

# Documentation of Dictionary-based Sparse Block Encoding

Dictionary-based Sparse BLock Encoding (hereafter abbreviated as DSBLE) is a sparse block encoding protocol that relies on a novel dictionary data structure of sparse structure matrices and achieves low subnormalization and circuit depth [1]. The low-circuit-depth implementation requires extensive ancillary qubit resources, making practical quantum circuit simulations currently infeasible. Therefore, we provide Python code to verify the subnormalization properties of DSBLE, which is available in <https://github.com/ChunlinYangHEU/DSBLE>. The quantum circuit of DSBLE is built on top of MindQuantum in Python.

DSBLE relies on the dictionary data structure of sparse matrices shown in Table 1.

Keys	Values
0	$\{(a_{ij}, i, j) : a_{ij} = A_0, (i, j) \in (c_0(j), S_c(0))\}$
1	$\{(a_{ij}, i, j) : a_{ij} = A_1, (i, j) \in (c_1(j), S_c(1))\}$
2	$\{(a_{ij}, i, j) : a_{ij} = A_2, (i, j) \in (c_2(j), S_c(2))\}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$s_0$	$\{(a_{ij}, i, j) : a_{ij} = A_{s_0}, (i, j) \in (c_{s_0}(j), S_c(s_0))\}$

Table 1: Dictionary data structure of a sparse matrix.

Based on the dictionary, DSBLE can be implemented by using the quantum circuit shown in Figure 1.

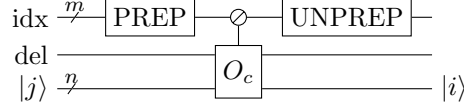


Figure 1: Basic framework of dictionary-based sparse block encoding.

## 1 Core Objectives

The main two tasks of DSBLE are presented in the following.

- **Task 1: State Preparation.** Implement quantum circuit for the oracles PREP and UNPREP, where

$$\text{PREP } |0\rangle_{\text{idx}}^{\otimes m} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sum_{l=0}^{s_0-1} |A_l|}} \left( \sum_{l=0}^{s_0-1} \sqrt{A_l} |l\rangle_{\text{idx}} + \sum_{l=s_0}^{2^m-1} 0 |l\rangle_{\text{idx}} \right),$$

$$\text{UNPREP}^\dagger |0\rangle_{\text{idx}}^{\otimes m} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sum_{l=0}^{s_0-1} |A_l|}} \left( \sum_{l=0}^{s_0-1} \sqrt{A_l}^* |l\rangle_{\text{idx}} + \sum_{l=s_0}^{2^m-1} 0 |l\rangle_{\text{idx}} \right).$$

- **Task 2: Index Mapping.** Implement quantum circuit for the oracle  $O_c$ , where

$$O_c |l\rangle_{\text{idx}} |0\rangle_{\text{del}} |j\rangle = \begin{cases} |l\rangle_{\text{idx}} |0\rangle_{\text{del}} |c_l(j)\rangle, & \text{if } l \in [0, s_0 - 1] \text{ and } j \in S_c(l), \\ |l\rangle_{\text{idx}} |1\rangle_{\text{del}} |j\rangle, & \text{if } l \in [s_0, 2^m - 1] \text{ or } j \notin S_c(l). \end{cases}$$

We assume that the data functions  $i = c_l(j)$  have the expression

$$i = c_l(j) = j \pm k_l, \tag{1}$$

where  $j \in S_c(l)$ ,  $k_l$  is a non-negative integer,  $l \in [0, s_0 - 1]$ .

## 1.1 Task 1: State Preparation

An  $n$ -fold controlled rotation  $R_{\alpha}(\theta_{[0,2^n-1]})$  is a multiplexor operation composed of 1-qubit unitaries, defined as

$$R_{\alpha}(\theta_{[0,2^n-1]}) = \sum_{l=0}^{2^n-1} |l\rangle \langle l| \otimes R_{\alpha}(\theta_l) = \begin{pmatrix} R_{\alpha}(\theta_0) & & & \\ & R_{\alpha}(\theta_1) & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & R_{\alpha}(\theta_{2^n-1}) \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $R_{\alpha}(\theta_l) \in \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2}$  denotes a rotation by angle  $\frac{\theta}{2}$  about the axis  $\alpha \cdot \sigma = a_x X + a_y Y + a_z Z$  [2] as

$$R_{\alpha}(\theta) = e^{i\alpha \cdot \sigma \theta/2} = I \cos \frac{\theta}{2} + i\alpha \cdot \sigma \sin \frac{\theta}{2},$$

with  $(a_x, a_y, a_z) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . A 2-fold controlled rotation is depicted in Figure 2.

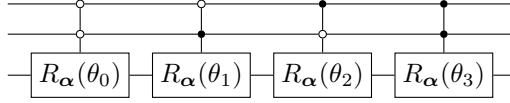


Figure 2: 2-fold controlled rotation  $R_{\alpha}(\theta_{[0,3]})$ , where  $\theta_{[0,3]} = (\theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3)^T$ .

An  $n$ -fold controlled rotation  $R_{\alpha}(\theta_{[0,2^n-1]})$  can be decomposed into  $2^n$  single-qubit rotations  $R_{\alpha}(\tilde{\theta})$  and  $2^n$  C-NOT gates [2]. The rotation angles  $\tilde{\theta} = (\tilde{\theta}_0, \dots, \tilde{\theta}_{2^n-1})^T$  and  $\theta = (\theta_0, \dots, \theta_{2^n-1})^T$  satisfy the linear system

$$M\tilde{\theta} = \theta,$$

where  $M_{ij} = (-1)^{b_{i-1} \cdot g_{j-1}}$ ,  $b_i, g_i$  are the standard binary code representation of the integer  $i$  and the  $i$ -th Binary reflected 2-bit Gray code, and the dot in the exponent denotes the bitwise inner product of the binary vectors [2–4]. The uniformly controlled rotation decomposition of Figure 2 is shown in Figure 3.

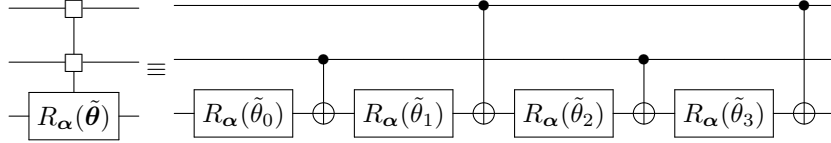


Figure 3: The uniformly controlled decomposition of 2-fold controlled rotation  $R_{\alpha}(\theta_{[0,3]})$ .

For an arbitrary  $m$ -qubit quantum state

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^{2^m-1} |a_i|^2}} \sum_{i=0}^{2^m-1} a_i |i\rangle,$$

with  $a_i \in \mathbb{C}$ , it can be prepared without introducing additional ancillary qubits using the quantum circuit in Figure 4 [4]. It contains only single-qubit  $R_Y$ ,  $R_Z$  rotation gates and C-NOT gates. If the amplitudes are real, only  $R_Y$  rotation gates and C-NOT gates are enough.

The rotation angles of  $R_Y$  and  $R_Z$  rotations in Figure 4 can be computed by following two processes [4]:

1. Calculate the rotation angles  $\varphi^{(i)}$  and  $\theta^{(i)}$  of multiplexor rotations from classical data by rotation-Y and rotation-Z binary trees.
2. Calculate the rotation angles  $\tilde{\varphi}^{(i)}$  and  $\tilde{\theta}^{(i)}$  of single-qubit controlled rotations by the permutative demultiplexor.

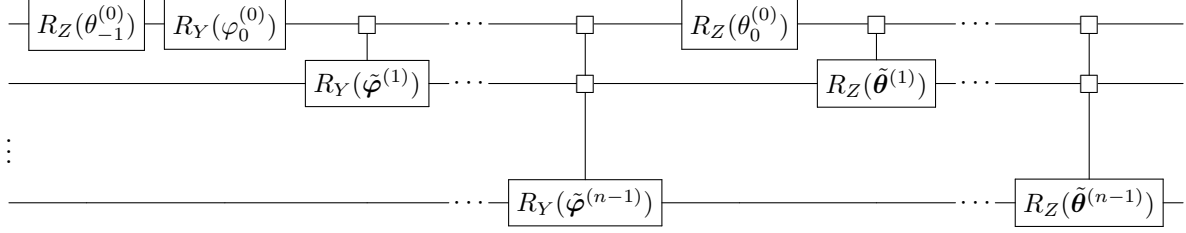


Figure 4: Quantum circuit for the state preparation of a state  $|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^{2^n-1} |a_i|^2}} \sum_{i=0}^{2^n-1} a_i |i\rangle$  with  $a_i \in \mathbb{C}$ . The rotation angles  $\tilde{\varphi}^{(i)} = (\tilde{\varphi}_0^{(i)}, \dots, \tilde{\varphi}_{2^i-1}^{(i)})^T$  and  $\tilde{\theta}^{(i)} = (\tilde{\theta}_0^{(i)}, \dots, \tilde{\theta}_{2^i-1}^{(i)})^T$ , where  $i \in [n-1]$ .

## 1.2 Task 2: Index mapping

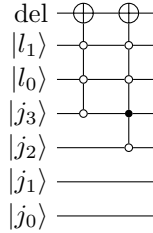
To implement the data functions in Equation (1), two subtasks must be completed.

- **Subtask 1:** Determine the defining domains  $S_c(l)$ ;
- **Subtask 2:** Implement the mappings  $j \pm k_l$ .

### 1.2.1 Subtask 1: Determine the defining domains

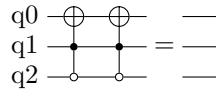
For each  $l \in [0, s_0 - 1]$ , we use multi-qubit controlled NOT (hereafter abbreviated as MC-NOT) gates to flag all in-range column indices  $j \in S_c(l)$ . Specifically, the MC-NOT gate is controlled by the registers  $\text{idx}$  and  $|j\rangle$  and act on the qubit  $\text{del}$ . In the register  $\text{idx}$ , the control qubits are all qubits and the control states are the binary bit string of  $l$  with length  $m$ . In the register  $|j\rangle$ , the control qubits and control states are determined by  $S_c(l)$ .

For example, if  $m = 2$ ,  $l = 0$ ,  $n = 4$  and  $S_c(0) = [0, 11]$ , then the following circuit flags the defining domain  $S_c(0)$ , where the first MC-NOT gate flags column indices  $j \in [0, 7]$  and the second MC-NOT gate flags column indices  $j \in [8, 11]$ .

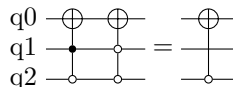


Next, we give several simplifications of the MC-NOT gates.

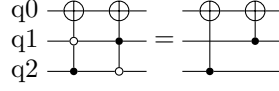
- If two MC-NOT gates have the same target qubit, control qubits, and control states, then the two MC-NOT gates cancel out. An example is presented below.



- If two MC-NOT gates have the same target qubit and control qubits, but their control states differ by one qubit, then they are equal to a MC-NOT gate eliminating the control of that qubit. An example is presented below.



- If two MC-NOT gates have the same target qubit and control qubits, but their control states differ by two qubits  $q_{l_1}$  and  $q_{l_2}$ , where  $(q_{l_1}, q_{l_2}) = (0, 1)$  for one MC-NOT gate and  $(q_{l_1}, q_{l_2}) = (1, 0)$  for the other MC-NOT gate, then one MC-NOT gate can eliminate the control of qubit  $q_{l_1}$  and the other MC-NOT gate can eliminate the control of qubit  $q_{l_2}$ . An example is presented below.



### 1.2.2 Subtask 2: Implement the mappings

For the non-negative integers  $k_l$  in Equation (1), they have the binary representation

$$k_l = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} k_l^{(i)} 2^i,$$

where  $k_l^{(i)} \in \{0, 1\}$ . So, the data functions (1) are also expressed as

$$i = j \pm \sum_{k_l^{(i)}=1} 2^i.$$

For each  $+2^i$  and  $-2^i$ , they can be implemented using an  $L^i$ -shift and  $R^i$ -shift gates [5], respectively, which are shown in Figure 5.

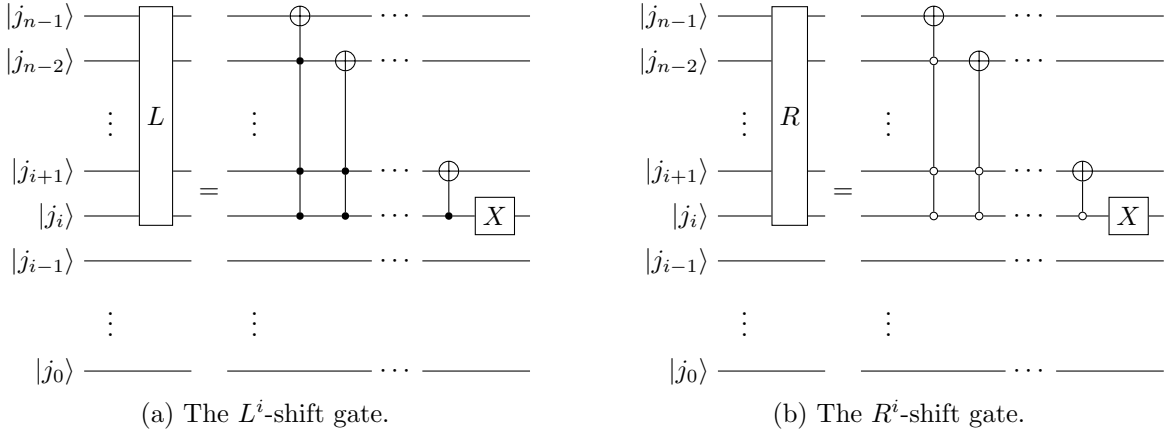


Figure 5: Quantum circuits of the  $L^i$ -shift and  $R^i$ -shift gates.

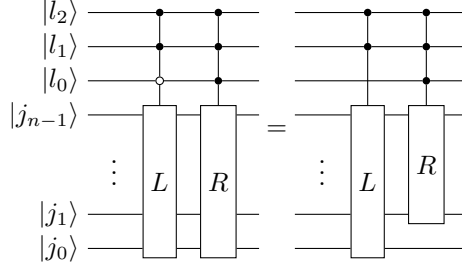
Therefore, the data function  $i = j + k_l$  can be implemented using a sequence of  $L^i$ -shift gates, where  $k_l^{(i)} = 1$ ,  $i \in [0, n-1]$ . And the data function  $i = j - k_l$  can be implemented using a sequence of  $R^i$ -shift gates, where  $k_l^{(i)} = 1$ ,  $i \in [0, n-1]$ .

Next, we give several simplifications of the shift gates.

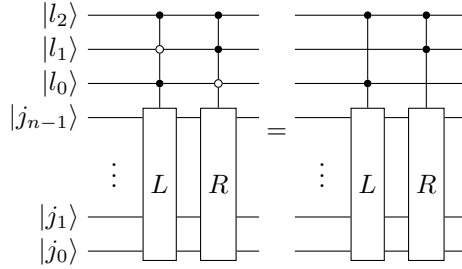
- If two  $L^i$ -shift (or  $R^i$ -shift) gates have the same target qubits, control qubits and control states, then they are equal to a  $L^{i+1}$ -shift (or  $R^{i+1}$ -shift) gate. Two examples are presented below.



- If a  $L^i$ -shift gate and a  $R^i$ -shift gate have the same target qubits and control qubits, but their control states differ by only one qubit, then they are equal to a  $L^i$ -shift gate (or  $R^i$ -shift) eliminating the control of that qubit and a  $R^{i+1}$ -shift (or  $L^{i+1}$ -shift) gate. An example is presented below.



- If a  $L^i$ -shift gate and a  $R^i$ -shift gate have the same target qubits and control qubits, but their control states differ by two qubits  $q_{l_1}$  and  $q_{l_2}$ , where  $(q_{l_1}, q_{l_2}) = (0, 1)$  for the  $L^i$ -shift gate and  $(q_{l_1}, q_{l_2}) = (1, 0)$  for the  $R^i$ -shift gate, then the  $L^i$ -shift gate can eliminate the control of qubit  $q_{l_1}$  and the  $R^i$ -shift gate can eliminate the control of qubit  $q_{l_2}$ . An example is presented below.



## 2 Technology Stack

- **Programming Language:** Python 3.7-3.9
- **Quantum Framework:** MindQuantum
- **Math Library:** Numpy, Pandas
- **Core Modules:**

– `anglecompute.py`

This file is used to compute the rotation angles of  $R_Y$  and  $R_Z$  rotation gates for state preparation in sec. 1.1. It follows the codes in [https://github.com/ChunlinYangHEU/BITBLE\\_python](https://github.com/ChunlinYangHEU/BITBLE_python).

– `blockencoding.py`

This file is used to:

- (1) construct the quantum circuit of DSBLE;
- (2) construct the quantum circuits of oracles  $O_c$  and PREP;
- (3) obtain the block-encoded matrix of the block-encoding circuit.

– `qgates.py`

This file is used to:

- (1) implement several (controlled) quantum gates used in DSBLE, including  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $Z$ ,  $H$ , SWAP,  $R_X$ ,  $R_Y$ ,  $R_Z$ , compressed uniformly rotation, left-shift and right-shift gates;
- (2) simplify the multi-qubit controlled  $X$  gates;
- (3) simplify the left-shift and right-shift gates.

– `tools.py`

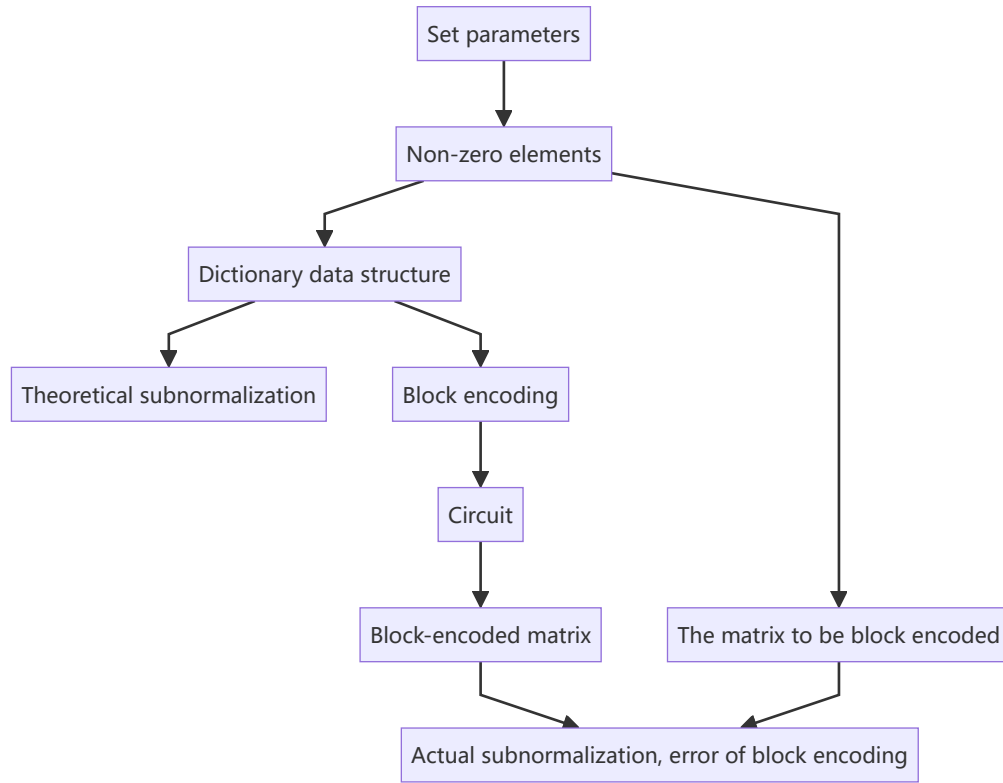
This file provides several helpful functions used in constructing the quantum circuit of DSBLE.

– `test_*.py`

These files provide the test cases for the signless Laplacian matrix, two-dimensional discrete Laplacian and matrices in ocean acoustic generalized eigenvalue problems.

## 3 A Test Case of Two-dimensional Discrete Laplacian

### 3.1 Functional Architecture



### 3.2 Full Code

Code:

```
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
from dsble import blockencoding, tools
from mindquantum import *

def get_non_zero_elements(parameters):
    """
    Computes all distinct non-zero elements of the two-dimensional discrete Laplacian.

    Args:
        parameters (dict): A dictionary containing the discretization parameters.
            - 'delta_x': The discretization step size in the x-direction.
            - 'delta_y': The discretization step size in the y-direction.

    Returns:
        list: A list of distinct non-zero elements [A0, A1, A2].
    """
    delta_x = parameters['delta_x']
    delta_y = parameters['delta_y']
    A0 = - 2 * (1 / delta_x ** 2 + 1 / delta_y ** 2)
    A1 = 1 / delta_x ** 2
    A2 = 1 / delta_y ** 2
```

```

non_zero_elements = [A0, A1, A2]

return non_zero_elements

# Get the two-dimensional discrete Laplacian
def two_dimensional_discrete_laplacian(non_zero_elements, nx, ny):
    """
    Constructs the two-dimensional discrete Laplacian.

    Args:
        non_zero_elements (list): A list of three non-zero elements [A0, A1, A2].
            - A0: The diagonal element.
            - A1: The horizontal off-diagonal element.
            - A2: The vertical off-diagonal element.
        nx (int): The number of grid points in the x-direction.
        ny (int): The number of grid points in the y-direction.

    Returns:
        numpy.array: The two-dimensional discrete Laplacian.
    """
    matrix = np.zeros((nx * ny, nx * ny))
    for i1 in range(nx):
        for i2 in range(ny):
            for j1 in range(nx):
                for j2 in range(ny):
                    if i1 == j1 and i2 == j2:
                        matrix[i1 + i2 * nx, j1 + j2 * ny] = non_zero_elements[0]
                    elif abs(i1 - j1) == 1 and i2 == j2:
                        matrix[i1 + i2 * nx, j1 + j2 * ny] = non_zero_elements[1]
                    elif abs(i2 - j2) == 1 and i1 == j1:
                        matrix[i1 + i2 * nx, j1 + j2 * ny] = non_zero_elements[2]

    return matrix

def get_data_item(non_zero_elements, nx, ny):
    """
    Constructs the dictionary for the two-dimensional discrete Laplacian.

    Args:
        non_zero_elements (list): A list of distinct non-zero elements [A0, A1, A2] in
            the two-dimensional discrete Laplacian.
            - A0: The diagonal element.
            - A1: The horizontal off-diagonal element.
            - A2: The vertical off-diagonal element.
        dim (int): The dimension of the two-dimensional discrete Laplacian, which must
            be a power of two.

    Returns:
        dict: The dictionary consisting of data items.
    """
    dim = nx * ny
    n = int(np.log2(dim))
    data_item = {
        0: [non_zero_elements[0],
            0,
            tools.binary_range(0, dim - 1, n, True, right_close=True)],
        1: [non_zero_elements[1],
            -1,
            tools.binary_range(0, dim - 1, n, True, True, 1)
            + tools.binary_range(0, dim - 1, n, True, True, 2)]
    }

```

```

        + tools.binary_range(0, dim - 1, n, True, True, 3)],
2: [non_zero_elements[1],
    1,
    tools.binary_range(0, dim - 1, n, True, True, 0)
    + tools.binary_range(0, dim - 1, n, True, True, 1)
    + tools.binary_range(0, dim - 1, n, True, True, 2)],
3: [non_zero_elements[2],
    -4,
    tools.binary_range(nx, dim - 1, n, True, True)],
4: [non_zero_elements[2],
    4,
    tools.binary_range(0, dim - 1 - nx, n, True, True)]
}

return data_item

def test_two_dimensional_discrete_laplacian(data_item, dim):
    """
    Tests the construction of block encoding the two-dimensional discrete Laplacian.

    Args:
        data_item (dict): A dictionary representing the data item to be encoded.
            It should contain the coefficients and their corresponding binary ranges.
        dim (int): The dimension of the Laplacian matrix, which must be a power of two.

    Returns:
        tuple: A tuple containing the constructed quantum circuit and the encoded
            Laplacian matrix.
            - circuit: The quantum circuit of block encoding.
            - encoded_matrix: The encoded Laplacian matrix.
    """
    # The number of qubits of register idx
    num_idx_qubits = tools.num_qubits(len(data_item))

    # The number of working qubits
    num_working_qubits = tools.num_qubits(dim)

    # The number of qubits of circuit
    num_qubits = num_idx_qubits + 1 + num_working_qubits

    # Sparse block encoding
    circuit = blockencoding.qcircuit(data_item=data_item,
                                     num_working_qubits=num_working_qubits)

    # Get the encoded matrix
    encoded_matrix = blockencoding.get_encoded_matrix(circuit, num_qubits,
                                                       num_working_qubits)

    return circuit, encoded_matrix

if __name__ == '__main__':
    delta_x = 1
    delta_y = 2
    nx = 4
    ny = 4
    parameters = {'delta_x': delta_x, 'delta_y': delta_y}

    # Dimension of matrix
    dim = nx * ny

```



```

# Get all distinct non-zero elements
non_zero_elements = get_non_zero_elements(parameters)

# Get data items
data_items = get_data_item(non_zero_elements, nx, ny)

# Get the two-dimensional discrete Laplacian to be encoded
matrix = two_dimensional_discrete_laplacian(non_zero_elements, nx, ny)

# Get the circuit and the encoded two-dimensional discrete Laplacian
circuit, encoded_matrix = test_two_dimensional_discrete_laplacian(data_items, dim)

# Compute the subnormalization
subnormalization = abs(non_zero_elements[0]) + 2 * (abs(non_zero_elements[1]) + abs(
    non_zero_elements[2]))

print(circuit)
matrix_pd = pd.DataFrame(matrix)
matrix_pd.to_excel('Laplacian_nx_' + str(nx) + '_ny_' + str(ny) + '.xlsx')
encoded_matrix_pd = pd.DataFrame(encoded_matrix)
encoded_matrix_pd.to_excel('Laplacian_nx_' + str(nx) + '_ny_' + str(ny) + '_encoded.
    xlsx')
print('Actual subnormalization:')
print(np.linalg.norm(matrix) / np.linalg.norm(encoded_matrix))
print('The subnormalization:')
print(subnormalization)
error = np.linalg.norm(matrix - subnormalization * encoded_matrix)
print('The error of block encoding:')
print(error)

```

## Output:

```

Actual subnormalization:
5.0000000000000002
The subnormalization:
5.0
The error of block encoding:
5.2408703594204154e-15

```

Besides, the code outputs the block-encoding circuit and generates two `.xlsx` files, including the matrix to be block encoded and the block-encoded matrix.

## References

- [1] Chunlin Yang, Zexian Li, Hongmei Yao, Zhaobing Fan, Guofeng Zhang, and Jianshe Liu. Dictionary-based sparse block encoding with low subnormalization and circuit depth, 2025. URL <https://arxiv.org/abs/2405.18007>.
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- [3] Daan Camps and Roel Van Beeumen. Fable: Fast approximate quantum circuits for block-encodings. *2022 IEEE International Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering*, pages 104–113, 2022. doi: 10.1109/QCE53715.2022.00029.
- [4] Zexian Li, Xiao-Ming Zhang, Chunlin Yang, and Guofeng Zhang. Binary tree block encoding of classical matrix, 2025. URL <https://arxiv.org/abs/2504.05624>.
- [5] Daan Camps, Lin Lin, Roel Van Beeumen, and Chao Yang. Explicit quantum circuits for block encodings of certain sparse matrices. *SIAM Journal on Matrix Analysis and Applications*, 45(1):801–827, 2024. doi: 10.1137/22M1484298.