



From Millimeter-Wave to Quantum Communication: A Call for Cross-Disciplinary Research and Innovation

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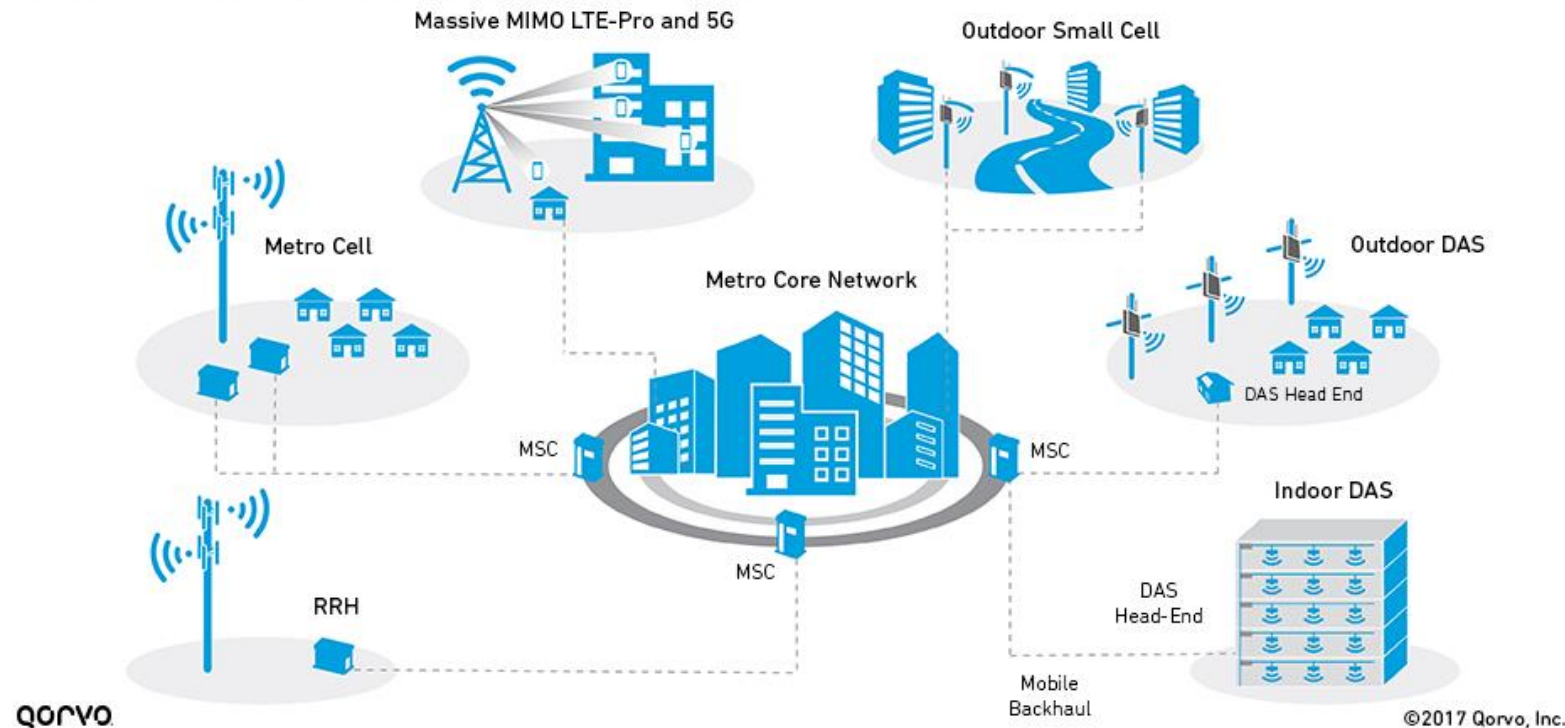
University of Wisconsin-Madison

<http://dune.ece.wisc.edu>

Information Science and Technology

- Communication and computing technology have progressed tremendously in the last 50 years!
- These technological advances have impacted all aspects – social, economic, political – of our lives
 - Cloud, edge, and mobile computing
 - Key enabler: anytime, anywhere wireless connectivity

Wireless Infrastructure: A Heterogeneous Network

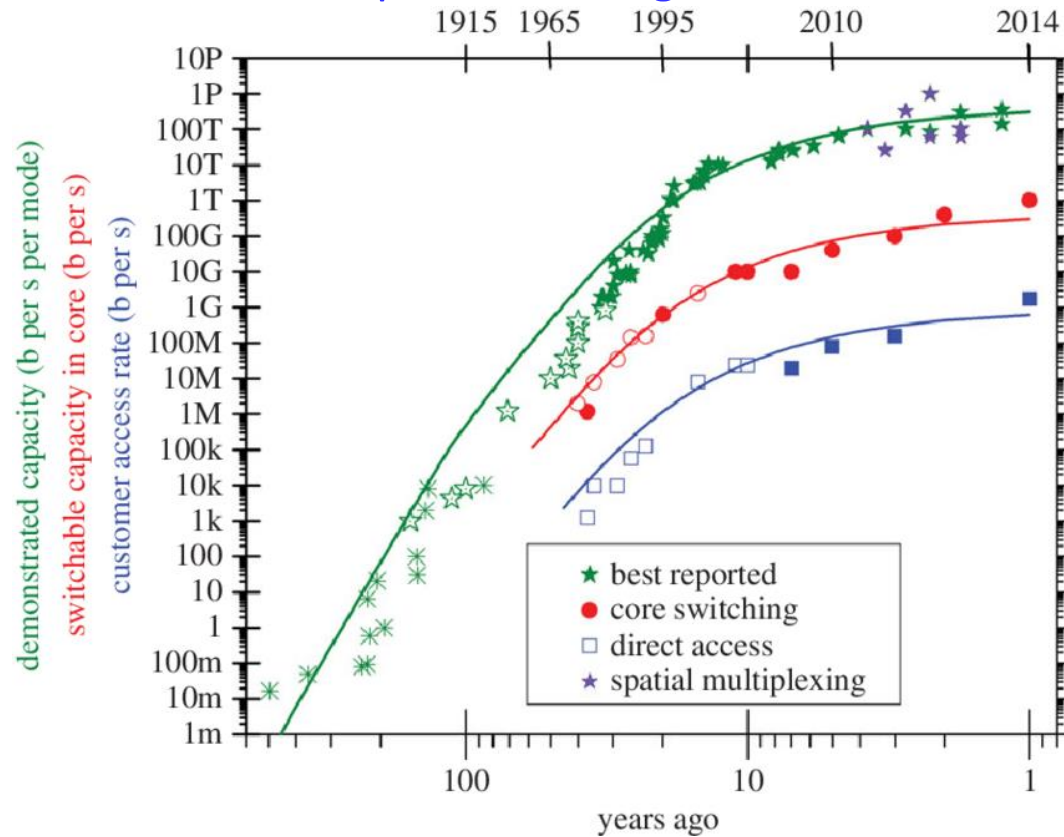


Nothing Lasts Forever - Computing and Communication Crunch

Relentless march of the information technology over the last 50+ years is hitting physical limits

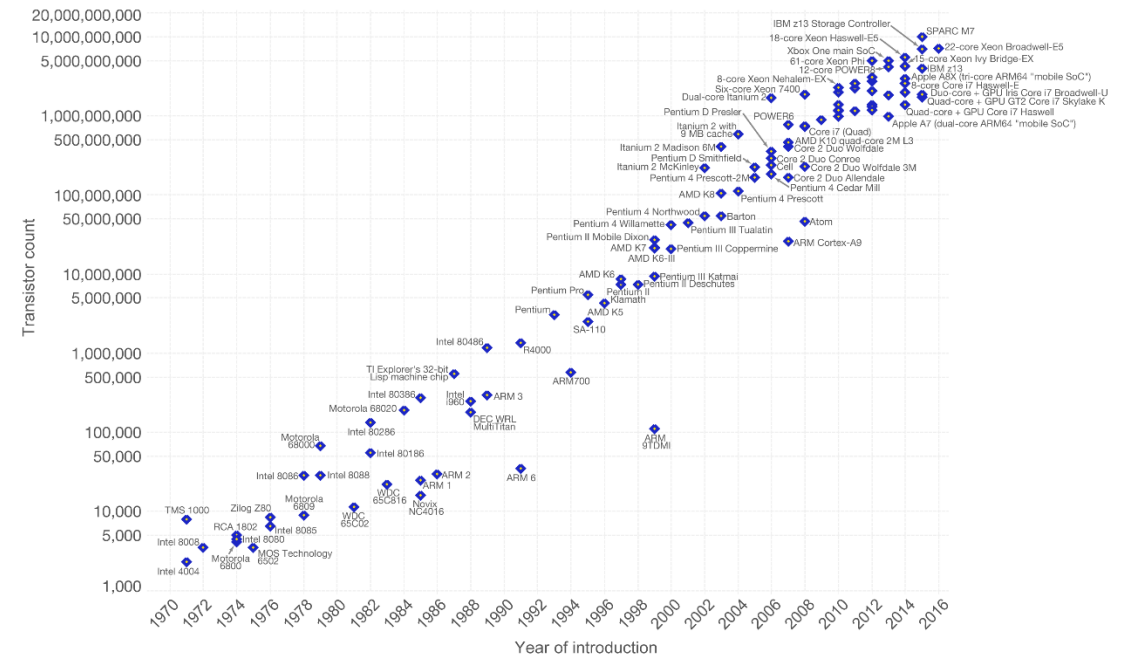
Communication capacity crunch:
spectrum congestion

Computing capacity crunch:
(slow) demise of Moore's law



Moore's Law – The number of transistors on integrated circuit chips (1971-2016)

Moore's law describes the empirical regularity that the number of transistors on integrated circuits doubles approximately every two years. This advancement is important as other aspects of technological progress – such as processing speed or the price of electronic products – are strongly linked to Moore's law.



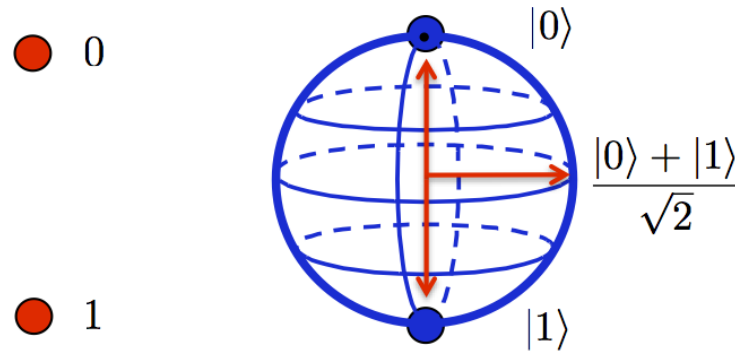
Data source: Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transistor_count)
The data visualization is available at OurWorldinData.org. There you find more visualizations and research on this topic. Licensed under CC-BY-SA by the author Max Roser.

Communication networks beyond the capacity crunch, A. D. Ellis, N. Mac Suibhne,
D. Saad and D. N. Payne, Phil. Trans. of the Royal Soc. A, July 2015

Challenges Bring Opportunities

(Exciting Times for Scientists and Engineers)

Quantum computing:
Bits to qubits



Classical Bit

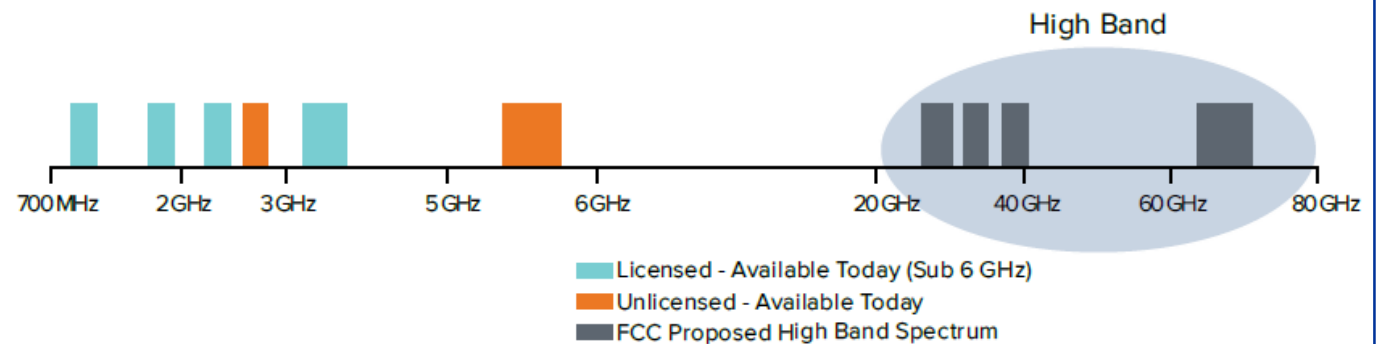
Qubit

Source: towardsdatascience.com

High-Band Communication:
Millimeter-wave (mmW) and higher frequencies



Image courtesy of Qualcomm



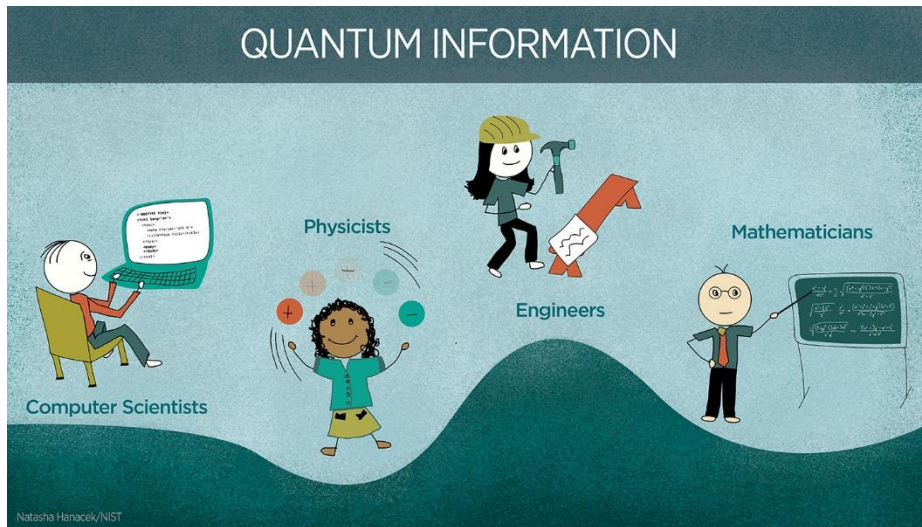
Source: CTIA-5G white paper

Emerging Information Science and Technologies: Key Common Attributes

- Cross-Disciplinary Research
 - Signal processing, communication, networking, hardware, circuits and antenna
 - Physics, math, engineering, computer science
- Experimental testbed development
 - [Microcosm of research & technology](#) challenges; [workforce training](#)
- Machine learning and artificial intelligence techniques
 - [A thoughtful marriage of ML/AI and IS&T](#) would not only benefit IS&T but also [benefit ML/AI in terms of explainable/understandable AI](#)
- Optical and photonic principles, techniques and technologies
 - Wireless at higher frequencies (and larger bandwidths)optical; electro-optical methods
 - Microwave and photonic techniques key to quantum information science and engineering

Cross-Disciplinary Research & Technology Development

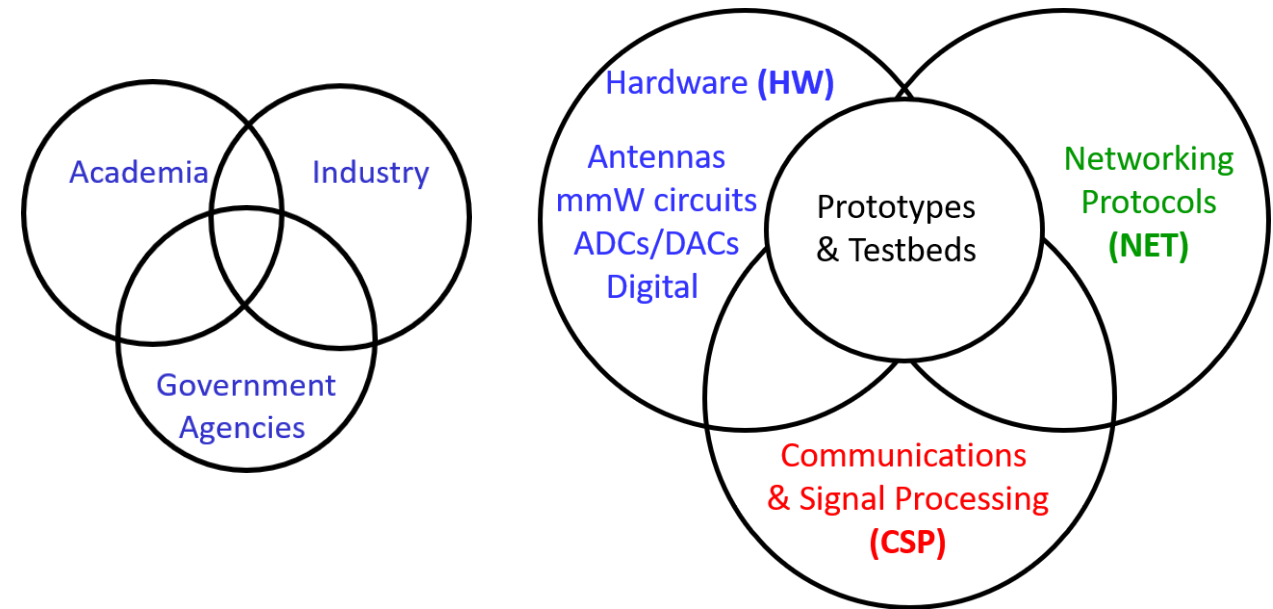
Quantum Information Science and Engineering QISE



NIST

<https://www.nist.gov/topics/quantum-information-science>

mmW Wireless NSF Research Coordination Network



Goal: Cross-fertilization of ideas to guide and accelerate mmW research, innovation and technology development

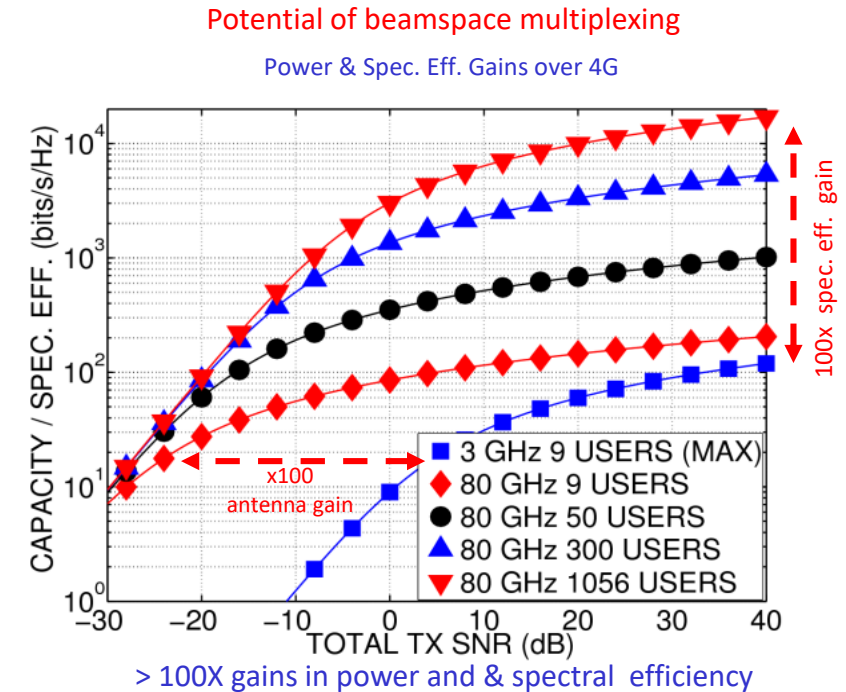
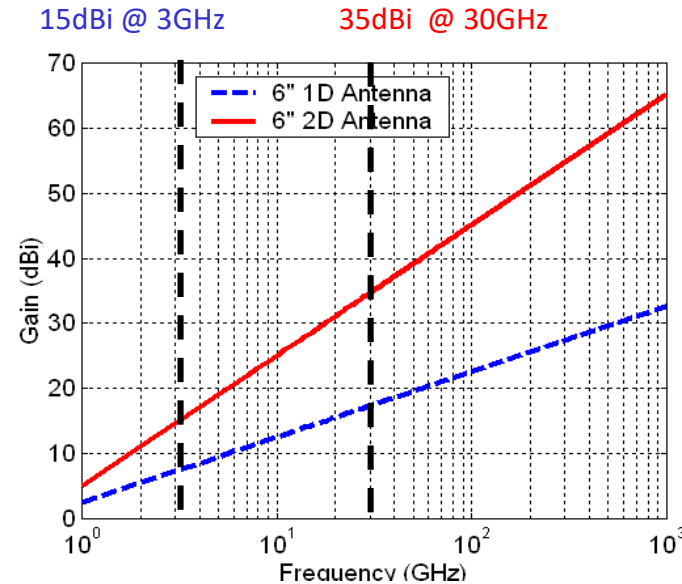
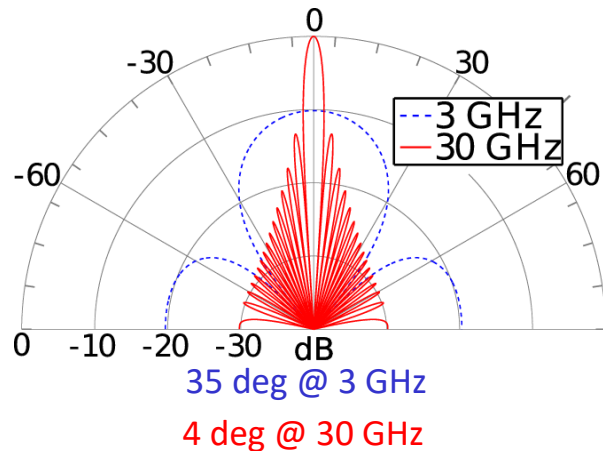
Main takeaway: The key research challenges are at the interfaces:
HW-CSP, CSP-NET

<https://mmwrcn.ece.wisc.edu/>

Two Physical Advantages of mmW

Large bandwidth & narrow beams

6" x 6" access point (AP) antenna array: 9 elements @3GHz vs 6000 elements @80GHz



Key Operational Functionality: Multibeam steering & data multiplexing

Key Challenge: Hardware Complexity & Comp. Complexity (# T/R chains)

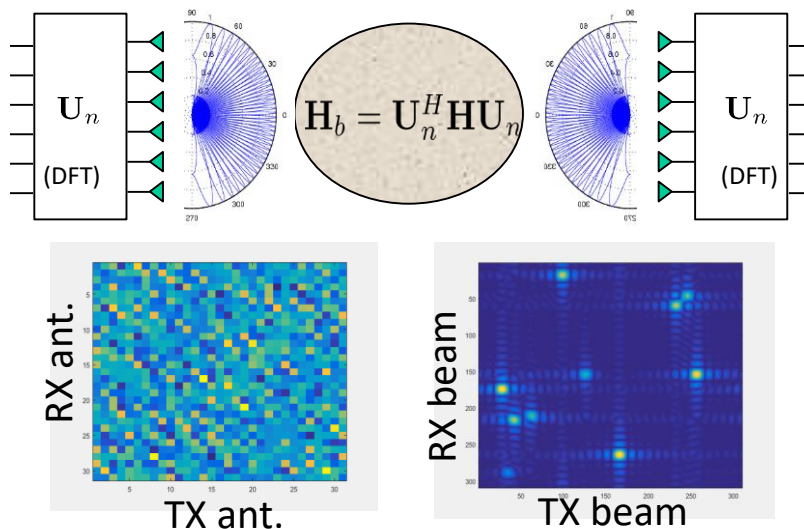
Conceptual and Analytical Framework: Beamspace MIMO

Beamspace Channel Sparsity

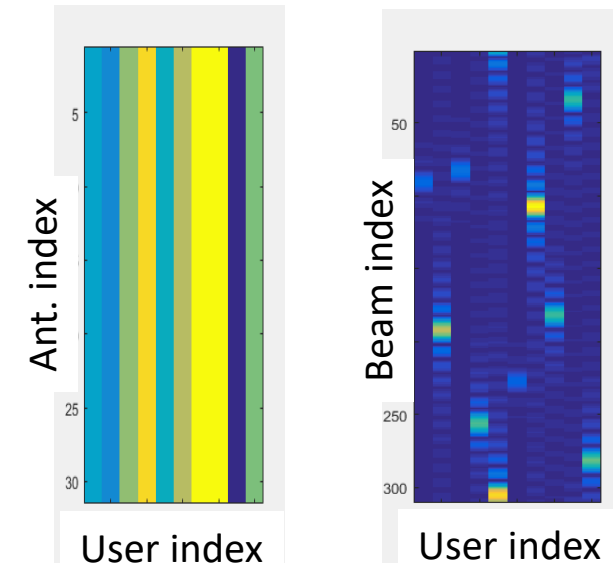
mmW propagation X-tics

- Directional, quasi-optical
- Predominantly line-of-sight
- Single-bounce multipath
- **Beamspace sparsity**

Point-to-multipoint MIMO link



Point-to-multipoint multiuser MIMO link

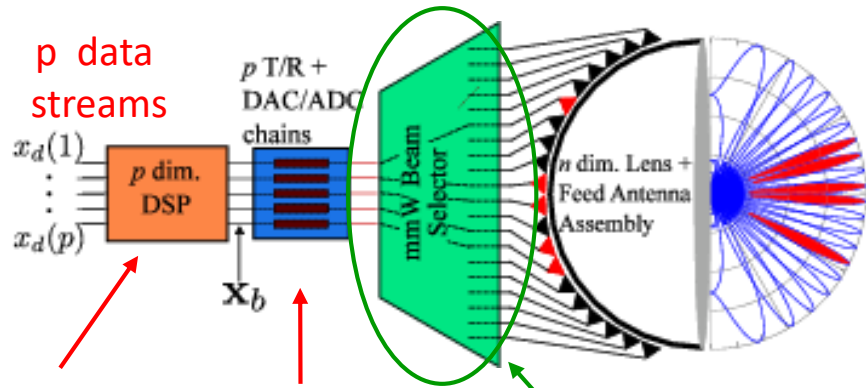


high (n)-dim. spatial signal space
low (p)-dim. comm. subspace

How to access the p active beams with the lowest - $O(p)$ - transceiver complexity?

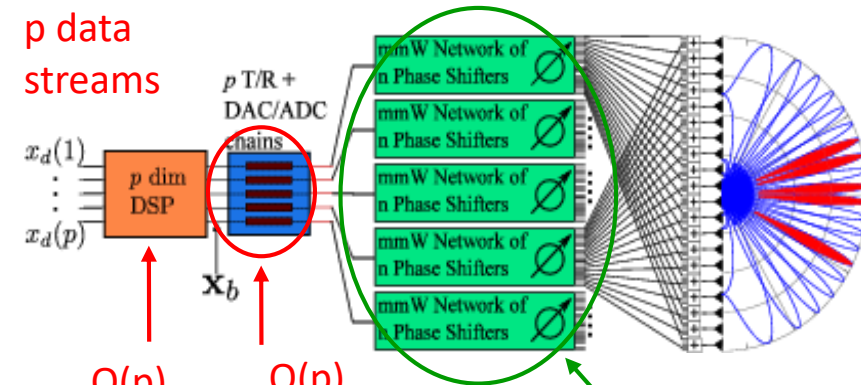
Hybrid Analog-Digital Beamforming

Lens Array Hybrid Architecture



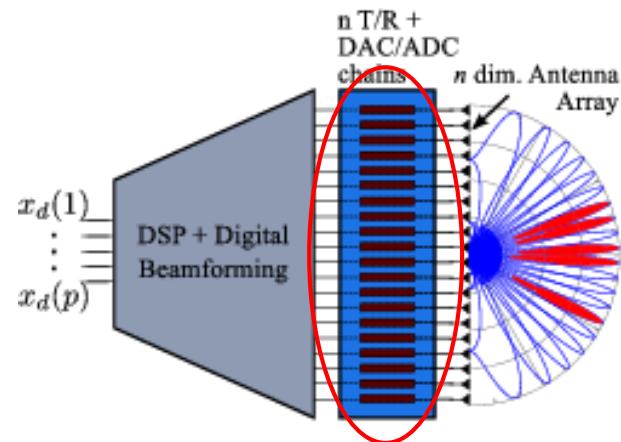
Comp. Complexity: $n \rightarrow p$ dim. matrix ops
Hardware Complexity: $n \rightarrow p$ RF chains
Beam selector (switching) network: $p \rightarrow n$

Phased Array Hybrid Architecture



Comp. Complexity: $O(p)$
T/R chains: $O(p)$
Phase Shifter (np) + Combiner Network

Digital Beamforming Architecture

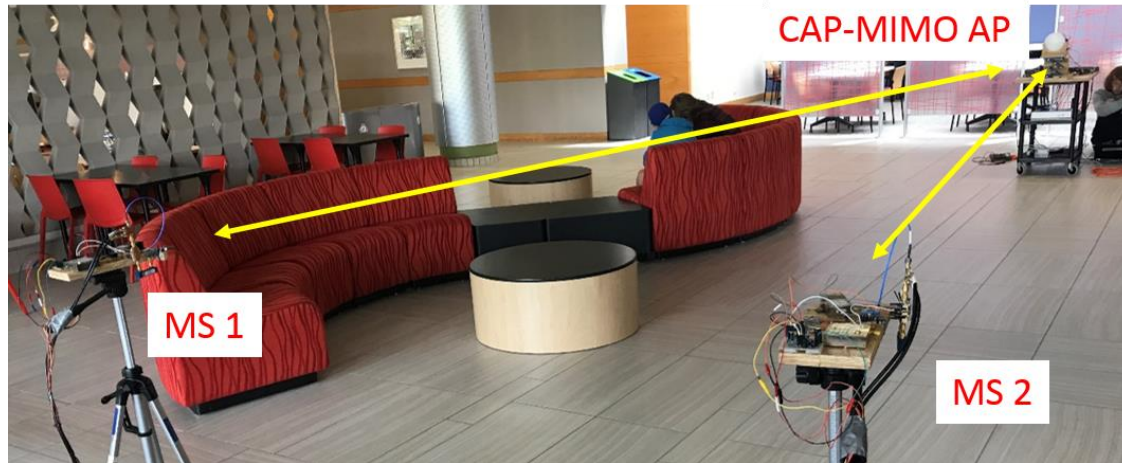


n T/R chains: prohibitive hardware + comp. complexity

$N_{RF} = 1$:
 Analog beamforming
 $N_{RF} = n$:
 Digital beamforming
 $1 < N_{RF} < n$:
 Hybrid beamforming

28 GHz Multi-beam CAP-MIMO Testbed (HW-CSP-NET)

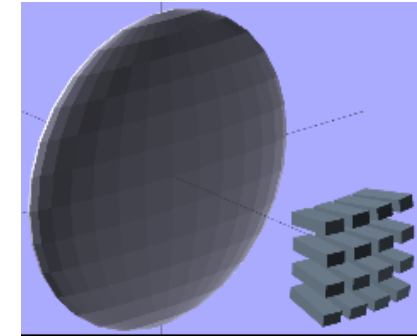
P2MP Link



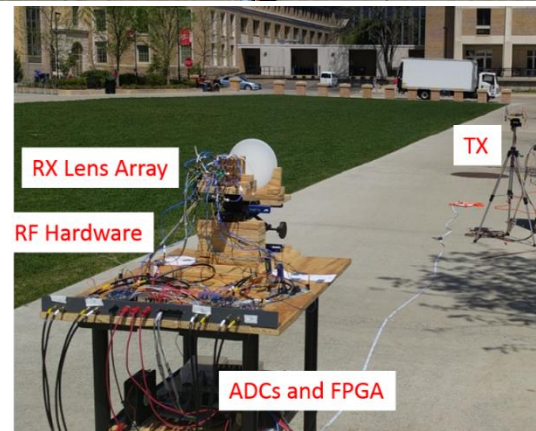
Microcosm of technical challenges

6" Lens with 16-feed Array

Equivalent to 600-element conventional array!
Beamwidth=4 deg

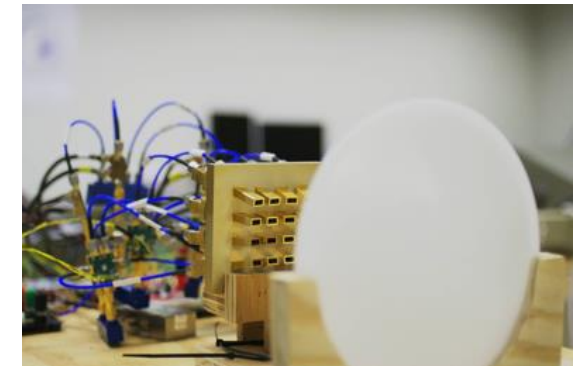


P2P Link



0	1	0	1
RF 0		RF 1	
2	3	2	3
0	1	0	1
RF 2		RF 3	
2	3	2	3

1-4 switch for each T/R chain



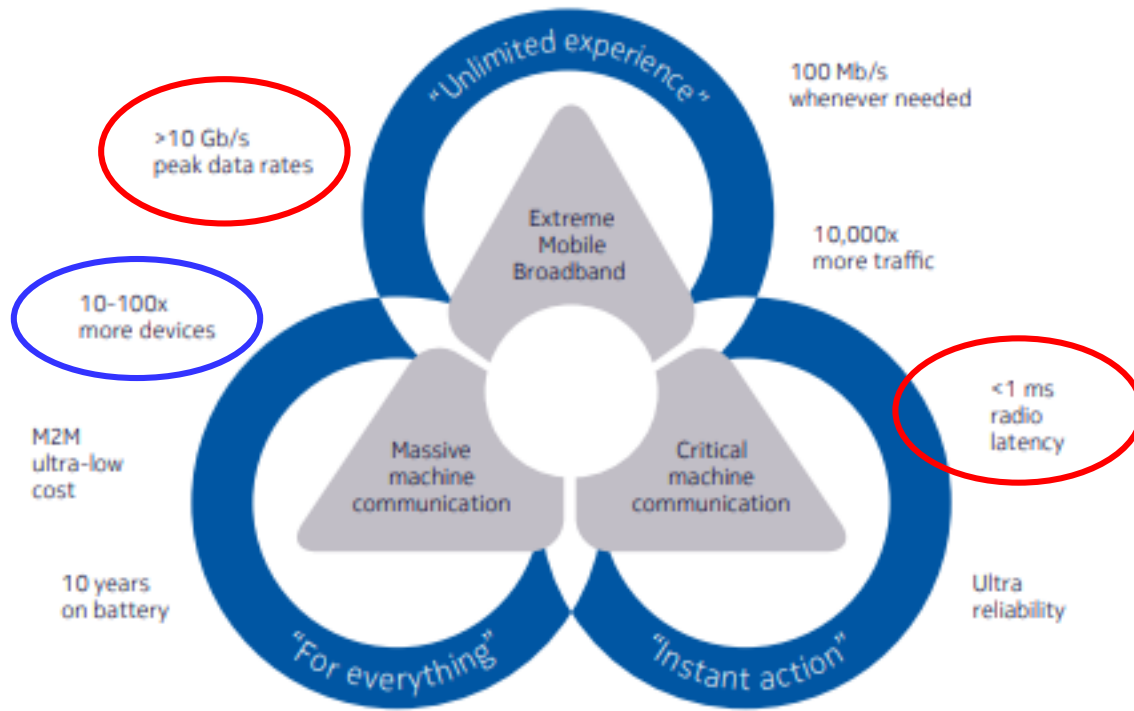
Features

- **Unmatched 4-beam steering & data multiplexing**
- RF BW: **1 GHz**, Symbol rate: **370 MS/s -1 GS/s**
- Fully discrete mmW hardware
- FPGA-based backend DSP

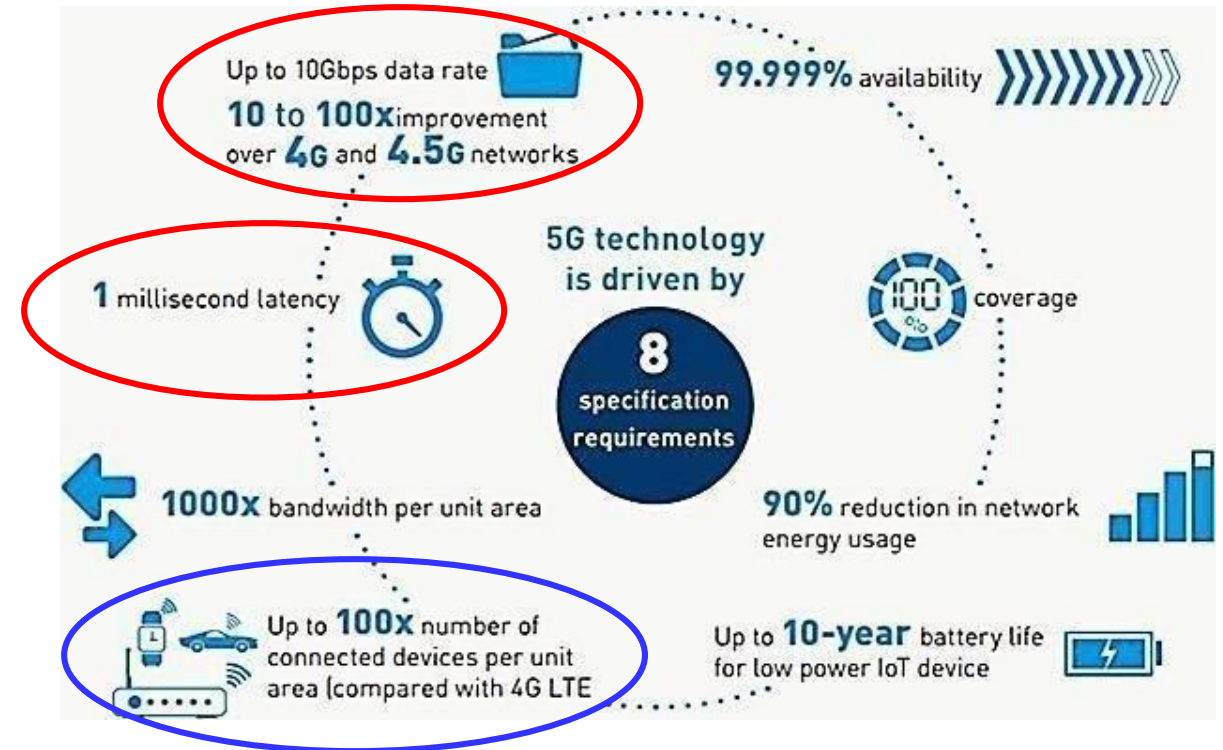
Use cases

- Real-time testing of PHY-MAC protocols
- Multi-beam channel measurements
- Scaled-up testbed network

5G Wireless: Key Use Cases and Operational Parameters



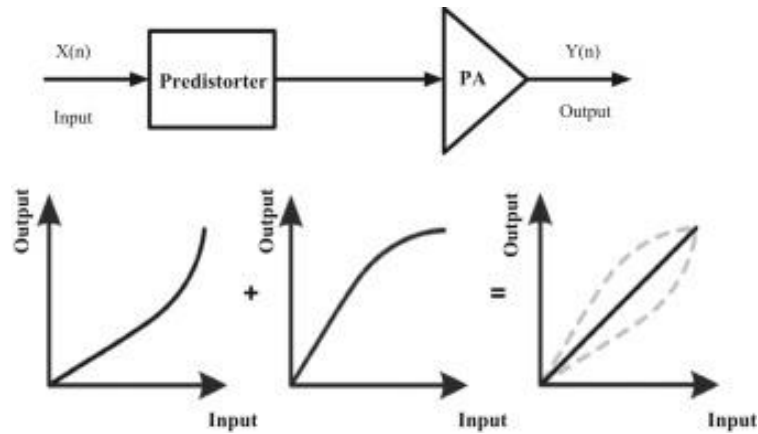
nokia



Analyzing 5G: Prospects of Future Technological Advancements in Mobile - Scientific Figure on ResearchGate. Available from: https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Requirements-of-5G-7_fig2_324941597 [accessed 10 Feb, 2019]

Stringent operational requirements drive x-disciplinary research
 e.g. multi-Gigabits/s rates & **millisecond latency**

CSP-HW Challenges



- **Energy-performance-complexity tradeoffs**
- **Analog vs Digital Signal Processing:**
 - Hybrid beamforming & interference nulling
 - Hybrid temporal signaling/filtering (OFDM)
- PA efficiency – digital predistortion
- Non-ideal device characteristics over large bandwidth:
 - Non-flat frequency response; I/Q mismatch
- **New models needed that incorporate non-idealities**
- Technology for RF integration (Si, GaAs, InP, GaN, ...)
- **New methodologies for Over-the-Air (OTA) testing**

CSP-NET Challenges

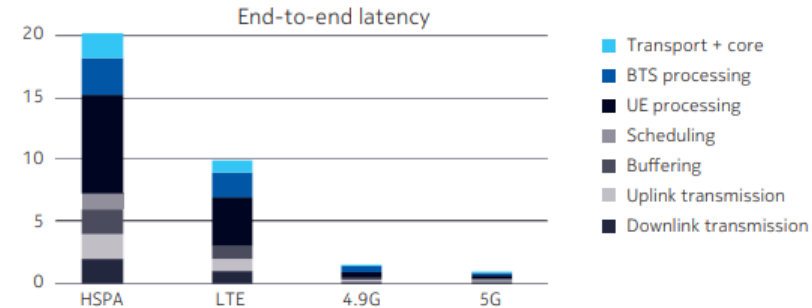


Figure 2. Round trip time evolution from 3G to 5G.

nokia

	HSPA	LTE	4.9G	5G
Downlink transmission	2 ms	1 ms	0.14 ms	0.125 ms
Uplink transmission	2 ms	1 ms	0.14 ms	0.125 ms
Frame alignment	2 ms	1 ms	0.14 ms	0.125 ms
Scheduling	1.3 ms ²	0-18 ms ¹	Pre-scheduled	Contention based and pre-scheduled
UE processing	8 ms	4 ms	0.50 ms	0.250 ms
BTS processing	3 ms	2 ms	0.50 ms	0.250 ms
Transport + core	2 ms (including RNC)	1 ms	0.1 ms (local content)	0.1 ms (local content)
Total	20 ms	10 – 28 ms	1.5 ms	1.0 ms

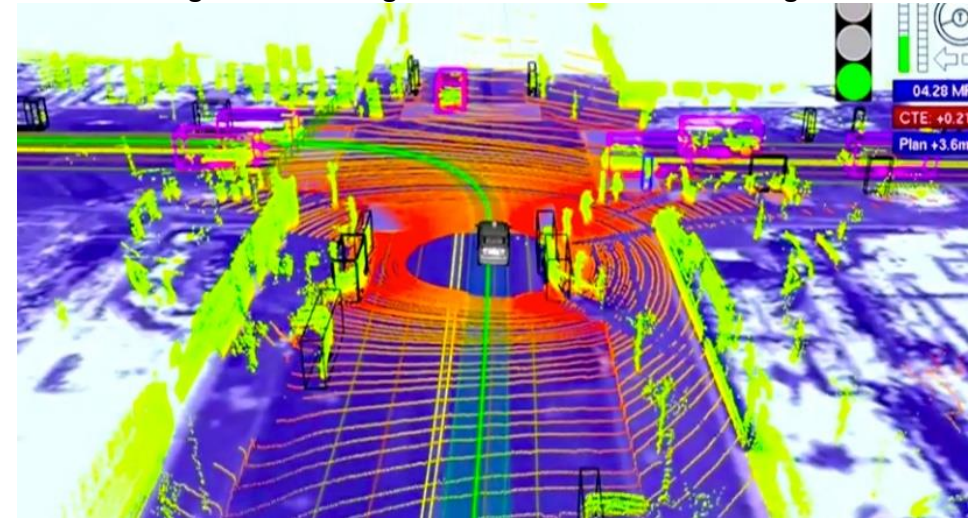
¹Scheduling period + capacity request + scheduling decision + PDCCH signaling. ²Just Shared Control Channel (SCCH)

- PHY-MAC and higher layer protocols for exploiting wideband multi-beamforming
- **Gb/s speeds and sub-millisecond latency**
 - Edge & cloud computing
 - Continuous network monitoring & adaptation
- **Accurate network models**

Measurements to Modeling to Network Simulators & Emulators (HW-CSP-NET)

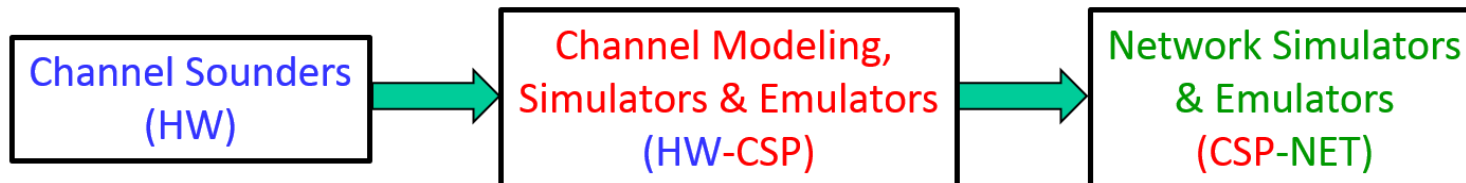
- **Need: Accurate performance prediction** prior to deployment
- Current network models (e.g., ns-3) are limited
 - **Need: Multi-beam PHY capabilities**
- Current mmW channel models limited
 - Sounders with limited capability
 - **Need: models for beam dynamics & blocking**
- **Opportunity: Measurements + computational power**
 - Multi-beam sounders & measurements
 - Ray tracing (combined with LIDAR, e.g.)
 - → accurate channel models
- → **Accurate Network Simulators & Emulators**

Google's self-driving car use lidar to create 3D images



Sebastian Thrun & Chris Urmson/Google (IEEE Spectrum)

Opportunity: machine learning + data analytics



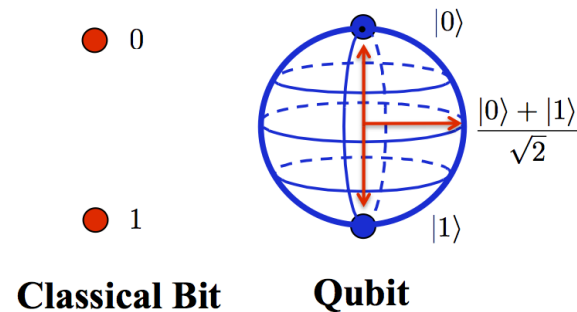
(Xconfluence)

Quantum Information Science and Engineering (QISE)

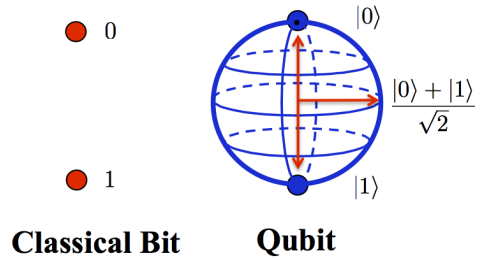
Exploiting the unique (and non-intuitive) aspects of quantum physics to develop new technologies for *sensing, generation, processing and communication of information*

Three key aspects of quantum physics underlying QISE:

- Superposition
- Entanglement (spooky action at a distance)
- Interference (in phase space to *shape* the *probabilities* of different outcomes)



QISE Principle 1: Superposition



one qubit: $|\psi\rangle = \alpha_0|0\rangle + \alpha_1|1\rangle$ 2-dim. system
 n qubits: $|\psi_1\rangle \otimes |\psi_2\rangle \cdots \otimes |\psi_n\rangle$ 2^n -dim. tensor product space

n-dim quantum system
wavefunction

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i |i\rangle$$

Measurement \rightarrow the system wavefunction $|\psi\rangle$ collapses into state i with probability $p(i) = |\alpha_i|^2$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n p(i) = 1$$

Why is quantum different?

1. Superposition

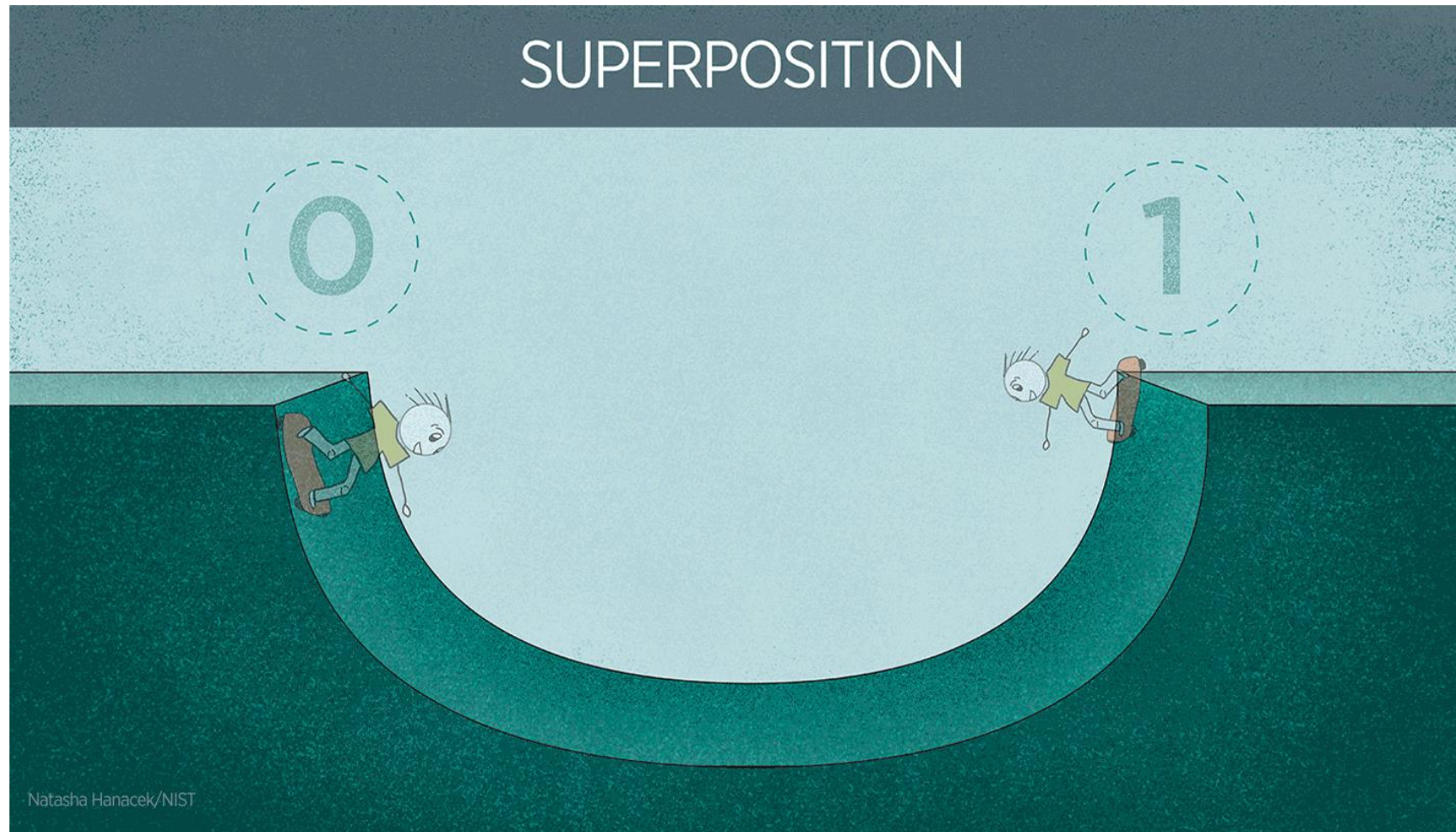
FALSE / OFF BITS TRUE / ON

BLOCH SPHERE (1 QUBIT) QSPHERE (5 QUBITS)

N qubits
 2^N paths

Classical states Quantum states

Superposition in Action



Measurement/observation collapses the wavefunction into one definite state

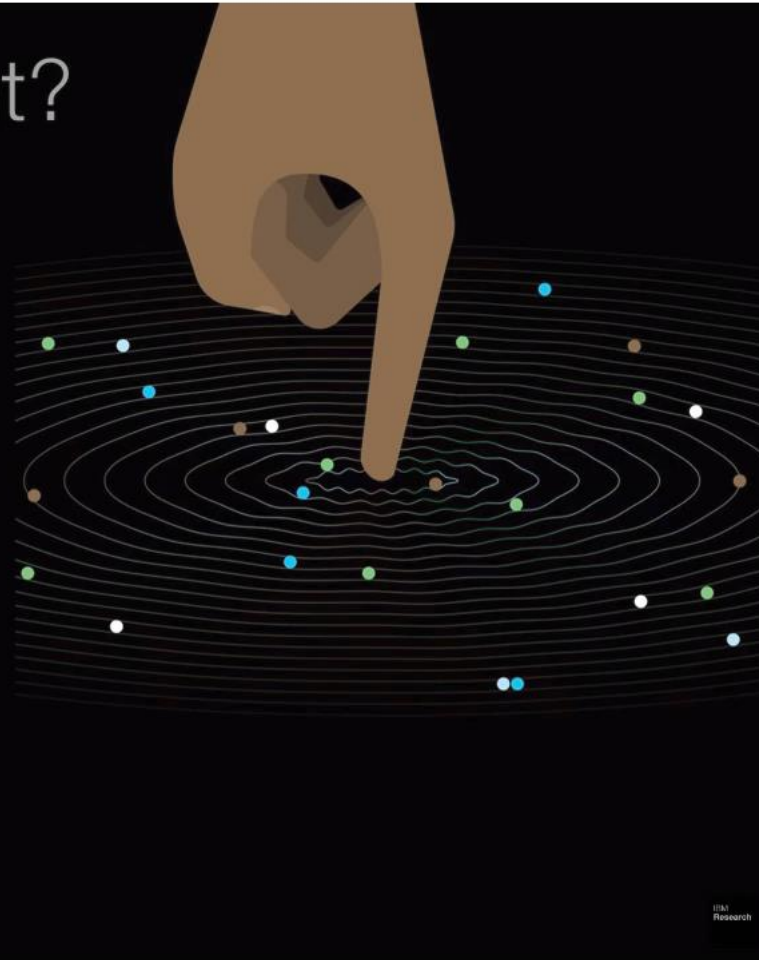
<https://www.nist.gov/topics/quantum-information-science>

QISE principle # 2: Entanglement

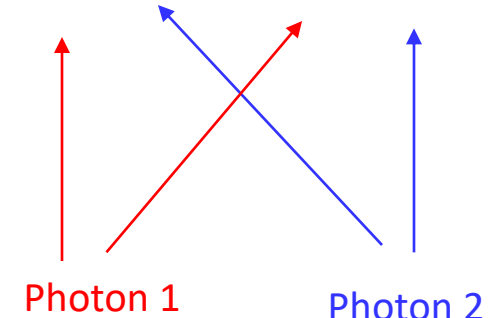
Why is quantum different?

2. Entanglement

The states of entangled qubits **cannot be described independently** of each other



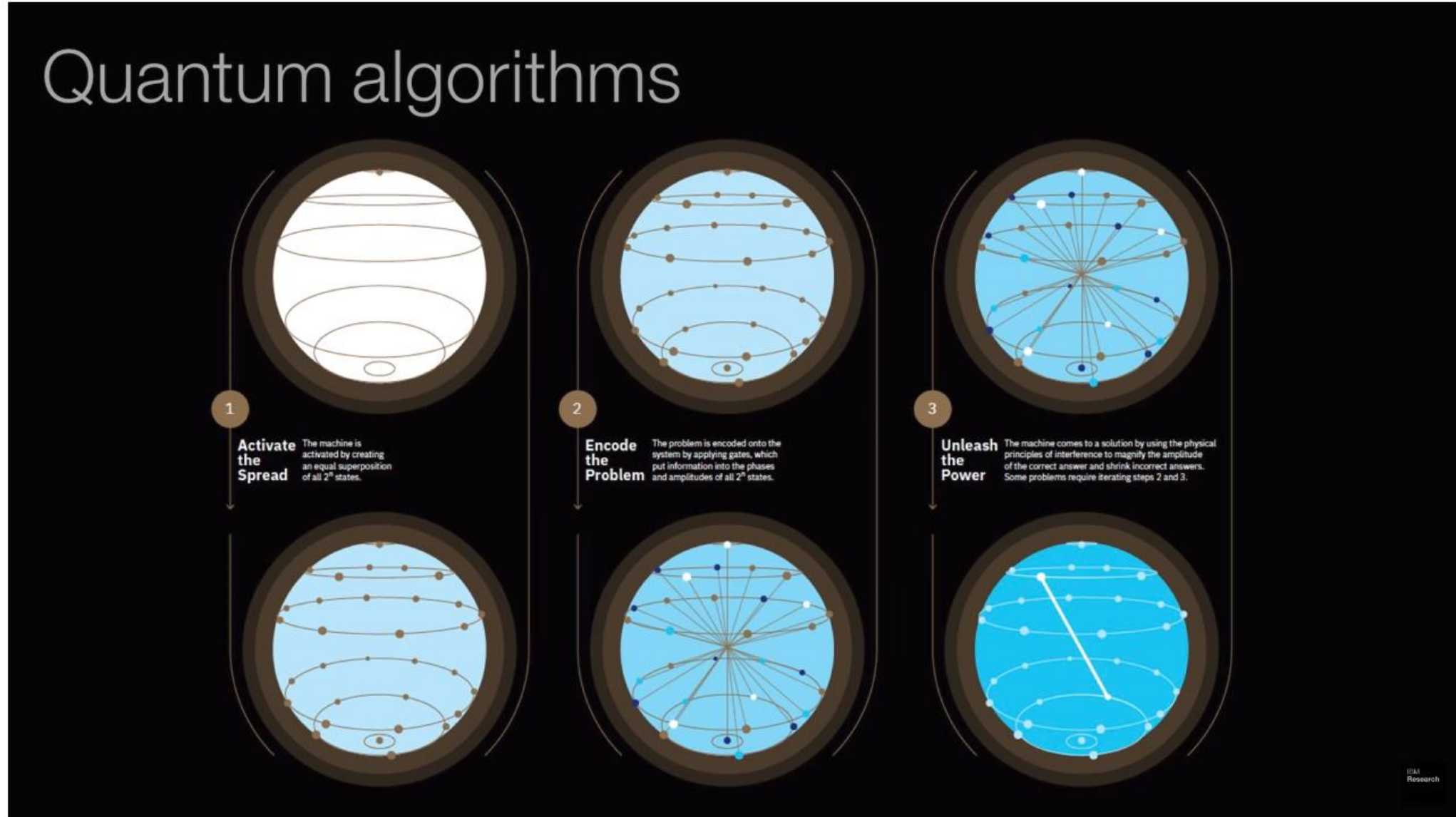
Wavefunction of two entangled photons

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [|0\rangle|0\rangle + |1\rangle|1\rangle]$$


Photon 1 Photon 2

- Super-dense coding
- Secure communication
- Quantum computing
- Enhanced measurement

Quantum Algorithms

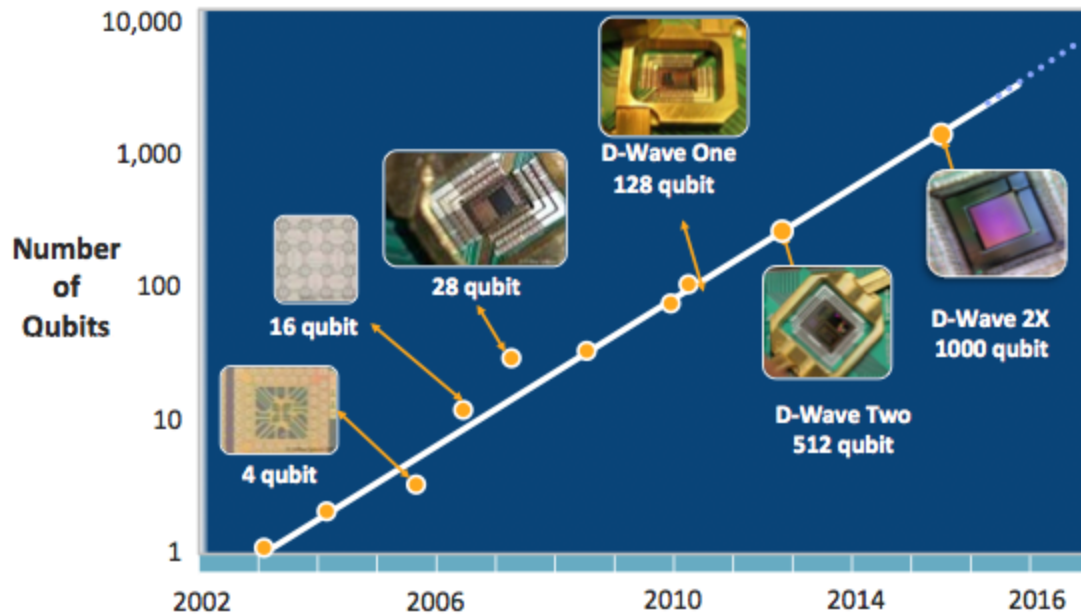
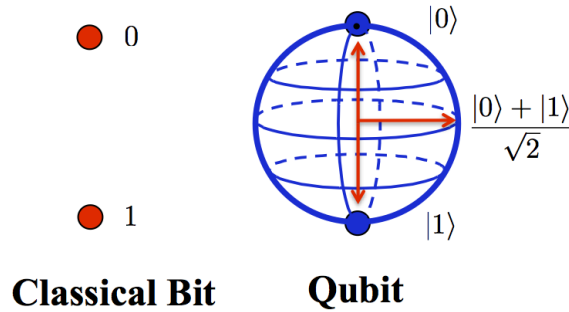


Quantum Computing

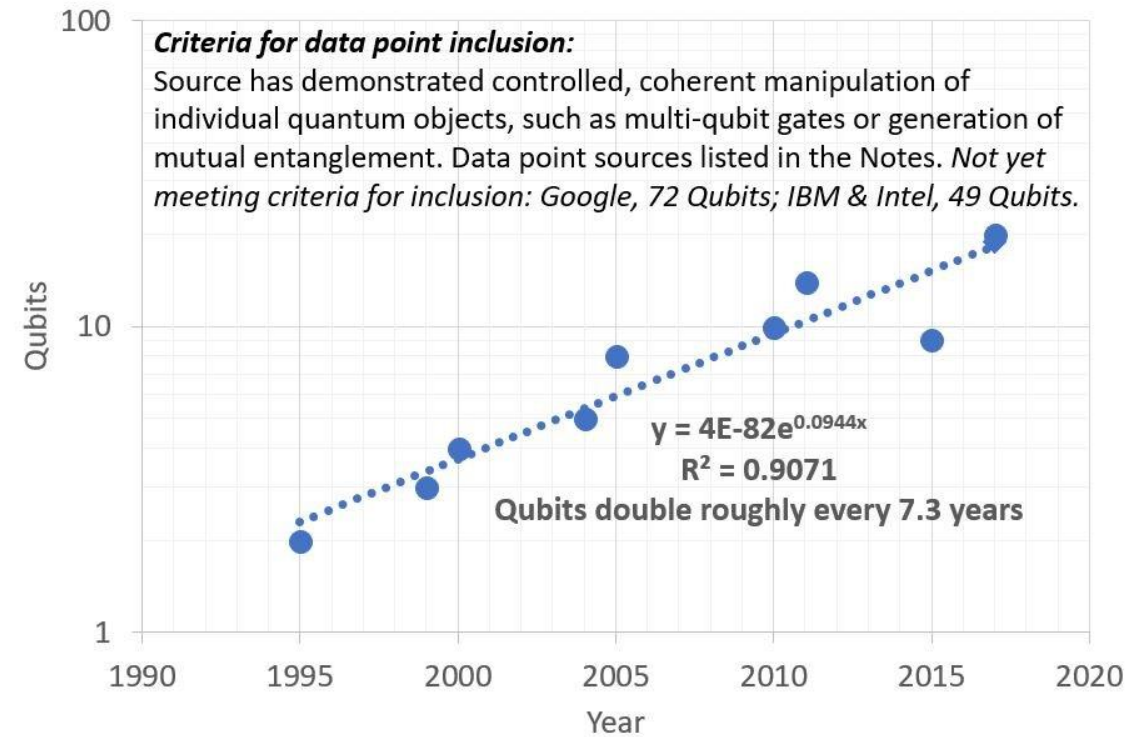
Nature isn't classical, dammit, and if you want to make a simulation of nature, you'd better make it quantum mechanical – Richard Feynman (1981)



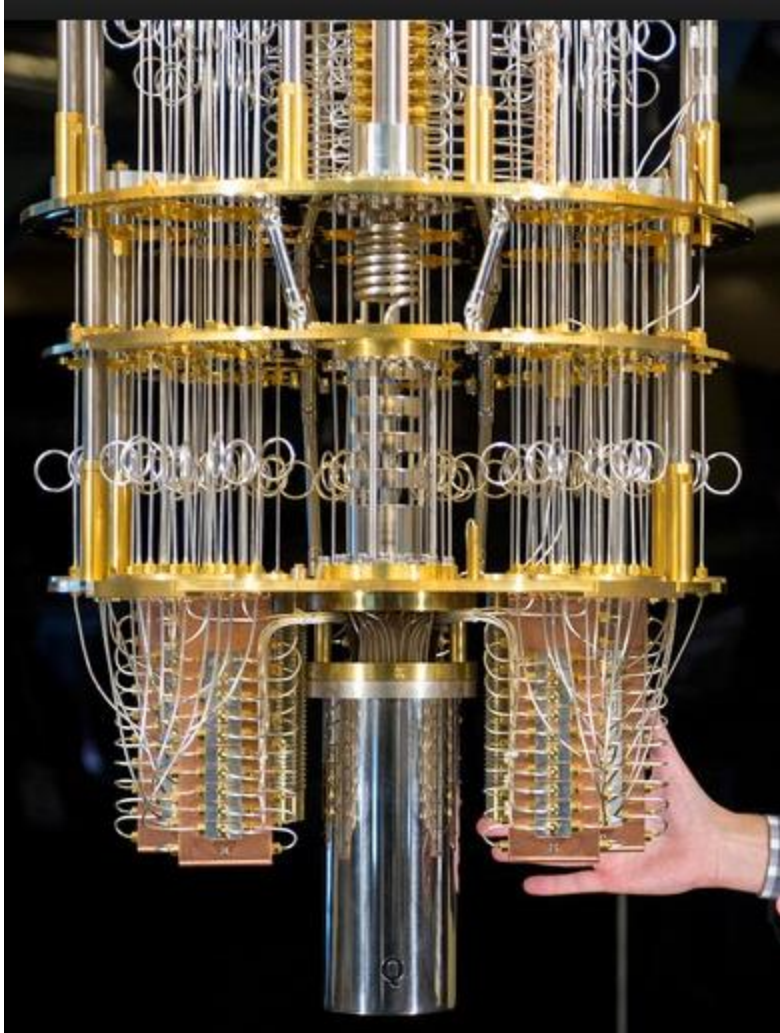
1994 – Shor's algorithm



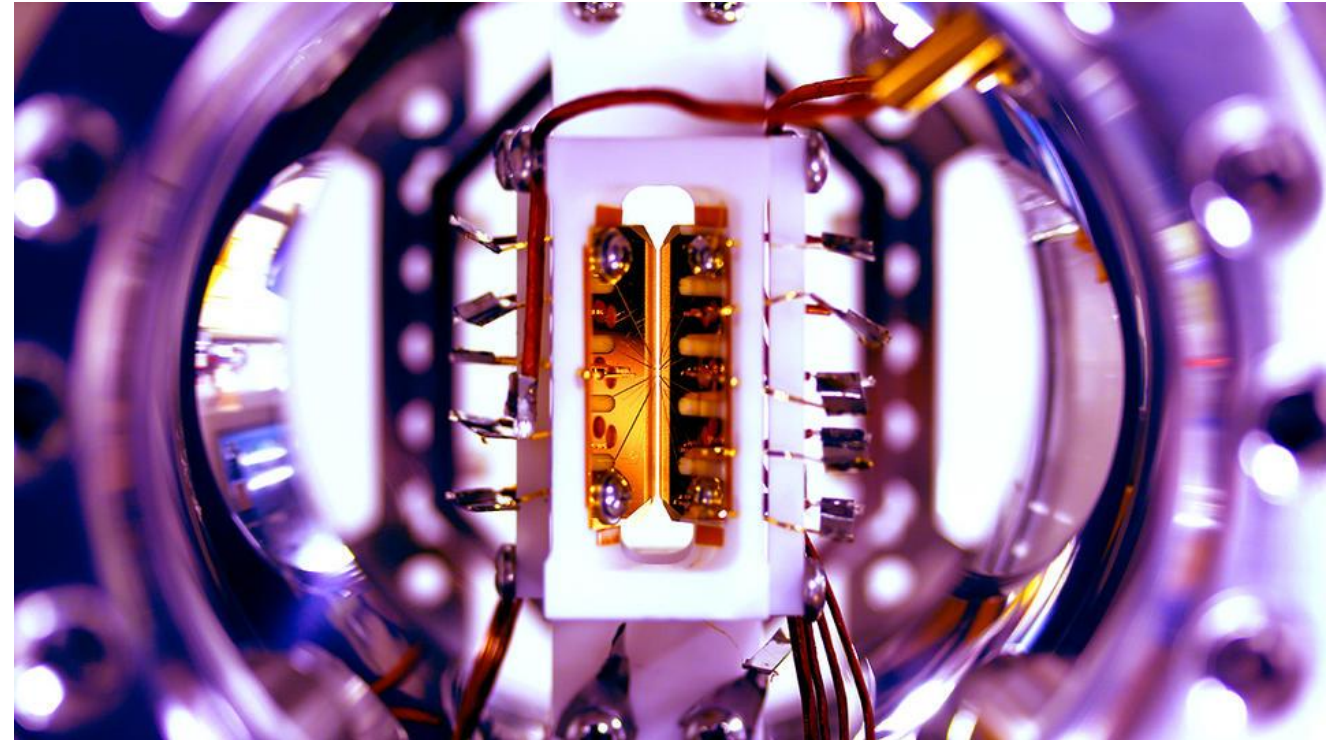
Toward Quantum Supremacy



Two Leading Qubit Technologies



Superconducting qubit/IBM Q

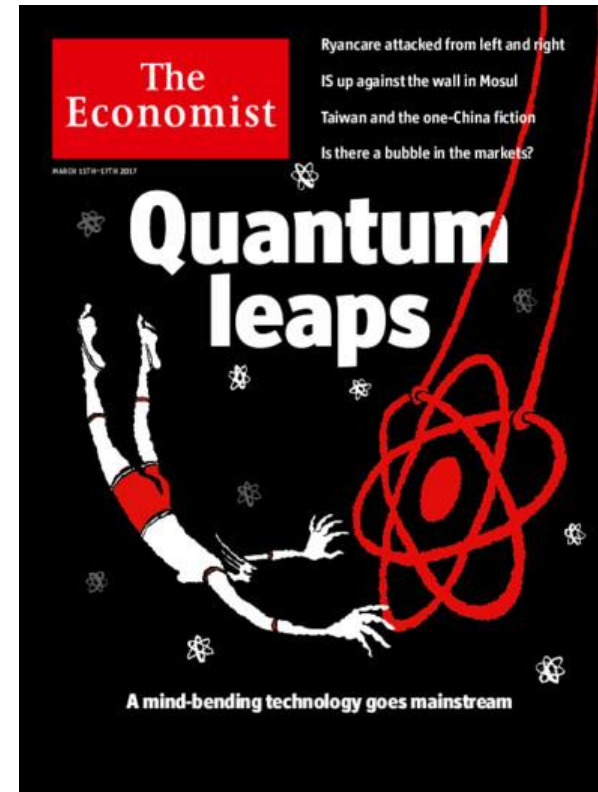
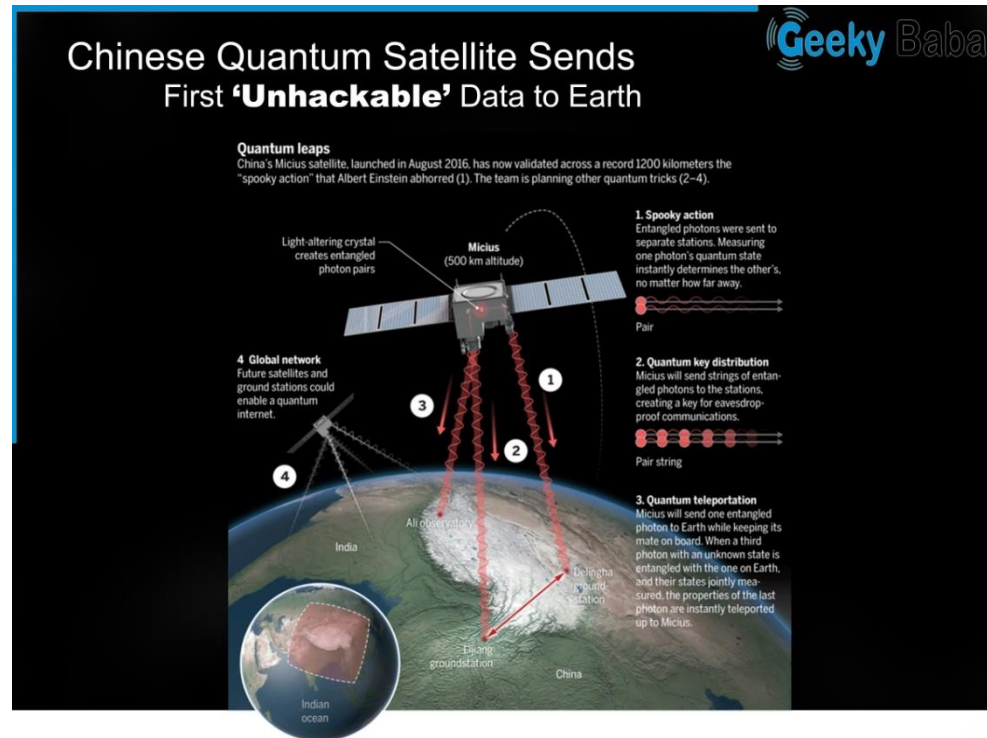


Photonic Ion Traps/IonQ

RF, microwave and/or optical signals play a key role in the control and manipulation of qubits

The Bigger Picture of QISE

- Quantum Computation
- Quantum Communication
- Quantum Sensing
- Quantum Simulation

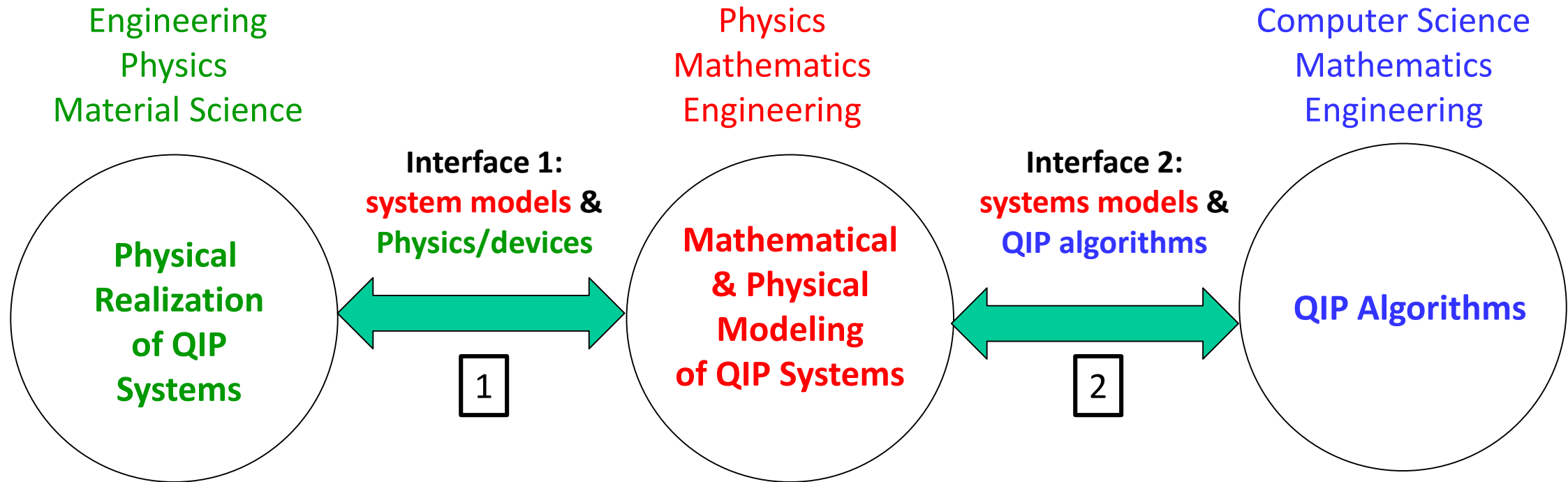


Fathers of Quantum
Planck, Bohr, Heisenberg, Shrodinger
Pan Jianwei

Opportunities for Signal Processing, Communications and Information Science Communities

- **Encoding, entanglement, decoding** – intrinsically signal processing/communications operations
 - **Encoding (TX):** modulation and coding of information into qubits
 - **Decoding (RX):** measurements and processing to recover transmitted qubits
 - **Entanglement:** coupling between input and output Hilbert (vectors) spaces
 - **System model:** interacting tensor product (input x output) Hilbert spaces
- **A Vital Role for Signal Processing, Communications and Information Science Communities**
 - **Mathematical modeling and analysis of Quantum Information Processing (QIP) Systems**
 - Input Qubits, Output Qubits, Quantum Channels

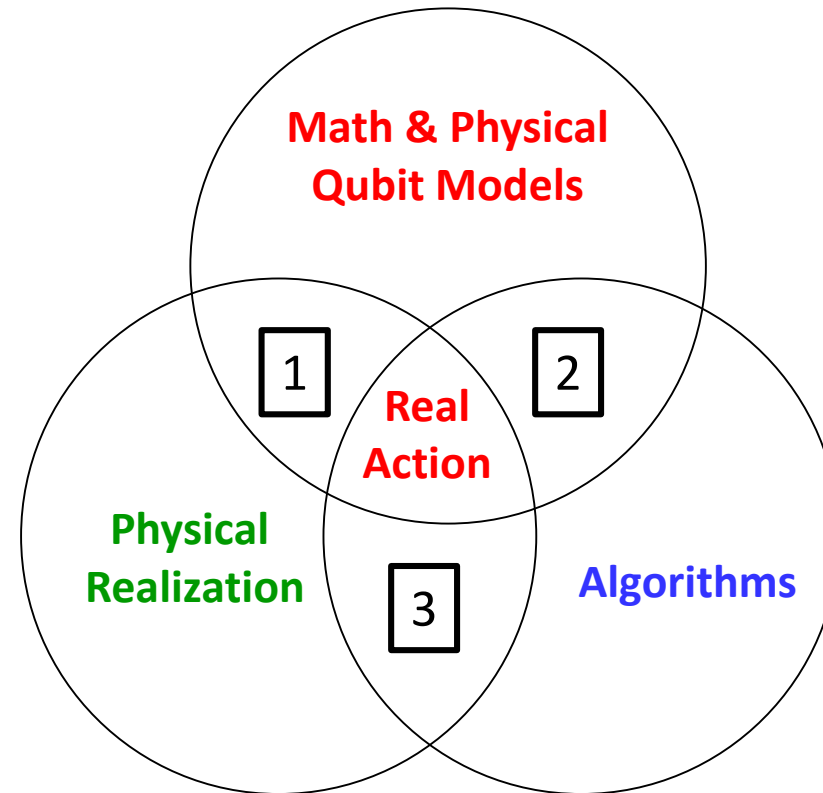
Cross-Disciplinary Challenges & Opportunities for the Fearless (and Inspired)



If you think you understand quantum mechanics, you don't understand quantum mechanics – Feynman/Bohr

Serendipitous (Random Walk) Innovation

Future QISE Research Framework: Cross-Disciplinary & Convergent

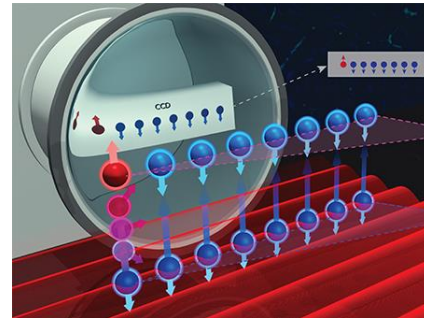


Accelerated (Directed) Innovation

NSF's 10 Big Ideas



Harnessing the Data Revolution



The Quantum Leap: Leading the Next Quantum Revolution



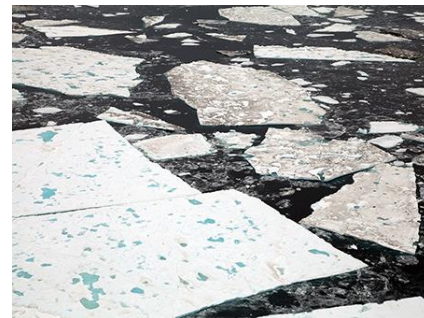
The Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier



Mid-scale Infrastructure



Understanding the Rules of Life: Predicting Phenotype



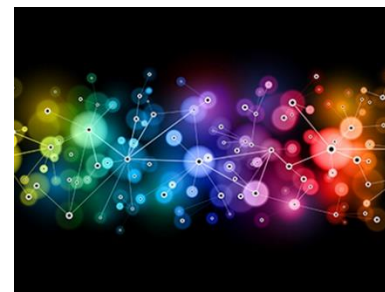
Navigating the New Arctic



Windows on the Universe: The Era of Multi-messenger Astrophysics



NSF 2026: Seeding Innovation



Growing Convergence Research at NSF



NSF INCLUDES: Enhancing STEM through Diversity and Inclusion

Concluding Remarks

- QISE is a major national (and international) priority in science and technology
- The opportunities are enormous and the challenges equally daunting
- **Necessitate a truly cross-disciplinary approach**
 - Signal processing, communication, networking, hardware, circuits and antenna
 - Physics, math, engineering, computer science
 - We all need to roll up our sleeves and get our hands dirty!
- **Unique x-disciplinary opportunities** for signal processors, communication engineers, information scientists & engineers, computer scientists & engineers
- **Design and development of prototypes and testbeds**
 - A microcosm of technical challenges
 - An unmatched training opportunity
- **Need a fresh approach for research collaboration and coordination**
 - Academia, industry, and national labs

Accelerated Discovery & Innovation