

Technology and Science: A two-way street



Gabriella Carini

...with contributions from many colleagues (BNL and other institutions)

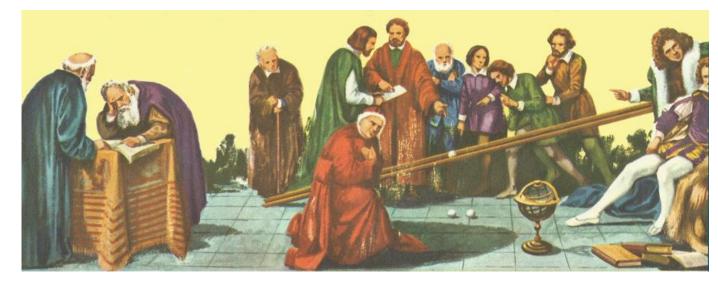
2025/07/15

carini@bnl.gov



Scientific discovery is enabled by key technologies

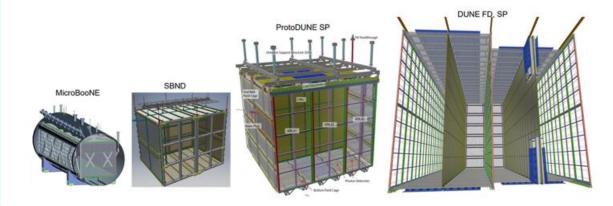
"New directions in science are launched by new tools much more often than by new concepts. The effect of a concept-driven revolution is to explain old things in new ways. The effect of a tooldriven revolution is to discover new things that have to be explained" (Freeman Dyson)



"Measure what is measurable, and make measurable what is not so" (Galileo Galilei)

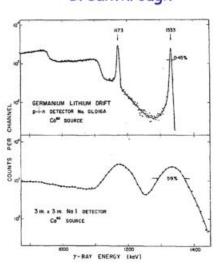


Each of these is a long journey...

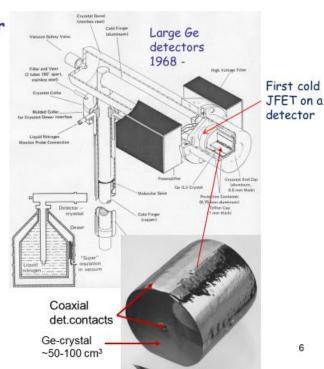




1963 Germanium Detector Breakthrough



From: A.J. Tavendale (1963)



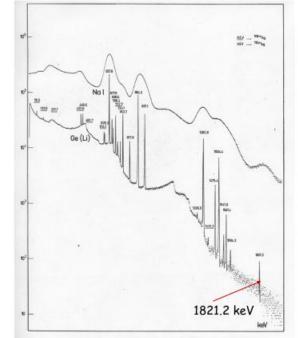
Select events in LAr detector technology development

- Germanium p-i-n detector, Tavendale (1963-4), gamma-ray and x-ray spectroscopy; first cold front end (JFET).
- Liquid Argon Ionization Calorimetry, Willis, Radeka (1972) → CERN ISR → ATLAS
- TPC . Nygren (1974), lasting impact from gas to noble liquid TPCs
- Herbert Chen, C. Rubbia, independently propose TPC with LAr (1977) → leads to
- · Herbert Chen, (1985) proposal for a large LAr TPC
- Uranium-LAr hadron calorimeter (...), first use of cold electronics (JFETs),(1986)
- Major realizations at FNAL(D0), HERA(H1), SLAC(SLD), (1985-1993)
- LAr, LKr EM calorimeter R&D for GEM/SSC and ATLAS/LHC (1989-1994)
- ATLAS LAr EM calorimeter (2004 -); high speed-high precision; highest confidence limit on Higgs (2012)
- Argoneut (2004); MicroBooNE (MB) proposal (2007) with cold electronics (JFETs);
- MicroBooNE; in 2009 decision to use cold CMOS (LARASIC); in operation 2015-2021;
- Technology selection for DUNE in 2011: LAr TPCs
- MB in operation for 4 years; protoDUNE rapid realization and successful test in 2018;
- Technology path open for DUNE ...

Courtesy of V. Radeka

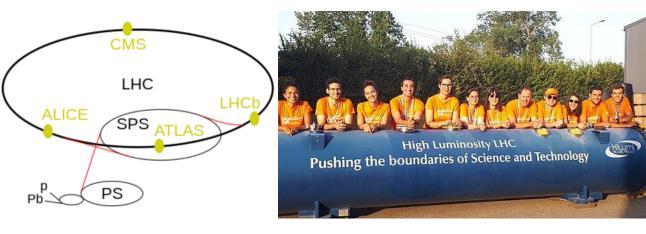
Comparison of Germanium with Sodium lodide for gamma-ray spectrometry

Low noise electronics and signal processing (for gamma ray energy resolution of ~0.1%) developed for germanium detectors in ~ 1965-1972 provided the basis for later use of these techniques in particle physics, solar neutrino detection, x-ray and neutron detectors ... in LAr calorimeters and later in TPCs ...

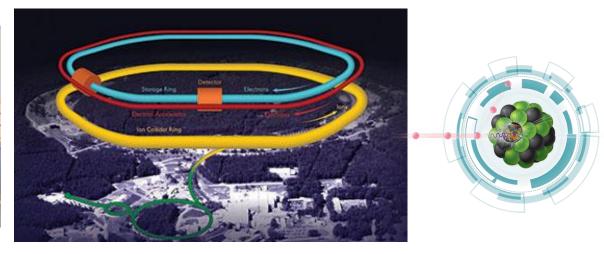


New facilities drive new developments

Large Hadron Collider (LHC) & High Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC), CERN

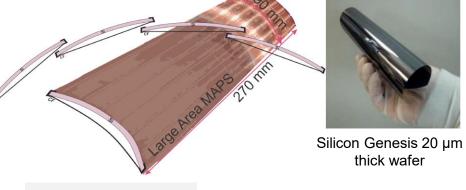


Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) & Electron Ion Collider (EIC), BNL



- Simulation tools (GEANT4, etc.),
- Extreme environments: radiation tolerance and cryogenics
- System integration: lightweight sensor/electronics and new materials
- · High-granularity, timing and triggering
- Data deluge: flow, handling, and analytics (ROOT, Python, etc.).





Curved monolithic sensor stave made of stitched MAPS.

New technologies enable new capabilities

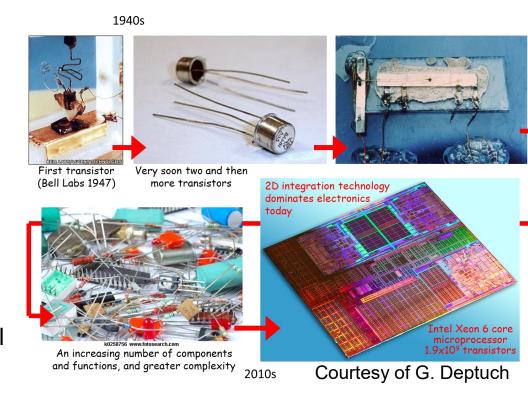
UBIQUITOUS!

 Low-noise, Low-power, Fast timing, High granularity, Functionalities, ...

Extreme environments

- Radiation-Hardness immunity to TID, NIEL and SEE effects:
 - process (inherent to process)
 - design (achieved through proper design techniques)
- Cryogenic operation
 - readouts for Noble liquid TPCs (long lifetime reliability)
 - spice-type models and characterization of standard cell libraries
 - RF electronics for quantum

Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC)





Silicon photomultipliers

Progression as seen from the Nuclear Science Symposium

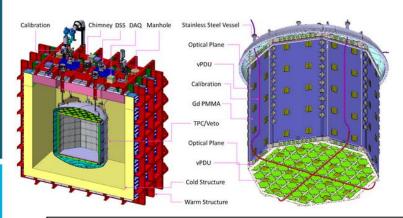
2005 Session on Photodetectors and Radiation Imaging I

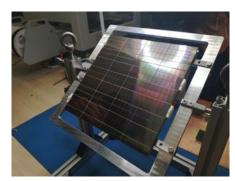
2015 Plenary - Are SiPMs going to replace your PMTs?, Paul Lecog, CERN

2022 Plenary - Adding a New Dimension to Photon Detection: 3D Integrated Single Photon Avalanche Diode Arrays, Jean-François Pratte

2023 Workshops The Digital SiPM Revolution: Opportunities, **New Detector Concepts and Networking (SPAD)**

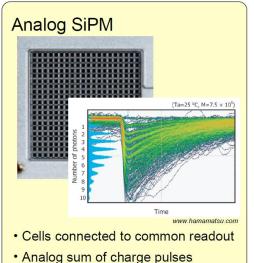
Challenges: large areas, extreme environments, VUV region

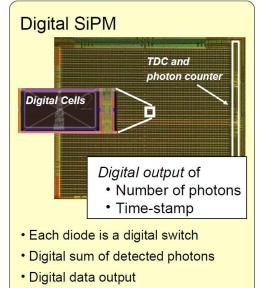




Sensor evolution: bigger, faster, ultra-sensitive

Silicon photomultipliers - SiPM





- Analog output signal

Csl scintillators with SiPMs readout for space applications



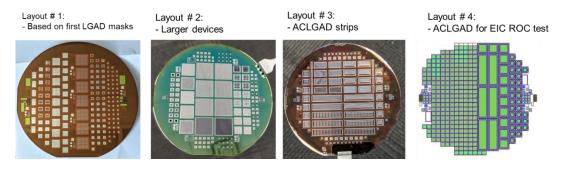
Fully populated beam test hodoscope consisting of 24element CsI:TI CDEs.

Daniel Shy et al. "Development of a Csl Calorimeter for the Compton-Pair (ComPair) Balloon-Borne Gamma-Ray Telescope", arXiv:2307.11177 [astro-ph.IM].

SensL Array 6 mm x 6mm guad SiPMs



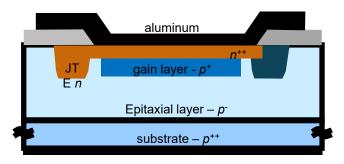
4D detectors – enabling technologies



Low Gain Avalanche Detectors: combining timing and position resolution

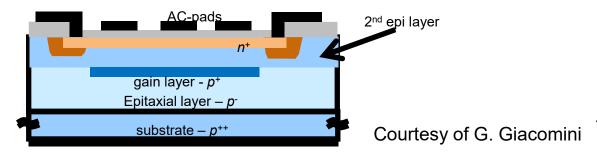
DC-LGAD on thin substrates

Thin substrates (~20-30um) lead to better timing resolution



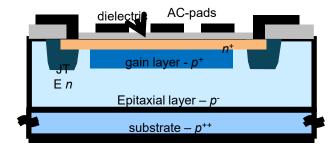
Deep-Layer AC-LGAD

AC-LGAD with a higher rad-hardness



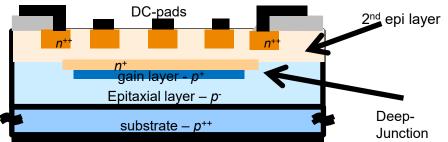
AC-LGAD

Excellent spatial resolution with smart position reconstruction algorithms, possibly for low interaction rates

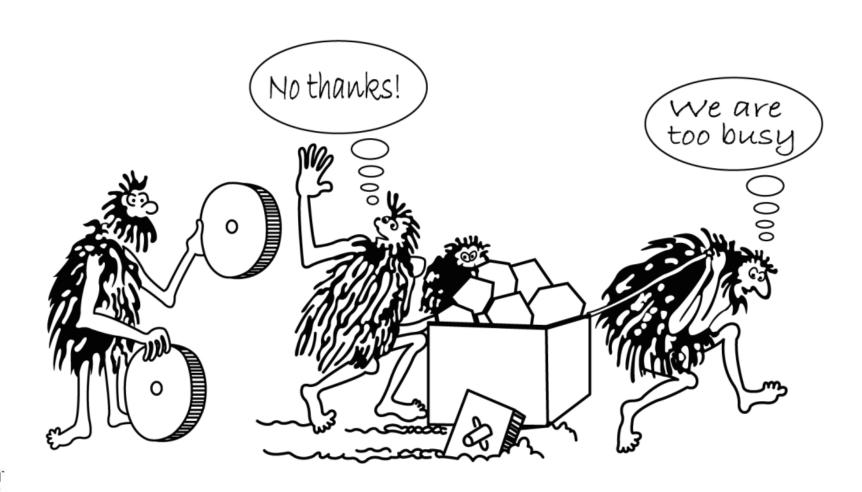


Deep-Junction LGAD

Position resolution given by pitch, as in standard pixel/strip detector

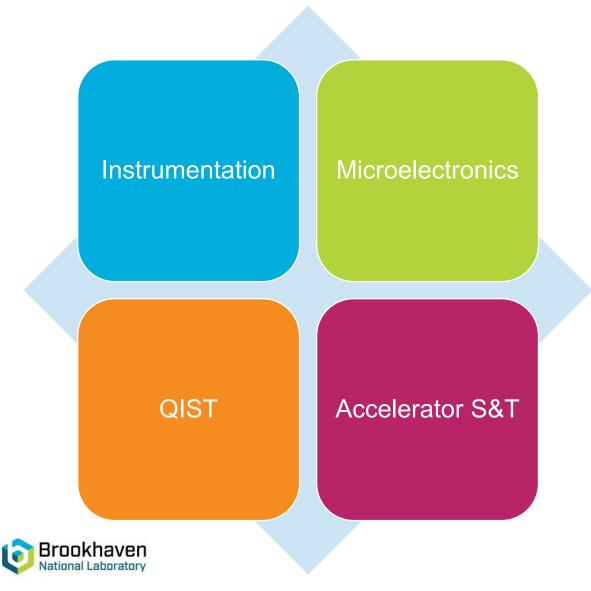


How we come across (discover) new technologies? How do we decide what/how to use them?





BNL's Discovery Technologies Directorate



- Unified strategic vision in innovation
- Optimized model for crosscutting research
- Enhanced technological impact

Instrumentation Department

Strategic Thrust: extend capabilities and develop technologies to advance programs in science, energy, security, and industry

Key Capabilities: design, fabrication, assembly, and testing of detector components and systems; sensors, microelectronics, photocathodes, unique and extreme environments (high radiation, cryogenic)

Organization: ~ 90 people, 3 Divisions - Technology Research, Scientific Instrumentation, Instrumentation Facilities

Focus on Emerging Technologies: impact/application driven

Partnerships and Workforce Development: domestic and international





















Overview

Applied innovation: technology research and scientific instrumentation from concept to product

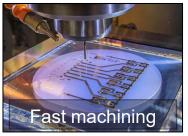
Develop next-generation instrumentation

- applied research to advance the state-of-the-art in instrumentation capability and detection systems
- unique solutions to enable scientific discovery and technology with societal impact
 - technologies to advance science programs in collider & neutrino physics, cosmology & space science, climate & atmospheric science, at light sources, nuclear nonproliferation and homeland security



















scalability enablers



Overview

Applied innovation: technology research and scientific instrumentation from concept to product

Detector R&D – key ingredients

- **sensing media:** semiconductors (silicon, germanium, diamond, CZT, TIBr, a-selenium, perovskite, scintillators, new materials), noble liquid and gas, liquid scintillators
- readout electronics: integrated front-end (ASICs), analog and digital readout electronics (readout boards, DAQ, controls)
- system integration: mechanical and electrical engineering, assembly, integration, validation (verification and calibration) – focus on Size Weight and Power (SWaP)
- data acquisition and handling: signal processing, optimization, feature extraction
- 32 patents in the last 20y (7 pending)





















'Tools' for cosmological observations

- Rubin Observatory LSST Camera
 - Largest optical astronomy camera constructed, focal plane assembled and tested at BNL
 - 3.2 Gpix, 15 TB/night, 37 billion stars and galaxies in 10 yr survey
- Baryon Mapping eXperiment (BMX)
 - Technology pathfinder for 21-cm instruments, located at BNL
 - Interferometer array: 4 x 4.5 m dishes, observe HI in galaxies out to z < 0.3 (~1.2 Gpc, 3.5 billion yr ago)



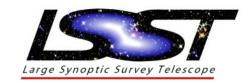




The journey from the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST) to the Vera Rubin Observatory

Concept:

 use a telescope to take large format digital images of the sky very quickly and do this repeatedly over 10y





Science:

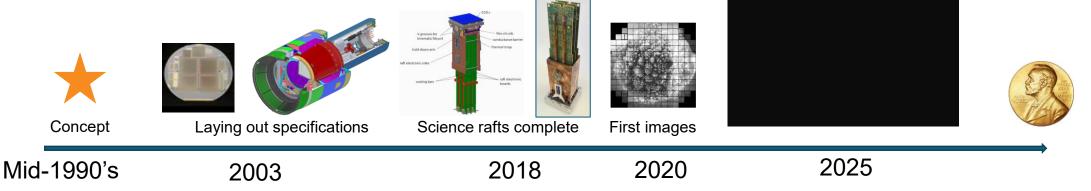
 probe dark energy and matter, observe moving objects and transient & variable phenomena, map Milky Way

Technology enablers:

 large – 3.2 Gpix – digital camera, 100's PB data handling, new types of optical system and telescope mechanical mount









Studying Dark Energy using 21cm intensity mapping

Concept:

- Measure and map the 21cm radio emission of neutral hydrogen as an alternate tracer of large-scale structure of the Universe.
 Line emission provides accurate, unambiguous redshift measure
- Using precisely calibrated radio interferometers to achieve survey speed is potentially faster and cheaper (per sourceequivalent) than an optical survey

Science:

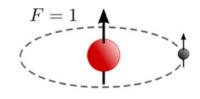
- Observe source redshifts in the range $0 \le z \le 6$ inaccessible to CMB and optical surveys
- Study the evolution of dark energy in the universe

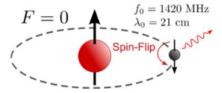
Technology enablers:

 Take advantage of rapid commercial development of digital RF, high-performance computing, and advanced manufacturing technology

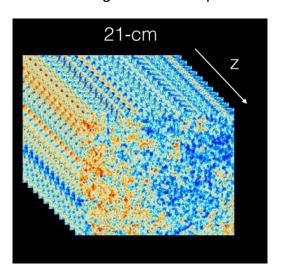


Spin-flip transition of neutral hydrogen

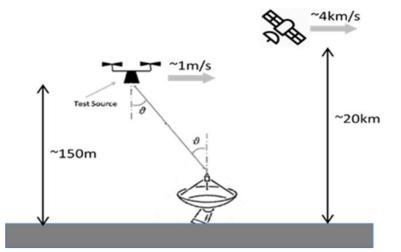




Tomographic reconstruction of density field across large volume of space



Evolution of technologies: from ground to the moon







- The BMX receivers use PC-hosted digitizers and GPUs to digest the raw data from the antennas and front end electronics, reducing the data volume from ~190TB to 28GB.
- The facility runs 24/7 and is completely autonomous including online and offline reductions. The recent uptime has been around 70% with interruptions due mainly to weather, power outages, and maintenance/upgrades.
- To date, we have logged around 16,000 hours of data before QA cuts.





A Joint NASA / DOE Project

The LuSEE (Lunar Surface Electromagnetics Experiment) radio spectrometer will make the most precise measurements of the low-frequency radio sky below 50 MHz (inaccessible from Earth – extreme red-shift 30<z<300), seeking to detect the fossil 21 cm radiation emitted 100 million years after the Big Bang when the first structures were forming.

Our Ride To the Moon*

* Supported by NASA Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS)

Launch:



Space-X Falcon 9



<u>Journey to the Moon</u>:



Blue Ghost Transfer Vehicle

Landing on the Moon:



https://fireflyspace.com/blue-ghost-mission-2/





Lunar Surface Electromagnetics Experiment at Night

LuSEE-Night: a NASA-DOE partnership

- CLPS CS-3 science payload aboard Firefly Blue Ghost 2 lander
- 4 monopole antennas configured as interferometer, sky noise limited
- Low frequency (0.1 50 MHz) spectrometer developed at BNL
- Pathfinder for future lunar observatories to probe Cosmic Dark Ages (400,000 yr –~200,000,000 yr after Big Bang)





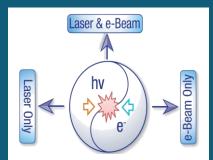
Firefly Blue Ghost Mission 1 landed successfully on the moon March 3rd 2025



Accelerator Test Facility

DOE Office of Science National User Facility

- Proposal driven, peer reviewed user facility
- Over 30 years of operation for user experiments
- Designated as a flagship facility in Accelerator Stewardship in 2015
- Part of BeamNetUS from 2024
- Unique combination of laser and electron beams drives a diverse program of user experiments.



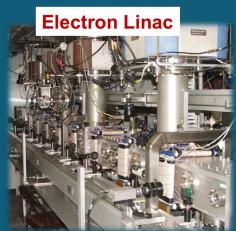




BELLA/HIRES

BERKELEY LAB

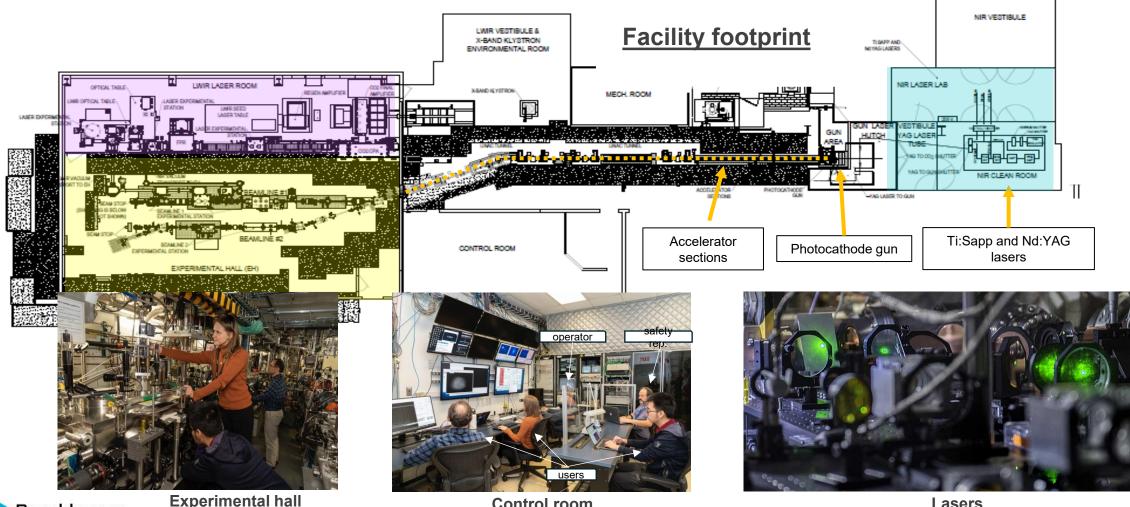
beamNetU:



孝 Fermilal



Combination of high-peak-power lasers and a high-brightness electron linac

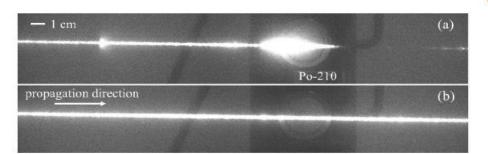


Control room

Lasers

Remote detection of radioactive material using a short-pulse CO₂ laser

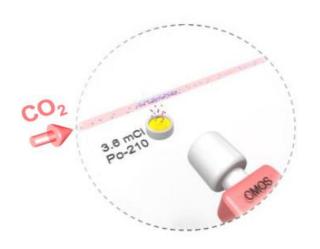
- The experiment capitalizes on abilities of LWIR radiation to propagate a strong light filament over the km distance and to reach optical breakdown in air by enhancing the initial local ionization produced by a radioactive source.
- The location of the breakdown is visible with naked eye, and the distance can be accurately measured by the return signal.
- Field deployment is possible.

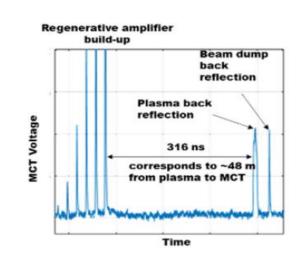


Radioactive source:

unblocked

blocked





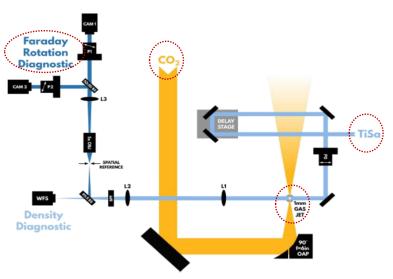
Experiment conducted by: University of Maryland, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory



Probing of B-fields generated by plasma

instabilities

- Pioneering studies of dense plasma instabilities lead to better understanding of galactic and fast fusion ignition.
- LWIR driver is ideal because it strongly affects plasma temperature, $T_e \sim \lambda E^2$, and has a low critical plasma density, $n_{cr} \sim \lambda^{-2}$, allowing optical diagnostic in gas plasma.



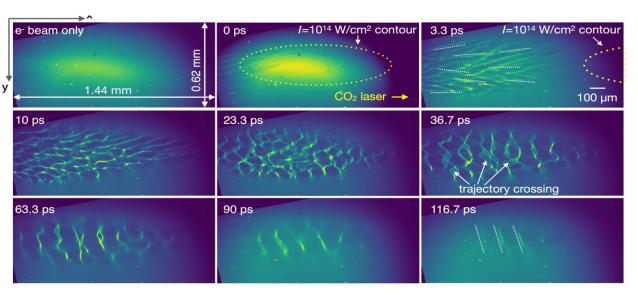
ASTROPHYSICS



Seed fields for galactic dynamo mechanism, y-ray bursts

PW-PS laser beam Guiding Critical surface Ion beam

Laser-driven fusion schemes: fast ignition, indirect drive

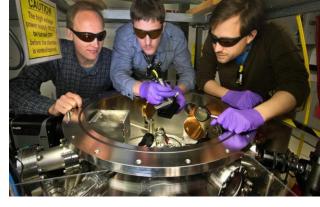


Experiment conducted by UCLA

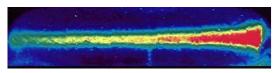


Proton beam generation from supersonic hydrogen gas jet

- Low critical plasma density allows driving ions out of gas.
- New, shock wave mechanism of monoenergetic acceleration.
- Need 100 times higher laser intensity to reach proton energies for cancer treatment.

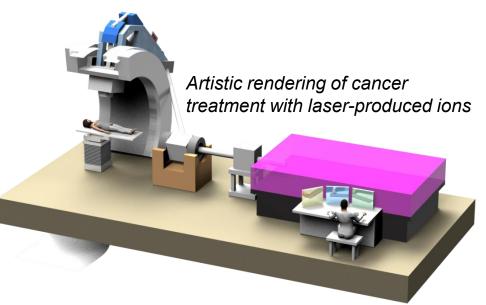


Bragg absorption of 200 MeV protons in 10 cm of water

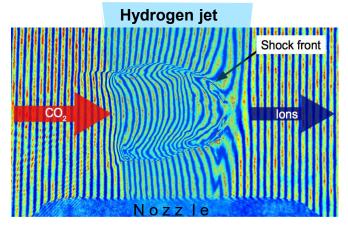


Experiments conducted by Imperial College London and Naval Research Laboratory



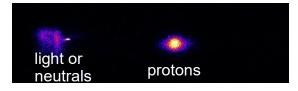


Optical diagnostic



Laser-induced electrostatic shock reflects protons upon its propagation through the ionized H₂ jet.

Energy spectrum



- •Energy spread 4% (record-narrow for laser acceleration)
- •Spectral brightness 10¹² proton/MeV/str
- Proton energy up to 3.2 MeV

Magnet Division

58,000 sq. ft. facility, ~50 staff members

Capabilities:

Coil Winding – NbTi, Nb₃Sn, HTS
Unique direct wind capability for high precision specialty and IR magnets

Vacuum Impregnation

Coil Reaction

Flexible vertical test stand
Operation down to 1.9K

Magnetic measurements

BNL Facility Northwest (High) Bay Area



Test Facility



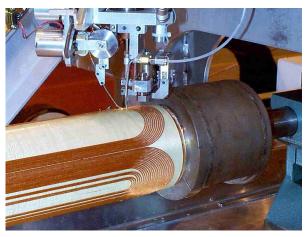
Magnets for accelerators around the world



Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider - BNL



Magnets for Large Hadron Collider – Geneva, Switzerland



Hadron Electron Ring Accelerator magnet – Hamburg, Germany



High temperature superconducting magnet for Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, Michigan State



High temperature superconducting magnetic energy storage device



Testing magnets

Magnet is Upright and

attached to top hat

Typical Test Sequence

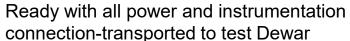


Incoming inspection of Magnet (Warm measurements)













Magnet in Test Dewar and Field Measurement Probe

Direct winding





Quantum Information Science, Technology, and Engineering



Summary





- One of 5 DOE 'Quantum Centers'
- Develop large quantum entanglement distribution networks (Quantum Internet)
- World class facilities, including **Quantum Network Facility**
- Enabling technologies: cryo-CMOS, photonics, new materials, lasers, UHV, integration
- R&D toward quantum networks of sensors and quantum enhanced sensing

Quantum Entangled Network

- Longest and most advanced quantum networks in the U.S. since 2020
- 161 miles and 5 distinct nodes

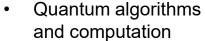


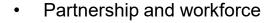




Elements of QIST at BNL

- Co-design Center for Quantum Advantage
- Quantum network lab and testbed
- Interdisciplinary teams focused on next-gen quantum materials
- Quantum-enabled facilities and instruments







Quantum Networks of Sensors and Quantum Enhanced Sensing

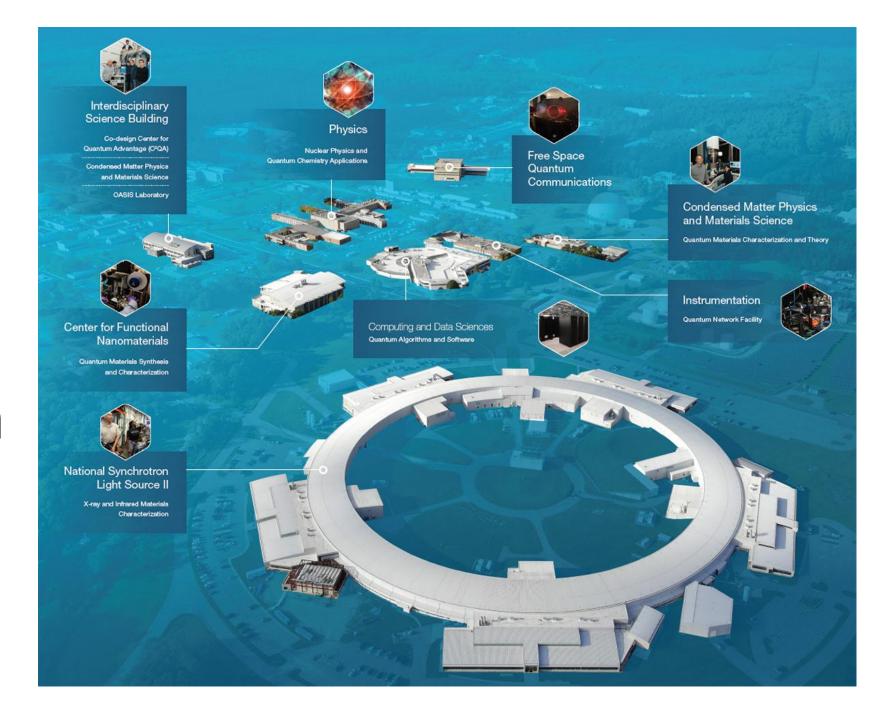
Network of spatially separated magnetometers to demonstrate improved sensitivity to EM fields

- Ongoing R&D:
- develop quantum-enabled x-ray microscopy for ghost imaging
- quantum astrometry demonstrator
- enhance lidar with quantum technology





Quantum Innovation **Ecosystem** at **Brookhaven National** Lab





C²QA 2024 Impact by the Numbers (as of November 6, 2024)



QIS Career Fair: Connected 1,620 Jobseekers with over 85 Hiring Managers since 2021



Over 485 papers (including 267 publications*, 210 preprints...and counting!



8 subject inventions and 11 open-source software packages attributed to C²QA



300+ people working on100+ projects to advance quantum computing



 4 educational outreach programs offered including Quantum
 Thursdays and Speakers Colloquia



27 institutions (including 2 affiliates) from national labs, industry, and academia



88 Principal Investigators and Research Scientists



8 summer school offerings for K-12, undergrads, grad students, postdocs & faculty



1 of 5 U.S. Department of Energy National QIS Research Centers addressing quantum challenges



3 technical areas (thrusts) and 1 crosscutting team focused on software, devices, & materials co-design









COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY













































Empire State
Development













Key Achievements

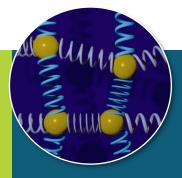




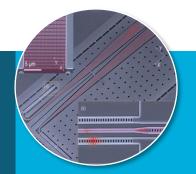
Enhanced lifetime enables quantum calculations that could not be done before



Error correction strategies are essential for accurate quantum computers



Algorithms are crucial for leveraging the potential of quantum computing



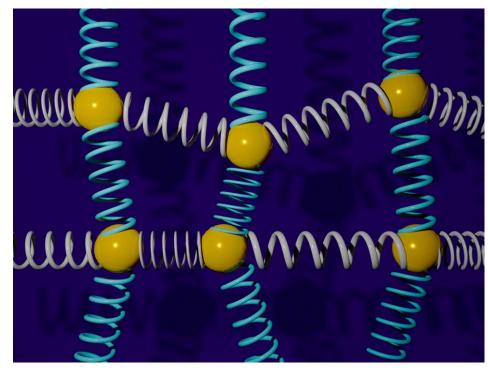
Enables distributed quantum computing which is the key to scaling to a quantum supercomputer

Google credits C2QA as a driver of progress in quantum computing.

New and Better Quantum Algorithms

C²QA discovered the first new class of quantum algorithms in more than a decade, enabling the simulation of coupled complex systems.

We are lowering the barrier to achieving quantum advantage by efficient design of calculations.



A new quantum algorithm was developed to improve the simulation of coupled oscillators (*Physical Review X*, **13**, (4))

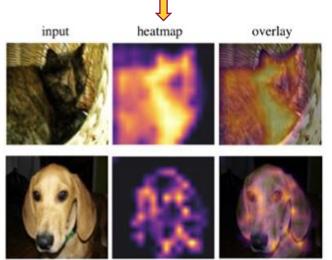


Making Quantum Al Accountable

Quantum Explainable AI (xAI)

focuses on one goal: *understanding* and *trusting* the decisions made by quantum computers.

Our first-of-its-kind work answers: How did the AI get this solution?



Simple "heatmaps" visually highlight the exact information the Al used to make its choice.

Why is Brookhaven Lab's Quantum xAl Work Critical?

- Builds Trust for Critical Missions:
 For national security, healthcare, and finance, we must be able to verify that Al reasoning is sound and reliable.
- Reduces Risk and Bias: Helps to find and fix hidden flaws or biases in an Al system, ensuring fair and accurate outcomes.
- Secures U.S. Tech Leadership: By pioneering transparent AI, the United States can set the global standard for responsible and trustworthy nextgeneration technology.





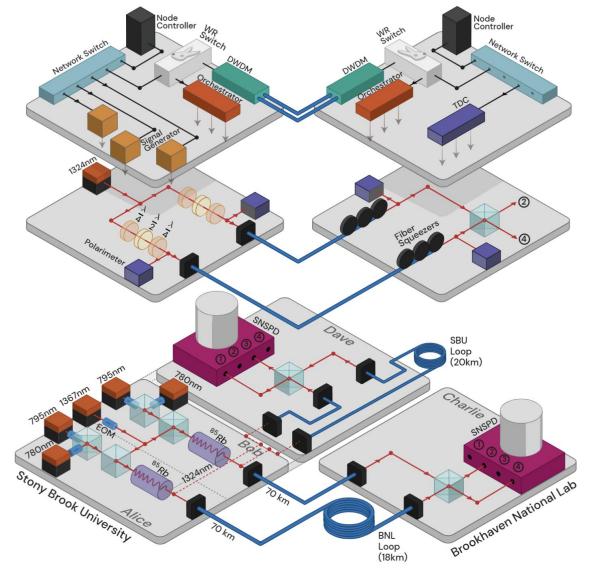




miles, **5** nodes in **5** different locations, includes quantum memories and remote-control capability

Stack-driven quantum network

- Experimentally-inspired (bottom up) and application-driven (top down)
 - Construction of a *layered* quantum network
- Short-term quantum network-assisted applications
 - Controllable quantum nodes
- Technology development: hardware/software building blocks (sim, algorithm, protocols)
 - *Interoperable* quantum hardware
- Towards the construction of long-distance fiber/free-space quantum network
 - Quantum repeaters and satellite free space quantum links



arXiv:2101.12742v3 (2024)

























Commack Node:1st Quantum Node in a Commercial Colocation Data Center



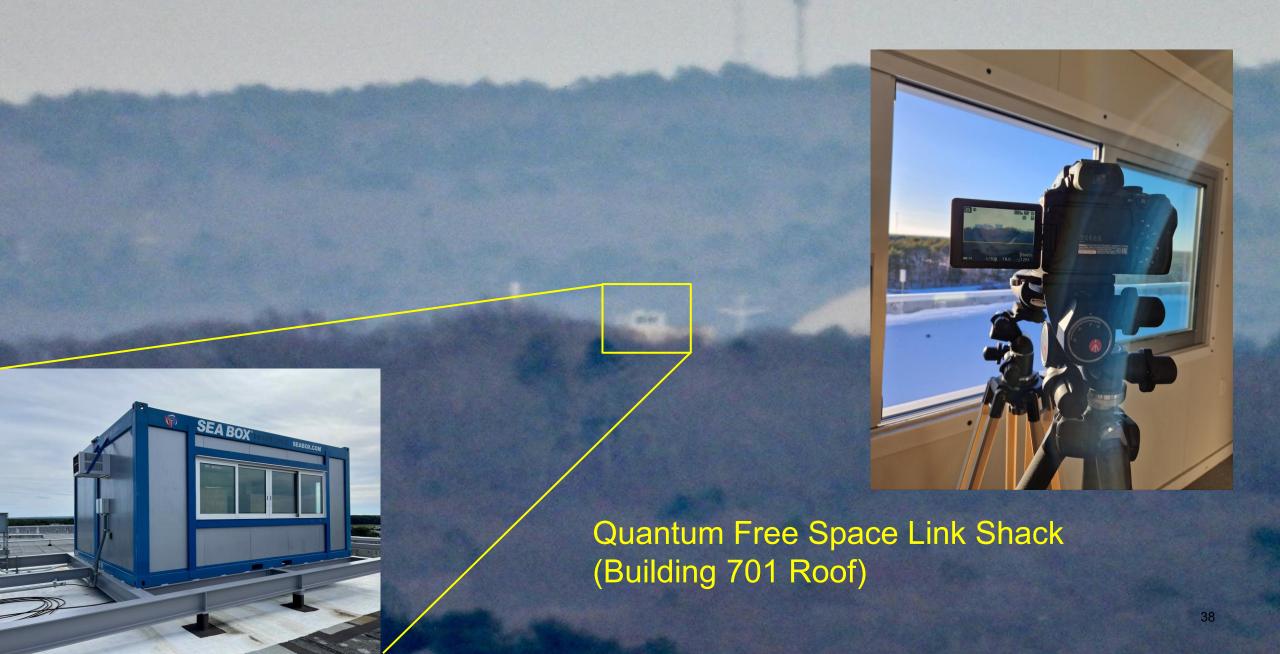
The Free Space Optical link

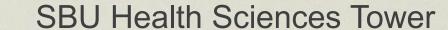




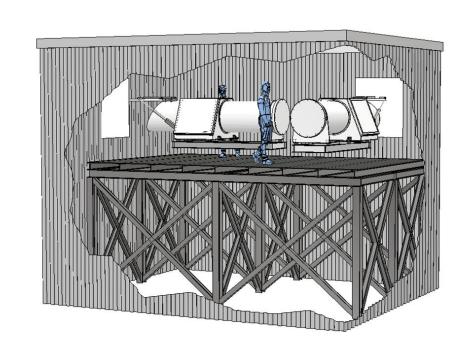


As seen from SBU Candidate Location



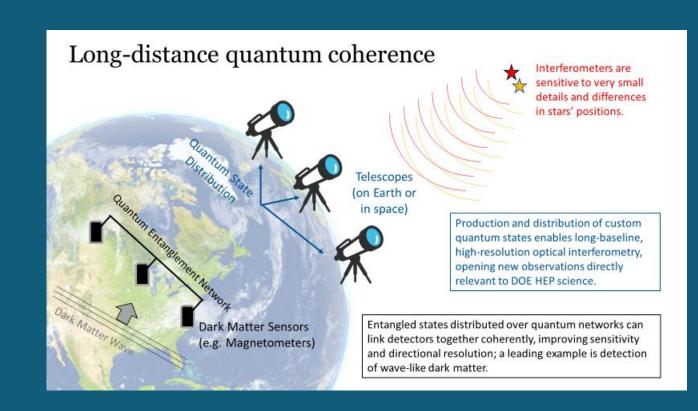


SBU Hospital Towers



SBU Free Space Link Candidate Location

Scientific applications





Distributed quantum entanglement

Astrometry

- Studying QIS techniques of two-photon interferometry to enable practically arbitrarily large synthesized apertures
- Experimenting several practical implementations of the technique to demonstrate how this can be deployed for cosmological and astronomical measurements

P. Stankus et al., Instr. Meth. Astrophysics, vol 5 (2022)

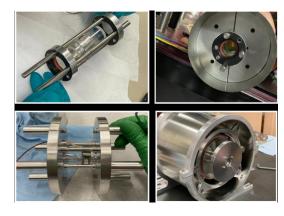
Network of sensors

- Atomic systems are excellent candidates to sense changes in electric and magnetic fields expected from the passage of axion-like dark matter
- Studying how to entangle a network of magnetometers and its improved sensitivity
- Unmanned aerial vehicles and satellites

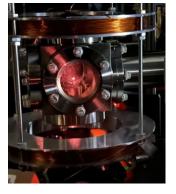


Atomic sensing

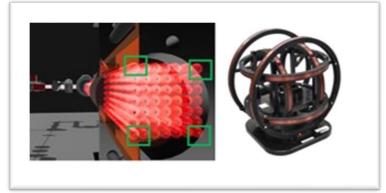
Currently, developing an array of 7x7 atom magnetometers



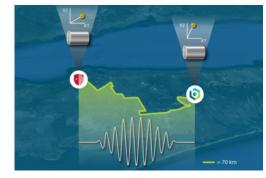
Next: Explore arrays of atomic clocks



Developed atomic cold cloud (~500 μK)



Long term: Long-distance (~70 km) entanglement of atomic systems to study its possible connection to gravitational diffusion (quantum nature of gravity)

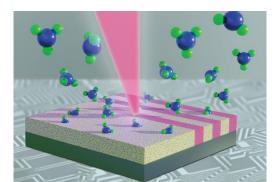


Microelectronics



Re-envision semiconductor R&D

Novel Materials



Hybrid EUV resists and memristors

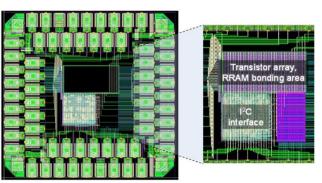
Characterization & Metrology



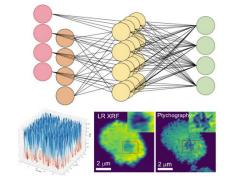
Phase change memory imaging

Circuits & Architecture

Modeling & Algorithms







Mod-sim and machine learning

BNL strengths

- New electronic materials; new patterning materials & processes
- + World-leading X-ray imaging, spectroscopy
- + Electron microscopy; electrical, electronic, structural, optical characterization
- + Device modeling
- + ASIC design (low noise, low power) & fab; cryo CMOS
- + Algorithms
- + Architecture, subsystem, and system simulation; codesign tools
- Facilities for characterization (extreme environments)



Energy efficient microelectronics center integrating innovations across materials, devices, information handling modalities, and system architectures

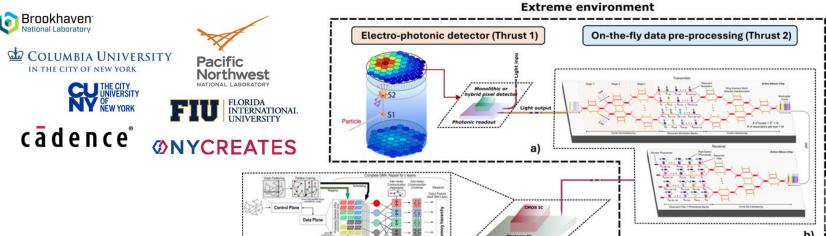
Intelligent end-to-end codesign

Nanoscale materials

Neuromorphic architecture

In-transit Data processing

Heterogeneous integration



Electro-photonic processor (Thrust 3)

El-Pho: Electro-Photonic Integrated Platform for Near-Sensor Processing in Extreme Environments







BNL User Facilities: microelectronics & QIST











Artificial Intelligence (AI)

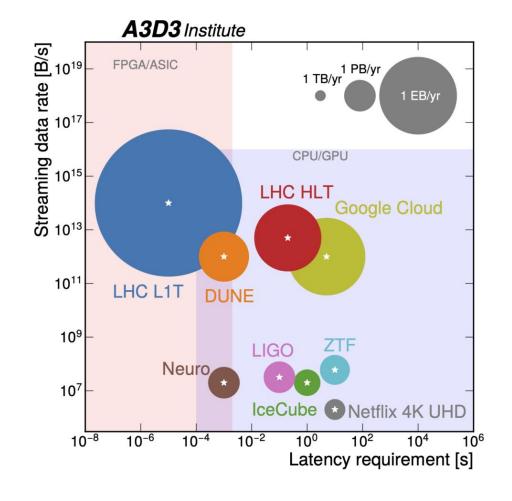
From automated to autonomous





Al for science

- Large and complex scientific data sets
- Processing and analysis challenge
- Existing processor technologies are suitable for AI algorithms
 - graphics processing units (GPUs) and fieldprogrammable gate arrays (FPGAs)



Latency, throughput, and estimated dataset sizes for a number of scientific and industry real-time Al applications, provided by the A3D3 NSF institute



Opportunities for AI/ML

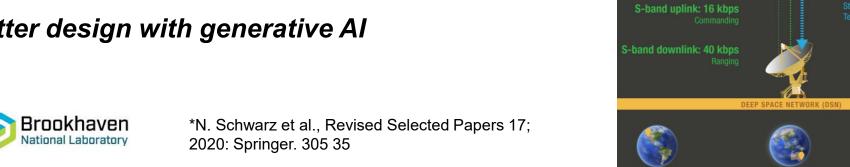
Energy efficiency

It is estimated that the U.S. light sources will generate **exabytes (EB)** of data over the next decade, requiring tens to 1,000 PFLOPS of peak on-demand computing resources, and utilization of billions of core hours per year*

Edge processing, Fast feedback, Self calibration, **Operations**

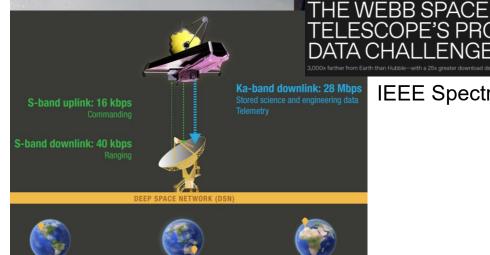
Data quality (filtering, conditioning, etc.), Identification, Reduction

Better design with generative Al





Summit, IBM-DOE, ORNL:148.6 petaflops thanks to its 2.41 million cores



LESCOPE'S PROFOUND

IEEE Spectrum







What's next? More Al!

On-chip processing with modern data-science-driven co-design

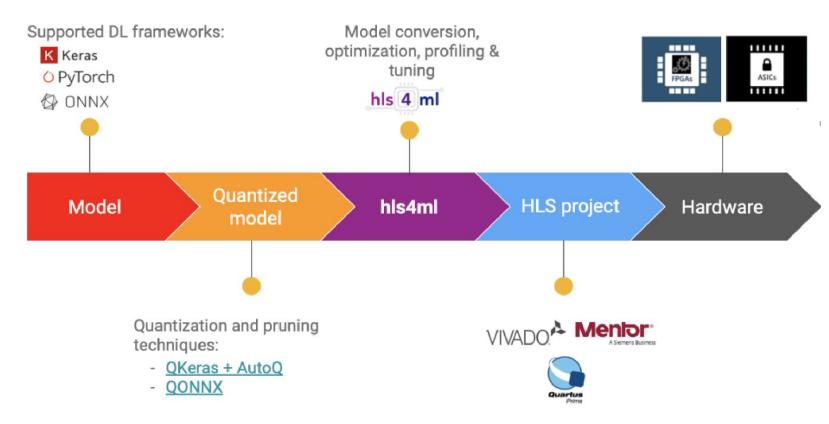
Advancing AI in near-detector electronics is a natural evolution

- Improve data quality and reach
 - enable powerful and efficient non-linear data reduction or feature extraction techniques
- Reduce complexity of down stream processing systems
 - aggregate less overall information all the way to offline computing
- Increase efficiency and reduce complexity
 - enable real-time data filtering and triggering like at colliders (e.g., LHC, EIC)
 - use less data bandwidth
- Enable faster feedback loops
 - · control or operations loop for particle accelerators



Enabled by new tools...

Software-hardware codesign with hls4ml¹



A typical workflow to translate an ML model into an FPGA or ASIC implementation using hls4ml.

The red boxes (left) describe the model training and compression steps performed within conventional ML software frameworks.

The configuration and conversion steps are shown in the blue boxes (center). ²

²arXiv:2204.13223v1 [physics.ins-det]



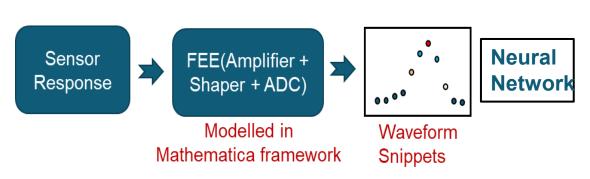


... may require new devices

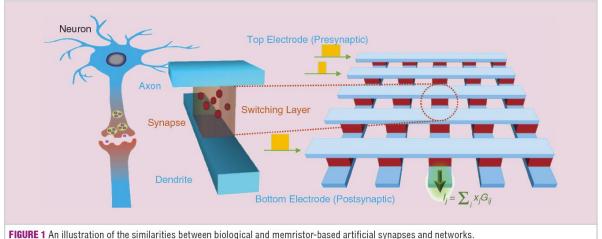
Implementation on analog signals

Capacitor

- Highly-digital and ML-assisted front-end allow signal processing and data quality not achievable in pure analog processing¹
- High energy efficiency can be achieved with analog AI circuits and neuromorphic algorithms



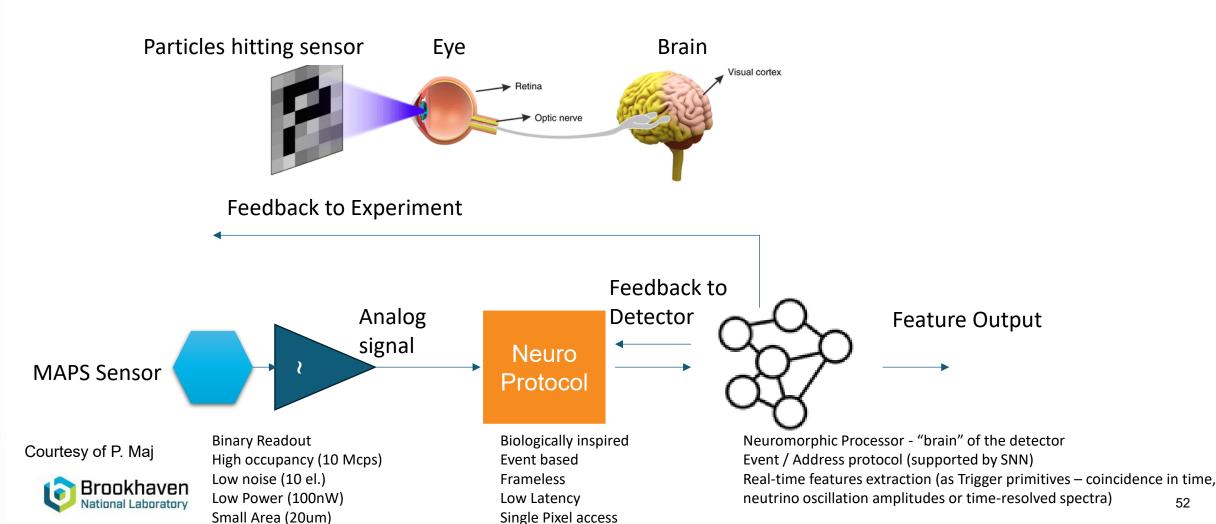
Neural Networks (NN) circuital solutions for extraction of features from digitized pulses on frontend ASICs (signal amplitude, time-of-arrival, charge deposition, etc.) ²





Idea of a New Concept of a Smart Detector

All is aware of the detector (HEP Hardware) and has access to individual pixels for detector control (such as gain and speed) and to experiment control (such as brightness and position)



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Questions?

