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 Course: **8.370 - QC**  
 Problem set: **#8**  
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 Collaborators/References: Piazza

1. A generator  $g$  of the multiplicative group modulo  $P$  is a number such that  $g^{P-1} = 1 \pmod{P}$ , but  $gk \neq 1 \pmod{P}$  for any  $1 < k < P-1$ . As far as I know, we know of no classical algorithms, even probabilistic ones, for testing whether  $g$  is a generator mod  $P$ .

While not explicit, the phrasing of the problem implies that  $P$  is prime: since the order of a generator  $g$  of  $(\mathbb{Z}/P\mathbb{Z})^\times$  is the order of the group,  $P-1$ , we must have  $\phi(P) = P-1$ , which is true in general if  $P$  is prime. Now, I'm not sure why we have to use the discrete log algorithm here, especially since we do not know of a generator  $g$  for the multiplicative group modulo  $P$  to begin with. Instead, given some element  $h \in (\mathbb{Z}/P\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , we can use the **period-finding algorithm** to efficiently compute the order  $r$  of  $h$ . Once done, we simply compare  $r$  to the order of  $(\mathbb{Z}/P\mathbb{Z})^\times$ , which is  $\phi(P) = P-1$ . If  $r = P-1$  then  $h$  is a generator of  $(\mathbb{Z}/P\mathbb{Z})^\times$ . Otherwise,  $h$  is not a generator of  $(\mathbb{Z}/P\mathbb{Z})^\times$ .

Okay but what if we absolutely have to use the discrete logarithm algorithm?

## 2. The Principle of Deferred Measurement

Suppose the state of the system after the first set of unitaries is

$$|\Psi\rangle = |0\rangle_1 |\alpha_0\rangle_2 |\psi_0\rangle + |1\rangle_1 |\alpha_1\rangle_2 |\psi_1\rangle.$$

Then after the measurement and possibly the unitary gate  $U$  on the second qubit, the state of the system is

$$|\Psi'\rangle = |j\rangle_1 U^j |\alpha_j\rangle_2 |\psi_j\rangle$$

where  $j \in \{0, 1\}$  is the measurement outcome. After the last set of unitaries  $\mathcal{U}$ , the state of the system is

$$|\Psi''\rangle = |j\rangle_1 \mathcal{U} U^j |\alpha_j\rangle_2 |\psi_j\rangle.$$

If the measurement outcome is  $j = 0$  then we have

$$|\Psi''\rangle_{j=0} = |0\rangle_1 \mathcal{U} |\alpha_0\rangle_2 |\psi_0\rangle.$$

Else if  $j = 1$ :

$$|\Psi''\rangle_{j=1} = |1\rangle_1 \mathcal{U} U |\alpha_1\rangle_2 |\psi_1\rangle.$$

In the second case, the state of the system after first state of unitaries is the same as before. So we look at the system after the controlled-unitary  $U$ :

$$|\Phi'\rangle = |0\rangle_1 |\alpha_0\rangle_2 |\psi_0\rangle + |1\rangle_1 U |\alpha_1\rangle_2 |\psi_1\rangle.$$

Now we apply the second set of unitaries  $\mathcal{U}$ . By linearity we have

$$|\Phi''\rangle = |0\rangle_1 \mathcal{U} |\alpha_0\rangle_2 |\psi_0\rangle + |1\rangle_1 \mathcal{U} U |\alpha_1\rangle_2 |\psi_1\rangle$$

Now we measure the first qubit. Let the measurement outcome be  $j$ , then the state of the system is

$$|\Phi''\rangle_j = |0\rangle_1 \mathcal{U} |\alpha_0\rangle_2 |\psi_0\rangle \delta_{j,0} + |1\rangle_1 \mathcal{U} U |\alpha_1\rangle_2 |\psi_1\rangle \delta_{j,1}.$$

In particular, if  $j = 0$  then

$$|\Phi''\rangle_{j=0} = |0\rangle_1 \mathcal{U} |\alpha_0\rangle_2 |\psi_0\rangle$$

Else if  $j = 1$  then

$$|\Phi''\rangle_{j=1} = |1\rangle_1 \mathcal{U} U |\alpha_1\rangle_2 |\psi_1\rangle$$

which is exactly what we have before.

### 3. Impatient runner of Grover's algorithm...

Let  $k$  be such that  $K < k < 2K$ . And let  $S$  denotes the space of solutions. By definition,  $|S| = M$ . The state of the computer after  $k$  Grover iterations is

$$G^k |\psi\rangle = \cos\left(\frac{2k+1}{2}\theta\right) |\alpha\rangle + \sin\left(\frac{2k+1}{2}\theta\right) |\beta\rangle.$$

Here

$$|\alpha\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N-M}} \sum_{x \notin S} |x\rangle \quad \text{and} \quad |\beta\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \sum_{x \in S} |x\rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \cos \frac{\theta}{2} = \sqrt{\frac{N-M}{N}}$$

Now, the impatient experimenter checks whether this state is in a solution state by measuring in the  $|\alpha\rangle, |\beta\rangle$  basis. The probability that he finds the state to be in the solution space is

$$p = \sin^2\left(\frac{2k+1}{2}\theta\right).$$

If he finds that the state is in the solution space then he stops. Else, he repeats the process. Under the assumption that  $M \ll N$  and the additional assumption that  $K\theta \ll \pi/2$ , we make small-angle approximation on  $p$  to obtain

$$p \approx \left(\frac{2k+1}{2}\theta\right)^2.$$

Now  $\theta = 2 \arccos\left(\sqrt{(N-M)/N}\right)$ . Since  $M \ll N$ , we can expand this in terms of (small)  $M/N$  to get

$$\theta \sim \sqrt{\frac{M}{N}} + \frac{(M/N)^{3/2}}{6} + O((M/N)^{5/2})$$

With this, we have

$$p \approx \left(\frac{2k+1}{2}\right)^2 \frac{M}{N}.$$

Suppose the experimenter measures  $j-1$  failures before seeing the first success at the  $j$ th measurement. Then the probability for this event is

$$\Pr(X = j) = (1-p)^{j-1}p$$

The expected value for the random variable  $X$ , which is the expected number of trials before the first success, is thus

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{p} = \frac{N}{M} \left(\frac{2}{2k+1}\right)^2.$$

Since  $K < k < 2K$ , the experimenter has to try  $\boxed{O(N/MK^2)}$  times.