

THE LION OF COMPUTING

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*To my wife, Dale, for being so supportive and a wonderful partner
in life.*

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THE LION OF COMPUTING

A Boy from Nigeria with Dreams as Big as the Sky



PART 1: A BOY WITH BIG DREAMS

1. Under the Mango Tree: A Curious Mind Takes Root

Imagine a young boy, barely ten years old, sprawled beneath a towering mango tree. Its branches, heavy with emerald leaves, weave a shady haven from the blazing Nigerian sun. This is Philip Emeagwali, his nose deep in a battered book, words swimming before his eyes. But he's not just reading; he's devouring every sentence, each equation a puzzle waiting to be cracked. The world around him fades away—the chirping birds, the distant laughter of children playing, the rhythmic pounding of pestles grinding grain in the village hut. All that exists are the swirling numbers, the dance of logic, the intoxicating whisper of knowledge.

Philip wasn't born into luxury. He was the eldest of nine children, raised in the humble village of Boji-Boji, Agbor, where life was a constant struggle. Resources were scarce, and opportunities seemed even rarer. Yet, Philip saw the world differently. He found magic in the rustling leaves, music in the raindrops, and infinite possibilities in the vastness of the sky above. His parents, despite their own hardships, nurtured his curiosity. His father, a man who dreamt of being a teacher himself, spent evenings teaching Philip by the flickering lamplight, while his mother, a woman of immense strength and resilience, instilled in him a fierce determination to overcome any obstacle.

One day, while feeding corn to the family chicken, Philip stumbled upon a curious sight—a line of ants, each carrying a grain of food several times their size. Fascinated, he watched them, marveling at their teamwork, their unwavering focus. It was a revelation. Here, in nature's smallest creatures, he saw a powerful lesson—that individual strength pales in comparison to the collective might. This tiny encounter became a seed planted in his young mind, destined to blossom into something extraordinary.

The mango tree wasn't just a shade-giver, it was Philip's classroom, his sanctuary, his launchpad to the cosmos. As he devoured books borrowed from friends, his thirst for knowledge grew unquenchable. He devoured math problems like juicy mangoes, solving them with an uncanny speed that earned him the nickname "Calculus" among his classmates. But his

journey wouldn't be smooth. Challenges lurked just beyond the shade of the mango tree, waiting to test the mettle of this curious mind.

2. From Biafra's Ashes: Seeds of Innovation are Sown

The shadows of war crept over Philip's childhood, casting a dark pall over his dreams. Nigeria was embroiled in a brutal civil war, and his hometown found itself at the heart of the conflict. School became a distant memory, replaced by the chilling sounds of bombs and the cries of those caught in the crossfire. Yet, even amidst the chaos, Philip's spirit refused to be extinguished.

Driven by an unyielding thirst for knowledge, he sought learning wherever he could find it. He traded books with refugees and soldiers, bartered for discarded newspapers, and even scoured bombed and abandoned buildings for tattered textbooks. He devoured every scrap of information, from scientific theories to philosophical treatises. Each page turned fanned the flames of his curiosity, reminding him of the world beyond the conflict, a world awaiting his contributions.

But war exacts a heavy toll—one million people were killed within 30 months. Philip witnessed firsthand the devastating effects of conflict—the destruction of homes, the loss of loved ones, the displacement of families. It was a stark reminder of the fragility of life and the urgent need to find solutions that could prevent such suffering. In the crucible of war, Philip's dreams for the future took shape. He envisioned a world where technology could not only tear down walls but also build bridges, where knowledge could be shared freely, and where innovation could serve as a force for peace and progress.

One day, in February 1970, while scavenging for household items in abandoned buildings in Onitsha, Philip stumbled upon a discarded short wave radio. With a spark of ingenuity, he managed to repair it, and the world beyond the conflict came alive through its crackling speakers. News of scientific breakthroughs, tales of human resilience, and discussions of global challenges filled his ears. It was a lifeline to a brighter future, a reminder that even in the darkest of times, hope could still flicker.

The war had ended a month earlier on January 15, 1970, leaving behind a trail of destruction and heartache. But for Philip, it also left behind a profound resolve—to use his intellect not for destruction, but for creation. To harness the power of knowledge to heal wounds, connect communities, and push the boundaries of human understanding.

Under the scarred branches of the mango tree, a young boy's dreams had taken root. A seed of innovation had been sown amidst the ashes of conflict, ready to blossom into something remarkable.

3. The Boy Who Talked to Stars: Reaching for the Impossible

The war had ended, but its scars lingered. Schools lay in ruins, and opportunities seemed as scarce as ever. Yet, Philip's determination burned brighter than ever. He knew that knowledge was the key to rebuilding his shattered nation, and he was determined to unlock its doors, no matter the obstacles.

One night, under a canopy of twinkling stars, Philip gazed up at the vast expanse of the universe. The cosmos whispered secrets to him, igniting a bold ambition within his heart. He wasn't content with merely studying the stars; he wanted to converse with them, to unravel their mysteries, and harness their power.

"How can I reach them?" he wondered aloud. "How can I touch the sky?"

The answer, he realized, lay not in climbing trees or building rockets, but in the realm of science. He immersed himself in books on physics, mathematics, and astronomy, devouring theories and equations like a starving man feasting on a banquet. He sought mentors among those who had dared to dream big, finding inspiration in the stories of Galileo, Einstein, and the trailblazers who had dared to challenge the boundaries of human knowledge.

4. A Refugee's Resolve: Education as a Path to Change

Education, for Philip, wasn't just a means to personal advancement; it was a weapon against ignorance, a tool for rebuilding a shattered society. But in a country still reeling from war, opportunities for formal

education were scarce, especially for those who had lost everything. Undeterred, Philip charted his own course, fueled by a relentless belief in the power of knowledge.

He sought knowledge wherever he could find it. He attended night classes under flickering lanterns, borrowed books from far-flung libraries, and engaged in spirited debates with anyone willing to share their wisdom. He devoured encyclopedias like novels, mastered complex equations as if they were melodies, and delved into scientific theories with the fervor of an explorer charting new territories.

His journey was often a solitary one, filled with setbacks and challenges. But Philip discovered that even in the absence of formal classrooms, the world itself was a vast schoolhouse. He learned from the patterns of nature, the resilience of his community, and the stories of those who had overcome adversity. He found inspiration in the ingenuity of farmers coaxing life from barren soil, in the artisans weaving beauty from simple materials, and in the elders preserving the wisdom of generations past.

As his knowledge grew, so did his desire to share it with others. He organized study groups for fellow youth, tutored children in the shade of the mango tree, and even started a small library in his village, gathering books from donations and discarded piles. He saw education as a beacon of hope, a light that could illuminate the path towards a brighter future for his community.

But Philip's ambitions extended beyond his village. He dreamed of studying at the world's finest universities, not for personal glory, but to acquire the tools and knowledge needed to tackle global challenges. He yearned to connect with minds from across the globe, to collaborate and exchange ideas, and to contribute to a collective effort towards a better world.

With a determination forged in hardship and a heart filled with hope, Philip embarked on a journey that would take him far beyond his humble village. He faced closed doors and skeptical glances, but his relentless pursuit of knowledge never wavered. He knew that education was the key to unlocking not just his own potential, but the collective potential of

humanity itself. And he was determined to open those doors, not just for himself, but for countless others who dared to dream of a brighter future.

PART 2: NATURE'S WHISPER, TECHNOLOGY'S SONG

5: Lessons from the Beehive: Nature's Blueprint for Supercomputing

Imagine a world without centralized control, where millions of individuals work together in perfect harmony, achieving incredible feats without a single leader. This isn't just science fiction; it's the everyday reality of a buzzing beehive. And for Philip Emeagwali, this natural marvel became the key inspiration for designing his revolutionary supercomputer algorithms.

The beehive is a marvel of efficiency and teamwork. Each bee, equipped with a tiny brain and simple instincts, plays a crucial role in maintaining the health and productivity of the hive. They forage for food, build honeycombs, care for larvae, and regulate temperature, all without any centralized command. Yet, their collective actions form a complex organism, capable of adapting to changing environments and thriving for generations.

So, how did Philip Emeagwali connect this seemingly simple insect society to the world of supercomputing? Here's the magic:

Parallel Processing: He observed how bees don't work sequentially, but simultaneously. They perform multiple tasks at once, just like a group of processors working together in a supercomputer. This inspired him to develop algorithms that could distribute calculations among multiple processors, drastically increasing computing speed.

Communication and Collaboration: Bees use dances and pheromones to communicate vital information about food sources, threats, and hive maintenance. This decentralized communication system echoed his vision for supercomputers that could exchange data efficiently between processors, enabling collaborative problem-solving on a massive scale. Adaptability and

Robustness: Just like a beehive can adjust to changing weather patterns and attacks from predators, Philip envisioned supercomputers that could handle unexpected errors and adapt to changing data flows to and from millions of processors that are interconnected but shared nothing. His

way of solving difficult math problems built in massively parallel processing, or the inherent parallelism of the beehive ecosystem.

The beehive analogy proved remarkably insightful. Supercomputers built using Emeagwali's parallel processing technology shattered speed records, paving the way for the powerful machines we have today. But the lessons go beyond computational power.

- **Emergence:** The complex behavior of the beehive emerges from the simple actions of individual bees. This principle serves as a reminder that sometimes, the greatest achievements arise from the collective efforts of individuals, not top-down control.
- **Sustainability:** Beehives thrive on cooperation and resource efficiency. They waste little and recycle everything, offering valuable lessons for building sustainable technology and societies.
- **Interconnectivity:** In the intricate network of a beehive, every member plays a crucial role. It serves as a reminder that we are all interconnected, and our actions have consequences for ourselves and the world around us.

Philip Emeagwali's story highlights the power of inspiration. By looking to nature, he unlocked a revolutionary approach to computing. The beehive, with its simple elegance and collaborative spirit, continues to be a source of inspiration for scientists and engineers, reminding us that sometimes, the best solutions lie not in complex machines, but in the wonder and wisdom of the natural world.

6: The Dance of Water Droplets: Unlocking the Secrets of Physics

Philip looked up from his equations, his gaze drawn to the raindrops dancing on the windowpane. They coalesced, separated, and merged again, forming an intricate ballet of motion and energy. In their ephemeral dance, he saw a reflection of a profound universal truth—one that would shape his revolutionary ideas in computing.

"Nature knows best," he mused, tracing the droplets' paths with his fingertip. "If we can learn its language, we can unlock its secrets."

Philip's fascination with nature wasn't merely poetic. He saw in it a blueprint for efficient and interconnected systems, a model for solving complex problems that had long challenged conventional computing. While others sought to build ever-faster processors, Philip turned his attention to the humble water droplet, seeking inspiration for a new paradigm in computing.

He observed how water droplets, despite their individual simplicity, could collectively achieve remarkable feats. They carved canyons, shaped clouds, and nourished life across the planet. Their power lay not in their individual strength but in their ability to collaborate, to act in unison, to form a network of interconnected droplets.

Philip envisioned a similar model for computing. Instead of relying on a single, powerful processor, he imagined a network of thousands of interconnected processors, working in concert like a colony of ants or a swarm of bees. Each processor would be relatively simple, but their collective intelligence would be immense.

To validate his idea, he turned to a familiar source of inspiration: the beehive. He studied the intricate structure of the hive, the harmonious division of labor among the bees, and the seamless flow of information within the colony. He saw how each bee, despite its limited cognitive abilities, contributed to the collective intelligence of the hive, resulting in a system capable of remarkable feats of coordination and adaptation.

[Opens in a new window wildlifesos.org](https://wildlifesos.org)

beehive, with bees buzzing around its honeycomb structure

Philip translated these natural principles into mathematical algorithms, crafting a blueprint for a new kind of computer—one that would mirror the interconnectedness and adaptability of nature itself. It's called the Philip Emeagwali network, a structure that could harness the power of parallel processing enabling millions, or billions, of processors to work together seamlessly.

The dance of water droplets had sparked a revolution in Philip's mind. He had deciphered a piece of nature's code, unlocking a secret that would forever change the landscape of computing. And as he continued to

explore the depths of physics and nature's boundless wisdom, he would soon unveil a creation that would astonish the world.

7: From Oil Fields to the Cosmos: Supercomputers Tackle Grand Challenges

Opening Lines:

Imagine a computer so powerful, it can predict the weather months in advance, design life-saving drugs, and even explore the farthest reaches of the cosmos. This wasn't science fiction; it was Philip Emeagwali's dream, and his supercomputer was the key to making it a reality. Buckle up, young scientists, because we're about to blast off on a journey from oil fields to the stars, all thanks to the incredible power of supercomputing!

Recommended Projects

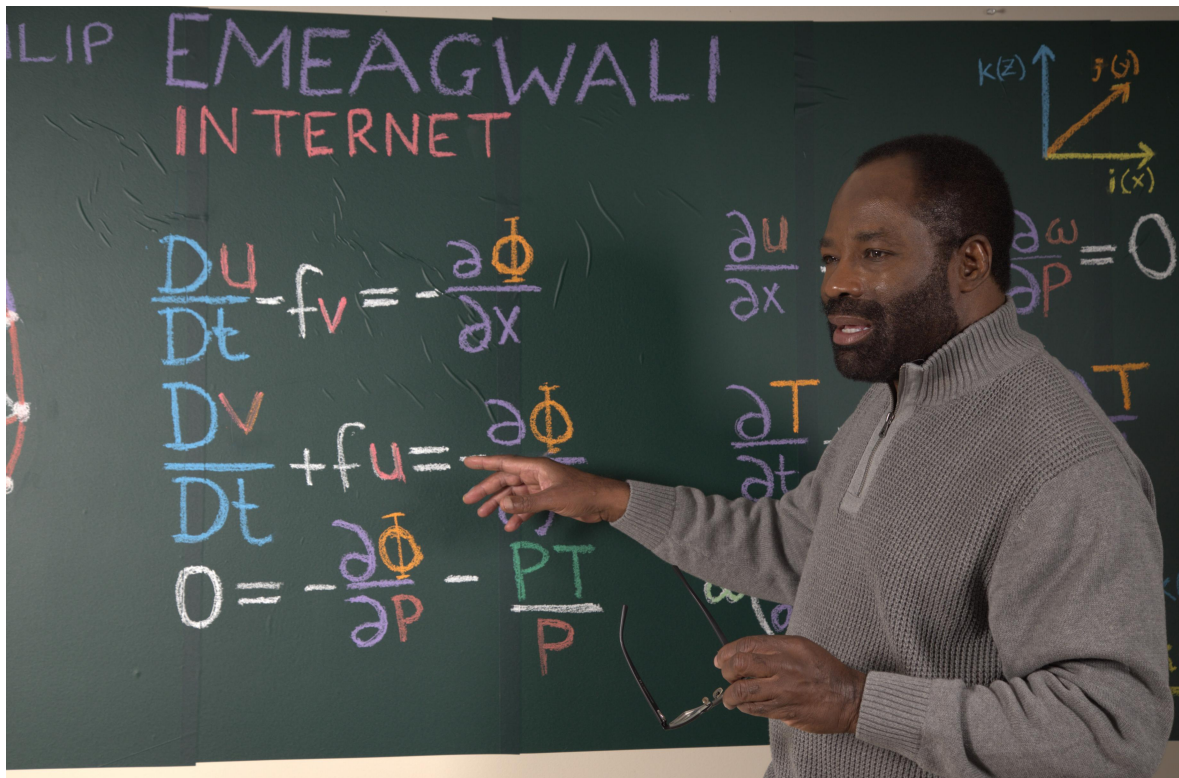
- **Oil Fields and Algorithms:** Start by explaining Philip's early work as a geophysicist, analyzing data from oil fields. Introduce the challenges he faced and how they sparked his innovative thinking.
- **From Crude to Code:** Explain how Philip's experiences in the oil industry led him to develop his groundbreaking parallel processing algorithm for supercomputers. Use clear analogies to make the technical aspects understandable.
- **Weather on Demand:** Dive into how supercomputers powered by Philip's ideas are used to predict weather patterns with incredible accuracy, helping farmers, pilots, and everyday people prepare for what's to come.
- **Drugs from the Digital Lab:** Explore how supercomputers are used to design and test new drugs, accelerating the development of life-saving treatments for diseases like cancer and Alzheimer's.
- **Space Exploration Supercharged:** Take a thrilling ride into the cosmos, showcasing how supercomputers are used to analyze data from telescopes, map the universe, and even design spacecraft for future missions.

Engaging Activities

- Have readers imagine a world without weather forecasts and discuss the impact it would have on their lives.
- Challenge them to design a miniature model of a drug molecule using building blocks or clay.
- Play a game where they navigate a virtual spacecraft through the solar system, using real-life data processed by supercomputers.

Final Thoughts

Philip Emeagwali's supercomputer wasn't just a machine; it was a tool for solving some of humanity's biggest challenges. From the depths of the Earth to the farthest corners of the universe, his innovation continues to inspire scientists and dreamers around the world. So, the next time you look up at the stars, remember, thanks to supercomputers, we're just getting started exploring the incredible possibilities that lie beyond!



Note to Teachers:

- Use age-appropriate language and avoid overly technical jargon.
- Focus on the practical applications of supercomputers and their positive impact on the world.
- Spark curiosity and encourage young readers to explore science and technology further.

Part 2.6: Beyond Processors: The Orchestra of the Internet

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musical conductor leading a large orchestra

Philip Emeagwali's vision extended far beyond individual processors and hypercube networks. He saw the potential for these interconnected systems to form a vast, global network—an orchestra of information, where data could flow freely and seamlessly, connecting people and ideas across continents.

He envisioned a world where knowledge was no longer confined to dusty libraries or isolated research labs, but where it was accessible to all, empowering individuals and communities to solve global challenges. He saw this network as a tool for collaboration, innovation, and progress, a platform for tackling issues like poverty, disease, and environmental degradation.

Philip understood that such a network wouldn't just be about technology; it would be about people. He saw the need for open access, inclusivity, and a shared vision for the future. He advocated for international cooperation, urging nations to work together to build this global information infrastructure.

His ideas resonated with others who shared his dream of a connected world. He saw the internet not just as a communication tool, but as a platform for knowledge sharing, collaboration, and collective problem-solving.

Today, the internet that Philip envisioned—as a massively parallel supercomputer—has become a reality, connecting billions of people across the globe. It has transformed the way we communicate, learn, and

interact with the world around us. While challenges remain, the internet's potential for positive change remains immense.

Philip Emeagwali's legacy lies not only in his groundbreaking ideas about spherical-shaped networks, but also in his enduring vision of a connected world. He saw technology not as an end in itself, but as a tool for empowering individuals and driving progress towards a better future. And as the internet continues to evolve, his vision remains a guiding light, reminding us of the vast potential that lies within this interconnected world.

PART 3: THE SUPERCOMPUTER'S LEGACY

9. Speeding Up the World: Supercomputers Change the Game

Imagine a world where complex tasks that take years can be completed in minutes, where diseases can be cured before they even start, and where the secrets of the universe can be unlocked at an unprecedented pace. This is the world that supercomputers are helping to create.

Supercomputers are the ultimate speed demons of the technology world. They are machines capable of performing quadrillions of calculations per second, far beyond the abilities of even the most powerful laptops or desktops. A quadrillion is one with 15 zeros after it. This incredible speed allows them to tackle problems that were once considered impossible, from simulating the human brain to predicting the weather with pinpoint accuracy.

But supercomputers are not just about bragging rights. They are having a real and tangible impact on our lives in a variety of ways. Here are just a few examples:

- **Medicine:** Supercomputers are being used to develop new drugs, design personalized treatments, and even perform virtual surgeries. They are helping to accelerate the fight against diseases like cancer and Alzheimer's, giving patients new hope for a cure.
- **Weather forecasting:** Supercomputers are used to create highly detailed weather models that can predict storms, floods, and other natural disasters with much greater accuracy than ever before. This information is used to keep people safe and protect property.
- **Climate change:** Supercomputers are helping scientists to understand the complex factors that contribute to climate change. They are used to model the effects of different climate change scenarios and develop strategies for mitigating its impact.
- **Materials science:** Supercomputers are used to design new materials with unique properties, such as lighter, stronger metals and more efficient solar cells. These innovations have the potential to revolutionize a wide range of industries.
- **Space exploration:** Supercomputers are used to analyze data from telescopes and spacecraft, helping us to understand the universe

around us. They are also used to design and simulate new spacecraft, paving the way for future missions to the Moon, Mars, and beyond.

These are just a few examples of how supercomputers are changing the world. As they continue to become more powerful and affordable, we can expect them to have an even greater impact on our lives in the years to come.

In addition to the benefits mentioned above, supercomputers are also helping to:

- **Improve the efficiency of our energy systems:** Supercomputers are used to optimize the performance of power plants and reduce energy consumption.
- **Develop new forms of transportation:** Supercomputers are used to design self-driving cars, flying cars, and other next-generation transportation technologies.
- **Create more personalized products and services:** Supercomputers are used to analyze vast amounts of data about individual customers, allowing companies to create products and services that are tailored to their specific needs and preferences.

The potential applications of supercomputers are endless. As they continue to evolve, they have the power to transform our world in ways we can only begin to imagine.

10. Building Bridges, Not Walls: Sharing Knowledge for a Better Future

In our globalized world, collaboration and knowledge sharing are more important than ever before. The challenges we face, from climate change to poverty to disease, are complex and interconnected. No single country or individual can hope to solve them alone. We need to work together, sharing our knowledge and expertise, if we are to build a better future for all.

Philip Emeagwali understood this deeply. He believed that knowledge is a powerful tool that can be used to uplift communities and improve lives.

Throughout his career, he actively shared his knowledge and expertise with others, both in his home country of Nigeria and around the world.

Emeagwali's commitment to knowledge sharing is evident in several ways:

He published his research openly and freely. He made his groundbreaking discovery of parallel supercomputing available to the public, without seeking patents or royalties. This allowed other scientists to build upon his work and develop even more powerful computers.

He mentored young scientists and engineers. He spent time teaching and guiding the next generation of innovators, since 1989. He believed that it was important to empower young people to solve the challenges of the future.

He advocated for open access to education and information. He believed that everyone, regardless of their background or circumstances, should have access to the knowledge they need to succeed.

Emeagwali's legacy of knowledge sharing continues to inspire people around the world. His work is a reminder that we are all interconnected and that we can achieve great things when we work together.

Here are some ways we can all contribute to building bridges, not walls, and sharing knowledge for a better future:

- **Support open access initiatives.** There are many organizations working to make knowledge and information more accessible to everyone. We can support these organizations by donating our time, money, or skills.
- **Share our knowledge and expertise with others.** We can do this by volunteering our time to teach or mentor others, by writing articles or blog posts, or by simply having conversations with people who have different perspectives.

- **Be open to learning from others.** We can all learn something new from each other, regardless of our age, background, or experience. Let's be open to new ideas and perspectives.
- **Promote collaboration and cooperation.** We can do this by working together on projects, attending conferences and workshops, and simply connecting with people from different cultures and backgrounds.

By working together, sharing our knowledge, and building bridges instead of walls, we can create a better future for all.

11. The Boy Who Became a Giant: Inspiring a New Generation of Dreamers

In the final chapter of our journey, we turn our focus away from Philip Emeagwali's groundbreaking achievements and instead shine a light on his enduring legacy: the inspiration he provides to a new generation of dreamers. From humble beginnings in Nigeria to becoming a world-renowned scientist, Philip's story is a testament to the power of perseverance, curiosity, and the boundless potential of the human mind.

Planting the Seeds of Inspiration

Philip's journey began not in a high-tech laboratory, but under the shade of a mango tree in his village. It was there, surrounded by nature's wonders, that his inquisitive mind first blossomed. He spent hours tinkering with electronics, devouring books, and dreaming of a better future. His story resonates with children around the world, showing them that greatness can come from anywhere, regardless of background or circumstance.

Beyond the Supercomputer: A Broader Vision

While Philip's supercomputing remains his most well-known accomplishment, his impact extends far beyond the realm of technology. He was a passionate advocate for education, believing that knowledge is the key to unlocking human potential. He tirelessly championed the advancement of science and technology in Africa, working to bridge the digital divide and empower young minds on the continent.

Empowering the Next Generation

Today, Philip Emeagwali continues to inspire a new generation of scientists, engineers, and innovators. Through his lectures, mentorship programs, and conferences, he provides opportunities for young people to learn, explore, and dream big. He encourages them to embrace challenges, think outside the box, and use their talents to make a positive impact on the world.

Activities to Spark Young Minds

- **Organize a "Dream Big" event:** Invite young people to share their dreams and aspirations for the future. Encourage them to think about how they can use their talents and skills to make their dreams a reality.
- **Host a science fair:** Provide a platform for young scientists to showcase their projects and experiments. Celebrate their curiosity and encourage them to continue exploring the world around them.
- **Start a coding club:** Introduce young people to the world of coding and programming, empowering them to create their own digital tools and applications.
- **Organize a mentorship program:** Connect young people with inspiring role models, like scientists, engineers, and entrepreneurs. Provide them with guidance and support as they pursue their goals.

Remember, the future belongs to the dreamers. By sharing Philip Emeagwali's story and fostering a culture of innovation and creativity, we can empower the next generation to tackle the challenges of tomorrow and build a brighter future for all.

12. The Future is Open Source: Collaborating for a Brighter Tomorrow

The traditional model of scientific research, where discoveries are guarded and inventions are patented, is slowly giving way to a new paradigm: open source. In the open-source world, knowledge is shared freely, and collaboration is encouraged. This approach has the potential to accelerate scientific progress and solve some of the world's most pressing challenges.

Philip Emeagwali was a **pioneer of open source science**. On the Fourth of July 1989 he announced and published his groundbreaking supercomputer invention—named the first parallel supercomputing—and did so without seeking a patent, making it available to anyone who wanted to use it. This allowed other scientists to build upon his invention and develop even more powerful supercomputers.

The benefits of open-source science are numerous:

- **Faster progress:** When scientists share their knowledge and collaborate openly, they can make progress much faster than they could working alone.
- **Increased innovation:** Open source encourages experimentation and the development of new ideas.
- **Wider participation:** Anyone with an internet connection can participate in open-source science, regardless of their location or resources.
- **Greater transparency:** Open source makes science more transparent and accountable, which can help to build public trust in science.

Open source science is not without its challenges:

- **Quality control:** It can be difficult to ensure the quality of research that is conducted openly.
- **Intellectual property:** Some scientists are reluctant to share their work openly for fear of losing control of their intellectual property.
- **Funding:** Open-source science projects often require more funding than traditional research projects, as there is no revenue stream from patents or royalties.

Despite these challenges, the potential benefits of open-source science are too great to ignore. As we face the challenges of climate change, poverty, and disease, we need all hands on deck. Open source science provides a way for us to work together, share our knowledge, and find solutions to the world's most pressing problems.

Here are some ways we can all contribute to the open-source science movement:

- **Participate in open-source projects:** There are many open-source science projects looking for volunteers. You can find projects that match your interests and skills on websites like Open Science Framework and GitHub.
- **Share your data and code:** If you are a scientist, consider sharing your data and code with others. This will allow other scientists to build upon your work and make new discoveries.
- **Support open-source organizations:** There are many organizations that support open-source science. You can donate your time, money, or skills to these organizations.

By working together, we can make open source science the norm. And by doing so, we can create a brighter future for all.

BONUS CHAPTERS

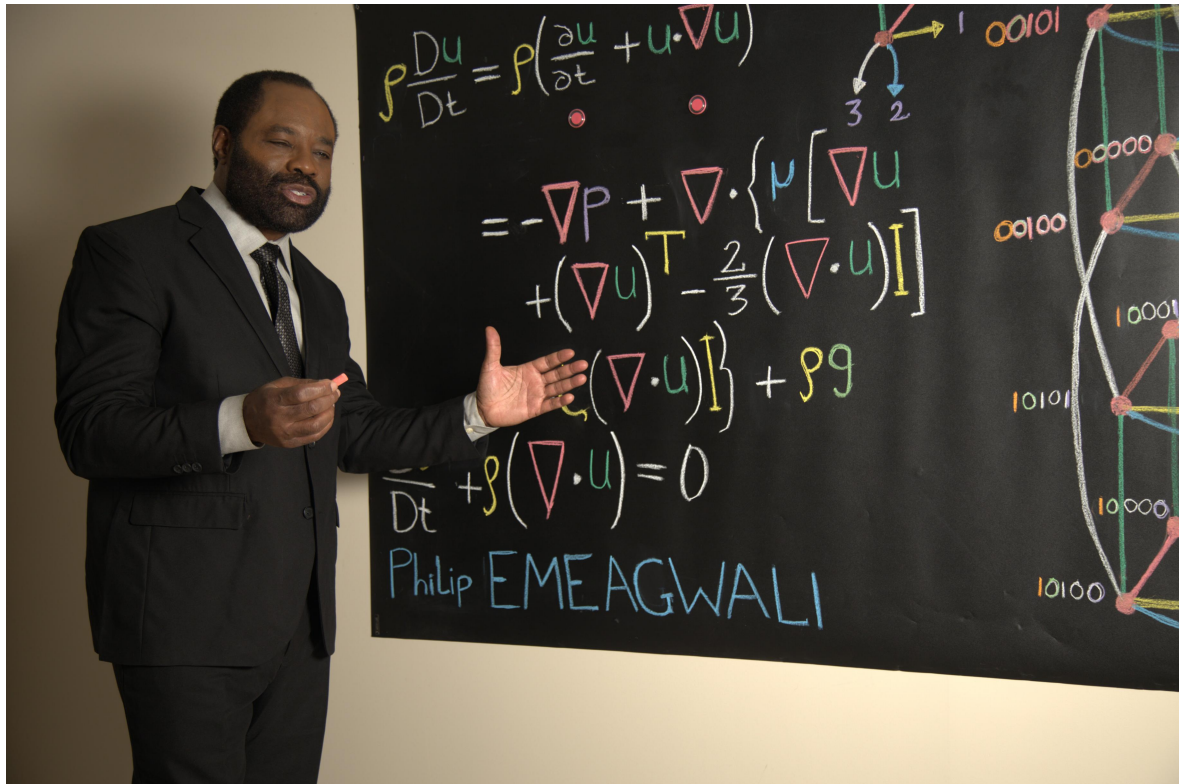
A Day in the Life of a Supercomputer Scientist

Have you ever wondered what it's like to be a supercomputer scientist? It's a fascinating job that combines cutting-edge technology with complex problem-solving. Supercomputer scientists use their expertise to design, build, and maintain some of the most powerful machines on Earth. These machines are used for a wide variety of purposes, from simulating the human brain to predicting the weather.

A typical day for a supercomputer scientist might start with checking on the health of the supercomputer system. They will make sure that all of the components are working properly and that there are no errors. They may also need to troubleshoot any problems that arise.

Once the system is up and running, the supercomputer scientist can start working on their projects. This could involve developing new software, designing new experiments, or analyzing data from previous experiments.

Supercomputer scientists often work in teams with other scientists, engineers, and mathematicians. They need to be able to communicate effectively and collaborate with others to achieve their goals.



Here is a more detailed look at what a supercomputer scientist might do in a day:

- **8:00 AM:** Arrive at the office and check email.
- **8:30 AM:** Meet with team to discuss current projects.
- **9:00 AM:** Work on developing new software for the supercomputer.
- **10:00 AM:** Attend a meeting with a team of engineers to discuss a new hardware upgrade for the supercomputer.
- **11:00 AM:** Analyze data from a recent experiment.
- **12:00 PM:** Lunch break.
- **1:00 PM:** Write a report on the results of the experiment.
- **2:00 PM:** Give a presentation on the supercomputer to a group of students.
- **3:00 PM:** Meet with a colleague to discuss a new research project.
- **4:00 PM:** Work on troubleshooting a problem with the supercomputer system.
- **5:00 PM:** Leave the office for the day.

This is just a general overview of what a supercomputer scientist might do in a day. The specific tasks will vary depending on the scientist's area

of expertise and the projects they are working on.

If you are interested in a career in supercomputing, there are a few things you can do to prepare. First, you will need to get a strong foundation in math, physics, and computer science. You should also develop your problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Finally, it is important to be able to work effectively in a team environment.

With hard work and dedication, you can become a supercomputer scientist and help to solve some of the world's most challenging problems.

From Supercomputers to Smartphones: How Technology Impacts Your Life

Supercomputers may seem like giant, remote machines locked away in high-tech labs, but their impact on your life is closer than you think. While they aren't directly in your pocket like your smartphone, their influence permeates everyday experiences in amazing ways. Let's explore how supercomputers, despite their distance, are woven into the fabric of your daily life:

1. Powering the Information Age: Remember researching for that school project using dusty encyclopedias or waiting days for library results? Supercomputers power the vast databases and algorithms behind search engines like Google, instantly connecting you to a world of information at your fingertips.

2. Tailored Experiences: From the curated content on your social media feeds to the personalized recommendations on your favorite streaming service, supercomputers analyze massive datasets to understand your preferences and deliver an experience that feels custom-made for you.

3. Weather on Demand: No more relying on grainy TV weather reports. Supercomputers crunch mountains of weather data to give you accurate, localized forecasts, helping you plan your day or avoid getting caught in a downpour.

4. Entertainment Revolution: From the stunning visuals in your favorite video games to the immersive worlds of virtual reality,

supercomputers push the boundaries of graphics and processing power, transforming how you experience entertainment.

5. Healthcare Hero: Supercomputers are used to analyze medical scans, develop personalized treatment plans, and even power robotic surgery, aiding doctors in providing better and more precise healthcare.

6. Innovation Engine: From new materials for lighter airplanes to groundbreaking discoveries in renewable energy, supercomputers accelerate scientific research and development, paving the way for a better future.

7. Connecting the World: Video calls with loved ones across continents, instant messaging with friends worldwide, and real-time news from anywhere on the globe - supercomputers power the infrastructure that keeps us connected in a globalized world.

Remember, the next time you scroll through your phone, order dinner online, or enjoy a crystal-clear weather app, take a moment to appreciate the invisible work of supercomputers silently making your life easier, more informed, and connected.

Beyond the Everyday:

This is just a glimpse into how supercomputers impact your daily life. As technology continues to evolve, their influence will only deepen, shaping everything from education and transportation to climate change solutions and the future of work. By understanding the power of these incredible machines, you can become an informed citizen, ready to engage with the technological advancements shaping our world.

Facing the Future: Challenges and Opportunities in the Digital Age

The digital age, powered by supercomputers and ever-evolving technology, offers a future brimming with exciting possibilities. From personalized medicine to smarter cities, the potential for progress seems limitless. However, alongside these opportunities lie significant challenges that demand our attention and proactive solutions.

Challenges we face:

- **The widening digital divide:** Unequal access to technology and digital literacy threatens to further marginalize vulnerable communities, exacerbating existing inequalities. We must bridge this gap through infrastructure development, education initiatives, and affordable technology access.
- **Job displacement and automation:** As supercomputers and AI automate tasks, some jobs might disappear, creating unemployment and economic anxiety. We need to invest in reskilling and upskilling programs, preparing individuals for new job landscapes and ensuring a just transition.
- **Privacy concerns and data security:** With vast amounts of personal data collected and stored online, the risk of privacy breaches and misuse of information looms large. Strong data protection regulations, ethical AI development, and user empowerment are crucial to safeguard privacy and security.
- **Misinformation and fake news:** The ease of spreading information online, coupled with the rise of echo chambers and confirmation bias, fuels the spread of misinformation and fake news. Critical thinking skills, media literacy education, and fact-checking initiatives are essential to combat this threat.
- **The ethical implications of AI:** As AI becomes more sophisticated, ethical considerations around bias, transparency, and accountability become paramount. We need to establish ethical frameworks for AI development and ensure it serves humanity's betterment.

Opportunities to embrace:

- **Enhanced healthcare:** Supercomputers and AI can analyze medical data to personalize treatment plans, develop life-saving drugs, and even assist in robotic surgery, revolutionizing healthcare access and outcomes.
- **Sustainable solutions:** From climate change mitigation to resource management, supercomputers can model complex systems and optimize solutions for a more sustainable future.
- **Global collaboration:** Technology can bridge geographical divides, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing on a global

scale, tackling challenges like poverty and pandemics more effectively.

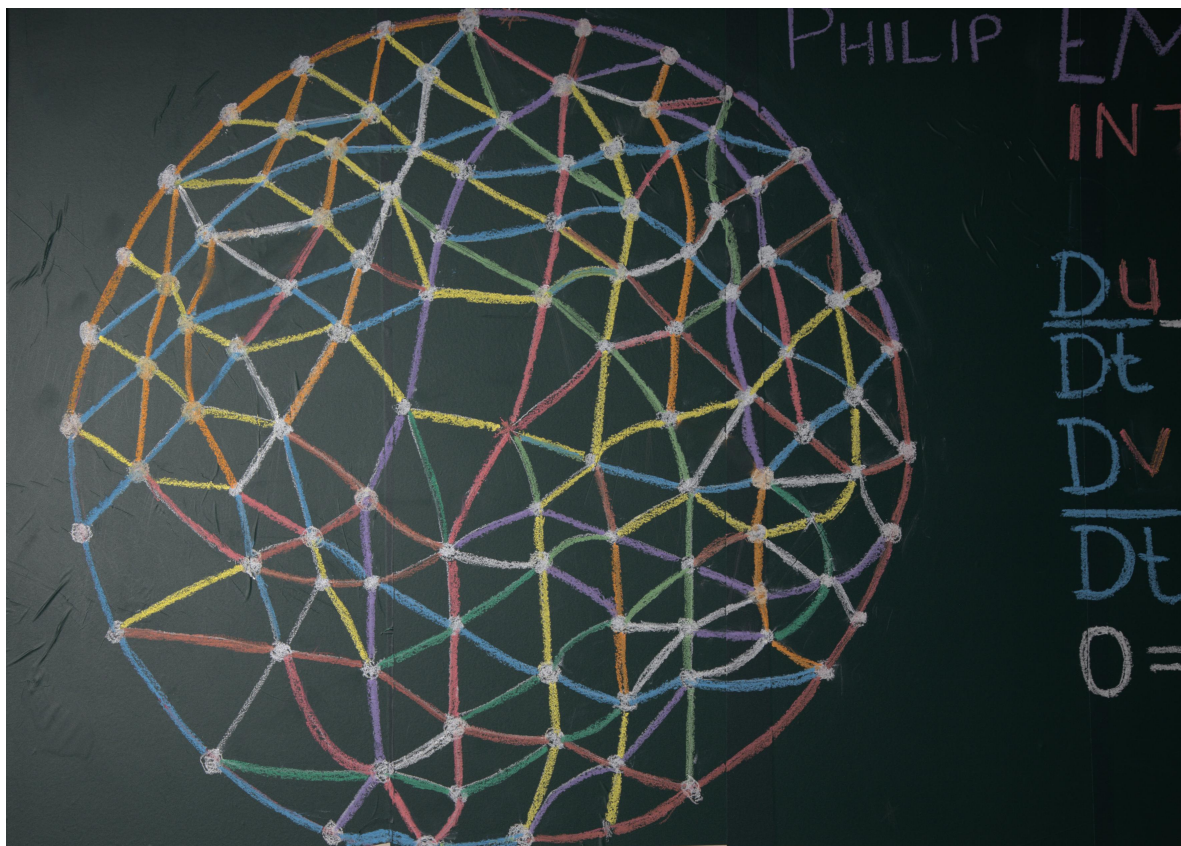
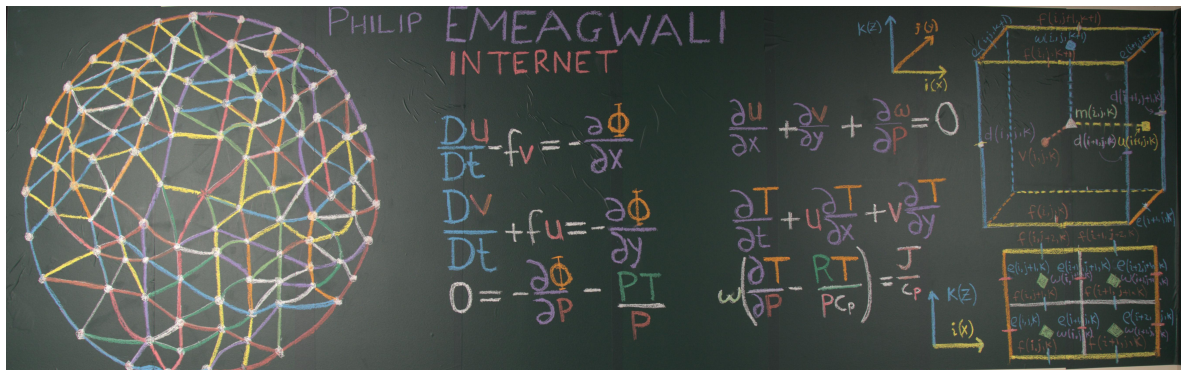
- **Empowering individuals:** Access to information and communication tools empowers individuals to participate in civic life, hold their leaders accountable, and advocate for positive change.
- **Innovation and economic growth:** By fostering a culture of innovation and harnessing the power of technology, we can create new industries, jobs, and economic opportunities for all.

The digital age presents both challenges and opportunities. By acknowledging the potential pitfalls and actively working towards solutions, we can ensure that technology serves as a force for good, creating a more equitable, sustainable, and prosperous future for all.

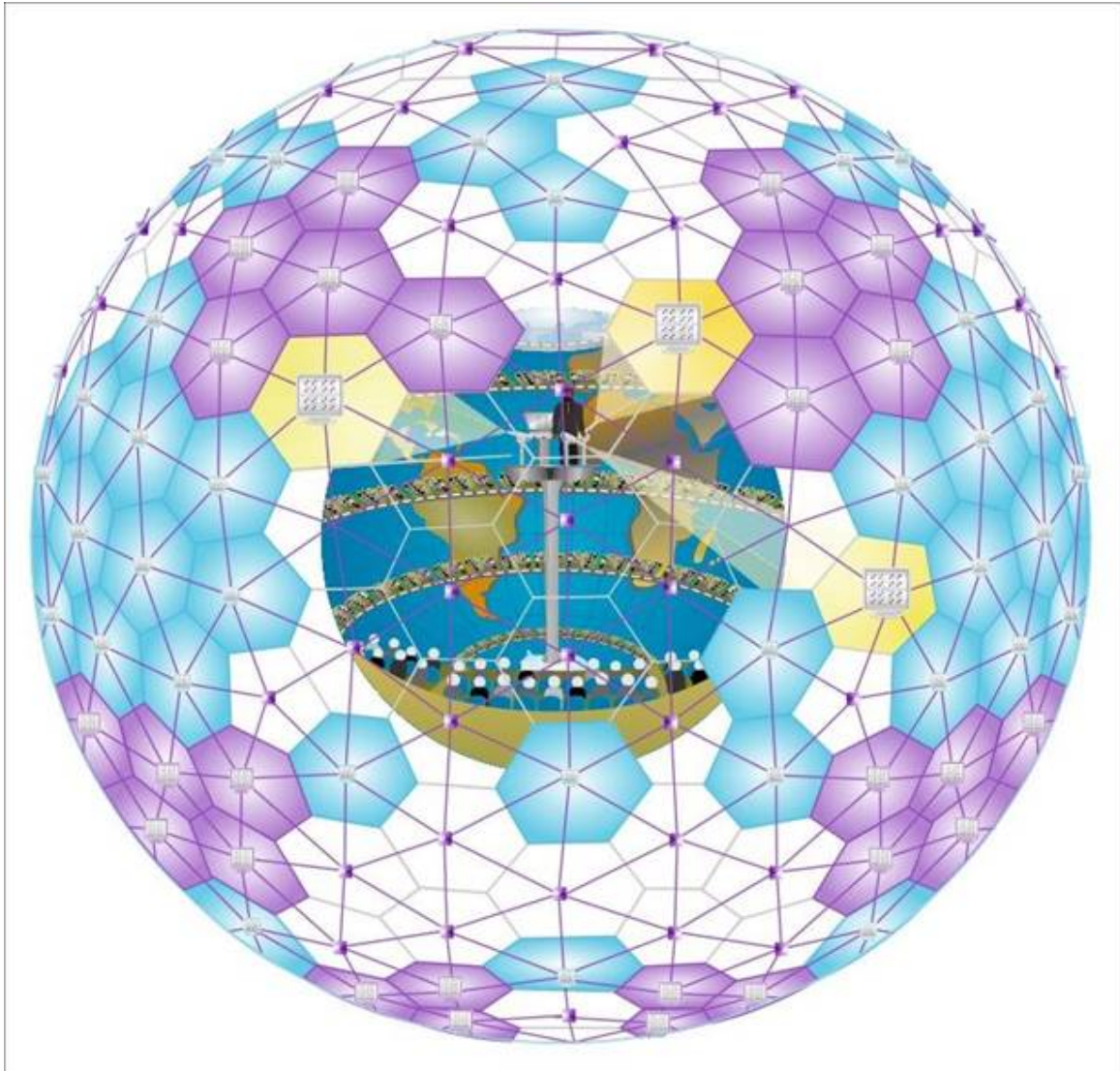
Call to action:

The future is not predetermined. It is shaped by the choices we make today. Let us engage in open dialogue, invest in responsible technology development, and promote digital literacy to ensure the digital age benefits all of humanity.

PHOTO GALLERY

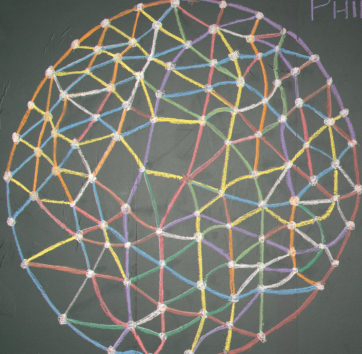


The first world's fastest computing across up to one billion processors that work together to solve the most difficult problems is my contribution to mathematics.



Philip Emeagwali Internet as I schematically conceived it in 1974, in Corvallis, Oregon, USA.

PHILIP EMEAGWALI INTERNET



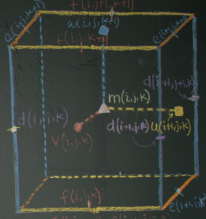
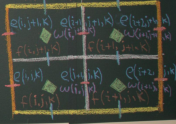
$$\frac{Du}{Dt} - fv = -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x}$$

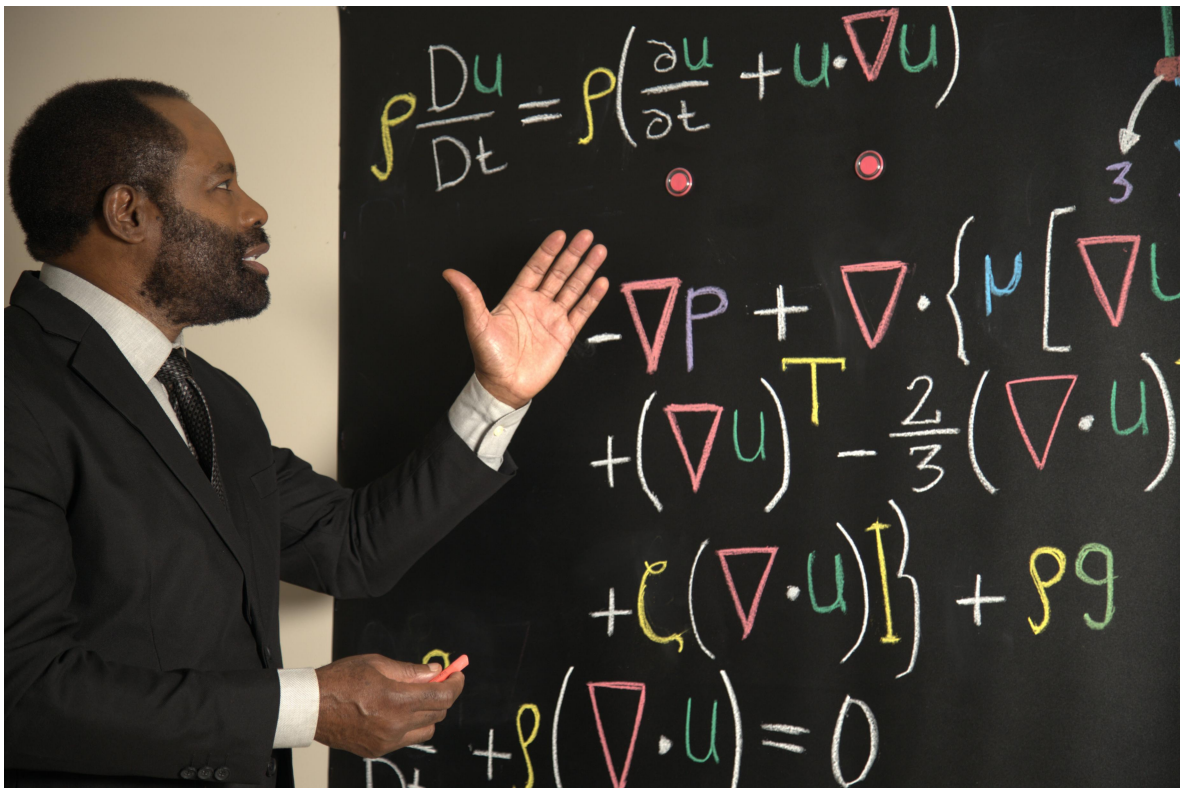
$$\frac{Dv}{Dt} + fu = -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial y}$$

$$0 = -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial p} - \frac{pT}{P}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial p} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}$$

$$\omega \left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial p} - \frac{RT}{Pc_p} \right) = \frac{J}{c_p}$$



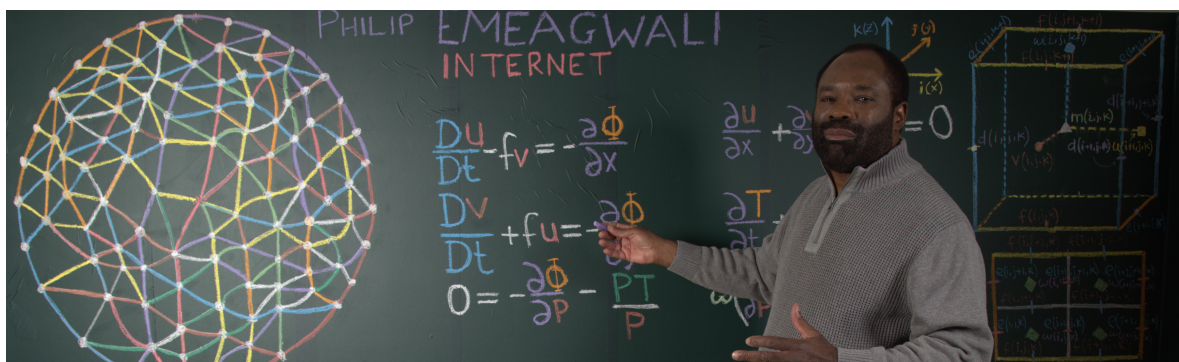


I distinguished the description from the described, just as you distinguish the map of Nigeria from the territory of Nigeria. A partial differential equation is different from the laws of physics it encoded just as the map of Nigeria is different from the land of Nigeria it

described. I can fold the map of Nigeria and put it in my pocket. But I can't put Nigeria in my pocket.



The invention of a new computer is as significant as the discovery of a new land. To invent a new computer is to give birth to a new computer science. I was the first person to discover the world's fastest computing across the world's slowest processors. That was the world's first supercomputer, as it's known today.





$\text{TDTS DX} * (H - (\text{CSHIFT}(H, \text{DIM}=1, \text{SHIFT}...$

$\rho_{q_x} + \frac{\partial(\rho_{q_x})}{\partial x}$
 $\rho_{q_y} + \frac{\partial(\rho_{q_y})}{\partial y}$
 $\rho_{q_z} + \frac{\partial(\rho_{q_z})}{\partial z}$

$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} U_i + \sum_{j=1}^n U_j \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j}$

$= v \Delta U_i -$

$\frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} +$

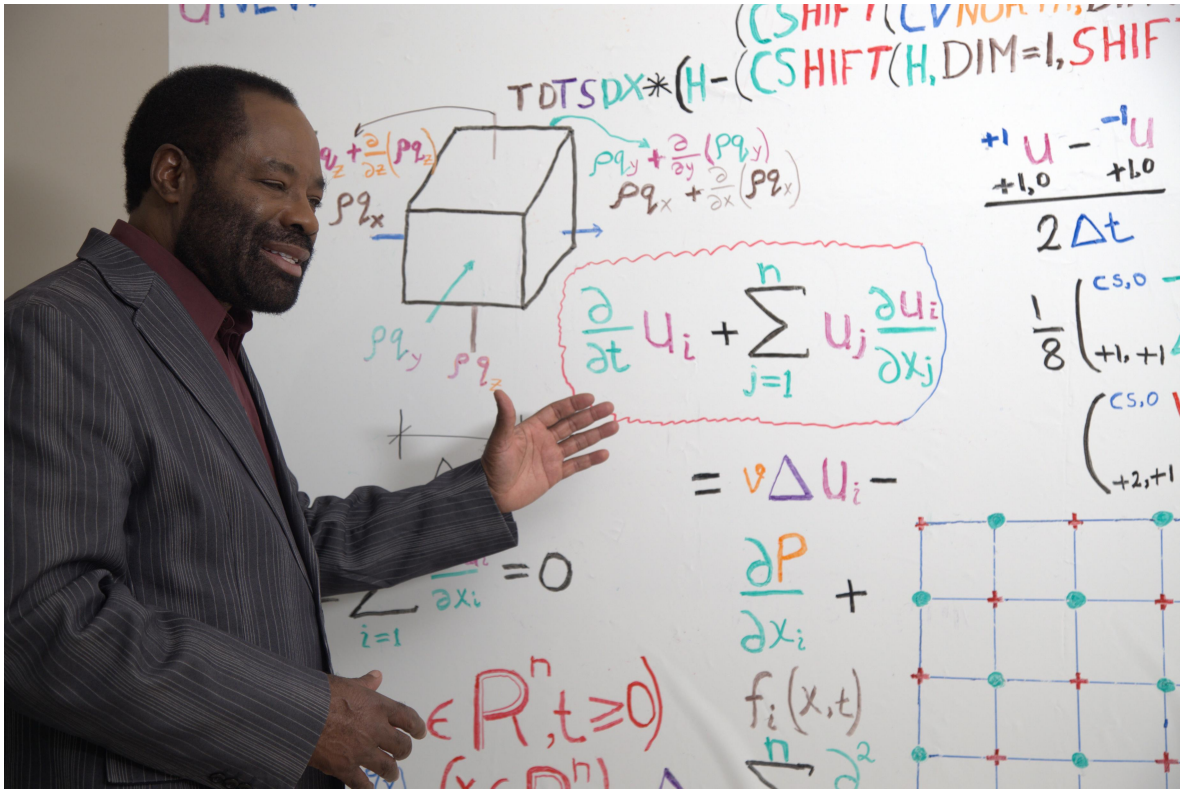
$f_i(x, t)$

$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2}$

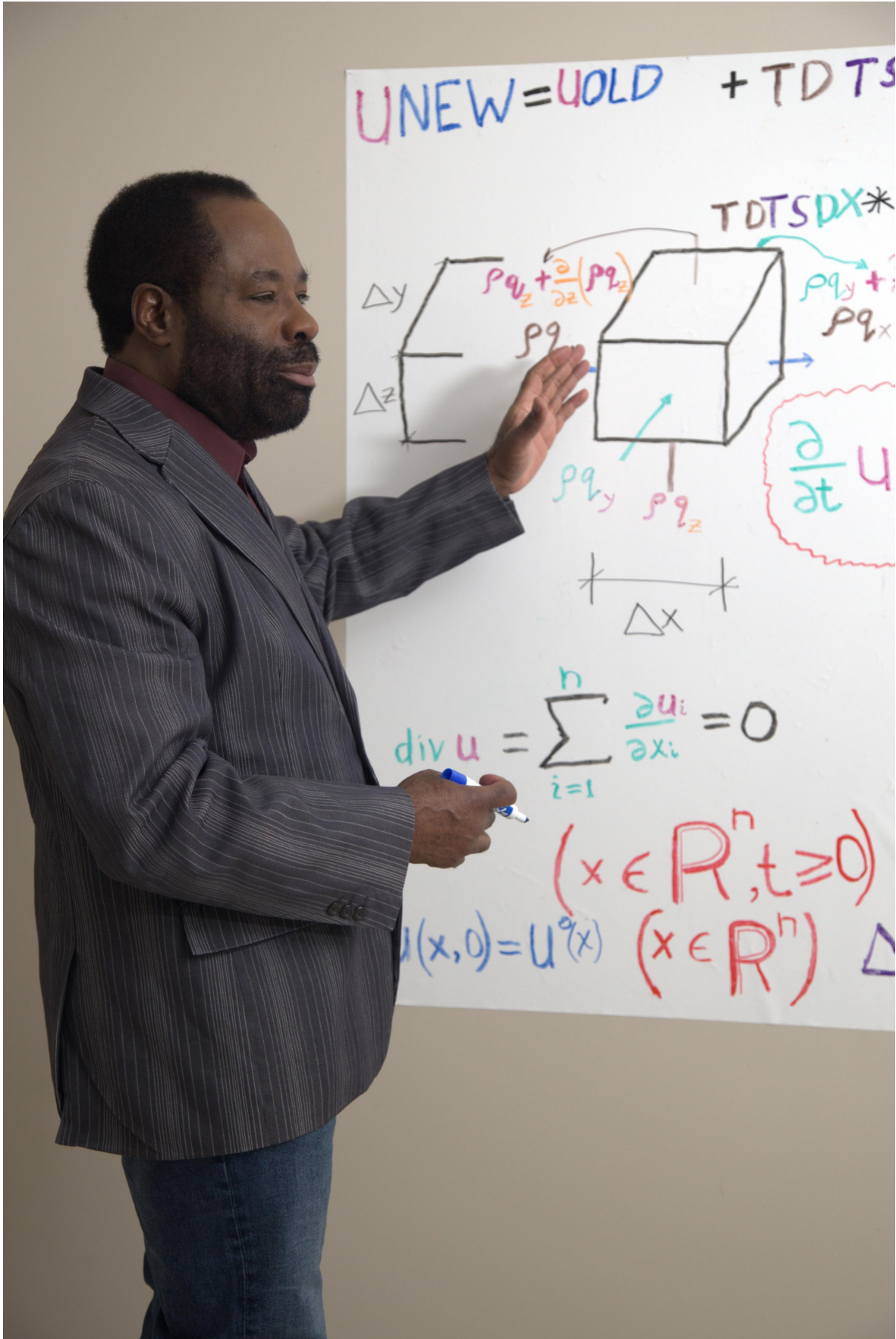
$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} = 0$

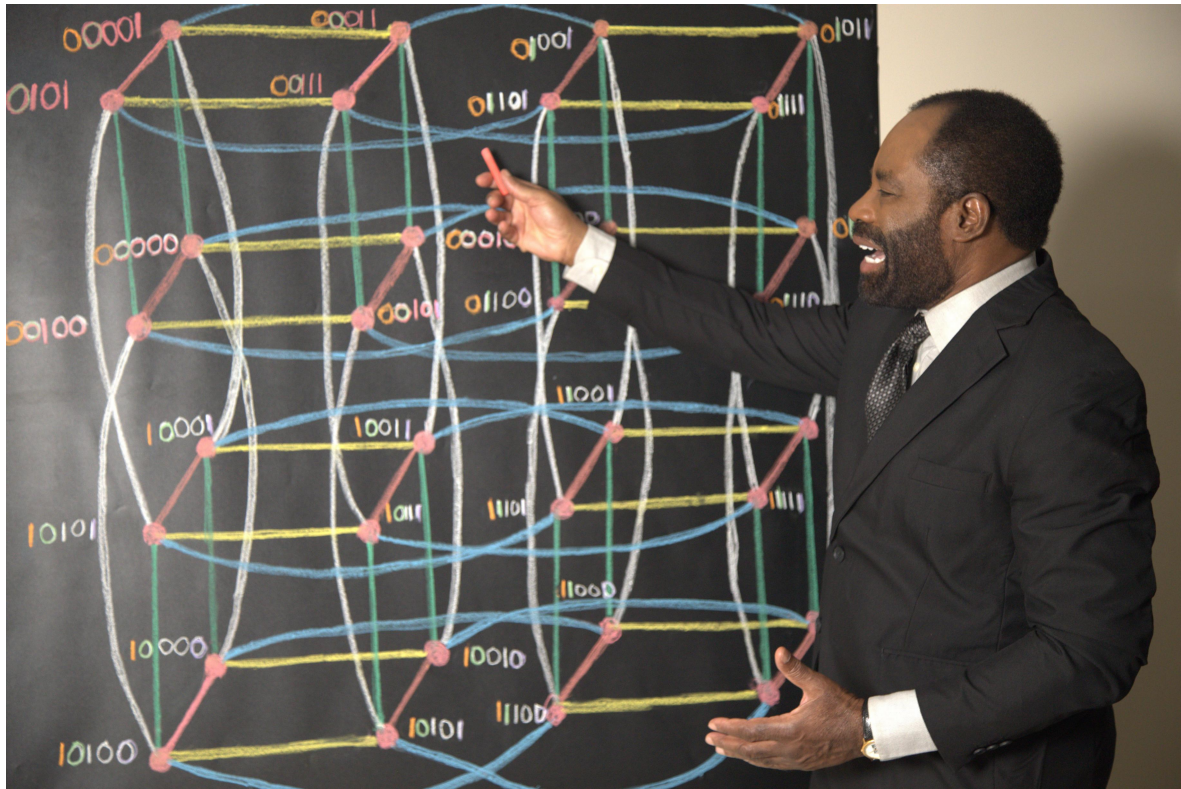
$\in \mathbb{R}^n, t \geq 0$
 $(x \in \mathbb{D}^n)$

$\frac{+1}{+1,0} U - \frac{-1}{+1,0} U$
 $2 \Delta t$
 $\frac{1}{8} \begin{pmatrix} \text{cs}, 0 \\ +1, +1 \\ \text{cs}, 0 \\ +2, +1 \end{pmatrix}$

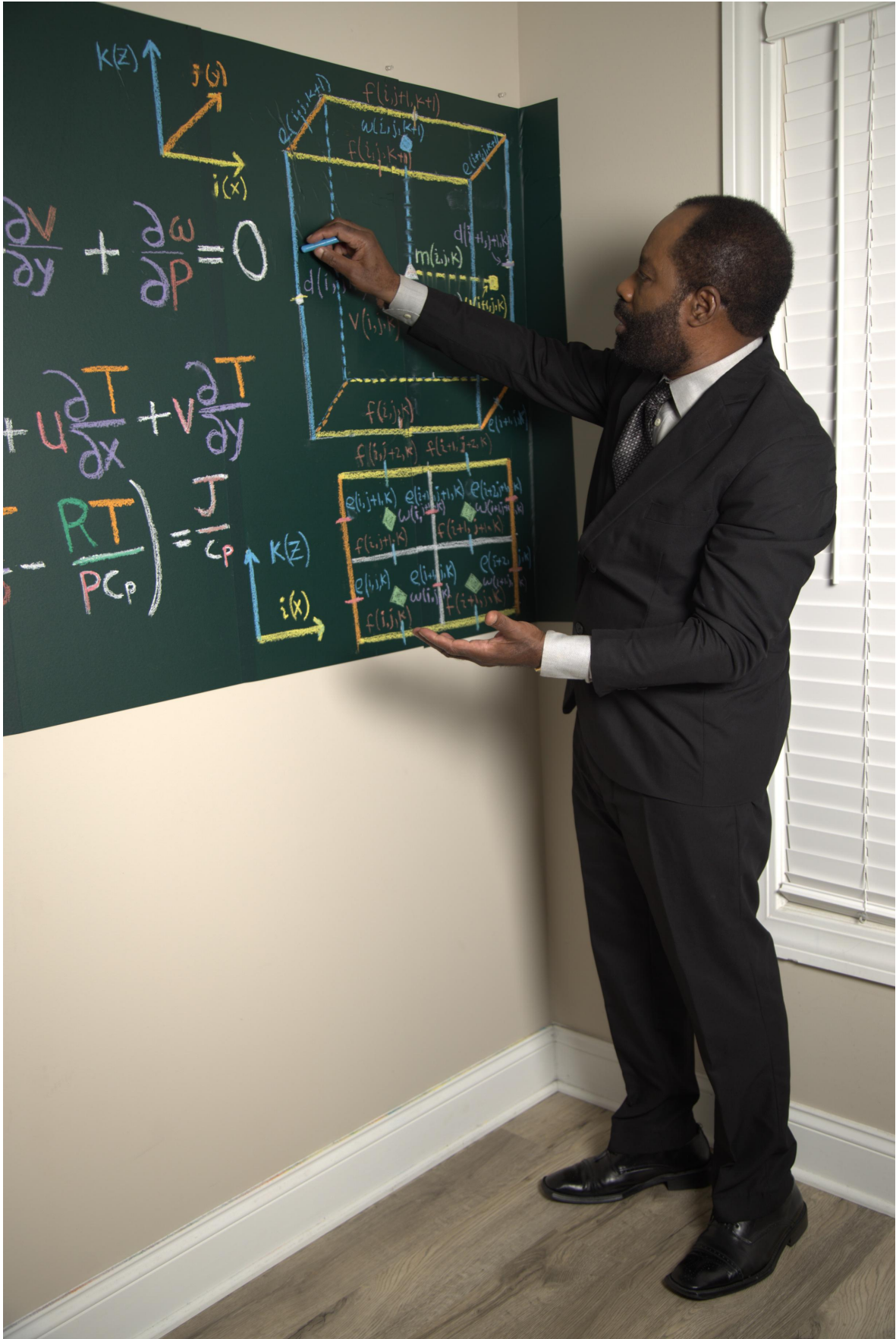


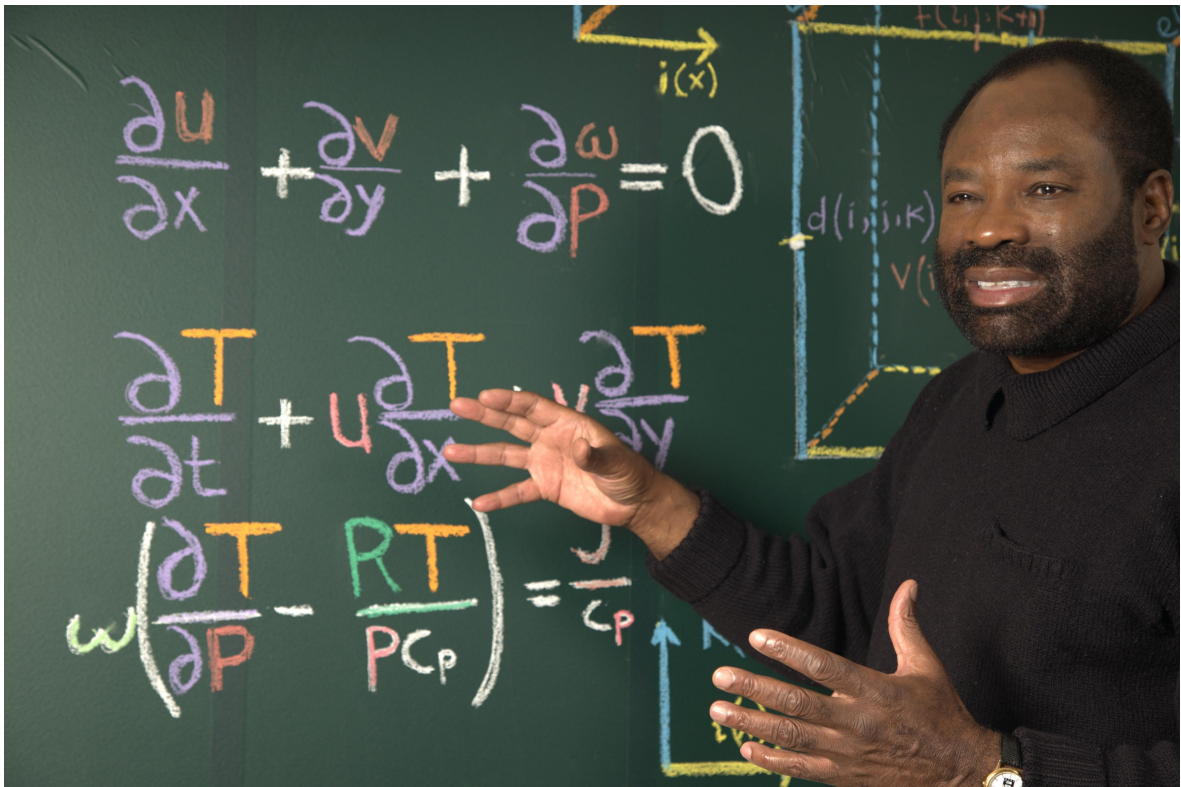
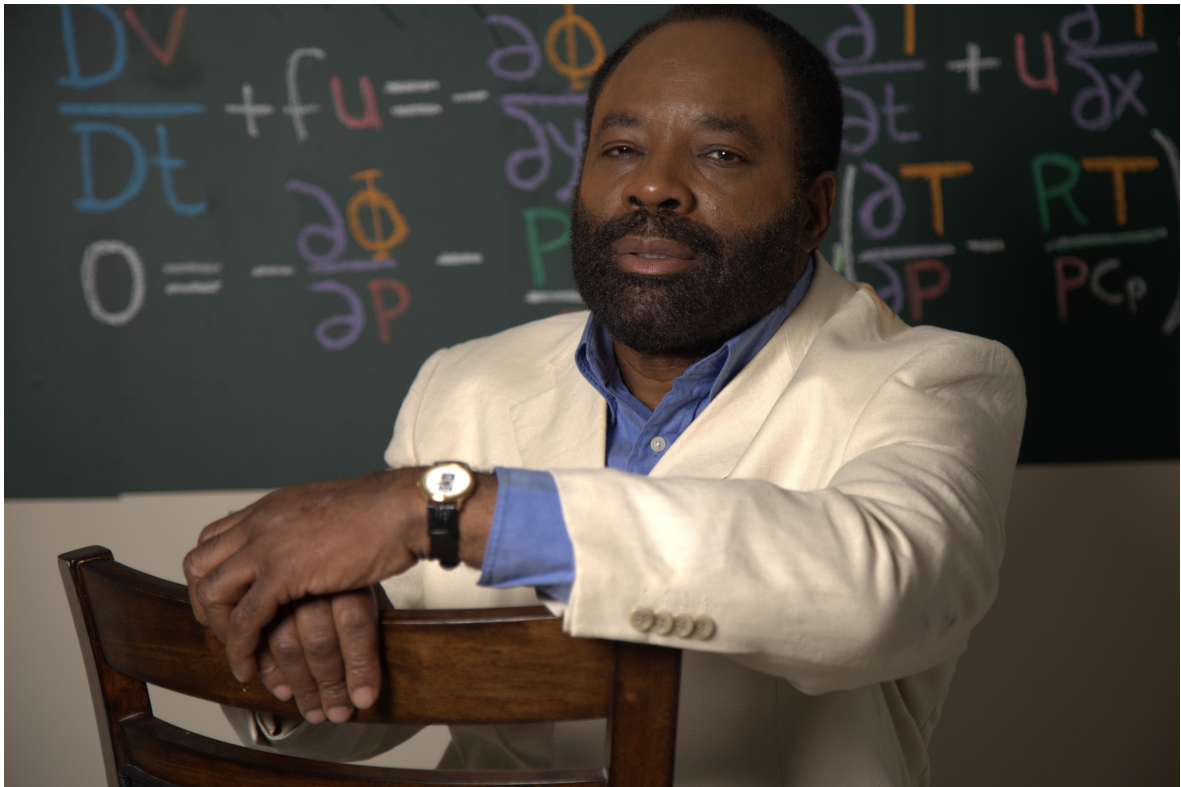
The supercomputer will help define the political and economic powers of the 21st century. The fastest computers are used to answer the biggest questions in science, engineering, and medicine. Such questions include supercomputing the social distancing requirements during a global pandemic. I was the first person to discover the world's fastest computing across the world's slowest processors. That was the world's first supercomputer, as it's known today. How to compute in parallel was a revelation that changed our knowledge of how to compute things that were previously impossible to compute.



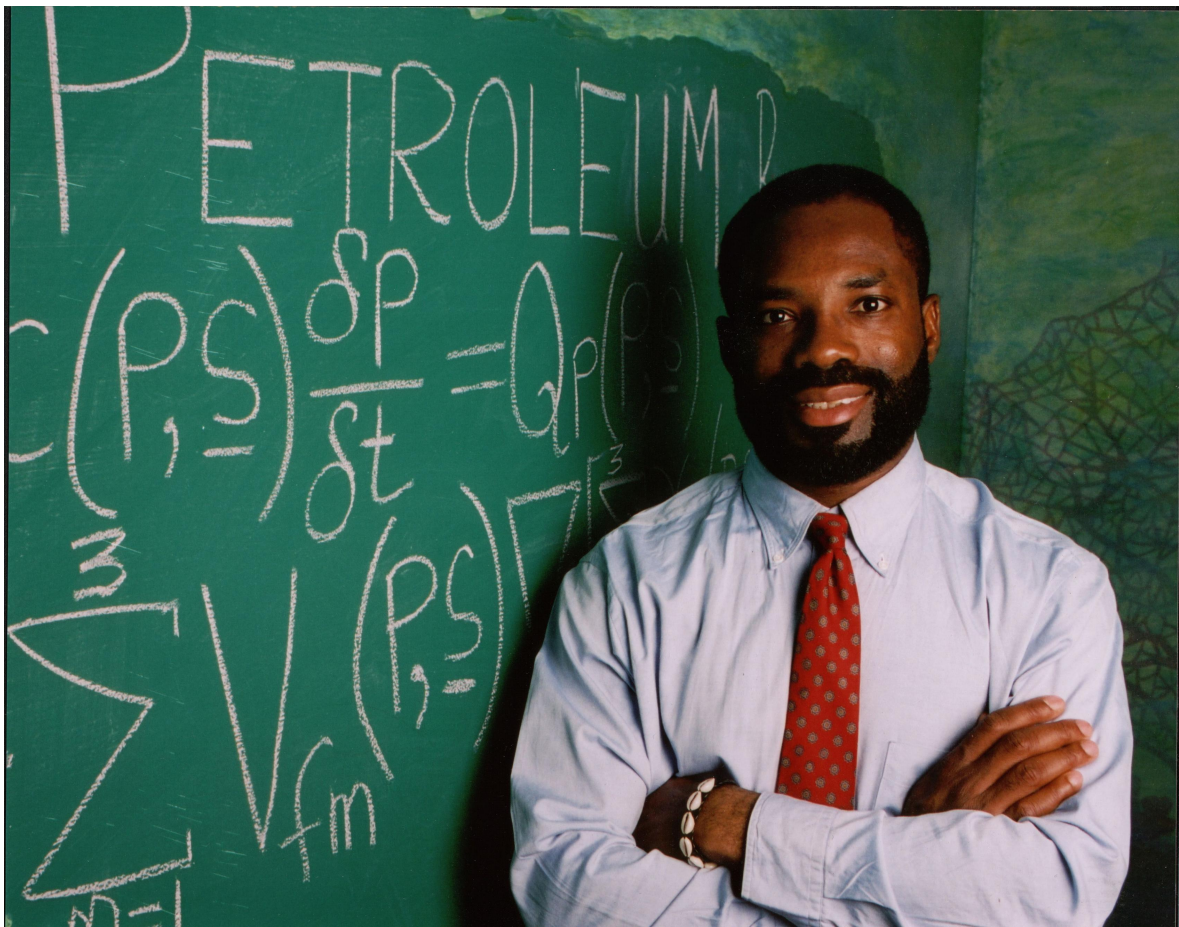


The processor-to-processor interconnection of a five-dimensional subset of 32 processors of the slowest, sixteen-dimensional 65,536 processors that I programmed as the world's fastest computer on July 4, 1989. The fastest computers are used to answer the biggest questions in science, engineering, and medicine. Such questions include supercomputing the social distancing requirements during a global pandemic. In computer science, recording the world's fastest computing and recording it in an unexpected way—such as across the world's slowest processors—is the gold standard that earns its inventor the highest award that's referred to as the Nobel Prize of Supercomputing. I was the first and only person to win that award alone, back in 1989.

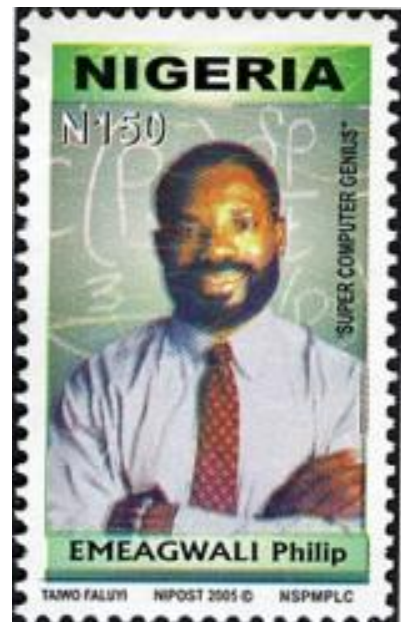


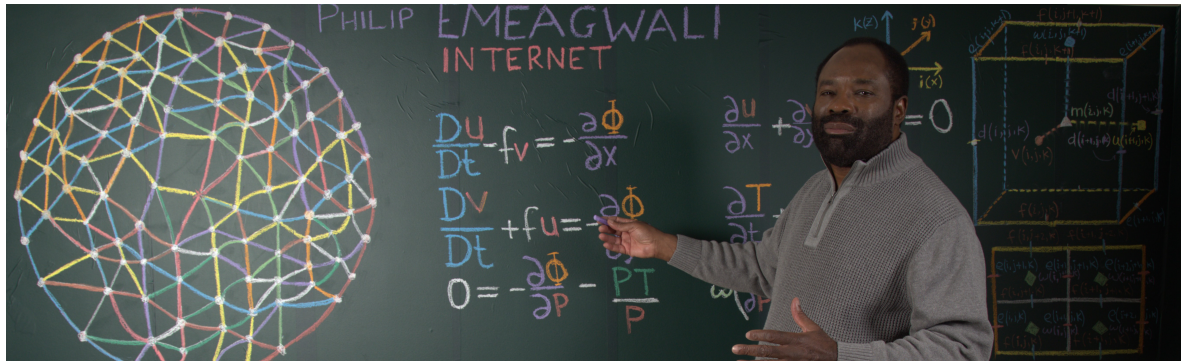


In computer science, recording the world's fastest computing and recording it in an unexpected way—such as across the world's slowest processors—is the gold standard that earns its inventor the highest award that's referred to as the Nobel Prize of Supercomputing. I was the first and only person to win that award alone, back in 1989. A scientist achieves immortality by first discovering something that will be forever remembered. The slowest processors in the world can be used to manufacture the fastest computers in the world that can be used to solve the most difficult problems in physics.

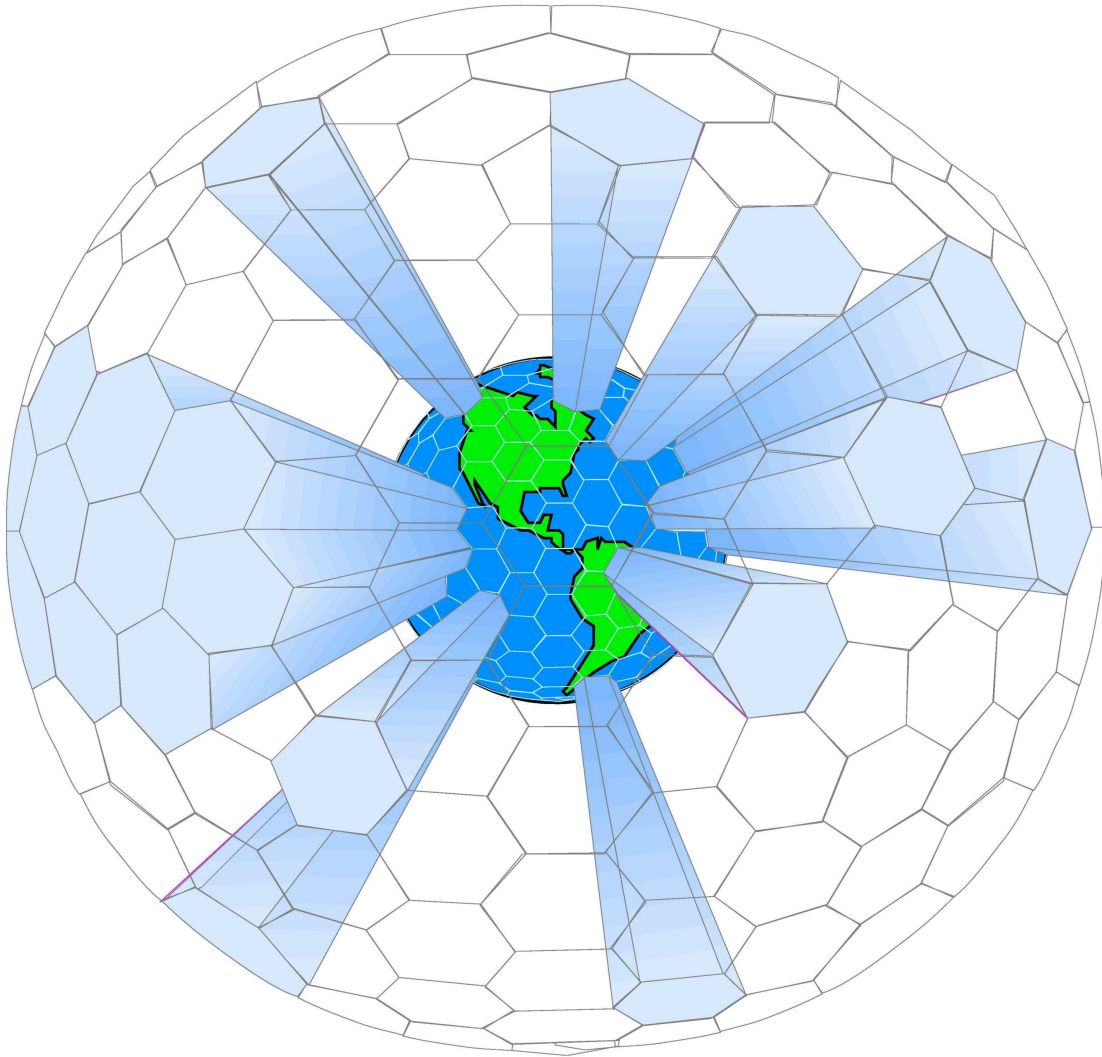


The oil and gas industry uses supercomputers to map, in advance, each of the 65,000 oil producing fields in the world. Crude oil is like a treasure that's buried eight miles deep. The geologist needs a map of where the crude oil and natural gas are located. And the most accurate maps can only be created with the aid of one of the world's fastest computers solving a discretized initial-boundary value problem governed by the partial differential equations that I scribbled on this chalkboard (Photo taken May 9, 1996).

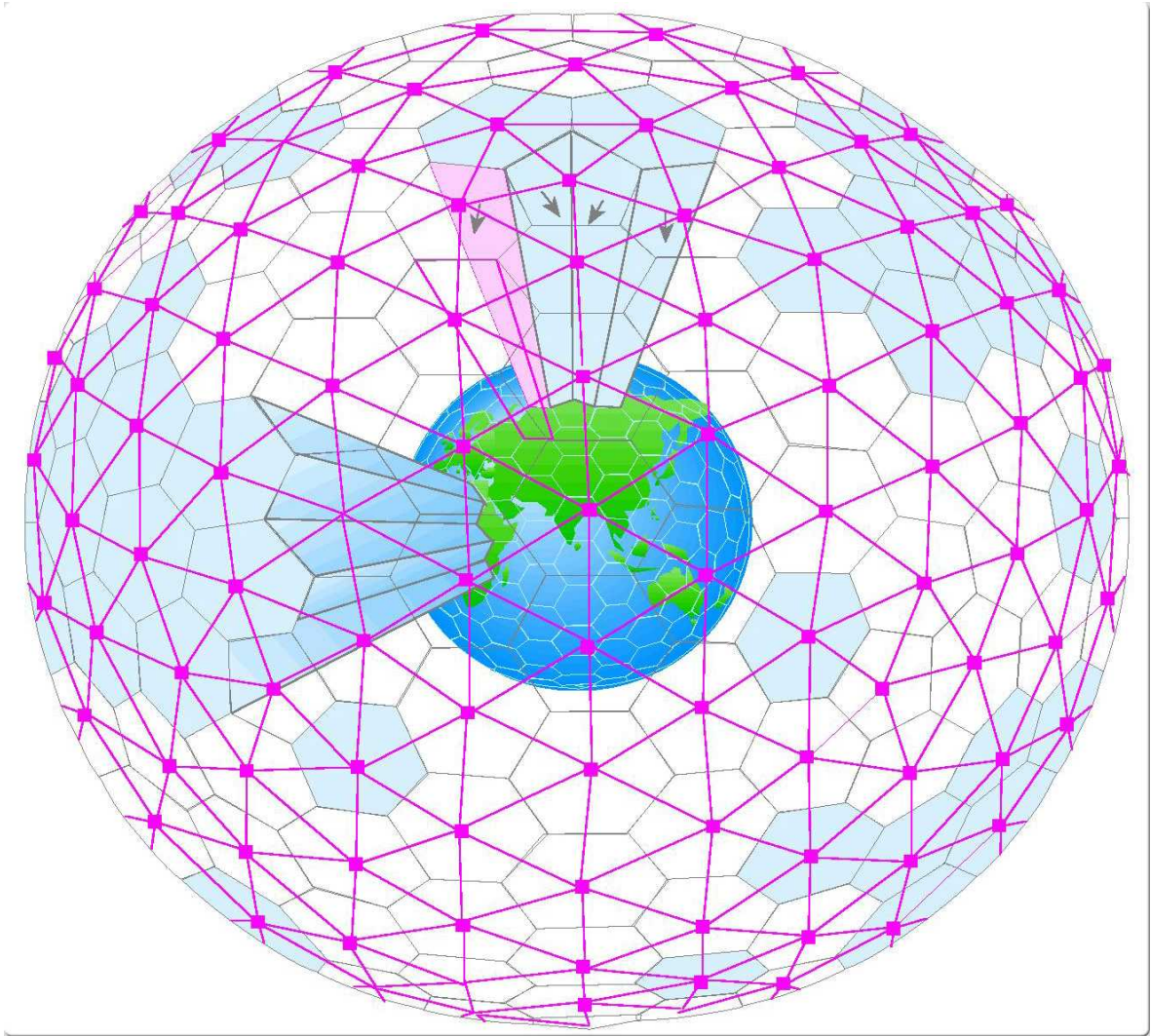




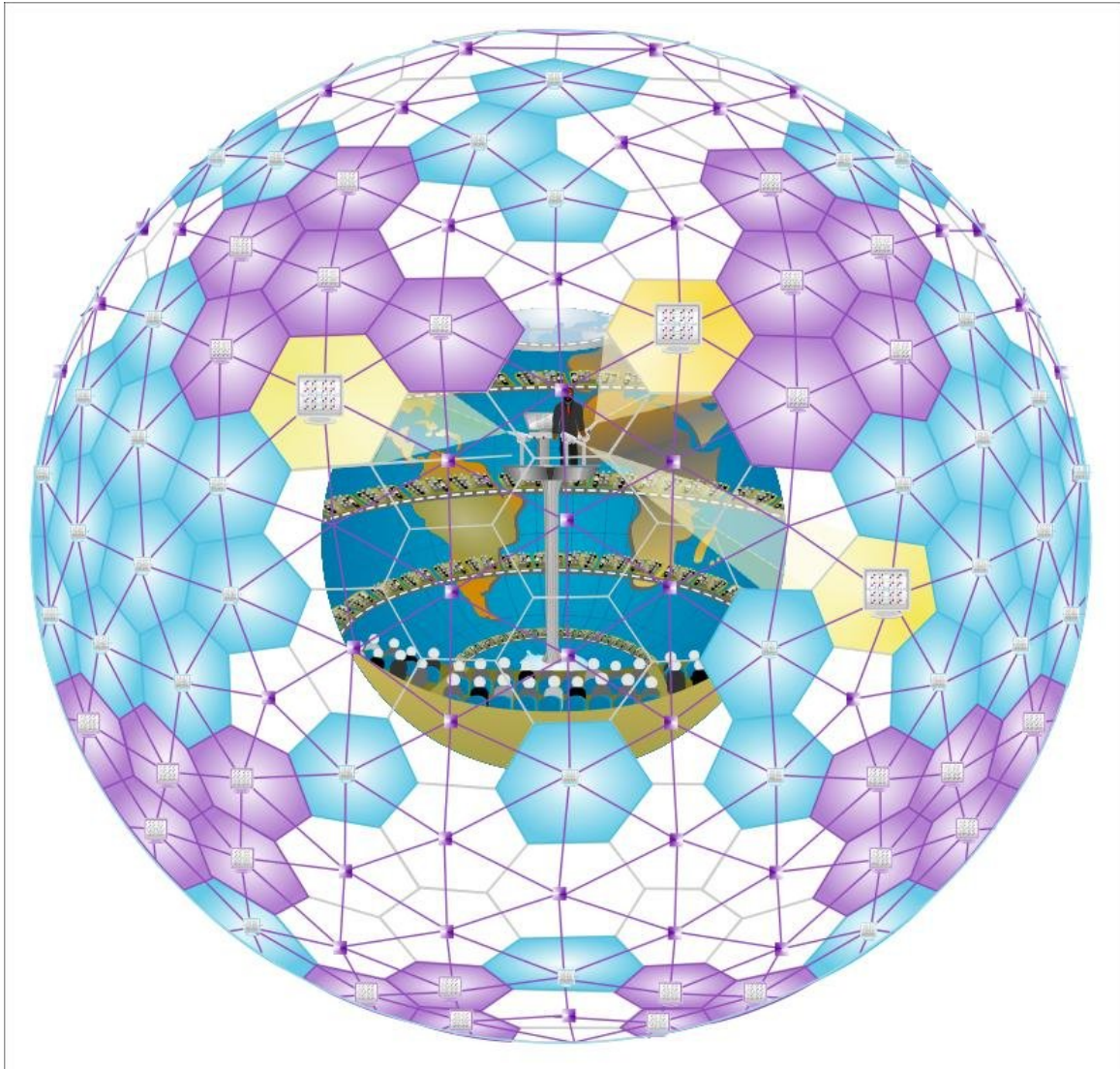
Philip Emeagwali discovered that the impossible-to-compute is, in fact, possible-to-compute. How to compute in parallel was a revelation that changed our knowledge of how to compute things that were previously impossible to compute. Philip discovered the massively parallel processing supercomputer to be like a book that sat on the library shelf for 180 years and sat without once being checked out.



My original sketch of how I will implement my one-problem to one-processor mapping across the Philip Emeagwali Internet that's a global network of the world's slowest processors that emulates the world's fastest computer.



My schematic illustration of how to interconnect the Philip Emeagwali Internet that's a global network of the world's slowest processors that emulates the world's fastest computer.



My schematic illustration of the Philip Emeagwali Internet, as conceived in June 1974 in Corvallis, Oregon, USA.

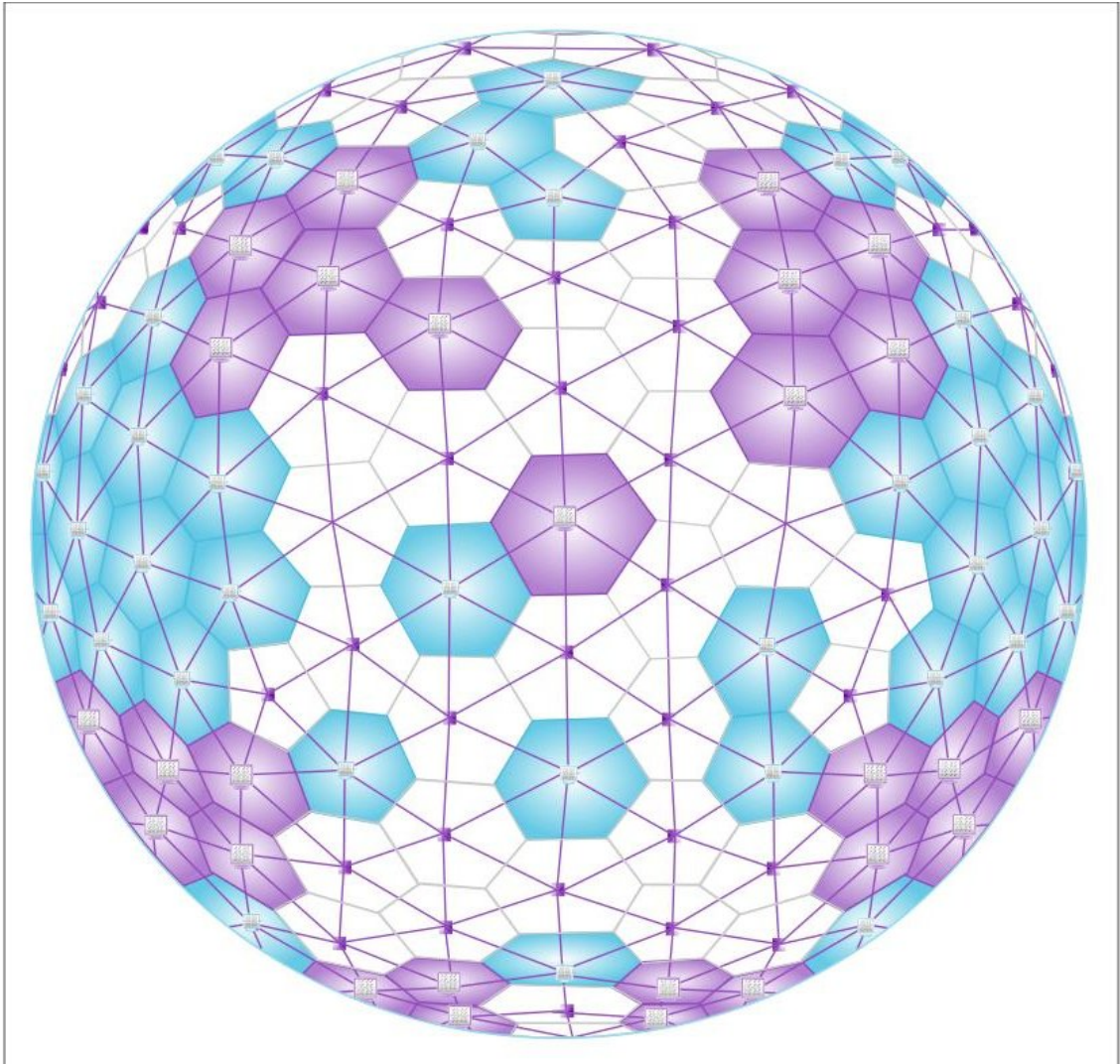
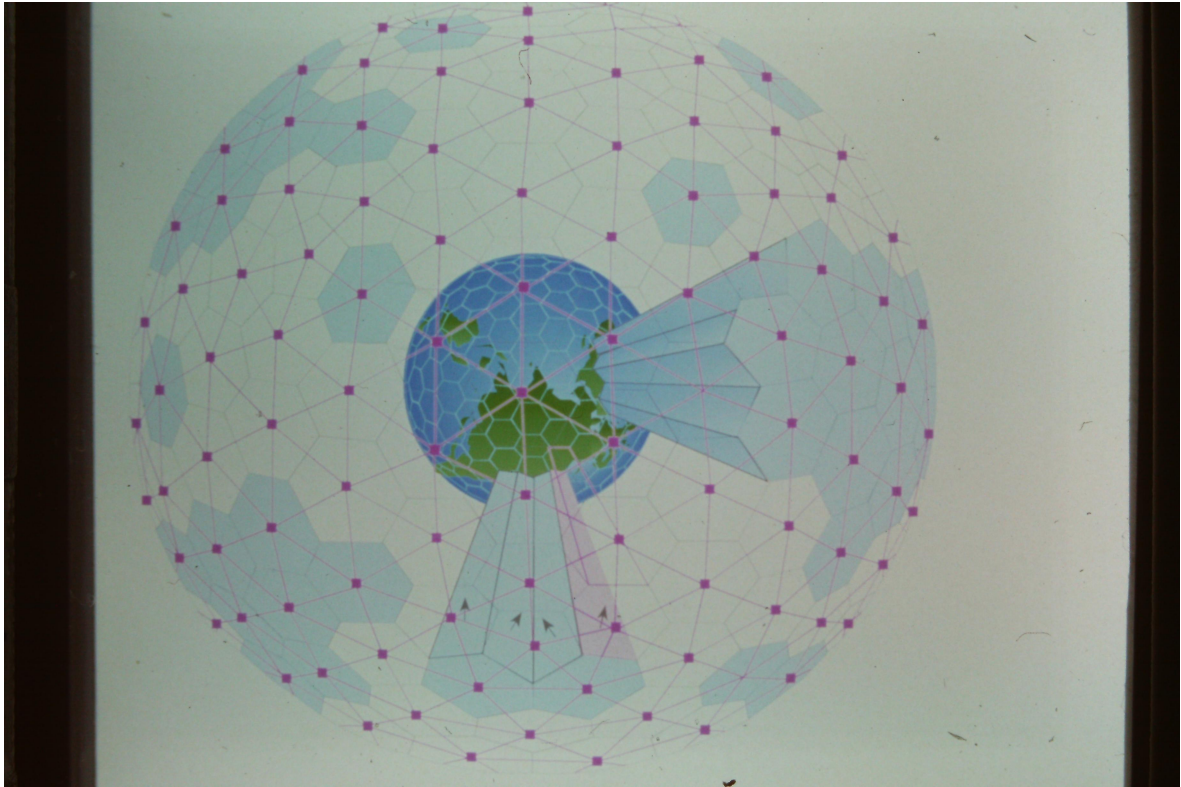
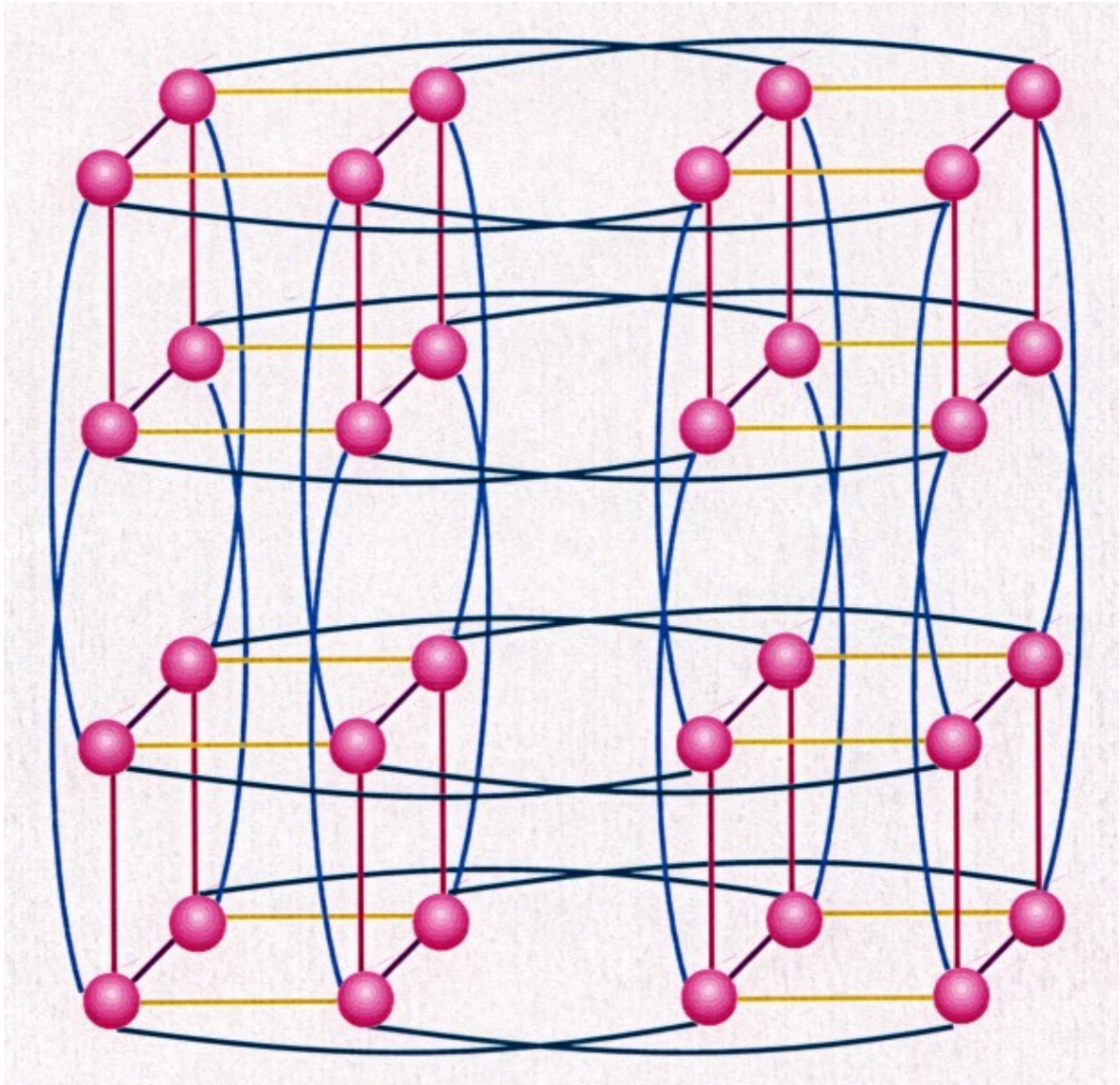
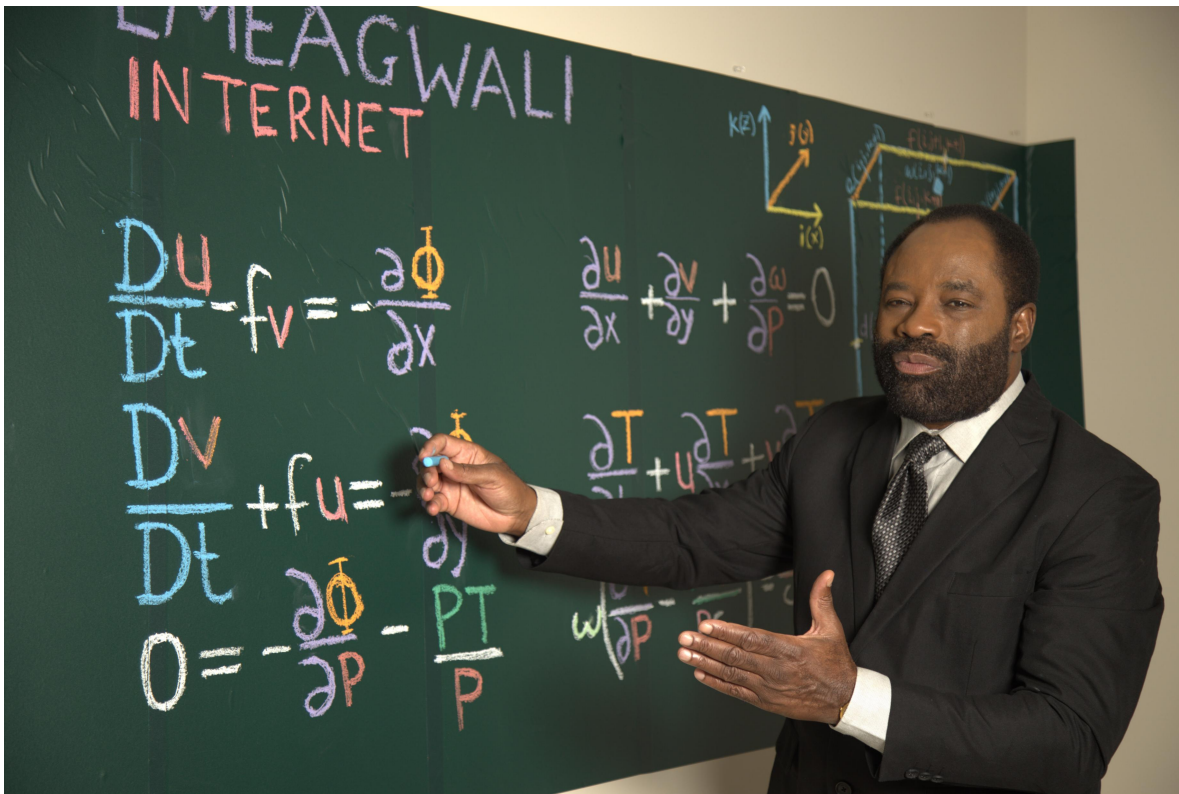


Illustration of the Philip Emeagwali Internet, as conceived in June 1974 in Corvallis, Oregon, USA.



Supercomputing illustration of how to divide-and-conquer the most compute-intensive weather forecasting codes into millions of less challenging calculations that are mapped with a one-code to one-processor correspondence and across the Philip Emeagwali Internet.





The introduction of parallel computing into mathematics is a quantum shift that's comparable to the introduction of quantum mechanics into physics. Like a storm at sea, fastest computing across a billion processors has brutally pushed computer science in a new direction and created new fields of study. In a world without parallel processing, large-scale computational physics will be as approximate as a sketch, instead of as exact as a photograph. The fastest computer is why you know the weather before going outside.



Philip Emeagwali is a celebrated supercomputer scientist best known for his contributions to fastest computing and a series of lectures on YouTube. This book is based on the transcripts from his podcasts and lectures.

PHILIP EMEAGWALI CONTACTS



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