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**CS290A, Spring 2005:**

**Quantum Information &  
Quantum Computation**

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# Administrivia

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- Thursday, May 12: Talk by M. Steffen on “Nuclear Magnetic Resonance” (NMR) quantum computing.
- Handout will contain explanation of an efficient implementation of the quantum Fourier transform.
- Again, Final will be an exam *à la* last week’s Midterm
- Questions?

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# Recapitulation

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- There is no straightforward quantum algorithm to solve NP-complete problems ( $\Theta(\sqrt{N})$  bound on searching).
- We have to look at problems that —we think—are not in P (classically) but not NP-complete either.
- [Shor'94] Quantum computers can efficiently solve Factoring and Discrete Logarithms. This is done by the quantum algorithm for **period finding** (using the **quantum Fourier transform**).

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# Quantum Fourier Transform

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Consider the mod  $N$  numbers  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1\}$ .  
The “Quantum Fourier Transform over  $\mathbb{Z}_N$ ” is  
defined for each  $x \in \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}$  by

$$|x\rangle \mapsto \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} e^{2\pi i \cdot xy / N} |y\rangle$$

Hence for each superposition over mod  $N$ :

$$\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \alpha_x |x\rangle \mapsto \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \alpha_x \cdot e^{2\pi i \cdot xy / N} |y\rangle$$

Important fact: The QFT can be efficiently implemented  
in circuit size  $\text{poly}(\log(N))$  for each  $N$ .

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# Periodicity Problem

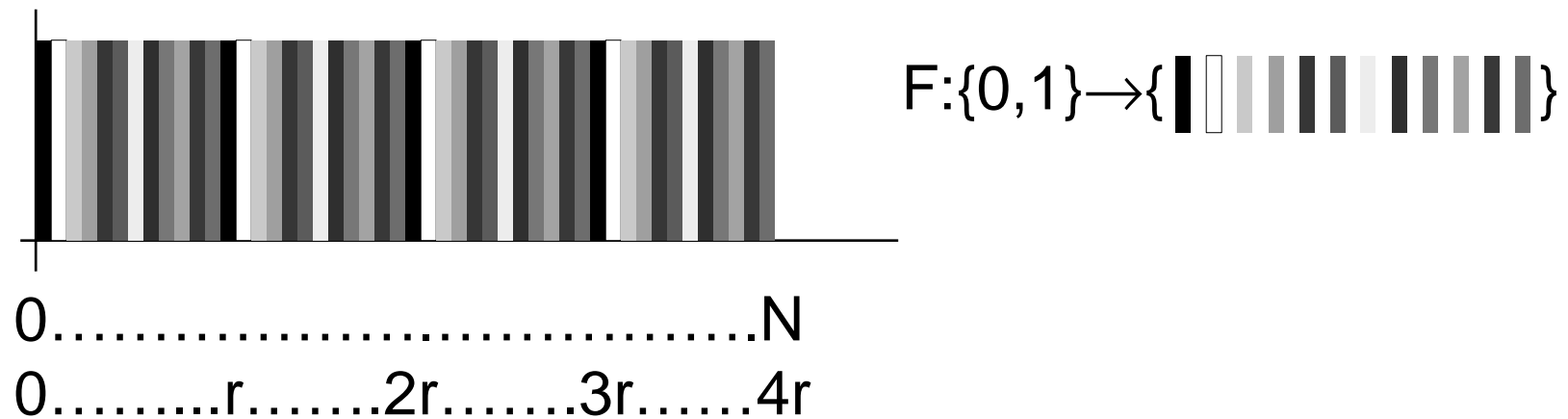
Consider function  $F:\{0,\dots,N-1\} \rightarrow S$

Assume that:  $F$  has period  $r$

$F$  is bijective on its period

$$F(x) = F(y) \text{ if and only if } x = y \pmod r$$

Task: determine  $r$  (efficiently  $\sim \text{poly}(\log N)$ )



# Periodicity Algorithm

1) Create superposition of  $F(x)$  values:  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} |x, F(x)\rangle$

2) Measure the rightmost  $F$ -register. This will give a random value  $F(c)$ , and because of the periodicity  $F(c) = F(c+r) = F(c+2r) = \dots$  the left state is now:

$$\sqrt{\frac{r}{N}} \sum_{t=0}^{\frac{N}{r}-1} |tr + c\rangle$$

3) Apply the Fourier transform over  $\{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}$ , yielding

$$\frac{\sqrt{r}}{N} \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} \zeta_N^{jc} \left( \sum_{t=0}^{\frac{N}{r}-1} \zeta_N^{jtr} \right) |j\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{r}} \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} \zeta_N^{ck \frac{N}{r}} |k \cdot \frac{N}{r}\rangle$$

4) Measure, the value  $kN/r$  can be used to determine  $r$ .  
(Repeat if necessary).

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# Use of Periodicity Finding?

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The quantum algorithm for periodicity finding works for a “black box function”  $F$  as long as it has the right properties ( $F$  is periodic, and unique within its period).

You can prove that any classical algorithm requires  $\Theta(\text{poly}(r))$  time steps to solve the same problem.

We want to use this quantum subroutine to solve **natural problems** that are defined without reference to a black box function. That is: we want to look at explicit functions  $F$ .

Bad Example: The function  $F(x) = x \text{ MOD } r$  has the right characteristics, but is easy classically.

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# A Hard Periodic Function

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Take a (large) integer  $N$ , and an element  $x \in \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}$  with  $\gcd(N, x) = 1$  (such that  $x$  has an inverse mod  $N$ ).

The function  $F: t \mapsto x^t \bmod N$  will be ‘proper periodic’.

As  $F(0) = 1$ ,  $F(1) = x, \dots$ ;  $F(r) = F(0) = 1$  shows that  $x^r = 1 \bmod N$ .

With the quantum algorithm for period finding, we can efficiently solve the problem:

“Given  $N$  and  $x$ , determine  $r$  such that  $x^r = 1 \bmod N$ ”.

Classically, this appears to be a hard problem.



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# Side Comments

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- For the quantum algorithm to work, we have to efficiently implement the function  $F:t \mapsto x^t \bmod N$ .
- This can be done by the “repeated squaring trick”: We can calculate  $x \mapsto x^2 \mapsto x^4 \mapsto x^8 \bmod N \dots$  fast; hence we can calculate  $x^t \bmod N$  in time  $\text{poly}(\log t)$ .
- Initially, we do not know the period  $r$  of  $F:\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{0, \dots, N-1\}$ , so we have to ‘guess’ how many  $F(0), F(1), F(2), \dots$  we want to evaluate in the superposition. You can show that  $F(0), \dots, F(\approx N)$  is sufficient. (Period finding is a robust algorithm: small mistakes in the function  $F$  do not matter.)

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# Factorizing by Period Finding

How to find a non-trivial factor of an integer N?

- Sketch of the algorithm using Period Finding mod N:
  1. Pick random  $x < N$  with  $\gcd(x, N) = 1$
  2. Determine smallest  $r$  such that:  $x^r = 1 \pmod{N}$
  3. If  $r$  is even (\*), note that

$$(x^{r/2} - 1)(x^{r/2} + 1) = 0 \pmod{N}$$

4. Possible that  $x^{r/2} - 1$  or  $x^{r/2} + 1$  will share a non-trivial factor with  $N$  (use gcd for this) (\*).
- (\*) All this succeeds with high enough probability. Repeat if necessary.

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# Discrete Log Problem

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- Let  $G$  be a finite group and take two elements  $Y$  and  $X$ , determine the power  $k$  such that  $X^k=Y$ , or “ $\log_X(Y) = ?$ ”
- This takes place in the cyclic group  $\langle X \rangle = \{1, X, X^2, \dots\}$ .
- Solving the Discrete Log Problem, also solves:
  - Diffie-Hellman problem
  - ElGamal Encryption (used for example in PGP)
  - Elliptic Curve Cryptography

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# Discrete Log Algorithm (1)

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- First, determine order (M) of  $\langle X \rangle = \{1, X, \dots, X^{M-1}\}$ .
- Next, create 'double superposition' and calculate

$$\frac{1}{M} \sum_{s,t=0}^{M-1} |s, t, 0\rangle \mapsto \frac{1}{M} \sum_{s,t=0}^{M-1} |s, t, Y^s \cdot X^t\rangle$$

- “ $X^k=Y$ ” tells us that this equals  $\frac{1}{M} \sum_{s,t} |s, t, X^{ks+t}\rangle$
- Observe right register (assume outcome “ $X^c$ ”)

# Discrete Log Algorithm (2)

- Measuring “c” gives  $\frac{1}{M} \sum_{s,t=0}^{M-1} |s, t, X^{ks+t}\rangle \mapsto \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \sum_{s=0}^{M-1} |s, c - ks, X^c\rangle$

- Apply double QFT to two left registers

$$\mapsto \frac{1}{M} \sum_{s=0}^{M-1} \sum_{i=0}^{M-1} \zeta_M^{is} |i\rangle \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \zeta_M^{j(c-ks)} |j\rangle$$

- This equals:

$$= \frac{1}{M\sqrt{M}} \sum_{i,j=0}^{M-1} \zeta_M^{jc} \left( \sum_{s=0}^{M-1} \zeta_M^{s(i-jk)} \right) |i, j\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \zeta_M^{jc} |jk, j\rangle$$

destructive interference for  $i \neq jk \pmod{M}$

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# Discrete Log Algorithm (3)

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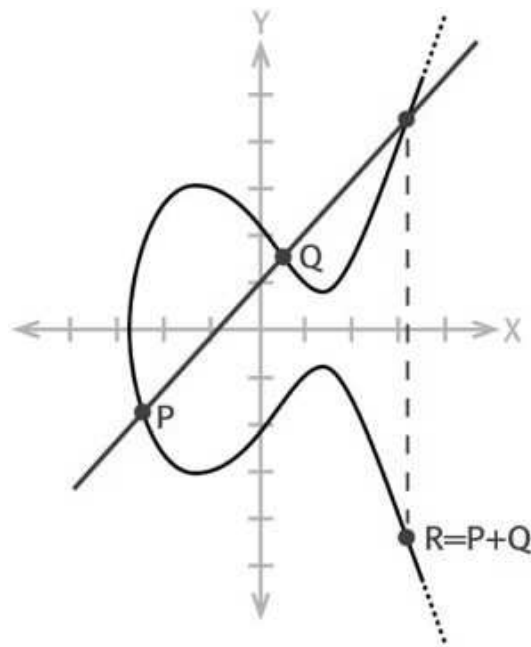
- Discrete Log Problem  $(X, Y)$  can be solved by:
  - Determine order  $X$  (let this be  $M$ )
  - Create superposition of  $(s, t) \in \{0, 1, \dots, M-1\}^2$
  - Calculate function  $s, t \rightarrow Y^s \cdot X^t$
  - Apply two Fourier's over  $(s, t) \in \{0, 1, \dots, M-1\}^2$
  - Read out  $(s, t)$  register;  
the outcome will be  $(jk, j)$  for some random  $j$
  - With high probability  $j$  is invertible mod  $M$ ,  
if so, use  $(jk, j)$  to conclude  $k = jk/j \pmod M$
  - This succeeds with high probability.

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# Elliptic Curve Cryptography

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- Elliptic curve cryptography is based on the group that you can make of an elliptic curve (over a finite field).



The group operation  $+$  is defined in a nontrivial way, but it works.

The problem is: “Given  $P$  and  $Q$ , determine  $k$  such that  $k \cdot P = Q$ .”  
Appears to be hard classically, but can be broken quantumly the same way logarithms are solved.

(Instead of multiplication mod  $M$ , we have addition over the curve.)