

# Quantum Cryptography and European Testbeds

XIV jornadas REDIMadrid



Universidad Rey Juan Carlos  
Madrid, 22 Octubre 2019

Vicente Martin,  
Vicente@fi.upm.es

# Quantum Cryptography and New Generation Networks

## Index.

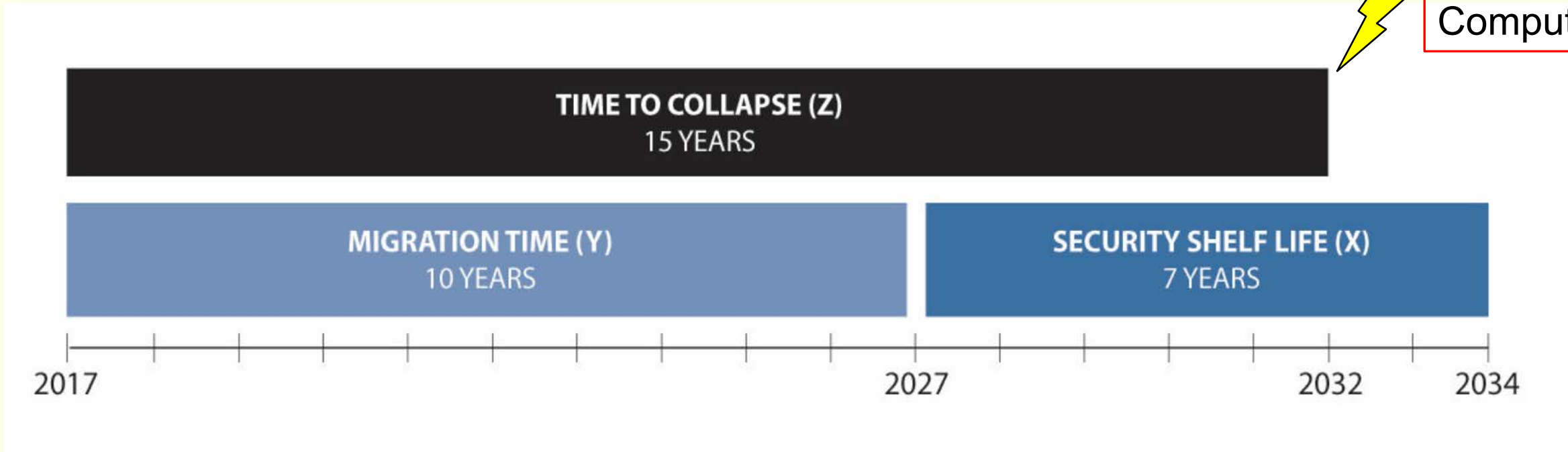
- Why Quantum Cryptography? Do we have a problem?
- Brief Intro to Quantum Key Distribution
- QKD and networks.
- Software Defined Networking and the Madrid Quantum Network
- OpenQKD: European QKD Testbeds
- Future

# Quantum Computing and Quantum Crypto: Do we have a problem?

- ▶ Quantum computers break, in polynomial time, the most used algorithms for public key cryptography and key distribution.
  - RSA
  - Elliptic curve cryptography
  - Diffie–Hellman
- ▶ But, you know, building a quantum computer **will take forever...**
  - Or, at least, so many years that you do not need to worry...

# Quantum Computing and Quantum Crypto: Do we have a problem?

Quantum Computer



From : Quantum Computing: Progress & Prospects 2018. A Consensus Report. National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (adapted from M. Mosca, 2015)

# ... write your own answer:

- ▶ **Z:** Time to a quantum computer: ?
- ▶ **Y:** Time to fully change the security infrastructure:  
Estimate (NIST) 20yrs.
- ▶ **X:** Shelf life: 1–50 yrs. (what is your application?)

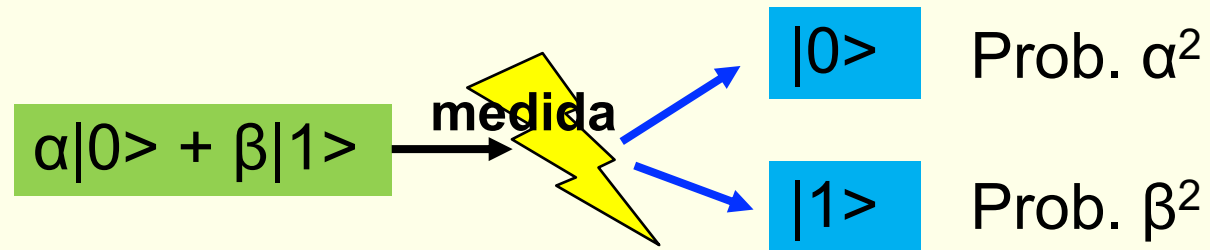
**If  $X+Y > Z$ ... you have problems.**

# Solutions:

- ▶ **Postquantum crypto: Business as usual.**
  - “new” algorithms believed to be secure against Quantum Computers.
- ▶ **Quantum Cryptography:**
  - Physical layer security → Networks
    - You need hardware
    - ... and it is not easy
  - Not a complete substitute! (symmetric crypto)

## ► El Qubit.

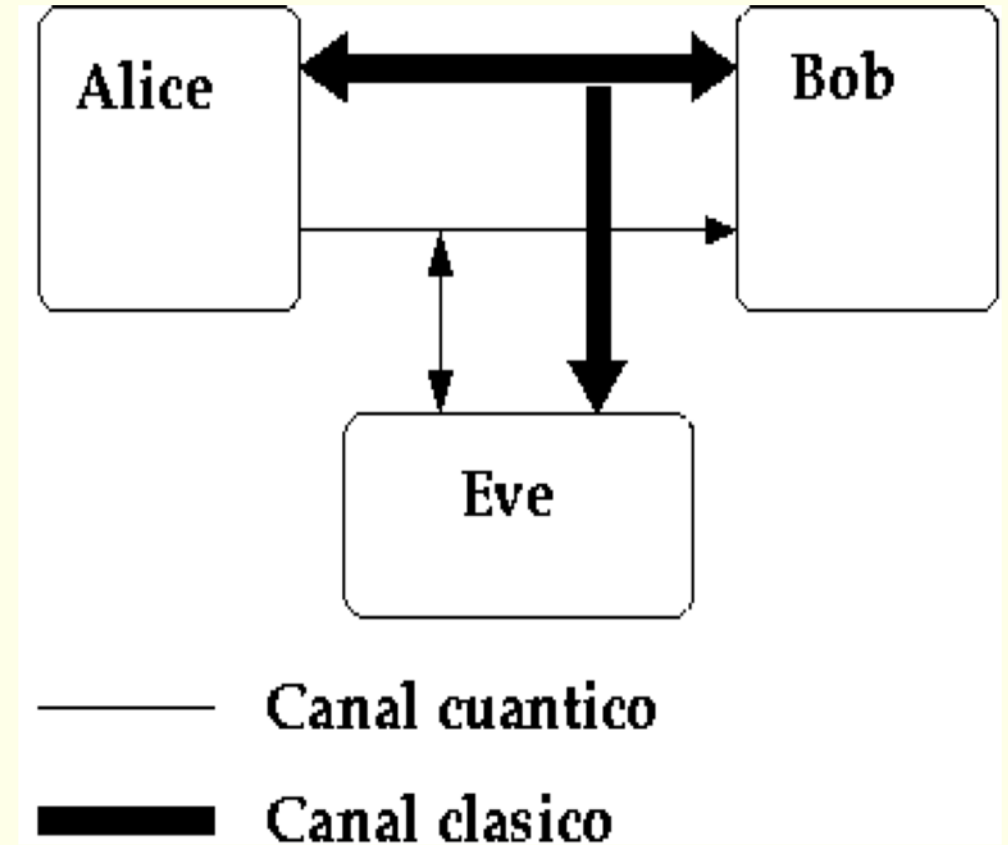
- Definamos dos estados cuánticos como 0 y 1:  $|0\rangle$  y  $|1\rangle$ 
  - $|0\rangle$  significa “el estado cuántico que representa al valor 0 del qubit”... Sea cual sea su implementación física: la polarización de un fotón, estados de espín...
- Un estado genérico de un qubit se escribe:  $|\phi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$
- Lectura (medida):



- $(\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = 1)$
- Nótese que la lectura modifica el estado del qubit.
- Teorema de la No-clonación: **No se puede copiar un estado cuántico desconocido.**

## Ingredientes:

- Un **emisor de qubits** (típicamente fotones) individuales (Alice)
- **Receptores** de qubits individuales (Bob)
- Un **canal cuántico** (capaz de transmitir los qubits de Alice a Bob)
- Un **canal clásico** (público pero **auténticado**)
- ... y un espía (Eve)

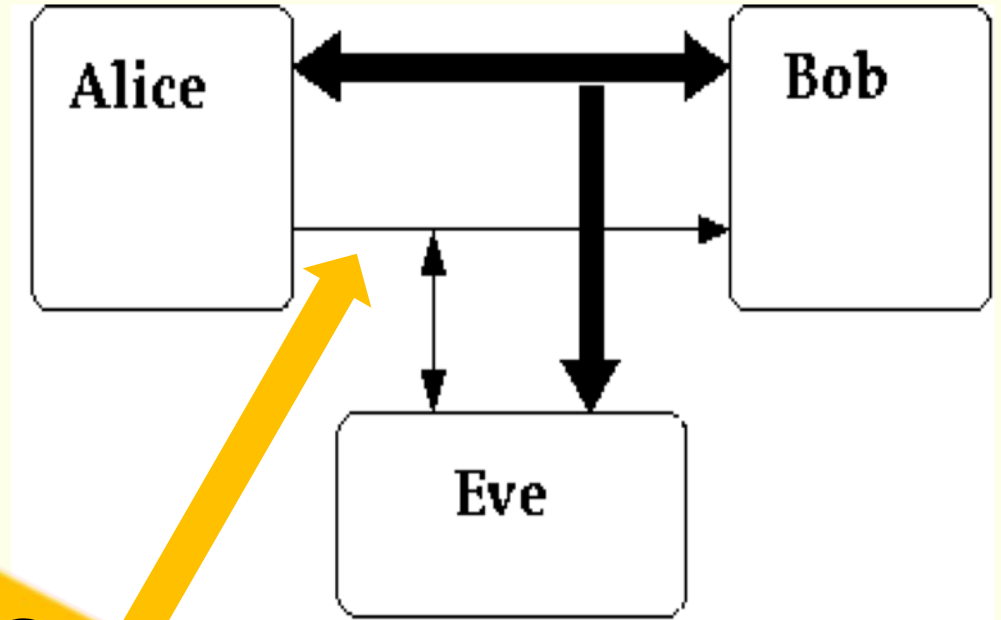




# Quantum Criptography... en redes

## Ingredientes:

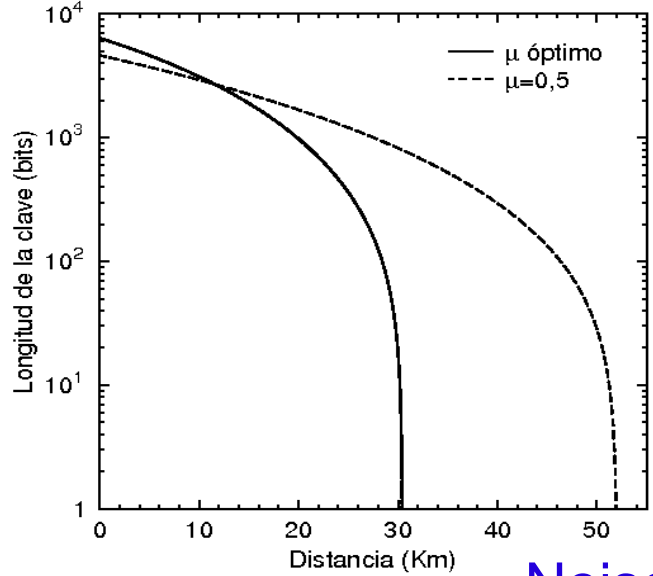
- Un **emisor de qubits** (típicamente fotones) individuales (Alice)
- **Receptores** de qubits individuales (Bob)
- Un **canal cuántico** (capaz de transmitir qubits de Alice a Bob)
- Un **canal clásico** (público pero autenticado)
- ... y un espía (Eve)



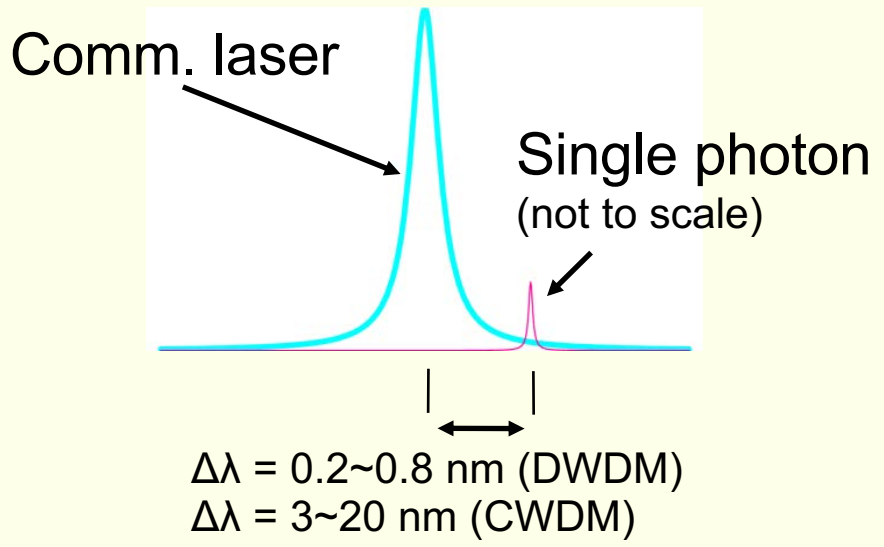
**Single Quantum**

# Quantum communications and networks, why is it difficult?

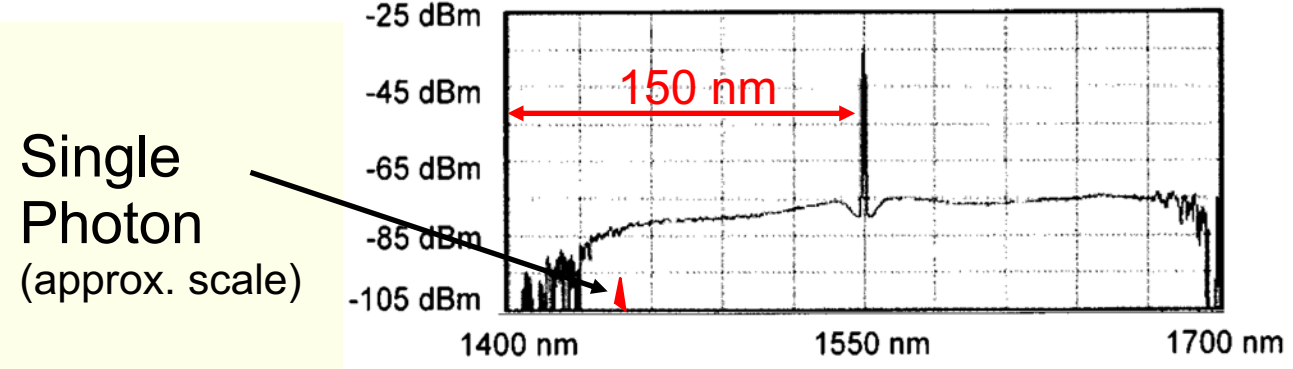
Limited reach, point to point.



extremely weak signals.



Noise in the fibre: Raman



- Difficult to detect.
- Absorptions
- Masked by the noise

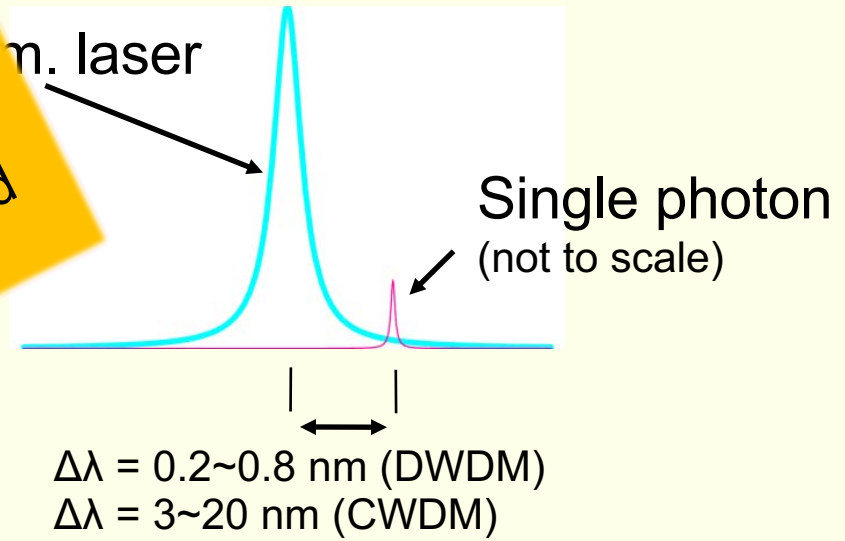
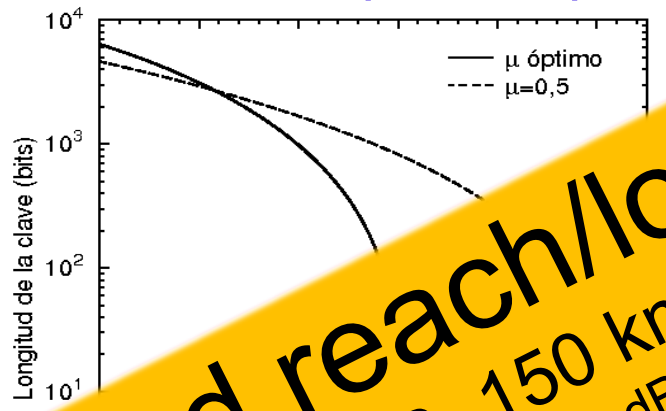
Raman backscattering of a signal at 1549 nm [ DOI: 10.1063/1.1842862 ]

# Quantum communications and networks, why is it difficult?

Limited reach, point to point.

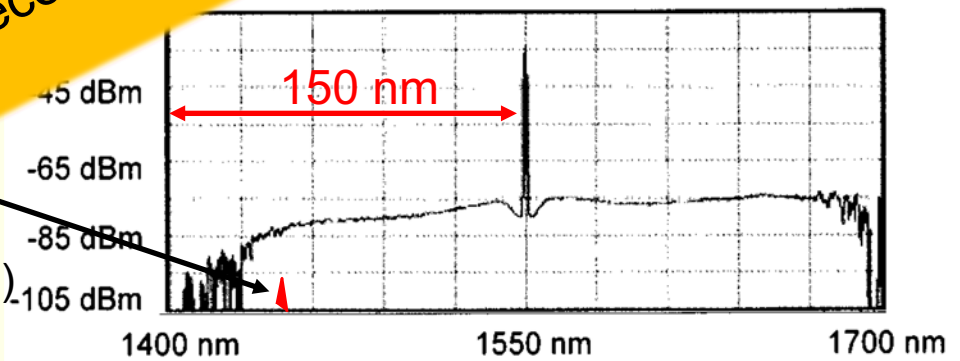
extremely weak signals.

**Limited reach/losses**  
 (~30 dB, 150 km)  
 (recent experiments with ~60 dB, but in the end losses will dominate)



noise in the fibre: Raman

Single Photon (approx. scale)



Raman backscattering of a signal at 1549 nm [ DOI: 10.1063/1.1842862 ]

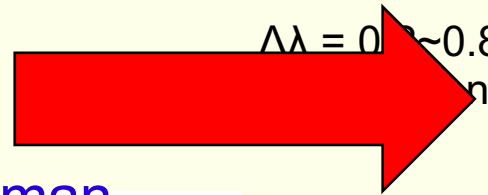
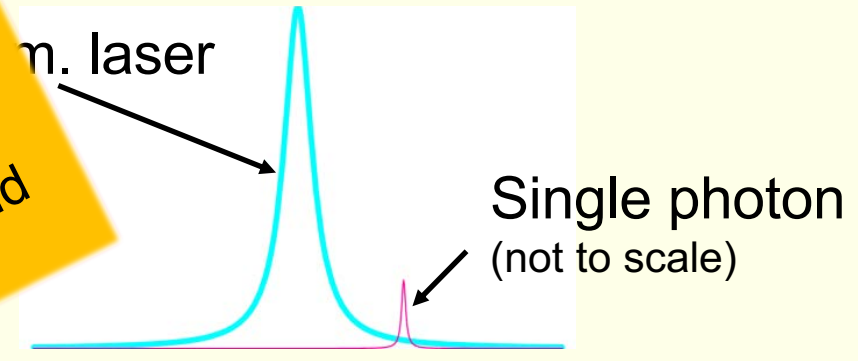
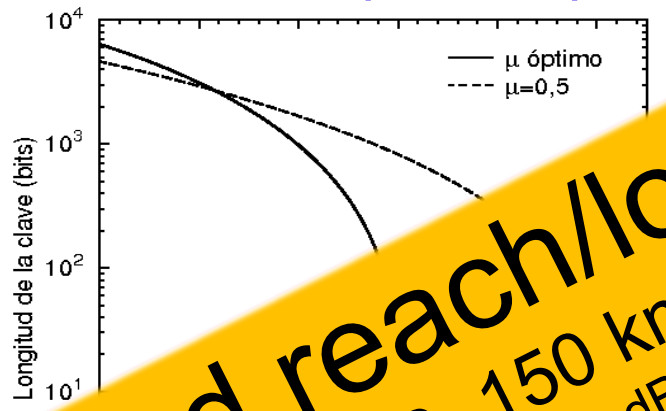
- Difficult to detect.
- Absorptions
- Masked by the noise

# Quantum communications and networks, why is it difficult?

Limited reach, point to point.

extremely weak signals.

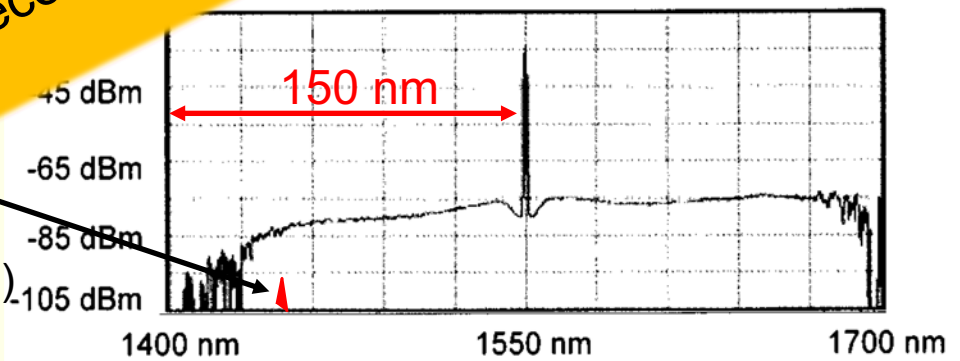
**Limited reach/losses**  
 (~30 dB, 150 km)  
 (recent experiments with ~60 dB, but in the end losses will dominate)



**Trusted nodes are required**  
 (security issues)

- Absorptions
- Masked by the noise

Single Photon  
 (approx. scale)

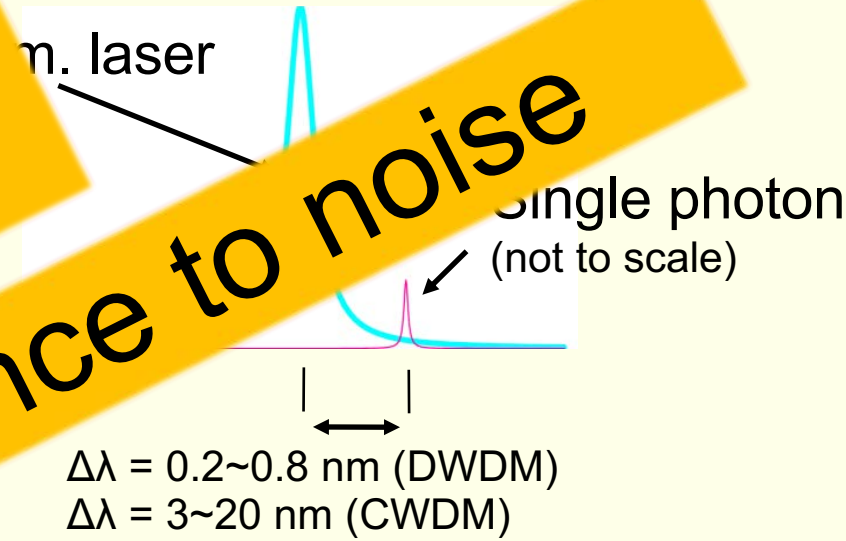
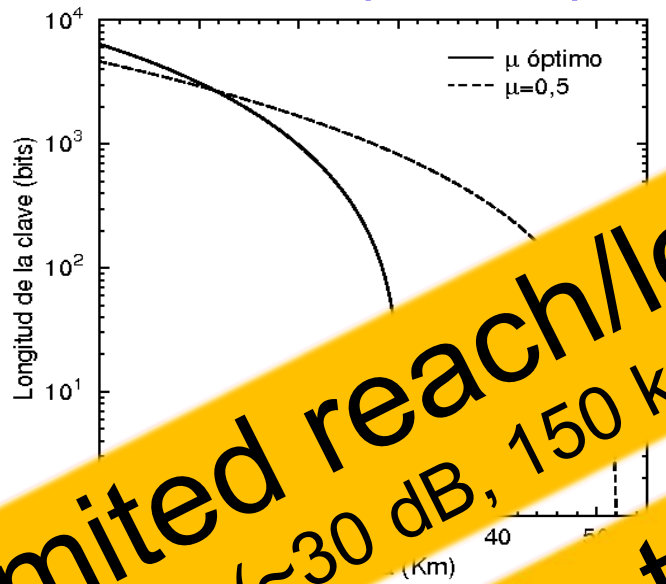


Raman backscattering of a signal at 1549 nm [ DOI: 10.1063/1.1842862 ]

# Quantum communications and networks, why is it difficult?

Limited reach, point to point.

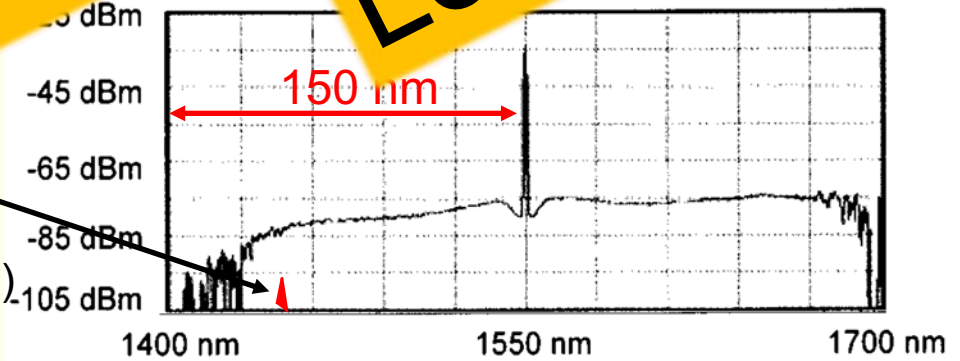
extremely weak signals.



**Limited reach/losses**  
**Low tolerance to noise**

Noise floor: Raman

Single Photon (approx. scale)



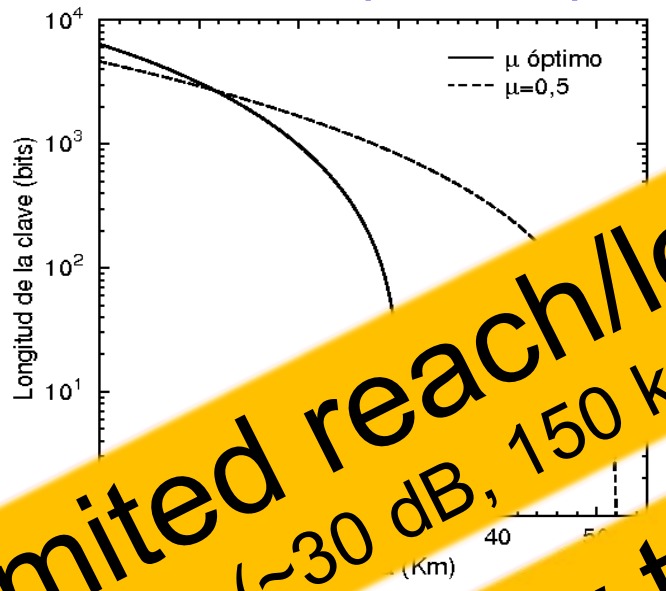
- Difficult to detect.
- Absorptions
- Masked by the noise

Raman backscattering of a signal at 1549 nm [ DOI: 10.1063/1.1842862 ]

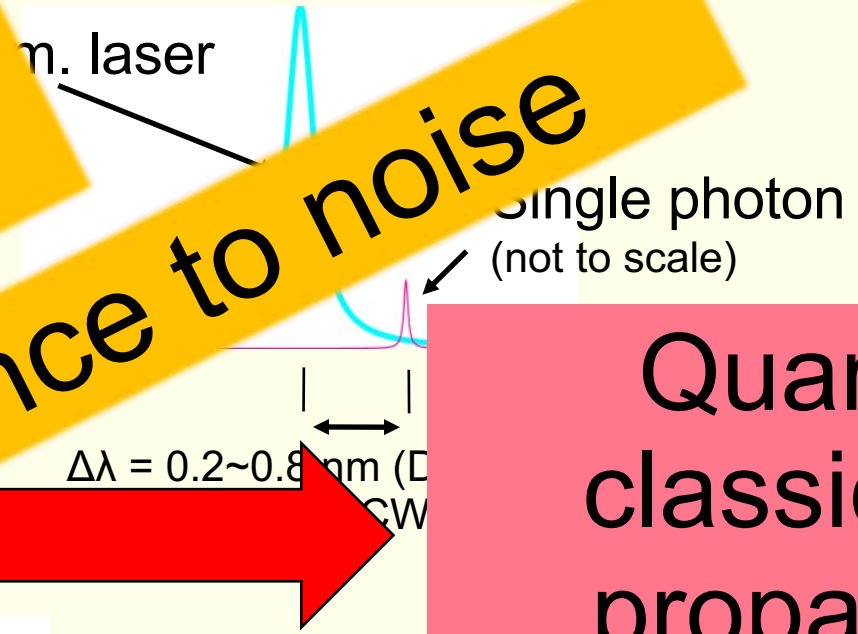
# Quantum communications and networks, why is it difficult?

Limited reach, point to point.

extremely weak signals.



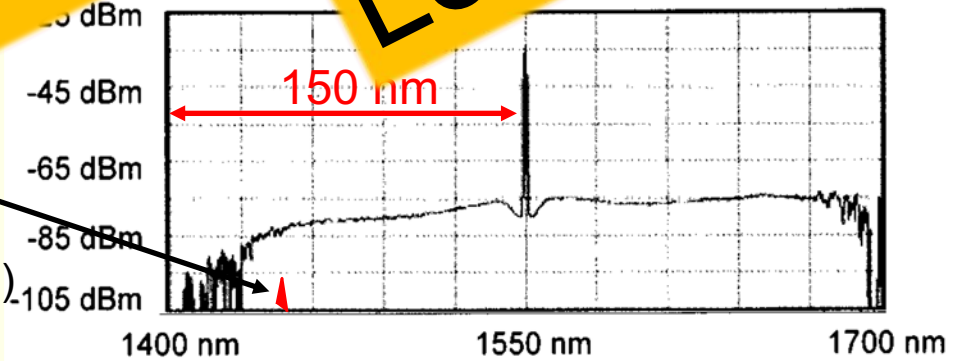
**Limited reach/losses**  
**Low tolerance to noise**



**Quantum/classical co-propagation Issues**  
(not sharing the infrastructure  $\rightarrow$  Expensive!!)

Noise floor: Raman

Single Photon (approx. scale)



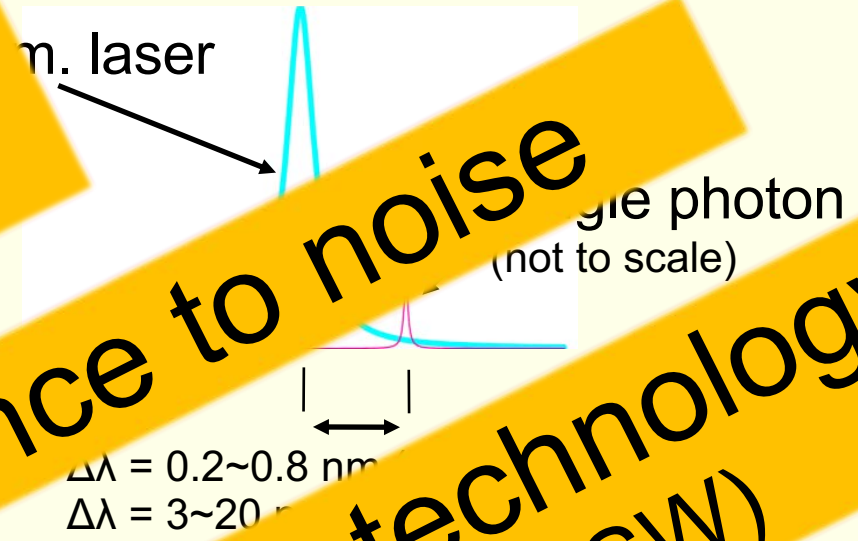
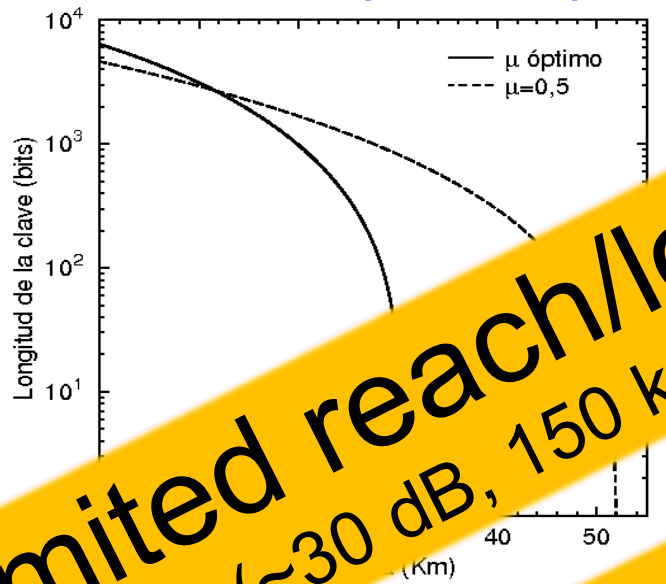
Raman backscattering of a signal at 1549 nm [ DOI: 10.1063/1.1842862 ]



# Quantum communications and networks, why is it difficult?

Limited reach, point to point.

extremely weak signals.



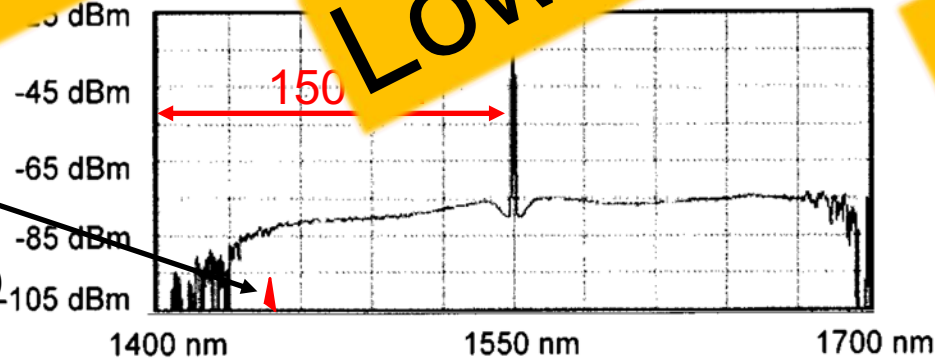
Limited reach/losses  
(~30 dB, 150 km)

Low tolerance to noise

Alien technology  
(HW & SW)

Noise in Raman

Single Photon (approx. scale)

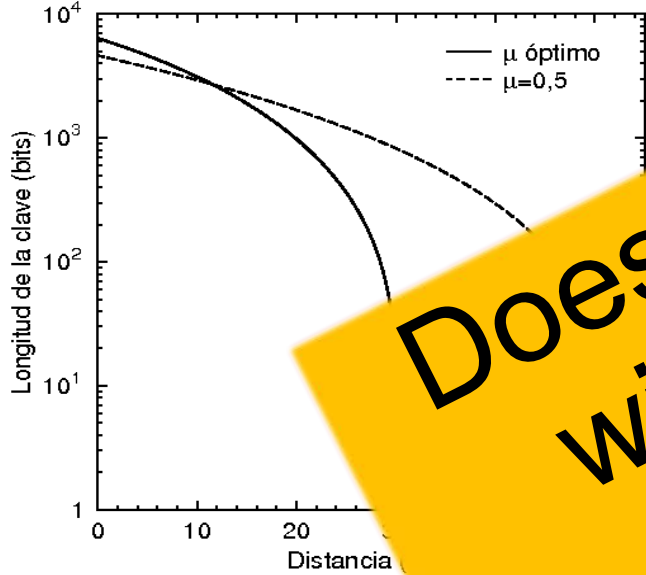


Raman backscattering of a signal at 1549 nm [ DOI: 10.1063/1.1842862]

- Difficult to detect.
- Absorptions
- Masked by the noise

# Quantum communications and networks, why is it difficult?

Limited reach, point to point.

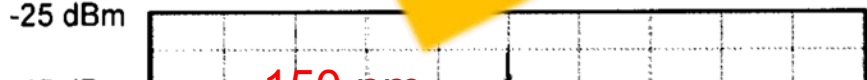


**Does not play well with (classical) networks.**

$\Delta\lambda = 0.2\sim 0.8$  nm (DWDM)  
 $\Delta\lambda = 3\sim 20$  nm (CWDM)



Noise in Raman

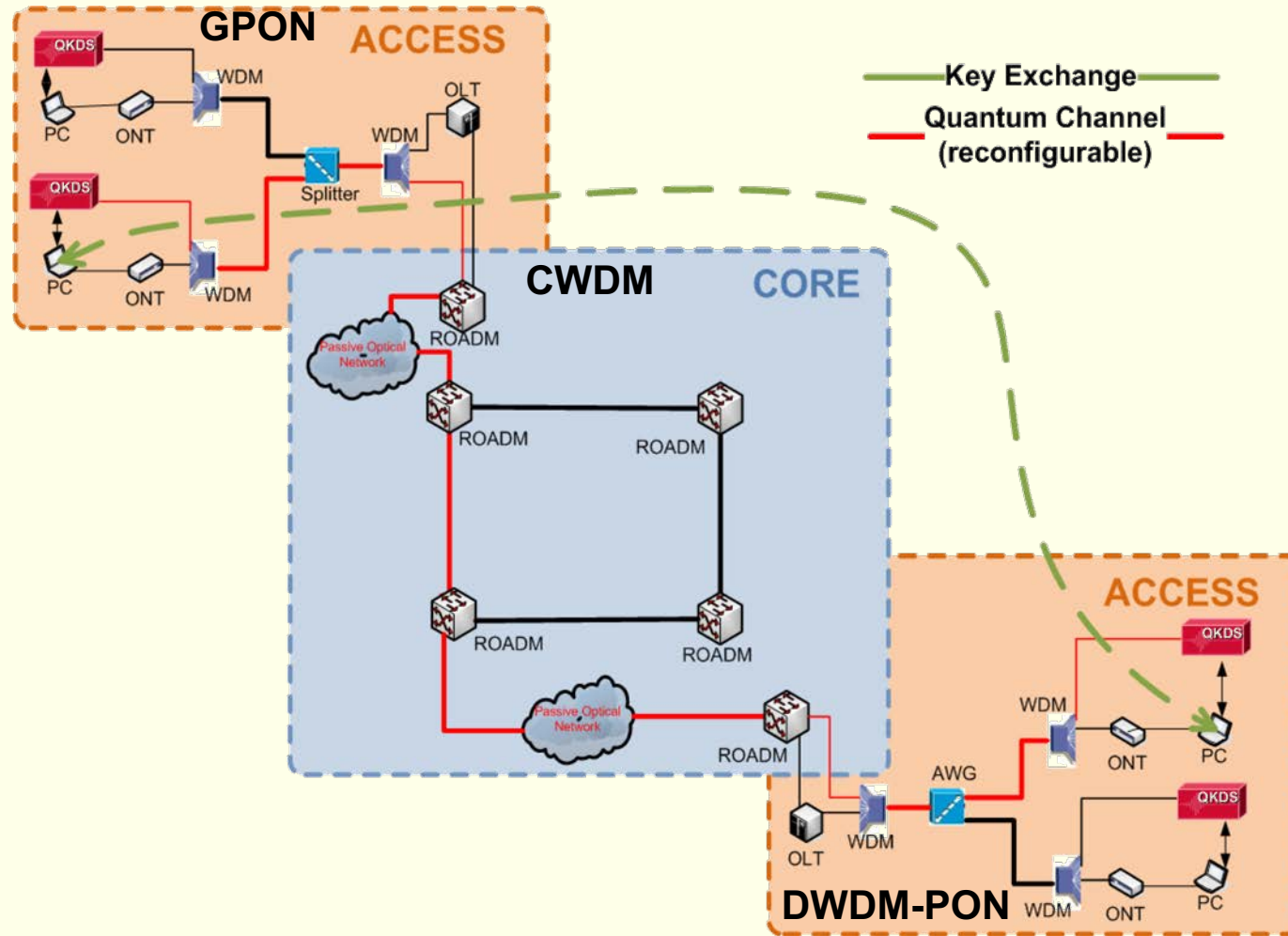
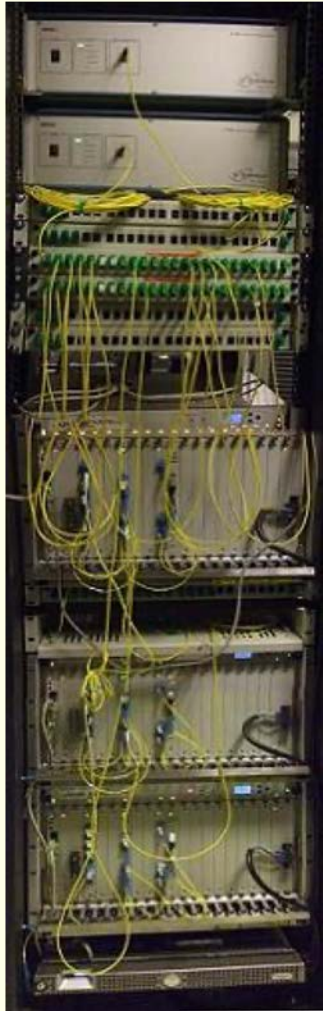


- Ad-hoc network: Large Up-front costs
- Limited range: Security model requires trusted nodes

Raman backscattering of a signal at 1549 nm [ DOI: 10.1063/1.1842862]



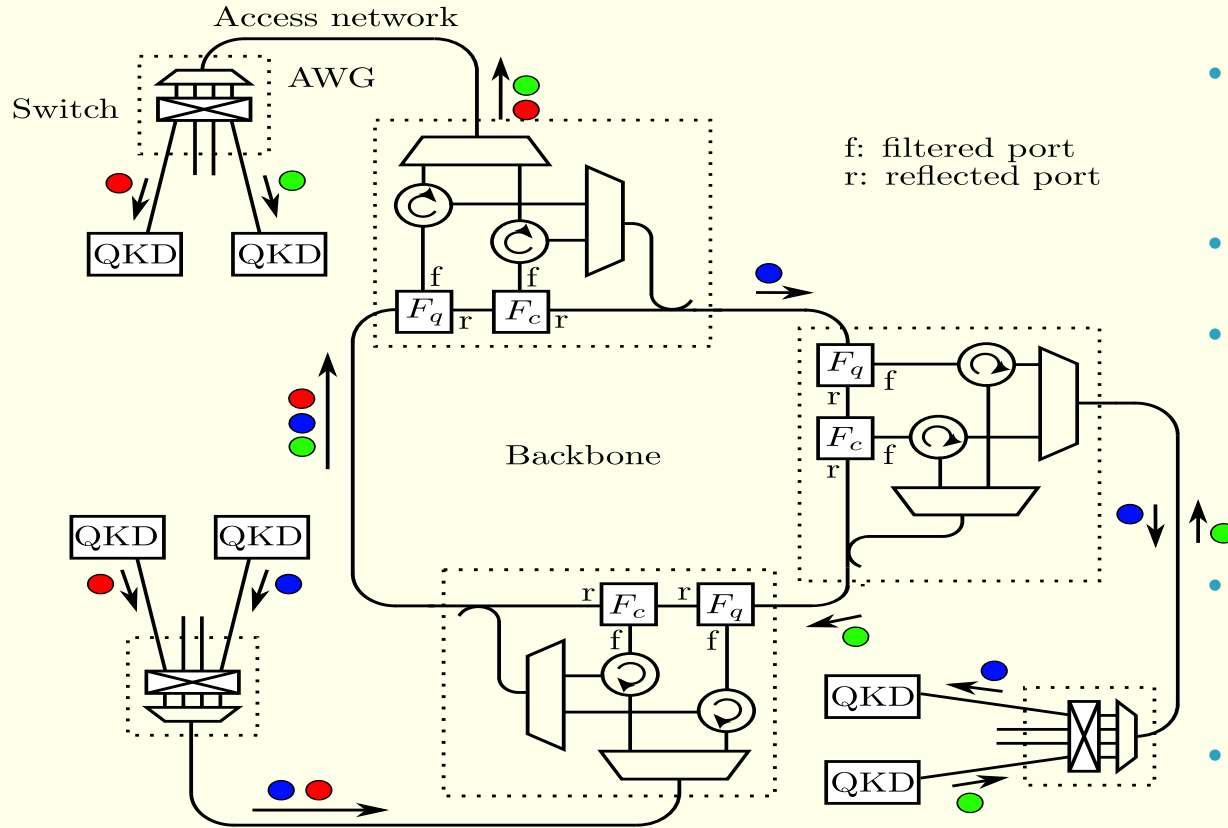
# What to do? Madrid UPM-TID QKD Networks: Access + Core metro networks



Estudiar la integración de QKD en redes de comunicaciones en coexistencia con señales clásicas y con equipos convencionales

(2009)

- ▶ A network just for quantum.
- Including “all channels”: Quantum, service and distillation.
- No trusted nodes (metro area)
- Addressable: The emitter can decide whom to talk to by choosing the wavelength.
- As many users as possible (dem. 64)
- Use as much deployed infrastructure and commercial equipment as possible.



• Quantum metropolitan optical network based on wavelength division multiplexing, Optics Express 22, 1576-1593, 2014 (arXiv:1309.3923)

• Entanglement Distribution in Optical Network, IEEE J.S. Topics in Quantum Electronics 21, 37-48, 2015 (arXiv:1409.5965)

# What to do? Madrid Quantum Network: First SDN-QKD network in the world

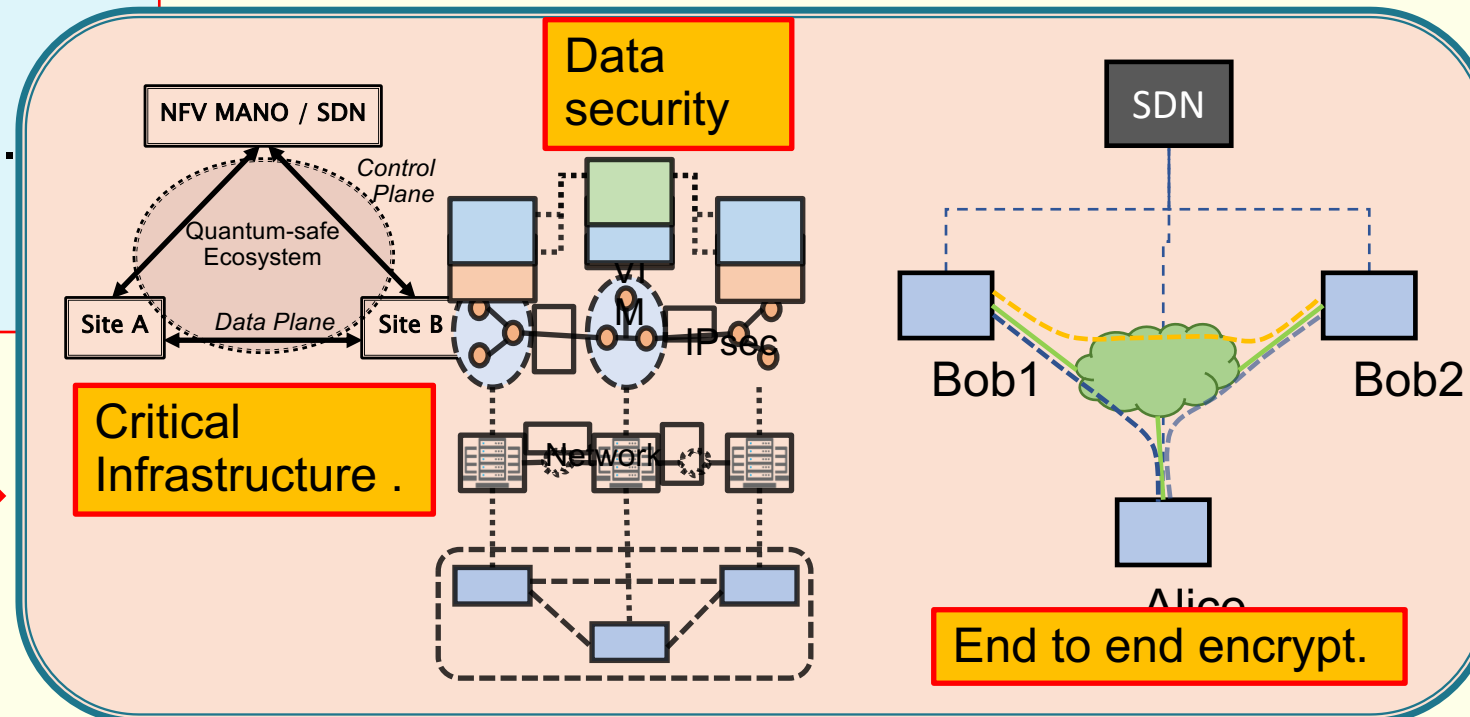
## Use the correct technology

- SDN – Software Defined Networking
  - Network Flexibility
- CV-QKD technology:
  - Better tolerance to noise: quantum/classical copropagation.
  - Prospective industrialization path

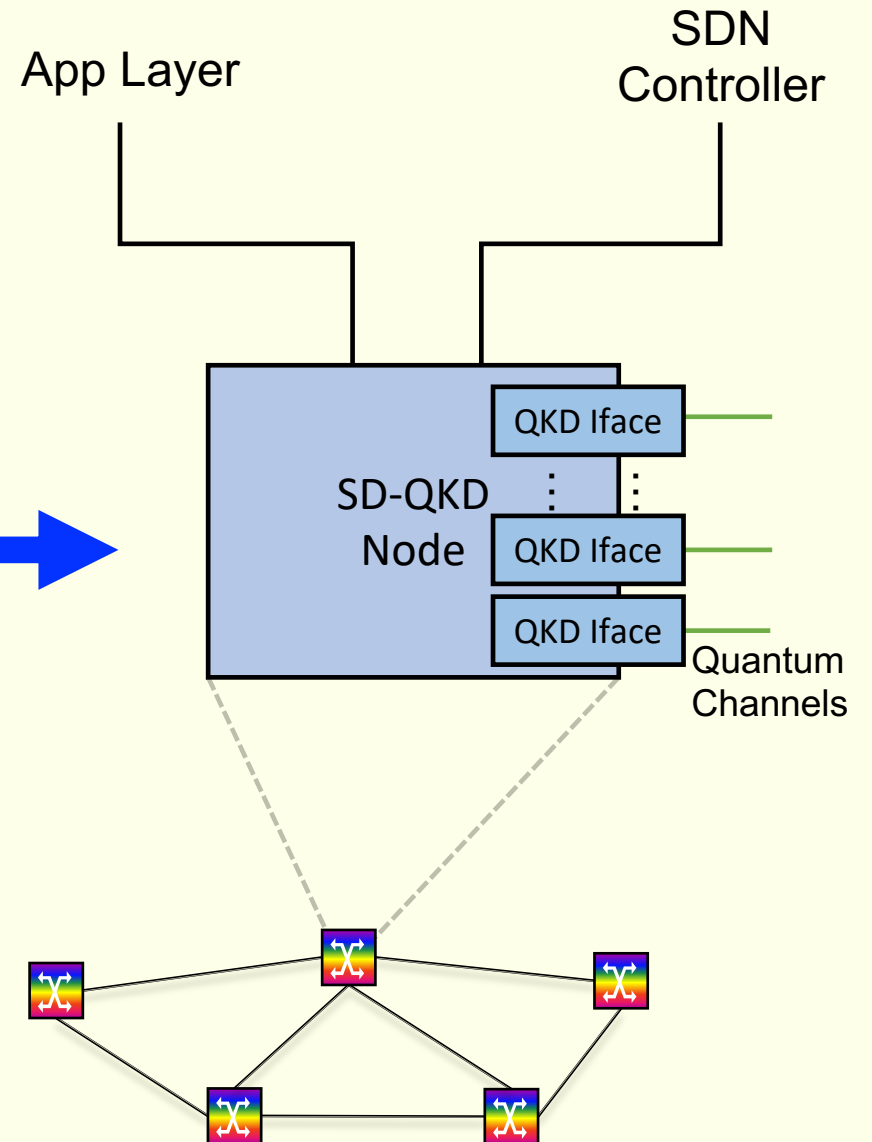
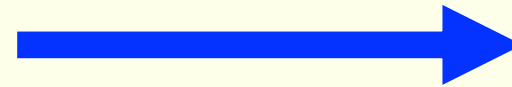
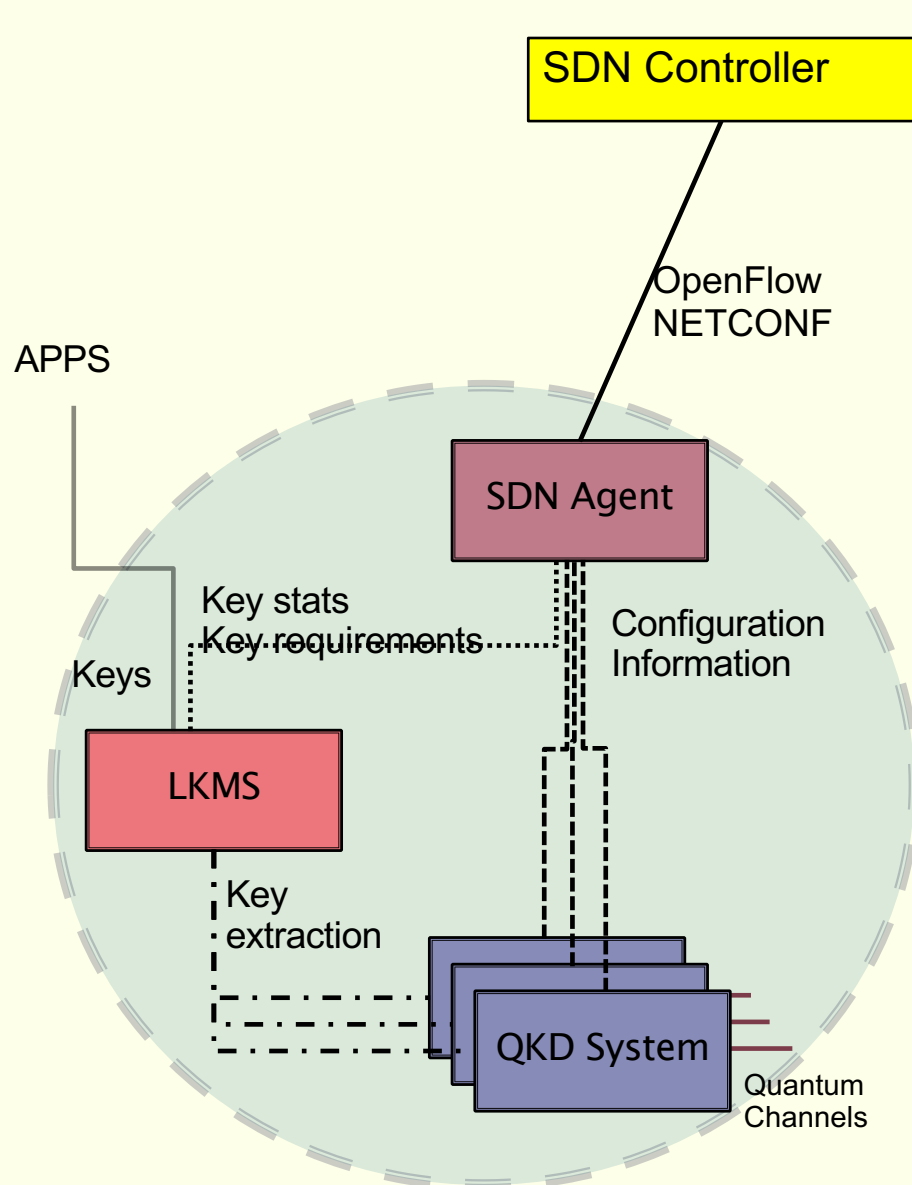


EU H2020  
Grant 820466

## Real world use cases:



# Key structure: SD-QKD-Node Abstraction



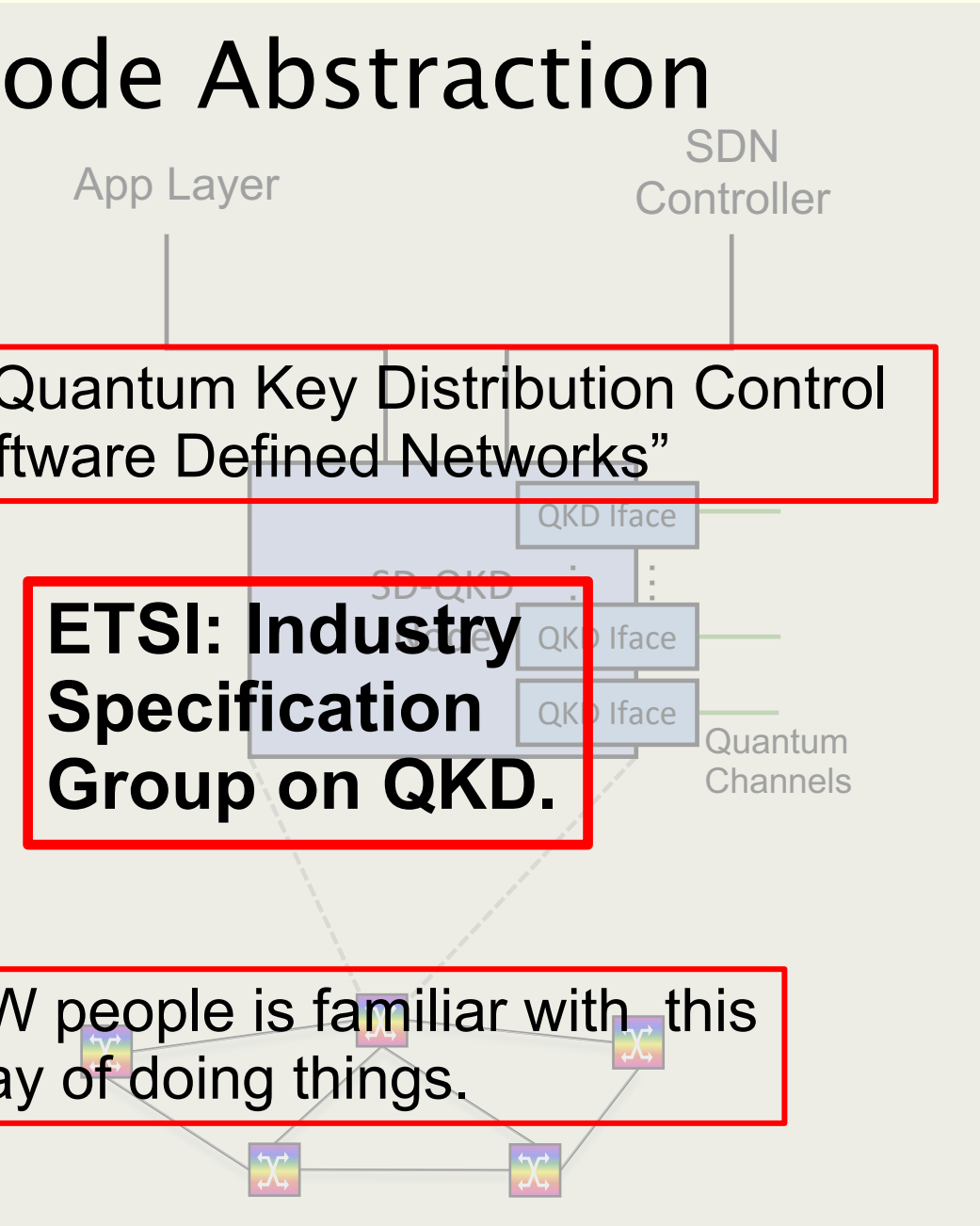
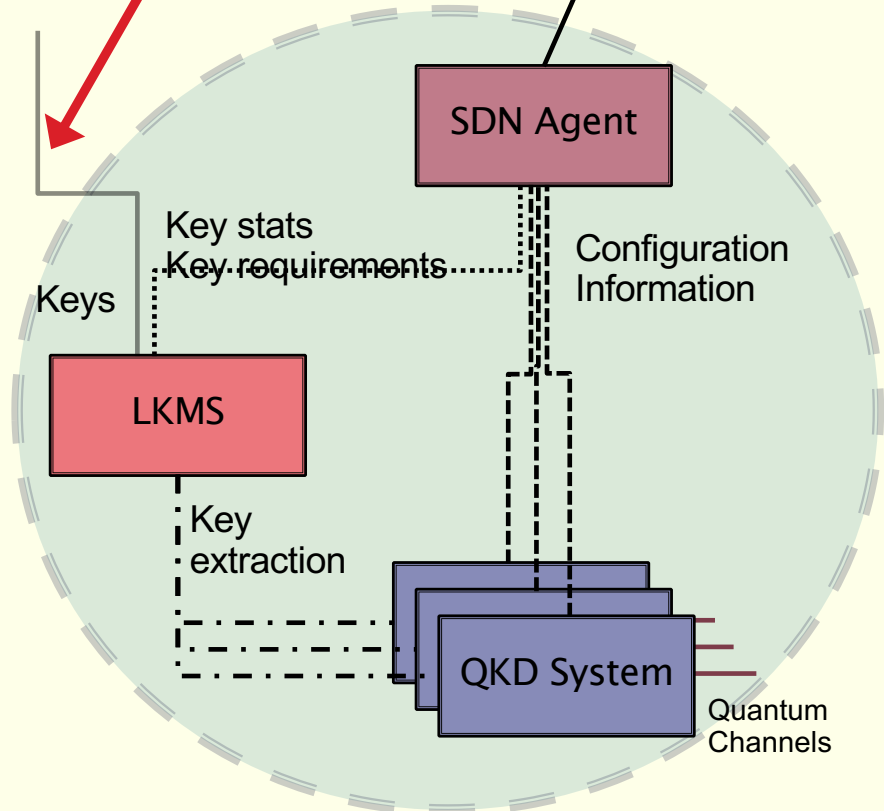
# Key structure: SD-QKD-Node Abstraction

ISG-QKD 004  
"Application Interface"

SDN Controller

ISG-QKD 015 "Quantum Key Distribution Control Interface for Software Defined Networks"

APPS



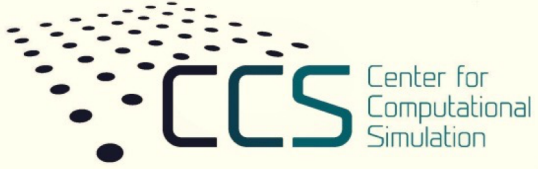
**ETSI: Industry Specification Group on QKD.**

NW people is familiar with this way of doing things.

# Global view of the SDQKD Network



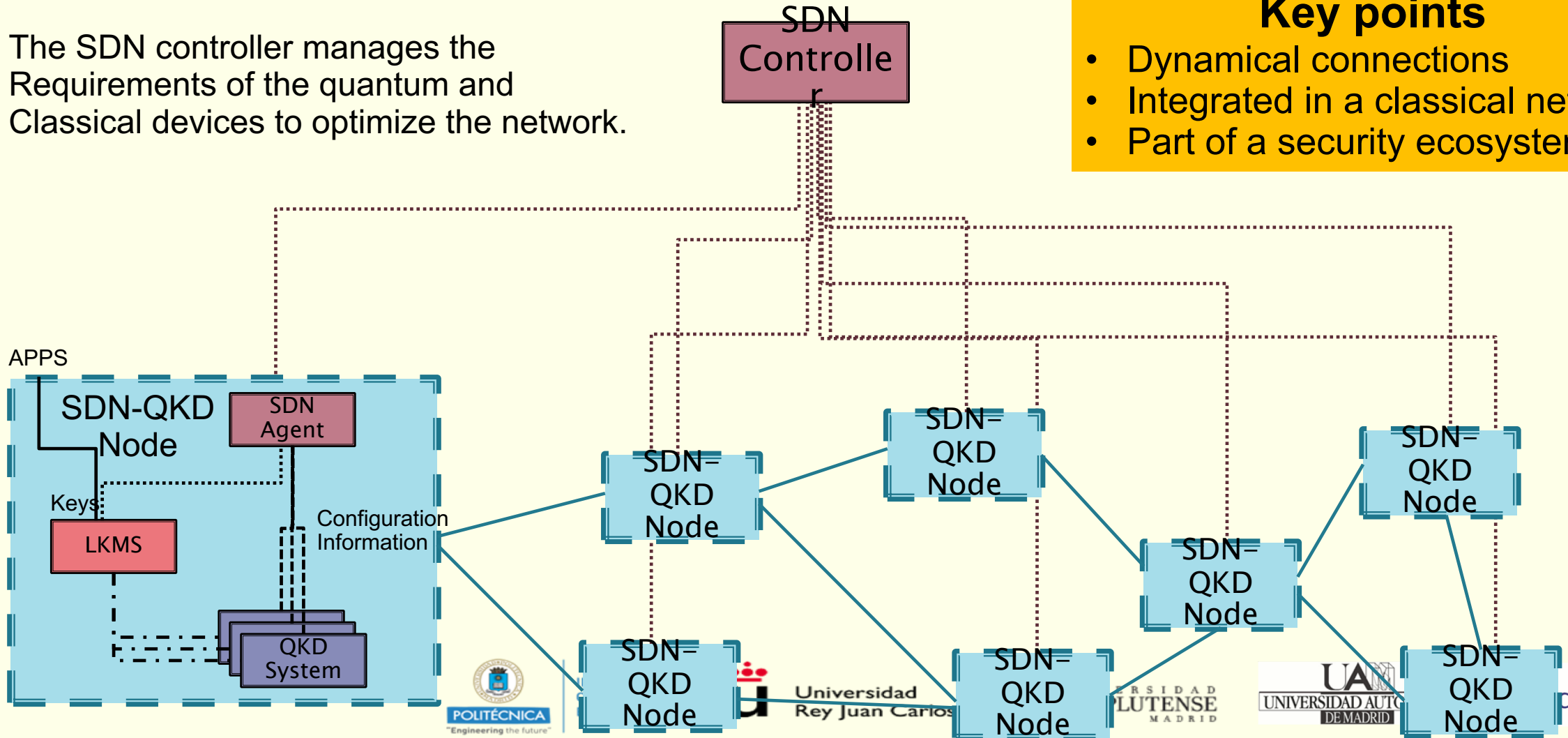
POLITÉCNICA  
"Ingeniamos el futuro"



The SDN controller manages the Requirements of the quantum and Classical devices to optimize the network.

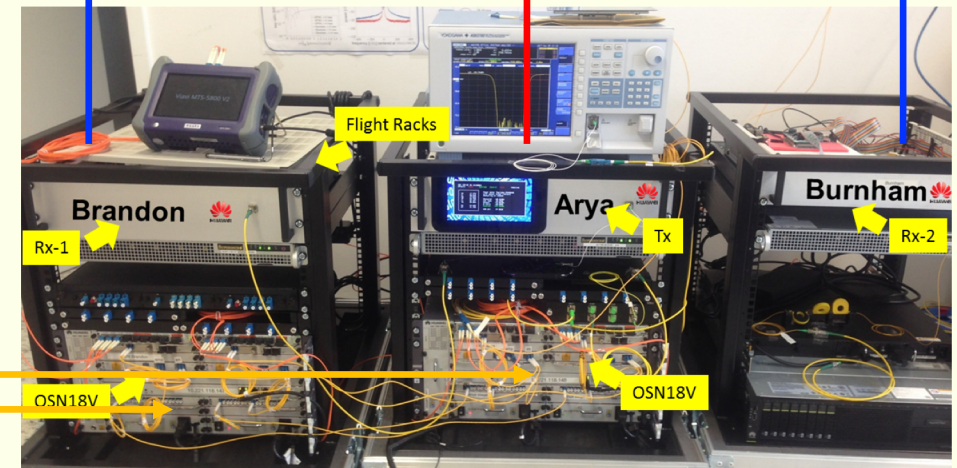
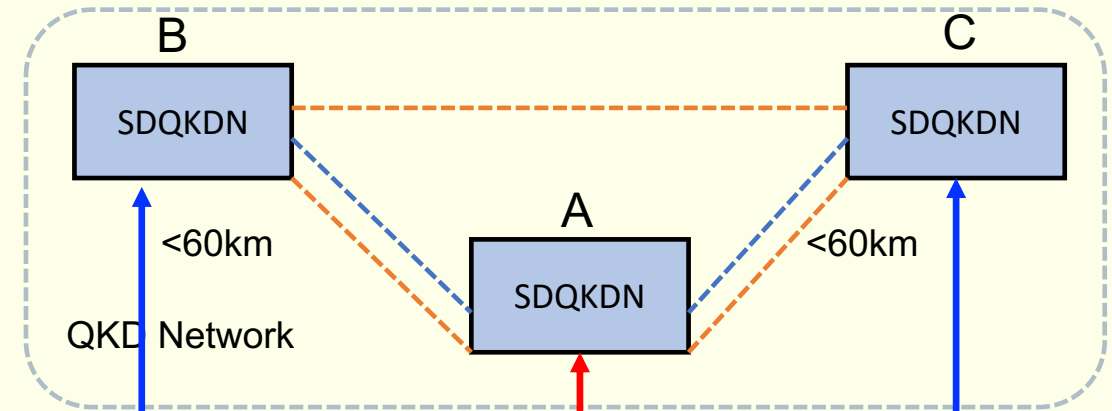
**Key points**

- Dynamical connections
- Integrated in a classical network
- Part of a security ecosystem



# Madrid SDN QKD Network

- These ideas have been implemented connecting three production sites of Telefónica Spain in Downtown Madrid.
- **SDN controller:** Manages the network. Quantum systems in A can be connected with B or C according to the controller's policies.
- **CV systems (telco-friendly)**
- The connection with the rest is completely standard.



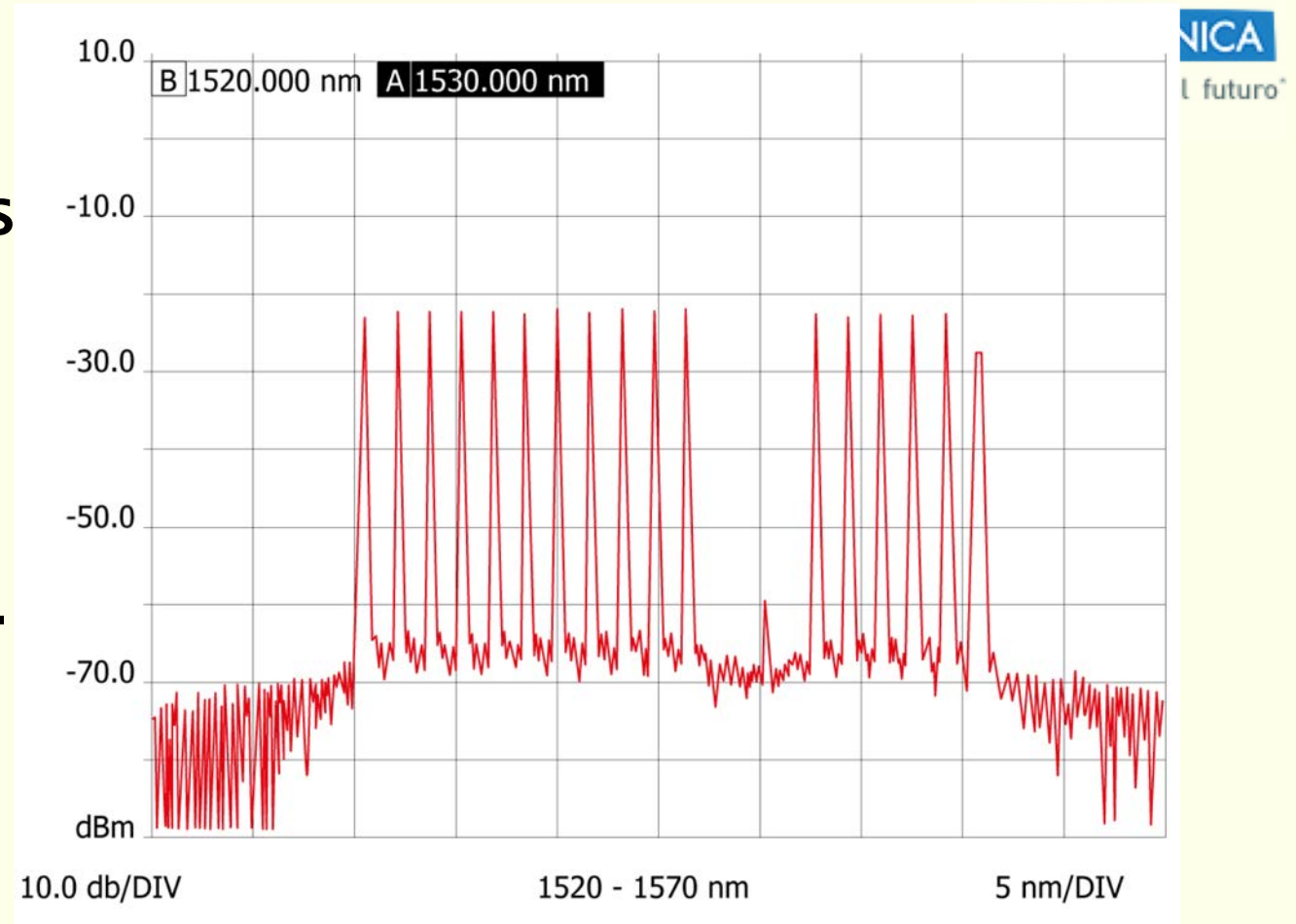
The connection to the network is through standard Communications systems. (Huawei OSN 1800)

CV QKD Systems: Huawei Technologies Dusseldorf

# Quantum - Classical coexistence



- Currently up to 17 copropagating classical channels with the quantum channel.
  - Classical channels in the same band (C-band ITU grid)
- Limited only because of the number of free ports in the OSN.
- 100 Gbps x 17 = 1.7 Tbps classical.
- Quantum 20–70 kbps max. (dependent on the link and key distillation)





# 3. Madrid SDN QKD Network



**First Quantum SDN** Network in the world.

Installed in Telefónica Spain **production facilities.**

“The Engineering of a SDN Quantum Key Distribution Network” IEEE Comms. Mag. July 2019, Special number “The Future of Internet” doi: 10.1109/MCOM.2019.1800763 ; <http://arxiv.org/abs/1907.00174>

# 3. Madrid SDN QKD Network



POLITÉCNICA

First Quantum

SDN Network in the world.

deployed in Telefónica production facilities.

## Relevance:

- Integration in real world networks.
  - Logical & physical level.
- Deployment.
- Scalability.
- Relevant industrial cases.



“The Engineering of a SDN Quantum Key Distribution Network” IEEE Comms. Mag. July 2019. Special number

“The Future of Internet” doi: 10.1109/MCOM.2019.1800763 ; <http://arxiv.org/abs/1907.00174>

# Evolution: European Testbeds. The OpenQKD project

- ▶ European Open QKD Network
- ▶ Testbeds to demonstrate the feasibility and maturity of Quantum Communications technologies.



# QKD enabled ICT security



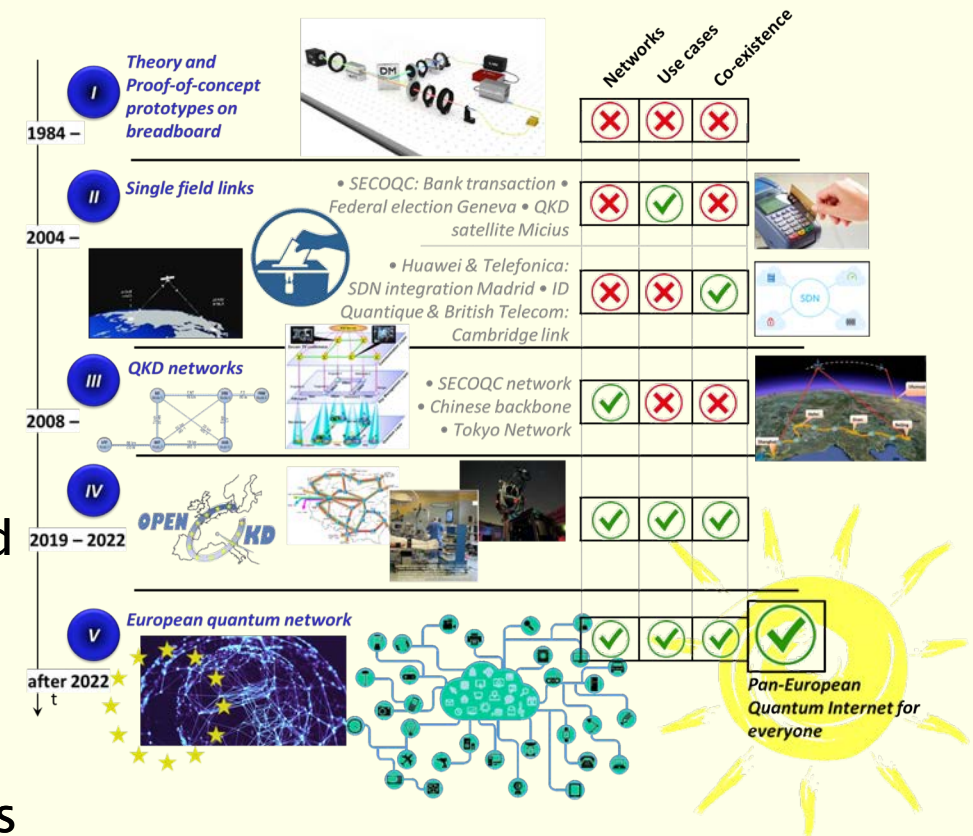
## Quantum Key Distribution

- a technology offering security in the quantum age
- so far only isolated demos on technological level
- slow take up and low visibility due to lack of understanding and risk-aversion

## Need an integrated approach to

- ✓ Raise awareness of QKD in security applications
- ✓ Demonstrate seamless integration into current networks and security architectures
- ✓ Show the benefit of QKD for a wide range of real world use-cases
- ✓ Involve whole supply chain from manufacturers to end-users
- ✓ Set standards for large scale deployment opportunities

Realised in OPENQKD



# OPENQKD eco system

38 Partners, 15 M€ (funding)  
18 M€ (cost)



- QKD suppliers



TOSHIBA

- QKD R&D partners



NOKIA Bell Labs



- QKD network developers



- Suppliers of network encryption



- Fiber infrastructure operators



- Telecom operators



- Aerospace and satellite industry



- Standardisation institutes



- Early adopters



# Objectives: Use cases



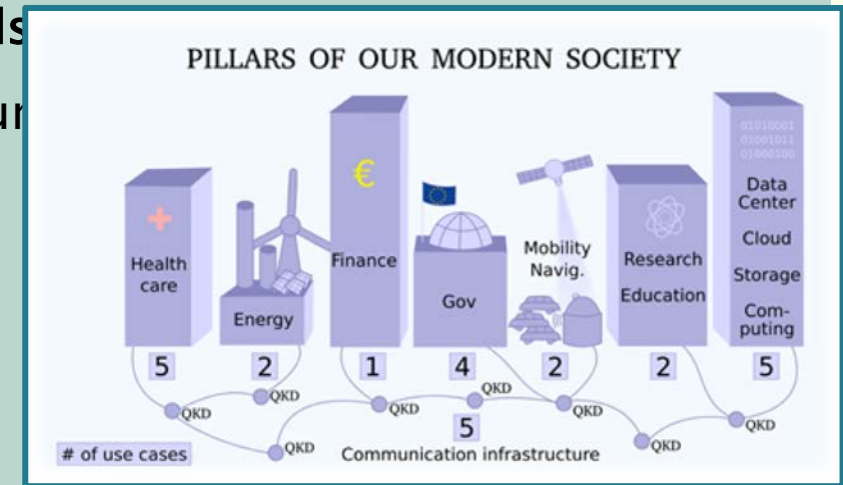
4

Operation of use-cases deriving from Secure Societies needs

- ❑ Demonstration of more than 30 use-cases for QKD features
  - realistic operating environments
  - end-user applications and support

Range of use-cases:

- ❑ Secure and digital societies
  - Inter/Intra datacenter comm., e-Government, High-Performance computing, financial services, authentication and space applications, integration with post-quantum cryptography
- ❑ Healthcare
  - Secure cloud storage services and securing patient data in transit
- ❑ Critical infrastructure
  - QKD for telecom networks, 5G infrastructure and securing smart grids



# Objectives: Competitive EU industry

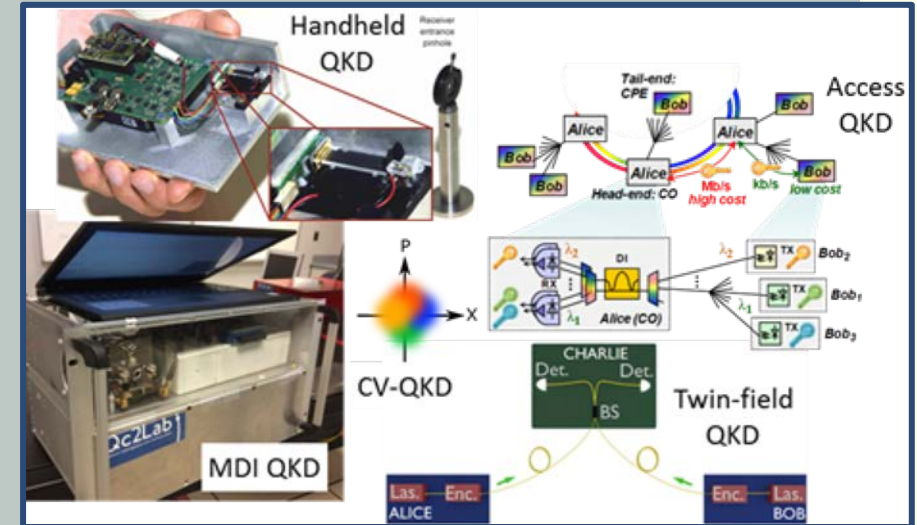


7

## Kick-start a competitive European QKD industry

- ❑ Industry standard QKD devices (high maturity); 23 devices operational in OPENQKD
- ❑ Next generation QKD systems based on new protocols and novel implementations:

- Long distance QKD
- MDI QKD
- Twin Field QKD
- Low cost CV-QKD
- Hand-held QKD
- Access QKD



- ❑ Adaptation of network encryption devices for QKD operation; 30 encryptors in OPENQKD
- ❑ End-user workshops to raise awareness of security industry
- ❑ Staff training to foster know-how on QKD deployment and operation at test sites

# Evolution: European Testbeds. The OpenQKD project

- ▶ **Open calls scheme to bring-in externally defined use cases. (1M€)**
  - Continuous call (evaluated 4 times during the lifetime of the Project)



# Objectives: Pan-European Quantum Network



6

## Lay the foundations for a Pan-European Quantum Network

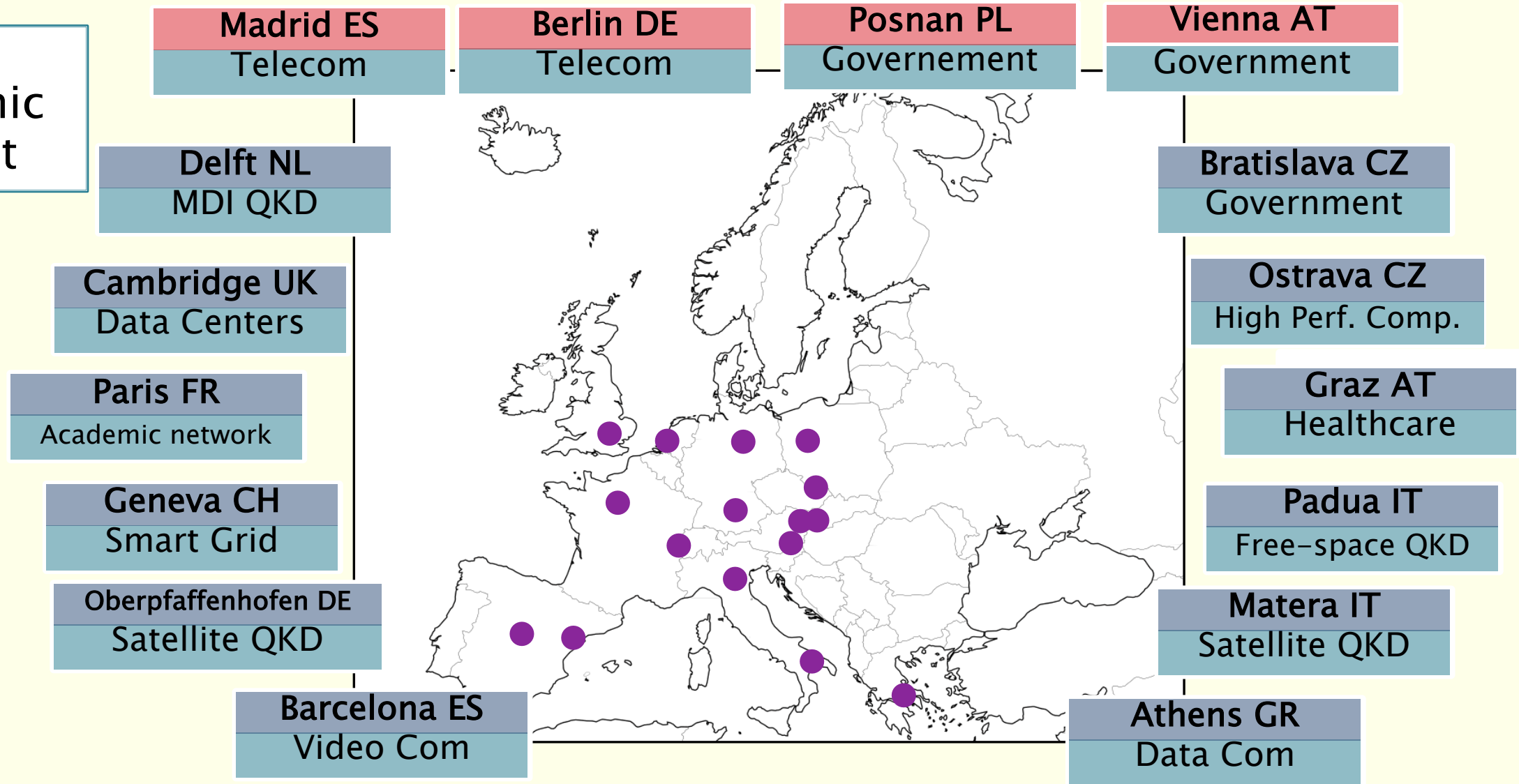
- ❑ 4 large testbed sites and 12 demonstrator sites in 12 European countries
- ❑ Long distance cross-border links
- ❑ Testbed for free space QKD
- ❑ Test GEANT fiber infrastructure for a future large scale quantum communication network
- ❑ Study of satellite QKD and development of interfaces to terrestrial QKD networks



# 16 OPENQKD test sites



Large geographic reach-out





# Madrid Testbed

- Evolution of the Madrid Quantum Network.
- Partners: RedIMadrid, UPM, Telefónica.
- 8 predefined use cases.
- Key use cases: SDN based (but also traditional)
- Start: 2–4 links installed in November.
- Up to 9 links for the largest demonstrations.
- Distances 3–50 Km



# Testbed Vienna I



## Inner City link

Vienna

**Test bed partners:** AIT, OEAW, FRX

**Node locations:** 8 (AIT, 2 IXPs, 5 Federal Ministries)

**QKD Links:** 7 AIT-IXP2-IXP1, IXP1-end users (star)

**Link encryptors:** 2 layer-1, 5 layer-2

**Distances:** 3-10km;

**SDQN:** optical switching of QKD terminals at IXP1

**Coexistence:** 2 dark fibers, 5 lit fibers

**Use case demos:** Secure distribution and cloud storage of government data

**Start:** Month 12

**Duration:** 12 months (incl. cross border)



# Testbed Vienna II



## Cross-Border link

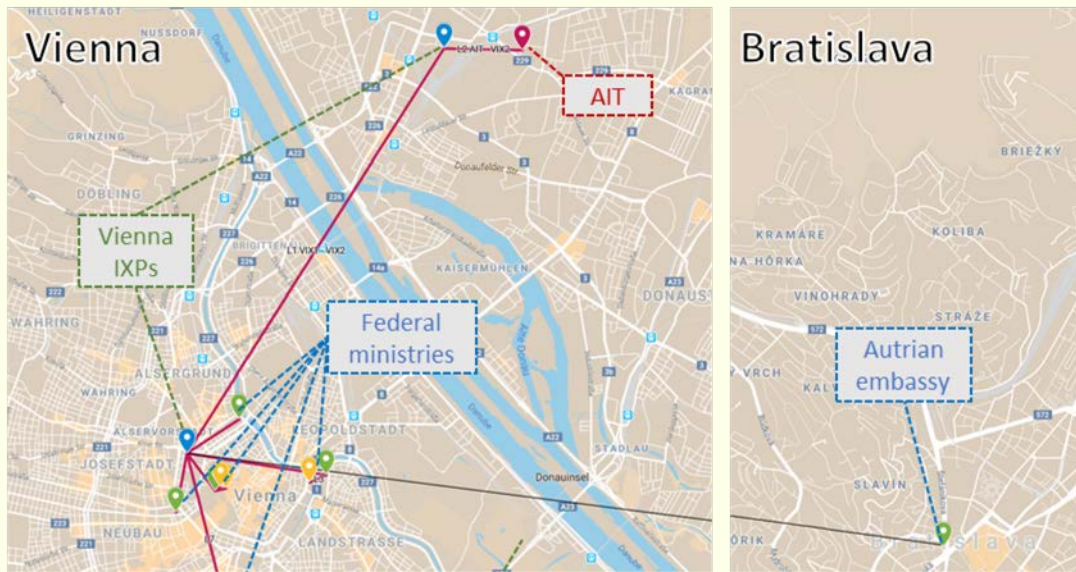
Vienna – Bratislava

Test bed partners: AIT, OEAW

**Links:** Distance 70 km; 1-2 links (dark fiber) from Vienna (IXP1) to Bratislava, 1 inner city link in Bratislava to Austrian diplomatic mission

**Start:** Month 18

**Duration:** 4 months



## TRI-STAR link (extension to OPENQKD)

Vienna – Bratislava – Graz

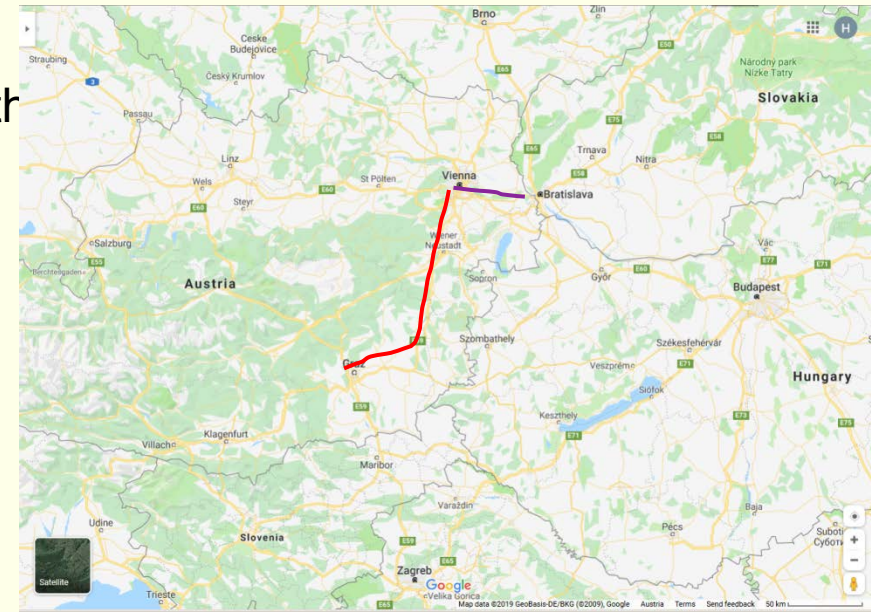
Test bed partners: AIT, OEAW, CYC, ASFINAG (ex)

**Case study for QCI network structures**

**Links:** 2-3 links for Vienna-Graz, 2 extra links to connect inner city locations to fibers along motorway

**Start:** Month 24

**Duration:** 4 months



# Future: European Quantum Communication Infrastructure

- ▶ Ten years plan to "make available a quantum communication infrastructure in Europe, to boost European capabilities in quantum technologies, cybersecurity and industrial competitiveness.
- ▶ Agreement recently signed by 9 member states (Sept. 2019)
- ▶ OpenQKD Project is considered the ramp-up phase of the QCI



Source: TU Delft/Scixel



EU H2020 Grant 820466

EU H2020 Grant 857156

**A. Aguado<sup>1</sup>, P. Salas<sup>1</sup>,  
A.L. Sanz<sup>1</sup>, J.P. Brito<sup>1</sup>,  
R. Brito<sup>1</sup>, R. Vicente<sup>1</sup>,  
D. R. Lopez<sup>2</sup>, V. Lopez<sup>2</sup>,  
A. Pastor<sup>2</sup>, V. Martin<sup>1</sup>**



Comunidad de Madrid  
S2018/TCS-4342

**CvQuCo - MINECO/FEDER TEC2015-70406-R**

**Thanks!...**  
**Questions/comments?**

Vicente Martin  
U. Politécnica de Madrid  
[Vicente@fi.upm.es](mailto:Vicente@fi.upm.es)  
gcc.fi.upm.es

*<sup>1</sup>Center for Computational Simulation and ETSI Informáticos,  
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid 28660 Madrid, Spain*

*<sup>2</sup>Telefónica Investigación y Desarrollo, Ronda de la  
Comunicación s/n 28050 Madrid. Spain*



INTERNATIONAL  
CAMPUS OF  
EXCELLENCE

