

# Quantum Computation Tree Logic – Model checking and complete calculus

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## Abstract

Logics for reasoning about quantum states and their evolution have been given in the literature. In this paper we consider Quantum Computation Tree Logic (QCTL), which adds temporal modalities to exogenous quantum propositional logic. We give a sound and complete axiomatization of QCTL and combine the standard CTL model-checking algorithm with the dEQPL model-checking algorithm to obtain a model-checking algorithm for QCTL. Finally we illustrate the use of the logic by reasoning about the BB84 key distribution protocol.

**Keywords:** Quantum logic; verifying quantum systems; completeness.

## 1 Introduction

Reasoning about quantum programs has gained prominence due to a big potential in applications such as information processing, security, distributed systems and randomized algorithms. This has attracted research in formal reasoning about quantum states [22, 21, 16, 9] and quantum programs [15, 19, 1, 13, 2, 20, 3, 8]. Formal methods have proved to be successful in design and verification of

classical distributed systems and security protocols [11, 17]. Herein, we present a temporal logic for reasoning about evolution of quantum systems composed of a fixed finite set of qubits.

Our starting point is the logic **dEQPL** for reasoning about quantum states presented in [16, 9]. The logic **dEQPL** is designed around the first two postulates of quantum mechanics. The first postulate says that a quantum state is a unit vector in a complex Hilbert space and the second one says that the quantum state composed of two independent quantum states is the tensor product of the composing states. Herein, for efficiency reasons, we consider just a restricted sub-logic of **dEQPL** based on the first postulate. The models of this logic are basically the quantum states of the finite qubit system.

We give a sound and complete axiomatization of this state logic. The completeness proof, which is inspired by [9, 14], also suggests a decision procedure for the theorem-hood problem and we compute the complexity of the decision procedure assuming that all basic integer operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and comparison) take unit time. Furthermore, assuming a floating point representation of complex numbers and assuming that basic floating point operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and comparison) take unit time, we compute the complexity of the model-checking algorithm.

Next, we obtain quantum computational tree logic **QCTL** by replacing the state formulas in the standard computational tree logic **CTL**[10] by **dEQPL** formulas. The standard **CTL** is interpreted over classical states and transition relations amongst these states. **QCTL** is interpreted over quantum states and unitary transformations. We give a sound and complete axiomatization of **QCTL** capitalizing on the complete axiomatization of **dEQPL** and **CTL**. The proof of completeness follow the techniques introduced in [7, 4]. Finally, combine the standard **CTL** model-checking algorithm with the **dEQPL** model-checking algorithm to obtain a model-checking algorithm for **QCTL**.

Finally, we note that we do not explicitly deal with measurements in this paper, although we can reason about probabilities of outcomes of measuring all the qubits in the standard computational basis. The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 discusses the restricted **dEQPL** and Section 3 introduces **QCTL**. We discuss the BB84 protocol in Section 4 and summarize our contributions in Section 5.

## 2 State Logic

We discuss here briefly the restricted state logic, **dEQPL**. The logic is designed around the first postulate of quantum mechanics which states that each quantum system is a unit vector in a complex Hilbert space. For our purposes, we shall only deal with a finite-dimensional Hilbert space composed of a finite set of qubits. We shall thus assume a fixed finite set of qubit symbols,  $qB$ , which will represent these qubits.

A quantum state  $|\psi\rangle$  therefore is a unit vector in  $\mathcal{H}_{qB} = \mathcal{H}(2^{qB})$ , the Hilbert space generated by the set of valuations  $2^{qB}$ . Please note that these valuations

constitute what is commonly called the standard computational basis. Assuming that  $\mathbf{qB}$  has  $n$  elements, the vector  $|\psi\rangle$  is then specified by  $2^n$  complex numbers  $\{\langle v|\psi\rangle \mid v \subset 2^{\mathbf{qB}}\}$ . The complex number  $\langle v|\psi\rangle$  gives the projection of the unit vector  $\psi$  on the basis vectors  $|v\rangle$ . We shall have terms in our language representing the real and complex parts of these  $2^n$  complex numbers. Furthermore, please also note that there is a natural bijection between the subsets of  $\mathbf{qB}$  and the set of valuations over  $\mathbf{qB}$ : a set  $A$  corresponds to a valuation  $v_A$  which evaluates to true if  $\mathbf{qb} \in A$  and evaluates to false if  $\mathbf{qb} \notin A$ .

We shall also have terms in our logic that will represent the probability of outcomes if all the qubits in  $\mathbf{qB}$  were to be measured in the standard computational basis. We are now ready to discuss the syntax and semantics of **dEQPL**.

## 2.1 Language and semantics

*Syntax.* The terms in **dEQPL** denote elements from  $\mathbb{R}$ , the set of real numbers. The formulas of **dEQPL** henceforth called *quantum formulas*, are constructed from *comparison formulas* (formulas that compare terms) using propositional connectives. We present language of **dEQPL** in Table 1 using an abstract version of BNF notation [18] for a compact presentation of inductive definitions and discuss the language in detail below.

Table 1: Language of efficient EQPL

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Classical formulas

$$\alpha := \perp \mid \mathbf{qb} \mid (\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha)$$

Term language (with the proviso  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $A \subseteq \mathbf{qB}$ )

$$t := x \mid m \mid (t + t) \mid (t t) \mid \text{Re}(|\top\rangle_A) \mid \text{Im}(|\top\rangle_A) \mid (f\alpha)$$

Quantum formulas

$$\gamma := (t \leq t) \mid \perp \mid (\gamma \sqsupset \gamma)$$


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The first syntactic category is that of *classical formulas*. Please recall that we fixed a finite set of qubit symbols  $\mathbf{qB}$ . Classical formulas are built from qubit symbols in  $\mathbf{qB}$  using the classical disjunctive connectives, falsum  $\perp$  and implication  $\Rightarrow$ . As usual, other classical connectives like  $\neg$ ,  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\Leftrightarrow$  and  $\top$  are introduced as abbreviations.

For the term language, we pick a denumerable sets of variables  $X = \{x_k : k \in \mathbb{N}\}$  interpreted over reals. We also have a copy of integers in the set of terms. The terms  $\text{Re}(|\top\rangle_A)$  and  $\text{Im}(|\top\rangle_A)$  denote the real and complex parts of the logical amplitude  $\langle v_A|\psi\rangle$ , where  $\psi$  is a quantum state over  $\mathbf{qB}$  and  $v_A$  is the (unique) valuation corresponding to the set  $A$ . The *probability term*  $(f\alpha)$  denotes the probability that classical formula  $\alpha$  holds for an outcome of measuring the all the qubits (in  $\mathbf{qB}$ ) in the standard basis.

As usual, we may define the notion of occurrence of a term  $t_1$  in a term  $t$ , and the notion of replacing zero or more occurrences of terms  $t_1$  in  $t$  by  $t_2$ . If  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{t}$  are sequences of variables and terms respectively, we will write  $t\{\vec{x}/\vec{t}\}$  to mean the real term obtained by substituting *all* occurrences of  $x_i$  by  $t_i$ .

The quantum formulas are built from classical formulas *comparison formulas* ( $t \leq t$ ) using the connectives  $\perp\!\!\!\perp$  and  $\sqsupset$ . The set of comparison formulas shall henceforth be called **qAtom** and we shall use  $\delta, \delta'$  to range over this set. Please note that quantum bottom  $\perp\!\!\!\perp$  and quantum implication  $\sqsupset$  should not be confused with their classical counterparts. For clarity sake, we shall often drop parenthesis in formulas and terms if it does not lead to ambiguity.

*Semantics.* The language is interpreted over a unit vector  $|\psi\rangle$  on the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_{\mathbf{qB}}$  spanned by all valuations over **qB**. For interpreting the variables, we also need the concept of an assignment. An *assignment*  $\rho$  is a map from  $X$ , the set of variables, such that  $\rho(x) \in \mathbb{R}$ . Given a classical state formula  $\alpha$  and a valuation  $v$  over **qB**, we shall also assume the definition of satisfaction of  $\alpha$  by  $v$ ; and write  $v \Vdash_c \alpha$  if  $v$  satisfies  $\alpha$ . For interpreting the probability terms ( $\int \alpha$ ), we shall use the *probability map*  $\mu_{|\psi\rangle} : \wp(\mathbf{qB}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined as:

$$\mu_{|\psi\rangle}(U) = \sum_{v \in U} \|\langle v | \psi \rangle\|^2.$$

For the probability terms, we shall also need the *extent* of classical formulas defined as:

$$|\alpha| = \{v \in \wp(\mathbf{qB}) : v \Vdash_c \alpha\}.$$

The terms  $\text{Re}(|\top\rangle_A)$  and  $\text{Im}(|\top\rangle_A)$  are interpreted as the real and complex parts of the logical amplitude  $\langle v_A | \psi \rangle$  where  $v_A$  is the valuation corresponding to the set  $A$ . Given a quantum state  $\psi$  and an assignment  $\rho$ , the *denotation of terms* and *satisfaction of quantum formulas* at  $|\psi\rangle$  and  $\rho$  is inductively defined in Table 2 (omitting the obvious ones).

Table 2: Semantics of dEQPL

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Denotation of terms

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket x \rrbracket_{|\psi\rangle\rho} &= \rho(x) \\ \llbracket (\int \alpha) \rrbracket_{|\psi\rangle\rho} &= \mu_{|\psi\rangle}(|\alpha|) \\ \llbracket \text{Re}(|\top\rangle_A) \rrbracket_{|\psi\rangle\rho} &= \text{Re}(\langle v_A | \psi \rangle) \\ \llbracket \text{Im}(|\top\rangle_A) \rrbracket_{|\psi\rangle\rho} &= \text{Im}(\langle v_A | \psi \rangle) \end{aligned}$$

Satisfaction of quantum formulas

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} (t_1 \leq t_2) &\quad \text{iff} \quad \llbracket t_1 \rrbracket_{|\psi\rangle\rho} \leq \llbracket t_2 \rrbracket_{|\psi\rangle\rho} \\ |\psi\rangle\rho \not\Vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \perp\!\!\!\perp & \\ |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} (\gamma_1 \sqsupset \gamma_2) &\quad \text{iff} \quad |\psi\rangle\rho \not\Vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \gamma_1 \text{ or } |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \gamma_2 \end{aligned}$$


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Please note that the assignment  $\rho$  is sufficient to interpret a useful sub-language of our quantum formulas defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} a &:= x \parallel m \parallel (a + a) \parallel (a a) \\ \kappa &:= (a \leq a) \parallel (\perp) \parallel (\kappa \supset \kappa) \end{aligned}$$

Henceforth, the terms of this sub-language will be called *analytical terms* and the formulas will be called *analytical formulas*.

*Abbreviations.* As anticipated, the proposed quantum language with the semantics above is rich enough to express interesting properties of quantum systems. To this end, it is quite useful to introduce other operations, connectives and modalities through abbreviations. We start with some additional quantum connectives:

- quantum negation:  $(\boxminus \gamma)$  for  $(\gamma \supset \perp)$ ;
- quantum disjunction:  $(\sqcup \gamma_1 \gamma_2)$  for  $((\boxminus \gamma_1) \supset \gamma_2)$ ;
- quantum conjunction:  $(\sqcap \gamma_1 \gamma_2)$  for  $(\boxminus((\boxminus \gamma_1) \sqcup (\boxminus \gamma_2)))$ ;
- quantum equivalence:  $(\equiv \gamma_1 \gamma_2)$  for  $((\gamma_1 \supset \gamma_2) \sqcap (\gamma_2 \supset \gamma_1))$ .

It is also useful to introduce some additional comparison formulas:

- $(t_1 < t_2)$  for  $((t_1 \leq t_2) \sqcap (\boxminus(t_2 \leq t_1)))$ ;
- $(t_1 = t_2)$  for  $((t_1 \leq t_2) \sqcap (t_2 \leq t_1))$ .

Given  $A \subseteq \mathbf{qB}$ , the following abbreviation will also be useful:

- $(\wedge A)$  for  $((\wedge_{\mathbf{qb}_k \in A} \mathbf{qb}_k) \wedge (\wedge_{\mathbf{qb}_k \notin A} (\neg \mathbf{qb}_k)))$ .

The above formula represents the valuation  $v_A$  in the language. The following abbreviation denotes the square of the absolute value of  $\langle v_A | \psi \rangle$ :

- $\|\top\|_A^2$  for  $((\text{Re}(\|\top\|_A))^2 + (\text{Im}(\|\top\|_A))^2)$ ;

The following abbreviation is also useful:

- $(\square \alpha)$  for  $(\int \alpha) = 1$ .

Intuitively, the formula  $(\square \alpha)$  means that the probability  $\alpha$  being true of the outcome of measuring all the qubits in the standard computational basis is 1.

## 2.2 Model-checking problem

For the model-checking procedure, we only consider closed formulas, *i.e.*, formulas without variables. We assume that a quantum state  $|\psi\rangle$  over  $\mathbf{qB}$  is modeled by a  $2^n$ -array of pairs of real numbers, with  $n = |\mathbf{qB}|$ . We also assume that the basic arithmetical operations take  $O(1)$  time.

We also assume the definition of the *length* of a classical formula  $\alpha$  or a quantum formula  $\gamma$  as the number of symbols required to write the formula. The length of a formula  $\xi$  (classical or quantum) is given is represented by  $|\xi|$ .

Given a quantum state  $\psi$  and a quantum formula  $\psi$ , the first step is to evaluate all the terms occurring in  $\gamma$ . For the probability terms  $\int \alpha$ , the evaluation takes  $2^n|\alpha|$  steps as we have to compute the set of valuations  $\wp(\mathbf{qB})$  that satisfy  $\alpha$ . Once, the terms are evaluated, the model checking algorithm is straightforward.

**Theorem 2.1** Assuming that all basic arithmetical operations take unit time, there is an algorithm  $O(|\gamma|.2^n)$  to decide if a quantum state  $|\psi\rangle$  over  $\mathbf{qB}$  satisfies  $\gamma$  with  $|\mathbf{qB}| = n$ .

**Proof:** First notice that the terms that consume more time to evaluate are those of the type  $(\int \alpha)$  (both the terms  $\text{Re}(|\top\rangle_A)$  and  $\text{Im}(|\top\rangle_B)$  can be accessed in  $O(1)$  time, since they are elements of the array). The number of terms of type  $(\int \alpha)$  is bounded by  $|\gamma|$ . To evaluate one of these terms we require  $O(2^n)$  time corresponding to traveling throughout all the valuations satisfying  $\alpha$ , computing the square of the real and imaginary part, and summing all these values. So, computing all  $(\int \alpha)$  terms takes  $O(|\gamma|.2^n)$  time.

After these values are obtained, the remaining computation (comparing terms, negating a boolean value, and making implications between boolean values) takes at most  $O(|\gamma|)$  time. Hence, the total time to decide if a quantum state  $|\psi\rangle$  satisfies  $\gamma$  is  $O(|\gamma|.2^n + |\gamma|) = O(|\gamma|.2^n)$ .  $\diamond$

### 2.3 Axiomatization

We need two new concepts for the axiomatization, one of quantum tautology and a second of valid analytical formulas.

Consider propositional formulas built from a countable set of propositional symbols  $Q$  using the classical connectives  $\Rightarrow$  and  $\perp$ . A quantum formula  $\gamma$  is said to be a *quantum tautology* if there is a propositional tautology  $\beta$  over  $Q$  and a map  $\sigma$  from  $Q$  to the set of quantum formulas such that  $\beta_\sigma$  coincides with  $\gamma$  where  $\beta_\sigma$  is the quantum formula obtained from  $\beta$  by replacing all occurrences of  $\perp$  by  $\perp$ ,  $\Rightarrow$  by  $\supset$  and  $q \in Q$  by  $\sigma(q)$ . For instance, the expected formula  $((y_1 \supset y_2) \supset (y_1 \supset y_2))$  is tautological (obtained, for example, from the propositional tautology  $q \Rightarrow q$ ).

Please recall that an assignment is enough to interpret analytical formulas. We say that an analytical formula  $\kappa$  is a *valid analytical formula* if it holds for any assignment. It is a well-known fact from the theory of real closed fields [5] that the set of valid analytical formulas so defined is decidable. However, we shall not go into details of this result and will focus our attention on reasoning about quantum aspects only.

The axioms and inference rules of dEQPL are listed in Table 3. The only inference rule is modus ponens for quantum implication **QMP**.

The axiom **QTaut** says that a quantum tautology is an axiom. Since the set of quantum tautologies is recursive, there is no need for spelling out details of tautological reasoning. The axiom **RCF** says that if  $\kappa$  is a valid arithmetical formula, then any formula obtained by replacing variables with the terms of **dEQPL** is a tautology. Since the set of valid arithmetical formulas is recursive, we refrain from spelling out the details. The axiom **Unit** says that a quantum state is a unit vector.

The axioms **CTaut**, **Meas $\emptyset$** , **FAdd** and **Mon** reasons about probability terms ( $f\alpha$ ). These axioms are basically the axioms (or minor variations of) the axioms of the probability logics in literature [14]. Hence, the probability logics in [14] can be seen as a sub-logic of **dEQPL**.

Finally, the axiom **Prob** relates probabilities and amplitudes. This axiom says that for any  $A \subset \mathbf{qB}$ , the probability of observing the valuation  $v_A$  when all qubits are measured is the square of the amplitude  $|\top\rangle_A$ .

Table 3: Axioms for **dEQPL**

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Axioms		
<b>[QTaut]</b>	$\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}}$	$\gamma$ for each quantum tautology $\gamma$
<b>[RCF]</b>	$\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}}$	$\kappa\{\vec{x}/\vec{t}\}$ where $\kappa$ is a valid analytical formula, $\vec{x}$ and $\vec{t}$ are sequences of variables and terms
<b>[Unit]</b>	$\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}}$	$((\sum_{A \subseteq \mathbf{qB}} \ \top\rangle_A\ ^2) = 1)$
<b>[CTaut]</b>	$\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}}$	$(\Box\alpha)$ for each classical tautology $\alpha$
<b>[Mes<math>\emptyset</math>]</b>	$\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}}$	$((f\perp) = 0)$
<b>[FAdd]</b>	$\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}}$	$((f(\alpha_1 \wedge \alpha_2)) = 0) \Box$ $((f\alpha_1 \vee \alpha_2) = (f\alpha_1) + (f\alpha_2))$
<b>[Mon]</b>	$\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}}$	$((\Box(f(\alpha_1 \Rightarrow \alpha_2))) \Box ((f\alpha_1) \leq (f\alpha_2)))$
<b>[Prob]</b>	$\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}}$	$((f\wedge A) = \ \top\rangle_A\ ^2)$
Inference rules		
<b>[QMP]</b>	$\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}}$	$\gamma_1, (\gamma_1 \Box \gamma_2) \vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}} \gamma_2$

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The axiomatization presented above is sound and weakly complete. The proof of weak completeness presented below follows the lines of the proof in [14, 9]. The proof of completeness also suggests an algorithm for deciding whether a formula is theorem of **dEQPL** or not. The central result in the completeness proof is the Model Existence Lemma, namely, if  $\gamma$  is *consistent* then there is a quantum state  $\psi$  and an assignment  $\rho$  such that  $|\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}} \gamma$ . A quantum formula  $\gamma$  is said to be consistent if  $\not\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}} (\Box\gamma)$ . A quantum formula  $\gamma$  is a

theorem if and only if  $(\exists \gamma)$  is inconsistent.

**Theorem 2.2 (Model Existence Theorem)** If the quantum formula  $\gamma$  is consistent then there is a unit vector  $|\psi\rangle$  and a  $\rho$  such that  $|\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \gamma$ .

**Proof:** Given a classical state formula  $\alpha$ , we can show using the axioms **CTaut**, **Meas $\emptyset$** , **FAdd** and **Mon** that  $\vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} ((f\alpha) = \sum_{\{A \subseteq \text{qB} \mid v_A \Vdash_c \alpha\}} (f \wedge A))$ . The axiom **Prob** then gives us that  $(f\alpha) = \sum_{\{A \subseteq \text{qB} \mid v_A \Vdash_c \alpha\}} \|\top\|_A^2$ . Hence, given a quantum formula  $\gamma$ , we can find an equivalent quantum formula that does not contain any probability terms.

Given a formula  $\gamma$  free of probability terms, consider the formula  $\gamma^\dagger \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\gamma \sqcap (\sum_{A \subseteq \text{qB}} \|\top\|_A^2 = 1))$ . Please note that  $\gamma$  is consistent iff  $\gamma^\dagger$  is consistent. Now, for each  $A \subseteq \text{qB}$ , pick two fresh variables  $x_A$  and  $y_A$ . Consider the formula  $\gamma^{\dagger\dagger}$  obtained from  $\gamma^\dagger$  by replacing each term  $\text{Re}(\|\top\|_A)$  by  $x_A$  and  $\text{Im}(\|\top\|_A)$  by  $y_A$ . Now, by axiom **RCE**,  $\gamma^\dagger$  is consistent if and only if  $\gamma^{\dagger\dagger}$  is consistent over the reals. Observe that  $\gamma^{\dagger\dagger}$  is a purely analytical formula. Therefore there is an assignment, say  $\rho'$ , that satisfies  $\gamma^{\dagger\dagger}$  or otherwise  $\vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \exists \gamma^{\dagger\dagger}$  by **RCE**, and  $\gamma^{\dagger\dagger}$  would not be consistent and neither would  $\gamma^\dagger$ , which is a contradiction. We conclude that there is such an assignment  $\rho'$ , and from this assignment we can construct  $|\psi\rangle$  and  $\rho$  that satisfies  $\gamma$  as required.  $\diamond$

As there is an algorithm for deciding the consistency of analytical formulas [5], the proof of the Model Existence Lemma suggests an algorithm for deciding the consistency of quantum formulas. We shall now compute the complexity of one such algorithm. We shall need a few definitions for this.

A term  $t$  of the dEQPL is said to be a *polynomial* in variables  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  if  $t$  is of the form  $(\sum m_{n_1, \dots, n_k} x_1^{n_1} \dots x_k^{n_k})$ . The *degree* of a polynomial term is defined as expected. We will also assume for the rest of the paper that each polynomial is in a normal form: for any two summands  $x_1^{n_1} \dots x_k^{n_k}$  and  $x_1^{n'_1} \dots x_k^{n'_k}$  there is some  $j$  such that  $n_j \neq n'_j$ . Now, given a set of classical formulas  $\mathcal{A} = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m\}$ , a set of variables  $\mathcal{V} = \{x_1, \dots, x_k, z_\alpha, \dots, z_{\alpha_m}\}$  and a set of polynomials  $\mathcal{P} = \{p_1, \dots, p_s\}$  with variables in the set  $\mathcal{V}$ , we say that a comparison formula  $(t \leq t')$  is an  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{P})$ -atom if  $t'$  is 0 and there is some polynomial term  $p \in \mathcal{P}$  such that replacing *all* occurrences of the variables  $z_{\alpha_i}$  by  $(f\alpha_i)$  for each  $(1 \leq i \leq m)$  yields  $t$ . A dEQPL formula  $\gamma$  is said to be a  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{P})$ -formula if each comparison formula occurring in  $\gamma$  is an  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{P})$ -atom. We have:

**Theorem 2.3** Let the set  $\text{qB}$  have  $n$  elements. Let  $\mathcal{A} = \{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m\}$  be a set of classical formulas,  $\mathcal{V} = \{x_1, \dots, x_k, z_\alpha, \dots, z_{\alpha_m}\}$  be a set of variables and  $\mathcal{P} = \{p_1, \dots, p_s\}$  be a set of polynomials with variables in  $\mathcal{V}$ . Let the degree of each polynomial in  $\mathcal{P}$  be bounded by  $d$  and let  $r = 2^{n+1} + k + m$ . Then, assuming that all basic integer operations take unit time, there is an  $O(|\gamma|(s+m+1)^r(\max(d, 2))^{O(r)})$  algorithm to decide the whether an  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{P})$ -formula  $\gamma$  is a theorem or not.



**Proof:** For each  $\alpha_i \in \mathcal{V}$  compute the set  $\mathcal{B}_i = \{A \subseteq \mathbf{qB} \mid v_A \Vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}} \alpha_i\}$ . Computation of each  $\mathcal{B}_i$  takes at most  $\mathcal{O}(2^n |\alpha_i|)$  steps, where  $|\alpha_i|$  is the length of  $\alpha_i$ . Since the sum  $(\sum_{1 \leq i \leq m} |\alpha_i|)$  is less than  $|\gamma|$ , this whole computation takes at most  $\mathcal{O}(2^n |\gamma|)$  steps. Please note that  $(2^n |\gamma|)$  is bounded by  $|\gamma|(s+m+1)^r (\max(d, 2))^{\mathcal{O}(r)}$ .

Given a  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{P})$ -formula  $\gamma$ , let  $\gamma_1$  be the formula obtained by replacing all probability terms  $(\int \alpha_i)$  by  $z_{\alpha_i}$ . Now, for each  $A \subset \mathbf{qB}$ , pick two fresh variables  $x_A$  and  $y_A$  and consider the formula

$$\gamma^\dagger = \gamma_1 \sqcap (\prod_{1 \leq i \leq m} (z_{\alpha_i}^2 - \sum_{A \in \mathcal{B}_i} (x_A^2 + y_A^2) = 0)) \sqcap ((\sum_{A \subseteq \mathbf{qB}} x_A^2 + y_A^2) - 1 = 0).$$

We make a few observations here:

- $\gamma$  is consistent iff and only if  $\gamma^\dagger$  is.
- $\gamma^\dagger$  is purely analytical.
- $\gamma^\dagger$  is built from comparison formulas of the form  $(p \leq 0)$  or  $(p = 0)$  where each  $p$  is a polynomial in the set
$$\mathcal{P}' = \mathcal{P} \cup \{(z_{\alpha_i}^2 - \sum_{A \in \mathcal{B}_i} (x_A^2 + y_A^2)) \mid 1 \leq i \leq m\} \cup \{(\sum_{A \subseteq \mathbf{qB}} x_A^2 + y_A^2) - 1\}.$$
- $\mathcal{P}'$  has  $(s+m+1)$  polynomials. The degree of each polynomial is bounded by  $\max(d, 2)$  and is built from  $r = 2^{n+1} + k + m$  variables.
- The length of  $\gamma^\dagger$  is  $\mathcal{O}(|\gamma| + m(\max(d, 2))^{\mathcal{O}(r)})$ .

Assuming that integer operations take unit time, the results of [5] then gives an  $\mathcal{O}(|\gamma|(s+m+1)^r (\max(d, 2))^{\mathcal{O}(r)})$  algorithm to decide consistency of  $\gamma^\dagger$  which concludes the proof of the corollary .  $\diamond$

### 3 Quantum Computational Tree Logic

We now introduce a temporal version of dEQPL by adopting the temporal modalities of computational tree logic (CTL) [10]. The logic is interpreted over a transition system in which the states are quantum states and the transitions are unitary operators. We also provide a sound and complete proof system by enriching the usual CTL proof system with the axioms of the quantum state logic. We start by briefly recalling the syntax, semantics and proof system of CTL.

#### 3.1 Computational Tree Logic

**Syntax.** We shall assume that there is a countable set of propositional symbols  $\Xi$ . Assuming the set  $\Xi$ , the formulas of a CTL are given in BNF notation as-

$$\eta := \perp \mid p \mid (\eta \sqsupset \eta) \mid EX\eta \mid AF\eta \mid E[\eta \cup \eta]$$

where  $p \in \Xi$ .

**Semantics.** The semantics of the temporal logic CTL is given using a Kripke structure

**Definition 3.1 (Kripke Structure)** A *Kripke structure* over a set of propositions  $\Xi$  is a tuple  $\mathcal{K} = (S, R, L)$  where:

- $S$  is a set, elements of which are called *states*.
- $R \subseteq S \times S$  is said to be the *accessibility relation* and it is assumed that for every  $s \in S$  there exists  $s' \in S$  such that  $(s, s') \in R$ .
- $L : S \rightarrow \wp(\Xi)$  is said to be a *labeling function*.

Given a Kripke structure,  $\mathcal{K} = (S, R, L)$ , an infinite sequence of states  $s_1 s_2 \dots$  is said to be a *computation path* if for  $(s_i, s_{i+1}) \in R$  for all  $i \geq 1$ . The semantics of CTL is defined in terms of a Kripke structure  $\mathcal{K}$  and a state  $s$  of the Kripke structure. Intuitively, the modalities are composed by two symbols where the first one is chosen between E or A and the second one amongst X, F, G and the bi-modality U. The second symbol is used for temporal reasoning: X stands for next; F for sometime in the future; G for always in the future; and U for until. The first symbol quantifies over computation paths: an existential (E - for there exists) path or a universal (A - for all) paths. The combination of the two symbols can be easily guessed. For example, the formula EX $\eta$  holds in a state  $s$  if there exists a next state  $s'$  (that is,  $(s, s') \in R$ ) that satisfies  $\eta$ . Given a Kripke structure  $\mathcal{K}$ , a state  $s$  of the Kripke structure, and a CTL formula  $\eta$ , the formal semantics is defined inductively in terms of a relation  $\mathcal{K}, s \Vdash \eta$  and is given in Table 4.

Table 4: Semantics of CTL

---

$\mathcal{K}, s \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \perp$	iff never;
$\mathcal{K}, s \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} p$	iff $p \in L(s)$ ;
$\mathcal{K}, s \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} (\eta_1 \sqsupset \eta_2)$	iff $\mathcal{K}, s \not\Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \eta_1$ or $\mathcal{K}, s \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \eta_2$
$\mathcal{K}, s \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \text{EX}\eta$	iff $\mathcal{K}, s' \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \eta$ for some $(s, s') \in R$ ;
$\mathcal{K}, s \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \text{AF}\eta$	iff for all paths $s_1 s_2 \dots$ with $s = s_1$ there is some $i \geq 1$ such that $\mathcal{K}, s_i \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \eta$ ;
$\mathcal{K}, s \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \text{E}[\eta_1 \text{U}\eta_2]$	iff there is a path $s_1 s_2 \dots$ with $s = s_1$ such that for some $i \geq 1$ $\mathcal{K}, s_i \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \eta_2$ and $\mathcal{K}, s_j \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \eta_1$ for $1 \leq j < i$ .

---

**Axiomatization.** The temporal logic CTL enjoys a sound and complete axiomatization [12]. In order to give the axiomatization, we need to introduce some useful abbreviations-

- $(AX\theta)$  for  $\exists EX(\exists\theta)$ ;
- $(EF\theta)$  for  $\exists(E[(\exists\perp)\cup\theta])$ ;
- $(AG\theta)$  for  $\exists(\exists(EF(\exists\theta)))$ ;
- $(EG\theta)$  for  $\exists(\exists(AF(\exists\theta)))$ ;
- $A[\theta_1\cup\theta_2]$  for  $\exists(E[(\exists\theta_2)\cup(\exists\theta_1\cap\exists\theta_2)])\cap(\exists(EG(\exists\theta_2)))$ .

The proof system  $HC_{CTL}$  of CTL is given in Table 5. The following result is proved in [12].

**Theorem 3.2** *The proof system  $HC_{CTL}$  is sound and weakly complete with respect to Kripke structures.*

Table 5:  $HC_{CTL}$  : complete calculus for CTL

---

Axioms	
[Taut]	All propositional tautologies with propositional symbols substituted by CTL formulas;
[EX]	$\vdash_{CTL} EX(\eta_1 \sqcup \eta_2) \equiv EX\eta_1 \sqcup EX\eta_2$
[X]	$\vdash_{CTL} AX(\exists\perp) \cap EX(\exists\perp)$
[EU]	$\vdash_{CTL} E[\eta_1\cup\eta_2] \equiv \eta_2 \sqcup (\eta_1 \cap EX(E[\eta_1\cup\eta_2]))$
[AU]	$\vdash_{CTL} A[\eta_1\cup\eta_2] \equiv \eta_2 \sqcup (\eta_1 \cap AX(A[\eta_1\cup\eta_2]))$
[AG1]	$\vdash_{CTL} AG(\eta_3 \supset ((\exists\eta_2) \cap EX\eta_3)) \supset (\eta_3 \supset (\exists A[\eta_1\cup\eta_2]))$
[AG2]	$\vdash_{CTL} AG(\eta_3 \supset ((\exists\eta_2) \cap (\eta_1 \supset AX\eta_3))) \supset (\eta_3 \supset (\exists E[\eta_1\cup\eta_2]))$
[AG3]	$\vdash_{CTL} AG(\eta_1 \supset \eta_2) \supset (EX\eta_1 \supset EX\eta_2)$
Inference rules	
[MP]	$\eta_1, (\eta_1 \supset \eta_2) \vdash_{CTL} \eta_2$
[AGen]	$\eta_1 \vdash_{CTL} AG\eta_1$

---

### 3.2 QCTL: Syntax and semantics

**Syntax.** Please recall that given the state logic dEQPL (see Section 2) describes quantum states over a finite set of qubits  $qB$  and is interpreted over unit vectors in the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_{qB}$  and assignments  $\rho : \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  where  $\mathbf{X}$  is a countable set of variables.

Table 6: Language of QCTL

QCTL formulas

$$\theta := \gamma \mid (\theta \sqsupset \theta) \mid EX\theta \mid AF\theta \mid E[\theta U\theta] \text{ where } \gamma \text{ is a dEQPL formula.}$$

The formulas of Quantum Computation Tree Logic (QCTL) are obtained by enriching the quantum formulas with CTL modalities and are depicted in Table 6.

As in the case of CTL formulas, other temporal modalities  $AX\theta$ ,  $EF\theta$ ,  $AG\theta$ ,  $EG\theta$  and  $A[\theta_1 U\theta_2]$  are introduced as abbreviations. The intuitive semantics of the temporal modalities is similar to those in classical CTL.

**Semantics.** In order to provide semantics to the logic, we introduce a very simple notion of quantum Kripke structure.

**Definition 3.3 (Quantum Kripke structure)** A *finite quantum Kripke structure* over the set of qubits  $qB$  and variables  $X$  is a pair  $\mathcal{T} = (S, R)$  where:

- $S \subseteq \mathcal{H}_{qB} \times \mathbb{R}^X$  is a set of pairs  $(\psi, \rho)$  such that  $\psi$  is a unit vector in  $\mathcal{H}_{qB}$  and  $\rho$  is an assignment; and
- $R \subseteq S \times S$  is a relation such that for any  $(\psi, \rho) \in S$ , there is an  $(\psi', \rho') \in S$  such that  $((\psi, \rho), (\psi', \rho')) \in R$ .

If  $S$  is finite then  $\mathcal{T}$  is said to be *finite* and the  $|S|$ , the number of elements of  $S$ , is said to be the *size* of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

For the sake of brevity, we shall often write the pair  $(|\psi\rangle, \rho)$  as  $\psi\rho$ . As usual, a computation path is a infinite sequence  $|\psi_1\rangle\rho_1|\psi_2\rangle\rho_2\dots$  such that for any  $i \geq 1$ , we have  $(|\psi_i\rangle\rho_i, |\psi_{i+1}\rangle\rho_{i+1}) \in R$ . Given a quantum Kripke structure  $\mathcal{T} = (S, R)$ , a pair  $(\psi, \rho) \in S$  and a QCTL formula  $\theta$ , the semantics of QCTL is defined in terms of a relation  $\mathcal{T}, |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma$  given in Table 7.

It is easy to see that for closed formulas *i.e.*, formulas without variables, we can drop the assignment in the interpretation side of the satisfaction relation. A quantum Kripke structure  $\mathcal{T}$  is said to satisfy a temporal formula  $\theta$ , which we denote by  $\mathcal{T} \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta$ , if  $\mathcal{T}, |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta$  for all  $|\psi\rangle\rho \in S$ . Please note that although we are not considering generalized measurements. However, we will be able to reason about protocols where measurements in the standard computational basis are performed at the end of the protocol, thanks to the probability terms  $\int \alpha$  in the state logic. Similarly, classical states (bits) can be simulated by quantum states (qubits) that remain in the computational basis throughout the transitions.

Table 7: Semantics of QCTL

---

$\mathcal{T},  \psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma$	iff	$ \psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma$ ;
$\mathcal{T},  \psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} (\theta_1 \sqsupset \theta_2)$	iff	$\mathcal{T},  \psi\rangle\rho \not\Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta_1$ or $\mathcal{T},  \psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta_2$
$\mathcal{T},  \psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \text{EX}\theta$	iff	$\mathcal{T},  \psi'\rangle\rho' \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta$ for some $ \psi'\rangle\rho' \in S$ such that $( \psi\rangle\rho,  \psi'\rangle\rho') \in R$ ;
$\mathcal{T},  \psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \text{AF}\theta$	iff	for all paths $ \psi_1\rangle\rho_1 \psi_2\rangle\rho_2\dots$ with $\psi_1 = \psi, \rho_1 = \rho$ there is a $i \geq 1$ such that $\mathcal{T},  \psi_i\rangle\rho_i \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta$ ;
$\mathcal{T},  \psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \text{E}[\theta_1 \text{U}\theta_2]$	iff	there is a path $ \psi_1\rangle\rho_1 \psi_2\rangle\rho_2\dots$ with $\psi_1 = \psi, \rho_1 = \rho$ such that for some $i \geq 1$ $\mathcal{T},  \psi_i\rangle\rho_i \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta_2$ and $\mathcal{T},  \psi_j\rangle\rho_j \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta_1$ for $1 \leq j < i$ .

---

### 3.3 Axiomatization

A weakly complete axiomatization of QCTL capitalizing on the complete CTL calculus  $HC_{\text{CTL}}$  is given in Table 8. Please note that although the completeness of the calculus may look trivial, but the proof of completeness is subtle. This is because the connectives  $\perp\!\!\!\perp$  and  $\sqsupset$  are shared between dEQPL and CTL logics which may create new theorems that will not be obtained by just adding the dEQPL axioms to CTL axioms.

Table 8:  $HC_{\text{QCTL}}$  calculus for QCTL

---

Axioms	
[QTeo]	All dEQPL theorems;
[CTLTaut]	All CTL tautologies with propositional symbols substituted by QCTL formulas;
Inference rules	
[QMP]	$\theta_1, (\theta_1 \sqsupset \theta_2) \vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta_2$
[AGen]	$\theta_1 \vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \text{AG}\theta_1$

---

It is straightforward to check the soundness of the calculus, for this reason we omit here the lengthy exercise of verifying that all axioms and inference rules are sound.

**Theorem 3.4 (Soundness)** *The axiomatization  $HC_{QCTL}$  is sound.*

The completeness of the calculus is established by following a technique introduced in [7, 4]. Towards this end, it will be useful to translate QCTL formulas and models to the CTL framework. Consider first the subset of atomic dEQPL formulas  $\mathbf{qAtom}$  (i.e., the set constituted by comparison formulas  $(t_1 \leq t_2)$ ). Let  $\Xi$  be the countable set of propositional symbols used to write CTL formulas. Given a fixed bijective map  $\lambda : \mathbf{qAtom} \rightarrow \Xi$  (that translates each global atom to a CTL propositional symbol) we can translate each dEQPL formula  $\theta$  to a CTL formula  $\lambda(\theta)$  by extending inductively  $\lambda$  on the structure of the formula  $\theta$  (and preserving all connectives). For simplicity, we denote  $\lambda(\theta)$  just by  $\tilde{\theta}$ . The map  $\lambda$  can also be used to translate a quantum Kripke structure  $\mathcal{T} = (S, R)$  to the CTL model  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}} = (S, R, L)$ , where  $p \in L(|\psi\rangle\rho)$  if  $|\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}} \lambda^{-1}(p)$ .

**Lemma 3.5** *Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be an quantum Kripke structure. Then,*

$$\mathcal{T}, |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{QCTL} \theta \quad \text{iff} \quad \tilde{\mathcal{T}}, |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{CTL} \tilde{\theta}.$$

**Proof:** The proof follows by straightforward induction on the structure of  $\theta$ .

- Base: If  $\theta$  is  $\perp$  or  $(t_1 \leq t_2)$  then  $\mathcal{T}, |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{QCTL} \theta$  iff  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}, |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{CTL} \tilde{\theta}$  by definition.
- Step: For the sake of simplicity, we just consider the case when  $\theta$  is  $\text{EX}\theta_1$ . The other cases can be similarly handled.

Now, if  $\mathcal{T}, |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{QCTL} \text{EX}\theta_1$  then there is a  $|\psi'\rangle\rho'$  such that  $(|\psi\rangle\rho, |\psi'\rangle\rho') \in R$  and  $\mathcal{T}, |\psi'\rangle\rho' \Vdash_{QCTL} \theta_1$ . By induction,  $\mathcal{T}, |\psi'\rangle\rho' \Vdash_{CTL} \theta_1$  iff  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}, |\psi'\rangle\rho' \Vdash_{CTL} \tilde{\theta}_1$ . Thus, by definition  $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}, |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{CTL} \tilde{\theta}$ . The other direction can be similarly proved.

◇

QCTL incorporates both CTL and dEQPL reasoning.

**Lemma 3.6** *For any QCTL formula  $\theta$*

- $\vdash_{CTL} \tilde{\theta}$  then  $\vdash_{QCTL} \theta$ ;
- $\vdash_{\mathbf{dEQPL}} \gamma$  then  $\vdash_{QCTL} \gamma$  if  $\gamma$  is a dEQPL formula.

**Proof:** Follows directly from axioms **CTLTaut** and **QTeo**.

◇

Indeed, if one restricts just to dEQPL formulas, QCTL reasoning coincides with that of dEQPL.

**Lemma 3.7 (Conservative Extension)** *Let  $\gamma$  be an dEQPL formula. Then*

$$\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma \quad \text{iff} \quad \vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \gamma.$$

**Proof:** In light of Lemma 3.6, it suffices to show that if  $\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma$  then  $\vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \gamma$ . Suppose  $\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma$ . Then  $\Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma$  by soundness of QCTL. Let  $|\psi\rangle$  be an arbitrary unit vector in  $\mathcal{H}_{\text{qB}}$  and  $\rho$  an arbitrary assignment. Consider the quantum Kripke structure  $\mathcal{T} = (\{|\psi\rangle\rho\}, \{(|\psi\rangle\rho, |\psi\rangle\rho)\})$ . We have that  $\mathcal{T}, |\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma$ . By definition, we get  $|\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \gamma$ . Since  $\psi$  and  $\rho$  are arbitrary, we get  $\Vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \gamma$ . By completeness of dEQPL, we get  $\vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \gamma$ .  $\diamond$

The following Lemma is crucial to the proof of completeness.

**Lemma 3.8** *Let  $\theta$  be an QCTL formula such that  $\Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta$ . Then there is a dEQPL formula  $\gamma_\theta$  such that*

$$\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma_\theta \text{ and } \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} (\text{AG}\tilde{\gamma}_\theta \sqsupset \tilde{\theta}).$$

**Proof:** Let  $at = \{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k\}$  be the set of atomic dEQPL formulas that are atoms of  $\theta$ . Now for each  $k$ -vector  $i \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , consider the dEQPL formula

$$\delta_i = \prod_{j=1}^k \varphi_j \quad \text{where} \quad \varphi_j = \begin{cases} \gamma_j & \text{if } j\text{-th bit of } i \text{ is } 1 \\ (\exists \gamma_j) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Let  $K \subseteq \{0, 1\}^k$  be such that  $\delta_i$  is a dEQPL consistent formula and let  $\gamma_\theta = \bigsqcup_{i \in K} \delta_i$ . Clearly,  $\vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \gamma_\theta$  and therefore by Lemma 3.7,  $\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma_\theta$ . Also please note for any quantum state  $|\psi\rangle$  and assignment  $\rho$ ,  $|\psi\rangle\rho \Vdash \delta_i$  for exactly one  $i \in K$ .

We shall prove  $\Vdash_{\text{CTL}} (\text{AG}\tilde{\gamma}_\theta \sqsupset \tilde{\theta})$  by contradiction. Suppose that  $\mathcal{K} = (\text{S}, \text{R}, \text{L})$  is a CTL model such that  $\mathcal{K}, s \not\Vdash_{\text{CTL}} (\text{AG}\tilde{\gamma}_\theta \sqsupset \tilde{\theta})$  for some  $s \in \text{S}$ . Then  $\Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \text{AG}\tilde{\gamma}_\theta$ . and  $\mathcal{K}, s \not\Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \tilde{\theta}$ . Let  $\text{S}' = \{s' \in \text{S} : s' \text{ is reachable from } s\}$  (by reachable we mean reachable using the accessibility relation  $\text{R}$ ).

Pick  $s' \in \text{S}'$  and fix it. Since  $\Vdash_{\text{CTL}} (\text{AG}\tilde{\gamma}_\theta \sqsupset \tilde{\theta})$ , we get that  $\mathcal{K} \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \tilde{\gamma}_\theta$ . Hence, there is some  $i_{s'} \in K$  such that  $\mathcal{K}, s' \Vdash_{\text{CTL}} \tilde{\delta}_{i_{s'}}$ . Since  $\tilde{\delta}_{i_{s'}}$  is consistent dEQPL formula, there is a unit vector  $|\psi_{s'}\rangle$  and an assignment  $\rho_{s'}$  such that  $|\psi_{s'}\rangle\rho_{s'} \Vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \tilde{\delta}_{i_{s'}}$ . Consider the set  $\text{S}_\theta = \{(|\psi_{s'}\rangle, \rho_{s'}) : s' \in \text{S}'\}$  and the QCTL model  $\mathcal{T} = (\text{S}_\theta, \text{R}_\theta)$ , where  $(|\psi_{s'}\rangle\rho_{s'}, |\psi_{s''}\rangle\rho_{s''}) \in \text{R}_\theta$  iff  $(s', s'') \in \text{R}$ . Using the fact that  $\mathcal{K}, s \not\Vdash \tilde{\theta}$ , it is easy to show that  $\mathcal{T}, |\psi_s\rangle\rho_s \not\Vdash \tilde{\theta}$  which contradicts  $\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma_\theta$   $\diamond$

We are now able to show the completeness of  $\text{HCQCTL}$ .

**Theorem 3.9** *The axiomatization  $\text{HCQCTL}$  is weakly complete.*

**Proof:** Let  $\Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta$  be a valid QCTL formula. With  $\gamma_\theta$  as above and by Lemma 3.8,  $\Vdash_{\text{CTL}} (\text{AG}\tilde{\gamma}_\theta \sqsupset \tilde{\theta})$ . Using CTL completeness we have  $\vdash_{\text{CTL}} (\text{AG}\tilde{\gamma}_\theta \sqsupset \tilde{\theta})$ . Now, from Lemma 3.6 we get  $\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} (\text{AG}\gamma_\theta \sqsupset \theta)$ .

Hence, we are able to do the following derivation in QCTL:

- |    |  |                      |
|----|--|----------------------|
| 1) | $\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \gamma_\theta$                             | Tautology            |
| 2) | $\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} (\text{AG}\gamma_\theta)$                  | Rule <b>AGen</b>     |
| 3) | $\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} (\text{AG}\gamma_\theta \sqsupset \theta)$ | Lemma 3.8, Lemma 3.6 |
| 4) | $\vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta$                                    | Modus Ponens 2, 3    |

Therefore,  $HC_{\text{QCTL}}$  is complete.  $\diamond$

### 3.4 Model-checking problem

We now address the problem of model-checking a closed temporal formulas. Following the usual model-checking technique for CTL, the goal is to compute the set

$$\text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\theta) := \{|\psi\rangle \in S : \mathcal{T}, |\psi\rangle \Vdash_{\text{QCTL}} \theta\}$$

for a given finite quantum Kripke structure  $\mathcal{T} = (S, R)$  and closed formula  $\theta$  (please note that assignments play no part the entailment relation for closed formulas). This is called the global model-checking problem. The (global) model-checking algorithm is given in Table 9.

Table 9: Algorithm to determine  $\text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\theta)$

- 
- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| (1) $\text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\gamma)$                           | = | $\{ \psi\rangle \in S :  \psi\rangle \Vdash_{\text{dEQPL}} \gamma\};$   |
| (2) $\text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\theta_1 \sqsupset \theta_2)$      | = | $(S \setminus \text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\theta_1)) \cup \text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\theta_2)$                                |
| (3) $\text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}\text{EX}\theta$                    | = | $\{ \psi\rangle \in S : R( \psi\rangle) \cap \text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\theta) \neq \emptyset\};$                          |
| (4) $\text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}\text{AF}\theta$                    | = | <b>FixedPoint</b> $[\lambda X. \{R^{-1}X\} \cup X, \text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\theta)];$                                    |
| (5) $\text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\text{E}[\theta_1 \cup \theta_2])$ | = | <b>FixedPoint</b> $[\lambda X. \{R^{-1}X \cap \text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\theta_1)\}, \text{Sat}_{\mathcal{T}}(\theta_2)];$ |

where  $R^{-1}X = \{\psi \in S \mid \exists \psi' \in X, \rho, \rho' \text{ s.t. } (|\psi\rangle\rho, |\psi'\rangle\rho') \in R\}$ .

---

Clearly, quantum Kripke structures require, in general, exponential space (over the number of qubits) to simulate with classical computers due to the exponential number of possible state superpositions. For this reason, the model checking algorithm takes exponential time on the number of qubits, but it is polynomial on the size of the transition system and the complexity of the formula.



**Theorem 3.10** Assuming that all basic arithmetical operations take unit time, the algorithm in Table 9 takes  $O(|\theta|^2 \cdot |S_{\mathcal{T}}|^2 \cdot 2^n)$  time.

**Proof:** The propositional CTL model-checking algorithm takes  $O(|\theta| \cdot |S_{\mathcal{T}}|^2)$  (see [10] for a detailed analysis). So, if we consider each quantum atom to be a propositional symbol, the time complexity of the algorithm would be  $O(|\theta| \cdot |S_{\mathcal{T}}|^2)$ . Finally, since checking if a quantum atom is satisfied by a quantum states takes  $O(|\theta| \cdot 2^n)$  (c.f. Theorem 2.1) we derive the desired upper bound. Recall that we consider all arithmetic computations to be  $O(1)$  by using floating point representation for the real numbers.  $\diamond$

## 4 Example: BB84 Protocol

In this section we reason about a simplified version of the BB84 key distribution protocol [6] to illustrate the power of QCTL. We assume the reader is conversant with this protocol since it will not be presented here.

For the sake of simplicity, we consider that the protocol distributes a key of one bit. The property we desire to model check is the soundness of the protocol, that is, if there is no interference by Eve (and no decoherence occurs) Alice and Bob will obtain the same key (provided they chose the same basis).

We start by presenting the protocol as a quantum Kripke structure where the set of worlds  $S$  corresponds to the state of five bits  $\{b_A, b_B, k, s, e\}$  and one qubit  $\{m\}$ . Bit  $b_A$  encodes the basis that Alice will use to send the key  $k$  through qubit  $m$ . So, Alice sends the qubit  $m$  to Bob at the following state depending on the values of  $b_A$  and  $k$ :

- $|0\rangle$  if  $b_A = k = 0$ ;
- $|1\rangle$  if  $b_A = 0$  and  $k = 1$ ;
- $\frac{1}{2}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle)$  if  $b_A = 1$  and  $k = 0$ ;
- $\frac{1}{2}(|0\rangle - |1\rangle)$  if  $b_A = k = 1$ .

Similarly,  $b_B$  encodes the basis that Bob will use to observe the qubit  $m$  he receives. Since we only allow measurements over the computational basis, if  $b_B = 1$  (that is, Bob should use the diagonal measurement) Bob applies a unitary transformation to  $m$  in order to obtain the same value measuring with the computational basis that he would using the diagonal basis.

The bits  $s$  and  $e$  are used to model the status of the protocol. Bit  $s$  takes value 1 if Alice has just sent a message to Bob and value 0 otherwise. Bit  $e$  indicates if the protocol has ended or not. So, the evolution of the pair  $(s, e)$  throughout the protocol is  $(0, 0) \rightarrow (1, 0) \rightarrow (0, 1)$ .

Bits are modeled by qubits that remain in the computational basis. Thus, the states of the bits  $b_A, b_B, k, s$ , and  $e$  will be modeled by the elements of the computational basis  $\{|b_A, b_B, k, s, e\rangle : b_A, b_B, k, s, e \in \{0, 1\}\}$ . We consider the qubit  $m$  to be initialized to  $|0\rangle$  and, so, there are eighth worlds denoting possible

initial states of the protocol:  $I = \{|b_a, b_B, k, 0, 0, 0\rangle : b_a, b_B, k \in \{0, 1\}\}$ . There remaining states, are those that are reachable with the accessibility relation.

The accessibility relation  $R$  is described by a unitary operation  $U$  such that  $|\psi\rangle R U|\psi\rangle$  (for this example, we assume that the real variable assignment  $\gamma$  is the same in all worlds). The unitary operation  $U$  is a composition of two unitaries, that ism  $U = U_r.U_s$ , where  $U_s$  deals with Alice sending the message to Bob and  $U_r$  with Bob receiving the message. The idea is that  $U_r$  behaves like the identity if the qubit was not sent by Alice while  $U_s$  will behave like the identity otherwise. Both  $U_s$  and  $U_r$  are easily described as controlled operations. The operator  $U_s$  is  $U_{s4}.U_{s3}.U_{s2}.U_{s1}$  where:

- $U_{s1}|0, b_B, 1, 0, 0, m\rangle = |0, b_B, 1, 0, 0, 1 - m\rangle$  and behaves like the identity for the remaining elements of the basis;
- $U_{s2}|1, b_B, 0, 0, 0, m\rangle = |1, b_B, 0, 0, 0\rangle \otimes H|m\rangle$  and behaves like the identity for the remaining elements of the basis where  $H$  is the Hadamard transformation;
- $U_{s3}|1, b_B, 1, 0, 0, m\rangle = |1, b_B, 1, 0, 0\rangle \otimes H|1 - m\rangle$  and behaves like the identity for the remaining elements of the basis;
- $U_{s4}|b_a, b_B, k, s, 0, m\rangle = |b_a, b_B, k, 1 - s, 0, m\rangle$  and behaves like the identity for the remaining elements of the basis.

The unitary transformations  $U_{s1}, U_{s2}$  and  $U_{s3}$  deal with Alice encoding  $m$  to Bob and  $U_{s4}$  updates the state of the pair  $(s, e)$  from  $(0, 0)$  to  $(1, 0)$ .

Similarly, the operator  $U_r$  is described by  $U_{r2}.U_{r1}$  where:

- $U_{r1}|b_A, 1, k, 0, 0, m\rangle = |b_A, 1, k, 0, 0\rangle \otimes H|m\rangle$  and behaves like the identity for the remaining elements of the basis;
- $U_{r2}|b_A, b_B, k, 0, e, m\rangle = |b_A, b_B, k, 0, 1 - e, m\rangle$  and behaves like the identity for the remaining elements of the basis.

The unitary transformation  $U_{r1}$  deals with the change of basis that Bob performs when  $b_B = 1$  and  $U_{r2}$  (together with  $U_{s4}$ ) updates the state of the pair  $(s, e)$  from  $(1, 0)$  to  $(0, 1)$  (note that  $U_{s4}$  changes the state of  $(s, e)$  from  $(1, 0)$  to  $(0, 0)$  and that  $U_{r2}$  then changes it to  $(0, 1)$ ).

The BB84 protocol is described by two applications of  $U_a$  over an initial state. At the end of the protocol a measurement is performed by Bob over the qubit  $m$ . Thus, the quantum Kripke structure modeling the simple BB84 protocol is given by  $(S, R)$  where  $S = \{U^n|\psi\rangle : n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \text{ and } |\psi\rangle \in I\}$  and  $R$  is such that  $|\psi\rangle R U|\psi\rangle$ , with set of qubits  $qB = \{b_A, b_B, k, s, e, m\}$ .

The soundness of the protocol states that if  $b_A = b_B$  then at the end of the protocol, the key  $k$  should be the same as the value that Bob observes in  $m$ . This property can be described by the formula  $\theta$  below:

$$(\Box(b_A \Leftrightarrow b_B)) \sqsupset (A[(\Box(\Box e))U((\Box e) \sqcap ((\Box k) \equiv (f m = 1)))]).$$

It is now possible to use the algorithm in Table 9 to check that  $\mathcal{T} \Vdash \theta$ .

## 5 Conclusions

We present a sound and complete temporal quantum logic combining the quantum state logic given in [9] with the computational tree logic CTL [10]. The model-checking algorithm of CTL was extended to deal with quantum states. The use of the quantum temporal logic was illustrated with BB84 protocol [6].

This work can be extended in several directions. First, on the state logic part, density operators could replace unit vectors thus giving a global phase independent semantics. On the temporal part, quantum Kripke structure should allow arbitrary measurements. For this, the state logic based on density operators is more suitable. We also plan to investigate other temporal extensions to quantum logic, like linear temporal logic and full branching time logic.

On the algorithmic side, the complexity class of the SAT and the model-checking problem for both the state and the temporal logic need to be investigated.

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