

Model checking quantum Markov chains

Yuan Feng, Nengkun Yu, and Mingsheng Ying

University of Technology Sydney, Australia,
Tsinghua University, China

Model checking quantum Markov chains. *Journal of Computer and System Sciences* 79, 1181-1198, (2013)

Reachability of recursive quantum Markov chains. *Proceedings of the 38th Int. Symp. on Mathematical Foundations of Computer Science (MFCS'13)* 385-396.

Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Basic notions from quantum information theory
- 3 Quantum Markov chain
- 4 Quantum computation tree logic
- 5 Algorithm
- 6 Summary



Outline

- 1 Motivation**
- 2 Basic notions from quantum information theory
- 3 Quantum Markov chain
- 4 Quantum computation tree logic
- 5 Algorithm
- 6 Summary



Motivation

- Quantum mechanics is highly counterintuitive; flaws and errors creep in during the design of quantum programs and quantum protocols.
- So, it is indispensable to develop techniques of verifying and debugging quantum systems.



Model checking

- Model-checking is one of the dominant techniques for verification of classical hardware as well as software systems.
- It has proved mature as witnessed by a large number of successful industrial applications.
- Quantum model checking???



Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Basic notions from quantum information theory**
- 3 Quantum Markov chain
- 4 Quantum computation tree logic
- 5 Algorithm
- 6 Summary



Probability Theory v.s. Quantum Information Theory

Binary Random Variable X :

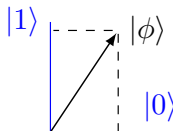
$X = 0$ or $X = 1$



Quantum bit:

Unit vector in a 2D Hilbert space

$$|\phi\rangle = a_0|0\rangle + a_1|1\rangle,$$
$$a_i \in \mathcal{C}, |a_0|^2 + |a_1|^2 = 1$$



Probability Theory v.s. Quantum Information Theory

Evolution: Stochastic Matrices

Preserve l_1 -norm

$$p' = S \cdot p$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p_0 \\ p_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Evolution: Unitary Matrices

Preserve l_2 -norm

$$|\phi'\rangle = U \cdot |\phi\rangle$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(a_0 + a_1) \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(a_0 - a_1) \end{pmatrix}$$

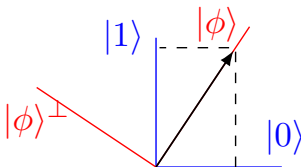
Probability Theory v.s. Quantum Information Theory

Observation:

$$\Pr(X = b) = p_b,$$
$$p_b \in [0, 1]$$

Measurement:

A measurement of $|\phi\rangle$ according to a Hermitian operator $M = \sum_i \lambda_i |b_i\rangle\langle b_i|$ is a projection onto the orthonormal vectors $|b_i\rangle$, and $\Pr[\text{outcome is } \lambda_i] = |\langle \phi | b_i \rangle|^2$.



Density operators

- **Mixed state:** Classical distribution over (pure) quantum states.

$$\rho = \begin{cases} |\phi_1\rangle, & \text{with probability } p_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ |\phi_k\rangle, & \text{with probability } p_k \end{cases}$$

Ensemble: $\{p_i : |\phi_i\rangle\}$.

- **Density operator:** $\rho = \sum_{i=1}^k p_i |\phi_i\rangle\langle\phi_i|$ (hermitian, trace 1, positive)
 - Contains all information about the state.
 - Different ensembles can have the same density operator.



Density operators

- Different ensembles can have the same density operator.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle - |1\rangle), & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \\ |0\rangle, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right. =$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}|0\rangle - \frac{1}{2}|1\rangle, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ |0\rangle, & \text{w.p. } \frac{3}{4}\left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right) \\ |1\rangle, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{4}\left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right) \end{array} \right. = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{4} & -\frac{1}{4} \\ -\frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix}$$

Super-operators and Kraus theorem

- **Super-operators:** (special) mapping from density operators to density operators.
- **Kraus representation theorem:** A map \mathcal{E} is a super-operator if and only if

$$\mathcal{E}(\rho) = \sum_{i=1}^d E_i \rho E_i^\dagger$$

for some set of matrices $\{E_i, i = 1, \dots, d\}$ with $\sum_i E_i^\dagger E_i \leq I$.

- Special case:
 - Unitary transformation: $\rho \rightarrow U\rho U^\dagger$
 - Measurement with outcome i : $\rho \rightarrow |b_i\rangle\langle b_i|\rho|b_i\rangle\langle b_i|$
 - Measurement with reading outcome:
 $\rho \rightarrow \sum_i |b_i\rangle\langle b_i|\rho|b_i\rangle\langle b_i|$



Matrix representation of super-operators

Let $\mathcal{E} = \{E_i : i \in I\}$ be a super-operator. The **matrix representation** of \mathcal{E} is defined as

$$M_{\mathcal{E}} = \sum_{i \in I} E_i \otimes E_i^*.$$

Here the complex conjugate is taken according to the orthonormal basis $\{|k\rangle : k \in K\}$. It is easy to check that $M_{\mathcal{E}}$ is independent of the choice of orthonormal basis and the Kraus operators E_i .



Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Basic notions from quantum information theory
- 3 Quantum Markov chain**
- 4 Quantum computation tree logic
- 5 Algorithm
- 6 Summary



Markov chains

A Markov chain (MC) is a tuple (S, P) where

- S is a countable set of states;
- $P: S \times S \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that for each $s \in S$,

$$\sum_{t \in S} P(s, t) = 1,$$

or equivalently, $P(s, \cdot)$ is a probabilistic distribution over S .



Quantum Markov chains

 (S, P)

 \Rightarrow $(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{E})$

Set S \Rightarrow Hilbert space \mathcal{H}

Prob. distributions

 \Rightarrow

Density operators

 $P : \text{Dist}(S) \rightarrow \text{Dist}(S)$ \Rightarrow $\mathcal{E} : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$

Obstacles for model checking quantum system

- The set of all possible *quantum* states, \mathcal{H} , is a continuum, even when it is finite dimensional.
- The techniques of classical model checking, which normally work for finite state spaces, cannot be applied directly.



In this talk, we propose...

- A super-operator weighted Markov chain model which aims at providing **finite** models for **general** quantum programs and quantum communication protocols.
- A quantum extension QCTL of the logic PCTL to describe properties we are interested in for QMCs.
- An algorithm to model check logic formulas in QCTL against a QMC model.



Some more notations

Let $\mathcal{SO}(\mathcal{H})$ be the set of super-operators on \mathcal{H} , ranged over by $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F}, \dots$.

Definition

Let $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{SO}(\mathcal{H})$.

- 1 $\mathcal{E} \sqsubseteq \mathcal{F}$ if for any $\rho \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$, $\mathcal{F}(\rho) - \mathcal{E}(\rho)$ is positive semi-definite;
- 2 $\mathcal{E} \lesssim \mathcal{F}$ if for any $\rho \in \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{H})$, $\text{tr}(\mathcal{E}(\rho)) \leq \text{tr}(\mathcal{F}(\rho))$.

Let \approx be $\lesssim \cap \gtrsim$; it is obviously an equivalence relation.



Some notations

Let

$$SI(\mathcal{H}) = \{\mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{SO}(\mathcal{H}) : \mathcal{E} \lesssim \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}}\}$$

be the ‘quantum’ correspondence of the unit interval $[0, 1]$ for real numbers.

Quantum Markov chains

A super-operator weighted Markov chain, or quantum Markov chain (QMC), over \mathcal{H} is a tuple (S, \mathbf{Q}, AP, L) , where

- S is a countable set of states;
- $\mathbf{Q} : S \times S \rightarrow \mathcal{SI}(\mathcal{H})$ such that for each $s \in S$,
 $\sum_{t \in S} \mathbf{Q}(s, t) \approx \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}}$,
- AP is a finite set of atomic propositions;
- L is a mapping from S to 2^{AP} .

A classical Markov chain may be viewed as a degenerate quantum Markov chain in which all super-operators appear in the transition matrix have the form $p\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}}$ for some $0 \leq p \leq 1$.



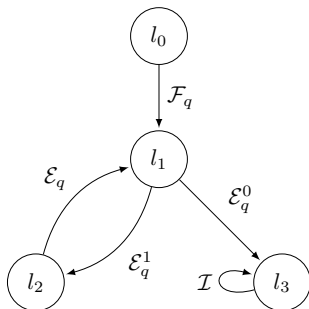
Example: quantum loop

A simple quantum loop program goes as follows:

```
l0 : q :=  $\mathcal{F}(q)$   
l1 : while  $M[q]$  do  
l2 :     q :=  $\mathcal{E}(q)$   
l3 : od
```

where $M = \lambda_0|0\rangle\langle 0| + \lambda_1|1\rangle\langle 1|$.

Example: quantum loop



Here $\mathcal{E}_q^0 = \{|0\rangle_q\langle 0|\}$ and $\mathcal{E}_q^1 = \{|1\rangle_q\langle 1|\}$.

Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Basic notions from quantum information theory
- 3 Quantum Markov chain
- 4 Quantum computation tree logic**
- 5 Algorithm
- 6 Summary



QCTL

The syntax of quantum computation tree logic (QCTL) is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi &::= a \mid \neg\Phi \mid \Phi \wedge \Psi \mid Q_{\sim\mathcal{E}}[\psi] \\ \psi &::= \mathbf{X}\Phi \mid \Phi\mathbf{U}\Psi\end{aligned}$$

where a is an atomic proposition, $\sim \in \{\lesssim, \gtrsim\}$, and $\mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{SI}(\mathcal{H})$. We call Φ a *state formula* and ψ a *path formula*.



QCTL

Let $\mathcal{M} = (S, \mathbf{Q}, AP, L)$. The satisfaction relation \models is defined inductively: for any state $s \in S$,

$$s \models a \quad \text{iff} \quad a \in L(s)$$

$$s \models \neg\Phi \quad \text{iff} \quad s \not\models \Phi$$

$$s \models \Phi \wedge \Psi \quad \text{iff} \quad s \models \Phi \text{ and } s \models \Psi$$

and for any path $\pi \in \text{Path}^{\mathcal{M}}(s)$,

$$\pi \models \mathbf{X}\Phi \quad \text{iff} \quad \pi(1) \models \Phi$$

$$\pi \models \Phi \mathbf{U} \Psi \quad \text{iff} \quad \exists i \in \mathbb{N}. (\pi(i) \models \Psi \wedge \forall j < i. (\pi(j) \models \Phi)).$$



QCTL

Finally,

$$s \models \mathbb{Q}_{\sim \mathcal{E}}[\psi] \text{ iff } Q^{\mathcal{M}}(s, \psi) \sim \mathcal{E}$$

where

$$Q^{\mathcal{M}}(s, \psi) = Q_s(\{\pi \in \text{Path}^{\mathcal{M}}(s) \mid \pi \models \psi\}).$$

But how to define Q_s ?



Super-operator valued measures

Let (Ω, Σ) be a measurable space; that is, Ω is a non-empty set and Σ a σ -algebra over Ω . A function $\Delta : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{SI}(\mathcal{H})$ is said to be a super-operator valued measure (SVM for short) if Δ satisfies the following properties:

- 1 $\Delta(\Omega) \approx \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}}$;
- 2 $\Delta(\biguplus_i A_i) \approx \sum_i \Delta(A_i)$ for all pairwise disjoint and countable sequence A_1, A_2, \dots in Σ .

We call the triple (Ω, Σ, Δ) a (super-operator valued) measure space.



Properties of super-operator valued measures

Let (Ω, Σ, Δ) be a measure space. Then

- 1 $\Delta(\emptyset) = 0_{\mathcal{H}}$;
- 2 $\Delta(A^c) + \Delta(A) \approx \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}}$;
- 3 for any $A, A' \in \Sigma$, if $A \subseteq A'$ then $\Delta(A) \lesssim \Delta(A')$;
- 4 for any sequence A_1, A_2, \dots in Σ ,
 - if $A_1 \subseteq A_2 \subseteq \dots$, then there exists a sequence $\mathcal{E}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{E}_2 \subseteq \dots$ in $\mathcal{SI}(\mathcal{H})$ such that for any i , $\Delta(A_i) \approx \mathcal{E}_i$, and $\Delta(\bigcup_{i \geq 1} A_i) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{E}_i$.
 - if $A_1 \supseteq A_2 \supseteq \dots$, then there exists a sequence $\mathcal{E}_1 \supseteq \mathcal{E}_2 \supseteq \dots$ in $\mathcal{SI}(\mathcal{H})$ such that for any i , $\Delta(A_i) \approx \mathcal{E}_i$, and $\Delta(\bigcap_{i \geq 1} A_i) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{E}_i$.



SVM for a QMC

Fix a state $s \in S$.

- Sample space $\Omega = \text{Path}^M(s)$.
- Let the cylinder set $\text{Cyl}(\hat{\pi}) \subseteq \text{Path}^M(s)$ be defined as

$$\text{Cyl}(\hat{\pi}) = \{\pi \in \text{Path}^M(s) : \hat{\pi} \text{ is a prefix of } \pi\};$$

that is, the set of all infinite paths with prefix $\hat{\pi}$.

- σ -algebra over Ω :

$$\Sigma^s = \sigma(\{\text{Cyl}(\hat{\pi}) : \hat{\pi} \in \text{Path}_{fin}^M(s)\})$$



SVM for QMCs

- For any finite path $\hat{\pi} = s_0 \dots s_n \in \text{Path}_{fin}^M(s)$, we define the super-operator

$$\mathbf{Q}(\hat{\pi}) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}}, & \text{if } n = 0; \\ \mathbf{Q}(s_{n-1}, s_n) \cdots \mathbf{Q}(s_0, s_1), & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- Let a mapping Q_s be defined by letting $Q_s(\emptyset) = 0_{\mathcal{H}}$ and

$$Q_s(\text{Cyl}(\hat{\pi})) = \mathbf{Q}(\hat{\pi}). \quad (1)$$



Extend Q_s to a SVM

Theorem

The mapping Q_s can be extended to a SVM on the σ -algebra Σ^s . Furthermore, this extension is unique up to the equivalence relation \approx .

Remark: The main tool we use to prove this theorem is the Klavanek's generalisation of the Carathéodory-Hahn extension theorem from vector measure theory.

QCTL

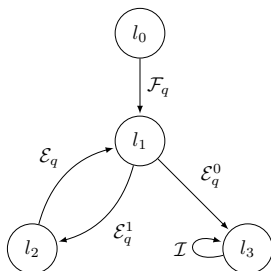
Theorem

For each path formula ψ and each state s in a QMC \mathcal{M} , the set

$$\{\pi \in \text{Path}^{\mathcal{M}}(s) \mid \pi \models \psi\}$$

is measurable.

Back to the example



Let $\diamond\Psi \equiv \text{tt}\mathbf{U}\Psi$. The QCTL formula $\mathbf{Q}_{\geq \mathcal{E}}[\diamond l_3]$ asserts that the probability that the loop program terminates is lower bounded by \mathcal{E} . That is, for any initial quantum state ρ , the termination probability is not less than $\text{tr}(\mathcal{E}(\rho))$.

In particular, the property that it terminates everywhere can be described as $\mathbf{Q}_{\geq \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}}}[\diamond l_3]$.

Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Basic notions from quantum information theory
- 3 Quantum Markov chain
- 4 Quantum computation tree logic
- 5 Algorithm**
- 6 Summary



Model checking

Given a state s in a qMC $\mathcal{M} = (S, \mathbf{Q}, AP, L)$ and a state formula Φ expressed in QCTL, model checking if $s \models \Phi$ is essentially to determine whether s belongs to the satisfaction set

$Sat(\Phi) = \{s \in S : s \models \Phi\}$ which is defined inductively as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} Sat(a) &= \{s \in S : a \in L(s)\} \\ Sat(\neg\Psi) &= S \setminus Sat(\Psi) \\ Sat(\Psi \wedge \Phi) &= Sat(\Psi) \cap Sat(\Phi) \\ Sat(Q_{\sim\mathcal{E}}[\psi]) &= \{s \in S : Q^{\mathcal{M}}(s, \psi) \sim \mathcal{E}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Recall: $Q^{\mathcal{M}}(s, \psi) = Q_s(\{\pi \in Path^{\mathcal{M}}(s) \mid \pi \models \psi\})$



Case 1: $\psi = \mathbf{X}\Phi$

By definition, $\{\pi \in \text{Path}^M(s) : \pi \models \mathbf{X}\Phi\} = \bigsqcup_{t \in \text{Sat}(\Phi)} \text{Cyl}(st)$.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} Q^M(s, \mathbf{X}\Phi) &= Q_s \left(\bigsqcup_{t \in \text{Sat}(\Phi)} \text{Cyl}(st) \right) \approx \sum_{t \in \text{Sat}(\Phi)} Q_s(\text{Cyl}(st)) \\ &= \sum_{t \in \text{Sat}(\Phi)} \mathbf{Q}(s, t). \end{aligned}$$

This can be calculated easily since by the recursive nature of the definition, we can assume that $\text{Sat}(\Phi)$ is already known.



Case 2: $\psi = \Phi \mathbf{U} \Psi$

In this case, after some calculation, we get the equation system

$$Q^{\mathcal{M}}(s, \Phi \mathbf{U} \Psi) \approx \begin{cases} \mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{H}}, & \text{if } s \in \text{Sat}(\Psi); \\ 0_{\mathcal{H}}, & \text{if } s \notin \text{Sat}(\Phi) \cup \text{Sat}(\Psi); \\ \sum_{t \in S} Q^{\mathcal{M}}(t, \Phi \mathbf{U} \Psi) \mathbf{Q}(s, t), & \text{if } s \in \text{Sat}(\Phi) \setminus \text{Sat}(\Psi). \end{cases}$$

Then for each $s \in \text{Sat}(\Phi) \setminus \text{Sat}(\Psi)$,

$$Q^{\mathcal{M}}(s, \Phi \mathbf{U} \Psi) \approx \sum_{t \in \text{Sat}(\Phi) \setminus \text{Sat}(\Psi)} Q^{\mathcal{M}}(t, \Phi \mathbf{U} \Psi) \mathbf{Q}(s, t) + \sum_{t \in \text{Sat}(\Psi)} \mathbf{Q}(s, t).$$

Let $S' = \text{Sat}(\Phi) \setminus \text{Sat}(\Psi)$. For any $s \in S'$,

$$Q^{\mathcal{M}}(s, \Phi \mathbf{U} \Psi) \approx \sum_{t \in S'} Q^{\mathcal{M}}(t, \Phi \mathbf{U} \Psi) \mathbf{Q}(s, t) + \sum_{t \in \text{Sat}(\Psi)} \mathbf{Q}(s, t).$$

Let

$$\mathcal{T} = [\mathbf{Q}(t, s)]_{s, t \in S'}$$

and

$$\mathcal{G} = \left[\sum_{t \in \text{Sat}(\Psi)} \mathbf{Q}(s, t) \right]_{s \in S'}.$$

Then the required row vector $(Q^{\mathcal{M}}(s, \Phi \mathbf{U} \Psi))_{s \in S'}$ is equivalent to the fixed point of the function

$$f(X) = X\mathcal{T} + \mathcal{G}.$$



A theorem

Theorem

Let

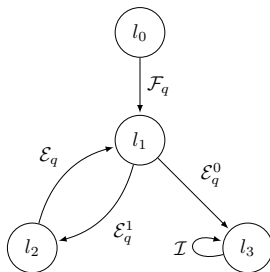
$$f(X) = XT + \mathcal{G}$$

be defined above. Then

- 1 $f(X)$ has the least fixed point, denoted by \mathcal{E}^0 , in $\mathcal{SI}(\mathcal{H})^{|S'|}$ under the order \sqsubseteq ;
- 2 Given any $\mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{SI}(\mathcal{H})$ and $1 \leq i \leq |S'|$, it can be decided whether $\mathcal{E} \sim \mathcal{E}_i^0$, $\sim \in \{\lesssim, \gtrsim\}$, in time $O(n^2 d^4)$ where $d = \dim(\mathcal{H})$ is the dimension of \mathcal{H} and $n = |S'|$.

Back to the example again

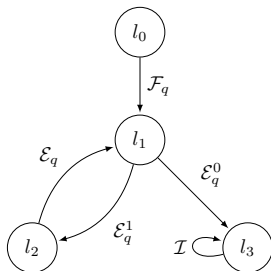
We check the property $\mathbf{Q}_{\approx \mathcal{E}}[\diamond l_3] = \mathbf{Q}_{\approx \mathcal{E}}[\text{tt}\mathbf{U}l_3]$ when $\mathcal{F} = \{|+\rangle\langle i| : i = 0, 1\}$, $\mathcal{E}^i = \{|i\rangle\langle i|\}$, $i = 0, 1$, and $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{X}$.



We first calculate that $Sat(l_3) = \{l_3\}$ and $Sat(\text{tt}) = \{l_0, l_1, l_2, l_3\}$.



Back to the example again



$$Q^{\mathcal{M}}(l_0, \diamond l_3) = Q^{\mathcal{M}}(l_1, \diamond l_3)\mathcal{F}$$

$$Q^{\mathcal{M}}(l_1, \diamond l_3) = Q^{\mathcal{M}}(l_2, \diamond l_3)\mathcal{E}^1 + \mathcal{E}^0$$

$$Q^{\mathcal{M}}(l_2, \diamond l_3) = Q^{\mathcal{M}}(l_1, \diamond l_3)\mathcal{E}$$



Example

We calculate that for $i = 0, 1, 2$,

$$Q^{\mathcal{M}}(l_i, \diamond l_3) = \text{Set}^0$$

where $\text{Set}^0 = \{|0\rangle\langle 0|, |0\rangle\langle 1|\} \approx \mathcal{I}$, and so

$$l_i \models \mathbf{Q}_{\approx \mathcal{E}}[\diamond l_3]$$

for any $\mathcal{E} \lesssim \mathcal{I}$.

Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Basic notions from quantum information theory
- 3 Quantum Markov chain
- 4 Quantum computation tree logic
- 5 Algorithm
- 6 Summary**



Summary

- A super-operator weighted Markov chain model which aims at providing **finite** models for **general** quantum programs and quantum communication protocols.
- A quantum extension QCTL of the logic PCTL to describe properties we are interested in for QMCs.
- An algorithm to model check logic formulas in QCTL against a QMC model.



Topics for further studies

- Tools to implement the model checking algorithm.
- Model checking **quantum** properties.
- Check security of physically implemented quantum cryptographic systems.

Thank you!

Questions or Comments?

