

Quantum algorithmic techniques (exercises)

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Exercise 1 (Block encodings). • Verify that if $cU = \sum_t |t\rangle \langle t| \otimes U^t$ and $|f\rangle = \sum_t \sqrt{f(t)} |t\rangle$ then

$$(I \otimes |f\rangle \langle f|) cU |f\rangle |\psi\rangle = |f\rangle \left(\sum_t f(t) U^t |\psi\rangle \right).$$

- Let V be an operator such that $V |0\rangle = |f\rangle$. Use V and cU to construct a block encoding

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_t f(t) U^t & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}.$$

This shows that LCU effectively implements a block encoding of the target operator.

- Consider input Hamiltonian H with $\|H\|_1 \leq 1$. We can access H through a “row oracle” V such that¹

$$V |0\rangle |i\rangle = \sum_j \sqrt{H_{ij}} |i\rangle |j\rangle + \sqrt{1 - \sum_j |H_{ij}|} |i\rangle |\perp\rangle,$$

where $\langle k | \perp \rangle = 0$ for all k . Use V and the SWAP operator (defined by $\text{SWAP} |a\rangle |b\rangle = |b\rangle |a\rangle$) to construct a block encoding U of H . Verify that the encoding is also a reflection ($U^2 = I$).

Exercise 2 (Chebyshev polynomials). Consider a block encoding

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} H & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad U^2 = I.$$

Prove that

$$\left(\begin{bmatrix} I & \\ & -I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} H & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \right)^k = \begin{bmatrix} T_k(H) & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}.$$

Use induction: $T_{k+2}(x) = 2xT_{k+1}(x) - T_k(x)$ with $T_1(x) = x$ and $T_0(H) = 1$.

¹The root $\sqrt{H_{ij}}$ is chosen such that $\sqrt{H_{ji}^*} \sqrt{H_{ij}} = H_{ij}$.