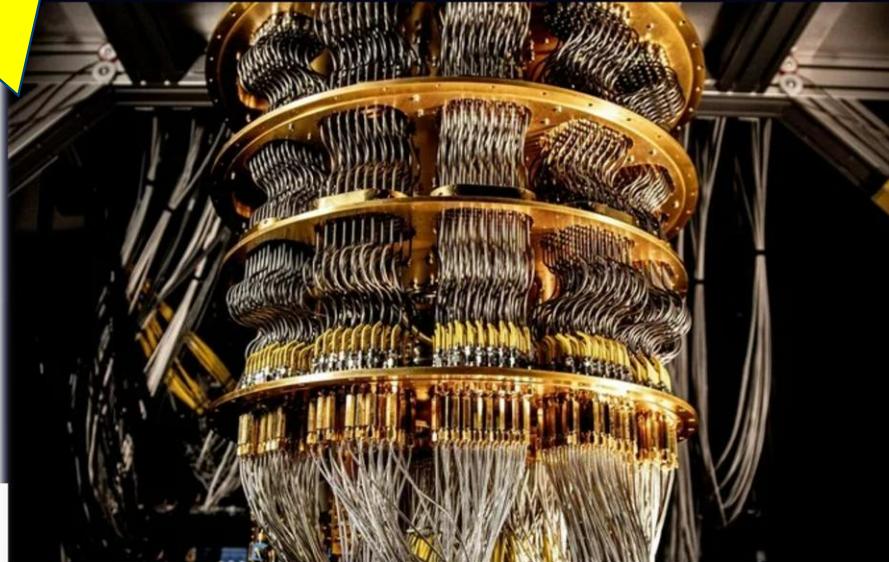




## Google Claims Latest Quantum Experiment Would Take Decades on Classical Computer

BY MATT SWAYNE • JULY 4, 2023 • RESEARCH

CONTEXT



February 1, 2024

# Briefing: Quantum Computing 101

Rick Arthur, Sr. Principal Engineer, Computational Methods Research

*(Contributions from Bill Smith, Bogdan Neculaes, Steve Bush, and Annarita Giani)*

- Google scientists are reporting in a new study that **it completed a computational task on a quantum computer that would take a classical supercomputer 47 years to complete.**
- The task was a random circuit sampling calculation.
- The experiment was carried out in the latest version of [Google's Quantum] Sycamore processor that has been boosted to 70 qubits [from 53 qubits].

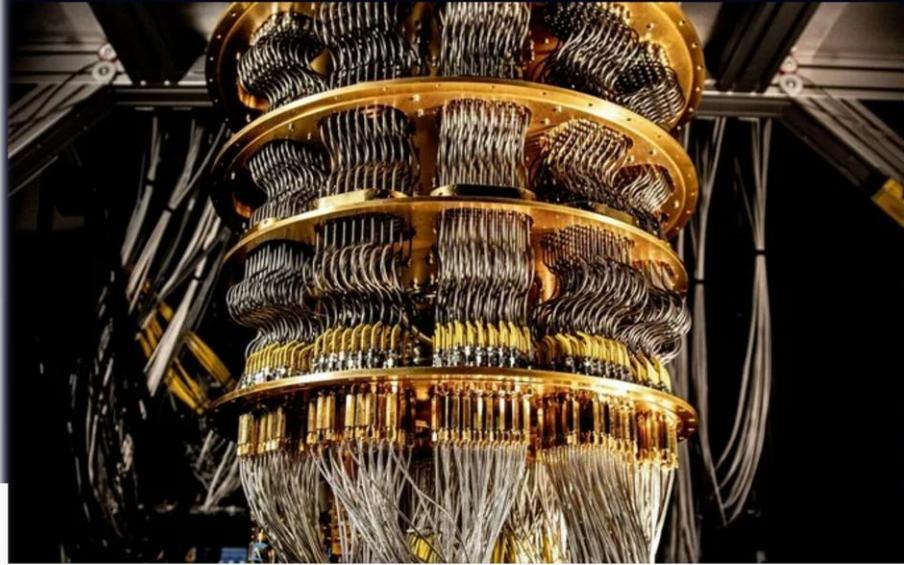
Link: ([Quantum Insider](#))

Source (PDF): [arXiv:2304.11119v1 \[quant-ph\]](#) 21 Apr 2023



## Google Claims Latest Quantum Experiment Would Take Decades on Classical Computer

BY MATT SWAYNE • JULY 4, 2023 • RESEARCH



February 1, 2024

# Briefing: Quantum Computing 101

Rick Arthur, Sr. Principal Engineer, Computational Methods Research

(Contributions from Bill Smith, Bogdan Neculaes, Steve Bush, and Annarita Giani)



Link: [The Talk](#)

Also: [Scott Aaronson Blog](#)

# Quantum Computing

## Topics

### Preface

- **Executive Summary**
- **Origin Story** [\[@\]](#): Richard Feynman

### Assessments [\[@\]](#)

### Building Blocks [\[@\]](#)

- **Data**: What is a bit? → What is a quantum bit (qubit)?
- **Logic**: Binary logic (transistor gate) → Quantum logic
- **Quantum phenomena**: Superposition, Entanglement, Coherence

### Hardware & Architectures [\[@\]](#)

### Software & Applications [\[@\]](#)

### Alternatives [\[@\]](#)



# Quantum Computing 101: What is it?

## Motivation (Originally)

- Simulate Quantum Mechanics

Quantum Computing

Outline of Topics

- Preface
  - Executive Summary
  - Origin Story: Richard Feynman
- Assessments
- Building Blocks
  - Data: What is a bit? → What is a quantum bit (qubit)?
  - Logic: Binary logic (transistor gate) → Quantum logic
  - Quantum phenomena: Superposition, Entanglement, Coherence
- Hardware & Architectures
- Software & Applications
  - Algorithms & Complexity: Digital / Binary vs. Otherwise
  - Industrial Applications: Rolls-Royce, VW, CFD, Materials
  - GRC Exponential (2020-2022)  
(FYI) NSF Event @GRC (Oct 4-5): Host: Annmarie Gian, Climate, Sustainability, & Quantum Computing Workshop
- Alternatives

July 31, 2023

## Quantum Computers

- Quantum Mechanical Architecture

- Data
  - classical bits: 0 (=0) or ~5 volts (=1)
  - ❖ quantum bits ("qubits") = wave functions
- Functional Logic
  - classical gate: "clocked" transistors
  - ❖ quantum gate: wave interference
- Diverse Hardware Architectures
  - ❖ Address qubit fidelity (noise, stability)
  - ❖ Grow number of qubits (problem size)

- Related Quantum Technology

- ✓ Communications / Networking
- ✓ Sensing / Navigation

- Alternative Non-classical Computing

- Neuromorphic / AI
- Analog (e.g., Optical)
- Probabilistic

...

## Quantum Computing Applications

- Quantum Computer Execution

- Set up qubits and qubit relationships
- **Instantaneous** system solution
- Critical differences vs. Classical
  - Very small size / data (unless embody as PDE)
  - No persistent "state" or pipeline sequential processing
  - Limited algorithms & support toolchain

- Quantum Applications

- Candidate characteristics:
  - problem is easy to express (as an ODE or PDE)
  - but a hard-to-solve problem (complexity taxes classical)
  - with little to no data to input or output or hold in state during the computation
- **Essentially, limited to problems with:**
  - Factorization (e.g., applied to crypto)
  - Sparsely-constrained high-D linear optimization
  - Simulation of quantum mechanics – e.g., materials, superconductivity, lasers, photosynthesis



# Quantum Computing 101: Executive Summary

## Quantum Computing

Outline of Topics

### Preface

- Executive Summary
- Origin Story: Richard Feynman

### Assessments

### Building Blocks

- Data: What is a bit? → What is a quantum bit (qubit)?
- Logic: Binary logic (transistor gate) → Quantum logic
- Quantum phenomena: Superposition, Entanglement, Coherence

### Hardware & Architectures

### Software & Applications

- Algorithms & Complexity: Digital / Binary vs. Otherwise
- Industrial Applications: Rolls-Royce, VW, CFD, Materials
- GRC Exponential (2020-2022)

(FYI) NSF Event @GRC (Oct 4-5<sup>th</sup>): (Host: Annanta Gianni) Climate, Sustainability, & Quantum Computing Workshop

### Alternatives

July 27, 2023

## Motivating Hype & Hysteria

- Wishful /naïve potential application
- Threat to cryptography
- Foreign (China) investment
- US Government investment
- Startups + big-name R&D

## Quantum Computers

- Challenging physics concepts
- Diverse hardware approaches
- Need more qubits (problem size)
- Need error correction (noise)
- Need coherence (stability)
- (Many) need vacuum+super-cold
- Need interface to non-quantum
- Promising related opportunities
  - ✓ Secure communications
  - ✓ Sensing / Navigation
  - ✓ Quantum Mechanics stand-in (e.g., modeling & simulation in chemistry and materials)
- Other computing options exist
  - ❑ Neuromorphic / AI
  - ❑ Analog (e.g., Optical)
  - ❑ Probabilistic, ...

## Quantum Computing Applications

- Challenging to design programs
- Very narrow advantage applicability { *crypto, search, high-D optimization* }
- Instantaneous system solution (*no state, pipeline, or time steps*)
- Target: heavy compute + small data
- Need to mature support toolchain



# Preface: Origin Story



# Quantum Computing's Thought Leader

## (How did this all start?)

Richard P Feynman. [Simulating physics with computers.](#)  
*International Journal of Theoretical Physics*, 21:467–88, 1981.



### *Feynman's motive:*

*“Nature isn't classical, dammit, and if you want to make a simulation of Nature,  
you'd better make it quantum mechanical”*



# Quantum Computing's Thought Leader

## (How did this all start?)



**Problem:** space and time [+ mass, energy, etc] are *continuous*, but a (classical) computer is *discrete*.

**Solution:** assume/hope/pretend that the laws of nature are discrete at a level *sufficiently fine* that no current experimental evidence is contradicted.

**Problem:** “Sufficiently fine” increases *exponentially* over space-time volumes simulated.

**Strategy:** Classical physics is causal, so we can simulate the system's time evolution step by step.

**Problem:** But then “the time is not simulated at all, it is *imitated* in the computer”

**Problem:** discretized *probabilities* cannot be exact.

*The hidden-variable theorem:* It is impossible to represent the result of quantum mechanics with a classical universal device.

**Feynman's motive (and the TL;DR re: QC applications):**

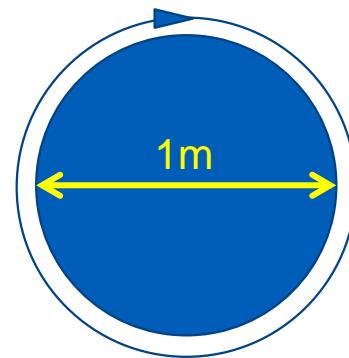
“Nature isn't classical, dammit, and if you want to make a simulation of Nature, you'd better make it quantum mechanical”



# Quantum Computing's Thought Leader

## Classical (binary, Boolean) computer problems

- **Digital = No continuous data** (must “discretize” into finite digits)
  - Loss of precision and numerical sensitivities in measurable quantities (example: spatial measurements into “mesh” or points)
  - Cannot hold a probability distribution as a value, must sample across (discretize)
  - Simulating physical causality by time-stepping introduces implicit (non-explicit) approximation



Circumference =  $\pi$

FP64 = 3.14159265358979311599796346854 ...???

Feynman's motive:

“Nature isn't classical, dammit, and if you want to make a simulation of Nature, you'd better make it quantum mechanical”



# Quantum Computing's Thought Leader

Richard P Feynman. [Simulating physics with computers](#). *International Journal of Theoretical Physics*, 21:467–88, 1981.

(1979) Richard Feynman [famously](#) states:

**“Will you understand the theory? [...]”**



*When I tell you that the first time we really thoroughly explain [**Quantum Mechanics**] to our own physics students is when they're in [third year graduate physics.]*

*Then, you think the answer is going to be **NO**.  
And that's correct, **you will not understand**. [...]*

*But [...] I want to tell you something: The students do not understand it either.*

*And that's **because the professor doesn't understand**.*

(Therefore) this briefing must trade-off  
necessary time to attempt to elucidate vs. pragmatic usefulness  
(and all of us accepting incomplete understanding).



# Quantum Computing: Fuel for the Fairy Tale

(40yrs later) Richard Arthur (*unfamously*) suggests:

When computer **clock speeds** hit a wall in the mid-2000's

(see HPC 101: Computer Architecture Physics) →

developers of applications/algorithms and their end-users

became frustrated with the halt in computing hardware performance

*(having been accustomed to decades of exponentially-improving performance as a side effect of Moore's Law)*

Further reading:

HPC 101: Computer Architecture Physics  
(PDF) (Webinar)  
Nov-2018

Quantum Computing became a “*wish upon a star*” magical fix  
to this insatiable demand from software for processing cycles & high-speed storage  
(despite – or more accurately because of –  
Quantum Computing being so inscrutably esoteric!)

(Notably greatly expanding ambitions from Feynman's  
motive toward **simulation of quantum mechanics**.)

(1979) Richard Feynman famously states:

*“Will you understand the theory? [...]”*



*When I tell you that the first time we really thoroughly explain [Quantum Mechanics] to our own physics students is when they're in [third year graduate physics.]*

*Then, you think the answer is going to be **no**.  
And that's correct, **you will not understand.** [...]*

*But [...] I want to tell you something: The students do not understand it either.*

*And that's because the professor doesn't understand.”*



# Building Blocks: Data & Logic



# Building Blocks (Data): Bits

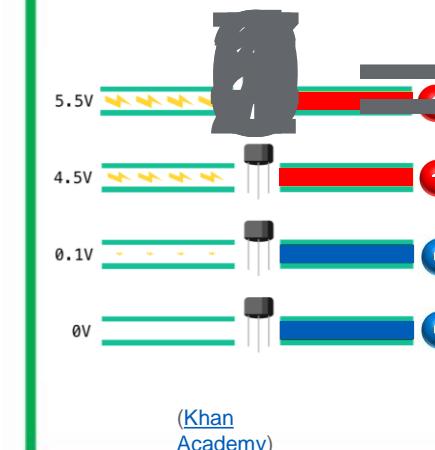
Conventional binary “Boolean” logic implemented in semiconductors (exploiting band gap)



Binary	Decimal
0 0 0 0	0
0 0 0 1	1
0 0 1 0	2
0 0 1 1	3
0 1 0 0	4
0 1 0 1	5
0 1 1 0	6
0 1 1 1	7
1 0 0 0	8
...	...

measuring information

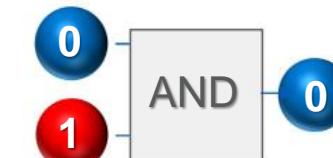
Physical realization via a charge/uncharged capacitor



Conventional bits

1 0 0 0

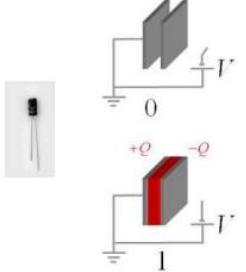
Conventional Operations



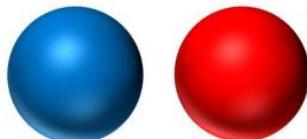
# Building Blocks (Data): Bits & Qubits (*quantum bits*)

*Exploiting quantum mechanical “**Superposition**”*

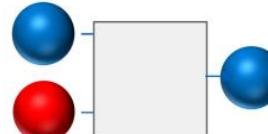
Physical realization via a charge/uncharged capacitor



Conventional bits

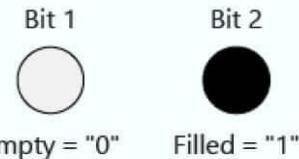


Conventional Operations



**A bit is a unit for measuring information**

**Classical bits**



Empty = "0"      Filled = "1"



20 red beads = "0"  
20 blue beads = "1"

**Quantum bits (Qubits)**



Qubit 1  
1/3 of "0" and 2/3 of "1"



8/20 of "0" and  
12/20 of "1"



Head = "0"



Tail = "1"



50% chance of landing on "0"  
50% chance of landing on "1"

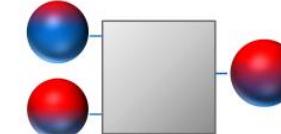
Physical realization via

Quantum Bits or Qubits



Superposition

Quantum Operations



Entanglement



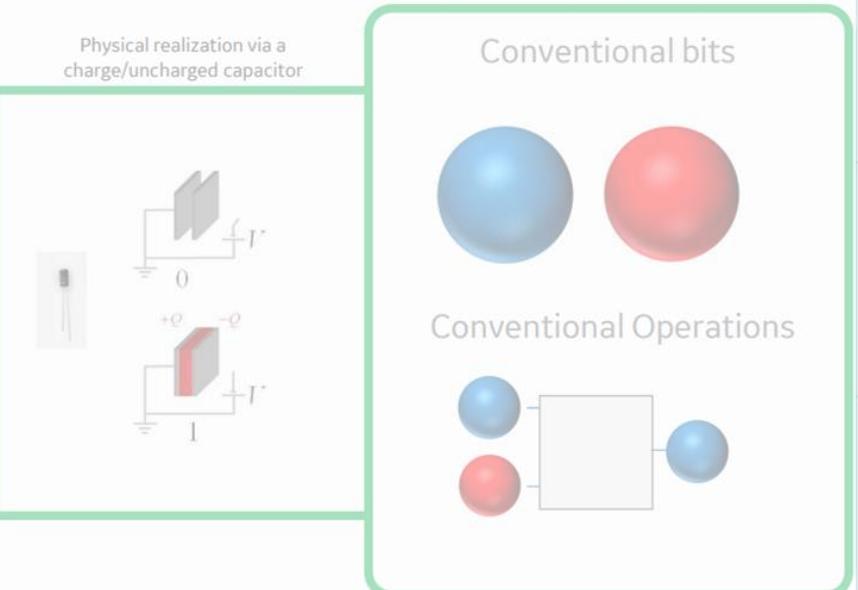
[Topics]

<https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/resources/cloud-computing-dictionary/what-is-a-qubit>

<https://ny-creates.org/wp-content/uploads/NY-CREATES-Talk-Giani-Schnore-June3-2021.pdf>

# Building Blocks (Data): Bits & Qubits (*quantum bits*)

*Exploiting quantum mechanical “**Superposition**”*

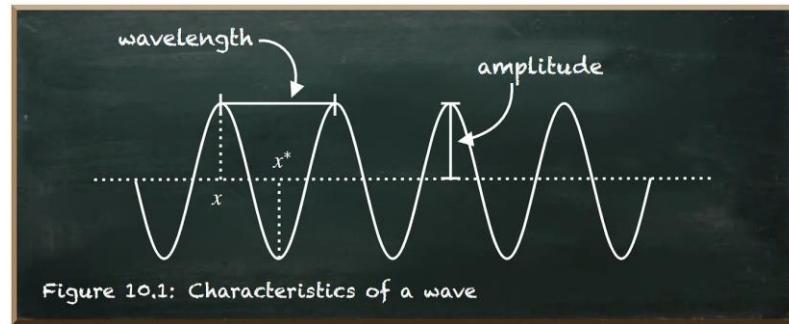


A bit is a unit for measuring information	
Conventional bits	Quantum bits (Qubits)
Bit 1: Bit 2:	Qubit 1:
Empty = "0"      Filled = "1"	$\frac{1}{3}$ of "0" and $\frac{2}{3}$ of "1"
20 red beads = "0"      20 blue beads = "1"	8/20 of "0" and 12/20 of "1"
Head = "0"      Tail = "1"	50% chance of landing on "0", 50% chance of landing on "1"

<https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/resources/cloud-computing-dictionary/what-is-a-qubit>

Wave functions describe the behavior of the quantum particles that compose qubits.

Wave characteristics = (phase,) wavelength, and amplitude.



This “probability” of measuring the qubit as a 0 vs. 1 is based upon the measured behavior of particle.

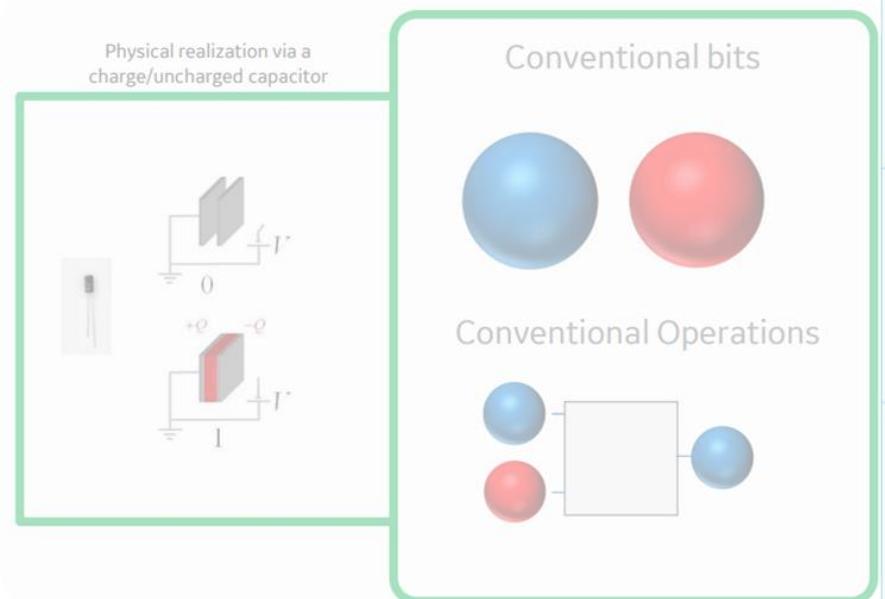
<https://towardsdatascience.com/quantum-amplitudes-and-probabilities-b49a6969b0b9>



[Topics]

# Building Blocks (Data): Bits & Qubits (*quantum bits*)

*Exploiting quantum mechanical “**Superposition**”*



A bit is a unit for measuring information	
Physical bits	Quantum bits (Qubits)
Bit 1 Bit 2	Qubit 1
Empty = "0" Filled = "1"	1/3 of "0" and 2/3 of "1"
20 red beads = "0"  20 blue beads = "1"	8/20 of "0" and 12/20 of "1"
Head = "0"  Tail = "1"	50% chance of landing on "0" 50% chance of landing on "1"

<https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/resources/cloud-computing-dictionary/what-is-a-qubit>

Probabilities

Wave functions describe the behavior of the quantum particles that compose qubits.

Consider: “Working at home” distribution over the days of the work week.

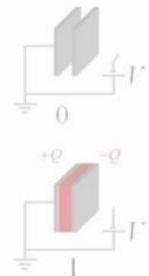


This “probability” of measuring the qubit as a 0 vs. 1 is based upon the measured behavior of particle.

# Building Blocks (Data): Bits & Qubits (*quantum bits*)

*Exploiting quantum mechanical “**Entanglement**” between qubits*

Physical realization via a charge/uncharged capacitor



Conc...

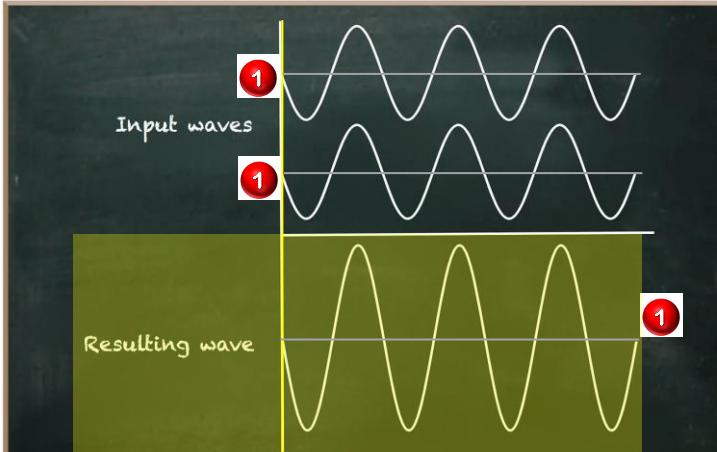


Figure 10.3: Two interfering waves

Conc...

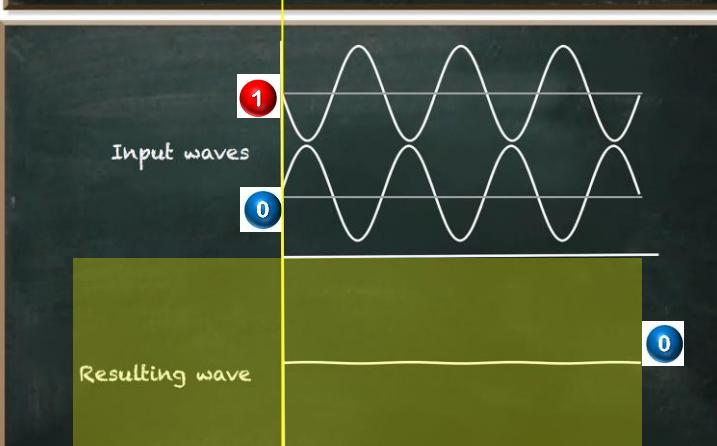


Figure 10.4: Two cancelling waves



[Topics]

measuring information

Quantum bits (Qubits)

Qubit 1



1/3 of "0" and 2/3 of "1"



8/20 of "0"  
12/20 of "1"



50% chance of la  
50% chance of la

<https://cloud-computing-dictionary.what-is.com/what-is-a-qubit.html>

Amplitudes  $\neq$  Probabilities

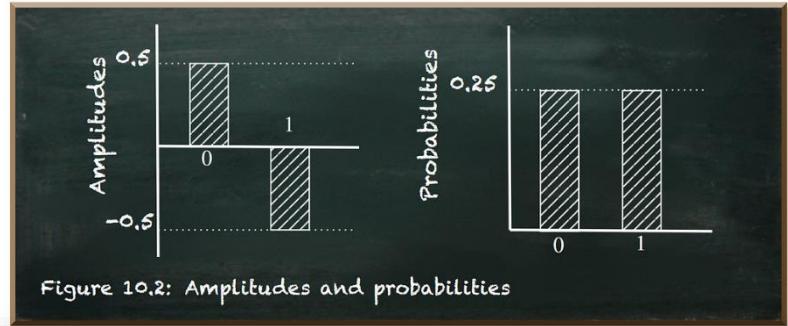
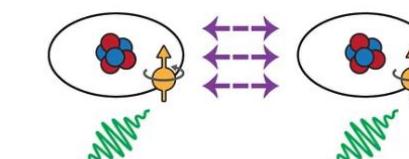


Figure 10.2: Amplitudes and probabilities

Single-qubit gates can be performed using microwave pulses.



Two-qubit gates make use of the repulsion between two positively charged ions.

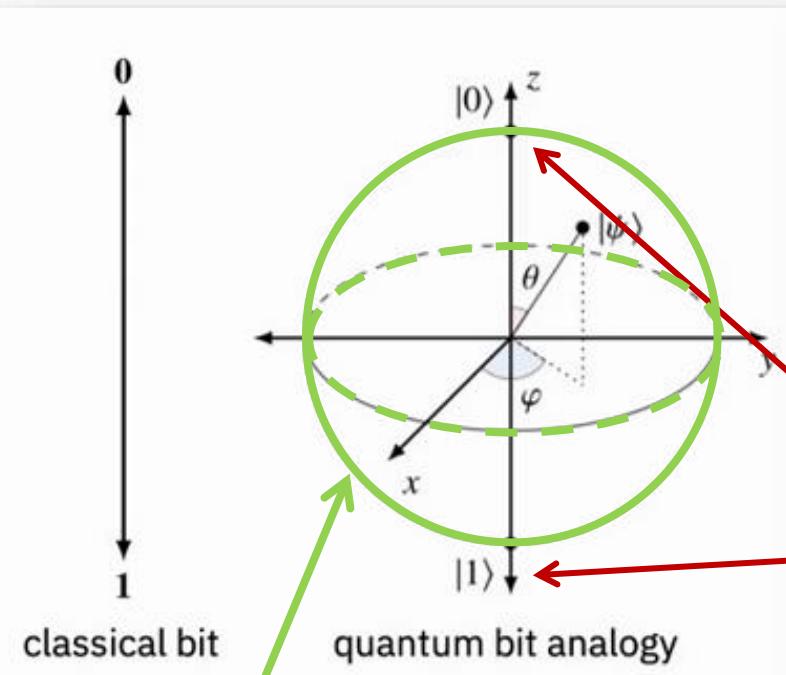
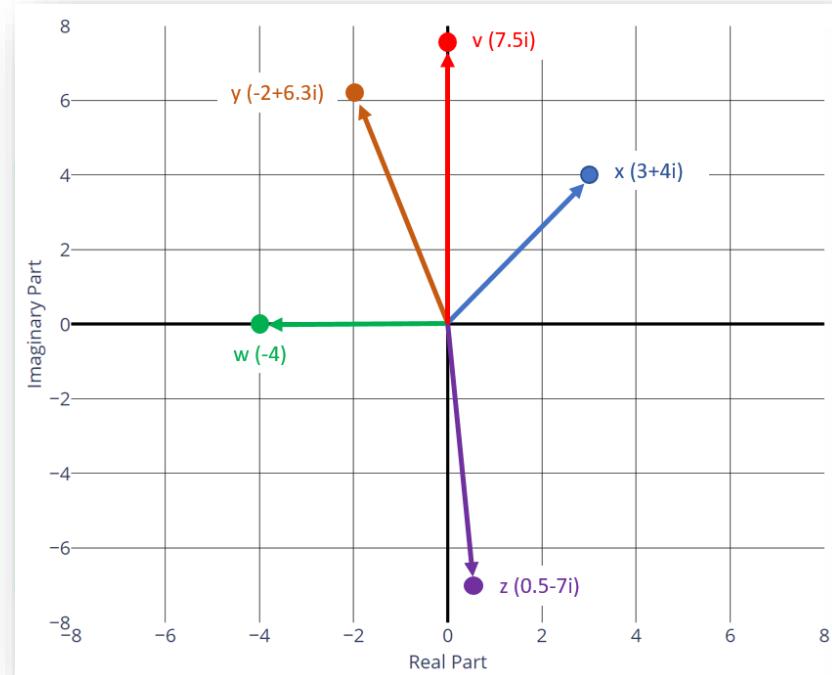
<https://towardsdatascience.com/quantum-amplitudes-and-probabilities-b49a6969b0b9>

# Building Blocks (Data): Bits & Qubits (*quantum bits*)

Exploiting quantum mechanical “**Entanglement**” between qubits

But the mathematics use complex number vectors to characterize the wave function of electron spin...  
(See: <https://stem.mitre.org/quantum/quantum-concepts/qubits.html> )

<https://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/teaching/0910/QuantComp/notes.pdf>



**Vectors**

Formally, the state of a qubit is a unit vector in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ —the 2-dimensional complex *vector space*.

The vector  $\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$  can be written as  $\alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$

where,  $|0\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $|1\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

$|\phi\rangle$ —a *ket*, Dirac notation for vectors.

Entanglement



[Topics]

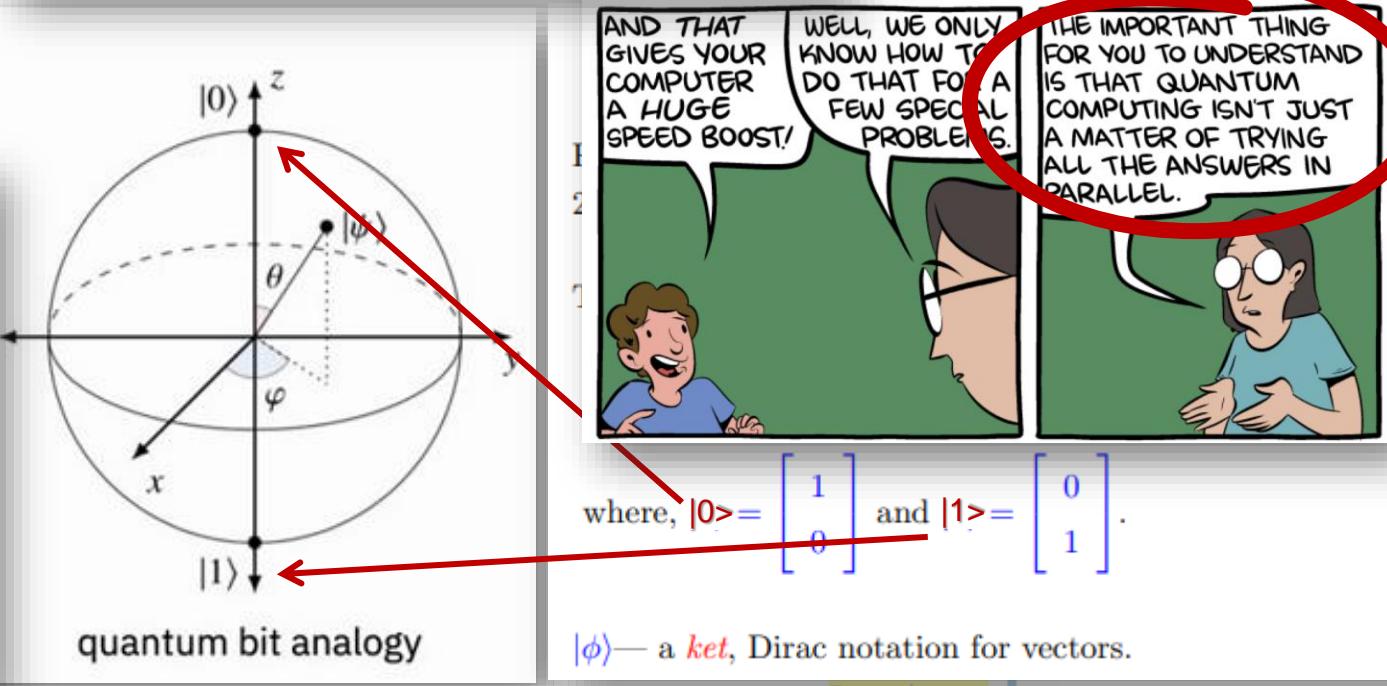
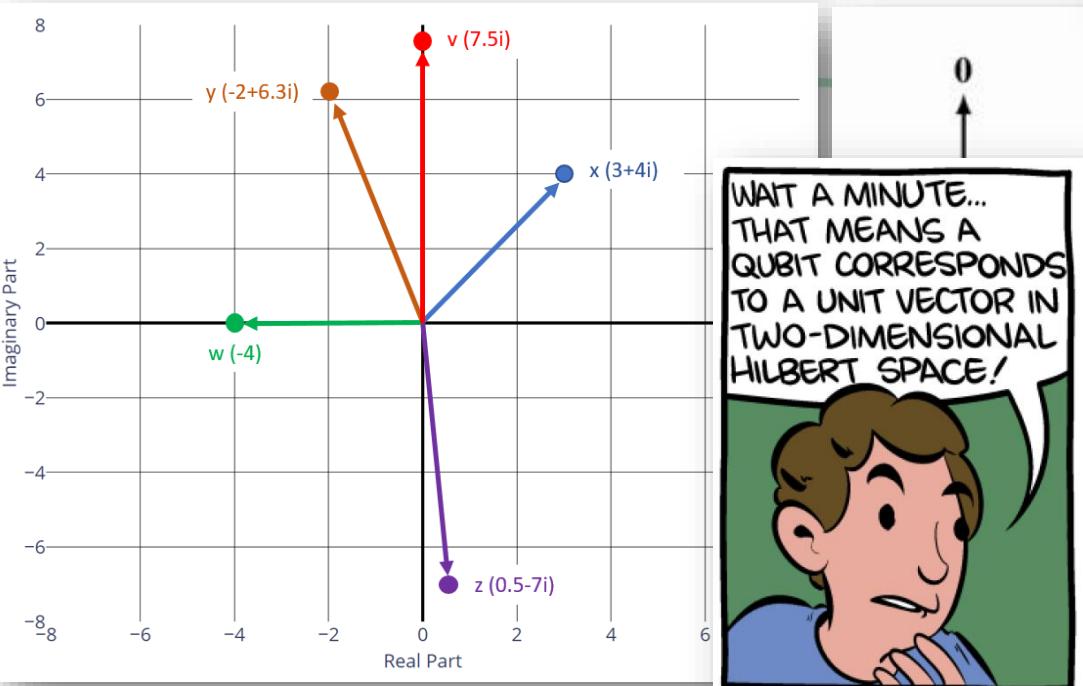
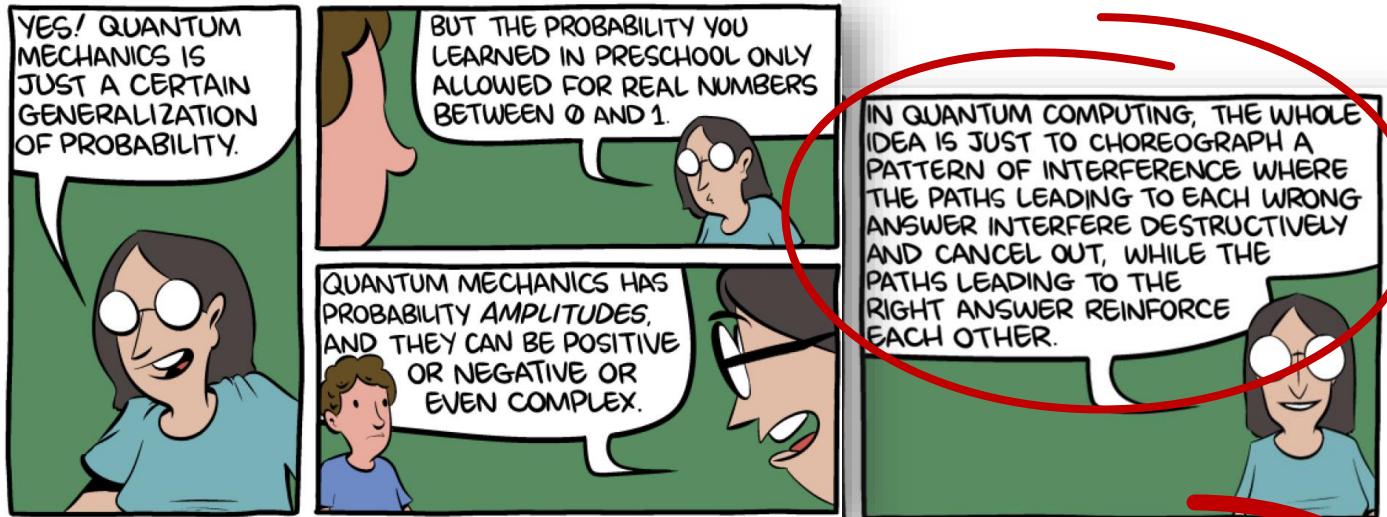
<https://ny-creates.org/wp-content/uploads/NY-CREATES-Talk-Giani-Schnore-June3-2021.pdf>

**Bloch sphere:** geometrical representation of a qubit in spherical coordinates

# Building Blocks (Data):

Exploiting quantum mechanical “Entanglement”

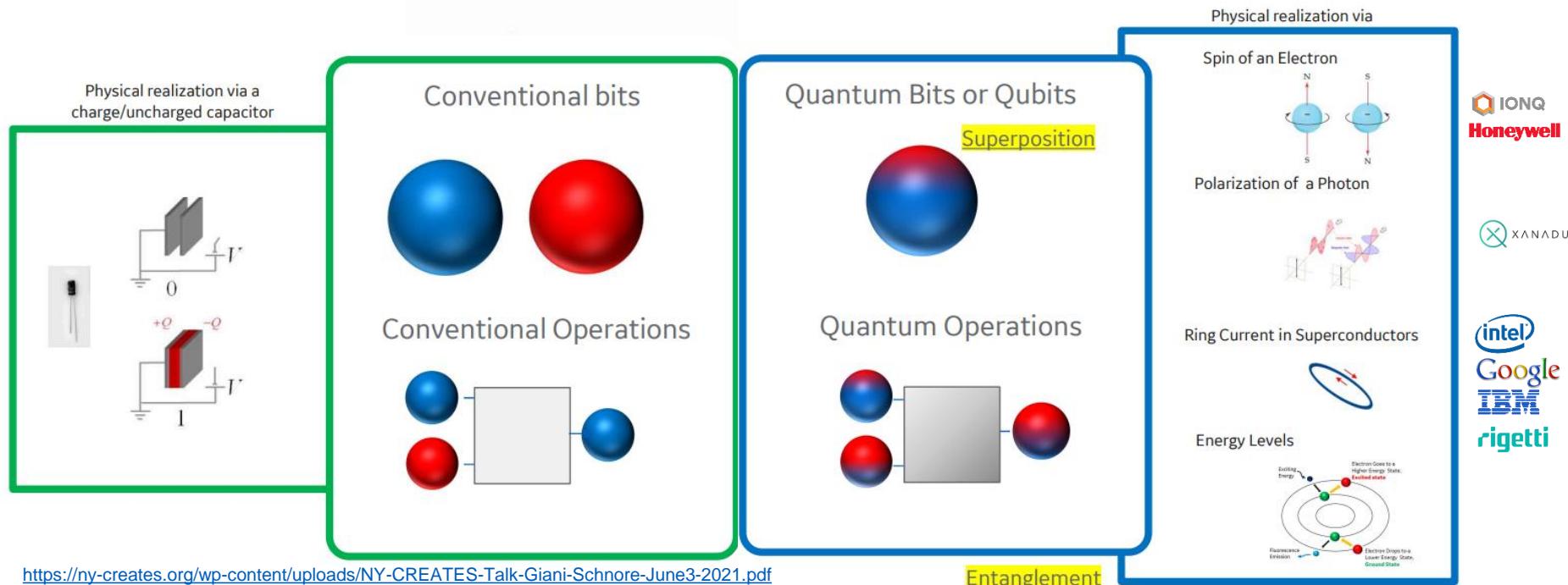
But the mathematics characterize the wavefunction  
(See: <https://stem.mitre.org/quantum-computing>)



# Building Blocks (Data): Bits & Qubits (*quantum bits*)

In a quantum computer:

qubits are joined together and functionally interact like atoms in a molecule

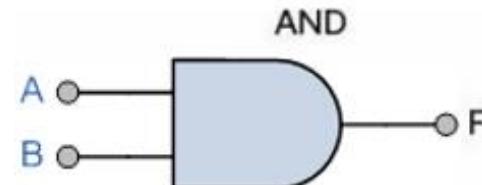
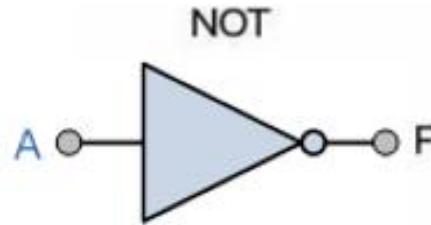


# Building Blocks (Functional Logic): Gates

*Transistors in semiconductors*

---

## Classical Boolean Logic



Input	Output
A	F
0 ( NOT ) → 1	
1 ( NOT ) → 0	

Inputs		Output
A	B	F
0 (&?)	0 (?) → 0	
1	0	0
0	1	0
1	1	1

<https://www.electronics-tutorials.ws/logic/universal-gates.html>



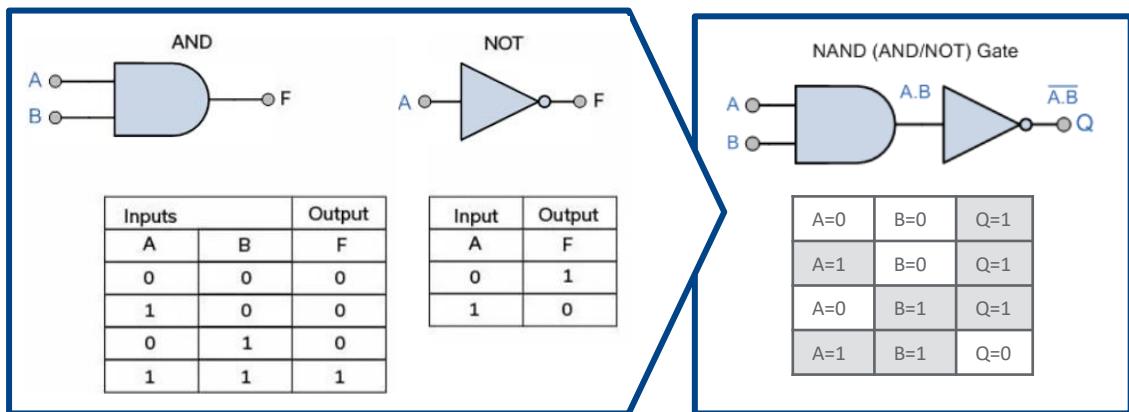
---

[Topics]

# Logic: Gates

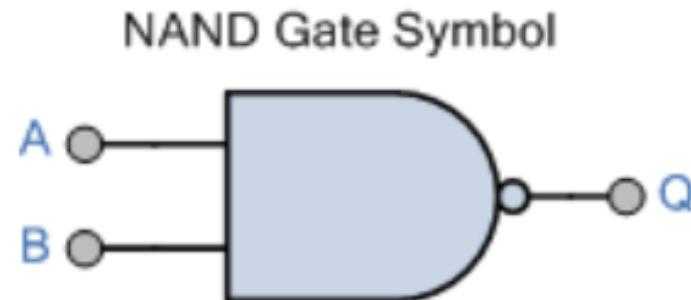
*Combining gates as building blocks*

## Classical Boolean Logic



<https://www.electronics-tutorials.ws/logic/universal-gates.html>

AND + NOT = NAND

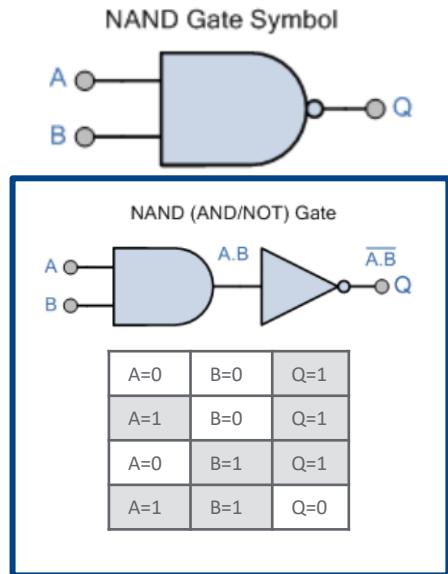


[Topics]

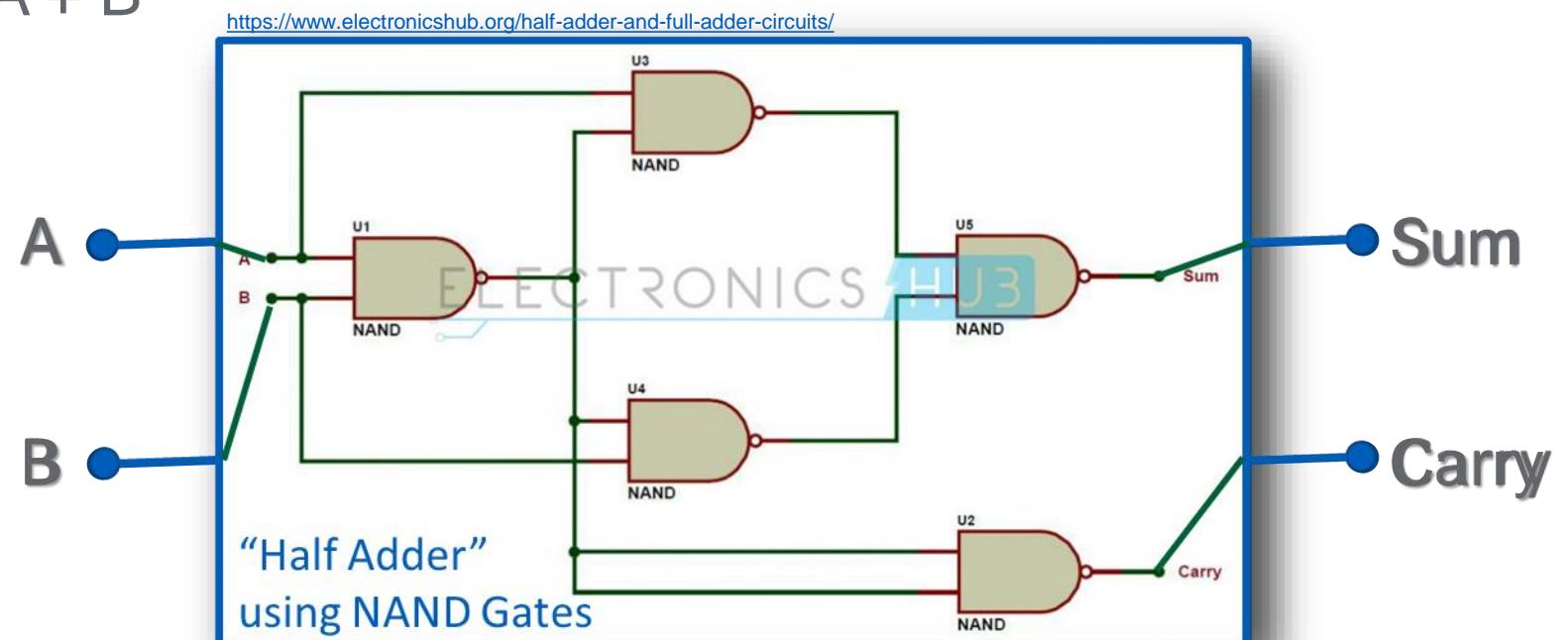
# Logic: Gates

*Universal logic for computers can be built from NAND building blocks*

Example: Add bits A + B



<https://www.electronics-tutorials.ws/logic/universal-gates.html>



$$A + B = \text{Sum}$$

$$0 + 0 = 0$$

$$1 + 0 = 1$$

$$0 + 1 = 1$$

$$1 + 1 = 0 \text{ (Carry 1)}$$

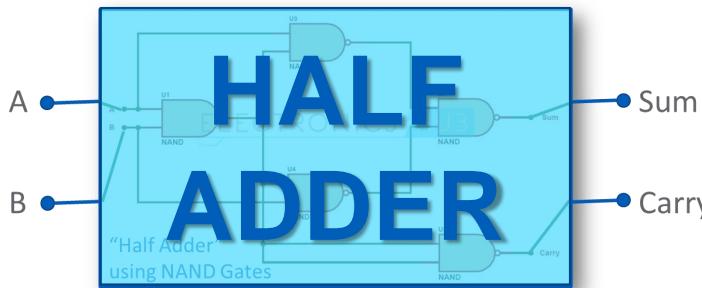
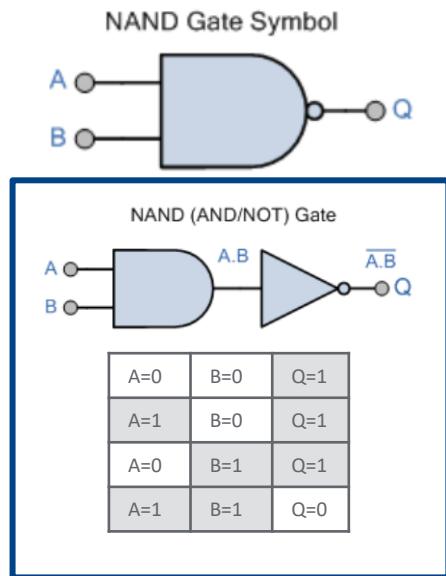


[Topics]

# Building Blocks (Logic): Gates into Processors

*Assembled into complete microarchitectures of modern semiconductor computers*

## (Classical Boolean) Universal Logic



A=0	B=0	Sum=0	Carry=0
A=1	B=0	Sum=1	Carry=0
A=0	B=1	Sum=1	Carry=0
A=1	B=1	Sum=0	Carry=1

Combining and combining...



# Building Blocks (Logic): Quantum Gates

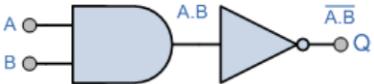
*Exploiting quantum mechanical “**Entanglement**” (Einstein’s “Spooky action at a distance”)*

Classical **Boolean** Logic

NAND Gate Symbol

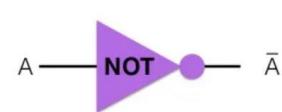


NAND (AND/NOT) Gate



A=0	B=0	Q=1
A=1	B=0	Q=1
A=0	B=1	Q=1
A=1	B=1	Q=0

## Quantum Logic



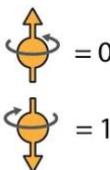
PAULI X GATE



A	$\bar{A}$
0	1
1	0

$ A\rangle$	$ \bar{A}\rangle$
0	1
1	0

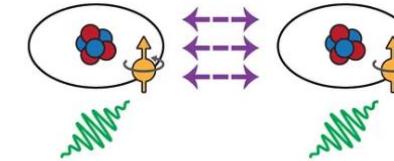
(exploiting Pauli's Exclusion Principle)



A qubit can be encoded in the ‘spin’ of the particles making up an ion.



Single-qubit gates can be performed using **microwave pulses**.



Two-qubit gates make use of the **repulsion** between two positively charged ions.

operate as **vector / matrix operations** relative to spin of 1-2 qubits  
(as opposed to Boolean operators)

<https://www.electronics-tutorials.ws/logic/universal-gates.html>

<https://towardsdatascience.com/demystifying-quantum-gates-one-qubit-at-a-time-54404ed80640>



[Topics]

# Building Blocks (Logic): Quantum Gates

*Assemble circuit relationships through physical interaction (“interference”) properties*

**Vectors**

Formally, the state of a qubit is a unit vector in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ —the 2-dimensional complex *vector space*.

The vector  $\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$  can be written as  $\alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$

where,  $|0\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $|1\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

$|\phi\rangle$ — a *ket*, Dirac notation for vectors.

<https://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/teaching/0910/QuantComp/notes.pdf>

## vector / matrix operations (as opposed to Boolean operators)

Name	Circuit	Matrix	Operation
Pauli-X (Quantum NOT)		$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\sigma_x 0\rangle =  1\rangle$ $\sigma_x 1\rangle =  0\rangle$
Pauli-Y		$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\sigma_y 0\rangle = i 1\rangle$ $\sigma_y 1\rangle = -i 0\rangle$
Pauli-Z		$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\sigma_z 0\rangle =  0\rangle$ $\sigma_z 1\rangle = - 1\rangle$
Hadamard		$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$H 0\rangle = \frac{ 0\rangle +  1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$ ( $ +\rangle$ ) $H 1\rangle = \frac{ 0\rangle -  1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$ ( $ -\rangle$ )
Phase shift		$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\phi} \end{pmatrix}$	$R_\phi 0\rangle =  0\rangle$ $R_\phi 1\rangle = e^{i\phi} 1\rangle$
CNOT		$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$U_{CN} 00\rangle =  00\rangle$ $U_{CN} 01\rangle =  01\rangle$ $U_{CN} 10\rangle =  11\rangle$ $U_{CN} 11\rangle =  10\rangle$
SWAP		$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$SWAP 00\rangle =  00\rangle$ $SWAP 01\rangle =  10\rangle$ $SWAP 10\rangle =  01\rangle$ $SWAP 11\rangle =  11\rangle$
Controlled-phase		$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & e^{i\phi} \end{pmatrix}$	$U_{C\phi} 00\rangle =  00\rangle$ $U_{C\phi} 01\rangle =  01\rangle$ $U_{C\phi} 10\rangle =  10\rangle$ $U_{C\phi} 11\rangle = e^{i\phi} 11\rangle$

Table 2.2: Elementary quantum gates

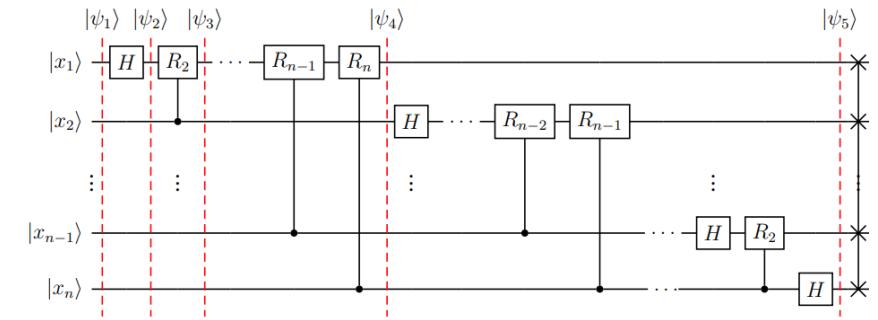
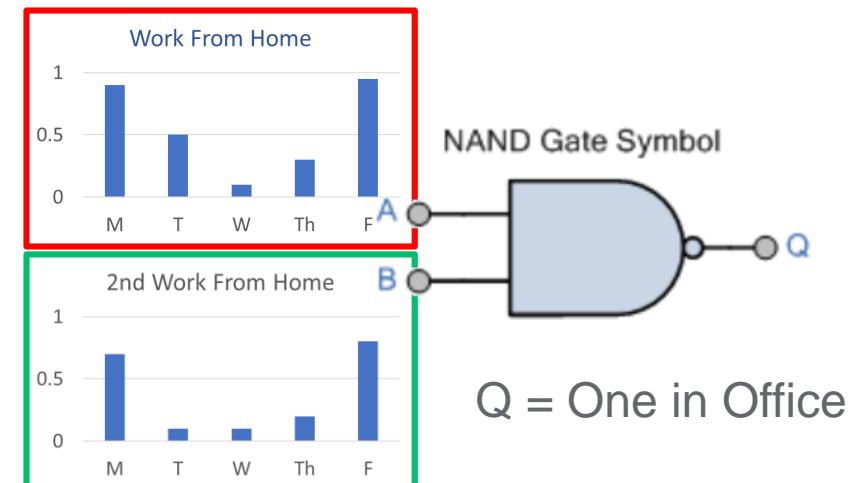
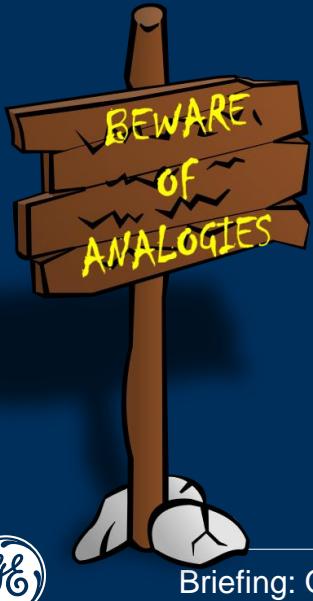


Figure 4.1: Quantum circuit for the quantum Fourier transform.



# Thought Experiment: Magnetic + Mechanical Emulator

According to [ChatGPT](#):



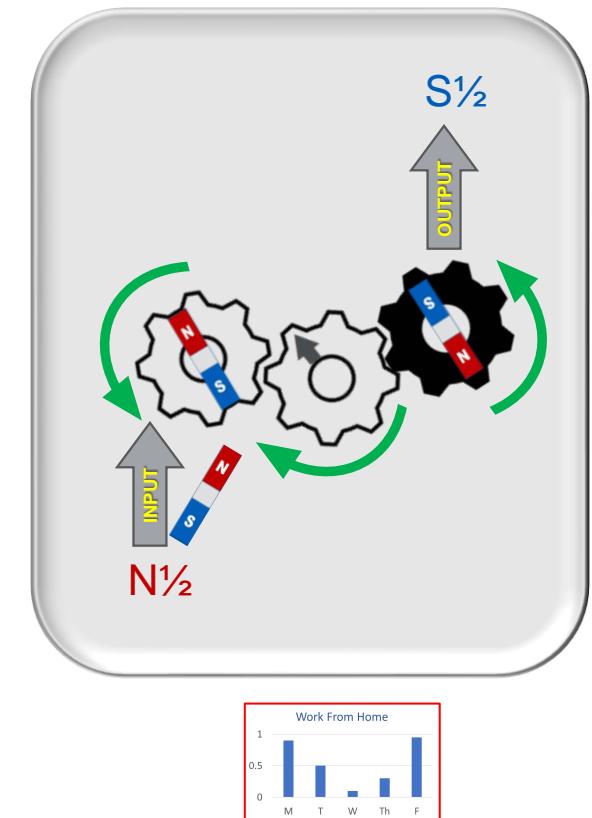
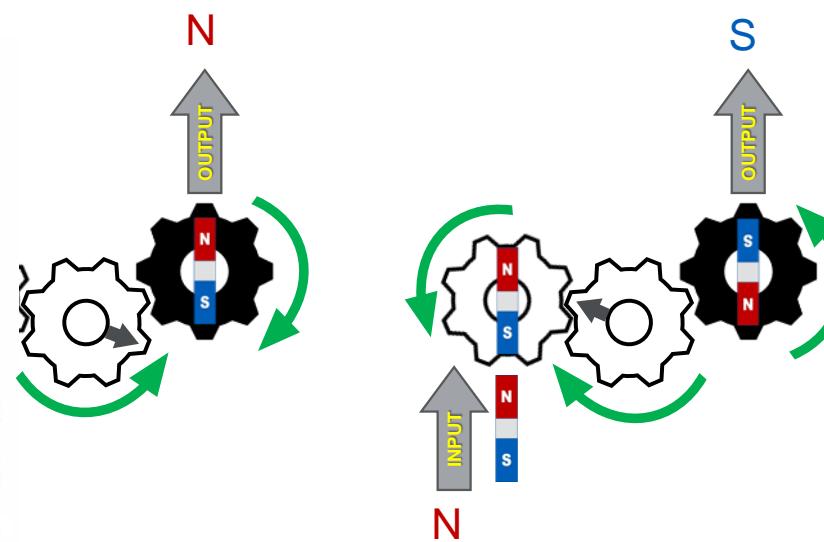
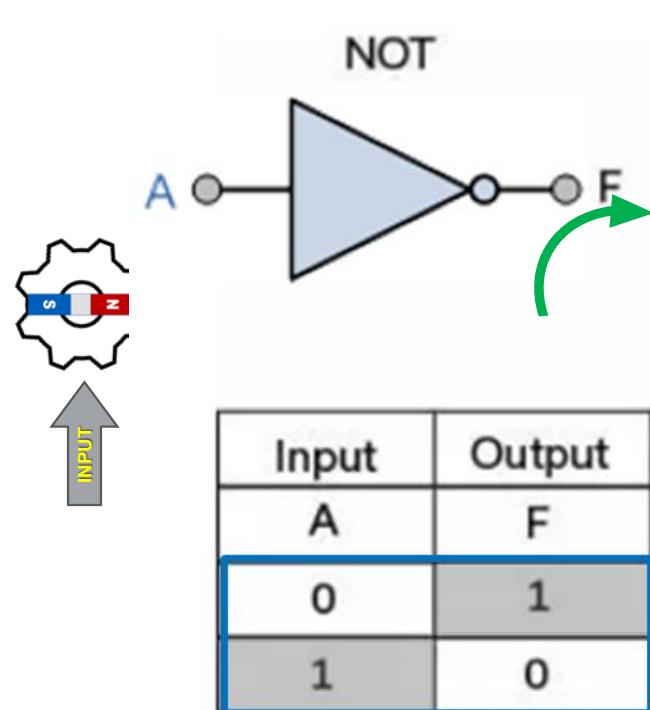
*In this humorous presentation, the Clampett family takes it upon themselves to explain the mysteries of quantum computing to Mr. Drysdale and Miss Jane Hathaway. Armed with their unconventional hillbilly wisdom, they compare quantum concepts to moonshine brewing, critter antics, and oil barrel experiments. Through their creative explanations, they manage to demystify quantum computing, making it more relatable and understandable for their puzzled audience. In the end, the presentation emphasizes the value of diverse perspectives and hands-on learning while delivering laughs along the way. The Clampetts once again prove that simplicity and resourcefulness can bridge the gap between the old ways and the technological marvels of the modern world.*



# Thought Experiment: Boolean Magnet + Mechanical

(Electromagnetic force as a *spooky action at a distance*) + (Mechanically can “hold” in position before releasing)

## Logical NOT



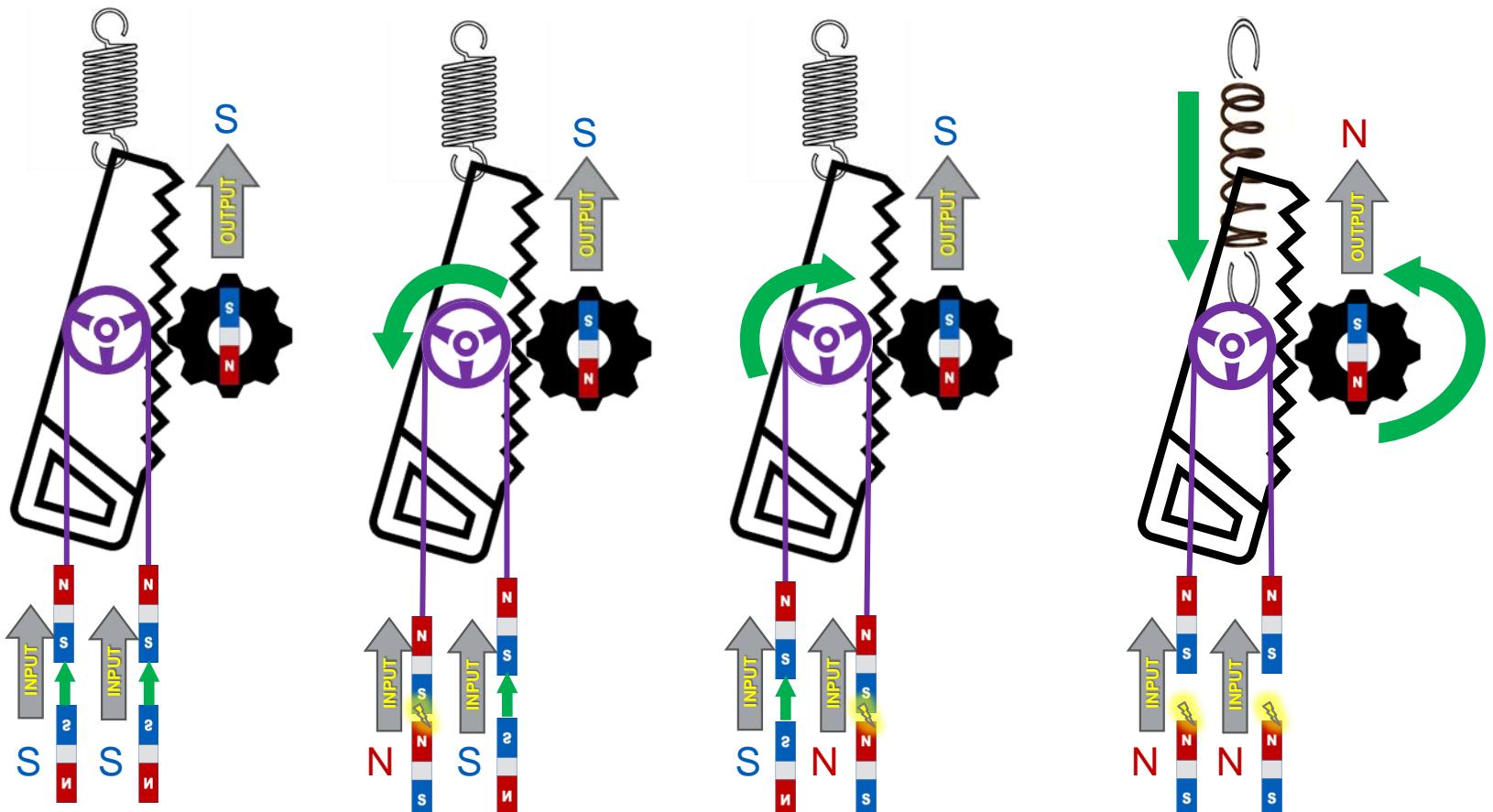
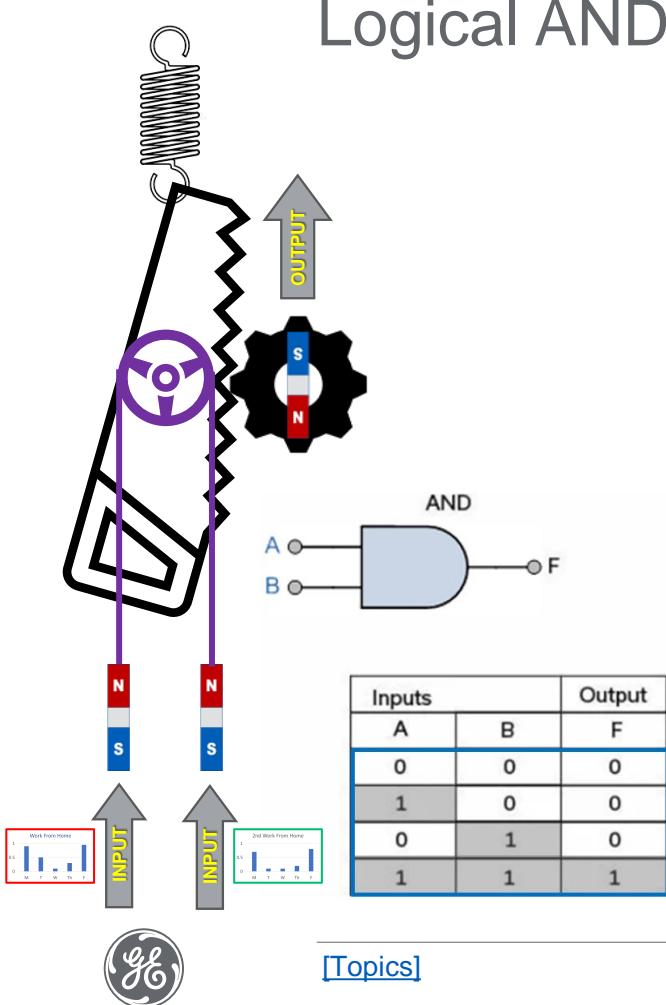
Not intended as an actual working machine: notional operation manifesting at scale of classical physics



# Thought Experiment: Boolean Magnet + Mechanical

Wheel turns when only one side pulls / Both sides pull = spring extends / Saw blade notches turn the gear

## Logical AND



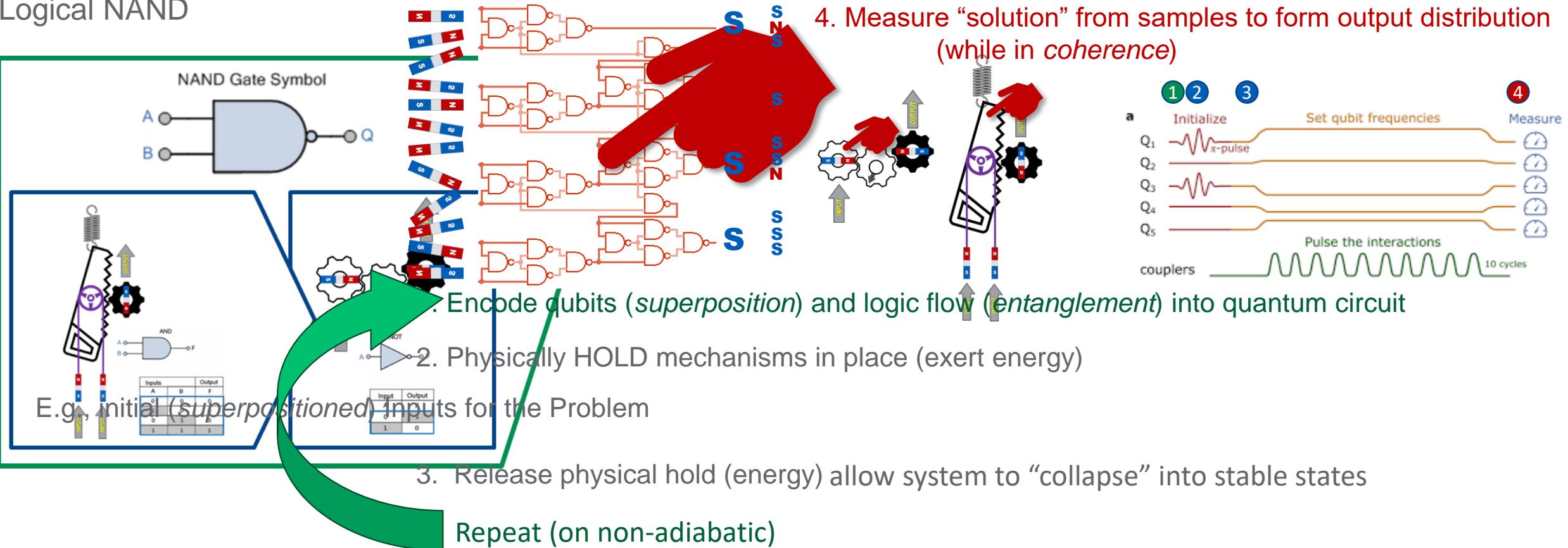
Not intended as an actual working machine: notional operation manifesting at scale of classical physics

# Analogy: Magnetic + Mechanical System

(Electromagnetic force as a *spooky action at a distance*) + (Mechanically can “hold” in position before releasing)

Setup problem through inputs (**qubits in superposition**) and logic gates (**entanglement**), collapse into low-energy solution state

## Logical NAND



Not intended as an actual working machine: notional operation manifesting at scale of classical physics

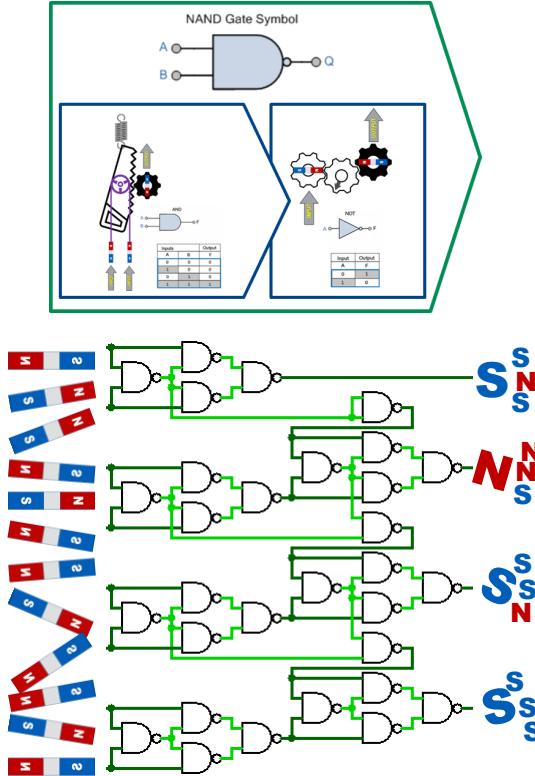


[Topics]

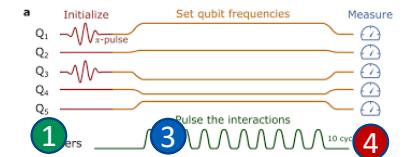
# Analogy: Magnetic + Mechanical System

(Electromagnetic force as a *spooky action at a distance*) + (Mechanically can “hold” in position before releasing)

Setup problem through inputs (**qubits in superposition**) and logic gates (**entanglement**), collapse into low-energy solution state



1. Encode inputs into qubits initial state and logic into quantum circuit  
*Superposition*
  2. Physically HOLD mechanisms in place (exert energy)  
*Entanglement*
  3. Release physical hold (energy)  
allow system to (*quickly ~ ns to ms*) “collapse” into stable state
  4. Measure “solution” (sample into probability distribution)  
*while in Coherence*
- Repeat (1) → (2) → (3) until completion**



Note: solution may not be optimal (locally stable) and/or difficult to verify optimality (combine multiple runs)



[Topics]

Not intended as an actual working machine: notional operation manifesting at scale of classical physics

# Quantum Phenomena

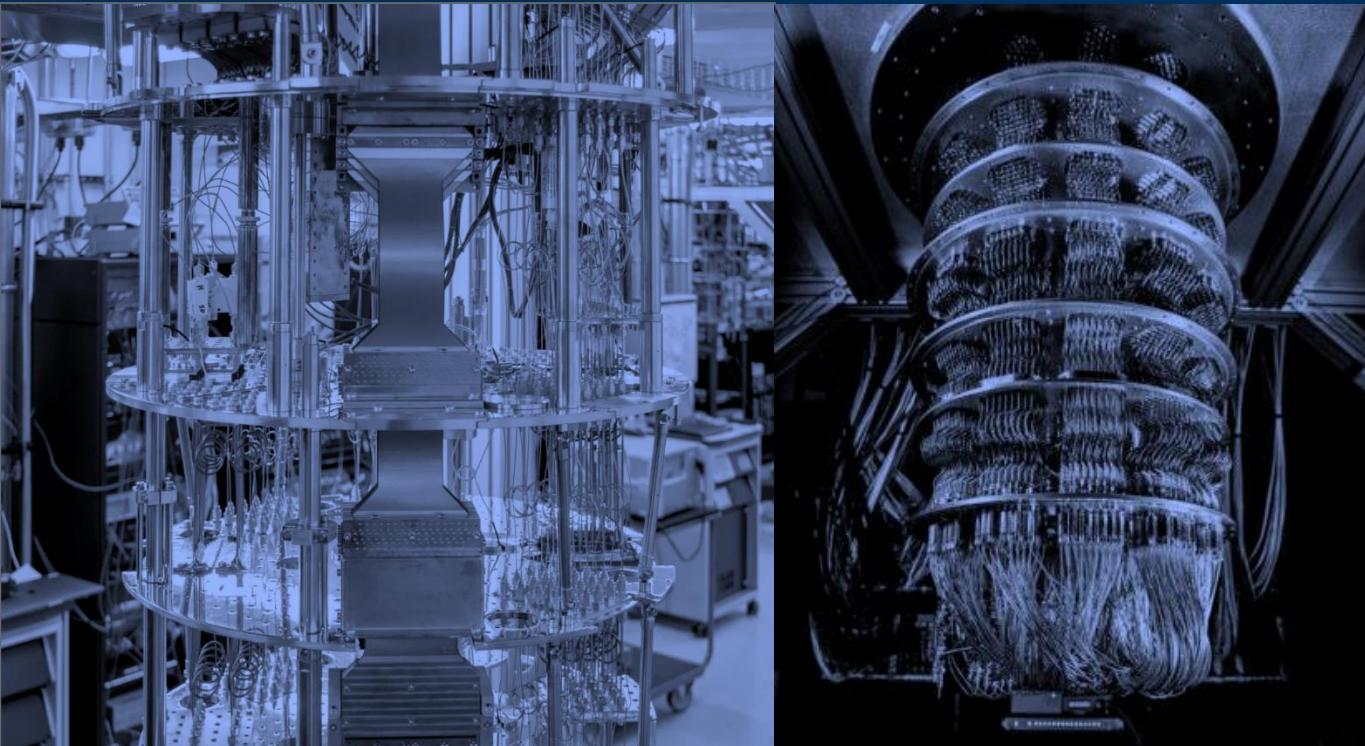
*Esoteric but Essential Terminology*

---

- **Superposition**: probability distribution state between 0 and 1 in a qubit until measurement, at which point resolves the qubit's state to either 0 or 1
- **Entanglement**: one qubit intrinsically linked (correlated) with another qubit, such that when one qubit is acted upon (measured) reveals the other qubit
- **Coherence**: durability vs. environmental interactions, (decoherence irreversibly loses *superposition* and/or *entanglement*)
- **Logical qubit**: multiple *physical* qubits combined to employ quantum error correction to enhance **coherence** and other sources of instability and error.



# Hardware & Architectures



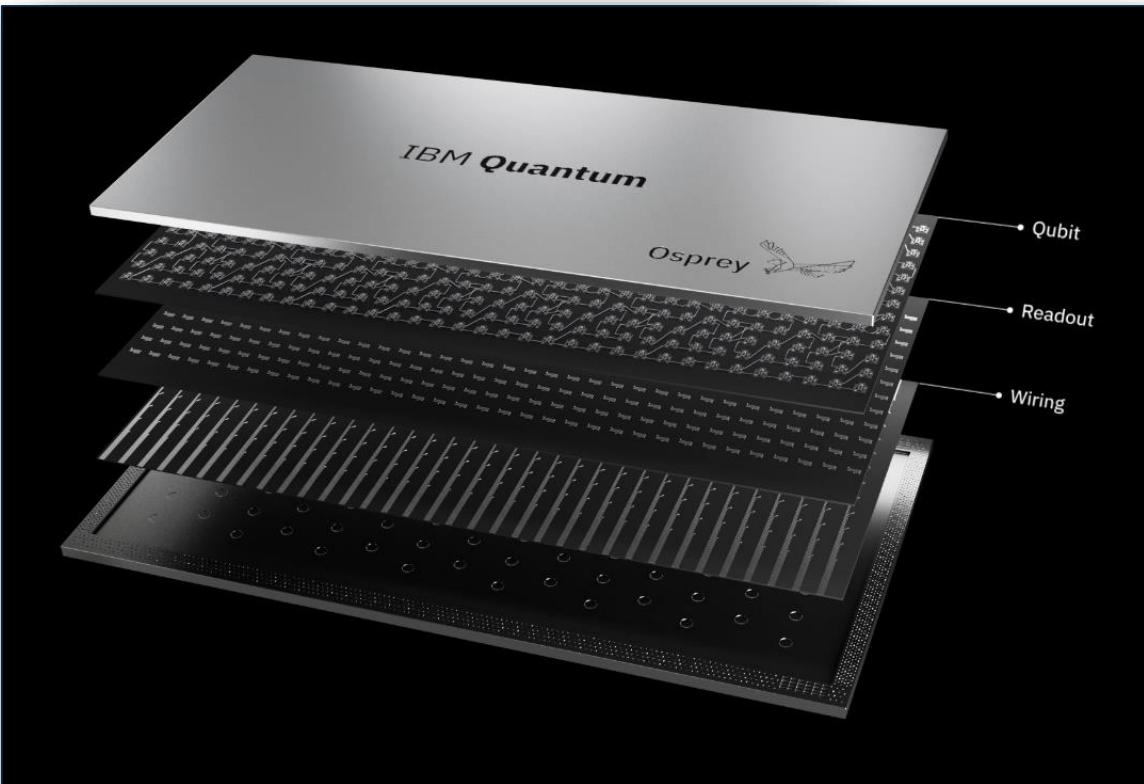
# State-of-the-Art Quantum Computers



*Vacuum + cryostat refrigerator + microwave cables required (to cool the quantum chip below -272C: nearly absolute zero) to control for **noise**, resolve to minimal energy state.*

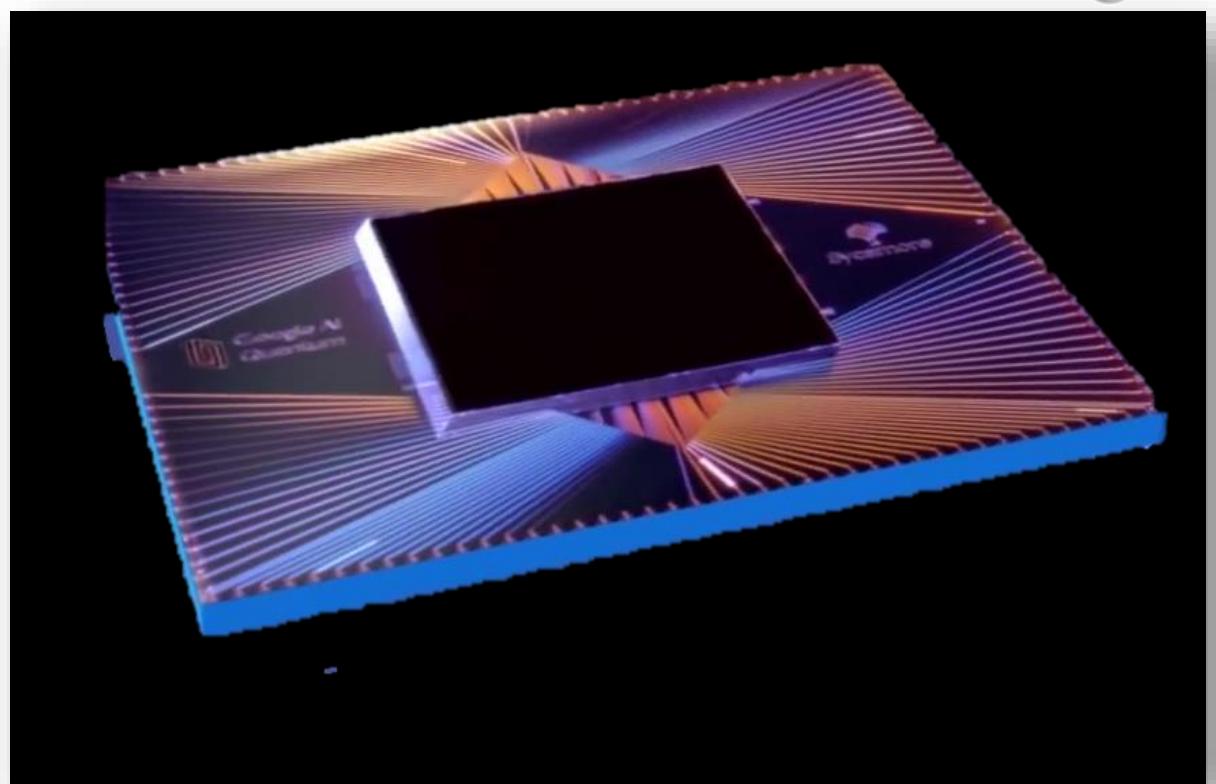
## Emphasis on Qubit Scaling

IBM



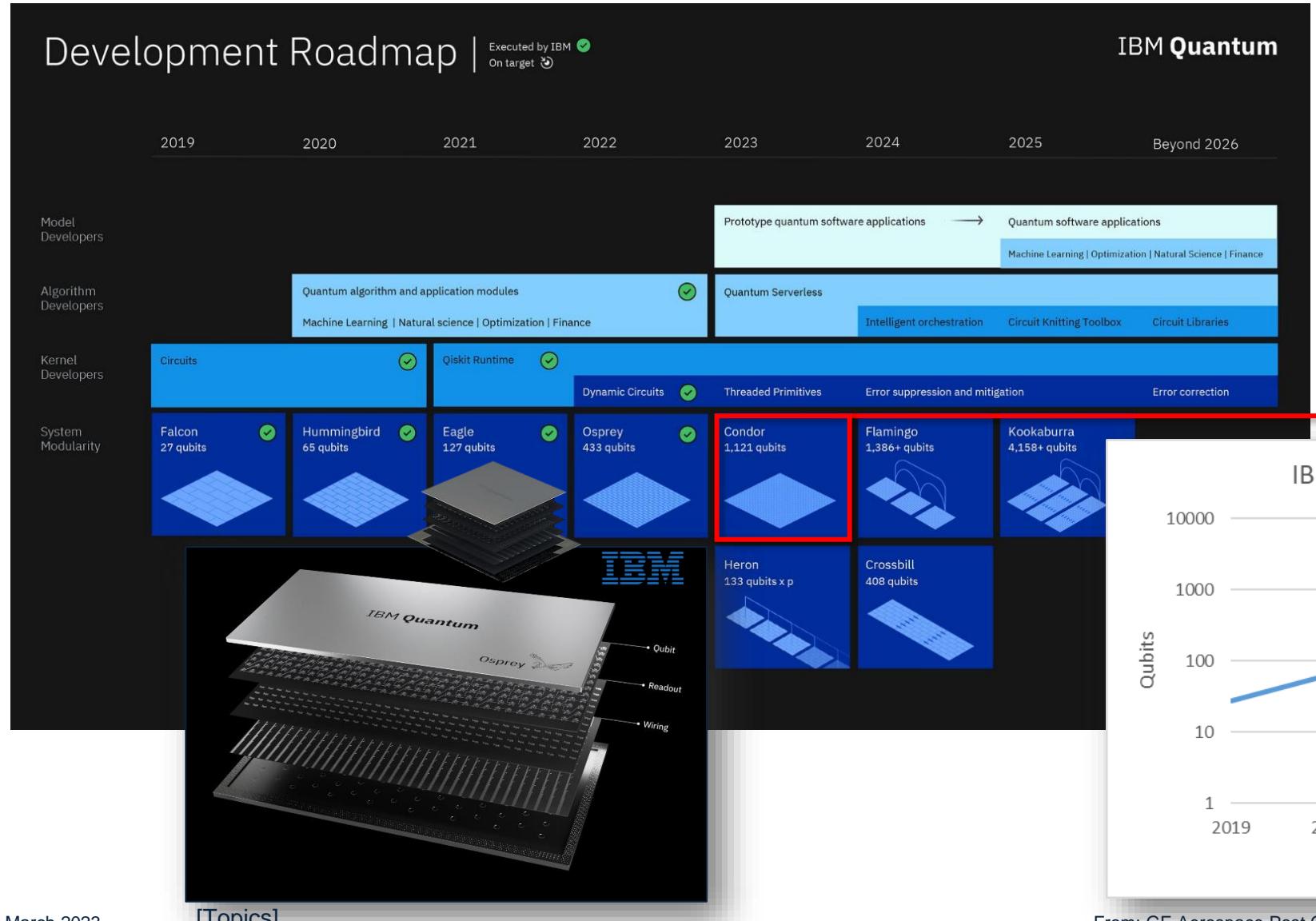
## Focus on Qubit Fidelity

Google



# Qubit Scaling: IBM Quantum Computing Roadmap

Source: <https://arstechnica.com/science/2022/11/ibm-pushes-qubit-count-over-400-with-new-processor/>



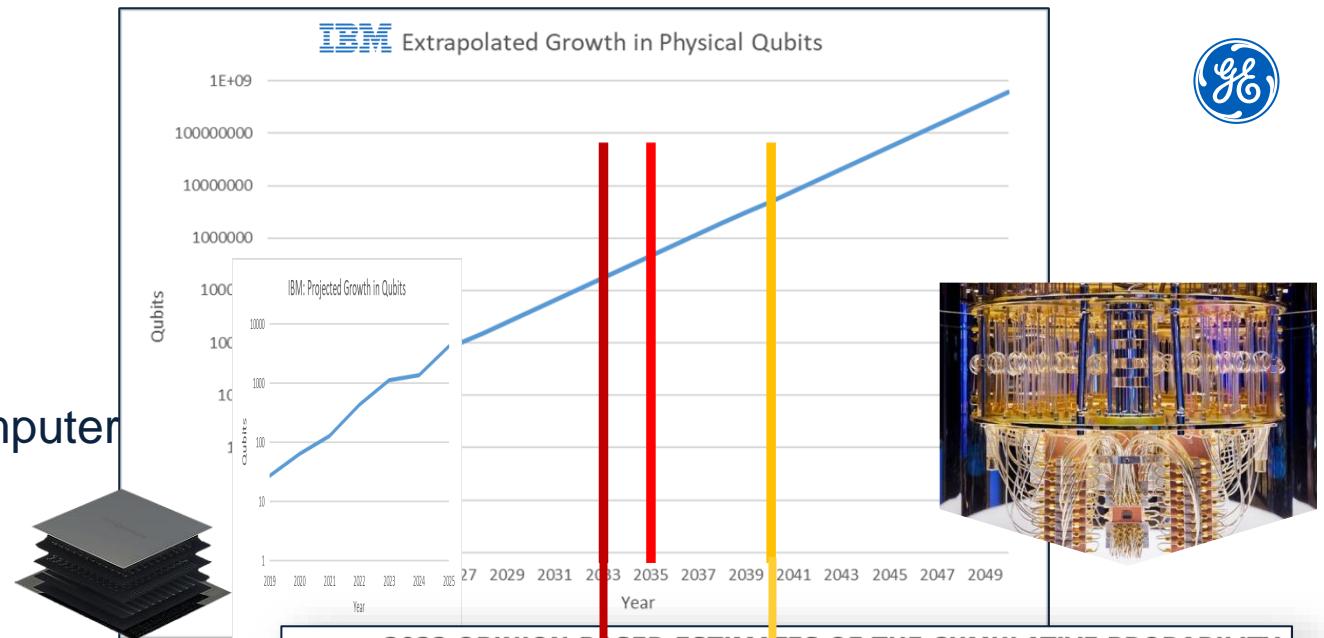
# Expert Opinion on Quantum Computing Roadmap

From: GE Aerospace

## Post-Quantum Cryptography Tutorial



Towards a Cryptographically Relevant Quantum Computer (CRQC) that can break RSA-2048 in 24 hours



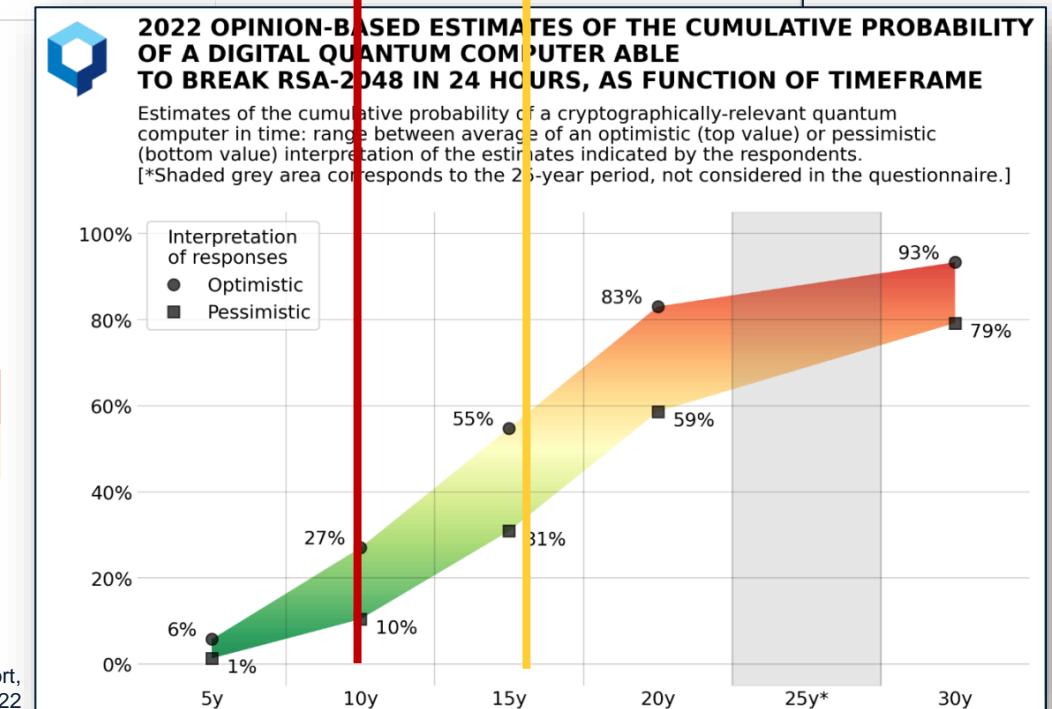
### Breaking RSA

- 4096 qubits are required to factor RSA-2048
- Assume continued improvements in:
  - physical qubit error rates, and
  - quantum error correction techniques

Physical Qubits per Logical Qubit	RSA-2048 Qubits	Year of the CRQC	Enabling Technology
50	200K	2033	Improved coding & qubits
100	400K	2035	Improved qubit error rate
1000	4M	2040	IBM roadmap extrapolation

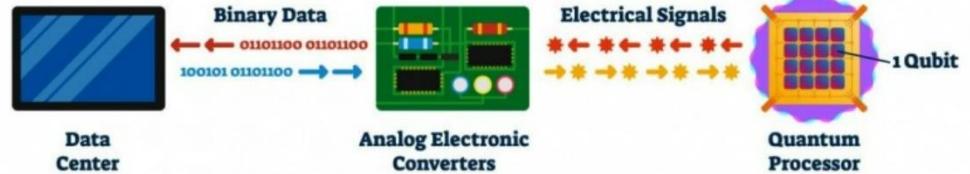
- Hence a CRQC **may** be viable before 2035

***So many assumptions!***

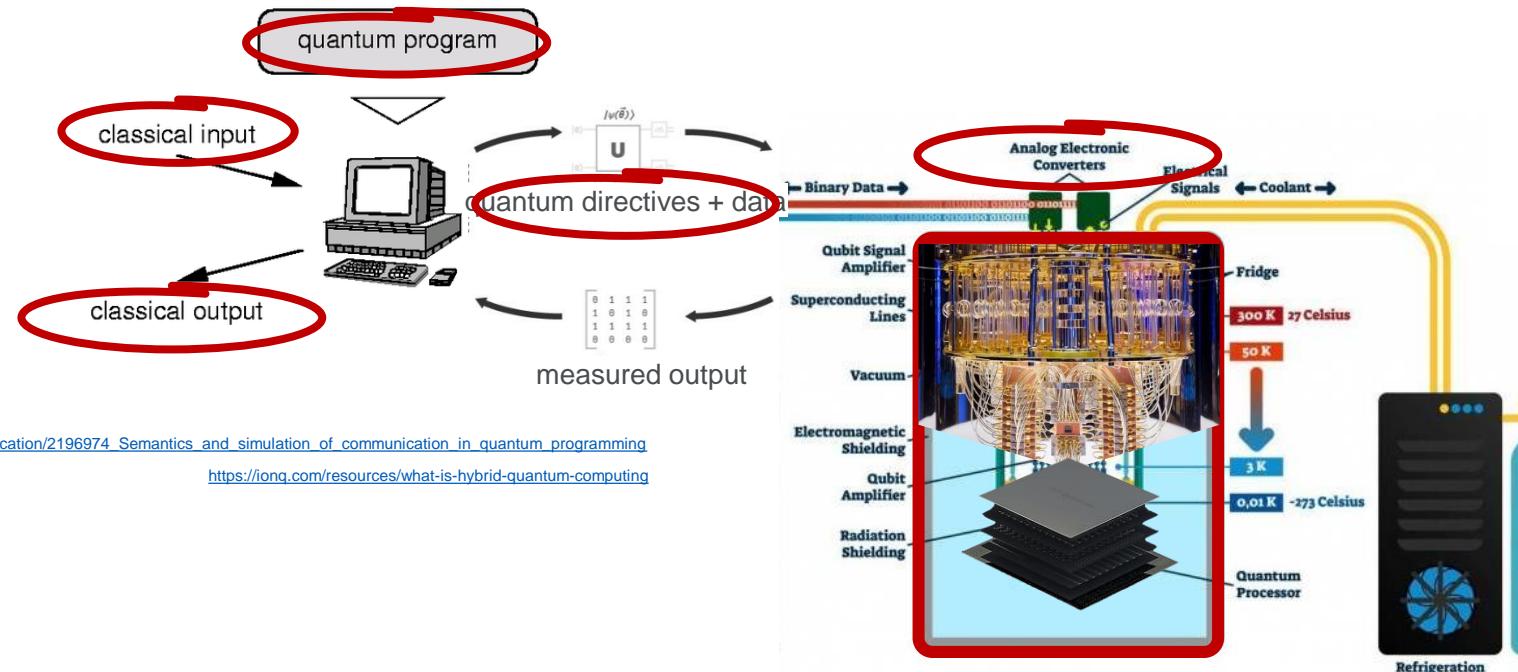


# Architecture

You still need a classical computer to use a quantum computer

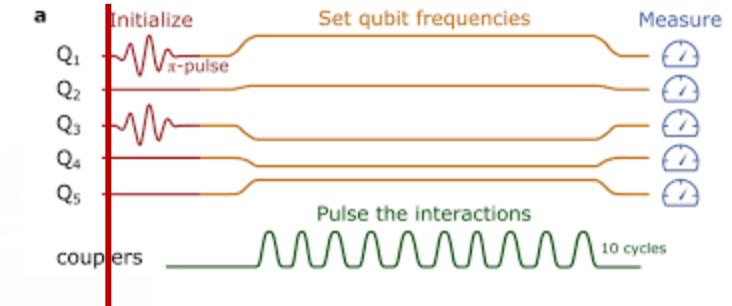


<https://www.thebroadcastbridge.com/content/entry/14159/instant-answers-from-the-universe>



[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/2196974\\_Semantics\\_and\\_simulation\\_of\\_communication\\_in\\_quantum\\_programming](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/2196974_Semantics_and_simulation_of_communication_in_quantum_programming)

<https://ionq.com/resources/what-is-hybrid-quantum-computing>



Classical: problem setup + I/O + solution analysis

Quantum: resolution of circuit vs. inputs + measurement



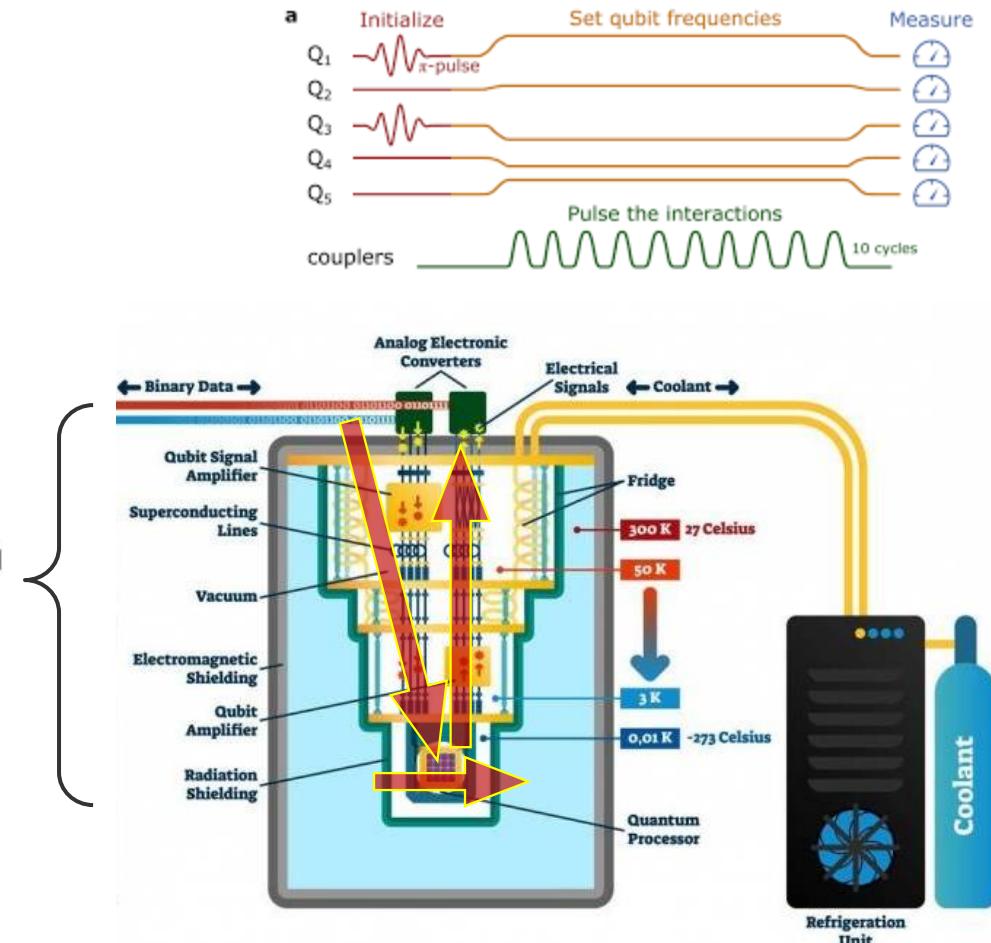
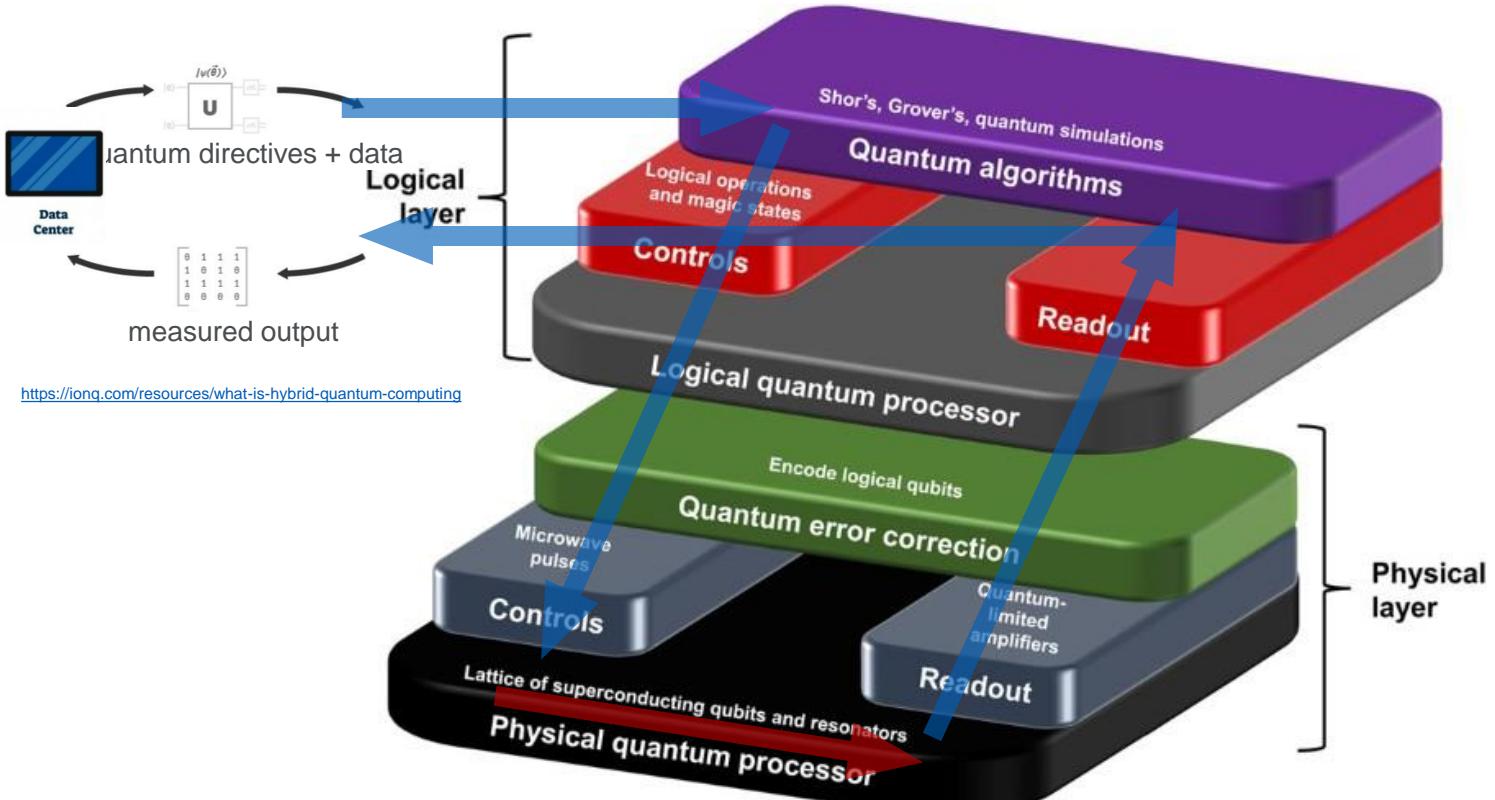
[Topics]

# Architecture

You still need a classical computer to use a quantum computer



<https://www.thebroadcastbridge.com/content/entry/14159/instant-answers-from-the-universe>



# Hardware Architectures

# Diversity of physical approaches to superposition / entanglement / coherence

D-wave D-Wave

# “The O.G.”

	<u>Amazon</u>
	<u>Google</u>
	<u>Honeywell</u>
	<u>IBM / UK STFC NQCC</u>
	<u>Intel</u>
	<u>IonQ</u>
	<u>Microsoft</u>
	<u>Northrop Grumman</u>
	<u>Raytheon BBN</u>
	<u>Rigetti</u>
	<u>Xanadu</u>

MIT Lincoln Lab  
U Waterloo  
U Innsbruck / AQT

# Hardware Architectures: *Trade-offs*

Diversity of physical approaches to superposition / entanglement / coherence

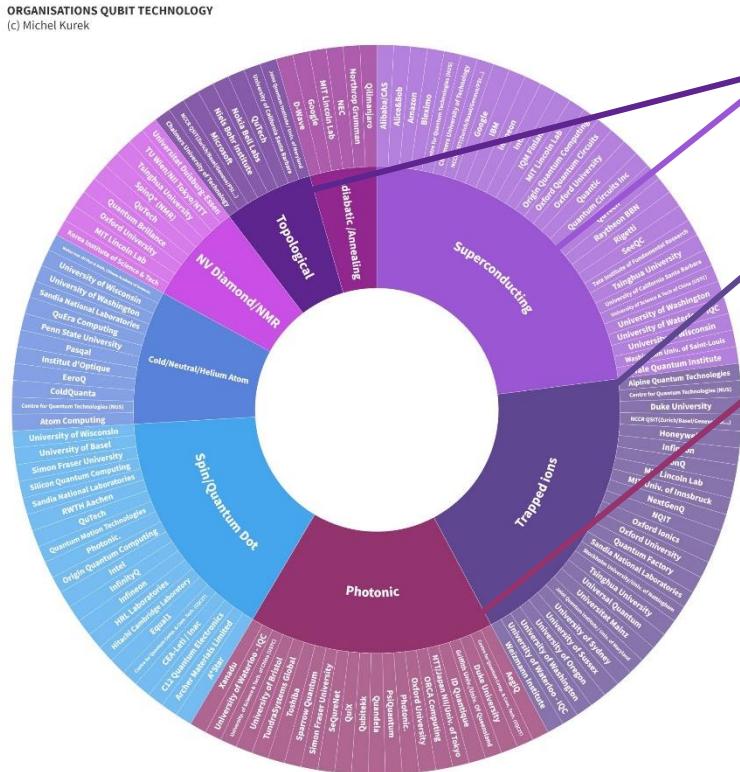


EXHIBIT 7 | Overview of Leading Quantum Computing Technologies During the NISQ Era

D-Wave

Leading technologies in NISQ era <sup>1</sup>		Candidate technologies beyond NISQ	
Qubit type or technology	Superconducting <sup>2</sup>	Trapped ion	Photonic
Description of qubit encoding	Two-level system of a superconducting circuit	Electron spin direction of ionized atoms in vacuum	Silicon-based <sup>3</sup>
Physical qubits <sup>4,5</sup>	IBM: 20, Rigetti: 19, Alibaba: 11, Google: 18, IonQ: 14	Laboratory environment: AQ1: 20, IonQ: 14	Topological <sup>6</sup>
Qubit lifetime	~50–100 µs	~50 s	Occupation of a waveguide with single photons
Gate fidelity <sup>7</sup>	~99.4%	~99.9%	Nuclear or electron spin or charge of doped P atoms in Si
Gate operation time	~10–50 ns	~3–50 µs	Majorana particles in a nanowire
Connectivity	Nearest neighbors	All-to-all	target: 1 in 2018
Scalability	No major road-blocks near-term	Scaling beyond one trap (>50 qb)	target ~99.9999%
Maturity or technology readiness level	TRL <sup>10</sup> 5	TRL 4	target ~90%
Key properties	(micro-K) Cryogenic operation, Fast gating, Silicon technology	Improves with cryogenic temperatures (~10K), Long qubit lifetime, Vacuum operation	~1–10 s
			target ~100 s
			~1 ns
			~1–10 ns
			target ~99.9999%
			?
			Novel technology potentially high scalability
			Single photon sources and detection
			Estimated: Long lifetime High fidelities
			Novel technology potentially high scalability
			Single photon sources and detection
			Estimated: Long lifetime High fidelities
			Novel technology potentially high scalability
			Single photon sources and detection
			Estimated: Long lifetime High fidelities

Sources: BCG analysis; expert interviews.

<sup>1</sup>Noisy Intermediate-Scale Quantum devices era.

<sup>2</sup>Currently only technology with external cloud access; several forms (charge, flux, phase) of qubits exist but most pursue a less noise-sensitive charge-based qubit (transmon).

<sup>3</sup>Additional approaches include Si and SiGe quantum dots.

<sup>4</sup>Demonstrated ability to perform single and two-qubit gates.

<sup>5</sup>Announcements of next-generation qubit architecture: Intel: 49, IBM: 50, Google: 72, Rigetti: 128 (all superconducting qubits), IonQ: 50 (trapped ion), Hefei University: 50 (photonic).

<sup>6</sup>Alpine Quantum Technologies.

<sup>7</sup>Two-qubit fidelity.

<sup>8</sup>Microsoft roadmap to build first quantum computer in 2023.

<sup>9</sup>18 qubits were encoded with six photons using three degrees of freedom.

<sup>10</sup>Technology readiness level.



[Topics]

# Hardware Architectures: “How it works / Status”

**Table 1:** Example qubit technologies used in quantum computers and how they work

Qubit Technology	How it works	Status
 <b>Trapped Ion</b>  Single ions (charged atoms) are trapped in electric fields, or electric and magnetic fields and laser-cooled to near absolute zero, the lowest possible temperature. Trapped ion qubits are manipulated with lasers or microwave pulses.	Single ions (charged atoms) are trapped in electric fields, or electric and magnetic fields and laser-cooled to near absolute zero, the lowest possible temperature. Trapped ion qubits are manipulated with lasers or microwave pulses.	Size of demonstration computers: up to a few dozen noisy qubits. Entities with platforms available: IonQ, Honeywell, and Sandia National Laboratory's Quantum Scientific Computing Open User Testbed, among others.
     <b>Superconducting</b> An artificial atom circuit loop made of superconductors cooled to almost absolute zero. These qubits are controlled with microwave electronics and can operate quickly.	An artificial atom circuit loop made of superconductors cooled to almost absolute zero. These qubits are controlled with microwave electronics and can operate quickly.	Size of demonstration computers: up to dozens of noisy qubits. Entities with platforms available: IBM, Rigetti, D-Wave, <sup>a</sup> Google, and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's Advanced Quantum Testbed, among others.
  <b>Photonic</b> Encodes qubits in light that travels through optical chips or fiber. These qubit systems can operate at room temperature but some may require technologies at near absolute zero temperatures to detect qubits.	Encodes qubits in light that travels through optical chips or fiber. These qubit systems can operate at room temperature but some may require technologies at near absolute zero temperatures to detect qubits.	Size of demonstration computers: up to dozens of noisy qubits. Entities with platforms available: Xanadu.
  <b>Neutral Atoms</b> Neutral, or uncharged, atoms are similar to trapped ions and are controlled by lasers or microwave pulses.	Neutral, or uncharged, atoms are similar to trapped ions and are controlled by lasers or microwave pulses.	Size of demonstration computers: up to dozens of noisy qubits. Platform availability: late 2021 or early 2022, according to Cold Quanta.
  <b>Quantum Dot</b> Microwaves An artificial atom, similar to a transistor, consisting of a small semiconducting crystal controlled with microwaves or electrical signals. Quantum dot qubits require temperatures of approximately -272 degrees Celsius—one degree above absolute zero—to operate.	 <b>Color Centers</b> Vacancy An artificial atom in diamond or another crystal composed of a defect in the crystal often created by an added atom or a vacant space. Color center qubits are controlled with light and optically detected.	Size of demonstration computers: a few noisy qubits. Platform availability: no plans announced as of June 2021.
  <b>Topological</b> Time Topological qubits may be created by, for example, channeling electrons along the boundary between two different materials. Topological qubits are composed of “quantum braids” in time.		Size of demonstration computers: up to approximately two dozen qubits. Platform availability: no plans announced as of March 2020.
		Not yet demonstrated.

Sources: GAO analysis of a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report, white papers, journal articles, and industry documents, image Source: From ‘Scientists are close to building a quantum computer that can beat a conventional one’, G. Popkin, Science, December 1, 2016 doi:10.1126/science.aal0442). Redrawn and modified with permission from AAAS (all other images). Image courtesy of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Department of Energy. Carlos Jones, Oak Ridge National Laboratory Photographer (photonic), Dana Anderson, University of Colorado Boulder (neutral atoms) | GAO-22-104422

<sup>a</sup>According to D-Wave, their quantum annealing machines may contain more than 5,000 qubits. However, these qubits cannot be directly compared to those in noisy quantum computers.

[Source: GAO + National Academies](#)



[Topics]

Peter Shor



# Software & Applications



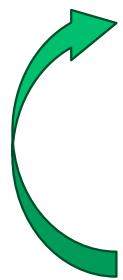
Lov Grover



# Algorithms and Software

## Classical Program Architecture

- Data Storage
  - Multi-tiered (**Massive**/Slower to Tiny/Ultrafast)
  - Data State can **Persist** across execution / to years
- Sequential & Parallel Pipeline Execution
- Synchronized by system “**clock**” ticks
  - (Clock<sub>0</sub>) load control instruction →
  - (Clock<sub>1</sub>) load inputs to function →
  - (Clock<sub>2</sub>) execute function →
  - (Clock<sub>3</sub>) store outputs from function →
  - (Clock<sub>4</sub>) advance to next control instruction → REPEAT



## Quantum Application Execution

- Data
  - classical bits: 0 (=0) or ~5 volts (=1)
  - ❖ quantum bits (“**qubits**”) = wave functions
- Functional Logic
  - classical gate: “clocked” transistors
  - ❖ quantum gate: wave interference
- Encode qubit superpositions
- Encode qubit entanglements
- Collapse into stable solution state → REPEAT
- Sample qubits for solution
- Critical differences vs. Classical
  - Very small size / data (unless embody as PDE)
  - Limited persistent “state” or pipeline sequential processing
  - Limited algorithms & support toolchain



# Algorithms and Software

---

## Quantum Algorithm “Zoo”

Discussion with maintainer: Stephen Jordan (Microsoft)

Algorithm Categories:

- Algebraic & Number Theoretic (e.g., [Shor](#))
- Oracular (e.g., [Grover](#))
- Approximation and Simulation  
(of Quantum Mechanics)
- Optimization, Numerics, & Machine Learning  
(Constraint Satisfaction)

[Quantum Algorithms: A Review](#) (Imperial College London 2021)

(Compare vs. general: [Stony Brook Algorithm Repository](#))

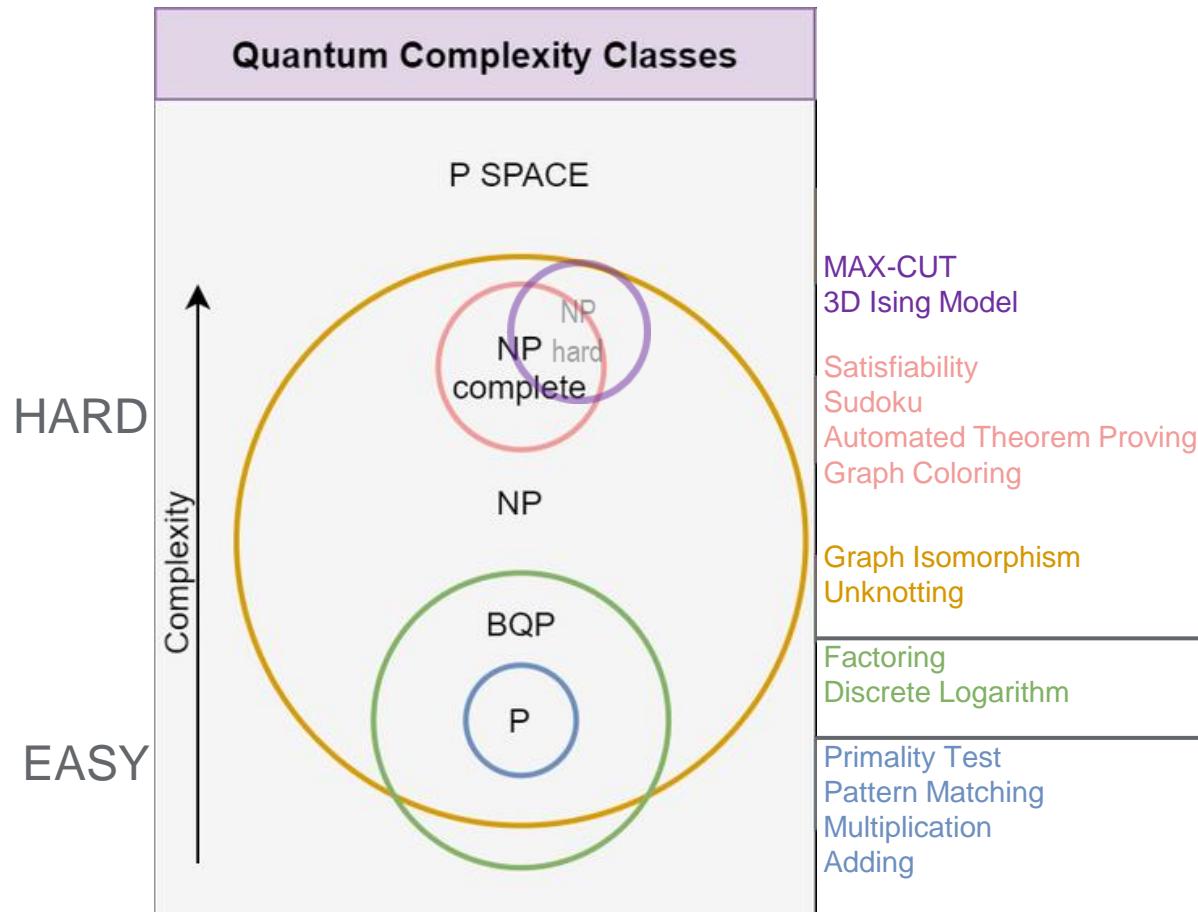
## Example Software Stacks

- [Qiskit](#) (IBM) 
- [Cirq](#) (Google) 
- [Ocean](#) (D-Wave) 
- [Q# and QDK](#) (Microsoft) 
- [CUDA Quantum](#) [cuQuantum](#) (NVIDIA) 
- [Quantum SDK](#) (Intel) 
- [Forest SDK](#) (Rigetti) 
- [Strawberry Fields](#) and [Penny Lane](#) (Xanadu) 



# Algorithm Complexity

Persistent computer science challenge: solving problems that scale with **non-polynomial complexity**



Notation	Name	Example problem
$O(1)$	Constant	Calculating $(-1)^n$
$O(\log n)$	Logarithmic	Binary search
$O(n)$	Linear	Linear search
$O(n \log n)$	Linearithmic	Merge sort
$O(n^2)$	Quadratic	Bubble sort
$O(n^c)$	Polynomial	AKS primality test
$O(c^n)$	Exponential	Traveling salesman problem using dynamic programming
$O(n!)$	Factorial	Traveling salesman problem using brute-force search

Quantum computing cannot overcome the exponential scaling of computational time required for NP/NP complete/NP hard problems.

Problems with polynomial scaling complexity are well-behaved in classical computing architectures.

*(Clever strategies are employed to allow solution of non-worst case non-polynomial problems.)*



# Two Pillar Quantum Algorithms

## Shor's algorithm (1994)

*exponential* speed-up over classical computers

- Factoring large integers (e.g., Cryptography)
- Finding discrete logarithms



Peter Shor

## Grover's algorithm (1996)

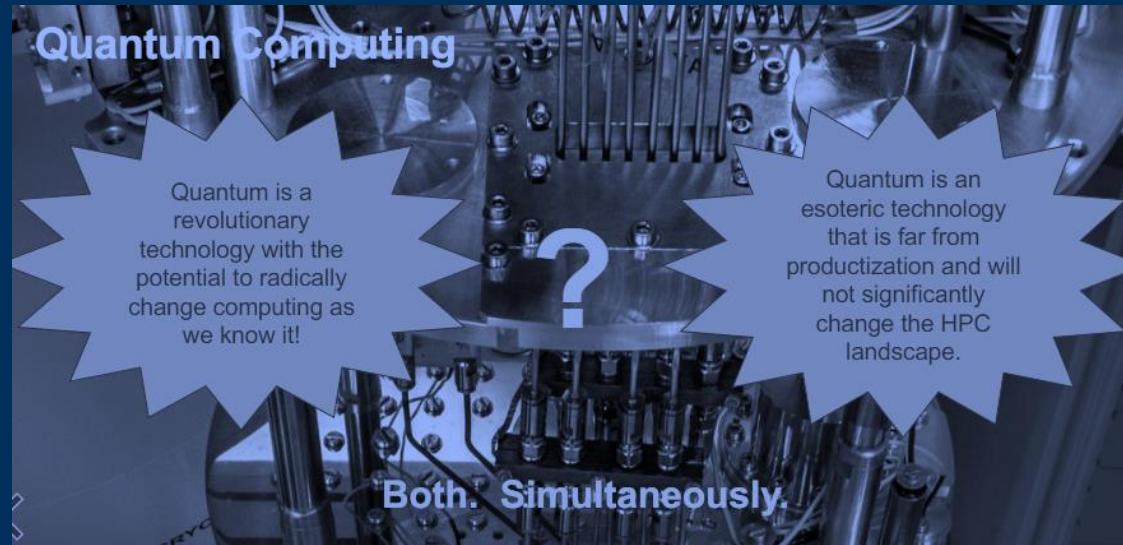
*polynomial* speed-up over classical computers from  $O(N)$  to  $O(\sqrt{N})$

- Unstructured Search
- Even though not exponential, advantageous for large N problems



Lov Grover

# Assessments



Cray CTO (2019) [Steve Scott](#) (now at Microsoft Azure)



# Booz Allen Assessment

## (Dec 2021) [Booz Allen: Quantum Threats Report](#)

**Concerns:** IP theft, decryption, novel quantum uses

**Quantum Computers may be good at solving:**

- **Factorization** (impacting public-key encryption) - hard to find pair of large prime factors / easy to confirm solution (Schor's Algorithm)
- **Optimization** (sparsity-constrained linear optimization problems - simple solution but complex dimensionality)
- **Search** (over unstructured data)
- **Simulation** (of quantum mechanical phenomena in materials, superconductivity, lasers, photosynthesis, etc.)

Common Belief	Reality
<i>Quantum computers are faster or more powerful than classical computers.</i>	<b>Only sometimes.</b> Quantum computers can model and solve certain problems in fundamentally different ways than classical computers. These novel methods can be much more efficient. We currently only know a few, but very important types of problems that can be solved faster on quantum computers.
<i>Quantum computers will replace classical computers.</i>	<b>Unlikely.</b> For the foreseeable future, quantum computers will likely work alongside classical computers, solving the parts of problems most suited to quantum computing. This setup is analogous to classical computers using dedicated graphics processors (GPU) for 3D rendering, cryptocurrency mining, and video editing.
<i>Quantum computers are here today.</i>	<b>Sort of.</b> Quantum computers exist but are very rudimentary—somewhat comparable to traditional computers in the 1940s. They can only process very short algorithms and minuscule datasets. Many challenges must be overcome in engineering, computer science, and other disciplines before they are more generally useful.
<i>Quantum computers will revolutionize every field &amp; industry.</i>	<b>Unknown.</b> Quantum computers' specific utility for most fields is largely theoretical. Substantial investment globally is directed toward identifying and testing novel uses for quantum computers.
<i>Quantum computers will break all encryption.</i>	<b>Partially true.</b> Eventually, all current-generation, public-key cryptography will be vulnerable to decryption with quantum computers. This type of encryption is ubiquitous—variously securing financial transactions, stored data, and telecommunications.  The quantum algorithms for breaking this encryption exist, but quantum computers capable of implementing them do not yet.



# What Happens When 'If' Turns to 'When' in Quantum Computing?

JULY 21, 2021



By Jean-François Bobier, Matt Langione, Edward Tao, and Antoine Gourévitch



*"Perhaps no previous technology has generated as much enthusiasm with as little certainty around how it ultimately will be fabricated."*

Exhibit 5 - The Path to Broad Quantum Advantage over the Next Decade, According to Major Tech Providers



Sources: IBM, IonQ, desk research (Forbes, TensorFlow, Rigetti), BCG analysis.

Exhibit 6 - The Current State of Progress of the Leading Hardware Technologies

	Superconductors	Ion traps	Photonics	Quantum dots	Cold atoms
% of potential users who consider technology "promising"	61%	35%	34%	26%	16%
Qubit quality <sup>1</sup>	Qubit lifetime ~1 ms Gate fidelity ~99.6%	~50+ s ~99.9%	N/A	~1-10 s ~99%	~1 s ~99%
Connectivity	Nearest neighbors	All-to-all	All-to-all <sup>2</sup>	Nearest neighbors	Near neighbors
Strengths	✓ Engineering maturity ✓ Scalability <sup>3</sup>	✓ Stability ✓ Gate fidelity ✓ Connectivity	✓ Horizontal scalability ✓ Established semiconductor tech	✓ Stability ✓ Established semiconductor tech	✓ Horizontal scalability ✓ Connectivity
Challenges	✗ Near absolute zero temperatures ✗ Connectivity limitation in 2D	✗ Gate operation times ✗ Horizontal scaling beyond one trap	✗ Noise from photon loss	✗ Requires cryogenics ✗ Nascent engineering	✗ Gate fidelity ✗ Gate operation time
Example players	IBM, Google	Honeywell, IonQ	PsiQuantum, Xanadu	Intel, SQC	ColdQuanta, Pasqal

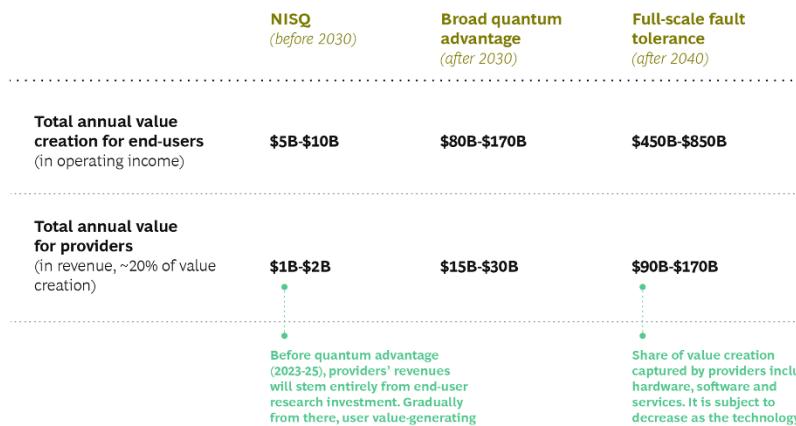
Sources: Expert interviews, Science, Nature, NAE Report, Hyperion Research.

<sup>1</sup>Best reported performance available for all dimensions.

<sup>2</sup>PsiQuantum publication (March 2021).

<sup>3</sup>IBM and Google have announced 1M qubit roadmaps for between 2025 and 2030.

Exhibit 8 - The Value of Quantum Computing Through the Three Stages of Development



Source: BCG analysis.



# What Happens When 'If' Turns to 'When' in Quantum Computing?

JULY 21, 2021



By Jean-François Bobier, Matt Langione, Edward Tao, and Antoine Gourévitch

Boston Consulting Group on Quantum Computing / see also:

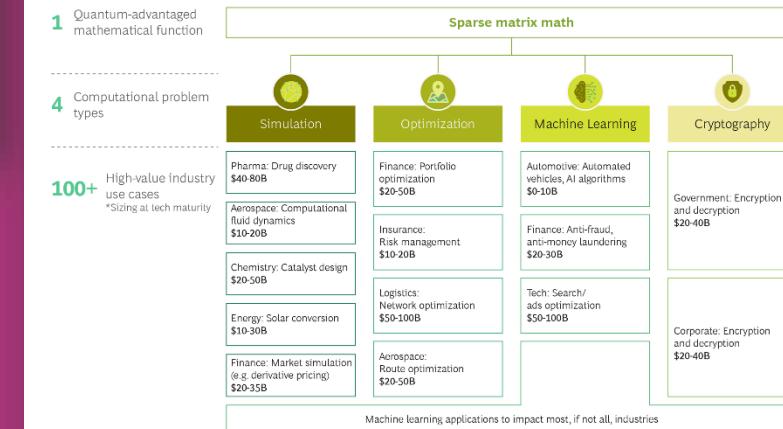
- [The Coming Quantum Leap in Computing \(2018\)](#)
- [The Next Decade in Quantum Computing—and How to Play \(2018\)](#)
- [Where Will Quantum Computing Create Value—and When? \(2019\)](#)
- [Will Quantum Computing Transform Biopharma R&D? \(2019\)](#)
- [A Quantum Advantage in Fighting Climate Change \(2020\)](#)
- [It's Time for Financial Institutions to Place Their Quantum Bets \(2020\)](#)
- [TED Talk: The Promise of Quantum Computers \(2021\)](#)
- [Ensuring Online Security in a Quantum Future \(2021\)](#)



Research is concentrated on the following types of computational problems:

- Simulation:** Simulating processes that occur in nature and are difficult or impossible to characterize and understand with classical computers today. This has major potential in [drug discovery](#), battery design, fluid dynamics, and derivative and option pricing.
- Optimization:** Using quantum algorithms to identify the best solution among a set of feasible options. This could apply to route logistics and [portfolio risk management](#).
- Machine learning (ML):** Identifying patterns in data to train ML algorithms. This could accelerate the development of artificial intelligence (for autonomous vehicles, for example) and the prevention of fraud and money-laundering.
- Cryptography:** Breaking traditional encryption and [enabling stronger encryption standards](#), as we detailed in a recent report.

Exhibit 2 - Four Quantum-Advantaged Problem Types Unlock Hundreds of Use Cases at Tech Maturity



Sources: Industry interviews, BCG analysis.

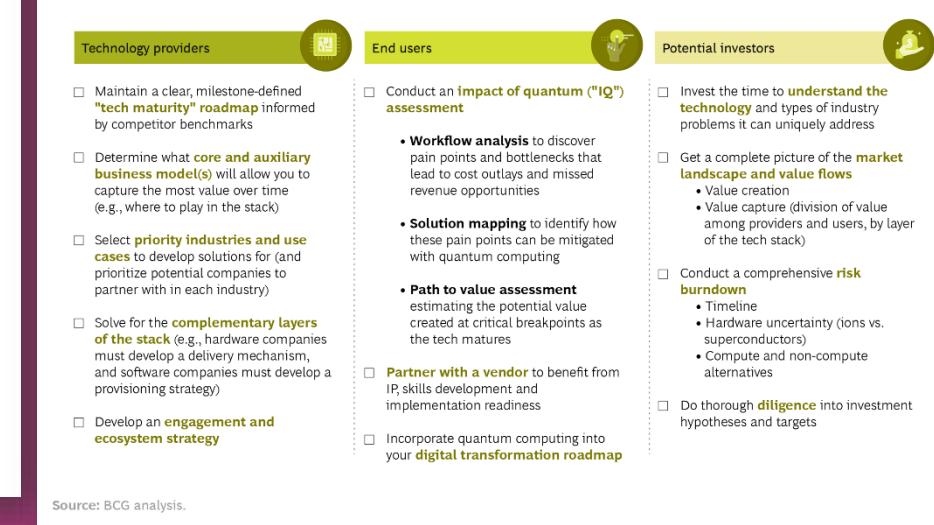
Tech Providers, especially hardware makers, should

- develop (or maintain) a clear [milestone-defined quantum maturity roadmap](#) informed by competitor benchmarks and intelligence.
- determine the business model(s) that will allow them to capture the most value over time
- develop an [engagement and ecosystem strategy](#) and prioritize the industries, use cases, and potential partners in each sector where they see the greatest opportunities for value. These opportunities will evolve over time based on the actions of other players, so early movers will have the most open playing field.

End Users should

- start now with an [impact of quantum \(IQ\) assessment](#) [to] map potentially quantum-advantaged solutions to issues or processes in their businesses
- assess the value and costs associated with building a quantum capability
- incorporate quantum computing into their [digital transformation roadmaps](#).

Exhibit 9 - How Each Type of Player Can Prepare for Quantum Advantage



Source: BCG analysis.

# References re: Supremacy & Hype

## Videos

- [The Quantum Hype Bubble](#): Sabine Hossenfelder (YouTube video, Nov-2022)
- Short-take: [Quantum Computing Myths](#) (IBM)

## Assessments

- (Jun 2021) Quantum Computing 40 Years Later - Preskill ([arXiv:2106.10522v3](#))
- (Sep 2022) [State of Quantum Computing: Building a Quantum Economy](#) (World Economic Forum)
- (Oct 2021) Tech Assessment: [Quantum Computing and Communications / Status and Prospects](#)  
US General Accountability Office (GAO)
- (April 2022) [Quantum Threat Timeline Research Report](#) (EvolutionQ)
- (May 2023) [Disentangling Hype from Practicality: On Realistically Achieving Quantum Advantage](#)

## Opinions

- (May 2023) [Quantum Computers: what are they good for? For now, absolutely nothing](#) (Nature)
- (Sep 2021) [Scott Aaronson: Quantum Computational Supremacy](#) (ACM Tech Talk)
- (Mar 2018) [Quantum Computing vs. Our ‘Caveman Newtonian Brain’: Why Quantum Is So Hard](#) (HPCwire)

What are promising applications to realize quantum advantage?

(ACM White Paper, May 2023) [Disentangling Hype from Practicality: On Realistically Achieving Quantum Advantage](#)

BY THOMAS HOFELER, THOMAS HÄNER, AND MATTHIAS TROYER (DOI:10.1145/3571725)

PDF with fork's highlights: [.pdf](#) [.tex](#) | Conference page capturing a lot of Quantum topic info.

I've put [highlight](#) in the PDF for easier scanning.

**1. Assumptions:** optimistic for quantum, pessimistic for classical.

**2. Any problem limited by need to access classical data will be solved faster on classical computers:**

- Including database search, matrix loading, and full infinite vector output.
- i.e., practical quantum advantage requires heavy compute on small data.

**3. The most likely problems for practical quantum advantage:**

- Convoluted small data problems with exponential quantum speedup
- Matrix inversion with quadratic scaling of the number of operations
- Linear systems of equations when the matrix can be generated from small datasets within quantum memory
- Classical problems with an “oracle depth of one” (where the problem evaluations are not parallelizable) – also lifting the other constraints.

**4. Dead ends in applications:**

- Machine learning training, drug discovery, protein folding, Grover’s algorithm, Monte-Carlo through quantum walks
- Traditional scientific computing simulations including non-linear systems of equations (such as CFD/molecular dynamics)



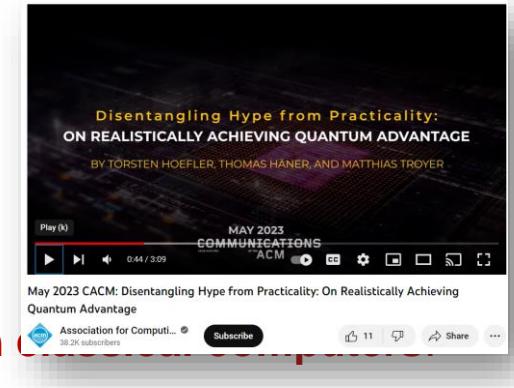
# What are promising applications to realize quantum advantage?

(ACM White Paper, May 2023) [\*Disentangling Hype from Practicality: On Realistically Achieving Quantum Advantage\*](#)

BY TORSTEN HOEFLER, THOMAS HÄNER, AND MATTHIAS TROYER (DOI:10.1145/3571725)

TL;DR:

1. Assumptions: *optimistic* for quantum, *pessimistic* for classical.
2. Any problem limited by need to access classical data will be solved faster on classical computer.
  - a. (Including database search, matrix loading, and full solution vector output).
  - b. I.e., practical quantum advantage requires heavy compute on small data.
3. The most likely problems for practical quantum advantage:
  - a. Concisely: “*small-data problems with exponential quantum speedup*”
  - b. Simulation of quantum systems in chemistry, materials science, quantum physics, cryptoanalysis.
  - c. Linear systems of equations when the matrix can be generated from small datasets within quantum memory.
  - d. Cases with an “oracle depth of one” (where the problem evaluations are not parallelizable) – also fitting the other constraints.
4. Dead ends in applications:
  - a. Machine learning training, drug discovery, protein folding, Grover’s algorithm, Monte Carlo through quantum walks
  - b. Traditional scientific computing simulations including non-linear systems of equations (such as CFD/turbulence)



# AWS Exhaustive Survey

*(296 pages plus Bibliography references)*

## Amazon Quantum Solutions Lab

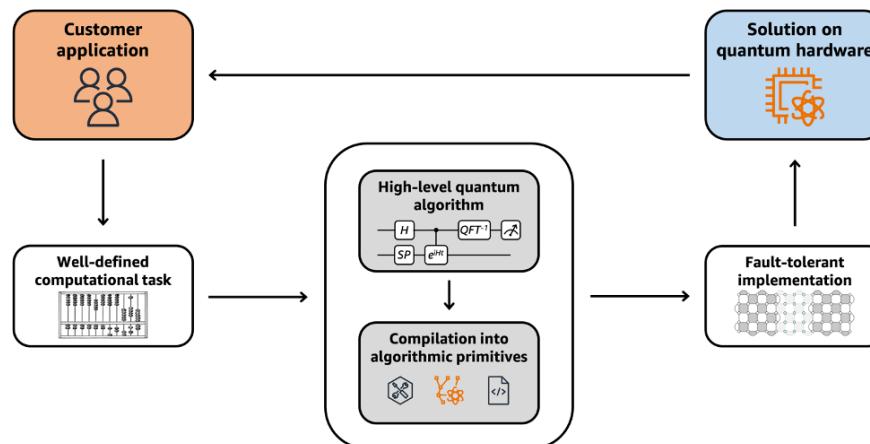
Collaborate with experts to accelerate the development of quantum solutions

Contact us to get started

<https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/quantum-computing/constructing-end-to-end-quantum-algorithms/>

## Areas of application

- Condensed matter physics
- Quantum chemistry
- Nuclear and particle physics
- Combinatorial optimization (Grover)
- Continuous optimization
- Cryptanalysis
- Solving differential equations
- Finance
- Machine Learning w/ Classical Data
- Quantum linear algebra
- Hamiltonian simulation
- Quantum Fourier transform
- Quantum phase estimation
- Amplitude estimation .
- Gibbs sampling
- Quantum adiabatic algorithm
- Loading classical data
- Quantum linear system solvers
- Quantum gradient estimation
- Variational quantum algorithms
- Quantum tomography
- Quantum interior point methods
- Multiplicative weights update method
- Approximate tensor network



<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2310.03011.pdf>

## Quantum algorithms:

A survey of applications and end-to-end complexities

Alexander M. Dalzell<sup>\*1</sup>, Sam McArdle<sup>\*1</sup>, Mario Berta<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Przemyslaw Bienias<sup>1</sup>, Chi-Fang Chen<sup>1,4</sup>, András Gilyén<sup>5</sup>, Connor T. Hann<sup>1</sup>, Michael J. Kastoryano<sup>1,6</sup>, Emil T. Khabiboulline<sup>1,7</sup>, Aleksander Kubica<sup>1</sup>, Grant Salton<sup>1,4,8</sup>, Samson Wang<sup>1,3</sup> and Fernando G. S. L. Brandão<sup>1,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>AWS Center for Quantum Computing, Pasadena, CA, USA

<sup>2</sup>Institute for Quantum Information, RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany

<sup>3</sup>Imperial College London, London, UK

<sup>4</sup>Institute for Quantum Information and Matter, Caltech, Pasadena, CA, USA

<sup>5</sup>Alfréd Rényi Institute of Mathematics, Budapest, Hungary

<sup>6</sup>IT University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark  
<sup>7</sup>Institute of Plant- and Horticulture, Gatersleben, Germany

<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA  
<sup>2</sup>4500 University Way, Seattle, WA, USA

<sup>o</sup>Amazon Quantum Solutions Lab, Seattle, WA, USA

## Abstract

The anticipated applications of quantum computers span across science and industry, ranging from quantum chemistry and many-body physics to optimization, finance, and machine learning. Proposed quantum solutions in these areas typically combine multiple quantum algorithmic primitives into an overall quantum algorithm, which must then incorporate the methods of quantum error correction and fault tolerance to be implemented correctly on quantum hardware. As such, it can be difficult to assess how much a particular application benefits from quantum computing, as the various approaches are often sensitive to intricate technical details about the underlying primitives and their complexities. Here we present a survey of several potential application areas of quantum algorithms and their underlying algorithmic primitives, carefully considering technical caveats and subtleties. We outline the challenges and opportunities in each area in an “end-to-end” fashion by clearly defining the problem being solved alongside the input-output model, instantiating all “oracles,” and spelling out all hidden costs. We also compare quantum solutions against state-of-the-art classical methods and complexity-theoretic limitations to evaluate possible quantum speedups.

The survey is written in a modular, wiki-like fashion to facilitate navigation of the content. Each primitive and application area is discussed in a standalone section, with its own bibliography of references and embedded hyperlinks that direct to other relevant sections. This structure mirrors that of complex quantum algorithms that involve several layers of abstraction, and it enables rapid evaluation of how end-to-end complexities are impacted when subroutines are altered.



# AWS Exhaustive Survey

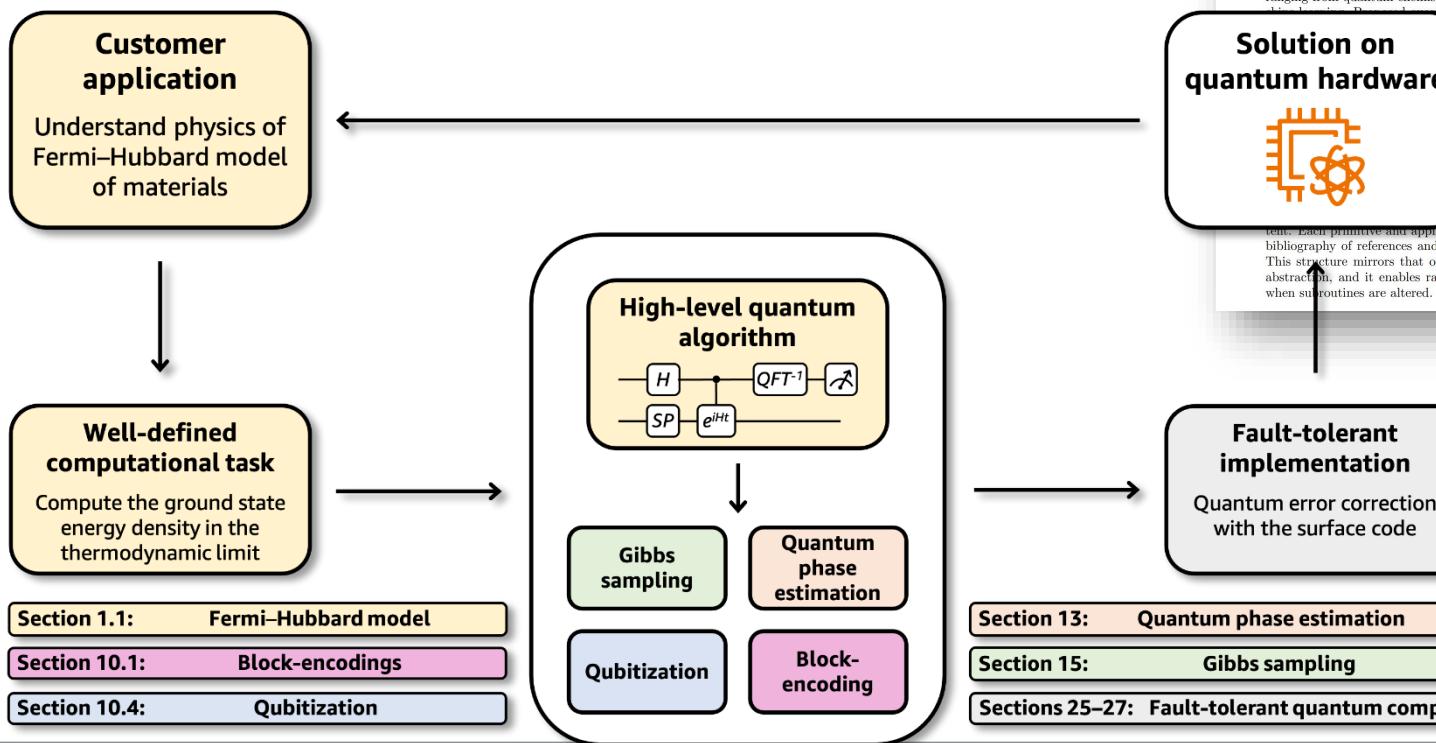
(296 pages plus *Bibliography* references)



## EXAMPLE: Fermi–Hubbard model of electrons in materials

<https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/quantum-computing/constructing-end-to-end-quantum-algorithm/>

Areas of application  
Condensed matter physics  
Quantum chemistry  
Nuclear and particle physics  
Combinatorial optimization (Grover)  
Continuous optimization  
Cryptanalysis  
Solving differential equations  
Finance  
Machine Learning w/ Classical Data  
Quantum linear algebra  
Hamiltonian simulation  
Quantum Fourier transform  
Quantum phase estimation  
Amplitude estimation  
Gibbs sampling  
Quantum adiabatic algorithm  
Loading classical data  
Quantum linear system solvers  
Quantum gradient estimation  
Variational quantum algorithms  
Quantum tomography  
Quantum interior point methods  
Multiplicative weights update method  
Approximate tensor network



<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2310.03011.pdf>

## Quantum algorithms:

A survey of applications and end-to-end complexities

Alexander M. Dalzell<sup>\*1</sup>, Sam McArdle<sup>\*1</sup>, Mario Berta,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Przemyslaw Bienias,<sup>1</sup> Chi-Fang Chen<sup>1,4</sup>, András Gilyén<sup>5</sup>, Connor T. Hamm,<sup>1</sup> Michael J. Kastoryano<sup>1,6</sup>, Emil T. Khabiboulline,<sup>1,7</sup> Aleksander Kubica,<sup>1</sup> Grant Salton,<sup>1,4,8</sup> Samson Wang,<sup>1,3</sup> and Fernando G. S. L. Brandão<sup>1,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>AWS Center for Quantum Computing, Pasadena, CA, USA

<sup>2</sup>Institute for Quantum Information, RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany

<sup>3</sup>Imperial College London, London, UK

<sup>4</sup>Institute for Quantum Information and Matter, Caltech, Pasadena, CA, USA

<sup>5</sup>Alfréd Rényi Institute of Mathematics, Budapest, Hungary

<sup>6</sup>IT University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

<sup>7</sup>Department of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA

<sup>8</sup>Amazon Quantum Solutions Lab, Seattle, WA, USA

## Abstract

The anticipated applications of quantum computers span across science and industry, ranging from quantum chemistry and many-body physics to optimization, finance, and machine learning. Building quantum solutions in these areas typically combine multiple quantum primitives and subroutines. These primitives are often part of a larger overall quantum algorithm, which must then incorporate multiple layers of abstraction and fault tolerance to be implemented correctly on a quantum computer. As a result, it can be difficult to assess how much a particular application benefits from a quantum computer, as the various approaches are often sensitive to intricate details of the primitives and their complexities. Here we present a survey of the various areas of quantum algorithms and their underlying primitives, along with a detailed analysis of each area in an “end-to-end” fashion by clearly defining the input-output model, instantiating all “oracles,” and comparing them against state-of-the-art classical algorithms. We also compare quantum solutions against state-of-the-art classical algorithms and discuss the theoretical limitations to evaluate possible quantum advantages.

We also provide a modular, wiki-like fashion to facilitate navigation of the content. Each primitive and application area is discussed in a standalone section, with its own bibliography of references and embedded hyperlinks that direct to other relevant sections. This structure mirrors that of complex quantum algorithms that involve several layers of abstraction, and it enables rapid evaluation of how end-to-end complexities are impacted when subroutines are altered.



# Actionable Strategy for Quantum Adoption Readiness

(Derived from discussions between Peter Lorraine & Rick Arthur)

## Map GE Problems to Quantum Technology Readiness Levels

### Caveat

If we believe we are now in a regime where we have stopped repeating the annual statement “*Quantum Computing is only 10 years off*” and this technology is maturing to be feasible in a relevant timeframe.

### Goal

Better inform decision-makers regarding potential impact and adoption timelines, rather than reacting speculatively.

(Right now, the IBM QE can do toy problems through a Jupyter notebook API. But current QC capability is comparable to computers pre-1950).

### Result

Similar to the NIST’s Quantum Zoo ([link](#)) – we select critical problems for GE and corresponding characterizations that adequately describe the minimum required quantum computing technology to apply to those problems.

This then becomes a watch-list for “trigger points” to usefulness on problems, and reference as the capabilities offered through the [IBM Quantum Experience](#) (or Google, Microsoft, Intel, etc.) advance.

## Underlying component: Quantum Computing Readiness Estimator

This need not be a simulator – it only needs to be a model that can:

1. **INPUT:** a problem of interest – it could be something we do already using traditional computing methods and algorithms, or something we cannot feasibly compute presently, but can at least state parameters for the next steps
2. **MODEL:** the tool then characterizes the problem’s requirements in the context of a quantum architecture – it could range from the D-Wave quantum annealing device to weighing attributes of the quantum computer (has\_entanglement, has\_coherence, has\_error-correction, ...) – and possibly also note unknowns or limitations
3. **OUTPUT:** description of the minimal capability of a quantum computer necessary to be applied on the problem input

**Example:** input a description of a 20-degrees of freedom search space, output is “QC with 85 error-corrected qubits, full entanglement – solution will not be provably optimal”

It may not make sense for GE to build this vs. somehow coax it out of someone else (IBM, Intel, Microsoft, Google, NASA, DOE, etc.).

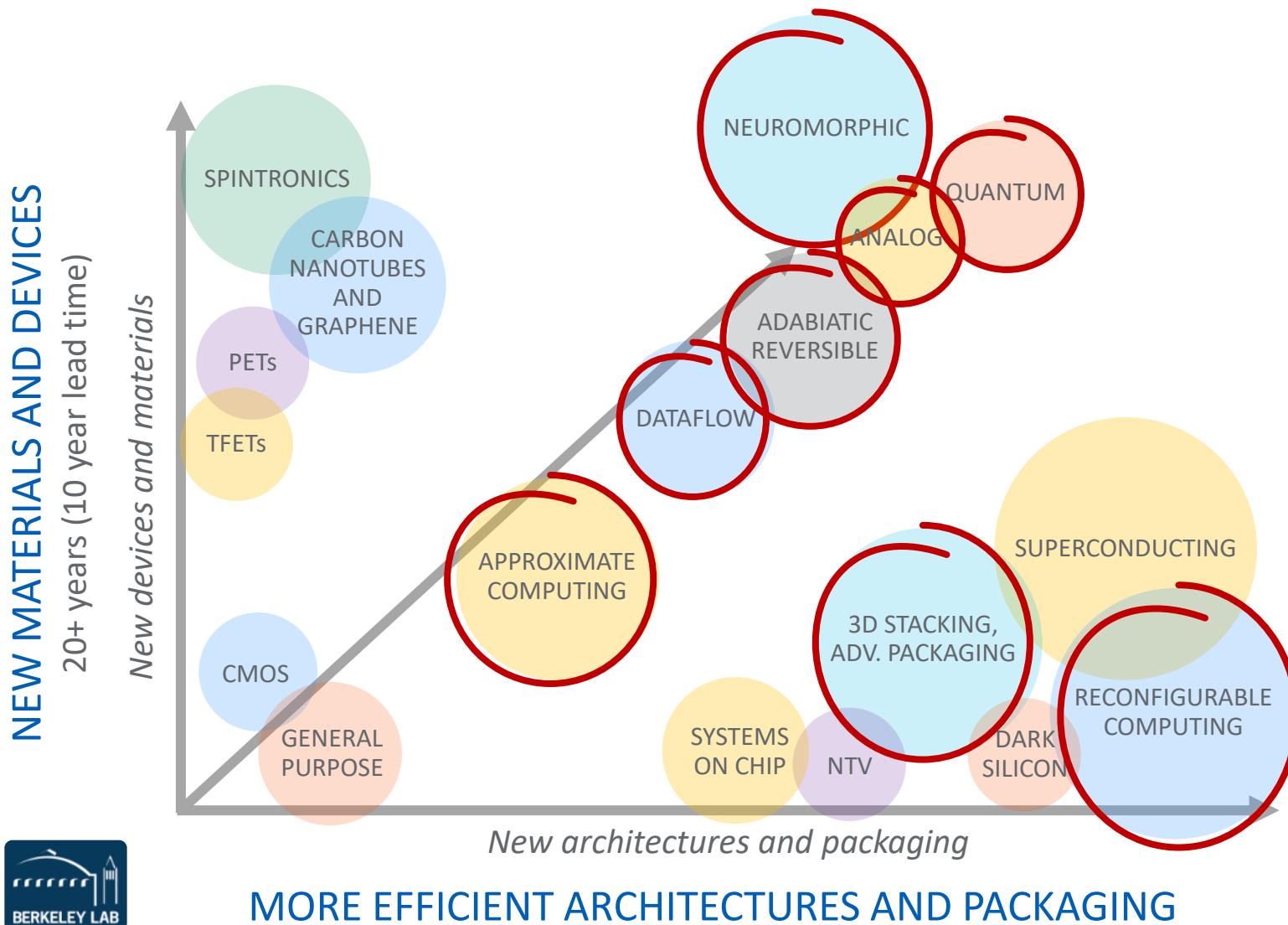
Rick has suggested the idea to leaders at the National Science Foundation (NSF) and DOE Office of Science.



# Alternatives



# Computing Architecture Alternatives



[Topics]

# Going Beyond Digital

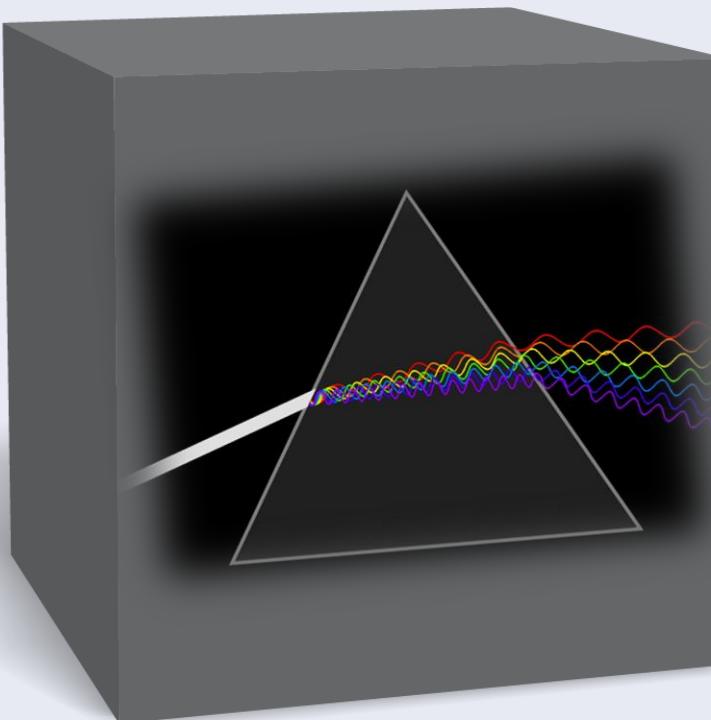
```
void bubbleSort(int ar[]) {  
    for (int i=(ar.len-1);i>=0;i--){  
        for (int j = 1; j ≤ i; j++)  
        {  
            if (ar[j-1] > ar[j])  
            {  
                int temp = ar[j-1];  
                ar[j-1] = ar[j];  
                ar[j] = temp;  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

[Topics]



# Analog

---



[\[Topics\]](#)

# Input/Output: Still Digital

---



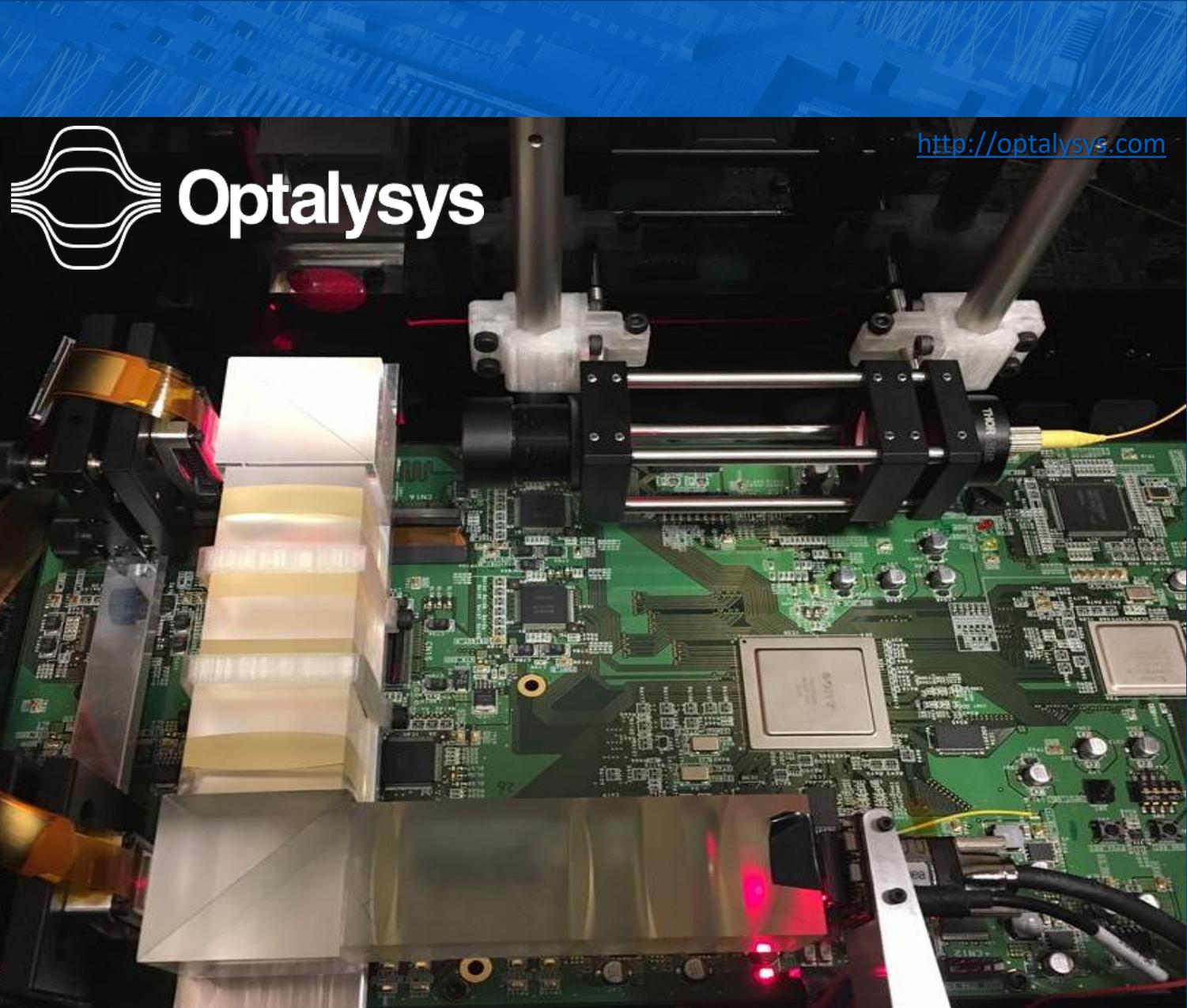
[Topics]

# OPTICAL PROCESSING



MYTHIC

[Topics]



<http://optalysys.com>

See also: Analog Computing

# COGNITIVE & NEUROMORPHIC PROCESSORS

[Topics]



Quadric



# MEMS / NEMS DEVICES

Bias Electrode  
[Topics]

Anchors

## PROBABILISTIC COMPUTING

E.g., MIT Probabilistic Computing Project (<http://probcomp.csail.mit.edu/>)

An optical parametric oscillator (OPO), which is essentially a pair of mirrors that bounce light back and forth between them, forms a “p-bit”

Also: [Normal.AI](#) (founders from Google Brain, Alphabet X, and Palantir)

~ [A First Demonstration of Thermodynamic Matrix Inversion](#)

Also:

[Waiting For Quantum Computing? Try Probabilistic Computing](#)  
(IEEE Spectrum, March 2021)

& (<https://spectrum.ieee.org/probabilistic-computing>)

## THERMODYNAMIC COMPUTING

E.g., [Extropic.AI](#) (“*Self-assembling intelligence from the future*”)  
(in stealth – see <https://twitter.com/lexfridman/status/1740815481043320975> )

Bias and Anneal Electrode

# BIOLOGICAL (DNA) COMPUTING

[Topics]



# Backup Slides



# The Feynman Lectures on Physics

Hosted by CalTech

---

- Vol 1: Mechanics, Radiation, and Heat
- Vol 2: Electromagnetism and Matter
- Vol 3: Quantum Mechanics
- Messenger Lectures (Gravitation, Conservation Principles, Probability & Uncertainty – Quantum Mechanical Nature, Math/Physics, Symmetry, Past/Future, New Laws)



# Algorithms & Complexity

Exploiting quantum logic to overcome computational “explosion” in problem sizes

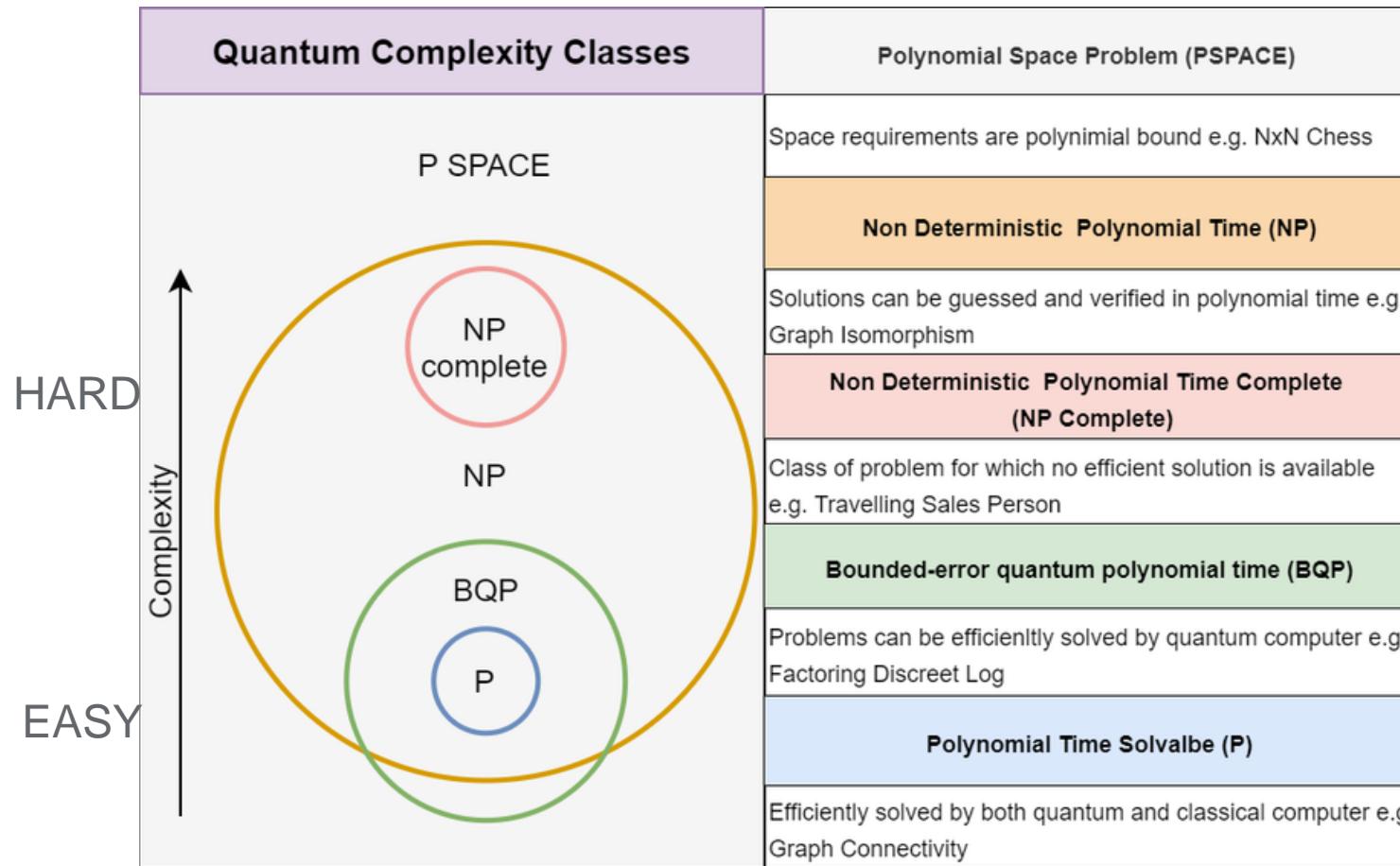
Notation	Name	Example problem
$O(1)$	Constant	Calculating $(-1)^n$
$O(\log n)$	Logarithmic	Binary search
$O(n)$	Linear	Linear search
$O(n \log n)$	Linearithmic	Merge sort
$O(n^2)$	Quadratic	Bubble sort
$O(n^c)$	Polynomial	AKS primality test
$O(c^n)$	Exponential	Traveling salesman problem using dynamic programming
$O(n!)$	Factorial	Traveling salesman problem using brute-force search

Class	Informal definition	Formal criteria
P	Problem can be solved by a <b>deterministic</b> classical computer in polynomial time	Problem $A$ for which a polynomial time deterministic TM accepts/rejects all strings in $A_{yes}/A_{no}$
NP	Solution can be checked by a <b>deterministic</b> classical computer OR problem can be solved by a <b>nondeterministic</b> classical computer in polynomial time	Problem $A$ for which there exists a polynomial function $p$ and a polynomial time deterministic TM $M$ with the following properties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For every string <math>x \in A_{yes}</math>, <math>M</math> accepts <math>(x, y)</math> for some string <math>y</math> of length <math>p( x )</math></li> <li>For every string <math>x \in A_{no}</math>, <math>M</math> rejects <math>(x, y)</math> for all strings <math>y</math> of length <math>p( x )</math></li> </ul>
BQP	Problem can be solved by a quantum computer in polynomial time	$A \in \text{BQP}(a, b)$ iff, for functions $a, b : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , there exists a polynomial-time generated family of quantum circuits $Q = \{Q_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , where each circuit $Q_n$ takes in $n$ input qubits and produces one output qubit, with the following properties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If <math>x \in A_{yes}</math> then <math>\Pr[Q \text{ accepts } x] \geq a( x )</math></li> <li>If <math>x \in A_{no}</math> then <math>\Pr[Q \text{ accepts } x] \leq b( x )</math></li> </ul> Define $\text{BQP} = \text{BQP}(2/3, 1/3)$
QMA	Solution can be checked by a quantum computer in polynomial time	$A \in \text{QMA}_p(a, b)$ iff, for a polynomial function $p$ and functions $a, b : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , there exists a polynomial-time generated family of quantum circuits $Q = \{Q_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ , where each circuit $Q_n$ takes in $n + p(n)$ input qubits and produces one output qubit, with the following properties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For all <math>x \in A_{yes}</math>, there exists a <math>p( x )</math>-qubit quantum state <math>\rho</math> such that <math>\Pr[Q \text{ accepts } (x, \rho)] \geq a( x )</math></li> <li>For all <math>x \in A_{no}</math> and all <math>p( x )</math>-qubit quantum states <math>\rho</math> it holds that <math>\Pr[Q \text{ accepts } (x, \rho)] \leq b( x )</math></li> </ul> Define $\text{QMA} = \cup_p \text{QMA}_p(2/3, 1/3)$
P-SPACE	Problem can be solved by a <b>deterministic</b> classical computer in polynomial space	Problem $A$ for which a deterministic TM running in polynomial space accepts/rejects all strings in $A_{yes}/A_{no}$



# Algorithm Complexity

Persistent computer science challenge: solving problems that scale with **non-polynomial complexity**



[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/368652284\\_Quantum\\_Computing\\_Toolkit\\_From\\_Nuts\\_and\\_Bolts\\_to\\_Sack\\_of\\_Tools](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/368652284_Quantum_Computing_Toolkit_From_Nuts_and_Bolts_to_Sack_of_Tools)



# HPE / Cray re: Quantum Computing

(April 2019) [Why HPE Abandoned Quantum Computing Research](#)

*Quantum computers are best applied to problems that are simple to state and have an answer that's simple enough to check and look at and understand.* Of course, in between that simple beginning and end is an insanely complicated calculation that just cannot be done in the classical universe. They *don't handle very large datasets or complex outputs and they are just not good at doing ordinary algebra*—you have to actually do all the algebra and not just statistically analyze a linear algebra problem.

Another practical barrier for quantum in enterprise: there is *no such thing as a quantum hard drive* so anytime a calculation happens using a database for analytics or a neural network there is a conversion that is currently not possible. This is especially true for deep learning training since it would require ridiculous numbers of iterations to do simple things like grab weights at each execution.

(March 2019) [Quantum Computing No Threat to Supercomputing](#)

Cray is not pursuing any kind of quantum strategy at the moment following a detailed evaluation.

*There are only a small number of core algorithms, some have suggested there are six, that are amenable to quantum and because of this input problem, you have to concentrate on problems that have exponential, not just polynomial or quadratic advantage; it has to be exponential advantage to beat classical machines.*

*[The problem] "must be defined to a certain number of qubits which means that there needs to be a very compact problem description but an exponential amount of computation followed by a very small output that can be checked with a classical computer."*

*This further limits the problem space that could be tackled by quantum systems, already complicated by the code base issue.*



# The fundamental limits of physics

