

Quantum computing for cryptographers III

Simon's algorithm

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idea and design by Daniel J. Bernstein

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SAC – Post-quantum cryptography

Simon's algorithm

Assumptions:

- Function $f : \mathbf{F}_2^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^n$.
- Given any $u \in \mathbf{F}_2^n$.
can efficiently compute $f(u)$.
- Nonzero $s \in \mathbf{F}_2^n$.
- $f(u) = f(u + s)$ for all u .
- f has no other collisions.

Goal: Figure out s .

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Traditional algorithm to find s :
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Simon's algorithm finds s with
 $\approx n$ reversible computations of f .

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Step 1. Set up pure zero state:

1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

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Step 2. Hadamard₀:

1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

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Step 3. Hadamard₁:

1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

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Step 4. Hadamard₂:

1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

Each column is a parallel universe.

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Step 5. $C_0\text{NOT}_3$:

1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0,
0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

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Step 5b. More shuffling:

1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0,
0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0,
0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

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Step 5c. More shuffling:

```
1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1.
```

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Step 5d. More shuffling:

1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0,
0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

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Step 5e. More shuffling:

```
1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.
```

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Step 5f. More shuffling:

0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0,
1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0.

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Step 5g. More shuffling:

0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0,
1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1.

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Step 5h. More shuffling:

0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1,
0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0,
1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

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Step 5i. More shuffling:

0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0,
0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1,
0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0,
1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

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Step 5j. Final shuffling:

0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1,
0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0.

Each column is a parallel universe
performing its own computations.
Now done computing $f(u)$.

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Step 5j. Final shuffling:

```
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1,  
0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,  
1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0.
```

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Now done computing $f(u)$.

Can see: $f(u)$ and $f(u + 101)$ match.

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Step 6. Hadamard₀:

0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 1, $\bar{1}$, 0, 0, 1, 1,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, $\bar{1}$,
1, $\bar{1}$, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
1, 1, 0, 0, 1, $\bar{1}$, 0, 0.

Notation: $\bar{1}$ means -1 .

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Step 7. Hadamard₁:

0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
1, $\bar{1}$, $\bar{1}$, 1, 1, 1, $\bar{1}$, $\bar{1}$,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
1, 1, $\bar{1}$, $\bar{1}$, 1, $\bar{1}$, $\bar{1}$, 1,
1, $\bar{1}$, 1, $\bar{1}$, 1, 1, 1, 1,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
1, 1, 1, 1, 1, $\bar{1}$, 1, $\bar{1}$.

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Step 8. Hadamard₂:

0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
2, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, 0, 2,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
2, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, 0, $\bar{2}$,
2, 0, 2, 0, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, $\bar{2}$,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
2, 0, 2, 0, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, $\bar{2}$.

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Step 8. Hadamard₂:

0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
2, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, 2,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
2, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, $\bar{2}$,
2, 0, 2, 0, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, $\bar{2}$,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
2, 0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 0, 2.

Step 9: Measure first 3 qubits.

Obtain some information about
"period" s :

a random vector orthogonal to 101.

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2, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, 2,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
2, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, 0, 2, 0, $\bar{2}$,
2, 0, 2, 0, 0, $\bar{2}$, 0, $\bar{2}$,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0,
2, 0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 0, 2.

Step 9: Measure first 3 qubits.
Obtain some information about
"period" s :

a random vector orthogonal to 101.
Repeat to pin down 101

Generalizations

Generalize Step 5 to any function : $\mathbf{F}_2^n \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^m$
which satisfies $f(u) = f(u + s)$ for some s .

“Usually” algorithm figures out s .

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Many spectacular applications.

e.g. Shor finds “random” s with

$$2^u \equiv 2^{u+s} \pmod{N}.$$

Easy to factor N using this. (See video [Shor vs. RSA.](#))

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e.g. Shor finds “random” s, t with

$$g^u h^v \equiv g^{u+s} h^{v+t} \pmod{p}.$$

Easy to compute discrete logs: $\log_g(h) \equiv -s/t \pmod{\ell}$, where $\ell = \text{ord}(g)$.