



Classical verification of quantum computational advantage

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Theory collaborators:

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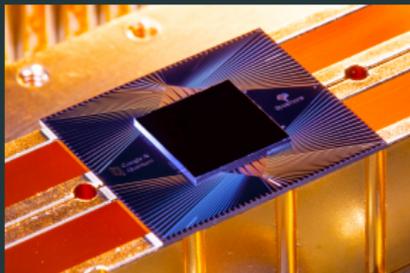
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Soonwon Choi (MIT Physics)

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Quantum computational advantage

Recent experimental demonstrations:



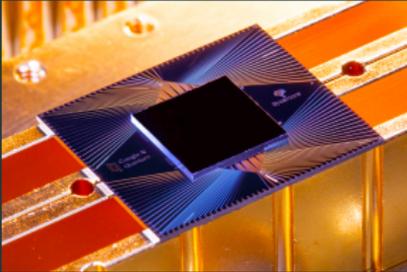
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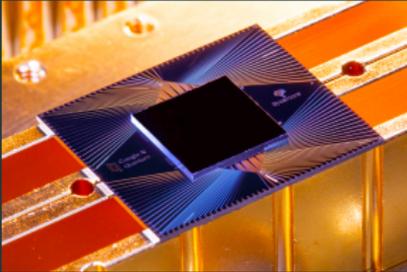


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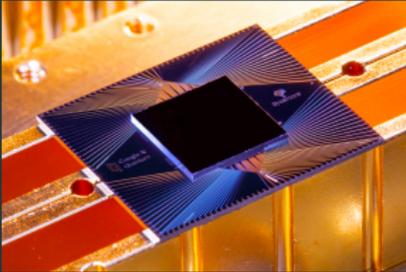
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Quantum is the only reasonable explanation for observed behavior

“Black-box” proofs of quantumness

Efficiently-verifiable test that only quantum computers can pass.

“Black-box” proofs of quantumness

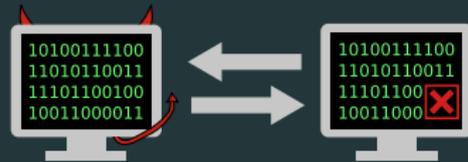
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For polynomially-bounded classical verifier:



Completeness

\exists BQP prover s.t. Verifier accepts w.p. $> 2/3$



Soundness

\forall BPP provers, Verifier accepts w.p. $< 1/3$

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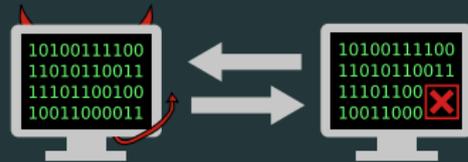
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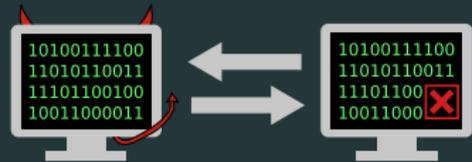
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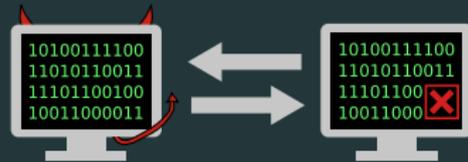
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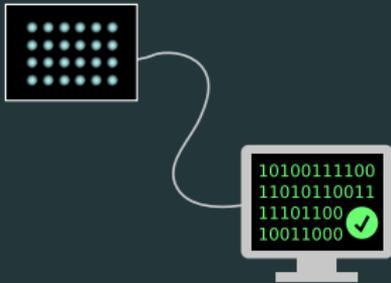
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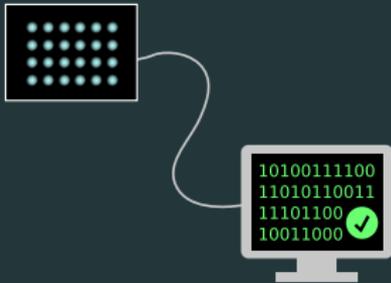
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Local: powerfully refute the extended Church-Turing thesis

“Black-box” proofs of quantumness

Efficiently-verifiable test that only quantum computers can pass.



Local: powerfully refute the extended Church-Turing thesis



Remote: validate an untrusted quantum cloud service

NISQ verifiable quantum advantage

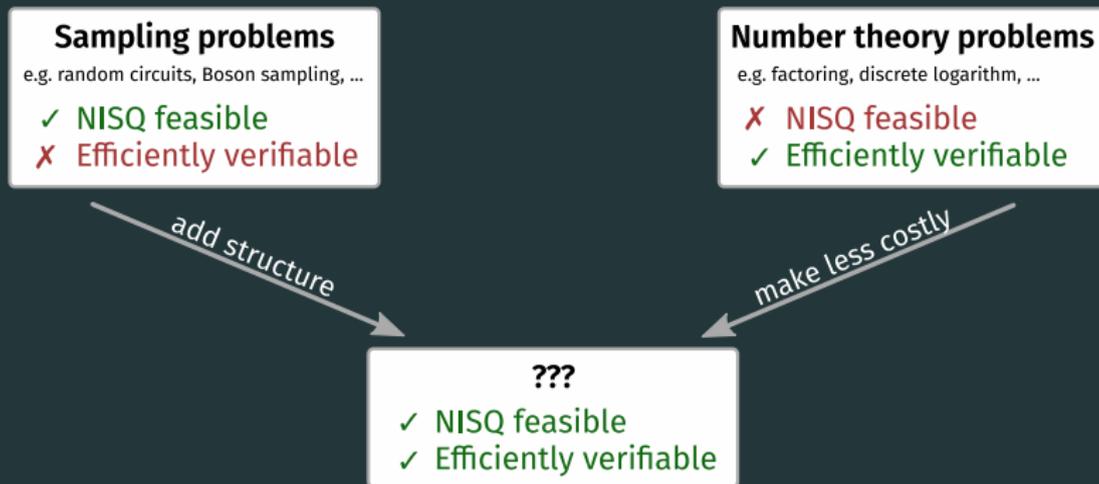
Trivial solution: Shor's algorithm

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Adding structure to sampling problems

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The point of random circuits is that they **don't** have structure!

IQP circuits [Shepherd and Bremner, '08]:

- Hide a secret string \mathbf{s} in the quantum circuit
- Set up circuit so it is *biased* to generate samples \mathbf{x} with $\mathbf{x}^T \cdot \mathbf{s} = 0$.

IQP circuits [Shepherd and Bremner, '08]

Consider a matrix $P \in \{0, 1\}^{k \times n}$ and “action” θ .

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Example:

$$H = X_0 X_1 X_3 + X_1 X_2 X_4 X_5 + \dots \quad (1)$$

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$$\Pr[\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}] = \left| \langle \mathbf{x} | e^{-iH\theta} | \mathbf{0} \rangle \right|^2 \quad (2)$$

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Bremner, Jozsa, Shepherd '11: classically sampling worst-case IQP circuits would collapse polynomial hierarchy

Bremner, Montanaro, Shepherd '16: average case is likely hard as well

IQP proof of quantumness [Shepherd and Bremner, '08]

Let $\theta = \pi/8$, and s (secret) and P have the form:

$$P = \left[\begin{array}{c} G \\ \hline R \end{array} \right]$$

G^\top is generator of Quadratic Residue code, R random.

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$$\Pr[\mathbf{X}^T \cdot \mathbf{s} = 0] = \mathbb{E}_x \left[\cos^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{8} (1 - 2\text{wt}(G\mathbf{x})) \right) \right]$$

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Conjecture [SB '08]: Scrambling P cryptographically hides G (and equivalently s)

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Assuming s hidden, can classical do better than 0.5? Try to take advantage properties of embedded code.

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Consider choosing random $d \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0, 1\}^n$, and letting

$$y = \sum_{\substack{p \in \text{rows}(P) \\ p \cdot d = 1}} p$$

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$$\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{s} = \text{wt}(G\mathbf{d}) \pmod{2}$$

QR code codewords are 50% even parity, 50% odd parity.

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Then:

$$y \cdot s = (Gd) \cdot (Ge) \pmod{2}$$

Fact: $(Gd) \cdot (Ge) = 1$ iff Gd, Ge both have odd parity.

IQP: Classical strategy [SB '08]

Quantum: $\Pr[X^\top \cdot \mathbf{s} = 0] \approx 0.85$

Classical: $\Pr[Y^\top \cdot \mathbf{s} = 0] = 0.75$

Consider choosing random $\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{e} \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \{0, 1\}^n$, and letting

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Then:

$$\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{s} = (G\mathbf{d}) \cdot (G\mathbf{e}) \pmod{2}$$

Fact: $(G\mathbf{d}) \cdot (G\mathbf{e}) = 1$ iff $G\mathbf{d}, G\mathbf{e}$ both have odd parity.

Thus $\mathbf{y} \cdot \mathbf{s} = 0$ with probability $3/4$!

IQP: Can we do better classically? [GDKM '19 arXiv:1912.05547]

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Can solve for s ! ... If M has high rank. Empirically it does!

IQP: can it be fixed?

- Attack relies on properties of QR code

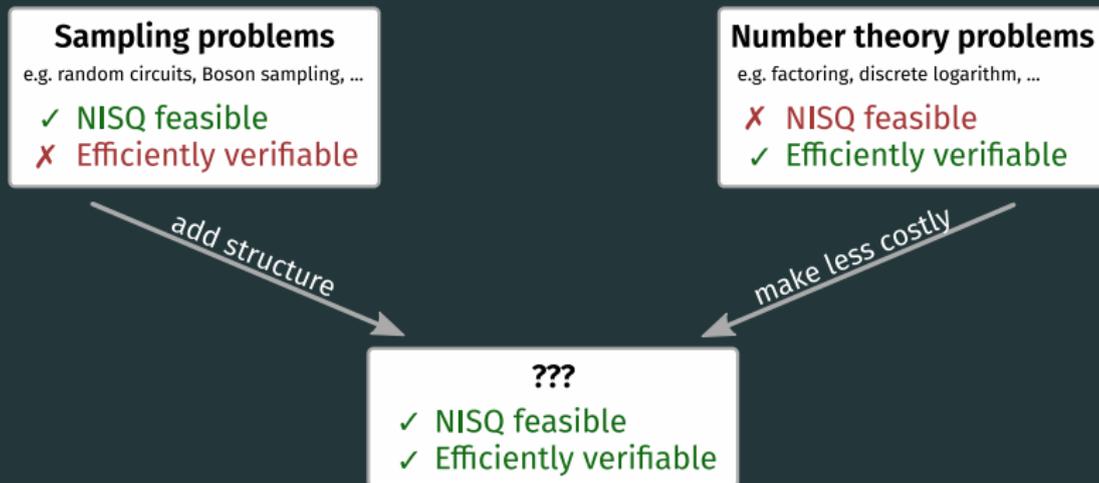
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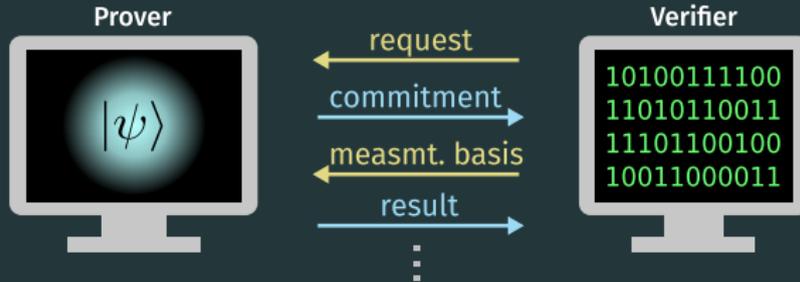
IQP: can it be fixed?

- Attack relies on properties of QR code
- Could pick a different G for which this attack would not succeed?
- Ultimately, would like to rely on standard cryptographic assumptions...

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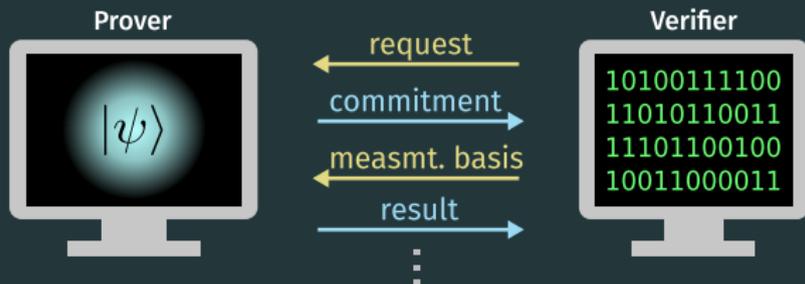
Interactive proofs of quantumness



Round 1: Prover **commits** to a specific quantum state

Round 2+: Verifier asks for measurement in specific **basis**

Interactive proofs of quantumness



Round 1: Prover **commits** to a specific quantum state

Round 2+: Verifier asks for measurement in specific **basis**

By randomizing choice of basis and repeating interaction, can ensure prover would respond correctly in *any* basis

Brakerski, Christiano, Mahadev, Vidick, Vazirani '18 (arXiv:1804.00640).

Can be extended to verify arbitrary quantum computations! (arXiv:1804.01082)

State commitment (round 1): trapdoor claw-free functions

How does the prover commit to a state?

Consider a **2-to-1** collision-resistant (claw-free) function f .

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Evaluate f on uniform
superposition

$$\sum_x |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$$

Measure 2nd register as y



Pick 2-to-1 function f

Store y as commitment

Prover has committed to the state $(|x_0\rangle + |x_1\rangle) |y\rangle$

LWE protocol

Prover



Evaluate f on uniform
superposition: $\sum_x |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$
Measure 2^{nd} register as y

Verifier



Pick trapdoor claw-free
function f
Compute x_0, x_1 from y using
trapdoor

$\longleftarrow f$

$\longrightarrow y$

LWE protocol

Prover



Evaluate f on uniform
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Measure 2nd register as y

Measure qubits of
 $|x_0\rangle + |x_1\rangle$ in given basis

Verifier



Pick trapdoor claw-free
function f

Compute x_0, x_1 from y using
trapdoor

Pick standard or Hadamard
basis

Validate result against x_0, x_1

← f

→ y

← basis

→ result

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\xleftarrow{f}

\xrightarrow{y}

$\xleftarrow{\text{basis}}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{result}}$

Subtlety: claw-free does *not* imply hardness of
generating measurement outcomes!

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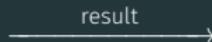


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basis

Validate result against x_0, x_1



Subtlety: claw-free does *not* imply hardness of
generating measurement outcomes!

Learning-with-Errors TCF has **adaptive hardcore bit**

Trapdoor claw-free functions

TCF	Trapdoor	Claw-free	Adaptive hard-core bit
LWE [1]	✓	✓	✓
$x^2 \bmod N$ [3]	✓	✓	✗
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Can we remove AHCB in the standard model of cryptography?

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LWE protocol

Prover



Evaluate f on uniform
superposition: $\sum_x |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$
Measure 2^{nd} register as y

Measure qubits of
 $|x_0\rangle + |x_1\rangle$ in given basis

Verifier



Pick trapdoor claw-free
function f

Compute x_0, x_1 from y using
trapdoor

Pick standard or Hadamard
basis

Validate result against x_0, x_1

\xleftarrow{f}

\xrightarrow{y}

$\xleftarrow{\text{basis}}$

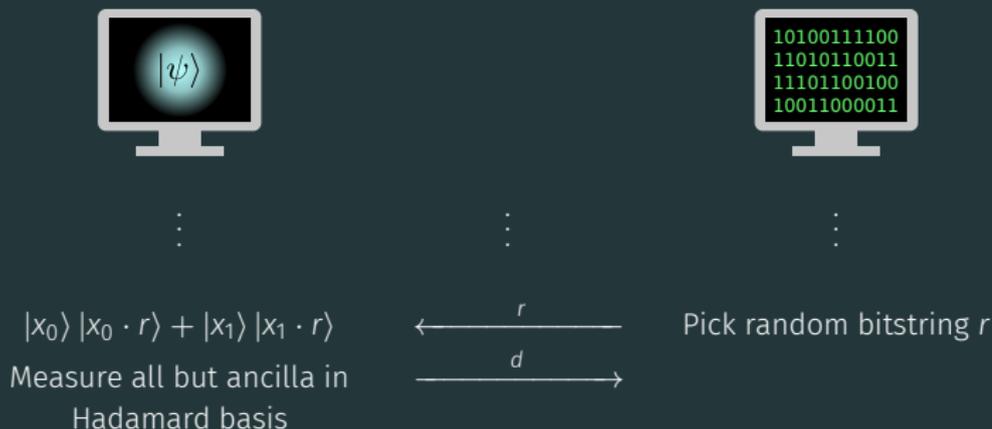
$\xrightarrow{\text{result}}$

Replace Hadamard basis measurement with “1-player CHSH”

Brakerski, Christiano, Mahadev, Vidick, Vazirani '18 (arXiv:1804.00640)

Interactive measurement: computational Bell test

Replace Hadamard basis measurement with two-step process:
“condense” x_0, x_1 into a single qubit, and then do a “Bell test.”



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⋮

$|x_0\rangle |x_0 \cdot r\rangle + |x_1\rangle |x_1 \cdot r\rangle$
Measure all but ancilla in
Hadamard basis

⋮



⋮

Pick random bitstring r

Now single-qubit state: $|0\rangle$ or $|1\rangle$ if $x_0 \cdot r = x_1 \cdot r$, otherwise $|+\rangle$ or $|-\rangle$.

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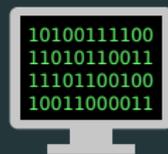
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Polarization hidden via:

Cryptographic secret (here) \Leftrightarrow Non-communication (Bell test)

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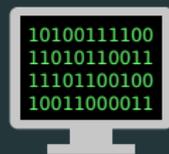
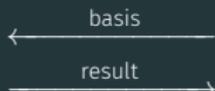


⋮

$|x_0\rangle |x_0 \cdot r\rangle + |x_1\rangle |x_1 \cdot r\rangle$
Measure all but ancilla in
Hadamard basis

Measure qubit in basis

⋮



⋮

Pick random bitstring r

Pick $(Z + X)$ or $(Z - X)$ basis

Validate against r, x_0, x_1, d

Computational Bell test: classical bound

Run protocol many times, collect statistics.

p_S : Success rate for standard basis measurement.

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Note: Let $p_s = 1$. Then for p_{CHSH} :

Classical bound 75%, ideal quantum $\sim 85\%$. Same as regular CHSH!

GDKM, Choi, Vazirani, Yao '21 (arXiv:2104.00687)

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 - Need to implement public-key crypto. on a superposition

Partial measurements in the lab



Trapped Ion Quantum Information lab at U. Maryland

Working on demonstration of protocols in trapped ions!



Prof. Christopher Monroe



Dr. Daiwei Zhu



Dr. Crystal Noel

and others!

Partial measurements in the lab



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A horizontal dark blue bar containing a line of blurred white text on the left side.

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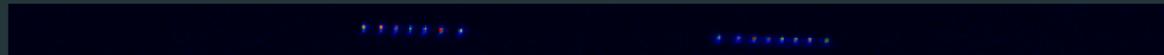
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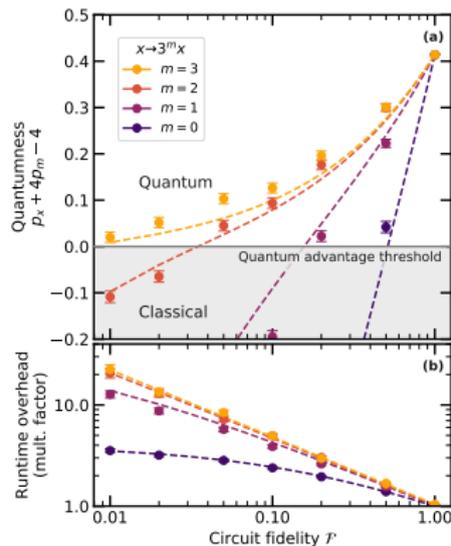
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When we generate $\sum_x |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$, **add redundancy to $f(x)$, for bit flip error detection!**

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Numerical results for $x^2 \bmod N$ with $\log N = 512$ bits.

Here: make transformation $x^2 \bmod N \Rightarrow (kx)^2 \bmod k^2N$

Improving circuit sizes

Most demanding step in all these protocols: evaluating TCF

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Protocol allows us to make circuits irreversible!

Technique: taking out the garbage

$$\text{Goal: } \mathcal{U}_f |x\rangle |0^{\otimes n}\rangle = |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$$

When converting classical circuits to quantum:

Garbage bits: extra entangled outputs due to unitarity



Classical AND



Quantum AND (Toffoli)

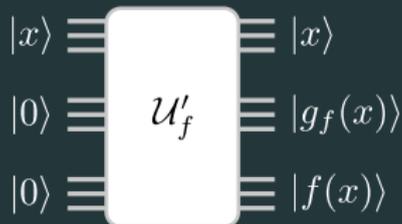
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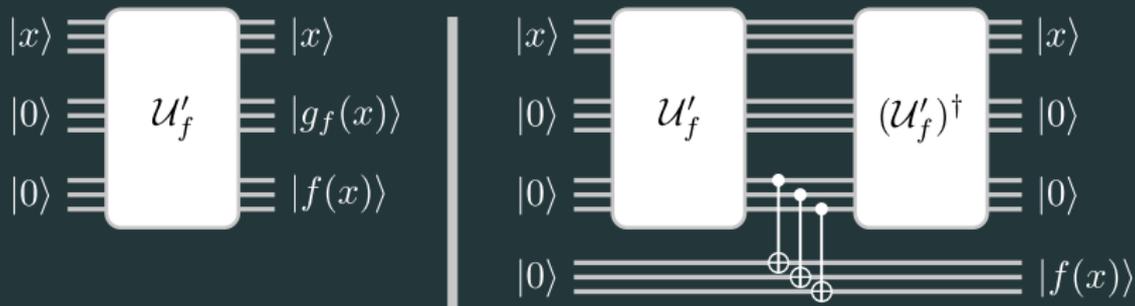
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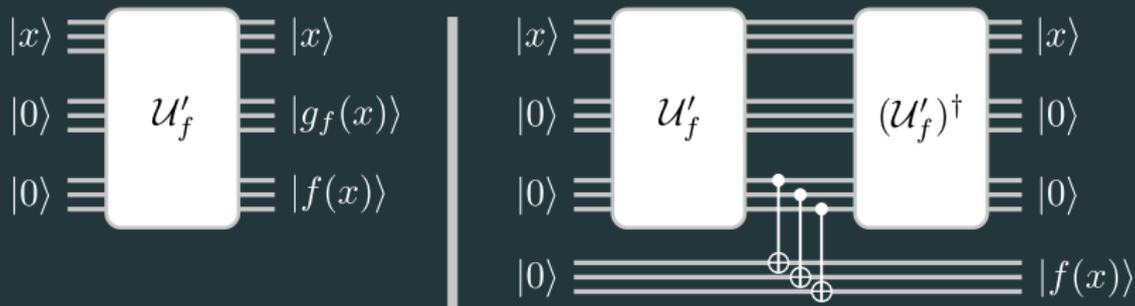
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Lots of time and space overhead!

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Can we “measure them away” instead?

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1024-bit $x^2 \bmod N$ costs only 10^6 Toffoli gates.

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Way outside the box?

Backup!

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2. Choose random invertible $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{k \times k}$ for $k > \log q$

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Trapdoor functions from DDH [1, 2]: linear algebra in the exponent

Gen(1^λ)

1. Choose group \mathbb{G} of order $q \sim \mathcal{O}(2^\lambda)$, and generator g
2. Choose random invertible $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{Z}_q^{k \times k}$ for $k > \log q$
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Security proof: Given g^M , DDH hides rank of M . Inversion would imply algorithm to determine if M is full rank.

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Let $d \sim \mathcal{O}(k^2)$. Define two functions $f_b : \mathbb{Z}_d^k \rightarrow \mathbb{G}^k$:

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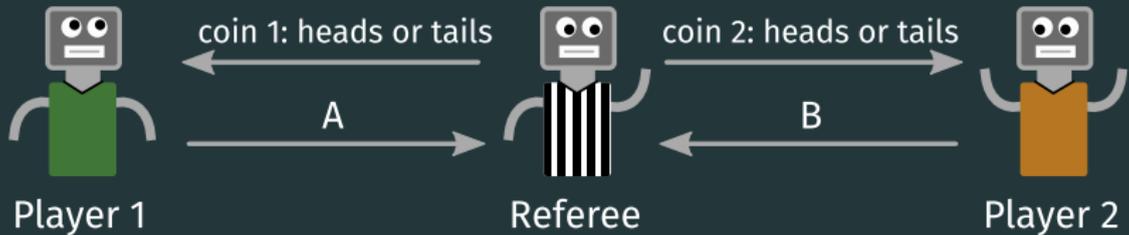
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- Via elliptic curves, can significantly reduce space requirement
- But quantum circuit for group operation is **complicated**
- Need to perform as many group operations as Shor's algorithm!
- Reversible Euclidean algorithm is hard, maybe irreversible optimization can help?

The CHSH game (Bell test)

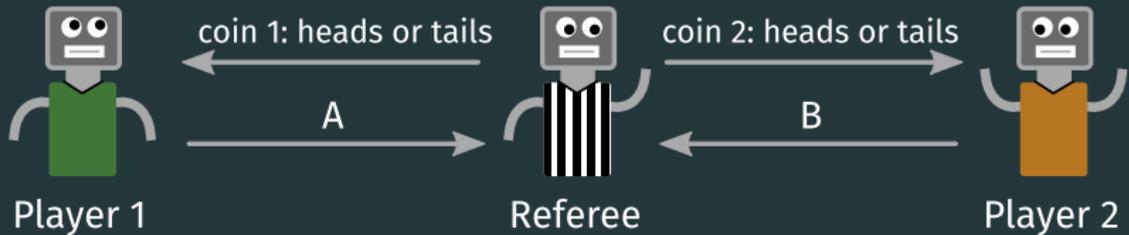
Two-player cooperative game.



If anyone receives tails, want $A = B$. If both get heads, want $A \neq B$.

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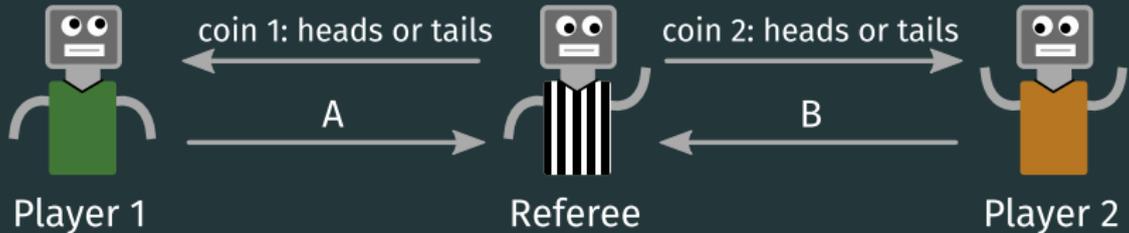


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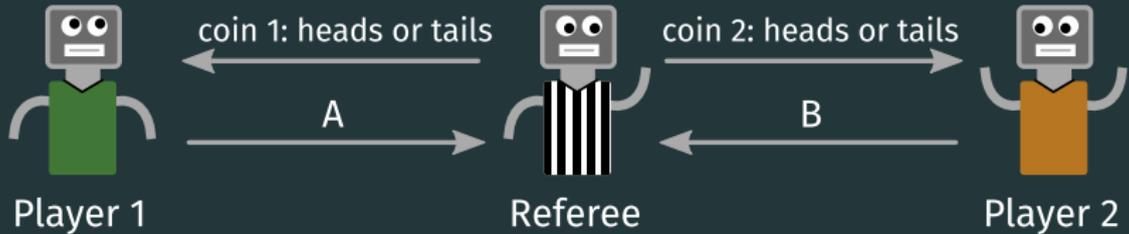
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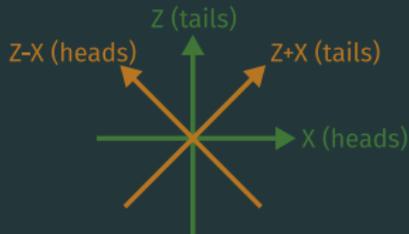
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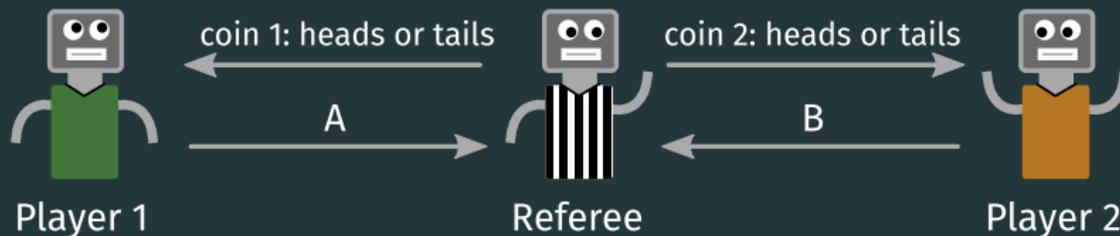
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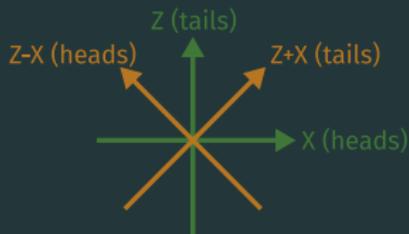
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Two players sharing a Bell pair:



Quantum: $\cos^2(\pi/8) \approx 85\%$
Classical: 75%

Full protocol



Prover (quantum)



Verifier (classical)

Round 1

2. Generate state $\sum_{x=0}^{N/2} |x\rangle_x |f_i(x)\rangle_y$
3. Measure y register, yielding bitstring y
State is now $(|x_0\rangle + |x_1\rangle)_x |y\rangle_y$;
y register can be discarded

If preimage requested:

- 6a. Projectively measure x register, yielding x

Otherwise, continue:

Round 2

- 7b. Add one ancilla b ; use CNOTs to compute $|r \cdot x_0\rangle_b |x_0\rangle_x + |r \cdot x_1\rangle_b |x_1\rangle_x$, where $r \cdot x$ is bitwise inner product
- 8b. Measure x register in Hadamard basis, yielding a string d . Discard x , state is now $|\psi\rangle_b \in \{|0\rangle, |1\rangle, |+\rangle, |-\rangle\}$

Round 3

- 11b. Measure ancilla b in the rotated basis $\left\{ \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) |0\rangle + \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) |1\rangle, \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) |1\rangle - \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) |0\rangle \right\}$, yielding a bit b

f_i

y

choice

x

r

d

m

b

1. Sample $(f_i, t) \leftarrow \text{Gen}(1^n)$

4. Using trapdoor t compute x_0 and x_1

5. Randomly choose to request a preimage or continue

- 7a. If $x \in \{x_0, x_1\}$ return Accept

- 6b. Choose random bitstring r

- 9b. Using r, x_0, x_1, d , determine $|\psi\rangle_b$

- 10b. Choose random $m \in \{\frac{\pi}{4}, -\frac{\pi}{4}\}$

- 11b. If b was likely given $|\psi\rangle_b$ return Accept