

On Coinduction and Quantum Lambda Calculi

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To appear at CONCUR'15

Outline

- Motivation
- A quantum λ -calculus
- Coinductive proof techniques
- Soundness
- Completeness
- Summary

Motivation

Quantum programming languages

Fruitful attempts of language design, e.g.

- **QUIPPER**: an expressive functional higher-order language that can be used to program many quantum algorithms and can generate quantum gate representations using trillions of gates. [Green et al. PLDI'13]
- **LIQUI|⟩**: a modular software architecture designed to control quantum hardware - it enables easy programming, compilation, and simulation of quantum algorithms and circuits. [Wecker and Svore. CoRR 2014]

Open problem: Fully abstract denotational semantics wrt operational semantics

Contextual equivalence

An important notion of program equivalence in programming languages.

$$M \simeq N \text{ if } \forall \mathcal{C} : \mathcal{C}[M] \Downarrow \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{C}[N] \Downarrow$$

An example in linear PCF

$$f_1 := \text{val}(\lambda x . \text{val}(0) \sqcap \text{val}(1))$$

$$f_2 := \text{val}(\lambda x . \text{val}(0)) \sqcap \text{val}(\lambda x . \text{val}(1)).$$

[Deng and Zhang, TCS, 2015]

An example

$f_1 := \text{val}(\lambda x. \text{val}(0) \sqcap \text{val}(1))$

$f_2 := \text{val}(\lambda x. \text{val}(0)) \sqcap \text{val}(\lambda x. \text{val}(1)).$

$f_1 \not\equiv f_2$

$\mathcal{C} := \text{bind } f = [-] \text{ in bind } x = f(0) \text{ in bind } y = f(0) \text{ in val}(x = y).$

Linear context?

$$f_1 := \text{val}(\lambda x . \text{val}(0) \sqcap \text{val}(1))$$

$$f_2 := \text{val}(\lambda x . \text{val}(0)) \sqcap \text{val}(\lambda x . \text{val}(1)).$$

Equivalence under linear contexts.

A Quantum λ -Calculus

Types

$A, B, C ::= \text{qubit} \mid A \multimap B \mid !(A \multimap B) \mid 1 \mid A \otimes B \mid A \oplus B \mid A^l$

Terms

M, N, P	$::=$	x	Variables
		$\lambda x^A . M \mid M N$	Abstractions / applications
		skip $M; N$	Skip / seq. compositions
		$M \otimes N \mid \mathbf{let} \ x^A \otimes y^B = M \ \mathbf{in} \ N$	Tensor products / proj.
		$\mathbf{in}_l \ M \mid \mathbf{in}_r \ M$	Sums
		match P with $(x^A : M \mid y^B : N)$	Matches
		split ^{A}	Split
		letrec $f^{A \multimap B} x = M \ \mathbf{in} \ N$	Recursions
		new meas U	Quantum operators

Values

$$V, W ::= x \mid c \mid \lambda x^A. M \mid V \otimes W \mid \text{in}_l V \mid \text{in}_r W$$

where $c \in \{\text{skip}, \text{split}^A, \text{meas}, \text{new}, \text{U}\}$.

As syntactic sugar $\text{bit} = 1 \oplus 1$, $\text{tt} = \text{in}_r \text{skip}$, and $\text{ff} = \text{in}_l \text{skip}$.

Typing rules

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{A linear} \\
 \hline
 !\Delta, x : A \vdash x : A \qquad \hline
 !\Delta, x : !(A \multimap B) \vdash x : A \multimap B \\
 \\
 \Delta, x : A \vdash M : B \qquad !\Delta, \Delta' \vdash M : A \multimap B \quad !\Delta, \Delta'' \vdash N : A \\
 \hline
 \Delta \vdash \lambda x^A. M : A \multimap B \qquad \hline
 !\Delta, \Delta', \Delta'' \vdash MN : B \\
 \\
 !\Delta, \Delta' \vdash M : A \qquad !\Delta, \Delta' \vdash M : B \\
 \hline
 !\Delta, \Delta' \vdash \text{in}_l M : A \oplus B \qquad !\Delta, \Delta' \vdash \text{in}_r M : A \oplus B \\
 \\
 !\Delta, \Delta' \vdash P : A \oplus B \quad !\Delta, \Delta'', x : A \vdash M : C \quad !\Delta, \Delta'', y : B \vdash N : C \\
 \hline
 !\Delta, \Delta', \Delta'' \vdash \text{match } P \text{ with } (x^A : M \mid y^B : N) : C \\
 \\
 !\Delta, f : !(A \multimap B), x : A \vdash M : B \quad !\Delta, \Delta', f : !(A \multimap B) \vdash N : C \\
 \hline
 !\Delta, \Delta' \vdash \text{letrec } f^{A \multimap B} x = M \text{ in } N : C \\
 \\
 \hline
 \text{U of arity } n \\
 \hline
 !\Delta \vdash \text{new} : \text{bit} \multimap \text{qubit} \qquad !\Delta \vdash \text{meas} : \text{qubit} \multimap \text{bit} \qquad !\Delta \vdash \text{U} : \text{qubit}^{\otimes n} \multimap \text{qubit}^{\otimes n}
 \end{array}$$

Quantum closure

Def. A quantum closure is a triple $[q, l, M]$ where

- q is a normalized vector of \mathbb{C}^{2^n} , for some integer $n \geq 0$. It is called the quantum state;
- M is a term, not necessarily closed;
- l is a linking function that is an injective map from $fqv(M)$ to the set $\{1, \dots, n\}$.

A closure $[q, l, M]$ is total if l is surjective. In that case we write l as $\langle x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ if $dom(l) = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ and $l(x_i) = i$ for all $i \in \{1 \dots n\}$.

Non-total closures are allowed. E.g. $[\frac{|00\rangle + |11\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}, \{x \mapsto 1\}, x]$

Small-step reduction axioms

$$[q, l, (\lambda x^A.M)V] \xrightarrow{1} [q, l, M\{V/x\}]$$

$$[q, l, \text{let } x^A \otimes y^B = V \otimes W \text{ in } N] \xrightarrow{1} [q, l, N\{V/x, W/y\}]$$

$$[q, l, \text{skip}; N] \xrightarrow{1} [q, l, N]$$

$$[q, l, \text{match in}_l V \text{ with } (x^A : M \mid y^B : N)] \xrightarrow{1} [q, l, M\{V/x\}]$$

$$[q, l, \text{match in}_r V \text{ with } (x^A : M \mid y^B : N)] \xrightarrow{1} [q, l, N\{V/y\}]$$

$$[q, l, \text{letrec } f^{A \multimap B} x = M \text{ in } N] \xrightarrow{1} [q, l, N\{(\lambda x^A.\text{letrec } f^{A \multimap B} x = M \text{ in } M)/f\}]$$

$$[q, \emptyset, \text{new ff}] \xrightarrow{1} [q \otimes |0\rangle, \{x \mapsto n + 1\}, x]$$

$$[q, \emptyset, \text{new tt}] \xrightarrow{1} [q \otimes |1\rangle, \{x \mapsto n + 1\}, x]$$

$$[\alpha q_0 + \beta q_1, \{x \mapsto i\}, \text{meas } x] \xrightarrow{|\alpha|^2} [r_0, \emptyset, \text{ff}]$$

$$[\alpha q_0 + \beta q_1, \{x \mapsto i\}, \text{meas } x] \xrightarrow{|\beta|^2} [r_1, \emptyset, \text{tt}]$$

$$[q, l, \text{U}(x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_k)] \xrightarrow{1} [r, l, (x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_k)]$$

Structural rule

$$\frac{[q, l, M] \xrightarrow{p} [r, i, N]}{[q, j \uplus l, \mathcal{E}[M]] \xrightarrow{p} [r, j \uplus i, \mathcal{E}[N]]}$$

where \mathcal{E} is any *evaluation context* generated by the grammar

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E} ::= & [] \mid \mathcal{E} M \mid V \mathcal{E} \mid \mathcal{E}; M \mid \mathcal{E} \otimes M \mid V \otimes \mathcal{E} \mid \text{in}_l \mathcal{E} \mid \text{in}_r \mathcal{E} \\ & \mid \text{let } x^A \otimes y^B = \mathcal{E} \text{ in } M \mid \text{match } \mathcal{E} \text{ with } (x^A : M \mid y^B : N). \end{aligned}$$

Extreme derivative

Def. Suppose we have subdistributions $\mu, \mu_k^{\rightarrow}, \mu_k^{\times}$ for $k \geq 0$ with the following properties:

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &= \mu_0^{\rightarrow} + \mu_0^{\times} \\ \mu_0^{\rightarrow} &\rightarrow \mu_1^{\rightarrow} + \mu_1^{\times} \\ \mu_1^{\rightarrow} &\rightarrow \mu_2^{\rightarrow} + \mu_2^{\times} \\ &\vdots\end{aligned}$$

and each μ_k^{\times} is stable in the sense that $C \not\rightsquigarrow$, for all $C \in [\mu_k^{\times}]$. Then we call $\mu' := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mu_k^{\times}$ an **extreme derivative** of μ , and write $\mu \Rightarrow \mu'$.

NB: μ' could be a proper subdistribution.

Example

Consider a Markov chain with three states $\{s_1, s_2, s_3\}$ and two transitions $s_1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}\overline{s_2} + \frac{1}{2}\overline{s_3}$ and $s_3 \rightarrow \overline{s_3}$. Then $\overline{s_1} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}\overline{s_2}$.

Let C be a quantum closure in the Markov chain (Cl, \rightarrow) . Then $\overline{C} \Rightarrow \llbracket C \rrbracket$ for a unique subdistribution $\llbracket C \rrbracket$.

Big-step reduction

$$\overline{C \Downarrow \varepsilon} \quad \overline{[q, l, V] \Downarrow [q, l, V]}$$

$$[q, l, M] \Downarrow \sum_{k \in K} p_k \cdot \overline{[r_k, i_k, V_k]} \quad \{[r_k, i_k, N] \Downarrow \mu_k\}_{k \in K}$$

$$[q, l, M \otimes N] \Downarrow \sum_{k \in K} p_k (V_k \otimes \mu_k)$$

$$[q, l, M] \Downarrow \sum_{k \in K} p_k \cdot \overline{[r_k, i_k, V_k \otimes W_k]} \quad \{[r_k, i_k, (N\{V_k/x, W_k/y\})] \Downarrow \mu_k\}_{k \in K}$$

$$[q, l, \text{let } x^A \otimes y^B = M \text{ in } N] \Downarrow \sum_{k \in K} p_k \mu_k$$

Lem. $\llbracket C \rrbracket = \sup\{\mu \mid C \Downarrow \mu\}$

Linear contextual equivalence

Def. A **linear context** is a term with a hole, written $\mathcal{C}(\Delta; A)$, such that $\mathcal{C}[M]$ is a closed program when the hole is filled in by a term M , where $\Delta \triangleright M : A$, and the hole lies in linear position.

Def. **Linear contextual equivalence** is the typed relation \simeq given by $\Delta \triangleright M \simeq N : A$ if for every linear context \mathcal{C} , quantum state q and linking function l such that $\emptyset \triangleright \mathcal{C}(\Delta; A) : B$, and both $[q, l, \mathcal{C}[M]]$ and $[q, l, \mathcal{C}[N]]$ are total quantum closures,

$$|[[[q, l, \mathcal{C}[M]]]]| = |[[[q, l, \mathcal{C}[N]]]]|$$

Coinductive proof techniques

A Probabilistic Labelled Transition System

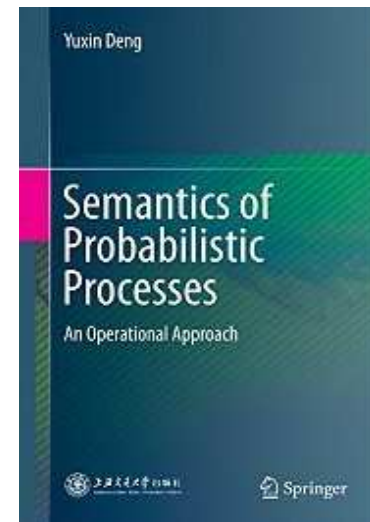
$$\begin{array}{c}
 \hline
 [q, l, x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_n] \xrightarrow{iU} [q, l, U(x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_n)] \quad [q, l, x] \xrightarrow{i\text{ meas}} [q, l, \text{meas } x] \\
 \hline
 \\
 \frac{}{[q, \emptyset, \text{skip}] \xrightarrow{\text{skip}} [q, \emptyset, \Omega]} \quad \frac{\emptyset \triangleright V : A \multimap B \quad \emptyset \triangleright W : A}{[q, l, V] \xrightarrow{\textcircled{[r,W]}} [q, l \uplus r, VW]} \\
 \\
 \frac{\emptyset \triangleright \text{in}_l V : A \oplus B \quad x : A \triangleright M : C}{[q, l, \text{in}_l V] \xrightarrow{1[r,M]} [q, l \uplus r, M\{V/x\}]} \\
 \\
 \frac{\emptyset \triangleright V \otimes W : A \otimes B \quad x : A, y : B \triangleright M : C}{[q, l, V \otimes W] \xrightarrow{\textcircled{[r,M]}} [l \uplus r, M\{V/x, W/y\}]} \quad \frac{}{C \xrightarrow{\text{eval}} \llbracket C \rrbracket}
 \end{array}$$

Lifting relations

Def. Let S, T be two countable sets and $\mathcal{R} \subseteq S \times T$ be a binary relation. The lifted relation $\mathcal{R}^\dagger \subseteq \mathcal{D}(S) \times \mathcal{D}(T)$ is defined by letting $\mu \mathcal{R}^\dagger \nu$ iff $\mu(X) \leq \nu(\mathcal{R}(X))$ for all $X \subseteq S$.

Here $\mathcal{R}(X) = \{t \in T \mid \exists s \in X. s \mathcal{R} t\}$ and $\mu(X) = \sum_{s \in X} \mu(s)$.

There are alternative formulations; related to the [Kantorovich metric](#) and the [maximum network flow problem](#). See e.g.



State-based bisimilarity

Def. $C \sim_s D$ iff

- $env(C) = env(D)$;
- $\llbracket C \rrbracket \sim_s^\dagger \llbracket D \rrbracket$;
- if C, D are values then $C \xrightarrow{a} \mu$ implies $D \xrightarrow{a} \nu$ with $\mu \sim_s^\dagger \nu$, and vice-versa.

Write $\emptyset \triangleright M \sim_s N : A$ if $[q, l, M] \sim_s [q, l, N]$ for any q and l such that $[q, l, M]$ and $[q, l, N]$ are both typable quantum closures.

$$env(\mu) = \sum_i p_i \cdot tr_{fqv(M)} q_i q_i^\dagger \text{ for any } \mu = \sum_i p_i \cdot [q_i, l_i, M_i].$$

Distribution-based bisimilarity

Def. $\mu \xrightarrow{a} \rho$ if $\rho = \sum_{s \in [\mu]} \mu(s) \cdot \mu_s$, where μ_s is determined as follows:

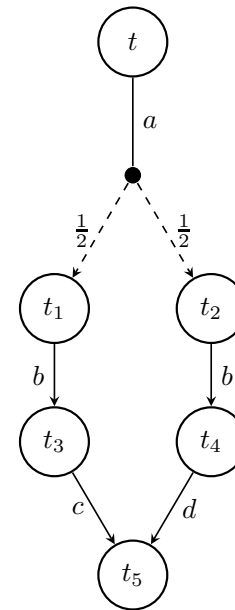
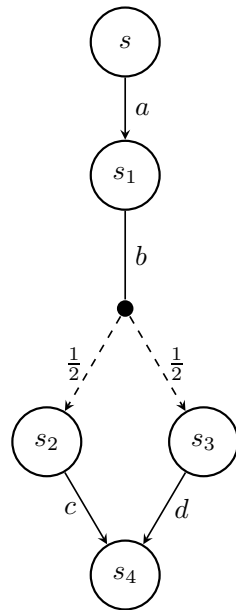
- either $s \xrightarrow{a} \mu_s$
- or there is no ν with $s \xrightarrow{a} \nu$, and in this case we set $\mu_s = \varepsilon$.

Def. $\mu \sim_d \nu$ iff

- $env(\mu) = env(\nu)$;
- $[[\mu]] \sim_d [[\nu]]$;
- if μ and ν are value distributions and $\mu \xrightarrow{a} \rho$, then $\nu \xrightarrow{a} \xi$ for some ξ with $\rho \sim_d \xi$, and vice-versa.

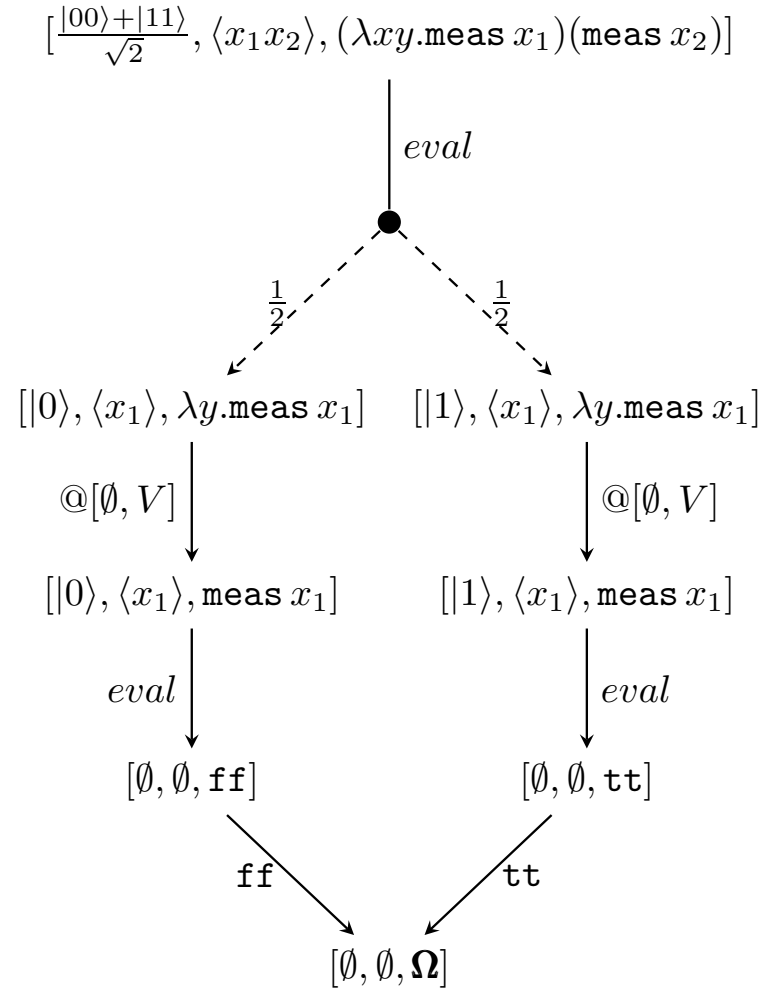
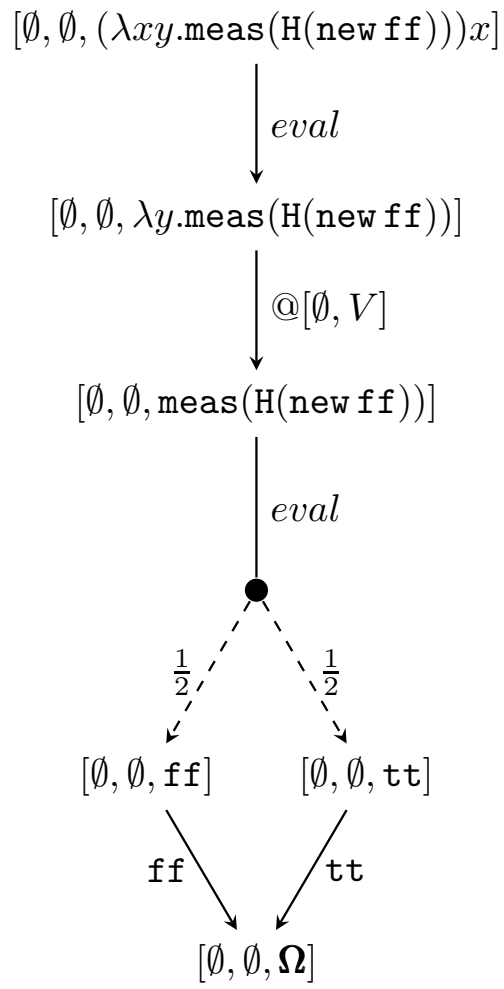
Write $\emptyset \triangleright M \sim_d N : A$ if $[[[q, l, M]]] \sim_d [[[q, l, N]]]$ for any q and l such that $[q, l, M]$ and $[q, l, N]$ are quantum closures.

\sim_s is finer than \sim_d



$s \not\sim_s t$

Similar behaviour by quantum closures



Soundness

Congruence

Basic idea: Given a relation \mathcal{R} , construct a congruence candidate \mathcal{R}^H , and then show $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}^H$.

Howe's construction

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \Delta, x : A \triangleright [q, l, M] \mathcal{R}^H [r, j, N] \quad \Delta \triangleright [r, j, \lambda x^A . N] \mathcal{R} [p, i, L] \\
 \hline
 \Delta \triangleright [q, l, \lambda x^A . M] \mathcal{R}^H [p, i, L] \\
 \\
 !\Delta, \Delta' \triangleright [q, l, M] \mathcal{R}^H [r, j, N] \\
 !\Delta, \Delta'' \triangleright [q, i, L] \mathcal{R}^H [r, m, P] \\
 !\Delta, \Delta', \Delta'' \triangleright [r, j \uplus m, NP] \mathcal{R} [s, n, Q] \\
 \hline
 !\Delta, \Delta', \Delta'' \triangleright [q, l \uplus i, ML] \mathcal{R}^H [s, n, Q] \\
 \\
 !\Delta, \Delta' \triangleright [q, l, M] \mathcal{R}^H [r, j, N] \\
 !\Delta, \Delta'' \triangleright [q, i, L] \mathcal{R}^H [r, m, P] \\
 !\Delta, \Delta', \Delta'' \triangleright [r, j \uplus m, N \otimes P] \mathcal{R} [s, n, Q] \\
 \hline
 !\Delta, \Delta', \Delta'' \triangleright [q, l \uplus i, M \otimes L] \mathcal{R}^H [s, n, Q]
 \end{array}$$

Congruence

Lem. If $\emptyset \triangleright [q, l, M] \sim_s^H [r, j, N]$ then $\llbracket [q, l, M] \rrbracket (\sim_s^H)^\dagger \llbracket [r, j, N] \rrbracket$.

Lem. If $\emptyset \triangleright [q, l, V] \sim_s^H [r, j, W]$ then we have that $[q, l, V] \xrightarrow{a} \mu$ implies $[r, j, W] \xrightarrow{a} \nu$ and $\mu (\sim_s^H)^\dagger \nu$.

Consequently, $\sim_s = \sim_s^H$. Similar arguments apply to \sim_d .

Soundness

Thm. Both \sim_s and \sim_d are included in \simeq .

Completeness

A simple testing language

The tests: $\mathbf{t} ::= \omega \mid a \cdot \mathbf{t}$

Apply a test to a distribution in a reactive pLTS

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(\mu, \omega) &= |\mu| \\ Pr(\mu, a \cdot \mathbf{t}) &= Pr(\rho, \mathbf{t}) \text{ where } \mu \xrightarrow{a} \rho \end{aligned}$$

$\mu =^{\mathcal{T}} \nu$ iff $\forall \mathbf{t} \in \mathcal{T} : Pr(\mu, \mathbf{t}) = Pr(\nu, \mathbf{t})$.

Characterisation of \sim_d by tests

Thm. Let μ and ν be two distributions in a reactive pLTS. Then $\mu \sim_d \nu$ if and only if $\mu =^{\mathcal{T}} \nu$.

Converting a test into a context

Lem. Let A be a type and \mathfrak{t} a test. There is a context $\mathcal{C}_{\mathfrak{t}}^A$ such that $\emptyset \triangleright \mathcal{C}_{\mathfrak{t}}^A(\emptyset; A) : \mathbf{bit}$ and for every M with $\emptyset \triangleright M : A$, we have

$$Pr([q, l, M], \mathfrak{t}) = |[[[q, l, \mathcal{C}_{\mathfrak{t}}^A[M]]]]|$$

where $[q, l, M]$ and $[q, l, \mathcal{C}_{\mathfrak{t}}^A[M]]$ are quantum closures for any q and l .

Full abstraction

Thm. \simeq coincides with \sim_d .

Summary

Conclusion

- Two notions of bisimilarity for reasoning about higher-order quantum programs
- Both bisimilarities are sound with respect to the linear contextual equivalence
- The distribution-based one is complete.

Future work

A denotational model fully abstract with respect to the linear contextual equivalence.

Thank you!