

# 41 How I Solved the Toughest Problem in Calculus—Part 1 of 15 (A Black Mathematician and His Contributions to Calculus)



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### 1891

# 41.1 They Call Me Calculus 41.1.1 Contributions to Calculus

The modern calculus is a tool that enables the mind to go where the eyes cannot see. Between the ancient laws of physics and the modern laws of computing, the partial differential equation of calculus is the pink elephant in the room. **Calculus** is the uncle nobody in the family wants to talk about. In 1989, I was in the news for inventing how to solve the toughest mathematical problems arising as the partial differential equations

of modern calculus. I was also in the news for computationally inventing how to solve the largest system of equations of algebra that approximated that said partial differential equations of modern calculus. I was also in the news for experimentally inventing how to solve the companion initial-boundary value problems and how to solve them at the fastest speeds and solve them across a new internet that I visualized as my new global network of 64 binary thousand tightly-coupled processors

that were identical, that were equal distances apart, and that shared nothing with each other. I visualized my new global network of commodity processors as married together by one binary million email wires and married together as one cohesive unit that is my new supercomputer de facto. I began my mathematical quest by inventing nine partial differential equations of modern calculus. My contributions to modern mathematics was the cover story of the May 1990 issue of the SIAM News. The SIAM News is the top publication for research mathematicians.

#### The SIAM News

is where newly discovered mathematics is written by research mathematicians for research mathematicians.

The SIAM News

is published by the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics that is the premier society for research mathematicians.

The mathematical invention

that became the cover story of the bi-monthly *SIAM News* is to the research mathematician what the cover

of *Sports Illustrated magazine* is to the super model.

My cover story in the *SIAM News* was akin to being inducted into the **Hall of Fame** of mathematics.

I invented my nine partial differential equations

of modern calculus and I invented those equations from the basic principle called the Second Law of Motion of physics.

The reason the geophysics origin of my mathematical invention should not come as a surprise was that the partial differential equations of modern calculus always arises from real-world problems. My nine partial differential equations arose from the problem of using the excruciatingly-detailed petroleum reservoir simulator and using that code to recover otherwise unrecoverable crude oil and natural gas that are flowing a mile-deep inside the Niger-Delta oilfields

of southeastern Nigeria. The reason I invented the **Philip Emeagwali's** equations and invented them from first principles is that the Second Law of Motion of physics is assumed to be self-evident. The Second Law of Motion of physics that was discovered three centuries and three decades ago is my starting point and the physical foundation of my contributions to modern calculus and extreme-scale algebra. The reason I was able to make that contribution to calculus and algebra was that I am a polymath, not a mathematician per se.

Any research mathematician who is not a polymath and who is not at home at the frontiers of knowledge in physics and computer science can only use, say, the ordinary differential equations of calculus and use them as both his starting and ending points. I was a polymath and a research supercomputer scientist of the 1970s and '80s who simultaneously conducted research across the frontiers of physics, mathematics, and computing. I began my mathematical quest for the fastest supercomputer on Thursday June 20, 1974 at 1800 SW Campus Way, Corvallis, Oregon, United States.

I began my quest on the first supercomputer in the world to be rated at one million theoretical instructions per second. I ended my quest on Tuesday the Fourth of July 1989 in Los Alamos, New Mexico, **United States** and on the pre-cursor to the modern supercomputer that is the first supercomputer in the world to be rated at over one billion actual calculations per second. The partial differential equation of modern calculus was the common denominator between that first supercomputer

and the modern supercomputer. At age fifteen and in Onitsha (Nigeria), everybody called me "Calculus." In 1970, few people knew my name "Philip Emeagwali." At an alumni reunion twenty years later, in 1990, an Old Boy of CKC, the acronym for Christ the King College, Onitsha, wondered aloud: "I read about Philip Emeagwali of CKC and read about him in the Daily Times newspaper. I read that Philip Emeagwali discovered how to solve the toughest problems in calculus and how to solve them at world record speeds in supercomputing. I was also in CKC in 1970 and I was in the same class as Philip Emeagwali.

Yet, I don't remember Philip Emeagwali."
The old boys from the
Christ the King College
of 1970 said to the alumni:
"Oh, don't you remember 'Calculus?'"
In Christ the King College, Onitsha (Nigeria),
they remember me as "Calculus."

# 41.1.2 Why They Called Me "Calculus"

In Christ the King College, they called me "Calculus" because I was the only person in **Onitsha** (Nigeria) that was studying calculus and studying it in June 1970 and at age 15.

My calculus textbook was written for research mathematical physicists, not for a 15-year-old.



I first began learning calculus from the first few pages of the 568-paged blue hardbound book that was titled:

"An Introduction to the Infinitesimal Calculus."

### That calculus book

was subtitled:

"With Applications to Mechanics and Physics."

### That calculus book

was written by

G.W. [George William] Caunt.

### That calculus book

was published by Oxford University Press.

In 1970 and at Christ the King College, Onitsha (Nigeria), everybody called me "Calculus." They called me "Calculus" because they saw me solving calculus problems from that calculus book.

# 41.2.1 Thunder Road to Biafra: We Are Running!

At age 15,

I could not understand the ordinary differential equation of calculus that was in the last chapters of my 568-paged calculus textbook. Instead, I was struggling to solve the problems in chapters one to three of my calculus textbook of 1970. That textbook was titled:

"An Introduction to the Infinitesimal Calculus."

Moreover, at age 15, I was still in the eighth grade. At age 15, I was supposed to be in my final year

at Saint George's Grammar School, Obinomba, Midwest Region, Nigeria. Three years earlier, in late April 1967, there was a reprisal killings of 50,000 Igbos who were living outside Igbo Land but within Nigeria. In late April 1967, my father, Nnaemeka James Emeagwali, became afraid that I might be killed in Obinomba. Igbo parents were withdrawing their children from Obinomba, which was midway between the cities of Benin and Asaba. From the Vatican, the Pope sent **Monsignor Georges Rocheau** on a fact-finding mission in both Nigeria and Biafra. After that fact-finding mission,

### **Monsignor Georges Rocheau**

gave an interview with *Le Monde*, a newspaper published in Paris (France) that was dated April 5, 1968.

Monsignor Georges Rocheau reported in Le Monde that:

[And I quote]

"There has been genocide...
the region between the towns
of Benin and Asaba
where only widows and orphans remain,
Federal troops having for unknown
reasons massacred all the men."

### [End of quote]

In captured Biafran territories, every Igbo male over the age of ten was executed by the Nigerian army. I was over the age of ten during the Nigeria Biafra War and I fled from Nigeria to Biafra to avoid being executed.

So I was not surprised when my mother arrived at my boarding school dormitory at Saint George's Grammar School, Obinomba, and arrived in late April 1967 when I was twelve years old. My dormitory was named Erameh's House.

I dropped out of school, after completing the seventh grade. I dropped out of school to return to the safety of our two-bedroom residence at the nursing quarter of the Agbor Central Hospital in Agbor, Midwest Region, Nigeria. My father was a nurse that was employed at the Agbor Central Hospital. In early 1967, the nursing quarter

that we lived in was opposite the Nigerian Prison in Agbor.

After fleeing from Obinomba, we felt threatened in Agbor and my mother and my six siblings and myself fled from Agbor to 4B Egbuna-Adazie Street, Onitsha (Biafra).

From mid-1966 to early 1967, fifty thousand Igbos were killed in street uprisings.

As a result of that uprising and killings, one million Igbo refugees sought refuge in Igbo Land.

That crisis was the reason my family sought refuge in Onitsha, Igbo Land.

We fled to avoid being killed.

All the Igbo-speaking students at Saint George's Grammar School, Obinomba,

1907

also fled to Biafra to avoid being killed.

Please allow me to quote **Giwa Amu**, the former Solicitor-General of the then Midwestern Region of Nigeria.

In the Nigerian "Sunday Observer" newspaper that was dated March 16, 1983, **Giwa Amu** said that:

### [And I quote]

"For record purposes, however, let me state fearlessly that I saw hundreds of unarmed civilians being shot at sight in Benin City when Federal troops arrived to liberate the city from rebel [Biafran]soldiers....

There appeared to be a fleeting period of lunacy in which Midwesterners gladly identified their Igbo compatriots to be shot down by Federal [Nigerian] troops."

[End of quote]

### 41.2.2 After the War Was Over

Due to that 30-month long
Nigeria Biafra Civil War
that ended on January 15, 1970,
I was three years behind
my 1967 classmates
at Saint George's Grammar School,
Obinomba, Nigeria.
Towards mid-1970,
I felt ashamed to return to Class Two
in Saint George's Grammar School,
Obinomba,

and be placed three years behind my former classmates who then were in Class Five and in their final year and getting ready to sit for their West African School Certificate that was administered by the West African Examination Council, called WAEC. To avoid being shamed at Saint George's Grammar School, Obinomba, I re-enrolled in Christ the King College, Onitsha, Nigeria, where all my new class mates in Class Two were also three years behind.

# 41.2.3 A Letter From Somewhere in Biafra: The Day of the Long Night

During those three war years,

my family of nine

sought refuge at numerous refugee camps.

My family sought refuge

from the Odoakpu Quarters of Onitsha to the Enu-Onicha Inland Town section

of Onitsha.

We sought refuge in Enu-Onicha

because Odoakpu Quarters

was getting hit

during the eight-day continuous artillery

bombardment of Onitsha.

The Nigerian Second Division

that was bombing Onitsha

was led by Colonel Murtala Muhammed.

For the eight days inclusive

of October 4 to 12, 1967,

my ancestral hometown of Onitsha

was heavily shelled

from **across** the River Niger

and from the banks of the River Niger

at Asaba (Nigeria).

That eight-day non-stop bombardment of Onitsha,

was followed by an invasion launched by a ten-boat armada of the Nigerian Second Division. In response to the artillery shelling of October 4, 1967, my family fled from our residence at 4B Egbuna-Adazie Street in the Odoakpu Quarters of Onitsha (Biafra). We fled to the birthplace of my maternal grandfather at 6C Wilkinson Road in the Inland Town section of Onitsha (Biafra). Unknown to us, fleeing to 6C Wilkinson Road was like a fish jumping from the frying pan into fire.

6C Wilkinson Road was a shouting distance from the Biafran military headquarters in Onitsha.

That headquarters

was at Obi Okosi Primary School, Onitsha (Biafra). During the gunfights, of October 12, 1967, between the Biafran soldiers and the 15,000 Nigerian soldiers that were attacking that Biafran military headquarter, I saw two Biafran soldiers hiding in the bushes behind our backyard and changing from their military uniforms to civilian uniforms and fleeing with civilians and going on AWOL, the military term for Absent Without Official Leave. In that attack by 15,000 Nigerian soldiers bullets were flying all over Grandpa Chieka Balonwu's residence at 6C Wilkinson Road, Onitsha, Biafra. That flight from Onitsha was the last time I saw uncle Stephen Balonwu's impressive two-storey mansion.

The Balonwu mansion was next-door at 6A Wilkinson Road, Onitsha, Biafra. That mansion was bombed and ground zeroed by the Nigerian Army. That invasion of our neighborhood of Umuasele Village of Onitsha was led by Colonel Murtala Mohammed, a future president of Nigeria. Amidst flying bullets that killed 10,000 soldiers on both sides, we fled by foot from Onitsha (Biafra) to become refugees in Nkwelle Ogidi (Biafra). A few weeks later, we felt threatened by the advancing Nigerian Army and we fled from Nkwelle Ogidi (Biafra) to become refugees in Awka (Biafra).

# 41.2.4 The Fall of Awka, Biafra

On January 19, 1968, the day Awka (Biafra) was captured by the Second Division of the Nigerian Army, we fled a few hours before Awka was captured and fled to become refugees at 14 Mba Road, Onitsha, Biafra. The famous English spy Frederick Forsyth and author of the bestselling book "The Dogs of War" was a journalist in Biafra and the author of the book

### **Frederick Forsyth**

"The Biafra Story."

toured our refugee camp in Awka (Biafra) and toured it after our camp was captured by the Nigerian army.

### Frederick Forsyth reported

in his book "The Biafra Story:"

### [And I quote]

"At Awka, I saw the corpses of the occupants of a refugee camp.... The men folk had had their hands tied before shooting; to judge from appearances, the women had been subjected to appalling mutilations either before or after death. The bullet broken bodies of the children lay scattered like dolls in the long grass." [End of quote]

The fall of Awka (Biafra) to the Nigerian Army created a path

that enabled the Nigerian Army to capture my ancestral hometown of Onitsha (Biafra).

# 41.2.5 The Flight to Oba

On Wednesday March 20, 1968 we saw numerous Biafran soldiers fleeing from nearby Abagana War Front. Some of those fleeing soldiers give their relatives a shout out. That was how we learned that my ancestral hometown, Onitsha, would be captured in six hours. We fled immediately from 14 Mba Road, Umudei Village, Onitsha to Merchants of Light School, Oba. That flight from Onitsha was the last time I saw our last residence that was at 14 Mba Road, Onitsha.

That residence
that was built six-years earlier
was bombed and ground zeroed
by the Nigerian Army.
My cousins John Okwuosa
and Patrick Okwuosa
were not informed to flee
and they died that night
at their residence at Egerton Street, Onitsha,
Biafra.

The **Okwuosa** family residence at Egerton Street, Onitsha, was bombed and ground zeroed by the Nigerian Army.

We fled from Onitsha and we did so about four hours before **John Okwuosa** and **Patrick Okwuosa** could flee.

That four-hour-window saved the lives of our entire family. That night my ancestral hometown of Onitsha was finally

and permanently captured by the Nigerian soldiers. That night Biafran soldiers of the 11th Division fled from Onitsha. That night the Biafran Army was in total disarray and lost most of their weapons as they retreated from Onitsha to Nnewi. Please allow me to quote another eyewitness account that was titled:

"Nightmare in Biafra."

This account of the night of March 20, 1968 that we fled Onitsha (Biafra) appeared in the "Sunday Times" of London [England] on page 12 of the April 26, 1968 issue:

### [And I quote]

"I have seen things in Biafra this week

which no man should have to see.
Sights to search the heart
and sicken the conscience.
I have seen children roasted alive,
young girls torn in two by shrapnel,
pregnant women eviscerated,
and old men blown to fragments.
I have seen these things
and I have seen their cause:
high-flying Russian Ilyushin jets
operated by Federal Nigeria,
dropping their bombs
on civilian centres throughout Biafra ...
[End of quote]

The war correspondent who wrote the article "Nightmare in Biafra" continued:

[And I quote] "At Onitsha,

under siege from the federal troops,
the three-hundred-strong congregation
of the Apostolic Church
decided to stay on
while others fled
and to pray for deliverance.
Col. [Murtala] Mohammed's Second Division
found them in the church,
dragged them out,
tied their hands behind their backs
and executed them."
[End of quote]

# 41.2.6 Abagana Ambush

As an aside, ten days later, the retreating Biafran Army was able to score a major victory known as the Abagana Ambush.
On the 31<sup>st</sup> of March of 1968 in Abagana (Biafra), a small group of Biafran guerilla soldiers used their homemade Ogbunigwe rocket

to destroy a Nigerian convoy of 106 cars that were transporting 6,000 infantry and armor.
Only a few of those 6,000 Nigerian soldiers survived the Abagana Ambush.
The Abagana Ambush is the greatest Biafran battlefield success. The commander of those 6,000 Nigerian soldiers

of those 6,000 Nigerian soldiers was the future president of Nigeria, Murtala Muhammad.

A rescue helicopter was used to fly
Murtala Muhammad
out of the Abagana Ambush.
Due to his loss of nearly 6,000 soldiers
at the Abagana Ambush,
Murtala Muhammad

was never allowed to lead men in battle again.

# 41.2.7 Merchants of Light Refugee Camp

On the night of Wednesday March 20, 1968 we were the Biafran Igbo refugees that fled from Onitsha to Merchants of Light School, Oba, Biafra. In our refugee flight to the Merchants of Light School, Oba, we followed New Cemetery Road trekking through Oguta Road, continuing through the Queen of the Rosary College. We trekked twelve and half miles along the Old Oba Nnewi Road and we trekked until we arrived at the Merchants of Light School, Oba, Biafra. We only spent a night at the Merchants of Light School, Oba, Biafra, before we fled to a refugee camp in Nnewi, Biafra. As refugees, we felt threatened

after a night in Nnewi.
We fled from Nnewi to Awka-Etiti.
We camped in a refugee camp
that was near the Awka-Etiti market square
and across the street
from the catholic church.
After about two months in Awka-Etiti,
we were resettled
at the extremely crowded
Saint Joseph's Refugee Camp,
in Awka-Etiti.

### 41.2.8 Dance of Death Refugees

Most of the refugees at our new refugee camp in Awka-Etiti were escapees and survivors of the Dance of Death of October 7, 1967. At the Dance of Death seven hundred unarmed men were gunned down

and buried alive at Ogbe-Eke Market Square, Asaba, at Ogbe-Osowa, Asaba, at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church, Asaba, at Saint Patrick's College, Asaba, and at Cable Point, Asaba. Colonel Murtala Mohammed, the future president of Nigeria, was the commanding officer of the Nigerian soldiers that gunned down those seven hundred unarmed civilian men. After the Dance of Death killing spree Asaba was described as a ghost town and as a town with women and no men. Please allow me to quote the "London Observer" issue of January 21, 1968.

### [quote]

"The greatest single massacre occurred

in the Ibo town of Asaba, where 700 Ibo males were lined up and shot." [unquote]

Back in January 1966,
Major Chukwuma Kaduna Nzeogwu,
who hailed from Okpanam,
a small village at the outskirt of Asaba,
confessed on television
that he killed **Ahmadu Bello**on January 15, 1966.

#### Ahmadu Bello

was the revered leader of Northern Nigeria that was to Northern Nigeria what Nelson Mandela was to Southern Africa.
So the Asaba Dance of Death killings of October 7, 1967 of seven hundred unarmed civilian men was a revenge mass murder that was executed by the Nigerian Army. The Dance of Death

was preceded by the retaliatory murder that occurred on July 29, 1966 of Nigeria's first military president. That president, Major-General Johnson Thomas Aguiyi-Ironsi was killed by Northern Nigerian soldiers. Major-General Johnson Thomas Aguiyi-Ironsi was killed in retaliation for the January 15, 1966 assassination of Ahmadu Bello the leader of Northern Nigeria.

## 41.2.9 14-Year-Old Reports to the War Front

After about one year, onward of June 1968 at Saint Joseph's Refugee Camp we made a very dangerous relocation from Awka-Etiti to Ndoni (Biafra) with a stopover in Atani (Biafra). We arrived in Ndoni in about June 1969. In July 1969, I was conscripted

into the Biafran Army. I was conscripted

while working as a yam porter in Ndoni, Biafra.

As a 14-year-old yam porter, my job was to carry yams for market women and carry them from their dug-out canoes at the bank of the River Niger to the market at Ndoni riverside.

I was conscripted

at gun point and marched straight from Ndoni market to the Biafran side of the Oguta War Front. I was one of the five hundred new recruits that were conscripted

to replace

one of the five hundred Biafran soldiers that were recently killed in the battle of mid-1969 at the Oguta War Front.

At 3:00 on the morning of Sunday January 11, 1970,

the Biafran leader, Odumegwu Ojukwu, flew out from the Uli airstrip of Biafra and flew to seek asylum in the west African nation of Ivory Coast. But in Odumegwu Ojukwu's last broadcast speech as the Biafran leader he euphemistically said that he was travelling to the Ivory Coast in [quote unquote] "search for peace." My family left Ndoni (Biafra) on about January 17, 1970. We walked for three days to arrive in Onitsha. We spent three months as refugees at Port Harcourt Road in the Fegge Quarters of Onitsha. During those three war years, onward of April 1967, I was not enrolled in any school. I could not enroll in school because all the schools in Biafra were closed for three years.

Schools near war fronts were closed and converted to military training camps and barracks.

Schools farther from war fronts were closed and converted into makeshift, **overcrowded** housing and **feeding centers** for Biafran refugees.

My most memorable day in Biafra was the day in July 1969
I was conscripted into the Biafran army.

I was fourteen years old.

I was briefly sent to the Oguta War Front of the Nigeria-Biafra Civil War.

#### Oguta War Front

was one of the bloodiest war fronts during the Nigerian Civil War. One in fifteen million Biafrans died from fighting in war fronts, and died from hunger and starvation.

#### Oguta War Front

was one of the few war fronts that the Biafran Leader,

## 1930

### General Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu, fought in.

#### **Oguta War Front**

was where I first heard the name

Colonel Olusegun Obasanjo

and heard that Obasanjo

led an attack

against our Biafran unit
that was defending the town of Oguta.

## 41.2.10 Use of Calculus in War Fronts

The ordinary differential equation of calculus is the mathematical technique that is used to compute the flight trajectories of the missiles that were fired by the Nigerian Second Division that was led by Colonel Murtala Muhammad. The computer solution

of the ordinary differential equation of calculus can be used to compute the flight trajectory of the Nigerian missiles that reached my family residence. For the eight days onward of the Fourth of October of 1967, some of those Nigerian missiles landed a hundred yards from my family residence at 4B Egbuna-Adazie Street, Onitsha (Biafra).

Colonel Murtala Muhammad was sending us deadly missiles from **across** the River Niger and from the banks of the River Niger at **Asaba** (Nigeria).

The ordinary differential equation of calculus that encodes the second law of motion of physics

must be solved with a fast computer. That numerical solution can be used to compute a priori the flight trajectories of the missiles that were fired by the Nigerian Army and fired from their gunboats and fired from the middle of Oguta Lake to Oguta town. That need to numerically solve the ordinary differential equation of calculus was the grand challenge problem of mathematical physics that inspired the construction of the first programmable supercomputer. That sequential processing supercomputer was constructed back in 1946, or nineteen years, before the Nigeria-Biafra Civil War. That first supercomputer, that could compute automatically, was at Aberdeen Proving Ground

of the United States Army, in Aberdeen, Maryland. The Aberdeen Proving Ground was the U.S. Army's facility for demonstrating how missiles work. I later developed a relationship with Aberdeen, in part, because the city was 26 miles from my wife's birthplace and hometown of Baltimore, Maryland. And, in part, because I declined a job offer to program vector processing supercomputers at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The first supercomputer that I sequentially programmed, back on June 20, **1974** at 1800 SW Campus Way, Corvallis, Oregon, United States, was mostly used to solve systems of **differential equations**. Or rather, used to execute a large set of floating-point

arithmetical operations
that were used to solve
a large-scale system of equations
of algebra
that arose from reformulating
and solving
systems of differential equations.

# 41.3 Chronicles From Unknown Calculus

## 41.3.1 Calculus to Computing

My scientific journey
was from the frontiers
of the partial differential equations
of modern calculus
to the then uncharted territory
of the as-yet-to-be-invented
massively parallel processing
supercomputer.
In that terra incognita,

#### I invented

how to **synchronously communicate** and how to **simultaneously compute** and how to do both **across** a new internet.

across a new internet

That new internet

is a new global network of two-raised-to-power sixteen tightly-coupled processors that shared nothing with each other.

My contribution to the development of the modern computer was the invention that occurred on the Fourth of July 1989.
I invented

how those 65,536 tightly-coupled identical processors that were already available in the market

can be married together

as one seamless, cohesive supercomputer.

Those 64 binary thousand processors

were married together by a new global network of one binary million regular and short email wires that were identical and that were equal distances apart. In the 1980s, I was the lone wolf, fulltime programmer in Los Alamos, New Mexico, United States, of that massively parallel processing machinery. That machinery is the pre-cursor of the modern supercomputer. For twenty years, onward of June 1970, the name "Calculus" continued to define me. For instance, the June 20, 1990 issue of the Wall Street Journal and various newspapers reported that I invented how to compress the time-to-solution of the toughest problems

in modern calculus
and that I invented
how to compress that time-to-solution
via the fastest supercomputers
and that I invented
how compress that time-to-solution
by a factor of
65,536.
I invented
how to speed supercomputers up

and speed up

across the slowest

65,536

processors

and speed up

to record previously unrecorded speeds
in supercomputing.

The dense, abstract and invisible partial differential equations of modern calculus were the common denominators within each of the 65,536

### tightly-coupled processors

that I used to invent how to compress the **time-to-solution** for solving the toughest problems in calculus.

In 1989, it made the news headlines that an African Supercomputer Wizard in the United States had invented

what was then considered impossible, namely, how to compress supercomputer time-to-solution

and compress that time
from 65,536 days, or 180 years,
on one processor
and compress that time
to only one day of time-to-solution
and compress that time
across a new internet
that is a small copy
of the Internet.

I am that African Supercomputer Wizard that was in the news

back in 1989.
I invented that new internet as a new global network of 65,536
equidistant processors.
I invented that new internet as a new global network of

as many identical computers

that are equal distances apart.

## 41.3.2 Philip Emeagwali's Contributions to Calculus

Back in June 1970, I used calculus to study how things change.

Twenty years later, my contributions to calculus became the cover story of the June 1990 issue of the SIAM News.

In the May 1990 issue of the *SIAM News*, a research computational mathematician wrote that:



### [And I quote]

"I have checked with several reservoir engineers who feel that his calculation is of real importance and very fast. His explicit method not only generates lots of megaflops, but solves problems faster than implicit methods. Emeagwali is the first to have applied a pseudo-time approach in reservoir modeling."

[End of quote]

for mathematicians.

The SIAM News that profiled my contributions to calculus is the flagship publication of SIAM. And SIAM is the acronym for the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics. The SIAM is the number one society

#### The SIAM News

is where the most newsworthy contribution to mathematics is first reported.

As reported in the May 1990 issue of the SIAM News,

I invented

36 partial derivative terms

of modern calculus.

Those terms make **excruciatingly-detailed** petroleum reservoir models more accurate.

Those models
tell the petroleum engineer
a lot about how crude oil, injected water,
and natural gas
flow from a water injection well
to a crude oil and natural gas
production well.

#### **Calculus**

is the common denominator in my supercomputing research that was at the **crossroad** of physics and mathematics and computing.

#### **Calculus**

is the most powerful technique in mathematics.

The **differential equation** is the most important expression in **calculus**.

The partial differential equation of calculus

is used to foresee global warming that's, otherwise, unforeseeable.
The partial differential equation of modern calculus

is used to recover crude oil and natural gas

that are, otherwise, unrecoverable.

The ordinary differential equation

of calculus

was used to send men to the moon.

My contribution to **calculus** is this:

On the Fourth of July 1989

in Los Alamos, New Mexico, United States,

#### I invented

how partial differential equations that governed an initial-boundary value problem of modern calculus can be solved **across** a new internet. That new internet is a new global network of 65,536 tightly-coupled processors that were identical, that were equal distances apart, and that shared nothing with each other and that were already available in the market anyway. That new internet is a new global network of as many identical computers. That invention of how to solve initial-boundary value problems that are governed by Philip Emeagwali's equations that is a new system of coupled, non-linear, time-dependent, and state-of-the-art

### partial differential equations

that is the toughest problem in calculus that are hyperbolic and how to solve the extreme scale-system of equations

of algebra that approximates

those **partial differential equations** and **how to solve** those algebraic equations **across** processors

and how to solve them in parallel was what made the news headlines back in 1989.

My invention

of the massively parallel processing supercomputer made the news headlines because it was a invention that opened the door to the modern supercomputer. That modern supercomputer is powered by up to ten million six hundred and forty-nine thousand six hundred [10,649,600]

processors.

As a large-scale computational mathematician, my quest was for the shortest **time-to-solution** 

for an initial-boundary value problem that is defined by partial differential equations of modern calculus. In theory, it takes an infinite time-to-solution to solve an initial-boundary value problem and to solve it exactly and to solve it for real-world problems, such as general circulation modeling that must be used to foresee otherwise unforeseeable global warming.

## 41.3.3 Contributions to Calculus



The idea of supercomputing in parallel came to me in 1974. But in the mid-1970s, my research in parallel processing was tongue-in-cheek. I was young, black, and African. For that reason, I was not taken seriously. I did not even take myself seriously, in part, because the leading minds in the world of the vector processing supercomputer, such as **Seymour Cray** and the leading minds in the world of the scalar processing

supercomputer,

such as Gene Amdahl pronounced that it will forever remain impossible to invent the massively parallel processing supercomputer.

I made the impossible possible when I experimentally confirmed a new internet, that is a new supercomputer, and that is a new computer. I invented the massively parallel processing supercomputer and I invented the technology on the Fourth of July 1989. But it was not possible, in 1974, for me to invent the massively parallel processing supercomputer and to invent the technology in 1974. That invention was impossible due to the lack of money, the lack of time, and most importantly, the lack of the knowledge of the partial differential equation of the modern calculus that is a recurring decimal in the development of the fastest supercomputer. Back in 1974, I also lacked

knowledge of extreme-scaled algebra that is a recurring decimal in the development of the fastest supercomputer. And I lacked knowledge of extreme-scaled computational physics that is a recurring decimal in the development of the fastest supercomputer.. The modern supercomputer that computes in parallel and solves the toughest problems in calculus in parallel is the defining technology of the Information Age. The computer of today that was invented to solve the partial differential equation of calculus of today that, in turn, is used to foresee otherwise unforeseeable global warming was the supercomputer of yesterday that was invented back in 1946.

That supercomputer of 1946 was used to solve the ordinary differential equation of calculus of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century that, in turn, was used to calculate the trajectories of missiles.

# The computer is integral to human civilization.

The supercomputer is the primary engine that powers the world's economic growth. The supercomputer is used to discover and recover otherwise elusive crude oil and natural gas. The supercomputer is used to discover and invent more fuel efficient cars and faster airplanes and used to create a greener planet. The new supercomputer is used for extreme-scaled computational fluid dynamics, such as simulating unsteady turbulent flows

that is used to design quiet, fuel-efficient, and green aircrafts.

The invention of a new supercomputer is akin to creating new wealth.

The invention of the massively parallel processing supercomputer—that occurred on the Fourth of July 1989—made the sequential processing supercomputer that was invented in 1946 obsolete and made the vector processing supercomputer that was invented in the early 1970s obsolete.

The invention of the massively parallel processing supercomputer changed the content, pedagogy, and curriculum of fields related to computer science. The invention of the massively parallel processing

supercomputer gave birth to the fields of extreme-scale algebra, high-performance computational mathematics and introduced new terminologies into the modern supercomputer textbook. Please allow me to take a retrospective look to 1946, the year the first sequential processing supercomputer was invented and the year the New York Times first dropped the hint in its January 11, 1946 issue that the parallel processing supercomputer could be invented in the distant future. The massively parallel processing supercomputer that I invented on the Fourth of July 1989 was as science fiction in 1946 as teleportation is science fiction today.

Teleportation is science fiction because we cannot teleport ourselves to the Moon and do so without first traversing the quarter of a million miles, or the 238,855 mile distance, between the Moon and the Earth. On the early morning of Thursday June 20, 1974 in Corvallis, Oregon, United States, I began my quest for the fastest calculation. I began that supercomputing quest on the first supercomputer to be rated at one million instructions per second.

#### I invented

the massively parallel processing supercomputer and I experimentally confirmed that supercomputer at 8:15 on the morning of Tuesday the Fourth of July 1989

in Los Alamos, New Mexico, United States. My invention made the news headlines because that new supercomputer was believed to be fictional. Prior to my invention of 1989, the massively parallel processing supercomputer was as fictional as the perpetual motion machine that violates the first and second laws of thermodynamics, namely, that energy cannot be created or destroyed within an isolated system and that the entropy of an isolated system always increases.

### I'm Philip Emeagwali.

I was in the news because
I invented
a new internet
that is a new supercomputer

and a new computer.

The massively parallel processing supercomputer

that I invented

was the miracle

that appeared on the Fourth of July 1989 and appeared

in the centers of algebra, calculus, and physics.

The massively parallel processing supercomputer

was the miracle

that made the impossible-to-solve

possible-to-solve

and opened the doors to new fields of study.