Quantum Circuits for Coherent Conditional Iteration

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If we had a quantum computer ...

What could we do with it?

Quantum Computing has many general-purpose techniques:

- QM Period-finding,
- Grover fixed-point search,
- Quantum Counting,
- etc. . . .

Crucial questions:

What can we do with these?

Why is it so hard to find useful applications?



How quantum algorithms are arranged

Never mind -how- they work ... what do they look like?

A quantum computer:

- Takes, as input, a classical computation.
- Performs some quantum magic. (a technical term!)
- Returns some global information about the input.

In a quantum algorithm:

How can a classical computation be an input?

We need a quantum oracle for the classical computation.

These are:

- Unitary maps that 'look classical' on some fixed basis (the computational basis.)
- In general, very tedious to construct.

What is a quantum oracle?

In the classical world:

F is a reversible function on *n* bits.

For any bit-string b, both $|b\rangle$ and $|F(b)\rangle$ are basis vectors.

In the quantum world:

An **oracle** for F is simply 'F lifted to the quantum setting'.

It is a quantum operation U_F satisfying

 $U_F |b\rangle = |F(b)\rangle$ for any bitstring b



How do oracles behave on arbitrary inputs?

These oracles are **unitary**, and hence linear.

For an input that is a superposition of basis vectors

$$|\Psi\rangle = \alpha |b_1\rangle + \beta |b_2\rangle$$

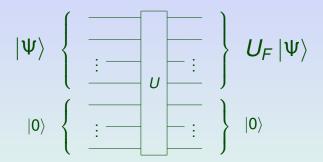
It returns the corresponding superposition of output vectors

$$U_F |\Psi\rangle = \alpha |F(b_1)\rangle + \beta |F(b_2)\rangle$$

This is the key requirement!.

Oracles with ancillas

Oracles often use *ancillas* — additional registers that play a part in the computation:



The ancilla must *start* and *finish* in some fixed state, to ensure it is *not entangled* with the result we want.



How to create quantum oracles?

The usual approach

- implement F classically, using:
 - reversible binary logic gates,
 - without any loops, or feedback,
 - ensuring all 'extra bits' start & finish in the same state.
- Replace each gate by its 'quantum counterpart'.

The problem ...

This rules out any use of *feedback*, *conditional iteration*, *recursion*, *fixed point operations*, *the von Neumann architecture*, etc.



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Oracles from Turing machines?

How about computations defined by a Turing machine?

Quantum Turing machines

• Introduced by D. Deutsch (1985)

Quantum theory, the Church-Turing principle and the universal quantum computer

Criticised by J. Myers (1997)

Can a Universal Computer be Fully Quantum'

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The problem with Quantum Turing machines

Consider a fully quantum Turing machine

- It has a state space, instead of a state set.
- We can also have superpositions of states ... including 'halting states' and non-halting states'.

Myer's question:

What happens 'after halting'?

When the qTm is in the state

$$|halting state\rangle + |non - halting state\rangle$$

What should happen next?



- (1997) Bernstein and Vazirani: QTMs are fully quantum when the *number of steps to halting* is independent of the input.
- (1998) Ozawa: Arbitrary QTMs can be made fully quantum.
- (1998) Linden & Popescu: "Ozawa's halting scheme is not fully quantum, except in the trivial case in which the computer never halts."
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To define oracles, which model of computation should we use?

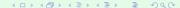
Turing Machines

Too ambitious: the quantum halting problem is insurmountable.

Space-bounded Turing machines

- A reasonable compromise.
- Space bounds are physically justifiable.
- Their computations can be described within the circuit model

The circuit model



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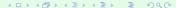
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Defining bounded Turing machines

In common with Turing machines:

A BTM has:

- A set of alphabet symbols & a set of labels.
- A tape, with an alphabet symbol in each cell.
- A labelled pointer.
- A transition function T.

Unlike Turing machines:

- The tape is a fixed, finite length.
- Each label is either **left-moving** or **right-moving**.
- The pointer is positioned between cells on the tape.



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The dynamics:



Step 1.

The pointer moves onto a cell:

- The left cell, when q is left-moving.
- The right cell, when *q* is right-moving.



The dynamics:



Step 2.

The transition function determines a new symbol / label pair:

$$(q,a) \stackrel{\mathcal{T}}{\mapsto} (p,c)$$

These are written into the pointer / cell respectively.



The dynamics:



Step 3.

The pointer moves back to the cell boundary:

- The left boundary, when p is left-moving.
- The right boundary, when *p* is right-moving.



Bounded Turing machine states

A **state** for a bounded Turing machine is a:

"complete instantaneous description".

This requires:

- The contents of the tape.
- The position of the pointer.
- The label of the pointer.

What are the halting states?

A BTM is in a halting state when either:

The pointer is on the far left of the tape, with a left-moving label.

OR

The pointer is on the far right of the tape, with a right-moving label.

The dual concept — starting states

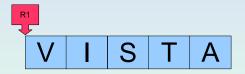
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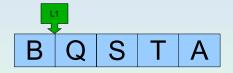
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- Pointer labels:
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 - Right-moving labels {R1, R2, R3}
- Tape length = 5.



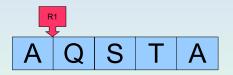
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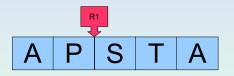
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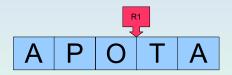
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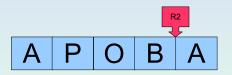
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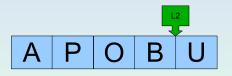
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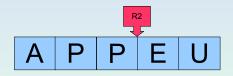
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The function computed by a BTM

A Bounded Turing machine \mathcal{T} defines a *(partial) function* $[\mathcal{T}]$, that takes *starting states* to *halting states*.

Reversible bounded Turing machines

When the transition function is reversible,

- **1** The dynamics of T are (partial) reversible.
- 2 The function [T] is a *bijection*.

Our goal: To produce a quantum oracle, for this bijection.

What happens after halting?

To answer J. Myer's question, without using an infinite ancilla, there is only one possibility:

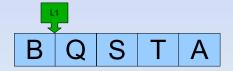
After halting ...

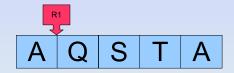
the Bounded Turing machine reverses its operation & 'uncomputes' what it has just computed.

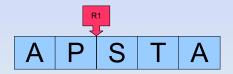
A machine with starting / halting states is transformed into a machine that is entirely *cyclic*.

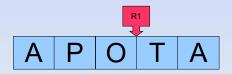






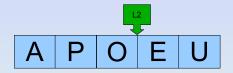


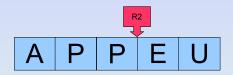












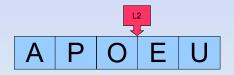






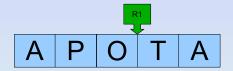


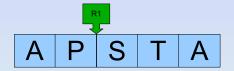


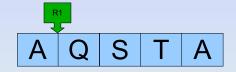


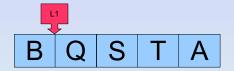
















What is the point of all this?

The key idea:

Quantum computers are:

- Remarkably poor at dealing with conditional halting.
- Remarkably good at dealing with cyclic behaviour.

By transforming conditional halting into cyclic behaviour, we can build quantum circuits for bounded Turing machines.

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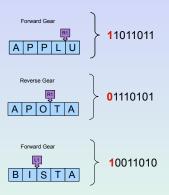
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Cyclic bounded Turing machines, in binary ...

Each state is represented by a binary number:

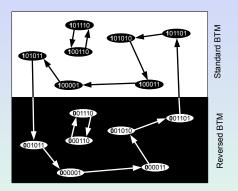


The **most significant bit** specifies whether *forward* or *reverse* gear is selected.



Turing through the looking-glass

Each <u>state</u> is mapped to the <u>next state</u> by a function \mathcal{P} .



This function, the **Primitive Evolution**, is a bijection.

The exact problem

What we have:

There exists an oracle $U_{\mathcal{P}}$ for the Primitive Evolution \mathcal{P} .

If necessary, we can construct this from the transition function

What we want:

An oracle for $[\mathcal{T}]$, the function computed by the B.T.M.

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A useful tool

We use the "**Resolution Formula**", applied to the primitive evolution \mathcal{P} .

This:

- Takes a function defined on a set, and
- returns a (possibly partial) function defined on a subset.

The Resolution formula

- Arose in logical models,
- Has a strongly categorical interpretation,
- 3 Is useful for state machines.



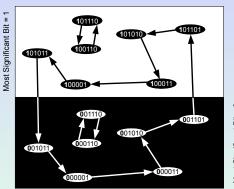
The Resolution, computationally

- Start with a binary string whose Most Significant Bit is 0.
- Apply \mathcal{P} .
- Repeat, until the M.S.B. of the new string is again 0.

This defines a function $Res_0(\mathcal{P})$ on the strings whose M.S.B. is 0.

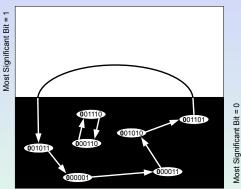
The Resolution, graphically

The "Primitive Evolution" \mathcal{P}

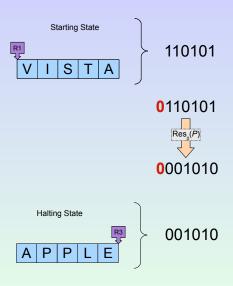


The Resolution, graphically

The "Resolution at 0" of \mathcal{P}



The Resolution, and BTM computations



The next steps:

- Give an explicit mathematical formula for Res(P).
- Translate this into a formula for the oracle.
- Give quantum circuits that compute exactly this!

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The Resolution, mathematically

- The bijection \mathcal{P} acts on the **set**: 000...00, ..., 111...11
- The oracle $U_{\mathcal{P}}$ acts on the **space** with basis:

$$|000...00\rangle$$
, ..., $|111...11\rangle$

We can divide this basis set into

{ vectors starting with 0} ∪ { vectors starting with 1}

The space $\mathbb S$ naturally splits up as $\mathbb S=\mathbb R\oplus\mathbb F$

The space \mathbb{R}

has basis

$$|000...00\rangle$$
, ..., $|011...11\rangle$

The space \mathbb{F}

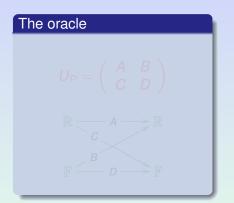
has basis

$$|100...00\rangle$$
, ..., $|111...11\rangle$

We may now write $U_{\mathcal{P}}$ as a block matrix:

$$U_{\mathcal{P}} = \left(\begin{array}{cc} A & B \\ C & D \end{array}\right)$$





Its "resolution at
$$\mathbb{R}$$
" $Res_0(U_\mathcal{P}) = A + \sum_{k=0}^\infty BD^kC$

The oracle

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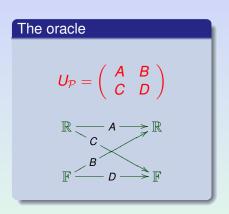
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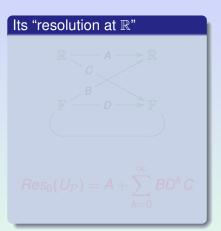
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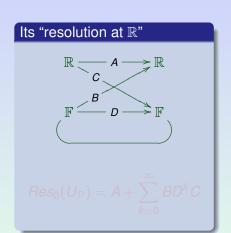




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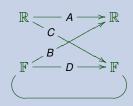


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Its "resolution at \mathbb{R} "



$$Res_0(U_P) = A + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} BD^k C$$

- Well-defined!— this infinite sum converges.
- A unitary map.— i.e. a quantum operation.
- An oracle for a classical computation.
 - it maps basis states to basis states.

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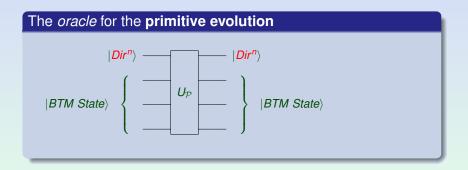
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Some Simple Circuits.

What gates do we require?

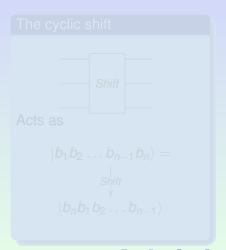
The obvious one ...



Some more multi-qubit gates

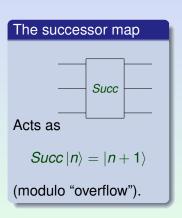
We also need some basic arithmetic.

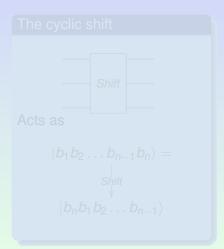




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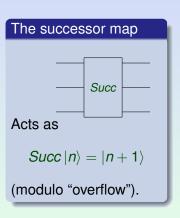
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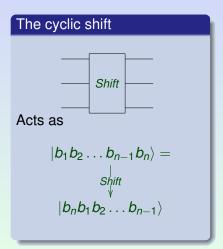




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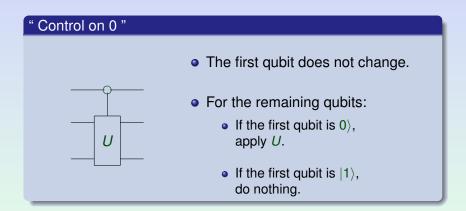
We also need some basic arithmetic.





The circuit toolkit: controlled gates

We also need 'controlled' or 'conditional' gates.



Matrices for control-on-0

Writing *U* as a block matrix:

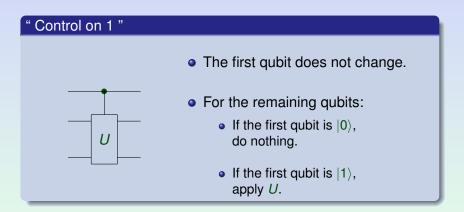
$$U = \left(\begin{array}{cc} U_{00} & U_{01} \\ U_{10} & U_{11} \end{array}\right)$$

CRTL₀U has the matrix

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc}
U_{00} & U_{01} & 0 & 0 \\
U_{10} & U_{11} & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & l & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & l
\end{array}\right)$$

The circuit toolkit: controlled gates

The alternative form:



Matrices for control-on-1

Writing *U* as a block matrix:

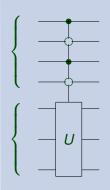
$$U = \left(\begin{array}{cc} U_{00} & U_{01} \\ U_{10} & U_{11} \end{array}\right)$$

CTRL₁ U has the matrix

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccccc}
I & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & I & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & U_{00} & U_{01} \\
0 & 0 & U_{10} & U_{11}
\end{array}\right)$$

Daisy-chaining control gates

Controlled gates, can themselves be controlled, etc.



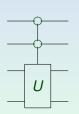
- The first register does not change.
- For the second register:
 - If the first register is |1010>,
 apply U.
 - Otherwise, do nothing.

Matrices for multiply-controlled gates

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{00} & U_{01} \\ U_{10} & U_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$
 Controlled on 00

The matrix:

The circuit:

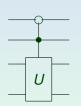


/	<i>U</i> ₀₀	<i>U</i> ₀₁	0	0	0	0	0	0 '	١
	U_{10}	U_{11}^{-1}			0	0	0	0	١
	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	١
	0	0		1	0	0	0	0	١
	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	١
ĺ	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	١
	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,	

Matrices for multiply-controlled gates

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{00} & U_{01} \\ U_{10} & U_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$
 Controlled on 01

The matrix:



The circuit:

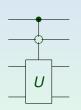


Matrices for multiply-controlled gates

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{00} & U_{01} \\ U_{10} & U_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$
 Controlled on 10

The matrix:

The circuit:

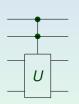


/	ï	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 \
	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
l	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
l	0	0	0	1	0		0	0
l	0	0	0	0	U_{00}	U_{01}	0	0
l	0	0	0	0	U_{10}	U_{11}	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1/

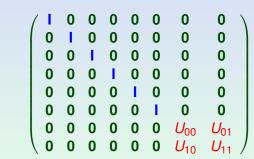
Matrices for multiply-controlled gates

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{00} & U_{01} \\ U_{10} & U_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$
 Controlled on 11

The circuit:



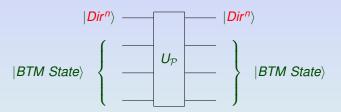
The matrix:



THE CONSTRUCTION

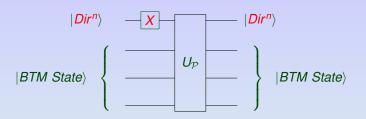
A preliminary ...

We modify the (oracle for the) Primitive Evolution:



Before each application:

The "forward / reverse gear" qubit is flipped.



Call this operation $^{X}U_{P}$

As matrices:

$$U_{\mathcal{P}} = \left(\begin{array}{cc} A & B \\ C & D \end{array} \right)$$

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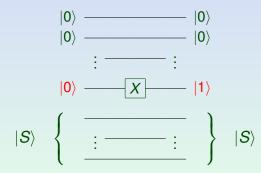
The input ...

- An ancilla of $log_2(T+1)$ qubits, all in state $|0\rangle$.
- A starting state $|S\rangle$, for our Bounded Turing machine.



The input ...

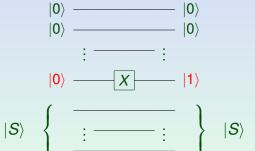
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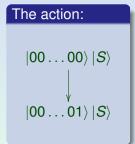




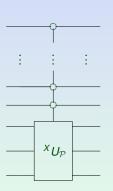
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The map $^{X}U_{\mathcal{P}}$, controlled on $|0...00\rangle$



```
This has matrix:

      B
      A
      0
      0
      0
      ...

      D
      C
      0
      0
      0
      ...

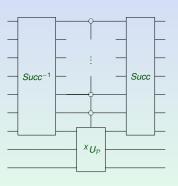
      0
      0
      I
      0
      0
      ...

      0
      0
      0
      I
      0
      ...

      0
      0
      0
      0
      I
      ...

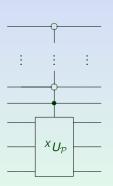
      :
      :
      :
      :
      :
      ...
```

The same thing, with the ancilla conjugated by the Succ



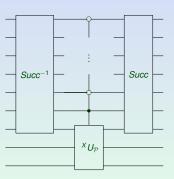
```
This has matrix:
```

The map $^{X}U_{\mathcal{P}}$, controlled on $|0...01\rangle$



```
This has matrix:
```

The same thing, with the ancilla conjugated by the Succ



```
This has matrix:

      I
      0
      0
      0
      0
      0
      ...

      0
      I
      0
      0
      0
      ...

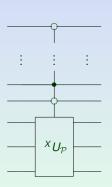
      0
      0
      I
      0
      0
      ...

      0
      0
      0
      B
      A
      0
      ...

      0
      0
      0
      D
      C
      0
      ...

      0
      0
      0
      0
      I
      ...
```

The map $^{X}U_{\mathcal{P}}$, controlled on $|0...10\rangle$



```
This has matrix:
                                                                                                                                                                                  \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix
```

This process continues for *T* steps.

What is the overall effect?

This is given by (very tedious) matrix multiplications:

Note the individual terms of the Resolution, in each column.

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```
 \begin{pmatrix} B & A & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots \\ BD & BC & A & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots \\ BD^2 & BDC & BC & A & \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots \\ BD^3 & BD^2C & BDC & BC & A & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots \\ BD^4 & BD^3C & BD^2C & BDC & BC & \cdots & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ BD^{T-1} & BD^{T-2}C & BD^{T-3}C & BD^{T-4}C & BD^{T-5}C & \cdots & A & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots \\ D^T & D^{T-1}C & D^{T-2}C & D^{T-3}C & D^{T-4}C & \cdots & C & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{0} & \cdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{1} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \cdots \end{pmatrix}
```

Note the individual terms of the Resolution, in each column.

What is the overall effect?

This is given by (very tedious) matrix multiplications:

Note the individual terms of the Resolution, in each column.

The effect of this matrix:

$$|1\rangle |S\rangle \longrightarrow |t_S - 1\rangle |H\rangle$$

Where:

- S is a starting state.
- H is the Resolution, applied to S
 - i.e. the corresponding halting state.
- t_S is the number of steps between S and H.



This is not the quantum state we are looking for ...

Consider two bounded Turing machine computations:

$$S \xrightarrow{t_S \text{ steps}} H$$

$$S' \xrightarrow{t_{S'} \text{ steps}} H'$$

When given the $superposition \ket{S} + \ket{S'}$, this procedure

produces $\ket{t_S}\ket{H}+\ket{t_{S'}}\ket{H'}$.

Unless $t_S = t_S$

We have entanglement between the ancilla, and the result.



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.

Unless $t_S = t_{S'}$

We have *entanglement* between the **ancilla**, and the **result**.

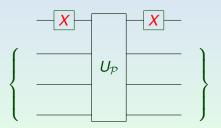


What to do next?

Repeat the same procedure ...

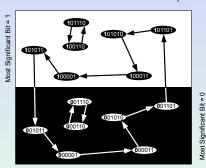
... using the *inverse* of $U_{\mathcal{P}}$, instead of $U_{\mathcal{P}}$ itself.

This has a convenient circuit form:



A reminder:

The "Primitive Evolution", \mathcal{P}



We compute \mathcal{P}^{-1} by

- Flipping the M.S.B.
- 2 Applying \mathcal{P}
- 3 Flipping the M.S.B. again.

This time, we continue for 2T steps.

What is the effect of this?

This then 'uncomputes' the computation just performed.

$$S \xrightarrow{B.T.M.} H \xrightarrow{Reversed B.T.M} S$$

The ancilla, counting the steps taken, is still increasing

$$|1\rangle |S\rangle \xrightarrow{Comp.} |t_S - 1\rangle |H\rangle \xrightarrow{Uncomp.} |2t_S - 2\rangle |S\rangle$$

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The natural next step:

We use the cyclic shift to divide the ancilla by 2.

The final section

For the final section:

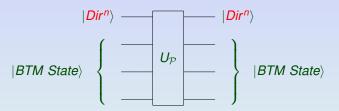
Repeat the first section, with the operations in the reverse order.

The intention:

Re-do the computation, with the ancilla decreasing.

We reverse everything ...

The (oracle for the) *Primitive Evolution is modified:*



After each application:

The "forward / reverse gear" qubit is flipped.

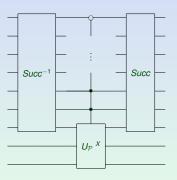
Call this operation $U_{\mathcal{P}}^{-\chi}$

As matrices:

$$U_{\mathcal{P}} = \left(\begin{array}{cc} A & B \\ C & D \end{array} \right)$$

$$U_{\mathcal{P}}^{X} = \begin{pmatrix} C & D \\ A & B \end{pmatrix}$$

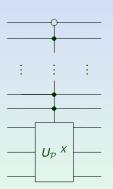
The map $U_{\mathcal{P}}^{X}$, controlled on $|01...11\rangle$ with the ancilla conjugated by the successor.

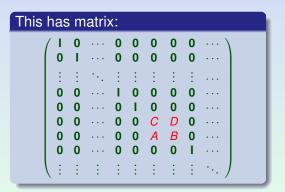


```
This has matrix:

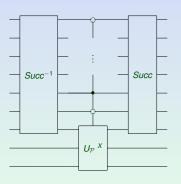
\[
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \dots
```

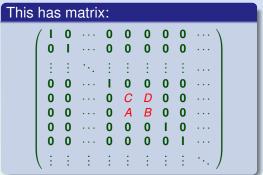
The same thing without the conjugation.



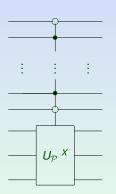


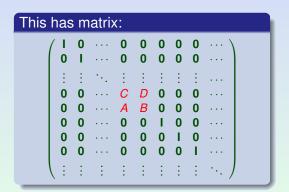
The map $U_{\mathcal{P}}^{X}$, controlled on $|01...10\rangle$ with the ancilla conjugated by the successor.





The same thing without the conjugation.





We continue this for ${\mathcal T}$ steps.

What is the overall operation?

This is given by (tedious) matrix multiplications:

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The effect of this matrix:

$$|t_{S-1}\rangle |S\rangle \longrightarrow |1\rangle |H\rangle$$

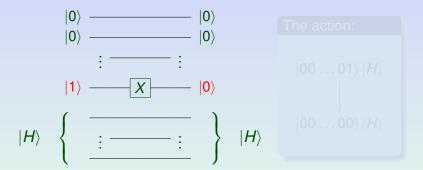
Where:

- S is our starting state.
- H is the Resolution, applied to S
 - i.e. the corresponding halting state.
- t_S is the number of steps between S and H.

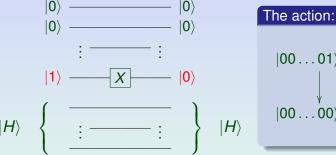
As a very last step:

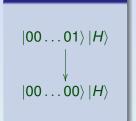


As a very last step:



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An overview of the whole process

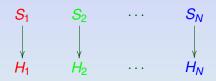
S is a starting state for the bounded Turing machine.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} |0\rangle \, |S\rangle \longrightarrow |1\rangle \, |S\rangle \longrightarrow |t_{S}-1\rangle \, |H\rangle \\ & \downarrow \\ |2t_{S}-2\rangle \, |S\rangle \\ \downarrow \\ |0\rangle \, |H\rangle \longleftarrow |1\rangle \, |H\rangle \longleftarrow |t_{S}-1\rangle \, |S\rangle \end{array}$$

H is the corresponding halting state.

What about superpositions?

Consider a series of BTM computations:



We run this procedure, starting with a superposition:

$$\alpha_1 |S_1\rangle + \alpha_2 |S_2\rangle + \ldots + \alpha_N |S_N\rangle$$

The action on superpositions

As the ancilla *starts* and *finishes* in a constant state $|0\rangle$,

It is not entangled with the result of the computation.

$$|0\rangle \otimes (\alpha_{1} |S_{1}\rangle + \alpha_{2} |S_{2}\rangle + \ldots + \alpha_{N} |S_{N}\rangle)$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$|0\rangle \otimes (\alpha_{1} |H_{1}\rangle + \alpha_{2} |H_{2}\rangle + \ldots + \alpha_{N} |H_{N}\rangle)$$

We have a genuine oracle for a bounded Turing machine.

A Coda:

"After my lecture, no one raised any objections, or asked any embarrassing questions. I must say this very fact proved a terrible disappointment to me."

- Niels Bohr (1952).