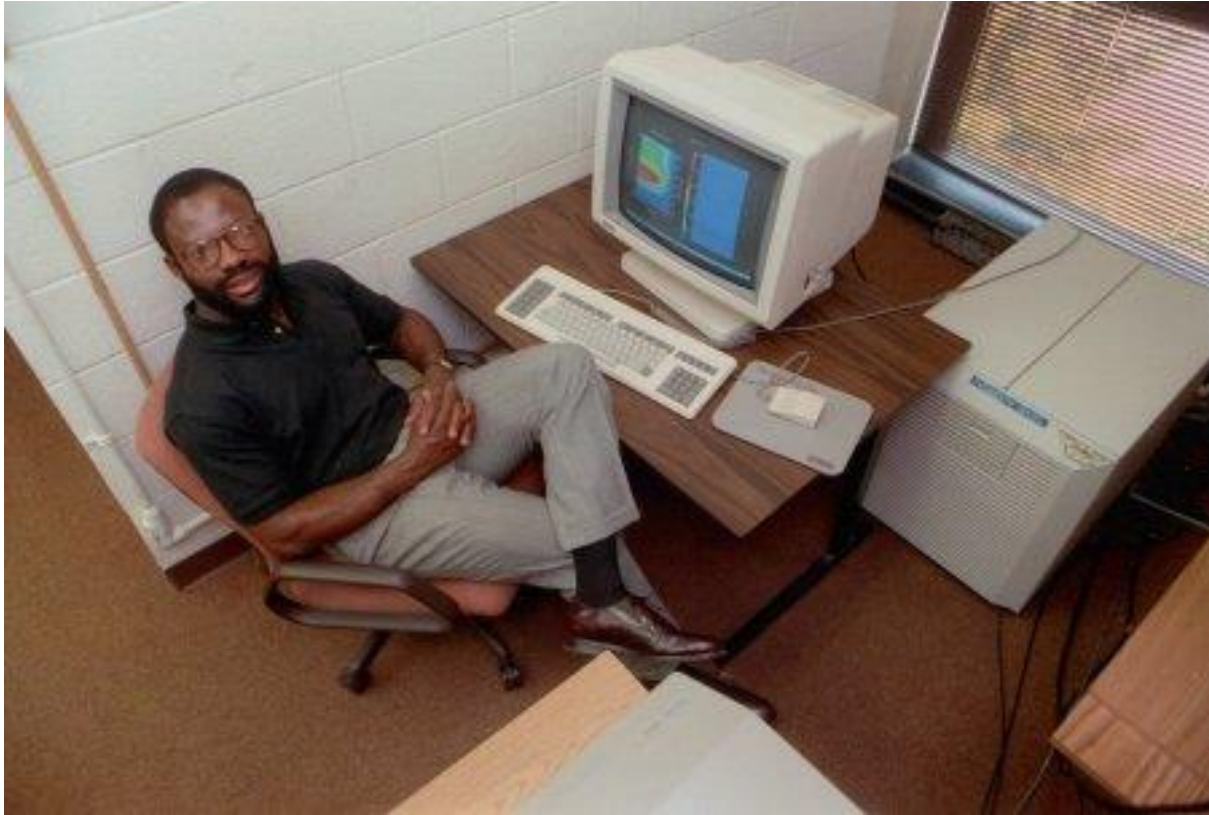




Handwritten stories and lecture notes with heavy cross-outs tossed into the wastebasket of Philip Emeagwali. Some crumpled notes were retrieved on second thought. Some were lost to the past. They provide clues on how his vision took shape through the years. At the time of writing, his ideas were not fully formed, hence the endless drawing of arrows and crossing of awkward sentences.



Philip Emeagwali  
(*Detroit Free Press*, Page 1E, May 29, 1990)

The word "computer" was coined 700 years ago. The word remained the same. Yet, the technology changed. The technology continuously re-defined itself, just as each generation re-defined itself. I use the word "computer" to describe things my contemporaries also call CPUs or processors, nodes or cores, parallel or quantum computers, micro or super computers and so on.

I am doing so both for simplicity  
and uniformity  
and to avoid being a prisoner of  
details.



Like the computer,  
the word "internet"  
could remain the same  
for another seven centuries.  
Yet, the internet technology  
that will be used to achieve  
faster calculations  
will change to something beyond  
quantum computers  
that could enshroud the earth  
in the future.  
I believe that in seven centuries,  
the internet  
will still be defined  
as computers enshrouding the globe.



I believe that a computer will always remain a machine that performs fast arithmetical computations, automatically.

I believe that the supercomputer will be the planetary-sized computer that performs the fastest computation

I believe that in seven centuries the internet

will be the network of humans and computers

that executes

the fastest arithmetical computations and sends and receives

the fastest email communications, automatically.