Is entanglement inevitable to process quantum information? On classical simulation of quantum protocols



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Quantum superposition – a pure state $|\psi\rangle$ differs from a classical mixture of quantum states (a point inside the Bloch ball)

Theory of classical information works with bits

Theory of quantum $|\psi_1\rangle, |\psi_2\rangle, |\psi_3\rangle \dots$ information relies on qubits: $|\psi_1>$ |0>|0>

1>

 $|\Psi_2|$

 $|\psi_3>$

- Advantages:
- 1> 1> Larger space of states allowed **a**) Larger set of operations available b)

Bipartite systems : {A,B} a) Separable (product) state - no correlations ! $|\psi_{sep}\rangle = |\psi_A, \psi_B\rangle = |\psi_A\rangle \otimes |\psi_B\rangle$

b) Entangled state (not product) – shows correlations $|\psi_{\text{ent}}\rangle \neq |\psi_A, \psi_B\rangle = |\psi_A\rangle \otimes |\psi_B\rangle$

Superposition of two bipartite states example: the Bell state

$$\left|\psi^+\right\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\left|00\right\rangle + \left|11\right\rangle\right)$$

Entangled state reveals quantum correlations present due to previous interactions between subsystems Quantum information processing makes use of : superposition of states and entanglement $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle)$

Applications:

- * quantum teleportation
- * quantum computing
- * quantum cryptography quantum metrology, simmulations quantum games, finances quantum machine learning !

Scheme of quantum teleportation



Making use of a Bell state Alice sends her unknown state C reconstructed by Bob

What is teleported ?

Scheme of quantum teleportation





Bennett et al. 1993

Making use of a Bell state Alice sends her unknown state C reconstructed by Bob

What is teleported ?

Quantum information !

quantum teleportation theory: Bennett et. al. 1993



quantum teleportation at 143 km, Canary Islands European Space Agency, 2012







Ground – to satellite quantum teleportation at 1400 km



group of J.-W. Pan, Nature 2017



Quantum computing: Shor's algorithm (1994) Factorization of a number M is as difficult as finding the period T of a periodic function, f(x)=f(x+T)

Quantum Fourier transform (QFT)

a unitary operation acting on *n* qubits with $M < 2^n$



Complexity measured by number of operations : classical ~ $\exp(M^{1/3})$ quantum ~ $M^3 \log M$

Pure-state realization of Shor's algorithm relies on quantum entanglement



time evolution of entanglement entropy between registers (Shor's algorithm for factoring 15), Kendon & Munro 2006

However, entanglement used does not correlate with the number factorised!

formalism of **density matrices** – so called **mixed states**

Set \mathcal{M}_N of all mixed states of size N

$$\mathcal{M}_{N} := \{ \rho : \mathcal{H}_{N} \to \mathcal{H}_{N}; \rho = \rho^{\dagger}, \rho \geq 0, \mathrm{Tr}\rho = 1 \}$$

example: $\mathcal{M}_2 = B_3 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ - Bloch ball with all pure states at the boundary

The set \mathcal{M}_N is compact and **convex**: $\rho = \sum_i a_i |\psi_i\rangle \langle \psi_i |$, where $a_i \ge 0$ and $\sum_i a_i = 1$.

It has N^2-1 real dimensions, $\mathcal{M}_N\subset \mathbb{R}^{N^2-1}.$



Entanglement of mixed quantum states

Mixed states of a bi-partite system, (A, B)

- separable mixed states: $\rho_{sep} = \sum_{j} \rho_{j} \rho_{j}^{A} \otimes \rho_{j}^{B}$ (**)
- entangled mixed states: all states not of the above product form.

How the set of separable / entangled states looks like?

Two-qubit mixed states

The maximal ball inscribed into $\mathcal{M}^{(4)}$ of radius $r_4 = 1/\sqrt{12}$ centred at $\rho_* = 1/4$ is separable !

Central ball is separable



K. Ž, P. Horodecki, M. Lewenstein, A. Sanpera, 1998

How to quantify entanglement?

Two-qubit mixed states

Degree of entanglement: a **distance** to the closest **separable state**



NMR quantum computing deals with mixed states





pure state,|ψ><ψ|</th>(at the Bloch sphere)

pseudo-pure state (shorter Bloch vector), ρ=1/N +a|ψ><ψ|</pre>

NMR realisation of Shor's algorithm

Vandersypen et al. 2001:



Uses states of a small purity which are separable!

No **entanglement** is used at all to factorize 15 = 3 x 5...

Contemporary implementations of Quantum Computing

Implementation method	Advantages	Disadvantages
NMR-based	Good decoherence time Room temperature operation	Slow gates Poor scalability
lon traps	Scalability	Slow gates Limitations on concurrent operations
Super-conducting circuits	Fast gates Advanced experimental demonstration	Low coherence time High sensitivity to background magnetic field

And others...

Some of proposed resources used in Quantum Computing

- Interference
- Entanglement
- Nonlocality
- Contextuality

Can we simulate some of it with classical systems?

Inspired by the *Toy Model* of **Rob Spekkens** (2004), **Niklas Johansson** and **Jan-Åke Larsson** (2017) designed **Quantum Simulation Logic**

Quantum simulation logic [QSL]

Quantum Inf Process (2017) 16:233 DOI 10.1007/s11128-017-1679-7



Efficient classical simulation of the Deutsch–Jozsa and Simon's algorithms

Niklas Johansson¹ · Jan-Åke Larsson¹

key idea:

Apart of two classical states, |0> and |1> mimic also two quantum states, |+> and |-> $|0\rangle$ $|-\rangle$ $|+\rangle$

States – preparation and available

space



Bit selected randomly from uniform distribution

- States in QSL consist of two bits, computational and phase bit.
- This gives a total of 4 available states.
- These correspond to North, South,
- "West" and "East" poles of the Bloch sphere.



Measurement of a state

 Measurement in QSL framework simply returns value of the computational bit



In order to be consistent with requirement that we can know only one bit of information at a time, the **phase bit** needs to be randomized, $p_0 = p_1 = 1/2$



One-qubit gates: **X** and **Z**:

$$\sigma_x = NOT = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

=negation of blue or red bit



Hadamard gate





= swap the wires: H|0>=|+> and H|1>=|->

Identities satisfied by one-qubit gates $\sigma_x^2 = \sigma_z^2 = H^2 = \mathbb{I}$



Two-qubit universal gate - CNOT



Identity for CNOT and Hadamards



Quantum teleportation: simulation scheme





Quantum teleportation simulated at the board



The scheme of Shor's Algorithm,



presented here for N=15 can be directly realized with the simulator !

Realization of Shor's Algorithm at room temperature Niklas Johansson and Jan-Ake Larsson, arXiv: 1706.0321 **factorisation of 15=3 x 5 with the simulator**



controlled multiplication 2^x mod 15

Concluding Remarks

- *Quantum entanglement* is often presented as the indispensable resource for quantum information processing.
- *Entanglement* is indeed used by **teleportation**, realized in the lab, between cities, islands and ground-to-satellite.
- However, many realizations (e.g. NMR quantum computing) in fact do not rely on *entanglement*.
- Quantum information processing can be simulated classically! Quantum simulation logic of Johansson and Larsson allows one to mimic quantum teleportation, and to realize Deutsch - Jozsa and Shor's algorithms.
- Which resources are really indispensable for quantum computing? (A crucial question still open !)

Key references

- R. Spekkens, In defense of the epistemic view of quantum states: a toy theory, Phys. Rev. A 75, 032110 (2007)
- **N. Johansson and J. Larsson**, Efficient classical simulation of the Deutsch-Jozsa and Simon's algorithms,

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• N. Johansson and J. Larsson, Realization of Shor's Algorithm at Room Temperature,

arXiv:1706.03215 [quant-ph]