



ALICE & BOB

QIR at Alice & Bob

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Alice & Bob: building a fault-tolerant quantum computer



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Co-inventor of the cat qubit technology



65 employees at the
end of 2022 (incl. 50
R&D)

15 patents filed
at the end of 2022

30M€ raised
in VC capital

6 academic
partnerships

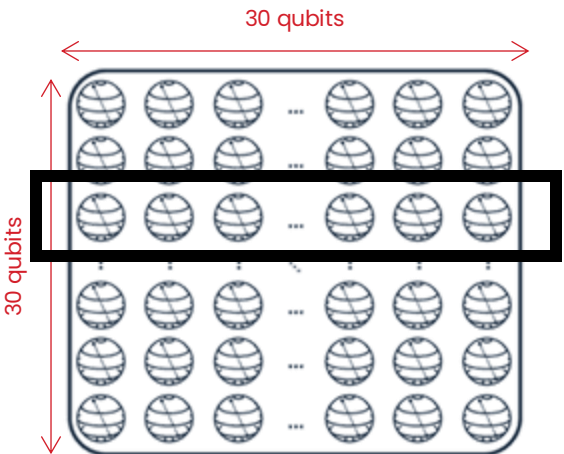
Created in 2020
EU leader in 2022



Cat qubits

The perfect basis for logical qubits

QUANTITATIVE APPROACH
STANDARD QUBITS + SURFACE CODE



QUALITATIVE APPROACH
CAT QUBITS + REPETITION CODE



Shor to
break RSA

22M
physical qubits

C. Gidney et al.
2019

vs

350k
cat qubits

E. Gouzien et al.
2022



vs



1
A&B
cat
qubit

≈

49
Google
physical
qubits



vs



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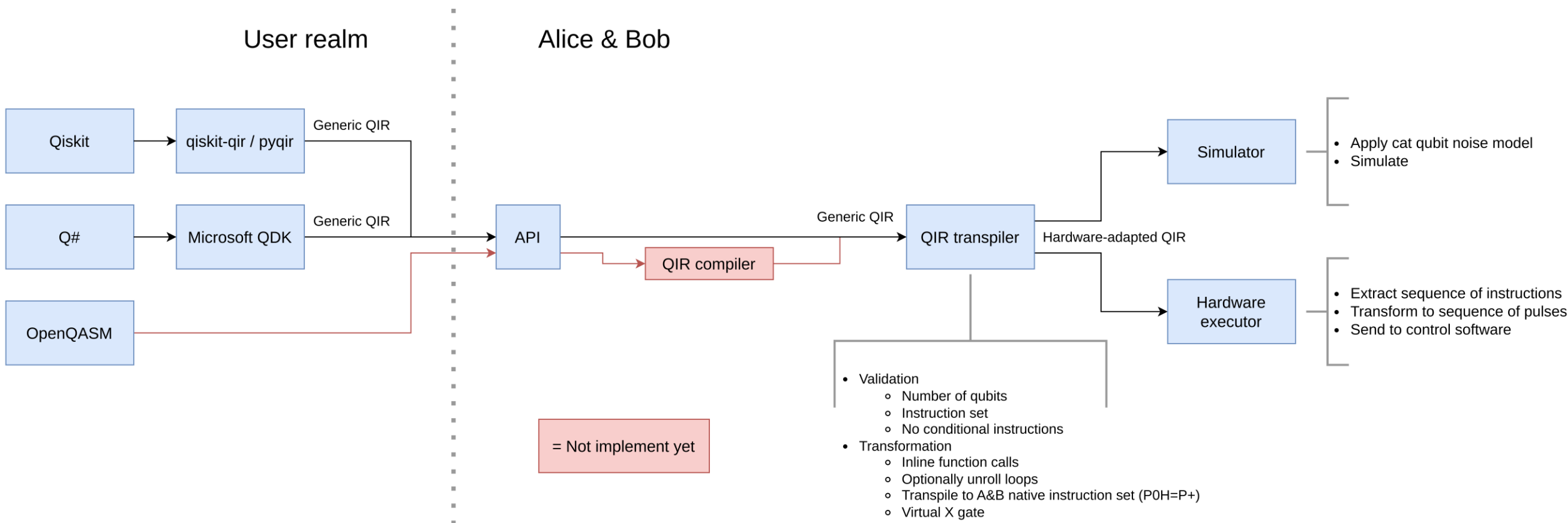


Specificities of cat qubits affecting the end user

- "Measure in the x-basis" or M_x is a native operation
- Preparation of states $|1\rangle$, $|- \rangle$ and $|+ \rangle$ are native operations
- Some gates (like Hadamard) are not available (not bias preserving)
- The number of photons is a global program parameter that the user can tweak



System logical architecture





How Alice & Bob uses QIR

How do we use QIR today?

- QIR is the language accepted by our REST API
- QIR is used internally for transpilation passes. Nothing fancy for now. User intent is almost executed as-is on the QPU.

What's the value of QIR to us?

Short-term

- Interoperability: frontend compilers to QIR make us compatible with many languages

Long-term

- Classical/quantum hybrid logic management
- Express hardware-aware optimizations, cat qubit specific error correction codes
- Benefit from the open-source ecosystem around LLVM/QIR



What QIR developments would help us

- Increase interoperability
 - Harmonize the output of frontend compilers (standard QIS)
 - Offer a community-backed OpenQASM --> QIR compiler (qcor?)
 - Make the Qiskit -> QIR compiler more flexible (qiskit-qir)
- Make it easy to write QIR transpilation passes
 - Prototype QIR transpilation passes in Python (right now pyqir makes it difficult)
 - Make QAT a standard by accepting LLVM passes
 - Ease writing QIS-related transpilation passes (in QAT)