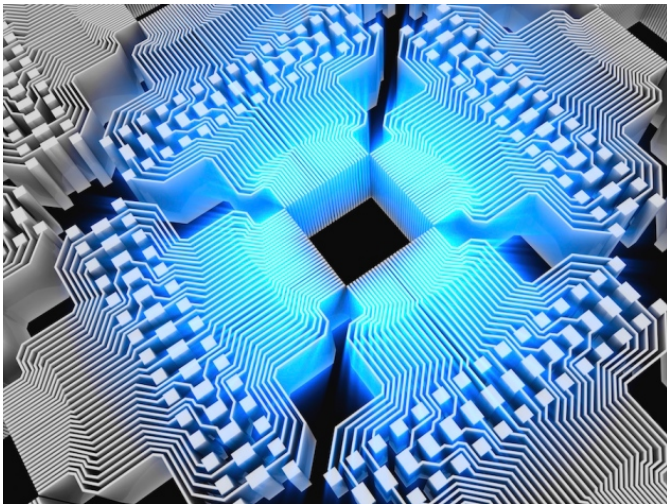


EC Bets Big on Quantum Computing

Written by Marco Attard
06 May 2016

The European Commission announces a €1 billion investment in the development of quantum technologies-- with applications ranging from secure networks to ultra-precise gravity sensors and clocks.



Set to kick off in 2018, the quantum research research is similar in scale to a pair of ongoing European flagship programs, the Graphene Flagship and the Human Brain Project. It will receive funding from both the EC and other European and national funders, and has the the aim to "place Europe at the forefront of the second quantum revolution, bringing transformative advances to science, industry and society."

One of the inspiration behind the project is a 2015 "Quantum Manifesto" urging for a large-scale initiative in the field. Quantum computing promises to bring about huge gains in performance, but actually realising the dream remains a challenge.

Interestingly the quantum initiative falls under the wider European Cloud Initiative-- a plan to create a European Open Science Cloud bringing together 1.7m researchers and 70m science and technology professionals in single virtual environment. Underpinned by the European Data Infrastructure, it involves high-bandwidth networks, large-scale storage and computing capacity necessary for the access and processing of large cloud-based datasets.

As such, in 2020 the scheme will the €2bn deployment of a large-scale European high performance computing, data storage and network infrastructure built on 2 prototype next-generation supercomputers, a big European datacentre and an upgrade of the GEANT

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backbone network for research and innovation.

Go [European Cloud Initiative to Give Europe a Global Lead in Data-Driven Economy](#)