

Computational Science II

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Dequantization, a process involving the presentation of classical counterparts to specific quantum machine learning (QML) algorithms with only a polynomial slowdown, raises questions about the exponential quantum advantage of QML algorithms.

The bedrock of QML, as well as its claimed advantages, hinges upon the so-called HHL algorithm developed by Harrow, Hassidim and Lloyd [2]. Notably, Aaronson [1] critiqued the HHL algorithm for its numerous ‘fine print’ conditions, which also impact QML algorithms influenced by the HHL approach.

Only a few years later, Tang [4] accomplished the dequantization of the quantum recommendation algorithm proposed by Kerenidis and Prakash [3], while incurring merely a polynomial slowdown. This achievement was enabled by the inherent similarities between quantum techniques like ‘quantum phase estimation’ and classical linear algebraic methods, such as ‘ ℓ^2 -norm sampling through singular decomposition’.

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