

# The CERN Quantum Technology Initiative

*Atelier QT2I – CPPM Marseille*



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*CERN QTI Coordinator  
CERN openlab Head  
IT Department - CERN*

# CERN

“Science for peace”

- International organisation close to Geneva, straddling Swiss-French border, founded 1954
- Facilities for fundamental research in particle physics
- 23 member states, 1.2 B CHF budget
- ~3'200 staff, fellows, trainees, ...
- >13'000 associates

1954: 12 Member States

**Members:** Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

**Candidate for membership:** Cyprus, Estonia, Slovenia

**Associate members:** Croatia, India, Lithuania, Pakistan, Turkey, Ukraine

**Observers:** EC, Japan, JINR, Russia, UNESCO, United States of America

Numerous **non-member states with collaboration agreements**

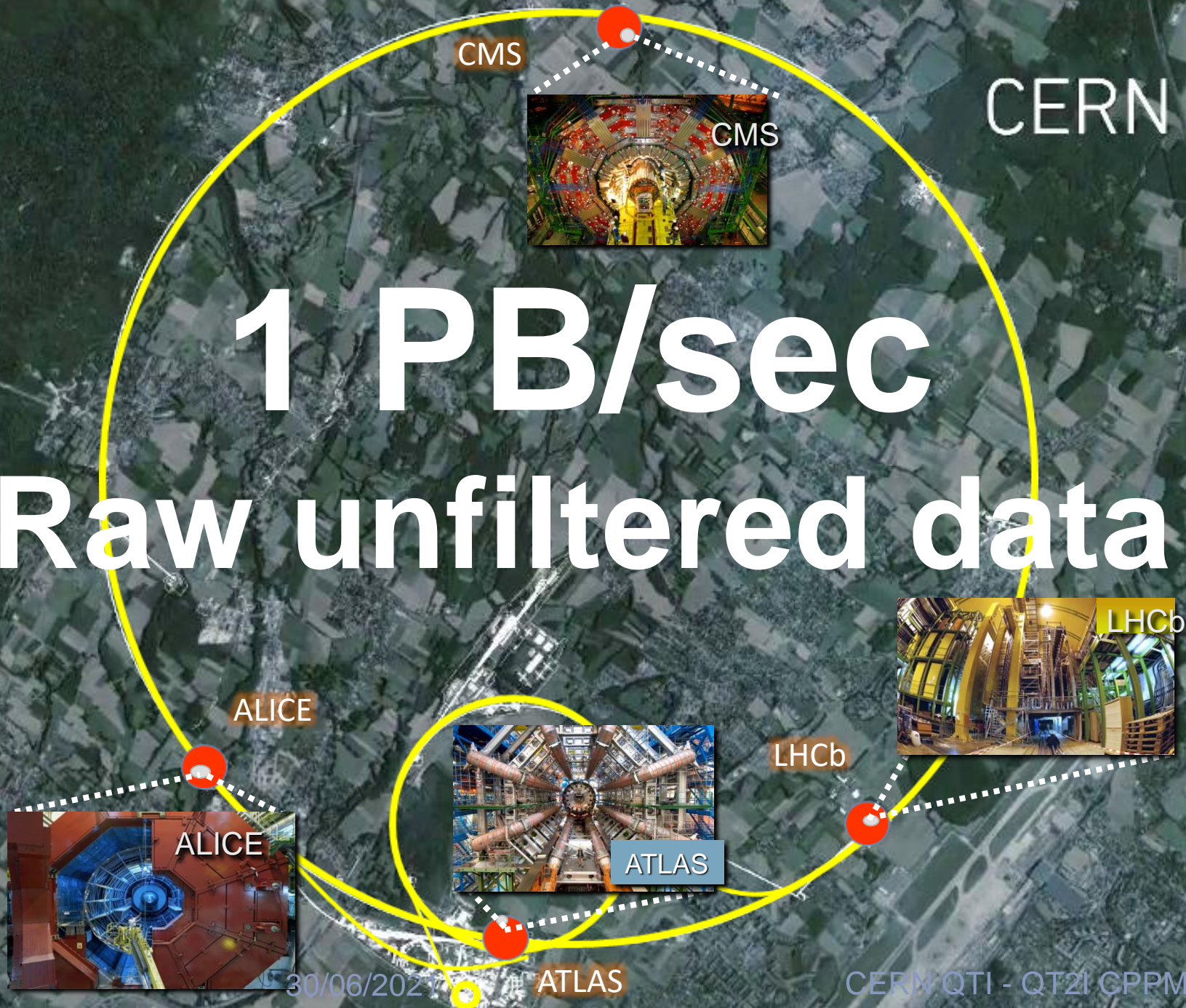
>2'500 staff members, 645 fellows, 21 trainees

7'000 member states, 1'800 USA, 900 Russia, 270 Japan, ...



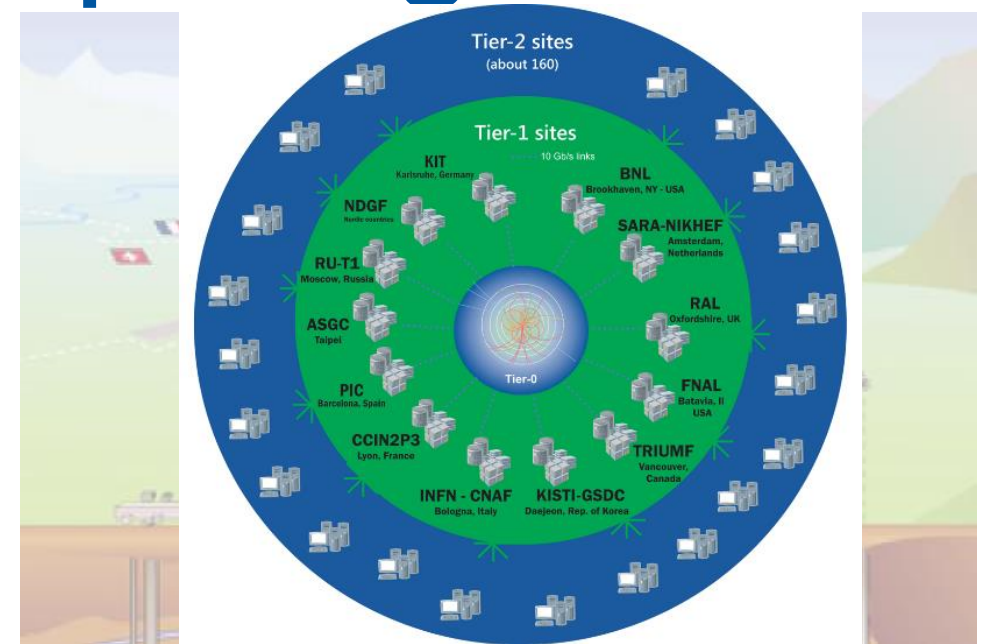
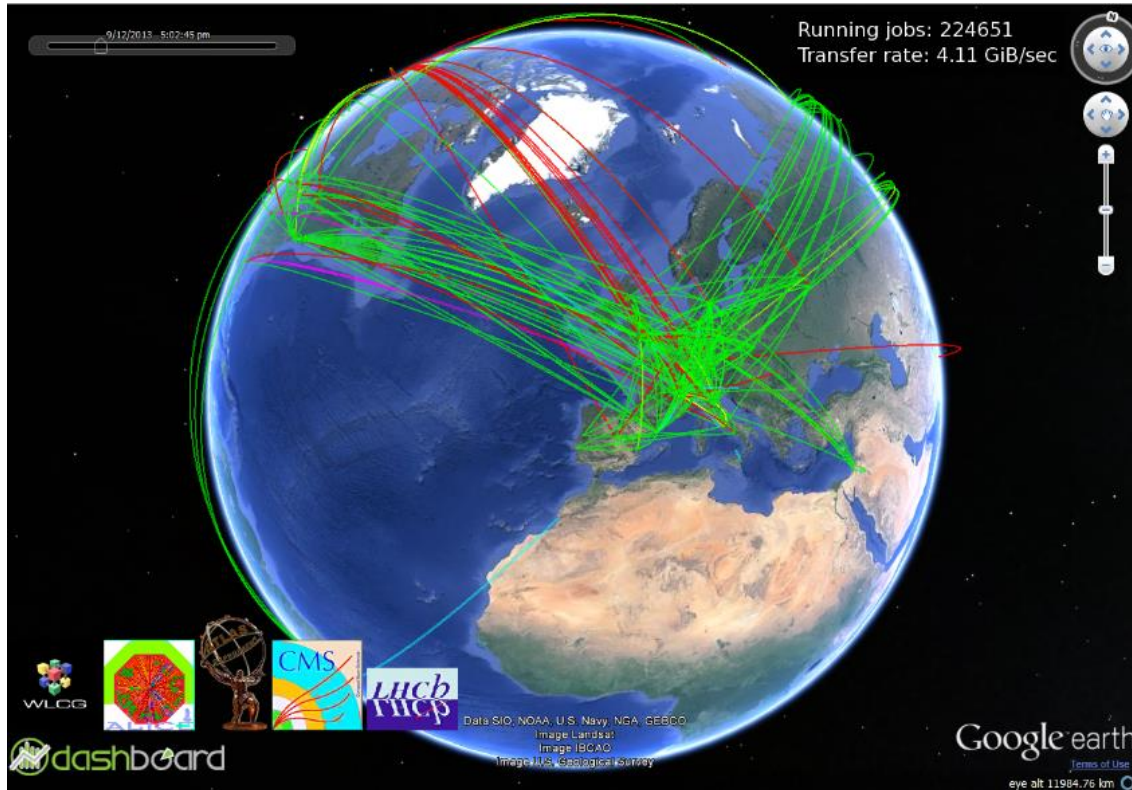


# 1 PB/sec Raw unfiltered data





# Worldwide LHC Computing Grid



Tier-0 (CERN):

- Data recording
- Initial data reconstruction
- Data distribution

Tier-2 (42 Countries, ~170 centres):

- Simulation
- End-user analysis

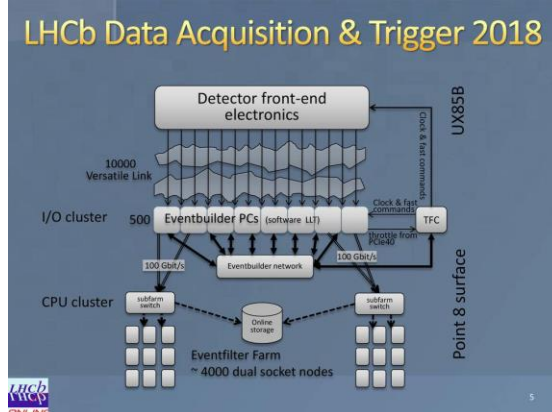
Tier-1 (13 centres):

- Permanent storage
- Re-processing
- Analysis

- ~800,000 cores
- ~800 PB

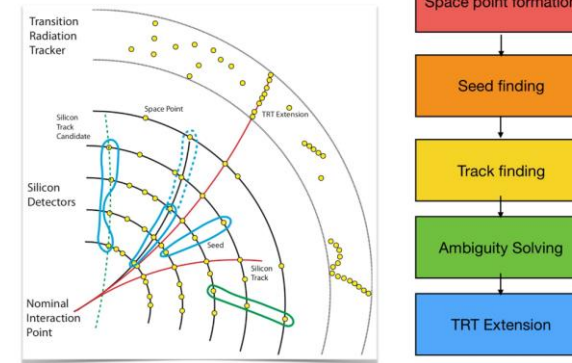
# LHC Experiments Computing Workloads

© Niko Neufeld - LHCb

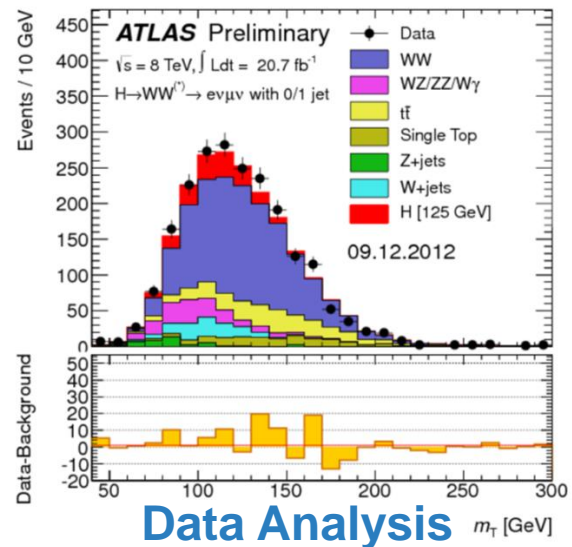


Data Acquisition

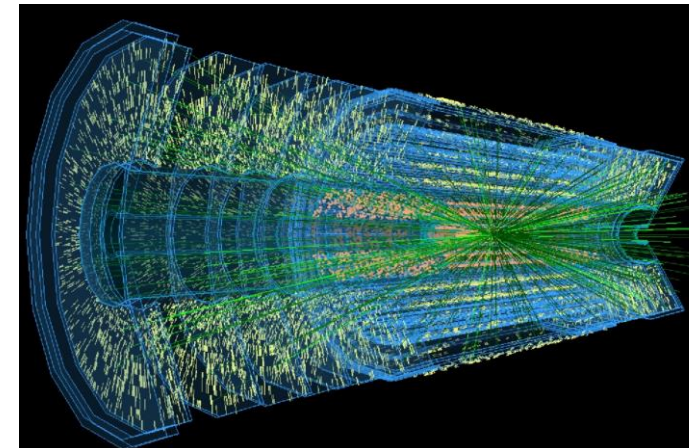
Multi-step iterative Kalman filter approach



Track Reconstruction



Data Analysis



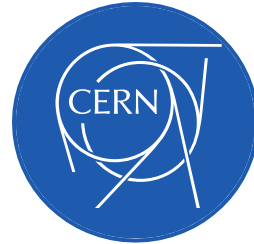
Simulation

# Non-LHC Experiments



## Antihydrogen Experiment: Gravity, Interferometry, Spectroscopy (AEGIS)

direct measurement of the Earth's gravitational acceleration,  $g$ , on antihydrogen.



$\gamma$



## Atomic Spectroscopy And Collisions Using Slow Antiprotons

studies the fundamental symmetries between matter and antimatter by precision spectroscopy of atoms containing an antiproton.



## Antiproton Trap

compares protons with their antimatter equivalents.



## ALPHA (successor of ATHENA)

makes, captures and studies atoms of antihydrogen and compares these with hydrogen atoms.

## CERN Neutrino Platform

CERN's undertaking to foster and contribute to fundamental research in neutrino physics at particle accelerators worldwide

**CERN Neutrino Platform**



## CERN Axion Solar Telescope

search for hypothetical "axions", proposed to explain why there is a subtle difference between matter and antimatter.



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# Theoretical Physics

**pQCD and Standard Model** — collider physics, parton showers, theory input for precision electroweak, interpretation of data from collision experiments

**Heavy Ion** — effective descriptions of quark gluon plasma, jets in heavy ion collisions, hydrodynamics of strongly coupled systems

**Lattice** — theory inputs for nuclear and particle physics, first principle calculations of the low energy aspects of QCD, lattice as a formal tool for understanding QFTs

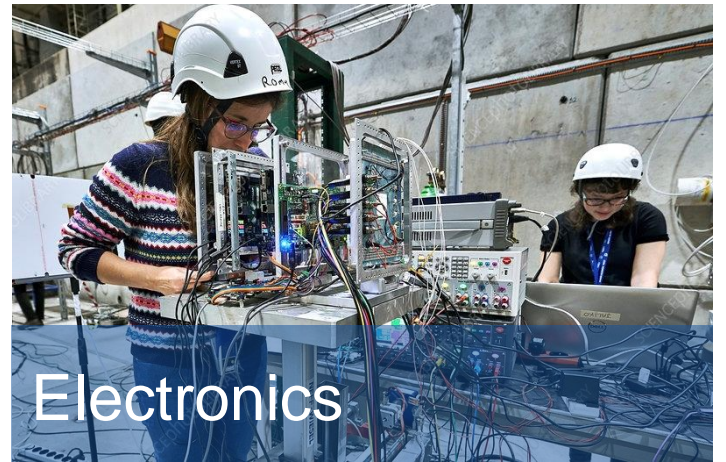
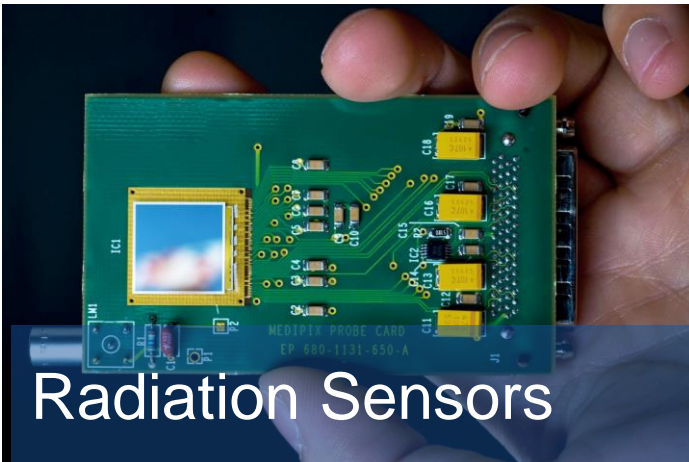
**BSM** — collider searches for BSM, dark matter model building, experimental signatures of dark matter, model building of new physics, BSM explanation of experimental anomalies

**Strings/QFT** — quantum gravity, string theory, conformal bootstrap, AdS/CFT correspondence, information paradox

**Cosmo/AstroParticle** — properties and evolution of the early universe, large scale structure, dark sectors, neutrinos, gravitational waves, CMB

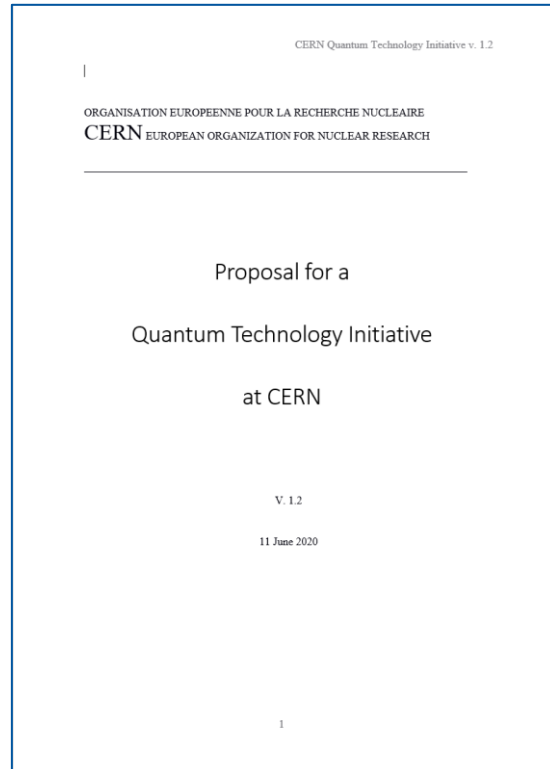


# Engineering



# CERN Quantum Technology Initiative

**Discussions about a Quantum Technology Initiative took place in 2020** with representatives of quantum initiatives in the CERN Member States, the CERN community, the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid, the CERN Scientific Computing Forum, with LHC experiments and the HEP Software Foundation



## Objective 1: Strategy and long-term benefits

- Capitalize on CERN uniqueness, organize the different lines of R&D at CERN under a common initiative and vision and define a **shared roadmap**
- Assess the potential impact of quantum technologies on CERN and HEP research in the timescale of HL-LHC and beyond
- Build over time the required knowledge and capacity to turn the potential into realized impact

## Objective 2: Implementation and execution

- Implement the strategy by means of a set of concrete R&D objectives in the four main areas of QT
- Run an international academic, education, and training programme in collaboration with leading experts, universities and industry
- Knowledge sharing within the Member States, the HEP community, other scientific research communities and society at large



# CERN Quantum Technology Initiative

Strategy



Joint HEP R&D Programme



CERN Management



Advisory Board  
(**representation of the Member States**)

Coordination



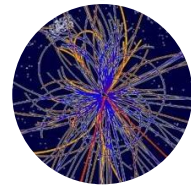
QT Initiative Management



R&D



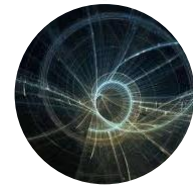
Sensing, Detectors R&D



Computing & Engineering



Communication



Simulation, Information Processing

Capacity building

Academic Programmes / Industrial Collaborations



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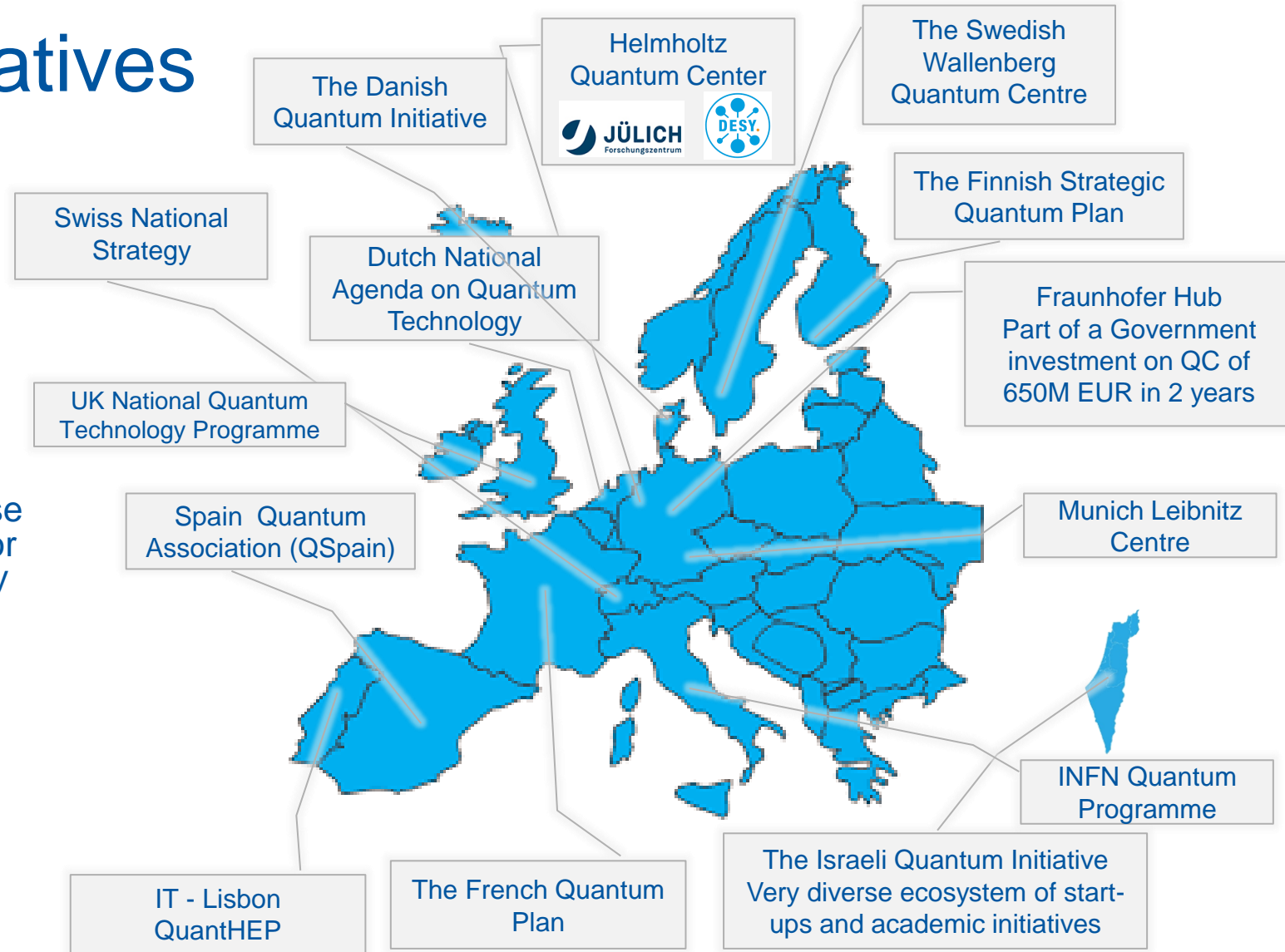
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# Member States Initiatives

- Many initiatives involving research labs, universities, companies have been announced in recent years
- National initiatives are put in place independently in several countries
- Companies have established large expertise networks: e.g. the IBM Quantum Network or Q-Net (with more than 100 members, many of them in Europe), or the Atos User Club
- Opportunities for joint collaborations and common programmes are emerging in particular in the CERN Member States





# Worldwide Initiatives and Investments



Argonne Quantum Research Group



Canada-Germany Quantum Computing Network



EC 1B EUR initiative Quantum Flagship

Close collaboration with the EU QF. Management meeting took place in Dec 2020



Fermilab Quantum Technology Institute

Quantum Information Science and Quantum Internet Institutes

Russian Quantum Technology Roadmap (Digital Economy National Program – 1B EUR)



USA National Quantum Initiative Act (1B\$, Dec 2018)

218M USD in 2019 for 85 research grants  
In 28 institutes (academia and national labs)

Oak Ridge Quantum Hub



Japan-IBM Hub at Keio University  
Quantum Programme at Tokyo - IHEP

Australia-IBM 1B AUD Deal (Melbourne, Canberra, Gold Coast)



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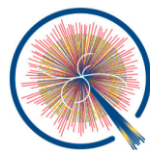
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# Who we are talking to

## Organizations and Projects



QUANTUM  
FLAGSHIP



QuantHEP



esa



Google

IBM

IBM Q-Net



Industry



aws

Amazon Braket



Microsoft



Xanadu

Atos



PASQAL



Cambridge  
Quantum  
Computing



EPFL

ETH zürich



UK NATIONAL  
QUANTUM  
TECHNOLOGIES  
PROGRAMME



TUM



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare



QuTech



ICEPP  
The University of Tokyo

Fermilab



## Academia, Research Labs and Agencies



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# Who we are talking to

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QUANTUM  
FLAGSHIP



QuantHEP



esa



Google

IBM

IBM Q-Net



Industry



aws

Amazon Braket



Microsoft



Xanadu

Atos



PASQAL



Cambridge  
Quantum  
Computing



EPFL

ETH zürich



UK NATIONAL  
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PROGRAMME



TUM



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare



Universidad de Oviedo



IN2P3



QuTech



ICEPP  
The University of Tokyo



Fermilab



## Academia, Research Labs and Agencies



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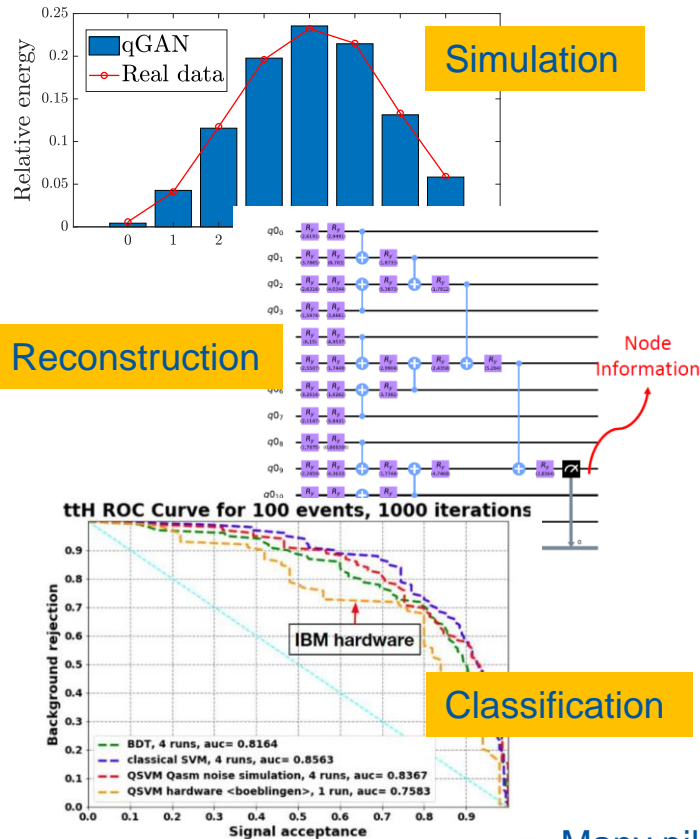
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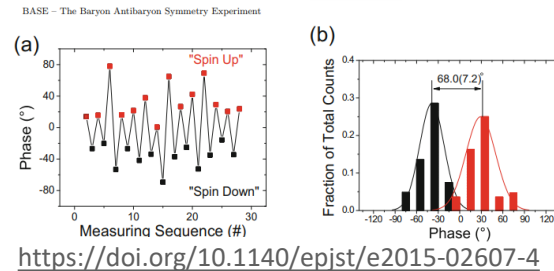
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# R&D Projects

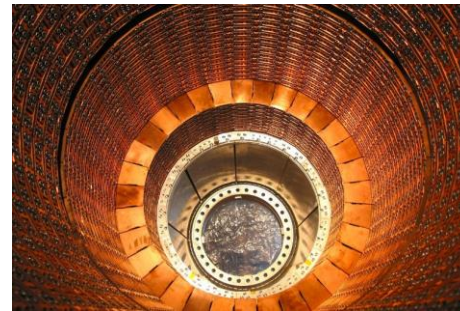
## Computing



## Sensing

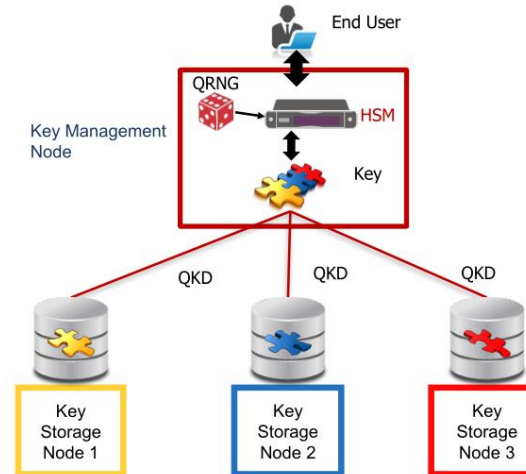


Low-energy experiments, quantum states measurements, nano-technologies



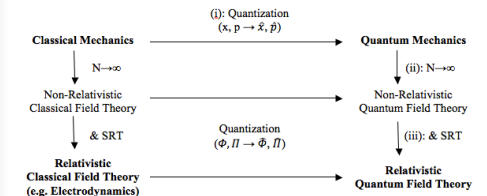
Future HEP Detectors

## Communications

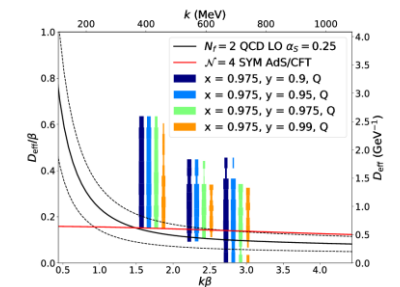


QKD  
infrastructures  
Quantum Internet

## Theory



Quantum Field Theory



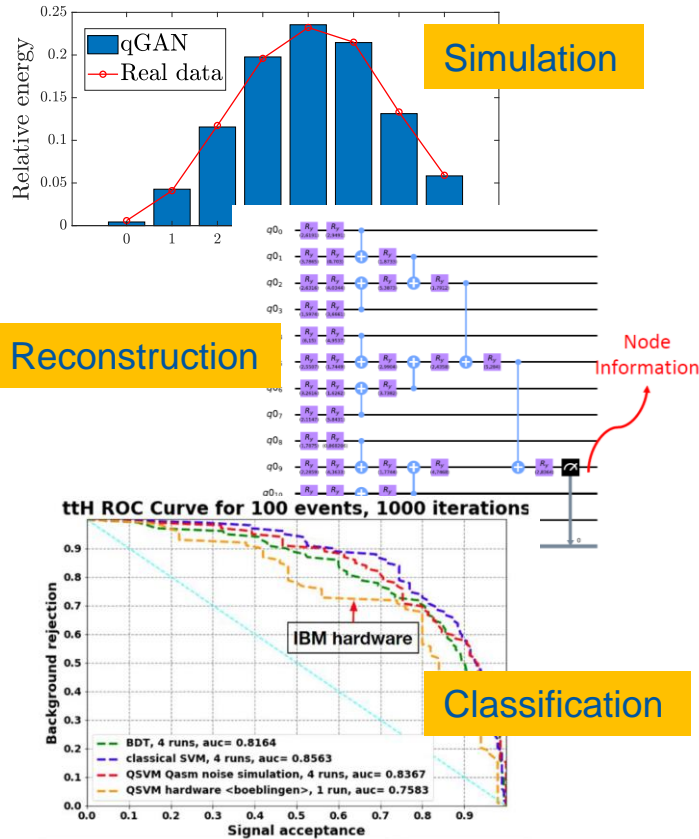
<https://cds.cern.ch/record/2703396>

Lattice QCD

Many pilot projects already started as part of the **CERN openlab quantum** programme (<https://openlab.cern/quantum>)



# Quantum Computing

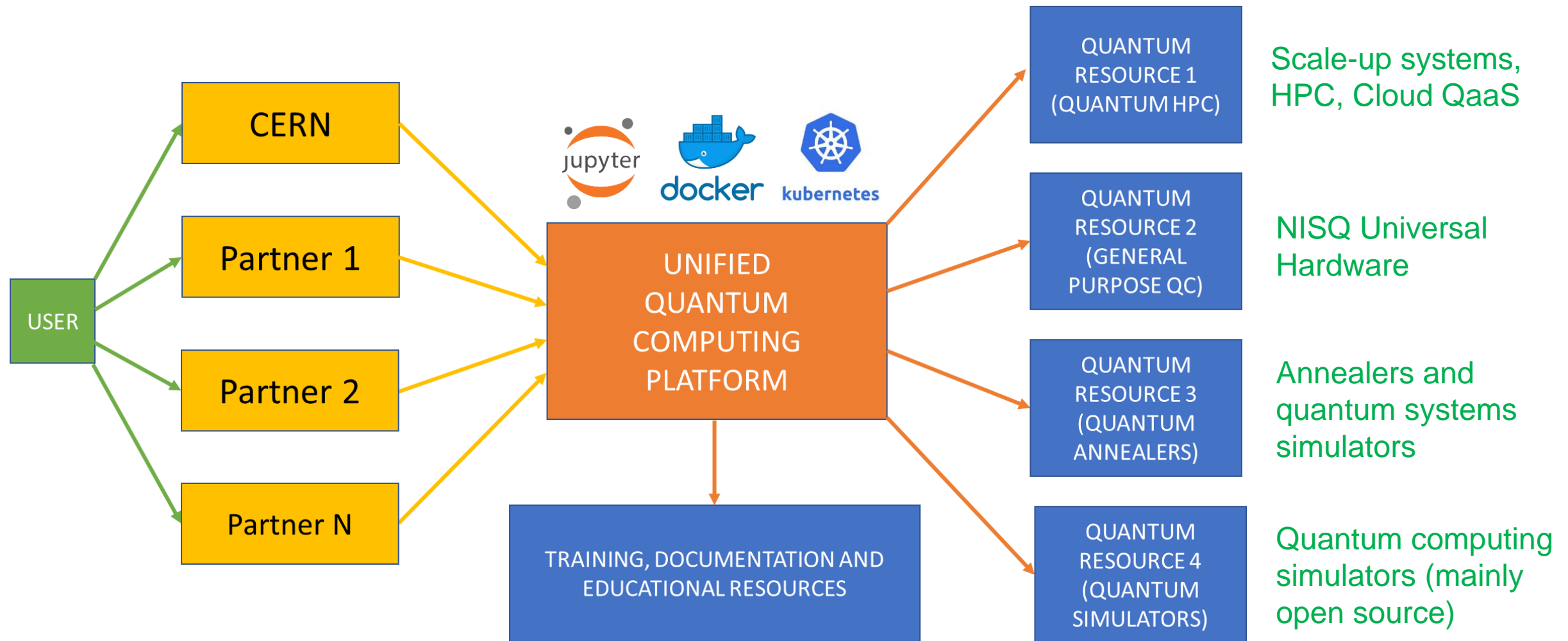


Until today: set a baseline for prioritisation and systematisation

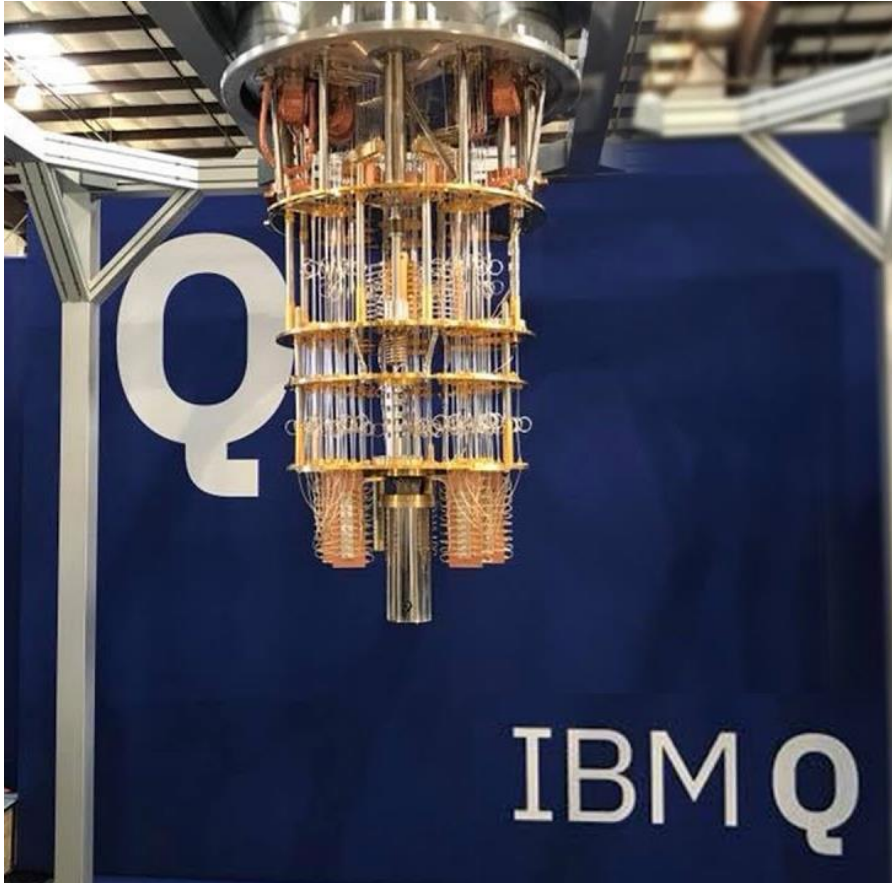
- Quantum **Generative Adversarial Networks** for detector simulation
- Quantum **Graph Neural Networks** for particle trajectory reconstruction
- Quantum **Support Vector Machines** for signal/background classification (Higgs, SUSY,..)
- Workload optimization via quantum **Reinforcement Learning**
- Quantum **Random Number Generators** tests and integration
- Quantum **Homomorphic Encryption**

Now moving towards a a more formal approach to algorithms, methods, error characterisation and correction, NISQ optimisations, data embedding / scalability / problem dimensionality

# Quantum Computing Platforms



# CERN Quantum Hub



- CERN is a Hub Member of the IBM Quantum Network
  - Focus on exploring NISQ computing for scientific research (physics, astrophysics, Earth observation, etc.)
- Access to IBM hardware based on quotas for Hub individual members and projects
- Now **looking for expressions of interest for new members** either for individual membership or projects



# Quantum Sensing and Low-Energy Physics

## Scope

Low-Energy Physics: antimatter, dark matter searches, symmetries, EDM's (AD, AeGIS, ISOLDE, etc.)

## Strategy

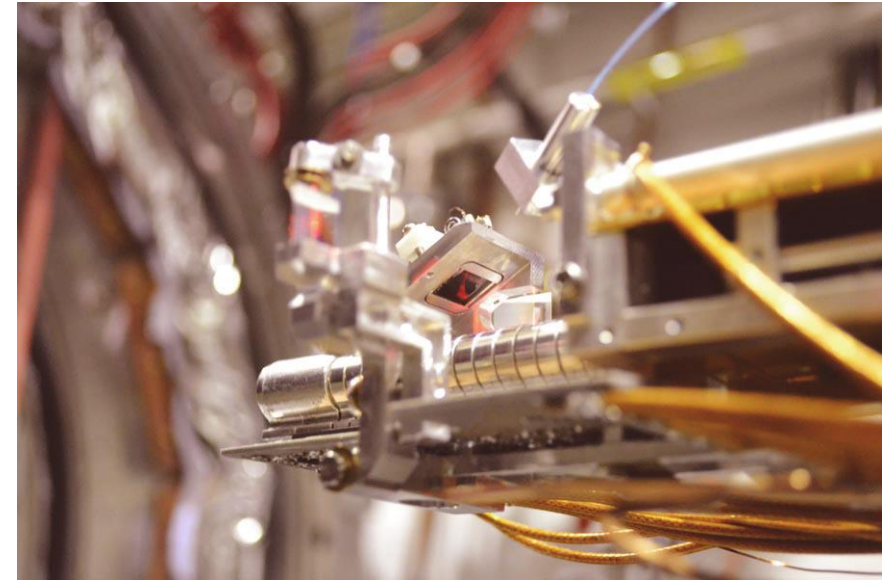
Discrete processes, changes of quantum states

## Applications

**Novel devices:** nanowires, photon upconverters, microwaves, magnetic junctions, SQUIDs, TES

**Measurements** of properties of trapped, atoms, ions, molecules, Rydberg atoms, neutral systems

**Correlations of entangled systems:** e.g.  $e^+ e^- 3\gamma$  decay: simultaneous measurement of E, polarization and direction



# Quantum Sensing for High-Energy Physics

## Scope

High-Energy Physics, particle tracking, calorimetry, identification in HEP detectors

## Strategy

Quantum “priming” of detectors before measurement, signal enhancement by laser excitation, quantum effects due to size, cryogenics

## Applications

Chromatic particle trackers composed of arrays of nanodots of varying size, nanocrystals (eg.  $\text{XPbBr}_3$ ) as scintillator or charged particle tracking for HEP detectors  
Calorimeters and low-energy single-particle (photons, mip's, ions,...) detectors made of arrays of nanowires (SNSPD)  
2D-structures (graphene) for gaseous detector signal amplification, synergies with atomic and quantum optics experiment control/DAQ





# Quantum Infrastructures

1

CERN started the Web; we have some expertise it's in our DNA ☺

CERN was part of early quantum networks experiments already 10+ years ago

Interest in taking part in EU and international network deployment initiatives to build the future **Quantum Infrastructures**

2

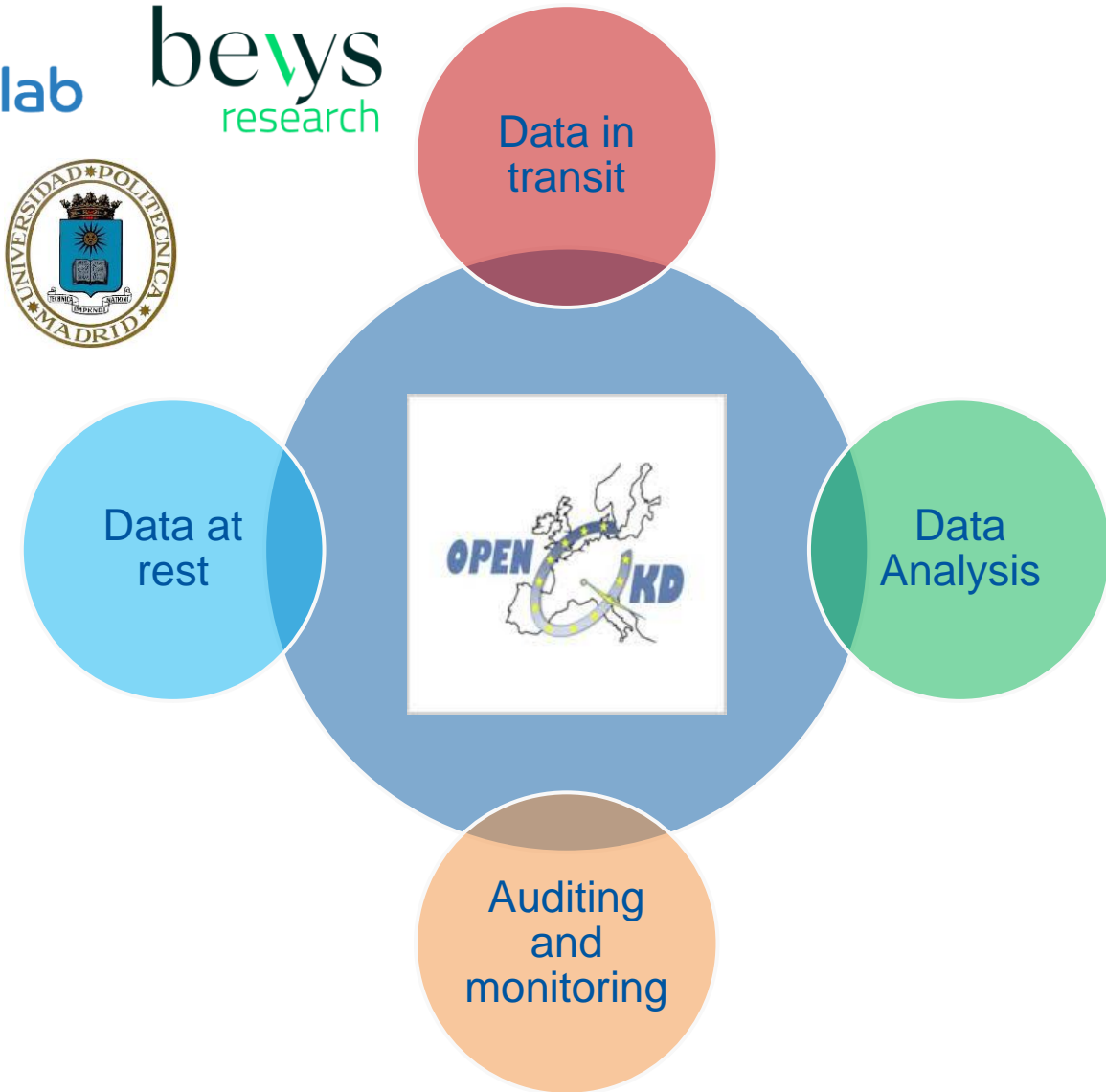
Currently discussing with academic and commercial network and technology providers (GEANT, IDQ) to test devices and protocols with HEP and non-HEP workloads

3

Working on protocols and algorithms (QKD), time synchronisation technologies (White Rabbit), photon sources and lasers



- **QUANTUM-based privacy and self-determination**
- Funded as an openQKD open call project
- End-to-end use of **QKD** to secure data analysis over distributed infrastructures
- Data analysis: **homomorphic encryption, SMPC, federated learning**
- Auditing: **quantum-encrypted block chains**
- **Medical use cases:** image classification and segmentation for neurological diseases research, epidemiologic studies



# Quantum Theory+Simulation Branch\*

## General Guiding Motivation

*How can quantum technology be used to probe the Standard Model and Beyond the Standard Model physics*

Develop algorithms to speed up classical methods

**Quantum Machine Learning for Event Generation**

***Simulations of Effective Field Theories for Collider Physics***

***Benchmarking Cloud-Based Computing***

Carry out simulations inaccessible on classical hardware

**Lattice Gauge Theory Methodology + Algorithms**

***Finite Volume Effects in Quantum Simulations***

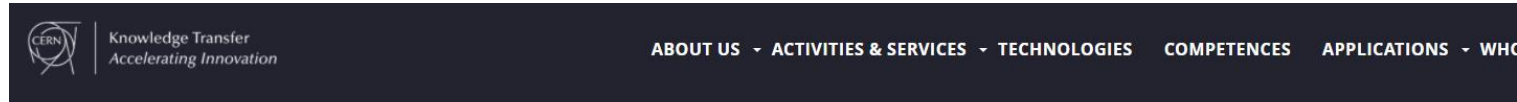
Develop probes of BSM physics using quantum detectors

**Atomic Interferometers**

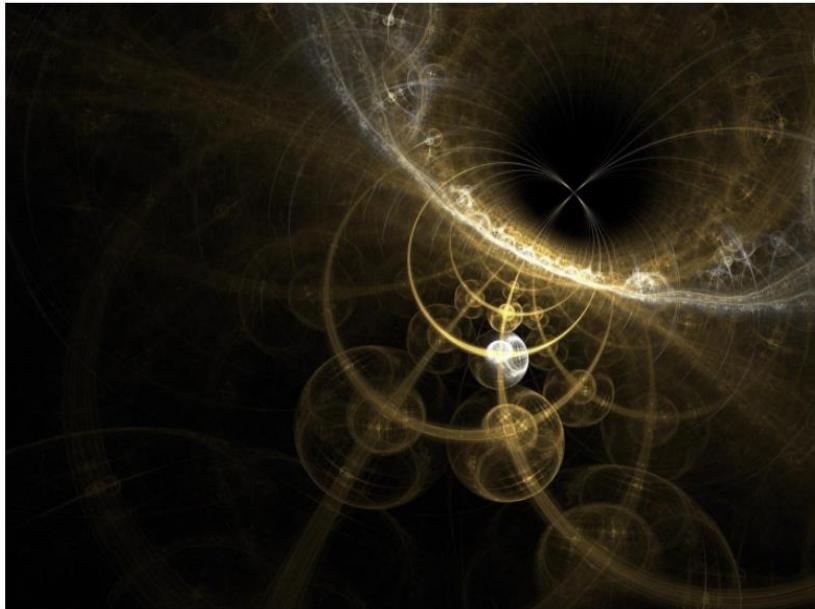
***Collective Neutrino Oscillations***

***\*Mirrors the role of TH within CERN***

# Knowledge Transfer Opportunities



## CERN tech for Quantum Systems



### GET INVOLVED

- › Industry? Collaborate with us.
- › Work for CERN? Collaborate with us.
- › HEP Academic? Collaborate with us.

### CONTACT PERSON



› **Amy Bilton**  
Knowledge Transfer Officer  
✉ amy.bilton@cern.ch  
☎ +41227672516  
**Benjamin Frisch**

- Measurement & control of quantum-scale systems
- Particle traps technologies
- Excited atoms, ions
- Picosecond Synchronisation
- FPGAs for quantum simulators
- Digital Low-Level Radio Frequency (LLRF) control systems
- Cryogenic system design, measurement & control
- Vacuum system design & control (HV, UHV, XHV)
- Thin film coatings for high-performance applications
- Laser devices

<https://kt.cern/competences/cern-tech-quantum-systems>



# Education Programme

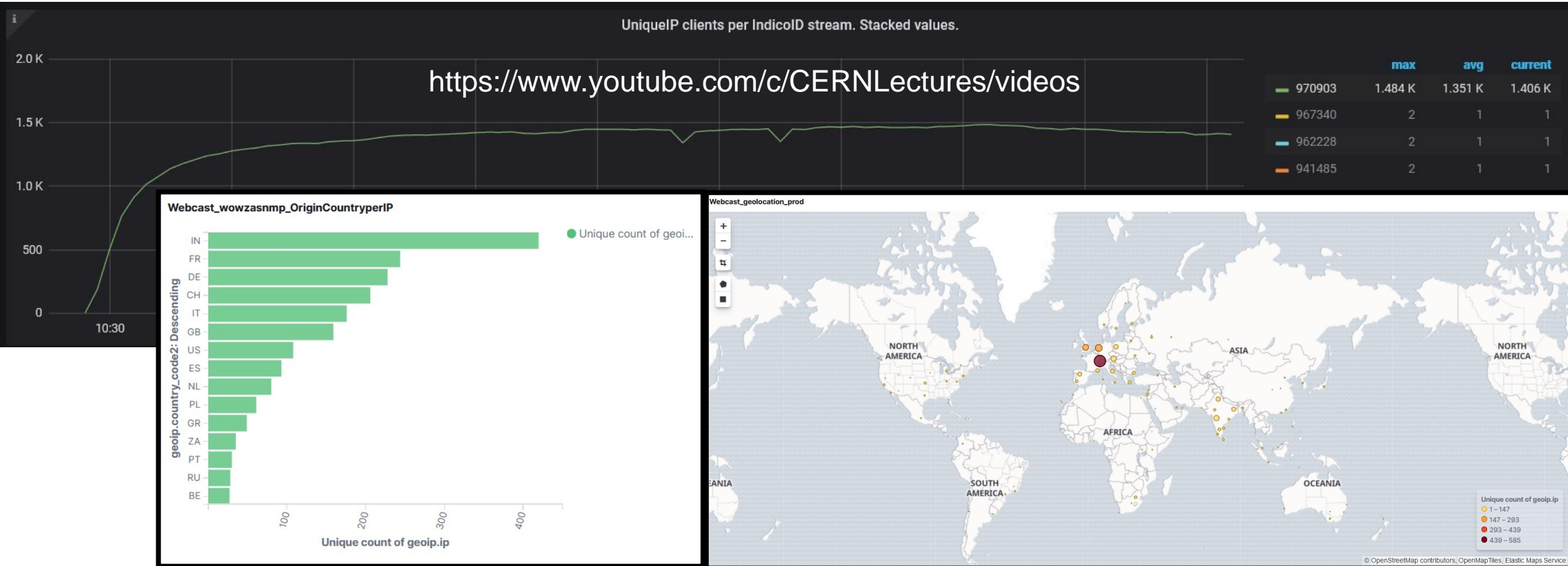
Fundamental component to prepare the community for future applications of quantum technology

- › Lectures and seminars with field experts (in collaboration with the CERN Academic Training Services)
- › Training courses (in collaboration with academic and industry experts)
- › Colloquia and specialistic seminars
- › Hackathons
- › Summer Students Programmes



# “A Practical Introduction to Quantum Computing”

A 7-part lecture series by Prof. Elias Combarro, University of Oviedo, CERN Scientific Associate (06/11-18/12/2020)



# Summary of Areas of Collaboration

1

***Qubits implementation and control:*** exploit unique CERN expertise in particle/ion traps, quantum state sensors, cryoelectronics, time synchronisation, lasers to advance the state of the art of quantum computers technologies working with academia and industry in EU and CERN Member States

2

***Quantum Computing (Simulation) Platforms:*** Enable building skills and starting R&D work, both as a preparation to real H/W and to explore “quantum-inspired” computational models. Multiple participating sites, capitalizing on CERN world-level expertise in operating distributed infrastructures, advance EU computing infrastructures

3

***Quantum Algorithms for Science:*** Develop libraries and tools for quantum computing to address common use cases across different disciplines (data encoding and reduction, image processing, optimisation, computation of graphs, simulation, etc.)

***Quantum Internet:*** take part in EU and international network deployment initiatives to build future quantum infrastructures



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# CERN Quantum Technology Initiative

## Accelerating Quantum Technology Research and Applications

<https://quantum.cern.ch>



# Thanks!

@AlbertoDiMeglio