



# OFCnet Birds of a feather: Designing and Operating the Next Generation Optical Photonic Networks.

**Moderators:** Cees de Laat, University of Amsterdam  
Reza Nejabati, University of Bristol

# Program

Time	Title	Presenter
0:00	Welcome, introduction	Cees de Laat
0:10	Introduction to OFCnet	Marc Lyonnais, chair OFCnet
0:20	OFC Demozone	Marco Ruffini, Ben Puttnam, DemoZone
0:30	Panel introduction	Reza Nejabati
0:35	Panel	
	Andrew Lord	BT
	Hübel Hannes	AIT
	Richard Murray	Orcacomputing
	Daniel Kilper	TCD
	Inder Monga	ESnet
	Jörg-Peter Elbers	ADVA
	Each gets 5 minutes to present, 5 minutes to discuss	
1:35	General discussion with audience on outcomes & next steps	
2:00	close	

## Context

Starting in 2023 OFCnet brings a new opportunity to the exhibition to demonstrate products, concepts, solutions, research and architectures in a live high speed optical network connected to the leading research and education networks worldwide. This increased focus on designing and building next generation Optical Networks will expand exposure on connectivity, emerging technologies, Quantum Computer networks, programmability and network software applications for big data applications.

You will hear in a moment from the OFCnet chair

## Goal for this BOF

In this BOF we propose a workshop series that solicits papers and demonstrators reports on all aspects of building networks out of components and using those networks for the whole range of commodity to extreme applications. The aim of the workshop series is to bridge and expand between the Technical Programs Demo Zone and the newly created OFCnet. Furthermore, we will solicit input on possible challenges and awards for demonstrating novel new architectures, technologies and implementations.

- a clear direction, scope and format for a workshop series to start in 2024
- identify co-chairs for such workshop
- publication venue
- potential challenges and awards to be formalised in a call for participation for 2024

## Some questions to us all

### Scope ?

- Optical photonics networks
- Wireless - Optical integration
- Monitoring & Measurement
- QoS
- Control plane
- Capacity / Capability
- Quantum
- AI & ML

### Target participants ?

- Academia
- National Laboratories
- Industry R & D
- Startups
- Educators & Students

## Some more

### Incentives

- Publications – what venues?
- Posters & short papers
- Student contests
- Challenges
- Awards
- Demo's get time in EXPO 1
- ...

## And some more

### The way forward

- Go for workshop / symposium
- Half / full day?
- How optimally work with Demo Zone
- Next years co-chairs
- ...

### Example at SC:

<https://scinet.supercomputing.org/community/indis/about/>

## Topics of interest @SC include, but are not limited to:

- Data-intensive distributed data application architectures
- Software-defined networking (SDN) and Network Function Virtualization (NFV) in service of data science and industry applications
- High-performance data transfer applications and techniques
- Science DMZs and other campus network architecture constructs
- Requirements and issues for network quality of service (QoS) or experience (QoE)
- Multi-domain networking, including hybrid clouds, multi-domain authorization, data sharing, and data privacy
- Intent-based Networking
- Network measurements, monitoring tools, and traffic analytics
- Use of machine learning and AI for autonomous or self-driving networking
- Network management: diagnostics, troubleshooting, fault management, performance monitoring, configuration management, and scheduling
- High-performance networking protocols and novel network architectures
- Securing high-speed networks
- Cross-layer network architectures and concepts
- Innovative networking solutions to solve massive data movement in both science and industry applications
- Network and Data Infrastructure for AI or HPC Workloads



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**BoF**

# **Introduction of OFCnet**

**Marc Lyonnais, OFCnet  
Chair**

# The Demonstrations



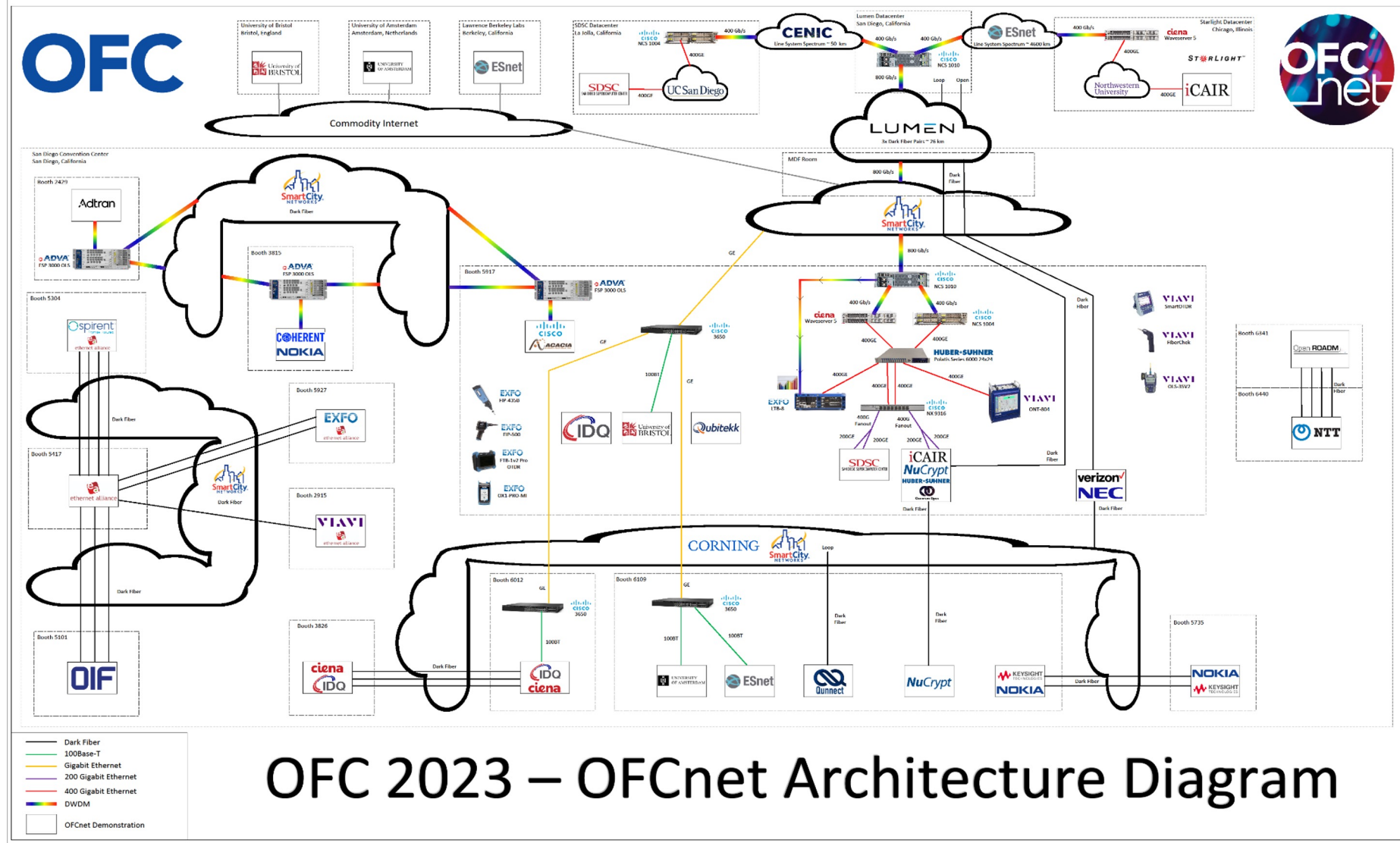
- 19 demonstrations confirmed will be supported by OFCNet.
- We have them distributed on 3 OFCnet Booths
  - Booth 5917 Main 40x40
  - Booth 6109 Secondary 30x20
  - Booth 6440 10x20 Booth
- 5 Quantum Networking Demonstrations
- 14 Classical demonstration that highlights the different possibilities of Network research and exhibitions

# OFC Theatre 3 Panel for OFCnet

Each session is 30 minutes.

1. OFCnet - **Tuesday, 7 March, 13:15 - 13:45**
2. OFCnet Optical Engineering and Maintenance **Tuesday, 7 March, 14:15 - 14:45**
3. OFCnet Quantum Key Distribution **Tuesday, 7 March, 16:15 - 16:45**
4. OFCnet Quantum Network - Coexistence, Transporting Entanglements **Wednesday, 8 March, 11:00 - 11:30**
5. OFCnet High Performing Networks Demonstrations **Wednesday, 8 March, 11:40 - 12:10**
6. OFCnet - Backstage Pass: Highlighting the unsung heroes of optical connectivity **Wednesday, 8 March, 13:00 - 13:30**
7. OFCnet Emerging Technologies **Thursday, 9 March, 11:00 - 11:30**

## The Network Diagram



### OFC 2023 – OFCnet Architecture Diagram

# The Team (24)



## OFCnet

Marc Lyonnais (Chair) Ciena  
Randy Giles (Vice Chair) Optica  
Casey Foulds (Program Manager) uTD

## Network Architecture

Scott Kohlert (Team lead) Ciena  
Sergey Ten (Co team Lead) Corning  
Maurizio Gazzola Cisco  
JP Velders uVa

## Logistics

Jim Stewart (co-Team Lead) UETN  
Jessica Pagonis (co-Team Lead) Optica  
Claudia Maurer (co Team Lead) Optica

## Academic, Research lab and Industry Outreach

Cees DeLaat (co-Team Lead) UVA  
Rodney Wilson (co-Team Lead) Ciena

## Network Build

Scott Kohlert Ciena  
Sana Bellamine (Team Lead) CENIC  
Tunde Sanda CENIC  
Imre Fodi uVa

## Demonstrations organization

Carl Williams (co-Team lead) CJW Quantum Consulting  
Chris Tracy (co-team Lead) Esnet  
Kevin Quire UETN  
Gwen Amice EXFO

## Communications

Jennifer Inglisa (co-Team Lead) Optica  
Becky Bosco Optica  
Rich Finlinson (co-Team Lead) UETN  
Eve Griliches (Cisco)  
Dave Brown (Nokia)

# OFCnet Network Supporter



# OFCnet Volunteers





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# Using OFCNeT for demo sessions

Marco Ruffini, Ben Puttnam

HOST INSTITUTION



**Trinity College Dublin**  
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
The University of Dublin

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS



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## Integrating OFCNeT into demo session

- Benefits of using of OFCnet for some demonstrations?
  - Boost impact & significance
  - Showing applicability to commercial networks
  - Adaptability to a more diverse range of scenarios
  - Make use of equipment otherwise not available



## Possible issues & Solutions

- Demo development requires long times: not clear how OFCNeT can be made available for development and test for a number of months before OFC
  - Also requires expertise to be made available on OFCNeT (system, interfaces, etc,)
- 
- ➔ Have cooperative demos, with local OFCNeT partner involved
  - ➔ Provide 24/7 OFCNeT helpdeks
  - ➔ Build a digital twin for OFCNeT used for demo integration



## The competition aspect

- OFCNeT could set up a number of challenges open for competition:
  - Network control plane:
    - Efficient set up of wavelength channels: adding number of paths over given topology, while keeping change in OSNR below a given target
    - Survivability challenge: operate network restoration with timing and % of recovery as KPIs
  - Transmission: system demo over real fibre
  - Quantum coexistence...



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# Thank you

Contact: [Marco.Ruffini@tcd.ie](mailto:Marco.Ruffini@tcd.ie)

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# OFCNET – some thoughts



Andrew Lord

**BT Group**





# OFCNET Discussion

## Opportunities

Level playing field for rapidly growing number of innovative start-ups in the industry

Lower impedance route for institutions to demonstrate capabilities at OFC

Potential for interoperability demonstrations

Independently managed / characterised infrastructure increases credibility of demonstrated technology

An exciting way to develop the OFC demo zone

A route for OFC to diversify into tangential areas

## Hurdles

Who would manage it? It sounds time-consuming so would need funding / maintenance

How is it time-managed, given that OFC itself is short?

How do we create a low entry point so start-ups can benefit ( i.e. not dominated by large equipment vendors)

Initiatives like this are easier to start than to keep going. How do we built longevity into the model?

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# “QUANTUM DATA CENTRE OF THE FUTURE”

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OFC Demonstration suggestion

**NCC:**  
End user  
Application  
Advanced materials

**PQshield:**  
PQC for access  
Authentication

**KETS:**  
QKD security (L2)  
QRNGs  
Encryption

**Univ. of Bristol**  
SDN  
Encryption  
Multi-party access  
QKD

**BT:**  
Data centre  
Use cases  
Telecom Infrastructure

**UCL:**  
Fast switches based on  
FPGAs  
Entanglement

**ORCA:**  
Quantum Processors  
Memories  
Software for processors

**Riverlane:**  
Software for quantum  
computing

Note: Access switch can also connect to other  
Quantum Compute and Classical compute racks

External  
Customer

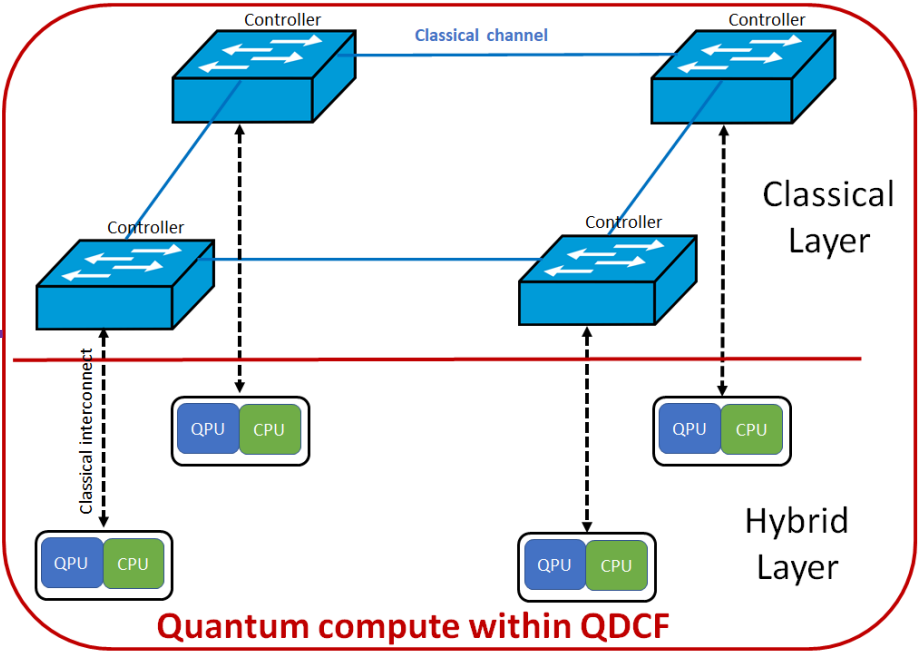
External  
Customer

External  
Customer

Network  
Node/Server  
Exchange

User Portal inc  
orchestration  
(classical/off the shelf)

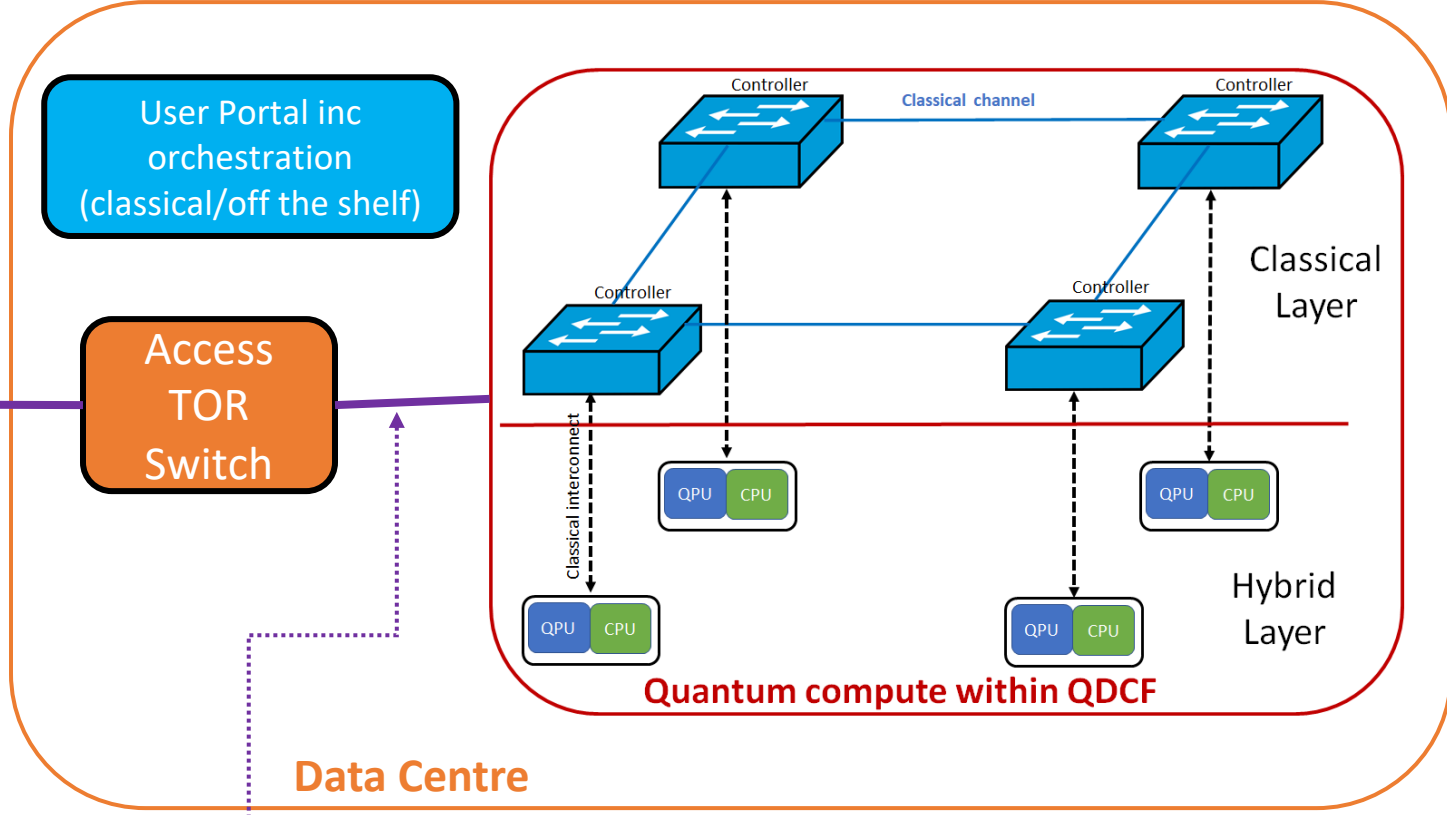
Access  
TOR  
Switch



**Secure Link:**  
QKD (Layer 1)  
End to End Standard Encryption (Layer 3)

**Secure Link:**  
QKD (Layer 2)

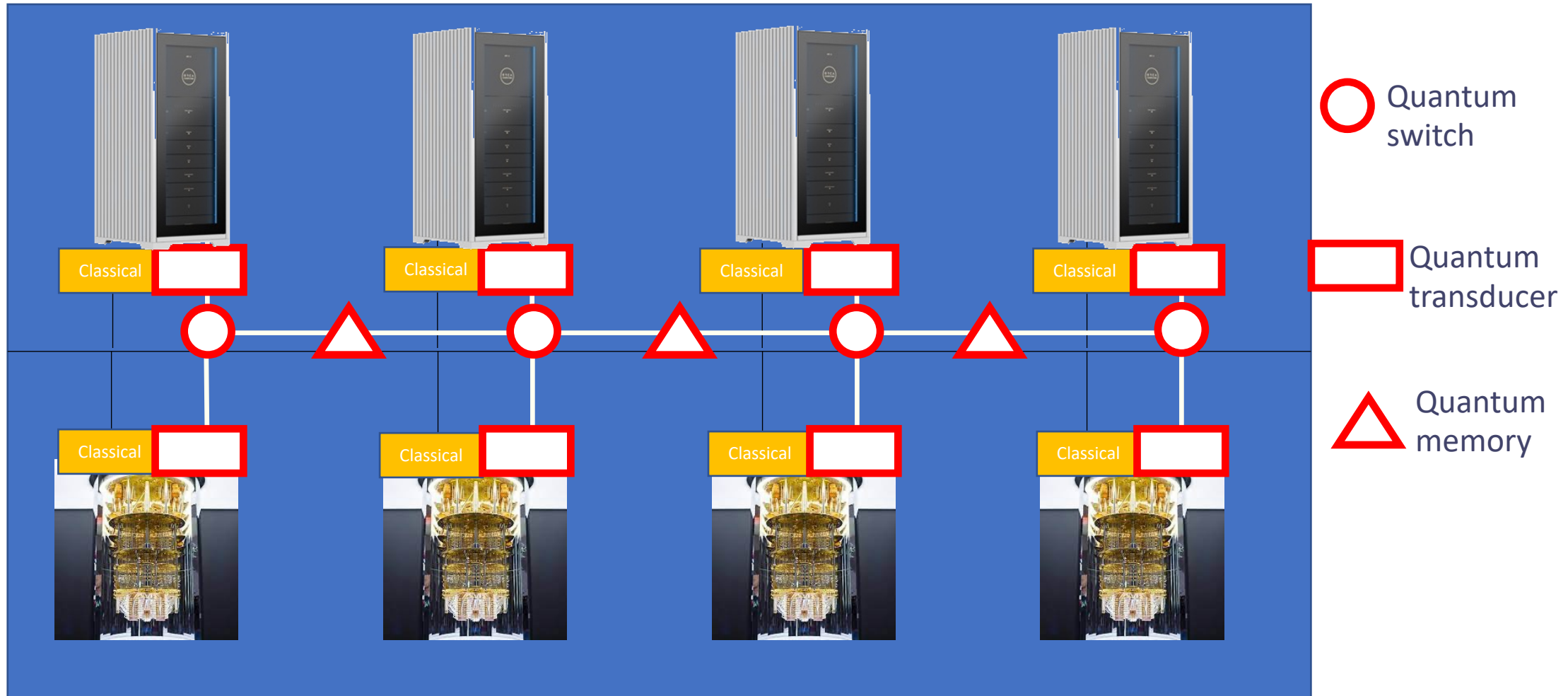
Note: Secure links using QKD and standard encryption  
can also be applied to the links between controllers, and  
between the controllers and their individual QPU/CPU



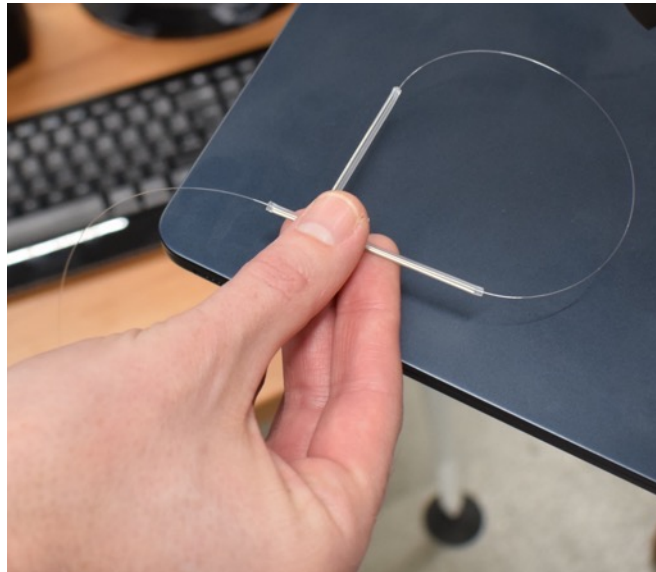
Data Centre

Quantum compute within QDCF

# Networked quantum- quantum



# Demo day



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# Using OFCNet to address the AI problem

Dan Kilper

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# AI Problem



- Very few data sets, limited types of data
  - Privacy and business issues for operators
  - Often end to end, lacking in detail
- Many, many papers with little means of comparison
  - Are we doing better with our ML algorithms?
  - How do we benchmark and compare data?

# OFCNeT Datasets



- Use turn up and operation of OFCNeT to collect data sets
  - Use available methods on systems
  - Allow vendors to trial new data collection technologies
  - Run certain tests such as faults and provisioning
  - Provide output/predictions of standard (non-ML) tools as reference for ML to beat
- Make datasets and reference results public

# OFCNeT ML Competitions



- Run annual competitions
  - Target a different challenging problem each year
  - Past year's datasets
    - Run competition prior to conference and have a session on the winning entries
  - Current year's datasets
    - During OFC teams compete using turn up datasets to predict performance during operational test running during conference
    - Winners announced during pdp sessions
- Great way to provide recognition to the talent in our community!

# AutoML Decathlon 2022

Diverse Tasks, Modern Methods, and Efficiency at Scale

NeurIPS'22 Competition Track



Morgan Stanley



[Home](#)

[Description](#)

[Rules](#)

[Important Resources](#)

[FAQ](#)

[Organizers and Contacts](#)

## Welcome to AutoML Decathlon!

The AutoML Decathlon is a competition that will evaluate the performance of participants' AutoML methods on carefully curated sets of tasks with an appropriate level of difficulty and coverage in application domain, size, and input/output characteristics.

At the start of the competition we will release 10 public development tasks that vary in their domain (including image, finance timeseries, audio, and natural sciences), problem type (including regression, single-label, and multi-label classification), and scale (ranging from several thousands to hundreds of thousands of observations). These public tasks will be representative of (but distinct from) the final set of test tasks on which participants' AutoML methods will be ultimately evaluated on at the conclusion of the competition. For more background, see our [blog post](#).

A prize of \$15,000 will be awarded to the winning team. See the [competition description](#) for details.

## Final Test Phase Results

**Congratulations to Team TrueFit for being the winner of AutoML Decathlon 2022!!**



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# Thank you

Contact: [Dan.Kilper@tcd.ie](mailto:Dan.Kilper@tcd.ie)

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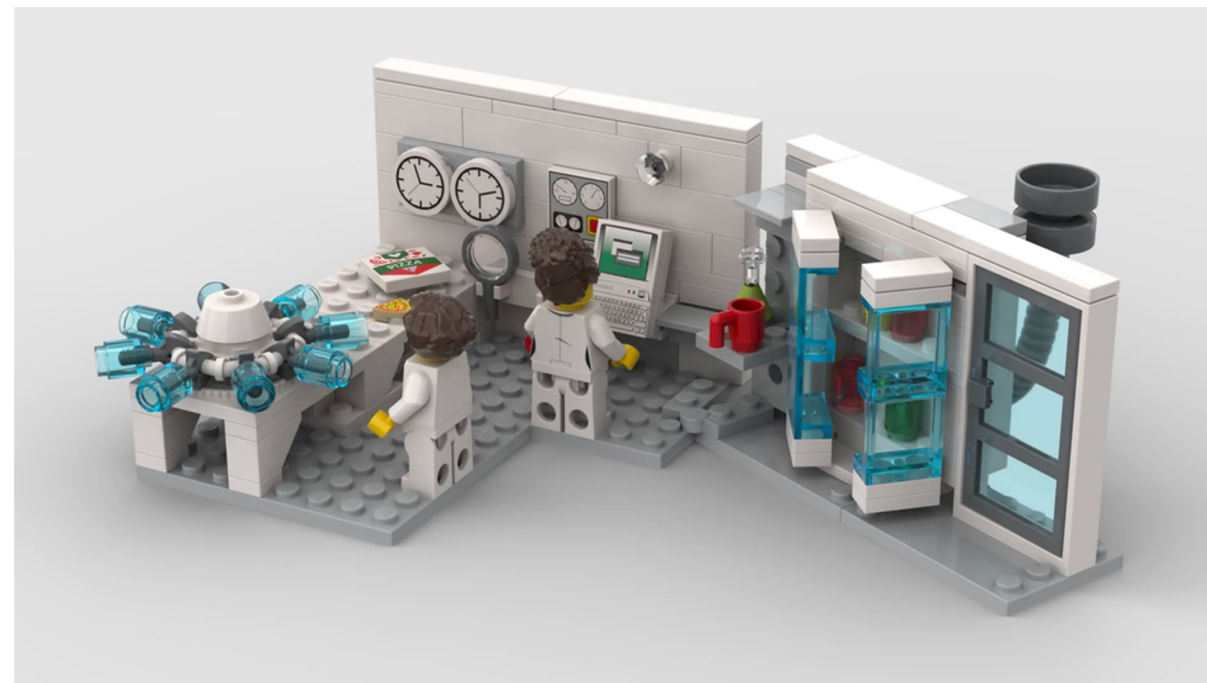
Inder Monga

# OFCnet Motivation

Leading products showcased at OFC



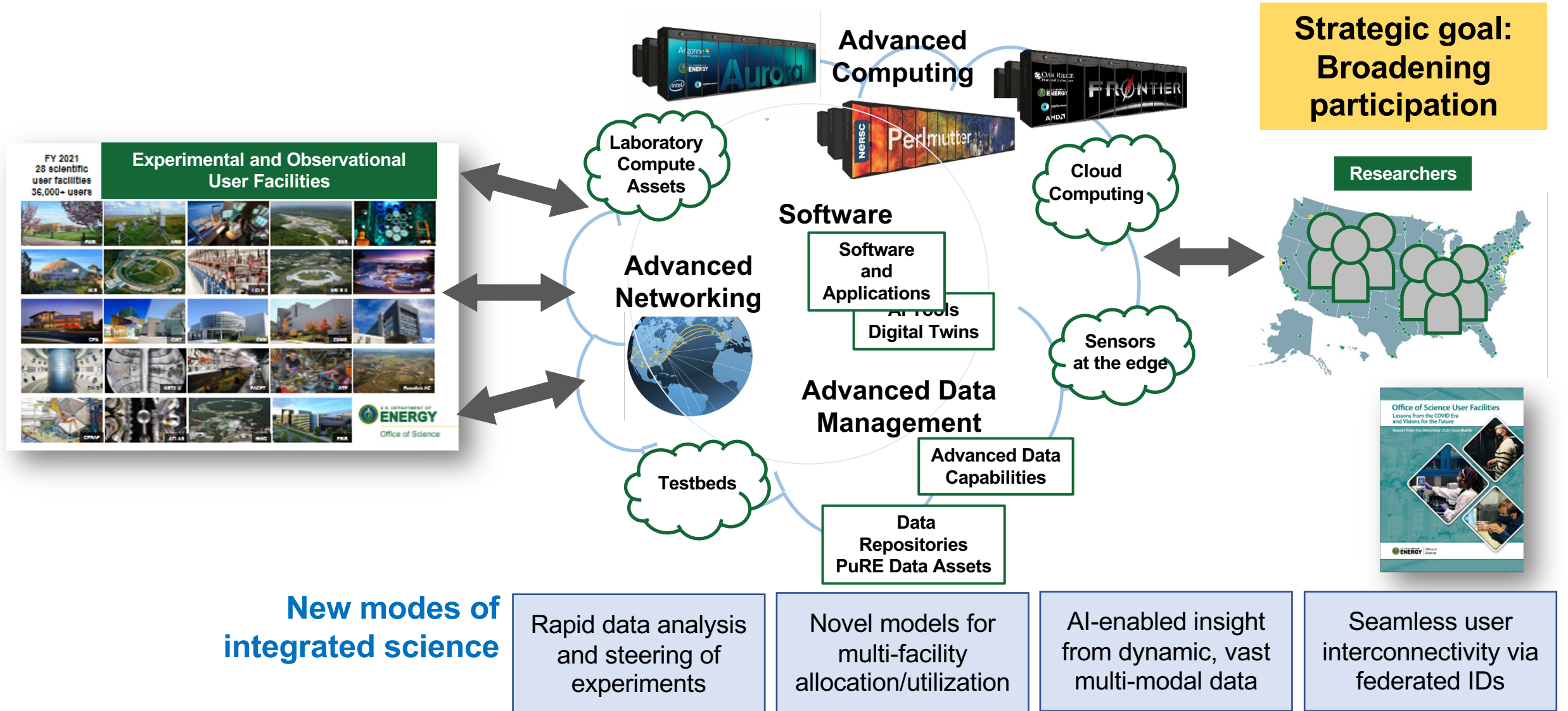
Leading research/systems [working together] showcased at OFC



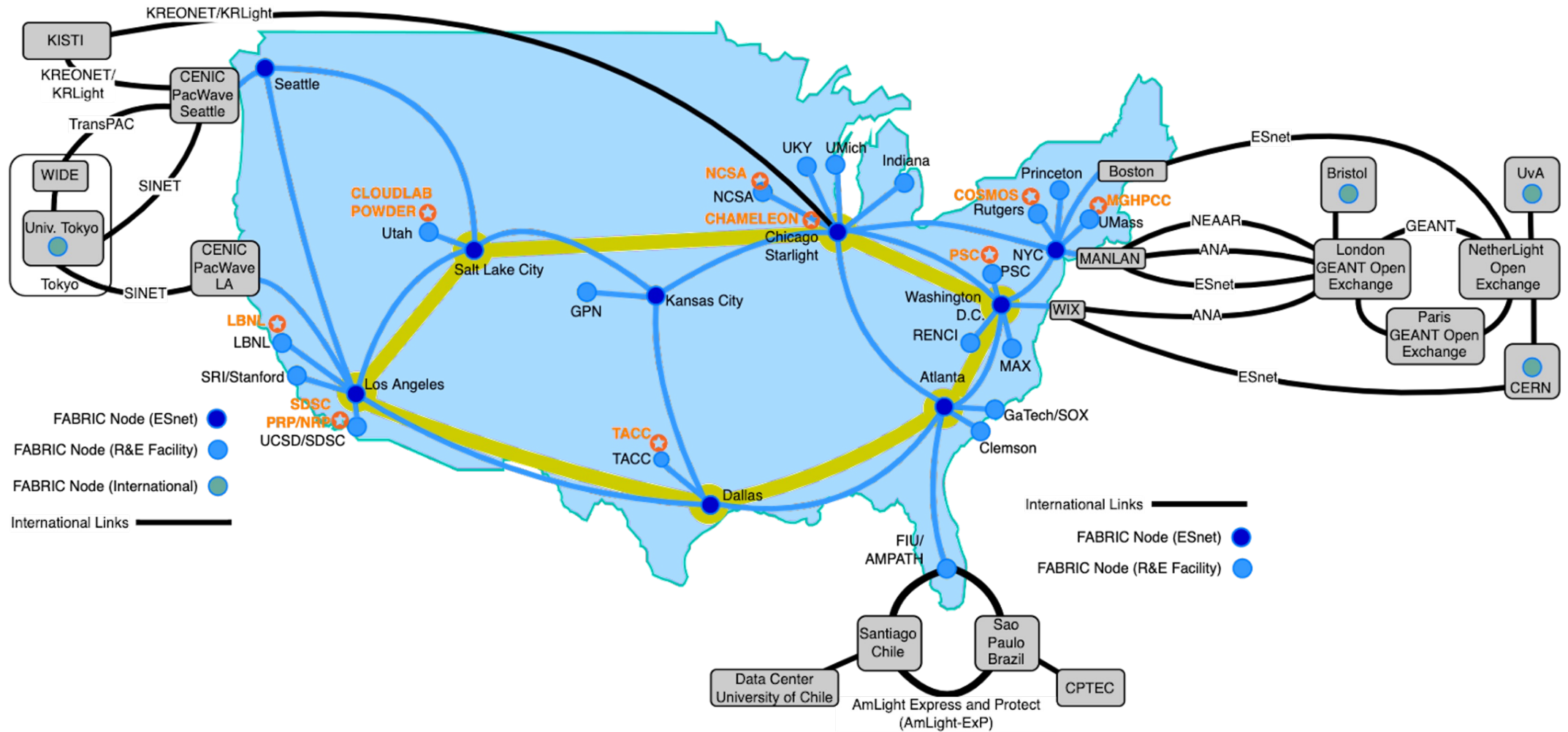


Testbeds spur research: how can we bring the power of testbeds to attendee-base of OFC?

# The vision: A DOE/SC **integrated research ecosystem** that transforms science via seamless interoperability

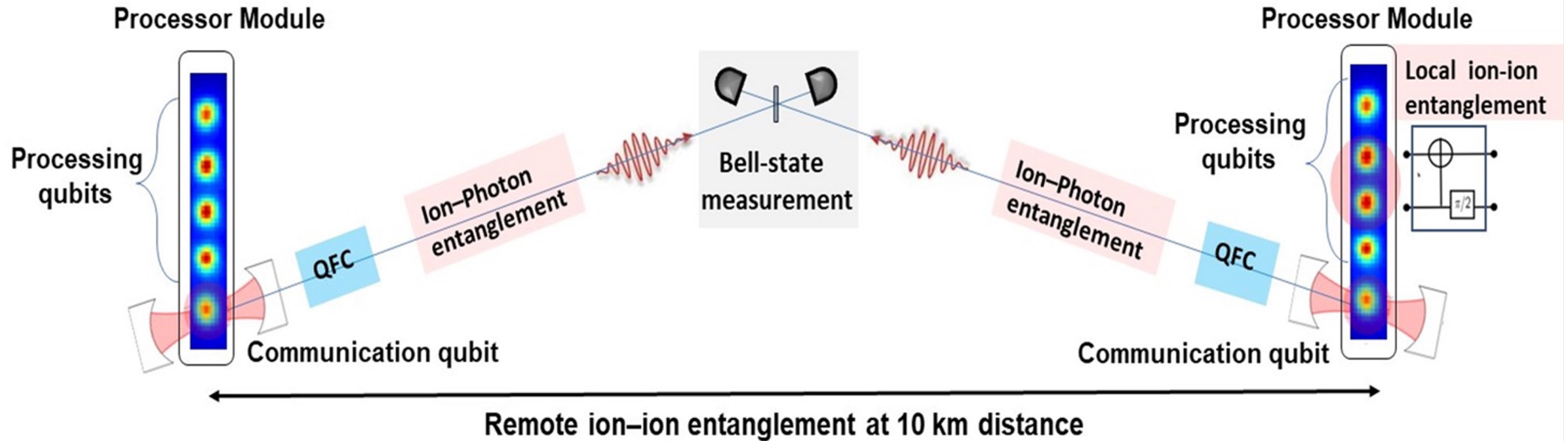


# Continental scale network research testbed



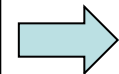
**FABRIC Topology - with FAB Sites**

# QUANT-NET: Quantum Network Testbed

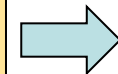


## Current stage

Design  
Tests & Characterisation  
Simulations



Construction & Implementation



Experimental realizations

# OFCnet Technical Workshop Opportunities

- Showcase the use of innovative products and bleeding-edge research in hero experiments
- Share practical learnings of building and using applications using new features for performance gains aka “State of Practice”
- Illustrate the use of global ‘federated’ testbeds and share results

This is different from technical program at OFC as far as I know and potentially see the experiment after the workshop!

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