

# Quantum Property Testing

Harry Buhrman (CWI, UvA)

Lance Fortnow (NEC)

Ilan Newman (Haifa)

Hein Röhrig (CWI)

# Property Testing

In classical Algorithms the typical decision problems is:

For a fixed property  $\mathcal{P}$  and a given input  $x$ , decide whether  $x$  belongs to  $\mathcal{P}$  or not.

Sometimes we don't care about an exact answer as there is a 'gray area', or, sometimes, there is not enough time for exact decision. Then the following 'approximation' may be used:

decide whether  $x$  has  $\mathcal{P}$  or it is very 'far' from having  $\mathcal{P}$ .

## Examples

- 'Decide whether the used car I am going to buy is running OK'.
- 'Decide whether the home page I am at, is relevant to my needs'.

# Examples

- 'Decide whether the used car I am going to buy is running OK'.
- 'Decide whether the home page I am at, is relevant to my needs'.
- Working with huge data, e.g. genome data, WWW.:
  - difficult to store.
  - cannot look at entire input.

# Examples

- 'Decide whether the used car I am going to buy is running OK'.
- 'Decide whether the home page I am at, is relevant to my needs'.
- Working with huge data, e.g. genome data, WWW.:
  - difficult to store.
  - cannot look at entire input.
- 'Decide if the election was won by A (versus B)'.

## Property Testing - definitions

We encode inputs as strings;  $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$  and a property is just a collection of inputs (these that have the property). Namely,  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^n$ .

**Being far:** is measured by hamming distance, namely  $dist(x, y) = |\{i \mid x_i \neq y_i\}|$  and  $dist(x, \mathcal{P}) = \min_{y \in \mathcal{P}} dist(x, y)$ .

## Property Testing - definitions

We encode inputs as strings;  $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$  and a property is just a collection of inputs (these that have the property). Namely,  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^n$ .

**Being far:** is measured by hamming distance, namely  $dist(x, y) = |\{i \mid x_i \neq y_i\}|$  and  $dist(x, \mathcal{P}) = \min_{y \in \mathcal{P}} dist(x, y)$ .

**For a  $\epsilon < 1$  we say that  $x$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from  $\mathcal{P}$  if  $dist(x, \mathcal{P}) \geq \epsilon n$ .**

## $\epsilon$ -Tests

An  $(\epsilon, q)$ -test for a fixed property  $\mathcal{P}$  is a **randomized algorithm** that for unknown input  $x$  queries at most  $q$  bits of  $x$  and:

- If  $x \in \mathcal{P}$  then the algorithm accepts it with probability  $\geq 2/3$ .
- If  $x$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from  $\mathcal{P}$  then it gets rejected with probability  $\geq 2/3$ .

## $\epsilon$ -Tests

An  $(\epsilon, q)$ -test for a fixed property  $\mathcal{P}$  is a **randomized algorithm** that for unknown input  $x$  queries at most  $q$  bits of  $x$  and:

- If  $x \in \mathcal{P}$  then the algorithm accepts it with probability  $\geq 2/3$ .
- If  $x$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from  $\mathcal{P}$  then it gets rejected with probability  $\geq 2/3$ .

**Interested:**  $q = o(n)$ , better yet  $q = \text{poly}(\log n)$  or even better  $q = O(1)$ .

## A concrete Example

**Given:** a list  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  of Integers.

**Property:** The list is sorted,  $x_1 \leq x_2 \leq \dots \leq x_n$ .

Require  $\Omega(n)$  time (= queries) for probabilistic algorithms.

Can be done by  $\Theta(\sqrt{n})$  quantum algorithm.

# Approximation

**Given:** a list  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  of Integers.

**Question:** Is the list (almost) sorted, i.e, can change at most  $\epsilon$  fraction of the numbers to make it sorted.

Can test in  $O(1/\epsilon \cdot \log n)$  queries, [Ergun, Kannan, Kumar, Rubinfeld, Viswanathan 2000, Fischer 2001].

# Background

Property testing was first defined by Rubinfeld and Sudan [96] who were mainly motivated by the connection to program checking.

The study of this object for combinatorial objects (mainly for graph properties) was introduced by Goldreich, Goldwasser and Ron [96], pointing the connection to approximation algorithms, PAC learning, PCP, etc.

Goldreich et al. showed that the graph property of **being bipartite** is testable in  $O(1)$  queries.

Since then property testing became a very active area with many interesting results.

# Classically Testable Properties

- **Linearity test** ( $\forall x, y, f(x) + f(y) = f(x + y)$ ) [Blum, Luby and Rubinfeld 93, Bellare, Coppersmith, Hastad, Kiwi and Sudan 95].
- **Graph Properties**—colorability, not containing a forbidden subgraph, connectivity, acyclicity, rapidly mixing, max cut, ... [Goldreich, Goldwasser and Ron 87, Alon, Fischer, Krivelevich and Szegedy 99, Parnas and Ron 99, Bender and Ron 2000, Fischer 2001, Alon 2001]....
- **Monotonicity** [Goldreich, Goldwasser, Lehman, Ron, Dodis, Raskhodnikova and Samorodnitsky 99, Lehman, Fischer, Newman, Rubinfeld, Raskhodnikova and Samorodnitsky 2002 ..].
- **Set properties**—equality, distinctness, ... [Ergun, Kannan, Kumar, Rubinfeld and Viswanathan 98..].
- **Geometric properties**—metrics, clustering, convex hulls,... [Parnas and Ron 99, Alon, Dar, Parnas and Ron 2000, Czumaj and Sohler 2002...].

- Membership in low-complexity languages—regular languages, constant-width branching programs, context-free languages [Alon, Krivelevich, Newman, and Szegedy 99, ...].

# Quantum Circuits / Algorithms

We think of an algorithm as a **state transformer**.

## Classical algorithm:

- A state is a **bit-vector**; values of all variables / intermediate gates.
- $k$  variables - states are vectors in  $F_2^k$ .

# Quantum Circuits / Algorithms

We think of an algorithm as a **state transformer**.

## Classical algorithm:

- A state is a **bit-vector**; values of all variables / intermediate gates.
- $k$  variables - states are vectors in  $F_2^k$ .

## Randomized Algorithm:

- A state is a convex combination of basic-states.
- $k$  variables - states are vectors in  $R^{2^k}$ ,

$$\psi = \sum_{j \in \{0,1\}^k} \alpha_j v_j$$

with  $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\sum_{j \in \{0,1\}^k} \alpha_j = 1$ .

# Quantum Circuits / Algorithms

**Quantum:**  $k$ -qbits -  $2^k$  basic states,  $v_j$ ,  $j \in \{0, 1\}^k$ .

- **States:** are  $2^k$  dimensional vectors, that are linear combinations of basic states.  $|\psi\rangle = \sum_{j \in \{0,1\}^k} \alpha_j |j\rangle$  with  $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\sum_{j \in \{0,1\}^k} |\alpha_j|^2 = 1$ .

# Quantum Circuits / Algorithms

**Quantum:**  $k$ -qbits -  $2^k$  basic states,  $v_j$ ,  $j \in \{0, 1\}^k$ .

- **States:** are  $2^k$  dimensional vectors, that are linear combinations of basic states.  $|\psi\rangle = \sum_{j \in \{0,1\}^k} \alpha_j |j\rangle$  with  $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\sum_{j \in \{0,1\}^k} |\alpha_j|^2 = 1$ .
- **Gate:** unitary operator  $U$  (length-preserving matrix).

# Quantum Circuits / Algorithms

**Quantum:**  $k$ -qbits -  $2^k$  basic states,  $v_j$ ,  $j \in \{0, 1\}^k$ .

- **States:** are  $2^k$  dimensional vectors, that are linear combinations of basic states.  $|\psi\rangle = \sum_{j \in \{0,1\}^k} \alpha_j |j\rangle$  with  $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\sum_{j \in \{0,1\}^k} |\alpha_j|^2 = 1$ .
- **Gate:** unitary operator  $U$  (length-preserving matrix).
- **Output:** measurement  $\mathcal{M}$ ; for final state  $\sum_{j \in \{0,1\}^k} \beta_j |j\rangle$

$$\Pr[\text{output } 1] = \sum_{j \in 1\{0,1\}^{k-1}} |\beta_j|^2$$

# Quantum Black-Box Algorithms

## Gates:

- **computational gates, e.g.,**

$$\text{NOT} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{CNOT} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, H = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- **queries to oracle [Beals, Buhrman, Cleve, Mosca and de Wolf 98] for  $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$**

$$O_x : |j, b\rangle \mapsto |j, b \oplus x_j\rangle \quad (j \in \{0, 1\}^{\log n}, b \in \{0, 1\})$$

# Quantum Property Tester

Given a fixed property  $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \{0, 1\}^n$ .

- **Input:**  $n$  bits/values  $x = x_1x_2 \dots x_n$ .
- **Quantum tester circuit**, that starts with the state  $|00\dots 0\rangle$ . Uses  $O_x$  oracle gates.
- If  $x \in \mathcal{P}$ , tester **accepts**.
- If  $x$  is  $\epsilon$ -far from  $\mathcal{P}$ , tester **rejects** w.h.p.
- **Complexity:** number of **# oracle query gates**  $O_x$

# Motivation

Show gaps between quantum algorithms and Classical Ones.

# Results

- Complexity separations: give properties s.t.

quantum	classical	
$O(1)$	$\Omega(\log n)$	(random Hadamard codewords)
$O(\log n)$	$n^{\Omega(1)}$	(Simon)
$n^{\Omega(1)}$		(pseudo-random numbers)

$n$  = number of values in input

# First attempt for a 1 – vs. $\log n$ gap

**Inner Product Over  $F_2$ :** For  $x, y \in \{0, 1\}^k$ :

$$\langle x, y \rangle := \sum_{\ell=1}^k y_{\ell} x_{\ell} \pmod{2}.$$

**Hadamard code of  $y \in \{0, 1\}^{\log n}$ :**

$$h(y) := x_0 \dots x_{n-1} \text{ with } x_j = \langle y, j \rangle$$

**Candidate for a ‘classically hard’ property:** Being a Hadamard codeword, namely  $\mathcal{P} = \{h(y) \mid y \in \{0, 1\}^{\log n}\}$ .

$\exists$  quantum black-box algorithm to find  $y$  with **one** application of  $O_{h(y)}$  [**Bernstein Vazirani**].

**Classically:** need  $\log n$  queries in order to find  $y$  from  $h(y)$  (information theory).

# Testing Hadamard Codewords

**Catch:** Classical Tester (does not need to know  $y$ ).

- for  $O(1/\epsilon)$  many pairs  $j, j'$ : query  $x_j$ ,  $x_{j'}$ , and  $x_{j \oplus j'}$ .
- **reject** if  $x_j \oplus x_{j'} \neq x_{j \oplus j'}$  for any of the pairs. **otherwise:**  
**accept.**

## A better candidate

For a subset  $A \subseteq \{0, 1\}^{\log n}$ , let  $P_A = \{h(y) \mid y \in A\}$ . Namely,  $P_A$  contains the Hadamard codewords of vectors in a predefined subset  $A$ .

The subset of Choice - random.

## A better candidate

For a subset  $A \subseteq \{0, 1\}^{\log n}$ , let  $P_A = \{h(y) \mid y \in A\}$ . Namely,  $P_A$  contains the Hadamard codewords of vectors in a predefined subset  $A$ .

The subset of Choice - random.

### Quantum Test

- In one query find  $y$  such that  $h(y) = x$ .
- Check that  $y \in A$
- Test for random  $i \leq n$  that  $x_i = \langle y, i \rangle$ .

## A better candidate

For a subset  $A \subseteq \{0, 1\}^{\log n}$ , let  $P_A = \{h(y) \mid y \in A\}$ . Namely,  $P_A$  contains the Hadamard codewords of vectors in a predefined subset  $A$ .

The subset of Choice - random.

### Quantum Test

- In one query find  $y$  such that  $h(y) = x$ .
- Check that  $y \in A$
- Test for random  $i \leq n$  that  $x_i = \langle y, i \rangle$ .

A  $\Omega(\log n)$  classical lower bound can be proven.

# Exponential Separation

A property  $\mathcal{P}$  such that

$\mathcal{P}$  is quantum-testable with  $O(\log n)$  queries.

Any classical tester need  $n^{\Omega(1)}$  queries.

# Exponential Separation

Simon's Promise problem:

**Input:**  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \longrightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$ , such that.

- $f$  is 2 to 1.
- There is an  $s \in \{0, 1\}^n - \{(0, \dots, 0)\}$ , such that for every  $x$ ,  $f(x) = f(x \oplus s)$ .

**Goal:** Find  $s \neq (0, \dots, 0)$ .

**Quantum** - in  $O(n)$  queries [Simon 97, Brassard Høyer 97] .

**Classical** -  $\Omega(2^{n/2})$  (birthday paradox).

# Brassard Høyer Algorithm

- There are  $n - 1$  rounds.
- The  $i$ th round produces a vector  $z_i \in \{0, 1\}^n$  for which,
  - (a)  $\langle z, s \rangle = 0$
  - (b)  $z_i$  is linearly independent of  $\{z_1, \dots, z_{i-1}\}$ .

After  $n - 1$  times can find  $s$

Exact !

# Our Property

$\mathcal{P} = \{f : \{0, 1\}^n \longrightarrow \{0, 1\} \mid \text{such that } \exists s \neq (0, \dots, 0), \forall x, f(x) = f(x \oplus s)\}$ .

**Quantum - in  $O(n \log n)$  queries.**

**Classical -  $\Omega(2^{n/2})$ .**

# Quantum Lower bounds for Property Testing

- Most of the properties  $\mathcal{P}$  of  $n$  bit strings, of size  $2^{n/20}$  require  $\Omega(n)$  quantum queries.
- The range of  $d$ -wise independent  $n$ -bit generator requires  $d/2$  random queries.

we use the Polynomial method.

# Polynomial method

Let  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \longrightarrow \{0, 1\}$ .

[Beals, Buhrman, Cleave, Mosca, d' Wolf 98] If  $f$  has a  $q$ -query quantum algorithm, then there is a multilinear polynomial  $p$  that approximates  $f$ .

For all  $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$ ,

$$|p(x) - f(x)| \leq 1/3$$

This is true for promise problems too - in particular for property testing

## Proving Q-lower bounds for property testing

To prove lower bounds for a property  $\mathcal{P}$ , need to show that every real, multilinear polynomial  $p$  for which,

- For all  $x \in \mathcal{P}$ ,  $p(x) \geq 2/3$ .
- For all  $x$ ,  $\text{dist}(x, \mathcal{P}) \geq \epsilon n$ ,  $p(x) \leq 1/3$ .
- For all  $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$ ,  $p(x) \in [0, 1]$

Has high degree.

# Open Problems

- Gaps of 1 vs.  $\Omega(n)$  ?
- Natural properties.
- Characterization of efficient Q-testers in terms of polynomials ?