



Quantum computation with devices whose contents are never read

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We demonstrate a case where the usage of “write-only memory” (WOM), a computational component that is used exclusively for being written to, and never being read, (which is little more than a joke in the classical setup,) improves the power of a quantum computer significantly.

For any standard machine model, say, M , we use the name M -WOM to denote M augmented with a WOM component. A TM-WOM has an additional write-only tape associated with a finite alphabet \mathcal{Y} . In each step of the computation, either a symbol from the alphabet, $v \in \mathcal{Y}$, is printed on the current tape square, and the head moves one square to the right, or the empty string, ε , is “printed,” and so the head remains at the same position. The computational power of the PTM-WOM is easily seen to be the same as that of the PTM; since the machine does not use the contents of the WOM in any way when it decides what to do in the next move, every write-only action can just as well be replaced with a write-nothing action.

However, this is not the case for the QTM-WOM, as will be shown in the next section. We will focus on quantum finite automata with WOM (QFA-WOM's), which are just QTM-WOM's which do not use their work tapes and move the input tape head to the right in every step. The configuration of a QFA-WOM is a pair (q, w) , where q is an internal state, and w is the string written in the WOM.

Fig. 1. Transitions of the QFA-WOM

In the table below, the amplitude of the transition that takes place when the machine scans tape symbol σ while it is in state q , causing it to set the halting register to symbol ω , switch to state q' and add v to the string in the WOM can be read in the row labeled by q , at the column labeled by (ω, q', v) . Empty boxes indicate zero amplitude. The columns corresponding to the “missing” elements of $\Omega \times Q \times (\mathcal{T} \cup \{\varepsilon\})$ contain all zeros, and have been omitted. In order for the machine to be well-formed, the rows of this table corresponding to the same tape symbol must be orthonormal to each other.

		n								a	r				
		q_1		q_2	q_3	q_4			q_1	q_1	q_2	q_3	q_4		
		ε	0	1	ε	ε	ε	0	1	ε	ε	ε	ε		
q_1	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$				$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$						$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$				
q_2											1				
q_3												1			
q_4													1		
0	q_1		1												
0	q_2			1											
0	q_3				1										
0	q_4						1								
1	q_1			1											
1	q_2				1										
1	q_3					1									
1	q_4							1							
2	q_1				1										
2	q_2									1					
2	q_3						1								
2	q_4										1				
	q_1											1			
	q_2								$3mu \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$					
	q_3											1			
	q_4								$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}}$					

If one changes the model in Theorem 1 so that the WOM is now an output tape, the machine becomes a quantum finite state transducer computing the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} w, & \text{if } x = w2w, \text{ where } w \in \{0,1\}^* \\ \text{undefined,} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

with bounded error.

Definition. Language A is probabilistically m -reducible to language B with probability $p > \frac{1}{2}$, denoted by $A_{prob(m),p}B$, if there is a PTM which outputs y_1, \dots, y_k with probabilities p_1, \dots, p_k , respectively, for a given input x , satisfying the following conditions:

$\sum_{y_i \in B} p_i \geq p$ when $x \in A$, and
 $\sum_{y_i \notin B} p_i \geq p$ when $x \notin A$.

Theorem. There exist recursively enumerable languages A and B such that

1. $A \leq_m B$,
2. $A \leq_{prob(m), \frac{2}{3}} B$.

$B \subset$	0 1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	\dots	$3x$ $3x + 1$ $3x + 2$	\dots
	$\swarrow \uparrow \searrow$	$\swarrow \uparrow \searrow$	$\swarrow \uparrow \searrow$	\dots	$\swarrow \uparrow \searrow$	\dots
$A \subset$	0	1	2	\dots	x	\dots

Let $\varphi_0, \varphi_1, \dots$ be an enumeration of deterministic TM's with output tapes. In the following, φ_i will be named marker- i . φ_i has higher priority than φ_j if $i < j$. The algorithm based on Friedberg and Muchnik's priority method effectively constructs the languages A and B .

Fig. 2.

```
FOR  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ 
  ## STAGE  $n$ 
  MARK the first free number, say  $y$ , with marker- $(n - 1)$ , which becomes active
  MARK  $y$  at  $line_A$  and  $3y, 3y + 1$ , and  $3y + 2$  at  $line_B$  with “ - ”
  LOOP
    ## markers with higher priority will be simulated earlier
    SIMULATE each active marker ( $\varphi_i$ ) for  $n$  steps with the associated number ( $x$ ) as input
    IF  $\varphi_i(x)$  returns a value, say  $t$ 
      CALL UPDATE SIGNS( $x, t$ )
      MAKE marker- $i$  inactive
      FOR  $j = i + 1, \dots, n - 1$ 
        MOVE marker- $j$  to the first free number on  $line_A$ 
        MAKE marker- $j$  active
      END
      GOTO NEXT STAGE
    END
  END
END
END
```

Fig. 3.

If $t \notin \{3x, 3x + 1, 3x + 2\}$, then we have two cases:

If t has no sign, then mark t and its relatives at $line_B$ and $\lfloor \frac{t}{3} \rfloor$ at $line_A$ with “-”. Mark x at $line_A$ and at least two of $\{3x, 3x + 1, 3x + 2\}$ at $line_B$ with “+”.

If t has a sign, say S : If S is “+”, there is no need for marking since x is already marked with “-”. If S is “-”, then mark x at $line_A$ and at least two of $\{3x, 3x + 1, 3x + 2\}$ at $line_B$ with “+”.

If $t \in \{3x, 3x + 1, 3x + 2\}$:

Mark t at $line_B$ with “+”.

The main idea of the algorithm is that each marker can be moved only a finite number of times, and so any marker (φ_i) remains ultimately at a number (x) on $line_A$. Thus, it is easy to make sure that the signs of x and $\varphi_i(x) = t$ contradict in order to get

$$x \notin A \Leftrightarrow \varphi_i(x) = t \in B,$$

while employing the additional numbers in the triples on $line_B$ to ensure that \mathcal{P} works correctly. Note that some markers may never halt, but this is not a problem, since such markers are not proper reductions by definition.

Definition Language A is probabilistic (respectively, quantum) Turing reducible with k queries to language B with probability $p > \frac{1}{2}$, denoted $A \leq_{prob(T-k),p} B$ (respectively, $A \leq_{quan(T-k),p} B$), if there exists a PTM (respectively, QTM), which is restricted to query the oracle for B at most k times, that recognizes A (that is, responds correctly to all questions of membership in A) with probability at least p .

Theorem. There exist recursively enumerable languages A and B such that

1. $A_{prob(T-1), \frac{2}{3}} B$,
2. $A_{quan(T-1), 1} B$.

$B \subset$	0	1	2	3	4	5	...	$2x$	$2x + 1$...
	↙ ↘		↙ ↘		↙ ↘		...	↙	↘	...
$A \subset$	0	1	2	...	x		...			

We again put “+” and “−” signs on the numbers to indicate their membership status.

$B \subset$	0	1	2	3	4	5	...	$2x$	$2x + 1$...
	$\swarrow \searrow$		$\swarrow \searrow$		$\swarrow \searrow$...	\swarrow	\searrow	...
$A \subset$	0	1	2	...	x		...			

We again put “+” and “−” signs on the numbers to indicate their membership status.

1. path_1 and path_2 respectively prepare $2x$ and $2x + 1$ on the oracle tape for their single query.
2. If the answer of the oracle is negative, the amplitude of that path is multiplied with -1 .
3. Both paths enter the twin configurations, and then make the following Hadamard transformation:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{path}_1 &\rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\text{Reject} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\text{Accept} \\ \text{path}_2 &\rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\text{Reject} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\text{Accept}.\end{aligned}$$

Table 1.

$2x$	$2x + 1$	x
-	-	-
-	+	+
+	-	+
+	+	-

FOR $n = 1, 2, \dots$
 ## STAGE n
 MARK the first free number, say y , with marker- $(n - 1)$, which becomes *active*
 MARK y at $line_A$ and $2y$ and $2y + 1$ at $line_B$ with “-”
 LOOP
 ## The markers with higher priority are simulated earlier
 SIMULATE the first n levels of the probabilistic computation tree of each active marker (φ_i) with the associated number (x) as input
 ## The oracle for B is assumed to respond with “no” to queries about numbers at $line_B$ which are not signed yet
 LET $T = \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_m\}$ be the set of numbers for which φ_i queries B 's oracle in the various branches of its simulation
 FIND all subsets of T , $\mathcal{T} = \{T' \mid T' = \{t'_1, t'_2, \dots, t'_l\}, l \leq m\}$, such that all branches of $\varphi_i(x)$ that query the oracle about the numbers in T' halt with the same decision, say D , and the total probability of those branches exceeds $\frac{1}{5}$
 LET \mathcal{T}' be the biggest subset of \mathcal{T} whose elements are associated with “no”, and contain both $2x$ and $2x + 1$
 IF $\mathcal{T}' = \mathcal{T}$ and $\mathcal{T}' \neq \emptyset$
 PUT a temporary sign “*” on $2x$ at $line_B$
 RE-SIMULATE φ_i for the first n levels on this new $line_B$, and RE-FIND \mathcal{T} based on this new simulation
 ## The oracle for B is assumed to respond with “yes” to queries about numbers with sign “*”
 SET \mathcal{T}' to \emptyset
 IF there is a $T' \in \mathcal{T} \setminus \mathcal{T}'$ (pick one arbitrarily if there exists more than one such set)
 CALL UPDATE SIGNS(x, D, T')
 MAKE marker- i *inactive*
 FOR $j = i + 1, \dots, n - 1$
 MOVE marker- j to the first free number on $line_A$
 MAKE marker- j *active*
 END
 GOTO NEXT STAGE
 END
 REPLACE any “*” with “-”
END

1. Mark x at $line_A$ with the sign that contradicts D .
(Note that x could not have the sign “+” before this step.)
2. Mark all $t' \in T'$ having no sign with “-”, and so mark $\lfloor \frac{t'}{2} \rfloor$ at $line_A$ and the relative of t' at $line_B$ with “-”.
3. Update the signs of $2x$ and/or $2x+1$ at $line_B$ if needed. All possible cases for this update are shown below.
In case 2, since $2x+1 \notin T'$, it is safe to change the sign of $2x+1$.

			before step 3			after step 3		
case	condition	D	x	$2x$	$2x+1$	x	$2x$	$2x+1$
1		<i>yes</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-
2		<i>yes</i>	-	*	-	-	+	+
3.a	$2x+1 \notin T'$	<i>no</i>	+	-	-	+	-	+
3.b	$2x+1 \in T'$	<i>no</i>	+	-	-	+	+	-
4		<i>no</i>	+	*	-	+	+	-

Theorem. There exist sets A and B such that $A \not\leq_{tt} B$ but $A \leq_{tt}^{2/3} B$.

$K = \{x \mid \varphi_x(x) \text{ is defined}\}.$

$\widetilde{K} = \{x \mid (\exists y) [\varphi_x(x) = y \text{ and}$
truth-table condition y is satisfied by $K]\}$

It is known that $\widetilde{K} \not\leq_{tt} K$

Theorem. If $A \leq_{tt}^{prob} B$ with probability $p > \frac{2}{3}$, then $A \leq_{tt} B$.

Theorem. If $A \leq_{tt}^{prob} B$ with probability $p > \frac{1}{2}$, then $A \leq_T B$.

Definition. We say that a set A is frequently reducible to the set B with frequency (m, n) if there is a totally defined algorithm M which for arbitrary input of n pairwise distinct natural numbers x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n outputs an m -tuple of natural numbers y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n such that for at least m numbers $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ the equality $x_i \in A \iff y_i \in B$ holds.

Theorem. For arbitrary natural number n there exist recursively enumerable sets A and B such that $A \not\leq_{prob}^{m/n} B$ but $A \leq_{freq}^{m/n} B$

$B \subset$	0 1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	\dots	$3x$ $3x + 1$ $3x + 2$	\dots
	$\nwarrow \uparrow \nearrow$	$\nwarrow \uparrow \nearrow$	$\nwarrow \uparrow \nearrow$	\dots	$\nwarrow \uparrow \nearrow$	\dots
$A \subset$	0	1	2	\dots	x	\dots

Theorem. For arbitrary natural number n there exist recursively enumerable sets A and B such that $A \not\leq_{freq}^{m/n} B$ but $A \leq_{prob}^{m/n} B$

We showed that write-only memory devices can increase the computational power of quantum computers, by demonstrating a language, which is known to be unrecognizable by both classical and quantum computers with certain restrictions, to be recognizable by a quantum computer employing a WOM under the same restrictions. As a separate contribution, we proved that quantum reductions among computational problems are more powerful than probabilistic reductions, which are in turn superior to deterministic reductions.

Thank you