

Bounds for Quantum Circuits using Logic-Based Analysis

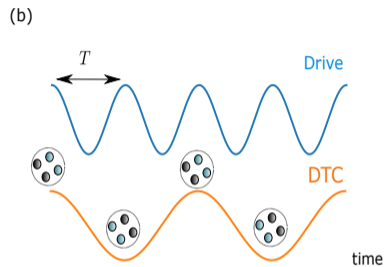
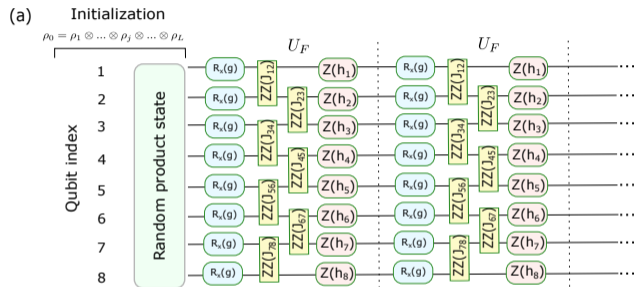
Benedikt Fauseweh, Ben Hermann, and **Falk Howar**

TU Dortmund University

Feb 24, 2025



Many-Body Localized Discrete Time Crystals



- Non-equilibrium phase of matter characterized by a spontaneous breaking of discrete time-translation symmetry, resulting in a subharmonic response that spontaneously breaks the periodicity of an external drive
- Despite significant interest, the existence of MBL-DTCs remains an open question due to the potential instability of the underlying MBL phase

A more complete discussion in the paper ...

Analysis of Quantum Circuits

QSE Challenge

Circuit developers want to design circuits that stay within correct sub-space

- Reasoning non-trivial, requires deep insight into mechanics of quantum program and underlying theory
- Showing bounds would reduce need for full quantum simulation
- But: No methods to proof that a circuit stays within sub-space, yet

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Idea for a Solution

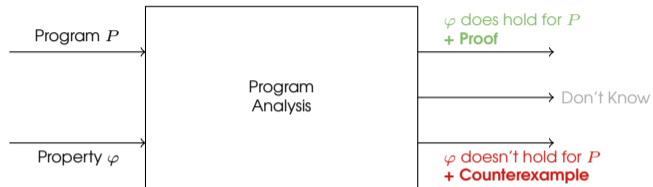
Adapt and **scale** symbolic verification techniques to quantum circuits

- Today's quantum software formulated as circuits
- Automated Reasoning and symbolic techniques had big impact in (classic) hardware verification
- After hardware: big impact on software (e.g. driver verification at MicroSoft)

Outline

- Logic-based analysis of quantum circuits and challenges
- Tactics for scaling verification
- Initial results

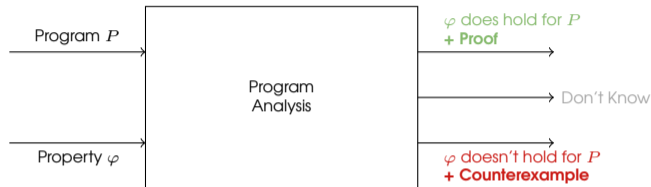
Program Analysis



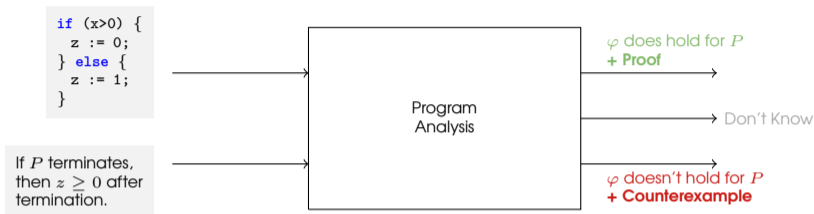
Program Analysis

```
if (x>0) {  
  z := 0;  
} else {  
  z := 1;  
}
```

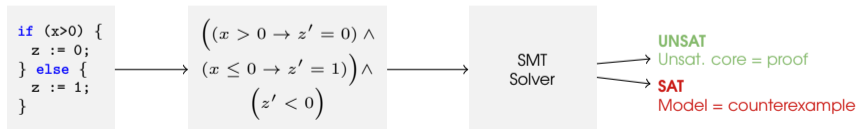
If P terminates,
then $z \geq 0$ after
termination.



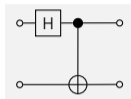
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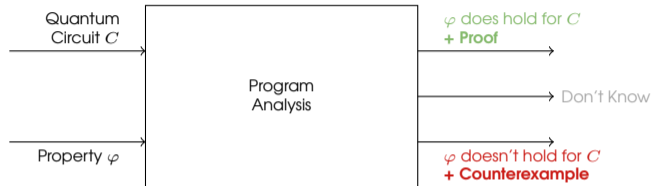
Many different techniques exist. Here: Encoding as SMT problem $P \wedge \neg\varphi$:



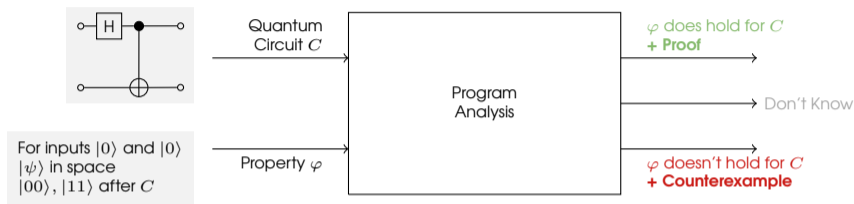
Program Analysis



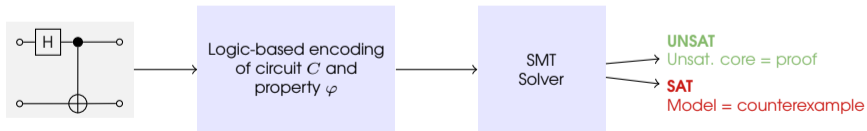
For inputs $|0\rangle$ and $|0\rangle$
 $|\psi\rangle$ in space
 $|00\rangle, |11\rangle$ after C



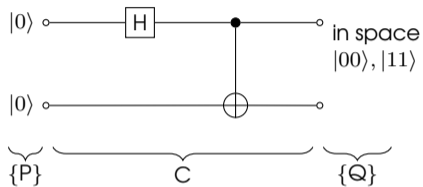
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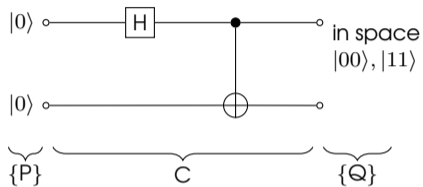


Logic-Based Encoding of Quantum Circuits



$$|\psi\rangle := c_{00}|00\rangle + c_{01}|01\rangle + c_{10}|10\rangle + c_{11}|11\rangle$$

Logic-Based Encoding of Quantum Circuits



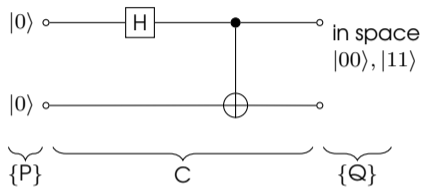
$$|\psi\rangle := c_{00}|00\rangle + c_{01}|01\rangle + c_{10}|10\rangle + c_{11}|11\rangle$$

$$H := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$CNOT := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Cf. Bauer-Marquart et al., FM 2023

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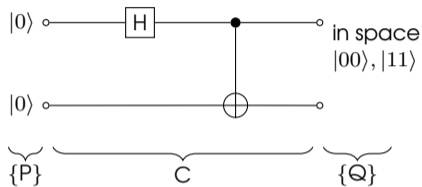
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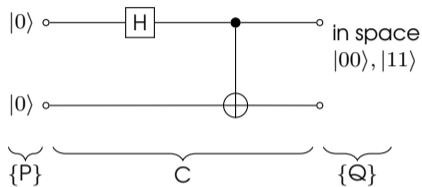
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$$Q := (c_{01}^2 = 0) \wedge (c_{10}^2 = 0)$$

Cf. Bauer-Marquart et al., FM 2023

Challenges

- **Size of logic encoding exponential in number of qubits**

- k -qubit state described by 2^k **complex** coefficients

- 2^k **complex** coefficients can be modeled by 2^{k+1} **real coefficients and nonlinear real arithmetic**

Different from challenges in classic program verification: loops, function calls, memory allocation, concurrency

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- **Size of logic encoding exponential in number of qubits**

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- **Some gate effects are described by elementary functions**

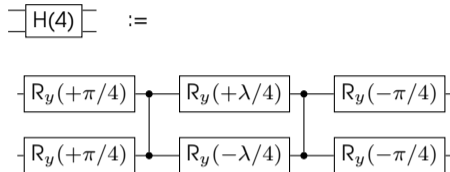
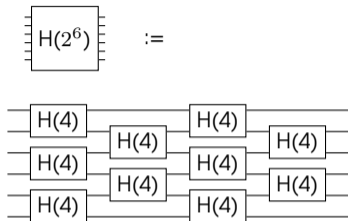
- Rotations are described by **trigonometric functions**
- Hadamard is described using $\sqrt{2}$

Different from challenges in classic program verification: loops, function calls, memory allocation, concurrency

Two tactics for scaling verification:

decomposition and **abstraction / over-approximation**

A Slightly Bigger Example: $H(2^6)$



Structure:

- 6 qubits = 64 complex coefficients = 128 real state variables
- Hierarchical composition of 10 $H(4)$ circuits
- Each $H(4)$: 6 rotations and 2 CZ gates
- Rotations parameterized by λ

Properties:

- $H(2^6)$ preserves expected Hamming weight
- $H(4)$ preserves expected Hamming weight

$$\text{HW}[\psi_{in}] = \text{HW}[\psi_{out}]$$

$$\text{HW}(|\psi\rangle) = \sum_{i=0}^{2^n-1} w(i) \cdot |c_i|^2$$

Example from Anselmetti et al., New Journal of Physics, 2021

Tactic 1: Decomposition

Compositional Verification

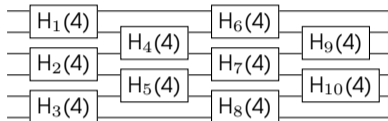
- C sequential composition of sub-circuits C_1, \dots, C_n .
- Local properties A_1, \dots, A_n such that
 - $C_i \models A_i$ for $1 \leq i < n$, and
 - $A_1 \wedge \dots \wedge A_n \models \varphi$.
- Schema establishes $C_1 \wedge \dots \wedge C_n \models \varphi$

(In the paper we show a compositional verification scheme for pre- and post-conditions)

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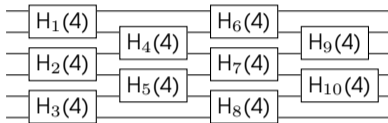


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For $1 \leq i \leq 10$:

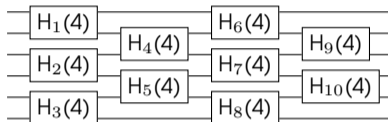
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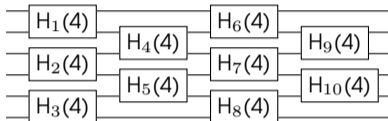
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Establishes $H_i(2^6) \models \text{HW}[\psi_0] = \text{HW}[\psi_{10}]$

(In the paper we show a compositional verification scheme for pre- and post-conditions)

Leveraging Additional Lemmata

In the n -qubit system, the total expected Hamming weight can be written as:

$$\text{HW}[\psi] := \sum_{k \neq i, j} \langle \psi | \frac{1 - Z_k}{2} | \psi \rangle + \langle \psi | \frac{1 - Z_i}{2} + \frac{1 - Z_j}{2} | \psi \rangle$$

As a result, it suffices to prove $H_i(4) \models \text{HW}[\psi_{in}] = \text{HW}[\psi_{out}]$ on a 2-qubit state

Tactic 2: Abstraction and Over-Approximation

■ (Precise) Abstraction

- Summarize effect of multiple gates in simplified form
- Proof obligation: simplified form equivalent to concrete representation

■ Over-Approximation

- Replace complex representation by over-approximation
- May produce spurious counterexamples

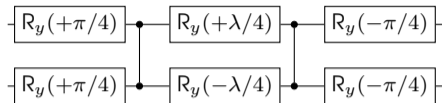
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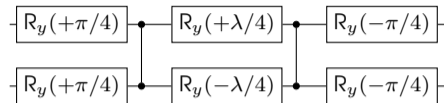
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Abstraction:

$$H(4) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c & +s & 0 \\ 0 & -s & c & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{for } \begin{array}{l} c := \cos(\lambda/2) \\ s := \sin(\lambda/2) \end{array}$$

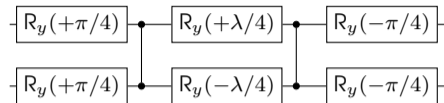
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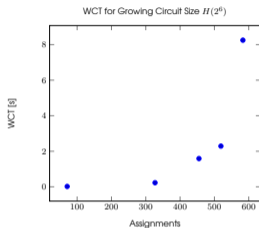
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Over-Approximation:

We only require that $0 \leq s, c \leq 1$ and that $s^2 + c^2 = 1$

Initial Results



Results for examples in slides:

- Techniques work
- Do not increase efficiency on H+CNOT
- Enable verification for $H(2^6)$
- Projection to 2-qubit state increases efficiency by order of magnitude

Example	Encoding			Analysis	
	Vars	Ass.	Logic	Res.	wct [s]
H+CNOT	25	26	LRA [†]	✓	0.005
H+CNOT, C1	17	11	LRA [†]	✓	0.005
H+CNOT, C2	17	11	LRA [†]	✓	0.003
H+CNOT, P+A1	9	3	LRA [†]	✓	0.004
$H(2^6)$, naive	10370	5191	TRIG	-	DNS
$H(2^6)$, precise	3330	1671	TRIG	-	DNS
$H(2^6)$	1412	647	NRA	d/k	DNF
$H(2^6)$, 9/10	1284	583	NRA	✓	8.25
$H(2^6)$, 8/10	1156	519	NRA	✓	2.29
$H(2^6)$, 7/10	1028	455	NRA	✓	1.59
$H(2^6)$, 5/10	772	327	NRA	✓	0.23
$H(2^6)$, 1/10	260	71	NRA	✓	0.02
H(4)	20	15	NRA	✓	0.01

†: over-approximated $1/\sqrt{2}$, **DNS**: did not attempt to solve, **DNF**: timeout after 30 min

Summary, Open Questions, and Future Work

Summary:

- Logic-based verification for quantum circuits with hierarchical structure
- Scalability through compositional verification, abstraction, and over-approximation

Initial Results:

- Techniques applicable to studied circuits
- Techniques increase performance significantly

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Open Questions (Decomposition):

- Can we automate generation of assumptions?
- Can we generate useful decompositions from
 - hierarchical circuit design,
 - static analysis (e.g. clone detection),
 - data flow analysis?

Open Questions (Scalability):

- Can the approach be automated or will it have to be interactive?
- Potential of abstraction and over-approximation?
- More lemmata that enable projection to sub-circuits?

Compositional Verification for H-CNOT Example

Compositional Argument:

Schema for pre- and post-conditions:

$$\begin{aligned}P &\models A_1 \\A_1 \wedge H &\models A_2 \\A_2 \wedge \mathbf{CNOT} &\models Q \\P \wedge H \wedge \mathbf{CNOT} &\models Q\end{aligned}$$

Over-Approximation:

Use c and assumption $c \neq 0$
instead of $\sqrt{2}$

$$P := (c_{00}^0 = 1) \wedge (c_{01}^0 = 0) \wedge (c_{10}^0 = 0) \wedge (c_{11}^0 = 0)$$

$$A_1 := \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_{01}^0 + c_{11}^0) = 0\right) \wedge \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_{01}^0 - c_{11}^0) = 0\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}H := &(c_{00}^1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_{00}^0 + c_{10}^0)) \wedge (c_{01}^1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_{01}^0 + c_{11}^0)) \wedge \\&(c_{10}^1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_{00}^0 - c_{10}^0)) \wedge (c_{11}^1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(c_{01}^0 - c_{11}^0))\end{aligned}$$

$$A_2 := (c_{01}^1 = 0) \wedge (c_{11}^1 = 0)$$

$$\mathbf{CNOT} := (c_{00}^2 = c_{00}^1) \wedge (c_{01}^2 = c_{01}^1) \wedge (c_{10}^2 = c_{11}^1) \wedge (c_{11}^2 = c_{10}^1)$$

$$Q := (c_{01}^2 = 0) \wedge (c_{10}^2 = 0)$$