

Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Systems and Device Technology IISB

# Simulation for (and with) Quantum Computers

Georg Kruse, Simon Mundinar – 12.10.2023 – IISB Annual Symposium 2023

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Part 01

# **Quantum Computer**



# **Quantum Computer**

Qubits: Physical System

#### **General Properties**

- Any quantum 2-state system can act as a qubit
- However, for useful qubit additional properties are necessary:
- Long relaxation and decoherence times
  - Lifespan of the qubit's state (e.g., superconducting qubits ~100 μs; trapped-ion qubits ~10 min)

#### Scalable

 One qubit not enough for computing, required are hundreds and more (record: 433 qubits)

#### Controllable

Qubits need to be manipulated and read out, otherwise we cannot do anything

#### Efficiently manufacturable

Ideally no variation between qubits (and cheap production)

#### **Qubit Architectures**

 Huge number of different architectures possible, e.g., color centers, double quantum dots, superconducting circuits, trapped ions, trapped atoms, etc.





# Quantum Computer

Some Manufacturers



rigetti







D:Mang

© IBM



# Quantum Computer

Munich Quantum Valley

Munich Quantum

Valley



#### **Building a Bavarian Quantum Computer**

- Large Bavarian research project 10/2021 09/2026
- From qubit research through integration and application to education
- IISB contributes to consortia
  - K6 "Scalable Hardware & Systems Engineering" (SHARE)
  - K7 "Quantum Algorithms for Application, Cloud & Industry" (QACI)







Part 02

# **Simulation for Quantum Computers**



Superconducting Qubits

#### Architectures

Several different architectures of superconducting qubits



- Very different physics for different architectures
- All of them based on Josephson junctions

#### Josephson junctions

- Superconductor-Insulator-Superconductor junctions
- Since superconductors are required, cryogenic temperatures are essential (usually ~ mK)
- Josephson effect: Supercurrent through the junction without external voltage



- Electrical transport based on tunneling effect
- Acts as nonlinear inductance, leading to anharmonicity in the oscillator circuits that are the qubits
- Several tasks identified which need simulation support
  - Here 2 examples



Simulations for Josephson Junctions

## **Aluminum oxidation**

- **Questions**: How does Aluminum oxidize? Are their possibilities to improve the oxidation process?
- Simple model: **Cabrera-Mott theory** with corrections by Ghez [1,2]

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}X}{\mathrm{d}t} = 2u \sinh\left(\frac{X_1}{X}\right), \text{ solved by } \frac{1}{X} = -\frac{1}{X_1} \left(\ln\frac{t}{X^2} + \ln X_1 u\right)$$

Calibration based on experimental data from Jeurgens [3]



## Impact of the oxide

• **Question**: What is the impact of the oxide properties on the current?



[1] N. Cabrera and N. F. Mott, Rep. Prog. Phys. **12**, 163 (1949) [2] R. Ghez, J. Chem. Phys. **58**, 1838 (1973) [3] L. P. H. Jeurgens, *et al.*, J. Appl. Phys. **92**, 1649 (2002)



# **Control Electronics**

#### **Controller and Read-out**

- Qubits need to be controlled and read-out: Most convenient is electronic read-out
- Controller made in classical electronics: CMOS technology

#### **Temperature strategies**

- State-of-the-art quantum computers
  - Qubits at cryogenic temperatures
  - Controller at room temperatures
  - Not scalable system, too many cable connections
- Future quantum computers
  - Qubits and controller at cryogenic temperatures
  - More integrated systems
  - Enable large scale quantum computers







Control Electronics at Cryogenic Temperatures

#### Transistors at cryogenic temperatures

- Transistors behave differently than at room temperatures
- Current simulation models do not work and need to be adapted
- Design of controller based on simulations of individual transistors
- **Question**: How do transistors behave at cryogenic temperatures?



 $10^{-3}$ 

 $10^{-4}$ 

10<sup>-5</sup>

10<sup>-6</sup> '

10<sup>-7</sup>

10<sup>-8</sup>

10<sup>-9</sup>

I<sub>D</sub> [A]

nMOS

-300K

W=1 µm

L=30 nm

T<sub>ref</sub>=300 K

163K

0.2

85K

34K

0.4

4K

0.6

0.8



Conventional models

of 28-nm commercial

bulk CMOS

technology



# Simulation with Quantum Computers



# **Quantum Computing**

(Logical) Qubits

#### **General Properties**

- Bit: Classical 2-state system with discrete states (e.g., coin flip)
- **Qubit**: Quantum 2-state system (e.g., spin <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>)
- Superposition:
  - Qubit can be in any state on Bloch sphere until measured

 $|\psi\rangle = \alpha |0\rangle + \beta |1\rangle$ 

- After measurement:  $|\psi\rangle = |0\rangle$  or  $|\psi\rangle = |1\rangle$ with probability  $\alpha^2$  and  $\beta^2$
- Entanglement:
  - State space ("information") scales with  $2^n$

### Scaling Example

- **10 Qubits :** 2<sup>10</sup> = 1,024 values
- 100 Qubits: 2<sup>100</sup> = more values than stars in the known universe



Volkswagen. 2019. "Where is the Electron and How Many of Them?" Volkswagen Group. Accessed 2021-12-27.



# **Quantum Computing**

... and the Curse of Combinatorial Problems

Task: Connect all nodes while minimizing the total length of the edges



As the number of possible paths grows exponentially with the number of nodes in the graph, quantum advantage is to be expected.



# **Quantum Computing**

## Real World Applications





# **Quantum Computing at IISB**

Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm

## **Unit Commitment Problem**

- Required demand needs to be met by power plats at each timestep while minimizing the cost of energy production
- Mixed Integer Non-Linear Problem
- <u>Classical Solution</u>: MIP Solvers (CPLEX, Gurobi)

## Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm (QAOA)

- Each binary variable can be encoded into one qubit
- Problem is encoded into quantum circuit
- Parameters of quantum circuit are optimized using classical optimizer
- QAOA is a hybrid quantum classical algorithm





# **Quantum Computing at IISB**

Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm





Pagano, Guido, et al. "Quantum approximate optimization of the long-range Ising model with a trapped-ion quantum simulator." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 117.41 (2020): 25396-25401.

### State of the Art

- Access to 27 Qubit System IBM Q in Ehningen
- Evaluation of <u>classical optimizers</u> for QAOA
- Great difficulties remain <u>qubit number</u> and <u>noise</u>

Gleißner, Peter, Georg Kruse, and Andreas Roßkopf. "Restricted Global Optimization for QAOA." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2309.12181* (2023).





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# Thank you for your attention!