



 **FAMU-FSU College of Engineering** 

The Future of Computing

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FAMU-FSU College of Engineering
ECE Department Graduate Seminar
Thursday, September 2, 2004

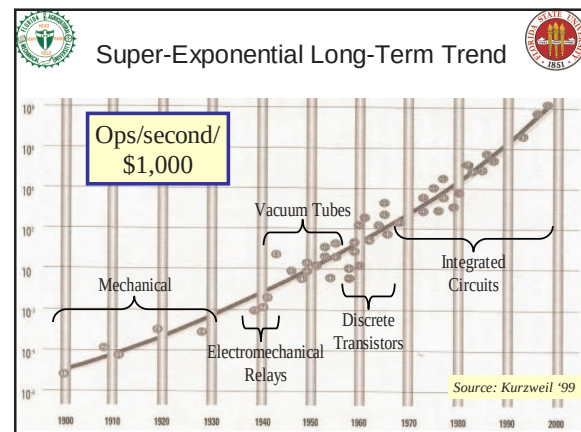
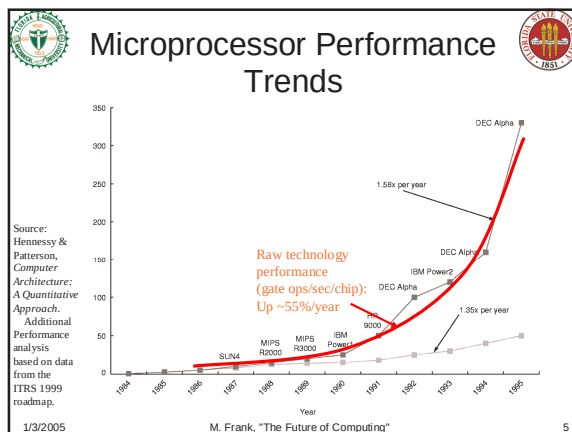
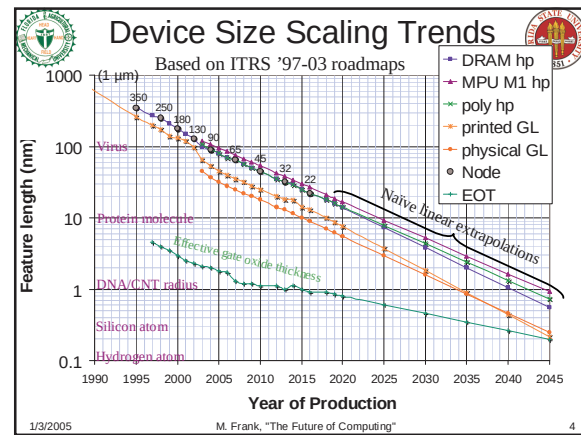
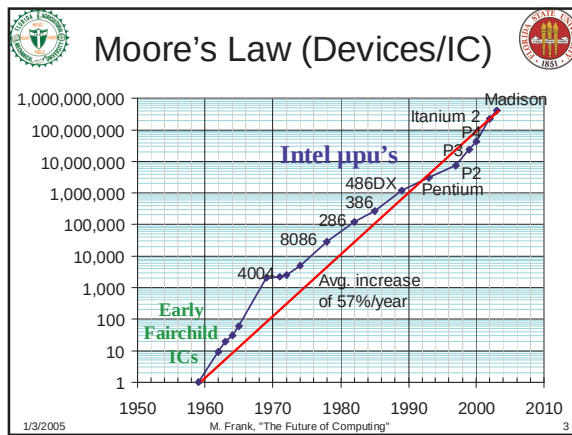


Abstract



- Throughout the 20th century, computer power has been improving at an exponentially increasing rate.
 - Some futurists have speculated about this trend continue indefinitely... perhaps towards infinity?
- But, in the real world, it seems that no exponential trend can continue forever.
 - In fact, a variety of constraints from fundamental physics will prevent the present trend from continuing much longer...
 - Probably not much beyond roughly the next 1-3 decades.
- However, as technologists, we would like to keep computer power improving for as long as we can,
 - That is, to make computers as powerful as physics will allow.
 - The effort to do this reveals a number of deep connections between computing, and the laws of physics.
- In this talk, we survey some lessons that physics and the future of computing have to teach us about each other.

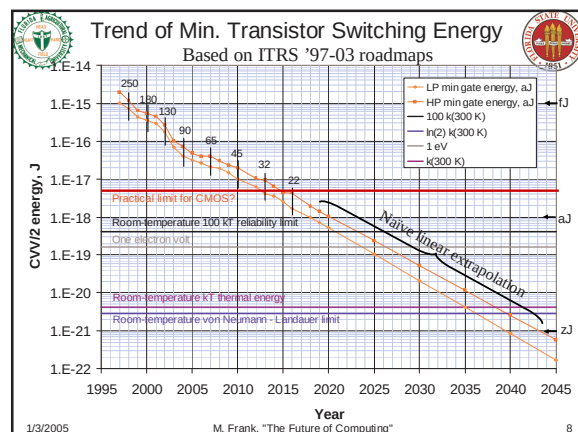
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Importance of Energy

- In the real world, there is always *some* practical limit on a computer's tolerable level of power consumption...
 - Due to finite energy supplies (e.g., in a battery)
 - Or, due to the difficulty and/or cost of cooling...
 - Cooling fan noise, liquid coolant hassles, fried laptops, etc.
 - Or, due to the raw cost of power over time...
 - $(\$X/\text{year of operating budget}) \div (\sim \$10/\text{kW-hr}) =$
 – at most so many W of power consumption is affordable
- And if power consumption is limited, the energy dissipated per logic gate operation directly limits raw (gate-level) computer performance!
 - Measured, say, in logic gate operations per unit time.
 - Performance (logic operations performed / time) =
 $\frac{\text{Power consumption (energy dissipated / time)}}{\text{Energy "efficiency" (logic ops. / energy dissipated)}}$

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Important Energy Limits

- Near-term leakage-based limit for MOSFETs:
 - May be ~ 5 aJ, roughly $10\times$ lower than today.
 - $10\times$ faster, $\sim 4-8$ years left on the clock
- Reliability-based limit on bit energies:
 - Roughly $100\ kT \approx 400$ zJ, $\sim 100\times$ below now.
 - $100\times$ faster machines, $\sim 8-15$ years to go...
- Landauer limit on energy per bit erasure:
 - Roughly $.7\ kT \approx 3$ zJ, $\sim 10,000\times$ below today.
 - $10,000\times$ faster machines, $\sim 15-30$ years left...
- No limit for reversible computing?
 - But other physical challenges come into play...

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MOSFET Energy Limit

- A practical limit for transistors based on today's operating principles.
 - It's probably not an absolutely unavoidable, fundamental limit.
 - However, it is probably the biggest barrier to further transistor scaling today.
- The limit arises from the following chain of considerations:
 - We require reduced energy dissipation per logic operation.
 - Want small $\frac{1}{2}CV^2$ logic node energy (normally dissipated when switching)
 - Want small node capacitance $C \rightarrow$ small transistor size (also for speed)
 - Need to lower switching voltage V , due to many factors:
 - Gate oxide breakdown, punch-through, also helps reduce CV^2 .
 - Reduced on-off ratio $R_{on/off} = I_{on}/I_{off} < e^{V_{gs}/kT}$ (at room temperature)
 - Comes from Boltzmann (or Fermi-Dirac) distrib. of state occupancies near equil.
 - Independent of materials! (Carbon nanotubes, nanowires, molecules, etc.)
 - Increased off-state current I_{off} and power $I_{off}V$, given high-performance I_{on} .
 - Also, increased per-area leakage current due to gate oxide tunneling, etc.
 - Previous two both increase total per-device power consumption floor
 - Adds to total energy dissipated per logic gate, per clock cycle
 - Eventually, all the extra power dissipation from leakage overwhelms the power/performance reductions we gain from reducing CV^2 !
 - Beyond this point, further transistor scaling hurts us, rather than helping.
 - Transistor scaling then halts, for all practical purposes!

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Mitigating MOSFET Limits

- Reduce the portion of the $\frac{1}{2}CV^2$ node energy that gets *dissipated*
 - Reversible computing with adiabatic circuits does this
- Reduce parasitic capacitances that contribute to logic node's C
 - via silicon-on-insulator (SOI), low- κ field oxide materials, etc.
- Use high- κ gate dielectric materials $\rightarrow$
 - Allows gate dielectrics to be thicker for a given capacitance/area
 - Reduces gate-oxide tunneling leakage current. Also:
 - Avoids gate oxide breakdown $\rightarrow$ allows higher V
 - $\rightarrow$ indirectly helps reduce off-state conduction.
- Use multi-gate structures (FinFET, surround-gate, etc.) to
 - reduce subthreshold slope $s = V/(\log R_{on/off})$ to approach theoretical optimum,
 - $s = 71\text{ mV}$ (67 mV in 10y/decade $\rightarrow$ 60 mV/decade)
- Use multi-threshold devices & power-management architectures to turn off unused devices in inactive portions of the chip
 - The remaining leakage in the active logic is still a big problem, however...
- Lower operating temperature to increase V_{gkT} and on-off ratio?
 - May lead to problems with carrier concentration, cooling costs, etc.
- Consider devices using non-field-effect based switching principles:
 - Y-branch, quantum-dot, spintronic, superconducting, (electro)mechanical, etc.

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Reliability-Based Limit

- A limit on signal (bit) energy.
- Applies to any mechanism for *storing* a bit whose operation is based on the *latching* principle, namely:
 - We have some physical entity whose state (e.g. its location) encodes a bit.
 - E.g., could be a packet of electrons, or a mechanical rod
 - If the bit is 1, the entity gets "pushed into" a state and held there by a potential energy difference (between there and not-there) of E .
 - The entity sits in there at thermal equilibrium with its environment.
 - A potential energy barrier is then raised in between the states, to "latch" the entity into place (if present).
 - A transistor is turned off, or a mechanical latching mechanism is locked down
- The Boltzmann distribution implies that $E > kT \ln N$, in order for the probability of incorrect storage to be less than $1/N$.
 - For electrons, we must use the Fermi-Dirac distribution instead...
 - But it gives virtually identical results for large N .
- When erasing a stored bit, typically we would dissipate the energy E .
 - However, this limit might be avoidable via special level-matching, quasi-adiabatic erasure mechanisms, or non-equilibrium bit storage mechanisms.

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Numerical Example

- Example:** Reliability factor of $N=10^{27}$ (e.g., 1 error in a 10^9 gate processor running for ~3 years at 10 GHz)
 - The associated entropy is then:

$$\log 10^{27} = 27 \log 10 = 27 k_B \ln 10 \approx 62 k_B = 8.6 \times 10^{-22} \text{ J/K}$$
 - Heat that must be output to a room-T (300 K) environment:

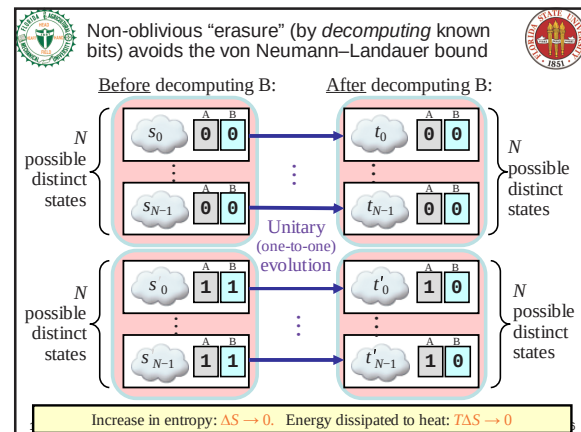
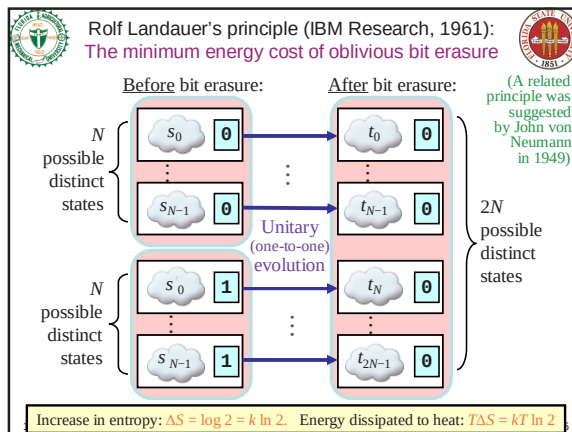
$$k_B (300 \text{ K}) \ln 10^{27} = 2.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ J (or 260 zJ, or 1.6 eV)}$$
 - Sounds small, but...
 - If each gate dumped this energy @ a frequency of 10 GHz,
 - the total power dissipated by an entire 10^9 -gate processor is 26 W.
 - Could have at most 4 such processors within a 100 W power budget!
 - Maximum performance: 4×10^{20} gate-cycles/sec.
 - or 4 PFLOPS, if processors require ~100,000 logic ops on average to carry out 1 standard (double-precision) floating-point op
 - a fairly typical figure for today's floating-point units
 - Typical COTS microprocessors today have ~100× additional overhead,
 - Leading to 40 TFLOPS max performance if using these same architectures
 - A 40-TFLOP supercomputer (e.g. Red Storm) burns ~500 kW today
 - Only 5,000× above the reliability-based limit!

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Von Neumann – Landauer (VNL) bound for bit erasure

- von Neumann-Landauer (VNL) bound for bit erasure:
 - "Oblivious" erasure/overwriting of a known logical bit moves the information it previously contained to the environment → It becomes entropy.
 - Leads to fundamental limit of $kT \ln 2$ for oblivious erasure.
 - Could *only* possibly be avoidable through reversible computing.
 - It "decomputes" unwanted bits, rather than obliviously erasing them!
 - Enables the signal energy to be mostly recycled, rather than dissipated.

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Reversible Computing

- A reversible digital logic operation is:
 - Any operation that performs an invertible (one-to-one) transformation of the device's local digital state space.
 - Or at least, of that subset of states that are actually used in a design.
- Landauer's principle only limits the energy dissipation of ordinary irreversible (many-to-one) logic operations.
 - Reversible logic operations can dissipate much less energy.
 - Since they can be implemented in a thermodynamically reversible way.
- In 1973, Charles Bennett (IBM Research) showed how any desired computation can in fact be performed using only reversible operations (with essentially no bit erasure).
 - This opened up the possibility of a vastly more energy-efficient alternative paradigm for digital computation.
- After 30 years of (sporadic) research, this idea is finally approaching the realm of practical implementability...
 - Making it happen is the goal of the RevComp project.

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Adiabatic Circuits

- Reversible logic can be implemented today using fairly ordinary voltage-coded CMOS VLSI circuits.
 - With a few changes to the logic-gate/circuit architecture.
- We avoid dissipating most of the circuit node energy when switching, by transferring charges in a nearly adiabatic (literally, "without flow of heat") fashion.
 - i.e.*, asymptotically thermodynamically reversible.
 - In the limit, as various low-level technology parameters are scaled.
- There are many designs for purported "adiabatic" circuits in the literature, but most of them contain fatal flaws and are not truly adiabatic.
 - Many past designers are unaware of (or accidentally failed to meet) all the requirements for true thermodynamic reversibility.

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Reversible and/or Adiabatic VLSI Chips Designed @ MIT, 1996-1999

By Frank and other then-students in the MIT Reversible Computing group, under CSAI lab members Tom Knight and Norm Margolus.

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Conventional Logic is Irreversible

Even a simple NOT gate, as it's traditionally implemented!

- Here's what all of today's logic gates (including NOT) do continually, i.e., every time their input changes:
 - They overwrite previous output with a function of their input.
 - Performs many-to-one transformation of local digital state!
 - $\therefore$ required to dissipate $\gtrsim kT$ on avg., by Landauer principle
 - Incurs $\frac{1}{2}CV^2$ energy dissipation when the output changes.

Example:

Static CMOS Inverter:

Inverter transition table:

Just before transition:		After transition:	
in	out	in	out
0	0	0	1
0	1	0	1
1	0	1	0
1	1	1	0

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Conventional vs. Adiabatic Charging

For charging a capacitive load C through a voltage swing V

- Conventional charging:**
 - Constant voltage source
 - Energy dissipated: $E_{diss} = \frac{1}{2} CV^2$
- Ideal adiabatic charging:**
 - Constant current source
 - Energy dissipated: $E_{diss} = I^2 R t = \frac{Q^2 R}{t} = CV^2 \frac{RC}{t}$

Note: Adiabatic beats conventional by advantage factor $A = t/2RC$.

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Adiabatic Switching with MOSFETs

- Use a voltage ramp to approximate an ideal current source.
- Switch *conditionally*, if MOSFET gate voltage $V_g > V + V_T$ during ramp.
- Can discharge the load later using a similar ramp.
 - Either through the same path, or a different path.

$t \gg RC \Rightarrow E_{diss} \rightarrow CV^2 \frac{RC}{t}$

$t \ll RC \Rightarrow E_{diss} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} CV^2$

Exact formula:
 $E_{diss} = s[1 + s(e^{-1/s} - 1)]CV^2$
 given speed fraction $s := RC/t$

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Requirements for True Adiabatic Logic in Voltage-coded, FET-based circuits

- Avoid passing current through diodes.
 - Crossing the "diode drop" leads to irreducible dissipation.
- Follow a "dry switching" discipline (in the relay lingo):
 - Never turn on a transistor when $V_{DS} \neq 0$.
 - Never turn off a transistor when $I_{DS} \neq 0$.
- Together these rules imply:
 - The logic design must be logically reversible
 - There is no way to erase information under these rules!
 - Transitions must be driven by a quasi-trapezoidal waveform
 - It must be generated resonantly, with high Q
- Of course, leakage power must also be kept manageable.
 - Because of this, the optimal design point will not necessarily use the smallest devices that can ever be manufactured!
 - Since the smallest devices may have insoluble problems with leakage.

Important but often neglected!

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A Simple Reversible CMOS Latch

- Uses a single standard CMOS transmission gate (T-gate).
- Sequence of operation:
 - (0) input level initially tied to latch 'contents' (output);
 - (1) input changes gradually $\rightarrow$ output follows closely;
 - (2) latch closes, charge is stored dynamically (node floats);
 - (3) afterwards, the input signal can be removed.

Before input:	Input arrived:	Input removed:			
in	out	in	out	in	out
0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	0	1

• Later, we can reversibly "unlatch" the data with an exactly time-reversed sequence of steps.

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2LAL: 2-level Adiabatic Logic

A pipelined fully-adiabatic logic invented at UF (Spring 2000), implementable using ordinary CMOS transistors.

- Use simplified T-gate symbol:
- Basic buffer element:
 - cross-coupled T-gates:
 - need 8 transistors to buffer 1 dual-rail signal
- Only 4 timing signals ϕ_{0-3} are needed. Only 4 ticks per cycle:
 - ϕ_0 rises during ticks $t \equiv i \pmod{4}$
 - ϕ_1 falls during ticks $t \equiv i+2 \pmod{4}$

(implicit dual-rail encoding everywhere)

Tick # 0 1 2 3 ...

Animation:

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2LAL Shift Register Structure

Animation:

- 1-tick delay per logic stage:
- Logic pulse timing and signal propagation:

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More Complex Logic Functions

- Non-inverting multi-input Boolean functions:
 - AND gate (plus delayed A):
 - OR gate:
- One way to do inverting functions in pipelined logic is to use a quad-rail logic encoding:
 - To invert, just swap the rails!
 - Zero-transistor "inverters."

$A = 0$ $A = 1$

Animation:

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The Power Supply Problem

- In adiabatics, the factor of reduction in energy dissipated per switching event is limited to (at most) the Q factor of the clock/power supply.

$$Q_{\text{overall}} = (Q_{\text{logic}}^{-1} + Q_{\text{supply}}^{-1})^{-1}$$
- Electronic resonator designs typically have low Q factors, due to considerations such as:
 - Energy overhead of switching a clamping power MOSFET to limit the voltage swing of a sinusoidal LC oscillator.
 - Low coil count, substrate coupling in integrated inductors.
 - Unfavorable scaling of inductor Q with frequency.
- Our proposed solution:
 - Use electromechanical resonators instead!

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MEMS (& NEMS) Resonators

- State of the art of technology demonstrated in lab:
 - Frequencies up to the 100s of MHz, even GHz
 - Q 's $> 10,000$ in vacuum, several thousand even in air!
- An important emerging technology being explored for use in RF filters, etc., in communications SoCs, e.g. for cellphones.

U. Mich., poly, $f=156$ MHz, $Q=9,400$

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Original Concept

- Imagine a set of charged plates whose horizontal position oscillates between two sets of interdigitated fixed plates.
 - Structure forms a variable capacitor and voltage divider with the load.
- Capacitance changes substantially only when crossing border.
 - Produces nearly flat-topped (quasi-trapezoidal) output waveforms.
 - The two output signals have opposite phases (2 of the 4 ϕ 's in 2LAL)

Logic load #1 R_L V_1 C_L Logic load #2 V_2 R_L C_L

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Early Resonator Designs
By Ph.D. student Maojiao He, under supervision of Huikai Xie

drive comb

sense comb

Another finger design

Close-up of sense fingers

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Resonator Schematic

Actuator

Sensor

V_c V_{ac} C_a C_s C_r

V_b

$V_p = V_c - V_b$

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Sensor Design

$d_s = d$ $W_s = \lambda$
 $L_{st} = \lambda$ $X = 8 L_{st}$
 $W_{st} = W_s + 4d$
 $W_{ist} = W_s + 2d$
 $L_s \gg d$ ($L_s = 20d$)

(Early design w. thin fingers)

$4C_{st} = 8 \times 10^{-16} F$

Four-finger sensor

Capacitance $10^{-16} F$

Simulated Output Waveform

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DRIE CMOS-MEMS Resonators

Front-side view

Serpentine spring

Proof mass

Comb drive

Back-side view

150 kHz

Resonators

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New Comb Finger Shape V

Fixed plate

Fixed plate

Moving plate

Fixed plate

Fixed plate

In this design, the plates are attached directly to a support arm which extends in the y direction instead of x. This arm can be the flexure, or it can be attached to a surrounding frame anchored to a flexure. Note that in the initial position, at all points, we only need etch from top and/or bottom, with no undercuts. Also, the flexure can be single-crystal Si.

Requires accurate, variable-depth backside etch (not presently available).

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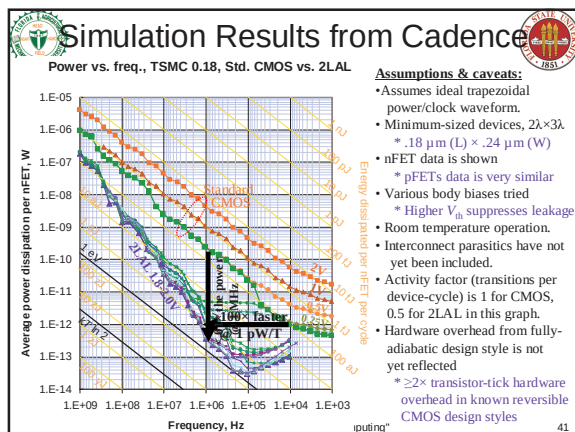
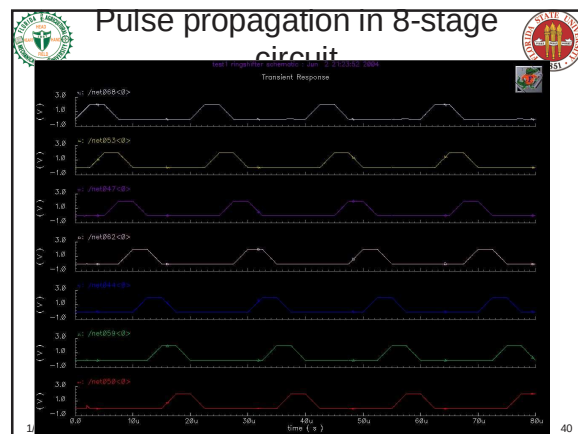
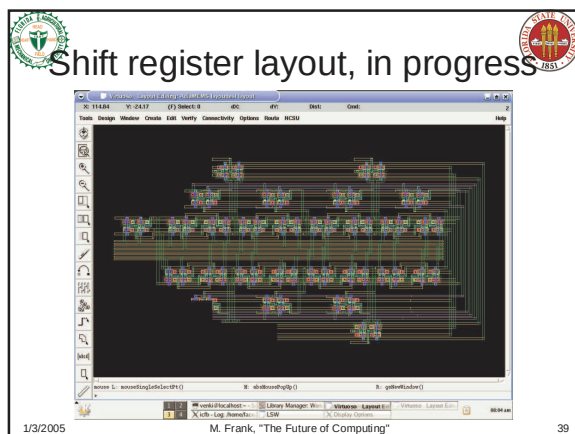
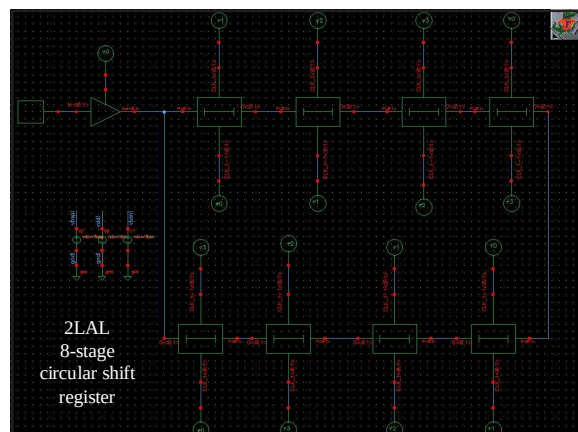
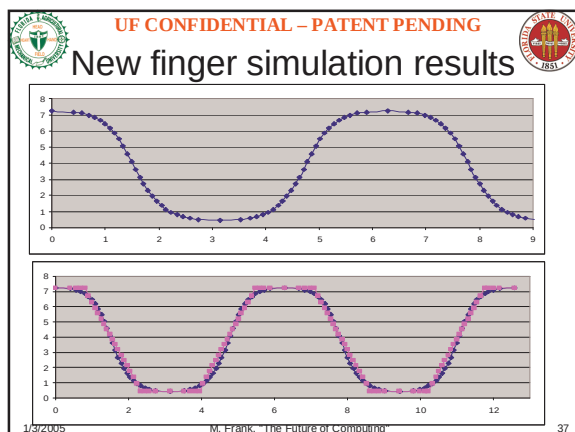
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New finger: One Candidate Layout

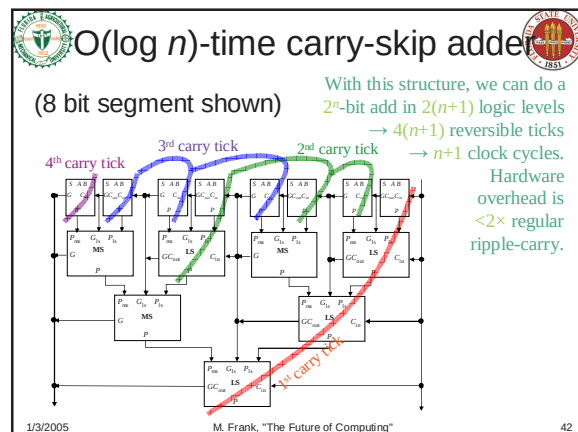
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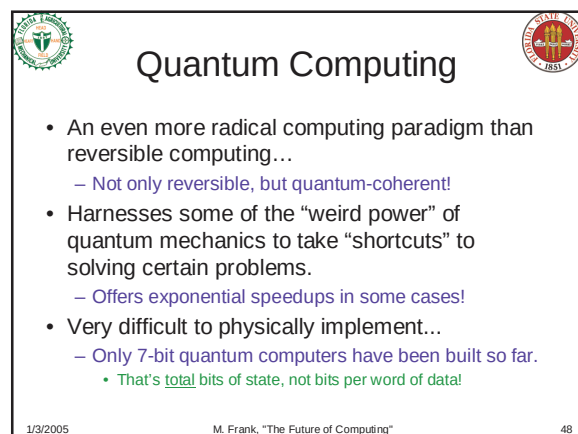
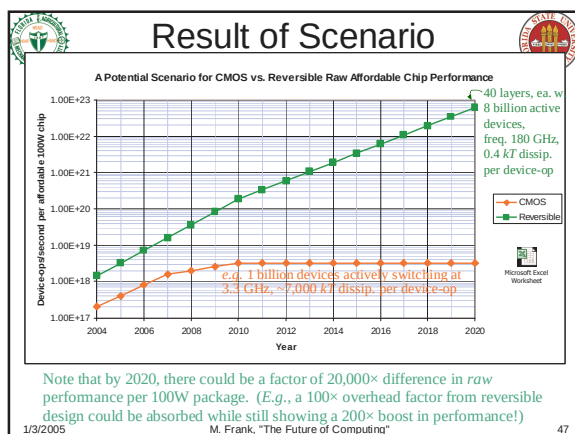
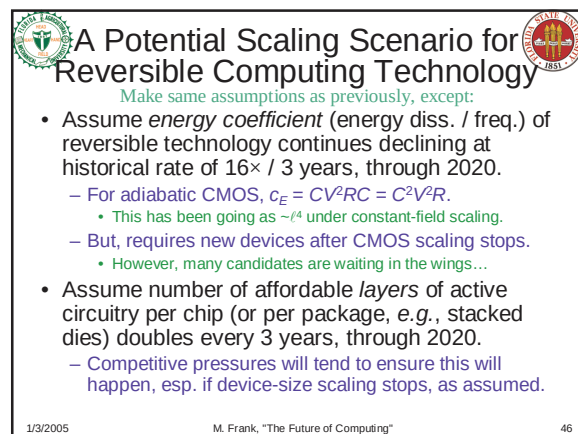
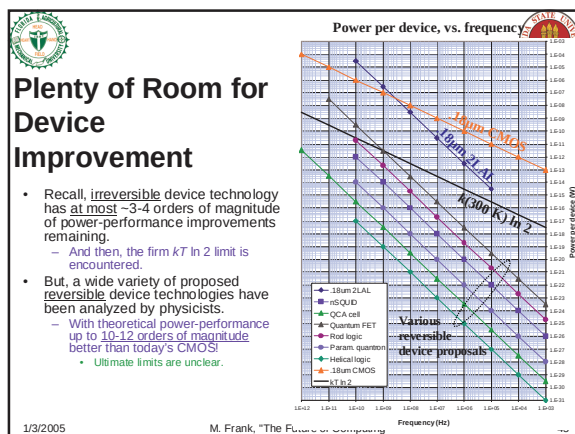
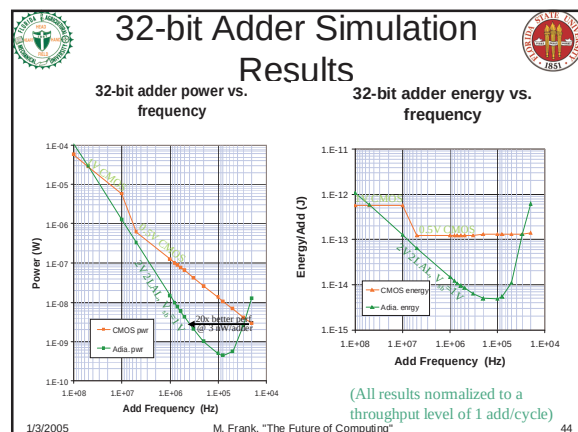
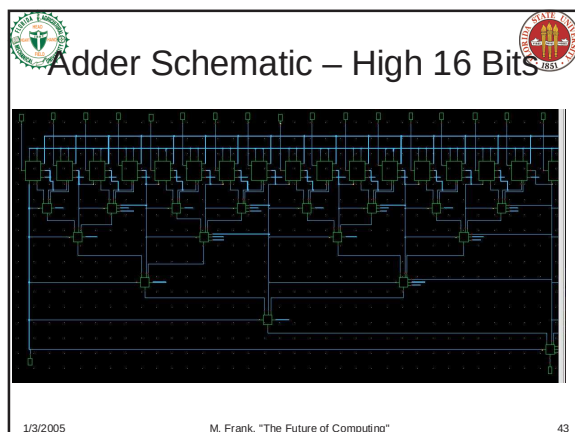
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- Assumptions & caveats:**
- Assumes ideal trapezoidal power/clock waveform.
 - Minimum-sized devices, $2\lambda \times 3\lambda$.
 - * $.18 \mu\text{m}$ (L) $\times$ $.24 \mu\text{m}$ (W)
 - nFET data is shown
 - * pFETs data is very similar
 - Various body biases tried
 - * Higher V_{th} suppresses leakage
 - Room temperature operation.
 - Interconnect parasitics have not yet been included.
 - Activity factor (transitions per device-cycle) is 1 for CMOS, 0.5 for 2LAL in this graph.
 - Hardware overhead from fully-adiabatic design style is not yet reflected
 - * $\geq 2\times$ transistor-tick hardware overhead in known reversible CMOS design styles







Quantum Mechanics Primer



- If S is a maximal set of distinct states of a physical system,
 - Then the *quantum states* of that system are the functions $\Psi: S \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ (complex-valued "amplitudes").
 - i.e.*, vectors expressible as a list of $|S|$ complex numbers.
 - Vectors are normalized to a geometric length of 1.
 - $|\Psi(s)|^2$ is the *probability* of the *basis state* $s \in S$.
 - The Ψ are called *wavefunctions* or *state vectors*.
 - They are usually continuous, over topological spaces S .
 - Their time-evolution is continuous and obeys a differential equation which can be considered to be a wave equation.
- Wavefunctions Ψ evolve over time according to:
 - $\Psi(t) = U(t)\Psi(0)$ with $U(t) = e^{iHt}$.
 - $U(t)$ is the *unitary time evolution operator*.
 - H is a *hermitian operator* - represents Hamiltonian energy

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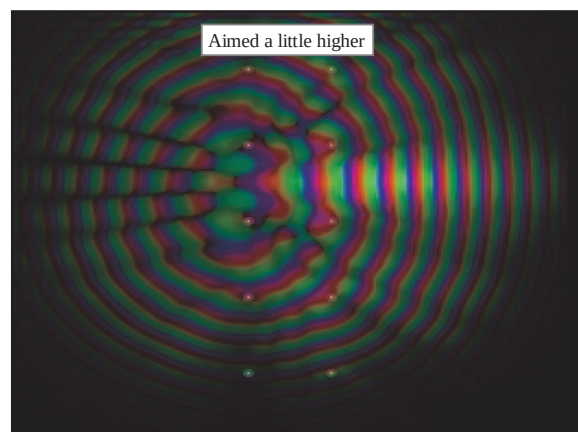
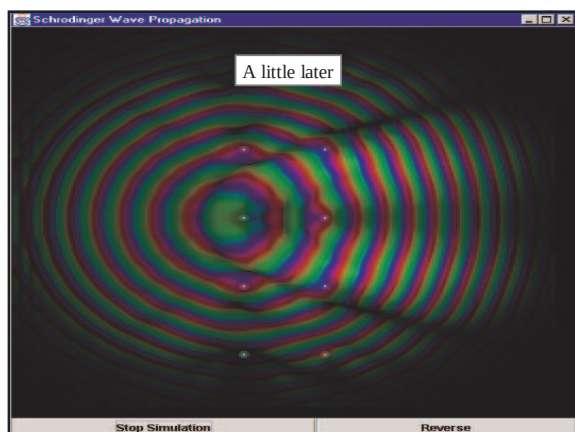
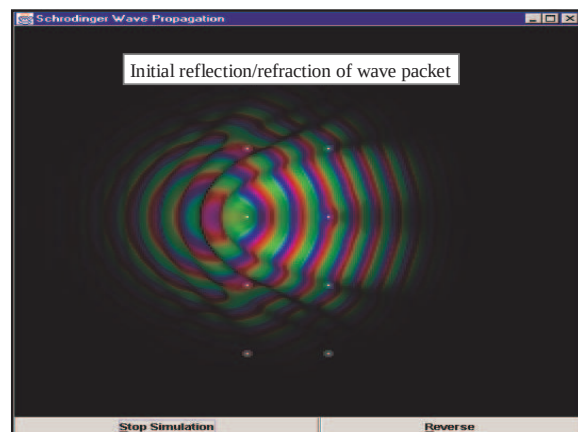
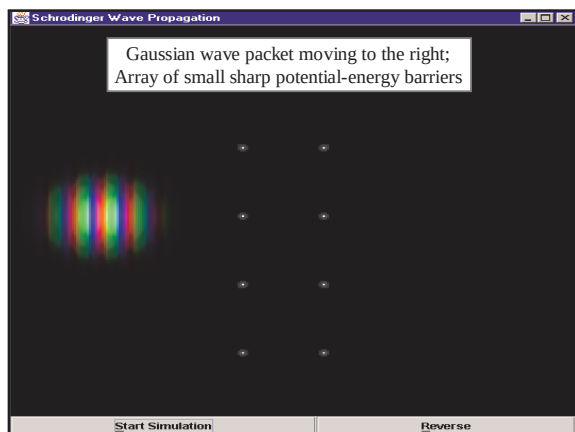


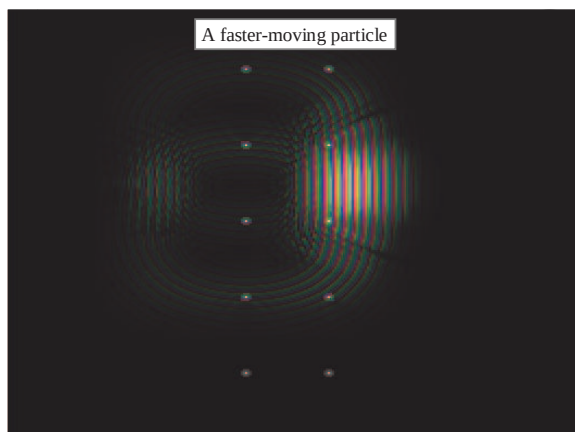
Some Features of QM



- Computing the precise behavior of a system generally requires considering its *entire* wavefunction Ψ .
 - Randomly sampling possible basis states is *not* sufficient!
- Many basis states may have nonzero values in the wavefunction simultaneously.
 - This leads to "Many Universes" picture of physics.
- But probability mass always flows locally in configuration space.
 - Local "peaks" in the wavefunction may split apart into smaller peaks, and later re-merge back together.
- When this happens, interference patterns may appear.
 - Specific basis states may end up more or less probable, depending on the relative phase of the incoming waves.

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Quantum Computing

- In quantum computing, the basis states S are simply states of a digital computer...
 - Bit strings $b_0 b_1 \dots b_{n-1}$ for an n -bit computer.
- The state of the quantum computer assigns an amplitude to each digital state.
 - Many different states may simultaneously have non-zero amplitudes!
- Logic is performed using unitary operators U applied to just 1 or 2 bits at a time.
 - This is sufficient to generate all unitary transformations! (2-bit gates are "universal")

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Why Quantum Computing?

- It is exponentially more time-efficient than any *known* classical computing scheme at solving *certain* problems:
 - Factoring, discrete logarithms, related problems
 - Simulating quantum physical systems accurately
 - This application was the original motivation for quantum computing research first suggested by famous physicist Richard Feynman in the early 80's!
- However, it's never really been proven that a fast classical algorithm for any of these problems is impossible...
 - If you want to win a sure-fire Nobel prize...
 - Find a *polynomial-time* algorithm for accurately simulating quantum computers on classical ones!
 - Or, prove rigorously that it can't be done!

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Status of Quantum Computing

- Theoretical & experimental progress is being made, but slowly.
 - There are many areas where much progress is still needed.
- Physical implementations of very small (e.g., 7-bit) quantum computers have been tested, and they work as predicted.
 - However, scaling them to large sizes is very difficult!
- There are no known *fundamental* theoretical barriers to large-scale quantum computing.
 - Guess: It may be a real technology in ~20 yrs. or so.

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Gates without Superposition

- All classical input-consuming reversible gates can be represented as unitary transformations!
- E.g., input-consuming NOT gate (like an inverter)

in $\rightarrow$ out

in $\oplus$ out

in	out
0	1
1	0

$|0\rangle \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
 $|1\rangle \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$N \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$N|0\rangle = |1\rangle$
 $N|1\rangle = |0\rangle$

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Controlled-NOT

- A.k.a. CNOT (or input-consuming XOR)

$B' = A \oplus B$

$A \oplus B = A \oplus B$

A	B	A'	B'
0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	1	0

$X \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Example:

$X|10\rangle = |11\rangle$

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Toffoli Gate (CCNOT)

Now, what happens if the unitary matrix elements are *not* always 0 or 1?

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The Square Root of NOT

- If you put in either basis state (0 or 1) you get a state that appears *random* if measured...

$$\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \end{array} \xrightarrow{N^{1/2}} \begin{array}{c} 0 \text{ (50\%)} \\ 1 \text{ (50\%)} \end{array}$$

- But if you feed the output back into another $N^{1/2}$ *without measuring it*, you get the *inverse* of the original value!

$$\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \end{array} \xrightarrow{N^{1/2}} \begin{array}{c} 0 \text{ (50\%)} \\ 1 \text{ (50\%)} \end{array} \xrightarrow{N^{1/2}} \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 0 \end{array}$$

- "How is that possible?"

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NOT^{1/2}: Unitary implementation

$$\sqrt{N} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1+i}{2} & \frac{1-i}{2} \\ \frac{1-i}{2} & \frac{1+i}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \end{array} \quad (\sqrt{N})^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \end{array} = N$$

$$\sqrt{N}|0\rangle = \sqrt{N} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1+i}{2} \\ \frac{i-i}{2} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1+i}{2}|0\rangle + \frac{1-i}{2}|1\rangle$$

Prob. 1/2 Prob. 1/2

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The Hadamard Transform

- A randomizing "square root of identity" gate.
- Used frequently in quantum logic networks.

$$H \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \end{array} \quad H^2 = I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Another NOT^{1/2}

- This one negates the phase of the state if the input state was $|0\rangle$.

$$(N')^{1/2} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \end{array} \quad N' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Optical Implementation of $N^{1/2}$

- Beam splitters (semi-silvered mirrors) form superpositions of reflected and transmitted photon states.

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Deutsch's Problem

- Given a black-box function $f:\{0,1\} \rightarrow \{0,1\}$,
 - Determine whether $f(0)=f(1)$,
 - But you only have time to call f once!

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Extended Deutsch's Problem

- Given black-box $f:\{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}$,
 - and a guarantee that f is either *constant* or *balanced* (1 on exactly $\frac{1}{2}$ of inputs)
 - Answer the question, "Which of these is it?"
 - Minimize number of calls to f .
- Classical algorithm, worst-case:
 - Order 2^n time!
 - What if the first 2^{n-1} cases examined are all 0?
 - Function could still be either constant or balanced.
 - Case number $2^{n-1}+1$: if 0, constant; if 1, balanced.
- Quantum algorithm is exponentially faster!
 - (Deutsch & Jozsa, 1992.)

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Unstructured Search

- Given a set S of N elements and a black-box function $f:S \rightarrow \{0,1\}$, find an element $x \in S$ such that $f(x)=1$, if one exists (or if not, say so).
 - Any NP problem can be cast as an unstructured search problem.
 - Not necessarily the optimal approach, however.
- Bounds on classical run-time:
 - $\Omega(N)$ expected queries in worst case (0 or 1 sol'ns):
 - Have to try $N/2$ elements on average before finding sol'n.
 - Have to try all N if there is no solution.
- If elements are length- ℓ bit strings,
 - Expected #trials is $\Omega(2^\ell)$ - exponential in ℓ . Bad!

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Quantum Unstructured Search

- Minimum time to solve unstructured search problem on a quantum computer is:
 - $\Omega(N^{1/2})$ queries = $(2^{\ell/2}) = (2^{1/2})^\ell$
 - Still exponential, but with a smaller base.
- The minimum # of queries can be achieved using *Grover's algorithm*.

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Grover's algorithm:

- Start w. amplitude evenly distributed among the N elements, $\Psi(x_i) = 1/\sqrt{N}$
- In each state x_i , compute $f(x_i)$: $|x_i\rangle \Rightarrow |x_i, f(x_i)\rangle$
- Apply conditional phase shift of π if $f(x_i)=1$ (Negate sign of solution state.) Uncompute f .

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Grover's algorithm, cont.

- Invert all amplitudes with respect to the average amplitude:

$$\Psi' = \bar{\Psi} - (\Psi - \bar{\Psi}) \quad \text{FRF} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{N}-1 & \frac{2}{N} & \dots & \frac{2}{N} \\ \frac{2}{N} & \frac{2}{N}-1 & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{2}{N} & \frac{2}{N} & \dots & \frac{2}{N}-1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= 2\bar{\Psi} - \Psi$$

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Grover's algorithm, *cont.*

- 5. Go to step 2, and repeat $0.785 N^{1/2}$ times.

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Shor's Factoring Algorithm

- Solves the >2000-year-old problem:
 - Given a large number N , quickly find the prime factorization of N . (At least as old as Euclid!)
- No polynomial-time (as a function of $n=\lg N$) classical algorithm for this problem is known.
 - The best known (as of 1993) was a *number field sieve* algorithm taking time $O(\exp(n^{1/3} \log(n^{2/3})))$
 - However, there is also no proof that an (undiscovered) fast classical algorithm does *not* exist.
- Shor's quantum algorithm takes time $O(n^2)$
 - No worse than multiplication of n -bit numbers!

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Elements of Shor's Algorithm

- Uses a standard reduction of factoring to another number-theory problem called the *discrete logarithm* problem.
- The discrete logarithm problem corresponds to finding the *period* of a certain periodic function defined over the integers.
- A general way to find the period of a function is to perform a *Fourier transform* on the function.
 - Shor showed how to generalize an earlier algorithm by Simon, to provide a Quantum Fourier Transform that is exponentially faster than classical ones.

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Powers of numbers mod N

- Given natural numbers (non-negative integers) $N \geq 1$, $x < N$, and x , consider the sequence:

$$x^0 \bmod N, x^1 \bmod N, x^2 \bmod N, \dots$$

$$= 1, x, x^2 \bmod N, \dots$$
- If x and N are relatively prime, this sequence is guaranteed not to repeat until it gets back to 1.
- Discrete logarithm* of y , base x , mod N :
 - The smallest natural number exponent k (if any) such that $x^k = y \pmod{N}$.
 - I.e., the integer logarithm of y , base x , in modulo- N arithmetic. Example: $\text{dlog}_7 13 \pmod{15} = ?$

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Discrete Log Example

- $N=15$, $x=7$, $y=13$.
- $x^2 = 49 = 4 \pmod{15}$
- $x^3 = 4 \cdot 7 = 28 = 13 \pmod{15}$
- $x^4 = 13 \cdot 7 = 91 = 1 \pmod{15}$

- So, $\text{dlog}_7 13 = 3 \pmod{15}$,
 - Because $7^3 = 13 \pmod{15}$.

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The *order* of $x \bmod N$

- Problem:** Given $N > 0$, and an $x < N$ that is relatively prime to N , what is the smallest value of $k > 0$ such that $x^k = 1 \pmod{N}$?
 - This is called the *order* of $x \pmod{N}$.
- From our previous example, the order of 7 mod 15 is...?

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Order-finding permits Factoring

- A standard reduction of factoring N to finding orders mod N :
 - Pick a random number $x < N$.
 - If $\gcd(x, N) \neq 1$, return it (it's a factor).
 - Compute the order of $x \pmod{N}$.
 - Let $r := \min k > 0: x^k \pmod{N} = 1$
 - If $\gcd(x^{r/2} \pm 1, N) \neq 1$, return it (it's a factor).
 - Repeat as needed.
- The expected number of repetitions of the loop needed to find a factor with probability > 0.5 is known to be only polynomial in the length of N .

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Factoring Example

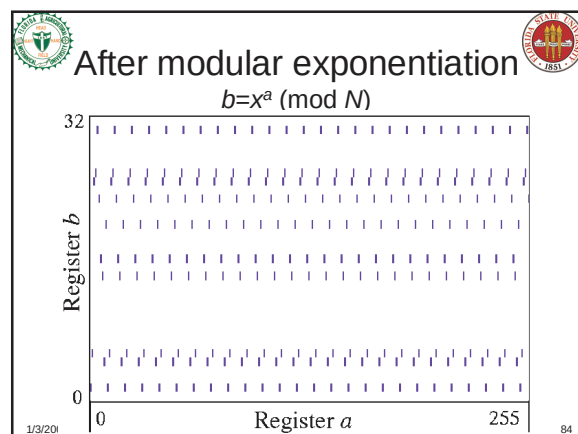
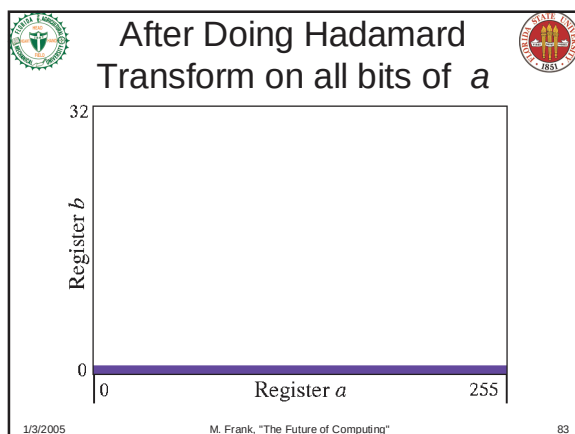
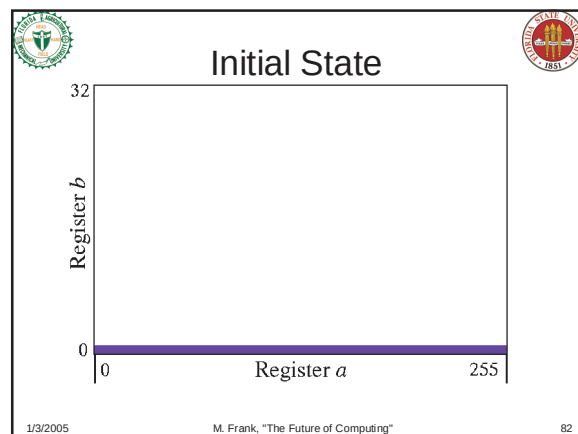
- For $N=15$, $x=7$...
- Order of x is $r=4$.
- $r/2 = 2$.
- $x^2 = 5$.
- In this case (we are lucky), both x^2+1 and x^2-1 are factors (3 and 5).
- Now, how do we compute orders efficiently?

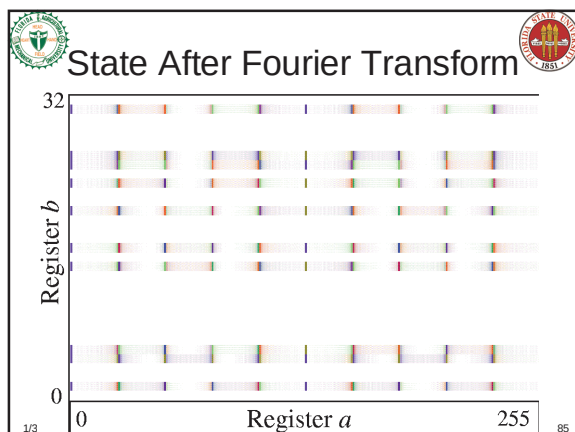
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Quantum Order-Finding

- Uses 2 quantum registers (a, b)
 - $0 \leq a < q$, is the k (exponent) used in order-finding.
 - $0 \leq b < n$, is the y ($x^k \pmod{n}$) value
 - q is the smallest power of 2 greater than N^2 .
- Algorithm:
 - Initial quantum state is $|0, 0\rangle$, i.e., ($a=0$, $b=0$).
 - Go to superposition of all possible values of a .

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Physics as Computing

- Many physical quantities can be understood in computational terms:
 - Physical *entropy* is unknown/incompressible physical information.
 - Physical *energy* is the rate of physical quantum computation.
 - Physical *action* (energy×time) is an *amount* of computation.
 - E.g., flipping a bit takes at least $h/4 = 90^\circ$ of action.
 - Physical *temperature* is rate of computing per bit, or the "clock speed" of physical computation.
- These identities can be rigorously proven!

Physical Limits of Computing

- A computer implemented *in* a physical system can't be more computationally powerful than the underlying physical system is, itself!
 - This fact lets us derive technology-independent bounds on a computer's "power," for example, its:
 - Storage capacity
 - Total parallel processing rate
 - Serial processing rate
 - Information transmission "bandwidth"
 - Given the machine's physical characteristics, such as:
 - Physical size (diameter, volume, enclosing area)
 - Energy content
 - That is, actively-manipulated energy in its "moving parts"
 - Temperature
 - Generalized temperature of its computational degrees of freedom
 - Power consumption

Some Example Limits

- A (10 cm)² tablet computer emitting 10W of power can never electromagnetically transmit/receive more than:
 - 2.2×10^{21} bps (2.2 Zb/s)
 - Independent of spectrum used, noise floor, etc.
 - Sounds big, but it's only 109 kb/s/nm²!
 - Electromagnetic field not suitable for communicating between densely-packed nanoscale components at this power density...
- A digital device/signal with 1 eV of active energy can never transition between states faster than a rate of 484 THz.
 - Only ~100,000× faster than today's processors.
- "Moving parts" (e.g., electrons) at a "generalized temperature" of only room temperature can't flip bits any faster than at 4.3 THz.
 - Only ~1,000× faster than today's processors.
- A computer consuming 100W of power in a room-T environment can't perform more than 3.48×10^{22} bit erasures/sec.
 - Only ~100,000× faster than today's processors.

The Ideal Digital Device?

- Has well-defined, well-separated physical states.
 - Suitable for representing bits.
- Active compute devices are *not* in an equilibrium state or quasi-static regime!
 - System evolves forward through configuration space under its own generalized momentum.
- Active particles in compute mechanism are very "hot" (generalized temp.)
 - They transition between subsequent distinct states very quickly
- Active particles are very well-isolated from surrounding structure/environment.
 - Energy is kept contained within the system, & recirculated with high efficiency.
- There are available "stationary bits" that remain stable in the long term
 - with low static power consumption – nonvolatile storage
- Fast communications available via high-speed "flying bits"
 - E.g. electronic or photonic pulses, signal energy confined to predetermined waveguides.
- There should be efficient interconversion between stationary & flying bits.
 - Signal energy nearly all recovered upon transmitting, or catching and storing, a flying bit
- Interactions should be available that perform a universal set of classical ops
 - With as much gain as needed to replenish signal losses
- Should offer state transitions that are totally logically reversible
 - And that are implemented via high-Q ballistic, adiabatic physical transformations.
 - For avoiding the von Neumann - Landauer bound.
- Self-contained: No outside control signals need to be provided.
 - Time-independent Hamiltonian, (nearly) closed system apart from desired I/O, & power/cooling.
- For QC: Complete quantum gate set available, and state retains quantum phase coherence for many cycles.
 - Allows quantum error-correction techniques to be applied and quantum computing to occur.

What does the future hold?

- Prediction: Computers will keep getting faster & more powerful, for the next few years, at least...
- Then, one of two things will happen:
 - Computer performance will start to flatten out...
- OR:
 - Radical new devices and computing paradigms will begin to be introduced!
 - Such as reversible & quantum computing devices.
- Even then, things will probably still slow down before too many more decades go by!