

# **Q.ANT**

## **Starting up with Quantum Sensors**

Robert Rölver

Head of Sensing Technologies

EPIC Technology Meeting on Industrial Quantum Photonics

# This is Q.ANT

in figures, data and facts

2018

Foundation

4

Product Lines

1.600

sqm Workspace

80

Q.ANTies

11

Nationalities

6

Publicly funded projects

23

Patent Families

2

World Premiers

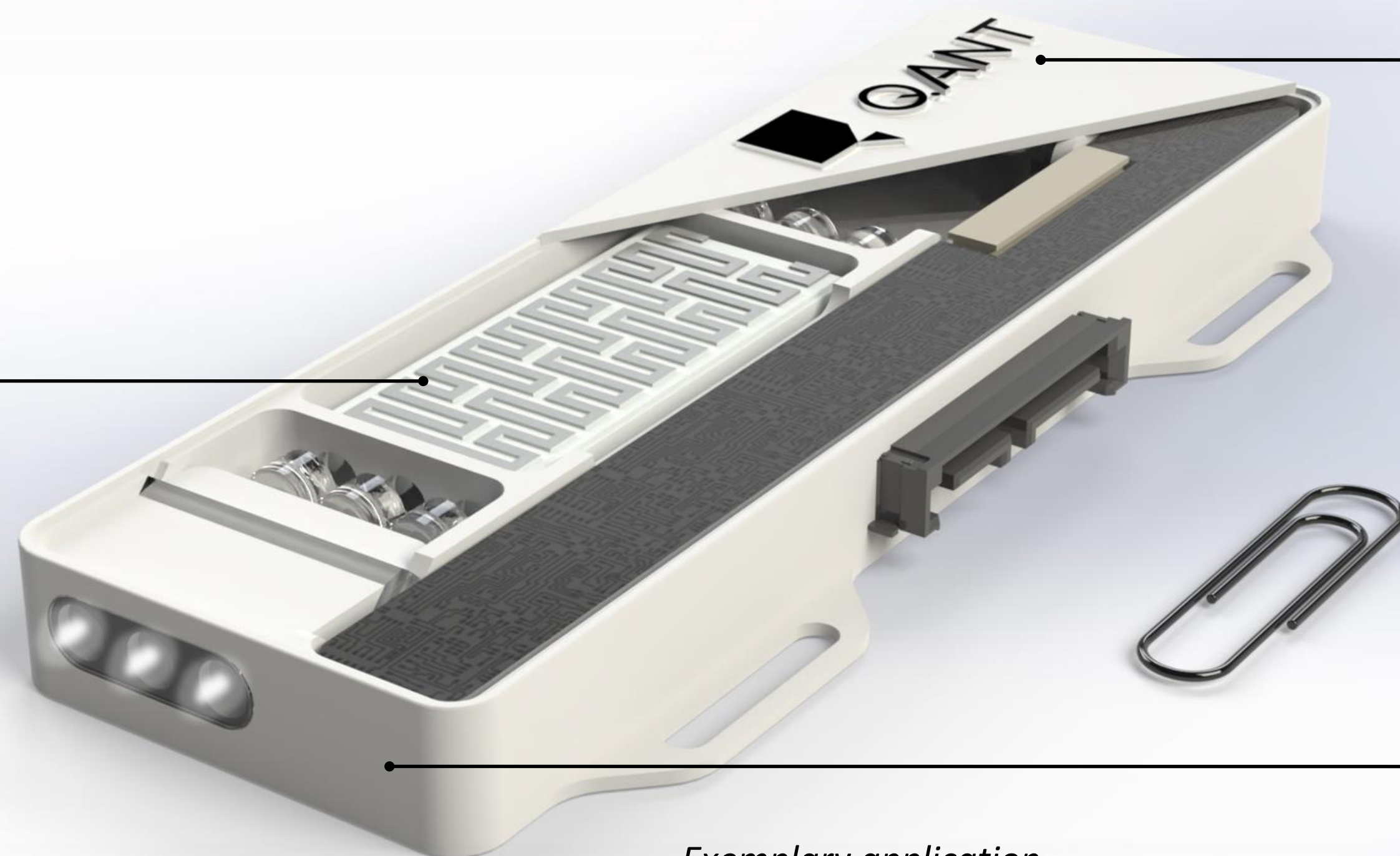
7

Coffee machines

# Q.ANT delivers Photonic Quantum Technology for industrial applications together with our partners

## Quantum controls

- Nonlinear waveguides
- Tailored optical elements



*Exemplary application*

## Electron to photon conversion

- Solid state diodes
- Low-noise current drivers

## Photon to Electron conversion

- Low-noise amplifiers
- Analog to Digital conversion
- Signal process

## Q.ANT will grow towards Quantum Sensing and Quantum Computing based on strong Enabling Technologies

### Particle Metrology



Sensor for analyzing finest particles in gases, liquids and as powders.

- Chemistry, pharma and food processing
- Algae and bacteria analysis
- Material characterization

### Atomic Gyroscope



Sensor for stabilization and localization of systems

- Satellite leveling
- Indoor Automated Guided Vehicle (AGV) Localization

### Magnetic Sensing



Sensor for measuring finest signals in magnetic fields.

- Prosthesis control by neuronal signals
- Outdoor Automated Robotic Localization
- Human-Machine Interface

### Photonic Computing



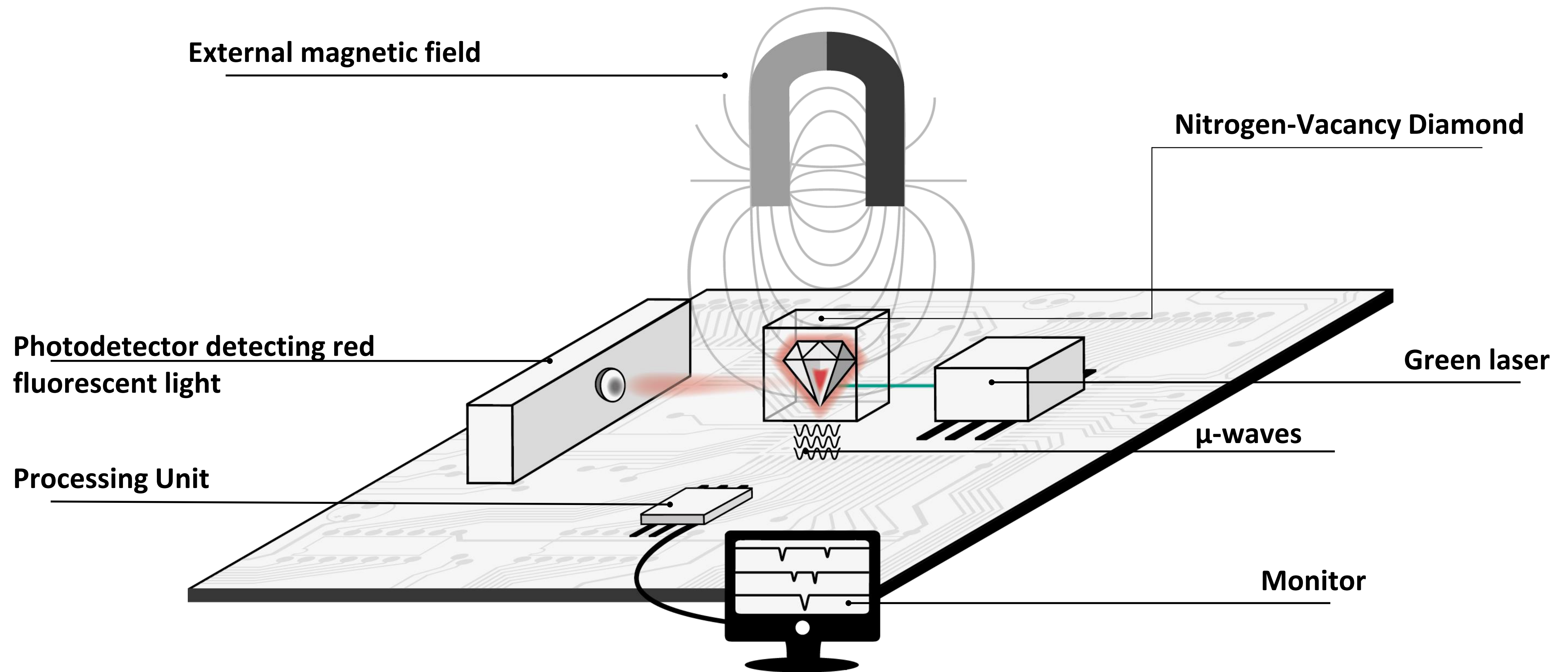
Photonic Chips and Computing for solving complex algorithms

- Quantum Computing
- Complex Optimization
- Neuromorphic Computing



## Working principle of diamond magnetometers

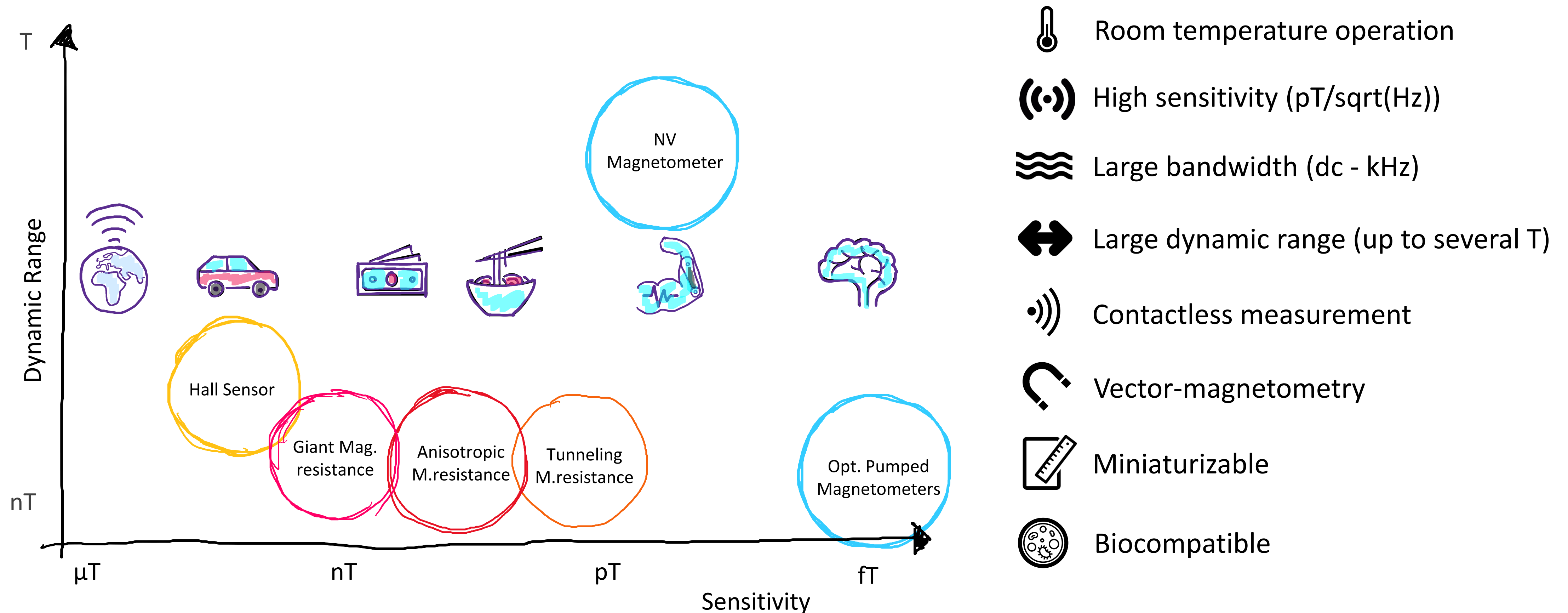
Detection of red fluorescence under irradiation with green light and resonant microwaves



# Quantum based Magnetic Sensors combine high resolution on a small footprint...

... and open new applications in the human-machine interfacing.

Room-temperature magnetometer



- Diamond magnetometers enable detection of smallest field changes at strong background fields



# Application areas of Diamond Magnetometers

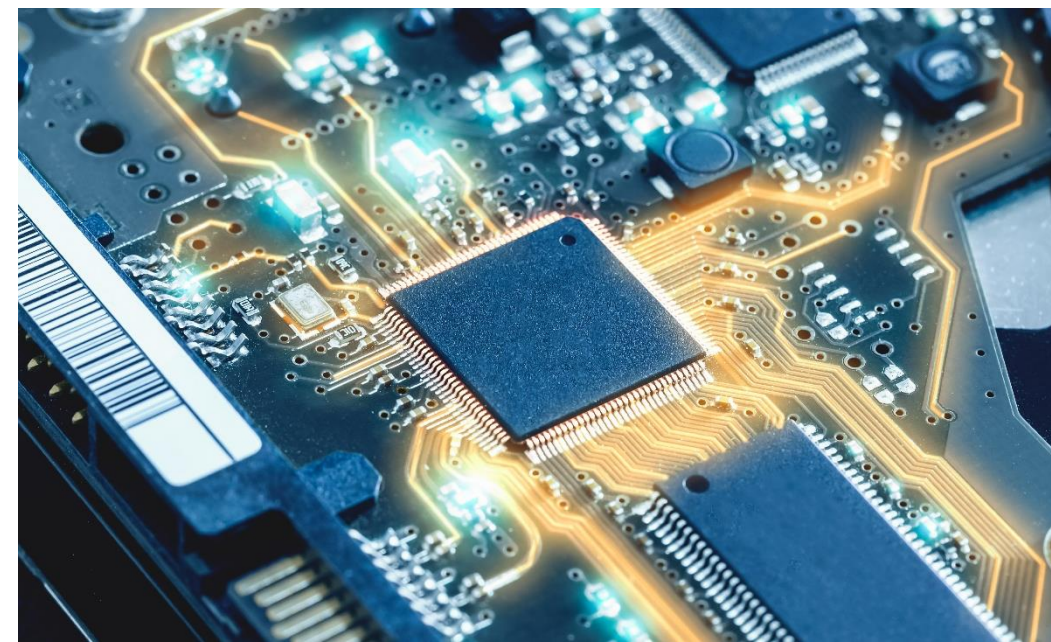
The use-cases are widespread

## Medical Technology



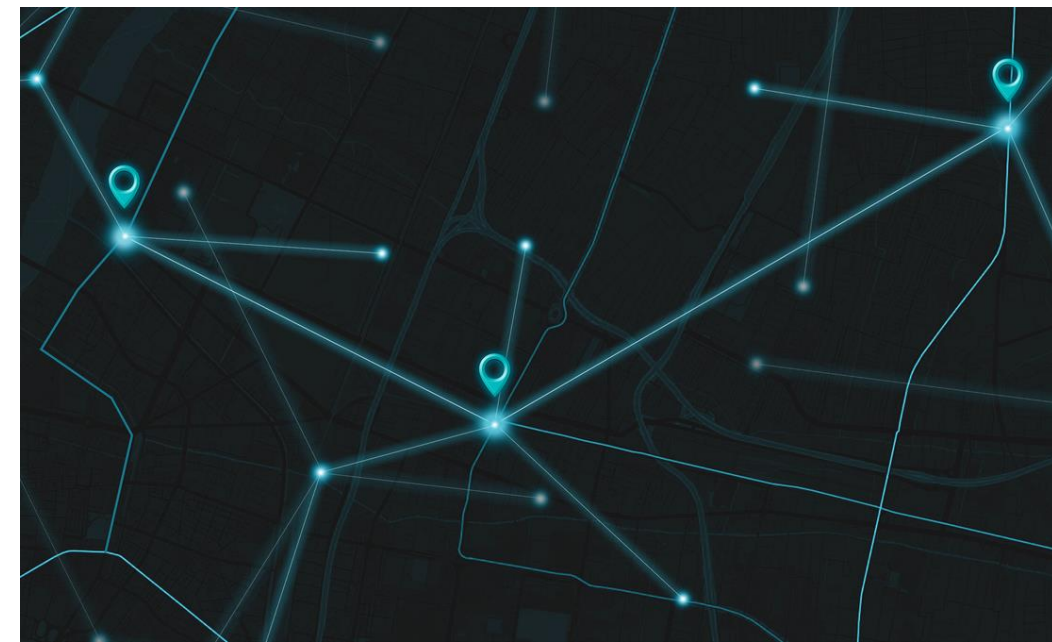
- MMG-based prosthesis control
- MEG-based measurement of neuronal brain activity for Human-Machine interaction

## Component and material analysis



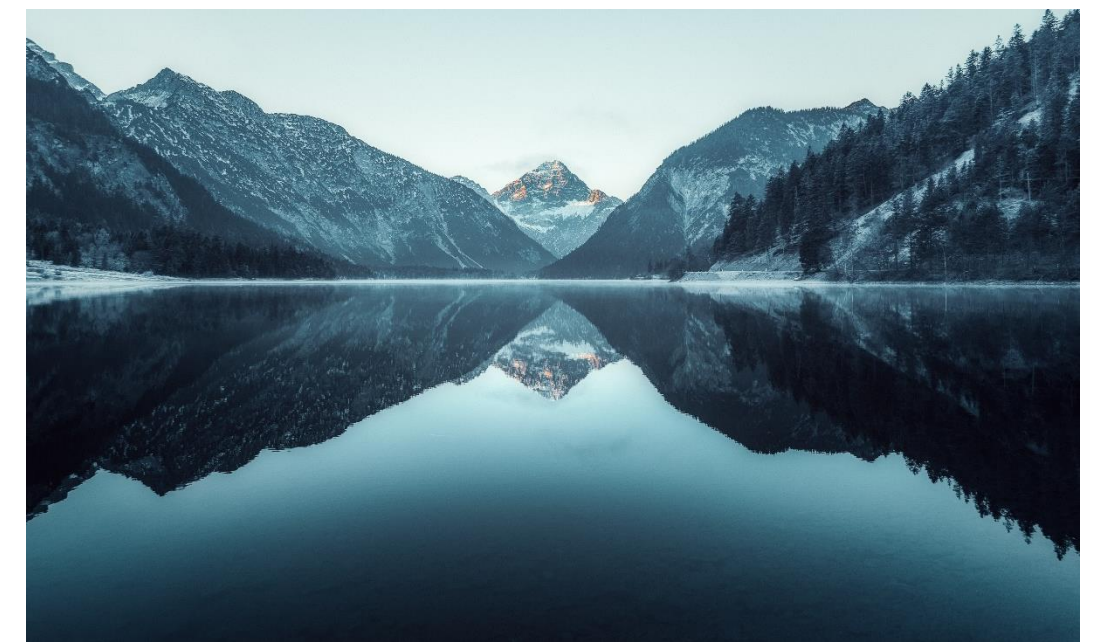
- Current imaging in integrated circuits for quality control or fault analysis
- Detection of defects in the material structure of components
- Characterisation of magnetic materials and nanoparticles

## Localization



- Indoor and outdoor automated guided vehicles
- Localization applications in automotive

## Geophysics

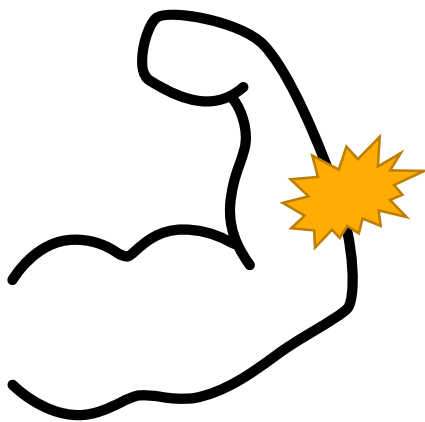


- Exploration of magnetic fields in the Earth's interior to study plate tectonics and mineral deposits



# Our goal is to measure biosignals for prosthesis control

Detection of the magnetic instead of the electric signals offers many advantages for the user



Muscle movement causes electric and magnetic signals  
Both can be used for prosthesis control

## Electric-signal detection with surface electrodes



Dr. Tie Liu, School of Electrical Engineering,  
Shenyang University of Technology

- State-of-the-art technique for prosthesis control
- Direct skin contact needed
- Signal distortion due to sweat, body hair and scar tissue
- Low spatial resolution (< cm)
- Signal distortion due to limb movement

## Magnetic-signal detection with Quantum sensors

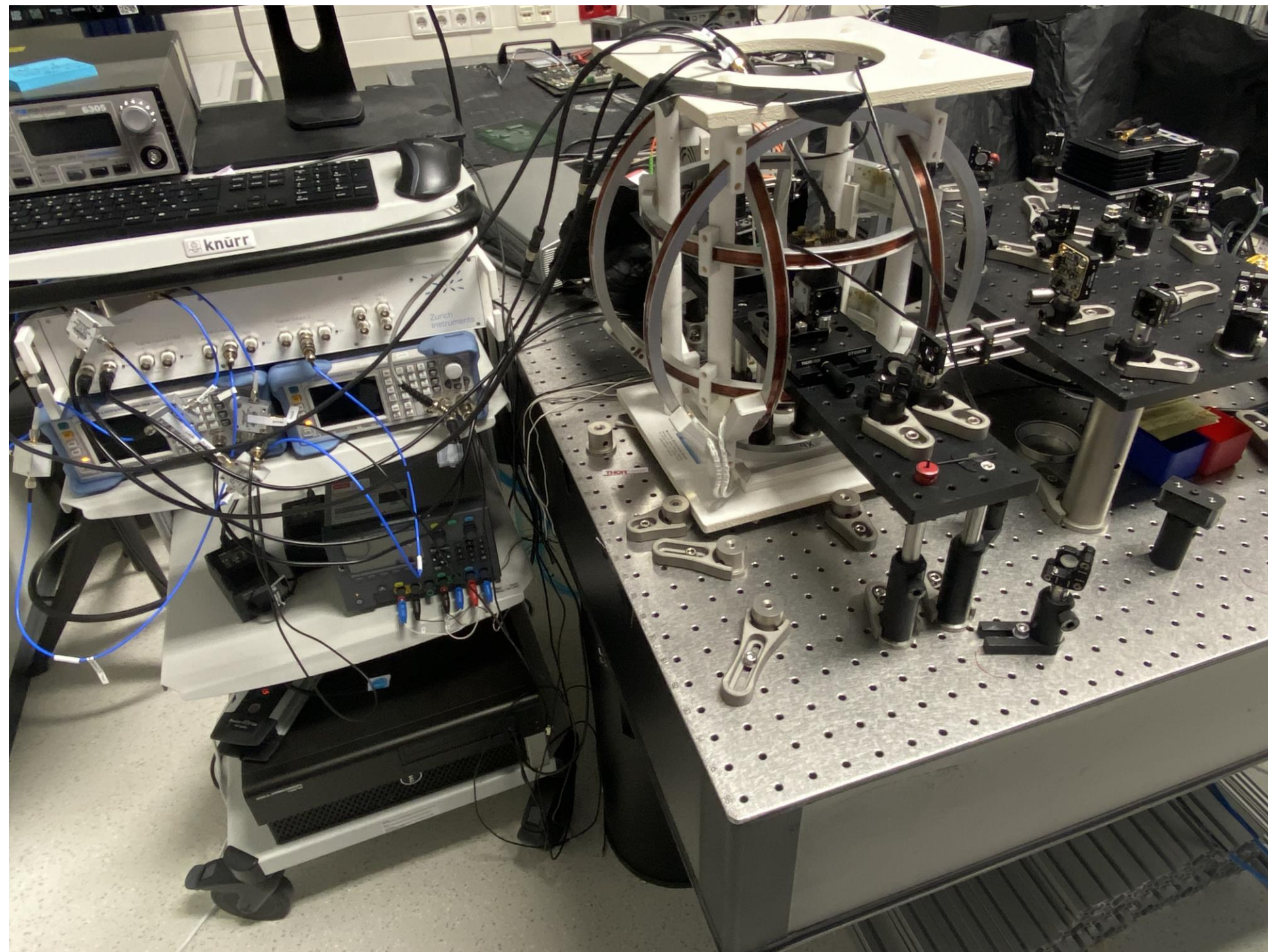


- Neuronal-signal detection demonstrated (shielded environments)
- Contactless measurement
- Insensitive to sweat, body hair and scar tissue
- High spatial resolution (< mm)
- Stable signals under limb movement possible

- Magnetic biofield detection allows for reliable and user friendly sensor application



**A prototype of a fully integrated sensor has been demonstrated at the Hanover fair...**  
... marking an important step in bringing the technology from the laboratory to the market.







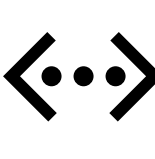
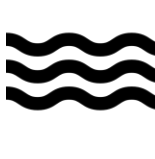




We have developed the first, commercially available, fully integrated sensor

Performance data of the sensor



	Size	150 x 107 x 120 mm
	Weight	1,5 kg
	Power	12 W
	Interface	Ethernet
	Sensitivity	< 300 pT/sqrt(Hz)
	Sensor Volume	0.5 x 0.5 x 0.5 mm
	Dynamic Range	Zero field to mT
	Laser Wavelength	520 nm

# Until 2026, we plan to develop a miniaturized, ultra-sensitive gradiometer

## 2023 First portable magnetometer



- First portable, integrated magnetometer
- Sensitivity  $< 300 \text{ pT}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
- Volume  $< 2000 \text{ ccm}$

First prototype developed and ready for miniaturization

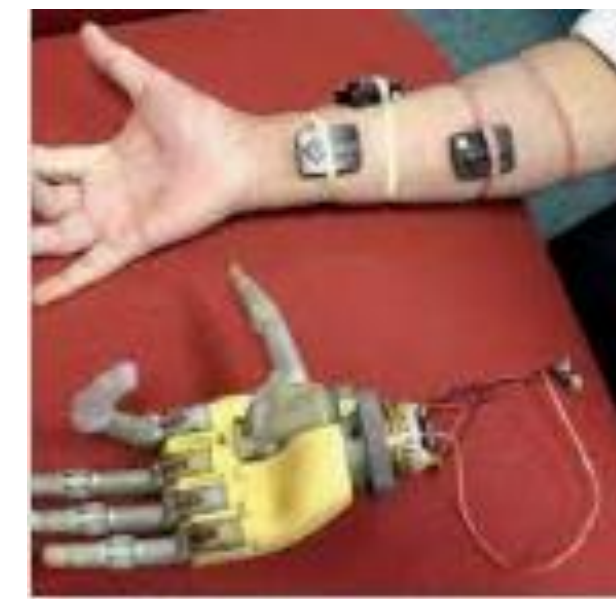
## 2024 Field study with portable magnetometer



- PoC experiments to measure muscle activity in shielded environments
- Sensitivity  $< 100 \text{ pT}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
- Volume  $< 500 \text{ ccm}$

Prototype optimized to measure muscle activity

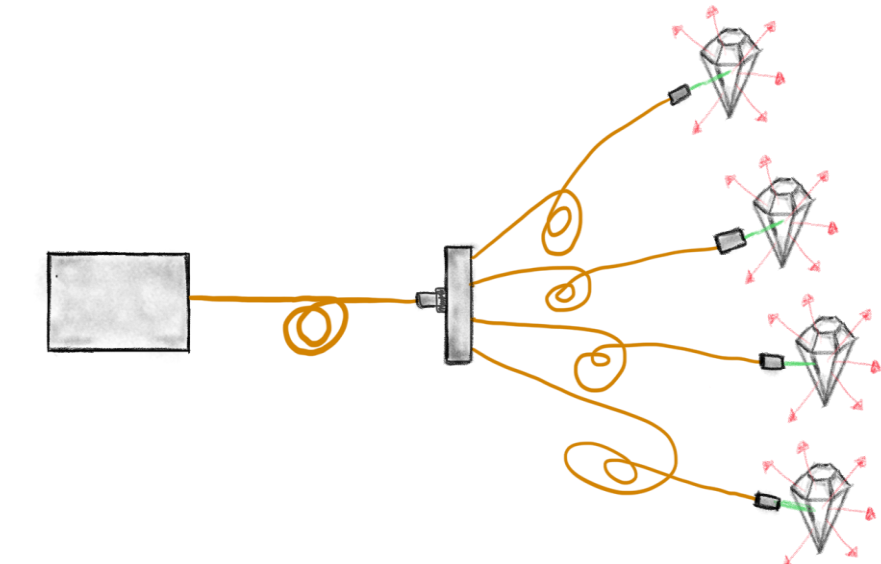
## 2025 Integrated, portable gradiometer



- Measurement of muscle activity in unshielded environments
- Sensitivity  $< 10 \text{ pT}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
- Volume  $< 150 \text{ ccm}$

Bio-signal detection and prosthesis control demonstrated

## 2026 Ultra-sensitive miniaturized gradiometer



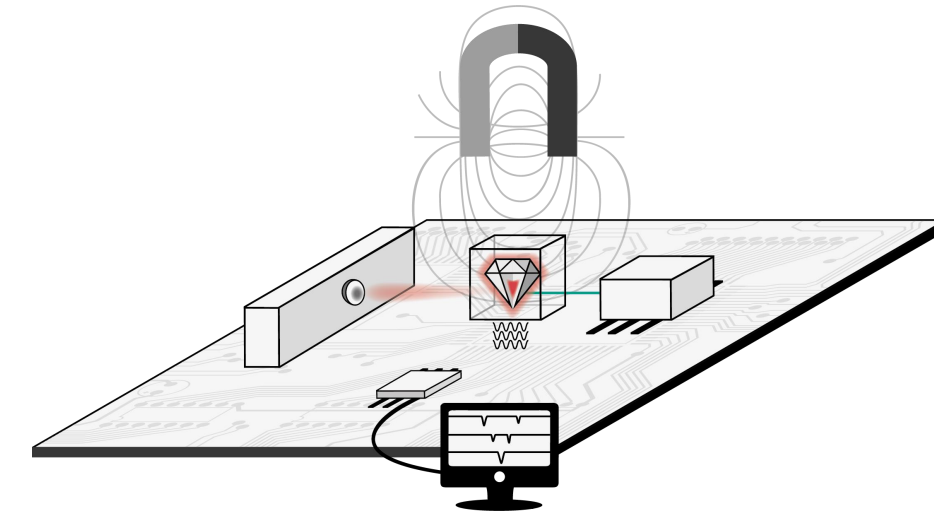
- Sensor arrays for neuronal-signal detection
- Sensitivity  $< 1 \text{ pT}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
- Volume  $< 500 \text{ ccm}$

Neuronal-signal detection demonstrated, extension to multiple sensor heads



## Key success factors for starting up (so far)

- Identify a technology which offers high gain compared to state of the art
  - E. g. 10 times better or 10 times cheaper





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## Key success factors for starting up (so far)

- Identify a technology which offers high gain compared to state of the art
  - E. g. 10 times better or 10 times cheaper
- Have experts that understand the physics and working principles
- Have engineers (software, electronics, mechanical) that bring in practical expertise
- Offer an open work environment/work culture/communication to enable formation of high performing teams consisting of experts, engineers, software developers etc.
- Partnering to source out development tasks being not in your core expertise
- Early and fast development and professional demonstration of first functional prototypes
- Diversify your envisioned product lines to minimize risk of complete failure and use synergy effects

