# Introduction to quantum walk 

Maris Ozols<br>University of Waterloo, Institute for Quantum Computing

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## Introduction

## States

## States

## Classical

## Probability distribution:

$$
\begin{gathered}
p \in \mathbb{R}_{+}^{n} \\
\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{i}=1
\end{gathered}
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Wave function:

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\begin{gathered}
\psi \in \mathbb{C}^{n} \\
\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left|\psi_{i}\right|^{2}=1
\end{gathered}
$$

$$
\left(\begin{array}{l}
\psi_{1} \\
\psi_{2} \\
\psi_{3} \\
\psi_{4} \\
\psi_{5}
\end{array}\right)=
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$p_{i}=\left|\psi_{i}\right|^{2}$


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$$
\begin{aligned}
p_{i} & =\left|\psi_{i}\right|^{2} \\
& \Longleftrightarrow \\
& \Longrightarrow \\
\psi_{j}= & \sqrt{p_{j}} e^{i \varphi_{j}}
\end{aligned}
$$

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How does a quantum walk looks like?

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## How does a quantum walk looks like?



## Continuous-time walks

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Master equation:

$$
\frac{d}{d t} p(t)=L p(t)
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Restrictions on $L$ :

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\begin{array}{cc}
\frac{d}{d t}\|p(t)\|_{1}=0 & p(t) \geq 0 \\
\Downarrow & \Downarrow \\
\sum_{i=1}^{n} L_{i j}=0 & L_{i j} \geq 0(i \neq j)
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Solution:

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p(t)=e^{L t} p(0)
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Schrödinger equation:

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i \frac{d}{d t} \psi(t)=H \psi(t)
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Schrödinger equation:

$$
i \frac{d}{d t} \psi(t)=H \psi(t)
$$

Restrictions on $H$ :

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\begin{gathered}
\frac{d}{d t}\|\psi(t)\|_{2}=0 \\
\Downarrow \\
H^{\dagger}=H
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Solution:

$$
\psi(t)=e^{-i H t} \psi(0)
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## Quantum walk on the hypercube

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## Problem

Solve $i \frac{d}{d t} \psi(t)=H \psi(t)$, where $H$ is the adjacency matrix of the $n$-dimensional hypercube. In other words, compute $e^{-i H t}$.

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Example ( $n=5$ )


## Cartesian product of graphs

Definition
The Cartesian product of graphs $G_{1}$ and $G_{2}$ is graph $G_{1} \square G_{2}$ with

- vertex set $V\left(G_{1}\right) \times V\left(G_{2}\right)$
- edges $\left(u_{1}, v\right)\left(u_{2}, v\right)$ and $\left(u, v_{1}\right)\left(u, v_{2}\right)$ for every $u_{1} u_{2} \in E\left(G_{1}\right)$ and $v_{1} v_{2} \in E\left(G_{2}\right)$


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Question
How to find the adjacency matrix of $G_{1} \square G_{2}$ ?

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Definition
The tensor product of matrices $A$ and $B$ is a block matrix

$$
A \otimes B=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
a_{11} B & a_{12} B & \ldots & a_{1 n} B \\
a_{21} B & a_{22} B & \ldots & a_{2 n} B \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
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Claim $\mathcal{A}\left(G_{1} \square G_{2}\right)=\mathcal{A}\left(G_{1}\right) \otimes I+I \otimes \mathcal{A}\left(G_{2}\right)$

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Let $X=\left(\begin{array}{ll}0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0\end{array}\right)=\mathcal{A}\left(K_{2}\right)$ and $I=\left(\begin{array}{ll}1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1\end{array}\right)$. Then

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\mathcal{A}\left(Q_{n}\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{n} X^{(i)}
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where $X^{(i)}=\underbrace{I \otimes \cdots \otimes I \otimes X \otimes I \otimes \cdots \otimes I}_{n \text { terms with } X \text { in the } i \text { th position }}$.

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How to find $e^{-i H t}$ for $H=\mathcal{A}\left(Q_{n}\right)$ ?
Answer (by a quantum physicist): Duh!

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How to find $e^{-i H t}$ for $H=\mathcal{A}\left(Q_{n}\right)$ ?
Hints: 1. $X^{2}=I$

$$
\text { 2. } X^{(i)} X^{(j)}=X^{(j)} X^{(i)}
$$

## Solution for $Q_{1}$

Lemma
Let $\varphi \in \mathbb{R}$ and $A$ be a matrix such that $A^{2}=I$. Then

$$
\exp (i \varphi A)=\cos (\varphi) I+i \sin (\varphi) A
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$$

## Result

$$
e^{-i X t}=\cos (t) I-i \sin (t) X=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\cos t & -i \sin t \\
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\end{array}\right)
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Fact
$e^{A+B}=e^{A} e^{B}$ if $A B=B A$.

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& =\prod_{k=1}^{n} I \otimes \cdots \otimes I \otimes e^{-i X t} \otimes I \otimes \cdots \otimes I \\
= & \text { Look around and check if the } \\
& \text { person next to you is asleep! }
\end{aligned}
$$

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& =\bigotimes_{k=1}^{n} e^{-i X t}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
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Note
At $t=\frac{\pi}{2}$ we have $e^{-i H t}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}0 & -i \\ -i & 0\end{array}\right)^{\otimes n}$.

## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$



$$
t=0
$$

## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$



## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$



## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$



## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$



## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$


$t=\pi / 4$

## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$



## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$



## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$



## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$



## Quantum walk on $Q_{5}$



$$
t=\pi / 2
$$

## Quiz

## Quiz



$$
t=\pi / 4
$$

Question
How does it know where to go next from this state?

## Quiz



$$
t=\pi / 4
$$

## Question

How does it know where to go next from this state? (What if the walk would have started from a different vertex?)

## Applications

Applications of quantum walk

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"Glued trees" problem

$O\left(2^{N}\right)$ vs $O(N)$

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Grover's algorithm

$O(N)$ vs $O(\sqrt{N})$

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Formula evaluation

it depends vs $O(\sqrt{N})$

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it depends vs $O(\sqrt{N})$

Quantization of Markov chains

$\mathrm{HT}(P, M)$ vs $\sqrt{\mathrm{HT}(P, M)}$

Thank you for your attention!


