

## **Quantum Key Distribution**

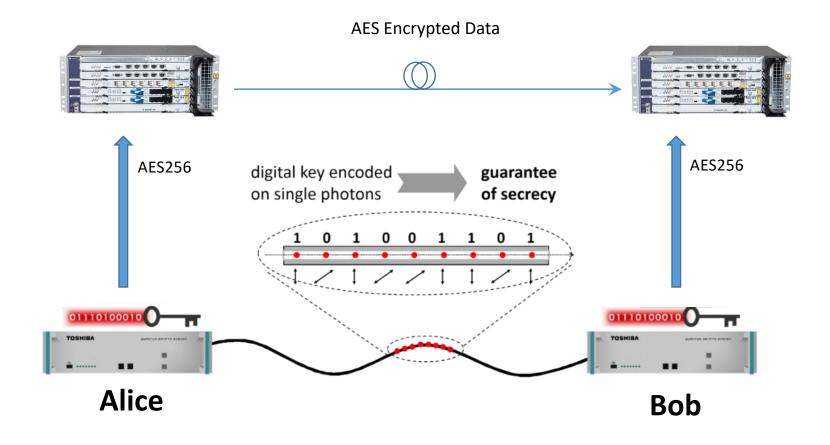
Multiplexing Quantum Key Material with Data Waves

**Karel van Klink, MSc**Network Evolution Intern

GÉANT Infoshare – QKD deployments 25/11/2022

Public

### **Quantum Key Distribution**





## Methodology

- Literature review
  - Standardisation
  - Certification
  - Required hardware and software
- Experiments
  - Toshiba equipment performance
  - Multiplexing QKD and data waves



**GEANT.ORG** 

#### **Literature Review**

- Current work on standardisation
  - Architecture
  - Hardware
  - Software
- Future work



**GEANT.ORG** 

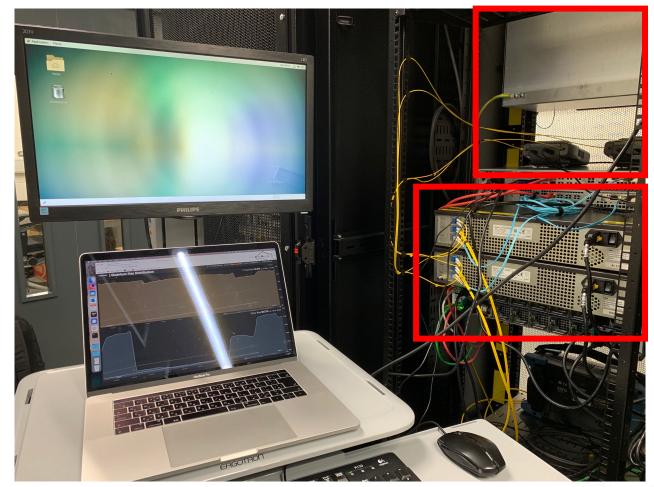
### **Existing Standardisation**

- Recommendations only
- Implementation left up to vendors
- No QKD-specific certification exists yet



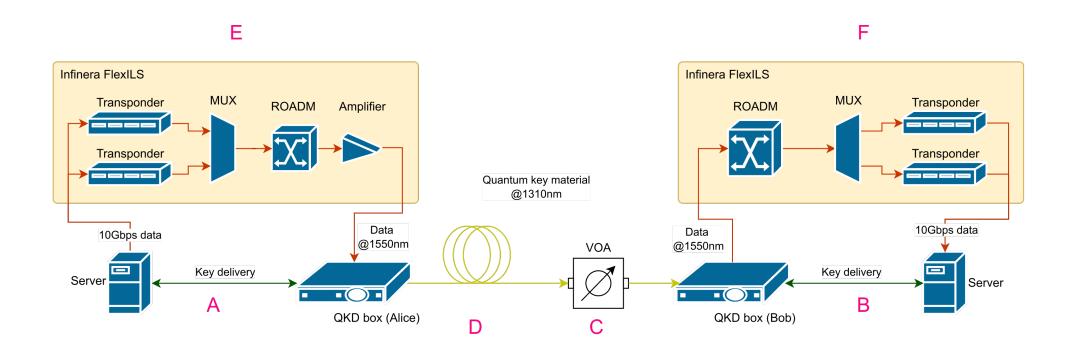
#### **Experiments**

- QKD in O-band, data in C-band
- Multiplex data at multiple power levels
  - → Secret Key Rate
  - → QBER
- Maximum sustainable attenuation
  - →Which link spans could we cover?



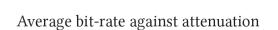


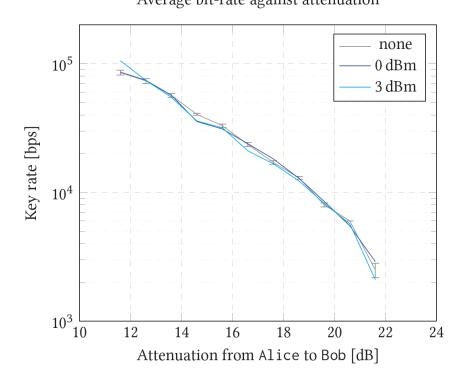
### **Lab Setup**



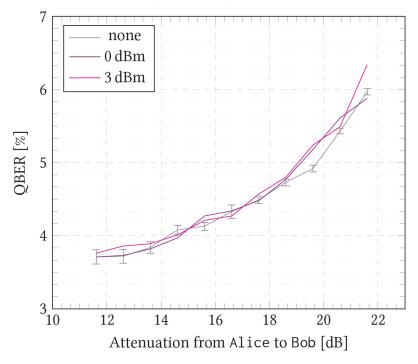


### **Results (Single Data Wave)**





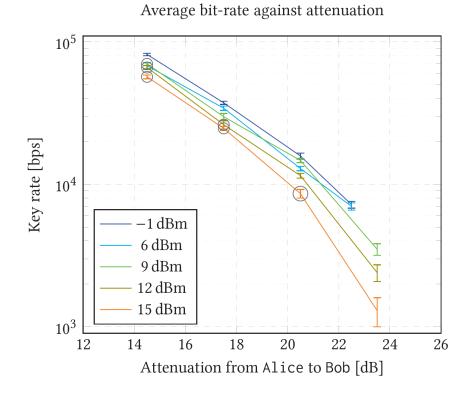
#### Average QBER against attenuation



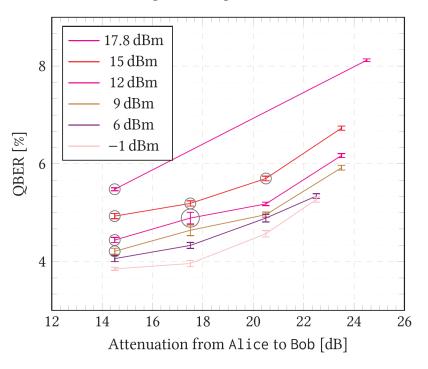


#### **Results (Two Data Waves)**





#### Average QBER against attenuation





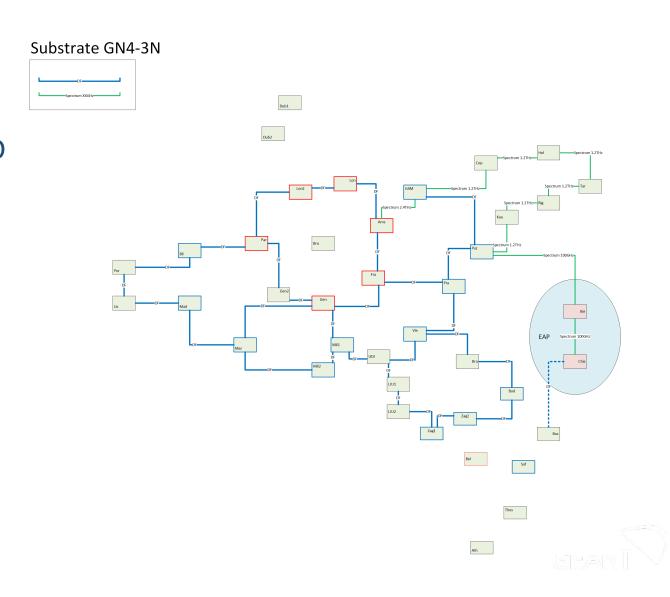
#### **Experimental Results**

- For every +3dBm increase in power:
  - SKR goes down by ~15%
  - QBER goes up by ~6%
- Maximum sustainable attenuation found to be 23.5dB
  - Estimated to be 22dB with a filled C-band



#### **Feasibility of Implementation**

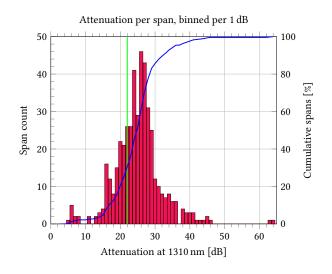
- Multiplex QKD traffic at 1310nm with data at 1550nm
- Use dedicated dark fibre with QKD at 1550nm
- ... or something else

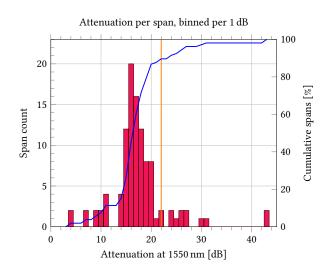


#### **Feasibility of Implementation**

- GÉANT network:
  - ~30% @1310nm

• ~90% @1550nm







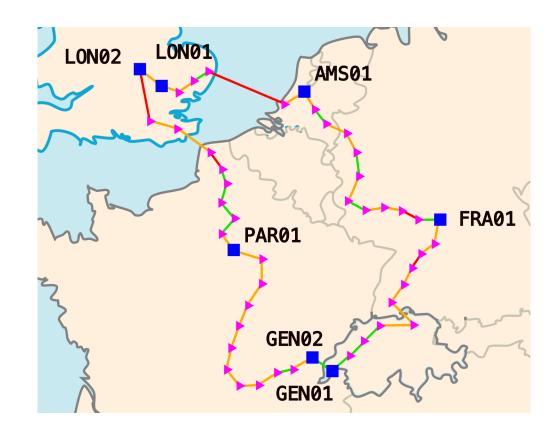
#### **Feasibility of Implementation**

- Western ring:
  - ~23% @1310nm
  - ~90% @1550nm

Green: multiplexing possible

Orange: dark fibre possible

Red: alternative needed

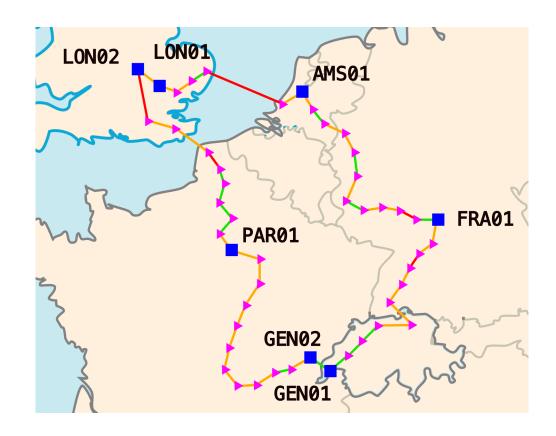




**GEANT.ORG** 

#### **Conclusions**

- Hardware support is largely present
- Standardisation is lacking at the moment
- Available software is not up to the task
- Recommended next steps:
  - Implement a field trial link
  - Real-world performance
  - Long-term reliability
  - Track ongoing standardisation efforts







# **Thank You**

Any questions?

www.geant.org



As part of the GÉANT 2020 Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA), the project receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No. 856726 (GN4-3).