

Programming quantum computers

Daniel Reitzner Quantum algorithms and software / VTT

07/07/2022 VTT – beyond the obvious



Where we stand with current QPUs



NISQ era = Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum

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High-level programming workflow

VT



- 1. Identify problem to be solved
- 2. Choose suitable platform and vendor
- 3. Prepare quantum program
- 4. Transpile
- 5. Submit



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- Quantum simulations (chemistry, material science, etc.) are suitable for adiabatic computers
- Quantum algorithmic tasks work well on gate-based platforms (superconductive, ion-based, optical, etc.)
- Optimization problems might benefit from various platforms
- Vendors may vary in quality in price and might offer also free computational time

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- Different vendors have their own libraries:
 - IBM: Qiskit
 - Google: Cirq
 - Xanadu: Strawberry Fields
 - Etc.
- Usually Python-based
- Many times offer wide variety of approaches to quantum computing
 - Simple gate-based
 - Hybrid (VQE, QAOA, etc.)
 - Supplemented by Al
 - Etc.

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- Important optimization task for efficient computation
- Many times hands-on
- Roughly composed of three main tasks:
 - routing: fitting the circuit to chosen device
 - decomposition: replacing gates with the native set
 - optimization: reducing the complexity of fitted circuit
- if we will want to get the most out of the QPU, we have to consider QPU's architecture, quality and (potentially) speed.

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- After transpilation quantum compilation transforms submission to some lower level language (OpenQASM2, etc.) and then to basic instruction set of QPU electronics
- These might have various bottlenecks
- Demand for
 - Quality
 - Fast access
 - Precompilation
 - Classical control
 - Intermediate measurements
 - Etc.



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Quantum teleportation \rightarrow gate-based (superconductive) \rightarrow IBMQ

Let's have a look at Jupyter notebook



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With shared entanglement and 2 classical bits of information we can "teleport" a quantum state



C. H. Bennett, G. Brassard, C. Crépeau, R. Jozsa, A. Peres, W. K. Wootters – Teleporting an Unknown Quantum State via Dual Classical and Einstein–Podolsky–Rosen Channels, Phys. Rev. Lett. 70, 1895–1899 (1993)



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- How does it work? Composite state before Alice measures it is |Φ⟩ = |ψ⟩ ⊗ |Ψ₊⟩
 If |ψ⟩ = α|0⟩ + β|1⟩ then |Φ⟩ = 1/√2 (α|000⟩ + β|100⟩ + α|011⟩ + β|111⟩)
 We measure in the Bell basis and use:

$$|00\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\Psi_{+}\rangle + |\Psi_{z}\rangle) \qquad |01\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\Psi_{x}\rangle + i|\Psi_{y}\rangle)$$
$$|11\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\Psi_{+}\rangle - |\Psi_{z}\rangle) \qquad |10\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|\Psi_{x}\rangle - i|\Psi_{y}\rangle)$$

Now

$$|\Phi\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \Big[|\Psi_{+}\rangle \otimes |\psi\rangle + |\Psi_{x}\rangle \otimes \sigma_{x} |\psi\rangle + |\Psi_{y}\rangle \otimes \sigma_{y} |\psi\rangle + |\Psi_{z}\rangle \otimes \sigma_{z} |\psi\rangle \Big]$$

Measuring the state

$$|\Phi\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \left[|\Psi_{+}\rangle \otimes |\psi\rangle + |\Psi_{x}\rangle \otimes \sigma_{x} |\psi\rangle + |\Psi_{y}\rangle \otimes \sigma_{y} |\psi\rangle + |\Psi_{z}\rangle \otimes \sigma_{z} |\psi\rangle \right]$$

in Bell basis gives each result with the same probability $\frac{1}{4}$ and gives two bits of classical information about the transformation Bob needs to make to transform his state $|\phi\rangle$ to $|\psi\rangle = \alpha |0\rangle + \beta |1\rangle$:

 $|\Psi_{+}\rangle \to \mathbb{1}|\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle \qquad \qquad |\Psi_{x}\rangle \to \sigma_{x}|\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle$

 $|\Psi_{\nu}\rangle \rightarrow \sigma_{\nu}|\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle \qquad |\Psi_{z}\rangle \rightarrow \sigma_{z}|\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle$

This holds because

$$\mathbb{1}^2 = \sigma_x^2 = \sigma_y^2 = \sigma_z^2 = \mathbb{1}$$

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Beyond transpilation

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Transpilation

- routing: fitting the circuit to chosen device
- decomposition: replacing gates with the native set
- optimization: reducing the complexity of fitted circuit



- Current devices are noisy and small
- Useful for smaller tasks \rightarrow hybrid computation
- New bottlenecks



Hybrid computations

- Current devices are noisy and small
- Useful for smaller tasks → hybrid computation
- Old bottlenecks:
 - Size number of qubits
 - Quality (decrease noise, error correction, etc.)
- New bottlenecks:
 - Initialization speed (loading the data to the electronics)
 - · Parametric circuits and pre-compilation (VQE, QAOA, etc.)
 - Fast communication buses (integration to HPC framework)
 - Active reset (decrease the measurement times)
- Practical demands: classical control, intermediate measurements, etc.

Holistic quality and speed measures:

- Quantum volume
- CLOPS
- Algorithmic qubits

Summary

- High level programming of QPUs can be simple
- But more time you put into preparations, more quality you can gain in computation (will it be enough?)
- Specifics of NISQ devices mean that alternative (hybrid) approaches are studied widely – these require new ways of quantifying the quality of the quantum resources



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Daniel Reitzner daniel.reitzner@vtt.fi

@VTTFinland

www.vtt.fi