

# QSite 2024 - Classiq Open Challenge Solution - DRAFT

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The work is tracked in the following GitHub repository: <https://github.com/quantotto/Q-SITE-Classiq-Open-Challenge>

In this challenge, we will be solving a differential equation using Quantum Computing algorithm and implementing on the Classiq platform. The work focuses on the scientific paper titled "[A Quantum Algorithm for Solving Linear Differential Equations: Theory and Experiment](#)", presented by Tao Xin, et al. in 2020.

We are given the following second order Linear Differential Equation (LDE) representing a harmonic oscillator:

$$y'' + \omega y = 0, y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 1$$

We should solve it using the Quantum Algorithm from the above mentioned paper for the case of  $\omega = 1$  and use the solution to evaluate the kinetic and potential energies in the time interval of  $(0, 1)$ . We will also study how the energies vary when we use different boundary conditions for  $y(0), y'(0)$ . Finally, we will leverage the Classiq platform to optimize our quantum circuits for width and depth.

This work is organized in four parts. Part I shows analytical solution for the above equation. Having precise solution will serve as a reference for our quantum algorithm and will allow estimating the accuracy of the produced results. In Part II, we will formulate the problem in the matrix form and present a simplified version of quantum algorithm solving the equation. Part III is the heart of this work, where we are solving the LDE using the Taylor series expansion. We create a Quantum model on Classiq platform implementing the approach from the scientific paper. We analyze the accuracy of the algorithm compared to the analytical solution for different orders of approximation. Then, we calculate the energies for various boundary conditions. Part IV concludes this work with optimization of Quantum Circuit for depth and width with help of the Classiq tools.

## Part I - Analytical Solution

Given the condition of  $\omega = 1$  we are solving the following second order LDE:

$$y'' + y = 0$$

There are multiple ways to obtain the closed solution for  $y(t)$ . Let's use the method of characteristic polynomial. For this equation we are obtaining the following quadratic polynomial:

$$r^2 + 1 = 0$$

It is easy to see that the solutions of this equation are two complex numbers:  $r = \pm i$ . For the case of two complex roots of characteristic polynomial, the general solution of the differential equation is linear combination of trigonometric functions:

$$y(t) = C_1 \cdot \cos(t) + C_2 \cdot \sin(t)$$

Solving for  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  with boundary conditions of  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 1$ , we obtain:

$$y(t) = \cos(t) + \sin(t)$$

For more general case of boundary conditions  $y(0) = a$ ,  $y'(0) = b$  the solution takes the following form:

$$y(t) = a \cdot \cos(t) + b \cdot \sin(t)$$

For calculation of energy of harmonic oscillation we will need the  $k$  and  $m$  values for spring coefficient and mass respectively. Since  $\omega = 1$  we can conclude that  $k = m = 1$  because  $\omega$  is given by  $\omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} = 1$  which trivially leads to  $k = m = 1$ .

The formulas for energy calculation that we will use in the next parts are:

$$\text{Potential energy: } U = \frac{k \cdot y^2}{2} = \frac{y^2}{2} = \frac{y(t)^2}{2}$$

$$\text{Kinetic energy: } K = \frac{m \cdot v^2}{2} = \frac{v^2}{2} = \frac{y'(t)^2}{2}$$

where  $v$  is the velocity and it is given by first derivative of  $y(t)$ .

## Part II - Linear Differential Equation - Matrix Form

In order to solve a differential equation on Quantum Computer, we need to formulate it in the language it naturally understands. Hence, we have to switch to Linear Algebra. LDEs can be formulated as a system of linear equations:

$$\frac{d}{dt}y = M \cdot y + b$$

Where  $y$  is  $N$ -dimensional vector,  $M$  is  $N \times N$  matrix.  $N$  is the order of differential equation. Hence,  $N = 2$  in our case.

After re-writing the given LDE as  $y'' = -y$ , our second order differential equation can be represented in a matrix form and using the vectors with up to first degree derivatives:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} y \\ y' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} y \\ y' \end{pmatrix}$$

NOTE: Since we don't have any constant terms in the original equation,  $b = 0$ .  
We will use this fact, when simplifying the quantum circuit.

A well known fact that is used in the scientific paper is that the solution of this differential equation can be obtained through matrix exponentiation:

$$y = e^{M \cdot t}$$

After careful examination of our  $M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , we notice that it is actually Pauli-Y up to  $-i$  factor. So, the solution takes the following form:

$$y = e^{-iY \cdot t}$$

Pauli exponentiation can be effectively realized on Quantum Computer with single qubit gate. We can simply use the RY operation. To remind, RY is dependent on the angle  $\theta$  and represented by the  $2 \times 2$  matrix:

$$RY(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\frac{\theta}{2}) & -\sin(\frac{\theta}{2}) \\ -\sin(\frac{\theta}{2}) & \cos(\frac{\theta}{2}) \end{pmatrix}$$

From this:

$$e^{-iY \cdot t} = RY(2t) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(t) & -\sin(t) \\ -\sin(t) & \cos(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

So, if we evolve the  $|y_0\rangle$  vector representing the boundary conditions, we should obtain the solution.

$$|y_0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Note that we applied the normalization factor of  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$  for  $|y_0\rangle$ .

We can easily implement this calculation as a quantum program to obtain the desired solution up to the normalization factor (norm of  $|y_0\rangle$ ).

$$RY(2t)|y_0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(t) & -\sin(t) \\ -\sin(t) & \cos(t) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(t) - \sin(t) \\ \sin(t) + \cos(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

Multiplying by the norm of  $|y_0\rangle$  ( $\sqrt{2}$ ), we retrieve the solution that we derived in Part I.

Building this Quantum Model is fairly easy on the Classiq platform:

- We prepare qubit  $\phi$  in the  $|+\rangle$  state
- We apply RY with  $\theta = 2t$

```
from classiq import *
import numpy as np

t = 2 * np.pi / 3
@qfunc
def main(phi: Output[QBit]):
    allocate(1, phi)
    H(phi)
    RY(2*t, phi)
```

We can then create, synthesize and test the model using State Vector simulator. It shows that the results of quantum simulation agree with the analytical solution.

```
from classiq.execution import (
    ClassiqBackendPreferences,
    ClassiqSimulatorBackendNames,
    ExecutionPreferences,
)
backend_preferences = ClassiqBackendPreferences(
    backend_name=ClassiqSimulatorBackendNames.SIMULATOR_STATEVECTOR
)
quantum_model = create_model(main,
    execution_preferences=ExecutionPreferences(
        num_shots=1024, backend_preferences=backend_preferences
    )
)
quantum_program = synthesize(quantum_model)
res = execute(quantum_program)
analytical = np.cos(t) + np.sin(t)
amps = np.array([ps.amplitude for ps in res.result()
    [0].value.parsed_state_vector]) * np.linalg.norm([1.0, 1.0])
print(f"Analytical={analytical}; Quantum amps={amps}")
print(complex(res.result()[0].value.state_vector["1"]) *
    np.linalg.norm([1.0, 1.0]))
```

Output:

```
Analytical=0.36602540378443893; Quantum amps=[-1.3660254+0.j
0.3660254+0.j]
(0.36602540378443965+0j)
```

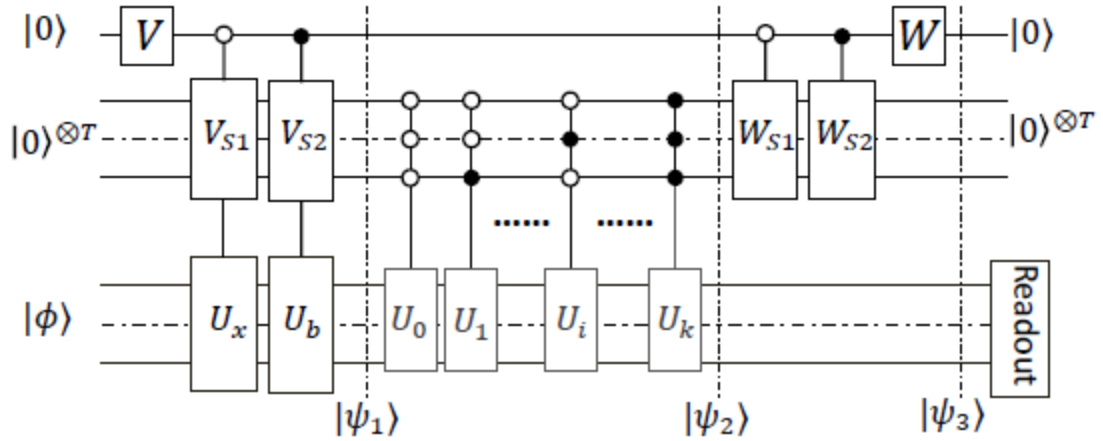
With this preliminary background out of the way, we are now going to apply the approach from the scientific paper to solve this differential equation. We will use the Matrix form developed in this part.

## Part 3 - Quantum Algorithm from scientific paper (to be elaborated)

The paper suggests solving the differential equation using the Taylor series expansion up to the desired order of approximation. Higher orders require more qubits. According to the algorithm, we have the following qubits allocations:

- 1 ancilla qubit
- $\log_2(k + 1)$  approximator qubits, where  $k$  is order of approximation
- 1 qubit for  $|\phi\rangle$  (work qubit) which encodes both  $|y_0\rangle$  and  $b$  (in our case  $b = 0$ )

Our goal is to implement the quantum circuit presented in the paper. See Figure below taken from the paper.



All qubits start in the  $|0\rangle$  state.

We will now derive all the operators required for solving our differential equation. It is worth emphasizing that, in a way, the suggested algorithm is implementing Linear Combination of Unitaries, where we use Taylor expansion to produce the coefficients and the unitaries are powers of matrix  $A$  (derived from matrix  $M$  - see previous section for the matrix form of differential equation)

## Operator $U_m$

The  $U_m$  operator is simply  $A^m$  where  $A$  is unitary derived from  $M$  in the matrix form of differential equation. The paper instruct to calculate  $A$  from  $M$ :

$$A = \frac{M}{||M||}$$

Then, there are two cases for when  $A$  unitary and non-unitary. It should be added that a third case should be considered, when  $M$  is unitary as it happens to be in our case. For

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ the norm } ||M|| = \sqrt{2}. \text{ Hence, dividing by it produced non-unitary.}$$

However, it is actually a unitary up to the normalization factor, which is  $||M||$ . From this, in

the implementation, we assume  $A = M$ . This also leads to modification in calculating the  $C_m$  values. Wherever  $||M||$  is used, we replace it with 1.

## Operator V

V on ancilla puts it into a superposition and is used as a control qubit to encode  $y_0$  and  $b$ . Since  $b$  is zero in our case, we actually only need to encode  $y_0$ . V ends up being Z operator, which effectively leaves the  $|0\rangle$  state intact on ancilla. We do still include it in the initial implementation for completeness.

## Operator Vs1

Vs1 on the approximator qubits encode Taylor coefficients that control the operations on the  $y_0$  part of of superposition. The number of coefficients depend on the order of approximation. As mentioned above under the Operator  $U_m$ , we substitute  $||M||$  with 1. It was also discovered that we should substitute the  $||x_0||$  (or in our notation  $||y_0||$ ) with 1 and just apply this as normalization factor to the solution we obtain from the algorithm execution. The function for calculating vector of  $C_m$  values is shown below.

```
def calculate-Cs(t, k):
    arr = [((t) ** i) / math.factorial(i) for i in range(k+1)]
    return arr
```

Moreover, in the paper, it is stated that we need to populate the first row with the normalized square roots of coefficients from Taylor expansion ( $\sqrt{C_0}, \sqrt{C_1}, \dots, \sqrt{C_k}$ ). It should actually be first column as indicated in the supplemental material (Appendix A).

## Operator Vs2

We can skip the definition of Vs2 because it is only needed in case of non-zero  $b$ .

## Coding with Classiq

Classiq allows us to simplify the implementation using the following powerful statements:

- `control` to implement multi-qubit control operations (e.g. we need them to apply operators  $U_m$  controlled by approximator qubits)
- `within_apply` to implement  $V^\dagger UV$  (in this case, we need to apply the inverse of Vs1 after the series of controlled  $U_m$  operations)
- `repeat` to loop through multiple  $U_m$  operators
- `power` to implement  $U_m = A^m$

Below is our model implementation. There are some helper functions used. In order to not clutter the code of the model, some helper functions are moved to Appendix A.

The algorithm has four main steps:

- Encode qubits (quantum)
- Approximate (quantum)
- Decode (quantum)
- Post-processing (classical)

During post-processing, we post-select the work qubits ( $|\phi\rangle$ ) values for the sub-space of ancilla and approximator qubits in the  $|0\rangle$  states.

We split the work of quantum part into three qfuncs:

- `encode` applies initial operator  $V$  on ancilla and calls `prep_qubits` controlling on value 0 of the ancilla
- `prep_qubits` applies  $V_{s1}$  unitary
- `approximate` prepares the phi qubit in  $y_0$  state and repeatedly applies the  $U_m$  operators

@qfunc

```
def prep_qubits(Vs1: CArray[CArray[CReal]], approximator: QArray, phi:
QBit):
    unitary(Vs1, approximator)
```

@qfunc

```
def encode(V: CArray[CReal], Vs1: CArray[CArray[CReal]], ancilla: QBit,
approximator: QArray, phi: QBit):
    unitary(V, ancilla)
    control(ctrl=ancilla==0, stmt_block=lambda: prep_qubits(Vs1,
approximator, phi))
```

@qfunc

```
def approximate(A: CArray[CArray[CReal]], normalized_y0: CArray[CReal],
approximator: QNum, phi: QBit):
    inplace_prepare_amplitudes(normalized_y0, bound=0.01, target=phi)
    repeat(2 ** approximator.size, lambda i: control(approximator==i,
lambda: power(i, lambda: unitary(A, phi))))
```

The work is controlled from the `main` function of the model, which uses the `within_apply` to drive the entire implementation.

```
# inputs for  $y'' + y = 0$ 
y0 = [1.0, 1.0] # Boundary conditions
A = [[0, 1], [-1, 0]] # Linear equations (unitary)
k = 7 # order of approximation
t = np.pi / 3 # t to evaluate  $y(t)$  and  $y'(t)$  at
total_qubits = int(np.log2(k+1)) + 2
Cs = calculate-Cs(t, k)
V = calculate_V()
Vs1 = calculate_Vs1(Cs)
normalized_y0 = normalize(y0)
```

@qfunc

```

def main(
    phi: Output[QBit],
    approximator: Output[QNum],
    ancilla: Output[QBit]
):
    allocate(1, phi)
    allocate(int(np.log2(k+1)), approximator)
    allocate(1, ancilla)
    within_apply(
        within=lambda: encode(V, Vs1, ancilla, approximator, phi),
        apply=lambda: approximate(A, normalized_y0, approximator, phi)
    )

```

## Post-processing

After model execution, we select the results of  $|\phi\rangle$  qubit measurements in the subspace of ancilla and approximator qubits in state  $|0\rangle$ . We then normalize the amplitudes to assure that total probability of post-selected states is equal to 1. We finally extract the solution by calculating the amplitudes of states  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$  and applying the normalization factor ( $||y_0||$ ). Amplitude of state  $|0\rangle$  determines the position  $y(t)$  and amplitude of state  $|1\rangle$  determines velocity  $y'(t)$ .

The `solve` function puts it all together and solves the differential equation for a given `t`.

```

def solve(t) -> tuple[float, float]:
    # solve differential equation using quantum algorithm
    # and return a tuple of position and velocity at time t

    # Calculate model parameters
    global Cs, V, Vs1, normalized_y0
    Cs = calculate_Cs(t, k)
    V = calculate_V()
    Vs1 = calculate_Vs1(Cs)
    normalized_y0 = normalize(y0)

    # Create, synthesize and execute the model
    quantum_model = create_model(main,
        execution_preferences=ExecutionPreferences(
            num_shots=1024, backend_preferences=backend_preferences
        )
    )
    quantum_program = synthesize(quantum_model)
    res = execute(quantum_program)

    # post-select results with ancilla and approximator qubits equal to 0
    amps = [
        ps.amplitude for ps in res.result()[0].value.parsed_state_vector
        if ps["approximator"] == 0 and ps["ancilla"] == 0
    ]
    # Re-scale amplitudes

```



```

    total_prob = (amps[0] * amps[0].conjugate() + amps[1] *
amps[1].conjugate())

    # Extract position and velocity (position is the  $y(t)$  and velocity
 $y'(t)$ )
    # Position is amplitude of  $\phi=0$  and velocity is amplitude of  $\phi=1$ 
    Y_key, V_key = state_vector_keys(total_qubits)
    Y_amp = complex(res.result()[0].value.state_vector[Y_key]) /
np.sqrt(total_prob)
    V_amp = complex(res.result()[0].value.state_vector[V_key]) /
np.sqrt(total_prob)

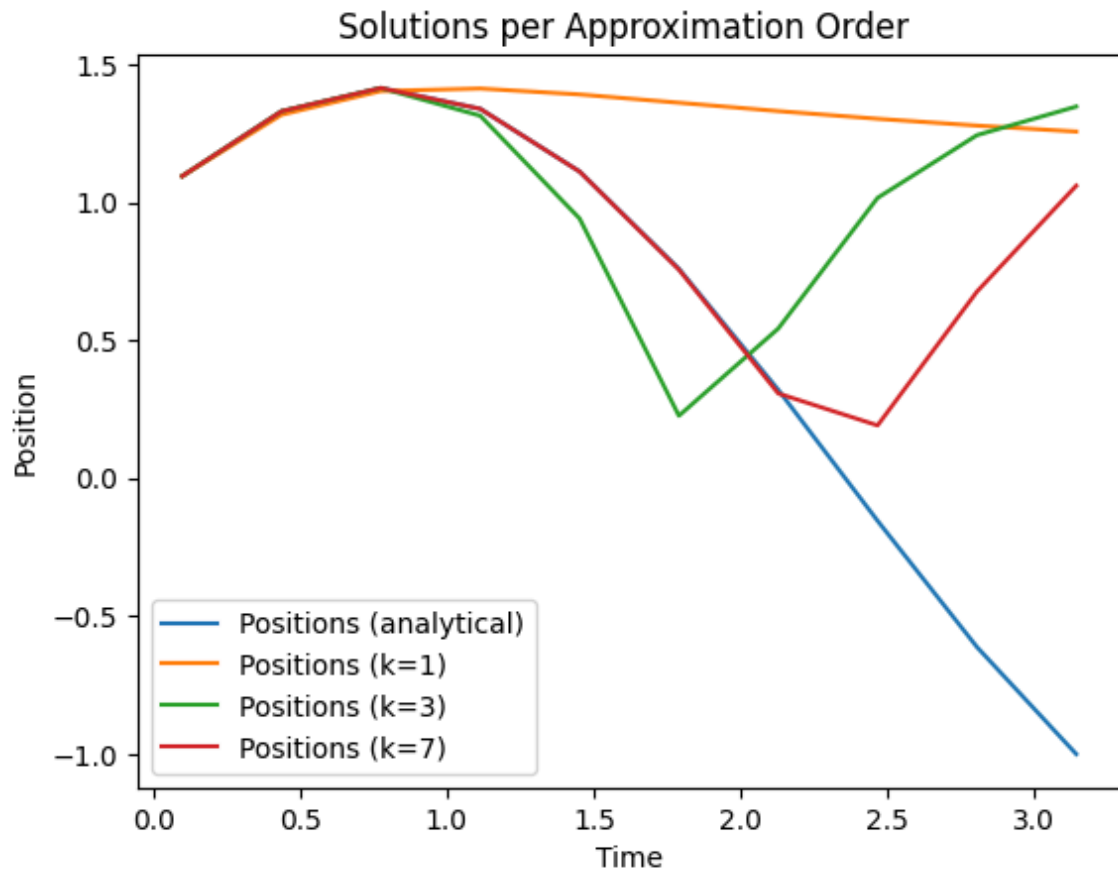
    # Calculate real values and rescale the values by norm of  $y_0$ 
    Yt = np.sqrt((Y_amp * Y_amp.conjugate()).real) * norm(y0)
    Vt = np.sqrt((V_amp * V_amp.conjugate()).real) * norm(y0)
    return (Yt, Vt)

```

## Accuracy

We can now use our solution to study the accuracy of quantum algorithm per order of approximation. We will use  $k = 1, 3, 7$  as three orders of approximation and plot quantum and classical solutions alongside to demonstrate that accuracy increases with higher orders of approximation. We run the algorithm for 10 points in the interval  $(0, \pi)$ .

Figure below shows a classical (analytical) solution along with quantum ones for different orders of approximation.



At all orders, we are getting fairly accurate results in the  $(0, 1)$  interval. With  $k=7$ , the classical and quantum solutions are practically identical. Quantum solution starts to diverge from classical when the position values turn negative. In fact, this is indeed a limitation of current implementation: no option to produce negative results. Overcoming this limitation is left to future works on this subject.

We conclude that we can safely use  $k = 3$  or  $k = 7$  to estimate the solution in the  $(0, 1)$  interval.

## Calculating Energies

We calculate the Kinetic and Potential energies using the formulas that we presented in Part I.

$$\text{Potential energy: } U = \frac{k \cdot x^2}{2} = \frac{x^2}{2} = \frac{y(t)^2}{2}$$

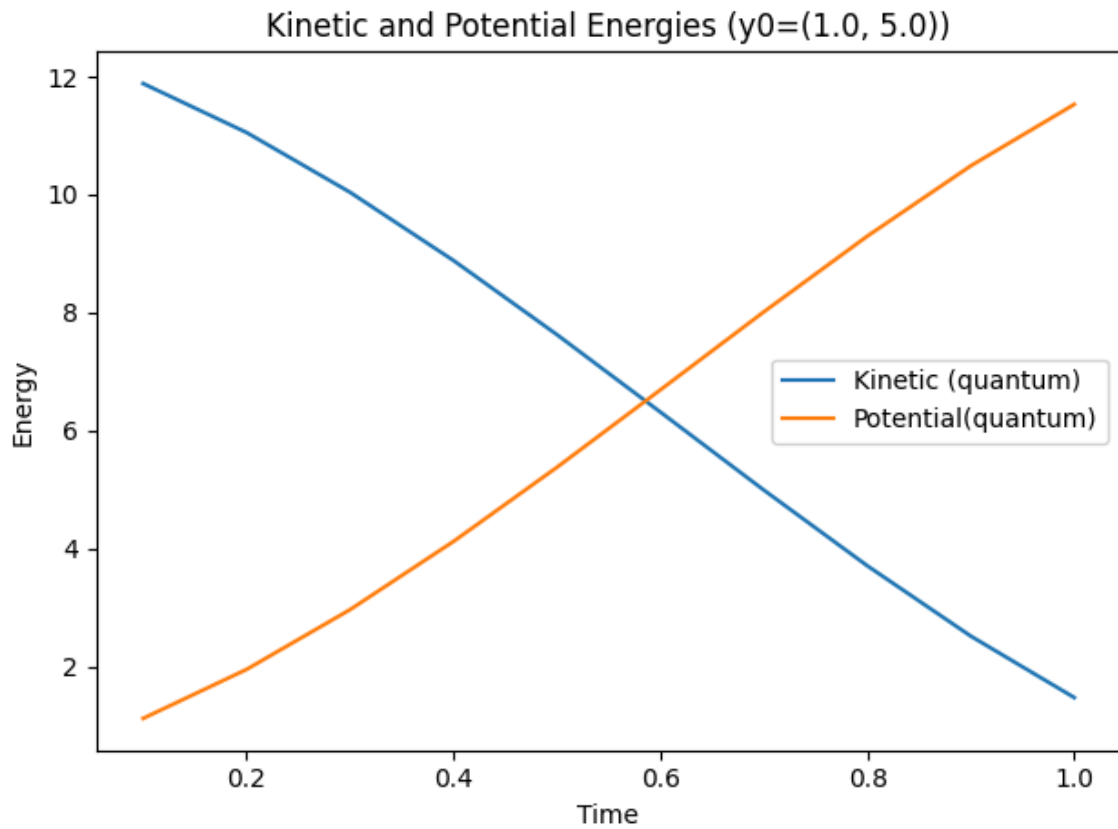
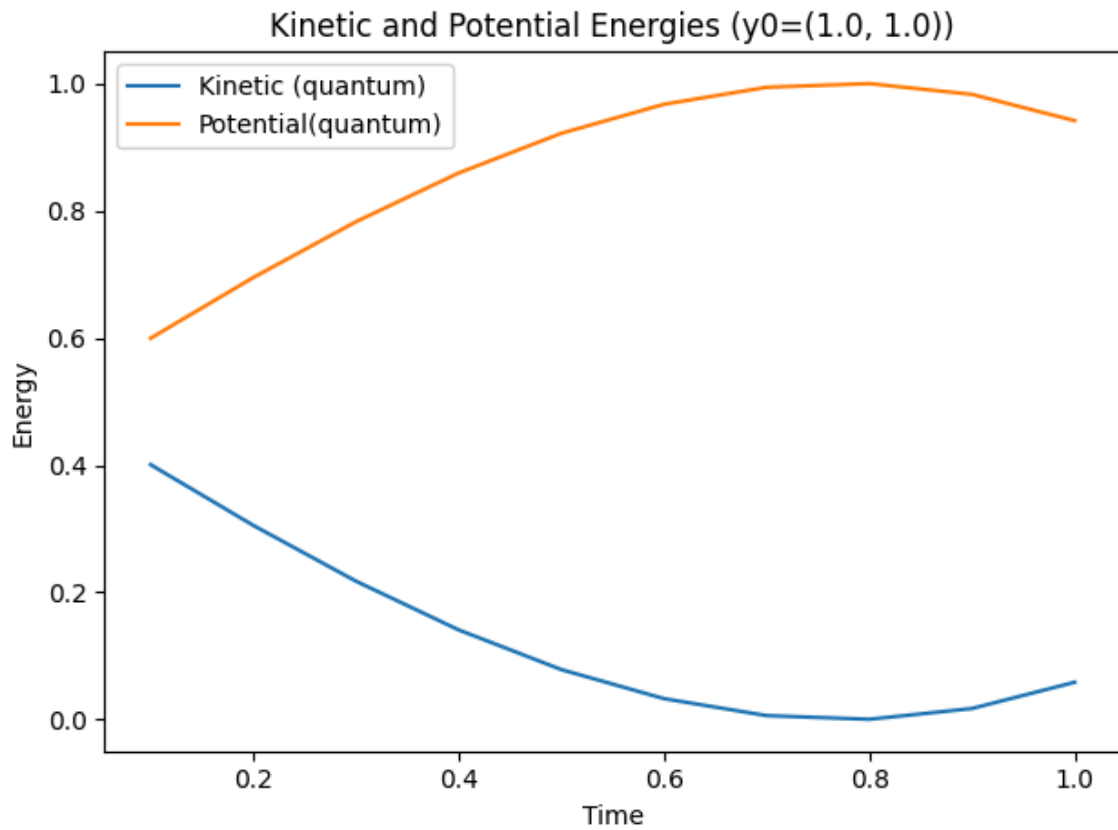
$$\text{Kinetic energy: } K = \frac{m \cdot v^2}{2} = \frac{v^2}{2} = \frac{y'(t)^2}{2}$$

This is fairly trivial task after obtaining the results of the `solve` function:

```
def calculate_energies(t) -> tuple[float, float]:
    # Calculate kinetic and potential energy at time t
```

```
Yt, Vt = solve(t)
return (Vt ** 2) / 2, (Yt ** 2) / 2
```

Executing the quantum model for different values of boundary conditions ( $y_0$ ) produced the results that agree with the classical (analytical) solution. See figures below for Kinetic and Potential energies for two choices of  $y_0$ : (1.0, 1.0) and (1.0, 5.0) with order of approximation  $k = 3$ .



Part 4 - Quantum Circuit Analysis and Optimizations  
- TBD

Following the work of creating and executing the quantum circuit, we will now work on analyzing its depth and width and see if there any ways to optimize them. It is important to note that while building the model in the previous part, we have already made a few optimizations based on the actual equation we are solving. Now, we will use Classiq platform tools to take the optimization to the next level.

## Appendix A - Helper Functions

Generic linear algebra helpers.

```
def analytical_solution(boundary_condition, x):
    return boundary_condition[0] * np.cos(x) + boundary_condition[1] *
np.sin(x)

def norm(a):
    return np.linalg.norm(a)

def normalize(a):
    return list(np.array(a) / norm(a))

def sqrt_sum(a):
    return np.sqrt(np.sum(np.array(a)))

def create_unitary(first_column):
    # Create unitary given first column
    #
    k = len(first_column)
    added_rows = []
    for i in range(k-1):
        row = [0] * k
        row[i] = 1
        added_rows.append(row)
    A = np.array([
        normalize(first_column),
        *added_rows
    ]).T
    n = A.shape[1]
    # Use Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization
    # Credits: https://www.mycompiler.io/view/Di9dsPfR4gy
    for i in range(1, n):
        for j in range(i):
            A[:, i] = A[:, i] - np.dot(A[:, j], A[:, i]) * A[:, j]
            A[:, i] = A[:, i] / np.linalg.norm(A[:, i])
    return A.tolist()
```