

Nano Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard

Ionq Unveils World's Most Powerful Quantum Computer



2020-10-11 lonQ, the leader in quantum computing, today unveiled its next generation quantum computer system. The new hardware features 32 perfect qubits with low gate errors, giving it an expected quantum volume greater than 4,000,000.

The new system consists of perfect atomic clock qubits and random access all-to-all gate operations for efficient software compilation of applications. It will be first available via private beta, and then commercially available on <u>Amazon Braket</u>, where lonQ's 11 qubit system is generally available for customers today, and Microsoft's Azure Quantum. Preexisting lonQ customers and partners, including 1QBit, Cambridge Quantum Computing, QC Ware, Zapata Computing and more are excited to experience the benefits of the new system, enabling them to drive towards the first wave of quantum applications.

The company's trapped-ion quantum computers have a proven track record of outperforming all other available quantum hardware. With this new iteration, IonQ continues to lead the quantum computing field into the future. IonQ is already working on its next two generations of quantum computers, with each new system expected to be both exponentially more powerful and smaller in size than the last.

"In a single generation of hardware, we went from 11 to 32 qubits, and more importantly, improved the fidelity required to use all 32 qubits," said IonQ CEO & President Peter Chapman. "Depending on the application, customers will need somewhere between 80 and 150 very high fidelity qubits and logic gates to see quantum advantage. Our goal is to double or more the number of qubits each year. With two new generations of hardware already in the works, companies not working with quantum now are at risk of falling behind.

"The technology underpinning IonQ's new system is based on decades of proven research

and advancements, and our unique architecture provides essential computational efficiencies as the system scales up," said IonQ Co-Founder & CTO Jungsang Kim. "This cornerstone moment provides the foundation for IonQ to rapidly grow and continue to perfect our systems."

"Demonstrating the first successful quantum logic gate in 1995 was almost an accident, but doing so opened a path forward towards deploying quantum computers on previously unsolvable problems," said lonQ Co-Founder & Chief Scientist Chris Monroe. "The new system we're deploying today is able to do things no other quantum computer has been able to achieve, and even more importantly, we know how to continue making these systems much more powerful moving forward." One way is to fix errors through circuit encoding, capitalizing on a recent demonstration of quantum error correction in a nearly identical system. Monroe says "with our new lonQ system, we expect to be able to encode multiple qubits to tolerate errors, the holy grail for scaling quantum computers in the long haul." This encoding requires just 13 qubits to make a near-perfect logical qubit, while in other hardware architectures it's estimated to take more than 100,000.

"We design quantum machine learning algorithms to drive performance on near-term hardware," said lordanis Kerenidis, Head of Algorithms International, QC Ware. "We collaborated with IonQ in implementing QC Ware's quantum classification algorithm on their system, and the excellent results attest to their unique approach and demonstrated performance."

"IonQ and Zapata work together to create and implement quantum applications," said Christopher Savoie, CEO & Founder, Zapata Computing. "We are excited to unlock new potential across industry verticals—and make IonQ's latest generation of devices available to users of our software platform, Orquestra."

"IonQ represents one of the most promising approaches to quantum computing that is both scalable and does not require any significant materials science or manufacturing breakthroughs," said Francis Ho, Senior Vice President and Managing Director, Samsung Catalyst Fund. "The company's unique combination of academic research and experience

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plus proven performance has led to their system demonstrating industry leading performance and helping break new ground in quantum computing."

"We believe lonQ is the most promising and advanced technology for developing quantum computers at scale. This latest milestone represents decades of academic research and experience, proven performance, and superior technology," said Alaa Halawa, Head of US Ventures, Mubadala Capital. "This latest breakthrough is also particularly exciting for industrial companies in areas of material science and petrochemicals, enabling new applications that are crucial for enhancing competitiveness in the market."

"IonQ and Cambridge Quantum Computing are working together to create and implement applications for quantum computers, for the benefit of CQC's customers, and are excited to see what new applications are possible with IonQ's newest generation," said Denise Ruffner, Chief Business Officer, Cambridge Quantum Computing.

"IonQ's approach to quantum represents the most promising pathway to achieving commercial success with quantum computers - and this breakthrough in performance and fidelity further validates that approach," said Hany Nada, Co-Founder & Partner, Acme Capital. "We are thrilled to continue working with the team to realize the full benefits of quantum."

"IonQ and 1QBit are working together on applying quantum computers to solve previously intractable problems in a variety of industries and are excited to explore new possibilities resulting from the release of IonQ's newest generation of devices," said Arman Zaribafiyan, Head of Quantum Simulation, 1QBit.

Read the original article on lonQ, Inc.