Reasoning about entanglement and separability in quantum higher-order functions

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Abstract. We present a logical approach to the separability analysis issue for a functional quantum computation language. This logic is inspired by previous works on logical analysis of aliasing for imperative functional programs. Both analyses share similarities notably because they are highly non-compositional. Nevertheless, the intrinsic non-determinism of quantum computation has a large impact on the definitions of the semantics and the validity of logical assertions. To the knowledge of the authors, it is the first proposal of an entanglement/separability analysis for a functional quantum programming language with higher-order functions.

1 Introduction

The aim of high level programming language is to provide a sufficiently high level of abstraction in order both to avoid unnecessary burden coming from technical details and to provide useful mental guidelines for the programmer. Quantum computation [NC00] is still in its prime and quantum programing languages remain in need for such abstractions. Functional quantum programing languages have been proposed and offer ways to handle the no-cloning axiom via linear λ-calculi [vT04,SV05]. In [AG05] is developed QML in which a purely quantum control expression is introduced in order to represent quantum superposition in programming terms. Entanglement management is another key point of quantum programming. Indeed without entanglement it is possible to efficiently simulate quantum computations on a classical computer [Vid03]. First steps to deal with entanglement, and its dual: separability, have been done in [Per07] in which a type system is provided in order to approximate the entanglement relation of an array of quantum bits, and in [Per08] in which abstract interpretation technique is used.

Quantum bits entanglement analysis shares some similarities with variables name aliasing analysis. Indeed, aliasing analyses are complicated since an action on a variable of a given name may have repercussions on another variable having a different name. The same kind of problems occur between two entangled quantum bits: if one quantum bit is measured then the other one can be affected. In both cases there is a compositionality issue: it is hard to state anything about
a program without any knowledge of its context. It seems therefore sensible to try to adapt known aliasing analysis techniques to the quantum setting.

Let us illustrate this idea by a simple example (formally studied in example 1). Suppose that 4 qubits, $x, y, z, t$ are in a state such that $x, t$ are entangled, $y, z$ are entangled, but that $\{x, t\}$ is separable from $\{y, z\}$. Now, application of a control not operator on $x, y$, may entangle $z, t$ as a side effect (note that even if $x, y$ are measured afterward $z, t$ may remain entangled). Thus, if we consider a quantum program $P$: let $(u, v) = (\text{Cnot } \langle y, x \rangle)$ in $(\langle \text{meas } u \rangle, \langle \text{meas } v \rangle)$ we would like to be able to state properties on the entanglement relation between $z, t$. The problem is that neither $z$ or $t$ occur in the text of the program.

In this paper we follow the idea developed in [BHY05] and adapt it for entanglement/separability analysis in a functional quantum programing language with higher order functions. The idea is to be able to infer judgment of the form: $\{C\} P; u \{C'\}$ where $P$ is a quantum program, $C, C'$ are logical statements about the entanglement/separability relations of quantum bits used by the program, $u$ is an anchor used as the logical counterpart of $P$ in $C'$. The intuitive meaning of such a formula is the following: if the program $P$ is evaluated in a context such that $C$ is satisfied, then $C'$ will be satisfied after the evaluation of $P$.

The work of [BHY05] has to be adapted in a non deterministic setting, making the semantics and soundness of the logic radically different. Our results are a strict improvement over [Per07], and a over [Per08], in which only first order functions are considered.

Due to space limitations omitted proofs and extensive technical definitions may be found in [PZ08].

2 Separability and Entanglement

A $n$ qubits register is represented by a normalized vector in a Hilbert $2^n$-dimension space that is the tensorial product of $n$ dimension 2 Hilbert spaces on $\mathbb{C}^2$. Each 2 dimension subspace represents a qubit. For a given vector, written $|\varphi\rangle$, qubits can be either entangled or separable.

**Definition 1 (Entanglement, Separability).** Consider $|\varphi\rangle$ a n qubits register. $\varphi$ is separable if it is possible to partition the n qubits in two non empty sets $A, B$, two states $|\varphi_A\rangle$ and $|\varphi_B\rangle$ describing $A$ and $B$ qubits, such that $|\varphi\rangle = |\varphi_A\rangle \otimes |\varphi_B\rangle$, where $|\varphi_A\rangle$ and $|\varphi_B\rangle$, otherwise it is said to be entangled.

By extension, two qubits $q, q'$ are separable if and only if there exists a partition $A, B$, two states $|\varphi_A\rangle$ and $|\varphi_B\rangle$ describing $A$ and $B$ qubits, such that $|\varphi\rangle = |\varphi_A\rangle \otimes |\varphi_B\rangle$, with $q \in A$ and $q' \in B$. Otherwise $q, q'$ are entangled.

**Definition 2 (Entanglement relation).** Let a n qubits register be represented by $|\varphi\rangle$. The entanglement relation of $|\varphi\rangle$, $E(|\varphi\rangle)$, over qubits of the register is defined as follows: $(x, y) \in E(|\varphi\rangle)$ if and only if $x$ and $y$ are entangled.

The entanglement relation is obviously an equivalence relation.
3 $\lambda^Q_L$ a functional quantum computing language

We use a variant of Selinger and Valiron’s $\lambda$-calculus [SV05] as programming language with a fixed set of quantum gates without losing expressivity. We also supposed a fixed number of quantum bits, therefore there are no new operators creating new quantum bits during computation. Indeed, as shown in [Pro07] name generation triggers nontrivial technical problems.

Therefore, in the following we suppose the number of quantum bit registers fixed although non specified and refer to it as $n$.

3.1 Syntax and types

Definition 3 (Terms and types). $\lambda^Q_L$ terms and types are inductively defined by:

$$M ::= x \mid q_i \mid 1 \mid 0 \mid \lambda x: \sigma.N \mid (M \ N) \mid \langle M, N \rangle \mid \pi_i N \mid \text{if } M \text{ then } N \text{ else } P \mid \text{meas} \mid \text{Cnot} \mid \mathbf{f} \mid \Sigma$$

$$\sigma ::= B \mid B^o \mid \sigma \to \tau \mid \sigma \otimes \tau$$

where $x$ denotes names of element of a countable set of variables. $q_i$, where $i \in \{1..n\}$ are constant names that are used as reference in an actual quantum bit array. $1, 0$ are standard boolean constant. $(\pi_i N)$ with $i \in \{1, 2\}$ is the projection operator. Terms of the third line are quantum primitives respectively for measure and the three quantum gates Conditional not, Hadamard and phase.

We only have two base types $B$ for bits and $B^o$ for quantum bits, arrow and product types are standard ones.

Note that if $q_i$ are constants, there can be quantum bits variable in $\lambda^Q_L$. Consider for instance the following piece of code: $(\lambda x: B^o.N \text{ if } M \text{ then } q_1 \text{ else } q_2)$. After reduction $x$ may eventually become either $q_1$ or $q_2$ in $N$, depending on the evaluation of $M$.

In order to enforce the no-cloning axiom of quantum physics (see [NC00]), we adopt a linear typing discipline for pieces of code containing quantum bits. Therefore we have two typing contexts, one classical and the other one linear.

Definition 4 (Context and typing judgments). Classical contexts are inductively defined by: $\Gamma ::= \cdot \mid \Gamma, x : \sigma$ where $B^o \notin \sigma$. Linear contexts by: $\Lambda ::= \cdot \mid \Lambda, x : \sigma$ where $B^o \in \sigma$.

Typing judgments are of the form: $\Gamma; \Lambda \vdash M : \sigma$ and shall be read as : under the classical typing context $\Gamma$, linear context $\Lambda$, the term $M$ is well formed of type $\sigma$.

As usual we require that classical and linear typing contexts are unambiguous. It means that when we write $\Gamma, x : \sigma; \Delta$ (resp. $\Gamma; \Lambda, y : \tau$) $x$ (resp. $y$) is implicitly supposed not to appear in $\Gamma; \Delta$ (resp. $\Gamma; \Lambda$). Similarly when we write $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2$ (resp. $\Lambda_1, \Lambda_2$) we intend that $\Gamma_1$ and $\Gamma_2$ (resp. $\Lambda_1$ and $\Lambda_2$) are disjoint contexts.
\( \lambda^Q \) typing rules are standard and very close to the one of Barber’s DILL [Bar96] with the following differences: There is no dereliction rules, basically because \( \lambda^Q \) is only resource sensitive on the quantum bits, and there is no promotion rules for the same reason.

In Fig. 1 we give \( \lambda^Q \) typing rules. Notice that for arrow elimination there is a split of the linear context. From a typing perspective, quantum gates are typed as identity functions (and behave like identity from a term evaluation point of view as can be seen in the operational semantics 7).

![Fig. 1. \( \lambda^Q \) typing rules](image-url)

\( \lambda^Q \) is a standard simply typed \( \lambda \)-calculus with two base types. \( \lambda^Q \) is linear on terms of type containing \( B^o \). Thus, it ensures the no-cloning property of quantum physics (e.g. [NC00]).

### 3.2 Operational semantics

Quantum particularities have strong implications in the design of a quantum programming language. First, since quantum bits may be entangled together it is not possible to textually represent individual quantum bits as a normalized
vector of $\mathbb{C}^2$. We use $|1\rangle$ and $|0\rangle$ as base. Therefore, a quantum program manipulating $n$ quantum bits is represented as a quantum state of a Hilbert space $\mathbb{C}^{2n}$ and constants of type $\mathbb{B}$ are pointers to this quantum state. Moreover, quantum operators modify this state introducing imperative actions. As a consequence an evaluation order has to be set in order to keep some kind of confluence. Moreover, $\lambda^Q_L$ reductions are probabilistic. Indeed, quantum mechanics properties induce an inherent probabilistic behavior when measuring the state of a quantum bit.

**Definition 5 (λ^Q_L state).** Let $\Gamma; A \vdash M : \sigma$. A $\lambda^Q_L$ state is a couple $[|\varphi\rangle, M]$ where $|\varphi\rangle$ is a normalized vector of $\mathbb{C}^{2n}$ Hilbert space and $M$ a $\lambda^Q_L$ term.

An example of $\lambda^Q_L$ state of size $n=2$ is the following:

$$[|\varphi\rangle, (\lambda q. B \circ \text{if } (\text{meas } q_1) \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } (\text{meas } (\Sigma q) q_2))]$$

where $|\varphi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle) \otimes (\frac{2}{3}|0\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}|1\rangle)$ is the quantum bit denoted by $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle)$ and $q_2$ the one represented by $\frac{2}{3}|0\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}|1\rangle$. This program measures $q_1$, then regarding the result, which is either $1$ or $0$ with $1/2$ probability, it measures $q_2$ or gives back $1$. Thus the value computed by this piece of code is $1$ with probability $7/9$ and $0$ with probability $2/9$. See definition 7 for the precise definition of the operational semantics.

We consider call by value reduction rules. Values are defined as usual.

**Definition 6 (Values).** Values of $\lambda^Q_L$ are inductively defined by: $U, V ::= x \mid 1 \mid 0 \mid q_i \mid \lambda x : \sigma. M \mid \langle V, V \rangle \mid (F \ V)$ Where $F$ is one of the following operators $\pi_i, \Sigma, \exists, \text{Cnot}, \text{meas}$

**Definition 7 (Quantum reductions).** We define a probabilistic reduction between $\lambda^Q_L$ states as: $[|\varphi\rangle, M] \rightarrow_p [|\varphi'\rangle, M']$. It has to be read: $[|\varphi\rangle, M]$ reduces to $[|\varphi'\rangle, M']$ with probability $p$.

Reduction rules are given in Fig. 2. We only give quantum rules. Functional rules are standard (see for instance [Pie02]) call by value and do not change probabilities.

In rules $[MET]$ and $[MEF]$, let $|\varphi\rangle = \alpha|\varphi_0\rangle + \beta|\varphi_1\rangle$ be normalized with

$$|\varphi_1\rangle = \sum_i = 1^n \alpha_i |\varphi_1^i\rangle \otimes |1\rangle \otimes |\psi_{1}^i\rangle$$

$$|\varphi_0\rangle = \sum_i = 1^n \beta_i |\varphi_0^i\rangle \otimes |0\rangle \otimes |\psi_{1}^i\rangle$$

where $|1\rangle$ and $|0\rangle$ is the $i$th quantum bit.

Based on this reduction rules one can define reachable states, by considering the reflexive-transitive closure of $\rightarrow_p$. One has to compose probabilities along a reduction path. Therefore $[|\varphi'\rangle, M']$ is reachable from $[|\varphi\rangle, M']$, if there is a non zero probability path between those states. More precisions can be found in [SV05].

Computation of a $\lambda^Q_L$ term starts from an initial state $|\varphi_{init}\rangle$ defined by $|\varphi_{init}\rangle = |0\rangle \otimes \ldots \otimes |0\rangle$ convention as follows: $|\varphi_{init}\rangle = |0\rangle \otimes \ldots \otimes |0\rangle$.
\[ [\varphi], (\mathcal{T} \ q_i) \rightarrow_1 [\mathcal{T}^\dagger(|\varphi\rangle), q_i]^{PHS} \]

\[ [\varphi], (\mathcal{H} \ q_i) \rightarrow_1 [\mathcal{H}^\dagger(|\varphi\rangle), q_i]^{HDR} \]

\[ [\alpha |\varphi_0\rangle + \beta |\varphi_1\rangle, (\text{meas}\ q_i)] \rightarrow_1 \alpha |\varphi_0\rangle, 1]^{MEF} \]

\[ [\alpha |\varphi_0\rangle + \beta |\varphi_1\rangle, (\text{meas}\ q_i)] \rightarrow_1 \beta |\varphi_1\rangle, 0]^{MET} \]

\[ [\varphi], (\text{Cnot} \langle q_i, q_j \rangle) \rightarrow_1 [\text{Cnot}^\dagger(|\varphi\rangle), 1]^{CNO} \]

**Fig. 2.** $\lambda_L^Q$ Operational semantics, quantum fragment

**Proposition 1 (Subject Reduction).** Let $\Gamma, \Lambda \vdash M : \tau$ and $[\varphi, M] \rightarrow_p [\varphi', M']$, then $\Gamma, \Lambda \vdash M' : \tau$

**Proof.** From the typing point of view $\lambda_L^Q$ is nothing more than a simply typed $\lambda$-calculus with constants for quantum bits manipulations. Note that $\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{H}, \text{Cnot}$ act as identity functions (from the strict $\lambda$-calculus point of view). The measurement is simple to deal with since it only returns constant (hence typable in any contexts).

**4 Entanglement logic for $\lambda_L^Q$**

We present a static analysis of the entanglement relation during a quantum computation. The idea that we follow in this paper is to adapt the work [BHY05] to the quantum setting. The logic is in the style of Hoare [Hoa69] and leads to the following notation: \{C\} $M : F; A; \Delta; \tau$ $u(C')$, where $C$ is a precondition, $C'$ is a post-condition, $M$ is the subject and $u$ is its anchor (the name used in $C'$ to denote $M$ value). Intuitively it means that if $C$ is satisfied, then after the evaluation of $M$, whose value is denoted by $u$ in $C'$, $C'$ is satisfied. $F; A$ is the typing context of $M$, $\tau$ is $M$ type and $\Delta$ is the anchor typing context: it is used in order to type anchors within assertions.

Assertions state whether two quantum bits are entangled or not. Note that since separability is uncomputable (it trivially reduces to the halt problem since on can add $\text{Cnot}(q_i, q_j)$ as a last line of a program in such a way that $q_i$ and $q_j$ are entangled iff the computation stops), assertions are safe approximations: if an assertion states that two quantum bits are separable then they really are. If two quantum bits are stated entangled by an assertion, it is possible that they actually are not.
4.1 Assertions

**Definition 8.** Terms and assertions are defined by the following grammars:

\[
\begin{align*}
  e & ::= u \mid q \mid 1 \mid 0 \mid ⟨e, e'⟩ \mid π_i(e) \\
  C & ::= u \leftrightarrow v \mid ∥e\mid e = e' \mid ¬C \mid C \land C' \mid C' \implies C' \\
  & \mid ∀u : σ.C \mid ∃u : σ.C \\
  & \mid \{C\}e_1 \bullet e_2 = e_3\{C'\}
\end{align*}
\]

Where \(u, v\) are names from a countable set of anchor names.

The idea is that every subterm of a program is identified in assertions by an anchor, which is simply a unique name. Note that the name of quantum bits are considered as ground terms.

Assertion \(u \leftrightarrow v\) means that the quantum bit identified by \(u\) is possibly entangled with \(v\). Notice that \(¬u \leftrightarrow v\) means that it is certain that \(u\) and \(v\) are separable. \(∥u\) means that it is certain that the quantum bit is in a base state (it can be seen as \(α|b⟩\) where \(b\) is either \(1\) or \(0\)). Thus \(¬∥u\) means that \(u\) is possibly not in a base state (here the approximation works the other around).

Assertion \(\{C\}e_1 \bullet e_2 = e_3\{C'\}\) is used to handle higher order functions. It is the evaluation formula. \(e_3\) binds its free occurrences in \(C'\). Following [BHY05], \(C, C'\) are called internal pre/post conditions. The idea is that invocation of a function denoted by \(e_1\) with argument \(e_2\) under the condition that the initial assertion \(C\) is satisfied by the current quantum state evaluates in a new quantum state in which \(C'\) is satisfied.

The other assertions have their standard first order logic meaning. In the following we write \(T\) (resp. \(F\)) for the following tautology (resp. antilogy) \(u = u\) (resp \(¬(u = u)\)). Notice that \(∀\) and \(∃\) binders are typed. Indeed, in this logic one has to bear in mind that names ultimately represent terms and thus can denote functions. Therefore we have a notion of well formedness for logical terms and assertions.

**Definition 9 (Assertion typing).**

- A logical term \(t\) is well typed of type \(τ\) in typing context \(Γ; Λ; ∆\), written \(Γ; Λ; ∆ ⊢ t : τ\). Rules are given in example in Fig. 3, in which \(i \in \{1, 2\}\), and \(c\) being either \(1\) or \(0\).

\[
\begin{align*}
  Γ; Δ ▷ c : B \quad (u : τ) ∈ Γ; A; Δ \quad [TCons] & \quad Γ; Δ ⊢ u : τ \\
  Γ; Δ ▷ u : τ \quad Γ; Δ ▷ e' : τ' \quad [TAsAx] & \quad Γ; Δ ▷ ⟨e; e'⟩ : τ ⊗ τ' \\
  Γ; Δ ▷ e : τ \quad Γ; Δ ▷ e' : τ' \quad [TAs⊗] & \quad Γ; Δ ▷ u : τ_1 ⊗ τ_2 \quad [TAsπ]
\end{align*}
\]

Fig. 3. Assertion terms typing
An assertion $C$ is well typed under context $\Gamma; \Delta$ written $\Gamma; \Delta \vdash C$. Due to space limitation we give some rules in Fig. 4. We refer to [PZ08] for the complete set of rules.

$$\frac{\Gamma; A; \Delta \vdash e : B \circ \gamma}{\Gamma; A; \Delta \vdash e : [TAs]} \quad \frac{\Gamma; A; \Delta \vdash e : \tau \quad \Gamma; A; \Delta \vdash e' : \tau}{\Gamma; A; \Delta \vdash e = e'} \quad \frac{\Gamma; A; \Delta \vdash C}{\Gamma; A; \Delta \vdash C \land C'} \quad \frac{\Gamma; A; \Delta \vdash \neg \deg : C'}{\Gamma; (A; \Delta) \setminus u : \sigma \vdash \exists u : \sigma. C}$$

where $(A; \Delta) \setminus u : \sigma$ is the context $\Lambda; \Delta$ without $u : \sigma$.

Assertion typing rules may be classified in two categories. The first one is the set of rules insuring correct use of names with respect to the type of the term denoted by them. It is done by rules $[TAs \rightarrow]$ $[TAs\circ\gamma]$ $[TAs =]$ $[TAs\forall]$ $[TAs\exists]$ and $[TAsEV]$. The second set of rules is used to structurally check formulas: $[TAs\neg]$ $[TAs\land]$ $[TAs\lor]$, and $[TAs \implies]$.  

4.2 Semantics of assertions

We now formalize the intuitive semantics of assertions. For this, we abstract the set of quantum bits to an abstract quantum state which is a safe approximation of both the entanglement relation and of the subset of quantum bits in a base state of the actual quantum state. Semantics of assertion is defined with relation to the abstract quantum state. Moreover, we develop an abstract operational semantics in order to abstractly execute $\lambda^Q_L$ programs on abstract quantum states.

**Abstract quantum state and abstract operational semantics** Let $S = \{q_1, \ldots, q_n\}$, denotes the set of quantum bits in the following of this section. The quantum state of $S$ is described by a normalized vector of $\mathbb{C}^{2^n}$: $|\varphi\rangle$.

**Definition 10 (Abstract quantum state).** An abstract quantum state of $S$ (AQS for short) is a tuple $A = (R, P)$ where $P \subseteq S$ and $R$ is a partial equivalence relation on $(S \setminus P) \times (S \setminus P)$.

Relation $R$ is a PER since it describes an approximation of the entanglement relation and there is not much sens in talking about the entanglement of a quantum bit with itself. Indeed, because of the no-cloning property it is not
possible to have programs $p : \mathbb{B}^3 \times \mathbb{B}^3 \rightarrow \tau$ requiring two non entangled quantum bits and to build a correct term like $(p \langle q_i, q_i \rangle)$.

The equivalence class of a quantum bit $q$ with relation to an abstract quantum state $A = (R, P)$ is written $\overline{q}^A$.

**Definition 11 (AQ S and quantum state adequacy).** Let $S$ be described by $|\varphi\rangle$ and $A = (R, P)$ an AQ S of $S$. $A$ is adequate with regards to $|\varphi\rangle$, written $A \models |\varphi\rangle$, iff for every $x, y \in S$ such that $(x, y) \in R$ then $x, y$ are separable w.r.t. $|\varphi\rangle$ and for every $x \in P$ then the measurement of $x$ is deterministic.

Suppose that $S = \{q_1, q_2, q_3\}$ and $|\varphi\rangle = 1/\sqrt{2}(|00\rangle + |11\rangle) \otimes |1\rangle$ then $A = \{(q_1, q_2), (q_2, q_1), \{q_3\}\}$ and $A' = \{\{(q_1, q_2), (q_2, q_1), (q_3, q_2), (q_3, q_1), (q_1, q_3)\}, \emptyset\}$. We have $A \models |\varphi\rangle$, because $q_3$ is in a base state and $q_1, q_2$ are separable from $q_3$. We also have $A' \not\models |\varphi\rangle$. Indeed $A'$ is safe in stating that no quantum bit is in a base state (even if $q_3$ actually is in base state) and stating that no quantum bits are separable. On the other hand $B = \{(q_1, q_2), (q_2, q_1), \{q_2, q_3\}\}$ and $B' = \{(q_1, q_2), (q_2, q_3)\}$, are not adequate abstract quantum states with relation to $|\varphi\rangle$. $B$ is not adequate since $q_2$ is not in a base state, while $B'$ is not adequate because relatively to the PER of $B$, $q_1, q_2$ are separable.

We now give a new operational semantics of $\lambda_q^Q$ terms based on abstract quantum states transformation.

**Definition 12 (Abstract operational semantics).** The abstract operational semantics of a term $M$ such that $\Gamma; \Lambda \vdash M : \tau$ is a relation over couples made of an AQ S and a term : $[A, M] \rightarrow \Gamma, A [A', M']$

We write $\rightarrow A$ instead of $\rightarrow \Gamma, A$ when typing contexts play no role or can be inferred from the context.

Reduction rules are the same ones as those of definition 7 for the functional part of the calculus where the quantum state is replaced with AQ S. Rules for the quantum actions are given in Fig. 5.

Where $\perp$ is non deterministically $1$ or $0$, $R \setminus q_i$ is the equivalence relation such that if $(x, y) \in R$ and $x \neq q_i$ or exclusive $y \neq q_i$ then $(x, y) \in R \setminus q_i$ otherwise $(x, y) \notin R \setminus q_i$, and where $R \cdot q_i \leftrightarrow q_j$ is the equivalence relation $R$ in which the equivalence classes of $q_i, q_j$ have been merged together.

Note that since our system is normalizing the number of all possible abstract executions is finite. Hence, computable.

**Definition 13 (Abstract program semantics).** Consider an AQ S $A$, the abstract semantics of program $\Gamma; \Lambda \vdash M : \tau$ under $A$, written $[M]_{\Gamma; \Lambda}^A$, is the set of $A'$ such that $[A, M] \rightarrow A' [A', V]$ where $V$ is a value.

Note that the abstract semantics of a program is a collecting semantics. It may explore branches that are never going to be used in actual computation. Indeed in the operational semantics measurement gives a non deterministic answer.
\[(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{P}), (\forall q_i) \rightarrow_A [(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{P}), q_i]^{[PHS_A]}\]

\[(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{P}), (\delta q_i) \rightarrow_A [(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{P} \setminus \{q_i\}), q_i]^{[HDR_A]}\]

\[(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{P}), (\text{meas } q_i) \rightarrow_A [(\mathcal{R} \setminus q_i, \mathcal{P} \cup \{q_i\}), \top]^{[MET_A]}\]

\[(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{P}), (\text{Cnot } \langle q_i, q_j \rangle) \rightarrow_A [(\mathcal{R} \setminus q_i, \mathcal{P} \setminus \{q_i, q_j\}), (q_i, q_j)]^{[CNO1_A]}\text{if } q_i \in \mathcal{P}\]

\[(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{P}), (\text{Cnot } \langle q_i, q_j \rangle) \rightarrow_A [(\mathcal{R} \setminus q_i, \mathcal{P} \setminus \{q_i, q_j\}), (q_i, q_j)]^{[CNO0_A]}\text{if } q_i \notin \mathcal{P}\]

Fig. 5. Abstract operational semantics, quantum actions

**Proposition 2.** Let \(A \vdash \varphi\) and \(\Gamma; A \vdash M : \tau\). Suppose that \([\varphi], M \rightarrow^* [\varphi'], V\) then there exists \(A' \vdash \varphi'\) such that \([A, M] \rightarrow_A^* [A', V]\).

**Proof.** The proof is done by induction on the number of steps of the reduction between \([\varphi], M\) and \([\varphi'], V\). The proposition is clearly true if there is 0 step since \(M = V, \varphi = \varphi'\) and \(A' = A\) proves the result.

Now consider the last rule used. If this rule is one of the purely functional part of the calculus (see def. 7) the proposition follow directly from the induction hypothesis since the AQS is not changed. We thus have the following possibilities for the last rule:

- It is \([PHS_A]\): If the qbit \(q\) on which phase is applied is a base state it can be written \(\alpha(l)\) with \(l\) being either 1 or 0. Thus \(\overline{\alpha}q = \exp(i\pi/4)\alpha\), thus still a base state. Hence \(\mathcal{P}\) remains unchanged.
- It is \([HDR_A]\): if \((\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{P}) \models \varphi\), then \((\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{P} \setminus \{q_i\}) \models (\delta q_i \models \varphi)\) because of definition 11 since in \((\delta q_i \models \varphi)\), any \(q_i\) is in a non base state only if it is in a non base state in \(\varphi\).
- It is \([MET_A]\): After the measure the qubit vanishes. Moreover concrete measure probabilistically produces 1 or 0. Regarding the concrete result one can choose the appropriate value as result of the abstract measure, moreover the measured qubit is in a base state (hence the \(\mathcal{P} \cup \{q_i\}\)).
- It is \([NEW_A]\): then by definition \(\varphi' = [1] \otimes [\varphi]\), hence quantum in a base state in \(\varphi\) remain in a base state in \(\varphi'\), moreover the new qubit is in a base state.
- It is \([CNO_A]\): If the two qubits \(q_i = \alpha(l), q_j = \beta(l')\) are in a base state then
  - If \(l = 1\) then \(\text{Cnot}(\alpha(1) \otimes \beta(l')) = \alpha(1) \otimes \beta(l')\)
  - If \(l = 0\) then \(\text{Cnot}(\alpha(0) \otimes \beta(l')) = \alpha(0) \otimes \beta(l')\)

  in both cases we obtain two separable qubits.
- If only \(q_i = \alpha'(l)\) is in a base state and \(q_j = \alpha(0) + \beta(1)\) is not.
  - If \(l = 1\) then \(\text{Cnot}(\alpha(1) \otimes \alpha(0) + \beta(1)) = \alpha'(1) \otimes \beta(1) + \alpha(0)\)
  - If \(l = 0\) then \(\text{Cnot}(\alpha(1) \otimes \alpha(1) + \beta(0)) = \alpha'(1) \otimes \alpha(1) + \beta(0)\)
here also we obtain two separable qubits. Moreover in all cases $q_i$ remains in a base state.

- It is $[CNO14]$; The property follows from induction hypothesis and from the fact that $\mathcal{R}$ and $\mathcal{P}$ are safe approximations.

This result builds a bridge between the satisfaction of an assertion and the actual quantum state. Indeed, the validity of assertions is defined relatively to a quantum state which in turn is related to the actual quantum state by this result.

**Semantics of entanglement assertions** We now give the semantics of a well typed assertion with relation to a concrete quantum state. It is done via an abstract quantum state which is adequate with regards to the concrete quantum state. Let $|\varphi\rangle \models A$, and $\Gamma; A; \Delta \vdash C$, then $C$ is satisfied, written $\mathcal{M}_{\Gamma; A; \Delta} \models C$.

Basically it amounts to check two properties: whether or not two quantum bits are in the same entanglement equivalence class and whether or not a particular quantum bit is in a base state.

**Definition 14 (Abstract observational equivalence).** Suppose that $\Gamma; A \vdash M, M' : \tau$. $M$ and $M'$ are observationally equivalent, written $M \equiv_{A}^{\tau} M'$, if and only if for all context $C[\cdot]$ such that $\cdot \vdash C[M], C[M'] : \mathcal{B}$ and for all AQS $A$ we have $[[C[M]]]_{A}^{\tau} = [[C[M']]_{A}^{\tau}$. The equivalence class of $M$ w.r.t. observational equivalence is denoted by $M_{A}^{\tau}$, by extension we say that the type of this equivalence class is $\tau$.

**Definition 15 (Abstract values).** In assertion typing context $\Gamma; A; \Delta$, an abstract value $v_{\Gamma; A; \sigma}^{\tau}$ of type $\tau$, where $\tau \neq \sigma \otimes \sigma'$, with relation to context $\Gamma; A; \Delta$ and AQS $A = (\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{P})$ is either an equivalence class of type $\tau$ for $\equiv_{A}^{\tau}$, if $\tau \neq \mathcal{B}$, or a pair $(C, b)$ formed by an equivalence class $C$ of $\mathcal{R}$ and a boolean $b$ (the idea being that if $b$ is true then the denoted qubit is in $\mathcal{P}$).

If $\tau = \sigma' \otimes \sigma''$, then $v_{\Gamma; A; \tau}^{\tau}$ is a pair $(v', v'')$ formed by abstract values of respective types $\sigma', \sigma''$.

The set of abstract values under an AQS $A$, typing context $\Gamma; A; \Delta$ and for a type $\tau$ is written $\Xi_{\Gamma; A; \tau}^{\tau}$. Abstract values are used to define the interpretation of free variables. Since in a given assertion typing context $\Gamma; A; \Delta$ more than one type may occur we need to consider collections of abstract values of the different types that occur in $\Gamma; A; \Delta$: we write $\Xi_{\Gamma; A; \Delta}$ the disjoint union of all $\Xi_{\Gamma; A; \tau}^{\tau}$ for every $\tau$ in $\Gamma; A; \Delta$.

**Definition 16 (Models).** A $\Gamma; A; \Delta$ model is a tuple $\mathcal{M}_{\Gamma; A; \Delta} = (A, \mathcal{T})$, where $A$ is an AQS, $\mathcal{T}$ is a map from variables defined in $\Gamma; A; \Delta$ to $\Xi_{\Gamma; A; \tau}^{\tau}$.

**Definition 17 (Model extensions).** Let $\mathcal{M}_{\Gamma; A; \Delta} = (A, \mathcal{T})$ be a model, then the model $\mathcal{M}'$ written $\mathcal{M} \cdot x : v = (A, \mathcal{T}')$, where $v \in \Xi_{\Gamma; A; \tau}^{\tau}$ is defined as follows: the typing context of $\mathcal{M}'$ is $\Gamma; A; \Delta, x : \tau$. If the type of $x$ is $\tau = \sigma \otimes \sigma'$, then $v$
is a couple made of abstract values $v', v''$ of respective type $\sigma, \sigma'$. If the type of $x$ is $B^\circ$; if $v = (C, 1)$ then $A' = (R \cup C, P' \cup \{x\})$, otherwise if $v = (C, 0)$ then $A' = (R \cup C, P')$. If the type of $x$ is $\sigma \neq B^\circ$, then: $I'(y) = I(y)$ for all $x \neq y$ and $I'(x) = v$.

**Definition 18 (Term interpretation).** Let $M^{\pi, A} = \langle A, I, \tau \rangle$ be a model, the interpretation of a term is defined by: $[u]_M = I(u)$; $[q_i]_M = ([\pi_i]^{A}, b_i^A)$, where $b_i^A$ is 1 if $q_i \in P$ with $A = \langle R, P \rangle$; $[[v, e']]_M = ([M]_A, [e']^A)$.

**Definition 19 (Satisfaction).** The satisfaction of an assertion $C$ in the model $M = \langle A, I \rangle$, is written $M \models C$, is inductively defined by the following rules:

- $M \models u \leftrightarrow v$ if $(\pi_1([u]_M) = \pi_1([v]_M))$.
- $M \models C \lor C'$ if $M \models C$ or $M \models C'$. $M \models C \land C'$ if $M \models C$ and $M \models C'$.
- $M \models C \implies C'$ if $M \models C$ implies $M \models C'$. $M \models \forall u : \sigma. C$ if for all abstract values $v \in \mathcal{Z}_{A, \sigma}^\pi$, and $M' = M \cdot u : v$, one has $M' \models C$.
- $M \models \exists u : \sigma. C$ if there is an abstract value $v$ such that if $M' = M \cdot u : v$, one has $M' \models C$. $M \models \{\sigma\} e_1 \cdot e_2 = e_3 \{C'\}$ if for all models $M^{\pi', A, \Delta} = \langle A', I' \rangle$ such that $M^{\pi, A, \Delta} \models C$, with the following conditions: $I' ; A, \Delta \vdash e_1 : \sigma \rightarrow \tau$, and $I' ; A, \Delta \vdash e_2 : \sigma$ such that for all terms $t_1, t_2$ such that $[e_i]_{M'} = [e_i]_{M'}$ for $i \in \{1, 2\}$ one has

$$[A, (t_1, t_2)] \rightarrow^{A} [A', V]$$

we have two sub-cases: 1) $\tau$ is $B^\circ$ and $V = q_i$ and $M' = M \cdot e_3 : (\pi_i^{A'}, q_i \in P_A)$. 2) $\tau$ is not $B^\circ$ and $M \cdot e_3 : \forall^{A, \Delta, e_3 : \tau} \models C'$

**4.3 Judgments and proof rules.**

We now give rules to derive judgments of the form $\{C\} M^{\pi, A, \Delta} u \{C'\}$. Those judgments bind $u$ in $C'$, thus $u$ cannot occur freely in $C$. $u$ is an anchor that has to be seen as the logical counterpart of the value computed by $M$.

There are two kinds of rules: the first one follow the structure of $M$, the second one are purely logical rules.

**Definition 20 (Language rules).** Let $\Gamma; A \vdash M : \tau$, we define the judgment $\{C\} M^{\pi, A, \Delta} \tau u \{C'\}$ inductively. Rules are given in Fig. 6

Where in rule [HAD$_J$], if there exists $C''$ such that $C'' \land \|u \equiv C'$ the assertion $C' \land \|u \equiv C'' \land \|u$ otherwise it is $C' \land \|u$. In [MEAS$_J$], the assertion $C' \land \|u$ is $C'$ where all assertions containing $u$ have been deleted. In [ABS$_J$], $C \sim x$ means that $x$ does not occur freely in $C$. In [VAR$_J$], $C[u/x]$ is the assertion $C$ where all free occurrences of $x$ have been replaced by $u$.

Judgment of the purely functional fragment are standard see [BHY05]. We have just modified the way to handle couples in order to ease manipulations, but we could have used projections instead of introducing two different names. Regarding the quantum fragment, rule [CNOT1$_J$] has no influences over quantum entanglement since the first argument of the $\text{Cnot}$ is in a base state. In
Fig. 6. Language rules
rule $[\text{CNOT2}]$, $C' [u \leftrightarrow v]$, is $C'_0 \land u \leftrightarrow v$, with $C'_0$ is $C'$ where $\neg(u \leftrightarrow v)$ has been removed. This rule introduces an entanglement between the two arguments of the $\text{Cnot}$ operator. Notice that it is not useful to introduce all entanglement pairs introduced. Indeed, since the entanglement relation is an equivalence relation one can safely add to judgment (see logical rules that follow in def. 21, rule $[\text{promote}]$) statements for transitivity, reflexivity and symmetry of entanglement relation, for instance $\forall x, y, z. x \leftrightarrow y \land y \leftrightarrow z \implies x \leftrightarrow z$ for transitivity. Indeed any abstract quantum state, by definition, validates those statements which will be implicitly supposed in the following. As we saw in the proof of proposition 2, the phase gate does not change the fact that a quantum bit is in a base state, whereas the Hadamard gate may make him not in a base state, hence explaining the conclusions of rules $[HAD]$, $[\text{PHASE}]$.

We now give purely logical rules. One may see them as an adapted version of standard first order logic sequent calculus.

**Definition 21 (Logical rules).**

\[
\frac{\{C_0\} V : u\{C'_0\} \quad C \vdash C'_0 \quad C_0 \vdash C'}{\{C\} V : u\{C'\}} \quad [\text{LOG}] \\
\frac{\{C\} V : u\{C'\} \quad \{C \land C_0\} V : u\{C' \land C_0\}}{\{C\} V : u\{C'_0\}} \quad [\text{promote}] \\
\frac{\{C \land C_0\} V : u\{C'_0\} \quad \{C\} V : u\{C'\} \quad C_0 \Rightarrow C'}{\{C\} V : u\{C'_0 \Rightarrow C'_0\} \quad \implies \text{ELim}} \\
\frac{\{C\} M : u\{C\} \quad C \vdash C'}{\{C \land C_0\} V : u\{C'\}} \quad [\text{\land Elim}] \\
\frac{\{C_1\} M : u\{C\} \quad \{C_2\} M : u\{C\}}{\{C_1 \lor C_2\} M : u\{C\}} \quad [\lor L] \\
\frac{\{C\} M : u\{C_1\} \quad \{C\} M : u\{C_2\}}{\{C\} M : u\{C_1 \land C_2\}} \quad [\land R] \\
\frac{\{C\} M : u\{C''\}}{\exists x.C} M : u\{C''\}} [\exists L] \\
\frac{\{C''\} M : u\{C''\}}{\forall x.C} M : u\{C''\}} [\forall R] \\
\]

where $C \vdash C'$ is the standard first order logic proof derivation (see e.g. [Smu68]), and $C''$ is an assertion in which $x$ does not occur freely.

We now give the soundness result relating

**Theorem 1 (Soundness).** Suppose that $\{C\} M : \Gamma; \Delta; \tau u\{C''\}$ is provable. Then for all model $M = (A, I)$, abstract quantum state $A'$, abstract value $v$ such that:

1) $M \models C$. 2) $[A, M] \rightarrow_{A'} [A', V]$. 3) $v \in \Xi_{A'}^{\Gamma; \Delta; \tau}$. then $M \cdot u \colon v \models C'$. 


Proof. The proof is done by induction on judgment rules. The last judgment rule used can be either a logical or a language one. If it is a logical one, soundness follows from the soundness of first order logic. Observe that we have a value in the promotion rule [promote] thus no reductions are possible and the soundness is vacuously valid.

If the last judgment rules used is a language rule, we only consider the quantum fragment (indeed for the functional fragment, the proof follows directly from [BHY05]), thus we have the following cases:

- \([CNOT1]\), thus \(\{C\} M :Γ :A:Δ:τ u\{C\}\) is in facts \(\{C_1 \land \|u'\}\{\text{Cnot } N\} :Γ :A:Δ:B^0 \otimes B^0 \langle u', v'\rangle \{C'\}\). By induction hypothesis we know that if \(M \models C_1 \land \|u'\), if \([A, N] \rightarrow^*_A [A', V]\), and \(v \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{E} : A:Δ:τ}\), then \(\mathcal{M} \cdot \langle u', v'\rangle : vMC'.\) We know that \(V\) is a couple of qbits (since judgment is well typed), say \((q_i, q_j)\). Now \([A', (\text{Cnot } (q_i, q_j))] \rightarrow_A [A, (q_i, q_j)]\) thanks to rule \([CNO1]_A\) and due to the fact that \(M \models \|u'\).

- \([CNOT2]\), thus \(\{C\} M :Γ :A:Δ:τ u\{C\}\) is in facts \(\{C\}\{\text{Cnot } N\} :Γ :A:Δ:B^0 \otimes B^0 \langle u', v'\rangle \{C' \land u' \leftrightarrow v'\}\) we reason similarly as in previous case with the difference that the last abstract operational rule used is \([CNO0]_A\).

- \([HAD]\), thus \(\{C\} M :Γ :A:Δ:τ u\{C\}\) is in facts \(\{C\}\{\text{HAD} N\} :Γ :A:Δ:B^0 \otimes B^0 \langle u'\rangle \{C'[\|u]\}\). By induction hypothesis we know that if \(M \models C\), if \([A, N] \rightarrow^*_A [A', V]\), and \(v \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{E} : A:Δ:τ}\), then \(\mathcal{M} \cdot \langle u\rangle : vMC'.\) Now because judgment is well typed \(\tau\) is \(B^0\), and \(V\) is \(q\). Thus \([A, \langle \text{HAD } q_i\rangle] \rightarrow_A [(R, P \cup \{q_i\} \langle q_i\} \|q_i\], \(\|q\), and clearly \(\mathcal{M} \cdot \langle u\rangle : v \models \|u\), the rest is done by induction hypothesis.

- \([PHASE]\), thus \(\{C\} M :Γ :A:Δ:τ u\{C\}\) is direct by induction hypothesis and considering abstract reduction rule \([PHS]_A\).

- \([MEAS]\), thus \(\{C\} M :Γ :A:Δ:τ u\{C\}\) is in facts \(\{C\}\{\text{meas } N\} :Γ :A:Δ:B^0 \otimes B^0 \langle C' [\|u\land\|u]\rangle\). By induction hypothesis we know that if \(M \models C\), if \([A, N] \rightarrow^*_A [A', V]\), and \(v \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{E} : A:Δ:τ}\), then \(\mathcal{M} \cdot \langle u\rangle : vMC'.\) Now because judgment is well typed \(\tau\) is \(B^0\), and \(V\) is \(q\). Thus \([A, \langle \text{meas } q_i\rangle] \rightarrow_A [(R, P \cup \{q_i\} \langle q_i\} \|q_i\], \(\|q\), and clearly \(\mathcal{M} \cdot \langle u\rangle : v \models \|u\), the rest is done by induction hypothesis.

Example 1. This small example shows how the entanglement logic may be used to analyse non local and non compositional behavior. We want to prove the following statement:

\(\{T\} P : u\forall x, y, z, t.\{x \leftrightarrow y \land z \leftrightarrow t\} u \bullet y, z = v\{x \leftrightarrow t\}\)

where \(P\) is the following program

\(\lambda y, z : B^0.\text{let } \langle u, v \rangle = (\text{Cnot } (y, z)) \text{ in } \langle (\text{meas } u), (\text{meas } v)\rangle\)

Then using rule \([APP]\) we can derive the following judgment on actual quantum bits: \(\{C\}(P \{q_2, q_3\} : \langle u, v \rangle \{q_1 \leftrightarrow q_4\}\)

where \(C\) denotes the following assertion: \(q_1 \leftrightarrow q_2 \land q_3 \leftrightarrow q_4\). This judgment is remarkable in the fact that it asserts on entanglement properties of \(q_1, q_4\) while those two quantum bits do not occur in the piece of code analysed.
Unlike [BHY05], the separability logic is not complete. Indeed consider the following negation program: $\text{NOT} = \lambda x. (\mathcal{T} (\mathcal{T} (\mathcal{T} x)))$. Then one would like to infer the following judgment which is correct: $\{\parallel q_1\} (\text{NOT} q_1) : u \{\parallel u\}$ but it is not possible due to rule $[HAD_J]$.

5 Conclusion

In this paper we have proposed a logic for the static analysis of entanglement for a functional quantum programing language. We have proved that this logic is safe and sound: if two quantum bits are provably separable then they are not entangled while if they are provably entangled they could actually be separable. We have shown that non local behavior can be handled by our logic.

The functional language considered includes higher-order functions. It is, to our knowledge the first proposal to do so. It strictly improves over [Per07] on this respect. [Per08] follows the same approach as ours but with a different starting point: abstract interpretation tools are used for the entanglement analysis. Thus, it is possible to deal with potentially infinite loops, but it is done in a first order imperative language.

The question of a complete analysis is an open issue. An idea would be to use a more expressive logic, inspired for instance by [CMS06].

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