

Exercise: simulating a perfect quantum computer with a classical computer

The goal is to write a Python code that emulates the execution of a quantum circuit on a (perfect) quantum computer.

You are given a list of pairs (G_i, \vec{q}_i) ($i = 1 \dots n_G$) with G_i the name of the gate (possibly with a parameter if it is e.g a rotation gate) and \vec{q}_i the qubits on which it is applied. It completely characterizes the quantum circuit. (The definition of the matrices corresponding to each gate name G_i is assumed to be known and stored elsewhere). We aim at applying these gates to an initial state

$$|\Psi\rangle = |0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle \otimes \dots \otimes |0\rangle \quad (2.19)$$

(on n qubits) in order to obtain the final state of the quantum computer, from which we can compute output probabilities using Born's rule:

$$p(i) = |\langle i | \Psi \rangle|^2$$

To represent the state $|\Psi\rangle$, we are going to use a tensor representation as $\Psi_{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n}$ with $b_i \in \{0, 1\}$ via a `numpy.array` of shape $(2, 2, \dots, 2)$.

1. Create a “QuantumCircuit” class containing the above information (total number of qubits, sequence of gates and their target qubits)
2. Initialize a `numpy.array` to represent the initial state.
3. Given a single-qubit gate acting on qubit q , use the `numpy.tensordot` method to apply the gate on the current state.
4. Write a test checking that the Hadamard gate acting on the first qubit of the $|0, 0\rangle$ state has the right action. (Write the test with an “assert” function so that running the test will raise an exception if it fails)
5. Given a generic two-qubit gate acting on qubits (q_1, q_2) , use the `numpy.tensordot` method to apply the gate on the current state.
6. Write a test checking that a CNOT gate acting on qubits $(0, 1)$ of state $(|10\rangle + |00\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$ yields the right state.
7. What about a CNOT gate acting on $(1, 0)$?
8. Given the final state $|\Psi\rangle$, compute the vector of bitstring probabilities $p(i)$.
9. Write a test checking that it works.
10. What is the space complexity (=memory cost) of the algorithm as a function of the number n of qubits?
11. What is the time complexity of the algorithm as a function of the number n of qubits and number n_G of gates?
12. Check your answer to question 9 by measuring the duration of execution of your simulator for an increasing number of qubits and gates. Is it what you predicted?
13. Bonus 1:
 - (a) create a simple random circuit generator by repeating the following operation n_{layers} times: (i) apply random x, y, z rotations on each of the n qubits and (ii) add a wall of CNOT gates between qubits $2i$ and $2i + 1$ for even layers (swap even and odd qubits for odd layers)
 - (b) execute this circuit with your simulator for a large n_{layers} , and compute the histogram of the probabilities $\mathbb{P}(p)$ (i.e the probability of getting a probability p). What do you observe?
14. Bonus 2:
 - (a) write a function that creates the circuit corresponding to the quantum Fourier transform on n qubits.
 - (b) check that it works by checking that the output amplitudes are related to the input amplitudes through the formula of the discrete Fourier transform.