

Challenge 12: Bonus — Commuting Pauli Phase Program

In quantum simulation and fault-tolerant compilation, one often needs to implement products of small-angle exponentials of Pauli strings. In this task, you are given a dense list of commuting Pauli strings with fixed $(\pi/8)$ -quantized angles, and you must compile the resulting unitary into Clifford+T with as few T gates as possible.

Input

You are given a JSON file `challenge12.json` with the following fields:

- **n**: The number of qubits.
- **angle_unit**: The string "pi/8".
- **terms**: A list of objects of the form:
 - **pauli**: A length- n string over $\{I, X, Y, Z\}$.
 - **k**: An odd integer (in this instance, $k \in \{1, 7\}$).

Interpret each term (pauli_j, k_j) as an n -qubit Pauli operator P_j and define the target unitary:

$$U := \prod_{j=1}^m \exp\left(-i\frac{\pi}{8}k_j P_j\right)$$

Important: In this instance, all P_j commute pairwise, so the product is order-independent and is an exact unitary (this is not a Trotterization problem).

Mapping from string to operator: If `pauli[i]` is the i -th character, it denotes the single-qubit Pauli acting on qubit i , tensored across all qubits.

Example (n=4): "XIZY" means $X \otimes I \otimes Z \otimes Y$.

Submission Format

Save your solution as a plaintext OpenQASM but don't upload it to the website. Include it along with your writeup. Your circuit must use **only** the gate set:

$$\{H, T, T^\dagger, \text{CNOT}\}$$

Submissions containing other gates will be rejected.

Hints

- Since all terms commute, you can treat them as a single structured object rather than unrelated gates.
- Recall: Clifford gates conjugate Pauli operators to Pauli operators (e.g., $H X H = Z$, $H Z H = X$, etc.).
- Looking for a transformation that makes many terms “simpler” at once can pay off.