

Both Toffoli and CNOT  
need **little** help to do  
universal quantum computing

Yaoyun Shi

University of Michigan

Work done at Caltech

**Question:** What is the **simplest** gate needed to add to a **classically** universal gate set in order to do universal **quantum** computing?

**Def:** A basis (set of gates) is **universal** if it can approximate an arbitrary unitary (orthogonal) operator to an arbitrary precision, using ancillas.

Toffoli + ?

**Thm:**[Gottesman-Knill] A  $\{CNOT, H\}$ -circuit can be **efficiently** simulated **classically**.

**Question:** What if changing  $H$  to something else?

**Known:**[Barenco et al.] CNOT + **all** one-qubit gates is universal.

A **generic** gate:  $R_\theta$ ,  $\theta$  irrational multiple of  $\pi$ , generates dense subgroup of  $SO(2)$ .

Universal: CNOT + any generic gate.

**Question:** How about adding  $R_{\pi/3}$ , etc.?

## Answers

**Def:** A gate is **basis-changing** if it does not preserve the computational basis.

**Def:** The set of **simple** gates

$$\mathcal{S} = \{g : \text{single-qubit, real, basis-changing}\}.$$

**Thm 1:** For  $\forall S, S \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $S^2 \in \mathcal{S}$ ,  $\{CNOT, S\}$  is universal.

**Thm 2:** For any  $S \in \mathcal{S}$ ,  $\{T, S\}$  is universal.

## Proof of Theorem 1

**Idea:** prove  $\{CNOT, S\}$  generates a dense subgroup of  $SO(4)$ .

Assume:  $S \equiv R_\theta$ , where  $\theta \notin \frac{\pi}{4}\mathbb{Z}$ .

Construct  $U_1, U_2, \dots, U_k$  s.t.

$$\langle U_1 \rangle \longrightarrow SO(H_1)$$

$$\langle U_1, U_2 \rangle \longrightarrow SO(H_2)$$

⋮

$$\langle U_1, U_2, \dots, U_i \rangle \longrightarrow SO(H_k) \equiv SO(4)$$

**Thm:**[Kitaev]  $\mathcal{M}$ : Hilbert space of  $\dim \geq 3$ ;

$|\xi\rangle \in \mathcal{M}$ , and  $|\xi\rangle \neq 0$ ;

$H$ : stabilizer of  $\mathbb{R}|\xi\rangle$ ;

If  $V \in O(\mathcal{M})$  does not preserve  $\mathbb{R}[|\xi\rangle]$ ,

Then  $H \cup V^{-1}HV$  generates a dense subgroup of  $SO(\mathcal{M})$ .

$$U := [(S \otimes S) \cdot \Lambda(\sigma^x) [1, 2]]^2.$$

Eigenvalues and eigenvectors:

$$1: \quad |\xi_1\rangle = \frac{1}{2}(|00\rangle - |01\rangle + |10\rangle + |11\rangle)$$

$$1: \quad |\xi_2\rangle = \frac{\sin \theta}{\sqrt{2}}(-|00\rangle + |01\rangle) + \frac{\cos \theta}{\sqrt{2}}(|10\rangle - |11\rangle)$$

$\exp(\pm i\alpha)$ :  $|\xi_3\rangle, |\xi_4\rangle$ , where  $\cos \frac{\alpha}{2} = \cos^2 \theta$ .

**Thm:**[Wlodarski] If  $\theta \notin \frac{\pi}{4}\mathbb{Z}$ , and  $\cos \frac{\alpha}{2} = \cos^2 \theta$ , then either  $\theta$  or  $\alpha$  is incommensurate with  $\pi$ .

## Proof for Theorem 2

Given:  $R_\theta \in \mathcal{S}$ ,  $R_\alpha$ ,  $\epsilon$

Output: Circuit  $C$  over  $\{R_\theta, Toffoli\}$  approx.  
 $R_\alpha$ . I.e.  $\forall |\xi\rangle$ , s.t.  $\|\xi\| = 1$ ,

$$\|C |\xi\rangle|0^k\rangle - (R_\alpha|\xi\rangle)|0^k\rangle\| \leq \epsilon.$$

**Step 1:** Assume we have  $W_{\alpha/2}$ :

$$W_{\alpha/2}|0\rangle|0^k\rangle = |\phi_{\alpha/2}\rangle|0^k\rangle,$$

then done: if

$$W_\alpha := W_{\alpha/2} \cdot N \cdot W_{\alpha/2} \cdot \sigma^z[1],$$

then

$$W_\alpha|\xi\rangle|0^k\rangle = (R_\alpha|\xi\rangle)|0^k\rangle.$$



**To do:** approx.  $\sigma^z$ ,  $W_{\alpha/2}$ .

**Step 2:** Approx.  $\sigma^z$  by  $\{R_\theta, T\}$ .

**Example:** Have  $H$  and  $CNOT$ .

$$\Lambda(\sigma^x)|b\rangle(|0\rangle - |1\rangle) = (-1)^b|b\rangle(|0\rangle - |1\rangle).$$

**Generalize to biased quantum gate:**

$$|\psi\rangle := R_\theta \otimes R_\theta |01\rangle = \\ \sin \theta \cos \theta (|11\rangle - |00\rangle) + \cos^2 \theta |01\rangle - \sin^2 \theta |10\rangle.$$

$$|b\rangle(|00\rangle - |11\rangle) \rightarrow (-1)^b|b\rangle(|00\rangle - |11\rangle).$$

**Decrease error:** Use  $|\psi\rangle^{\otimes k}$ .

**Step 3:** Creat  $|\phi_{\alpha/2}\rangle$  from  $|0\rangle$ .

**Idea:** Creat logical  $|\hat{\phi}_{\alpha/2}\rangle = \cos \frac{\alpha}{2} |\hat{0}\rangle + \sin \frac{\alpha}{2} |\hat{1}\rangle$ ,  
then decode  $|\hat{0}\rangle \rightarrow |0\rangle|0^k\rangle$  and  $|\hat{1}\rangle \rightarrow |1\rangle|0^k\rangle$ .

$$T_{\theta} := U_{-\theta}[1] \cdot \Lambda(\sigma^x)[1, 2] \cdot U_{\theta}.$$

## Conclusion

### Universal quantum computing:

Toffoli + any single-qubit real gate that does not preserve computational basis;

CNOT + any single qubit real gate that does not preserve computational basis *and* is not Hadamard or its alike.

### Comparison of two proofs:

1. via Kitaev-Theorem: efficient approximation; not intuitive.
2. via Grover's algorithm: not efficient, but intuitively simple and uses some tricks!