

**Topic:** The Future of Computers

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As computers continue to evolve, we engage to discover more interesting and intelligent things about them. This evolution was started by Charles Babbage who was nicknamed as the father of computing and who also invented the analytical engine which was the first modern digital and programmable computer. Scientists there before struggled to invent computers to be used in future generations starting from the first ever manual computer; The Abacus.

Future computers will therefore process faster, mimic human actions and have high accuracy of almost 100% as compared to first, second, third and fourth generation computers.

Future computers will be able to understand natural languages. They will be able to communicate more easily than other generations of computers due to their ability of being artificially intelligent.

These computers will also be used at home, supermarkets, hospitals, banks and in law enforcement agencies to generate information more easily, control industrial processes, stock control activities, monitor busy towns and burglar related activities.

Alas! The computers will need human professionals in order to programme them in doing various tasks or activities such as including things that humans do, for example; preparing tea, preparing all kinds of foods and doing house chores. Due to their artificial intelligence abilities, they will require minimal supervision from humans to do their job.

They will play a capital role in assisting scientists with research work, analysis of numbers (statistics) and probability issues. Imagine in a situation where computers will predict more accurately and precisely on stock exchange, weather patterns, traffic jams, national budget and economic issues. Perhaps a robot sitting with World Bank officials and panelists to discuss whether Kenya qualifies to be granted a loan, a grant or not; more interesting will be a situation where computers will predict your net worth in a few years to come by analyzing all the parameters at place or doing an analysis on your body and recommend the next disease that you will most likely be ailing from.

There will be a big difference from the computers we are used to, a computer whose memory will not be volatile, whose hard disk will carry information in form of petabytes or quontabytes. The word 'bits' will be placed somewhere safe in the national museum and instead 'qubits' will be the order of the day. Humans will have an easy work of ordering computers around with natural languages as they reprogramme themselves.

The word quantum computers is nothing new in the world since research to these intelligent computers is now at advanced stage. They are being inducted for use in both commercially viable startups and experimental processes and very soon, they will rock our computer shops all over the world.

When that day comes, I will be seated in a hotel room which will be equipped with automatic sensors and I will be tempted to order a cup of coffee that will mysteriously appear on my table within seconds accompanied by arrowroots meal and dessert fully prepared by the robotic computer. It will be a high time then to sit and remember where we have come from, since the vacuum tubes and thermionic valves era, then transistors, integrated circuits and very large scale integrated without having to fear whether Al-shabab and other terror gangs will detonate a bomb next to my door because robot X detected them and eliminated them without my knowledge. The future of computers will be very interesting indeed.

*Edited by Maurice Nyamoti*

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