

Fast estimation of outcome probabilities for quantum circuits

Kamil Korzekwa

*Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science,
Jagiellonian University, Poland*



JAGIELLONIAN
UNIVERSITY
IN KRAKÓW



TEAM-NET

Collaborators



Oliver Reardon-Smith



Hakop Pashayan



Stephen Bartlett



Outline

1. Intro

- Statement of the problem
- Motivation

2. Algorithms and their performance

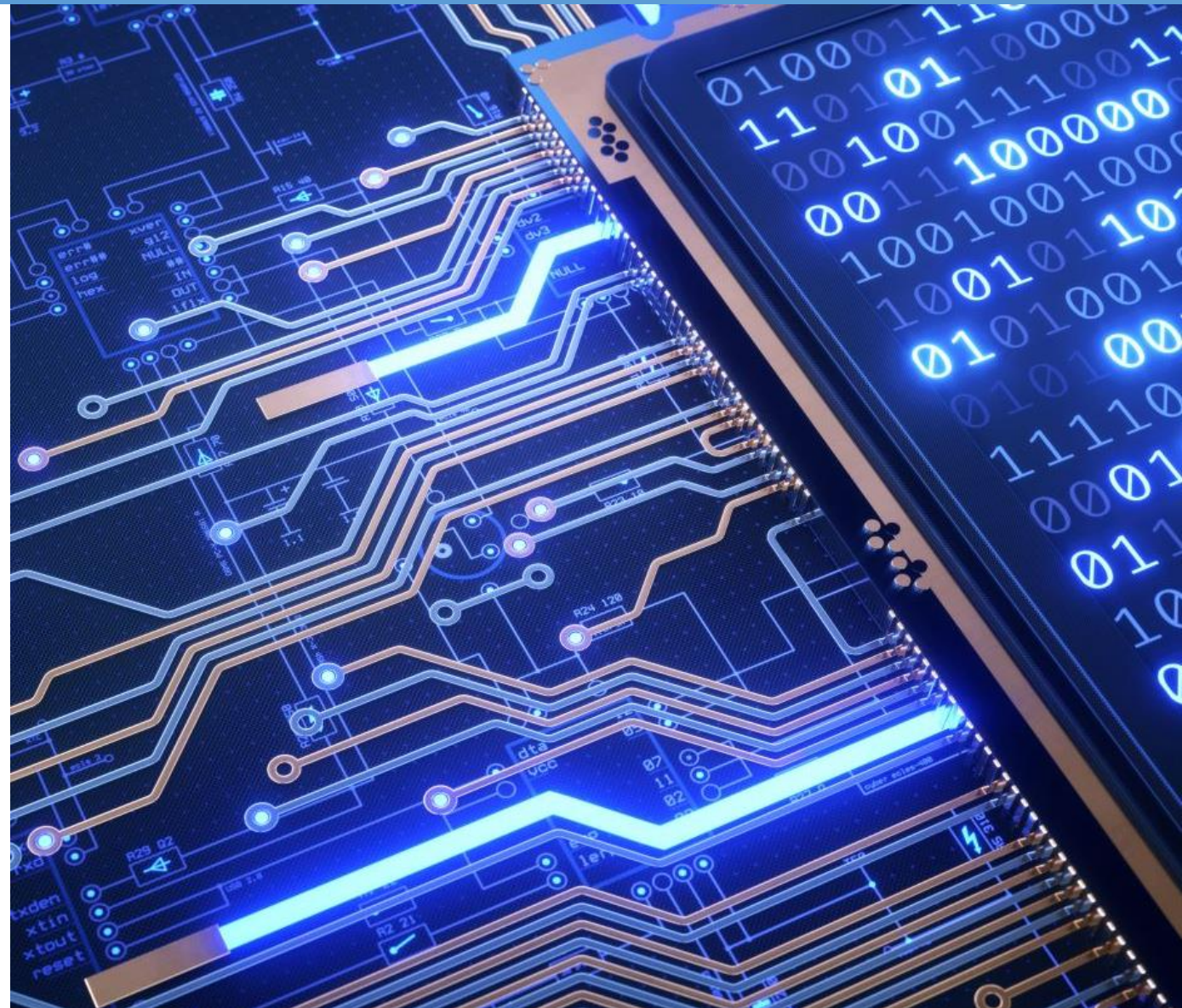
- Overview
- COMPRESS algorithm
- COMPUTE algorithm
- RAWESTIM algorithm
- ESTIMATE algorithm

3. Outlook

More details:

[arXiv:2101.12223](https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.12223)

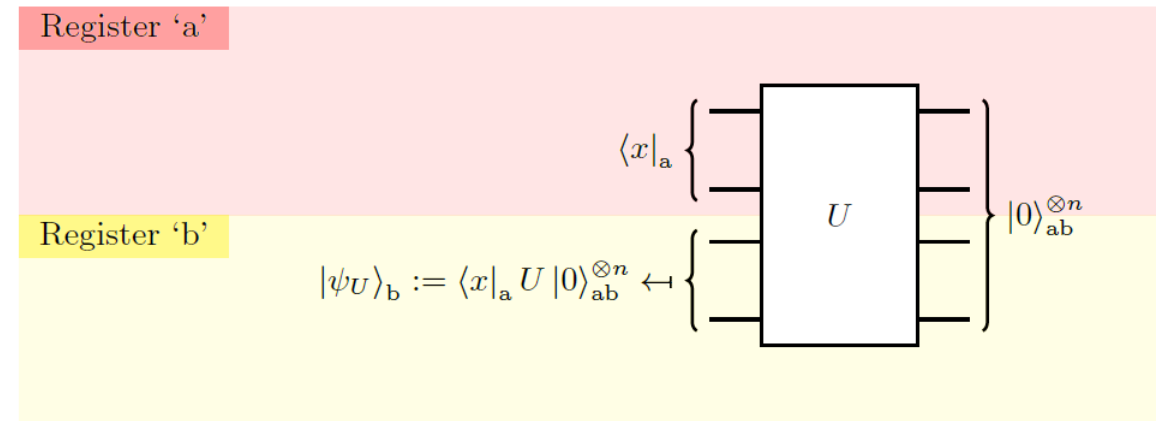
github.com/or1426/Clifford-T-estimator



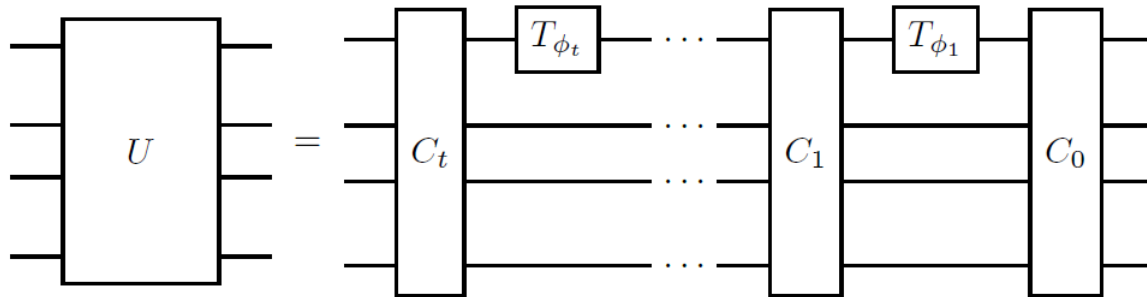
Statement of the problem

Outcome probability for a general quantum circuit with n qubits and w measured qubits:

$$p := \left\| \langle x|_a U |0\rangle_{ab}^{\otimes n} \right\|_2^2$$



Elementary description of the circuit:



Clifford gates C_n generated by:

$$S \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{bmatrix}, \quad H \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad CX \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

“Magic” gates: $T_\phi \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\phi} \end{bmatrix}$

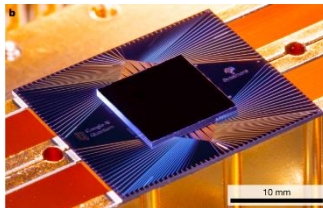
Motivation

Foundations

What components of quantum theory are hard to simulate and may be responsible for the quantum speed-up?

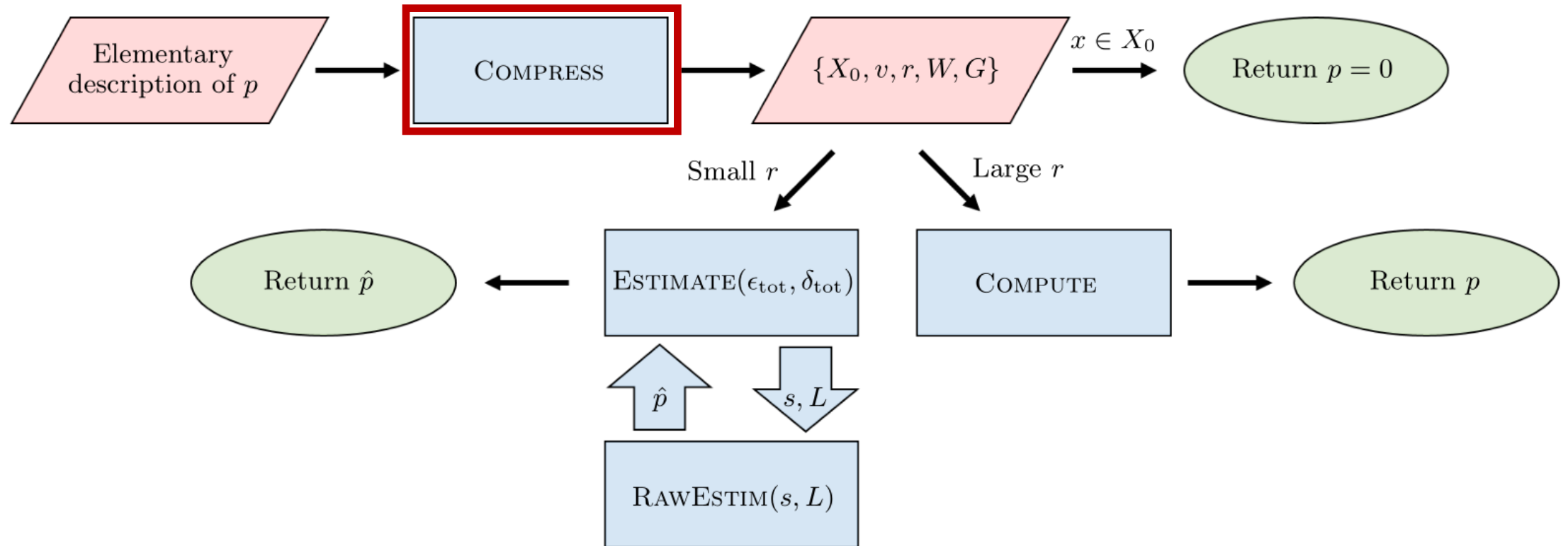
Applications

Characterization, verification, and validation of near-term quantum devices



1. Run quantum computer R times
2. Form histogram: R samples over 2^w outcomes
3. Choose $k < 2^w$ outcomes
4. Use our algorithm to estimate these probabilities
5. Compare estimated and measured probabilities

Overview



COMPRESS algorithm

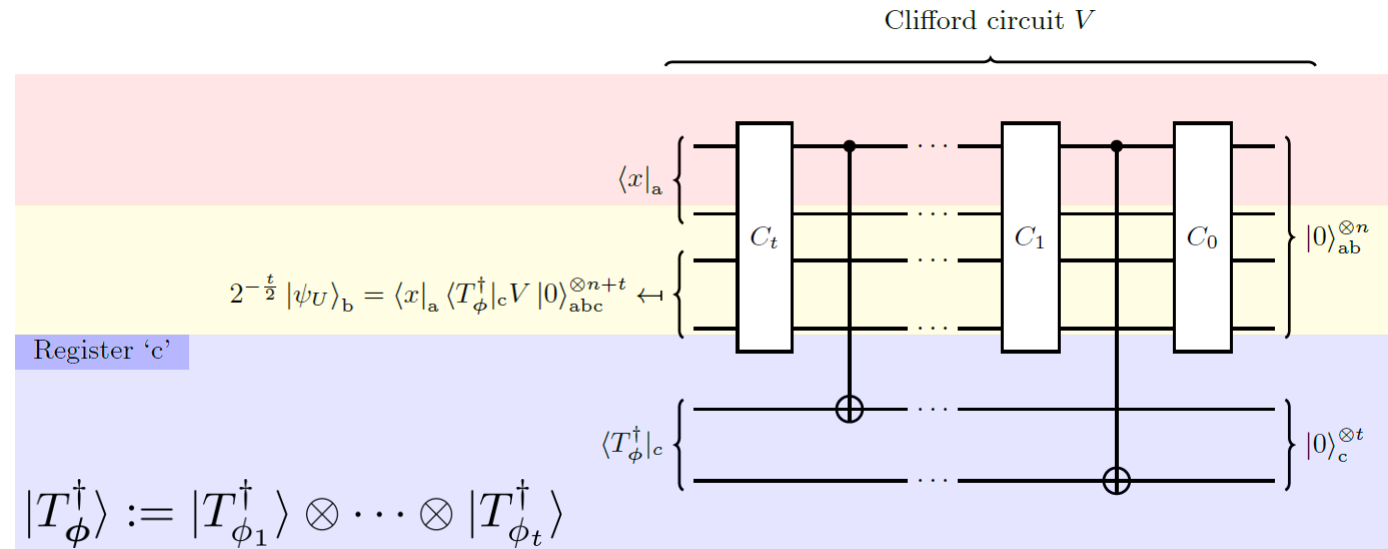
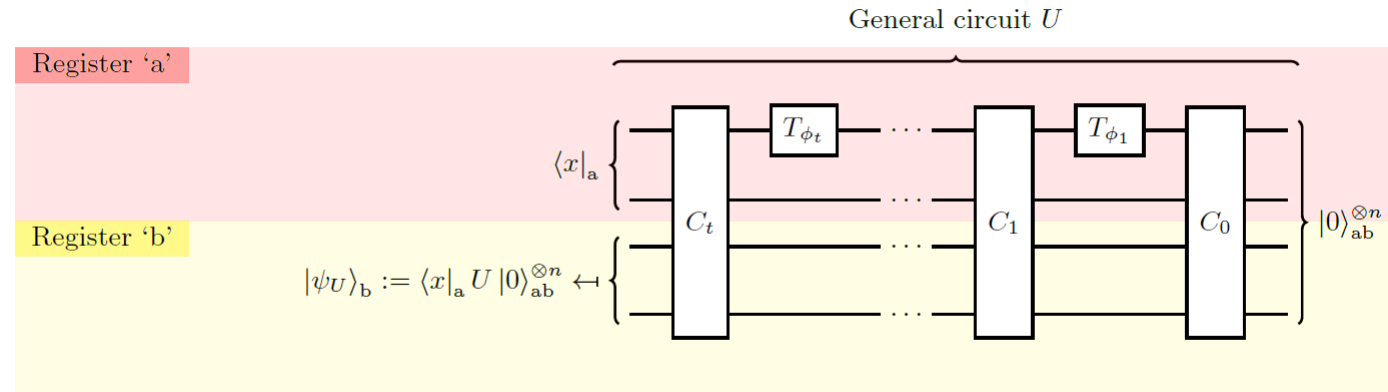
Step 1: Gadgetization

$$\langle T_\phi^\dagger | \text{---} \bigoplus \text{---} |0\rangle = \text{---} \boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} T_\phi} \text{---}$$

$$|T_\phi^\dagger\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + \exp(-i\phi)|1\rangle)$$

Replace $p = \left\| \langle x|_a U |0\rangle_{ab}^{\otimes n} \right\|_2^2$

With: $p = 2^t \left\| \langle x|_a \langle T_\phi^\dagger|_c V |0\rangle_{abc}^{\otimes n+t} \right\|_2^2$



COMPRESS algorithm

Step 2: Constrain stabilizers

$$p = 2^t \left\| \langle x|_a \langle T_\phi^\dagger|_c V |0\rangle_{abc}^{\otimes n+t} \right\|_2^2 = 2^t \text{Tr} \left(\boxed{\text{Tr}_{ab} (V |0\rangle\langle 0|_{abc}^{\otimes n+t} V^\dagger |x\rangle\langle x|_a)} |T_\phi^\dagger\rangle\langle T_\phi^\dagger|_c \right)$$

Use stabilizer description: $V |0\rangle\langle 0|_{abc}^{\otimes n+t} V^\dagger = \Pi_{G^{(0)}}$ $\Pi_{G^{(0)}} := \prod_{i=1}^{n+t} \frac{I + g_i}{2} = 2^{-(n+t)} \sum_{g \in \langle G^{(0)} \rangle} g$

Remove vanishing terms: $\text{Tr}_{ab} \left(V |0\rangle\langle 0|_{abc}^{\otimes n+t} V^\dagger |x\rangle\langle x|_a \right) = 2^{-(n+t)} \sum_{g \in \langle G^{(0)} \rangle} \omega(g) \text{Tr}(|g|_a |x\rangle\langle x|_a) \text{Tr}(|g|_b) |g|_c$

- Register ‘a’ constraints: for all $j \in [w]$, $|g|_j \in \{I, Z\}$
- Register ‘b’ constraints: for all $j \in [n - w]$, $|g|_{w+j} = I$.

COMPRESS algorithm

Step 2: Constrain stabilizers - continued

After a lengthy stabilizer analysis:

$$\text{Tr}_{\text{ab}} \left(V |0\rangle\langle 0|_{\text{abc}}^{\otimes n+t} V^\dagger |x\rangle\langle x|_{\text{a}} \right) = 2^{-r+v-w} \Pi_G$$

G - stabilizer group on t qubits with $t - r$ stabilisers

And so the outcome probability:

$$p = 2^{t-r+v-w} \text{Tr} \left(\Pi_G |T_\phi^\dagger\rangle\langle T_\phi^\dagger| \right)$$

Step 3: Gate sequence construction

Use destabiliser+stabiliser tableaux of Aaronson and Gottesman* to find explicit construction of a Clifford unitary W :

$$\Pi_G = W^\dagger (|0\rangle\langle 0|^{\otimes t-r} \otimes I^{\otimes r}) W.$$

And so the outcome probability:

$$p = 2^{t-r+v-w} \left\| \langle 0|^{\otimes t-r} W |T_\phi^\dagger\rangle \right\|_2^2$$

*S. Aaronson and D. Gottesman, Improved simulation of stabilizer circuits, Phys. Rev. A **70**, 052328 (2004).

COMPRESS algorithm

Bottom line:

In polynomial time COMPRESS obtains two expressions for the outcome probability:

$$p = 2^{t-r+v-w} \left\| \langle 0|^{\otimes t-r} W |T_{\phi}^{\dagger} \rangle \right\|_2^2 = 2^{v-w} \langle T_{\phi}^{\dagger} | \prod_{i=1}^{t-r} (I + g_i) |T_{\phi}^{\dagger} \rangle$$

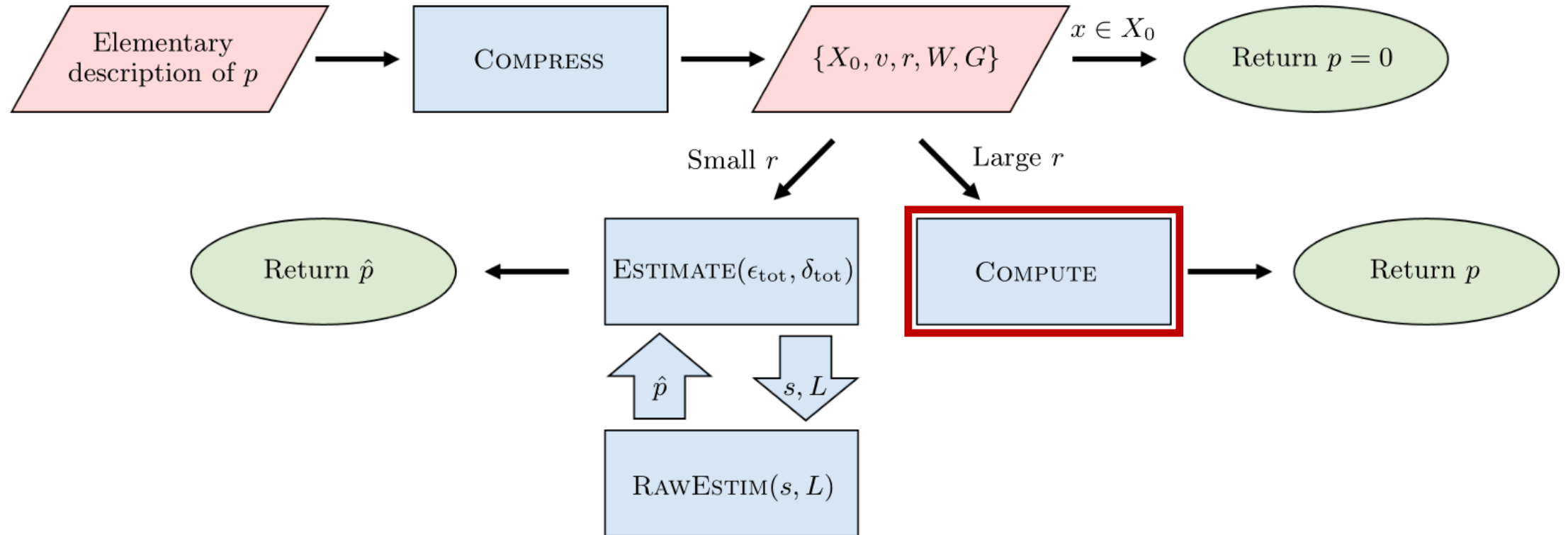
To be used by the
RAWESTIM algorithm

To be used by the
COMPUTE algorithm

$$r \in \{0, 1, \dots, \min \{t, n - w\}\}$$

It also specifies a size v subset of the measured qubits that have deterministic outcomes and provides the measurement outcomes these qubits must produce.

Overview



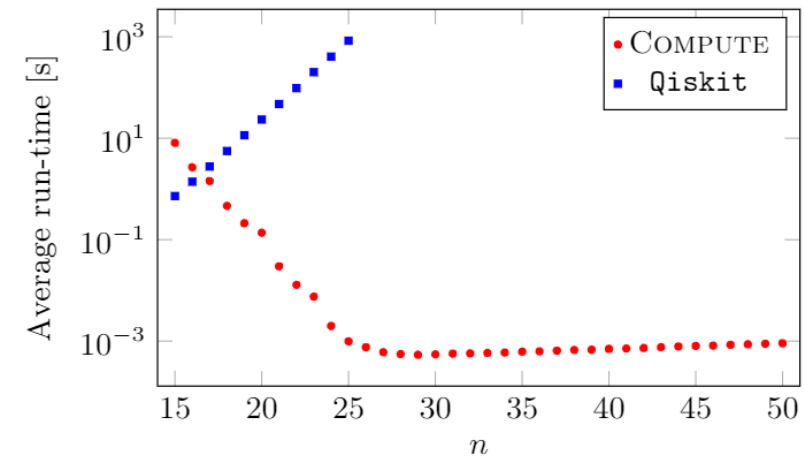
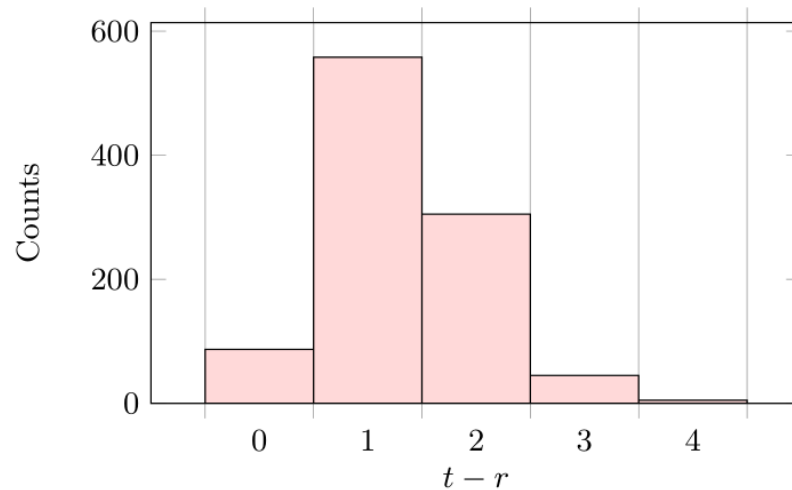
COMPUTE algorithm

COMPUTE exactly computes p in $\tau = O(2^{t-r}(t-r)t)$:

$$p = 2^{v-w} \langle T_\phi^\dagger | \prod_{i=1}^{t-r} (I + g_i) | T_\phi^\dagger \rangle$$

$r \in \{0, 1, \dots, \min\{t, n - w\}\}$ concentrates near the maximum for large c random circuits

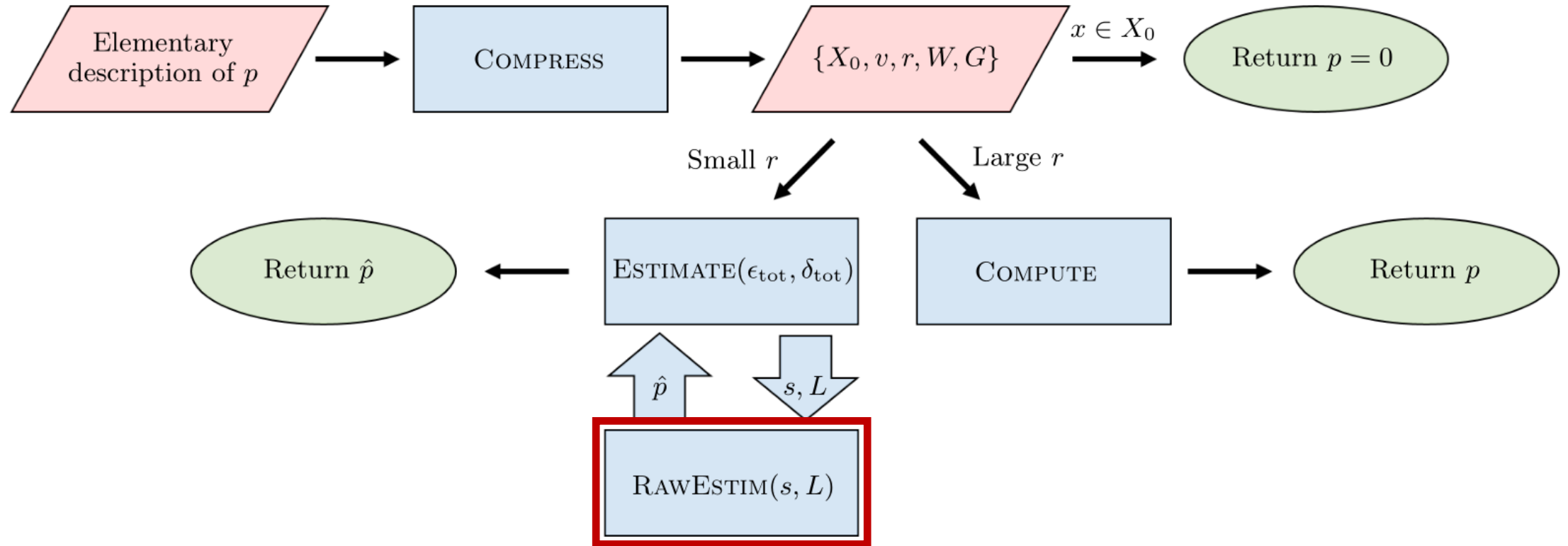
10^3 RCs
 $n = 100$
 $w = 20$
 $t = 80$
 $c = 10^5$



$n = 55, w = 5, t = 80, c = 10^5$, runtime ≤ 2 hours

$w = 10, t = 30, c = 10^3$, averaged over 100 circuits

Overview



RAWESTIM algorithm

$$p = 2^{t-r+v-w} \left\| \langle 0|^{\otimes t-r} W |T_{\phi}^{\dagger}\rangle \right\|_2^2$$

Step 1: Stabiliser decomposition and sampling

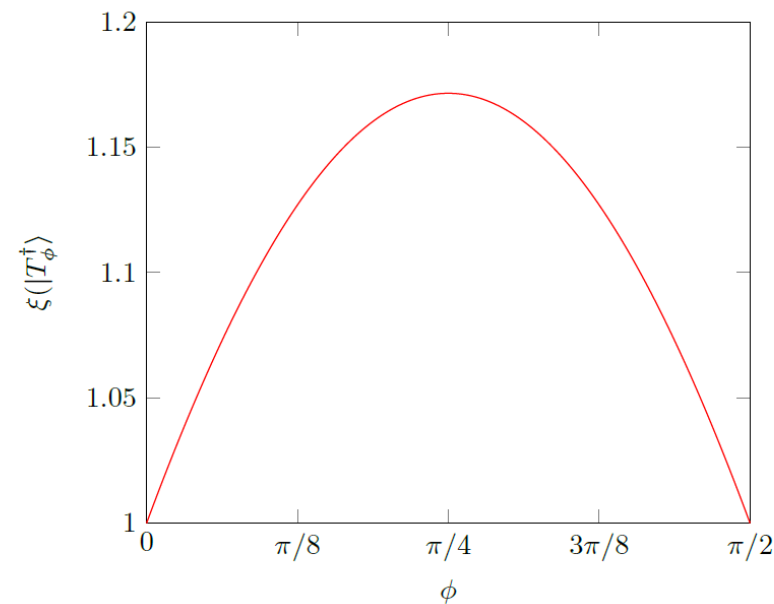
Introduce non-standard notation: $|\tilde{0}\rangle := |+\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle), \quad |\tilde{1}\rangle := |-i\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle - i|1\rangle)$

Decompose each magic state as: $|T_{\phi_j}^{\dagger}\rangle = \alpha_{\phi_j} |\tilde{0}\rangle + \alpha'_{\phi_j} |\tilde{1}\rangle$

This decomposition minimises the stabilizer extent:

$$\xi(|\psi\rangle) := \min_c \left\{ \|c\|_1^2 \mid |\psi\rangle = \sum_j c_j |\sigma_j\rangle, \quad |\sigma_j\rangle \text{ is a stabiliser state} \right\}$$

Define total stabilizer extent: $\xi^* := \xi(|T_{\phi}^{\dagger}\rangle) = \prod_{j=1}^t \xi(|T_{\phi_j}^{\dagger}\rangle)$



RAWESTIM algorithm

Step 1: Stabiliser decomposition and sampling - continued

Use the decomposition to find:

$$p = \xi^* \cdot 2^{t-r+v-w} \left\| \sum_y q(y) \prod_{j=1}^t e^{i\varphi_j(1-y_j)} e^{i\varphi'_j y_j} \langle 0|^{\otimes t-r} W |\tilde{y}\rangle \right\|_2^2$$

With product probability distribution:

$$q(y) = \prod_{j=1}^t q(y_j), \quad q(y_j) = \begin{cases} \frac{|\alpha_{\phi_j}|}{|\alpha_{\phi_j}| + |\alpha'_{\phi_j}|} & \text{for } y_j = 0 \\ \frac{|\alpha'_{\phi_j}|}{|\alpha_{\phi_j}| + |\alpha'_{\phi_j}|} & \text{for } y_j = 1 \end{cases}$$

Thus, introducing:

$$|\psi(y)\rangle := \sqrt{\xi^*} \cdot 2^{\frac{t-r+v-w}{2}} \prod_{j=1}^t e^{i\varphi_j(1-y_j)} e^{i\varphi'_j y_j} \langle 0|^{\otimes t-r} W |\tilde{y}\rangle$$

We have:

$$p = \|\mu\|_2^2, \quad |\mu\rangle := \mathbb{E}_{Y \sim q} [|\psi(Y)\rangle] = \sum_y q(y) |\psi(y)\rangle$$

RAWESTIM algorithm

Step 1: Stabiliser decomposition and sampling - continued

Instead of the mean vector $|\mu\rangle$ we use s -sample average: $|\bar{\psi}\rangle = \frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^s |\psi_{x_j}\rangle$

Our crucial concentration result based on generalised Hoeffding inequality*:

$$\Pr \left(\left| \|\bar{\psi}\|_2^2 - p \right| \geq \epsilon \right) \leq \delta, \quad \delta := 2e^2 \exp \left(\frac{-s(\sqrt{p+\epsilon} - \sqrt{p})^2}{2(\sqrt{\xi^*} + \sqrt{p})^2} \right)$$
$$p = \|\mu\|_2^2$$

So how do we get $|\bar{\psi}\rangle$? And how do we calculate $\|\bar{\psi}\|_2^2$?

*T. P. Hayes, A large-deviation inequality for vector-valued martingales, Combinatorics, Probability and Computing (2005).

RAWESTIM algorithm

Step 2: State evolution

Use CH-form*, the phase-sensitive generalisation of Gottesman-Knill theorem:

$$|\psi(y)\rangle := \sqrt{\xi^*} \cdot 2^{\frac{t-r+v-w}{2}} \prod_{j=1}^t e^{i\varphi_j(1-y_j)} e^{i\varphi'_j y_j} \langle 0|^{\otimes t-r} W |\tilde{y}\rangle$$

*S. Bravyi, *et al.*, Simulation of quantum circuits by low-rank stabilizer decompositions, Quantum **3**, 181 (2019).

Step 3: Fast norm estimation

Estimate the norm of $|\overline{\psi}\rangle = \frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^s |\psi_{x_j}\rangle$ from overlaps of $|\psi_{x_j}\rangle$ with L random stabiliser states

*S. Bravyi and D. Gosset, Improved classical simulation of quantum circuits dominated by Clifford gates, Phys. Rev. Lett. **116**, 250501 (2016)

RAWESTIM algorithm

Bottom line:

For all $\epsilon_{\text{tot}} > 0$ and $\epsilon \in (0, \epsilon_{\text{tot}})$ we get an estimate:

$$\Pr(|\hat{p} - p| \geq \epsilon_{\text{tot}}) \leq 2e^2 \exp\left(\frac{-s(\sqrt{p+\epsilon} - \sqrt{p})^2}{2(\sqrt{\xi^*} + \sqrt{p})^2}\right) + \exp\left(-\left(\frac{\epsilon_{\text{tot}} - \epsilon}{p + \epsilon}\right)^2 L\right) =: \delta_{\text{tot}}$$

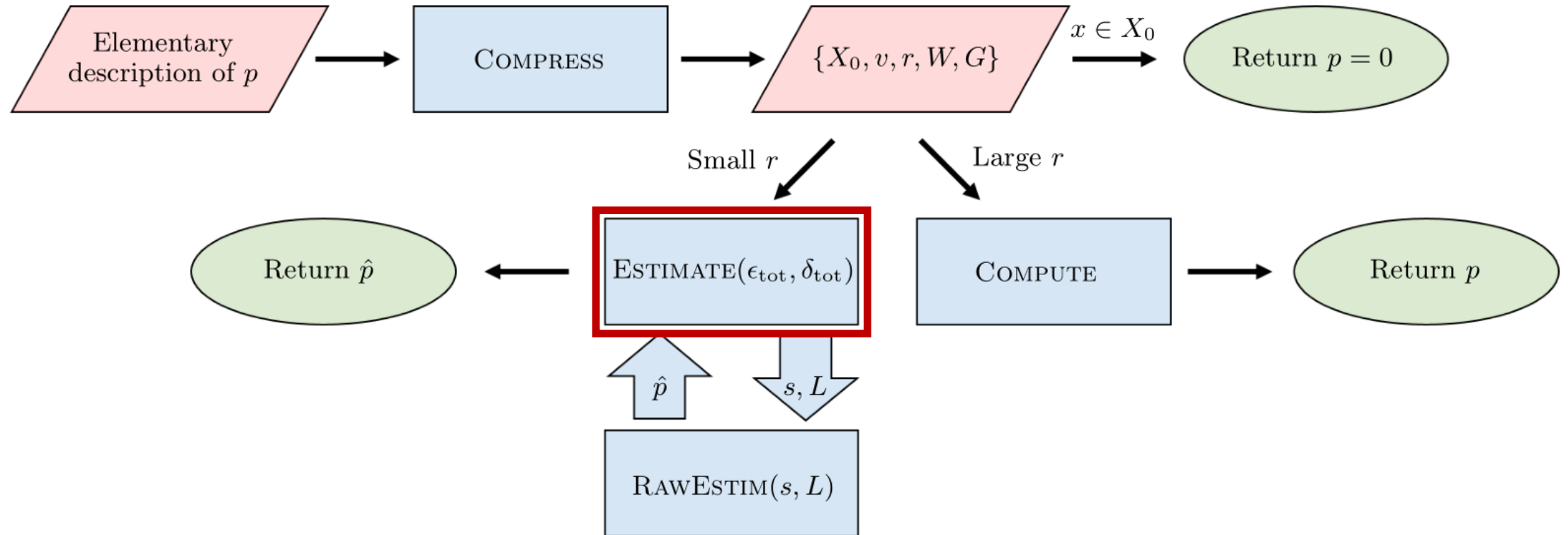
With runtime $\tau = O(st^2(t - r) + sLr^3)$

Alternatively:

We get an estimate: $\Pr(|\hat{p} - p| \geq \epsilon_{\text{tot}}) \leq \delta_{\text{tot}}$.

Whenever:
$$s \geq \frac{2(\sqrt{\xi^*} + \sqrt{p})^2}{(\sqrt{p+\epsilon} - \sqrt{p})^2} \log\left(\frac{2e^2}{\delta}\right), \quad L \geq \left(\frac{p + \epsilon}{\epsilon_{\text{tot}} - \epsilon}\right)^2 \log\left(\frac{1}{\delta_{\text{tot}} - \delta}\right).$$

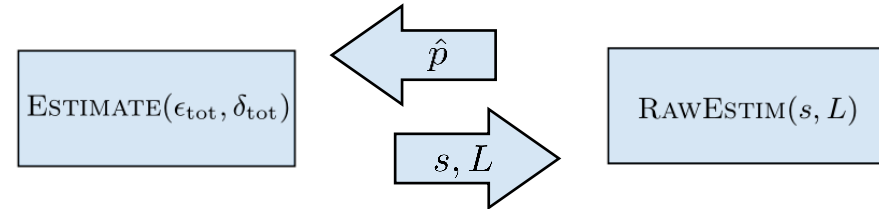
Overview



ESTIMATE algorithm

ESTIMATE purpose: $\Pr(|\hat{p} - p| \geq \epsilon_{\text{tot}}) \leq \delta_{\text{tot}}$

ESTIMATE uses RAWESTIM as a subroutine:



RAWESTIM gives: $\Pr(|\hat{p} - p| \geq \epsilon_{\text{tot}}) \leq \delta(p, \epsilon_{\text{tot}}, \epsilon, s, L)$

RAWESTIM's runtime cost: $\tau(s, L) := st^2(t - r) + sLr^3$

Define $\epsilon^*(p, \delta_{\text{tot}}, \mathcal{T})$ as the minimal achievable error s.t. $\tau(s, L) < \mathcal{T}$ and failure probability $< \delta_{\text{tot}}$

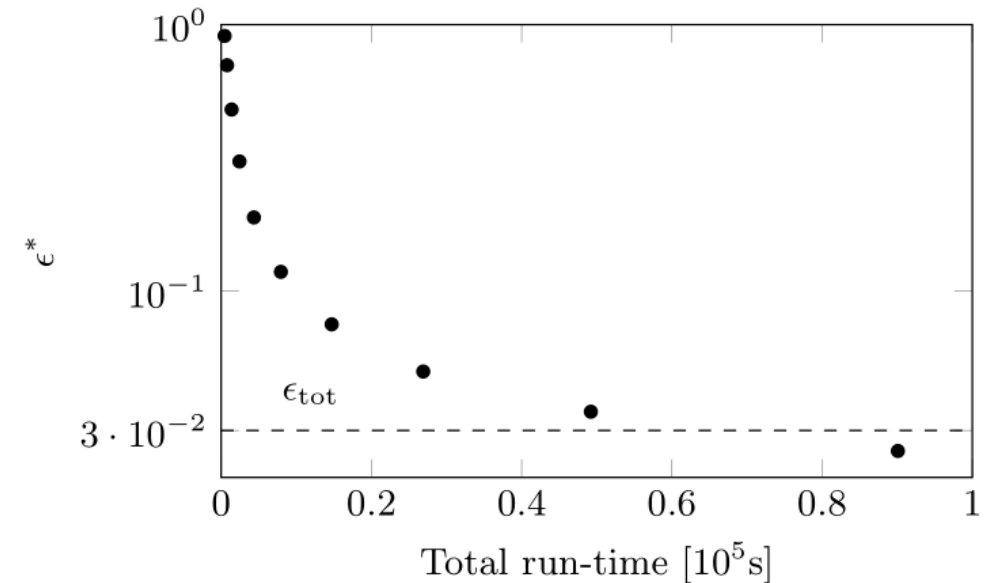
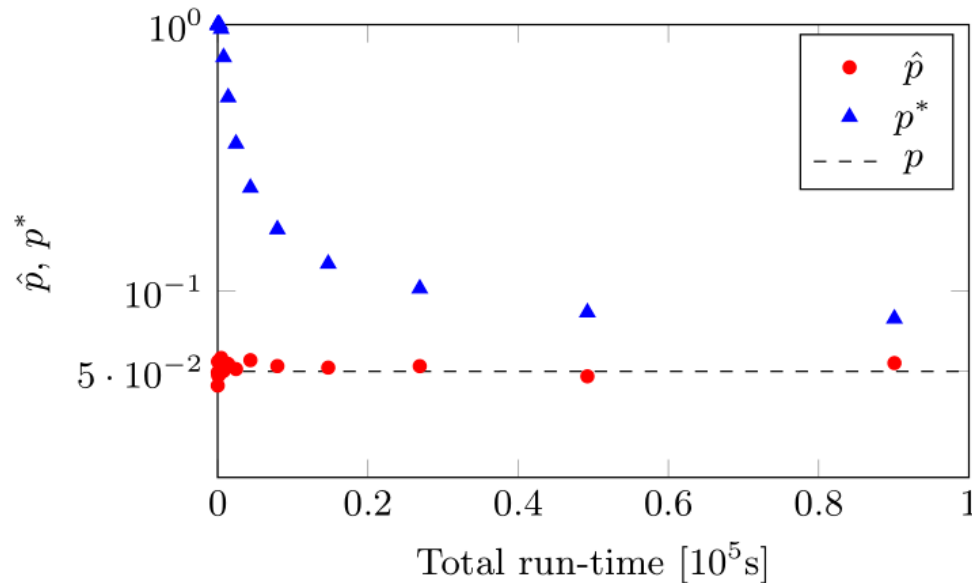
We prove that $\epsilon^*(p, \delta_{\text{tot}}, \mathcal{T})$ is monotonically increasing in p

ESTIMATE algorithm

Idea: for $k = 1, 2, \dots$, compute $\epsilon_k^* := \epsilon^*(p_{k-1}^*, \delta_k, 2^k \mathcal{T}_0)$ until we find $\epsilon^*(p^*, \delta_k, 2^k \mathcal{T}_0) \leq \epsilon_{\text{tot}}$

$p_0^* = 1$, $p_k^* = \hat{p}_k + \epsilon_k^*$ and

$\delta_k := \frac{6}{\pi^2 k^2} \delta_{\text{tot}}$ ensures $\sum_k \delta_k = \delta_{\text{tot}}$



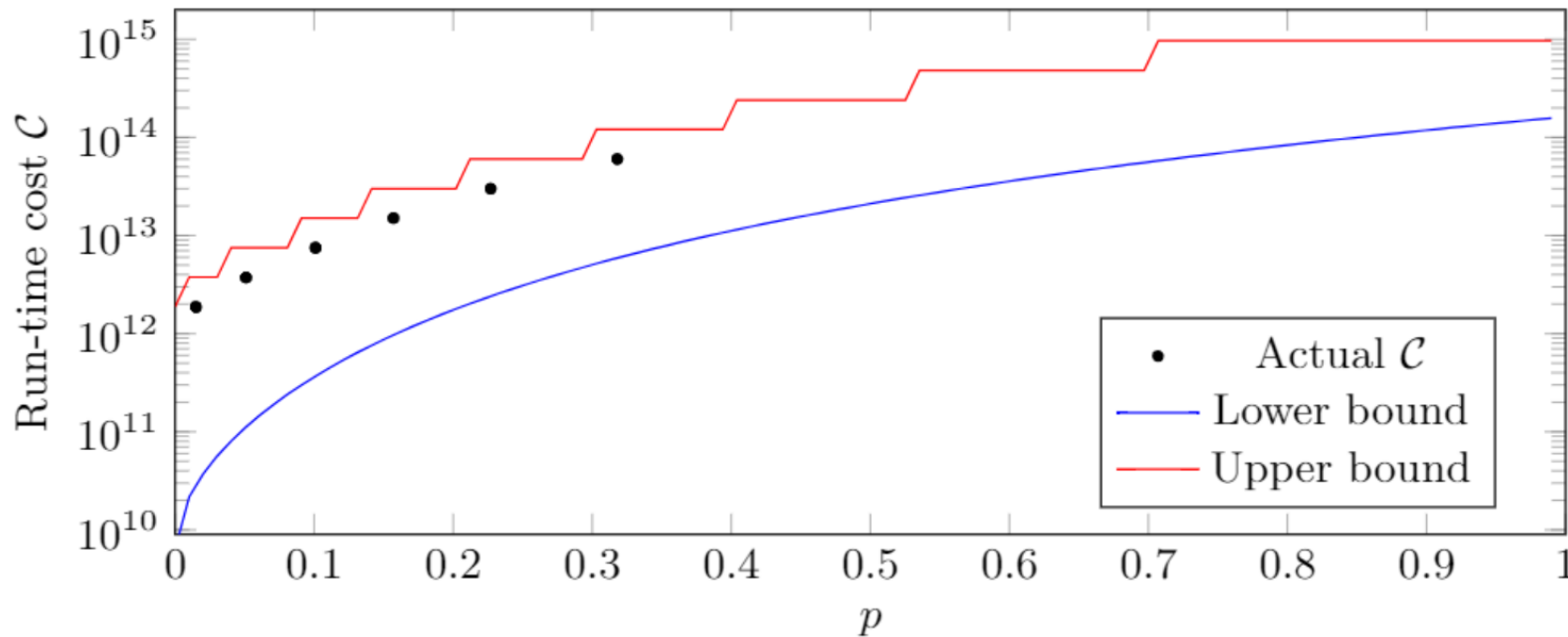
$$n = 50, w = 8, t = 60, c = 10^3, \delta_{\text{tot}} = 10^{-3}$$

ESTIMATE algorithm

ESTIMATE run-time as a function of p

($\epsilon_{\text{tot}} = 0.05$, $\delta_{\text{tot}} = 10^{-3}$ for random circuits $UU^\dagger V(p)$)

$$- \boxed{V(p)} - = \left(- \boxed{H} - \boxed{T_{\phi(p)}} - \boxed{H} - \right)^{\otimes w} \otimes I^{\otimes (n-w)}$$



Conclusion: RAWESTIM's runtime with optimal choice of parameters can be used as a proxy for ESTIMATE runtime (up to 2 orders of magnitude).

Outlook

1. Applications

- Can we design useful quantum verification schemes employing outcome estimation algorithms?
- Can we use it to verify toy quantum computers?

2. Extensions

- Can we go from Clifford+T paradigm to matchgates+SWAP?
- Can we generalise to arbitrary free subtheory + magic gate?

3. Improvements

- Can we adapt our algorithms to mixed state formalism?

More details:

[arXiv:2101.12223](https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.12223)

github.com/or1426/Clifford-T-estimator

Thank you!