Quantum algorithms: Shor's integer factoring quantum part

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Simon's algorithm: setting up for quantum Fourier transform

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The factoring problem

One way functions for cryptography

- 1. Multiplying two *b*-bit numbers: on order of b^2 time.
- 2. Best known classical algorithm to factor a *b*-bit number: on order of about $2\sqrt[3]{b}$ time.
- Makes multiplying large primes a candidate one-way function.
- It's an open question of mathematics to prove whether one way functions exist.

Public key cryptography

Numberphile YouTube channel explanation of RSA public key cryptography: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7kEpw1tn50

The factoring problem

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Quantum integer factoring algorithm

- Quantum algorithm to factor a *b*-bit number: b^3 .
- Peter Shor, 1994.
- Important example of quantum algorithm offering exponential speedup.

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The classical part: converting factoring to order finding / period finding

General strategy for the classical part

- 1. Factoring
- 2. Modular square root
- 3. Discrete logarithm
- 4. Order finding
- 5. Period finding

The fact that a quantum algorithm can support all these primitives leads to additional ways that future quantum computing can be useful / threatening to existing cryptography.

Factoring

$$N = pq$$
$$N = 15 = 3 \times 5$$

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Modular square root

Finding the modular square root

$$\int_{S}^{S} mod N \equiv q$$

$$\int_{S}^{2} - q \mod N \equiv 0$$

$$\int_{S+2}^{2} - q \mod N \equiv 0$$

$$\int_{S+2}^{2} - q \mod N \equiv 0$$

$$\int_{S}^{2} - q \mod N \equiv 0$$

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Trivial roots would be $s = \pm 1$.

- Are there other (nontrivial) square roots?
- For N = 15, $s = \pm 4$, $s = \pm 11$, $s = \pm 14$ are all nontrivial square roots. (Show this).
- Later in these slides, we will see how nontrivial square roots are useful for factoring.

Discrete log



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- 1. Pick a that is relatively prime with N.
- 2. Efficient to test if relatively prime by finding GCD using Euclid's algorithm. For example, a=6 and n=15.

Exercise: list the possible *a*'s for N = 15. $Z, \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{T}, \mathcal{F}, [1, 13, 14]$



- 1. Pick *a* that is relatively prime with *N*.
- 2. Efficient to test if relatively prime by finding GCD using Euclid's algorithm. For example, a = 6 and n = 15.

So now our factoring problem is:

$$a^{r} \mod N = 1$$

$$a^{r} \equiv 1 \mod N$$

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$$A^{r} = 1 \mod N$$

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$$A^{r} = 1 \mod N$$

In fact, this algorithm for finding discrete log even more directly attacks other crypto primitives such as Diffie-Hellman key exchange.



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Period finding

In other words, the problem by now can also be phrased as finding the period of a function.

$$f(x) = f(x+r)$$

Where

$$f(x) = a^x = a^{x+r} \mod N$$

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Find *r*.

What to do after quantum algorithm gives you *r*

- ► If r is odd or if $a^{\frac{r}{2}} + 1 \equiv 0 \mod N$, abandon.
- There is separate theorem saying no more than a quarter of trials would have to be tossed.

Exercise: try for a = 14.

$$\frac{2}{7}$$

$$A = 14$$

$$C = 14 = 14 = 15 = 0 \mod N.$$

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What to do after quantum algorithm gives you *r*

• If r is odd or if
$$a^{\frac{r}{2}} + 1 \equiv 0 \mod N$$
, abandon.

There is separate theorem saying no more than a quarter of trials would have to be tossed.

Exercise: try for a = 14.

Otherwise, factors are GCD($a^{\frac{r}{2}} \pm 1$, N) a=2 r=4 | $2^{2} \pm 1 = 4 \pm 1$ a=4 r=2 | $4^{1} \pm 1 = 4 \pm 1$ a=7 r=4 | $7^{2} \pm 1 = 49 \pm 1$ a=8 r=4 | $8^{2} \pm 1 = 64 \pm 1$ a=11 r=2 | $11^{1} \pm 1 = 11 \pm 1$ a=13 r=4 | $13^{2} \pm 1 = 169 \pm 1$ $a=14 - r=2 | -14^{2} \pm 1 = 196 \pm 1$ (bad case) Notice why we discarded 14. Proof why this works and why factoring is modular square root

 $a^r \equiv 1 \mod N$

So now $a^{\frac{r}{2}}$ is a nontrivial square root of 1 mod N.

$$a^{r} - 1 \equiv 0 \mod N \implies (a^{\frac{r}{2}} - 1)(a^{\frac{r}{2}} + 1) \equiv 0 \mod N$$
The above implies that
$$(a^{\frac{r}{2}} - 1)(a^{\frac{r}{2}} + 1) \equiv 0 \mod N$$
is an integer. So now we have to prove that
$$(a^{\frac{r}{2}} - 1)(a^{\frac{r}{2}} + 1) (a^{\frac{r}{2}} - 1) = kN$$

$$(a^{\frac{r}{2}} - 1)(a^{\frac{r}{2}} + 1) = 0 \mod N$$

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Proof why this works and why factoring is modular square root

Suppose $\frac{a^{\frac{r}{2}}-1}{N}$ is an integer that would imply

$$a^{\frac{r}{2}} - 1 \equiv 0 \mod N$$

 $a^{\frac{r}{2}} \equiv 1 \mod N$

but we already defined *r* is the smallest such that $a^r \equiv 1 \mod N$, so there is a contradiction, so $\frac{a^{\frac{r}{2}}-1}{N}$ is not an integer.

Suppose $\frac{a^{\frac{r}{2}}+1}{N}$ is an integer that would imply

 $a^{rac{r}{2}}+1\equiv 0 \mod N$

but we already eliminated such cases because we know this doesn't give us a useful result.

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The quantum part: period finding using quantum Fourier transform

After picking a value for *a*, use quantum parallelism to calculate modular exponentiation: $a^x \mod N$ for all $0 \le x \le 2^n - 1$ simultaneously.

▶ Use interference to find a global property, such as the period *r*.

Calculate modular exponentiation



- Image source: Huang and Martonosi, Statistical assertions for validating patterns and finding bugs in quantum programs, 2019.
- A good source on how to build the controlled adder, controlled multiplier, and controlled exponentiation is in Beauregard, Circuit for Shor's algorithm using 2n+3 qubits, 2002.

Calculate modular exponentiation

State after applying modular exponentiation circuit is

$$rac{1}{\sqrt{2^n}}\sum_{x=0}^{2^n-1}\ket{x}\ket{f(x)}$$

Concretely, using our running example of N = 15, need n = 4 qubits to encode, and suppose we picked a = 2, the state would be

$$\frac{1}{4}\sum_{x=0}^{15}|x\rangle |2^x \mod 15\rangle$$

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Measurement of target (bottom, ancillary) qubit register

We then measure the target qubit register, collapsing it to a definite value. The state of the upper register would then be limited to:

$$rac{1}{\sqrt{A}}\sum_{a=0}^{A-1}|x_0+ar
angle$$

Concretely, using our running example of N = 15, and suppose we picked a = 2, and suppose measurement results in 2, the upper register would be a uniform superposition of all |x⟩ such that 2^x ≡ 2 mod 15:

$$rac{|1
angle}{2}+rac{|5
angle}{2}+rac{|9
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angle}{2}$$

The key trick now is can we extract the period r = 4 from such a quantum state. We do this using the quantum Fourier transform.

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