Information, Quantum Mechanics and the Universe

Jeremy Levy Pittsburgh Quantum Institute (pqi.org) University of Pittsburgh (levylab.org)



SAC-PA2: Towards Security Assured Cyberinfrastructure in Pennsylvania University of Pittsburgh School of Computing and Information

15 June 2018



Quantum Computing Essentials

Three Key Concepts

- Quantum computation
 - Massive speedup of certain types of computation
- Quantum bits (qubits)
 - Building block of quantum computers...
 - ...and quantum matter
- Quantum matter
 - Form the basis of all qubits



Quantum Computation



Start with big picture...

Information and the Universe

What is information?

Bits of Information

• All digital information stored as bit sequences



Information is Physical

--Rolf Landauer

• Information is inseparable from its physical embodiment





Electric

Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM)





FLASH Memory

Best Bits of Today



Magnetic

Magnetic hard disk drive



Others: optical (CD/DVD/Bluray), MRAM, Ferroelectric RAM,...

Symmetry Breaking and Information



Circle has high symmetry (looks same if rotated)

Symmetry Breaking and Information



Ellipse has reduced symmetry: can store information!

Water Drops and Snow flakes







"Snowpocalypse, 2/5/2010"















SnowCrvstals.com

Information Processing

• Need logic to process information



CPU (Central Processing Unit)

Field Effect Transistor









Field Effect Transistor











Universal Logic

P NAND Q

| Ρ | Q | P NAND Q |
|---|---|----------|
| Н | н | L |
| Н | L | Н |
| L | Н | Н |
| L | L | н |





NAND="not and"

All computations can be built from this single type of logic gate

Information in the Universe

- Fundamental forces
 - Arise from symmetry breaking of Higgs field
- Symmetry breaking leads to information capacity
- Estimated^{*} information capacity of the Universe: 10¹²⁰ logic operations on 10⁹⁰ bits

*S. Lloyd, Phys. Rev. Lett. 88, 237901 (2002).



Four fundamental forces in nature: Weak, ElectroMagnetic, Strong, Gravity

googol = 10^{100} \neq google

"Matrix" Epiphany



Universe as computational engine, computing our future

"Matrix" Analogy



Memory state Processor Memory state

But the universe is quantum...

Can we use the laws of quantum mechanics to build a better computer?

Quantum Computation

What is a Quantum Computer?

- Computers process information
- Quantum computers process quantum information

What is quantum information?

- Information is stored in bits: 0,1
- Quantum information is stored in quantum bits (qubits)

What is quantum information?

- Information is stored in bits: 0,1
- Quantum information is stored in quantum bits (qubits)



http://www.qubit.org/

Qubit can be in a quantum superposition of |0> and |1>

What can quantum computers do?

- Nothing that computers cannot do
 - Some things faster (new complexity class QP)



• Example: quantum computers can factor numbers <u>exponentially</u> faster than classical computers (Shor, 1994)

Difficulty of factoring numbers is foundation of public key encryption

=

Χ

Database Search

Telephone book with N=1,000,000 entries

Task: find name of person whose number is: (412) 275-0032



Ordinary Phonebook

Quantum Phonebook

Number found after ~N/2=500,000 attempts Number found after $\sim N^{1/2} = 1000$ attempts

Why are quantum computers so much faster?

Qubit Phase Space

• A single qubit exists in a 2-dimensional space

$$|\psi\rangle = a_0 |0\rangle + a_1 |1\rangle, \qquad |a_0|^2 + |a_1|^2 = 1$$



Qubit Phase Space

• A single qubit exists in a 2-dimensional space

$$|\psi> = a_0|0> + a_1|1>$$
, $|a_0|^2 + |a_1|^2 = 1$

• For *n*-qubit system, 2^{*n*} complex numbers required

$$|\psi>=a_0|000\dots00>+a_1|000\dots01>+a_2|000\dots10>+\dots+a_{2^n-1}|111\dots11>$$

A state with n=300 qubits is specified by 2^{300} 10¹⁰⁰ coefficients !

A quantum program is specified by $(2^{300})^2$ 10¹⁰⁰ coefficients !!

(Final answer is a string of *n*=300 classical bits)



How do quantum computers work?

General Structure of Computer Programs



S(0) = 1

Step 2: Gating

 $S \to F[S]$



F[S](a) = 1



General Structure of Quantum Computer Programs



Five Requirements for Quantum Computation

Divincenzo, Fortschr. Phys. 48, 771 (2000)



NMR Quantum Computing

- Use nuclear spins on molecules for QC
 - Nuclear Magnetic Resonance techniques for manipulating, reading spin
 - Large ensembles of spins





http://www.research.ibm.com/resources/news/200112 19_quantum.shtml

Experimental realization of Shor's quantum factoring algorithm using nuclear magnetic resonance

Lieven M. K. Vandersypen*†, Matthias Steffen*†, Gregory Breyta*, Costantino S. Yannoni*, Mark H. Sherwood* & Isaac L. Chuang*†

* IBM Almaden Research Center, San Jose, California 95120, USA † Solid State and Photonics Laboratory, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-4075, USA

The number of steps any classical computer requires in order to find the prime factors of an *l*-digit integer N increases exponentially with l, at least using algorithms known at present¹. Factoring large integers is therefore conjectured to be intractable classically, an observation underlying the security of widely used cryptographic codes^{1,2}. Quantum computers³, however, could factor integers in only polynomial time, using Shor's quantum factoring algorithm⁴⁻⁶. Although important for the study of quantum computers⁷, experimental demonstration of this algorithm has the pro sim Shor's algorithm: factorization of N = 15 15 (whose prime factors are 3 and 5). (wł i in a molecule as quantum bits -, which can be manipulated with

Quantum Materials and Approaches



CS
Quantum Materials and Approaches





Quantum Cryptography

Secure communication using the laws of physics

Alice, Bob and Eve



- Alice and Bob want to communicate securely.
- In order to prevent Eve from eavesdropping, they must encode their data.

Encryption and Decryption with a Shared Key



- With a shared encryption key K=010011010101010 (random string of 0 and 1), secure communication over public channels is possible
 - Bob encodes message M=1010110100101101 by XOR-ing (\oplus) with K
 - M⊕K = 1110000001110111 = M'
 - Bob sends message M' over internet to Alice
 - Alice decodes message
 - M'⊕ K = 1010110100101101
- This method works if Alice and Bob have the ability to pre-share K.

Key Distribution



• Quantum mechanics offers a way to distribute a secure key.

How Not to Share a Key

$$|H\rangle, |H\rangle, |V\rangle, |H\rangle, |V\rangle, |V\rangle, ...$$

- Alice sends a string of orthogonally polarized photons
- Bob, knowing the two possible choices, uses a polarizing beamsplitter and measures the polarization of the transmitted photon
- Problem: Eve can intercept the photon and send a duplicate, without Bob and Alice realizing.

Bennett& Brassard Two-State Protocol

VOLUME 68, NUMBER 5

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

3 FEBRUARY 1992

Quantum Cryptography without Bell's Theorem

Charles H. Bennett

IBM Research Division, T. J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, New York 10598

Gilles Brassard

Département IRO, Université de Montréal, CP 6128, succursale "A," Montréal, Québec, Canada H3C 3J7

N. David Mermin

Laboratory of Atomic and Solid State Physics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 14853-2501 (Received 26 September 1991)

Ekert has described a cryptographic scheme in which Einstein-Podolsky-Rosen (EPR) pairs of particles are used to generate identical random numbers in remote places, while Bell's theorem certifies that the particles have not been measured in transit by an eavesdropper. We describe a related but simpler EPR scheme and, without invoking Bell's theorem, prove it secure against more general attacks, including substitution of a fake EPR source. Finally we show our scheme is equivalent to the original 1984 key distribution scheme of Bennett and Brassard, which uses single particles instead of EPR pairs.

PACS numbers: 03.65.Bz, 42.79.Sz, 89.70.+c

Original version "BB84" described in IEEE conference proceedings

Quantum Key Distribution



What about Eve?

- Because photon polarizations are non-orthogonal, Eve must guess what kind of photon to "replace"
 - Will introduce errors at 25% rate minimum
- After Alice and Bob have their keys, they can compare the parity P of both keys
 - P(011010101)=1 ; P(011010100)=0
 - Discard one bit after each parity check
- If Eve is replacing photons, a detectable error rate between two keys will be measured, foiling Eve



Fiber-Optic Quantum Cryptography

 D. S. Bethune and W. P. Risk, "An autocompensating fiber-optic quantum cryptography system based on polarization splitting of light," IEEE Journal of Quantum Electronics 36 (3), 340-7 (2000).



Limits of Fiber-Based Quantum Communication

- Attenuation of optical fibers limits max distance
 - ~10km for λ =1.55 μ m
- Need quantum repeaters
 - Accept photon qubits
 - Correct errors without "measuring" state
 - Regenerate photons with high quantum efficiency



Sept. 2000 issue of Physics Today



https://www.dreamstime.com/stock-photos-global-telecommunications-background-design-image8982023

China's "Quantum" Satellite

- Entangled photon pairs detected 1200 km apart (record)
- Can be used for quantum key distribution



https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.120.030501



Pittsburgh Quantum Institute

UNIFYING AND PROMOTING QUANTUM SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING IN PITTSBURGH SINCE 2012



PQI Mission



To help unify and promote quantum science and engineering in Pittsburgh







The Quantum Frontier

A vision for quantum science and engineering in the 21st century





Inaugural PQI Public Lecture

"Quantum Information: a scientific and technological revolution for the 21st century"



Bill Phillips, Nobel Laureate, 1997

"Two of the great scientific and technical revolutions of the 20th century were the discovery of the quantum nature of the submicroscopic world, and the advent of information science and engineering. Both of these have had a profound effect not only on our daily lives but on our worldview. Now, at the beginning of the 21st century, we see a marriage of quantum mechanics and information science in a new revolution: quantum information. Quantum computation and quantum communication are two aspects of this revolution. The first is highly speculative: a new paradigm more different from today's digital computers than those computers are from the ancient abacus. The second is already a reality, providing information transmission whose security is guaranteed by the laws of physics."



Two Quantum Revolutions

First Quantum Revolution (20th century): <u>understanding</u> of quantum phenomena that brought about semiconductor devices, microprocessors, lasers, nuclear energy, ...

Second Quantum Revolution (21st century): *manipulation of quantum phenomena; actively creating, manipulating and probing quantum states of matter, often using superposition and entanglement for sensing, simulation, computing, information*



Information, Quantum Mechanics

and the Universe

Jeremy Levy

Pittsburgh Quantum Institute (pqi.org) University of Pittsburgh (levylab.org) CPQDS

SAC-PA2: Towards Security Assured Cyberinfrastructure in Pennsylvania University of Pittsburgh School of Computing and Information

15 June 2018