stuff.

Figure 17: I dont know why disentangler shows up but it basically disentangles as far as I can tell

Bob's qubit was the second qubit<sup>7</sup>, Qiskit unfortunately prints states backwards! So some state  $|abc\rangle$  gets written as  $|cba\rangle$  so Bob's qubit will be the leftmost one in our results coming up. What we are looking for after we measure the circuit is Bob's qubit always being in the  $|0\rangle$  state. So we use our M simulator just as we did earlier.

Figure 18: Results!

Check that out! The states we measure are  $|000\rangle$ ,  $|100\rangle$ ,  $|010\rangle$ , and  $|110\rangle$ . In all possibilities we have our last qubit in the  $|0\rangle$  state! Thats a success and you have coded a quantum algorithm, way to go<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>7</sup>this is also the third qubit or Bob's qubit, no one likes sematincs

<sup>8</sup>I'm proud