

# Computing with Infinite Groups

with Applications to Quantum Computation

Emmanuel Jeandel

LIP, École Normale Supérieure de Lyon (France)

[emmanuel.jeandel@ens-lyon.fr](mailto:emmanuel.jeandel@ens-lyon.fr)

- Definitions : Gates, completeness.
- Algorithm to test for completeness.
  - Problem in terms of algebraic groups;
  - Previously known algorithms for infinite groups;
  - The algorithm.

- A qubit is a vector of norm 1 in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ .

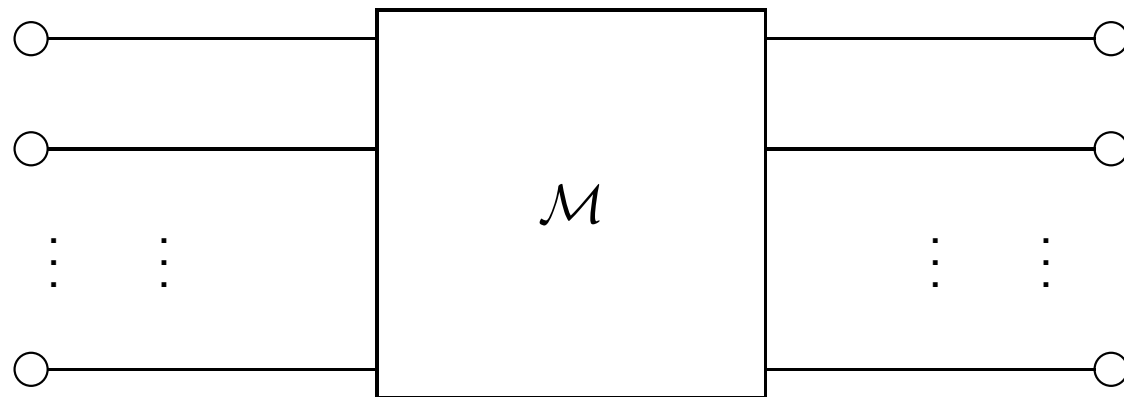
The canonical basis of  $\mathbb{C}^2$  is denoted by  $|0\rangle, |1\rangle$ .

The qubit  $\phi = \alpha |0\rangle + \beta |1\rangle$  represents a system which is simultaneously in the states 0 and 1, with respective amplitudes  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . If the system is observed, it becomes the constant qubit  $|0\rangle$  with probability  $|\alpha|^2$  and the constant qubit  $|1\rangle$  with probability  $|\beta|^2$ .

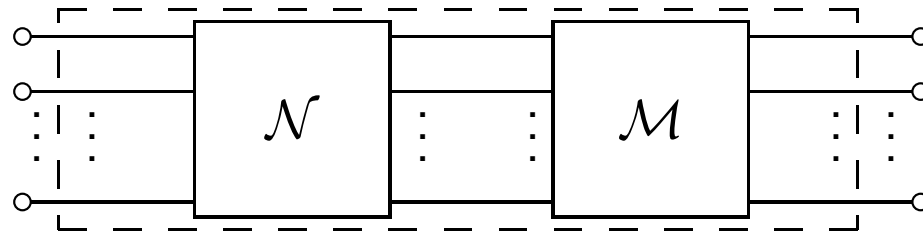
- A quantum state is a vector of norm 1 in  $(\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n}$ . The canonical basis of  $(\mathbb{C}^2)^{\otimes n}$  will be denoted by  $|\omega\rangle$  where  $\omega$  is a word over  $\{0, 1\}$  of length  $n$ .
- A quantum state is then a vector  $\phi = \sum_{\omega} \alpha_{\omega} |\omega\rangle$  with  $\sum |\alpha_{\omega}|^2 = 1$ .

- A quantum gate  $M$  represents the basic operation on a quantum state. It is an operation that maps quantum states into quantum states.
- Due to the particular structure of quantum states, a quantum gate  $M$  over  $n$  qubits is a unitary matrix of dimension  $2^n$ . (More exactly, a quantum gate is an element of  $U_{2^n}/U_1$ )
- A quantum circuit over  $S$  is a circuit obtained from quantum gates  $M_i$  in  $S$  by applying a finite set of operations.

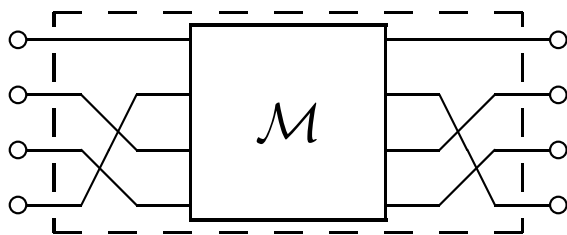
A QUANTUM GATE



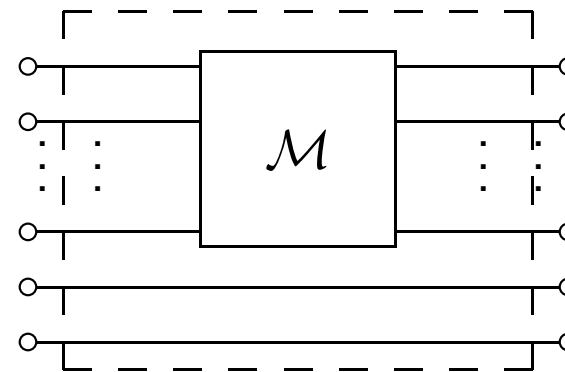
# OPERATIONS ON QUANTUM GATES



(a) The multiplication  $\mathcal{M}\mathcal{N}$  (composition of circuits)



(b)  $\mathcal{M}[\sigma]$  (permutations of wires)



(c) The operation  $\mathcal{M} \otimes \mathcal{I}$

- Let  $S$  be a (finite) set of gates over  $n$  qubits.
- Denote by  $\mathcal{G}_p(S)$  the set of gates over  $p$  qubits obtained by circuits over  $S$ , and by  $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_p(S)$  its euclidean closure (the set of gates we can approximate by circuits over  $S$ ).
- $\mathcal{G}_p(S)$  is generated by all matrices of the form  $(M \otimes \mathcal{I}_{n-p})[\sigma]$ , where  $M \in S$ , hence is finitely generated if  $S$  is.
- $S$  is said to be complete if every gate over  $n$  qubits can be obtained from  $S$  :  $\overline{\mathcal{G}}_n(S) = U_{2^n}$  or more accurately  $U_1 \overline{\mathcal{G}}_n(S) = U_{2^n}$ .

- The set of all gates over 2 qubits.
- Barenco, 1995 : The gate

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{i\alpha} \cos \theta & -ie^{i(\alpha-\phi)} \sin \theta \\ 0 & 0 & -ie^{i(\alpha+\phi)} \sin \theta & e^{i\alpha} \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

Where  $\phi, \alpha, \theta$  are fixed irrational multiples of  $\pi$  and of each other.



How to prove that the set  $S$  is complete ?

- Show how to approximate every unitary operation by a quantum circuit in  $S$  ;
- Given a complete set  $S'$ , show how to approximate every operation of  $S'$  by quantum circuits ;
- Use specific properties of  $\mathcal{G}(S)$ , the set of quantum circuits generated by  $S$  (object of this talk)

- $\mathcal{G}(S)$  is finitely generated, given that  $S$  is finite;
- $\overline{\mathcal{G}}(S)$  is always a group (we can approximate the gate  $A^{-1}$  by successive iterations of the gate  $A$ );
- $\overline{\mathcal{G}}(S)$  is even a compact group, hence algebraic : There exists polynomials  $p_1 \dots p_k$  in  $x_{ij}$  (entries of the matrix) such that

$$M \in \overline{\mathcal{G}}(S) \iff p_1(M) = p_2(M) = \dots = p_k(M) = 0$$

- [Derksen, EJ, Koiran, 2003] There exists a general algorithm that compute polynomials  $p_i$  for finitely generated algebraic groups. However, the complexity of the algorithm makes him uninteresting for practical purposes;

## COMPLETENESS IN TERMS OF GROUPS

- Deciding if a finite set of gates is complete is the same as deciding if a finitely generated subgroup of  $U_n$  is dense in  $U_n$
- More generally, how to prove that some finitely generated subgroup of an algebraic group  $G$  is dense in  $G$  ?

Density in algebraic groups is defined with the Zariski Topology :  $H$  is dense in  $G$  if every polynomial which is identically zero on  $H$  vanishes on  $G$ .

What are we able to compute about finitely generated matrix groups ?

- [Babai, Beals and Rockmore, 1993] There exists a polynomial time algorithm that decides if such a group is finite ;
- [Beals, 1997] There exists a polynomial time algorithm that decides if such a group is abelian-by-finite, nilpotent-by-finite. . .
- [Ge, 1993] There exists a polynomial time algorithm that decides if two finitely generated groups of diagonal matrices generate the same algebraic group.

Inputs are assumed to be in a finite extension  $\mathbb{F}$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ , given by an irreducible polynomial.

Our problem, for a given group  $G$  and a finite extension  $\mathbb{F}$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$  :

- Input : Matrices  $X_1 \dots X_m \in \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F})$ .  
 $X_1 \dots X_m$  generate an algebraic group  $H$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- Problem : Is  $H = G$  ?

Is there a polynomial time algorithm to solve this problem ?

As  $G$ ,  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $n$  are **not** part of the input, complexity is in terms of the size of the coefficients of the matrices.

- For which group  $G$  is there a polynomial time algorithm ?

Due to Ge's algorithm, we know this is true when  $G$  is a group of diagonal matrices.

- Given generators of  $G$ , we can easily compute  $\text{env } G$ , the vector space generated by the matrices in  $G$ .
  - Set  $E = \mathbb{R}\mathcal{I}$ .
  - While there exists  $\mathcal{X}_i$  such that  $E \neq \mathcal{X}_i E$ , then  $E = E + \mathcal{X}_i E$
- We can also easily compute  $\text{env } \phi(G)$  for any morphism  $\phi$ .
- We may obtain in this way a representation of  $G/Z(G)$  : Consider the morphism  $\psi$  such that  $\psi(M)$  is the matrix that represents the automorphism  $\text{env } G : X \mapsto MXM^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(M) = I &\iff \forall X \in \text{env } G, MXM^{-1} = X \\ &\iff \forall X \in G, MXM^{-1} = X \\ &\iff M \in Z(G) \end{aligned}$$

- Let  $G$  be a simple (connected) group, that is  $G$  has no normal non trivial subgroup.
- To prove that  $H$  is dense in  $G$ , it is therefore sufficient to prove that the algebraic group generated by  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  and that  $H$  is infinite.
- Denote by  $\phi(X)$  the automorphism  $\mathcal{M} \mapsto X\mathcal{M}X^{-1}$ . We want to know if  $\forall X \in G, \phi(X)H = H$ .
- As  $H$  is obviously a normal subgroup of  $H$ , it is enough to prove  $\phi(\overline{H}) = \phi(G)$ .

- Idea : Test only if they span the same (linear) subspace.

$H$  is dense in  $G$  if and only if  $H$  is infinite and  $\text{env } \phi(H) = \text{env } \phi(G)$

- Sketch of Proof : We use the Lie group structure of  $G$  : Instead of testing if  $\overline{H} = G$ , we test if the two groups have the same Lie Algebra.

The condition ensures that the Lie Algebra  $\mathfrak{h}$  of  $H$  is an ideal of the Lie Algebra  $\mathfrak{g}$  of  $G$ , which is a simple Lie Algebra. Hence  $\mathfrak{h} = \mathfrak{g}$  or  $\mathfrak{h} = 0$ . As  $H$  is infinite, the latter is not possible.

For every simple group  $G$ , there exists a polynomial time algorithm which decides if a finitely generated group  $H$  of  $G$  is dense in  $G$ .



- All the classical groups  $SO_n, n \geq 3, SU_n, n \geq 2$  are standard examples of simple groups, with the remarkable exception of the group  $SO_4$ .
- The isometry group of the isocahedron, which may be seen as a finite subgroup of  $SO_3$  provides an example of a finite group  $H$  such that  $\text{env } \phi(H) = \text{env } \phi(G)$ .

- A semisimple group  $G$  has only finitely many normal subgroups  $G_i$ .

$H$  is dense in  $G$  if and only if  $\text{env } \phi(H) = \text{env } \phi(G)$  and for all normal subgroups  $G_i$ ,  $H/G_i$  is infinite

- To test if  $H/G_i$  is infinite, we need a representation of  $G/G_i$  that is a morphism  $\psi_i : G \mapsto \text{GL}_p$  such that  $\psi(X) = I \iff X \in G_i$ . The existence of such a morphism is guaranteed by classical theorems.

For every semisimple group  $G$ , there exists a polynomial time algorithm which decides if a finitely generated group  $H$  of  $G$  is dense in  $G$ .

The algorithm depends of the given group  $G$ , as we need the morphisms  $\psi_i$ .

## SEMISIMPLE GROUPS : EXAMPLES

- $SO_4$  contains two normal subgroups

$$\sigma_1(a, b, c, d) = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b & -c & -d \\ b & a & -d & c \\ c & d & a & -b \\ d & -c & b & a \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_2(a, b, c, d) = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c & -d \\ -b & a & -d & c \\ -c & d & a & -b \\ -d & -c & b & a \end{pmatrix}$$

$$G_i = \{ \sigma_i(a, b, c, d), a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1 \} \text{ for } i \in \{1, 2\}$$

- The representation of  $G/G_1$  is given by

$$\psi_1 : \begin{matrix} SO_4 \\ \begin{pmatrix} a & e & i & m \\ b & f & j & n \\ c & g & k & o \\ d & h & l & p \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix} \mapsto \begin{matrix} SO_4 \\ \sigma_1(a, b, c, d)^T \begin{pmatrix} a & e & i & m \\ b & f & j & n \\ c & g & k & o \\ d & h & l & p \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

- Testing if  $H$  is dense in  $SO_4$  is equivalent to  $\text{env } \phi(H) = \text{env } \phi(G)$  and  $\psi_1(H)$  and  $\psi_2(H)$  are infinite.

## CONNECTED REDUCTIVE GROUPS

- A connected reductive group  $G$  is such that  $G = Z(G)D(G)$  where  $D(G)$  is the derived group of  $G$ . Furthermore,  $G/Z(G)$  is semisimple, and  $G/D(G)$  is a commutative diagonalisable group.

For every connected reductive group  $G$ , there exists a polynomial time algorithm which decides if a finitely generated group  $H$  of  $G$  is dense in  $G$  : Simply decide if  $H/Z(G)$  and  $H/D(G)$  are dense in  $G/Z(G)$  and  $G/D(G)$ .

The algorithm depends of the given group  $G$ , as we need representations of  $G/D(G)$  and  $G/Z(G)$ .

## NON-CONNECTED REDUCTIVE GROUPS

- Denote by  $G$  a non-connected group and by  $G^0$  the connected component containing the identity matrix. Choose for each connected component a matrix  $Y_j$ .
- Let  $H$  be the group generated by the matrices  $X_i$ . Choose for each connected component of  $G$  a matrix  $Y_j \in H$ . If no such matrix exists, then  $H$  is not dense in  $G$ .  
 $H \cap G^0$  is generated by the matrices  $Y_i X_j Y_k^{-1}$  that belong to  $G^0$ .  
(Schreier's Theorem)
- Computing the matrices  $Y_j$  is easy as  $G/G^0$  is finite. Deciding if  $H$  is dense is then equivalent to decide  $H \cap G^0$  is dense.

For every reductive group  $G$ , there exists a polynomial time algorithm which decides if a finitely generated group  $H$  of  $G$  is dense in  $G$ . The algorithm depends of the given group  $G$  ;

Compact groups are reductive :

For every compact group  $G$ , there exists a polynomial time algorithm which decides if a finitely generated group  $H$  of  $G$  is dense in  $G$ . The algorithm depends of the given group  $G$ .

## COMPLETE SETS OF GATES

- For any  $n$ , there exists a polynomial time algorithm which decides if a set of gates over  $n$  qubits is complete : Consider it as a problem about compact groups and solve it using the previous algorithm;
- We only need to use the previous algorithms for simple groups ;
- We may even get a better result : there exists a polynomial time algorithm which decides if a set of gates over  $n$  qubits is complete.
- Note : The algorithm is polynomial on the size of the input, which is exponential in  $n$ .

- An algorithm which decides if a finitely generated subgroup of a compact group  $G$  is dense in  $G$ .
- An algorithm which decides if a finite set of gates is complete.
- Generalise the algorithm for any algebraic group ?
- Give an algorithm for other models of computation (black box groups, computation with reals).