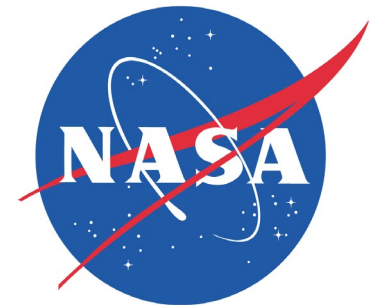


SEAQUE

Paul G. Kwiat

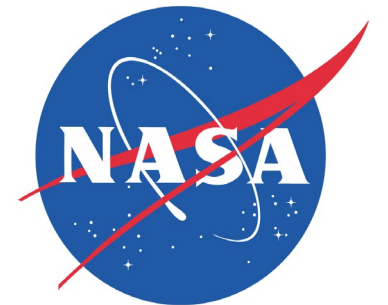
Department of Physics
Illinois Quantum Information Science & Technology Center (IQIIST)
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign



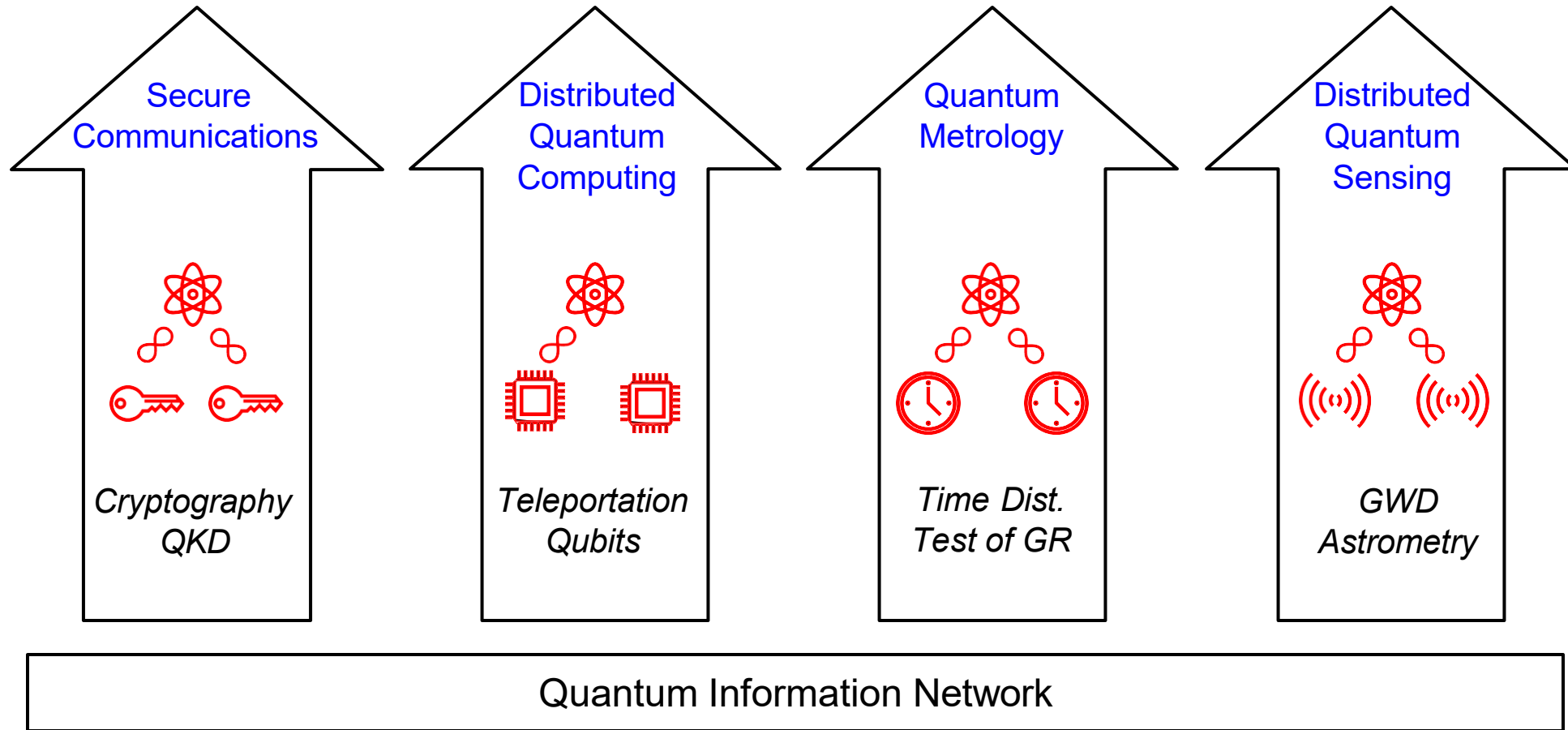
SEAQUEing the Final Frontier

Paul G. Kwiat

Department of Physics
Illinois Quantum Information Science & Technology Center (IQIIST)
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign



Need for Quantum Space Network



Why (Quantum needs) Space?

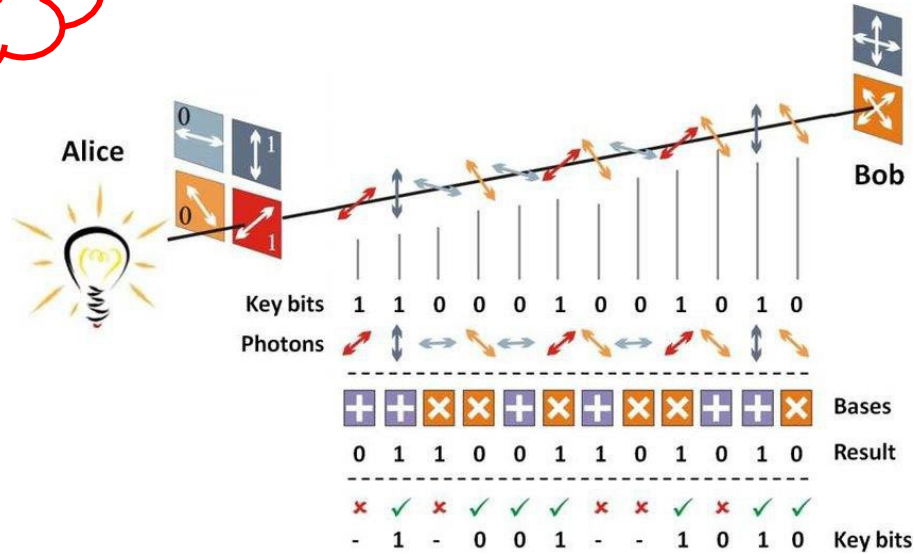
Optical Fiber $\sim e^{-r}$ (limited range: 100km fiber = 99% loss)

Free-Space Optical Link $\sim 1/r^2$ (intercontinental range to deep space)

Quantum Space Network Applications

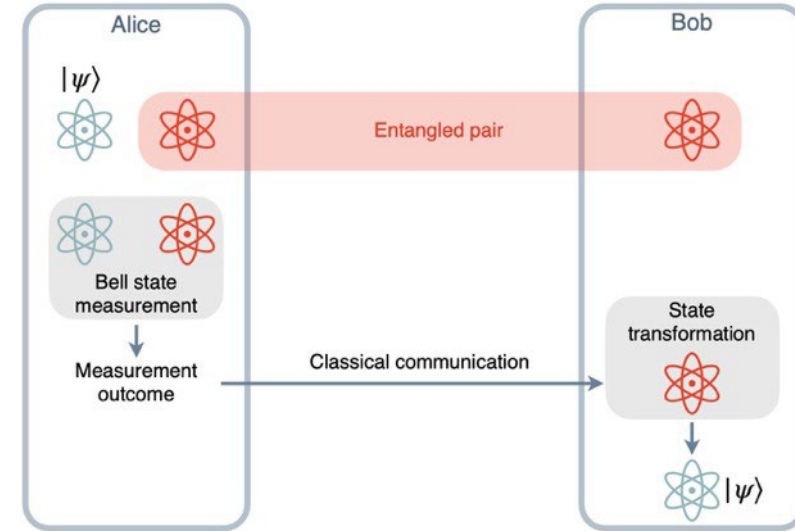
Technology

Quantum Cryptography



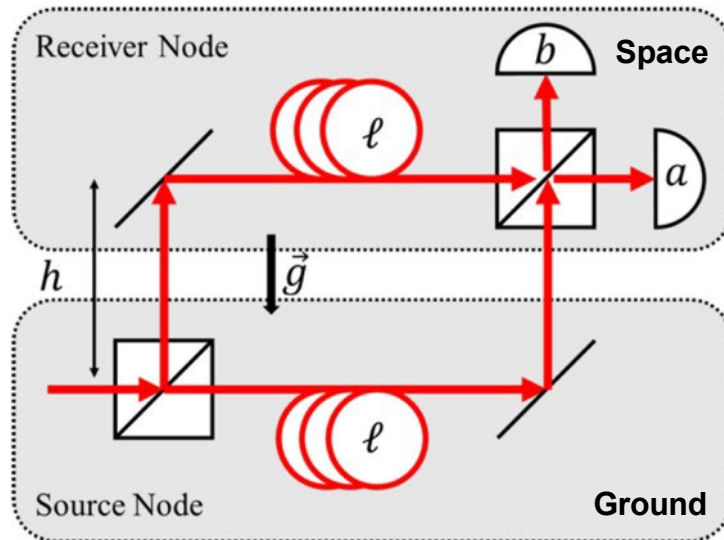
Quantum Teleportation

Technology



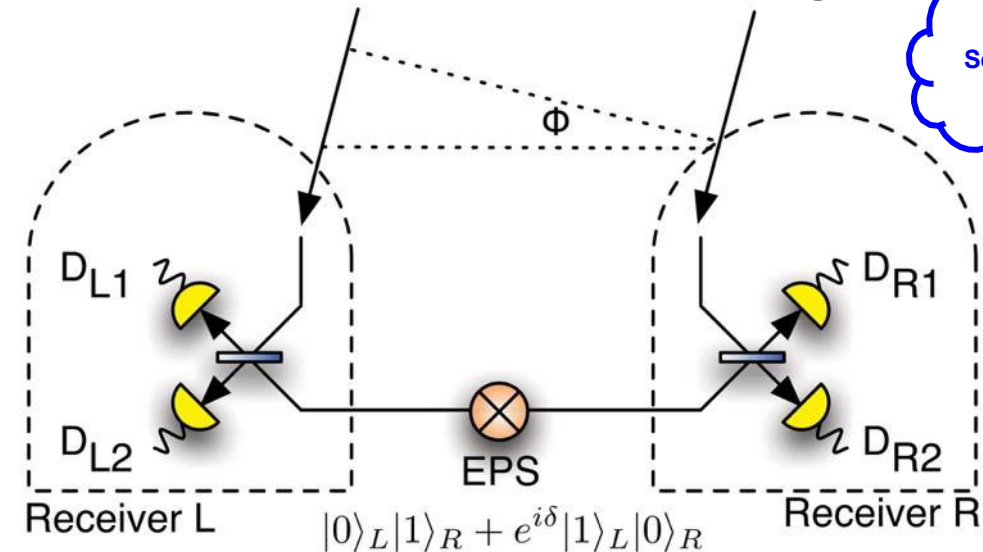
Science

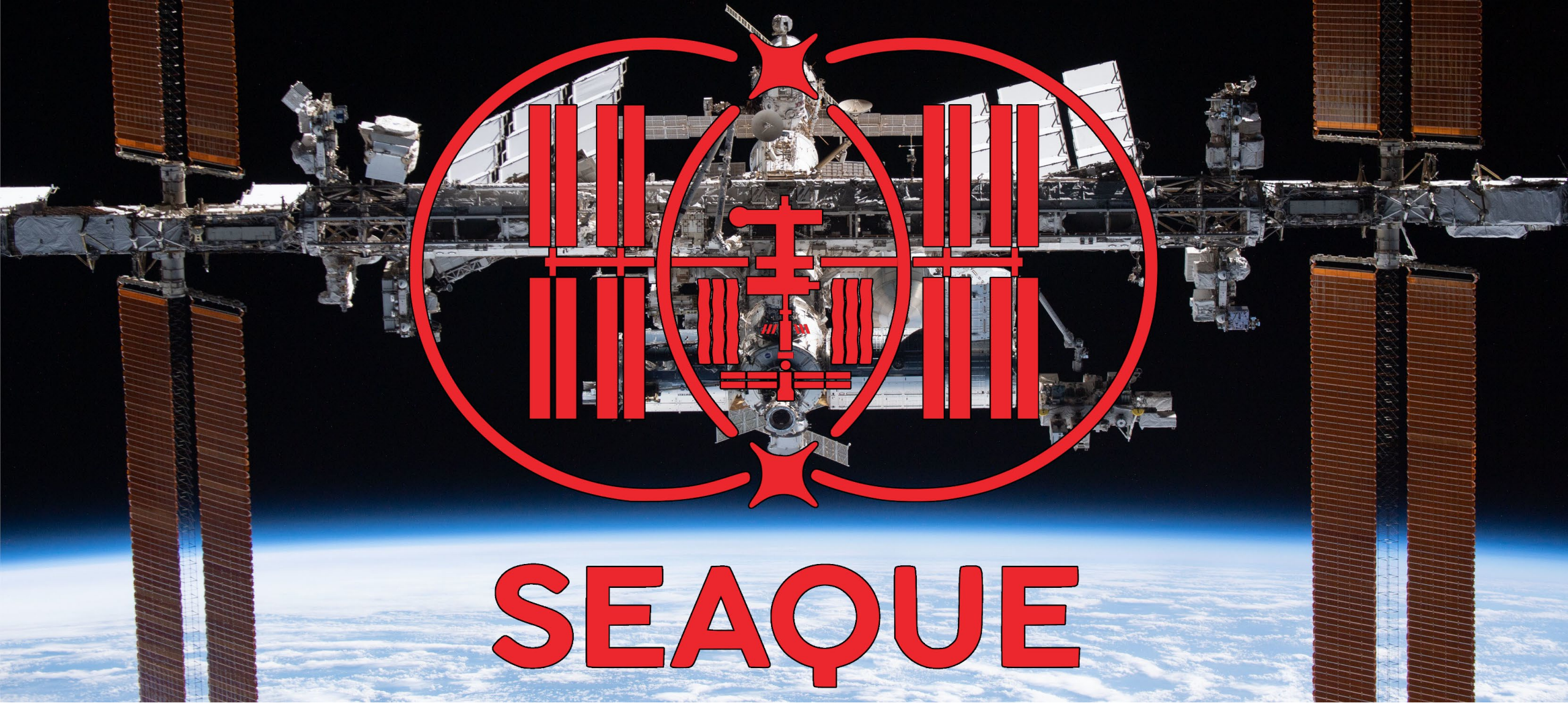
Quantum Metrology



Distributed Quantum Sensing

Science







Space Entanglement and Annealing QUantum Experiment

SEAQUE Goals

Create and verify entanglement in space

- Quantum state tomography
- Bell inequality violation

Combat radiation damage with “self-healing”
through thermal & laser annealing

Impact

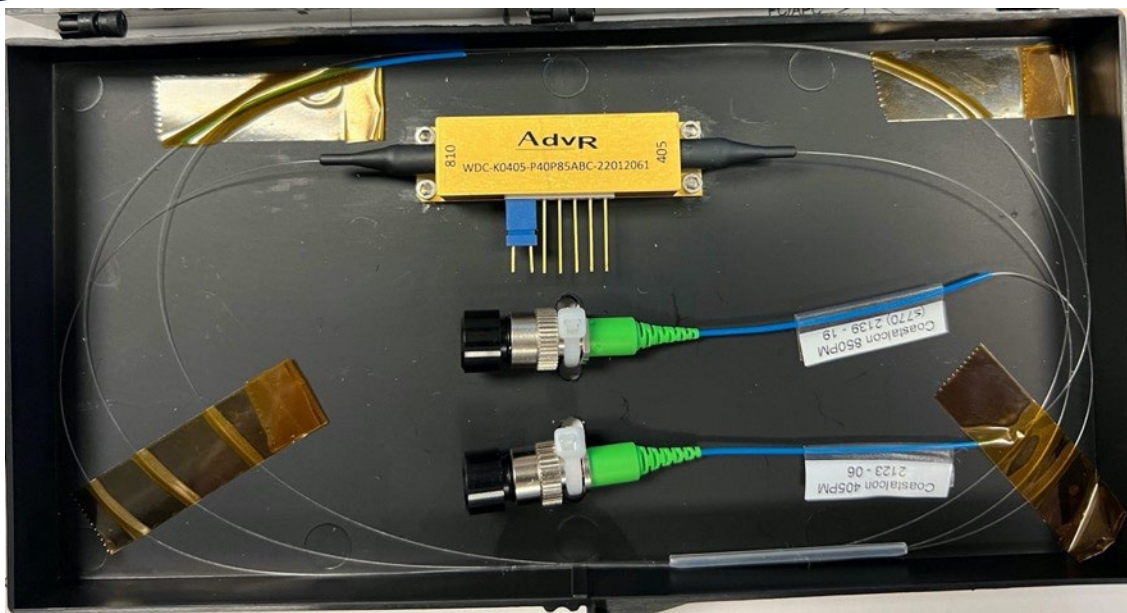
- Never-before flown integrated waveguide source
- Demonstrate single element tomography

“Exploration”

- Increase lifetime of quantum payloads
- Learn about annealing repeatability

“Know before you go”

SEAQUE Entanglement Source – lowest SWaP



Fiber-In/Fiber-Out Timing Compensated SPDC Module

WDC-K0405-P40P85ABC

SN: 22012061

Optical Characterization

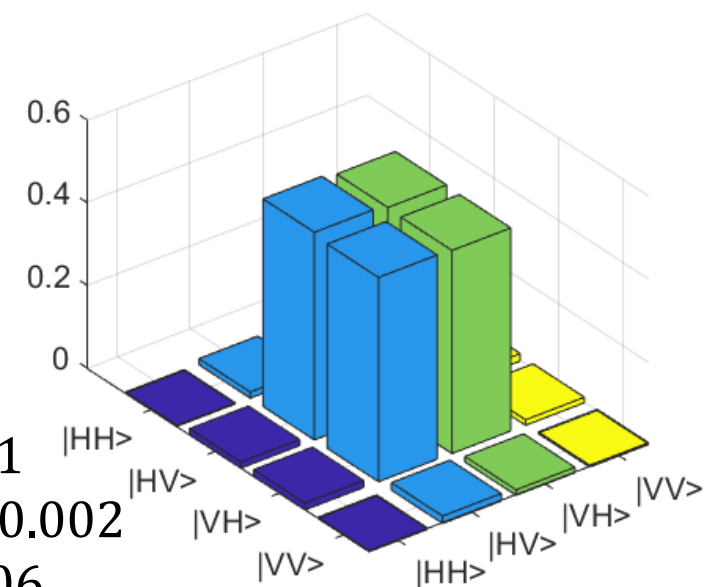
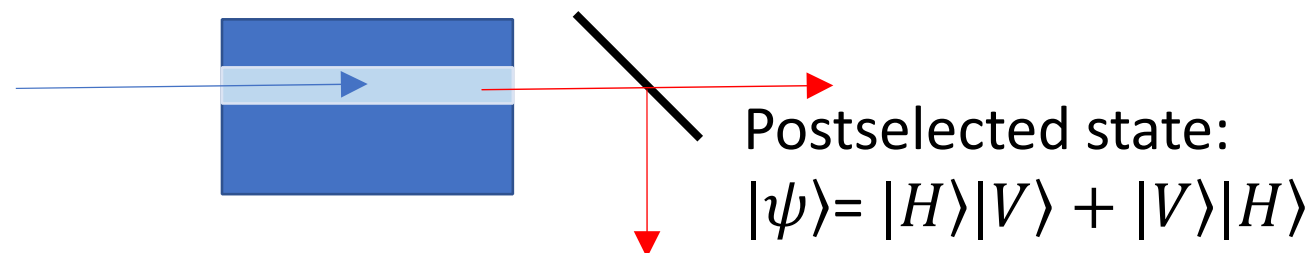
Pump Wavelength	404.88 nm
Pair Rate	25 MHz/mW (power in input fiber)
2-Photon Visibility	95% with 3 nm filter
Module Degeneracy Temperature	45.1°C



“Commercialization”

PPKTP waveguide, Type II

405nm $\rightarrow$ 810 nm (H) + 810 nm (V)



Fidelity: 0.991 ± 0.001

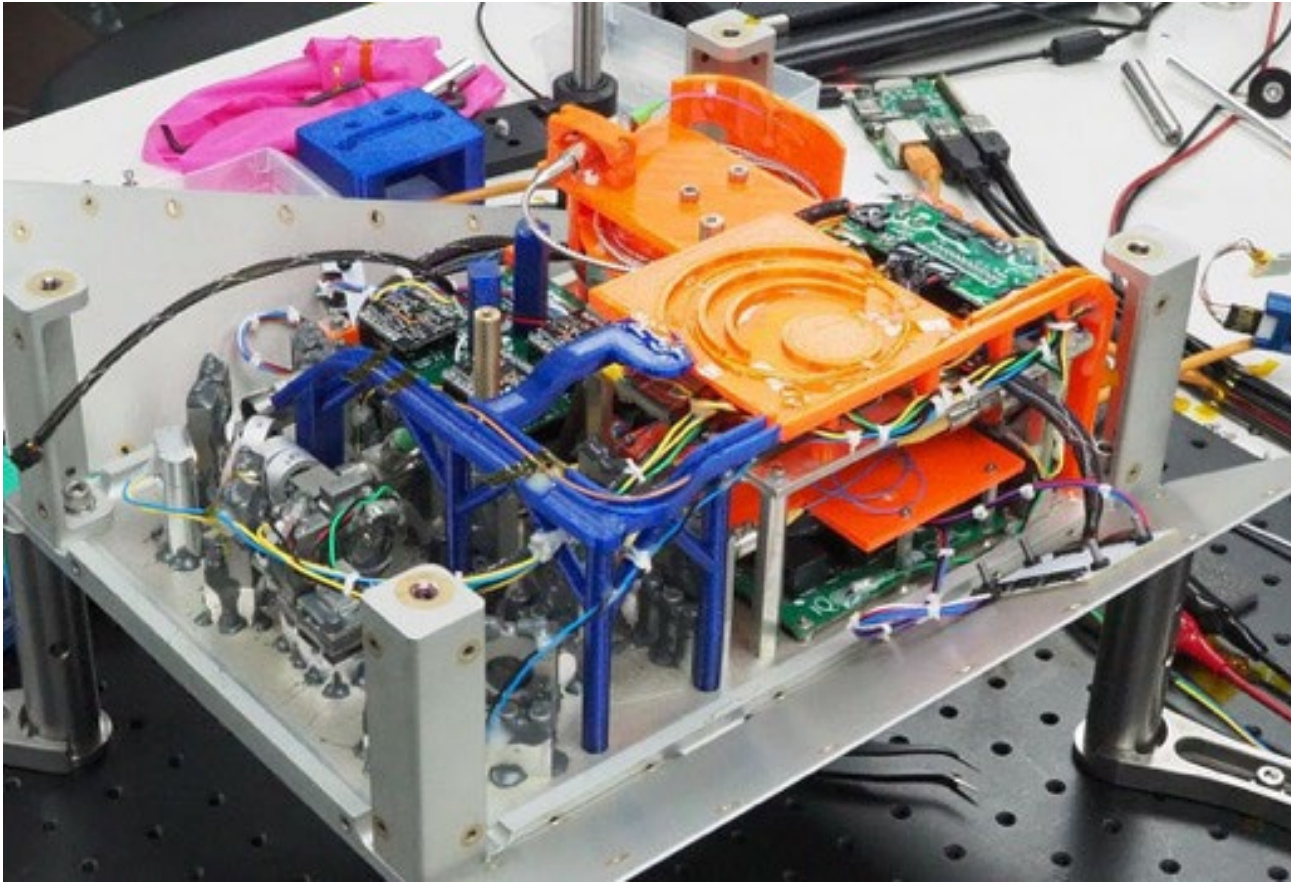
Concurrence: 0.984 ± 0.002

Bell Test: 2.758 ± 0.006

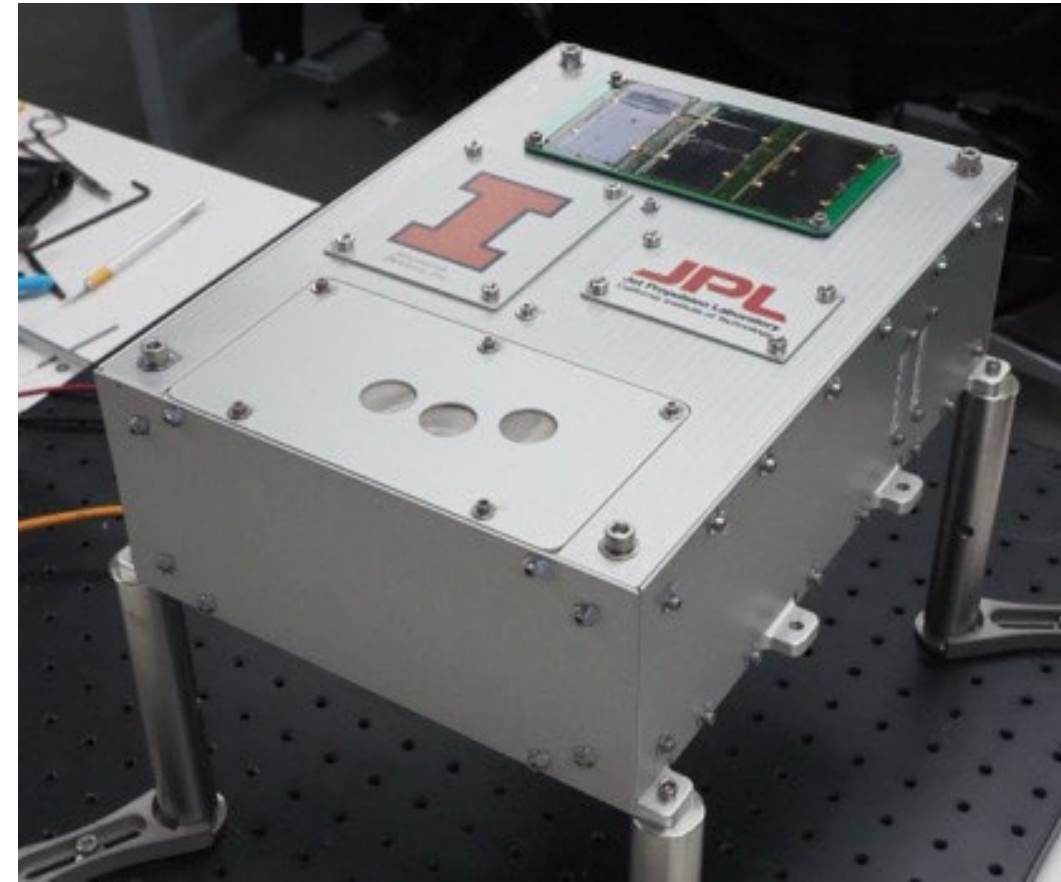


Space Entanglement and Annealing QUantum Experiment

Flight System (10x20x30cm):



SEAQUE payload





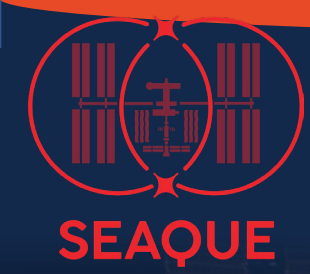
Launch Day: November 4th, 2024

- Launched provider:

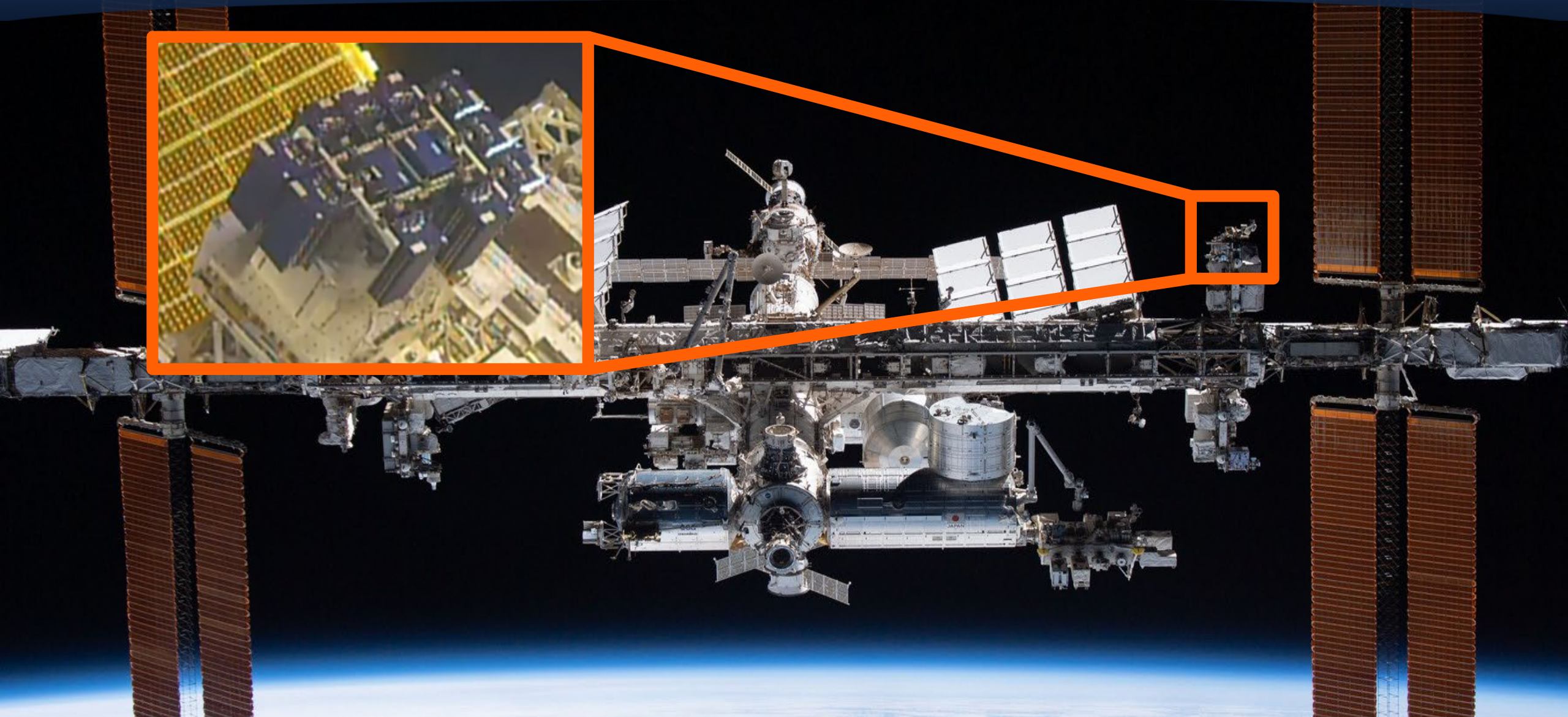


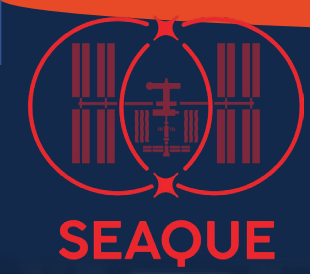
- Kennedy Space Center FL
- Space-X Dragon Resupply Mission CRS-31





MISSE Platform





Mounted on ISS





SEAQUE History

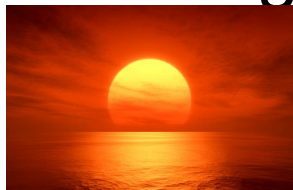
- Sept. 2021: SEAQUE started
- June, 2024: Payload delivered to Aegis Aerospace
- Nov. 4, 9:30 pm ET: launch on SpaceX CRS-31
- Nov. 26: SEAQUE 'power-on'.....

Fidelity = 97-99%

$$S = 2.6 \pm 0.01 \gg 2 \geq S_{\text{local realism}}$$

*“And there was
much rejoicing...”*

- Highest ‘quantumness’ of any space experiment to date!
- Many more tests, detector annealing, etc. **$S = 2.70!$ (4 hours ago)**
- Will return to Earth in 2026





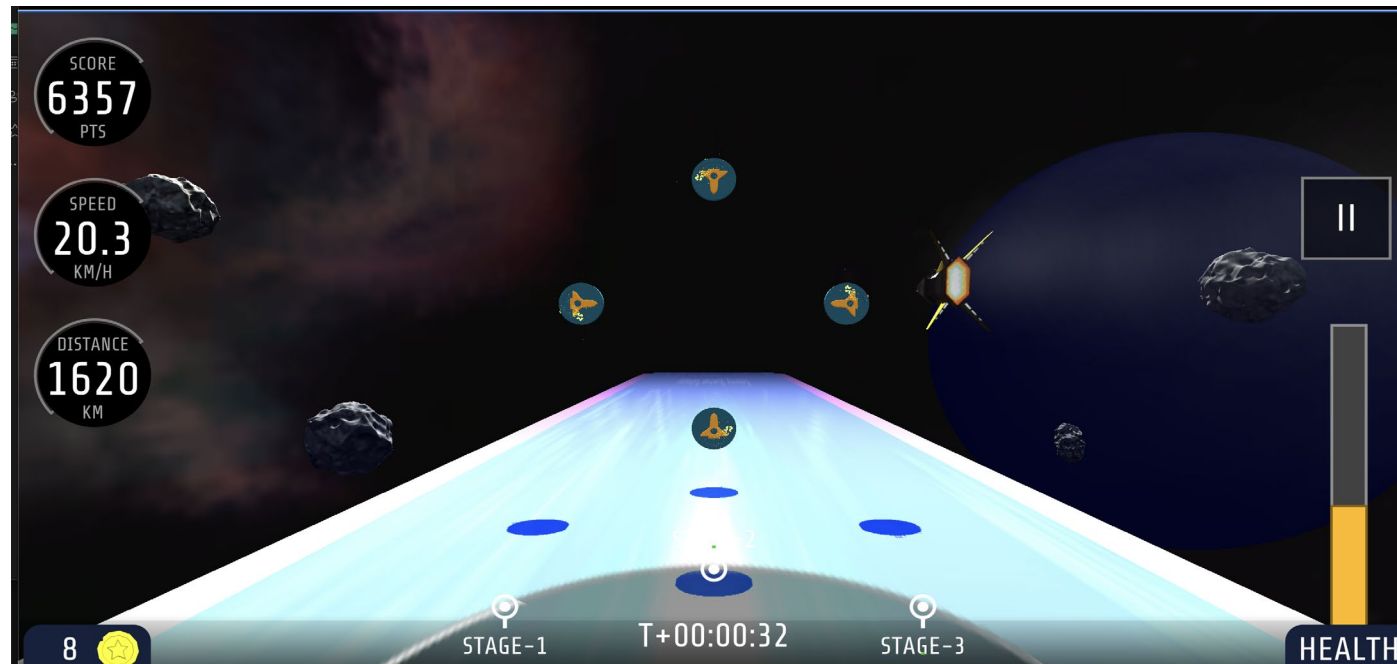
Outreach: Public Bell Test (@ Quantum Jubilee)

Quantum Satellite Game



stu/dio

- Decisions in the game are mapped to LC settings for a Bell violation
- Connect the public audience to entangled measurement
- Browser game for easy accessibility
- Successful Bell tests run using the public random data during the “Quantum Jubilee”
- Result from audience choices: 2.69 ± 0.16

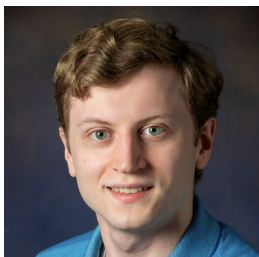




PI: Paul Kwiat



Kelsey Ortiz



Liam Ramsey



PI: Michael Lembeck



Rick Eason



Qi Lim



Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology

- John Callus
- Alex Lohrmann



- Prof. Alex Ling
- Subash Sachidananda
- Ankush Sharma
- Daniel Pardo Suárez



- Prof. Thomas Jennewein
- Joanna Krynski
- Noura Bayat
- Nigar Saltana
- Paul Godin
- Zhenwen Wang



- Makan Mohageg
- Jay Lowell



Quantum Networking Space Missions



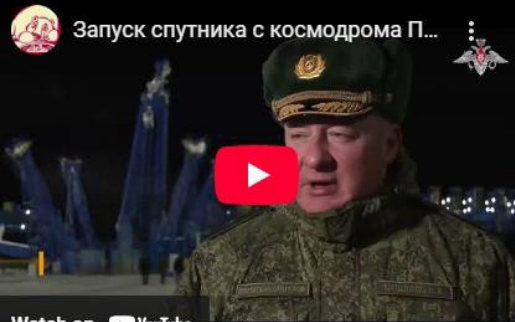
2017 – Micius (CNSA)



2020 – SPOOQY-1 (Singapore)



2022/23 – Jinan-1 (CNSA)
2024 – Jinan-2 and 3



Watch on  YouTube

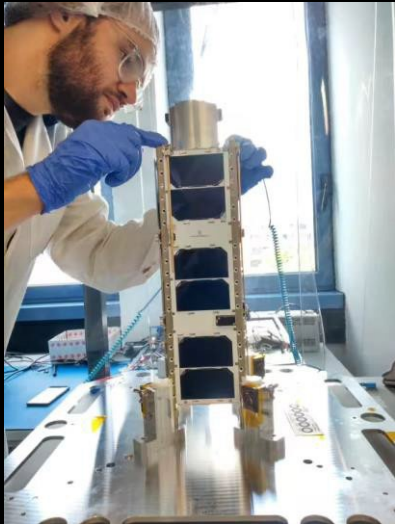
2023 – Vector (Russia)
– not confirmed



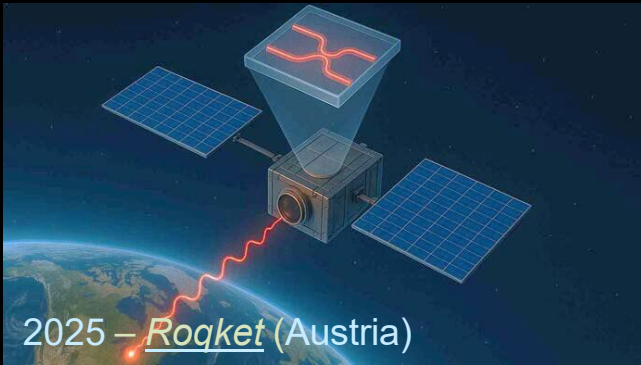
2024 – QUBE (Germany)



2024 – SEAQUE
(USA)



2025 – QUICK³
(Germany)



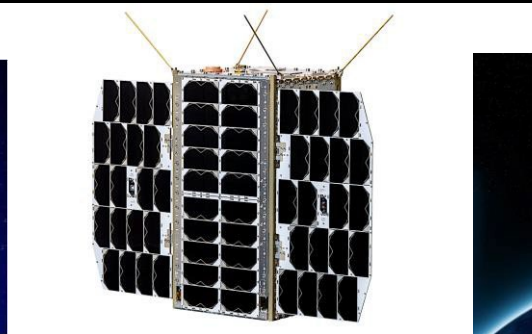
2025 – Roqket (Austria)



Planned Quantum Networking Space Missions



Nanobob (France, 2026)



SPEQTRAL-1 & SPEQTRE
(Singapore & UK, 2026)



QEYSsat
(Canada, 2026)



Q4S
(Boeing + HRL, 2026)



QUBE-II
(Germany, 2028)



ROKS (UK, 2028)

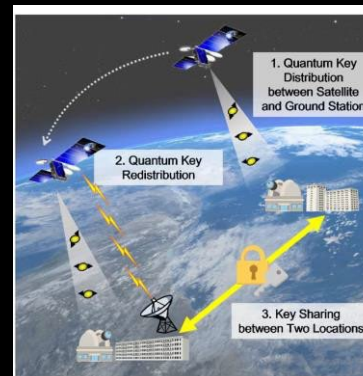


Two Unnamed QKD Missions
(Honeywell, Nokia, and Colt, 2027 & 2028)



SAGA (ESA, 2029)

JAXA/NICT QKD (2030)



LEO net →
MEO relay
GEO relay



GEO-QKD, (Spain, 2030)

Boeing Research & Technology 3



Eagle-1 (ESA, 2028)

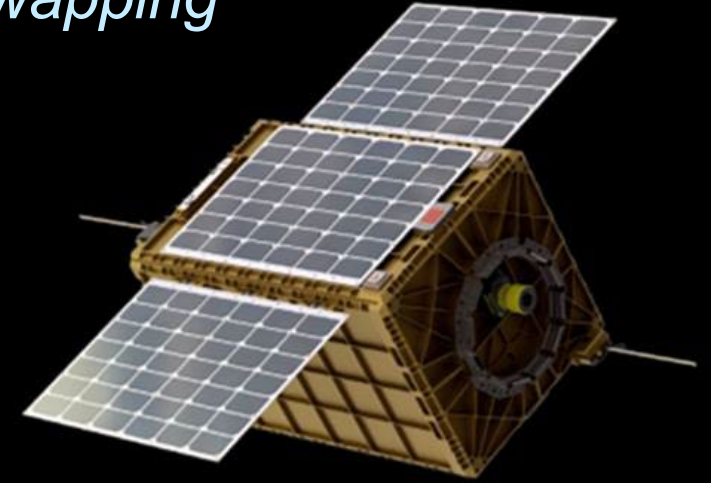
Note ~ *italic* ~ estimated date

Opportunities for New Physics

- Most of the existing/planned experiments are focused on quantum key distribution (only secure communication)
- Distributing *entanglement* is enabling for
 - Fundamental science
 - Secure communication tasks, e.g., encryption, position verification, multi-party computations, ...
 - ‘Blind’ quantum computing
 - Distributed quantum computing
 - Distributed quantum sensing
 - ...

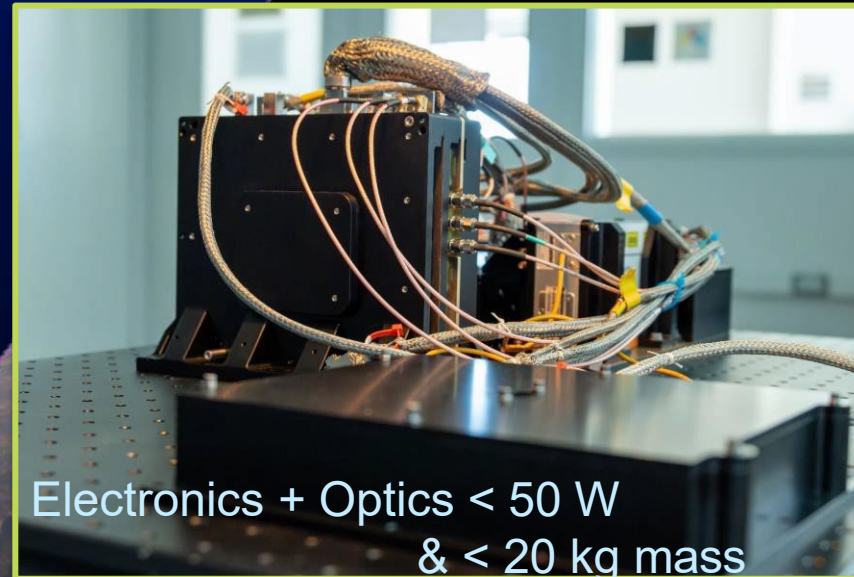
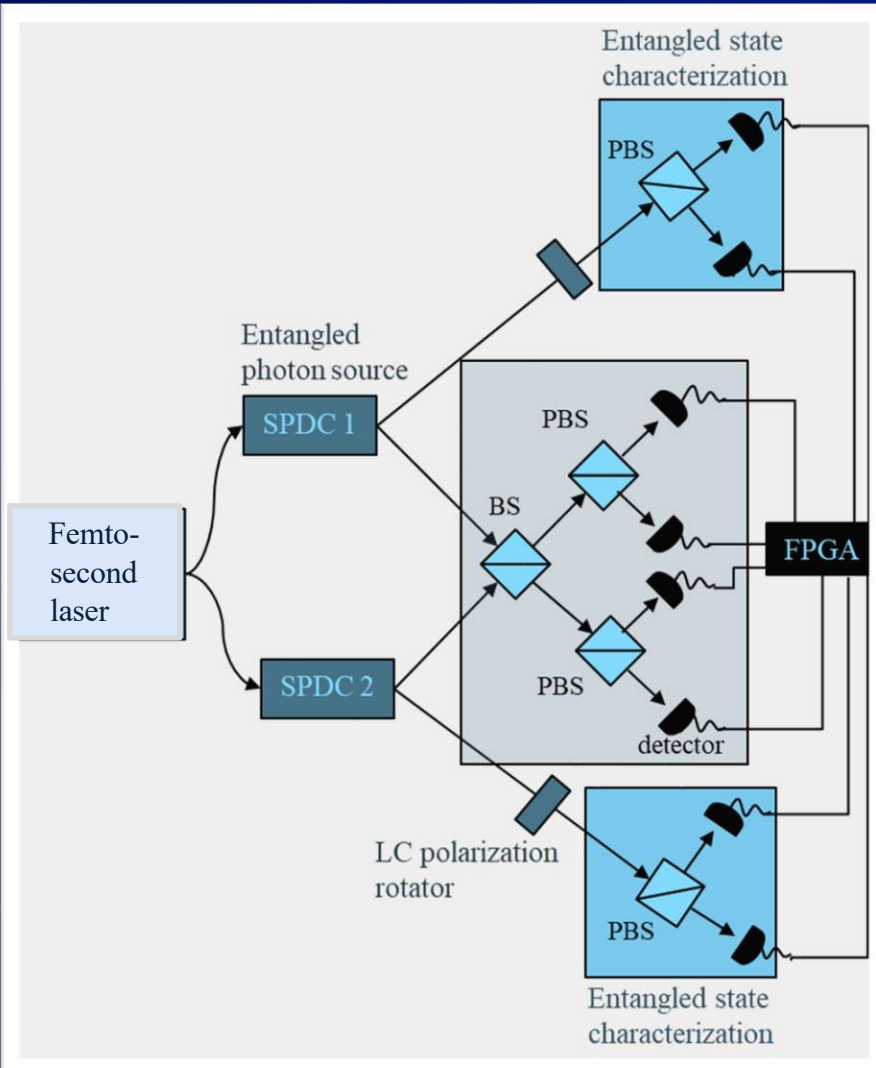
Q4S

Satellite quantum entanglement swapping *Boeing · HRL · UIUC*



Q4S is on-track for launch into LEO orbit in 2026

Q4S enables space-based quantum networking systems for distributed quantum computing, quantum sensing, and communications



Electronics + Optics < 50 W
& < 20 kg mass

www.boeing.com/quantum

Opportunities for New Physics

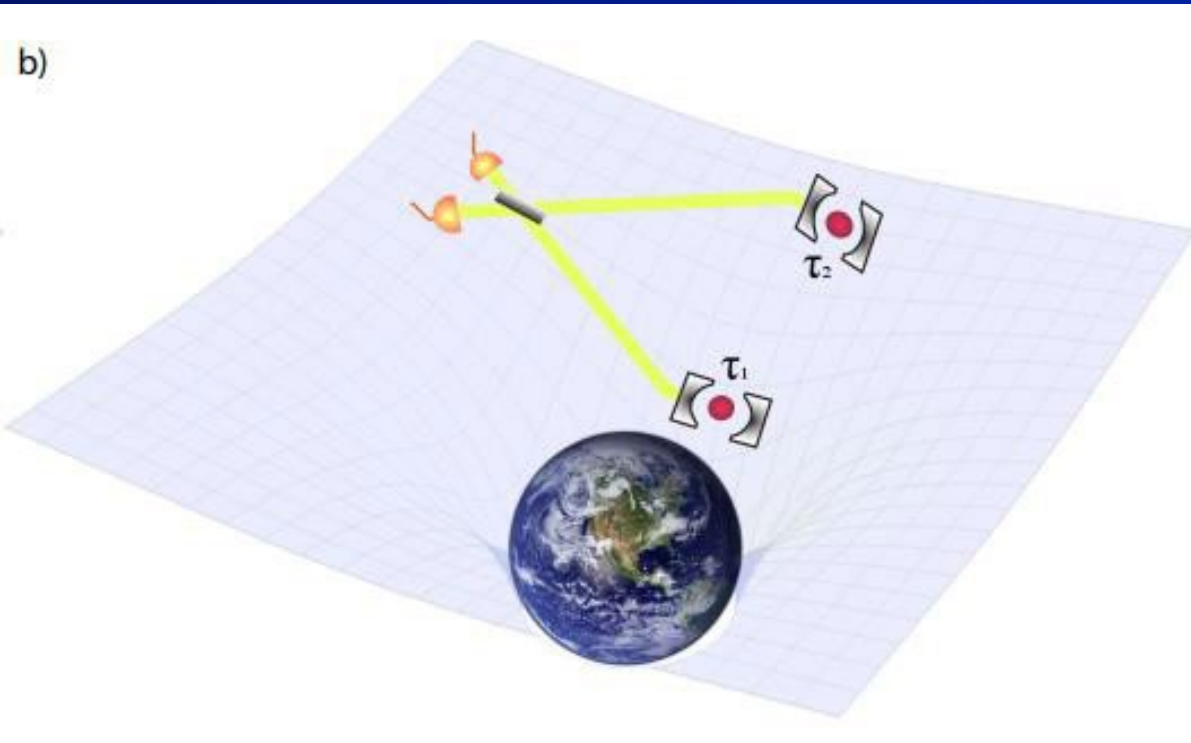
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 - ***Distributed quantum sensing***
 - ...

Testing General Relativity with Quantum Systems in Space

Matter-based tests

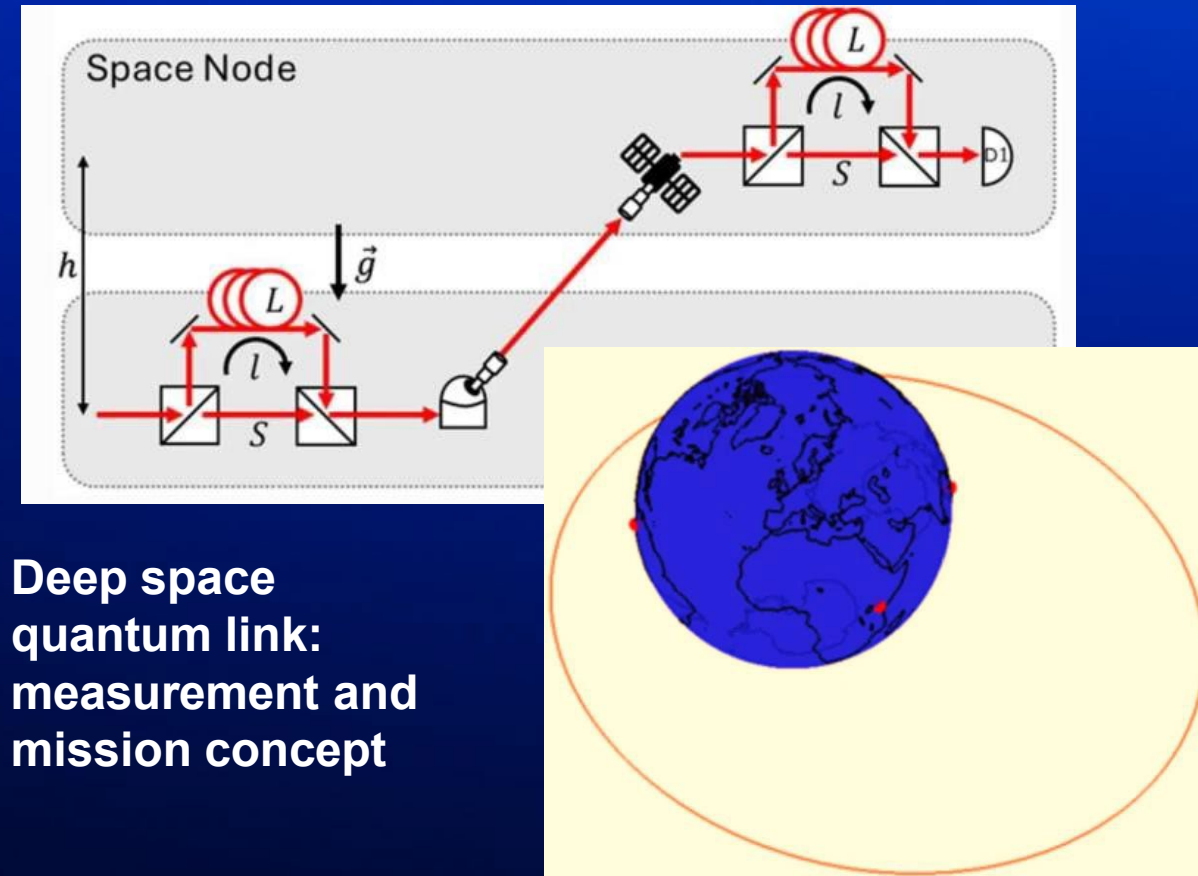


Testing quantum theory on curved space-time with quantum networks

Johannes Borregaard, Igor Pikovski

<https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2406.19533>

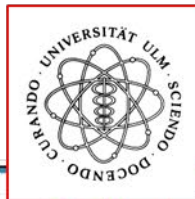
Photon-based tests



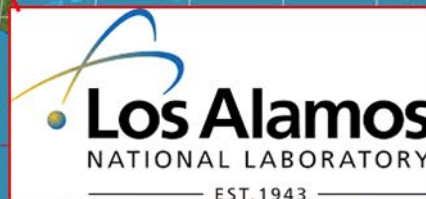
Deep space
quantum link:
measurement and
mission concept

Makan Mohageg and Paul Kwiat et al. 2025
<https://doi.org/10.1140/epjqt/s40507-025-00370-1>

Makan Mohageg and Paul Kwiat et al. 2022
<https://doi.org/10.1140/epjqt/s40507-022-00143-0>



Fundamental
Physics



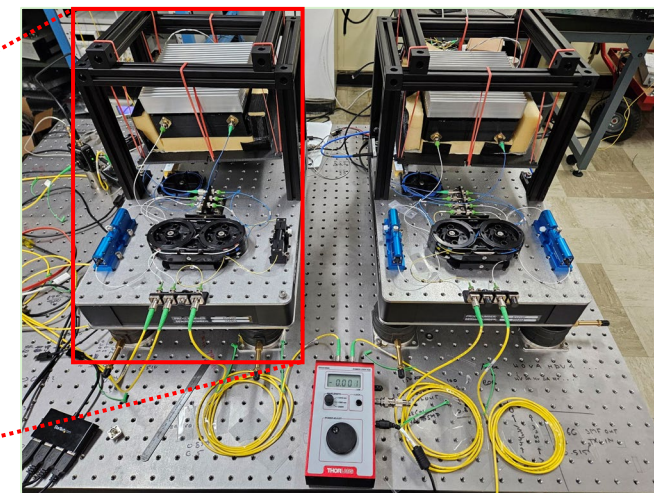
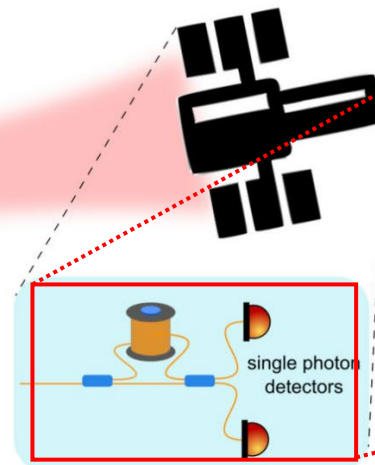
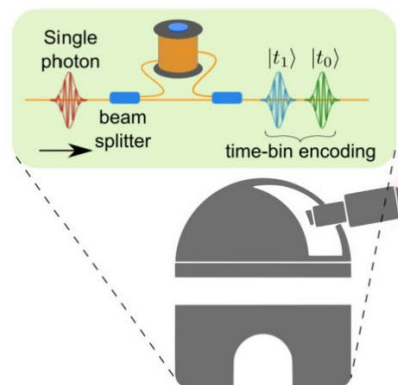
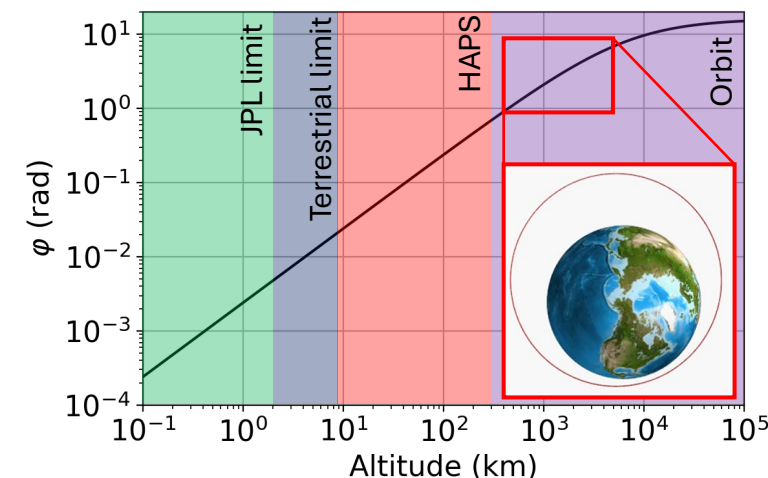
Deep Space Quantum Link Team

Deep Space Quantum Link (DSQL)

Gravitational redshift of quantum states of light (and beyond)

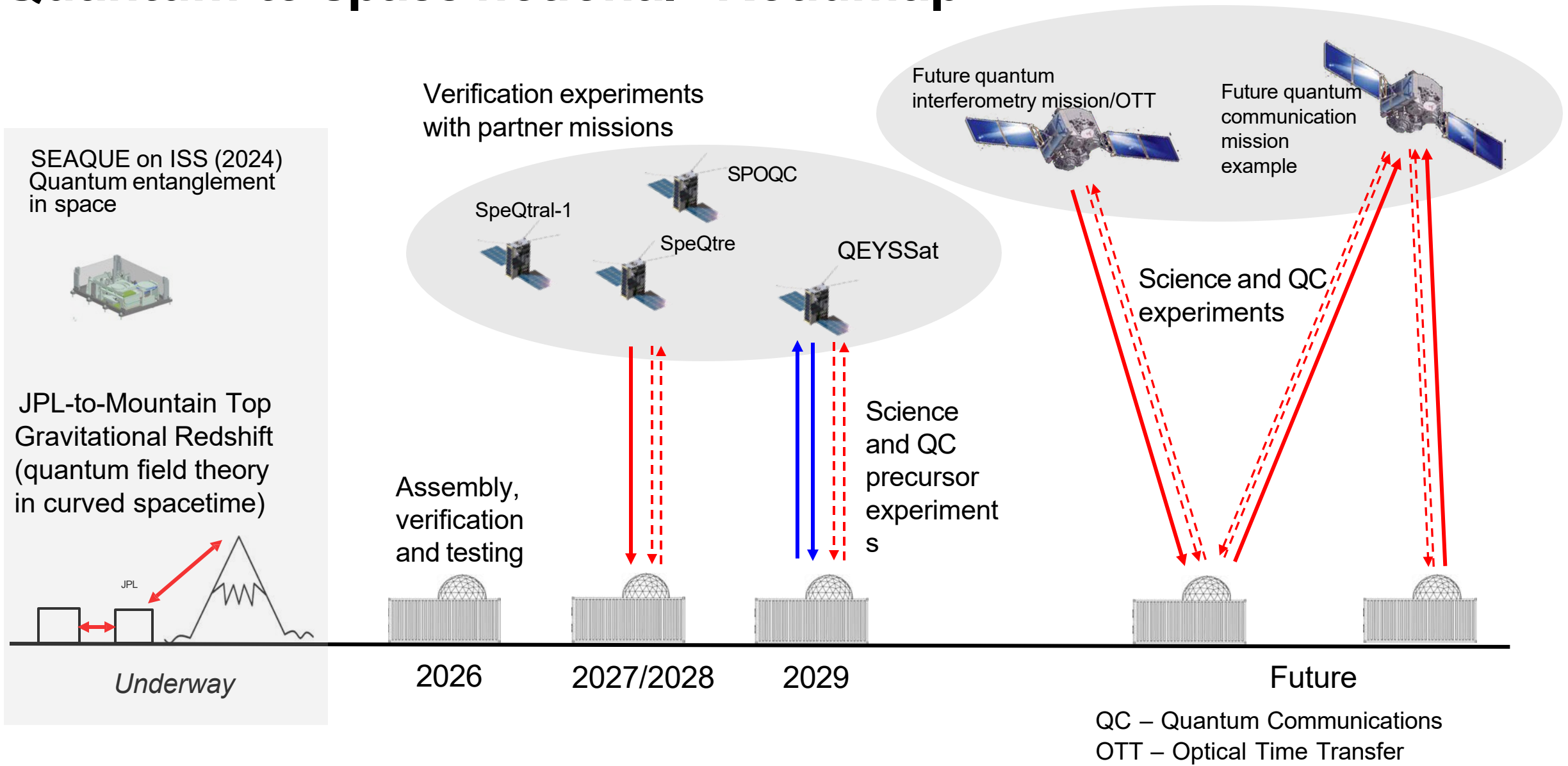
Investigators: Alexander Lohrmann (JPL), Spencer Johnson (JPL)

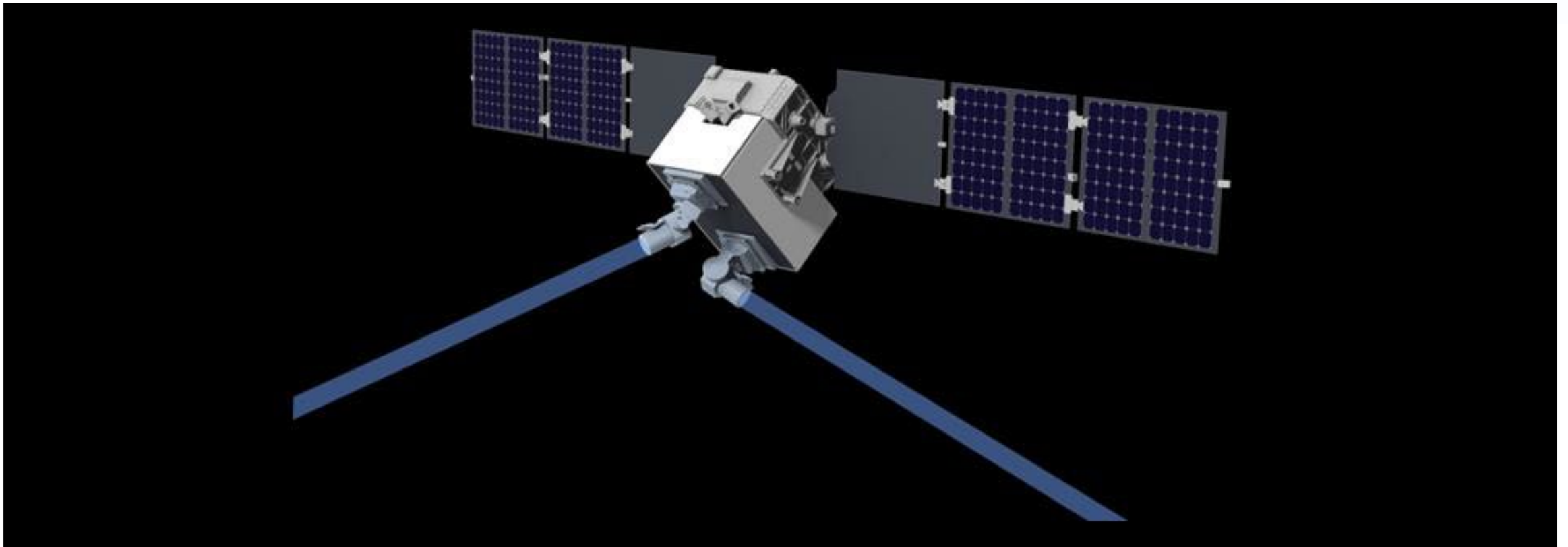
- Quantum mechanics (QM) and general relativity (GR) are incredibly successful but fundamentally incompatible
- Proposed experiment will combine gravitational redshift measurements (GR) and quantum interferometry (QM)
- Near-term objective: measure the gravitational redshift on quantum states of light on Earth (1-km altitude difference)
- Satellite links provide access to larger phase shifts and new measurements regimes



Terrestrial demonstration	LEO-to-ground redshift measurements	Quantum interference of clocks	Gravitational decoherence measurements
Ongoing	5-10 years	> 10 years	> 20 years

Quantum-to-space notional “Roadmap”





- **Boeing, HRL, and UIUC lead a government-funded study to architect satellites for future quantum networking missions (non-QKD)**
 - Working towards a first-of-its-kind capability demonstration
 - Accommodation of ‘hosted-payload’ rideshare or linkage to ground station discussed with sponsors
 - *This could support other government agency objectives, including tests of fundamental physics*

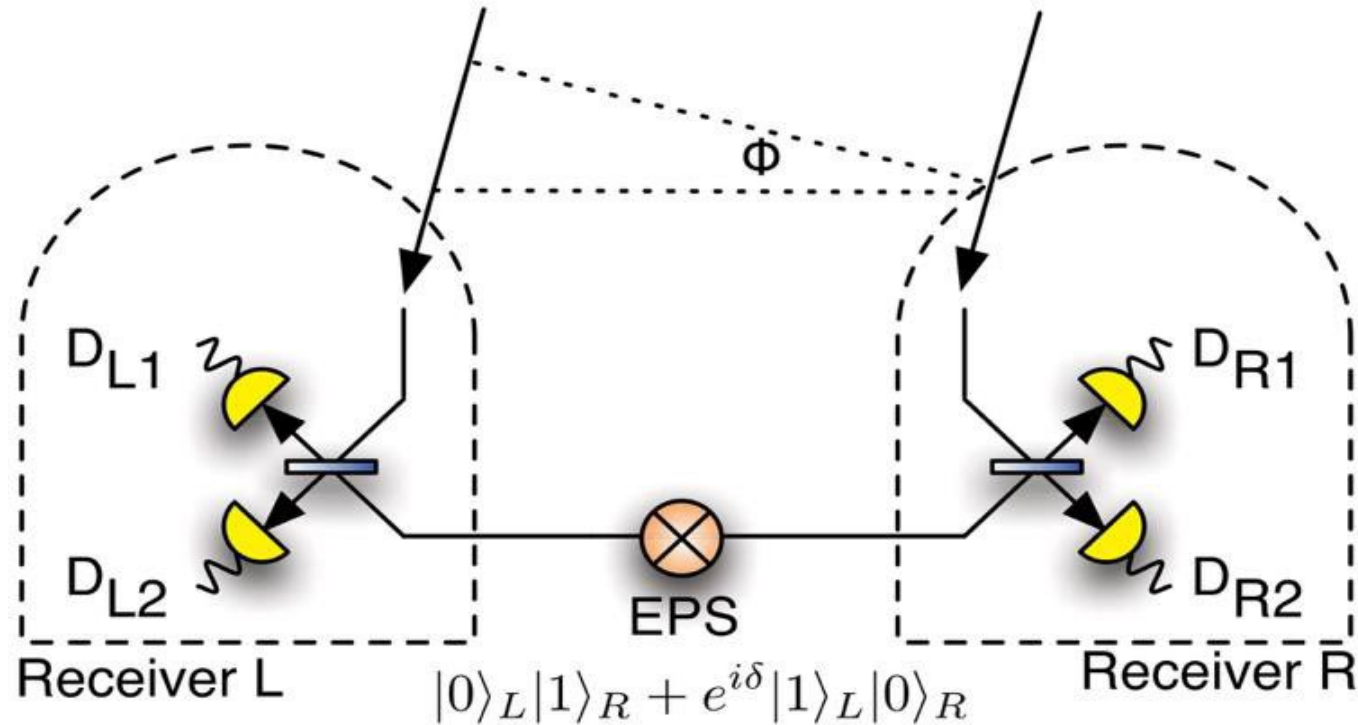
Summary takeaways

- Up/downlink quantum states of light → novel tests of QM + GR
- **SAME** technology to enable quantum networking in space!
 - get amazing science AND enabling quantum technologies
- Industry (and other govt) collaborations likely to be fruitful, e.g., Boeing, IonQ, ...+ international!

And now for something
completely different...

Crazy Bonus Idea

Quantum Telescopy



Using quantum light to
couple telescopes

- enhanced resolution ($\sim 1/D$)
- ? improved astronomy
- improved earth science
- improved lunar/Mars imaging
- ? ultrasensitive gravitational
lensing observatory?

Start with terrestrial studies!