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1  """
2  This Python script implements the BB84 quantum key
3  distribution protocol using
4  Qiskit and IBM's quantum computers.
5
6  The BB84 protocol is a quantum cryptography protocol
7  developed by Charles
8  Bennett and Gilles Brassard in 1984 for secure communication
9  . It leverages the
10 properties of quantum mechanics to create a secure key for
11 encryption between
12 two parties, Alice and Bob.
13
14 In this script, Alice generates a random set of bits and
15 encodes them into
16 quantum states (qubits) using a random set of bases. She
17 then sends these
18 qubits to Bob, who measures them using a random set of bases
19 . After the
20 transmission, Alice and Bob publicly share their bases and
21 keep the bits
22 where they used the same base, forming a secure key.
23
24 This script runs the BB84 protocol on an IBM quantum
25 computer or simulator
26 specified by the 'backend'.
27
28 Note: Running circuits on real quantum computers may take
29 some time due to the
30 queue.
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32 Date: July 4, 2023
33 """
34
35
36 from qiskit import QuantumCircuit, execute, IBMQ
37 import numpy as np
38
39 # Load IBM Q account
40 IBMQ.save_account('YOUR_API_KEY') # replace 'YOUR_API_KEY'
41 with your actual token
42 provider = IBMQ.load_account()
43 backend = provider.get_backend('ibmq_qasm_simulator') # or
44 another backend
45
46 # Define the quantum circuit
47 def bb84_circuit(bit, base):
48     circuit = QuantumCircuit(1, 1) # One qubit and one
49     classical bit

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38     # Prepare qubit in the correct state
39     if bit == 1:
40         circuit.x(0)
41     if base == 1:
42         circuit.h(0)
43
44     circuit.barrier()
45     return circuit
46
47 # Alice generates bits
48 n = 100
49 alice_bits = np.random.randint(2, size=n)
50
51 # Alice generates random bases
52 alice_bases = np.random.randint(2, size=n)
53
54 # Bob generates random bases
55 bob_bases = np.random.randint(2, size=n)
56
57 # Alice sends qubits to Bob one at a time, and Bob measures
    each qubit
58 alice_key = []
59 bob_key = []
60 for i in range(n):
61     # Alice prepares a qubit
62     alice_circuit = bb84_circuit(alice_bits[i], alice_bases[
        i])
63
64     # Bob measures the qubit in his chosen base
65     bob_circuit = bb84_circuit(0, bob_bases[i])
66     bob_circuit.measure(0, 0)
67     total_circuit = alice_circuit.compose(bob_circuit) #
    Use compose instead of +
68
69     job = execute(total_circuit, backend, shots=1)
70     result = job.result()
71     counts = result.get_counts()
72     bob_bit = int(list(counts.keys())[0])
73
74     # Alice and Bob discard the bit if they used different
    bases
75     if alice_bases[i] == bob_bases[i]:
76         alice_key.append(alice_bits[i]
77             )
78         bob_key.append(bob_bit)
79
80 # Check if keys are the same
81 print(alice_key == bob_key)

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