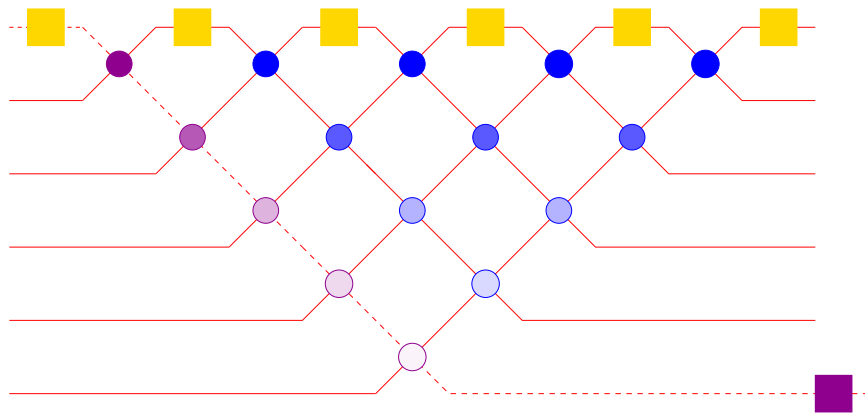


# What Has *Quantum Mechanics* to Do With *Factoring*?

Things I wish they had told me  
about Peter Shor's algorithm



*Question:*

What has quantum mechanics to do with factoring?

*Answer:*

Nothing!

*Question:*

What has quantum mechanics to do with factoring?

*Answer:*

Nothing!

But quantum mechanics has a lot to do with waves.

And waves have a lot to do with periodicity.

And *being good at diagnosing periodicity*  
*has a lot to do with factoring.*

*Case of cryptographic interest:*

Factoring  $N = pq$ , where  
 $p$  and  $q$  are enormous (e.g. 300 digit) primes.

Closely tied to the ability to find the period  
of  $a^x$  modulo  $N$  for integers  $a$   
that share no factors with  $N$ .

## *Periodic functions $a^x$ in modular arithmetic*

$a \pmod{N}$  = remainder when  $a$  divided by  $N$

$$5 = 5 \pmod{7} \quad 5^2 = 4 \pmod{7}$$

$$5^3 = 6 \pmod{7} \quad 5^4 = 2 \pmod{7}$$

$$5^5 = 3 \pmod{7} \quad 5^6 = 1 \pmod{7}$$

$5^x \pmod{7}$  is periodic with *period 6*

$$4 = 4 \pmod{7}$$

$$4^2 = 2 \pmod{7}$$

$$4^3 = 1 \pmod{7}$$

$4^x \pmod{7}$  is periodic with *period 3*

$$6 = 6 \pmod{7}$$

$$6^2 = 1 \pmod{7}$$

$6^x \pmod{7}$  is periodic with *period 2*

$2^x \pmod{7}$  has *period 3*

$3^x \pmod{7}$  has *period 6*

Periods mod  $N$ , where  $N = pq$ , and  
 $p$  and  $q$  are enormous primes.

*If  $a$  shares no factors with  $N$  then  
 $a^s \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$  for some integer  $s$ ,*

For there are only  $N$  different mod  $N$  numbers,  
so there must be  $x$  and  $y > x$  with  $a^y = a^x \pmod{N}$ .

Then  $a^x(a^s - 1)$  is a multiple of  $N$ ,  $y = x + s$ .

Since  $a$  shares no factors with  $N$ , neither does  $a^x$ ,  
so  $a^s - 1$  must be multiple of  $N$ :

$$a^s = 1 \pmod{N}$$

*If  $r$  is the *smallest* integer with  $a^r \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$   
then  $a^x \pmod{N}$  is a periodic function of  $x$  with period  $r$ .*

Digression: *The reason all periods modulo 7 divide 6:*

If  $p$  is prime all  $a < p$  share no factors with  $p$ ,  
so  $a^r = 1 \pmod{p}$  for some (smallest positive)  $r$   
 $\Rightarrow a$  has an inverse  $\pmod{p}$ .

So the  $p - 1$  integers,  $1, 2, \dots, p - 1$   
are a *group* under multiplication  $\pmod{p}$ .

The  $r$  distinct powers of  $a$  are a *subgroup* of that group.  
And *the number of members of any subgroup*  
*divides the number of members of the whole group.*

Further digression: *Periods modulo  $N = pq$  divide  $(p-1)(q-1)$*

There are  $pq - 1$  integers less than  $pq$ .

Among them are  $p - 1$  multiples of  $q$ ,  
and another  $q - 1$  multiples of  $p$ .

So the number of integers  $a < pq$

that share no factors with  $pq$  is

$$(pq - 1) - (p - 1) - (q - 1) = pq - p - q + 1 = (p - 1)(q - 1).$$

*These  $(p - 1)(q - 1)$  integers are a group  
under multiplication modulo  $pq$ .*

The  $r$  distinct powers of  $a$  are a subgroup of that group.

And the number of members  $r$  of that subgroup

divides the number of members  $(p - 1)(q - 1)$  of the group.



Back to business:

*How to factor the product  
of two enormous primes,  $N = pq$ ,  
using a good period-finding machine  
(e.g. a **quantum computer**).*

Pick a random integer  $a$ .

(It is astronomically unlikely to be multiple of  $p$  or  $q$ .)

**Use the period-finding machine to get  
the smallest  $r$  with  $a^r = 1 \pmod{N}$ .**

**Pray for two pieces of good luck.**

Quantum computer gives smallest  $r$  with  $a^r - 1$  divisible by  $N = pq$

**First piece of luck:**  $r$  even.

Then  $(a^{r/2} - 1)(a^{r/2} + 1)$  divisible by  $N$ .

but  $a^{r/2} - 1$  is *not* divisible by  $N$

(since  $r$  is *smallest* number with  $a^r - 1$  divisible by  $N$ .)

**Second piece of luck:**  $a^{r/2} + 1$  is also not divisible by  $N$ .

Then product of  $a^{r/2} - 1$  and  $a^{r/2} + 1$  is divisible by both  $p$  and  $q$   
although neither factor is divisible by both.

Since  $p, q$  primes, one factor divisible by  $p$  and other divisible by  $q$ .

So  $p$  is greatest common divisor of  $N$  and  $a^{r/2} - 1$

and  $q$  is greatest common divisor of  $N$  and  $a^{r/2} + 1$

***FINISHED!***

*Finished*, because:

1. Finding the greatest common divisor of two integers can be done by anybody who can do long division\* using a simple and efficient procedure that was known to the ancient Greeks.
2. If  $a$  is picked at random, a two-hour argument\*\* shows that the probability is at least 50% that both pieces of luck will hold.

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\* *New York Times*, November 14, 2006: “When my oldest child, an A-plus stellar student, was in sixth grade, I realized he had no idea, no idea at all, how to do long division,” Ms. Backman said, “so I went to school and talked to the teacher, who said, ‘We don’t teach long division; it stifles their creativity.’”

\*\* N. David Mermin, *Introduction to Quantum Computer Science*, Appendix M, Cambridge University Press, August, 2007.

*Incorrect (but amazing):*

[After the quantum computation] the solutions — the factors of the number being analyzed — will all be in superposition.

— George Johnson, *A Shortcut Through Time*.

[A quantum computer will] try out all the possible factors simultaneously, in superposition, then collapse to reveal the answer.

— *Ibid.*

*Correct (but unexciting):*

A quantum computer is efficient at factoring because it is efficient at period-finding.

## *BUT WHAT'S SO HARD ABOUT PERIOD-FINDING?*

Given a graph of  $\sin(kx)$  it's easy to find the period  $2\pi/k$ . Since no value repeats inside a period,  $a^x \pmod N$  is even simpler.

## *BUT WHAT'S SO HARD ABOUT PERIOD-FINDING?*

Given a graph of  $\sin(kx)$  it's easy to find the period  $2\pi/k$ . Since no value repeats inside a period,  $a^x \pmod N$  is even simpler.

### *What makes it hard:*

Within a period, unlike the smooth, continuous  $\sin(kx)$ , the function  $a^x \pmod N$  looks like random noise.

*Nothing* in a list of  $r$  consecutive values gives a *hint* that the next one will be the same as the first.

## *PERIOD FINDING WITH A QUANTUM COMPUTER*

Represent  $n$  bit number

$$x = x_0 + 2x_1 + 4x_2 + \cdots + 2^{n-1}x_{n-1}$$

(each  $x_j$  is 0 or 1)

by product of states  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$  of  $n$  2-state systems:

$$|x\rangle = |x_{n-1}\rangle \cdots |x_1\rangle |x_0\rangle$$

*Qbits*

*Qbits*, not *qubits* because:

1. Classical two state systems are *Cbits* (not *clbits*)
2. Ear cleaners are *Qtips* (not *Qutips*)
3. Dirac wrote about *q-numbers* (not *qunumbers*)

(*q-bit* awkward: *2-Qbit gate* OK;

*2-q-bit gate* unreadable.)



*More terminology:*

Set of states  $|x\rangle = |x_{n-1}\rangle \cdots |x_1\rangle |x_0\rangle$   
called the *computational basis*.

Better term: *classical basis*.

*Remark:*

Because it *is* a basis, linear transformations on Qbits can be defined by specifying their action on the classical basis.

# STANDARD QUANTUM COMPUTATIONAL ARCHITECTURE

Represent function  $f$  taking  $n$ -bit to  $m$ -bit integers  
by a linear, norm-preserving (unitary) transformation  $\mathbf{U}_f$   
acting on  $n$ -Qbit *input register* and  $m$ -Qbit *output register*:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{input register} & & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbf{U}_f |x\rangle |0\rangle = |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle. & & \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \text{output register} & & \end{array}$$

(More generally,  $\mathbf{U}_f |x\rangle |y\rangle = |x\rangle |y \oplus f(x)\rangle$ .)

$$y \oplus z = \text{bitwise modulo 2 sum: } 1010 \oplus 0111 = 1101.)$$

## QUANTUM PARALLELISM

$$\mathbf{U}_f|x\rangle|0\rangle = |x\rangle|f(x)\rangle$$

Put input register into superposition of all possible inputs:

$$\begin{aligned} |\phi\rangle &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq x < 2^n} |x\rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle) \cdots \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle).^* \end{aligned}$$

Applying linear  $\mathbf{U}_f$  to input and output registers gives

$$\mathbf{U}_f(|\phi\rangle|0\rangle) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq x < 2^n} |x\rangle|f(x)\rangle.$$

---

\*e.g.  $(|0\rangle + |1\rangle)(|0\rangle + |1\rangle) = |0\rangle|0\rangle + |0\rangle|1\rangle + |1\rangle|0\rangle + |1\rangle|1\rangle$

## QUANTUM PARALLELISM

$$\mathbf{U}_f(|\phi\rangle|0\rangle) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq x < 2^n} |x\rangle|f(x)\rangle.$$

Question:

Has *one* invocation of  $\mathbf{U}_f$  computed  $f(x)$  for *all*  $x$ ?

## QUANTUM PARALLELISM

$$\mathbf{U}_f(|\phi\rangle|0\rangle) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq x < 2^n} |x\rangle|f(x)\rangle.$$

*Question:*

Has *one* invocation of  $\mathbf{U}_f$  computed  $f(x)$  for *all*  $x$ ?

*Answer:*

*No.* Given a single system in an unknown state, there is no way to learn what that state is.

Information is acquired *only* through measurement.

Direct measurement of input register gives random  $x_0$ ;

Direct measurement of output register then gives  $f(x_0)$ .

## QUANTUM PARALLELISM

$$\mathbf{U}_f(|\phi\rangle|0\rangle) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq x < 2^n} |x\rangle|f(x)\rangle.$$

Special form when  $f(x) = a^x \pmod{N}$ :

$$\sum_{0 \leq x < 2^n} |x\rangle|a^x\rangle = \sum_{0 \leq x < r} \left( |x\rangle + |x+r\rangle + |x+2r\rangle + \dots \right) |a^x\rangle$$

## THE QUANTUM FOURIER TRANSFORM (QFT)

$$\mathbf{V}_{FT}|x\rangle = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq y < 2^n} e^{2\pi i xy/2^n} |y\rangle$$

Acting on superpositions,  $\mathbf{V}_{FT}$  Fourier-transforms amplitudes:

$$\mathbf{V}_{FT} \sum \alpha(x)|x\rangle = \sum \beta(x)|x\rangle$$

$$\beta(x) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq z < 2^n} e^{2\pi i xz/2^n} \alpha(z)$$

If  $\alpha$  has period  $r$ , as in  $|x\rangle + |x+r\rangle + |x+2r\rangle + \dots$ , then  $\beta$  is sharply peaked at integral multiples of  $2^n/r$ .

## HO-HUM!

$\mathbf{V}_{FT}$  is *boring*:

1. Just familiar transformation from position to momentum representation.
2. Everybody knows Fourier transform sharply peaked at multiples of inverse period.

But  $\mathbf{V}_{FT}$  is *not* ho-humish because:

1.  $x$  has nothing to do with position, real or conceptual.  $x$  is arithmetically useful but physically meaningless:  
$$x = x_0 + 2x_1 + 4x_2 + 8x_3 + \dots,$$
where  $|x_j\rangle = |0\rangle$  or  $|1\rangle$  is state of  $j$ -th 2-state system.
2. *Sharp* means sharp compared with resolution of apparatus. The period  $r$  is hundreds of digits long. Error in  $r$  of 1 in  $10^{10}$  messes up almost every digit.



Using the QFT :  $\mathbf{V}_{FT}|x\rangle = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq y < 2^n} e^{2\pi ixy/2^n} |y\rangle$

---

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{V}_{FT} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq x < r} \left( |x\rangle + |x+r\rangle + |x+2r\rangle + \dots \right) |a^x\rangle = \\ & = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq y < 2^n} \left( 1 + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \alpha^3 + \dots \right) |y\rangle \sum_{0 \leq x < r} e^{2\pi ixy/2^n} |a^x\rangle, \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad \alpha = \exp\left(2\pi iy/(2^n/r)\right). \end{aligned}$$

Sum of phases  $\alpha$  sharply peaked at values of  $y$  within  $\frac{1}{2}$  of integral multiples of  $2^n/r$ .

Question: *How sharply peaked?*

Answer: Probability that measurement of **input register** gives such a value of  $y$  exceeds 40%.

Significant ( $> 40\%$ ) chance of getting integer  $y$  as close as possible to (i.e. within  $\frac{1}{2}$  of)  $j(2^n/r)$  for some (more or less) random integer  $j$ .

Then  $y/2^n$  is within  $1/2^{n+1}$  of  $j/r$ .

**Question:** Does this pin down unique rational number  $j/r$ ?

**Answer:** It depends.

Suppose second candidate,  $j'/r'$  with  $j'/r' \neq j/r$ .

$$\left| \frac{j'}{r'} - \frac{j}{r} \right| = \frac{|j'r - jr'|}{rr'} \geq \frac{1}{rr'} \geq \frac{1}{N^2}$$

So answer is Yes, if  $2^n > N^2$ .

*Input register must be large enough to represent  $N^2$ .*

Then have  $40\%$  chance of learning a *divisor*  $r_0$  of  $r$ .

( $r_0$  is  $r$  divided by factors it shares with (random)  $j$ )

*A comment:*

When  $N = pq$ , easy to show\* period  $r$  necessarily  $< N/2$ .

So

$$\left| \frac{j'}{r'} - \frac{j}{r} \right| > \frac{4}{N^2}$$

and therefore don't need  $y$  *as close as possible* to integral multiple of  $2^n/r$ .

Second, third, or fourth closest do just as well.

Raises probability of learning divisor of  $r$  from 40% to 90%.

---

\*  $a^{p-1} = 1 \pmod{p} \Rightarrow a^{(p-1)(q-1)/2} = 1 \pmod{p}$ ,  
 $a^{q-1} = 1 \pmod{q} \Rightarrow a^{(q-1)(p-1)/2} = 1 \pmod{q}$ ,  
 $\Rightarrow a^{(p-1)(q-1)/2} = 1 \pmod{pq}$ .

*Another comment:*

Should the period  $r$  be  $2^m$ , then  $2^n/r$  is itself an integer, and probability of  $y$  being multiple of that integer is easily shown to be 1, even if input register contains just a single period.

*A pathologically easy case.*

Question: When are all periods  $r$  powers of 2?

Answer: When  $p$  and  $q$  are both of form  $2^j + 1$ .

(Periods are divisors of  $(p - 1)(q - 1)$ .)

Therefore **factoring 15** =  $(2 + 1) \times (4 + 1)$

— i.e. finding periods modulo 15 —

**is not a serious demonstration of Shor's algorithm.**

## SOME NEAT THINGS ABOUT THE QFT

$$\mathbf{V}_{FT}|x\rangle = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq y < 2^n} e^{2\pi i xy/2^n} |y\rangle$$

1. Constructed entirely out of 1-Qbit and 2-Qbit gates.
2. Number of gates (and therefore time) grows only as  $n^2$ .
3. With just *one* application,

$$\sum \alpha(x)|x\rangle \longrightarrow \sum \beta(x)|x\rangle,$$
$$\beta(x) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq z < 2^n} e^{2\pi i xz/2^n} \alpha(z)$$

In *classical* “Fast Fourier Transform” time grows as  $n2^n$ .

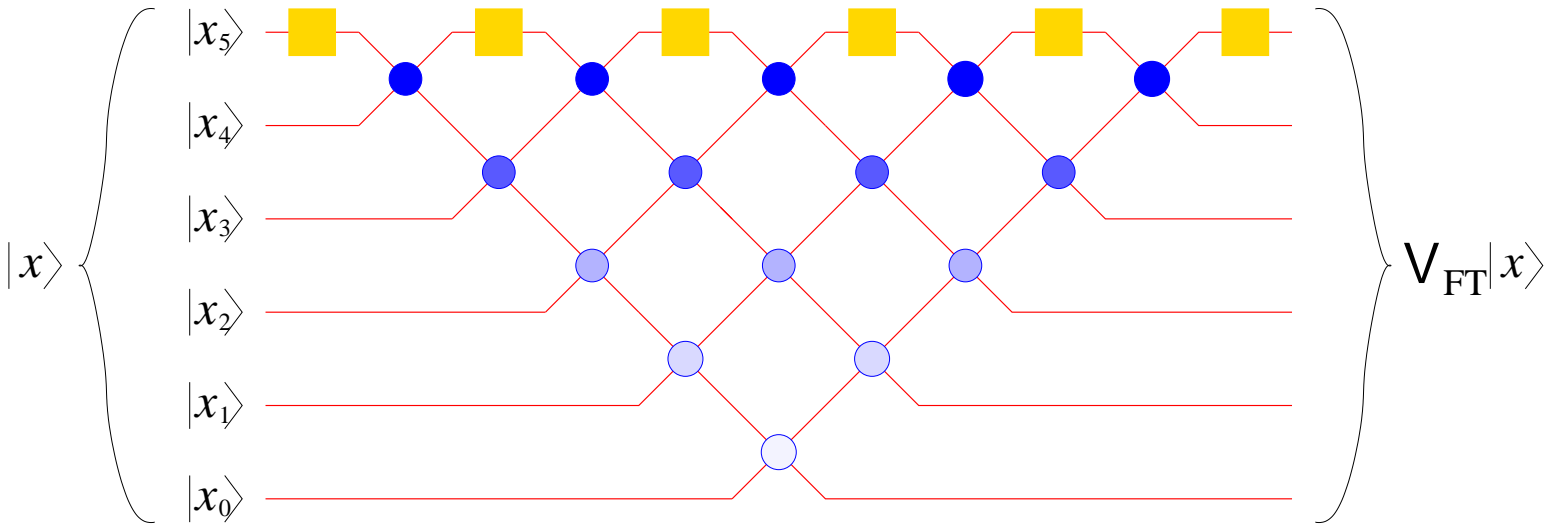
*But* (as usual) classical FFT gives all the  $\beta(x)$ ,

While QFT only gives  $\sum \beta(x)|x\rangle$ .

Can't learn any  $\beta(x)$  from one application of QFT.

*But can get powerful clues about period of  $\alpha(x)$ .*

# CIRCUIT FOR QUANTUM FOURIER TRANSFORM



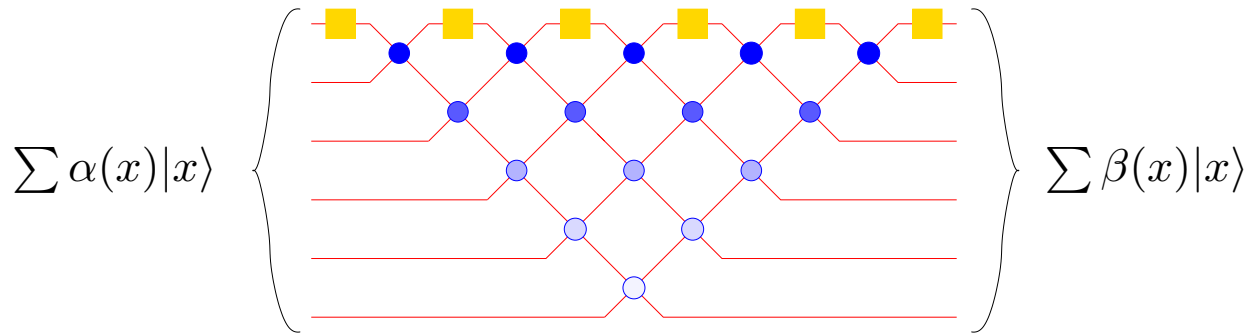
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} |0\rangle \\ |1\rangle \end{array} \right\} \text{--- } \text{yellow square} \text{---} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle) \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle - |1\rangle) \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ e^{\pi i n n' / 2} & e^{\pi i n n' / 4} & e^{\pi i n n' / 8} & e^{\pi i n n' / 16} & e^{\pi i n n' / 32} \end{array}$$

$|0\rangle|0\rangle, |0\rangle|1\rangle, |1\rangle|0\rangle$  invariant;

$$|1\rangle|1\rangle \longrightarrow e^{\pi i / 2^j} |1\rangle|1\rangle$$

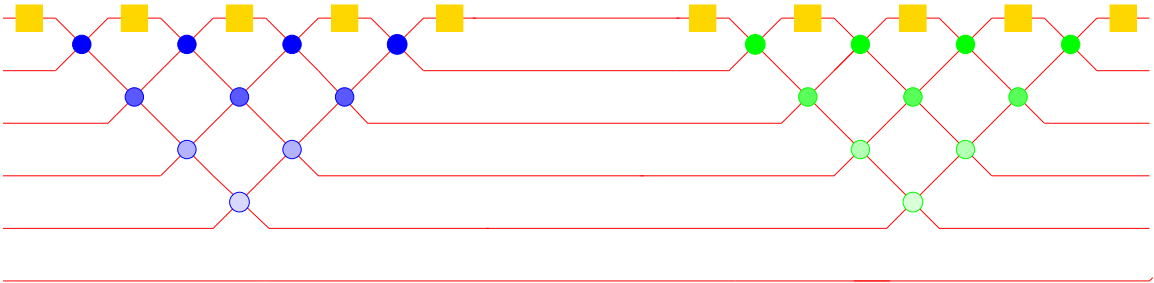
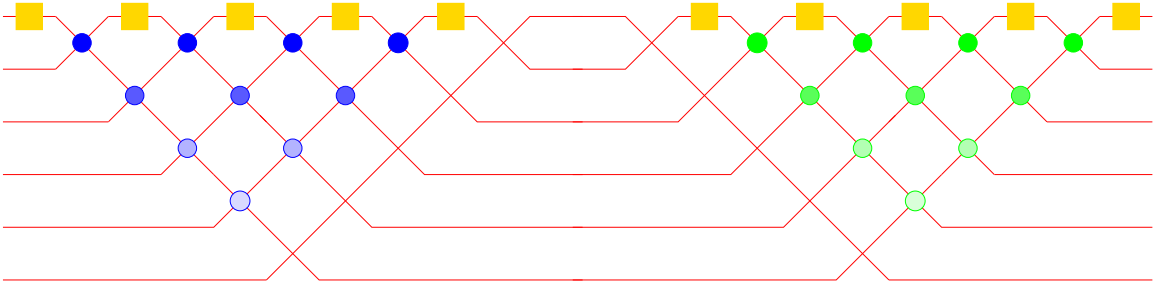
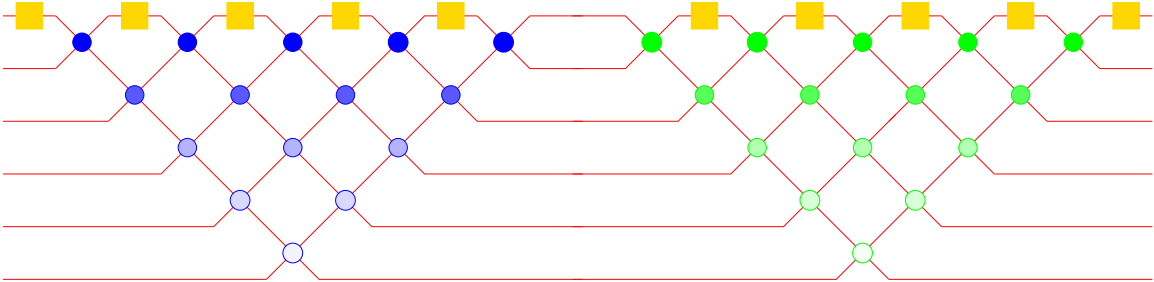
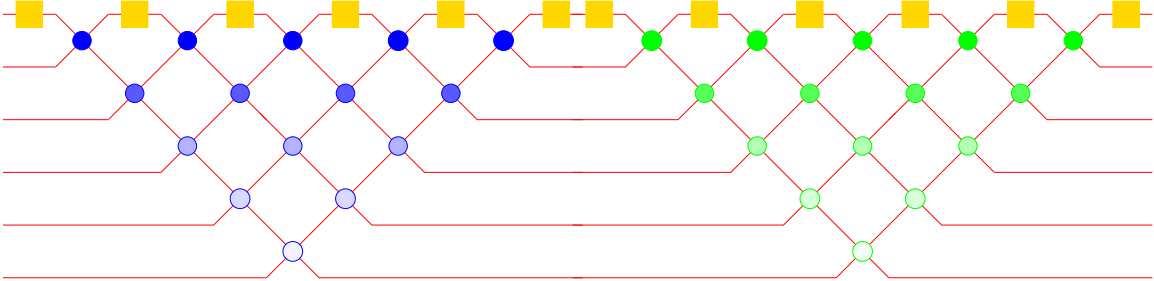
## ACTION OF QFT ON SUPERPOSITION



$$\beta(x) = \sum_y \alpha(y) e^{2\pi i xy / 2^6}$$

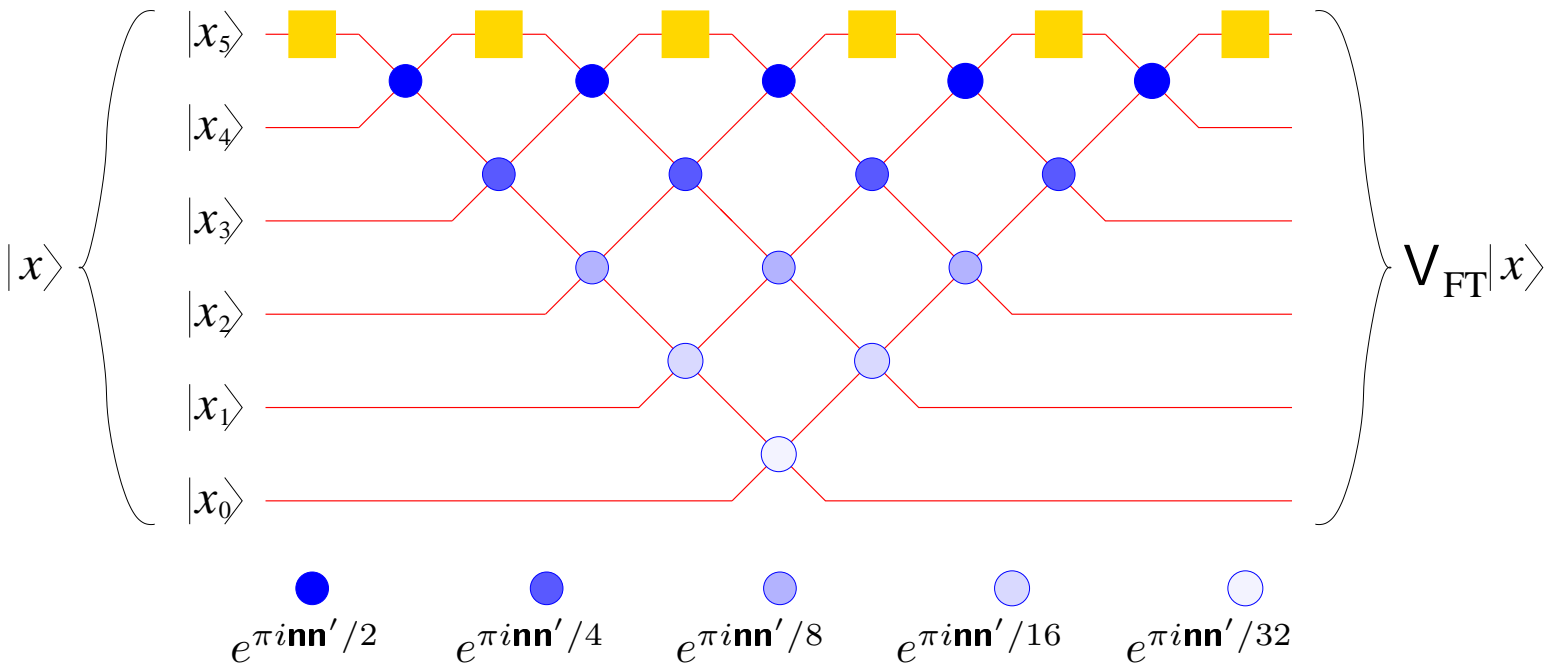
*Replaces amplitudes by their Fourier transforms.*

# INVERSE OF QFT





## A PROBLEM?



Number  $n$  of Qbits:  $2^n > N^2$ ,  $N$  hundreds of digits.

Phase gates  $e^{\pi i n n' / 2^m}$  impossible to make for most  $m$ ,  
 since can't control strength or time of interactions  
 to better than parts in  $10^{10} = 2^{30}$ .

*But need to learn period  $r$  to parts in  $10^{300}$  or more!*

*Question:*

So is it all based on a silly mistake?

*Answer:*

No, all is well.

*Question:*

How can that be?

*Answer:*

Because of the quantum-computational interplay between **analog** and **digital**.

## Quantum Computation is Digital

Information is acquired *only* by measuring Qbits.  
The reading of each 1-Qbit measurement gate  
is only 0 or 1.

The  $10^3$  bits of the output  $y$  of Shor's algorithm  
are given by the readings (0 or 1) of  $10^3$   
1-Qbit measurement gates.

There is no imprecision in those  $10^3$  readings.  
**The output is a definite 300-digit number.**

*But is it the number you wanted to learn?*

## Quantum Computation is Analog

Before a measurement the Qbits are acted on by unitary gates with *continuously variable parameters*.

These variations affect the amplitudes of the states prior to measurement and therefore they affect the *probabilities* of the readings of the measurement gates.

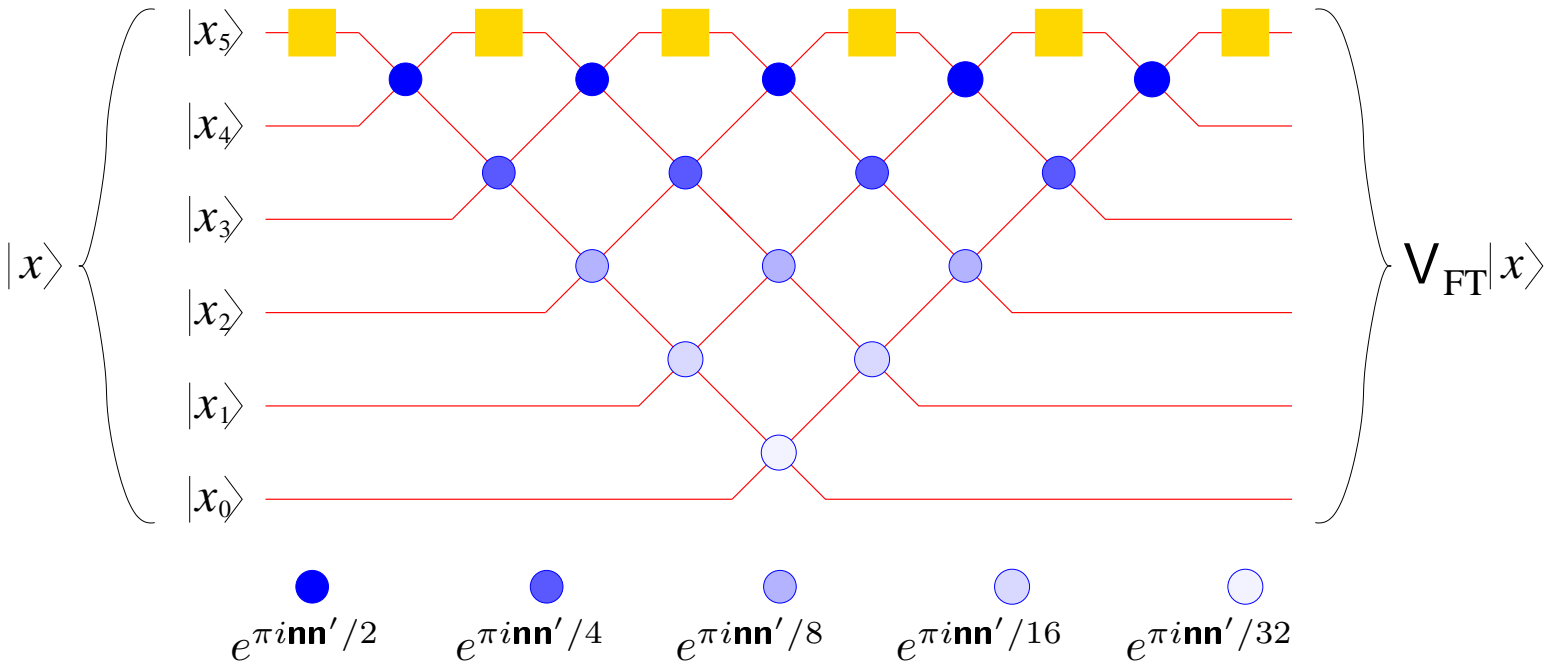
## So all is well

“Huge” errors (parts in  $10^4$ ) in the phase gates may result in comparable errors in the *probability* that the 300 digit number given *precisely* by the measurement gates is *the right* 300 digit number.

So the probability of getting a useful number may not be 90% but only 89.99%.

Since “90%” is actually “about 90%”  
*this makes no difference.*

In fact this makes things even better



Since only the top 20 layers of phase gates can matter,  
once you get to  $N > 2^{20} = 10^6$ ,

*the running time scales not quadratically  
but only linearly in the number of Qbits.*

# Quantum Versus Classical Programming Styles

*Question:*

How do you calculate  $a^x$  when  $x$  is a 300 digit number?

*Answer:*

Not by multiplying  $a$  by itself  $10^{300}$  times!

*How else, then?*

Write  $x$  as a binary number:  $x = x_{999}x_{998} \cdots x_2x_1x_0$ .

Next square  $a$ , square the result, square *that* result, . . . , getting the 1,000 numbers  $a^{2^j}$ .

Finally, multiply together all the  $a^{2^j}$  for which  $x_j = 1$ .

$$\prod_{j=0}^{999} \left( a^{2^j} \right)^{x_j} = a^{\sum_j x_j 2^j} = a^x$$

## Classical: Cbits Cheap; Time Precious

$$a^x = \prod_{j=0}^{999} \left( a^{2^j} \right)^{x_j}$$

Once and for all, make and store a look-up table:

$$a, a^2, a^4, a^8, \dots, a^{2^{999}}$$

A thousand entries, each of a thousand bits.

For each  $x$  multiply together all the  $a^{2^j}$  in the table for which  $x_j = 1$ .



## Quantum: Time Cheap; Qbits Precious

Circuit that executes

$$a^x = \prod_{j=0}^{999} \left(a^{2^j}\right)^{x_j}$$

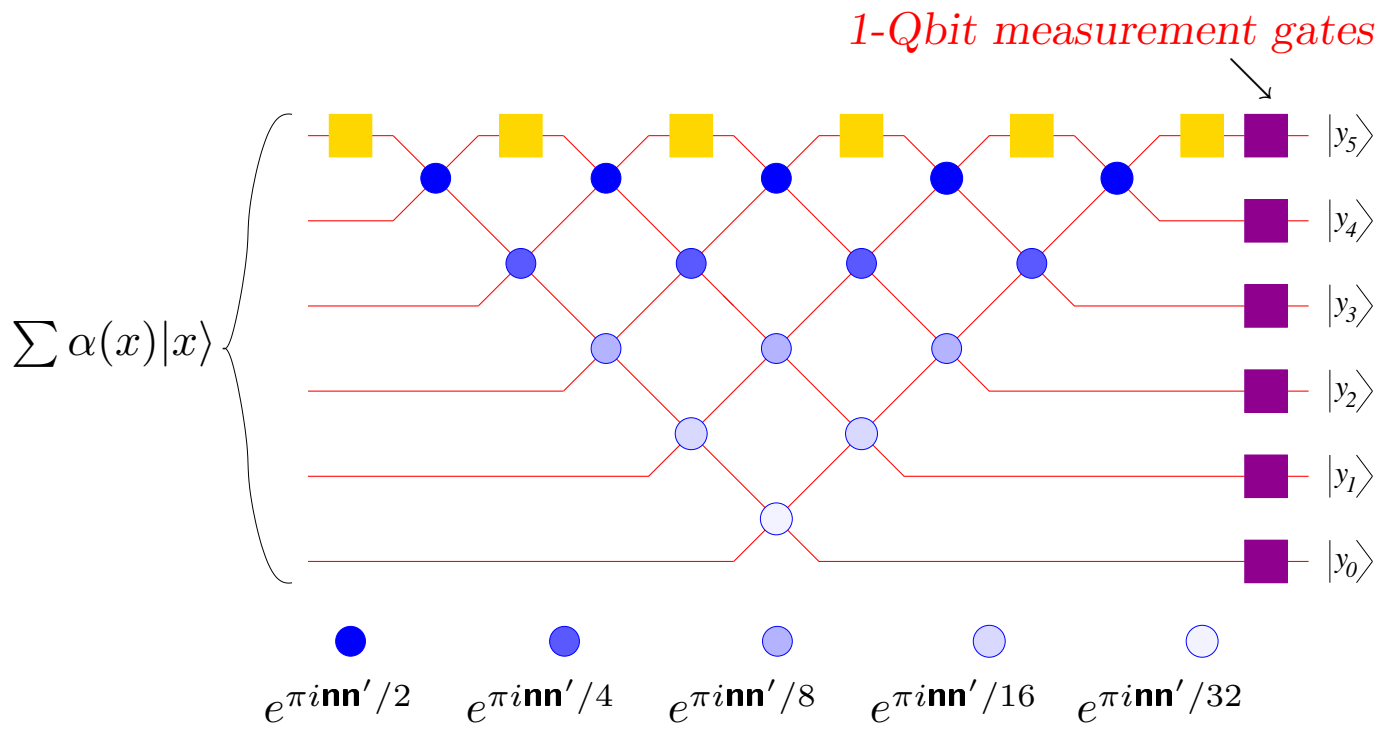
is not applied  $2^n$  times to input register for each  $|x\rangle$ .

It is applied *just once* to input register in the state

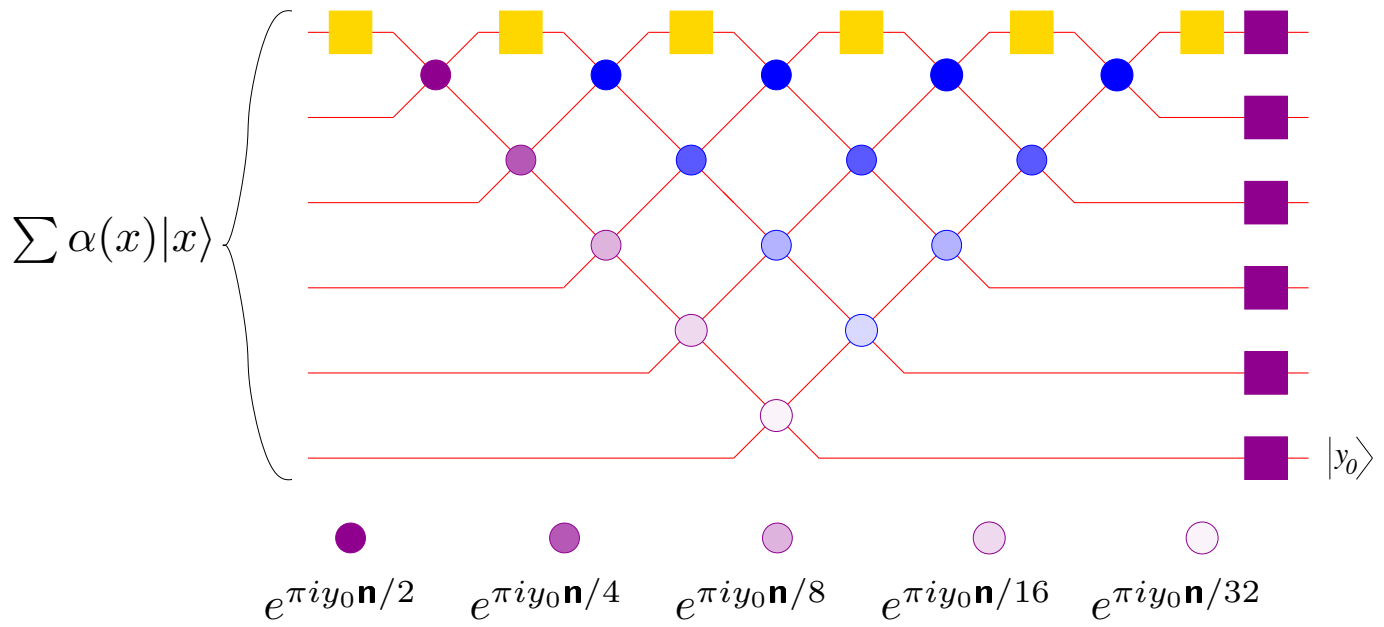
$$|\phi\rangle = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^n \sum_{0 \leq x < 2^n} |x\rangle.$$

So after each conditional (on  $x_j = 1$ ) multiplication by  $a^{2^j}$  can store  $(a^{2^j})^2 = a^{2^{j+1}}$  *using same 1000 Qbits* that formerly held  $a^{2^j}$ .

## Another Important Simplification

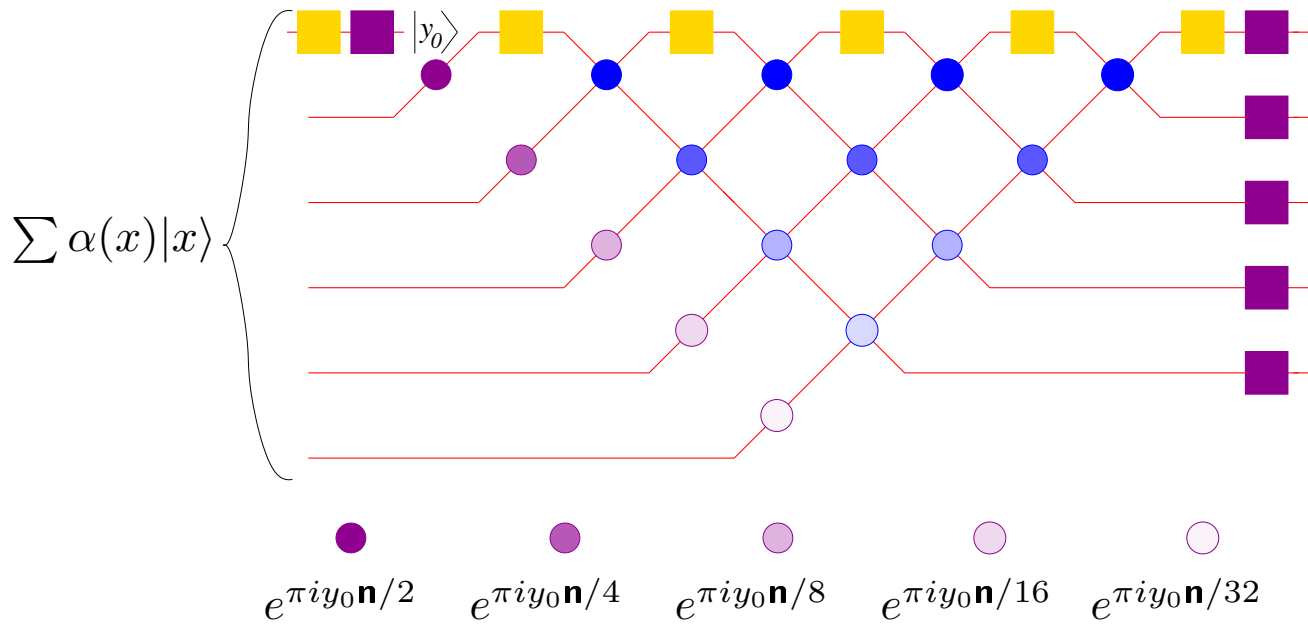


## The Important Simplification



*2-Qbit operators replaced by 1-Qbit operators,  
conditional on measurement outcome.*

## The Important Simplification



*You don't need anything but 1-Qbit gates!*

*Things I wish they had told me  
about Peter Shor's algorithm  
(and more general morals for the beginner):*

1. Shor algorithm finds periods. Period!  
Periods  $\longrightarrow$  factors solely via number-theory.
2. Period-finding is non-trivial for functions that look like random noise within a period.
3. Quantum parallelism doesn't calculate all values of a function using  $10^{300}$  computers in parallel universes.
4. Shor's quantum Fourier transform (QFT) doesn't transform from position to momentum representation.
5. To factor  $N = pq$  need enough Qbits to hold  $N$  periods of  $a^x \pmod{N}$  except in pathological cases (like  $N = 15$ ).

6. Quantum Fourier transform for  $n$  Qbits is built from just  $O(n^2)$  gates each of which acts only on single Qbits or on pairs of Qbits.
7. To use it for period finding you need only  $O(n)$  such gates.
8. To use it for period finding you can replace the 2-Qbit gates by 1-Qbit gates conditional on measurement outcomes.
9. Quantum computation is a unique blend of digital (measurement gates) and analog (unitary gates).
10. *Classical:* Cbits cheap, time precious.  
*Quantum:* Time cheap, Qbits precious.
11. Write *Qbit*, not *qubit*.

*Some other things I wish they had told me:*

*Question:*

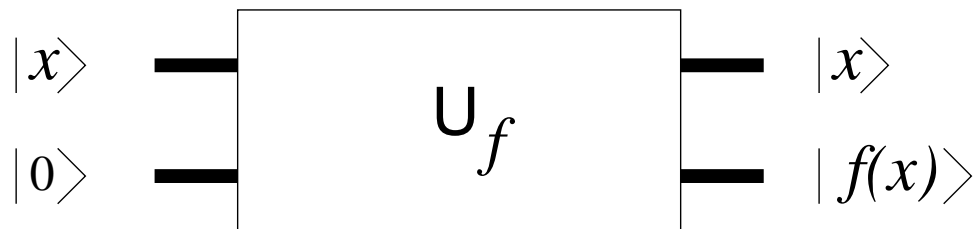
Why must a quantum computation be reversible (except for measurements)?

*Superficial answer:*

Because linear + norm-preserving  $\Rightarrow$  unitary and unitary transformations have inverses.

*Real answer:*

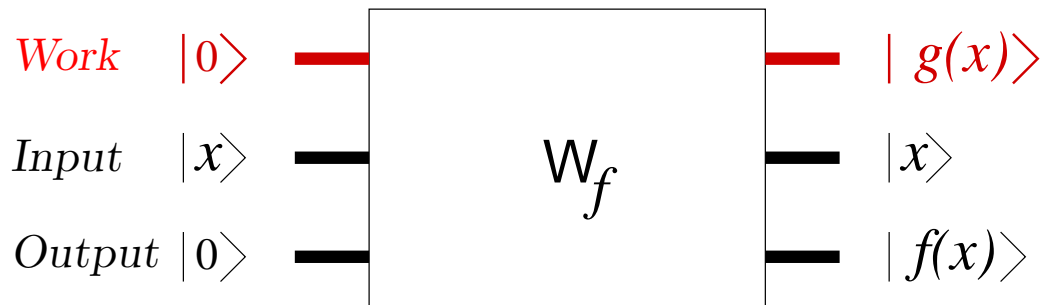
Because standard architecture for evaluating  $f(x)$ ,



*oversimplifies* the actual architecture:

Need additional **work registers** for doing the calculation:

## Registers



If input register starts in standard state  $\sum_x |x\rangle$   
then final state of all registers is  $\sum_x |g(x)\rangle |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle$ .

Work register **entangled** with input and out registers,  
unless final state of work register independent of  $x$ .

**Quantum parallelism breaks down.**

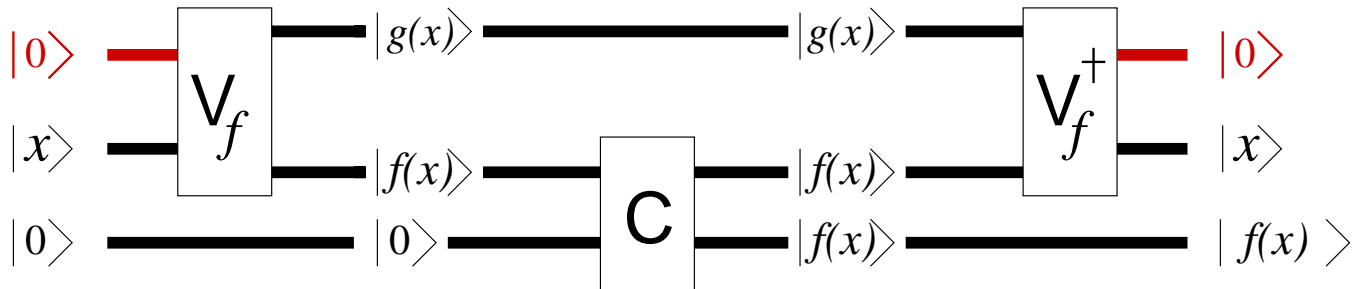
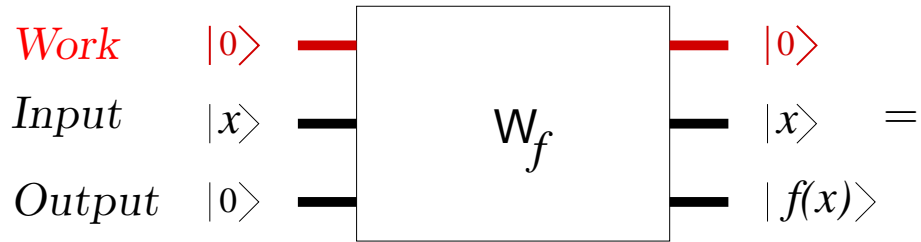
Quantum parallelism maintained

if  $|g(x)\rangle = |0\rangle$ , **independent of  $x$ .**

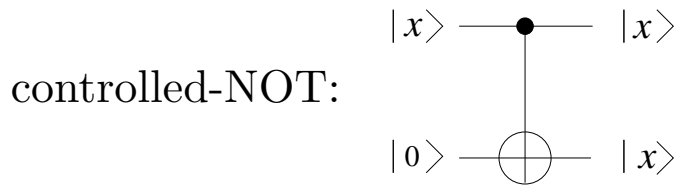
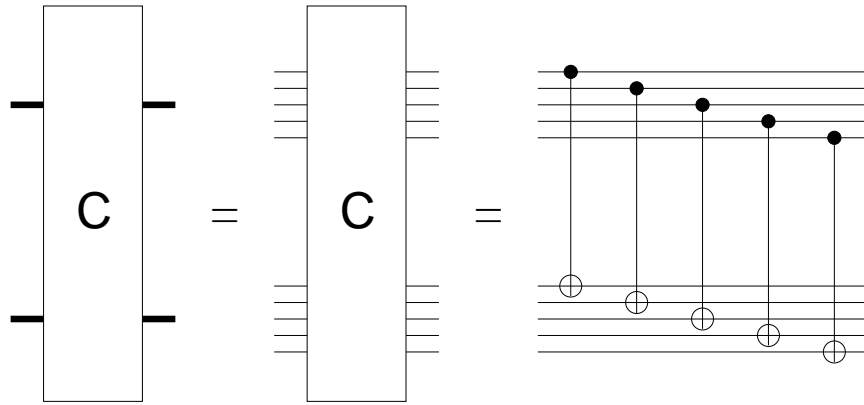
Final state is then  $|0\rangle \left( \sum_x |x\rangle |f(x)\rangle \right)$ .



How to keep the work register unentangled:



**C** is built out of 1-Qbit controlled-NOT gates:



*Question:*

How do you do **arithmetic** on a quantum computer?

*Answer:*

By copying the (pre-existing) classical theory of reversible computation.

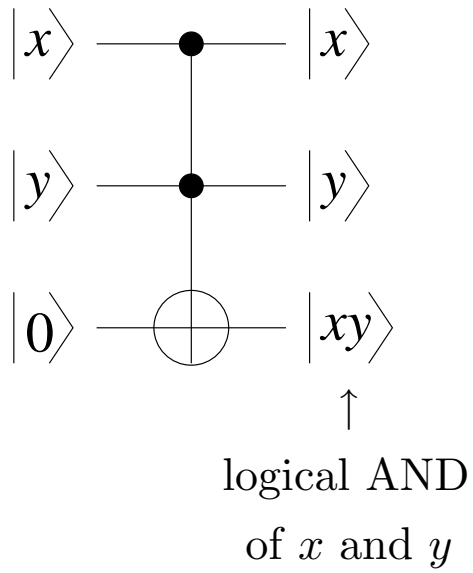
*Question (from reversible-classical-computer scientist):*

But that theory requires an irreducibly 3-Cbit doubly-controlled-NOT (Toffoli) gate!

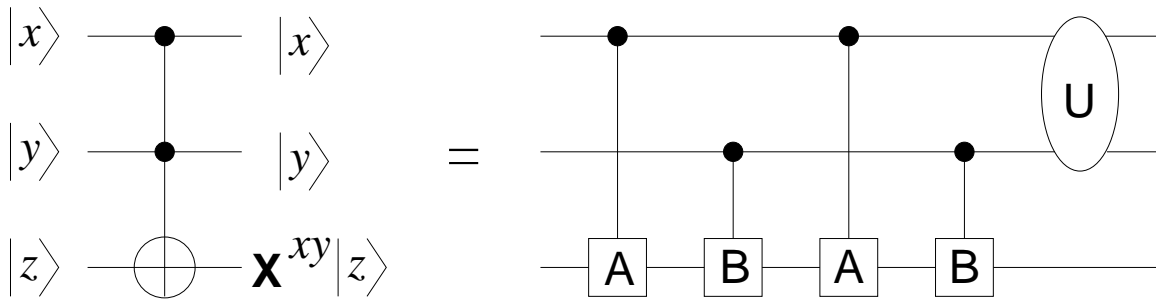
*Answer:*

In a quantum computer 3-Qbit Toffoli gate can be built from a few 2-Qbit gates.

*The 3-Cbit Doubly-Controlled-NOT (Toffoli) gate:*



*How to build the 3-Qbit Doubly-Controlled-NOT gate  
out of 2-Qbit gates:*



$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \sigma_x \quad \mathbf{U} = e^{-\pi i \mathbf{n} \mathbf{n}' / 2}$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \hat{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \quad \mathbf{B} = \hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} \quad \hat{\mathbf{a}} \times \hat{\mathbf{b}} = \hat{\mathbf{x}} \sin \theta$$

$$\mathbf{A}^2 = \mathbf{B}^2 = \mathbf{1}$$

$$\mathbf{AB} = \hat{\mathbf{a}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}} + i \hat{\mathbf{a}} \times \hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \cos \theta + i \sigma_x \sin \theta$$

$$(\mathbf{AB})^2 = \cos 2\theta + i \sigma_x \sin 2\theta$$

If angle  $\theta$  between  $\hat{\mathbf{a}}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{b}}$  is  $\pi/4$  then  $(\mathbf{AB})^2 = i\mathbf{X} = e^{\pi i/2} \mathbf{X}$

## *Reference:*

*Quantum Computer Science*

N. David Mermin

Cambridge University Press, August 2007