Quantum Computer Architecture (Co-Designed with Software): Tradeoffs and Breaking Abstractions

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An Architects View of the World

- Algorithms
- Prog Lang
- Compiler
- Architecture
- Modeling
- Devices
An Architect’s View of the World
Goal

Develop co-designed algorithms, SW, and HW to close the gap between algorithms and devices by 100-1000X, accelerating QC by 10-20 years.
Microarchitecture

[Fu+ Micro 2017 Best Paper]
Breaking ISA Abstraction

- Multi-Qubit Operators for QAOA
  - Direct translation from compiler to control pulses

[Joint work with David Schuster]
Modularity

Modular Chicago QC Hardware architecture (Schuster)

Advantages:

• 10 qubits per module, made in the machine shop, not the cleanroom
• 10x fewer transmons, 10x less classical hardware

Each memory mode can hold a qudit with up to 10 states
Local vs Non-Local Communication

- Maybe 10X bandwidth difference?
- Not that unusual in the classical world
- How does this affect quantum algorithms?
Static vs Dynamic: Mapping Data

- Static spectral and graph partitioners
- Map for clustering
  - Probably necessary to get to 1000 qubits
- Map for irregular physical constraints
  - Qubit couplings, hardware defects
- Granularity of mappings
- Interaction with qubit reuse

Spectral communities for 2-level Bravyi-Haah magic-state factory
Static vs Dynamic: Compilation

- Many applications static
- But quantum-classical co-processing may require dynamic parameters
- How to get a high level of optimization without complete re-compilation?
  - Eg hours for optimal control pulse generation, but how to adapt to changing rotation angles?
  - Similar to partial compilation for FPGAs
Multiple Tech vs Comm Overhead

- Classical architectures composed of multiple technologies: logic, SRAM, DRAM, interconnect
- With optical transduction, we can have:
  - Ions for high connectivity
  - Superconductors for high speed
  - Neutral atoms for storage
N-ary Logic vs Errors

- Use more than 2 qubit states per device
- Good for swap gates
- But higher modes have higher error probability

[Image credit: qutech blog]
Classical Control and Computation

- Temperature boundaries and interconnect constraints [Tannu+ Micro17]
  - Cryo-cmos: high power, but lower cost to cool 4k
  - Superconducting: expensive memory, low power, but expensive to cool to 10mk

- Real-time control: hard for GHz speeds
  - Adaptive algorithms, ML

- Error decoding
  - Fast, simple decoder in superconducting logic
    - Trade frequency of decoding for quality
Specialization vs Abstraction

Gap?

Short-term SW  Long-term SW

100  1000  10000  100000

qubits