

# (Some) efforts towards application-driven benchmarks in Germany

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**PD Dr. habil. Jeanette Miriam Lorenz**  
**11.05.2023**

# Airbus Quantum Computing Challenge

Bringing flight physics into the Quantum Era

ZEIT ONLINE


Suche

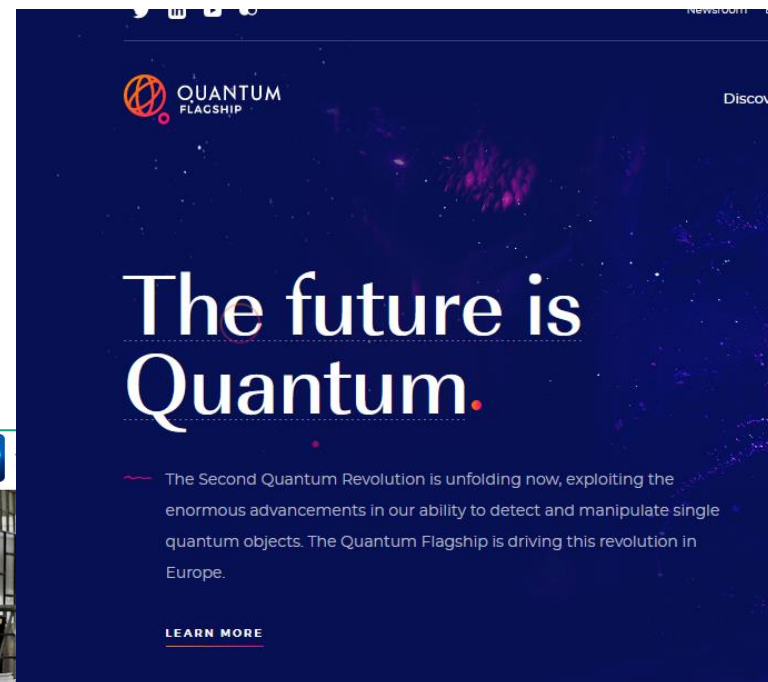
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Technologie

## Bund investiert zwei Milliarden Euro für Quantencomputer

Innerhalb von fünf Jahren soll in Deutschland ein Quantencomputer entstehen. Mithilfe von Qubits erzielt die Technologie weit höhere Leistungen als herkömmliche Rechner.

11. Mai 2021, 11:29 Uhr / Quelle: ZEIT ONLINE, dpa, kzi / 



QUANTUM FLAGSHIP

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# The future is Quantum.

The Second Quantum Revolution is unfolding now, exploiting the enormous advancements in our ability to detect and manipulate single quantum objects. The Quantum Flagship is driving this revolution in Europe.

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Computertechnologie

### Ein Quantensprung für Deutschland?

Stand: 15.06.2021 18:25 Uhr

In Ehningen bei Stuttgart wurde Europas erster Quantencomputer eingeweiht. Der ultraschnelle Rechner der Firma IBM soll der Wirtschaft helfen, im Wettstreit mit China und den USA zu bestehen.

Von Michael Herr, SWR

Das "Wunderwerk der Technologie", wie Angela Merkel es nannte, ist wichtig: Immerhin eine Grundfläche von drei mal drei Metern bei einer Höhe von drei Metern soll der Quantencomputer haben, den IBM zusammen mit der Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft am Dienstag in der Deutschland-Zentrale des IT-Konzerns in Ehningen bei Stuttgart der Öffentlichkeit präsentiert hat. Der laut IBM "leistungsstärkste Quantencomputer im industriellen Umfeld

# Emerging technology:

## Quantum computing

Quantum computing (QC) has the potential to lead to disruptive changes in many industrial areas:

- **Simulation** of quantum mechanical systems
  - (Development of new drugs, chemical sector with battery development,...)
- **Optimization** problems (Logistics, production, pharma,...)
- **Quantum machine learning** (Computer vision, mobility,...)

But for which applications will QC really offer an advantage in practise?

→ Application-driven benchmarking procedure required!



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# One example: Hybrid QCCNN for radiological classification tasks



Gefördert durch



Bayerisches Staatsministerium für  
Wirtschaft, Landesentwicklung und Energie

# Reliable QC-assisted AI for medical classification tasks

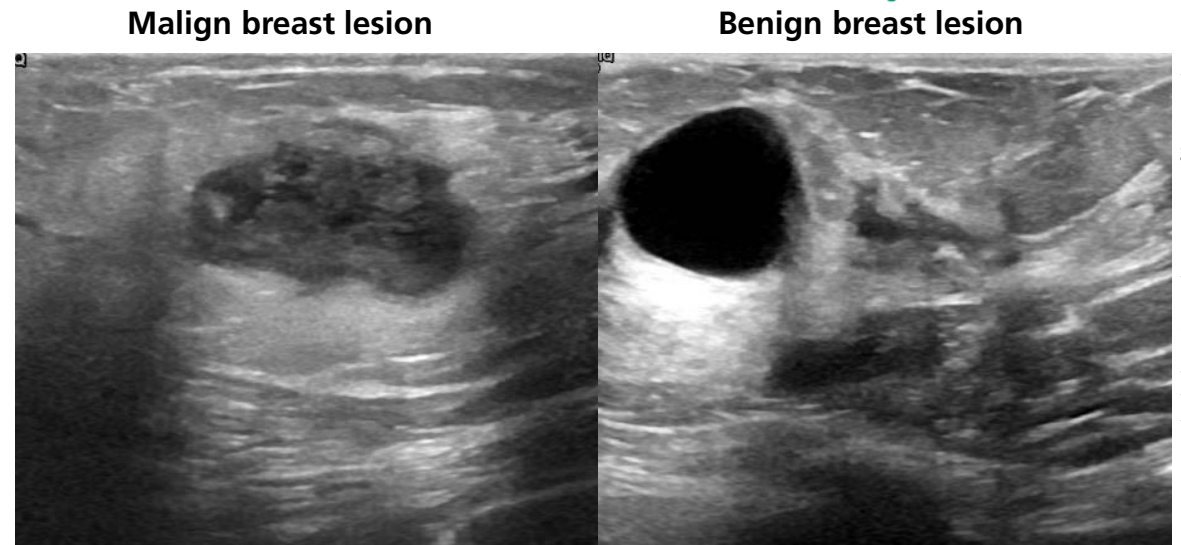
**Context:** Artificial intelligence increases in importance in the medical diagnosis process (e.g. in imaging).

**Challenges:** Image data is expensive, complex and only available in small numbers ( $10^2$  -  $10^3$ ),

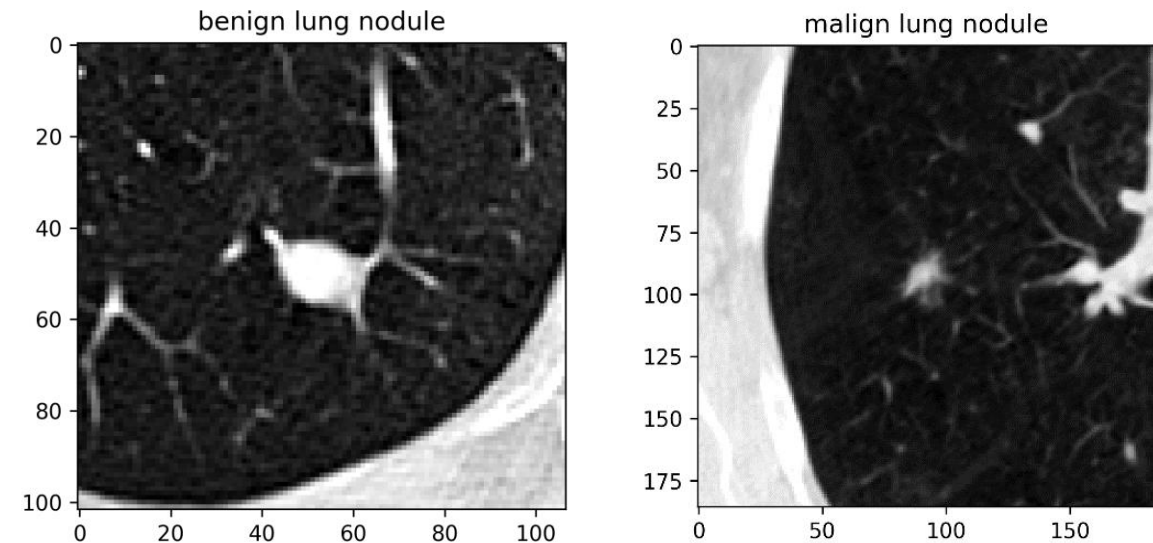
The decision process needs to be comprehensible and reliable.  
→ Classical methods need large training datasets.

**Target:** Improvement of the medical classification tasks via hybrid, quantum computing-assisted machine learning methods.

**Expected improvement:** QC-assisted methods might result into a faster training of the algorithms - in particular in situations with little training data



Source: W. Al-Dhabyani, et al, "Dataset of breast ultrasound images". Data Brief, vol 28, pp 104863, 2020



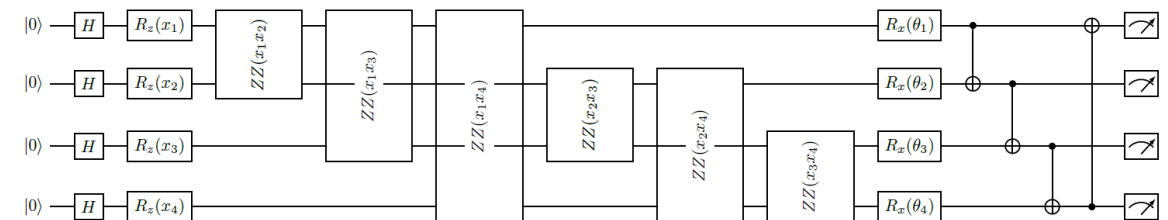
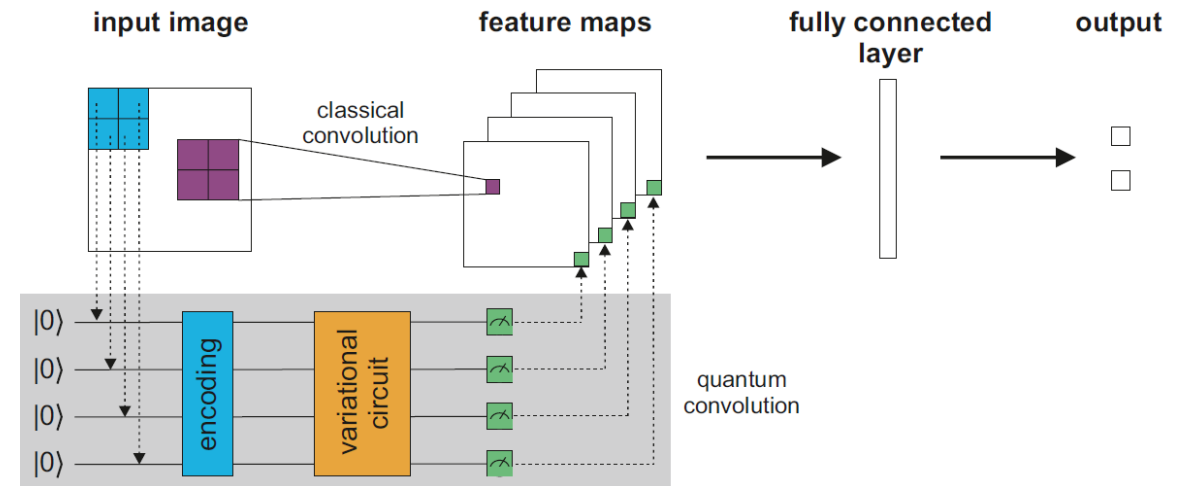
# Hybrid quantum-classical convolutional neural networks

Convolutional neural networks very successful in image classification tasks.

**Improvement:** Hybrid quantum(-classical) convolutional neural networks promise to be better suited for situations with little training data, potentially leading to a more precise and faster training convergence.

**Idea:** Replace some of the classical convolutional layers by quantum convolutional layers – also replacement of pooling layers would be possible.

**Hybrid ansatz**, since only a few classical layers replaced → also possible to execute on the current or soon-available NISQ quantum computers.

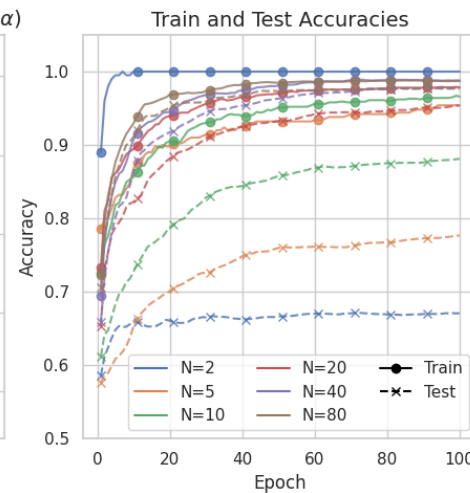
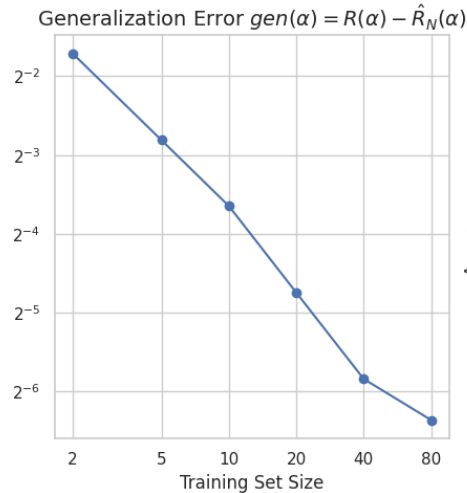
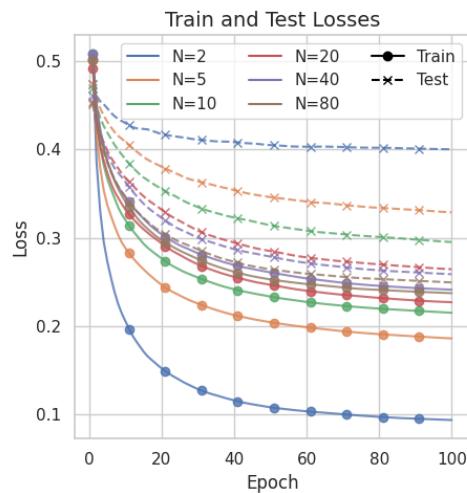
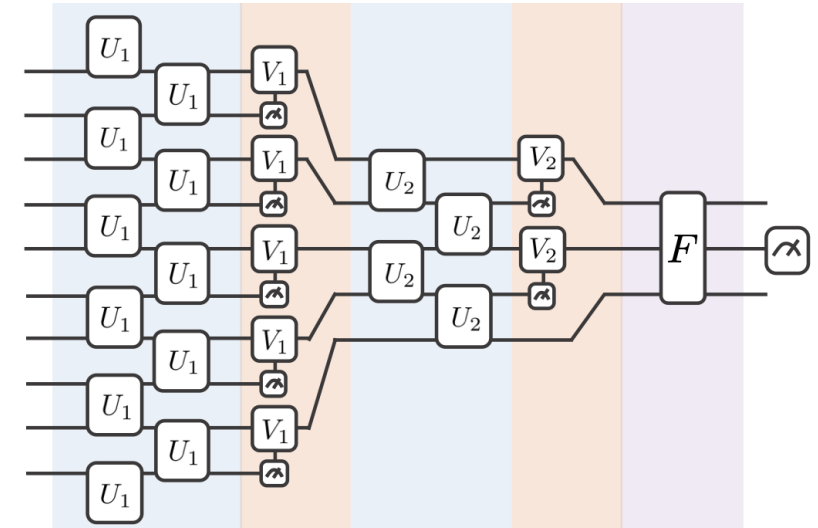


# Generalization with less data

The **generalization error** is given by the difference between the expected true loss of a (Q)ML model and the average loss over the training dataset:  $gen(\alpha) = R(\alpha) - \hat{R}_S(\alpha)$

Specifically for QCNN particularly favorable:  $gen(\alpha) \sim O\left(\sqrt{\frac{T \log MT}{N}}\right)$

for T parametrized local quantum channels, M gates and N the training set size



Sources:

- Iris Cong, Soonwon Choi, Mikhail D. Lukin. "Quantum Convolutional Neural Networks" arxiv:1810.03787, 2018.
- Matthias C. Caro, Hsin-Yuan Huang, M. Cerezo, Kunal Sharma, Andrew Sornborger, Lukasz Cincio, Patrick J. Coles. "Generalization in quantum machine learning from few training data" arxiv:2111.05292, 2021.
- Korbinian Kottmann, Luis Mantilla Calderon, Maurice Weber, Generalization in QML from few training data, Pennylane demonstration, [https://pennylane.ai/qml/demos/tutorial\\_learning\\_few\\_data.html](https://pennylane.ai/qml/demos/tutorial_learning_few_data.html)

# QCCNN: Results and benefits

## „Faster“ training convergence:

In comparison to classical CNNs, QCCNNs may reach a better or similar performance while using less training parameters and/or training iterations

## Less training data required

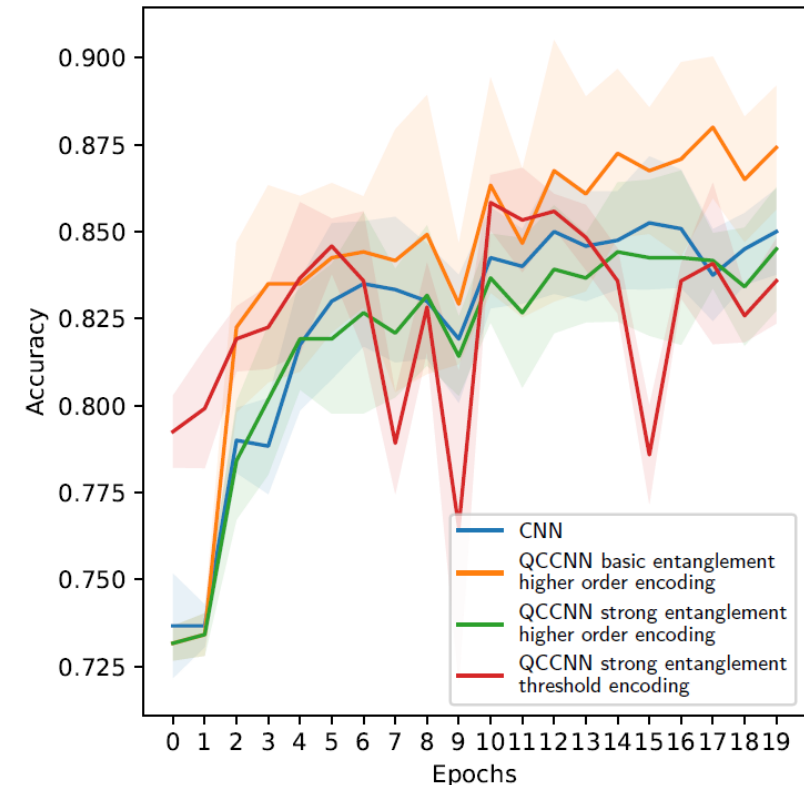
Theoretical findings indicate that general QCCNNs are able to reach a good performance also when only small training data is available – situations in which classical methods might fail

## A QCCNN is a hybrid algorithm

The algorithm consists on parts running on classical computers and of parts running on quantum computers in an interaction between both systems → current small quantum computers are already (almost) able to run these algorithms

## Only small parts of the input data is processed at the same time

Data encoding into quantum computers is already possible with present quantum hardware



**Paper:** A. Matic, M. Monnet, J. M. Lorenz, B. Schachtner, T. Messerer, Quantum-classical convolutional neural networks in radiological image classification, arXiv:2204.12390 [quant-ph], <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9951255>

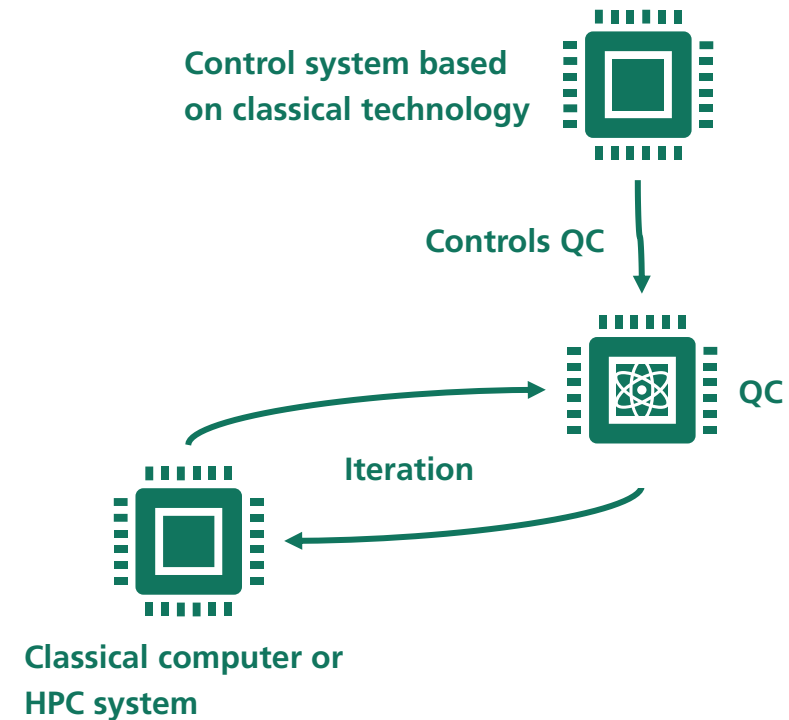


# Considerations for QC hardware and software

## Current QC hardware limited in size, connectivity and affected by noise:

- Only small QML architectures possible (small number of qubits, small depth) – not full QCNN
- Smaller architectures can (theoretically) be processed by current hardware
- In practise for the specified 2D architecture required:
  - ~ 1000 images (28x28) -> 1000 \* 14 \* 14 circuits = 196000 circuits
  - \* Shots
  - \* Number of training iterations
  - = ~ 3.9 billions circuit evaluations
  - + backpropagation procedure
- Without runtime environments: execution time is a couple of months
- With runtime, further downscaling of images, and a couple of tricks  
~ hours – days

## Improvements in runtime environments and execution times needed!



# Fraunhofer Competence Network Quantum Computing

# Fraunhofer Competence Network Quantum Computing

## One Stop Solution for Research and Industry

- **8 regional Competence Centers**, consisting of Fraunhofer Institutes, each with its own research focus
- Wide range of **fields of application**: logistics, chemical and pharmaceutical industry, finance and energy sector, materials science, IT security technologies and much more
- Exclusive access to **research platform** around an **IBM Quantum System One** installed in Ehningen, Germany
- Multi-level **training and education program**
- Strategic development by **Board of Directors** and **Industry Advisory Board**

**Speaker:** Prof. Manfred Hauswirth (FOKUS)

**Deputy:** Prof. Anita Schöbel (ITWM)

- Member
- Guest

### Fraunhofer CML

optimization for logistics and shipping

### Fraunhofer FOKUS

platforms, certification, security

### Fraunhofer IIS-EAS, IAIS-EST, IOSB-AST, IWU

optimization, simulation

### Fraunhofer IMS

semiconductor electronics and sensors

### Fraunhofer IOF

photonic platforms, optical systems and components

### Fraunhofer ILT

hardware engineering and optimization  
photonics engineering

### Fraunhofer SCAI, IAIS

quantum machine learning, quantum AI

### Fraunhofer ITWM

quantum HPC, algorithms

### Fraunhofer IGD, SIT

algorithms, safety, security, cryptography

### Fraunhofer IAO, IPA

software engineering, hybrid applications, machine learning

### Fraunhofer IIS

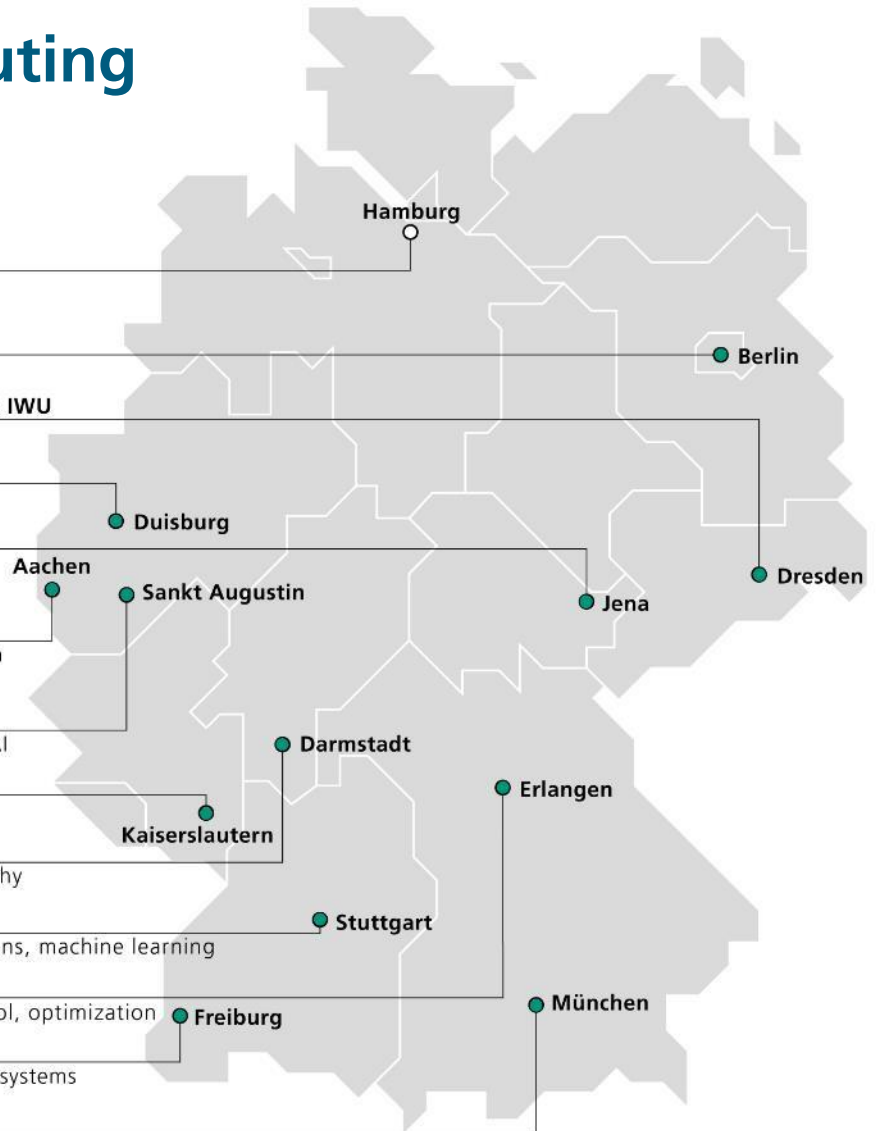
electronics for measurement and control, optimization

### Fraunhofer IAF

quantum hardware, hybride computing systems

### Fraunhofer AISEC, IKS

security, robustness, optimization



# Fraunhofer IKS

## Competency in Safe Intelligence

- Application-oriented research for reliable software technologies
- Expertise on cognitive systems, AI and modern software architectures in safety-critical applications
- Combining safety and intelligence:  
Safe Intelligence

### Quick Facts

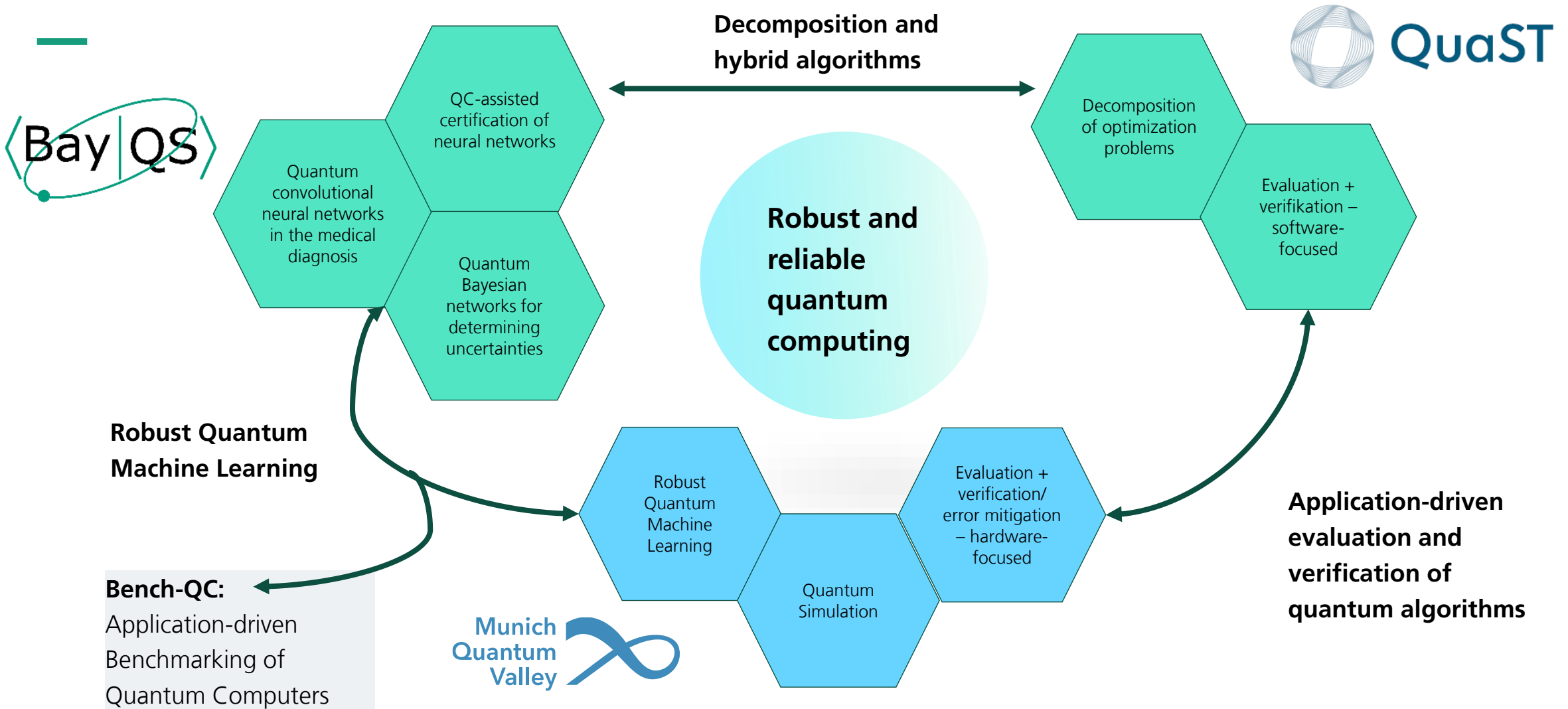
Founded in 2019 in Munich

100 employees

3 research areas



# Fraunhofer IKS – Quantum Computing



# Munich Quantum Valley

# Munich Quantum Valley

## Konsortium 7: „Quantum Algorithms for Application, Cloud & Industry“

MQV is an ambitious Bavarian initiative that aims to realize full-stack quantum computing infrastructure for three different hardware architectures. It is a combined effort of multiple partners and 300 Million Euro in funding.

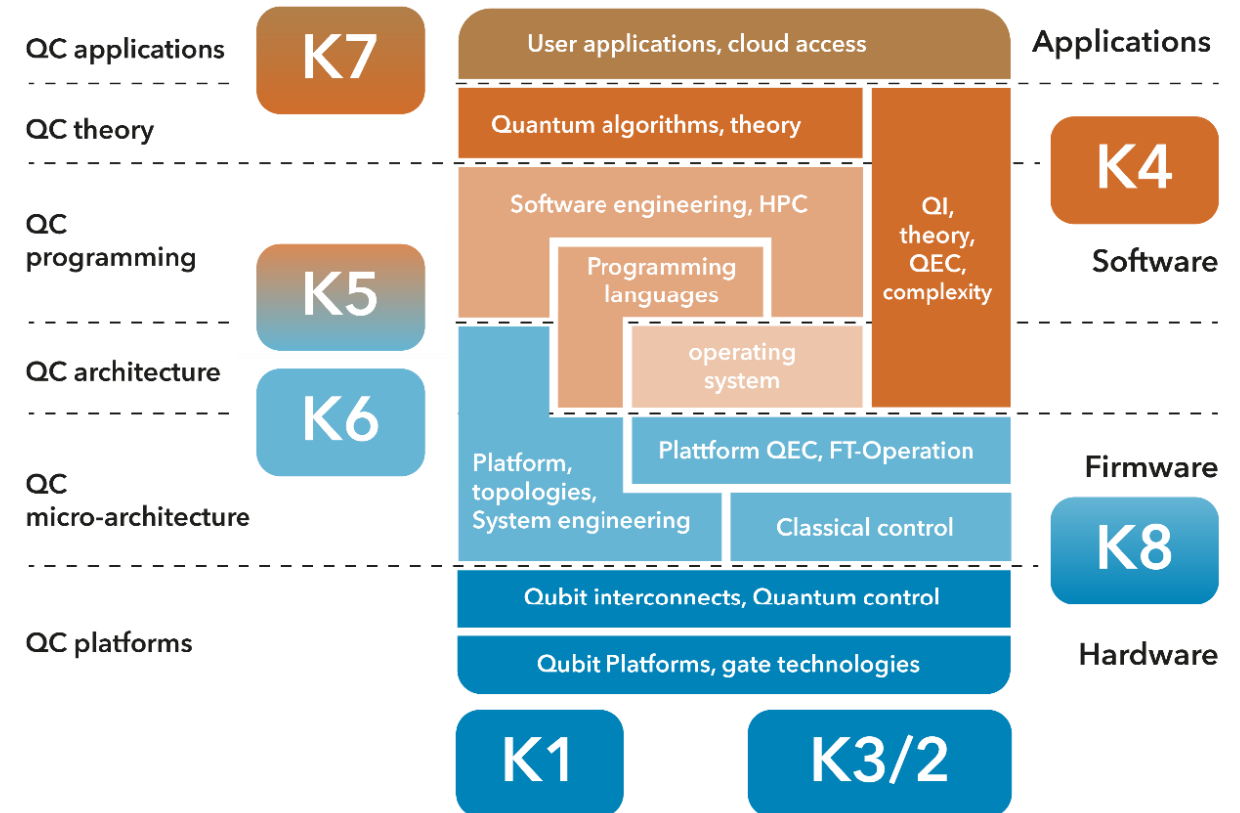
### Consortium 7: „Quantum Algorithms for Application, Cloud & Industry“

#### 1. QC Application Algorithms for Industry Use-Cases

- Find quantum algorithms for **complex industry use-cases**, focus on **NISQ compatible** algorithms
- **Benchmark** against hardware platforms, **optimize** for most suitable hardware platform
- **Benchmark** against classical algorithms / heuristics, estimate for **type, scope** and **scale of potential quantum advantage**

#### 2. Supporting Software Tools and Processes

#### 3. Infrastructure Access & User Support



# Example application

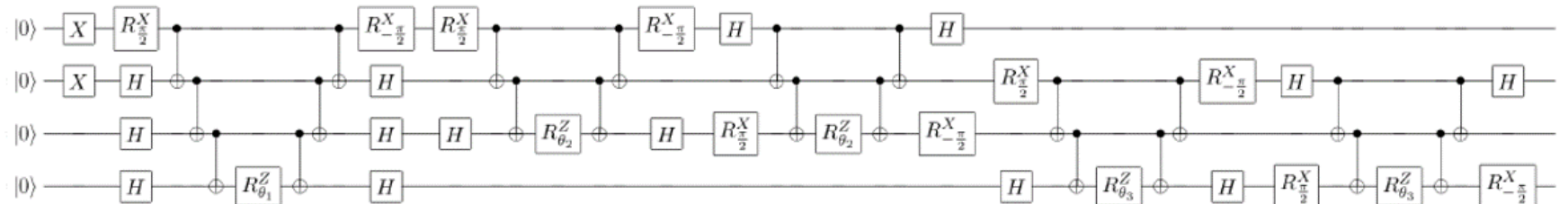
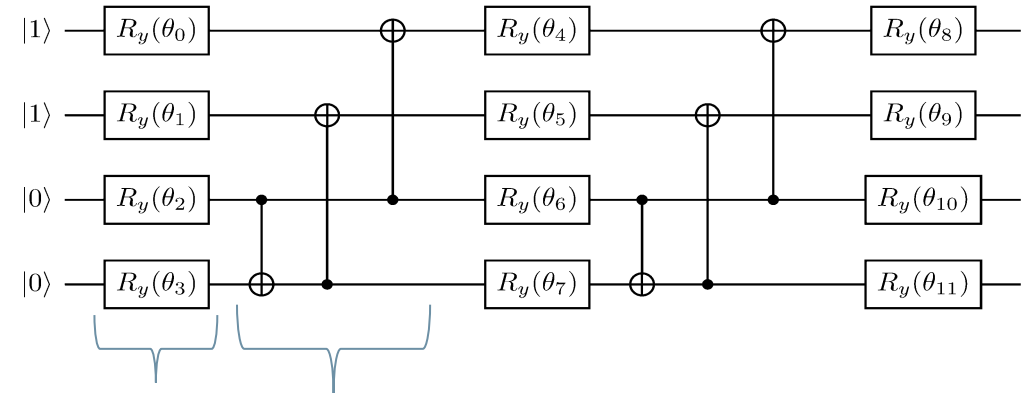
## Simulation of the ground state of the hydrogen molecule

### Advantages:

- Energy of ground state precisely known
- Can be used as calibration for hardware and interplay between classical and quantum parts of algorithms

### Ansatzes:

- Hardware-efficient (low-depth, but generic)
- Chemically-inspired (coming from the physics/chemistry problem, but deep circuit)





# Comparison between different ansatzes

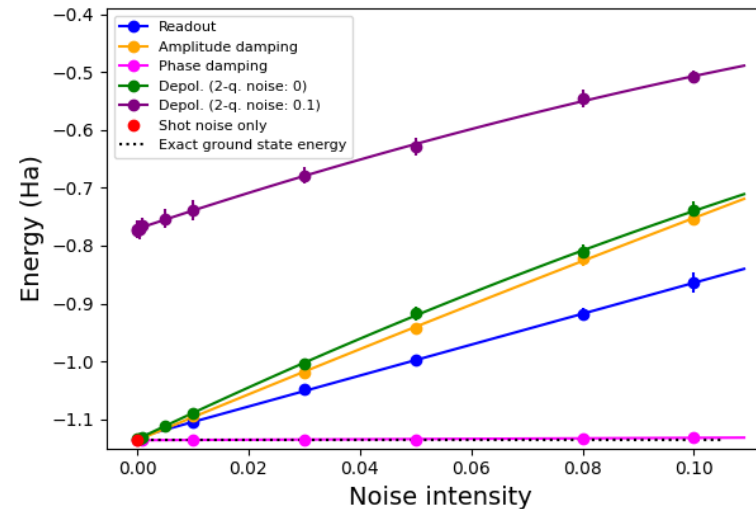
## Impact of different noise sources

- The energy is shifted depending on the noise type, intensity and depth of ansatz.
- The type of rotation gates is not relevant.
- The readout noise just depends on the number of qubits.

[M. Oliv, A. Matic, T. Messerer, J.M. Lorenz, Evaluating the impact of noise on the performance of the Variational Quantum Eigensolver, arXiv:2209.12803 [quant-ph]]

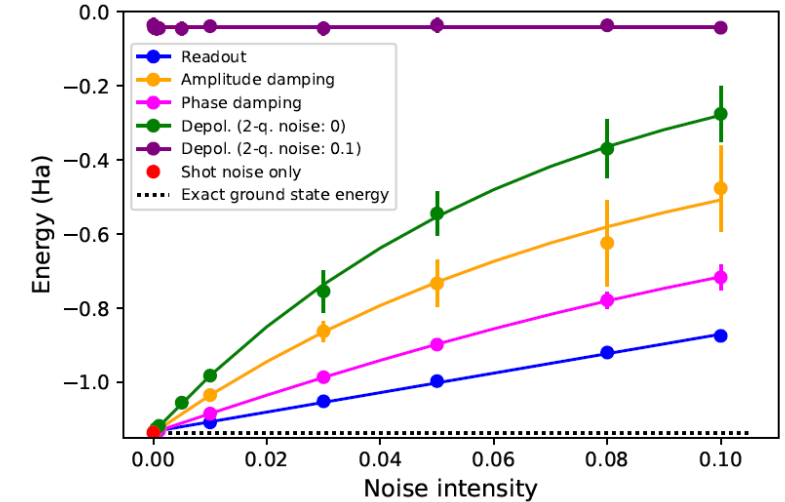


### 5-layer $R_y$ ansatz



### Quadratic

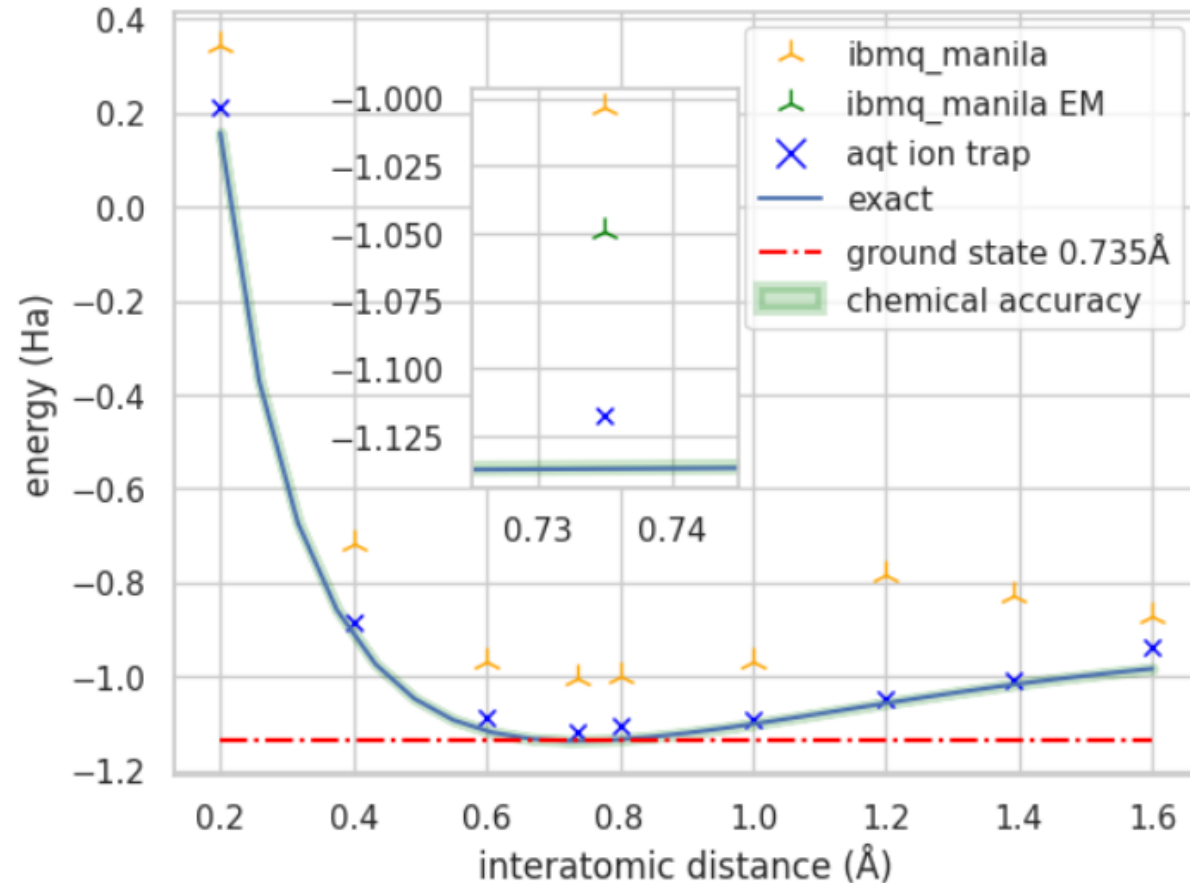
### UCCSD ansatz



### Dual-exponential

# Is some quantum computing hardware better suited?

For this very specific problem



Joint work between Fraunhofer IKS (Munich) and Alpine Quantum Technologies (AQT, Innsbruck), group of Thomas Monz

Publication to appear soon

Gefördert durch



Bayerisches Staatsministerium für  
Wirtschaft, Landesentwicklung und Energie

# Bench-QC – Application-driven benchmarking of quantum computers

## Bavarian light house project



QUANTINUUM

# Application-driven benchmarking of quantum computers

Quantum advantage currently only shown in theoretical work or in academic examples but not yet in industry use cases.

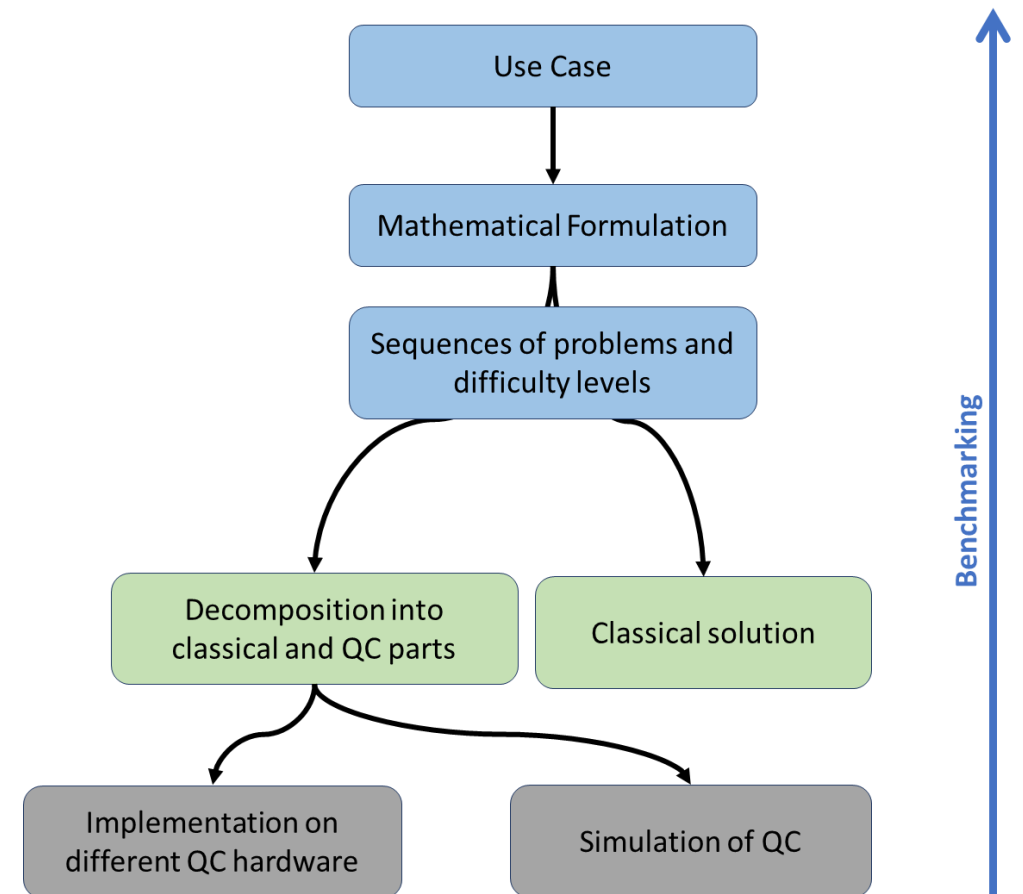
A practical quantum advantage is however expected to emerge in the next years with more powerful QC hardware getting available.

**Which QC-technology will be suited for which application use case and when?**

→ **Potential analysis from the application perspective**

## Application-driven benchmarking of QC:

- Identification of use cases suited for a practical quantum advantage.
- Which QC-hardware technology (in which size, in which quality)?
- Considering the full path to the solution of a problem (e.g. including the data transfer to quantum computers, and post-processing of a quantum solution and integration into an industrial workflow)



# DIN SPEC efforts

# DIN SPEC: Benchmarking quantum computers with standardized KPIs

Consortium including the Quantum Business Network and the Fraunhofer FOKUS and different companies to develop benchmarks and metrics leading to benchmarks

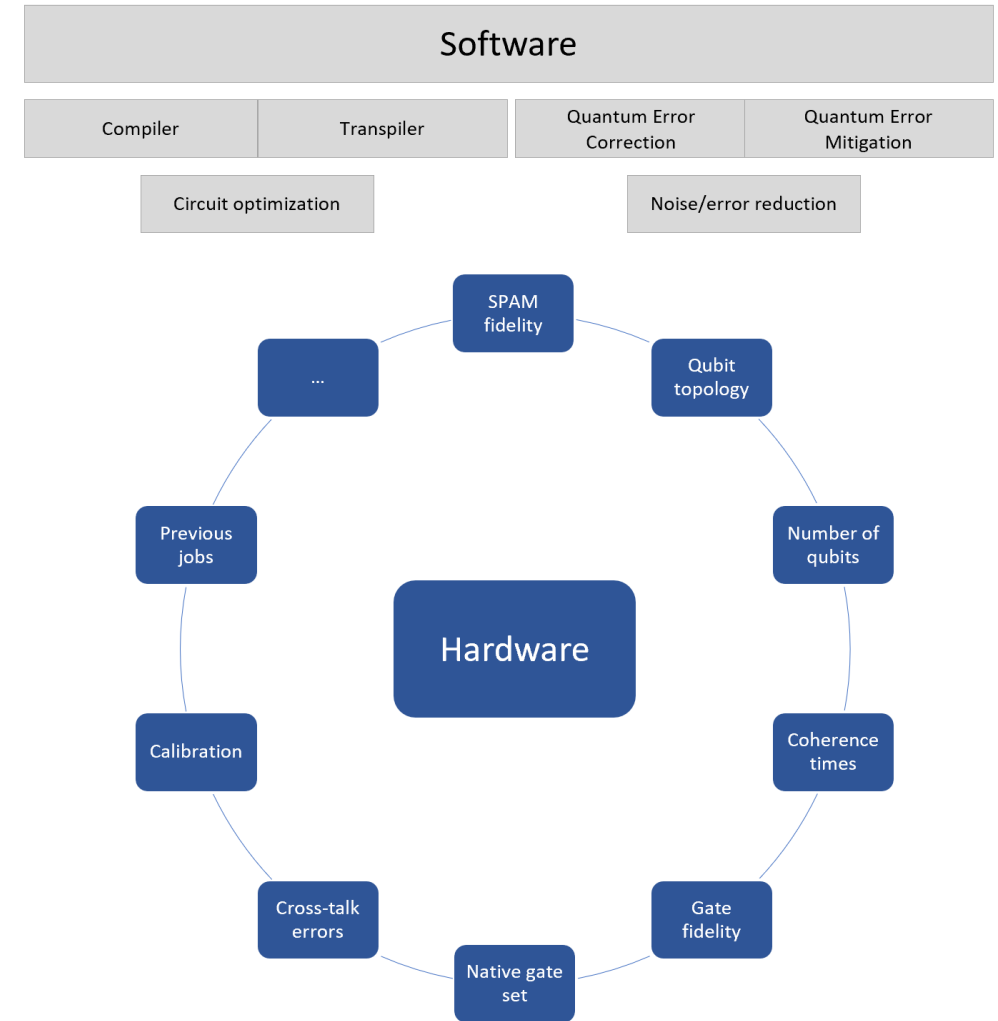
## Assessing Quantum Benchmarks:

- What properties do we actually measure and how well ?
- Which parts of the whole quantum computing stack influences the benchmark?
- What does the measured properties indicate for similar or even completely different usecases?
- Relevance, Usability, Fairness, Reproducibility, Verifiability/Scalability

## Benchmark results are influenced by hardware and software parameters

- Have to be really careful about distinguishing the effects of all parameters for the specification of benchmark protocols

=> **Develop precise benchmarking run rules for each specification**



# Summary

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- To profit application-wise from quantum computing, a **clear practical quantum advantage** is required
  - This advantage will not only depend on quantum hardware properties, but rather **need to consider the full hardware and software stack, coming from the application**
- ⇒ Application-driven benchmarking required
- Different efforts now underway to realize an application-driven benchmarking in Germany, also profiting from the increasing availability of different quantum hardware systems
  - **Assessing: which algorithms, when, and using which hardware**
  - Establishing the route towards defining **standards**

# Contact

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Fraunhofer Institute for Cognitive  
Systems IKS



# Easy and reliable access to QC-assisted solutions of optimization problems

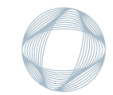
Project associated with the Munich Quantum Valley

Gefördert durch:



Bundesministerium  
für Wirtschaft  
und Klimaschutz

aufgrund eines Beschlusses  
des Deutschen Bundestages



QuaST

Fraunhofer  
AISEC

Fraunhofer  
IIS

Fraunhofer  
IKS

Fraunhofer  
IISB



# Easy and reliable access to QC



1

Currently the design of quantum algorithms is very uncommon for classical programmers, even if embedded in high-level languages like Python.

2

Only few high-level languages available, and not optimal in every aspect.

3

Software development needs to be quite hardware-aware:

- Which hardware (e.g. chip design) is best suited for an application?
- How to map a quantum algorithm best onto the hardware?
- How to ensure that the QC delivers robust and reliable results?

## Development of an additional abstraction layer:

The end user should only need **minimal knowledge** about the QC-hardware and QC-software, but still obtain **easy** access to **reliable** QC-assisted solutions of his application problem, and by using QC-hardware as **efficiently** as possible

→ early benefit of potential quantum advantages

# QuaST – Quantum-enabling Services and Tools for Industrial Applications

## Unique ansatz including elements from the whole software stack:

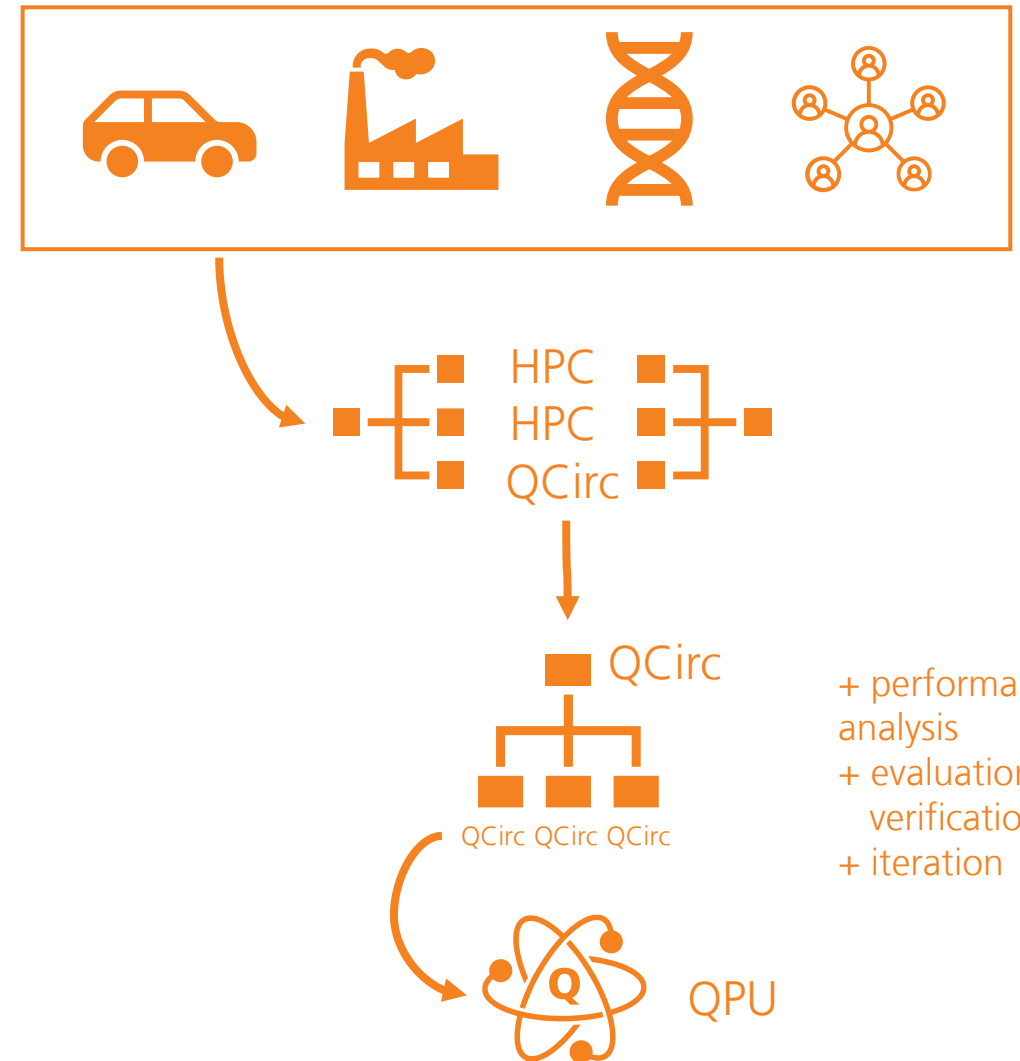
Starting from a wide set of optimization problems, **automatic decomposition** into smaller parts suited for classical or quantum computers + performance analysis.

Optimized **mapping** of the QC-parts onto the hardware via mapping libraries and **co-design** ideas.

Optimized **interaction/runtime environment** between classical and QC-systems.

**Evaluation** and **Verification** of the solution of the application.

**Carrying out these developments targeted towards the application problems.**



# Prototypical application examples

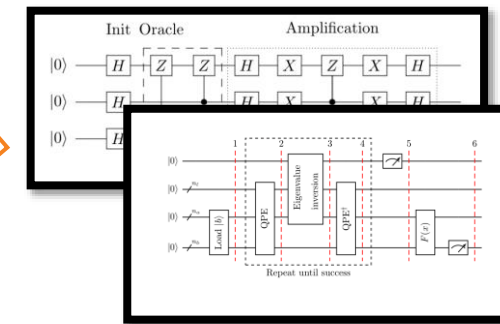
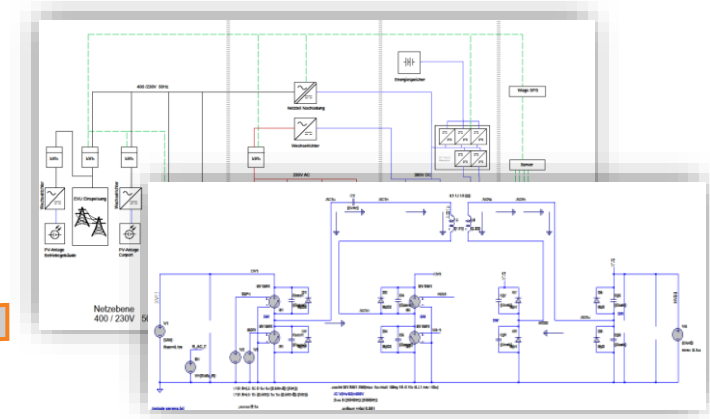
## Various potential industrial use cases considered:

- Industrial networks, e.g. energy networks
- Waste management
- Scheduling tasks in the semi-conductor industry
- Economical analyses
- Classical software verification
- ...

## Research of applications for the use of QCs and implementation of prototypes

Software developments can be carried out targeted

## Comparison to classical computers and implementations to evaluate the potential of QC for example applications



<https://qiskit.org/>

example  
„networks“

# An End User's Perspective

## Problem:

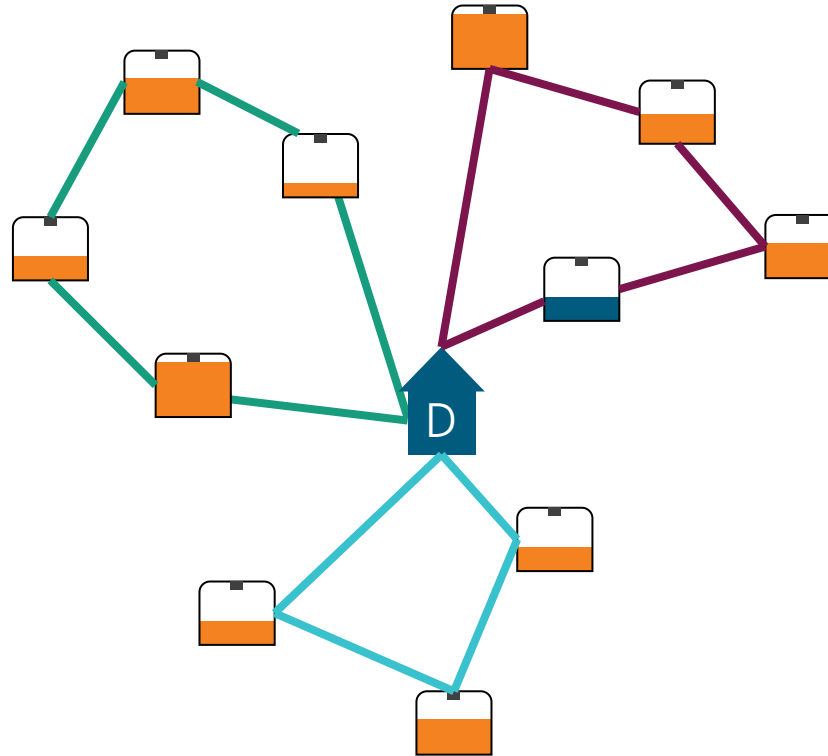
Garbage collection is inefficient: Some containers are near-empty, others at capacity or overflowing.

## Solution Idea:

Measure their filling level and plan the collection routes dynamically.

## Obstacle:

Route planning is a complex, NP-hard optimization problem that cannot be solved efficiently.



Perhaps Quantum Computing can help?

Decoherence  
Noise  
Parameterized  
Hardware-Efficient  
QAOA Time Pulse  
Logical Fidelity  
Connectivity Algorithm  
Physical Readout  
QUBO Trapped VQE Depth  
Superconducting  
Qubit Toffoli  
Ions Annealing  
Entanglement  
Capability Ansatz  
Decomposition  
Circuit  
Encoding

# The Decision Tree



[B. Poggel, N. Quetschlich, L. Burgholzer, R. Wille, J.M. Lorenz, Recommending Solution Paths for Solving Optimization Problems with Quantum Computing, arXiv:2212.11127 [quant-ph]]

decisions depend on each other from top to bottom...

but lower-level decisions influence what's optimal on the higher levels

