
ECE 550/650 – Intro to Quantum Computing

Robert Niffenegger



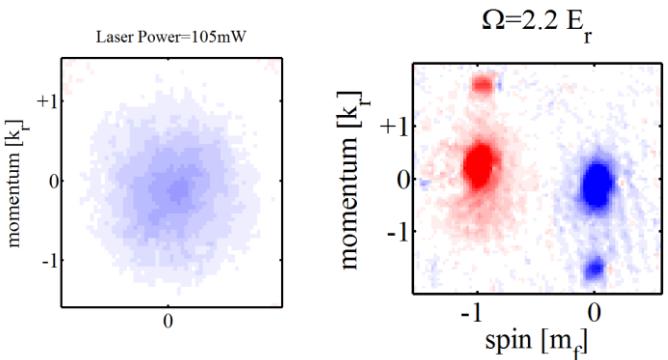
Introductions – Robert Niffenegger



Physics PhD (2015)

Quantum simulation experiments

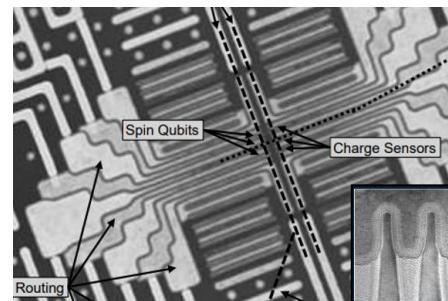
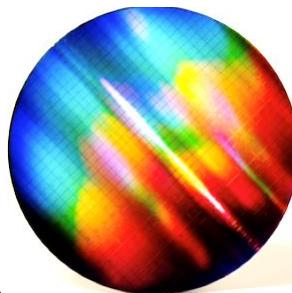
BECs with synthetic spin orbit coupling



7nm → ‘Intel 4nm’ (2019)

Process development: CMOS and qubits

7nm process technology patent

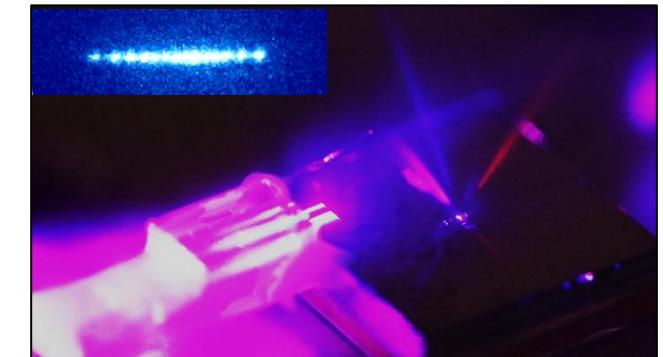


MIT Lincoln Labs

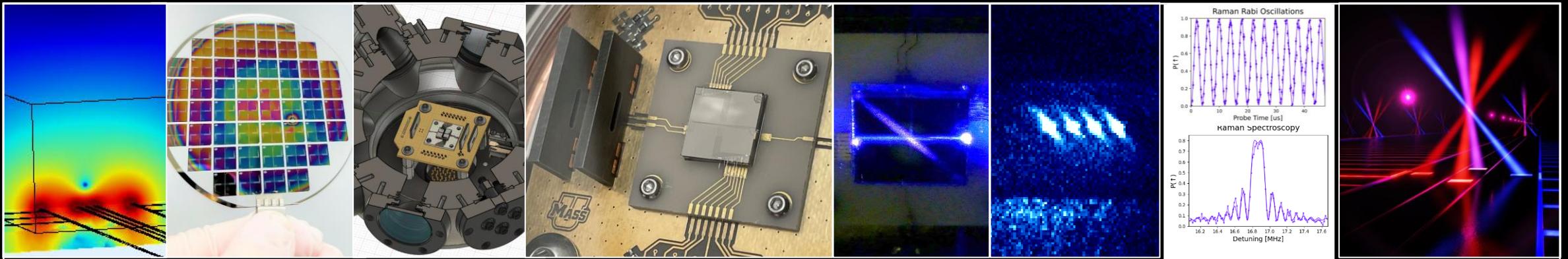
Quantum Computing Group

Trapped Ions & Photonics

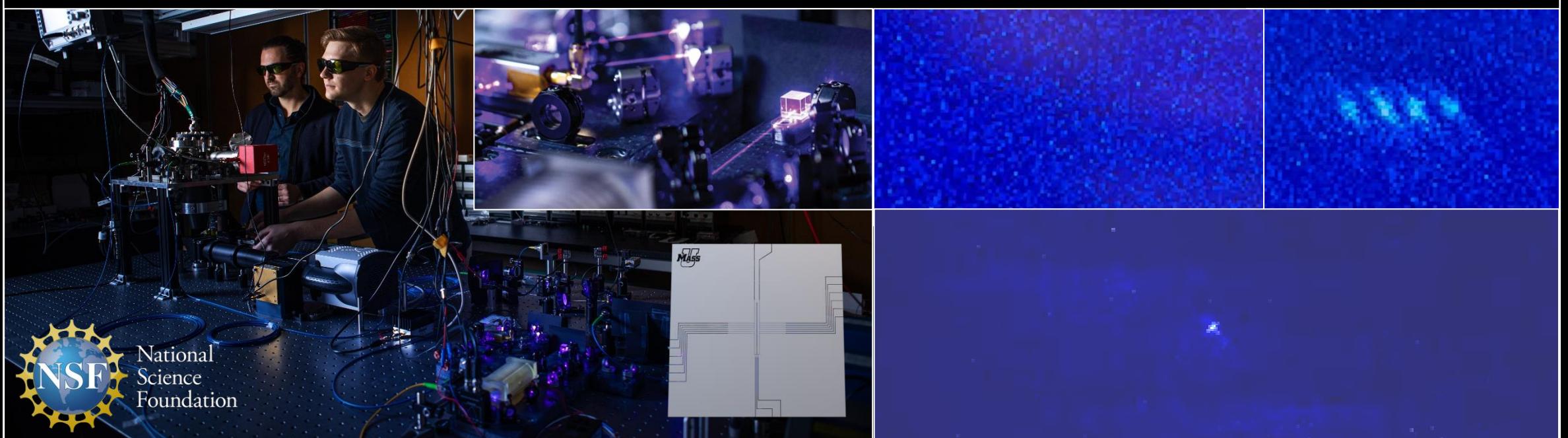
(2021)



Niffenegger Lab - Developing Integrated Technologies for Trapped Ion Qubits and Optical Clocks



Design → Layout → Fabrication → Packaging → Ultra High Vacuum → Optics → Lasers → Trapped Ions → Zeeman Qubits → Integrated Photonics



Introductions



Intel - Process Development Headquarters – Portland, OR



Ion Trap Integrated photonics - 4
RJN - 1/31/2025

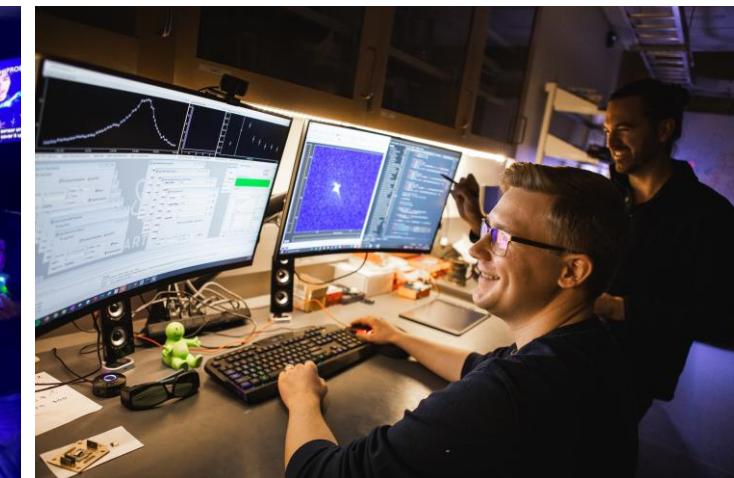
Robert Niffenegger
Assistant Professor ECE

B.S. Physics - Michigan Tech
PhD Physics - Purdue
Intel 7nm process
Postdoc Quantum Computing MIT



Eagle ray

UMass Amherst Trapped ion quantum computing lab

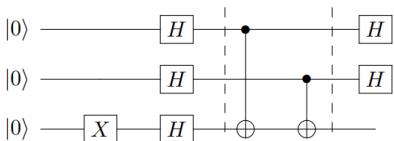


Introductions

- Electrical or Computer Engineers?
- Why are you taking intro to Quantum Computing?
- Plans for after graduation?
- Python programming?
- Phasors and $e^{i\theta}$ Euler notation?
- Linear algebra? Rotations?
- What is a qubit?
- What is superposition?
- What is entanglement?

Outline of the course

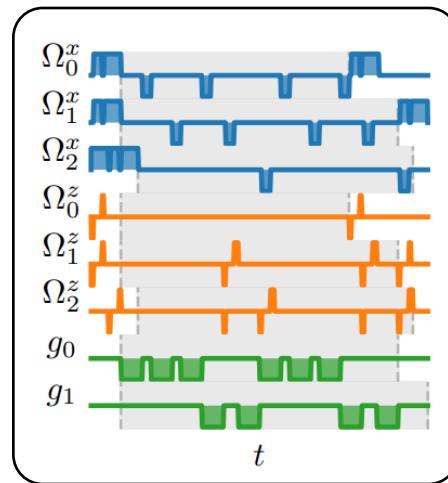
- Quantum Optics
 - What is interference (classical vs. single particle)
 - Superposition of states
 - Measurement and measurement basis
- Atomic physics
 - Spin states in magnetic fields and spin transitions
 - Transitions between atomic states (Rabi oscillations of qubits)
- Single qubits
 - Single qubit gates (electro-magnetic pulses, RF, MW, phase)
 - Error sources (dephasing, spontaneous decay)
 - Ramsey pulses and Spin echo pulse sequences
 - Calibration (finding resonance and verifying pulse time and amplitudes)
- Two qubit gates
 - Two qubit interactions – gate speed vs. error rates
 - Entanglement – correlation at a distance
 - Bell states and the Bell basis
 - XX gates, Controlled Phase gates, Swap



```
qc = QubitCircuit(3)
qc.add_gate("X", targets=2)
qc.add_gate("SNOT", targets=0)
qc.add_gate("SNOT", targets=1)
qc.add_gate("SNOT", targets=2)

# Oracle function f(x)
qc.add_gate(
    "CNOT", controls=0, targets=2)
qc.add_gate(
    "CNOT", controls=1, targets=2)

qc.add_gate("SNOT", targets=0)
qc.add_gate("SNOT", targets=1)
```



- Quantum Hardware
 - Photonics – nonlinear phase shifts
 - Transmons – charge noise, SWAP gate
- Quantum Circuits
 - Single and two qubit gates
 - Hadamard gate , CNOT gate
- Quantum Algorithms
 - Amplitude amplification
 - Grover's Search
 - Oracle - Deutsch Jozsa
 - Bernstein Vazirani
 - Quantum Fourier Transform and period finding
 - Shor's algorithm

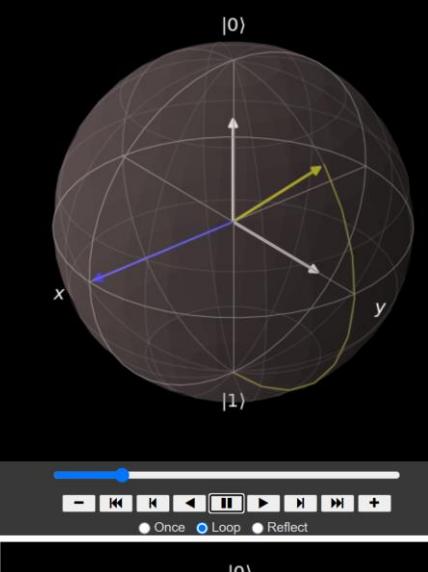
If time permits

- Error Correction
 - Repetition codes
 - Color Codes
 - Surface code

Labs – Colab notebooks QuTiP then QISKit

Table of contents

- ECE 397 QC
- How to use this Notebook
- QuTiP
- Qiskit
- Initialize
- REVIEW FROM LECTURE:
- Lab 2
- Time Dependent Schrödinger equation
 - Exercise 1 :
 - Unitary
 - Rotation operators about the Bloch basis
 - Plotting rotation about the Bloch Sphere
 - Rotation about Z:
 - Rotation about X:
 - Numerical integration of the Schrödinger Equation
- Animate the rotation on the Bloch sphere
 - σ_z is the 'state' basis
 - Exercise 2:
 - Plotting all projections at the same time
 - Halfway point of Lab 2
 - State Measurement
 - Projection = measurement
 - Many Trials:
 - Measurement Uncertainty
 - What does 'real' quantum data look like?
 - We're only getting up or down for each trial of each time step.
- Exercises
 - Exercise 1 :



Lab 10 - Shor

File Edit View Insert Runtime Tools Help Last edited on Apr 29, 2022

Table of contents

- ECE 397 QC
- How to use this Notebook
- Qiskit
- Initialize
- Part II
- Shor's Algorithm
 - Repeated Squaring
 - POW()
 - Classical FFT
 - Eigenstate of U
 - However, there are other eigenvectors of U.
 - The Magic
 - Back to the circuit
 - U function
 - Inverse QFT
 - Control Swap
 - Phase estimation of a Control Swap
 - Ripple Swap
 - U and U repeated squares
 - Estimate r from phase
 - Shor from scratch
 - More Shor (bits)
 - But how does the phase give the factors of N?
 - Conclusion
 - Exercises
 - Section

+ Code + Text

```
n_phe_qubits = 1
n_U_qubits = 3
n_qubits = n_phe_qubits+n_U_qubits
qc = QuantumCircuit(n_qubits,n_phe_qubits)

for i in range(n_phe_qubits):
    qc.h(i)

qc.x(n_qubits-1)

qc.barrier()

qc.toffoli([0],[n_phe_qubits+1],[n_phe_qubits])
qc.toffoli([0],[n_phe_qubits+1],[n_phe_qubits+1])
qc.toffoli([0],[n_phe_qubits+2],[n_phe_qubits+1])

qc.toffoli([0],[n_phe_qubits+2],[n_phe_qubits+2])
qc.toffoli([0],[n_phe_qubits+1],[n_phe_qubits+2])
qc.toffoli([0],[n_phe_qubits+2],[n_phe_qubits+1])

qc.barrier()

qc.append(qft_dagger(n_phe_qubits), range(n_phe_qubits))

qc.barrier()

qc.measure( range(n_phe_qubits), range(n_phe_qubits))

qc.save_statevector()

qc.draw('mpl')
```

<https://github.com/UMassIonTrappers/quantum-computing-labs>

Quick intro

Brief overview of quantum computing

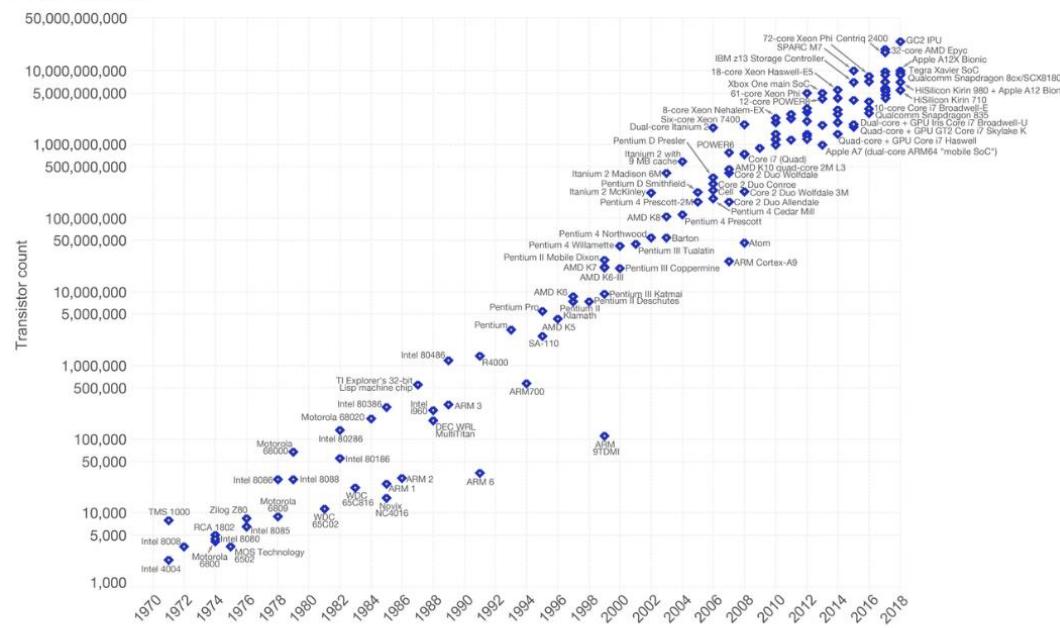


Computing - Supply & Demand

As Moore's law has 'ended'

Moore's Law – The number of transistors on integrated circuit chips (1971-2018)

Moore's law describes the empirical regularity that the number of transistors on integrated circuits doubles approximately every two years. This advancement is important as other aspects of technological progress – such as processing speed or the price of electronic products – are linked to Moore's law.



Data source: Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transistor_count)

The data visualization is available at OurWorldInData.org. There you find more visualizations and research on this topic.

Licensed under CC-BY-SA by the author Max Roser.

Computational demand has accelerated*
(deepseek*?)

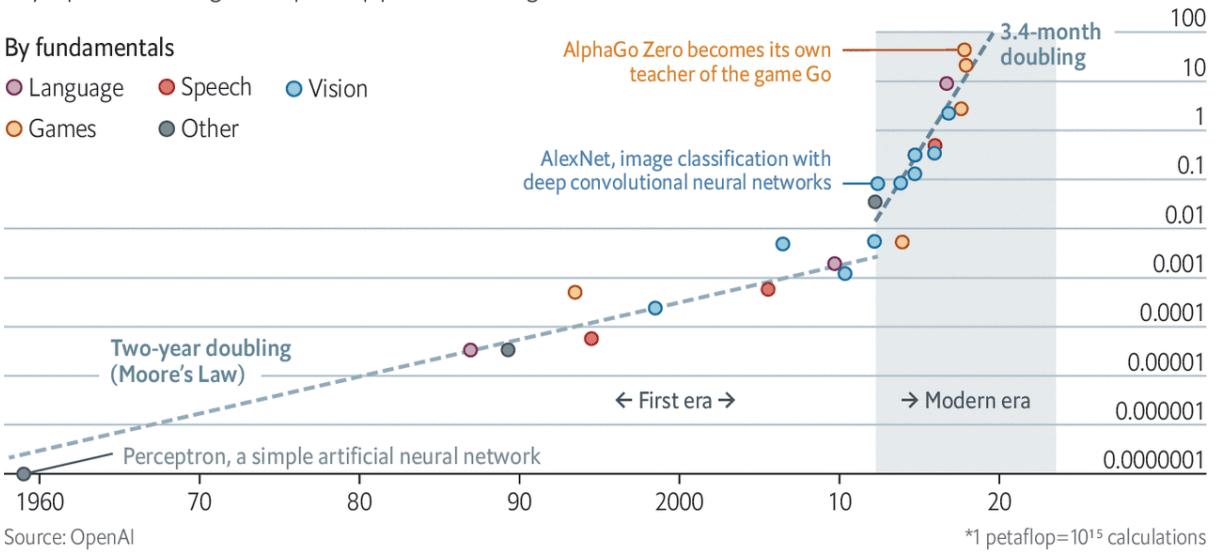
Deep and steep

Computing power used in training AI systems

Days spent calculating at one petaflop per second*, log scale

By fundamentals

- Language
- Speech
- Vision
- Games
- Other



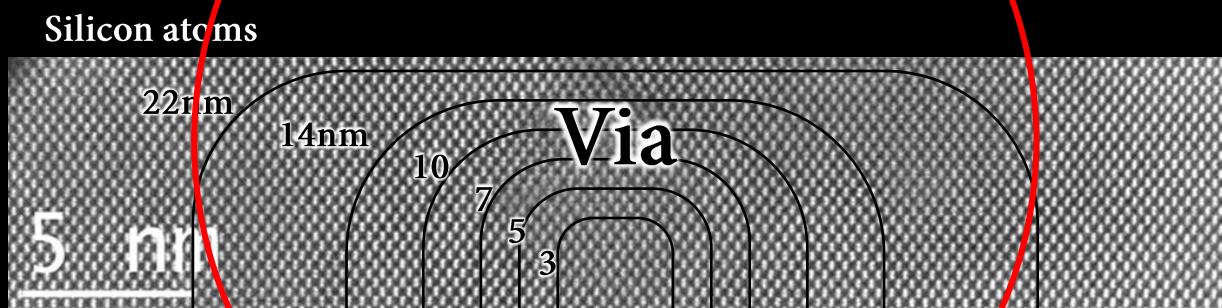
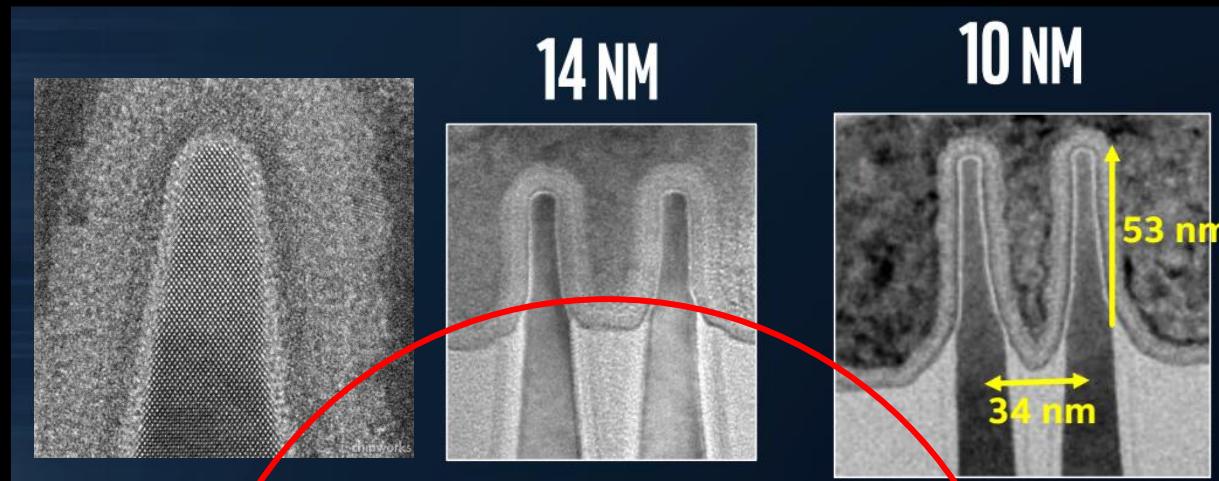
Source: OpenAI

The Economist

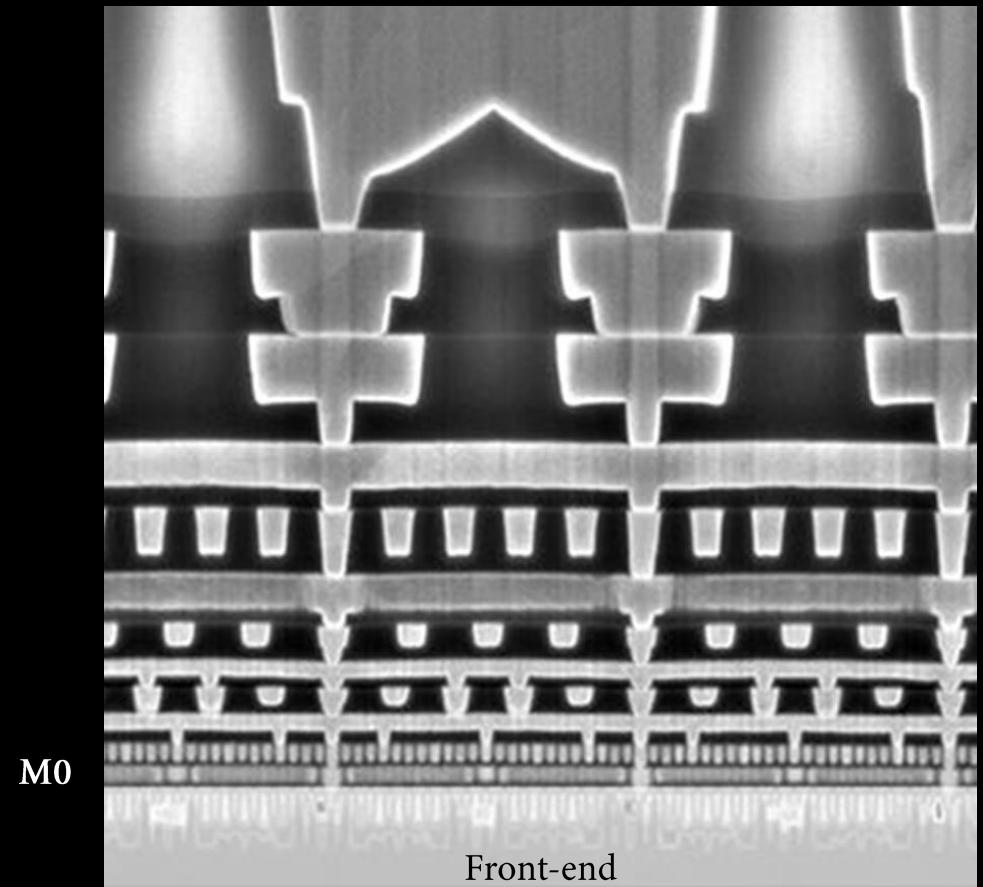
The world needs more 'compute'!

Physical Constraints to Scaling CMOS

FinFETs down to handful of Silicon atoms



Interconnects too



CMOS – Quality and Quantity → sCALE

Full wafer - 1 Trillion T

7nm CMOS Integrated technology process development

- Moore's law front lines
- Fixing yield limiters while not breaking anything else

1T - Single CMOS transistors

10T - Simple logic/inverters

100T - Logic Chains

1,000T - SRAM bypass

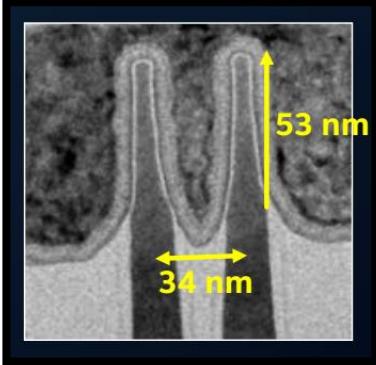
1,000,000 T - SRAM addressability

1,000,000,000 T - Full die

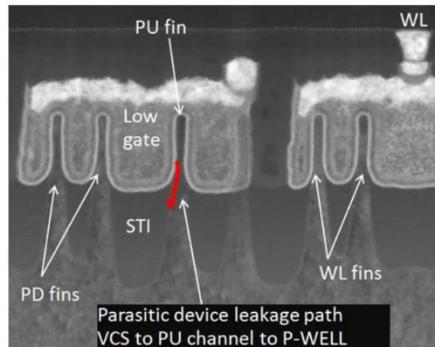
1,000,000,000,000 T - Full wafer

Reliability = Scalability

Dual Fin-FET transistor

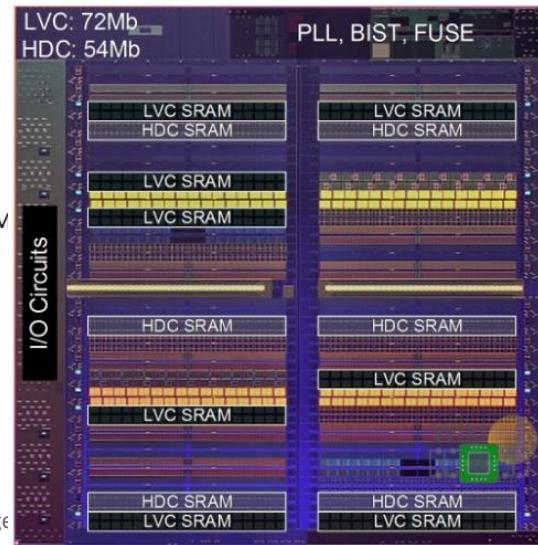


6-Transistor SRAM cell



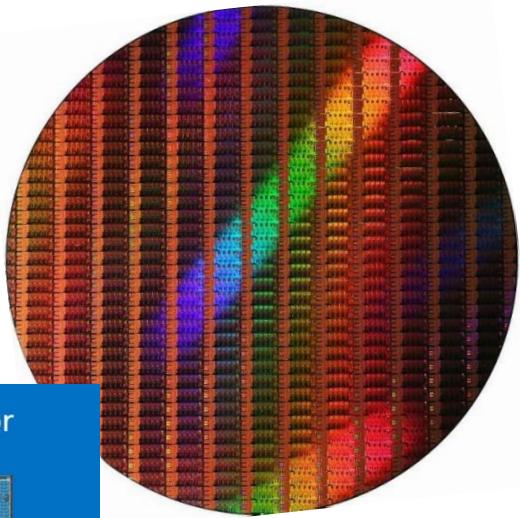
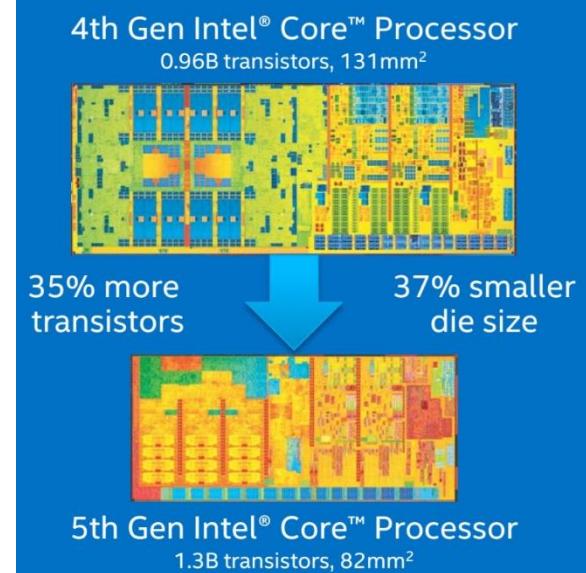
R. Mann, et al., "An Extrinsic Device and Leakage Mechanism in Advanced Bulk FinFET SRAM"

Full SRAM - 1 Million T



Die shot of Intel's 10nm shuttle. (ISSCC 2018)

Full Core - 1 Billion T



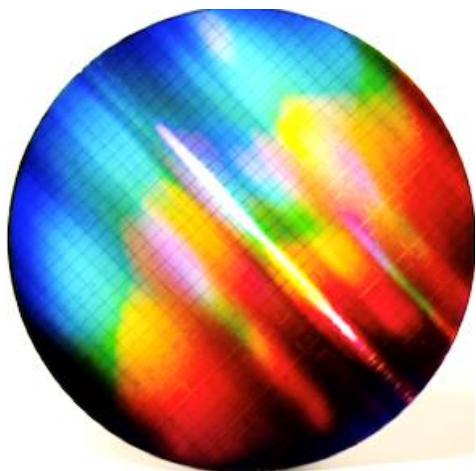
FinFET at 20mK = Spin Qubit

- Embrace the Quantum!
 - If FinFETs are becoming quantum → make them qubits

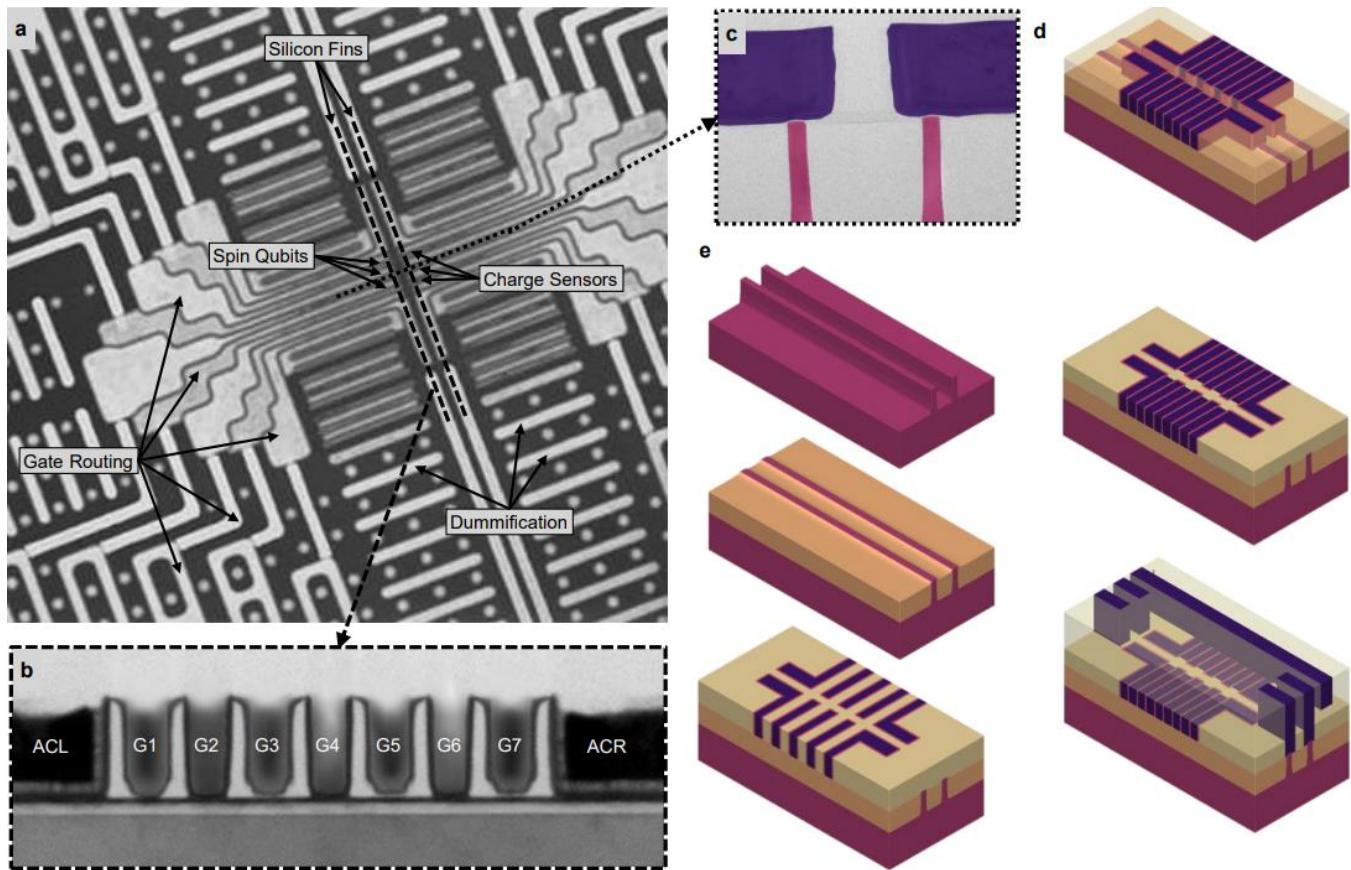
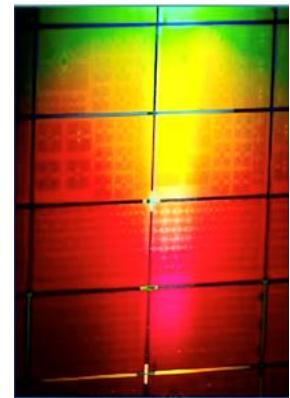
- Inherently scalable based on VLSI CMOS

However,

- Difficult to protect from decoherence and tune
- Preventing demonstration of a small QC or QV



Jim Clarke and Hubert George (Intel CR)



Zwerver, A. M. J., et al. "Qubits made by advanced semiconductor manufacturing." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2101.12650* (2021).

Why compute with qubits?

qubit
‘Each photon then interferes only with itself’

- Dirac

A qubit can experience multiple ‘paths’ simultaneously (superposition, double slit)

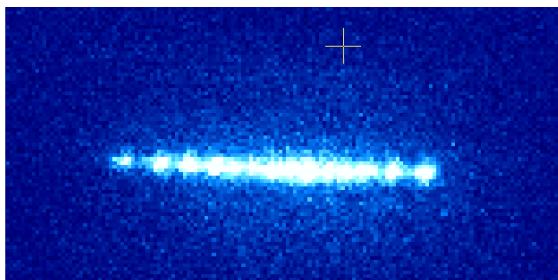
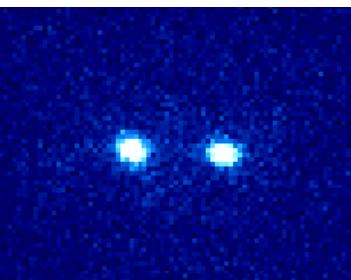
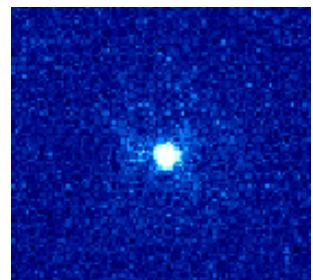
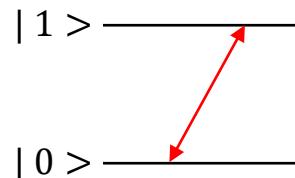
Until you entangle them

Each additional entangled two-level qubit adds those two states to the permutation

→ Qubits explore twice as many paths for each additional qubit

2^n possible states (for n qubits with two levels)

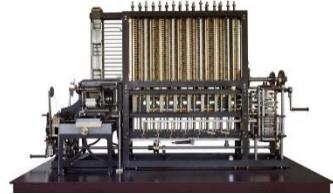
→ Higher dimensional interference is the ‘power’ of quantum computation



Trapped ion

Classical

32 bits in SRAM store just one number at a time



000000 00000001 = 1
000000 00000010 = 2
000000 00000011 = 3
000000 00000100 = 4

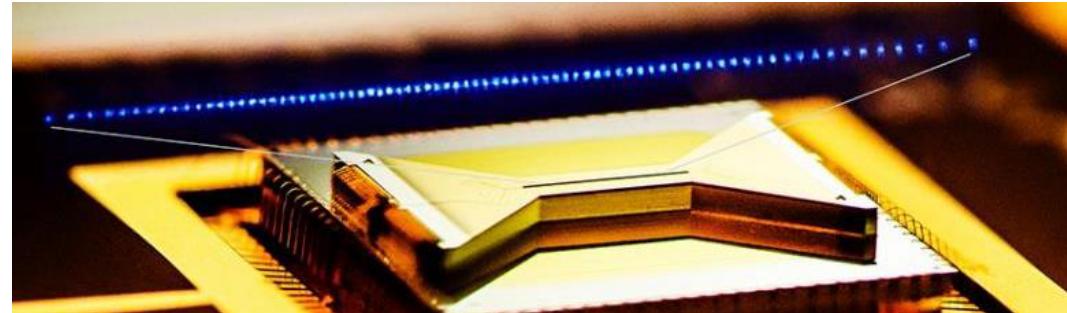
'01' or '10'

Quantum

32 qubits can represent all permutations

$2^{32} > 4 \text{ Billion}$ (~Quantum volume)

'01' and '10'



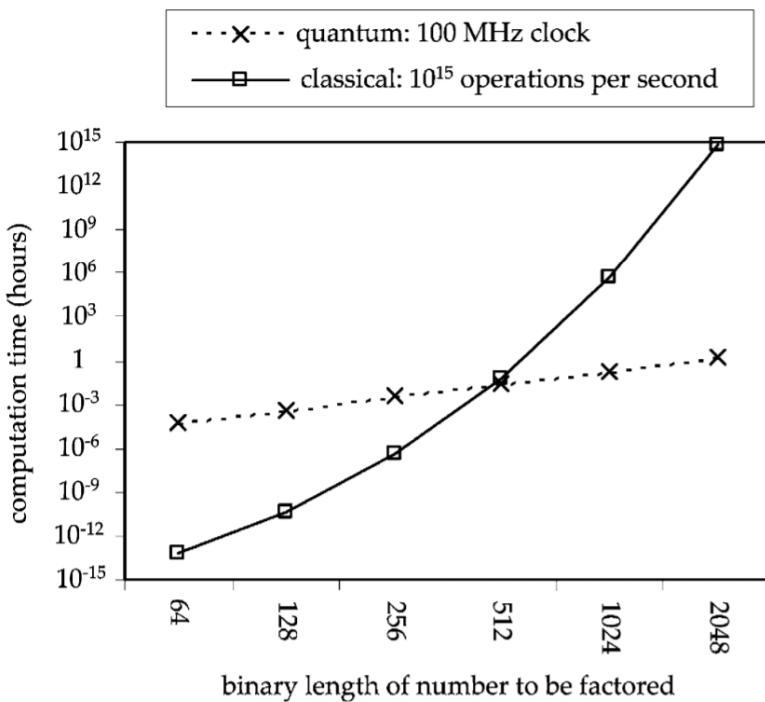
Quantum speedups?

Shor's Algorithm

(Quantum Fourier Transform → period finding → factoring)

Quantum Computing With Superconductors

KARL K. BERGGREN, MEMBER, IEEE



Andrew Childs

University of Maryland

Overview

0. Introduction

1. Quantum query complexity

2. Algebraic problems

3. Quantum walk

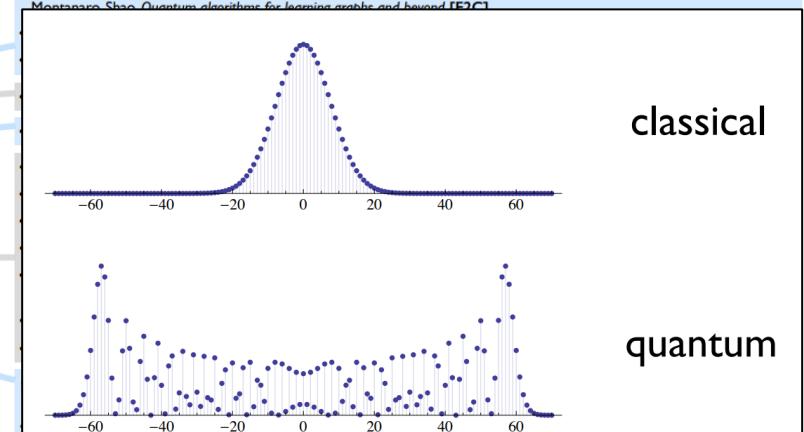
4. Hamiltonian simulation

5. Quantum linear algebra

6. Optimization

7. Machine learning

- Aaronson, Ben-David, Kothari, Rao, Tal, *Degree vs. Approximate degree and quantum implications of Huang's sensitivity theorem* [W3]
- Ben-David, Childs, Gilyén, Kretschmer, Podder, Wang, *Symmetries, graph properties, and quantum speedups* [F1C]
- Lee, Santha, Zhang, *Quantum algorithms for graph problems with cut queries; Montanaro-Shor: Quantum algorithms for learning acyclic and bounded* [F2C]



- Garg, Kothari, Netrapalli, Sherif, *No quantum speedup over gradient descent for non-smooth convex optimization* [F2C]
- Zhang, Leng, Li, *Quantum algorithms for escaping from saddle points* [Tu3B]
- Hastings, Vazirani, Gilyén, *(Sub)exponential advantage of adiabatic quantum computation with no sign problem* [F3]
- Farhi, Goldstone, Gutmann, Zhou, *The quantum approximate optimization algorithm and the Sherrington-Kirkpatrick model at infinite size* [M4A]

How do you build a quantum computer?

The Physical Implementation of Quantum Computation

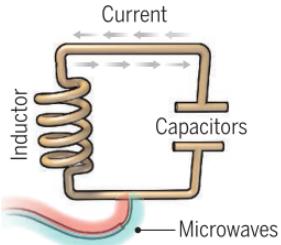
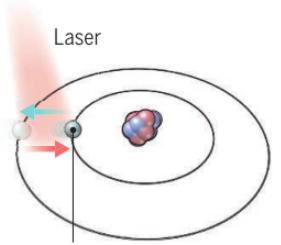
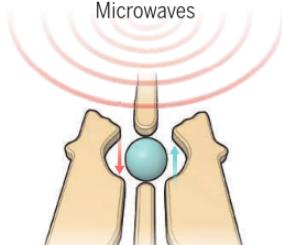
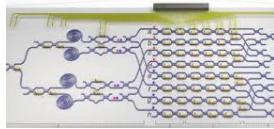
David P. DiVincenzo

IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598 USA
(February 1, 2008)

1. A scalable physical system with well characterized qubits
2. The ability to initialize the state of the qubits
3. Long relevant coherence times (vs. gate time)
4. A “universal” set of quantum gates
5. A qubit-specific measurement capability

Many viable qubits but all have challenges scaling

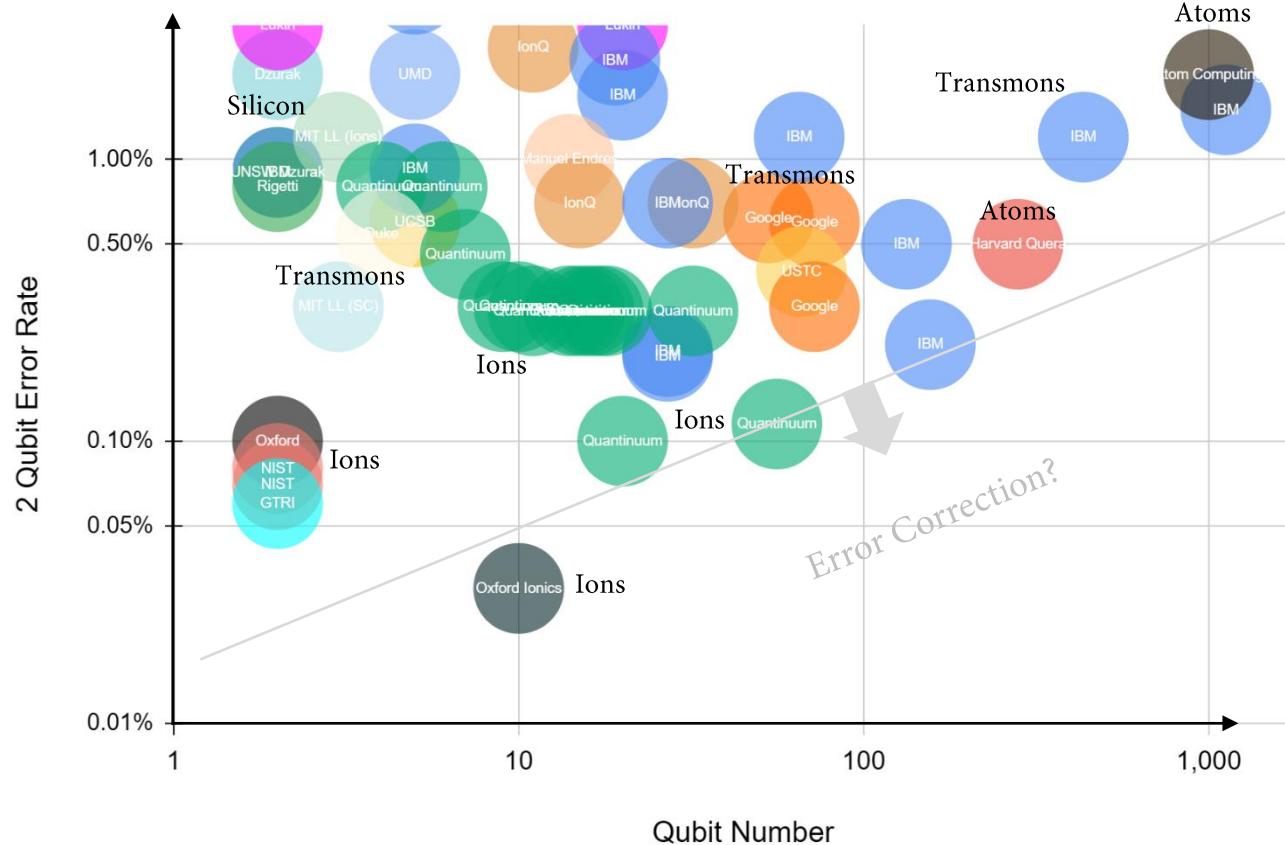
(Increasing qubit number without loss in performance)

		‘New qubits’			
		A	B	C	D
Superconducting loops					
Trapped ions					
A resistance-free current oscillates back and forth around a circuit loop. An injected microwave signal excites the current into superposition states.		Electrically charged atoms, or ions, have quantum energies that depend on the location of electrons. Tuned lasers cool and trap the ions, and put them in superposition states.		These “artificial atoms” are made by adding an electron to a small piece of pure silicon. Microwaves control the electron’s quantum state.	
Longevity (seconds)	0.00005	>1000		0.03	
Logic success rate	99.4%	99.9%	~99%	97%	97%* (heralded)
Number entangled	27	24	3	20	12
Company support	Google, IBM, Rigetti ...	IonQ, Honeywell, AlpineQ, UniversalQ	Intel, HRL/Boeing, SiliconQuantum	Quera, Atom Computing, Cold Quanta	Xanadu, PsiQuantum
Pros	Fast working. Build on existing semiconductor industry.	Very stable. Highest achieved gate fidelities.	Stable. Build on existing semiconductor industry.	2D arrays becoming possible, faster gates	CMOS compatible photonics waveguide technology
Cons	Collapse easily and must be kept cold.	Slow operation. Many lasers are needed.	Only a few entangled. Must be kept cold.	Gate fidelity	Cryogenic single photon sources and detectors

Science, Dec 2016 (modified)

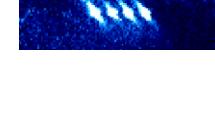
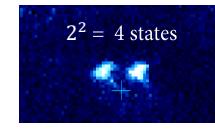
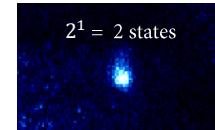
Comparing Quantum Computers

Fidelity vs. Number



Error Correction?

- IBMQ
- Yale
- UCSB
- UNSW Dzurak
- Google
- Oxford
- UMD
- NIST
- USTC
- Intel
- Innsbruck
- Dzurak
- Lukin
- IonQ
- Rigetti
- MIT LL (Ions)
- Manuel Endres
- MIT LL (SC)
- Quantinuum
- QuTech
- Duke
- DWave
- GTRI
- Harvard Quera
- Atom Computing
- Oxford Ionics

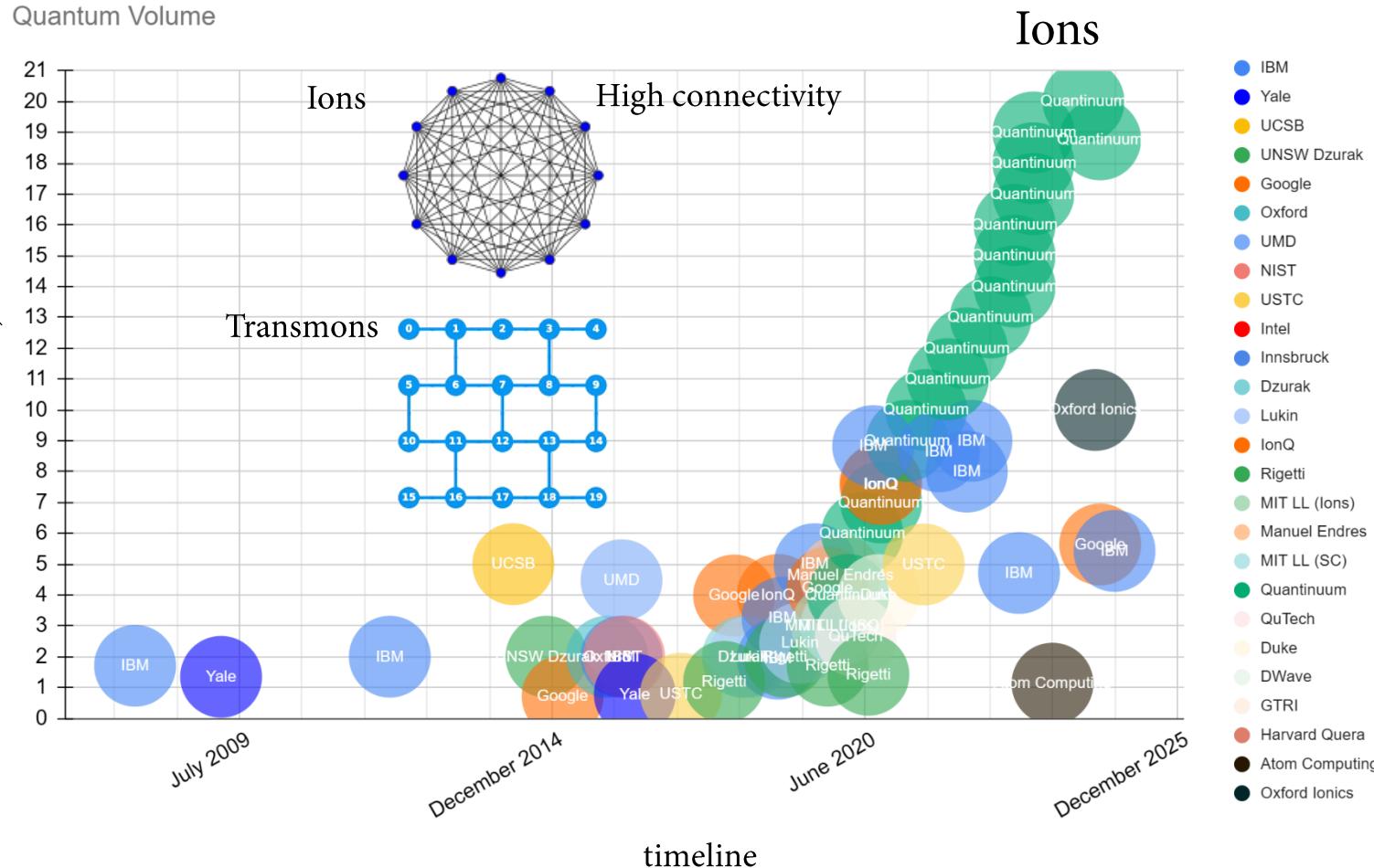


Quantum Volume

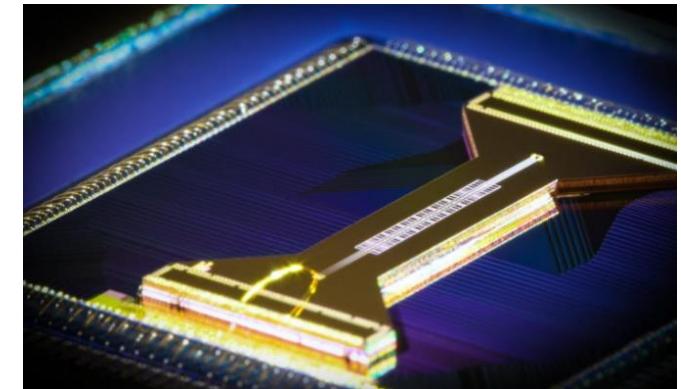
Qubit number &
Circuit depth
Both increasing

Quantum Volume

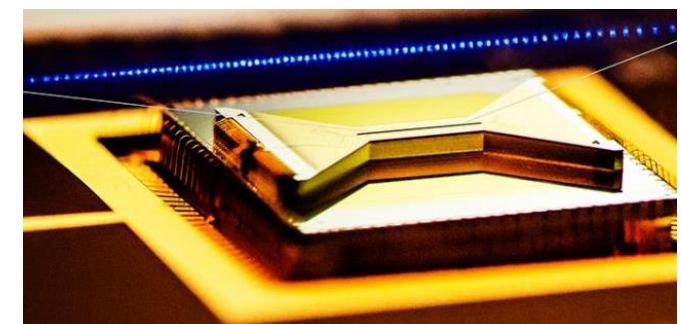
$\log_2(QV)$ of various qubit modalities (estimates)



Quantinuum (Honeywell)

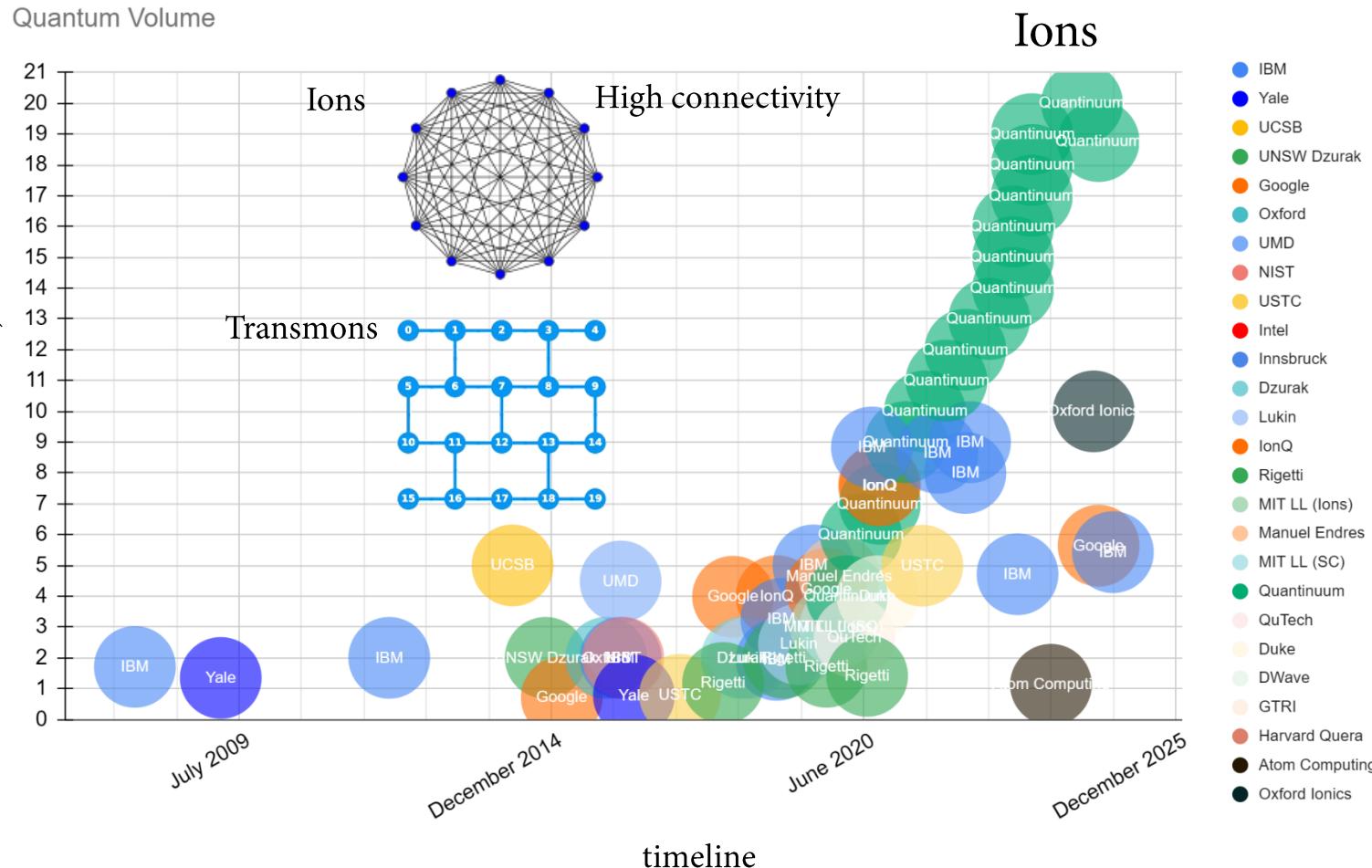


IonQ



Quantum Volume – Trapped ions in the lead

$\log_2(QV)$ of various qubit modalities (estimates)



Trapped Ion Qubit Advantages

1. High fidelity operations
 - 2Q gates > 99.97%
 - 1Q gates > 99.9999%
 - Readout > 99.99%
 - State Preparation & Measurement > 99.97%
2. Long coherence time
 - 200ms → 600 seconds
 - Ratio to gate time > 1,000,000
3. Atoms are identical (less tuning)
4. High connectivity
5. Low crosstalk (w/ focused lasers)

6T SRAM bit flip errors $< 10^{-18}$
(i.e. >99.99999999999999%)

Scaling towards Quantum Error Correction

1 T - Transistor

6 T - SRAM (error correction)

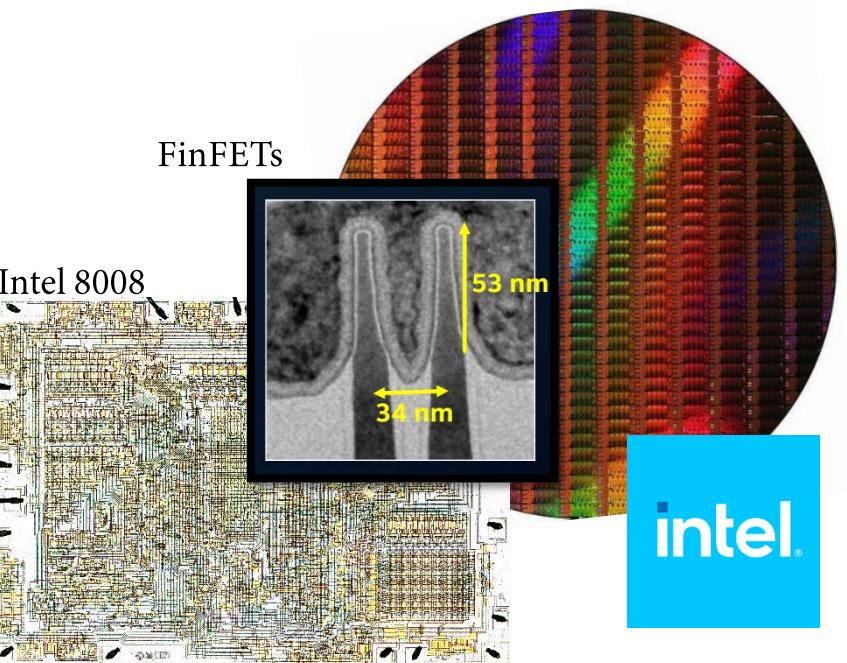
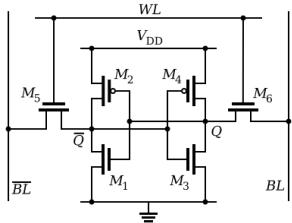
100 T - Logic Chains

3,100 T - Intel 8008 (1971)

285,000 T - Intel 386 (1985)

1,000,000,000 T - Modern CPU

1,000,000,000,000 T - Full wafer



1 Q - Qubit

7-101 Q = 1 Logical Qubit (LQ)

56 Q - 12 Logical Qubits (12 LGHZ)

280 Q - 40 Logical Qubits (4 LGHZ)

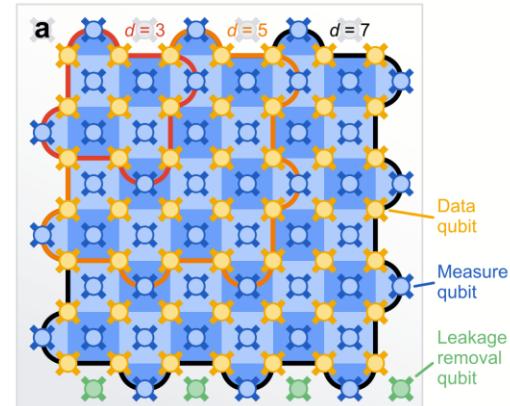
1,000 Q - 100 Logic qubits (?)

10,000 Q - 100 Fault tolerant LQ

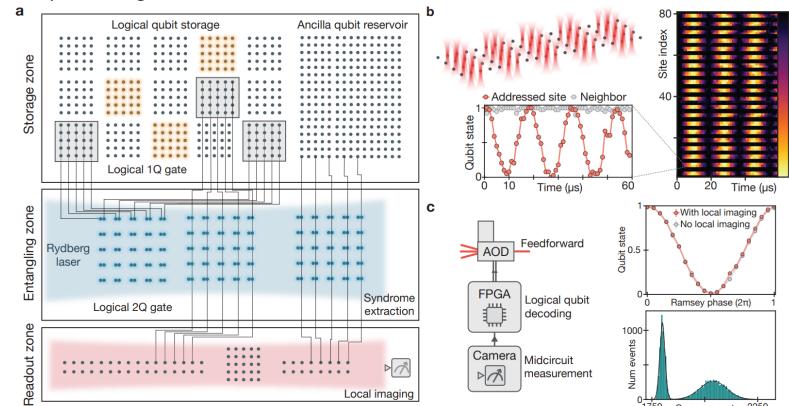
100,000 Q - 1000 FT LQ

1,000,000 Q - Shor's Algorithm?

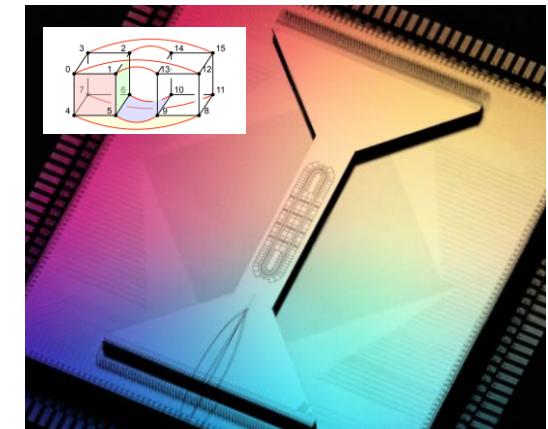
Google - arXiv:2408.13687



Rydberg atoms - Lukin Harvard 2023



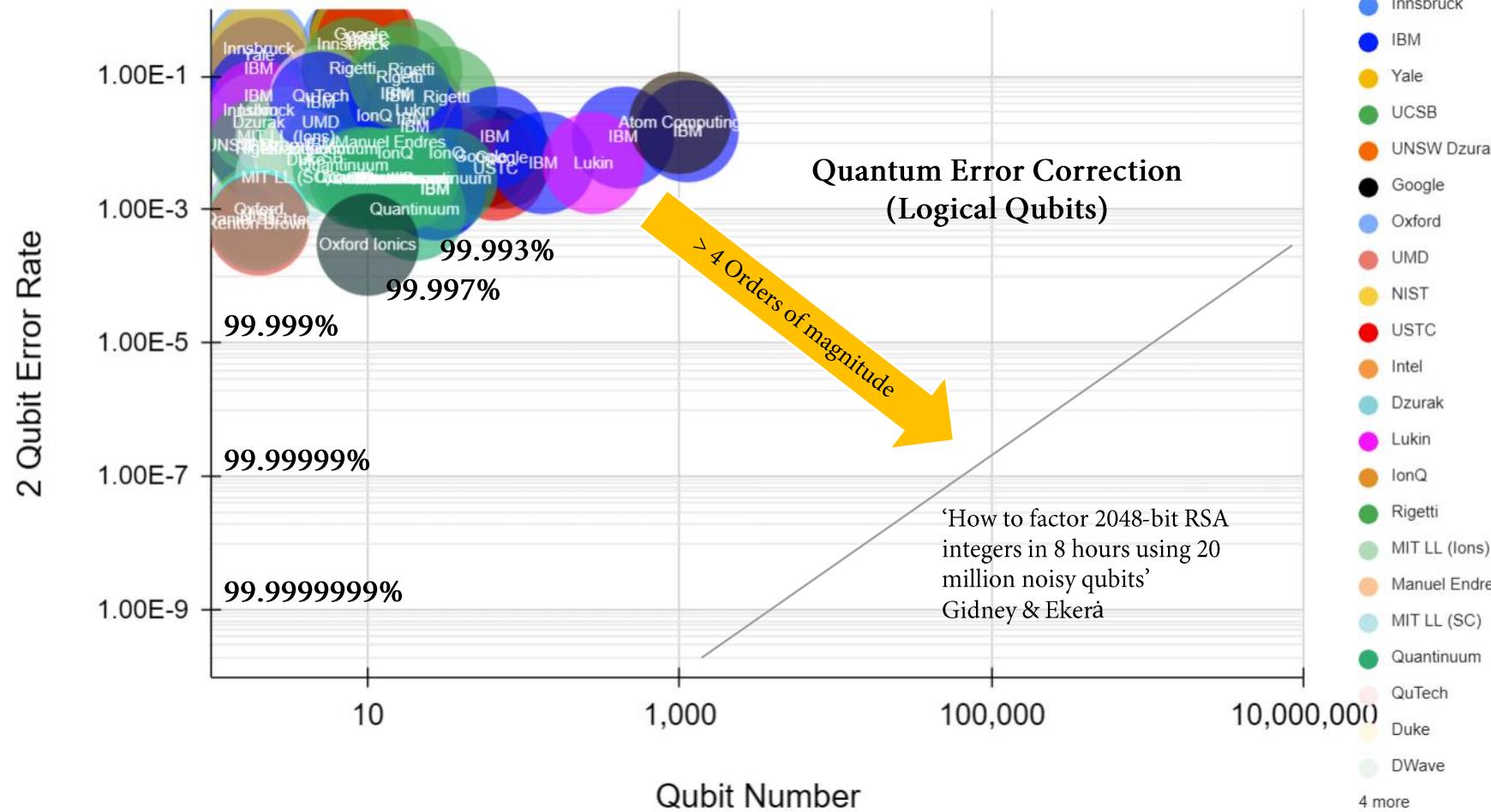
Quantinuum - arXiv:2409.04628



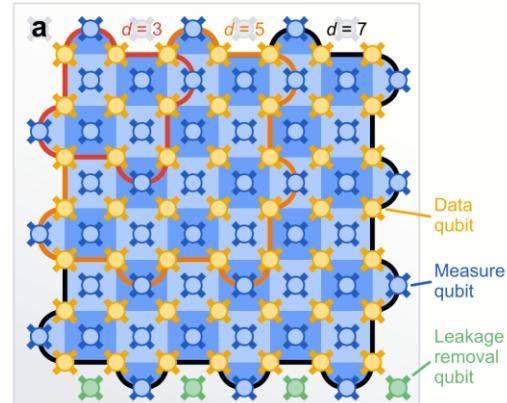
6T SRAM bit flip errors $< 10^{-18}$
(i.e. >99.99999999999999%)

Scaling towards Error Correction

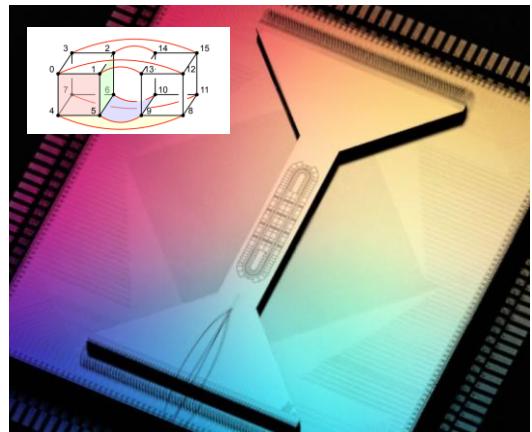
Fidelity vs. Number



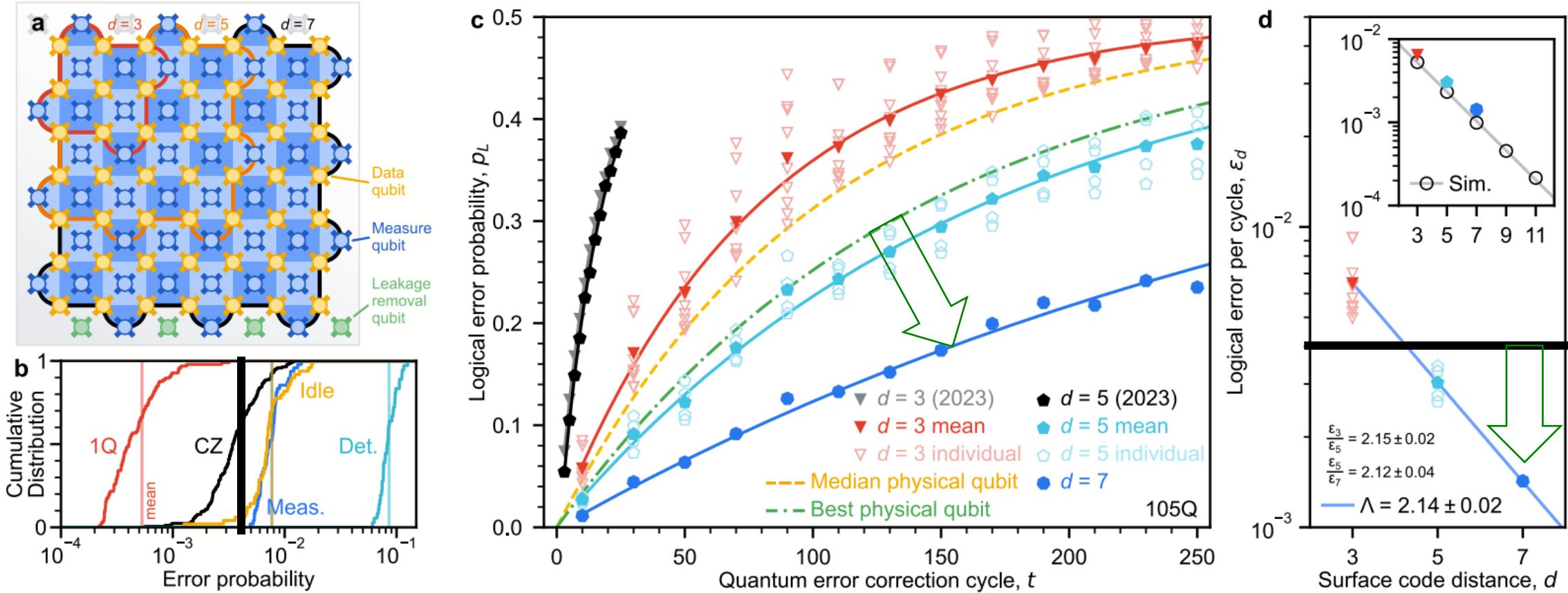
Google - arXiv:2408.13687



Quantinuum - arXiv:2409.04628

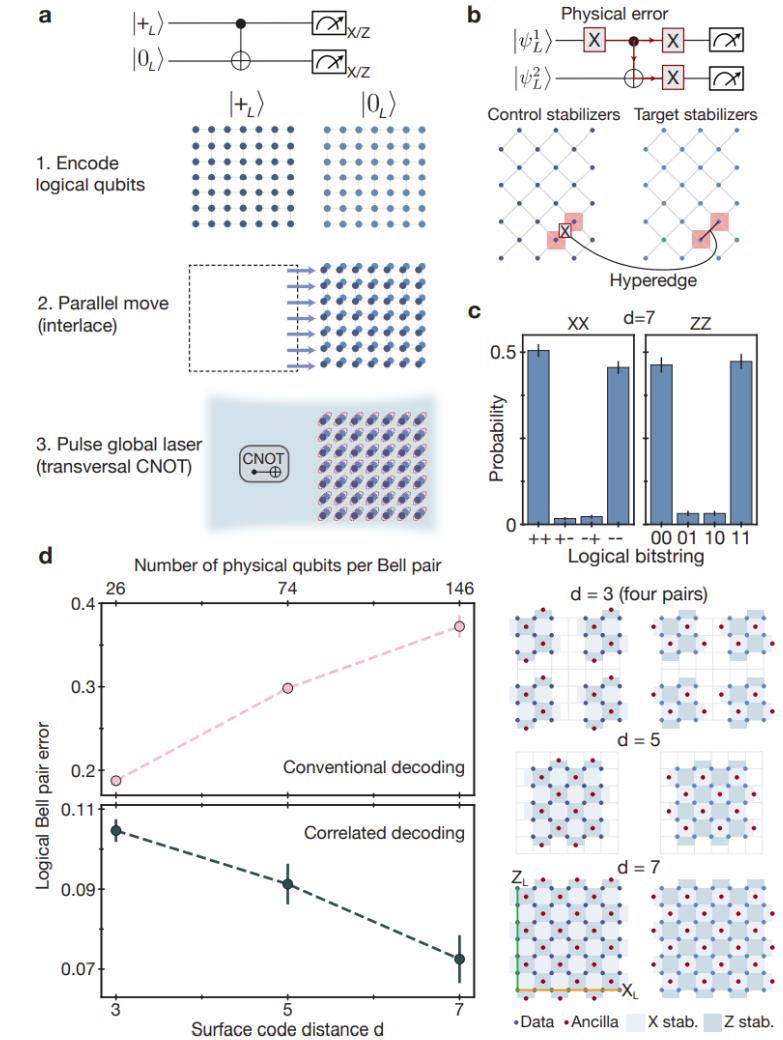
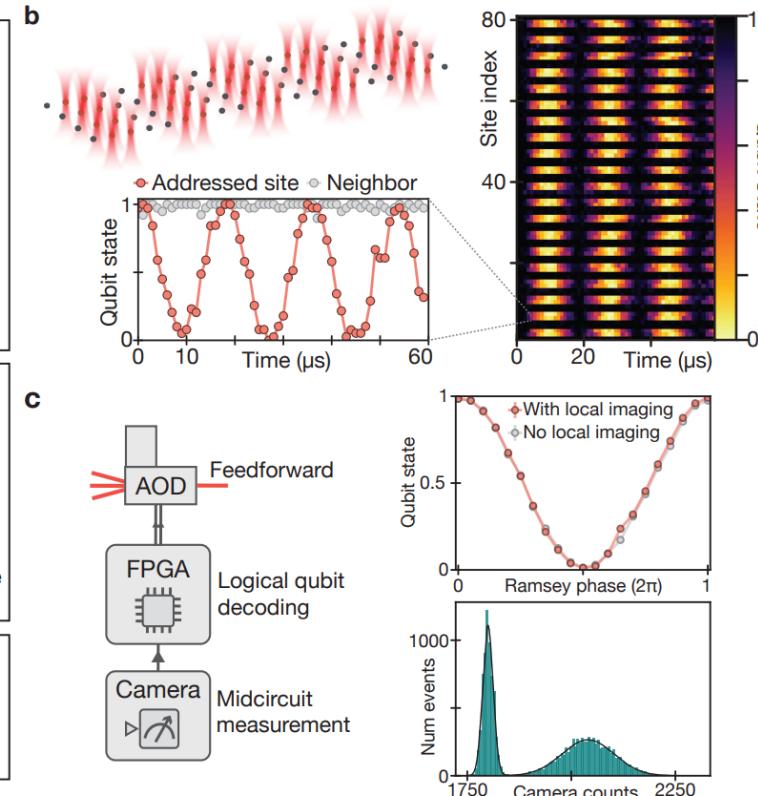
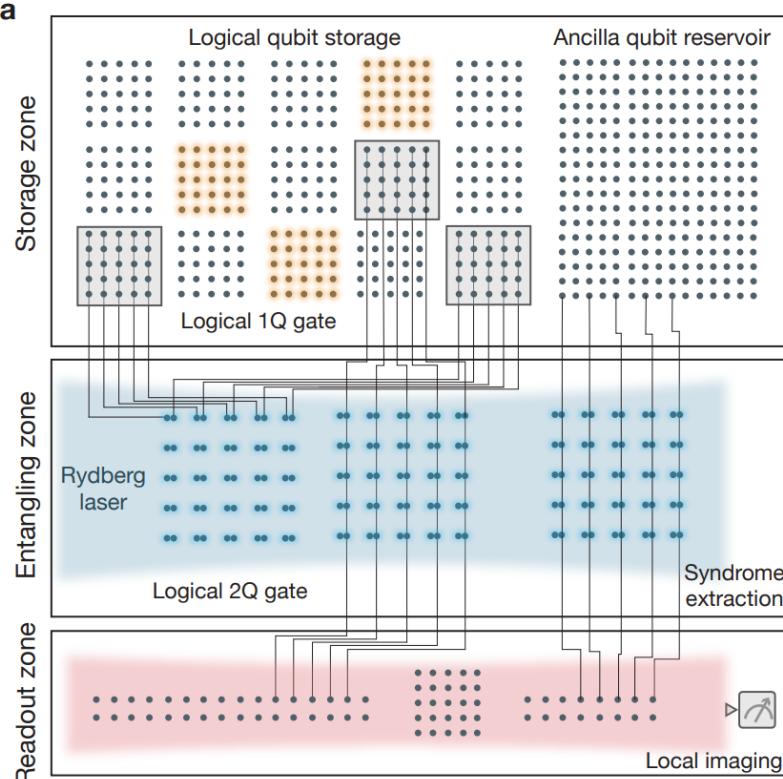


Google – Surface Code Threshold



A single, large, logical qubit (surface code) – with fidelity that scales

Rydberg Atoms – Entangling of multiple Logical Qubits



Trapped Ions – Error correction & entangling of Logical Qubits

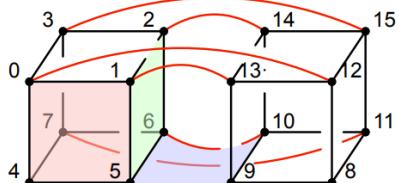
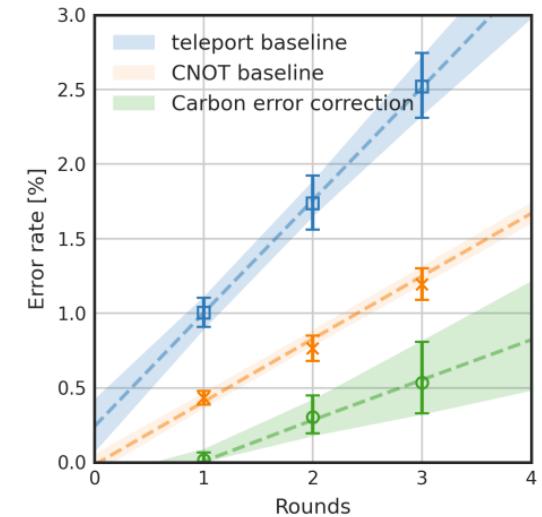
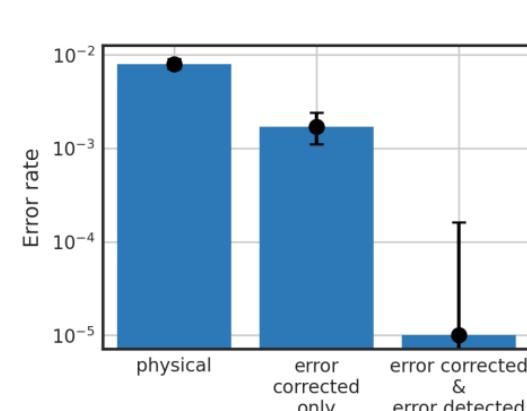


FIG. 1. The $[[16, 6, 4]]$ color code on the 4D hypercube, or tesseract. Each of the 16 vertices is a qubit. Cubes are X and Z stabilizers, and squares are logical operators, e.g., 0145.



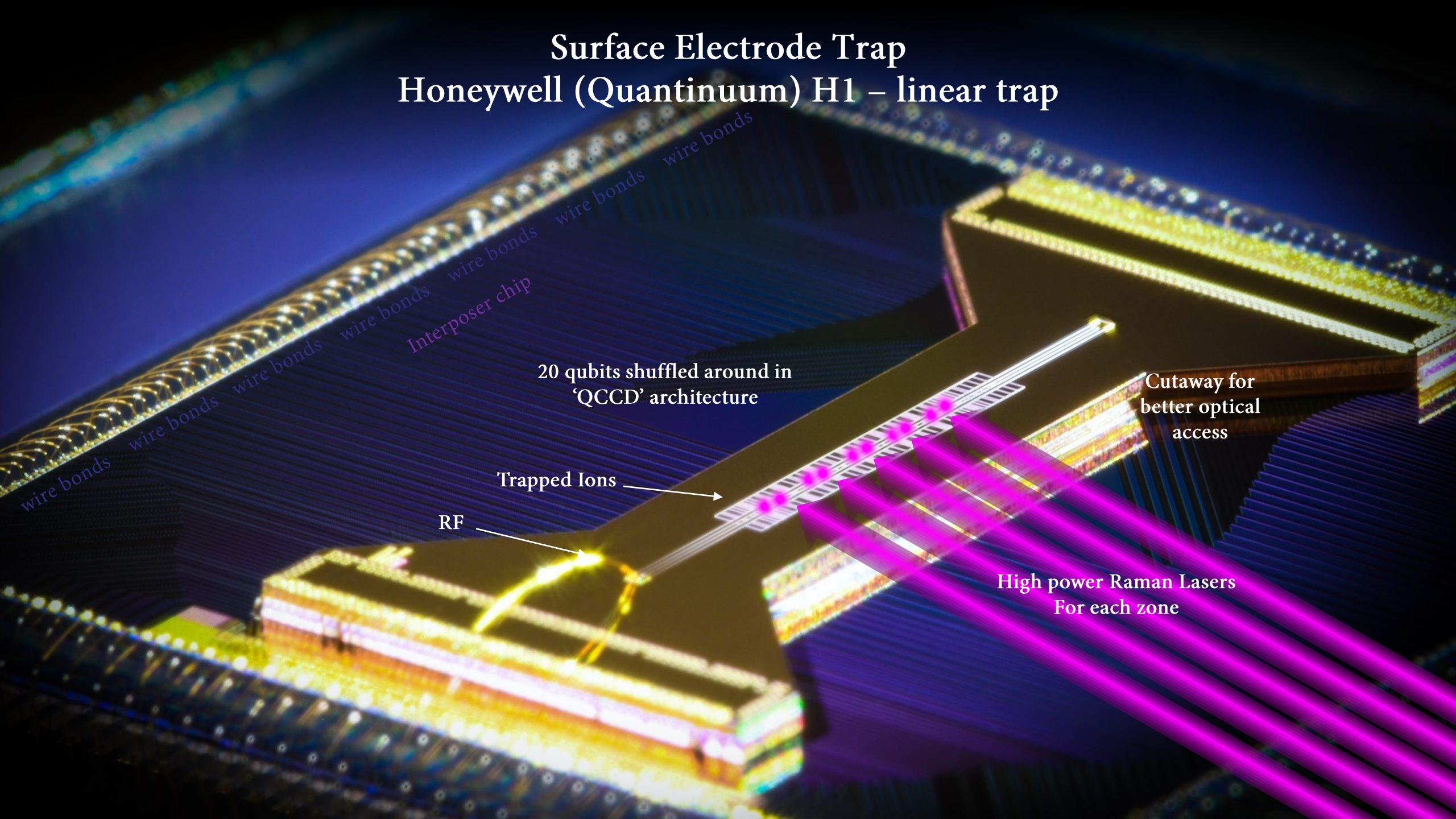
Experiment	Qubits	Baseline error rate	Encoded error rate	Gain
Path-4	4	1.5(2)%	$0.10^{+0.11\%}_{-0.06\%}$	15×
Cube-8	8	2.3(3)%	$0.2^{+0.2\%}_{-0.1\%}$	11×
$ 0^{12}\rangle + 1^{12}\rangle$ Cat-12	12	2.4(3)%	$0.11^{+0.16\%}_{-0.08\%}$	22×
Error correction 5×	4	2.7(4)%	$0.11^{+0.21\%}_{-0.09\%}$	24×
	8	5.6(6)%	$0.7^{+0.7\%}_{-0.4\%}$	8×

TABLE II. Experiments preparing encoded cat states.

Reference	Logical qubits	Fidelity
[HDHL24]	4 in $[[25, 4, 3]]$ code	$99.5^{+0.2\%}_{-0.4\%}$ to $99.7^{+0.2\%}_{-0.3\%}$
[BEG ⁺ 24]	4 in $[[7, 1, 3]]$ code	$\begin{cases} 72(2)\% \text{ error correction} \\ 99.85^{+0.1\%}_{-1.0\%} \text{ error detection} \end{cases}$
This work	12 in $[[16, 4, 4]]$ code	$99.82^{+0.12\%}_{-0.4\%}$ to $99.90^{+0.1\%}_{-0.3\%}$

Surface Electrode Trap

Honeywell (Quantinuum) H1 – linear trap



Quantinuum H2 – Racetrack Ion Trap

50 qubits shuffled around in
'QCCD' architecture

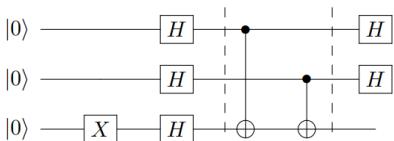
4 zones for 2Q gates

Cutaway for
better optical
access

RF

Outline of the course

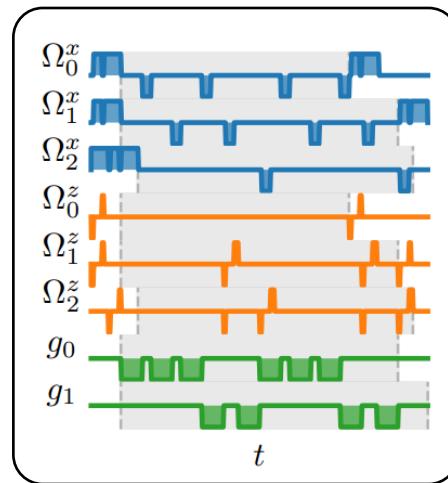
- Quantum Optics
 - What is interference (classical vs. single particle)
 - Superposition of states
 - Measurement and measurement basis
- Atomic physics
 - Spin states in magnetic fields and spin transitions
 - Transitions between atomic states (Rabi oscillations of qubits)
- Single qubits
 - Single qubit gates (electro-magnetic pulses, RF, MW, phase)
 - Error sources (dephasing, spontaneous decay)
 - Ramsey pulses and Spin echo pulse sequences
 - Calibration (finding resonance and verifying pulse time and amplitudes)
- Two qubit gates
 - Two qubit interactions – gate speed vs. error rates
 - Entanglement – correlation at a distance
 - Bell states and the Bell basis
 - XX gates, Controlled Phase gates, Swap



```
qc = QubitCircuit(3)
qc.add_gate("X", targets=2)
qc.add_gate("SNOT", targets=0)
qc.add_gate("SNOT", targets=1)
qc.add_gate("SNOT", targets=2)

# Oracle function f(x)
qc.add_gate(
    "CNOT", controls=0, targets=2)
qc.add_gate(
    "CNOT", controls=1, targets=2)

qc.add_gate("SNOT", targets=0)
qc.add_gate("SNOT", targets=1)
```



- Quantum Hardware
 - Photonics – nonlinear phase shifts
 - Transmons – charge noise, SWAP gate
- Quantum Circuits
 - Single and two qubit gates
 - Hadamard gate , CNOT gate
- Quantum Algorithms
 - Amplitude amplification
 - Grover's Search
 - Oracle - Deutsch Jozsa
 - Bernstein Vazirani
 - Quantum Fourier Transform and period finding
 - Shor's algorithm

If time permits

- Error Correction
 - Repetition codes
 - Color Codes
 - Surface code

Benchmarking Quantum Hardware with Algorithms

"Application-Oriented Performance Benchmarks for Quantum Computing."

Lubinski, Thomas, et al. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2110.03137* (2021).

QED-C Technical Advisory Committee on Standards and Performance Benchmarks Chairman

Honeywell

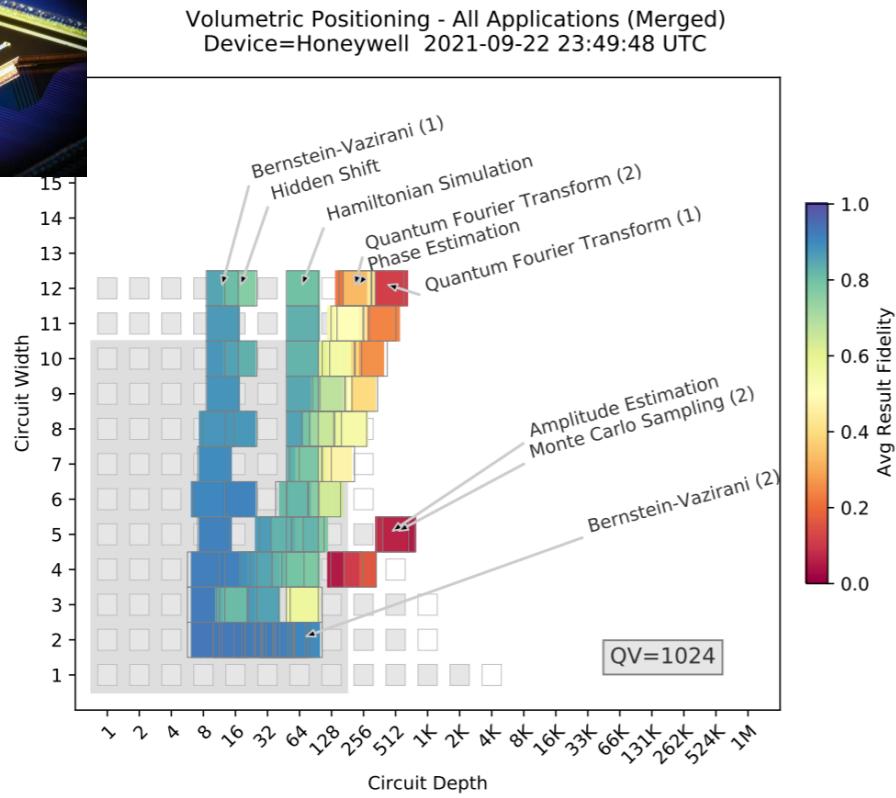
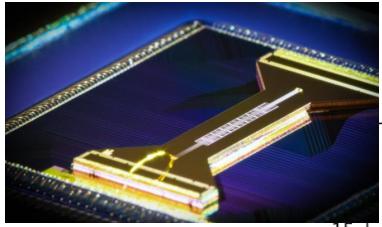


FIG. 12. Benchmark results on Honeywell System Model H1. The

IonQ

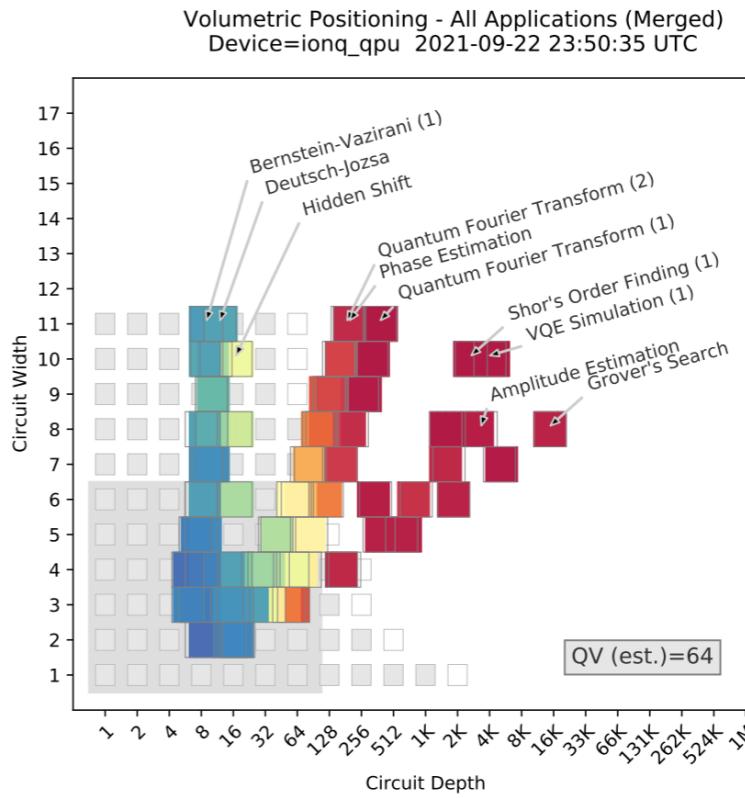
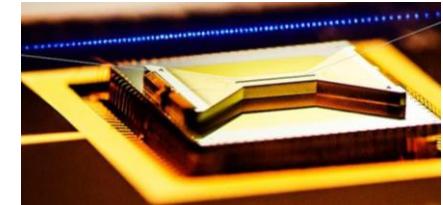
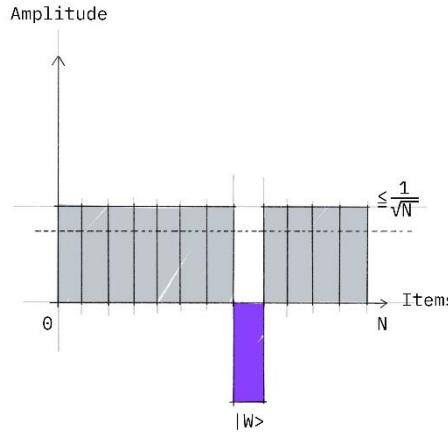
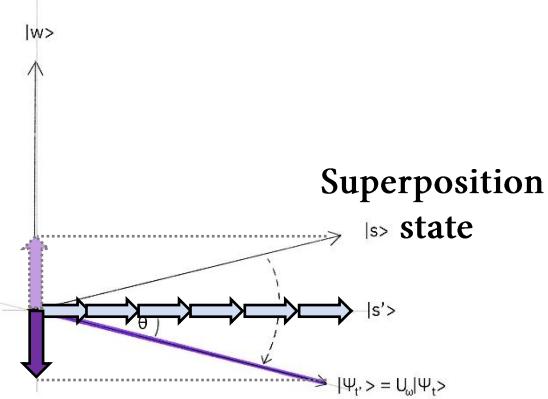


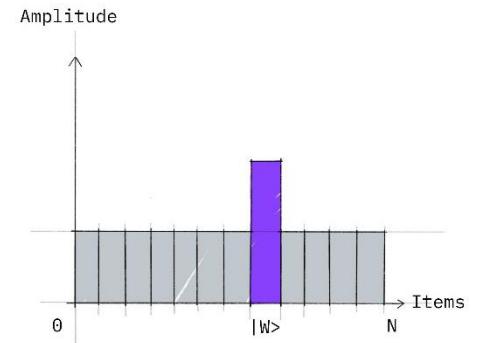
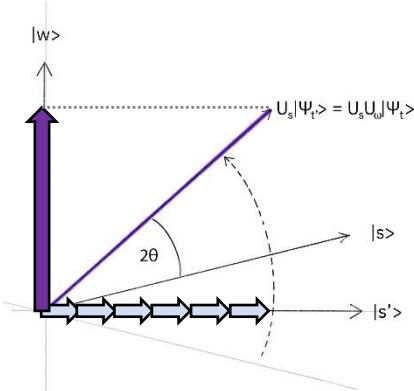
FIG. 13. Benchmark results on IonQ's cloud-accessible system.

Grover Search (amplitude amplification)

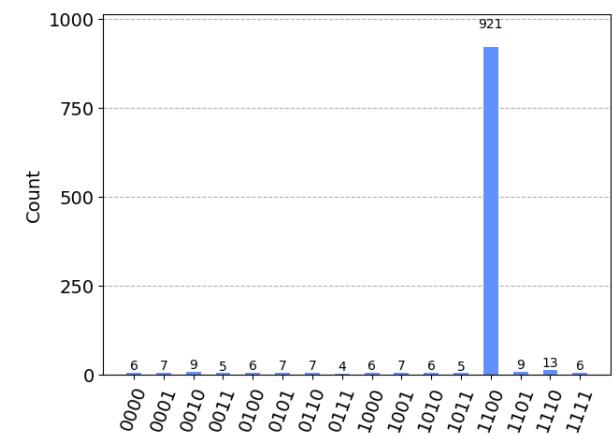
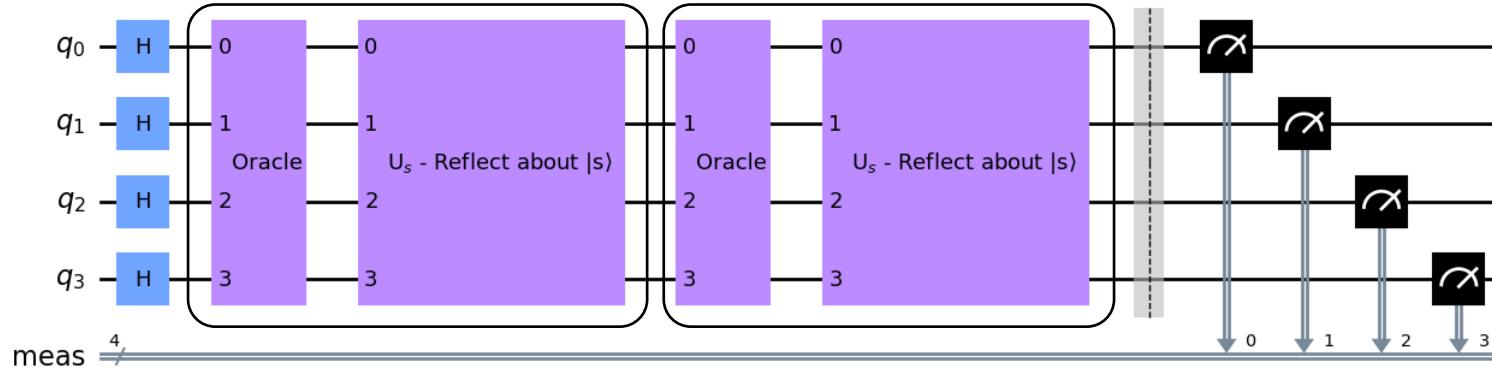
Oracle → Flips sign of ‘answer’



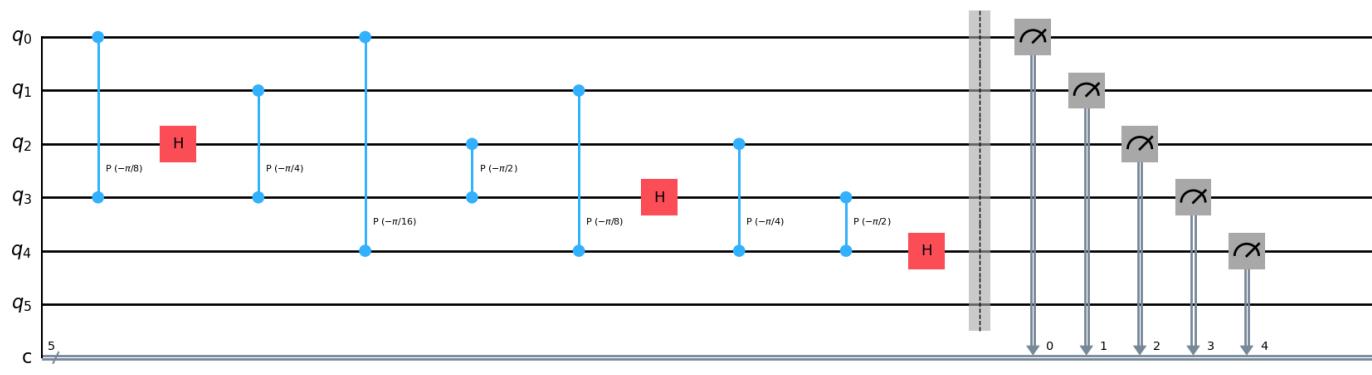
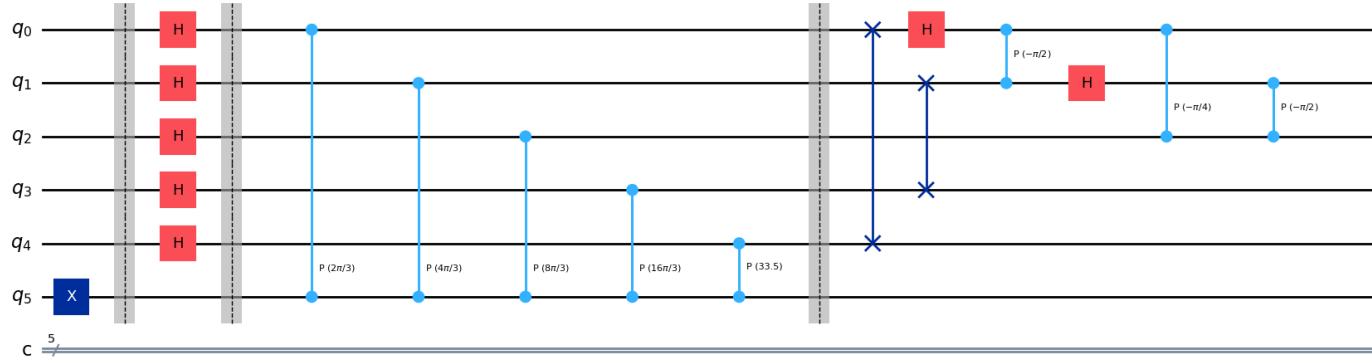
Amplitude Amplification → Answer more probable



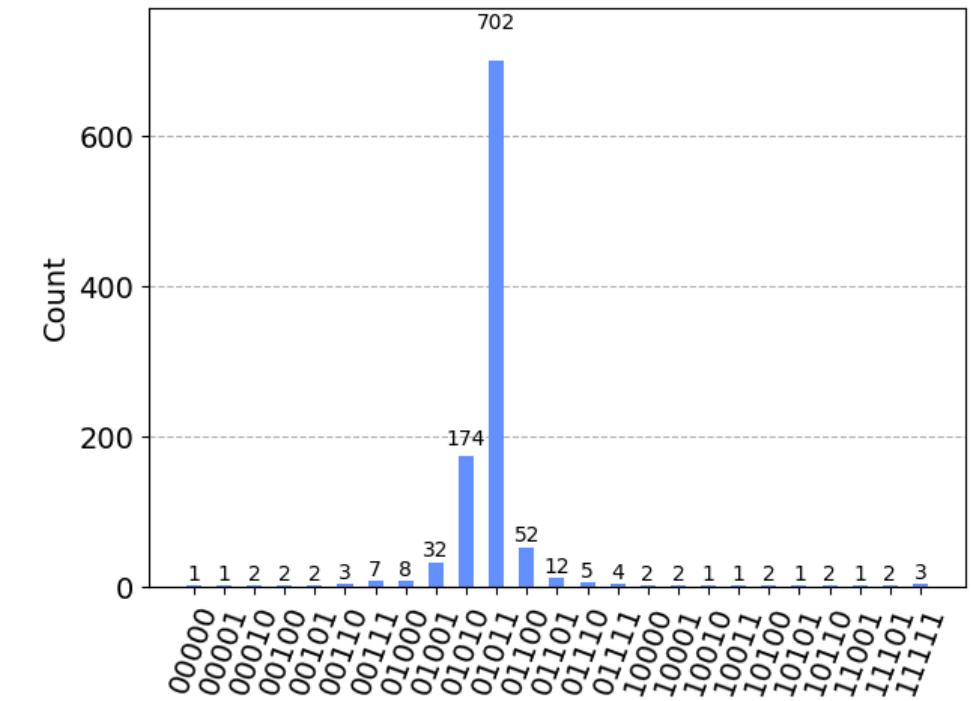
Repeat \sqrt{N} times (twice for 4 bits)



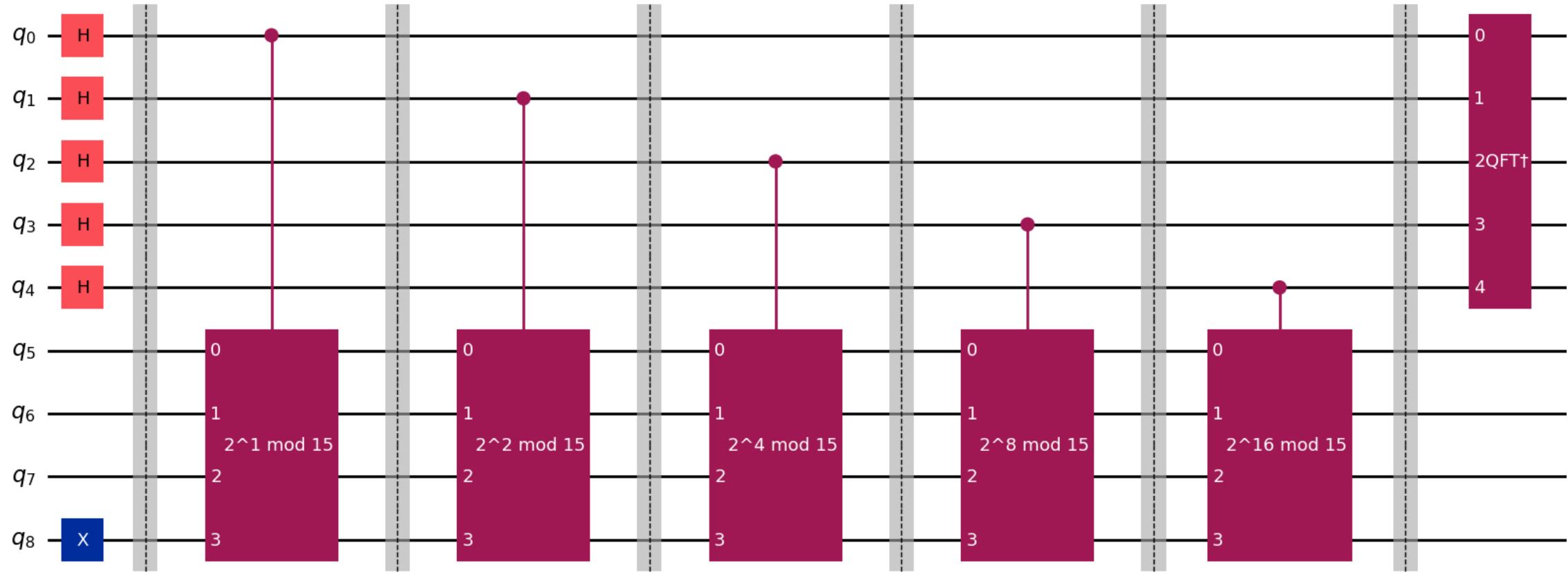
Quantum Phase Estimation



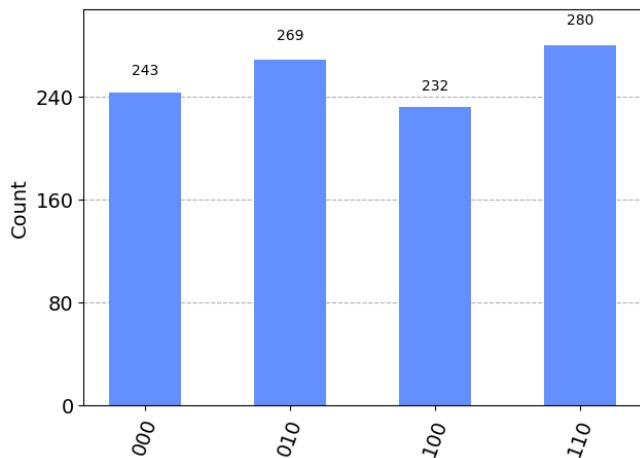
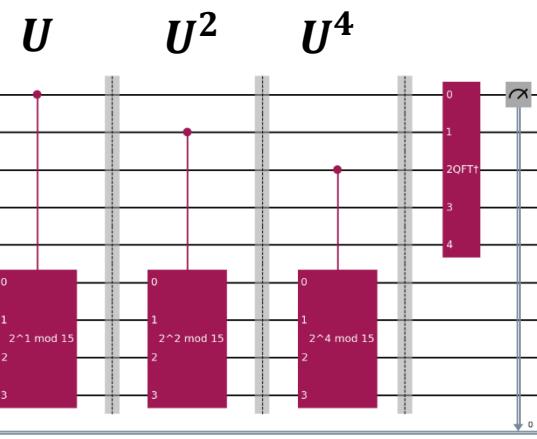
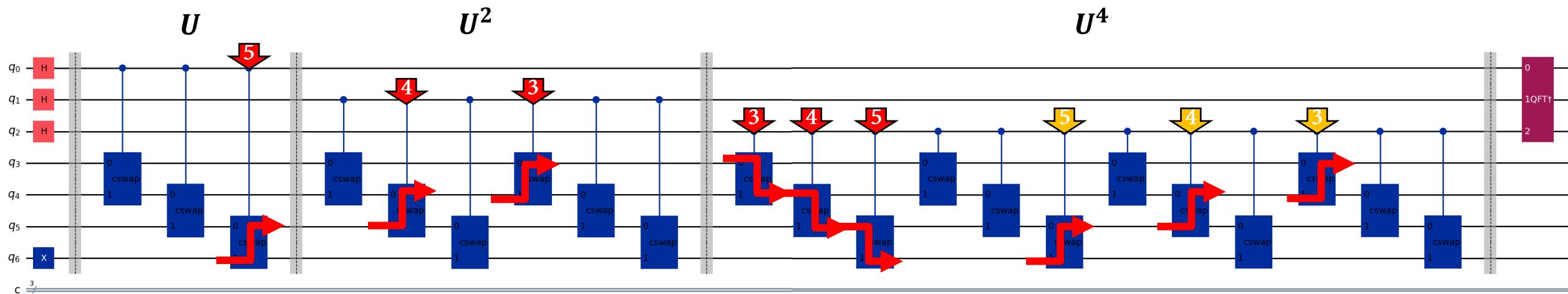
$$01011 = 11, \quad 11 \cdot \frac{1}{2^5} = \frac{11}{32} = 0.34375$$



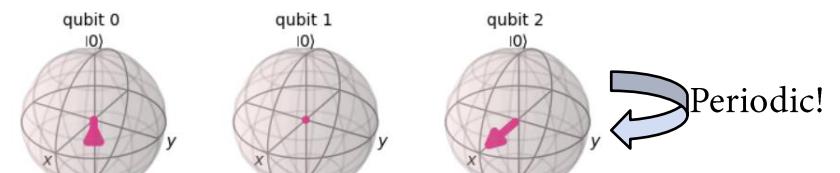
Shor's Algorithm



Shor's Algorithm - Repeated Squares!



Phase kickbacks before InvQFT



Outputs

- 110(bin) = 6(dec)
- 000(bin) = 0(dec)
- 010(bin) = 2(dec)
- 100(bin) = 4(dec)

Phase

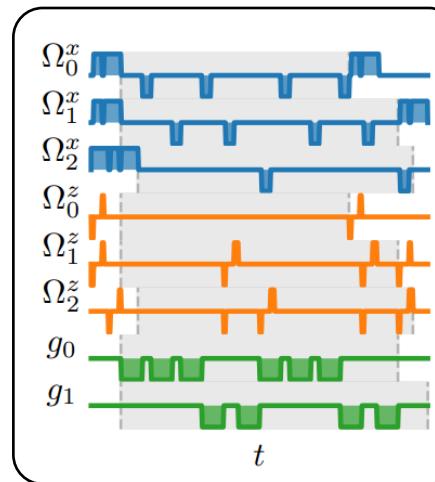
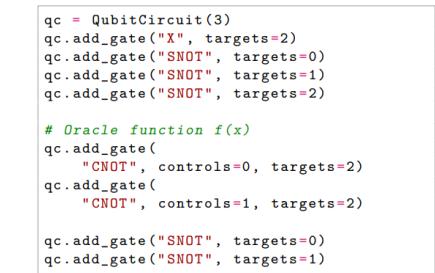
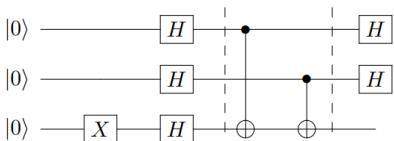
- $6/8 = 3/4$
- $0/8 = 0$
- $2/8 = 1/4$
- $4/8 = 2/4$

$r =$

- 4
- 0
- 4
- 2

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Interference with feeble light

114 Mr Taylor, Interference fringes with feeble light.

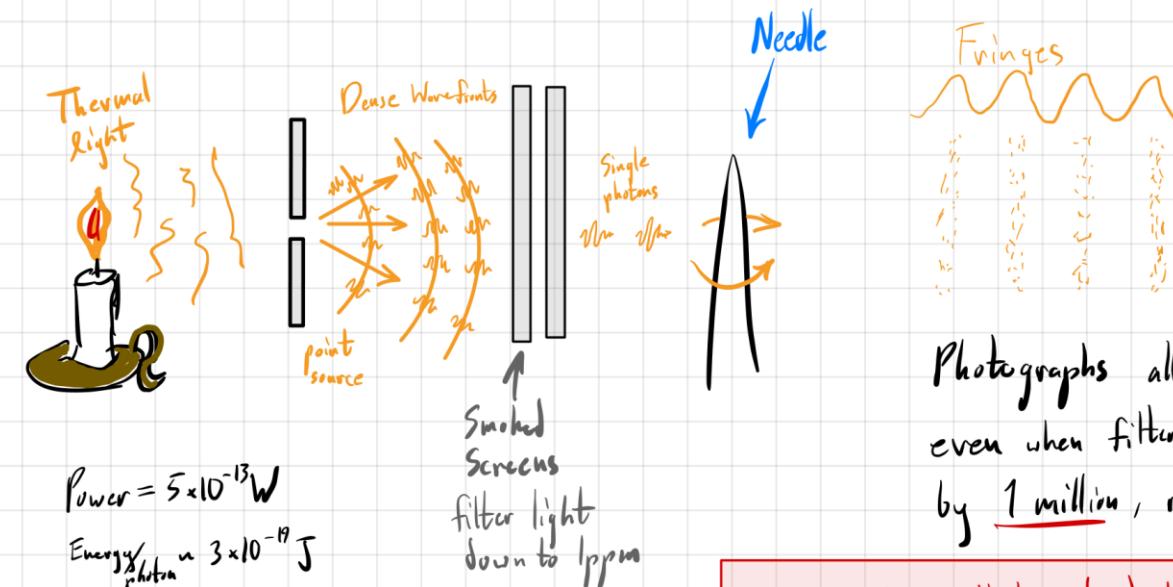
Interference fringes with feeble light. By G. I. TAYLOR, B.A.,
Trinity College. (Communicated by Professor Sir J. J. Thomson,
F.R.S.)

[Read 25 January 1909.]

The phenomena of ionisation by light and by Röntgen rays have led to a theory according to which energy is distributed unevenly over the wave-front (J. J. Thomson, *Froc. Camb. Phil. Soc.* XIV. p. 417, 1907). There are regions of maximum energy widely separated by large undisturbed areas. When the intensity of light is reduced these regions become more widely separated, but the amount of energy in any one of them does not change; that is, they are indivisible units.

So far all the evidence brought forward in support of the theory has been of an indirect nature; for all ordinary optical phenomena are average effects, and are therefore incapable of differentiating between the usual electromagnetic theory and the modification of it that we are considering. Sir J. J. Thomson however suggested that if the intensity of light in a diffraction pattern were so greatly reduced that only a few of these indivisible units of energy should occur on a Huygens zone at once the ordinary phenomena of diffraction would be modified. Photographs were taken of the shadow of a needle, the source of light being a narrow slit placed in front of a gas flame. The intensity of the light was reduced by means of smoked glass screens.

1909 Thompson-Taylor Interference Fringes with Feeble Light



Photographs all showed interference even when filters had reduced light by 1 million, requiring 3 months exposure.

$$\text{Power} = 5 \times 10^{-13} \text{ W}$$

$$\text{Energy}_\text{photon} = 3 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J}$$

$$\approx 10^6 \text{ photons/s/cm}^2$$

1st evidence that individual particles can experience multiple paths simultaneously!

Interference with feeble light

Before making any exposures it was necessary to find out what proportion of the light was cut off by these screens. A plate was exposed to direct gas light for a certain time. The gas flame was then shaded by the various screens that were to be used, and other plates of the same kind were exposed till they came out as black as the first plate on being completely developed. The times of exposure necessary to produce this result were taken as inversely proportional to the intensities. Experiments made to test the truth of this assumption shewed it to be true if the light was not very feeble.

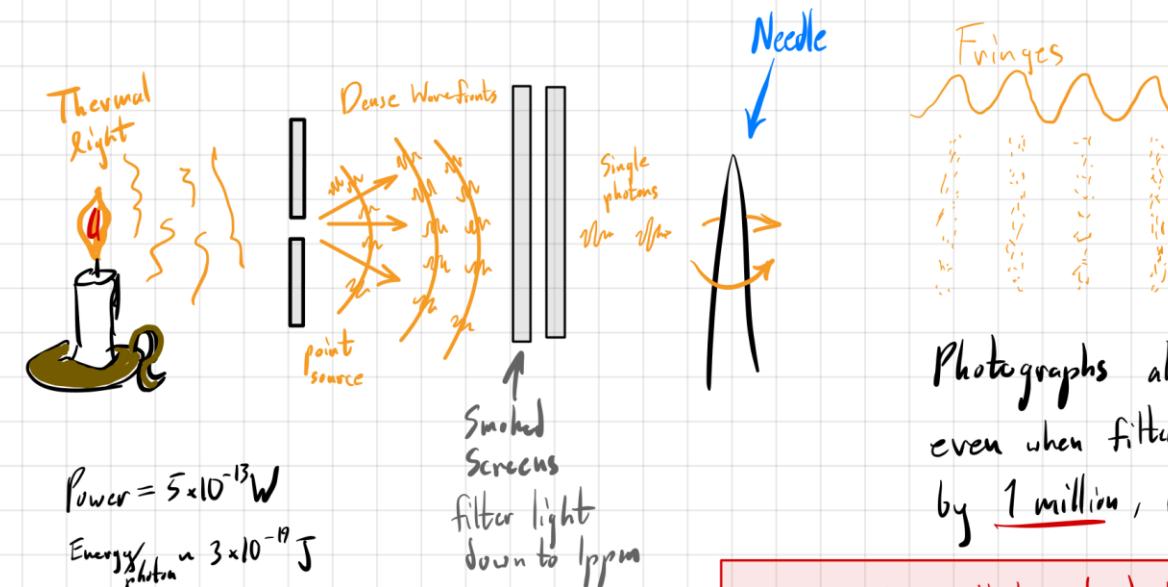
Five diffraction photographs were then taken, the first with direct light and the others with the various screens inserted between the gas flame and the slit. The time of exposure for the first photograph was obtained by trial, a certain standard of blackness being attained by the plate when fully developed. The

remaining times of exposure were taken from the first in the inverse ratio of the corresponding intensities. The longest time was 2000 hours or about 3 months. In no case was there any diminution in the sharpness of the pattern although the plates did not all reach the standard blackness of the first photograph.

In order to get some idea of the energy of the light falling on the plates in these experiments a plate of the same kind was exposed at a distance of two metres from a standard candle till complete development brought it up to the standard of blackness. Ten seconds sufficed for this. A simple calculation will shew that the amount of energy falling on the plate during the longest exposure was the same as that due to a standard candle burning at a distance slightly exceeding a mile. Taking the value given by Drude for the energy in the visible part of the spectrum of a standard candle, the amount of energy falling on 1 square centimetre of the plate is 5×10^{-8} ergs per sec. and the amount of energy per cubic centimetre of this radiation is 1.6×10^{-16} ergs.

According to Sir J. J. Thomson this value sets an upper limit to the amount of energy contained in one of the indivisible units mentioned above.

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Qubits – Mach Zehnder Interferometer

